



# Ultrahigh-energy gamma-ray emissions associated with Black Hole-Jet Systems

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On behalf of the LHAASO Collaboration (arXiv: 2410.08988)

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# Outline

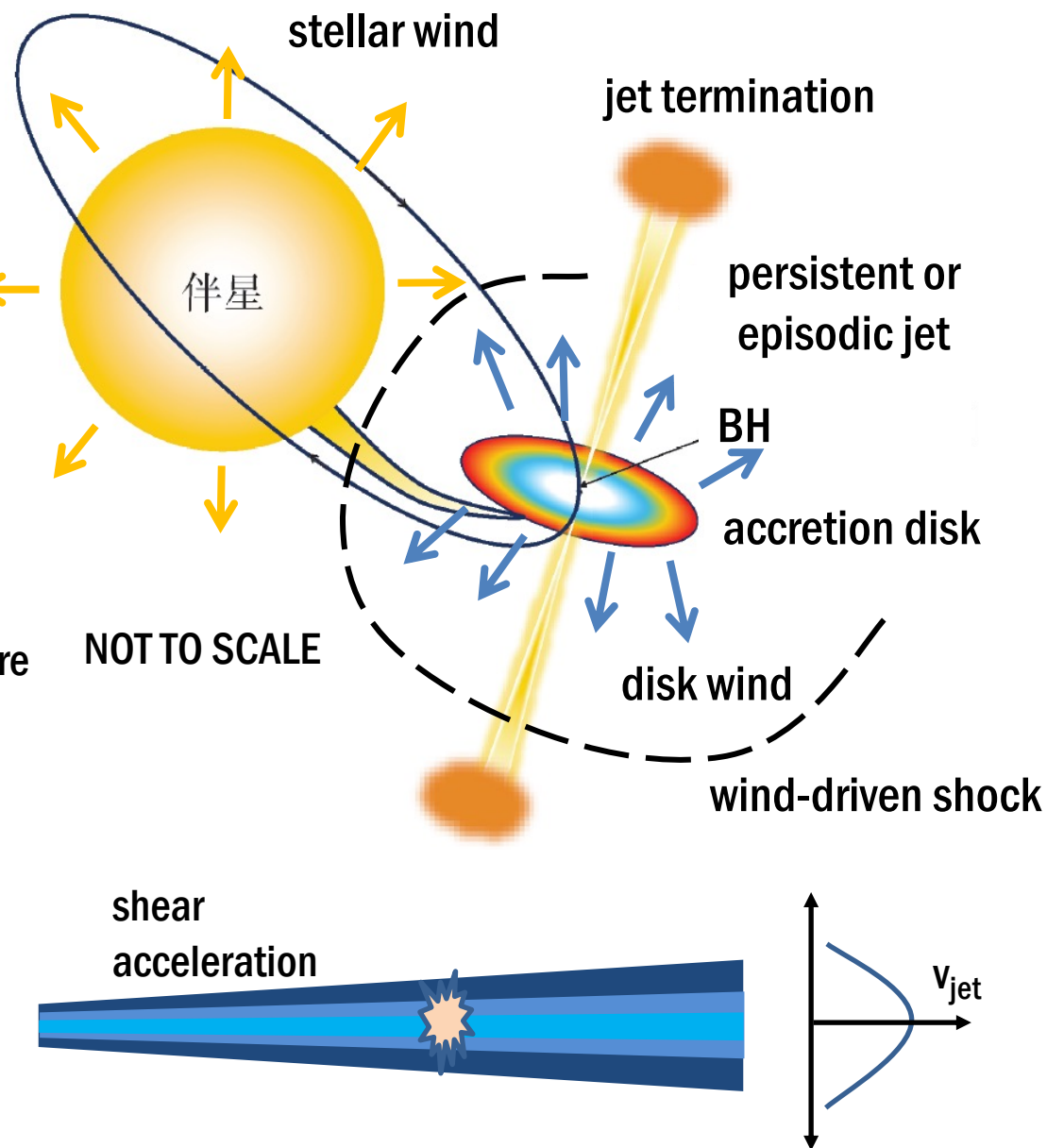
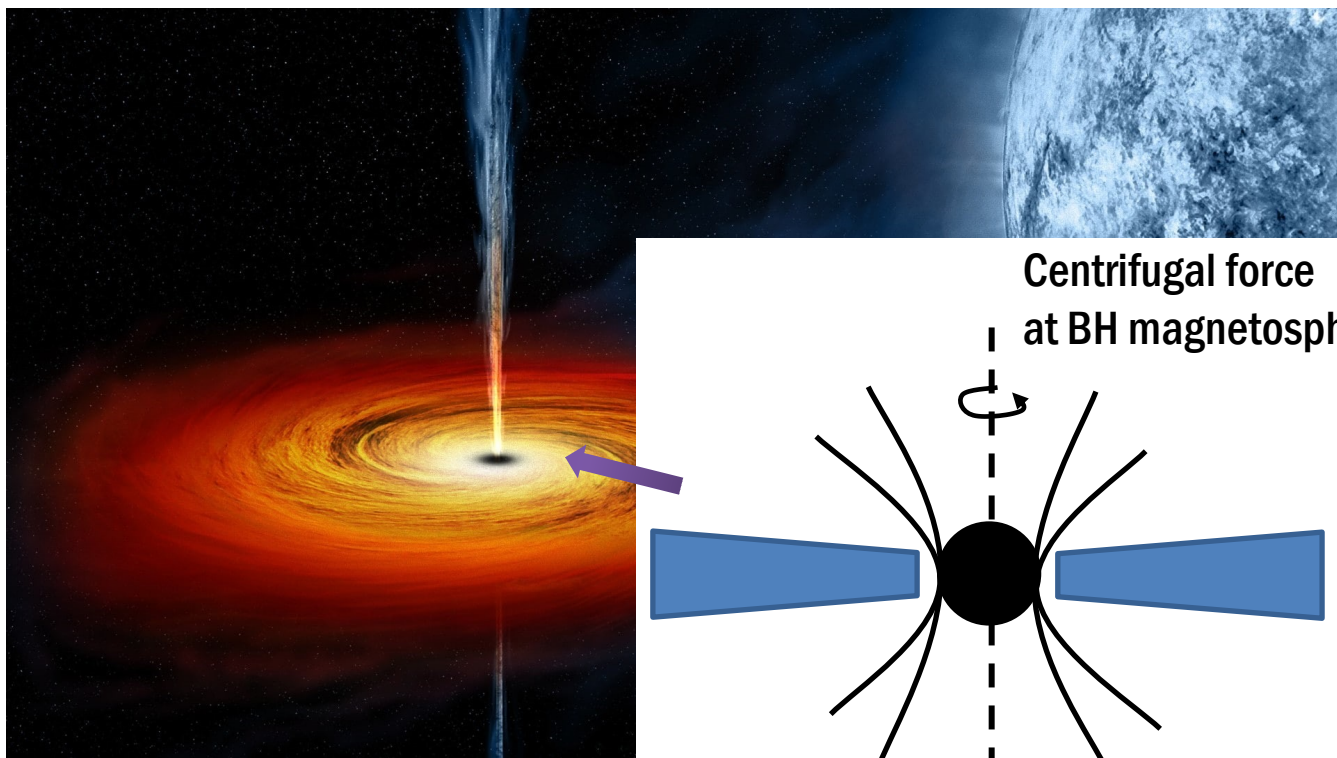
- A brief introduction of microquasars and LHAASO
- LHAASO's observations of microquasars
  - SS433
  - V4641 Sgr
  - GRS 1915+105
  - MAXI J1820+070
  - Cygnus X-1
- Discussion
- Summary

# Microquasars

## Binary + Mildly-relativistic Jets

└─ **NS or stellar-mass BH + a donor star**

Potential extreme particle accelerator where and how? maximum energy?



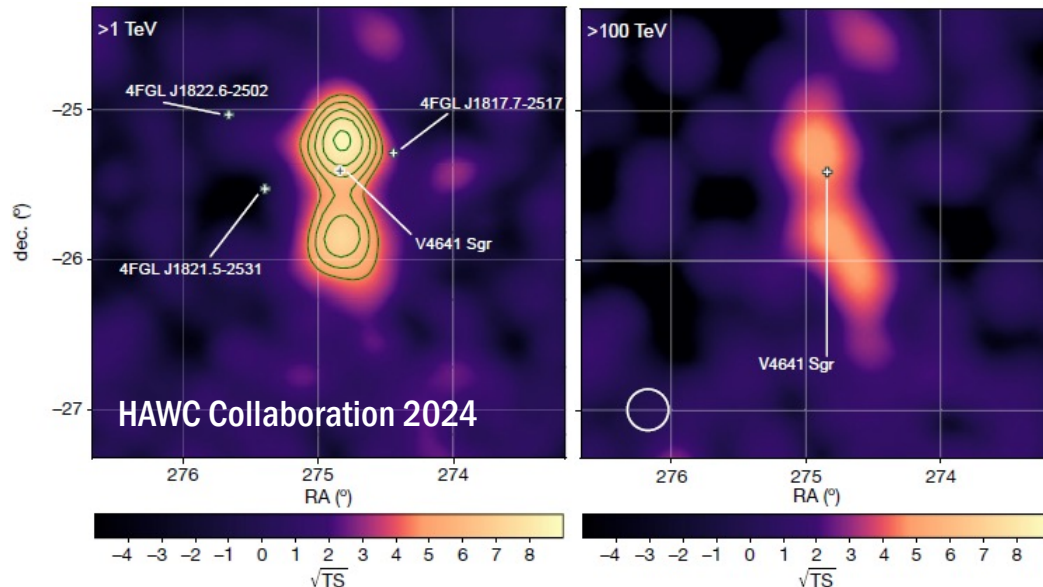
# High-energy gamma rays as probes of efficient particle acceleration

## Small Scale

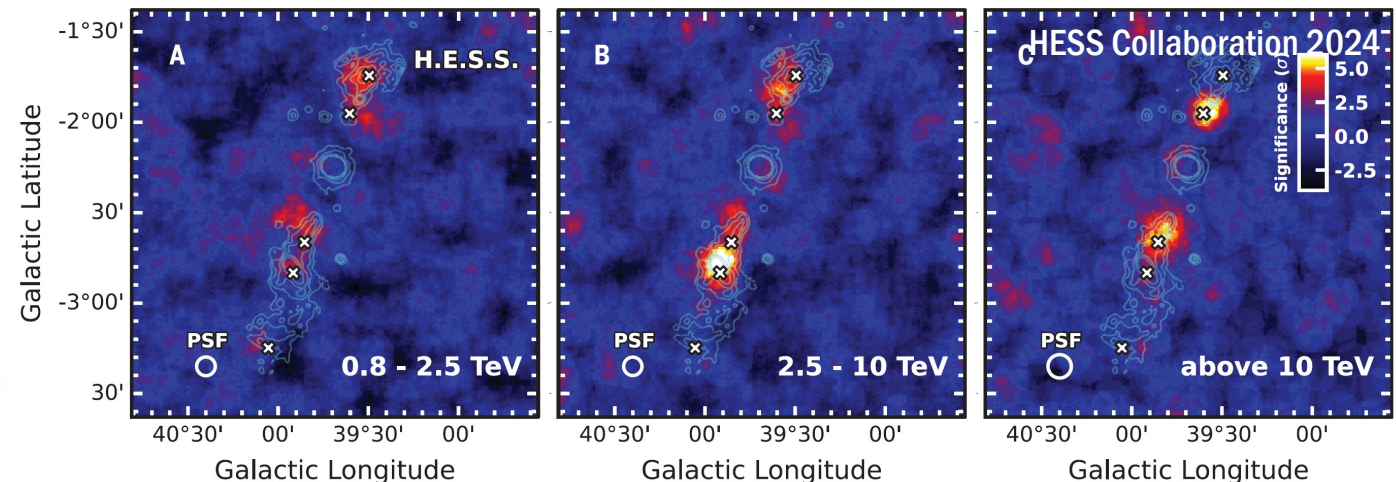
intense radiation from corona, companion star;  
dense matter in accretion flow, wind

## Large Scale

CMB/ISRF, Molecular/Atomic Clouds



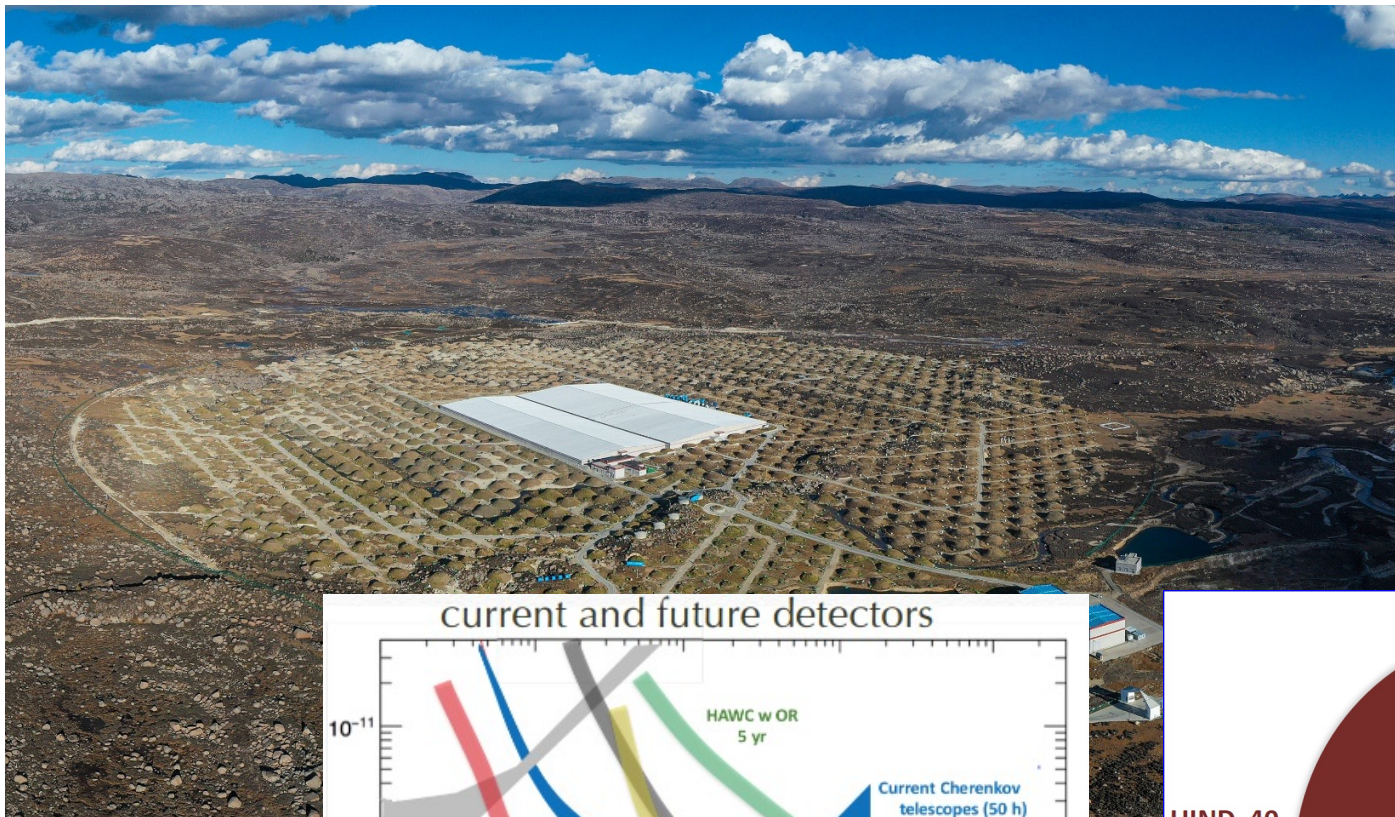
- Cygnus X-3 Fermi-LAT, AGILE: sporadic; 4.8h orbital modulation  
EAS at early 1980s, PeV emission with extraordinary flux?
- Cygnus X-1 **Fermi-LAT**: sporadic; correlated with hard state; hint of orbital modulation; **AGILE**: day-scale flare; **MAGIC**: hour-scale flare
- V404 Cygni? **Fermi-LAT**: GeV flare (controversial)
- GRS 1915+105? **HEGRA**: tentative detection of a flare
- SS 433 **Fermi-LAT**, **HESS**, **HAWC**: up to  $\sim 1 < 100$  TeV, persistent emission, from two X-ray lobes (by HESS)
- V4641 Sgr, **HAWC** up to 200TeV



