

# Cosmic rays at highest energies: Scientific objectives, status and plans for the future



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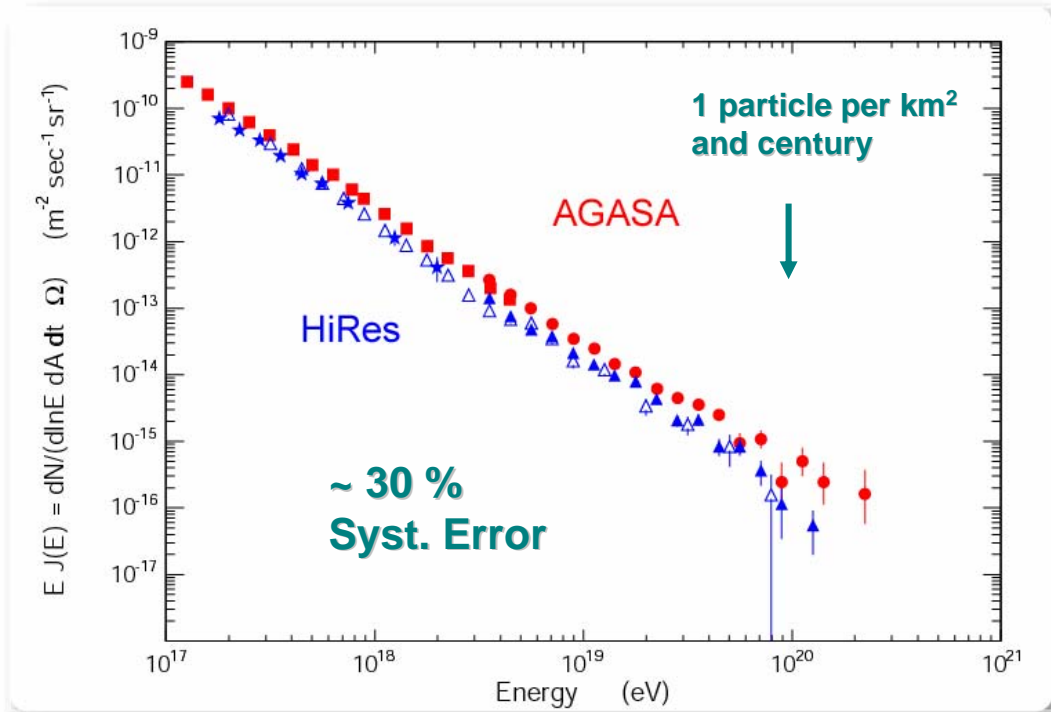
- **Astrophysical motivation**
- **Pierre Auger Project and EUSO**
  - **Experimental concept**
  - **Status**
  - **Results**
- **Summary and outlook**

# Science Objectives

## Fundamental questions

- **Primaries of energies  $>10^{20}$  eV exist**  
Standard astrophysical models cannot account for such energies
- **Complication ( $d > 20$  Mpc):**  
**GZK cutoff  $E > 5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV**  
 $p + \gamma_{2.7K} \rightarrow \Delta^+(1232) \rightarrow p + \pi^0 \rightarrow p\gamma\gamma$   
 $\rightarrow n + \pi^+ \rightarrow pe^+\nu$
- **If no GZK:**
  - Nearby sources:  
**GUT fossils (TD, DM, ...)**
  - Propagation effects:  
**violation of Lorentz invariance, Z-Bursts, ...**
- **Near sources should be identified by point source astronomy**  
High magnetic rigidity of the primaries (charged particle astronomy)

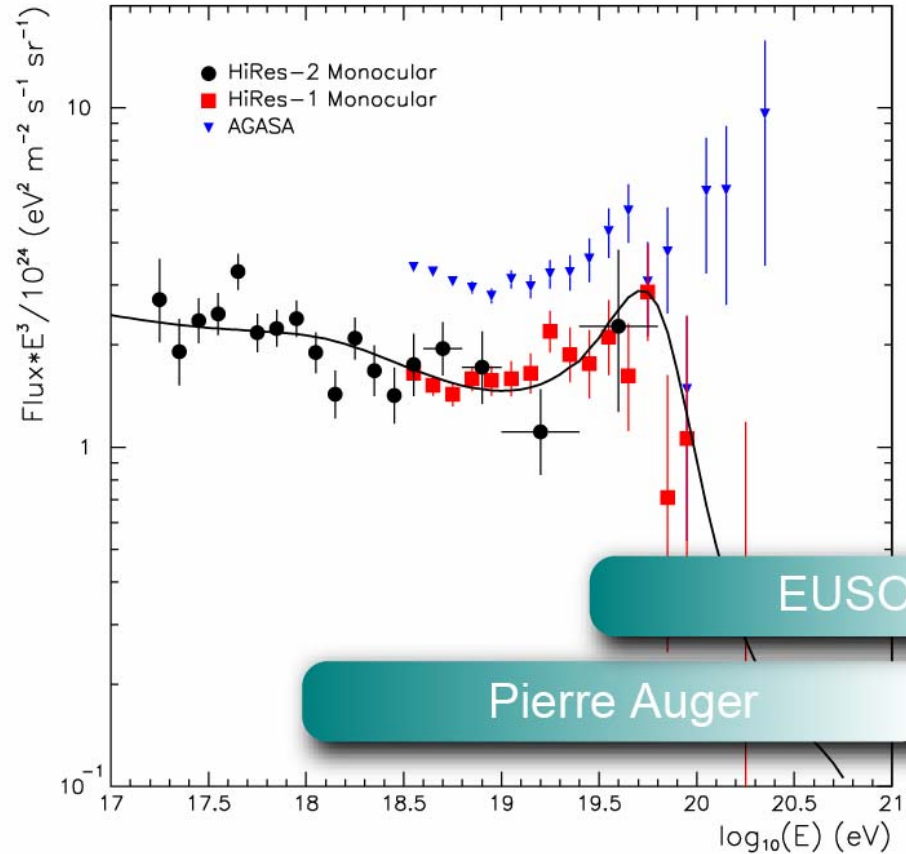
## Contradicting measurements



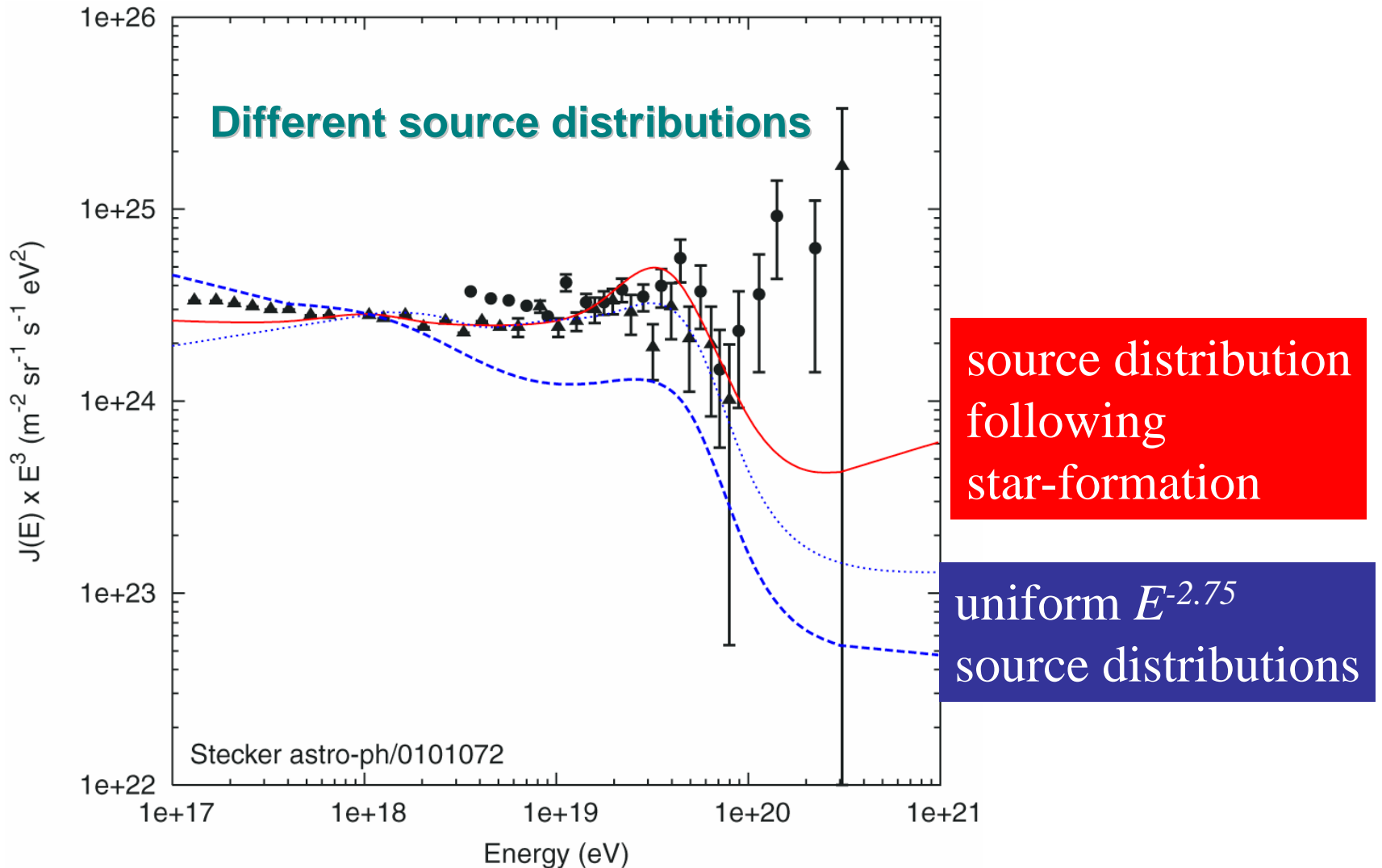
**Newest HIRES stereo data give even more contradicting results (W. Springer et al.; ICRC05)**

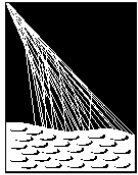
# Experimental Approach

1. **Cosmic ray spectrum above  $10^{19}$  eV:**  
**Shape of the spectrum in the region of the GZK cutoff**
2. **Arrival direction distribution:**  
**Search for departure from isotropy, point sources**
3. **Composition:**  
**Light or heavy nuclei, photons, neutrinos, exotics(?)**



# Study of GZK-Cutoff Requires Much Higher Statistics





PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY

# The Pierre Auger Project

A new cosmic ray observatory designed for a high statistics study of the  
**The Highest Energy Cosmic Rays**  
Using  
**Two Large Air Shower Detectors**

**Colorado, USA**  
*(in planning)*



**Mendoza, Argentina**  
*(Auger South)*



# The Auger Collaboration

## *Participating Countries*

**Argentina**

**Australia**

**Bolivia\***

**Brazil**

**Czech Republic**

**France**

**Germany**

•Aachen

•Bonn

•Karlsruhe

•Siegen

•Wuppertal

**Mexico**

**Netherlands**

**Poland**

**Slovenia**

**Spain**

**United Kingdom**

**USA**

**Vietnam\***

**Italy**

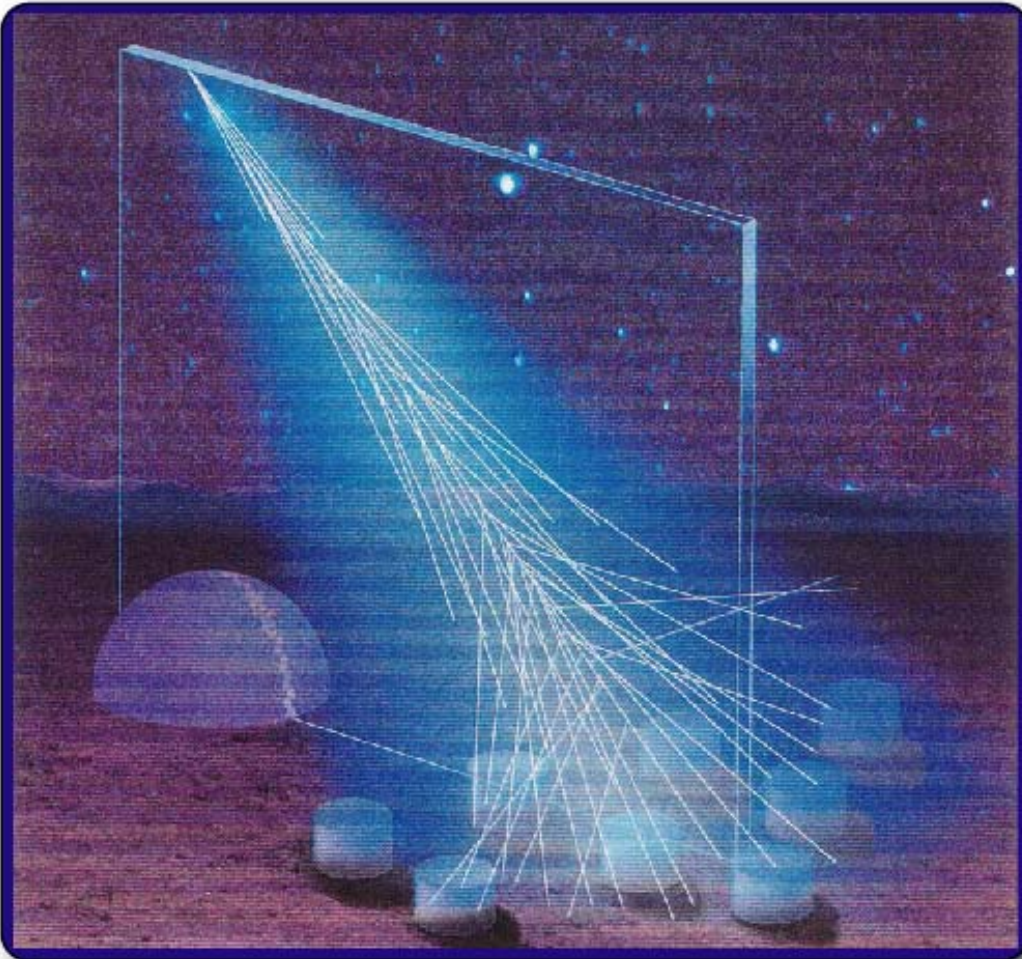
*\* Associate*

**63 Institutions, 369 Collaborators**

# The Hybrid Design

*Surface detector array + Air fluorescence detectors*

*A unique and powerful design*



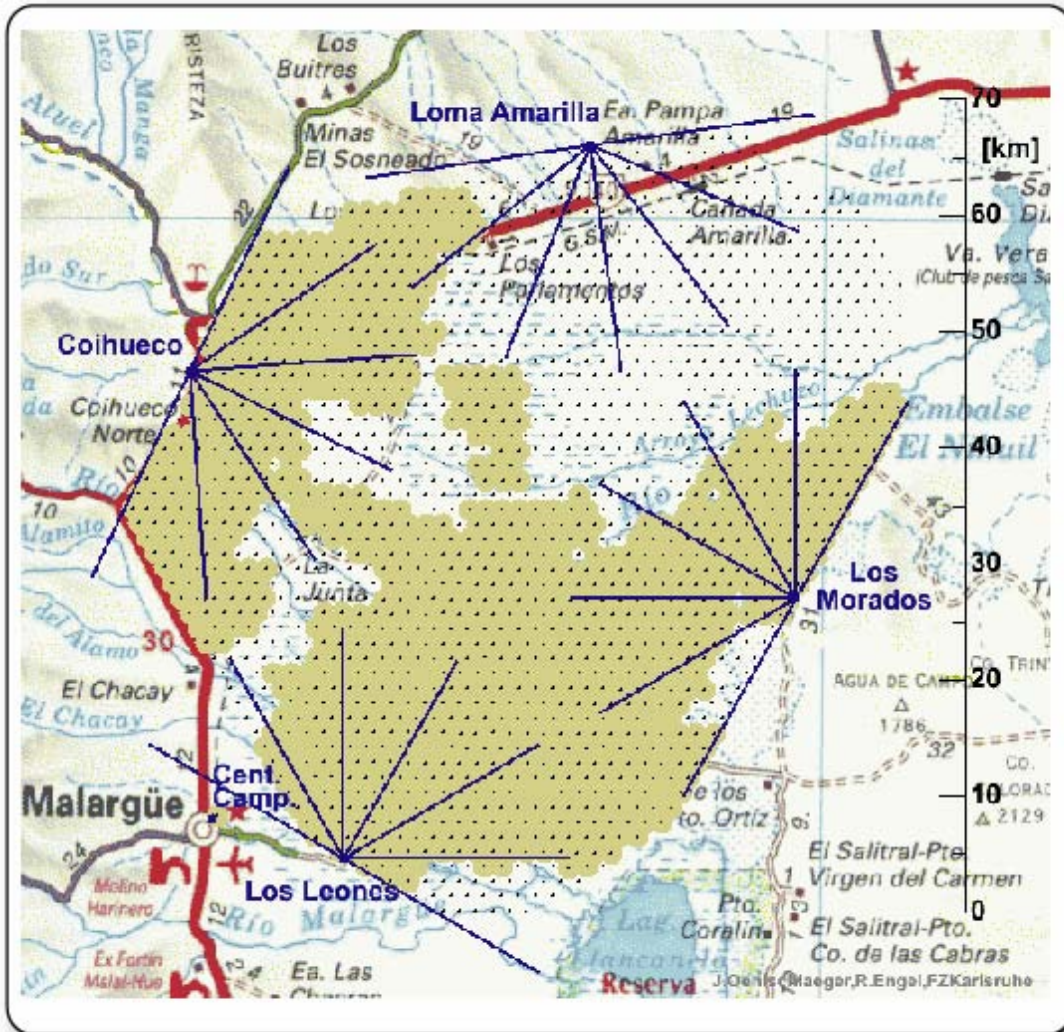
**Nearly calorimetric energy calibration of the fluorescence detector transferred to the event gathering power of the surface array.**

