

Imperial College: 13 February 2008

COSMOS CIENCIA



Sebre primer dis oficial

Is the search for the origin of the Highest Energy Cosmic Rays over?

> Alan Watson University of Leeds, England

> > a.a.watson@leeds.ac.uk

OVERVIEW

- Why there is interest in cosmic rays $> 10^{19} \text{ eV}$
- The Auger Observatory
- Description and discussion of measurements:-

Energy Spectrum

Arrival Directions

Primary Mass

• Prospects for the future



(i) Can there be a cosmic ray astronomy?

Searches for Anisotropy (find the origin)

Deflections in magnetic fields:

at ~ 10¹⁹ eV: ~ 2 - 3° in Galactic magnetic field for protons - depending on the direction

For interpretation, and to deduce B-fields, ideally we need to know Z - hard enough to find A!

History of withdrawn or disproved claims

(ii) What can be learned from the spectrum shape?

• 'ankle' at ~ 3x10¹⁸ eV

- galactic/extra-galactic transition?

• Steepening above 5 x 10¹⁹ eV because of energy losses?

Greisen-Zatsepin-Kuz'min – GZK effect (1966)

 $\gamma_{2.7 \text{ K}} + p \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow n + \pi^+ \text{ or } p + \pi^0$ (sources of photons and neutrinos)

or

 $\gamma_{IR/2.7 \text{ K}} + A \rightarrow (A - 1) + n$ (IR background more uncertain)

(iii) How are the particles accelerated?

- Synchrotron Acceleration (as at CERN) $E_{max} = ZeBR\beta c$
- Single Shot Acceleration (possibly in pulsars) $E_{max} = ZeBR\beta c$
- Diffusive Shock Acceleration at shocks
 E_{max} = kZeBRβc, with k<1

Shocks in AGNs, near Black Holes, Colliding Galaxies



Existence of particles above GZK-steepening would imply that sources are nearby, 70 – 100 Mpc, depending on energy.

IF particles are protons, the deflections are small enough above $\sim 5 \ge 10^{19}$ eV that point sources might be seen

So, measure:

- energy spectrum
- arrival direction distribution
- mass composition

But rate at 10²⁰ eV is < 1 per km² per century

- and we don't know the relevant hadronic physics

Nuclear disintegrations with electronic elements 89 3 Trent and the s 7 11 12 14 15 1 Plate 92



Shower initiated by proton in lead plates of cloud chamber

Fretter: Echo Lake, 1949

The p-p total cross-section



LHC Forward Physics & Cosmic Rays

Models describe Tevatron data well - but LHC model predictions reveal large discrepancies in extrapolation.



James L. Pinfold

IVECHRI 2006

11

LHCf: an LHC Experiment for Astroparticle **Physics**





Figure 9: A schematic view of the Detector #1. It is composed of two individual tower of sampling calorimeters stacked vertically and diagonally.

28 x 9 x 60 cm³

Gamma Energy Spectrum of 20mm square at Beam Center



The Pierre Auger Collaboration

Czech Republic	Argentina		
France	Australia		
Germany	Brasil		
Italy	Bolivia*		
Netherlands	Mexico		
Poland	USA		
Portugal	Vietnam*		
Slovenia	*Associate Countries		
Spain			
United Kingdom	~330 PhD scientists from		
	~90 Institutions and 17 countries		

Aim: To measure properties of UHECR with unprecedented statistics and precision – **first discussions in 1991**¹⁵











Telecommunication system







Schmidt Telescope using 11 m² mirrors

UV optical filter (also: provide protect from outside dust)

Camera with 440 PMTs (Photonis XP 3062)







The essence of the hybrid approach

Precise shower geometry from degeneracy given by SD timing

Essential step towards high quality energy and X_{max} resolution

Times at angles, χ , are key to finding R_p

Angular Resolution from Central Laser Facility



A Hybrid Event



29

f=Etot/Eem



Results from Pierre Auger Observatory

Data taking started on 1 January 2004 with

- 125 (of 1600) water tanks
 - 6 (of 24) fluorescence detectors

more or less continuous since then

~ 1.3 Auger years to 31 Aug 2007 for anisotropy

~ 1 Auger year for spectrum analysis

Energy Determination with Auger

The energy scale is determined from the data and does not depend on a knowledge of interaction models or of the primary composition – except at level of few %.

