

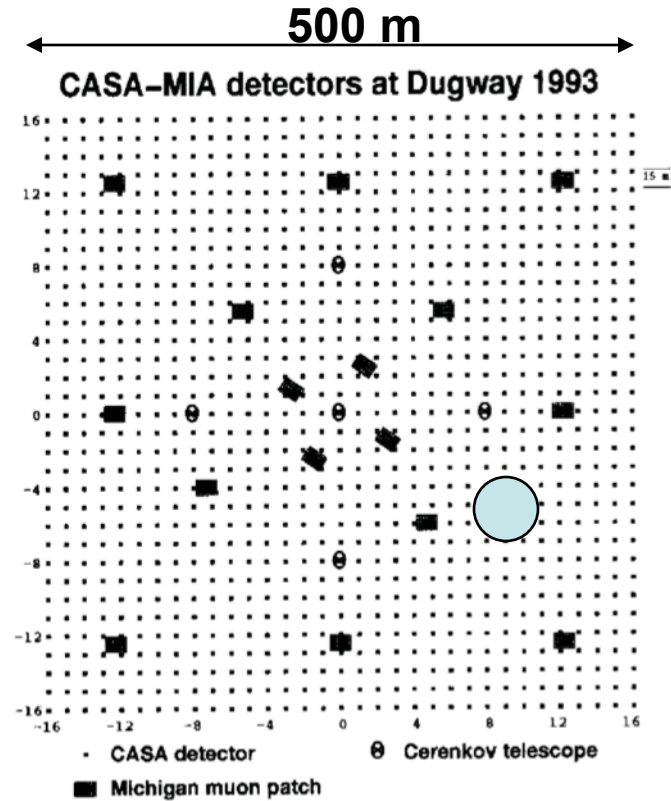
# Cosmic Rays: a second career

James W. Cronin  
Lecture Honoris Causa  
Karlsruhe  
February 1, 2013

**This talk dedicated  
to  
Murat Boratav**



# The Chicago Air Shower Array (CASA)



1089 detectors with 15 m spacing covering an area of  $\sim 500 \text{ m} \times 500 \text{ m}$

Expected  $\sim 20$  events/day from Cygnus X-3

**1988-1993**

**My first venture into cosmic ray physics in collaboration with University of Michigan**

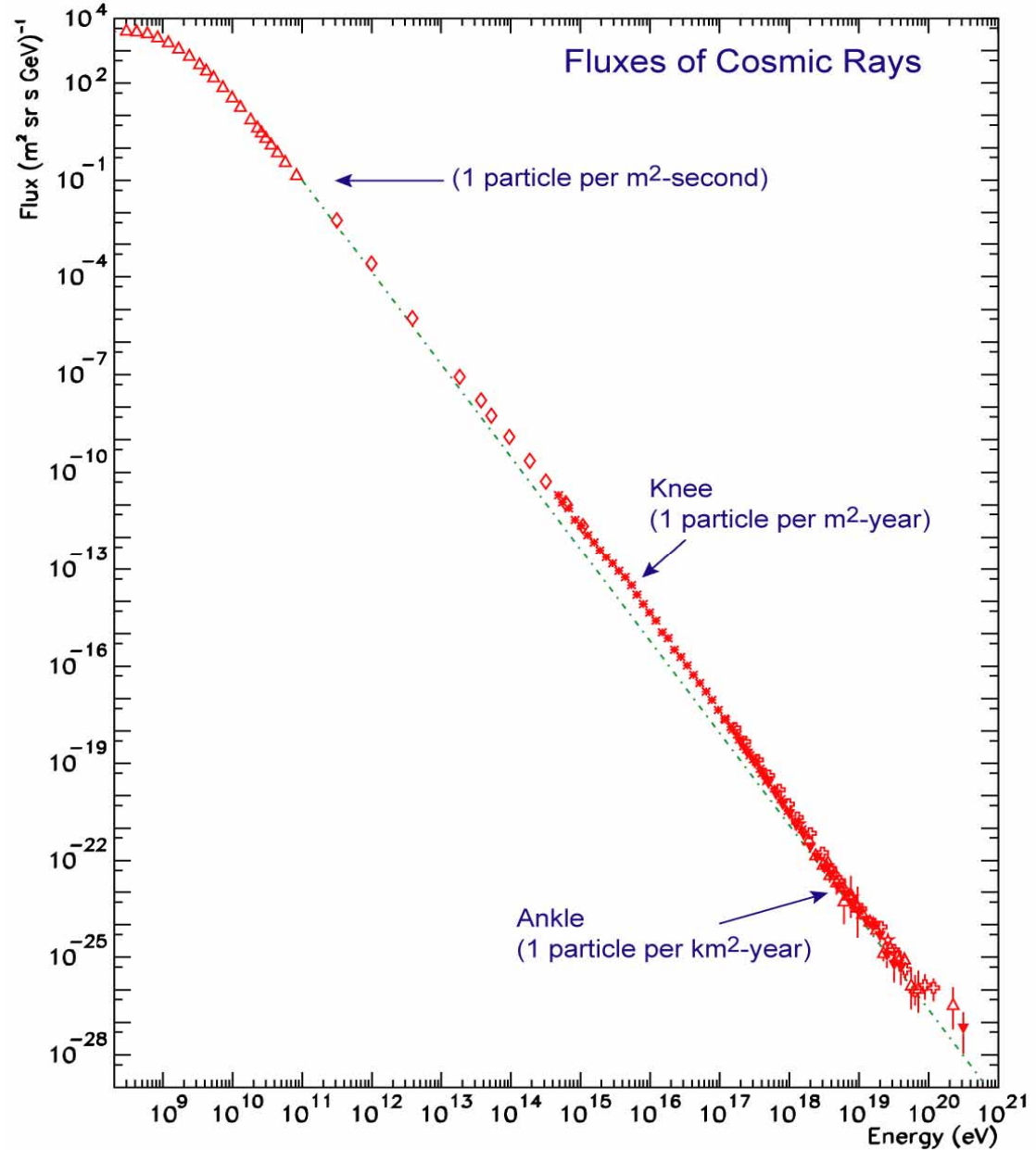
**10<sup>20</sup> eV proton**

**16 joules energy**

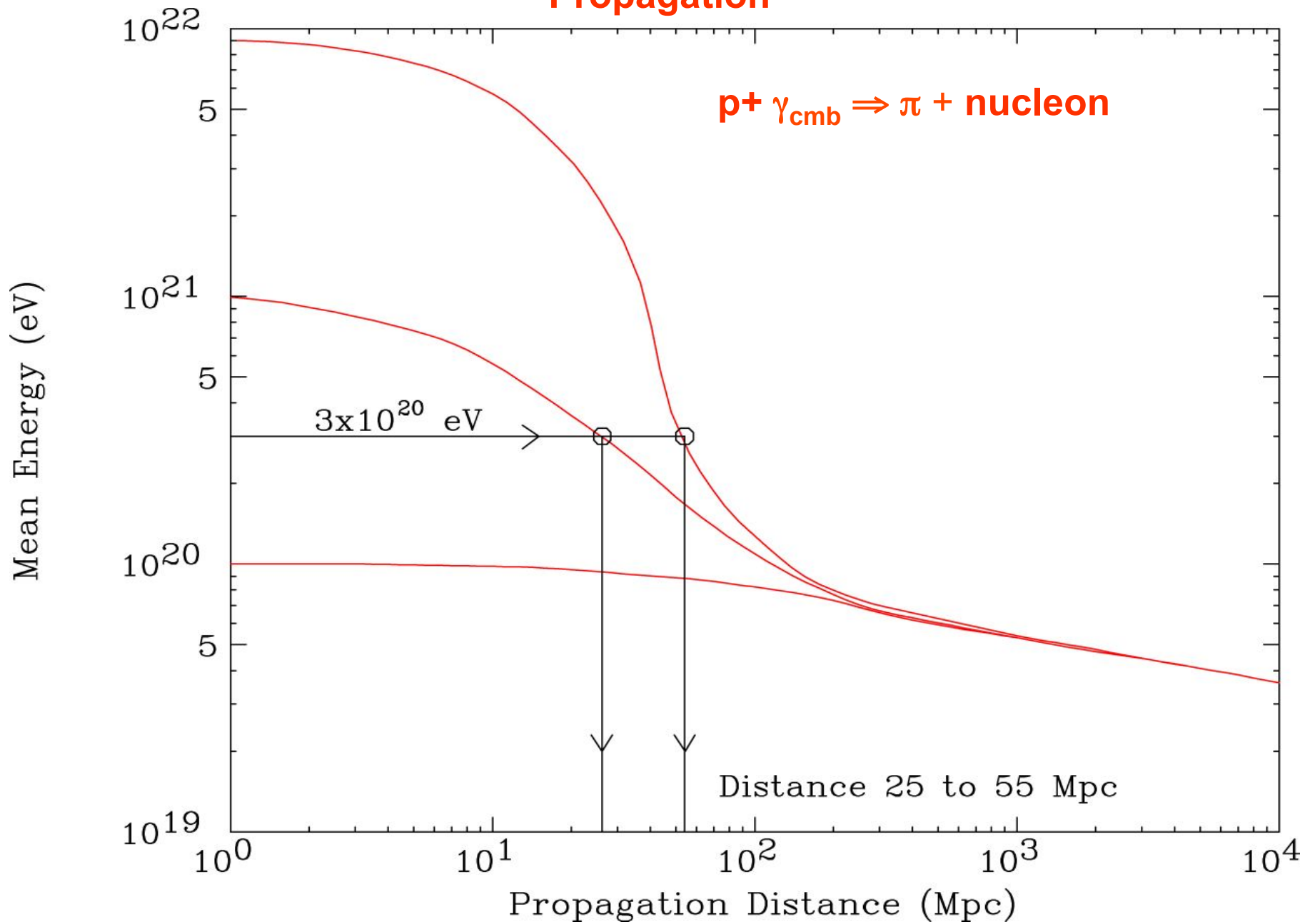
**Macroscopic energy**

**Microscopic particle**

**Kinetic energy of Andy  
Roddick's second serve**

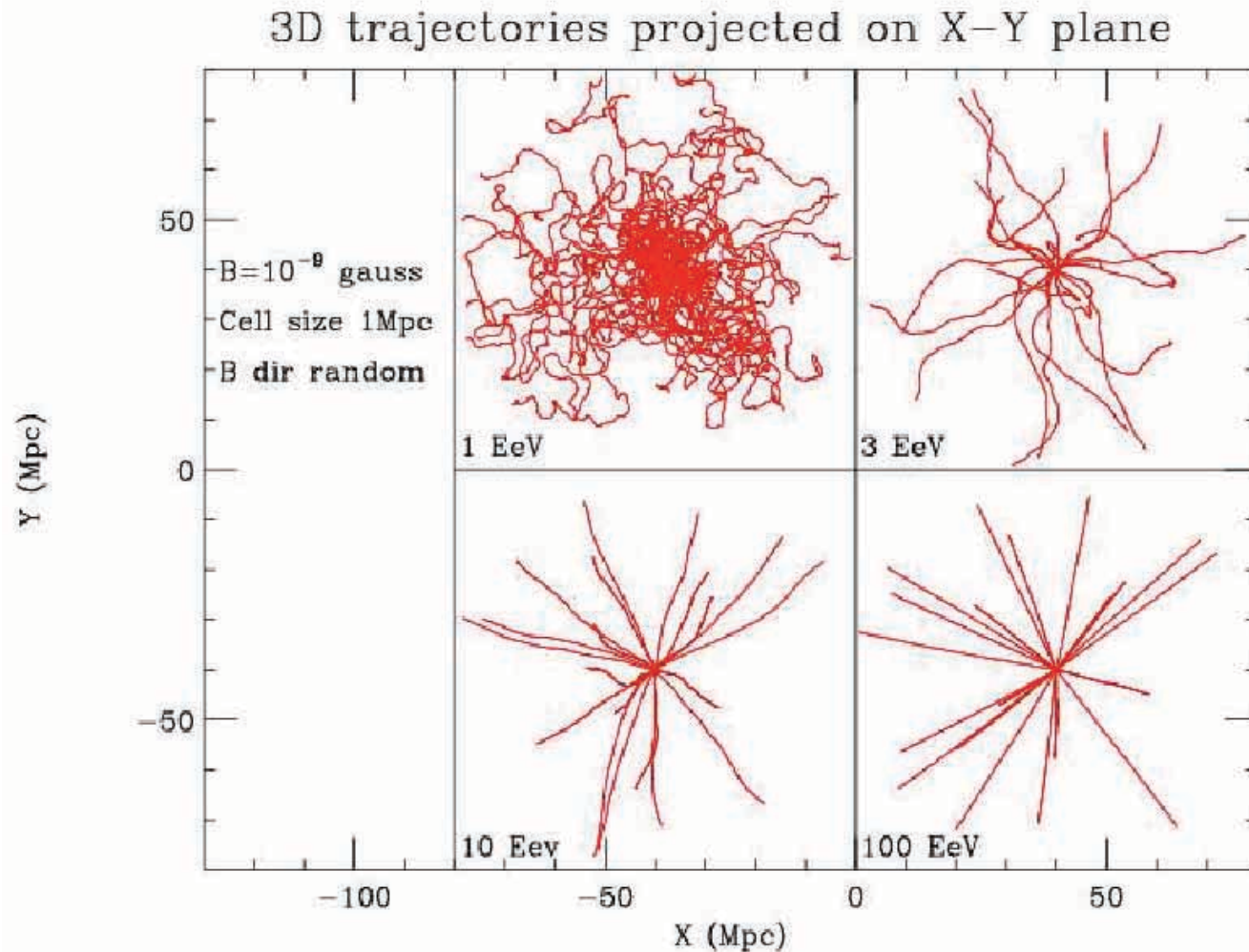


# Propagation



- **Inter-Galactic magnetic fields:**

**A  $10^{20}$  eV proton is almost not deflected in the inter-galactic magnetic field (nG)**



# COSMIC RAYS ABOVE $10^{19}$ eV - 1992

Proceedings of the International Workshop on  
Techniques to Study Cosmic Rays with Energies  
Greater than  $10^{19}$  eV

Paris, France  
22–24 April 1992

Edited by

Murat BORATAV  
University of Paris 6  
Paris, France

James W. CRONIN  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, IL, USA

Alan A. WATSON  
University of Leeds  
Leeds, United Kingdom

Major Meeting in Paris in April 1992 organised by Murat Boratav

- Followed by workshops
- Adelaide (January 1993)
- Tokyo (September, 1993)
- Snowmass (July 1994)

## PROBLEMS TO BE OVERCOME

- **LACK OF MONEY TO DO ANYTHING**
- **Fight for recognition that the project was worthy of attention**
- **Site surveys**
- **Develop a collaboration of critical mass and competence and with money to build a capital project of ~\$100M**
- **How was the worth of the project to be assessed?**
- **A vulnerability, as with neutrino astronomy and, to a lesser extent, ground based gamma ray astronomy, that there are no hard theoretical numbers demanding the construction of an instrument of a certain size**
- **Contrast search for the W and Z, or the Higgs particle**



**August 1994**

**Naming of the project:**

**A** **U**nique **G**iant **E**AS **R**ecorder

A.U.G.E.R

No acronyms!

