

# The cosmic-ray electron spectrum measured up to $\sim 20$ TeV with H.E.S.S.

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Seminar at the Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet  
École polytechnique IN2P3/CNRS



**Scientific motivation**

**Detection and reconstruction with H.E.S.S.**

**Discrimination between  $\gamma$  and electrons**

**Determination of the electrons+positrons spectrum with H.E.S.S.**

Data selection

The analysis chain

Results

**Conclusions and perspectives**

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# Cosmic ray diffuse emissions

Concerns particles electrically charged and neutral.

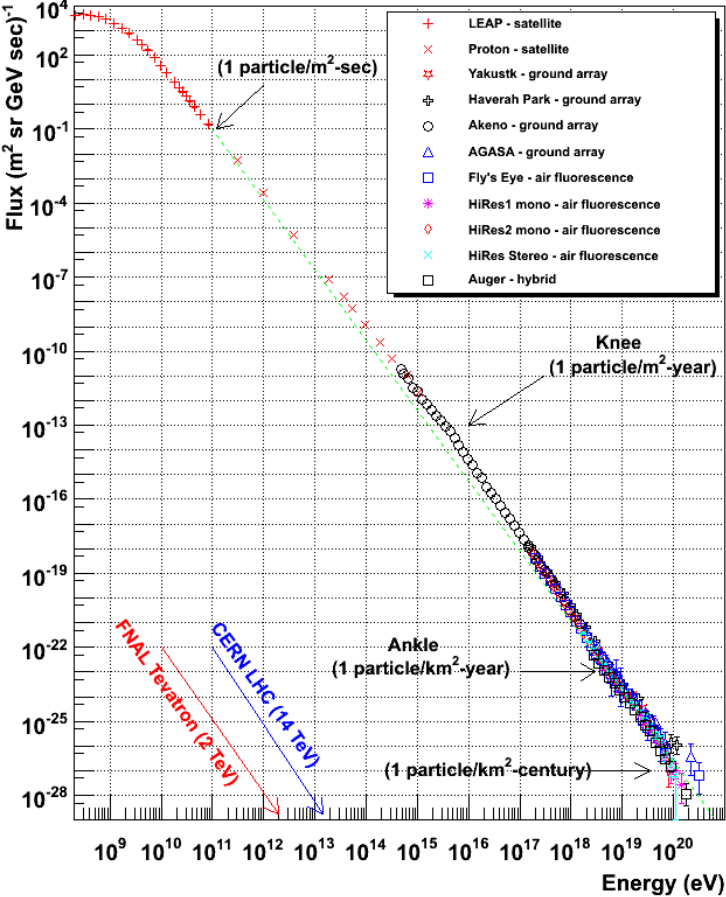
The 3 components of the diffuse emission are:

- hadrons
- leptons
- photons

The knowledge of their structure tells us about the mechanisms of production and propagation of these particles.

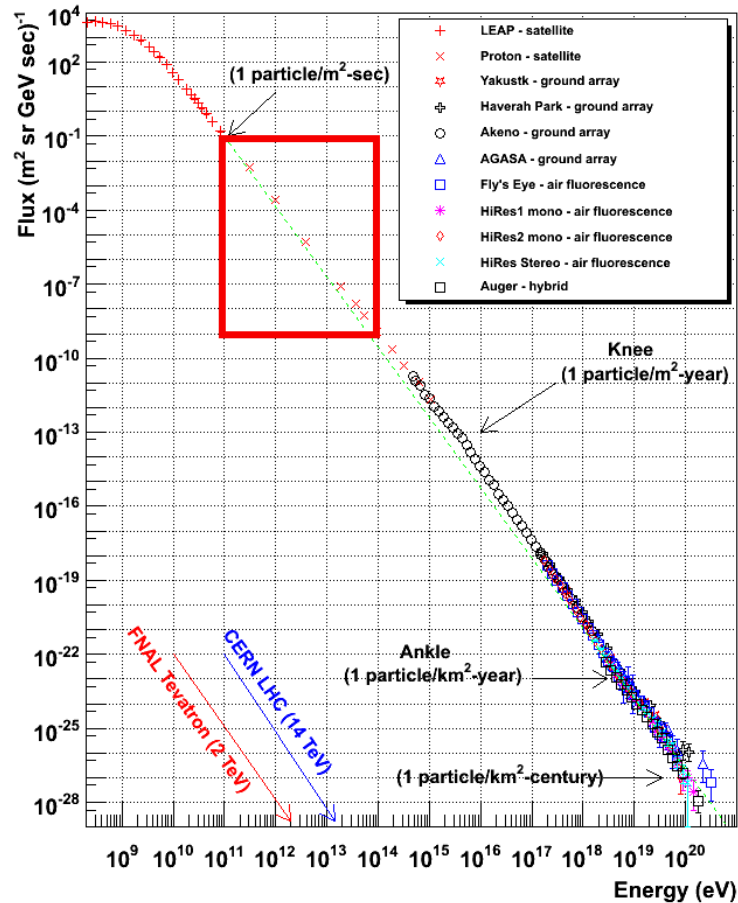
# Cosmic rays

Cosmic Ray Spectra of Various Experiments



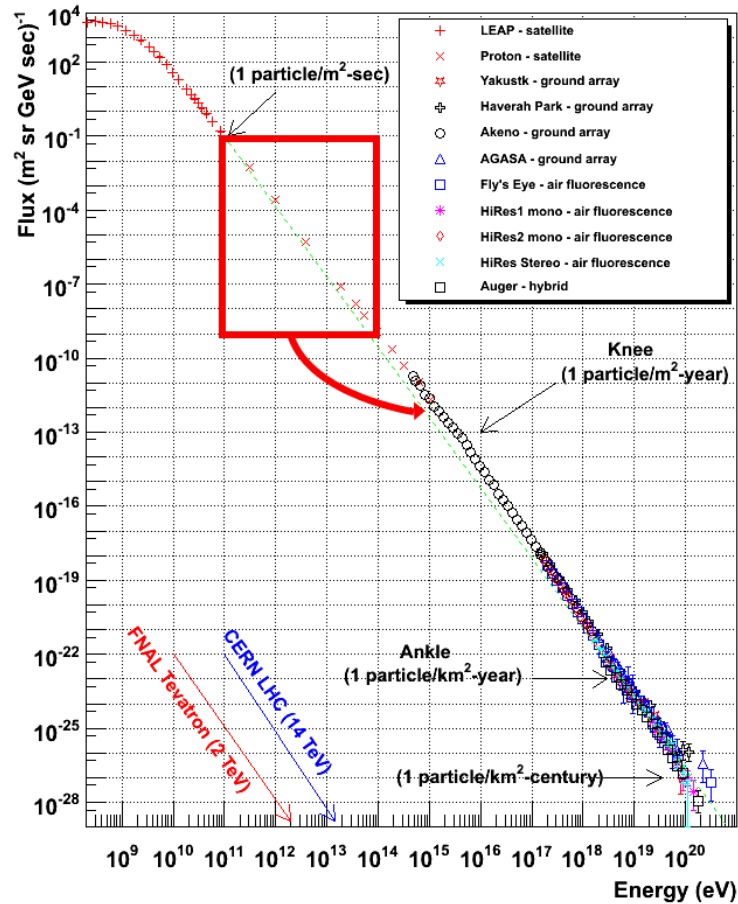
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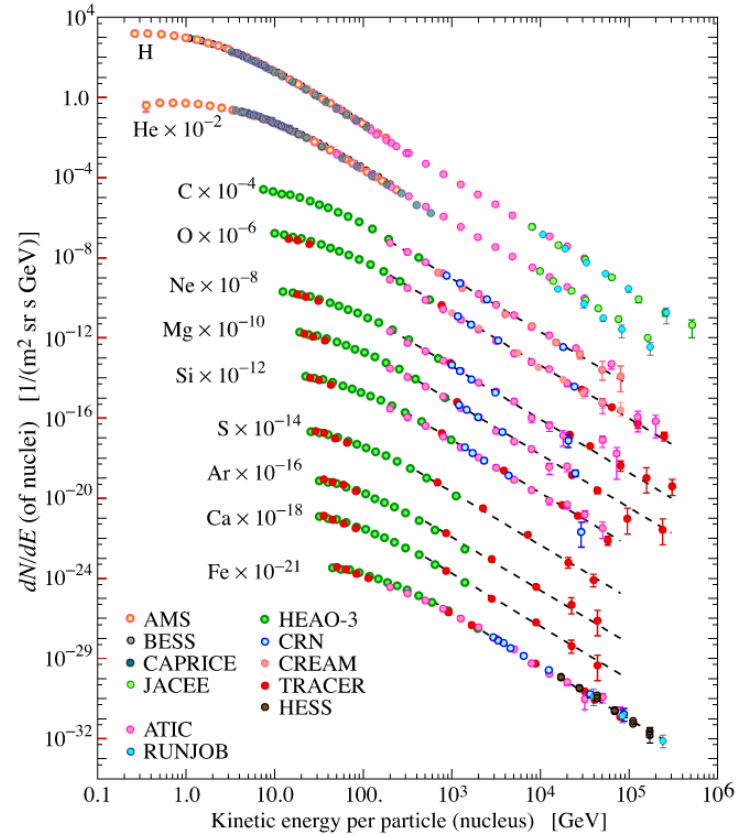
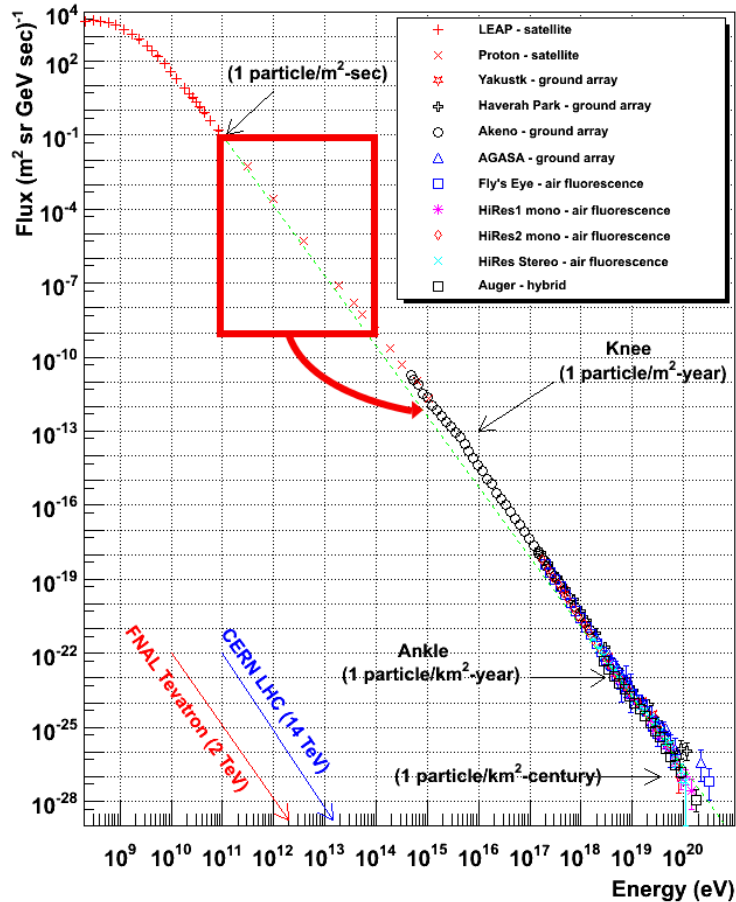
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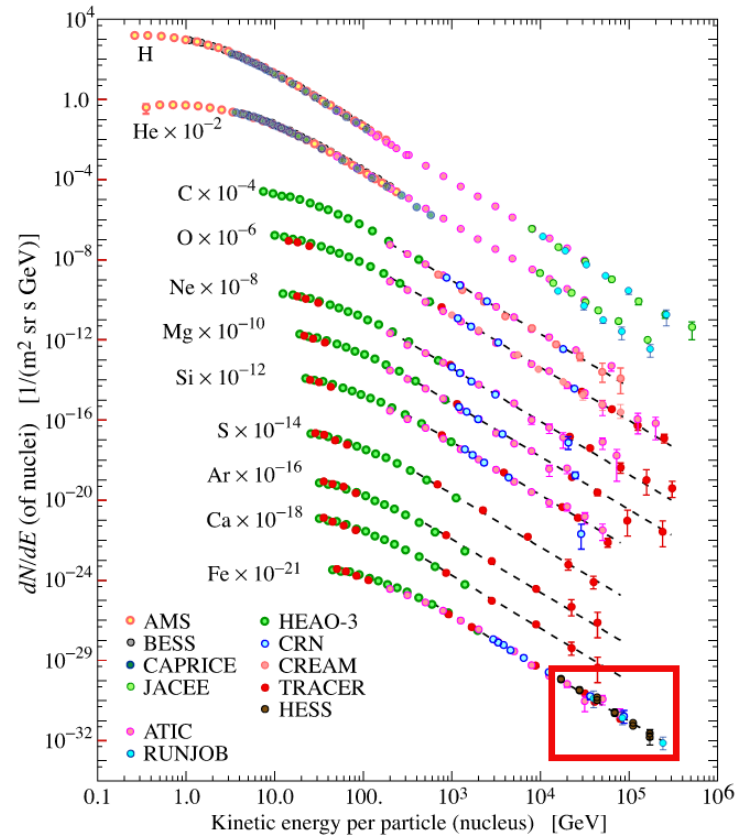
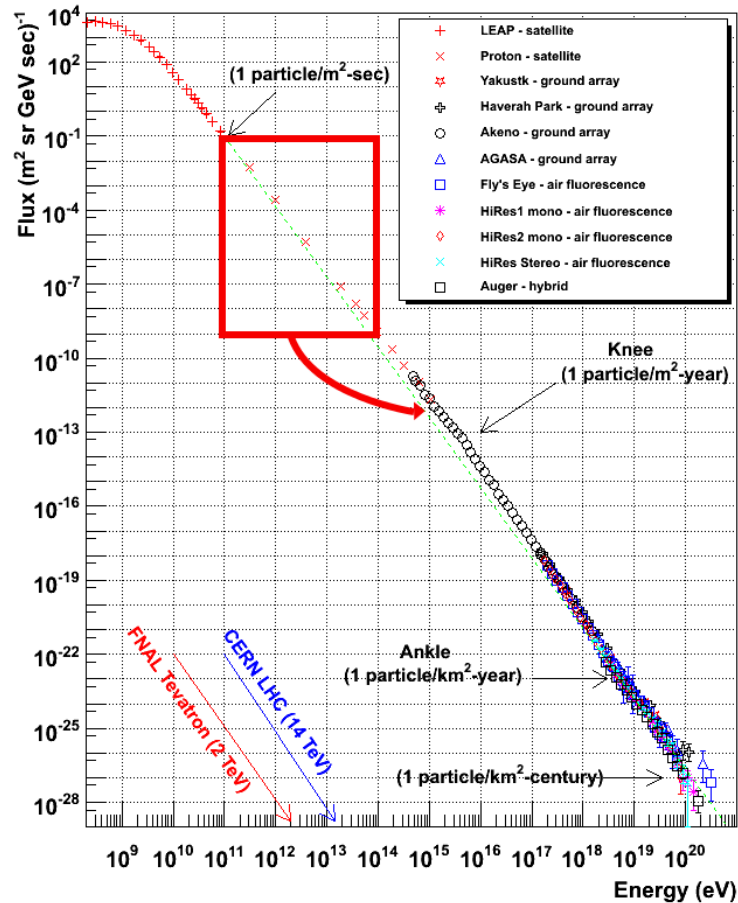
Cosmic Ray Spectra of Various Experiments



