



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
**BARTOL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE**



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Radio Detection of Cosmic Particles

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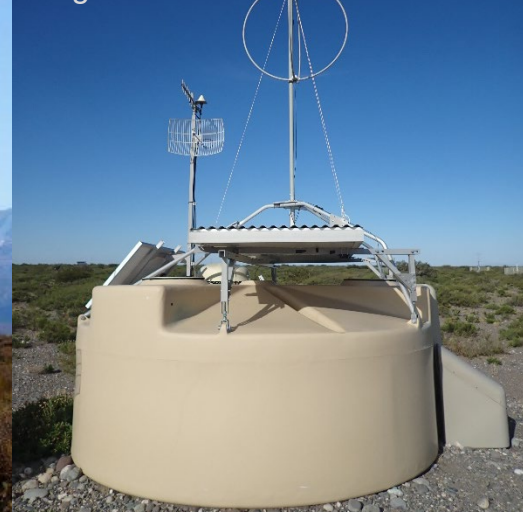
LOPES



Auger Engineering Radio Array



AugerPrime

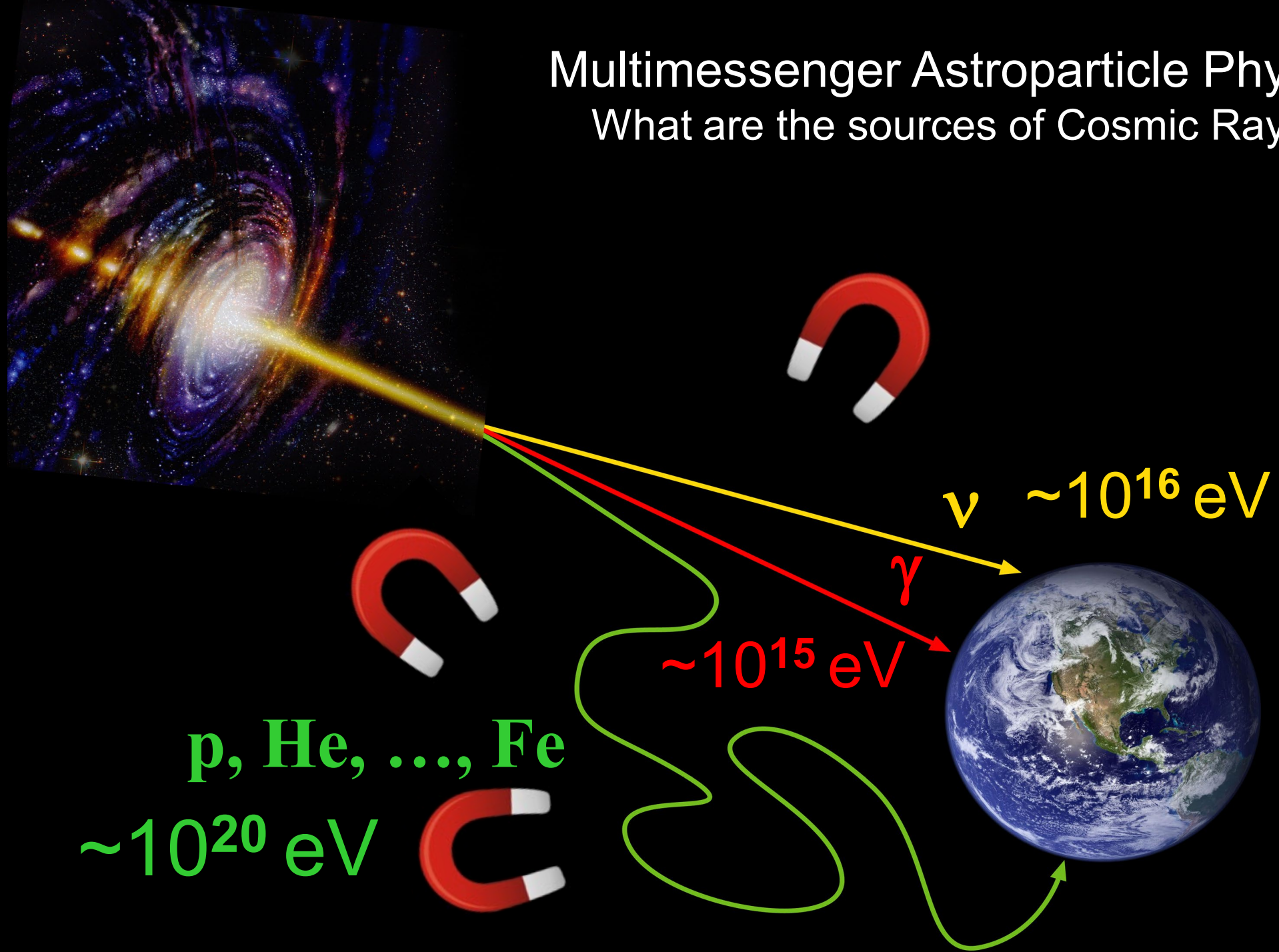


IceCube-Gen2 Surface Prototype Station

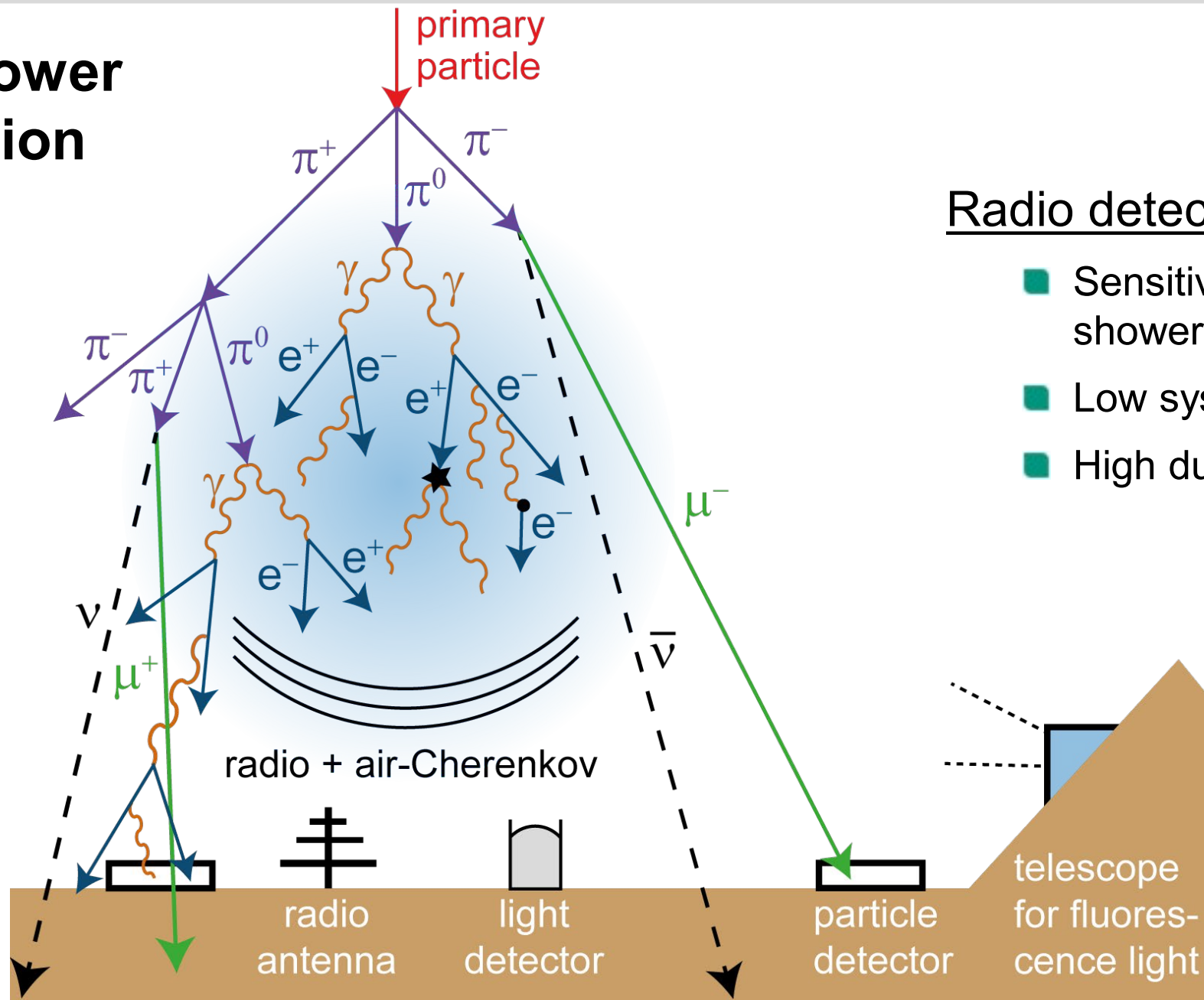


Multimessenger Astroparticle Physics

What are the sources of Cosmic Rays?



Air shower Detection



Radio detection of air showers:

- Sensitive to electromagnetic shower component
- Low systematic uncertainties
- High duty cycle

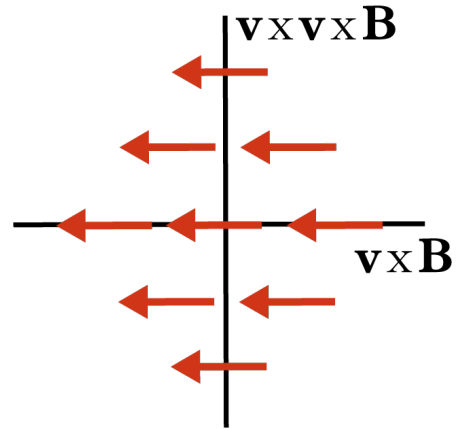
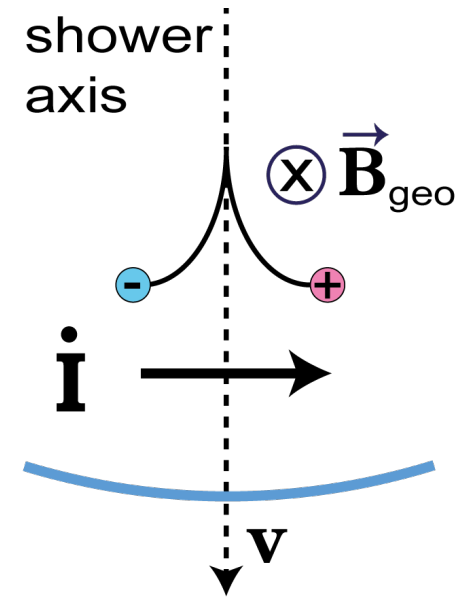
Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.
93 (2017) 1-68
arXiv: 1607.08781

Radio: Emission Mechanisms

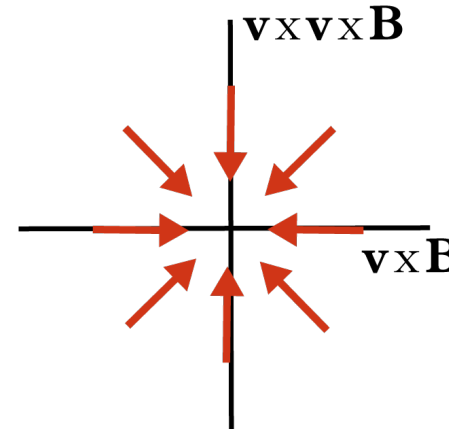
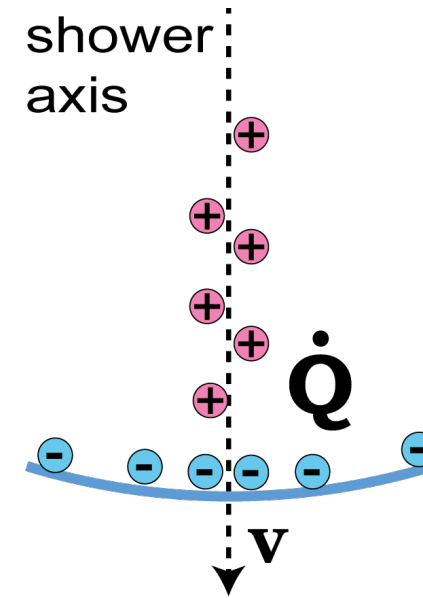
Geomagnetic emission:

Dominant mechanism in air showers.

Relevant for all primary particles.