**Pierre Auger Observatory**



■ **Pierre Auger, Paris 1981**

# Seed money for 6 month design study at Fermilab

**Anonymous gift \$50,000**

**Grainger Foundation for site survey \$100,000**

**UNESCO \$100,000**

**NSF \$30,000**

**Universities Research Association \$50,000**

**University of Chicago \$25,000**



united nations educational, scientific and cultural organization  
organisation des nations unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture  
organización de las naciones unidas para la educación, la ciencia y la cultura

7, place de Fontenoy,  
75352 Paris 07-SP

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telex: 204461 Paris  
270602 Paris  
telefax: 47.34.85.57

The Director-General

reference: DG/2.4/2121

25 JUL 1994

Dear Professor Cronin,

It was indeed a pleasure for me to receive you at UNESCO and to discuss ways and means by which UNESCO could help promote the development of the international research project to observe the highest energy cosmic rays.

I believe, as you do, that it is important to advance our knowledge of fundamental processes and laws in nature. The project that you are proposing would certainly do that - and more. It would become a focus for international collaboration involving physicists, astronomers, engineers and technical support staff and it would involve both the northern and the southern hemisphere. From our discussions it was clear that UNESCO could contribute significantly to the development and promotion of this project by helping your group ensure that scientists from developing countries can collaborate from the start, and by facilitating discussions and explorations aiming at finding suitable sites for the two detectors.

I confirm that UNESCO is ready to contribute during 1995 some US\$100,000 towards the cost of the participation of scientists from developing countries in the Giant Array Design Group that will begin its work early next year at the Fermi National Laboratory.

I have asked Dr Siegbert Raither from the Division of Basic Sciences to co-ordinate UNESCO's inputs to your project and to report to me periodically on its progress.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Federico Mayor".

Federico Mayor

Professor James Walter CRONIN  
The University of Chicago  
The Enrico Fermi Institute  
5640 South Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60637-1433  
USA

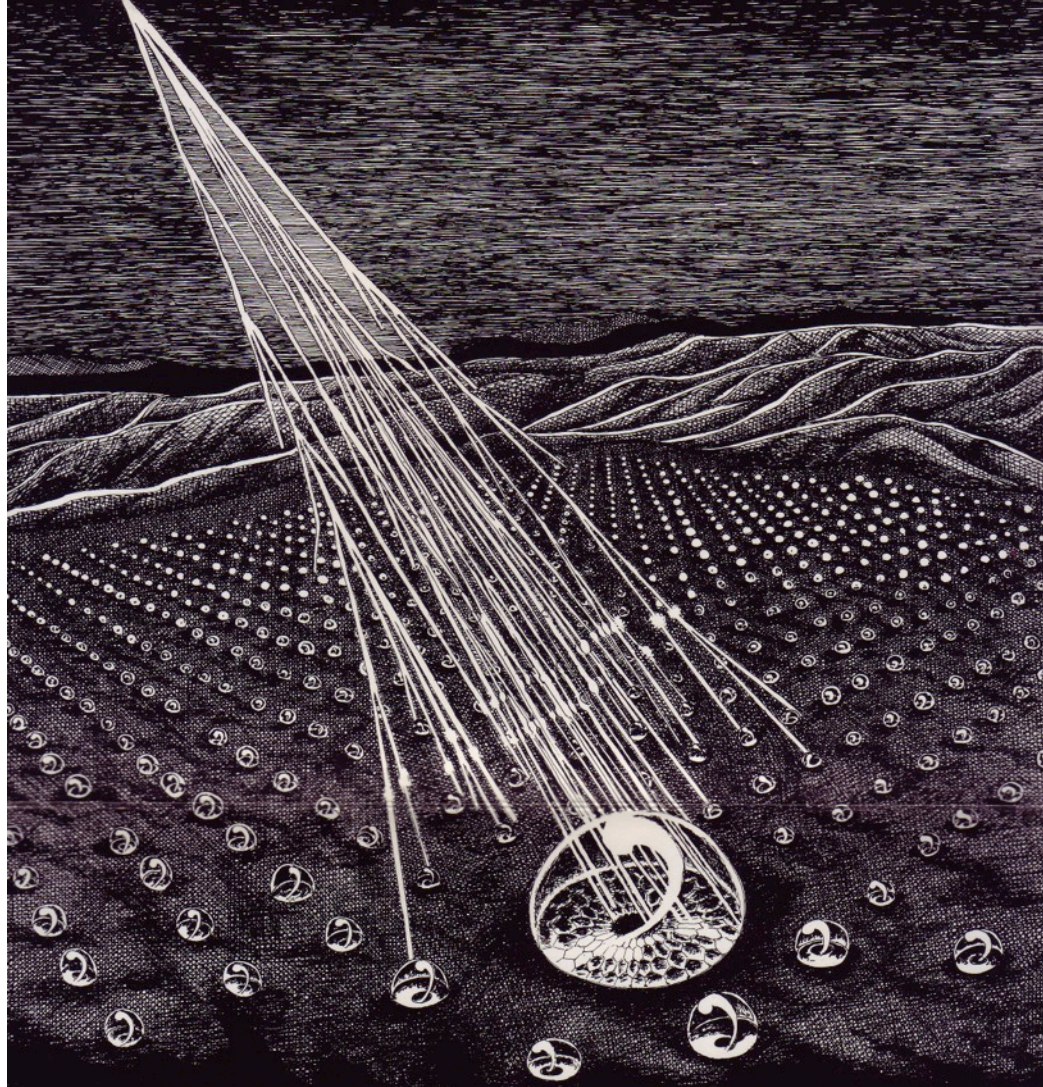
# Role of Fermilab director John Peoples

We requested that Fermilab sponsor a 6 month long design study for the giant array. The director, John Peoples was supportive. **He was convinced that this was important work.** He agreed to support the workshop, provided space and people to help organize it. There was a cost to John in all of this as there was a lot of hostility at Fermilab toward resources diverted from anything other than maintaining the machine and the big collider detectors. This hostility was running particularly high because of other non-accelerator projects undertaken by Fermilab.

**Also significant was the fact that Paul Mantsch of Fermilab became the Auger Project Manager. Paul was an expert on super-conducting magnets and large detectors. As a refugee from the failed SSC he was attracted to the uniqueness of the project and its challenge. Without Paul's leadership the project would not exist!**

# Six Month Working Group for the Design of Giant Airshower Detectors

January 30-July 30, 1995  
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory



Cosmic rays of unknown origin have been observed at energies above  $10^{20}$  eV. An international design group is being hosted by Fermilab to produce a technical design for a cosmic ray detector with an aperture of  $10,000 \text{ km}^2\text{-sr}$ . The initial concept is a surface array of  $5,000 \text{ km}^2$  with an atmospheric fluorescence detector in the center.

# The Fermilab Design Study

**Studies of various surface detector designs:**

**RPCs, water-Cherenkov, scintillators, radio....**

**“Let a thousand flowers bloom....”**

**Hybrid approach: ground array and fluorescence detectors  
- chose water as surface detector**

**Very extensive Monte Carlo calculations**

**Two sites to give all sky coverage**

**Each site ~3000 km<sup>2</sup> : site survey was contemporaneous**

**Approximate cost ~\$100M**

**Design Study document completed in October 1995**



Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica  
DEPENDIENTE DE LA PRESIDENCIA DE LA NACION

NE-60/95

Buenos Aires, 22 March 1995

Prof. J.W. Cronin  
University of Chicago  
Illinois  
U.S.A.

Dear Prof. Cronin,

This Argentine Atomic Energy Commission would be very pleased to help installing the Giant Air Shower Detector (Project Auger) in this country, by providing the necessary facilities and support for both the localization of appropriate sites and the building of the system.

After discussing the subject with Dr. Conrado Varotto, President of the "Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales" (CONAE), we concluded that, if the detector is placed in Argentina, both Institutions will support the project with three millions US Dollars per year, starting in 1997, for a period to be arranged with you. This budget should first be presented and agreed upon by the members of our National Congress.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or suggestions about these arrangements.

