

*CHASC Seminars, Harvard-Smithsonian CfA*

*08 April 2021*

# Learning to Sample & Classify Supernova Remnants from Datasets Collected by Current & Future $\gamma$ -ray Observatories

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- ❖ Supernova Remnants (SNR) as Cosmic Ray Sources
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  - ❖ Machine Learning used in SNR Studies
- ❖ Summary of My Research Plan

# Cosmic Rays (CRs)

## ❖ Particle Radiation

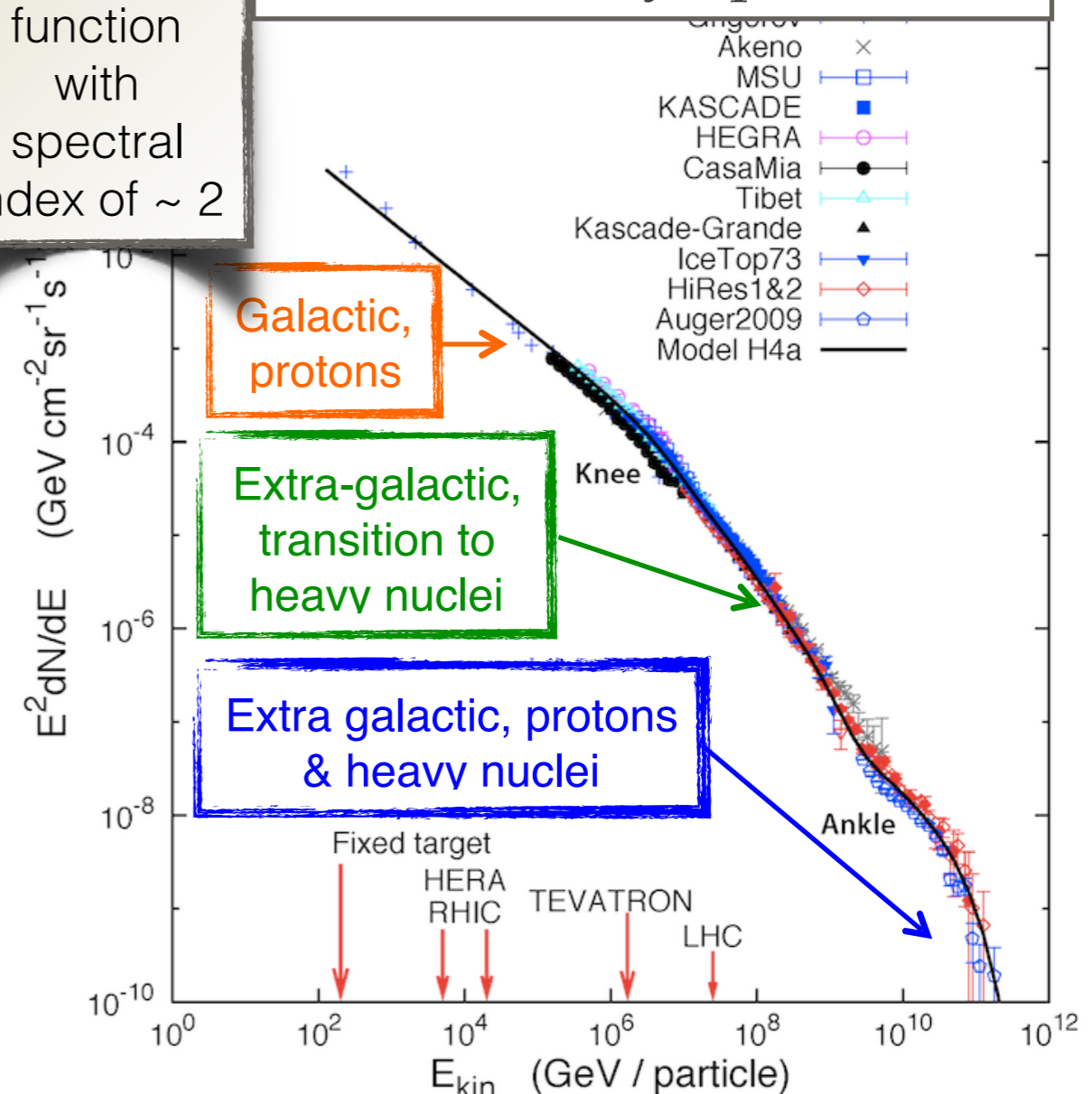
- ❖ **Cosmic Rays (CR):** protons (90%), nuclei (alpha particles; 9%), heavy nuclei, electrons, neutrons
- ❖ Neutrinos (by CR protons)
- ❖ Solar Energetic Particles: protons, electrons, heavy ions, neutrinos.

## ❖ Photon Radiation

- ❖  $\gamma$ -rays (by CR electrons, protons, and ions)
- ❖ Radio & X-rays (by CR electrons)

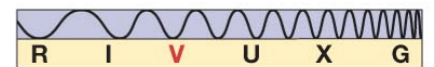
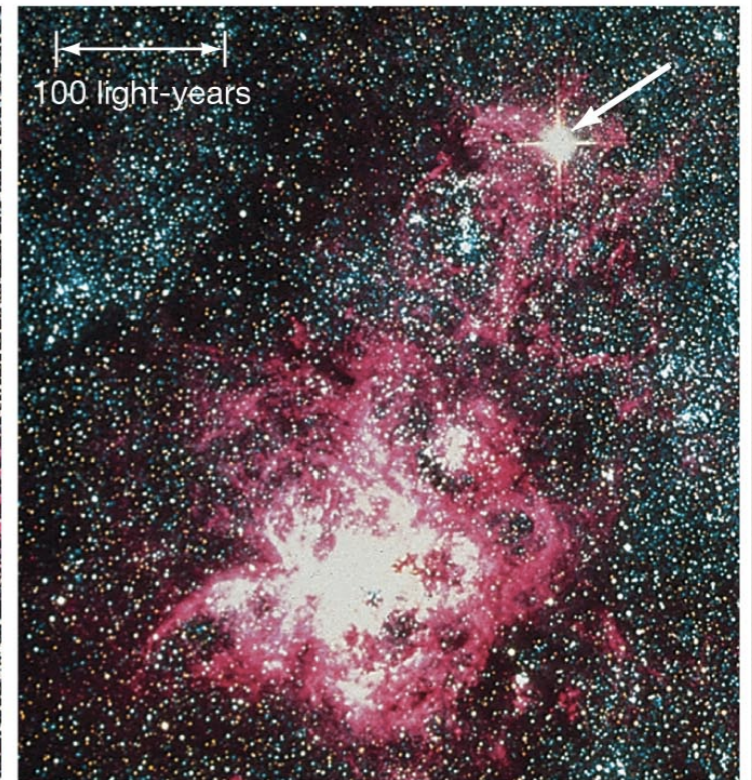
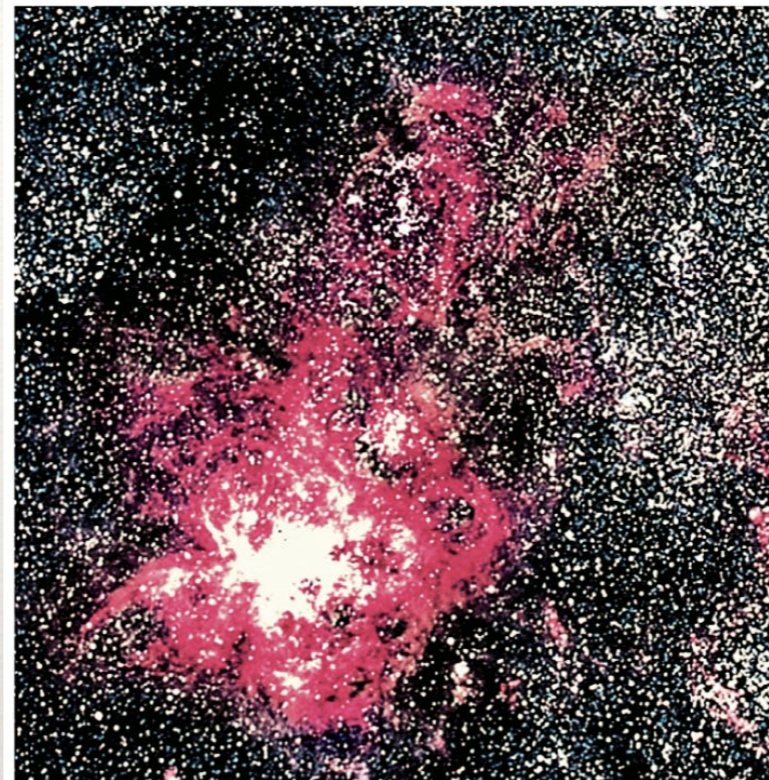
Flux obeys a power-law function with spectral index of  $\sim 2$

## Cosmic Ray Spectrum



# Supernova Remnants (SNRs) as CR Sources

- ❖ Criteria to be a Galactic CR Source:
  - ❖ Wide energy range
  - ❖ A power-law spectrum that goes up to the **knee** ( $\sim 10^{15}$  eV or 1 PeV).
  - ❖ Spent long enough time inside the Milky Way galaxy



During a supernova (SN) the luminosity of the star increases by  $10^{10}$  (~10 billion) times the luminosity of the Sun.

Most energy comes out as neutrinos, but ~10% emerges as kinetic energy of ejecta

# $\gamma$ -ray Production

## ❖ Charged particles in strong electromagnetic fields

- ❖ **Bremsstrahlung:** Very high energy (VHE) charged particles accelerated in electric field
- ❖ **Synchrotron radiation:** VHE electrons moving in strong magnetic field

## ❖ Inverse Compton scattering

- ❖ Up-scattering of photons of lower energy through collision with VHE particles

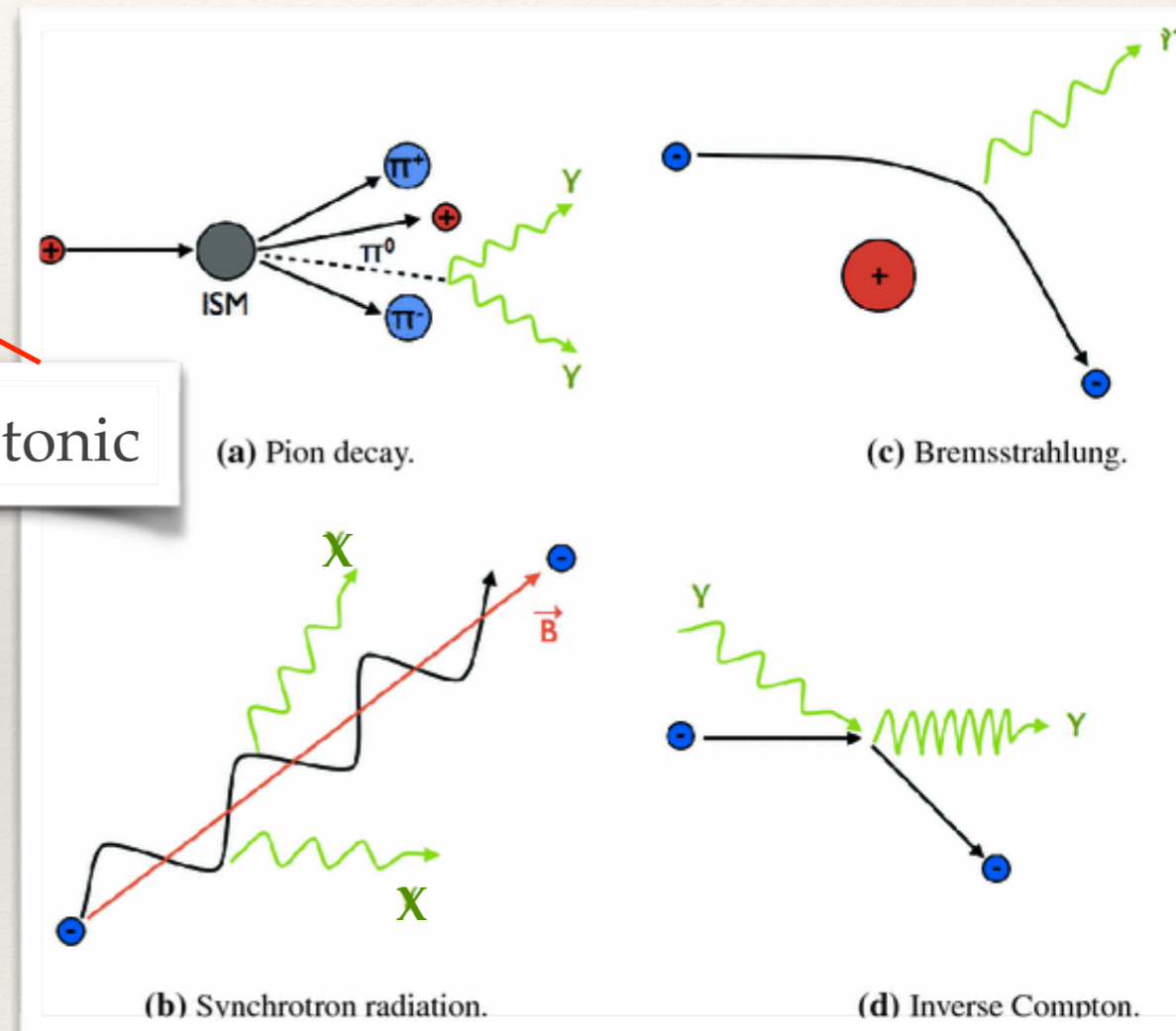
## ❖ Decays and annihilation

### ❖ **Pair annihilation**

$$\text{Particle} + \text{Anti-Particle} \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