Geomagnetic emission



Askaryan emission

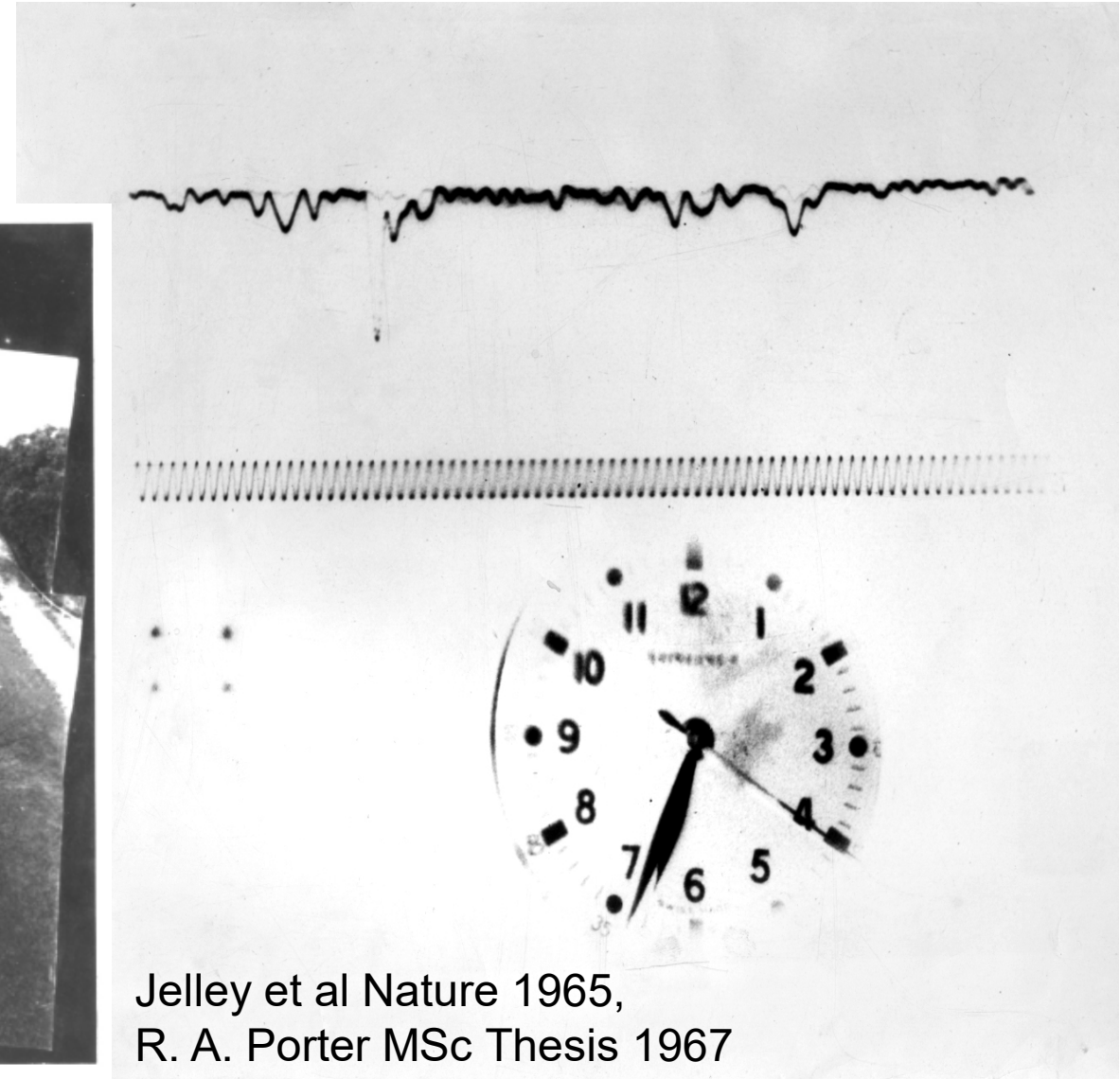
Askaryan emission:

Dominant mechanism in dense media
subdominant in air.

Most relevant for neutrino detection.

Experiments: First Detection

- Qualitative features discovered 60 years ago, but measurements lacking accuracy

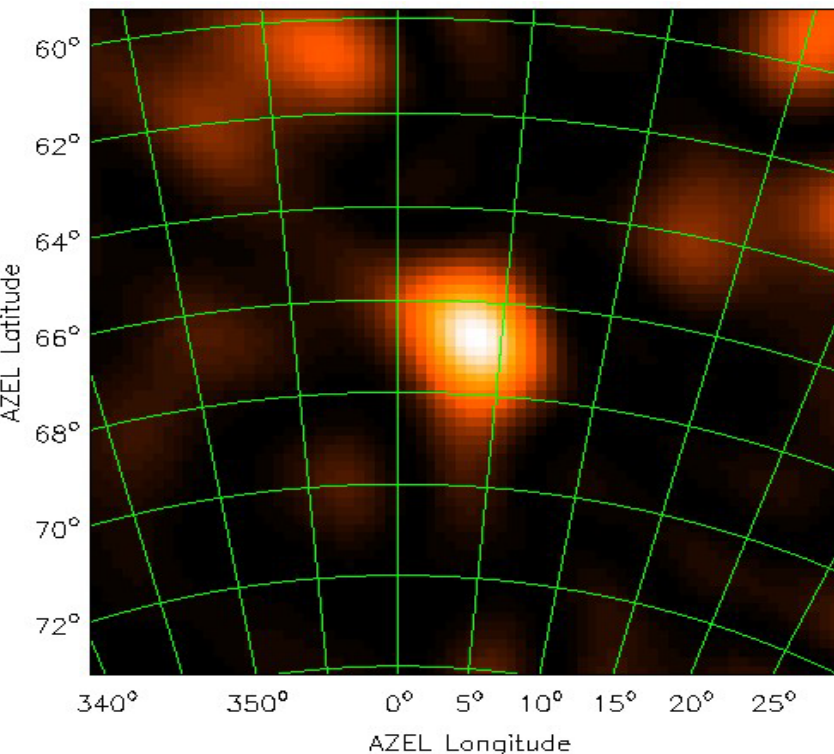
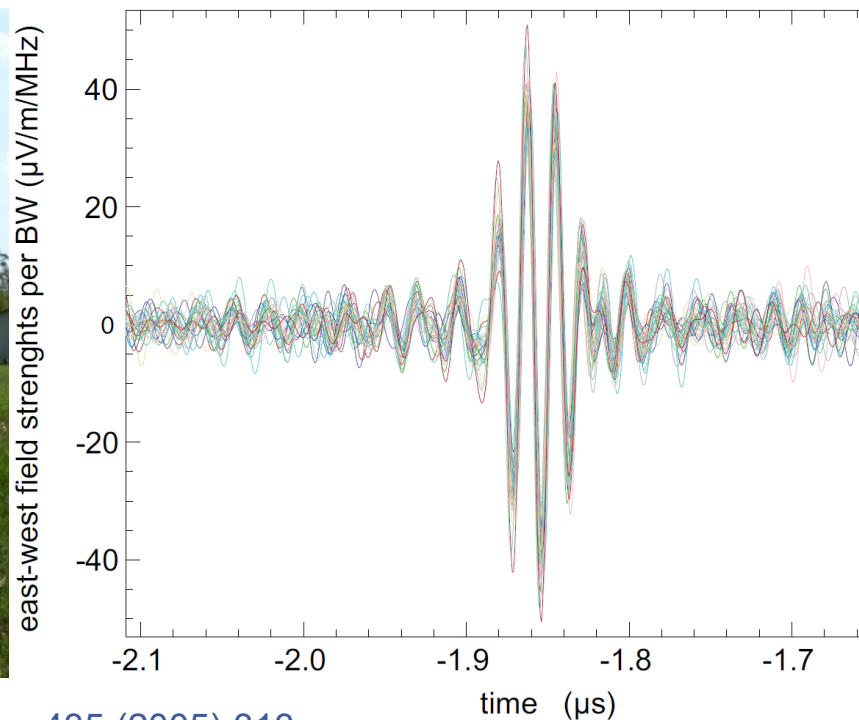


Jelley et al Nature 1965,
R. A. Porter MSc Thesis 1967



Digital Radio Interferometry of Air Showers at LOPES

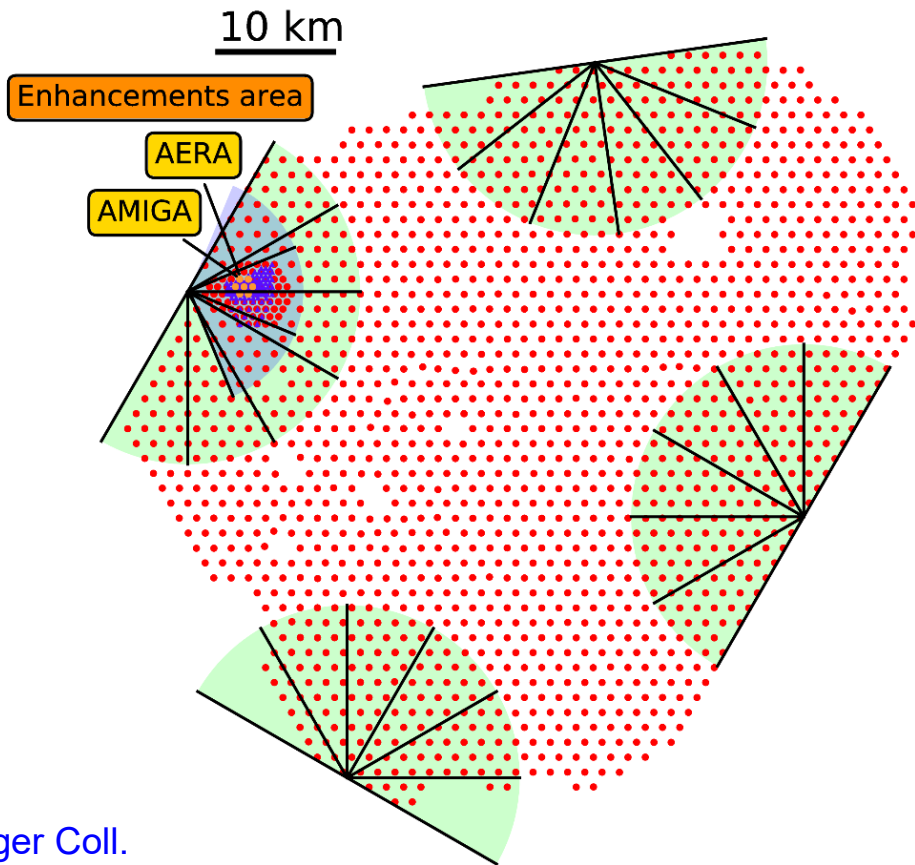
- Operation: 2003 – 2013 as radio extension of KASCADE-Grande
- 30 antennas, 40 – 80 MHz, proof-of-principle for radio interferometry of cosmic-ray air showers: direction ($< 0.5^\circ$), energy, shower maximum (X_{\max})



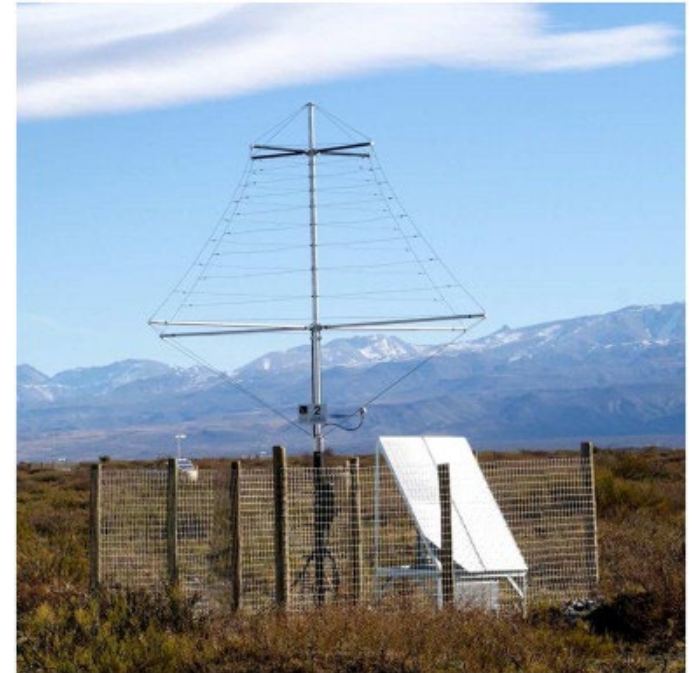
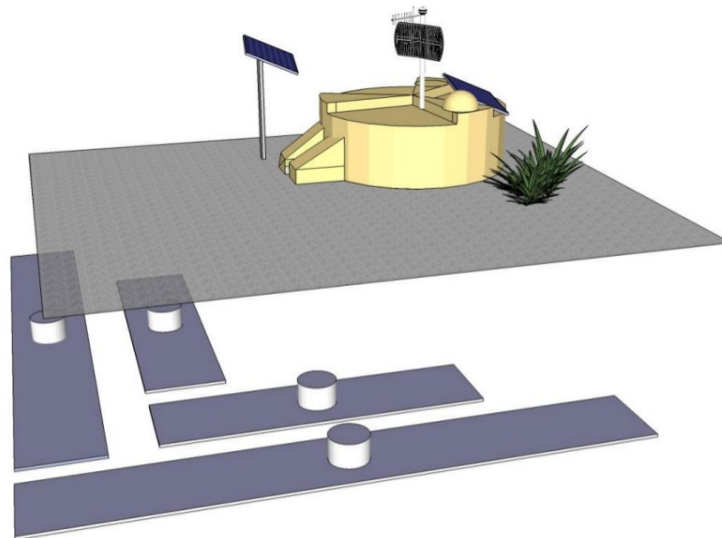
LOPES Coll., EPJ C 81 (2021) 176 + Nature 435 (2005) 313

Auger Engineering Radio Array (AERA) at the Pierre Auger Observatory

- water-Cherenkov detectors (SD)
- AERA (RD)
- AMIGA Unitary Cell (MD)
- FD field of view
- HEAT field of view

