

# The Five Sigmas in Ultra-high-energy Cosmic Rays and more ...

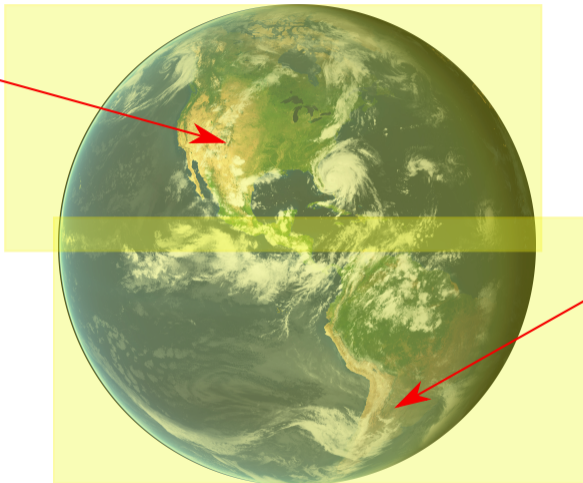
An incomplete review of measurements

Ioana C. Mariş

Universite Libre de Bruxelles

# UHECRs with full sky coverage and complementary techniques

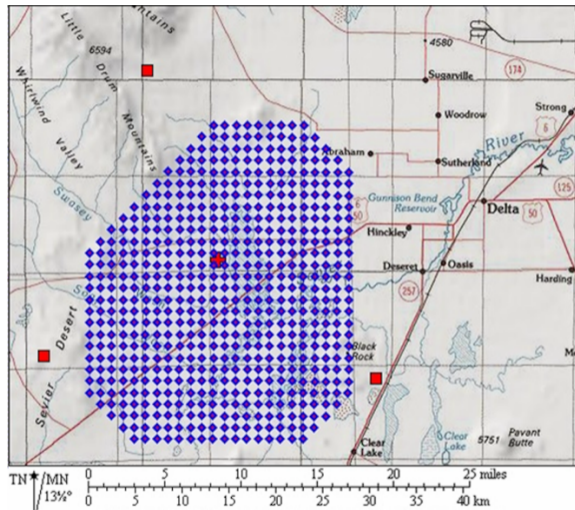
Telescope Array  
Delta, Utah, USA  
130 researchers  
5 countries



Pierre Auger Observatory  
Province of Mendoza,  
Argentina  
370 researchers  
18 countries

This talk focusing on the work or the common working groups (WG)

# Telescope Array (Delta, Utah, USA)



680 km<sup>2</sup> (507 scintillators), 36 telescopes, started in 2008

TA coll., NIM 689 (2012) 87-97

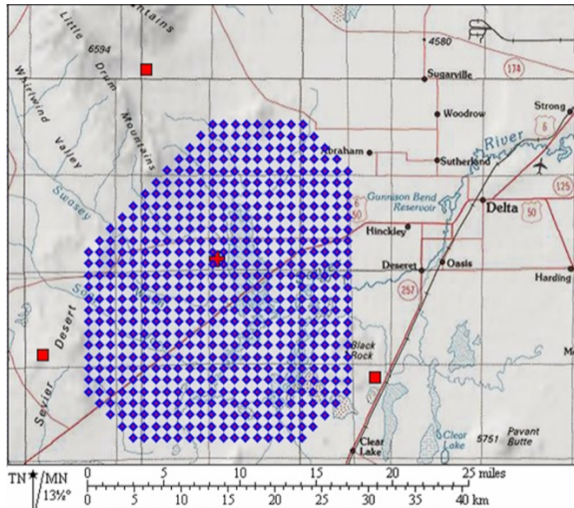
Fluorescence telescopes



Surface detectors

Next talk by Shunsuke Sakurai

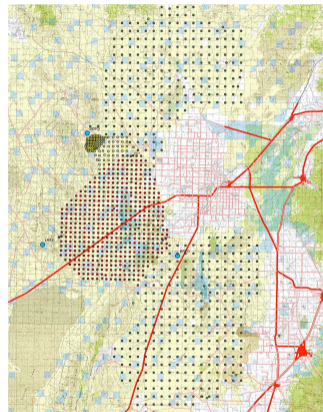
# Telescope Array (Delta, Utah, USA)



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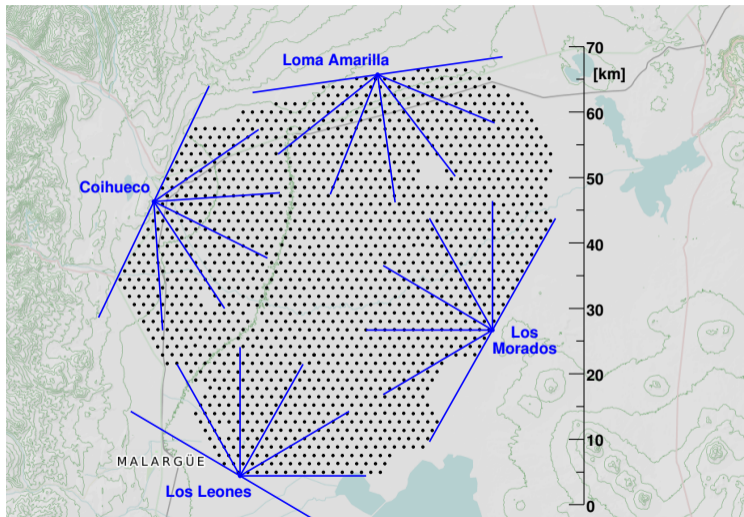


Surface detectors

Next talk by Shunsuke Sakurai



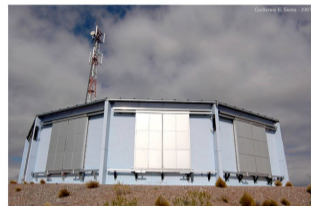
# Pierre Auger Observatory (Malargue, Argentina)



