

Pierre Auger Observatory  
studying the universe's highest energy particles



# The AUGER Experiment

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# The Pierre Auger Collaboration

**Argentina**  
**Australia**  
**Bolivia**  
**Brazil**  
**Croatia**  
**Czech Rep.**  
**France**  
**Germany**  
**Italy**  
**Mexico**  
**Netherlands**  
**Poland**  
**Portugal**  
**Slovenia**  
**Spain**  
**UK**  
**USA**  
**Vietnam**



**18 Countries**  
**91 Institutions**  
**~ 463 members**



Auger: unprecedented **statistics**  
and **precision**

←  $\approx 3000$  evts/yr with  
 $E > 10^{19}$  eV

Hybrid Detector:

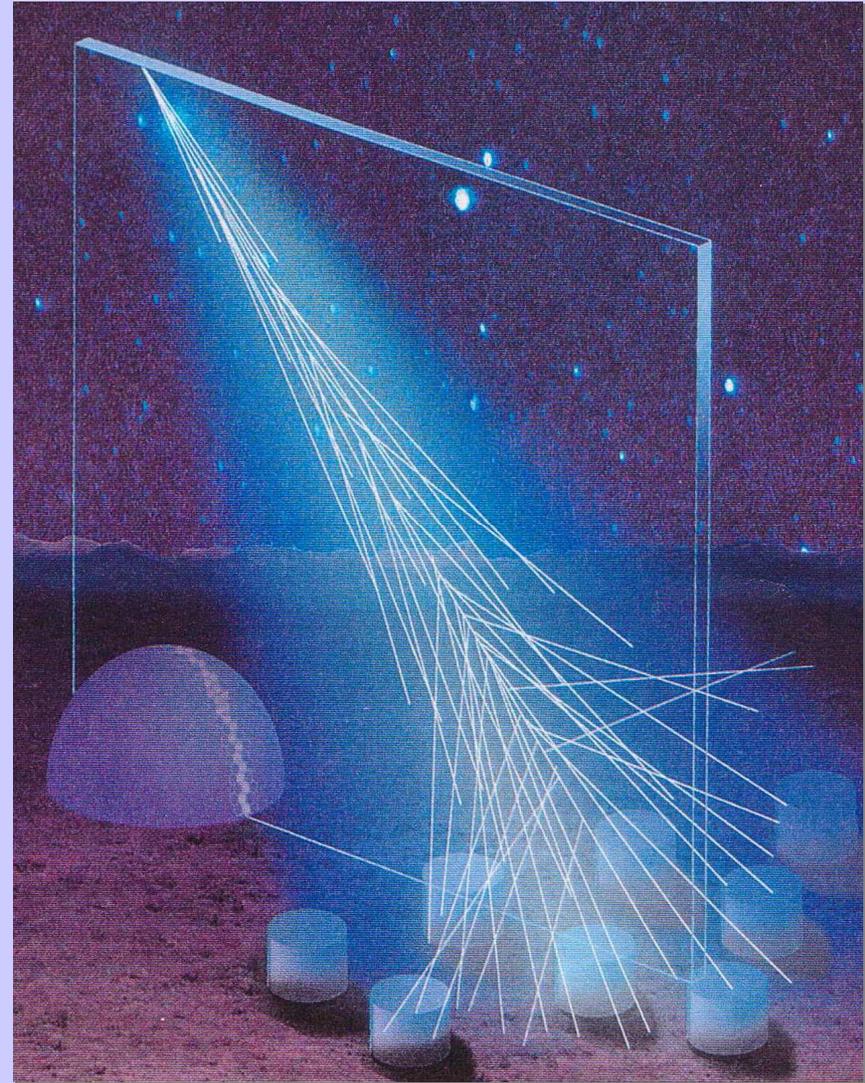
Array of 1600 water Cherenkov  
detectors

covering  $3000 \text{ km}^2$   
duty cycle: 100%

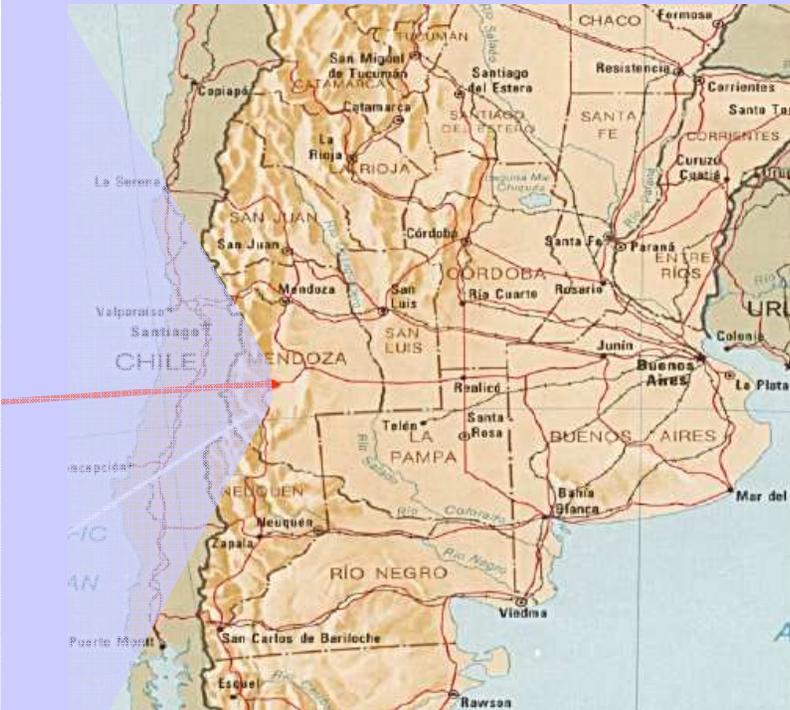
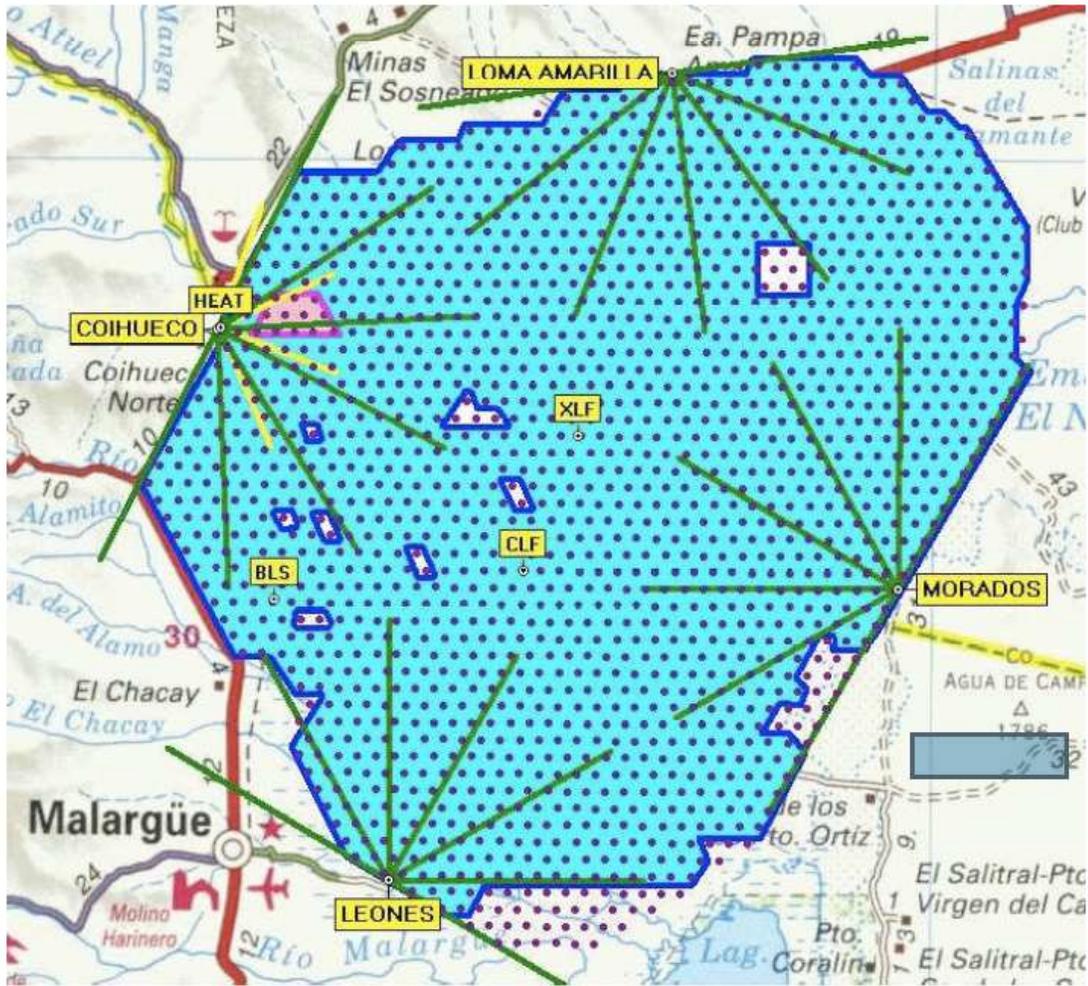
Fluorescence telescopes

24 FDs ( $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$  each)  
duty cycle: 10%

Better geometric reconstruction,  
cross-calibration, control of  
systematic.

