

# ULTRA-HIGH ENERGY COSMIC RAYS

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# Outline

## Lect. 1

- ✓ Historical Introduction
- ✓ Acceleration mechanisms
- ✓ Propagation
- ✓ Detection Techniques: SD, FD, Hybrid
- ✓ Energy Spectrum: is there an end?

TODAY

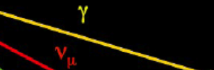
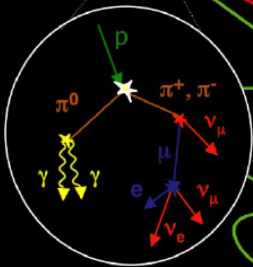
## Lect. 2

- ✓ Cosmic ray astronomy?
- ✓ EAS phenomenology
- ✓ Composition of UHECR
- ✓ Neutral messengers
- ✓ Hadronic interactions in EAS

# Astronomical Messengers

We focus attention on ultra-high energy cosmic rays.

Astrophysical  
beam dump

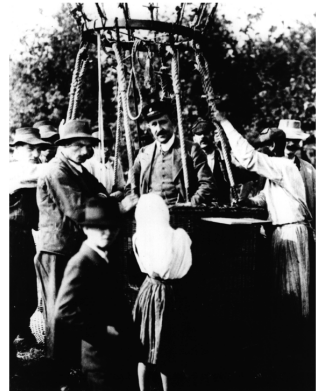
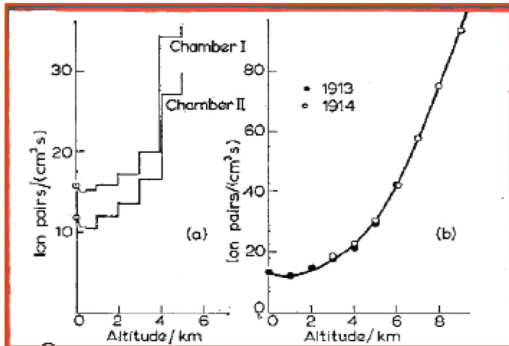


# Höhenstrahlung

- 1903 E.Rutherford and H Coke "30% of the ionization inside a closed vessel is due to an external radiation of great penetrating power"
- 1910 Wulf
- 1911 Gockel, Simpson and Wright, Pacini, Schrödinger...
- 1912 Viktor Hess (Nobel prize 1936)



Electroscope (circa 1787)



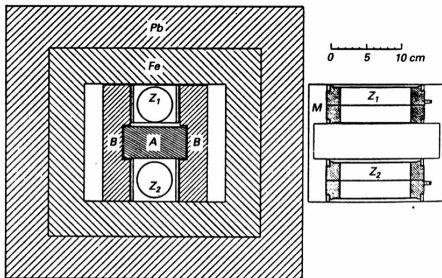
# Pioneering studies

- 1927 Dimitry Skobelzyn using a cloud chamber photographed the first ghostly tracks left by cosmic rays



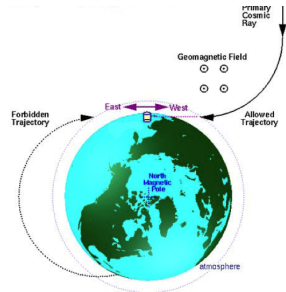
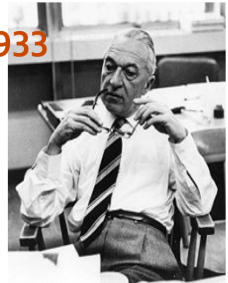
- 1929 Bothe y Kolhörster observed penetrating charged particles.

Coincidences in a pair of Geiger tubes with a thick gold layer in between.



# Bruno Rossi...ideas and experiments

- **Main conclusions of his work in 1928-1933**
  - ✓ Cosmic radiation cannot be understood of UHE gamma
  - ✓ The radiation has the capability to produce secondaries of penetrating power.
  - ✓ Anticipated how the magnetic field of earth was used as an analyzer of the properties of CR.

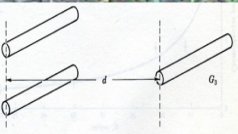
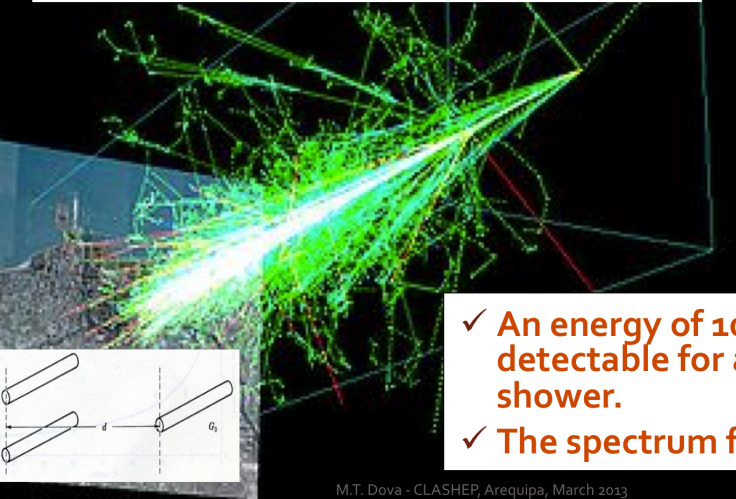


**Cosmic rays predominantly charged and positive**

# Pierre Auger and Extensive Air Showers

Coincidences between CR particles at distances as great as 300 m

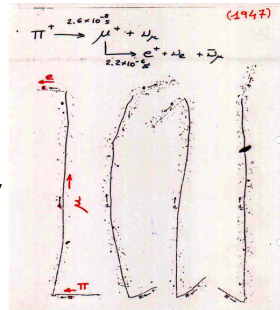
(1938)



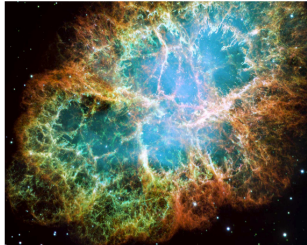
- ✓ An energy of  $10^{14}$  eV was detectable for a single shower.
- ✓ The spectrum falls with  $E^{-2}$

# From CR to Accelerators

- 40's: Boom of particle physics discoveries in CR desintegration.
- 50's: Accelerators took over the study of particle physics **which was born in the search for the nature of CR.**



14 TeV  $\rightarrow$  LHC



> 1000 TeV in  
the Galaxy

M.T. Dova - CLASHEP, Arequipa, March 2013



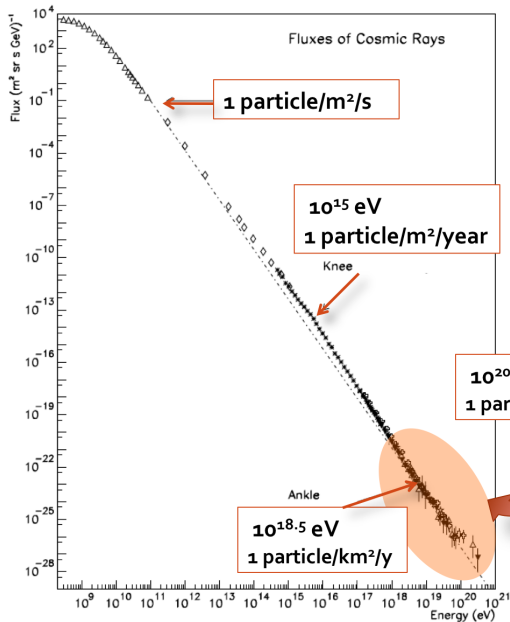
>  $10^8$  TeV in the  
Universe



# Cosmic Ray Spectrum

Simon Swordy  
(1954-2010)

[http://  
astroparticle.uchicago.edu/  
crspec\\_info.txt](http://astroparticle.uchicago.edu/crspec_info.txt)



$$\frac{dN}{dEd\Omega dAdt} \propto E^{-\gamma}$$

UHECR

# On the Origin of the Cosmic Radiation

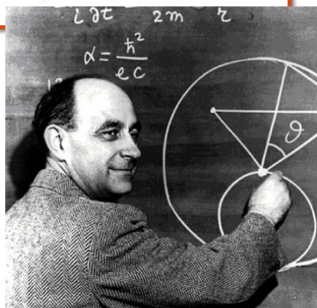
ENRICO FERMI

*Institute for Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois*

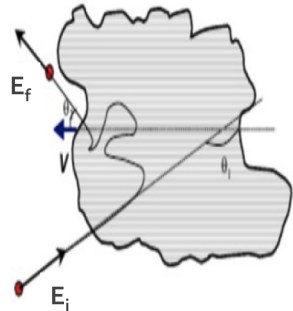
(Received January 3, 1949)

A theory of the origin of cosmic radiation is proposed according to which cosmic rays are originated and accelerated primarily in the interstellar space of the galaxy by collisions against moving magnetic fields. One of the features of the theory is that it yields naturally an inverse power law for the spectral distribution of the cosmic rays. The chief difficulty is that it fails to explain in a straightforward way the heavy nuclei observed in the primary radiation.

... yields naturally an inverse power law for the spectral distribution...



# Fermi acceleration



In the rest frame of the moving cloud, the CR has energy:

$$E'_i = \Gamma_{\text{cloud}} E_i (1 - \beta_{\text{cloud}} \cos\theta_i) \quad E'_i = E'_f$$

Transforming to laboratory frame:

$$E_f = \Gamma_{\text{cloud}} E'_f (1 + \beta_{\text{cloud}} \cos\theta'_f)$$

Fractional energy change in lab frame:

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{E_f - E_i}{E_i} = \frac{1 - \beta_{\text{cloud}} \cos\theta_i + \beta_{\text{cloud}} \cos\theta'_f - \beta_{\text{cloud}}^2 \cos\theta_i \cos\theta'_f}{1 - \beta_{\text{cloud}}^2}$$

Inside the cloud CR direction becomes randomized:  $\langle \cos\theta'_f \rangle = 0$

Probability of having a collision a  $\theta_i$ :  $\frac{dP}{d\Omega_i} \propto (1 - \beta_{\text{cloud}} \cos\theta_i) \rightarrow \langle \cos\theta_i \rangle = -\beta_{\text{cloud}}/3$

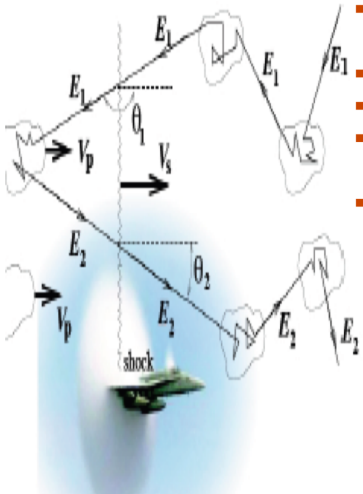
Fractional energy

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{1 + \beta_{\text{cloud}}^2/3}{1 - \beta_{\text{cloud}}^2} \approx \frac{4}{3} \beta_{\text{cloud}}^2$$

$$\beta_{\text{cl}} \ll 1$$

- Energy gain
- Low efficiency

# Shock wave acceleration



- During a SN explosion, material can move at  $\approx 10^4 \text{ km/s}$
- much faster than speed of sound in ISM (10 km/s)
- a strong shock wave propagates radially out
- magnetic irregularities “pile up” in front of the shock
- particles can move back and forth across the shock and pick up more and more energy.

Fractional energy change in lab frame:

$$\frac{\langle \Delta E \rangle}{E} \simeq \frac{4}{3} \beta \simeq \frac{4}{3} \frac{V_P}{c} \simeq \frac{4}{3} \frac{(R-1)}{R} \frac{V_S}{c}$$

$$\text{Compression factor} \rightarrow R = \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1} = \frac{(\gamma+1)M_1^2}{(\gamma-1)M_1^2 + 2}$$

$$\gamma = C_p/C_v = 5/3$$

- ✓ First order in  $\beta \rightarrow$  more efficient!
- ✓ lots of theoretical approaches in the last decade.

