# Sources of ultra-high-energy cosmic rays and how to infer them from data

Teresa Bister Erice, July 2024

**Radboud University** 



### observatories measure:

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- energy

Protons

 $N_{\text{e}}$ 

- arrival direction
- shower depth
- $\rightarrow$  source?



## Modeling UHECRs from sources to detection



# Modeling UHECR sources



● (multimessenger)

90

## Modeling UHECRs from sources to detection



## Modeling UHECRs from sources to detection

SimProp

**CR**/Propa



## Combined fit of spectrum and composition



 $E \leq Z_A(\widehat{R_{\rm cut}})$ 

 $\left(\exp\left(1-\frac{E}{Z_A R_{\text{cut}}}\right), \quad E > Z_A R_{\text{cut}}\right)$ 

Radboud University  $\sqrt[3]{\frac{125}{12}}$ 

rigidity cutoff

spectral index

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## Combined fit of spectrum and composition

 $\widetilde{Q}_A(E) = Q_{0A}$ <br>element

contributions

- two populations of homogeneous sources
- Peters cycle injection



 $\rightarrow$  rigidity cutoff unconstrained

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## Combined fit of spectrum and composition



composition becomes heavier → **no light elements at highest energies**

but, maybe secondaries from in-source interactions or another population, see e.g. Unger, Farrar, Anchordoqui PRD 92 123001 (2015), Muzio, Unger, Farrar PRD 100 103008 (2019) Ehlert, van Vliet, Oikonomou, Winter JCAP 02 022 (2024) ... Radboud University

### Combined fit of spectrum and composition Pierre Auger Collaboration JCAP05(2023)024

test cosmological source evolution  $\psi(z) \propto (1+z)^m$ 



### Combined fit of spectrum and composition

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### Combined fit of spectrum and composition

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### Variations of the injection at the source



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## Combined fit including EGMF



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- extragalactic magnetic field can suppress lower energy particles (diffusion)
- include suppression factor G
	- $\cdot$  +2 parameters (critical energy + norm. source density)





### **EGMF can have strong effect on injection, but only for:**

- steep injection cutoff
- & source densities  $< 10^{-3}$  Mpc<sup>-3</sup>
- & very strong field strengths  $B \sim 10-200$  nG between nearest sources & Earth
- $\rightarrow$  then: can reach  $y=2$

#### Combined fit including structured EGMF (to spectrum and composition)



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D. Wittkowski for the Pierre Auger Collaboration PoS ICRC 2017 563 (preliminary)

sources follow 2MRs catalog of all galaxies with density  $\sim$  10<sup>-4</sup> Mpc<sup>-3</sup>

### $\bullet$  structured EGMF  $_{15}$ (Dolag model)

Dolag, Grasso, Springel, Tkachev JCAP 01 009 (2005)



### ● **results:**

- ➔ injection parameters sensitive to EGMF
- ➔ softer injection with EGMF

Lundquist, Merten et al, arXiv:2407.06961

sources roughly homogeneous (FR0 galaxies with density  $\sim$ 10<sup>-3</sup> Mpc<sup>-3</sup>)



➔ can describe spectrum & composition with any EGMF model

## Include arrival directions: large-scale



### Arrival directions E>8 EeV





- amplitude  $\sim$  7%, rising with the energy
	- no significant quadrupole or higher moments
- phase shifts from Galactic center to anticenter
	- → **sources extragalactic!**

### UHECR flux from Large Scale Structure

...



*extragalactic matter density*



dipole can be explained by extragalactic sources following the **large-scale structure of the universe**

+ deflection by Galactic magnetic field

e.g. Ding, Globus, Farrar ApJL 913 L13 (2021) Globus, Piran, Hoffman, Carlesi, Pomarede MNRAS 484 (2019) Allard, Aublin, Baret, Parizot A&A 664 A120 (2022)

### UHECR flux from Large Scale Structure







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### Measurements at Earth (after Galactic magnetic field)



• dipole amplitude + energy evolution  $\checkmark$ 

### Measurements at Earth (after Galactic magnetic field)



### **Bias between matter density and UHECR sources** Bister & Farrar, ApJ 966 71 2024



*Is there a bias between the UHECR source distribution and the (dark) matter distribution / LSS?*

