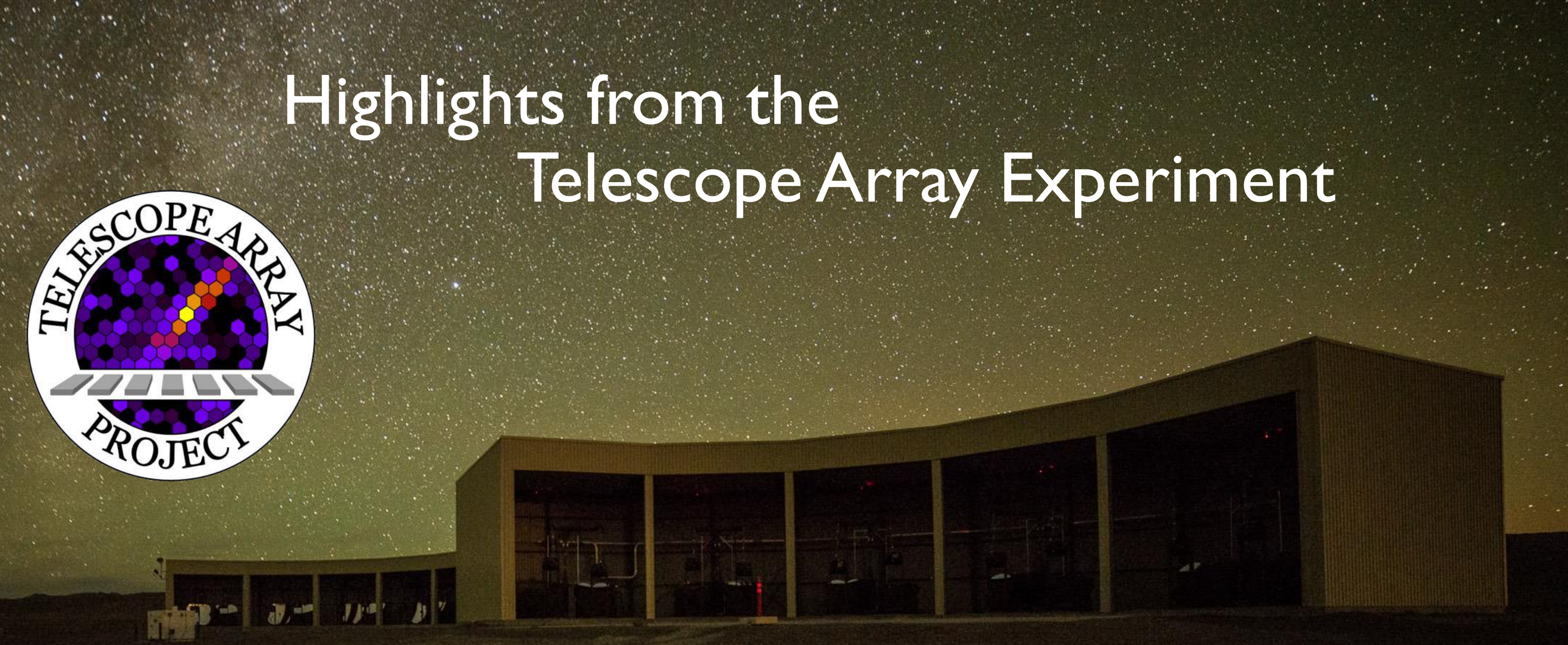
Highlights from the Telescope Array Experiment



37th ICRC, Berlin, 12-23 July 2021

Grigory Rubtsov, INR RAS, Moscow
for the TA Collaboration

photo by Oleg Kalashev

Outline

- Telescope Array observatory and TAx4 upgrade
- Energy Spectrum results
- Composition and hadronic interactions results
- Anisotropy results
- Interdisciplinary results
- Summary

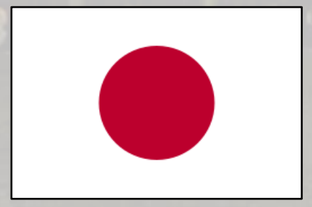
Telescope Array Collaboration

R.U. Abbasi[1,2], M. Abe[3], T. Abu-Zayyad[1,2], M. Allen[2], Y. Arai[4], R. Arimura[4], E. Barcikowski[2], J.W. Belz[2], D.R. Bergman[2], S.A. Blake[2], I. Buckland[2], R. Cady[2], B.G. Cheon[5], J. Chiba[6], M. Chikawa[7], T. Fujii[8], K. Fujisue[7], K. Fujita[4], R. Fujiwara[4], M. Fukushima[7], R. Fukushima[4], G. Furlich[2], R. Gonzalez[2], W. Hanlon[2], M. Hayashi[9], N. Hayashida[10], K. Hibino[10], R. Higuchi[7], K. Honda[11], D. Ikeda[10], T. Inadomi[12], N. Inoue[3], T. Ishii[11], H. Ito[13], D. Ivanov[2], H. Iwakura[12], A. Iwasaki[4], H.M. Jeong[14], S. Jeong[14], C.C.H. Jui[2], K. Kadota[15], F. Kakimoto[10], O. Kalashev[16], K. Kasahara[17], S. Kasami[18], H. Kawai[19], S. Kawakami[4], S. Kawana[3], K. Kawata[7], I. Kharuk[16], E. Kido[13], H.B. Kim[5], J.H. Kim[2], J.H. Kim[2], M.H. Kim[14], S.W. Kim[14], Y. Kimura[4], S. Kishigami[4], Y. Kubota[12], S. Kurisu[12], V. Kuzmin[16], M. Kuznetsov[16,20], Y.J. Kwon[21], K.H. Lee[14], B. Lubsandorzhiev[16], J.P. Lundquist[2,22], K. Machida[11], H. Matsumiya[4], T. Matsuyama[4], J.N. Matthews[2], R. Mayta[4], M. Minamino[4], K. Mukai[11], I. Myers[2], S. Nagataki[13], K. Nakai[4], R. Nakamura[12], T. Nakamura[23], T. Nakamura[12], Y. Nakamura[12], A. Nakazawa[12], T. Nonaka[7], H. Oda[4], S. Ogio[4,24], M. Ohnishi[7], H. Ohoka[7], Y. Oku[18], T. Okuda[25], Y. Omura[4], M. Ono[13], R. Onogi[4], A. Oshima[4], S. Ozawa[26], I.H. Park[14], M. Potts[2], M.S. Pshirkov[16,27], J. Remington[2], D.C. Rodriguez[2], G.I. Rubtsov[16], D. Ryu[28], H. Sagawa[7], R. Sahara[4], Y. Saito[12], N. Sakaki[7], T. Sako[7], N. Sakurai[4], K. Sano[12], K. Sato[4], T. Seki[12], K. Sekino[7], P.D. Shah[2], Y. Shibasaki[12], F. Shibata[11], N. Shibata[18], T. Shibata[7], H. Shimodaira[7], B.K. Shin[28], H.S. Shin[7], D. Shinto[18], J.D. Smith[2], P. Sokolsky[2], N. Sone[12], B.T. Stokes[2], T.A. Stroman[2], T. Suzawa[3], Y. Takagi[4], Y. Takahashi[4], M. Takamura[6], M. Takeda[7], R. Takeishi[7], A. Taketa[29], M. Takita[7], Y. Tameda[18], H. Tanaka[4], K. Tanaka[30], M. Tanaka[31], Y. Tanoue[4], S.B. Thomas[2], G.B. Thomson[2], P. Tinyakov[16,20], I. Tkachev[16], H. Tokuno[32], T. Tomida[12], S. Troitsky[16], R. Tsuda[4], Y. Tsunesada[4,24], Y. Uchihori[33], S. Udo[10], T. Uehama[12], F. Urban[34], T. Wong[2], K. Yada[7], M. Yamamoto[12], K. Yamazaki[10], J. Yang[35], K. Yashiro[6], F. Yoshida[18], Y. Yoshioka[12], Y. Zhezher[7,16], and Z. Zundel[2]

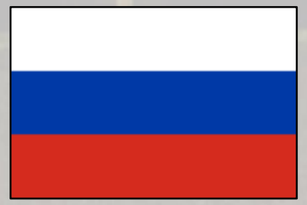
[1] Loyola University Chicago [2] University of Utah [3] Saitama University [4] Osaka City University [5] Hanyang University [6] Tokyo University of Science [7] University of Tokyo (ICRR) [8] Kyoto University [9] Shinshu University [10] Kanagawa University [11] University of Yamanashi [12] Shinshu University (Inst. of Engineering) [13] RIKEN [14] Sungkyunkwan University [15] Tokyo City University [16] Institute for Nuclear Research of the Russian Academy of Sciences [17] Shibaura Institute of Technology [18] Osaka Electro-Communication University [19] Chiba University [20] Université Libre de Bruxelles [21] Yonsei University [22] University of Nova Gorica [23] Kochi University [24] Osaka City University (Nambu Yoichiro Institute) [25] Ritsumeikan University [26] National Inst. for Information and Communications Technology, Tokyo [27] Lomonosov Moscow State University [28] Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology [29] University of Tokyo (Earthquake Inst.) [30] Hiroshima City University [31] KEK [32] Tokyo Institute of Technology [33] National Instit. for Quantum and Radiological Science and Technology [34] CEICO, Institute of Physics, Czech Academy of Sciences [35] Ewha Womans University

160 members , 35 institutes, 7 countries


USA


Japan


Korea

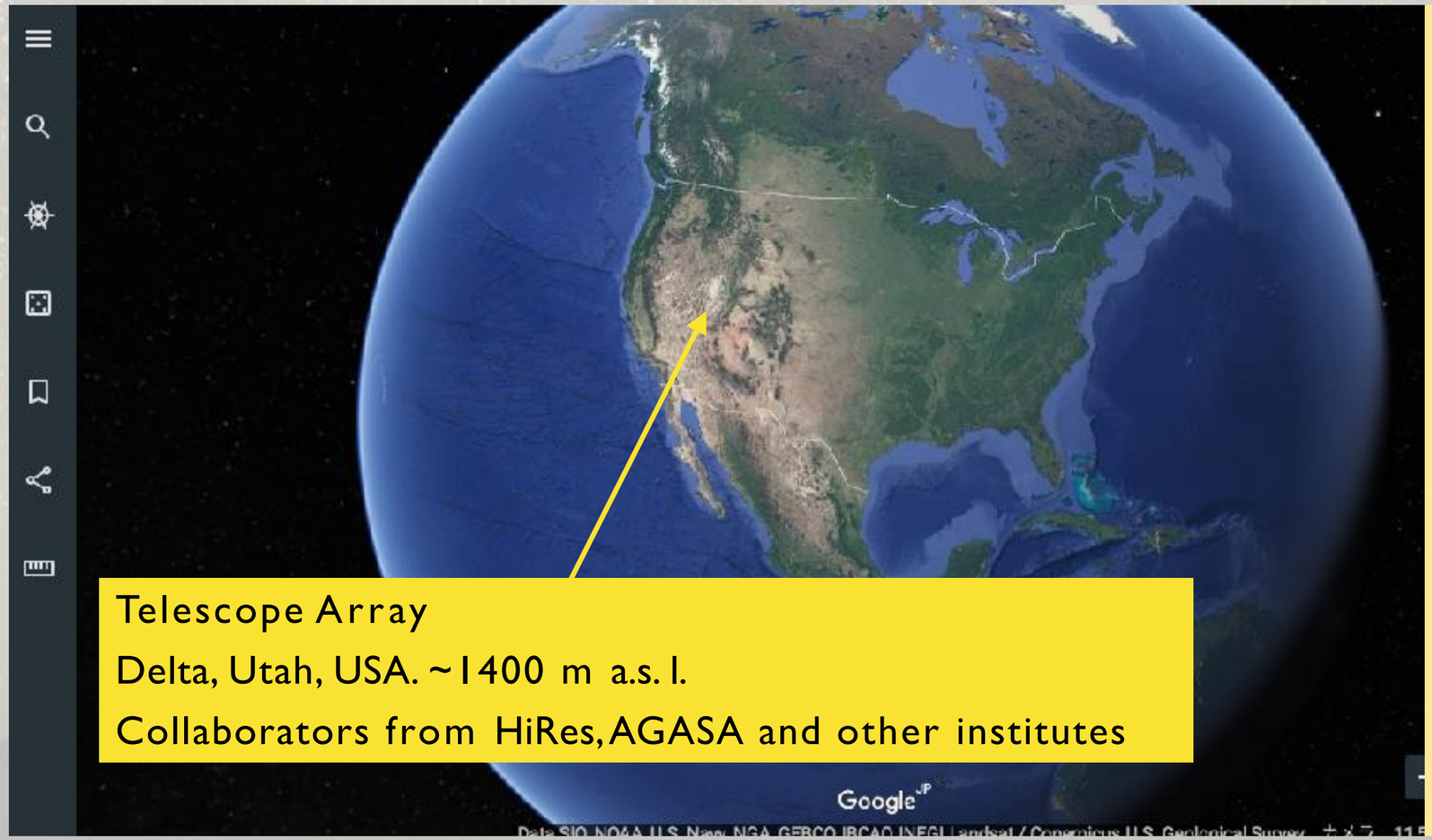

Russia


Belgium


Czech Republic


Slovenia

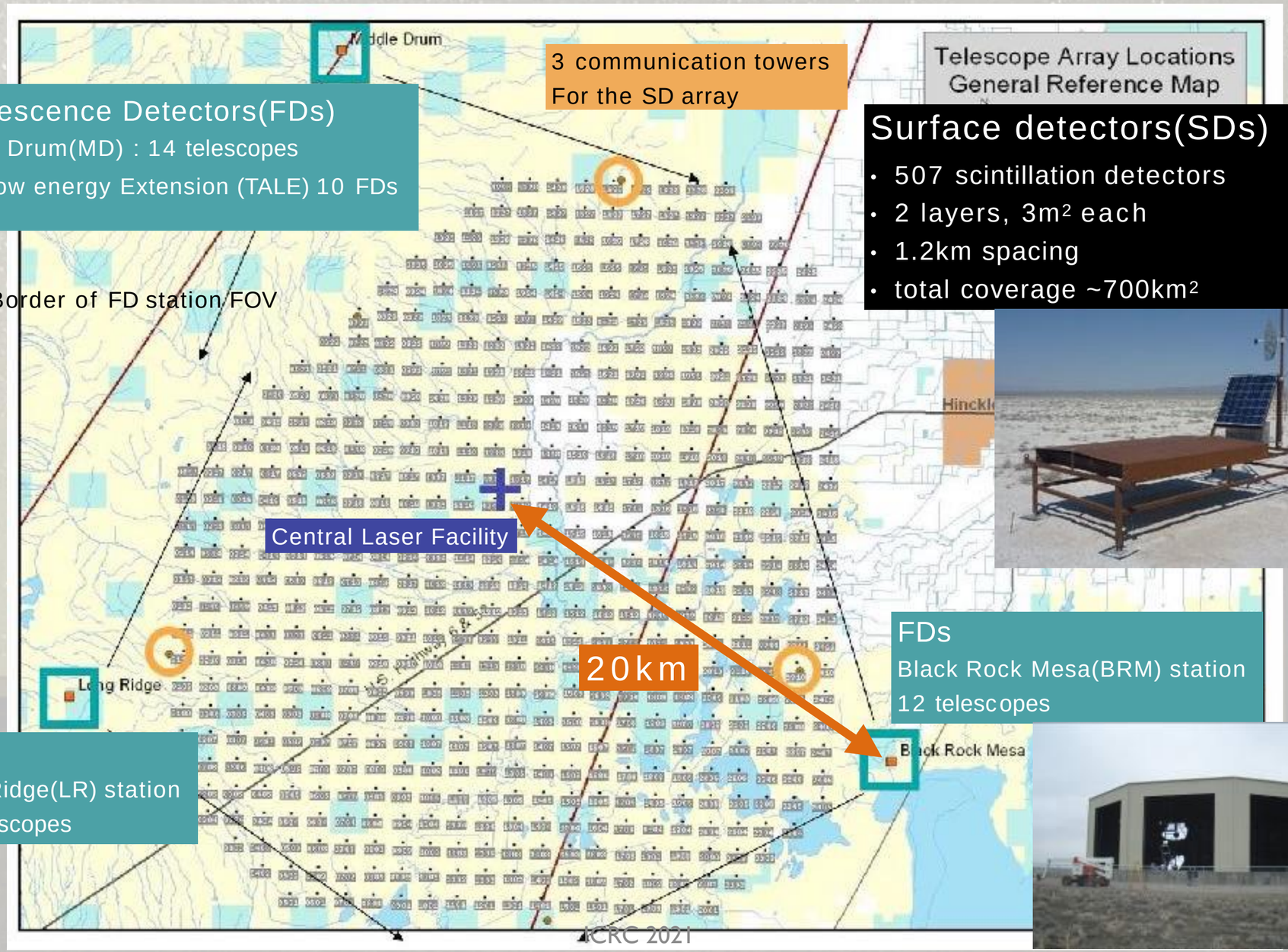
Telescope Array: The largest cosmic ray observatory in the Northern Hemisphere



Science goals:

- Origin and properties of the ultra-high energy cosmic rays:
  - spectrum, composition, anisotropy
- Physics of HE hadronic interactions
- Multi-messenger and interdisciplinary studies
  - photons, neutrino, dark matter
  - thunderstorms, TGFs
  - meteoroids
- Development of the next generation experiments

Map of theTA site



3 communication towers
For the SD array

Fluorescence Detectors(FDs)

Middle Drum(MD) : 14 telescopes

+ TA Low energy Extension (TALE) 10 FDs

Border of FD station FOV

Surface detectors(SDs)

- 507 scintillation detectors
- 2 layers, 3m² each
- 1.2km spacing
- total coverage ~700km²