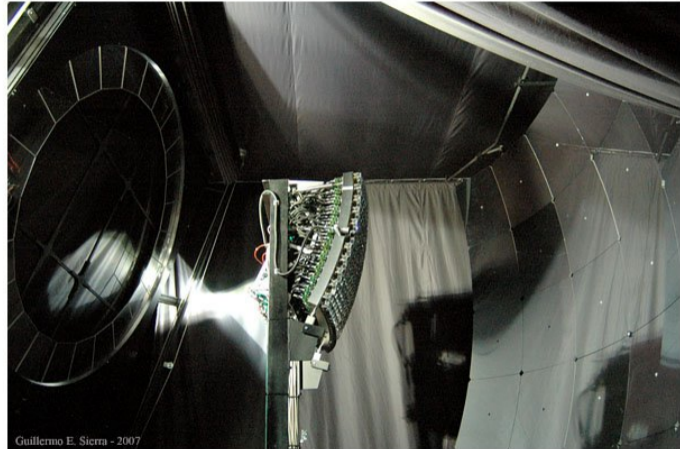
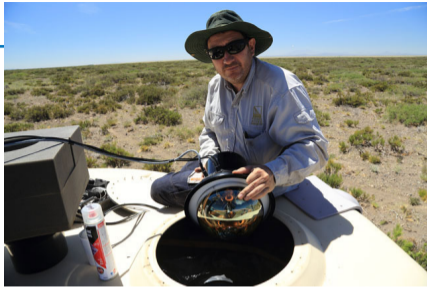
3000 km<sup>2</sup> (1660 detecteurs), 27 telescopes, started in 2004

Auger coll., NIM A 798 (2015) 172-213

### Fluorescence Telescopes

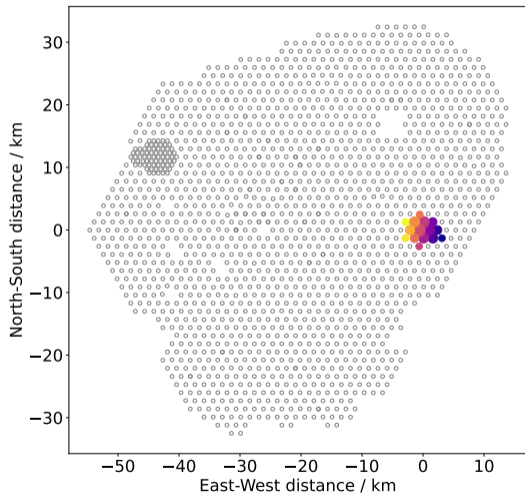


### Surface detectors

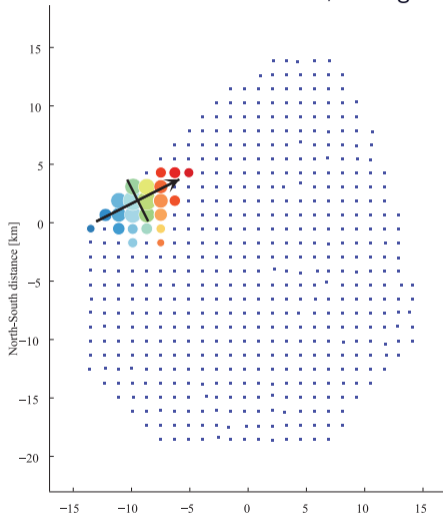


# Examples of the highest energy events

Auger: 72 EeV, 36 degrees

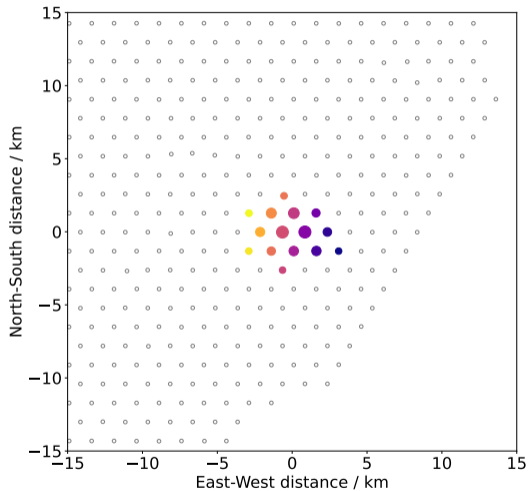


TA: 244 EeV, 38 degrees



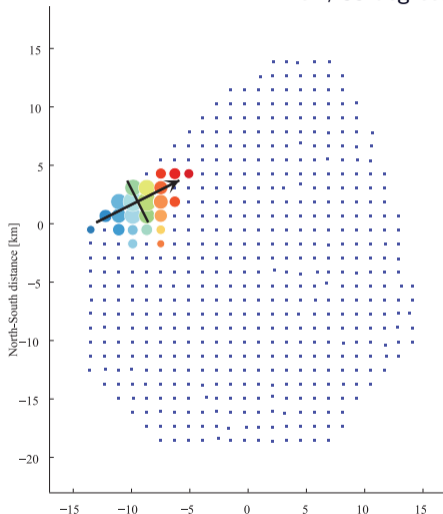
# Examples of the highest energy events

Auger: 72 EeV, 36 degrees



Auger coll. ApJS 264 50 (2023)

TA: 244 EeV, 38 degrees



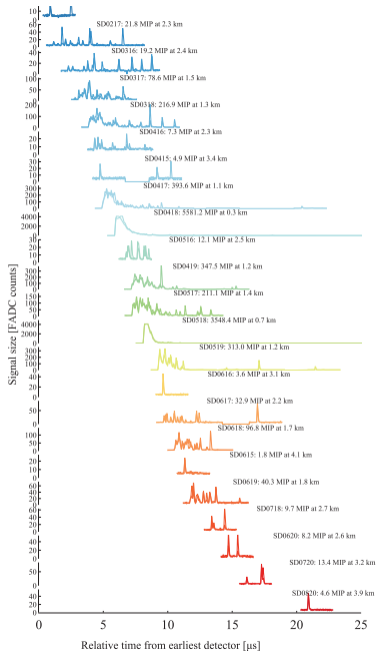
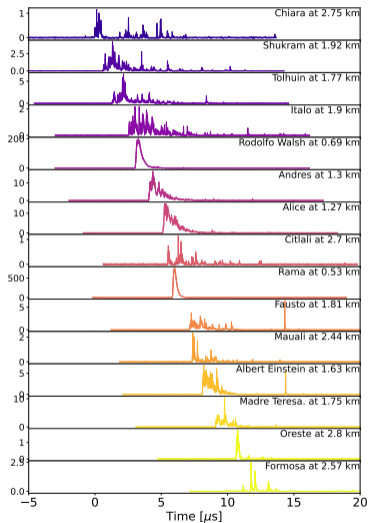
TA coll. Science 382, 903-907 (2023)



# Signals in individual detectors

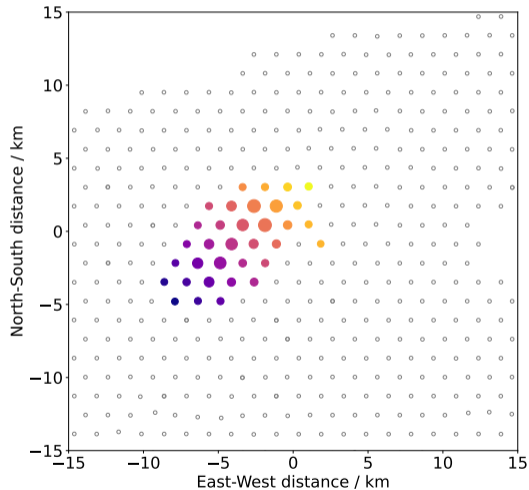
Raw level signals are follow the structure of the air-shower particles

