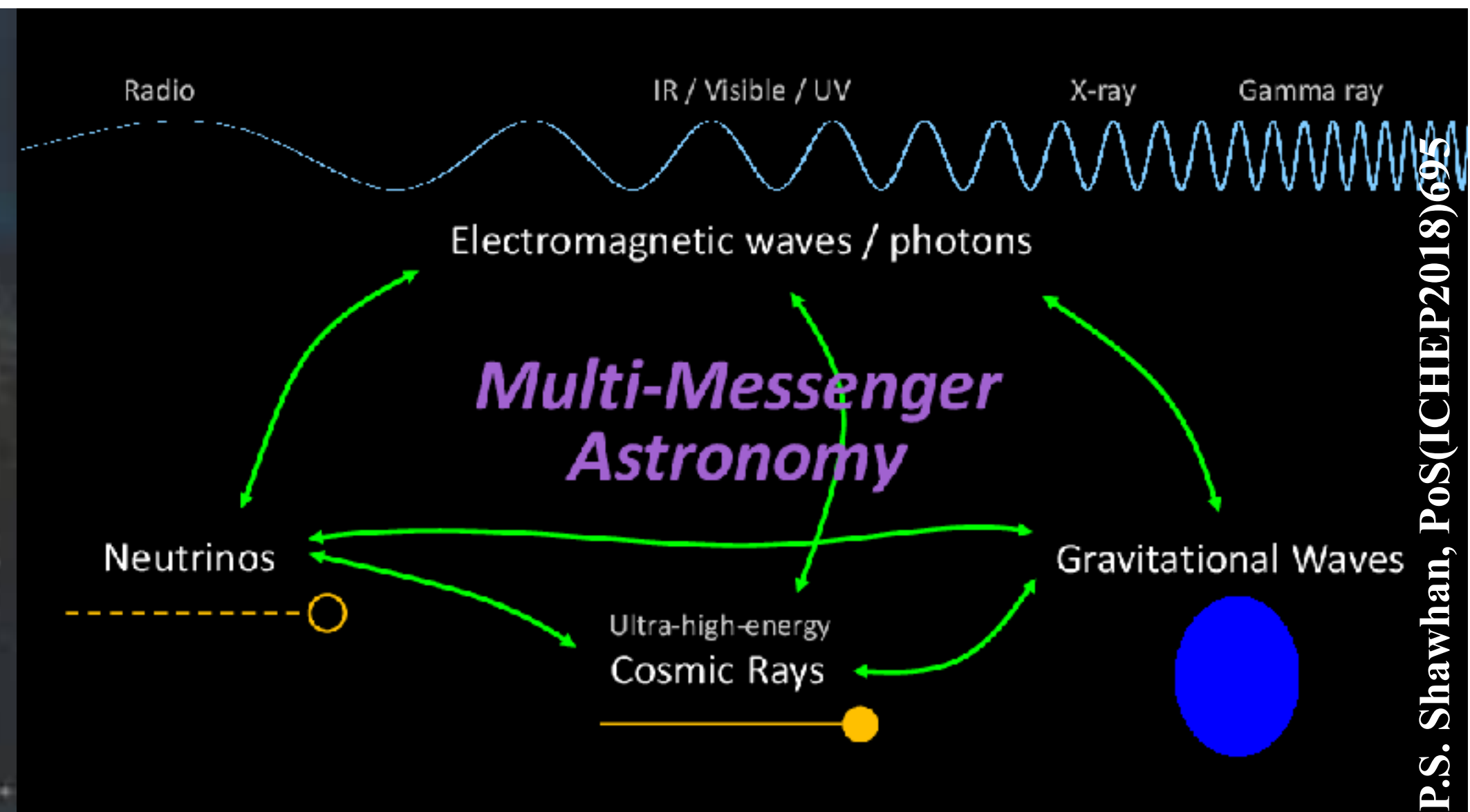
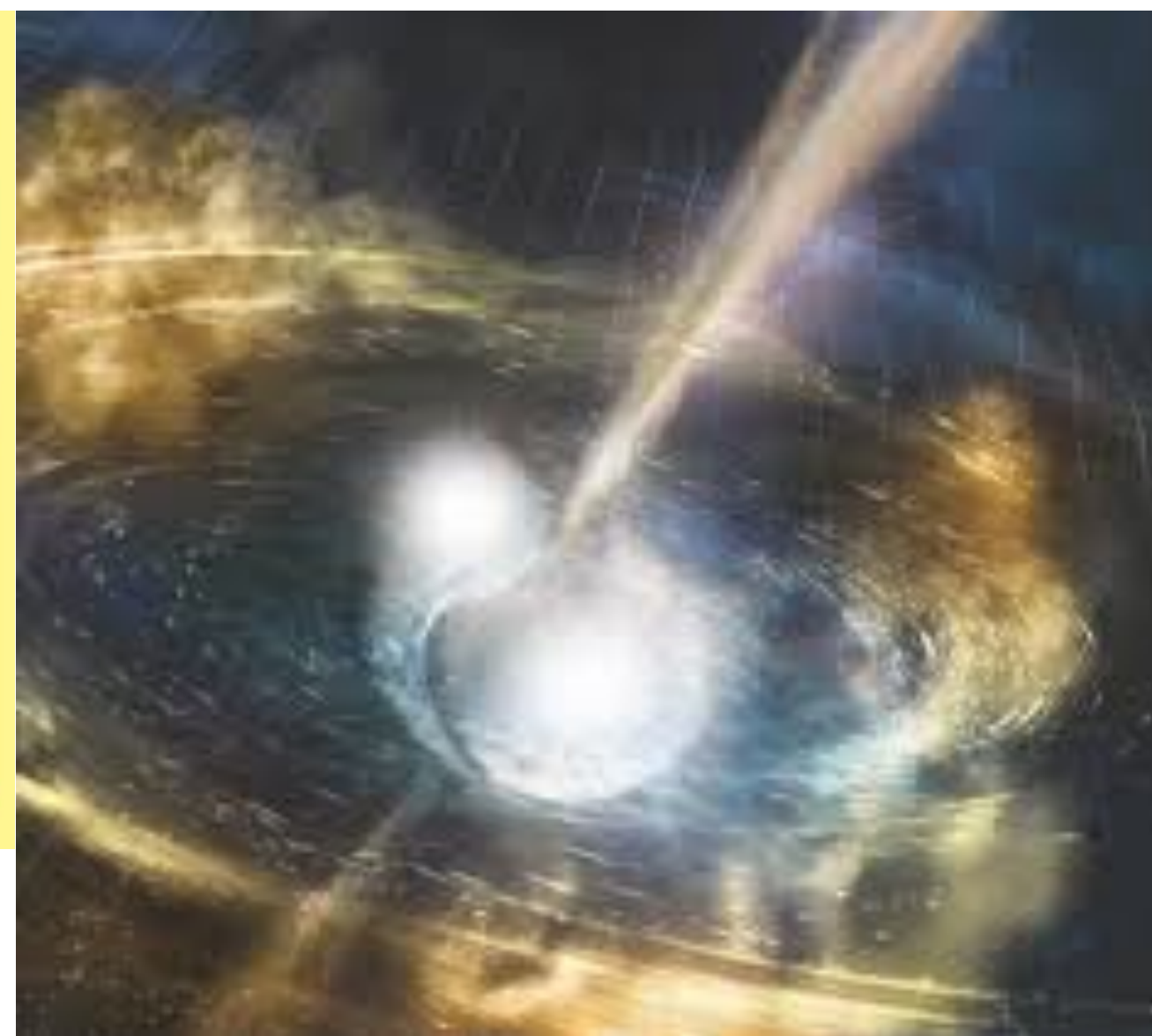
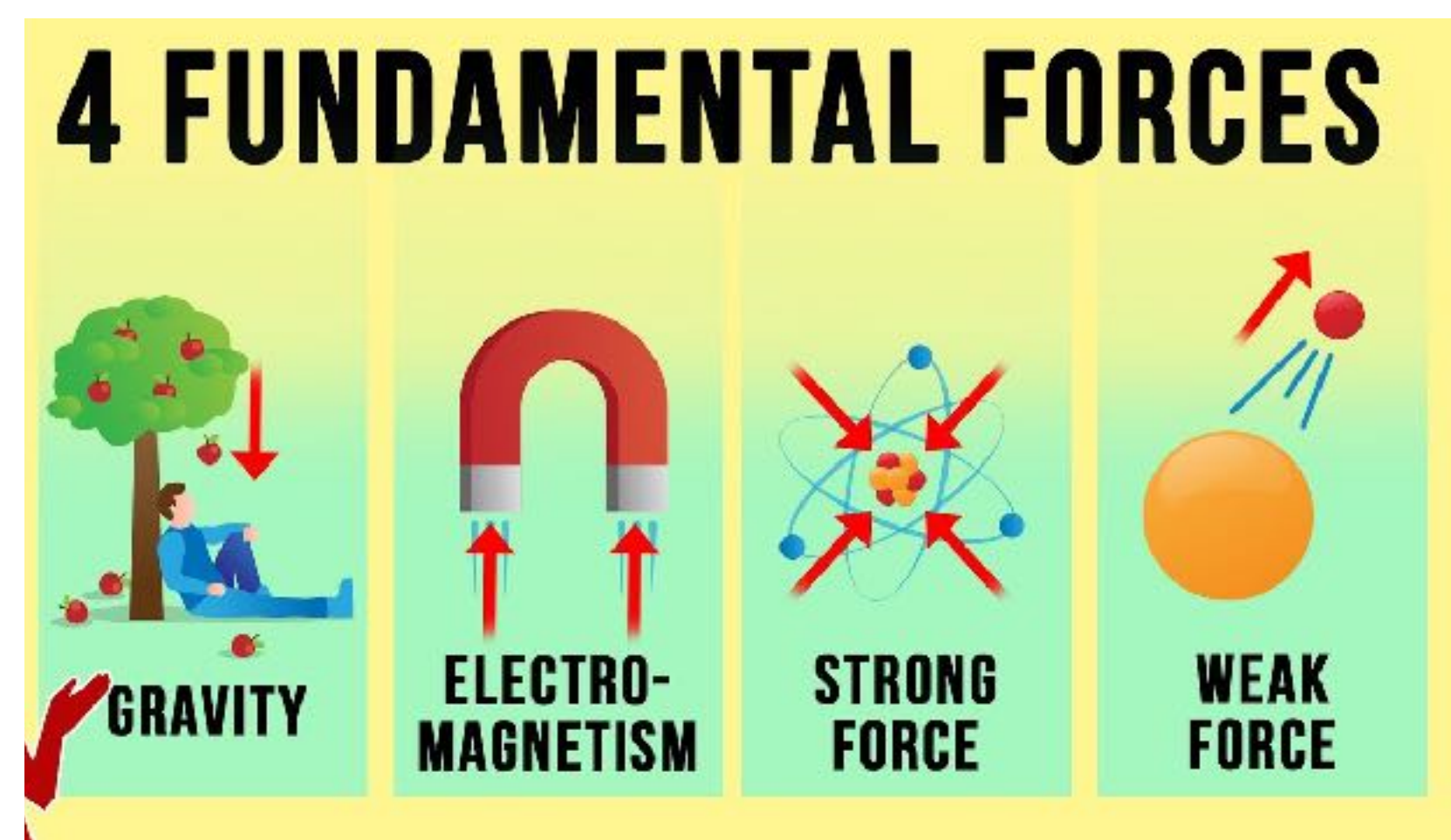


# The Straw Man Design of the Global Cosmic Ray Observatory



Multi-messenger astroparticle physics beyond 2035  
nuclei, gamma rays, neutrinos, (gravitational waves)



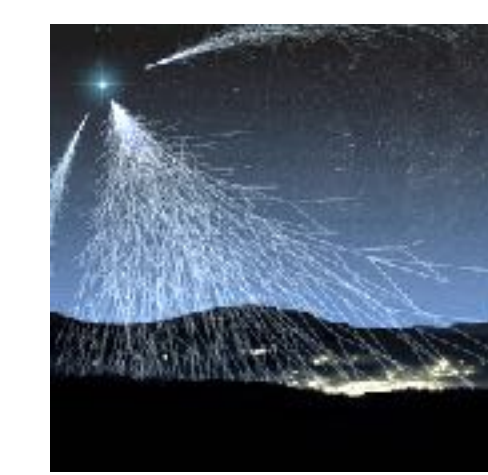
P.S. Shawhan, PoS(ICHEP2018)695

Jörg R. Hörandel on behalf of GCOS

Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen - Vrije Universiteit Brussel - <http://particle.astro.ru.nl>

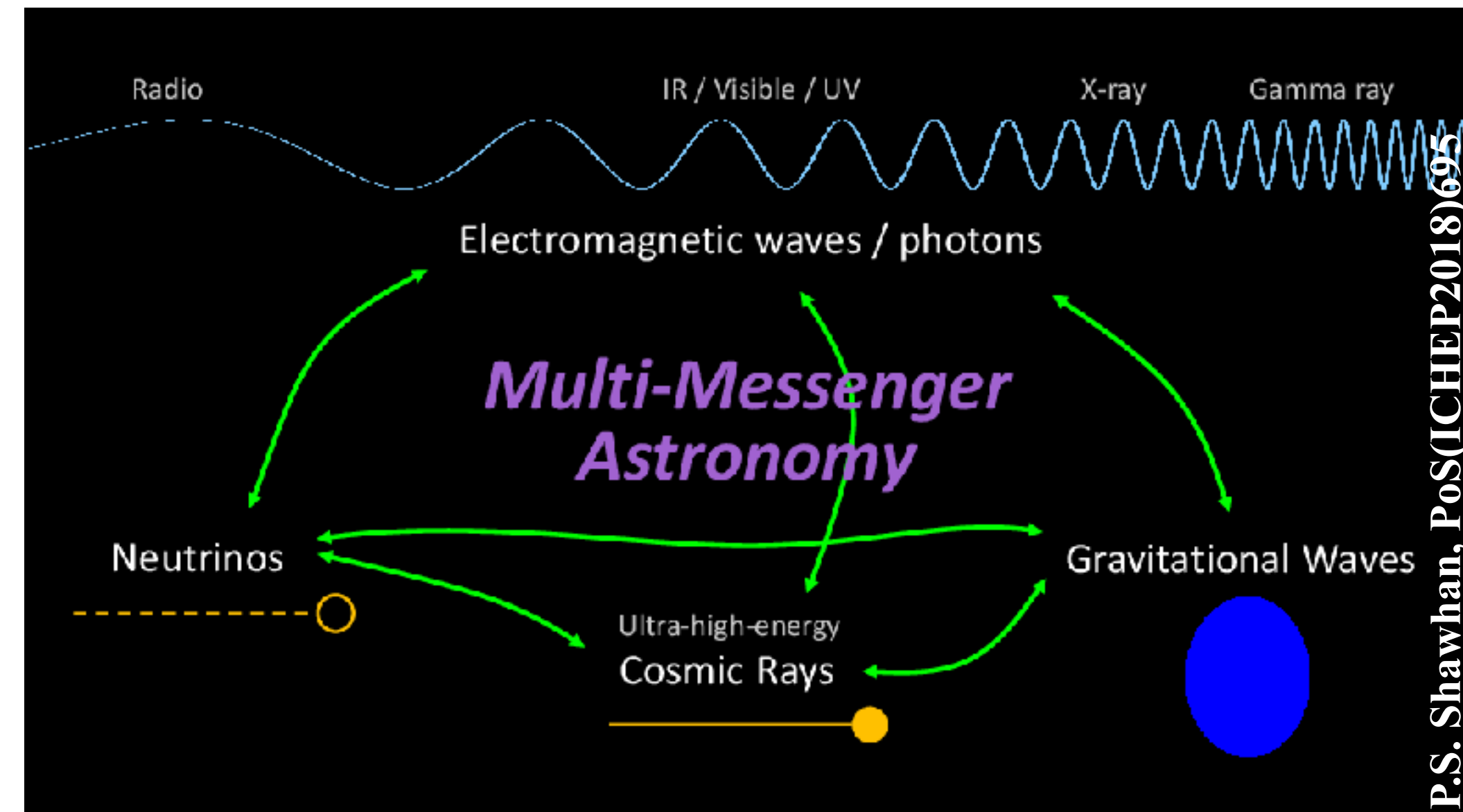
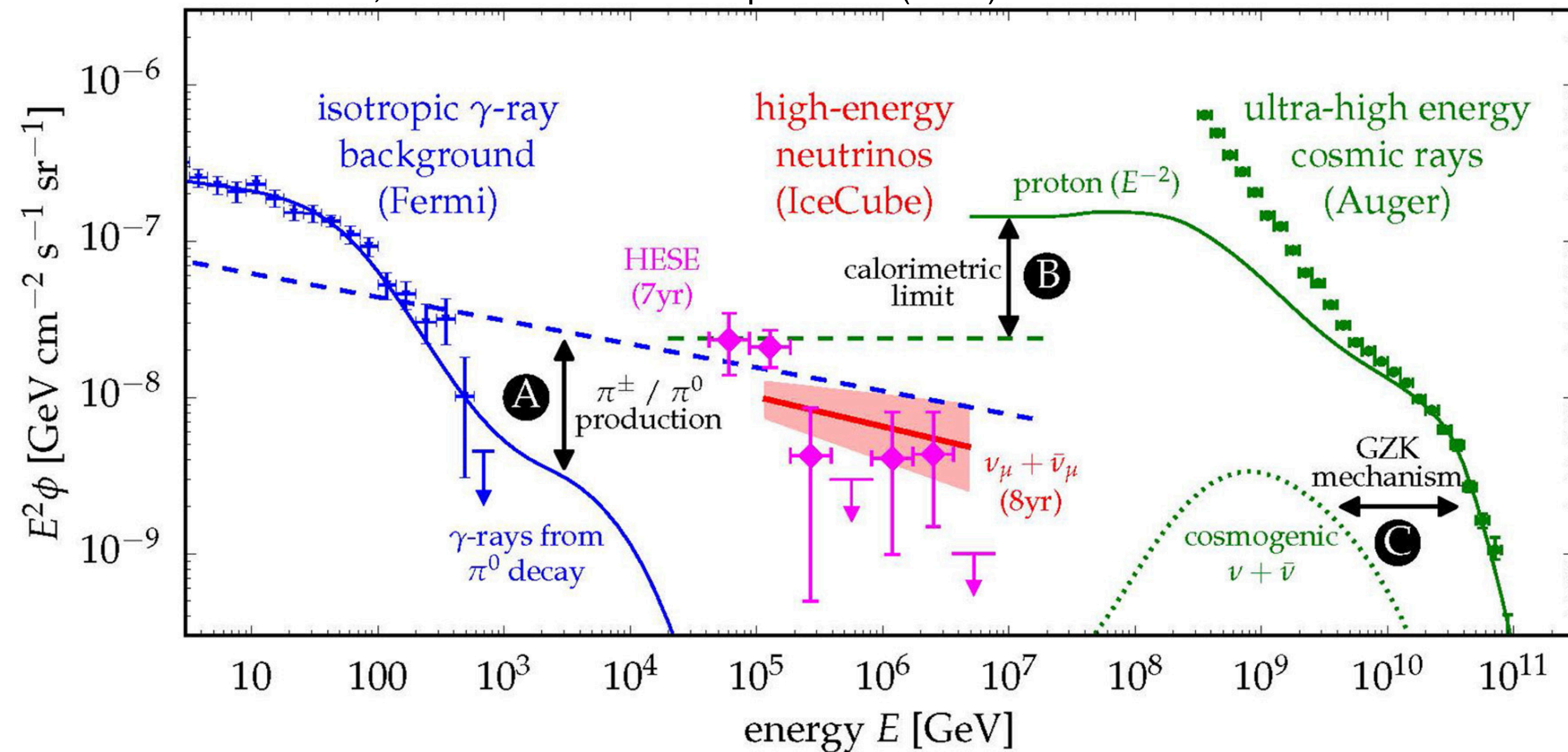


