



## Ultra-high energy cosmic rays in the multi messenger era

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# 1- Setting the stage

- sources
- acceleration
- propagation from sources to Earth
- extensive air showers

# 2- Techniques

- surface, fluorescence, radio detectors
- from old to modern Observatories
- the experimental observables
- the energy spectrum

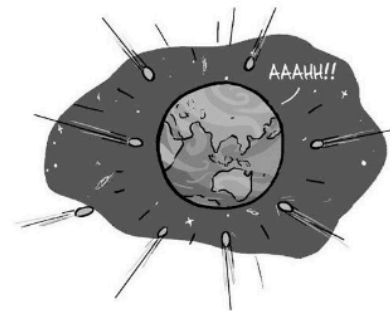
# 3- What have we learnt?

- mass composition
- anisotropy of UHECRs
- multi-messengers
- the future of the field



## Who Is Shooting Superfast Particles at the Earth?

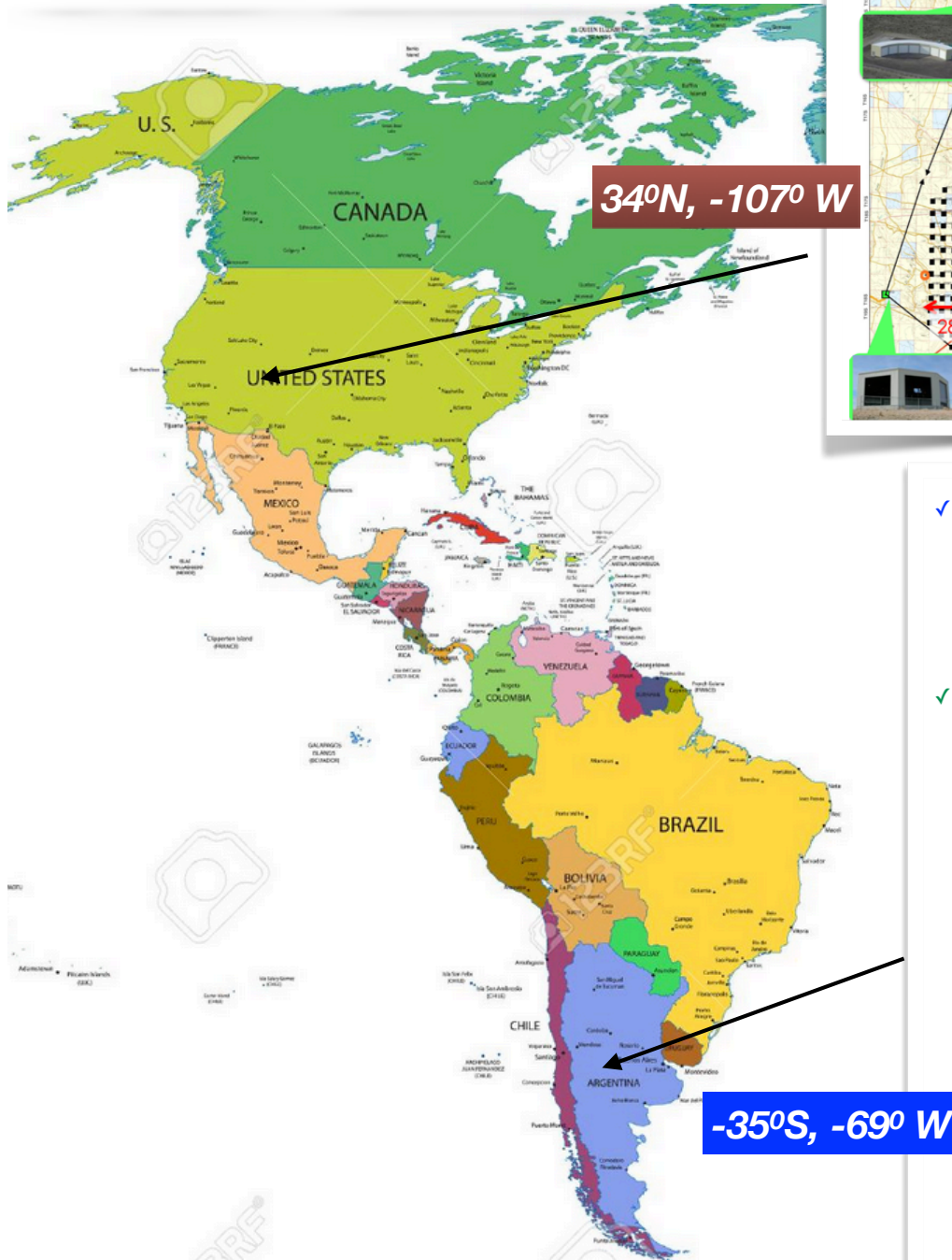
In Which You Learn That Space Is Full of Tiny Bullets



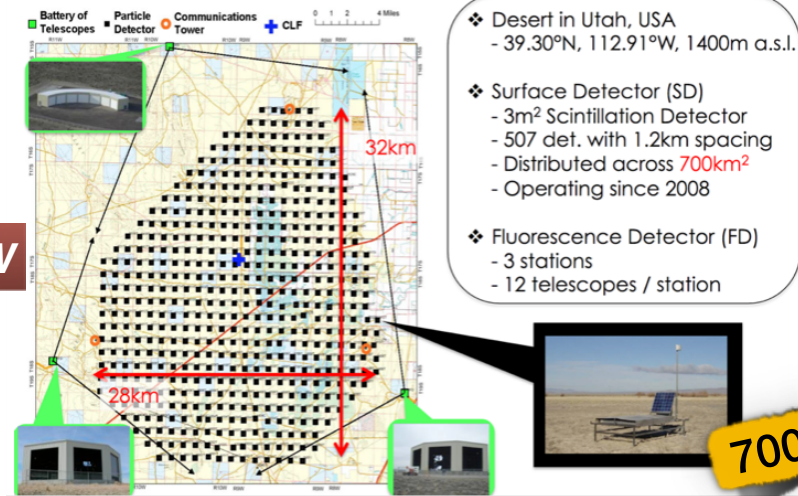
[J.Cham, D.Whiteison]



# UHECR detectors



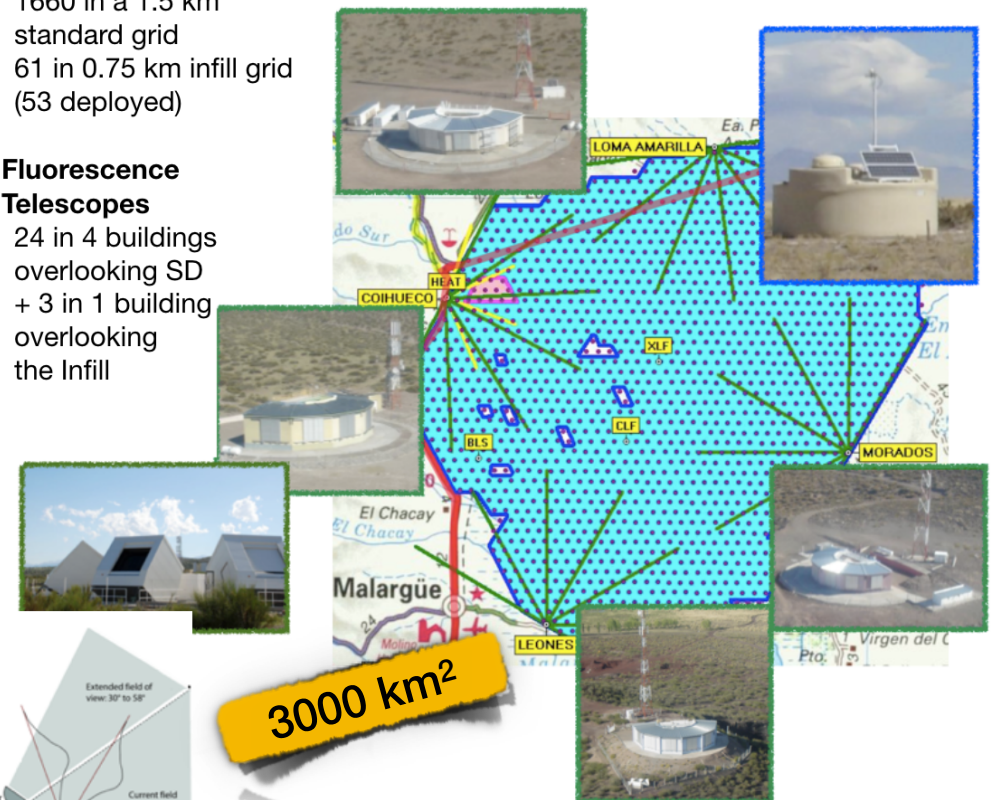
# Telescope Array Experiment



not in scale !

## Pierre Auger Observatory

- ✓ **Water-Cherenkov tanks**
  - 1660 in a 1.5 km standard grid
  - 61 in 0.75 km infill grid (53 deployed)
- ✓ **Fluorescence Telescopes**
  - 24 in 4 buildings overlooking SD
  - + 3 in 1 building overlooking the Infill



## *Anisotropies*





# Anisotropy measurements

## Large Scale Anisotropies

- Galactic : diffusion and escape of GCRs
- Transition from Galactic to Extra-Galactic
- extra-Galactic: small dipole due to our motion

## Small scale anisotropies

- high rigidity, nearby sources
- clustering of events from the same source
- correlation with a population of sources

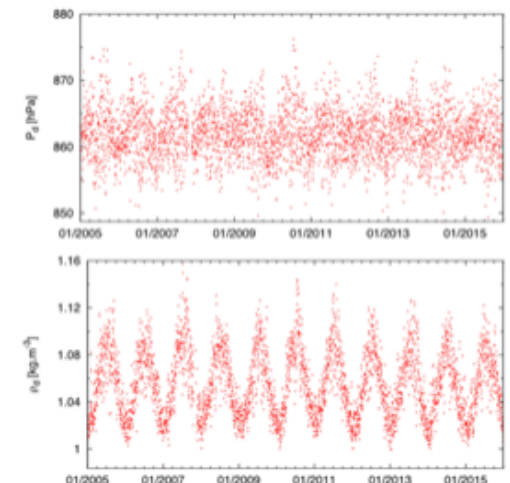
**Directional exposure**  $\mu(\alpha, \delta; E) = \int_{\Delta t} dt A_0 \cos(\theta(\alpha, \delta, t)) \times \epsilon(E, \tilde{\mathbf{n}}(\alpha, \delta, t), t)$

**Challenge:** real conditions (not in lab !)

- uniform exposure in right ascension (thanks to Earth rotation) but not in declination; the FOV is limited by the geographical position, zenith angle dependence of showers and reconstruction
- tiny effect: amplitudes down to  $10^{-4}$ - $10^{-3}$

## Mandatory to:

- ➔ collect a large amount of events
- ➔ account for systematic uncertainties due to
  - **Exposure:** <0.6% amplitude due to the non constant number of elementary cells
  - **Atmospheric effects:** spurious daily and seasonal variations of P and  $\rho$
  - **Geomagnetic effects:** ~0.7% modulation in  $\varphi$
  - **Tilt of the array:** ~0.2° SE
- ➔ probe that the directional exposure  $\mu$  of the observatory is accurate enough



# Large Scale Anisotropy

Rayleigh formalism

$$a_{\alpha,k} = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \cos k\alpha_i, \quad b_{\alpha,k} = \frac{2}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \sin k\alpha_i$$

**Amplitude**

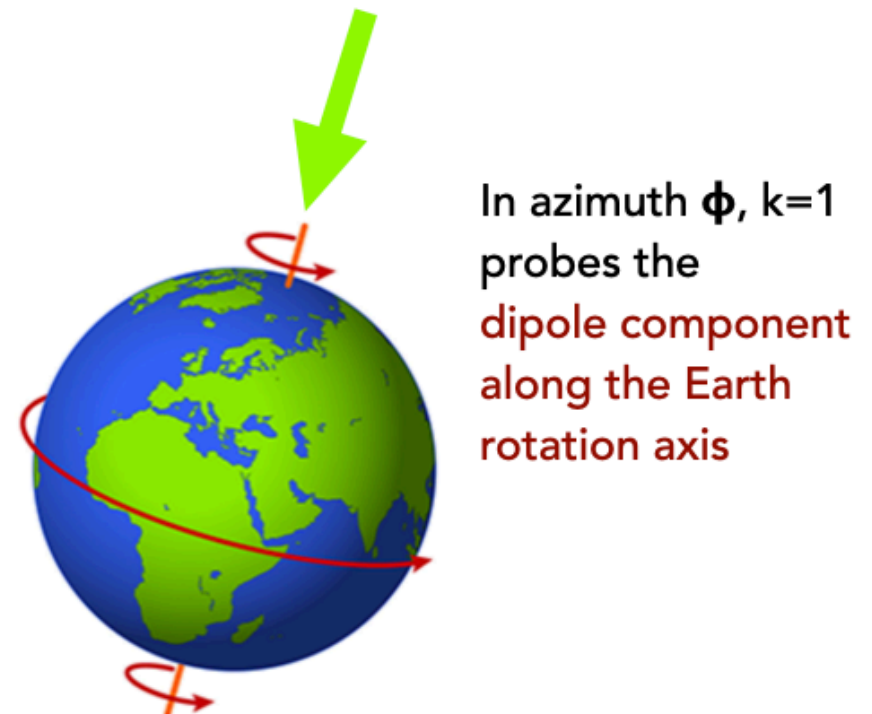
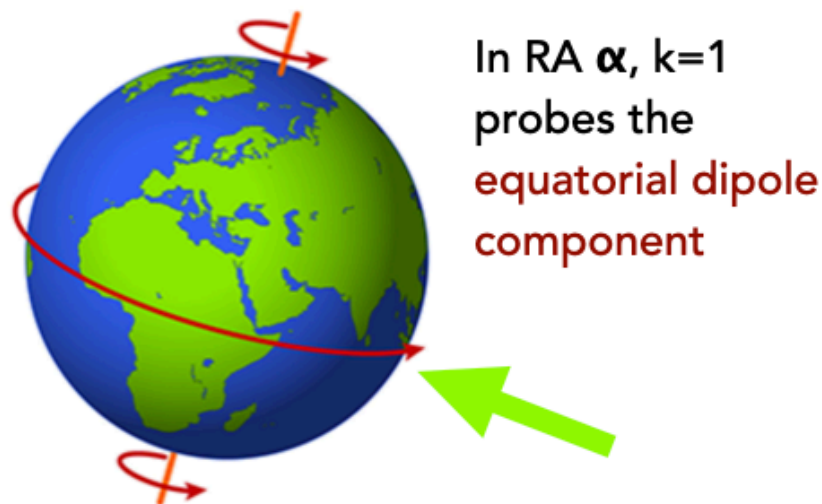
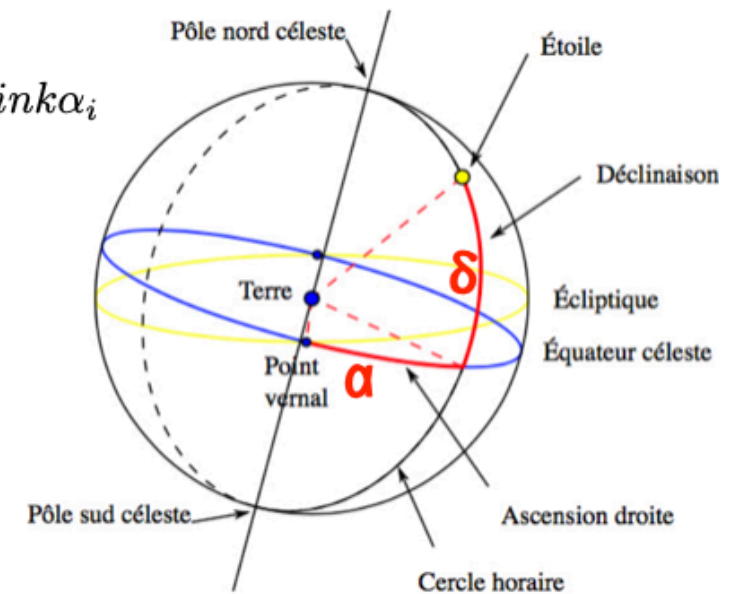
$$r_{\alpha,k} = \sqrt{a_{\alpha,k}^2 + b_{\alpha,k}^2}$$

**Phase**

$$\Phi_{\alpha,k} = \frac{1}{k} \arctan \frac{b_{\alpha,k}}{a_{\alpha,k}}$$

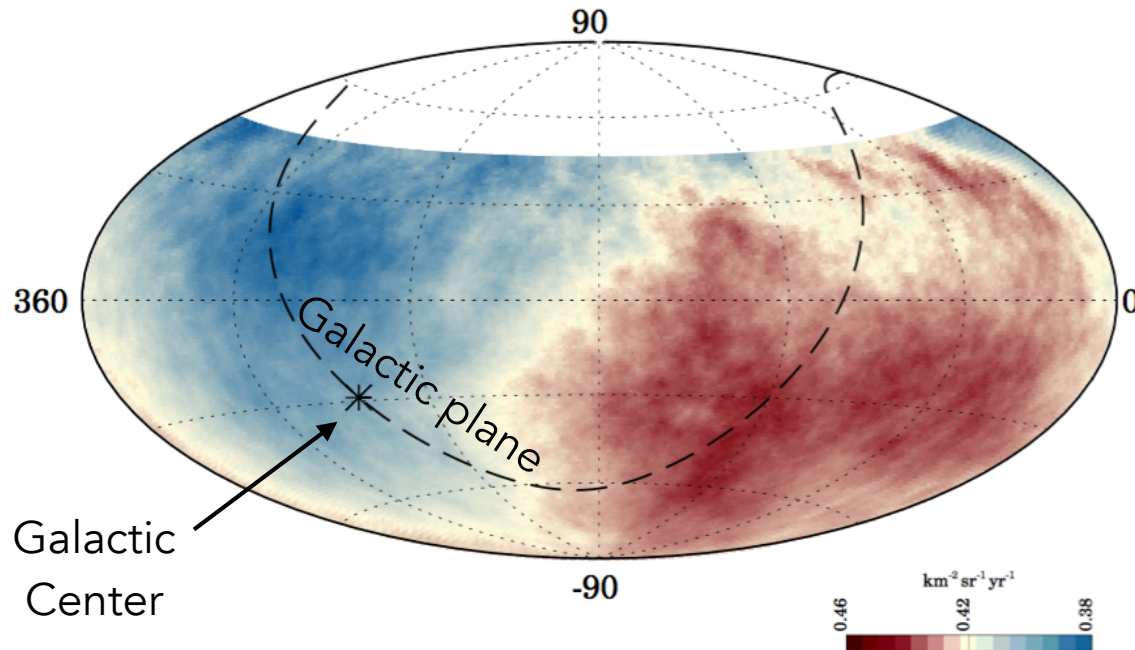
k=1 dipolar modulation

k=2 quadrupole modulation



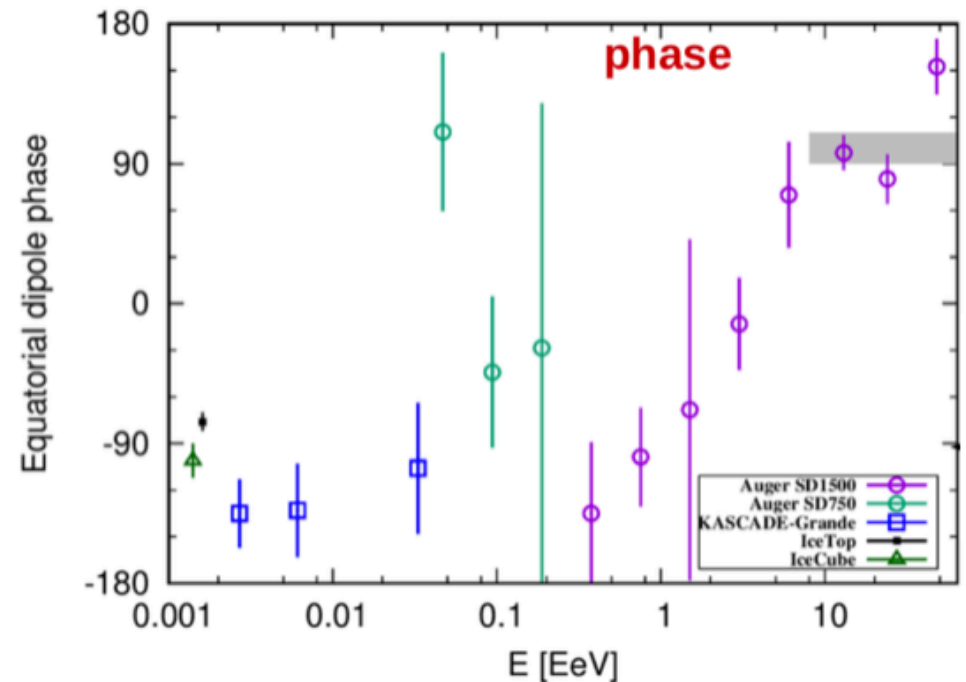
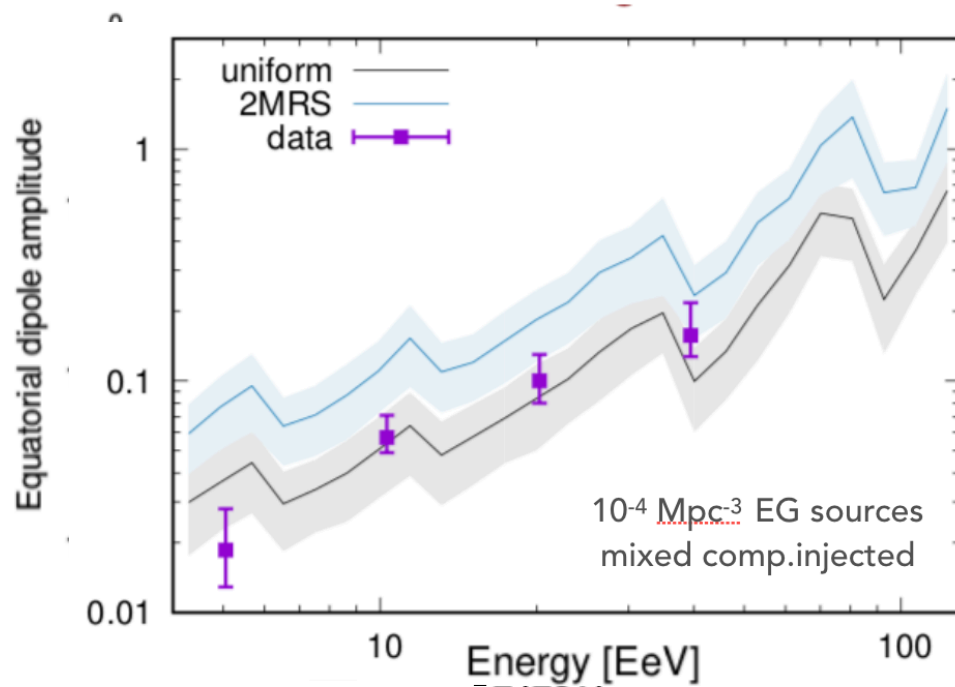


# Large Scale Anisotropy - Auger



- ➔ exposure  $\sim 110000 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr yr}$
- ➔ **OBSERVATION ( $>5\sigma$ ): 3D dipole above 8 EeV at  $(\alpha, \delta) = (98^\circ, -25^\circ)$ :  $(6.6^{+1.2}_{-0.8}) \%$**
- ➔ the UHECRs are extra-galactic above 8 EeV, while predominantly Galactic below few EeV

Auger Coll., *Science* 357 (2017) 1266; *ApJ*. 891 (2020) 142;  
R. De Almeida, *PoS(ICRC2021)* 335



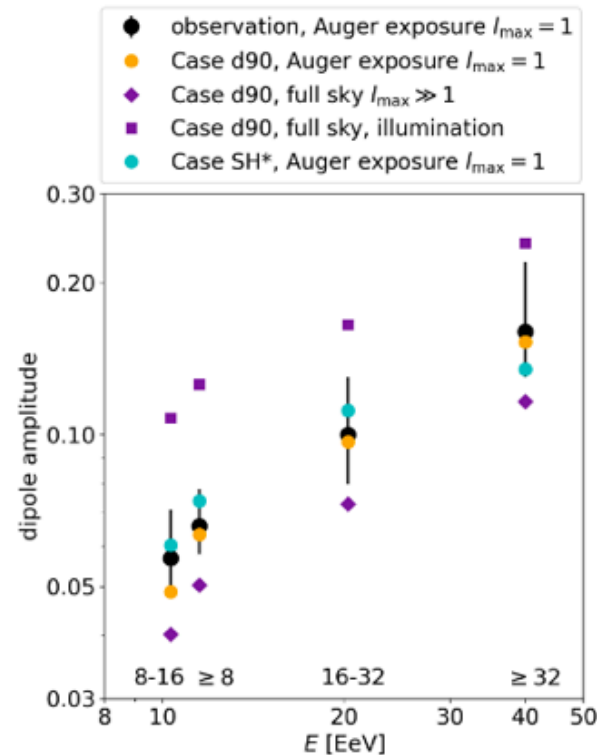
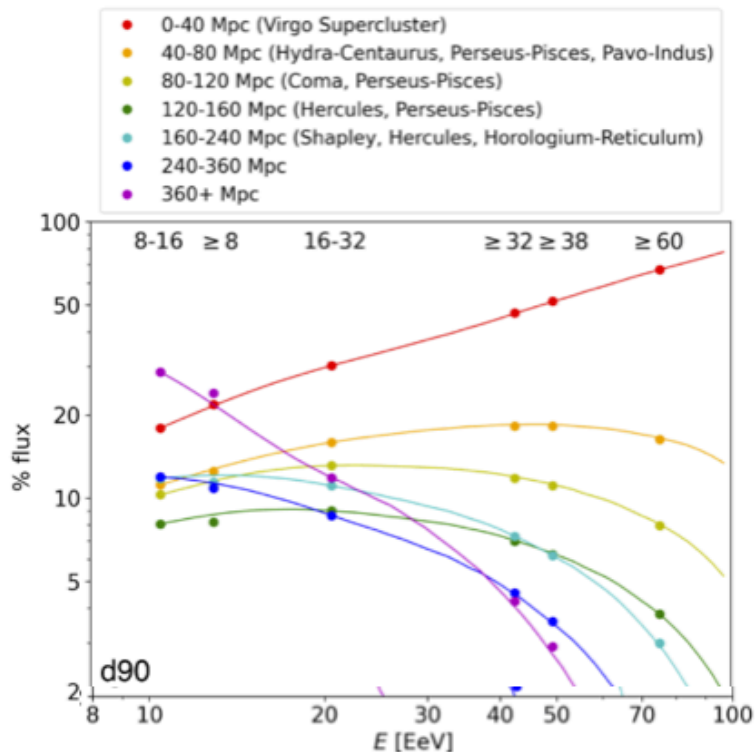
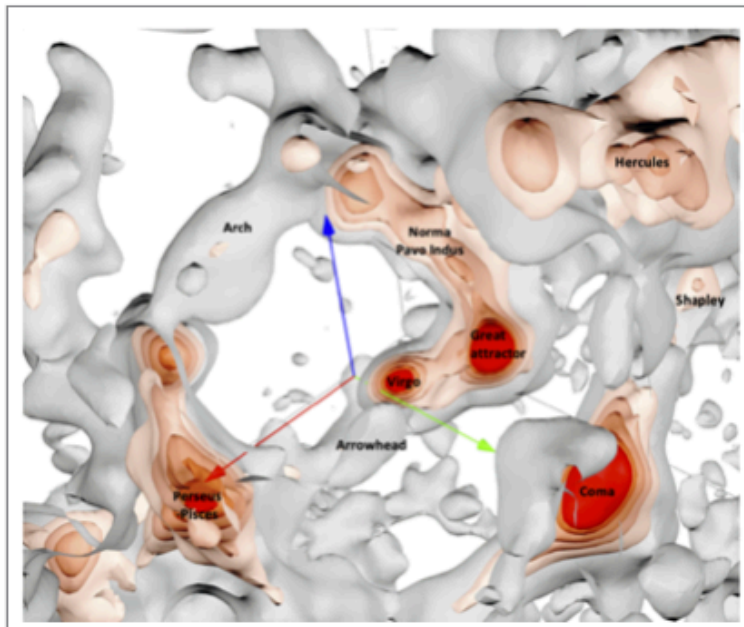
# Large Scale Anisotropy - Auger

Complex interplay of

- Mass composition
- Source distributions
- Magnetic fields deflections

Attenuation taken into account: a contribution from distance  $z$  is weighted in its contribution to the observed spectrum

$$\exp[-\ln(10) p(z, d_{\text{diff}})/d_{90}(A, E)]$$

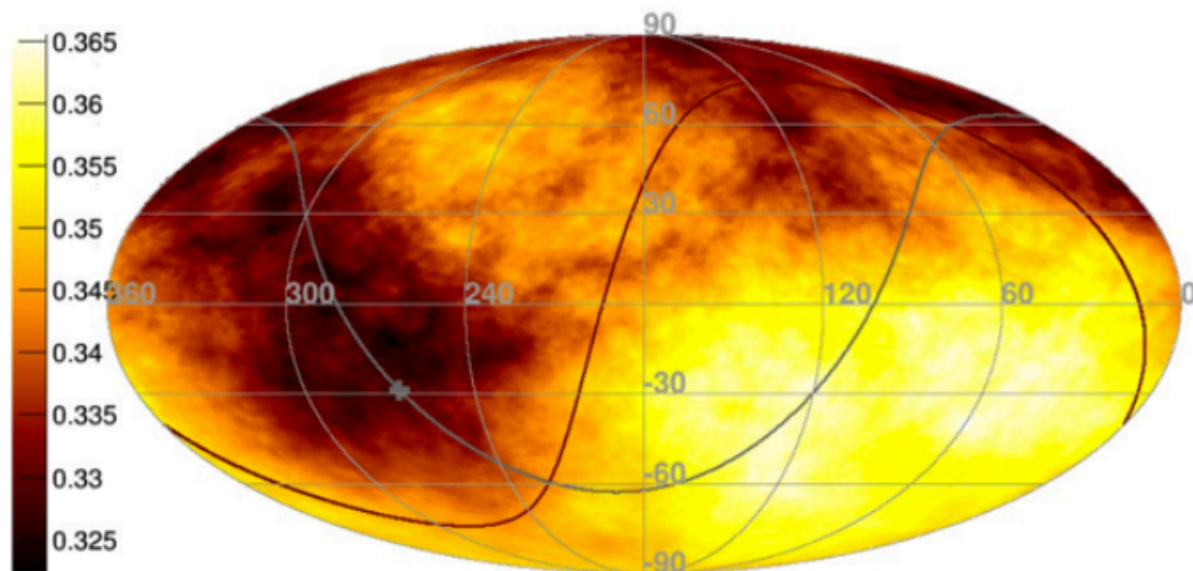


Not consistent with pure protons  $>8$  EeV: require mixed composition (unless dipole not due to LSS)

*C.Ding et al, ApJ913 (2021) L13*



$\Phi(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 8.86/10 \text{ EeV}) [\text{km}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}]$  - Equatorial coordinates -  $R = 45^\circ$

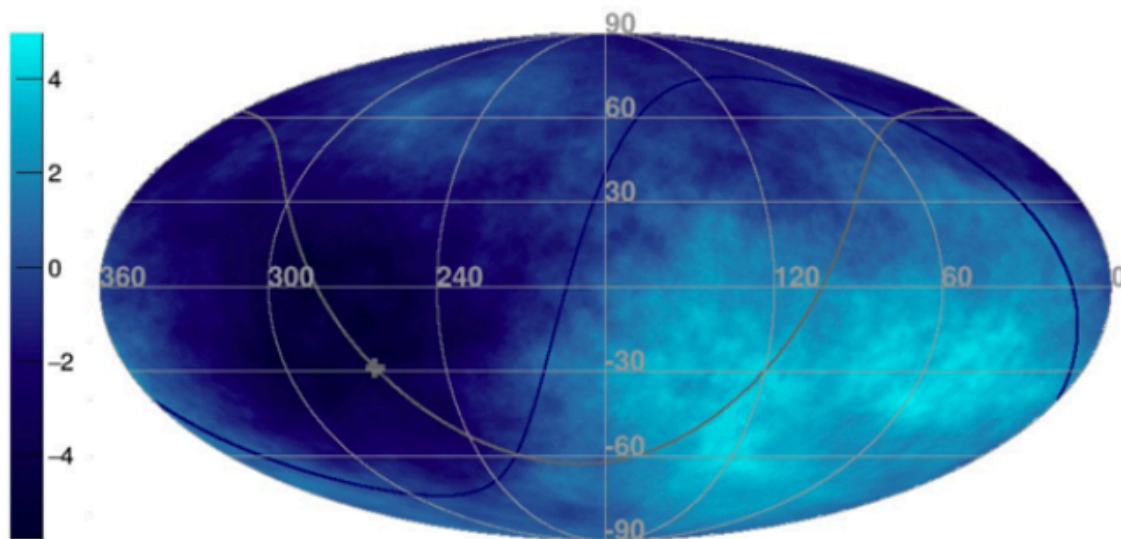


Flux

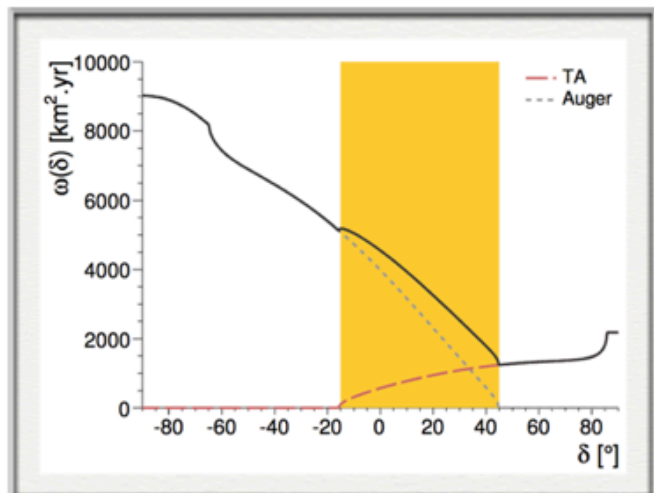
## Full sky search for LSA

- scatter plots of arrival directions immediately interpretable
- equal sensitivity anywhere in the sky
- upper limits uniform over the sky
- no need for methods to re-weight individual exposures

Local  $\sigma(E_{\text{Auger/TA}} > 8.86/10 \text{ EeV})$  - Equatorial coordinates -  $R = 45^\circ$



Significance



# The UHE sky

*Search for excesses of UHECRs from the direction of specific objects from an astrophysical catalog*