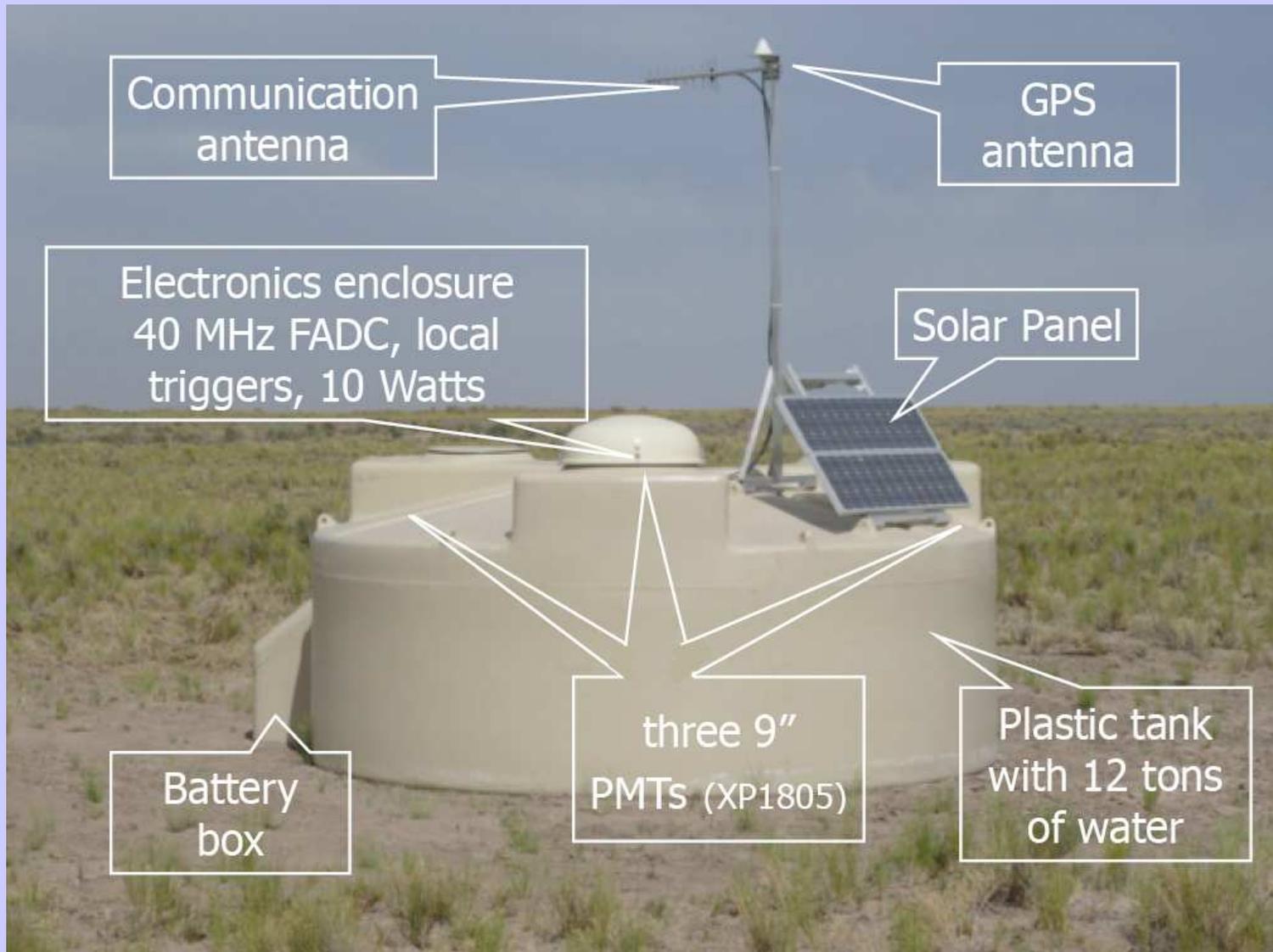


# The Auger South Detector

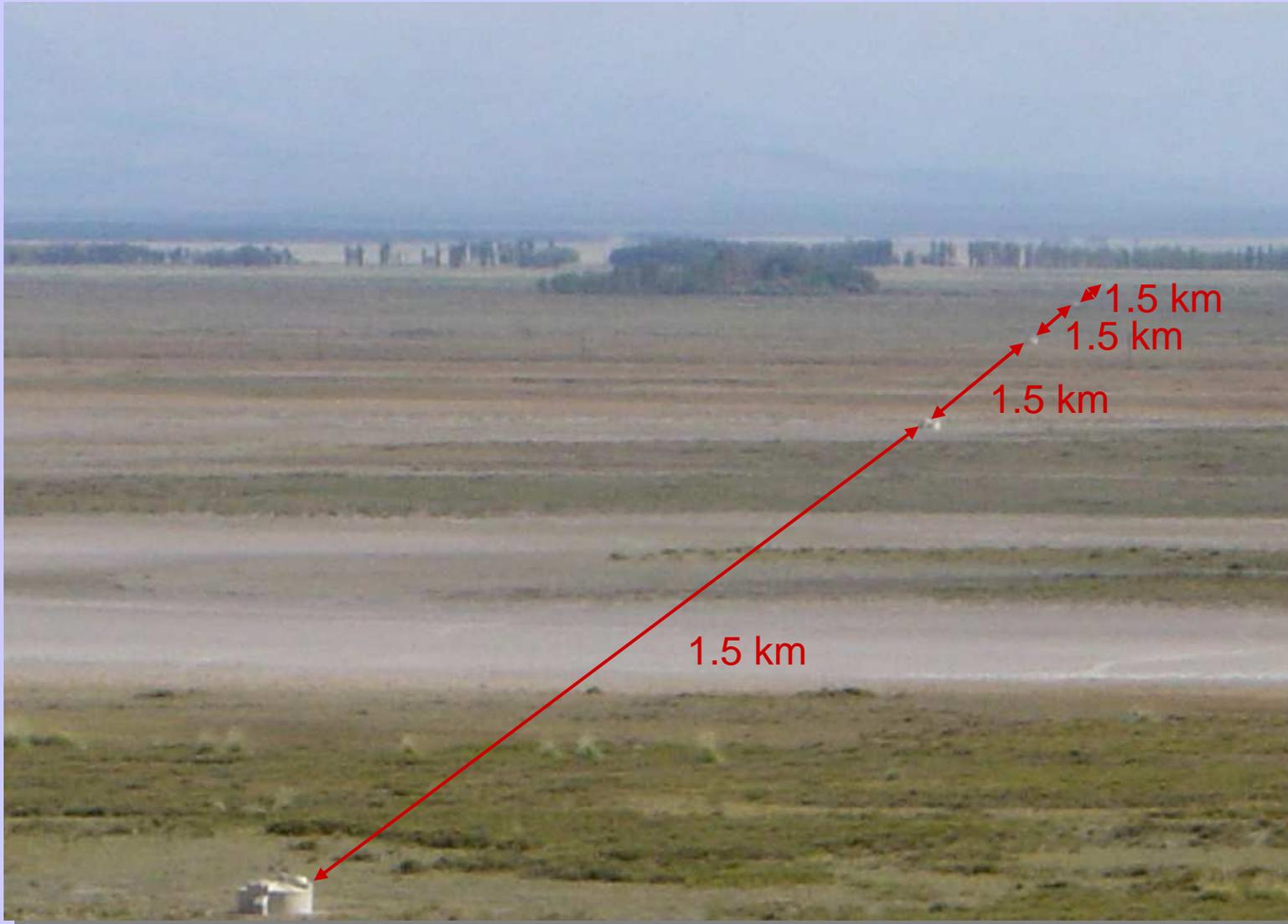


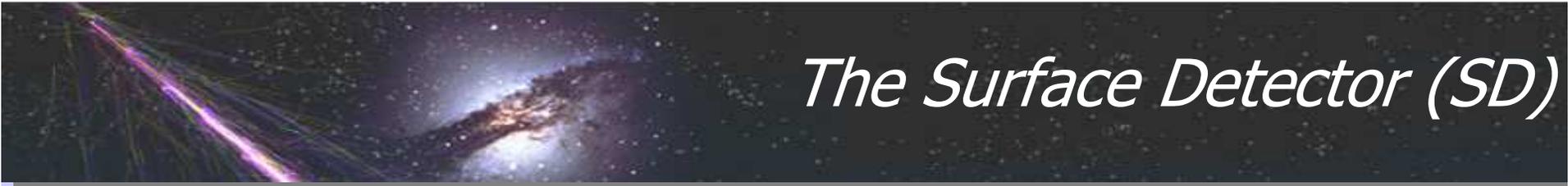
~ 60 km

# *The Surface Detector*



# *The Surface Detector (SD)*

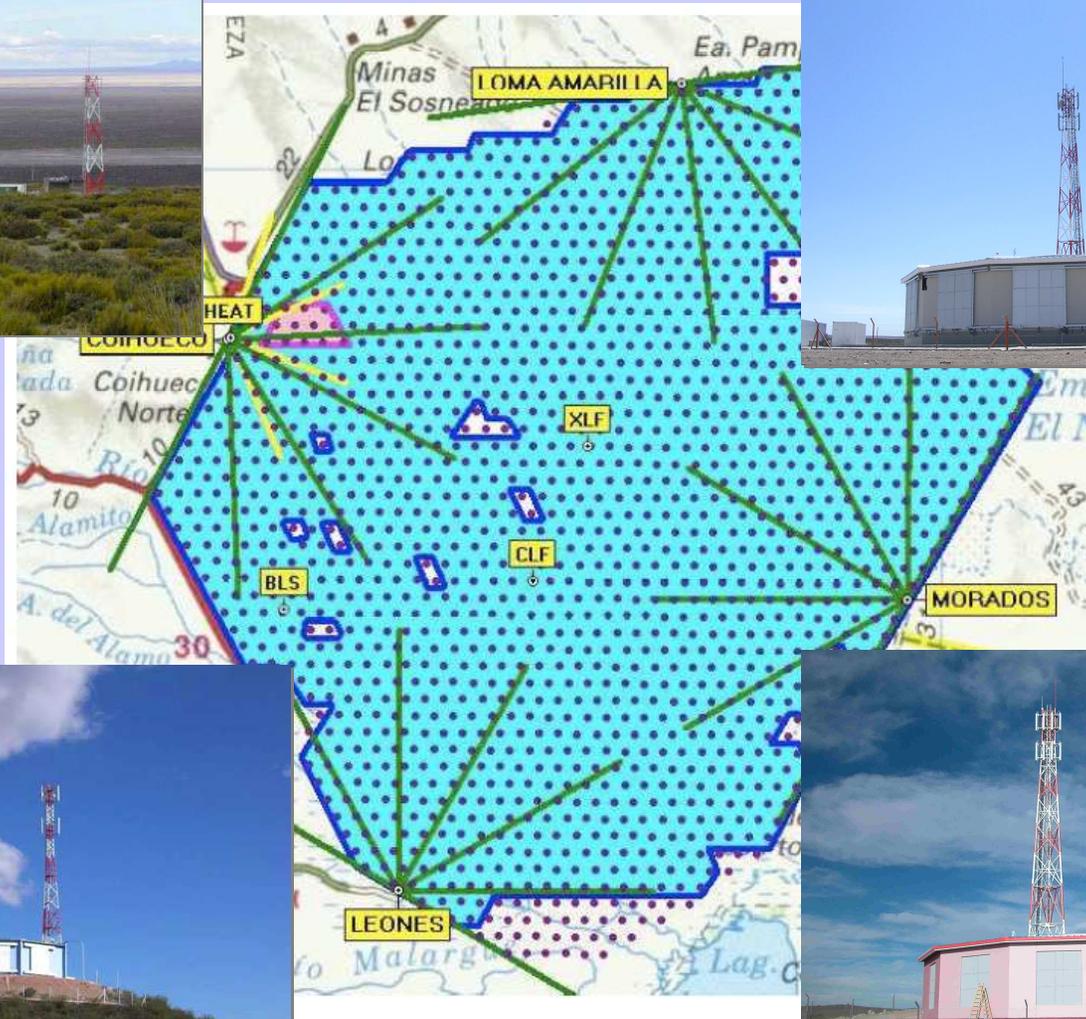




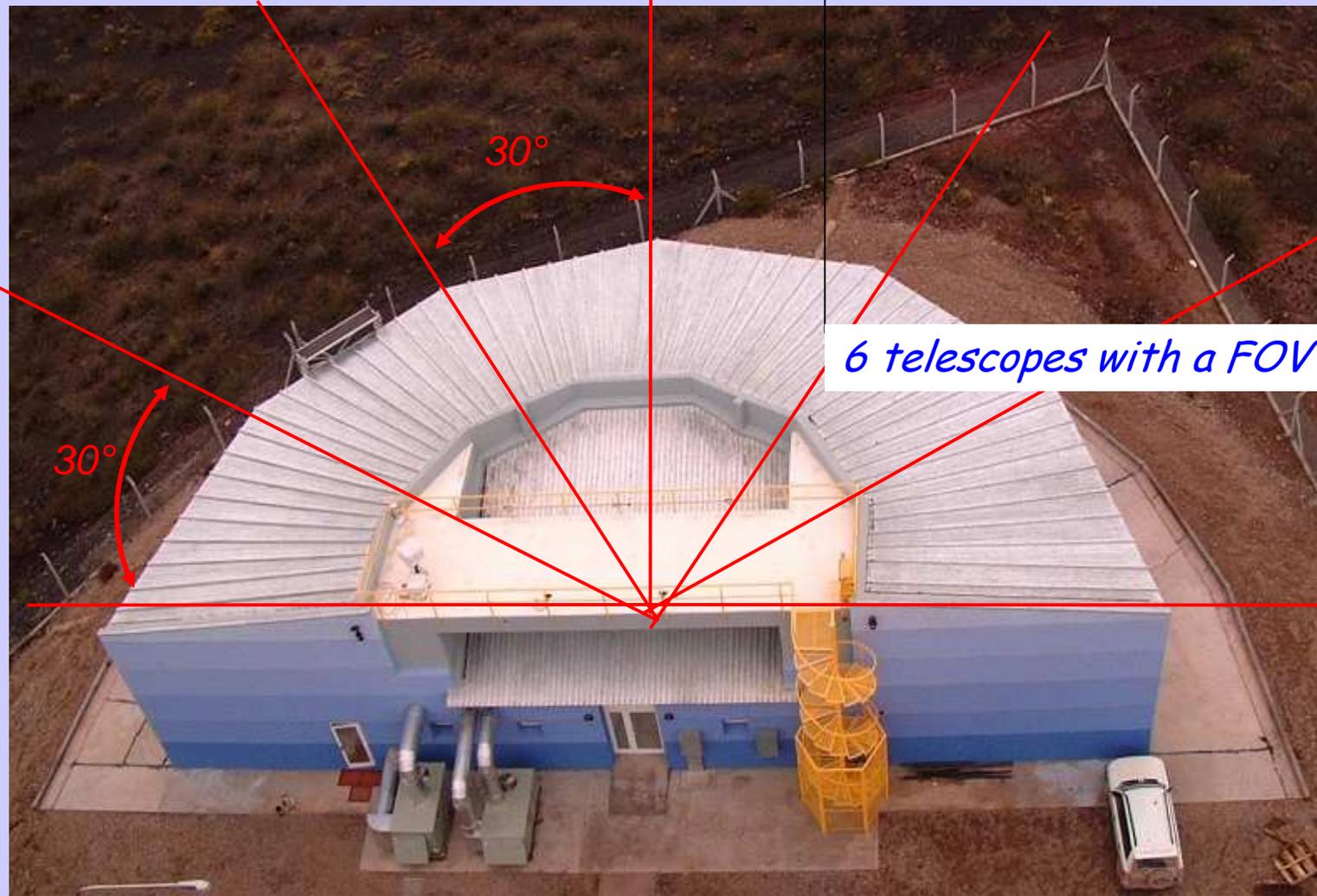
# *The Surface Detector (SD)*



# The Fluorescence Detector (FD)



# *The Fluorescence Detector (FD)*

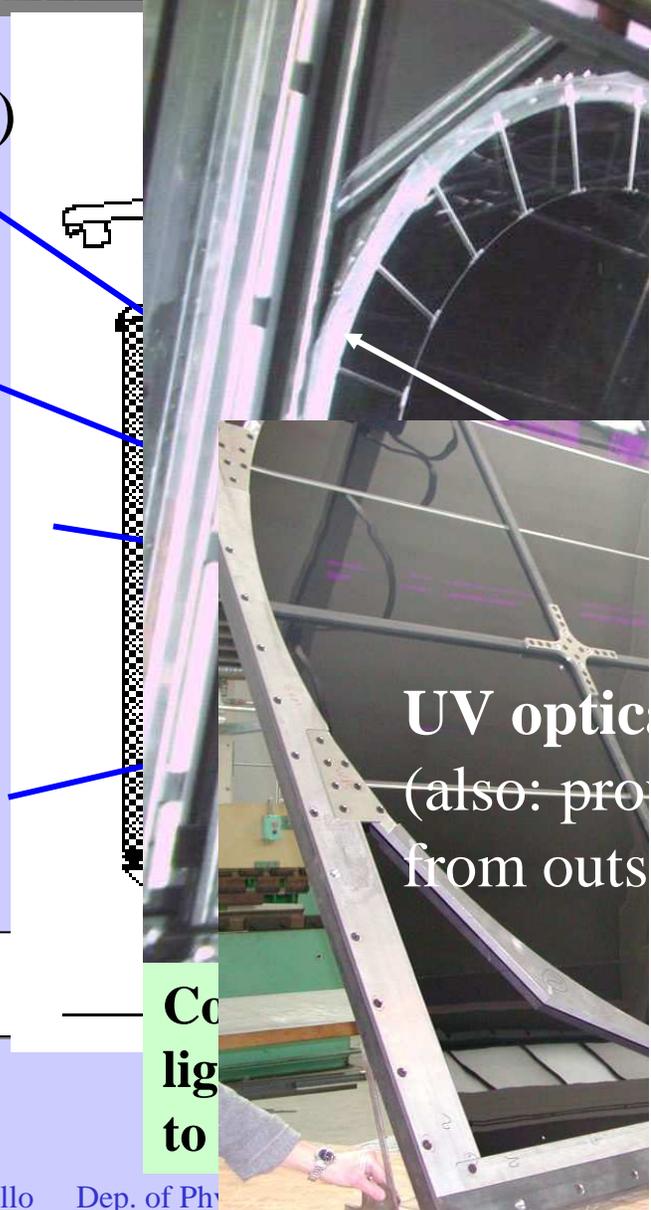


6 telescopes with a FOV of  $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$