FDs

Black Rock Mesa(BRM) station

12 telescopes

FDs

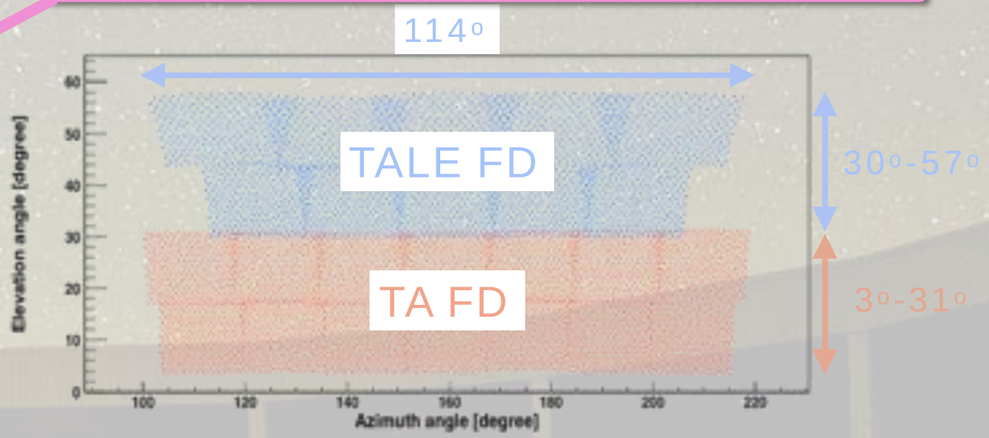
Long Ridge(LR) station

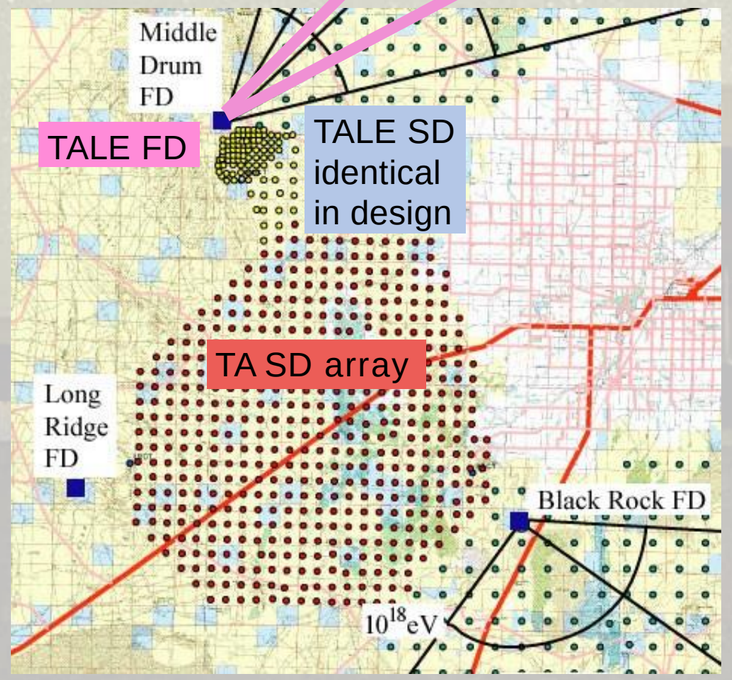
12 telescopes

TALE

Located in TA MD site
10 FDs in the TALE station
Elevation: 30°-57° (higher elevation than MD) Azimuthal: 114°

104 SD infill array identical to main TA SD
Variable spacing up to 400m



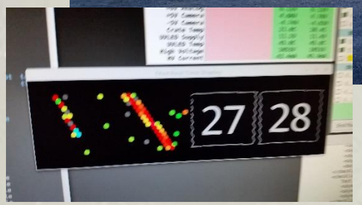


TALE FD Installed in Nov. 2012
Operation since Sep. 2013

TALE SD completed Mar. 2018
Hybrid trigger: Sep. 2018

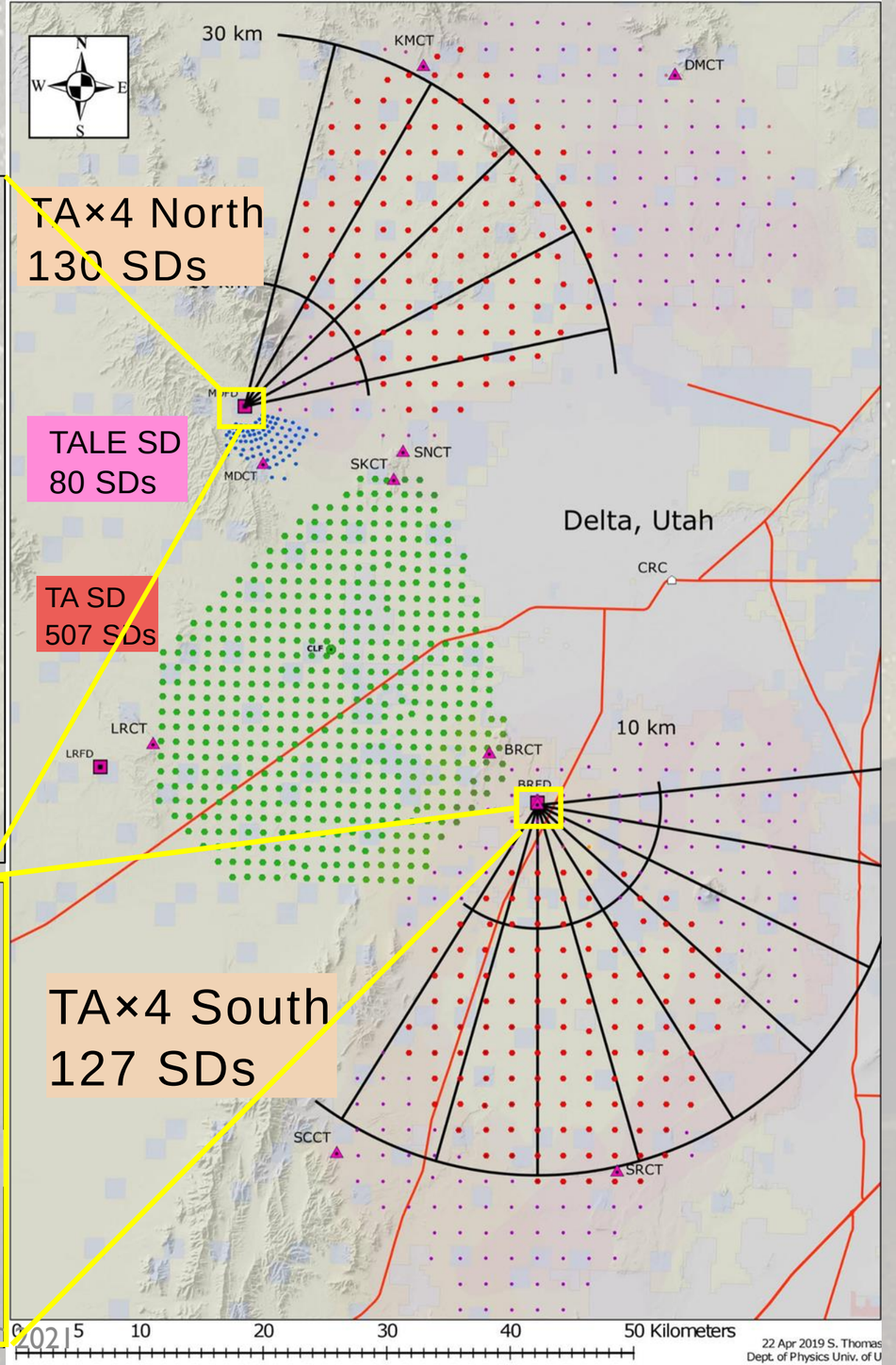
TA×4

TA×4 northern FD station



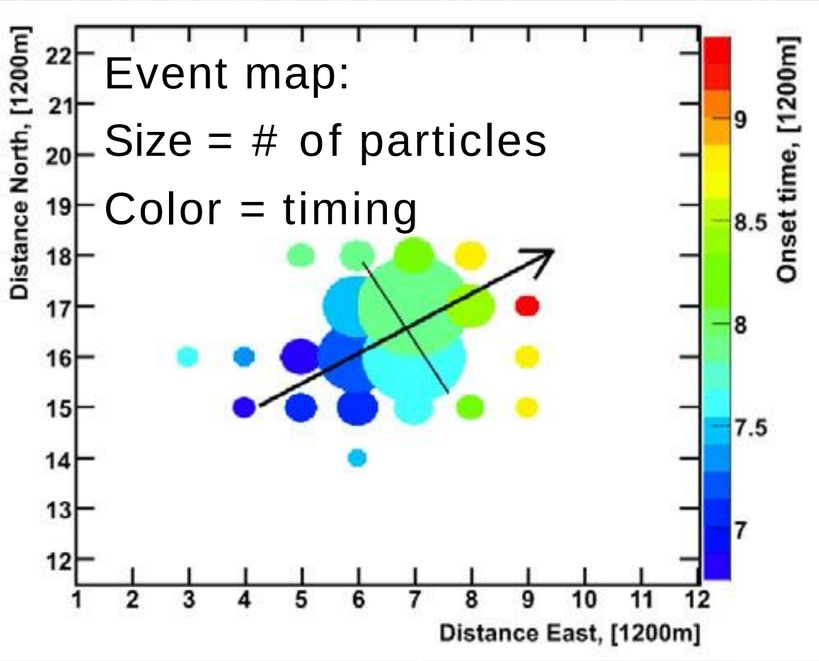
routine observation
since Jun. 2019

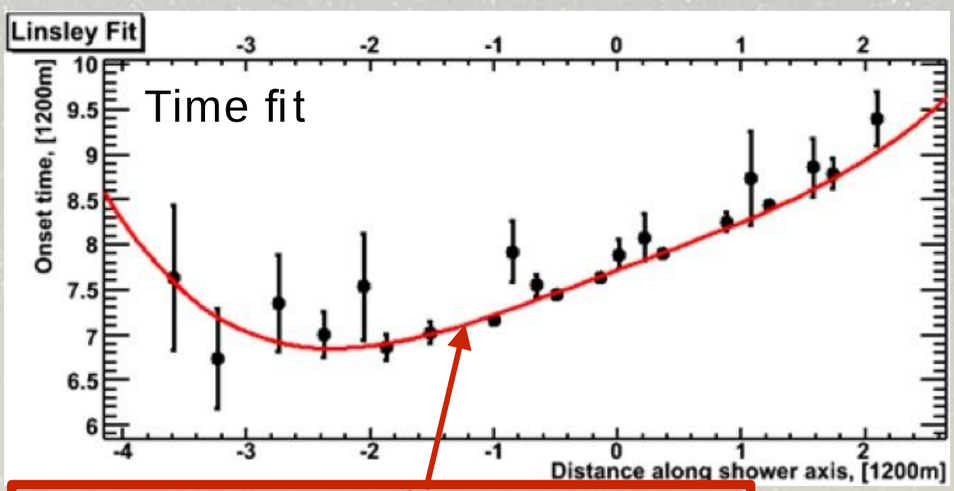
TA×4 southern FD station



- Goal: fourfold increase in size of TA SD array (up to 3000 km^2).
- Triple statistics for E>20 EeV in 5 years.
- Hybrid experiment:
- 2 FD stations, 12 telescopes are installed
- 257 SD scintillators out of 500 are installed and operational since Nov. 2019

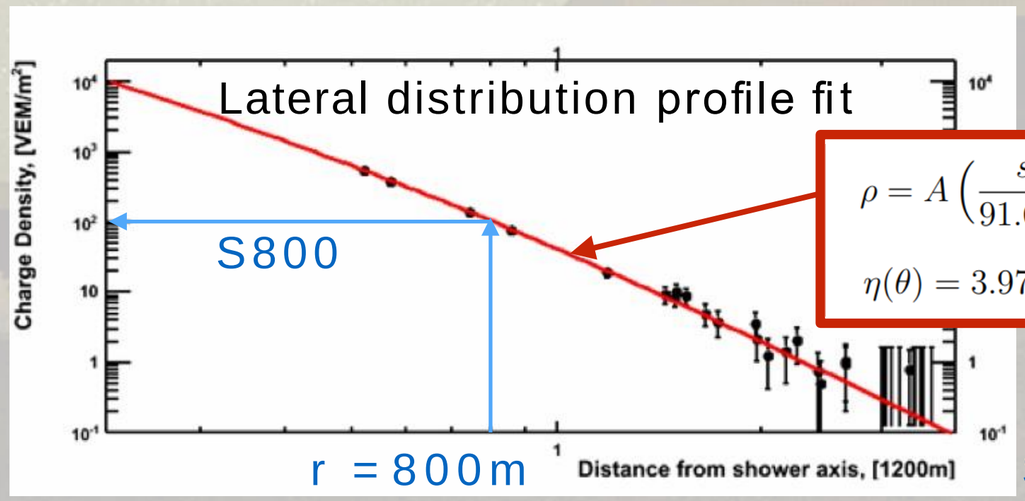
SD Event Reconstruction





$$\tau = a\left(1-\frac{l}{12\times10^{3}\mathrm{m}}\right)^{1.05}\left(1.0+\frac{s}{30\mathrm{m}}\right)^{1.35}\rho^{-0.5}$$

Modified empirical formula in AGASA



$$\rho = A\left(\frac{s}{91.6\mathrm{m}}\right)^{-1.2}\left(1+\frac{s}{91.6\mathrm{m}}\right)^{-(\eta(\theta)-1.2)}\left(1+\left[\frac{s}{1000\mathrm{m}}\right]^{2}\right)^{-0.6}$$

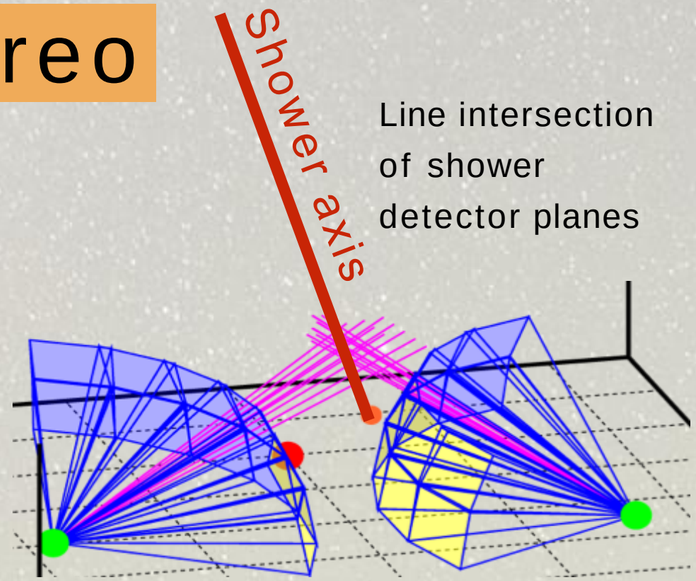
$$\eta(\theta) = 3.97 - 1.79\,[\sec(\theta)-1]$$