CenA

**Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN)**

$\gamma$ -emitting AGNs from Fermi-LAT 2FHL catalog,

$$L_{\text{UHECR}} \sim L_{\gamma}(>10 \text{ GeV})$$



NGC4945

**Starburst Galaxies (SBG)**

from Fermi-LAT HCN survey,

$$L_{\text{UHECR}} \sim L_{\gamma}(1.4 \text{ GHz})$$

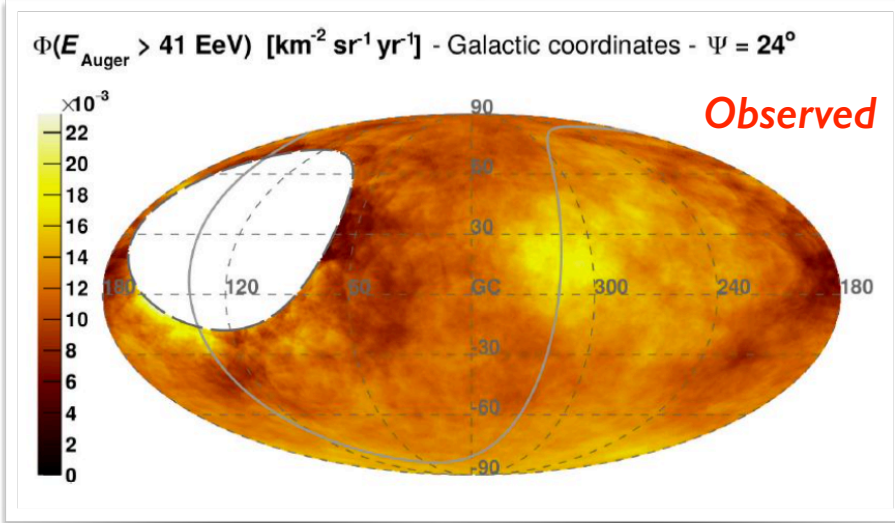
Sources at distances  $< 250 \text{ Mpc}$

**Assumption: UHECR flux  $\propto$  non-thermal photon flux**

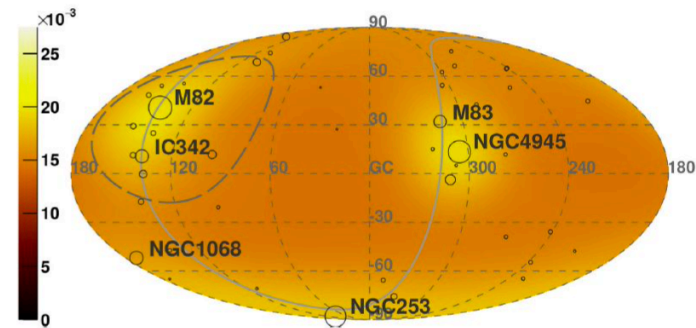
**Analysis: unbinned maximum-likelihood analysis vs isotropy**



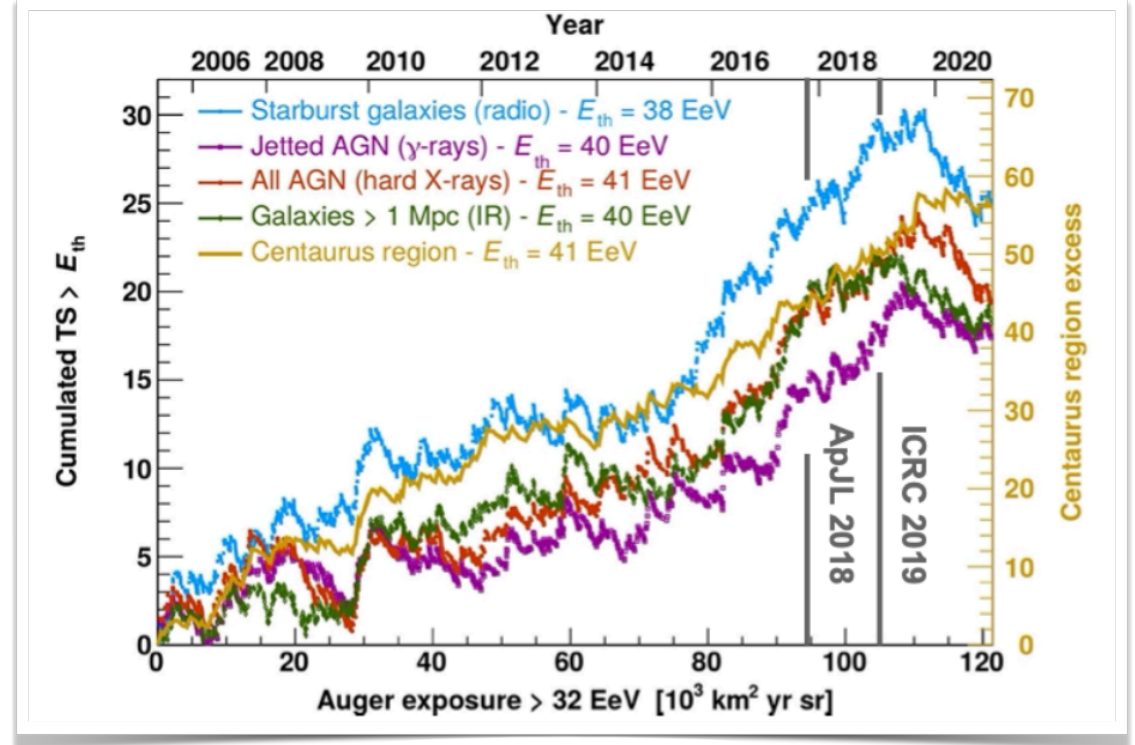
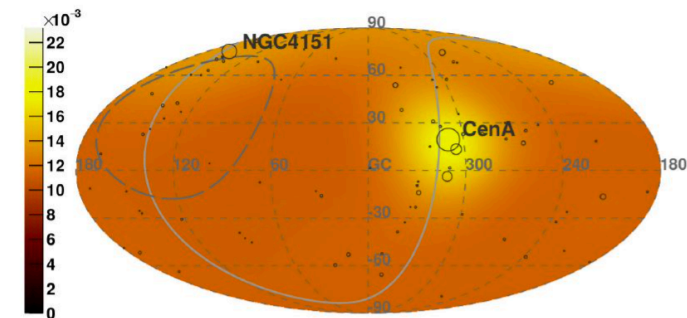
# The UHE sky - Auger



Starburst galaxies (radio) - expected  $\Phi(E_{\text{Auger}} > 38 \text{ EeV}) [\text{km}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}]$



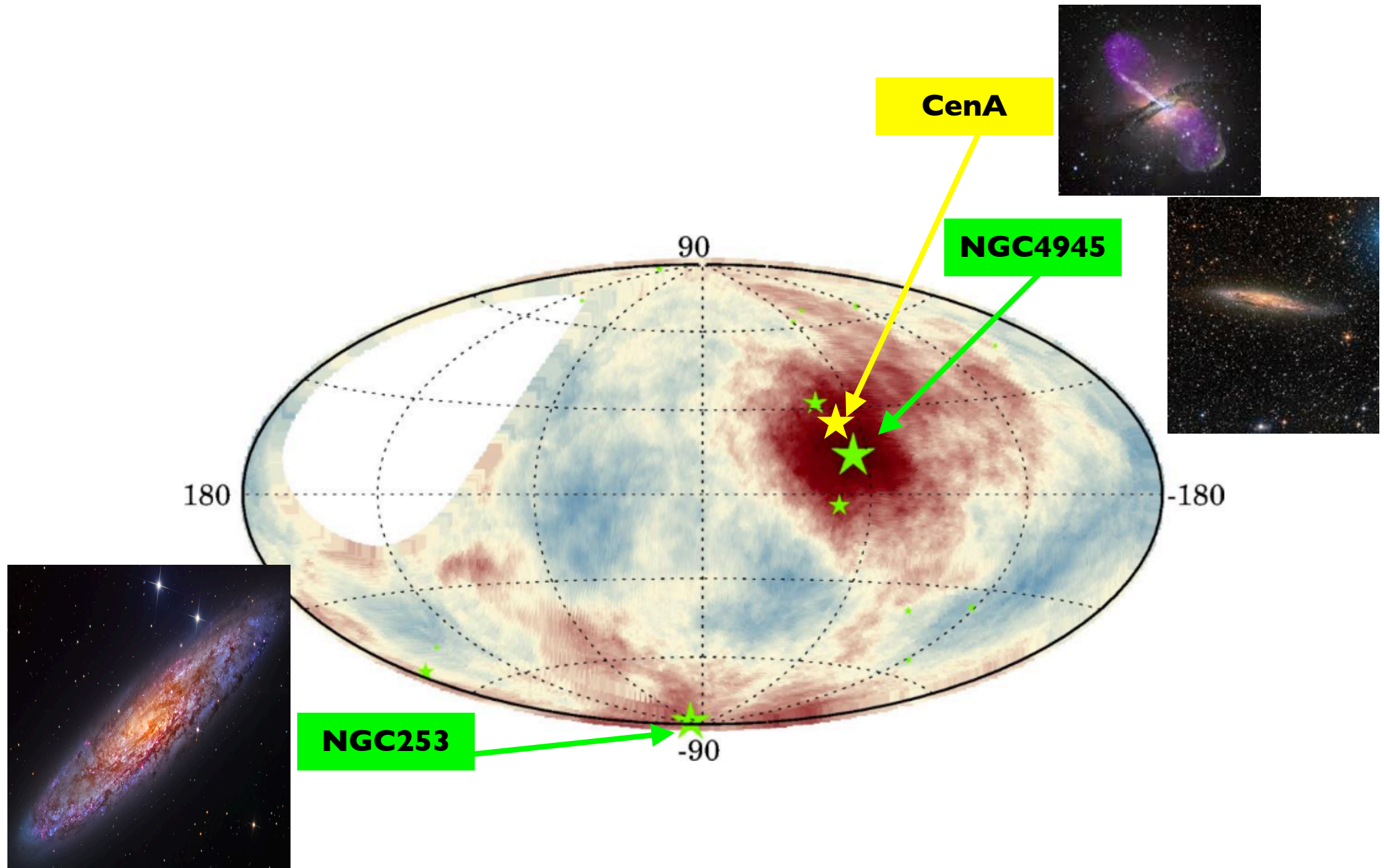
All AGN (hard X-rays) - expected  $\Phi(E_{\text{Auger}} > 41 \text{ EeV}) [\text{km}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}]$



| Catalog                       | $E_{\text{th}} [\text{EeV}]$ | $\Psi [\text{deg}]$ | $\alpha [\%]$   | TS   | Post-trial $p$ -value |                                |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| All galaxies (IR)             | 40                           | $24^{+16}_{-8}$     | $15^{+10}_{-6}$ | 18.2 | $6.7 \times 10^{-4}$  |                                |
| → Starbursts (radio)          | 38                           | $25^{+11}_{-7}$     | $9^{+6}_{-4}$   | 24.8 | $3.1 \times 10^{-5}$  | <b>4.0 <math>\sigma</math></b> |
| → All AGNs (X-rays)           | 41                           | $27^{+14}_{-9}$     | $8^{+5}_{-4}$   | 19.3 | $4.0 \times 10^{-4}$  | <b>3.1 <math>\sigma</math></b> |
| Jetted AGNs ( $\gamma$ -rays) | 40                           | $23^{+9}_{-8}$      | $6^{+4}_{-3}$   | 17.3 | $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  |                                |

*J. Biteau et al. (Auger Coll.,) PoS(ICRC2021) 307*

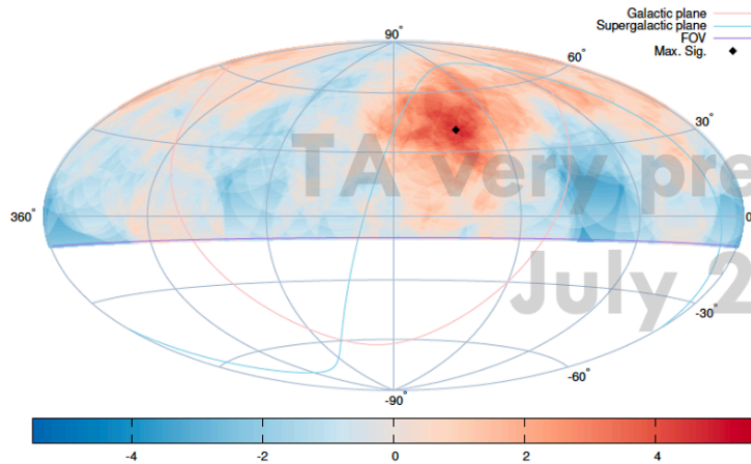
# The UHECR Sky





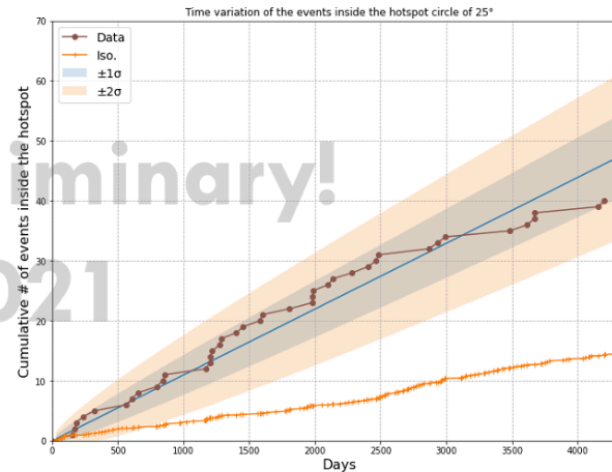
# The UHE sky - TA

## “Hot” spot



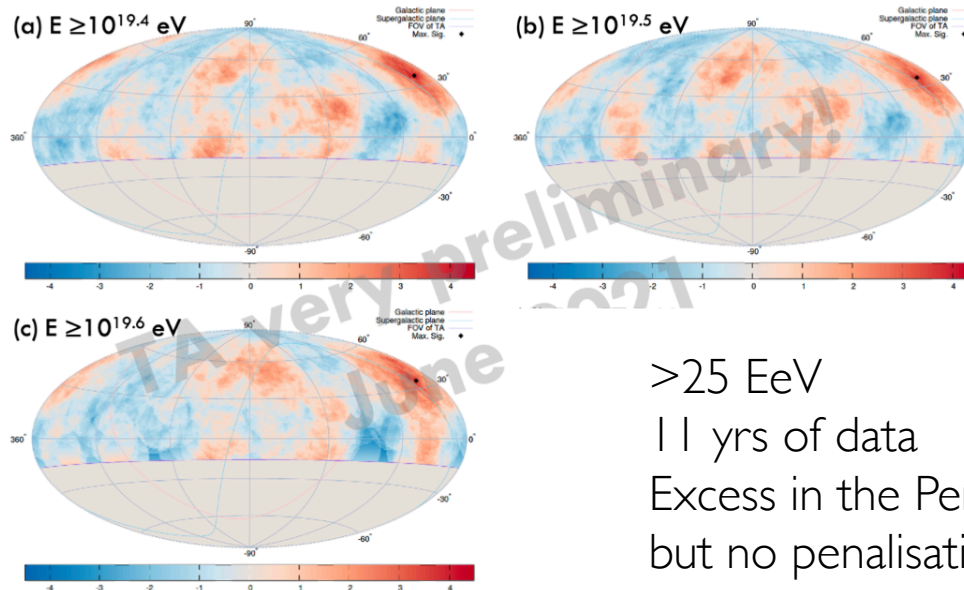
$E > 57 \text{ EeV}$ , 179 events across the sky (2021)

## Signal and expected bkgnd within 25 degrees



$3.2\sigma$  post-trial in  $25^\circ$  window  
Rate of increase constant  
within  $+1\sigma$

Kim et al. (TA Coll.,) PoS(ICRC2021) 328



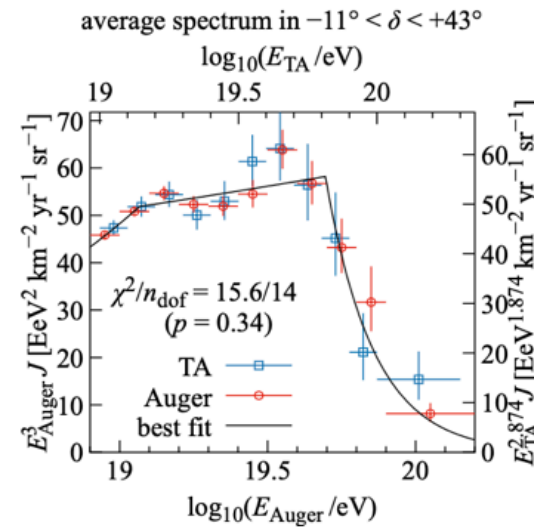
$>25 \text{ EeV}$

11 yrs of data

Excess in the Perseus-Pisces region,  $3.6\sigma$  post-trial  
but no penalisation for position in the sky

# The UHE sky - Auger&TA

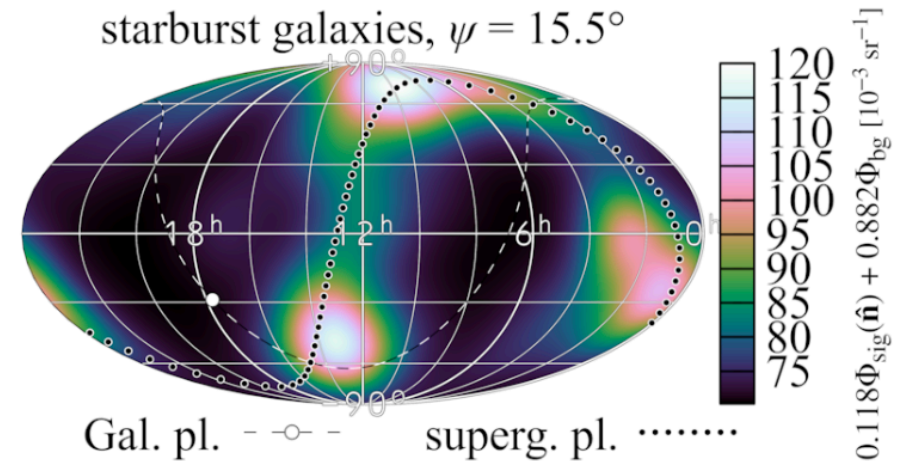
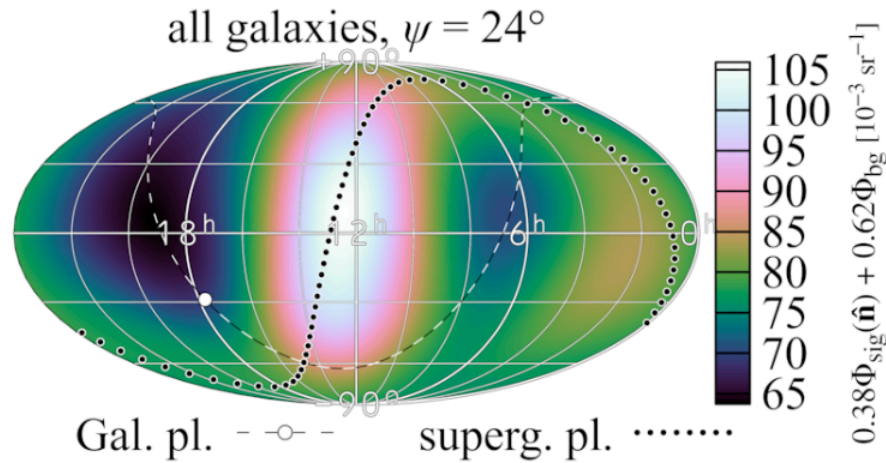
Auger ( $\vartheta < 80^\circ$ ): 120,000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr  
TA ( $\vartheta < 55^\circ$ ): 14,000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr



Energy scale  
conversion

$$\frac{E_{\text{Auger}}}{10 \text{ EeV}} = 0.857 \left( \frac{E_{\text{TA}}}{10 \text{ EeV}} \right)^{0.937}$$

$$\frac{E_{\text{TA}}}{10 \text{ EeV}} = 1.179 \left( \frac{E_{\text{Auger}}}{10 \text{ EeV}} \right)^{1.067}$$



| catalog            | $E_{\text{min}}$ (Auger) | $E_{\text{min}}$ (TA) | $\psi$                     | equiv. top-hat radius      | $f$                        | TS   | Post-trial significance       |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| all galaxies       | 41 EeV                   | 53 EeV                | $24^{+13}_{-8}^\circ$      | $38^{+21}_{-13}^\circ$     | $38\%^{+28\%}_{-14\%}$     | 16.2 | <b><math>2.9\sigma</math></b> |
| starburst galaxies | 38 EeV                   | 49 EeV                | $15.5^{+5.3}_{-3.2}^\circ$ | $24.6^{+8.4}_{-5.1}^\circ$ | $11.8\%^{+5.0\%}_{-3.1\%}$ | 27.2 | <b><math>4.2\sigma</math></b> |

A.di Matteo et al. (Auger-TA working group) PoS(ICRC2021) 308

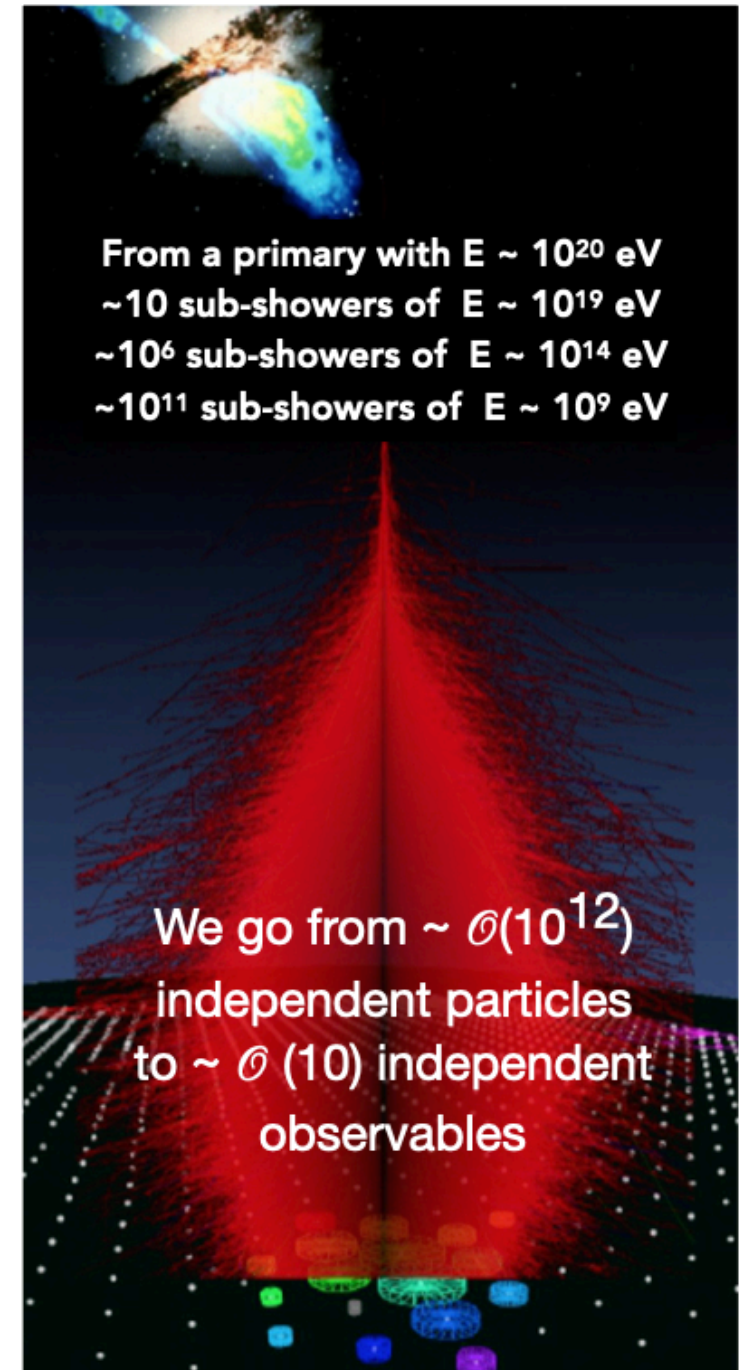
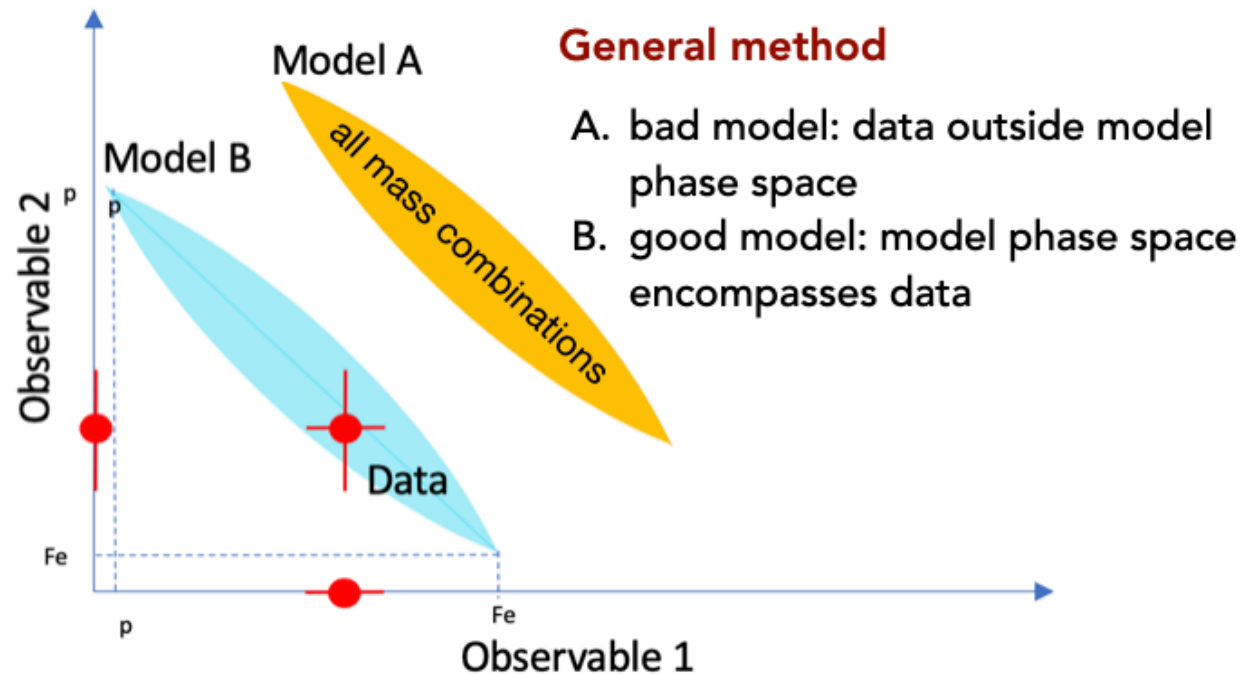


# The mass composition

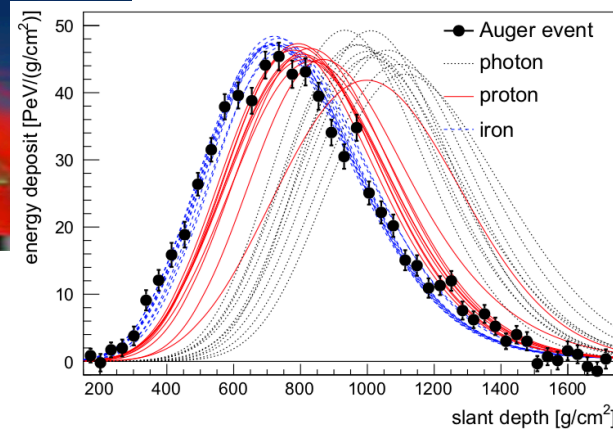
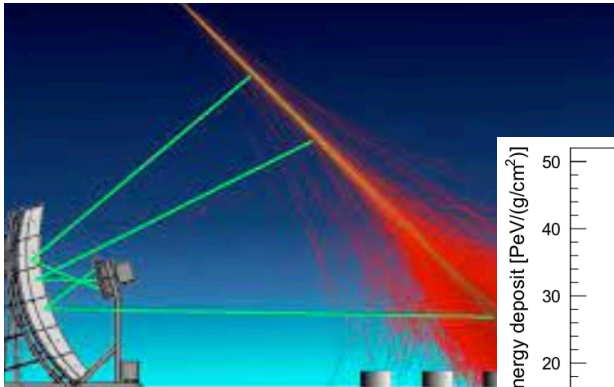
Air shower+hadronic interaction models are required to convert  $N_\mu$  and  $X_{\max}$  to  $A$

model uncertainty = maximum contribution to systematics

- simulation of different possibilities for the UHECR unknown composition
- check of the compatibility of data with the phase space allowed in a specific model



# The mass composition

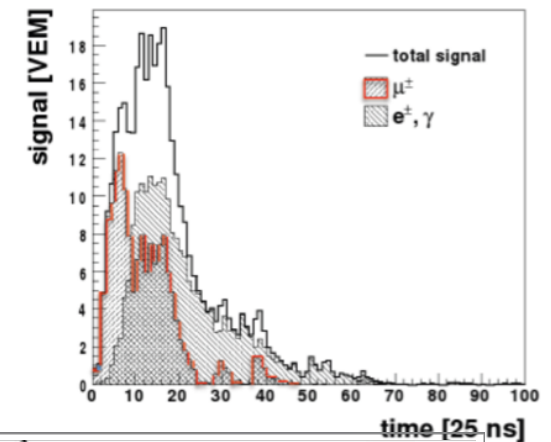
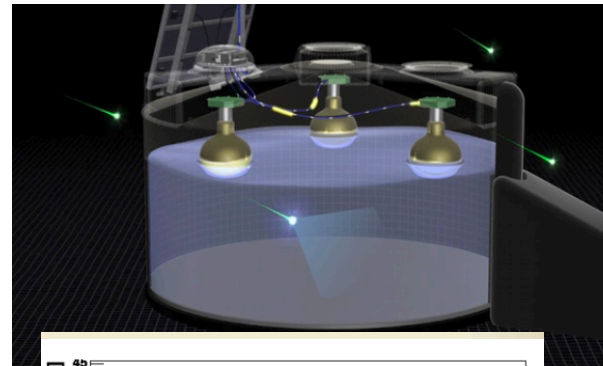


## Fluorescence telescopes

- ➔  $X_{\max}$  distributions
- ➔  $X_{\max}$  moments:  $\langle X_{\max} \rangle, \sigma(X_{\max})$
- ➔  $X_{\max}$  resolution from 25 to 15 g cm<sup>-2</sup> for increasing E
- ➔  $\sigma_{\text{sys}} \leq 10 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$
- ➔ Separation p/Fe  $\sim 100 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$

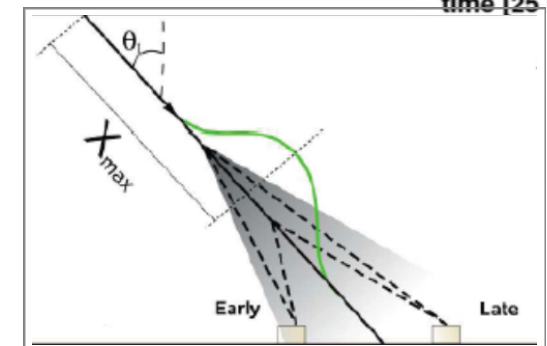
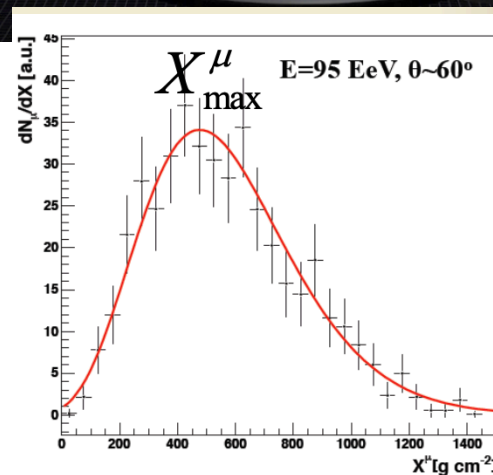
## Surface detectors

- ➔ no direct observation of  $X_{\max}$  possible
- ➔ time structure of SD signals
- ➔ muon number distributions (inclined events)

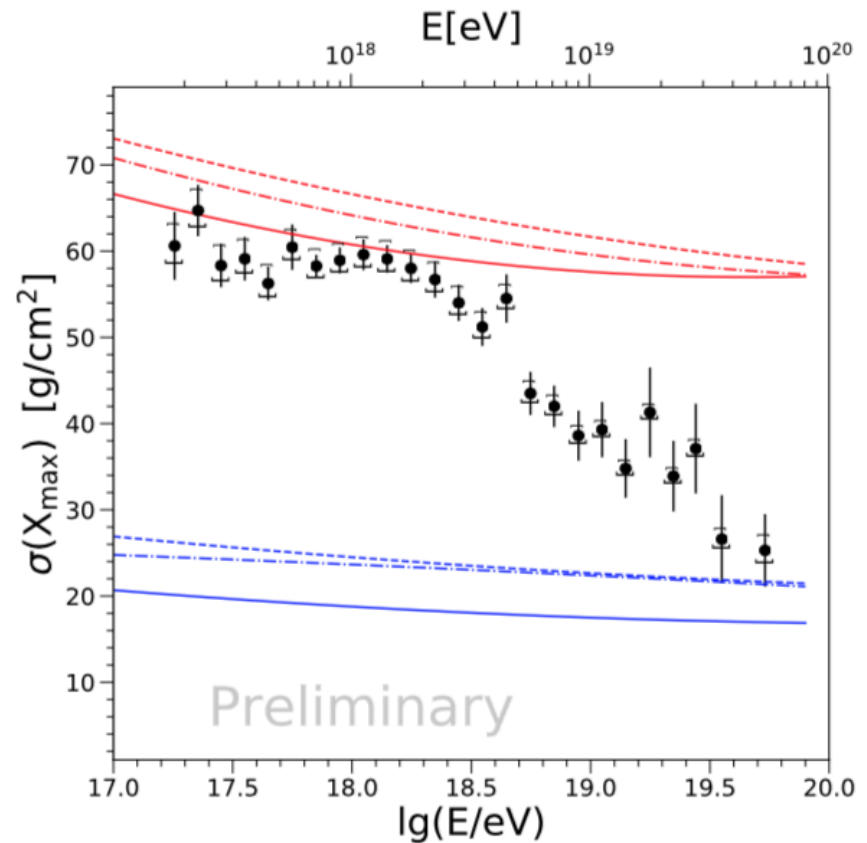
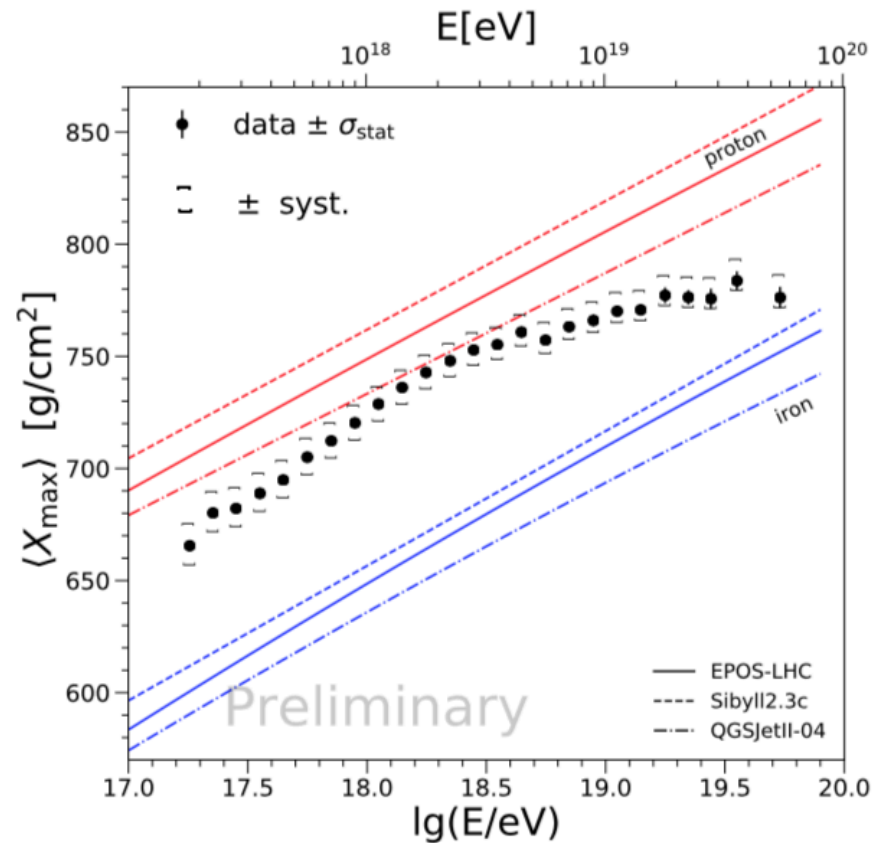


