

PIERRE
AUGER
OBSERVATORY



Multimessenger astrophysics: the ultrahigh-energy picture with the Pierre Auger Observatory

Stéphane Coutu
Institute for Gravitation and the Cosmos
The Pennsylvania State University



EDSU 2018
June 25-29, 2018
Guadeloupe Islands





Outline

- UHE Cosmic Rays:
- **Questions:**
 - What are the messengers?
 - What are the sources?
 - Acceleration? Maximum energy?
 - Highest-energy physics?
- **Observables:**
 - Composition (Z_e , ν , γ)
 - Arrival directions
 - Energy spectrum
 - Air shower properties
- Auger:
 - Many new results with $>67,000 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr yr}$ exposure;
(2017 ICRC, Busan, South Korea)
 - First signs of anisotropy;
 - Hadronic interactions results and puzzles;
 - New era of multimessenger astrophysics.



Auger Observatory, Argentina

Loma Amarilla



PIERRE AUGER OBSERVATORY

70
[km]
60
50
40
30

HEAT FD Telescopes
Infill array (0.75 km spacing)
AMIGA μ counters 25 km²
AERA radio array 17 km²

Coihueco

AERA

XLF

CLF

BLF

Los

Surface Array (WCDs)
1661 detector stations
1.5 km spacing
3000 km²

Atmospheric monitors:
weather, clouds,
thunderstorm activity,
lasers, lidars...

AugerPrime upgrade
in progress
scintillators over the WCDs
new electronics, extra PMT
expanded radio array

Fluorescence Detectors
4 Telescope enclosures
6 Telescopes per enclosure
24 (+3) Telescopes total

MALARGÜE

Los Leones

A. Aab et al., NIM A
798, 172 (2015), arXiv:1502.01323



S. Coutu

Hybrid design

~500 collaborators;
16 countries;
86 institutions;
> 67,000 – 89,000 km² sr yr

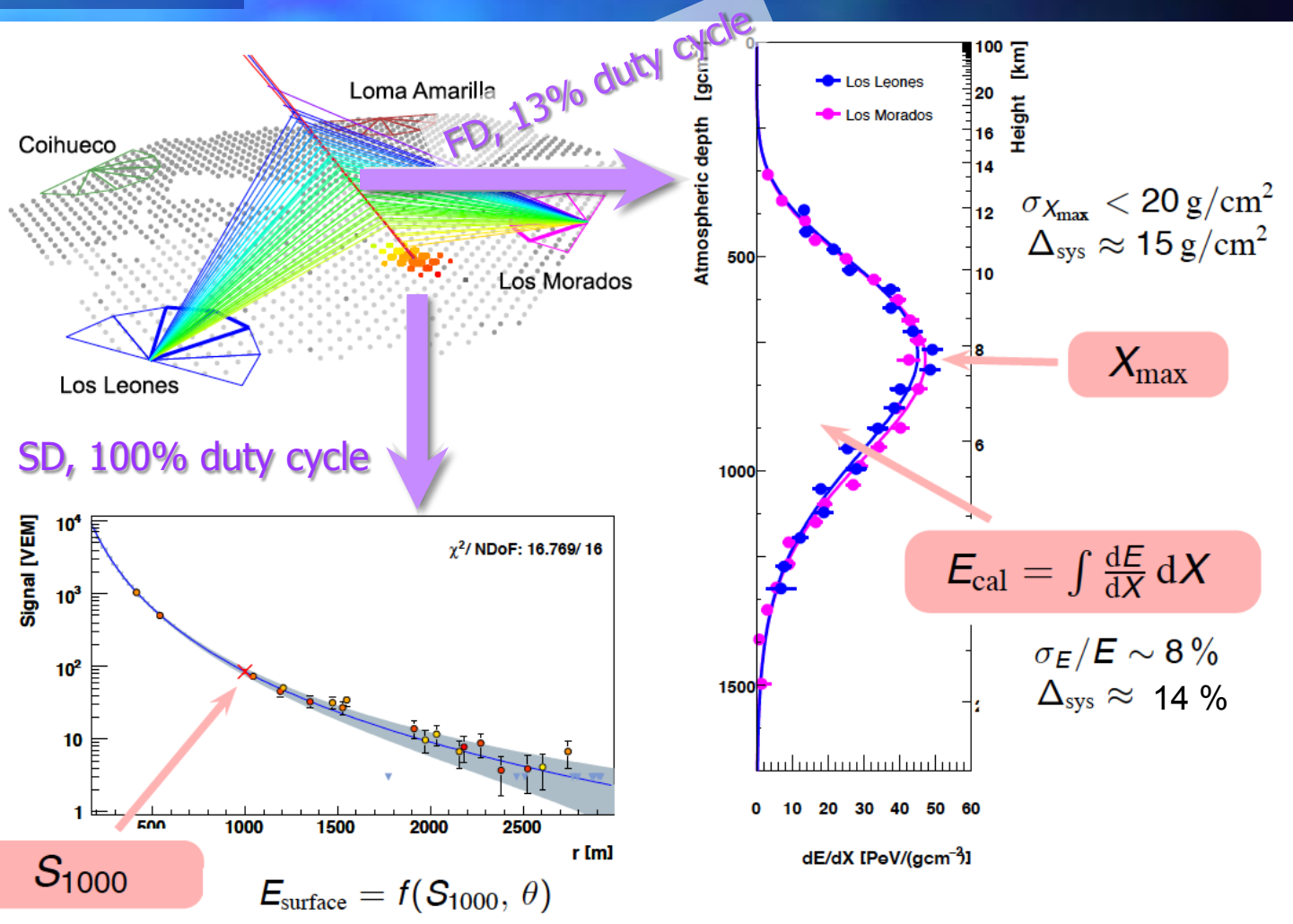


A multi-component
hybrid Observatory;
study of UHECRs $>10^{17}$ eV.





Event reconstruction



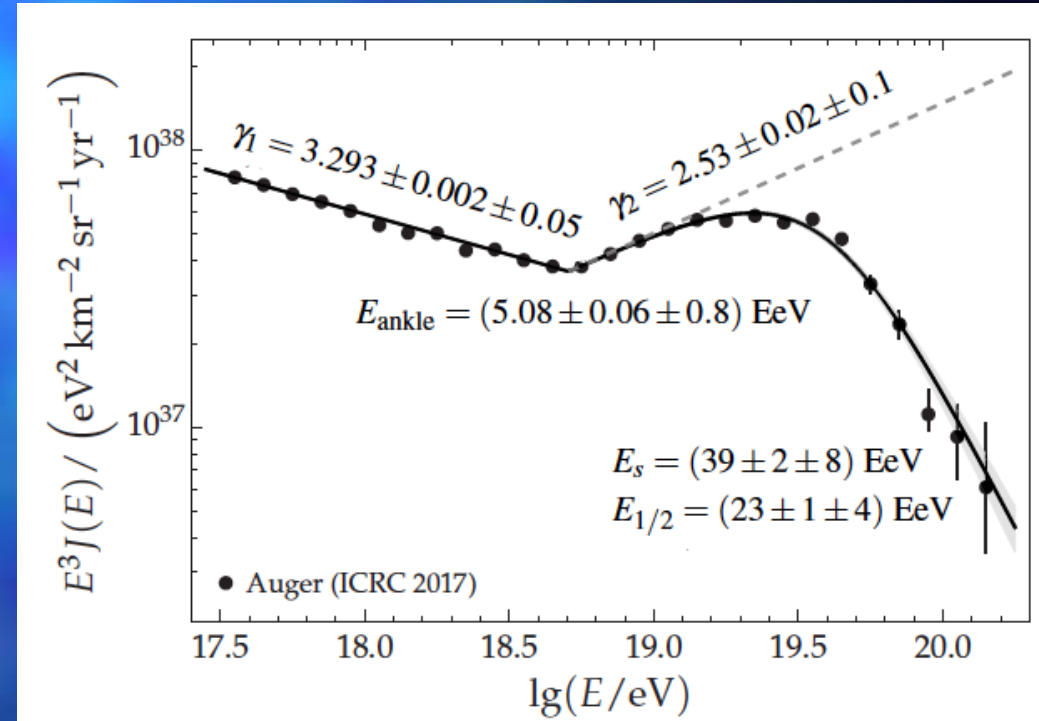


Energy spectrum

F. Fenu et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

- Updated, combined Auger spectrum:
- 203,000 SD (>3 EeV) + 87,000 infill (>0.3 EeV) + 12,000 hybrid events (>1 EeV);
- Exposure = 67,000 km² sr yr .

