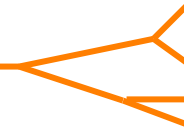


# The Southern Wide-Field Gamma-Ray Observatory

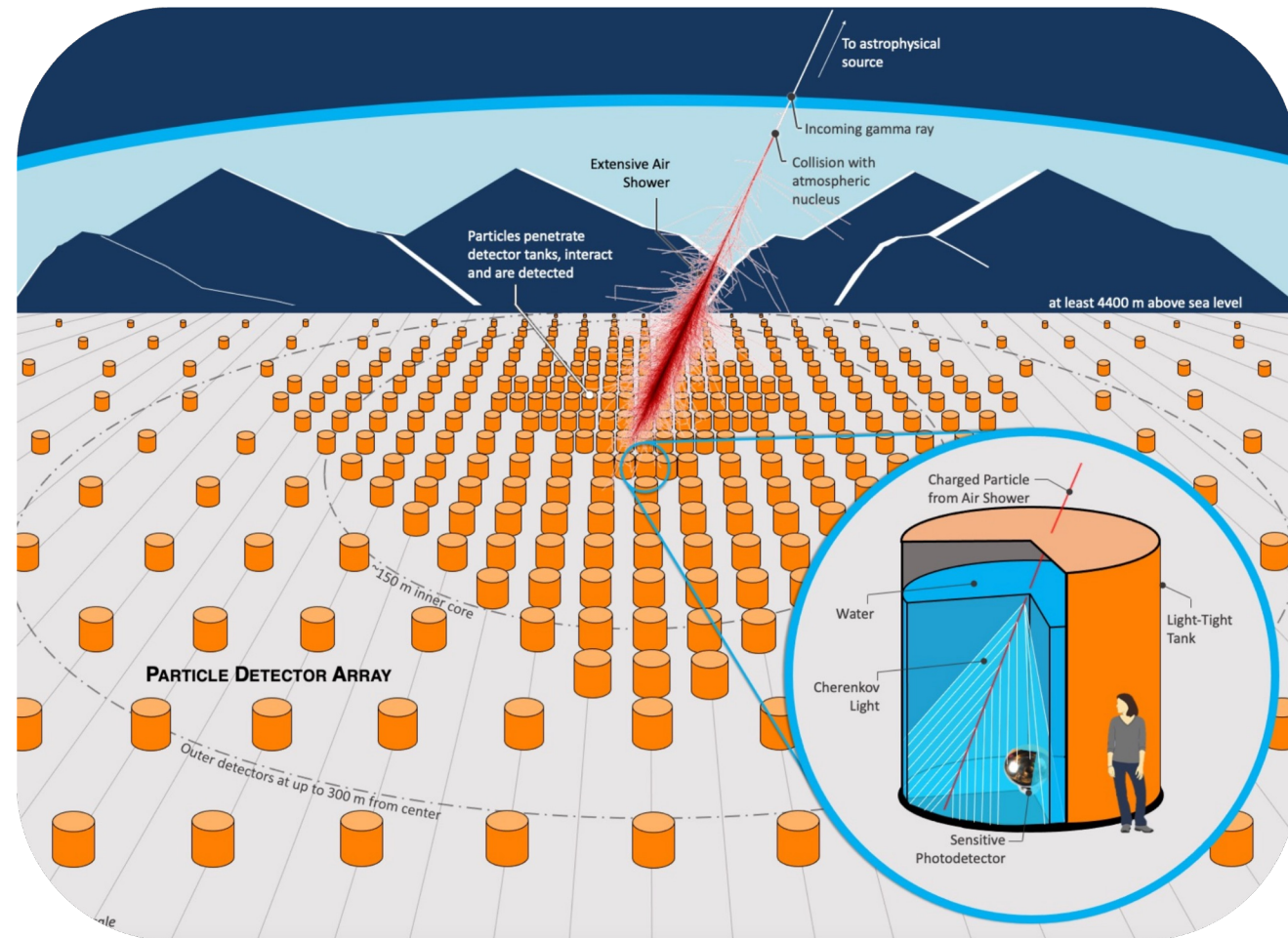



Petra Huentemeyer  
([petra@mtu.edu](mailto:petra@mtu.edu))

for the  
SWGO Collaboration

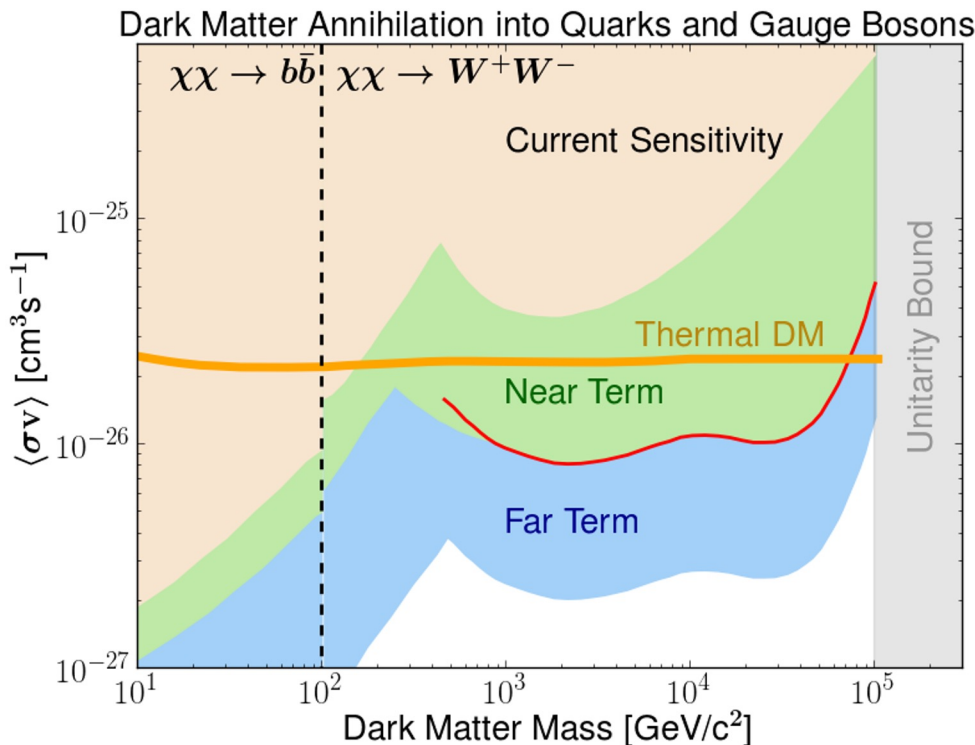
P5 Town Hall  
March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Argonne National Lab



- 
- ◎ SWGO will observe gamma rays from non-thermal particle interactions in the Universe
  - ◎ Search for WIMP dark matter at the highest masses
    - ✓ Look for BSM physics including Axion-like particles, violations of Lorentz Invariance, and Primordial Black Holes
    - ✓ Study particle acceleration and propagation to higher energies than accelerators on earth
  - ◎ SWGO will be the first survey TeV gamma-ray observatory to probe the southern hemisphere sky
    - ✓ Daily coverage of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the sky will complement pointed observatories like CTA

# Pushing WIMP Dark Matter Search Up to Theoretical Bounds



- Thermal Relic WIMPs are well-motivated theory that has not been fully probed
  - ✓ mass range is 5 GeV to 100 TeV, only probe up to 200 GeV with Fermi LAT
- Search for thermal WIMPs up to the theoretical Unitarity Bound
  - ✓ SWGO limits are strongest driver for next-generation exclusion of Thermal Relic WIMPs to all masses
  - ✓ significant overlap with CTA gives opportunity to see signals with multiple independent instruments

