



*Image: H.E.S.S. Galactic plane survey*

# PYTHON IN ASTRONOMY

Christoph Deil (MPIK Heidelberg)

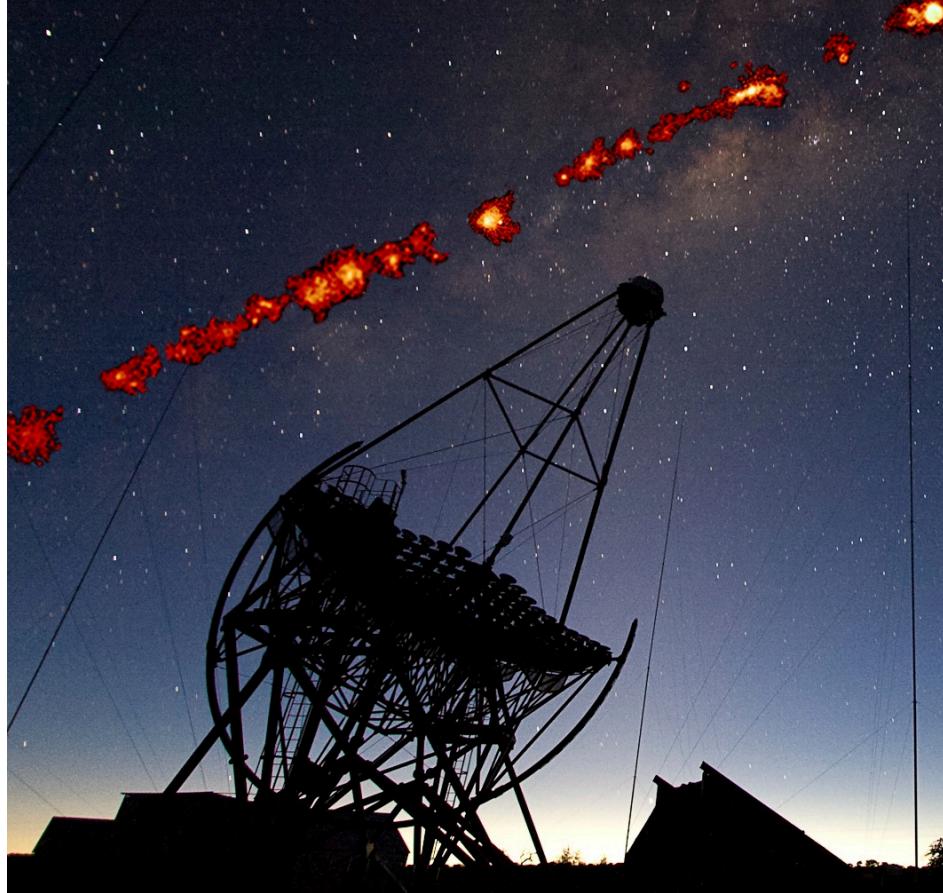
PyData Südwest Meetup  
@ getsafe Heidelberg  
April 4, 2019

Thank you Jan, Marius, Alexander,  
Prabhant, Pawneet for organising!

Slides at <https://christophdeil.com>



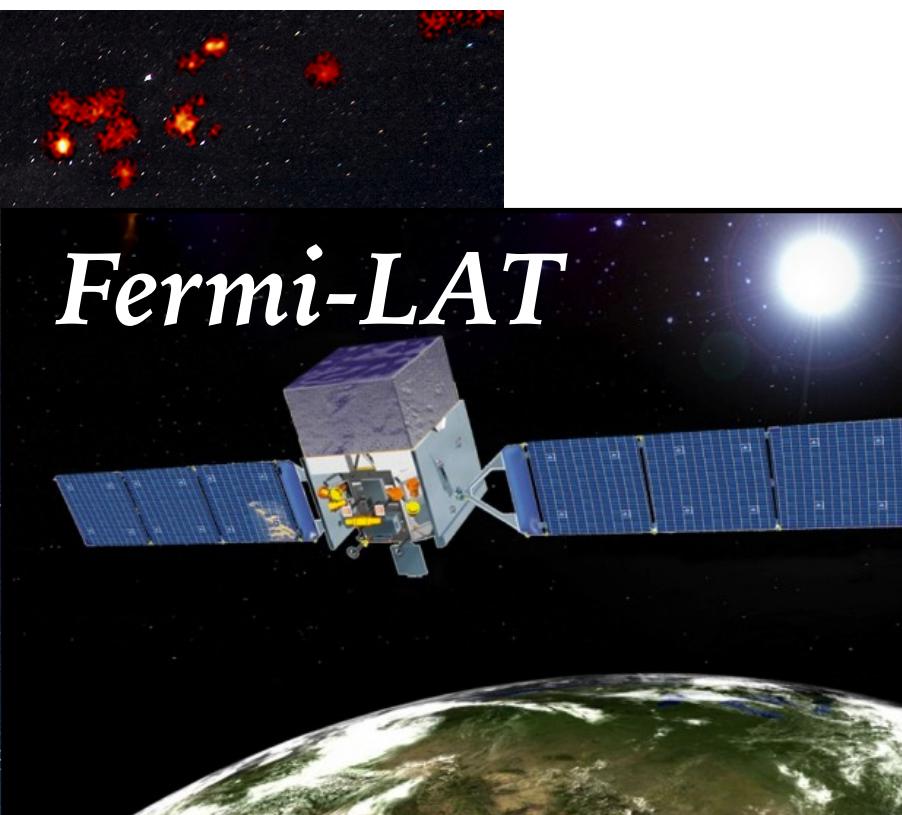
*Galactic Plane Survey*  
H.E.S.S.



## WHO AM I?

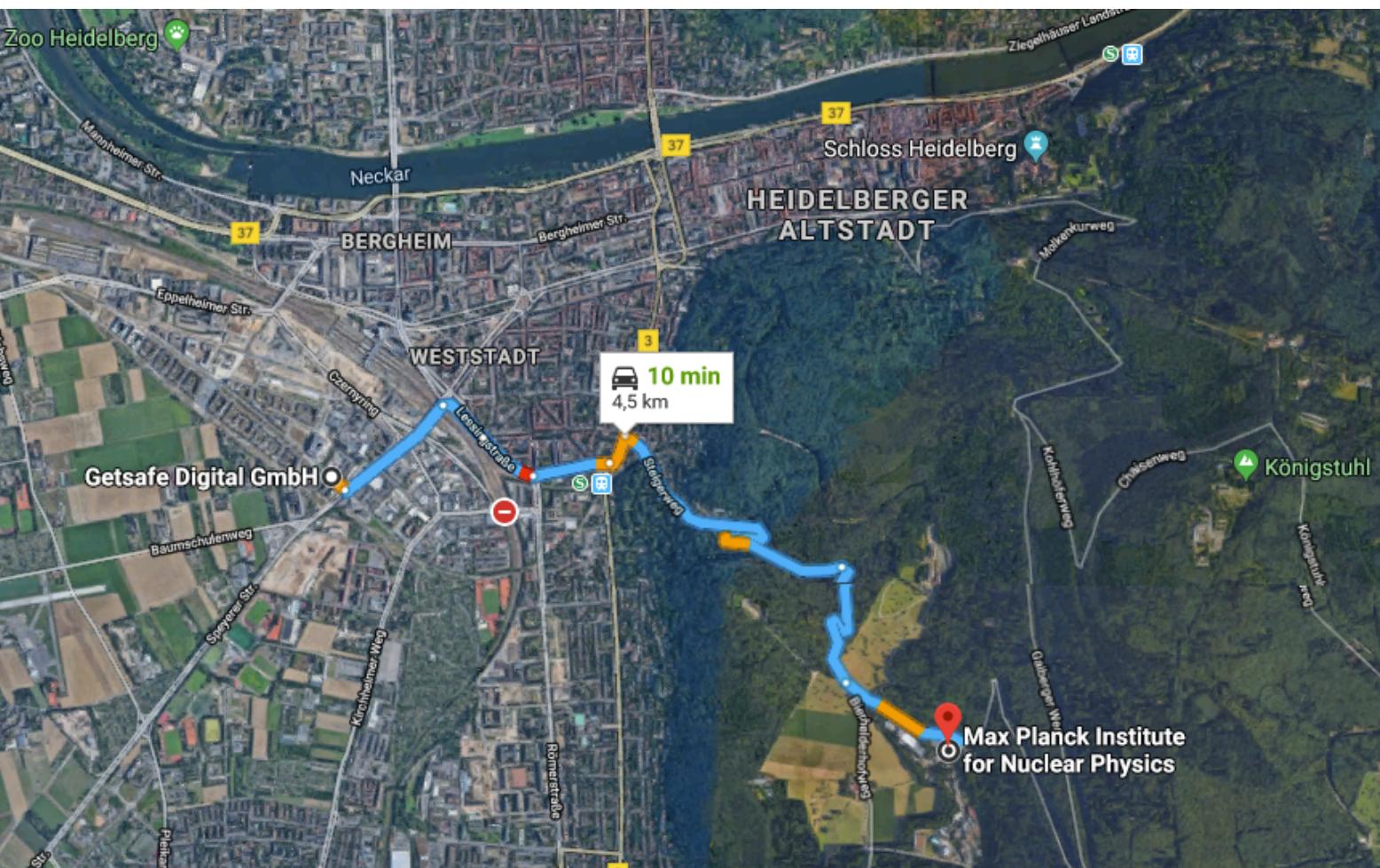
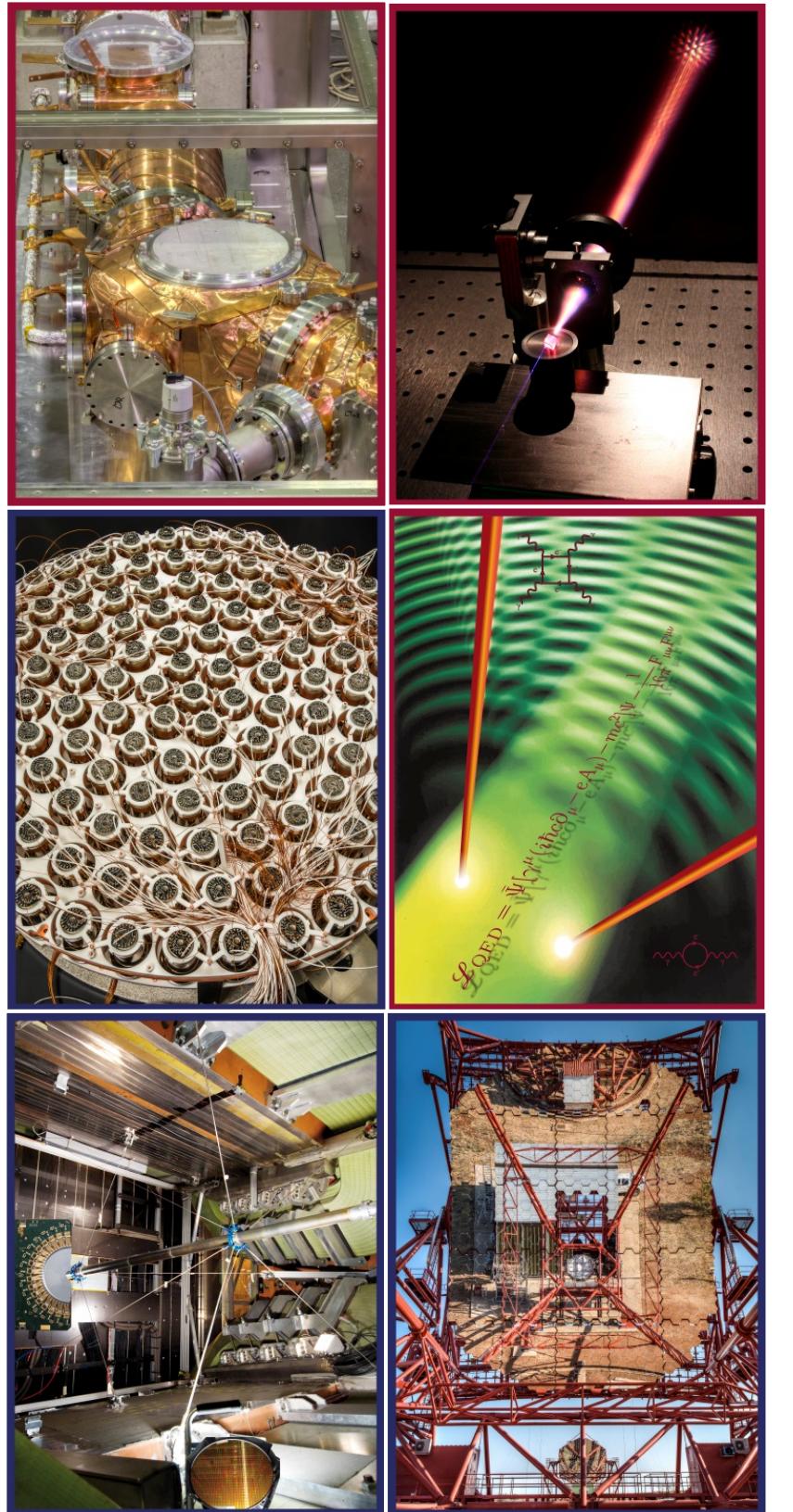
.....

- Gamma-ray astronomy
- Postdoc at MPIK Heidelberg
- Science: Milky Way survey
- Telescopes: H.E.S.S., Fermi, CTA
- Python
- Discovered Python in 2009
- Data analysis & modelling
- Gammapy & other codes





MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT  
FÜR KERNPHYSIK



# MPIK

- Max Planck Institut für Kernphysik  
<https://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/>
- Founded 1958, located on Königstuhl
- Astroparticle physics & quantum dynamics  
400 people, about half scientists
- Max Planck Society — basic research in  
Germany (84 institutes, 4 in Heidelberg)



*Haus der Astronomie (HdA)*



# ASTRONOMY IN HEIDELBERG

- Heidelberg is one of the largest astronomy research centres in Germany
- Several research institutes: MPIA, MPIK, Landessternwarte Königstuhl, Astronomisches Recheninstitut, Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics, HITS
- Of interest for general public:
  - Haus der Astronomie (and nearby MPIA & LSW)
  - Planetarium Mannheim
  - Once a year: Explore Science, International Science Festival

