# Cosmic Rays and

# Hadronic Interactions

VULCANO workshop Frontiers objects in Astrophysics and Particle physics

## PARTICLE PHYSICS



## COSMIC RAYS ASTROPHYSICS



# 100 years of **Cosmic Rays**

#### **Extensive Cosmic-Ray Showers**

PIERRE AUGER In collaboration with P. Ehrenfest, R. Maze, J. Daudin, Robley, A. Fréon Paris, France



Extensive Air Showers



## AUGER detector in ARGENTINA

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## **The Pierre Auger Observatory**

#### Argentina, Mendoza, Malargue 1.4 km altitude, 870 g/cm<sup>2</sup>



Argentina
Australia
Bolivia'
Brazil
Czech Republic
France
Germany
Italy

Mexico Netherlands Poland Slovenia Spain United Kingdom USA Vietnam



1.5 km spacing, 3000 km<sup>2</sup>, 4 x 6 fluorescence telescopes







#### TOTEM collaboration at LHC:

First measurement of the total proton-proton cross section at the LHC energy of  $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ 

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = [98.3 \pm 0.2 \text{ (stat)} \pm 2.8 \text{ (syst)}] \text{ mbarn}$$
  
$$\sigma_{\text{el}} = [24.8 \pm 0.2 \text{ (stat)} \pm 1.2 \text{ (syst)}] \text{ mbarn}$$
  
$$\sigma_{\text{inel}} = [73.5 \pm 0.6 \text{ (stat)} \ ^{+1.8}_{-1.2} \text{ (syst)}] \text{ mbarn}$$
  
$$B_{\text{el}} = [20.1 \pm 0.2 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.3 \text{ (syst)}] \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$
  
$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{el}}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} = 0.25 \pm 0.01 \text{ (stat} \oplus \text{sys)}$$



Description of ULTRA High Energy Cosmic Rays SHOWERS

Need description of hadronic interactions beyond LHC energies





#### Auger surface detector

How can one estimate the energy ?

ID 762238



Timing of tank-signals give shower direction

VEM = Vertical-Equivalent-Muon

## The **Fly's Eye** Detector concept







Fluorescence light emitted isotropically by excited Nitrogen molecules

Yield ~ 4 photons/meter 300-400 nm





## **The Auger 'hybrid' detector**



# Calibration of Surface detector With fluorescence light observations



# SD Energy resolution better than 20%



## AUGER Energy Spectrum



## AUGER Energy Spectrum





Area  $\propto$  Energy

Shape depends on :Primary Identity

Interaction Model

Study of the mass composition of Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays

intimately associated with the modeling of hadronic-interactions.

Interplay:

Mass Composition

Hadron interaction lengths in air

Properties of particles in the final state





 $\langle X_{\rm max} \rangle$  and RMS



What is the physical meaning of these distributions?  $\langle \textit{X}_{max} \rangle$  and RMS



Compare DATA with predictions based on several assumptions for hadronic interactions....

One Montecarlo Model: [Sibyll 2.1]



 $\langle X_p^{\max}(E) \rangle \simeq X_0 + D_p \log E$ 

Small curvature

# $\boldsymbol{X}_{max}$ and the Composition of Cosmic Rays

IF: approximate validity of the relation:

 $\langle X_A(E) \rangle \simeq \left\langle X_p\left(\frac{E}{A}\right) \right\rangle$ 

and:

 $\langle X_p \rangle \simeq X_0 + D_p \log E$ 

Then:

$$\langle X_A \rangle \simeq \langle X_p \rangle - D_p \log A$$



 $\langle \log A \rangle$ 

$$\langle \ln A \rangle_E = \frac{\sum_A \phi_A(E) \ln A}{\sum_A \phi_A(E)}$$



Measurements of composition evolution.

## Electromagnetic Showers

versus

## Hadronic Showers

## Electromagnetic Shower

$$\psi(u)$$
 Pair production  
 $E_{e^+} = E_{\gamma} u$ 
 $\psi(u)$  Pair production  
 $E_{\gamma} = E_e v$ 
 $\varphi(v)$  Bremsstrahlung  
Vertices : theoretically understood  
energy scaling.  
 $\frac{dE}{dX}\Big|_{\text{ionization}} \simeq 2.2 \text{ g/cm}^2$ 

Radiation Length Pair production length Energy independent !

$$\frac{1}{dX}\Big|_{\text{ionization}} \simeq 2.2 \text{ g/cm}$$
$$\lambda_{\text{rad}} \simeq 37 \text{ g/cm}^2$$
$$\lambda(\gamma \to e^+ e^-) \simeq \frac{9}{7} \lambda_{\text{rad}}$$

## Proton Shower

Vertices : theoretically not understood

(and energy dependent)





Elongation rate =  $85 (g/cm^2)/decade$ 



Elongation Rate For protons



# Different approaches to the [composition] vs [hadronic interaction modeling] problem.

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- a. Obtain data at accelerators (LHC ! + others)
- b. Develop a sound theoretical framework to extrapolate to higher energy (beyond accelerators)
- c. Interpret the CR data

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Astrophysical composition measurements:

- \* Magnetic deviations
- \* Energy losses imprints on the energy spectrum
- \* Acceleration Mechanism/Environment well understood [?!]

Use knowledge of composition to constrain hadronic interactions

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#### 3. "Bootstrap Route" :

- \* Self consistency
- \* Different masses "quasi-resolved"

The "astrophysics route"

Proton interpretation for the UHECR ?? ....

 $\langle \textit{X}_{max} \rangle$  and RMS



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# AUGER result on Correlations with the VCV AGN catalogue November 2007. Update september 2010.