“In the near future, the SWGO ... [has] the potential to **probe the thermal freeze-out scenario** ... approaching the 100 TeV scale where we can begin to set unitarity-based limits”

– Snowmass 2021 Report

# Non-WIMP BSM Searches

- ⦿ Axion-like Particles (ALPs) would give high energy ( $>50$  TeV) signals from extragalactic sources

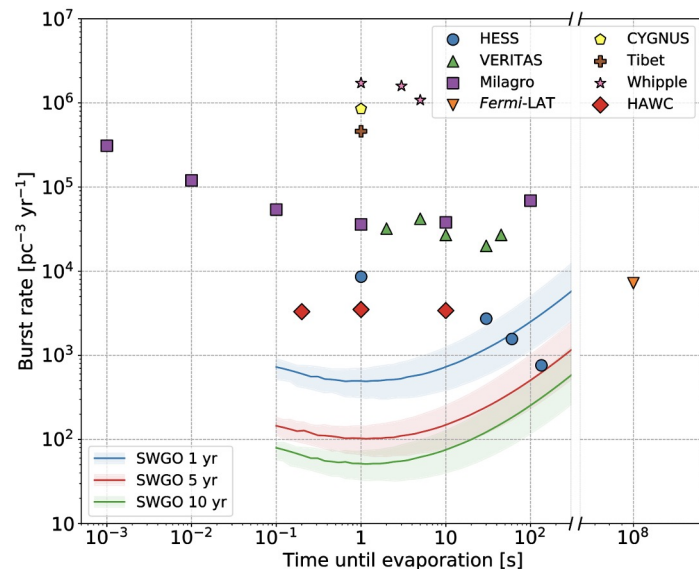
- ✓ SWGO's high energy range will produce unprecedented sensitivity to ALPs

- ⦿ Primordial Black Holes would be nearby gamma ray bursts

- ✓ SWGO's wide field of view and daily survey of the sky increases our chance to see transients like PBHs

- ⦿ Observation of high energy gamma rays constrain Lorentz Invariance

- ✓ SWGO's sensitivity at the highest energies increases chances of seeing highest energy gamma ray ever detected

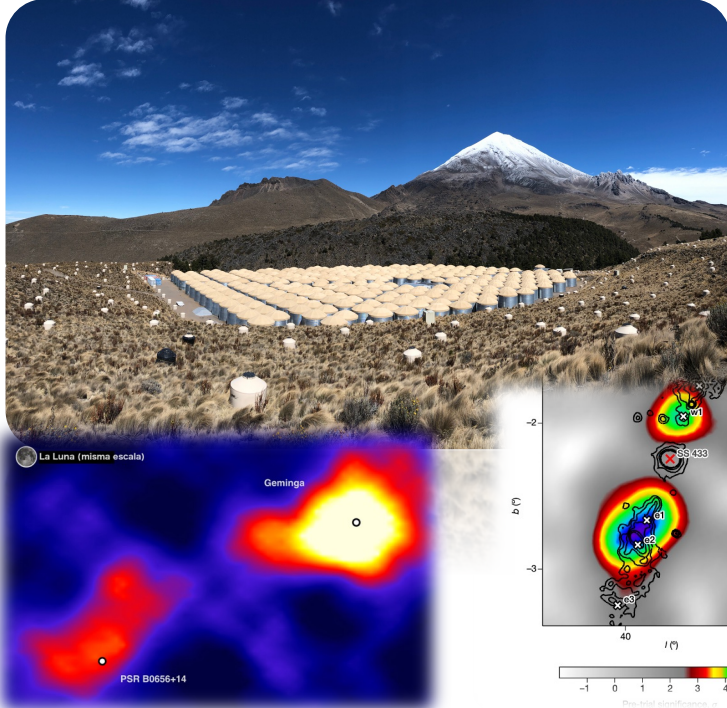


“High energy gamma rays ... offer probes of **new physics including the decays of super-heavy relics left behind from the Big Bang, cosmic strings, and axion-photon conversion** in largescale magnetic fields.”

– Snowmass 2021 Report



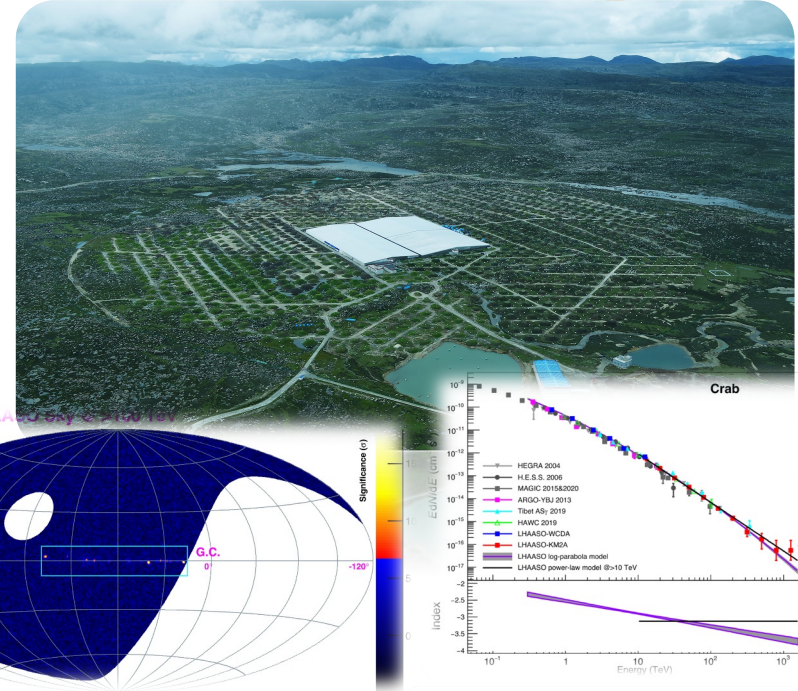
# Cosmic Accelerators & Their Surroundings: HAWC & LHAASO Results



## # of Sources

**2007:** 8 (Milagro survey)

**2022:** >100,  
>~ 20 emitting with  
 $E_\gamma > 100$  TeV



## PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS

**Extended gamma-ray sources around pulsars constrain the origin of the positron flux at Earth**

## LETTER

Very-high-energy particle acceleration powered by the jets of the microquasar SS 433

82 | NATURE | VOL 562 | 4 OCTOBER 2018

17 November 2017

Corrected: Publisher Correction  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/n41586-018-0565-5>

## Article

**Ultrahigh-energy photons up to 1.4 petaelectronvolts from 12  $\gamma$ -ray Galactic sources**

34 | Nature | Vol 594 | 3 June 2021

## RESEARCH

## ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS

**Peta-electron volt gamma-ray emission from the Crab Nebula**

Cao *et al.*, *Science* **373**, 425–430 (2021)

23 July 2021

# Cosmic Accelerators & Their Surroundings: HAWC & LHAASO Results

TITLE: GCN CIRCULAR  
NUMBER: 32677  
SUBJECT: LHAASO observed GRB 221009A with more than 5000 VHE photons up to around 18 TeV  
DATE: 22/10/11 09:21:54 GMT  
FROM: Judith Racusin at GSFC <judith.racusin@nasa.gov>