# The Telescope FD

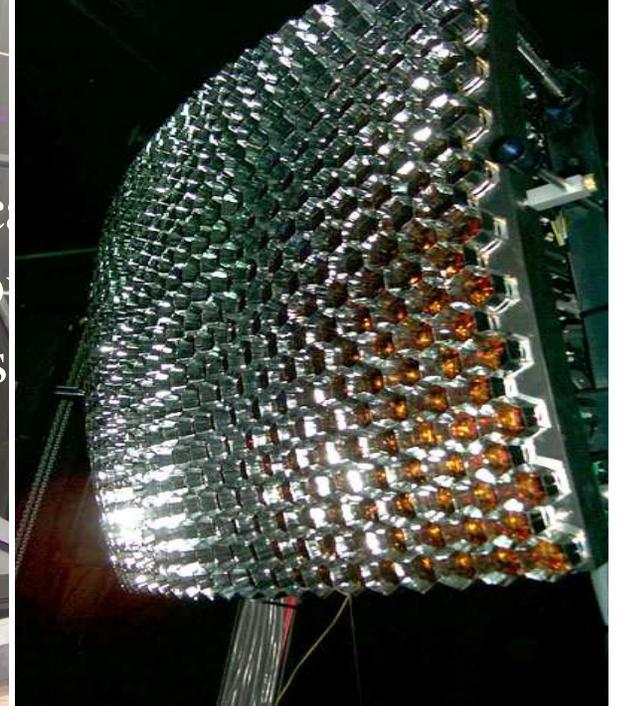
- ✓ corrector ring (2.2 m)
- ✓ UV Filter
- ✓ 3.4m mirror
- ✓ Camera with a FOV  $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$

Duty cycle 10%



UV optic  
(also: pro  
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to

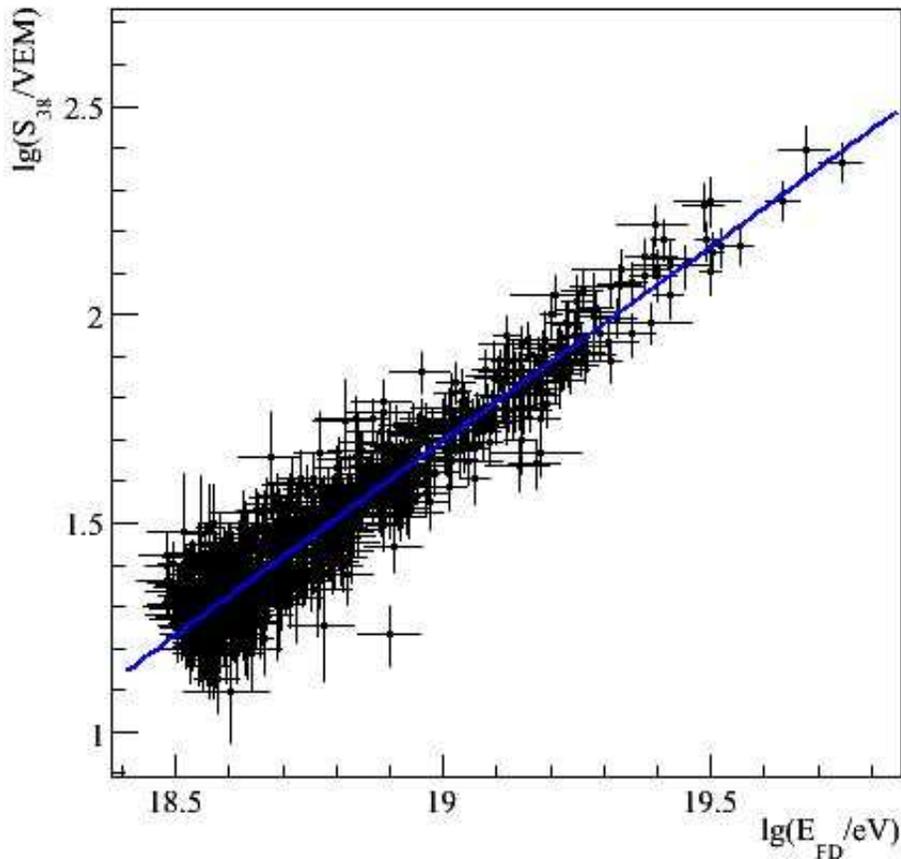


	SD-only	FD-only	Hybrid
Duty-cycle	~100%	~10%	~10%
Angular resolution	1-2 deg	3-5 deg	0.2 deg
Energy	C & M depend	independent	independent
Aperture	independent	E, C, M depend	independent
Energy Thr.	$\sim 10^{18.5}$ eV	$\sim 10^{17.5}$ eV	$\sim 10^{18}$ eV

E = Energy, M = Interaction Model, C = Composition

# SD Calibration

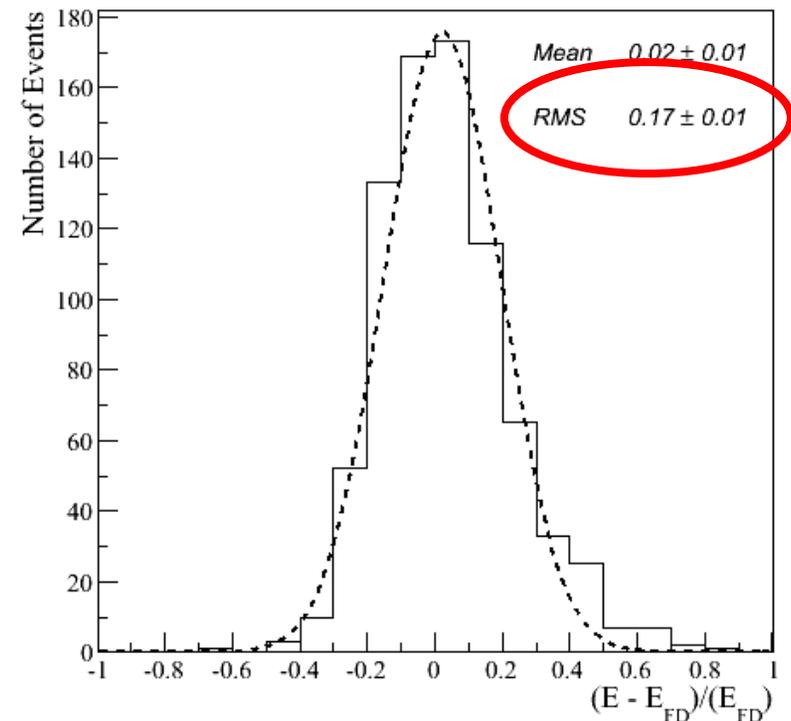
Hybrid events used to calibrate SD detector



$$E = a \times (S_{38^\circ})^b$$
$$b = 1.07 \pm 0.04$$

795 high quality hybrid events

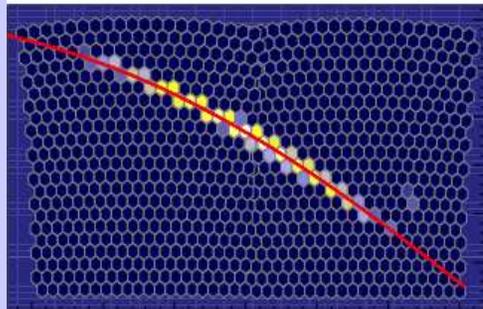
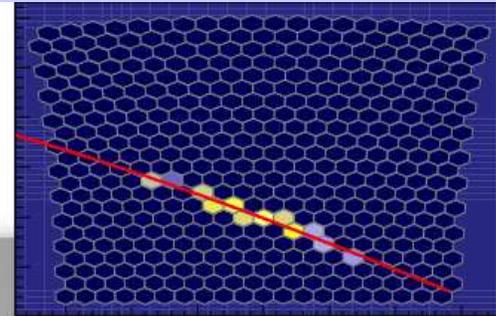
Energy resolution 17 %



# Stereo Hybrid Event

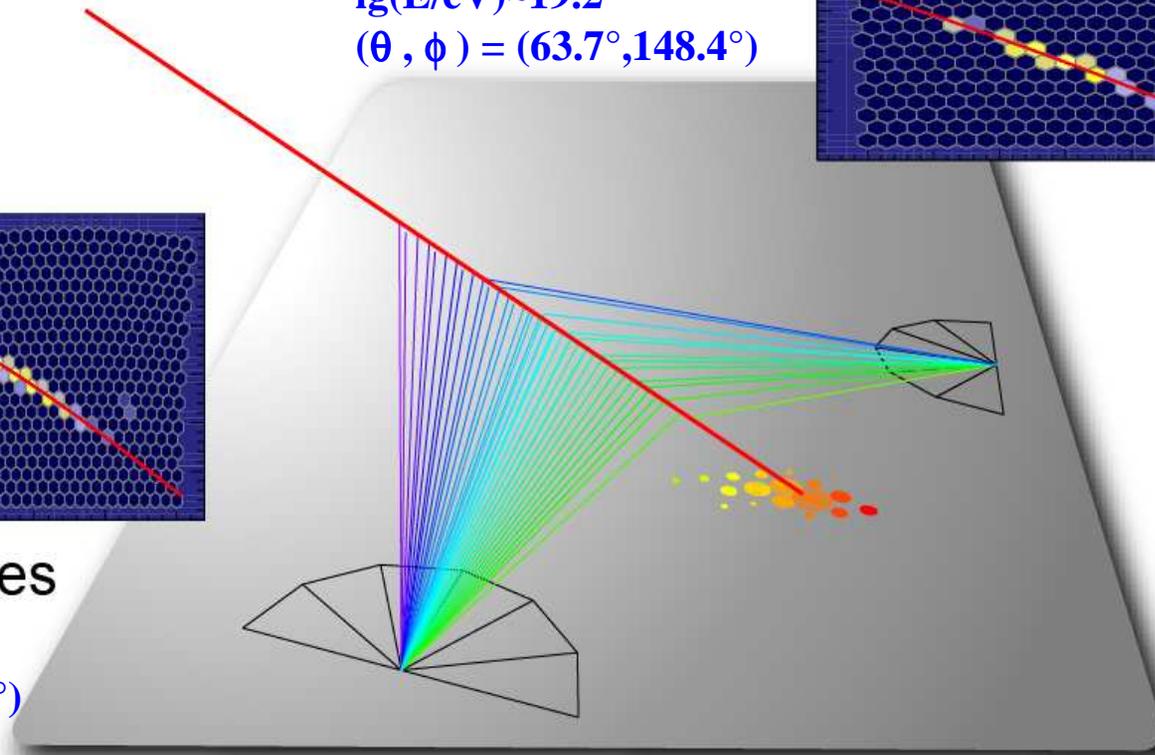
Event: 1364365

Los Morados  
 $\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.2$   
 $(\theta, \phi) = (63.7^\circ, 148.4^\circ)$



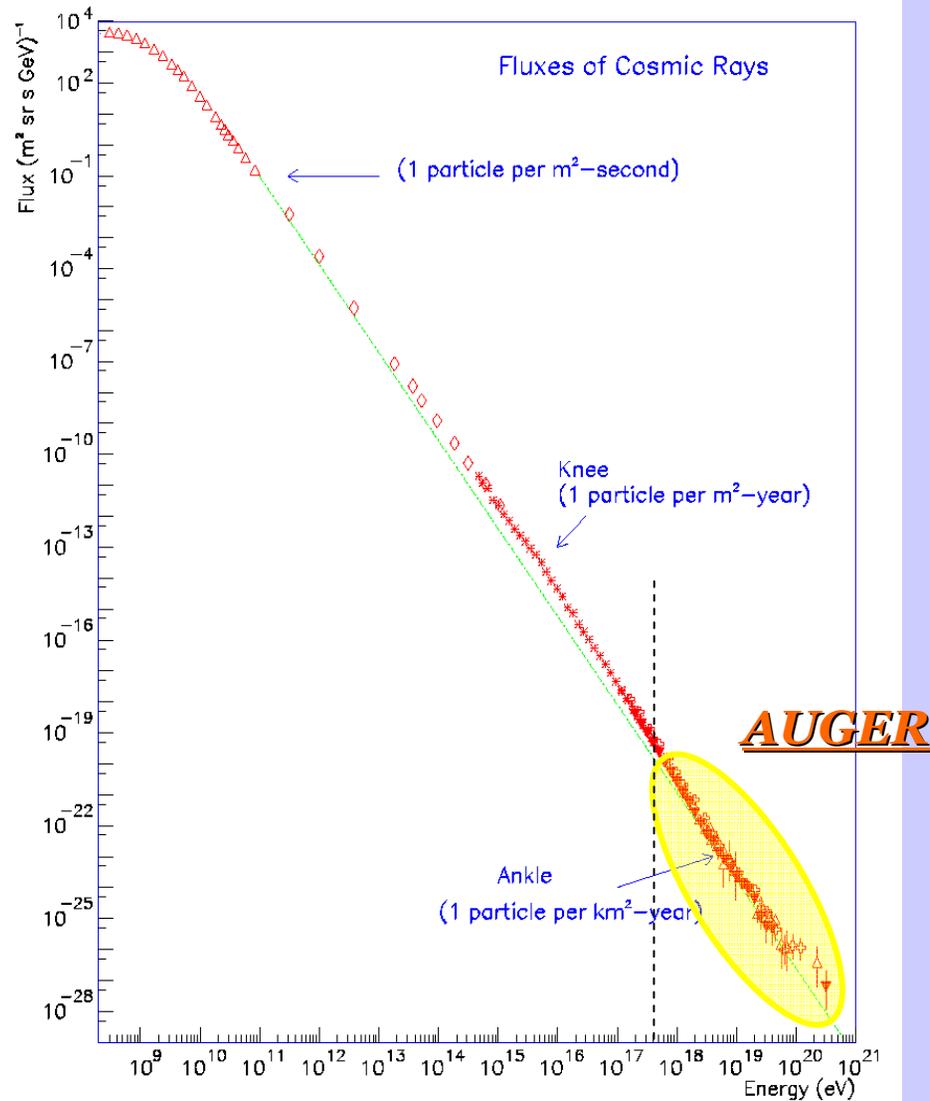
Los Leones

$\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.3$   
 $(\theta, \phi) = (63.7^\circ, 148.3^\circ)$