# The Straw Man Design of the Global Cosmic Ray Observatory



## Multi-messenger astroparticle physics beyond 2035 nuclei, gamma rays, neutrinos, (gravitational waves)

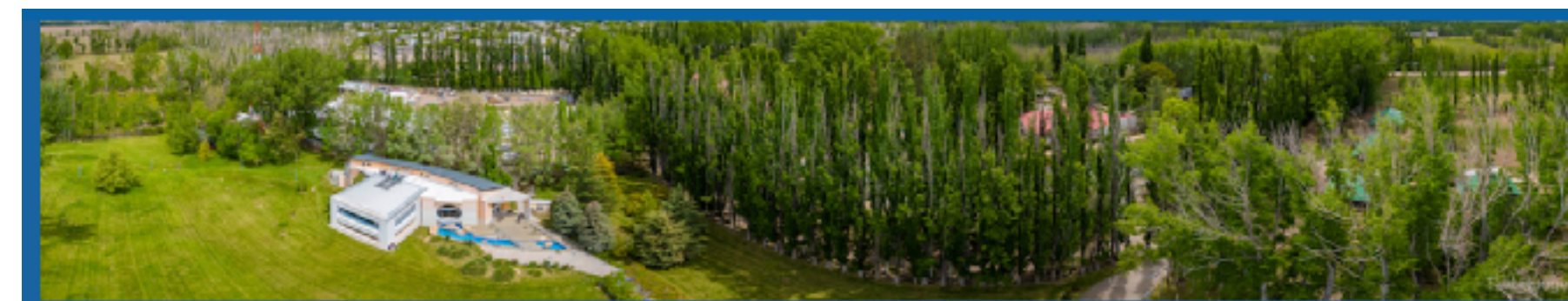
Halzen et al, Frontiers in Astron. & Space Sci. (2019)



P.S. Shawhan, PoS(ICHEP2018)695

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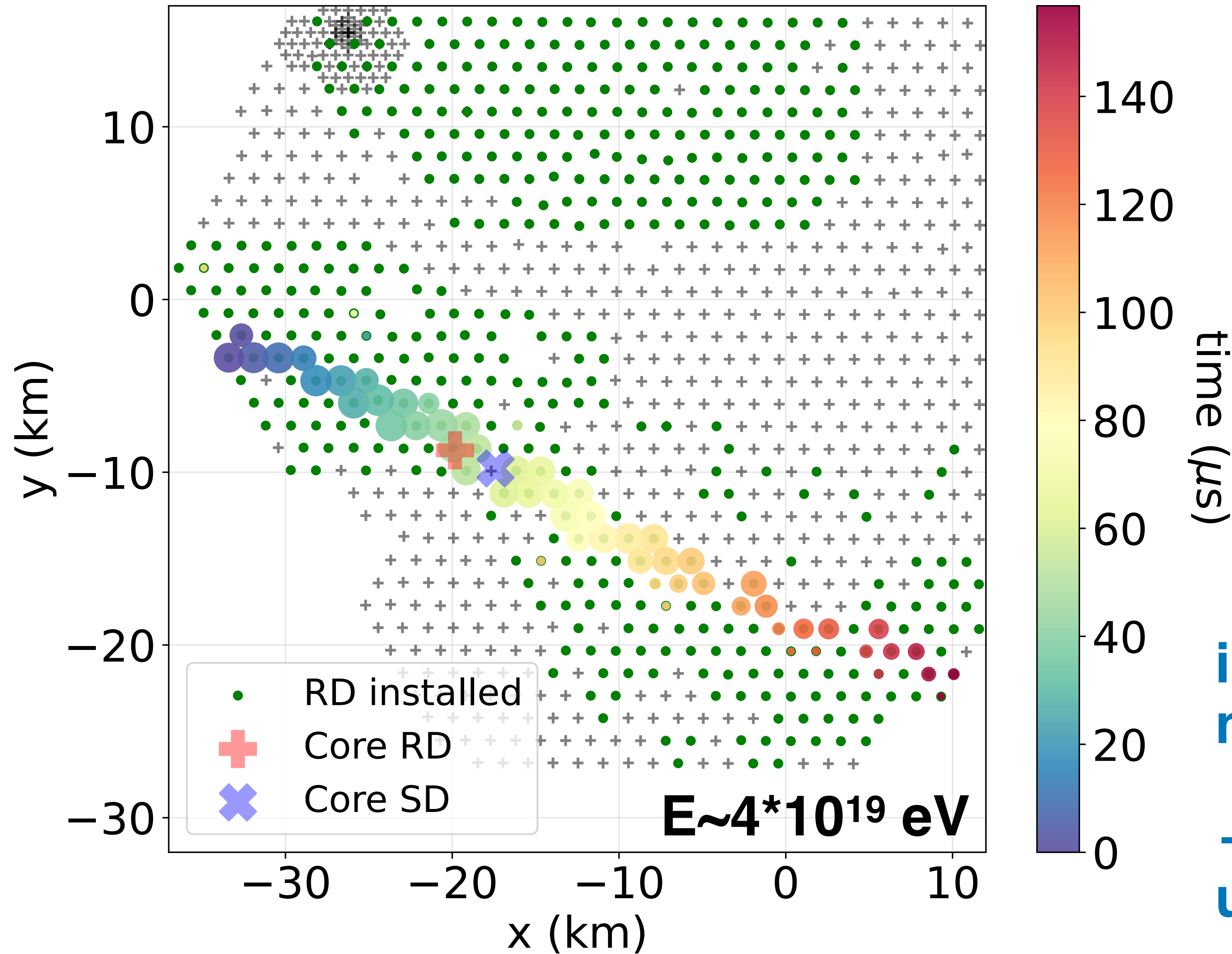
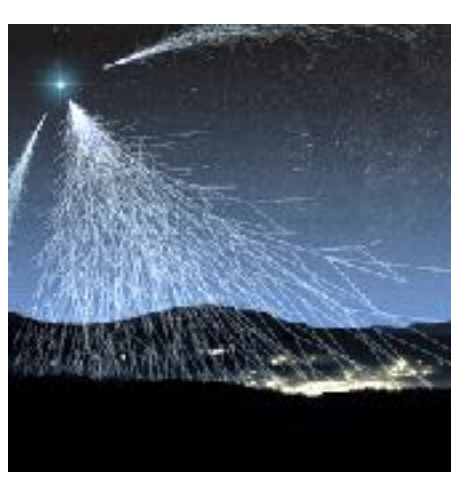


7th International Symposium on Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays (UHECR) 2024

17-21 November 2024

# Upgraded Pierre Auger Observatory

with excellent mass separation operating until >2035



imagine this would be a photon or neutrino

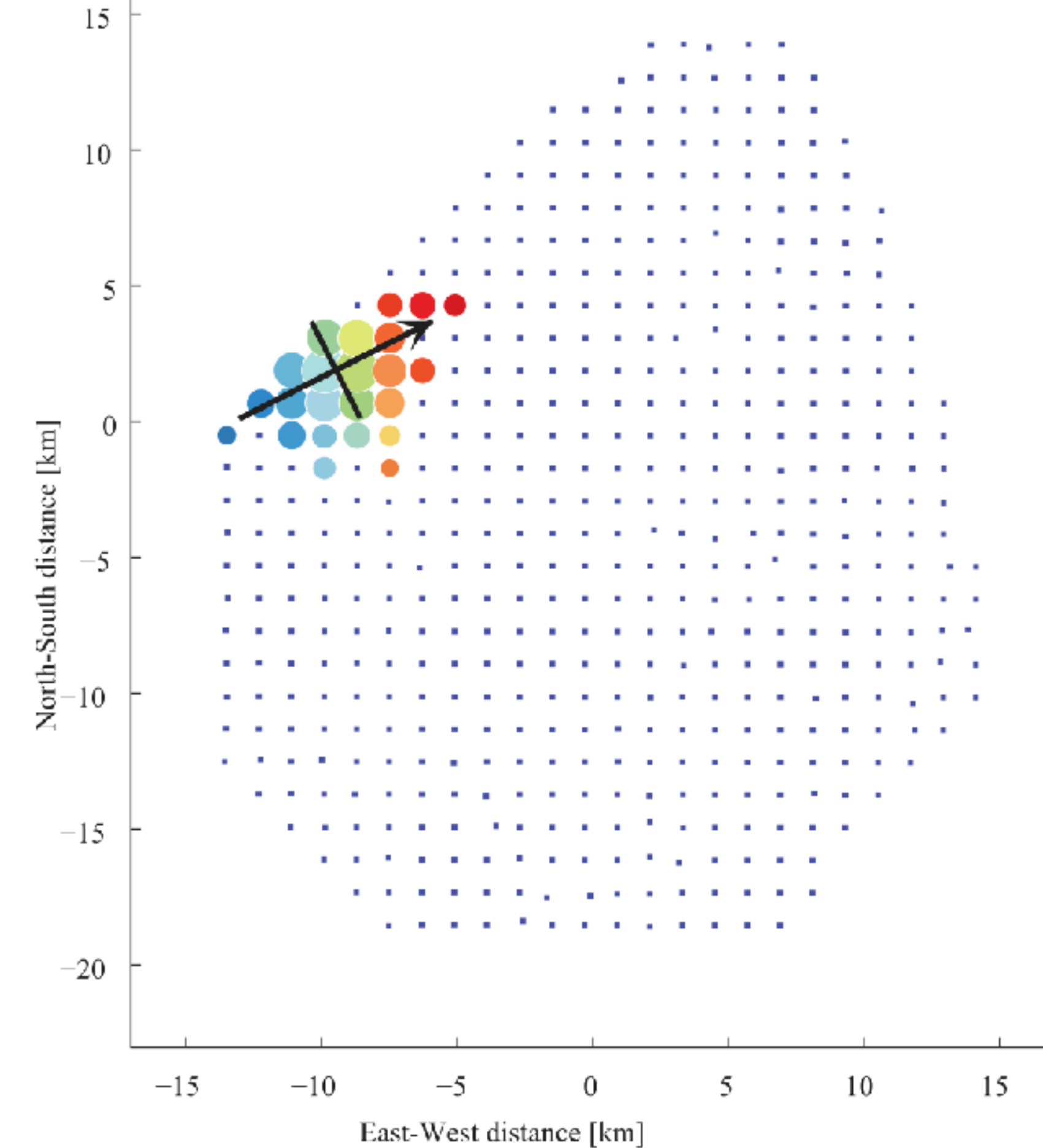
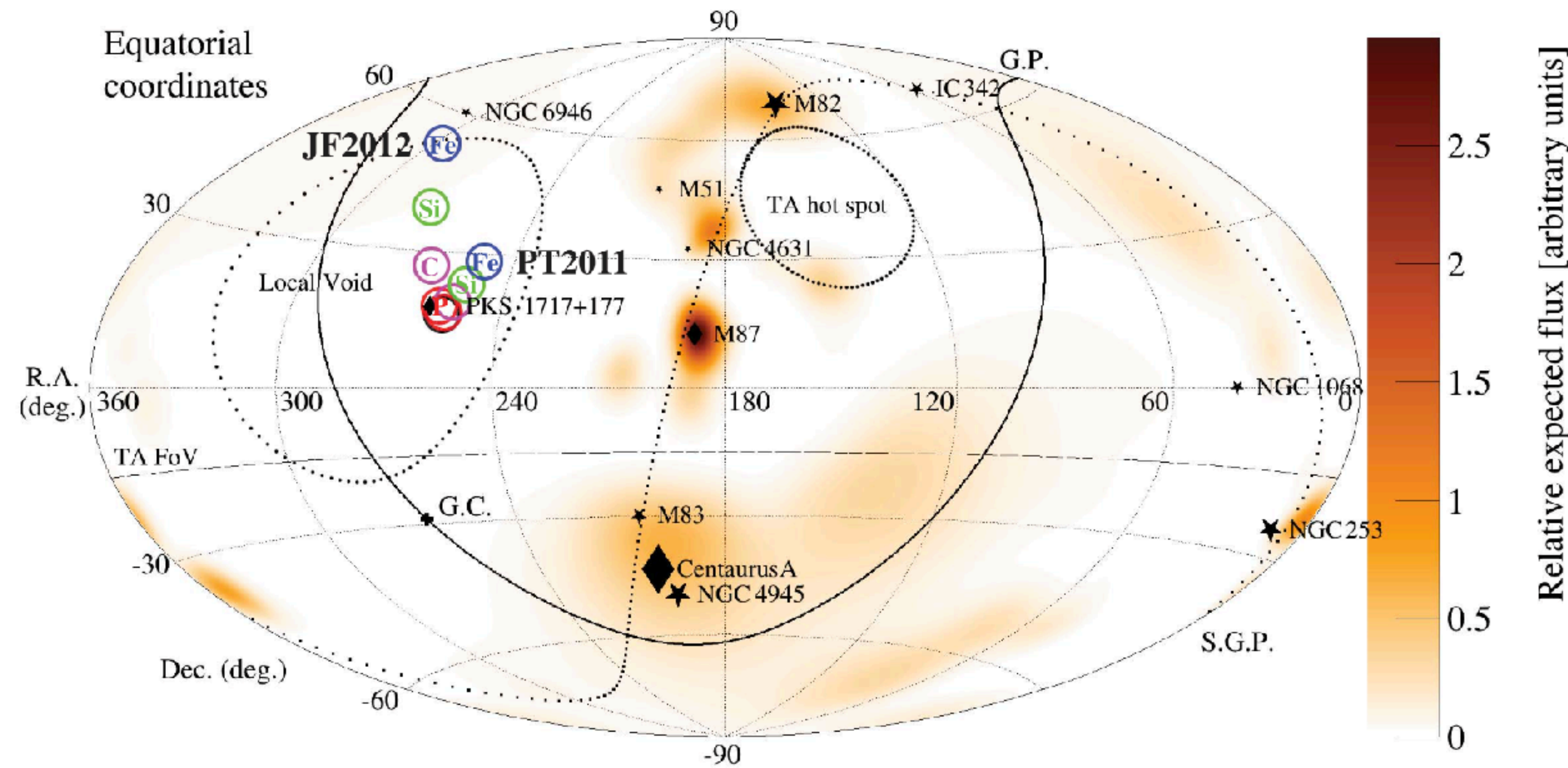
—> new window to ultra-high-energy universe