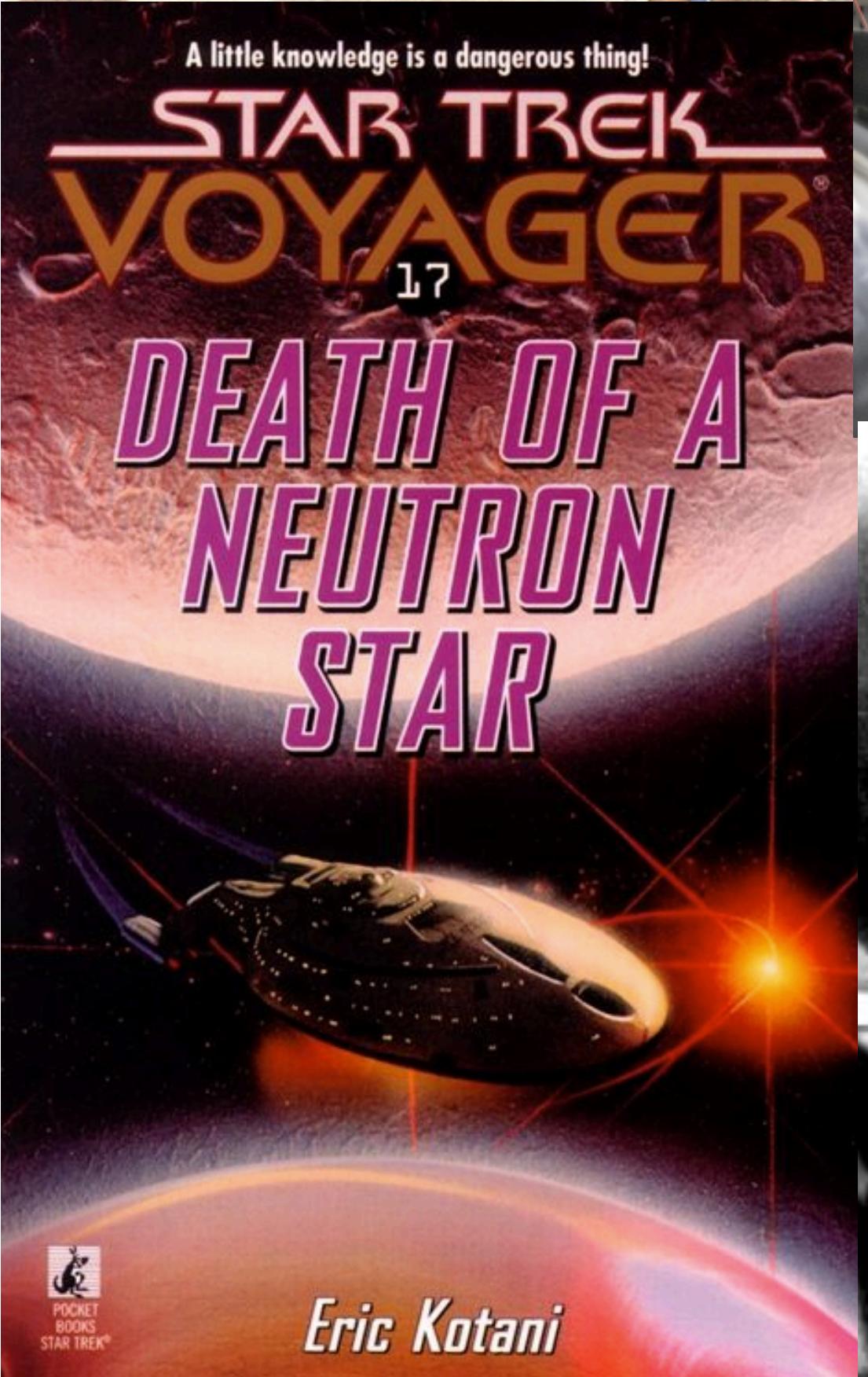
# “PYTHON IN ASTRONOMY” - DEFINITIONS

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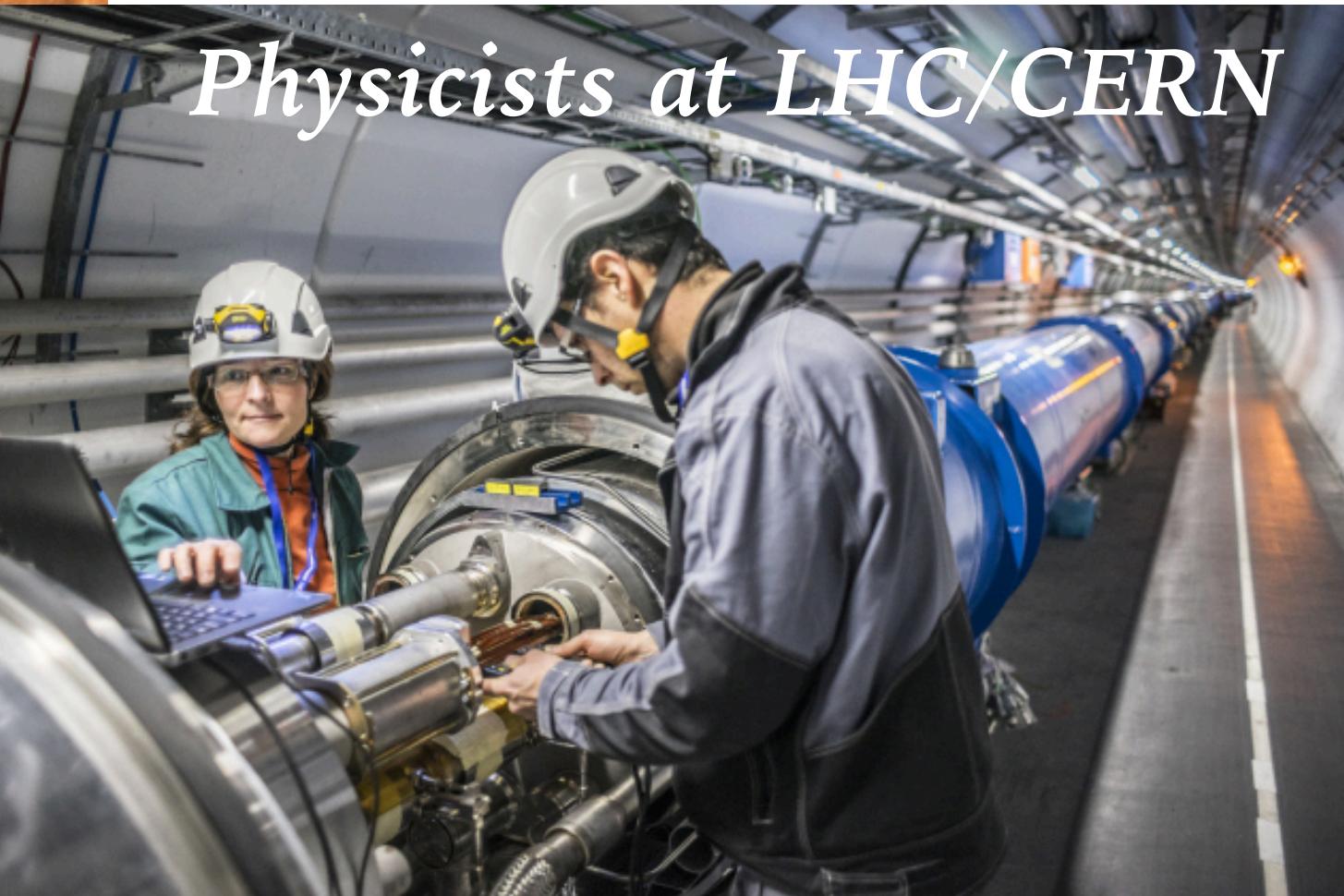
- **python**, /'pʌɪθ(ə)n/
  1. a large heavy-bodied non-venomous snake occurring throughout the Old World tropics, killing prey by constriction and asphyxiation.
  2. a high-level general-purpose programming language.
- **astronomy**, /ə'strɒnəmi/ — the branch of science which deals with celestial objects, space, and the physical universe as a whole.
- **astrophysics**, /astrə(u)'fiziks/ — the branch of astronomy concerned with the physical nature of stars and other celestial bodies, and the application of the laws and theories of physics to the interpretation of astronomical observations.
- **astrology**, /ə'strɒnəmi/ — the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world.  
*synonyms: horoscopy, stargazing, bullshit;*



Plato (astronomer?)  
& Aristotle (physicist?)  
in "The school of Athens"



Physicists at LHC/CERN



Astronomer

## ASTRONOMY & PHYSICS

- Same goal: understand physical laws, objects & processes in the universe
- Different techniques:
  - Physicists experiment
  - Astronomers observe
  - (both use theory & simulations)
- New physics often visible only in environments that we can't create on Earth (e.g. neutron stars, black holes)
- Astronomers observe light and other “messengers” to study astrophysics

# STAR TREK VII: GENERATIONS (VIDEO CLIP)

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Source: <https://youtu.be/MUiieGh1fHSI> (Paramount)



Credit: PNAS

## ASTRONOMY THEN ...

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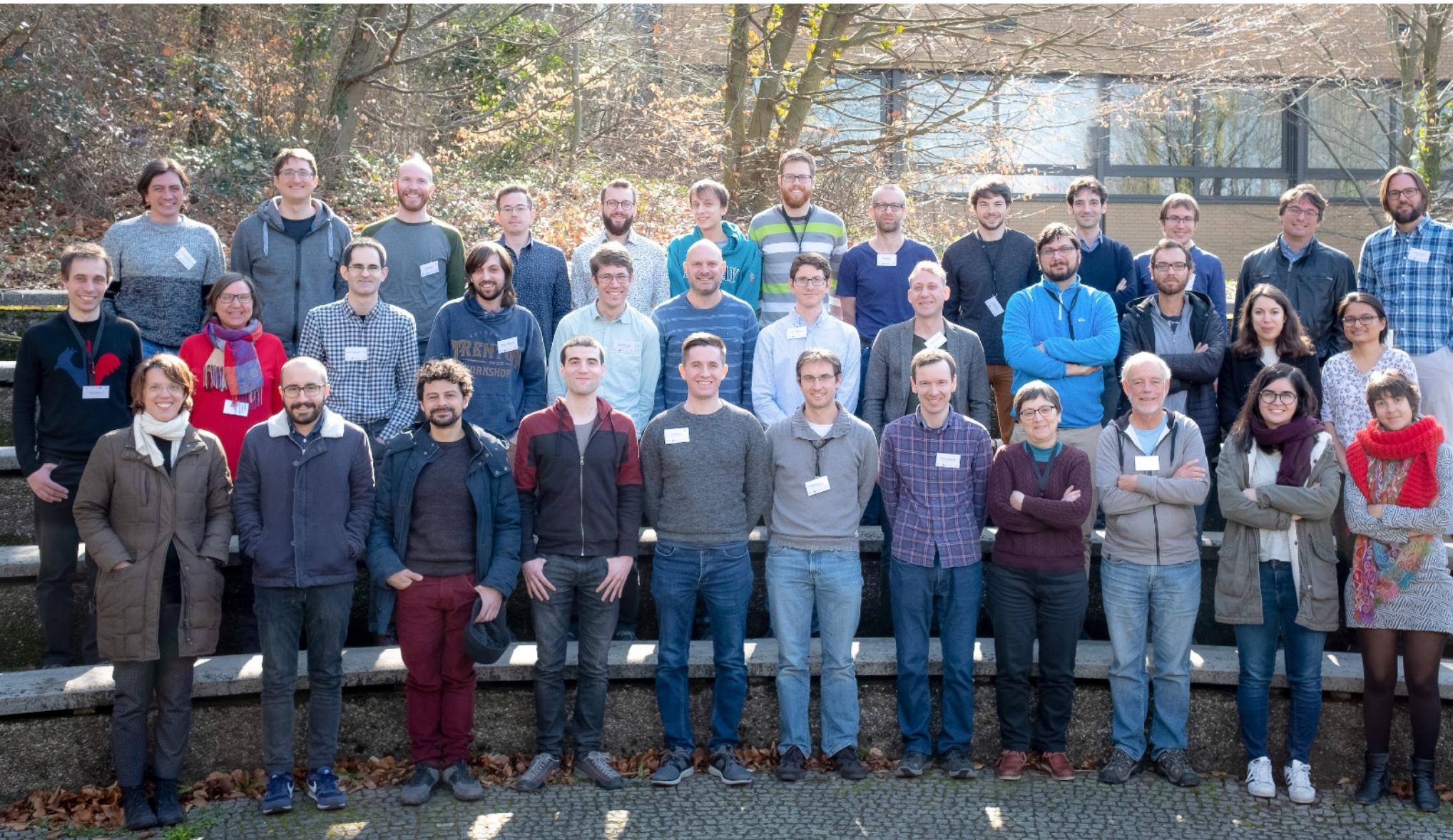
- Edwin Hubble at the 48" Schmidt Telescope at Palomar observatory (1949)
- For centuries optical astronomy
  - solar system, stars, galaxies, nebulae
  - First eye, then film, then CCDs



# ASTRONOMY NOW ...

---

- Astronomy research: coding, data cleaning, analysis, simulation, modelling, statistics, reading and writing papers
- Also, but less often: building telescopes and detectors, observing on site, theory
- Daily work very similar to what many of you do, some things are different in science (collaboration, funding, ...)
- New discoveries are usually made by collaborations of 100+ astronomers after 10+ years of building new telescopes



*Hubble space telescope (NASA)*

*1990 - now*



## ASTRONOMY NOW ...

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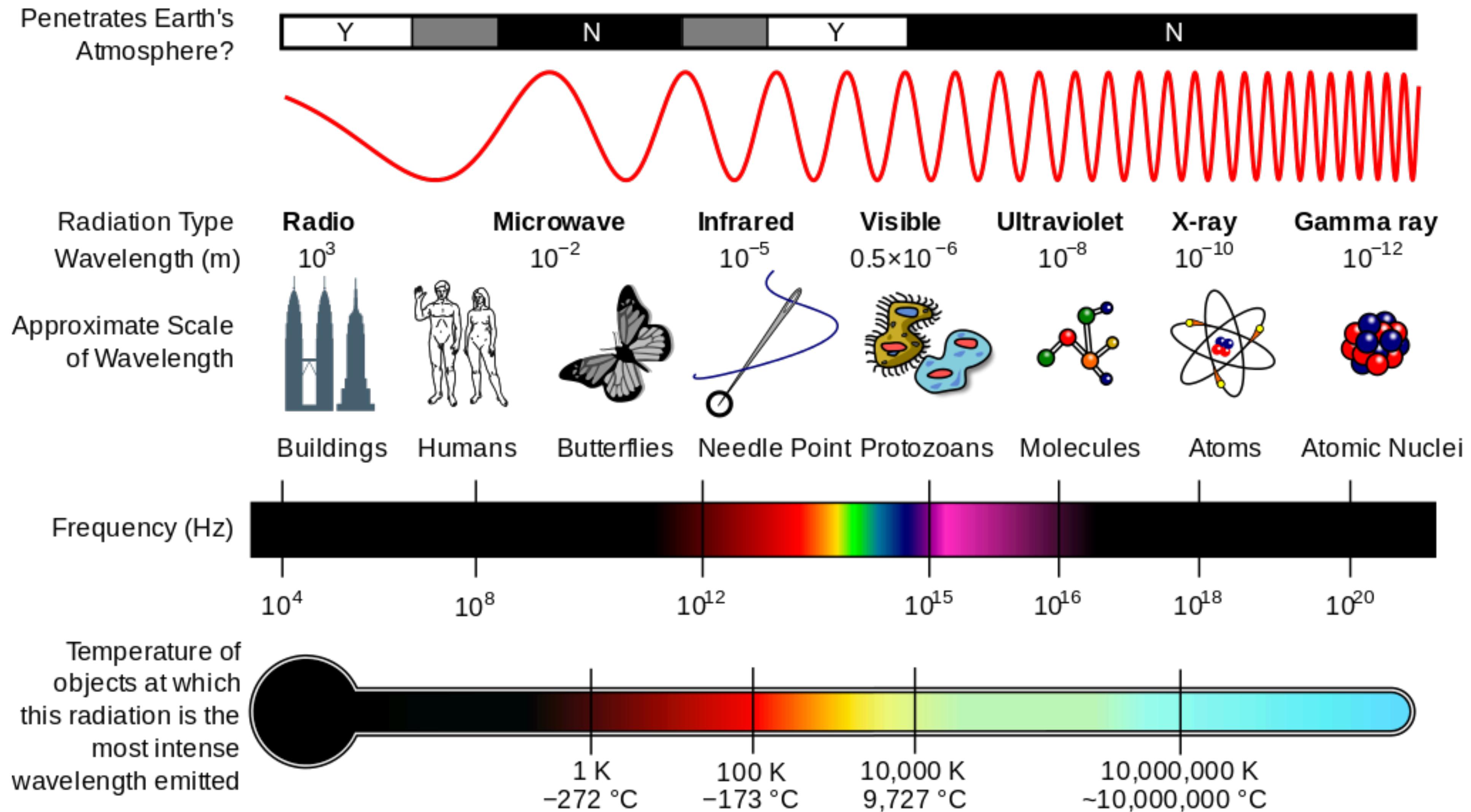
- Many ground and space telescopes
- Often big and complex projects that require new technology & algorithms  
Typical: 100 million or 1 billion Euros
- Multi-wavelength
- Multi-messenger
- Complex data and analysis.  
Today often in Python!



*Very large telescope  
(VLT, ESO, Chile)*

*1999 - now*

# LIGHT - ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE (FREQUENCY & WAVELENGTH) AND PARTICLE (PHOTON)



# MULTI-WAVELENGTH ASTRONOMY

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- Night sky and most objects look very different in different wavebands
- Need multi-wavelength observations and spectra to understand astrophysical effects
- Example: Andromeda Galaxy (M31) - nearest major Galaxy to the Milky Way