## Correlation studies SD-FD

- ➔ cross calibration
- ➔ S1000 -  $X_{\max}$
- ➔ use of Deep learning



# The mass composition from FD



$$\langle X_{\max} \rangle = \langle X_{\max} \rangle_p + f_E \langle \ln A \rangle$$

$$\sigma^2(X_{\max}) = \langle \sigma_{sh}^2 \rangle + f_E \sigma^2(\ln A)$$

$X_{\max}$  resolution

~25 g cm<sup>-2</sup> at 10<sup>17.8</sup> eV

~15 g cm<sup>-2</sup> for  $E > 10^{19}$  eV

$\sigma_{\text{sys}} \leq 10 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$

Lighter composition up to ~2 EeV, heavier above this energy

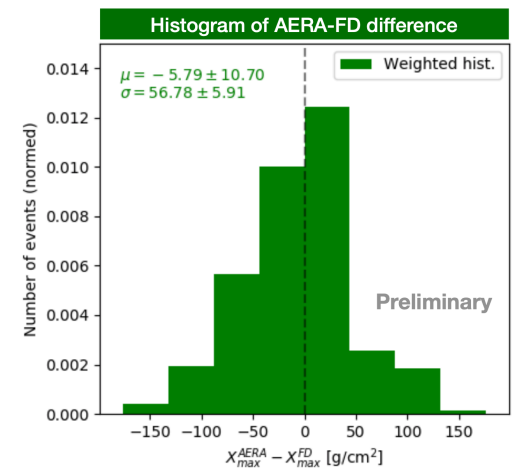
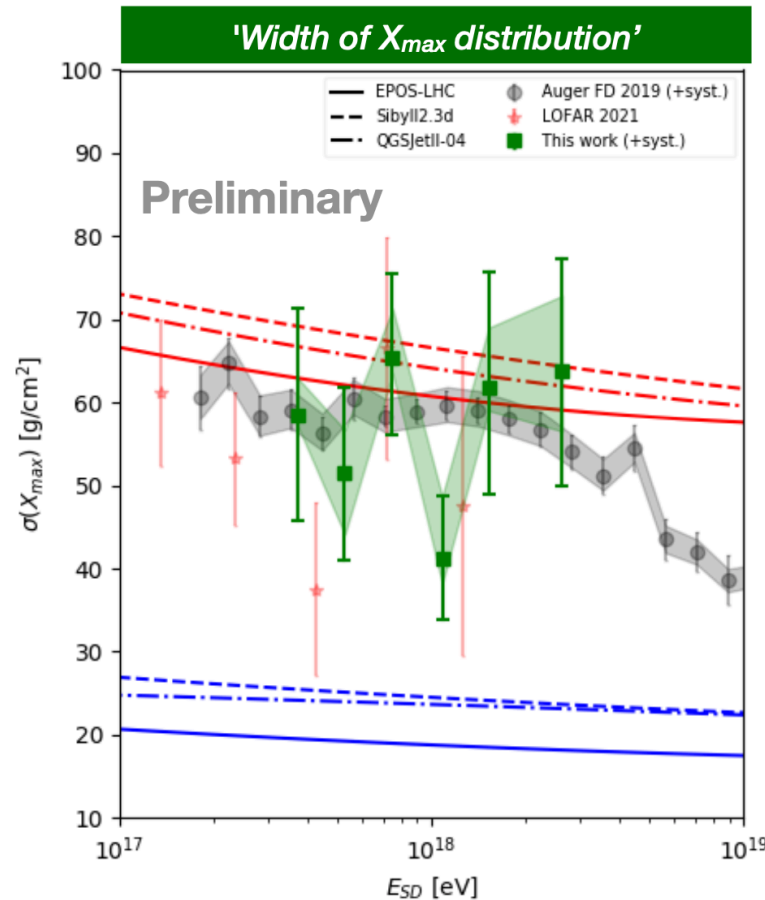
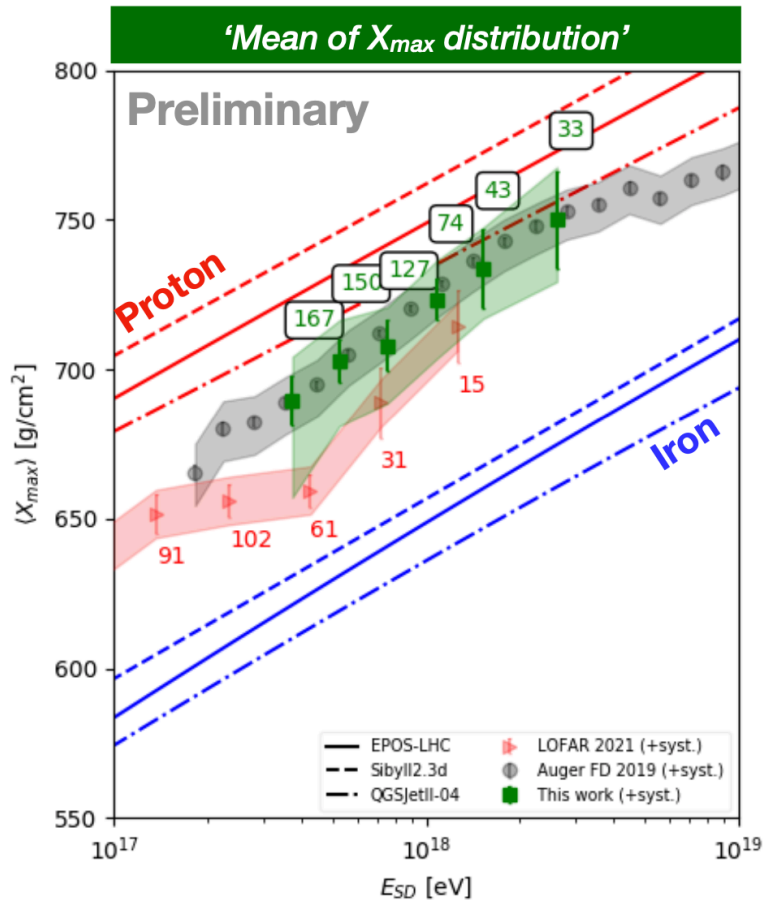
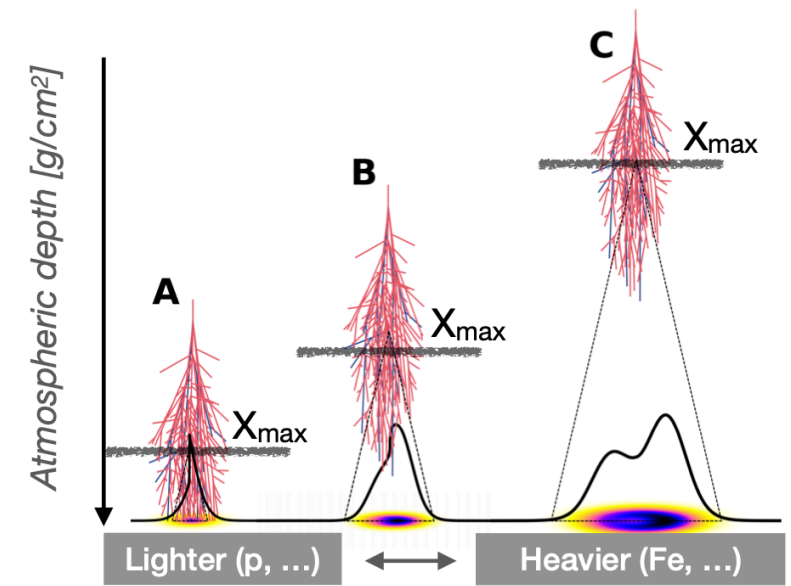
(80±1) g/cm<sup>2</sup>/decade up to ~ 2 EeV

(26±2) g/cm<sup>2</sup>/decade above ~ 2 EeV

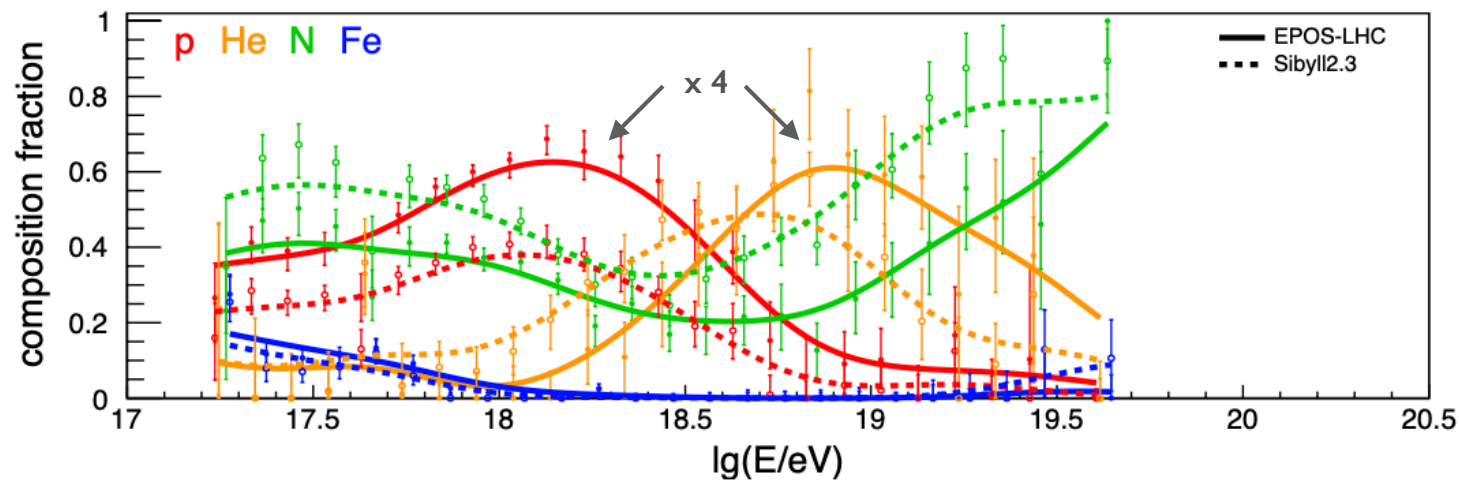
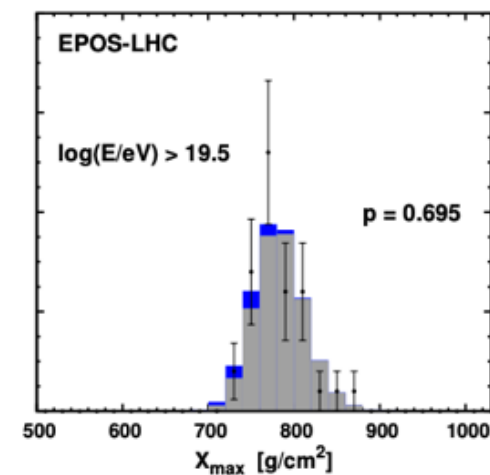
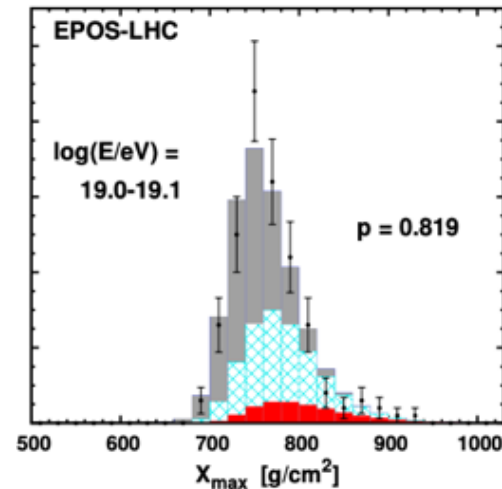
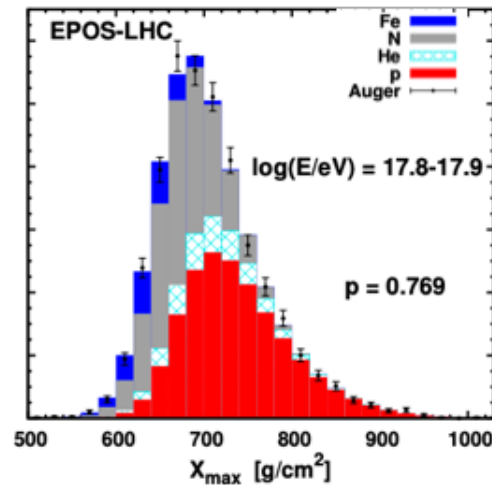


# Independent confirmation from radio

- AERA: 153 radio antennas, 27 km<sup>2</sup>
- general agreement with FD result
- independent measurement wrt FD: checks the consistency of the X<sub>max</sub> method and probes different shower physics
- 



# Heavy or light?

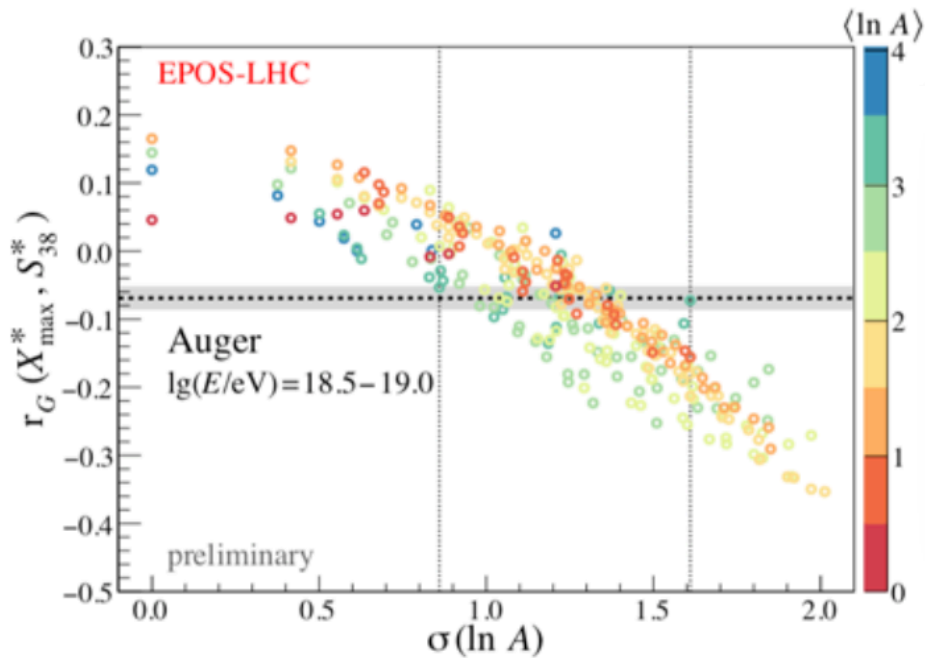
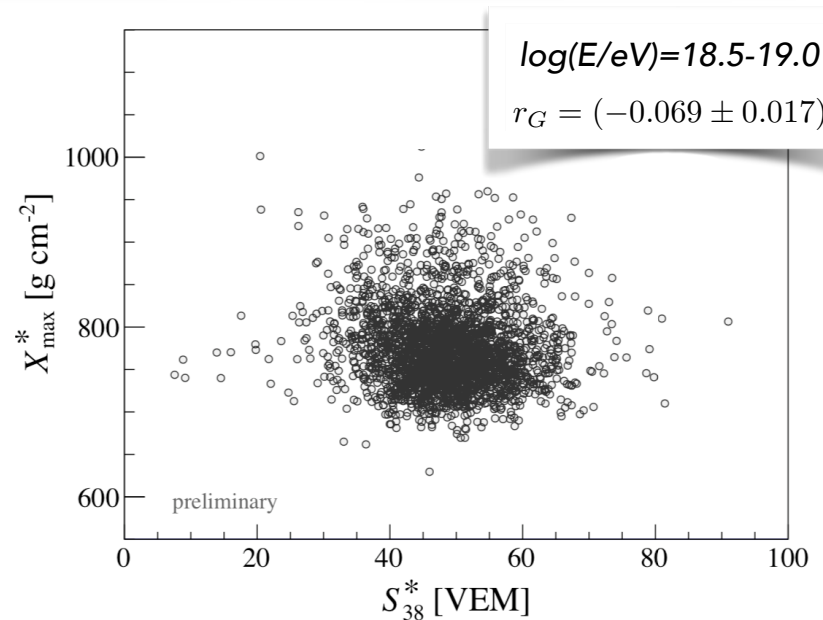
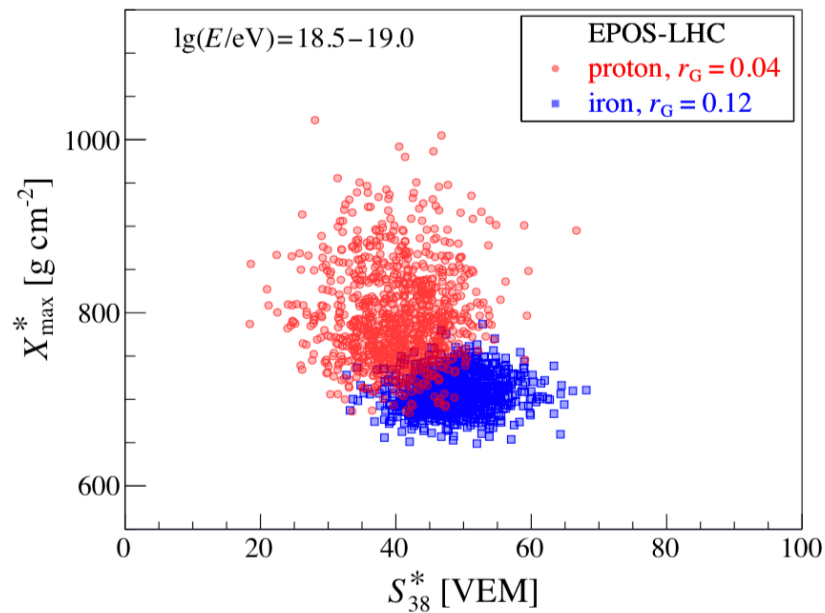


Mass fractions at Earth  
 from fitting templates of  
 4 mass groups to the  
 measured  $X_{\max}$   
 distributions

**Peter's cycle  
 or  
 Spallation ?**

Auger Coll., Phys.Rev.D90 (2014) 122005  
 Auger Coll., Phys.Rev.D96 (2017) 122003  
 MIAPP Review (2019)  
 + Auger Coll. ICRC2021

# Heavy or light? an independent measurement



*Data compatible with  $0.85 \leq \sigma(\ln A) \leq 1.60$*

*Around the ankle ( $10^{18.5} - 10^{19}$  eV) the composition is mixed:  
pure or only light masses excluded at  $>6\sigma$  CL*

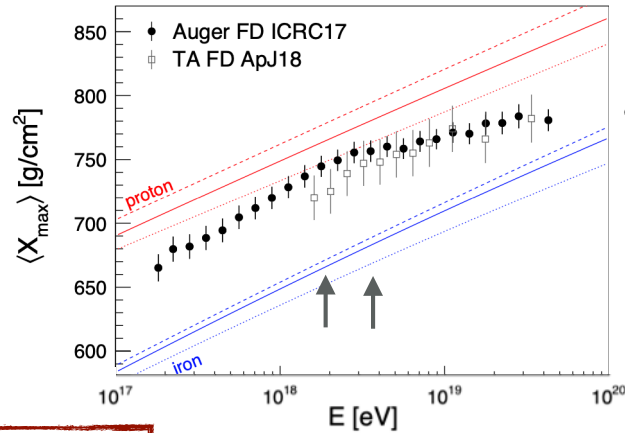
*Analysis not affected by detector systematics or by  
hadronic interaction models uncertainties*

Auger Coll., Phys.Lett. B762 (2016) 288  
A.Yushkov, PoS(ICRC2019) 482

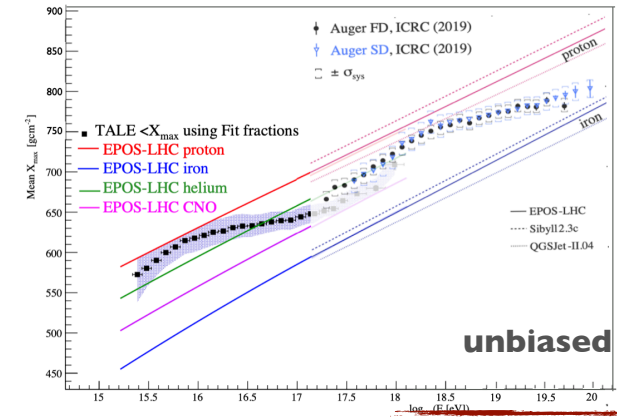
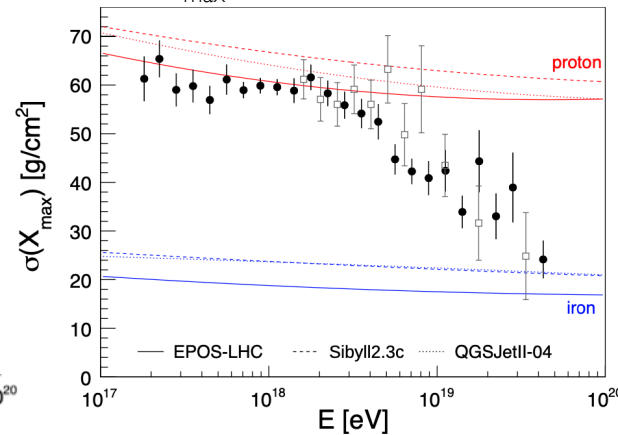


# Composition differences between Auger and TA?

- Unbiased measurements of the first 2 moments of the  $X_{\max}$  distributions

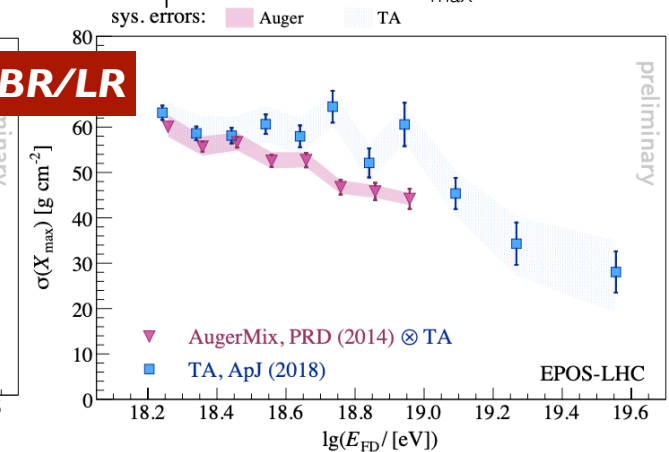
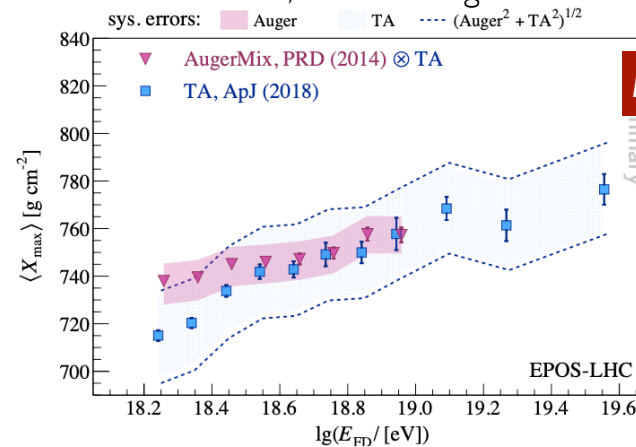
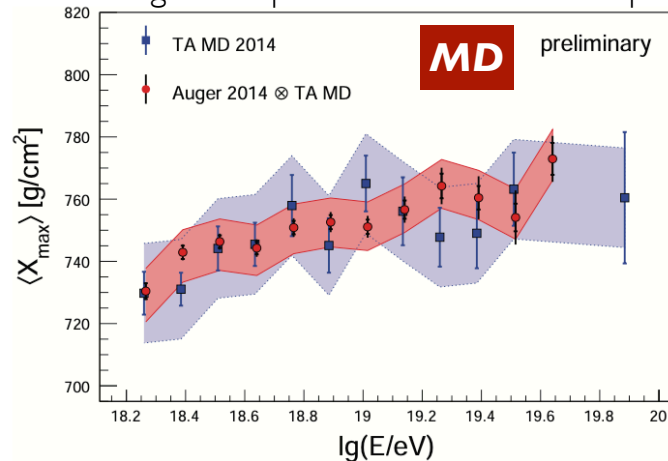


MIAPP review (2019)



TA Coll., ApJ 909 (2021) 178  
Auger Coll. ICRC2019

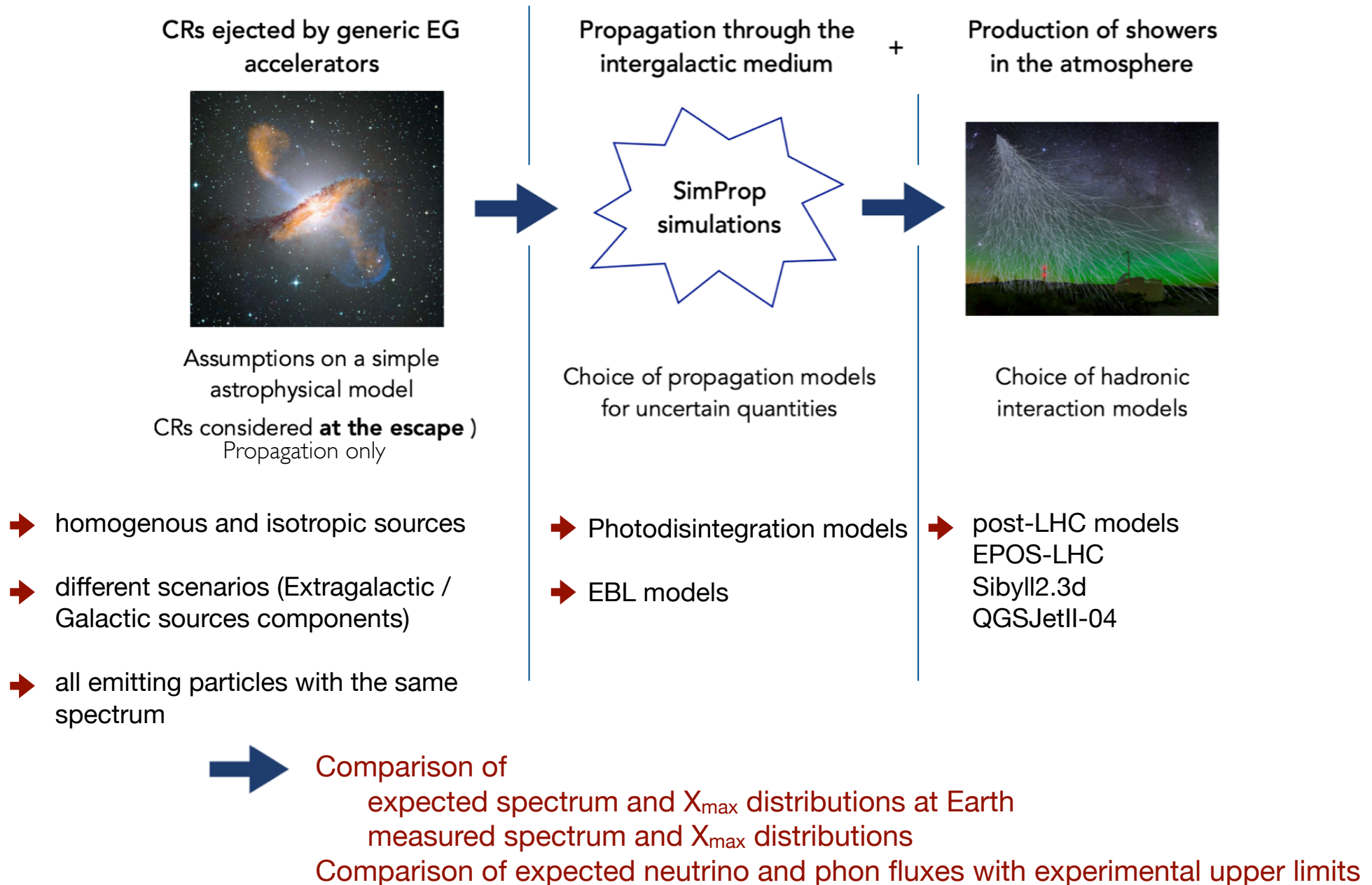
- The Auger composition fractions  $\rightarrow$  input to the TA simulations; the resulting distributions are compared to the TA  $X_{\max}$  results



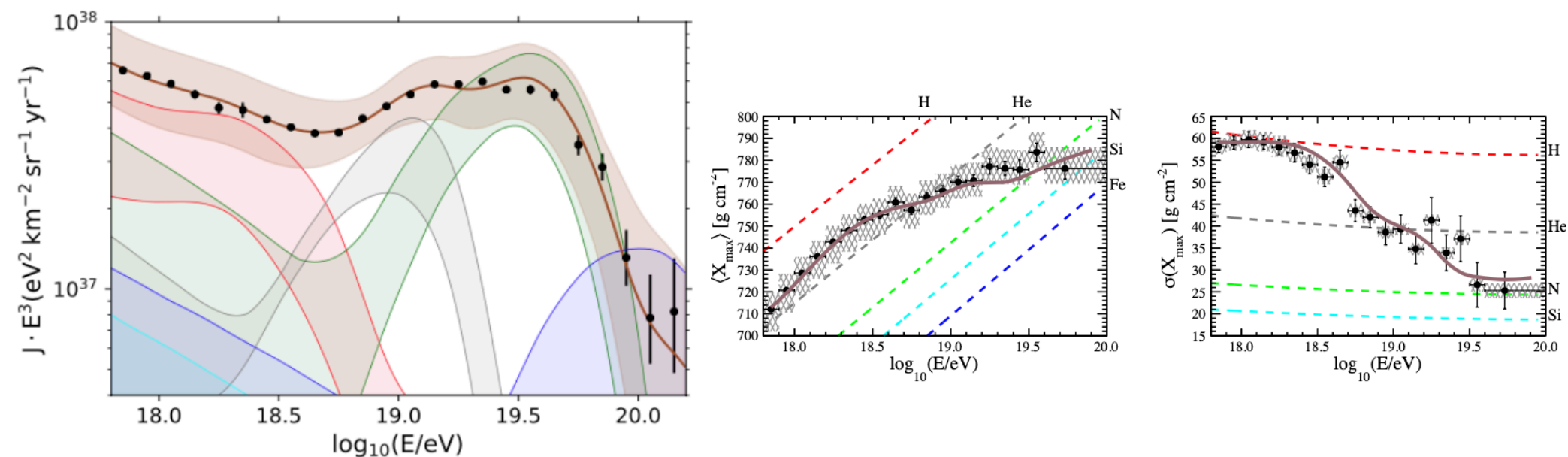
TA data consistent with proton AND ALSO with Auger-mix composition at least up to 10 EeV  
due to systematic uncertainties and low statistics

Auger&TA working groups, JPS Conf.Proc. 9 (2016) 010016  
Auger&TA working groups, EPJ Web of Conf. 210 (2018) 010009

# Combining spectrum and composition



# Combining spectrum and composition



## BEST FIT

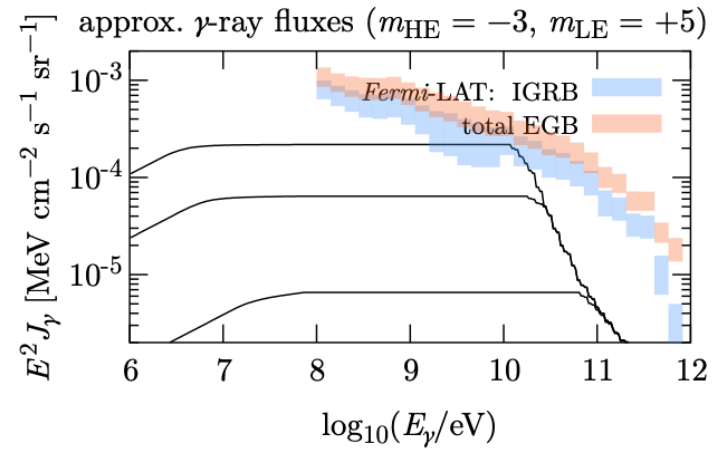
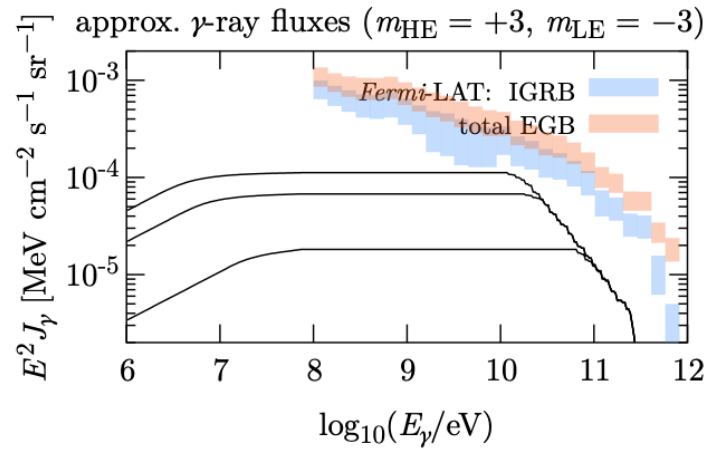
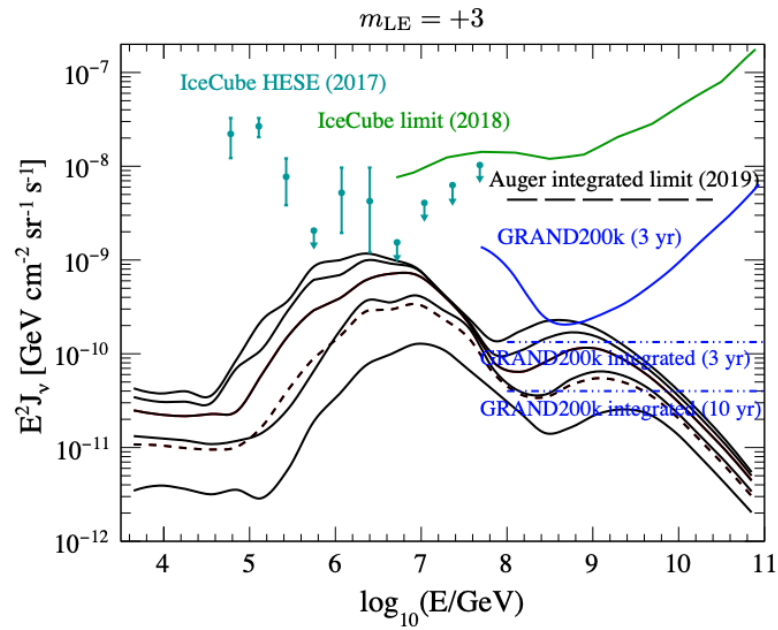
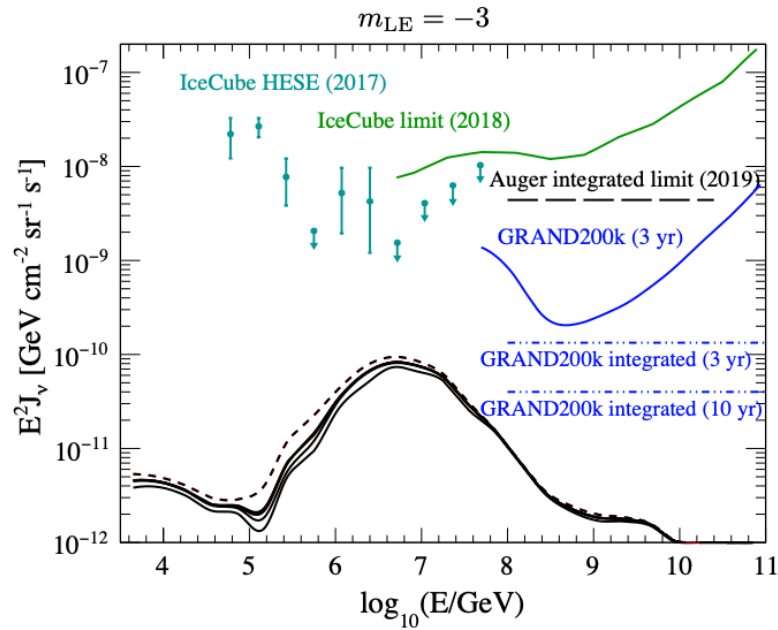
EG: **hard HE component** + **soft LE component**  
 possible Galactic component (N)