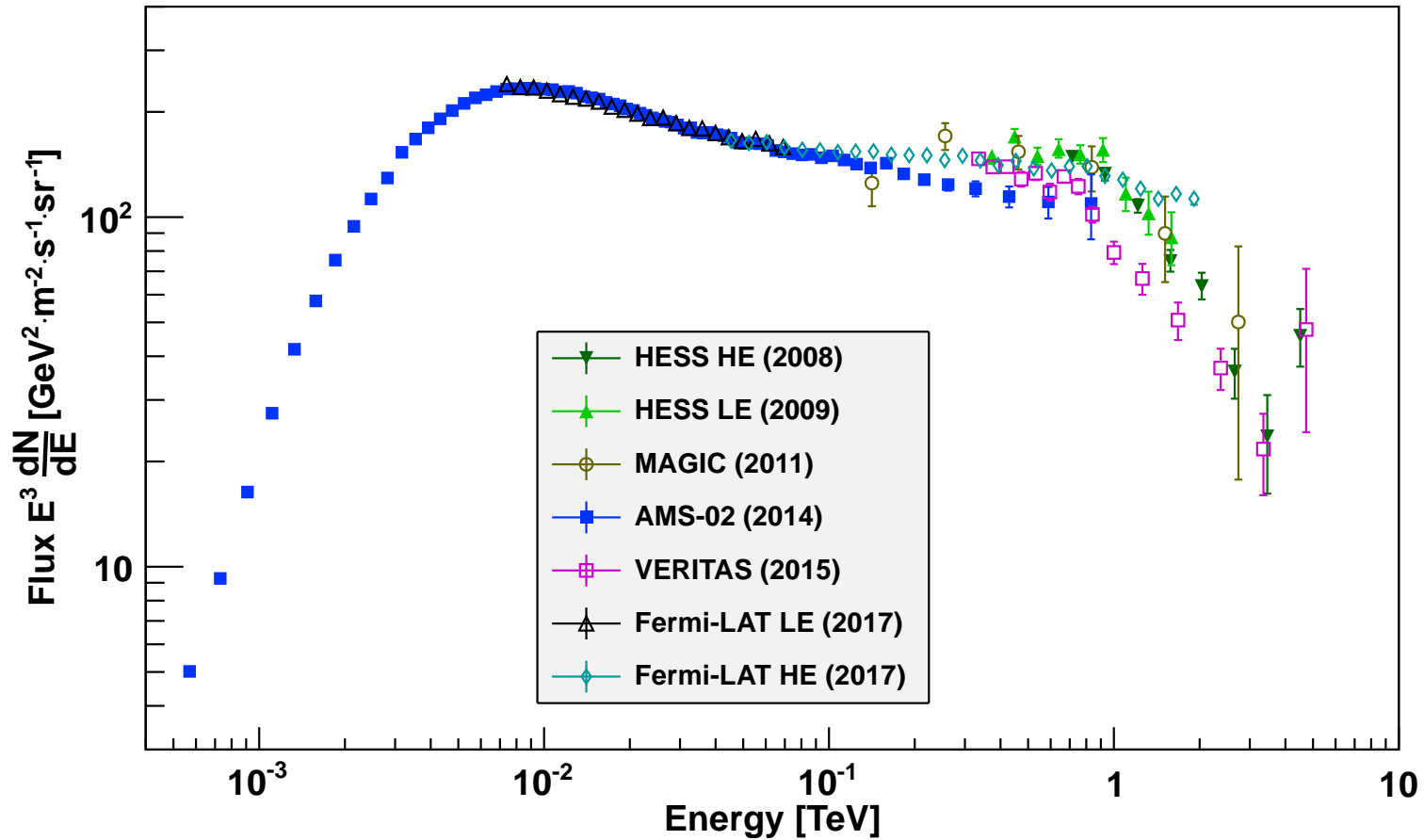


# Cosmic rays

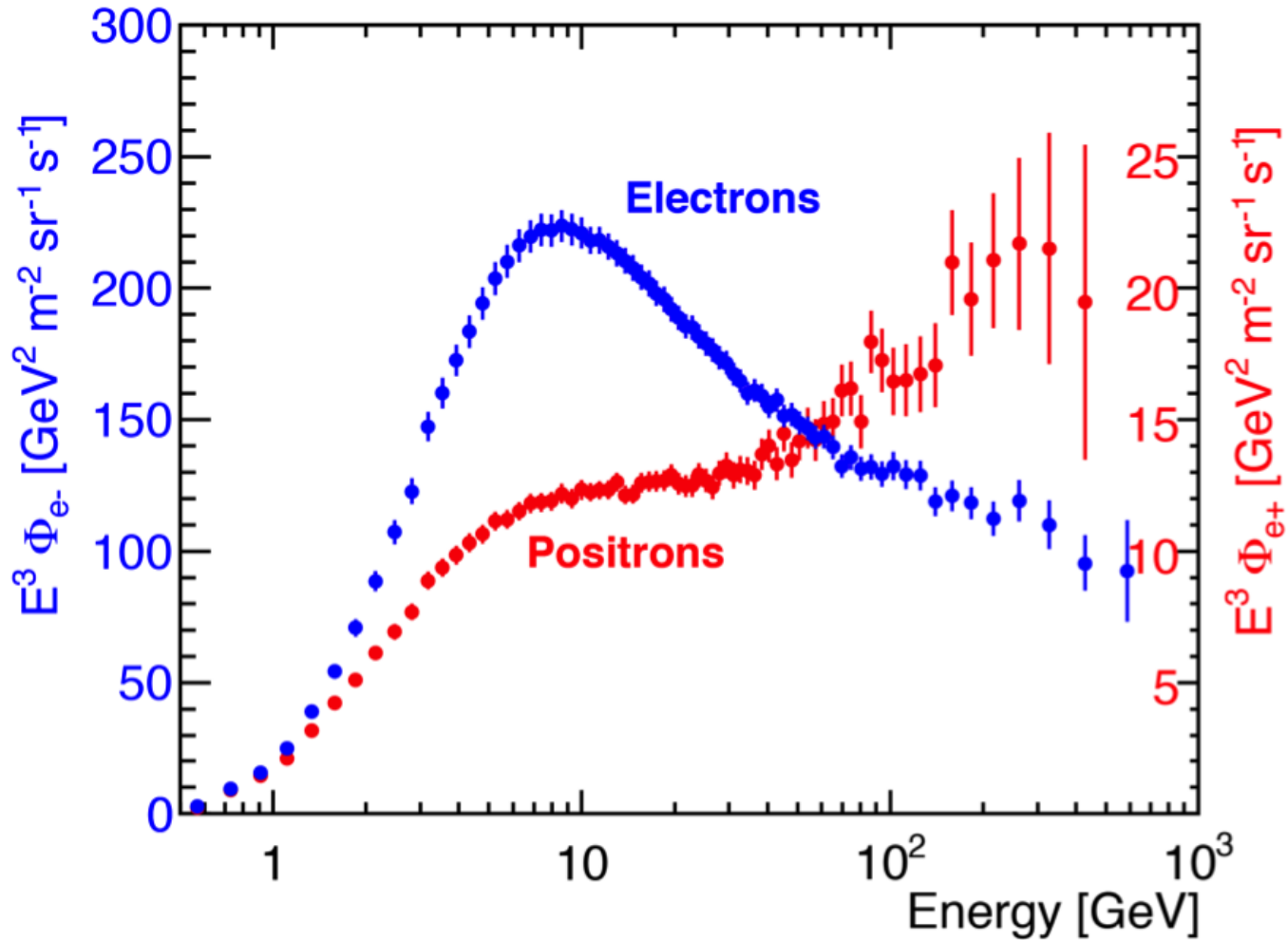
Cosmic Ray Spectra of Various Experiments



# Measurements of the electron+positron spectrum: status



# Electrons and positrons with AMS-02



Credit : AMS Collaboration

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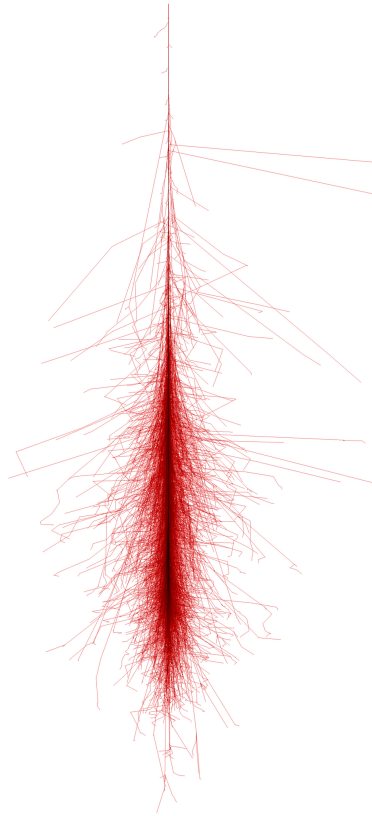
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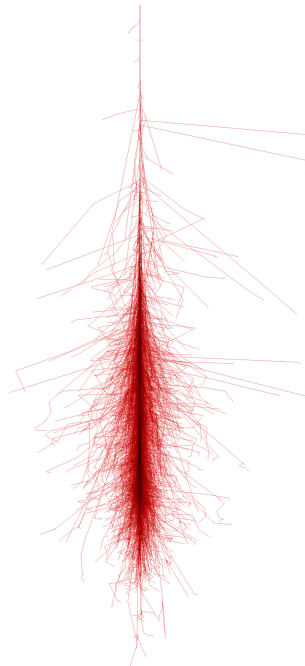
# Atmospheric showers



Photon/electron of 100 GeV

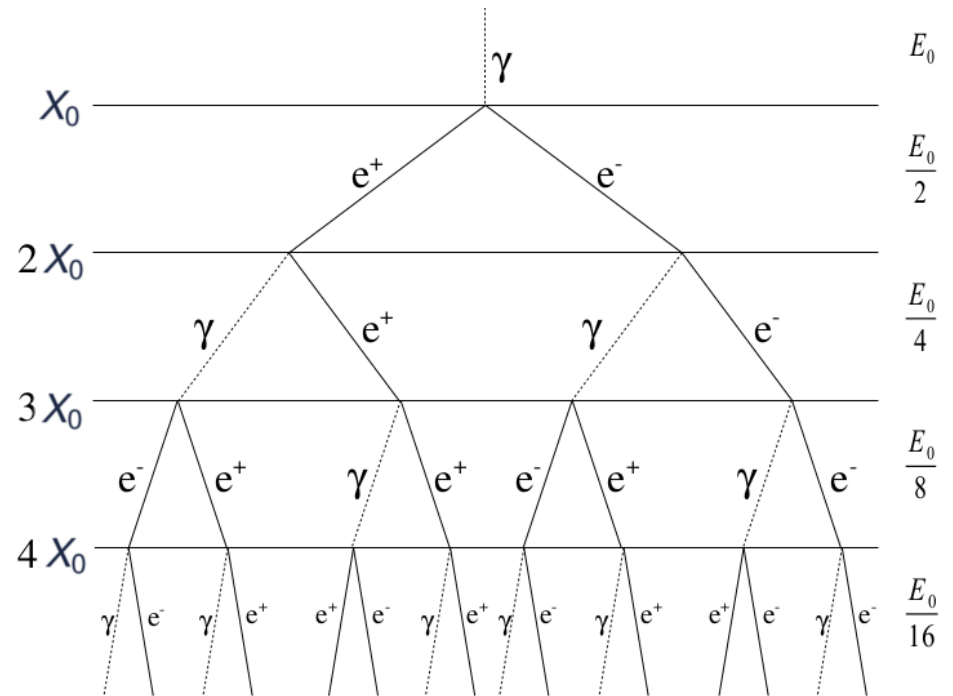
Credit : CORSIKA website

# Atmospheric showers



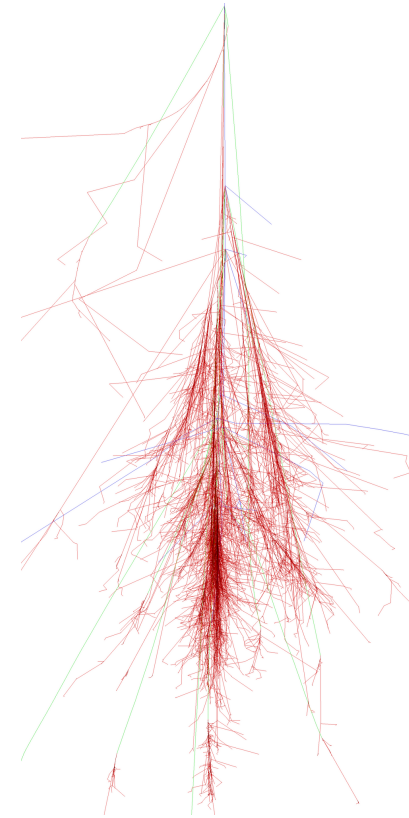
Photon/electron of 100 GeV

Credit : CORSIKA website



Heitler model

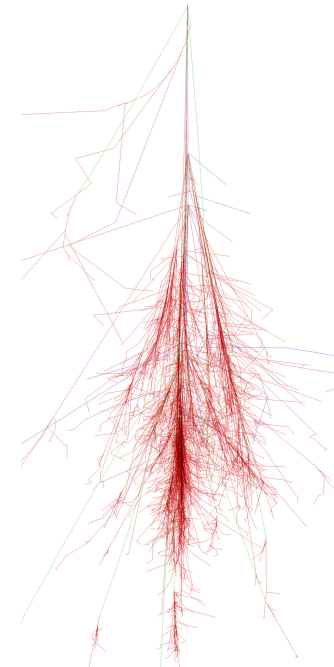
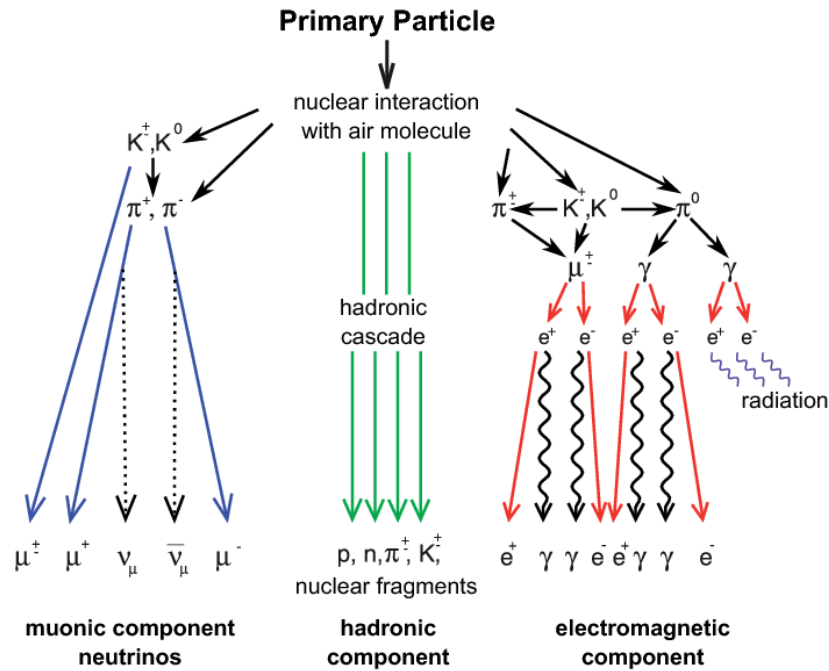
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Credit : CORSIKA website

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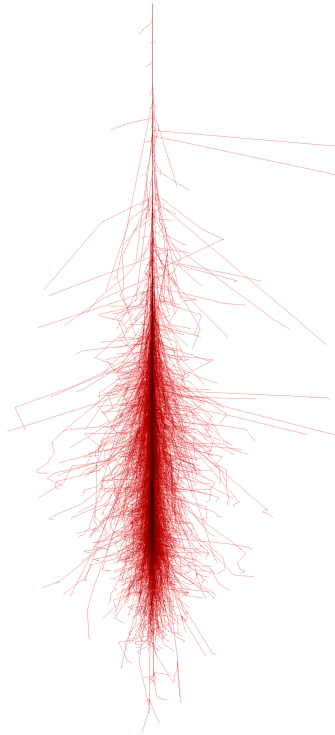


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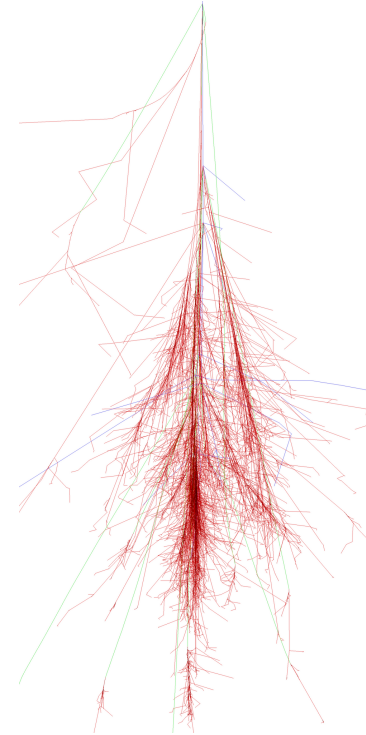
Credit : CORSIKA website



