



# Black Hole Lightning from the Peculiar Gamma-Ray Loud AGN IC 310

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**MAGIC**  
Major Atmospheric  
Gamma Imaging  
Cerenkov Telescopes

Relativistic Jets: Creation, Dynamics, and  
Internal Physics, April 23, 2015

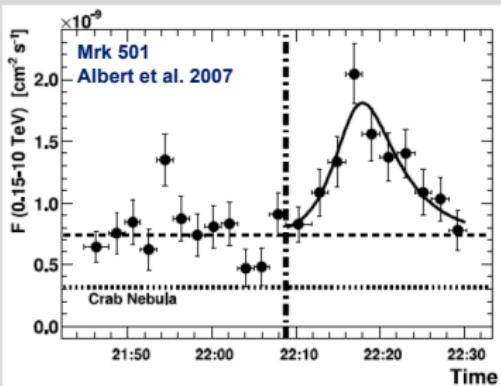
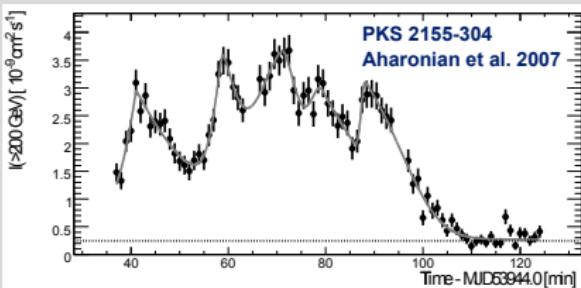


- Particle acceleration to extreme energies – origin of UHE cosmic rays ( $E > 10^{18}$  eV)?
- Black hole – jet connection ?
- Jet structure & jet formation ?
- Emission mechanisms at high energies: hadronic or leptonic ?
- Location of the emission region ?



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## Rapid variability at VHE





## MAGIC: Major Atmospheric Gamma-Ray Imaging Cherenkov Telescopes

- Two IACTs of 17 m diameter mirror dish, MAGIC-I since 2003, MAGIC-II in 2009
- 2011 and 2012: major upgrade of the telescopes, new camera for MAGIC I, readout system in both telescopes replaced by DRS 4 chips
- 2014: new mirrors for both telescopes, downsampling
- Sensitivity:  $\sim 0.6\%$  C.U.  $5\sigma$  in 50 h (at 400 GeV)

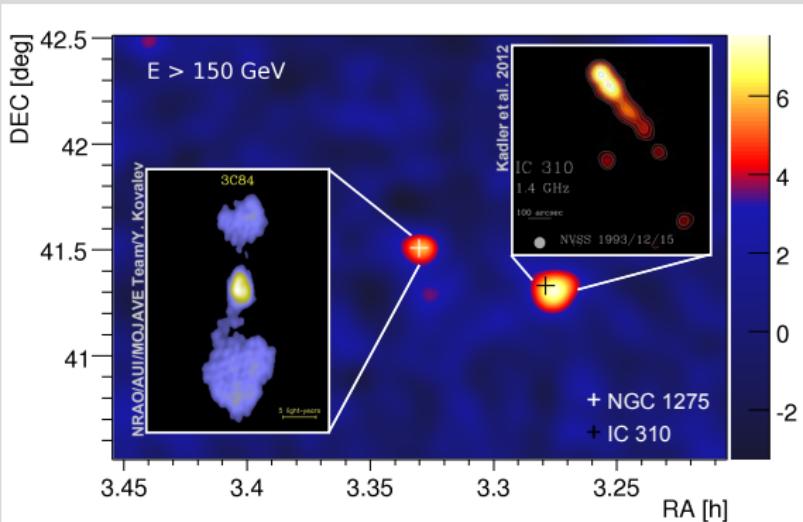
Observatorio Roque de los Muchachos (2200 meter a.s.l.)  
La Palma, Canary Islands (Spain)



