Future Gamma-ray and TeV Observatories for Pulsar Searches

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Detecting gamma ray pulsars

**GOAL**: detect more gamma ray pulsars, beyond the few seen by CGRO.

**Secondary goals**: phase-resolved spectroscopy, cut-offs. How high in energy do they go?

**HOW TO DO IT**: it boils down to

a) The (energy dependent) detection area, $A(E)$, and background rejection (« sensitivity »)

b) The exposure time (duty cycle) for a given point in the sky.

That is: flux limit $\sim \sqrt{\text{exposure time}} \times [\sigma/\sqrt{\text{time}}]$, where $\sigma = \text{signal}/\sqrt{\text{b’grd}}$ and signal $= S = \int_0^\infty A(E)\frac{dN_\gamma}{dE}dE.$

with an analogous relation for the background.
This talk

- About $A(E)$ for satellites and Cherenkov detectors.
- Specific cases of the GLAST LAT and AGILE; and of HESS/VERITAS/MAGIC.

- Which pulsars are candidates? How many might we see?
- On the importance of up-to-date timing ephemerides for many pulsars.

I will *not* discuss how seeing more gamma pulsars helps understand pulsars in general. See e.g. Dave Thompson; Gottfried Kanbach; Alice Harding; K.S. Cheng in [http://www.mpe.mpg.de/363-Heraeus-Seminar/](http://www.mpe.mpg.de/363-Heraeus-Seminar/), as well as presentations in this workshop, especially Okie De Jager's.
Ground-based pulsar sensitivity

- Don’t confuse the gamma ray collection area $A(E)$ with the mirror area:
  - The mirror area determines the number of Cherenkov photons collected. Energy threshold decreases as inverse square.
  - $A(E)$, together with background rejection & angular resolution, determines the minimum detectable gamma flux.

- (Particle detector arrays, e.g. HAWC and ARGO (Tibet) run at somewhat higher energies and with worse sensitivities and angular resolutions. In spite of high duty cycles, pulsar detection seems unlikely).
Atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes

A high energy particle strikes an air molecule.

- A gamma? Many electrons and positrons.
- A cosmic ray ion? Pions, muons, etc as well.

Most Cherenkov light emitted $\sim 10$ km above the ground. Multiple scattering $\otimes$Cherenkov angle $\sim 20$ mrad, thus a 200 meter disk is illuminated.

$$A(E) \sim \pi (200)^2 = 120,000 \text{ m}^2.$$
Advantages of stereo arrays:
1. Muon rejection.
2. Improved angular & energy resolution.
3. For ≥3 telescopes, bigger A(E).
Short digression

- Cherenkov « imaging » (Whipple, HESS, etc) has proven to be best.
- We once thought that re-converted solar plants, with 2500 m² mirror areas, could explore the energy range between EGRET and Whipple.
- Best high energy limit on the Crab pulsar comes from « my » solar farm…

trigger: 20 m² @ 10 GeV,
10 m² @ 20 GeV after analysis

EGRET was 0.18 m² (two sheets of letter paper),
GLAST will be 1 m².

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Future gamma pulsar observatories

CELESTE

1998-2004: Only detector in the world between 10 and 100 GeV.
(French Pyrenees)

Electromagnetic shower: \(e^+, e^- \gamma\)

Cherenkov photons

Heliostat \(i\): \(A_i(t)\)

\(\gamma\) photon

Tower

David Smith

\[ \frac{dN}{dE} \big|_{\text{att}} = \left[ 0.7 \left( \frac{E}{100} \right)^{-4.89} + 2.3 \left( \frac{E}{100} \right)^{-2.05} \right] e^{-E/E_0} \]

(Fierro et al)

CELESTE: $E_0 < 26$ GeV

$< 0.5 \gamma$/minute

(end of digression)
A(E) versus zenith angle for the HESS-I Cherenkov imager array

http://www-hess.physik.hu-berlin.de/theses.html  Fabian Schmidt

HESS has lovely results but to see pulsars needs lower energy threshold.


Figure 2.10: Effective collection areas of the H.E.S.S. array versus gamma-ray energy, calculated for zenith angles of 20°, 40°, and 60°, with fit function. Note the higher threshold for large zenith angles, and the larger collection area at high energies, in comparison with small zenith angles.
Figure 4.6: Phasograms showing two rotational phases cycles of the ON region (black points) and the OFF regions normalized (red solid) for events with energies below 500 GeV and zenith angles < 25°. Left panel: STD and Right panel: LOWE selection cut configurations.

http://www-hess.physik.hu-berlin.de/theses.html   Till Eifert
HESS-I on VELA

Vela Pulsar

300 GeV

E^2 dN/dE [MeV cm^{-2} s^{-1}]

H.E.S.S. Upper Limits
EGRET phase-avg.
Polar Cap Model
Outer Gap Model
Durham
CANGAROO (95% C.L.)