# Atmospheric showers



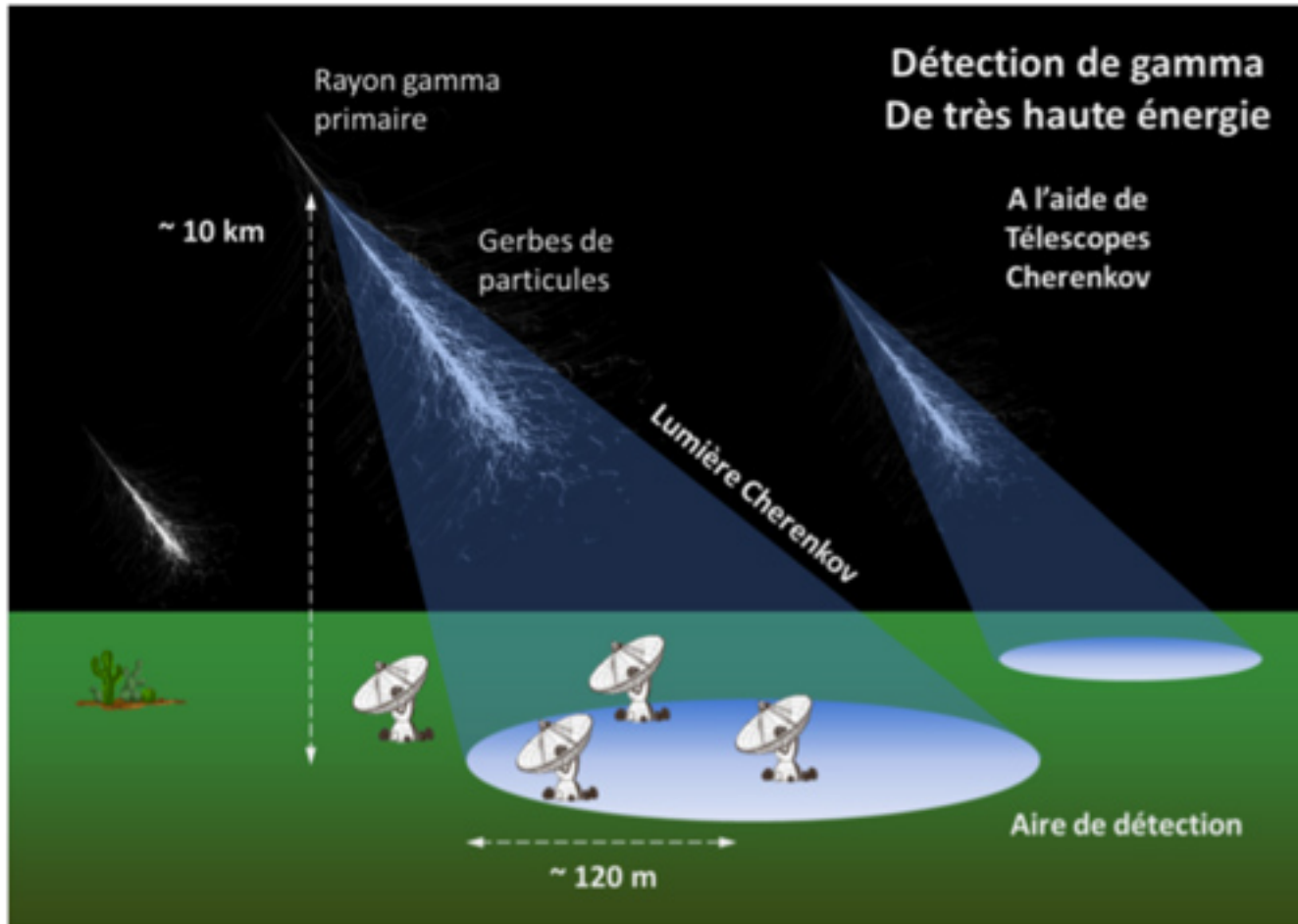
Photon/electron of 100 GeV



Proton of 100 GeV

—> We detect the **Cherenkov light** emitted by charged particles

# Atmospheric Cherenkov light



# The H.E.S.S. experiment



## Phase I:

- 4 telescopes since 2003
- 960 PMT/camera
- Field of view  $5^\circ$
- Stereoscopic reconstruction

## Phase II:

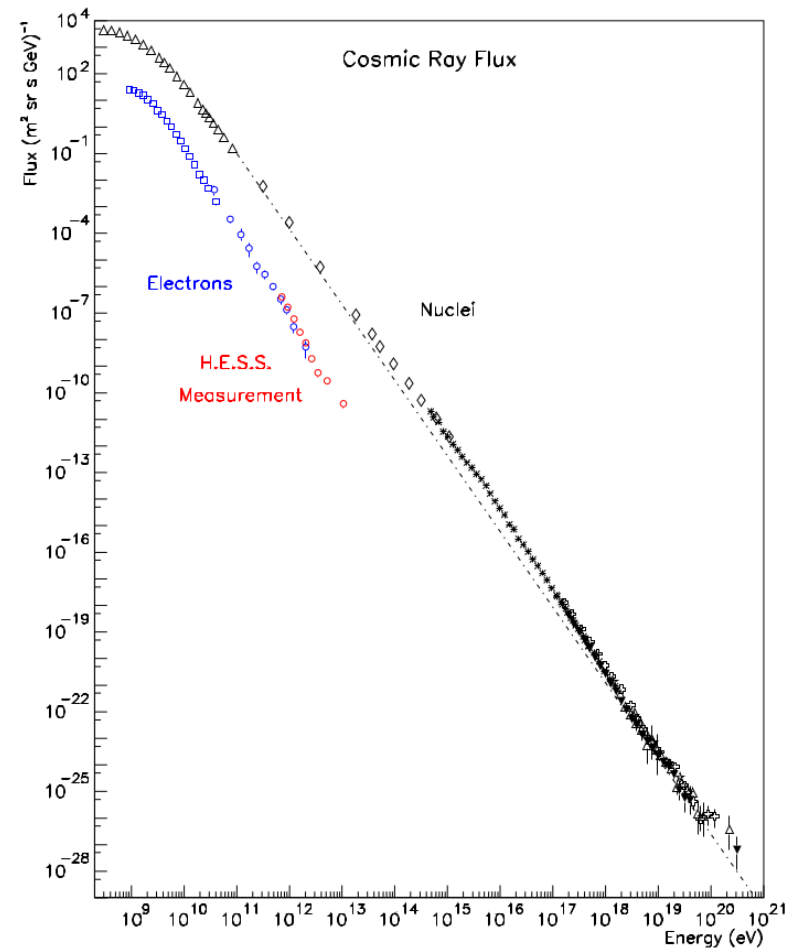
- 5th telescope in 2012
- 2048 PMT
- Field of view of  $3,5^\circ$
- Monoscopic and stereoscopic reconstruction

Designed for  $\gamma$ -ray detection.

# Flux difference between species

We are looking for the contributions of:

- hadrons
- electrons/positrons
- $\gamma$



Crédit : K. Egberts

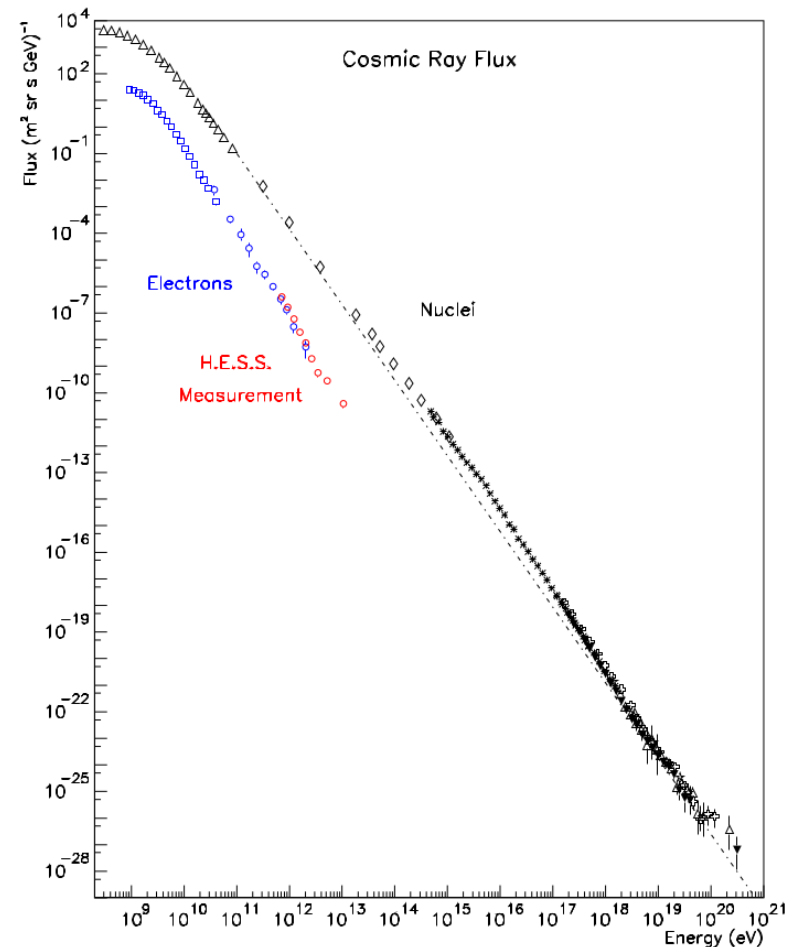
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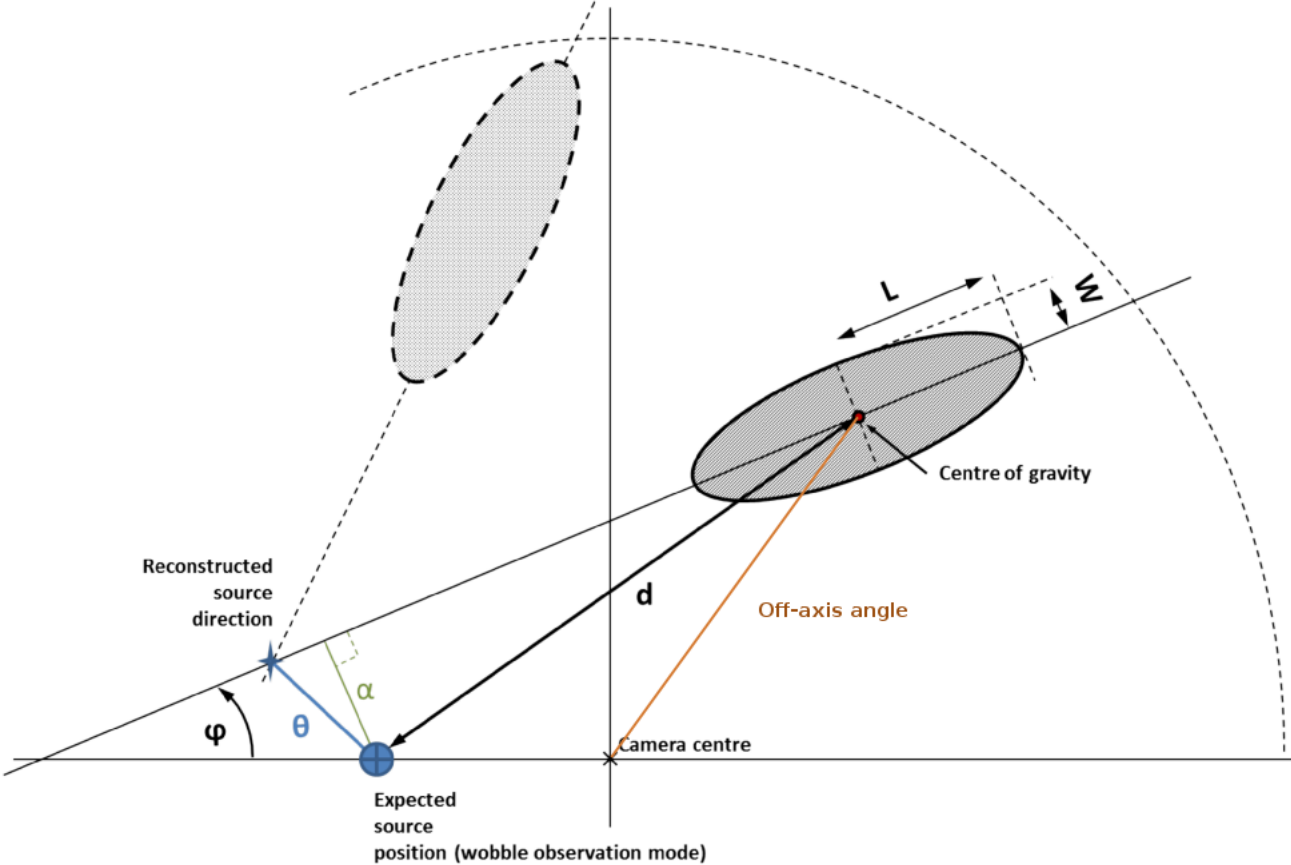
—> The event reconstruction techniques provide discriminating variables :

- the Hillas method
- the semi-analytic method or Model

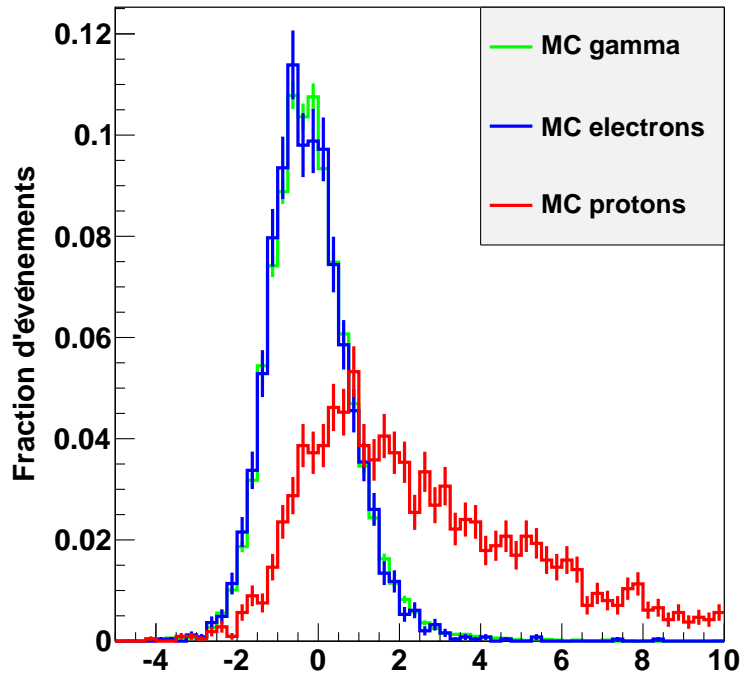


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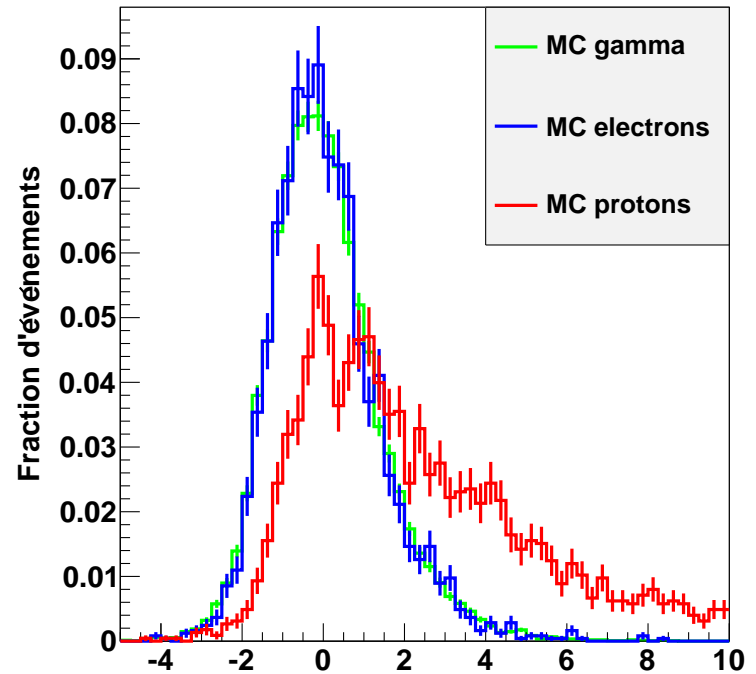
# Event reconstruction: Hillas



# Event reconstruction: Hillas



Mean Scaled Width (MSW)