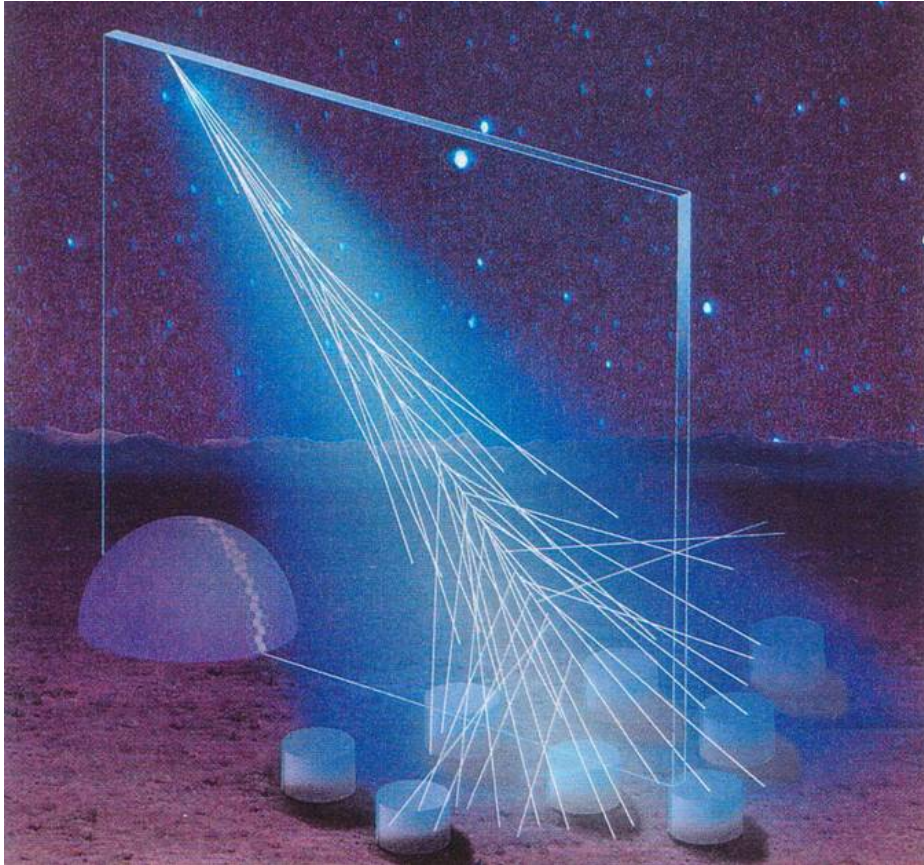
Sincerely yours,

Lic. Eduardo Santos  
President of the  
Board of Directors

**March 1995**

**Unsolicited letter from  
Argentine Atomic Energy  
Agency (CNEA) offering 3M  
US dollars/year for Auger!**

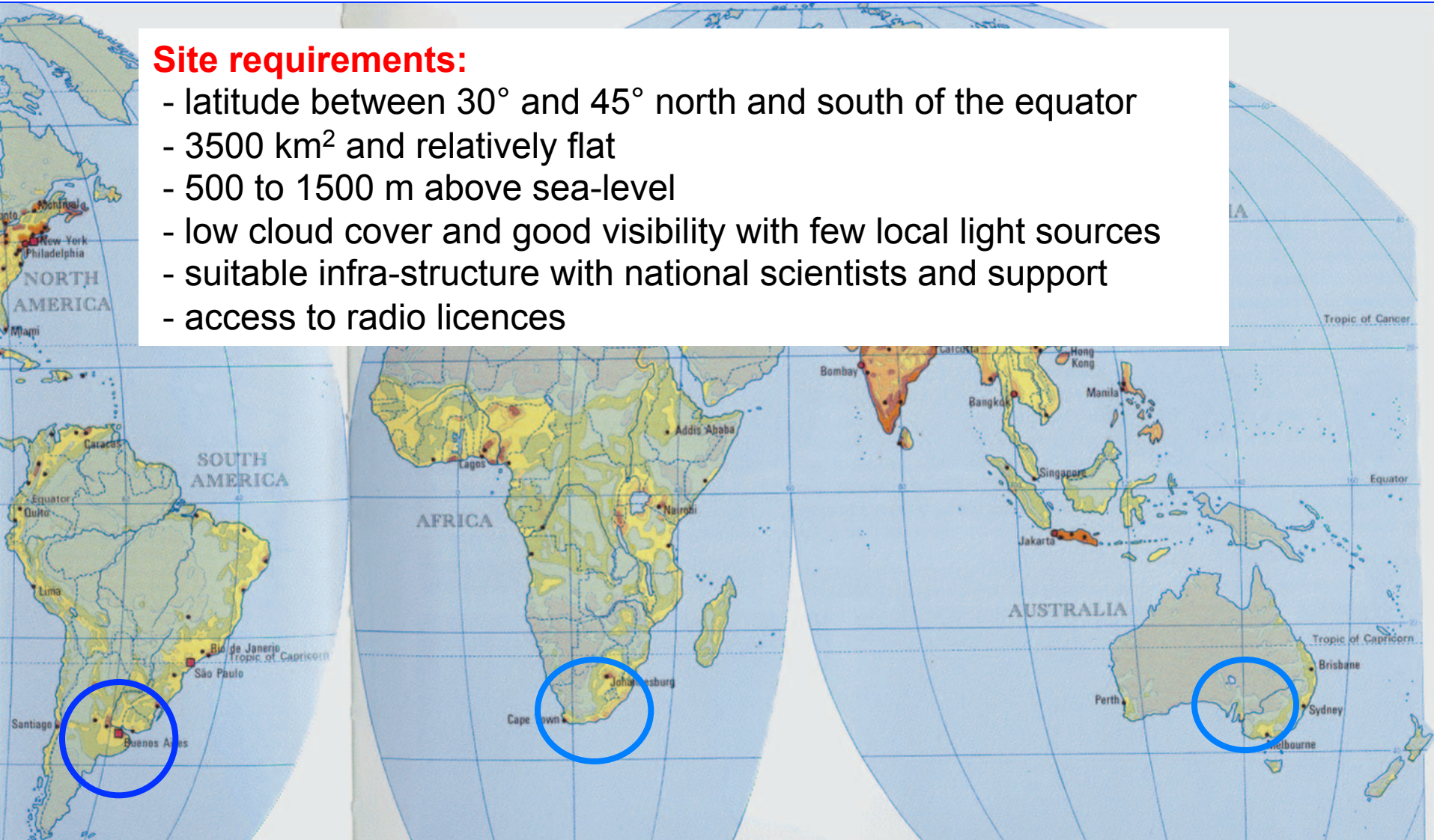
# The Design





## Site requirements:

- latitude between 30° and 45° north and south of the equator
- 3500 km<sup>2</sup> and relatively flat
- 500 to 1500 m above sea-level
- low cloud cover and good visibility with few local light sources
- suitable infra-structure with national scientists and support
- access to radio licences



Site surveys, north and south, made by **Ken Gibbs** (Chicago) and **Antoine Letessier-Selvon** (Paris) during 1994 and 1995.  
Argentina selected for South during meeting at UNESCO in November 1995

UNESCO  
November 1995

Dear Sir

Scientific and engineering achievements are the cornerstones upon which the future generations in Southern Africa will attain their goals for the successful development and upliftment of our peoples. There is consequently an urgent need for South Africa to be at the leading edge of expertise in the world of technological endeavour.

Recently I have been informed of the Giant Air Shower Array project which is truly an international project destined to become one of the scientific highlights of this and the next decade and that South Africa has one of the favoured sites in the southern hemisphere.

I am placing my full weight behind the sitting of the project in South Africa as it is clear to me that it will provide an exciting new focus for our young potential scientists and enhance our Reconstruction and Development Program. Just as important however is that our own expertise could significantly contribute to the international community in the spheres of science, training and facilities.

As a developing country with a good foundation in the sciences and related technologies, South Africa will be in a favourable position to extend our knowledge base into the Southern African subcontinent to the mutual benefit for all should we be successful in being awarded the project.

I wish to reassure you of our total commitment should you consider South Africa as the site for this prestigious undertaking.

With best wishes to you and your colleagues.

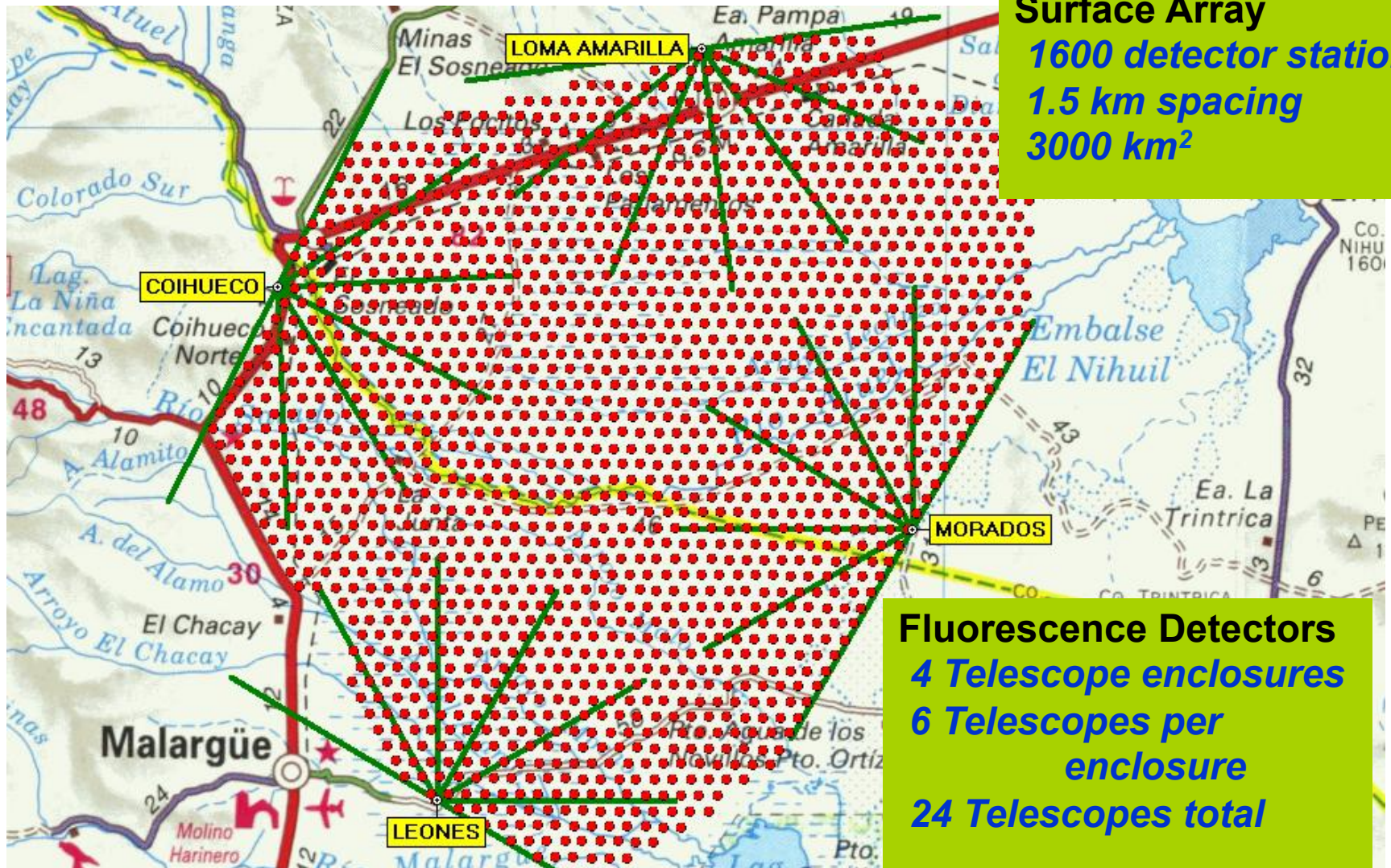
Yours sincerely



**N R MANDELA**

Dr M Boratav

# The observatory plan after choosing the Malargüe site



**Surface Array**  
1600 detector stations  
1.5 km spacing  
3000 km<sup>2</sup>

**Fluorescence Detectors**  
4 Telescope enclosures  
6 Telescopes per enclosure  
24 Telescopes total

# Surface Detector

Communication antenna

GPS antenna

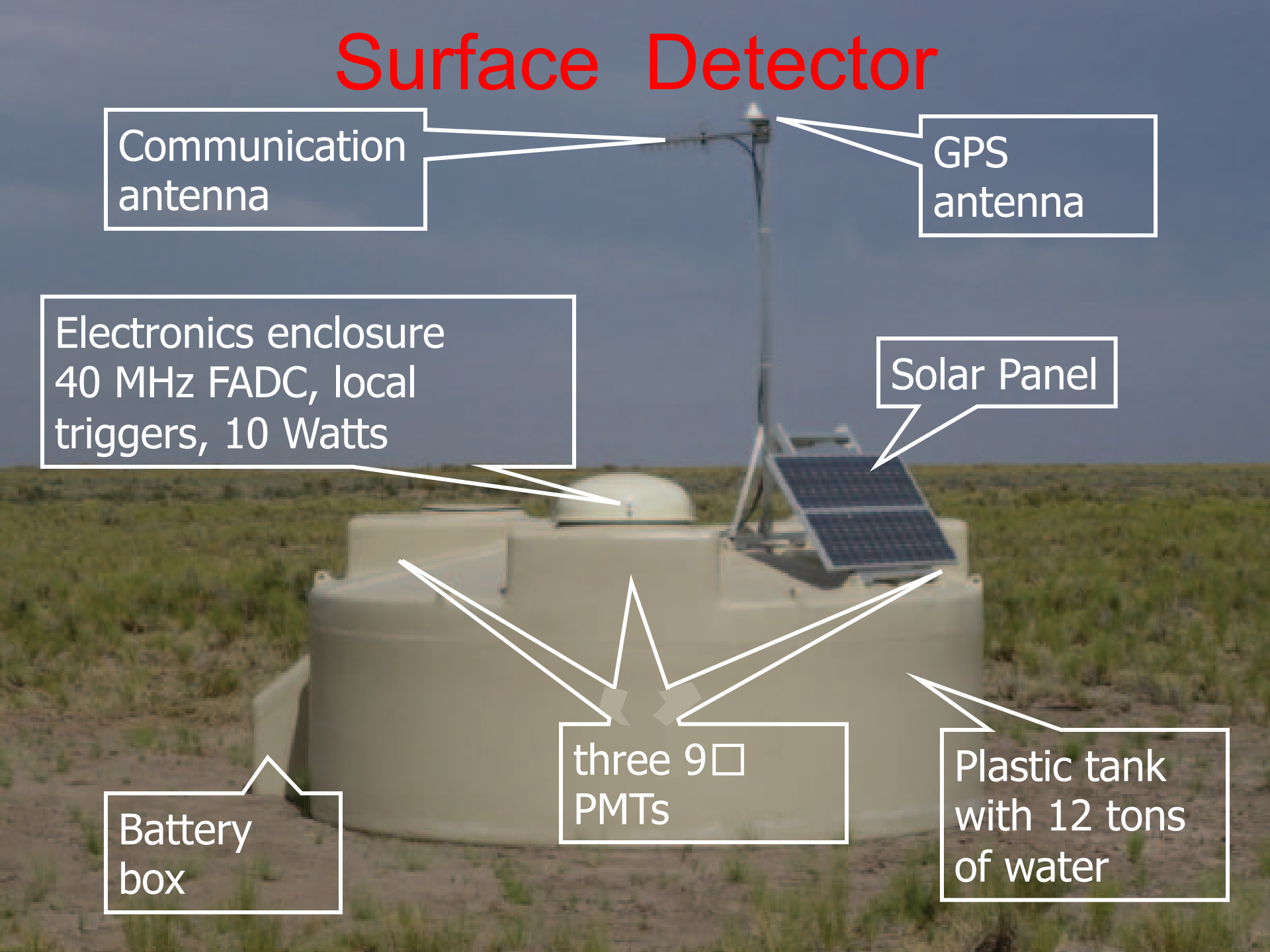
Electronics enclosure  
40 MHz FADC, local triggers, 10 Watts