# An extremely energetic cosmic ray observed by a surface detector array

A Surface detector array of TA

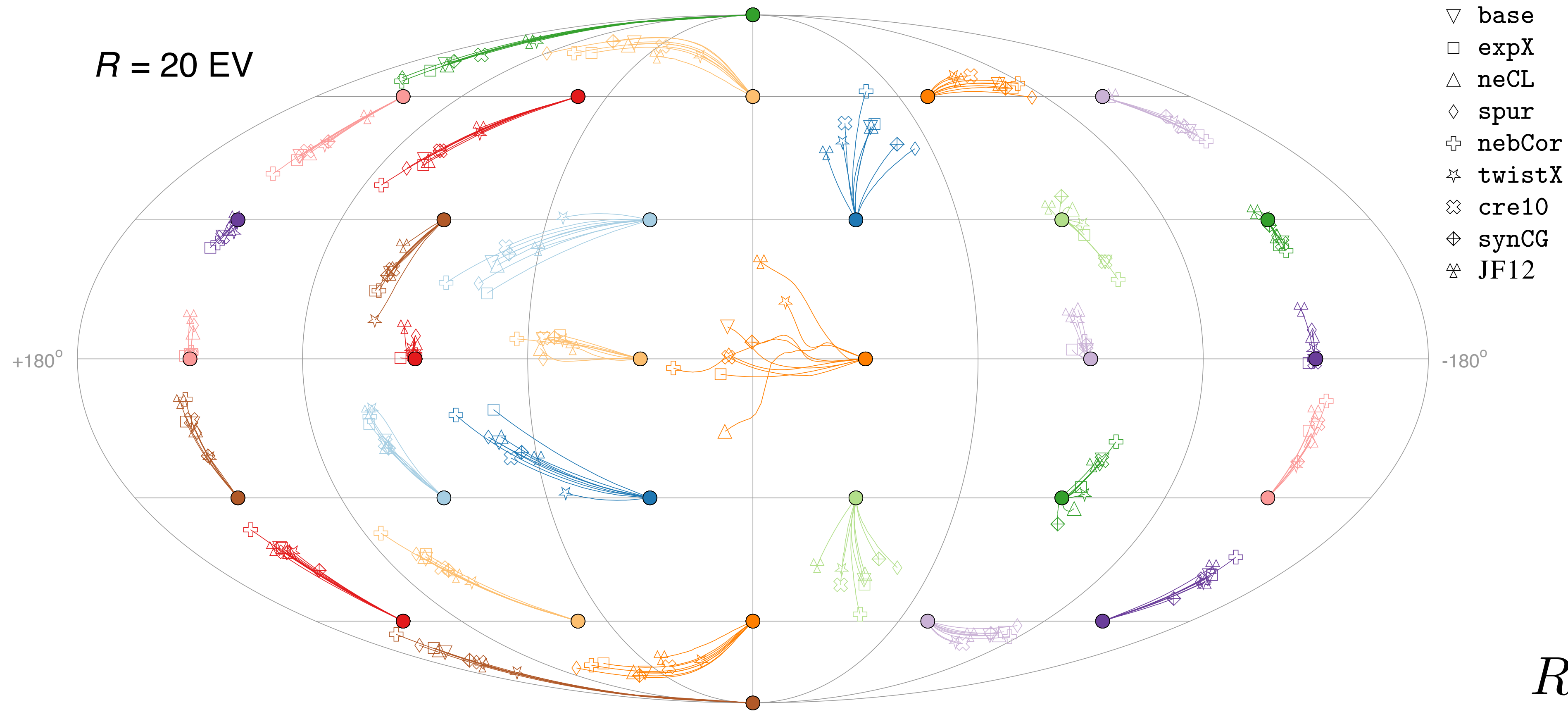
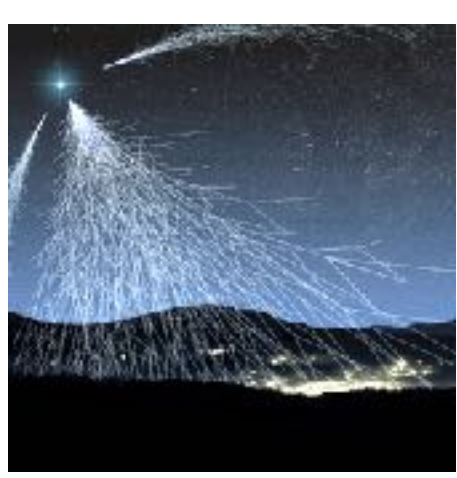
$$244 \pm 29(\text{stat.})_{-76}^{+51}(\text{syst.}) \text{ EeV}$$

Telescope Array Collaboration\*†



imagine there would be more of those  
from the same direction  
—> hadron astronomy

# Deflection of cosmic rays in magnetic fields



$$R = \frac{E}{Z} \approx \frac{E}{A/2}$$

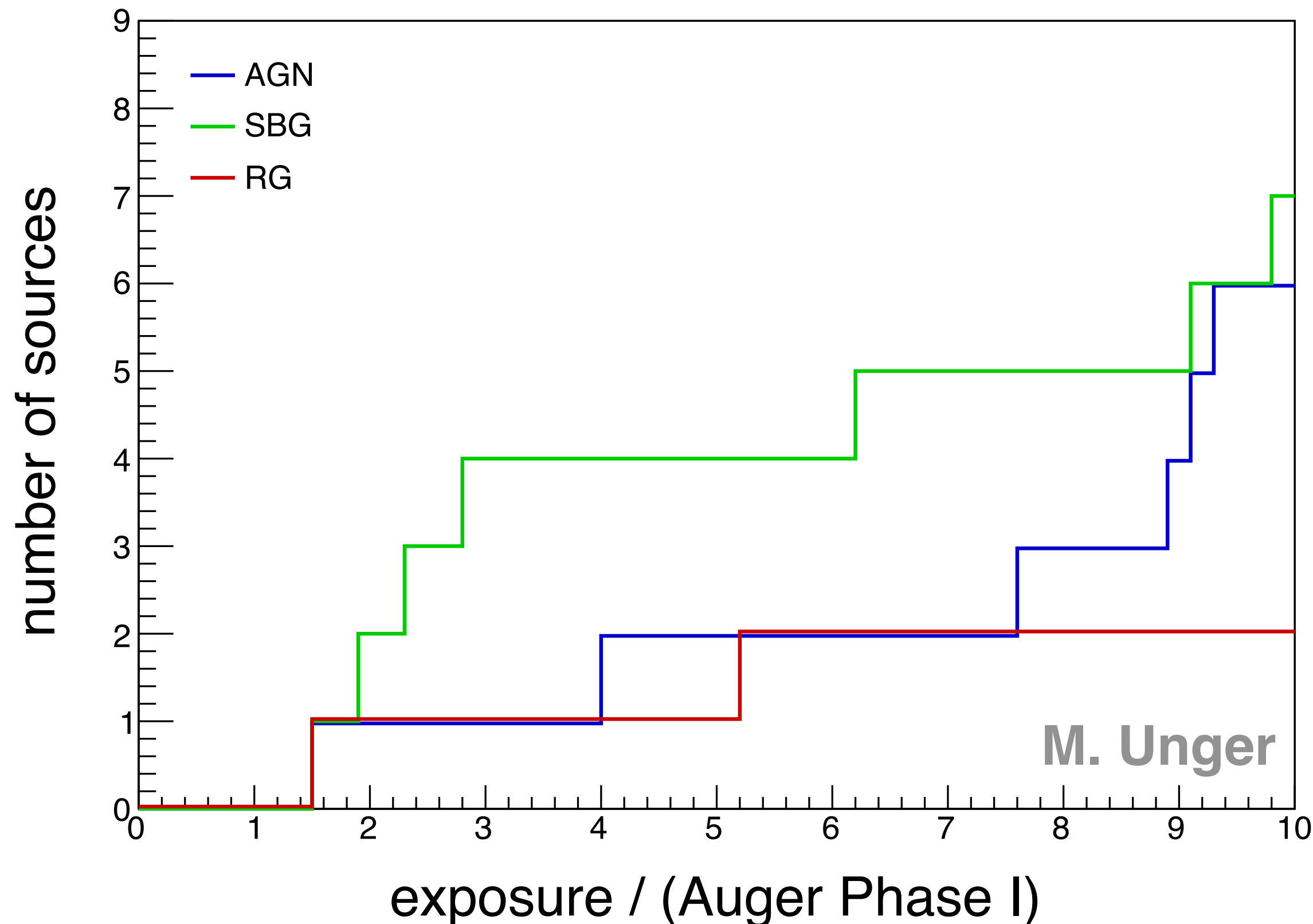
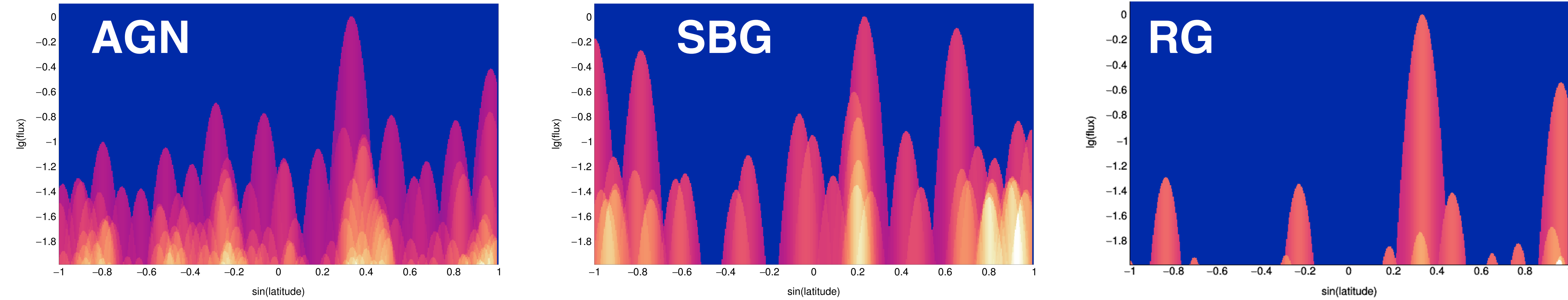
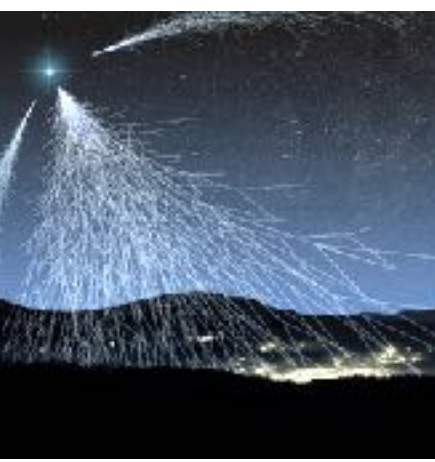
**Figure 19.** Angular deflections of ultrahigh-energy cosmic rays in the eight model variations derived in this paper and JF12. The cosmic-ray rigidity is 20 EV ( $2 \times 10^{19}$  V). Filled circles denote a grid of arrival directions and the open symbols are the back-tracked directions at the edge of the Galaxy.

**The Coherent Magnetic Field of the Milky Way**

MICHAEL UNGER <sup>1,2</sup> AND GLENNYS R. FARRAR <sup>3</sup>

**need to know rigidity (mass) of incoming cosmic rays**

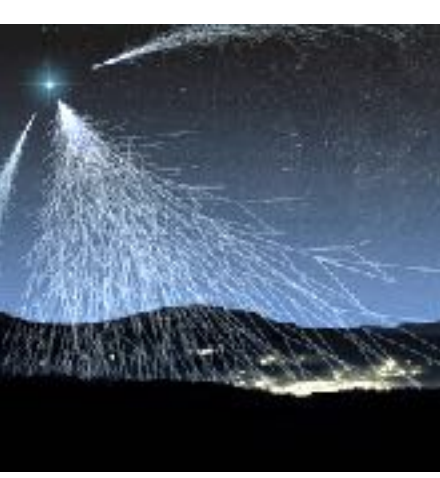
# Expected number of sources



extrapolation, based on Centaurus excess from Auger, using different source catalogues

Expected number of source images as a function of exposure for different source classes

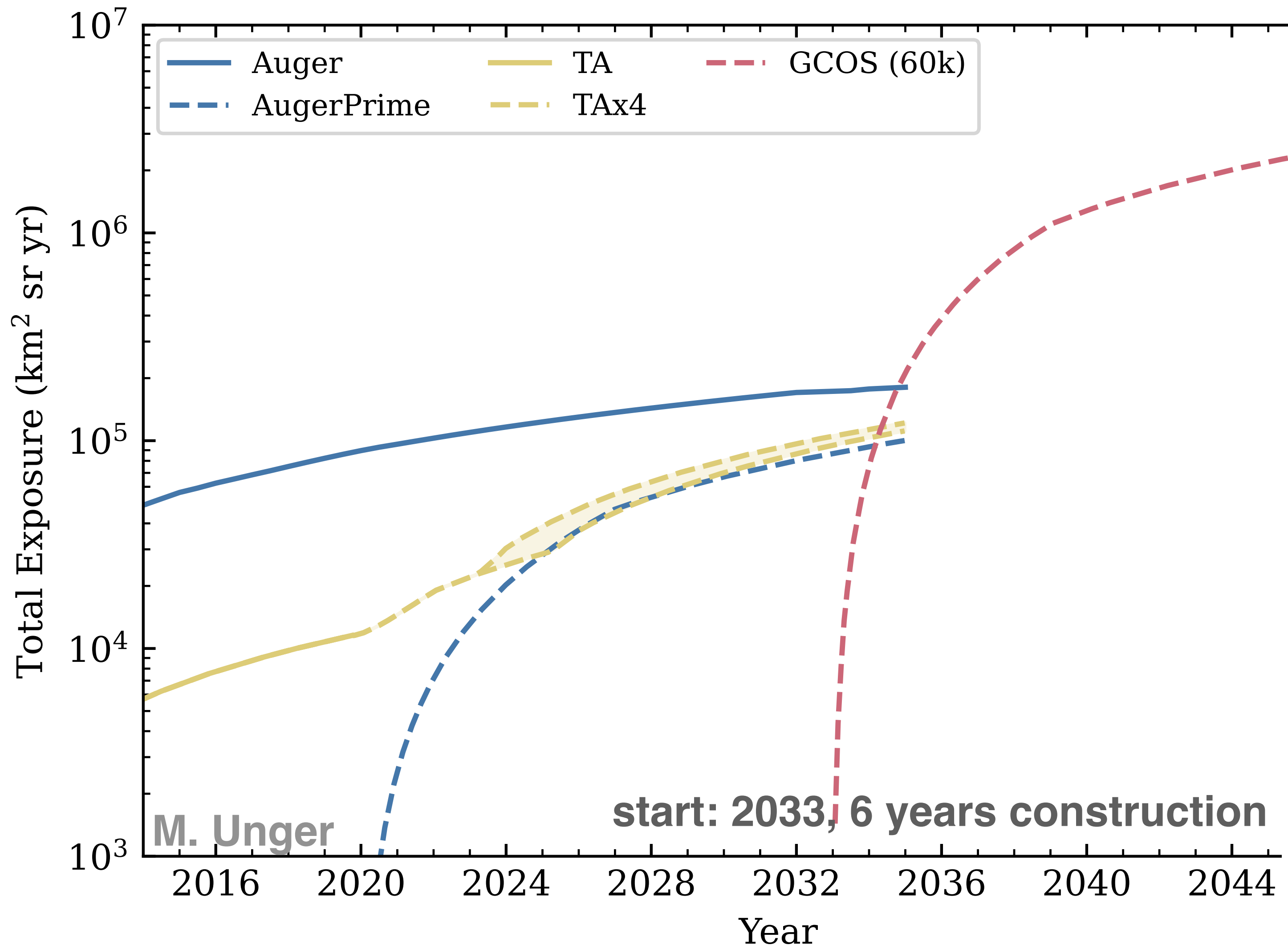
# .. towards a straw man design ..



intense discussions during Wuppertal (2022)  
and Brussels (2023) workshops



# GCOS exposure



**GCOS:**  
projected Auger exposure in 2030  
in 1 year

## GCOS Requirements

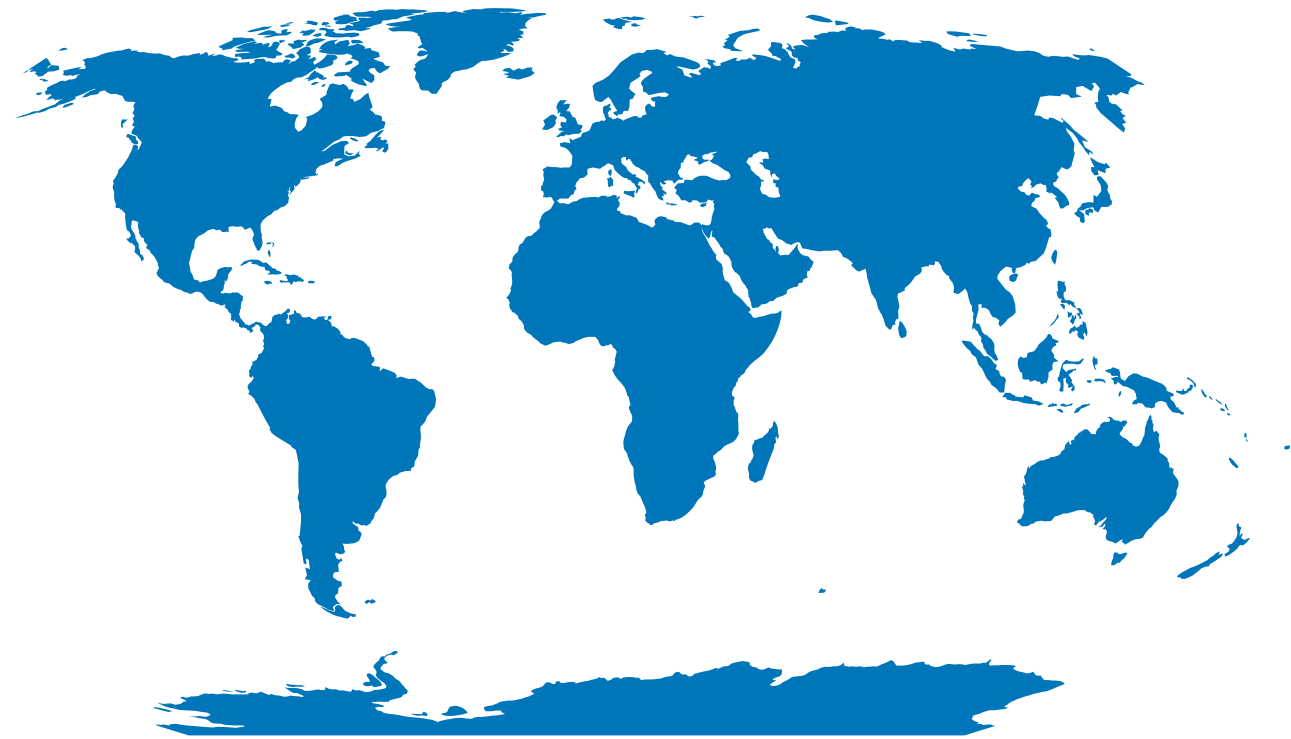
- total area: 60 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- number of sites  $\geq 2$
- trigger threshold: 10<sup>19</sup> eV
- high-quality threshold: 3 × 10<sup>19</sup> eV
- $\sigma_E$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{\ln A}$ : 1,  $\sigma_\theta$ : 1°
- high duty cycle, low maintenance