Empirical formula used by AGASA

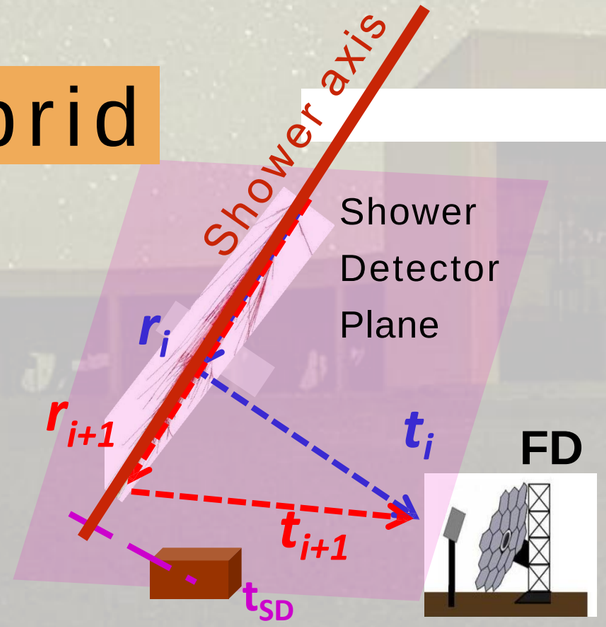
S800 -> primary energy

Event reconstruction

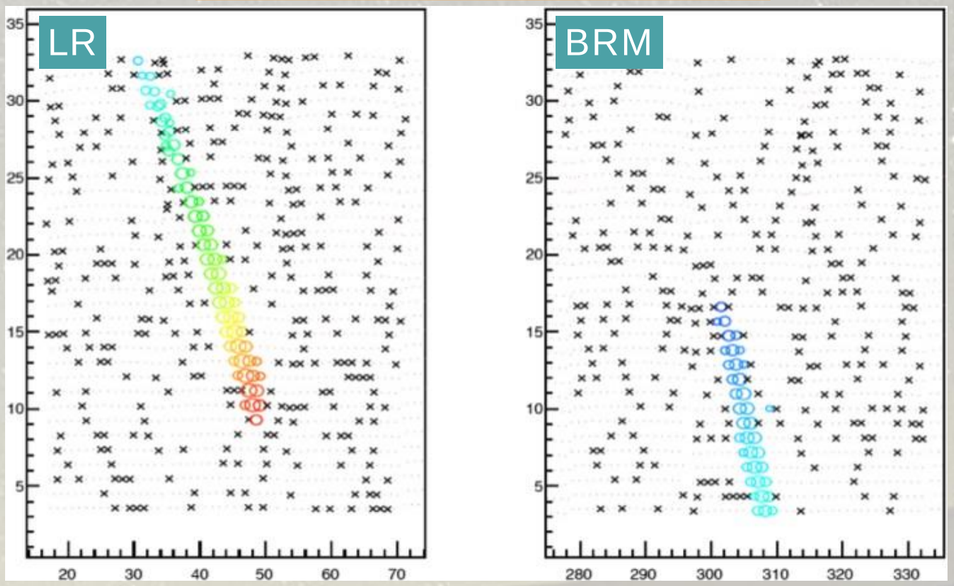
Stereo



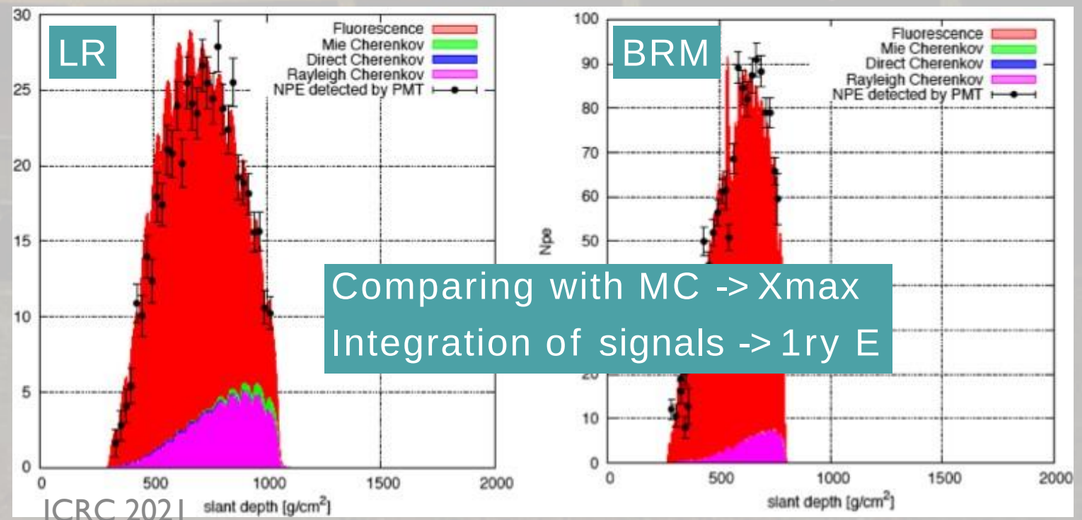
Hybrid

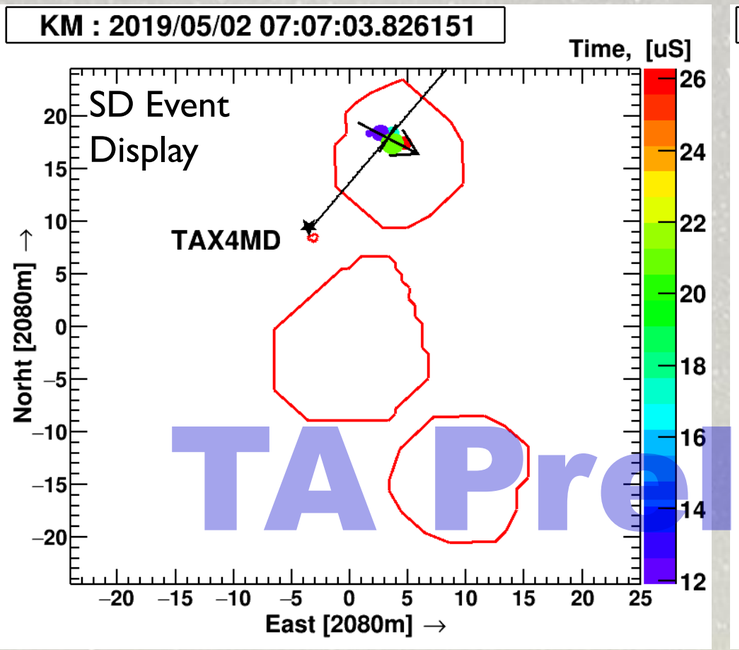


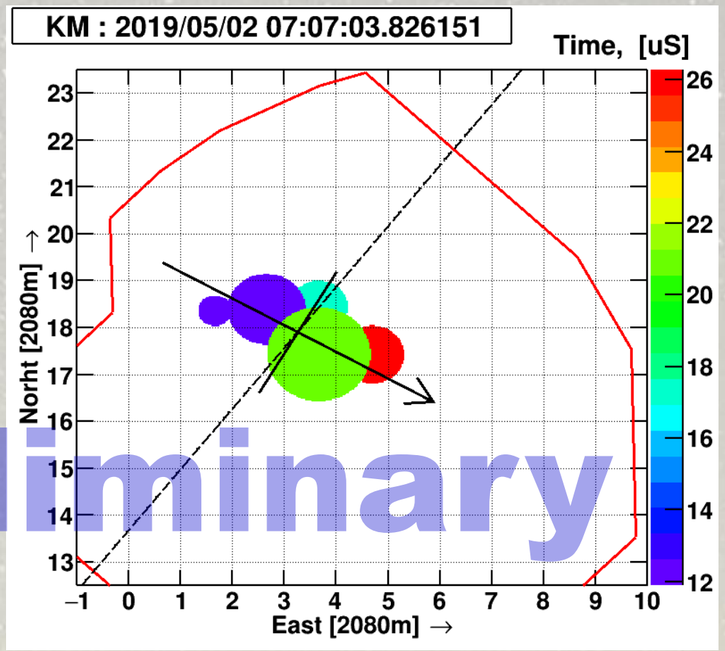
observed images



reconstructed shower profiles

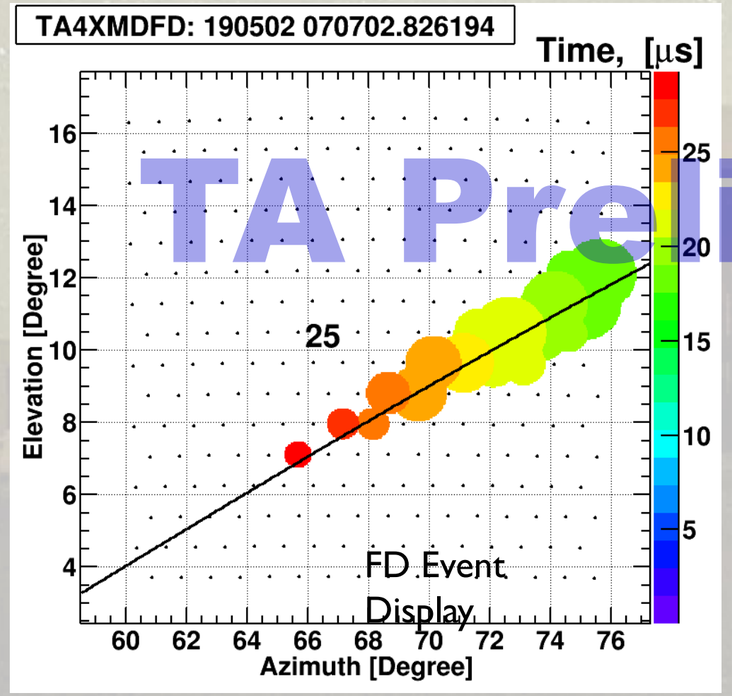


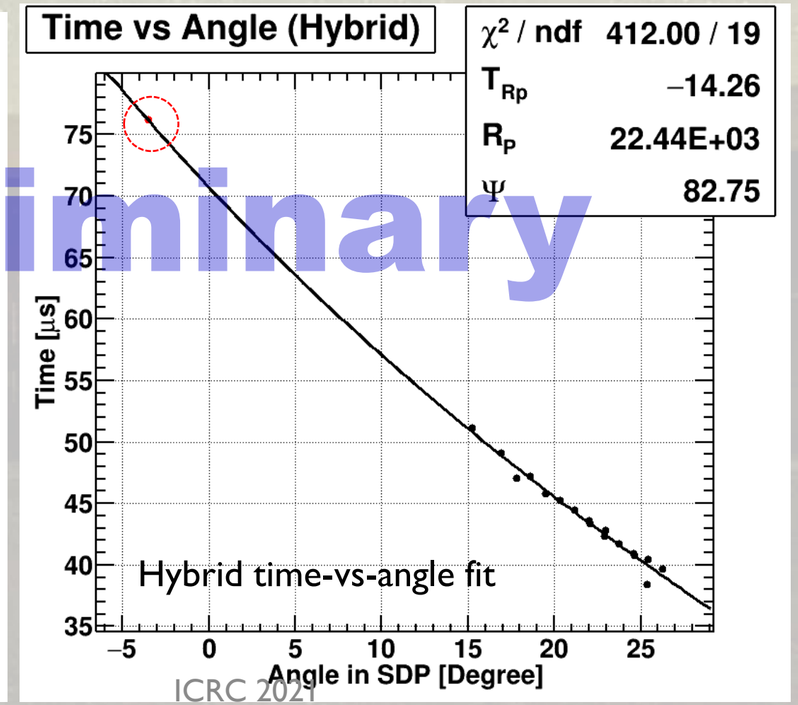




TA Preliminary

TAx4 Hybrid Event Example



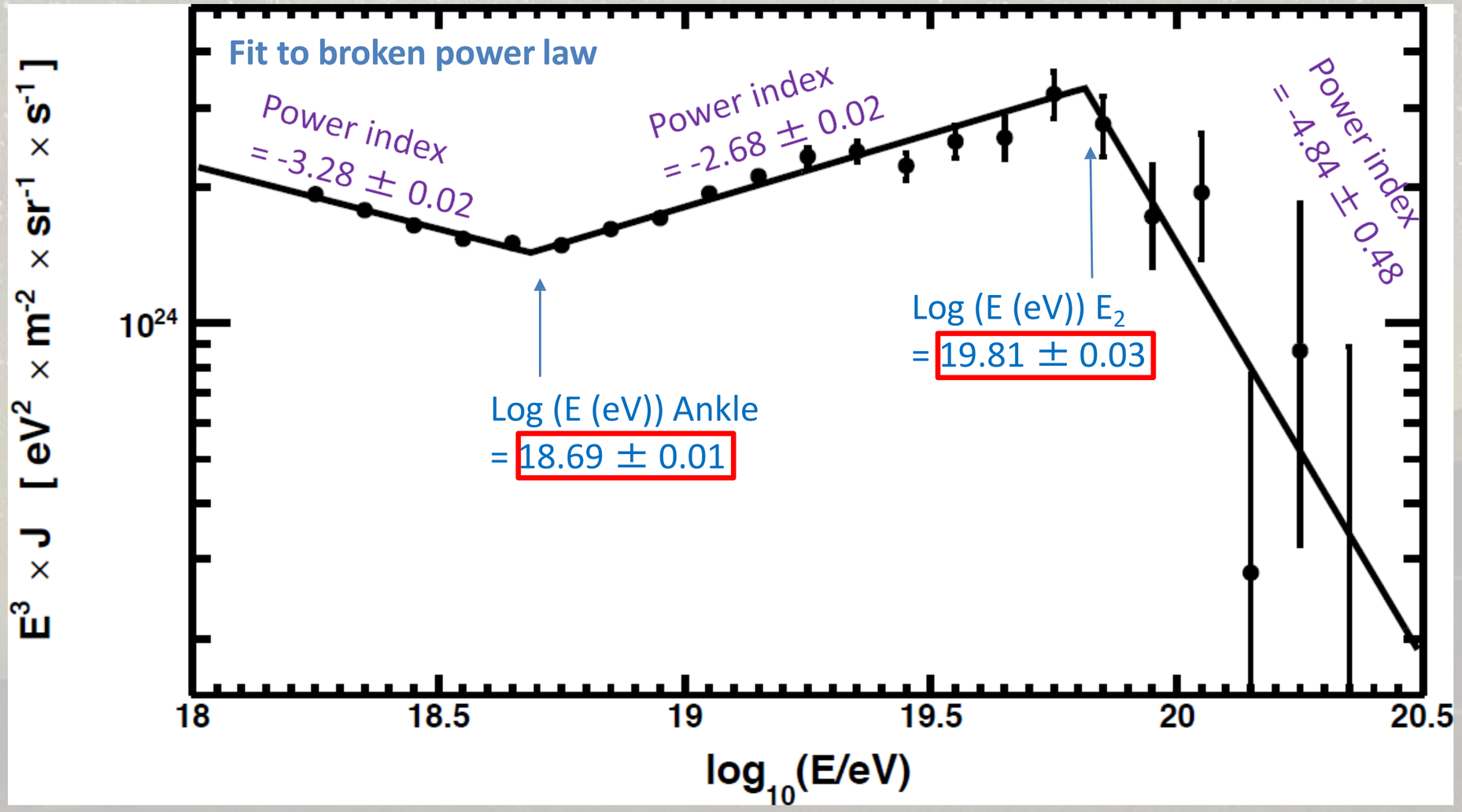


TA Preliminary

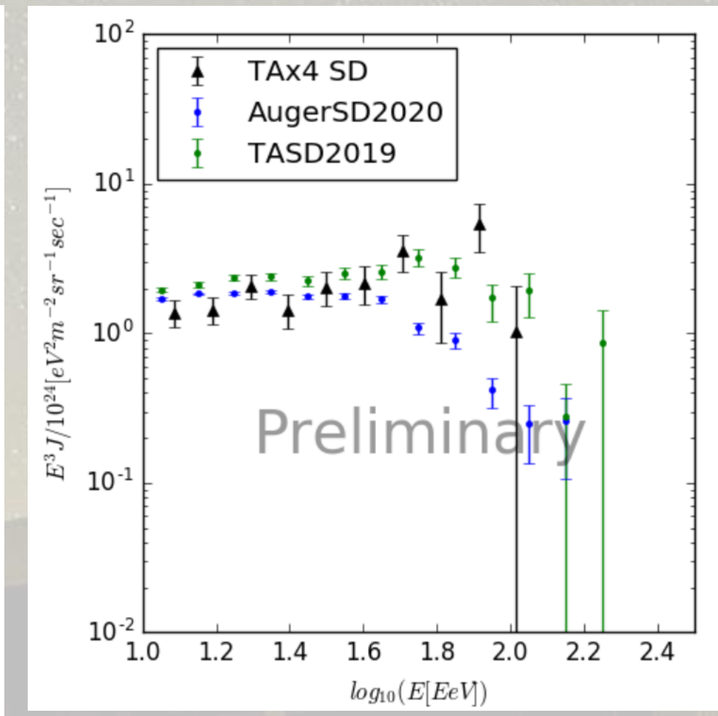
Energy spectrum

TA SD Energy Spectrum

TA SD 11 years data



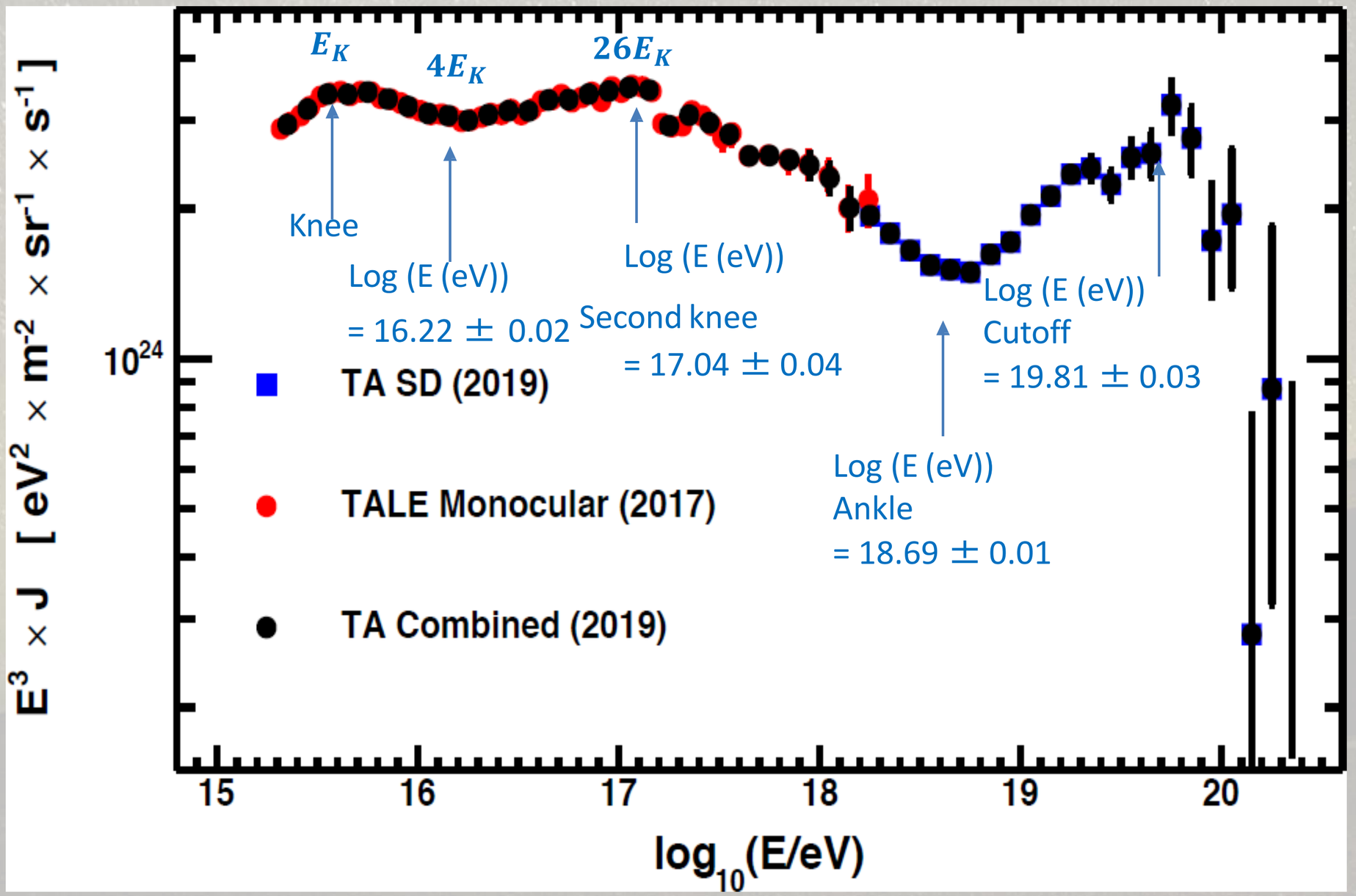
TAx4 SD 1 year data



Hyomin Jeong, this conference

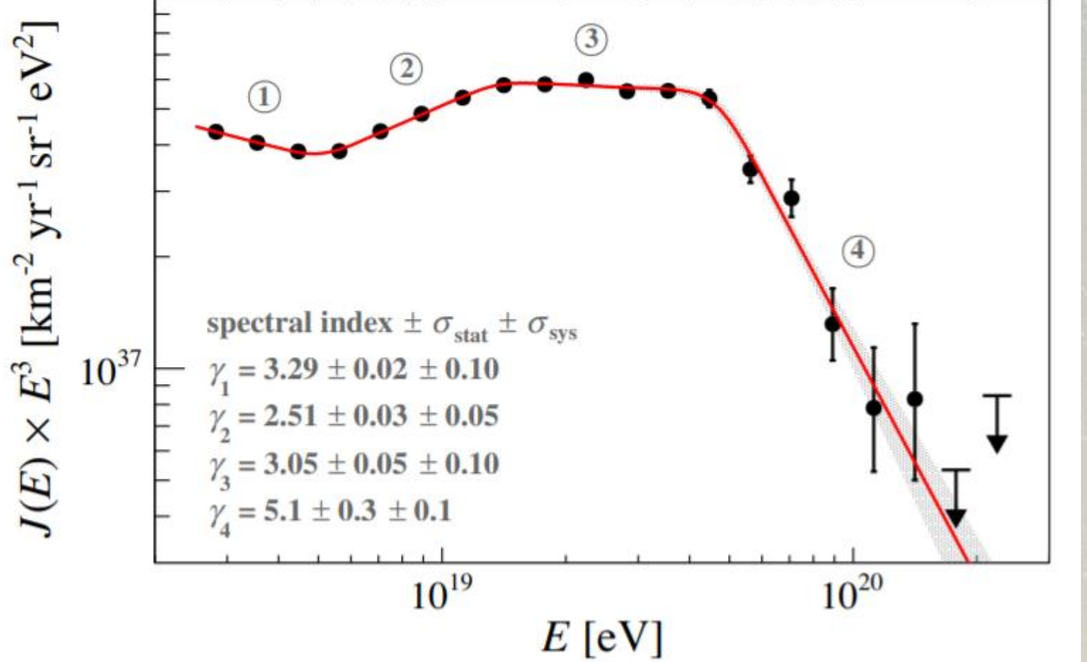
See also talks by Koki Sato and Matthew Potts for TALE SD and TAx4 mono spectra

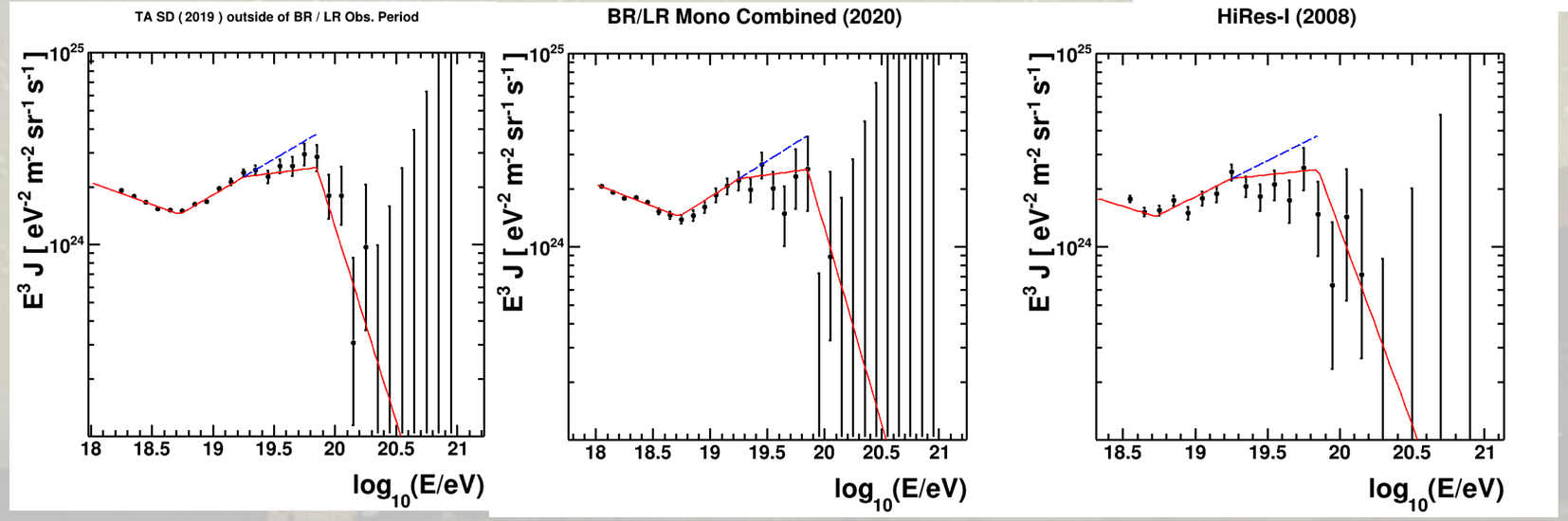
Combined Energy Spectrum



Combined TA spectrum using 22 months TALE FD monocular data + 11 years TA SD data