# The Perseus Cluster seen by MAGIC



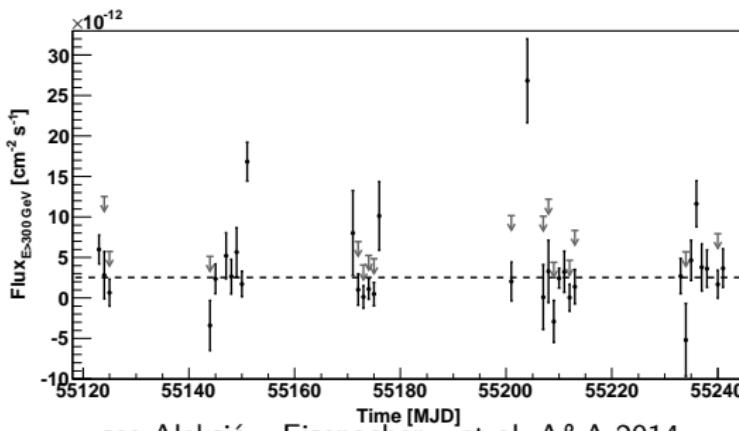
## Detection of two AGN



IC 310: Aleksić et al. 2010, ApJ, 723, L207  
NGC 1275: Aleksić et al. 2012, A&A, 539, L2

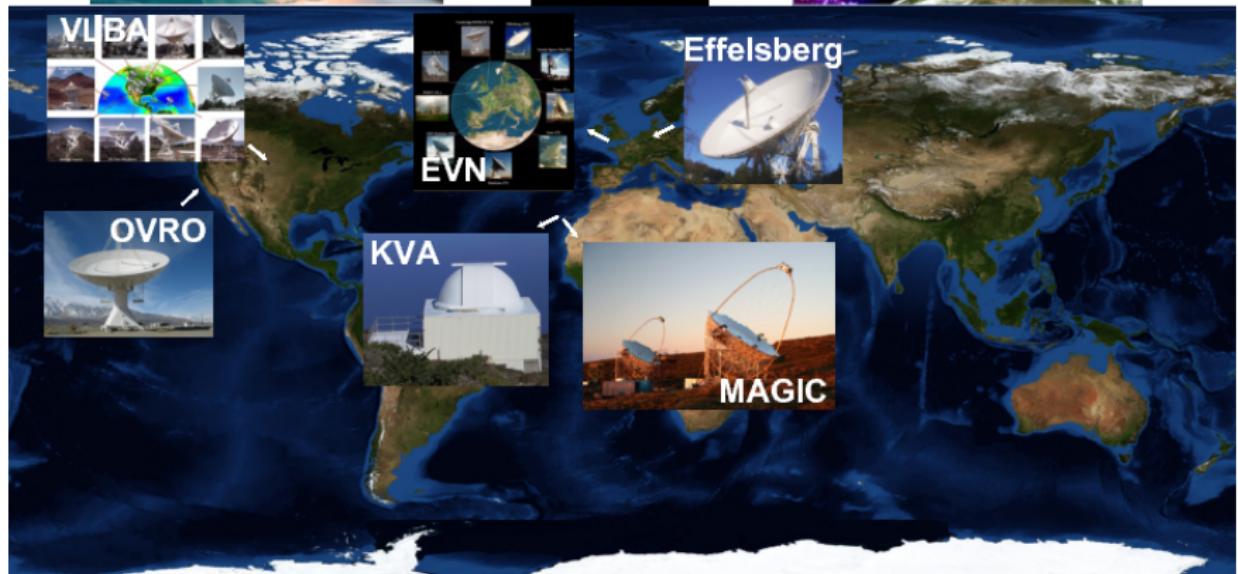


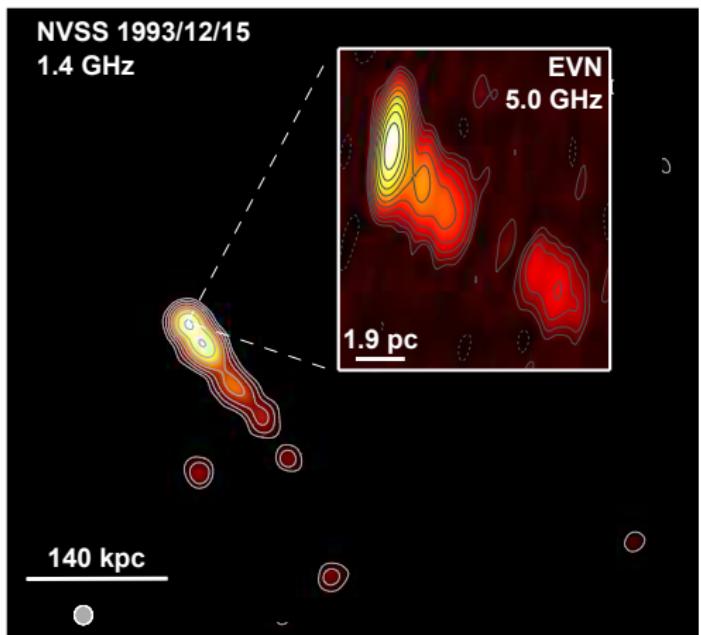
- Original: head-tail radio galaxy with a large projected radio jet  
(Ryle & Windram 1968; Miley 1980)
- But: VLBI image shows blazar-like parsec-scale structure, same position angle as kpc jet  
(Kadler, Eisenacher et al. 2012)
- Flux variability in the soft X-ray and VHE band  
→ blazar-like properties  
(Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. A&A 2014)



see Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. A&A 2014

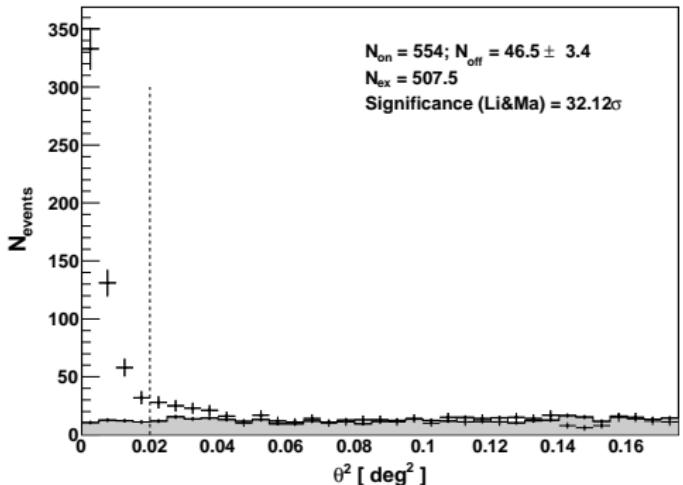
# MWL Campaign in 2012-2013





- VLBI observation at 5.0 GHz on Oct. 29, 2012 using the European VLBI Network
  - $\theta \lesssim 20^\circ$
- Large de-projected length of kpc radio structure:
  - $10^\circ \lesssim \theta$
- Rather large angle → no strong (blazar-like) boosting

## MAGIC Results



- Dramatic TeV flare on Nov 12/13, 2012
- Clear detection in 3.5 h with  $32\sigma$  above 300 GeV
- Further observations until early 2013: only weak signal detected

Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014, *Science*

### ATel #4583

MAGIC detection of renewed activity from the radio galaxy IC 310

ATel #4583; *Juan Cortina for the MAGIC collaboration*  
on 16 Nov 2012; 19:17 UT

Credential Certification: Juan Cortina ([cortina@fai.es](mailto:cortina@fai.es))