# Prediction of a power-law flux!

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} \equiv \xi \quad \text{independent of energy} \quad (\xi \simeq 4/3 \beta_{cl}^2 \text{ or } \beta_{cl})$$

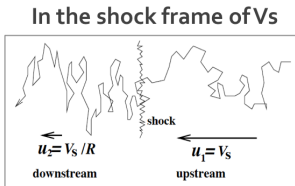
After  $n$  cycles (encounters)

$$E_n = E_0(1 + \xi)^n \quad n = \ln\left(\frac{E_n}{E_0}\right) / \ln(1 + \xi)$$

$P_{esc}$  probability of escape *in each cycle*

Number of particles that reach  $E > E_n$ :

$$N(> E_n) = N_0 \sum_n (1 - P_{esc})^n \propto A \left(\frac{E_n}{E_0}\right)^{-\gamma}$$

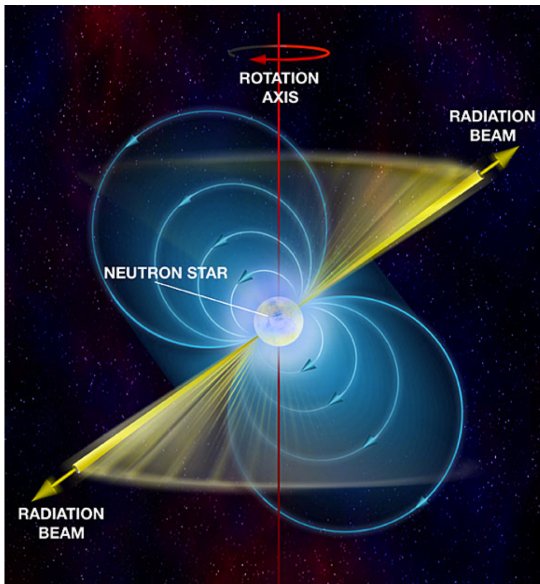


Shock Acceleration  $P_{esc} = \frac{\rho_{CR} u_2}{c \rho_{CR} / 4} = \frac{4u_2}{c}$

$$\gamma = \frac{P_{esc}}{\xi} = \frac{3}{u_1/u_2 - 1} \sim 1 + O(M^{-2})$$

$$dN/dE \sim E^{-(2 + O(1/M^2))}$$

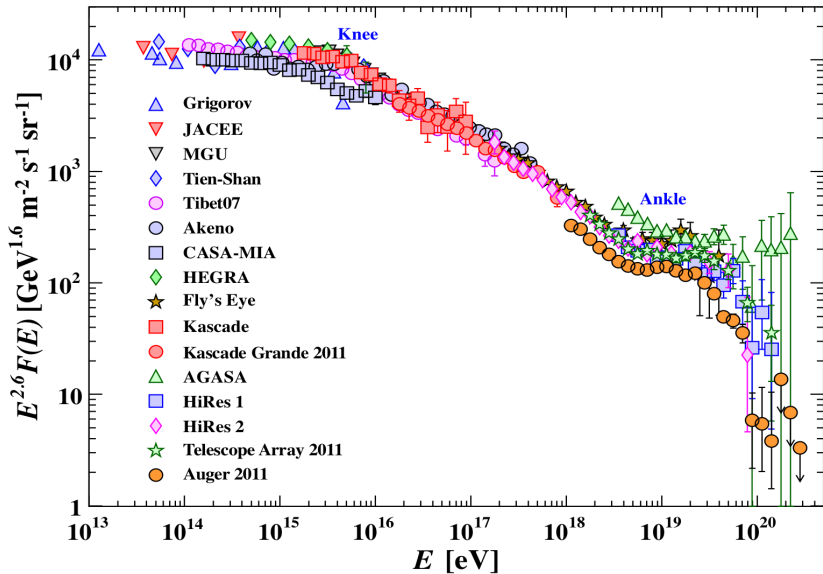
# Unipolar inductors



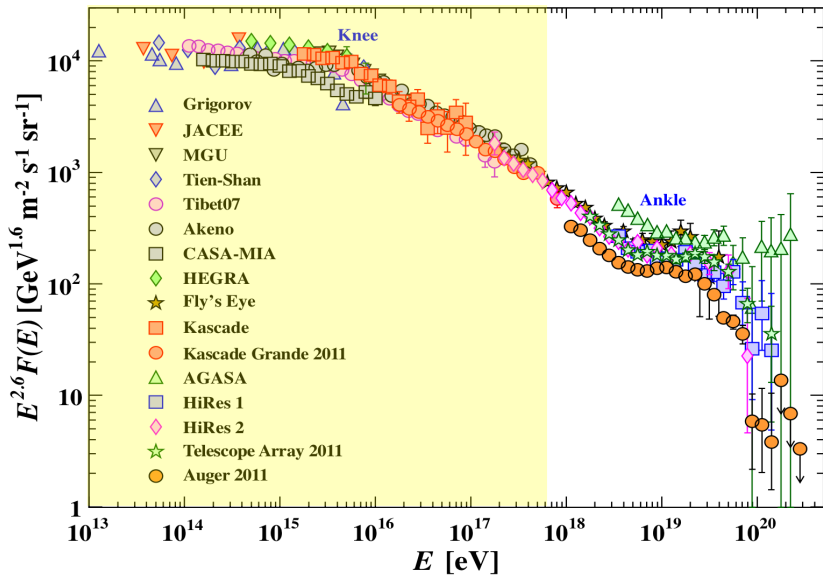
$$\vec{E} = \vec{V} \times \vec{B}$$

Very flat spectra

# Cosmic Ray Spectrum (from PDG)



# Galactic





# "SM" of Galactic CR

✓ Easily created and contained in the Galaxy.

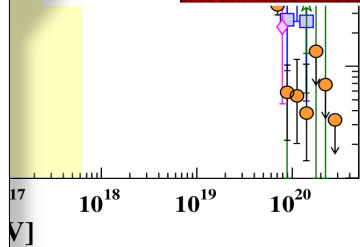
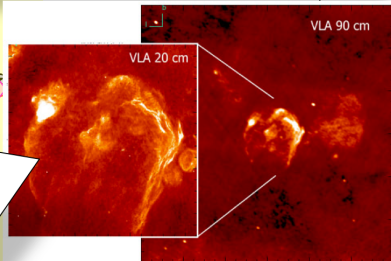


Energy density of galactic CR,  $\rho_{CR}$ :  $\sim 1 \text{ eV/cm}^3$

Power required to sustain a constant CR intensity:

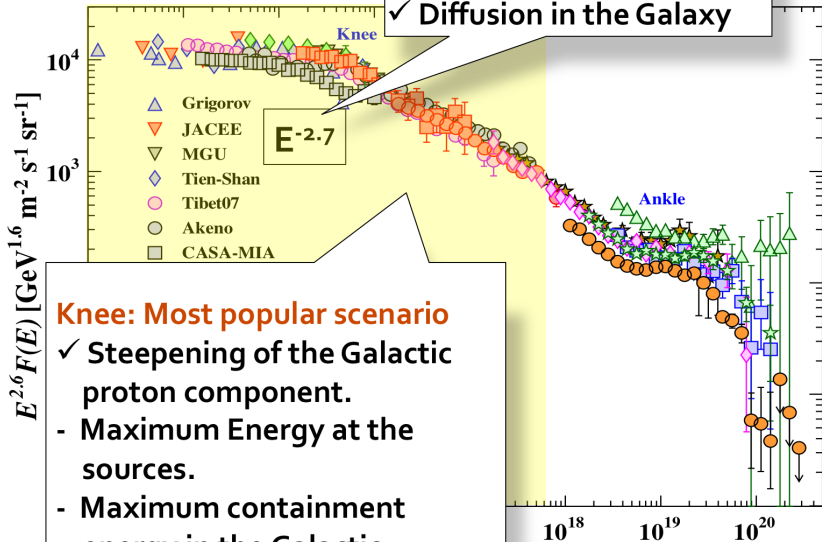
$$L_{cr} = \rho_{cr} V / \tau_{esc} \sim 10^{41} \text{ erg/s}$$

→ 10 % of the kinetic energy released in SN (rate of 3 SN/century)



# "SM" of Galactic CR

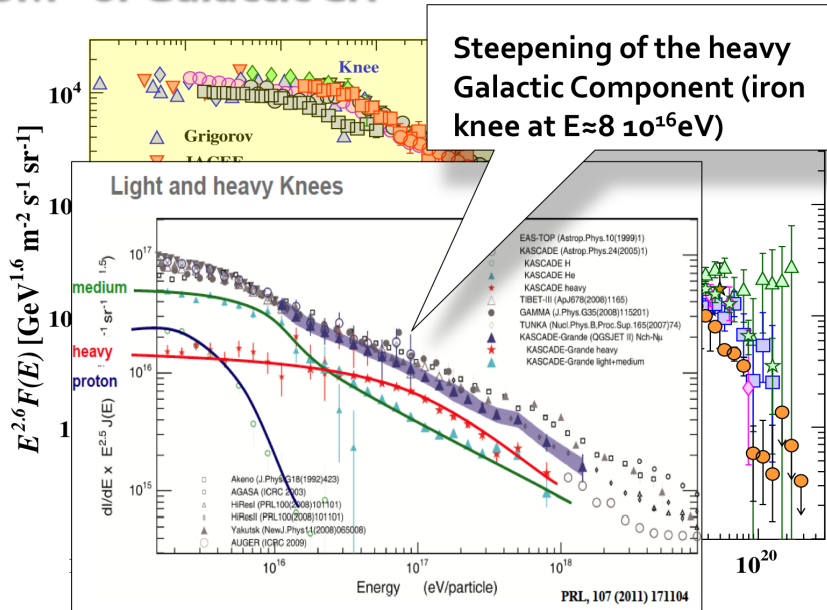
- ✓ Fermi acceleration
- ✓ Diffusion in the Galaxy



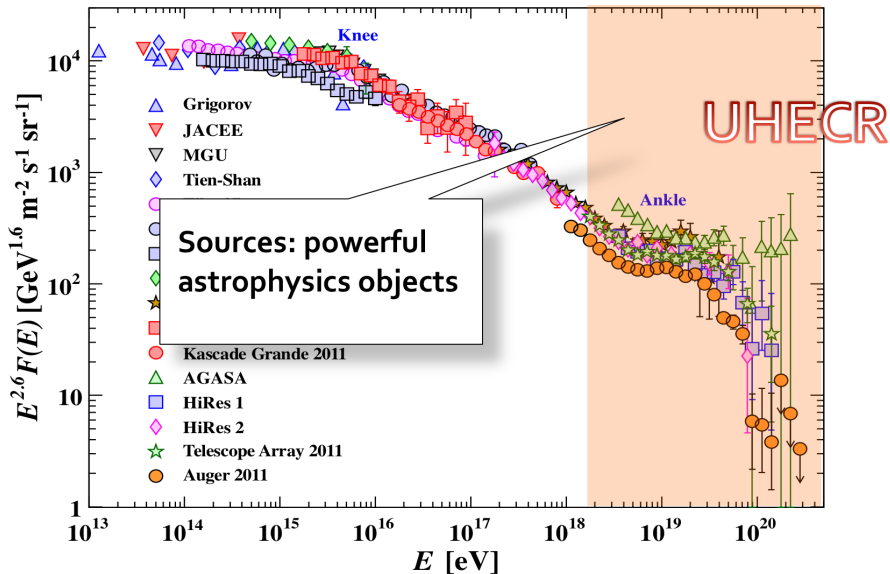
## Knee: Most popular scenario

- ✓ Steepening of the Galactic proton component.
- Maximum Energy at the sources.
- Maximum containment energy in the Galactic Magnetic Field

# "SM" of Galactic CR

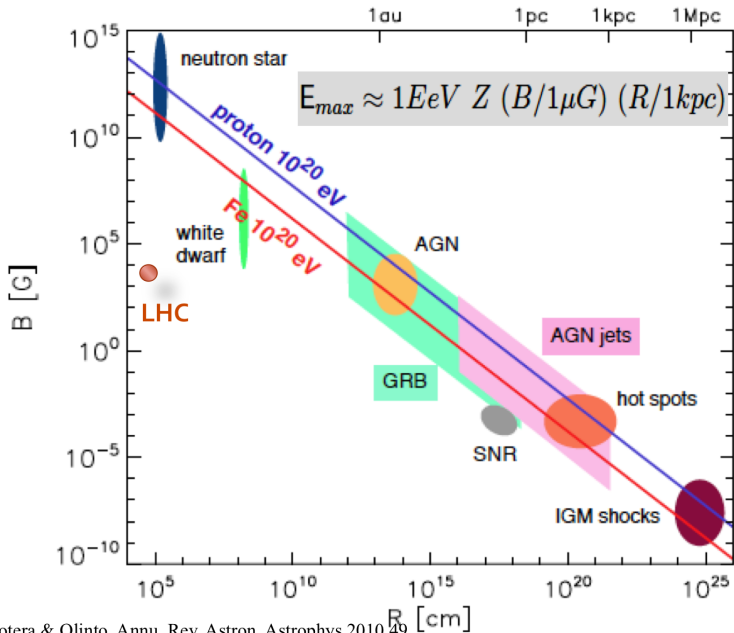


# Extragalactic



# Hillas criterium

Hillas, Ann. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 22, 425 (1984)