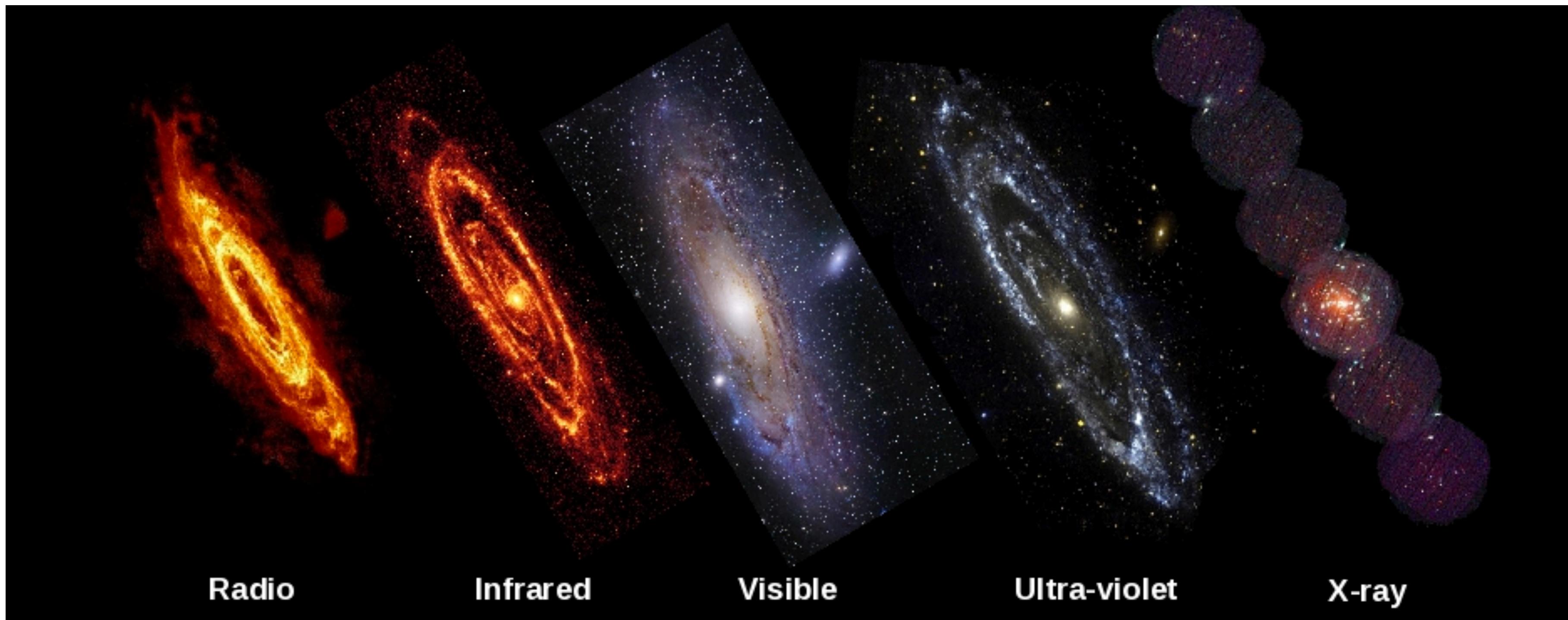
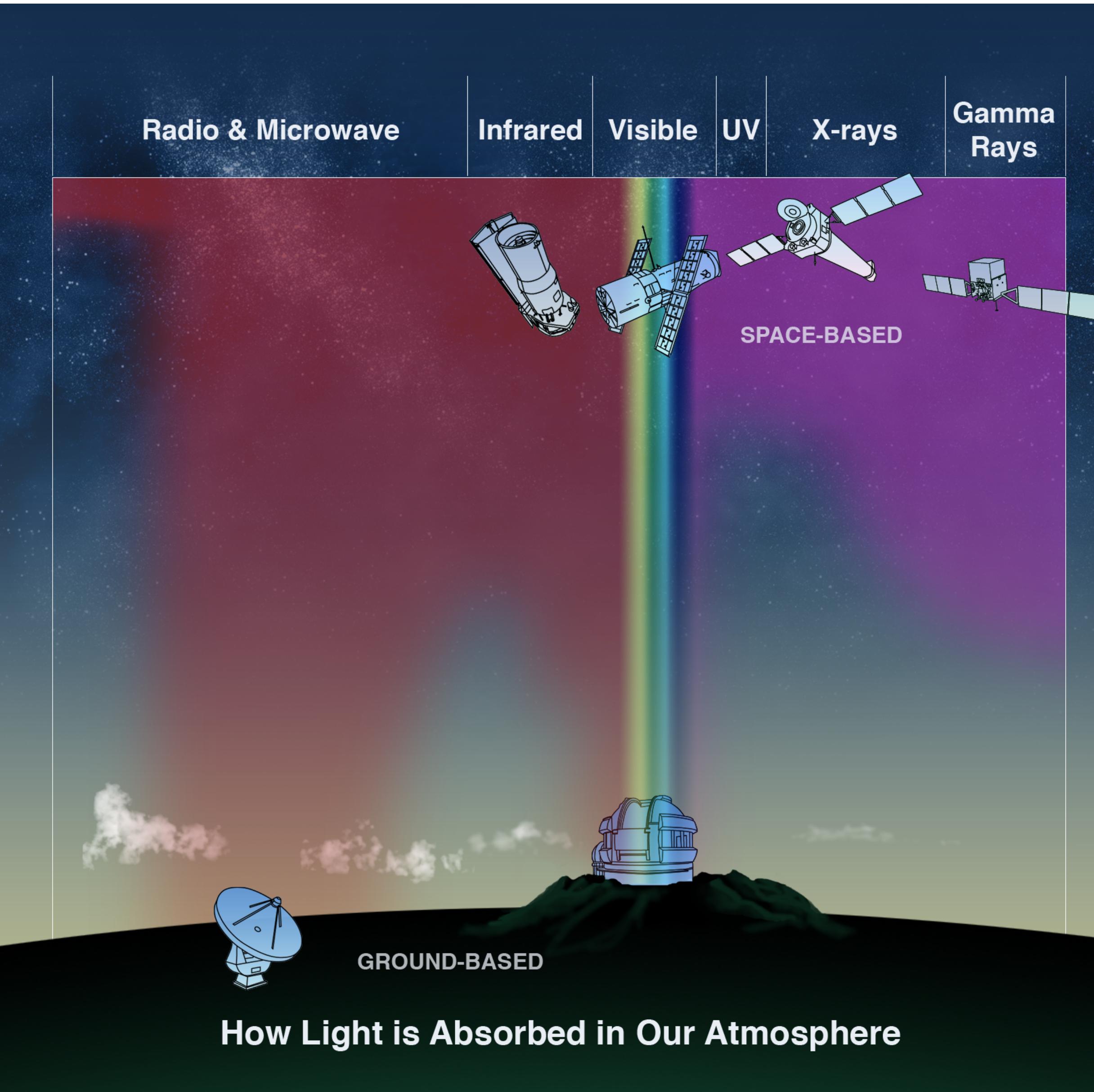
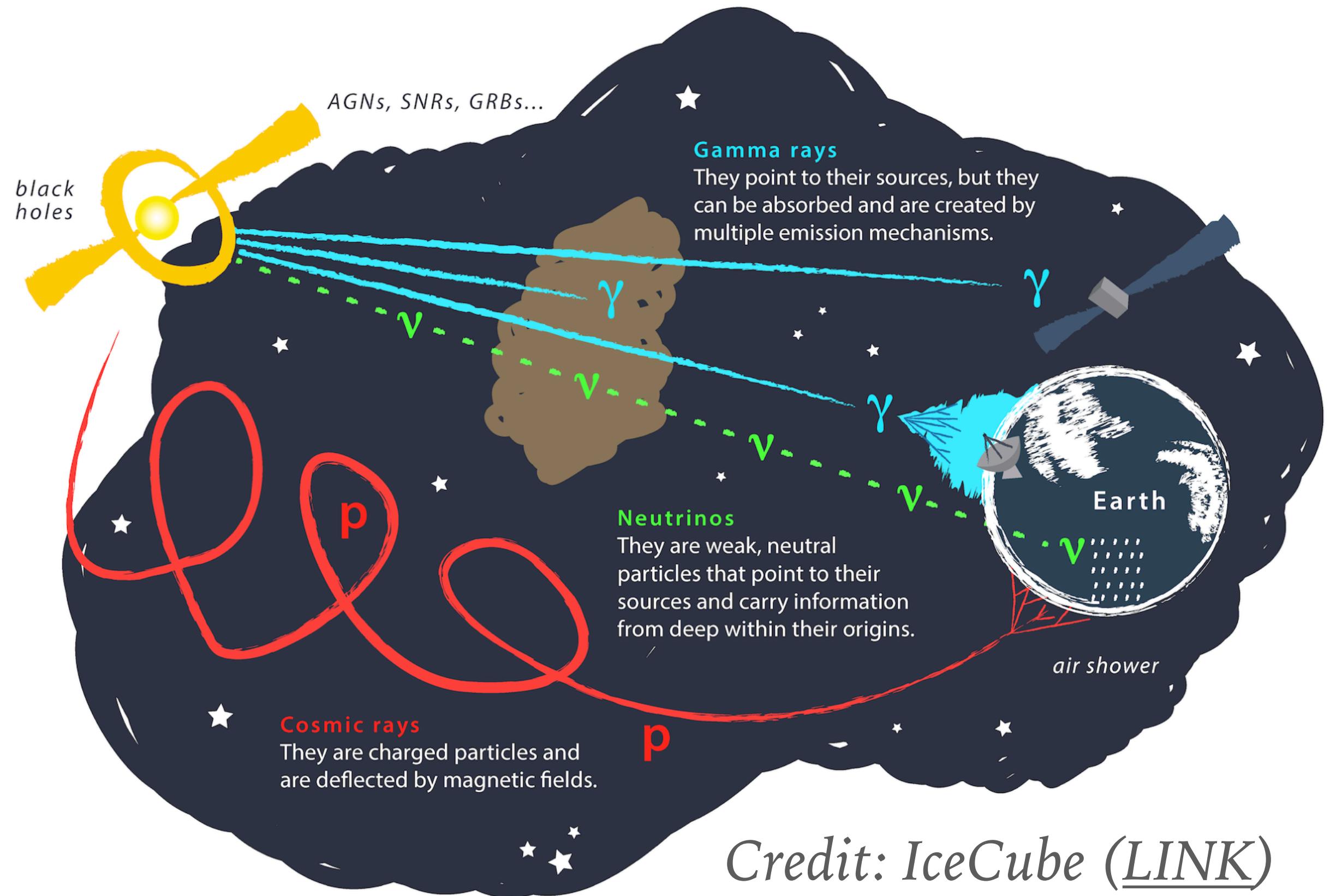


Image credits: Radio: WSRT/R. Braun; Infrared: NASA/Spitzer/K. Gordon; Visible: Robert Gendler; Ultraviolet: NASA/GALEX; X-ray: ESA/XMM/W. Pietsch

# MULTI-WAVELENGTH ASTRONOMY



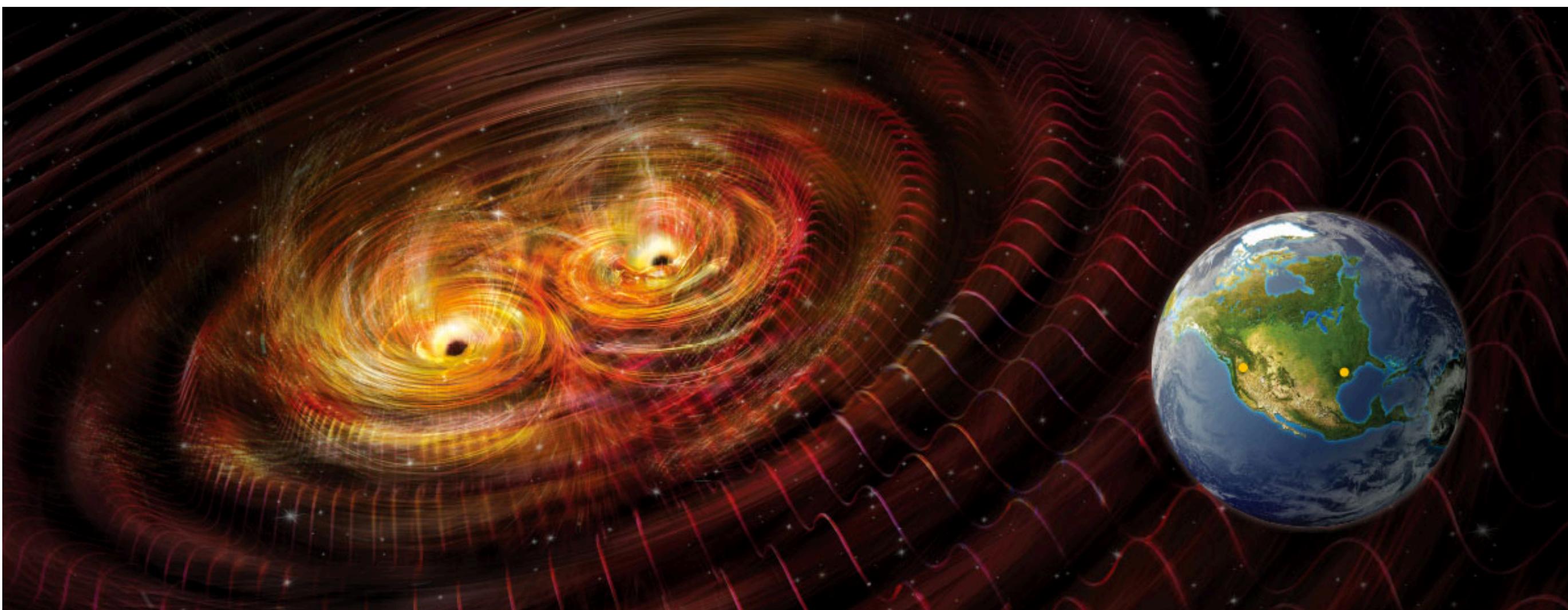
- Earth's atmosphere transparent to radio and visible light - ground telescopes
- Infrared light, X-rays and gamma-rays are blocked - space telescopes
- Curious exception: very high energy gamma-rays can only be detected from the ground. Will explain later.



Credit: IceCube ([LINK](#))

# MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY

- Most astronomy is done with light
- But other “messengers” exist:
  - Cosmic rays (charged particles)
  - Neutrinos (elementary particle)
  - Gravitational waves (GW)
- Multi-messenger useful or required to study some extreme objects and physical effects, such as e.g. strong gravity, particle physics, dark matter

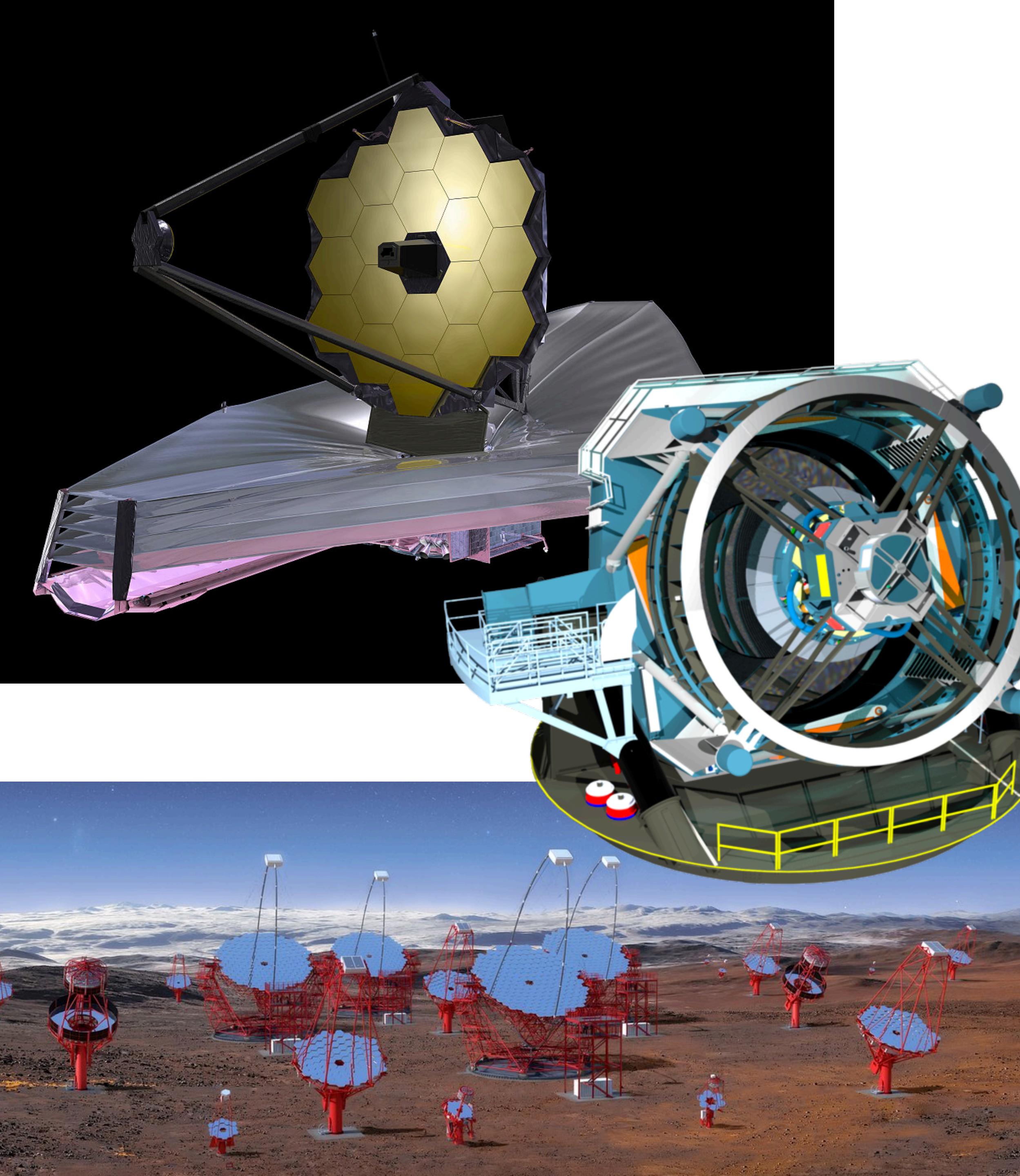


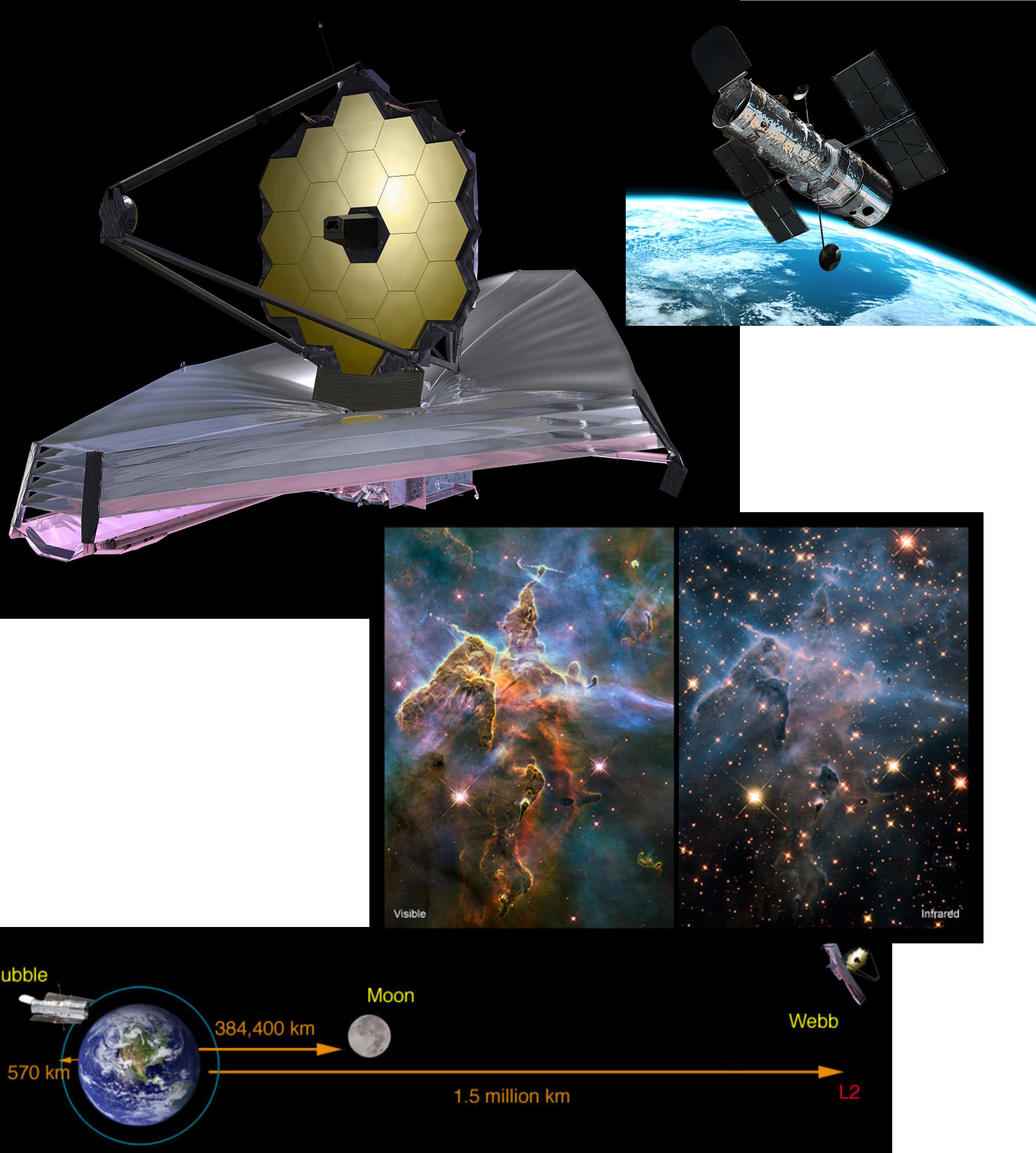
Credit: [sciencenews.org](#) ([LINK](#))

# PYTHON IN ASTRONOMY

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- Will introduce three telescopes that are in construction and use Python heavily!
- Very quick overview: science & instrument & data & code
- Telescopes:
  1. Jame Webb Space Telescope JWST, infrared, space
  2. Large Synoptic Survey Telescope LSST, optical, Chile
  3. Cherenkov Telescope Array CTA, gamma-rays, Chile & La Palma