M. Unger

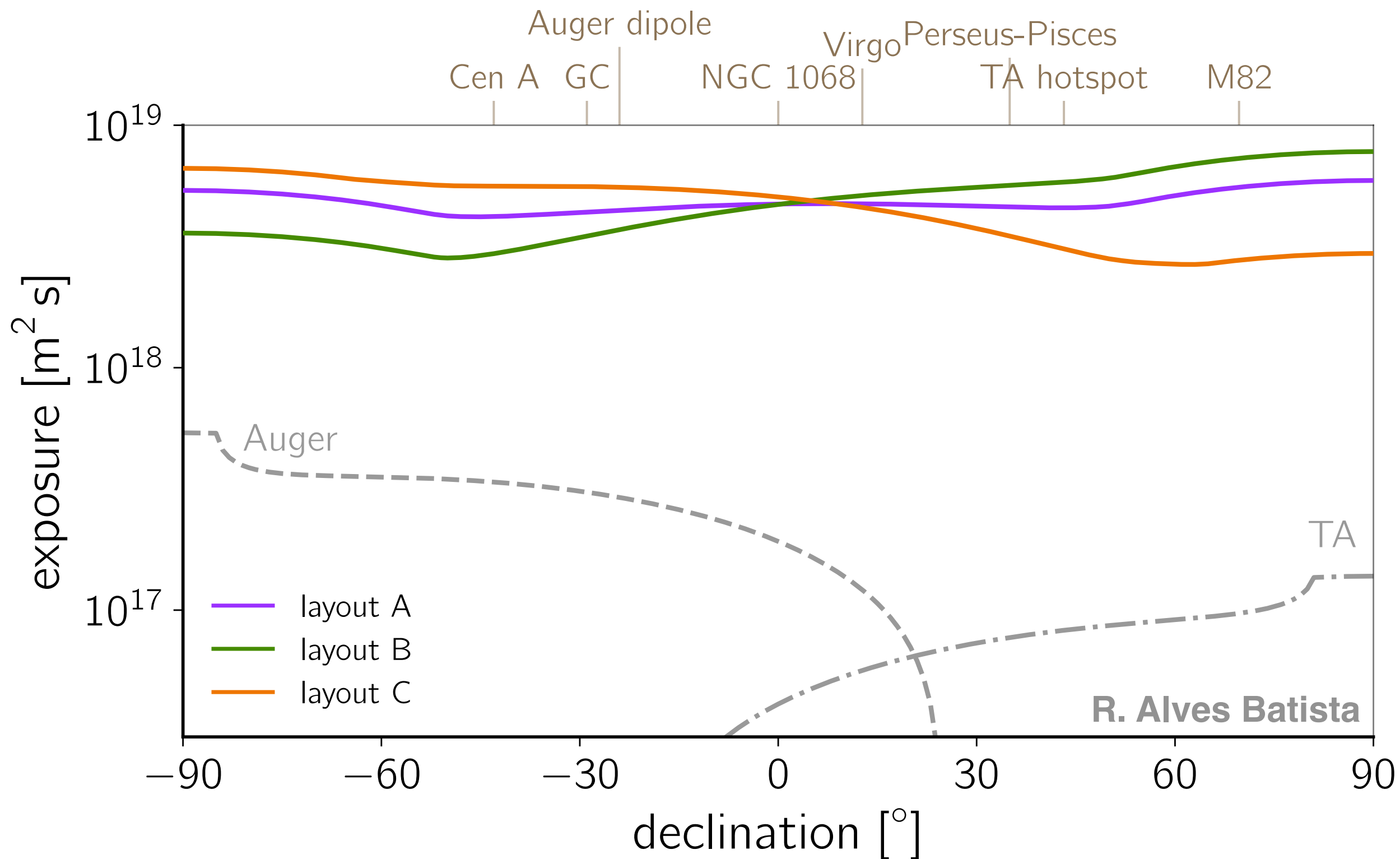
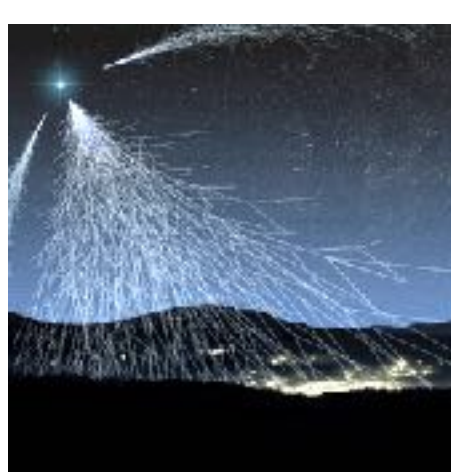
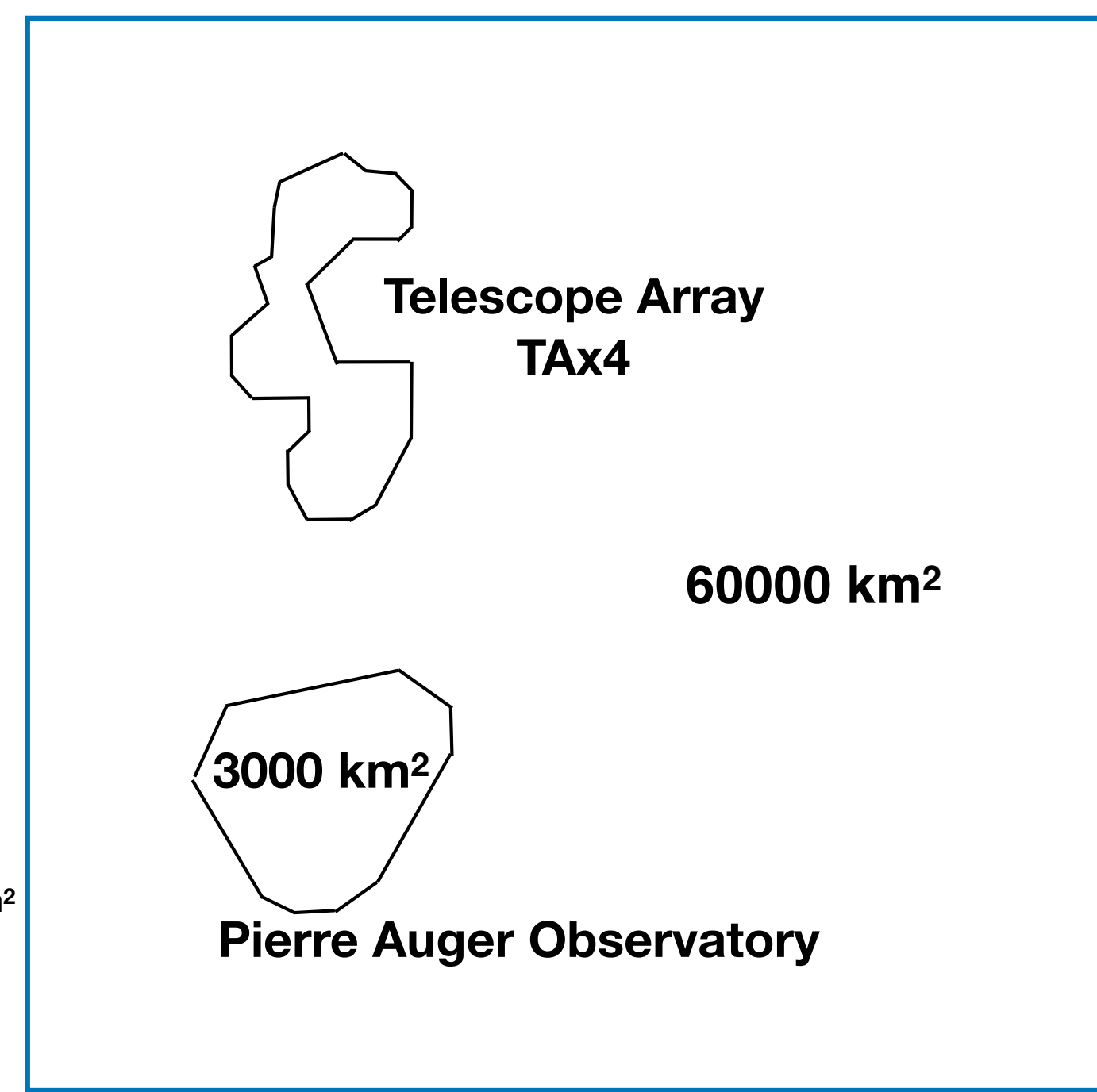
start: 2033, 6 years construction



# GCOS sites



- Volcano Ranch 8 km<sup>2</sup>
- Haverah Park 12 km<sup>2</sup>
- AGASA 100 km<sup>2</sup>
- Telescope Array 700 km<sup>2</sup>
- TAx4 2800 km<sup>2</sup>
- Pierre Auger observatory 3000 km<sup>2</sup>

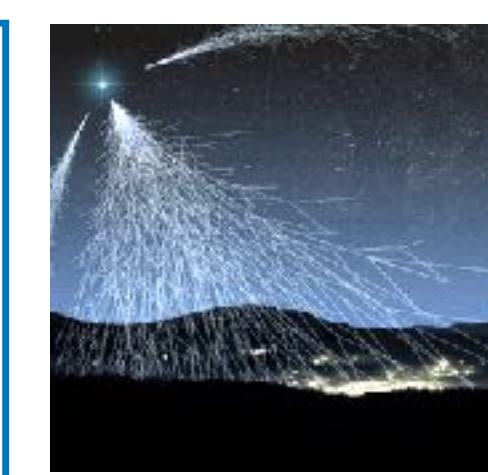
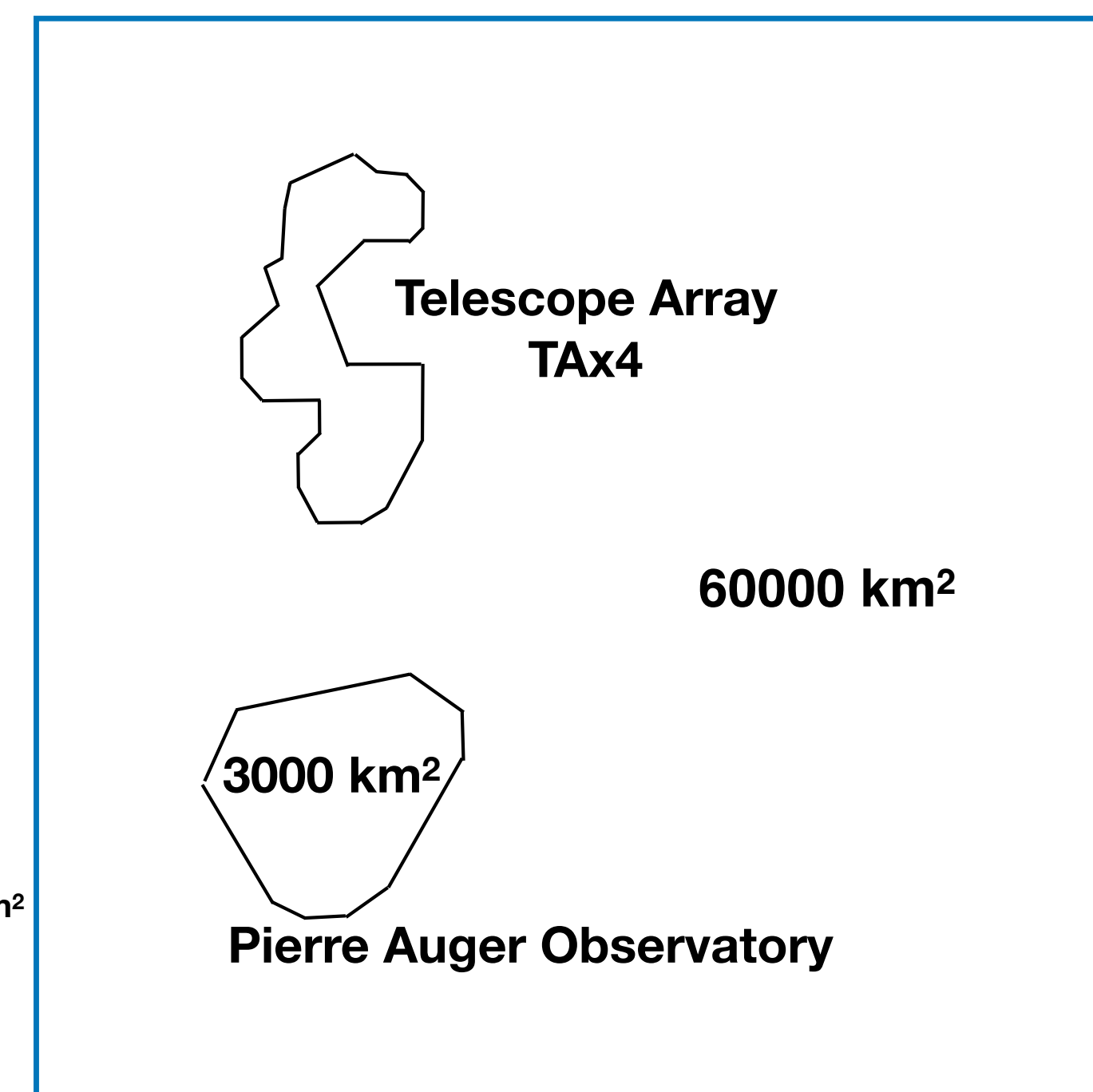
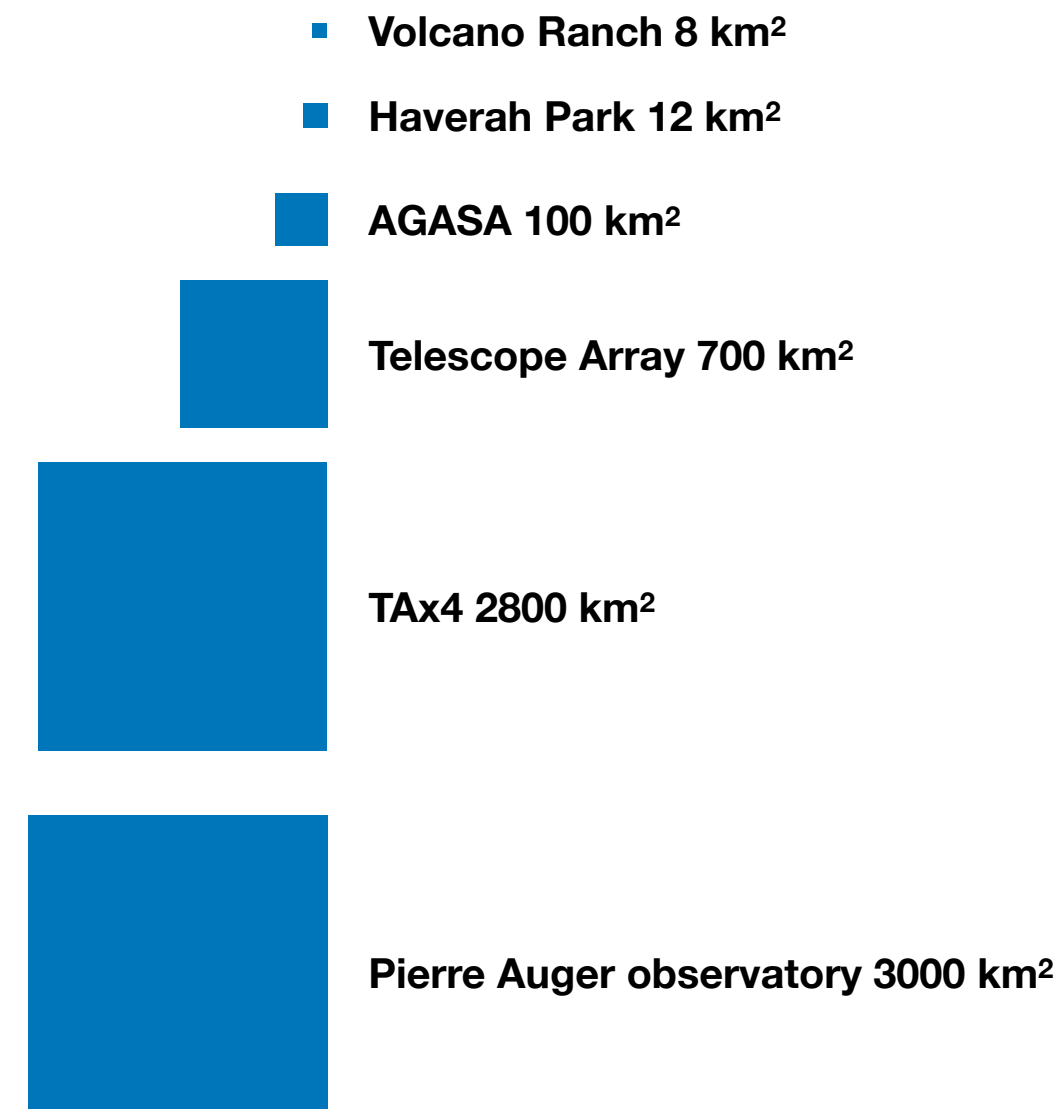
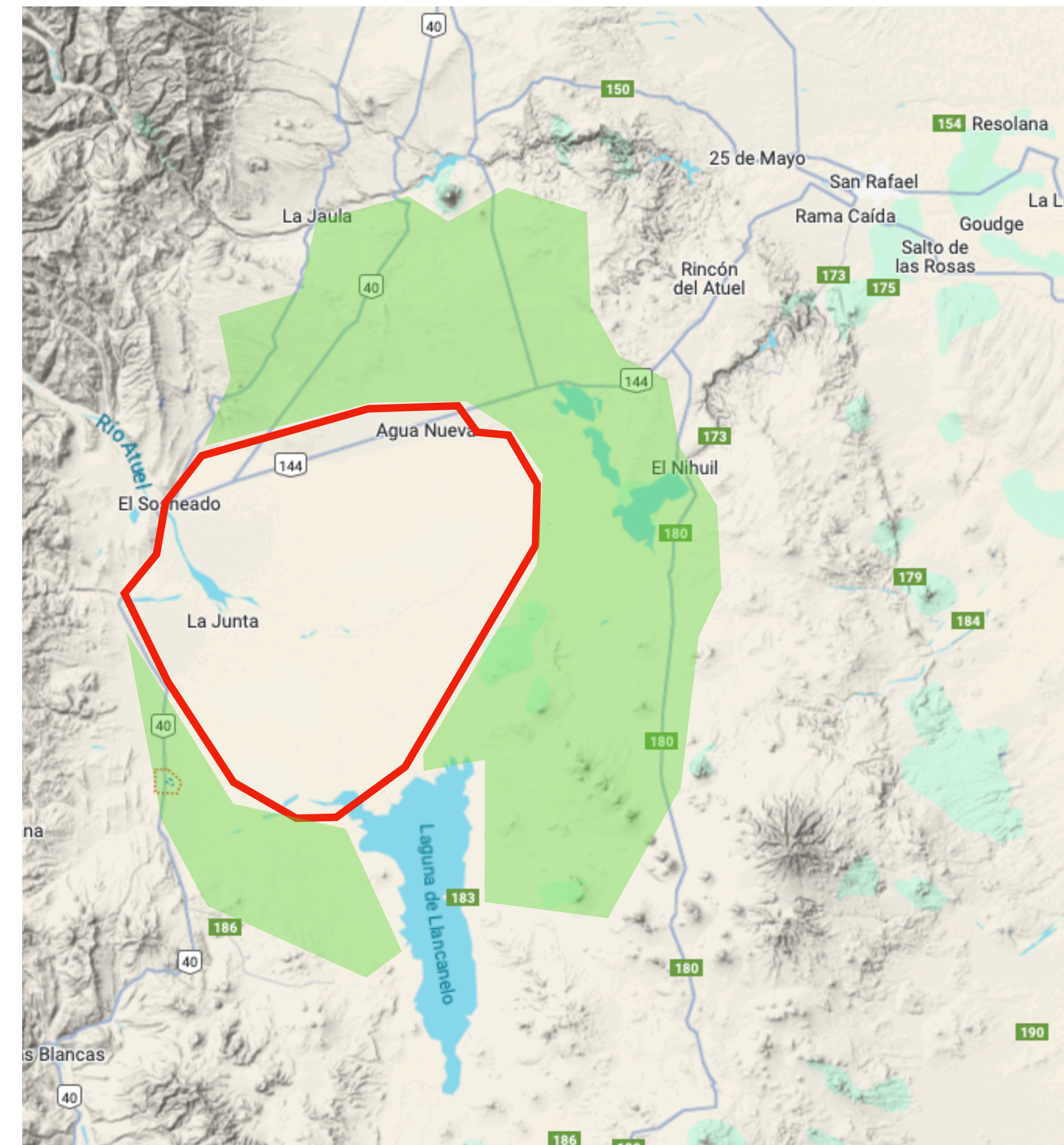