# Checklist for the sources of UHECR

- ✓ Extragalactic origin
- ✓ Acceleration to ultra-high energies
- ✓ Luminosity density (emissivity)
- ✓ UHECR survival during acceleration, escape and transport

$$\text{Flux} \rightarrow \frac{dN}{dE}$$

Total flux = velocity X density

$$\text{Density} \rightarrow \rho = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int \frac{dN}{dE} dE$$

$$\text{Energy density} \rightarrow \rho_E = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int E \frac{dN}{dE} dE$$

Emissivity required to power UHECRs

Energy density

$$\mathcal{E} = u_{uhecr} / t_{tot} \quad \text{energy-loss mean time}$$

For p  $\rightarrow$

$$\text{@}10^{20} \text{ eV} \rightarrow 0.4 \text{ } 10^{44} \text{ erg Mpc}^{-3} \text{ y}^{-1}$$

## Active Galaxy

supermassive  
black hole

accretion disk

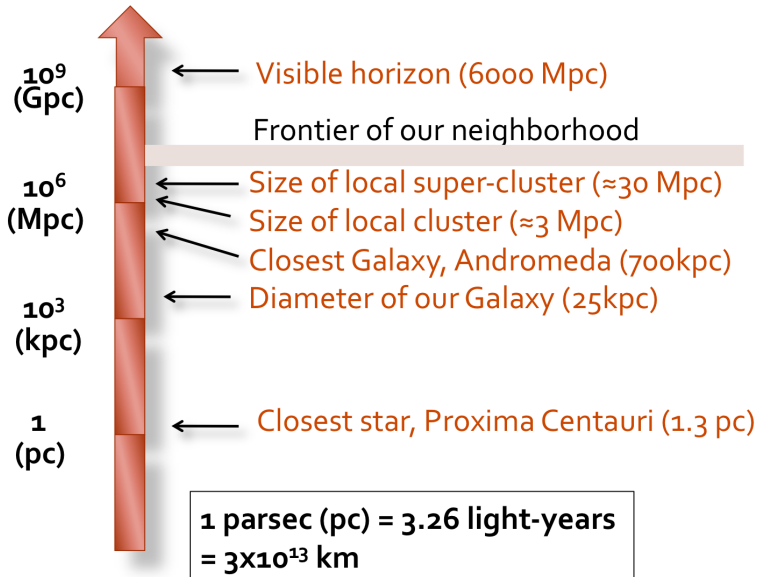
jet

## Collapse of massive stars produces a GRBs



The IceCube collaboration search for neutrinos emitted from 300 gamma ray bursts observed between May 2008 and April 2010. They found none!

# Some distance scales





1966

## END TO THE COSMIC-RAY SPECTRUM?

Kenneth Greisen

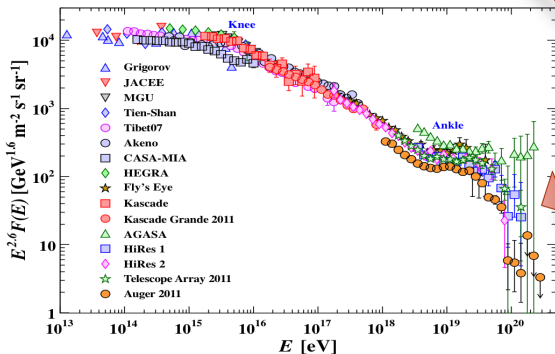
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York  
(Received 1 April 1966)

The primary cosmic-ray spectrum has been measured up to an energy of  $10^{20}$  eV,<sup>1</sup> and several groups have described projects under development or in mind<sup>2</sup> to investigate the spectrum at higher and the energy range  $10^{21}$ – $10^{22}$  eV.

This note predicts that above  $10^{20}$  eV the primary spectrum will steepen abruptly, and the experiments in preparation will at last observe it to have a cosmologically meaningful termination.

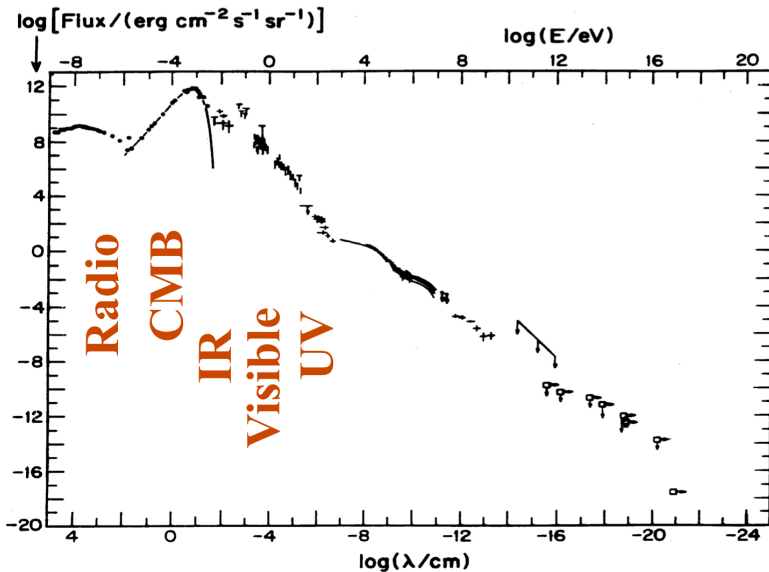
intense isotropic radiation first detected by

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tion exists  
The transparency of space at the per  
tinent wavelengths, and the consistency of in  
tensity observations in numerous directions,



“Cosmologically  
meaningful  
termination”  
→ GZK?

# "Background light"



# Opacity of the CMB to protons

The fractional energy loss due to interactions with radiation fields

$$-\frac{1}{E} \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{c}{2\Gamma^2} \sum_j \int_0^{\omega_m} d\omega_r y_j \sigma_j(\omega_r) \omega_r \int_{\omega_r/2\Gamma}^{\omega_m} d\omega \frac{n_\gamma(\omega)}{\omega^2}$$

Collisions with optical and infrared photons negligible  
→ 2.7 K blackbody background radiation

$$-\frac{1}{E} \frac{dE}{dt} = -\frac{ckT}{2\pi^2\Gamma^2(ch)^3} \sum_j \int_{\omega_{0j}}^{\infty} d\omega_r \sigma_j(\omega_r) y_j \omega_r \ln(1 - e^{-\omega_r/2\Gamma kT})$$

**Pair Production**  $p \gamma \longrightarrow p e^+ e^-$

$$E \leq 2.10^{18} \text{ eV}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{BH}}(\omega_r) = \frac{\pi}{12} \alpha r_0^2 \left( \frac{\omega_r}{m_e} - 2 \right)^3 \quad y_{\text{BH}} = 2 \frac{m_e}{m_p}$$

$$-\frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \right)_{\text{BH}} = \frac{16c}{\pi} \frac{m_e}{m_p} \alpha r_0^2 \left( \frac{kT}{hc} \right)^3 \left( \frac{\Gamma kT}{m_e} \right)^2 \exp\left(-\frac{m_e}{\Gamma kT}\right)$$

# Photopion production $p\gamma \rightarrow N + n\pi$

## ➤ Resonant region: $10^{10} \leq E \leq 10^{12}$ GeV

$\sigma_{\pi}(\omega) \sim \Sigma$  B-W distributions

$$y_{\pi}(m_{R_0}) = 1 - \frac{1}{2^n} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( 1 + \frac{m_{R_i}^2 - m_M^2}{m_{R_{i-1}}^2} \right)$$

$$-\frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \right)_{\pi} = A \exp[-B/E] \quad \begin{aligned} A &= (3.66 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-8} \text{ yr}^{-1} \\ B &= (2.87 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{11} \text{ GeV} \end{aligned}$$

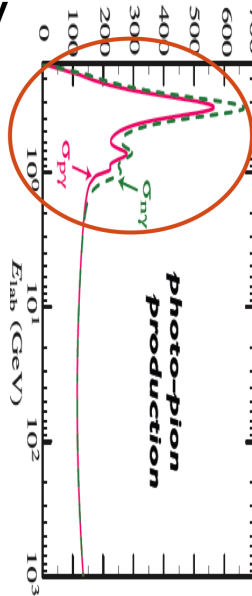
## ➤ High energy plateau $E > 10^{12}$ GeV

$$\sigma_{\pi}(\omega_r) = A + B \ln^2 \left( \frac{\omega_r}{\text{GeV}} \right) + C \ln \left( \frac{\omega_r}{\text{GeV}} \right) \text{ mb}$$

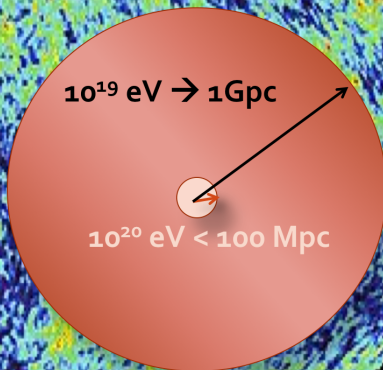
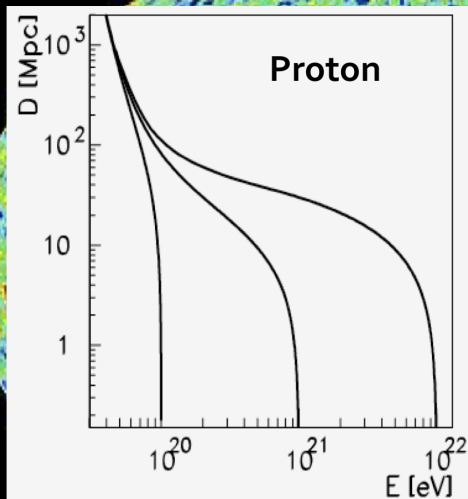
$$y_{\pi} \sim 1/2$$

$$-\frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \right)_{\pi} = C = (2.42 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-8} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

Cross section (mb)



# What is the CMB/GZK wall at $\approx 10^{20}$ eV?



Constraint on the proximity of UHECR ( $>5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV) sources

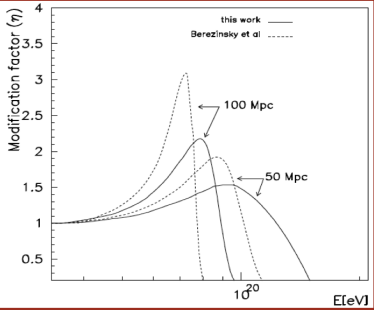
# Evolution of the spectrum

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial(b(E)N)}{\partial E} + D \nabla^2 N + Q$$

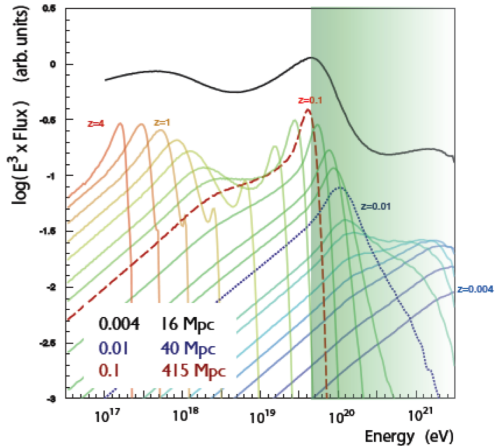
$$Q(E) = \kappa E^{-\gamma}$$

$b(E)$ : mean rate at which particles lose energy

$$\eta = \frac{\text{modified spectrum}}{\text{unmodified spectrum}}$$



...but the GZK is a complex feature!