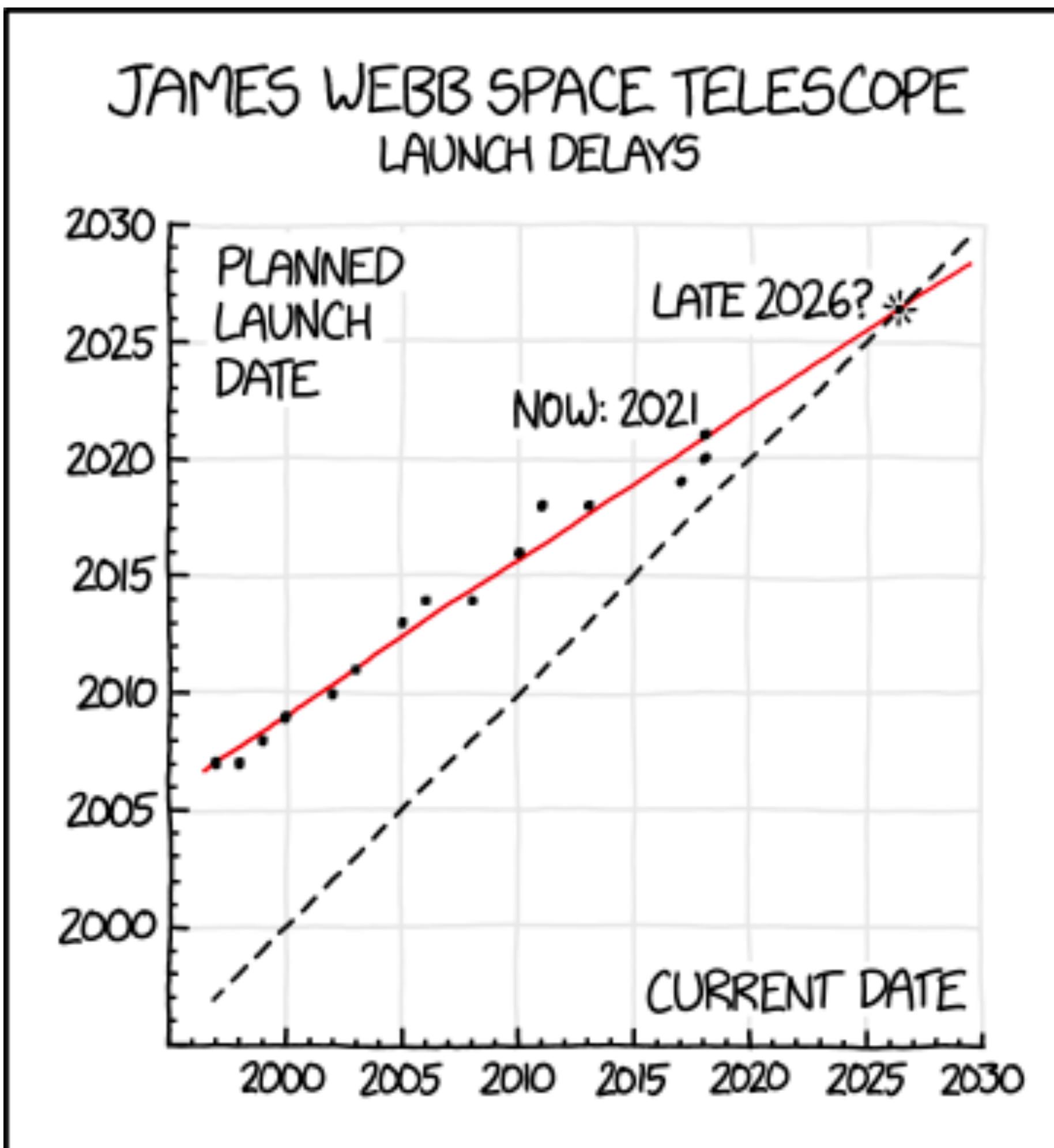




## JWST OR “WEBB”

- James Webb Space Telescope  
Planned launch date: March 30, 2021
- JWST is the Hubble Telescope successor  
Launched April 24, 1990
- Greatly improved resolution & sensitivity  
JWST mirror (6.5 m) much larger than  
Hubble (2.4 m) - 6x collection area
- JWST observes in infrared: cooling, sun  
shield, L2 location, complex instruments
- Many new observations that were  
impossible so far: formation of stars and  
planets, first galaxies in the universe

# JWST LAUNCH DATE AND COST



LOOK, AT LEAST THE SLOPE IS LESS THAN ONE.

Source: <https://xkcd.com/2014>

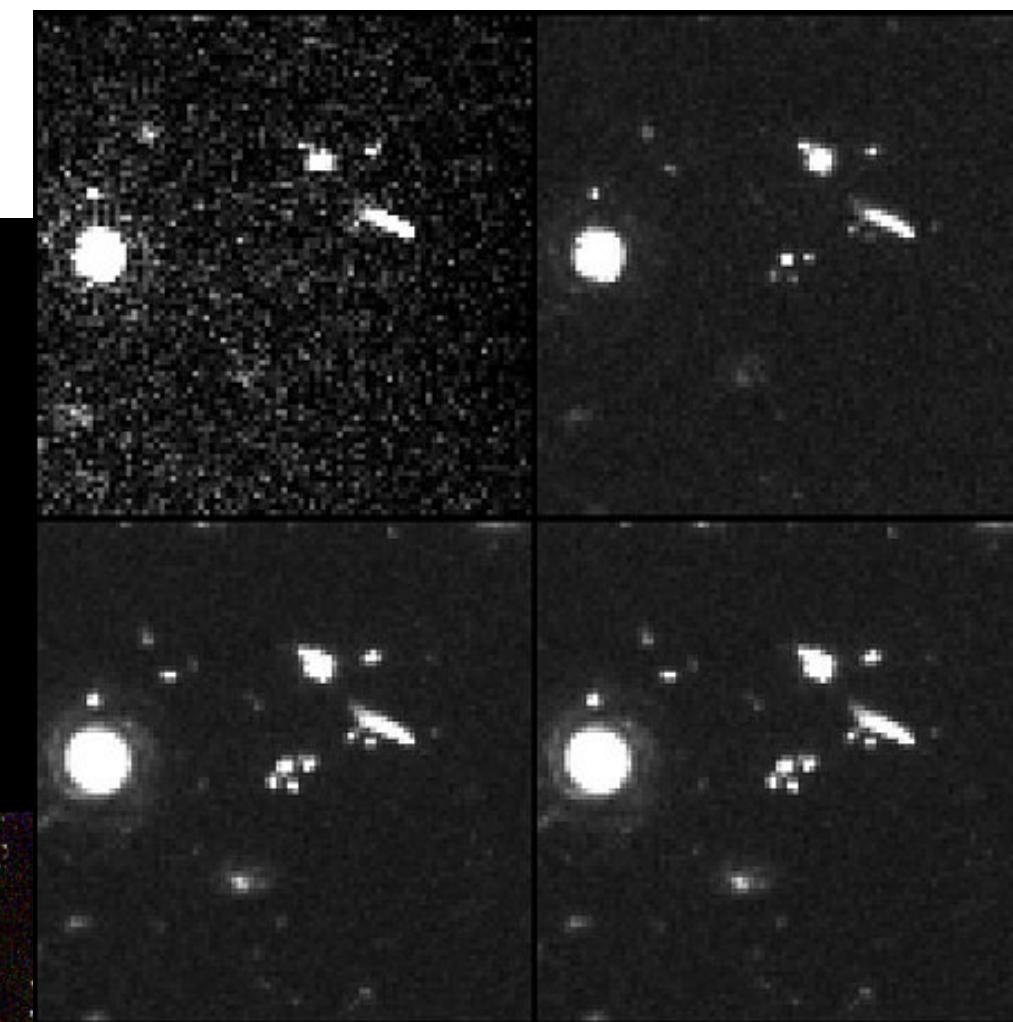
- JWST history of cost overruns and delays  
Source: [JWST Wikipedia page](#)
- 1998: launch 2007, cost 1 billion \$
- 2008: launch 2014, cost 5 billion \$
- 2018: launch 2021, cost 10 billion \$
- Generally this is the case for many research projects: plan & cost estimates always very optimistic to get funding.
- Q: “Why is the JWST taking so long?”  
A: Biggest and most complex space telescope that was ever built ([YouTube](#))

# JWST LAUNCH AND DEPLOYMENT — FINGERS CROSSED! (VIDEO CLIP)

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Source: <https://youtu.be/v6ihVeEoUdo> (Northrop Grumman)



## HUBBLE & JWST DATA & TOOLS

- Mostly pixel data: images, cubes, spectra  
n-dim arrays - good fit for Numpy!
- Approximate data rates:
  - 30 GB / day (Hubble)
  - 300 GB / day (JWST)
- Data reduction & analysis software history  
for Hubble and JWST interesting:  
**"How Python slithered into astronomy"**  
(see next slide and references at the end.)

*Example: Hubble deep field ([LINK](#)) — a lot of data reduction from raw to science image.*

# PYTHON & ASTRONOMY

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- In 1990 Guido van Rossum created Python — scientists use Fortran, C, C++ and custom languages for data analysis
- Hubble was launched in 1990 - at that time mainly using IRAF which had it's own development and scripting language
- 1995 Perry Greenfield and others at STScI start using C, and try to evolve IRAF
- 1998: want to use Python, but need a way to transition — create PyRAF bridge
- 2000s: use Python more and more Numpy, Scipy, matplotlib, ...





- [\[AstroPy\] PyAstronomy Stefan Czesla](#)
  - [\[AstroPy\] Proliferating py-astro-libs Marshall Perrin](#)

On Jun 9, 2011, at 12:54 PM, Stefan Czesla wrote:

Dear all,

we would like to let you know about our recent release of a -- hopefully -- useful contribution to Python's astronomy community, namely, our PyAstronomy package

On 10/06/11 8:25 AM, Marshall Perrin wrote:

*Hopefully without sounding too critical of you in particular, I'm going to ask: do we as a community really need /yet another/ separate python library for astronomy*

## ASTROPY IS BORN

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- 2010: Python already popular in astronomy
- Too popular? — dozens of Python packages for common tasks: work with sky coordinates or tables & images
- June 9, 2011 on the Python in astronomy mailing list ... Astropy is born!



# The Astropy Project

**Project Coordinators:** Tom Aldcroft, Kelle Cruz, Thomas Robitaille, and Erik Tollerud

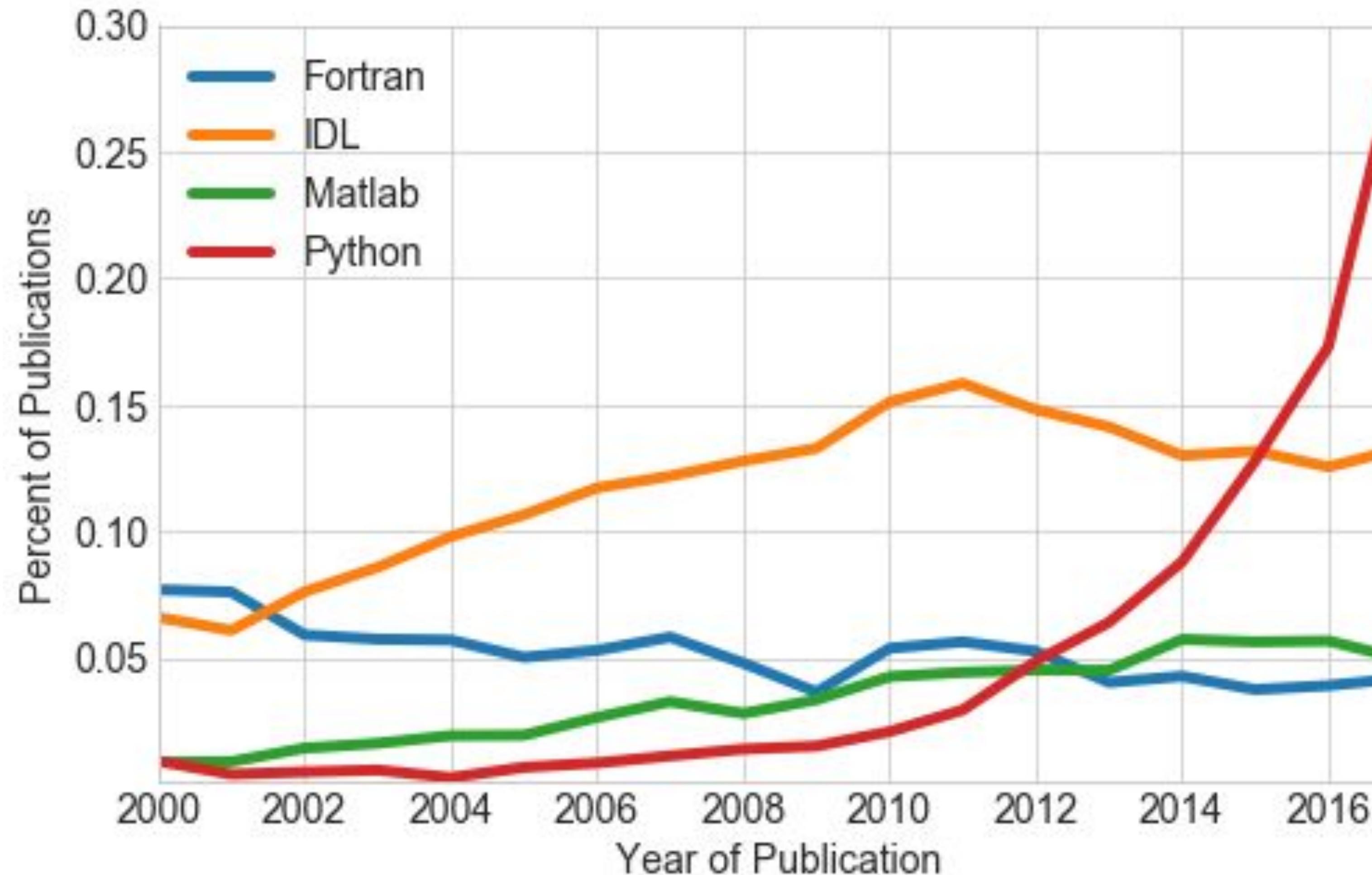
**Developers/Contributors for core package (as of March 2019):**

Ryan Abernathy	Eli Bressert	Jonathan Eisenhamer	Anany Shrey Jain	Mike McCarty	Sushobhana Patra	Kevin Sooley
Mohan Agrawal	Matthew Brett	Thomas Erben	Anchit Jain	Curtis McCully	Molly Peebles	Shivan Sornarajah
Shailesh Ahuja	Hannes Breytenbach	Henry Ferguson	Anany Shrey Jain	Vinayak Mehta	Matthew Petroff	Megan Sosey
Tom Aldcroft	Hugo Budddelmeijer	Vital Fernández	VSN Reddy Janga	Aaron Meisner	Abhinav Nitin Pitale	Shantanu Srivastava
Mike AlexanderSEN	Doug Burke	Leonardo Ferreira	Grant Jenks	Mikhail Minin	Ray Plante	David Stanby
Anne Archibald	Giorgio Calderone	Tyler Finethy	Tim Jenness	Sashank Mishra	Adele Plunkett	Abigail Stevens
Cristian Ardelean	Daria Cara	Dan Foreman-Mackey	Eric Jeschke	Serge Montagnac	Orion Poplawski	Ole Streicher
Humna Awan	Mihai Cara	Jonathan Foster	Graham Kanarek	José Sabater Montes	Stephen Portillo	Matej Stuchlik
Tomas Babej	Patti Carroll	Ryan Fox	Anirudh Katipally	Francesco Montesano	Ana Posses	Bernardo Sulzbach
Matteo Bacchetti	Mabry Cervin	Leah Fulmer	Sarah Kendrew	Brett Morris	Joanna Power	Jani Šumak
Alexander Bakanov	Prithish Chakraborty	Lehman Garrison	Marten van Kerwijk	Michael Mueller	Paul Price	Jonas Große Sundrup
Steven Bamford	Sourabh Cheedella	Simon Gibbons	Nicholas S. Kern	Stuart Mumford	Adrian Price-Whelan	Vatsala Swaroop
Kyle Barbary	Christian Clauss	Adam Ginsburg	Wolfgang Kerzendorf	Dimitri Muna	J. Xavier Prochaska	Esteban Pardo Sánchez
Geert Barentsen	Alex Conley	Martin Glatzle	Lennard Kiehl	Nick Murphy	David Pérez-Suárez	James Taylor
Pauline Barmby	Jean Connely	Christoph Gohlke	Rashid Khan	Prasanth Nair	Tanuj Rastogi	Jeff Taylor
Paul Barrett	Simon Conseil	Danny Goldstein	Aleh Khvalko	Stefan Nelson	Thomas Robitaille	Mark Taylor
Juanjo Bazán	Ryan Cooke	Ralf Gommers	Rocio Kiman	Giang Nguyen	Juan Luis Cano Rodríguez	Kirill Chernyshyov
Andreas Baumbach	Yannick Copin	Karl Gordon	David Kirby	Bogdan Nicula	Rohan Rajpal	Régis Terrier
Chris Beaumont	Michele Costa	J. Goutin	Dominik Klaes	Al Niessner	Patrício Rojo	Víctor Terrón
Stefan Becker	Matthew Craig	Johnny Greco	Eric Koch	Joe Philip Ninan	Evert Rol	Peter Teuben
Manas Satish Bedmutha	Steve Crawford	Perry Greenfield	Tom Kooij	Asra Nizami	Alex Rudy	Scott Thomas
Alexandre Beelen	Devin Crichton	Dylan Gregersen	Kacper Kowalik	Bryce Nordgren	Joseph Ryan	Erik Tollerud
Daniel Bell	Neil Crighton	Austen Groener	Roban Hultman Kramer	James Noss	Saurav Sachidanand	Matthew Turk
Elijah Bernstein-Cooper	Robert Cross	Frédéric Grollier	Mangala Gowri	Sigurd Næss	Eloy Salinas	James Turner
Kristin Berry	Kelle Cruz	Karan Grover	Krishnamoorthy	Maximilian Nöthe	Gerrit Schellenberger	Miguel de Val-Borro
Edward Betts	Dan P. Cunningham	Kevin Gullikson	Aniket Kulkarni	Ricardo Ogando	Joseph Schlitz	Jake VanderPlas
Mavani Bautista	Daniel D'Avella	Hans Moritz Günther	Amit Kumar	Sara Ogaz	Michael Seifert	Alex de la Vega
Nimit Bhardwaj	Ritwick DSouza	Chris Hanley	Arie Kurniawan	Georgiana Oorean	Srikrishna Sekhar	Shresth Verma
Mavani Bautista	Daniel Datsev	Alex Hagen	Arne de Laat	Semyeong Oh	Mathieu Servillat	Sam Verstocken
Francesco Biscani	James Davies	Andrew Hearn	Antony Lee	Bruno Oliveira	Aditya Sharma	Zé Vinicius
Manish Biswas	Matt Davis	Christian Hettlage	Katrin Leinweber	Kyle Oman	Swapnil Sharma	Karl Vuyheister
Thompson Le Blanc	James Dearman	Paul Hirst	Daniel Lenz	Miruna Oprescu	Helen Sherwood-Taylor	Lisa Walter
Christopher Bonnett	Emily Deibert	Moataz Hisham	Kieran Leschinski	Carl Osterwisch	David Shiga	Laura Watkins
Joseph Jon Booker	Christoph Deil	Michael Hoenig	Simon Liedtke	Luigi Paioro	Albert Y. Shih	Benjamin Alan Weaver
Médéric Boquien	Nadia Dencheva	Emma Hogan	Pey Lian Lim	David M. Palmer	David Shupe	Jonathan Whitmore
Azalee Bostroem	Eric Depagne	Derek Homeier	Stuart Littlefair	Asish Panda	John Parejko	Julien Woillez
Luke G. Bouma	Akash Deshpande	Anthony Horton	Joseph Long	Jonathan Sick	Max Silbiger	Michael Wood-Vasey
Matthew Bourque	Jörg Dietrich	JC Hsu	Joe Lyman	Madhura Parikh	Bernie Simon	Maneesh Yadav
Larry Bradley	Axel Donath	Griffin Hosseinzadeh	Jerry Ma	Neil Parley	Sudheesh Singanamalla	Felix Yan
Gustavo Bragança	Bili Dong	Lingyi Hu	Duncan Macleod	Sergio Pascual	Leo Singer	Víctor Zabalza
Gabriel Brammer	Michael Droettboom	Jurien Huisman	Ritiek Malhotra	Pratik Patel	Brigitta Sipocz	Michael Zhang
Clara Brasseur	Sanjeev Dubey	Joe Hunkeler	Michele Mastropietro	Aarya Patil	Paul Sladen	
Erik M. Bray	Zach Edwards	Zeljko Ivezic	Jeffrey McBeth	Rohit Patil	Arfon Smith	

## ATROPY PROJECT

- Core package — tables, images, coordinates, time, data formats
- Mostly Python & Numpy, quite some C extensions and Cython
- Ecosystem of interoperable and complimentary packages
- Project coordinators
- Open development on Github
- Some professional developers (funded e.g. at STScI and others), not just astronomers
- Active user support: tutorial, documentation, meetings, ...