**A complementary set of mass sensitive shower parameters (Xmax, risetime, radius of curvature, ...).**

**Different measurement techniques help understanding of systematic uncertainties**

**Improve of the angular and core position resolutions**

# Hybrid Design



## Surface Array

- 1600 detector stations (995)
- 1.5 km spacing
- 3000 km<sup>2</sup>

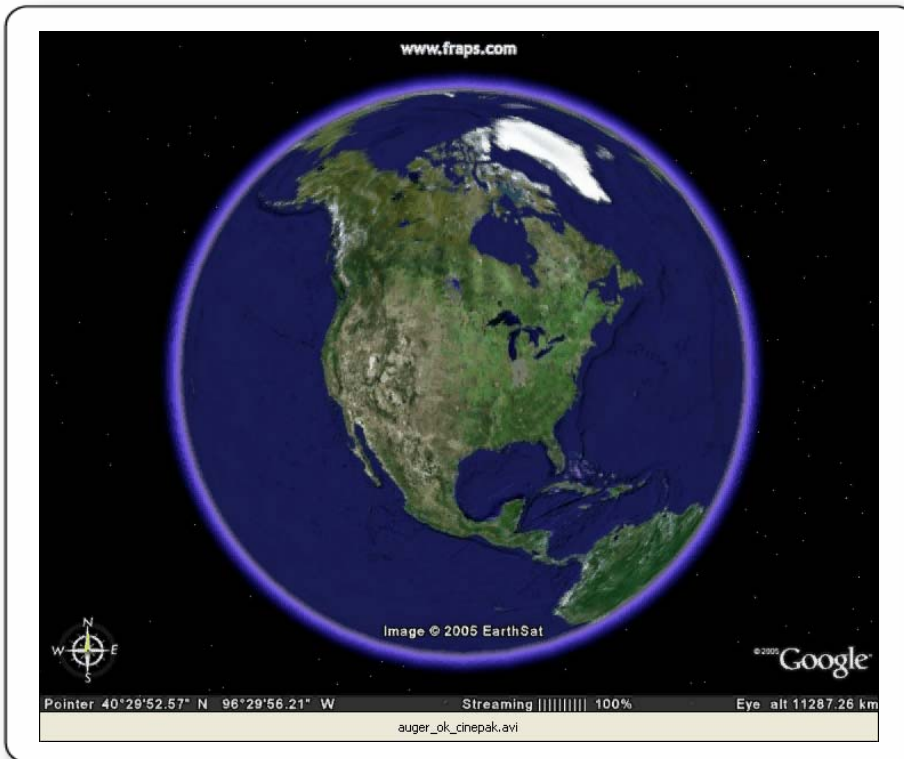
## Fluorescence Detectors

- 4 Telescope enclosures (3)
- 6 Telescopes per enclosure
- 24 Telescopes total (18)



# Design Features

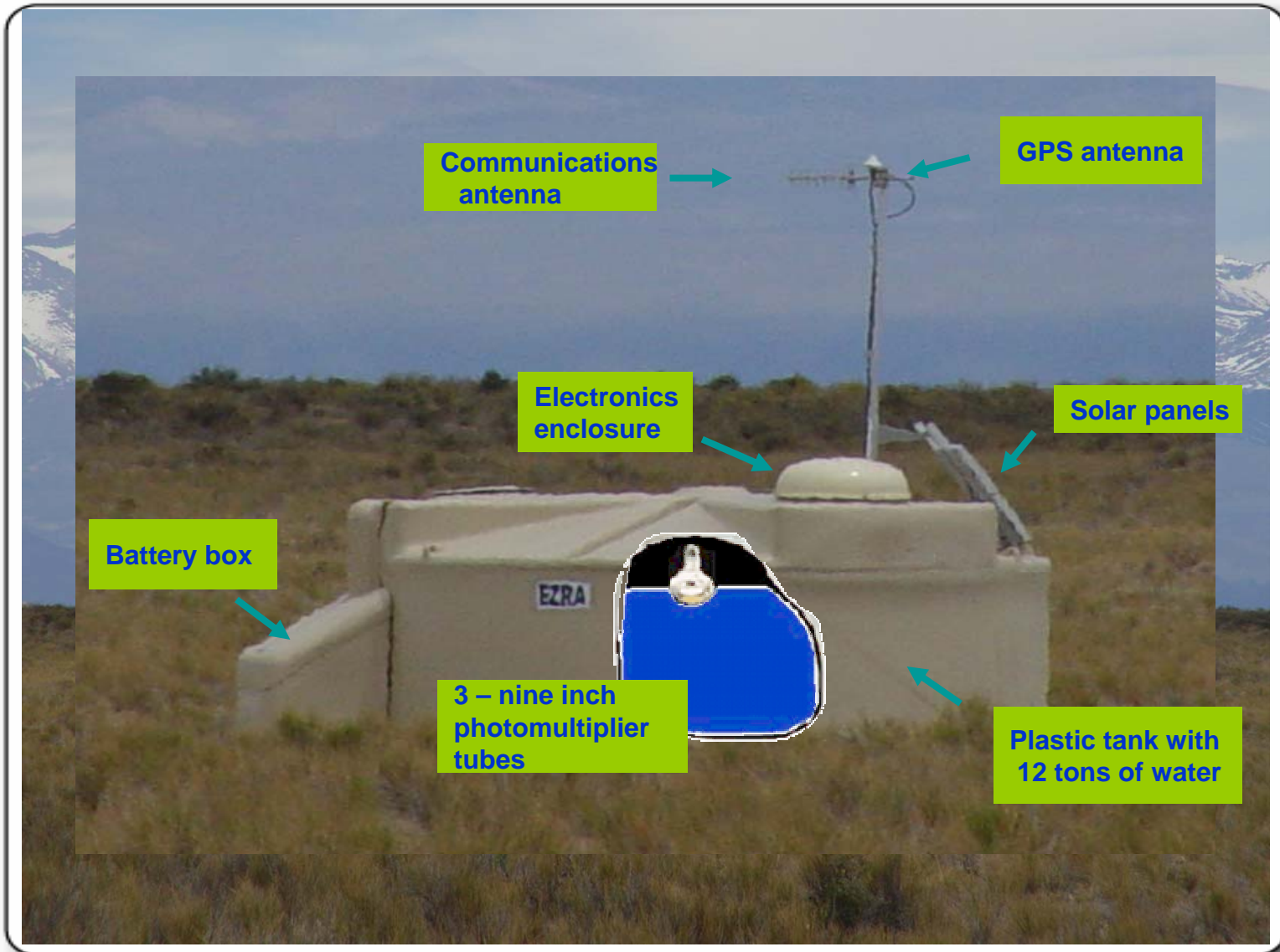
1. High statistics  
(aperture  $>7000 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr}$  above  $10^{19} \text{ eV}$  in each hemisphere)
2. Full sky coverage (S&N)  
with uniform exposure
3. Hybrid configuration  
surface array with fluorescence detector coverage



Thanks to Kai Daumiller for this movie!

# The Surface Array

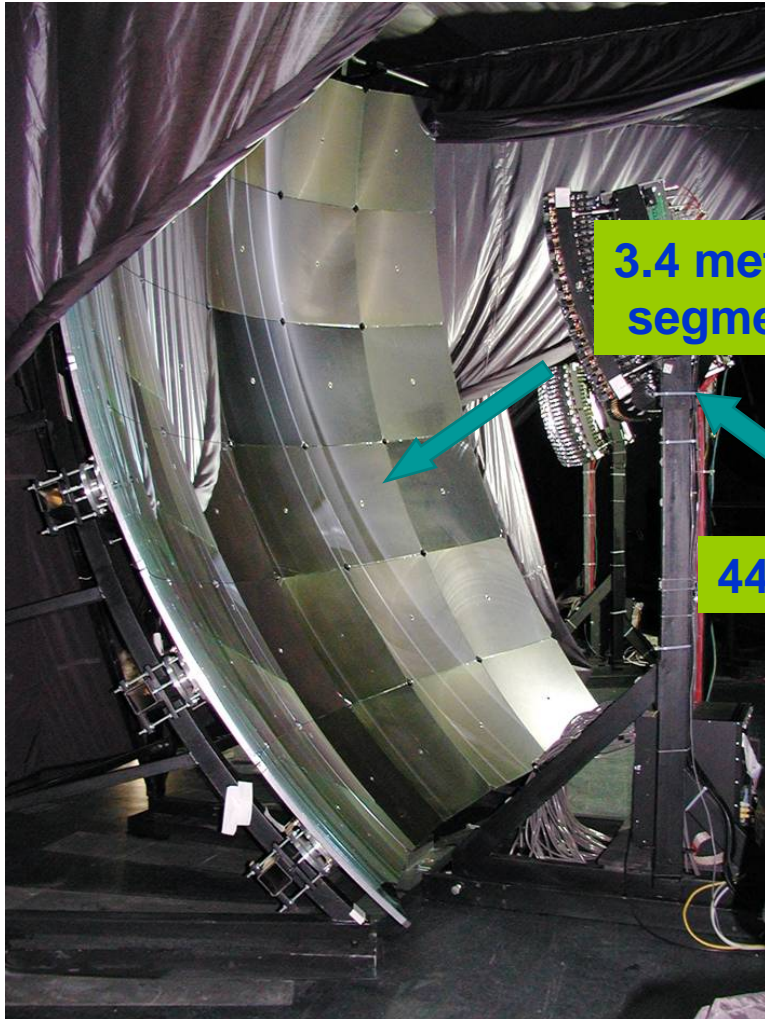
## Detector Station



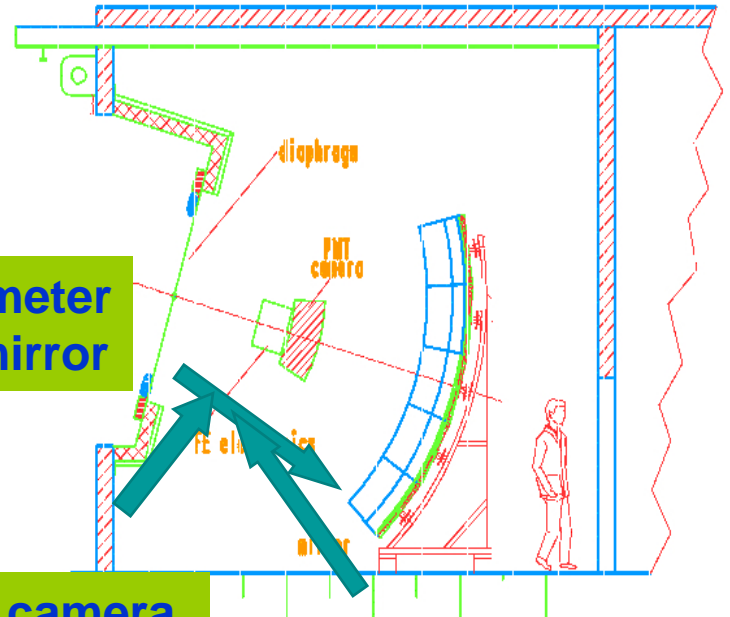
# Surface Detector Deployment



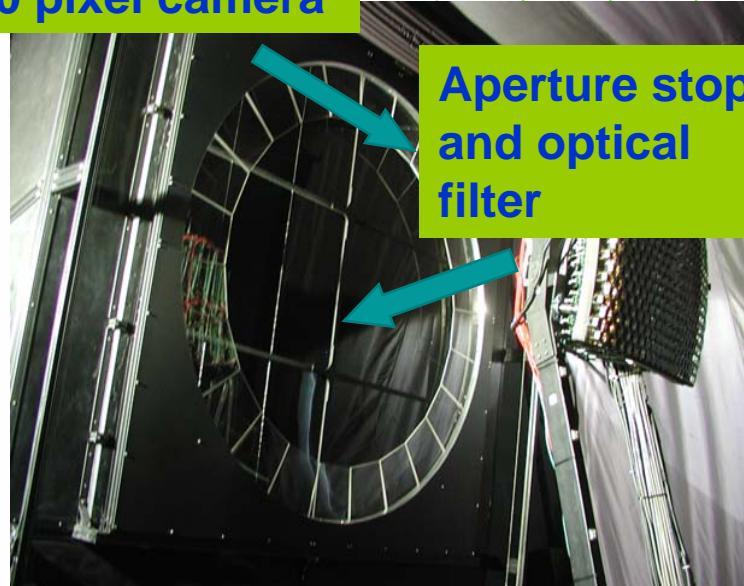
# The Fluorescence Detector



3.4 meter diameter segmented mirror



440 pixel camera



Aperture stop and optical filter

# The Fluorescence Detector Stations

Los Leones  
*(fully operational)*



Coihueco  
*(fully operational)*



Morados  
*(fully operational)*



*poor mans fall back option :-)*



Lomo Amarilla  
*(in preparation)*

# Atmospheric Monitoring and Calibration

## Atmospheric Monitoring

Central Laser Facility



Lidar at each fluorescence eye



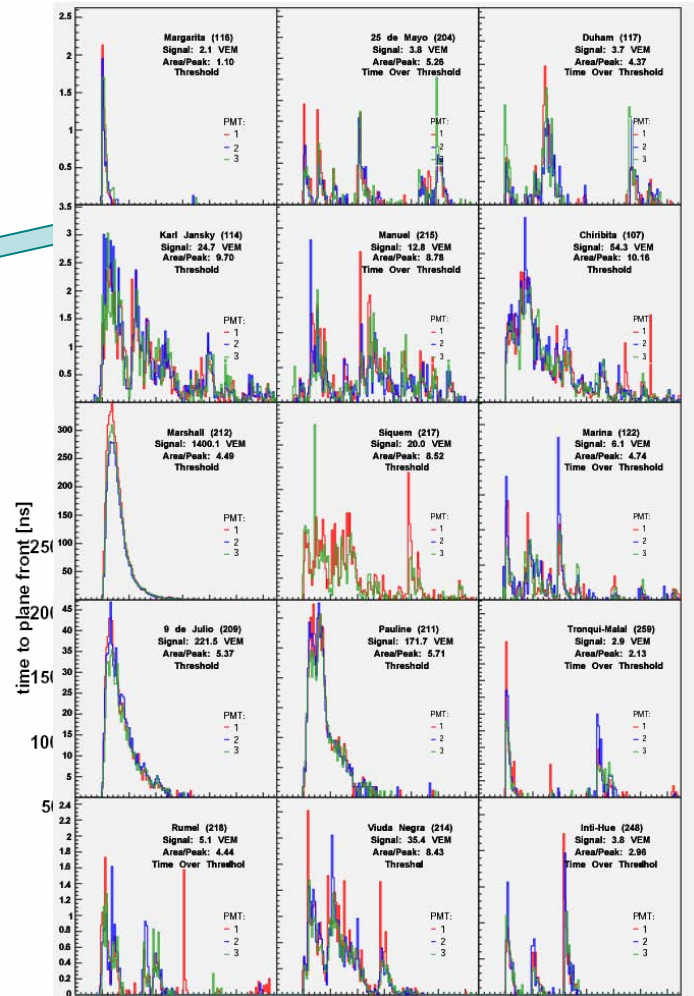
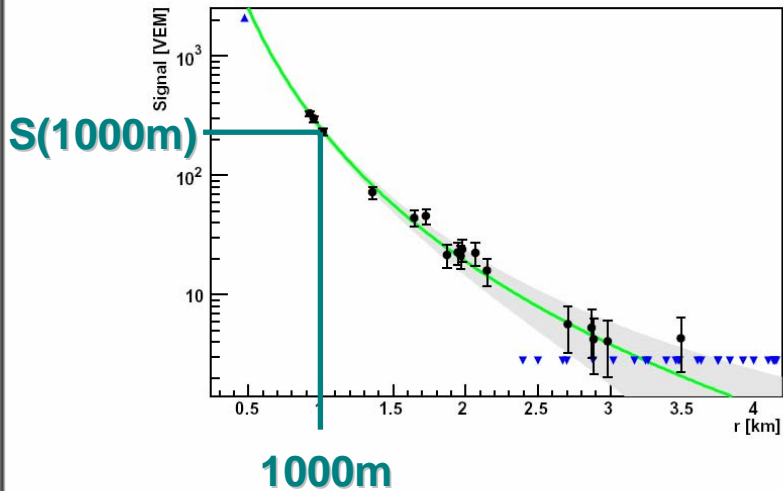
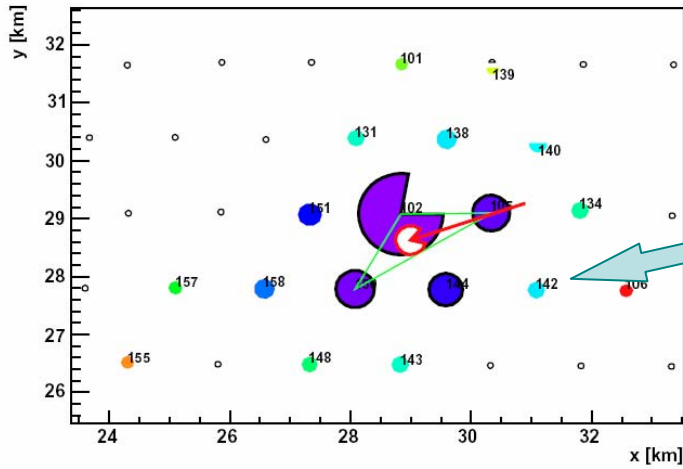
Atmospheric radio sounding measurements