Smooth suppression definitely seen (>20σ)



$$J_{\text{unf}}(E) = \begin{cases} J_0 \left(\frac{E}{E_{\text{ankle}}} \right)^{-\gamma_1} & ; E \leq E_{\text{ankle}} \\ J_0 \left(\frac{E}{E_{\text{ankle}}} \right)^{-\gamma_2} \left[1 + \left(\frac{E_{\text{ankle}}}{E_s} \right)^{\Delta\gamma} \right] \left[1 + \left(\frac{E}{E_s} \right)^{\Delta\gamma} \right]^{-1} & ; E > E_{\text{ankle}} \end{cases}$$

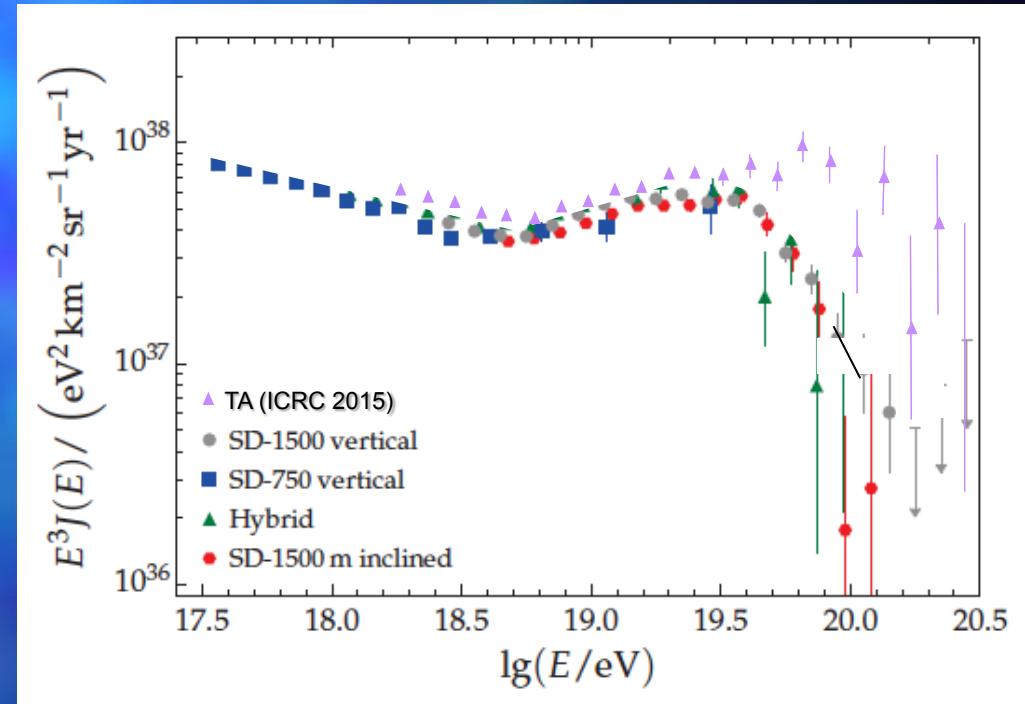


Energy spectrum

F. Fenu et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

- Updated, combined Auger spectrum:
- 203,000 SD (>3 EeV) + 87,000 infill (>0.3 EeV) + 12,000 hybrid events (>1 EeV);
- Exposure = 67,000 km² sr yr .

Smooth suppression definitely seen (>20σ)



C. Jui et al., Proc. of 34th ICRC, The Hague (2015)
R.U. Abbasi et al., Astropart. Phys. 68, 27 (2015)



Energy spectrum

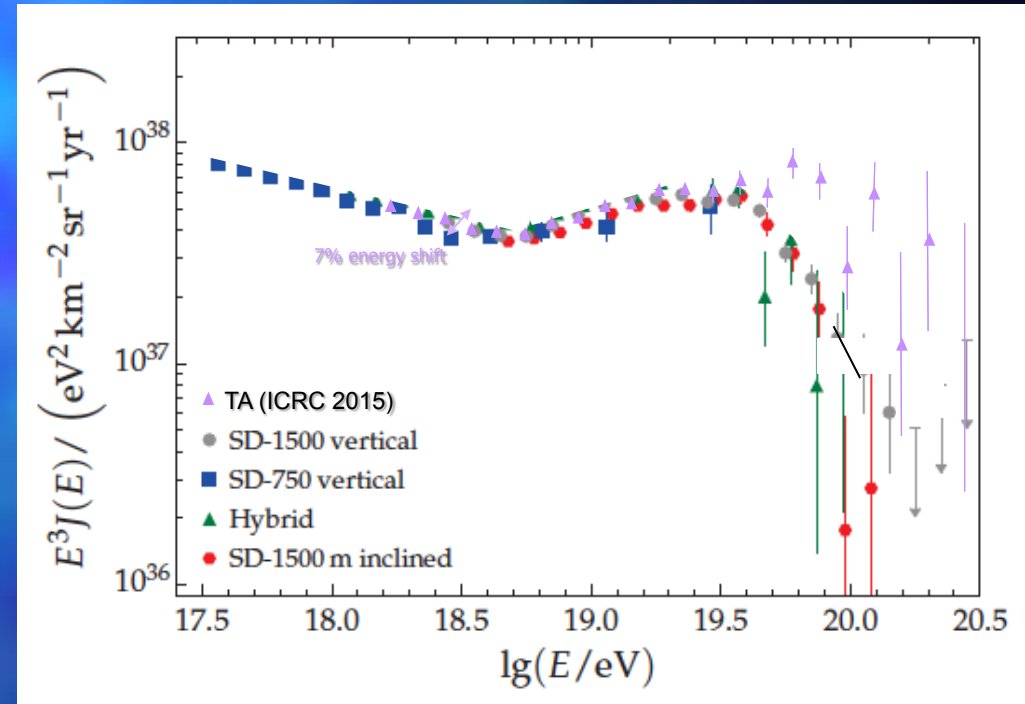
F. Fenu et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

- Updated, combined Auger spectrum:
- 203,000 SD (>3 EeV) + 87,000 infill (>0.3 EeV) + 12,000 hybrid events (>1 EeV);
- Exposure = 67,000 km² sr yr .

Smooth suppression definitely seen (>20σ)

Differences between Auger and TA can be (mostly) accommodated within a systematic energy shift...

... but not easily at the highest energies.



C. Jui et al., Proc. of 34th ICRC, The Hague (2015)
R.U. Abbasi et al., Astropart. Phys. 68, 27 (2015)

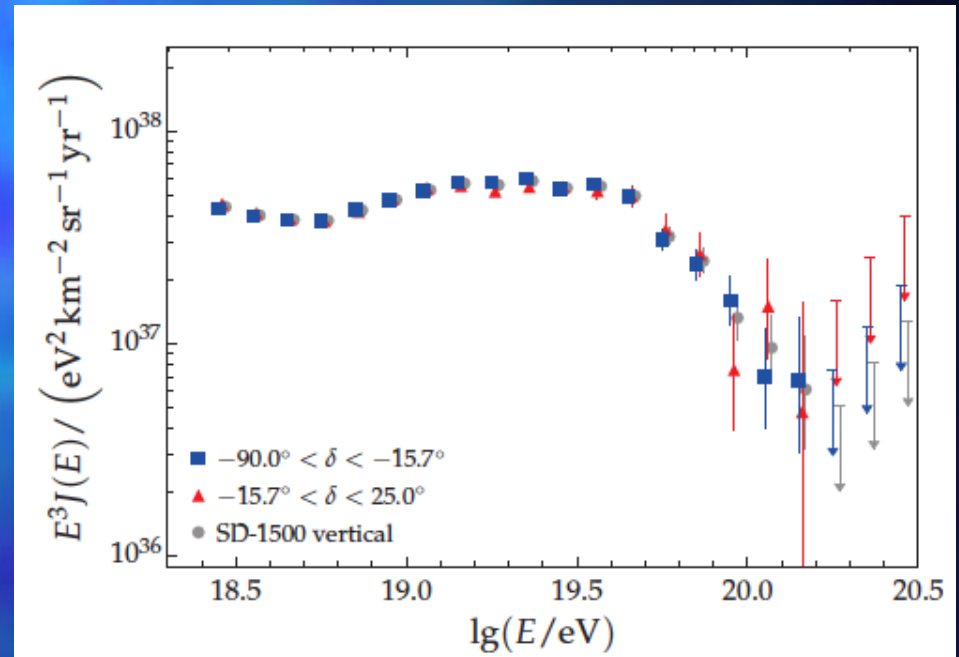


A North/South difference?