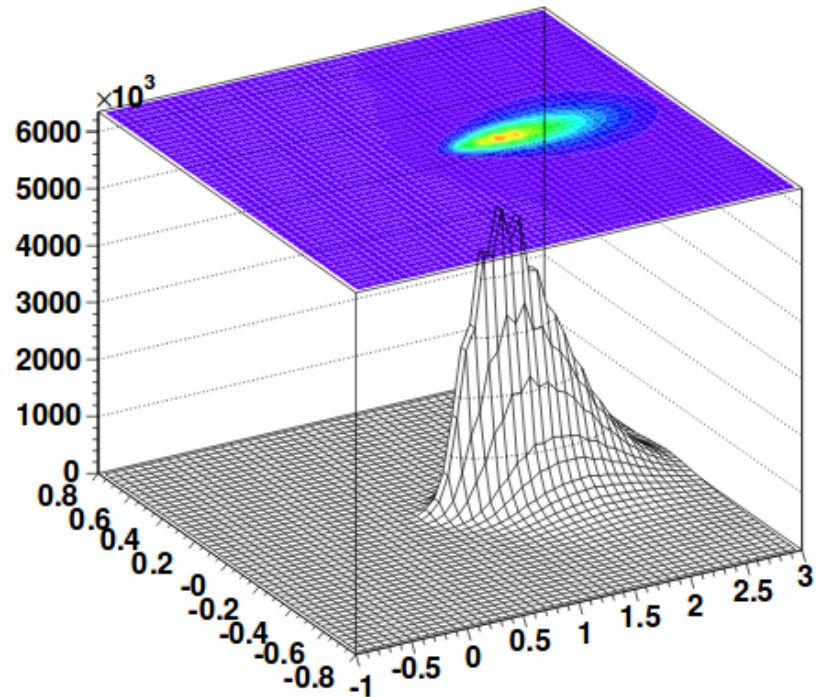


Mean Scaled Length (MSL)

# Event reconstruction: **Model**

The **Model** analysis:

Log-likelihood comparison between recorded images and pre-calculated templates including Night Sky Background



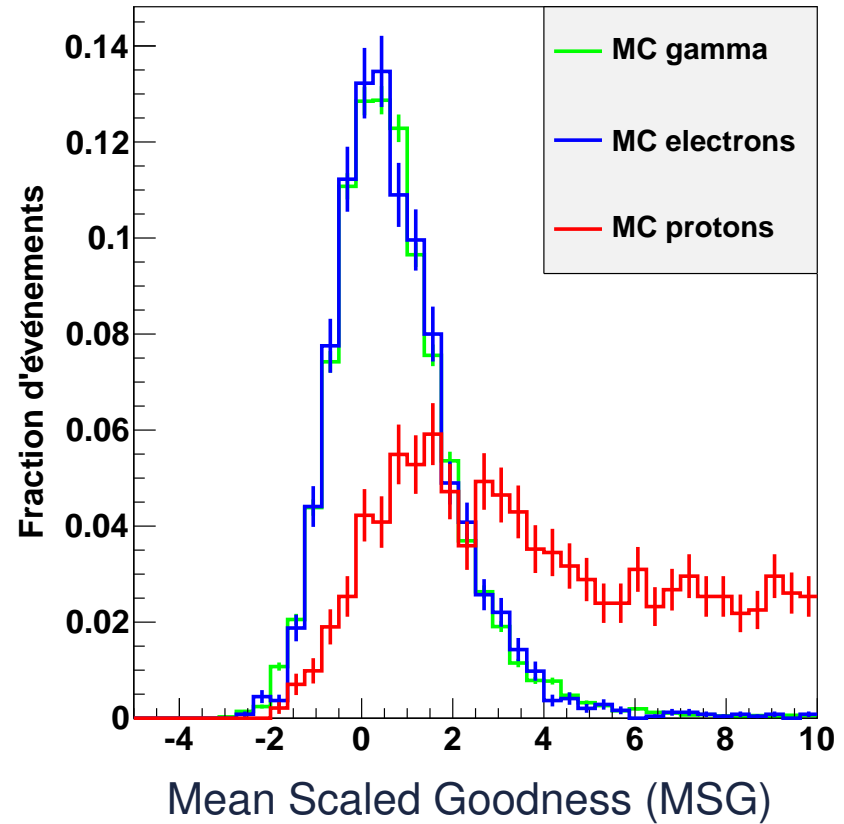
M. de Naurois & L. Rolland, *Astropart. Phys.*, 32 (2009), 231-252



# Event reconstruction: **Model**

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Log-likelihood comparison between recorded images and pre-calculated templates including Night Sky Background



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# Discrimination strategies

Diffuse signal  $\rightarrow$  need to remove the  $\gamma$  component!

2 possibilities:

- Using discriminating variables from the event reconstruction method
- Using a suitable observation strategy

# Differences between $\gamma$ -ray and electrons induced showers

- $X_0$  : radiation length of the electrons
- $\lambda_\pi$  : conversion length of the  $\gamma$ -rays

$$X_0 = \frac{7}{9} \lambda_\pi$$

$$X_0 \text{ et } \lambda_\pi \ll \lambda_l$$

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- $X_{\max}$  : maximum depth of the shower

$$X_{\max} = A \ln \frac{E_0}{E_C} + B$$

with:

- $A = 1,0$      $B_\gamma = -0,5$      $B_{\text{electron}} = -1,0$
  - $A = 1,0$      $B_\gamma = -0,3$      $B_{\text{electron}} = -1,1$
- $$\Delta B \in [0,5 ; 0,8] \times X_0$$

(B. Rossi, High Energy Particles, 1952)

(U. Amaldi, Phys. Scripta 23, 409, 1981)

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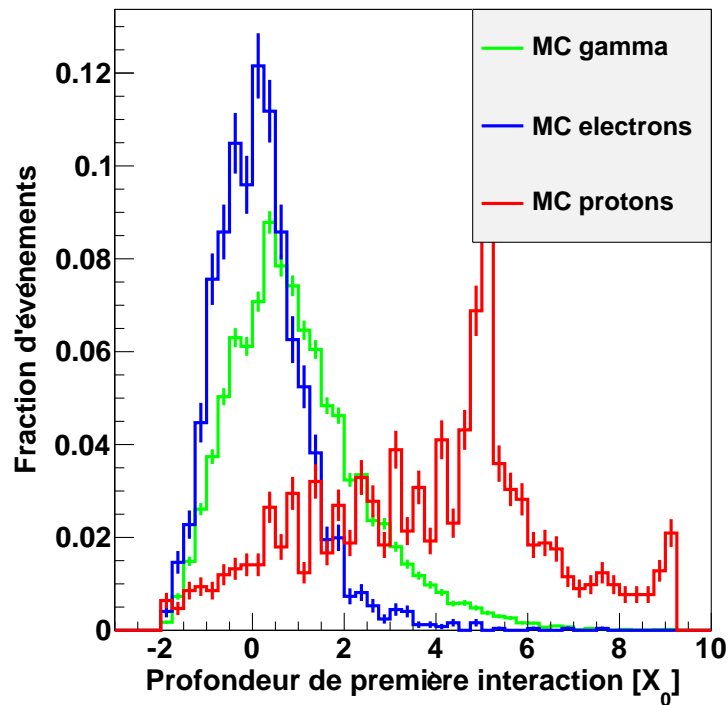
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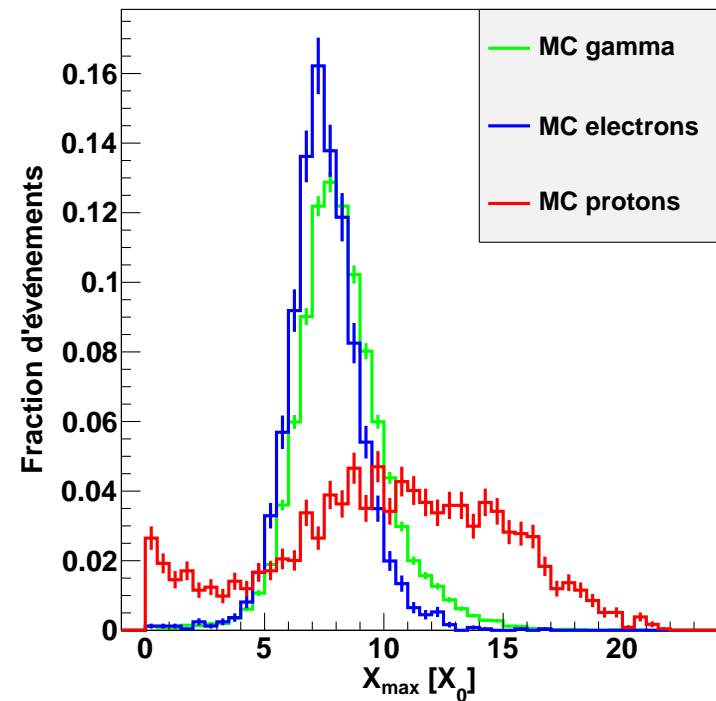
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- Direct Cherenkov light

# Discriminating variables: Primary depth and Maximum depth



Primary depth (PDH)



Maximum depth (MDH)

# Discriminating between particles: summary

- Excellent  $\gamma$ /hadrons discrimination with 2 methodes (Hillas and Model)
- Better discrimination with Model
- 2 variables (PDH and MDH) exhibit a small discriminating power between  $\gamma$  and electrons
- Direct Cherenkov light from electrons not detected to date with H.E.S.S.

—>  $\gamma$ /electron separation from a suitable observation strategy



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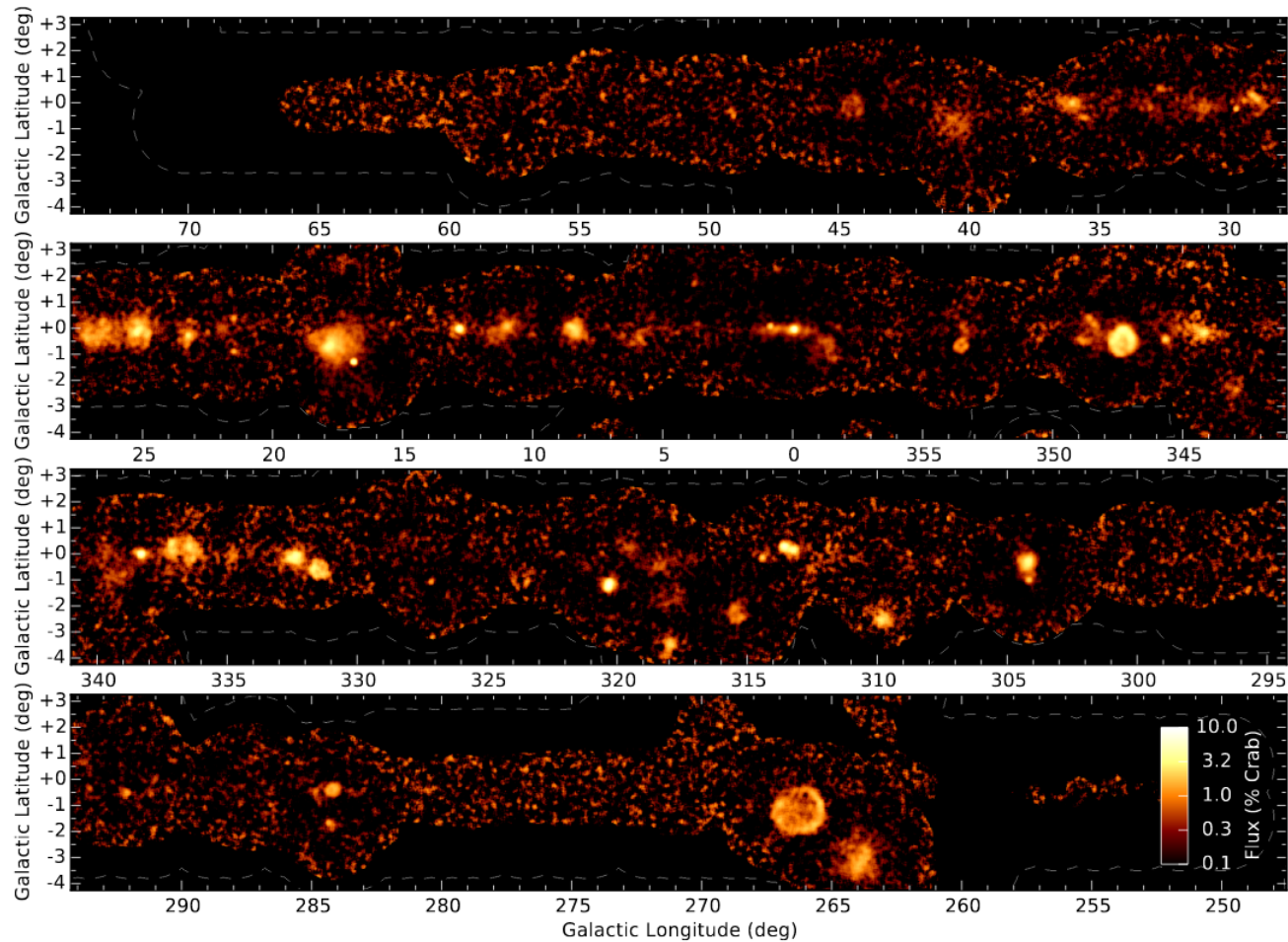
# Standard H.E.S.S. observations

Limited field of view of  $5^\circ$  with H.E.S.S.

Two major centers of interest of H.E.S.S.:

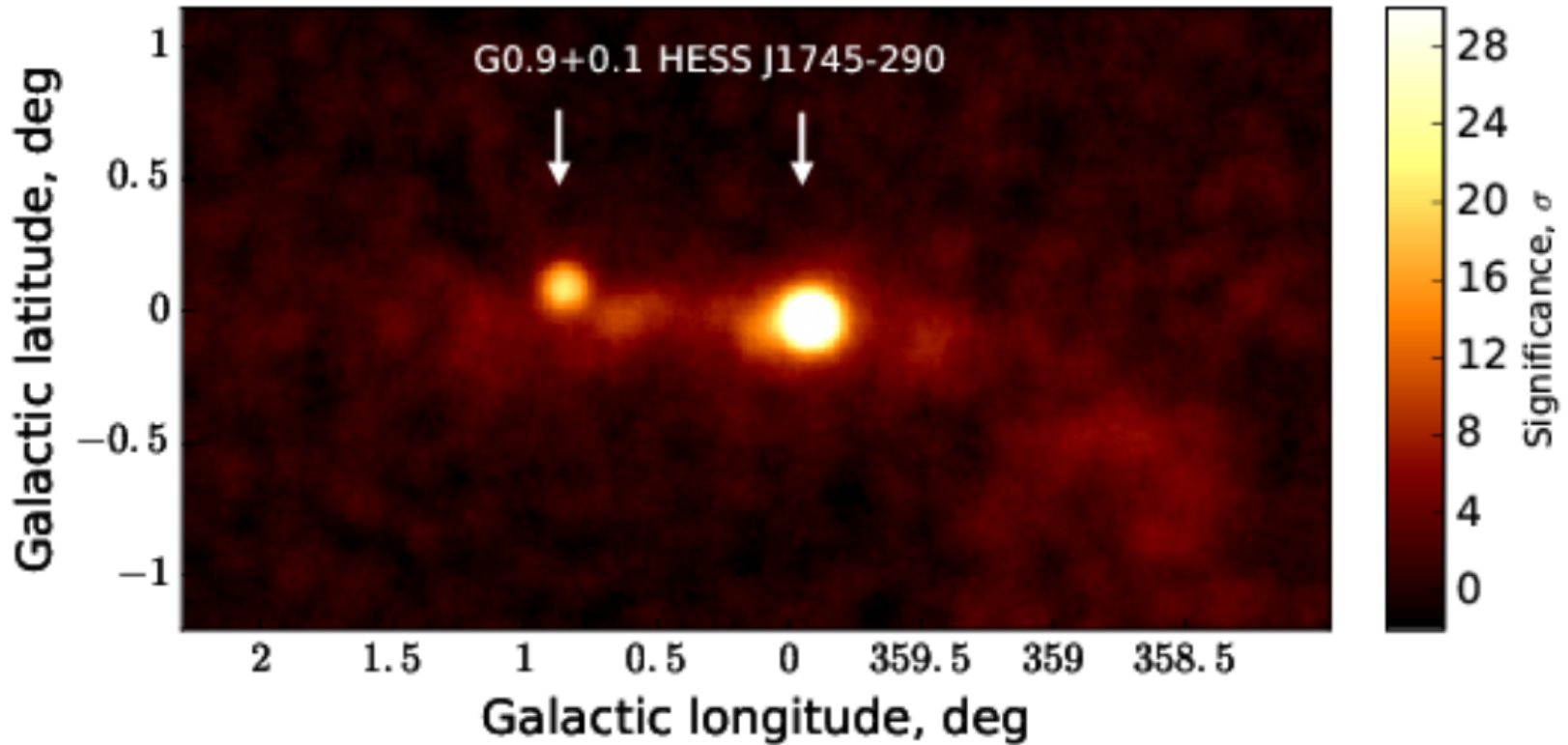
- galactic sources
  - > mostly in the Galactic plane
- extragalactic sources