IC prediction from Outer Gap constrained
HESS-II, a 5th telescope, 27 meter diameter, for 2008.
MAGIC I


~60 GeV on Crab nebula.

Figure 1. Spectrum obtained for the Crab Nebula in two hours of observation (September 2004) at zenith angles between 15 and 30 degrees. The grey line is the fit to the experimental points above 150 GeV. Red and blue dashed lines are the fits obtained to data of other experiments. (Ll. Font)

~100 GeV on Crab pulsar.

(M. Lopez, ICRC vol 4, 243-246)
See also


First pulsar observations with the MAGIC telescope

E. Oña-Wilhelmi\textsuperscript{a}, R. de los Reyes\textsuperscript{b}, J.L. Contreras\textsuperscript{b}, C. Baixeras\textsuperscript{c}, J.A. Barrio\textsuperscript{b}, M. Camara\textsuperscript{b}, J. Cortina\textsuperscript{a}, M.V. Fonseca\textsuperscript{b}, M. Lopez\textsuperscript{b}, I. Oya\textsuperscript{c} and J.Rico\textsuperscript{a} for the MAGIC collaboration.

A few regions of the sky containing pulsars have been observed by the MAGIC Telescope [2] during its commissioning phase, namely PSR B1957+20, and PSR J0218+4232. In this work we report on the analysis of these data, looking for $\gamma$-ray emissions both in continuous and pulsed mode. Constrains to different theoretical models about $\gamma$-ray emission from pulsars and plerions will be discussed.
**MAGIC II**

- **MAGIC-II**: a 2\textsuperscript{nd} 17 meter telescope 80 meters away, in 2007. «*Half the energy threshold, twice the sensitivity.*»


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**Figure 4**: Sensitivities of the current MAGIC-I and MAGIC-II (two telescope system with advanced photon detector) are shown in the comparison with GLAST, HESS, and VERITAS. MAGIC-II improves the sensitivity by a factor of two compared to MAGIC-I. Around 30 GeV, the sensitivity of MAGIC-II in 50 hrs will cross the one of GLAST in 1 yr.
Future Cherenkov detectors

- **VERITAS**: Performance like HESS-I, in 2007, but for northern sky. Probably won’t be a pulsar factory until a future upgrade…
- **CANGAROO-III**: 4 10-meter telescopes running since 2005, in Australia. Somewhat higher energy range.
- **How far can you take these ideas?** See astro-ph/0506465 « STEREO ARRAY of 30 m Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes: A Next-Generation Detector for Ground-Based High Energy Gamma-ray Astronomy »


\[ >10^3 \text{ m}^2 @ 4 \text{ GeV} \]
On to satellites!
Future gamma pulsar observatories

AGILE

• To be first silicon tracker on an orbital gamma ray telescope.
• Thin calorimeter ($1\chi_0$) means low energies (~1 GeV).
• EGRET-like effective area makes it a pointing instrument.
• Field-of-view big like GLAST LAT.
• From web: « integration of the flight model completed December 2005. Flight qualification tests completed July 2006. To be launched by a PSLV rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, India, in the next months. » Unfortunately… US licensing hassles… change batteries… re-do environmental tests… Launch in January?

• For pulsars: need ephemerides only for the sources being pointed at, at time pointing occurs (more on this later). See e.g. Pellizzoni 2004
Satellite pulsar sensitivity

- Sensitivity driven by collection area $A$.
- Want energy resolution? Need calorimeter thickness!
- But size is limited by $\text{weight} \propto \text{volume} = A \times \text{thickness}$
- EGRET spark chamber was heavier than the GLAST LAT silicon tracker, and EGRET shared CGRO with OSSE and Comptel.
- So the LAT can have a heavier calorimeter, i.e. larger area still keeping 8 radiation lengths ($8\chi_0$) of CsI(Tl).

