

cherenkov telescope array



The Transient Program of the Cherenkov Telescope Array

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- Introduction of the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)
- Focus on Gamma ray bursts (GRBs), Gravitational waves (GWs) and high-energy neutrino studies with CTA
- Conclusions & Outlook

Two sites for all sky observatory

Roque de los Muchachos Observatory, La Palma, Spain

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Paranal, Chile









Status of all sky observatory



Roque de los Muchachos Observatory, La Palma, Spain



Oct 2018: Inauguration of LST1

Paranal, Chile



December 2018: MoUs were signed





Improvement over existing experiments



- Energy range 20 GeV 300 TeV
- CTA-LST array crucial for improved sensitivity at low energies >20GeV
- ~10x more sensitive than current IACT
- Angular resolution improved by factor 2

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Combined MAGIC and LST1 Observations



(cta

Transients with CTA



Improvement on short time scales





- ~10000 better sensitivity for GRBs than
 Fermi-LAT (but 10% efficiency against ~90%)
- GRB Prompt emission and evolution of afterglow detectable with the fast rotation of the LSTs (20 sec)

GRBs with CTA: EBL studies

- Extragalactic Background Light: diffuse, nearly isotropic background of IR/opt/UV radiation
- Fundamental information on global evolution of stars & supermassive BH in the Universe
- GRBs observed with CTA are excellent EBL probes:

High-quality HE spectra

→ can trace photon-photon interaction
 attenuation feature that is an indirect EBL probe
 High-redshift GRBs can be detected
 → can probe early Universe complementary to

past studies (e.g. blazar at ~TeV up to z<0.9)



GRBs with CTA: LIV studies

- Some model of quantum gravity allow violation of Lorentz invariance
 - → the photon propagation speed can depend on energy
- All methods of constraint LIV require sources with:
 - Short time-scale variability
 - Bright VHE emission
- GRB observed with CTA can test LIV through high-resolution VHE light curves
 - Prompt phase
 - Afterglow (flares)

Simulated GRB 080916C based on Fermi/LAT spectra+EBL



Scientific, 10.1142/10986, arxiv:1709.07997



GRB with CTA: Expected rates and strategy



- **CTA will respond to external GRB alerts** from satellites (currently Fermi/GBM, Swift, SVOM, etc.) (12/yr/site follow-up expected during dark moon & z<70°)
- Real Time Analysis will check for GRB detection ~T_{slew}+30s
- Detection rate: ~ 1 GRB/yr/site; based on
 - 1. GRB population model tuned to match Swift observations
 - 2. Assumptions on VHE based on Fermi/LAT observations

Strategy	Expected event rate (yr ⁻¹)	Exposure per follow-up (h)	Exposure year (h y	r ⁻¹)	
Prompt follow-up of accessible alerts	~12	2	25	→ Real Time Analysis <30s	
Extended follow-up for detections	0.5–1.5	10–15	10–15	_	-
Late-time follow-up of HE GRBs not accessible promptly	~1	10	10		

Summary of GRB follow-up strategy per one site

(see Table 9.2 from "Science with CTA" Consortium paper, World Scientific, 10.1142/10986, arxiv:1709.07997)

Divergent pointing



- Telescopes are inclined into the outward direction by an angle increasing with the telescope distance from the array center \rightarrow Wider field of view
 - \rightarrow Possibility to detect GRB in the field of view \rightarrow observation from t_o
 - \rightarrow Boost rate of GRBs observable by CTA in prompt phase to ~2 per year.



GRB population study: POSyTIVE project

POpulation **Sy**nthesis **T**heory **I**ntegrated code for **V**ery high energy **E**mission



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GRB population study: POSyTIVE project

POpulation **Sy**nthesis **T**heory **I**ntegrated code for **V**ery high energy **E**mission



CTA

Gravitational wave sources with CTA





- Expected large uncertainties of the GW source localization need **dedicated follow-up strategies**
 - CTA can play a relevant role in case of coarse GRB localization from high-energy satellites (as for GRB170817):
 - Fast reaction time (<20s)
 - Large field of view (4deg 7deg)
 - Arcmin level localization \rightarrow follow-up with optical/radio facilities

High energy neutrinos with CTA

- in preparalion for the cta
- Correlation of IC170922A with the flaring blazar TXS0506+056
 - → First hint for the success of VHE gamma-ray follow-up programs of highenergy neutrinos
- CTA NToO program defined by simulating source populations of joint neutrino and gamma-ray emitters and optimizing the simulated CTA follow-up.



Observation times for follow-up targets



- Defined in the Transients Key Science Projects
 - First estimate for observation time allocated by the CTA observatory
 - Adjustments and updates are currently being discussed

	Obser	Observation times (h yr $^{-1}$ site $^{-1}$)						
Priority	Target class	Early phase	Years 1–2	Years 3–10	Years 1–10			
1	GW transients	20	5	5				
2	HE neutrino transients	20	5	5				
3	Serendipitous VHE transients	100	25	25				
4	GRBs	50	50	50				
5	X-ray/optical/radio transients	50	10	10				
6	Galactic transients	150	30	0(?)				
	Total per site (h yr $^{-1}$ site $^{-1}$)	390	125	95				

Conclusion & Outlook

- CTA will provide: Low energy threshold, better sensitivity, all sky coverage
 - \rightarrow Increased transient sources detection rate
 - \rightarrow Broader & better energy spectra
- Real time analysis will be useful for scientific community
 - \rightarrow Sending automatic alerts through GCNs, for example
- Divergent pointing possible \rightarrow FoV increases from ~5 deg to ~20 deg
 - \rightarrow Possibility for detection of GRBs from t_o





Science

Cherenkov

Telescope

with the

Array

Thank you!







CTA synergies

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CTA will be fully operative in the golden era of **multimessenger** astronomy and a fully mature era of **MW astronomy**

CTA Real-Time Analysis with **rapid communication** of some preliminary information is the key system

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(Telescope A	rrav =	> upgrade	to TAx4						
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GRB detection with MAGIC and H.E.S.S.



2018

First hint of VHE emission from the short GRB 160821B@z=0.16 (Berti+2018, 15° Marcel Grossman meeting 2018)

- MAGIC follow-up of started at T0+24 s
- Hints of gamma-ray signal at >500 GeV found few hours after the burst

Jan 2019 First strong detection from long GRB 190114C@z=0.42 (Mirzoyan et al. 2019, Atel#12390)

- MAGIC follow-up of started at T0+50 s
- >20 sigma in the first 20 min for energies >300 GeV

May 2019 Long GRB 180720B@z=0.654 (Ruiz-Velasco, CTA Symposium 2019)

H.E.S.S. follow-up started ~10hr after the burst trigger

Aug 2019

Long GRB 190829A@z=0.0785 (de Naurois et al. 2019, GCN 25566)

- H.E.S.S. follow-up started at T0+4h20 and lasted 3.5h
- >5 sigma gamma-ray excess

Transient sources and CTA: synergies ('30s)



Will provide GRB alerts by '30s (still under evaluation at ESA, selection by 2021, launch by 2032)





3rd generation GW interferometers (>2030) expected to detect GWs for all detectable short GRBs (and possibly for a fraction of long GRBs)

Neutrino detectors major upgrades will be completed by that time

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Transients with CTA

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Off-Axis sensitivity





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Angular resolution