F. Fenu et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

Auger spectrum divided into 2 separate declination bands covering >70% of the sky;

No evidence for spectral dependence on source location.



What is the nature of the spectral suppression?

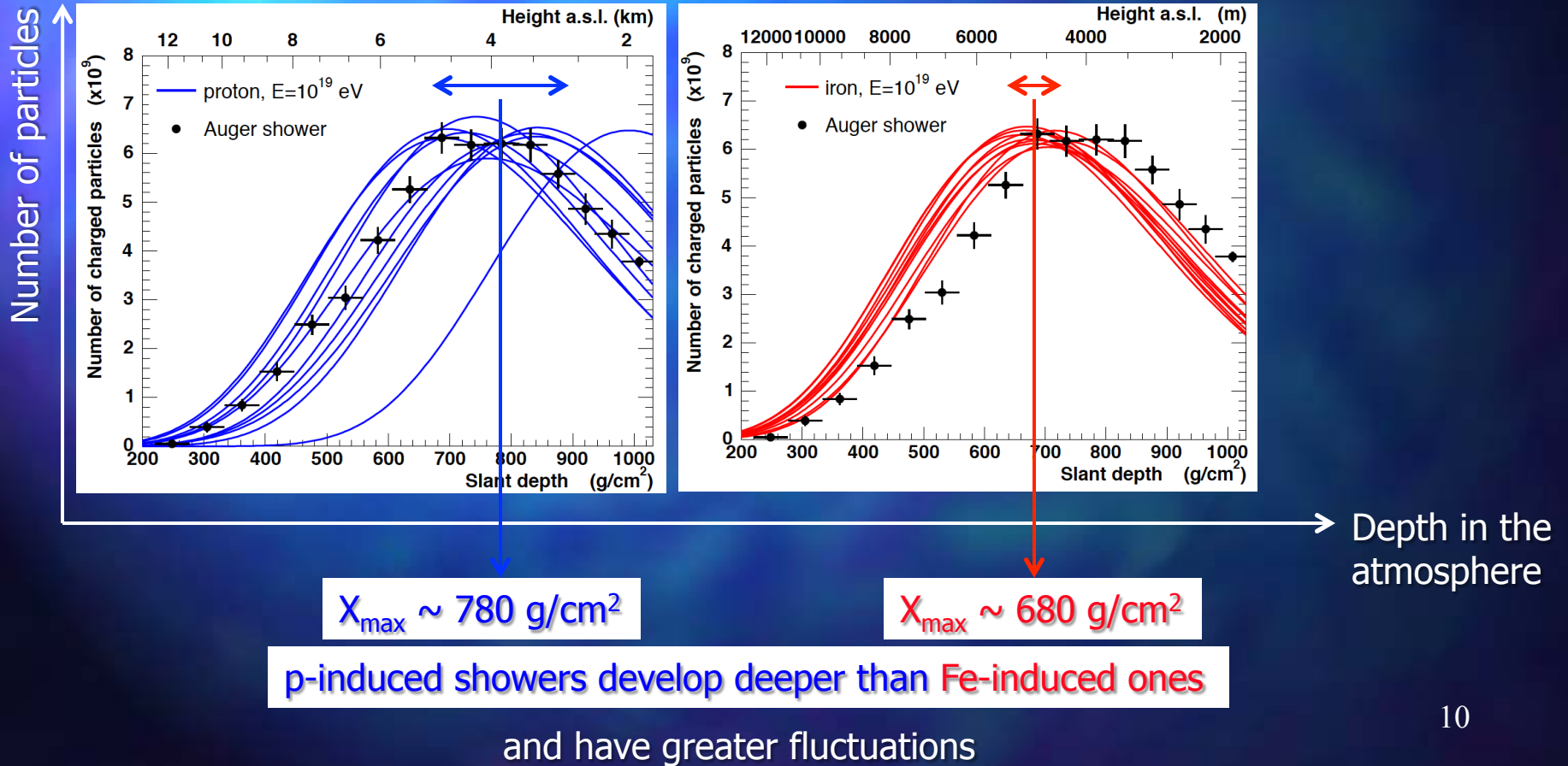
- GZK propagation effects (attenuation due to CMB interactions)?
- Intrinsic difficulty of producing 10^{20} eV particles in astrophysical sources?

- 1) Study mass composition and air shower development (UHE physics);
- 2) look for sources in arrival direction distribution.



Nature of UHECRs

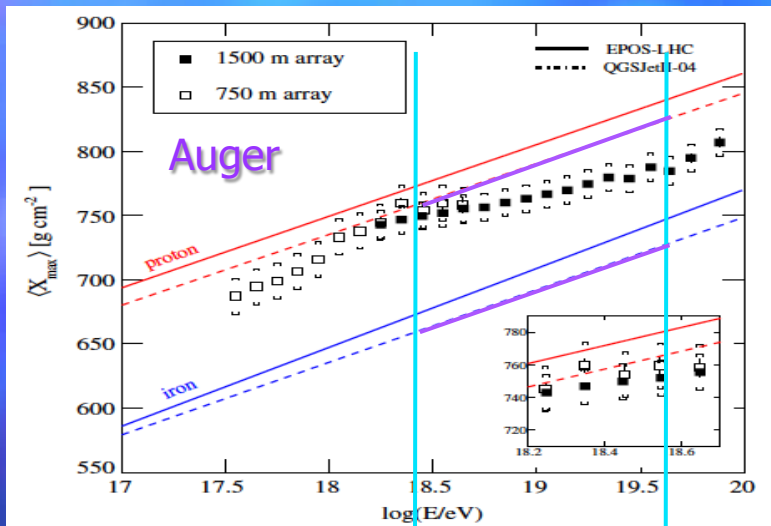
Hybrid measurements are sensitive to mass composition





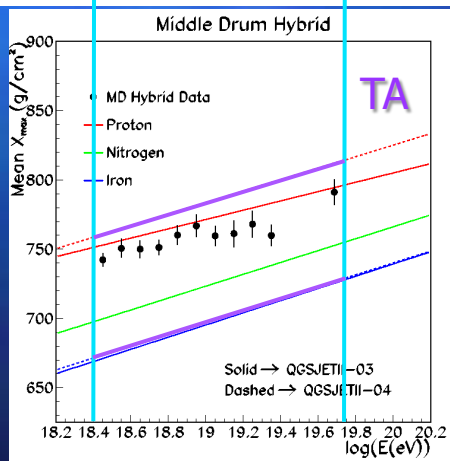
Mass composition

A. Aab et al., PRD 96, 122003 (2017)

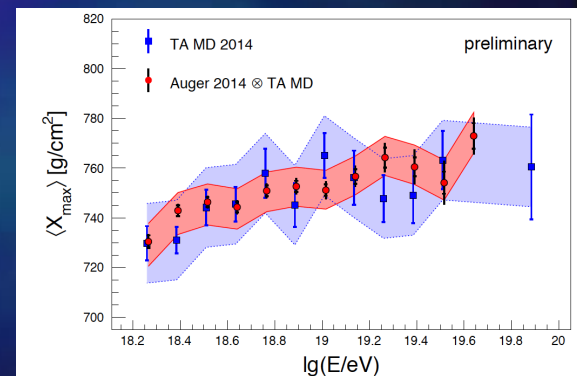


Clean hybrid events (strong anti-bias cuts);
 detector-independent measurements.
 Hadronic interaction MCs tuned to 7 TeV
 LHC data.

TA distribution is
not detector
 independent;
 instrumental
 effects folded into
 MC.



Fold Auger X_{max}
 distribution into TA
 MC algorithm...
 excellent
 agreement!