## GCOS Requirements

- total area: 60 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- number of sites  $\geq 2$
- trigger threshold: 10<sup>19</sup> eV
- high-quality threshold: 3 × 10<sup>19</sup> eV
- $\sigma_E$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{\ln A}$ : 1,  $\sigma_\theta$ : 1°
- high duty cycle, low maintenance

# GCOS sites

Could we extend Auger to build a 1<sup>st</sup> GCOS (R&D) site?



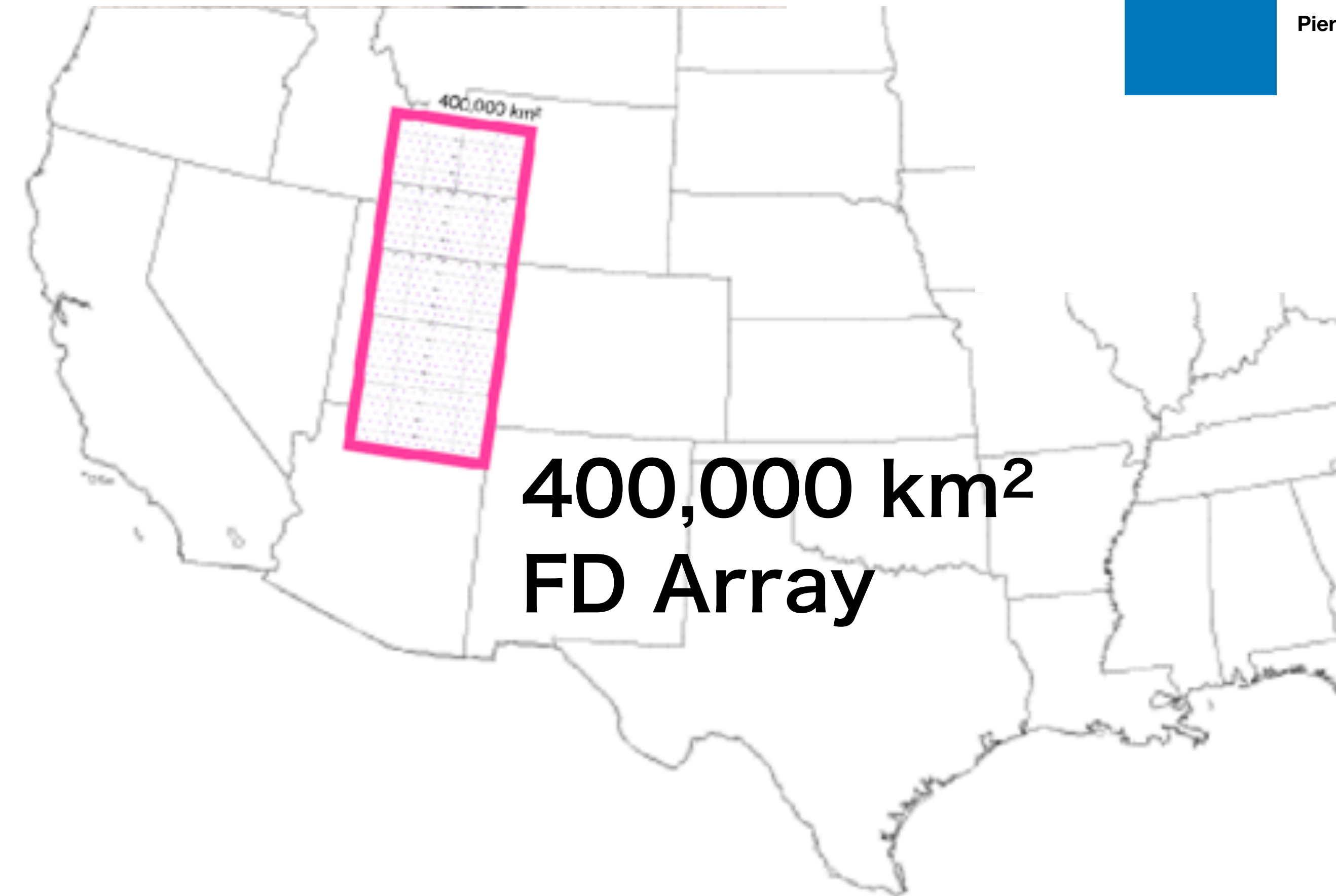
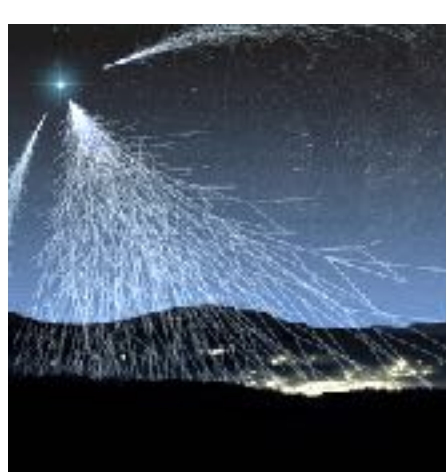
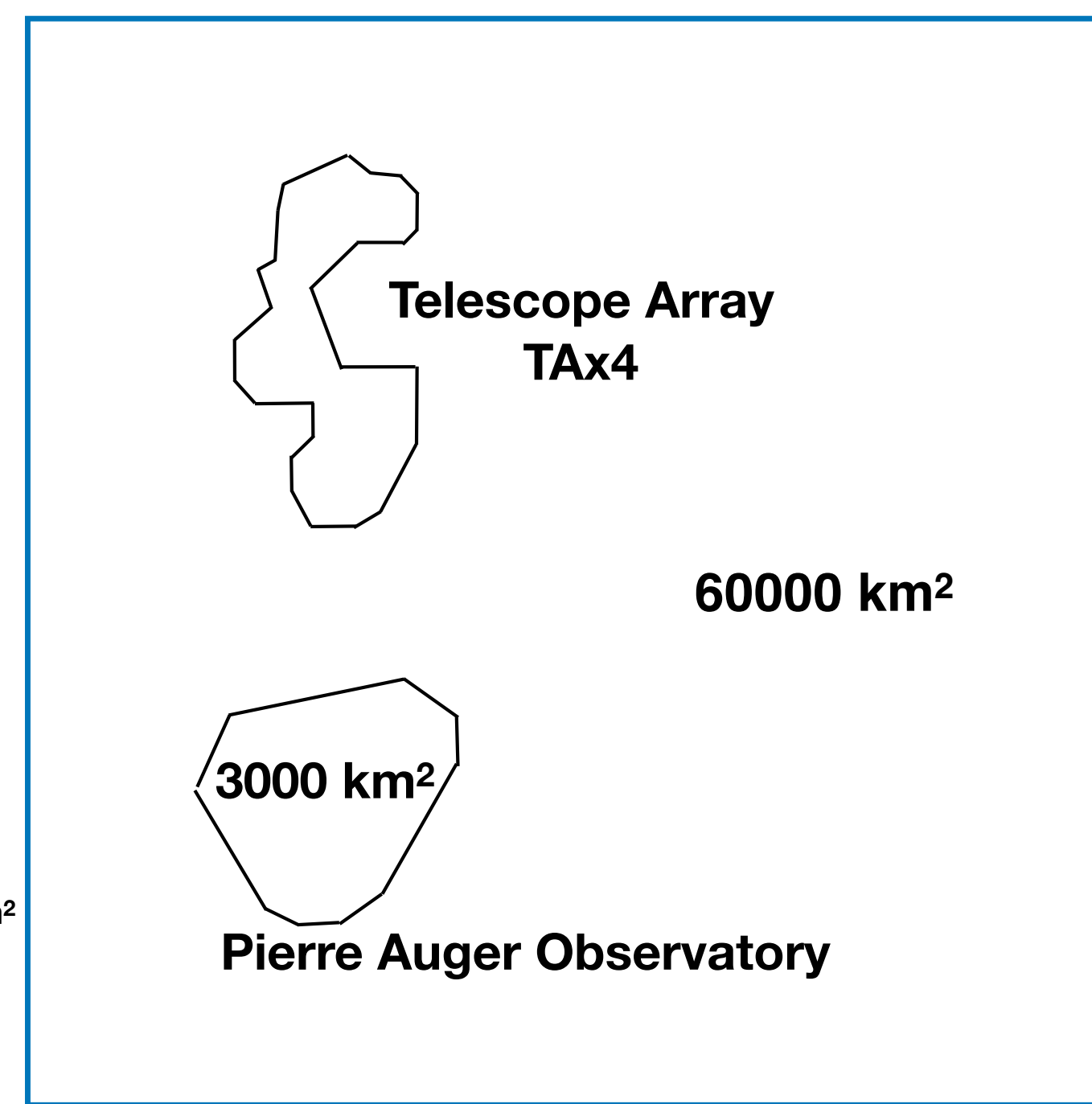
## GCOS Requirements

- total area: 60 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- number of sites  $\geq 2$
- trigger threshold:  $10^{19}$  eV
- high-quality threshold:  $3 \times 10^{19}$  eV
- $\sigma_E$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{\ln A}$ : 1,  $\sigma_\theta$ :  $1^\circ$
- high duty cycle, low maintenance

# GCOS sites

... starting to look at various site options ... e.g. USA

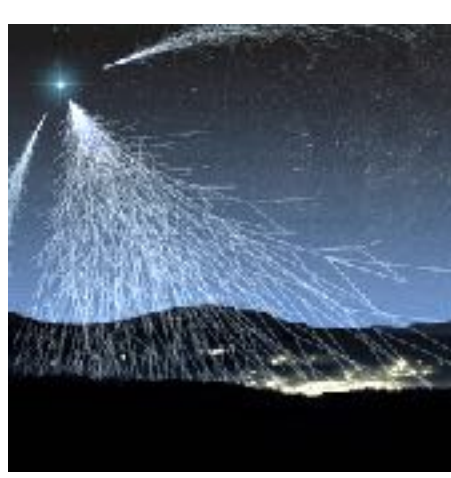
- Volcano Ranch 8 km<sup>2</sup>
- Haverah Park 12 km<sup>2</sup>
- AGASA 100 km<sup>2</sup>
- Telescope Array 700 km<sup>2</sup>
- TAx4 2800 km<sup>2</sup>
- Pierre Auger observatory 3000 km<sup>2</sup>



## GCOS Requirements

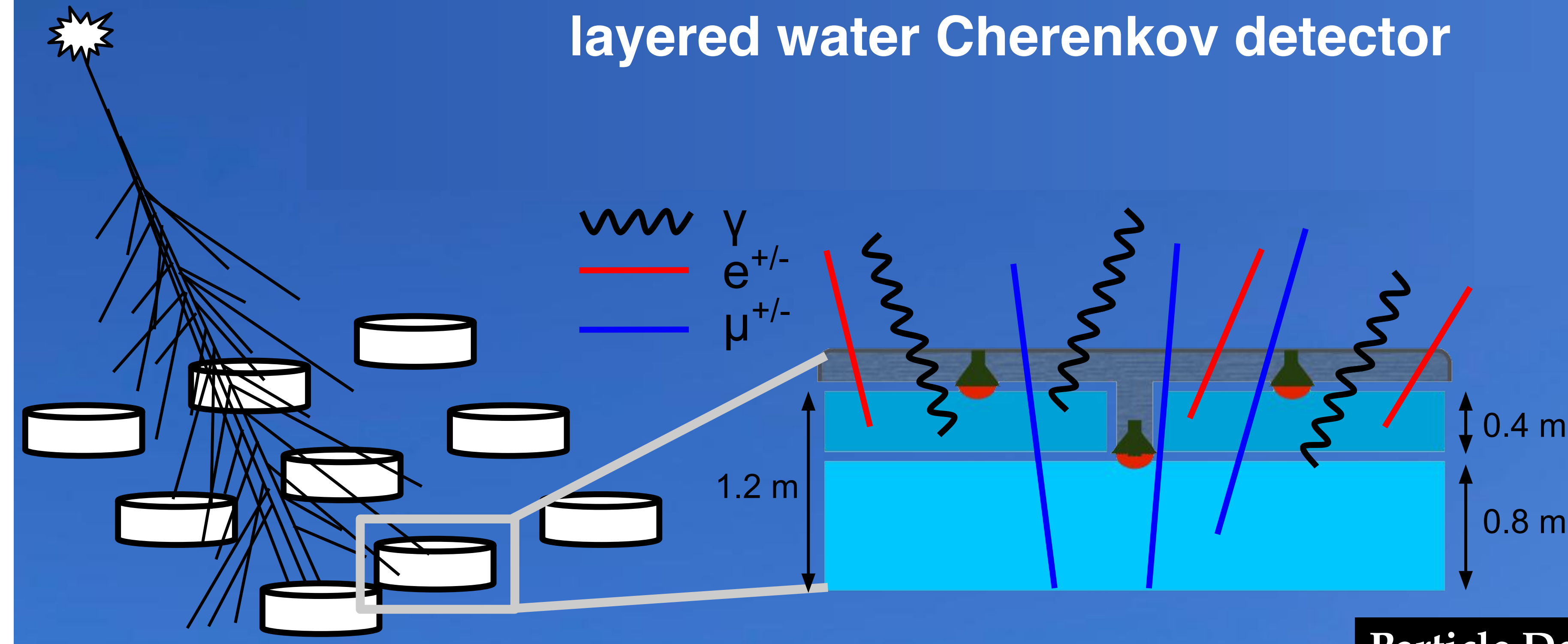
- total area: 60 000 km<sup>2</sup>
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- high-quality threshold:  $3 \times 10^{19}$  eV
- $\sigma_E$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{\ln A}$ : 1,  $\sigma_\theta$ : 1°
- high duty cycle, low maintenance