## Absolute Calibration

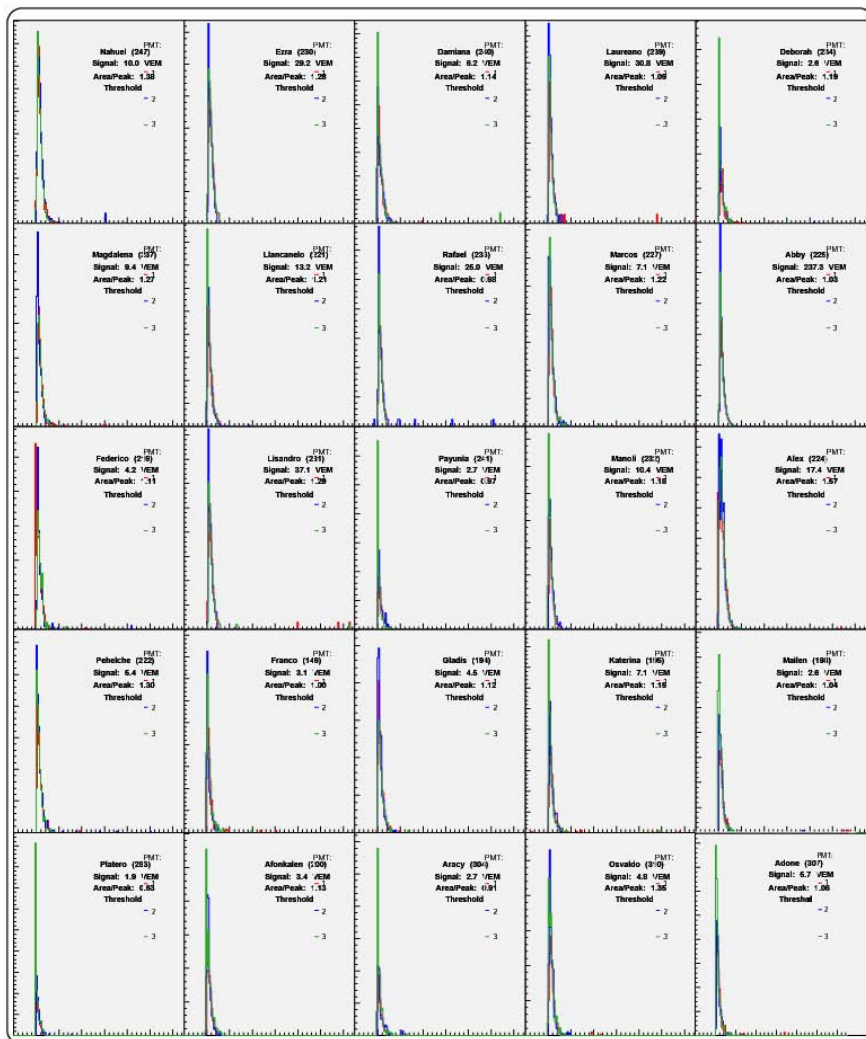


Drum for uniform camera illumination:  
end to end calibration

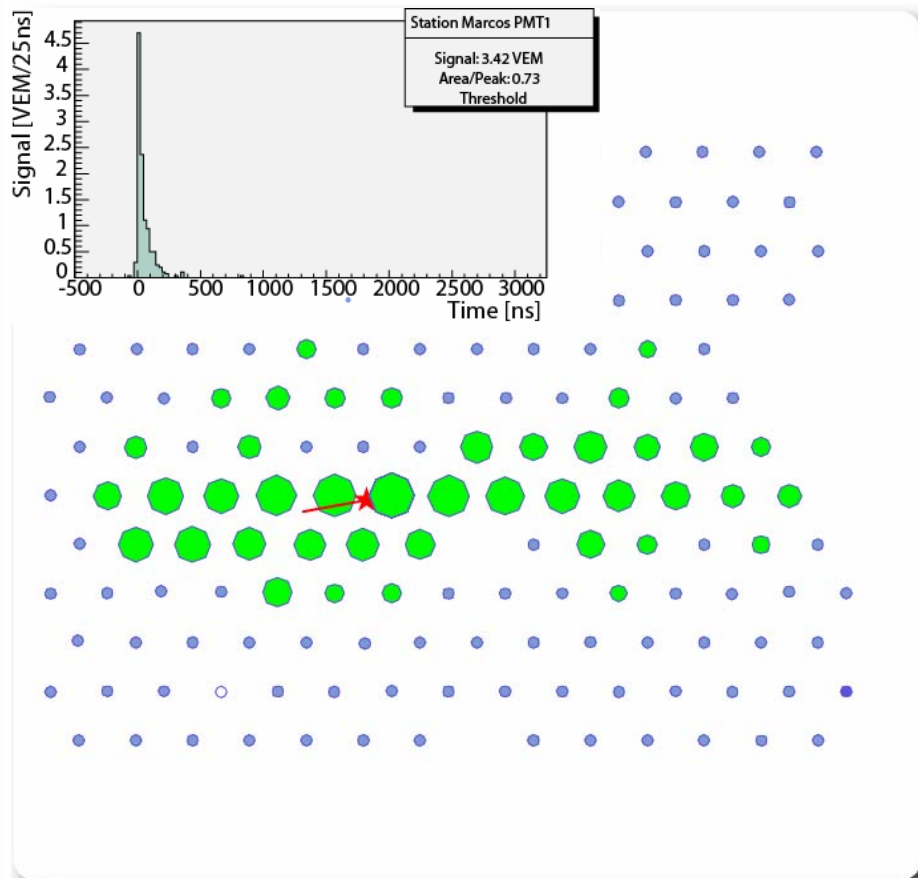
# Example Event (48°, E~70 EeV)



# Horizontal Showers



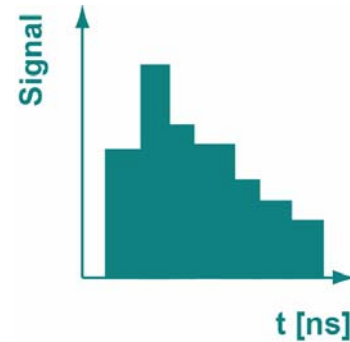
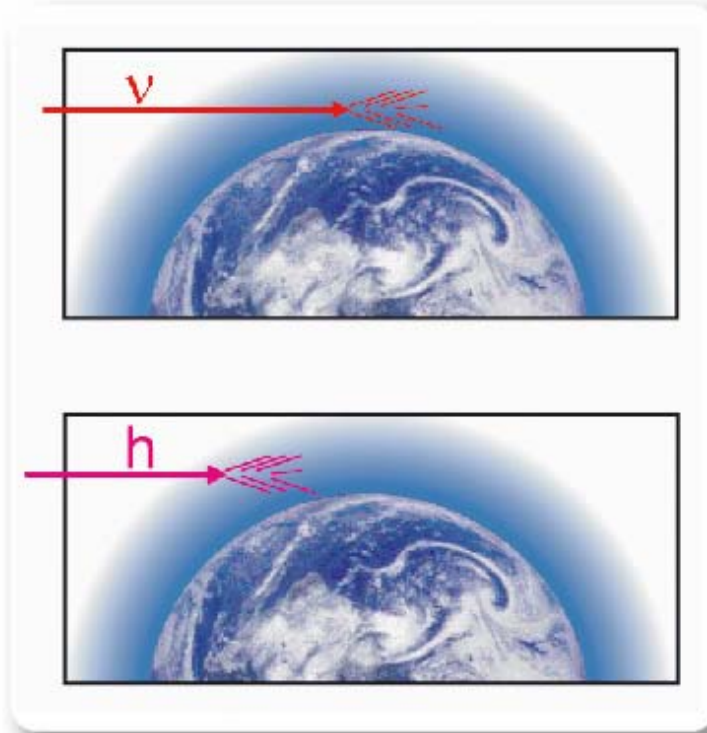
$E \sim 5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV  $\theta = 82^\circ$



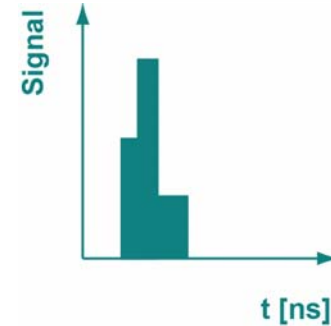


# Horizontal Showers and Neutrinos

$E > 10^{18}$  eV



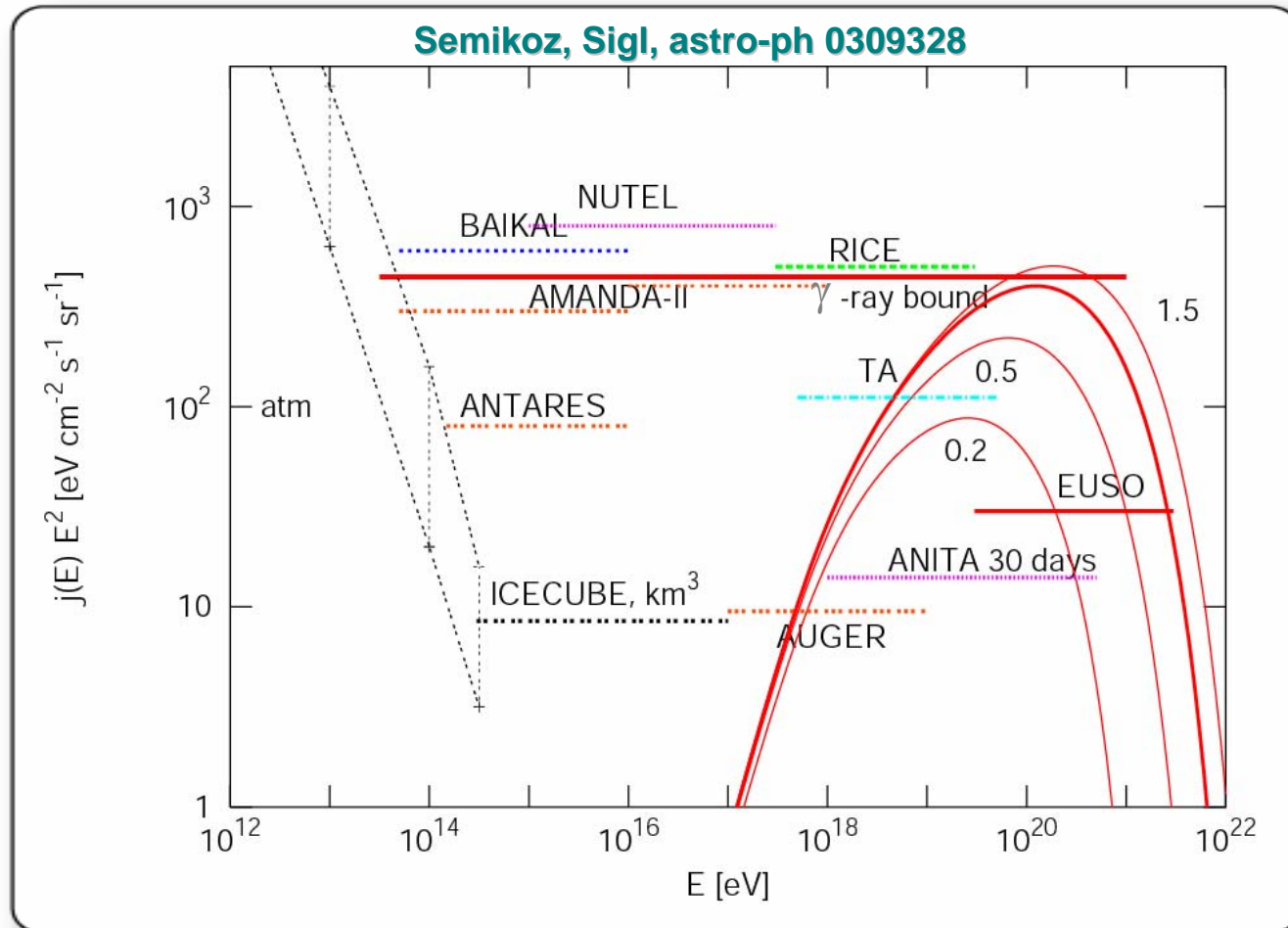
Only neutrinos  
can produce  
such signatures



Neutrino rate  $\sim 0.5 - 1$  particle / year

Depends strongly on the theoretical model

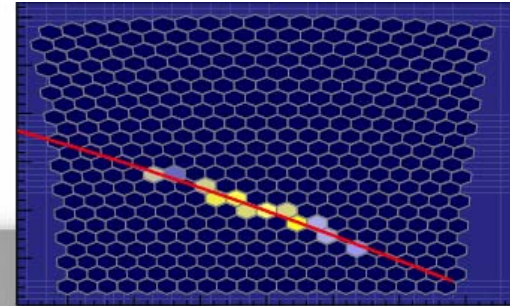
# Cosmogenic Neutrino-Flux and Experimental Sensitivities



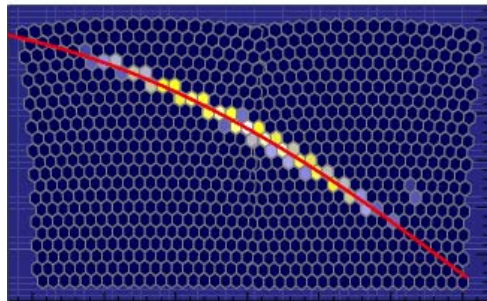
# Stereo Hybrid Measurement

Event: 1364365

Los Morados

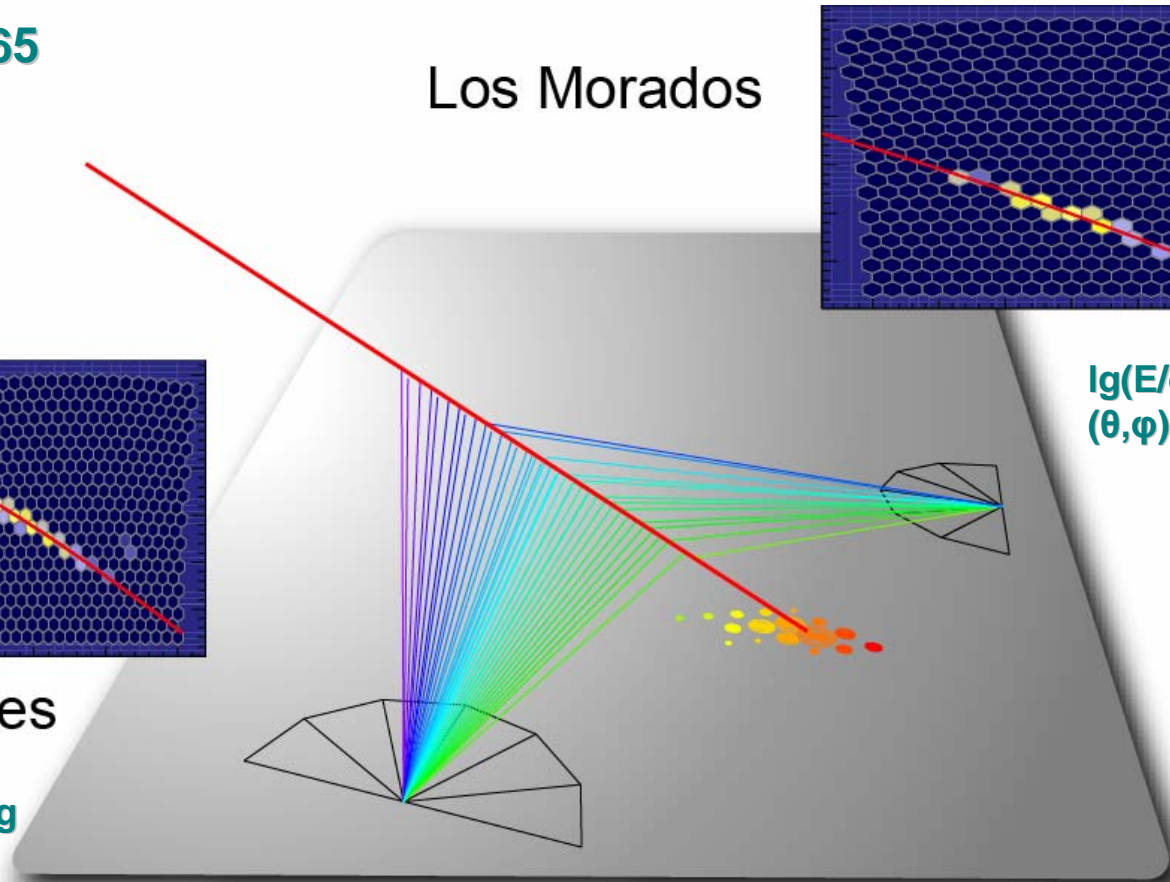


$\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.2$   
 $(\theta, \varphi) = (63.7, 148.4)$  deg