Subjects: Gamma Ray, TeV, VHE, Request for Observations, AGN

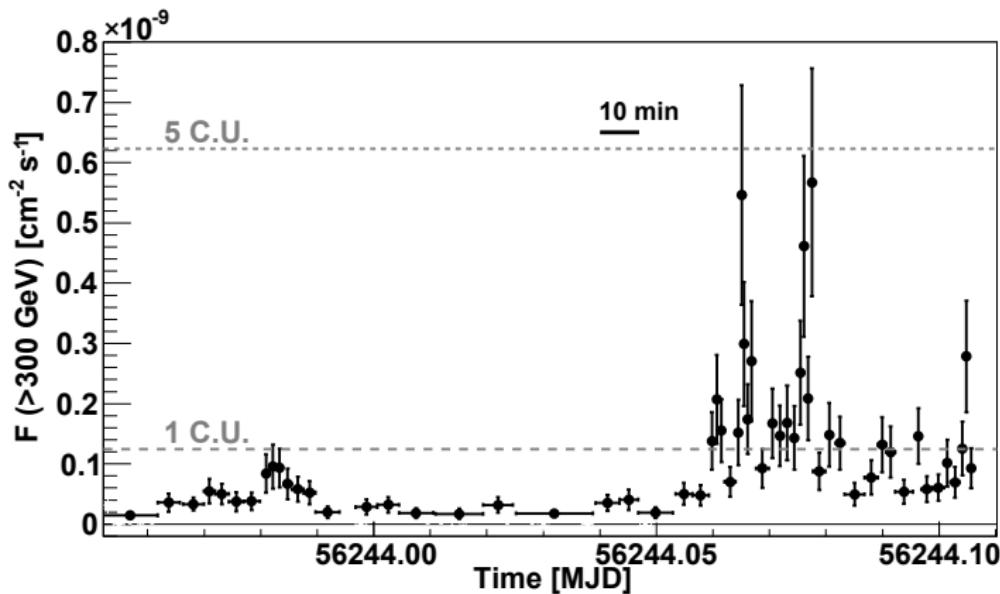
### ATel #4581

Swift Observation of IC 310

ATel #4581; *Felicia Krauss (ECAP/FAU Erlangen/Univ. Wuerzburg), Dorit Eisenacher (Wuerzburg), Matthias Kadler (Wuerzburg), Joern Wilms (ECAP), Dominik Elsaesser (Wuerzburg), Karl Mannheim (Wuerzburg), Neil Gehrels (GSFC)*  
on 16 Nov 2012; 17:27 UT  
Credential Certification: Joern Wilms ([j.wilms@sternwarte.uni-erlangen.de](mailto:j.wilms@sternwarte.uni-erlangen.de))

