









8 October 2024



Multi-wavelength surveys in the Cherenkov Telescope Array Era

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Progetto PNRR CTA+ Proposta IR0000012 CUP: C53C22000430006 Missione 4 Istruzione e Ricerca Componente 2 Dalla ricerca all'impresa Linea di investimento 3.1

TeV Sky interactive map

uQuasar, Cat. Var., BL Lac (class

unclear), WR

http://tevcat.uchicago.edu



DARK, UNID, Other
XRB, Gamma BIN, Binary, PSR
SNe, TDE, FRB, dark matter decays...

The Cherenkov Telescope Array:

2 sites: Chile and Canary Islands

cta-observatory.org

CTA LST-1 observation of BL Lac (z = 0.069) on Aug 9, 2021



Intra-night light curve (>100 GeV) observed by the LST-1 on Aug 9. Blue and orange points correspond to run-wise and 5-min duration. The error bars on the flux level show statistical uncertainties. The gray line shows the integral flux of the Crab Nebula obtained by the MAGIC~\citep{magic_crab} as a reference.

Nozaki et al., CTA-LST Project Collaboration 2023



Abe et al., CTA-LST Collaboration 2023

PNRR CTA+ Program:

2 LSTs at CTAO South

5 SSTs at CTAO North

R&D new detectors for Cherenkov telescopes or complementary (e.g. SWGO); water Cherenkov technique; muon tomography...

Training & education of young scientists

4 optical/NIR/radio facilities in support of CTA

Program office: E. Pian

G. Castignani, INAF, OAS Bologna E. Cappellaro, INAF, OA Padova





CTA Suite of telescopes

CTAO CTAPlus

	North	South
LST (23m)	4	2
MST (12m)	9	14
SST (4m)	5	37

Optical/NIR/Radio follow-up

Implementation of 4 innovative ground-based radio-to-optical observational facilities of unique importance for CTA science.

Three of these are oriented to the observation of TeV sources:

- VST Polarimeter (1 deg²) to be mounted on INAF VST (PI: P.Schipani)
- e-SiFAP optical/NIR photopolarimeter for TNG (PI: F.Ambrosino)
- RadioFast VLBI (PI: M.Giroletti)

One - to be prototyped on the ASTRI MiniArray - represents an optimal secondary use of the SSTs:

• Stellar Intensity Interferometer, (PI: L.Zampieri)

MOTIVATION FOR MULTIWAVELENGTH POLARIMETRY

Many astrophysical sources show polarization, which carries info on their geometry and physical processes:

Preferential geometric directions (e.g. symmetry axis)

Scattered radiation

Magnetic fields (from nano-Gauss In IGM, to 1-100 Gauss in AGN and GRB, to e15 Gauss in magnetars)



VSTPol: large field-of-view polarimetric camera for surveys



2000 Schipani et al. 2024, SPIE

Pietro Schipani INAF, OA Naples



Stefano Covino INAF, OA Brera



Paranal, same site as CTA South

10.00

INAF

A



VLT Survey Telescope (2.6m) now managed by INAF (no longer by ESO)

VSTPol is a rotating polaroid filter in the optical path



Figure 2. Left: inner view of the VST telescope after removal of OmegaCAM instrument and telescope probe. Right: external view of the telescope in the same position with OmegaCAM installed.



Figure 3. Left: optical configuration of the telescope, the red rectangle includes the two lenses belonging to the field corrector, which are installed in the old optomechanical device. Center: the unchanged future configuration in imaging mode, where the red oval includes the existing lens which will be made exchangeable. Right: the future configuration in polarimetric mode, where the green oval includes a sandwich of two half-lenses with a polaroid filter in the middle.