Solar Panel

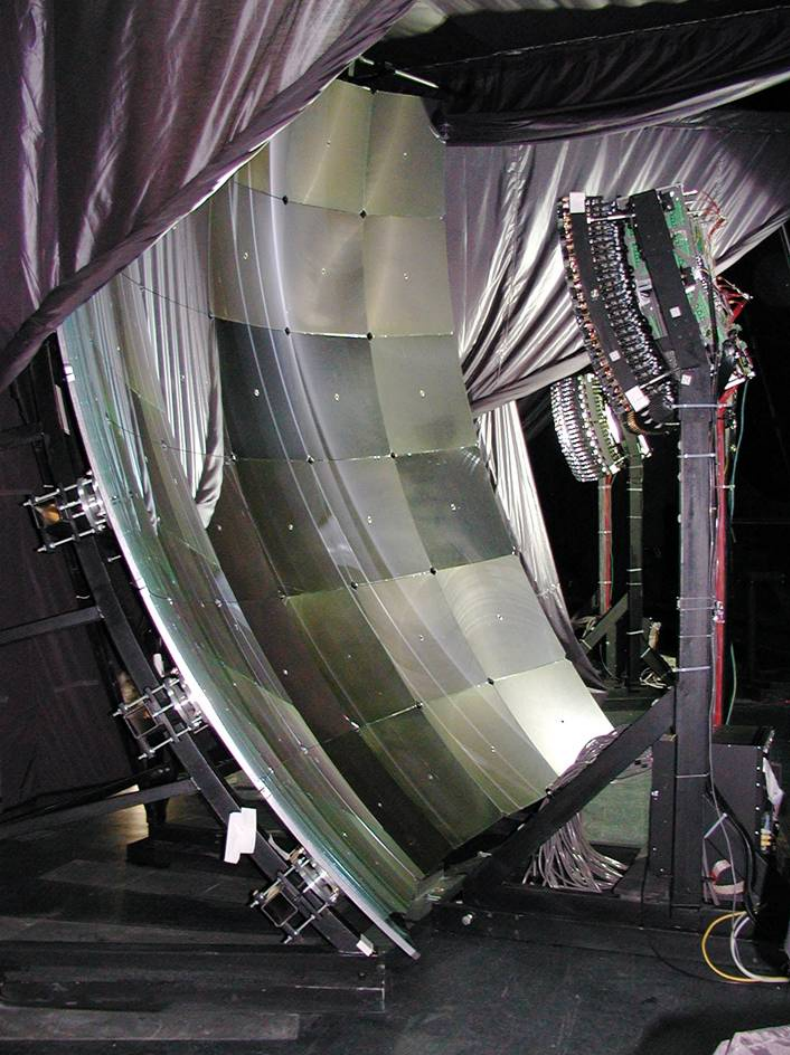
Battery box

three 9" PMTs

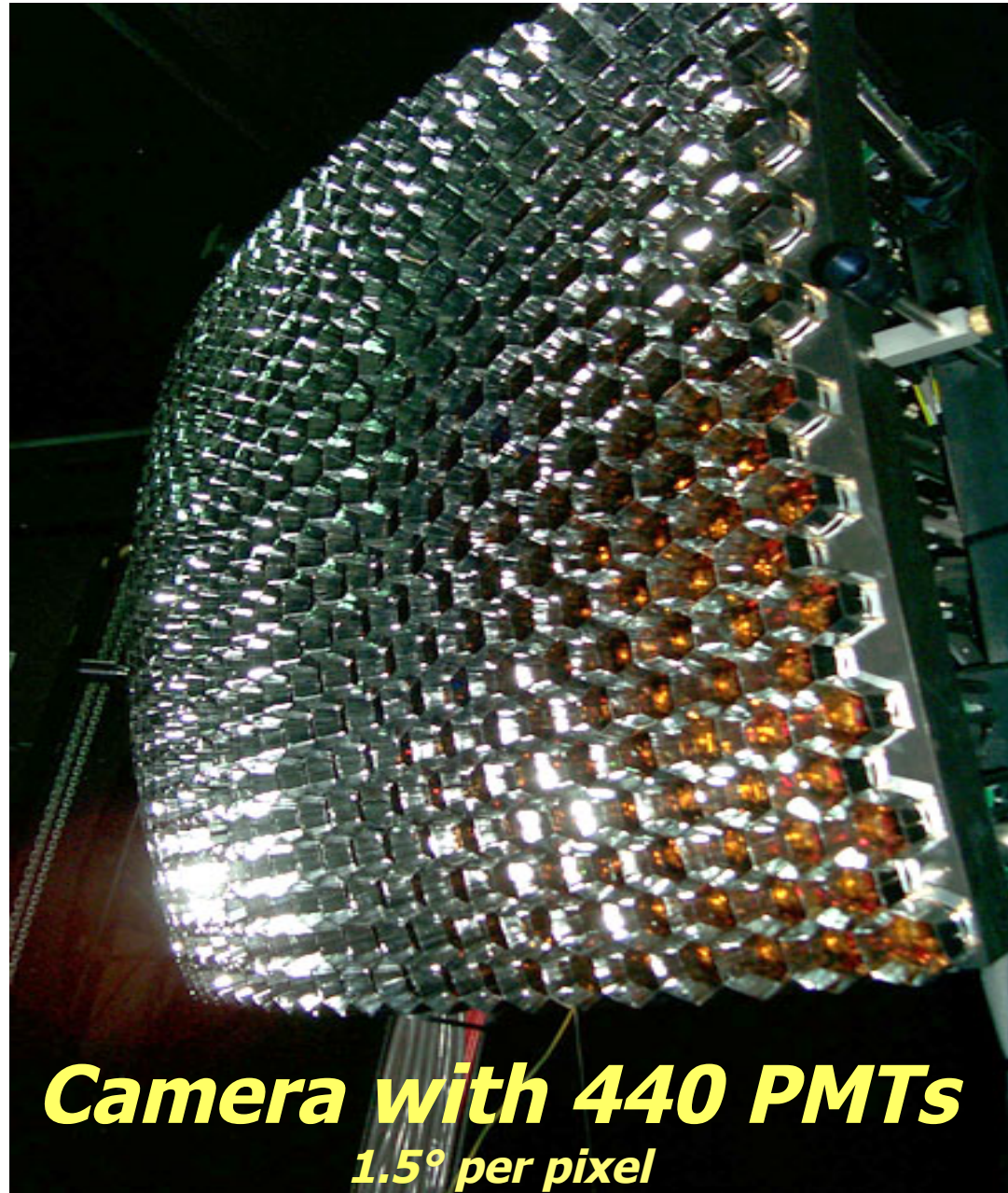
Plastic tank with 12 tons of water



# The Fluorescence Detector



Schmidt optics  
30°x30° fov  
UV filter  
corrector “ring”



**Camera with 440 PMTs**  
*1.5° per pixel*

# Assessment of the Project (November 1995)

No host institution (unlike new project at CERN, ESA, ESO, FNAL)

## Formed own Review Committee

W I Axford (MPI: Director, Katlenburg-Lindau): Chair  
R Cowlik (Indian Institute for Astrophysics, Bangalore, India)  
M Demassieux, ENST (France)  
R Eckers (Australian National Telescope, Australia)  
M-T Koshiya (Japan)  
J Steinberger (CERN, Switzerland)

**‘Entirely favourable’ report used to help with agencies**

“But of course it is a favourable report: you chose the committee”

- an agency that will remain anonymous

Date: Sat, 09 Sep 1995 12:41 -0800 (PST)  
From: DIRECTOR@SLACVM.BITNET  
To: JWC@UCHEP.UCHICAGO.EDU

To: James W. Cronin  
From: Burton Richter

Dear Jim:

I've just seen the article in the 1 September 1995 issue of SCIENCE on your proposal for a very large array to detect ultra-high energy cosmic rays. I think it's a terrific idea.

As you may know, for the last few years I've been telling O'Fallon, Hess, and HEPAP that I felt we were not spending enough money on non-accelerator experiments. Your's is just the kind of large-scale program that I had in mind, and you should feel free to call on me if you need any help in twisting arms in the Administration, Congress, or our high energy physics community.

I would like to keep up with what you are doing and perhaps, if I can arrange my schedule, attend your next workshop. If you have such a thing, please put me on your mailing list for papers (scientific or political) and meeting announcements.

With best regards,

Burt

# The Search for Funding in the USA

▫ **All countries watched what the US was doing**

**Significant promises of funding from Argentina,  
Brasil and Mexico**

**US assessment by SAGENAP committee:**

**DIFFICULT! Third time lucky (April 1998)**

**BUT:**

**BUILD ONLY ONE ARRAY and GO SOUTH**



**US Proposal rejected in 1996 and 1997.  
Accepted with reduction in 1998 to  
build in southern hemisphere only.**



**Department of Energy**  
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

November 21, 1997

Professor James W. Cronin  
Department of Physics  
University of Chicago  
933 East 56th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Dear Professor Cronin:

I regret to inform you that the Department of Energy is not able to support the proposal "Construction of the Pierre Auger Observatory" submitted by the University of Chicago.

We have carefully considered the proposal, taking into account its scientific quality and its priority relative to other currently supported or proposed activities. In addition to our standard peer review by mail, we have, as you well know, solicited the recommendations of the members of the Scientific Assessment Group for Experiments in Non-accelerator Physics (SAGENAP). In light of our existing commitments, and because of the limited funds available, we find it necessary to decline support of your proposal. The relevant program managers from this office would be pleased to explore with you appropriate next steps.

Your interest in submitting this proposal to the Department of Energy is appreciated.

Sincerely,

John R. O'Fallon  
Director  
Division of High Energy Physics

cc:  
Frederick M. Bernthal, President



**Department of Energy**  
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

Professor James W. Cronin  
University of Chicago  
Department of Physics  
5640 S. Ellis Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60637

JUL 24 1998

Dear Professor Cronin,

DOE and the NSF have agreed to proceed with the Pierre Auger Project, with detector engineering and pre-construction commencing on the first array at the southern site in Argentina in FY 1999. The construction funding profile is tentatively planned as follows(\$K):

	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	Total
DOE	\$750	\$1250	\$1250	\$500	\$3750
NSF	750	750	1250	1000	3750
Total	\$1500	\$2000	\$2500	\$1500	\$7500

It is possible that this profile could be accelerated somewhat, depending on developments at the two agencies.

Two reviews are required at a minimum. First, a "Technical, Cost, Schedule, Management" review during the fall of 1998, before any funding is committed to detector engineering and pre-construction. Secondly, a review during FY00 of progress, etc.

Finally, upon submission of a proposal for the northern site detector, a review will take place, in FY01 or FY02, on the progress and physics at the southern site, the prospects for physics at the northern site, and developments in the field.

We will be in touch.

Congratulations and best wishes,

P.K. Williams  
Division of High Energy Physics  
U. S. Department of Energy

Patricia Rankin  
Division of Elementary  
Particle Physics  
National Science Foundation

Prof. Dr. Manfred Popp

Vorsitzender des Vorstandes  
Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH

Postfach 3640  
D-76021 Karlsruhe  
Tel. (07247) 82 2000  
Fax (07247) 82 6123  
E-mail: manfred.popp@vorstand.fzk.de

~~FAX: (7 79) 7 02-66-45~~

James W. Cronin  
University of Chicago  
 Enrico Fermi Institute  
 5640 South Ellis Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60637-1433  
U.S.A.

September 18, 1998

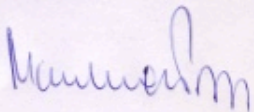
Dear Dr. Cronin,

Thank you for your letter of September 2, 1998.

At the moment we are in the process of restructuring our Institute of Nuclear Physics and important questions to the future program and the negotiation with the foreseen director of the Institute are yet to be solved. The participation in the Pierre Auger Project is under consideration in this process, but at this stage it would be premature to enter into any kind of discussions of financial contributions. I hope our discussion will be more advanced in December.

I will not be able to participate in the UNESCO-meeting and have asked Professor Kampert to attend.

Yours sincerely,



Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe  
Technik und Umwelt

Institut für Kernphysik I

Leiter: Prof.Dr.H.Blümer

Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH, Postfach 3640, D-76021 Karlsruhe

Prof.Dr.James W. Cronin  
 Enrico Fermi Institute  
 University of Chicago  
 5640 S. Ellis Ave.

Chicago Illinois 60637  
USA

Datum: 09.02.99  
Bearbeiter/-in:  
Telefon 07247/82- 3545  
Telefax 07247/82- 3548  
E-mail:  
Ihre Mitteilung:

Dear Prof.Cronin,

this letter outlines the present funding situation for the Pierre Auger Project concerning the Institute for Nuclear Physics (Institut für Kernphysik, IK) and the Department for Process Data Handling and Electronics (Hauptabteilung Prozeßdatenverarbeitung und Elektronik, HPE). Both groups are part of Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (FZK) and participate in the Auger Project in close collaboration with Universität Karlsruhe (TH).

The Pierre Auger Project has been supported since 1996 in FZK-HPE as given below in K\$.

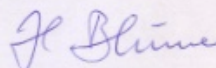
Year	1996	1997	1998	Total
Contribution HPE	60	120	120	300

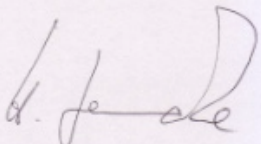
For the following years the expected funding profile for IK and HPE is given below in K\$ per year following US accounting rules:

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Contribution	820	810	1600	1900	630	5560

The sum for the current year '99 is part of the annual budget for the cosmic ray research programme. It is readily available by means of internal restructuring. The Pierre Auger Project is now being established as a distinct group in this programme, including 7 physicists, 3 engineers and 6 technicians. The group is expected to grow further.

Funds for 2000 and beyond are expectations based on the Auger spending profile in the Fluorescence Detector. We are very confident that commitments on the level described above can be made. A very positive vote of our advisory committee for a commitment of FZK in Auger-FD was given last week.