# The Galactic plane with H.E.S.S.



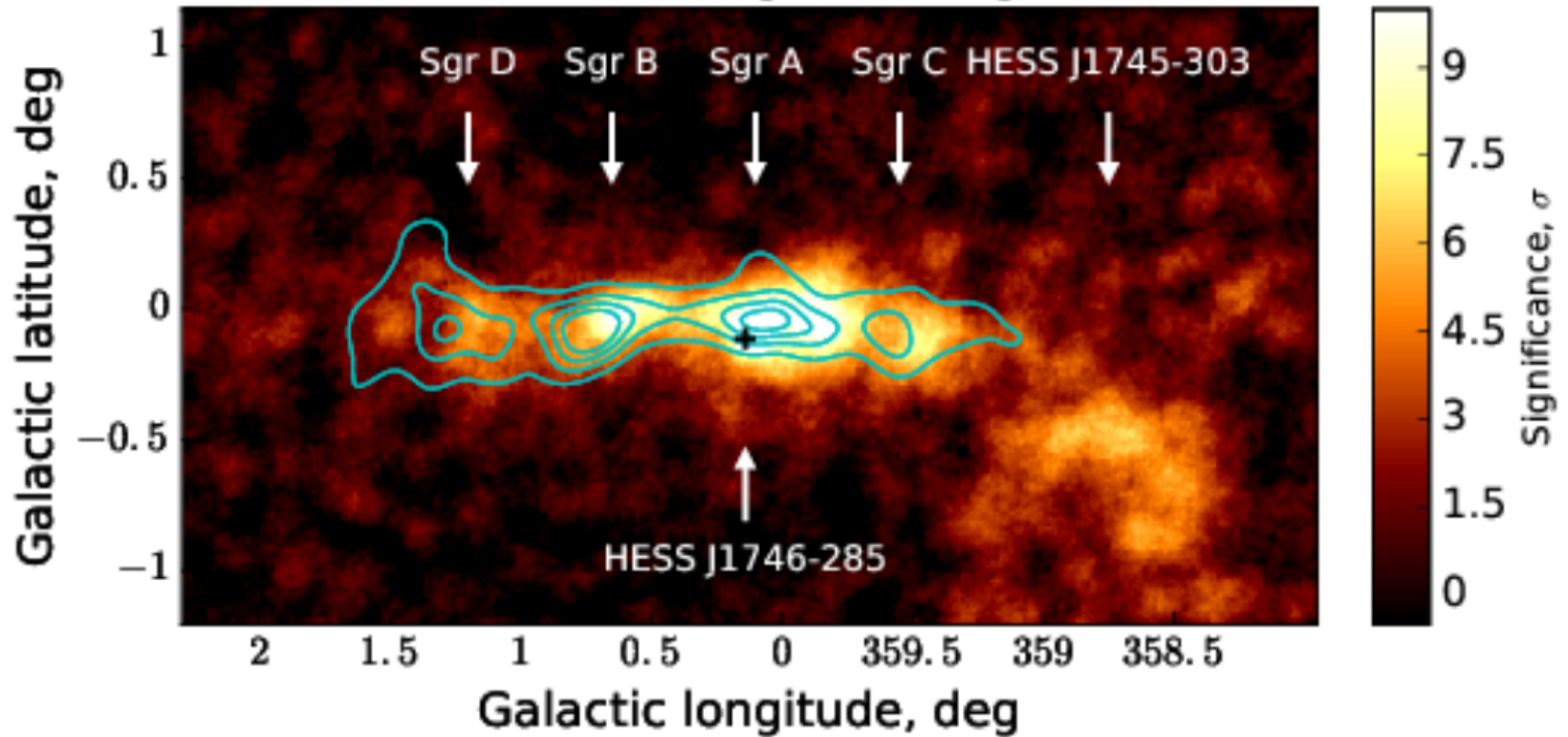
R. D. Parsons et al. (ICRC 2017)

# The Galactic plane with H.E.S.S.



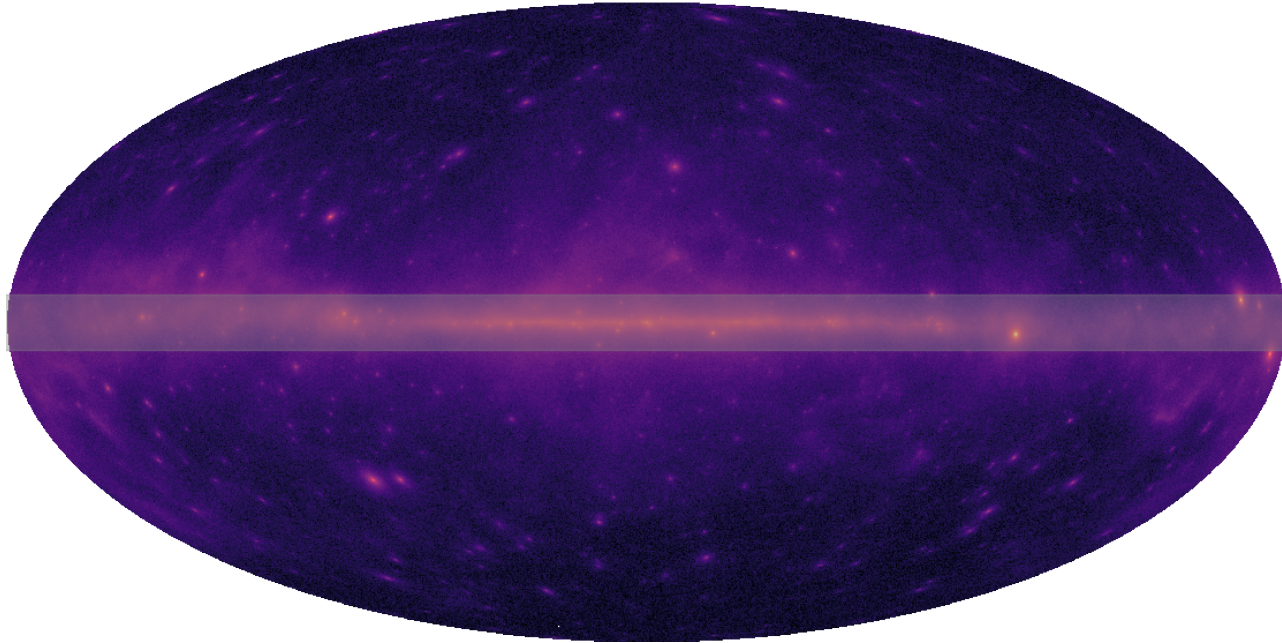
R. D. Parsons et al. (ICRC 2017)

# The Galactic plane with H.E.S.S.



R. D. Parsons et al. (ICRC 2017)

# Data selection: exclusion of the Galactic plane

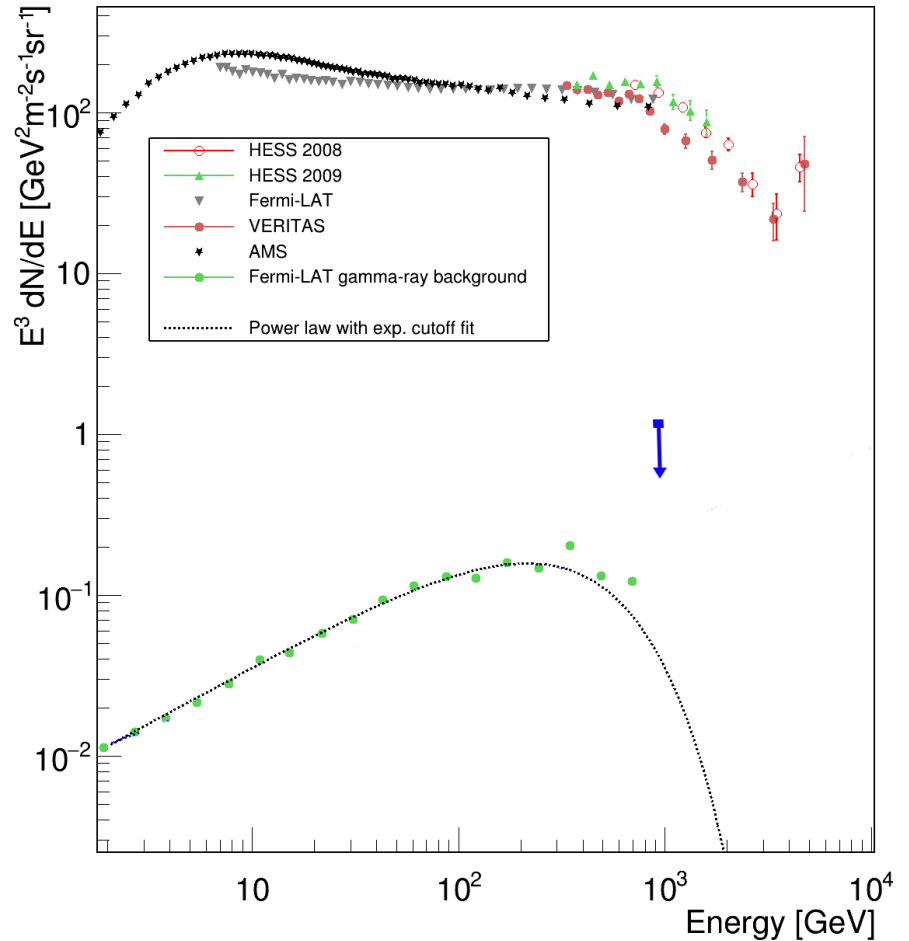


# Extragalactic diffuse emission of $\gamma$ -ray

Upper limit at 1 TeV in blue on the figure:

$$1,09 \pm 0,05 \text{ GeV}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

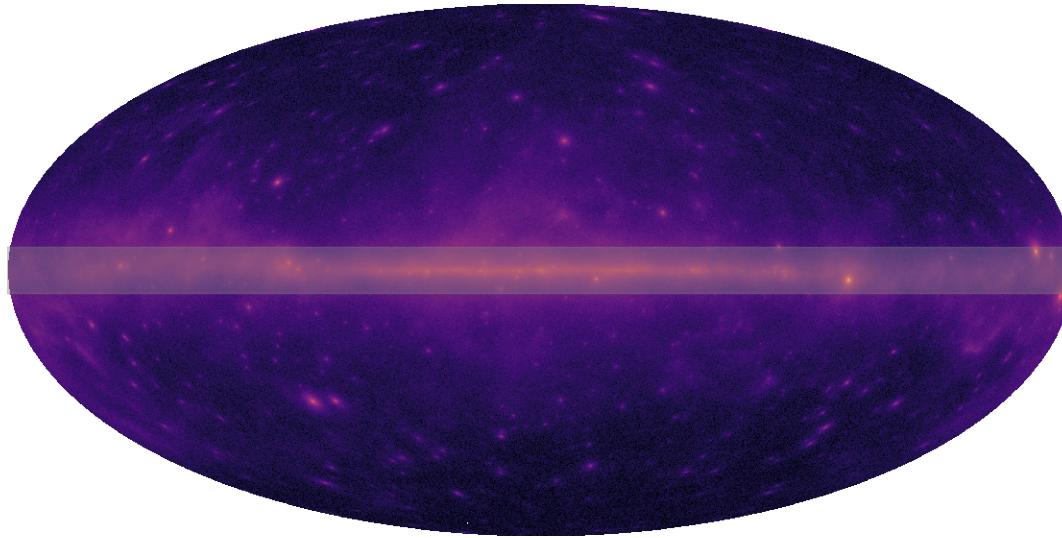
(value from T. Garrigoux PhD thesis)



Crédit : D. Kolitzus

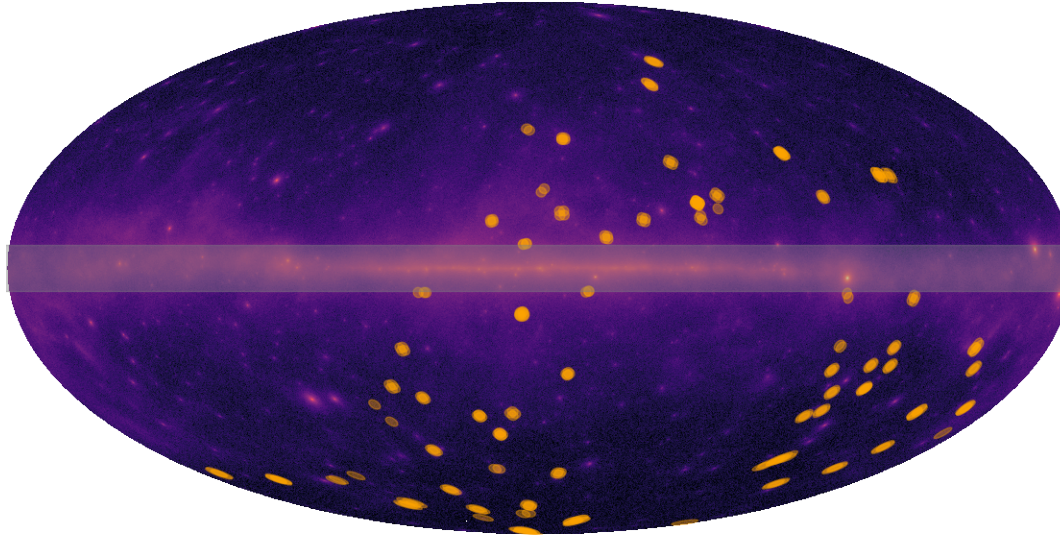


# Data selection



- Pointing position is **more than 7 degrees** away from the Galactic plane
- H.E.S.S. I runs with **4 telescopes** operational
- Mean zenithal angle **< 28°**

# Data selection



- Pointing position is **more than 7 degrees** away from the Galactic plane
- H.E.S.S. I runs with **4 telescopes** operational
- Mean zenithal angle  $< 28^\circ$ 
  - > Final dataset consists in 2742 runs for a total livetime of  $\sim$  **1186 hours**.
  - > Total number of events: 460 346 321.