(Bergmann et al., PLB 2006)

# Opacity of the CMB to nuclei

- Photodesintegration rate



$$R_{Ai} = \frac{1}{2\Gamma^2} \int_0^\infty dw \frac{n(w)}{w^2} \int_0^{2\Gamma w} dw_r w_r \sigma_{Ai}(w_r)$$

- Parameterization  $\rightarrow$  Fit to photoabsorption  $\sigma$

$$R(\Gamma)|_{\text{Fe}} \approx \begin{cases} 3.25 \times 10^{-6} \Gamma^{-0.643} \exp(-2.15 \times 10^{10}/\Gamma) \text{ s}^{-1} & \Gamma \in [1.0 \times 10^9, 3.68 \times 10^{10}] \\ 1.59 \times 10^{-12} \Gamma^{-0.0698} \text{ s}^{-1} & \Gamma \in [3.68 \times 10^{10}, 1.0 \times 10^{11}] \end{cases}$$

Negligible  
for  $\Gamma > 10^{10}$

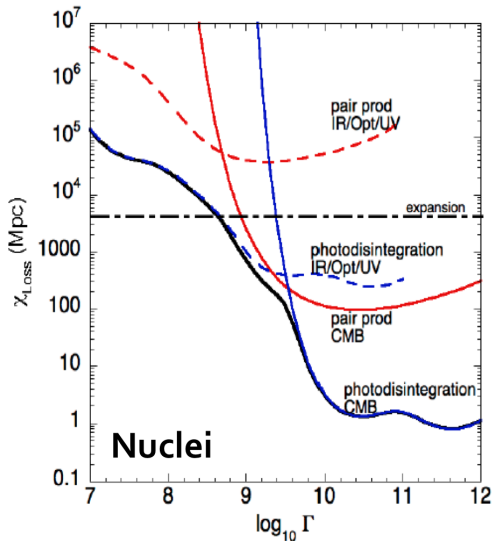
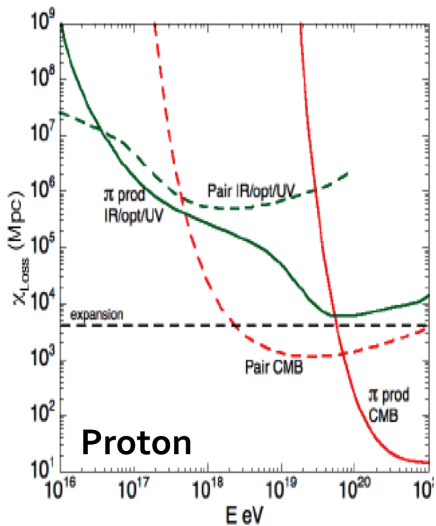
- Fractional Energy Loss

$$-\frac{1}{E} \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{dt} + \frac{R}{A}$$

$$\left. \frac{dA}{dt} \right|_A \sim \left. \frac{dA}{dt} \right|_{\text{Fe}} \left( \frac{A}{56} \right) = R|_{\text{Fe}} \left( \frac{A}{56} \right)$$

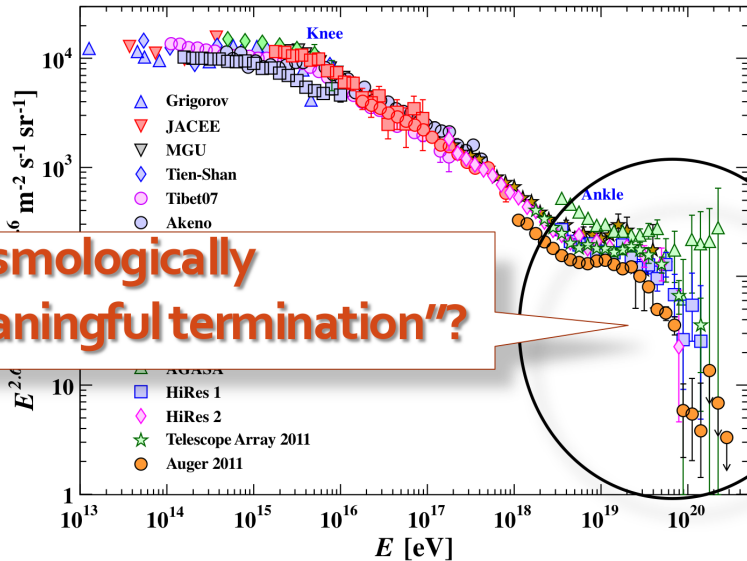
$$E(t) \sim 938 A(t) \Gamma \text{ MeV} \sim E_0 e^{-R(\Gamma)|_{\text{Fe}} t/56}$$

# How far UHECRs can travel through space

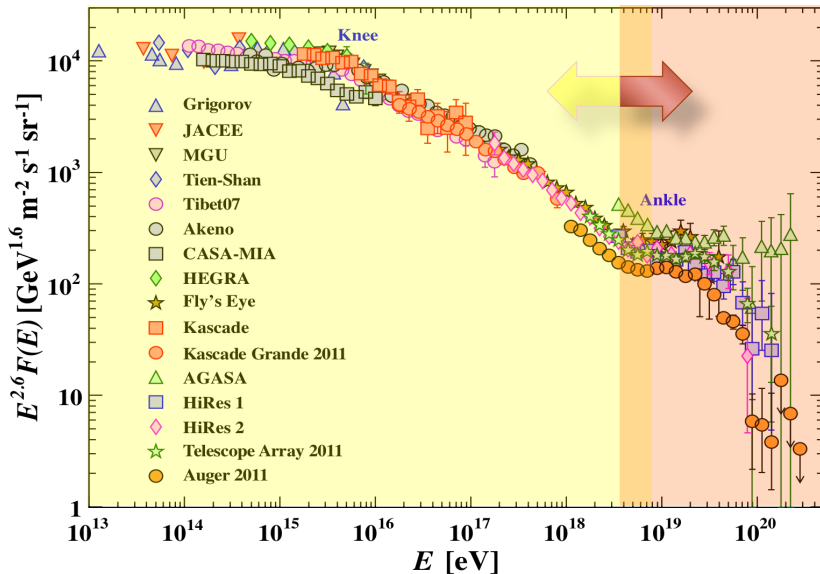


D. Allard, 2011

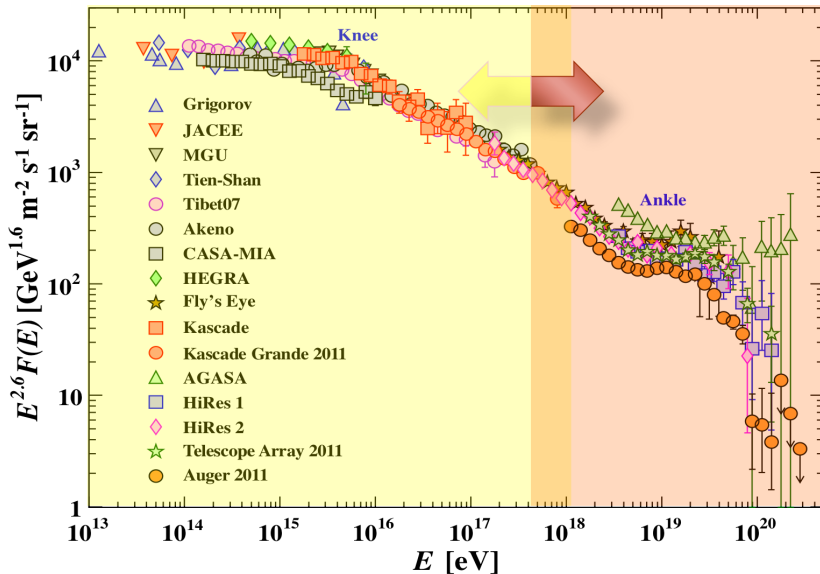




# Galactic to Extragalactic transition

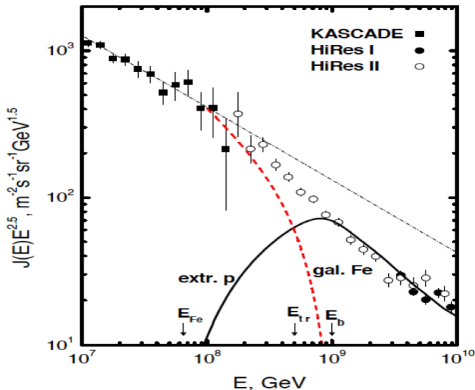


# Galactic to Extragalactic transition



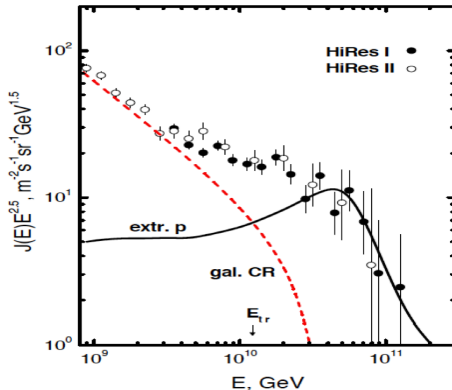
# Models for the ankle & transition $G \rightarrow EG$

Dip Model: V.Berezinsky, Phys.Rev.D74 (2006) 043005



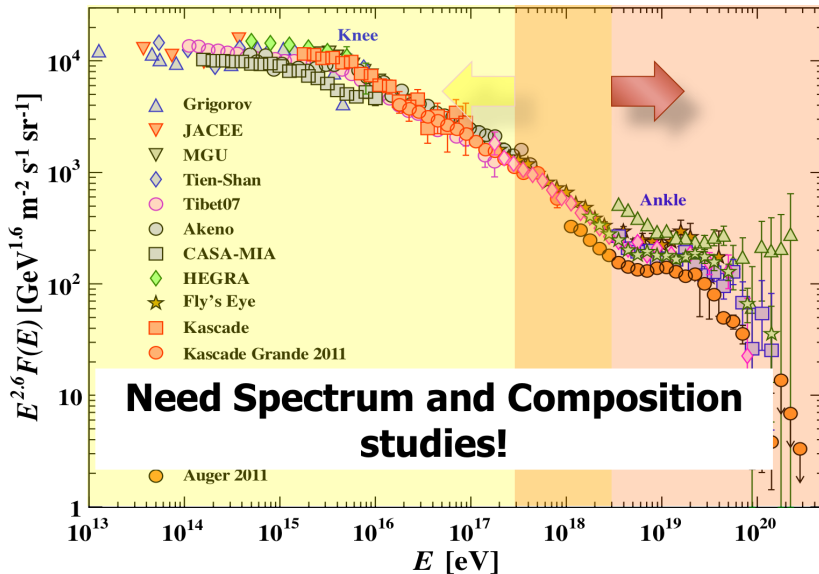
- Almost pure proton composition
- Pair production Dip
- Transition @  $(5 - 7) 10^{17}$  eV

Ankle Models: Waxman 1999, Wibig and Wolfendale 2005, Hillas 2005, 2006

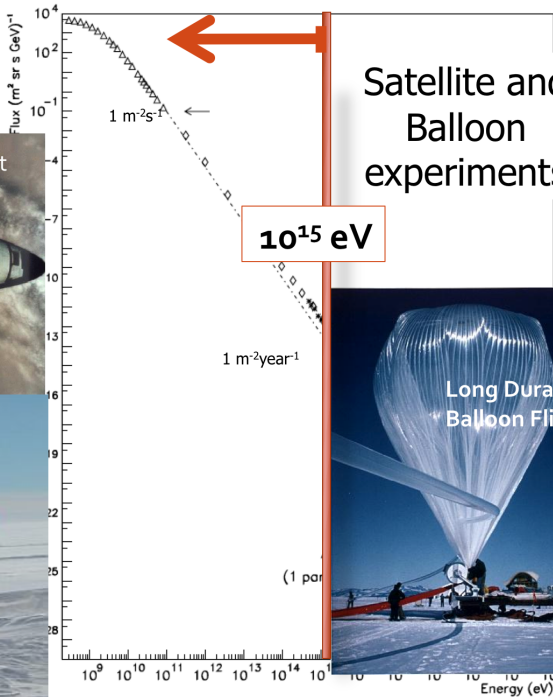
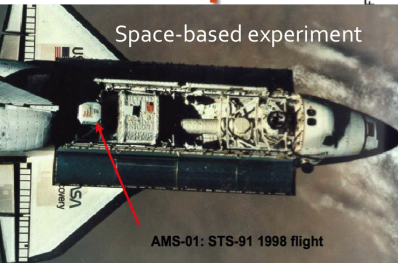


- Transition @  $0.3-1. 10^{19}$  eV
- Additional mechanisms to fill the gap between the iron knee and the onset of the EG component.