  
(Prof.Dr.H.Blümer)

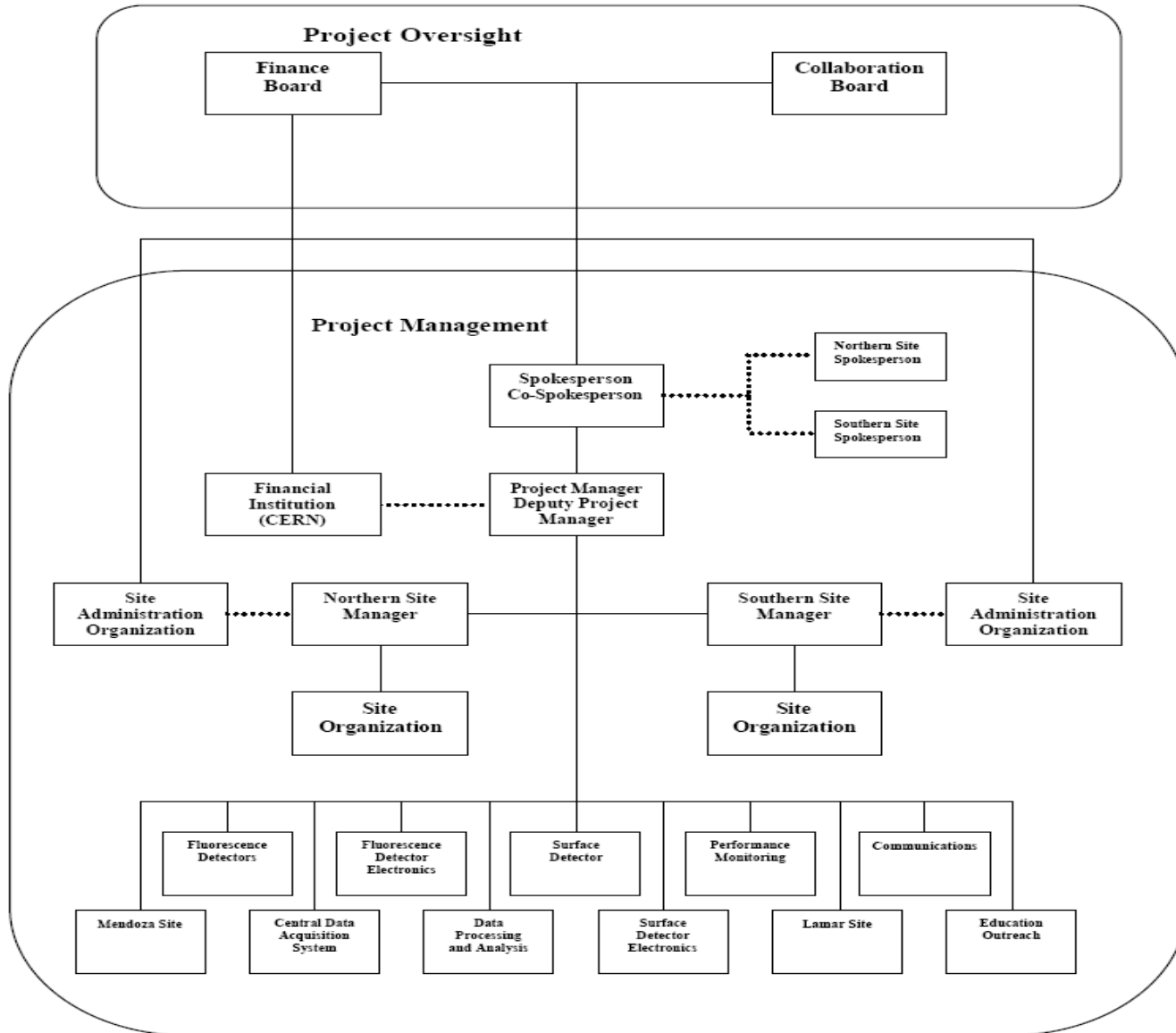
  
(Prof.Dr.H.Gemmeke)

**After US funding announced in 1998, funding from European Countries came relatively quickly.**

**October 1998 a two day meeting at UNESCO to produce a draft International Agreement. Temporary chairman for this meeting was Professor Herwig Schopper.**

**Ground breaking Ceremony in March 1999. First signatures of the International Agreement**

# Organization





17 March 1999: Ground Breaking Ceremony

**SITIO INAUGURADO POR**

PRESIDENTE DE LA NACION

**DR. CARLOS SAUL MENEM**

GOBERNADOR DE LA PROVINCIA

**DR. ARTURO LAFALLA**

DIRECTORES DEL PROYECTO

**DR. JAMES CRONIN Y DR. ALAN WATSON**

INTENDENTE DE MALARGÜE

**CONT. GELSO JAQUE**

INTENDENTE DE SAN RAFAEL

**CONT. VICENTE RUSSO**

**OBSERVATORIO**

**PIERRE AUGER**

**DE RAYOS COSMICOS**

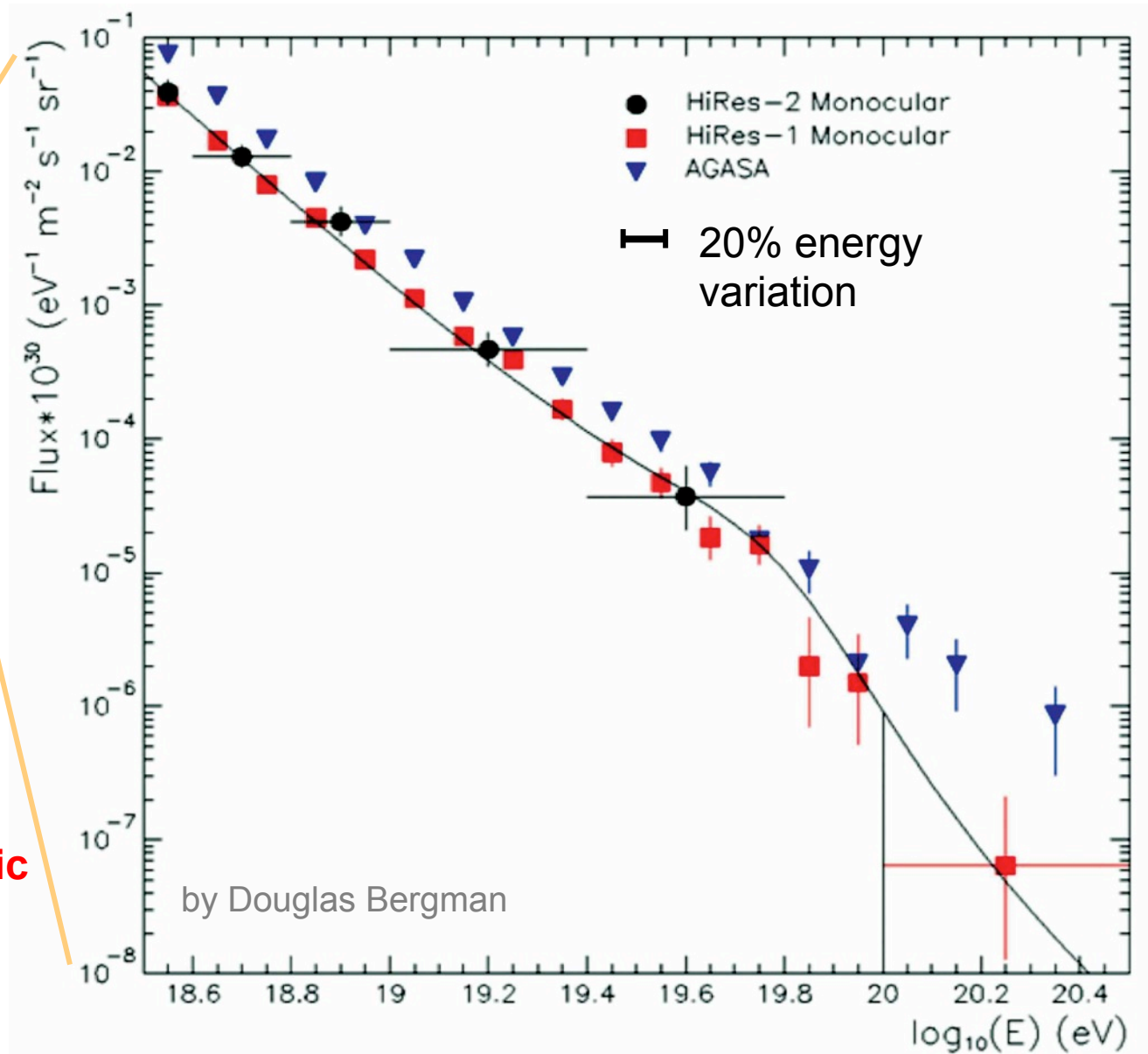
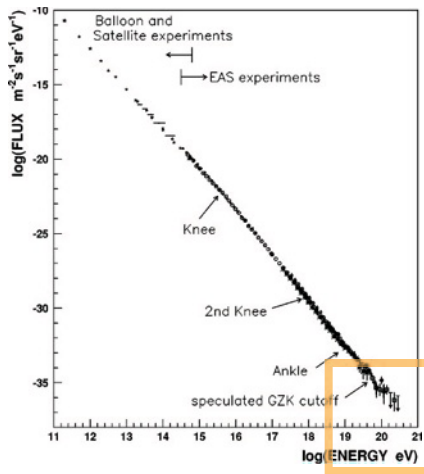
**MENDOZA, 17 DE MARZO DE 1999**



SITIO INAUGURADO POR  
Dr. CARLOS SAUL MALM  
Dr. ESTEBAN LAZARUS  
Dr. JAMES GAGGIN y Dr. ALAN WATSON  
Gen. CRISTO JORDA  
Gen. TERENCIO RISSO

OBSERVATORIO  
PIERRE AUGER  
DE RAYOS COSMICOS  
MENDOZA, 17 DE MARZO DE 1999

# Spectrum about the year 2000



**This disagreement stimulated the scientific interest in the Auger Observatory.**



# The Auger Collaboration

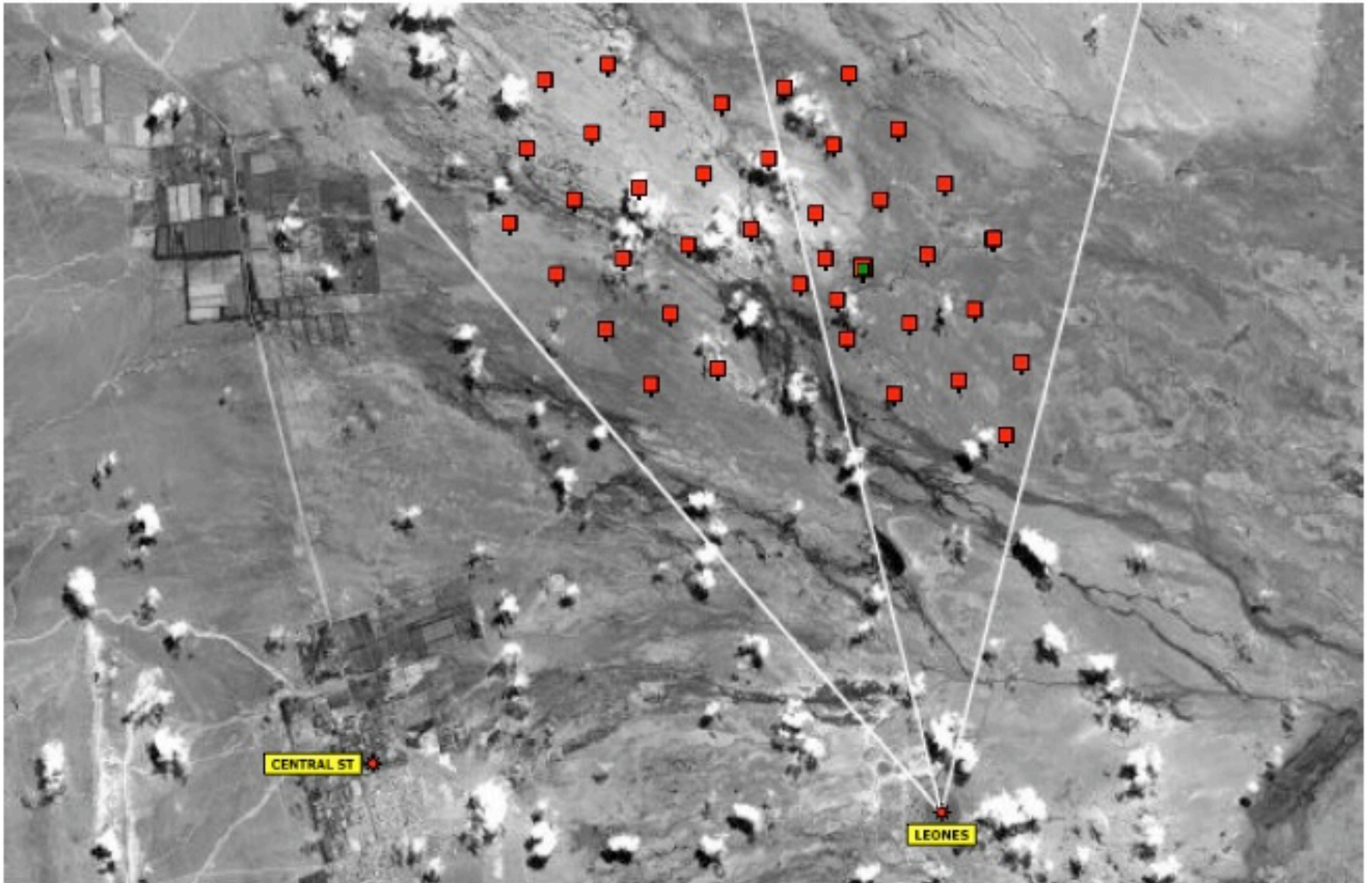
67 Institutions, ~400 Collaborators



Argentina Netherlands  
Australia Poland  
Bolivia\* Portugal  
Brazil Slovenia  
Czech Republic Spain  
France United Kingdom  
Germany USA  
Italy  
Mexico Vietnam\*  
\* *associate*



# Engineering array 2000 - 2001



# First tank in the field



# Assembly building on Malargue campus funded by Argentina



**Building on Malargue campus – offices, data collection, visitor center  
funded by The University of Chicago**



## Argentine crisis rattles cosmic-ray hunters

Carol Marzuola

Astrophysicists awaiting the Pierre Auger Observatory's high-energy cosmic-ray data are keeping a nervous eye on the political and economic crisis in Argentina, where the Southern Hemisphere arm of the observatory is due to be completed by 2005.

