

Fermi Summer School 2017  
Jordan Goodman - University of Maryland

# AIR SHOWERS





# Cosmic Ray Discovery

- Physikalische Zeitschrift: “The results of these observations seem best explained by a radiation of great penetrating power entering our atmosphere from above.”

Victor Franz Hess

Elevation	Rate
Ground	12
1 km	10
2 km	12
3.5 km	15
5 km	27



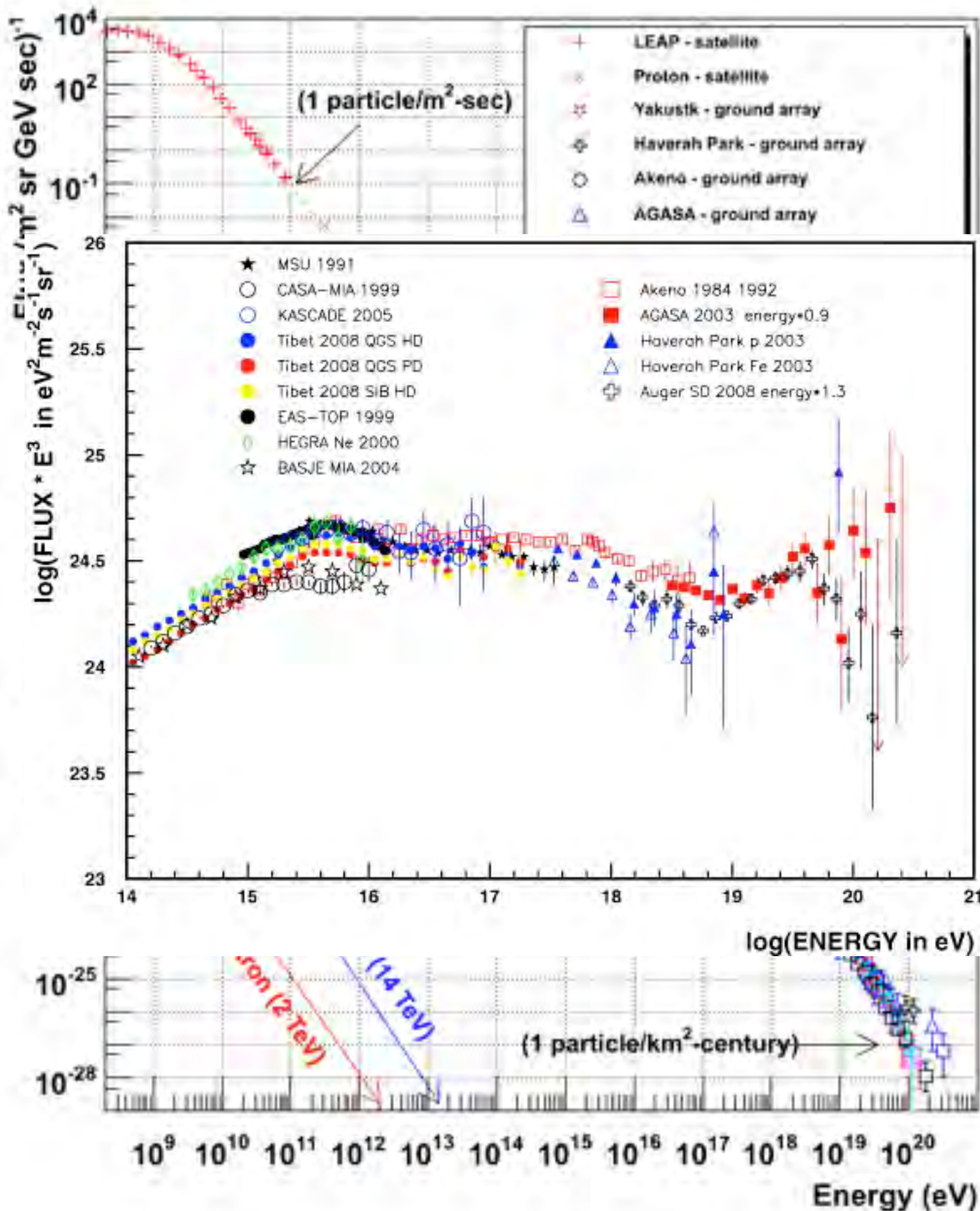
V. F. Hess. Über Beobachtungen der durchdringenden Strahlung bei sieben Freiballonfahrten.  
 Physikalische Zeitschrift, 13:1084-1091, November 1912.







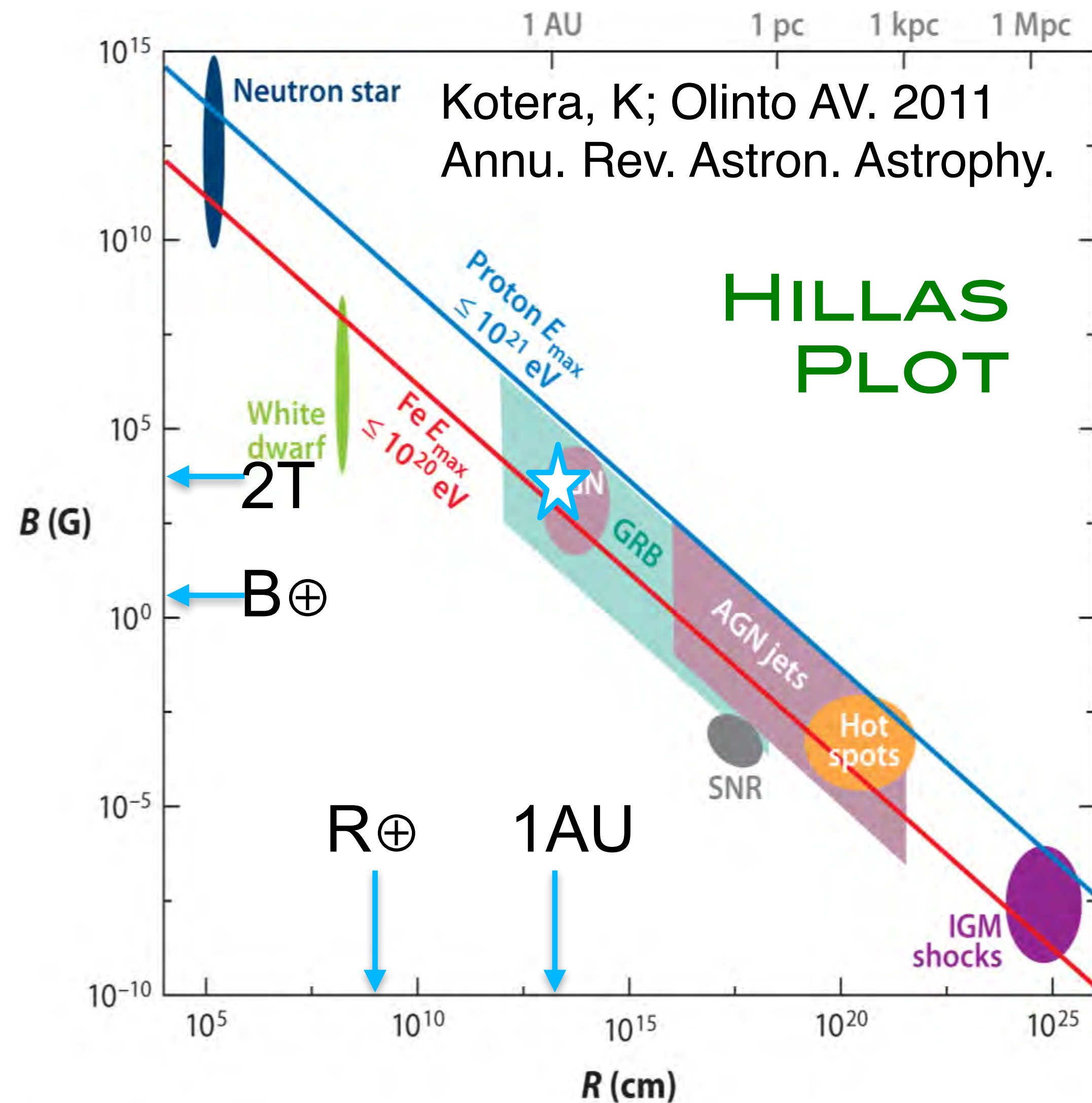
# Cosmic Rays



- The flux charged cosmic rays follows nearly a single power law over:
  - 10 decades in energy
  - 30 decades in flux
- Single particles have been observed with energies above  $10^{20}$ eV!
- There are several “kinks” in the spectrum where the exponent changes, steepening at the “knee” and flattening at the “ankle”.
- The source of the high-energy cosmic rays remains elusive.
- $10^{20}$ eV/s equivalent is 430 TeV



# Candidate accelerators



$p = 0.3 Br$   
 $p$  in GeV/c  
 $B$  in Tesla  
 $r$  in meters

$B = 2T$   $r = 1.5 \times 10^{11} m$   
 $p = 10^{11} GeV/c$   
 $= 10^{20} eV/c$