The detector signal at 1000 m from the shower core

- S(1000)

 determined for each surface detector event

S(1000) is proportional to the primary energy





Summary of systematic uncertainties

Source	Systematic uncertainty]
Fluorescence yield	14% ·	
P,T and humidity	7%	
effects on yield		
Calibration	9.5%	
Atmosphere	4%	
Reconstruction	10%	
Invisible energy	4%	
TOTAL	22%	

Note: Activity on several fronts to reduce these uncertainties

Fluorescence Detector Uncertainties Dominate

Energy Spectrum from Surface Detectors $\theta < 60^{\circ}$



Evidence that we do not miss events with high multiplicity



Inclined Events offer additional aperture of ~ 29% to 80°





Summary of Inferences on Spectrum

- Clear Evidence of Suppression of Flux > 4 x 10¹⁹ eV
- Rough agreement with HiRes at highest energies
 (Auger statistics are superior)

 but is it the GZK-effect (mass, recovery)?
- AGASA result not confirmed AGASA flux higher by about 2.5 at 10¹⁹ eV Excess over GZK above 10²⁰ eV not found
- Some but few (~1 with Auger) events above 10²⁰ eV

Only a few per millenium per km² above 10²⁰ eV

Searching for Anisotropies

We have made targeted searches of claims by others

- no confirmations (Galactic Centre, BL Lacs)
- There are no strong predictions of sources (though there have been very many)

So:-

- Take given set of data and search exhaustively
- Seal the 'prescription' and look with new data

At the highest energies we think we have observed a significant signal

Using Veron-Cetty AGN catalogue

First scan gave $\psi < 3.1^\circ$, z < 0.018 (75 Mpc) and E > 56 EeV

Period	total	AGN hits	Chance hits	Probability
1 Jan 04 - 26 May 2006	15	12	3.2	1 st Scan
27 May 06 – 31 August 2007	13	8	2.7	1.7 x 10 ⁻³

6 of 8 'misses' are with 12° of galactic plane

Science: 9 November 2007



First scan gave $\psi < 3.1^{\circ}$, z < 0.018 (75 Mpc) and E > 56 EeV



Fig. 4. Distribution of angular separations to the closest AGN within 71 Mpc. The 6 events with $|b| \leq 12^{\circ}$ have been colored in grey. The average expectation for an isotropic flux is shown as the dashed line histogram.



Fig. 8. Distribution of the deflections for protons in the BSS-S model of the galactic magnetic field. Left panel: 1000 directions drawn from an isotropic flux in proportion to the exposure of the Observatory, for E = 60 EeV. Right panel: deflections of the 27 arrival directions of the observed events with E > 57 EeV.

Support for BSS-S model from Han, Lyne, Manchester et al (2006)

Conclusions from ~ 1 year of data (as if full instrument)

- 1. There is a suppression of the CR flux above 4 x 10¹⁹ eV
- 2. The 27 events above 57 EeV are not uniformly distributed

3. Events are associated with AGNs, from the Veron-Cetty catalogue, within 3.1° and 75 Mpc. This association has been demonstrated using an independent set of data with a probability of ~1.7 x 10⁻³ that it arises by chance (~1/600)

Interpretation:

- The highest energy cosmic rays are extra-galactic
- The GZK-effect has probably been demonstrated
- There are > 60 sources (from doubles ~ $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Mpc}^{-3}$)
- The primaries are possibly mainly protons with energies
 ~ 30 CMS-energy at LHC.





How we try to infer the variation of mass with energy









Follow up comments:-

We were careful **NOT** to say (at least we thought we were)

- that AGNs are the sources of UHECR
- that Cen A is a particularly favoured source

- Gorbunov et al and Wibig and Wolfendale have developed discussions of the anisotropy result on the assumption that the sources are AGNs

 the latter suggesting that the mass of the primaries is mixed.
- Cuoco and Hannestad assume that there are 2 events from Cen A and deduce a rate of 100 TeV neutrinos of about 0.5 yr⁻¹ in IceCube
- De Angelis et al derived an Intergalactic Magnetic Field of 0.3- 0.9 nG

Summary of Results from Auger Observatory

•<u>Spectrum</u>: suppression of highest energy flux seen with model independent measurements and analyses at ~ 3.55 x 10¹⁹ eV

• Arrival Directions: At highest energies there is an anisotropy associated with nearby objects (< 75 Mpc)

• Mass Composition: Getting heavier as energy increases – if extrapolations of particle physics are correct

The statistics and precision that are being achieved with will improve our understanding of UHECR dramatically.

What are new astrophysics and physics could be learned?

- Magnetic field models can be tested
- Source spectra will come rather slowly
- Map sources such as Cen A if it is a source

Deducing the MASS is crucial: mixed at highest energy? Fluctuation studies key and independent analysis using SD variables Certainly not expected – do hadronic models need modification?

- Larger cross-section? LHC results will be very important

Particle Physics at extreme energies?

What next?

- Complete Auger-South and work hard on analysis
- Build Auger-North to give all-sky coverage: plan is for ~ 3 x 10⁴ km² in South-East Colorado
- Fluorescence Detector in Space:

~\$100M

- JEM-EUSO (2013)
- LoI to ESA in response to Cosmic Vision
 SSAC 'support technology' for S-EUSO

Is the search for the origin of the highest energy cosmic rays over?

No, not yet!

Indeed we are only at 'the end of the beginning'. There is much still to be done. We need

Exposure, Exposure, Exposure

to exploit several exciting opportunities in astrophysics and particle physics