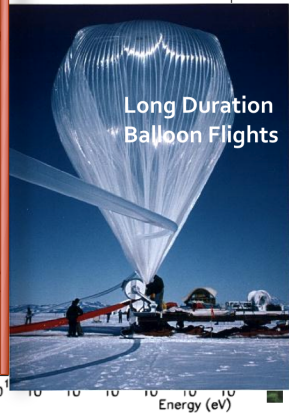
# Galactic to Extragalactic transition



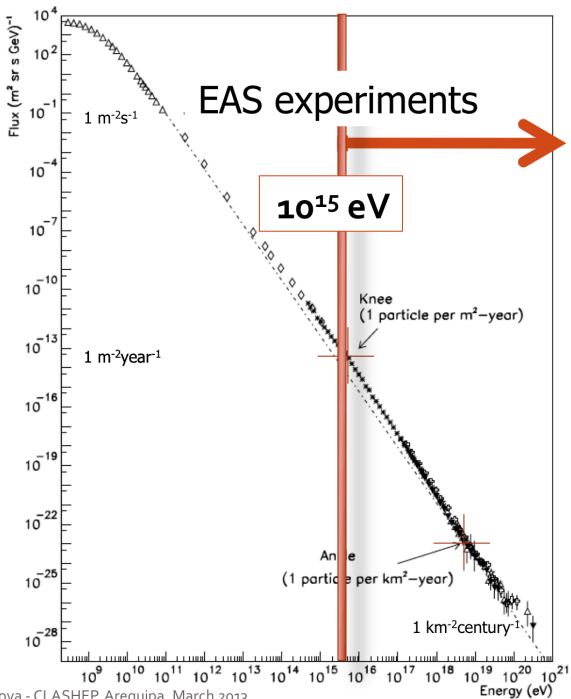
# Experimental Techniques

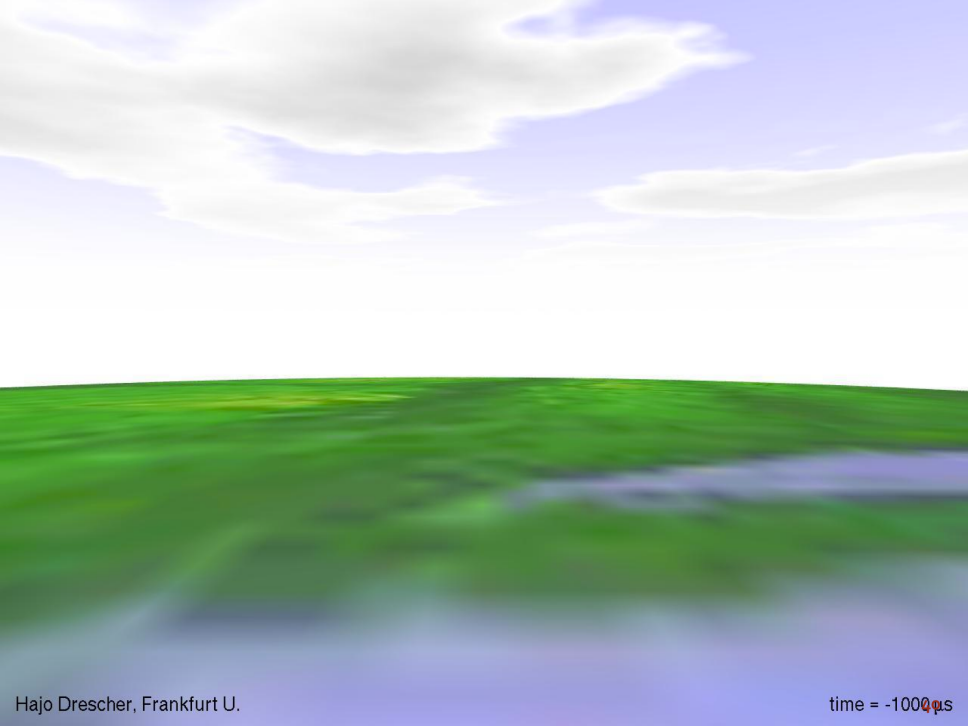


Satellite and Balloon experiments

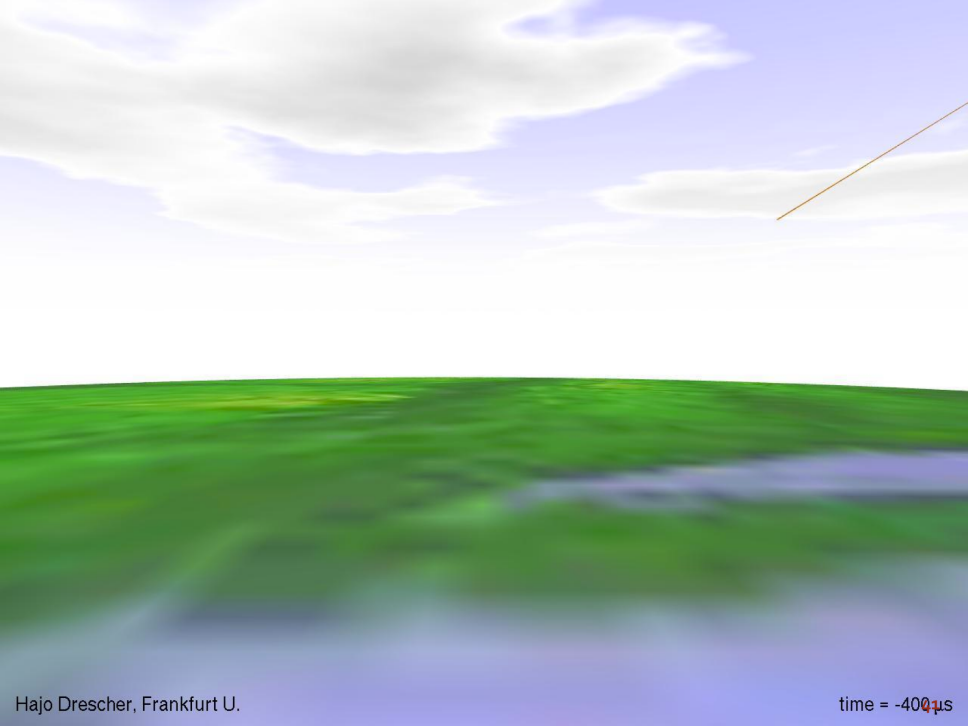


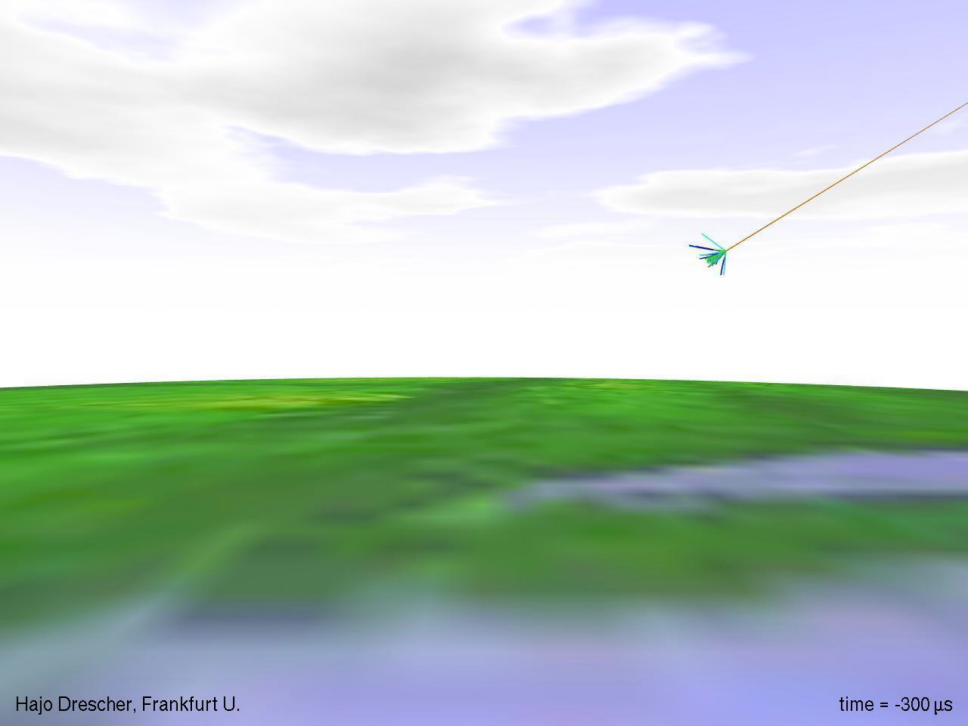
# Experimental Techniques above the "knee"

