



Wits/Hess Group: S. Colafrancesco, N. Komin, A. Chen



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#### The H.E.S.S. Collaboration

#### **Countries involved:**

- Germany
- France
- United Kingdom
- Namibia
- South Africa
- Ireland
- Armenia
- Poland
- Australia
- Austria
- Sweden
- Netherlands





Slide from Nukri Komin

# Background

H.E.S.S. is a system of Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes that investigates cosmic gamma rays in the energy range from 10s of GeV to 10s of TeV. The name H.E.S.S. stands for High Energy Stereoscopic System. The instrument allows scientists to explore gamma-ray sources with intensities at a level of a few thousandths of the flux of the Crab nebula (the brightest steady source of gamma rays in the sky).

- Source: NGC1068 (detected by the Fermi LAT up to 30 GeV (not blazar)).
- It is also a galaxy with the flattest gamma-ray spectrum (see Fig.1). The authors interpret the gamma-ray detection in terms of CR associated to star-formation processes.

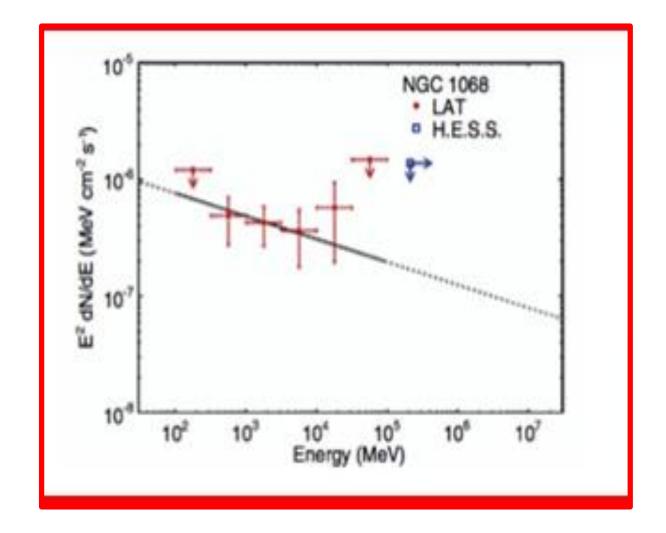


Fig. 1

## WITS/HESS APPROACH

■ We think another mechanism (CR produced in giant, AGN driven shocks) may be at work. According to Faucher-Giguere the efficiency in accelerating particles by AGN shocked winds may largely exceed that in shells of SNR.

Therefore, sensitive TeV observations of NGC1068 will:

- Allow us to investigate:
- > whether the Fermi LAT spectral slope extends up to TeV energies,
- > Possibility of TeV excess being seen
- > Detection of a high energy cut-off.

## □ Extending the spectrum to TeV:

- Crucial in estimating the total non thermal high energy luminosity of the source and to compare it with the AGN and galaxy bolometric luminosity.
- ✓ From the total gamma-ray emission it would be possible to estimate the total CR intensity and compare it with the CR density inferred from our mm spectroscopy.

## □ Detection of a high energy cut-off:

✓ Can provide information on the maximum energy of the accelerated electrons and compare it with that found in SNR.



## Backup slide

 CR associated to star-formation processes, adopting the paradigms that the primary source of Galactic CR are SNR and that the gamma ray emission is due to CR interaction with the galaxy ISM.