## Follow-up Search for UHE Photons from Gravitational Wave Sources with the Pierre Auger Observatory

**Executive Summary** 



Philip Ruehl<sup>a</sup> for the Pierre Auger Collaboration<sup>b</sup>

- <sup>a</sup> University of Siegen, Walter-Flex-Str. 3, Siegen, Germany
- <sup>b</sup> Observatorio Pierre Auger, Av. San Martín Norte 304, 5613 Malargüe, Argentina

- First constraints on UHE photons from GW sources are presented here by the Pierre Auger Collaboration.
- Upper limits on the photon fluence from the binary neutron star merger GW170817 extend the electromagnetic follow-up campaign to the ultra-high energy regime.
- With the surface detector of the Pierre Auger Observatory, a detection of a possible UHE photon signal beyond the  $5\sigma$  level is possible.
- A dedicated **event selection strategy** of air-shower events and gravitational wave sources allows for a strong background suppression while keeping a window open for discoveries.