Energy-dependent morphology: leptonic, acceleration of 100TeV  $e^-$



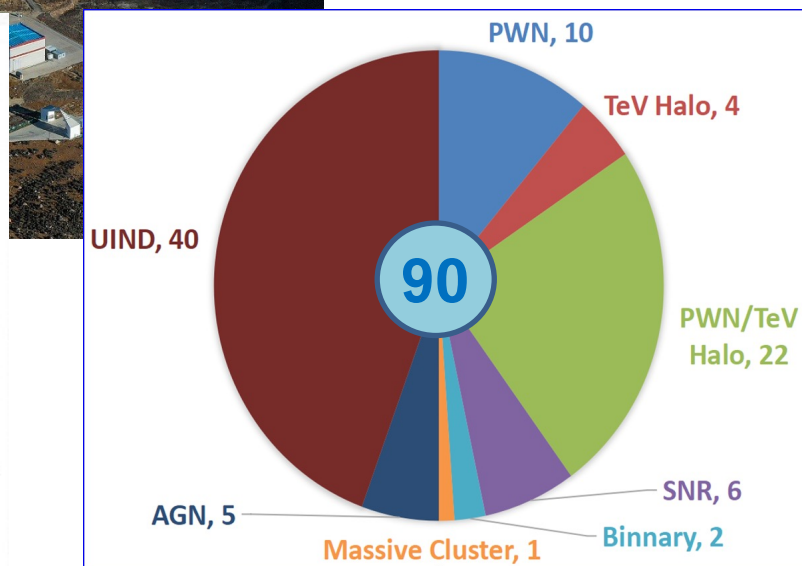
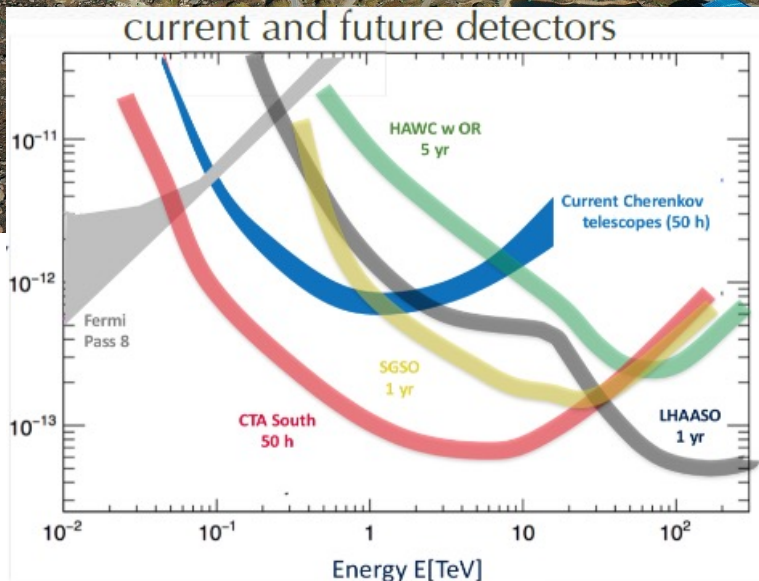
# Large High Altitude Air Shower Observatory (LHAASO)



## EAS type gamma-ray Detector @4410m

- 100% duty cycle
- Large FoV,  $\theta \sim 50$  deg (or larger for bright source)
- High rejection power of CR background
- **WCDA: 1-30 TeV, 78000m<sup>2</sup>**
- **KM2A: 20 TeV - a few PeV, km<sup>2</sup>**
- Angular resolution: **0.5 deg @ 1TeV**

**0.2 deg @ 10TeV**  
**0.3 deg @ 25 TeV**  
**0.2 deg @ 100 TeV**



1st LHAASO Catalog  
(LHAASO Coll. 2024, ApJS)  
based on data up to  
31.07.2022

## **Data analysis of KM2A**

Data including

1/2 array from 26/Dec/2019 – 30/Nov/2020 (with a live time of 302 days)

3/4 array from 01/Dec/2020 – 19/Jul/2021 (with a live time of 219 days)

full array from 20/Jul/2021 – 31/Jan/2024 (with a live time of 884 days)

Zenith angle  $< 50$  deg; extend to 60 deg for V4641 Sgr (dec  $\sim -25$  deg, minimum zenith angle 55 deg)

## **Data analysis of WCDA**

March 8, 2021 to May 31, 2024, with a total live time of 1092 days

12 dynamically confirmed BHs with persistent or episodic jets in FoV of LHAASO

(<https://www.astro.puc.cl/BlackCAT>)

## 12 BH microquasars in LHAASO's FoV, 5 associated with UHE gamma-ray sources

| Microquasar    | Distance<br>(kpc)                 | LHAASO Source | Significance<br>( $\sigma$ ) | Photon Index    | Energy Range<br>(TeV) | Extension <sup>a</sup> | Flux <sup>b</sup><br>(Crab Unit) |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| SS 433 E.      |                                   | J1913+0457    | 9.7 <sup>c</sup>             | $2.78 \pm 0.19$ | 25 – 100              |                        | 0.10                             |
| SS 433 W.      | $4.6 \pm 1.3$ <sup>32</sup>       | J1910+0509    | 8.6 <sup>c</sup>             | $2.92 \pm 0.21$ | 25 – 100              | 0.70°                  | 0.082                            |
| SS 433 central |                                   | J1911+0513    | 9.8                          | $4.03 \pm 0.29$ | 100 – 400             | 0.32°                  | 0.32                             |
| V4641 Sgr      | $6.2 \pm 0.7$ <sup>33</sup>       | J1819-2541    | 8.1                          | $2.67 \pm 0.27$ | 40 – 1000             | 0.36°                  | 3.9                              |
| GRS 1915+105   | $9.4 \pm 0.6$ <sup>34</sup>       | J1914+1049    | 6.1                          | $3.07 \pm 0.15$ | 25 – 630              | 0.33°                  | 0.17                             |
| MAXI J1820+070 | $2.96 \pm 0.33$ <sup>35</sup>     | J1821+0726    | 5.9                          | $3.19 \pm 0.29$ | 25 – 630              | < 0.28°                | 0.13                             |
| Cygnus X-1     | $2.2 \pm 0.2$ <sup>36</sup>       | J1957+3517    | 4.0                          | $4.07 \pm 0.35$ | 25 – 100              | < 0.22°                | < 0.01                           |
| XTE J1859+226  | $4.2 \pm 0.5$ <sup>37</sup>       | –             | 1.9                          | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.03                           |
| GS 2000+251    | $2.7 \pm 0.7$ <sup>38</sup>       | –             | 1.7                          | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.04                           |
| CI Cam         | $4.1^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$ <sup>39</sup> | –             | 1.4                          | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.03                           |
| GRO J0422+32   | $2.49 \pm 0.3$ <sup>40</sup>      | –             | 0.8                          | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.01                           |
| V404 Cygni     | $2.39 \pm 0.14$ <sup>41</sup>     | –             | 0.5                          | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.02                           |
| XTE J1118+480  | $1.7 \pm 0.1$ <sup>42</sup>       | –             | 0                            | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.01                           |
| V616 Mon       | $1.06 \pm 0.1$ <sup>43</sup>      | –             | 0                            | –               | –                     | –                      | < 0.01                           |

<sup>a</sup> separation between two point-like sources of SS 433 below 100 TeV; 39% containment radius for SS 433 central, V4641 Sgr and GRS 1915+105; one-tailed 95% confidence upper limit for the source size for MAXI J1820+070 and Cygnus X-1.

<sup>b</sup> at 100 TeV, 1 CrabUnit  $\simeq 10^{-12}$  erg cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>

<sup>c</sup> the combined detection significance for the two point-like sources is 12.9 $\sigma$ .

All five **detected** microquasars **show** persistent or remarkable outbursts of **BH activities** in recent years

All seven **undetected** microquasars **do not show** notable **BH activities** in recent years

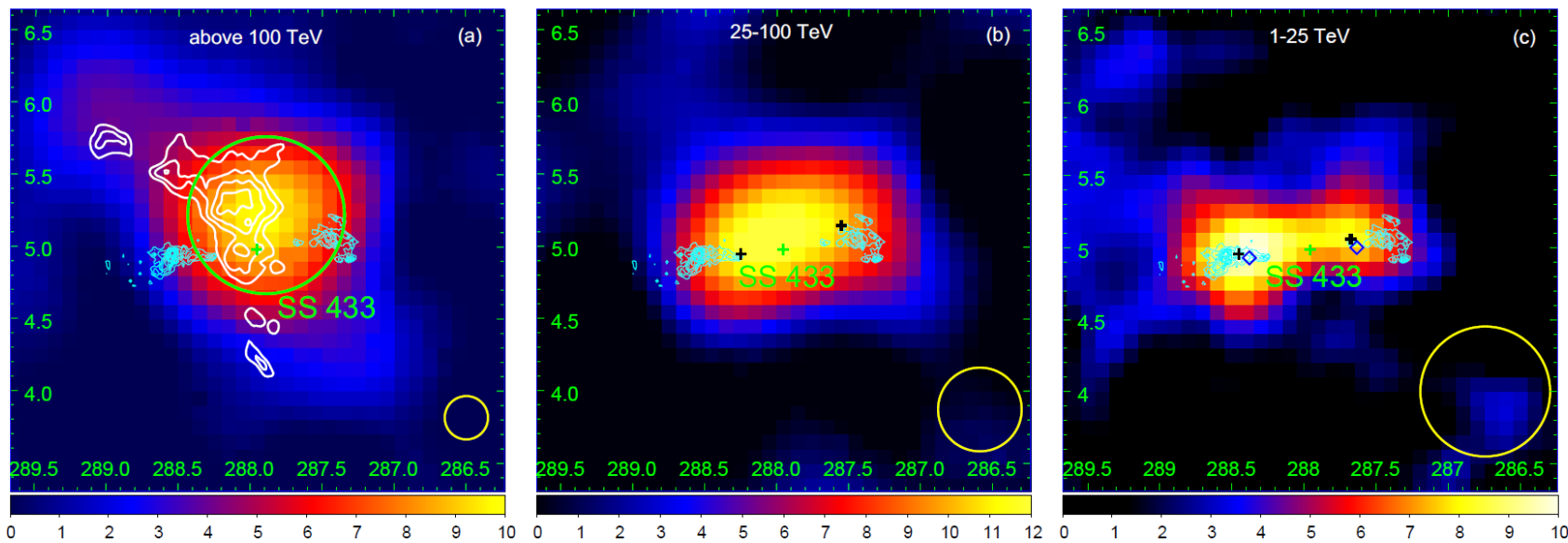
**cooling time of particles responsible for UHE emission is > kyrs**

**is it just coincidence?**

**Resolved: SS 433; V4641 Sgr; GRS 1915+105**  
**Unresolved: MAXI J1820+070; Cygnus X-1**

**Is a BH's recent activity (over past decades) a proxy of UHE emission?**

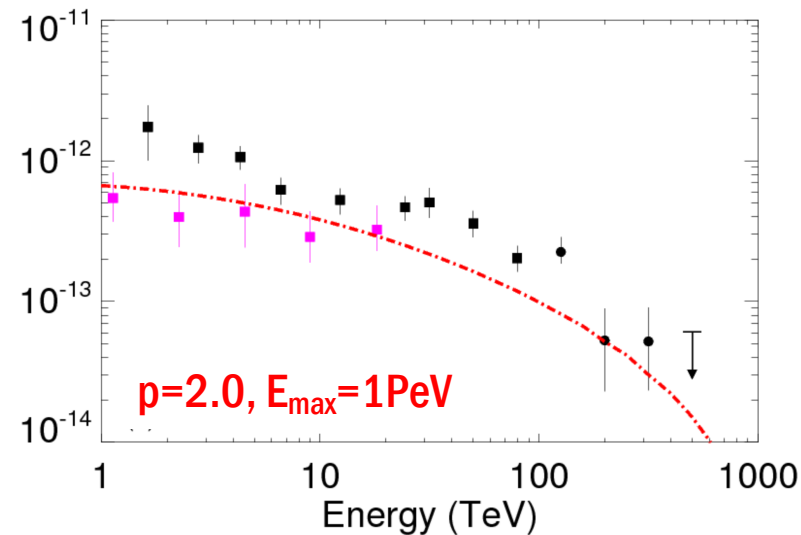
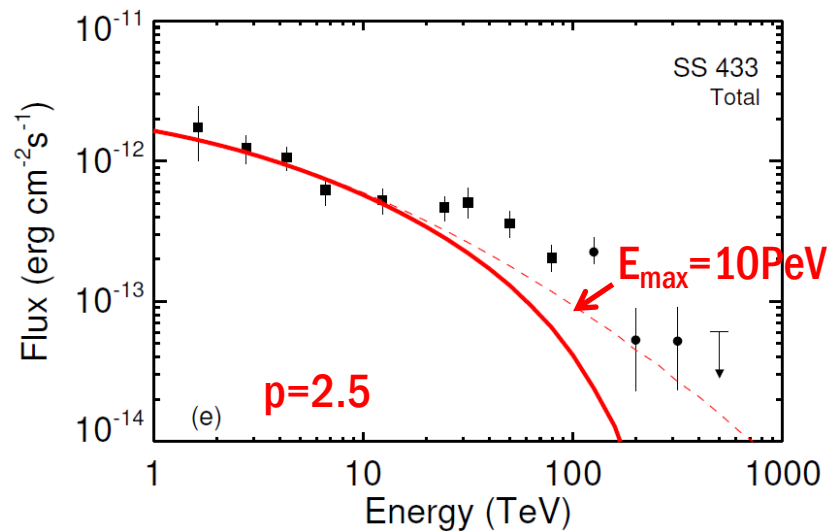
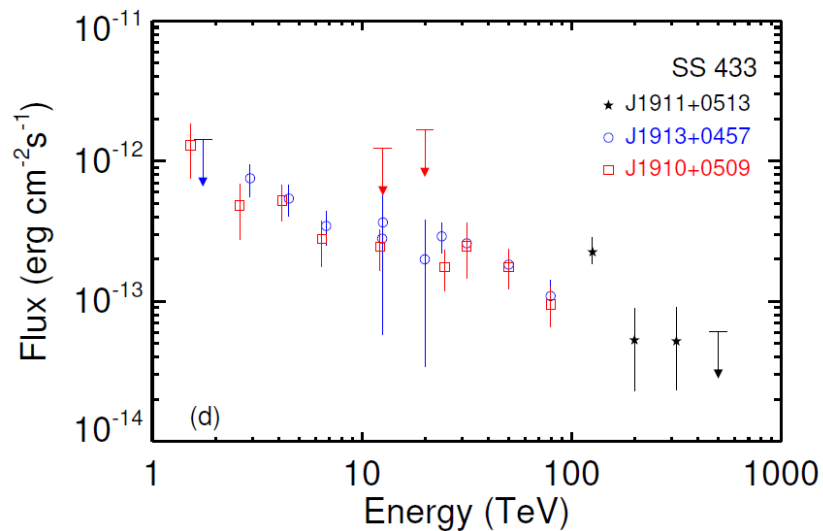
# SS 433