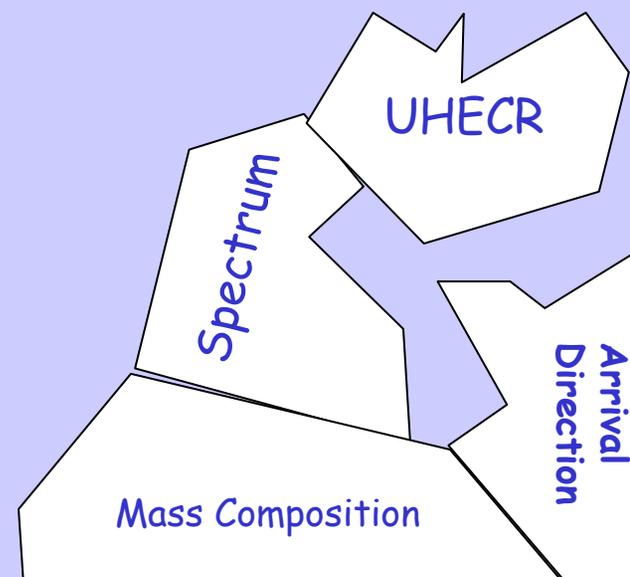


SD array 17 stations  
 $\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.1$   
 $(\theta, \phi) = (63.3^\circ, 148.9^\circ)$

# The UHECRs



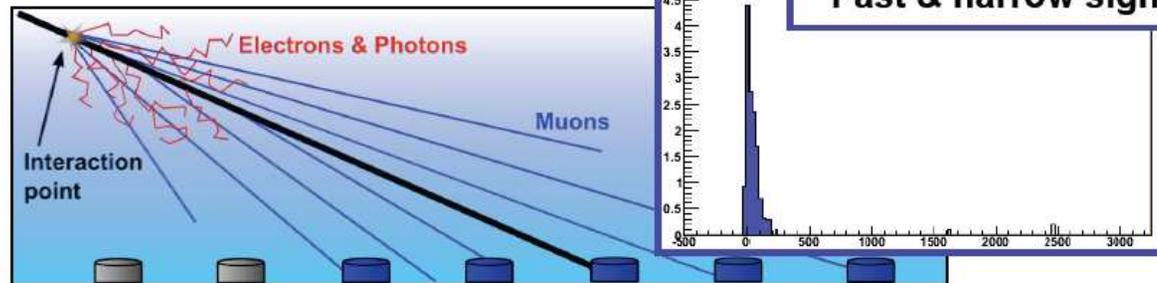
Shape of the spectrum? Cut-off?  
Anisotropy in arrival directions?  
Mass composition ?



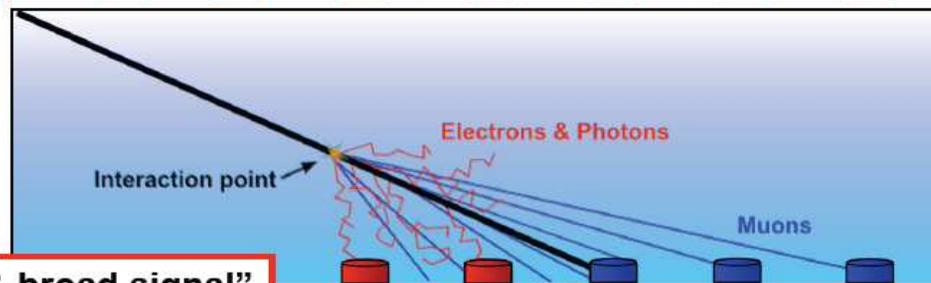
Are the UHECR Charged "Standard" Particles?

## Neutrino detection with AUGER

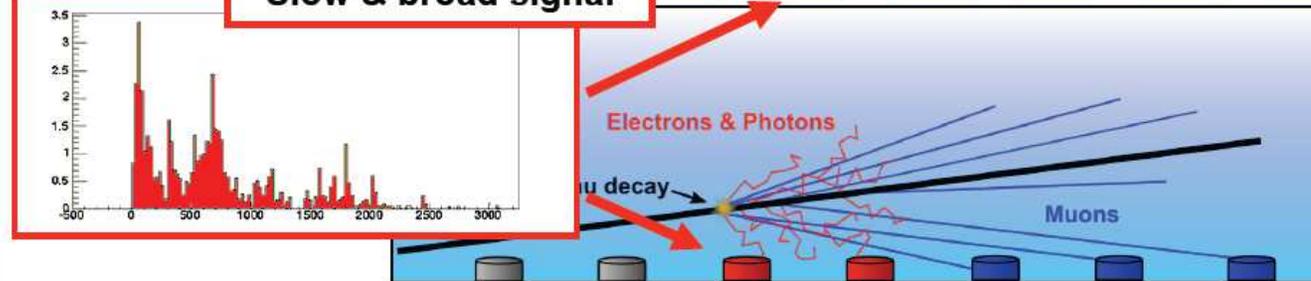
no el.mag., only muons  
plane shower front,  
sharp arrival time dist.



full el.mag. component,  
curved shower front,  
broad arrival time dist.



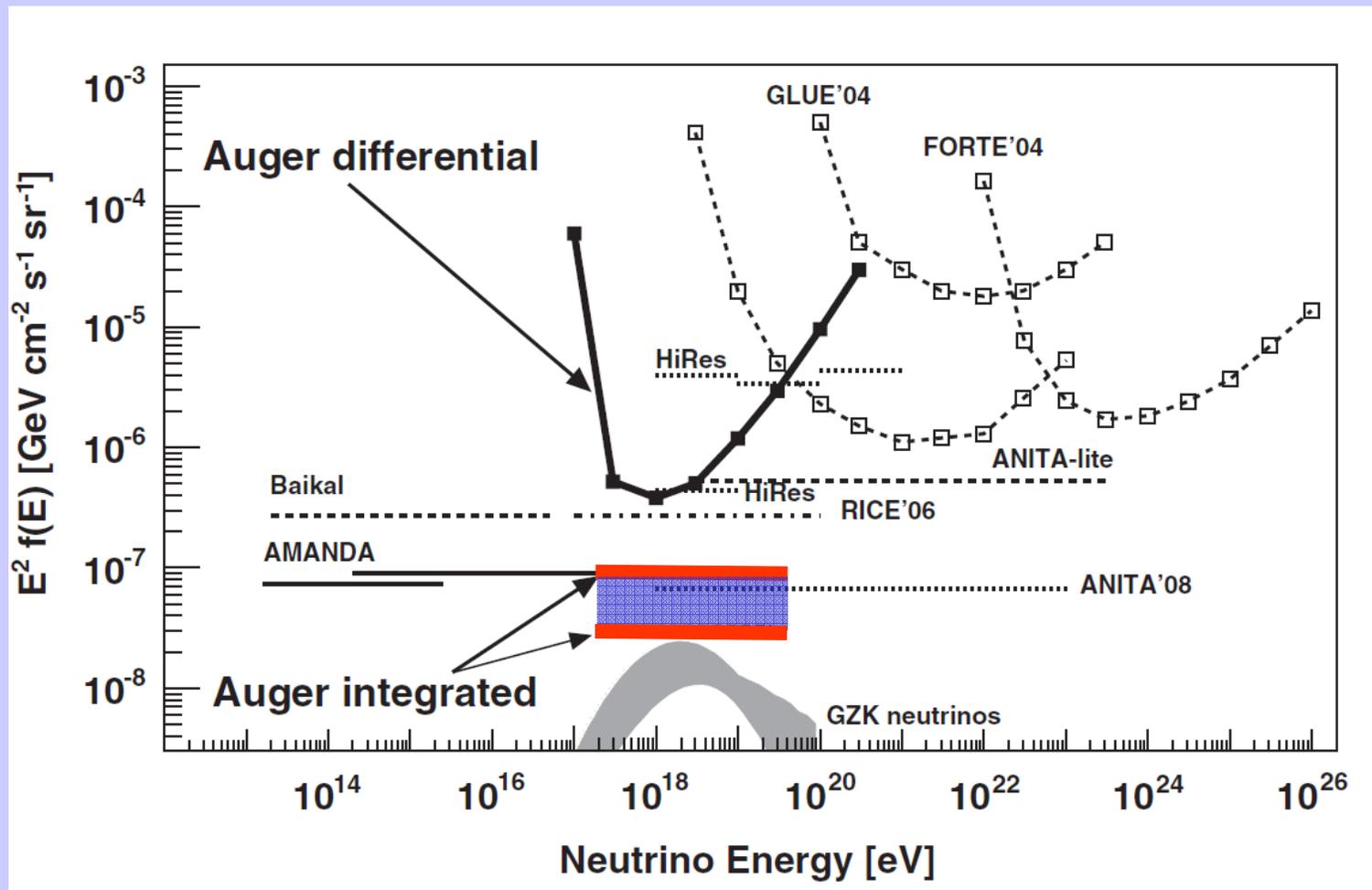
“Slow & broad signal”



PRL 100 (2008) 211101

Phys. Rev. D 79 102001 (2009)

No neutrino like events detected!



# Particles Type

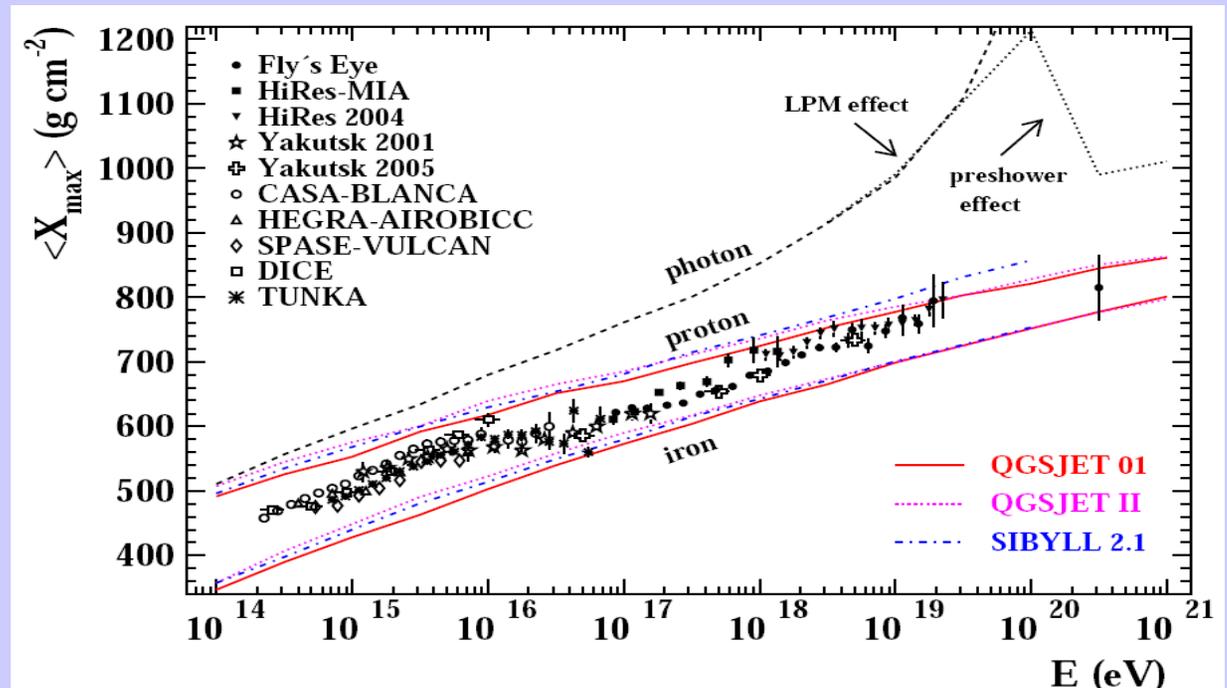
## Identification of Photon Induced Showers

Depth of shower maximum ( $X_{\max}$ )

Fluorescence Detector

Astrop. Phys. 31 (2009) 399

*Photon-induced shower is expected to develop deeper*

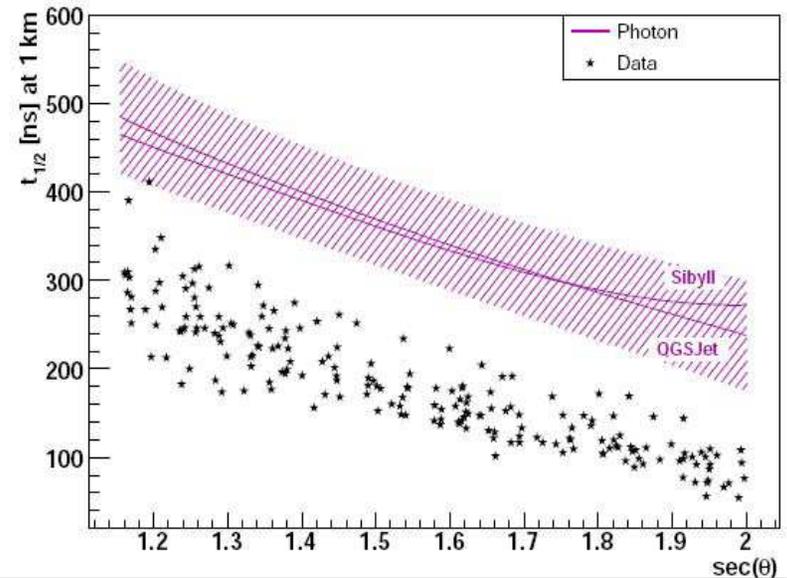
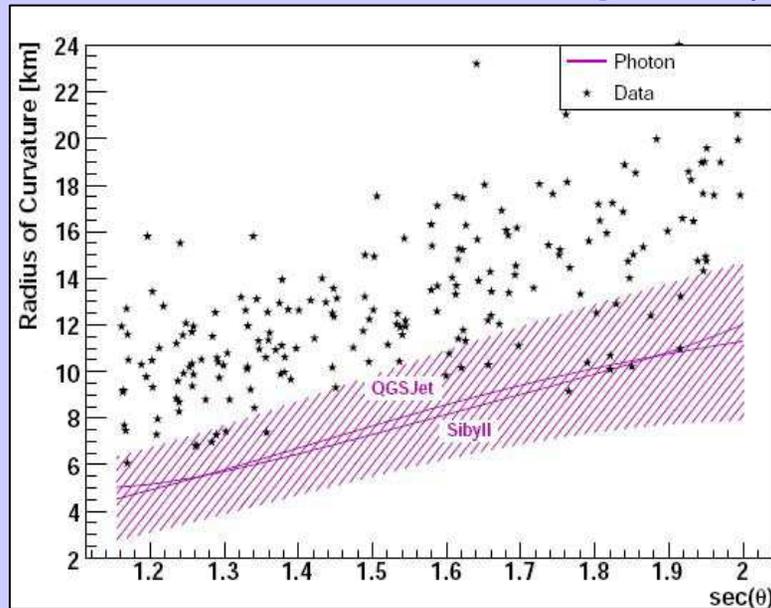