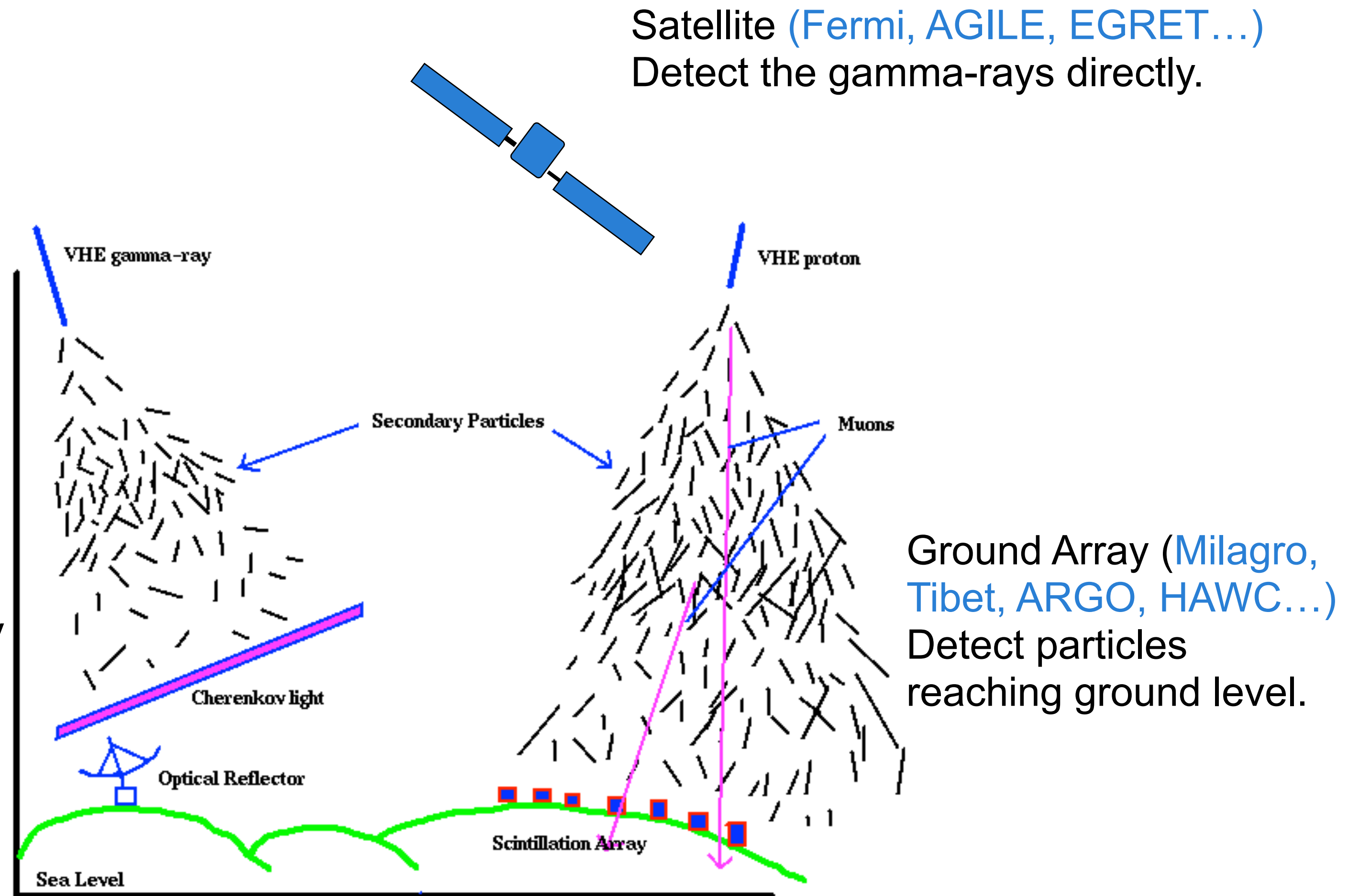
Large magnetic field





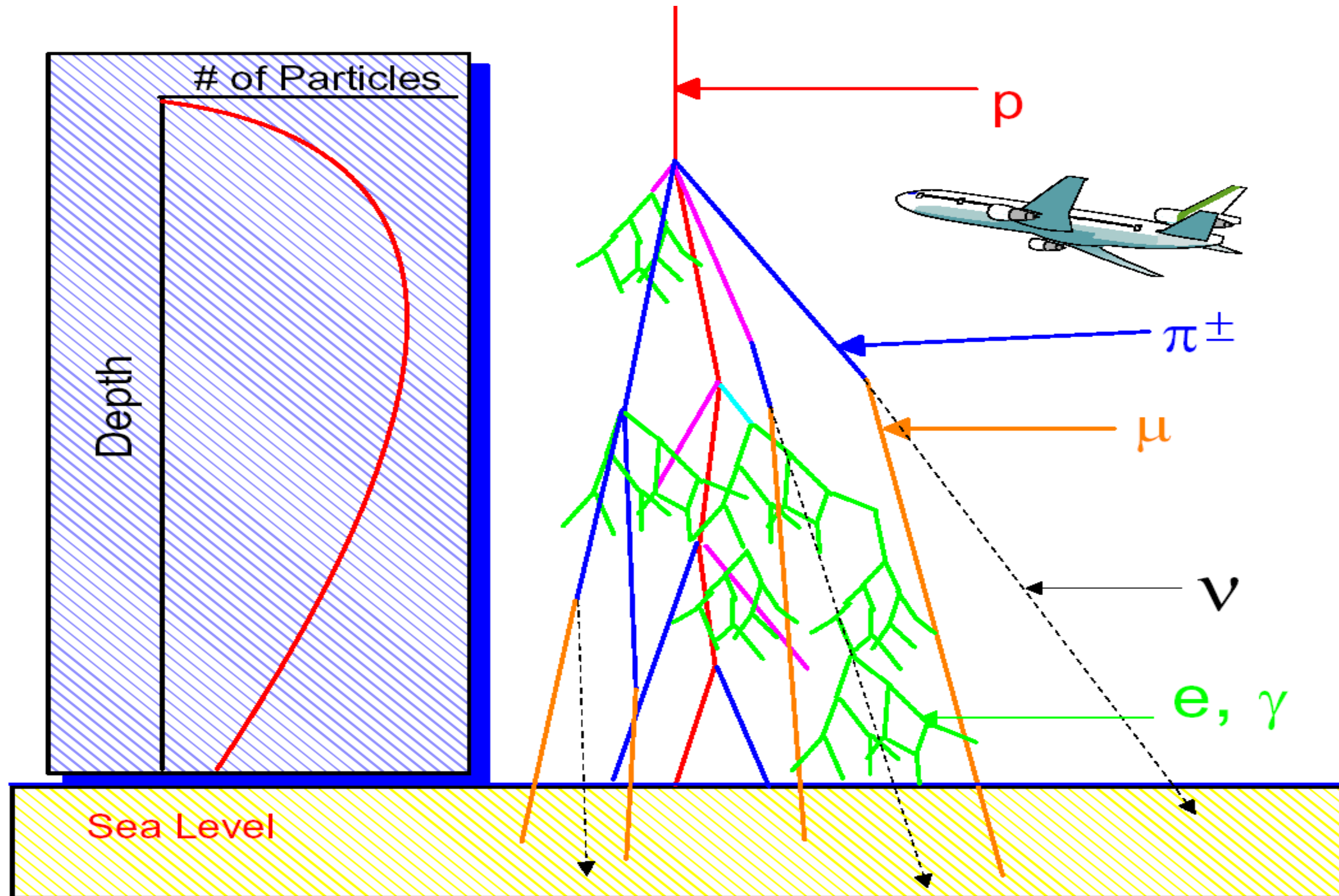
# Techniques for Gamma-ray Detection

Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescope Array (HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS, CTA..) Detect Cherenkov light from air-shower particles as they traverse the atmosphere.