- Scenarios compatible within systematics
- AGN Source evolution for the HE component excluded
- dominant systematics uncertainties=experimental ( $X_{\text{max}}$ )

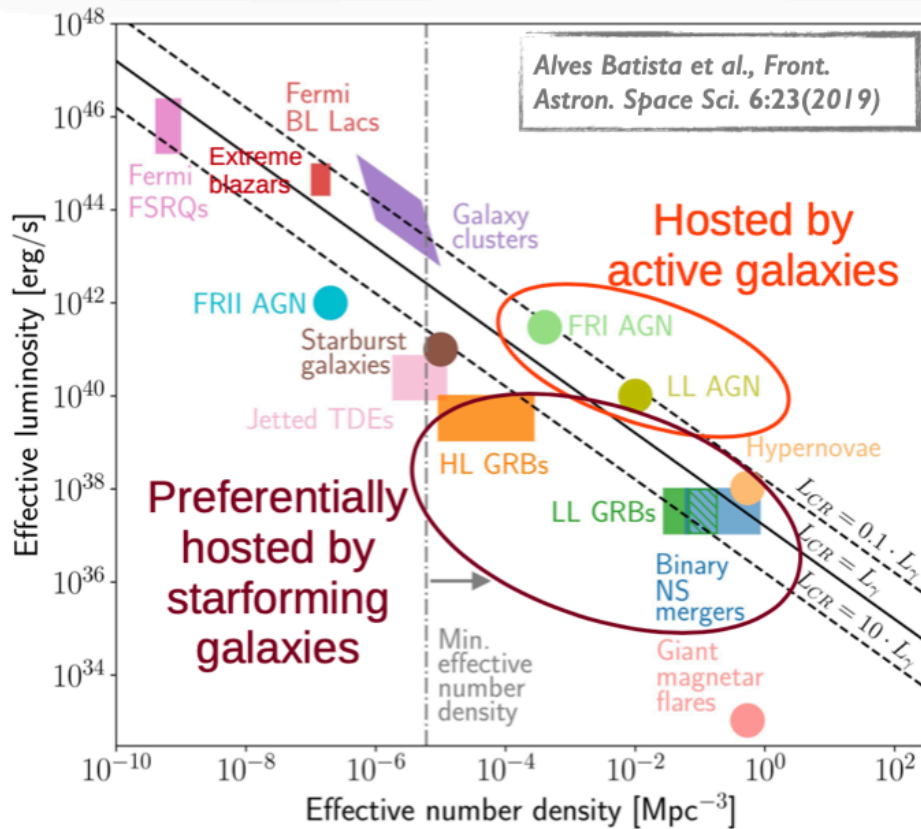
|   | 1st scenario                     |                     | 2nd scenario        |                     |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Galactic contribution (at Earth)  | N+Si                             |                     | -                   |                     |
| $J_0^{\text{gal}}$ [eV <sup>-1</sup> km <sup>-2</sup> sr <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> ] | $(1.07 \pm 0.06) \cdot 10^{-13}$ |                     | -                   |                     |
| $\log_{10}(R_{\text{cut}}^{\text{gal}}/V)$  | $17.48 \pm 0.02$                 |                     | -                   |                     |
| $f_N$ (%)   | 93.0                             |                     | -                   |                     |
| EG components (at the sources)  | Low energy                       | High energy         | Low energy          | High energy         |
| $\mathcal{L}_0$ [erg Mpc <sup>-3</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> ]                                 | $7.28 \cdot 10^{45}$             | $4.4 \cdot 10^{44}$ | $1.7 \cdot 10^{46}$ | $4.5 \cdot 10^{44}$ |
| $\gamma$  | $3.30 \pm 0.05$                  | $-1.47 \pm 0.12$    | $3.49 \pm 0.02$     | $-1.98 \pm 0.10$    |
| $\log_{10}(R_{\text{cut}}/V)$   | 24 (lim.)                        | $18.19 \pm 0.02$    | 24 (lim.)           | $18.16 \pm 0.01$    |
| $I_H$ (%)   | 100 (fixed)                      | 0.0                 | 49.87               | 0.0                 |
| $I_{He}$ (%)  | -                                | 27.17               | 10.92               | 28.60               |
| $I_N$ (%)   | -                                | 69.86               | 36.25               | 69.05               |
| $I_{Si}$ (%)  | -                                | 0.0                 | 0.0                 | 0.0                 |
| $I_{Fe}$ (%)  | -                                | 2.97                | 2.96                | 2.35                |
| $D_J(N_J)$  | 49.5 (24)                        |                     | 60.1 (24)           |                     |
| $D_{X_{\text{max}}}(N_{X_{\text{max}}})$  | 593.8 (329)                      |                     | 554.8 (329)         |                     |
| $D(N)$  | 643.3 (353)                      |                     | 614.9 (353)         |                     |



# Combined fit: expected fluxes of $\nu$ and $\gamma$



# Constraints on the UHECR sources

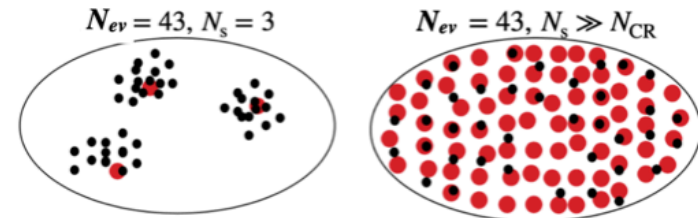


→  $n_s \gtrsim 10^{-6} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$  at least one source within the GZK sphere ( $r \sim 100 \text{ Mpc}$ )

→  $n_s \lesssim 10^{-4} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$

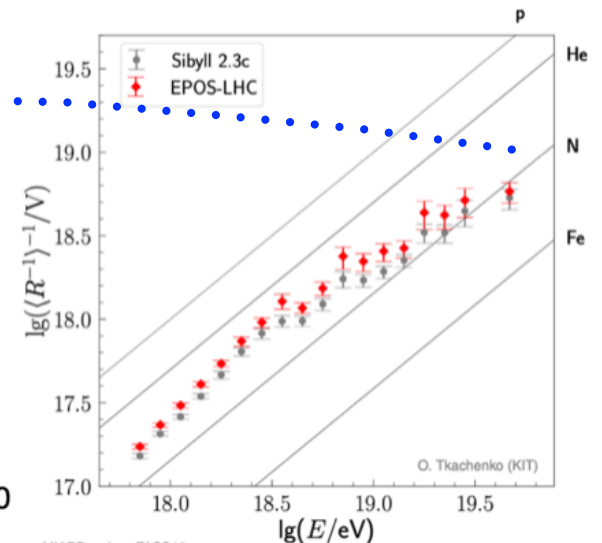
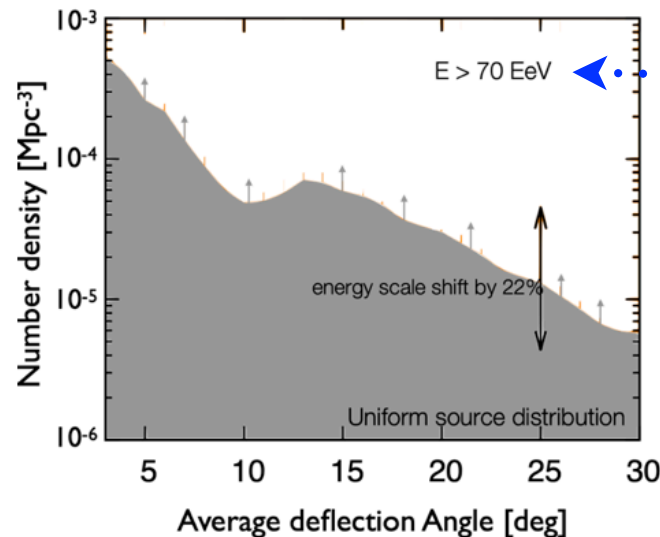
$$u_{CR} = \frac{4\pi}{\beta c} \int_{E_{min}} E \frac{dN}{dE} dE \quad \epsilon = \frac{c u_{CR}}{L_{loss}} \quad n_s = L_{min}/\epsilon$$

→  $n_s \gtrsim 10^{-5} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$ : non observation of multiplets in IceCube



Auger CR-CR correlations

Auger Coll., JCAP05 (2013) 009



# Multi-messengers at UHE

## Neutrinos

- not deflected by GMF/EGMFs
- only messengers along cosmological distances
- can escape from the core of sources
- difficult to detect

## Gamma rays

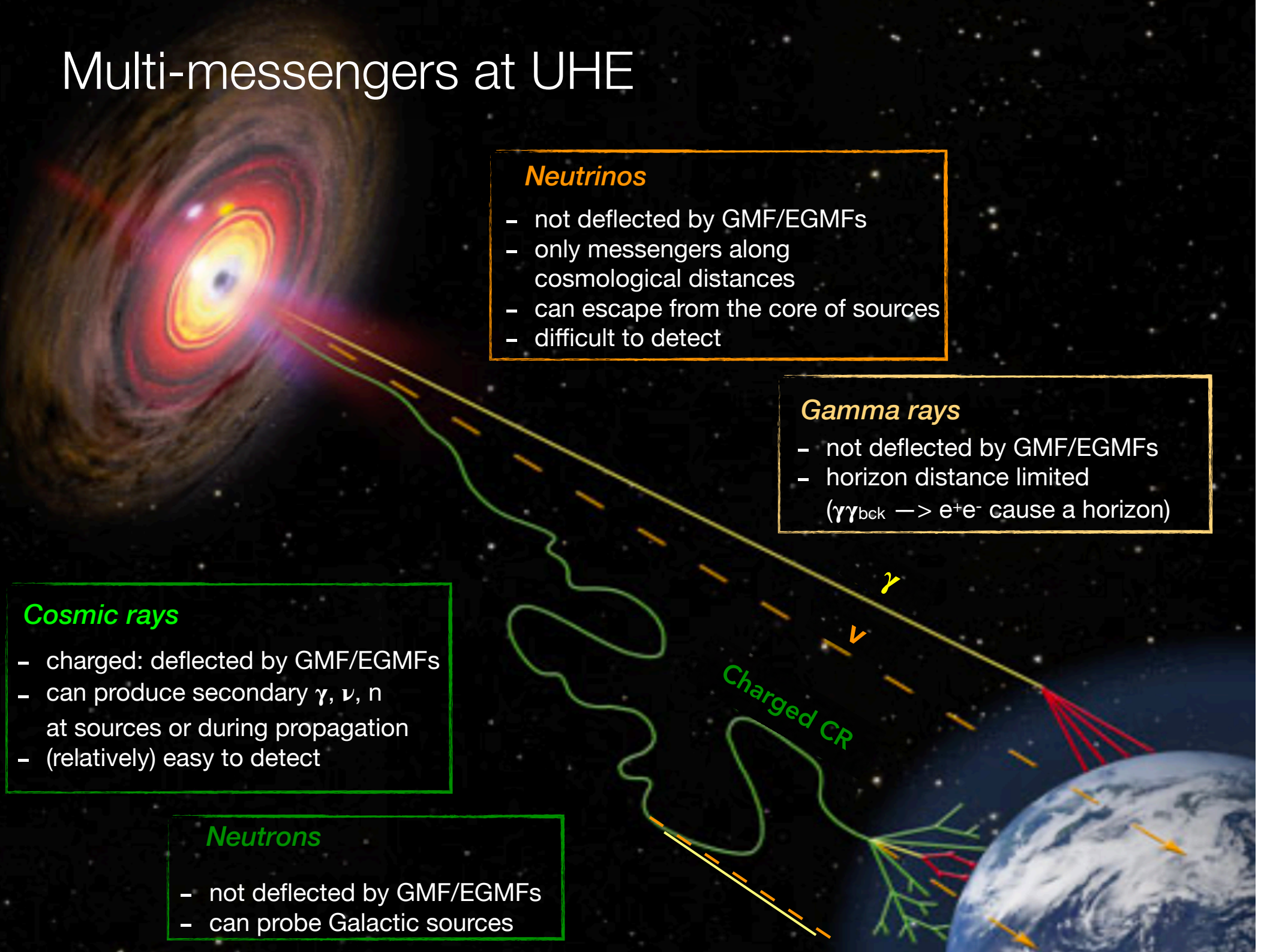
- not deflected by GMF/EGMFs
- horizon distance limited  
( $\gamma\gamma_{\text{bck}} \rightarrow e^+e^-$  cause a horizon)

## Cosmic rays

- charged: deflected by GMF/EGMFs
- can produce secondary  $\gamma$ ,  $\nu$ ,  $n$  at sources or during propagation
- (relatively) easy to detect

## Neutrons

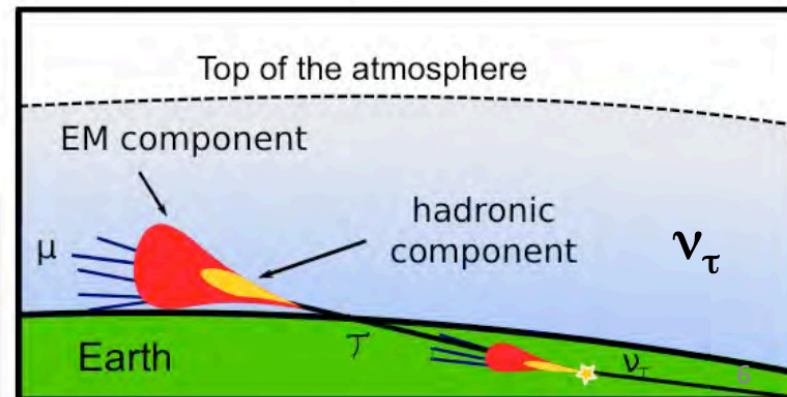
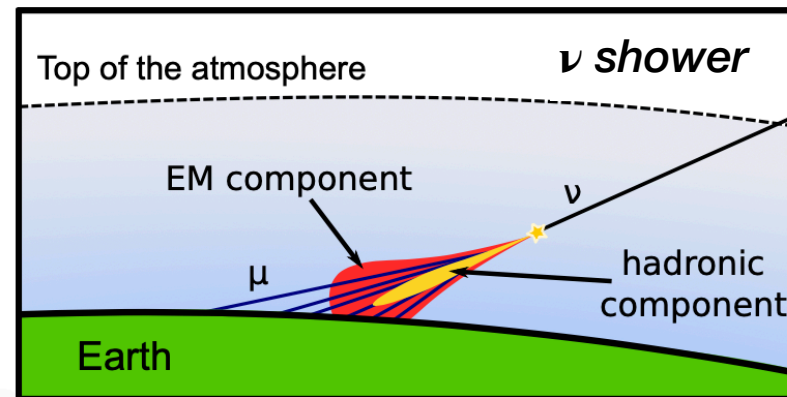
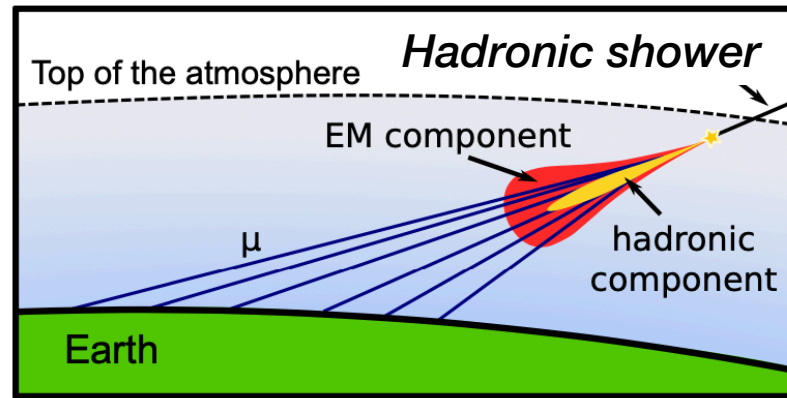
- not deflected by GMF/EGMFs
- can probe Galactic sources



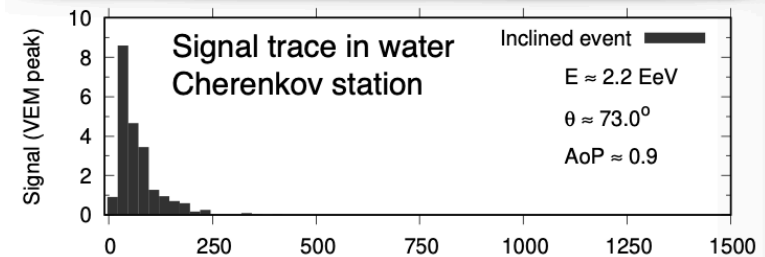


# Neutrinos in Auger

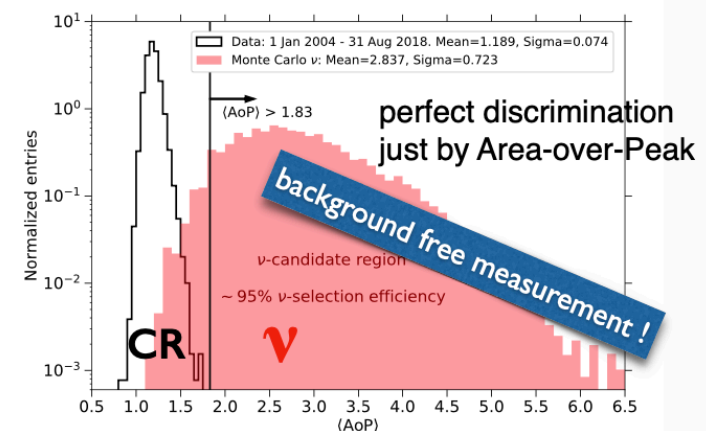
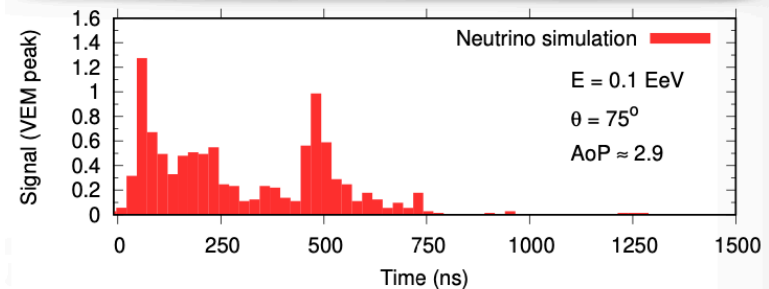
*Searching for neutrinos = look for inclined showers with em component*



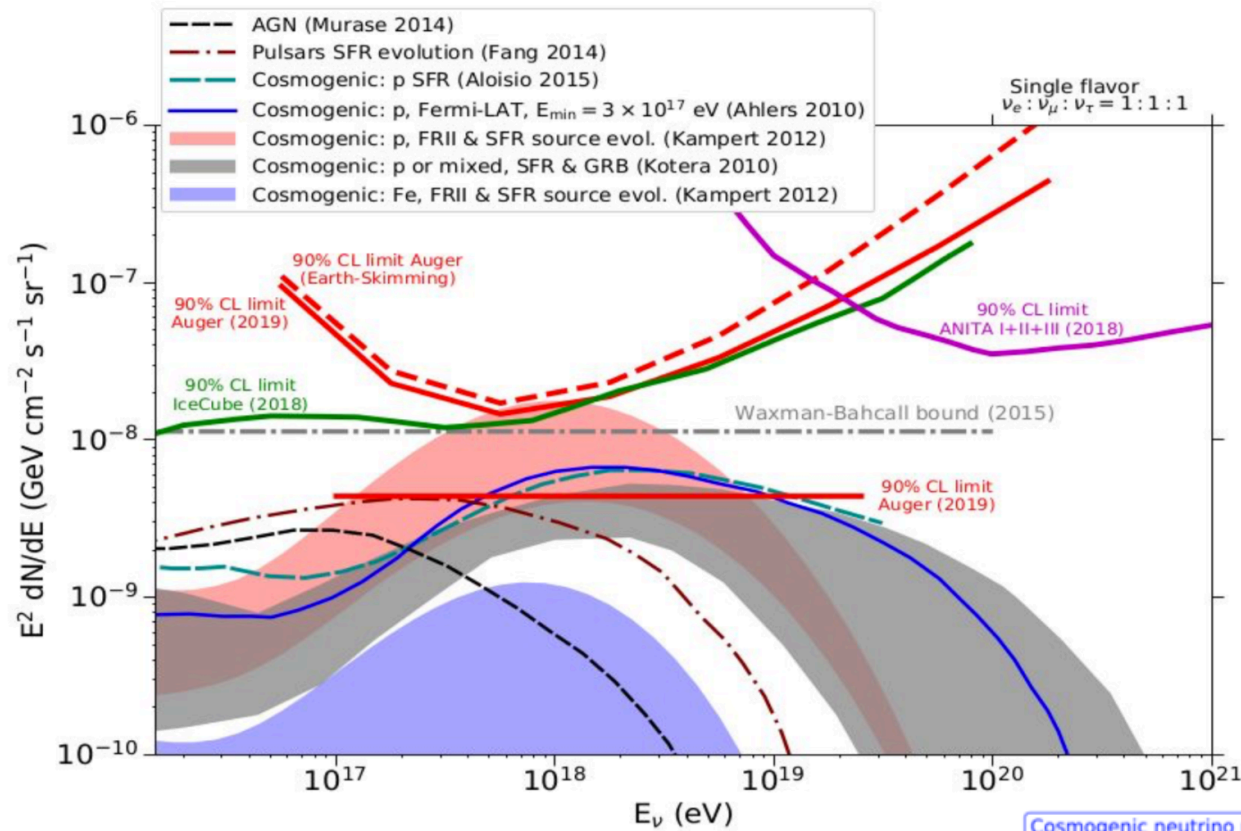
**CR → old shower at ground**



**$\nu$  → young shower at ground**



# Neutrinos in Auger



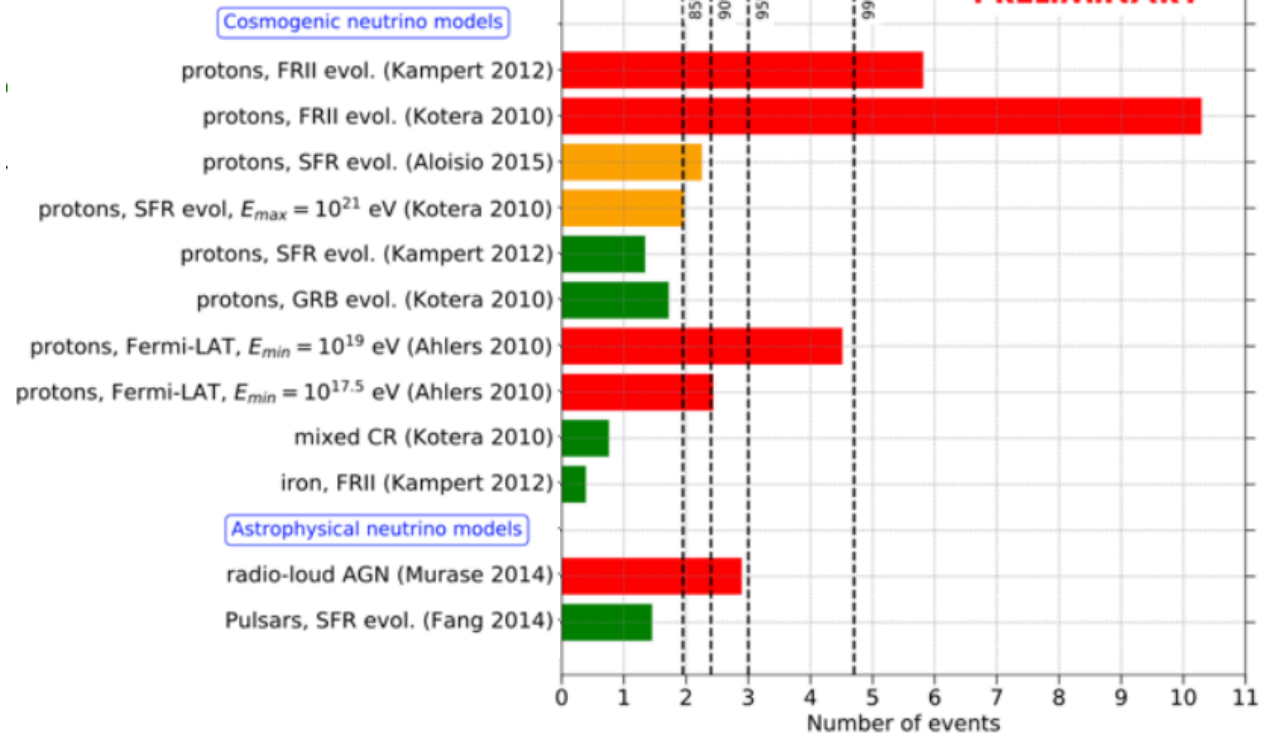
**Maximum sensitivity around EeV**  
 $k$  (90% CL)  $< 4.4 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$

From the expected event rates in Auger, different models of cosmogenic and astrophysical neutrino production are

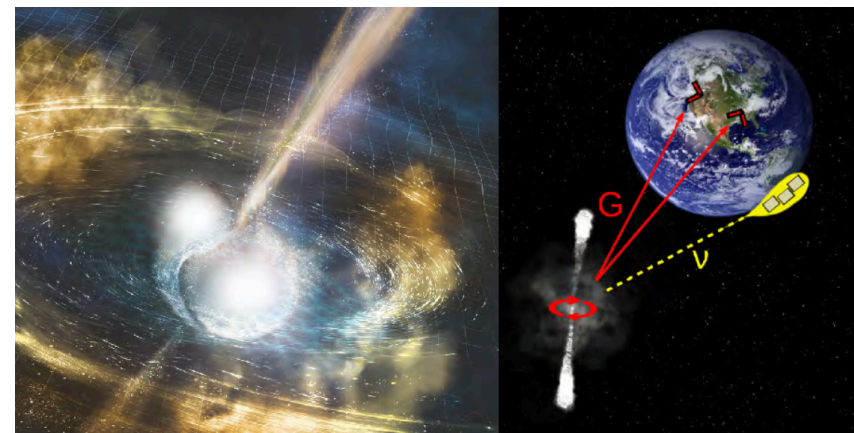
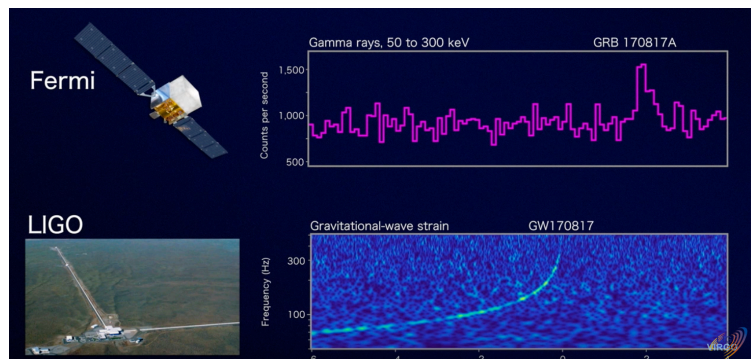
- excluded (red)
- disfavoured (orange)

**NOTE:**

*expect up to  $\sim 0.001 \nu$  in Auger from a maximum source scenario !*



# Neutrinos from GW events?

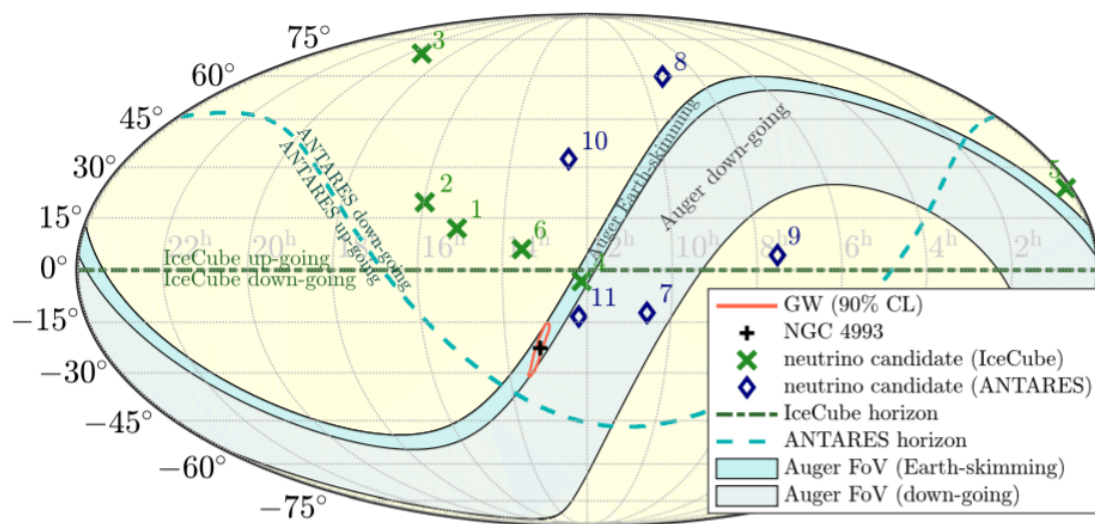


## GW170817

$d \sim 40$  Mpc [NGC4993]

$M_{\text{components}}: 0.86 \text{ and } 2.26 M_{\odot}, M_{\text{total}}=(2.82^{+0.47}_{-0.09})M_{\odot}$

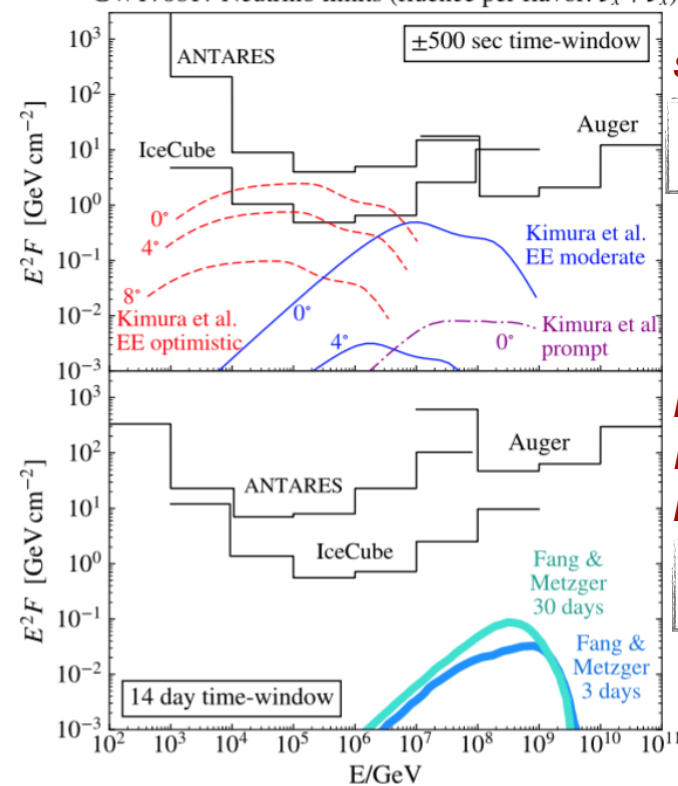
viewing angle  $< 30^\circ$



No UHE neutrino candidate found  
either in the coincidence window  $\pm 500$  s  
around the GW events  
or in the 14-days search period after it

LIGO, Virgo, Auger, IceCube, Antares Coll., ApJ 848 (2017)

GW170817 Neutrino limits (fluence per flavor:  $\nu_x + \bar{\nu}_x$ )



**SGRBs**

S.Kimura et al.,  
ApJ Lett.848:L4 (2017)