Smaller radius of curvature  
Higher rise-time of the detector signal  
Smaller number of muons ( $N_{\mu}$ ) at ground

Astrop. Phys. 29 (2008) 243

Surface Detector

## Searching for photons: the SD side

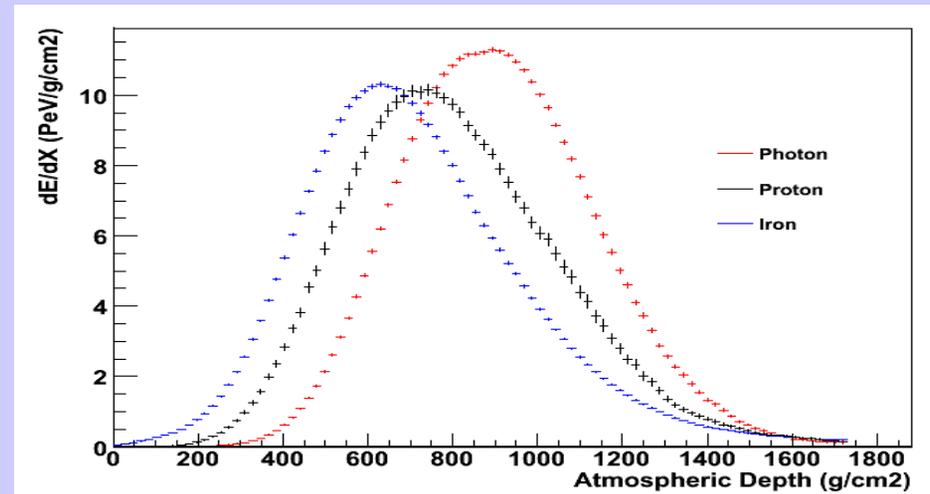
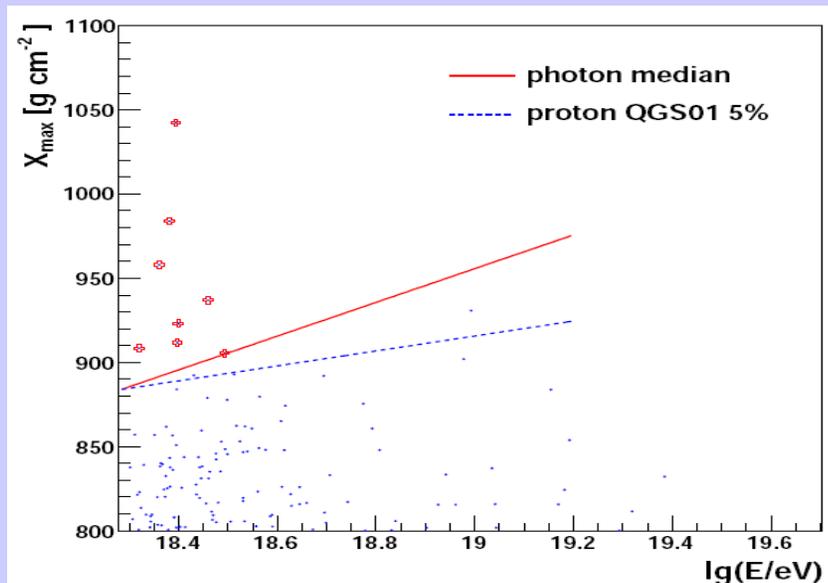


*No photon candidates!*

$E_{\min}$	$N_{\gamma}$	$\mathcal{N}_{\gamma}^{0.95}$	$N_{\text{non-}\gamma}$	$\epsilon$	$\mathcal{F}_{0.95}$
10	0	3.0	570	0.53	2.0%
20	0	3.0	145	0.81	5.1%
40	0	3.0	21	0.92	31%

## Searching for photons: the FD side

*Search for events with deep  $X_{\max}$*

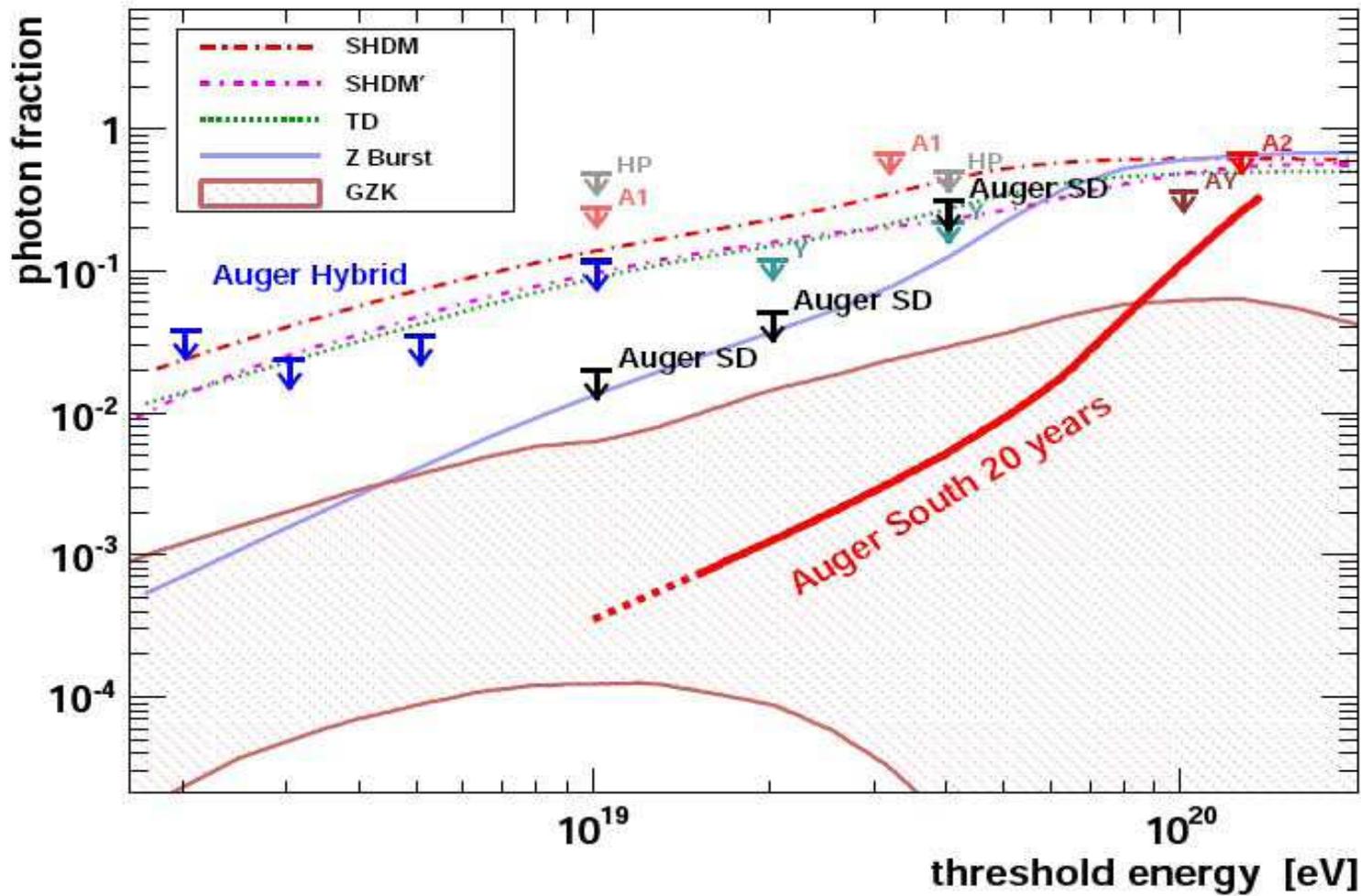


*8 photon candidates at  $E > 2 \text{ EeV}$*

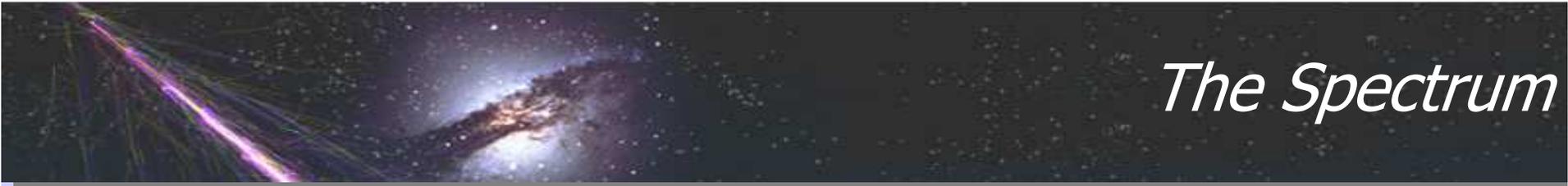
*Consistent with fluctuation of hadronic background*



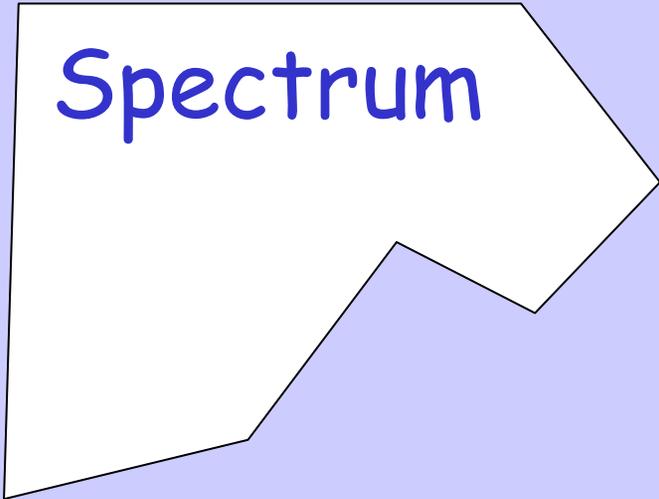
# Particles Type



The extended site in the Northern Hemisphere would help (~factor7)



# *The Spectrum*

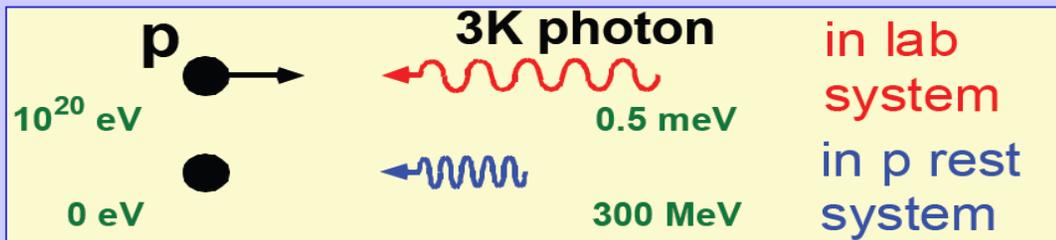


Spectrum

# The Spectrum

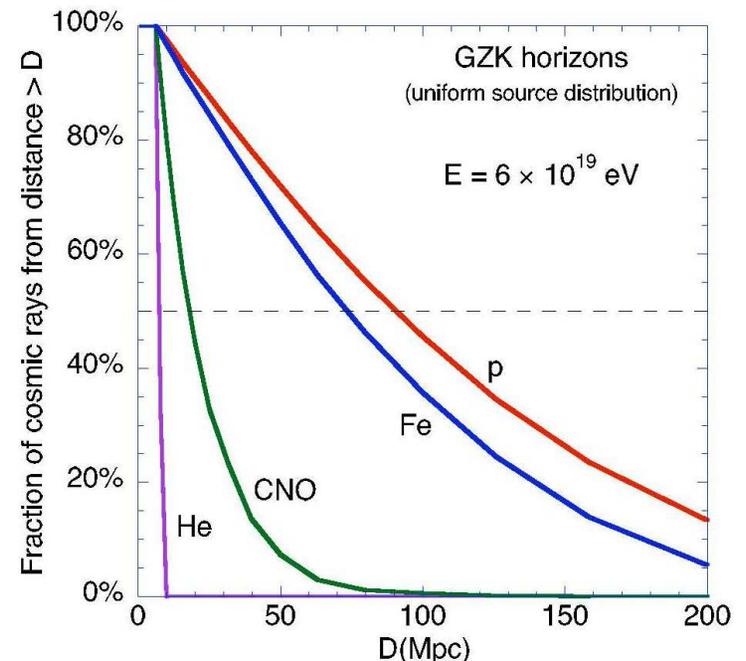
## The Greisen Zatsepin Kuzmin prediction