Similar in Auger and TA

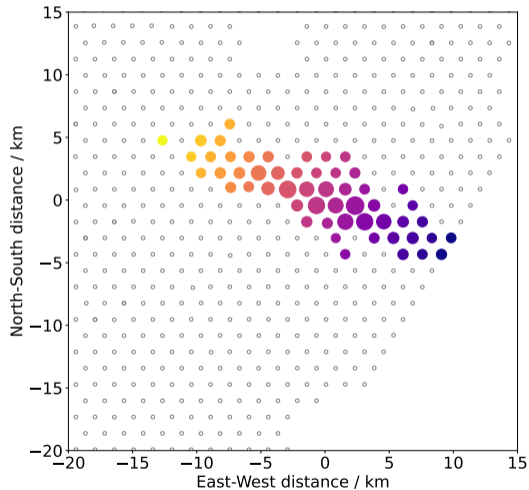


# Some more examples of the most energetic events

Auger: 165 EeV, 59 degrees

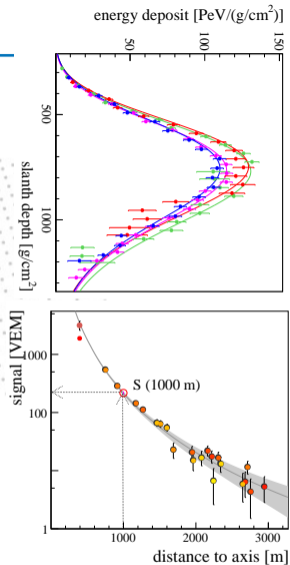
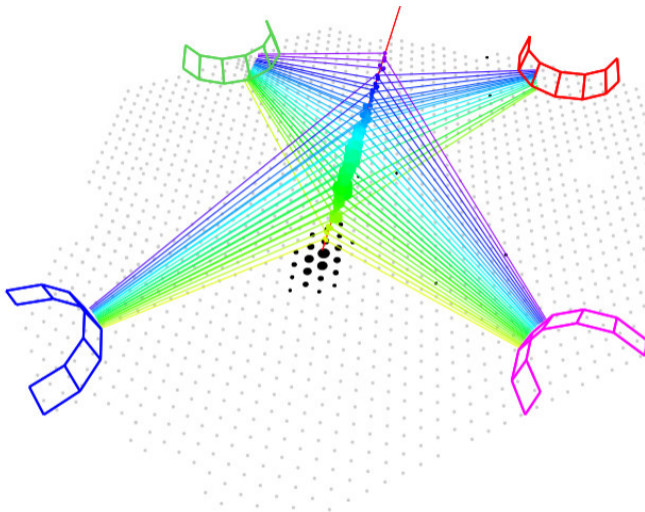


Auger: 50 EeV, 77 degrees



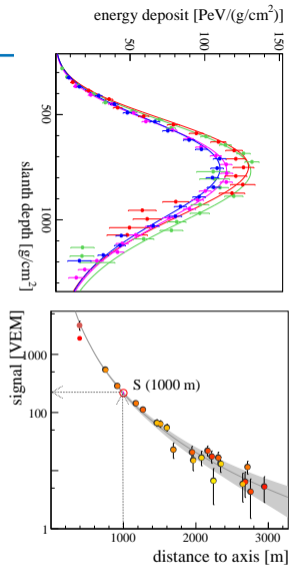
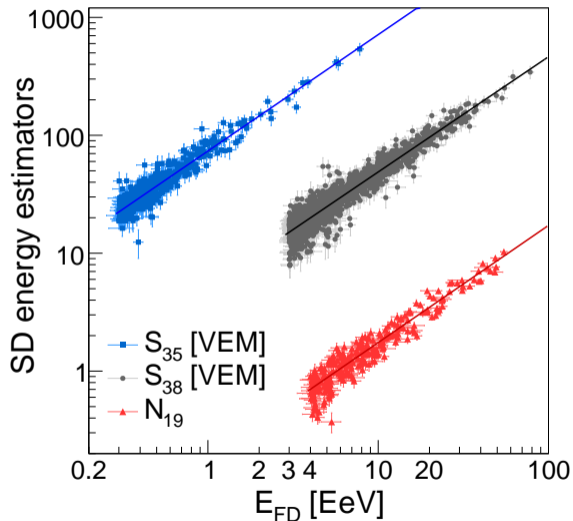
opendata.auger.org, 20/03/2024, release 3, DOI 10.5281/zenodo.10488964

# From air-showers to primary particle



$$E_{FD} = \int dE/dX + \text{invisible energy correction}, \quad E_{SD} = f(\theta, S1000)$$

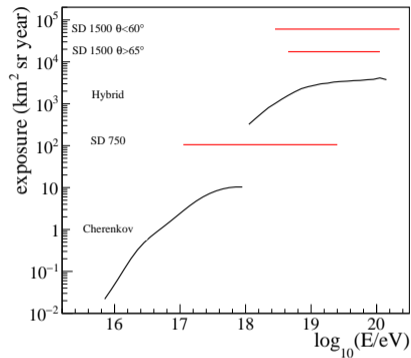
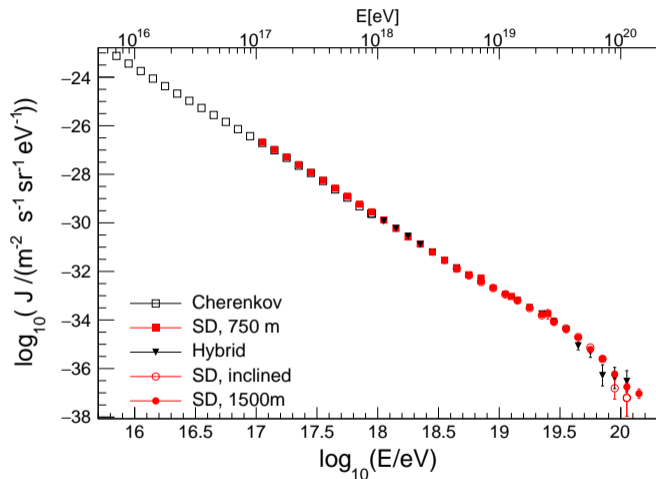
# Cross calibration with the fluorescence detectors



$$E_{FD} = \int dE/dX + \text{invisible energy correction}, \quad E_{SD} = f(\theta, S1000)$$