Two hundred and fifty researchers from 19 countries are involved in the US\$50-million project to build the world's largest cosmic-ray observatory. It will study cosmic radiation — the flow of charged particles from space that streams through the Earth's atmosphere — and, in particular, the rare and mysterious particles of very high energies.

The southern part of the observatory, in Argentina's Mendoza province, is being built first. The northern arm, to be located in the United States, will come later. Argentina had pledged \$15 million to the project, but since December 2001, when the Argentinian peso was devalued, the country has plunged deeper into economic and political crisis (see *Nature* 415, 104; 2002) and is unlikely to fulfil all of its obligations.

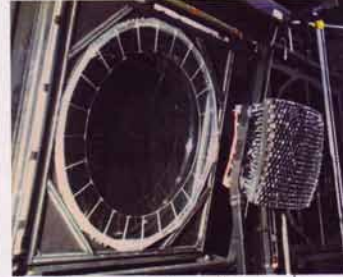
High-energy cosmic rays intrigue physicists because they cannot identify astrophysical objects or events, such as colliding galaxies, that are sufficiently violent to explain the rays' origins. But high-energy particles of  $10^{20}$  electron volts or more hit the Earth's atmosphere only rarely — about once per km<sup>2</sup> per century.

The Auger observatory will use two sets of detectors to find these cosmic rays. At each site, 1,600 surface detectors — large above-ground water tanks equipped with photomultipliers — will identify secondary cosmic-ray showers produced in the atmosphere by incoming rays. Additionally, 24 special telescopes will detect fluorescence produced by the particles as they pass through the atmosphere.

A prototype array of 30 detectors and two telescopes was completed last year in Argentina and has already produced useful data, says James Cronin of the University of Chicago, a joint leader of the Auger project.

Alberto Etchegoyen, an official at Argentina's atomic-energy commission and the project's southern spokesman, says that the transitional Argentinian government has no clear long-term plans for science or technology, and admits that the project may have to find some of the promised funding from other sources. Project supporters in Argentina and Brazil, for example, are jointly seeking a \$3-million grant from an international development bank fund for Brazil to enable them to participate.

Optimists also point out that the devaluation of the peso will make the dollars and euros of the project's other contributing nations go further in Argentina. Paul



Cosmic detection: a surface detector (left) and telescope camera (above) in place in Mendoza.

Mantsch, a project manager for Auger at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois, says: "We're really optimistic that when the time comes to make up what's missing, we can do that."

Nonetheless, Auger's participants continue to worry. At the April meeting of the American Physical Society in Albuquerque,

New Mexico, physicist Michael Turner of the University of Chicago urged US funding agencies to "ensure timely completion and operation" of the observatory in case there was a problem. "The whole future of this field hinges upon the result of the southern Auger," he said.

www.auger.org

PIERRE AUGER OBSERVATORY

## Devaluation of Argentine peso by factor 3 on Dec 1 2001

# June 2000 President Clinton urges President de la Rúa to support Auger

LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA  
www.losandes.com

# LOS ANDES

Mendoza - Miércoles 7 de junio de 2000  
Fundado en este espacio el suplemento Doble Cero

Edición N° 25.05  
Año 178

58 páginas en 4 secciones



**AL VIANE A LEVANTAR**

## Apoyo de Clinton al observatorio del sur mendocino

► Los presidentes estuvieron reunidos a solas y con sus gabinetes ► Pleno respaldo de los Estados Unidos al plan económico de la Alianza

En verdad, de la Rúa e Iguazú no pudieron tener un mejor día. El primero, por los elogios y gestiones tendientes a traer inversión norteamericana al país. Y el segundo, porque se percipió del círculo, disfrutando los beneficios del apoyo que Clinton brindó contra esos emprendimientos: el llamado Proyecto Auger, el observatorio de aguas mineras para el sur mendocino. Sin dudas, una buena noticia.

En el día más importante de la cumbre, de la Rúa recibió el pleno respaldo de la administración Clinton, el apoyo del FBI y de los hombres de negocio. Hoy sigue la gira. Roberto Iguazú se prepara para la reunión con los directivos de American Oil Co. a quienes quiere convencer de invertir en la provincia.

**ENTREVISTAS ESPECIALES**

**JOSÉ E. OVEJO Y GABRIELA ARRIAGUI**  
JOSÉ OVEJO



**Juan Pablo II y Ak Agop, en la prisión de Ascarán.**

### Perdonan al turco que casi mata al Papa

El ex terrorista turco Ali Agca, involucrado a cadenas perpetuas por atentado contra la vida del Papa en 1981, fue liberado ayer por el gobierno indio.

Tres 19 años en una cárcel de Italia, Agca fue extraditado a Turquía, donde debe responder por otros delitos.

Juan Pablo II ya lo había perdonado y por eso el Vaticano declaró su "total rehabilitación".

**EL MUNDO**

**La nave corta**

**Iglesias trata**



The Director-General

**COPY FOR INFORMATION**

DG/2.12/00-217

24 JUN 2000

Your Excellency,

I recently met with Professor James W. Cronin, spokesperson of the Pierre Auger project which, as you are certainly aware, is an international collaborative effort to study the most energetic cosmic rays. These studies promise to give new insights into the nature of our universe.

UNESCO is pleased to have played an important role in setting up this project. It was at our Headquarters in 1995 that the collaboration formally began, and where Argentina's offer to be the host country for the southern Pierre Auger Observatory was gratefully accepted by all parties. In November 1998, again at UNESCO Headquarters, an international agreement between the funding agencies of the participating countries was drafted following the visit of your predecessor to support this initiative, and subsequently signed by most of the participating countries in Mendoza, immediately prior to the dedication of the project in Malargue, Mendoza Province, on 17 March 1999.

Professor Cronin has briefed me on the present status of the project, which is now under construction at the 3000 square kilometre site north-west of Malargue. I am thankful to Argentina for hosting this important international scientific project. Professor Cronin informs me, however, that it is proving difficult to import the necessary scientific components for the project because we have not been able to benefit from an expected waiver of duty and taxes.

I am ready to offer the help of UNESCO to arrange an agreement with the appropriate authorities of your country whereby the Auger equipment would be exempt from import duty and taxes. The pursuit of science is one of the great unifying forces between countries and I sincerely hope that you will give your full support to the advancement of this great project under the best possible conditions.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Koichiro Matsuura".  
Koichiro Matsuura

H. E. Mr Fernando de la Rúa  
President of the Argentine Republic  
Buenos Aires



## Number of tanks vs time

<b>June</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>40 (engineering array)</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>905</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>1438</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>1589</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>1637</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>dedication</b>

**November 2008**

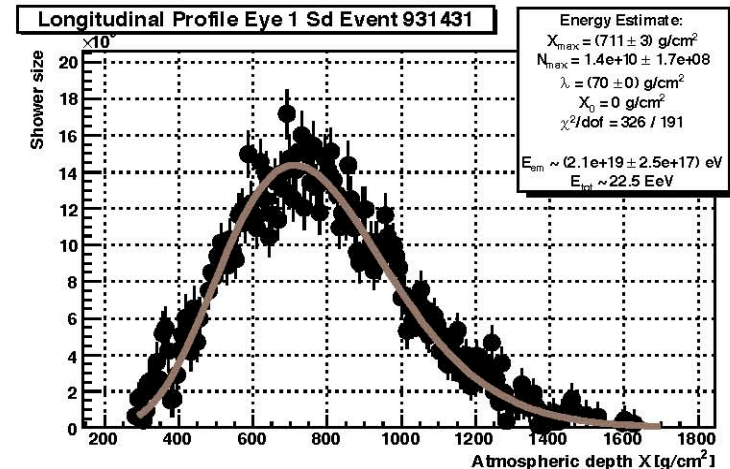
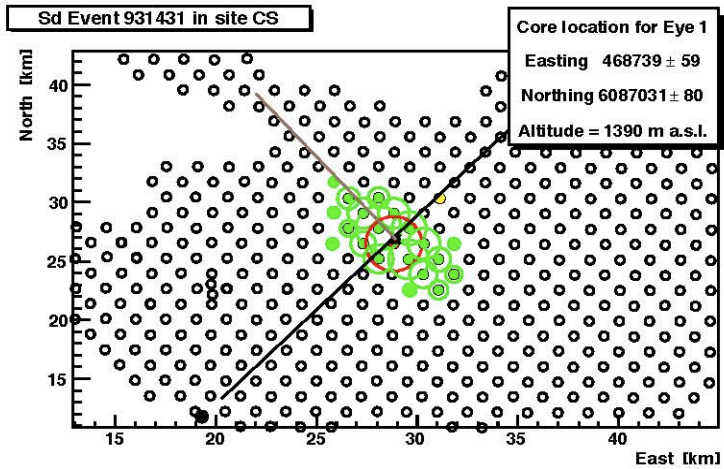
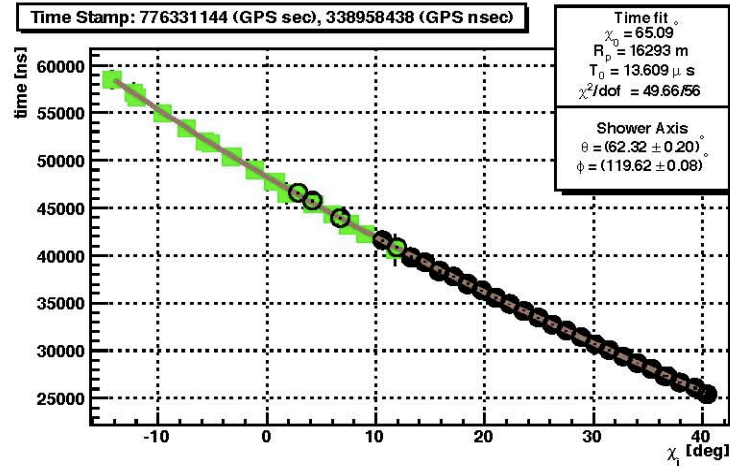
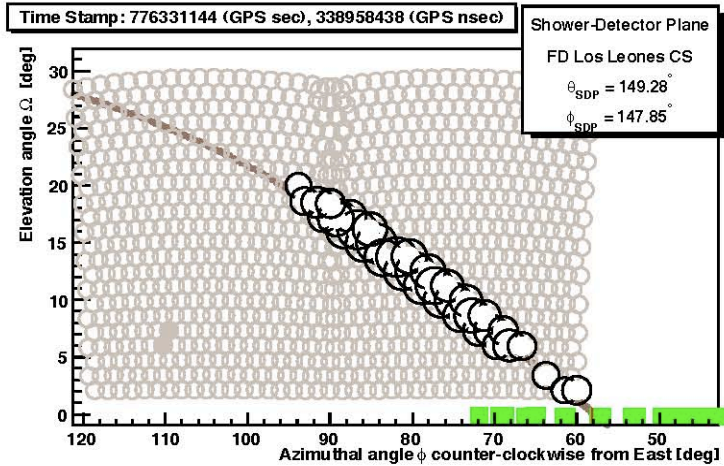
**Paul Mantsch at dedication the completed Auger Observatory**