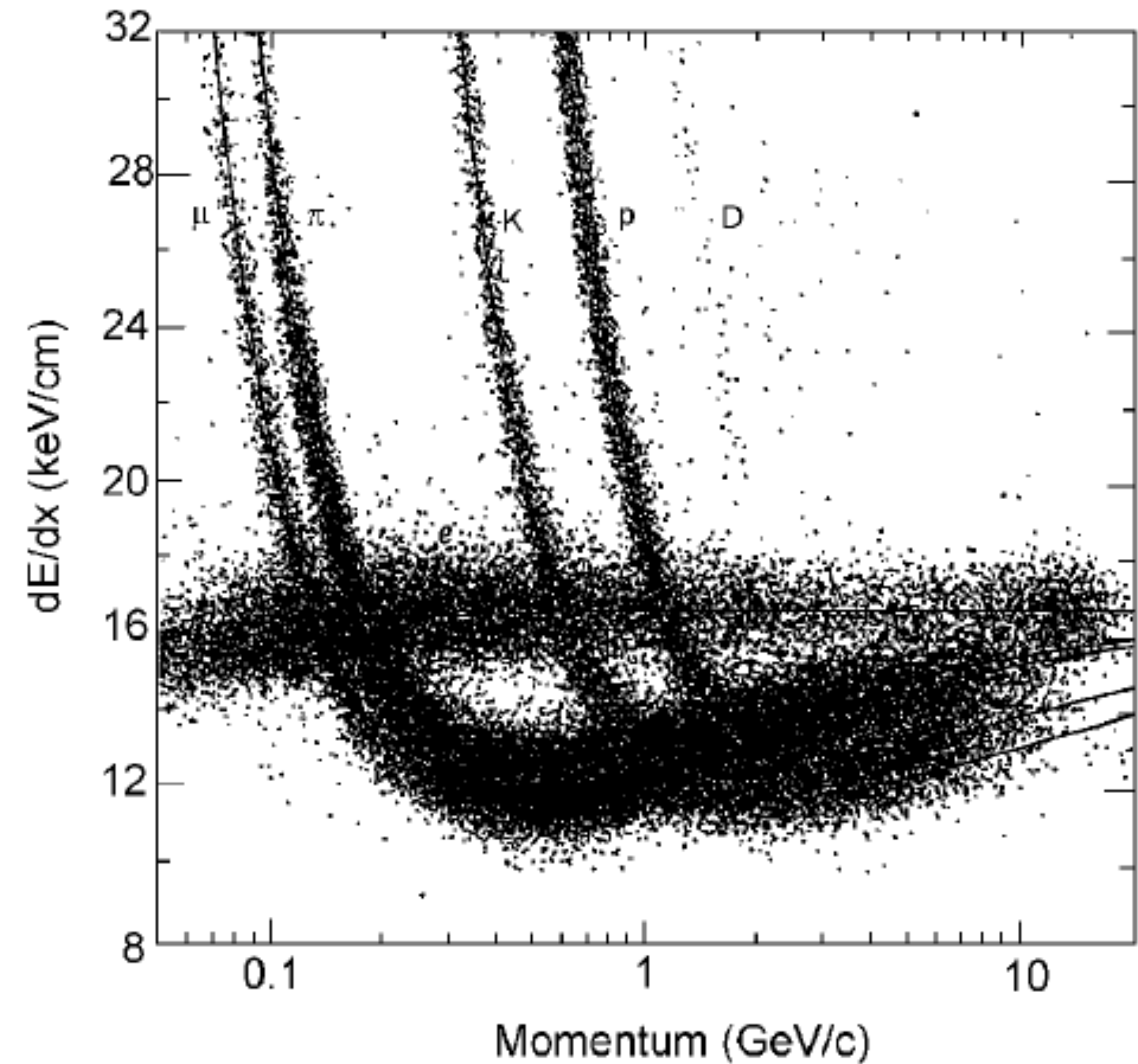
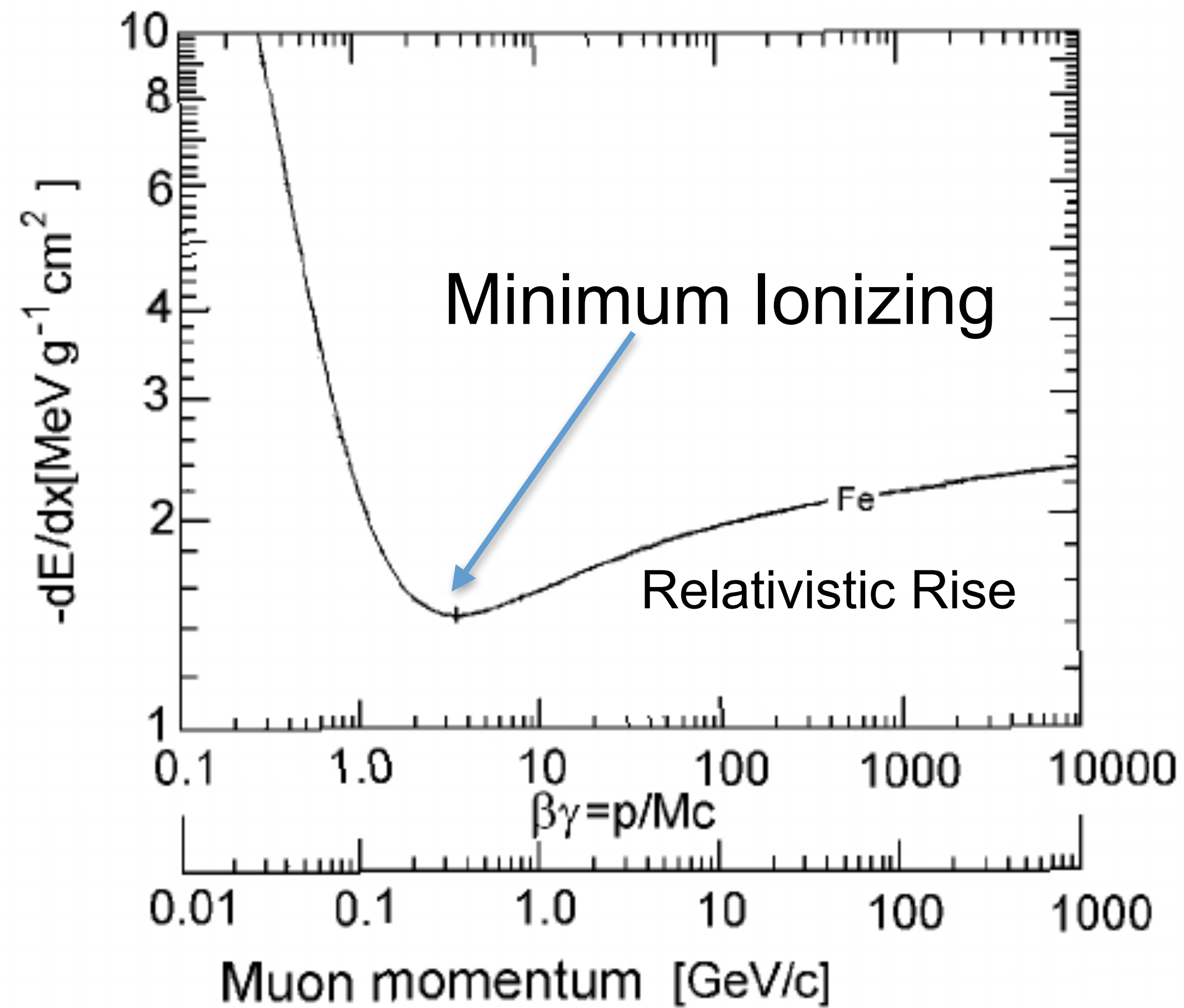