dramatic change of the morphology  
between low energy and high energy

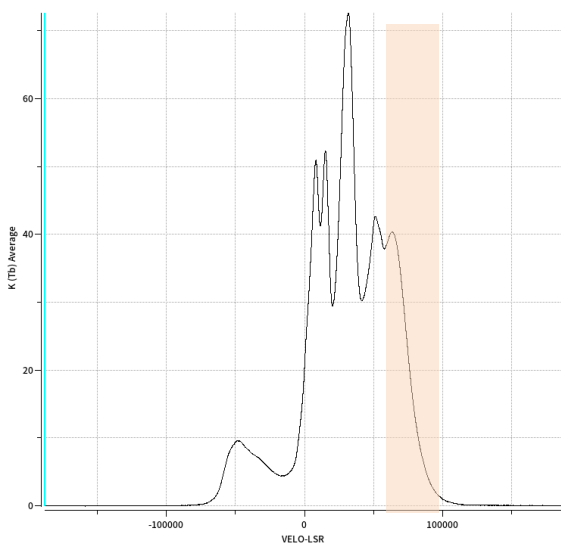
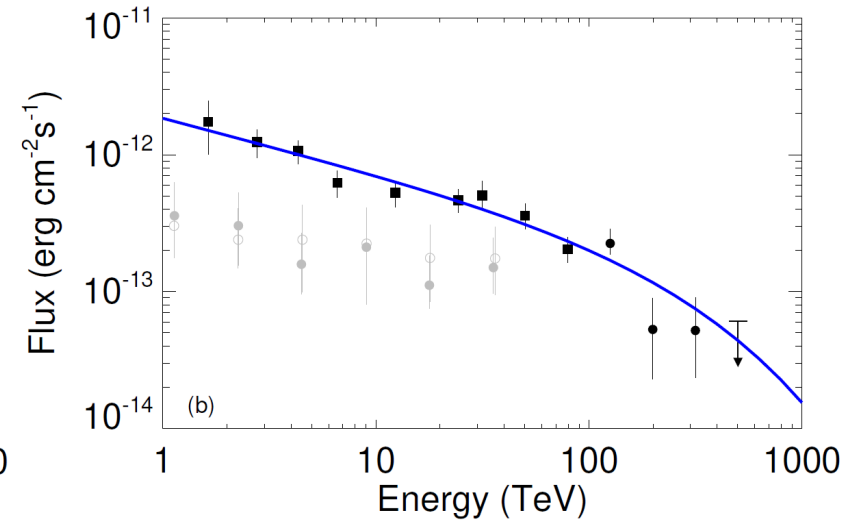
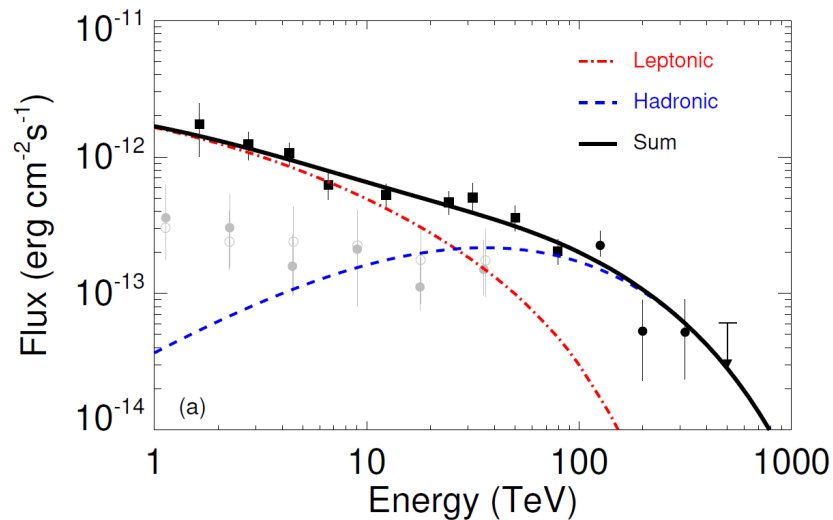
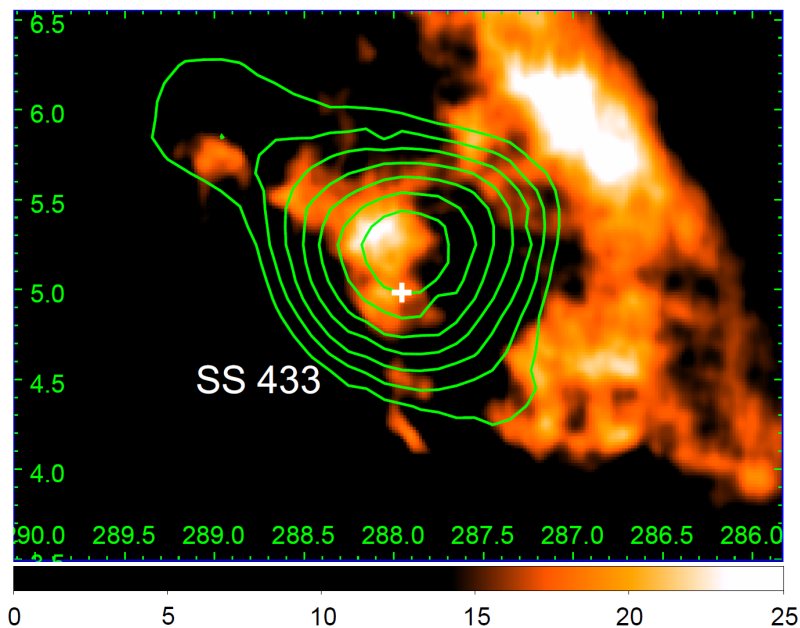
|              | 1-25 TeV | 25-100 TeV | above 100 TeV |
|--------------|----------|------------|---------------|
| $\Delta AIC$ | 22.7     | 22.8       | -12.5         |

$\Delta AIC < -10$  favors Gaussian model  
 $\Delta AIC > -10$  favors 2PS model





# Hadronic origin of UHE emission



$d=4.1\pm0.7\text{kpc}$ ,  
 $M_{\text{H}}=2.5e4M_{\odot}$ ,  
 $R_{\text{c}}=20\text{pc}$ ,  
 $n=30\text{cm}^{-3}$

$$Q_{\text{p}}(E_{\text{p}}) = Q_{0,\text{p}} E_{\text{p}}^{-s_{\text{p}}} \exp(-E_{\text{p}}/E_{\text{p,max}})$$

$$s_{\text{p}} = 1.8, E_{\text{p,max}} = 1 \text{ PeV},$$

$$L_{\text{p}}=10^{39} \text{ erg/s} \quad L_{\text{p}}(>1\text{PeV})=10^{38} \text{ erg/s}$$

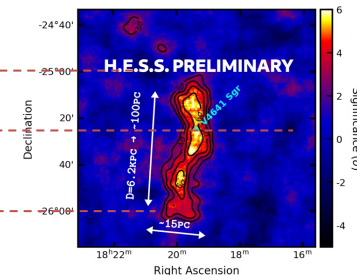
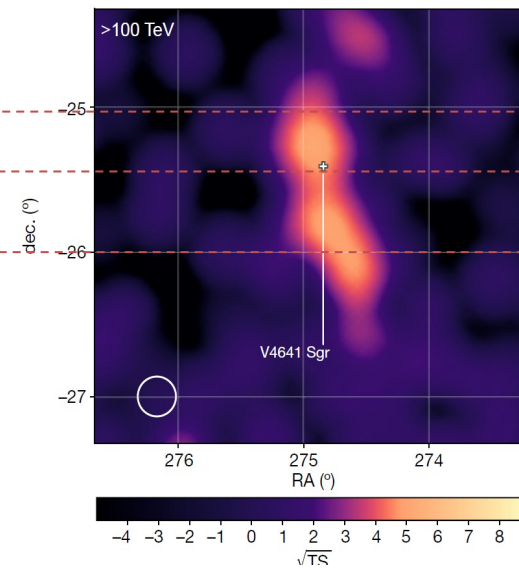
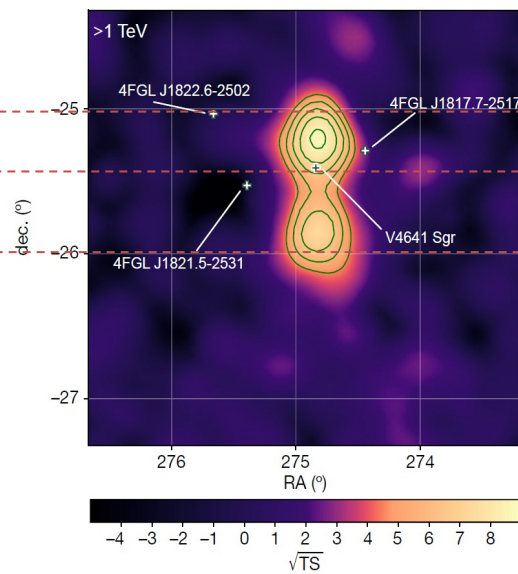
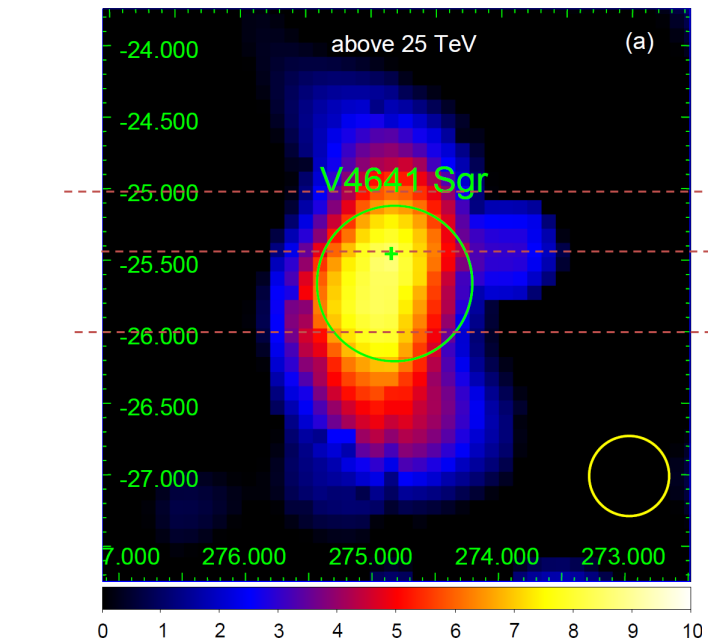
$$s_{\text{p}} = 2.5 \text{ and } E_{\text{p,max}} = 3 \text{ PeV}$$

$$W_{\text{p}} = 5 \times 10^{50} (n_{\text{H}}/10\text{cm}^{-3})^{-1} \text{ erg}$$

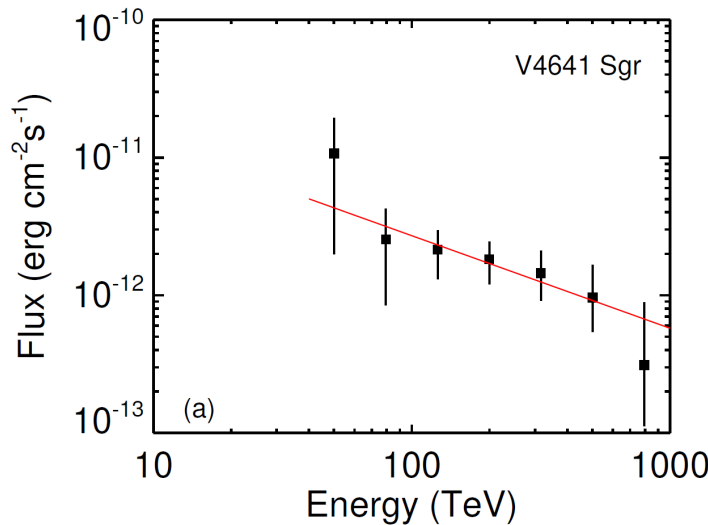
see, for example, Peretti et al. 2024 for a detailed model of particle acceleration