### ❖ **Pion production and decay**

$$\text{Proton} + \text{Matter} \rightarrow \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$



Leptonic

Hadronic

Ref: [link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-44751-3\\_1](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-44751-3_1)

# Supernova Remnant Types

❖ Shell Type



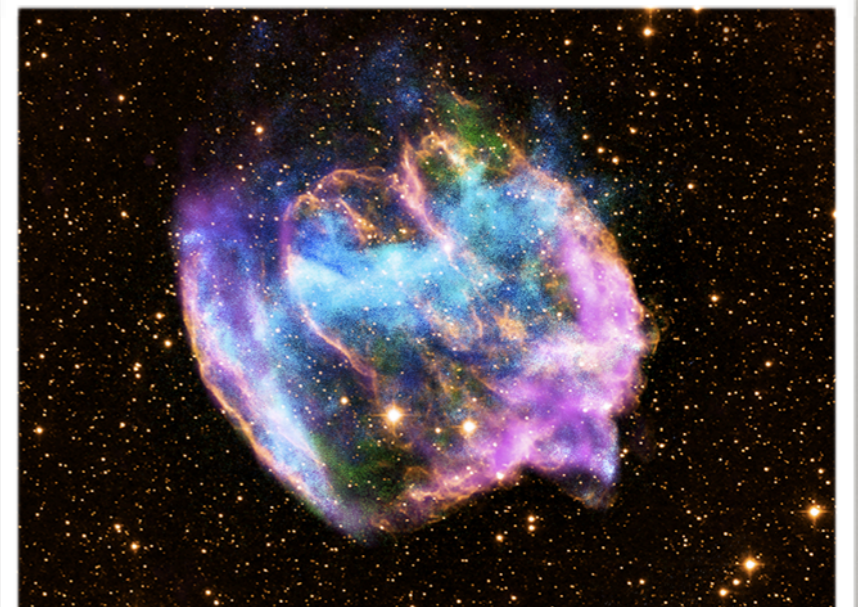
❖ Cassiopeia A

❖ Plerion (PWN)



❖ Crab Nebula

❖ Mixed Morphology

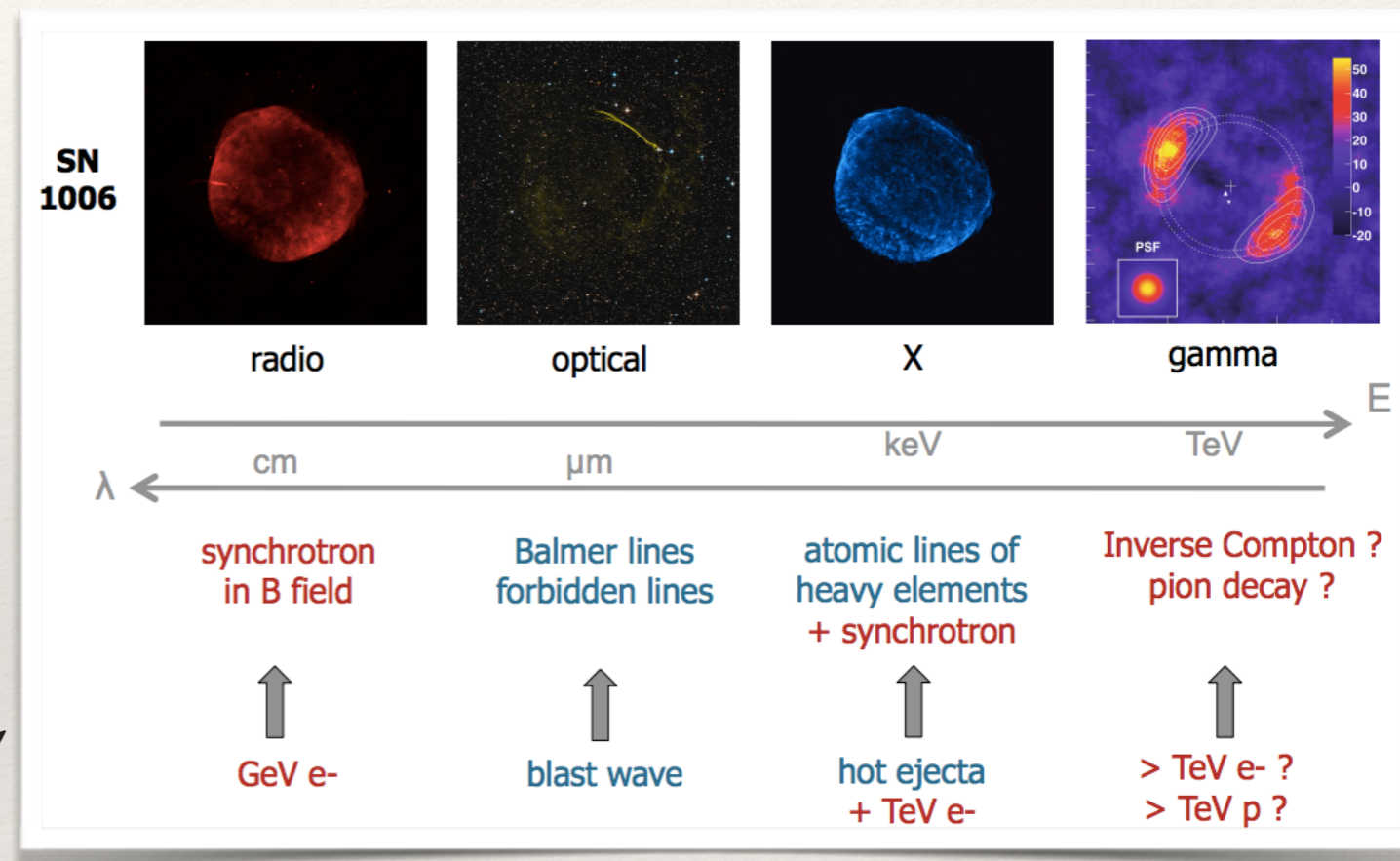


❖ W49B

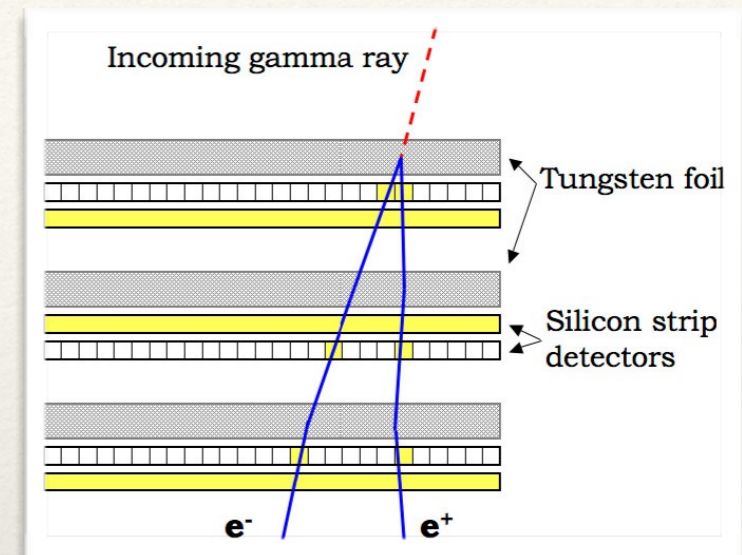
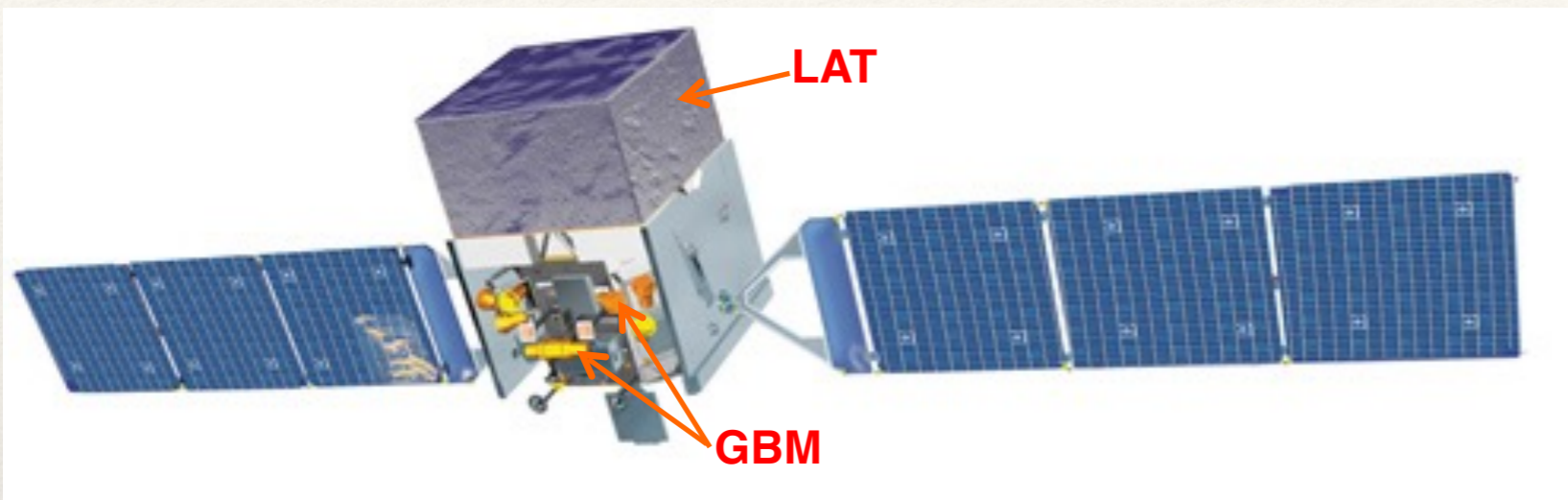
# Multi-Wavelength (MW) Observations of SNRs

## ❖ Radio & X-rays help to

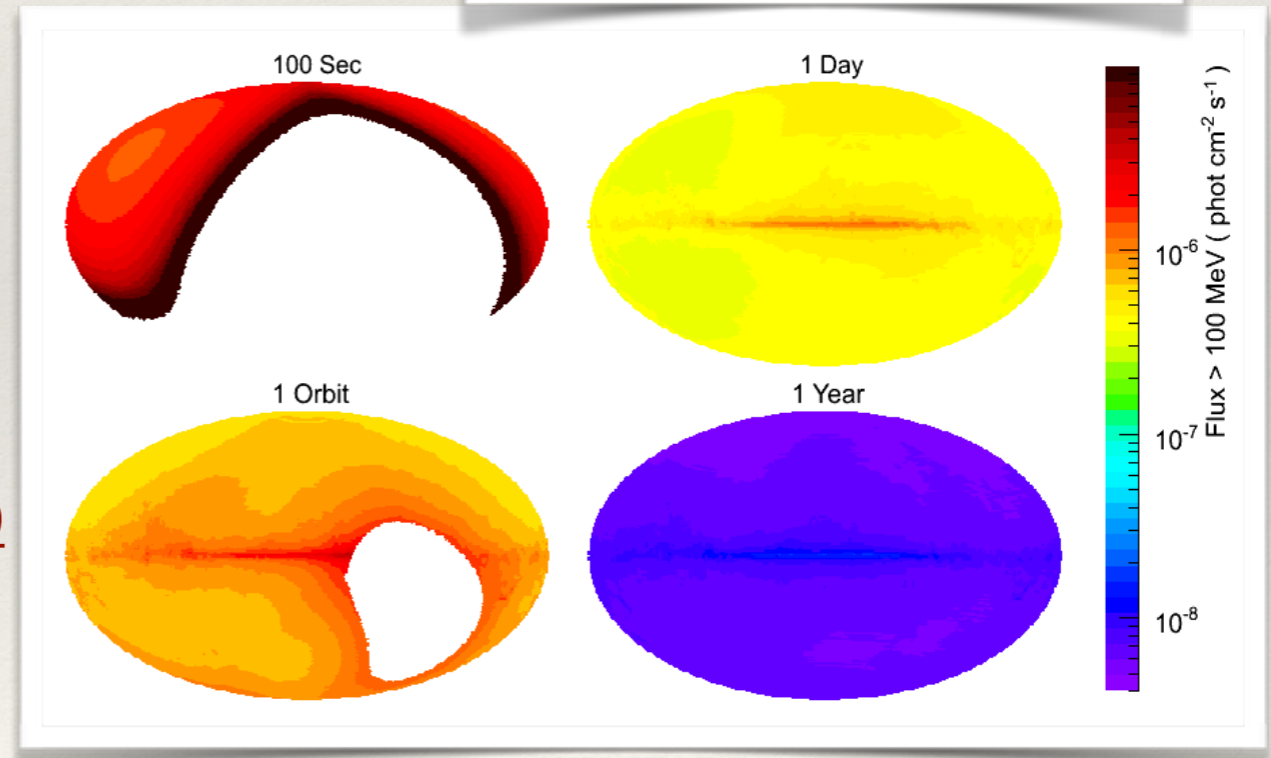
1. better locate & identify  $\gamma$ -ray sources,
2. resolve the morphology of the extended  $\gamma$ -ray sources,
3. better separate the underlying  $\gamma$ -ray emission mechanisms (Leptonic vs. Hadronic or both),
4. understanding the acceleration & propagation processes of CRs.



# Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope



- ❖ Launched on June 11, 2008
- ❖ Two instruments:
  - ❖ Large Area Telescope (LAT)
    - ❖ 20 MeV – 300 GeV
  - ❖ Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM)
    - ❖ 10 keV – 25 MeV



Sensitivity to Point Sources

Ref: Atwood et al. (arXiv:0902.1089)



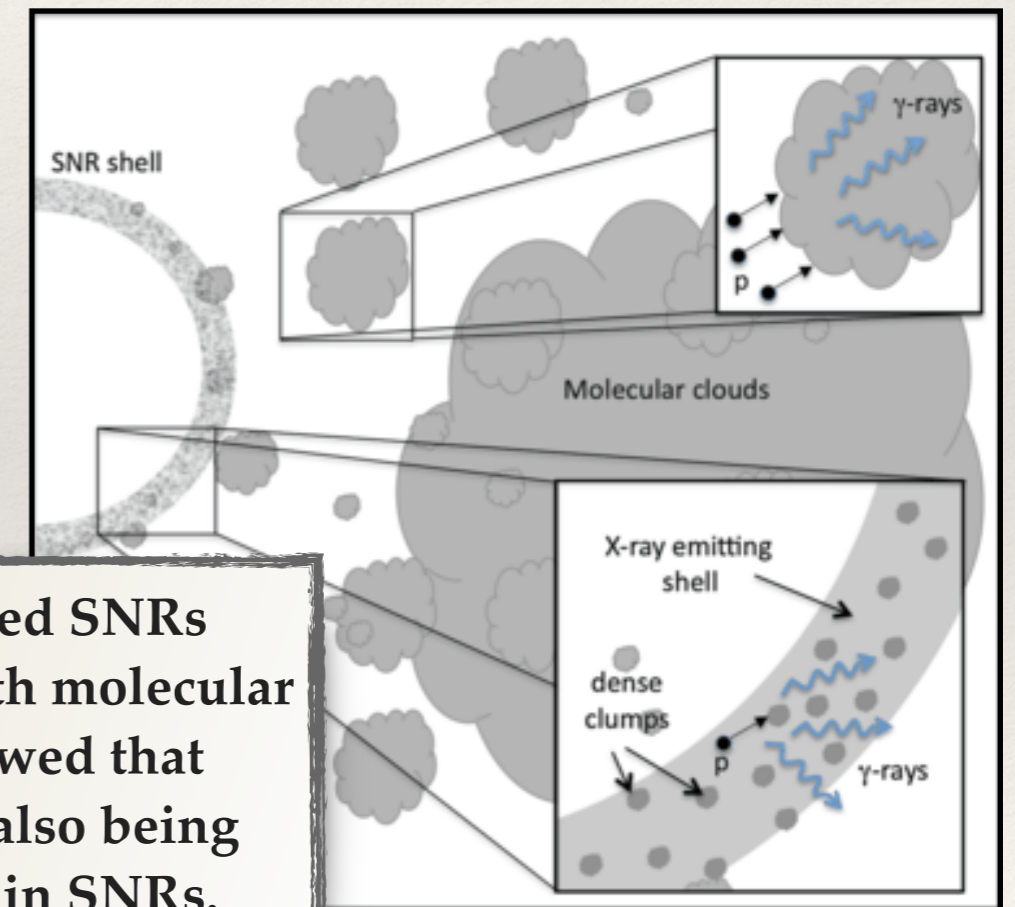
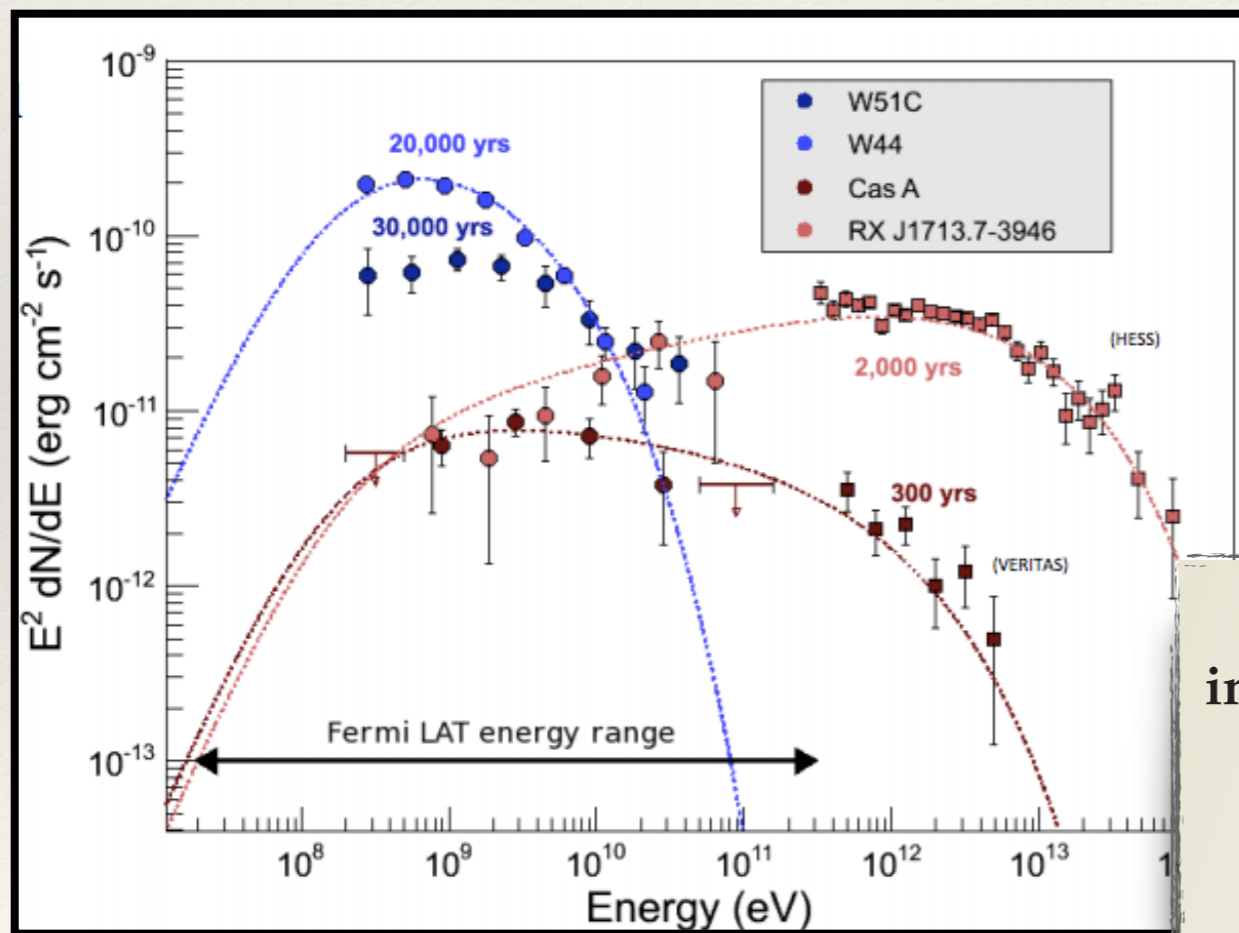
# Fermi-LAT Source Catalogs

Catalog	Energy Range (GeV)	Data Interval (m)	Sources	Unassociated	Event Selection	Release Date
<b>0FGL</b>	0.2-100	3	205	37 (18%)	P6V1 DIFFUSE	Feb. 2009
		11	1451	630 (43%)	P6V3 DIFFUSE	Feb. 2010
		24	1873	649 (35%)	P7V6 SOURCE	Aug. 2011
<b>3FGL</b>	0.1-300	48	3033	992 (33%)	P7V15 SOURCE	Jan. 2015
<b>4FGL</b>	0.05-1000	96	~5500	~1800(33%)	P8 SOURCE	End of 2018
<b>1FHL</b>	10-500	36	511	65 (13%)	P7V6 CLEAN	Jun. 2013
<b>2FHL</b>	50-2000	80	360	48 (14%)	P8 SOURCE	Aug. 2015
<b>3FHL</b>	10-2000	84	1556	176 (11%)	P8 SOURCE	Mar. 2017

The number of SNRs+PWNe reported in the 4FGL catalog is ~60.

# Fermi-LAT Detected SNRs

- ❖ **Young SNRs:** X-ray Synchrotron emission, strong TeV  $\gamma$ -rays, X-ray/TeV  $\gamma$ -ray correlation;  $\gamma$ -rays probably produced by electron interactions.
- ❖ **Middle Aged SNRs:** Usually interacting with molecular clouds (MCs).  $\gamma$ -rays created in the decay of neutral pions produced in proton-proton interactions.

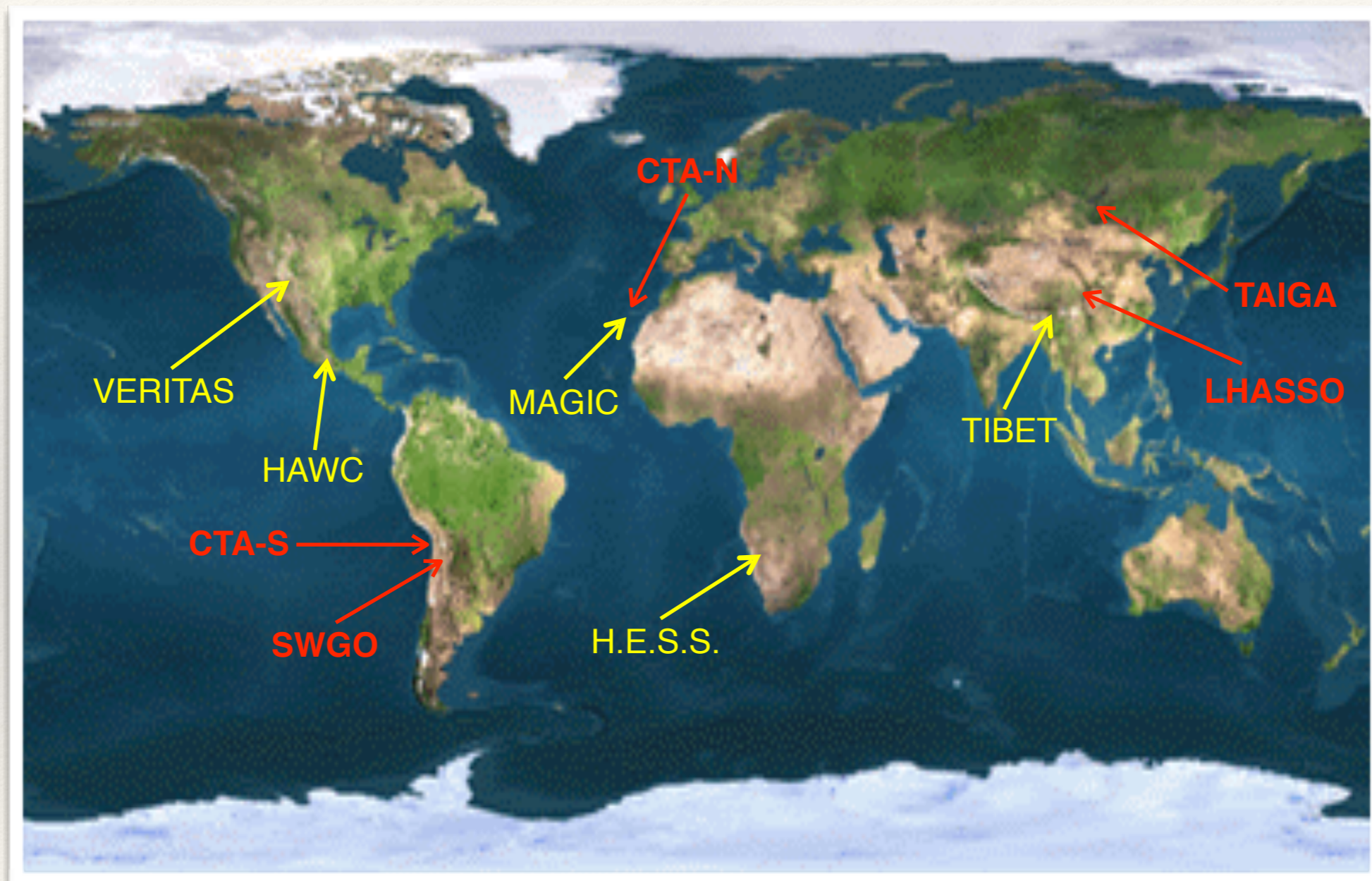


Middle Aged SNRs interacting with molecular clouds showed that protons are also being accelerated in SNRs.