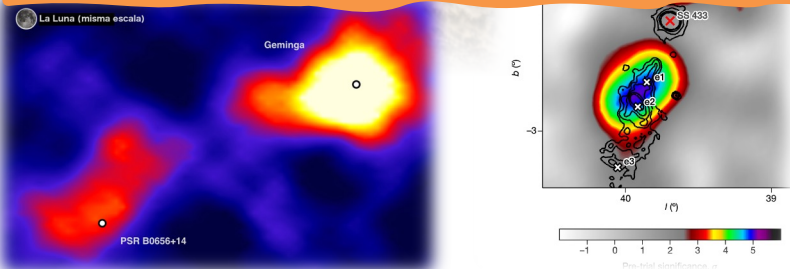
Yong Huang, Shicong Hu, Songzhan Chen, Min Zha, Cheng Liu, Zhiguo Yao and Zhen Cao report on behalf of the LHAASO experiment

We report the observation of GRB 221009A, which was detected by Swift (Kennea et al. GCN #32635), Fermi-GBM (Veres et al. GCN #32636, Lesage et al. GCN #32642), Fermi-LAT (Bissaldi et al. GCN #32637), IPN (Svinkin et al. GCN #32641) and so on.

GRB 221009A is detected by LHAASO-WCDA at energy above 500 GeV, centered at RA = 288.3, Dec = 19.7 within 2000 seconds after T<sub>0</sub>, with the significance above 100 s.d., and is observed as well by LHAASO-KM2A with the significance about 10 s.d., where the energy of the highest photon reaches 18 TeV.

This represents the first detection of photons above 10 TeV from GRBs.

The LHAASO is a multi-purpose experiment for gamma-ray astronomy (in the energy band between  $10^{11}$  and  $10^{15}$  eV) and cosmic ray measurements.



PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS

**Extended gamma-ray sources around pulsars constrain the origin of the positron flux at Earth**

LETTER

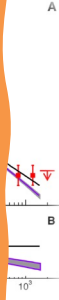
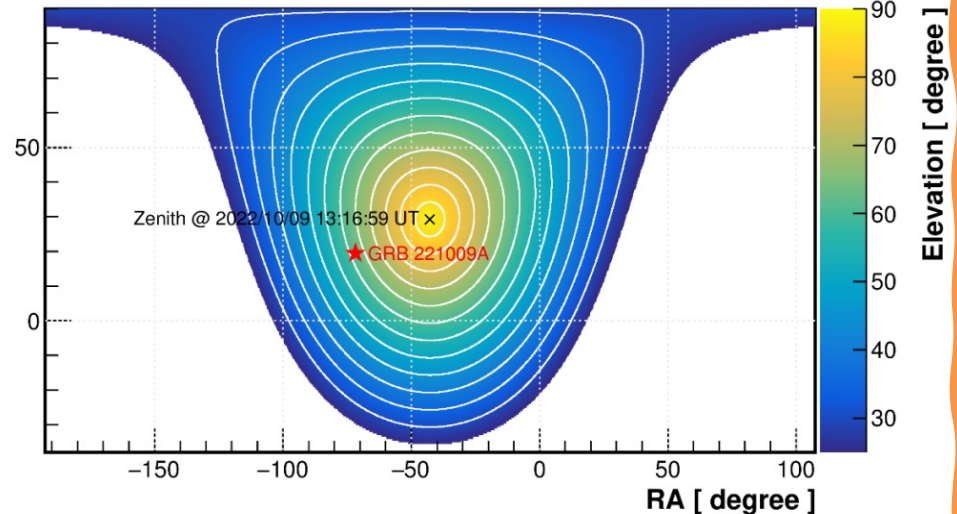
Very-high-energy particle acceleration by the jets of the microquasar SS 433

82 | NATURE | VOL 562 | 4 OCTOBER 2017

Abeyskara et al., *Science* **358**, 911–914 (2017)

17 November 2017

Declination [ degree ]

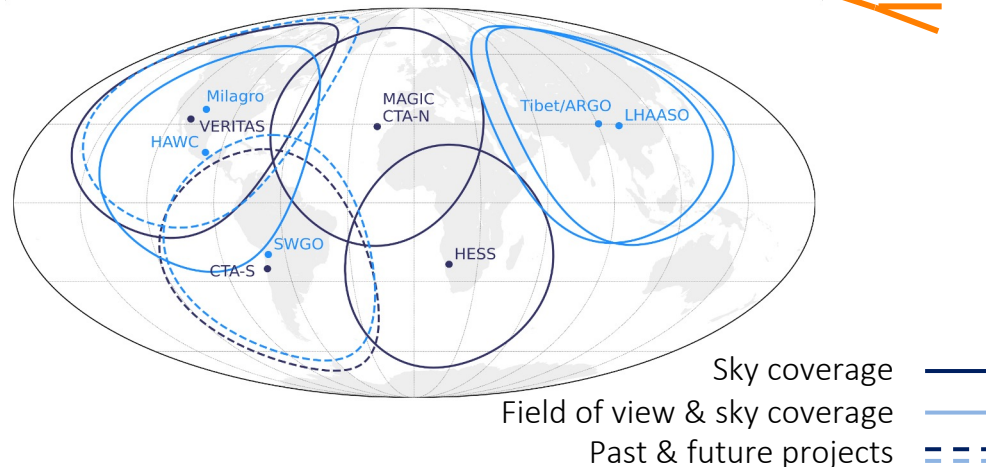
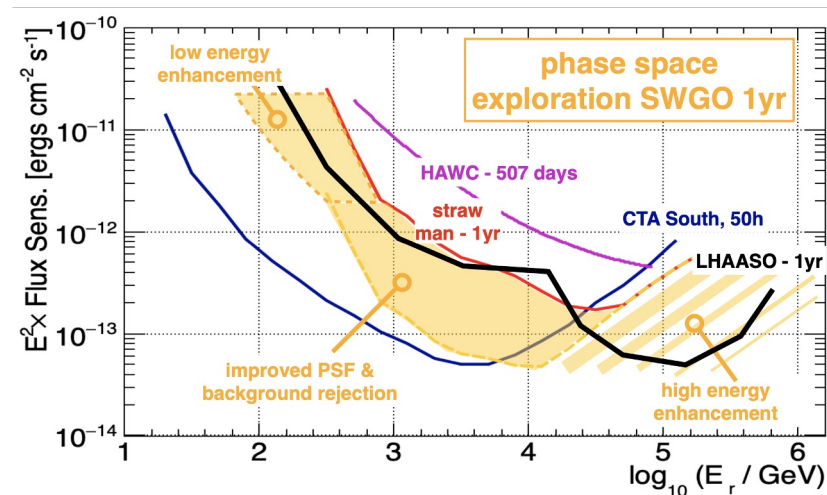


mission

May 2021



# Unique Wide-field Observations up to $\sim \text{PeV}$



“Next-generation gamma-ray telescopes such as the **Southern Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory (SWGO)** [and] the **Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)** ... will open up the **access to new sky regions and energy ranges**, and **advance fundamental physics studies** with significantly improved sensitivities.”