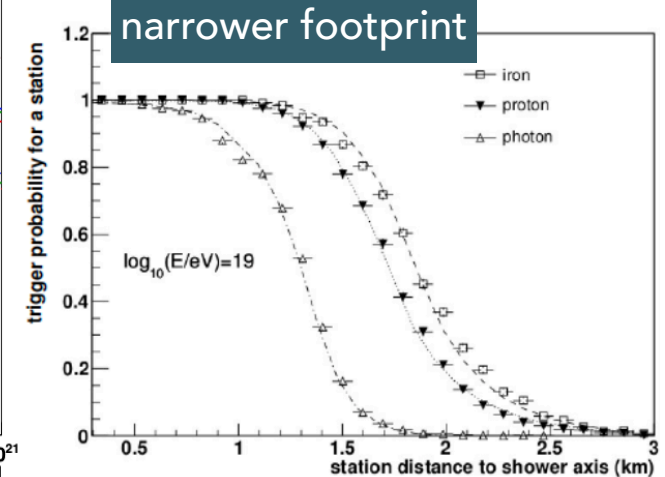
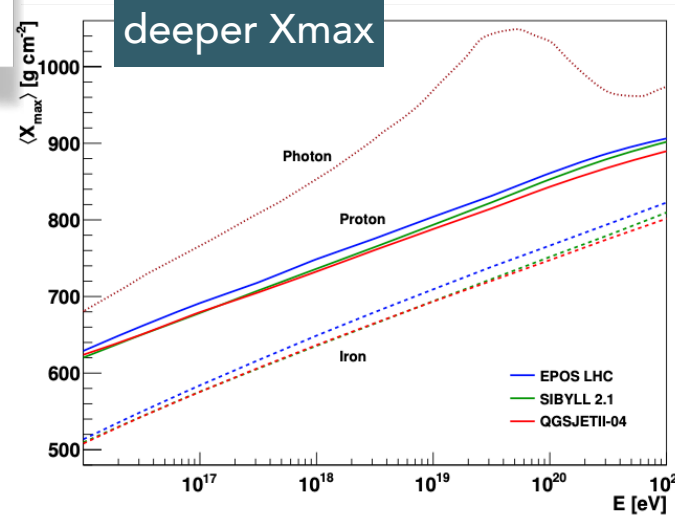
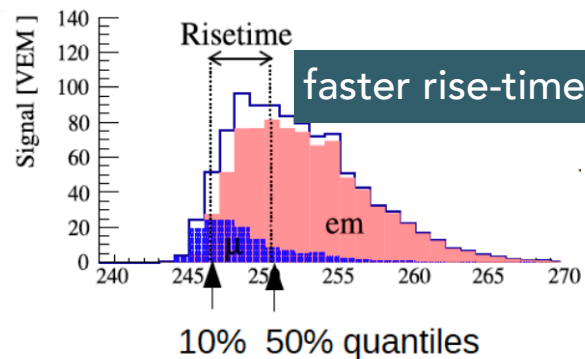
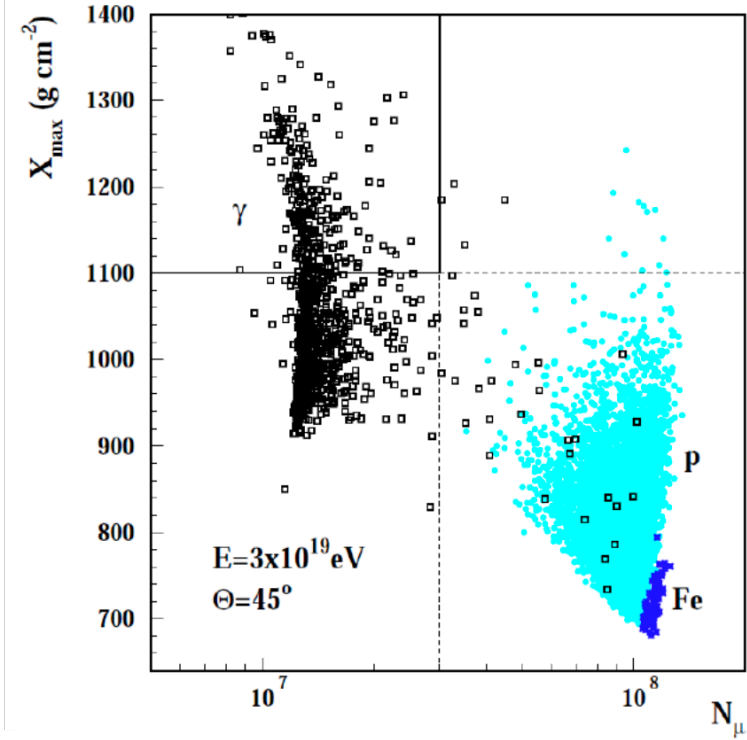
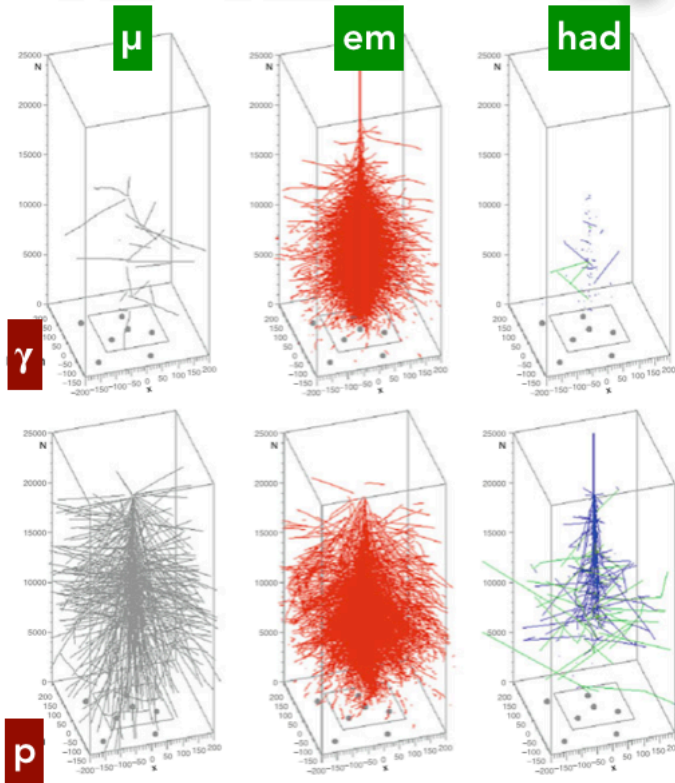
**msec  
Magnetar  
remnants**

K.Fang, B.Metzger,  
ApJ 849 (2017) 153

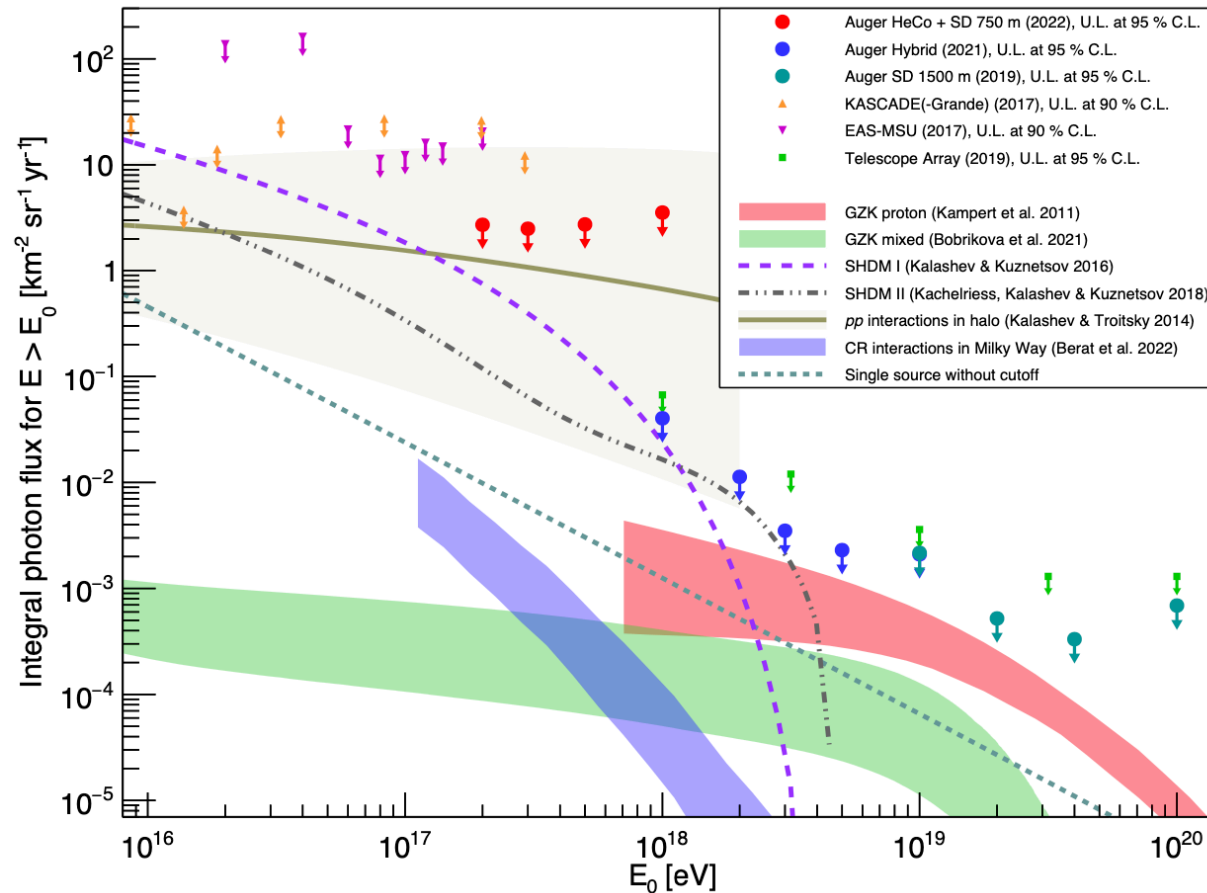


# Photons in Auger

smaller muon content



# Diffuse Photons



## ***Most stringent limits on UHE photons across three decades in energy***

- ✓ sensitivity ~1.5 oom above the expectations from mixed composition models
- ✓ more data for photon/hadron separation needed: AugerPrime
- ✓ an increased sensitivity to photons could reveal unexpected phenomena, like sources in the Galaxy, interaction in the halo, decay of SHDM

Auger Coll., JCAP04 (2017) 009; JCAP09 (2020) E02  
 P.Savina (Auger Coll.), PoS(ICRC2021) 373  
 Auger Coll., ApJ (2022)

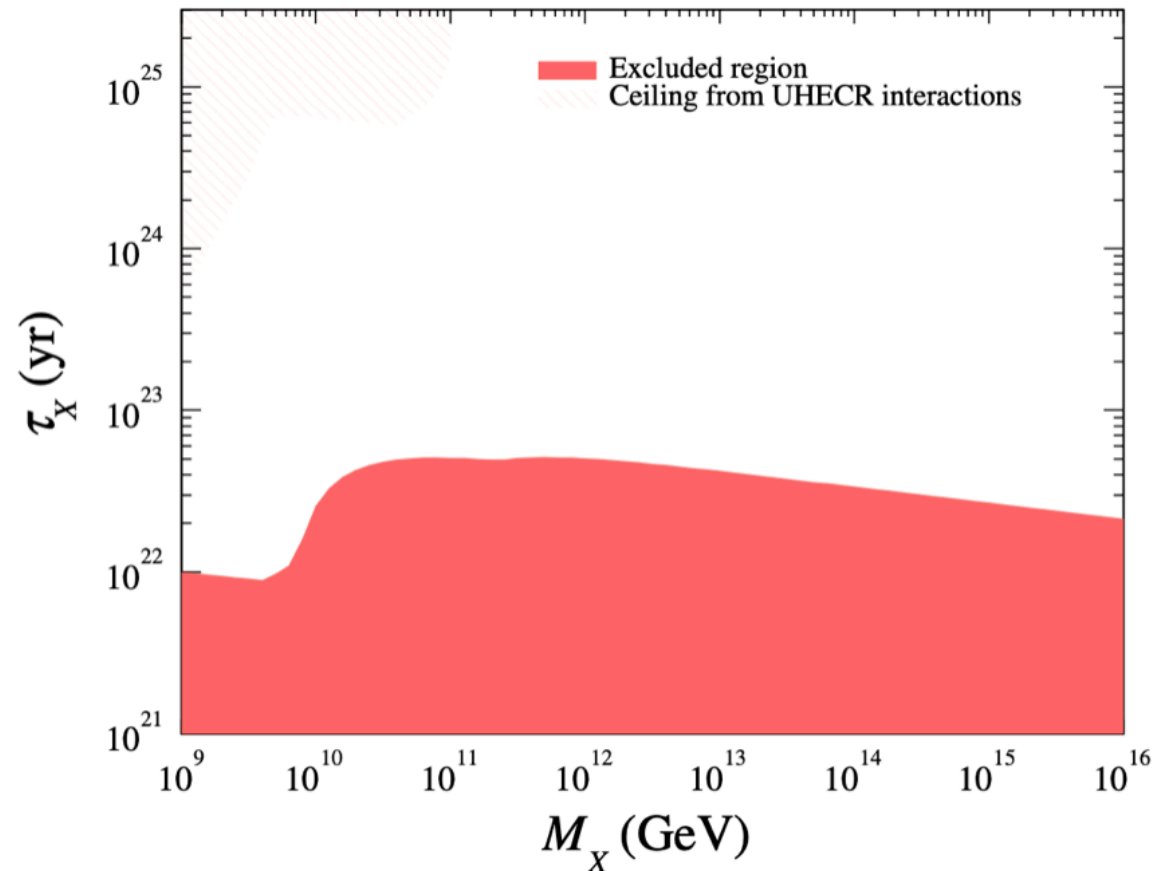
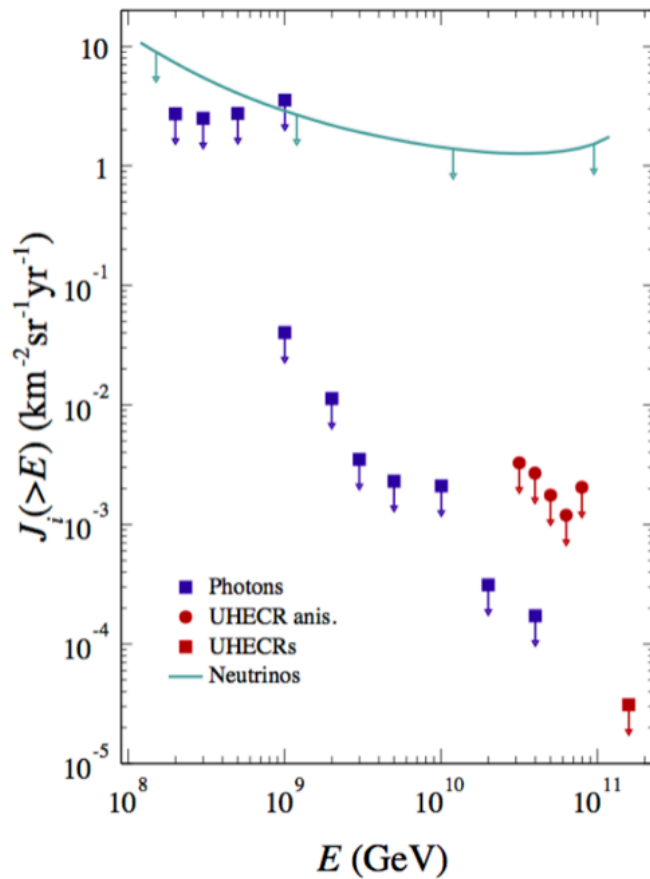
# BSM: Super-heavy dark matter searches

Flux of secondaries from SHDM decay ( $i = \gamma, \nu, \bar{\nu}, N, \bar{N}$ ):

$$J_i^{\text{gal}}(E) = \frac{1}{4\pi M_X c^2 \tau_X} \frac{dN_i}{dE} \int_0^\infty ds \rho_{\text{DM}}(\mathbf{x}_\odot + \mathbf{x}_i(s; \mathbf{n})).$$

Free parameters

$$\tau_X = \hbar M_X^{-1} \exp(4\pi/\alpha_X)$$

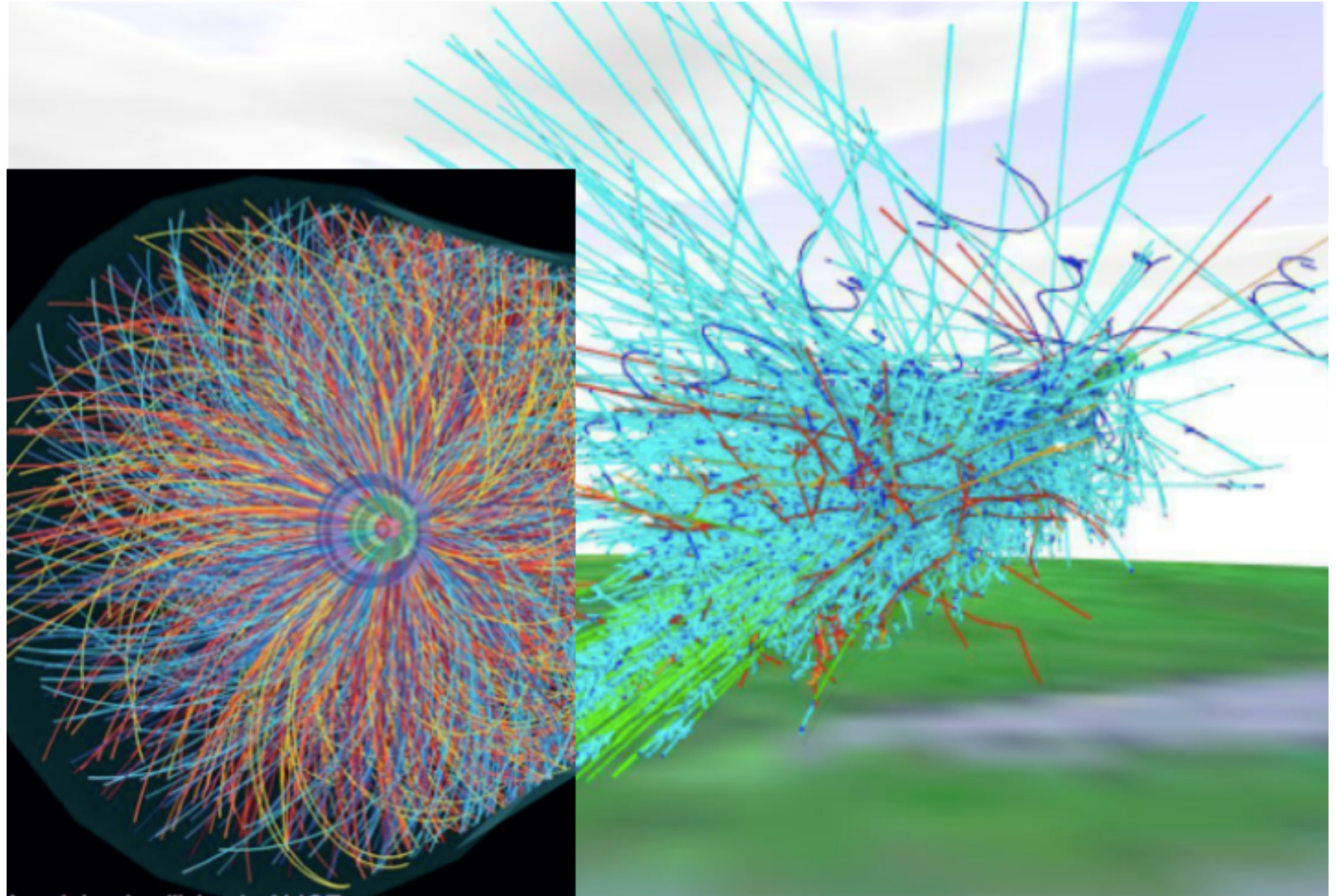


O. Deligny, ISVHECRI2022

L.A. Anchordoqui et al., *Astropart. Phys.* 132, 102614 (2021)



## *Hadronic interactions*

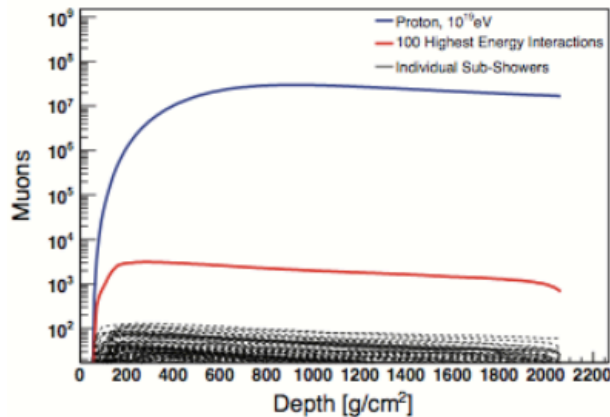
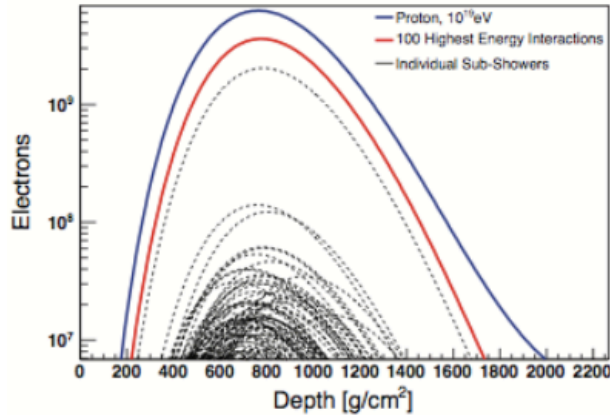


# Uncertainties in HIM

Individual hadronic interaction features can be artificially altered during EAS development :

$$f(E, f_{19}) = 1 + (f_{19} - 1) F(E)$$

$$F(E) = \begin{cases} 0 & E \leq 1 \text{ PeV} \\ \frac{\log_{10}(E/1 \text{ PeV})}{\log_{10}(10 \text{ EeV}/1 \text{ PeV})} & E > 1 \text{ PeV} \end{cases}$$

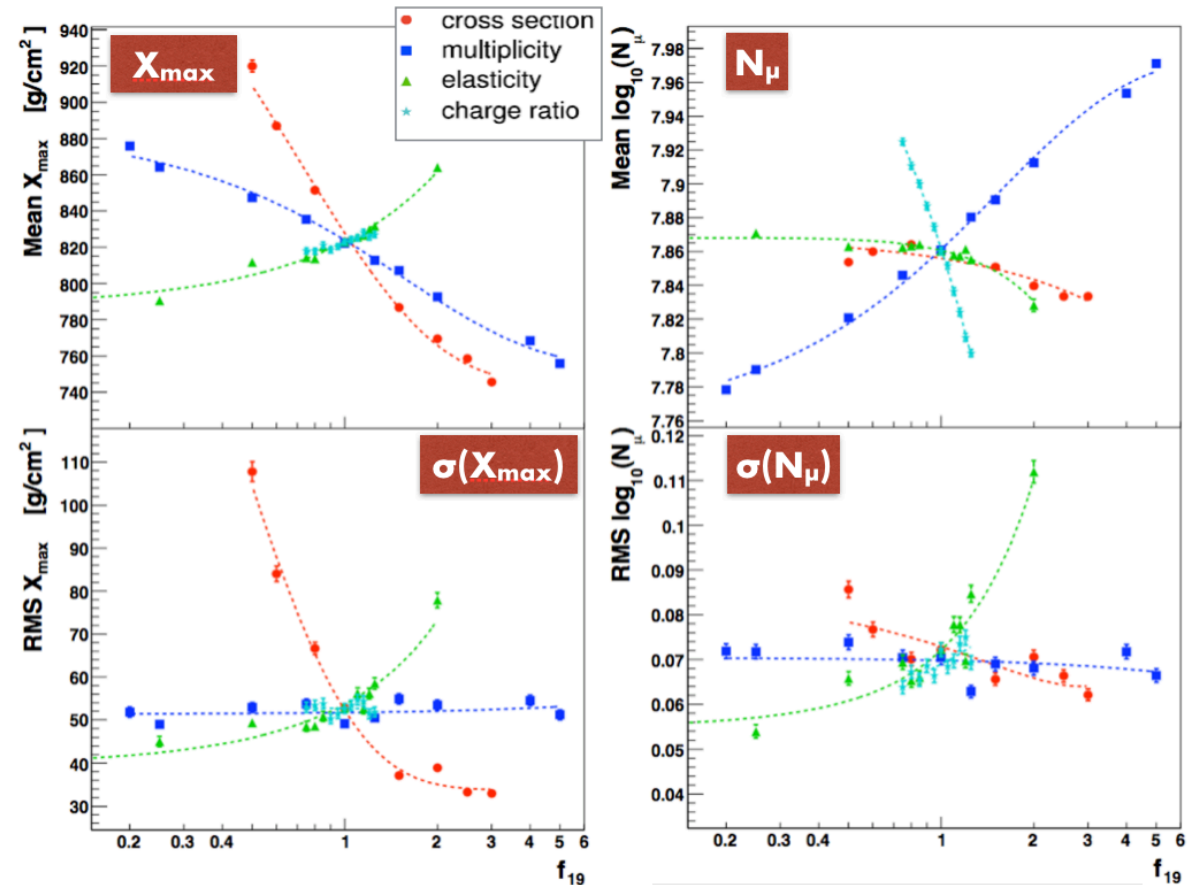


## EM shower particles

- ✓ high energy interactions (HE  $\gamma$  from  $\pi^0$  decay)
- ✓ profile dominated by the EM particles from secondaries in the first 100 interactions

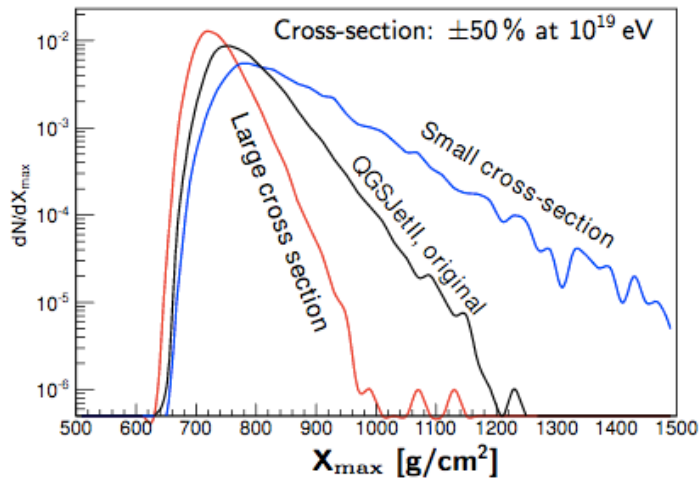
## Muons

- ✓ low energy interactions ( $\pi^\pm$  degrade to 30-100 GeV before decaying)
- ✓ negligible fraction from the first interactions



# The p-Air cross section

The tail of the longitudinal distribution of  $X_{\max}$  is sensitive to the p-Air cross section.  
Select deeply penetrating EAS to enhance the proton fraction

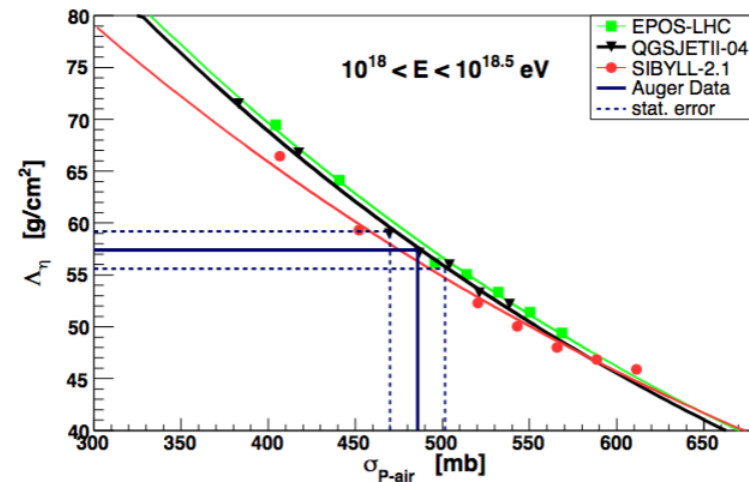
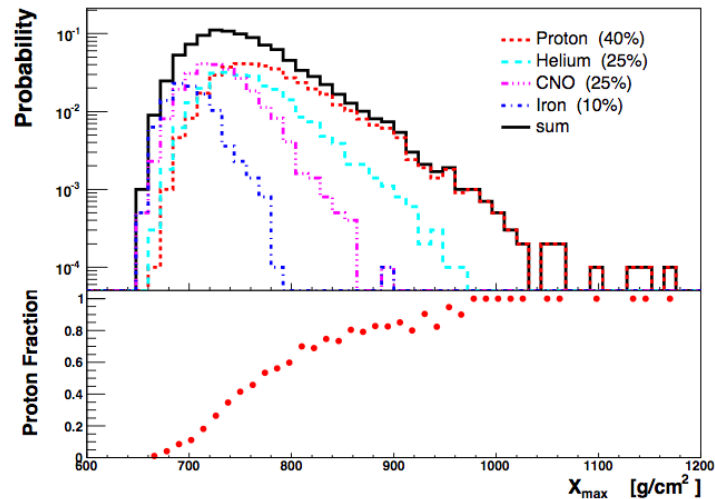


$$\frac{dp}{dX_1} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{int}} e^{-X_1/\lambda_{int}}$$

$$\frac{dN_{EAS}}{dX_{max}} \propto e^{-X_{max}/\Lambda_\eta}$$

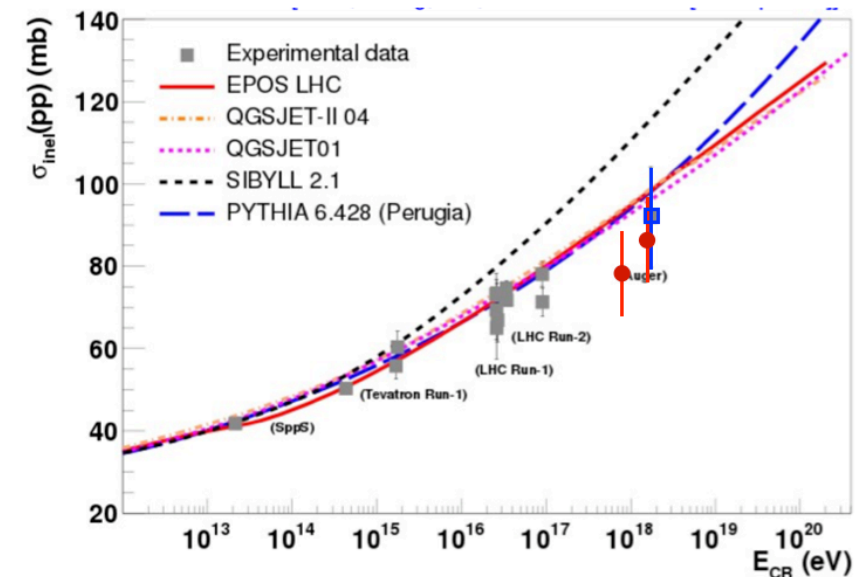
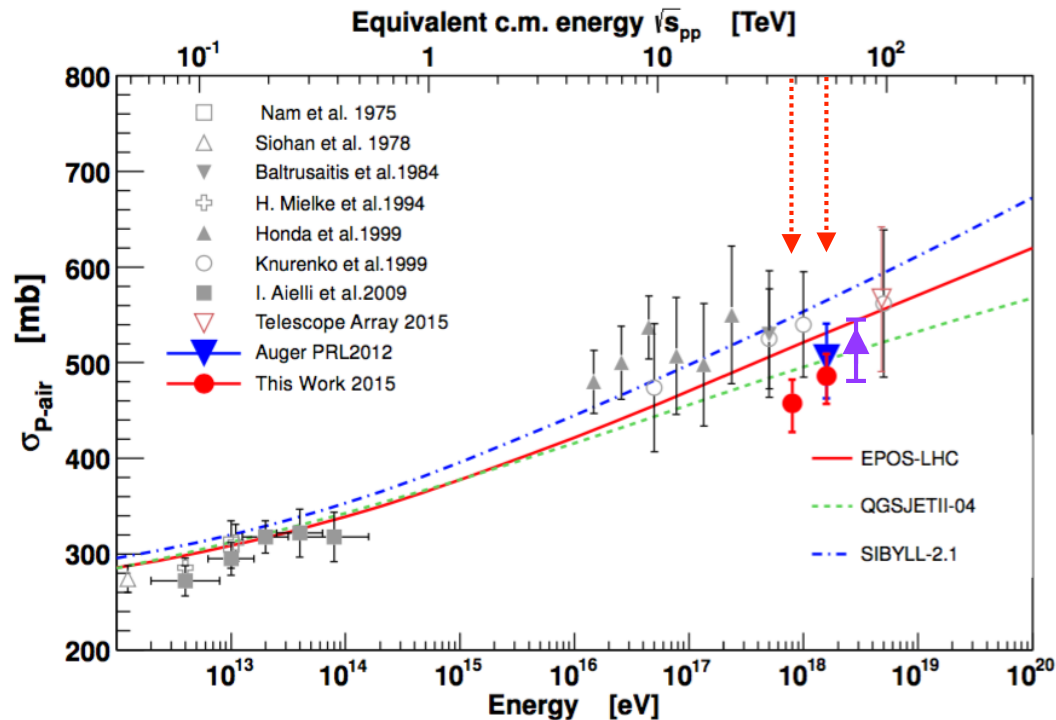
$$\sigma_{p-Air} = \frac{\langle m_{Air} \rangle}{\lambda_{int}}$$

$$\Lambda_\eta = K \lambda_{int}$$

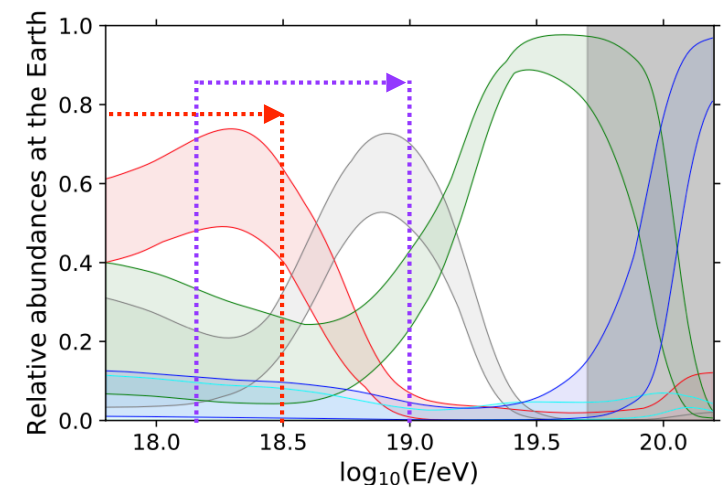




# The p-Air cross section



- ➔ different energy ranges covered by Auger and TA due to different evaluation of the heavier nuclei contamination
  - in TA: <44% He [ $10^{18.2}$ - $10^{19}$  eV] - 1975 events
  - in Auger: <25% He [ $10^{17.8}$ - $10^{18.5}$  eV] - 4800 and 6900 events
- ➔ the newest Sibyll2.3c predictions are ~ EPOS-LHC
- ➔ the extrapolation from Tevatron to LHC ~ that from LHC(14 TeV) to Auger !