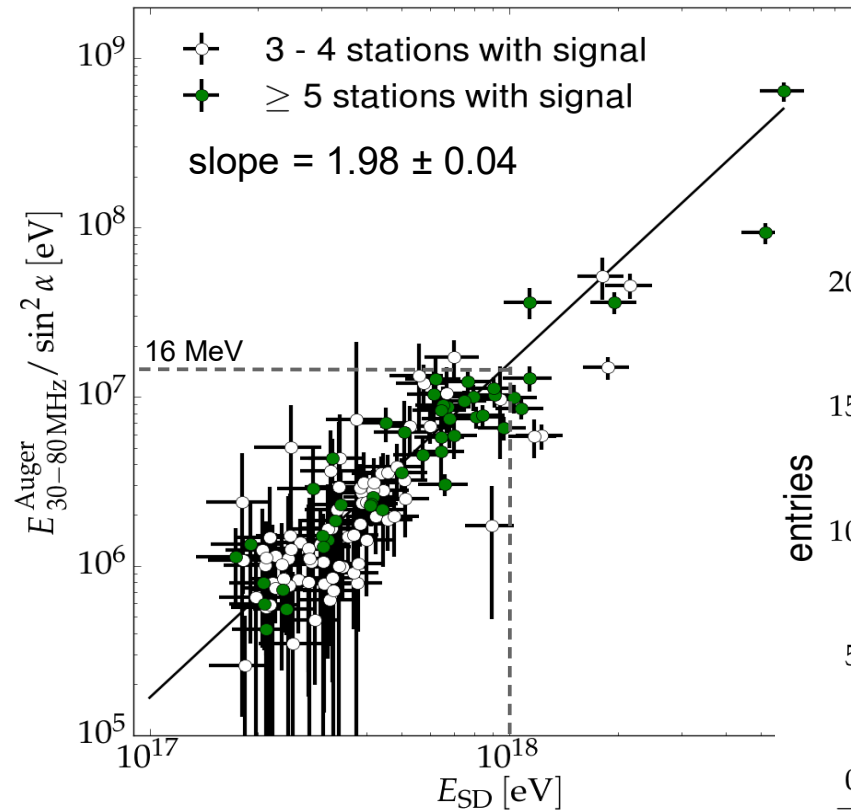
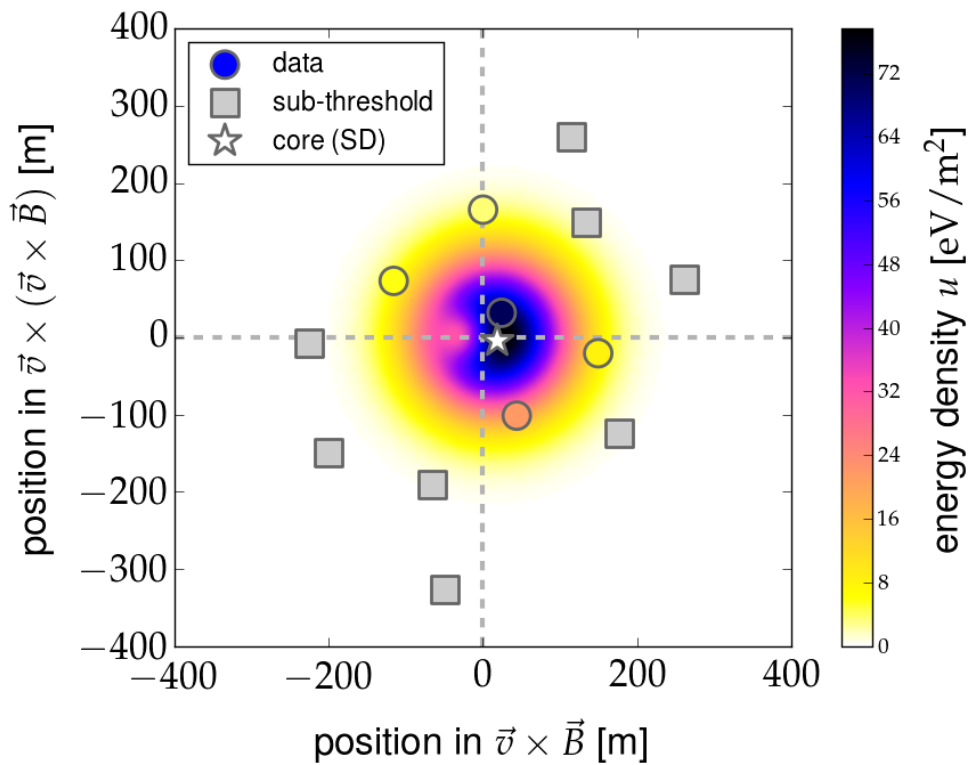


- 153 autonomous radio stations on 17 km²
 - different antennas, electronics, triggers,...
- Coincident measurements with surface, underground and fluorescence detectors

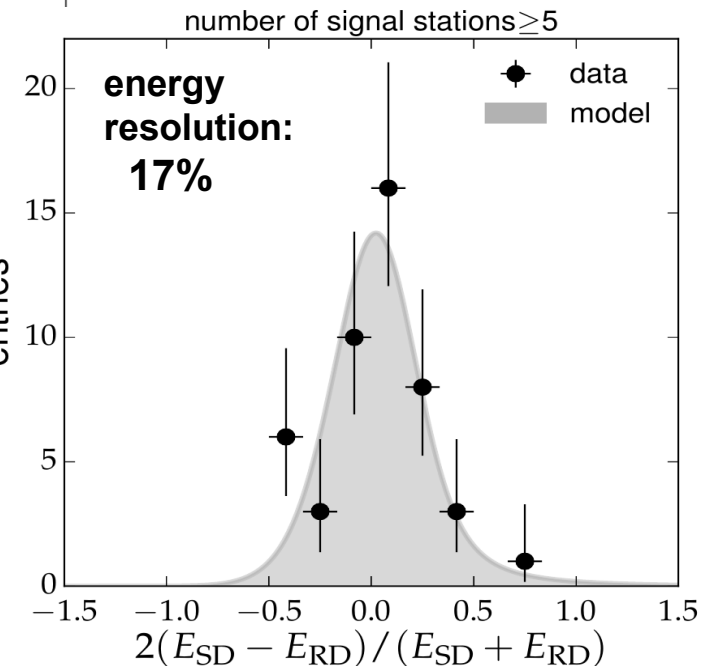


Radio Measurement of Cosmic-Ray Energy

- Total energy in radio signal scales quadratically with electro-mag. shower energy
- Precision and accuracy competes with optical techniques, with radio available 24/7



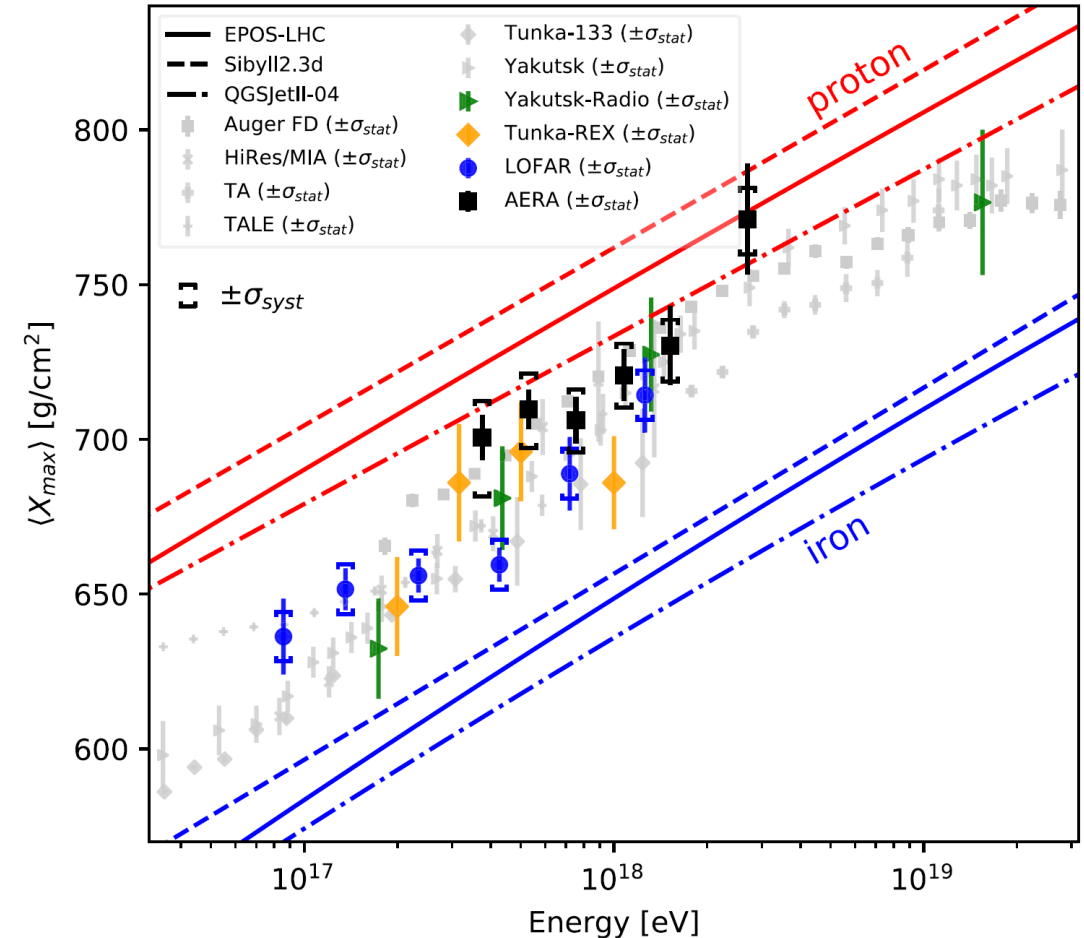
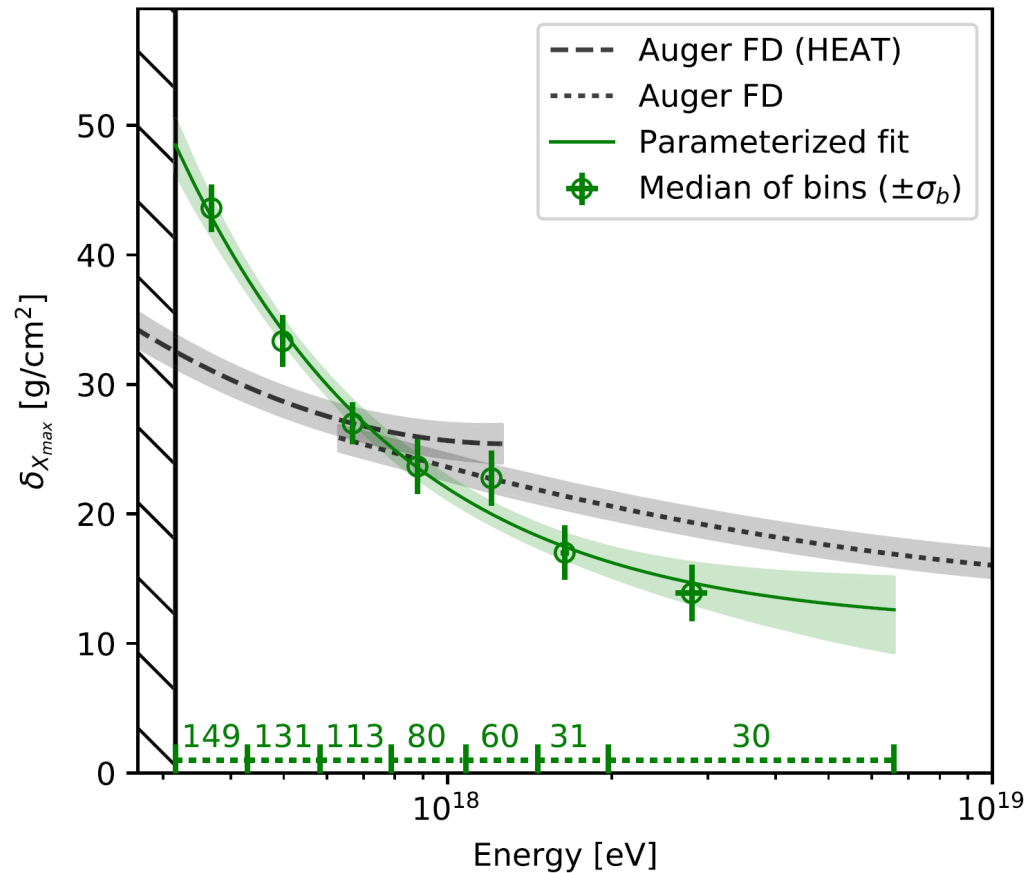
**16 MeV radiation energy
for a 1 EeV cosmic ray**



Pierre Auger Coll., PRL 116 (2016) 241101

Mass Sensitivity of Radio Emission (through X_{\max})

- Depth of shower maximum (X_{\max}) by matching templates of simulated radio amplitude
- Accuracy competes with optical techniques, with radio available 24/7

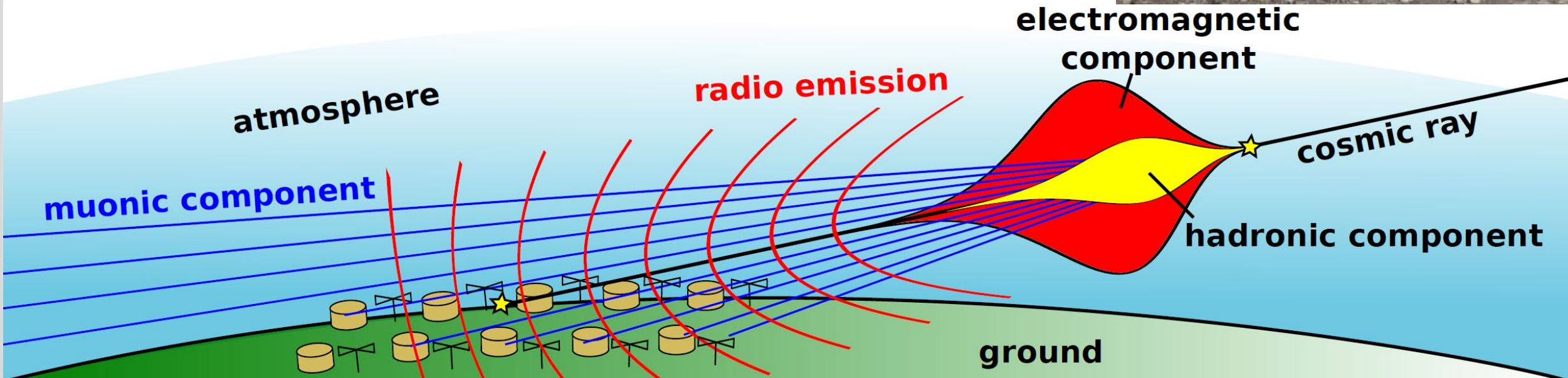


Pierre Auger Coll., PRL 132 (2024) 021001

AugerPrime: Upgrade of the Pierre Auger Observatory

■ Improved quality of surface detector:

- scintillators + radio antennas
- electronics upgrade
- radio+muons enables per-event mass discrimination