Protons interact with CMB



Photon dissociation for heavier primary

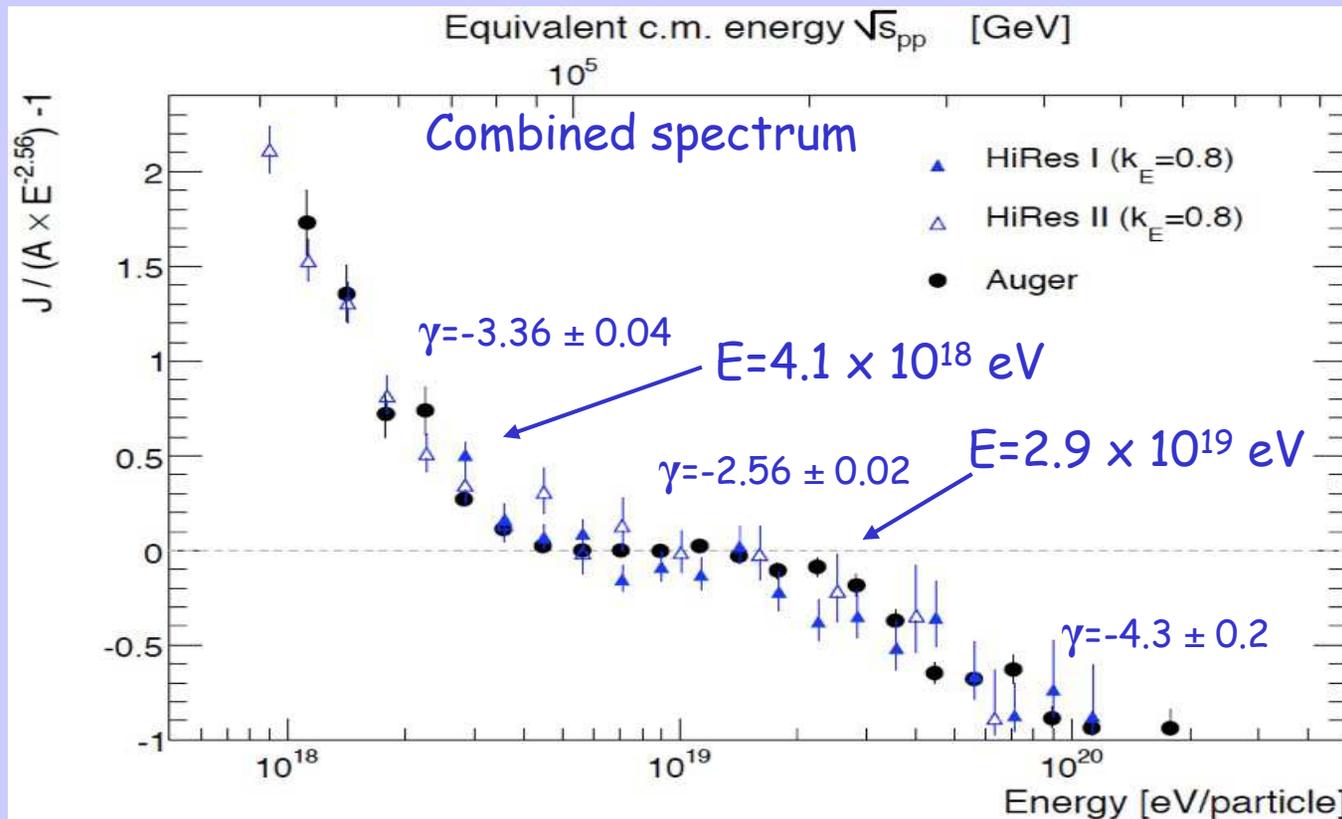
The Universe is opaque for  $E > 6 \times 10^{19}$  eV



**If** Cosmic Rays are protons AND power-law spectrum at the source  $> 10^{20}$  eV AND sources are universally distributed

**Then** a depression of the flux is expected for  $E > 6 \times 10^{19}$  eV

# The Spectrum

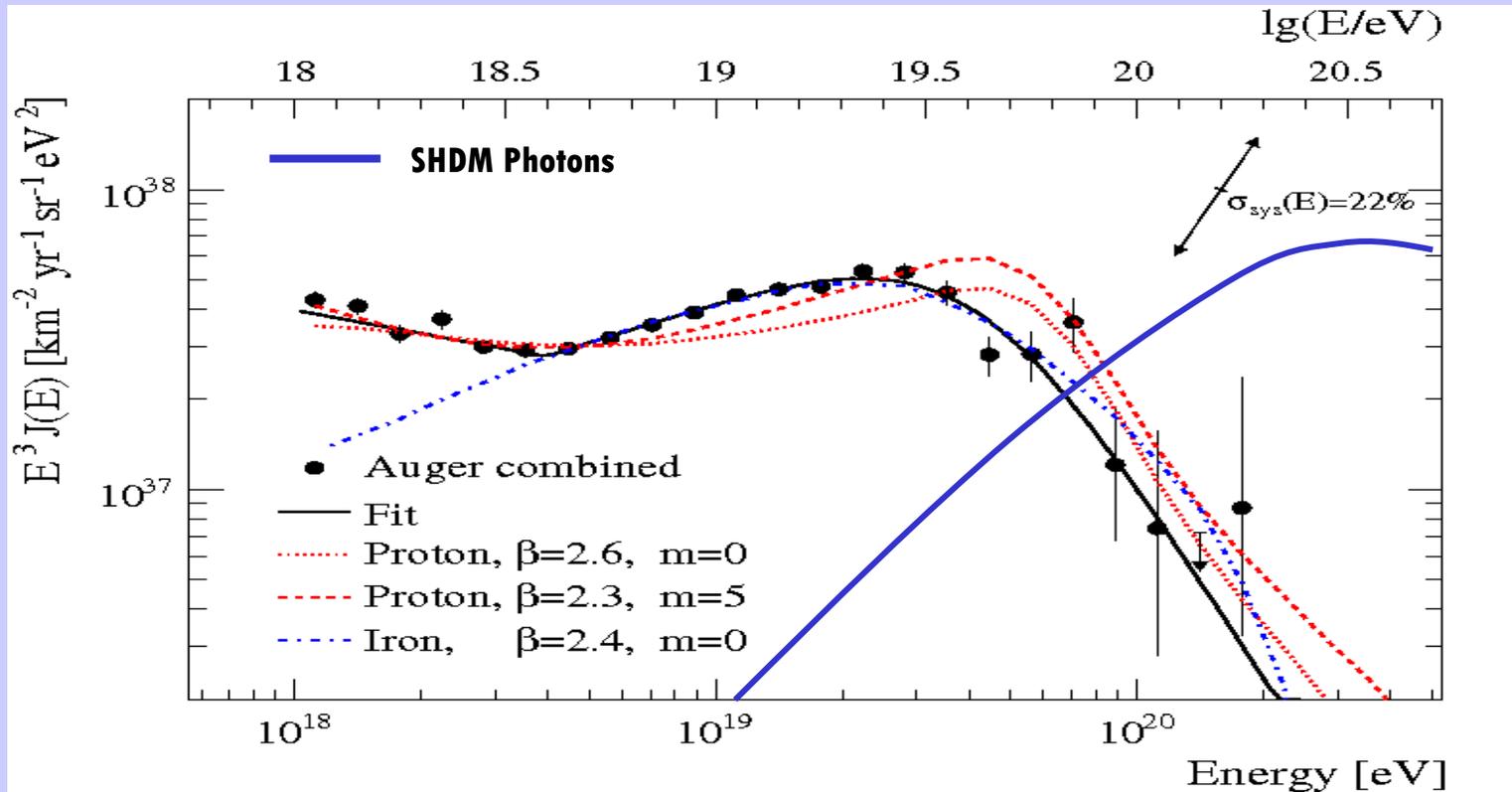


The ankle is about in the expected place.

A steepening is found at energy of about  $2.9 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}$

Probably the AUGER steepening means that **the CRs are protons**

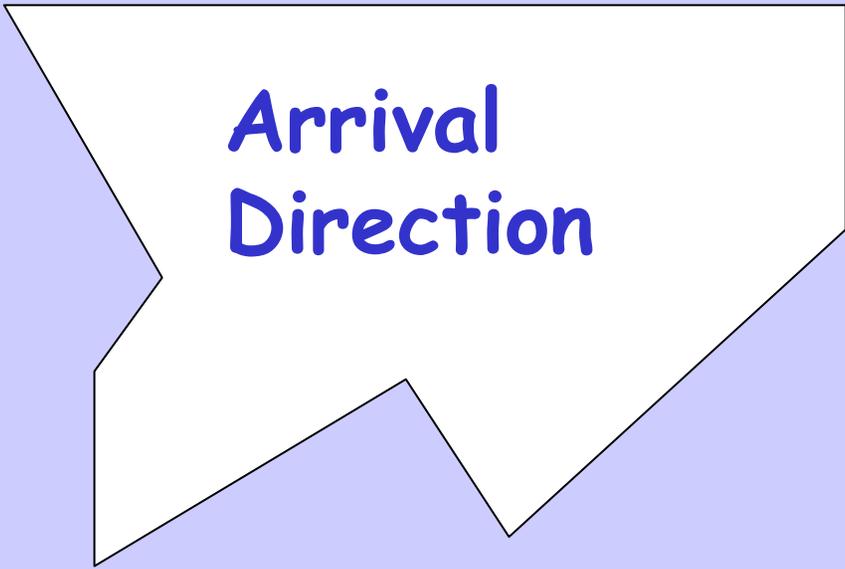
# The Spectrum



The measured spectrum is well in agreement with a GZK hypothesis.  
SHDM subdominant scenario is severely constrained

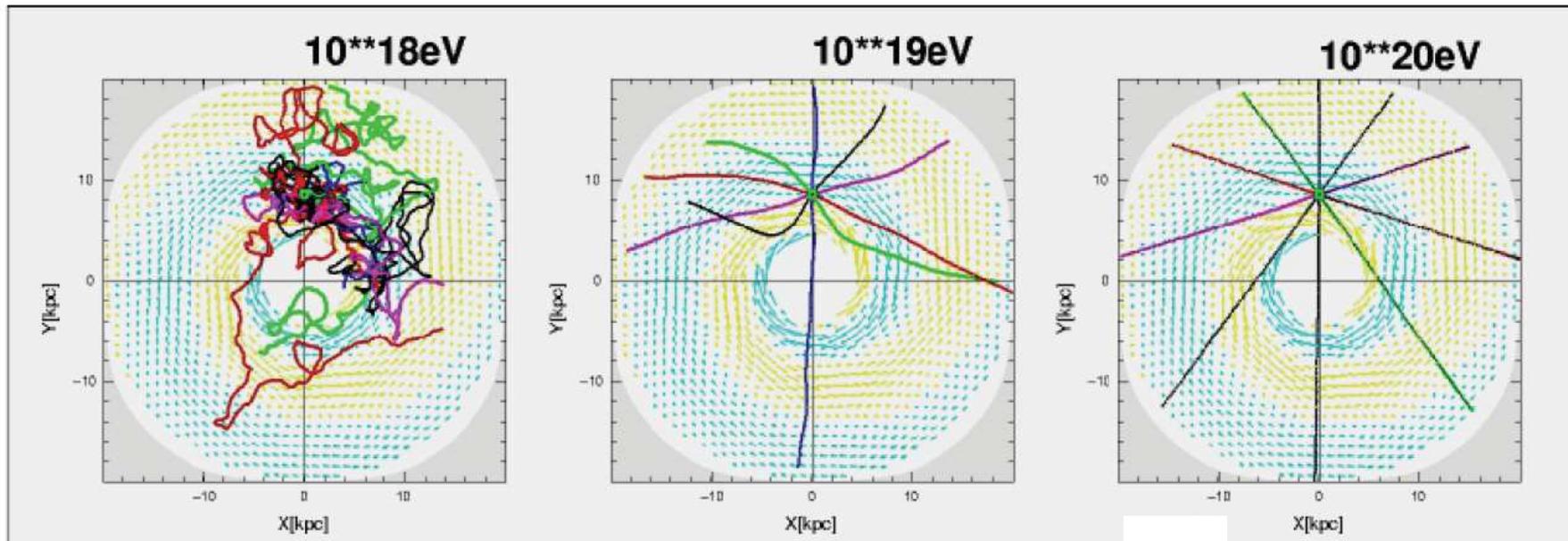


*Arrival Direction*



**Arrival  
Direction**

# Highest-energy particles must be extragalactic



Deflection  $< 1^\circ$

# Arrival Direction

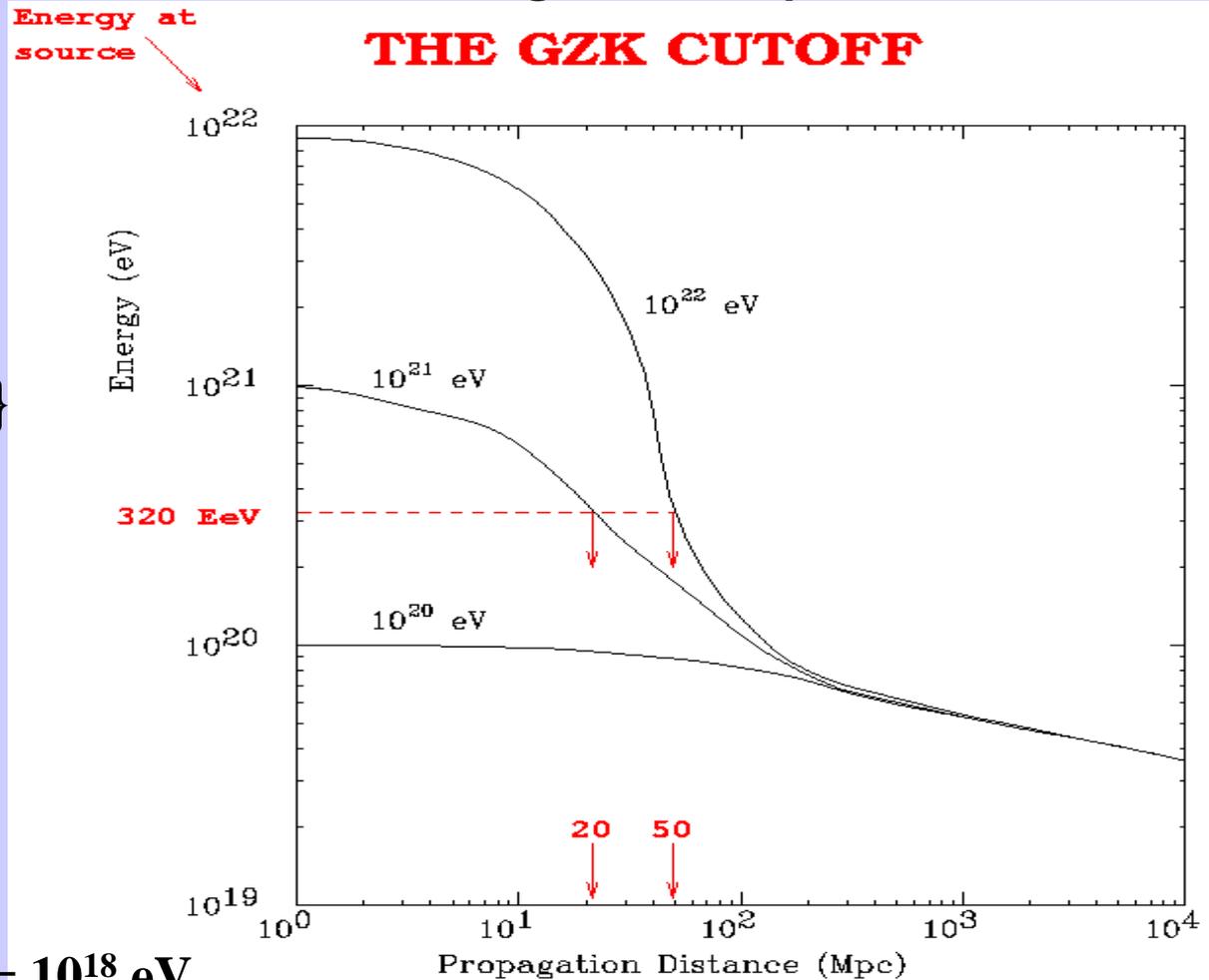
Above  $E \approx 5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV, protons lose rapidly energy via pion photoproduction. Energy loss  $\approx 15\%$  / interaction. Interaction length  $\approx 10$  Mpc