Auger Coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 062002 (2012)  
 R.Ulrich for the Auger Coll., PoS(ICRC2015) 401  
 TA Coll., Phys.Rev.D **102** (2020) 6, 062004

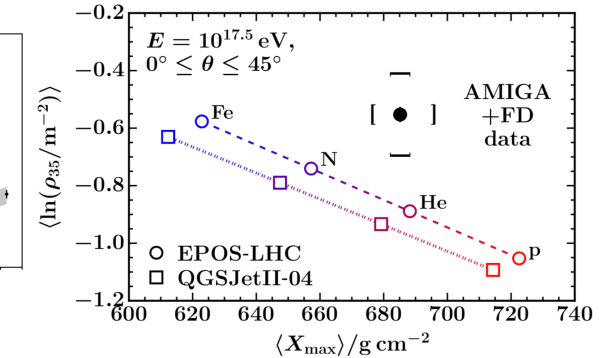
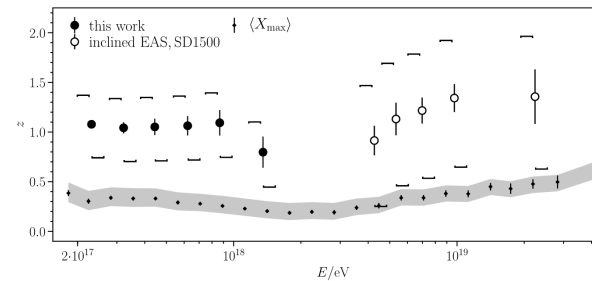
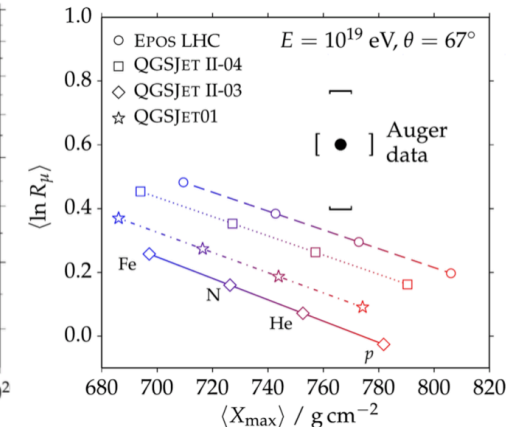
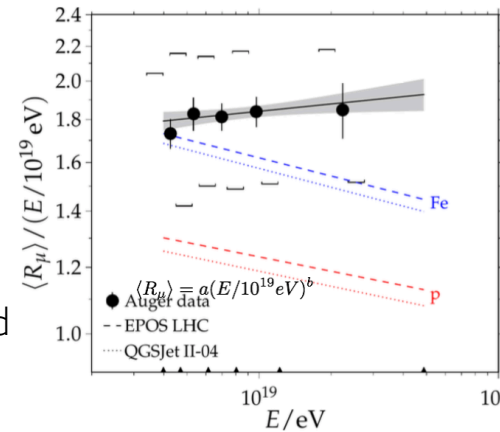
# The “muon puzzle”

## ► The muon deficit in simulations

Measurements of the muonic component in inclined EAS  
@  $10^{19}$  eV: 30% to  $80\%^{+17}_{-20}\%$  increase in  $\langle N_\mu \rangle$  needed

Similar results using the direct measure of the muons

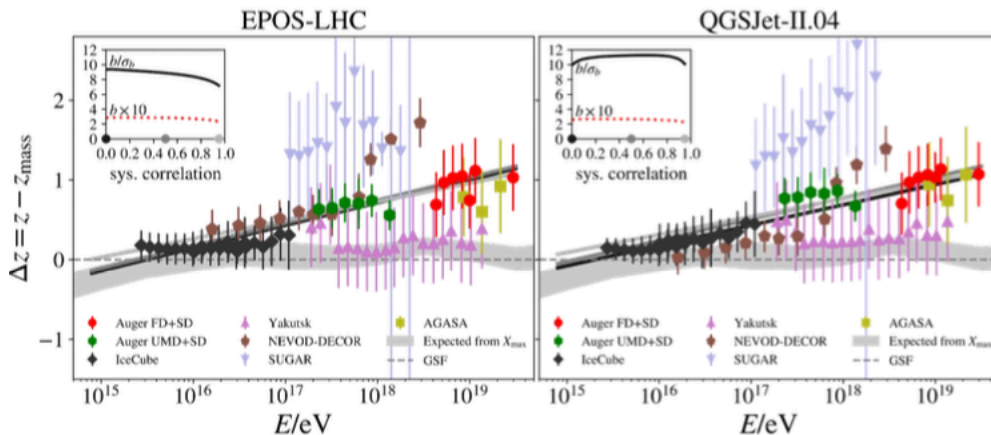
Well established also in different analyses



## ► The WHISP effort

$$\Delta z = z - z_{\text{mass}} \simeq 3 \ln \frac{N_\mu}{N_{\text{mass}}} \quad \Delta z_{\text{fit}} = a + b \log_{10}(E/10^{16} \text{ eV})$$

Auger Coll., PRD91 (2015) 032003+059901  
Auger Coll., Eur.Phys.J. C80 (2020) 751



D.Soldin et al. (WHISP), PoS (ICRC2021) 349 (2021)

Slope of the fit:  $b = 0.23 - 0.29$  (EPOS-LHC),  
 $b = 0.22 - 0.25$  (QGSJet-II.04)

Significance of the slope:  $\sim 7\sigma - 9\sigma$  (EPOS-LHC),  
 $\sim 10\sigma - 11\sigma$  (QGSJet-II.04)

# The “muon puzzle”

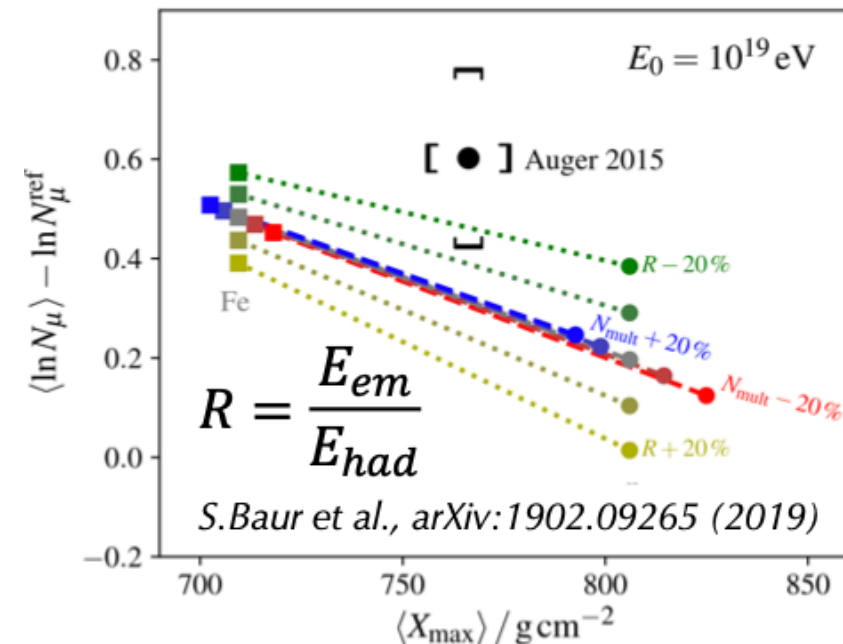
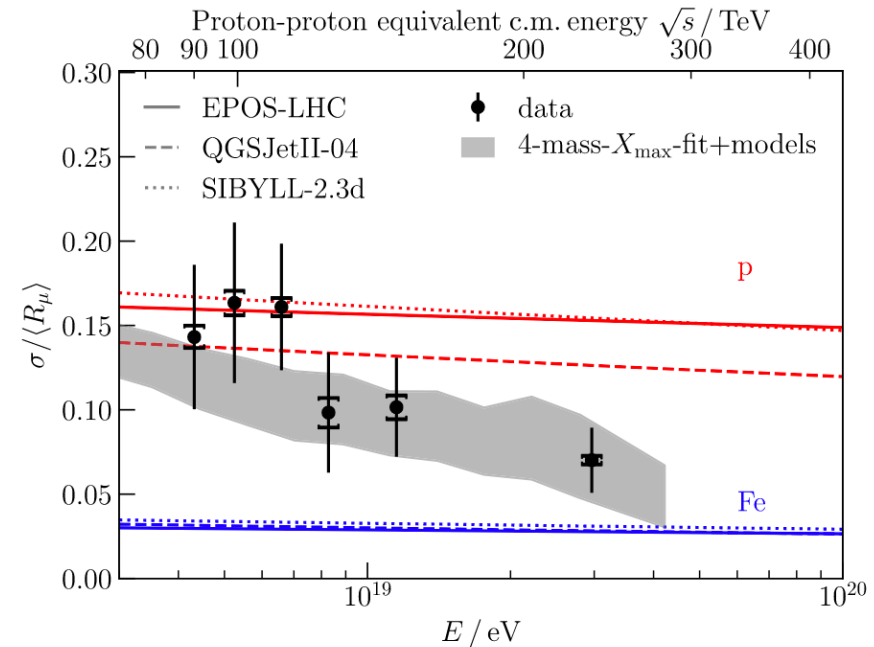
## Intrinsic fluctuations of muons in EAS

Post-LHC models describe well the fluctuations of energy partition in the first interaction up to UHE

Auger Coll., Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 152002

## Current conclusion

- ➔ the effect appears above  $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \sim 8$  TeV
- ➔ observed for GeV  $\mu$  (perhaps not for TeV  $\mu$  - IceCube)
- ➔ different solutions proposed acting on first or few first generations : excluded by the early onset of the discrepancy and by the muon fluctuation measurement
- ➔ can be fixed by a smooth increment of the hadronic fraction over several generations, reducing the energy fraction carried by  $\pi^0$ s : increases muon production while preserving  $X_{max}$ 
  - leading particle effect ( $\pi^0$  replaced with  $\rho^0$ )
  - enhancement of strangeness production (ALICE) : to be confirmed in the forward region
  - ....



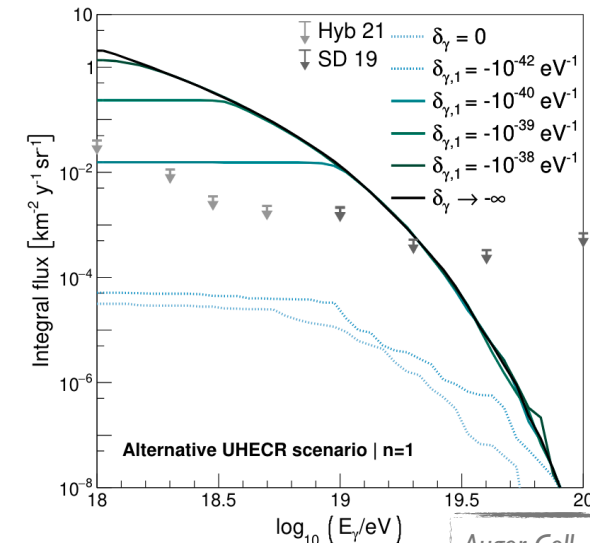


# BSM: Lorentz Invariance violation

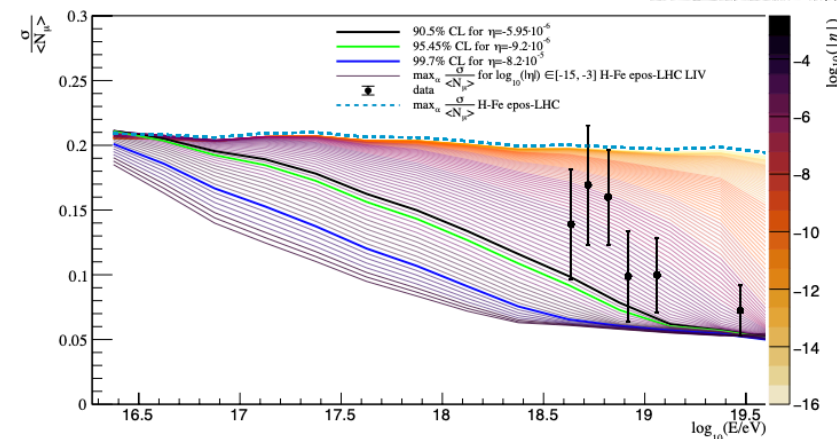
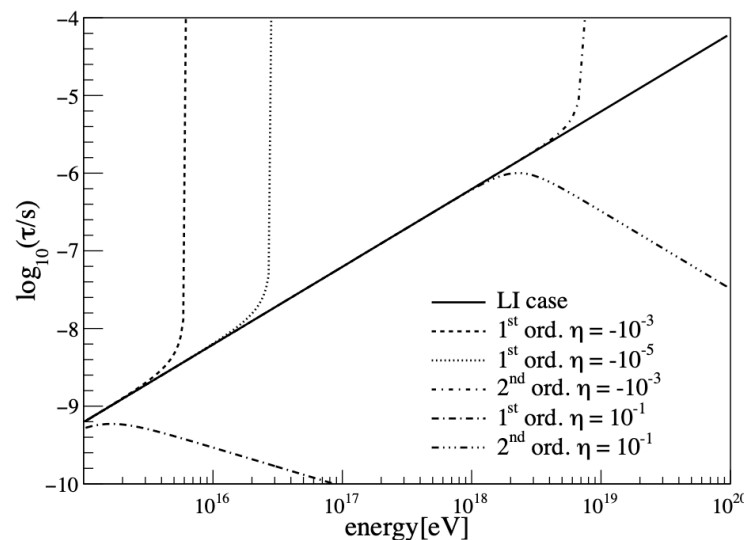
$$E_i^2 - p_i^2 = m_i^2 + \sum_{n=0}^N \delta_i^{(n)} E_i^{2+n} = m_i^2 + \eta_i^{(n)} \frac{E_i^{2+n}}{M_{Pl}^n}$$

- **Propagation** - if LIV, the attenuation length of photo-meson production or photo-disintegration may become extremely large: suppression of particle interactions
- **Air shower physics** - if LIV, for increasing energy and  $\eta < 0$ ,  $\pi^0$  lifetime increases, thus increase in muon number and decrease in the EM component

Effects suppressed for low energy and short travel distances : UHECRs !!!



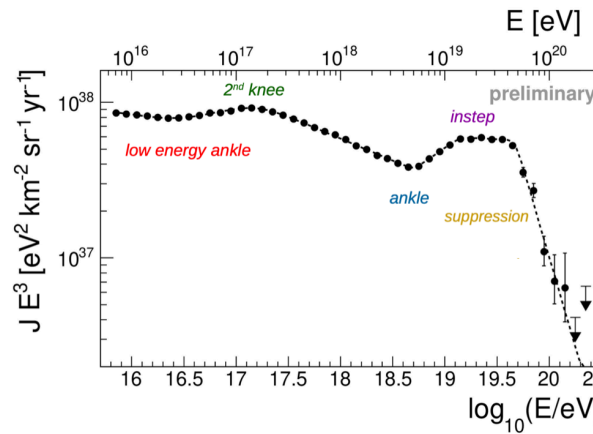
Auger Coll., JCAP01 (2022) 023



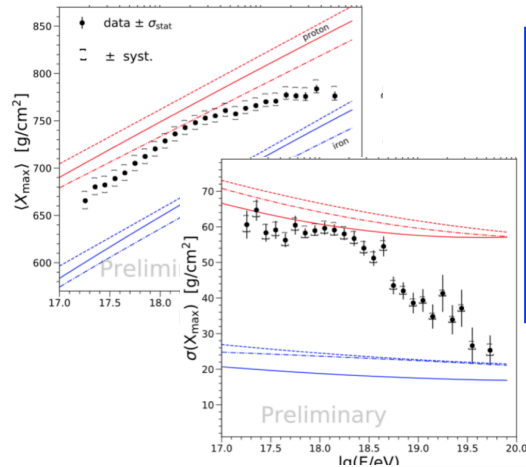
**New bound!**

$\eta^{(1)} > -5.95 \cdot 10^{-6}$  with (90.5% C.L.)

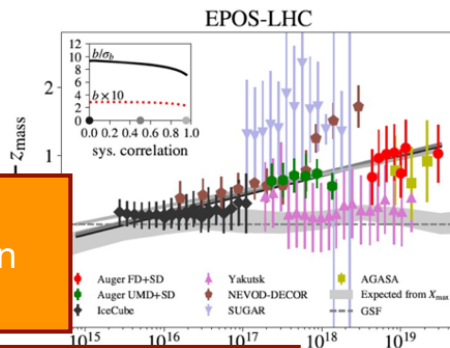
# What have we learnt from data?



- ▶ Sources must be nearby (<200 Mpc).
- ▶ Hints for source exhaustion
- ▶ New feature in the spectrum (the *instep*).
- ▶ Limits on the *local density of sources*<sup>-3</sup>

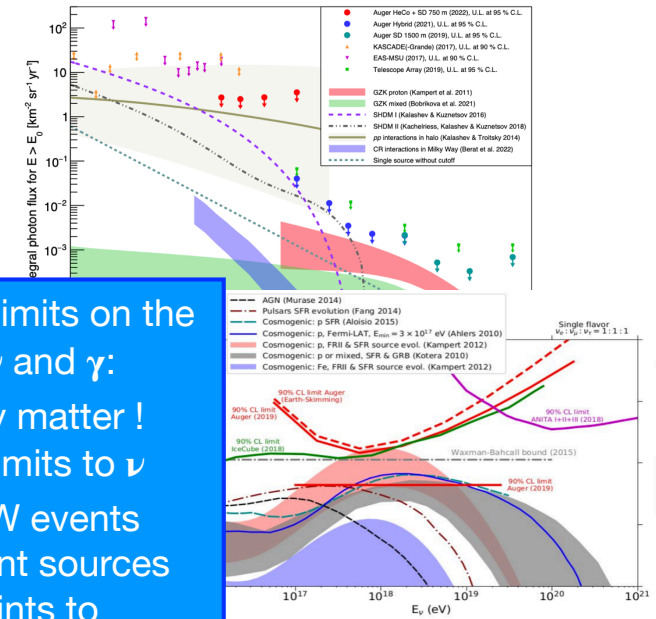


- ▶ Composition getting light up to ~2 EeV, then going to *mixed and heavier* towards UHE



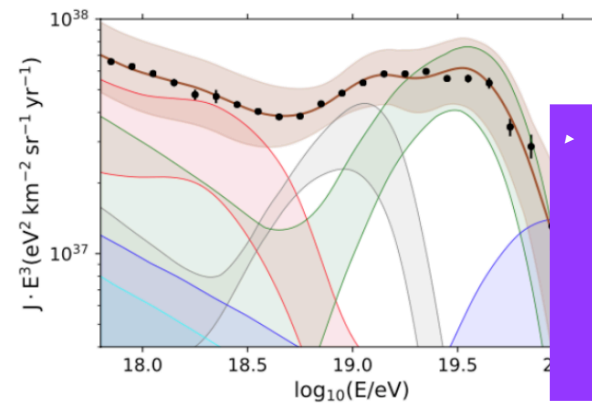
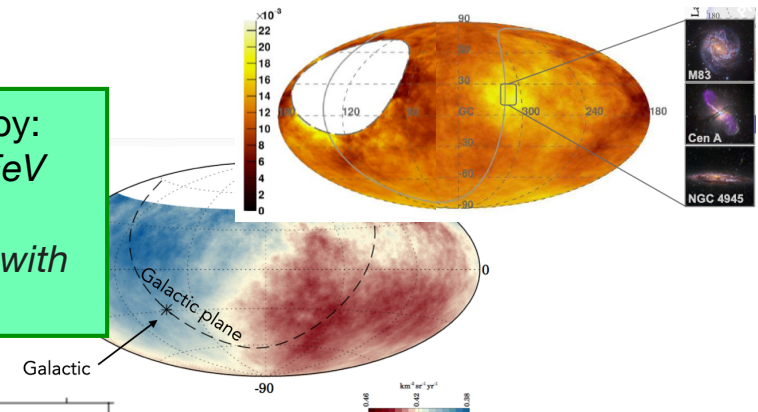
The muon puzzle  
p-Air cross section  
Separation  $\mu/\text{em}$

BSM: upper limits on LIV, SHDM ...



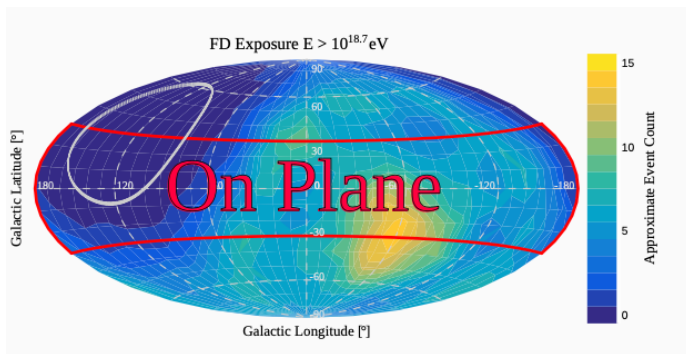
- ▶ Strong limits on the flux of  $\nu$  and  $\gamma$ : ordinary matter !
- ▶ Upper limits to  $\nu$  from GW events and point sources
- ▶ constraints to models

- ▶ LS dipolar anisotropy: UHECR above ~8 EeV are extragalactic
- ▶ Hints of correlation with SBGs & AGNs

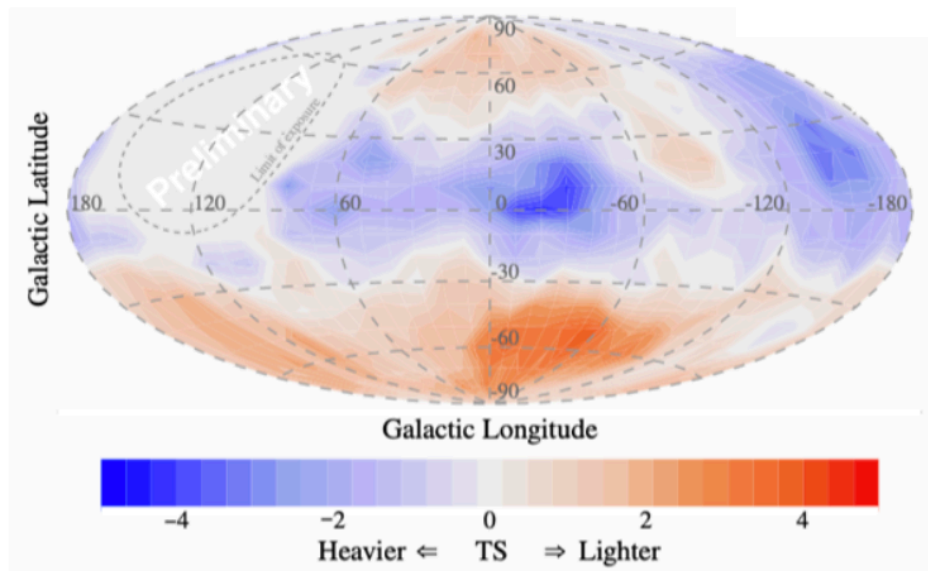


- ▶ Information on Source characteristics & Transition region from  $X_{\text{max}}$  distributions + Spectrum + Neutrals: LE and HE EG source populations + secondary Galactic one

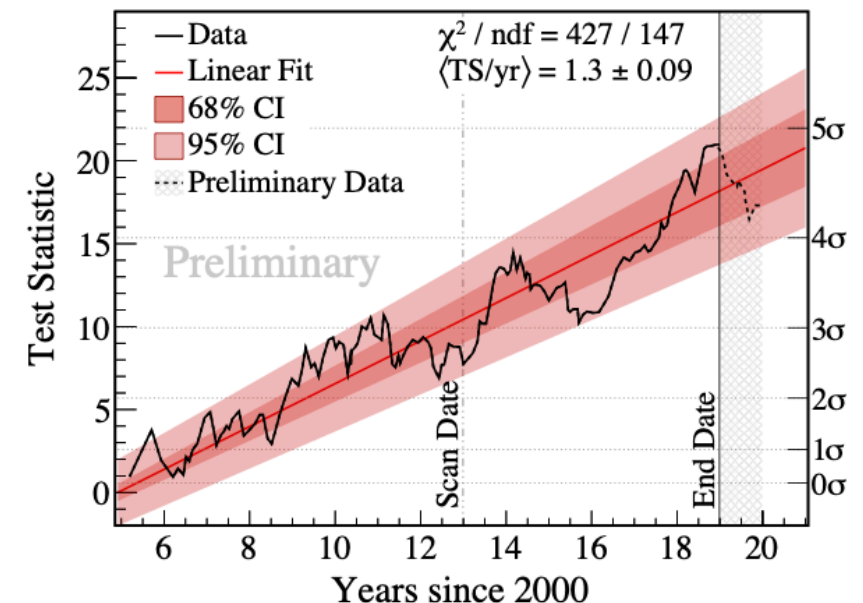
# Perspectives: composition sensitive anisotropy



- Scan over the data recorded before 01.01.2013 (54 %)
- $5^\circ$  steps in  $b$  and  $0.1 \lg(E/\text{eV})$  steps in energy
- Highest TS of 8.35 for:  $\rightarrow E_{\min} = 10^{18.7} \text{ eV}$   
 $\rightarrow b_{\text{split}} = 30^\circ$



- ▶ Verification of the mixed composition above the ankle
- ▶ suggests GMF could be causing composition anisotropies
- ▶ May not be related to the GMF
- ▶ Local source distribution or mass dependent horizons?
- ▶ Still no independent confirmation

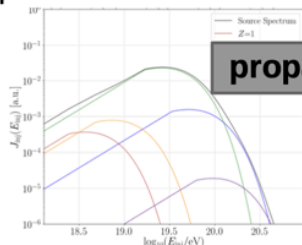




## Perspectives: E+X<sub>max</sub>+9 combination

### Universe model setup:

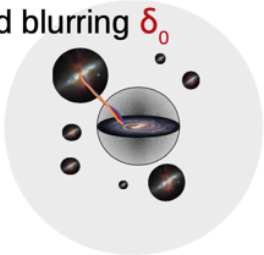
**injected spectrum:**

 $\gamma, R_{cut}, a_i$ 

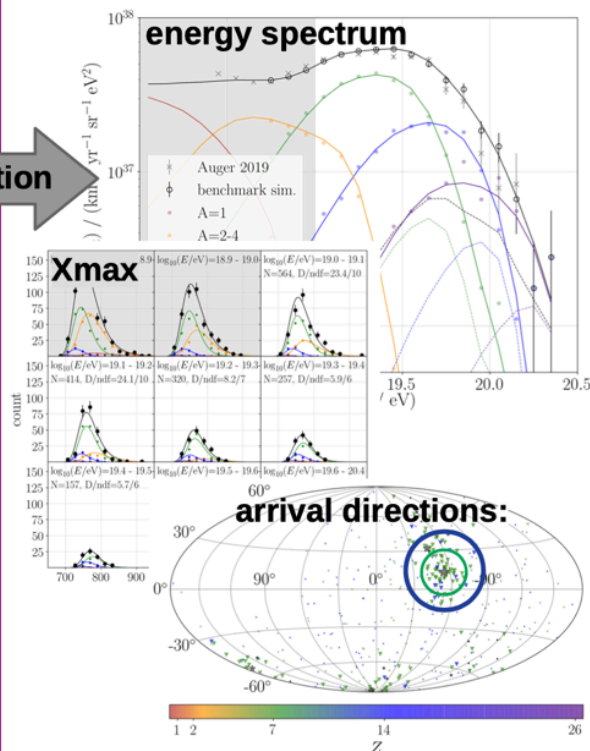
**propagation**

### 3d setup:

signal fraction  $f_0$ ,

magnetic field blurring  $\delta_0$ 

**Simulated observables:**



## Fit of model parameters to

- energy spectrum,
- Xmax distribution
- arrival direction distribution

**Flux and Xmax data:**

fluxes of different mass groups at Earth

**Arrival direction distribution:**

distance sensitivity (deflection, production of secondaries)

simulation only

|   | $D_E$ | $D_{X_{\max}}$ | $D_{\text{total}}$ | $2 \log \frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{AD}}}{\mathcal{L}_{\text{AD}}^{\text{ref}, m=3.4}}$ | $2 \log \frac{\mathcal{L}_{\text{sum}}}{\mathcal{L}_{\text{sum}}^{\text{ref}, m=3.4}}$ |
|---|-------|----------------|--------------------|--|--|
| SBG model ( $m = 3.4$ ) $\rightarrow$ <i>sim. truth</i> | 5.5   | 80.2           | 85.7               | 30.6   | 32.4   |
| AGN model ( $m = 3.4$ )                                 | 6.0   | 81.8           | 87.8               | 11.2   | 10.8   |
| AGN model ( $m = 5.0$ )                                 | 5.6   | 84.1           | 89.9               | 1.4  | -1.0   |



# The future: AugerPrime

*a large exposure detector with composition sensitivity above  $\sim 4 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV*

- **Surface Scintillator Detector (SSD)**

to measure the mass composition in combination with the WCD (3.8 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 cm thick)

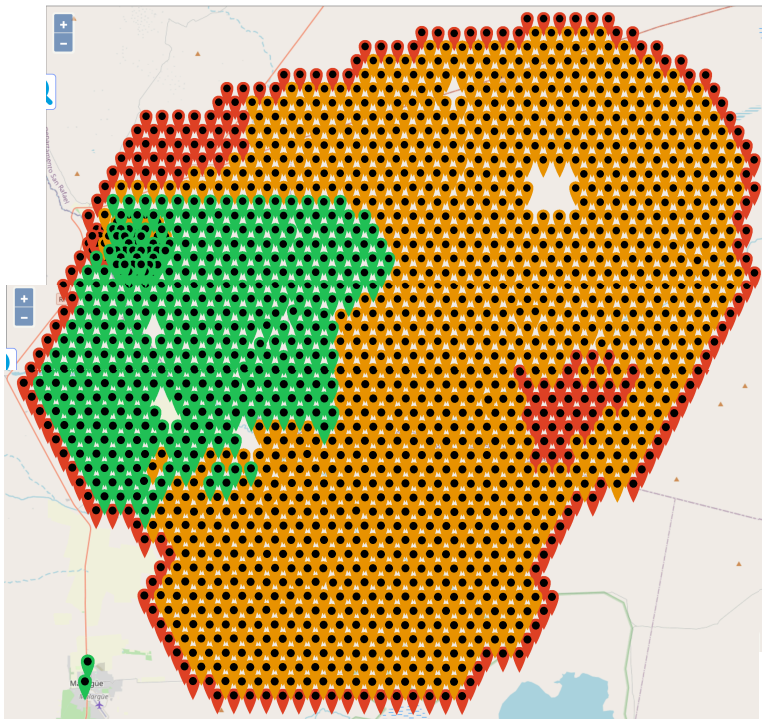
- **Surface Detector Upgraded Unified Board (UUB)**

to process the signals of all detectors (40 MHz  $\rightarrow$  120 MHz, better GPS timing)

- **small PMT (sPMT)** to increase the dynamic range of the WCD ( $\gtrsim 20,000$  VEM)

- **Radio Detector (RD)** to measure the radio emission of showers in atmosphere (30-80 MHz)

- **Underground Muon Detector (UMD)** to have a direct muon measurement (infill area, 30 m<sup>2</sup>, 2.3 m underground)



# The AugerPrime science case

## *Astrophysics*

1. Elucidate the origin of the flux suppression, i.e. GZK vs. maximum energy scenario
2. confirm SBG correlations at observation level ( $>5\sigma$ )
3. composition enhanced anisotropy searches
4. improve constraints on UHECR sources
5. particle astronomy if  $\sim 10\%$  protons exist above suppression, or study of the Peters cycle
6. Unambiguous EeV  $\gamma/\nu$  detection would be a game changer (transient, existence of a proton fraction, decay of SHDM...)
7. secondary Galactic component? galactic vs extragalactic origin

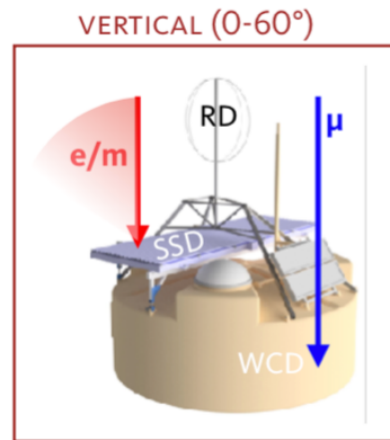
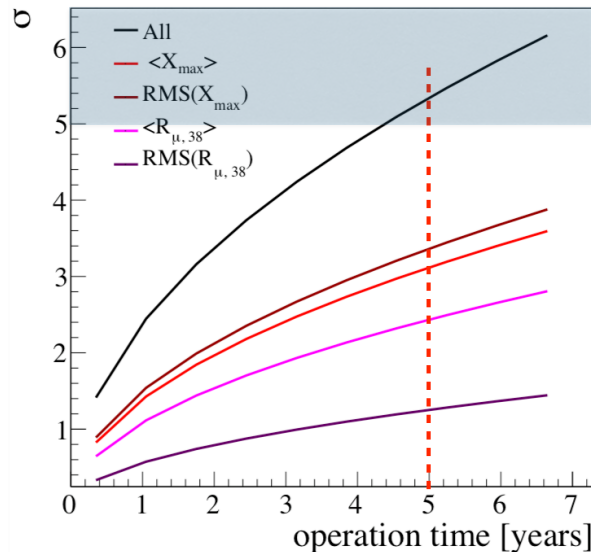
## *Hadronic physics*

1. event-by-event muon distribution to solve the muon puzzle: better understanding of forward physics and harvest new HEP results (nuclei-air cross sections) or BSM physics?
2. simultaneous measurement of  $X_{\max}$  and  $X^{\mu}_{\max}$
3. new measurement of p-Air cross section (improved mass selection)
4. RD extension to improve energy scale systematics
5. BSM: improve limits on LIV and SHDM
6. Upcoming contribution from LHC (p-O run, planned for 2023)



# The AugerPrime hybrid events

## Vertical showers

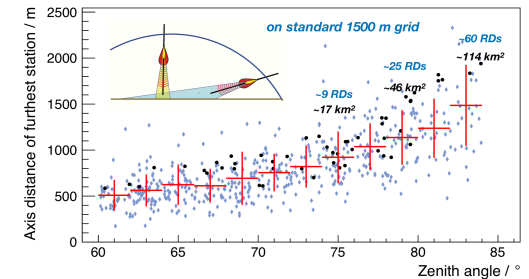
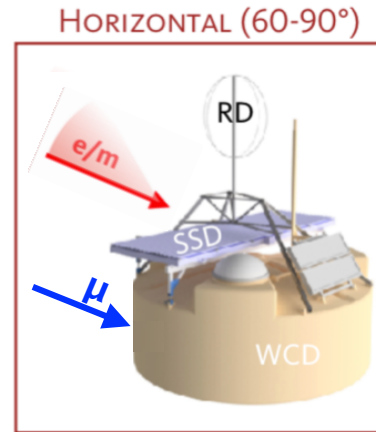


Significance of distinguishing two different realisations of Scenario 1 (maximum rigidity model) :

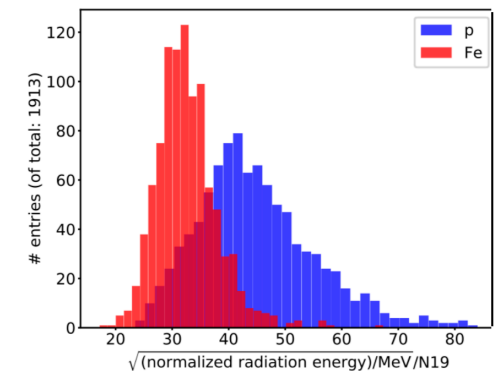
- as it predicts, i.e. no protons at UHE
- adding 10% protons