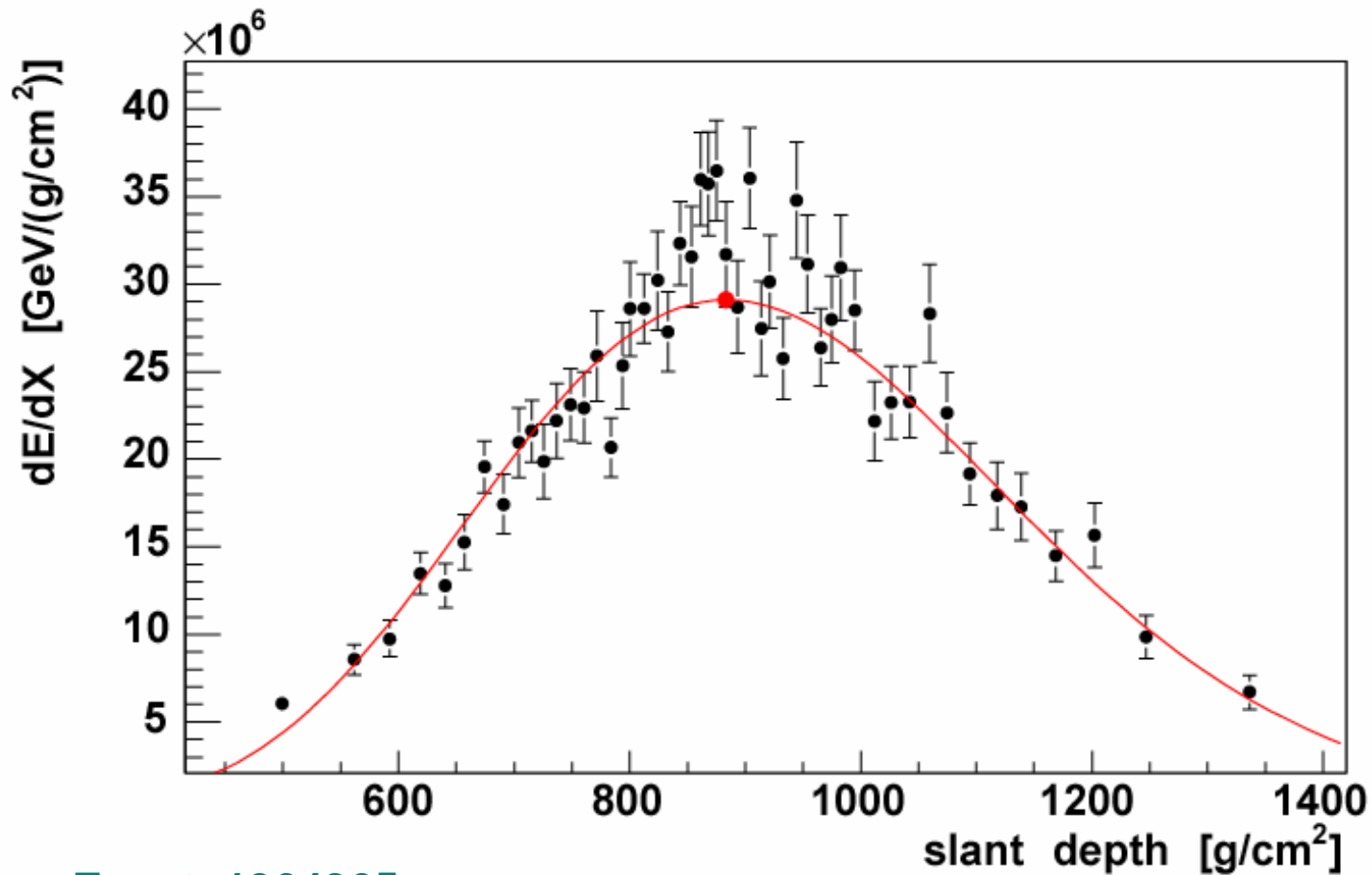
Los Leones

$\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.3$   
 $(\theta, \varphi) = (63.7, 148.3)$  deg



$\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.1$   
 $(\theta, \varphi) = (63.3, 148.9)$  deg

# Stereo Hybrid Event: FD-Measurement

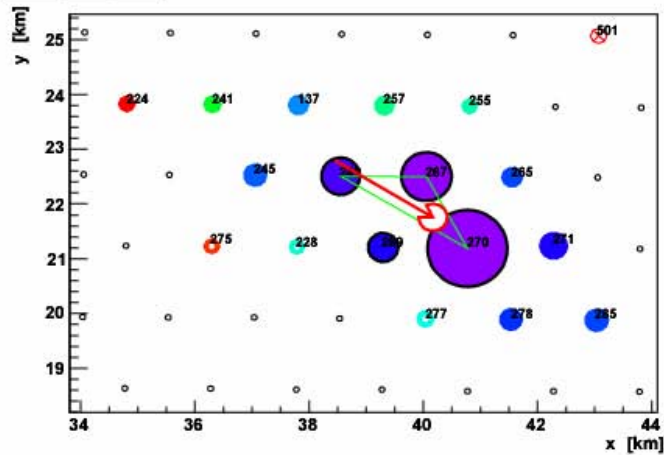


Event: 1364365

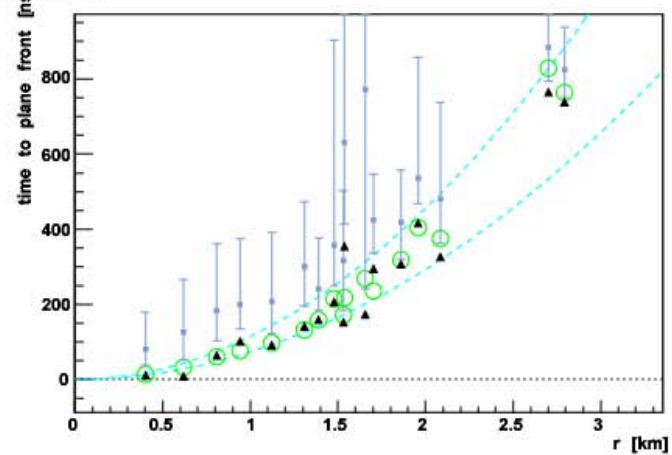
# Stereo Hybrid Event: SD-Measurement

Event: 1364365

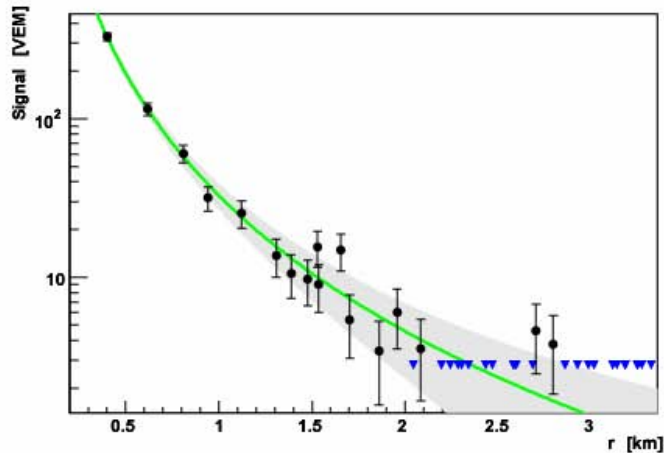
Array layout



Timing

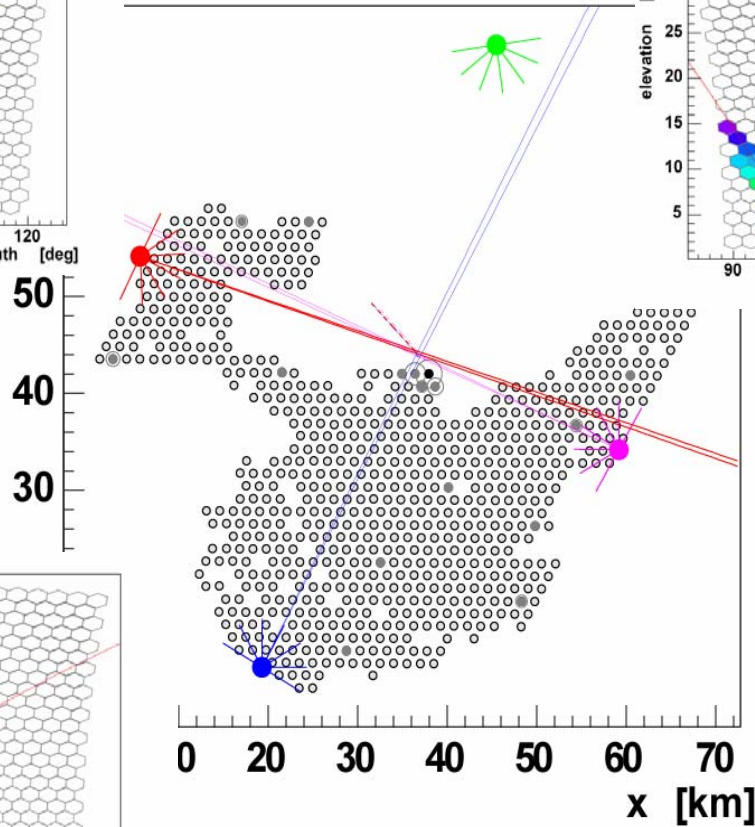
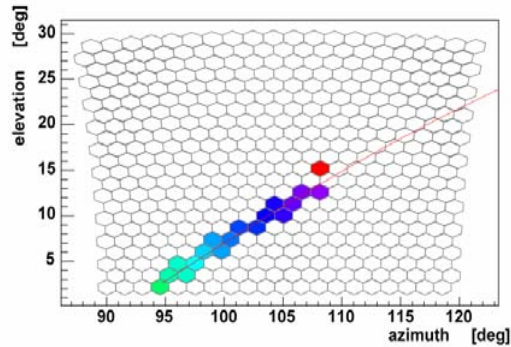
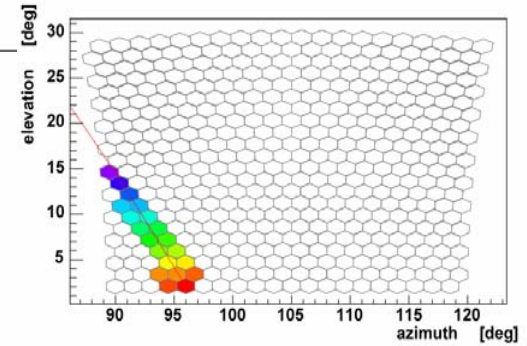
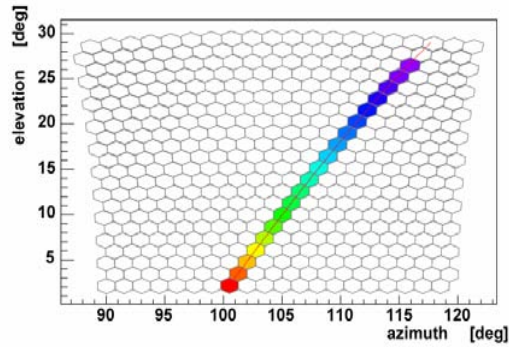


LDF fit



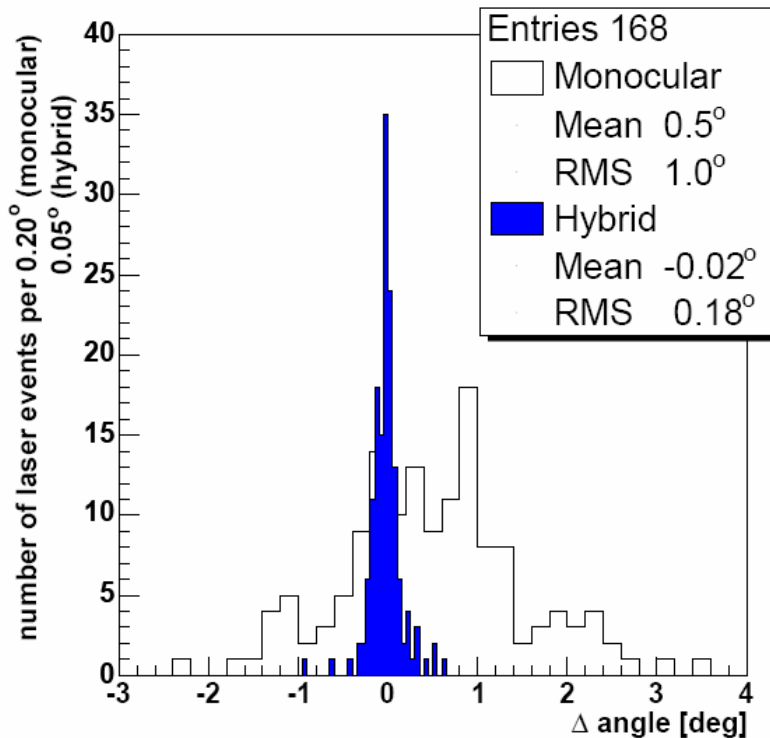
Event: 1364365  
Time: 00:33:36 16 MAY 2005  
GPS Time: 800238829 s, 347741000 ns  
T4: FD+3TOT+4C1 T5: Yes  
Reconstruction stage: 4.1  
Easting: 479996. ± 35.7 [m]  
Northing: 6082011. ± 13.5 [m]  
 $\theta$ : 63.3 ± 0.3 [°]  
 $\phi$ : 148.9 ± 0.3 [°]  
 $R_c$ : 19.6 ± 0.05 [km]  
 $S_{1000}$ : 32. ± 1.2 [VEM]  
 $\beta$ : -1.71 ± 0.04