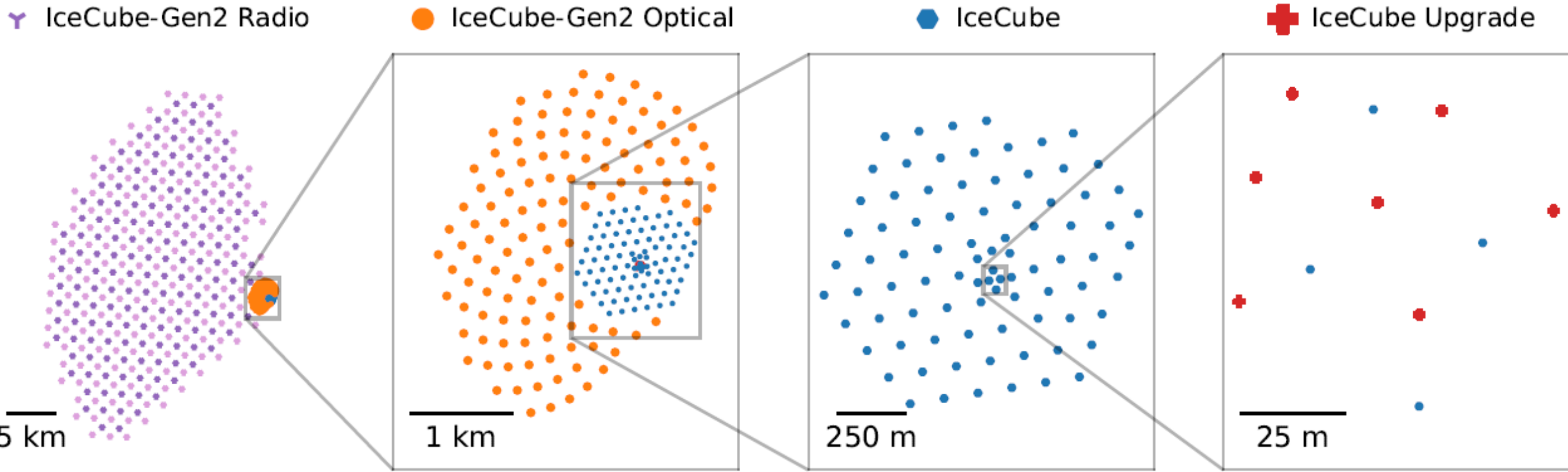


IceCube-Gen2: extending the IceCube Neutrino Observatory



ICECUBE
GEN2

- An order of magnitude larger *deep optical* and *surface* arrays
- Large *in-ice radio* array for ultra-high-energy neutrinos



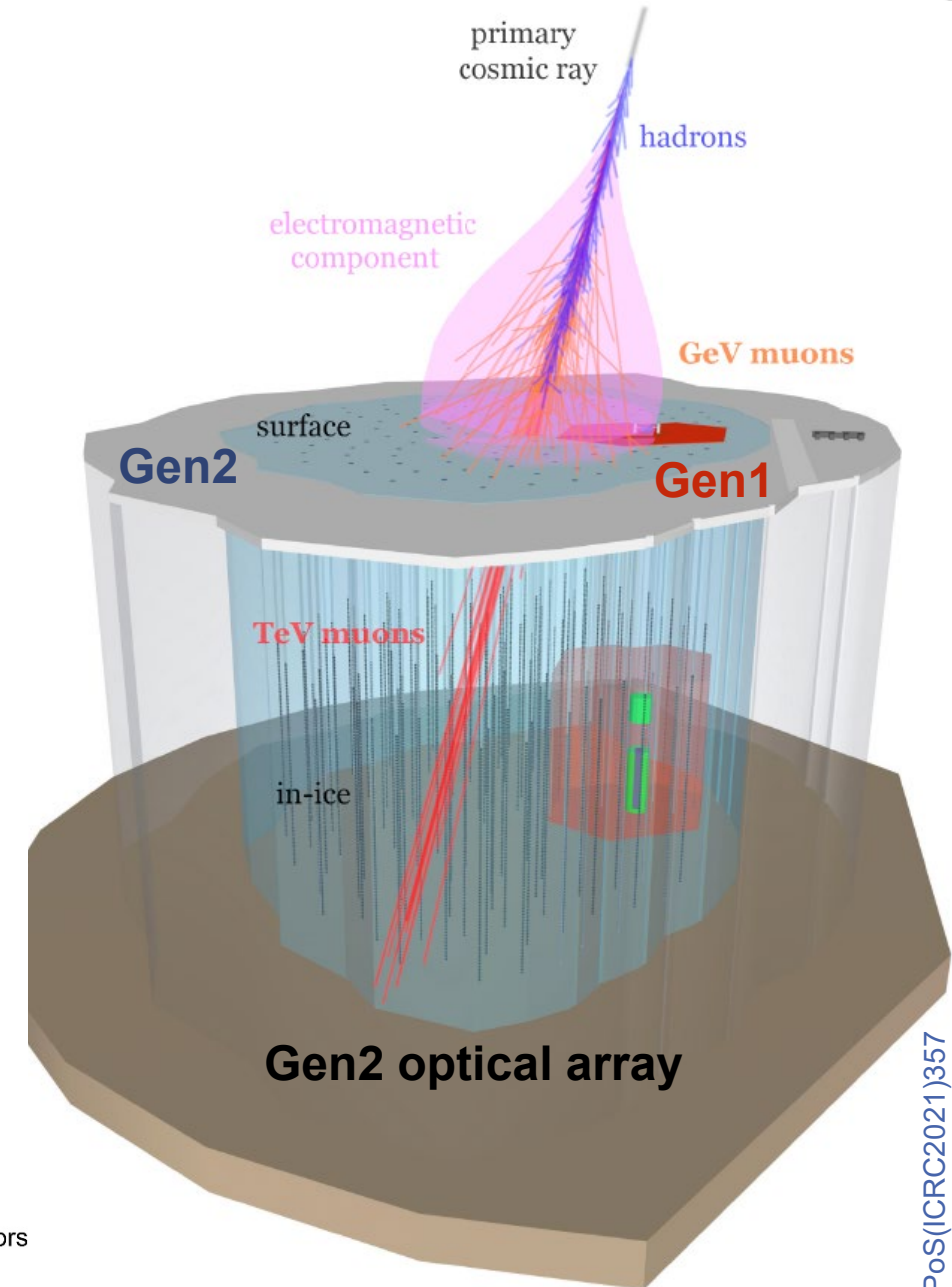
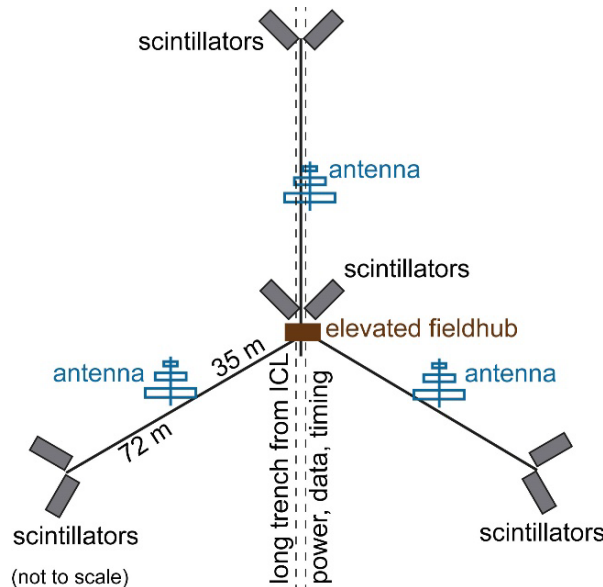
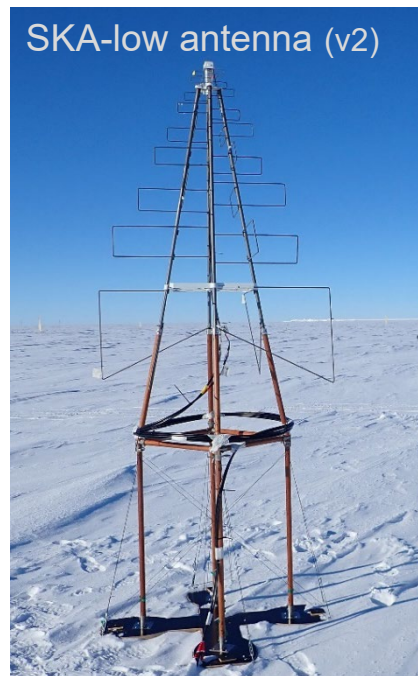
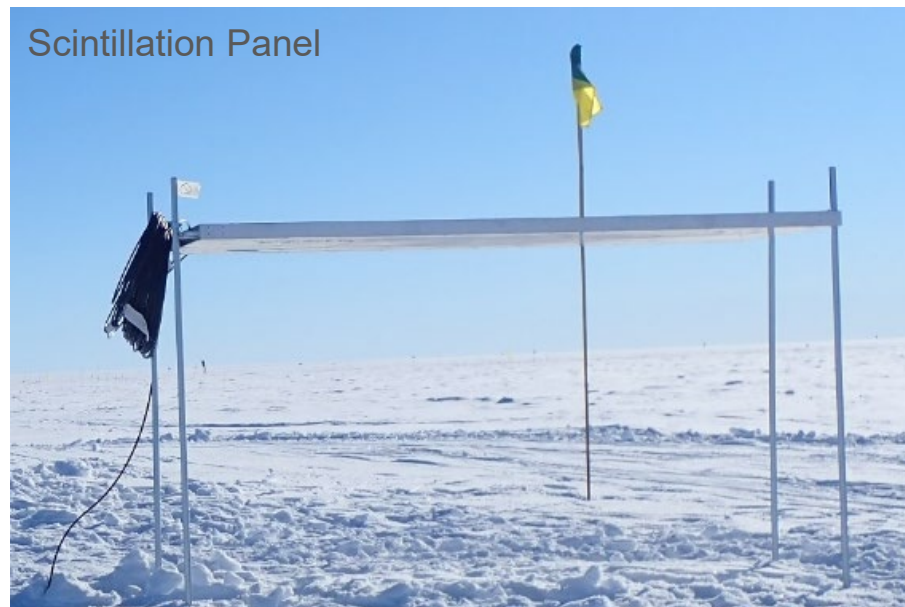
IceCube-Gen2 Technical Design Report (TDR): <https://icecube-gen2.wisc.edu/science/publications/tdr/>