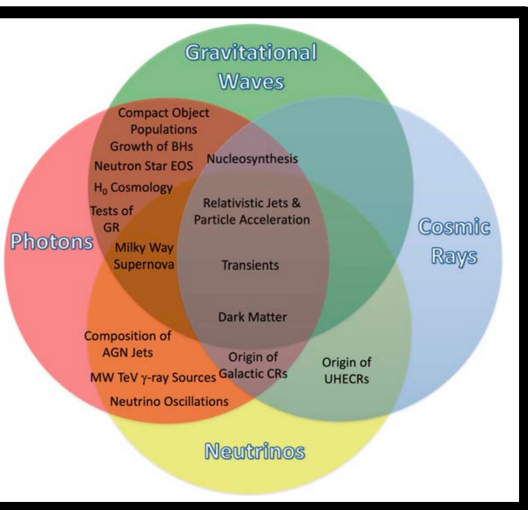
– Snowmass 2021 Report

“**The panel endorses U.S. participation in the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) and the Southern Wide-Field Gamma-Ray Observatory (SWGO)** as VHE observatories that extend source sensitivities to fainter sources, higher redshifts, and faster emission time scales, providing complementary catalogs of sources that span distance scales from the Milky Way to the cosmos.”

– Astro2020 Report

# Photon Messenger

“U.S. participation in TeV-range groundbased experiments for precision studies - for example, the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) and the Southern Wide-Field Gamma-Ray Observatory (SWGGO) ... will be valuable themselves - **gamma rays reveal processes that longer-wavelength photons cannot** - and will greatly enhance the returns of neutrino and gravitational-wave observatories.” – Astro2020 Report



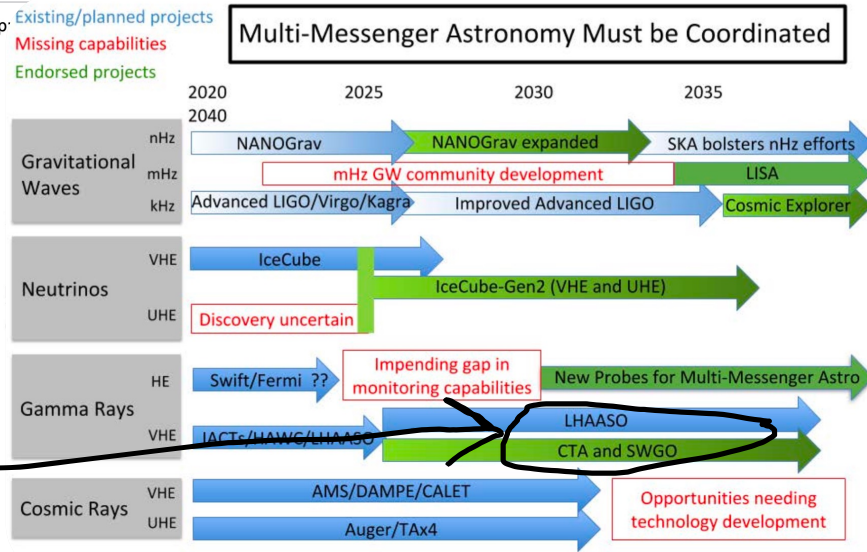
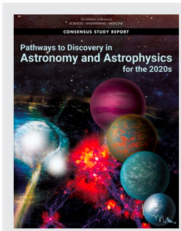
The National  
Academies of

SCIENCES  
ENGINEERING  
MEDICINE

## THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS

This PDF is available at <http://www.national-academies.org/astro2020>

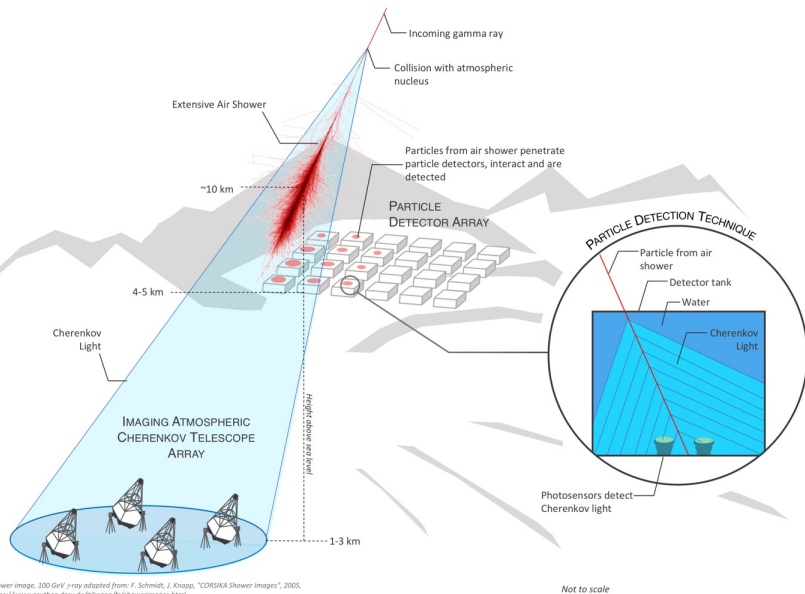
### Multi-Messenger Astronomy Must be Coordinated



Panel on Particle Astrophysics and Gravitation recommends contributions by the U.S. to SWGGO at the level of ~\$20M

# A Water Cherenkov Detector Array

Two concepts:  
*Land-based and lake-based*



**WCD  
Unit**

Natural Lake

Artificial Pond

Tanks



Building on the  
success & experience of  
HAWC & LHAASO

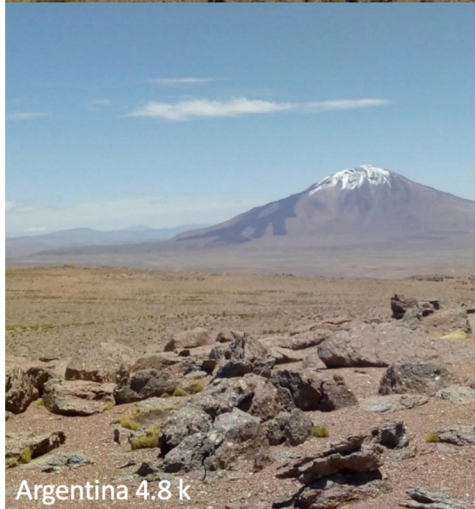


# Location: Eight Site Candidates

Bolivia 4.7k



Chile 4.8 k



Argentina 4.8 k



Peru 4.9 k



# Scope, Phases & Milestones

## ◎ Small scale project

- ✓ US contribution: ~\$20-\$30M

## ◎ R&D Phase

- ✓ Nov 2019: First SWGO Collaboration Meeting
- ✓ 2024: Expected Completion - Site and design choices made

### SWGO R&D Phase Milestones

<b>M1</b>	R&D Phase Plan Established
<b>M2</b>	Science Benchmarks Defined
<b>M3</b>	Reference Configuration & Options Defined
<b>M4</b>	Site Shortlist Complete
<b>M5</b>	Candidate Configurations Defined
<b>M6</b>	Performance of Candidate Configurations Evaluated
<b>M7</b>	Preferred Site Identified
<b>M8</b>	Design Finalised
<b>M9</b>	Construction & Operation Proposal Complete