M. Unger et al., Proc. of 34th ICRC, The Hague (2015)

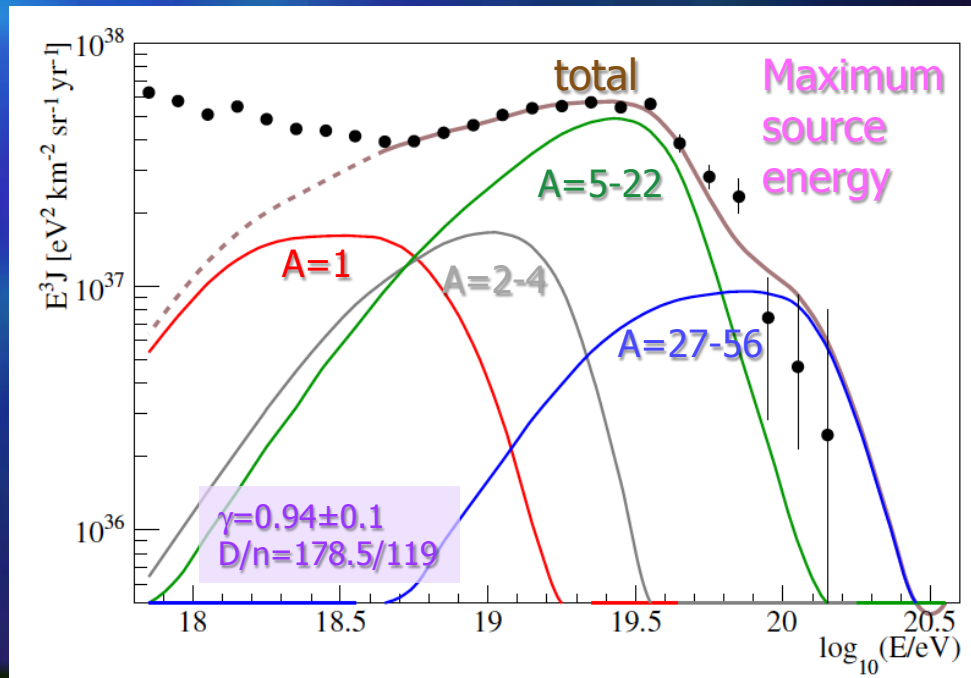
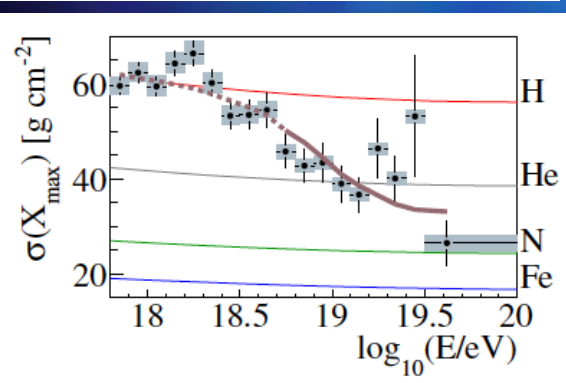
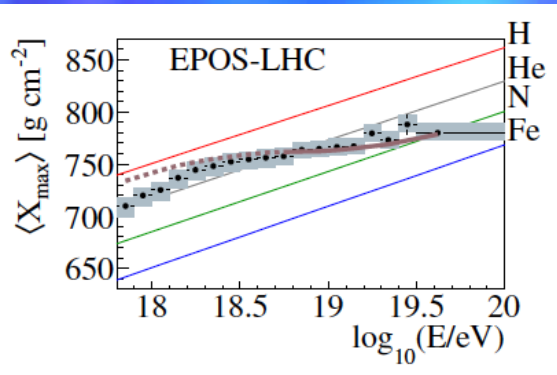


Combining X_{\max} and spectrum

Homogeneous distribution of identical sources of p, He, N and Fe nuclei;
125 data points, 6 fit parameters: injection flux norm. and spec. index γ , cutoff rigidity R_{cutr}
p/He/N/Fe fractions;
best fit with very hard injection spectra ($\gamma \leq 1$).

Rich phenomenology !
(but needs enhanced composition sensitivity)

A. Aab et al., JCAP 04, 038 (2017)



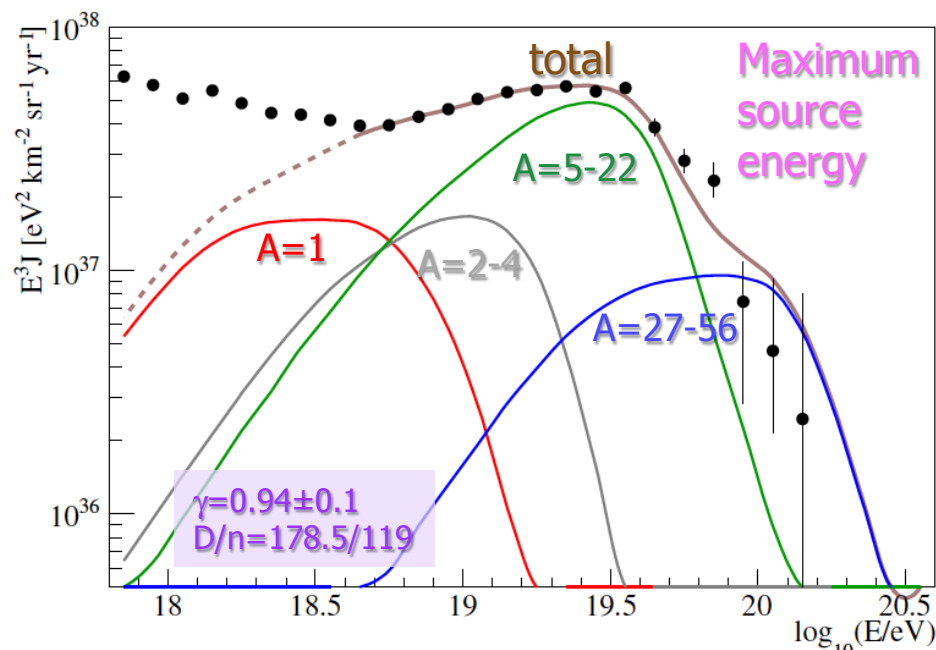
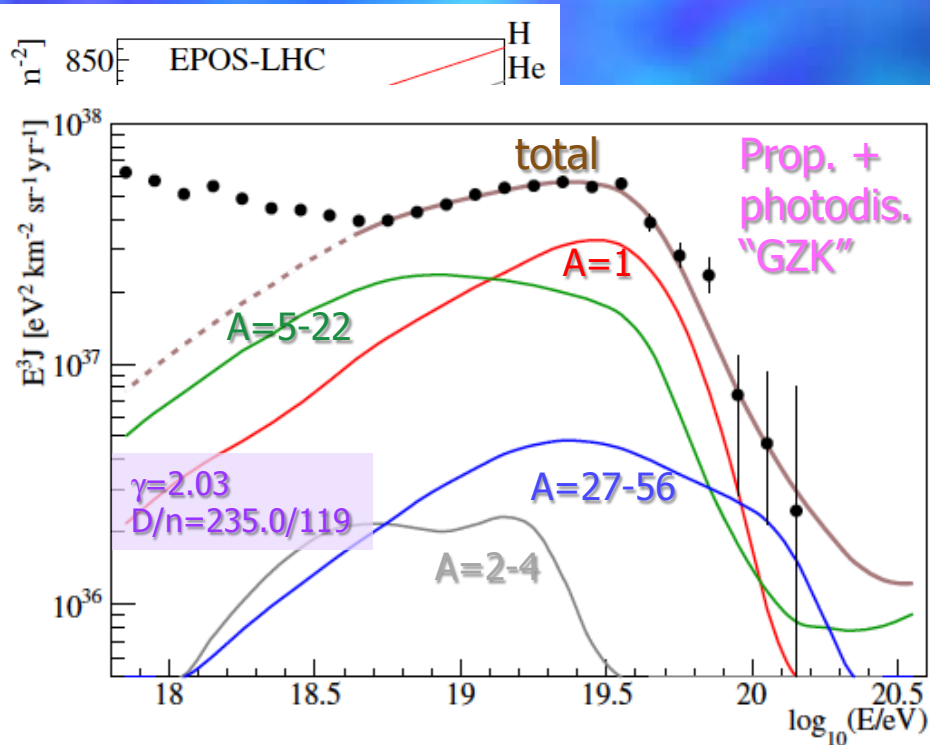


Combining X_{\max} and spectrum

Homogeneous distribution of identical sources of p, He, N and Fe nuclei;
125 data points, 6 fit parameters: injection flux norm. and spec. index γ , cutoff rigidity R_{cutr}
p/He/N/Fe fractions;
best fit with very hard injection spectra ($\gamma \leq 1$).