# GCOS - particle detector array



layered water Cherenkov detector

see poster B. Flagg



## Particle Detector Design

- layered water Cherenkov detectors
- emag. and muonic EAS component
- detector spacing: 2.2 km
- number of stations: 18 000
- $\sigma_S$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{N_\mu}$ : 10%,  $\sigma_{X_{\max}}$ : 30 g/cm<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{pmatrix} S_{\text{top}} \\ S_{\text{bot}} \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{M} \begin{pmatrix} S_{\text{EM}} \\ S_{\mu} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 1-a & 1-b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_{\text{EM}} \\ S_{\mu} \end{pmatrix}$$

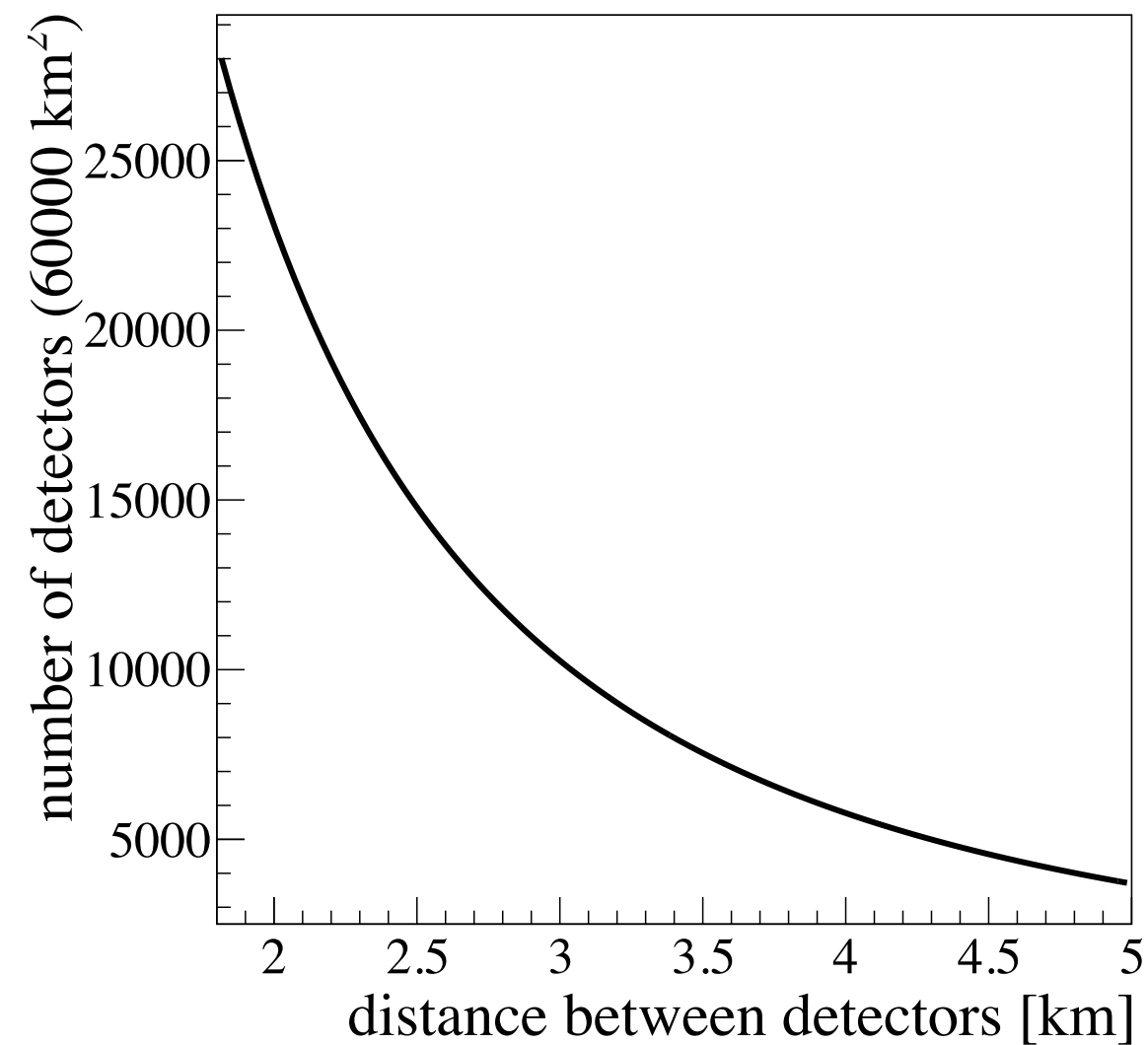
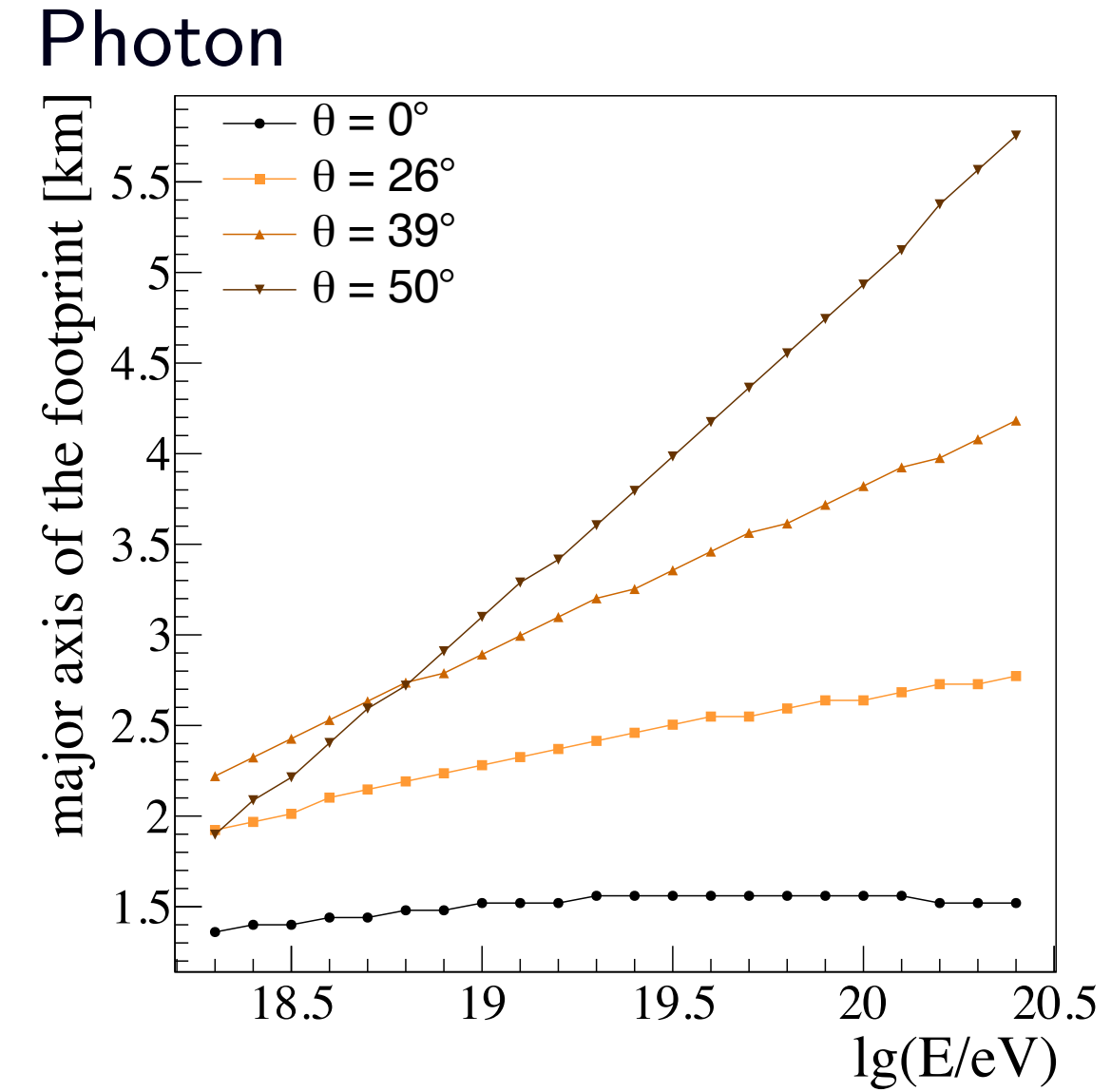
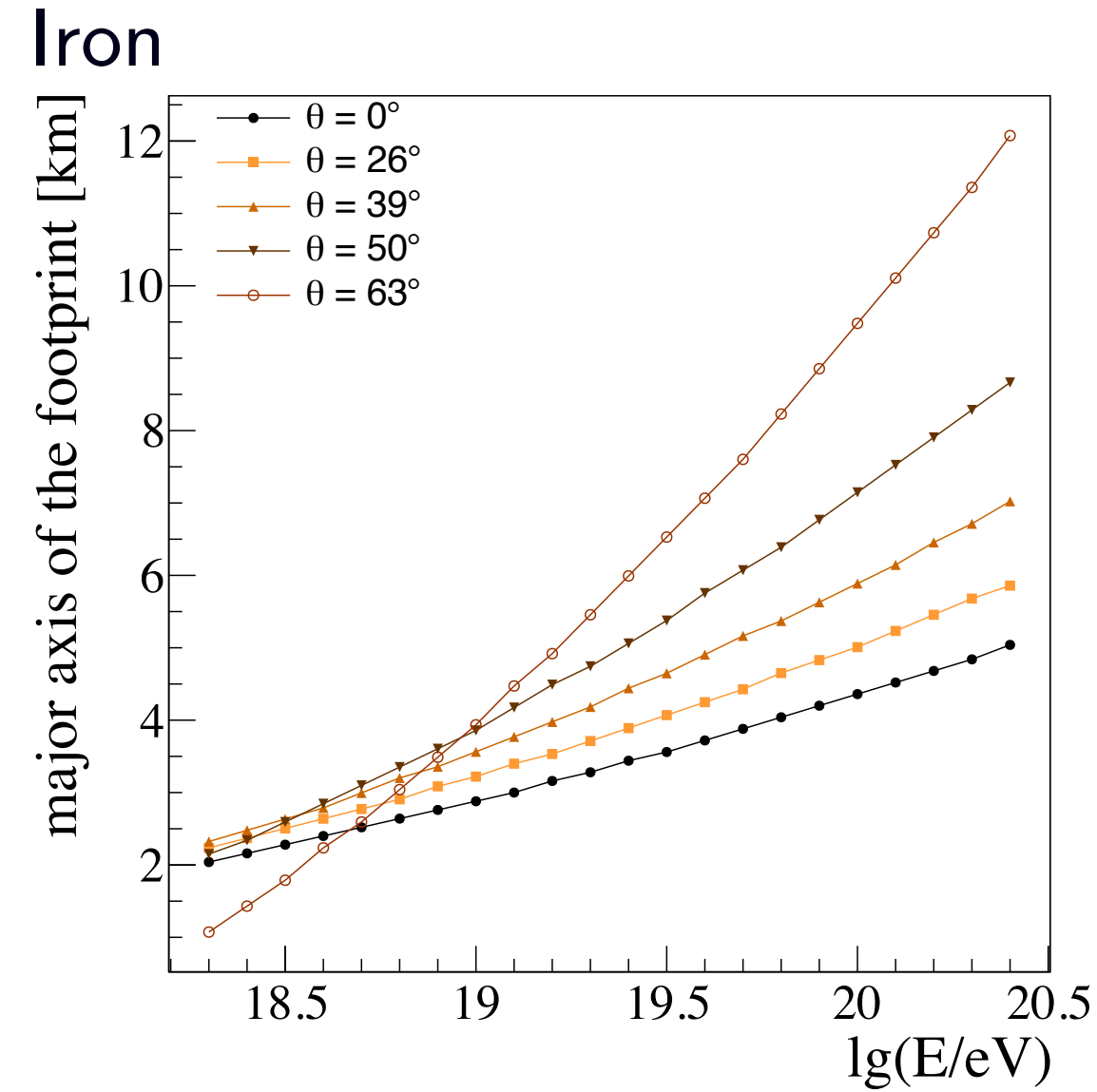
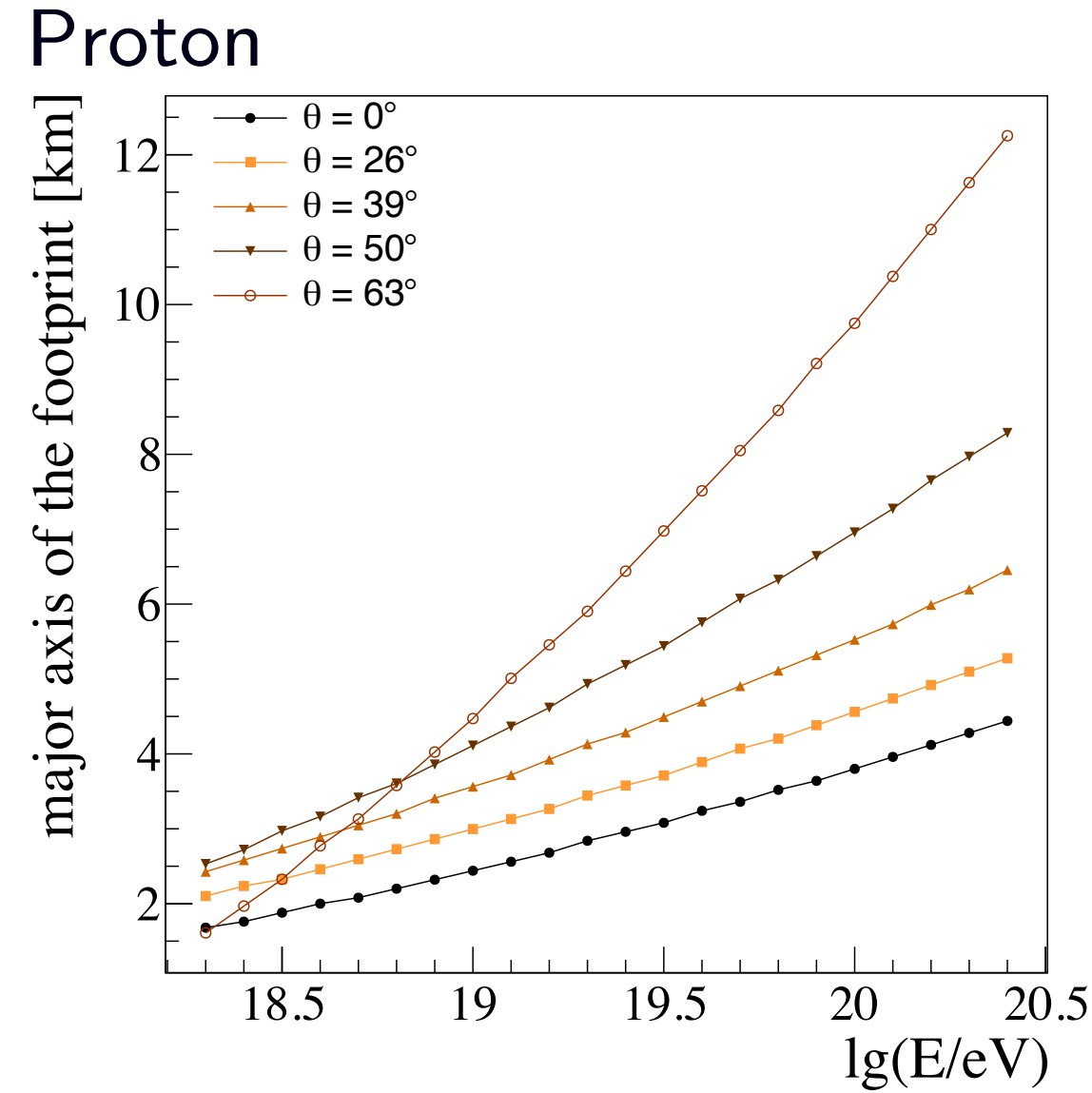
$a + b \rightarrow$  from simulations, depend on detector specifics

$S_{\text{top}} + S_{\text{bot}} \rightarrow$  from calibrated PMT signals

# GCOS - particle detector array



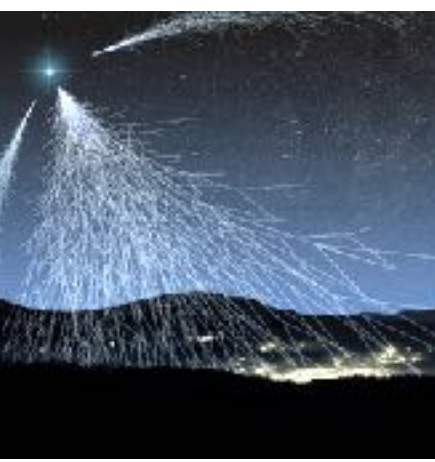
Spacing: How large is the air-shower footprint on the ground?