# Analysis cuts

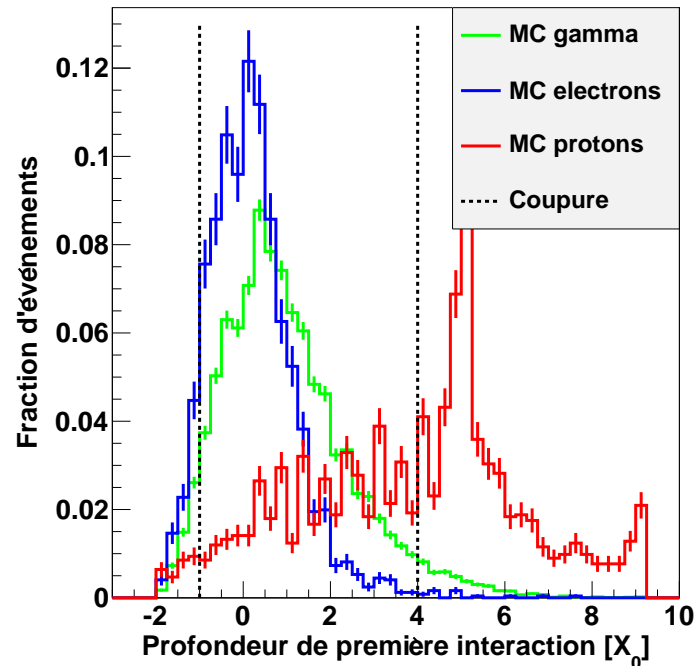
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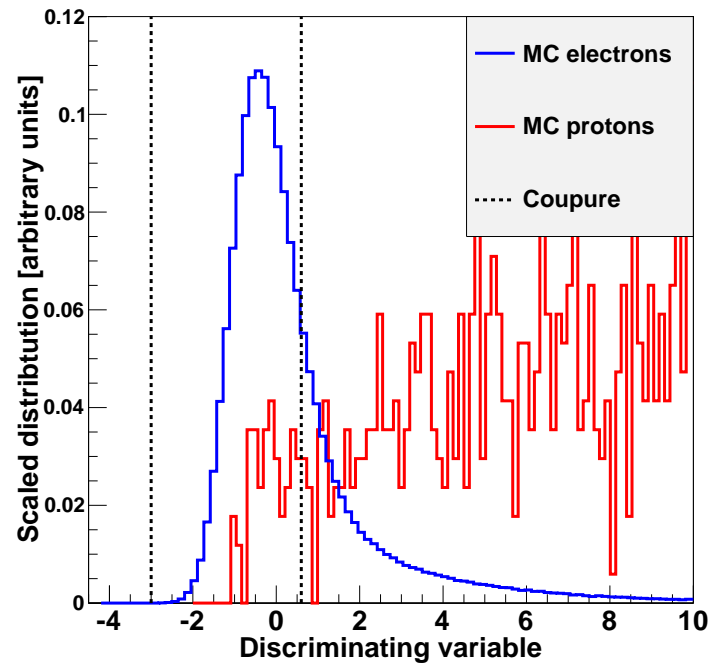
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- **Standard** cut from the Model analysis:
  - $-1 < \text{Primary depth} < 4$
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- Additional cuts :
  - $0^\circ < \text{Off-axis angle} < 1,5^\circ$

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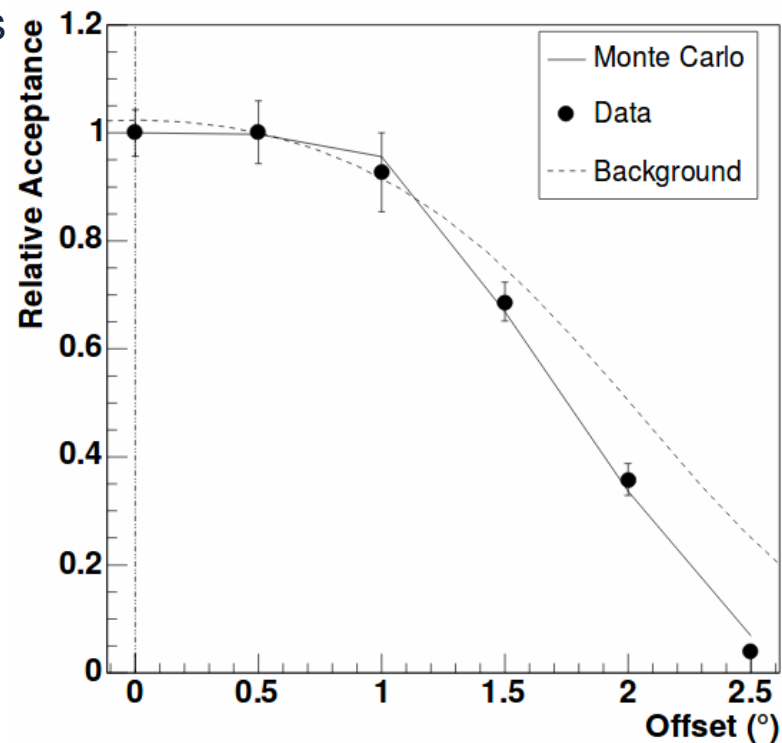
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F. Aharonian et al., A&A 457 (2006) 899–915

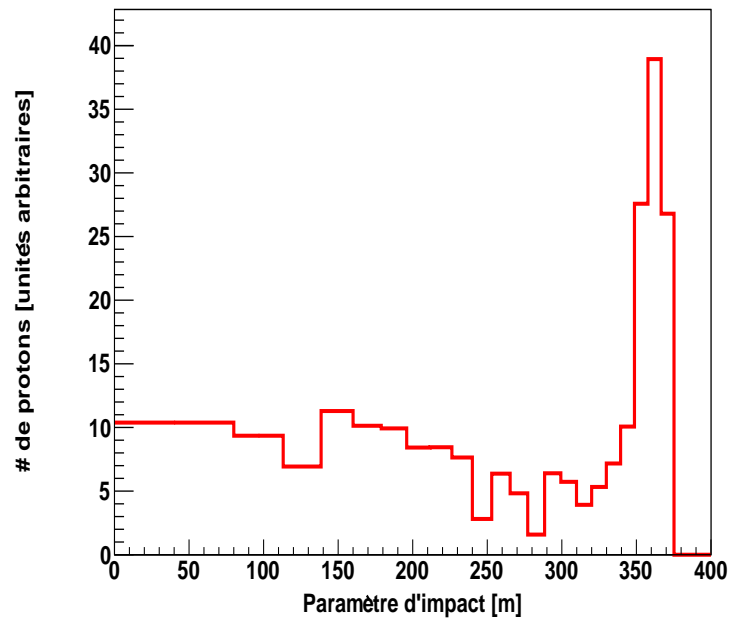


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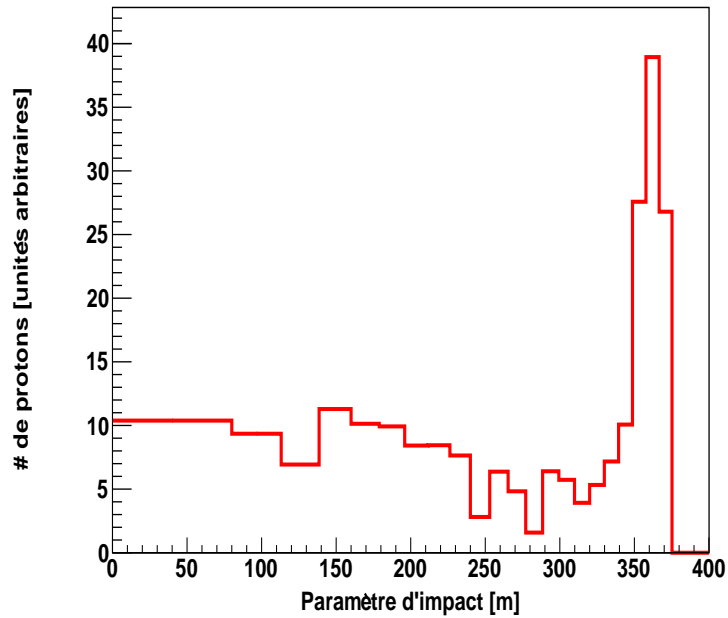
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  - Impact parameter  $< 150$  m

# Impact parameter cut

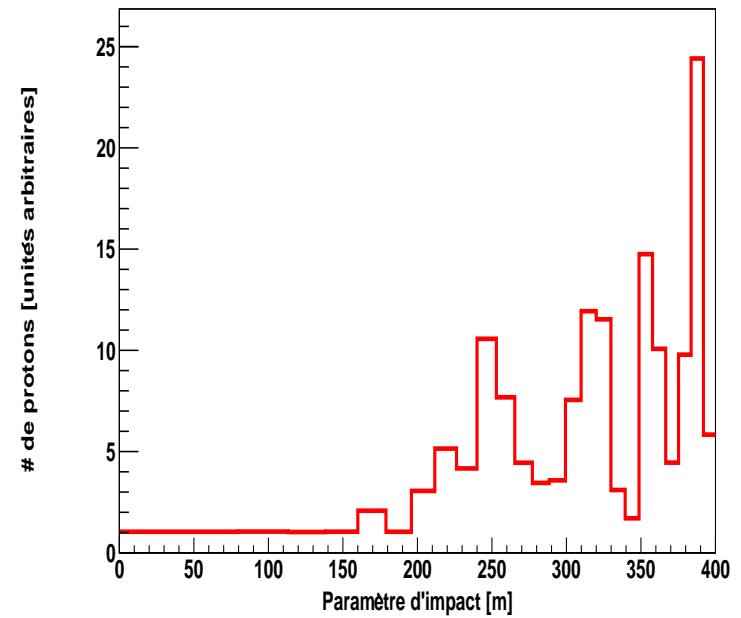


Energy < 4 TeV

# Impact parameter cut

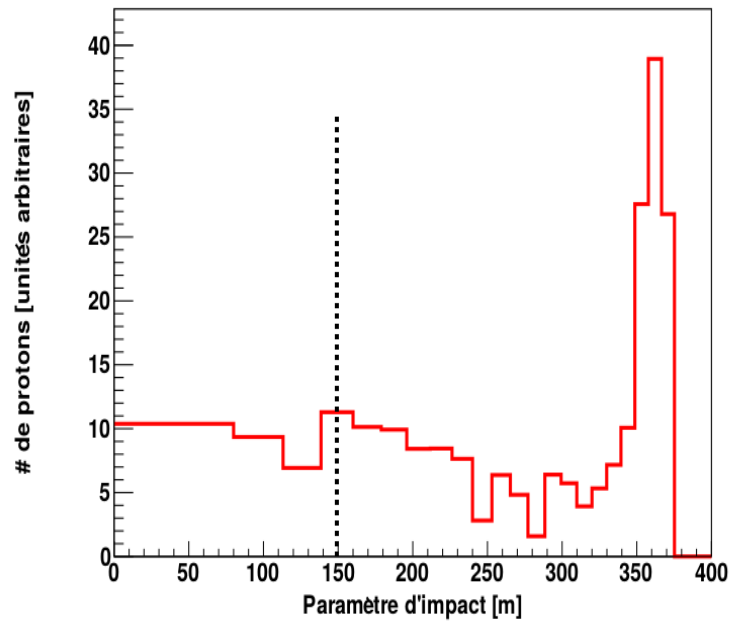


Energy < 4 TeV

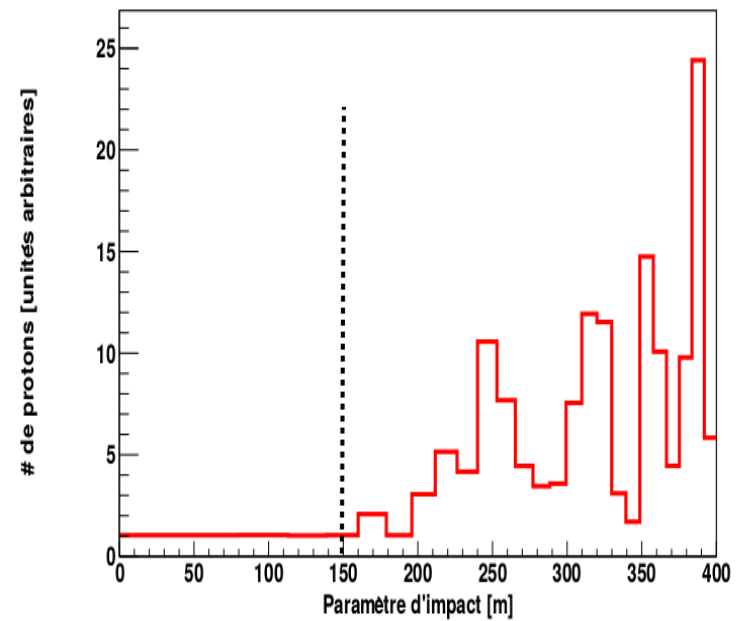


Energy > 4 TeV

# Impact parameter cut



Energy < 4 TeV



Energy > 4 TeV

Cut: impact parameter < 150 m

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- Additional cuts :
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  - Impact parameter  $< 150$  m
  - Number of triggering telescopes = 4

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- **Standard** cut from the Model analysis:
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- Additional cuts :
  - $0^\circ < \text{Off-axis angle} < 1,5^\circ$
  - Impact parameter  $< 150$  m
  - Number of triggering telescopes = 4
- Cut to remove any known  $\gamma$ -ray source
  - $\theta^2 > 0,16 \text{ deg}^2$

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- Cut to remove any known  $\gamma$ -ray source
  - $\theta^2 > 0,16 \text{ deg}^2$

Number of events after all cuts : 480 739

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# Flux calculation

Flux in a bin  $[E_{\min} ; E_{\max}]$  in energy :

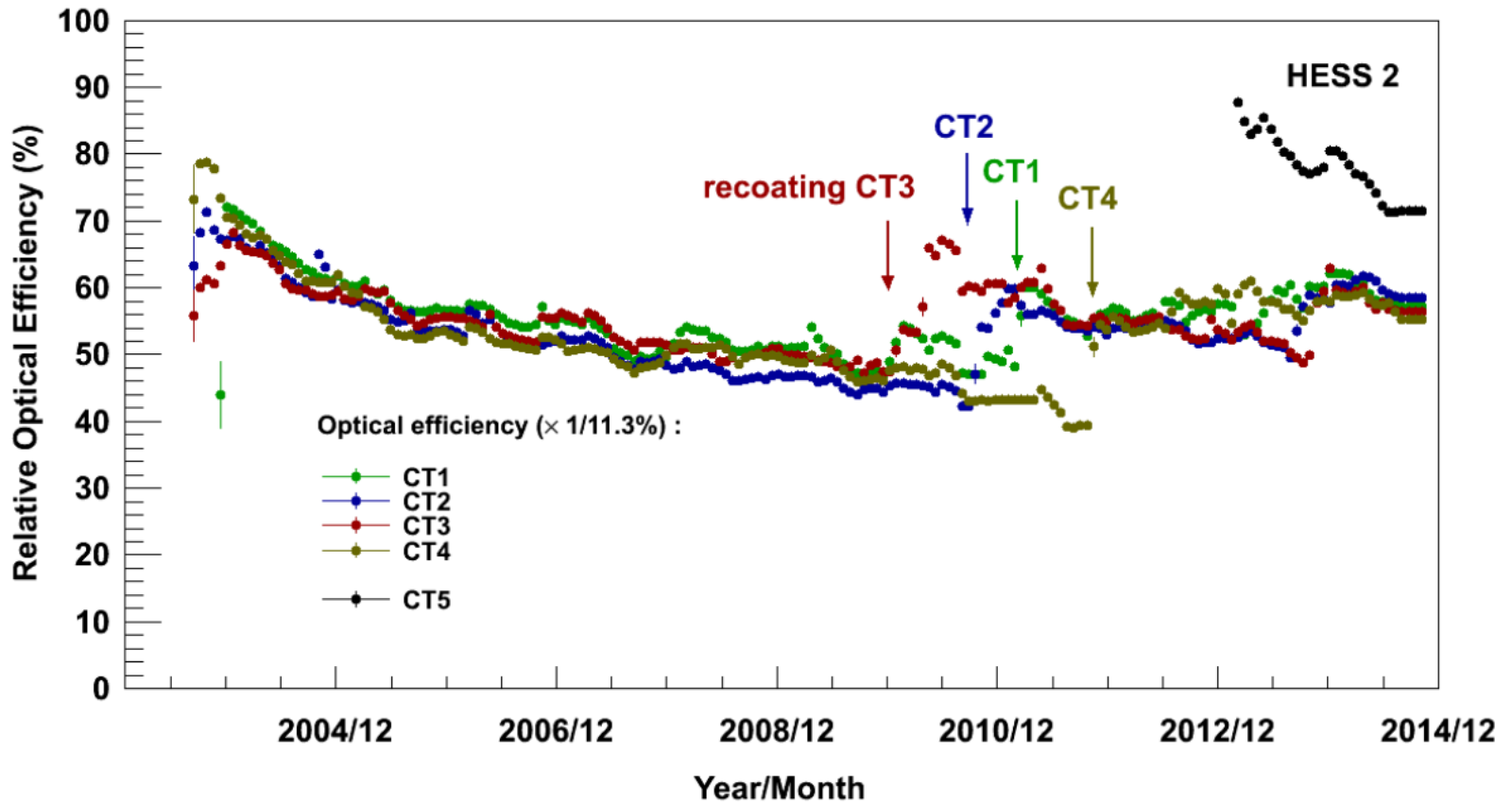
$$[\Phi] = \text{Energy}^{-1} \cdot \text{Time}^{-1} \cdot \text{Distance}^{-2} \cdot \text{Solid angle}^{-1}$$

$$\Phi(E_{\min}, E_{\max}) = \frac{N(E_{\min}, E_{\max})}{(E_{\max} - E_{\min}) \times T_{\text{obs}} \times \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} A(E, \delta; \theta, \varepsilon) \times P(E, \tilde{E}; \varepsilon) dE}$$