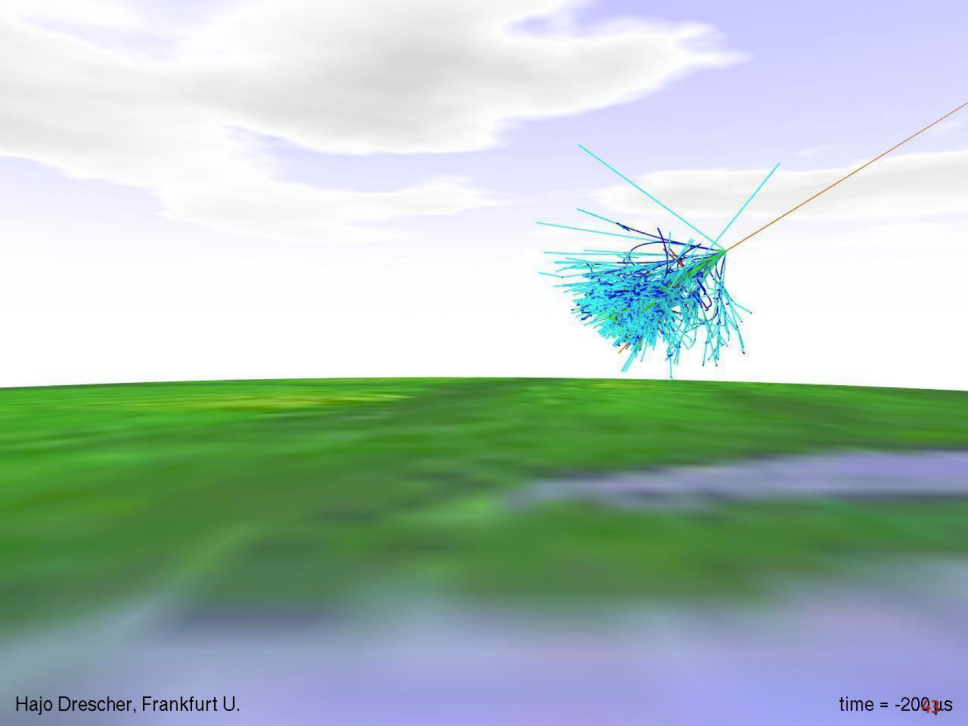


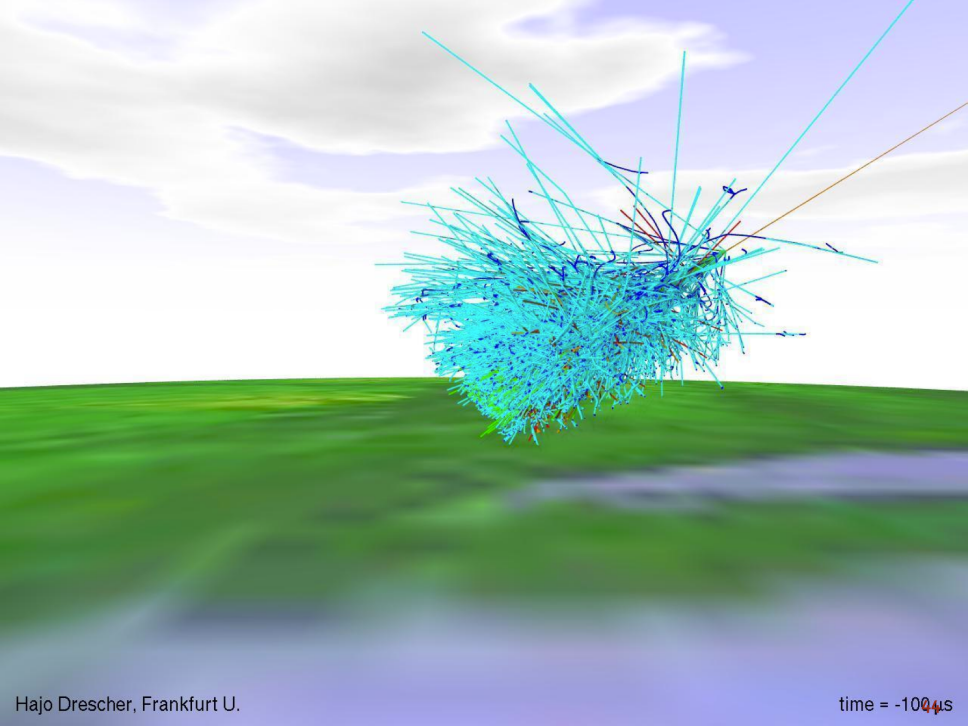


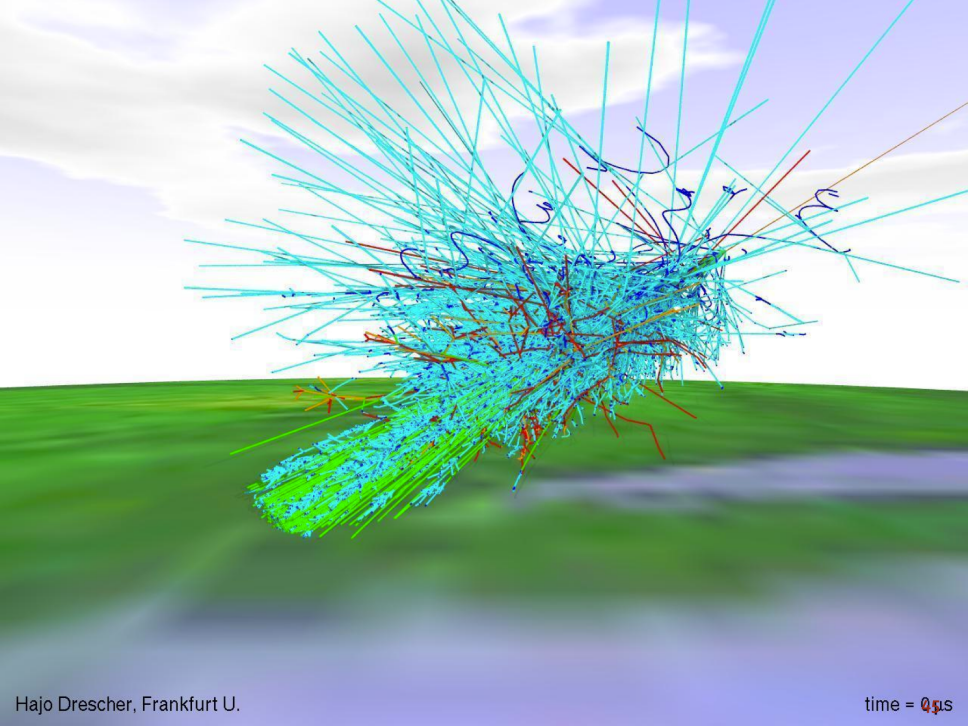


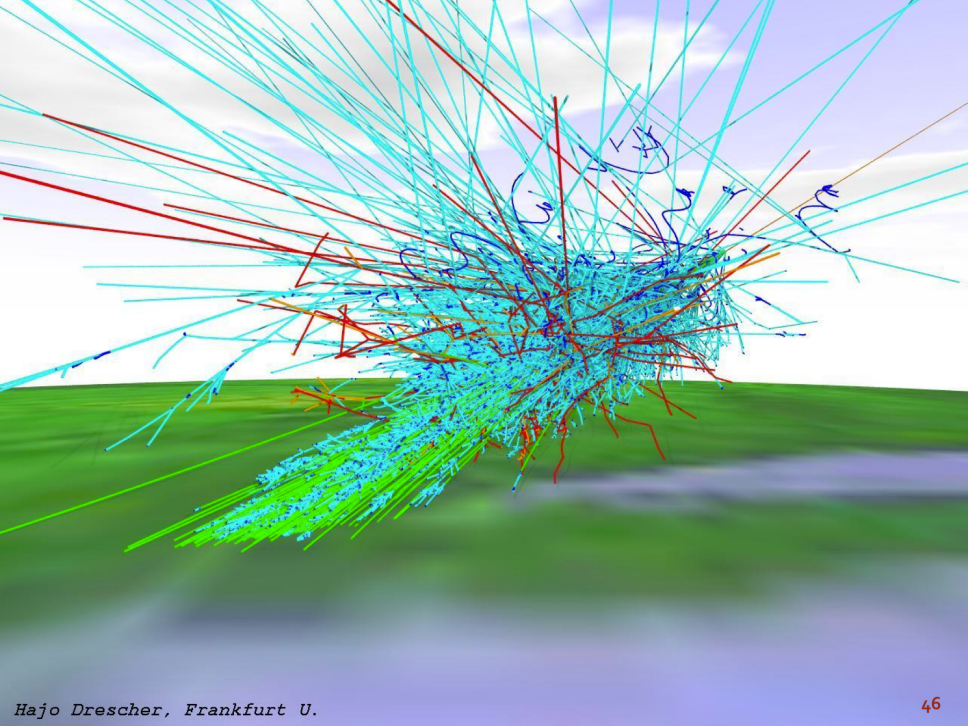




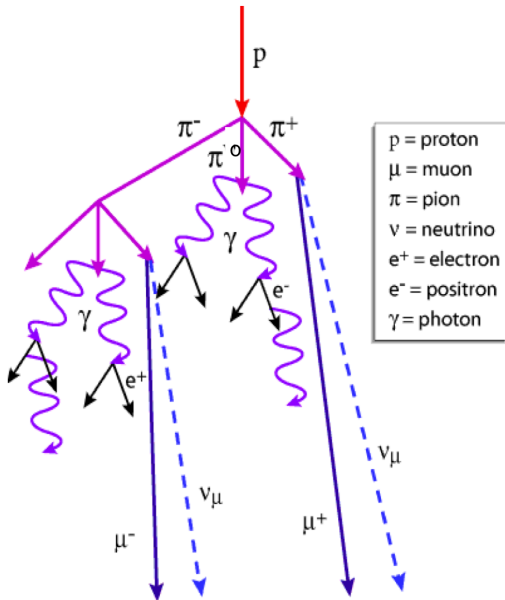
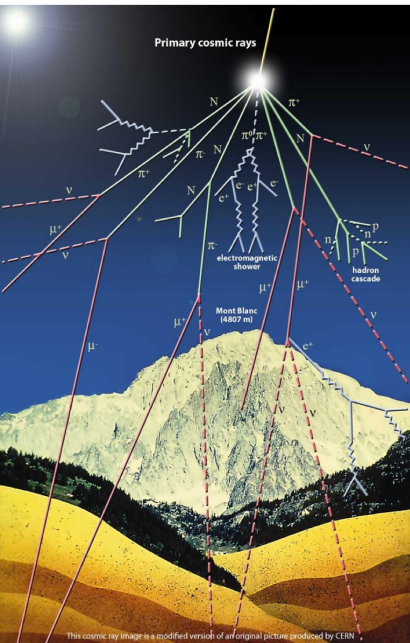






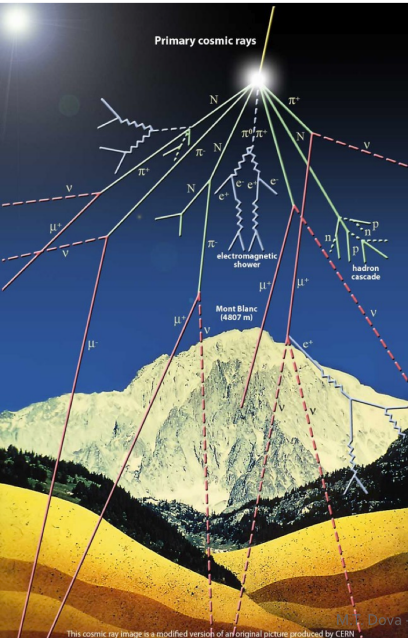


# The atmosphere as particle detector



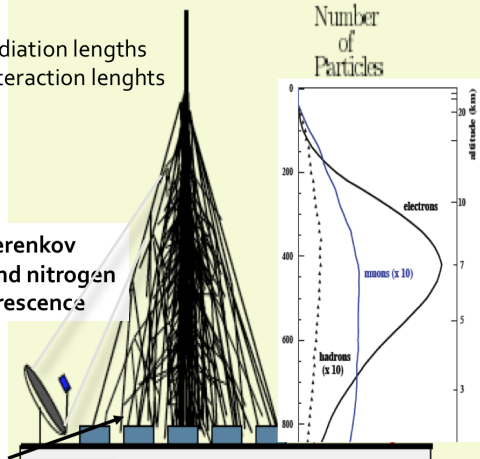
- $p$  = proton
- $\mu$  = muon
- $\pi$  = pion
- $\nu$  = neutrino
- $e^+$  = electron
- $e^-$  = positron
- $\gamma$  = photon

# The atmosphere as particle detector



25 radiation lengths  
15 interaction lengths

Cherenkov light and nitrogen fluorescence



$e/\gamma/\mu$ /hadrons

muons

neutrinos



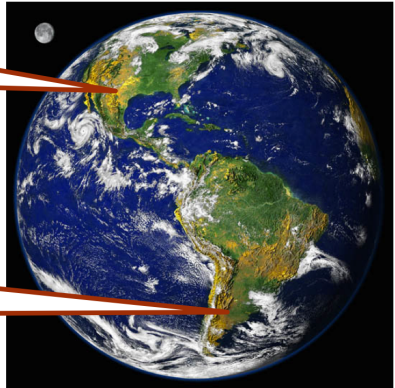
# UHECR current experiments



Utah  
USA

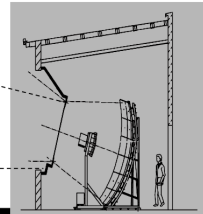
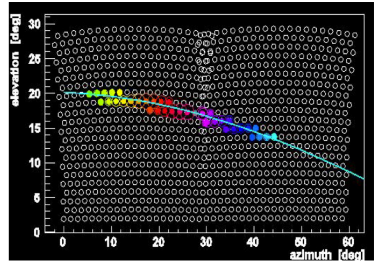


Mendoza,  
Argentina



# Fluorescence technique

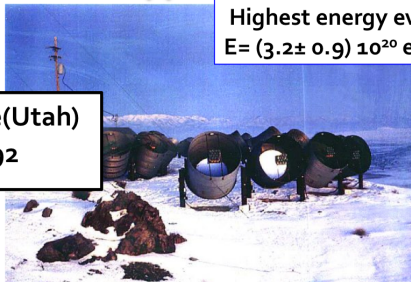
Fluorescence telescope “see” the UV light emitted by N<sub>2</sub> molecules excited by shower electrons