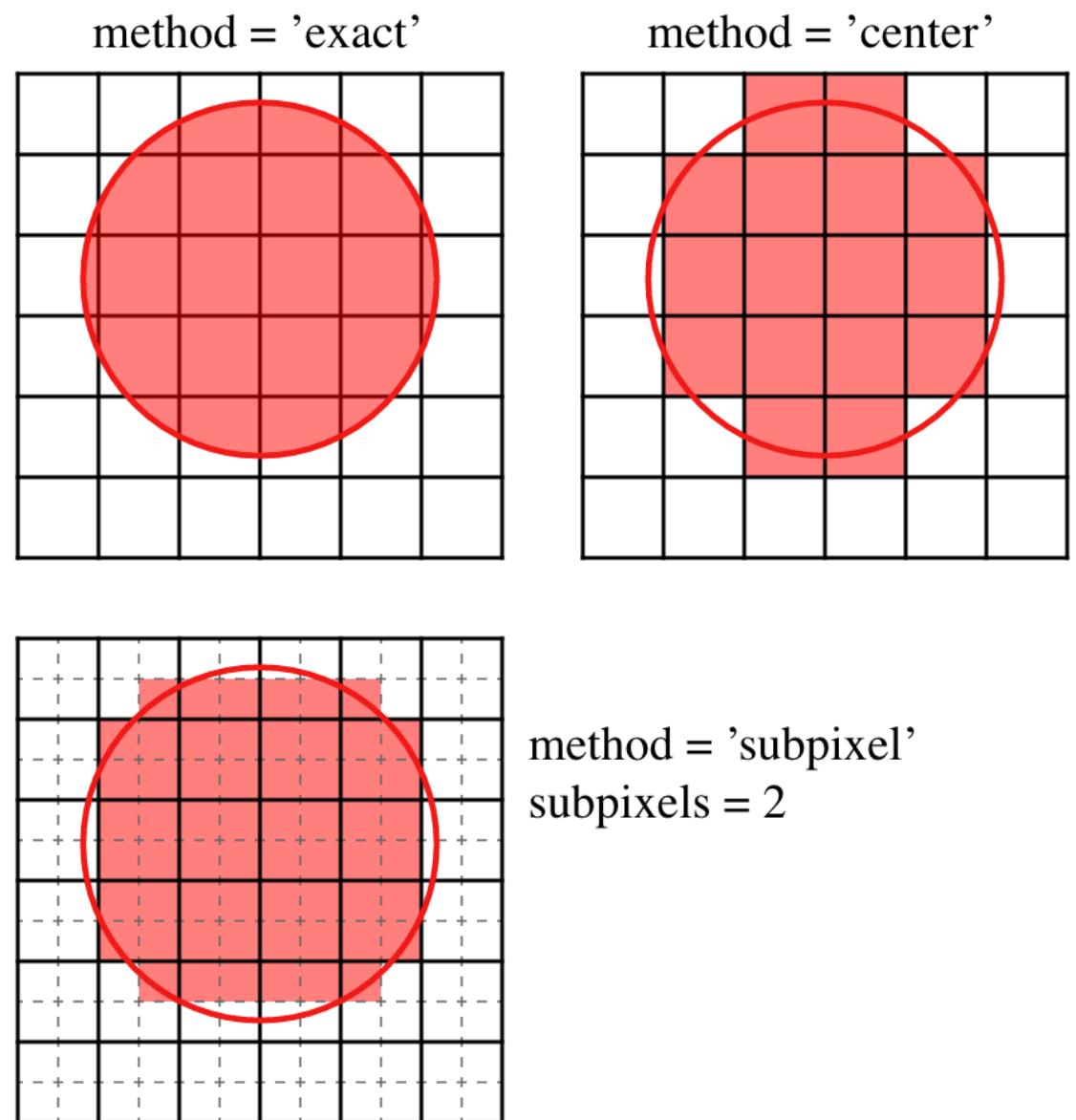
# MENTIONS OF SOFTWARE IN ASTRONOMY PUBLICATIONS



2019

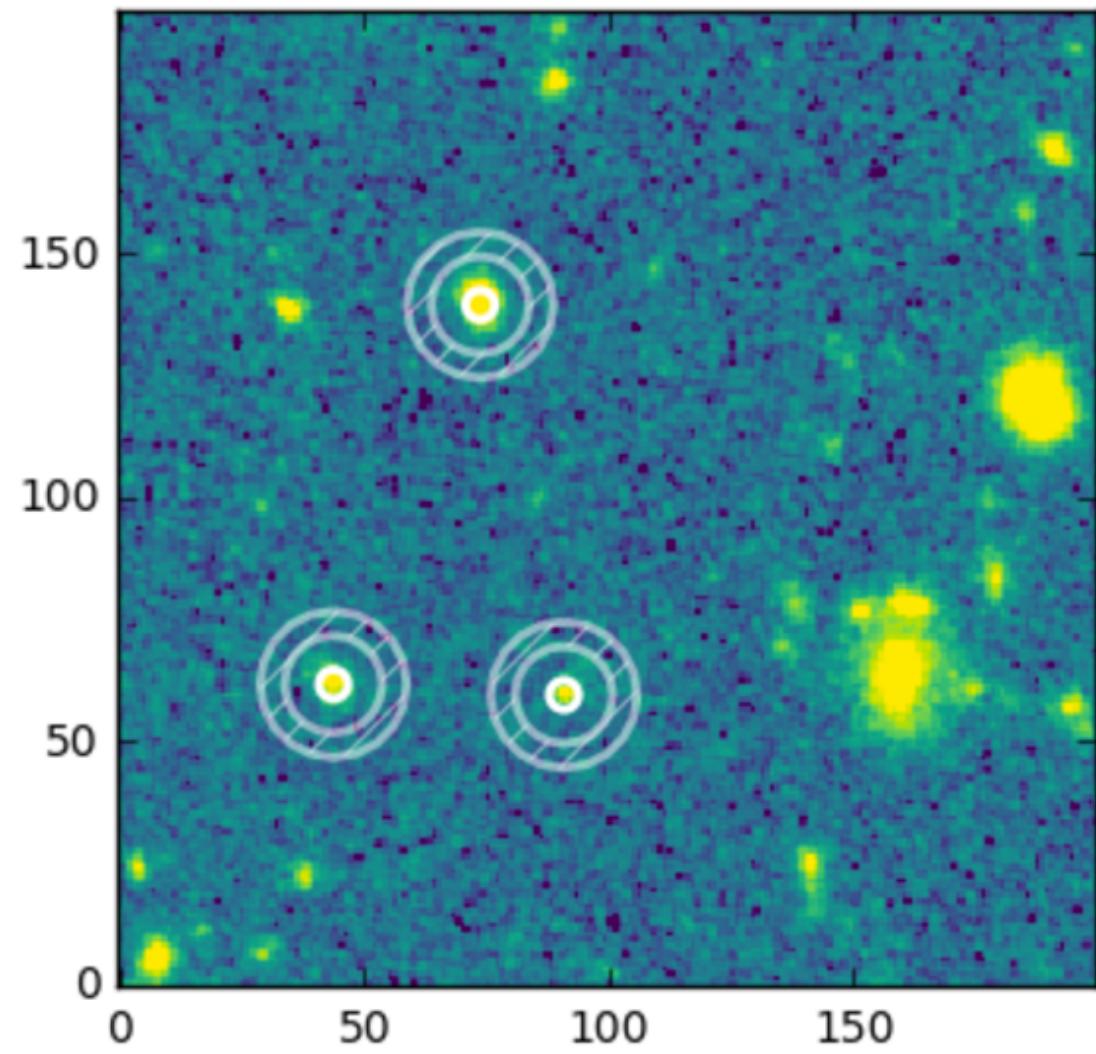
*Python now most popular language in astronomy.*

Thanks to Juan Nunez-Iglesias,  
Thomas P. Robitaille, and Chris Beaumont.



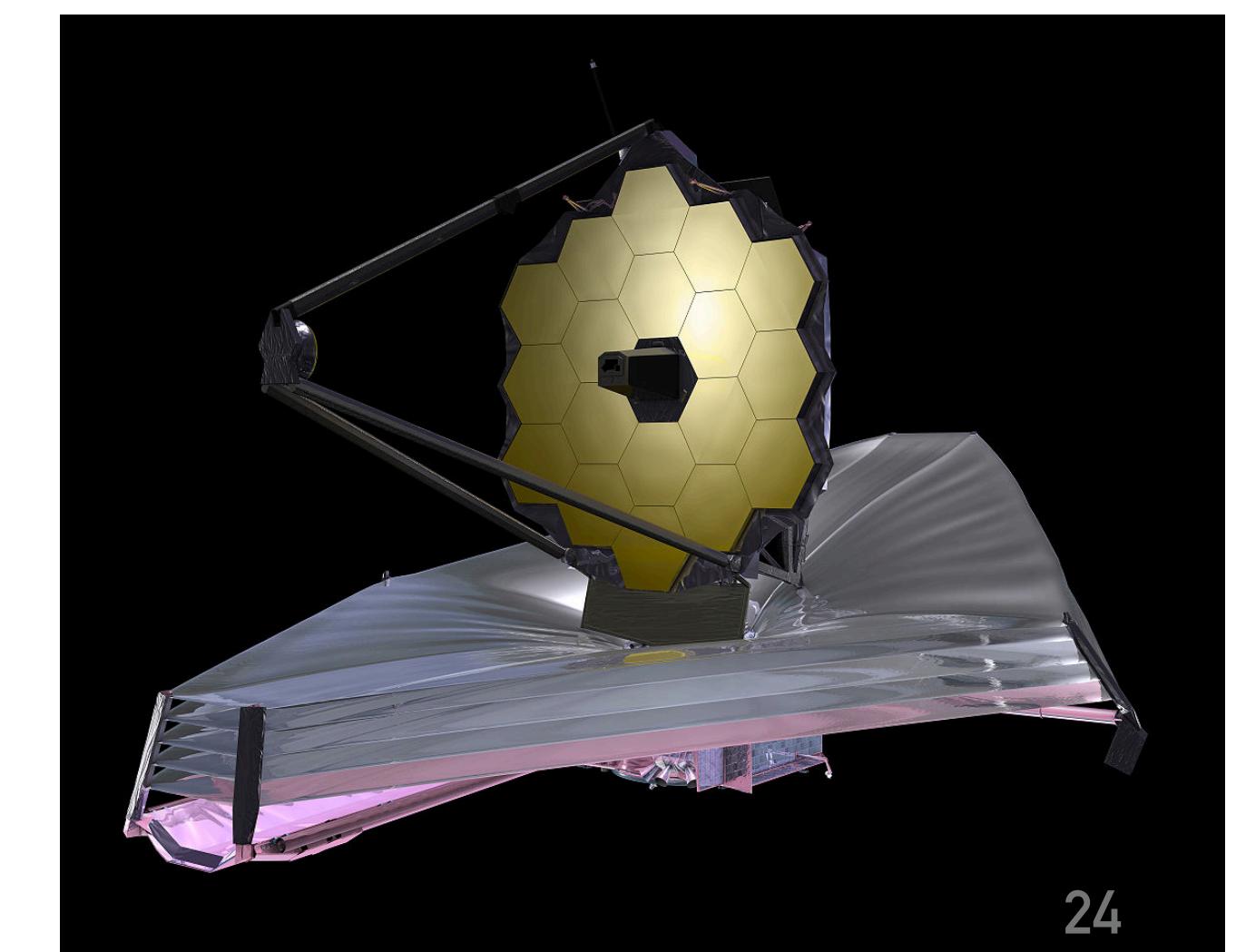
```
In [46]: plt.imshow(scale_image(data, scale='sqrt', percent=98.))

aper.plot(color='white', lw=2)
bkg_aper.plot(color='white', lw=2, hatch='//', alpha=0.5)
```



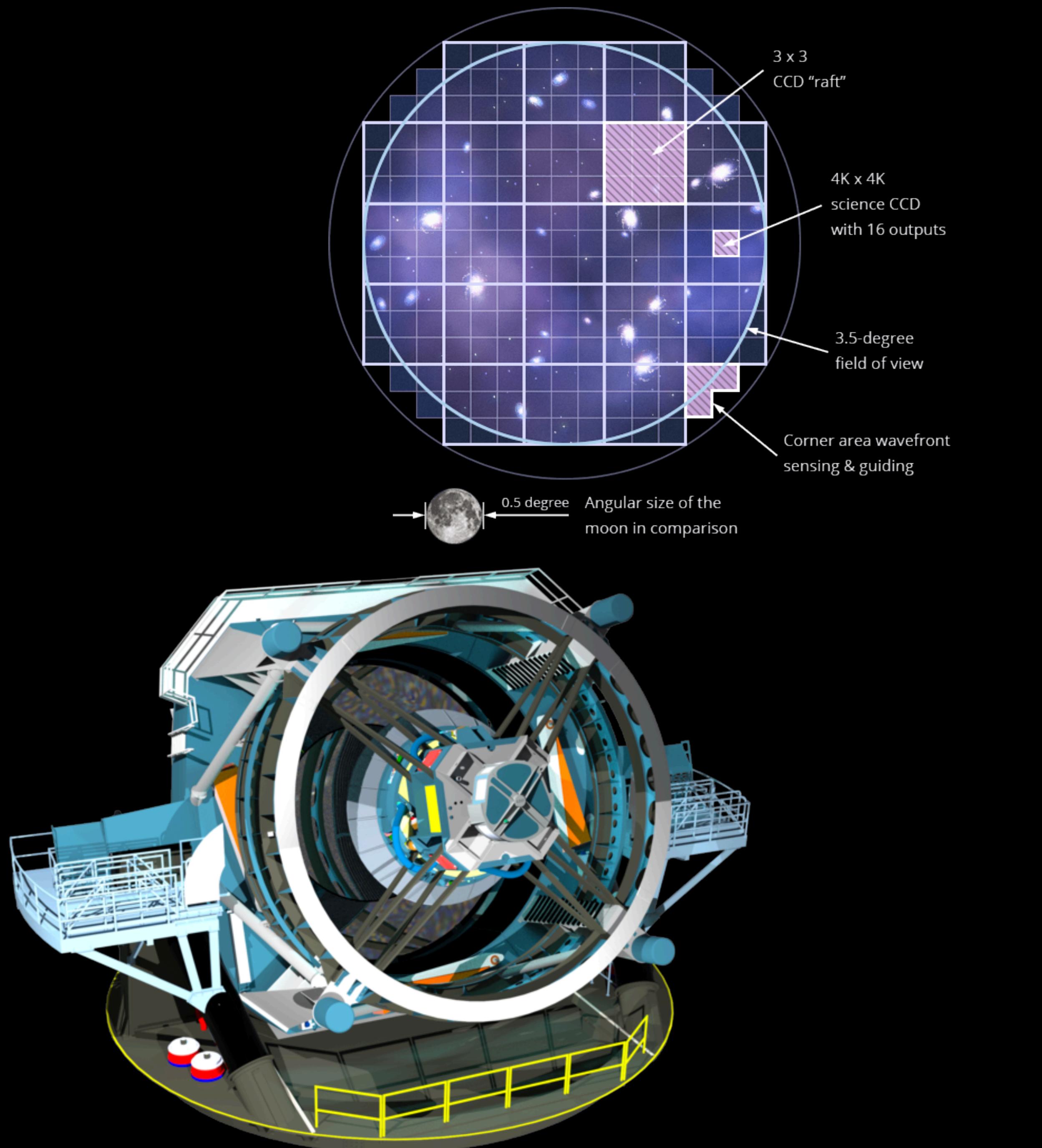
# ASTROPY & JWST

- JWST software: Python & Numpy & Astropy & other packages openly developed - for and with the astronomical community
- Example: image photometry using Jupyter, Astropy, phutils, matplotlib



# LSST

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- Large Synoptic Survey Telescope
- 8.4 m mirror, 3200 mega-pixel camera with very large field of view (40x moon)
- First light in 2020, cost 500 M\$
- Make a movie — image the full southern sky every three nights, for a decade
- Every night take 2000 images (15 TB data), transfer Chile to US, data analysis generating within 1 minute
- 10 million alerts per night, some will trigger other telescopes.