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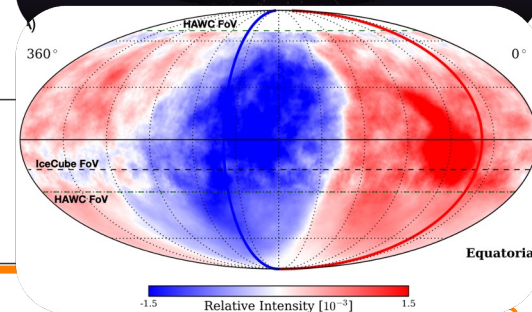
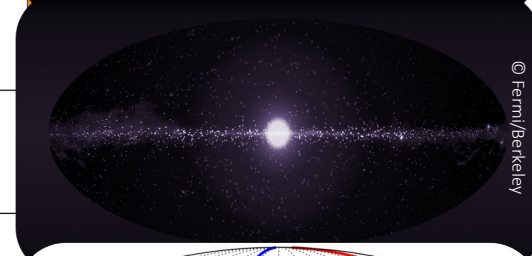
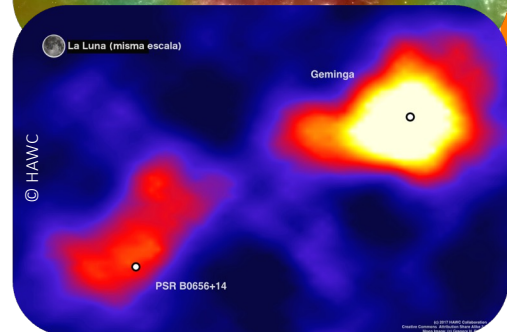
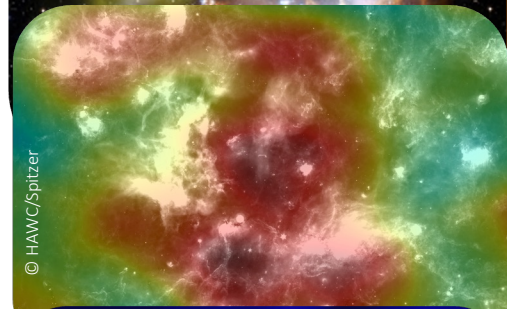
# M2: Science Benchmarks

## SWGO R&D Phase Milestones

- M1** R&D Phase Plan Established
- M2** Science Benchmarks Defined
- M3** Reference Configuration & Options Defined
- M4** Site Shortlist Complete
- M5** Candidate Configurations Defined



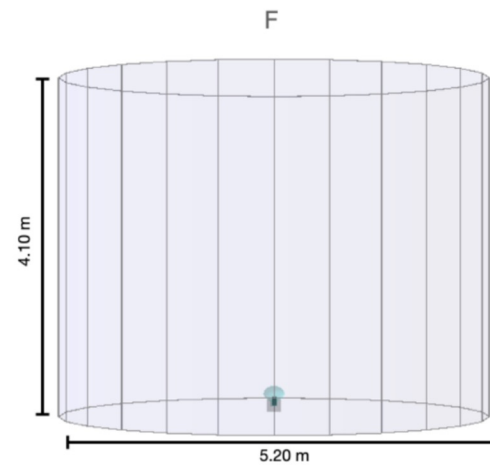
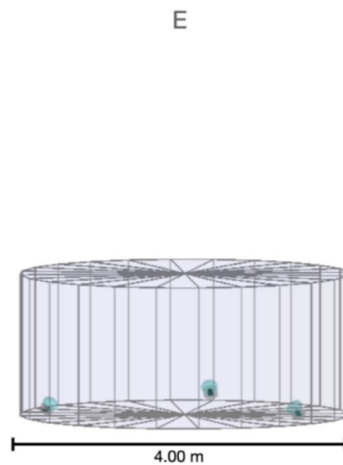
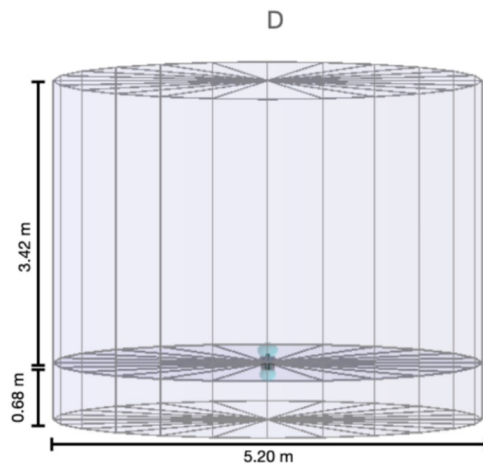
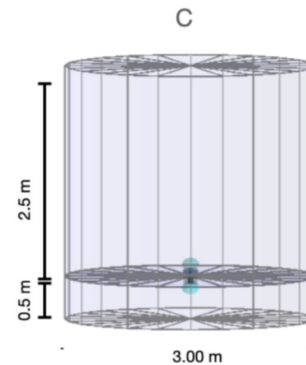
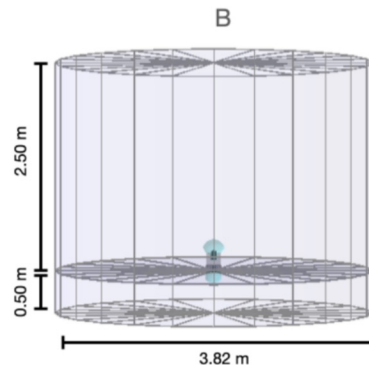
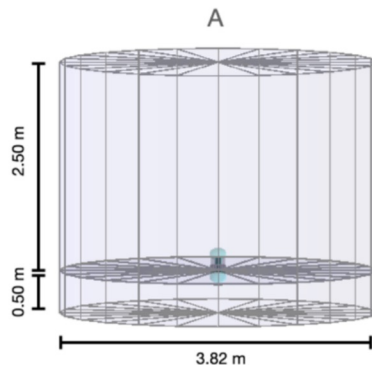
Science Case	Design Drivers
Transient Sources: Gamma-ray Bursts	Low-energy sensitivity & Site altitude <sup>a</sup>
Galactic Accelerators: PeVatron Sources	High-energy sensitivity & Energy resolution <sup>b</sup>
Galactic Accelerators: PWNe and TeV Halos	Extended source sensitivity & Angular resolution <sup>c</sup>
Diffuse Emission: Fermi Bubbles	Background rejection
Fundamental Physics: Dark Matter from Galactic Halo	Mid-range energy sensitivity Site latitude <sup>d</sup>
Cosmic-rays: Mass-resolved dipole/multipole anisotropy	Muon counting capability <sup>e</sup>



# M2/M3/M5: Reference & Candidate Configurations

## SWGO R&D Phase Milestones

- M1** R&D Phase Plan Established
- M2** Science Benchmarks Defined
- M3** Reference Configuration & Options Defined ✓
- M4** Site Shortlist Complete
- M5** Candidate Configurations Defined