# Extensive Air Shower Development



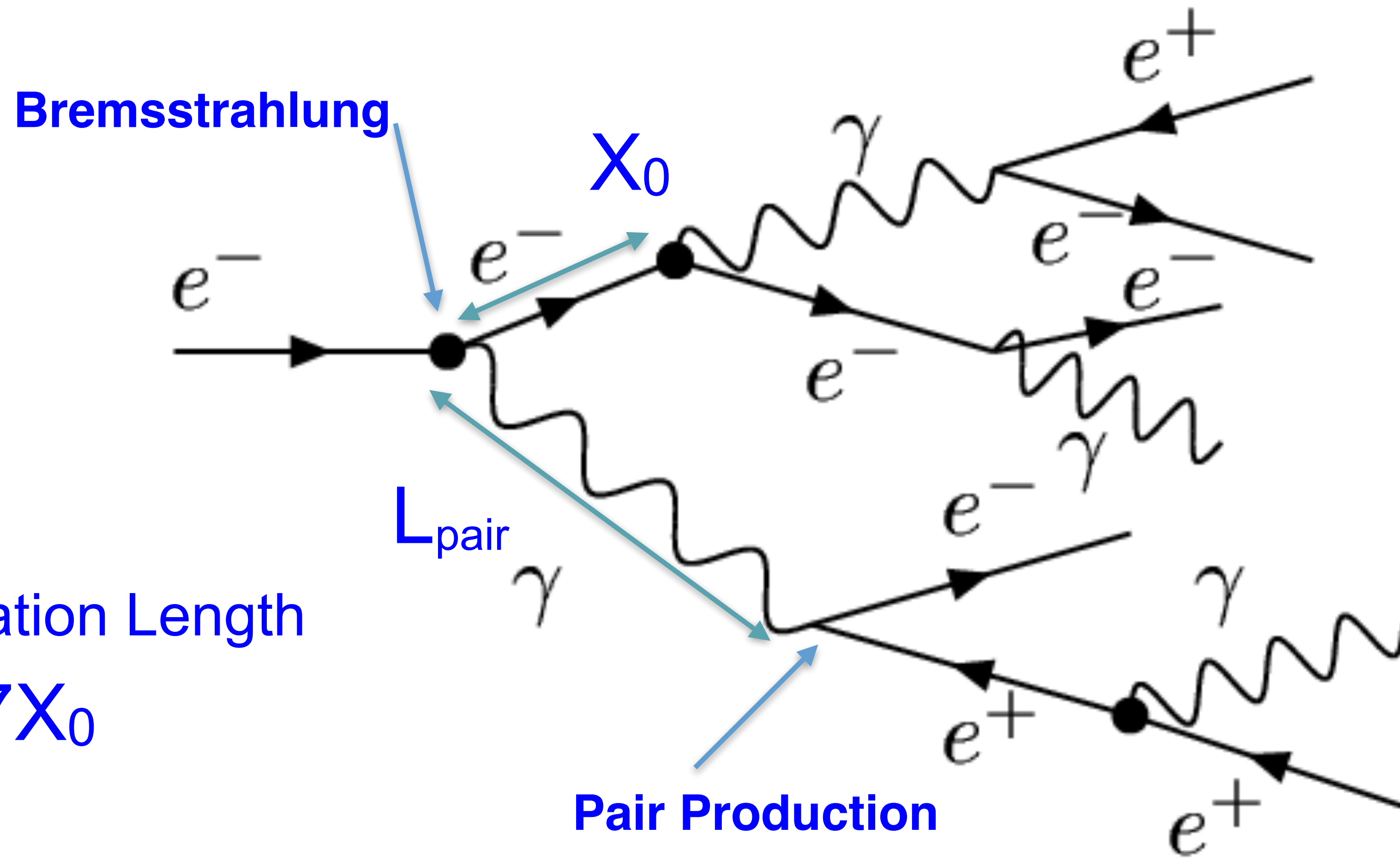


# Ionization Energy Loss for Charged Particles





# Electromagnetic Shower

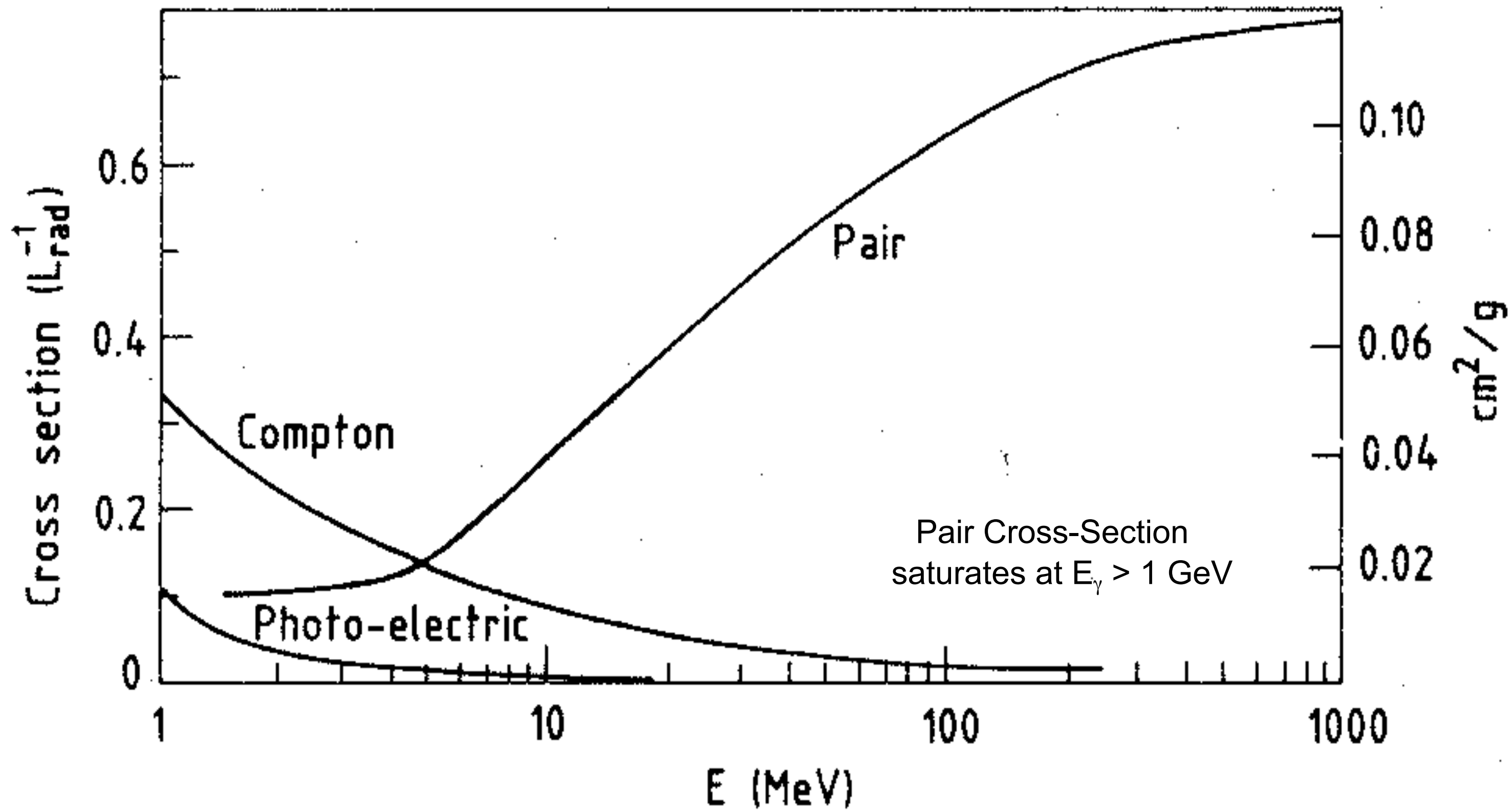


$X_0 =$  Radiation Length

$L_{\text{pair}} \sim 9/7 X_0$



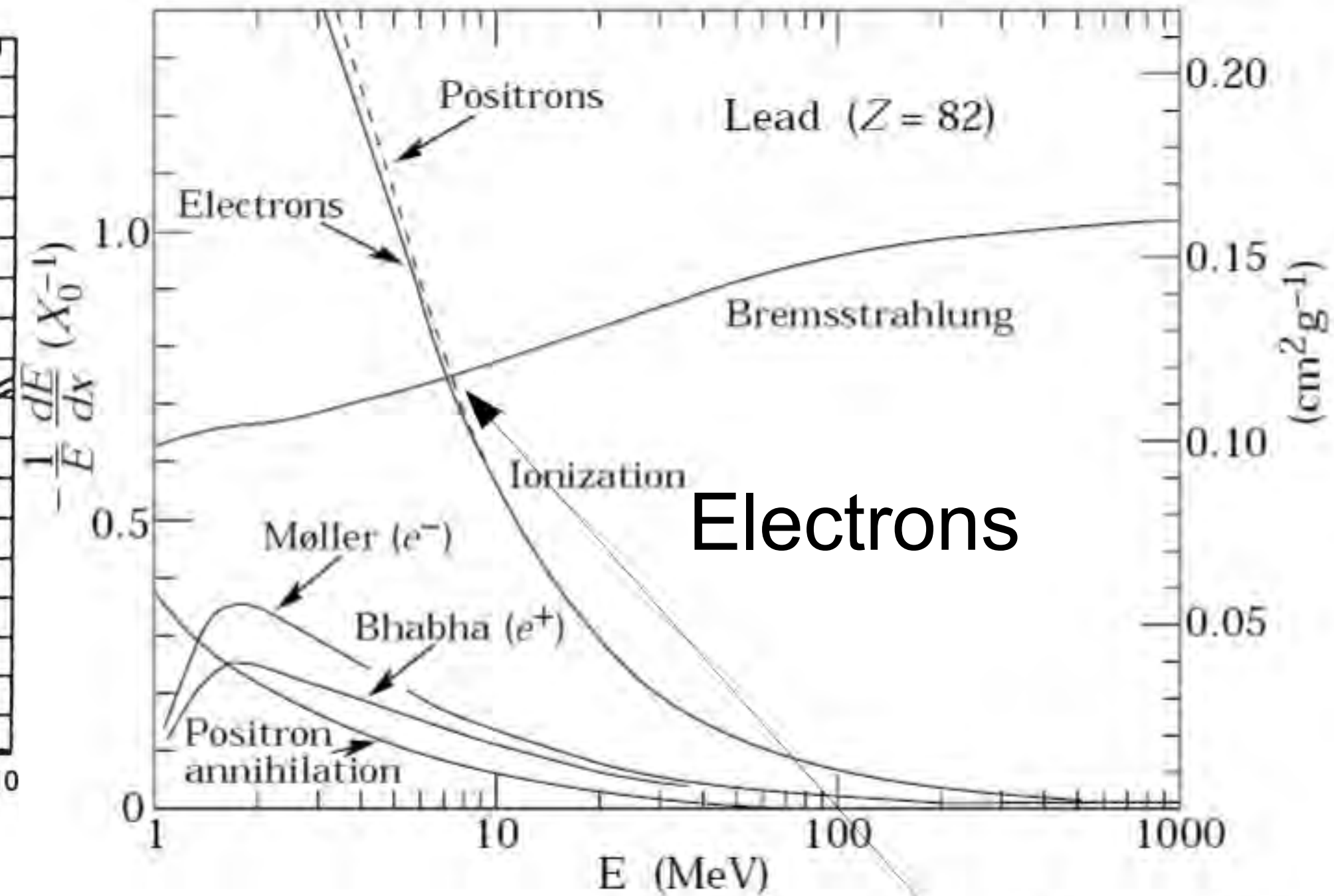
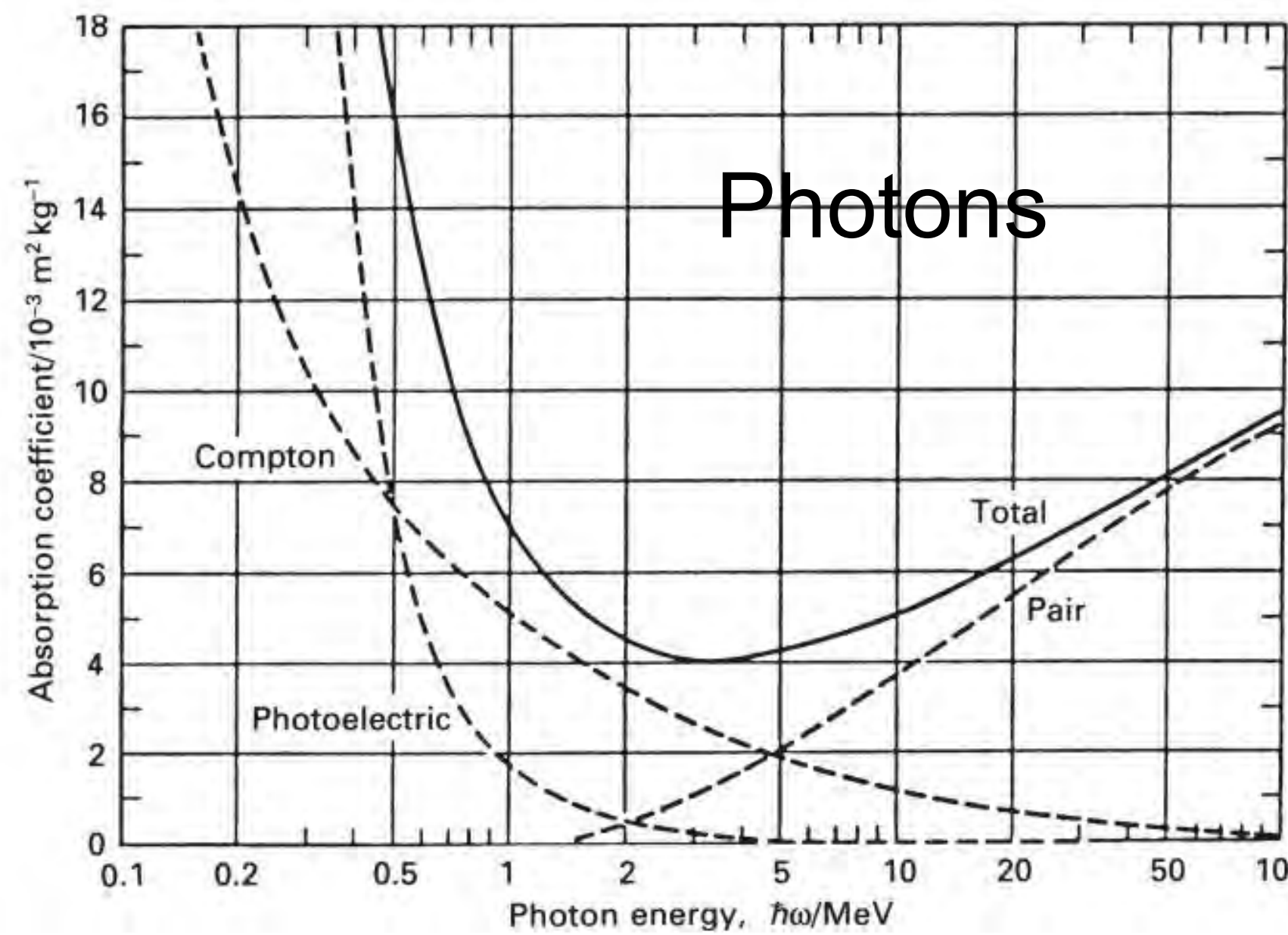
# Gamma-ray Energy Loss Mechanisms