# Triocular Event



$\lg(E/eV) \sim 19.7$   
 $\theta = 52^\circ$

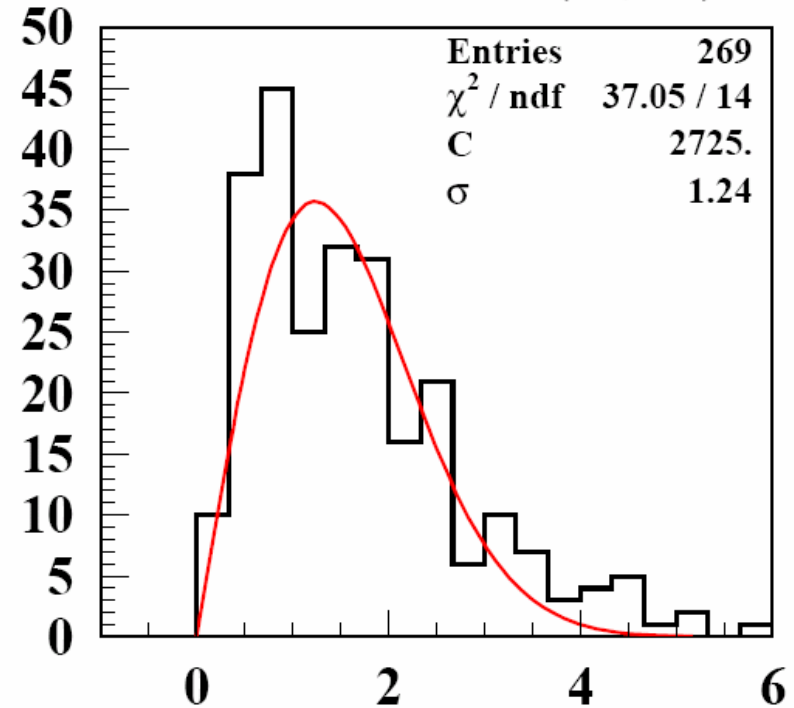
# Performance: Angular Resolution



Angle in laser beam /FD detector plane

Hybrid Angular resolution  
(68% CL)  
*0.6 degrees (mean)*

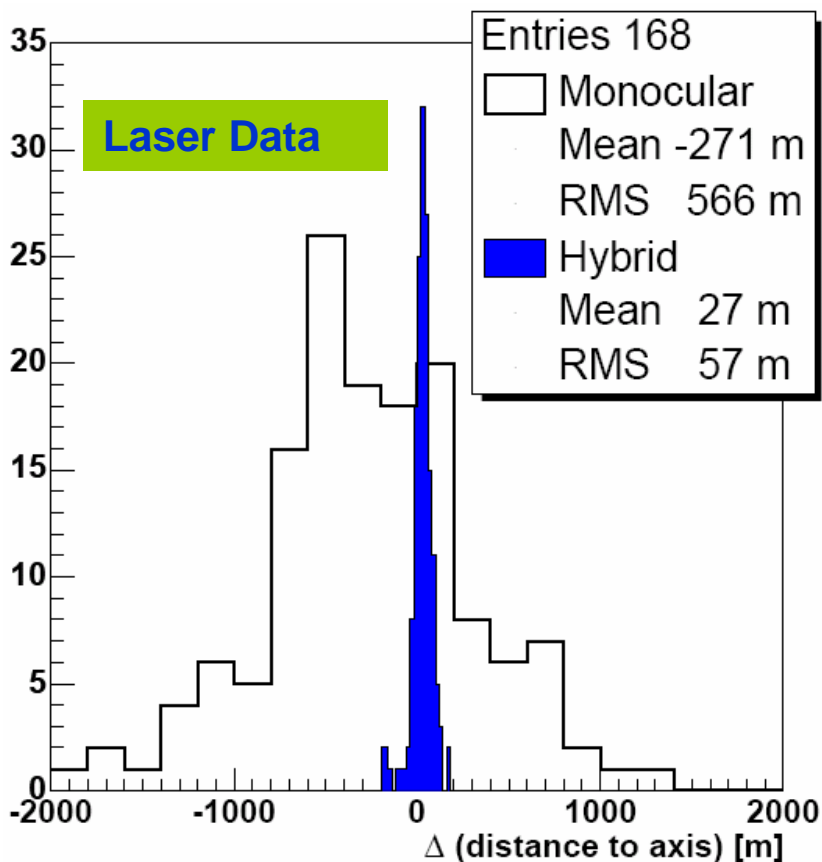
4 stations -  $\theta \in (30, 50)$



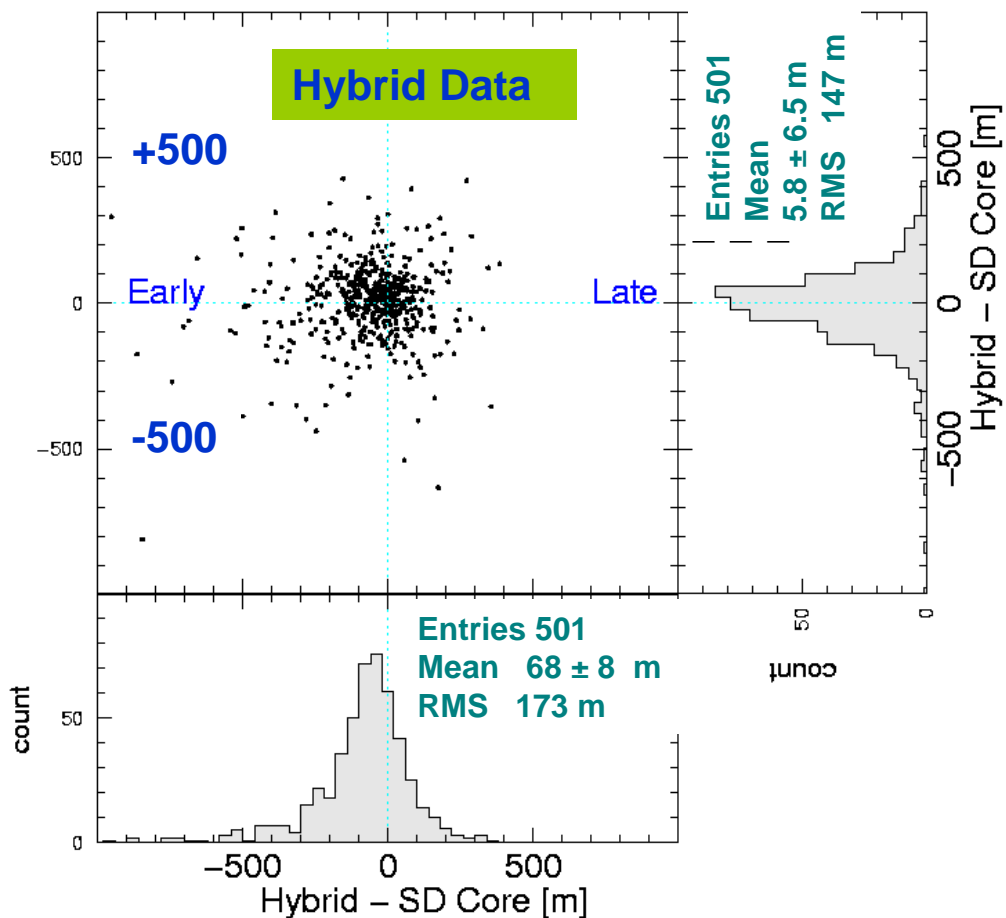
Hybrid-SD only space angle difference

Surface array Angular resolution (68% CL)  
 $< 2.2^\circ$  for 3 station events ( $E < 3 \text{ EeV}$ ,  $\theta < 60^\circ$ )  
 $< 1.7^\circ$  for 4 station events ( $3 < E < 10 \text{ EeV}$ )  
 $< 1.4^\circ$  for 5 or more station events ( $E > 10 \text{ EeV}$ )

# Performance: Core Resolution



Laser position – Hybrid and FD only (m)



Hybrid – SD only core position

Core position resolution

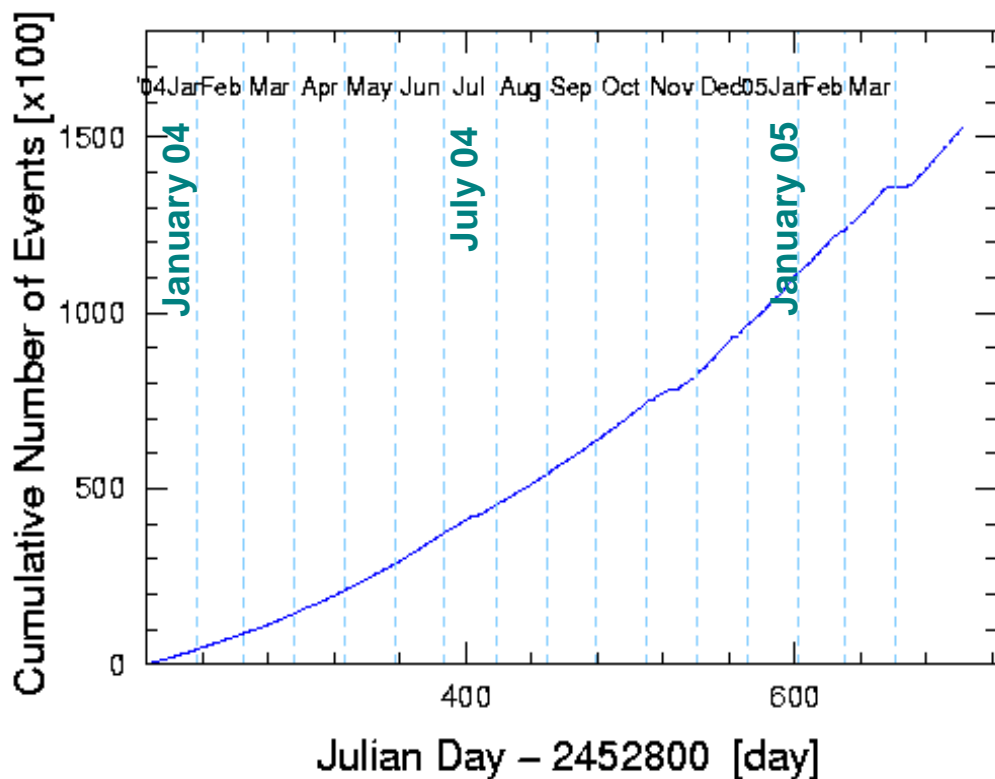
Hybrid:  $< 60$  m

Surface array:  $\sim 150$  m



# The First Data Set

Cumulative number of SD events



Collection period:

1 January 2004 to 5 June 2005

Zenith angles:

0 - 60°

Total acceptance:

AUGER : ~1750 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr ~ AGASA

HIRES I : ~5000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr (mono)

HIRES II: ~2500 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr (mono)

Surface array events (after quality cuts):

Current rate: ~18,000 / month

Total: ~180,000

Hybrid events (after quality cuts):

Current rate: ~1,800 / month

Total: ~18,000

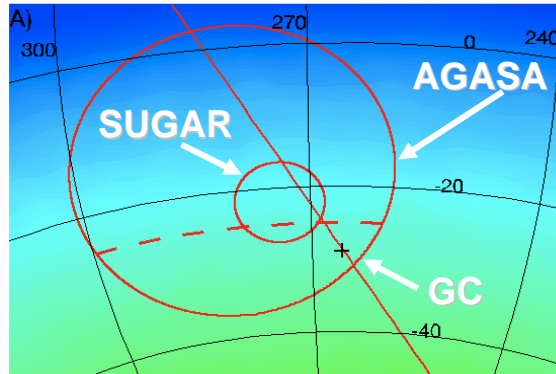
# Anisotropy: Galactic Center

**excess flux**  
AGASA: 4.5  $\sigma$   
Sugar: 2.9  $\sigma$

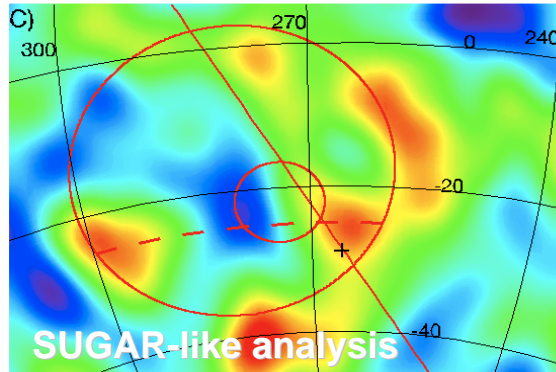
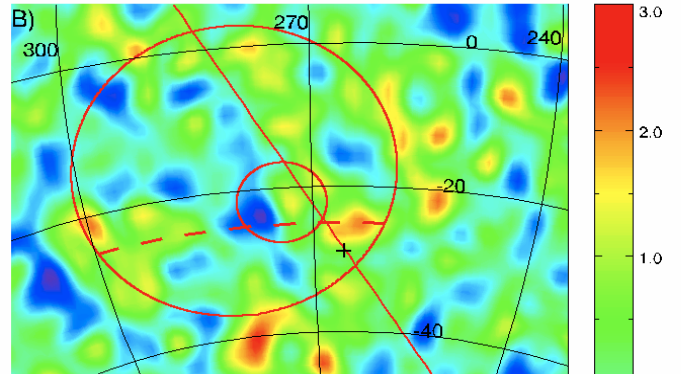
$\Phi_s < 10.6 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

**excludes neutron  
source at the GC**

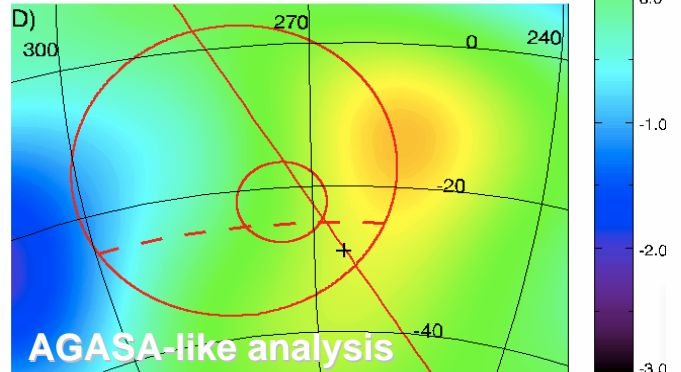
Coverage [0.8-3.2 EeV]



Significance (1.5 $^\circ$ )



Significance (3.7 $^\circ$ )



Significance (13.3 $^\circ$ ) [0.8-2.5 EeV]

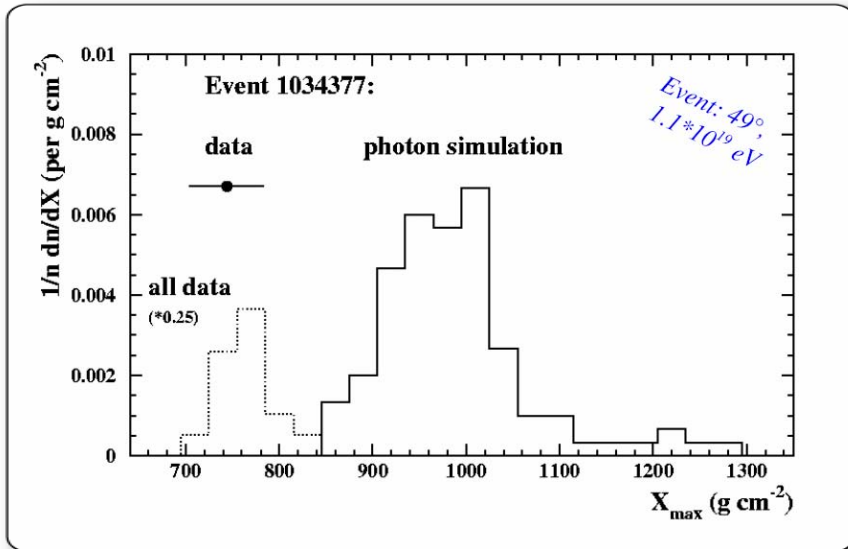
# Photon Limit

Hybrid events: improved geometry fit

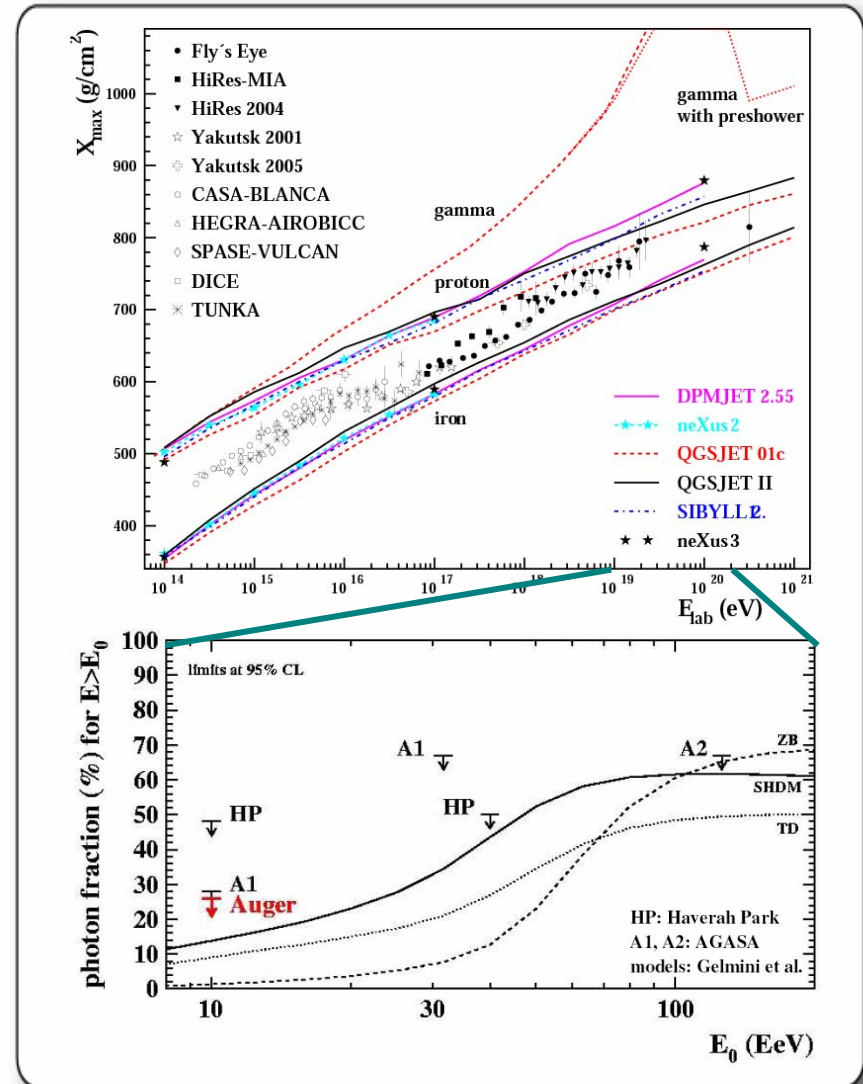
Selection criteria:

- $E > 10^{19} \text{eV}$ ,  $\theta > 35^\circ$
- $X_{\text{max}}$  observed, track length  $> 400 \text{g/cm}^2$
- Energy dependent distance cut

16 Events after cuts



26% upper limit (95% CL)  
on CR photon fraction



# Energy Determination (Conversion)

The energy converter:

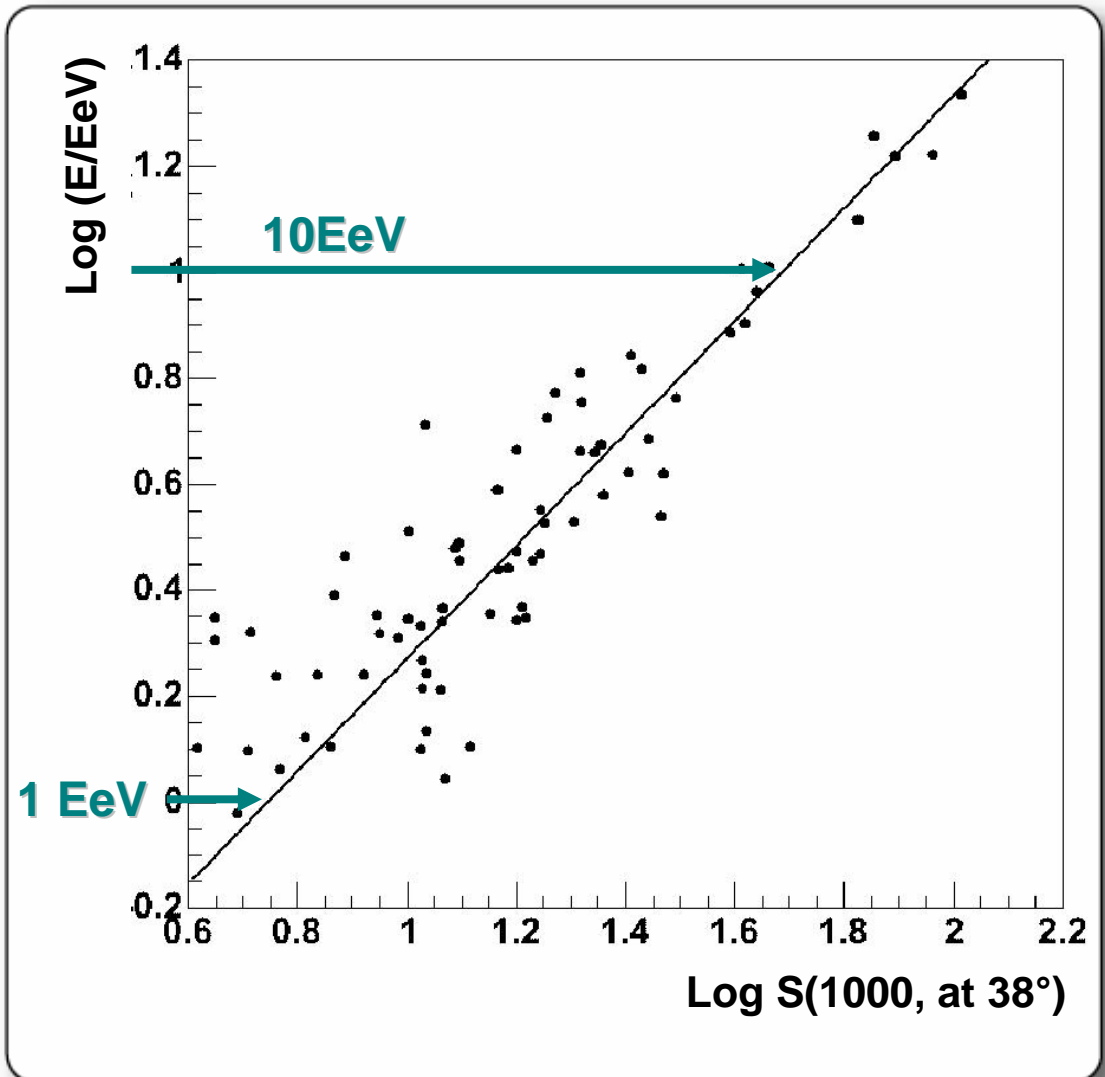
Compare ground parameter  $S(1000, \text{at } 38^\circ)$  with the fluorescence detector energy (CIC method)

Transfer the energy converter to the surface array only events

$$\text{Log}(E) = -0.79 + 1.06 \text{Log}(S_{38})$$

$$E = 0.16 S_{38}^{1.06}$$

(E in EeV,  $S_{38}$  in VEM)



# Auger Energy Spectrum

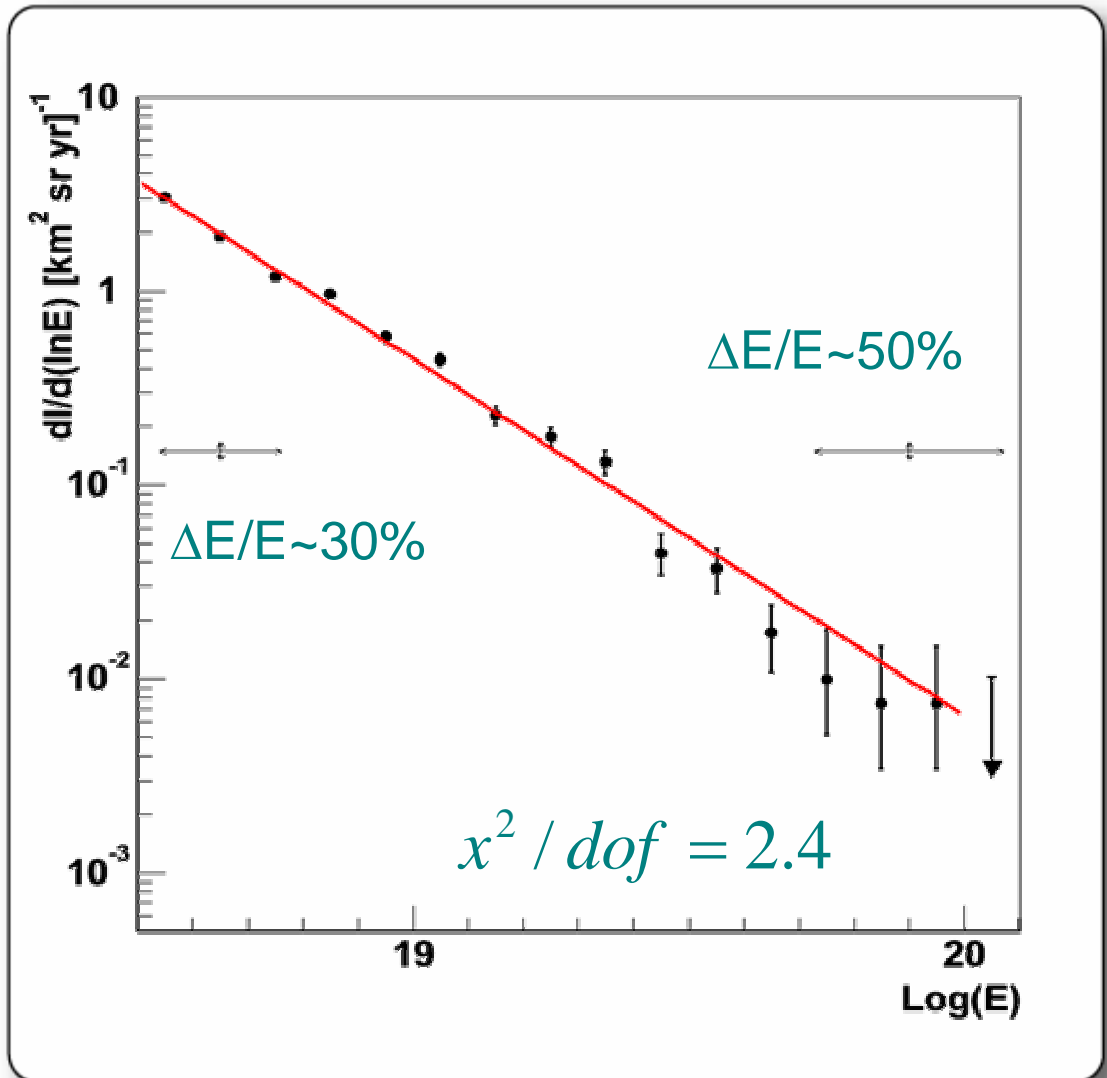
$$\frac{dI}{d \ln(E)} \equiv E \frac{dI}{dE} \quad \text{vs. } \text{Lg}(E)$$

Error bars on points indicate Poisson statistical uncertainty (or 95% CL upper limit) based on the number of events.

Systematic uncertainty is indicated by double arrows at two different energies.

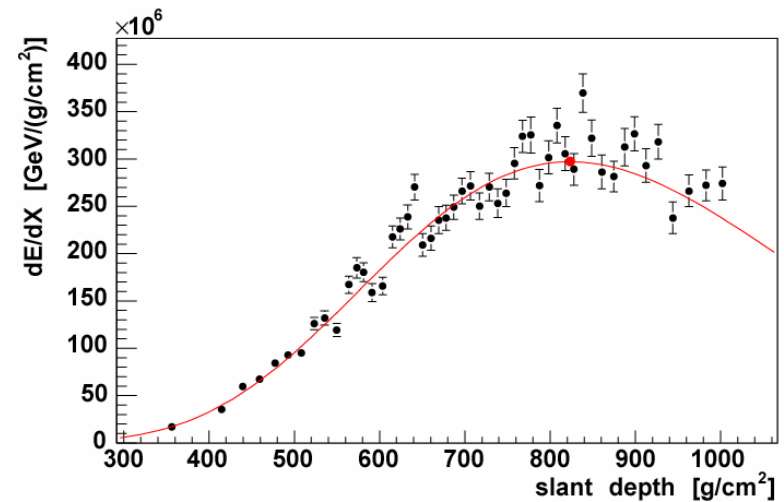
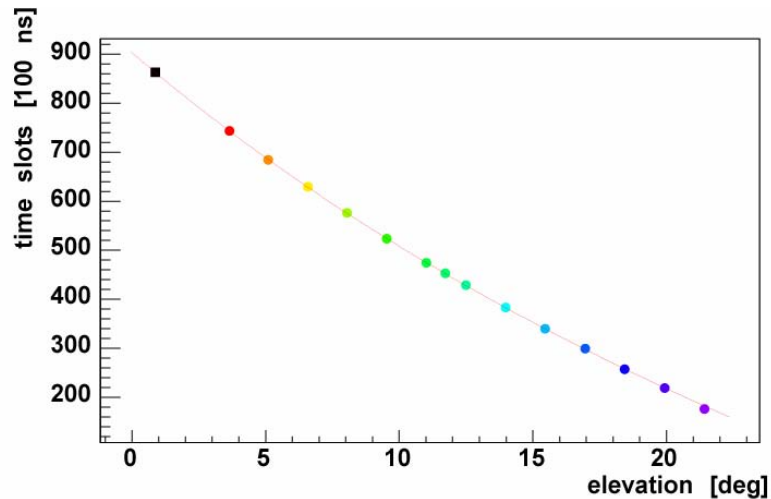
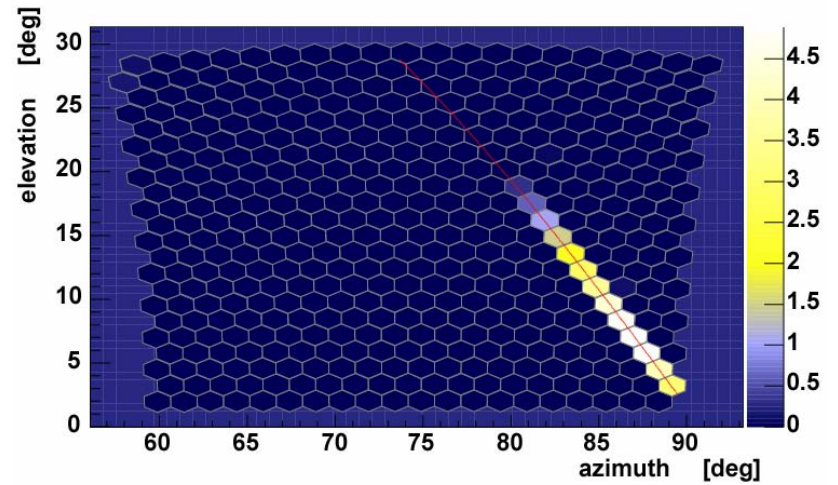
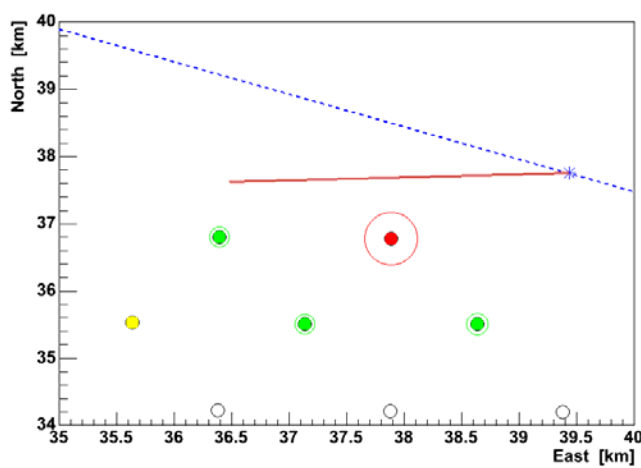
Horizontal: Systematic  $\Delta E$ .

Vertical: Exposure uncertainty.

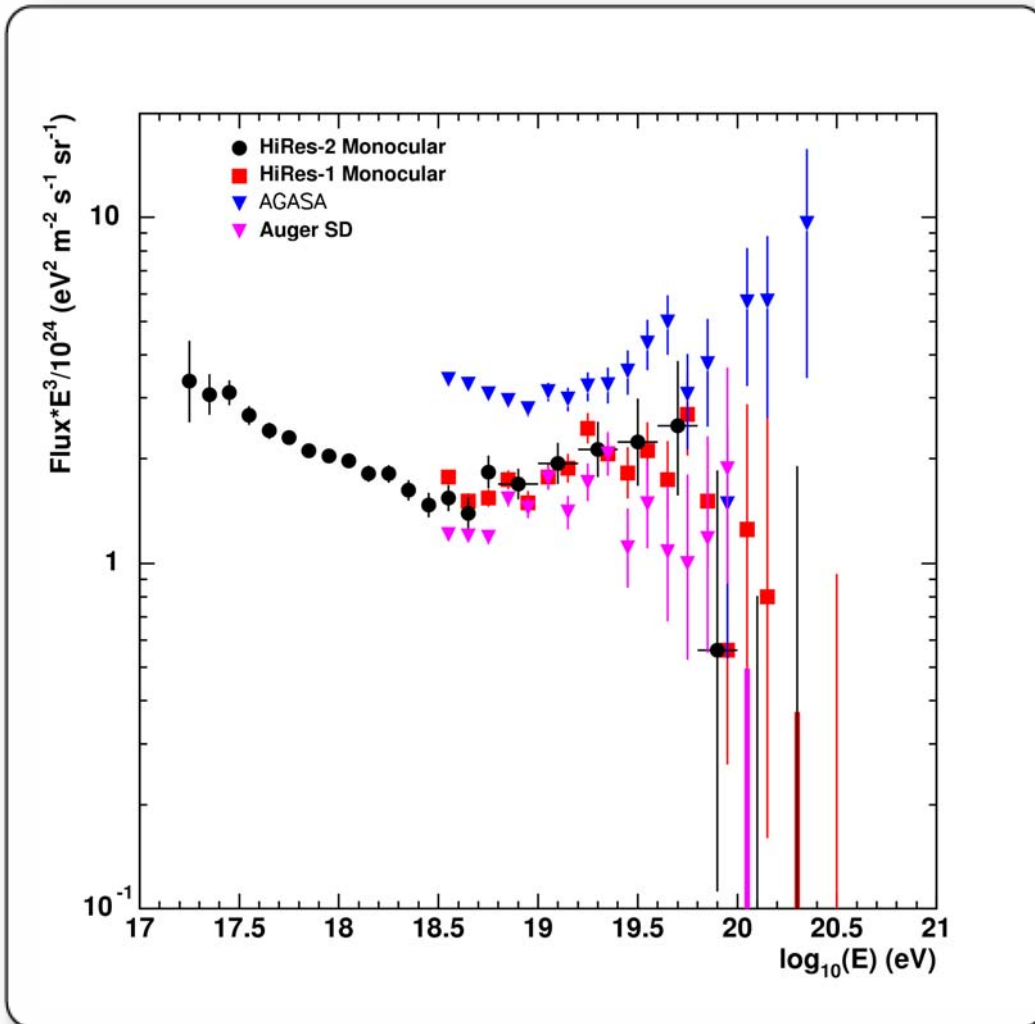


# A Big Event - *One that got away!*

Energy estimate  $>140$  EeV



# Comparison with HIRES, AGASA

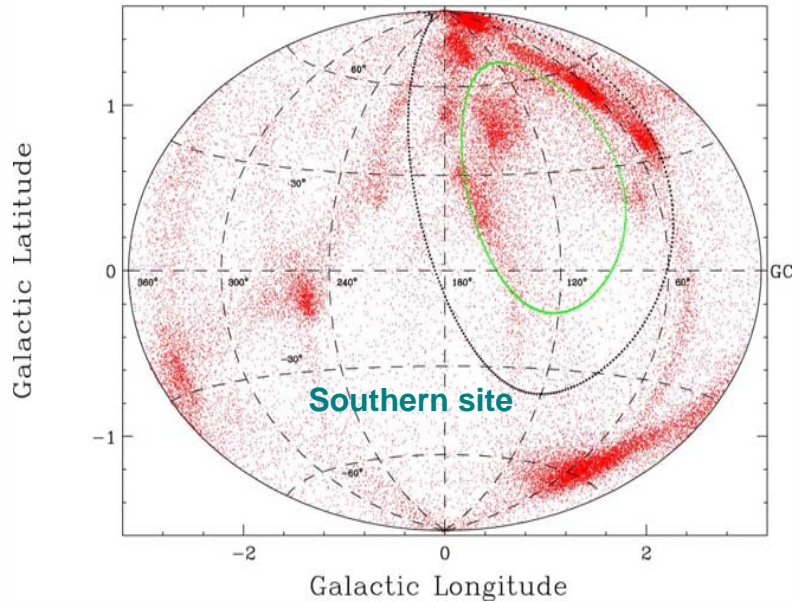


**AUGER: Energy scale  
uncertainty still large  
~50 % at 100 EeV**

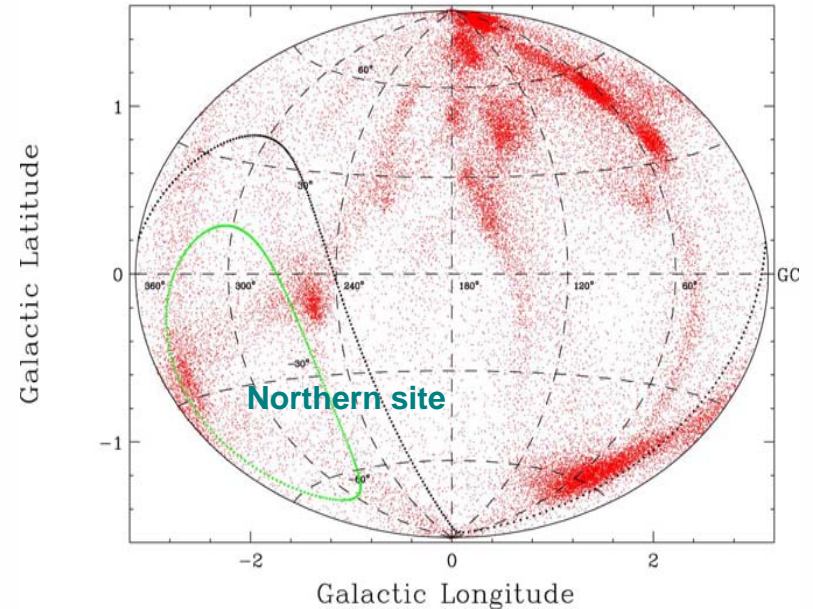
# Plans for Auger North

Needed: Full sky coverage

Exclusion zones for southern observatory: 60deg (black), 85deg (green)



Exclusion zones for northern observatory: 60deg (black), 85deg (green)



Galaxy Distribution 7-21 Mpc

**Colorado, USA has been selected as the northern site**  
**Funding proposals to be prepared over the next two years.**



# EUSO Science Goals

- **Detection and investigation of the Extreme Energy Component of the Cosmic Radiation: EECRs / UHECRs with  $E > 5 \times 10^{19}$  eV**
- **Arrival directions and small-scale clustering will provide information on the origin of the EECRs and inter-galactic magnetic fields.**
- **Open the Channel of High Energy Neutrino Astronomy to probe the boundaries of the Extreme Universe and to investigate the nature and distribution of the EECR sources**
- ...