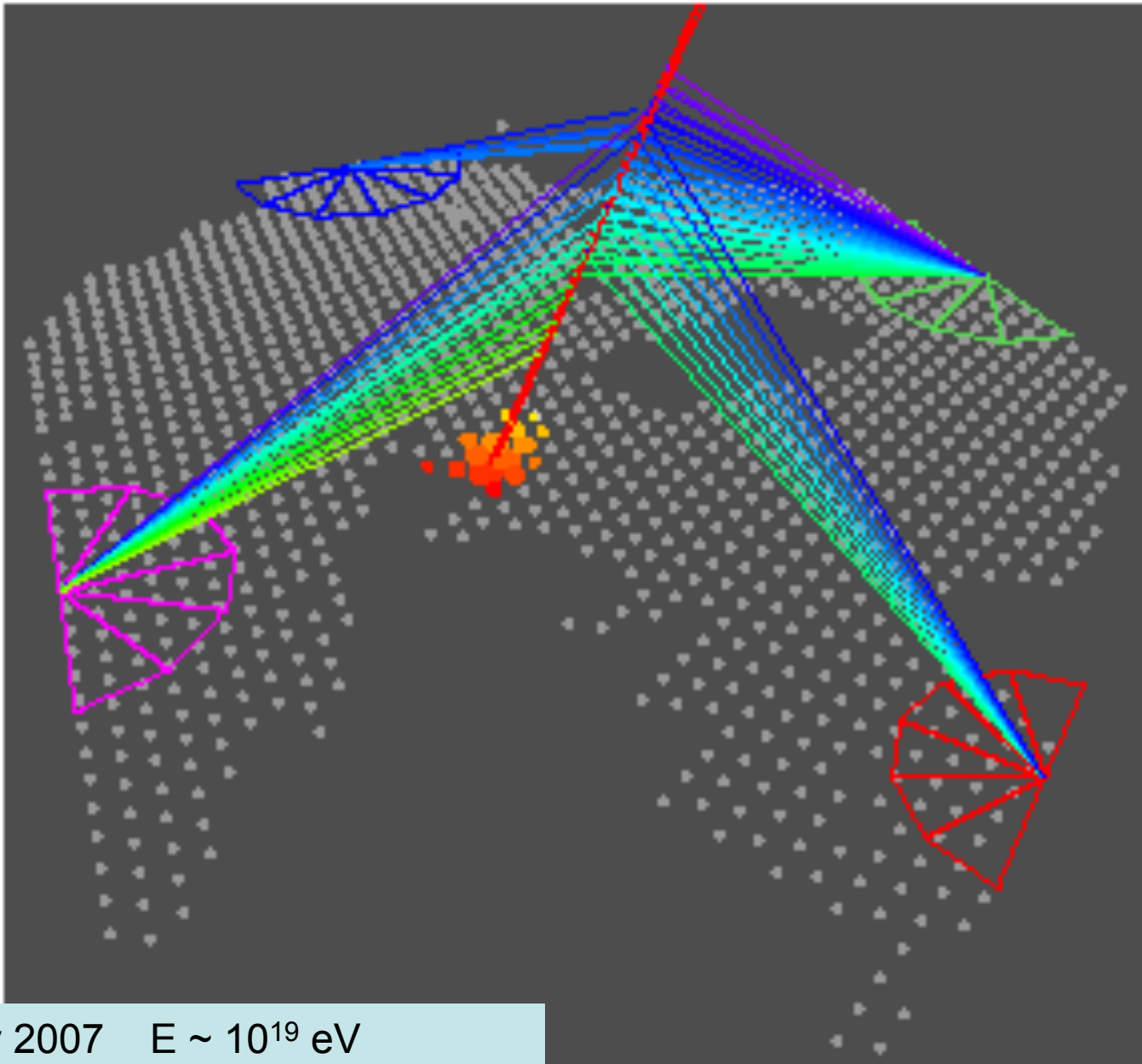


**A visit to a tank during 2006 celebration**



# A “perfect” hybrid event: few are as beautiful as this one !

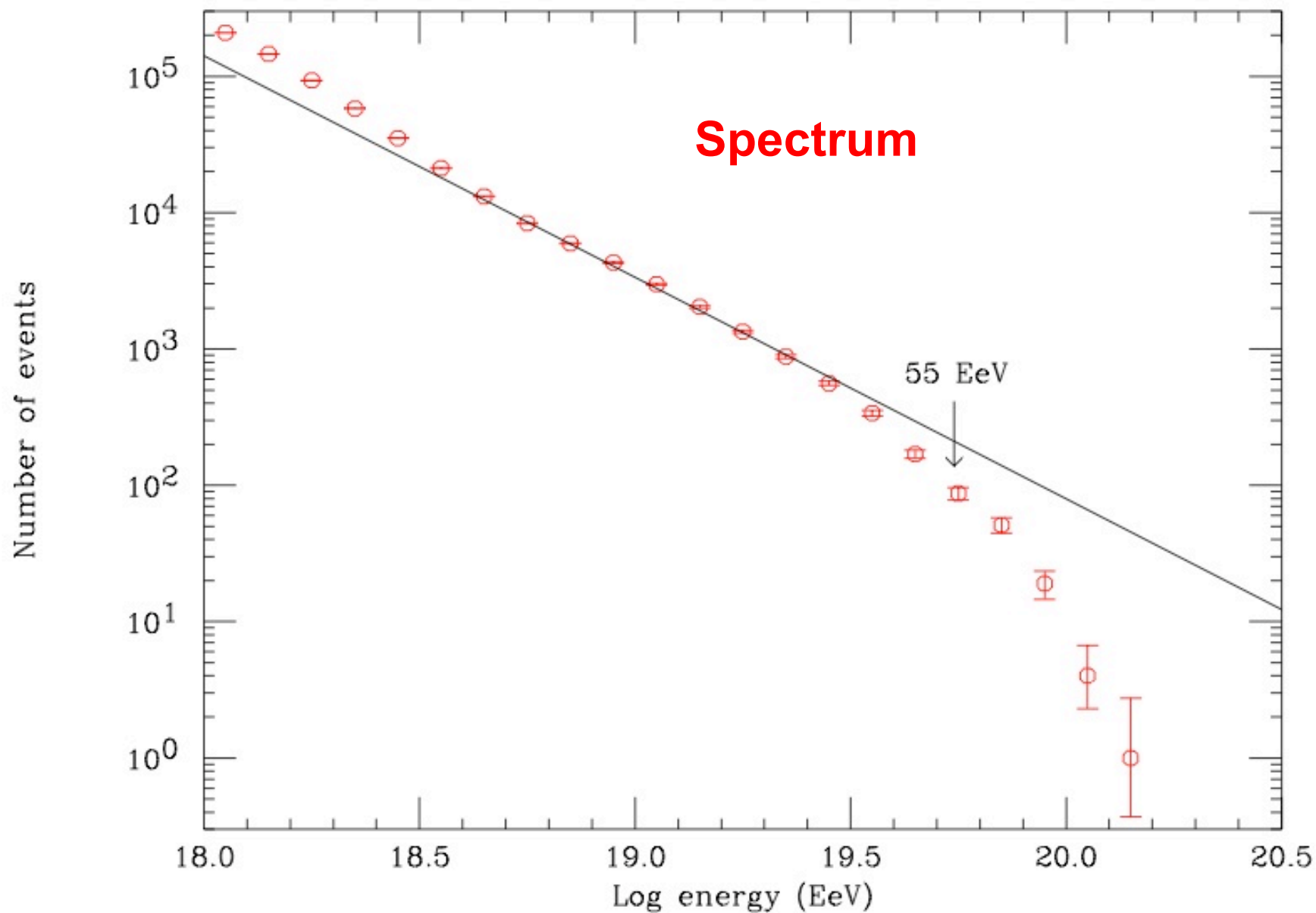




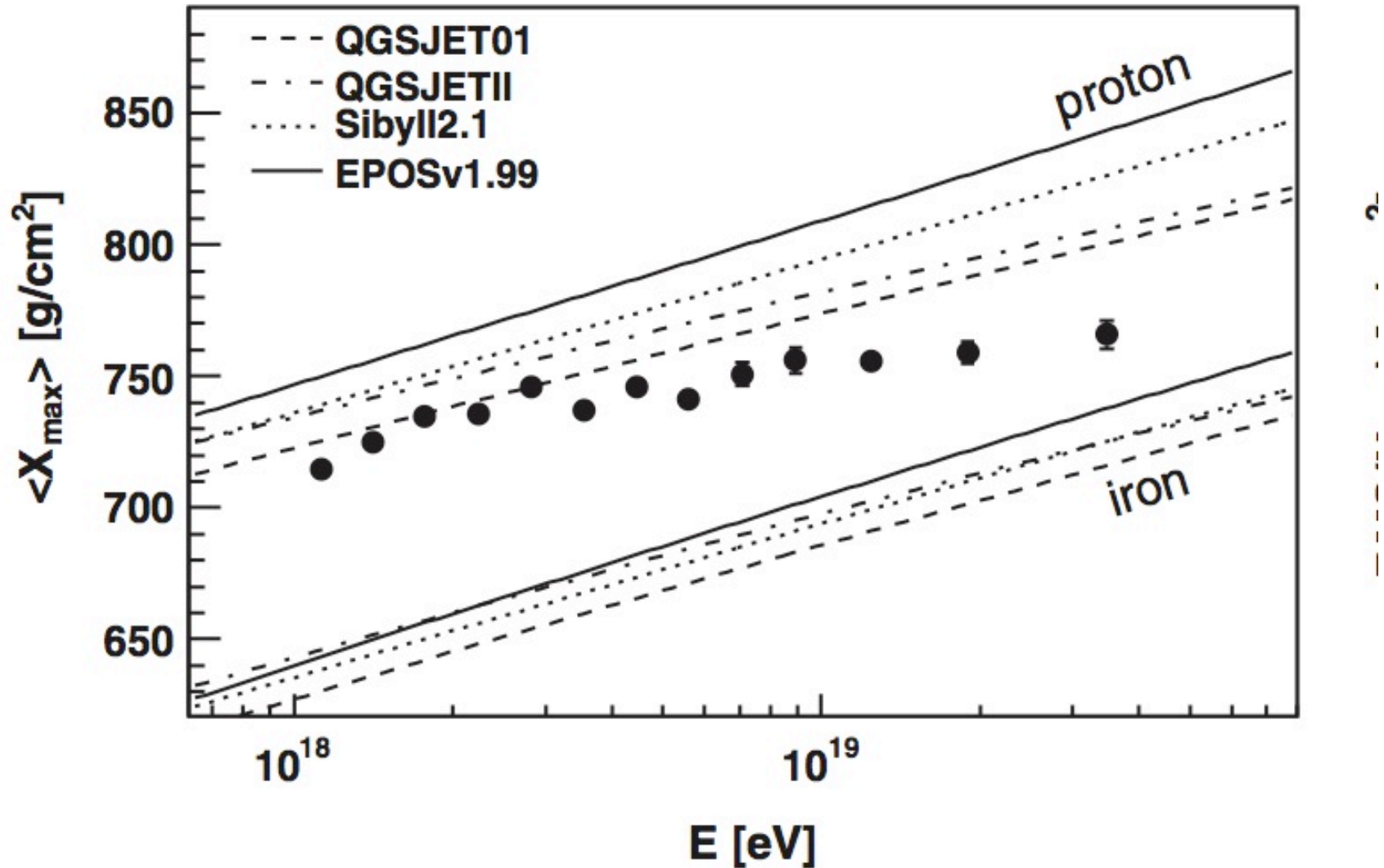
20 May 2007  $E \sim 10^{19}$  eV

# **A few scientific results**

602837 events  $> 1$  EeV (Jan 1 2004 – Aug 31 2012)