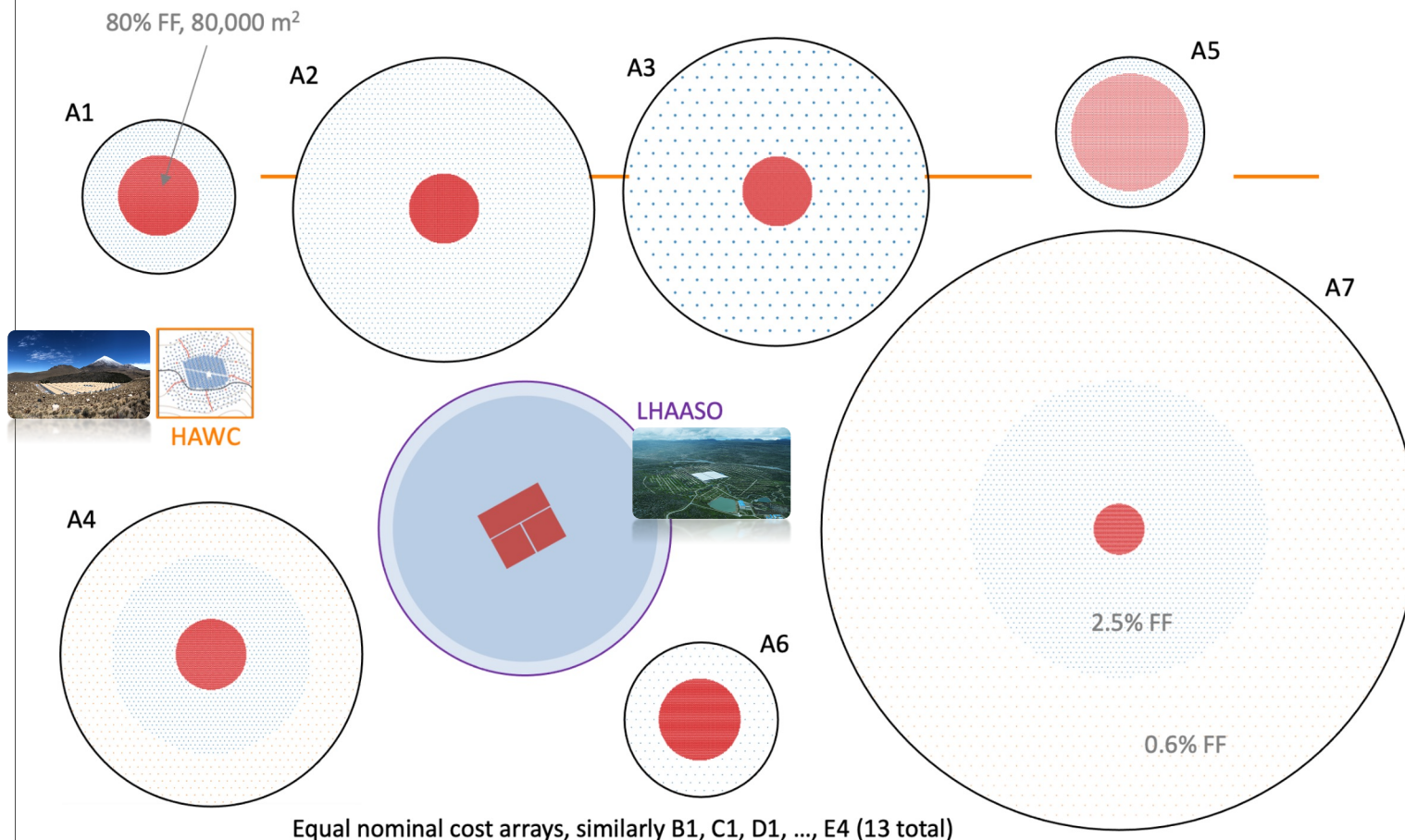




# M2/M3/M5: Reference & Candidate Configurations

## SWGO R&D Phase Milestones

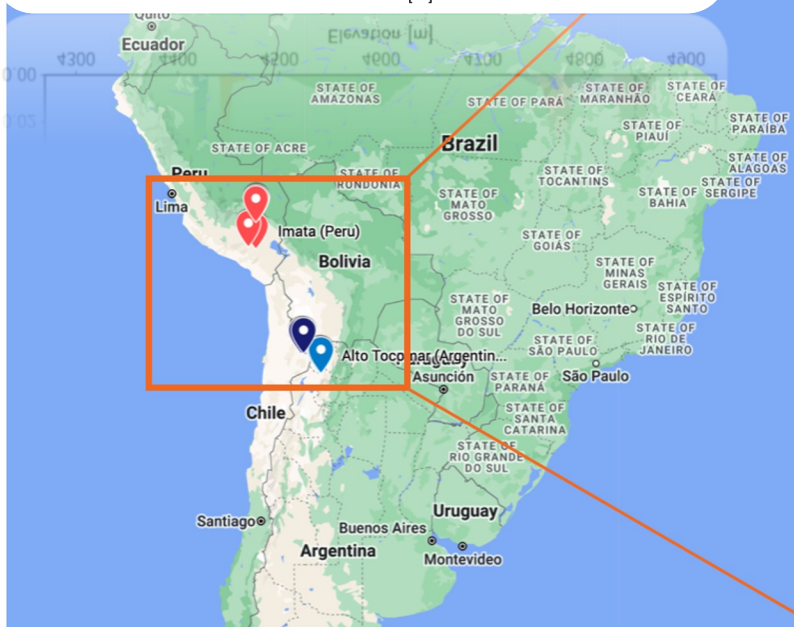
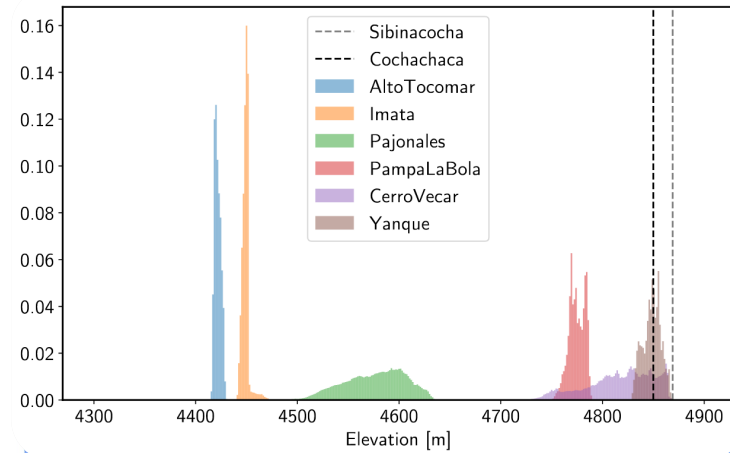
- M1** R&D Phase Plan Established
- M2** Science Benchmarks Defined
- M3** Reference Configuration & Options Defined ✓
- M4** Site Shortlist Complete
- M5** Candidate Configurations Defined



# M4: Site Shortlisting

## SWG0 R&D Phase Milestones

- |           |                                           |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>M1</b> | R&D Phase Plan Established                |
| <b>M2</b> | Science Benchmarks Defined                |
| <b>M3</b> | Reference Configuration & Options Defined |
| <b>M4</b> | Site Shortlist Complete                   |
| <b>M5</b> | Candidate Configurations Defined          |



### Peru:

- Yanque (primary)
- Sibinacocha (primary)
- Imata (backup)

### Chile

- Pampa La Bola (primary)
- Pajonales (backup)

### Argentina

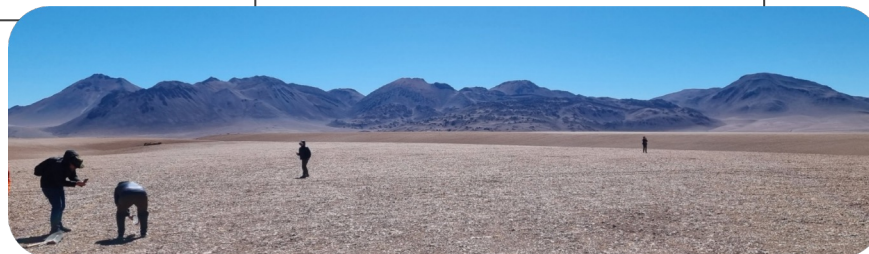
- Cerro Vecar (primary)
- Alto Tocomar (backup)



# Toward M7: Preferred Site Identification

## Site Visit Itinerary Fall '22

Country	Site	Date
Peru	Yanque	19. 10.
Peru	Imata	20. 10.
Peru	Lakes	22. 10.
Chile	Pampa La Bola	26. 10.
Chile	Pajonales	27. 10
Argentina	Cerro Vecar, Alto Tocomar	30. 10



# Toward M7: Preferred Site Identification

## SWGO site visit report

U. Barres<sup>1</sup>, T. Bulik<sup>2</sup>, B. Dingus<sup>3</sup>, F. Guarino<sup>4</sup>, P. Huentemeyer<sup>5</sup>,  
D. Mandat<sup>6</sup>, L. Mendes<sup>7</sup>, L. Nellen<sup>8</sup>, A. Sandoval<sup>9</sup>,  
M. Santander<sup>10</sup>, H. Zhou<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup> CBPF, Brazil.