The "*Instep*" feature





A. Aab *et al.* (The Pierre Auger Collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 121106 (2020)

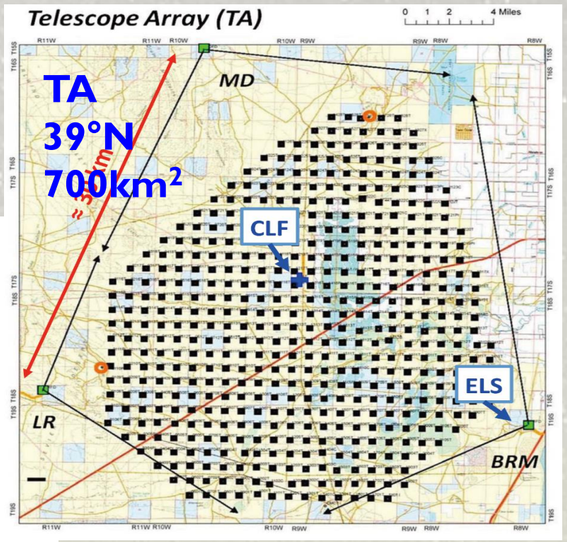
Parameter	Auger	TA
γ_1	3.29 ± 0.02	3.23 ± 0.01
γ_2	2.51 ± 0.03	2.63 ± 0.02
γ_3	3.05 ± 0.05	2.92 ± 0.06
γ_4	5.1 ± 0.3	5.0 ± 0.4
$E_{\rm ankle}$/EeV	5.0 ± 0.1	5.4 ± 0.1
$E_{\rm instep}$/EeV	13 ± 1	18 ± 1
$E_{\rm cut}$/EeV	46 ± 3	71 ± 3

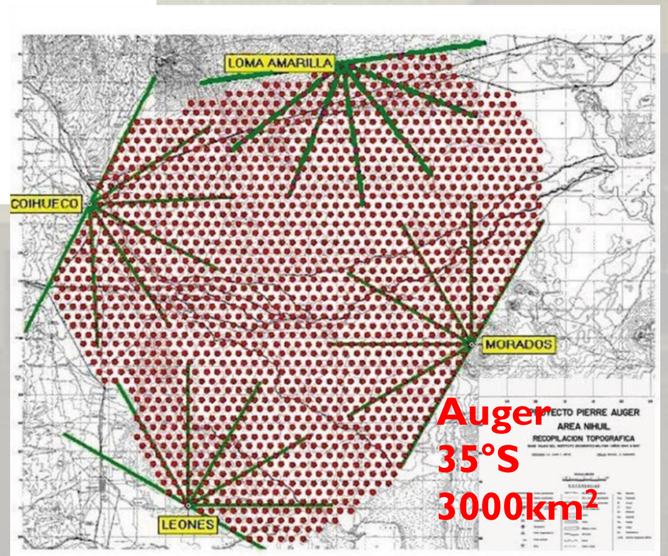
Pierre Auger found a spectrum hardening in 10^{19} – $10^{19.5}$ eV range
Combining TA SD, FD and HiRes data, we observe the *Instep* feature in the Northern Hemisphere at $10^{19.25 \pm 0.03}$ eV with a 5.3 σ significance

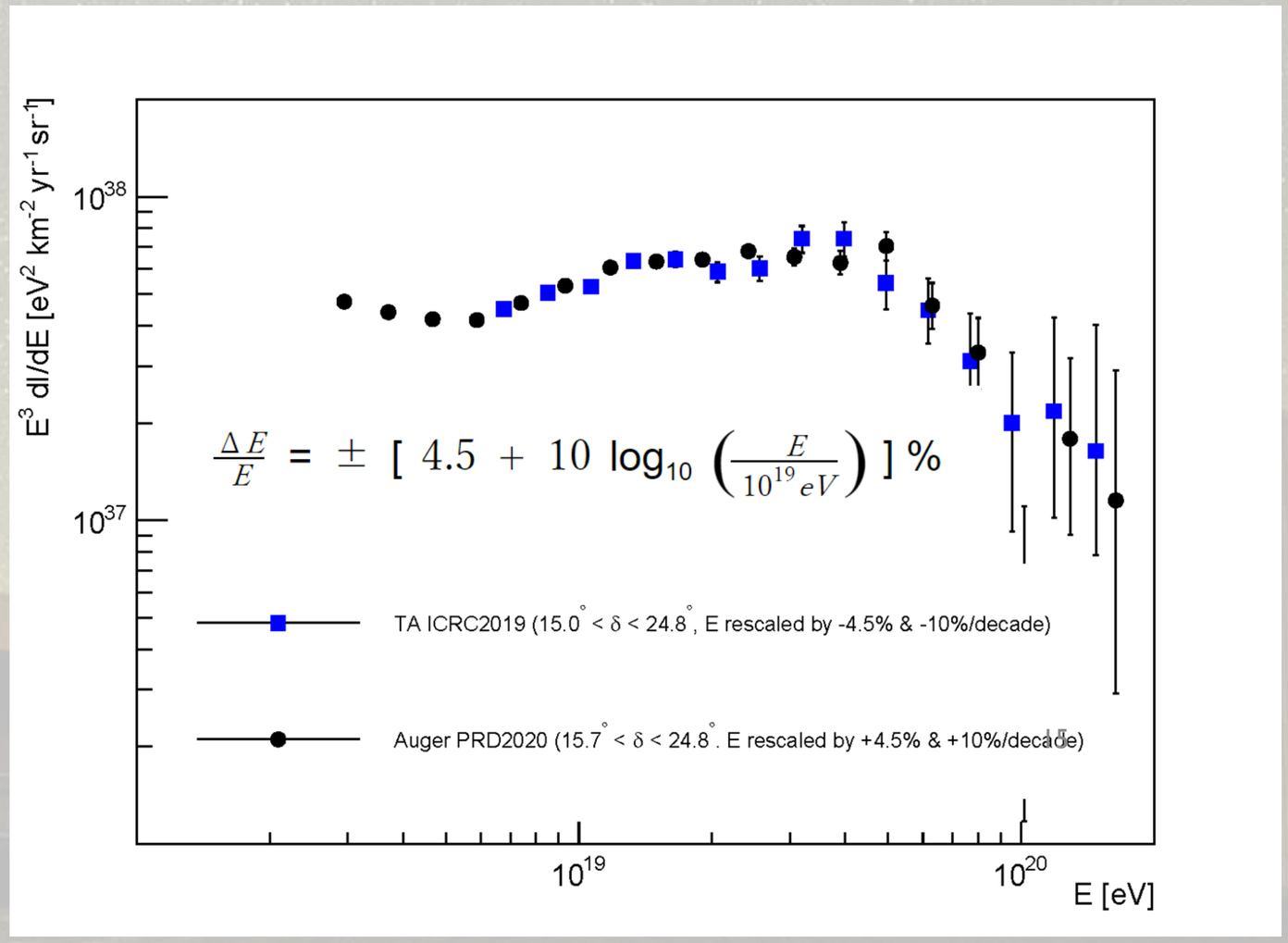
Dmitry Ivanov, this conference

Yoshiki Tsunesada, Auger+TA spectrum WG , this conference

Joint Auger + TA spectrum WG result



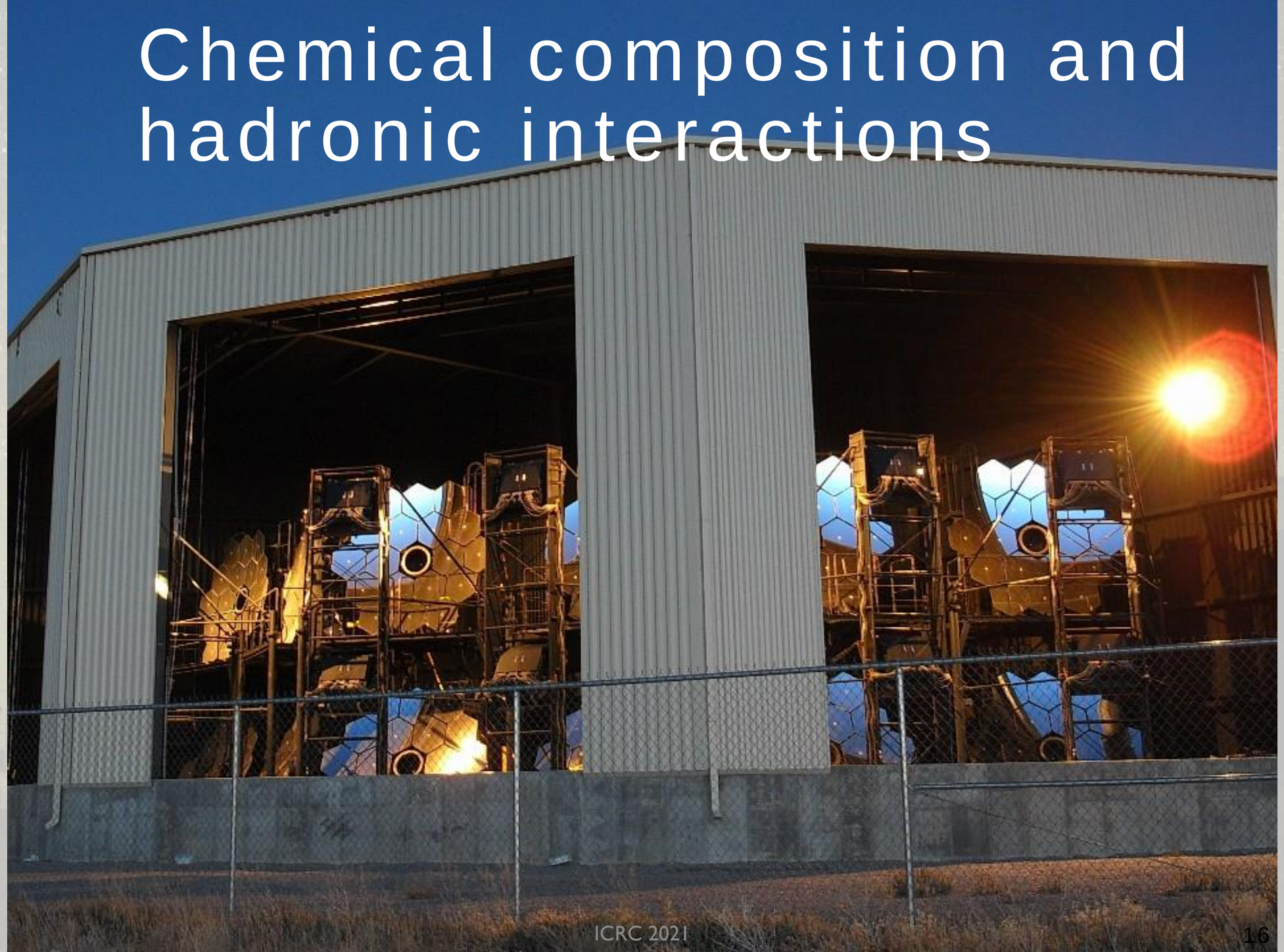




Absolute energy scale difference 9% + energy-dependent shift of ±10% per decade

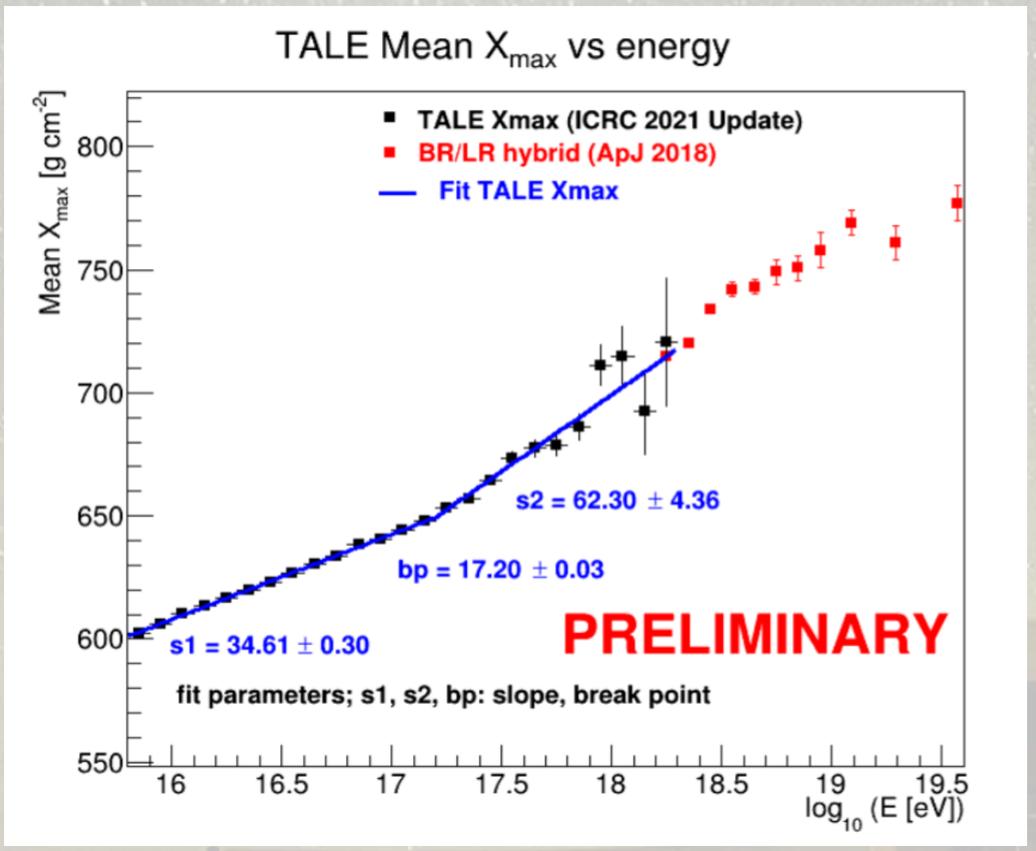
Yoshiki Tsunesada, this conference

Chemical composition and hadronic interactions

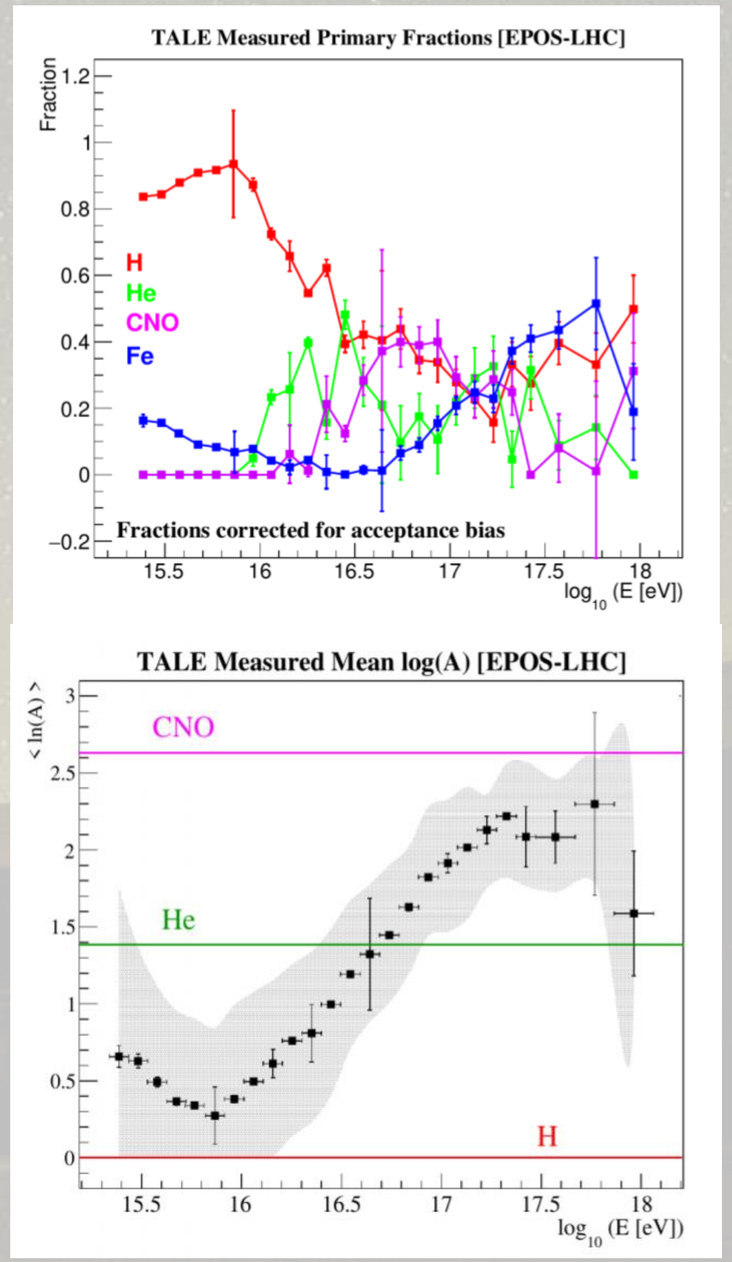


16

TALE FD monocular XMAX



Tareq AbuZayyad, this conference

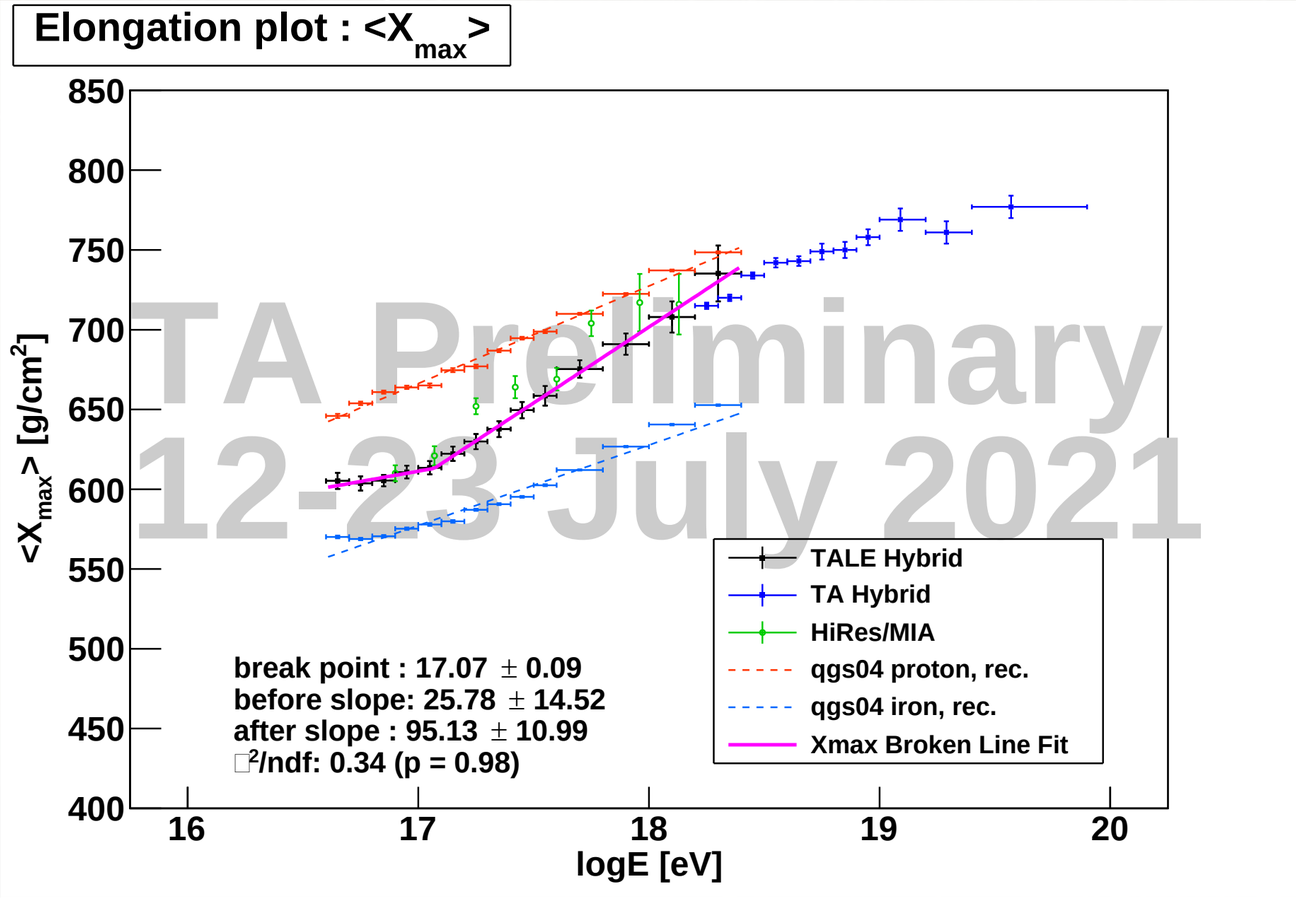


TA Collaboration ApJ 909 (2021)