**>5 $\sigma$  in 5 years of operations**

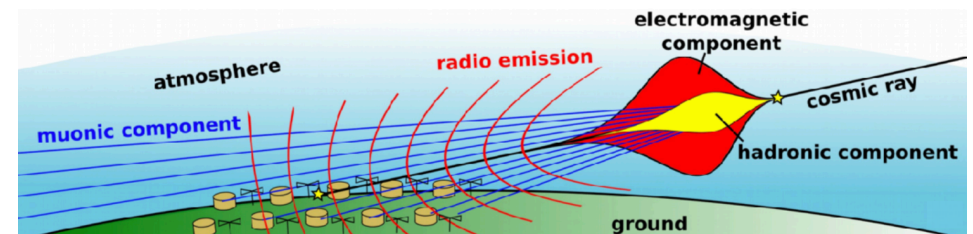
## Horizontal showers

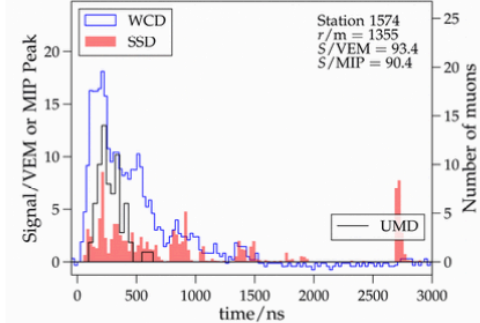
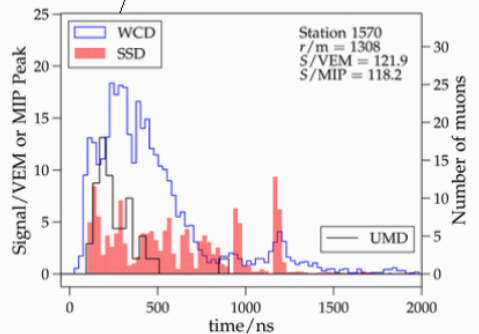
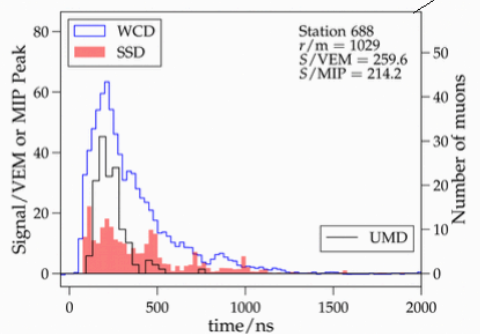
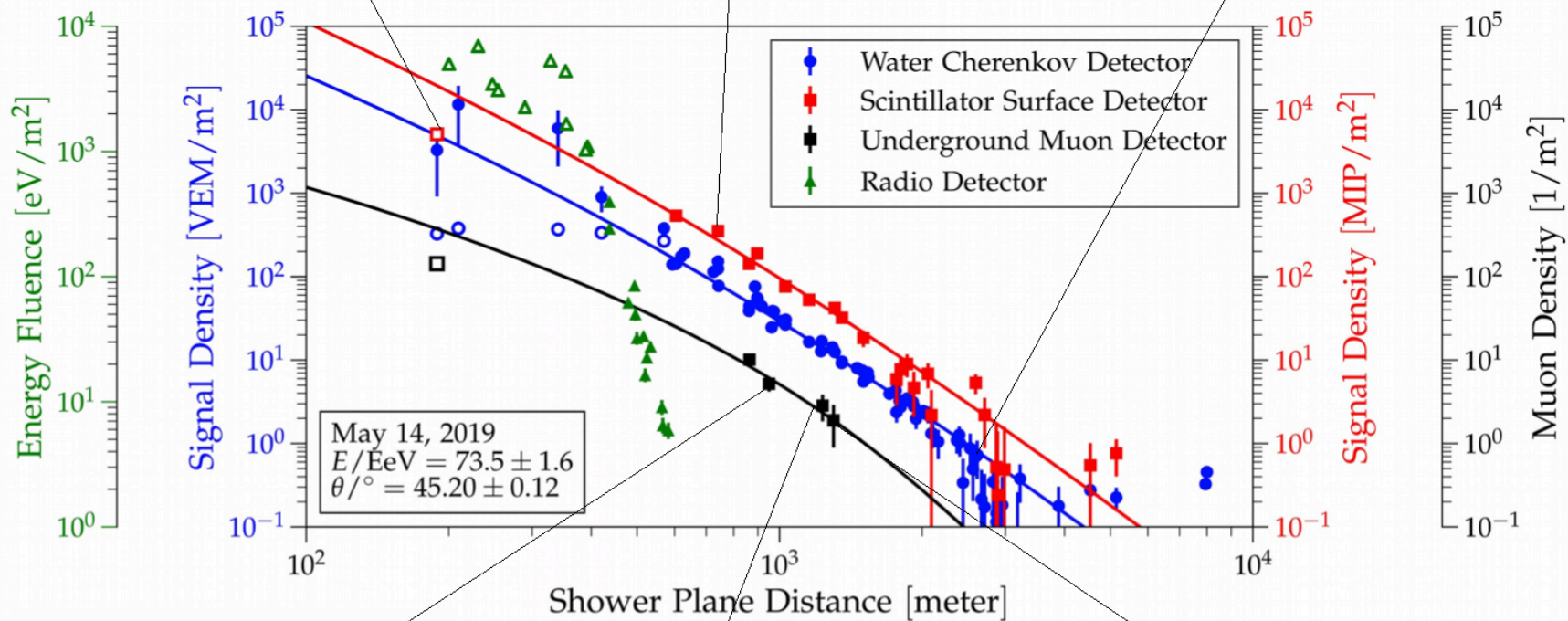
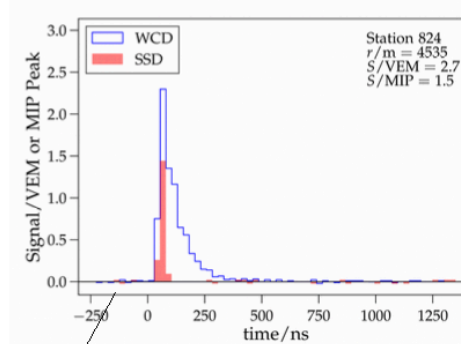
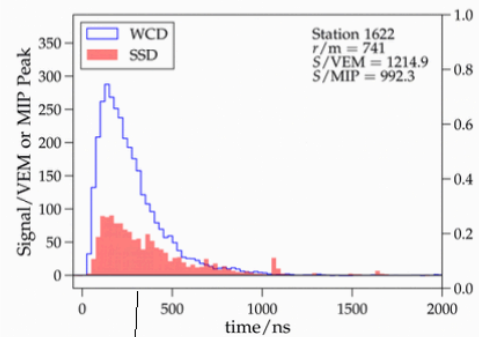
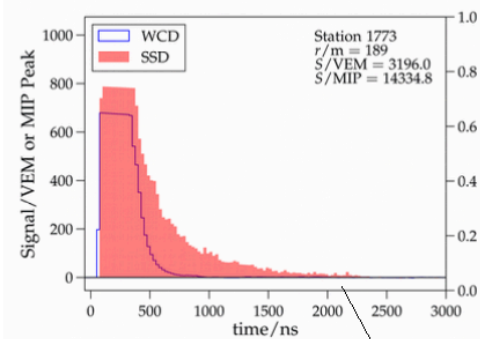


**E<sub>30-80</sub> MHz = 15.8 MeV @ 10<sup>18</sup> eV**



Hybrid:  
E<sub>rad</sub> from radio  
muons from WCD

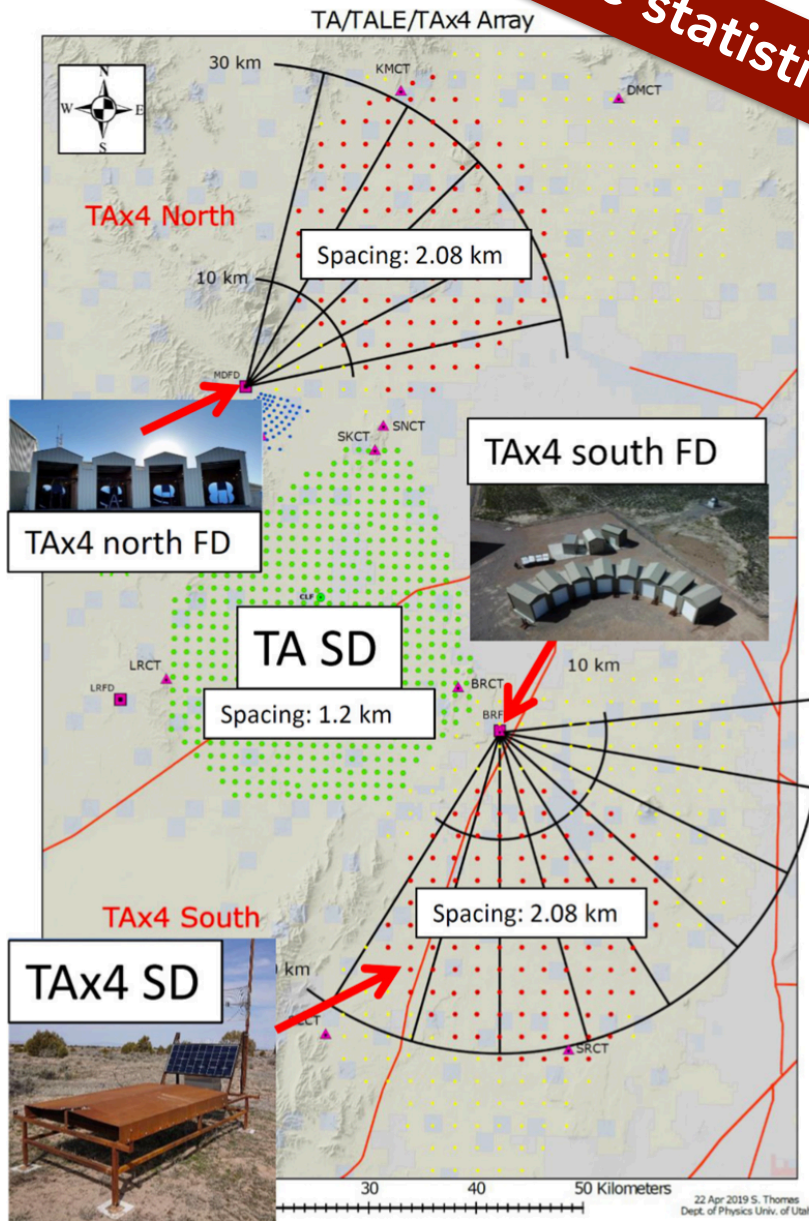






# The future: TAx4

more statistics



increase the coverage to  $\sim 3000 \text{ km}^2$  to  
increase the statistics at UHE

- ➔ the SD array: increased by 500 stations with 2 km spacing
- ➔ the FD telescopes: increased by 4 FD in the Northern site, 8 in the Southern site
- ➔ TALE hybrid: low energy extension of TA hybrid sensitivity down to  $10^{16} \text{ eV}$



[S.Ogio, Highlight Talk, PoS(ICRC2019) 013]

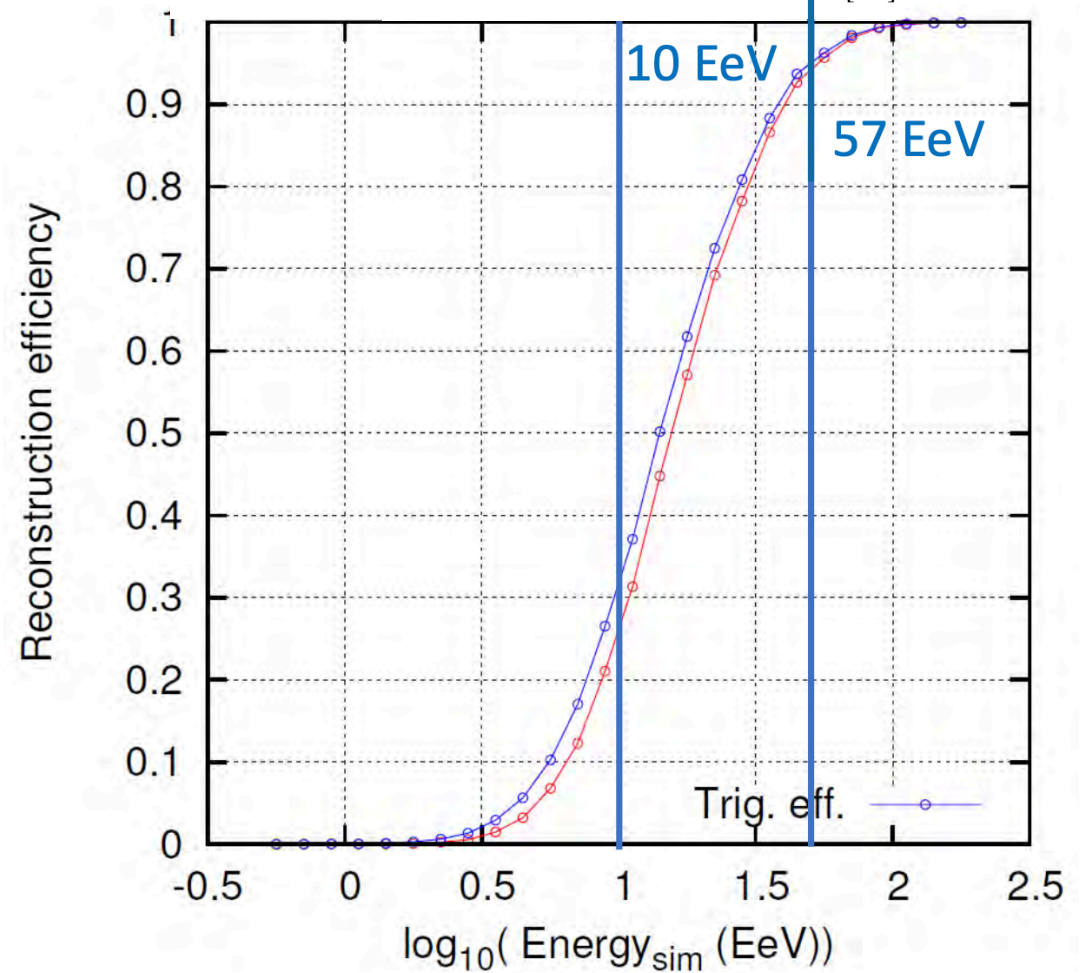
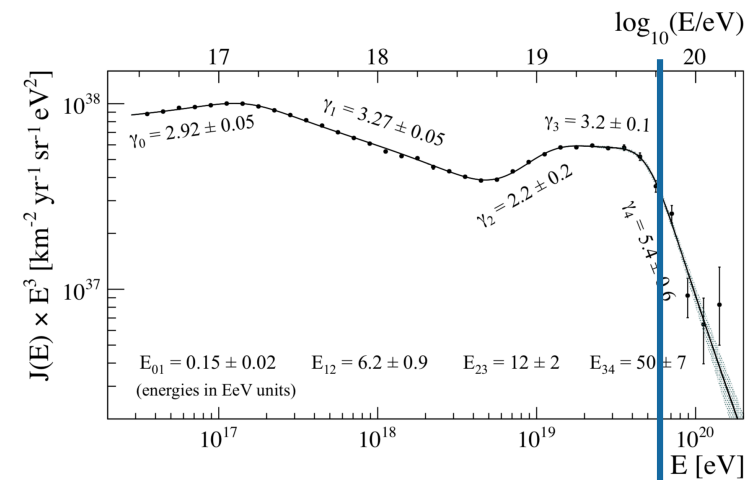


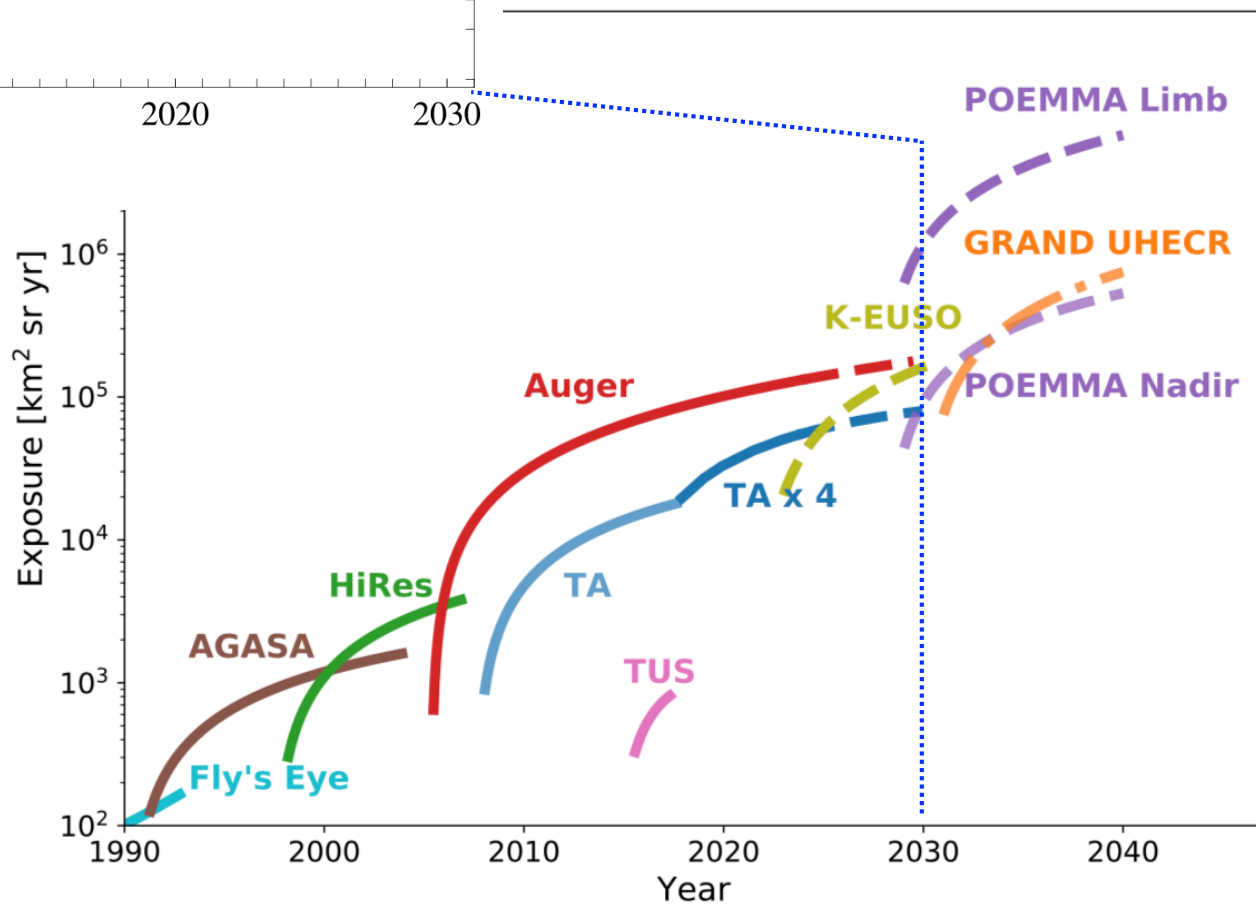
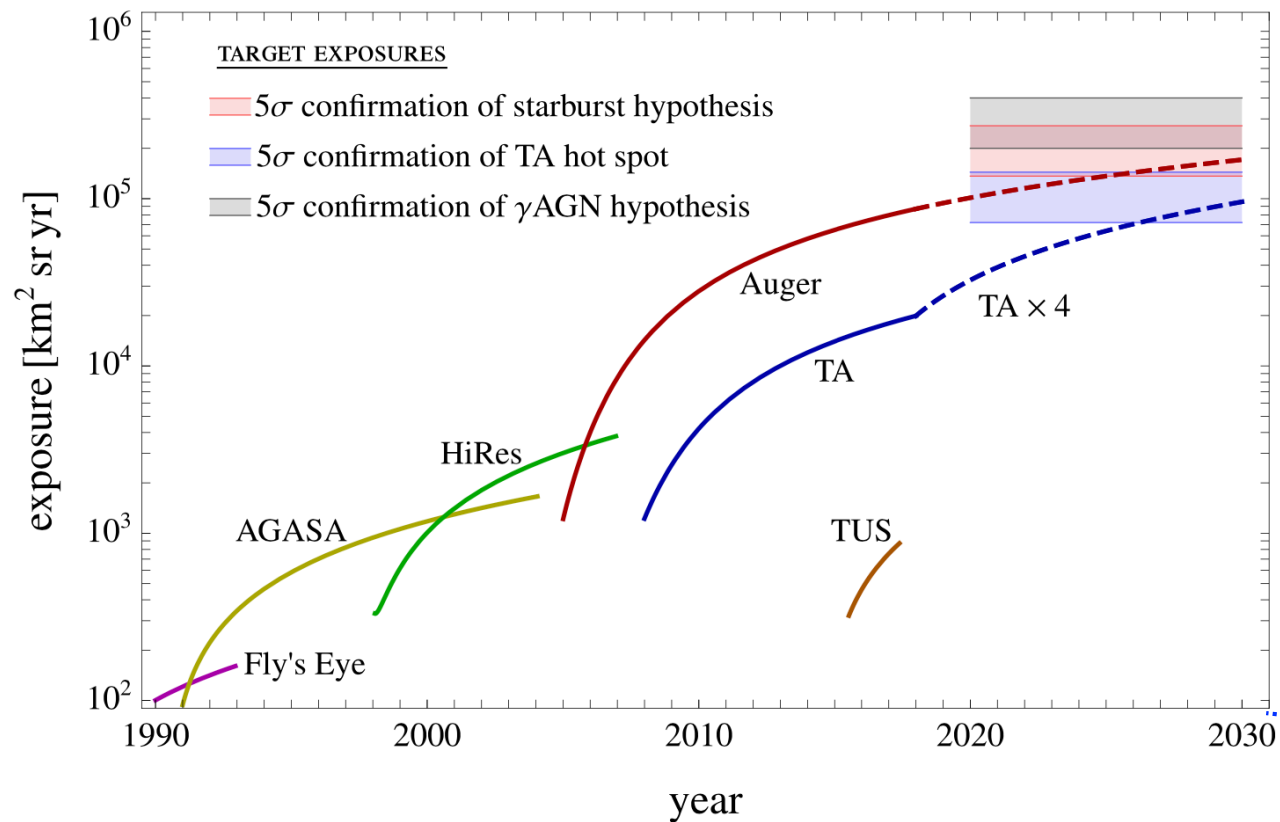
# UHECR future: TAx4



Above 57  $10^{18}$  eV

- reconstruction efficiency >95%
- Angular resolution  $2.2^\circ$
- energy resolution ~25%





BACKUP SLIDES

# Energy resolution

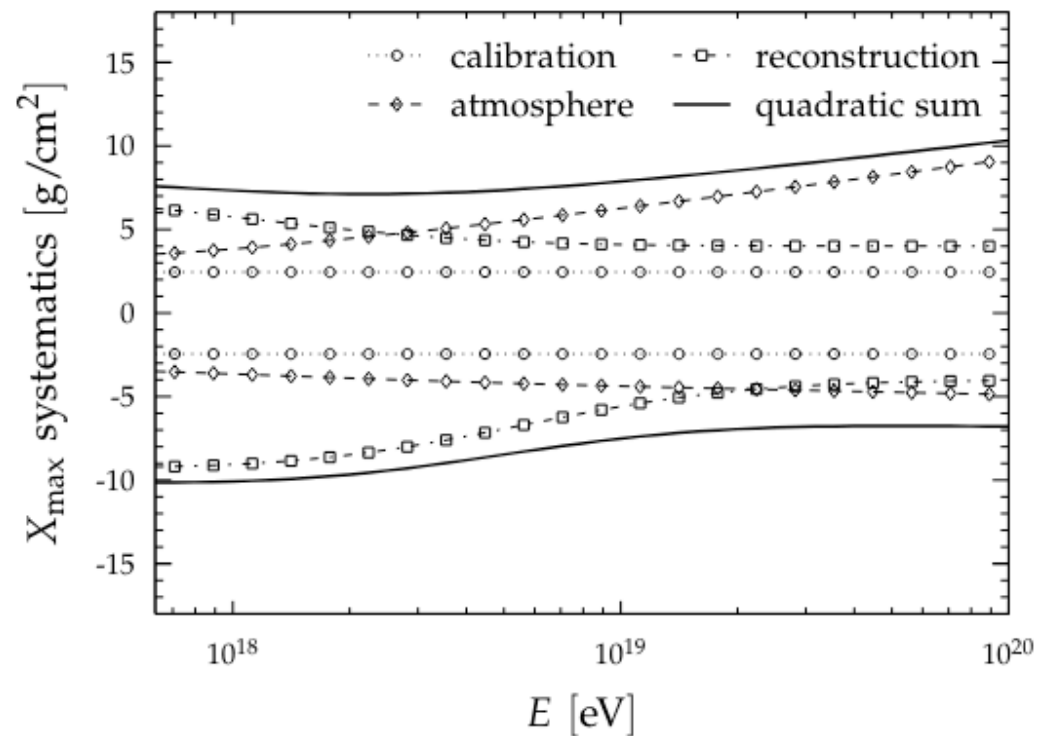
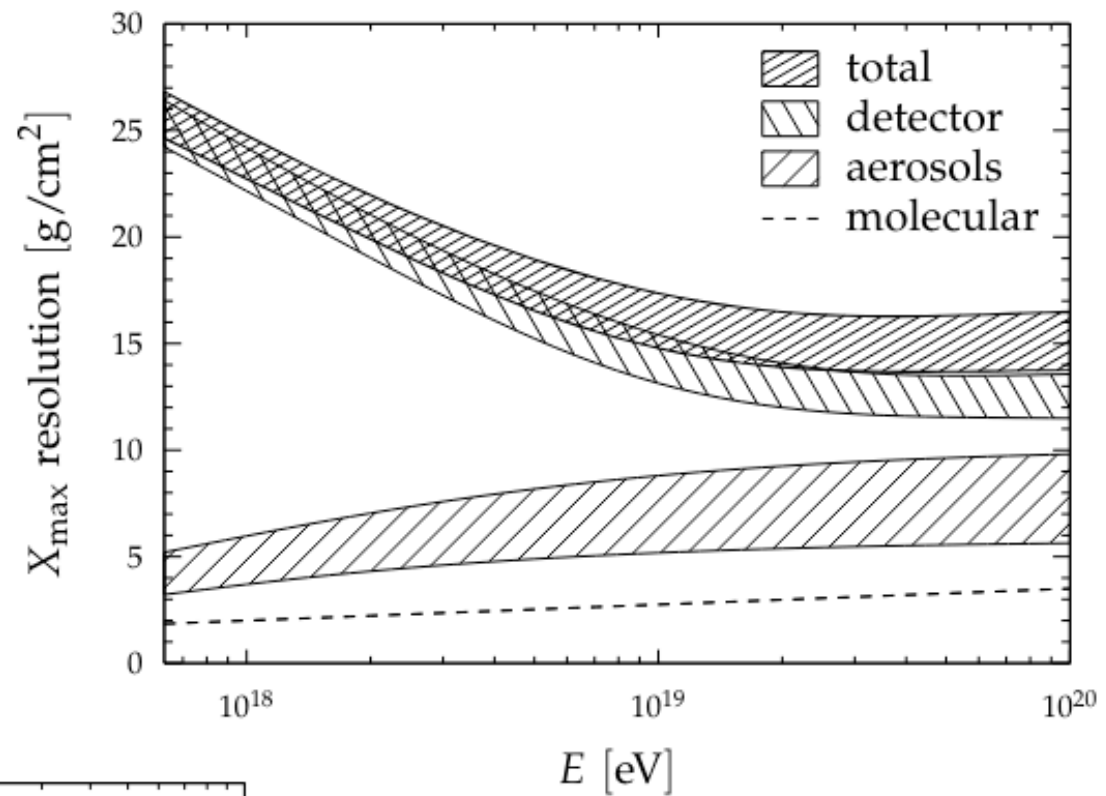
|                             | FD energy resolution                    |             |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------|
|                             |   |             |
| atmosphere                  | Aerosol optical depth                   | 1.2% – 3.8% |
|                             | Horiz. uniform. of aerosols             | 1.6% – 5%   |
|                             | Molecular atmosphere                    | 1%          |
| detector/<br>reconstruction | Nightly relative calib.                 | 1.3%        |
|                             | Time drift of FD energies               | 2.5%        |
|                             | Mismatch between telescopes             | 3.5%        |
|                             | Stat. error from geom. and GH fit       | 4.6% – 2.8% |
|                             | Extrapolation of profile                | 2.2%        |
| invisible<br>energy         | $E_{\text{inv}}$ shower-to-shower fluc. | 1.1% – 0.6% |
|                             | $E_{\text{inv}}$ mass uncertainty       | 2.4% – 0.3% |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                |   | 7.6% – 8.6% |

*Systematic uncertainties  
on the energy scale*

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Absolute fluorescence yield                   | 3.4%               |
| Fluores. spectrum and quenching param.        | 1.1%               |
| <b>Sub total (Fluorescence Yield)</b>         | <b>3.6%</b>        |
| Aerosol optical depth                         | 3% ÷ 6%            |
| Aerosol phase function                        | 1%                 |
| Wavelength dependence of aerosol scattering   | 0.5%               |
| Atmospheric density profile                   | 1%                 |
| <b>Sub total (Atmosphere)</b>                 | <b>3.4% ÷ 6.2%</b> |
| Absolute FD calibration                       | 9%                 |
| Nightly relative calibration                  | 2%                 |
| Optical efficiency                            | 3.5%               |
| <b>Sub total (FD calibration)</b>             | <b>9.9%</b>        |
| Folding with point spread function            | 5%                 |
| Multiple scattering model                     | 1%                 |
| Simulation bias                               | 2%                 |
| Constraints in the Gaisser-Hillas fit         | 3.5% ÷ 1%          |
| <b>Sub total (FD profile rec.)</b>            | <b>6.5% ÷ 5.6%</b> |
| <b>Invisible energy</b>                       | <b>3% ÷ 1.5%</b>   |
| <b>Statistical error of the SD calib. fit</b> | <b>0.7% ÷ 1.8%</b> |
| <b>Stability of the energy scale</b>          | <b>5%</b>          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  | <b>14%</b>         |

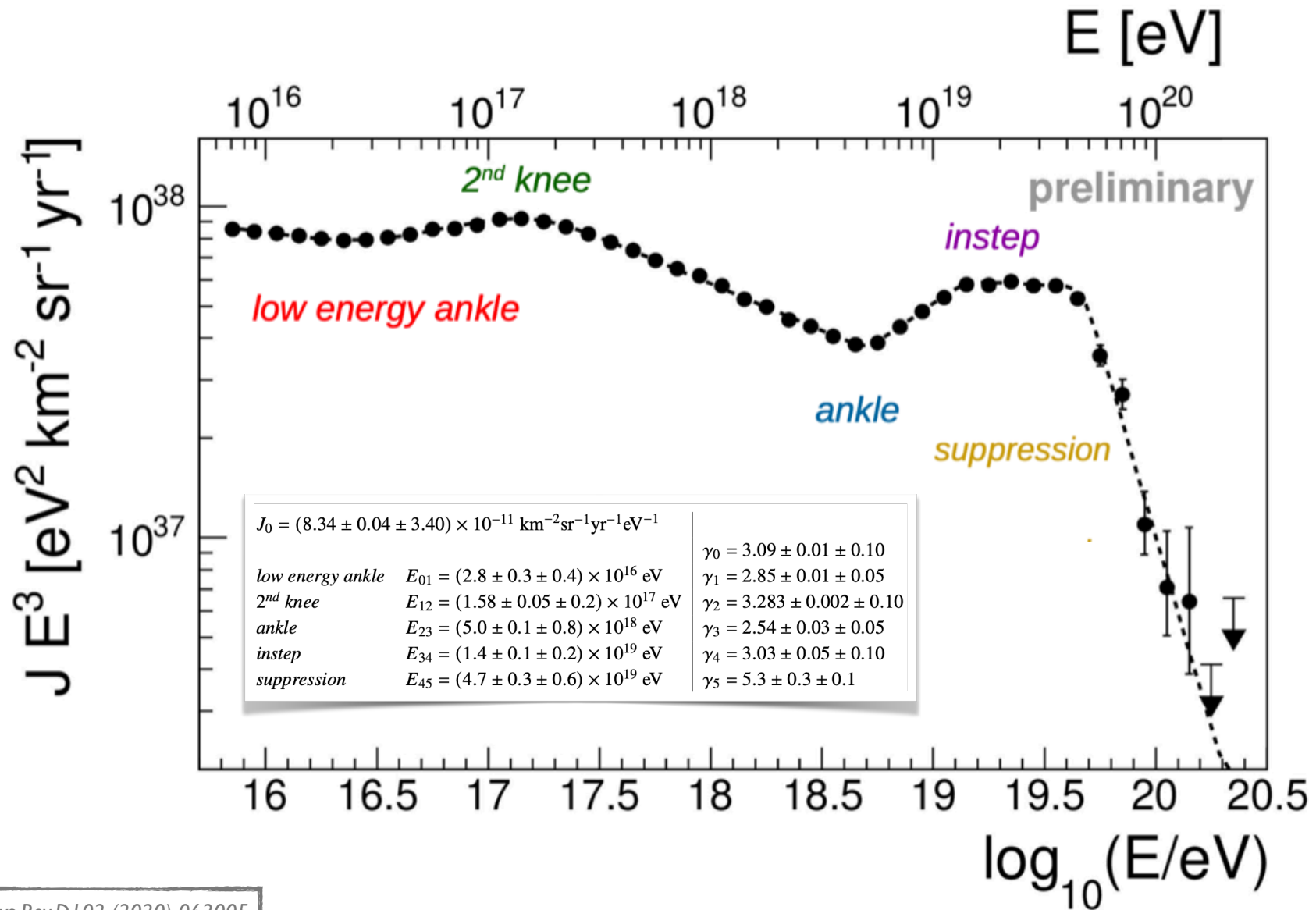


# $X_{max}$ resolution



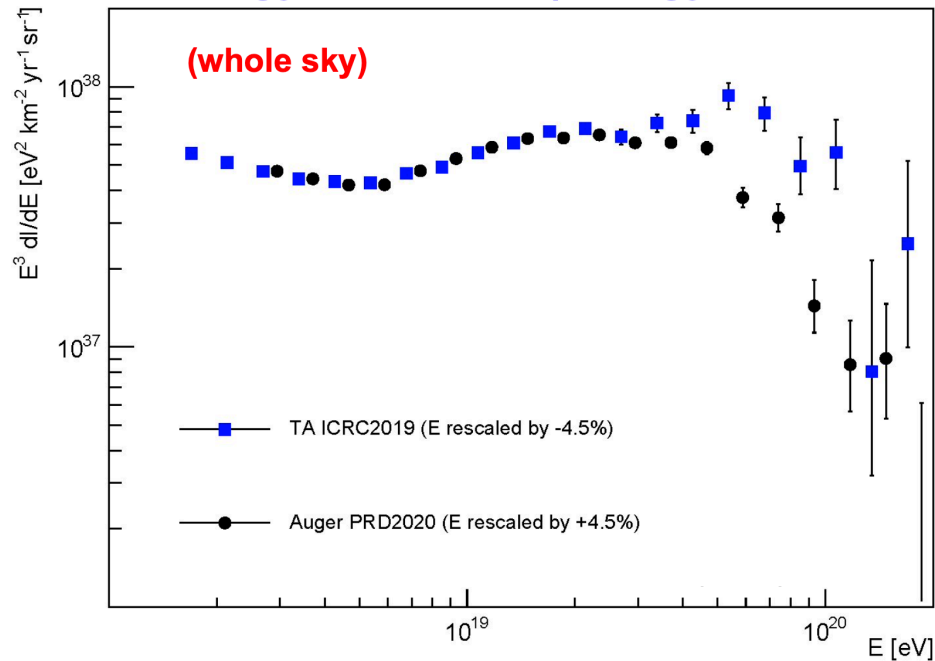
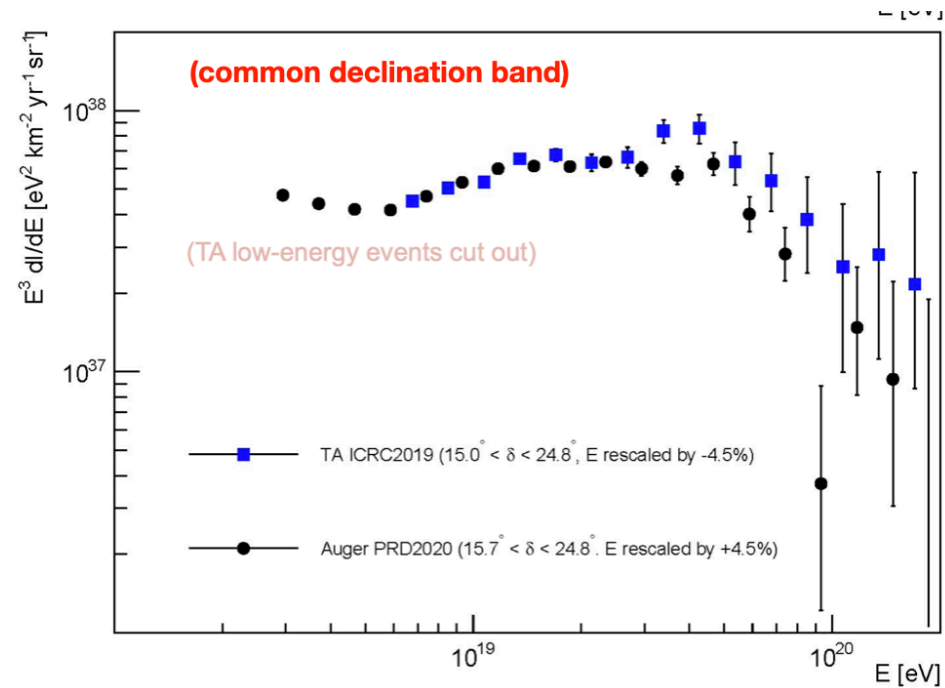
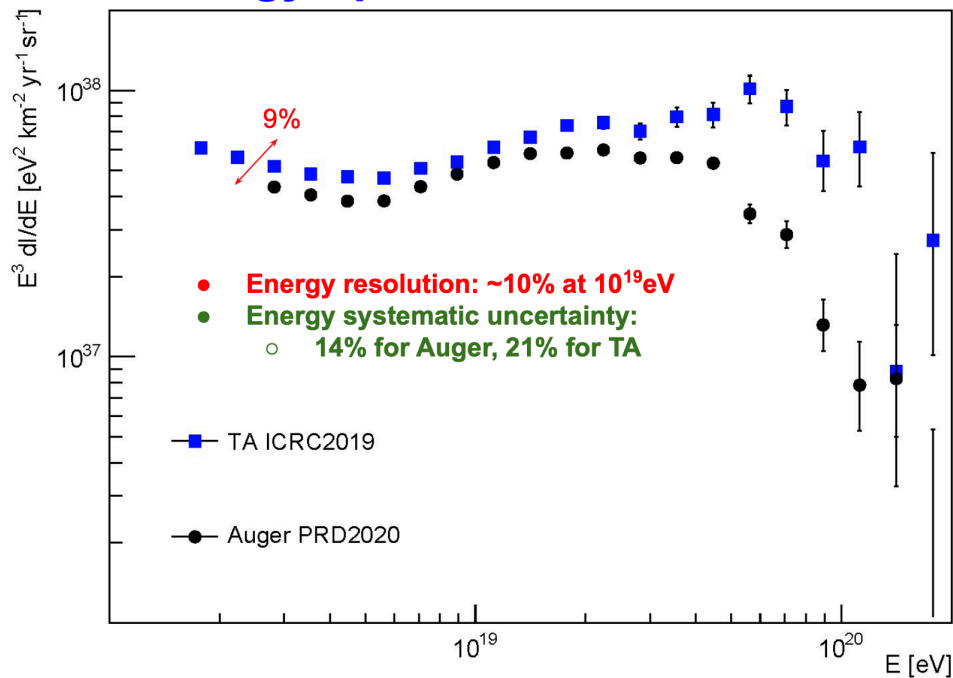
*Systematic  
uncertainties on  $X_{max}$*