 $\rightarrow$  simple test: cut away densest / least dense regions of LSS





### **Bias between matter density and UHECR sources** Bister & Farrar, ApJ 966 71 2024



### Extragalactic magnetic field effect?





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*"How many of 1000 random simulations have a large enough dipole and small enough higher multipole moments?"*



- ➔ **rare sources** (e.g. starbursts)  $\leftrightarrow$ **strong EGMF**
	- $\rightarrow$  max. 3 nG Mpc<sup>1/2</sup>
- ➔ **negligible EGMF ↔** sources must be **common**, (e.g. Milky-Way-like galaxies)
	- ➔ or: **frequent** in case of **transients** like BH-NS mergers, tidal disruption events





Radboud University  $\left\{\bigoplus^{\infty}_{i=1} \mathbb{F}^n\right\}$  Teresa Bister | slide 31



#### Bister & Farrar, ApJ 966 71 2024

### Homogeneous source distribution?



**extragalactic magnetic field**





• homogeneous distribution less likely, only for rare sources and considerable EGMF

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• dipole direction not predictable

### New models for the Galactic magnetic field



### Dipole directions

predict **dipole direction for 8 new GMF models** (+Planck random field):

- models quite similar  $\rightarrow$  cannot reject any model
	- $\rightarrow$  good news: GMF uncertainty does not obstruct conclusions on sources  $\bullet$
- random field part has minor influence on dipole direction
- biggest uncertainty: from cosmic variance<sup>\*</sup>  $\ddot{\bullet}$



## Dipole & Quadrupole amplitudes



## Dipole & Quadrupole amplitudes



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### Why is the dipole amplitude so small with UF23?



- **magnification has huge influence on dipole amplitude!** 
	- due to uncertainties on LSS model + random magnetic field model + EGMF:  $\rightarrow$  source density etc. with large uncertainties
	- future: sensitivity to probe LSS model, GMF...

## Magnification maps for different rigidities



## Dipolar illumination



#### **Higher energies - smaller-scale anisotropies** TB for the Pierre Auger Collaboration, PoS ICRC 2023 The Pierre Auger Collaboration JCAP01(2024)022



The Pierre Auger Collboration, ApJ 935 170 (2022)

### Small-scale anisotropies

- **blind search** over 1° pixels
- 2 scan parameters:
	- energy threshold 32 EeV  $\leq$  E<sub>th</sub>  $\leq$  80 EeV
	- circular tophat window  $1^\circ \leq \psi \leq 30^\circ$





- large trial factor due to whole-sky scan  $\rightarrow$  comparison to source candidates
- **currently 4.2**σ **correlation with catalog of starburst galaxies, 3.3**σ **with ɣ-AGNs, 4.0**σ **with Centaurus A**

## Model for higher energies

- based on correlations of arrival directions with nearby candidates (SBGs, Centaurus A, ɣ-AGNs)
- model: homogeneous background sources + nearby candidates



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 $R=FIZ$ 



- **fit to energy spectrum, shower depth distributions, arrival directions in energy bins**
- instead of magnetic field models: **rigidity-dependent blurring**  $R/10$  EV

### Modeled arrival directions

- based on correlations of arrival directions with nearby candidates (SBGs, Centaurus A, ɣ-AGNs)
- model: homogeneous background sources + nearby candidates

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## Modeled arrival directions

• based on correlations of arrival directions with nearby candidates (SBGs, Centaurus A, ɣ-AGNs)

 $30^{\circ}$ 

-30

 $x^2$ 

 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

 $pdf/B$ 

• model: homogeneous background sources + nearby candidates

**ɣ-AGNs**

not proportional

to Tongs

**excluded** 

UNECR ENT

l ⊒.

cre asin g

energ y

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- **model favored with 4.5σ significance over homogeneous model!**
- mostly due to Centaurus A / NGC 4945 region

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 $pdf/B$ 

### Model predictions

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*dashed line =* 

- **best-fit:** hard injection spectrum  $dN/dE \sim E^{-1}$ , nitrogen-dominated, 20° magnetic field blurring for proton with 10 EeV
- signal fraction  $\sim$  20% from SBGs, 3% from Centaurus region (at 40 EeV, increases with E)
	- independent of evolution & systematic effects



### Conclusions

- progress in search for UHECR sources
- need careful modeling of source distribution, propagation, magnetic fields...
- ➔ **> 8 EeV: sources most likely follow large-scale structure**
	- can infer information on Galactic & extragalactic magnetic fields & source number density
- ➔ **> 40 EeV: individual source candidates describe data**
	- like starburst galaxies, Centaurus A, ~4.5σ significance
- **promising future:** detector upgrades underway (AugerPrime & TAx4), better composition differentiation, novel machine learning data...