A break in the enlongation rate at energy $10^{17.2}$ eV

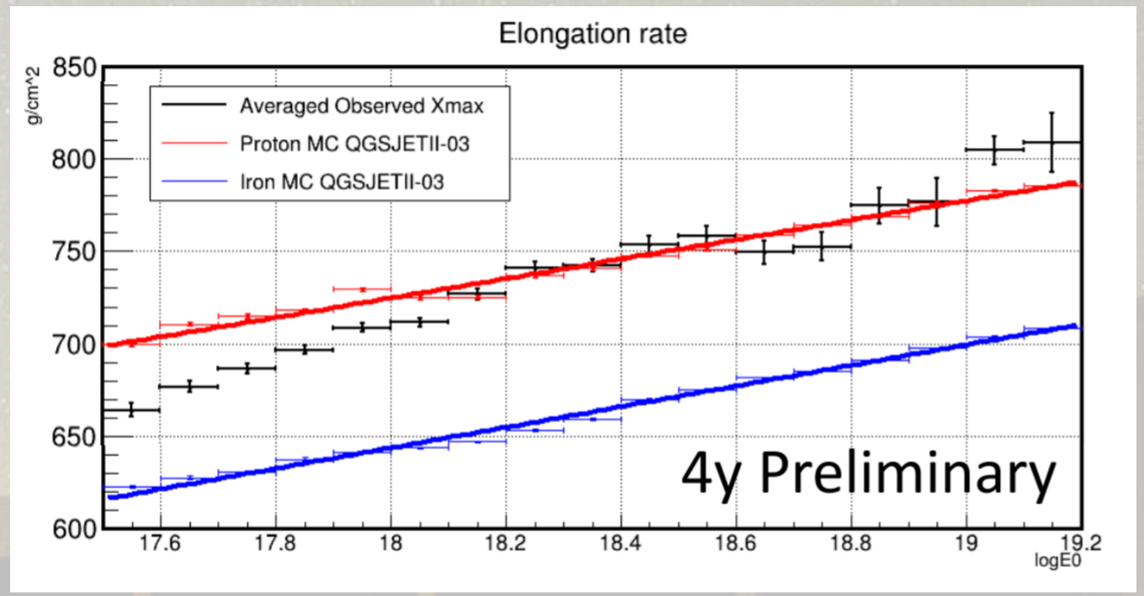
TA and TALE hybrid XMAX

TALE hybrid



Keitaro Fujita, this conference

TA hybrid

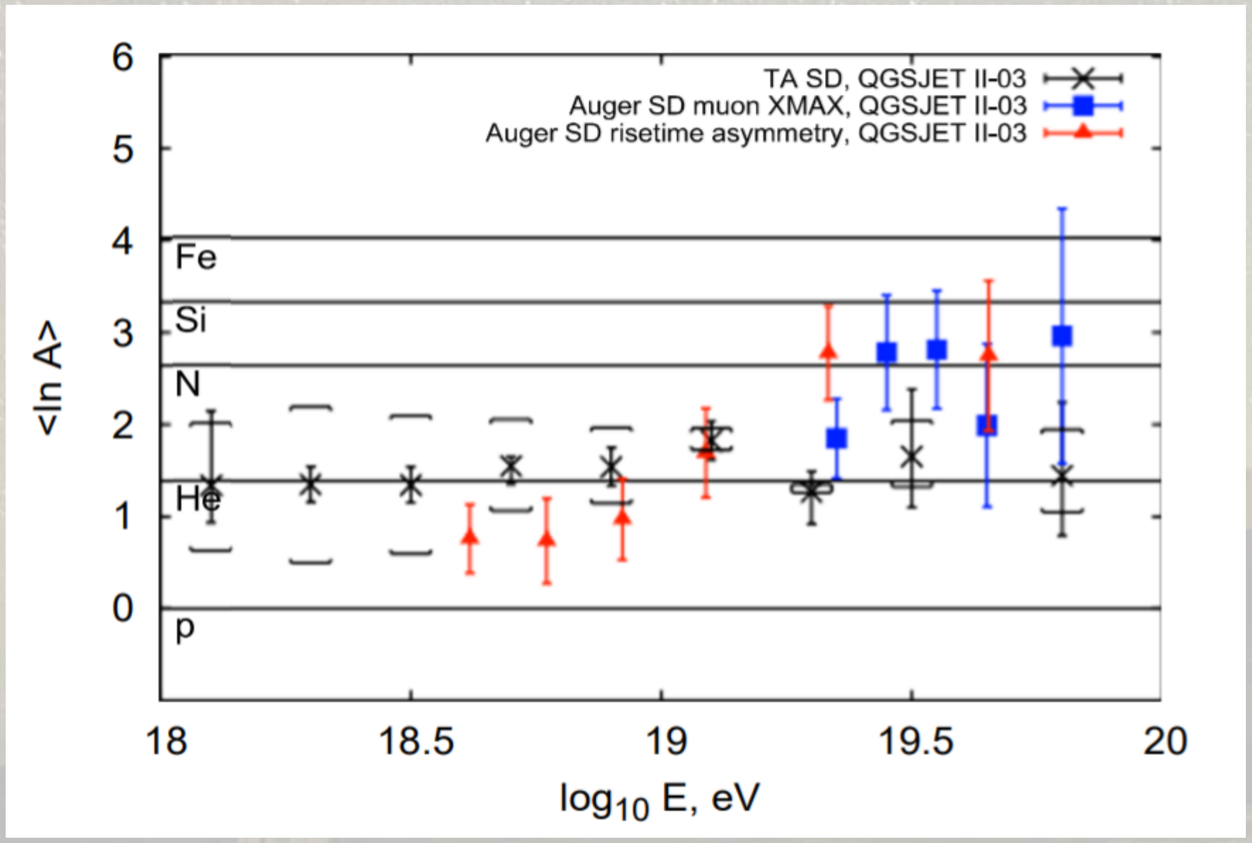


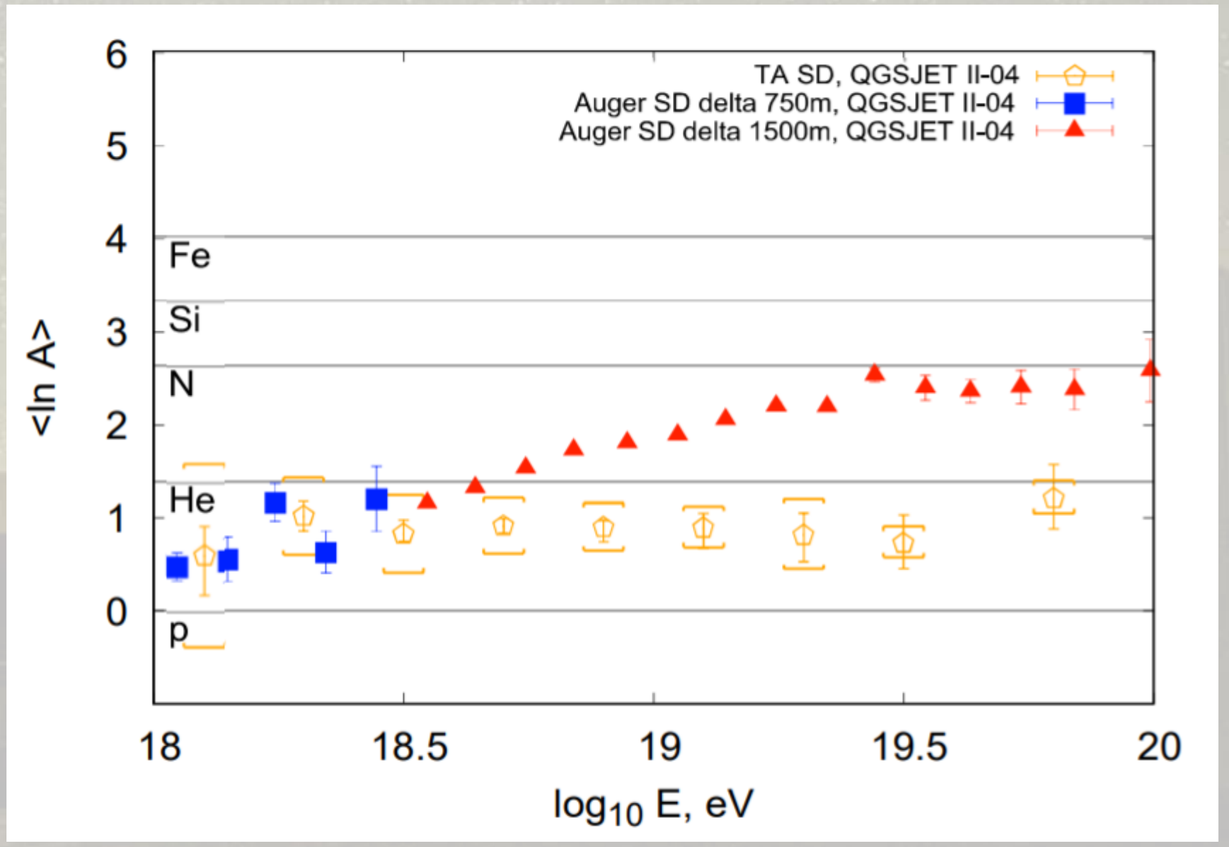
Heungsu Shin, this conference

See also poster by Douglas Bergman on "Combined fit to spectrum and composition"

TA SD composition

Machine learning technique based on BDT and 16 composition-sensitive observables with 12 years of TA SD data



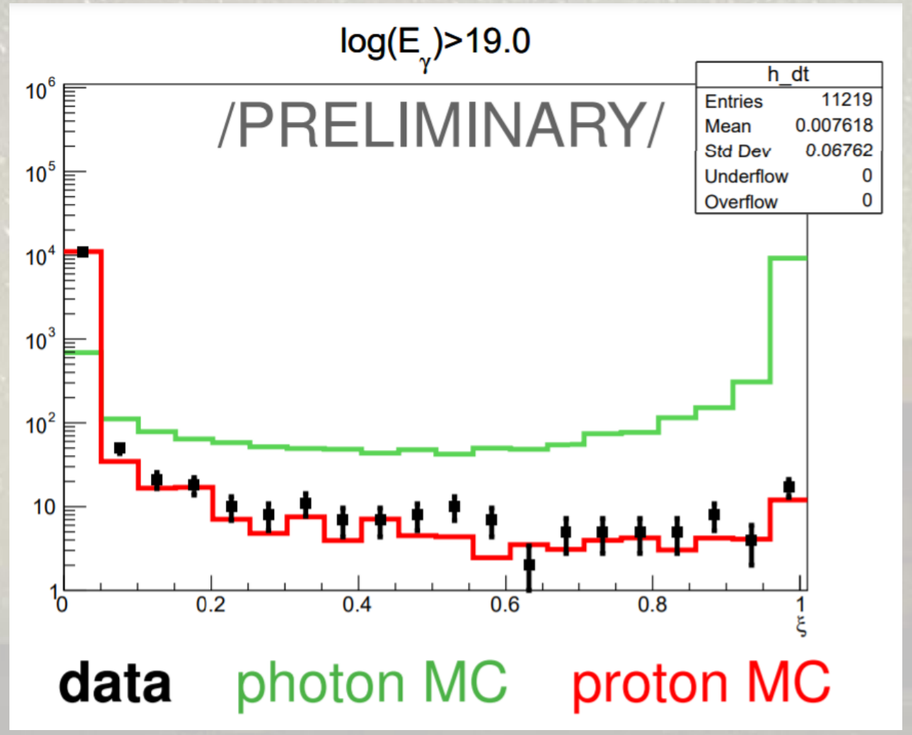


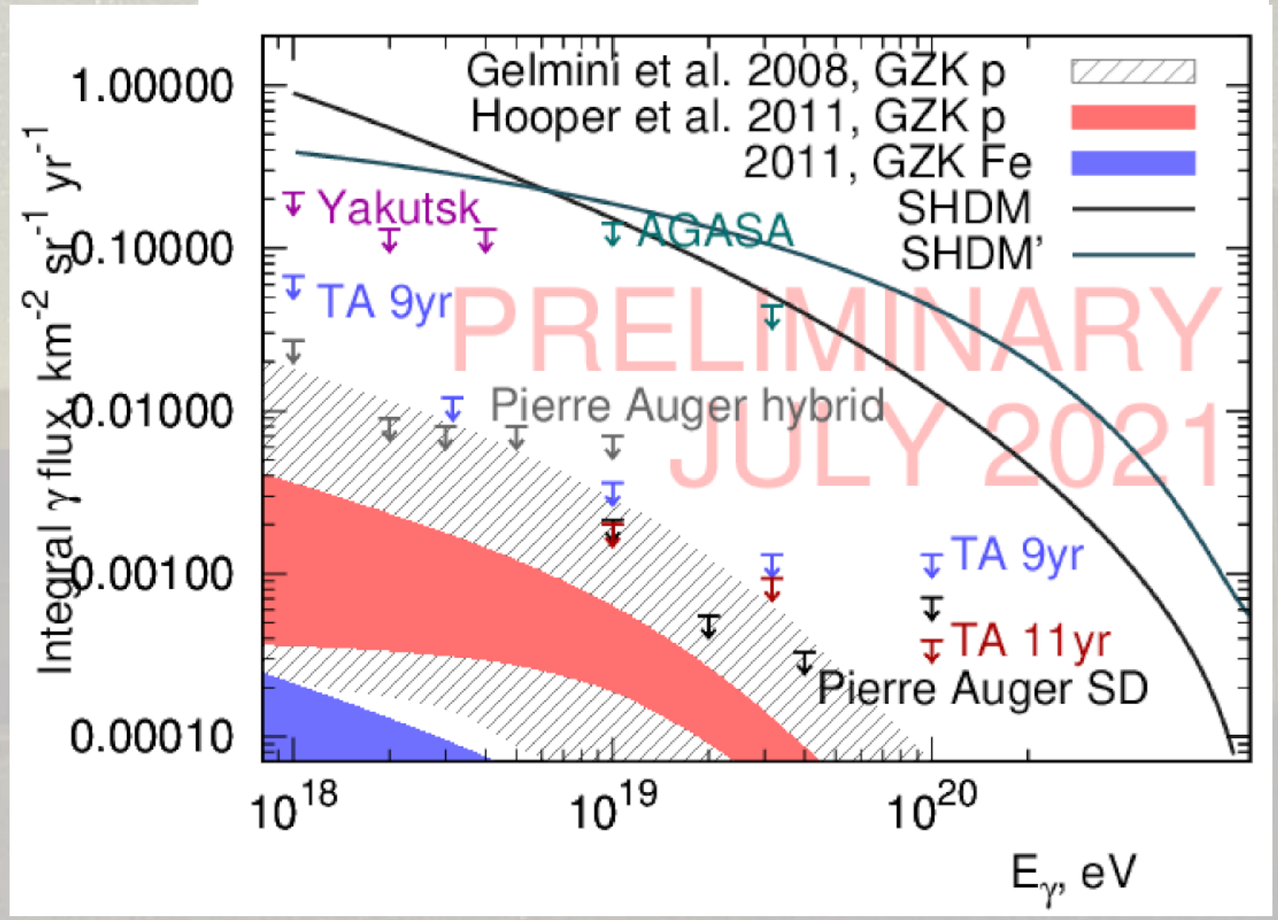
Yana Zhezher, this conference

TASD UHE photon limits

New p-γ classifier based on neural network. Classifier uses full time-resolved signals from all triggered SD stations along with 16 composition-sensitive observables.