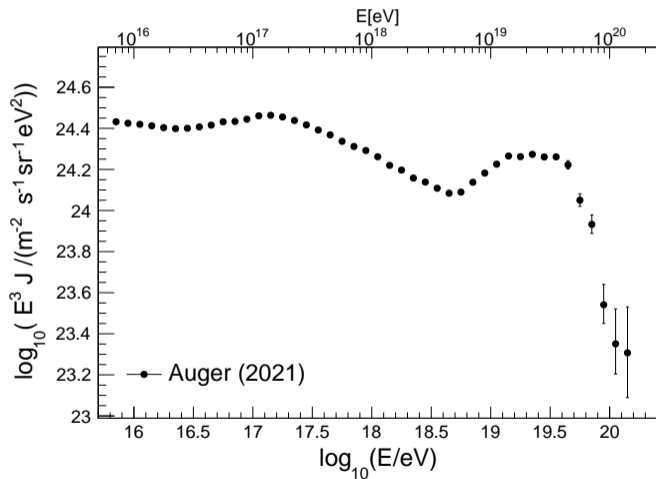
# The second knee and the instep



- spectrum obtained from the combination of 5 energy spectra

- common energy scale (14% systematic uncertainty)

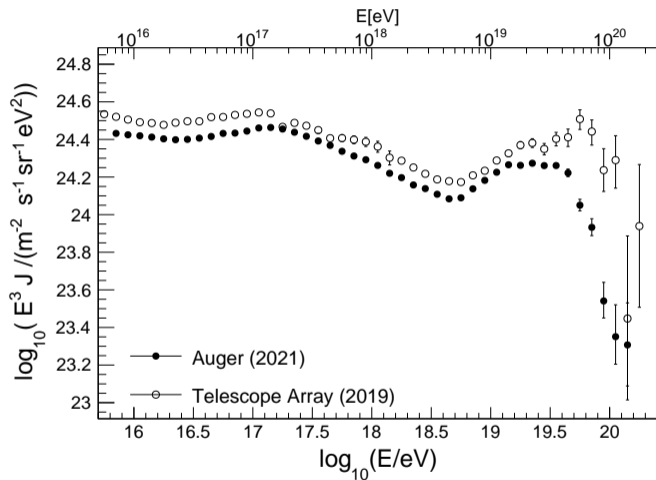
# The second knee and the instep



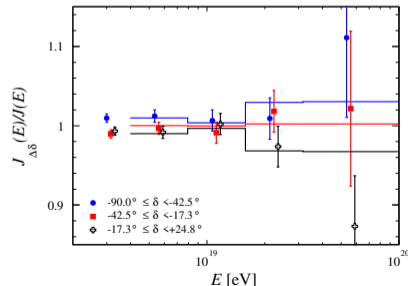
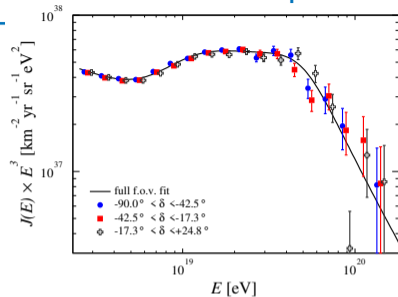
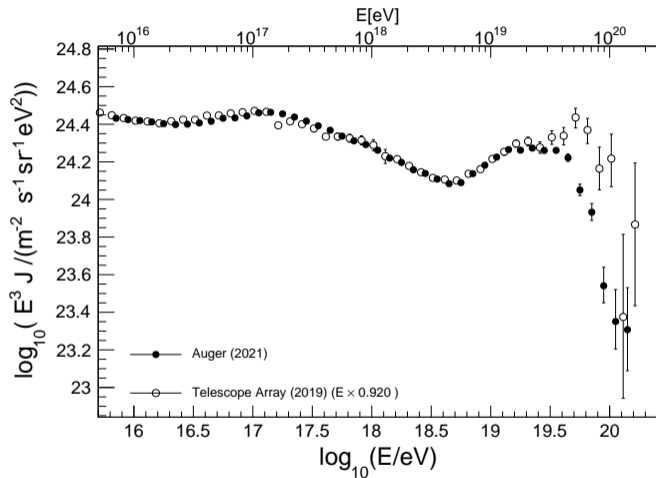
Presence of the second knee and a new feature: the instep

Auger coll., PRL 125 (2020) 121106,  
Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 966,

# Comparison with Telescope Array measurement



# Comparison with Telescope Array measurement: declination dependency?

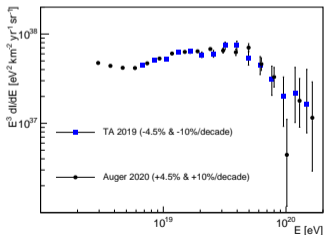
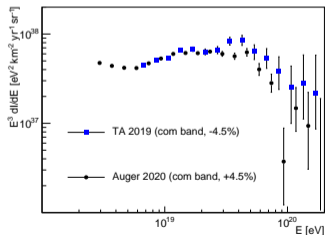
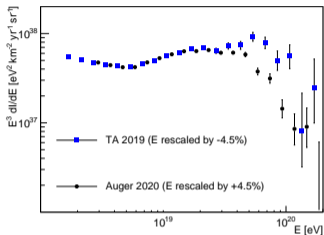
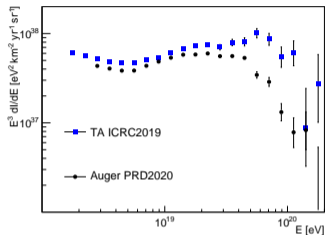


TA coll. ApJ 865 (2018) 74, Astropart.Phys. 80 (2016) 131-140

Auger data: just the expected flux difference from the dipole



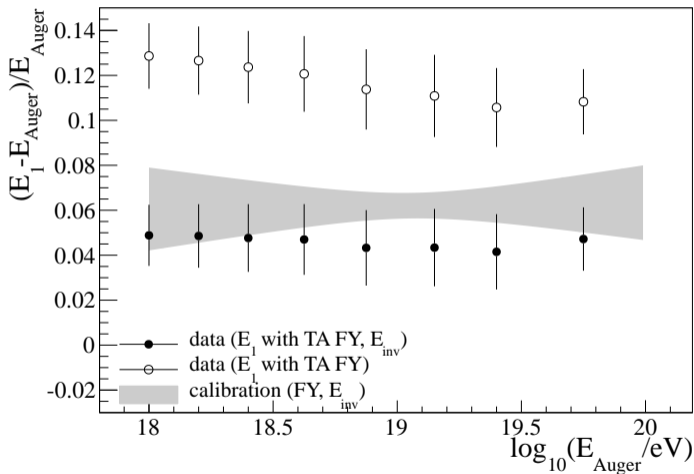
# Energy spectrum in the common declination band



