CEA

mercredi 26 novembre 2007





Latest news from the Pierre Auger Observatory

Nicolas G. Busca - APC - Paris 7

Highly energetic particles that constantly fall on the Earth

(over 1000 cosmic rays went through my body since I started talking)



- discovered in ~1910s
- mixture of nuclei at low energies
- composition is not known at higher energies
- sources are still not identified

Credit: S. Swordy









Greisen, Zatzepin & Kus'min (1966) - Interaction with the CMB background



 $\begin{array}{l} p+\gamma_{CMB} \twoheadrightarrow p+\pi^{0} \\ p+\gamma_{CMB} \twoheadrightarrow n+\pi^{+} \\ \\ \mathrm{E_{th}} \sim 5 \times 10^{19} \, \mathrm{eV} \end{array}$

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Interaction with the CMB background



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$$E_{th} \sim 5 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}$$

Interaction with the CMB background



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GZK cutoff is NOT a sharp cutoff!!

Expected sky at 10¹⁹ eV



Expected sky at 10²⁰ eV



We observe the entire universe, still isotropic!! Sources can be discriminated

Southern Site: 3000 km² (10 fois Paris)



A surface detector (SD):

- 1600 water Cherenkov detector
- ~100 % duty cycle

large collecting area
(3000 km²)

A fluorescence detector (FD)

•4 Eyes

 ~10% duty cycle (only moonless clear nights)

Observatorio Pierre Auger Av. San Martín Norte 304 Malargüe, (5613) Mendoza Argentina























Hajo Drescher, Frankfurt U.

Hajo Drescher, Frankfurt U.



 $S = C_{em}\rho_{em} + C_{\mu}\rho_{muons} \quad 21$

Detection: a local station



A tank is a *stand alone self calibrating* unit (can't wire 3000 km²)



Unit of signal = VEM

= signal of a *vertical* muon



The FD

4 buildings with 6 telescopes each

Sketch of a fluorescence telescope: 10 Br. spherical mirror Diaphragm camera UV filter

- The camera:
- 440 pmt (1.5deg each)
- 100 ns FADC



Event Reconstruction: FD

SDP Id 931431 Run 452 Event 5431 Eye Id: 1



TimeFit Id 931431 Run 452 Event 5431 Eye Id: 1

Energy Calibration

Constant Intensity Cut



Energy Calibration



Publicity



1% of Auger events are public and available on : http://apcpaox.in2p3.fr/ED/index.php

Results: spectrum



Results: spectrum



Spectrum interpretation



Results: Composition

Method:



Results: Composition



Results: Neutrino Limits





Results: Neutrino Limits



Results: Photon Limits



Possible sources of UHECRs

Hillas diagram :



Possible sources of UHECRs

Hillas diagram :



Results: Anisotropies



Nov. 2007

The analysis:

Two stages:

 before May 26th 2006 - exploration prescription
after May 26th 2006 - confirmation Compared the data with the Veron-Cetty & Veron 12th catalogue of AGN:

- Correlation: angle(AGN,data)<θ_{cut}
- AGNs: up to D<D_{max}
- Data: E>E_{min}

 $P_{iso} = \sum_{i=ncorr}^{N} p^{i} (1-p)^{N-i} \qquad \text{p = probability of falling within } \theta_{cut} \text{ from an AGN}$

 P_{iso} is minimized with respect to θ_{cut} , D_{max} and E_{min} Results: $\theta_{cut} = 3.1^{\circ}$, $D_{max} = 75$ Mpc, $E_{min} = 56$ EeV Correlation: 12/15 (expected from isotropy: 3.2/15)

Anisotropies : Prescription

(Decided on may 26th 2006)

For each event after 26 May 2006:

• check if it correlates with an AGN for <u>fixed</u> parameters $\theta_{cut} = 3.1^{\circ}$, $D_{max} = 75$ Mpc, $E_{min} = 56$ EeV (« running prescription »)

 if the number of correlations is above a predefined threshold, the prescription is said to pass

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The prescription had a 1% chance of passing for an isotropic flux

Anisotropies : Confirmation

On August 31st 2007, the prescription passed (8/13) (isotropic probability 8/13 ~ 2x10⁻³)

The signal was confirmed on an independent data set



44



45



Anisotropies : astrophysical objects



What do these results mean?

• UHECRs don't come from an isotropic distribution

• UHECRs come from the direction of an AGN (extragalactic origin)

This does not mean that:

- AGNs accelerate UHECRs
- · We've found the sources of UHECRs

The Future

Near:

months: ~ three papers describing anisotropies in more technical detail

Middle-term:

1 year and a half: Auger will double the statistics

The Future

Long Term

Years:

· Larger scale detectors, Auger North (7xA.S.), EUSO, etc.

UHECRs astronomy



HESS (Gamma)

AUGER?

200

Right Ascension (hours)

12'30'

12'31