# Fluorescence Detectors (I)



Fly's Eye(Utah)  
1982-1992



Highest energy event  
 $E = (3.2 \pm 0.9) 10^{20} \text{ eV}$



HiRes (Utah)  
1997-2006



256 PMTs

140

UV filter

# Fluorescence detectors (II)

27 telescopes

440 PMTs  $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$

PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY

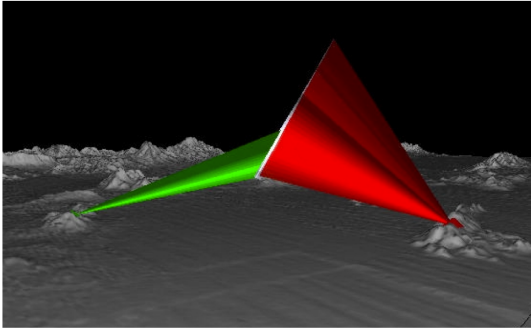


38 telescopes

258 PMTs  $15^\circ \times 18^\circ$



# Detection using Fluorescence technique

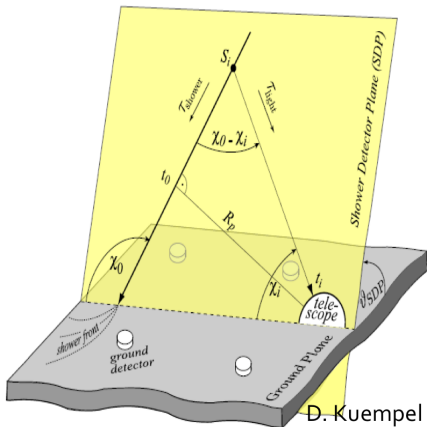
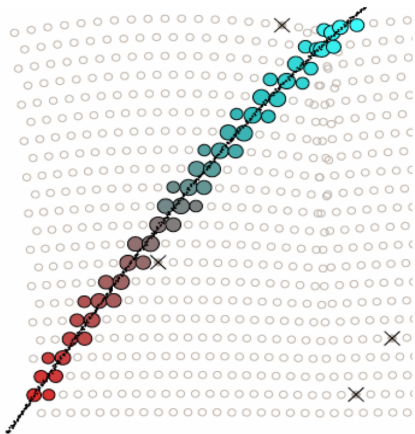


- Energy measurement is calorimetric
- Low duty-cycle
- Atmospheric uncertainties
- Fluorescence yield
- Aperture is not easily determined

# Geometry from Fluorescence technique

Use direction and timing information from FD pixels

$$t_{i,\text{exp}} = t_0 + R_p / c \tan[(\chi_0 - \chi_i) / 2]$$



D. Kuempel

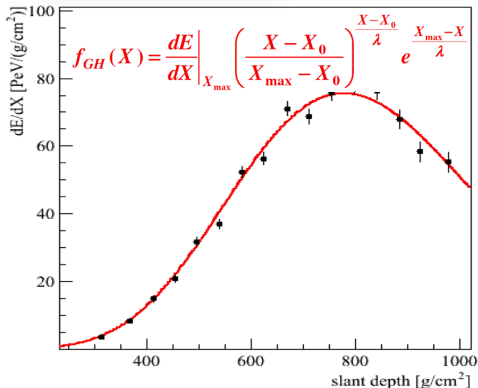
# EM energy from shower development

ADC counts vs  $t \rightarrow \gamma$  vs  $t \rightarrow \gamma$  vs slant depth  $\rightarrow E_{\text{deposited}}$

Detector calibration

Atmosphere

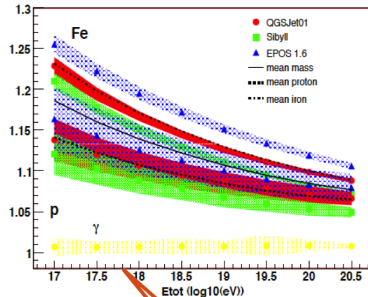
fluorescence yield  $\approx 5\gamma$ 's / MeV



$$\frac{d^2 N_{\gamma}}{dX d\lambda} = Y(\lambda, P, T, e_v) \cdot \frac{dE_{\text{tot}}^{\text{dep}}}{dX}$$

$f = E_{\text{tot}}/E_{\text{em}}$

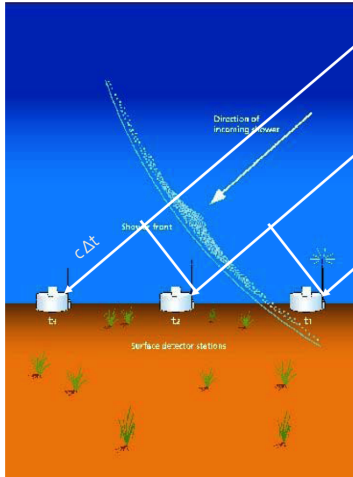
(T. Pierog et al, ICRC 2007)



$$E_{em} = \int_0^{\infty} f_{GH}(X) dX$$

$$E_{FD} = f_{inv} E_{em}$$

# Surface Arrays



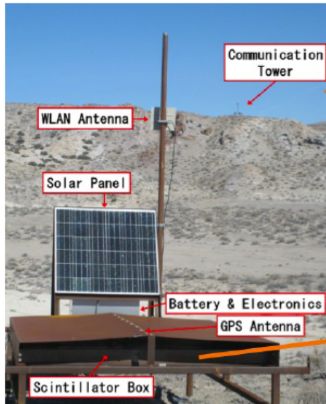
- ✓ 100% duty cycle
- ✓ Aperture well defined and large.
- ✓ Direction by time delay of arrival times
- ✓ Energy by signal intensities
- ✓ Energy measurement relies on assumptions about interaction models.



# SD installation in the North....

## Thin scintillators

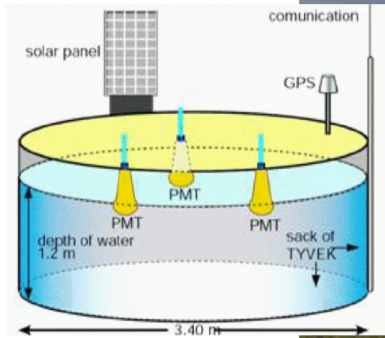
- 507 detectors,  $\approx 700\text{km}^2$
- $3\text{ m}^2$  / SD
- 2 layers of plastic scintillator
- 1 PMT for each layer.



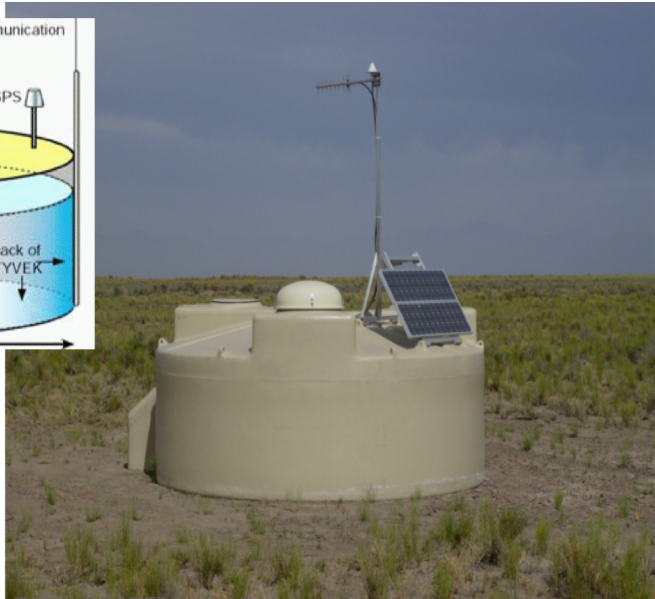
# Installation in the South...

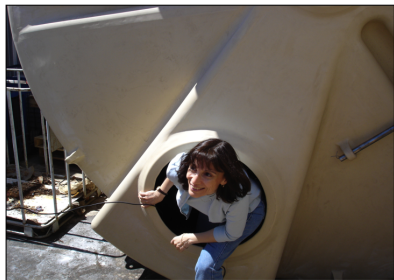


# AUGER: water Cerenkov station

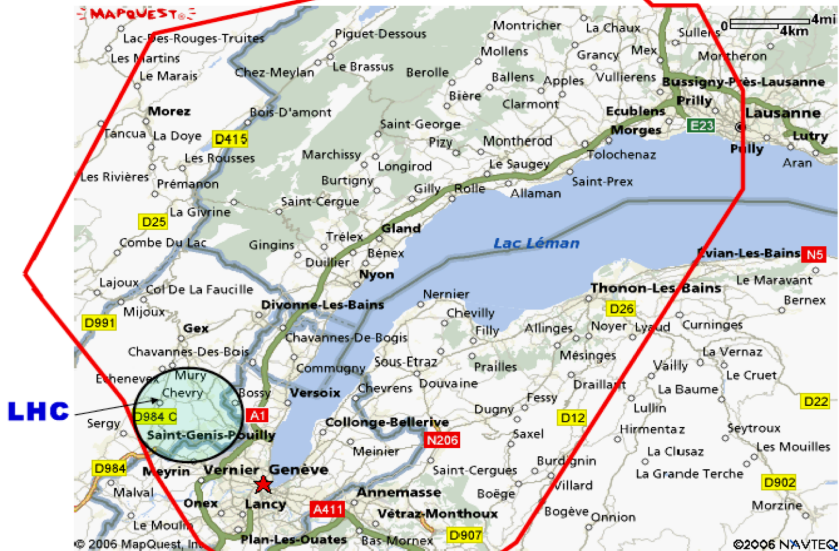


- large acceptance to inclined showers



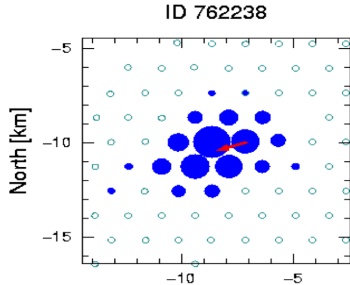
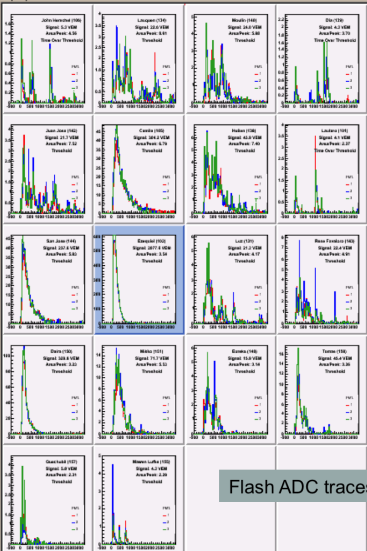


# Auger Surface Array



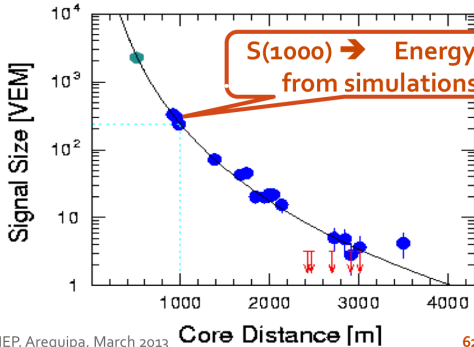
# Energy from SD

Display



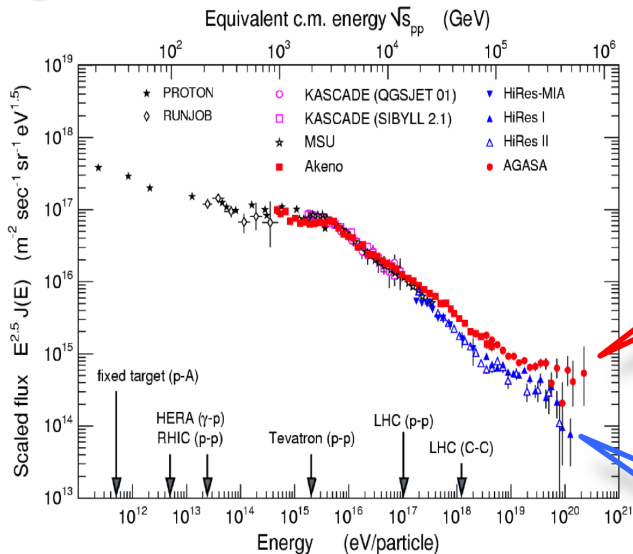
Lateral density distribution

ID 762238





# The cosmic ray spectrum some years ago...is there an end?



SD  
experiment

FD  
experiment



# A HYBRID DETECTOR



**Surface + Fluorescence is more  
than 2 detectors!**



LIDARs and laser facilities



1665 surface detectors:  
water-Cherenkov tanks  
(grid of 1.5 km, 3000 km<sup>2</sup>)



4 fluorescence detectors  
(24 telescopes in total)