Constant 9% and a 10% per decade difference

Can it be explained by the different systematic uncertainties?  
( 14% Auger, 21% TA)

# Energy changes for Auger with TA settings

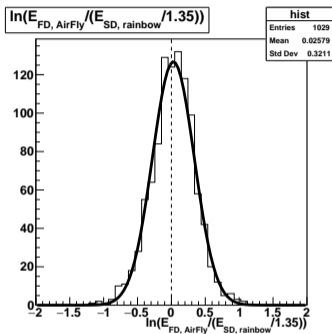
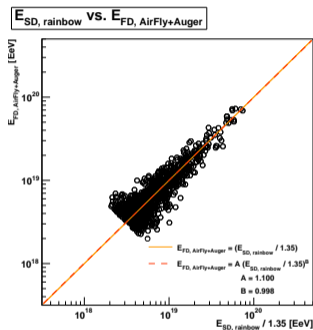


⇒ Using the TA assumptions of FY and invisible energy (proton, QGSJetII-03) the Auger energy scale would change by 6%

FY: NIM A 372, 527 (1996)

Astropart. Phys. 25, 129 (2006)

# Energy changes for TA with Auger settings



Remaining independent energy systematic uncertainties after the same energy scale: 13% Auger, 17% TA

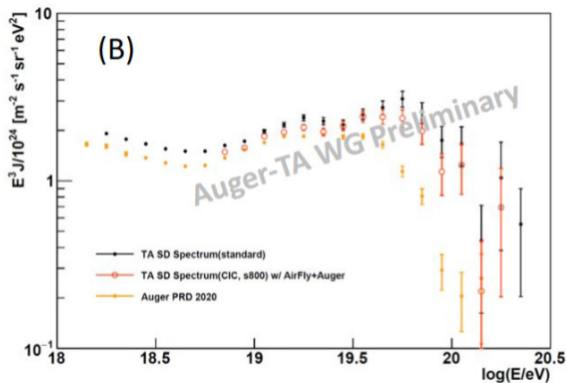
⇒ Using the Auger assumptions on FY and invisible energy the TA energy scale would also change by a constant 8% (standard FD scale 1.27 becomes 1.35)

FY: *Astropart. Phys.*, 42, 90 (2013),  
*Astropart. Phys.*, 28, 41 (2007)  
Inv. en.: *Phys. Rev. D* 100 (2019) 082003

*Using a common/unified parameter set between the UHECR experiments is still in discussion.*

Y. Tsunesada for the WG, ICRC 2023, PoS 406

# Energy changes for TA with Auger settings



Remaining independent energy systematic uncertainties after the same energy scale: 13% Auger, 17% TA

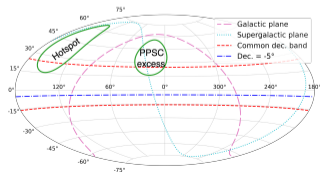
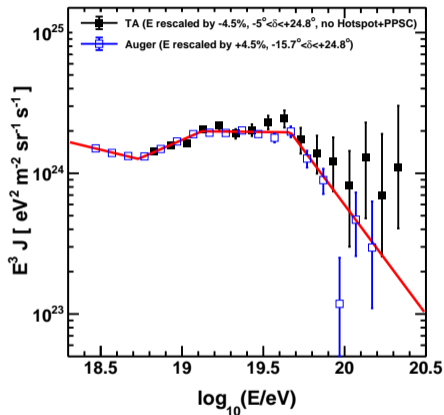
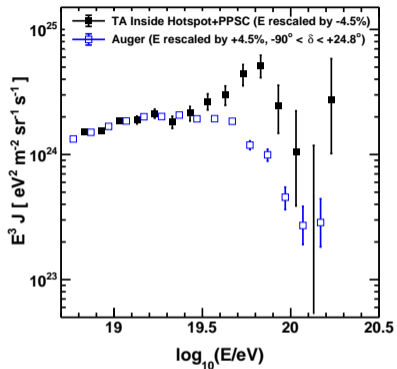
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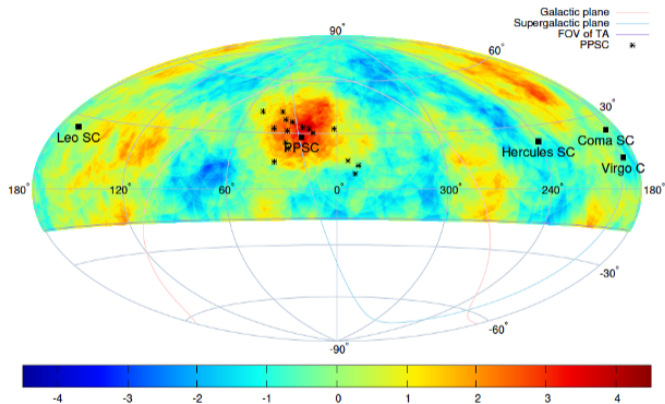
Y. Tsunesada for the WG, ICRC 2023, PoS 406

# Is the flux difference caused by a specific part of the sky?



Hints of contributions from the Hotspot and the Perseus-Pieces cluster TA coll, arXiv:2406.08612v1

# Perseus-Pieces Supercluster



PPSC at 70 Mpc

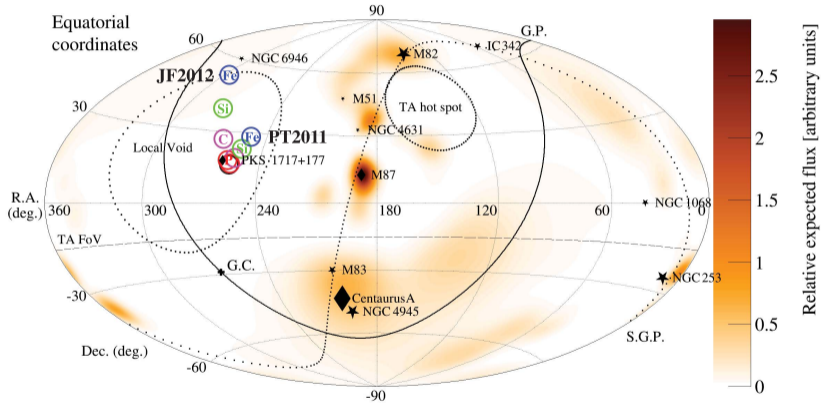
Energies above 25 EeV in a  
20°-radius circle