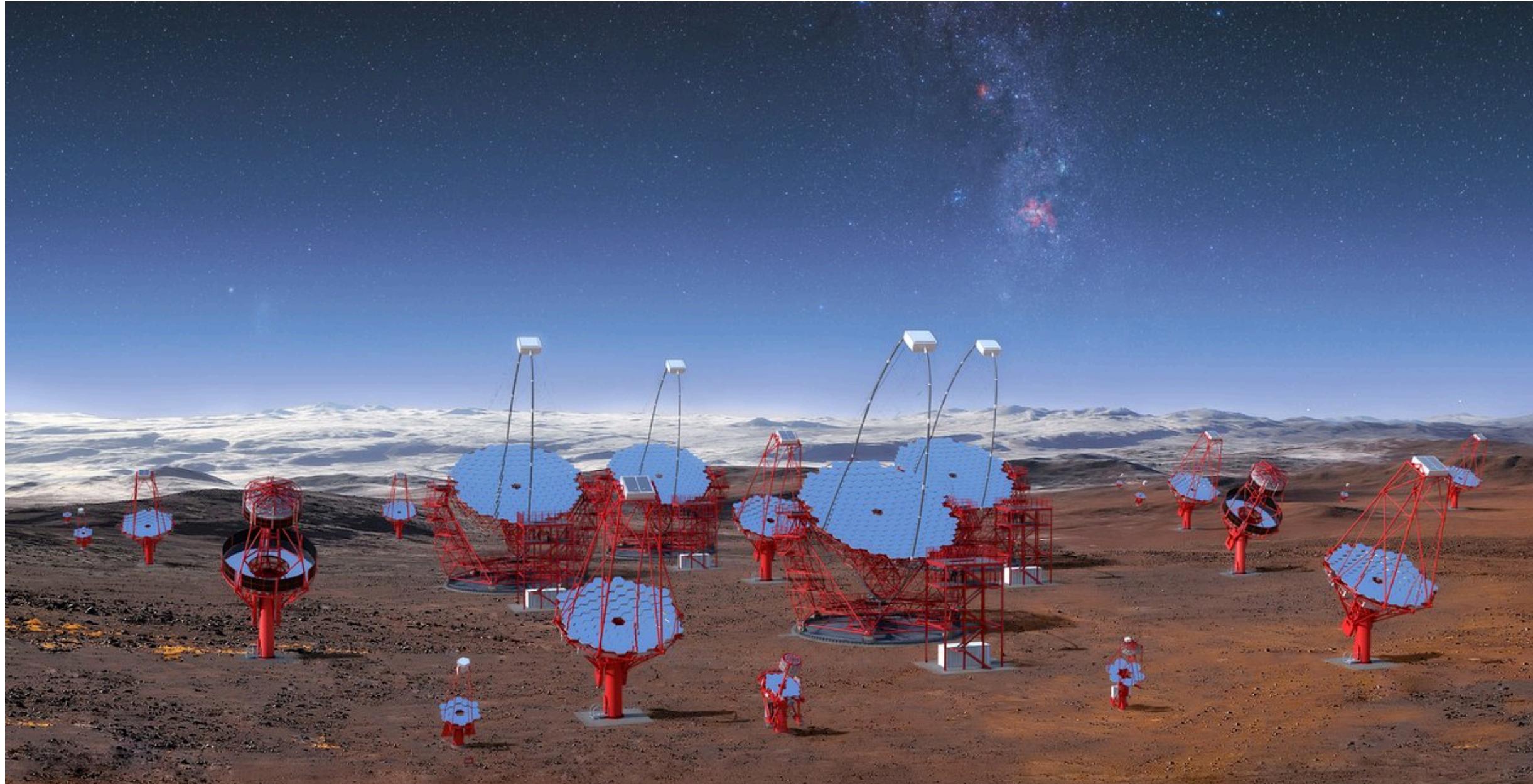
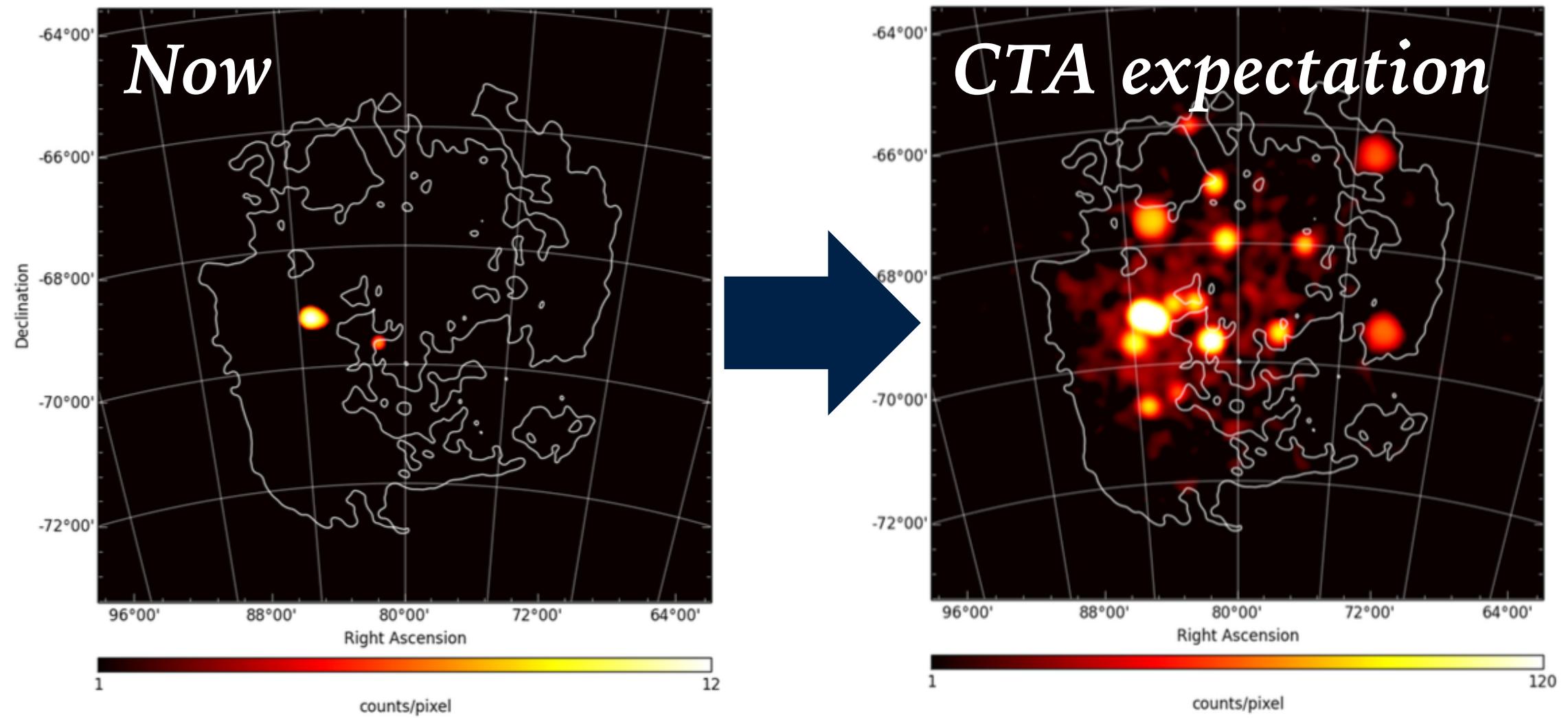
# LSST SOFTWARE - C++ & PYTHON

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- LSST can be called a “software telescope” - hardware is challenging and expensive, but software and data processing even more so - at the limit of what’s possible.
- They chose C++ & Python (via SWIG) 10+ years ago, yet still very active to investigate new C++ and Python features or interfacing (pybind11), or Cython, Astropy, ...
- I think LSST is one of the best software projects in astronomy - some LSST experts have mixed feelings, e.g. Jim Bosch “Falling out of love with C++” (2018, [LINK](#))
- What is good C++? Best practices very different in C++ 98, 11, 17, 20.  
*“I’m really starting to doubt that C++ can be safely and scalably used by big scientific projects.”*
- *“I’m by no means convinced that the Astropy/Cython approach would have been a better one for us, even if we’d adopted it years ago. The grass looks pretty brown on both sides of this fence.”*

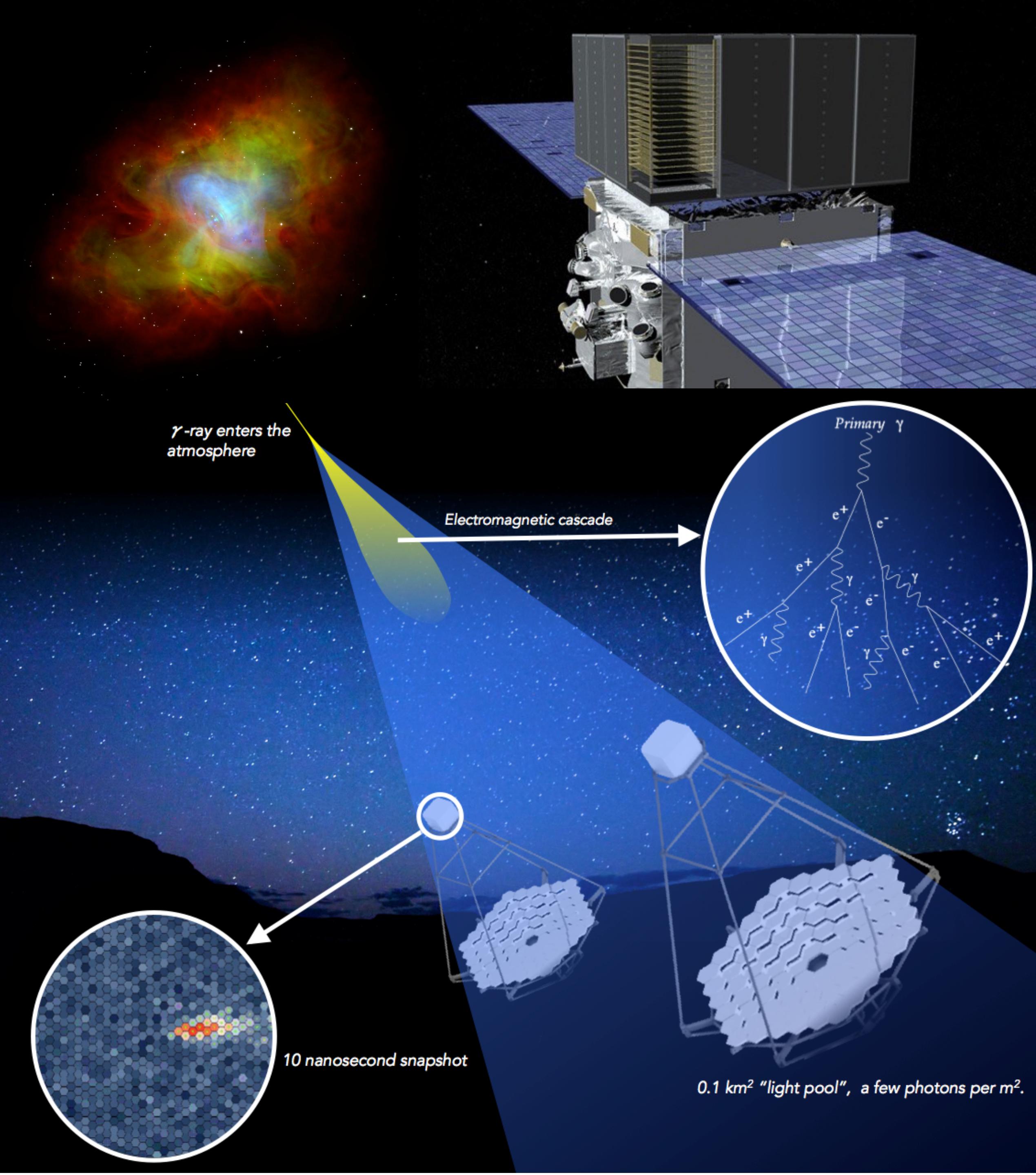


## *Large Magellanic Cloud image in gamma rays*



## CTA

- .....
- Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)
- Much higher resolution and sensitivity than current instruments like H.E.S.S.
- First ground-based gamma-ray observatory with open data and tools
- Two locations to be able to observe the whole sky: Chile & La Palma
- 300 million Euro and 1500 person years
- 100 telescopes (small, mid, large)
- Construction throughout 2020s

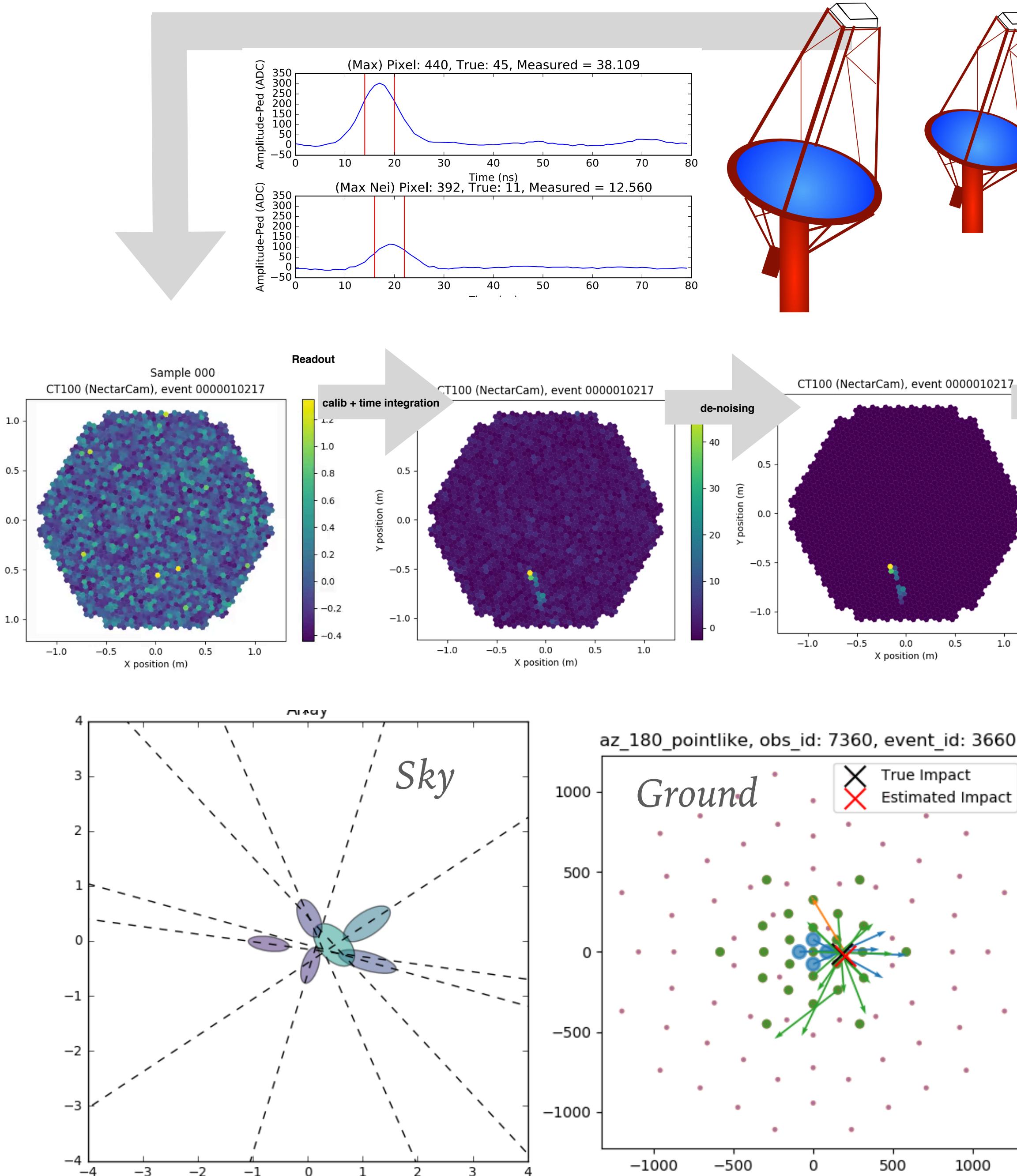


# CTA GAMMA-RAY DETECTION

- Fermi space telescope area too small to detect high-energy gamma rays (TeV)
- CTA is an array of imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes (IACTs)
- Earth atmosphere is part of the detector  
Up to square kilometre detection area
- Stereoscopic view of air showers and event reconstruction
- Output is an “event list”: time sky position and energy for every photon