IceCube-Gen2 Surface Array

Design based on success of prototype station operation at the South Pole

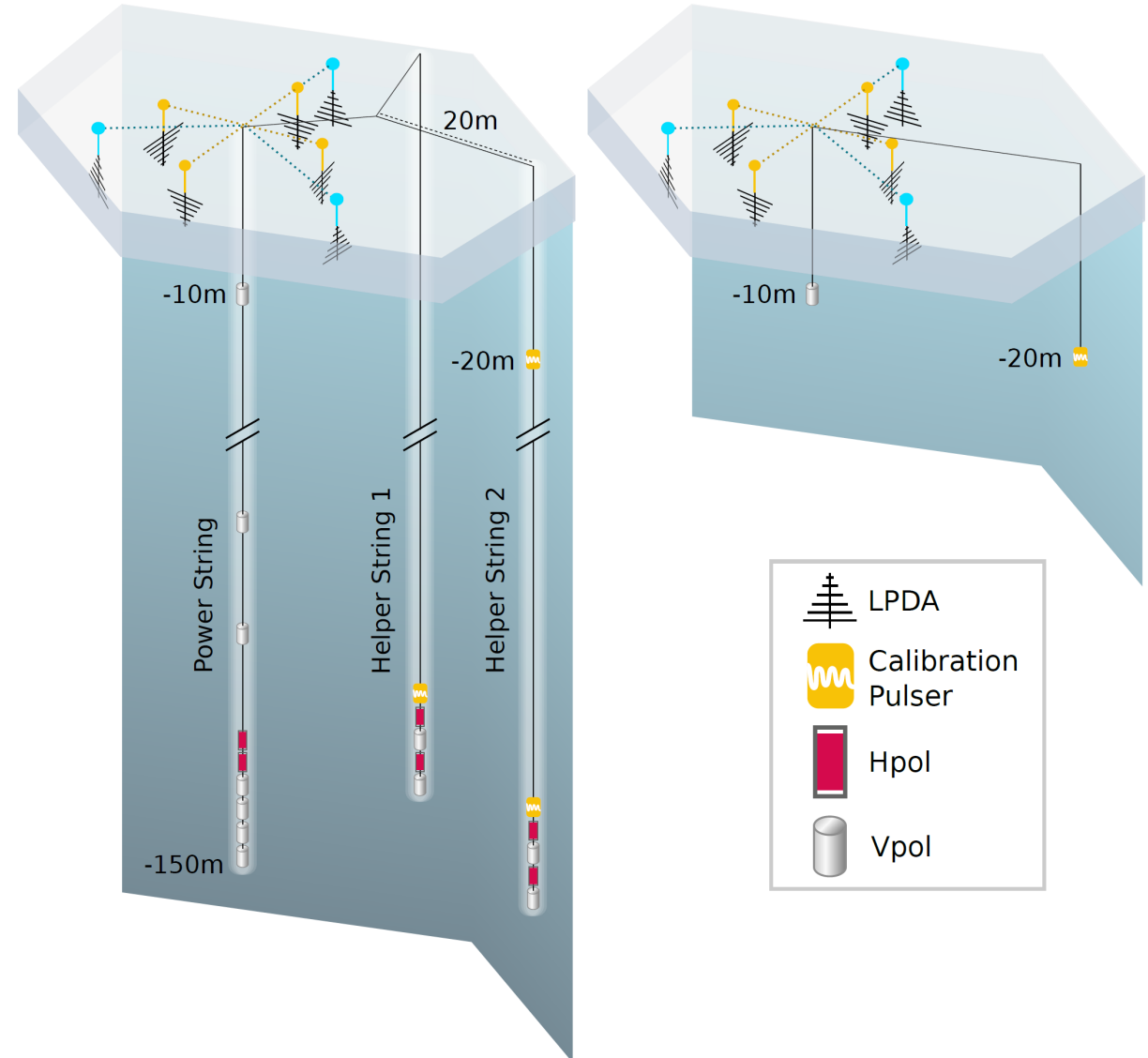
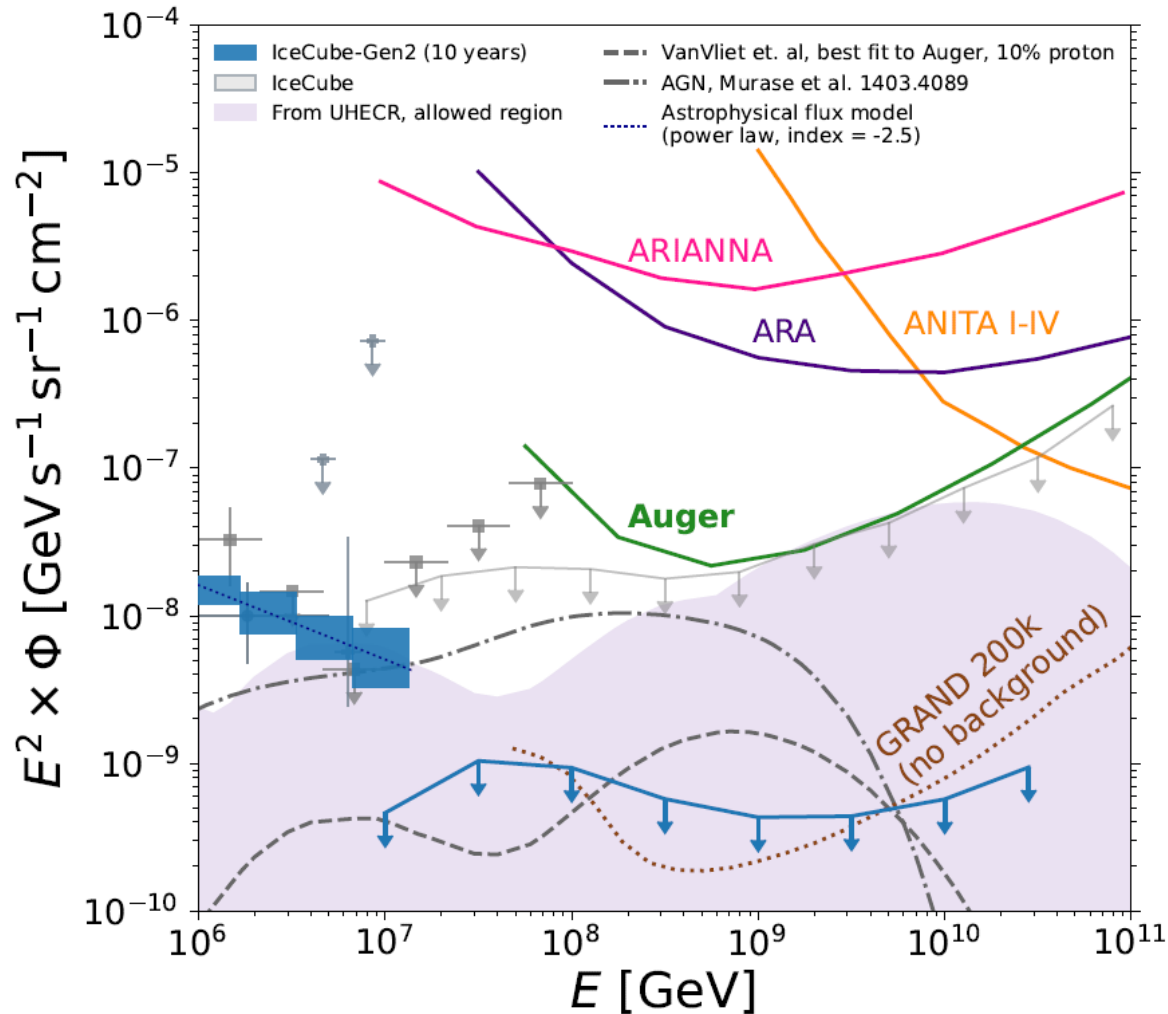
Science Case:

- veto for downgoing events
- PeV-EeV cosmic rays + PeV photons
- particle physics, e.g., prompt muons



IceCube-Gen2 Radio Array for UHE Neutrinos

■ Builds on current RNO-G experience



IceCube-Gen2 Technical Design Report (TDR): <https://icecube-gen2.wisc.edu/science/publications/tdr/>

Radio Detection in Mutli-Messenger Observatories

- Radio one of the main techniques for future UHECR and UHE neutrino observatories
 - will also contribute to particles physics and photon search above 10 PeV

Ultra-high-energy Cosmic Ray Instrumentation Roadmap from Snowmass UHECR whitepaper:

Experiment	Feature	Cosmic Ray Science*	Timeline			
Pierre Auger Observatory	Hybrid array: fluorescence, surface e/μ + radio, 3000 km ²	Hadronic interactions, search for BSM, UHECR source populations, σ_{p-Air}	AugerPrime upgrade			
Telescope Array (TA)	Hybrid array: fluorescence, surface scintillators, up to 3000 km ²	UHECR source populations, proton-air cross section (σ_{p-Air})	TAX4 upgrade			
IceCube / IceCube-Gen2	Hybrid array: surface + deep, up to 6 km ²	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 ²	UHECR sources via huge exposure, search for ZeV particles, σ_{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, σ_{p-Air}	JEM-EUSO program		POEMMA	
GCOS	Hybrid array with $X_{max} + e/\mu$ over 40,000 km ²	UHECR sources via event-by-event rigidity, forward particle physics, search for BSM, σ_{p-Air}	GCOS R&D + first site		GCOS further sites	
			2025	2030	2035	2040

*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.

[Ultra-High-Energy Cosmic Rays: The Intersection of the Cosmic and Energy Frontiers](#) (white paper prepared for Snowmass CF7),

A. Coleman, J. Eser, E. Mayotte, F. Sarazin, F. G. Schröder, D. Soldin, T. M. Venters, *Astroparticle Physics* 149 (2023) 102819, [arxiv:2205.05845](#)

Conclusion

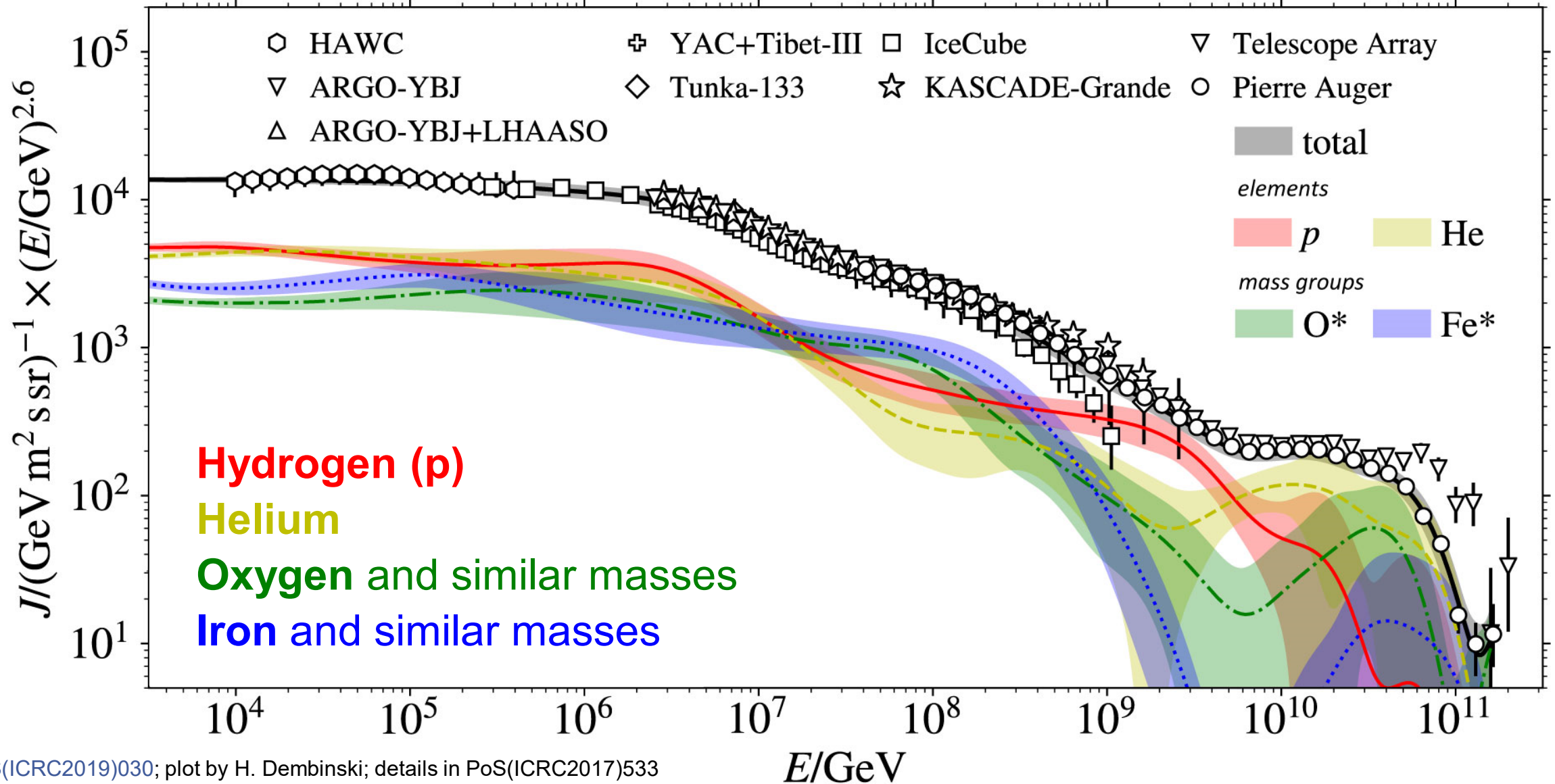
- Understanding highest energy cosmic-ray sources requires
 - Detection techniques for EeV neutral particles: photons + neutrinos
 - Higher accuracy for cosmic rays: mass sensitivity anisotropy measurements
 - Radio technique important for both applications

- Radio technique has matured for energies $E > 10 \text{ PeV}$
 - Competitive accuracy for cosmic-ray direction, energy, and mass (X_{max}) demonstrated
 - Further R&D in progress for stand-alone radio arrays, e.g., for neutrino
 - Several current and future experiments with radio for multi-messenger astrophysics