# EUSO

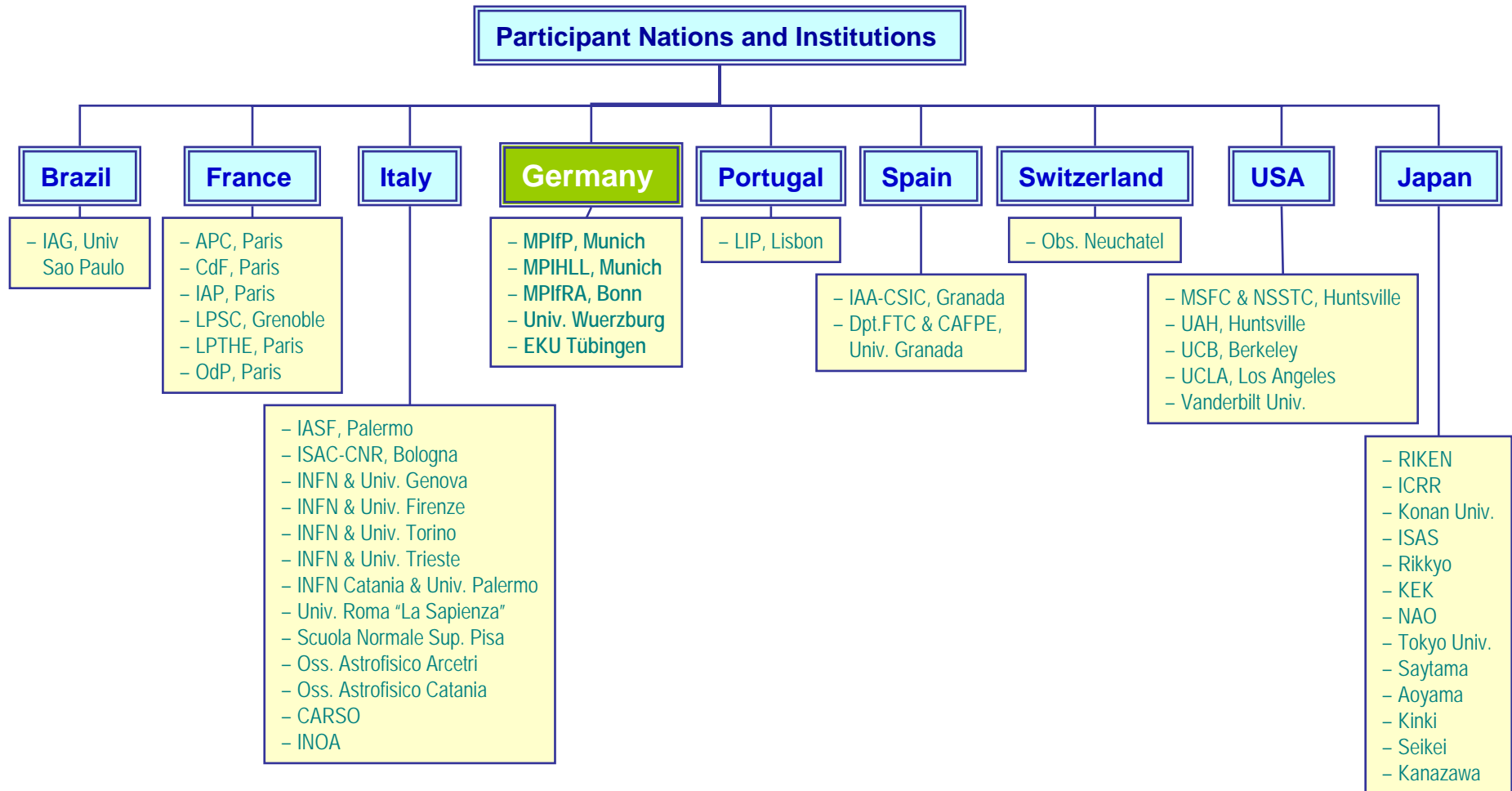


***Extreme Universe Space Observatory***

# EUSO Consortium - Institutes

>150 researchers

in 50 institutions in 6 countries in Europe, the USA, Japan and Brazil.



# The Why's of a space-based detector for EECR

- Geometrical Factor ( $A \cdot \Omega$ ) (FoV= $\pm 30^\circ$  at ISS mean distance  $h_{ISS} \cong 430\text{km}$ )

$$A^{geo} \approx 6 \times 10^5 \text{ km}^2 \cdot \text{sr}$$

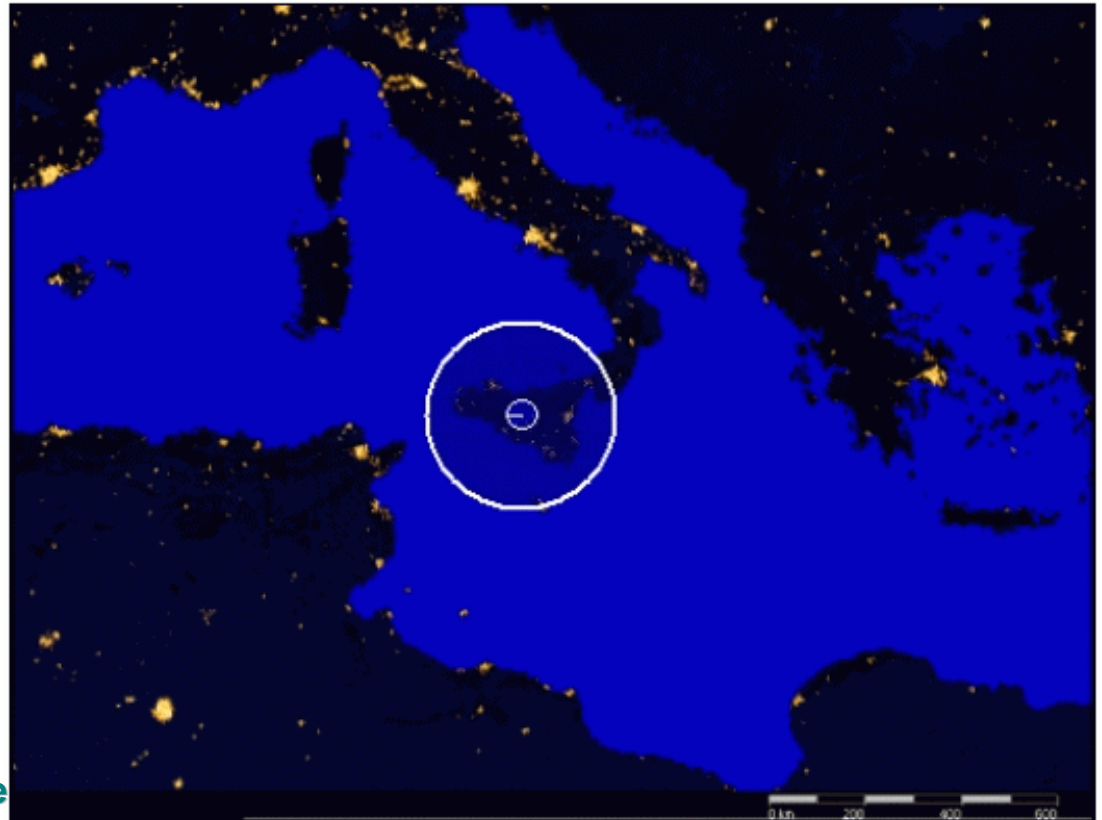
$$\eta_{cycle} \approx 10 \div 25 \%$$

$$A_{Euso}^{eff} \approx (6 \div 9) \times 10^4 \text{ km}^2 \cdot \text{sr}$$

- Full Sky Coverage
- Cerenkov “footprint” of shower

The EUSO observational goal:

- ~ 1000 events/a in SuperGZK mode
- > 70 events/a in GZK-suppressed mode



Comparison of UHECR Experiments.

Large encircled area: EUSO, small encircled area: AUGER. No duty cycle included.

Ratio of effective geometrical factor (EUSO/AUGER):

- including duty cycle (10% for both arrays): ~ 70
- with duty cycle (10%) only for EUSO: ~ 7

## Scientific Requirements:

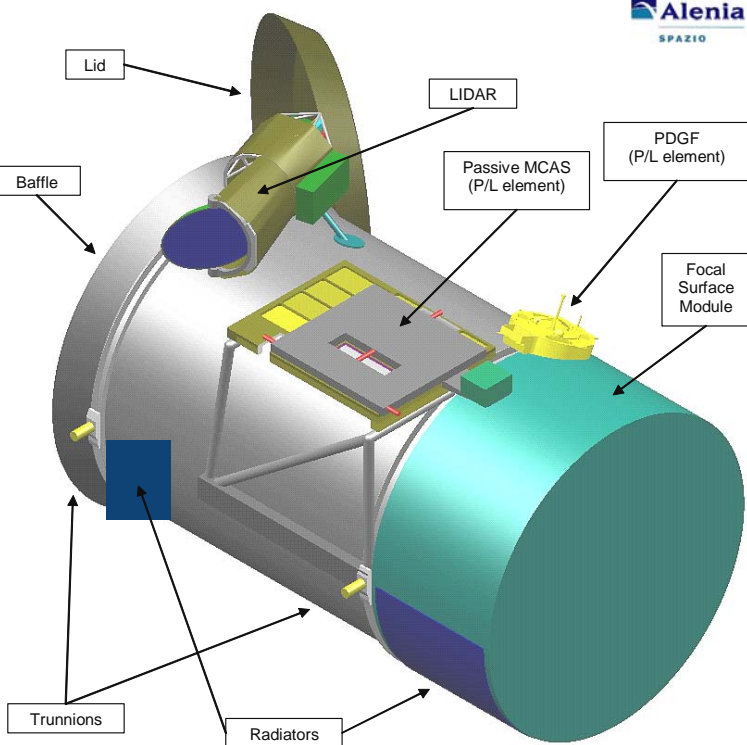
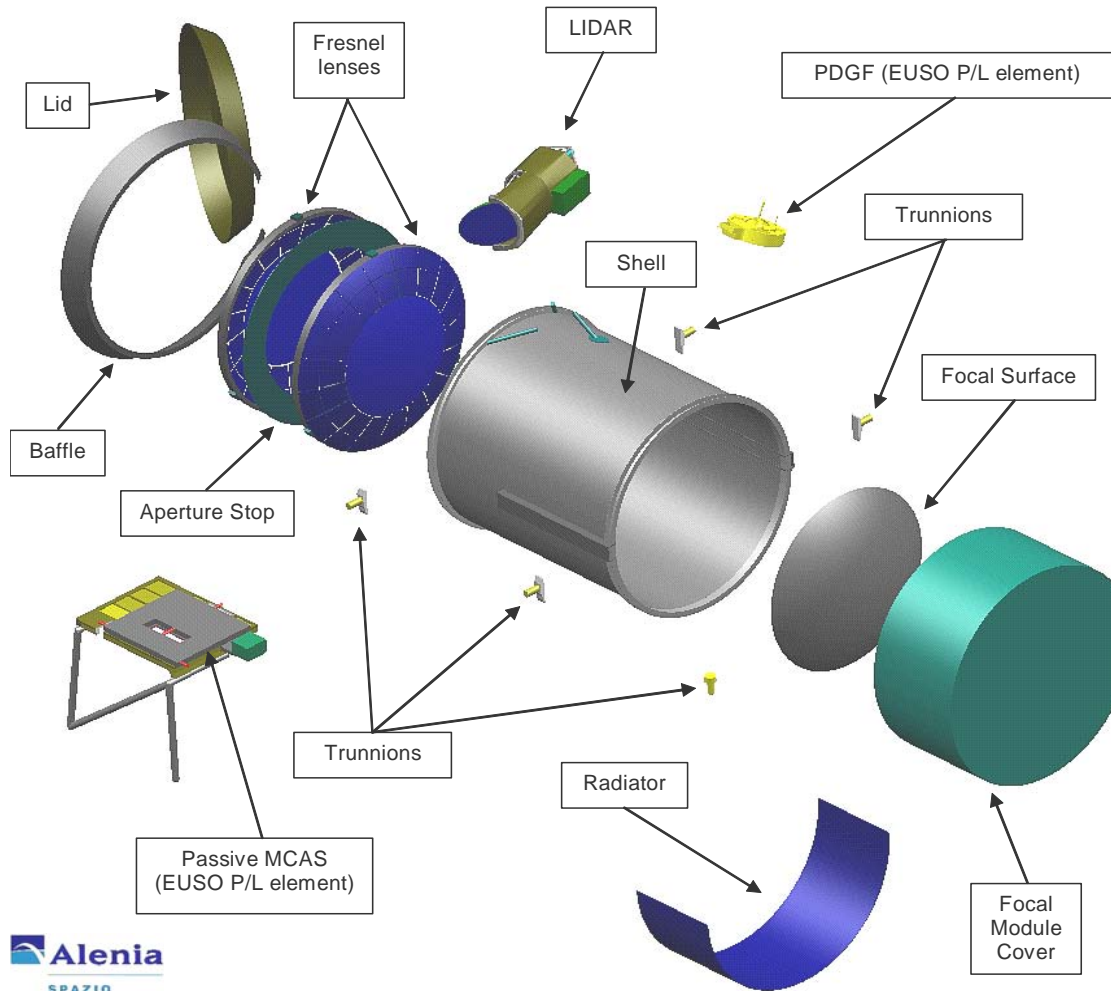
- **High statistics** ⇒ **large aperture**
- **Energy threshold as low as possible to allow a dynamical range overlap and cross-calibration with ground array (AUGER)**  
⇒ **high sensitivity to faint showers, bkg. Rejection**
- **Pointing capability** ⇒ **direction resolution**

## Instrumental Requirements:

- **Large aperture** ⇒ **FoV as large as possible**  
( ±30° ⇒ ~6×10<sup>5</sup>km<sup>2</sup>sr from ISS mean orbit height)
- **Sensitivity** ⇒ **High luminosity**  
(2.5m Ø collecting area, 5mm Ø PSF, f#<1.15, Q.E.>0.2  
⇒ ~50% efficiency at 5×10<sup>19</sup>eV, 100% efficiency at 10<sup>20</sup> eV)
- **Primary direction resolution** ⇔ **space resolution in FoV, time resolution**  
(0.1° angular resolution, 2.5 μs time resolution  
⇒ ± 1° on EECR incoming direction)