# V4641 Sgr



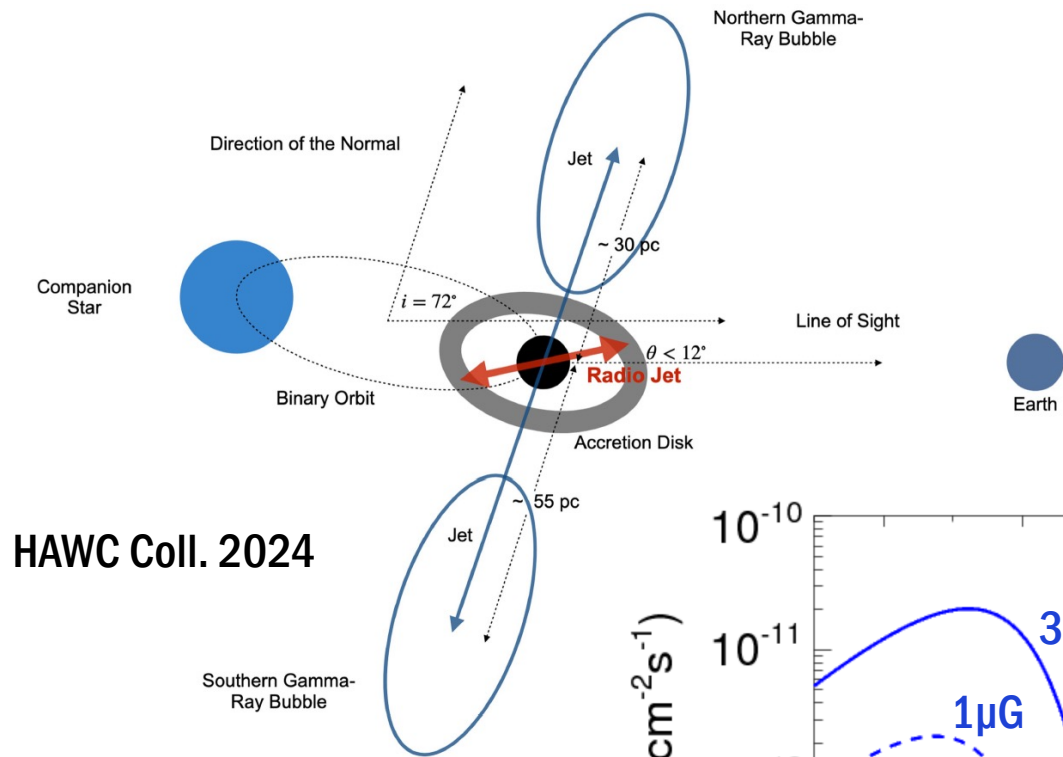
courtesy of L. Olivera-Nieto



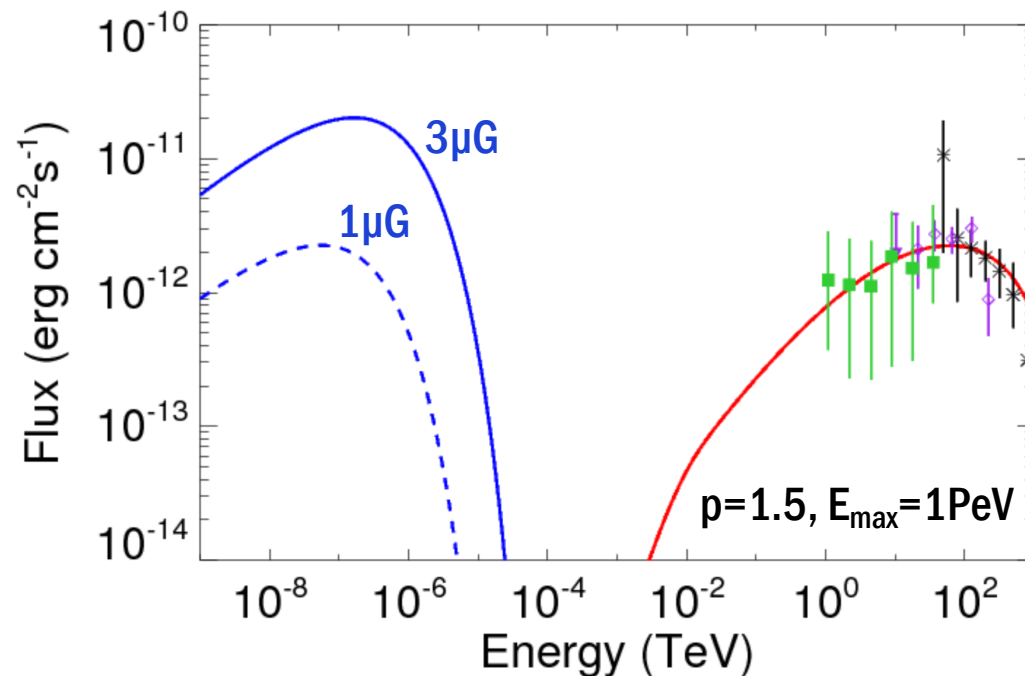
| Model  | Ra                | Dec               | L./a            | W./b            | N of W angle | TS    |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|
| 2PS    | $274.94 \pm 0.0$  |                   |                 |                 |              |       |
|        | 8                 | $-25.97 \pm 0.09$ |                 |                 |              |       |
|        | $274.94 \pm 0.0$  | $-25.11 \pm 0.12$ | N/A             | N/A             | N/A          | 130.1 |
|        | 8                 |                   |                 |                 |              |       |
| Rect.  | $274.87 \pm 0.05$ | $-25.72 \pm 0.09$ | $1.78 \pm 0.24$ | $0.18 \pm 0.30$ | $84.8 \pm 6$ | 133.7 |
| eGauss | $274.87 \pm 0.05$ | $-25.72 \pm 0.09$ | $0.52 \pm 0.10$ | $0.1 \pm 0.2$   | $86 \pm 6$   | 132.9 |



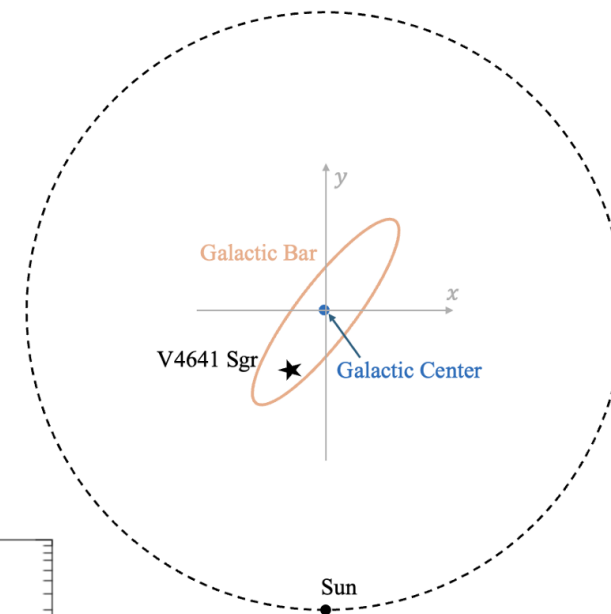
# Possible interpretation of the V4641's emission



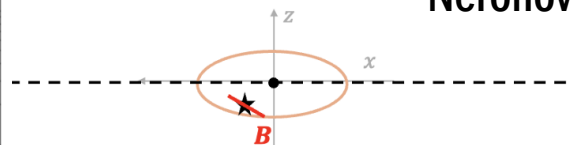
HAWC Coll. 2024



$b=-4.8 \text{ deg}$   
 $z=-500 \text{ pc}$



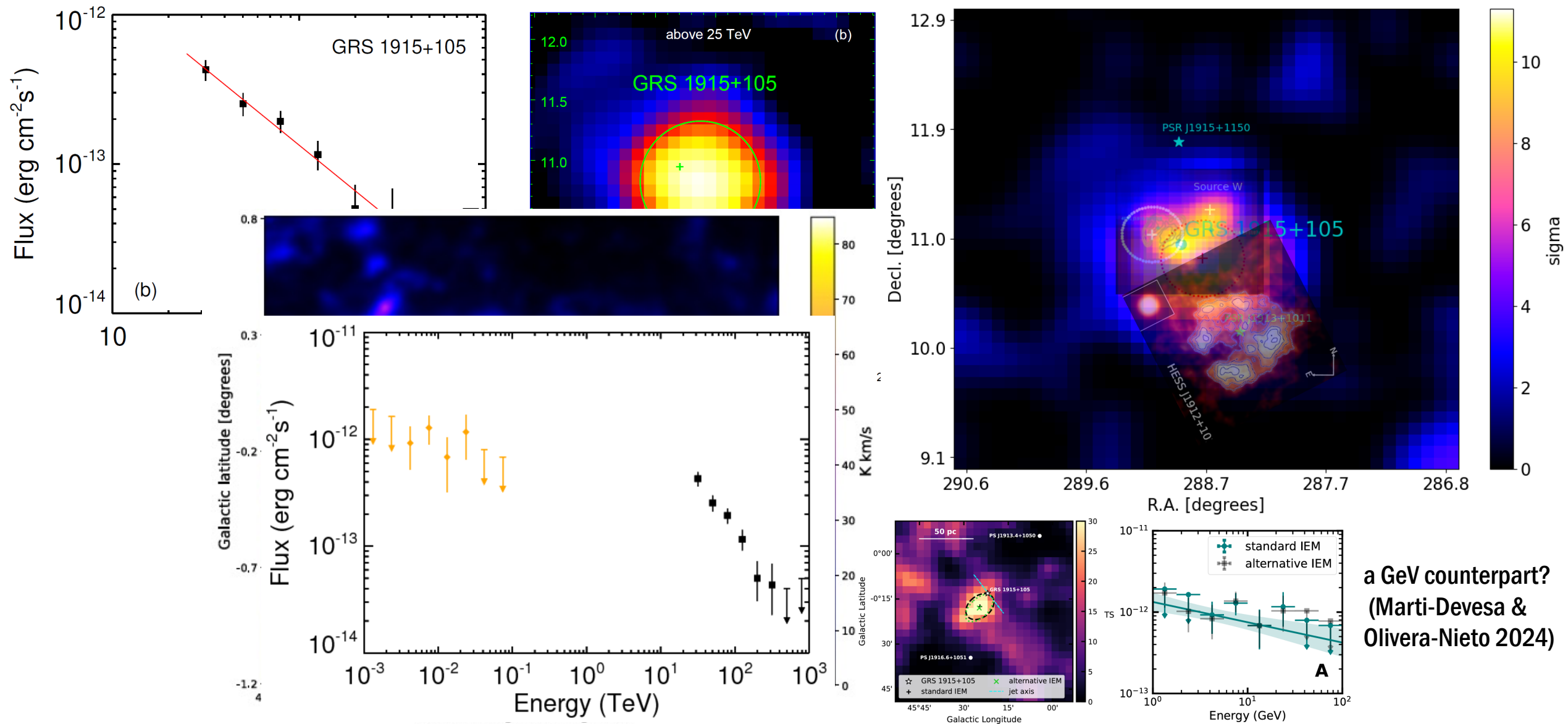
Neronov et al. 2024



deep X-ray and atomic/molecular line observations will be crucial to understand the origin of the UHE emission



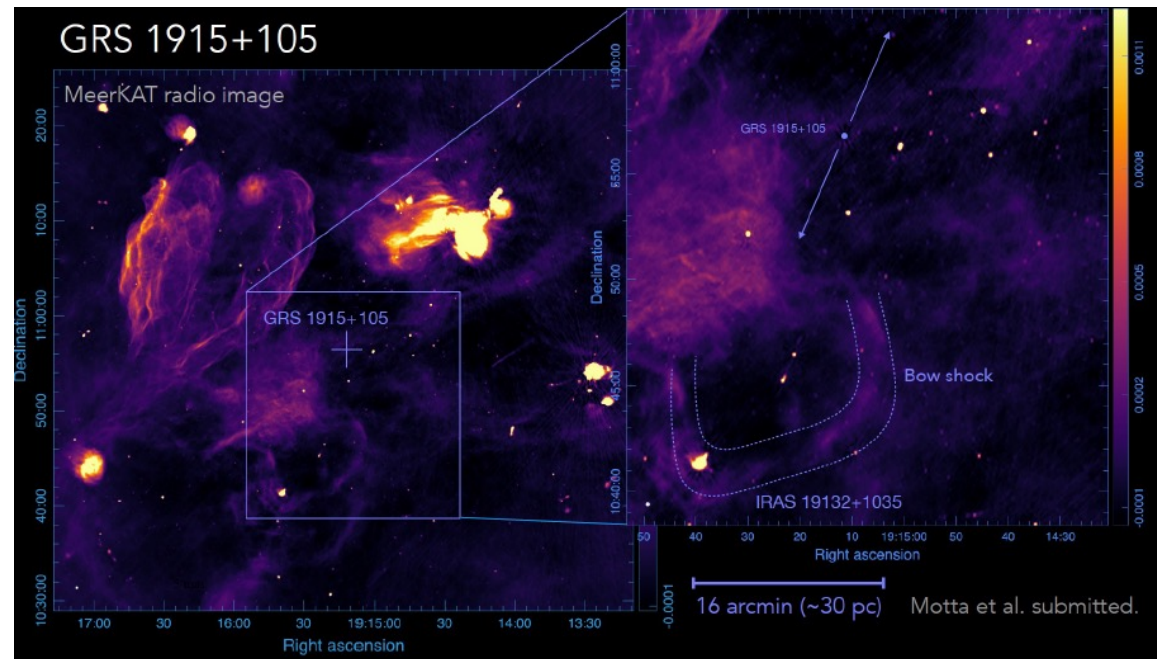
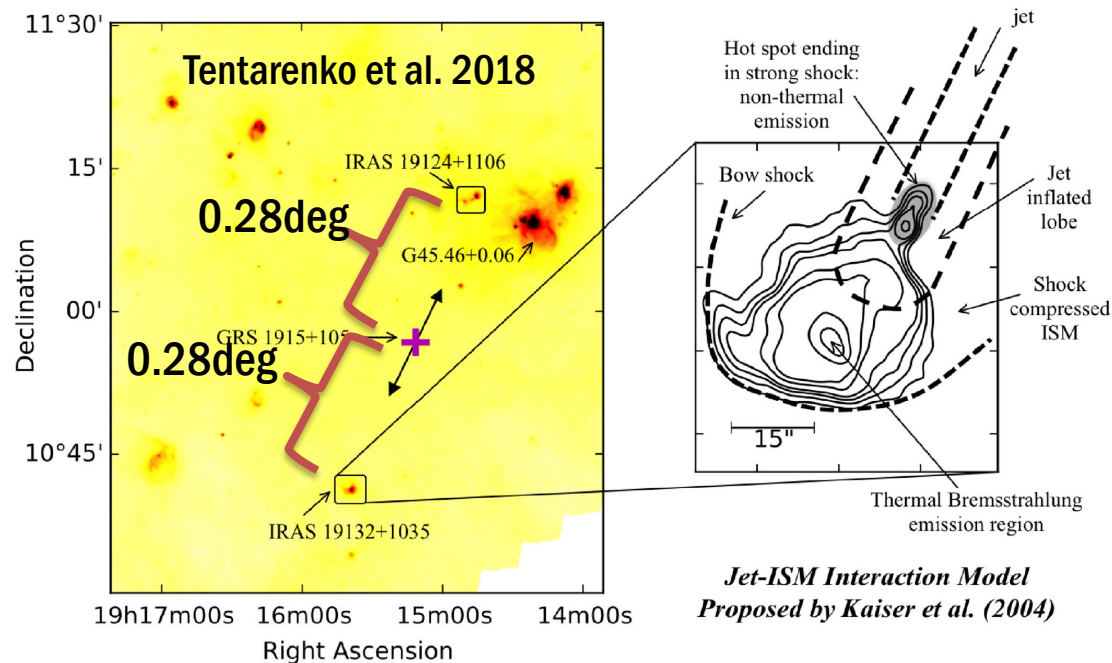
# GRS 1915+105