# The Auger energy spectrum



Auger Coll., Phys.Rev.D102 (2020) 062005  
 Auger Coll., Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 966  
 V.Novotny, PoS(ICRC2021) 324

# Comparison Auger/TA



good agreement in the common declination band ( $-15^\circ < \delta < 24.8^\circ$ ) within systematics up to  $\sim 30 \text{ EeV}$

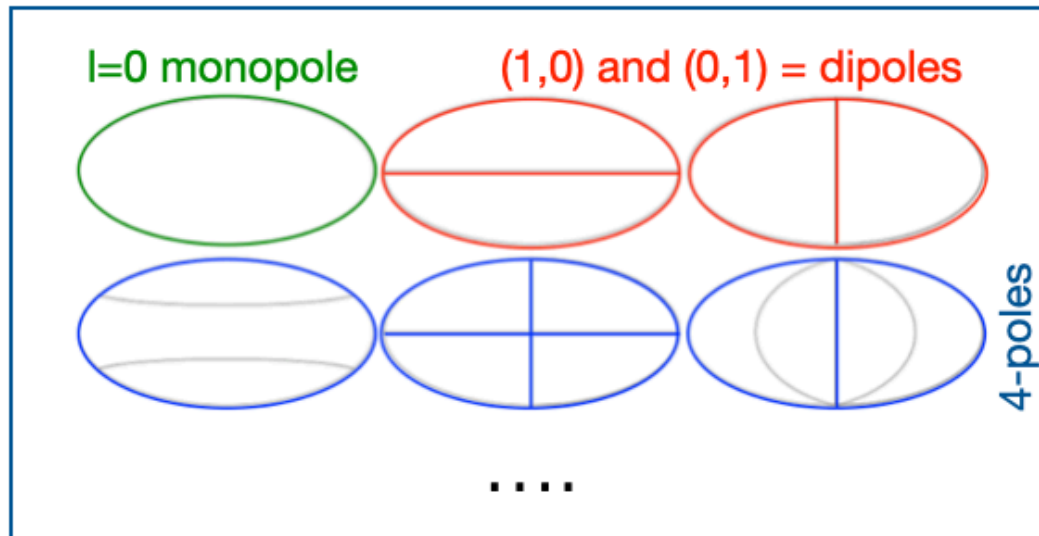
further energy dependent rescaling  $\pm 10\%$  per decade needed to restore agreement at the UHE - studies ongoing

## Main differences Auger/TA

- if  $E_{\text{inv}}(\text{Auger})$  is used in TA :  $E_{\text{TA}} \times 1.07$
- if  $FY(\text{Auger})$  is used in TA :  $E_{\text{TA}} \times 0.86$
- + differences in the method of correlating the SD observable with E: constant intensity cut in Auger; look-up tables based on QGSjetII-03(proton) for TA

# Spherical harmonics in the sky

Normalised spatial event distribution = 
$$I(\Omega) \equiv \frac{N(\Omega)}{\int d\Omega N(\Omega)} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|m| \leq l} a_{lm} Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

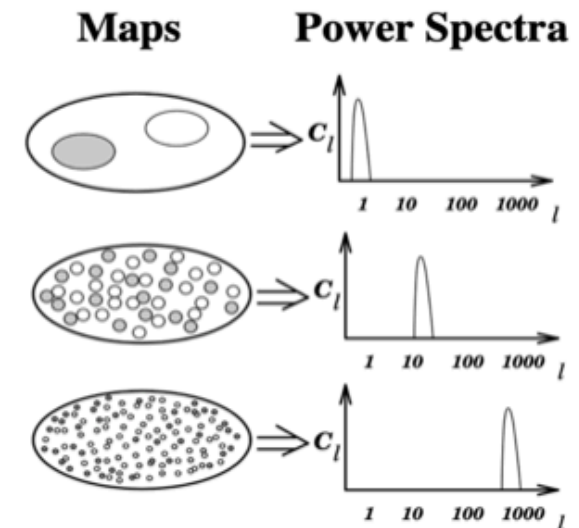


- rigorous expansion in spherical harmonics, complete  $\{Y_{lm}\}$  set
- $N$ =events seen in the solid angle  $\Omega$
- $a_{lm}$ = spherical harmonics coefficients, include all the information about the event distribution

- $l=0$  monopole;
- $l+1-|m|$  latitudinal zones
- $l-|m|$  nodal latitudes

- Expansion coefficients  $a_{lm}$ 's  $\Rightarrow$  frame-dependent
- Only  $\ell = m = 0$  monopole coefficient is coordinate independent
- To combat problem

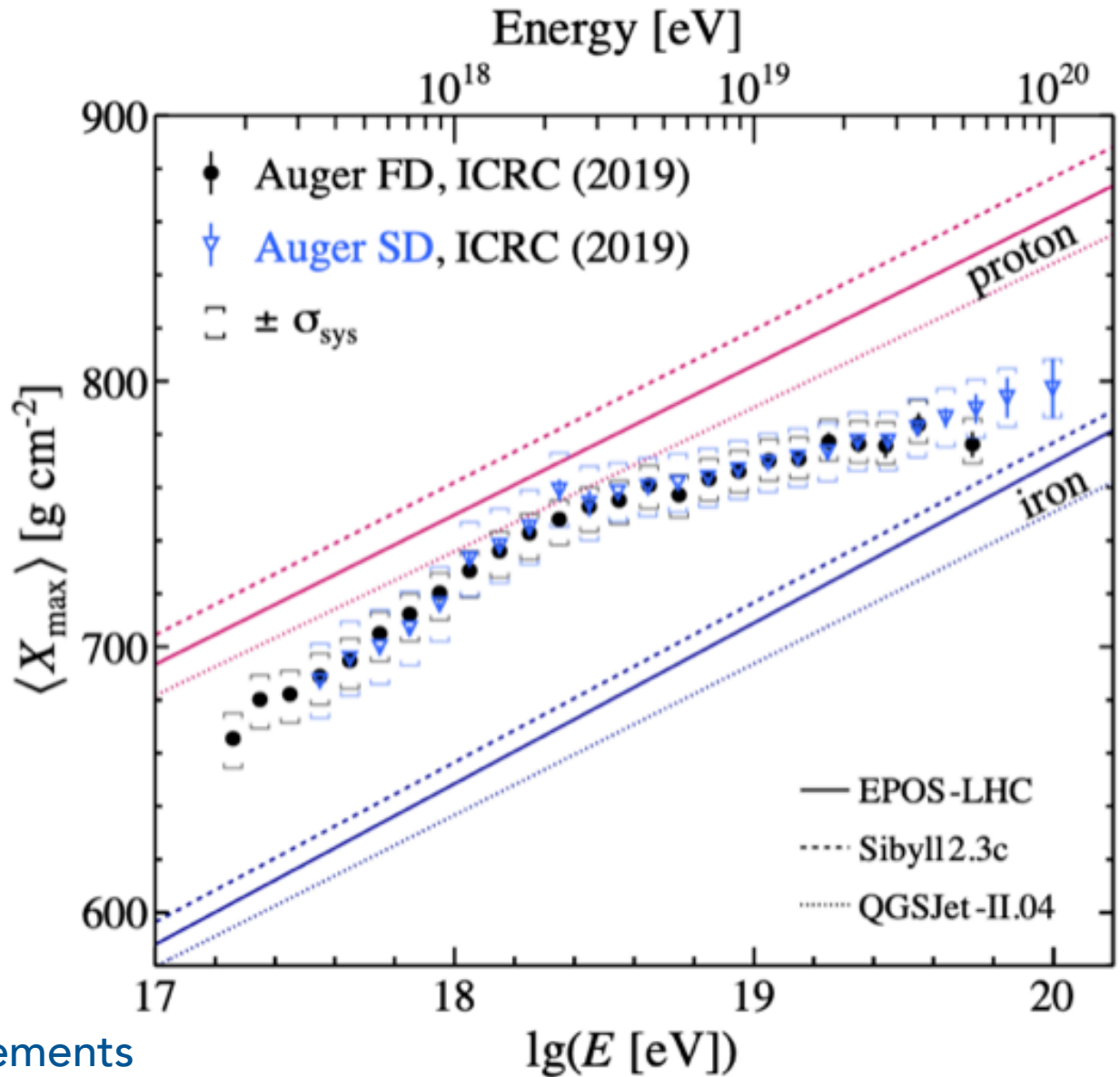
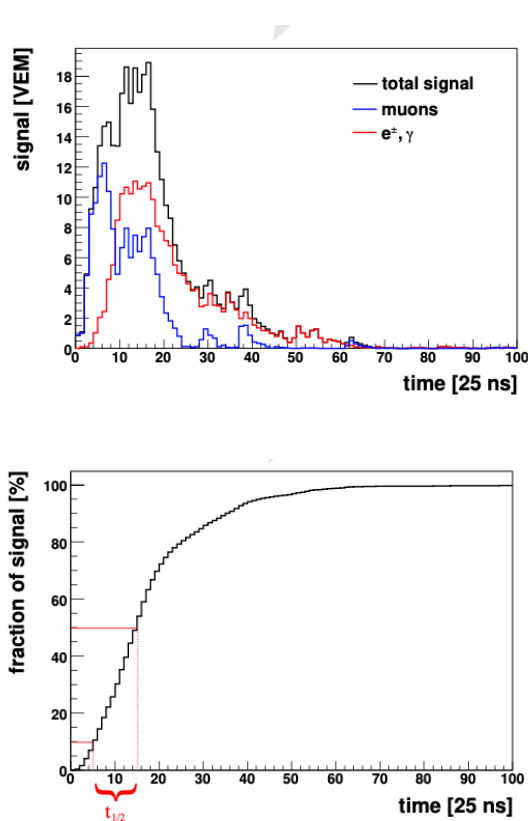
**Power Spectrum** 
$$C_l \equiv \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l a_{lm}^2$$



@Anchordoqui, L

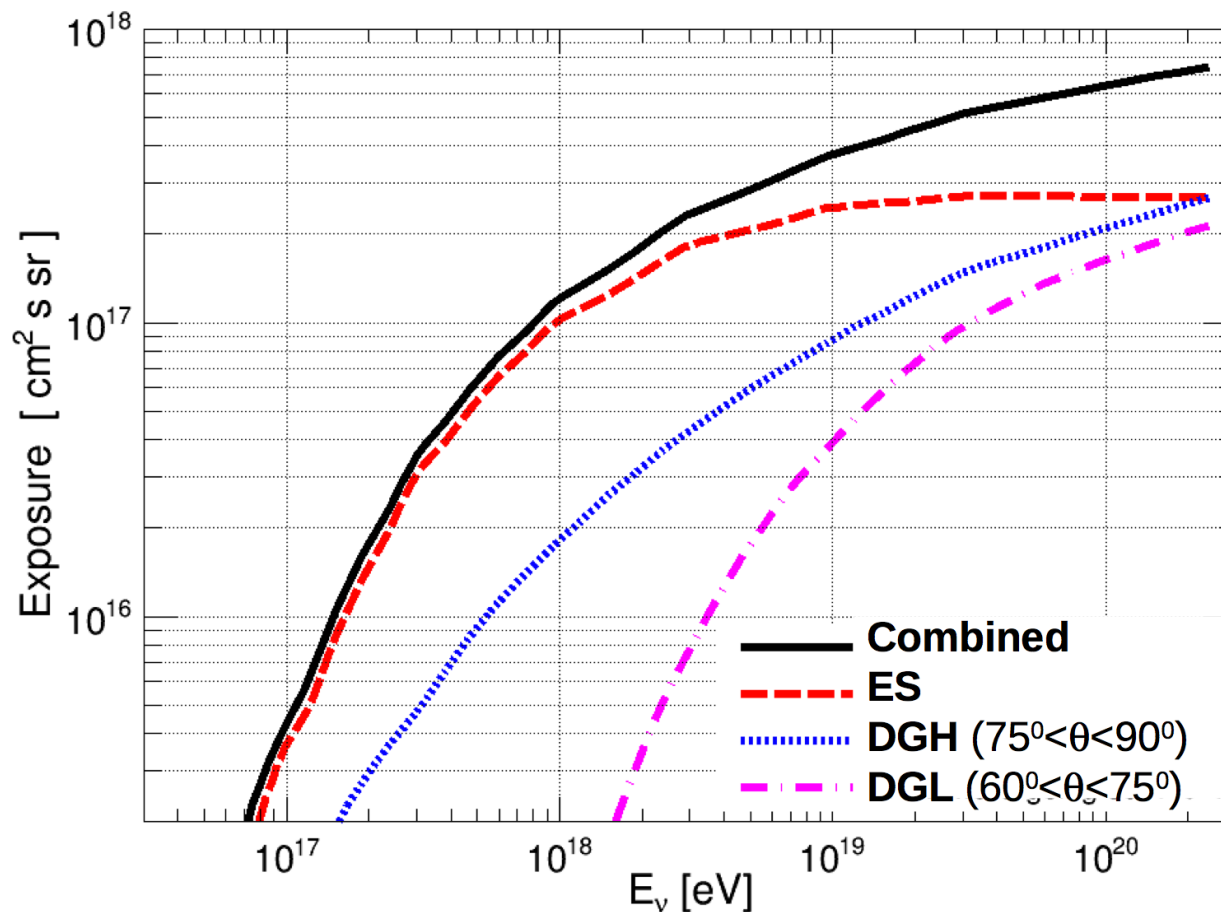


# The mass composition from SD



- coherent with the FD measurements
- larger systematic uncertainties but higher energy

# Neutrinos in Auger



Relative contribution of channels & flavours to event rate ( $E^{-2}$  flux)

|     |       |
|-----|-------|
| ES  | 79.4% |
| DGH | 17.6% |
| DGL | 3.0%  |

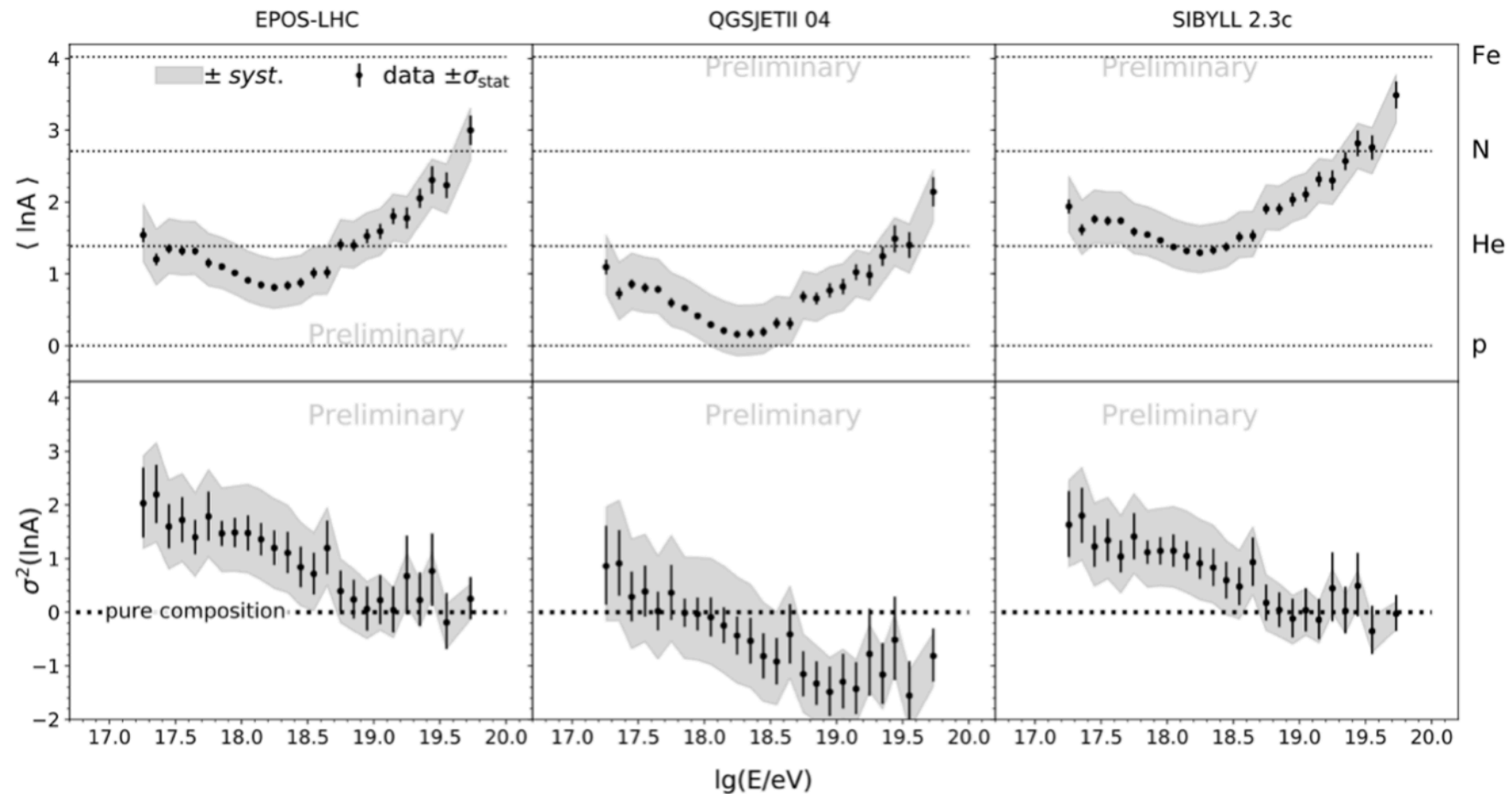
$\nu_\tau$

- production is suppressed relative to  $\nu_e$  or  $\nu_\mu$
- but ~same fluxes for all flavours after travelling cosmological distances, thanks to  $\nu$  mixing.
- ES can undergo CC interactions and produce leptons.
- Since a lepton can travel tens of km in the Earth at EeV energies, it can emerge into the atmosphere and decay in flight producing an nearly horizontal extensive air shower (EAS) above the detector.

$$\langle X_{\max} \rangle = \langle X_{\max} \rangle_p + f_E \langle \ln A \rangle \quad f_E = \xi - \frac{D}{\ln 10} + \delta \log_{10} \left( \frac{E}{E_0} \right)$$

$$\sigma^2(X_{\max}) = \langle \sigma_{\text{sh}}^2 \rangle + f_E^2 \sigma_{\ln A}^2 .$$

$$\langle \ln A \rangle = \frac{\langle X_{\max} \rangle - \langle X_{\max} \rangle_p}{f_E} \quad \sigma_{\ln A}^2 = \frac{\sigma^2(X_{\max}) - \sigma_{\text{sh}}^2(\langle \ln A \rangle)}{b \sigma_p^2 + f_E^2}$$

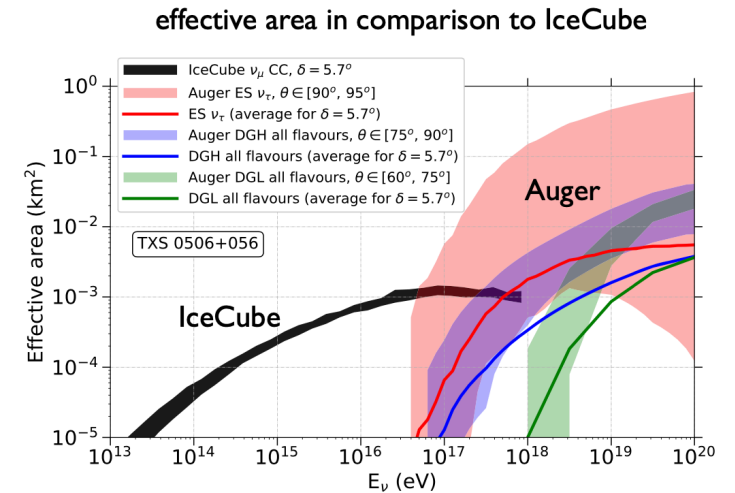
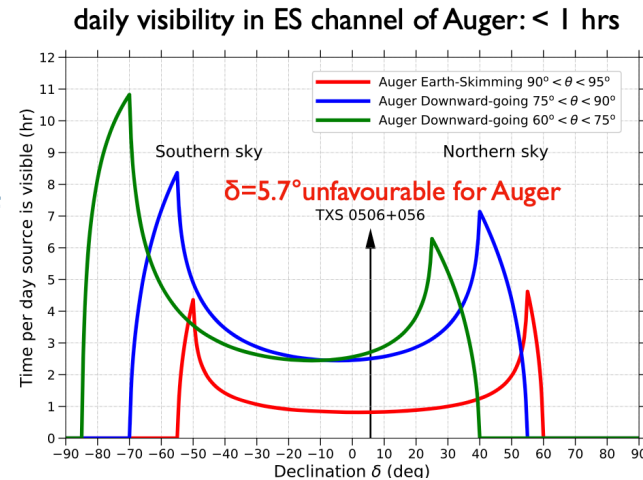


Model-independent decrease of  $\sigma(\ln A)$  until  $\sim 10^{18.7}$  eV

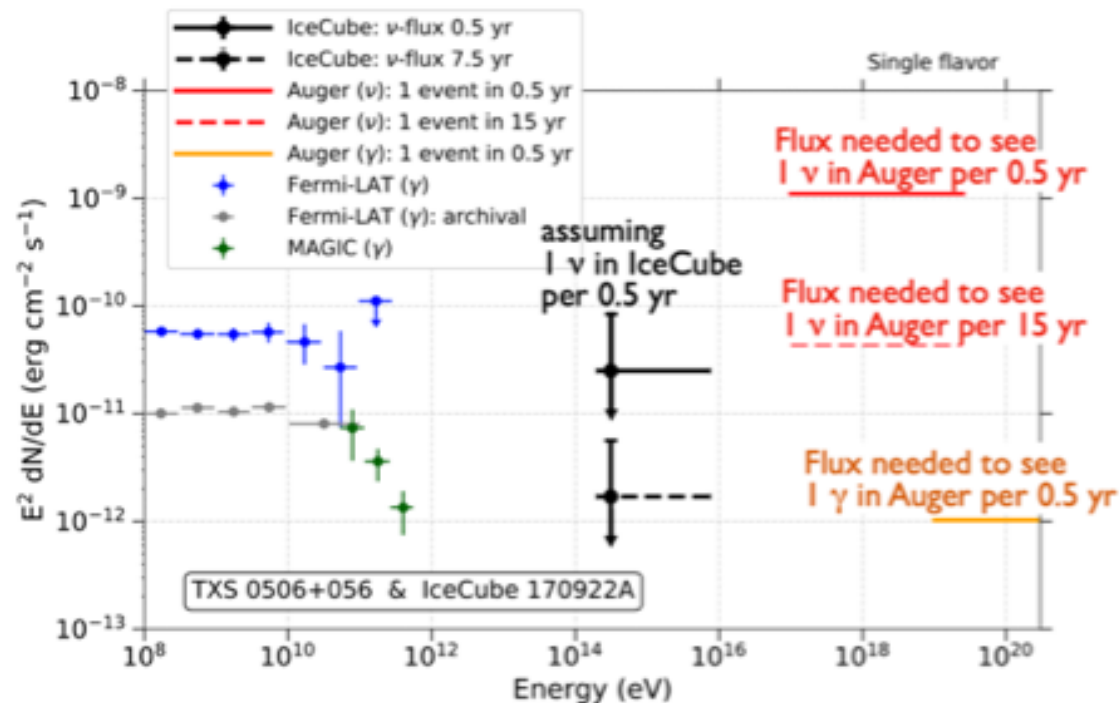
Less model-dependent constraints on  $\sigma(\ln A)$  near the ankle?

# Neutrinos from TXS

In Sept. 2017, IceCube observed a 290 TeV  $\nu$  from the direction of TXS 0506+59 during a flaring state [Science 361, 146 (2018)]



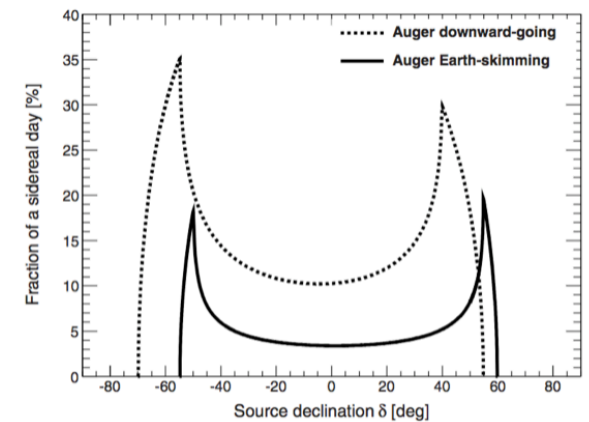
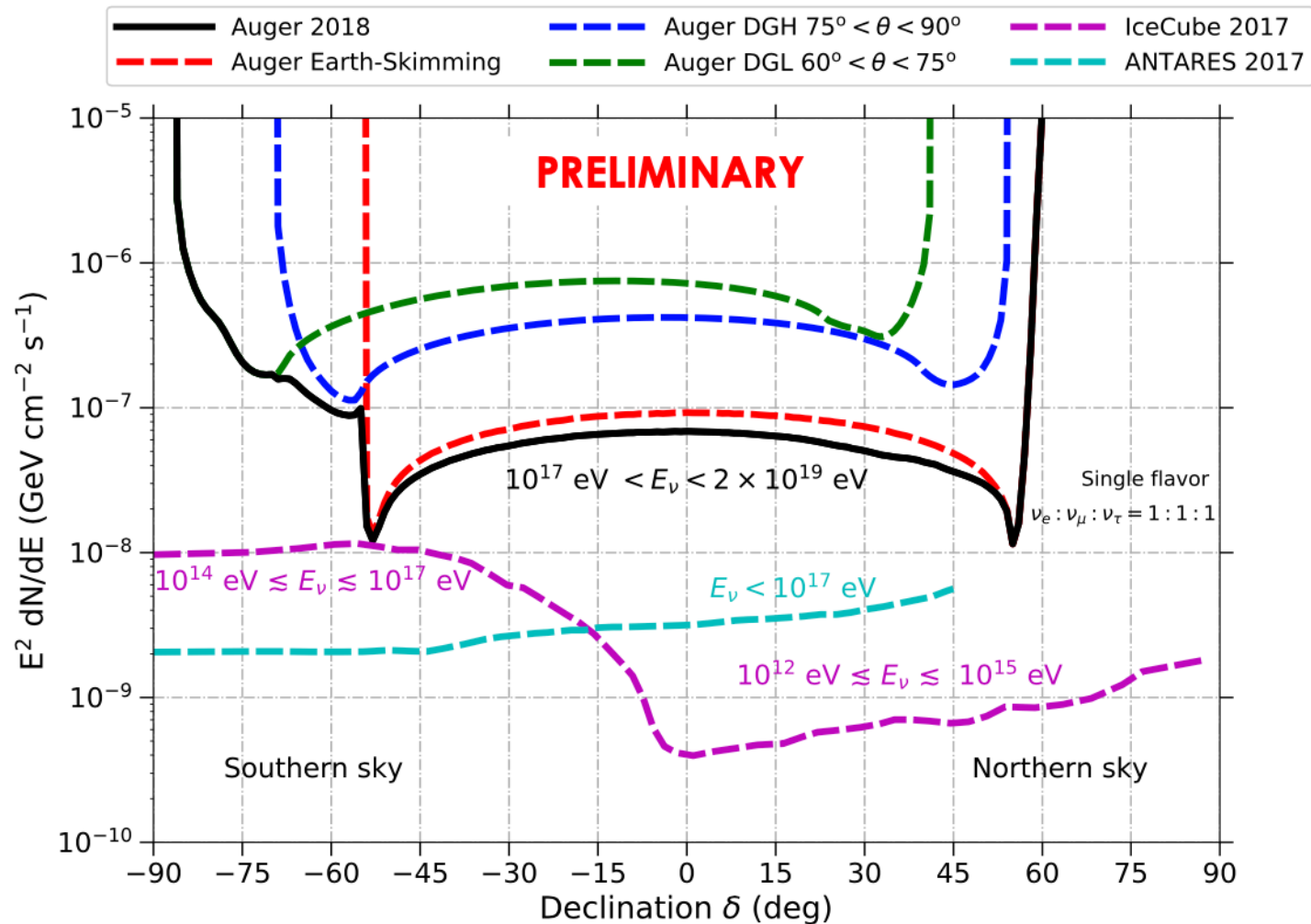
Flux comparison from single event assuming  $E^{-2}$  spectrum



A neutrino in Auger could be seen only in case of hard neutrino spectra (+2 $\sigma$  allowance of IceCube)

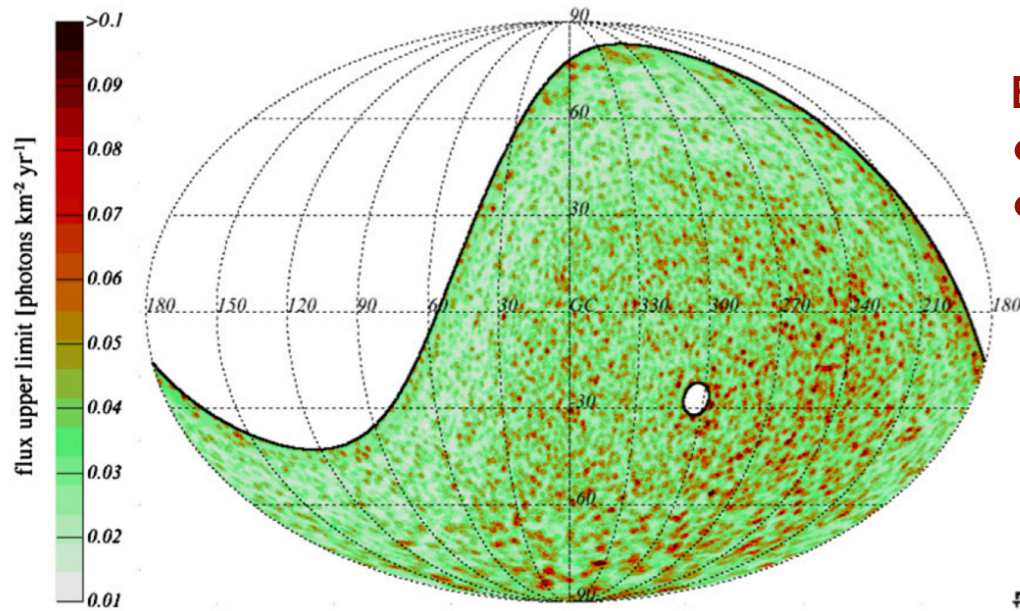


# Steady sources of neutrinos



**Energy range complementary to that of IceCube and Antares**

# Sources of Photons



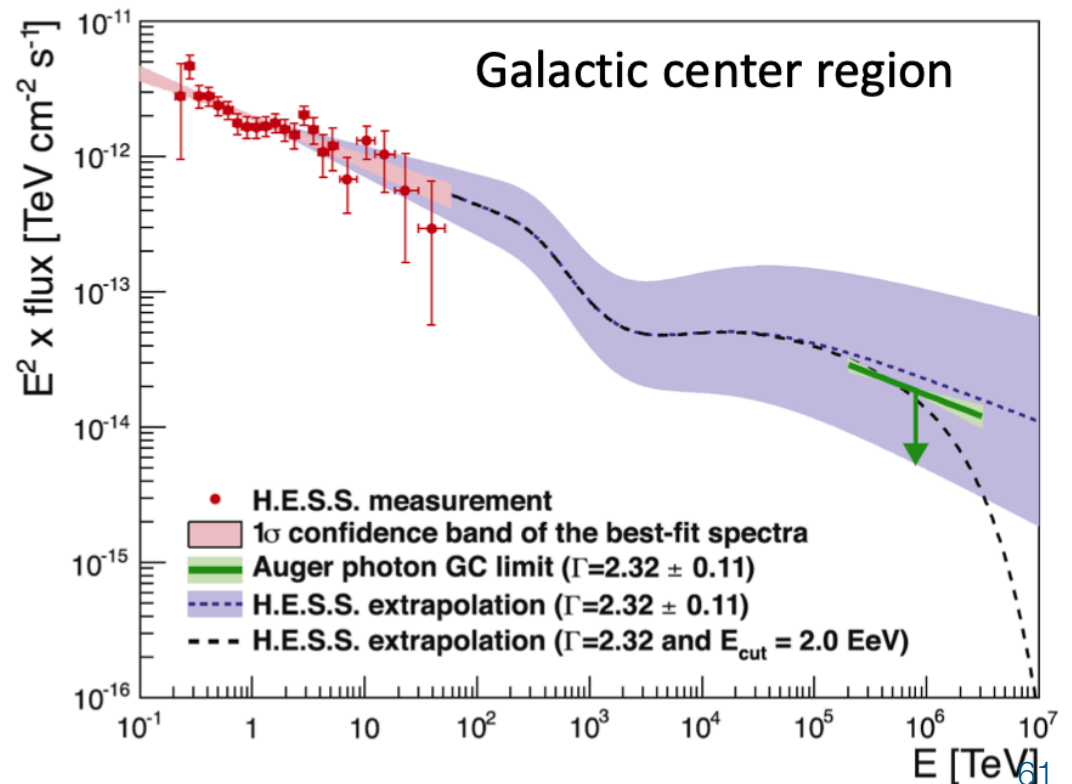
## Blind search

- no significant excess
- upper limits compatible with different hypotheses
  - EG sources at > 5 Mpc
  - transient or beamed Galactic sources
  - sources inefficient in photon production

*Auger Coll., ApJ 789 (2014) 160*

## Targeted search

- no significant excess
- constrains on the allowed parameter space for the allows the extrapolation of the HESS flux
- upper limit on cut-off at ~ 2 EeV



*Auger Coll., ApJ 837 (2017) L25*