Significance:  $3.5\sigma$  ( $4.2\sigma$  local)

TA coll, arXiv:2110.14827

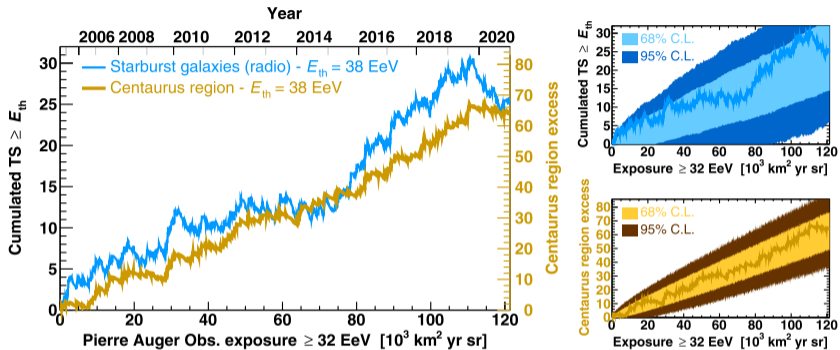
# Where does the 224 EeV event come from?

Nowhere?



TA coll. Science 382, 903-907 (2023)

# Auger anisotropies at smaller scales



Catalog	$E_{th}$ [EeV]	Fisher Search Radius, $\Theta$ [deg]	Signal Fraction, $\alpha$ [%]	$TS_{max}$	Post-trial $p$ -value
All galaxies (IR)	40	$16_{-6}^{+11}$	$16_{-7}^{+10}$	18.0	$7.9 \times 10^{-4}$
Starbursts (radio)	38	$15_{-4}^{+8}$	$9_{-4}^{+6}$	25.0	$3.2 \times 10^{-5}$
All AGNs (X-rays)	39	$16_{-5}^{+8}$	$7_{-3}^{+5}$	19.4	$4.2 \times 10^{-4}$
Jetted AGNs ( $\gamma$ -rays)	39	$14_{-4}^{+6}$	$6_{-2}^{+4}$	17.9	$8.3 \times 10^{-4}$

Current significance  $4.2\sigma$

Auger coll. ApJ 935 170 (2022)

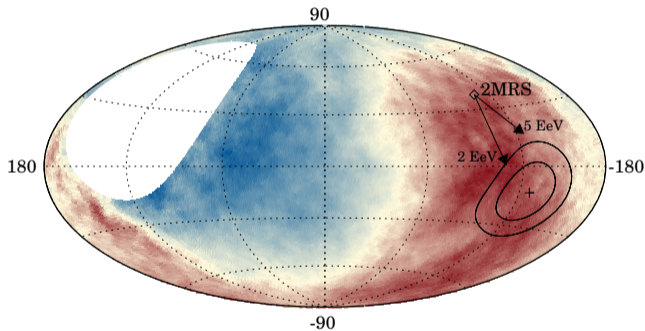
Expected  $5\sigma$  reach in 2025-2030



# Large scale anisotropy

Harmonic analysis in right ascension  $\alpha$

Significant dipolar modulation ( $6.6\sigma$ ) above  $8 \times 10^{18}$  eV:  $(7.3_{-0.9}^{+1.1})\%$  at  $(\alpha, \delta) = (95^\circ, -36^\circ)$



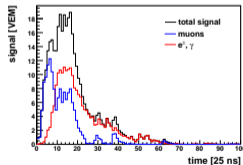
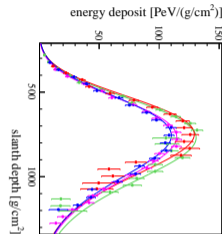
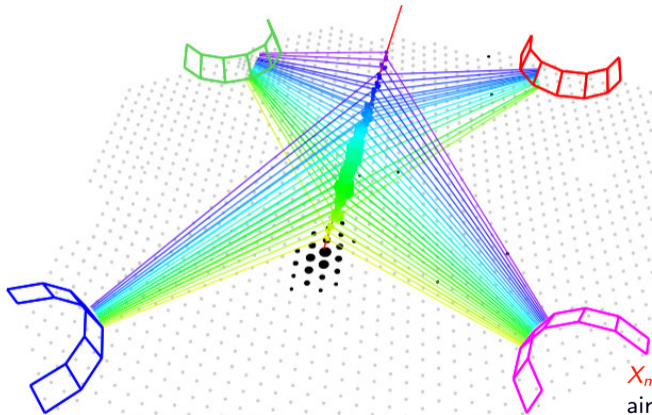
Auger coll., Science 357 (2017) 1266-1270

- Expected if cosmic rays diffuse in Galaxy from sources distributed similar to nearby galaxies (dipole structure in near-IR)
- Anti-dipole in the direction of the local void

# Sensitivity to mass composition with FD and SD

FD: heavier particles develop **higher** in the atmosphere, with **less fluctuations**

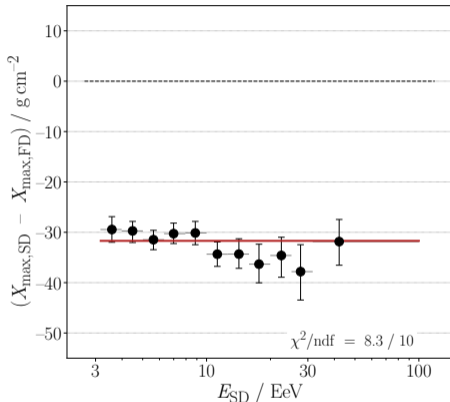
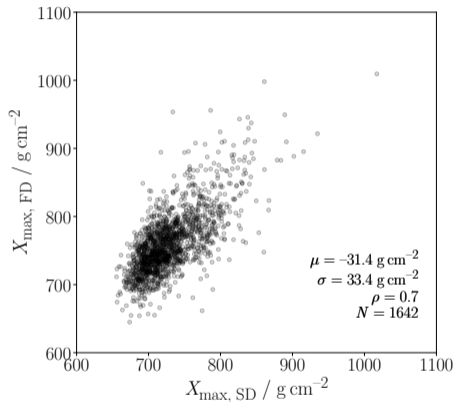
SD: heavier particles produce **more muons** on the ground, thus **smaller risetime**