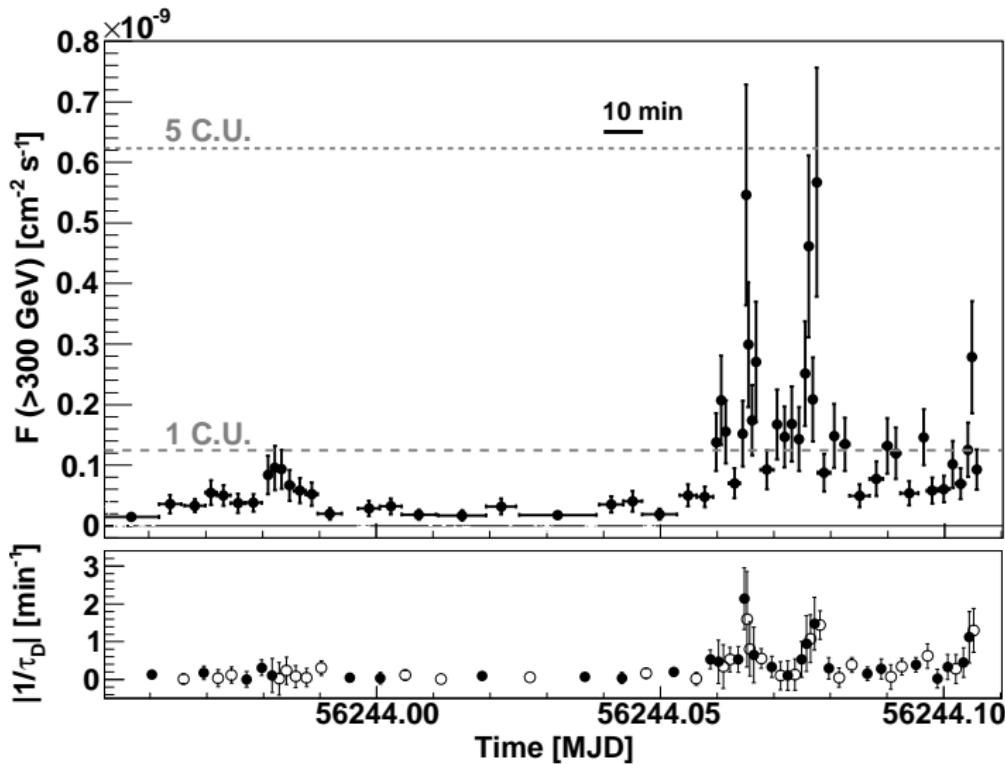
Subjects: X-ray, AGN, Blazar

# Light Curve on Nov 12/13, 2012



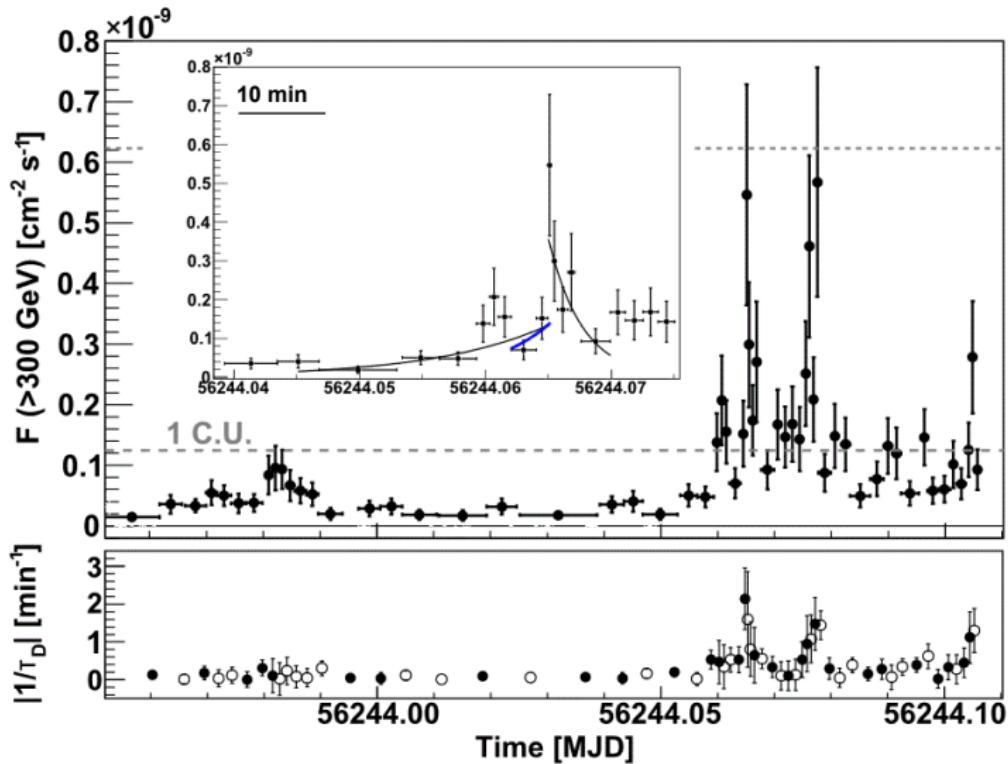
Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014, *Science*

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Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014, *Science*

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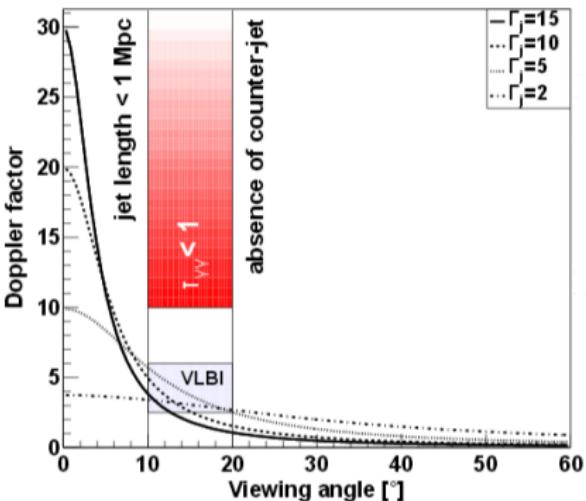
Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014, *Science*

Variability on time scales faster than  $\sim 4.8 \text{ min} \triangleq 0.2 R_G$  (conservative) !

## The Shock-In-Jet Model



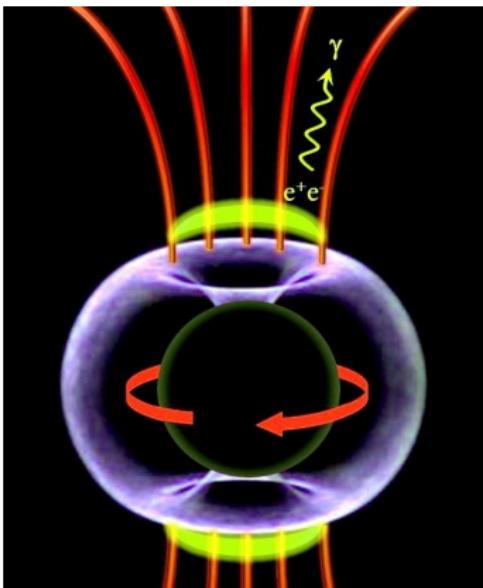
- $R < \delta c \tau_{\text{var}} = \delta \cdot 0.2 \cdot R_g$  (for 4.8 min,  $M_{\text{BH}} = 3 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$ )
- Opacity problems: typically solved by  $\Gamma \sim 50$  (Begelman et al. 2008)
- Here:  $\tau_{\gamma\gamma}(10 \text{ TeV}) = \delta^6 \cdot 1.2 \times 10^5$  (for 4.8 min,  $L_{\text{syn}} \sim 10^{42} \text{ erg/s}$ )  
 $\rightarrow \delta \gtrsim 10$  required
- Bend in jet? Relatively unprobable as kpc jet and pc jet are aligned. Difference is  $10^\circ$  (probability is  $\sim 11\%$ ).
- Jets-in-jet models based on relativistic reconnection?



see Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014,  
*Science*



- “Magnetospheric models”: by e.g. Levinson & Rieger 2011; Aleksić et al. 2014, *Science*
- Similar to aligned magnetic rotator models for pulsars
- $e^+e^-$  accelerated in an electric field in vacuum gap regions
- Low accretion rate  $\rightarrow$  small gap height  $\rightarrow$  fast variability
- Unsaturated EM cascades  $\rightarrow$  stable hard power-law
- Particle multiplication in cascades leads to mass loading of jet
- Anisotropic particle beams at angles  $10^\circ$ - $20^\circ$  to the jet axis



see Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014,  
*Science*

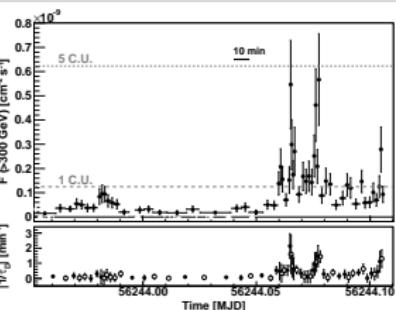
# Summary



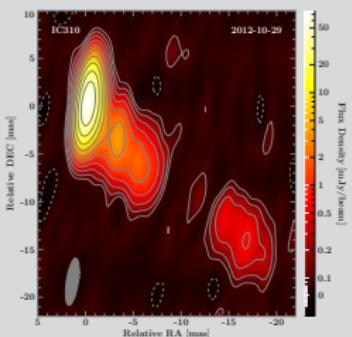
## MWL campaign



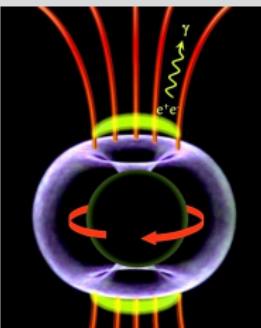
## Ultra Fast Variability



## VLBI Jet



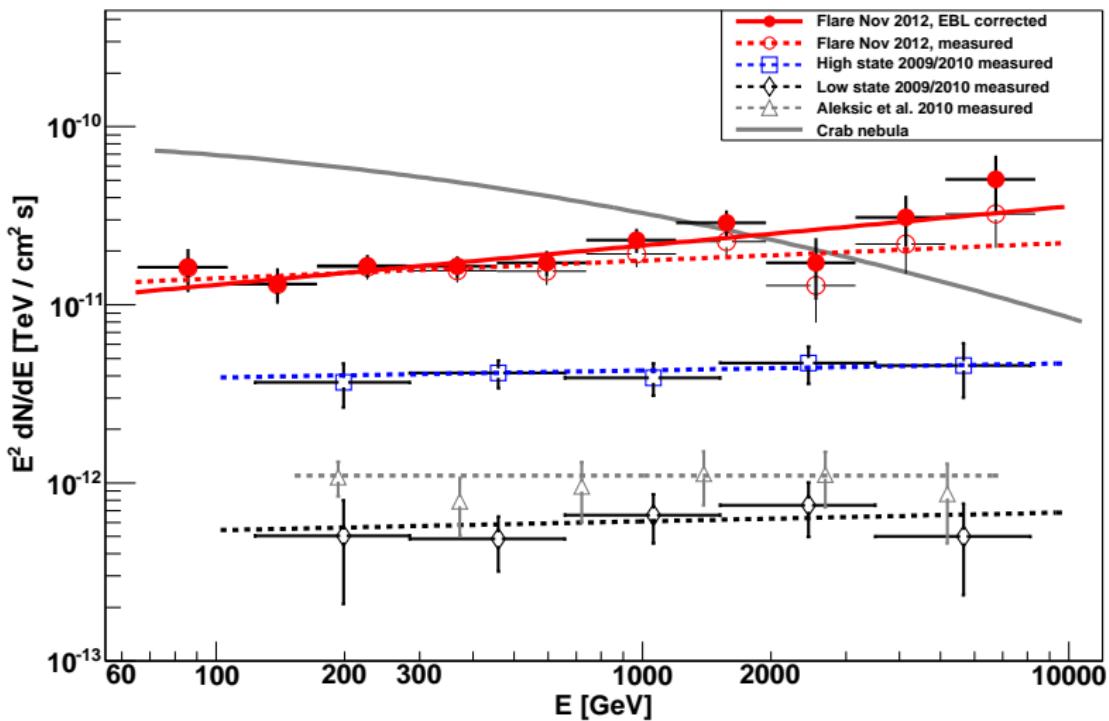
## Black Hole Lightning



# Backup slides



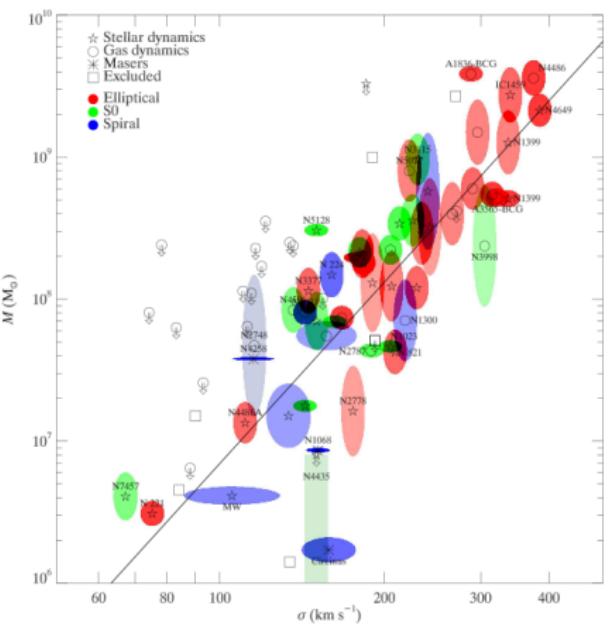
## MAGIC spectrum of flare

Aleksić... Eisenacher... et al. 2014, *Science*

## $M_{\text{BH}}$ for central black hole in IC 310



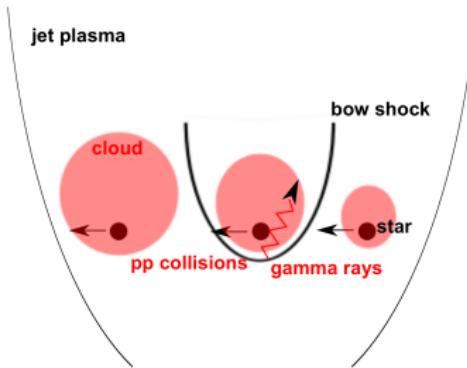
