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OBSERVATIONS OF PWNE WITH THE FERMI GAMMA-RAY  
SPACE TELESCOPE

A DISSERTATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS  
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OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE DEGREE OF  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

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April 2013

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I certify that I have read this dissertation and that, in my opinion, it is fully adequate in scope and quality as a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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Approved for the University Committee on Graduate Studies

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# List of Acronyms

**1FHL** the first *Fermi* hard-source list. 122

**2CG** the second COS-B catalog. 8

**2FGL** the second *Fermi* catalog. 21, 36, 118, 123

**2PC** the second *Fermi* pulsar catalog. 22

**3EG** the Third EGRET Catalog. 9

**ACD** Anti-Coincidence Detector. 11

**arcsec** second of arc. 31

**BPL** broken-power law. 38

**CGRO** the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory. 8

**CGS** the Centimetre-Gram-Second System of Units. 38, 39

**ECPL** exponentially-cutoff power law. 38, 39

**EGRET** the Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope. 8–10

**ESA** the European Space Agency. 8

**FWHM** full width at half maximum. 6

**GBM** Gamma-ray Burst Monitor. 11



**IACT** Imaging air Cherenkov detector. 46, 115, 118, 122

**IC** inverse Compton. 4, 18, 19, 30, 31, 34, 122

**LAT** the Large Area Telescope. iv, v, 11, 21, 22, 118, 119, 121–123, 125, 127

**MIT** the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 6, 12

**MSC** massive star cluster. 121

**MSP** millisecond pulsar. 26

**NASA** the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. 7, 8

**NRL** the Naval Research Laboratory. 12

**NS** neutron star. 12, 24, 25, 28, 29

**OSO-3** the Third Orbiting Solar Observatory. 6, 7, 20

**PL** power law. 38, 39

**PSF** point spread function. 122

**PWN** pulsar wind nebula. iv, v, 5, 13, 24, 28, 30–34, 118, 119, 121–125, 127

**SA** solid angle. 40, 41

**SAS-2** the second Small Astronomy Satellite. 7, 8

**SNR** supernova remnant. 28, 30, 31, 39

**UNID** unidentified source. 121, 122

**VHE** very high energy. 118–125

## Chapter 8

# Search for PWNe associated with TeV Pulsars

*This chapter is based the first part of the the paper “Constraints on the Galactic Population of TeV Pulsar Wind Nebulae using Fermi Large Area Telescope Observations” by Acero et al which is currently in prep.*

TODO:

In Chapter 6, we searched for spatially-extended sources in the 2FGL catalog. This search showed that the spatial analysis of *Fermi* sources is important in identifying  $\gamma$ -ray emitting pulsar wind nebulae (PWNe). In that work, we analyzed the  $\gamma$ -ray emitting PWNs HESS J1825–137 and MSH 15–52 which had previously been detected in the second *Fermi* catalog (2FGL). In addition, this analysis discovered that there were three additional spatially-extended *Fermi* sources coincident with PWNs candidates (HESS J1616–508, HESS J1632–478, HESS J1837–069).

In Chapter ??, we then searched for  $\gamma$ -ray emitting PWNs by looking in the off-peak emission of the Large Area Telescope (LAT)-detected pulsars. In that analysis, we detected four  $\gamma$ -ray emitting PWNs (Vela–X, the Crab Nebula, MSH 15–52, and 3C 58).

In this chapter, we continue our search for  $\gamma$ -ray emitting PWNs by searching for PWNs which had previously been detected at very high energy (VHE) energies by Imaging air Cherenkov detectors (IACTs). We note that the work presented here is

a very condensed version of the results presented in the accompanying work (Acero et al. in prep.). We refer to that publication for a more detailed discussion of the analysis.

## 8.1 Introduction

We took all sources detected at VHE energies and potentially associated with PWNs and performed a search at GeV energies for  $\gamma$ -ray emission. As was seen in previous chapters, many PWNs have been detected both at GeV and VHE energies. Therefore, we suspect that by searching LAT data in the regions of VHE PWNs might yield the discovery of new LAT-detecting PWN.

In addition, there are several PWN which have been detected at VHE energies which do not have an associated  $\gamma$ -ray pulsar (such as HESS J1825–137 and HESS J1837–069). We therefore suspect that this search strategy may discovery new PWN which were not previously discovered either in the off-peak search discussed in Chapter ?? or in other dedicated analyses.