Ref: S. Funk, Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. 65 (2015)

Ref: P. Slane et al., SSRv, 188, 187 (2015)

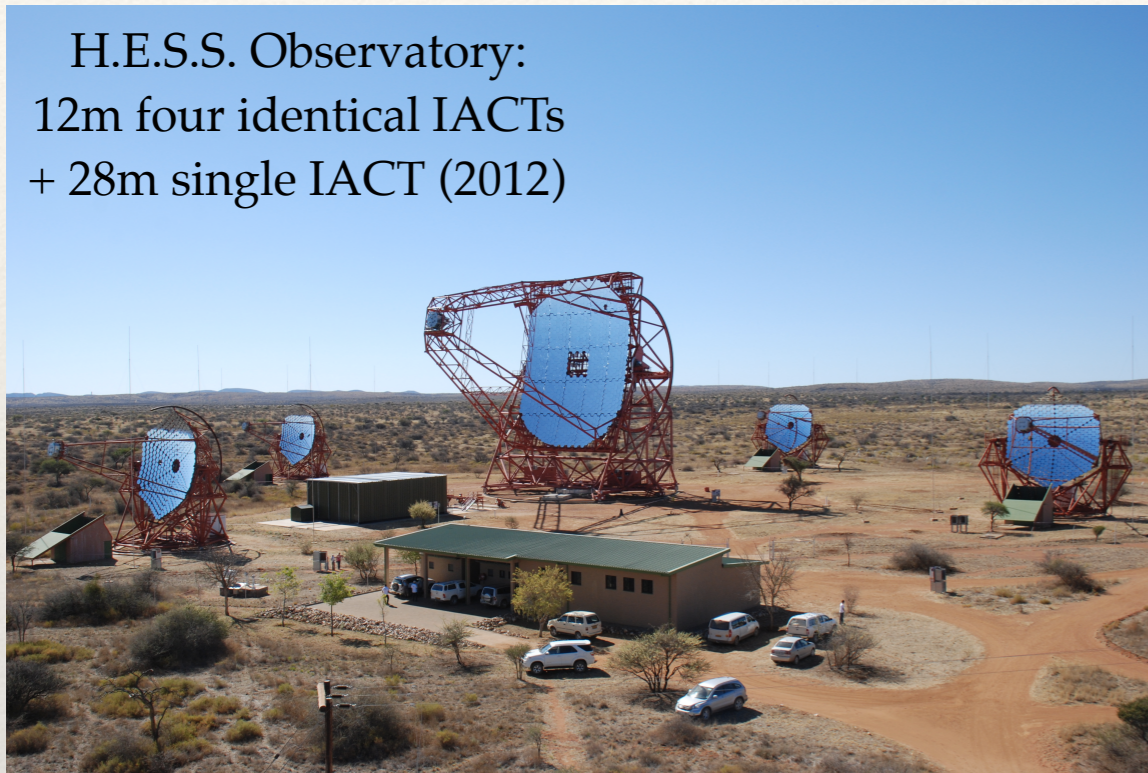
# Current & Future $\gamma$ -ray Observatories



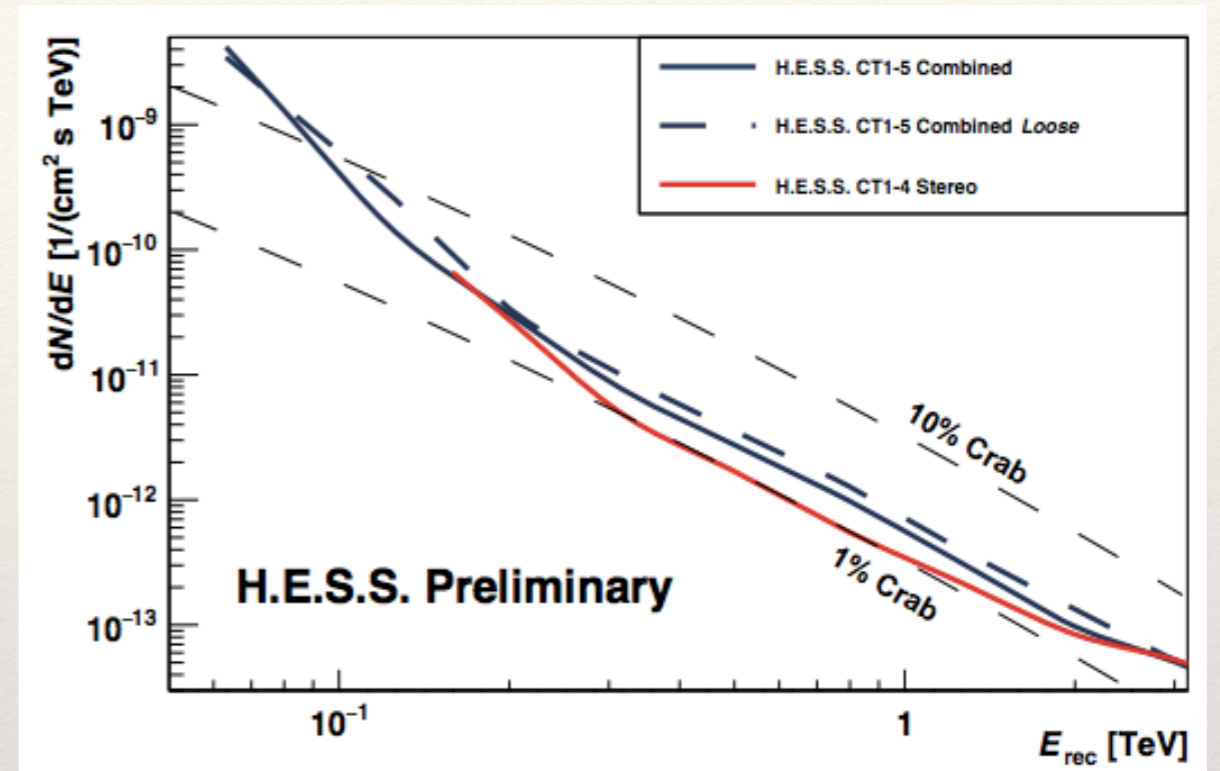
Ref: <https://astroparticle.weebly.com/news/towards-a-new-high-energy-gamma-ray-observatory>

# The H.E.S.S. Observatory

H.E.S.S. Observatory:  
12m four identical IACTs  
+ 28m single IACT (2012)



Ref: [www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/pages/about/telescopes/](http://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/pages/about/telescopes/)

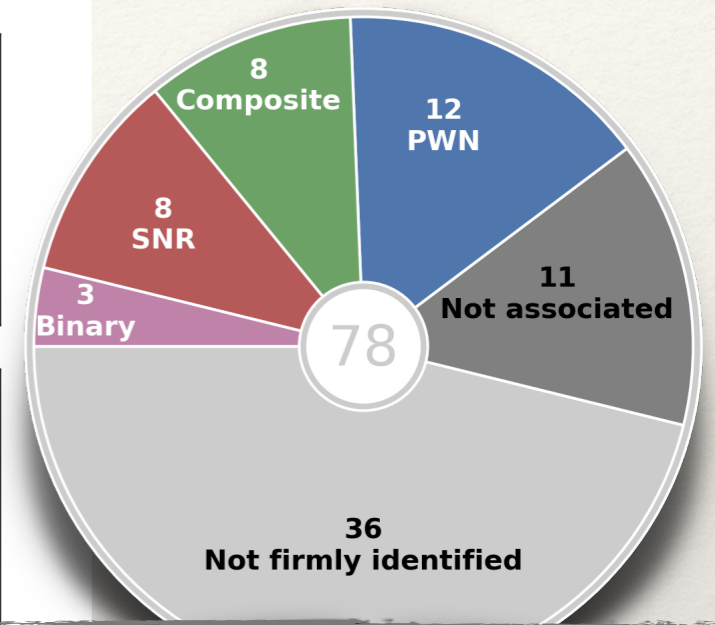
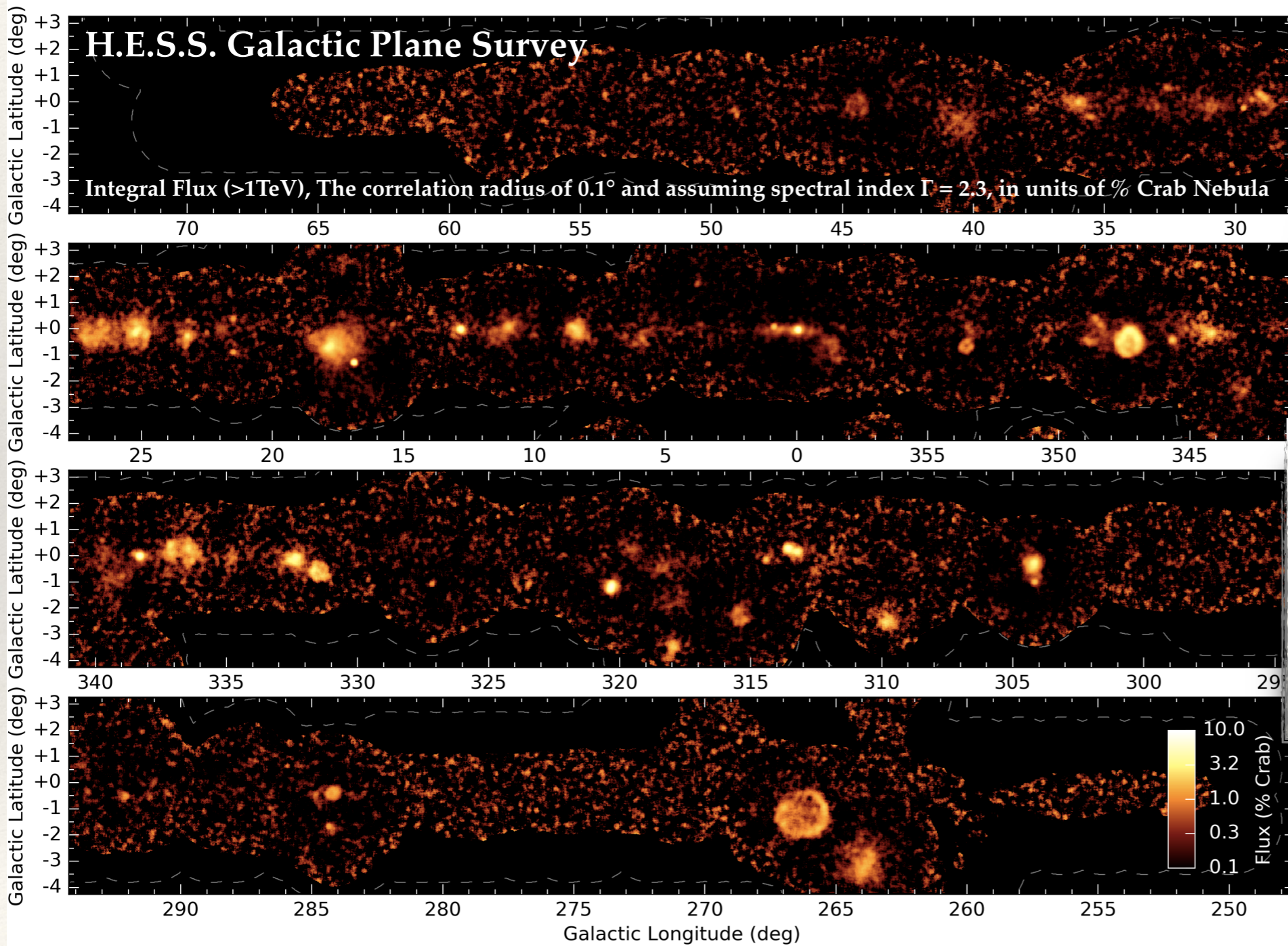


Ref: M. Holler et al., Proc. of ICRC 2015, arXiv:1509.02902

- ❖ The **Crab Pulsar Wind Nebula** is the standard candle in TeV  $\gamma$ -ray Astronomy.
- ❖ The energy threshold of the Crab Nebula measurements:
  - ❖ ~440 GeV (H.E.S.S. I: CT1-4)
  - ❖ ~230 GeV (H.E.S.S. II: CT1-5 combined)

❖ Crab Nebula Spectrum: 
$$\frac{dN}{dE} = (1.79 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-10} \left( \frac{E}{0.521 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-(2.10 \pm 0.04) - (0.24 \pm 0.01) \cdot \ln(\frac{E}{0.521 \text{ TeV}})} \frac{1}{\text{TeV cm}^2 \text{ s}}$$