Additional Slides

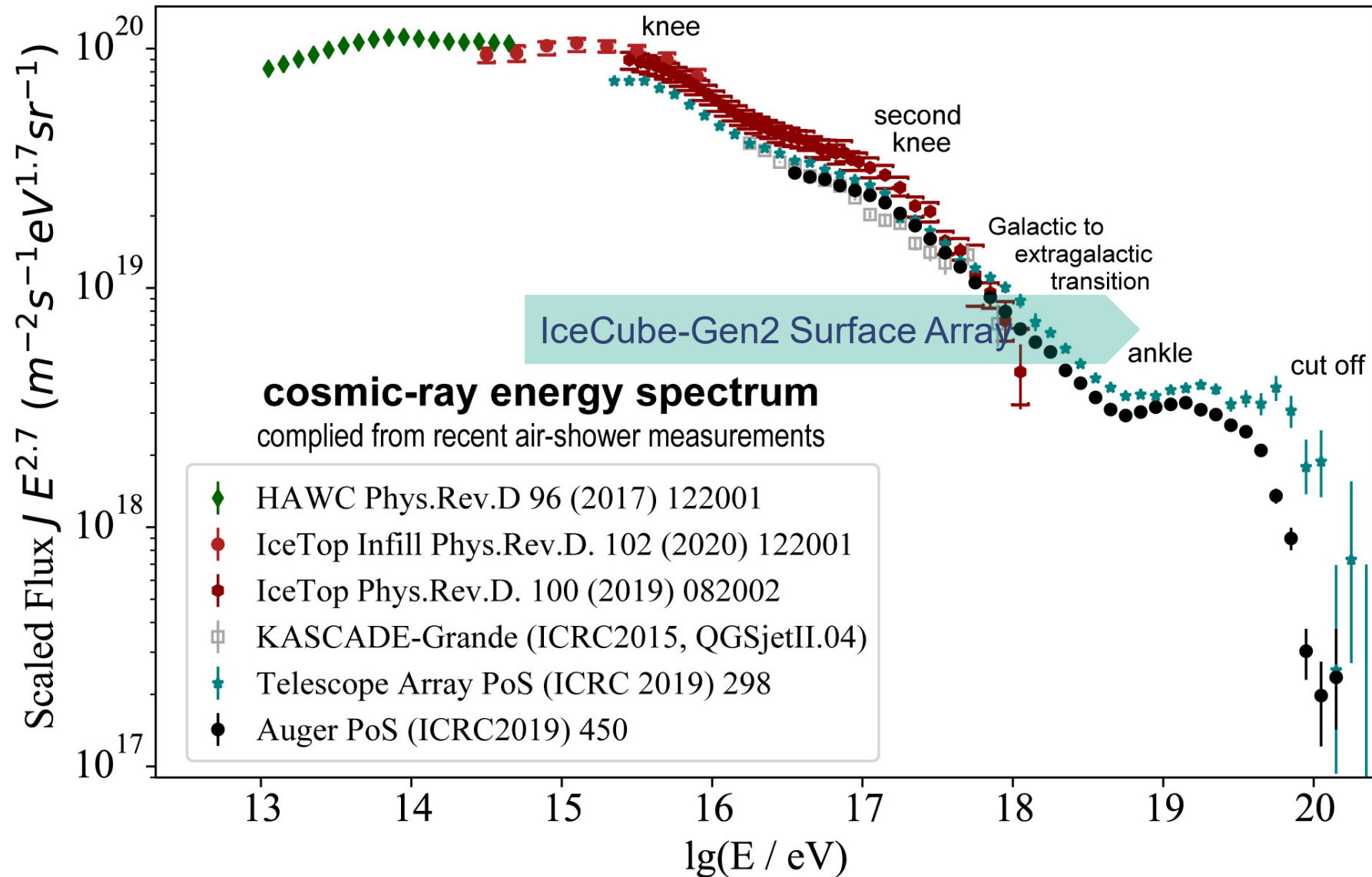


Cosmic-Ray Energy Spectrum and Mass Composition

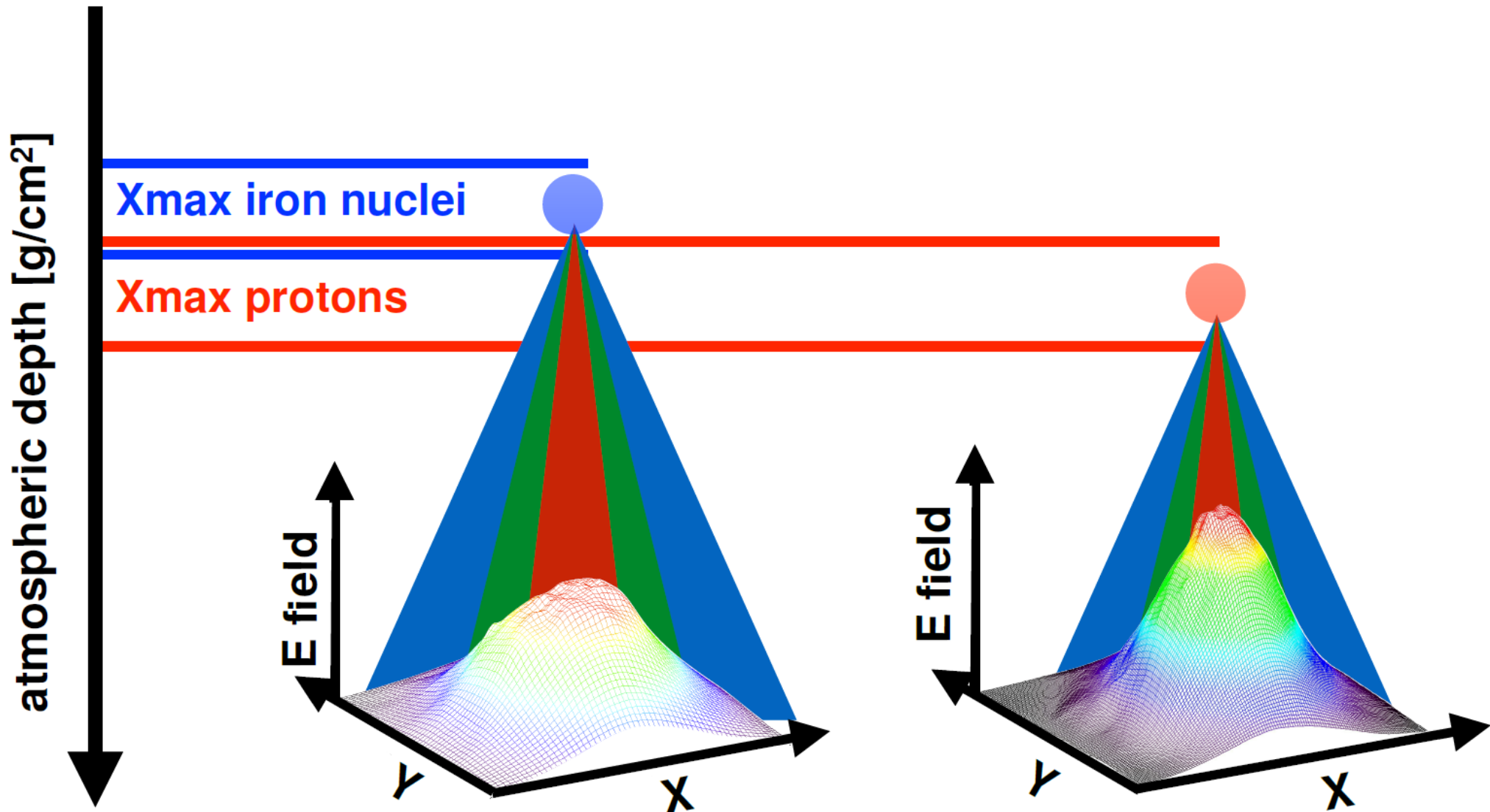


PoS(ICRC2019)030; plot by H. Dembinski; details in PoS(ICRC2017)533

Energy reach until Ankle: Galactic-to-extragalactic Transition

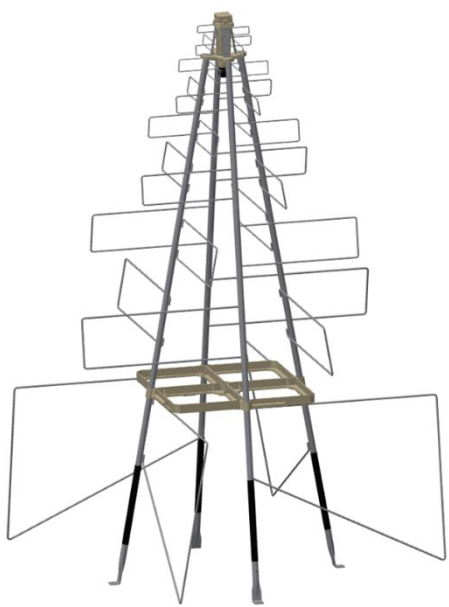


Radio emission beamed in forward cone

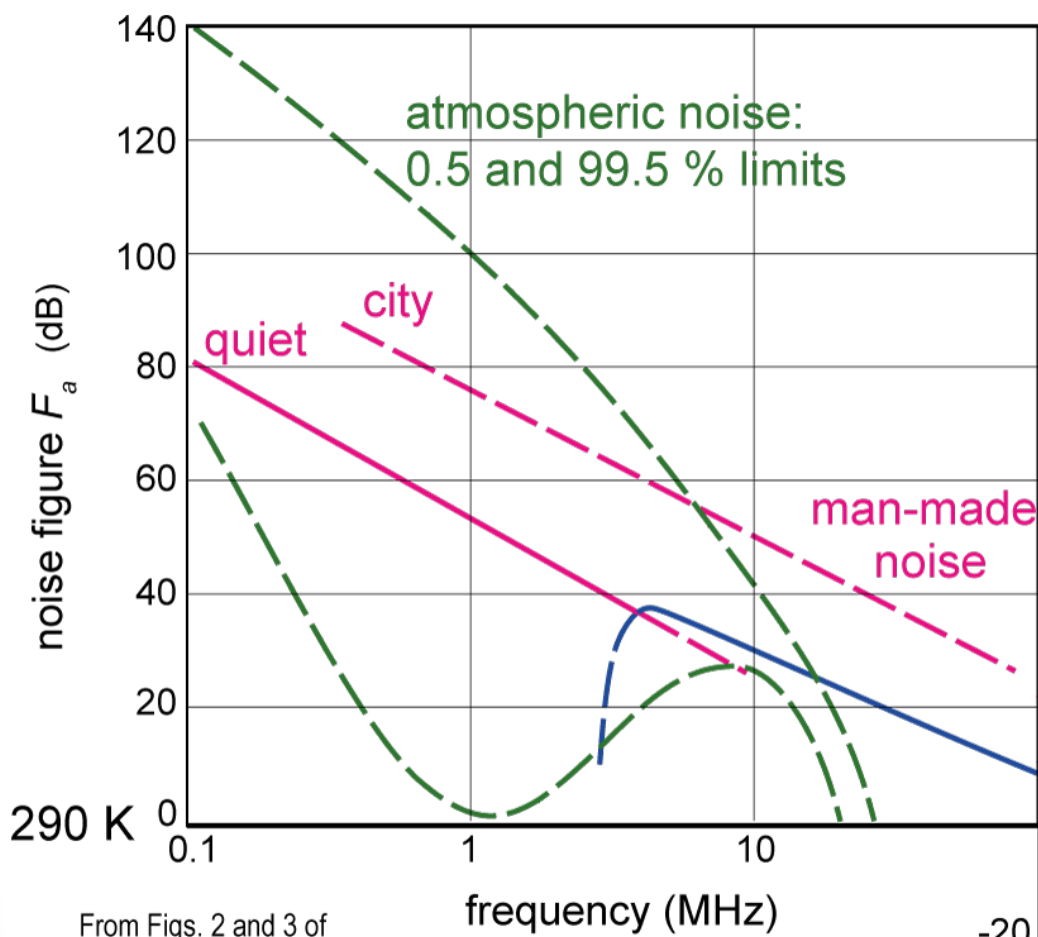


Auger Coll.

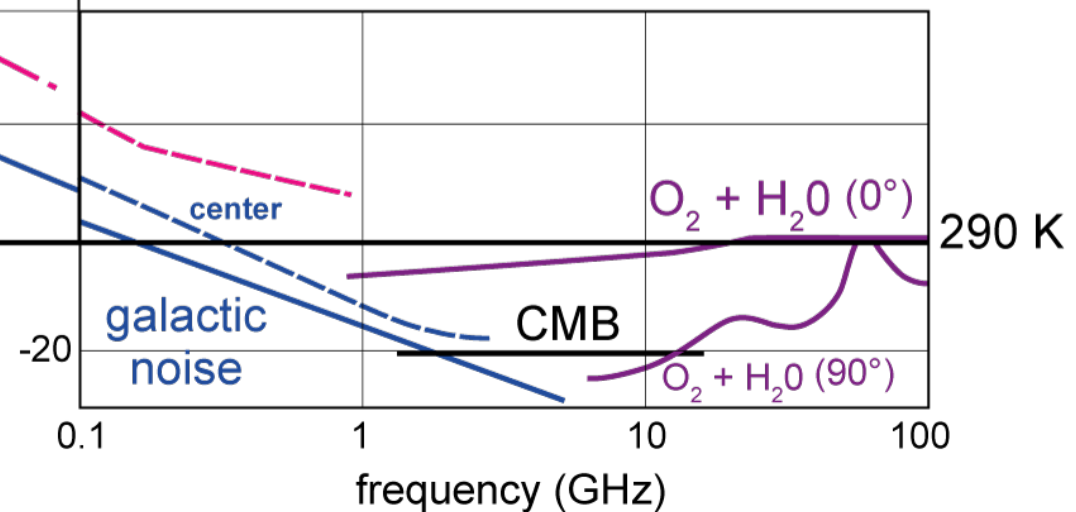
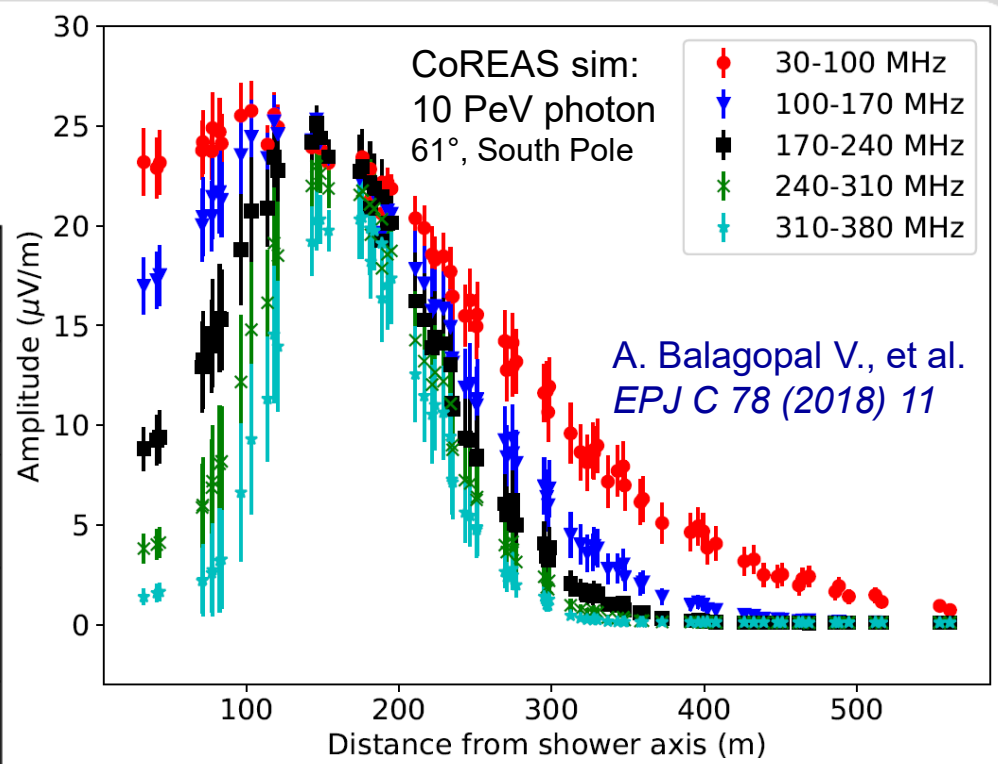
Better signal-to-noise ratio expected at high frequencies



SKALA v2: 70-350 MHz



From Figs. 2 and 3 of
ITU-R P.372-12



Antenna of Choice: SKALA

- High gain of 40dB with smooth sky coverage
- Noise figure of LNA above 100 MHz is about 0.5 dB with thermal noise < 40K, which is below the galactic noise.
- Used at Pole: SKALA v2 (prototype version for SKA-low)