Spacing between detectors cannot be larger than about 2-2,5 km to reach 100% efficiency at 10-30 EeV.

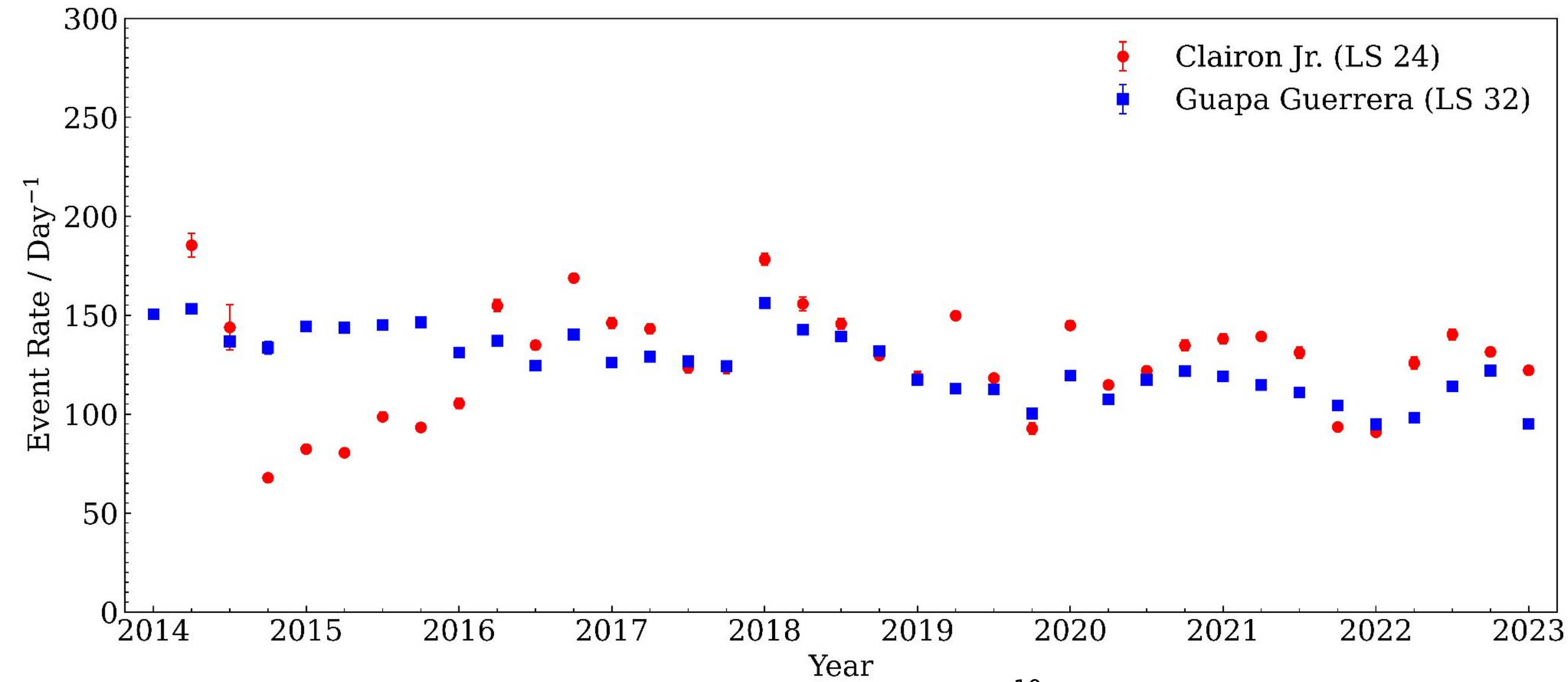
On a triangular grid: 15k - 22k detectors for 60000  $\text{km}^2$ .

# GCOS - particle detector array

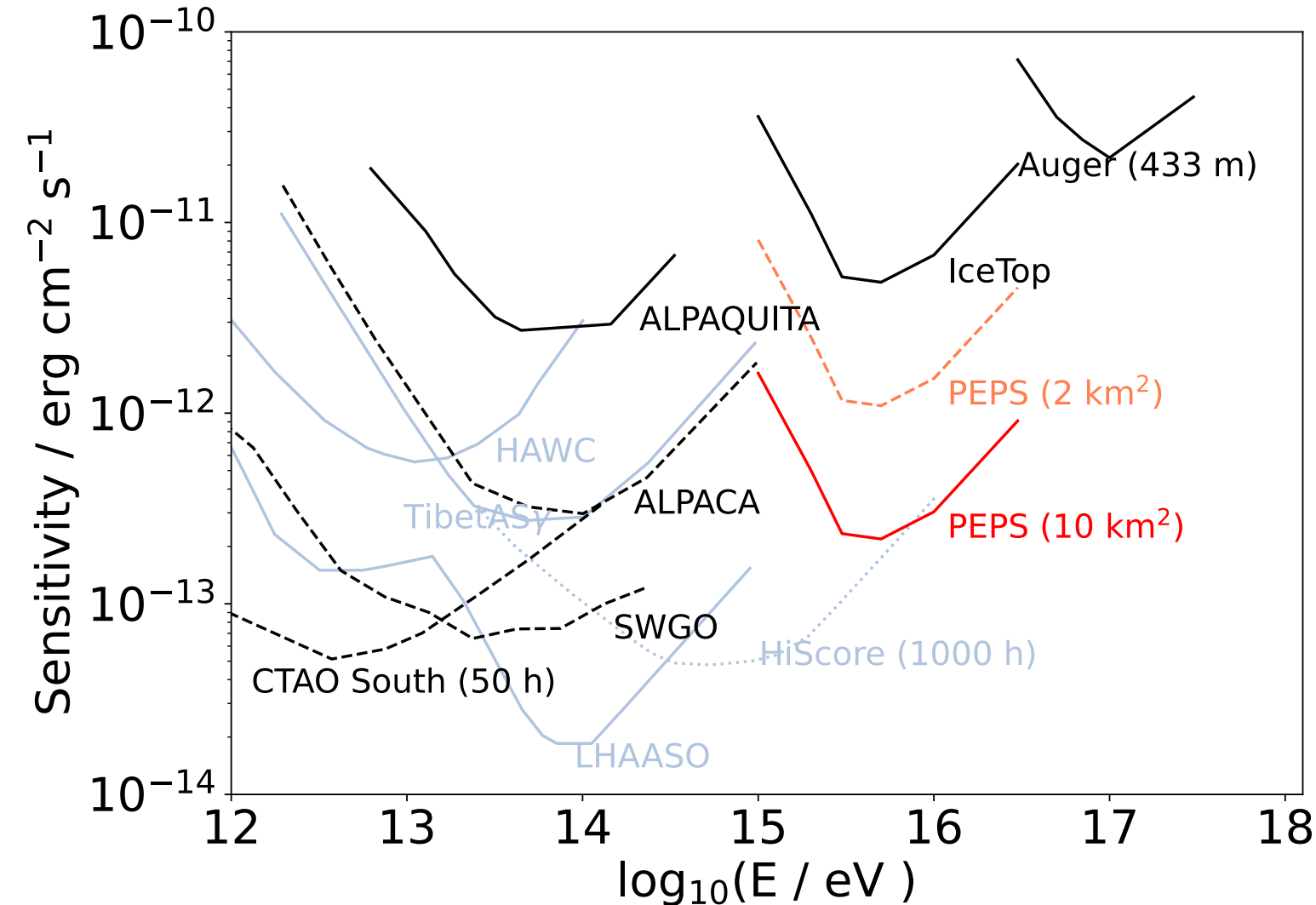
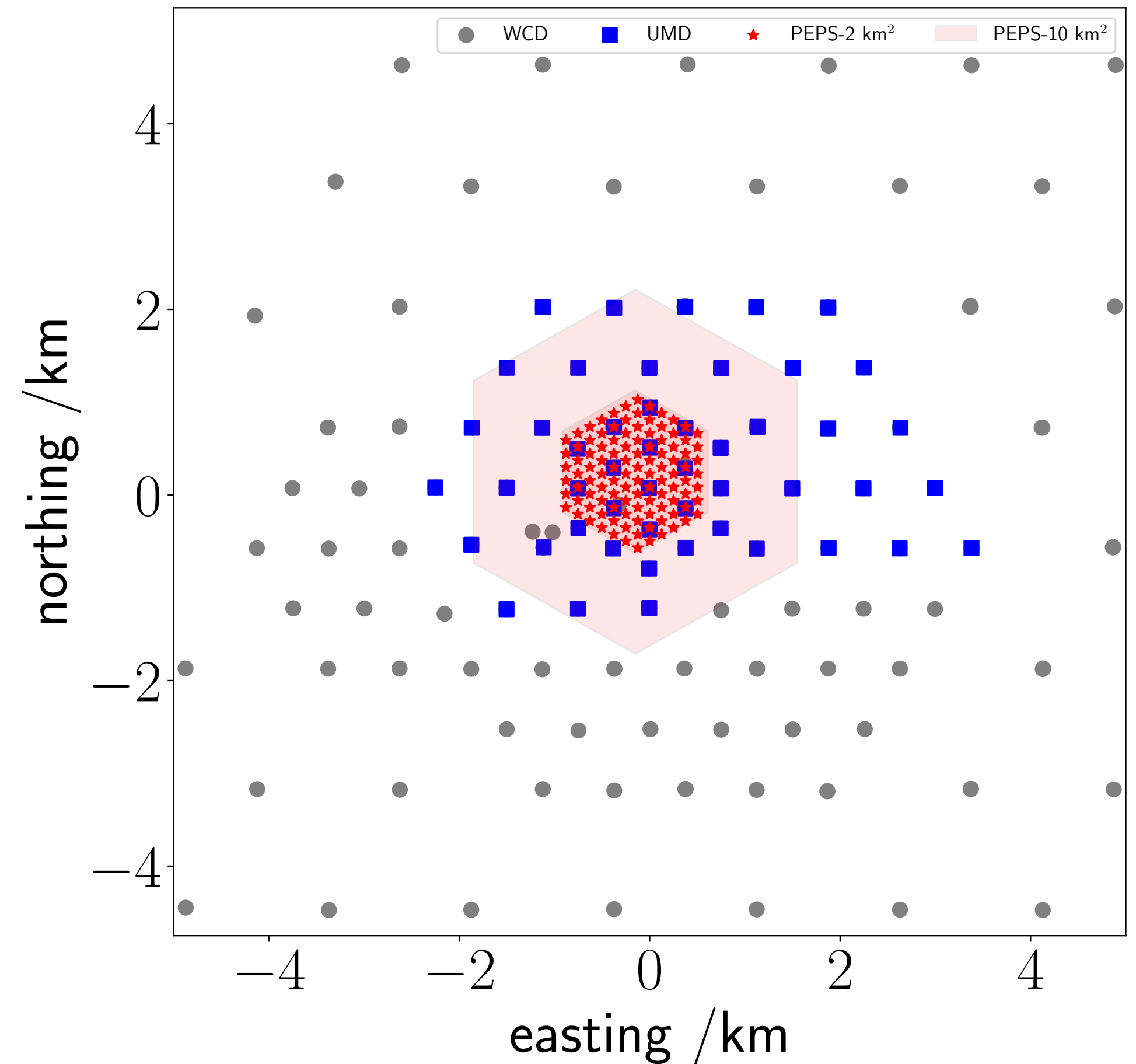


Layered water Cherenkov detector

prototype @Auger, operated since a decade



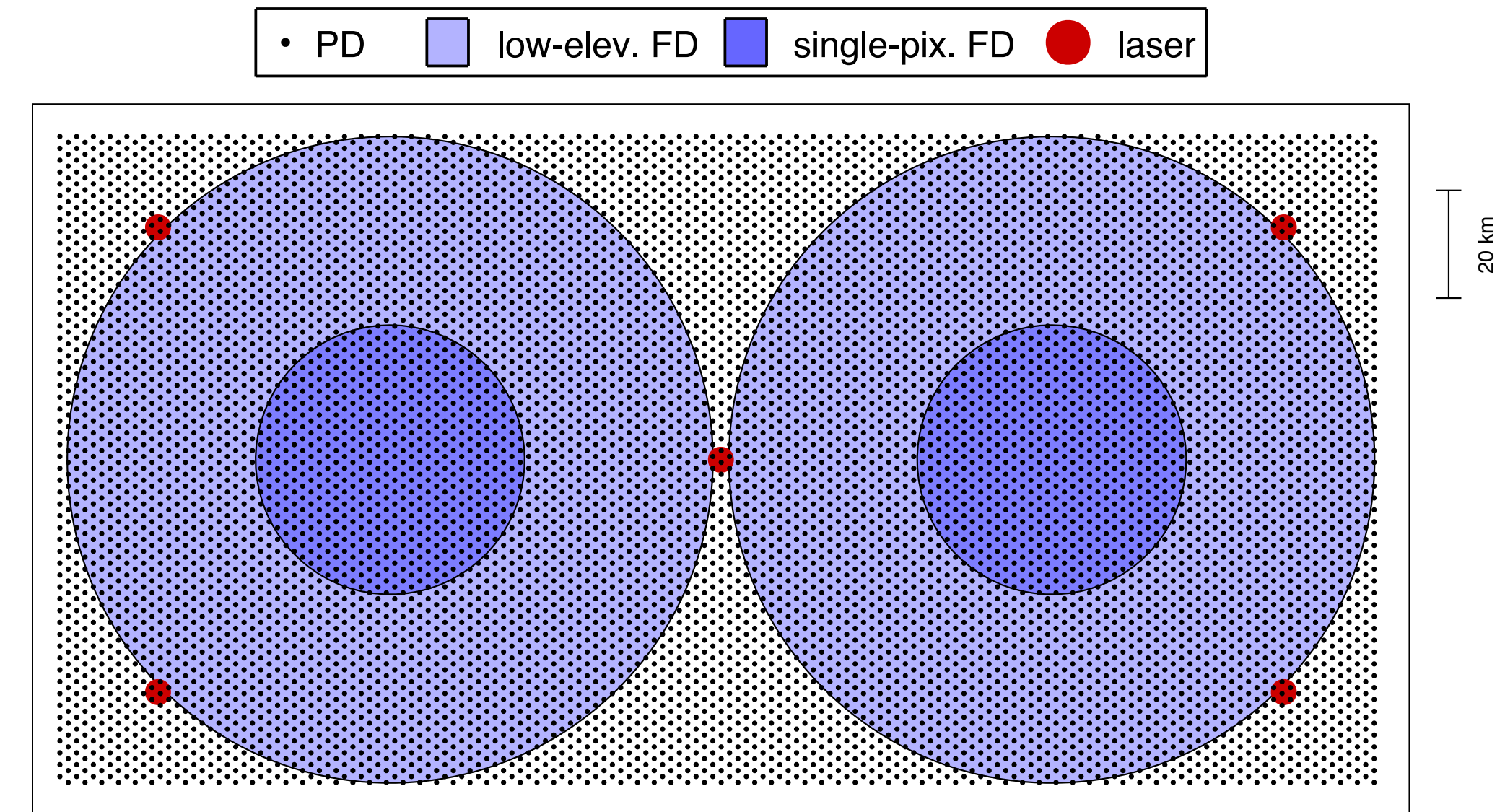
PEPS:  
PeV gamma rays @Auger



# GCOS - options FD



- fluorescence telescopes provide good measurement of longitudinal shower component
  - > calorimetric energy
  - > depth of shower maximum (mass)
- purpose for GCOS:
  - calibrate energy scale (<10% unc.)
  - calibrate mass scale (<15 g/cm<sup>2</sup> unc.)
- different layouts possible, e.g.
  - combine low-elevation FD with single-pixel FD
  - cover area with single-pixel FD



Layout A of the FD at one 30 000 km<sup>2</sup> GCOS site.