# H.E.S.S. Galactic Plane Survey

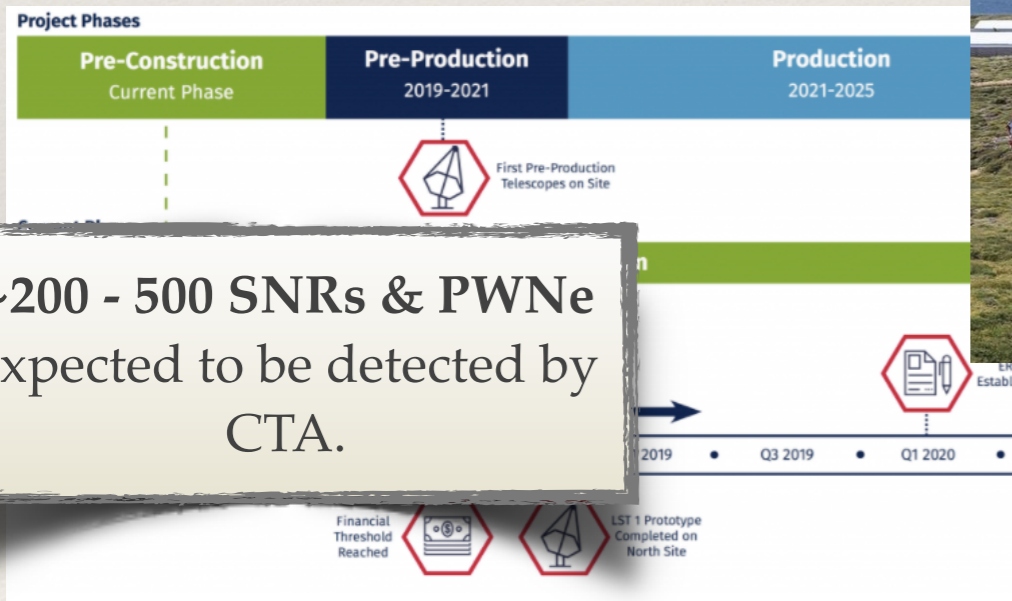
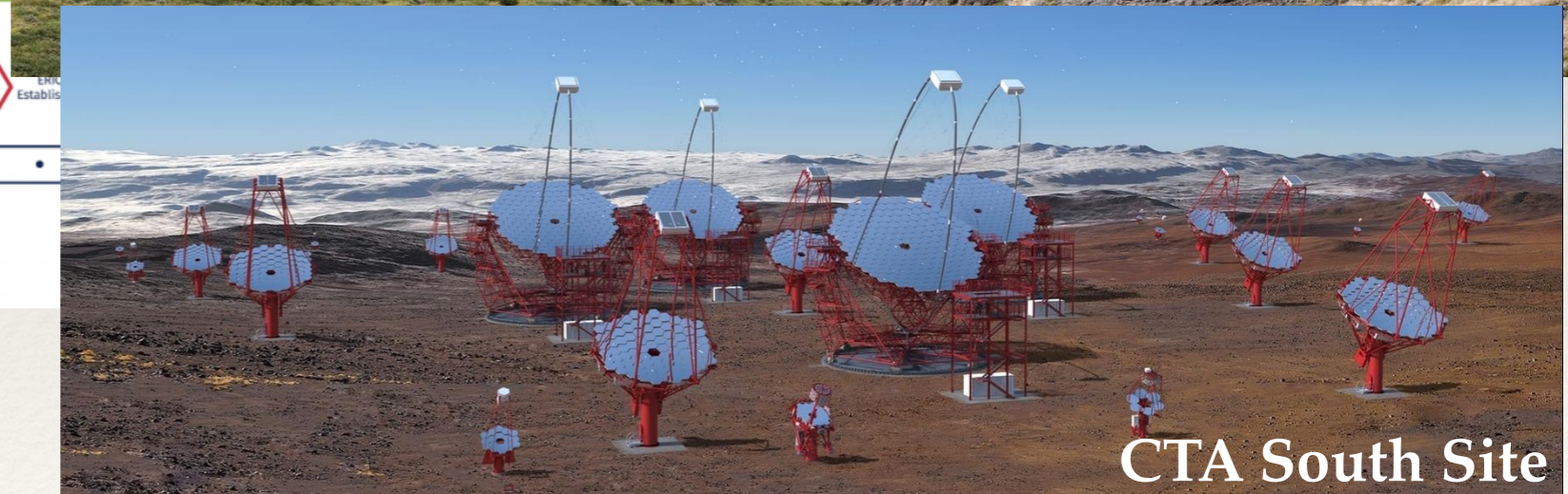


In the combined TeV  $\gamma$ -ray catalog, the detected number of SNRs+PWNe & unassociated sources is 63 & 65, respectively.

Ref: H. Abdalla et al.,  
A&A 612, A1 (2018)

# Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)

- ❖ CTA is a global effort with more than 1,350 scientists and engineers from 210 institutes in 32 countries involved in directing CTA's science goals and array design.
- ❖ 3 Telescope sizes: 70 pieces of 4-m-size (SST) distributed on  $\sim 7 \text{ km}^2$  area, 25 pieces of 12-m-size (MST) distributed on about a  $\text{km}^2$  area with 25 South US extension, and 4 pieces 23-m-size (LST) telescopes.
- ❖  $\sim 120 + 25$  telescopes in total



Ref: [www.cta-observatory.org](http://www.cta-observatory.org),  
Acharya et al. for the CTA Consortium,  
[arXiv:1709.07997v2](https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.07997v2)

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# Searching for SNRs in Future Data

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- ❖ Future observatories produce large amounts of data with good angular resolution.
- ❖ Nevertheless, source confusion is expected to be a challenge, especially for data collected from the Galactic Plane, where most of the SNRs are expected to be located.
- ❖ We have to build tools to **efficiently combine and/or compare data obtained at different wavebands in order to recognise & classify SNRs, as well as to interpret** the physical mechanisms taking place in SNRs.

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# The Source Confusion Challenge

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- ❖ 20 - 25% of the Galactic Plane (GP) sources in TeV energies are SNRs and 60% of them are PWNe However, half of the GP sources observed in TeV  $\gamma$ -rays remain unidentified.
- ❖ Why there are unidentified  $\gamma$ -ray sources?
  1. Especially at lower energies,  $\gamma$ -ray sources have multiple MW associations, which cannot be disentangled,
  2. they appear as extended  $\gamma$ -ray sources consisting of several still unresolved sources, i.e. it is not clear which associated source contributes to the extended  $\gamma$ -ray emission,
  3. they are completely “dark” sources, with no counterpart at any other wavelength.



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# The Source Confusion Challenge

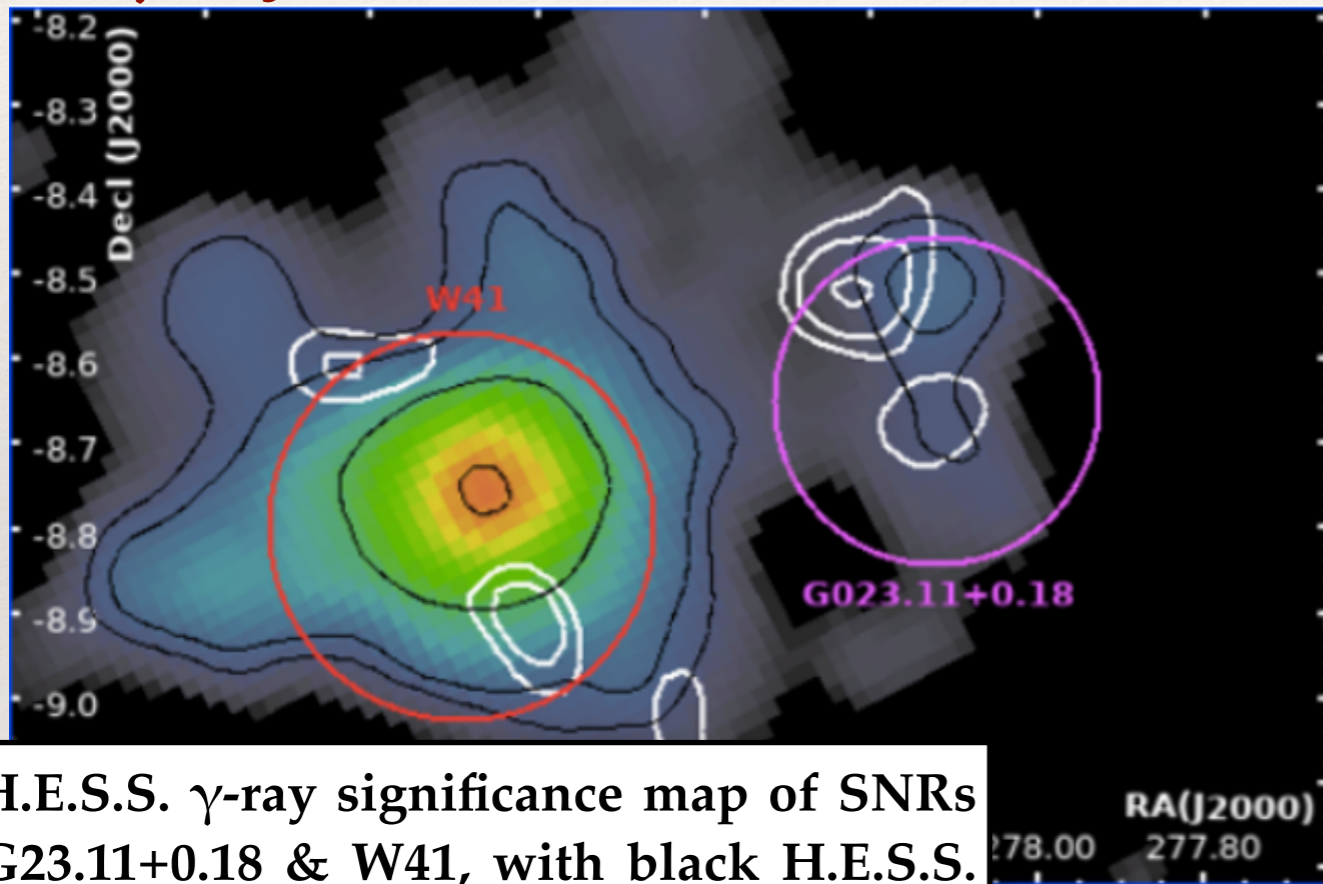
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❖ Three ways to mitigate source confusion:

1. Better angular resolution observations (it usually takes years to build new observatories with improved angular resolution),
  - There are super-resolution methods, like generative adversarial networks, to improve spatial resolution of existing data, which I will not mention in this talk.
2. MW observations & analysis (not always available; and proposal writing & observations take a long time)
3. Machine Learning (ML) tools (once trained, they can be used any time to get an initial result)

# MW Observations & Analysis

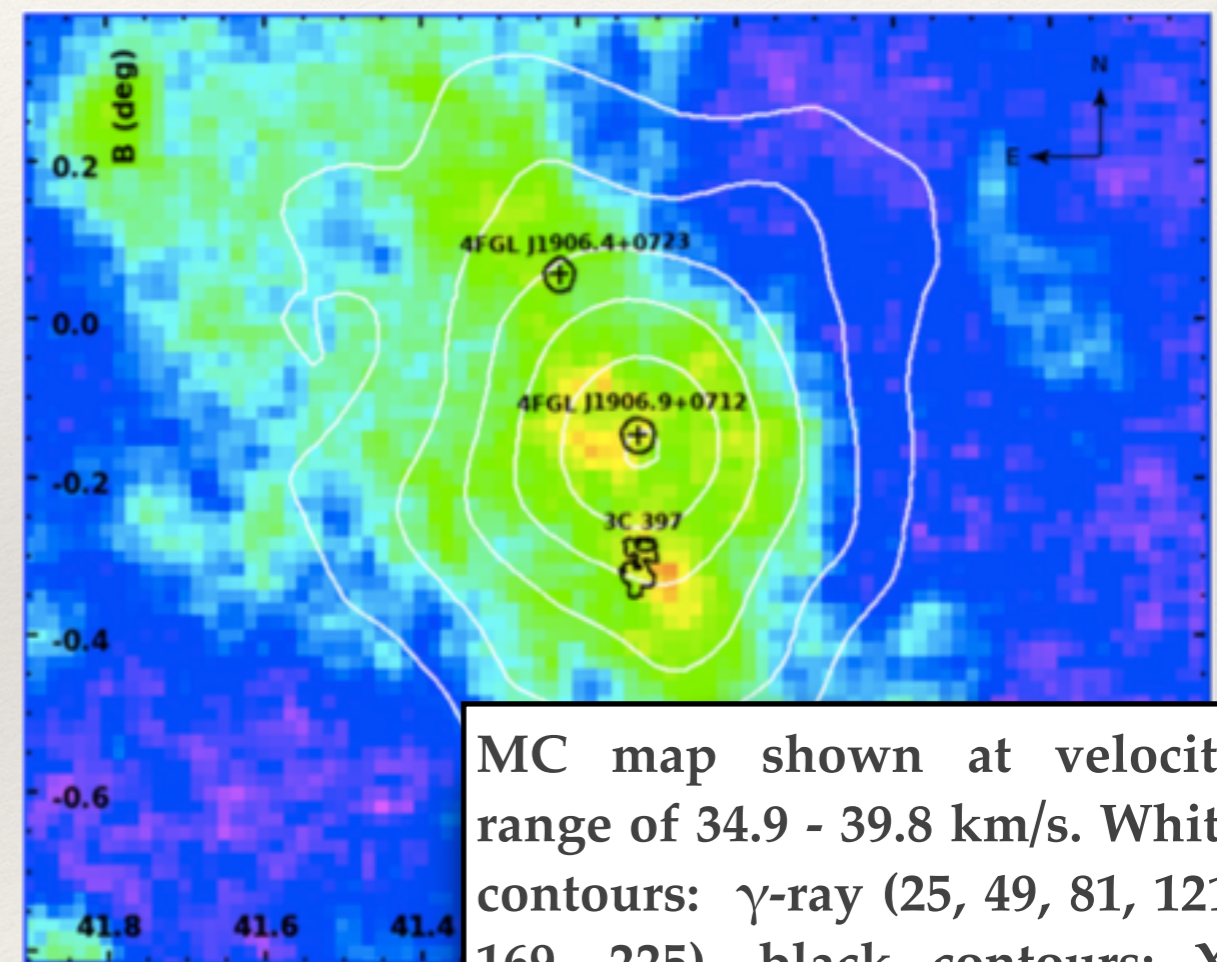
## MW Data to Increase the Number of $\gamma$ -ray SNRs



H.E.S.S.  $\gamma$ -ray significance map of SNRs G23.11+0.18 & W41, with black H.E.S.S. significance contours (4, 5, 9, 16 sigma) and white Fermi- LAT contours. The red & magenta circles show radio extensions of W41 and G23.11+0.18, respectively.