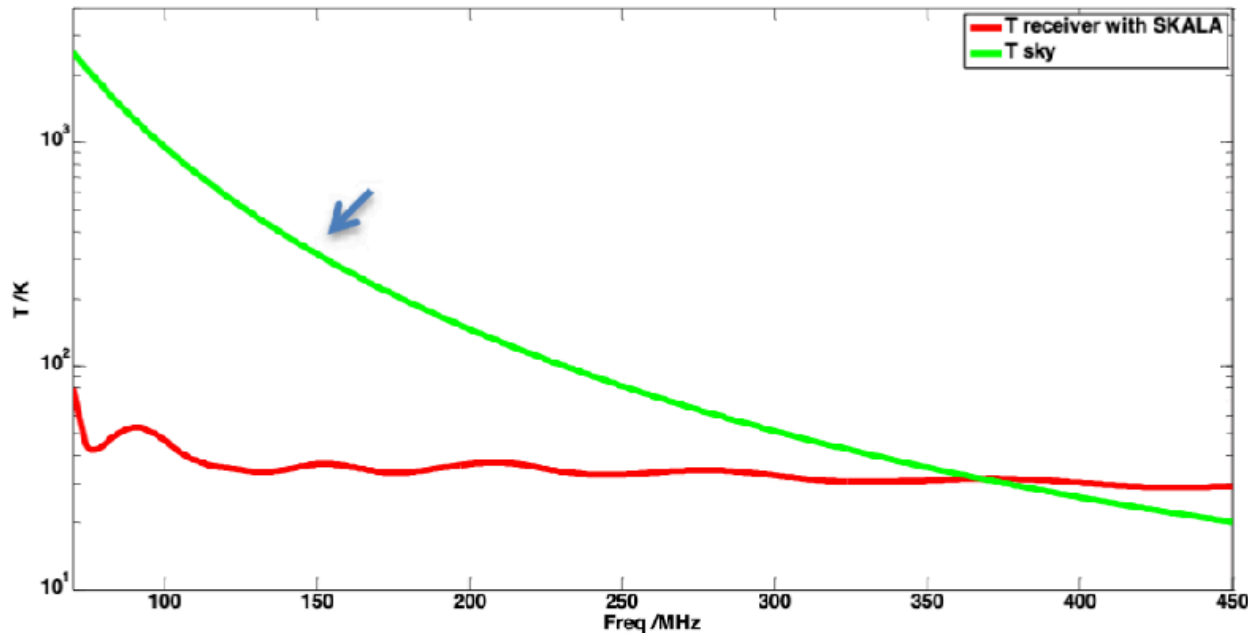
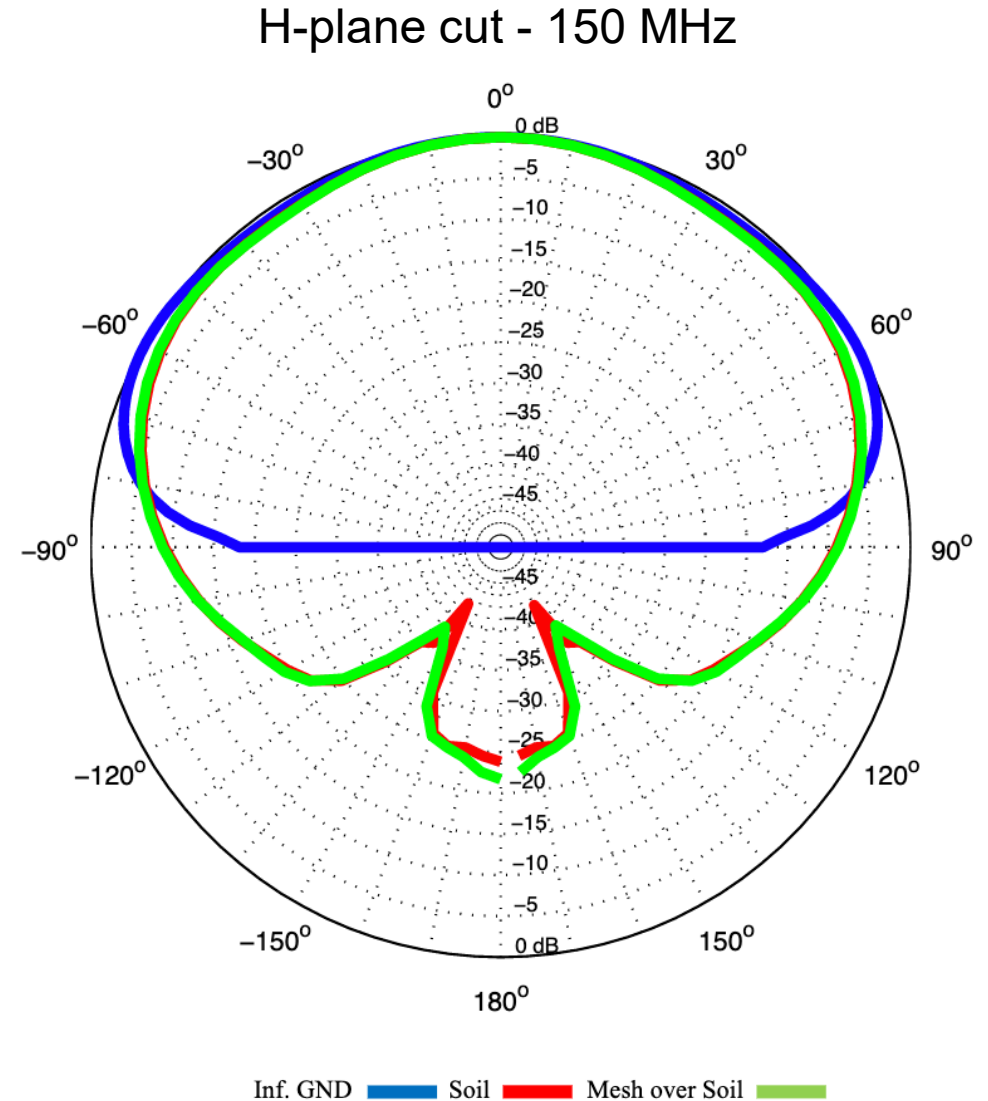


Fig. 9. Receiver noise temperature versus sky noise.

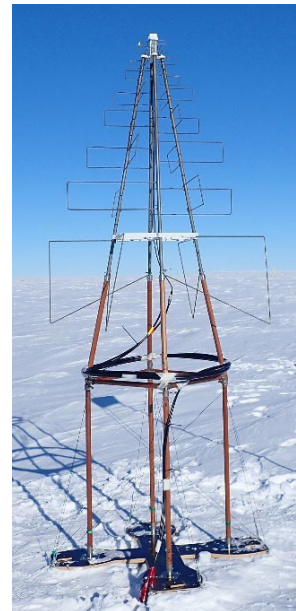
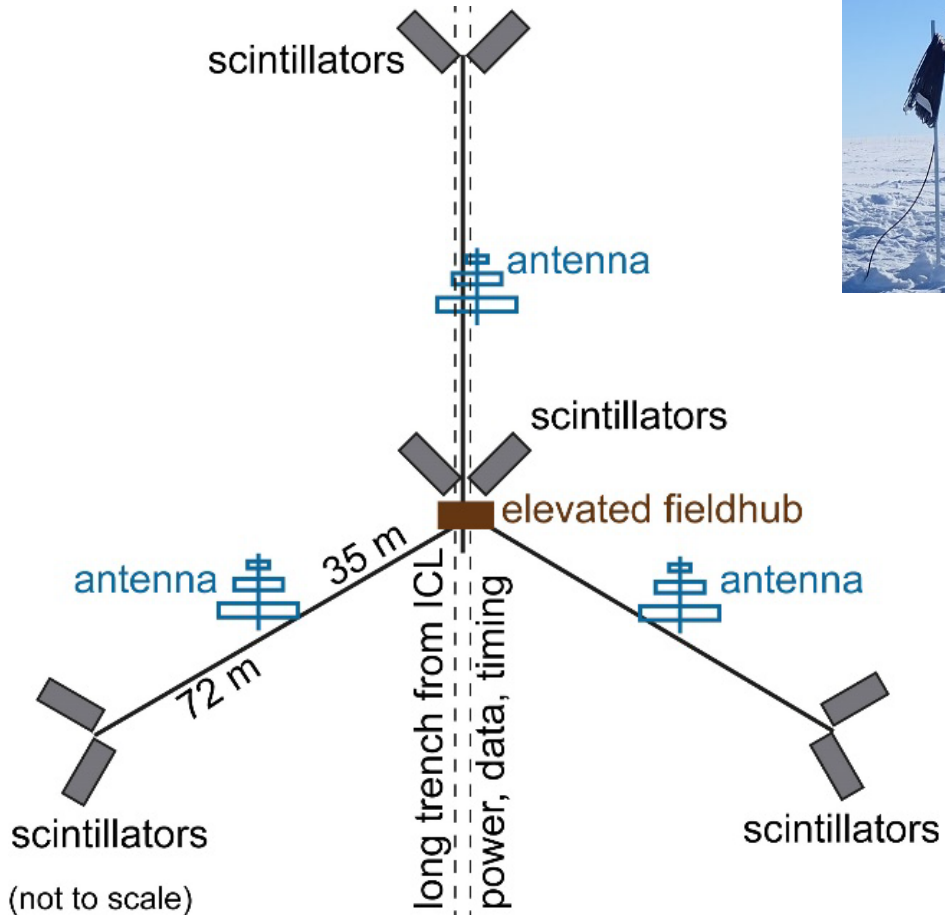
E. de Lera Acedo, N. Drought, B. Wakley and A. Faulkner, "Evolution of SKALA (SKALA-2), the log-periodic array antenna for the SKA-low instrument," *2015 International Conference on Electromagnetics in Advanced Applications (ICEAA)*, 2015, pp. 839-843, doi: 10.1109/ICEAA.2015.7297231.



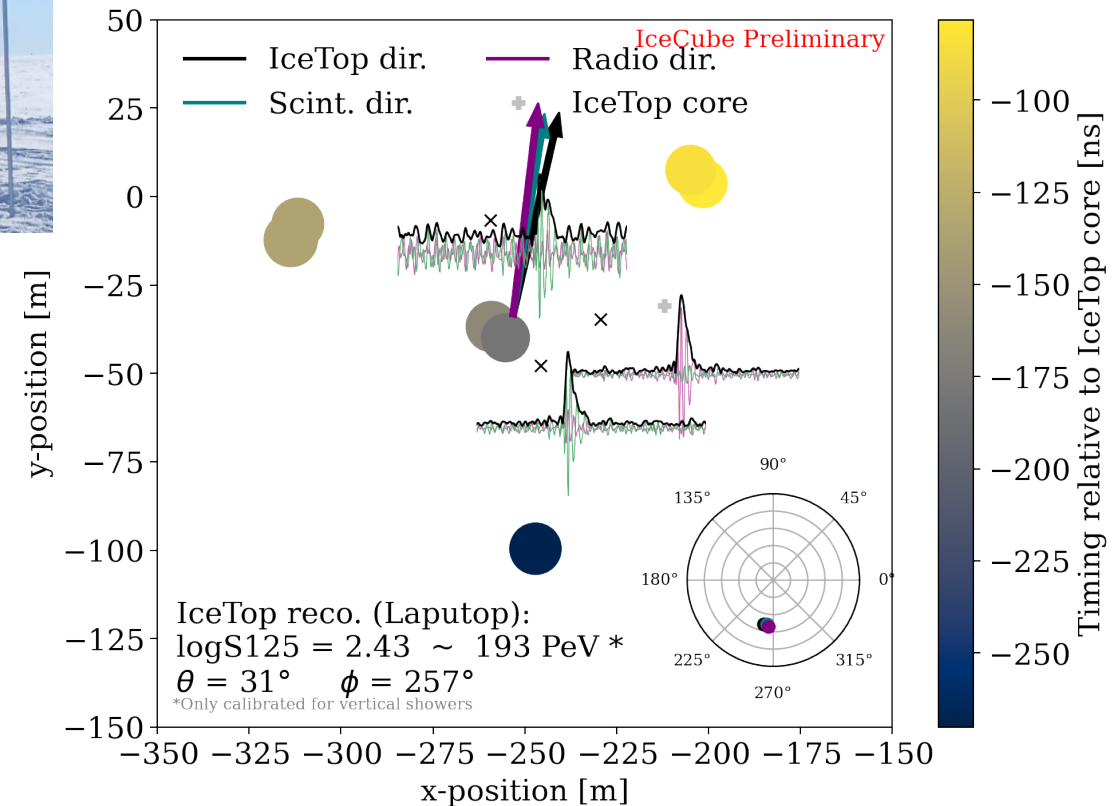
Baseline Design Follows Planned Enhancement of IceTop

Station Design:

4 pairs of scintillators + 3 antennas



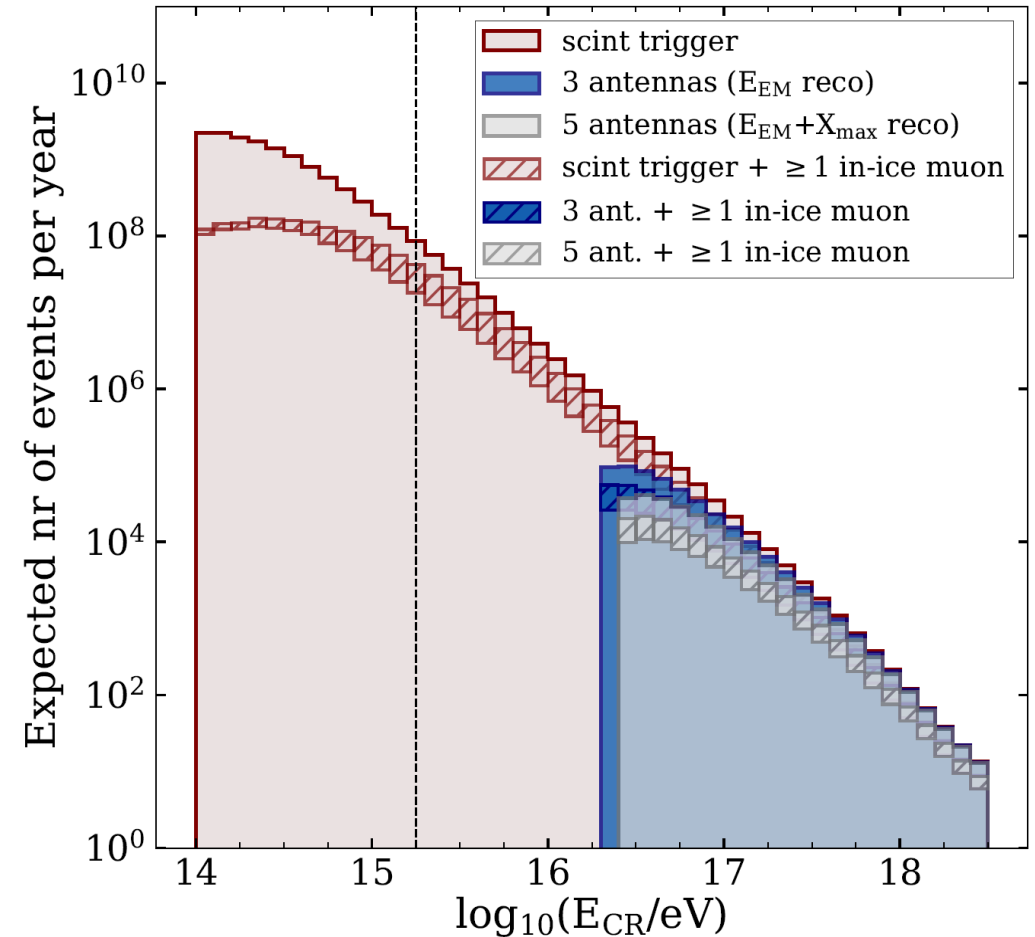
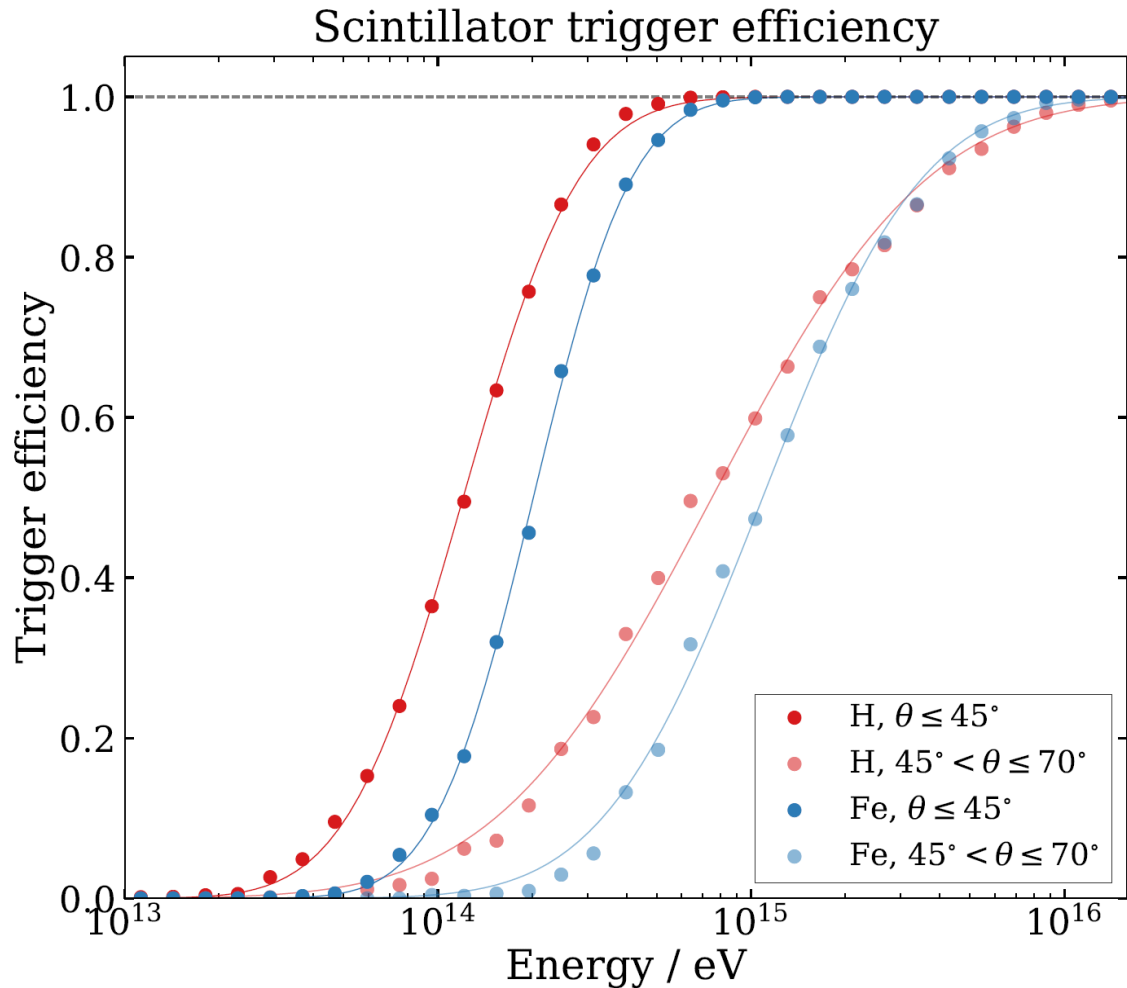
Complete prototype station since 2020:
scintillator + radio + IceTop coincidences



Example event detected in coincidence with IceTop

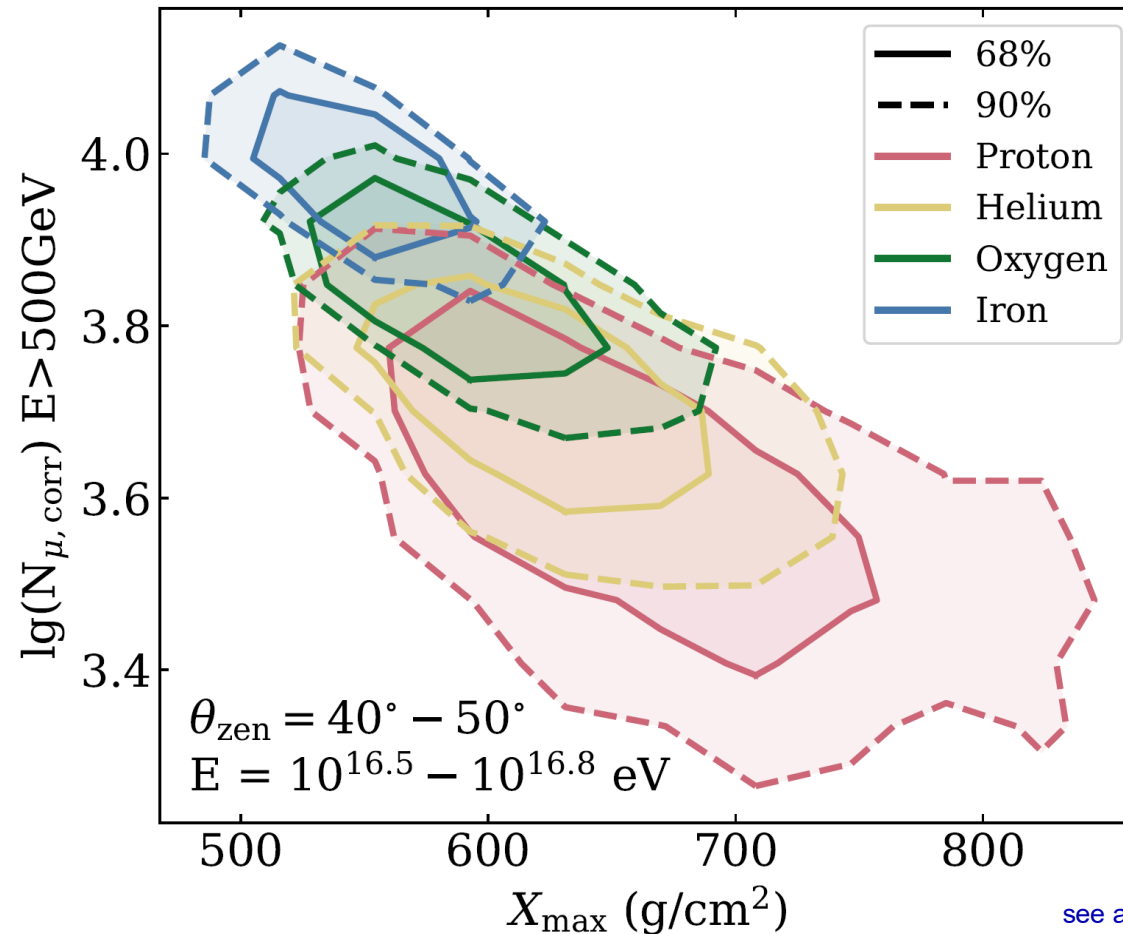
Low Detection Threshold provided by Scintillators

- 0.5 PeV for vertical protons, 10 PeV for inclined showers \rightarrow trigger for antennas



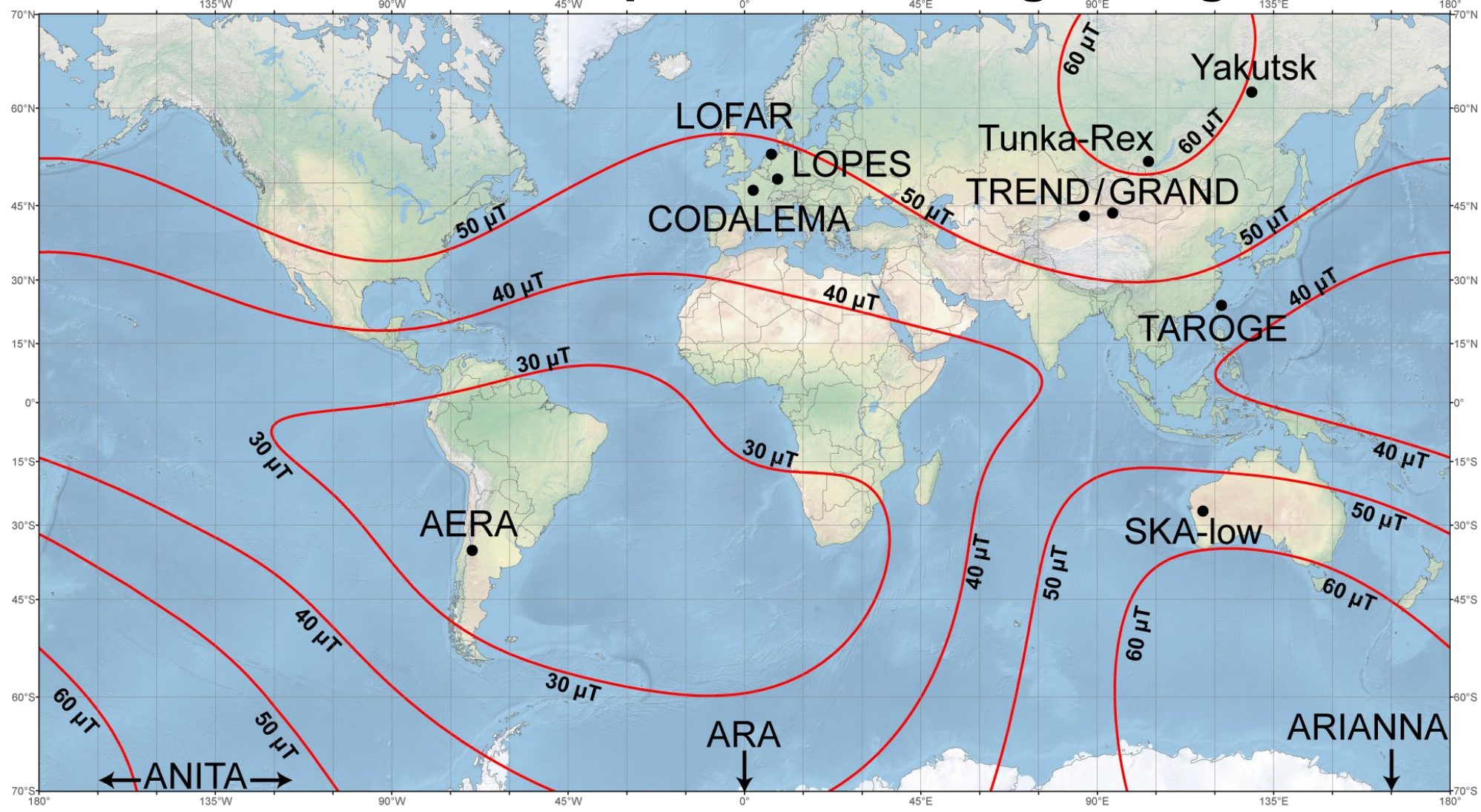
Event-by-Event Mass Sensitivity of Gen2 Surface + Optical Arrays

- In-ice muons have highest separation power, provided a separate energy measurement
- X_{\max} gains importance at highest energies and has smaller systematic uncertainties



see also B. Flaggs, A. Coleman, F. Schroeder, PRD 109 (2024) 042002

Location of selected experiments and geomagnetic field



Underlying map (Mercator projection):
Main Geomagnetic Field Total Intensity with contour intervals of 10 μT
 according to US/UK World Magnetic Model - Epoch 2015.0

developed by NOAA/NGDC & CIRES
<http://ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/WMM>

Map reviewed by NGA and BGS
 Published December 2014

Overlaid: **Location of radio experiments for cosmic-ray air showers**
 added on underlying map by Frank G. Schröder
 Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany

Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.
 93 (2017) 1-68
[arXiv: 1607.08781](https://arxiv.org/abs/1607.08781)

IceCube Neutrino Observatory today: surface + in-ice detector

- IceTop = surface array of ice-Cherenkov detectors
 - cosmic-ray physics + veto
- Deep optical array for neutrino detection
 - most in-ice signals are cosmic-ray muons

**1 km² surface
detector for
air showers**

IceCube at the South Pole