Schipani et al. 2024, SPIE

Optical/polarimetric support for CTA

	CTA OST requirements	VSTpol estimated performance
Limiting magnitude (photometry)	~ 20	~ 22.9 – 24.8 for ugri
Limiting magnitude (polarimetry)	~ 17 *	~ 20
Polarimetric sensitivity and accuracy	0.5 - 1%	36 min at V~16 for 0.16% sensitivity
Field of view	5' x 5'	1° x 1°
Cadence	Intra-night	Possible, depends on time allocation
Repointing speed	Better than 2'	(30+(separation in deg)/1.5) seconds



Rapid Response Mode: start observation 6 to 8 min after trigger

Extinction ratio



* Markoff et al. (2018) Critical Assessment of Optical Support Needs for CTA Science and Consensus Proposal

OPTICAL AND INFRARED POLARIZATION OF ACTIVE EXTRAGALACTIC OBJECTS

J. R. P. Angel and H. S. Stockman Steward Observatory, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721

I Introduction

In bringing together the material for this review our attention was drawn repeatedly to the remarkably similar characteristics of virtually all strongly polarized extragalactic objects, which are found as the nuclei of giant elliptical galaxies or as quasi-stellar sources. These are violent variability, a compact, flat-spectrum radio source, and a very smooth continuum extending at least to $10 \,\mu$. These properties are common to the polarized sources in BL Lac objects over a wide range of luminosity and to some QSOs and radio galaxies. In view of the similarities, which suggest a common process of energy release close to the central core of these objects, we will treat them all as a single group. In a memorable banquet speech at the Pittsburgh meeting on BL Lac objects (the only words spoken not faithfully reported in the proceedings) Ed Spiegel suggested the name "blazar" for this class of object. A combination of BL Lac object and quasar, with a strong feeling of the characteristic violent optical flaring, blazar seems an excellent name, one which we will adopt throughout the review. Aarrow Line Region Jet Black Hole Deak Coretion Deak Torus

Strong polarization is a defining property of blazars

×2169

P_lin <~ 30-40%

The jet of M87 in polarized light

Time-variable millimetric linear polarization with a maximum of ~15%

GRMHD simulations return magnetic fields of 1-30 Gauss and an accretion rate of (3-20)e-4 solar masses per year

EHT Collaboration 2021 Goddi et al. 2021



Markarian 501 (z = 0.034): multi-wavelength polarization



polarization angle is aligned with jet direction \rightarrow shock-accelerated, energy-stratified electron population model

26-28 March

IXPE observations of the blazar PKS2155-304 (z = 0.1)



2023 Oct 27 - Nov 7

Kouch et al. 2024

Optical polarization of the early counterpart of GRB190114C (z = 0.42)





GW electromagnetic counterparts

- GW localizations for good S/N events will be even better than 10°
- Early-time (hr) kilonova polarisation is a powerful and unique diagnostics.
- Only a large FoV polarimeter could make these observations feasible.





Kilonova AT2017gfo: Upper limit on linear polarization ~0.5% (Covino et al. 2017)

Optical starlight polarization: 3D galactic magnetic field



O(3,000h): correlation with accurate Gaia parallaxes: 3D mapping of the magnetic field of MW, LMC, SMC + correlation with Planck

Magnetised halo of the Milky Way



polarised emission WMAP 22.8 GHz

radio+X-rays

Zhang et al. 2024

Jets on the scale of the cosmic web: Porphyrion (z = 0.896)



e-SiFAP: fast photopolarimetry in the optical/nIR bands

TNG (ORM) same site as CTA North

 F/11 focal plane
 Path1

 F/11 focal plane
 Path1

 The path2
 D2

 Path3
 Path3

 D1
 M2/B2

 L0
 L6

 L10
 L8

 Path7

 Path1

 Path7

 Path1

 Path7

 Path6

Filippo Ambrosino INAF, OA Rome



- SiFAP2/4XP heritage
- **Differential simultaneous** fast (< 1 μs) photometry in the optical/nIR bands
- Optical measurement of linear polarisation
- Versatile optomechanical configuration for TNG

⇒ Optical/NIR follow-up of CTA targets, multiwavelength campaigns on transients

e-SiFAP Science: magnetars and fast radio bursts

Over 1500 Fast radio bursts, millisecond flashes of GHz radiation (emitted energies of ~e40 erg), have been detected so far. They are extragalactic, but their optical/NIR counterparts are unknown. In April 2020 a Galactic FRB-analogue was detected also in hard X-rays from magnetar SGR J1935+2154