Rich phenomenology !
(but needs enhanced composition sensitivity)

A. Aab et al., JCAP 04, 038 (2017)

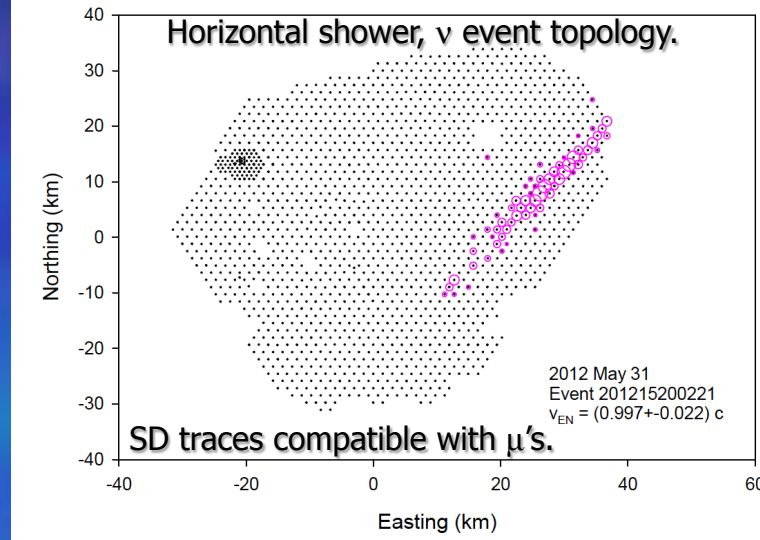




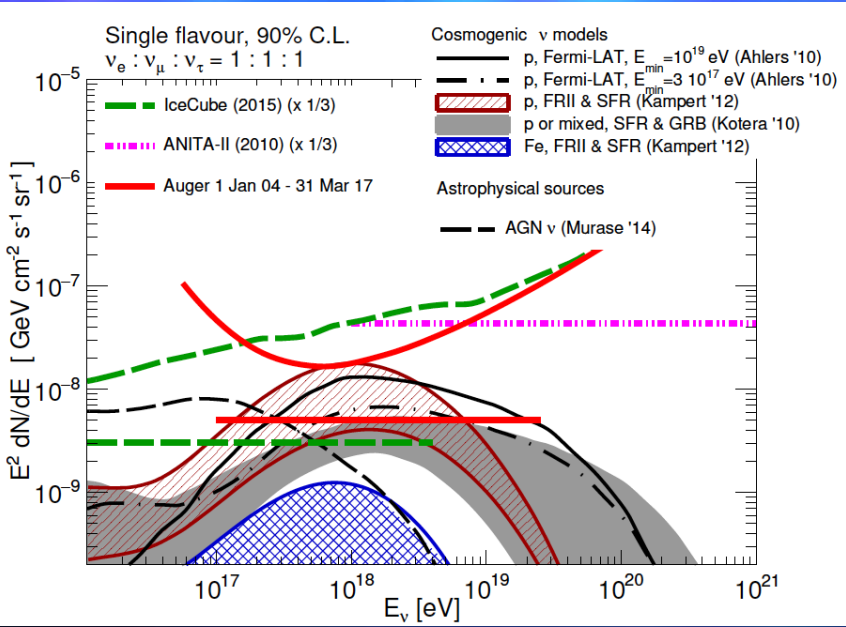
None seen so far.

Neutral UHECRs?

- **Neutrinos?** Horizontal showers with EM activity; shape of footprint, SD time structure.
- **Photons?** Deep showers with low μ content; shape of LDF, SD time structure.



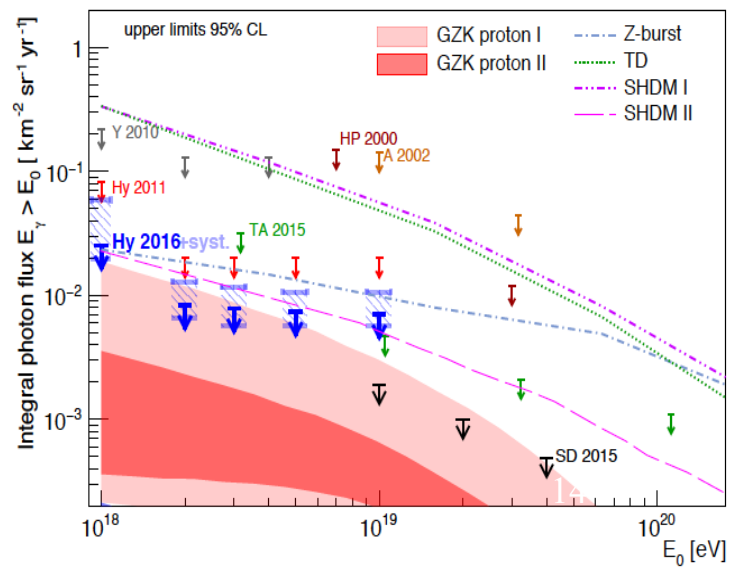
ν : A. Aab et al., PRD 91, 092008 (2015)
 γ : A. Aab et al., ApJ 789, 160 (2014)
 A. Aab et al., ApJL 837, L25 (2017)



E. Zas et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

Top-down models strongly disfavored

M. Niechciol et al., Proc. of 35th ICRC, Busan (2017)

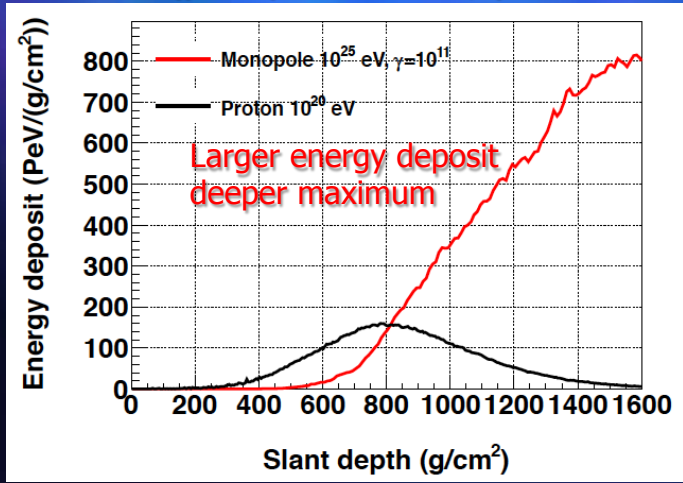
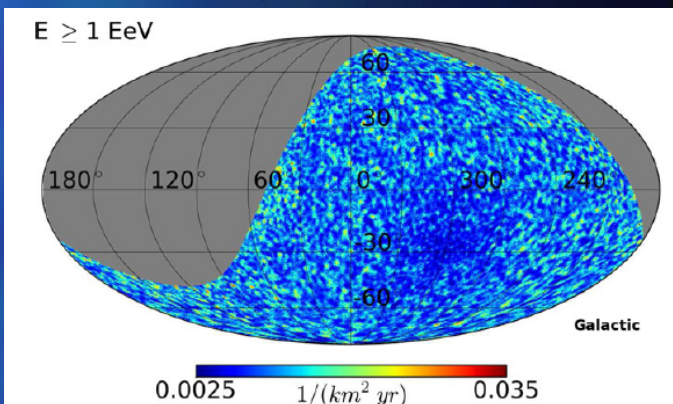




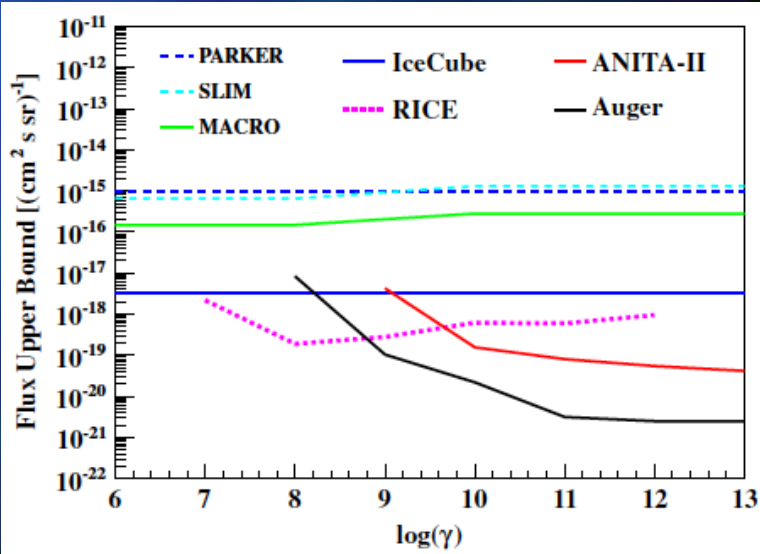
Other types of UHECRs?