Significant dilution [but not disappearance] of the statistical significance

14 ev. 8 coincid. (2.9)
13 ev. 9 coincid. (2.7)
42 ev. 12 coincid. (8.8)



$$\delta\theta = (\delta\theta)_{\text{Milky Way}} + (\delta\theta)_{\text{Intergalactic}} + (\delta\theta)_{\text{Source Envelope}}$$
Deviation in GALACTIC Magnetic Field
$$\delta \simeq 2.7^{\circ} \frac{60 \text{ EeV}}{E/Z} \left| \int_{0}^{D} \left( \frac{\mathrm{dx}}{\mathrm{kpc}} \times \frac{\mathrm{B}}{3 \,\mu\mathrm{G}} \right) \right|$$

A deviation of few degrees for Particles with E ~  $6 * 10^{19} \text{ eV}$ implies a small charge Z < 2(3 ?)



Angular distance from Cen A (degrees)

#### PDG – Totem parametrizations + Glauber-Matthiae (1970) to estimate p-nucleus cross sections



$$E_{0} \simeq 10^{19.547} \text{ eV}$$

$$\sigma_{pp}^{\text{inel}} \simeq 124 \text{ mbarn}$$

$$\lambda_{p\text{Air}} \simeq 39.7 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$

$$\sigma_{pp}^{\text{inel}} \simeq 225 \text{ mbarn}$$

$$\sigma_{pp}^{\text{inel}} \simeq 340 \text{ mbarn}$$

$$\lambda_{p\text{Air}} \simeq 30 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$

$$\lambda_{p\text{Air}} \simeq 20 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$





#### Xmax distributions !





 $E = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$ 



Logarithmic scale

 $E = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$ 



Logarithmic scale

 $E = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$ 

#### Total Proton-Proton Cross Section at $s^{1/2} = 30$ TeV

R. M. Baltrusaitis, G. L. Cassiday, J. W. Elbert, P. R Gerhardy, S. Ko, E. C. Loh, Y. Mizumoto, P. Sokolsky, and D. Steck University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112 (Received 16 January 1984)

We have measured the proton-air inelastic cross section at  $s^{1/2} = 30$  TeV by observing the distribution of extensive-air-shower maxima as a function of atmospheric depth. This distribution has an exponential tail whose slope is  $\lambda = 72 \pm 9$  g cm<sup>-2</sup> which implies that  $\sigma_{p-air}^{inel} = 530 \pm 66$  mb. Using Glauber theory and assuming that the elastic-scattering slope parameter b is proportional to  $\sigma_{pp}^{tot}$ , we infer a value of  $\sigma_{pp}^{tot} = 120 \pm 15$  mb which lies between a logs and a log<sup>2</sup>s extrapolation of the total pp cross section as measured at lower energies.



FIG. 5. Distribution of depth of maxima  $X_{\text{max}}$  for data whose fitting errors are estimated to be  $\delta x < 125 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ . The slope of the exponential tail is  $\lambda = 73 \pm 9 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ .

## Pioneering work of Fly's Eye

The (p-air) "Pierre" cross section

#### Measurement of the p-Air Interaction Length:

$$X_{\max} = X_0 + Y$$

Position 1<sup>st</sup> interaction Shower Development

$$F(X_{\text{max}}) \equiv \frac{dN_{\text{shower}}}{dX_{\text{max}}}$$
$$G(Y) \equiv \frac{dN_{\text{shower}}}{dY}$$

$$F(X_{\max}) = \int_0^\infty dY \int_0^\infty dX_0 \ G(Y) \ \frac{e^{-X_0/\lambda_p}}{\lambda_p} \ \delta[X_{\max} - (X_0 + Y)]$$
$$= \frac{e^{-X_{\max}/\lambda_p}}{\lambda_p} \left[ \int_0^{X_{\max}} dY \ G(Y) \ e^{Y/\lambda_p} \right]$$

 $X_{\max} \to \infty$ 



Asymptotically: Exponential Distribution

Slope = Interaction Length

$$G(X) = F(X) + \lambda_p \ \frac{dF}{dX}$$

$$\Lambda(X) \equiv -\left[\frac{1}{F(X)} \frac{dF(X)}{dX}\right]^{-1} = \lambda_p \left(1 - \frac{G(X)}{F(X)}\right)^{-1}$$

"Local slope" (directly measurable)

Interaction Length

$$X_{\max} \to \infty$$
  
 $\Lambda(X_{\max}) \to \lambda_p$ 

 $G(X)/F(X) \to 0$ 

#### Montecarlo calculation Using Sibyll [+PDG cross sections + original Glauber]



Slow convergence of slope the interaction Length:



#### "Toy Models" (Analytic representation of particle spectra):

Model A : Hard spectra, more penetrating showers Model B : Soft spectra, less penetrating showers



 $z = E_{\pi}/E_0$ 

#### Xmax Distributions:



Compare with Auger data. Normalization: equal area.



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Normalization: same # of events for:  $X_{\text{max}} \ge 800 \text{ g/cm}^2$ 



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 $X_{\rm max} \ge 800 \ {\rm g/cm}^2$ 



Tentative conclusions:

- A very soft model Like "model B" is EXCLUDED by the data !
- A Model like "Sibyll" (moderate softening with increasing energy). allows/needs only a small addition of helium + (Z>2 nuclei)

 Harder spectra require larger additional component of heavier nuclei. Very attractive line of study: Extension of this type of analysis to lower and higher energies



## PARTICLE PHYSICS



## COSMIC RAYS ASTROPHYSICS

#### (more than) a dream : closing the circle!

## PARTICLE PHYSICS



## COSMIC RAYS ASTROPHYSICS

With UHECR one studies at the same time

"Gigantic Astrophysical Beasts" Millions of light years away  $10^{+24}$  cm Length scale



Microscopic Partonic constituents of matter  $10^{-15}$  cm Length scale

Exciting

ifficult