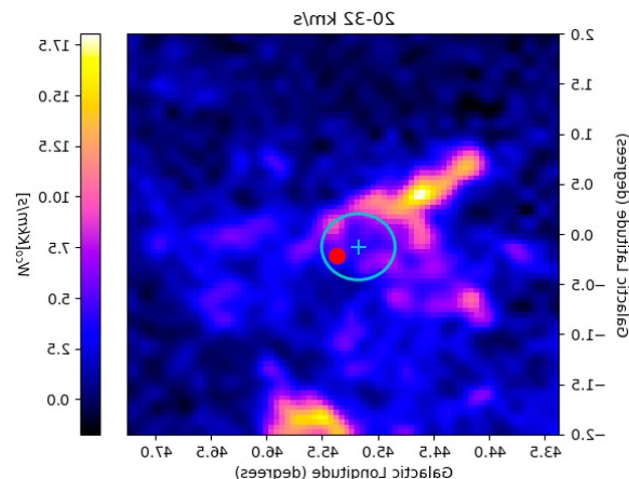
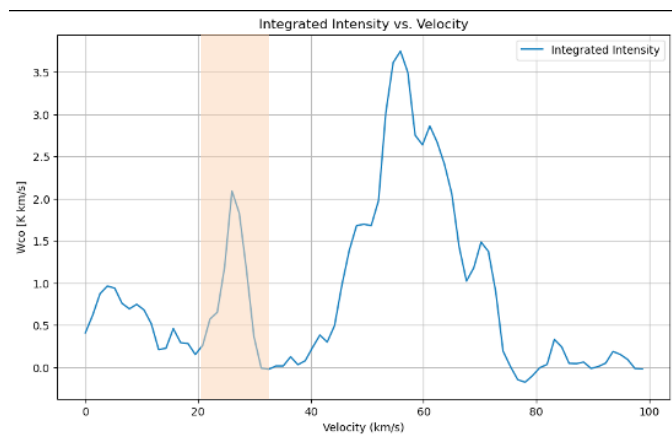
a GeV counterpart?  
(Marti-Devesa & Olivera-Nieto 2024)



# Possible origin of the UHE emission



from the talk by Melania Del Santo in Leonardo meeting



within LHAASO source  
 $M = 1.6e5 M_{\odot}$   
 $n = 5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $W_p(>200\text{TeV}) \sim 4e48\text{erg}$

two unresolved lobes  
 or diffuse emission?

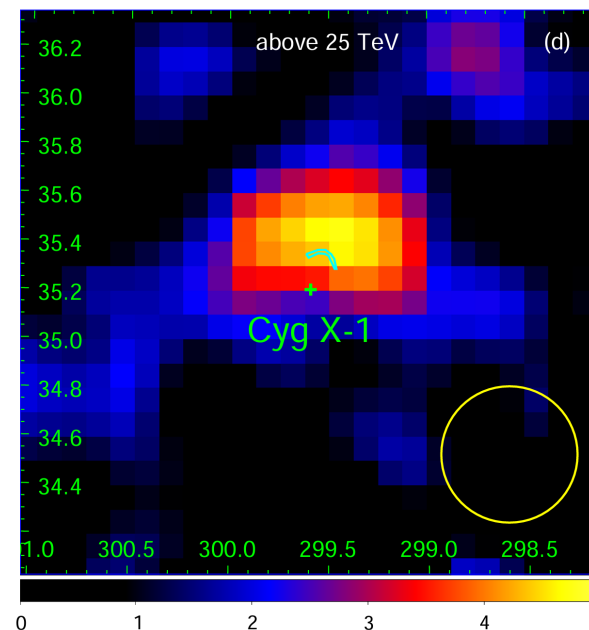
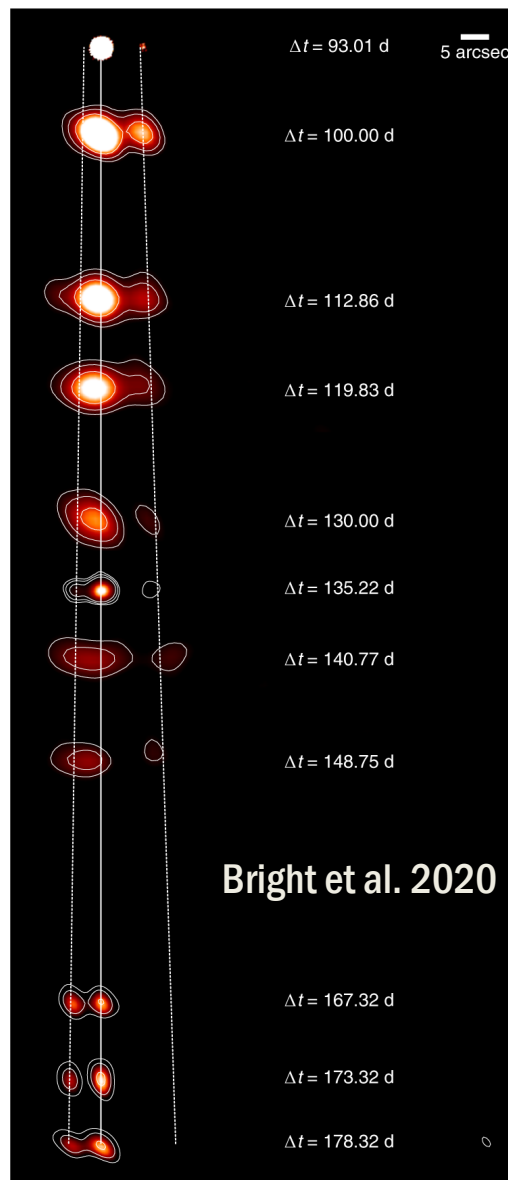
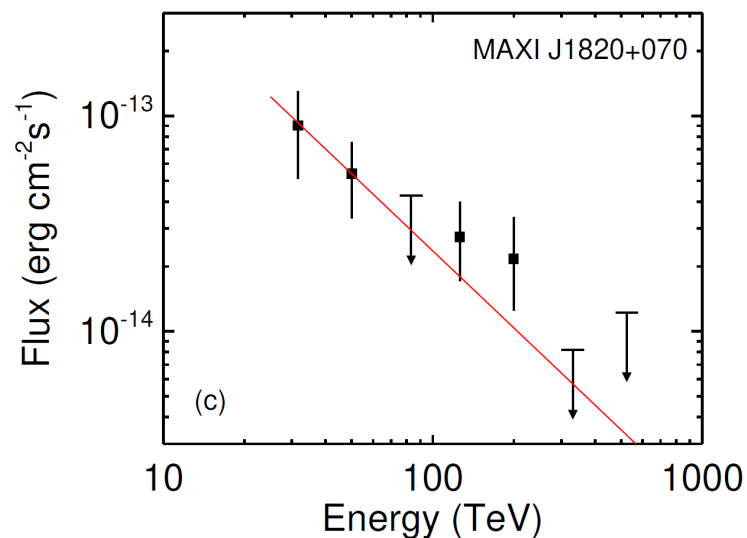
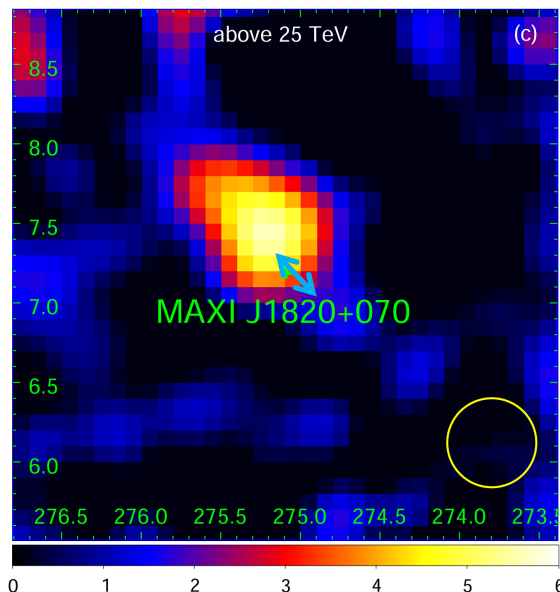
Khangulyan et al. 2024, JHEAP



# MAXI J1820+070 & Cygnus X-1

“new” BH  
discovered in  
2018  
(Tucker et al.  
2018,  
Kawamuro et al.  
2018)