<sup>2</sup> Astronomical Observatory, University of Warsaw, Poland.

<sup>3</sup> University of Maryland, USA.

<sup>4</sup> Dipartimento di Fisica "E. Pancini" dell'Università degli Studi di Napoli and INFN Napoli

<sup>5</sup> Michigan Technological University, USA.

<sup>6</sup> FZU, Czech Republic.

<sup>7</sup> LIP, Portugal.

<sup>8</sup> Instituto de Ciencias Nucleares, UNAM, Mexico.

<sup>9</sup> Instituto de Fisica, UNAM, Mexico.

<sup>10</sup> University of Alabama, USA,

<sup>11</sup> Tsung-Dao Lee Institute, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.

17th March 2023

**R**eport of the site visiting team to the shortlisted SWGO sites.



## Strengths & Weaknesses

## Recommendations

## Requests for Information

Country

Peru

Peru

Peru

Chile

Chile

Argentina

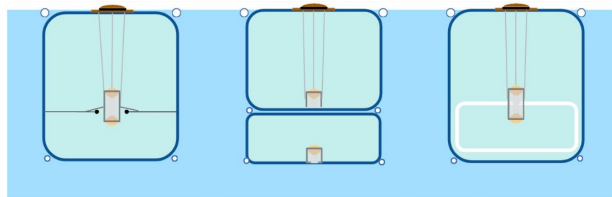




# Toward M8: Detector Design

## Prototyping:

- Lots of progress being made!
- U.S. contribution: so far mostly analysis & simulation and expertise



A.

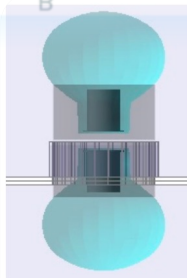
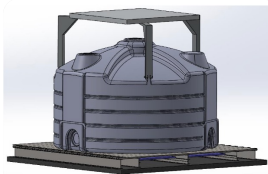
B.

C.

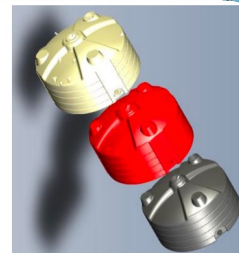
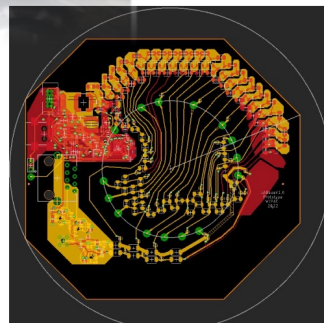
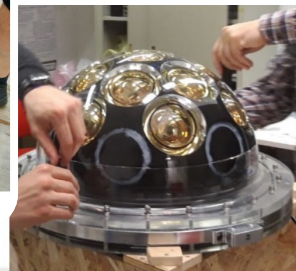
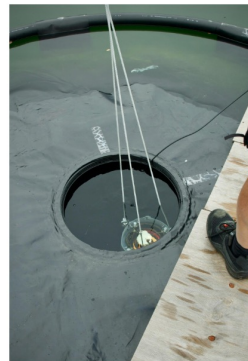
A'

B'

C'



Option A



# Phases, Milestones & Achievements

<b>M9</b>	Construction & Operation Proposal Complete	D9.1 Science Performance Requirements	Doc	<b>SP</b>
		D9.2 Conceptual Design Report	Doc	<b>SP</b>
		D9.3 Operating small-scale on-site prototype of baseline design	Phys	<b>Det</b>
		D9.4 Prototypes of key elements of final software	SW	<b>A&amp;S</b>

- ◉ Preparatory Phase: 2025
  - Detailed construction planning
  - Engineering Array
- ◉ Full Construction Phase: 2027+
- ◉ Data taking:
  - Start during the preparatory phase
  - Continuous data taking is part of the verification process
  - Expand on experiences with HAWC & LHAASO

# A Global Collaboration

## Spokespersons:

Jim Hinton (SP, Germany)

Ulisses Barres (VSP, Brazil)

Petra Huentemeyer (VSP, USA)

[swgo.org](http://swgo.org)

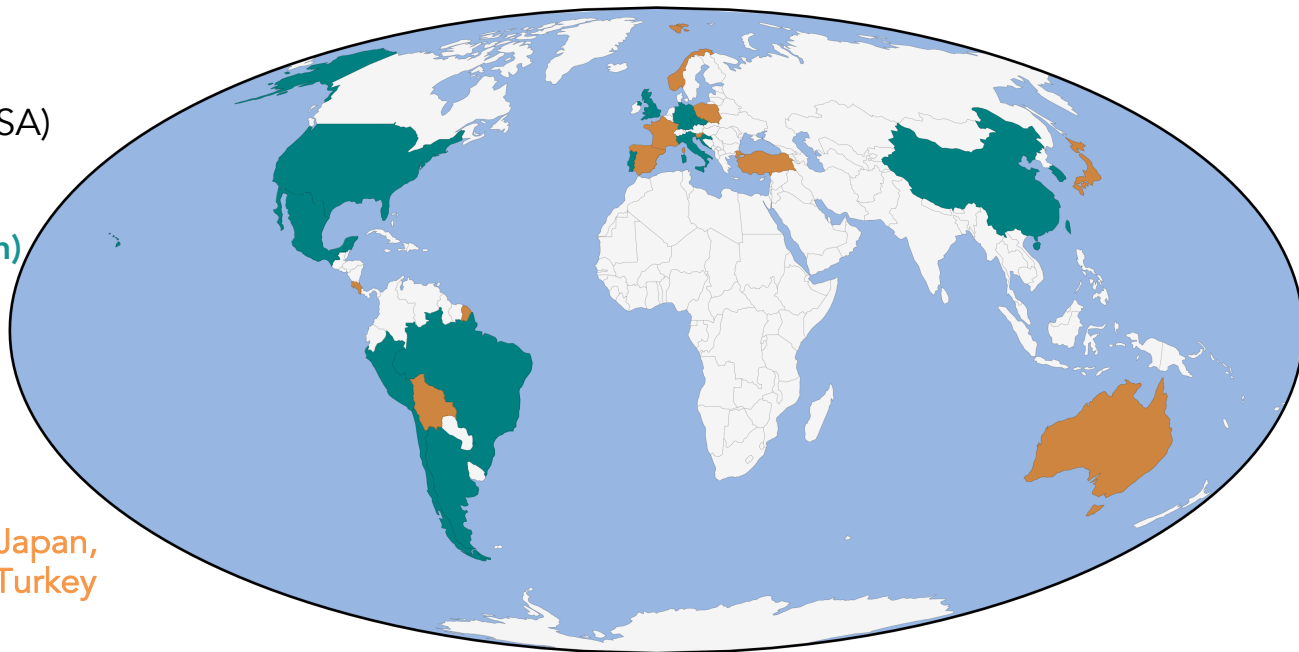
### Member Countries

#### (Steering Committee Representation)

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China\*,  
Croatia\*, Czech Republic, Germany,  
Italy, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, South  
Korea\*, United Kingdom,  
United States

### Supporting Scientists

Australia, Bolivia, Costa Rica, France, Japan,  
Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey



© A growing project: 41 institutions in July 2019 → Now: 80 institutions (14 countries)

6. The governing body of the SWGO Collaboration during the R&D and Preparatory Phases is the [Steering Committee](#), chosen from the list of members of the signatory parties (institutes or consortia thereof) to the Sol. The Spokespersons team for the R&D and Preparatory Phases consist of a Spokesperson and two Vice-Spokespersons. An Executive Committee will join the management team during the Preparatory Phase. The structure of the collaboration is detailed in [Article 4](#).