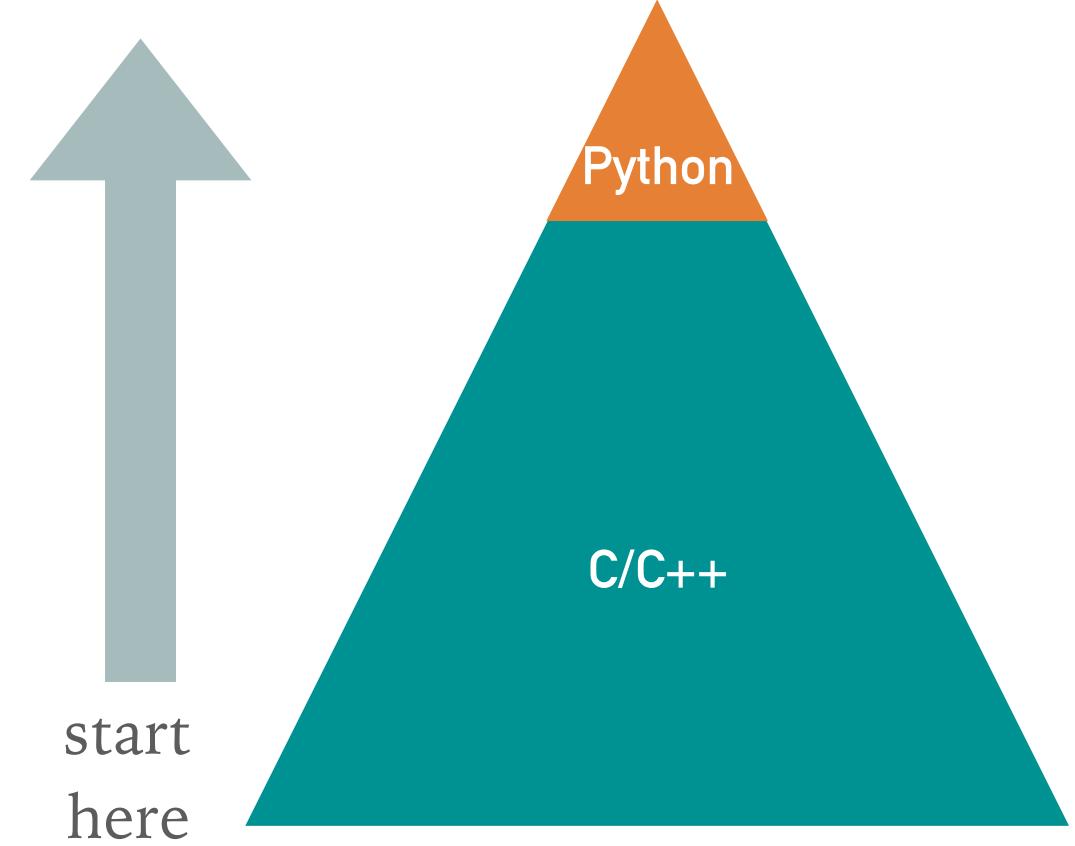
# CTA DATA

- Very high raw data rate:  
~ 30 TB / night and ~ 10 PB / year
- Very complex event reconstruction pipeline — several data levels
- High-level event data for science analysis of CTA is small, will only be ~ 1 TB (for years of observations)
- Maybe all CTA high-level data will fit on a laptop or even in memory

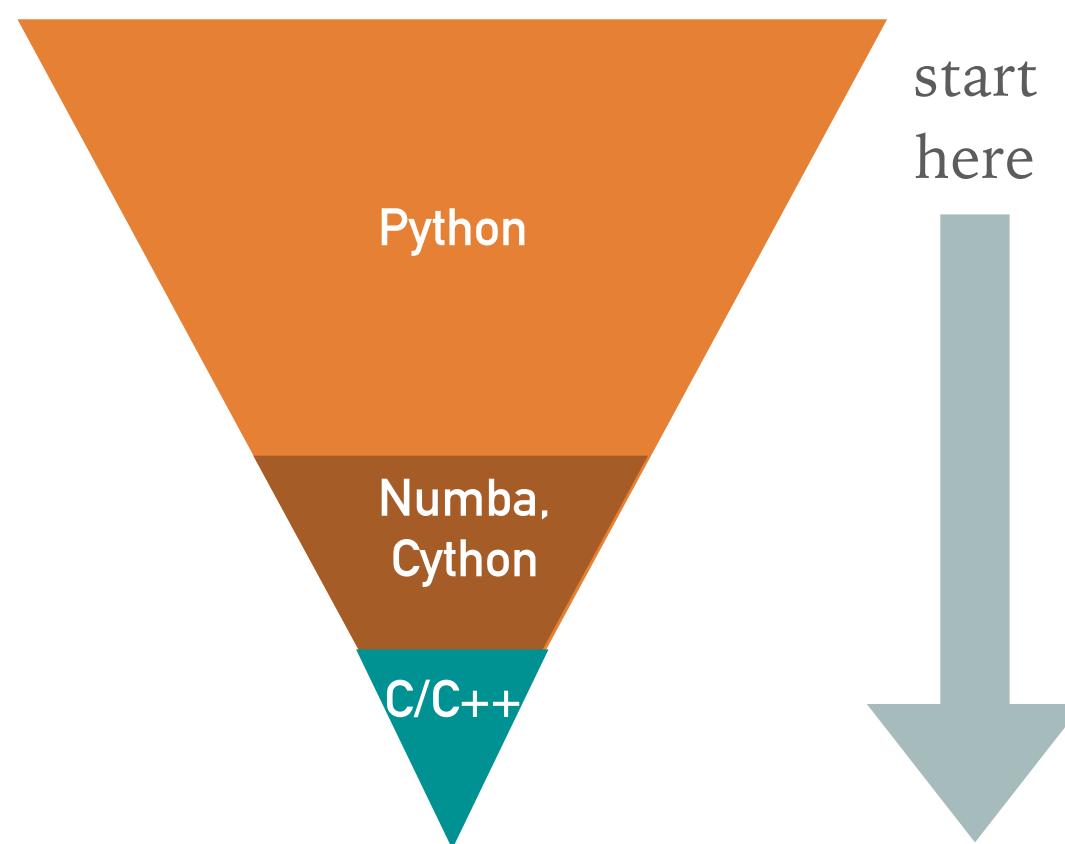


Source: Karl Kosack  
(PyGamma19)

Bottom-Up approach

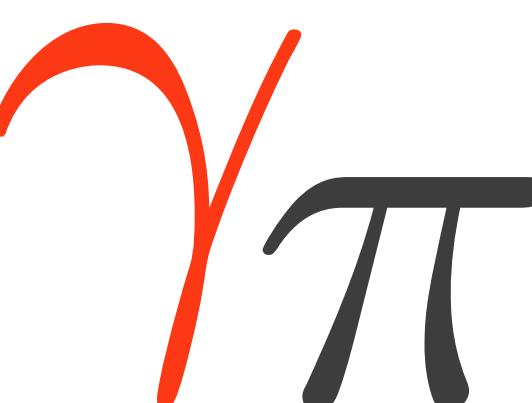
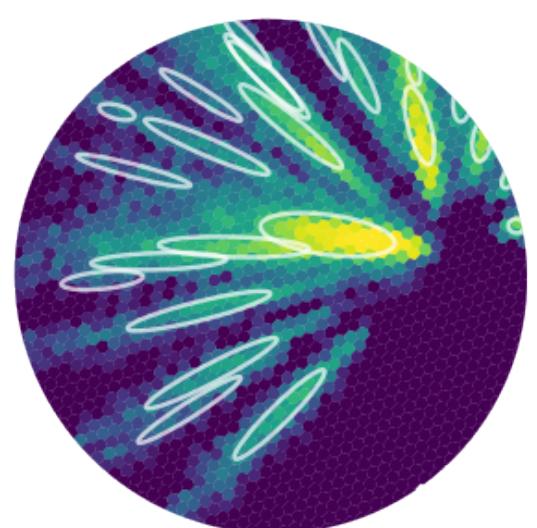


Top-Down approach



## CTA SOFTWARE

- Currently a lot of discussion on software technology stack & design for CTA:
  - mainly C++ like LSST?
  - mainly Python & Numpy like JWST?
  - which libraries are good & stable enough?
- I started Gammapy — 98% Python & Numpy & Astropy, 2% Cython
- Overall pretty happy with this approach, starting to look at Numba
- CTA is in the prototyping phase .... competing ideas, decisions in next years



A **Python** package for  
**gamma-ray** astronomy

**ctapipe**



# THE REPLICATION CRISIS IN SCIENCE

The Washington Post

Monkey Cage

## Does social science have a replication crisis?

By Joshua Tucker March 9

The replication crisis has engulfed economics

November 2, 2015 7:31pm EST



Image source from Shutterstock.com

## Cancer Research Is Broken

There's a replication crisis in biomedicine—and no one even knows how deep it runs.

By Daniel Engber



## The replication crisis in science has just begun. It will be big.

[24 Replies](#)

**Summary:** After a decade of slow growth beneath public view, the replication crisis in science begins breaking into public view. First psychology and biomedical studies, now spreading to many other fields — overturning what we were told is settled science, the foundations of our

*Image source: Jake Vanderplas (PyCon 2017)*

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# NEWS

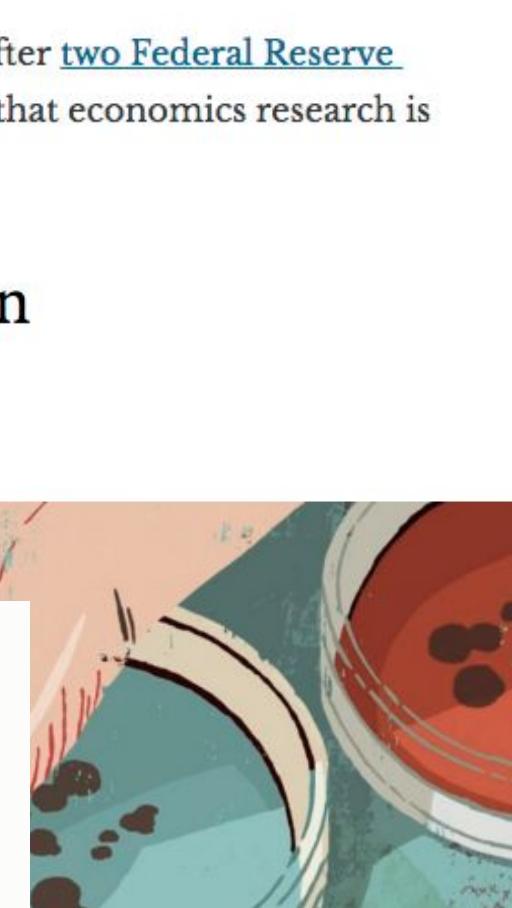
Home Video World US & Canada UK Business Tech Science Magazine Ent

Science & Environment

## Most scientists 'can't replicate studies by their peers'

By Tom Feilden  
Science correspondent, Today programme

© 22 February 2017 | Science & Environment



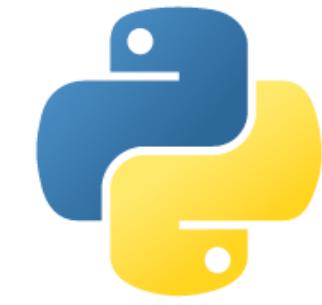
## Big Science is broken

Pascal-Emmanuel Gobry

*“An article about computational result is advertising, not scholarship. The actual scholarship is the full software environment, code and data, that produced the result.”*

— Buckheit and Donoho (1995)

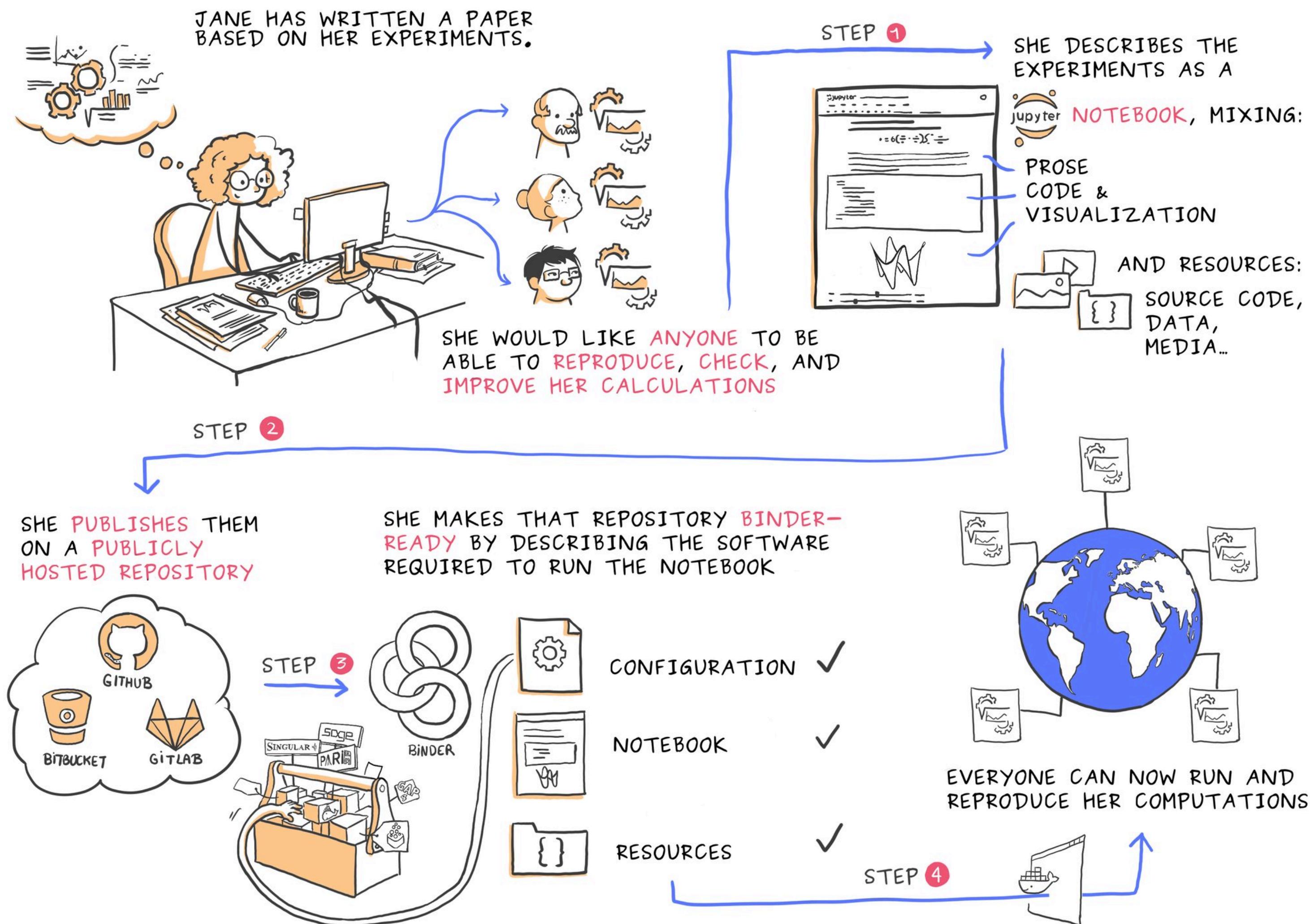
# OPEN TOOLS AND SERVICES HELP SCIENCE



python™



PyData



CONDA

Github

jupyter

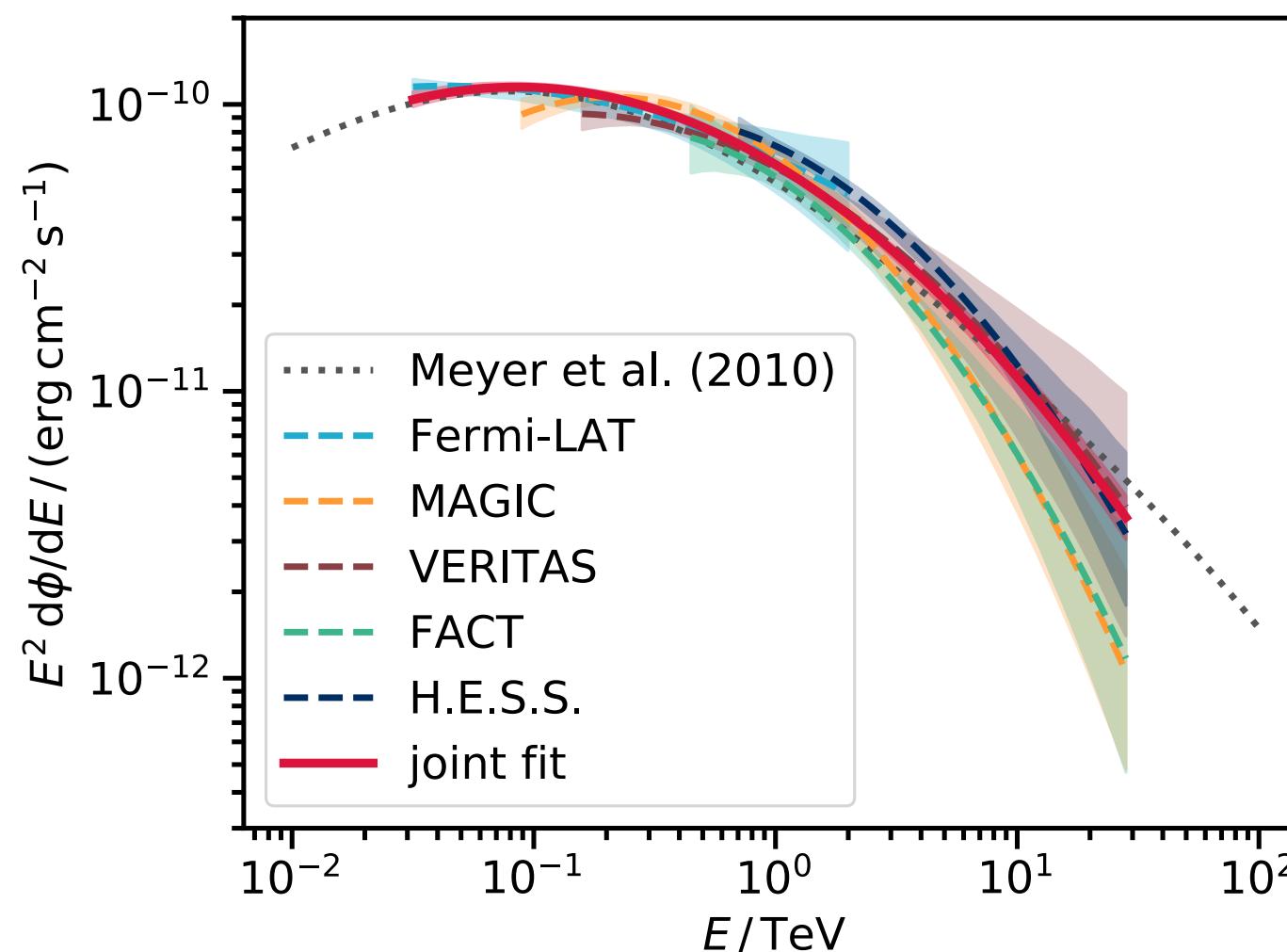
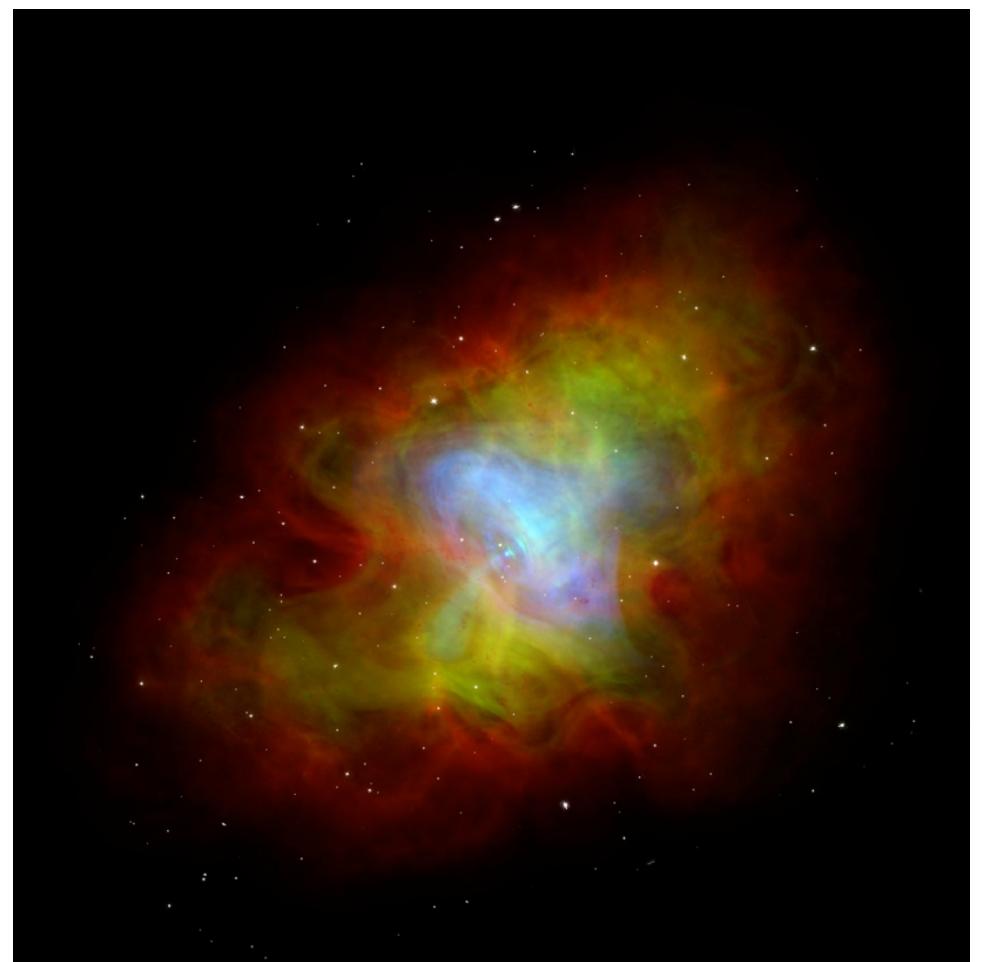
binder