- Inferred from  $M_{\text{BH}}-\sigma$  relation  
 $\rightarrow M_{\text{BH,IC}\,310} = 3_{-2}^{+4} \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$
  - Similar value ( $\approx 4 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$ )  
comes from fundamental plane of BH activity, but the spread is much larger (an order of magnitude)



see Gültekin et al. 2009

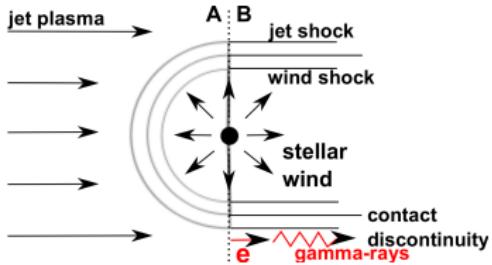


- Radio variability via cloud/star-jet interaction proposed by Blandford & Königl 1979
- Duty cycle unknown (starforming and supernova rate necessary)
- “Cloud-jet-model”: Barkov et al. 2010/2012



- One cloud produces single peak in LC
- Destroyed cloud → extrem beaming necessary

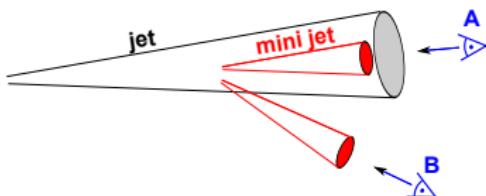
- “Star-jet-model”: Bednarek & Protheroe 1997



- Fast variability produced by size of shock irregularities
- Stable PL spectrum up to  $> 10 \text{ TeV}$
- Extreme beaming needed for  $L_{\gamma, \text{obs}}$



- “Minijets model”:  
by Giannios et al. 2010



- $\Gamma_{\text{em}} \propto \Gamma_j \Gamma_{\text{mj}}$
- Fast variability due to low BH mass
- Luminosity offaxis very low
- Total power of minijets exceed jet power