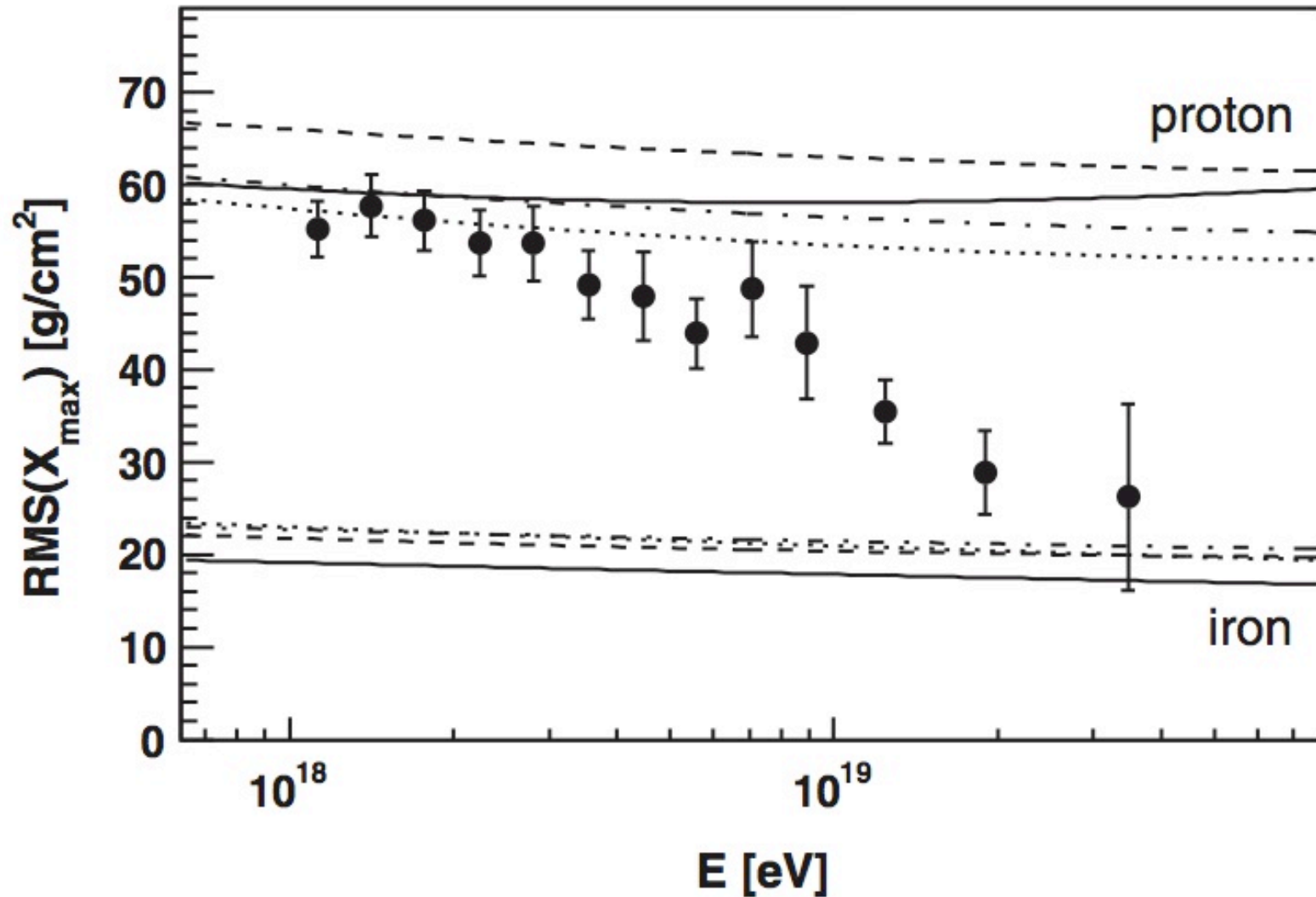


## Composition – primaries getting heavier

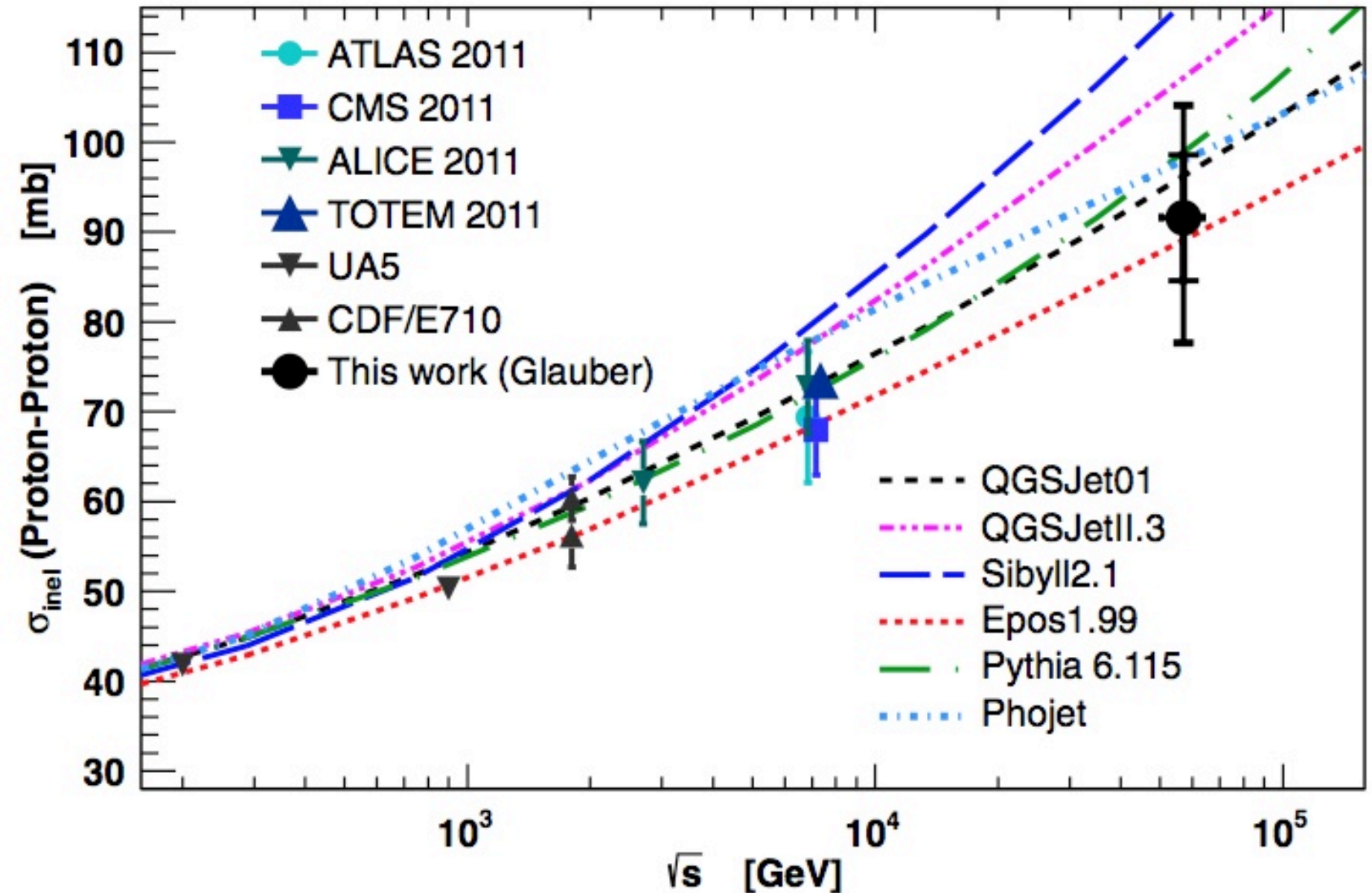




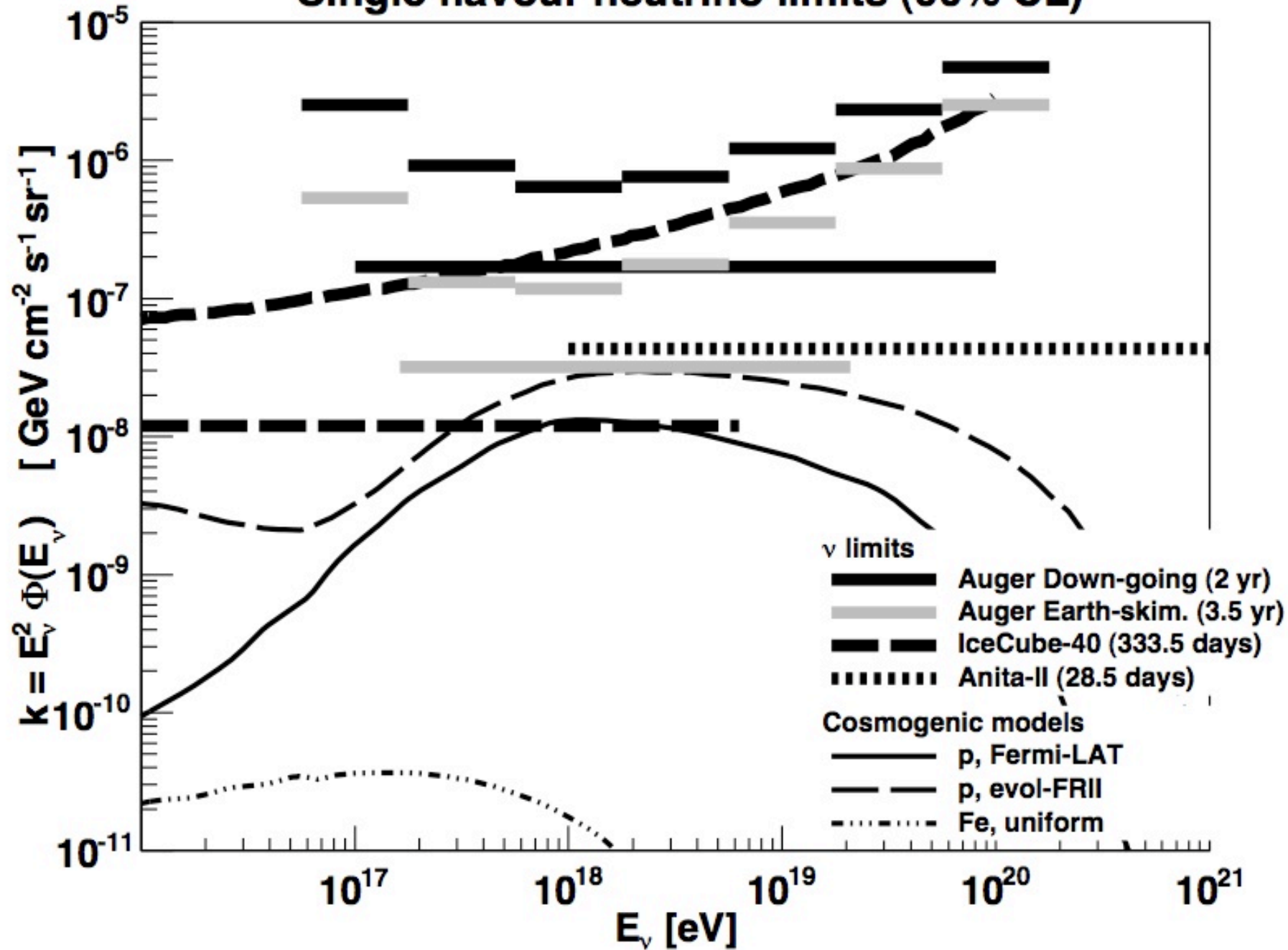
## Composition - primaries getting heavier



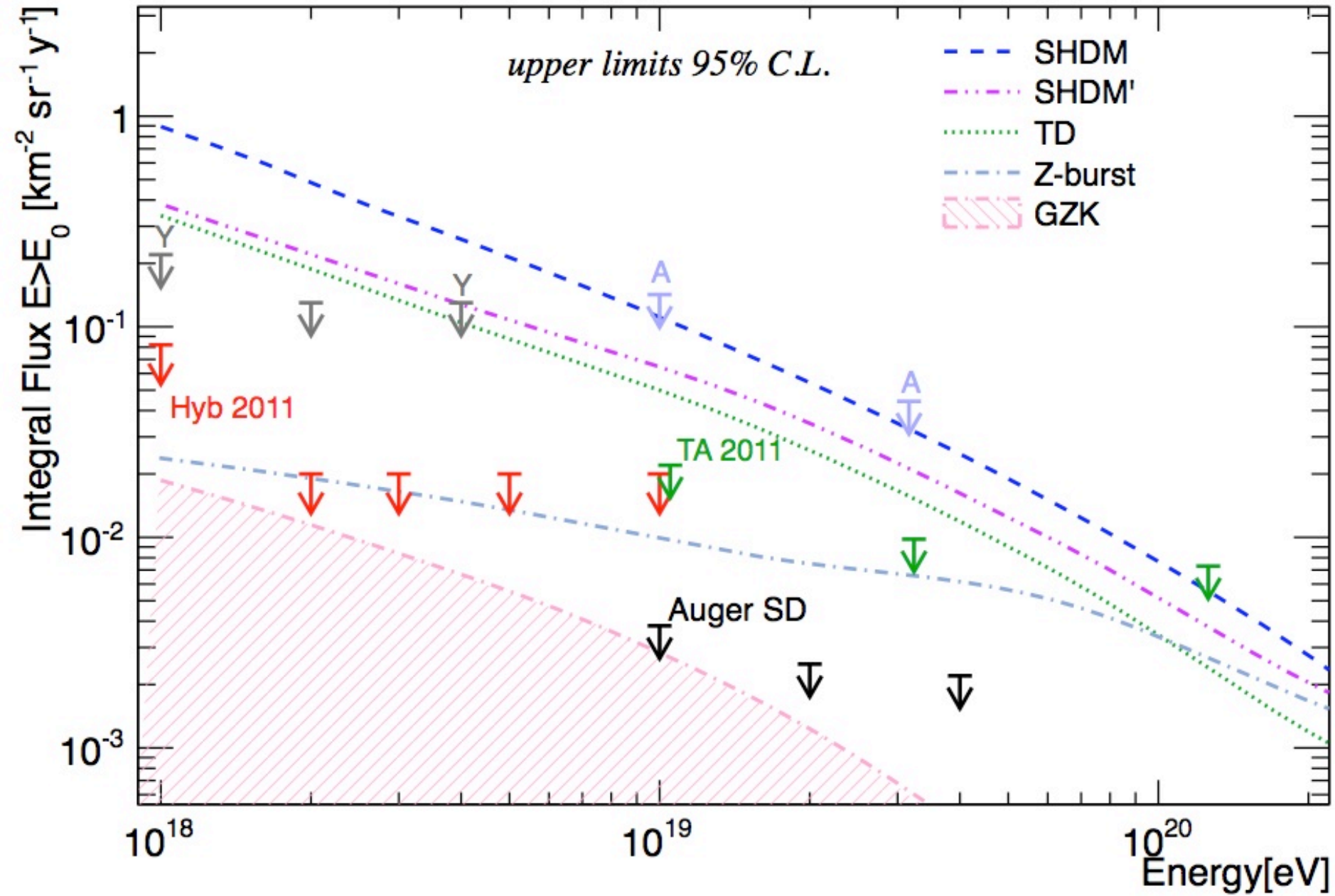
# proton-proton total cross section



# Single flavour neutrino limits (90% CL)



# Upper limits of photon content in cosmic rays



# Outreach

Auger Office Building  
And Visitor Center  
>6000 visitors/yr



J W Cronin School

Malargüe  
Planetarium



IUPAP October 2008  
*P. Mantsch*



Auger collaboration on parade

**Many improvements and enhancements**

**Extension of surface and fluorescence  
detectors to lower energies**

**Research on the detection of cosmic rays  
by radio**

# **The Pierre Auger Observatory**

**An international project produced from the “grass roots” where no country or institution dominates.**