Ref.: T. Ergin, COSPAR 2021, Poster no. E1.2-0044-21 (2021).

## MW Data to Disentangle $\gamma$ -ray Sources (E.g. 3FHL J1907.0+0713)



Ref: T. Ergin et al., MNRAS 501, 4226 (2021)

MC map shown at velocity range of 34.9 - 39.8 km/s. White contours:  $\gamma$ -ray (25, 49, 81, 121, 169, 225), black contours: X-rays, black markers: Fermi-LAT 4FGL-catalog sources.

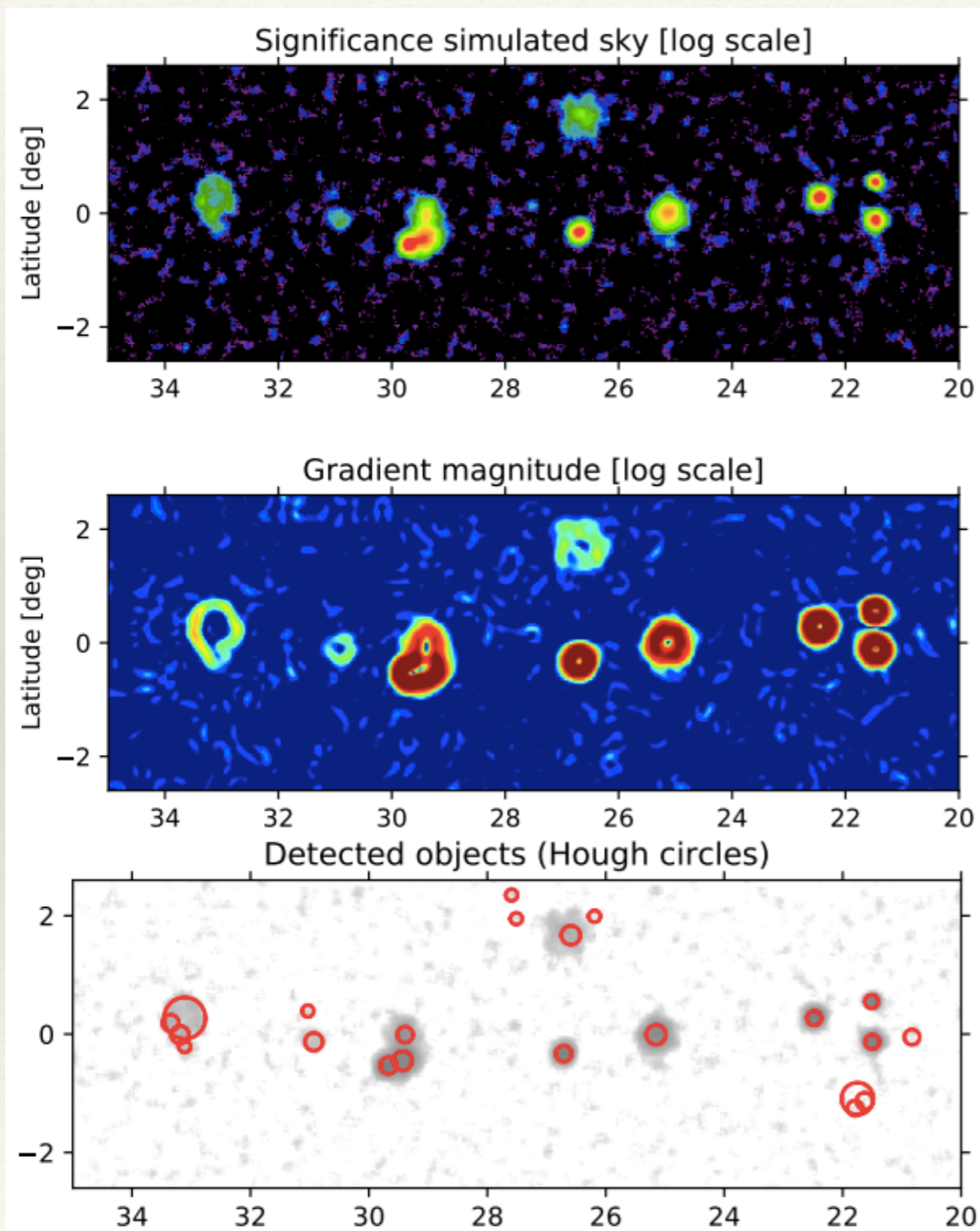
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# $\gamma$ -ray Analyses with ML Tools

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- ❖ **Why do we need to use ML tools ?**
- ❖ To recognise certain objects (e.g. SNRs)
- ❖ To classify objects into subcategories (e.g. shell-like, disk-like, Gaussian-like, etc.) using classifiers such as Logistic regression, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)
- ❖ To generate artificial samples via learning underlying distribution
- ❖ To understand the governing dynamics of a system, e.g. analysing time-series using RNNs (Recurrent Neural Networks)

# SNR Studies with ML Tools



- ❖ Image Processing to Detect Circular Objects:

- ❖ Simulated significance map for H.E.S.S.
- ❖ Gradient map representing edge transitions
- ❖ Detected objects using Hough transform

Ref: Q. Remy, Y. A. Gallant & M. Renaud, *Astropart. Phys.* 122, 102462 (2020)

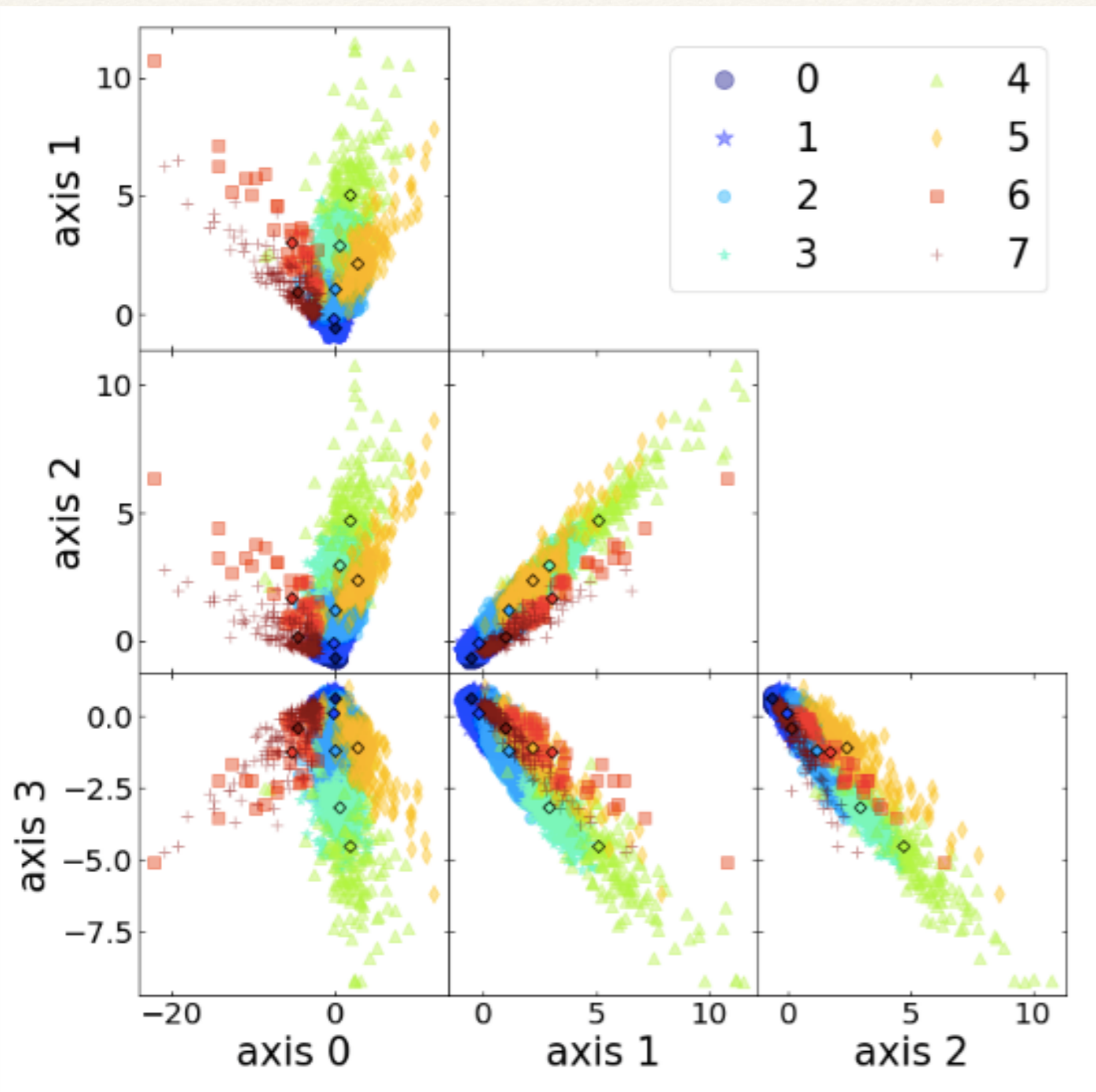
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# SNR Studies with ML Tools

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- ❖ Image Processing to Detect Circular Objects (Disadvantages):
  - ❖ Not possible to detect objects without a closed mathematical form.
  - ❖ Cannot be used for recognition of all SNR types.

# SNR Studies with ML Tools



- ❖ **Clustering Spatial Bins:**
- ❖ Variational Auto-Encoder (VAE) is employed to learn latent representation.
- ❖ Latent representation is subject to a soft-clustering via Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM).

Ref: H. Iwasaki, Y. Ichinohe, Y. Uchiyama, MNRAS, 488, 4106 (2019)

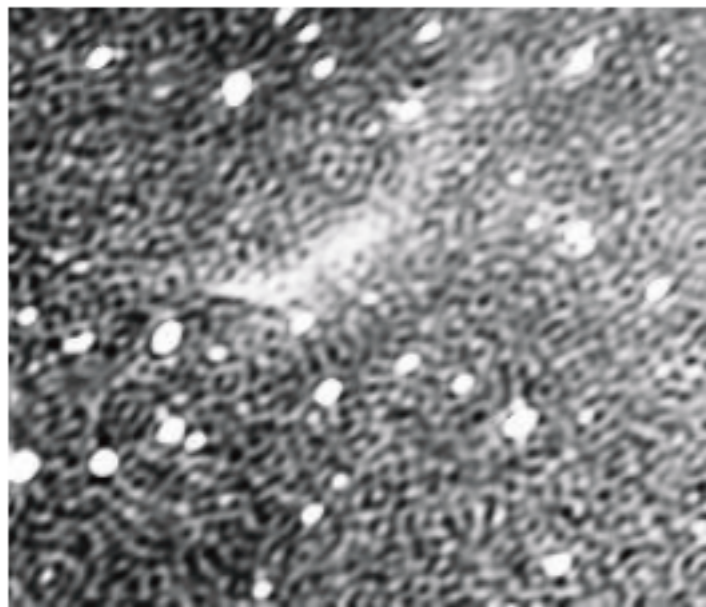
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# SNR Studies with ML Tools

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- ❖ **Clustering Spatial Bins (Disadvantages):**
  - ❖ Disregarding spatial relation among neighbouring bins.
  - ❖ Multi-scale features cannot be captured.
  - ❖ Principal Component Analysis (PCA) could be used instead.