Mereghetti et al. 2020; Tavani et al. 2020; Ridnaia et al. 2020; Nicastro et al. 2021

e-SiFAP Science: magnetars and fast radio bursts

Search of variable optical counterpart of SGR J1935+2154 with 1.22 Asiago Telescope + Iqueye (time resolution down to ~1 ns) during the Fermi/GBM flare of September 2021



1300 1320 1340 1360 1380 1400 1420 1440 1460 time (s)

RadioFast VLBI

Marcello Giroletti INAF, Inst. Radioastronomy





INAF collecting area: 4825 m² VLBA collecting area: 4909 m²

RadioFast VLBI Science



Stellar Intensity Interferometry

Image reconstruction is feasible from the *second-order* coherence of light, measured as the temporal correlations of arrival times between photons recorded in different telescopes (this is obviously different From classical phase interferometry).

This technique connects telescopes only with electronic signals and is practically insensitive to atmospheric turbulence and to imperfections in telescope optics.

Hanbury Brown & Twiss 1956; Glauber 1963; Dravins et al. 2013; Abeysakara et al. 2020; Zampieri et al. 2022

Stellar Intensity Interferometry prototyped on the ASTRI Mini-Array

ASTRI-6 0.00016 100 ASTRI-0.00014 250 Degree of 500 0.00012 coherence of 1000 a source with ASTRI-0.00010 angular size θ 0.00008 (in µarcsec) as a function 0.00006 of the 0.00004 telescope separation d 0.00002 0.00000L 200 600 800 1000 1200 400 separation (m)

Luca Zampieri

INAF, OA Padova

The ASTRI Mini-Array (Canary Islands) provides a suitable infrastructure for prototyping SII instruments

Main goal: Achieving optical imaging with resolution of ~100 microarcseconds using the long multiple baselines (36) of 9 SSTs

Stellar intensity interferometry Science



Fig. 10. Types of primary targets for kilometer-scale intensity interferometry. Top row: Stellar shapes and surfaces affected by rapid rotation – the measured shape of Achernar [20]; expected equatorial bulge and polar brightening of a very rapid rotator [113]; deduced surface brightness of the rapidly rotating star Vega, seen pole-on [95]; possible donut-shape for a rapidly and differentially rotating star [75]. Middle row: disks and winds – modeled interferometric image of the circumstellar disk of the Be-star ζ Tauri [10]; a magnetic stellar wind compresses a circumstellar disk [97]; simulation of how stronger magnetic fields distort wind outflow from hot stars [115]; the strongest stellar wind in a binary opens up cavities around the other star: the geometry around the Wolf-Rayet star γ^2 Velorum as deduced from interferometry [81]. Bottom row: stellar surroundings – interferometric image of the giant star T Leporis surrounded by its molecular shell [72]; an analogous image of the giant ϵ Aurigae, while partially obscured by a circumstellar disk [61]; artists view of the interacting β Lyrae system with a gas stream, accretion disk, jet-like structures and scattering halo [43]; an adaptive-optics, high-resolution image of the mysterious object η Carinae, the most luminous star known in the Galaxy [30].

Conclusions

The 4 low-energy facilities in CTA+ cover critical and unique aspects of CTA science:

Polarization (VSTPol), expected to accompany most of non-thermal radiation from the compact sources that will be primary targets of CTA. The VST polarimeter will also guarantee a large sky area coverage. Correlated operations with IXPE, LSST, radio arrays, multi-messenger.

(ultra)-rapid optical photometry (eSiFAP), optimally suited to sample the smallest variation timescales from stellar-size compact sources, like GRBs, PSRs and the elusive FRBs

broad-band radio spectroscopy and VLBI correlation performance, intended to sample simultaneously the radio emission of a range of relativistic Galactic and extragalactic CTA targets and improve the Italian competition and performance in the VLBI network

Intensity Interferometry, aimed at developing, using a subset of the CTA experiment, a pioneering technique with critical impact on the study of stellar structure and evolution