- *The silicon tracker is compact: better angular resolution with a shorter lever arm ➔ bigger field-of-view.*
LAT (Large Area Telescope)
20 MeV-300 GeV

Pair conversion telescope
16 towers
- Veto
- Tracker
- Calorimeter

More compact
==> field-of-view is 4.8x bigger

Budget: $160 M

Plastic scintillator to reject charged cosmic rays

Fine pitch: 228 µm
12 x 0.03 X₀ front-end
4 x 0.18 X₀ back-end
2 blank planes

884736 ch. of electronics

CsI Calorimeter
8.6 X₀ 8 x 12 bars
2.0 x 2.8 x 35.1 cm

Ruler inches
GLAST maps the whole sky continuously

Field of View and Transient Monitoring

The field of view of the LAT is huge, ~20% of the sky at any instant, and can cover up to 75% of the sky every orbit. In scanning mode the entire sky is observed every 2 orbits (~3 hours).

Pointing will be exceptional. The consequences are huge – will look at all pulsars all the time.

BUT – for e.g. Crab, one photon per 500 rotations…. Vela detectable in a day. Need Cherenkov detectors to quantify cut-offs beyond a couple of 10's of GeV.
LAT completed at Stanford in December 2005.
Presently, environmental tests at Naval Research Laboratory.
A « calibration unit » now in CERN high energy beams.
Fall -- spacecraft integration at General Dynamics near Tuscon, Az.
Launch from Florida, Fall 2007 (Delta E heavy).

Putting LAT into « Big Blue » for Thermal-Vac, 25/7/06.
A real atmospheric gamma
Event display by Riccardo Giannitrapani, INFN Udine
“Movie” by Anders Borgland, SLAC
Expected LAT pulsar performance

• Overall, the GLAST LAT should be 25x more sensitive than EGRET. (Naively: $25^{3/2} = 125$ larger volume of space…) A(E) complex for a non-pointing instrument…

• GLAST conducted « Data Challenge II », March-June 2006: collaborators performed blind analyses of 55 days of highly realistic simulated on-orbit data, using « Science Tools ».

• Included 414 real and fake gamma pulsars, of which 98 radio-loud.
Sky map: of 98 pulsars with known ephemerides, 44 easily detected

DC2 gamma-ray sky

The crosses represent the DC2 data base (98 pulsars).
The red crosses represent 44 pulsars with the gprtpulsar result in Bordeaux.
LAT gamma pulsar sensitivity

(preliminary)

Gtpsearch test statistic versus true flux of the 98 simulated pulsars with known ephemerides. (D. Parent).

Significance vs Flux - DC2Catalog

44/98 detections (Bordeaux)
58/98 no detections

Crab intensity

Flux (ph/cm²/s) (>30 MeV)
LAT pulsar sensitivity, with ephemerides

- DC2 conclusions still being refined. Sensitivity depends on diffuse gamma background (e.g. galactic latitude) and pulse profile. Also, true backgrounds will only be known once we’re on orbit.
- However, it seems to be a few % of Crab for 2 months of data.
- Twice that along the galactic ridge (e.g. PSR B1951+32).
- In ApJ 604:775-790 (2004) "Role of Beam Geometry in Population Statistics and Pulse Profiles of Radio and Gamma-Ray Pulsars", Gonthier, Van Guilder, & Harding, the number used was the 5E-8 /cm²/s for a year (>100 MeV), consistent with DC2 results.

- « Worst » predictions: several tens of new gamma ray pulsars.

Fig. 12.—Altoff plots of radio-quiet (crosses) and radio-loud (dots) γ-ray pulsars detected by EGRET (top left) and simulated for EGRET (top right), AGILE (bottom left), and GLAST (bottom right), assuming a field decay constant of 2.8 Myr.
Towards new geminga-like objects

Gamma-loud, radio quiet

• DC2 blind pulsar searches (that is, without using an a priori pulsar period) obtained sensitivity only ~8x worse than if period known.
  ➔ three were found.

• In Gonthier, Van Guilder, & Harding,
  ➢ DC detections were counted (i.e. not necessarily a pulsed signature)
  ➢ for pulsed detections, range of diffuse backgrounds neglected
  ➢ sensitivity difference with and without ephemeredes also neglected
  ❖ predicted numbers of radio quiet (« geminga-like ») pulsars possibly overestimated.

• Nevertheless, some models predict that GLAST will detect scores or hundreds of radio-quiet gamma-ray pulsars.

• Want to understand pulsar beam geometry? And from there, populations? Or perhaps acceleration regions? Important to have radio phase to compare with the HE light curve (unless the pulsar is truly quiet at other wavelengths).

• GLAST LAT asking for Xray ephemeredes when radio unavailable.
Gamma ray pulsar candidates

- The known gamma pulsars have large spin-down energies and are nearby.

- We made a list of 254 candidates, applying some somewhat arbitrary cuts to ATNF. All known « favorites » are (hopefully!) included.