## 8.2 List of VHE PWN Candidates

Table 8.1. List of analyzed VHE sources

Name	Class	$l$ (deg.)	$b$ (deg.)	Pulsar	LAT PSR	Reference
VER J0006+727	PWN	119.58	10.20	PSR J0007+7303	Y	?
MGRO J0631+105	PWN	201.30	0.51	PSR J0631+1036	Y	?
MGRO J0632+17	PWN	195.34	3.78	PSR J0633+1746	Y	?
HESS J1018-589	UNID	284.23	-1.72	PSR J1016-5857	Y	?
HESS J1023-575	MSC	284.22	-0.40	PSR J1023-5746	Y	?
HESS J1026-582	PWN	284.80	-0.52	PSR J1028-5819	Y	?
HESS J1119-614	PWN	292.10	-0.49	PSR J1119-6127	Y	Presentation <sup>a</sup>
HESS J1303-631	PWN	304.24	-0.36	PSR J1301-6305	N	?
HESS J1356-645	PWN	309.81	-2.49	PSR J1357-6429	Y	?
HESS J1418-609	PWN	313.25	0.15	PSR J1418-6058	Y	?
HESS J1420-607	PWN	313.56	0.27	PSR J1420-6048	Y	?
HESS J1427-608	UNID	314.41	-0.14	...	N	?
HESS J1458-608	PWN	317.75	-1.70	PSR J1459-6053	Y	?
HESS J1503-582	UNID	319.62	0.29	...	N	?
HESS J1507-622	UNID	317.95	-3.49	...	N	?
HESS J1514-591	PWN	320.33	-1.19	PSR J1513-5908	Y	?
HESS J1554-550	PWN	327.16	-1.07	...	N	?
HESS J1616-508	PWN	332.39	-0.14	PSR J1617-5055	N	?
HESS J1626-490	UNID	334.77	0.05	...	N	?
HESS J1632-478	PWN	336.38	0.19	...	N	?
HESS J1634-472	UNID	337.11	0.22	...	N	?
HESS J1640-465	PWN	338.32	-0.02	...	N	?
HESS J1702-420	UNID	344.30	-0.18	PSR J1702-4128	Y	?
HESS J1708-443	PWN	343.06	-2.38	PSR J1709-4429	Y	?
HESS J1718-385	PWN	348.83	-0.49	PSR J1718-3825	Y	?
HESS J1729-345	UNID	353.44	-0.13	...	N	?
HESS J1804-216	UNID	8.40	-0.03	PSR J1803-2149	Y	?
HESS J1809-193	PWN	11.18	-0.09	PSR J1809-1917	N	?
HESS J1813-178	PWN	12.81	-0.03	PSR J1813-1749	N	?
HESS J1818-154	PWN	15.41	0.17	...	N	?
HESS J1825-137	PWN	17.71	-0.70	PSR J1826-1334	N	?
HESS J1831-098	PWN	21.85	-0.11	PSR J1831-0952	N	?
HESS J1833-105	PWN	21.51	-0.88	PSR J1833-1034	Y	?
HESS J1834-087	UNID	23.24	-0.31	...	N	?
HESS J1837-069	UNID	25.18	-0.12	PSR J1836-0655	N	?
HESS J1841-055	UNID	26.80	-0.20	PSR J1838-0537	Y	?
HESS J1843-033	UNID	29.30	0.51	...	N	?
MGRO J1844-035	UNID	28.91	-0.02	...	N	?

Table 8.1 (cont'd)

Name	Class	$l$ (deg.)	$b$ (deg.)	Pulsar	LAT PSR	Reference
HESS J1846–029	PWN	29.70	–0.24	PSR J1846–0258	N	?
HESS J1848–018	UNID	31.00	–0.16	...	N	?
HESS J1849–000	PWN	32.64	0.53	PSR J1849–001	N	?
HESS J1857+026	UNID	35.96	–0.06	PSR J1856+0245	N	?
HESS J1858+020	UNID	35.58	–0.58	...	N	?
MGRO J1900+039	UNID	37.42	–0.11	...	N	?
MGRO J1908+06	UNID	40.39	–0.79	PSR J1907+0602	Y	?
HESS J1912+101	PWN	44.39	–0.07	PSR J1913+1011	N	?
VER J1930+188	PWN	54.10	0.26	PSR J1930+1852	N	?
MGRO J1958+2848	PWN	65.85	–0.23	PSR J1958+2846	Y	?
VER J1959+208	PSR	59.20	–4.70	PSR J1959+2048	Y	?
VER J2016+372	UNID	74.94	1.15	...	N	?
MGRO J2019+37	PWN	75.00	0.39	PSR J2021+3651	Y	?
MGRO J2031+41A	UNID	79.53	0.64	...	N	?
MGRO J2031+41B	UNID	80.25	1.07	PSR J2032+4127	Y	?
MGRO J2228+61	PWN	106.57	2.91	PSR J2229+6114	Y	?