# SNR Studies with ML Tools

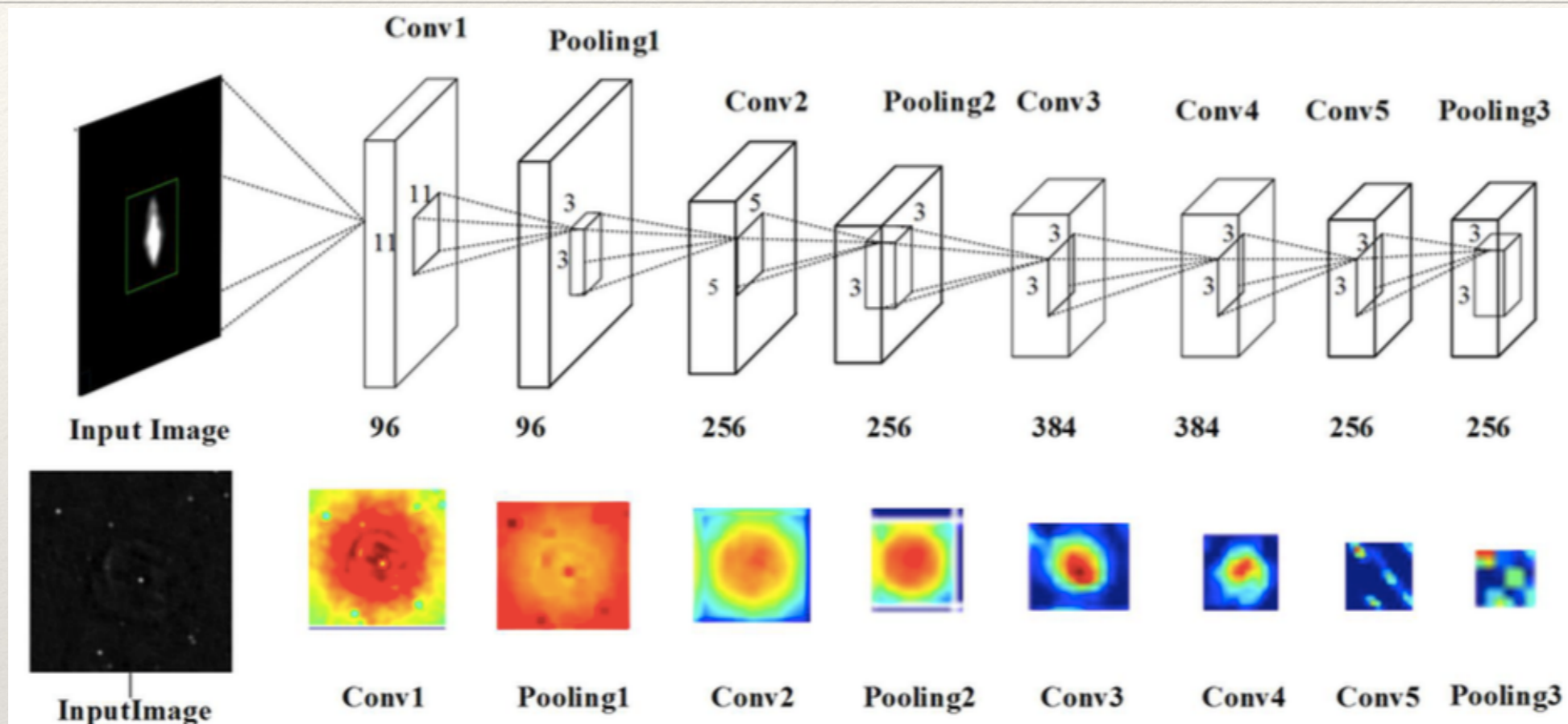


- ❖ Using Deep Learning to Detect SNRs:
- ❖ The most related study to my research plan
- ❖ Using various methods to classify SNRs:
  - ❖ Random Forest (RF)
  - ❖ Support Vector Machine (SVM)
  - ❖ Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

Ref: W. Liu et al., Res. A&A, 19, 042 (2019)



# SNR Studies with ML Tools



Ref: W. Liu et al., Res. A&A, 19, 042 (2019)

- ❖ Using Deep Learning to Detect SNRs:
- ❖ CNN architecture
- ❖ Multi-scale features they learn at every layer.
- ❖ Fully-Connected Neural Network (FCN) for classification
- ❖ Data augmentation

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# SNR Studies with ML Tools

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- ❖ **Using Deep Learning to Detect SNRs (Disadvantages):**
- ❖ Binary classification does not guarantee that CNN learns morphological features.
- ❖ Classifiers such as CNN are data hungry models and simple linear data augmentation may not help.

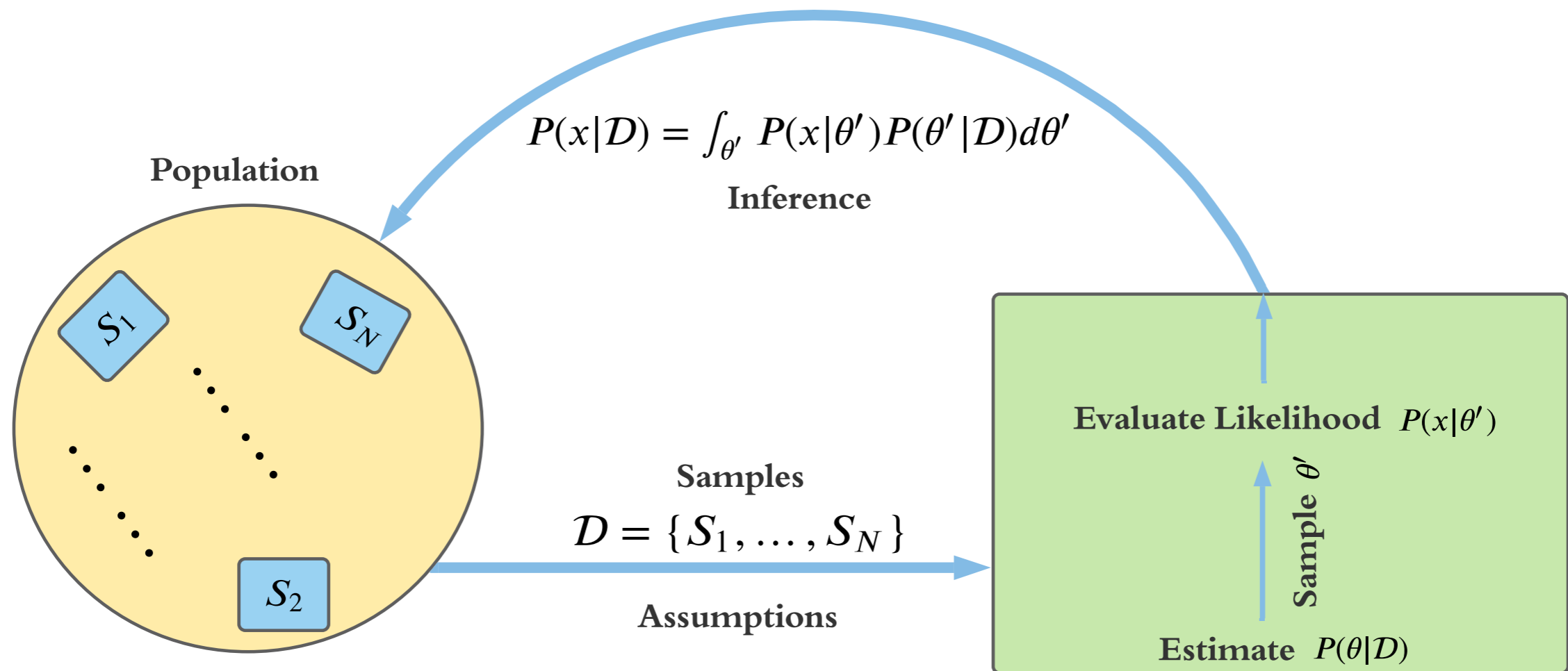
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# My Research Plan

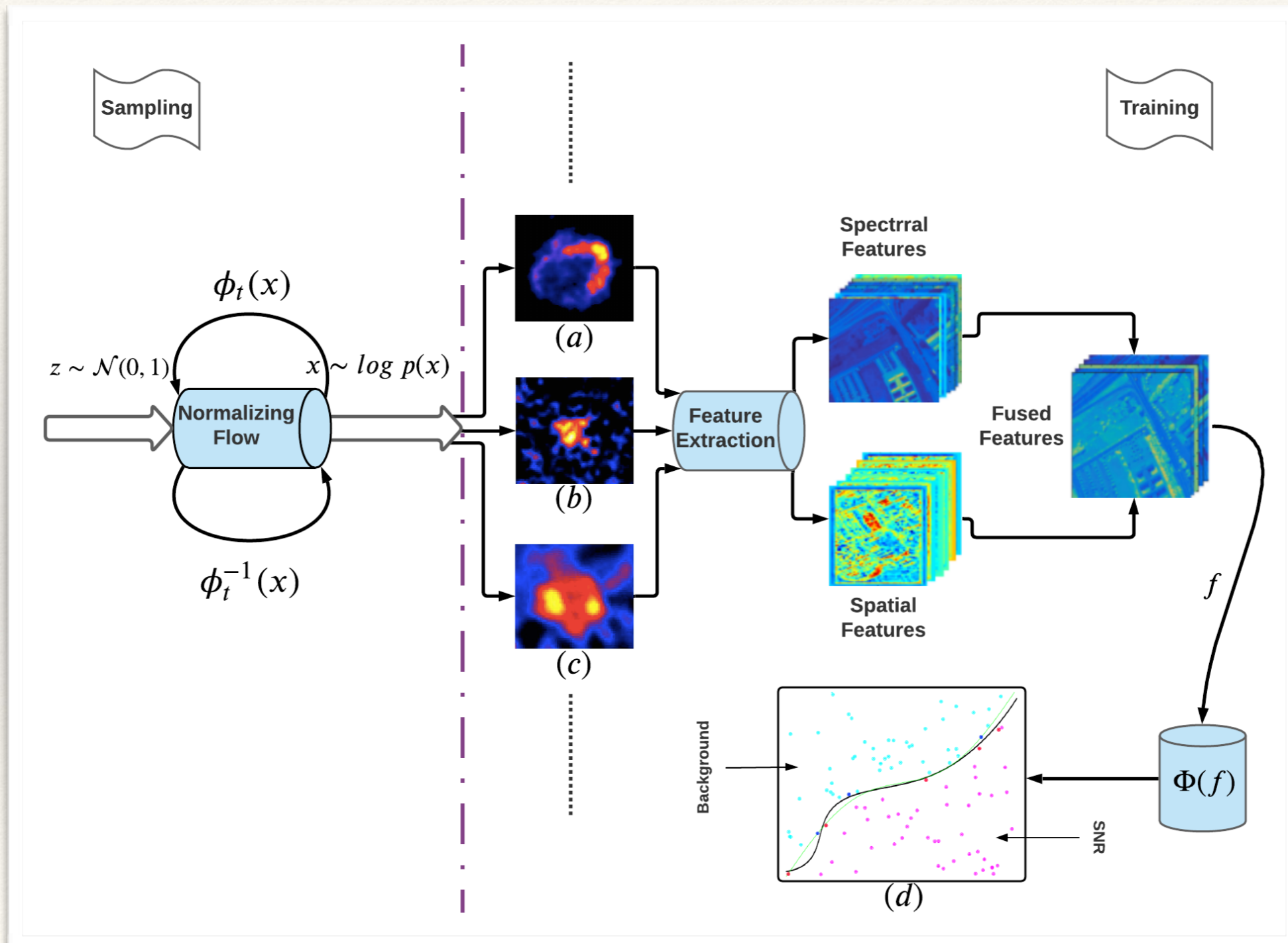
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- ❖ This research plan was proposed as a HORIZON 2020 project in 2020.
- ❖ It received a score of 79.6/100 passing the scientific evaluation threshold of 70/100, but could not pass the 2nd threshold (80/100) to be financed.
- ❖ I would like to pursue this research plan and complete it within the coming 1 - 2 years.
- ❖ **My Collaborators in this Project:**
  - ❖ ML: **İlker Gürcan**, METU, Dept. of Computer Science, Turkey
  - ❖ SNR CTA Simulations: **Dr. E. Oğuzhan Angüner**, Aix-Marseille University, France
  - ❖ Any future collaborators are welcome.

# General Framework for Statistical Inference



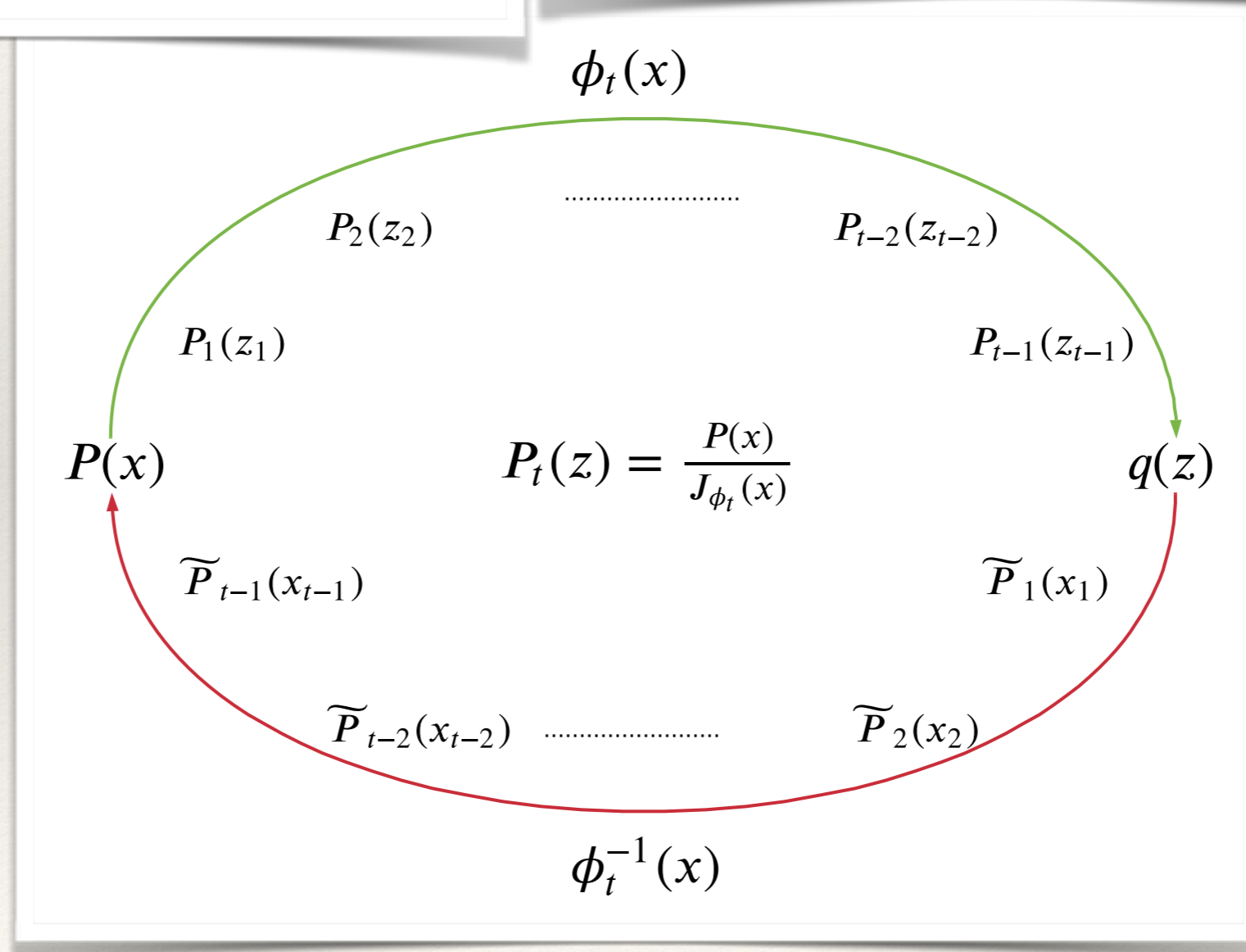
# The Proposed Architecture



# 1st Phase: Normalising Flow

$$\mathcal{L}_P[\phi_t] = \int \{\log(\det J_{\phi_t}(x)) + \log(q(\phi_t(x)))\} P(x) dx,$$