- **Neutrons?** \sim EeV air showers showing Galactic anisotropies; n decay length $\sim(9.2E)$ kpc, about Sun's Galactic radius; no significant excess in blind search or stacked search; n flux limits are below the detected TeV gamma ray fluxes.
- **Magnetic monopoles?** Ultra-relativistic monopoles (masses $10^{11} - 10^{20}$ eV/c²) deposit a comparable dE/dx in air to UHECRs (pair production, photonuclear interactions).

n: P. Abreu et al., ApJ 760, 148 (2012)
 A. Aab et al., ApJ 789, L34 (2014)



No candidate; first limit from EAS experiment; lowest limit for $\gamma > 10^9$.





Large scale anisotropy

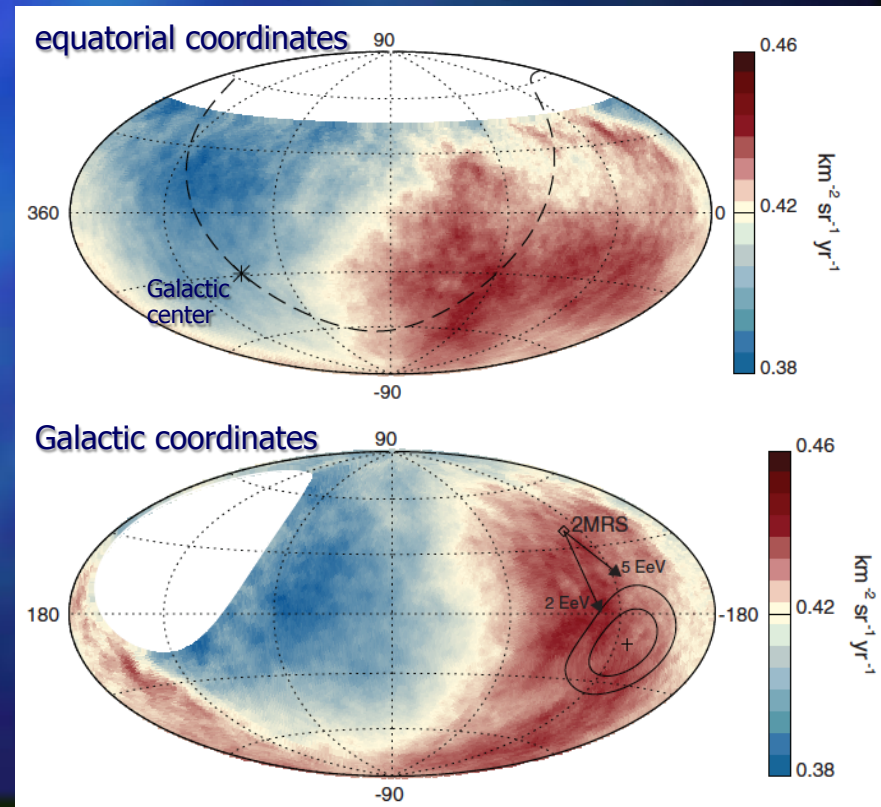
Largest data set: 76,800 km² sr yr since 2004;
85% sky coverage;

Auger Rayleigh analyses:

- 80,000 events at 4 – 8 EeV;
- distribution compatible with isotropy;
- 30,000 events > 8 EeV;
- dipole of amplitude $(6.5 \pm 1.3 - 0.9)\%$ (5.2σ),
pointing to $(a, d) = (100^\circ \pm 10^\circ, -24^\circ \pm 12^\circ - 13^\circ)$.

Challenges expectation of isotropy at these “low”
energies. Magnetic deflections important.

A. Aab et al., Science 357, 1266 (2017)
45° top-hat smoothing





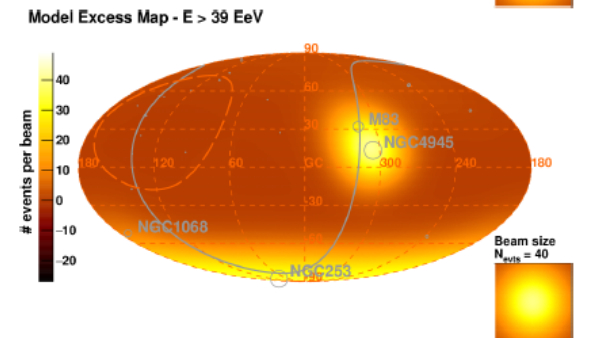
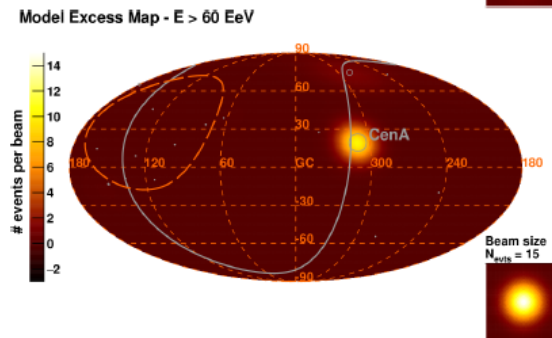
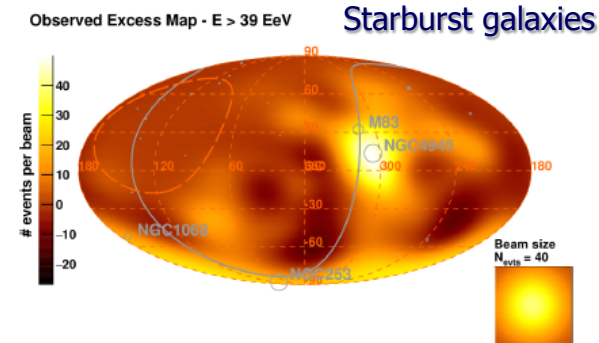
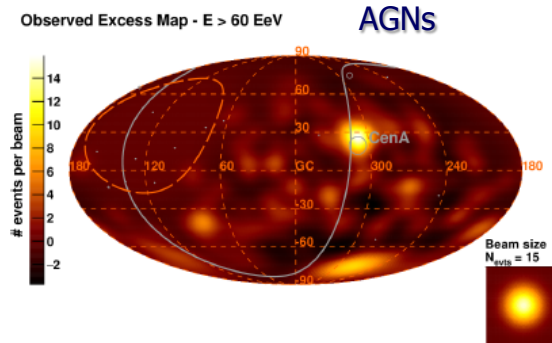
Intermediate scale anisotropy

Anisotropy tests with astrophysical structures: 2FHL catalog (hard Fermi-LAT sources) and starburst galaxies within 250 Mpc;

Auger: 89,720 km² sr yr since 2004; 5514 events above 20 EeV; optimize threshold energy and scan over search radius and anisotropic fraction.

Best significance: 4.0σ for E > 39 EeV
10% SBG + isotropic background;
13° search window.