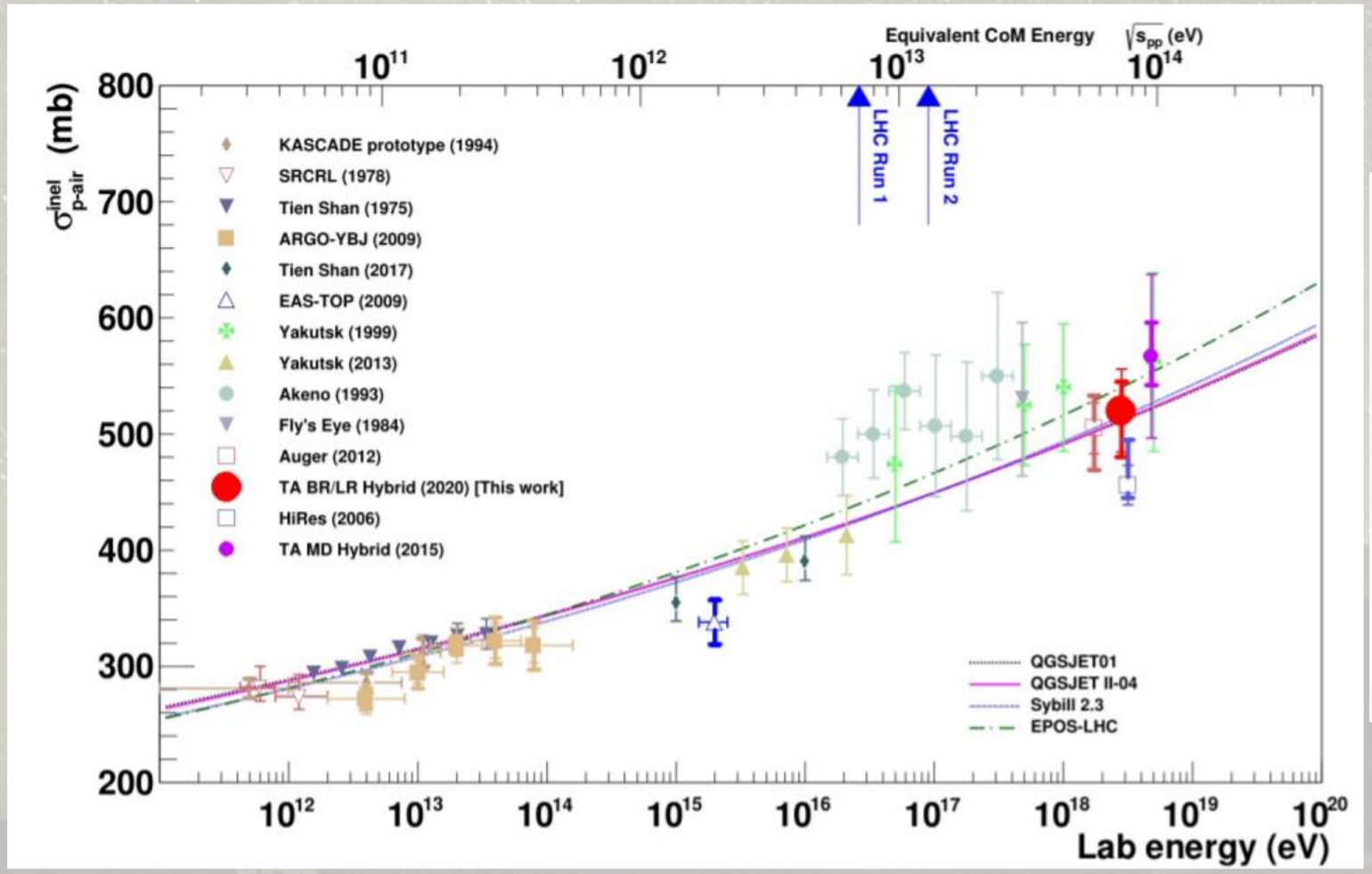
E_0, eV	$10^{19.0}$	$10^{19.5}$	$10^{20.0}$
γ candidates	2	1	0
$\bar{n}$ <	6.72	5.14	3.09
A_{eff}	3428	5546	7875
F_γ <	2.0×10^{-3}	9.3×10^{-4}	3.9×10^{-4}

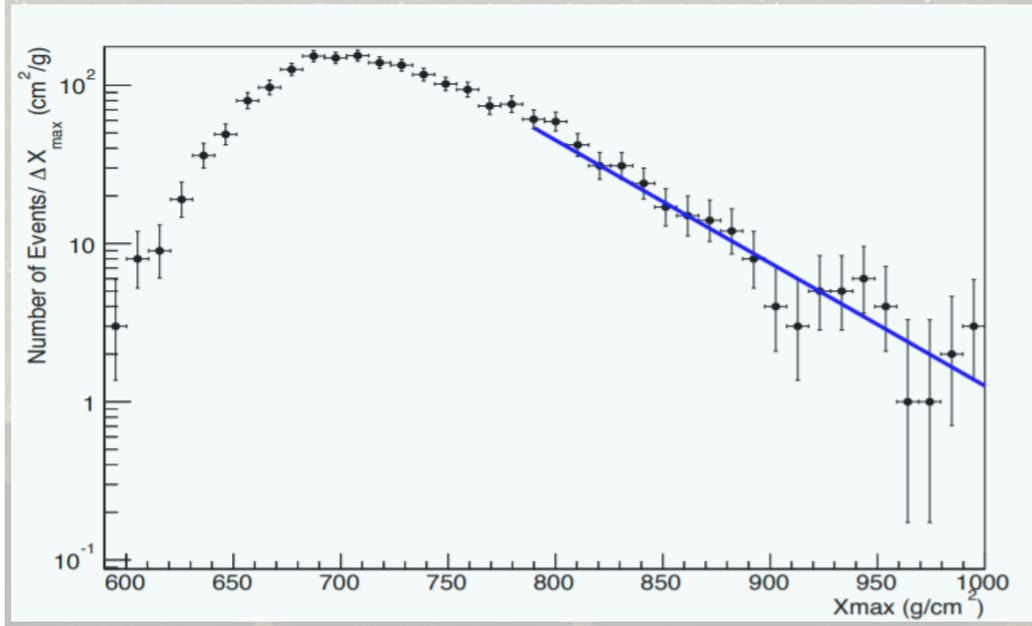




Oleg Kalashev, this conference
Ivan Kharuk, this conference

TA proton-air cross-section

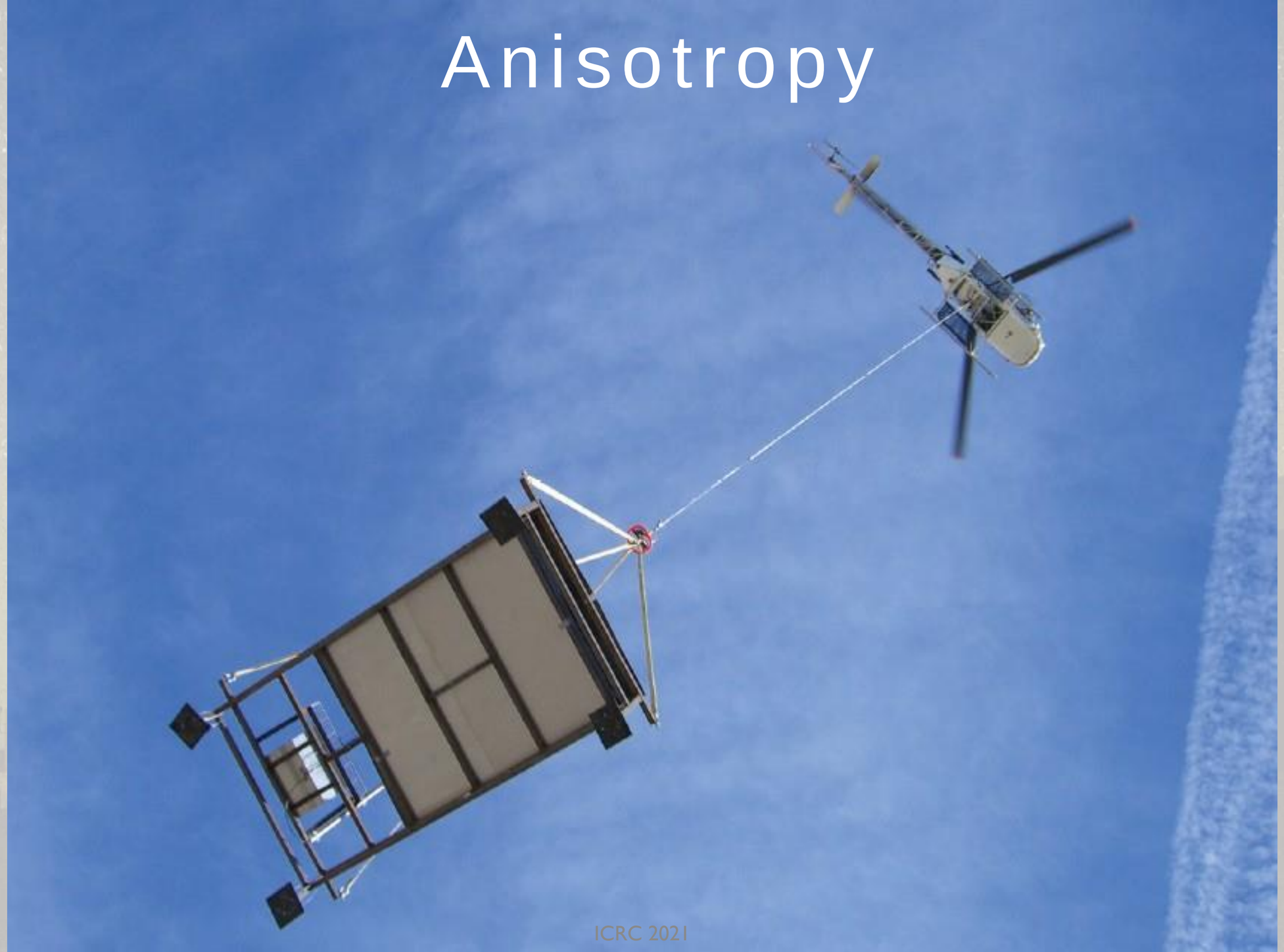




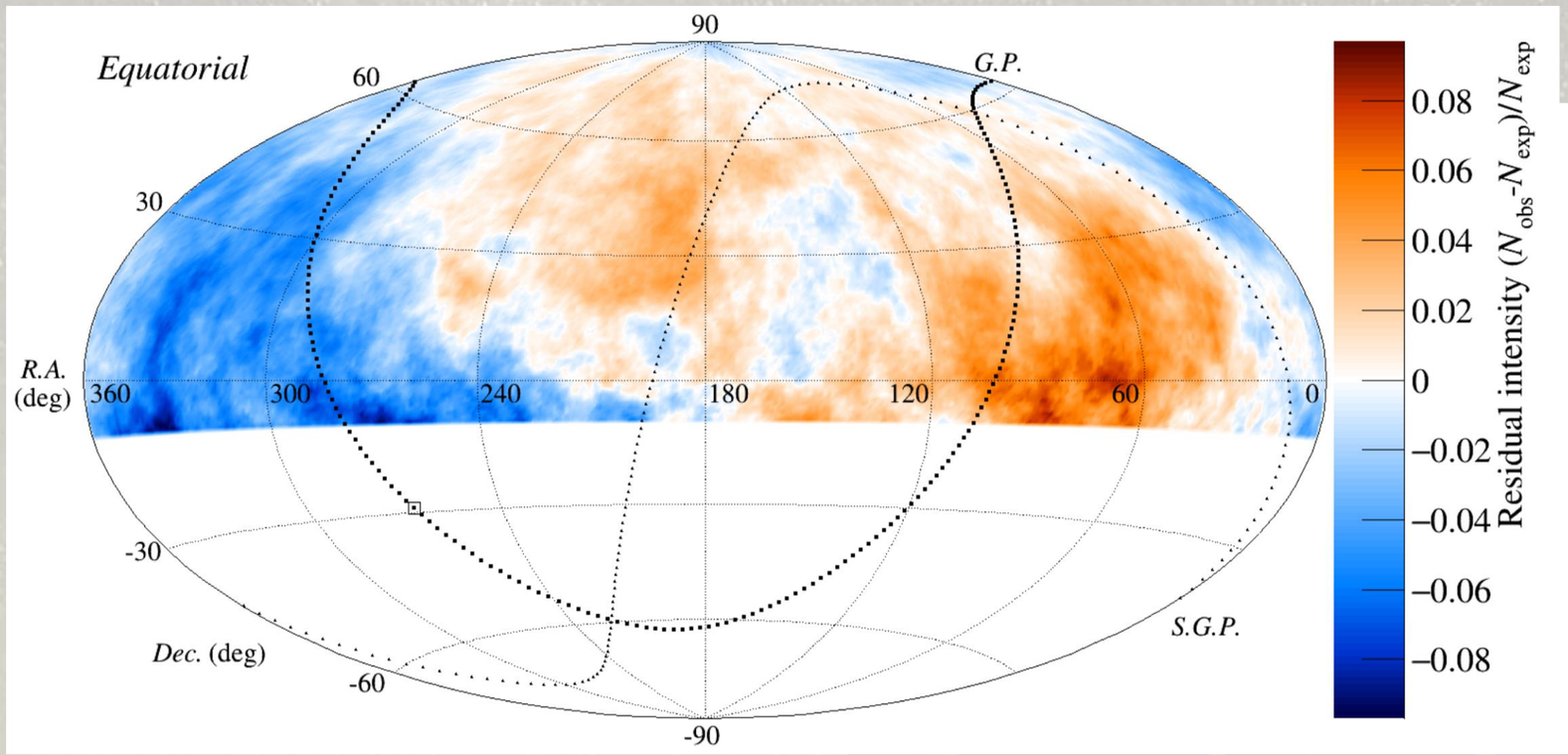
Measuring XMAX attenuation length in hybrid mode.

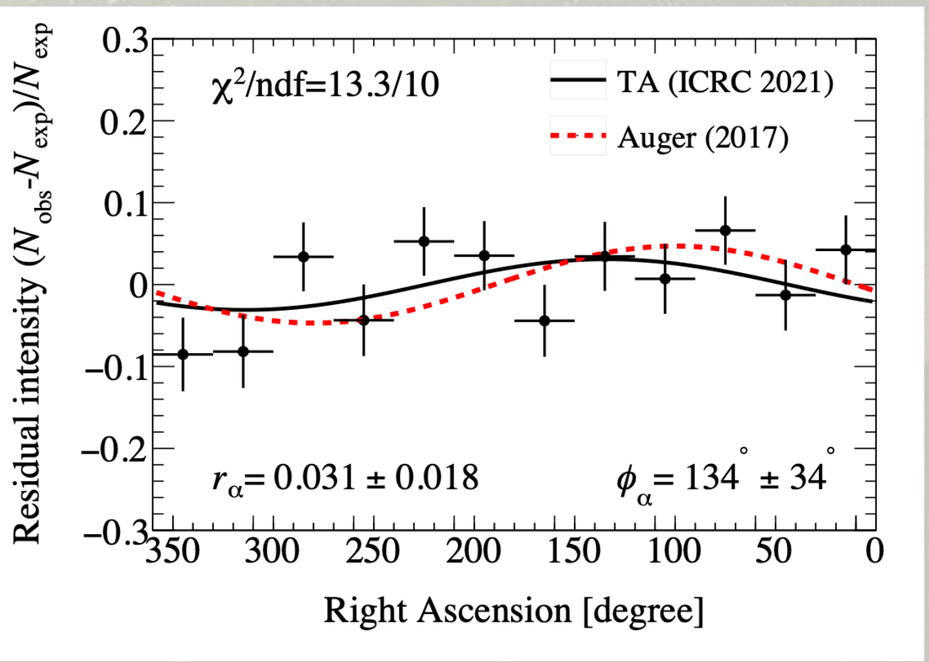
Rasha Abbasi, this conference

Anisotropy



CR clustering: Dipole update (12-yr)





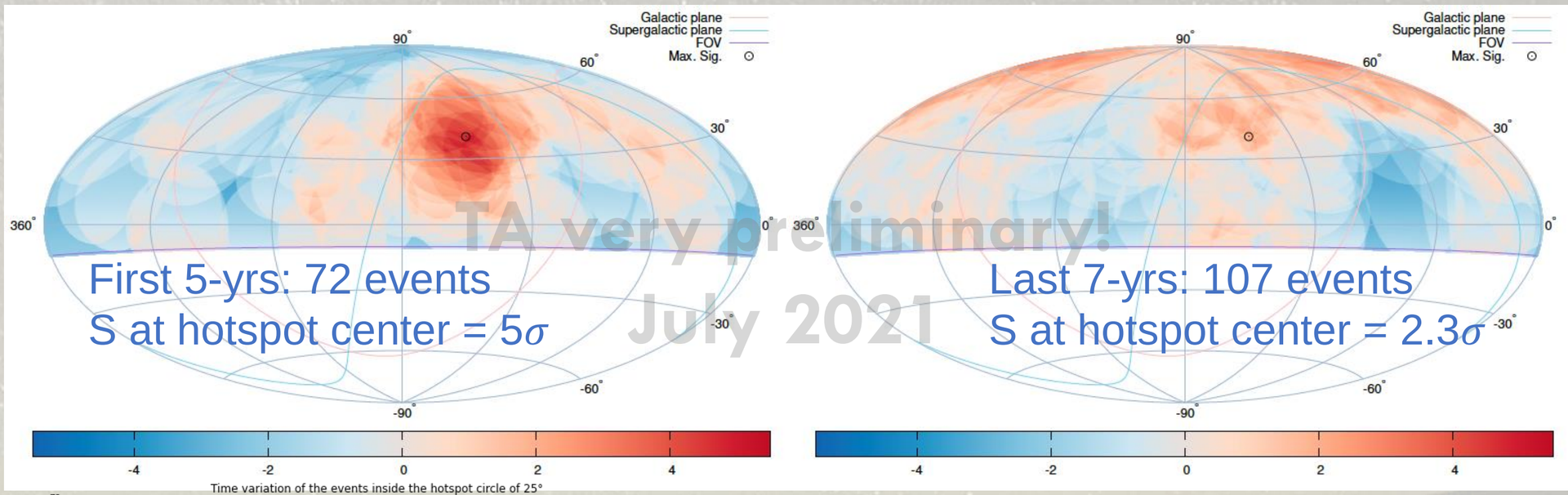
Sky map of residual intensity between TA data and an isotropic distribution for E > 8.8 EeV (energy cut corresponds to E > 8 EeV used by Auger).