### Backup



### Best-fit parameters

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### Test statistic

**SBG Cen A** *(flat)* **Cen A** *(SFR)*  $TS_{\text{tot}}$ 25.6 17.3 19.1  $TS_E$  $-4.5$  $-1.4$  $-1.1$  $\text{TS}_{X_{\max}}$ 2.0  $0.2$  $1.0$  $TS_{ADS}$ 18.7 27.1 19.0

### compare likelihood to ref. model (just background sources):

### **SBG model has highest TS = 25.6 ↔ 4.5σ**

- ➔ including experimental systematic effects
- ➔ increase compared to AD-only correlation
- ➔ Centaurus region contributes dominant part: **TS~20**
- ➔ (E-dependent) arrival directions most important

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- sum over E bins gives total TS
- peaks could be from He, N, Si
	- ➔ but: large uncertainties



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### Test statistic



$$
TS_{\text{tot}} = \sum_{\text{obs}=E, X_{\text{max}}, \text{ADs}} 2(\log \mathcal{L}^{m=x} - \log \mathcal{L}^{m=x}_{\text{ref}})^{\text{obs}}
$$

$$
\mathcal{L}_{X_{\max}} = \prod_{\tilde{e}} n^{\tilde{e}!} \prod_{x} \frac{(\mu^{\tilde{e},x})^{n^{\tilde{e},x}}}{n^{\tilde{e},x!}}
$$

$$
\log \mathcal{L}_{E} = \sum_{e} \left( n^{e} \log(\mu^{e}) - \log(n^{e}!) - \mu^{e} \right)
$$

$$
\mathcal{L}_{\text{ADS}} = \prod_{e} \prod_{x} (\text{pdf}^{e,p})^{n^{e,p}}
$$

е

 $\boldsymbol{p}$ 

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## Dipole direction predictions



### EGMF and transients

$$
\delta \theta = 2.9^{\circ} \frac{B}{\text{nG}} \frac{10 \text{ EV}}{E/Z} \frac{\sqrt{D L_c}}{\text{Mpc}} = 2.9^{\circ} \beta_{\text{EGMF}} \frac{10 \text{ EV}}{E/Z} \sqrt{\frac{\overline{D}}{\text{Mpc}}}
$$



$$
n_{\text{eff}} \approx \Gamma \tau_{\text{eff}}
$$
  

$$
\tau_{\text{eff}} = 0.14 \left( \frac{D}{\text{Mpc}} \frac{\text{EV}}{R} \beta_{\text{EGMF}} \right)^2 \text{Myr} = 34 \beta_{\text{EGMF}}^2 \text{ Myr}
$$



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### UF23 models - which ones are favored?



### UF23 models: EGMF





### UF23 models: dipole & quadrupole



### UF23 models: dipole & quadrupole



### UF23 models: all magnification maps



(a) JF12-reg (compare to  $[30]$ )







(c) JF12 + Planck  $l_c = 60$  pc





(d) UF23 base + Planck  $l_c = 60$  pc



(e) UF23 base + Planck  $l_c = 60$  pc, 2nd realization



(f) UF23 base + Planck  $l_c = 30 \text{ pc}$ 



(g) UF23 cre10 + Planck  $l_c = 60 \text{ pc}$ 



(h) UF23 expX + Planck  $l_c = 60 \text{ pc}$ 



(i) UF23 nebCor + Planck  $l_c = 60 \text{ pc}$ 





(j) UF23 neCL + Planck  $l_c = 60 \text{ pc}$ 

(k) UF23 spur + Planck  $l_c = 60$  pc

(1) UF23 synCG + Planck  $l_c = 60 \text{ pc}$