# EUSO – The Instrument



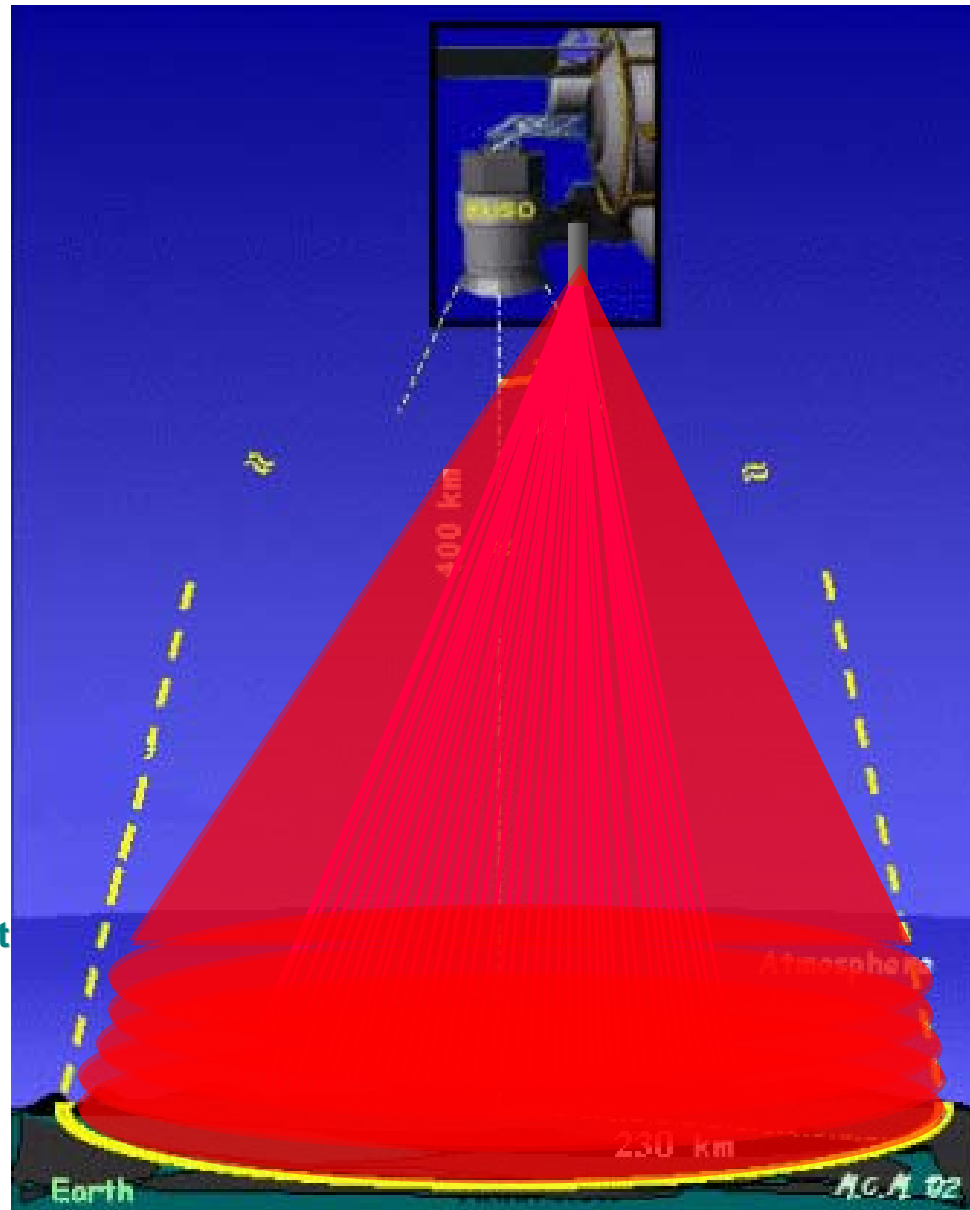
# How to detect EECRs from space

## STEP 1

Particle penetrating Earth's atmosphere creates an EAS. UV fluorescence light is produced along the particle trajectory and it is imaged by the EUSO telescope

## STEP 2

Highly collimated Cherenkov photons are also produced in the forward direction of EAS. At the impact point with the earth surface, reflected/diffused UV light is imaged by the telescope



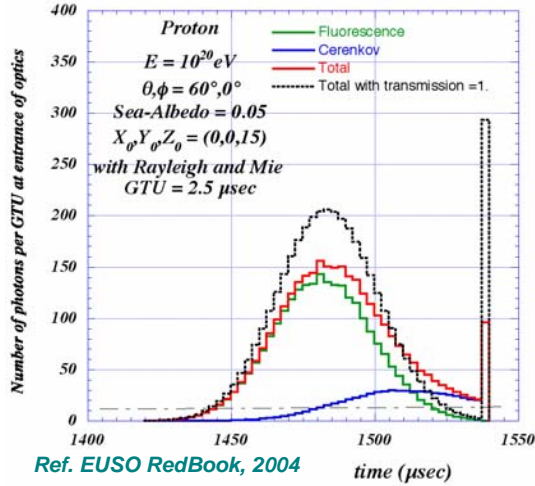
## STEP 3

instantaneous IR picture of the FOV is taken at trigger occurrence.

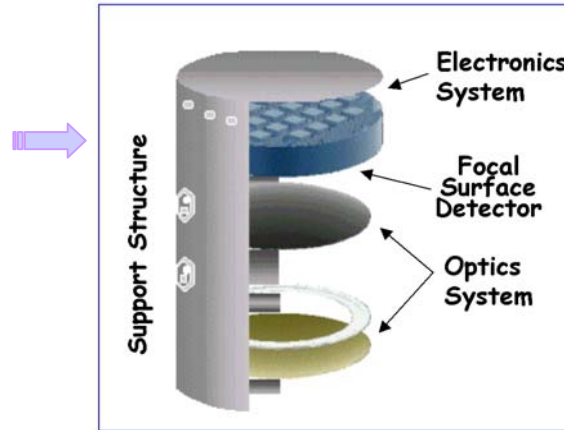
## STEP 4

Sounding of the atmosphere, along the EAS direction, is performed by a LIDAR system

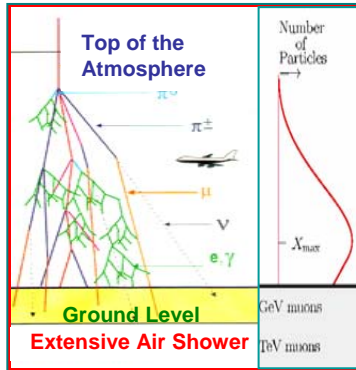
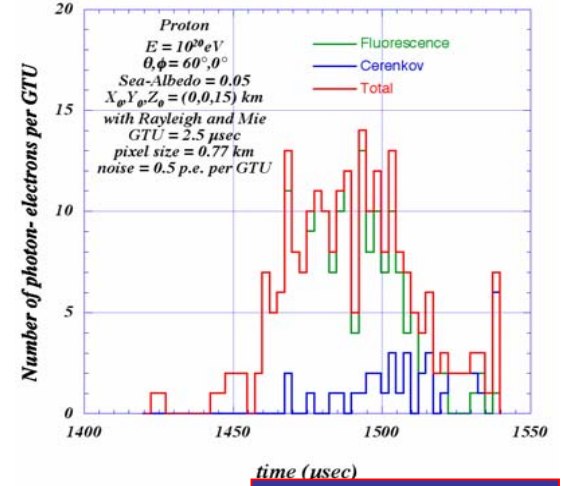
## The signal arriving on EUSO



## The EUSO telescope

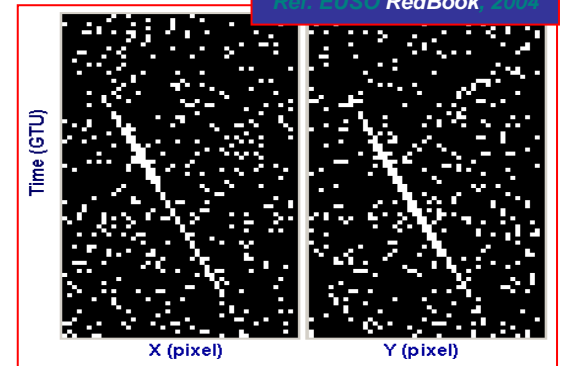


## The signal registered by EUSO



Shower appear as single track event (embedded in the bg)

Duration, X, Y, Intensity,  
 $\Rightarrow \theta, \phi, E, A$  of the EECR/v.

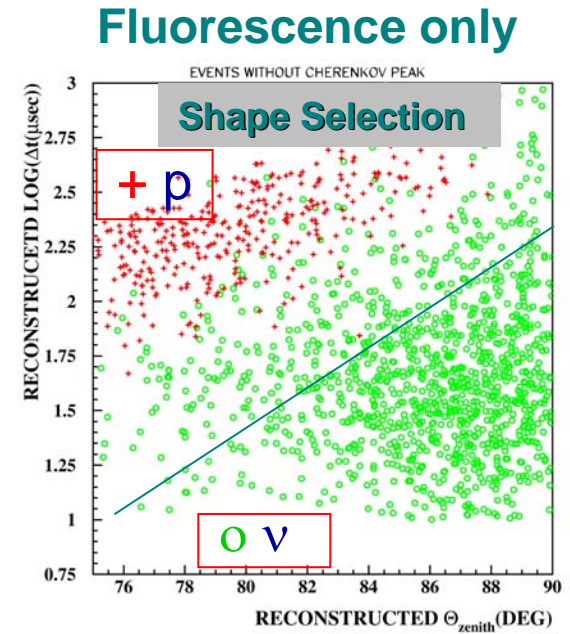
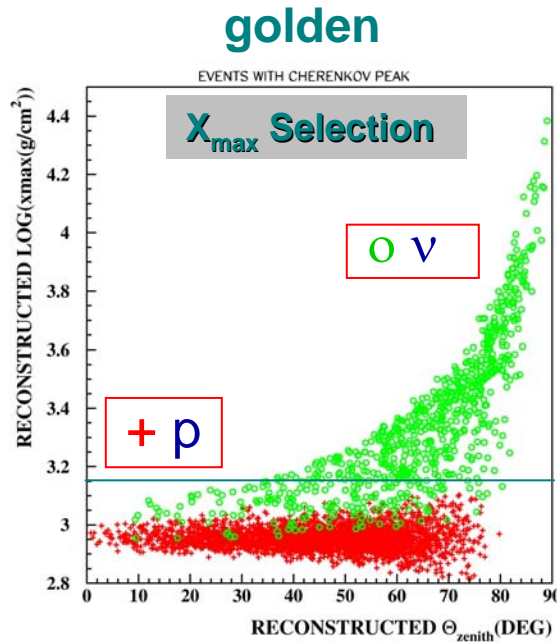


The space-time image is given in terms of X-T and Y-T projections of the collected photoelectrons, X and Y being the coordinates inside the field-of-view; the time coordinate T measures the shower development in depth, providing info about the shower length in the third direction, the height in the atmosphere.



# Downward neutrino acceptance for EUSO

S. Bottai

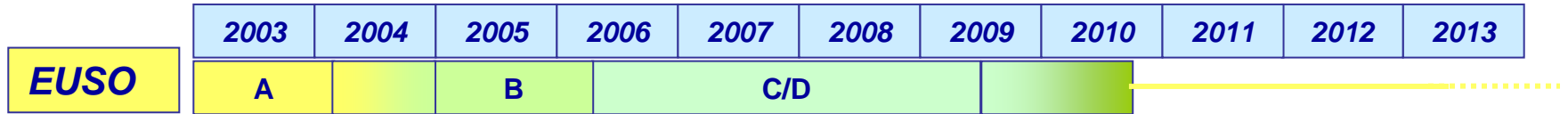


- ✓  $2 * 10^{18}$  g is the total target mass under the FOV
- ✓ reduction due to trigger efficiency calculated by full simulation. Clouds distribution is considered
- ✓ reduction due to selection efficiency needed for  $10^{-4}$  proton rejection calculated from full simulation
- ✓ results show a sensitivity around 10 x AUGER for neutrino in the  $10^{20}$  eV energy region

# Summary: EUSO

- **EUSO is a pioneering experiment studying EAS from space:**
  - An instantaneous aperture of  $6 \times 10^5 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr}$  with a duty cycle  $\sim 20\%$  is a technically achievable goal with up-to-date technology;
  - The acceptance reduction due to cloud effect has been evaluated to be  $\sim 1/3$ .
- **EUSO, with its dynamical range ( $E > 5 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}$ ) is a “beyond-GZK experiment”. At  $E > 10^{20} \text{ eV}$ :**
  - $\sim 10^3$  events/year can be expected according to AGASA findings;
  - $\sim 10^2$  events/year can be expected according to GZK-suppressed spectrum due to uniform source distribution.
- **EUSO complement the AUGER findings in both cases:**
  - Study the source spectra for superGZK model;
  - Analyse the GZK behaviour and the source distribution for GZK-suppressed mode;
- **EUSO highly sensitive to neutrino astronomy at  $E > 5 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}$**

# But ...



- **EUSO on the ESA module Columbus is uncertain due to ISS/Shuttle delays**
- **Phase A completed, technically ready for phase B (15 July 2004)**
- **EAS unable to recommend its continuation into phase B in foreseeable future (AWG, FPAG, SSAC)**

⇒ **Freezer status**

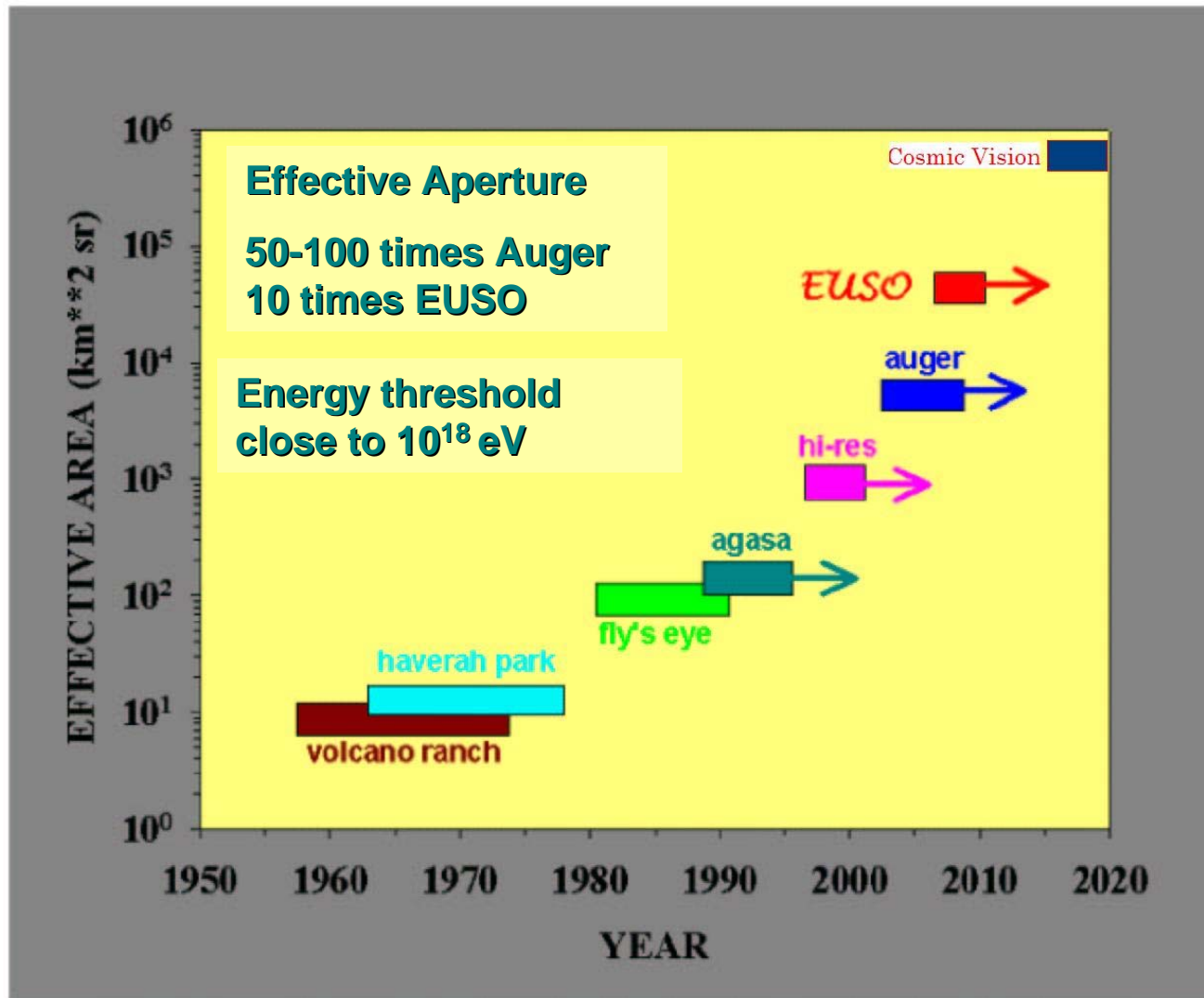
- **EUSO will be supported on “exciting” Auger results;**

## Alternative Solution?

- **EUSO mounted on the Japanese Module**
- **Using a Japanese carrier to launch EUSO**
- **? ...**

3-4 Nov. 2005:  
EUSO re-foundation Meeting ESA  
ESTEC, Noordwijk, NL

# Post Auger Scenario? Cosmic Vision



Cf. Günther Hasinger's talk: Status, Probleme und Perspektiven

# Summary and Outlook: Pierre Auger Observatory

## Status:

- **Southern Observatory over half finished**
- **With 25% of a full Auger-year exposure, we have:**
  - First estimate of an FD-calibrated spectrum
  - First studies of anisotropies in the sky
  - Limits on photon primaries

## Future plans:

- **Completion by mid 2006**
- **Full understanding of our instruments**
- **Usage of rapidly expanding data set (x7 in two years)**
- **Measure spectrum around  $10^{20}$ eV with unprecedented precision**
- **Solve AGASA/HIRES dispute**
- **Composition studies with SD, FD and HYBRID**
- **Large/small scale anisotropies**
- **Search for neutrinos and exotics (horizontal showers)**
- **Begin working on Auger North**
- **R&D for radio, ...**