$X_{max}$ : depth of the maximum of the air-shower development

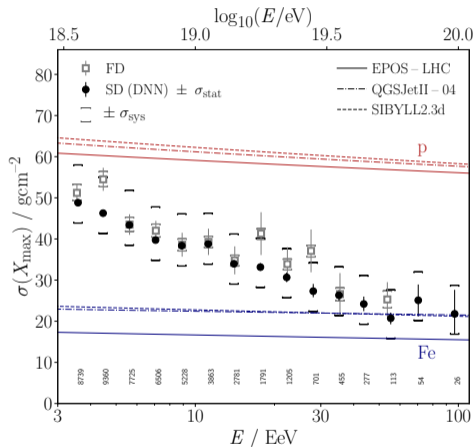
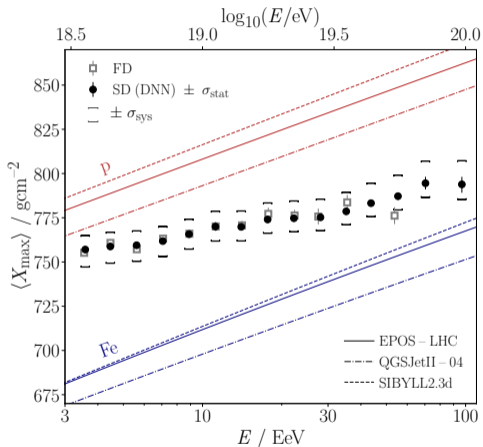
$X_{max}$  DNN: extract the mass composition from the SD traces

# Mass composition using deep learning



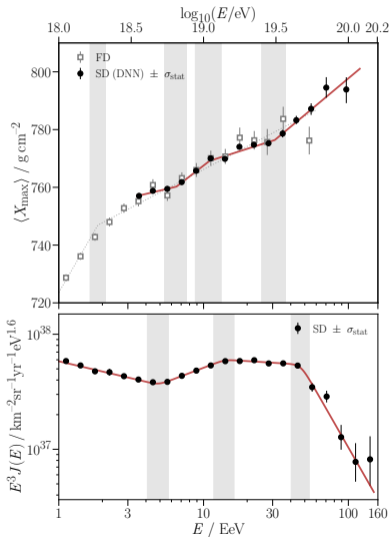
Extract the  $X_{\max}$  from the surface detector data  
Systematic uncertainties: between 9 and 13  $\text{g/cm}^2$

# Mass composition using deep learning



First measurement of the fluctuations up to 100 EeV using the SD

# Large statistics: better characterisation of the features

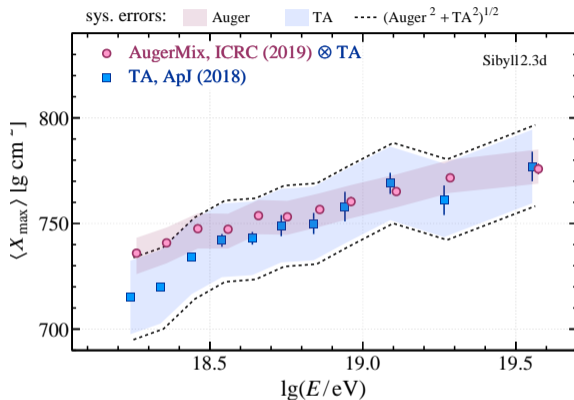
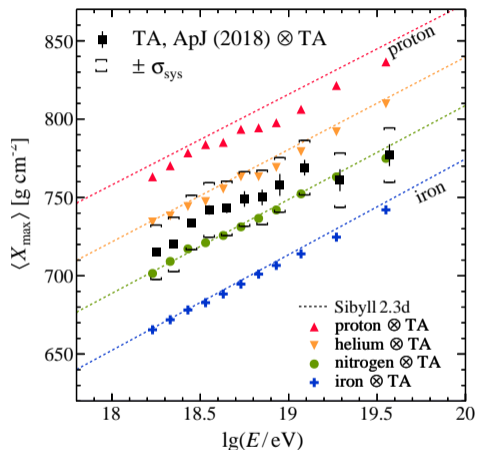


Positions of the features:

TABLE I: Best-fit parameters with statistical and systematic uncertainties for the identified elongation model that features three changes at energies ( $E_1, E_2, E_3$ ) in the elongation rate ( $D_0, D_1, D_2, D_3$ ) and an offset  $b$  of  $\langle X_{\max} \rangle$  at 1 EeV. The positions of the features of the energy spectrum [53] are also given.

parameter	3-break model	energy spectrum
val $\pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{sys}}$	val $\pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{sys}}$	val $\pm \sigma_{\text{stat}} \pm \sigma_{\text{sys}}$
$b / \text{g cm}^{-2}$	$750.5 \pm 3 \pm 13$	
$D_0 / \text{g cm}^{-2} \text{decade}^{-1}$	$12 \pm 5 \pm 6$	
$E_1 / \text{EeV}$	$6.5 \pm 0.6 \pm 1$	$4.9 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.8$
$D_1 / \text{g cm}^{-2} \text{decade}^{-1}$	$39 \pm 5 \pm 14$	
$E_2 / \text{EeV}$	$11 \pm 2 \pm 1$	$14 \pm 1 \pm 2$
$D_2 / \text{g cm}^{-2} \text{decade}^{-1}$	$16 \pm 3 \pm 6$	
$E_3 / \text{EeV}$	$31 \pm 5 \pm 3$	$47 \pm 3 \pm 6$
$D_3 / \text{g cm}^{-2} \text{decade}^{-1}$	$42 \pm 9 \pm 12$	

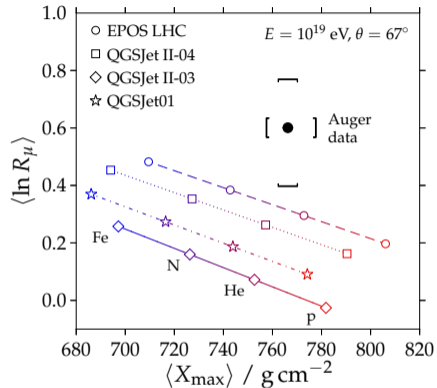
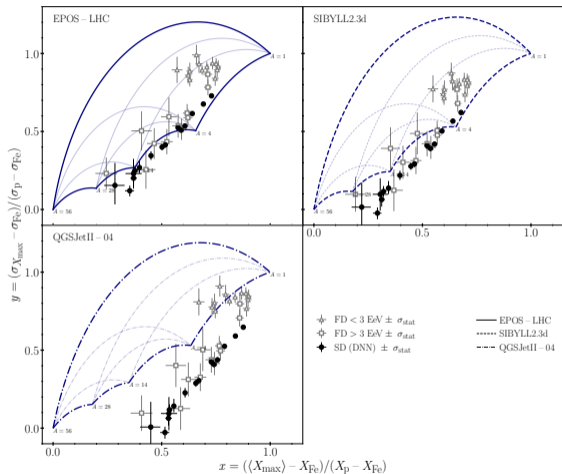
# TA-Auger mass composition