CUT N' PASTE OF THE ATNF WWW EXPERT MENU:

- User-defined variables
  - C1 \( \frac{\sqrt{E_{\text{dot}}}}{\text{Dist}_1/\text{Dist}_1}/5.362\times10^{18} \) (normalize to \( \sim \text{Crab} \))
  - C2 \( \frac{E_{\text{dot}}}{\text{Dist}_1/\text{Dist}_1}/1.2\times10^{38} \) (ditto)
  - C3 \( \frac{B_{\text{LC}}}{9.8\times10^5} \) (ditto)
  - C4 \( \frac{((W_{50}/P_0)^{**3}/S_{1400}/s_{1400})/2.12\times10^7}{\text{guesstimate of radio telescope time}} \)

- Sort on field C1 Order Descending

- Condition
  - \( (E_{\text{dot}}>1\times10^{34} \text{ }||\text{ } \sqrt{E_{\text{dot}}}/\text{Dist}_1/\text{Dist}_1}/5.362\times10^{18} > 0.01) \) (\( \sim 1\% \text{ of Crab} \))

- The table is available at
## Future gamma pulsar observatories

### JD02 XXVIth IAU, Prague, 17 July 2006

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### Beginning of the LAT list...

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<td>4.23E-03</td>
<td>1.63E-02</td>
<td>1.79E-01</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>J0737-3039A</td>
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<td>1.74E-18</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>6.30E-02</td>
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<td>0.58</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>4.34E-02</td>
<td>2.67E-04</td>
<td>3.39E-02</td>
<td>3.83E-02</td>
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---

**Note:** The LAT list continues with additional entries, but the table is truncated for brevity. The entries typically include the pulsar name, period, and associated astronomical objects or features.
GLAST’s « 236 » gamma candidates, compared to all known pulsars and the CGRO 7, prepared by J. Petit & C. Loumena

Plot du ciel entier (1627 pulsars) et des pulsars sélectionnés sur critères ("vrais pulsars")
Ephemeredes database for the LAT

- The gamma ray pulsar candidates are young and turbulent. Timing noise and glitches cause timing solutions to spoil quickly (see ref below).
- GLAST doesn’t point – photons collected over *years*.
- Realize later that PSR Jxxxx+yy might have been a good one? *TOO LATE*, you can't go back, see e.g. 2229+6114 in astro-ph/0112518.

- GLAST LAT needs the biggest list possible of accurate ephemeredes, and now is the time to be compiling it.
- *Quality of GLAST pulsar science depends alot on radio contributions*, (we're counting on your help!)

Reference:

ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 422:671–680, 1994 February 20

TIMING BEHAVIOR OF 96 RADIO PULSARS

Z. ARZOUMANIAN,1 D. J. NICE,2 AND J. H. TAYLOR3
Joseph Henry Laboratories and Department of Physics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544

AND

S. E. THORSETT4
Owens Valley Radio Observatory, California Institute of Technology, MS 105-24, Pasadena, CA 91125
Splinter meeting after this talk (1:15-2:30 pm Thursday, in Meeting Room 1.2): *Radio Timing for GLAST*


**Timing Behavior of 96 Radio Pulsars**

Z. Arzoumanian, D. J. Nice, and J. H. Taylor

Joseph Henry Laboratories and Department of Physics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544

AND

S. E. Thorsett

Owens Valley Radio Observatory, California Institute of Technology, MS 105-24, Pasadena, CA 91125

Received 1993 June 1; accepted 1993 August 25

1. INTRODUCTION

In anticipation of the launch of the *Compton Gamma Ray Observatory*, and mindful of the requirement for accurate, contemporaneous timing parameters in order to observe pulsars at gamma-ray energies, we began an extensive series of pulsar timing observations with the NRAO 43 m telescope in 1989 August. About 120 pulsars north of $-45^\circ$ declination were selected, with preference given to objects considered most likely to be detectable in gamma rays. Our observing list also includes other timing-rich objects like supernova remnants and ordinary radio pulsars.
Summary: complementarity of satellites & Cherenkov

- Higher sensitivity to high energy on ground – measure cut-offs better, with shorter integration times.
- Satellite energy range well-matched to spectral energy peak.
- GLAST capable of phase-resolved spectroscopy over more than 3 energy decades.
- Both have good imaging – resolve pulsar from PWN?
- Ground sees only ~latitude-40° < dec < latitude+40°.
- Serendipity? HESS surveys show that unpredicted sources can be seen from the ground, as for satellites.
- Backgrounds and energy biases are quite different. Use both techniques to enhance spectral knowledge.