A. Aab et al., ApJL 853, L29 (2018)





Auger in multimessenger era

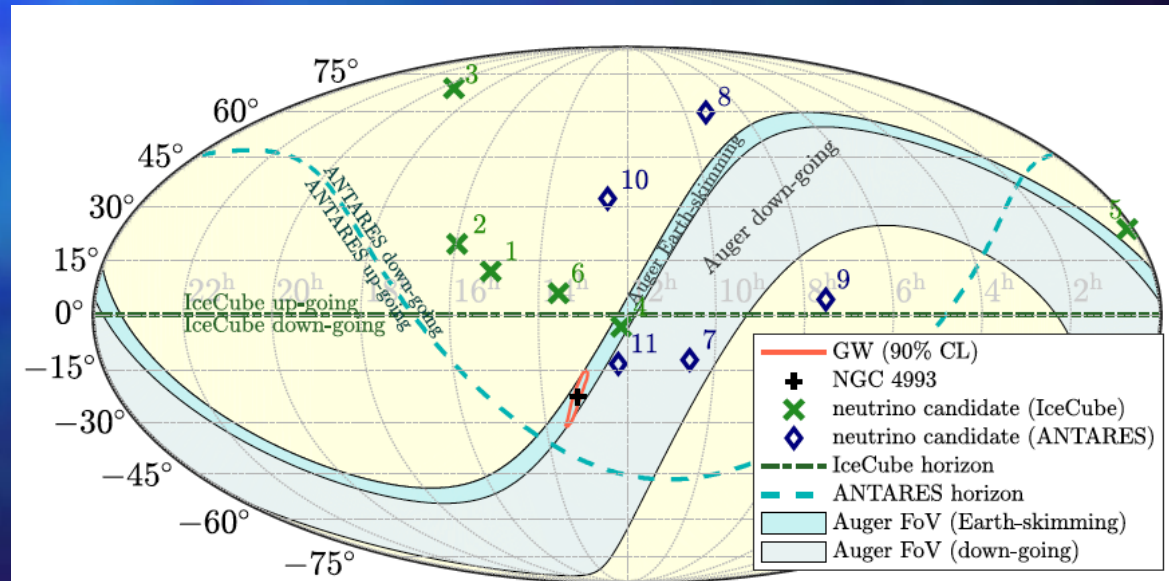
Auger search for UHE (>100 PeV) neutrinos associated with GW150914 or GW151226; none seen within ± 500 s of the events or within 1 day afterwards. A. Aab et al., PRD94, 122007 (2016)

August 2017: LIGO/Virgo GW170817 + GRB seen by Fermi and INTEGRAL + EM follow up \rightarrow NGC 4993

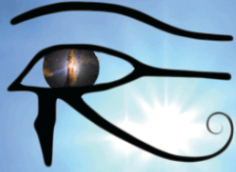
No neutrino candidates from IceCube, ANTARES or Auger within ± 500 s of the event or within 14 days afterwards.

A. Albert et al., ApJL 850, L35 (2017)
ANTARES+Auger+IceCube

Typical short GRB viewed off axis, absence of neutrinos not unexpected.



AMON

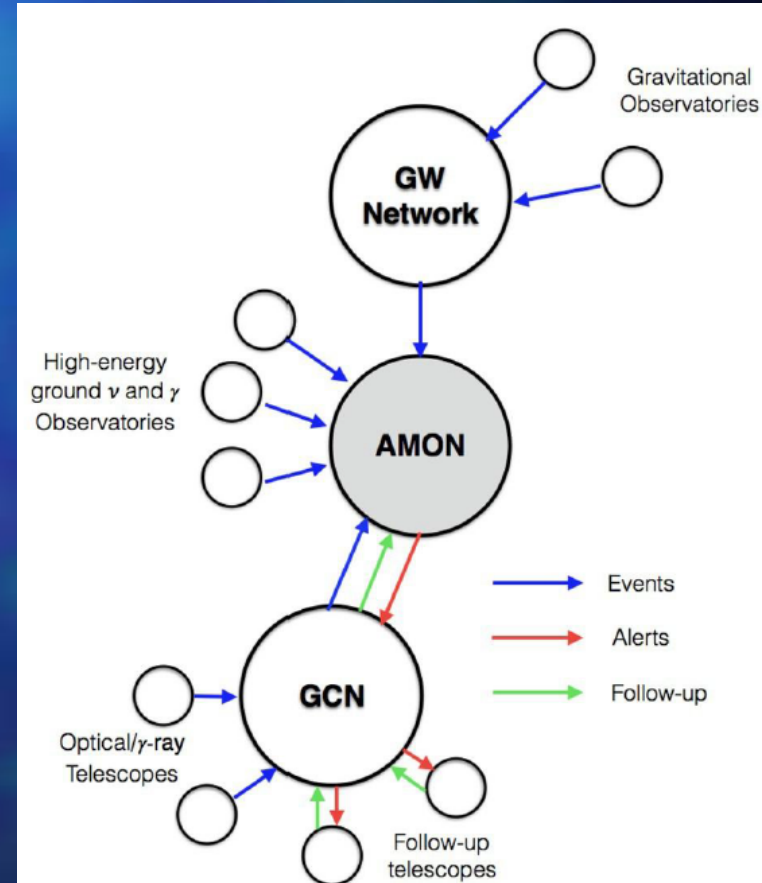


Astrophysical Multimessenger
Observatory Network

<http://amon.gravity.psu.edu>

- Combine subthreshold signals from multiple participating observatories;
- similar to previous efforts:
 - neutrino (SNEWS),
 - gamma-ray bursts (GCN),
 - GW observatories,
- **but now with all messengers.**

- Triggering observatories [Swift, Fermi, LIGO, IceCube, Auger, HAWC, ANTARES];
- Follow up observatories [FACT (Canary), LMT (Mexico), LCOGT (8 telescopes), MASTER (9 telescopes), PTF (CA), VERITAS];
- data sharing begun:
 - archival searches;
 - real-time alerts for EM follow up.





Example: Auger + IceCube

IceCube streams:

- HESE (high-energy starting events) **public / private;**
- EHE (extremely high-energy) **public / private;**
- Singlets (low-energy) **private;**
- Sent in real time (~ 40 s).

Auger streams:

- Single event stream **private;**
 - $E > 3 \text{ EeV}$;
 - quality cuts (e.g., $\theta < 60^\circ$);
- Archival data from 2004;
- Sent in real time (~ 10 min).

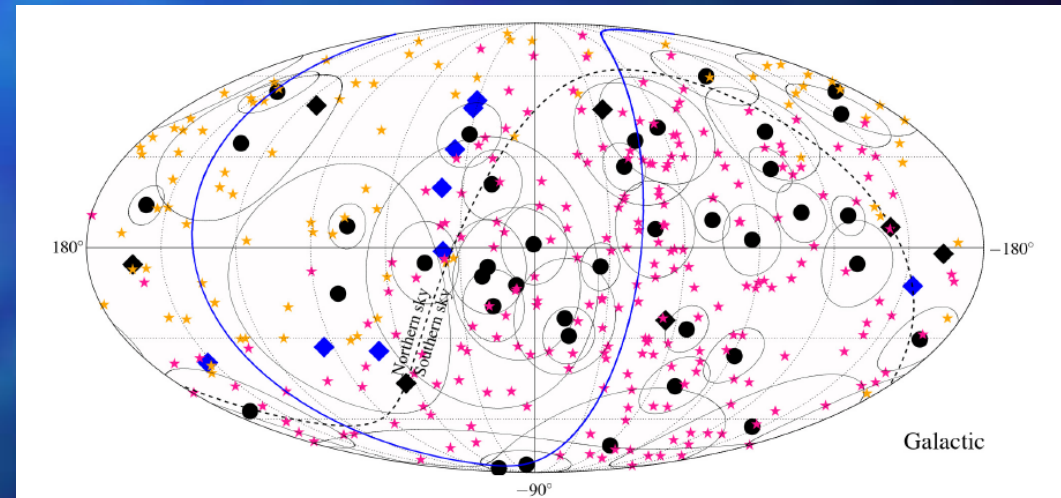
Here use public IC59 data (May 2009 – May 2010);
George Fillipatos (PSU Schreyer Scholar).



Published Auger/TA/IceCube analysis

- High-energy $E_{CR} > 57$ EeV;
- Spatial correlations only;
- Plot shows:
 - Auger (pink);
 - TA (orange);
 - IceCube (blue/black);
- No indications of sources at discovery level.