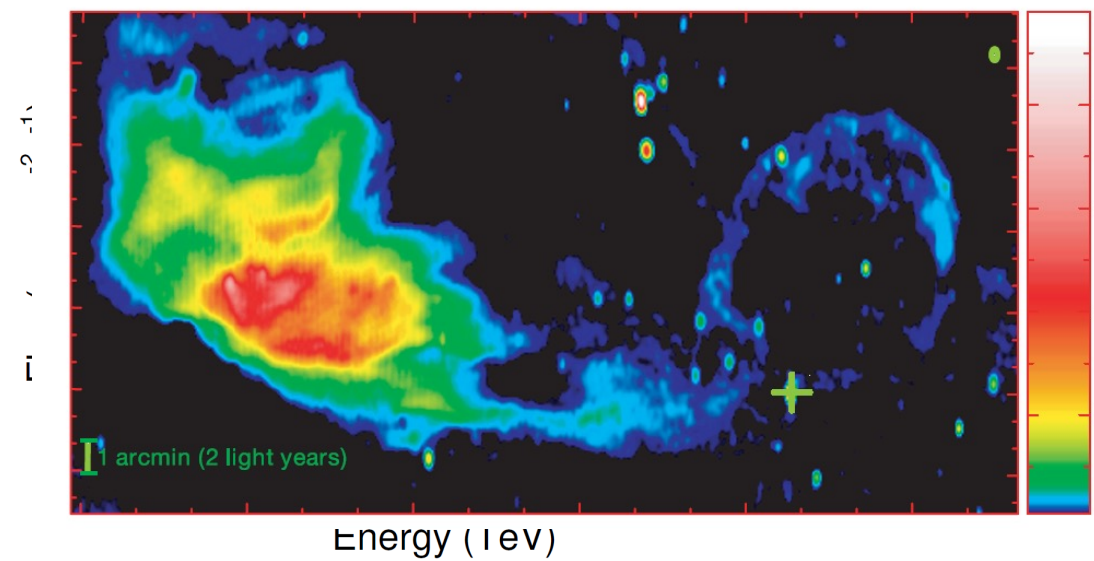
$r < 0.28$  deg

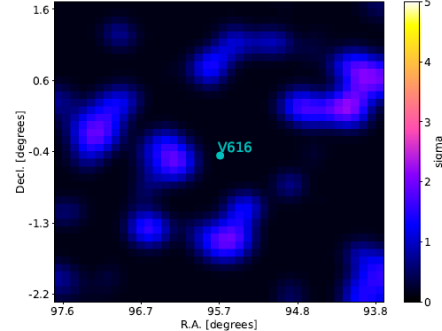
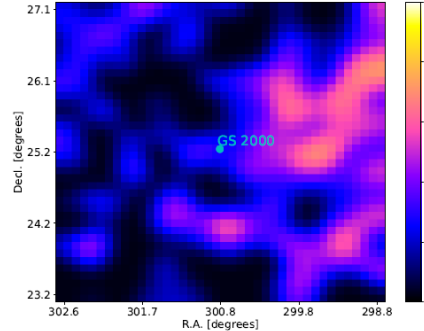
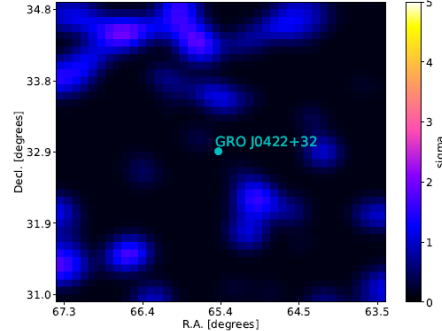
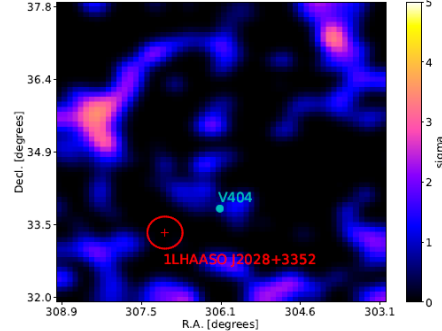
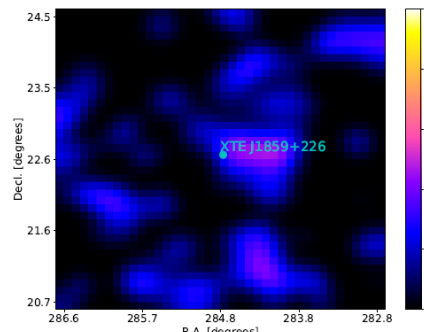
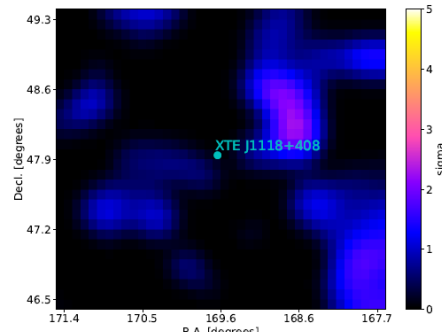
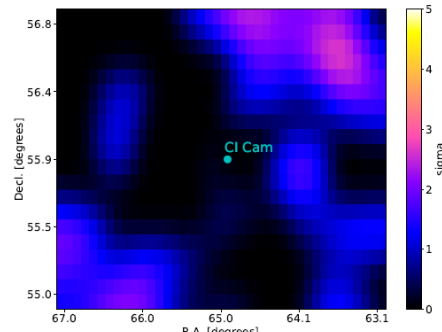
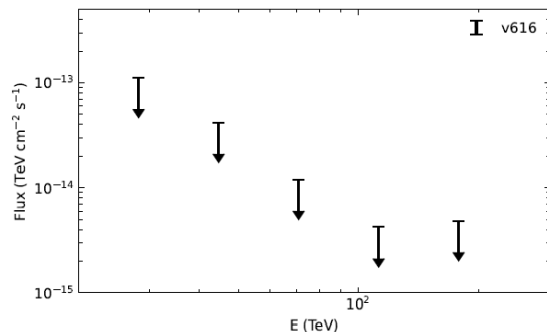
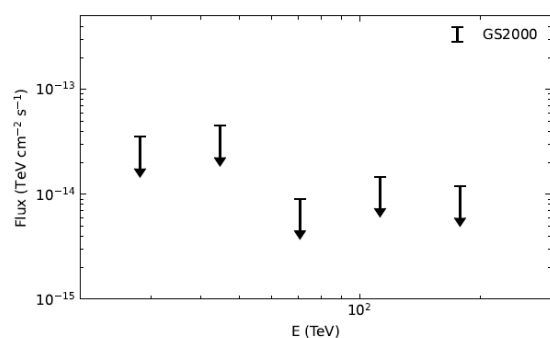
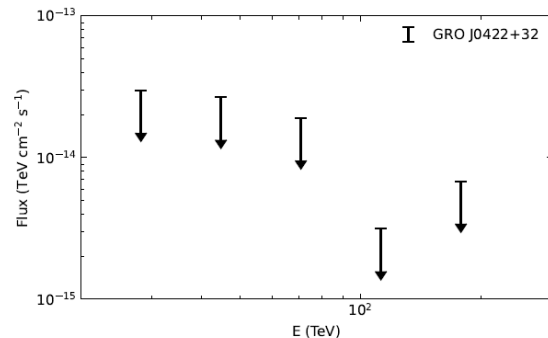
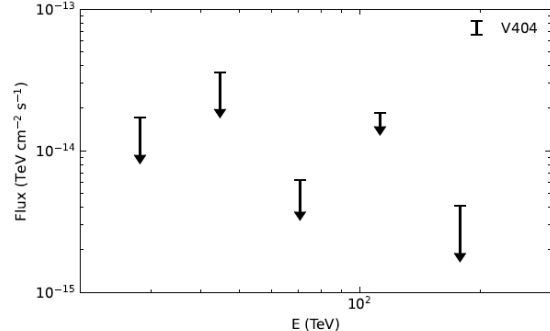
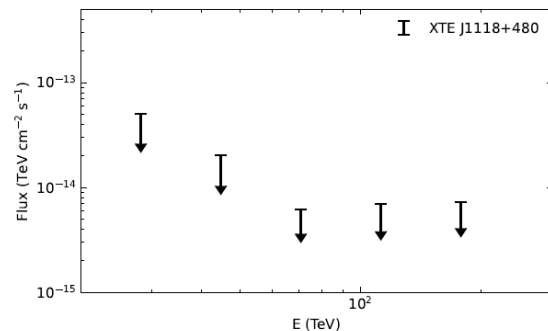
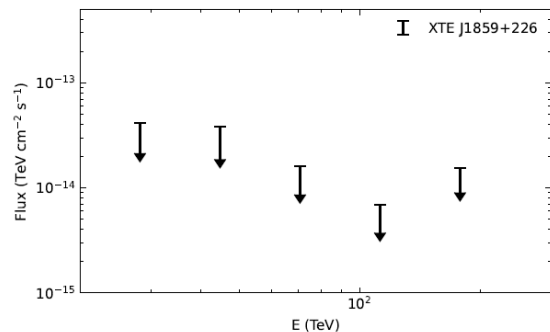
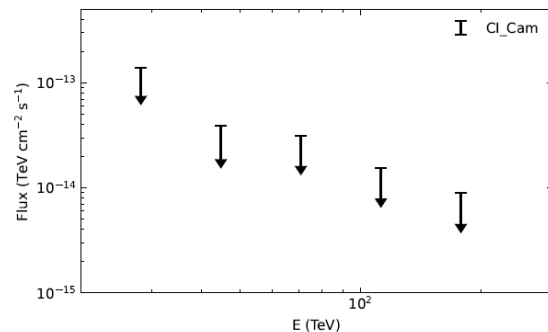


first identified  
BH in 1960s

bubble inflated  
by a dark jet?  
(Gallo et al. 2005)

$r < 0.22$  deg





other seven undetected microquasars, longer exposure is needed



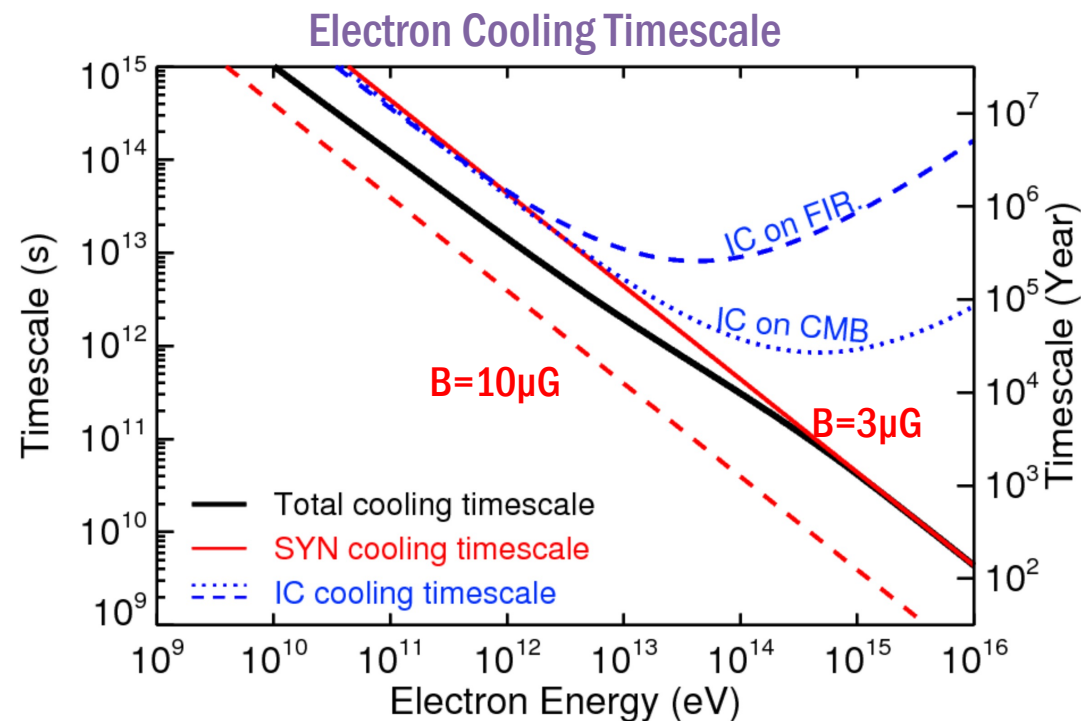
# Connection between BH activity and UHE emission



**SS 433:** persistent  
**Cyg X-1:** persistent  
**GRS 1915:** active for decades before entering a "dim state" in X-ray band since 2018, but still exhibits frequent, bright radio flares  
**V4641 Sgr:** highest frequency of outburst among transient BHXRBS  
**MAXI J1820:** major outburst in 2018

**V616 Mon:** no outburst since 1975  
**GS 2000+251:** no outburst since 1988  
**GRO J0422+32:** no outburst since 1992  
**CI Cam:** no outburst since 1998  
**XTE J1859+226:** no outburst since 1999  
**XTE J1118+480:** no outburst since 2000  
**V404 Cygni:** no outburst since 2015

Proton Cooling Timescale:  $t_{pp} = 4 \text{ Myr } (n/10\text{cm}^{-3})^{-1}$



- If not coincidence: duty cycle of BHXRBS inferred from observations of recent decades could reflect the energy release of the binary system in past thousands of years?
- If coincidence: expectation of UHE emission from other quiescent BHXRBS, or even undiscovered systems
- other factors: fractional energy in nonthermal particles; disk instabilities; radiation efficiency

# Contribution to the measured CR flux



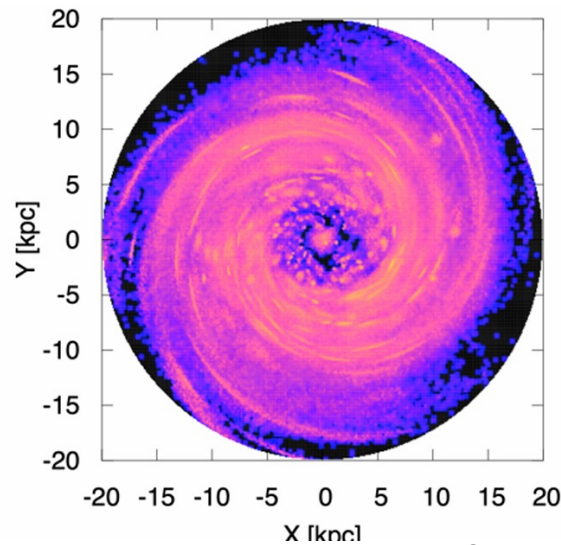
## active BHs and their environments can be PeV proton factories

$L_p(1\text{PeV}) \sim 10^{38} \text{erg/s}$  from the lepto-hadronic model for SS433's SED

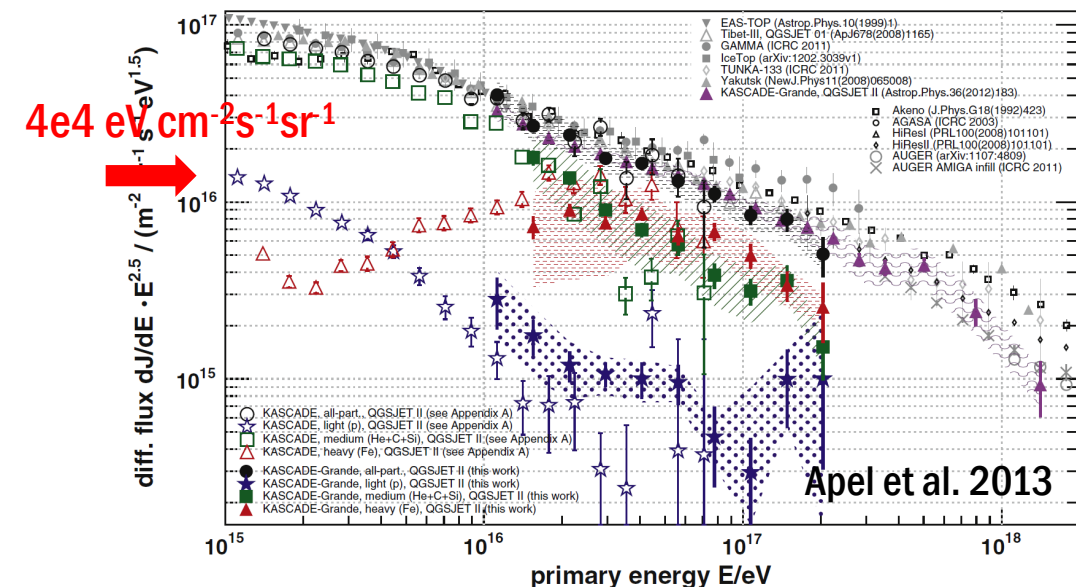
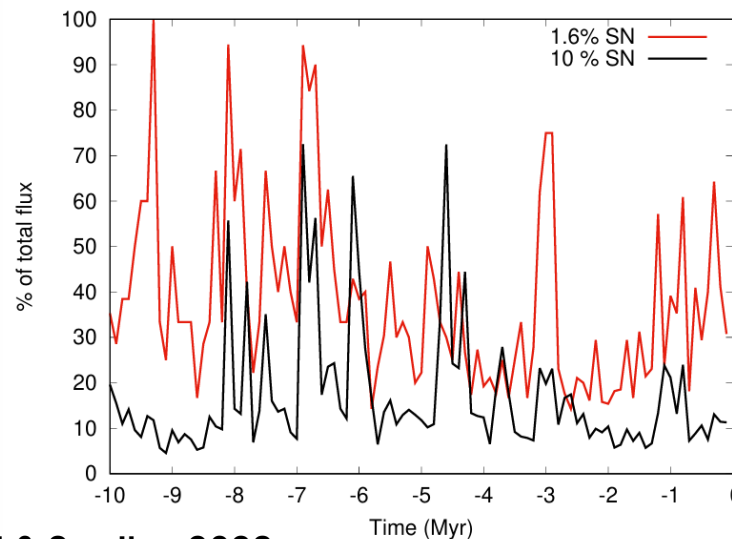
$$F(E_p = 1 \text{ PeV}) = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{L_p f_{\mu Q} t_{\text{res}}}{2\pi R_{\text{Gal}}^2 H_{\text{CR}}} \quad f_{\mu Q} = 10 - 100$$

$$\approx 3 \times 10^4 \left( \frac{f_{\mu Q} L_p}{10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \right) \left( \frac{D_{\text{ISM}}}{10^{31} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}} \right)^{-1} \left( \frac{H_{\text{CR}}}{4 \text{ kpc}} \right) \left( \frac{R_{\text{Gal}}}{15 \text{ kpc}} \right)^{-2} \text{ eV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

the total number of BH X-ray binaries in Milky Way is expected to be about 1000, with a dozen of them probably boasting X-ray luminosity exceeding  $10^{39} \text{erg/s}$