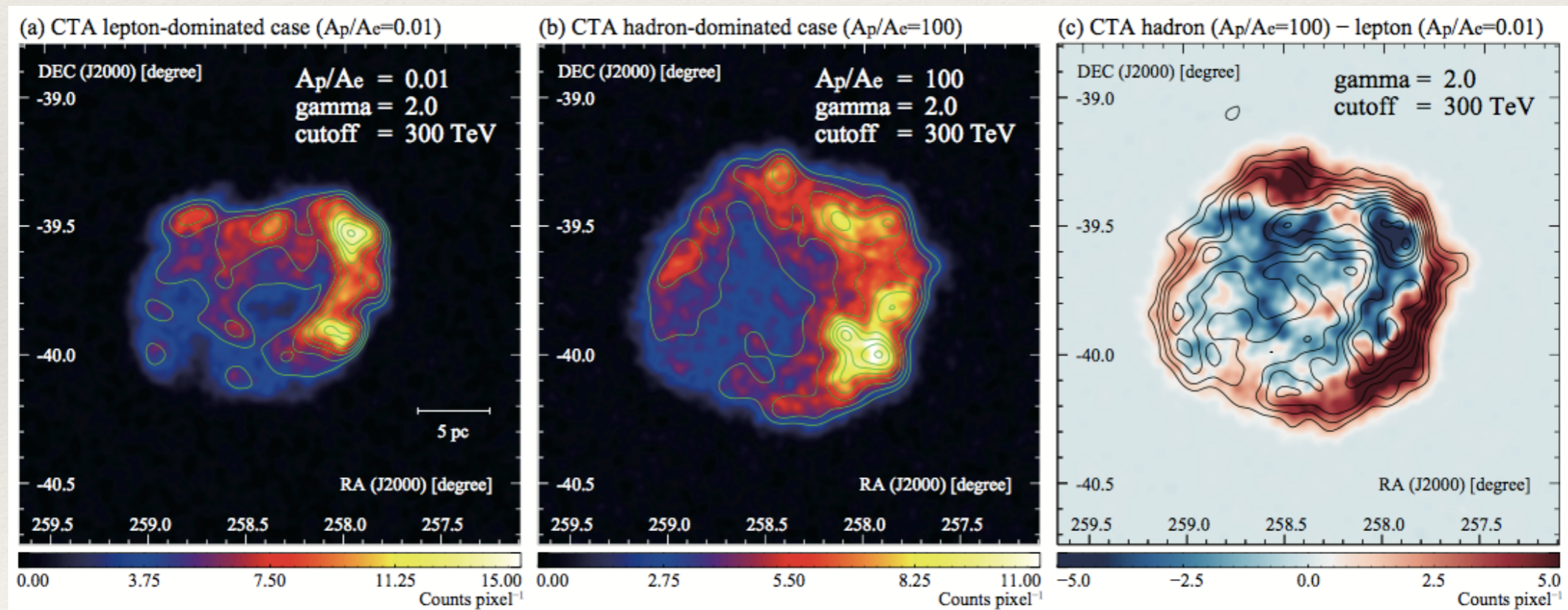
where  $\phi_t = \Phi_t \circ \Phi_{t-1} \circ \dots \circ \Phi_1$  and  $\phi_t(x) = z$ .



# 1st Phase: Sampling

## ❖ How to prepare training data:

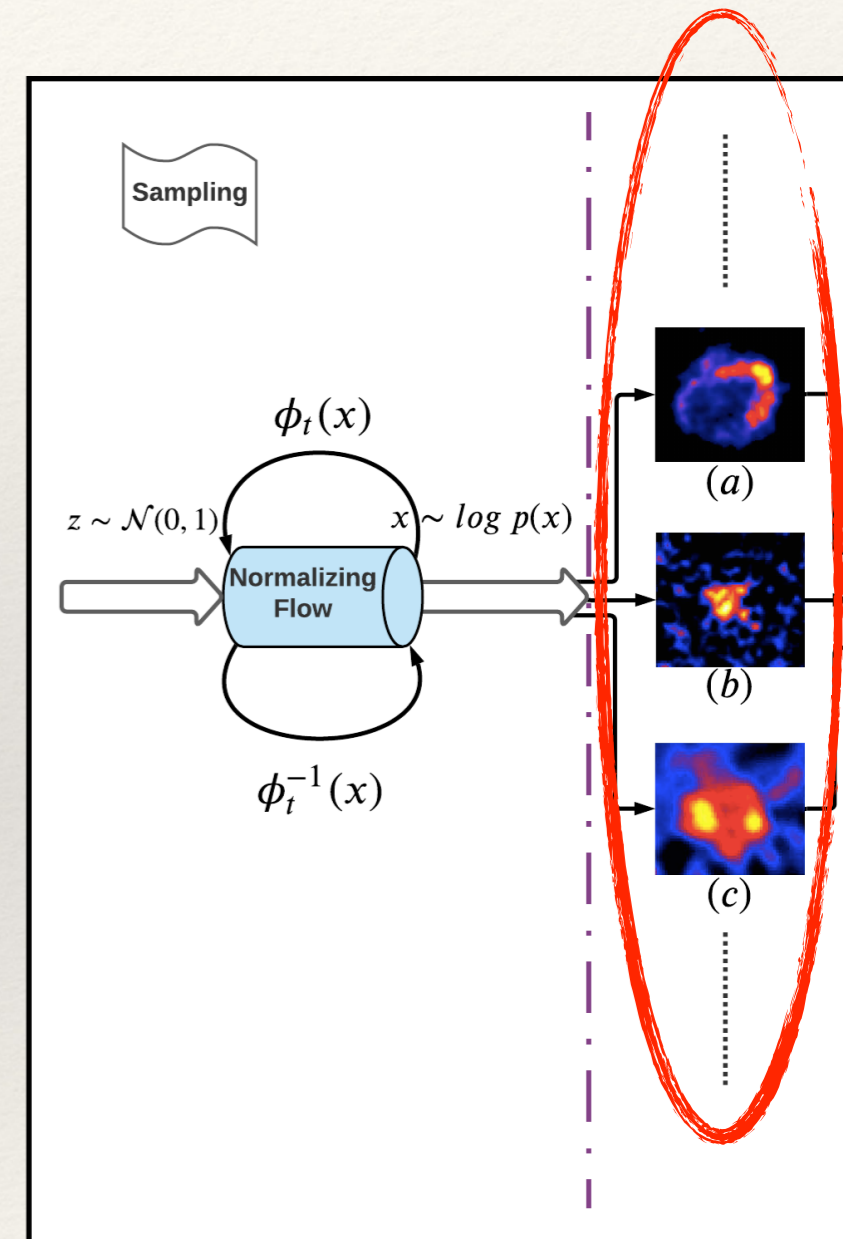
- ❖ Use the existing SNRs from the GeV & TeV  $\gamma$ -ray catalogs.
- ❖ Simulate large number of SNRs, using simulation tools developed by CTA collaboration (e.g. ctools: <http://cta.irap.omp.eu/ctools/index.html>).



www.cta-observatory.org, Acharya et al. for the CTA Consortium, "Science with the Cherenkov Telescope Array", arXiv:1709.07997v2

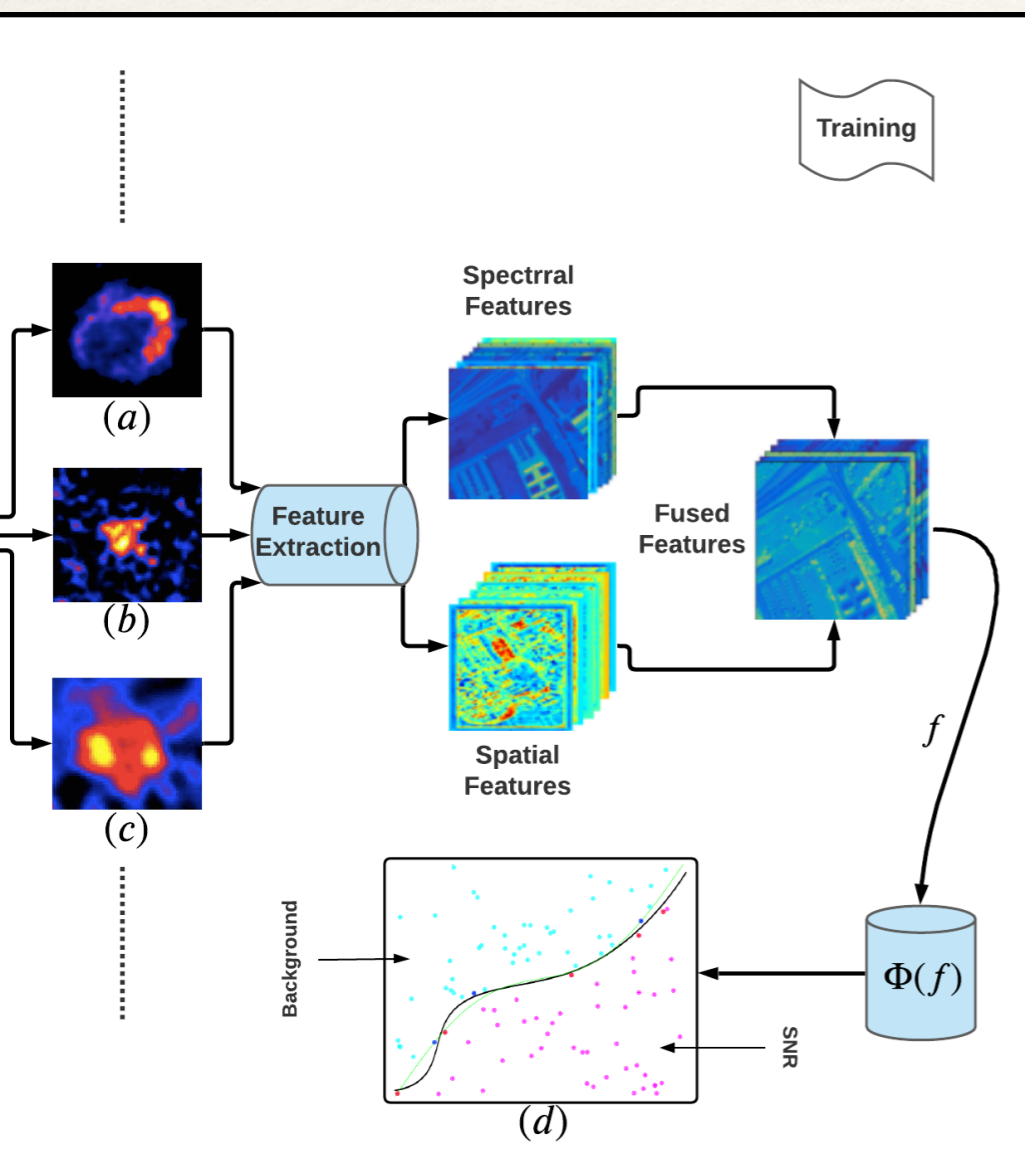
# 1st Phase: Sampling

- ❖ Sampling from normal distribution
- ❖ Transforming back to target distribution
- ❖ Obtaining artificial SNR and non-SNR samples





# 2nd Phase: Training & Classification



- ❖ The Classifier  $\phi(f)$ :
  - ❖ "Support Vector Machine (SVM)",
  - ❖ "Fully Connected Networks (FCN)"
  - ❖ Any other kernel learning algorithm
- ❖ After these algorithms are trained, when the newly observed CTA data are entered into them, the SNRs detected in big data will be classified and distributed to specified groups.

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# Advantages of this Method

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- ❖ **The most common problem** across all statistical learning tools is **hunger for data.**
- ❖ **Generalisation to unseen samples is challenging**
  - ❖ It is even harder when the sample data is limited in size (e.g. currently detected SNRs are in hundreds).
- ❖ Applying these methods,
  - ❖ will lead to **detailed description of the sub-structures in complex regions** that would ease the MW association search for SNRs,
  - ❖ will help firmly **identify the unidentified  $\gamma$ -ray sources.**

Thank you very much  
for your Attention!