**Fig. 2:** Photon cross-section  $\sigma$  in lead as a function of photon energy. The intensity of photons can be expressed as  $I = I_0 \exp(-\sigma x)$ , where  $x$  is the path length in radiation lengths. (Review of Particle Properties, April 1980 edition).



# At High Energies Pair Production and Bremsstrahlung Dominates EM Interactions



$E_c$  in air is 84 MeV. At this point electrons lose energy very quickly and showers become photon rich.

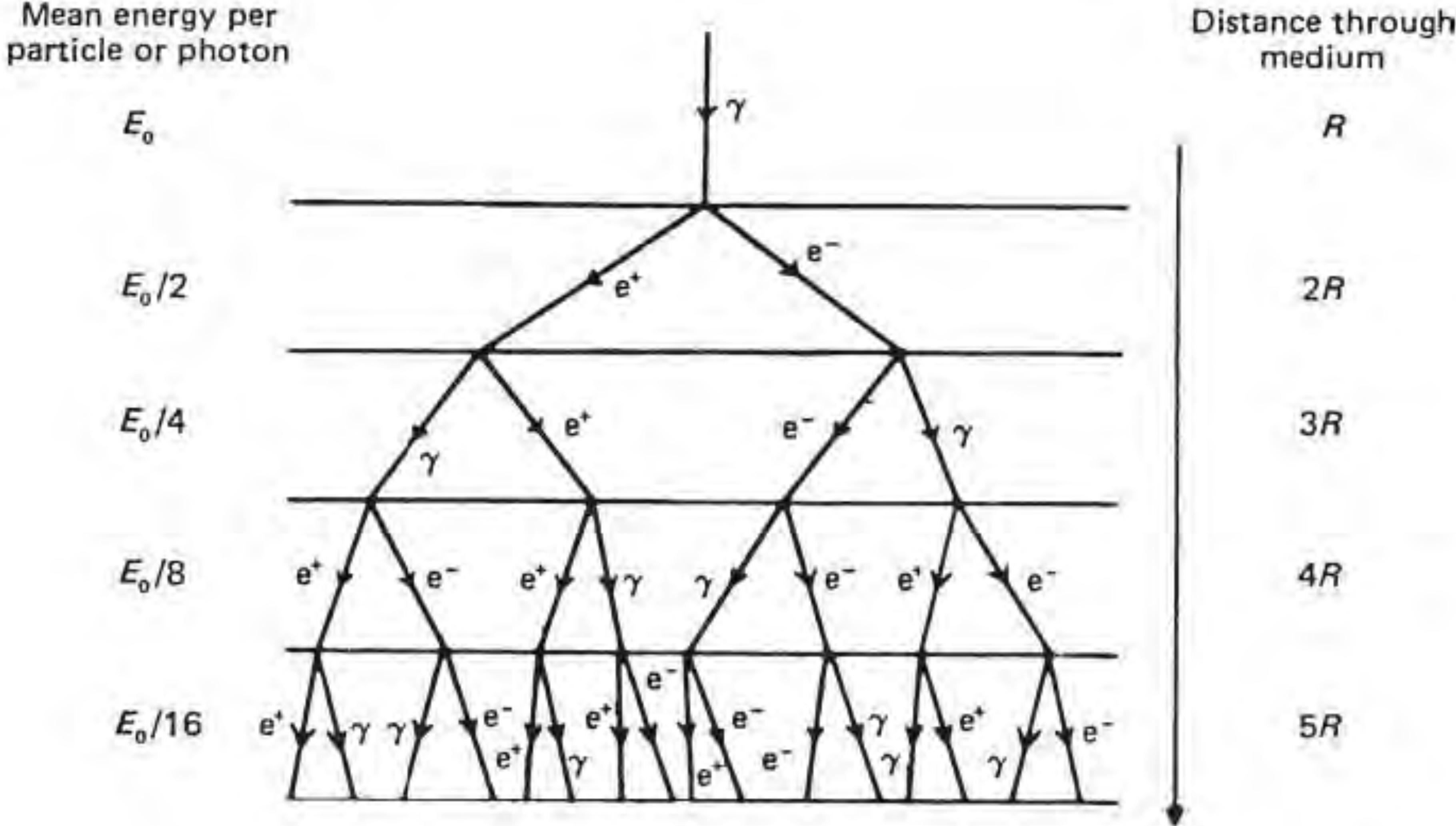


# Bremsstrahlung

- Bremsstrahlung Cross Section goes like  $1/m^2$ .
- So for electrons it's important at 10's of MeV
- For Muons it's not important until  $\sim 20 \text{ MeV} (m_{\text{muon}}/m_{\text{electron}})^2$  which is  $\sim \text{TeV}$
- It's an important energy loss mechanism for IceCube TeV muons