Giacinti & Semikoz 2023

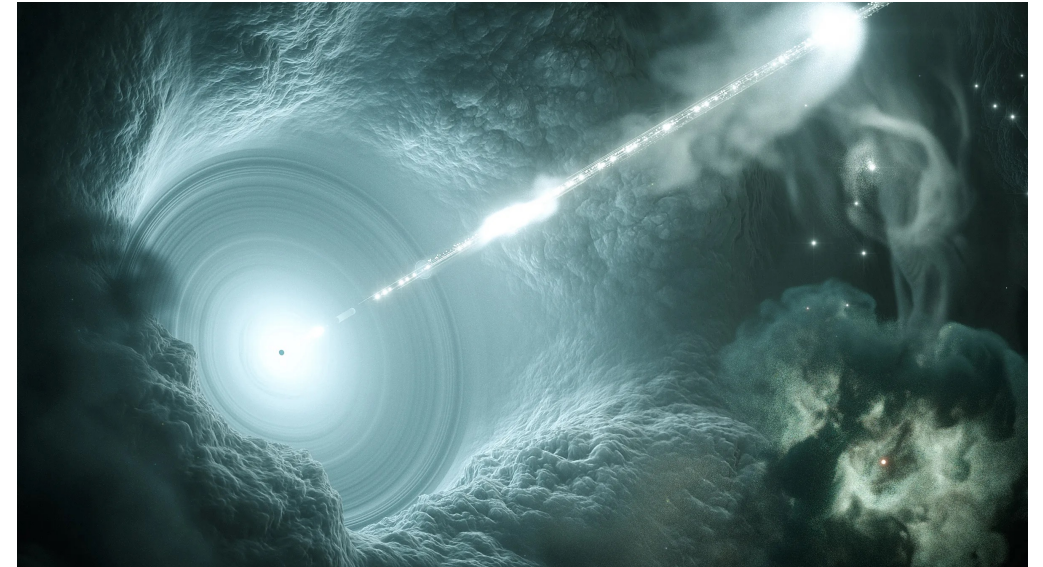
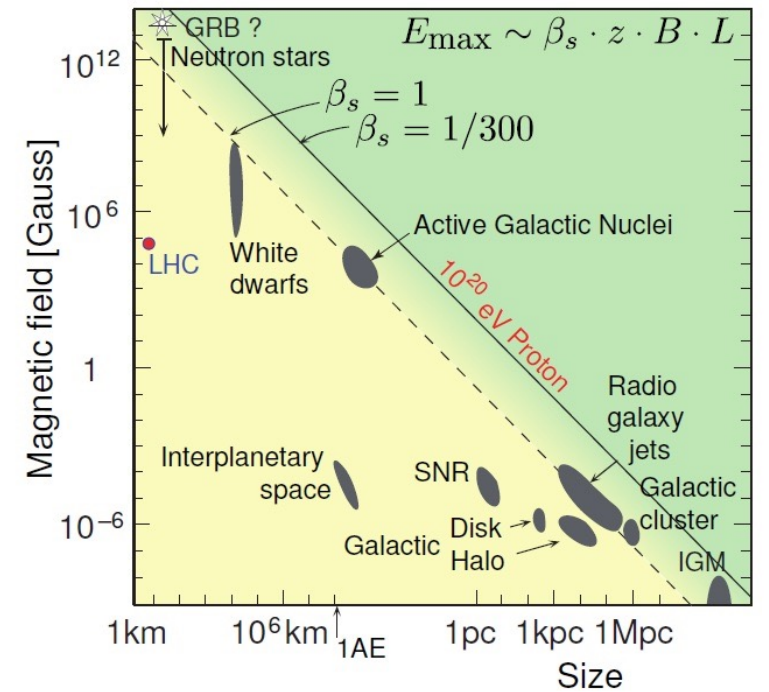


# Implications for particle acceleration at AGN

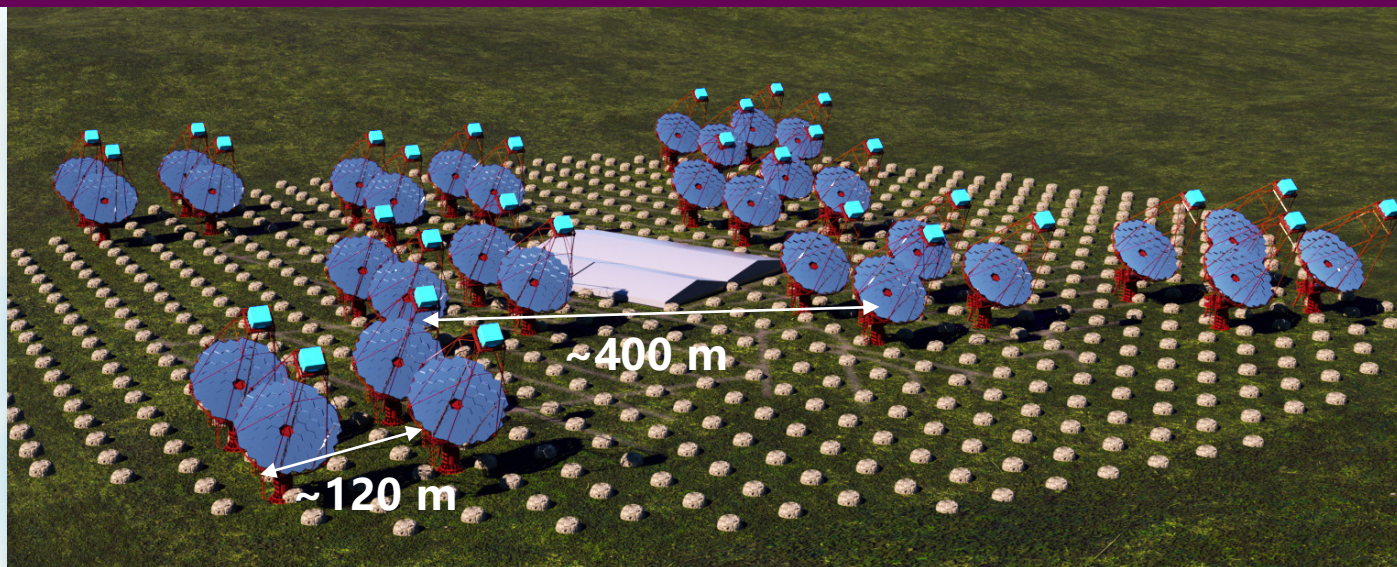
stellar-mass BH-Jet systems

-> accelerators of  $> \sim 10$  PeV at different locations of the system

Insights into particle acceleration of supermassive BH-Jet systems  
(more powerful, more gigantic)



# Large Array of Cherenkov Telescopes



- **Funded**
- **32 telescopes:  $8 \times 4$  array at LHAASO site**
- **6-m telescopes**
- **Angular resolution:  $< 0.05^\circ$  @  $> 10$  TeV**
- **LHAASO MD array provides excellent  $\gamma/p$  discrimination**
- **two proto type telescopes**
- **First light soon in next year!**
- **The full array will be completed by 2028**



# High-energy Underwater Neutrino Telescope

## Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)

- 20-inch PMT
- 55,296 DOMs in total

30 km<sup>3</sup> NT

36 m

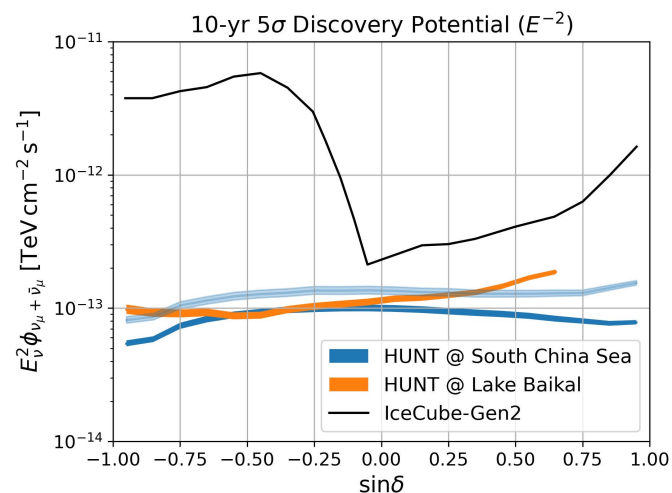
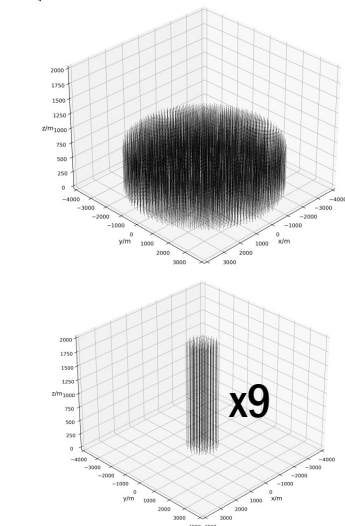
130 m

500 - 2,600 m  
860 m

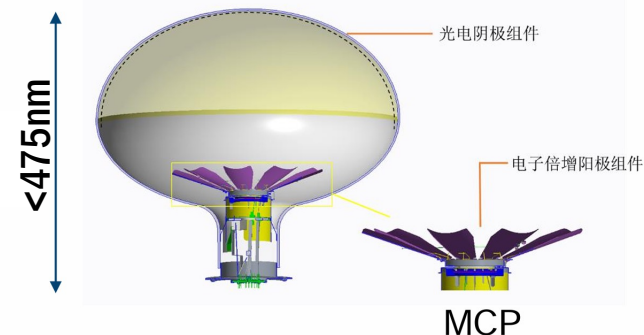
## Candidate sites

|                             | Lake Baikal                        | South China Sea                                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Absorption length           | ~20 m                              | ~25 m                                                  |
| Depth                       | ~1366 m                            | ~2500 m (better atmospheric muon background rejection) |
| Deployment Cost             | ~K\$ /string                       | High                                                   |
| Reparability                | Work on the ice (low cost)         | Difficult to be repaired                               |
| Power Supply cable          | ~10 km cable                       | ~100 km cable or battery                               |
| Construction and Deployment | ~5 years (Feb. to Apr. every year) | Rely on deep-ocean facilities                          |

## Prototype Test



## New 20-inch PMT with short neck



# Summary

- LHAASO has detected 5 out 12 BH microquasars in FoV associated with UHE emission.
  - SS433, V4641 Sgr, GRS 1915+105, MAXI J1820+070, Cygnus X-1 present gamma-ray emission around and above 100TeV
  - energy-dependent morphology of SS 433 indicate different origin of emission above 100TeV and that  $<<100\text{TeV}$ , association of  $>100\text{TeV}$  source with atomic cloud support a hadronic origin
- Among 5 sources, there are both extended and point-like morphology -> radiation/particle acceleration from different scales of the BH-jet system;
- Our results indicate active BH and their environment are a new class of PeVatron/Super-PeVatron
  - implication for particle acceleration in more powerful SMBH-jet systems (blazar, radio galaxies) and origin of UHECRs. Hints of other relevant processes: jet formation, jet dynamics...
- A connection between UHE emission and BH activities. More samples are needed to answer the possible association between recent BH activities and UHE emission.

**Thank you very much for your attention!**

- **BACKUP SLIDES**

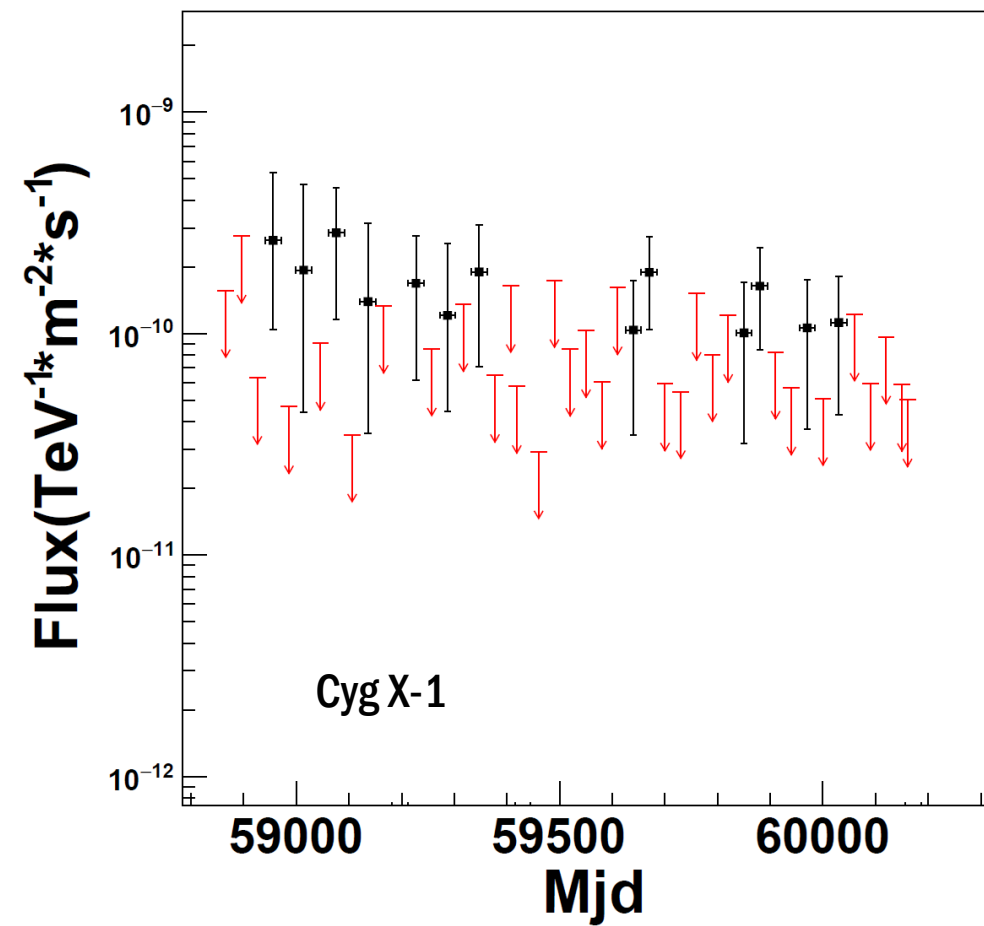
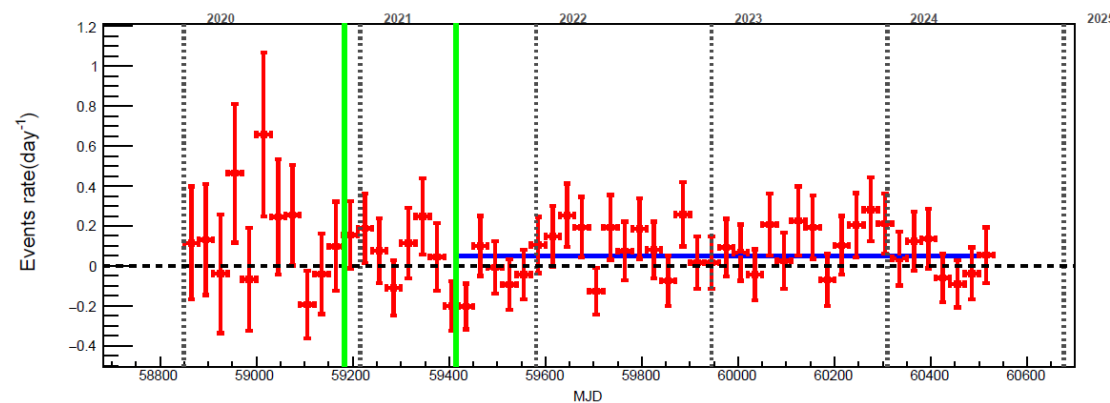
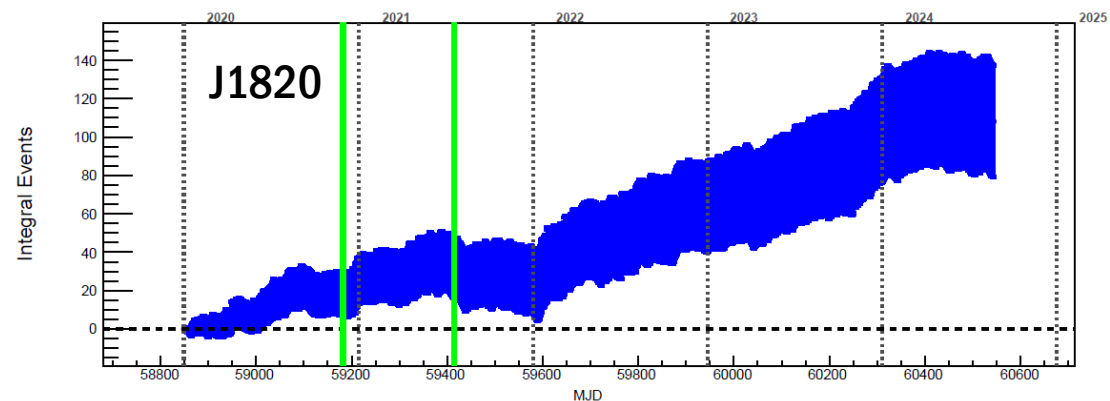
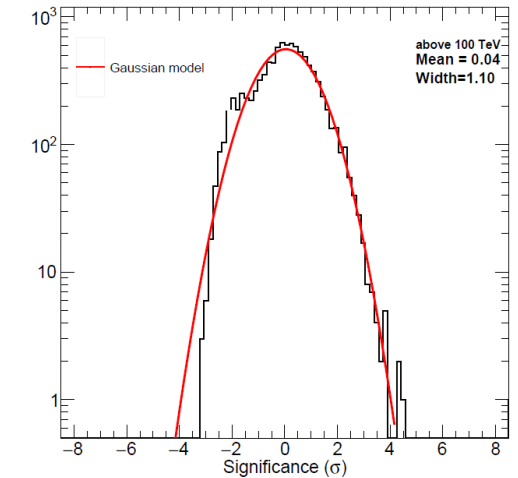
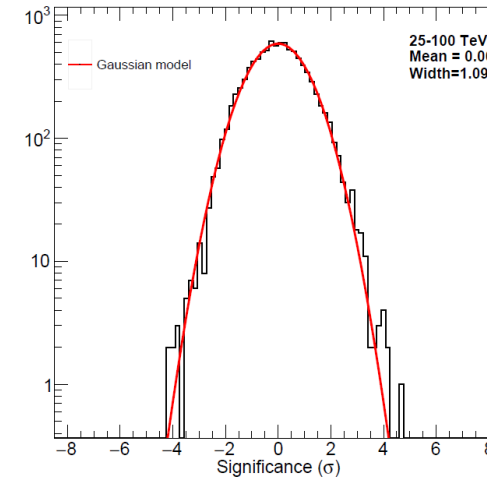
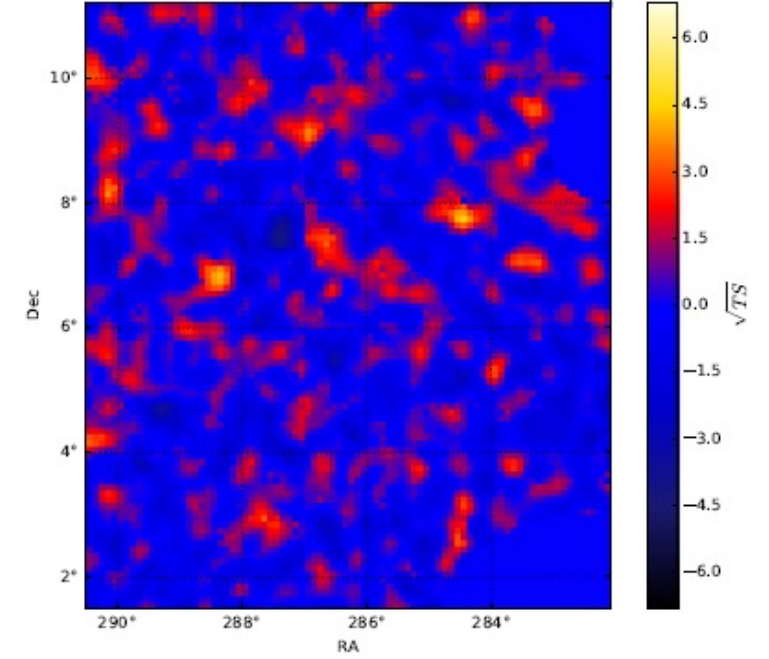