## Fluorescence Detector Tasks

- calibration of PD energy scale
- calibration of PD mass scale
- $\sigma_E < 10\%$ ,  $\sigma_{\ln A} \sim 0.4$
- duty cycle 20%

# GCOS - options FD

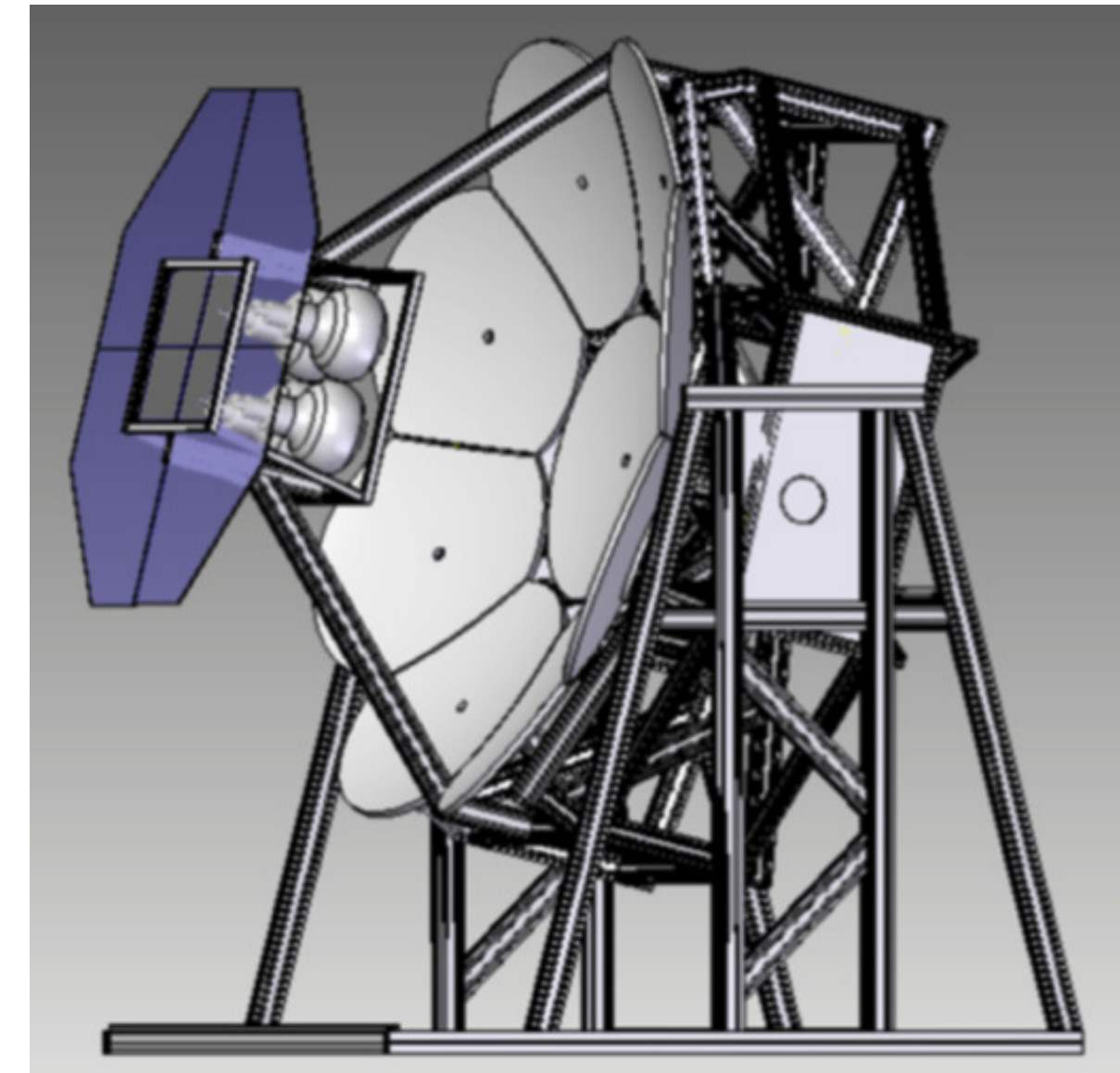
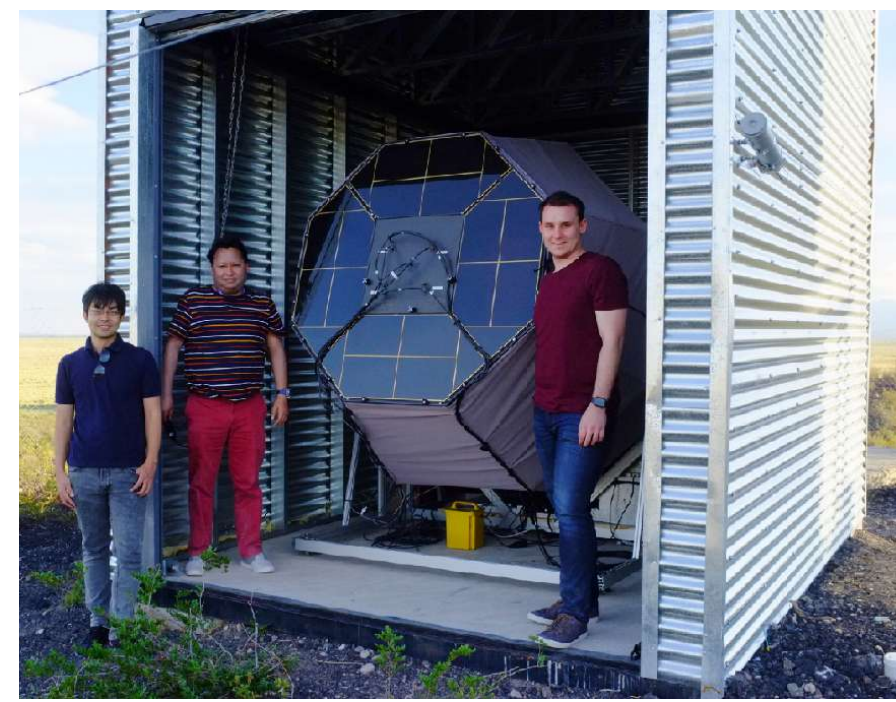
ongoing R&D for future large arrays

**FAST: array of low-cost telescopes**

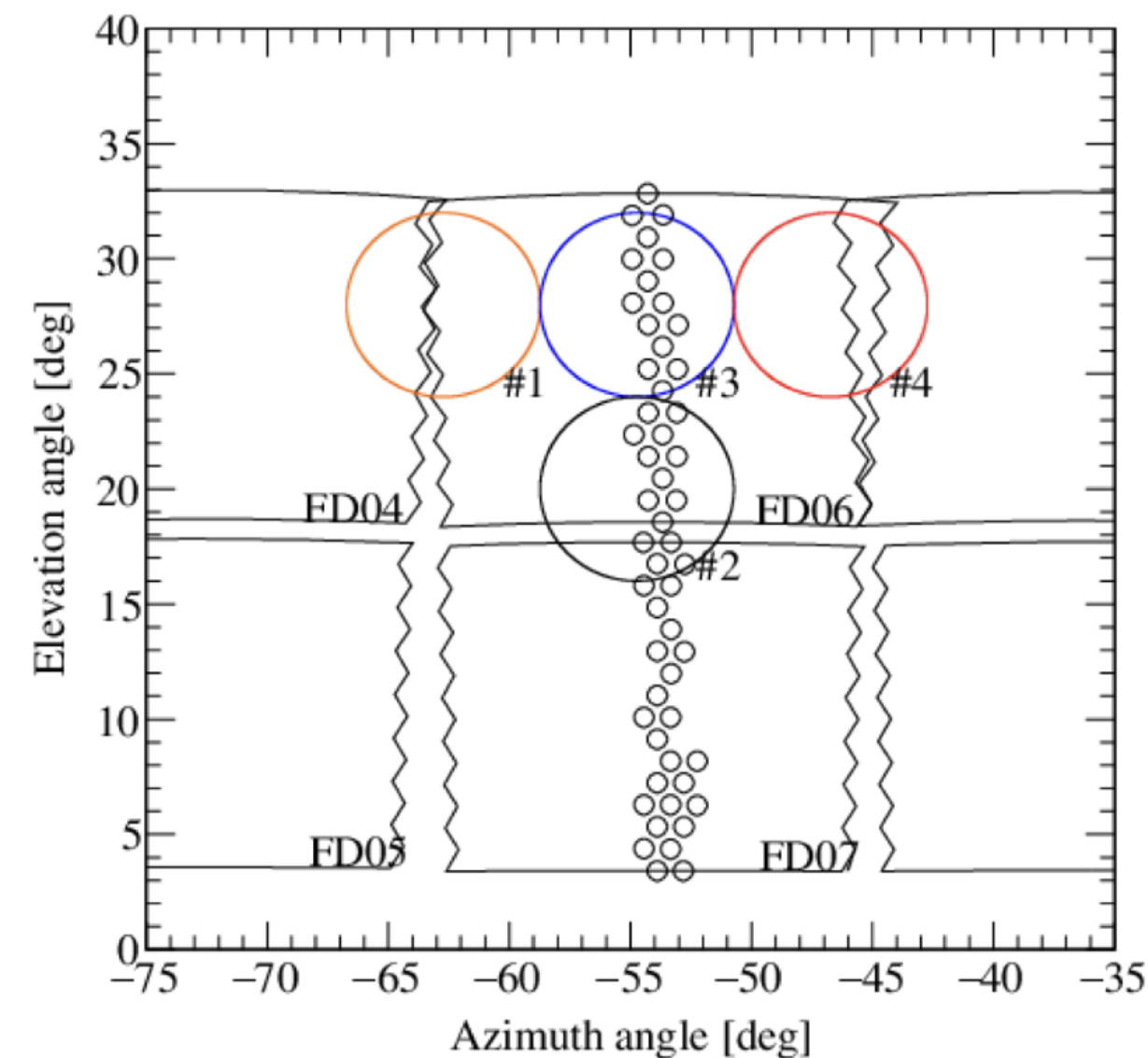
FAST@TA



FAST@Auger



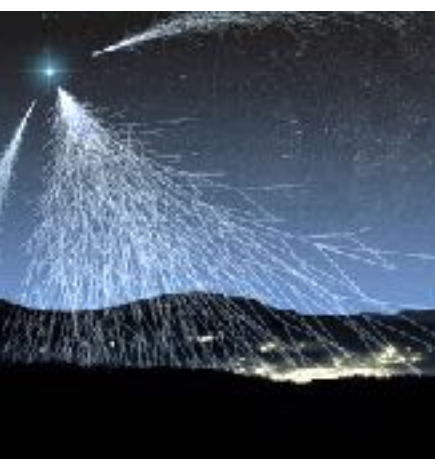
**CRAFFT @ TA**



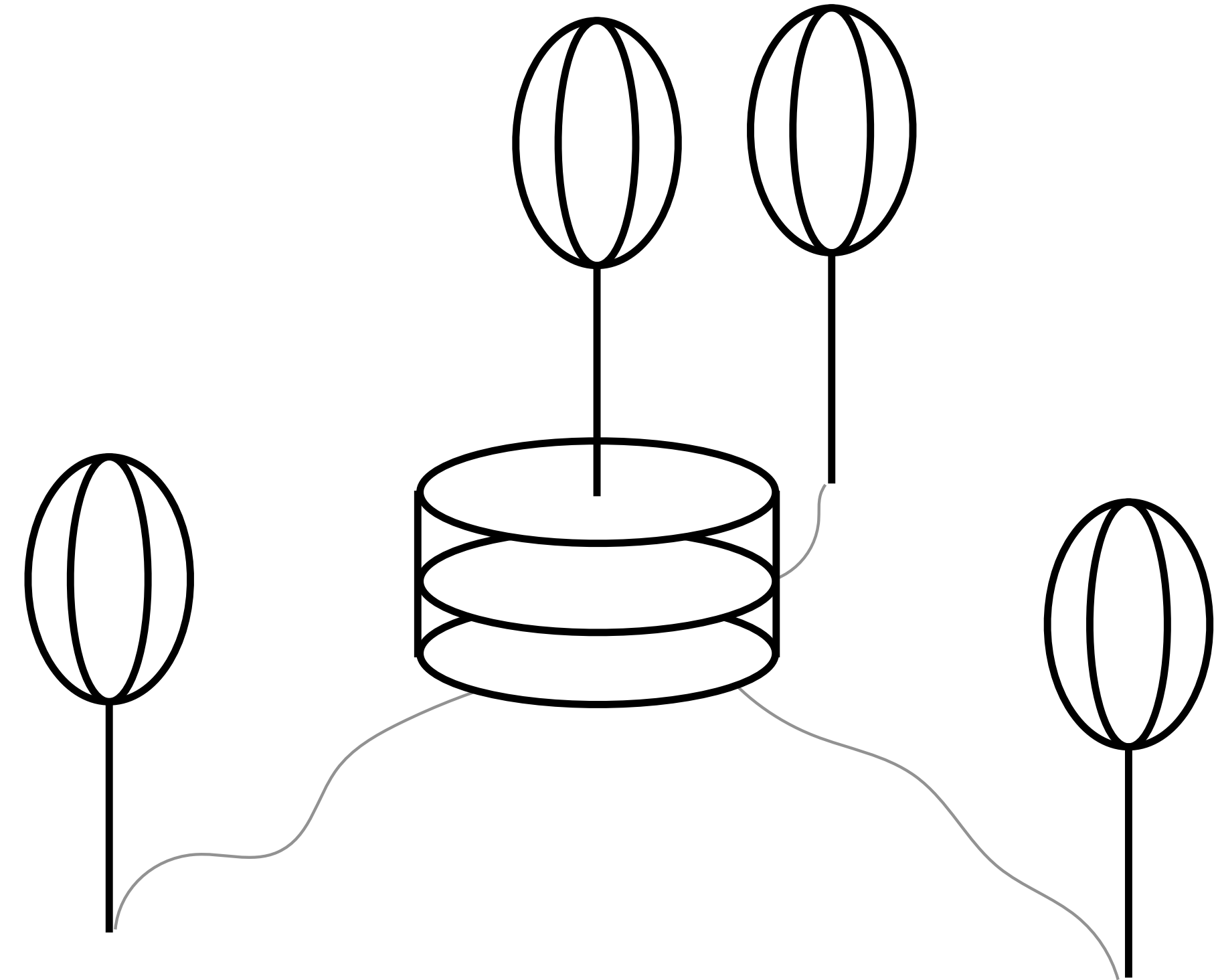
**a measured air shower**



# GCOS - options RD



- radio detection provides clean measurement of e/m shower component
- can provide independent energy scale with accuracy comparable to state-of-the-art FD methods
- lateral distribution steeper than e/m and  $\mu$  components  
—> satellite stations?
- # of polarizations?  
frequency range?  
ns time resolution —> interferometry



## Radio Detector Potential

- $\sigma_{e/m} < 10\%$
- independent energy scale,  $\sigma_E < 10\%$
- hybrid  $\mu$  & e/m  $\rightarrow$  mass
- interferometry  $\rightarrow$  mass

# GCOS in Snowmass White Paper



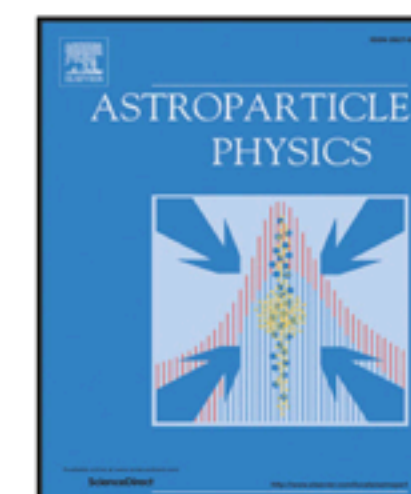
Astroparticle Physics 149 (2023) 102819



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Astroparticle Physics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/astropartphys](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/astropartphys)



## Ultra high energy cosmic rays

### The intersection of the Cosmic and Energy Frontiers<sup>☆</sup>

Experiment	Feature	Cosmic Ray Science*	Timeline
Pierre Auger Observatory	Hybrid array: fluorescence, surface $e/\mu$ + radio, 3000 km <sup>2</sup>	Hadronic interactions, search for BSM, UHECR source populations, $\sigma_{p-Air}$	AugerPrime upgrade
Telescope Array (TA)	Hybrid array: fluorescence, surface scintillators, up to 3000 km <sup>2</sup>	UHECR source populations proton-air cross section ( $\sigma_{p-Air}$ )	TAx4 upgrade
IceCube / IceCube-Gen2	Hybrid array: surface + deep, up to 6 km <sup>2</sup>	Hadronic interactions, prompt decays, Galactic to extragalactic transition	Upgrade + surface enhancement → IceCube-Gen2 deployment → IceCube-Gen2 operation
GRAND	Radio array for inclined events, up to 200,000 km <sup>2</sup>	UHECR sources via huge exposure, search for ZeV particles, $\sigma_{p-Air}$	GRANDProto 300 → GRAND 10k → GRAND 200k multiple sites, step by step
POEMMA	Space fluorescence and Cherenkov detector	UHECR sources via huge exposure, search for ZeV particles, $\sigma_{p-Air}$	EUSO program → POEMMA
GCOS	Hybrid array with $X_{max} + e/\mu$ over 40,000 km <sup>2</sup>	UHECR sources via event-by-event rigidity, forward particle physics, search for BSM, $\sigma_{p-Air}$	GCOS R&D + first site → GCOS further sites

\*All experiments contribute to multi-messenger astrophysics also by searches for UHE neutrinos and photons; several experiments (IceCube, GRAND, POEMMA) have astrophysical neutrinos as primary science case.

2025                      2030                      2035                      2040

# GCOS next steps



- straw man design together with write-up of Brussels and Wuppertal workshops will be put on arXiv before the end of 2024
- GCOS Japan has regular meetings to coordinate R&D
- also in Europe R&D on potential detectors has started
- GCOS workshop 2025 in Japan?

## Further reading:

- ICRC 2021
- ICRC 2023
- UHECR 2022
- 1st GCOS workshop 2021
- 2nd GCOS workshop 2022
- 3rd GCOS workshop 2023

## Science Targets of GCOS

- discovery of UHE accelerators
- charged-particle astronomy
- UHE neutrinos and photons
- BSM physics
- cosmic magnetism
- multi-messenger studies