{ $\gamma$  from  $\pi^0$ ,  $\nu$  from  $\pi^+$ }

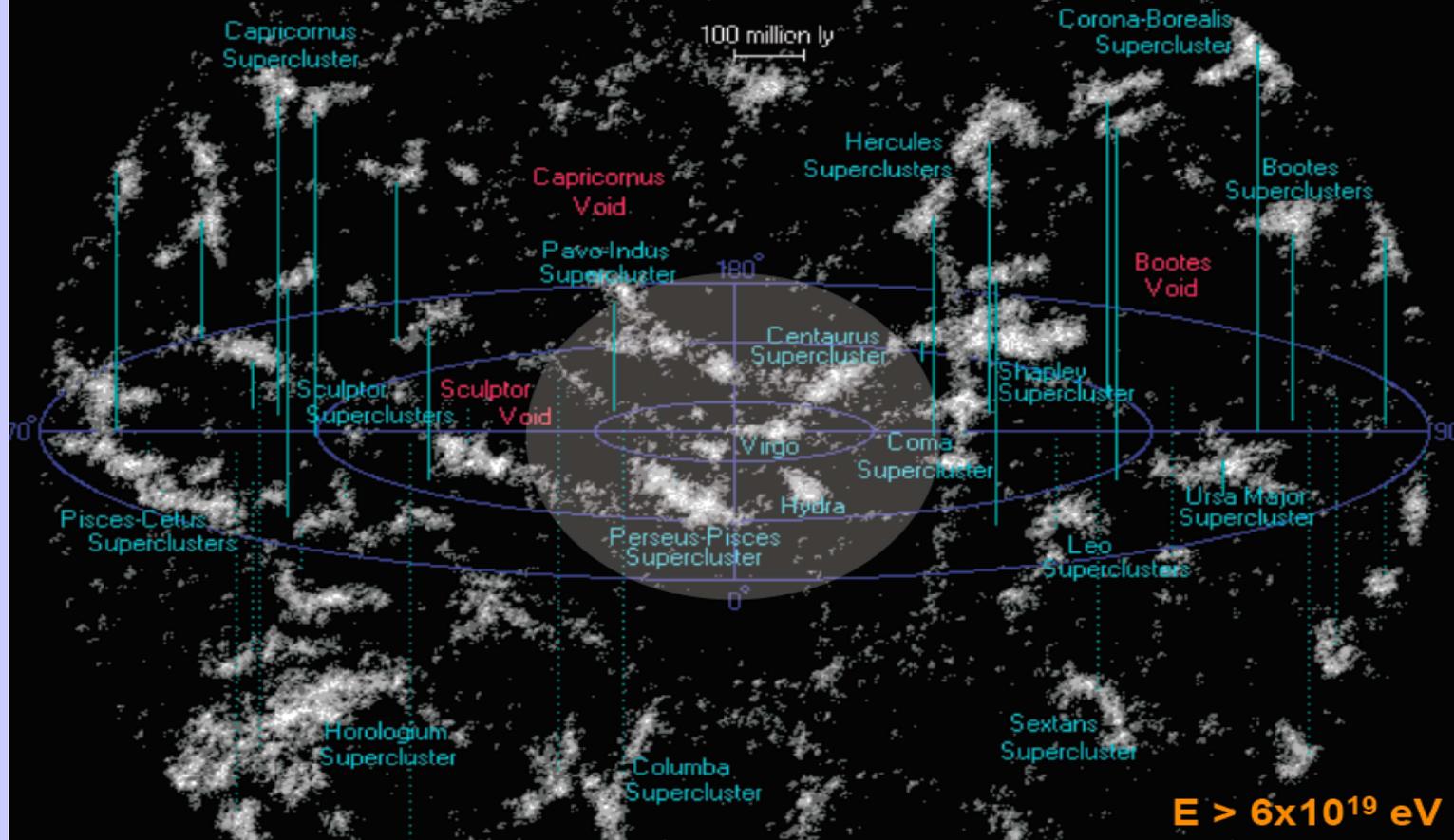
## GZK Horizon

1 pc = 3.26 light year    1 EeV =  $10^{18}$  eV



*Arrival Direction*

## Distribution of Galaxies



If UHECR are protons then they direction distribution must be anisotropy  
The higher energy Cosmic Rays can open a new window for astronomy

# Arrival Direction

## Data Set

01/01/2004 – 31/08/2007

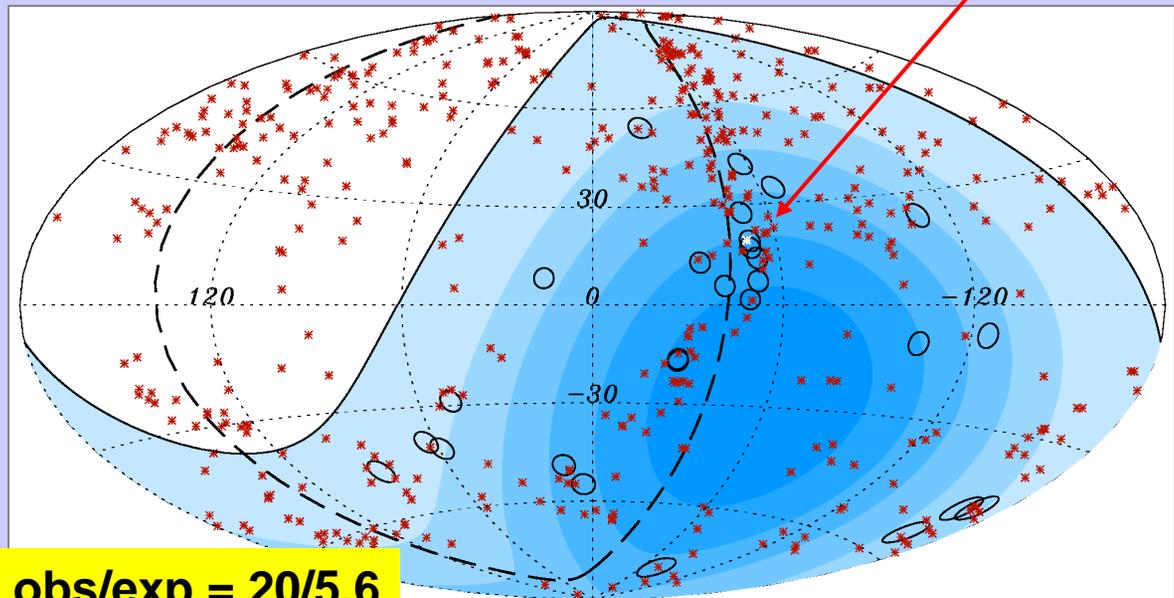
27 events

**$E > 57$  EeV**  
**Angular bin  $3.1^\circ$**   
 **$D_{\text{max}} = 75$  Mpc**

**20 events are correlated  
with a AGN**

Science, vol 318, issue 5852, 09/11/07

*Centaurus A*



**obs/exp = 20/5.6**

○ events with  $E > 57$  EeV, angular bin  $\psi = 3.1^\circ$ ,

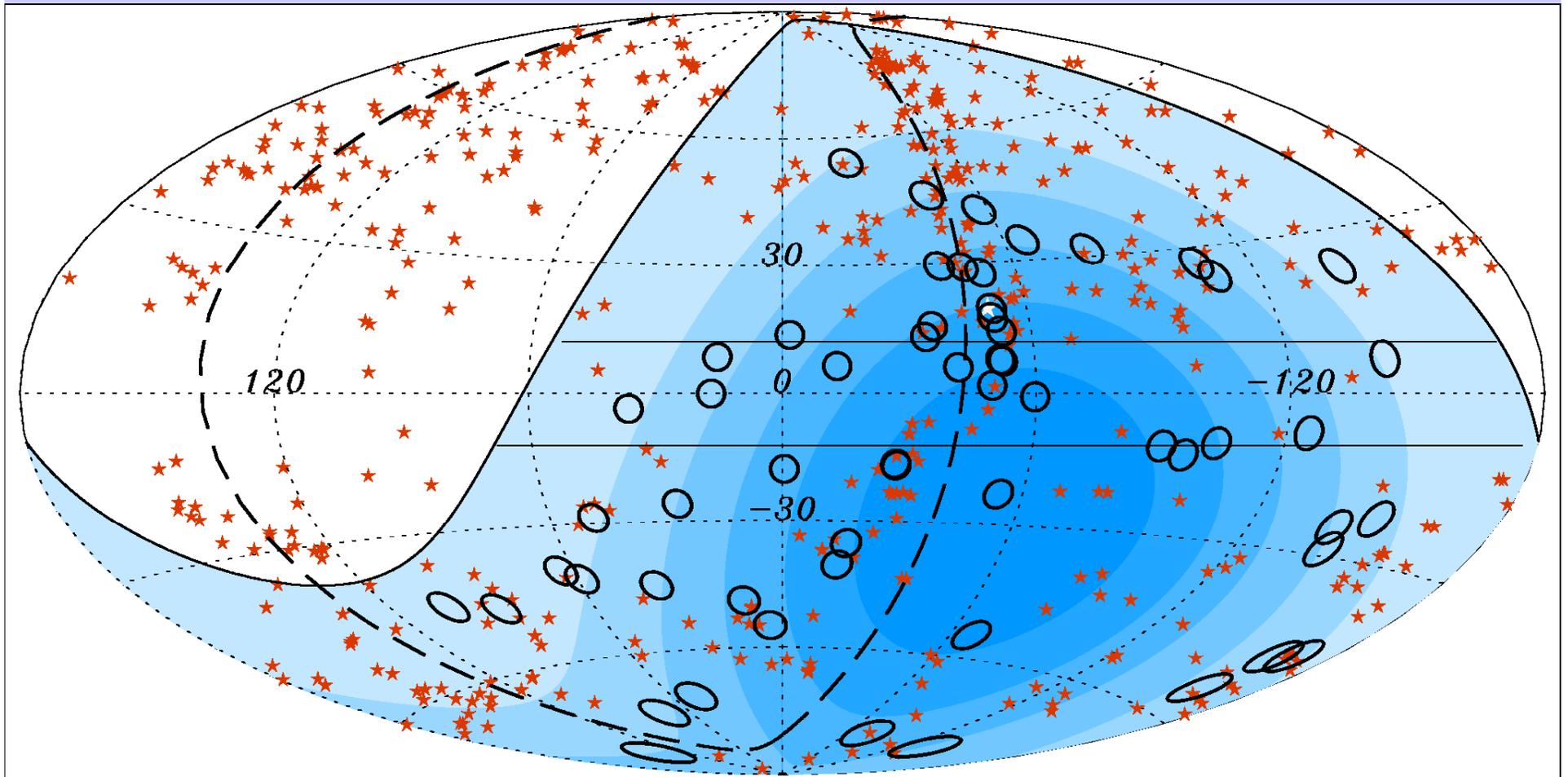
✕ 472 AGN with  $D < 75$  Mpc (318 in the FOV of Auger)  
(catalogue Veron-Cetty and Veron)