Table 1: Best-fit model parameters of SS 433 region at 25-1000 TeV.

| Name       | R.A.              | Dec              | $\sigma$        | Possible Association                  |
|------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| LHAASO     | degree            | degree           | degree          |                                       |
| J1908+0614 | $287.06 \pm 0.01$ | $6.23 \pm 0.01$  | $0.36 \pm 0.01$ | 1LHAASO J1908+0615u<br>MRGO J1908+06  |
| J1907+0613 | $286.79 \pm 0.10$ | $6.22 \pm 0.10$  | $1.31 \pm 0.07$ | new source                            |
| J1912+0500 | $288.17 \pm 0.04$ | $5.01 \pm 0.03$  | ps              | 1LHAASO J1913+0501<br>SS 433 E.       |
| J1910+0506 | $287.55 \pm 0.07$ | $5.11 \pm 0.06$  | ps              | 1LHAASO J1910+0516<br>SS 433 W.       |
| J1908+0818 | $287.03 \pm 0.06$ | $8.31 \pm 0.06$  | $0.03 \pm 0.05$ | 1LHAASO J1907+0826<br>2HWC J1907+084  |
| J1857+0201 | $284.42 \pm 0.02$ | $2.02 \pm 0.02$  | $0.25 \pm 0.02$ | 1LHAASO J1857+0203u<br>HESS J1858+020 |
| J1858+0322 | $284.58 \pm 0.03$ | $3.38 \pm 0.04$  | $0.43 \pm 0.02$ | 1LHAASO J1858+0330                    |
| J1913+1033 | $288.44 \pm 0.03$ | $10.55 \pm 0.03$ | $0.45 \pm 0.02$ | 1LHAASO J1912+1014u<br>HESS J1912+101 |
| J1914+1148 | $288.72 \pm 0.03$ | $11.81 \pm 0.03$ | $0.13 \pm 0.02$ | 1LHAASO J1914+1150u<br>2HWC J1914+117 |



| Model                  | R.A. <sup>o</sup> | Dec. <sup>o</sup> | $\sigma$    | TS     |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------|
| One source scenario    |                   |                   |             |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.60 ± 0.04     | 11.07 ± 0.07      | 0.55 ± 0.04 | 1832.6 |
| Two sources scenario   |                   |                   |             |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.71 ± 0.02     | 11.81 ± 0.03      | 0.10 ± 0.04 | 2029.2 |
| Gaussian               | 288.44 ± 0.04     | 11.57 ± 0.05      | 0.41 ± 0.03 |        |
| Three sources scenario |                   |                   |             |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.71 ± 0.02     | 11.83 ± 0.03      | 0.09 ± 0.04 | 2065.8 |
| Gaussian               | 288.08 ± 0.08     | 10.12 ± 0.11      | 0.28 ± 0.08 |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.63 ± 0.07     | 10.81 ± 0.06      | 0.33 ± 0.04 |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.71 ± 0.02     | 11.80 ± 0.02      | 0.11 ± 0.04 | 2047.8 |
| Gaussian               | 288.30 ± 0.06     | 10.43 ± 0.07      | 0.39 ± 0.04 |        |
| Point source           | 288.85 ± 0.09     | 10.92 ± 0.05      | -           |        |
| Point source           | 288.71 ± 0.02     | 11.83 ± 0.03      | -           | 2064.4 |
| Gaussian               | 288.0 ± 0.08      | 10.12 ± 0.10      | 0.27 ± 0.08 |        |
| Gaussian               | 288.63 ± 0.06     | 10.83 ± 0.06      | 0.33 ± 0.04 |        |

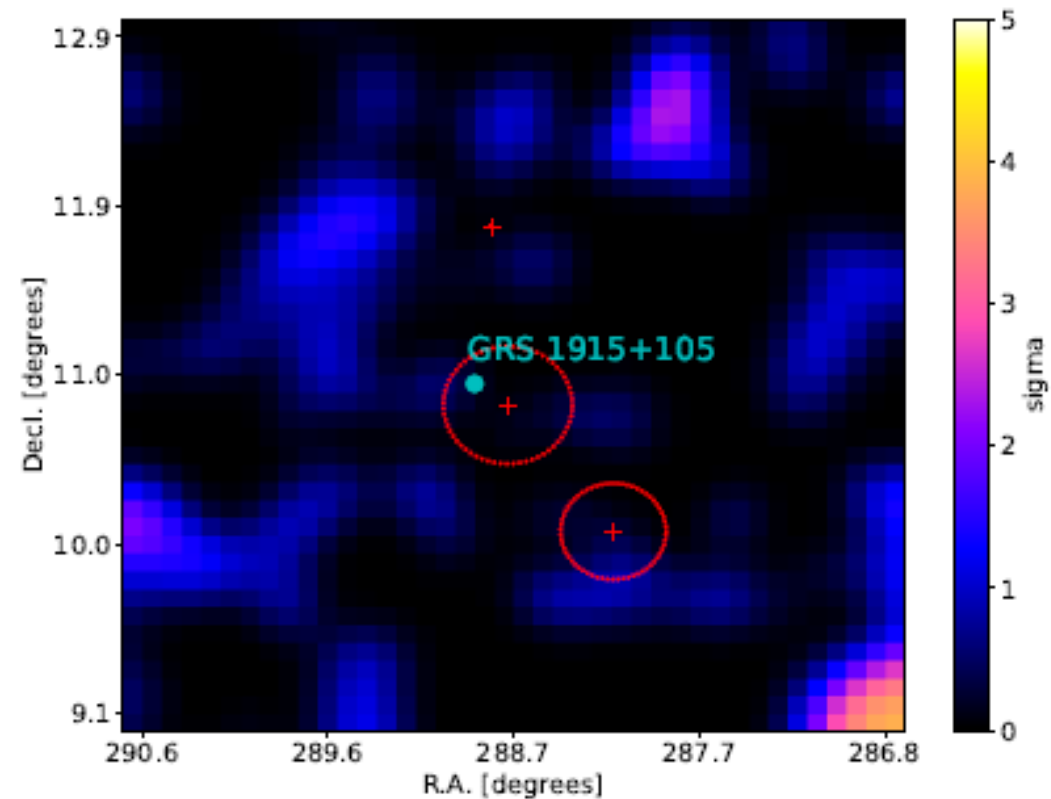
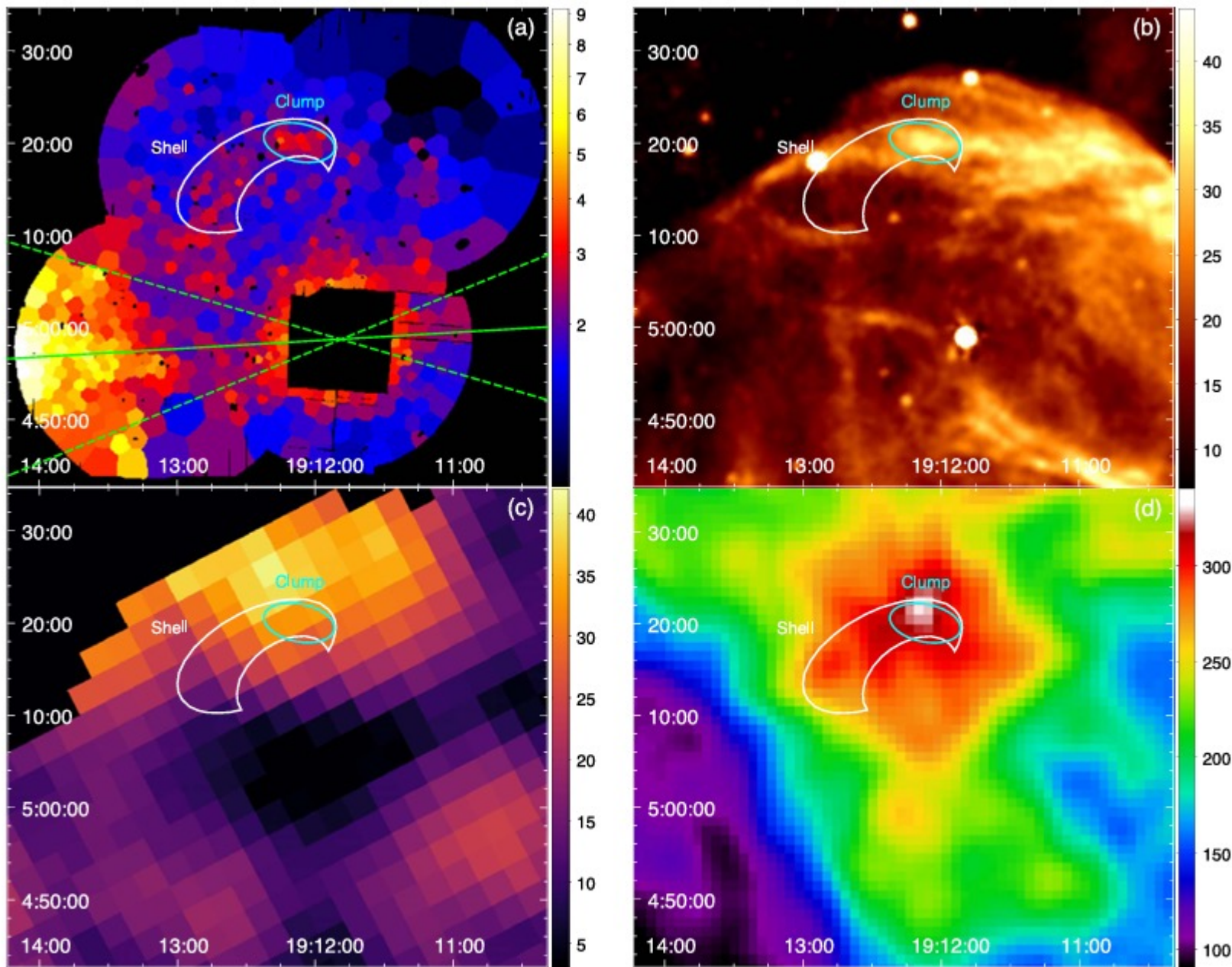


Table 2: Morphology test for TeV emission near GRS 1915+101



**Figure 2.** Zoom-in multiband images of our region of interest. (a) XMM-Newton EPIC 0.4–1.2 keV mosaic in units of counts  $\text{deg}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ . Each bin has a signal-to-noise ratio of  $\sim 10$ . The X-ray shell and clump are labeled in white and cyan, respectively. The green solid and dashed lines mark the jet axis and cone of the jet precession and nod, respectively (S. Fabrika 2004). (b) VLA 1.4 GHz intensity map in units of  $\text{mJy beam}^{-1}$  (G. M. Dubner et al. 1998). (c) Sino-German 6 cm polarized fraction map in units of percentage (X. Y. Gao et al. 2011). (d) Arecibo H I intensity in 68–75  $\text{km s}^{-1}$  in units of K (J. E. G. Peek et al. 2018; Y. Su et al. 2018).