Cartoon by <https://twitter.com/JulietteTaka> (Tweet)

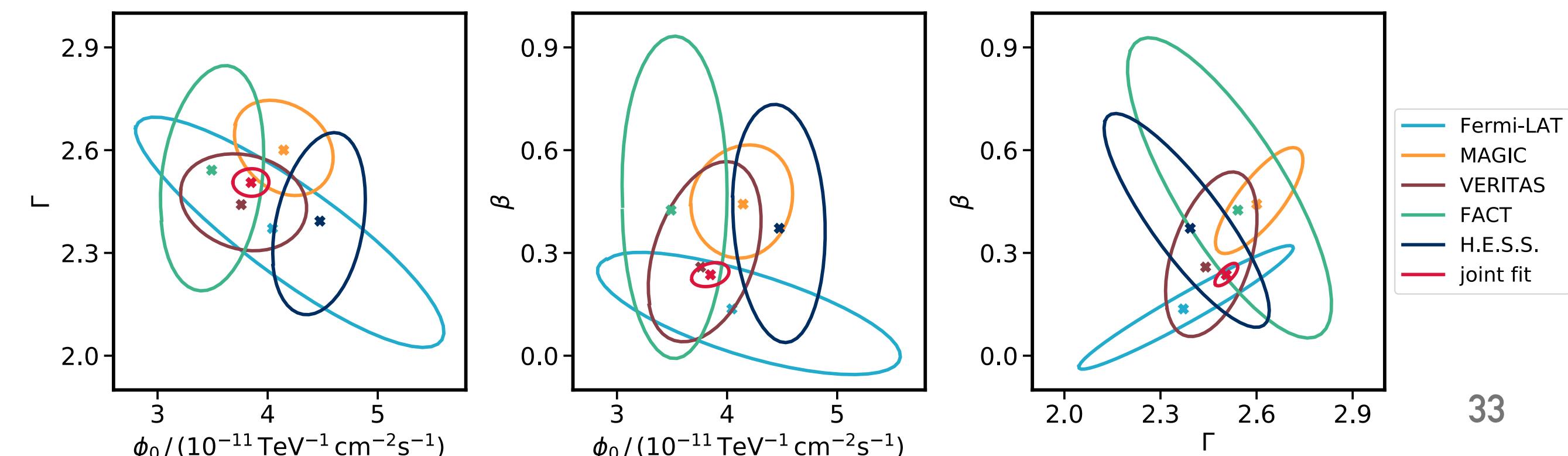
# MY FIRST REPRODUCIBLE PAPER

## Towards open and reproducible multi-instrument analysis in gamma-ray astronomy

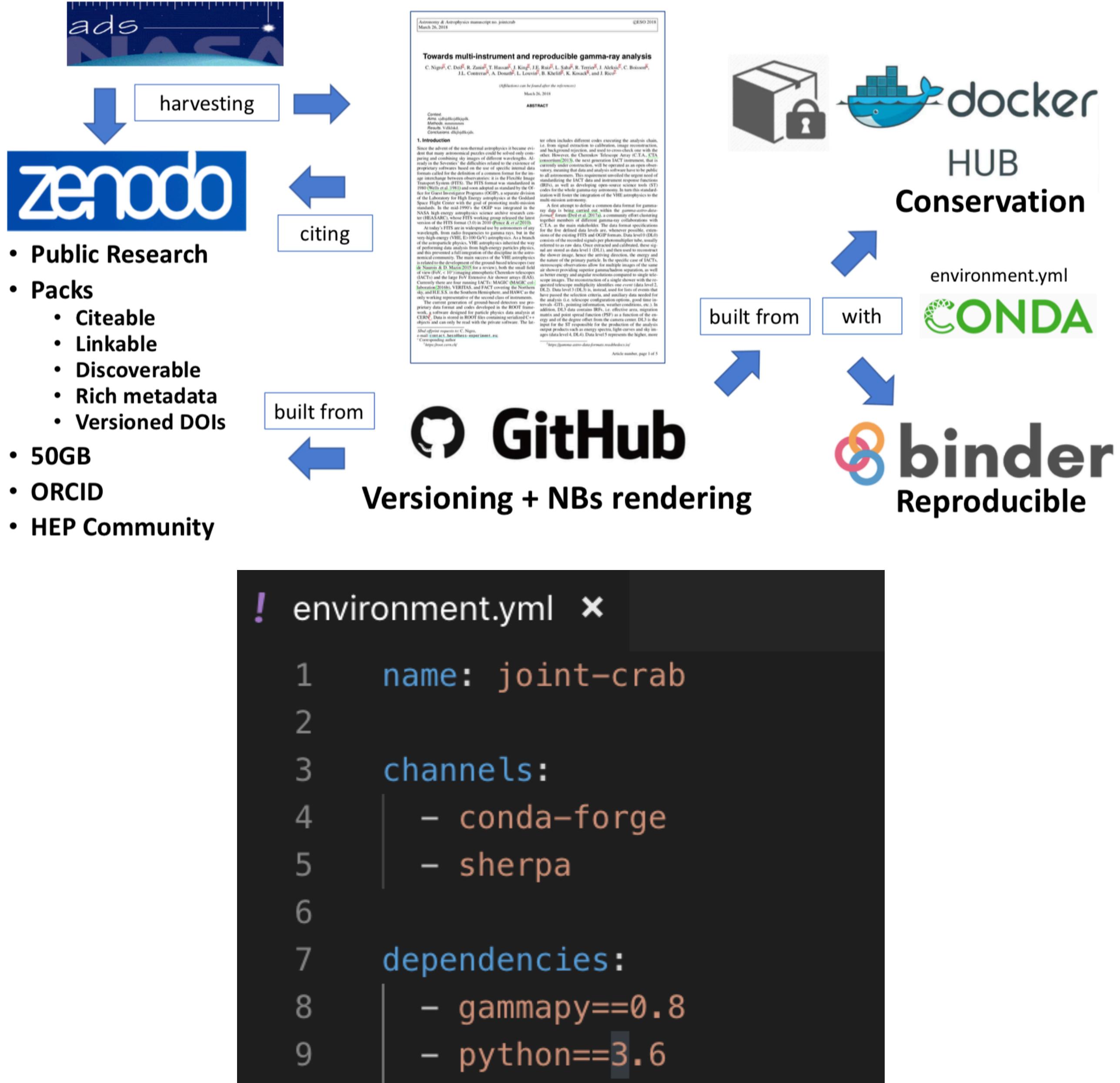
C. Nigro<sup>1\*</sup>, C. Deil<sup>2</sup>, R. Zanin<sup>2</sup>, T. Hassan<sup>1</sup>, J. King<sup>3</sup>, J.E. Ruiz<sup>4</sup>, L. Saha<sup>5</sup>, R. Terrier<sup>6</sup>, K. Brügge<sup>7</sup>, M. Nöthe<sup>7</sup>, R. Bird<sup>8</sup>, T. T. Y. Lin<sup>9</sup>, J. Aleksić<sup>10</sup>, C. Boisson<sup>11</sup>, J.L. Contreras<sup>5</sup>, A. Donath<sup>2</sup>, L. Jouvin<sup>10</sup>, N. Kelley-Hoskins<sup>1</sup>, B. Khelifi<sup>6</sup>, K. Kosack<sup>12</sup>, J. Rico<sup>10</sup>, and A. Sinha<sup>6</sup>



Dataset	$T_{\text{obs}}$	$E_{\text{min}}$ TeV	$E_{\text{max}}$ TeV
Fermi-LAT	~7 yr	0.03	2
MAGIC	0.66 h	0.08	30
VERITAS	0.67 h	0.16	30
FACT	10.33 h	0.45	30
H.E.S.S.	1.87 h	0.71	30



# An inter-linked storage for a reproducible pack



# MY FIRST REPRODUCIBLE PAPER

- All data & code open and archived:  
[github.com/open-gamma-ray-astro/joint-crab](https://github.com/open-gamma-ray-astro/joint-crab)  
[zenodo.org/record/2381863](https://zenodo.org/record/2381863)
- Reproducible execution environment via conda (with versions pinned):  

```
$ conda env create -f environment.yml
$ source activate joint-crab
```
- Docker image to increase chances of reproducibility in the future
- Python to reproduce all results and plots:  

```
$ make.py all
```
- Jupyter notebooks and Binder to explore

# WHY IS PYTHON SUCH AN EFFECTIVE TOOL IN ASTRONOMY?

*“Python is a language that is very powerful for developers, but is also accessible to Astronomers. Getting those two classes of people using the same tools, I think, provides a huge benefit that’s not always noticed or mentioned.”*



Perry Greenfield (STScI)  
PyAstro 2015

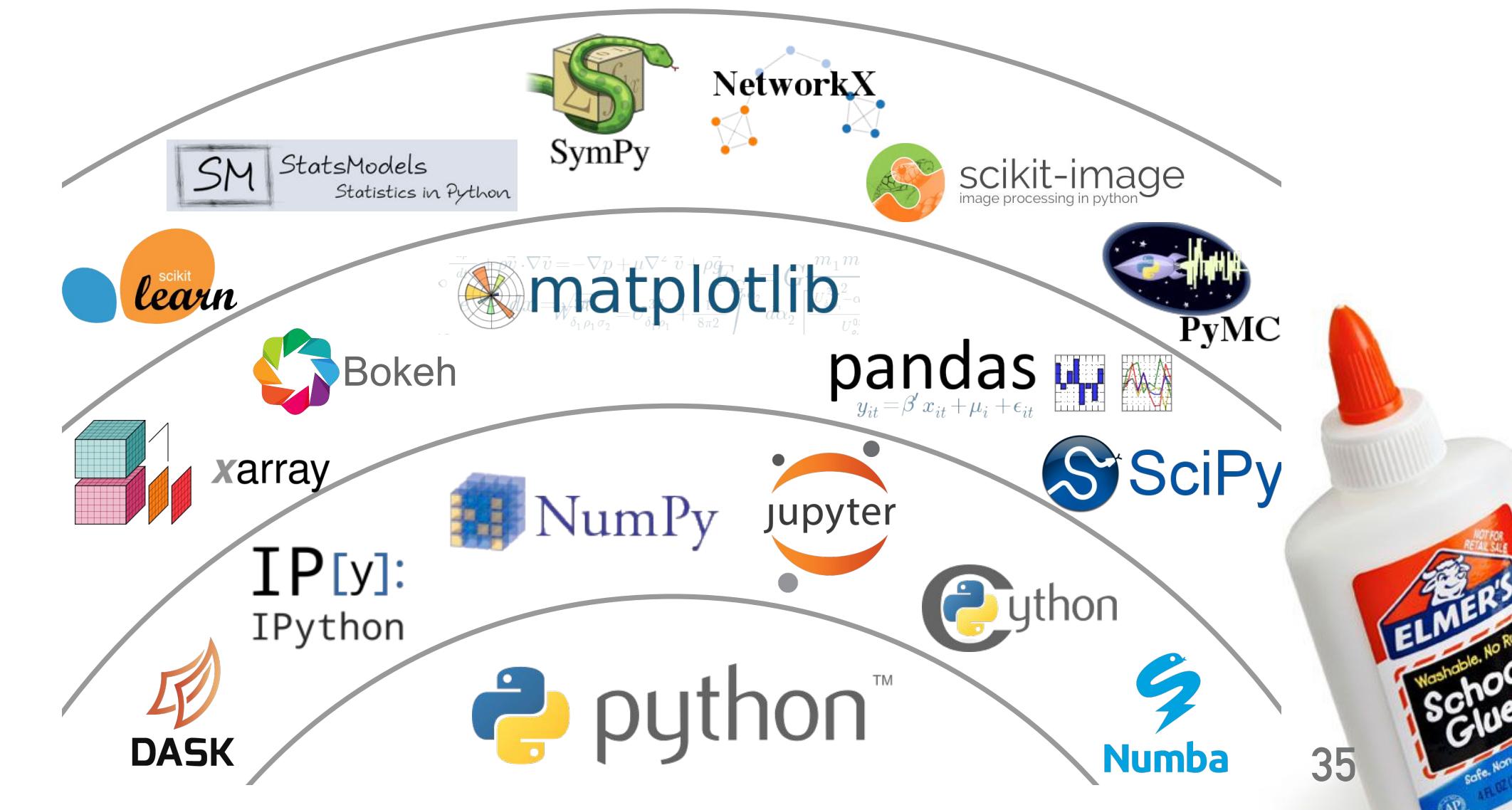


Jake VanderPlas  
PyCon 2017

*“For day-to-day scientific data exploration, speed of development is primary, and speed of execution is often secondary.”*

*“Python has built-in libraries for nearly everything ... and there are third-party libraries for everything else. Python is the glue to combine the scientific codes”*

## Python's Scientific Stack



# SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

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- Modern astronomy research is data driven - complex hardware & software!  
Open source & Python & PyData & Astropy is the foundation!
- Long history of open data and tools in astronomy - and still getting better.  
You can download data from the best telescopes in the world and analyse with Python!
- PyData is moving very fast now: Numba, Dask, PyTorch, Tensorflow, ...  
Same is true for other languages (C++, Julia, Rust, Go, ...).
- Very exciting for astronomers - great new and more powerful tools!
- But number of options and how fast things change is also a bit scary,  
given that timescale for big telescopes and detectors and codes is 10-30 years.

# LEARN MORE? — RESOURCES

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- A lot of good free resources exist to learn about astronomy & Python
- Locally: Haus der Astronomie in Heidelberg, Planetarium in Mannheim, open days or public seminars at astronomy research institutes in Heidelberg
- Astronomy journals for general public - e.g. Sterne & Weltraum
- Free online courses, e.g. on Coursera:
  - <https://www.coursera.org/learn/data-driven-astronomy> ← *Hands-on introduction to astronomy with Python*
  - <https://www.coursera.org/learn/astronomy>
- Tutorials, e.g. <https://github.com/astropy/astropy-workshop>

# LEARN MORE? — PRESENTATIONS

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- I used the following presentations for inspiration and partly for content.
- Jake VanderPlas - “The unexpected effectiveness of Python in Science” at PyCon 2017 ([slides](#), [YouTube](#))
- Perry Greenfield - “How Python slithered into astronomy” at Scipy 2011 ([PDF](#)) and updated talks from 2015 ([YouTube](#)) and 2016 ([YouTube](#))
- Thomas Robitaille - “The Astropy Project” at PyGamma 2019 ([slides](#))
- Erik Tollerud - “JWST Data Analysis Tools: Open Development of Community Software” at PyGamma 2019 ([slides](#))
- Leo Singer - “Role of Python in Recent Gravitational Wave Astronomy Breakthroughs” at Scipy 2018 ([YouTube](#))

# LEARN MORE? — PODCASTS

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- If you like podcasts & Python & science
- TalkPython[‘Podcast’] by Michael Kennedy (<https://talkpython.fm>):
  - #29 - “Python at the LHC and CERN” - Kyle Cranmer
  - #81 - “Python and ML in Astronomy” - Jake VanderPlas
- Podcast.\_\_init\_\_ by Tobias Macey (<https://www.pythongodcast.com>):
  - #32 - “Astropy” - Erik Tollerud
  - #34 - “Sunpy” - Stuart Mumford
  - #106 - “yt-project” - Nathan Goldbaum and John Zuhone
  - #140 - “Data Science For Academic Research” - Jake Vanderplas



Podcast.\_\_init\_\_



# THANK YOU!

- Thank you Jan, Marius, Alexander, Prabhant, Pawneet for organising!
- Contact: [Deil.Christoph@gmail.com](mailto:Deil.Christoph@gmail.com)
- Slides: <https://christophdeil.com>