<sup>a</sup>This source was presented at the "Supernova Remnants and Pulsar Wind Nebulae in the Chandra Era", 2009. See [http://cxc.harvard.edu/cdo/snr09/pres/DjannatiAtai\\_Arache\\_v2.pdf](http://cxc.harvard.edu/cdo/snr09/pres/DjannatiAtai_Arache_v2.pdf).

Note. — The VHE sources that we searched for using LAT observations. The classifications come from TeVCat and are PWN for pulsar wind nebula, unidentified source (UNID) for unidentified source, and MSC for massive star cluster. We include HESS J1023–575 because it is potentially a PWN. For sources with an associated pulsar, column 4 includes the pulsar's name. Column 5 describes in the pulsar has been detected by the LAT.

We used TeVCat to define the our target list of VHE sources. TeVCat is a catalog of sources detected at VHE energies by IACTs.<sup>1</sup> We selected all sources from this catalog where the emission was classified as being due to a PWN. In addition, we included all UNID sources within  $5^\circ$  of the galactic plane since they could be due to a PWN. Finally, we included HESS J1023–575. Although this source is classified as a massive star cluster in the TeVCat, de Naurois & H.E.S.S. Collaboration (2013) suggested that the emission could be due to PWN. The list of all sources included in our analysis as well as their classification in TeVCat can be found in Table 8.1.

### 8.3 Analysis Method

In this search, our analysis method was very similar to the analysis in Chapter ???. We used the same hybrid `pointlike`/`gtlike` approach for studying the spatial and spectral character of each source and modeled the region using the same standard background models.

The major difference was that this analysis was performed only for  $E > 10$  GeV. As can be seen in Chapter ??, for energies much lower than 10 GeV, source analysis becomes strongly influenced by Galactic-diffuse emission and systematic errors associated with incorrectly modeling the emission. On the other hand, the  $\gamma$ -ray emission from PWN is expected to be the rising component of an inverse Compton (IC) peak which falls at VHE energies. Therefore, the emission observed by the LAT is expected to be hard and most significant at higher energies. Therefore, we expect that starting the analysis at 10 GeV will significantly reduce systematics associated with this analysis while preserving most of the space for discovery.

Because the analysis was performed only in this high energy range where the point spread function (PSF) of the LAT is much improved, we were able to use a smaller region of interest (a radius of  $5^\circ$  in `pointlike` and a square of size  $7^\circ \times 7^\circ$  in `gtlike`).

Another differences is that we used an event class with less background contamination (Pass 7 Clean instead of Pass 7 Source) and modeled nearby background sources using the first *Fermi* hard-source list (1FHL) (Ackermann et al. in prep).

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<sup>1</sup>TeVCat can be found at <http://tevcat.uchicago.edu>.

For our analysis, we assume the GeV emission to have a power-law spectral model and to have whatever was the published spatial model observed at VHE energies. We define  $TS_{\text{TeV}}$  as the likelihood-ratio test for the significance of the source assuming it to have the power-law spectral model and the published VHE spatial model. We claim a detection when  $TS_{\text{TeV}} > 16$ . Our significance test has only two degrees of freedom: the flux and spectral index. Therefore, following Wilk's Theorem (see Section 5.3.1), this corresponds to a  $3.6\sigma$  detection threshold. When the source is significantly-detected, we quote the best-fit spectral parameters and otherwise we derive a upper limit on the flux of any potential emission.

We note that Acero et al. (in prep.) performs a more detailed morphological analysis which also fits the positions of the sources assuming their emissions to be point-like and spatially-extended. That work then uses  $TS_{\text{ext}}$  (See Section 5.2.2) to test if the emission is spatially-extended and otherwise computes an upper limit on any potential spatial extension. The more detailed analysis in Acero et al. (in prep.) is needed to compare the spatial overlap between the GeV and VHE emission. But for brevity, we omit the details and simply use the results.

We note that many of these PWNs candidates are in regions with LAT-detected pulsars. For these sources, Acero et al. (in prep.) presents the spectral and spatial results both with and without the LAT-detected pulsar in the background model. For the analysis, the spectrum of these sources of these background pulsars was taken from the 2FGL catalog. For simplicity, we present only the analysis with the pulsar included in the background model. This analysis presents our best-guess at the true spectrum of any PWN emission. But we caution that this method could be biased in either oversubtracting or undersubtracting the pulsar depending upon systematics in the fit of the pulsar.

There are three major sources of systematic uncertainty effect the spectrum of these sources. The first systematic is due to uncertainty in our modeling of the Galactic diffuse emission. We estimate this uncertainty following the method of Section 6.2. The second systematic is due to uncertainty in the effective area. We estimated the systematic using the method described in Ackermann et al. (2012). The final systematic is due to our uncertainty in the true morphology of the source. We used as our

systematic error on this the difference in spectrum when the source is fit assuming the published VHE spatial model and when using the spatial model measured by the LAT.