# Electromagnetic Air Shower



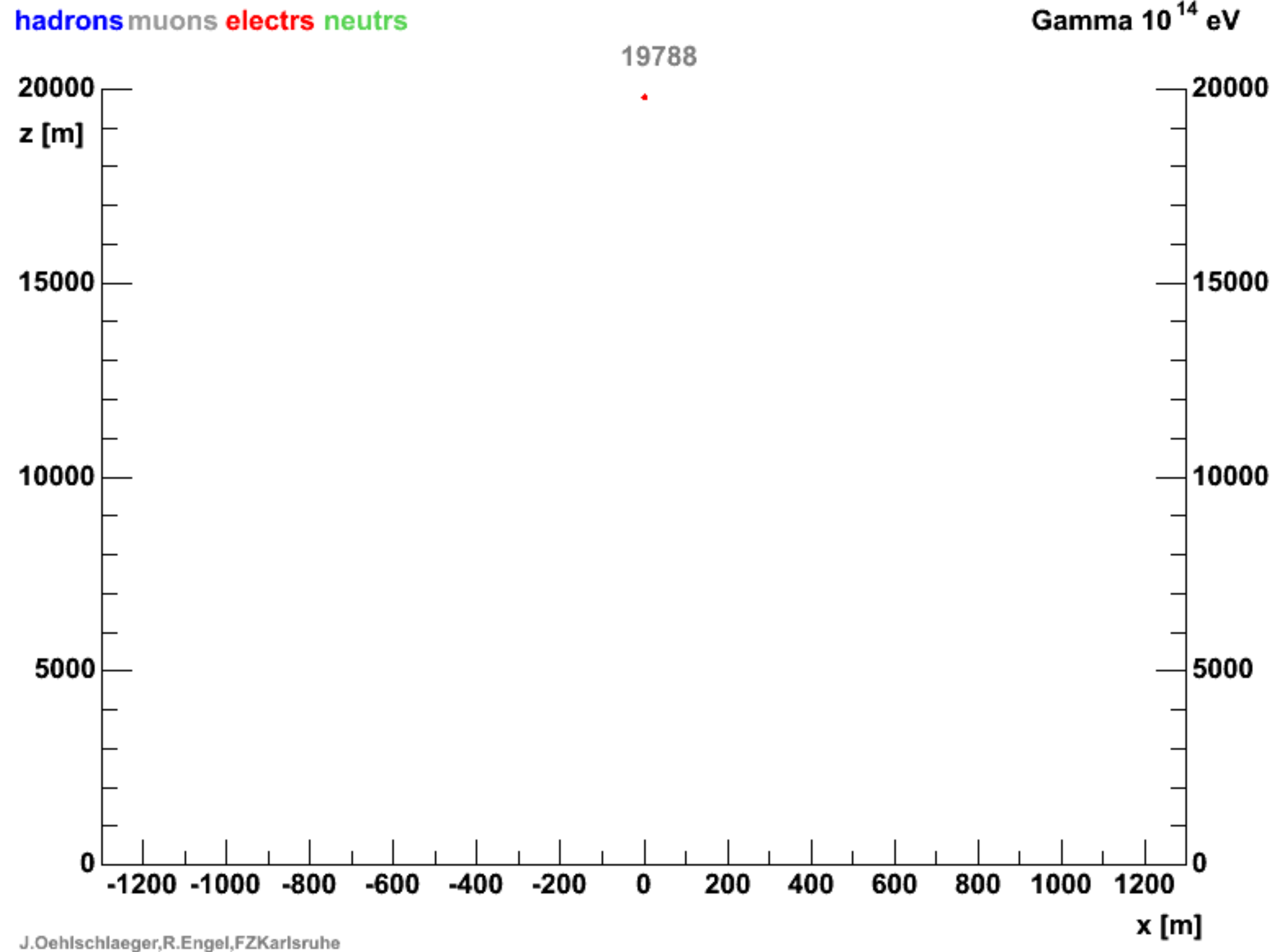


# Electromagnetic Showers in the Atmosphere

- If EM particle such as photon or electron initiates shower in atmosphere
  - After distance  $n R$ , the number of (photons + electrons + positrons) is  $2^n$  and their average energy is  $E_0/2^n$
  - On average, the shower consists of 2/3 positrons and electrons 1/3 photons
  - Longitudinal development reaches maximum at depth
  - Where  $E_c \sim 80$  MeV in air 
$$X_{\max} = \frac{\ln(E/E_c)}{\ln 2}$$
  - Below  $E_c$  ionization dominates and electrons stop producing photons via Bremsstrahlung



# Gamma Ray 100 TeV



Corsica Movies -



# Gamma Ray 100 TeV

hadrons muons electrs neutrs

Gamma  $10^{14}$  eV

19728

$\Delta z$  [m]

1200

1000

800

600

400

200

0

-1200 -1000 -800 -600 -400 -200 0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200

x [m]