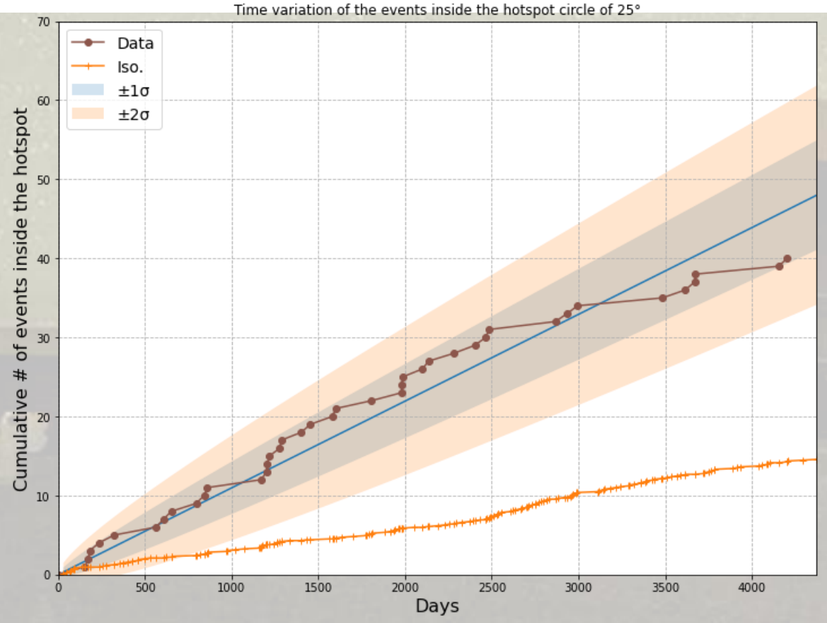
TA 12-yr result : $r_\alpha \simeq 3.1\%; \phi_\alpha \simeq 134^\circ$
Auger 2017 result : $r_\alpha \simeq 4.7\%; \phi_\alpha \simeq 100^\circ$

Toshihiro Fujii, this conference

TA+Auger WG result: Peter Tinyakov, this conference
see also Auger Highlight talk by Ralph Engel

CR clustering: Hot spot update (12-yr)





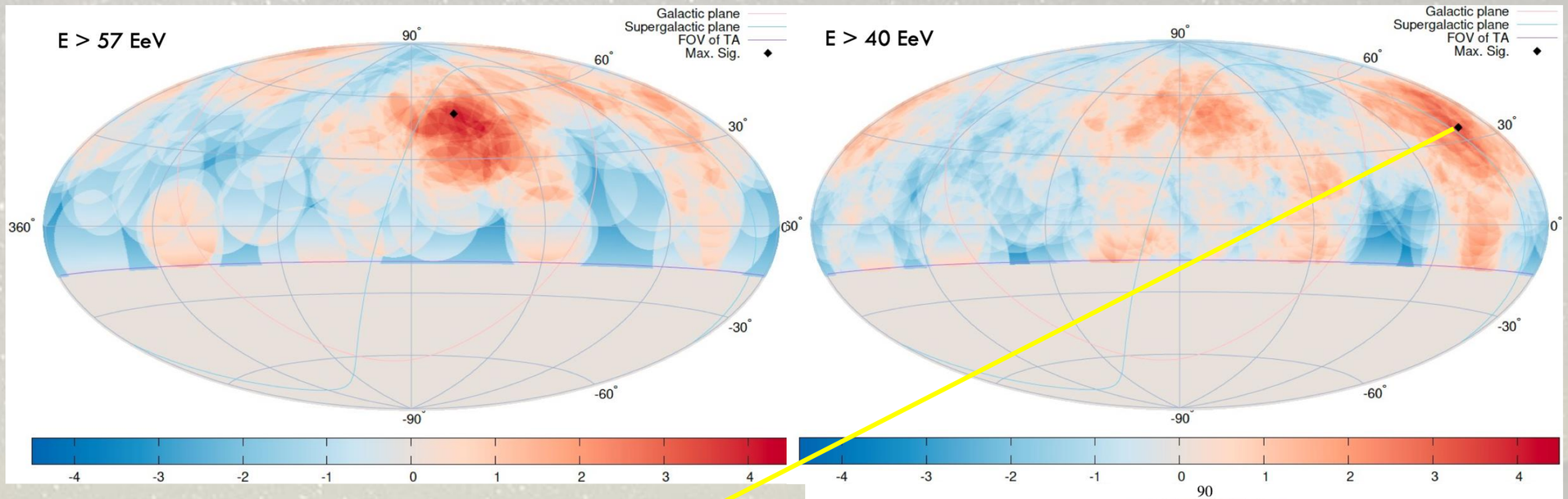
Energy E > 57 EeV

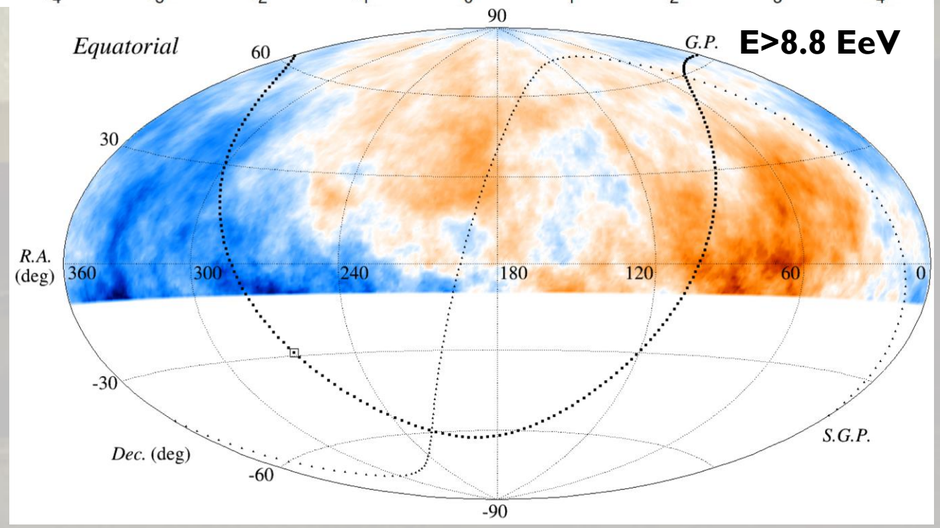
Overall post-trial significance has dropped from 3.4σ to 3.2σ

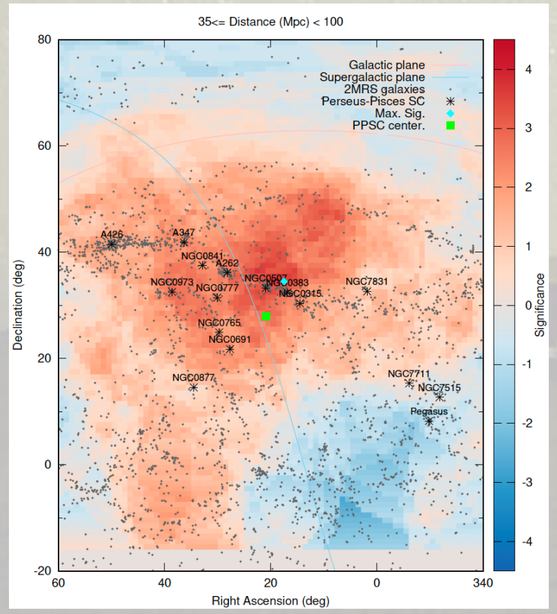
The growth rate of events inside the hotspot is consistent with the linear one within ~ 1σ

Jihyun Kim, this conference.

CR clustering: Medium scales



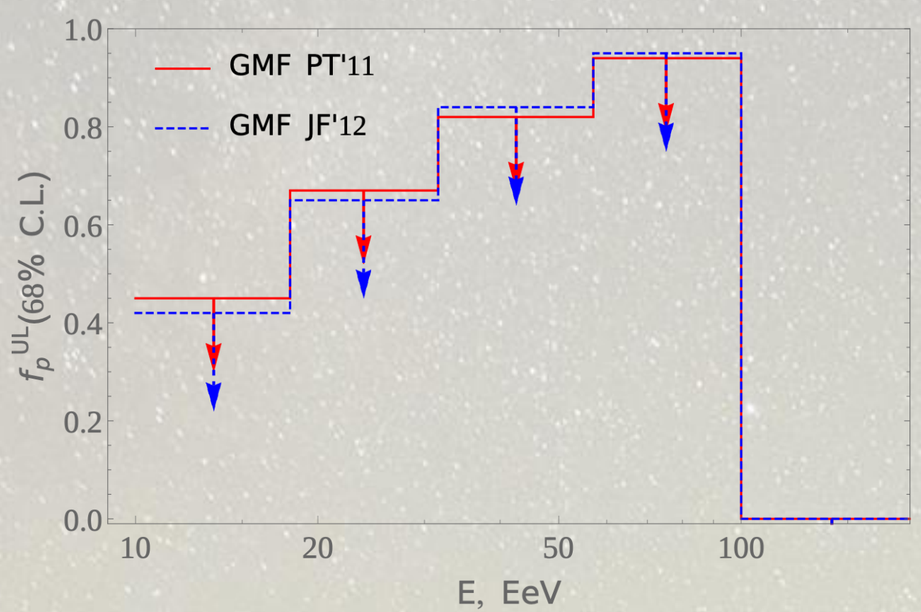


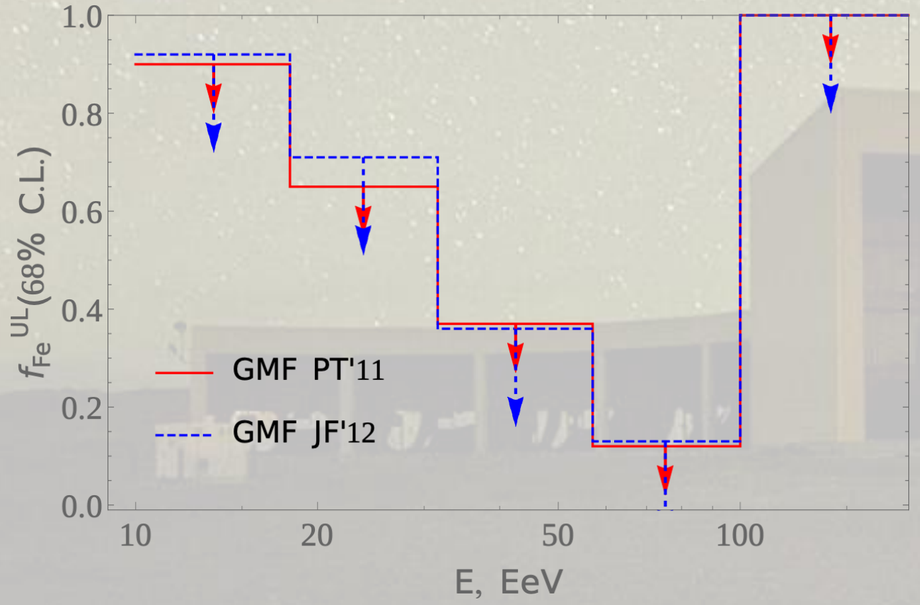


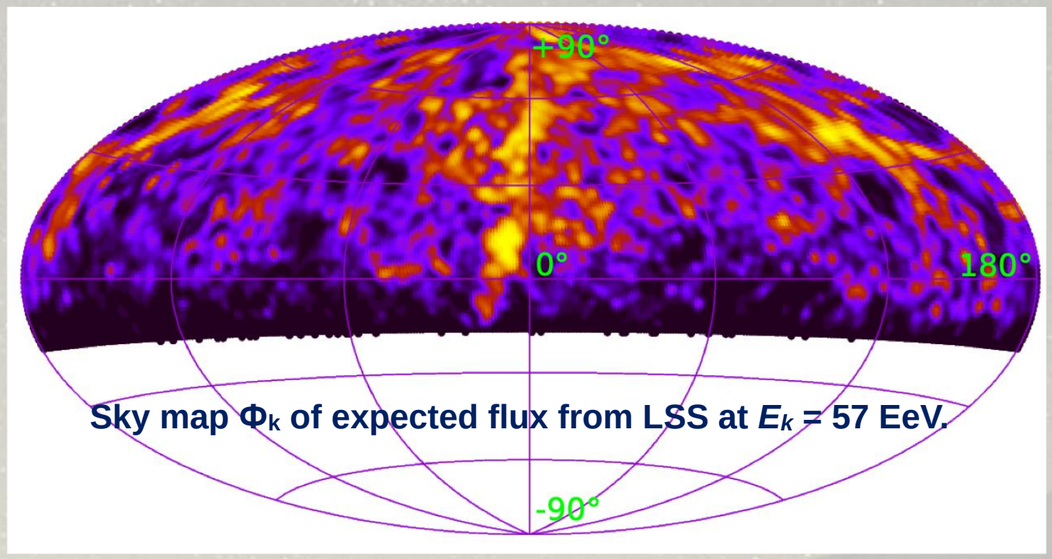
Hint of excess in the direction of Perseus-Pisces supercluster

Jihyun Kim, this conference.

Correlation with LSS: chemical composition







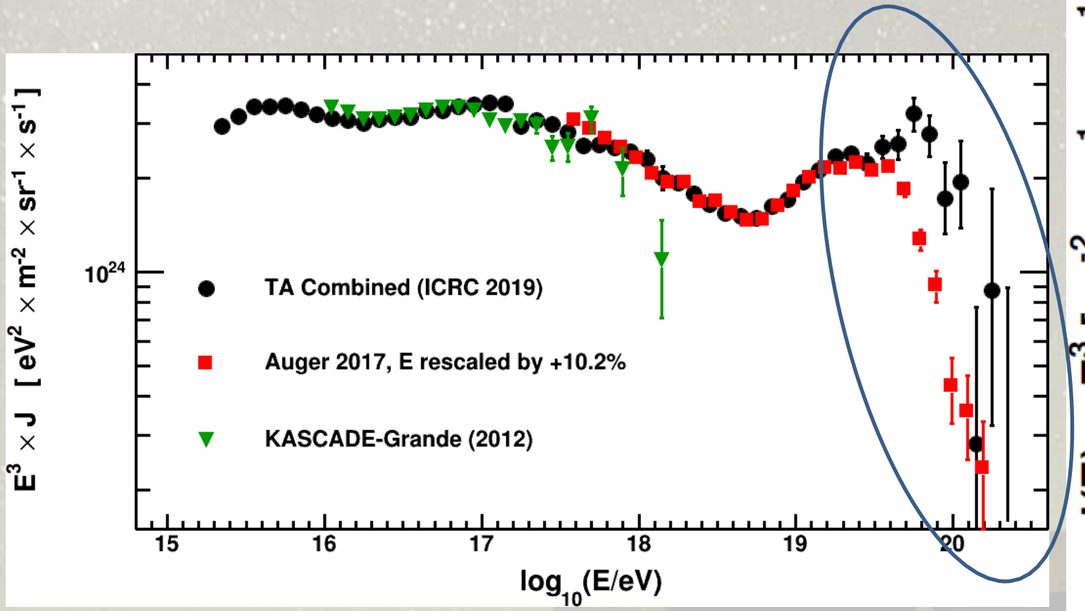
Upper limits on proton and iron fractions at 68% C.L. as functions of energy, derived from correlation with LSS

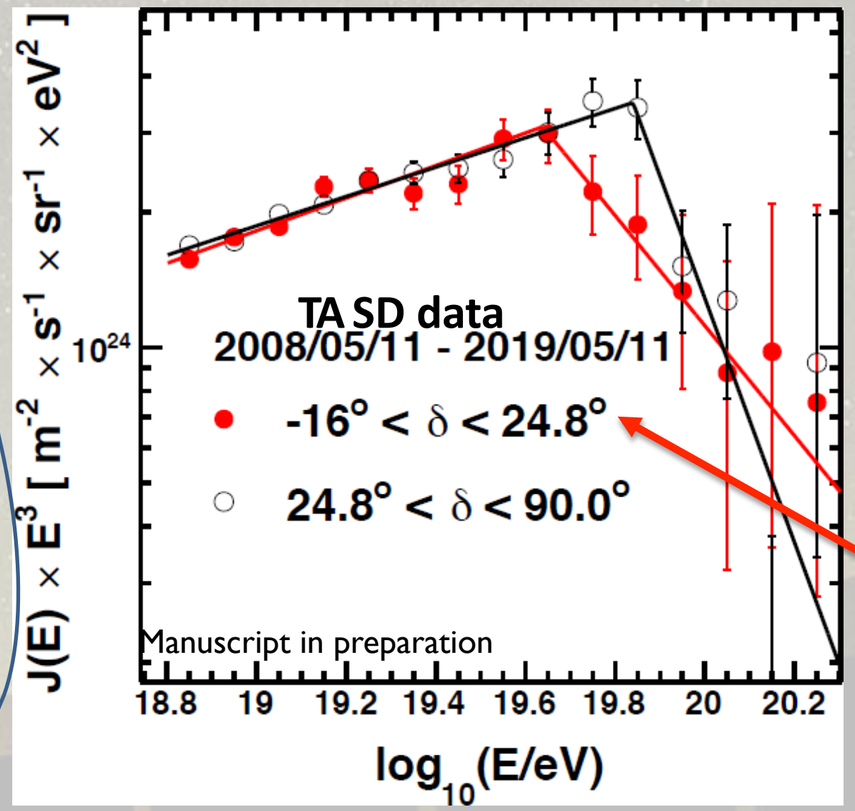
Mikhail Kuznetsov, this conference

For TA anisotropy summary see talk by Igor Tkachev, this conference

For the TA+Auger WG on sources see report by Armando di Matteo
see also Auger Highlight talk by Ralph Engel