The probability for an isotropy distribution is  $P \sim 10^{-5}$

Consistent with the Protons Hypothesis

# Arrival Direction

Region of the sky with galactic latitude  $|b| < 12^\circ$  is also indicated



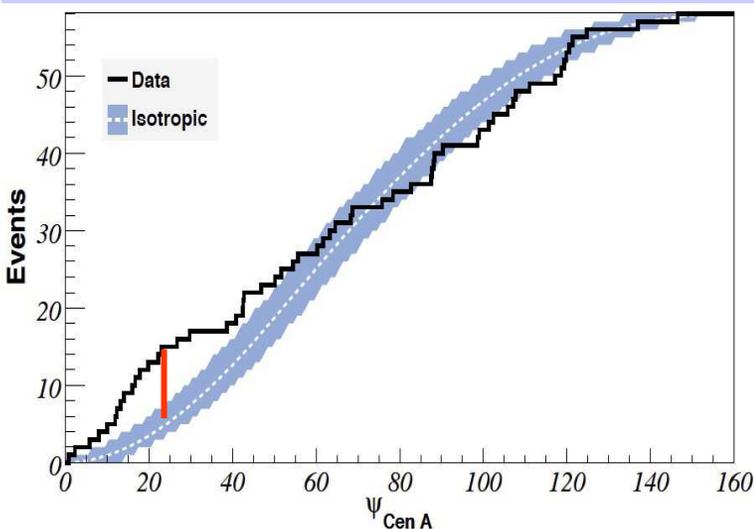
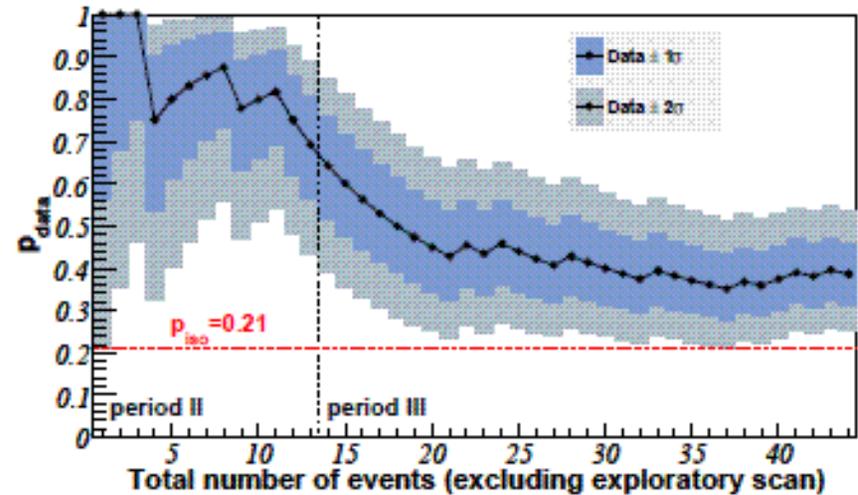
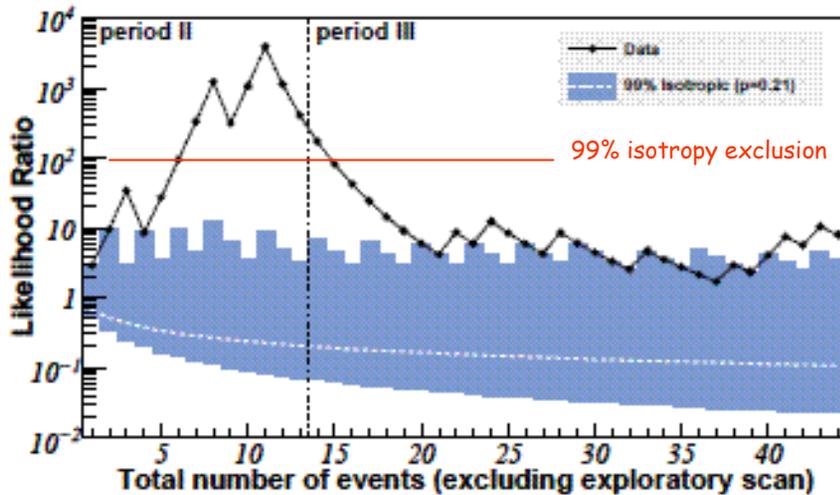


# Arrival Direction

	<b>Number of events</b>  <b>E &gt; 55 EeV</b>	<b>Correlated with AGN</b>  <b><math>\psi = 3.1</math> degree</b>	<b>Expected for isotropy</b>
<b>Data August 2007 (Science paper)</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Excluding band on galactic plane (<math> b  &gt; 12</math> degree)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Data March 2009</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>Excluding band on galactic plane (<math> b  &gt; 12</math> degree)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>11.3</b>

**Probability of isotropic distribution:  $6 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $2 \times 10^{-3}$ )**

# Arrival Direction



17/44 post scan events correlate  
still preferred an anisotropic distribution

Assuming only CenA as CRs detectable source  
2% chance probability for isotropic distribution

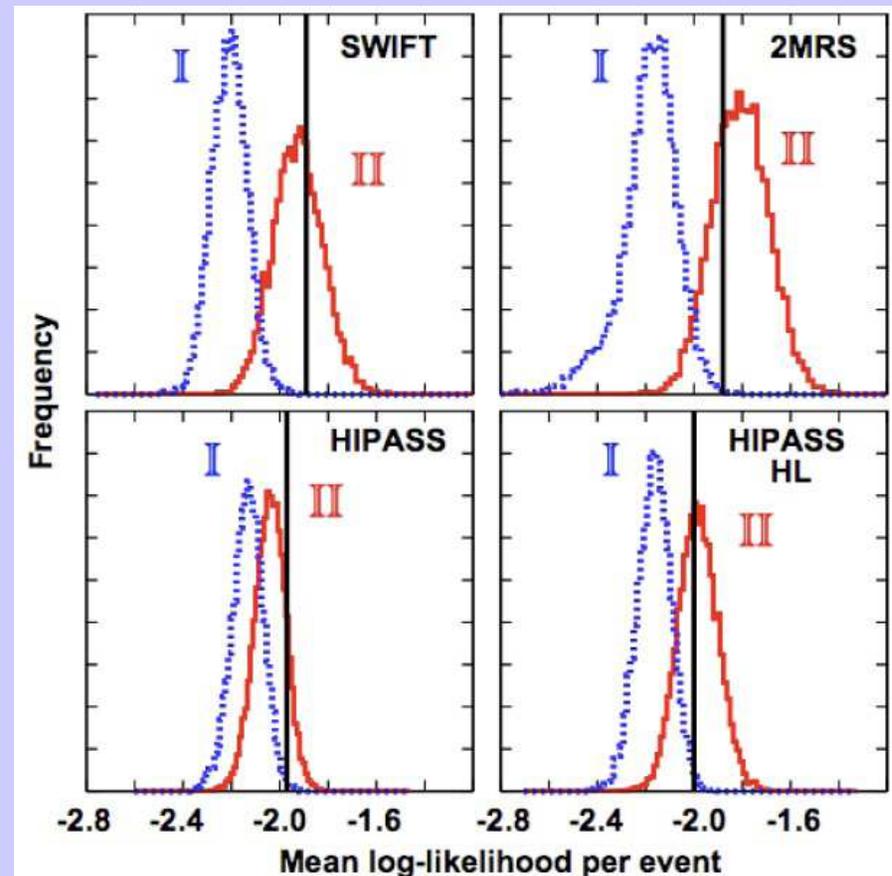
Other catalogues are used  
Swift-BAT

uniform, hard X-ray  
261 Seyfert galaxies

2MRS vol selected  
1940 brightest from  
2MASS cat.

HIPASS  
3058 H1 galaxies

HIPASS HL  
759 high luminosity



If we believe in anisotropy of **UHECRs** then they can be protons



# *Mass Composition*

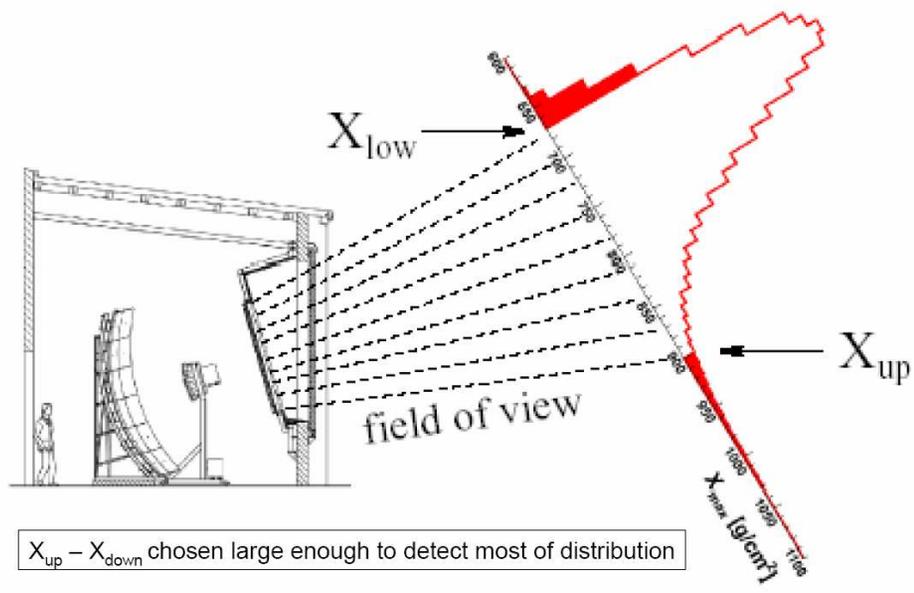
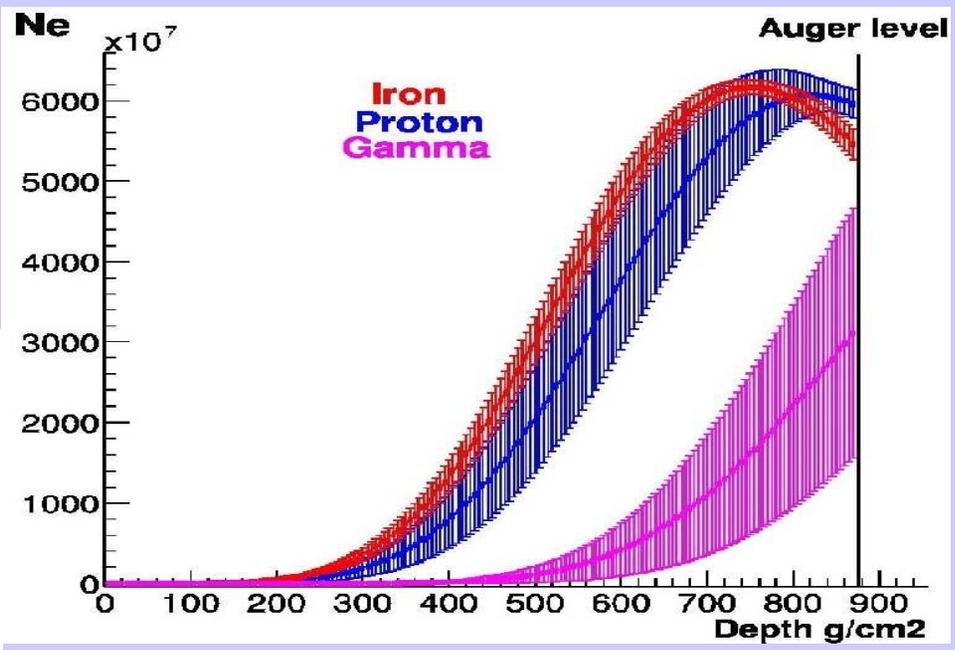


**Mass Composition**

# Mass Composition

AUGER is a hybrid detector!

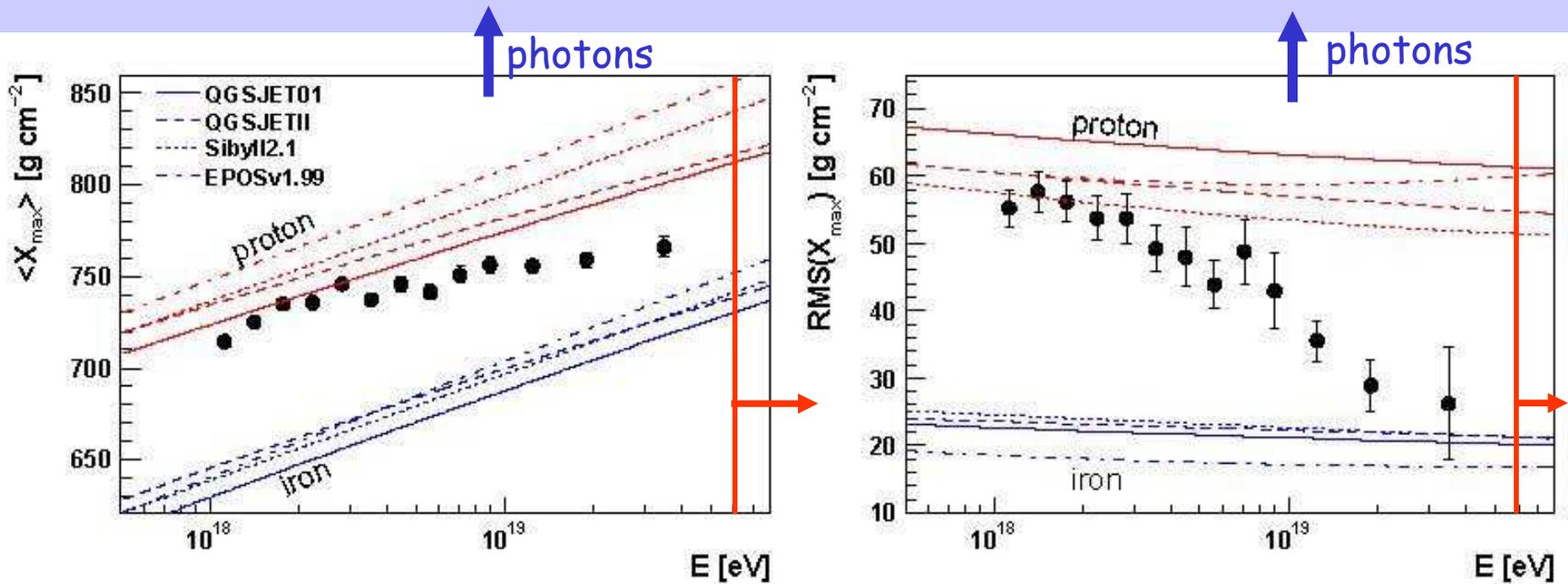
Using the FD detector we can measure the  $X_{max}$  of the shower



Showers induced by different primary develop in a different way in the atmosphere.  
 Protons interact deeper of iron and the RMS of the  $X_{max}$  is narrow

# Mass Composition

Hybrid duty cycle 10% of SD. Not enough statistics in the more interesting energy range !



Start energy for anisotropy analysis

But hybrid analysis indicate that **mass composition turns heavy**

## AUGER South is complete and is taking data:

event sample ( $>10^{19}$  eV) larger than sum of all previous experiments,  
AUGER energy and angular resolution better of previous experiments  
AUGER statistics is growing fast

## Contamination of not charged particles negligible

Upper limit in photon flux already exclude top-down models  
No neutrino like candidate found

## Spectrum

consistent with a GZK-like cut-off ( $E=2.9 \times 10^{19}$  eV)  
ankle seen at  $E=4.1 \times 10^{18}$  eV (galactic to extra-galactic transition?)  
GZK cut-off hints a proton hypothesis for  $E>55$  EeV

## Arrival Direction

still data prefer an anisotropy scenario at highest energy ( $>55$  EeV)  
possible extra-galactic origin inside the GZK cut-off  
the anisotropy hints a proton hypothesis for  $E>55$  EeV

## Mass Composition

the only analysis strongly model dependent  
comparison with Monte Carlo essential  
indicate a mixed/heavy composition but for  $E<55$  EeV

# *UHECRs scenario*