- Adrian Rovero (Argentina)
- Arthur Moraes (Brazil)
- Claudio Dib (Chile)
- Hao Zhou (China)
- Marina Manganaro (Croatia)
- Jakub Vicha (Czech Republic)
- Christopher Van Eldik (Germany)
- Alessandro de Angelis (Italy, INFN)
- Marco Tavani (Italy, INAF)
- Andres Sandoval (Mexico)
- Jose Bellido Caceres (Peru)
- Mário Pimenta (Portugal)
- Jason Lee (South Korea)
- Jon Lapington (UK)
- Pat Harding (USA)

V1.0 (17-07-2022)

Version submitted for final approval by the Collaboration, pending collaboration structures pertaining exclusively to Preparatory Phase and transition beyond the R&D Phase.

Ulisses Barres de Almeida

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## Working Group Coordinators

The current coordinators are:

- **Science:** Gwenael Giacinti ✉ [email](#) & Francesco Longo ✉ [email](#)
- **Detector:** Fausto Guarino ✉ [email](#), Lukas Nellen ✉ [email](#) & Wayne Springer ✉ [email](#)
- **Analysis & Simulations:** Ruben Conceição ✉ [email](#), Harm Schoorlemmer ✉ [email](#) & Andrew Smith ✉ [email](#)
- **Outreach & Communications:** Ana Pichel ✉ [email](#) & Humberto Martinez-Huerta ✉ [email](#)
- **Site:** Dusan Mandat ✉ [email](#) & Marcos Santander ✉ [email](#)

## Advisory Group

- Ingo Allekotte (Argentina)
- Pedro Brogueira (Portugal)
- Paula Chadwick (UK)
- **Brenda Dingus (USA, chair)**
- Carola Dobrigkeit (Brazil)
- Stefan Funk (Germany)
- **Jordan Goodman (USA)**
- Werner Hofmann (Germany)
- Giorgio Matthiae (Italy)
- **Peter Mazur (USA)**
- **Michael Schneider (USA)**
- Danilo Zavrtanik (Slovenia)

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## Speakers & Publication Committee

- Humberto Martinez-Huerta (Mexico)
- Carlo Vigorito (Italy)
- Anthony Brown (UK)
- Jing Zhao (China)
- **Kirsten Tollefson (USA)**

# Summary of International Participation & Arrangements

- ◎ **SWGO is a young collaboration:** International and national participation has been growing fast since its foundation in July 2019
- ◎ **U.S. institutions play leading role** as they are recognized within SWGO for their leading expertise in WCD design and construction
- ◎ At the same time, there is a **strong commitment and existing R&D support internationally** (spec. Germany, Italy at the level of ~\$2M)
- ◎ Further resources and experience are becoming accessible via **newly added member countries** including but not limited to China
- ◎ In an effort to lay the foundation for a research funding environment in which all current Latin American SWGO partners are able to stay involved in SWGO even after the site decision has been made, our South American colleagues are working with the **Centro Latino-Americano de Física (CLAF)**, an intergovernmental institution for the promotion of the Physical Sciences in Latin America under the auspices of UNESCO, and have organized a high-level meeting to take place at the CBPF in connections with the first in-person SWGO collaboration meeting since the beginning of the pandemic
- ◎ **SWGO will be a multi-agency project**
  - ✓ Project office not yet defined, current SP team consists of representatives from Europe (SP), South America (VSP), and North America (VSP)
  - ✓ Model for multilateral coordination between funding agencies in multiple countries will need to be worked out between SWGO member countries

# Construction & Operation Costs

- ◎ Current Estimates are based on the costed reference design (see above)

- ✓ **Construction**

- \$10k/detector unit (tank) x 6000 detector units → \$60M
- Does not include labor & site preparation (host country dependent)

- ✓ **Operations**

- < 5% construction cost (high reliability, similar to HAWC, which is remotely operated and has a duty cycle of >98%)

- ✓ **U.S. contribution to total: 1/3**

- with 1/3 from Europe and 1/3 in-kind from South America

- ✓ **Relatively straight forward cost profile:**

- Upfront: Site preparation, infrastructure & detector optimization costs
- Flat array construction costs over ~4 years

- ✓ **Contingency: 20%**

- Can pin down the costs per detector unit/tank pretty well

## ⊙ Personnel required by project phase

### ✓ Construction – FTE estimates depend

- On finally chosen detector design & observatory site
- On available in-kind contribution from host country

### ✓ Operations

- HAWC/Auger/LHAASO represent lower limit, especially if U.S. will host one of the data centers

### ✓ Data Analysis

- NSF/DOE funding models in the past: 1 PD, 1 PhD per grant on average
- Growth of number of institutions in the U.S. required to significantly contribute to science output
- Additional FTE required to prepare and maintain data sets and science tools to be accessible to the science community
- Again HAWC model represents lower limit

# Scope of R&D Required

- ◎ Currently personnel at 5 institutes are partially funded through NSF to work on R&D for SWGO
  - ✓ Supports work on detector performance studies through analysis & simulation (M2/M5), participation in site shortlisting and selection (M4), and advisory service on detector design (M6)
- ◎ Funding required and requested for 8 institutes prototype work toward M6-M9 and Prep Phase starting this year: ~\$3M



Working Group	Deliverables
Site	Site evaluation
	Site selection
Analysis & Simulation	Array design evaluation
	Simulation refinement
Detector	Implementation site
	Mechanical & DAQ tests
Electronics	Prototype & test White Rabbit design
	Initial Production

# Summary & Outlook

“Southern Hemisphere locations are advantageous for observing both the Galactic Center and the central dense region of the Milky Way’s dark matter halo” – Snowmass 2021 Report

“... the Southern Wide-field Gamma-ray Observatory (SWGO) ... **will have unprecedented sensitivity to the highest energies and [is] critical to carrying on the legacy of science at the forefront of particle and astroparticle physics.**” – Report of the Topical Group on Cosmic Probes of Fundamental Physics for Snowmass 2021

“The combination of CTA and LHAASO/SWGO provides an integrated observational capability that maximizes the scientific opportunities for all-sky multi-messenger astronomy. **The success of the broad U.S. program in multi-messenger astrophysics would be greatly enhanced by access to these world-leading facilities. The development of these facilities depends critically on decades of U.S. investment that cannot be capitalized upon without continued U.S. involvement.**”  
– Astro2020 Report

## Collaboration Meeting 23-27 May 2022