Declination Dependence of Spectrum

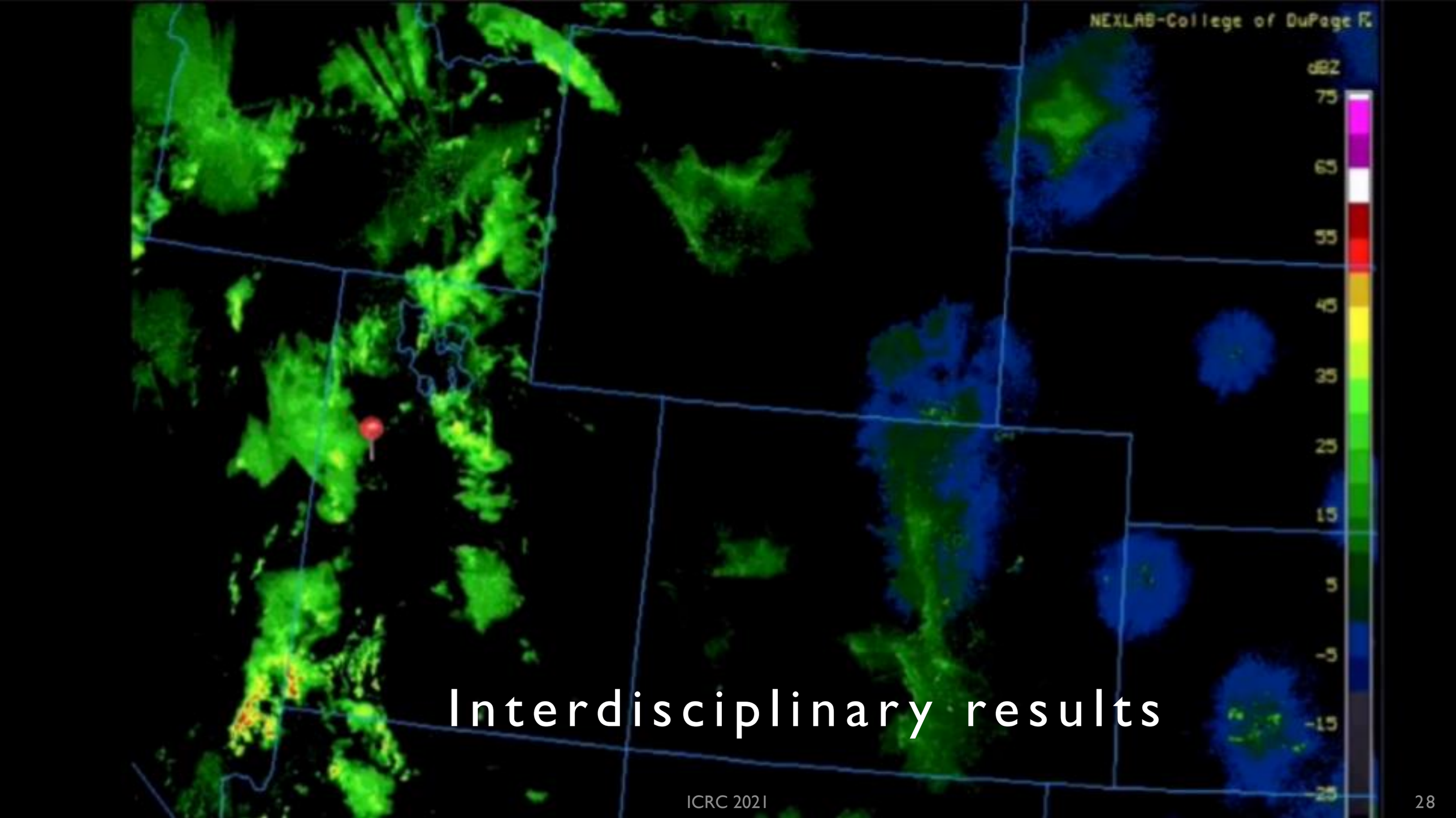




Common with Auge

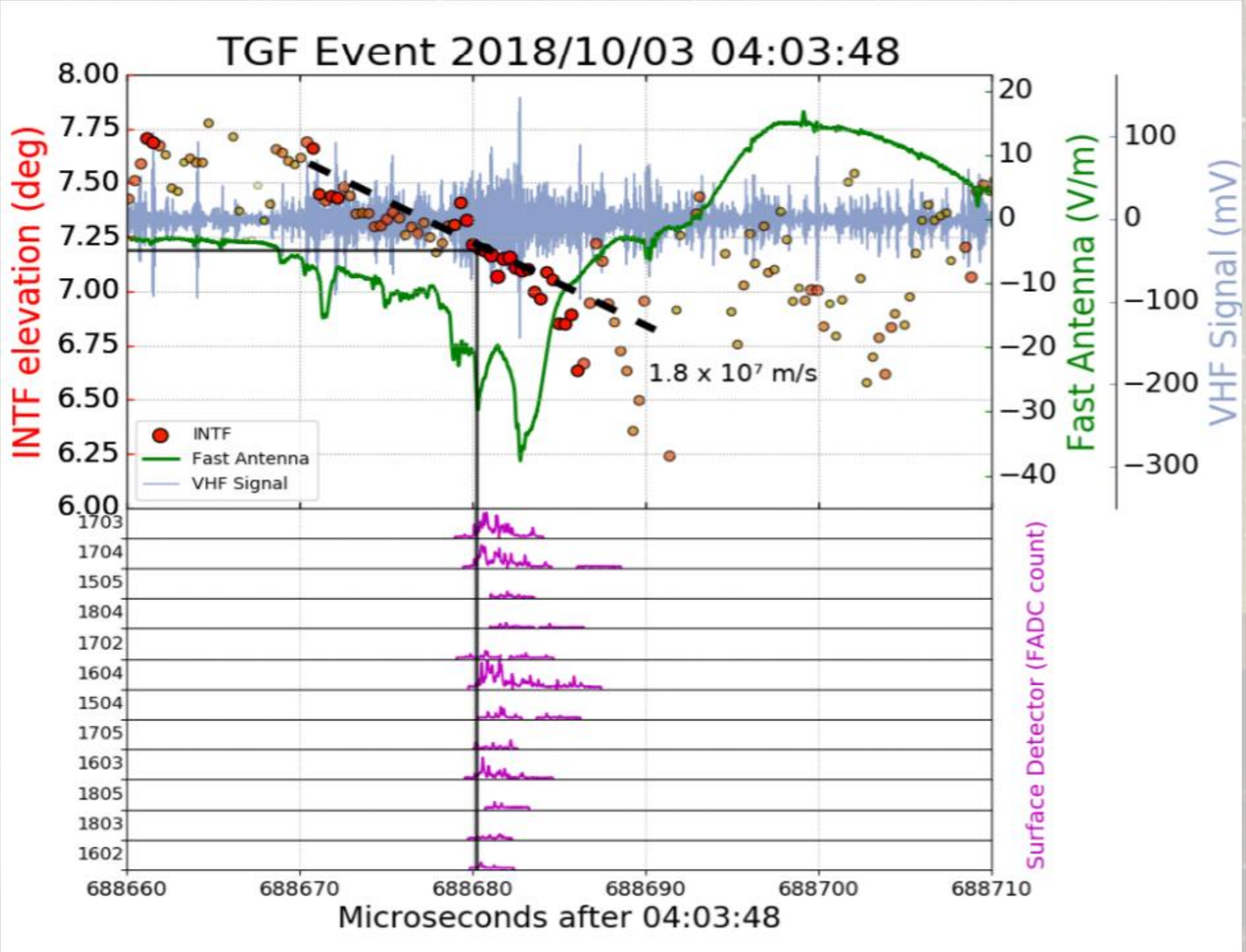
- Difference of the cutoff energies of energy spectra
  - log(E/eV) = 19.64 ± 0.04 for lower dec. band (-16° - 24.8°)
  - log(E/eV) = 19.84 ± 0.02 for higher dec. band (24.8° - 90°)
- The global significance of the difference is estimated to be **4.3σ**

Dmitry Ivanov, this conference



Interdisciplinary results

Observation of Terrestrial Gamma-Ray Flashes with TA SD

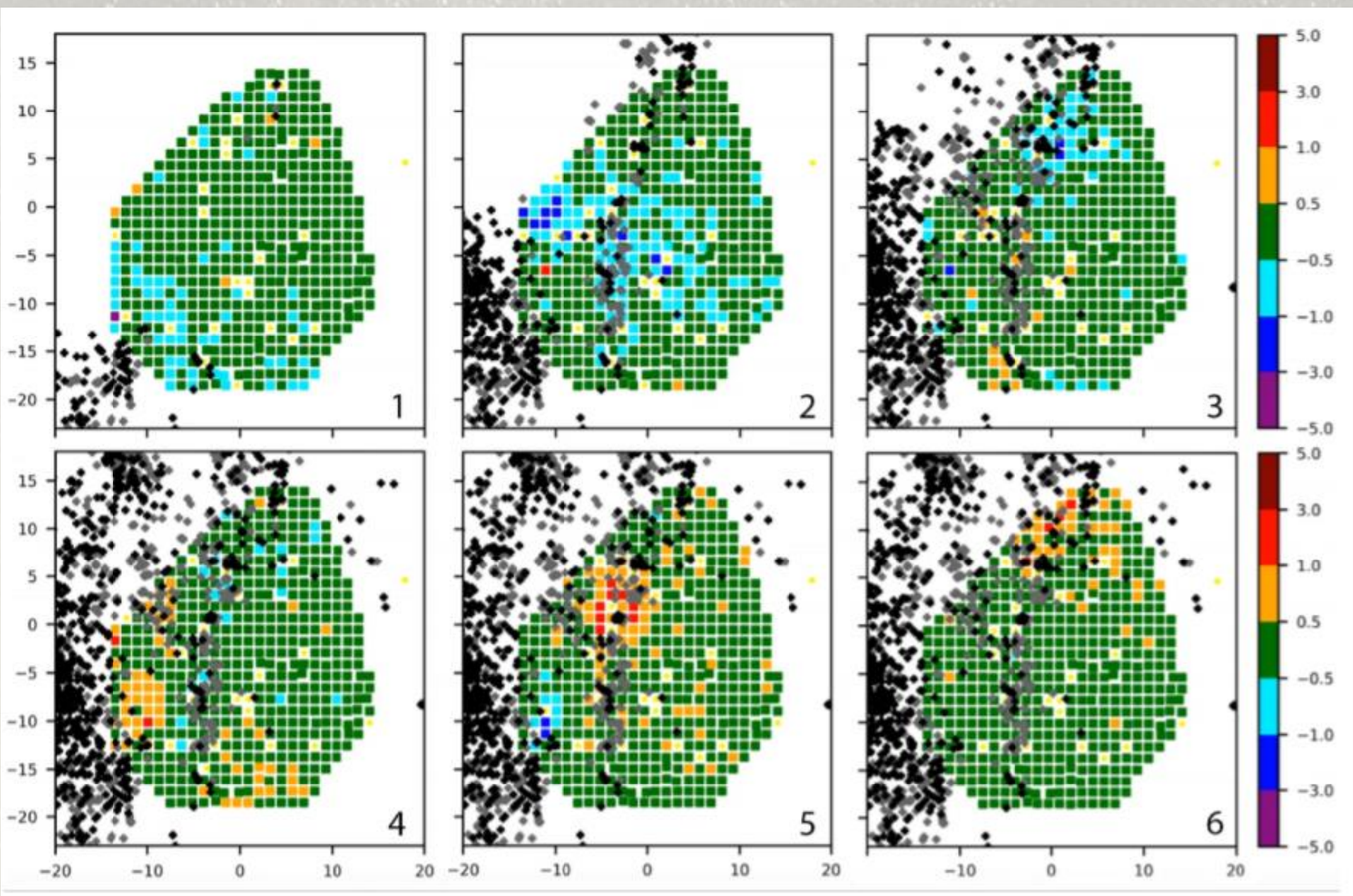


- Broadband Interferometer (INTF):
  - Three 20-80 MHz flatplate antennas
  - 2D high-resolution reconstruction of lightning sources
- Fast Sferic Sensor (FA):
  - Detects electric field change
  - Identifies substructure: initial breakdown pulses (IBPs)

- Clearly defined TGF onset during the flash's strongest initial breakdown pulse

Jackson Remington, this conference

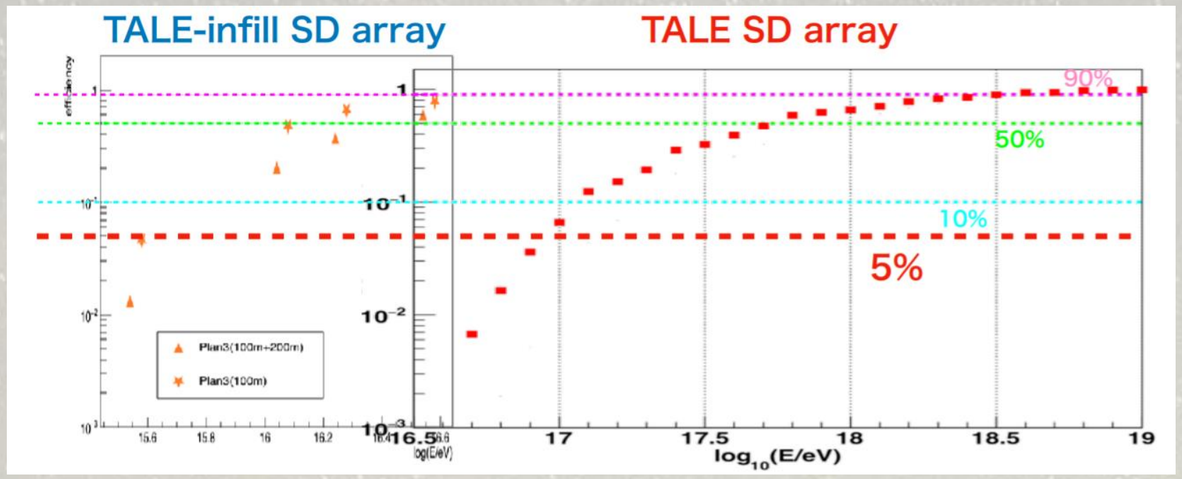
Variation of Level-0 trigger rate during Thunderstorms

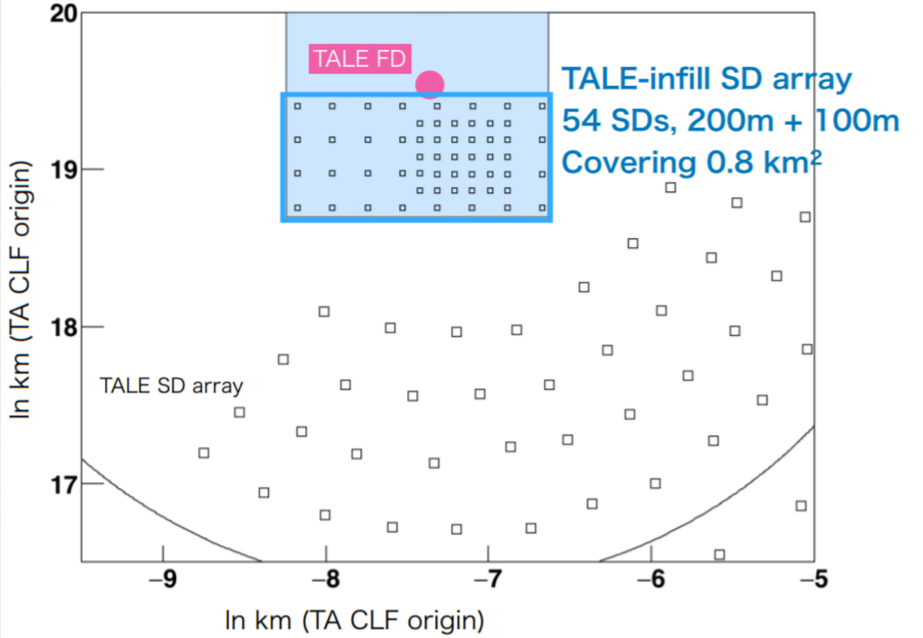


- Level-0 trigger rate is monitored at 10 min resolution at each SD station.
- Thunderstorm detected by NLDN changes the trigger rate.
- The result may be interpreted by using EFIELD option of CORSIKA.
- Intensity increase or deficit depends on electric field type (intracloud or cloud to ground) and thunderstorm polarity

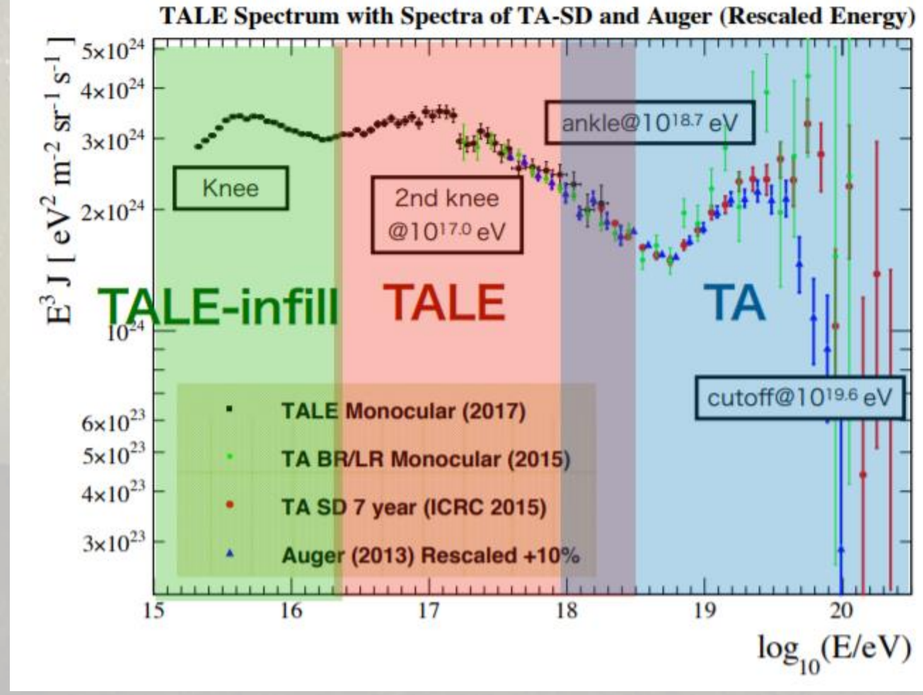
Rasha Abbasi, this conference

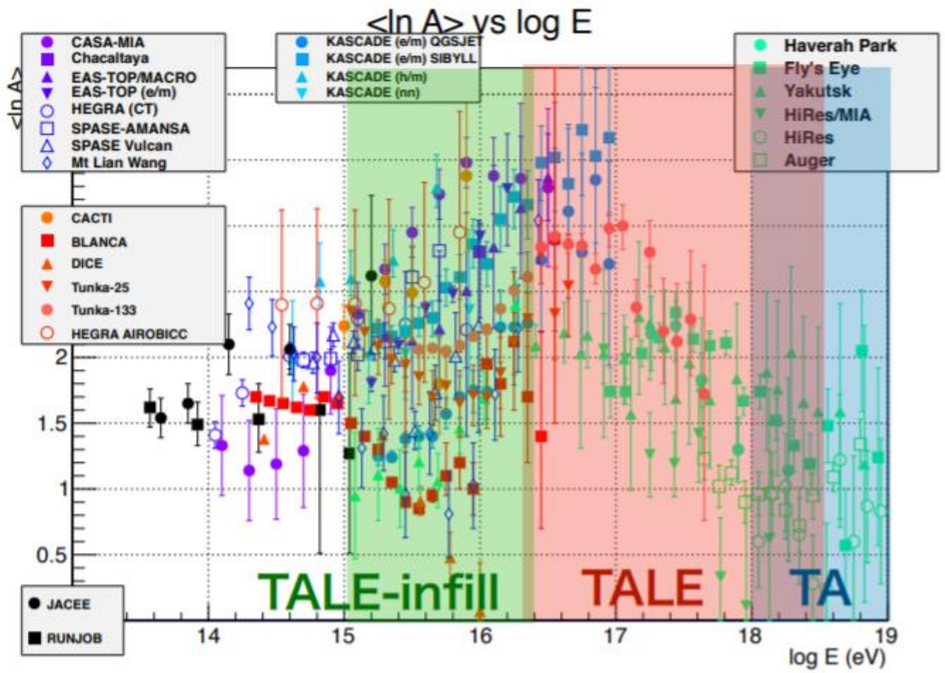
Extension of TALE SD: TALE-infill

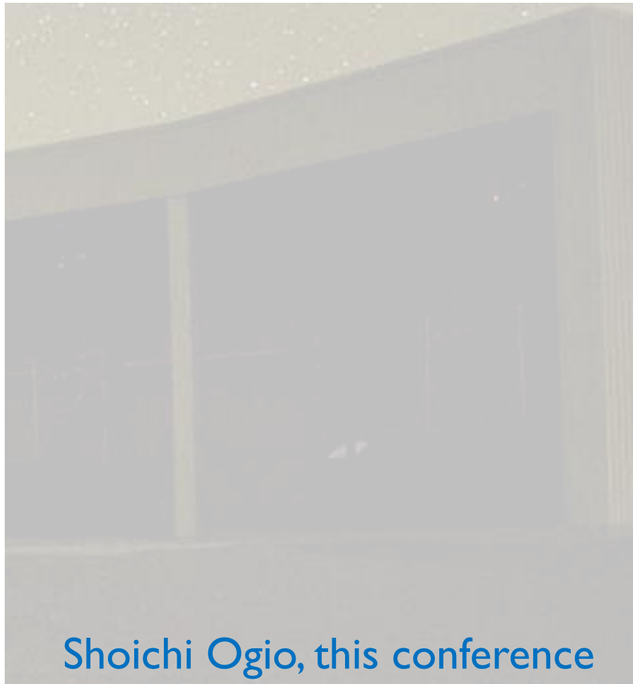




Ap. J., 865, 74(2018), arXiv: 1803.01288







Shoichi Ogio, this conference

Summary

- Telescope Array is UHECR Observatory in the Northern Hemisphere
- Energy spectrum is measured from $10^{15.5}$ to $10^{20.5}$ eV (5 decades)
  - New feature in the energy spectrum at ~$10^{19.3}$eV
  - TA Low Energy Extension (TALE) energy spectrum indicated that second knee may result from Peters cycle ($10^{15.6}$eV→$10^{17.1}$eV)
- TALE Xmax shows composition becoming heavier between first and second knee, consistent with Peters Cycle interpretation
- Between $10^{18.0}$ eV and $10^{19.1}$eV TA hybrid data is compatible with predominantly light elements such as protons and helium
- Indications of anisotropy at highest energy
  - Hot spot from 12 years of data in the direction of Ursa Major (3.2σ post trial)
  - Hint of excess in the direction of Perseus Pisces E > $10^{19.3}$eV
  - Correlation with LSS consistent with large fraction of protons
  - Declination dependence of the spectrum
- We need much more data at high energy end –>TAx4 in operation!