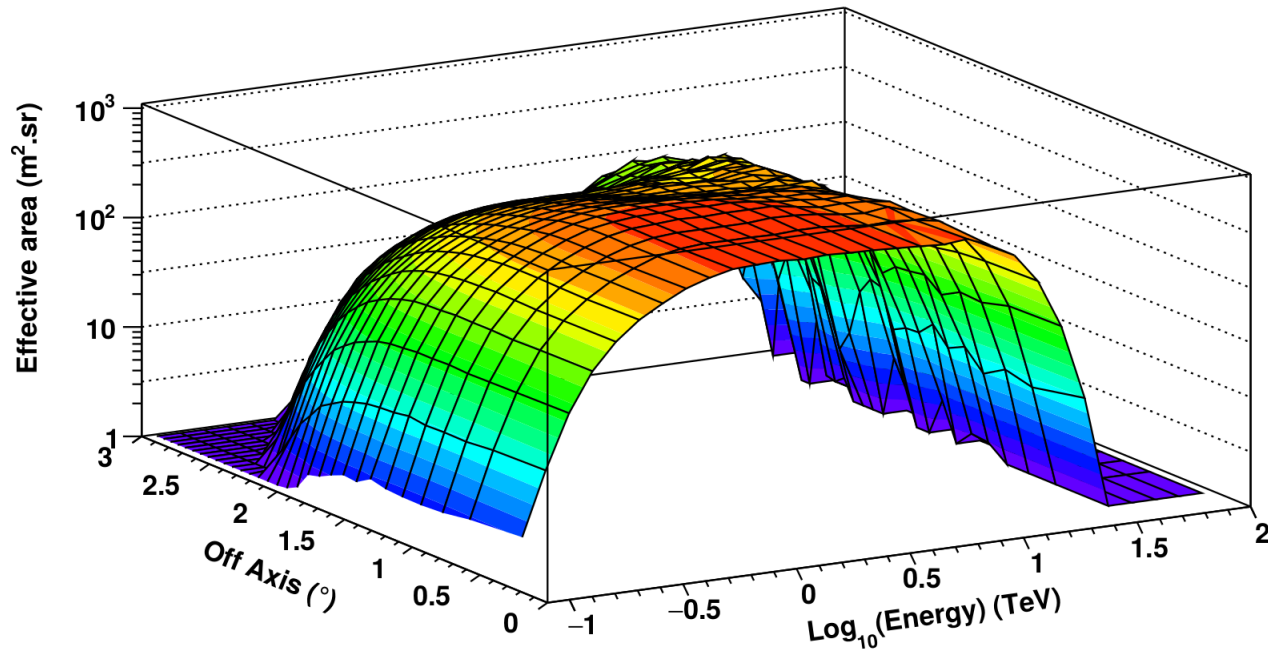
where:

- $N(E_{\min}, E_{\max})$  is the number of events in the bin  $[E_{\min} ; E_{\max}]$
- $T_{\text{obs}}$  is the observation time (corrected from the deadtime)
- $A(E, \delta; \theta, \varepsilon)$  is the effective area (in  $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{sr}$ )
- $P(E, \tilde{E}; \varepsilon)$  is a probability to determine  $E$  (true E) from  $\tilde{E}$  (reconstruct E)

# Evolution of the H.E.S.S. optical efficiency



# Effective areas



The effective areas are computed for given configuration :

- zenithal angle  $\theta = 0^\circ, 18^\circ, 26^\circ, 32^\circ$  et  $46^\circ$
- relative optical efficiency  $\varepsilon = 40\%, 50\%, 60\%, 70\%, 80\%, 90\%, 100\%$

# Tests of the analysis chain

First, tests de la chaîne d'analyse:

- on Monte-Carlo simulations
- on the data of a known source, here PKS2155-304

Once the tests are valid:

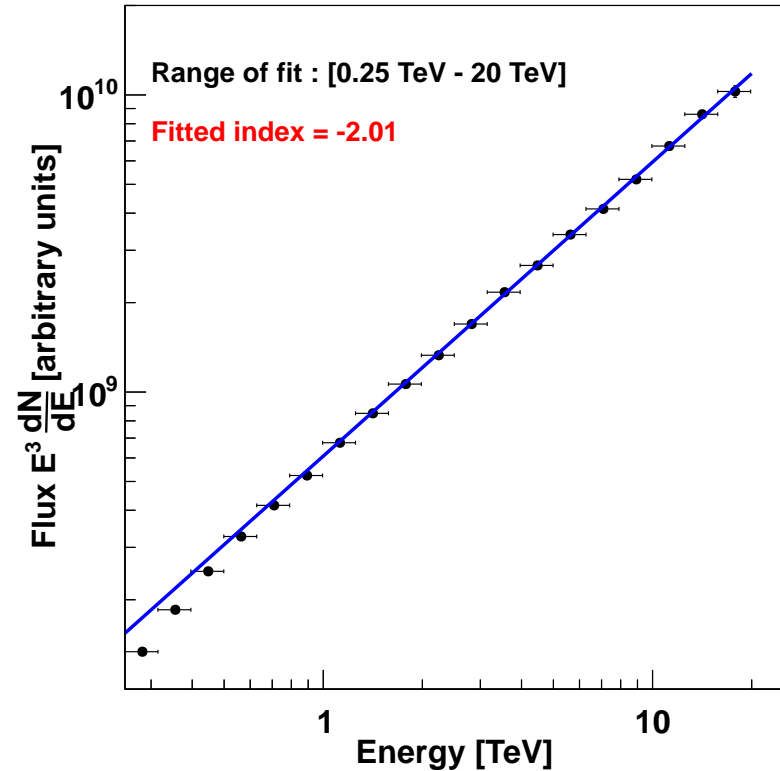
—> Application to the data

# Validation of the analysis chain on simulations

With **MC simulations** of diffuse electrons.

Injected spectral index = -2.

Standard analysis cuts.



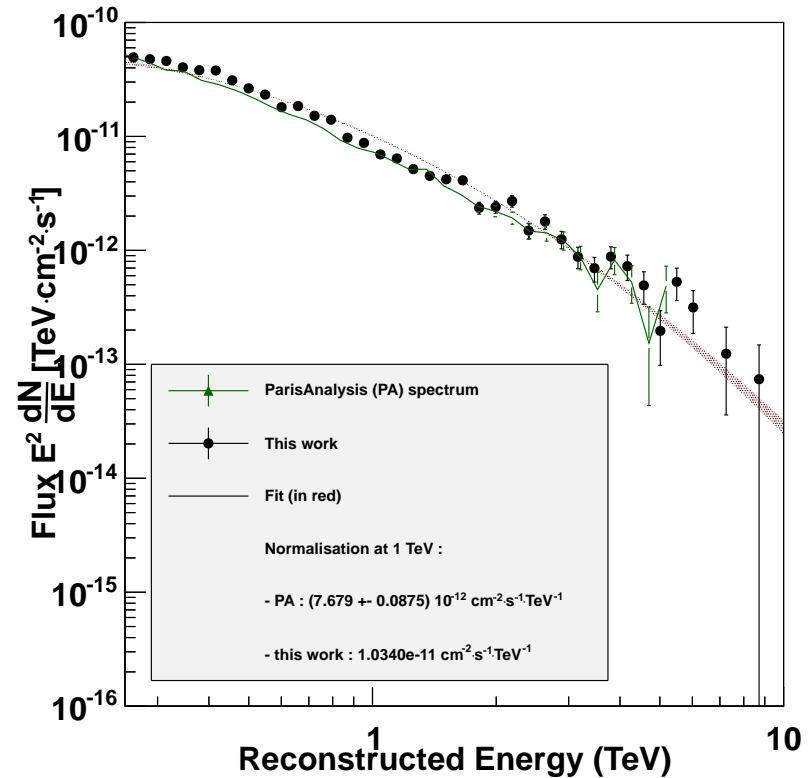
**Simulations**

# Validation of the analysis chain on data

Test on a **known source**:  
PKS2155-304.

Change for effective areas  
computed for point-like  $\gamma$ .

Comparison with the result of  
the "regular" analysis chain.



**Real data**

# Estimated background contamination

**Preliminary** estimation of proton contamination with MC simulations (knowing the actual measured fluxes of electrons and protons):

Energy	Expected contamination from protons
1 TeV	$\sim 15\%$
2 TeV	$\sim 7\%$
$> 5$ TeV	$< 10\%$

Energy range of the analysis : **[0.25 TeV; 25 TeV]**

Total number of electron-like detected events : **480 739**

**Scientific motivation**

**Detection and reconstruction with H.E.S.S.**

**Discrimination between  $\gamma$  and electrons**

**Determination of the electrons+positrons spectrum with H.E.S.S.**

Data selection

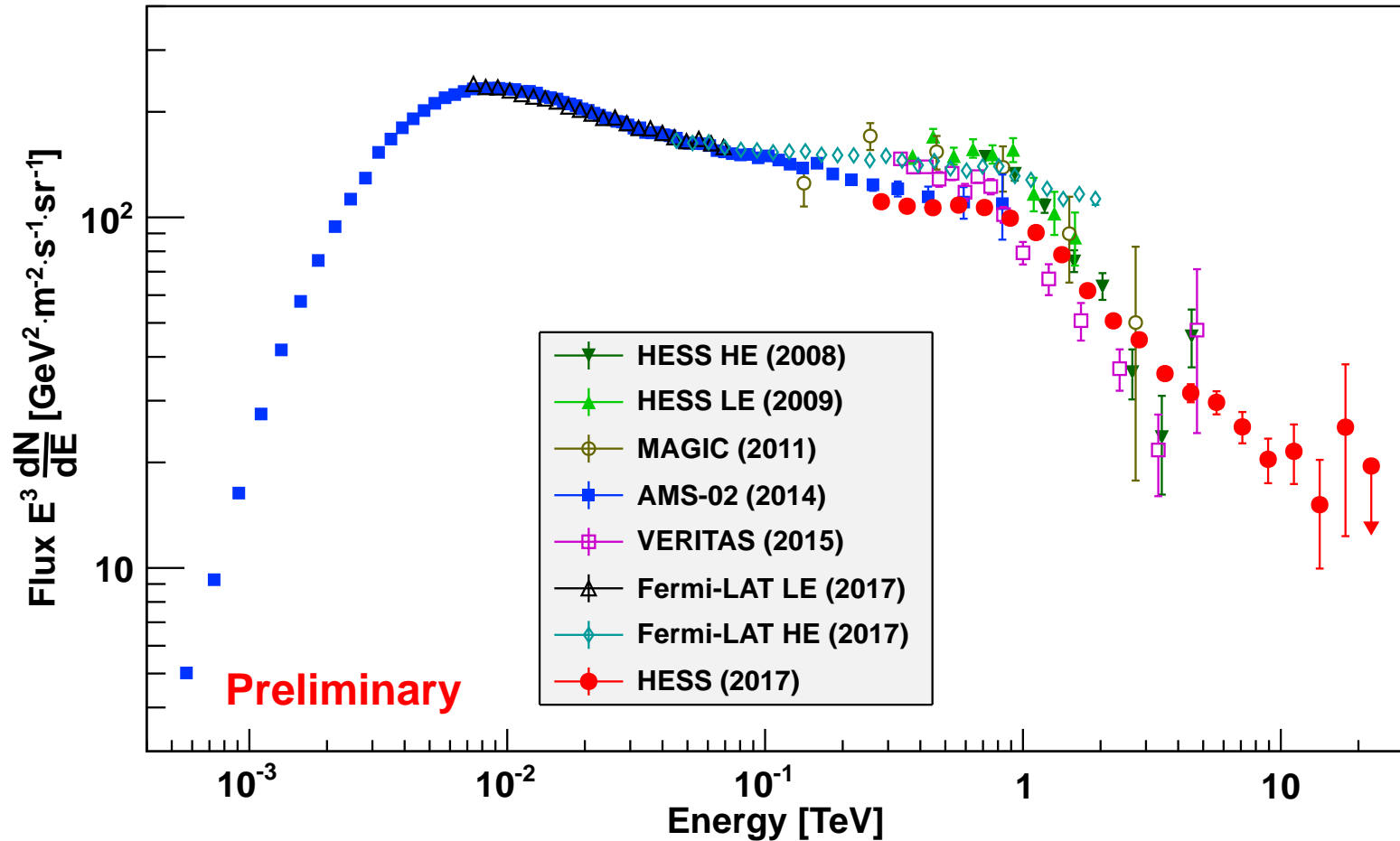
The analysis chain

Results

**Conclusions and perspectives**



# New H.E.S.S. cosmic ray electron+positron spectrum



# Fitting of the spectrum

Fit function is a smooth broken power law:

$$E^3 \frac{dN}{dE} = N_0 \left( \frac{E}{1 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{3-\Gamma_1} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{E}{E_b} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \right)^{-(\Gamma_2-\Gamma_1)\alpha}$$

Result of the fit :

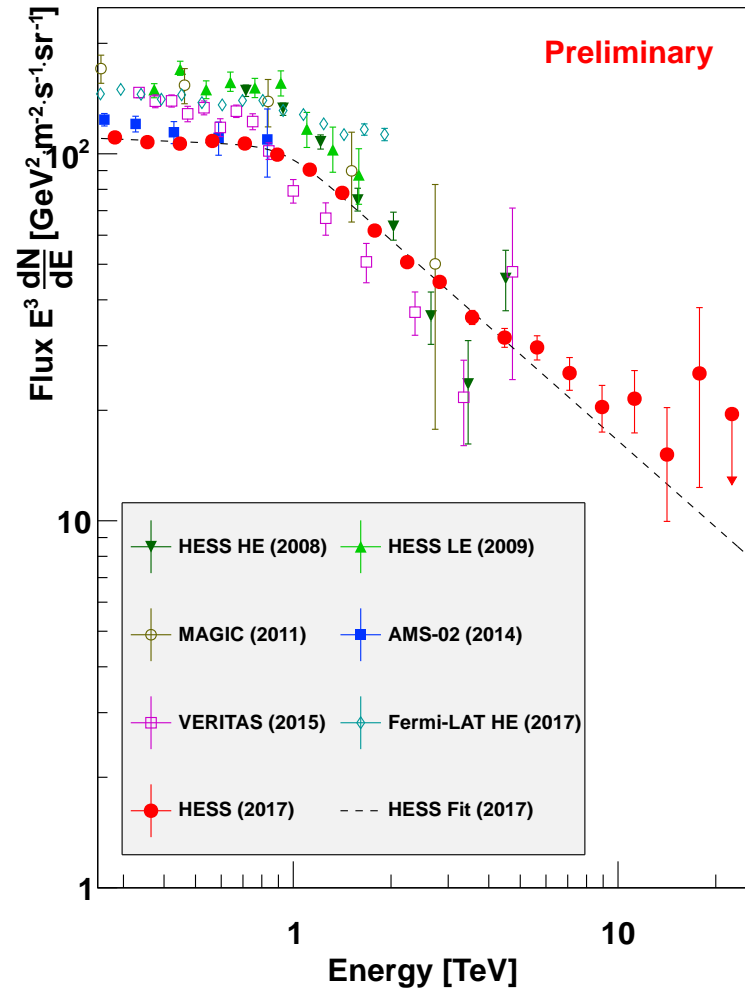
$$\Gamma_1 = 3.04 \pm 0.01 \text{ (stat)}$$

$$\Gamma_2 = 3.78 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat)}$$

$$E_b = 0.94 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat) TeV}$$

$$N_0 = 104.9 \pm 0.6 \text{ (stat) GeV}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$\alpha = 0.12 \pm 0.01 \text{ (stat)}$$



# Systematic errors

The study of systematic errors included:

- Tests on all the analysis cuts:
  - *Mean Scaled Shower Goodness*
  - impact parameter
  - primary depth
  - off-axis angle
- Dependency on the zenithal angle
- Dependency over the years
- Dependancy on the atmospheric conditions

## Systematic errors: **preliminary** results

	$\Gamma_1 = 3,04$	$\Gamma_2 = 3,78$	$E_b = 0,94$ [TeV]	$N_0 = 104,9$ [GeV <sup>2</sup> .m <sup>-2</sup> .sr <sup>-1</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup> ]
MSSG	+0,01 -0,01	+0,06 -0,04	+0,02 -0,01	+12,0 -7,1
Impact parameter	+0,04 -0,07	+0,03 -0,01	+0,19 -0,24	+18,5 -4,1
Primary depth	+0,04 -0,11	+0,03 -0,01	+0,03 -0,04	+1,1 -3,5
Off-axis angle	+0,05 -0,01	+0,08 -0,02	+0,11 -0,01	+14,5 -4,4
Zenithal angle	+0,06 -0,00	+0,05 -0,00	+0,10 -0,00	+0,0 -11,8
Annual effect	+0,04 -0,13	+0,12 -0,03	+0,16 -0,07	+5,5 -3,6
Seasonal effect	+0,00 -0,01	+0,02 -0,02	+0,02 -0,04	+1,3 -0,3

## Systematic errors: **preliminary** results

	$\Gamma_1 = 3,04$	$\Gamma_2 = 3,78$	$E_b = 0,94$ [TeV]	$N_0 = 104,9$ [GeV <sup>2</sup> .m <sup>-2</sup> .sr <sup>-1</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup> ]
MSSG	+0,01 -0,01	+0,06 -0,04	+0,02 -0,01	+12,0 -7,1
Impact parameter	+0,04 -0,07	+0,03 -0,01	+0,19 -0,24	+18,5 -4,1
Primary depth	+0,04 -0,11	+0,03 -0,01	+0,03 -0,04	+1,1 -3,5
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Zenithal angle	+0,06 -0,00	+0,05 -0,00	+0,10 -0,00	+0,0 -11,8
Annual effect	+0,04 -0,13	+0,12 -0,03	+0,16 -0,07	+5,5 -3,6
Seasonal effect	+0,00 -0,01	+0,02 -0,02	+0,02 -0,04	+1,3 -0,3
Total	+0,10 -0,18	+0,17 -0,06	+0,29 -0,26	+27,0 -15,8

Conservative approach: the total systematic error is the quadratic sum of the errors for each "effect".