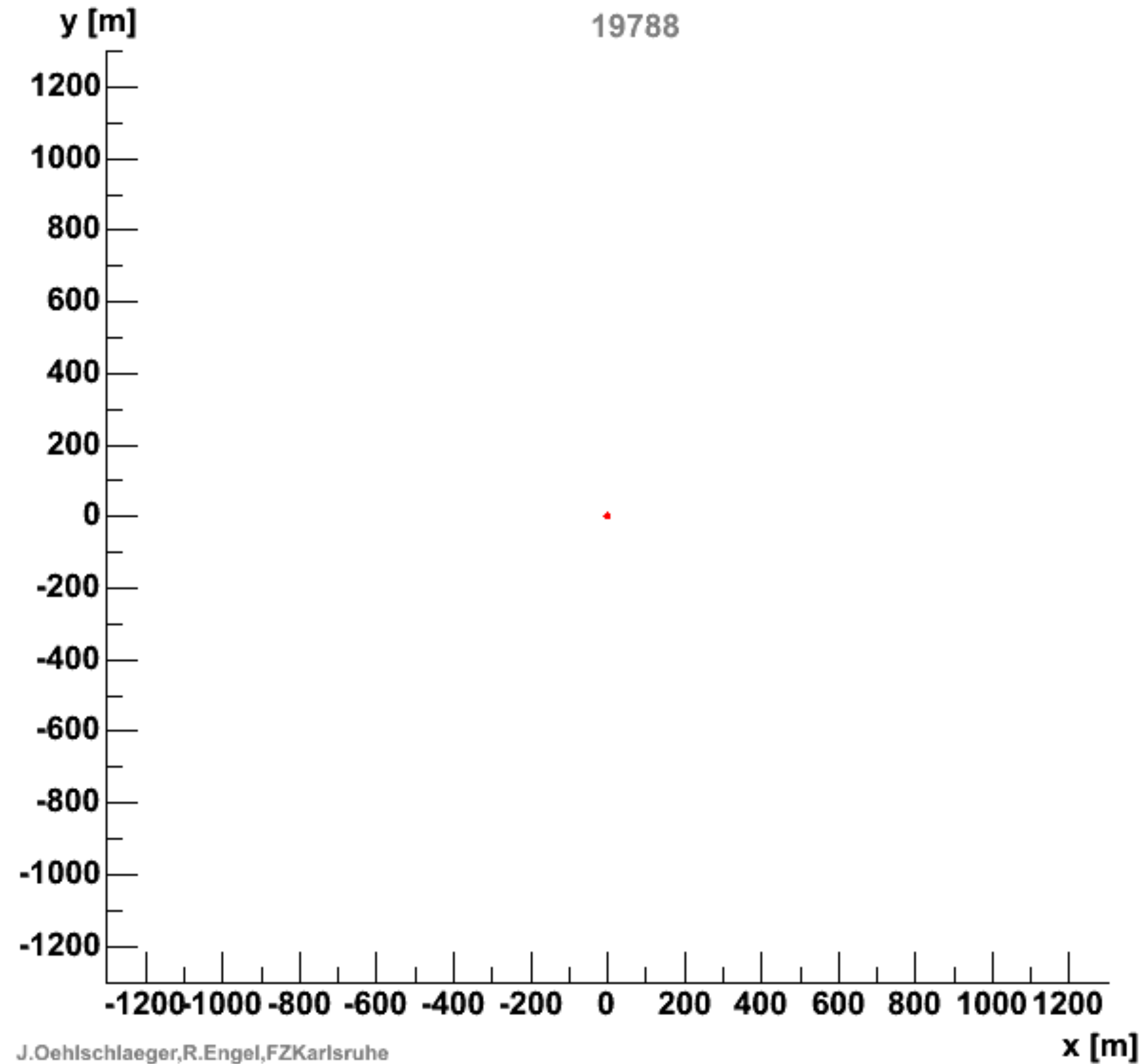
J.Oehlschlaeger,R.Engel,FZKarlsruhe



# Gamma Ray 100 TeV

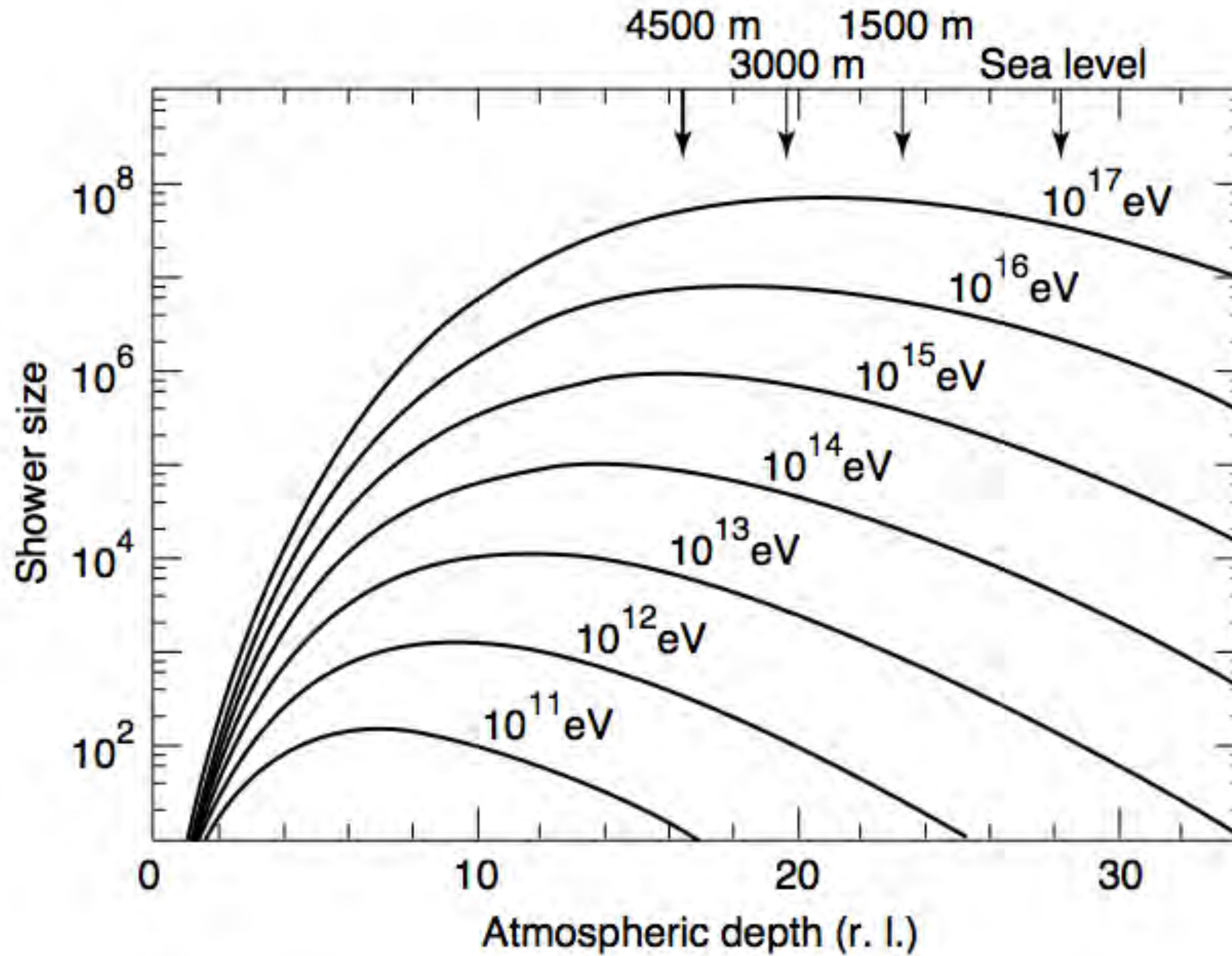
hadrons muons electrs neutrns

Gamma  $10^{14}$  eV



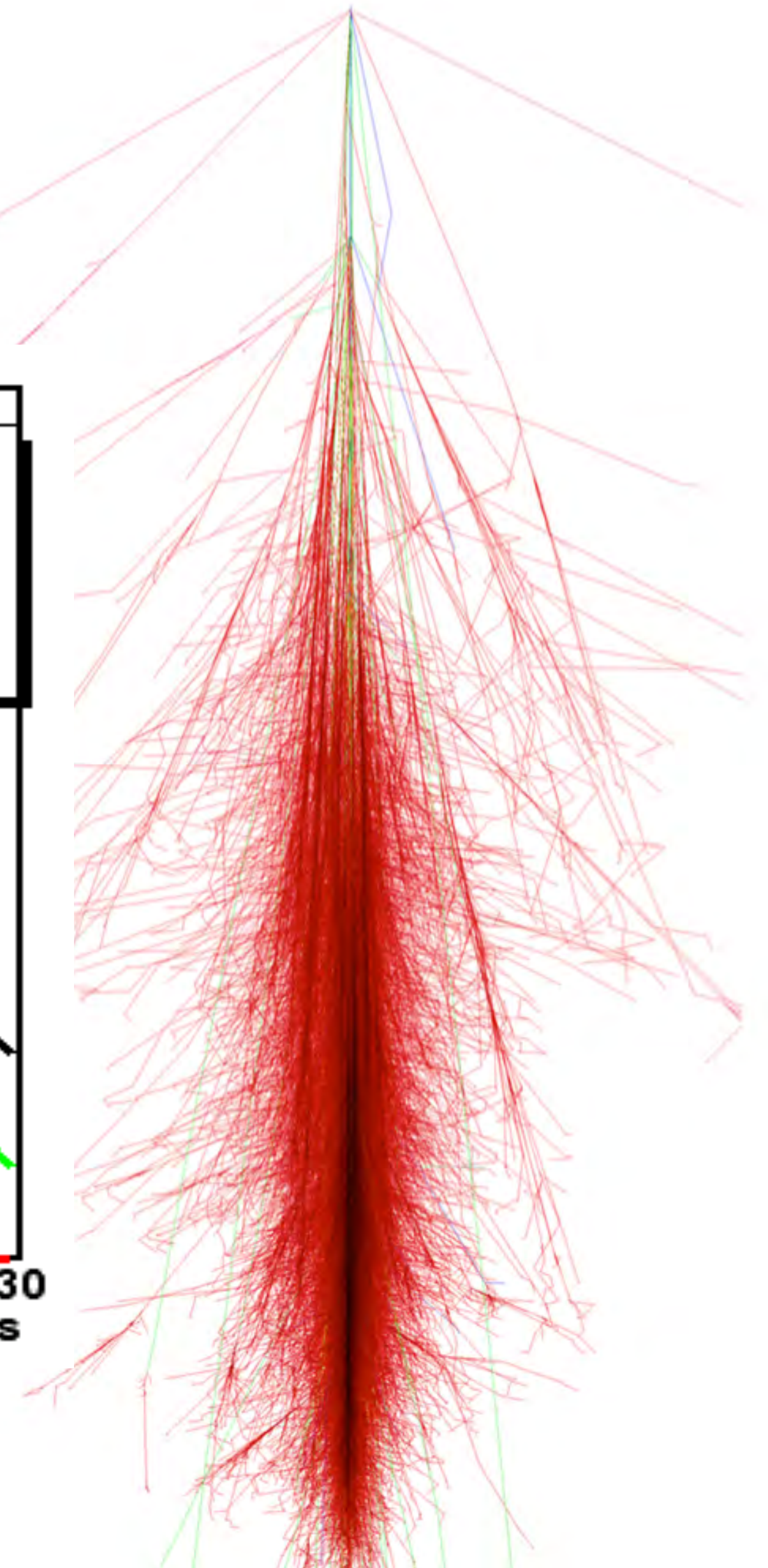
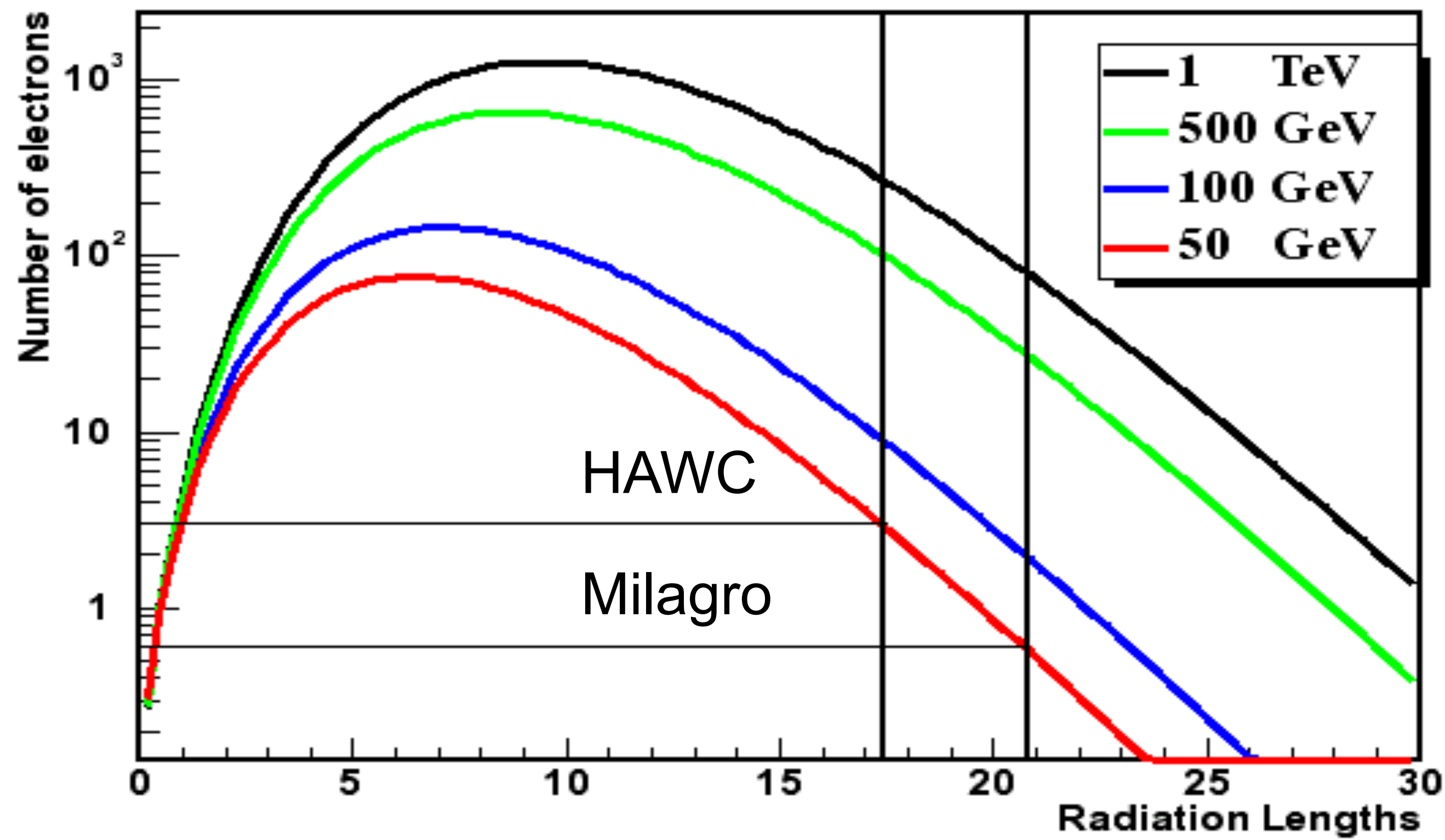


