Telescope Array measurement of UHECR composition from stereoscopic fluorescence detection

Thursday, 30 July 2015 15:30 (1 hour)

The chemical composition of ultra-high-energy cosmic rays (UHECRs) affects the observable distribution of air-shower $X_{\text{max}}$ values, the atmospheric slant depth at which the number of secondary shower particles reaches its maximum. The observed $X_{\text{max}}$ distributions at various primary UHECR energies can be compared with the distributions predicted by detailed detector simulations for any assumed composition and high-energy hadronic interaction model. In this poster, we present measurements of $X_{\text{max}}$ by the Telescope Array (TA) fluorescence detectors with stereoscopic shower reconstruction. We find that for all hadronic models considered, the data collected since TA operation began in 2007 is consistent with a chiefly light UHECR composition.

Collaboration

Telescope Array

Registration number following ”ICRC2015-I/”

772

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Session Classification: Poster 1 CR
Track Classification: CR-EX