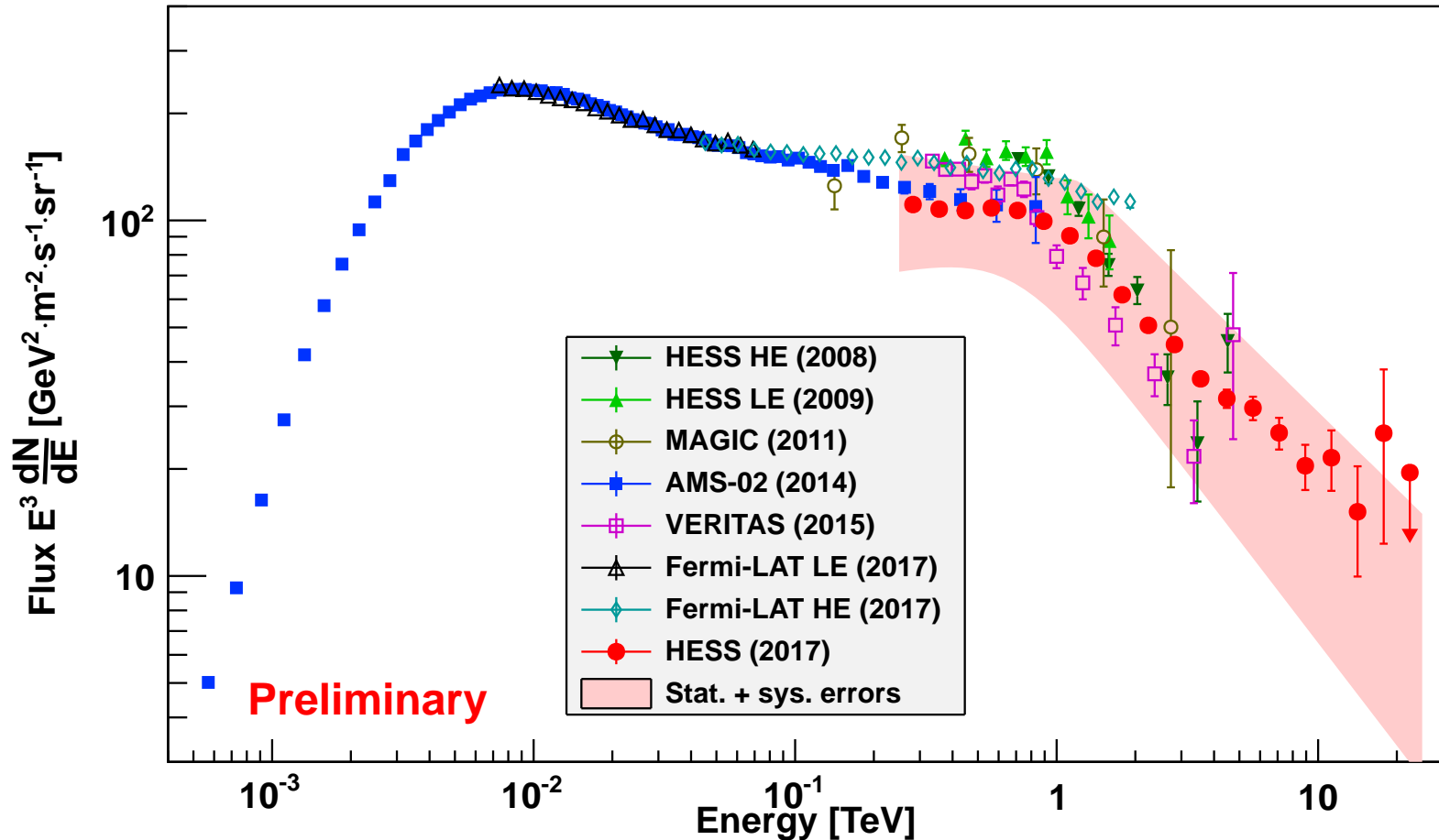
## Systematic errors: results

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_1 &= 3,04 \pm 0,01 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +0,10 \\ -0,18 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys)} \\ \Gamma_2 &= 3,78 \pm 0,02 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +0,17 \\ -0,06 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys)} \\ E_b &= 0,94 \pm 0,02 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +0,29 \\ -0,26 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys) TeV} \\ N_0 &= 104,9 \pm 0,6 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +27,0 \\ -15,8 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys) GeV}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \\ \alpha &= 0,12 \pm 0,01 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +0,19 \\ -0,05 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys)}\end{aligned}$$

And the flux at 1 TeV:

$$\Phi(1 \text{ TeV}) = 96,2 \pm 0,5 \text{ (stat)} \begin{matrix} +17,2 \\ -16,8 \end{matrix} \text{ (sys) GeV}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

# Electron spectrum with systematic uncertainties



**Scientific motivation**

**Detection and reconstruction with H.E.S.S.**

**Discrimination between  $\gamma$  and electrons**

**Determination of the electrons+positrons spectrum with H.E.S.S.**

Data selection

The analysis chain

Results

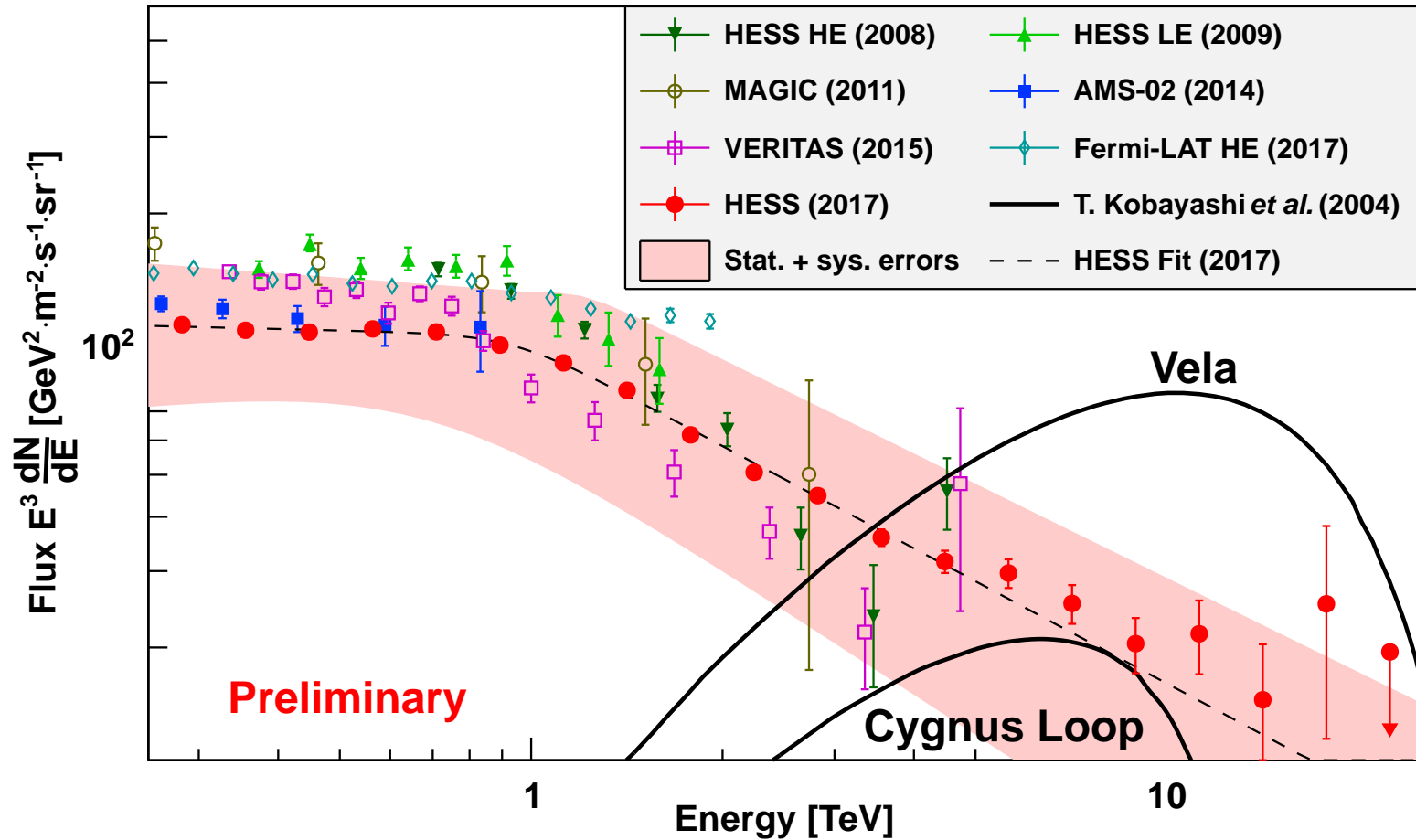
**Conclusions and perspectives**



# Conclusions

- Determination of the electron+positron spectrum with a standard analysis method
- Chosen strategy of data selection exhibits a good stability for the spectral reconstruction
- Detection of 480 739 electron-like events
- Spectrum is in excellent agreement with the AMS-02 one
- Extension of the measurement up to  $\sim 20$  TeV
- Allow to constrain models of leptons propagation and the origin of their emission

# Example : modelisation of a pulsar

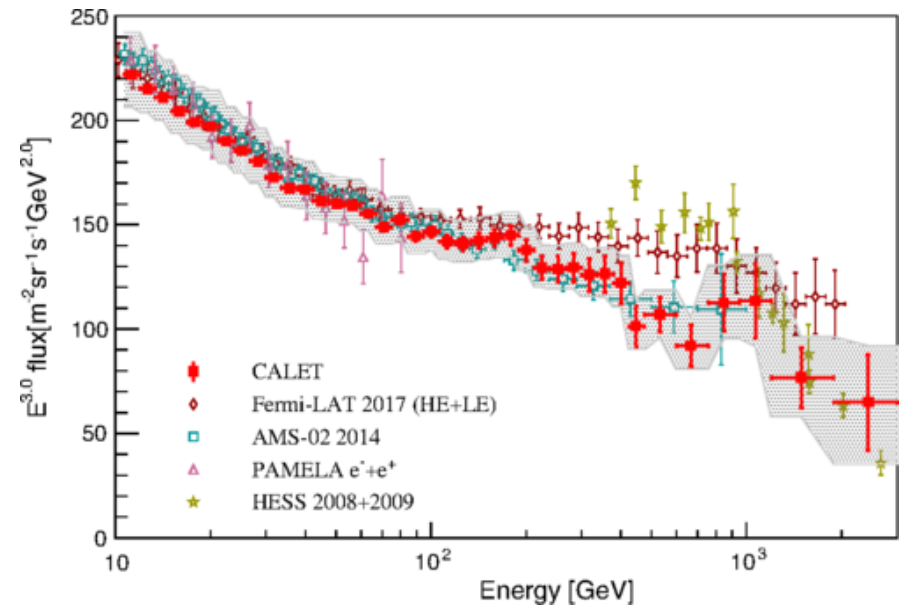


# Perspectives

- With H.E.S.S.:
  - Improve hadron rejection
  - Take into account the hadronic component in the fit and subtract it
  - Go to lower energies with CT5

# Perspectives

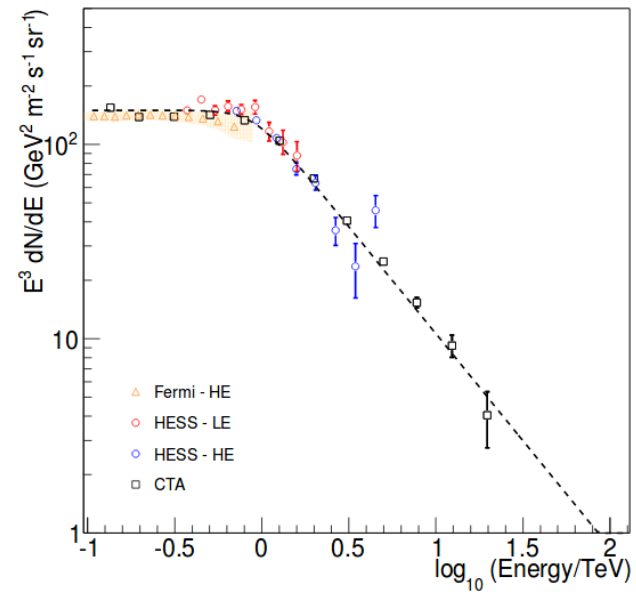
- With H.E.S.S.
- With the new generation of space-based instruments:
  - CALET
  - DAMPE



CALET Collaboration, Phys. Rev. Lett., 119.18, 181101 (2017)

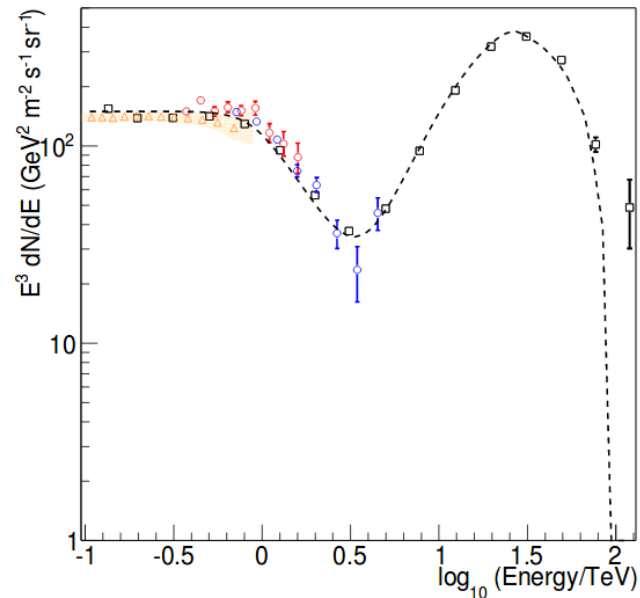
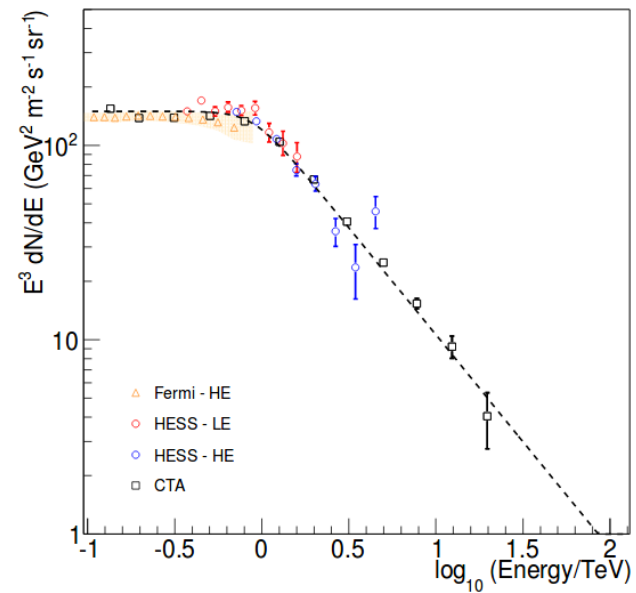
# Perspectives

- With H.E.S.S.
- With the new generation of space-based instruments:
  - CALET
  - DAMPE
- With the new generation of ground-based instruments:
  - CTA



# Perspectives

- With H.E.S.S.
- With the new generation of space-based instruments:
  - CALET
  - DAMPE
- With the new generation of ground-based instruments:
  - CTA



Science with the CTA (arXiv:1709.07997)

**Merci pour votre attention !**