Infill array of 750 m,  
Radio antenna array



High elevation  
telescopes





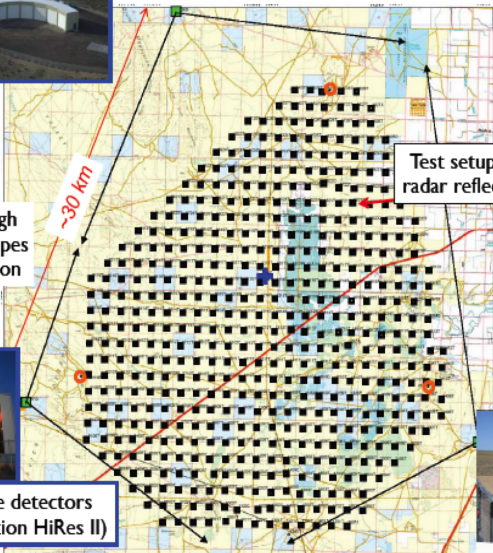
# Telescope Array (Utah, US)



Middle Drum: based on HiRes II

LIDAR  
Laser facility

Infill array and high  
elevation telescopes  
under construction



507 surface detectors:  
double-layer scintillators  
(grid of 1.2 km, 680 km<sup>2</sup>)



Test setup for  
radar reflection



Electron light source  
(ELS): ~40 MeV

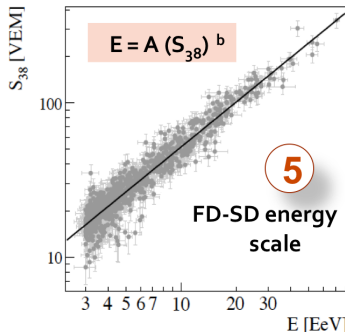
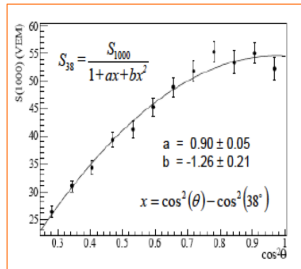
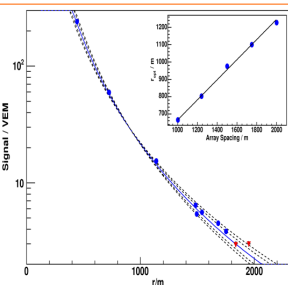
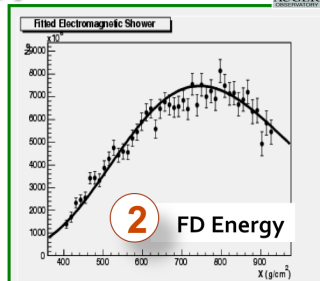
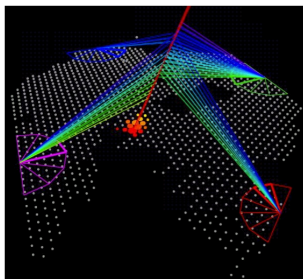
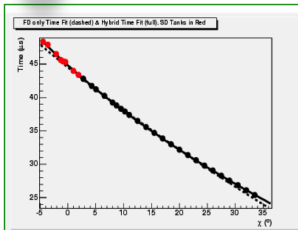


3 fluorescence detectors  
(2 new, one station HiRes II)



# Hybrid Data: Absolute energy calibration

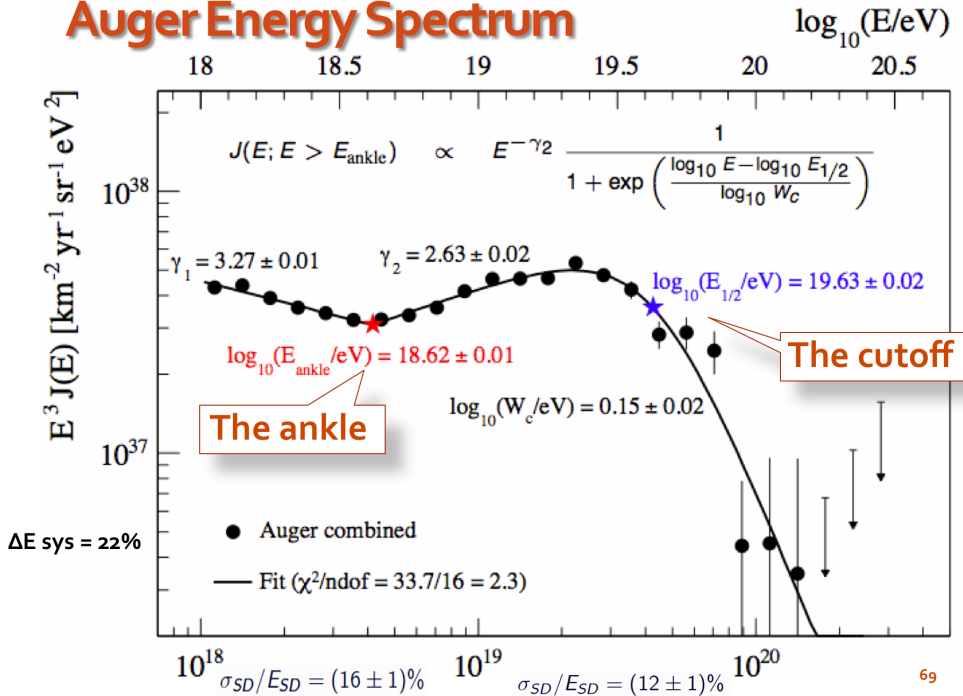
## 1 Hybrid geometry



## 3 SD parameter (S1000)

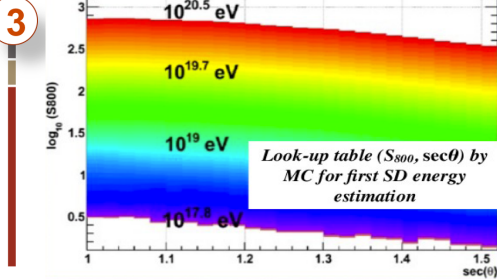
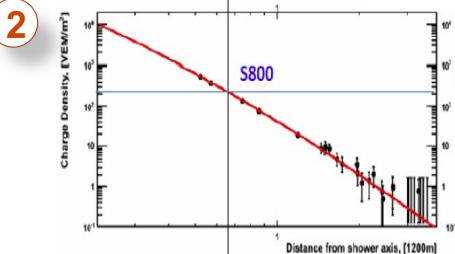
## 4 Zenith angle dependence of s1000

# Auger Energy Spectrum

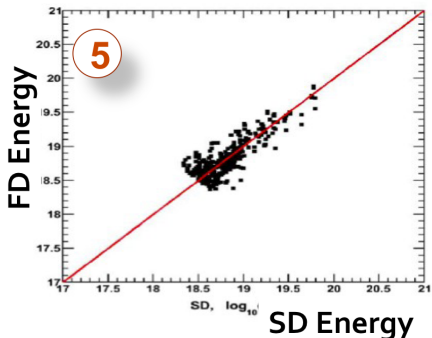


# TA energy calibration

1 FD Energy: Calorimetric measurement



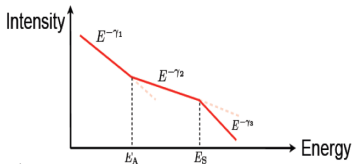
4 MC lookup table to determine SD Energy



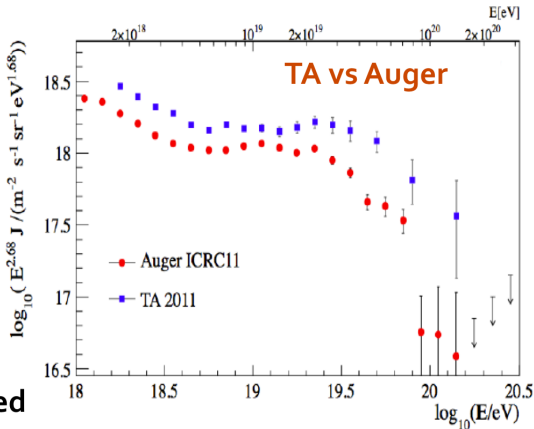
$$E_{SD} = \frac{1}{\left\langle \frac{E'_{SD}}{E_{FD}} \right\rangle_{\text{hyb}}} E'_{SD}$$

27% less  
than E  
from MC

# 3 power-law fit

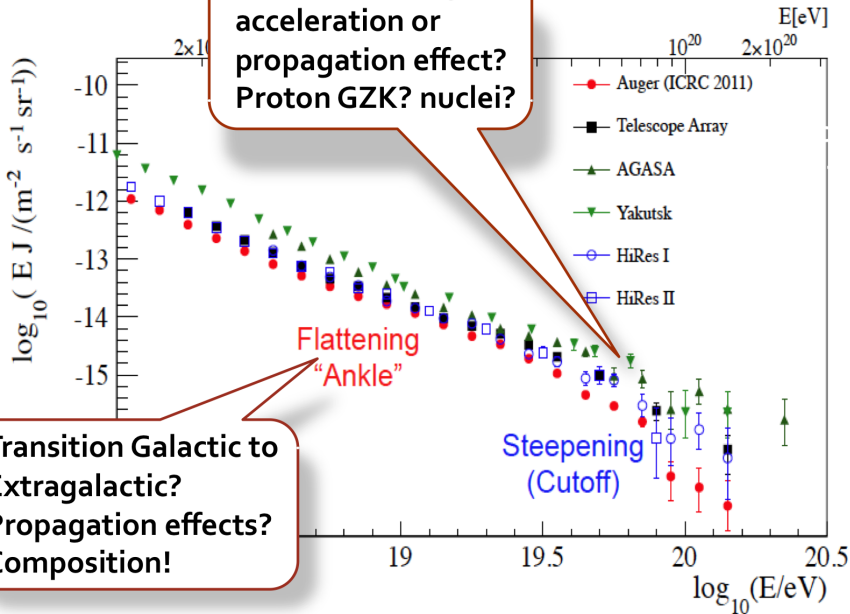


- Ankle: Confirmed
- Suppression: Confirmed
- 20% diff not fully explained



	$\gamma_1$	$\gamma_2$	$\gamma_3$	$\log E_A$	$\log E_S$
<b>HiRes</b>	3.25 (0.01)	2.81 (0.03)	5.1 (0.7)	18.65 (0.05)	19.75 (0.04)
<b>Auger</b>	3.27 (0.02)	2.68 (0.01)	4.2 (0.1)	18.61 (0.01)	19.41 (0.02)
<b>TA</b>	3.33 (0.04)	2.68 (0.04)	4.2 (0.7)	18.69 (0.03)	19.68 (0.09)

Maximum energy of acceleration or propagation effect?  
Proton GZK? nuclei?



Flattening  
"Ankle"

Steepening  
(Cutoff)

Transition Galactic to  
Extragalactic?  
Propagation effects?  
Composition!





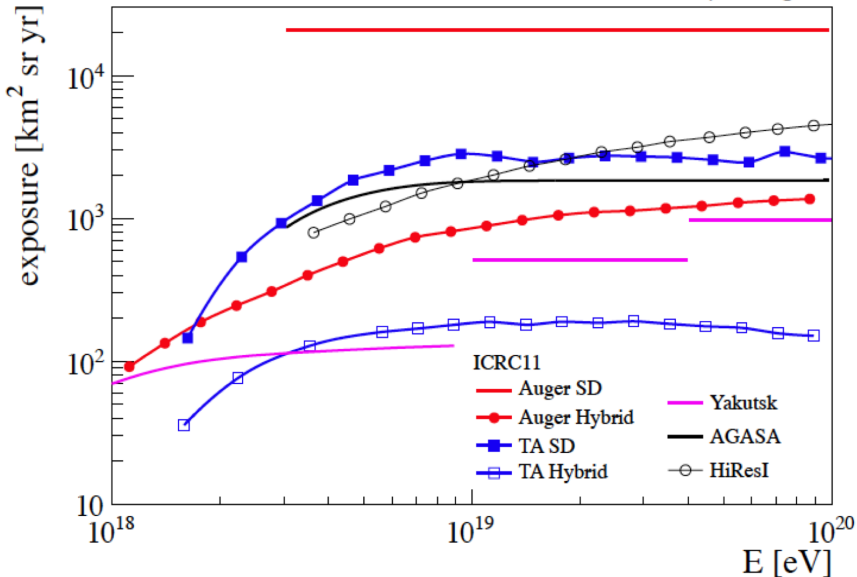
- Sources must be extreme objects
- Energy loss during propagation
- Phenomenology of the EAS
- Proton, iron? Estimate of composition of UHECR needs hadronic models

*...more Tomorrow!*

**BACKUP**

# Exposures

(M.Unger, KIT)



# Many possible models

(Kotera & Olinto, 1101.4256)