*No discrepancies beyond the statistical and systematic errors in  $X_{max}$  and  $\sigma(X_{max})$  of the two observatories could be identified... the TA and Auger measurements are found to be consistent with each other.*

A. Yushkov for the WG, ICRC 2023. PoS 249, paper in preparation

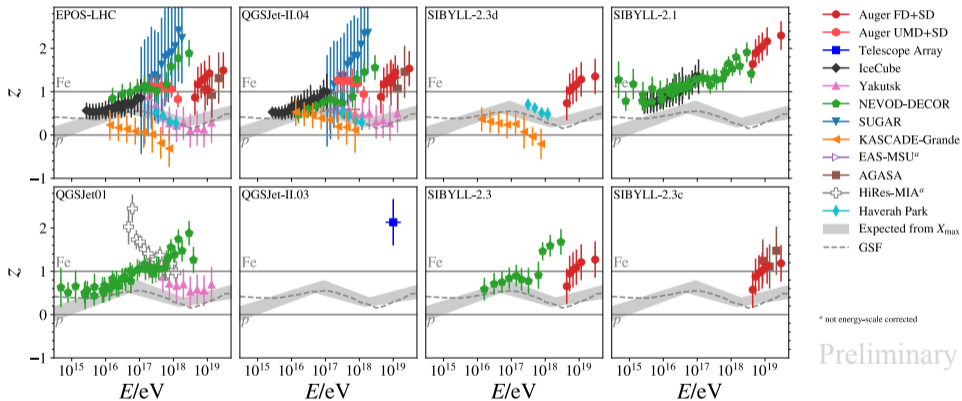
# Probing hadronic interactions at ultra high energies



Discrepancy between data and simulations, *the muon puzzle*

Auger coll. arxiv:2406.06315, arXiv:2406.06319, submitted to PRL/PRD

# Probing hadronic interactions at ultra-high energies



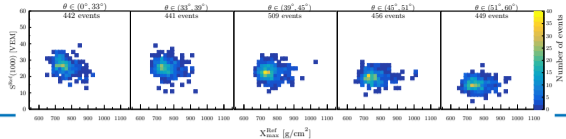
Preliminary

$$z = [\ln(N_{\mu}) - \ln(N_{\mu,proton})] / [\ln(N_{\mu,iron}) - \ln(N_{\mu,proton})]$$

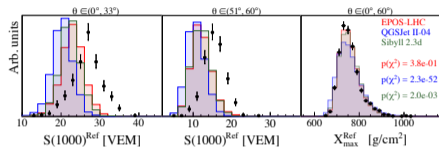
J. Arteaga-Velazquez for the WHISP WG, ICRC 2023, PoS 466



# Modification of hadronic interaction models

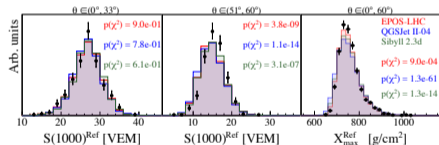


Combined fit of  $(S_{1000}, X_{\max})$   
( hybrid events, 3 EeV - 10 EeV)



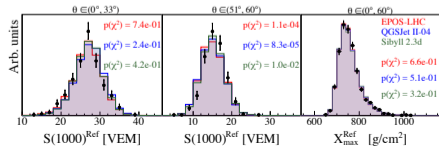
(a) No MC corrections

Combined fit of  $(S_{1000}, X_{\max})$  allowing  
for an angular dependent rescaling of  $N_{\mu}$



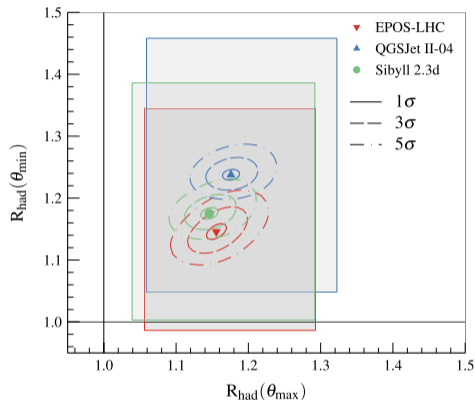
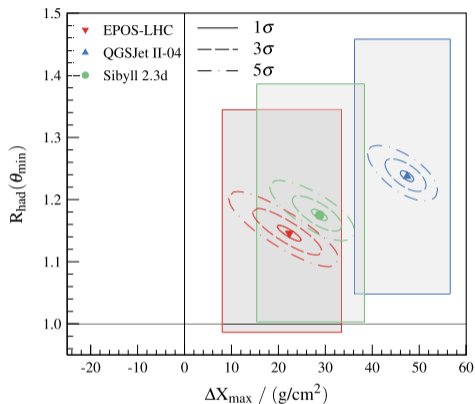
(b) MC corrections:  $R_{\text{Had}}(\theta)$

Combined fit of  $(S_{1000}, X_{\max})$  allowing  
for an angular dependent rescaling of  $N_{\mu}$   
and shifting  $X_{\max}$  of all primaries



(c) MC corrections:  $\Delta X_{\max}$  and  $R_{\text{Had}}(\theta)$

# A shift in $X_{\max}$ and muon number



Main effect from re-scaling muon component in a zenith angle dependent way  
A deeper  $X_{\text{max}}$  leads to further improvements

- T. Bister: *Astrophysical interpretation of the data measured at the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- M. Stadelmaier *20 Years of Arrival Directions Studies at the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- V. Novotny *Energy spectrum and mass composition of cosmic rays using the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- M. Kubatova *Machine learning application at the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- E. de Vito *Hunting for Ultra-High-Energy Neutrinos with the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- T. Bister *Constraints on UHECR sources and extragalactic magnetic fields from directional anisotropies*
- E. Santos *Auger Open data and Pierre Auger Observatory International Masterclasses*
- R. Mohit *Status and expected performances of the radio detector of the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- L. Cazon *Hadronic and Shower Physics with the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- A. Castellina *Multimessenger astrophysics at the Pierre Auger Observatory*
- O. Deligny *Limits on photon fluxes from data of the Pierre Auger Observatory and implications on super-heavy dark matter*

The two ultra-high-energy cosmic rays Observatories provide more and more data with better resolutions and deeper understanding of the systematic uncertainties.

Modern techniques provide further insights in the air-shower physics and measurements, revealing features in the  $X_{\max}$  and flux distributions

Indications for the sources of UHECRs in the PPSC, Centaurus A region and an undoubtful energy dependent dipolar pattern present at the highest energies

Looking forward to the results from the next years with AugerPrime and TA<sub>x</sub>4!