## 8.4 Sources Detected

We detect 22 statistically-significant sources. We present the spatial and spectral results for these sources in Table ??.

We attempt to classify the GeV emission into four categories. A source is categorized as “PWN” and “PWNC” when the emission is hard and connects to the VHE spectrum.

which is when the emission can be clearly identified as being due to a PWN.

The second category is “PWNC”...

The third category is “PSR”...

The final category is “O”...

TODO, mention how modeling pulsar in background could be somewhat biased.

### WHERE ARE RESULTS PRESENTED

. We don’t quote upper limits, for some reason....



Table 8.2. Spatial and spectral results for detected VHE sources

Name	ID	TS <sub>TeV</sub>	$F_{10\text{ GeV}}^{316\text{ GeV}}$ ( $10^{-10}\text{ ph cm}^{-2}\text{ s}^{-1}$ )	$\Gamma$
HESS J1018–589	O	25	$1.5 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.7$	$2.31 \pm 0.50 \pm 0.49$
HESS J1023–575	PWNc	52	$4.6 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.2$	$1.99 \pm 0.24 \pm 0.32$
HESS J1119–614	PWNc	16	$2.0 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.8$	$1.83 \pm 0.41 \pm 0.36$
HESS J1303–631	PWNc	37	$3.6 \pm 0.9 \pm 2.1$	$1.53 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.37$
HESS J1356–645	PWN	24	$1.1 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.5$	$0.94 \pm 0.40 \pm 0.40$
HESS J1420–607	PWNc	36	$3.4 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.1$	$1.81 \pm 0.29 \pm 0.31$
HESS J1507–622	O	21	$1.5 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.5$	$2.33 \pm 0.48 \pm 0.48$
HESS J1514–591	PWN	156	$6.2 \pm 0.9 \pm 1.3$	$1.72 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.17$
HESS J1616–508	PWNc	75	$9.3 \pm 1.4 \pm 2.3$	$2.18 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.20$
HESS J1632–478	PWNc	137	$11.8 \pm 1.5 \pm 5.3$	$1.82 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.19$
HESS J1634–472	O	33	$5.6 \pm 1.3 \pm 2.5$	$1.96 \pm 0.25 \pm 0.29$
HESS J1640–465	PWNc	47	$5.0 \pm 1.0 \pm 1.7$	$1.95 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.20$
HESS J1708–443	PSR	33	$5.5 \pm 1.3 \pm 3.5$	$2.13 \pm 0.31 \pm 0.33$
HESS J1804–216	O	124	$13.4 \pm 1.6 \pm 3.1$	$2.04 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.24$
HESS J1825–137	PWN	56	$5.6 \pm 1.2 \pm 9.0$	$1.32 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.39$
HESS J1834–087	O	27	$5.5 \pm 1.2 \pm 2.5$	$2.24 \pm 0.34 \pm 0.42$
HESS J1837–069	PWNc	73	$7.5 \pm 1.3 \pm 4.2$	$1.47 \pm 0.18 \pm 0.30$
HESS J1841–055	PWNc	64	$10.9 \pm 0.8 \pm 4.1$	$1.60 \pm 0.27 \pm 0.33$
HESS J1848–018	PWNc	19	$7.4 \pm 1.9 \pm 2.7$	$2.46 \pm 0.50 \pm 0.51$
HESS J1857+026	PWNc	53	$4.2 \pm 0.3 \pm 1.3$	$1.01 \pm 0.24 \pm 0.25$
VER J2016+372	O	31	$1.8 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.8$	$2.45 \pm 0.44 \pm 0.49$

Note. — The results of our analysis search using LAT data for VHE PWNs. Column 2 says the classification of the LAT emission (See Section 8.4). Column 3 is TS<sub>TeV</sub>, column 4 is the flux, and 5 is the spectral index all computed assuming a power-law spectral model (See Section 8.3 for a discussion of systematic errors).

- We detected 4 new PWNe candidates (HESS J1119–614, HESS J1303–631, HESS J1420–607, and HESS J1841–055) and 1 new PWN (HESS J1356–645)

•

HESS J1023-575 HESS J1119-614 HESS J1303-631 HESS J1356-645 HESS J1420-607 HESS J1514-591 HESS J1616-508 HESS J1632-478 HESS J1640-465 HESS J1825-137 HESS J1837-069 (UNID) HESS J1841-055 (UNID) HESS J1848-018 (UNID) HESS J1857+026 (UNID)

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