From Thompson via Kanbach
CONCLUSIONS

• Ground based Cherenkov detectors have reached the sub-100 GeV energy range but have yet to detect pulsed gammas.
• HESS-II in the south and MAGIC-II in the north might see a few, with sensitivity below 30 GeV.
• AGILE should confirm the EGRET detections, the almost-detections, and perhaps some new ones.
• But the GLAST LAT is best placed to grow the GeV pulsar sample by a fat factor of ten.
• That will require long-term radio timing of many pulsars.

• Gamma pulsar studies should make a quantum leap in 2008.
Extra slides....
Galactic latitude versus True flux of the 98 simulated pulsars with known ephemerides (D. Parent).
# Gamma ray pulsars

From G. Kanbach, 363rd Heraeus seminar, May 2006 – other authors order these differently…

## High-Energy Pulsars: Multiwavelength Detections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSR</th>
<th>P (ms)</th>
<th>$\dot{E}/d^2$ rank</th>
<th>radio</th>
<th>opt</th>
<th>$X_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$X_{\text{hi}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{hi}}$</th>
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<tr>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>B0833-45 (Vela)</td>
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<tr>
<td>J0633+1746 (Geminga)</td>
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<td>B1706-44</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>150.7</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>P</td>
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**High confidence \(\gamma\)-ray detections**

**Candidate \(\gamma\)-ray detections**

<table>
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<th>P (ms)</th>
<th>$\dot{E}/d^2$ rank</th>
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<th>opt</th>
<th>$X_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$X_{\text{hi}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{hi}}$</th>
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<tr>
<td>B0656+14</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>B0355+54</td>
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<td>?</td>
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<tr>
<td>B0144+59</td>
<td>196.3</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>P</td>
<td></td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
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</table>

**ms PSR γ-ray detection & candidates**

<table>
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<th>$\dot{E}/d^2$ rank</th>
<th>radio</th>
<th>opt</th>
<th>$X_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$X_{\text{hi}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{low}}$</th>
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<td>43</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>B1821-24</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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</table>

**Likely PSR - \(\gamma\)-ray source positional coincidence**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>PSR</th>
<th>P (ms)</th>
<th>$\dot{E}/d^2$ rank</th>
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<th>opt</th>
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<th>$X_{\text{hi}}$</th>
<th>$\gamma_{\text{low}}$</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D?</td>
<td>D?</td>
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<tr>
<td>J1105-6107</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D?</td>
<td>D?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1853+01</td>
<td>267.4</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D?</td>
<td>D?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P = pulsed detection, P? = low significance pulsation, D = unpulsed detection
Qui fait GLAST?


Principaux labos USA:

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center = “SLAC” (près de San Francisco)
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (près de Washington, D.C.)
Naval Research Laboratory (Washington, D.C.)

Réalisation de trajectograph en silicium:

INFN-Pise (avec participation financière de l’ASI)

La Suède a acheté les cristaux CsI ukrainiens. Présence japonnaise importante.

En France:

IN2P3/CNRS -- Réalisation de la structure mécanique du calorimètre, caractérisation du calo sous faisceau, reconstruction de gammas.

LLR Ecole Polytechnique ; CEN de Bordeaux ; LPTA Montpellier
Sap du CEA-Saclay -- Préparation du catalogue, aidé par le CESR-Toulouse.
Future gamma pulsar observatories

Crab: quite large zenith angle for HESS

http://www-hess.physik.hu-berlin.de/theses.html

Fabian Schmidt

@ 10 GeV:
~1E-4 /m²/s

Figure 3.5: Pulsed spectrum of the Crab pulsar as measured by EGRET (red points) with H.E.S.S. upper limits (black) and predictions from the Polar Cap model (green). Also shown are the previously published upper limits from the Whipple [47], CELESTE [16], and HEGRA [18] experiments, as well as a power-law (PL) with the maximum exponential cut-off consistent with the H.E.S.S. upper limits (Sec. 3.1.3).
Summary of future sensitivities

- Crab Nebula
- 10% Crab Flux
- 1% Crab Flux
- GLAST (steady sources) (1 year)
- H.E.S.S. with single large telescope
- H.E.S.S. Phase I
- 5 sigma, 50 hours, >10 events

Courtesy W. Hofmann
Detecting, cont’d

http://www-hess.physik.hu-berlin.de/theses.html

Fabian Schmidt

Figure 2.12: Sketch illustrating the calculation of the barycentric correction. As the Earth’s orbit is inclined with respect to the planes of equal pulsar phase, the arrival time of a pulse depends on the Earth’s position in its orbit and, in a similar way, on the observer’s position on Earth.