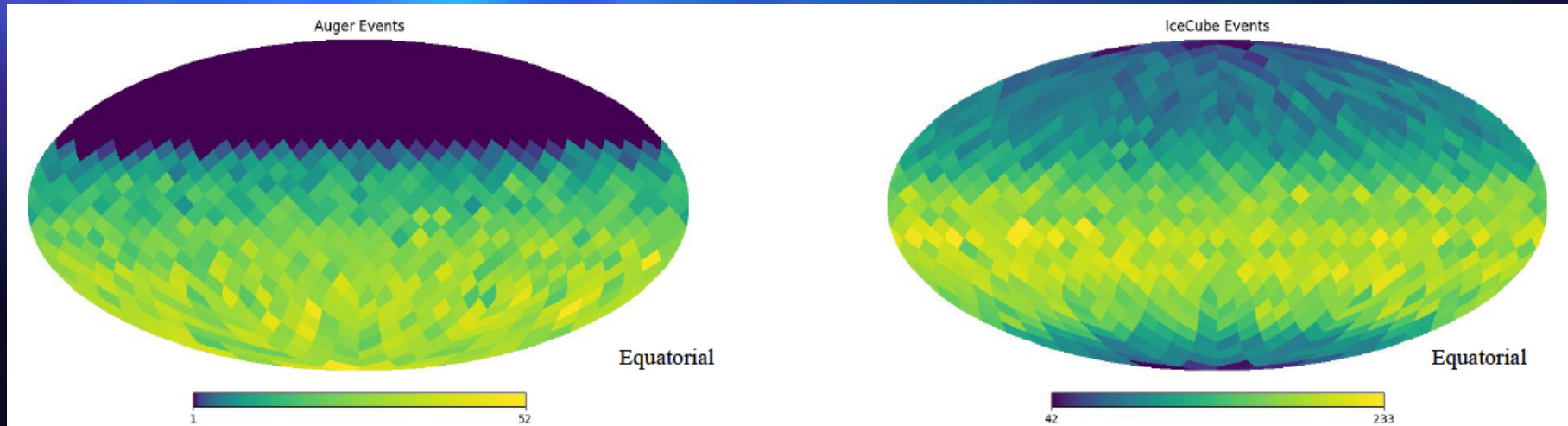
JCAP 01, 037 (2016)
IceCube+Auger+TA





Subthreshold data: May '09 – May '10

- Auger;
 - AMON events;
 - $E > 3 \text{ EeV}$;
 - $\theta < 60^\circ$;
 - $\sim 11,000$ events.
- IceCube;
 - IC59 public events;
 - $\sim 100,000$ events;
 - ~ 1 year of data.





Correlation analysis

- Look for neutrinos within 5° and 1000s of a cosmic-ray event;
- Allow for multiple neutrinos;
- Calculate test statistic λ :
 - based on temporal and spatial correlation;
 - take into account declination-specific background;
- Null hypothesis: scramble arrival directions and randomize times;
- Compare simulated (scrambled) to actual λ distributions.

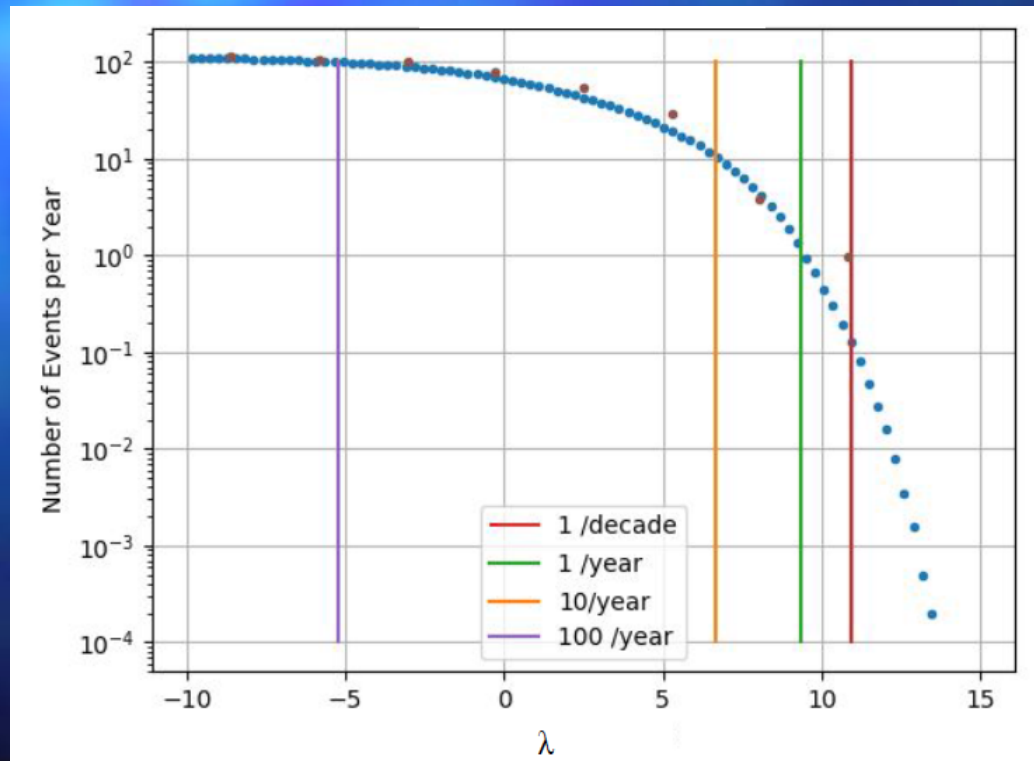
$$\lambda = \ln\left(N! \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{P_{t_i} P_{S_i}}{B_i(\delta)}\right)$$

- N = number of particles in the multiplet
- P_S = spatial probability of particle i
calculated based on best fit position
- P_t = Temporal probability of particle i
falling exponential in time
- $B(\delta)$ = background at declination δ
calculated from exposure of each detector
- optimization is performed



Results

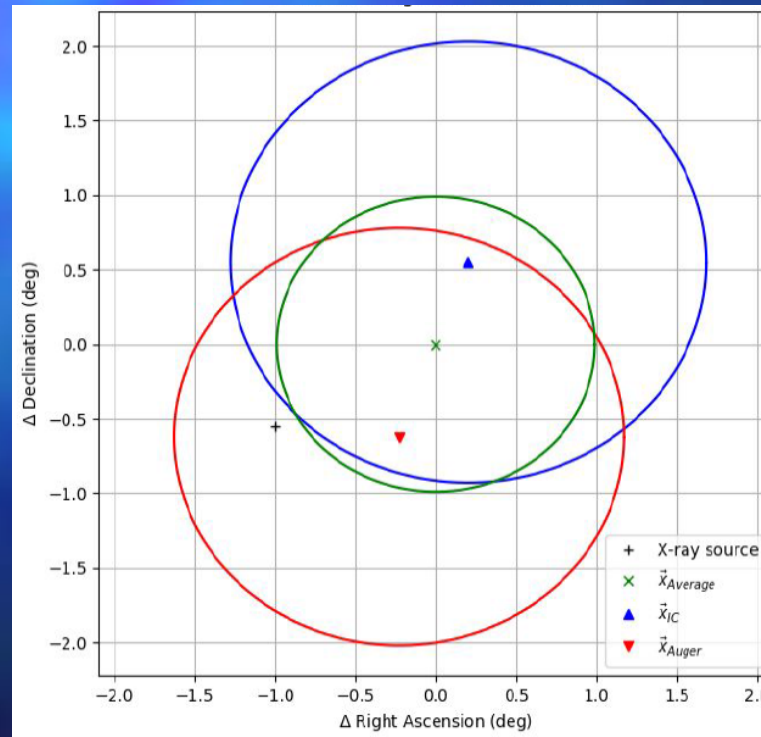
- One event above the 1/year threshold;
 - expected once per 9 years;
 - ~12% chance probability;
- Real distribution compatible with the scrambled data.





Highest λ event

- Auger/IceCube events separated by 27s and 1° ;
- Outside the Galactic plane;
- Near AGN NGC 7743.





Potential for real-time analysis

- Both detectors sending data to AMON;
- Ranked alerts could be sent to follow up observatories;
 - Standard AMON analyses distribute events that exceed 1/month false alarm rate
- Possible streams:
 - Auger/HESE;
 - Auger/IceCube singlets.
- Ongoing work:
 - Expand to IceCube data from 2010 to present;
 - Develop a real-time alert stream for EM follow up observations.



In USA, thanks to



Conclusions

Flux suppression above ~ 40 EeV; GZK effect? source exhaustion?

UHE sources do appear to be extragalactic;

Large-scale dipole in arrival distribution above 8 EeV;

Intriguing correlations above 39 EeV with starburst galaxies, particle astronomy is *hard* !

Magnetic fields (Galactic, extragalactic) play a huge role;

X_{\max} (and its RMS) evolution with energy suggest mass becomes heavier at the highest energies;

Important limits to fluxes of neutrinos, photons, neutrons, magnetic monopoles;

Highest-energy physics: reasonable $\sigma_{p\text{-air}}$ cross-section, but inconsistency in muon data;

Hadronic interaction issues?

Improved knowledge of mass composition is needed (AugerPrime, radio technique);



New era of multimessenger astrophysics!



Merci !