# EM Shower





# EM shower





# Lateral shower profile:

- The lateral shower profile is dominated by two processes:
  - multiple Coulomb scattering
  - relatively long free path length of low energy photons

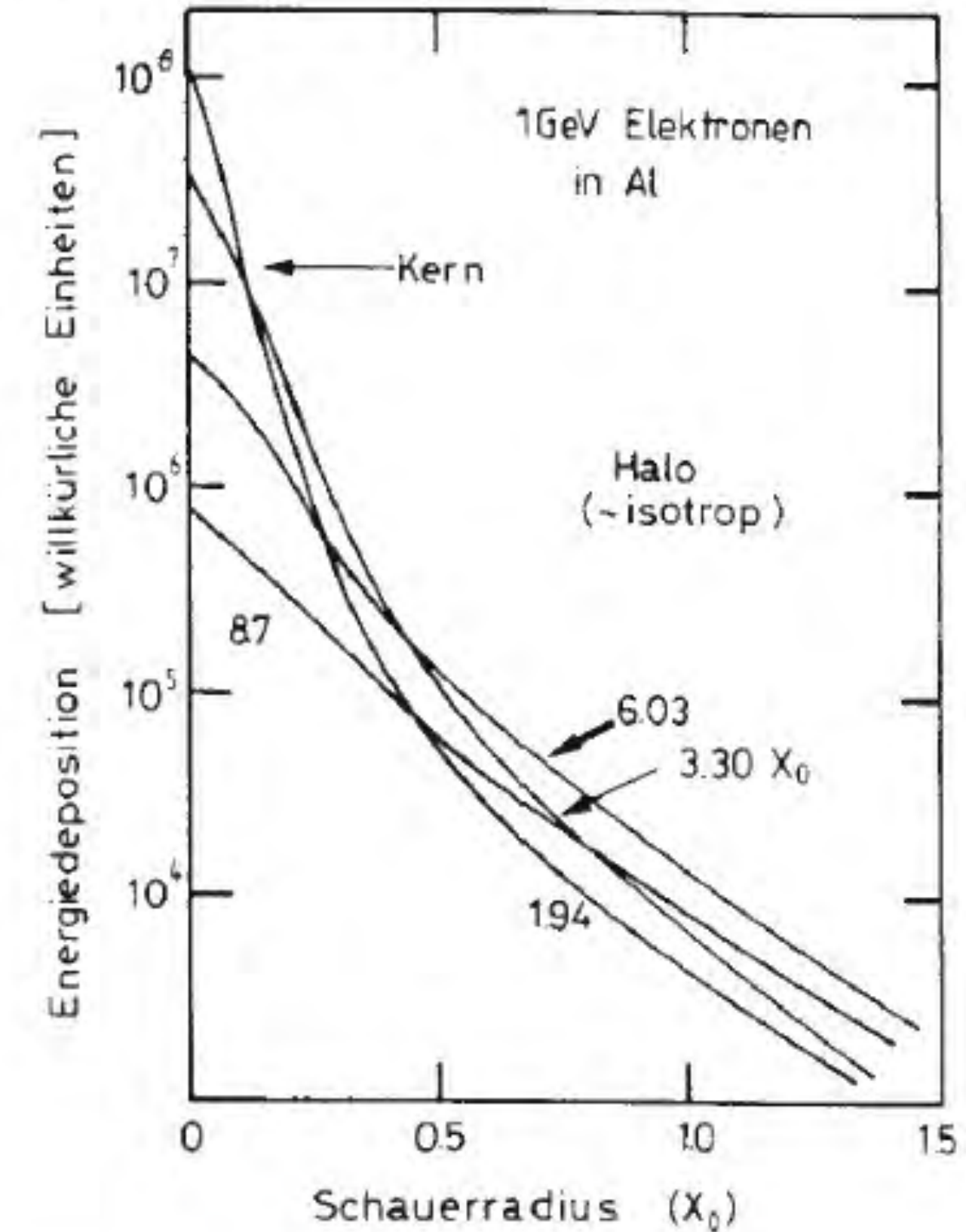
- It is characterized by the so-called Molière radius  $\rho_M$

$$\rho_M = \frac{21\text{MeV}}{E_C} X_0 \approx 7 \frac{A}{Z} \left[ \frac{g}{\text{cm}^2} \right]$$

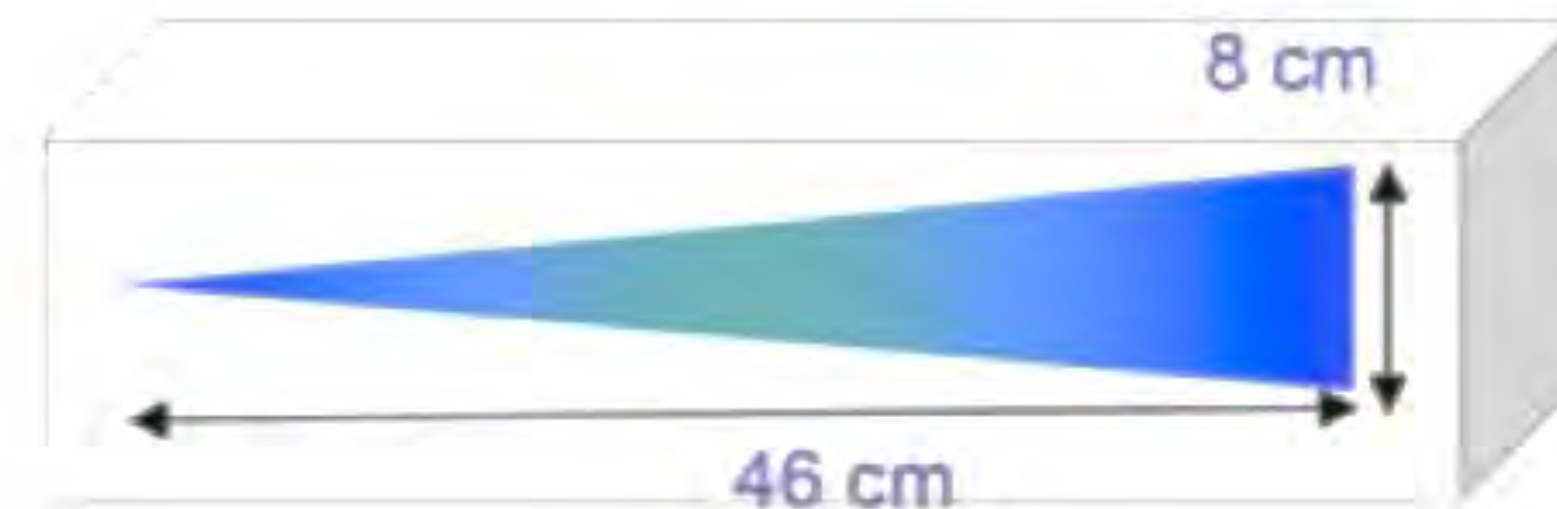
- About 95% of the shower energy are contained within a cylinder with radius  $r = 2 \rho_M$

in general well collimated !

$\rho_M \approx 100\text{m}$  at sea level



Example:  $E_0 = 100 \text{ GeV}$  in lead glass  
 $E_C = 11.8 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow r_{\text{core}} \approx 13, r_{95\%} \approx 23$   
 $X_0 \approx 2 \text{ cm}, K_{\text{eff}} = 1.8, X_{90} \approx 3.6 \text{ cm}$

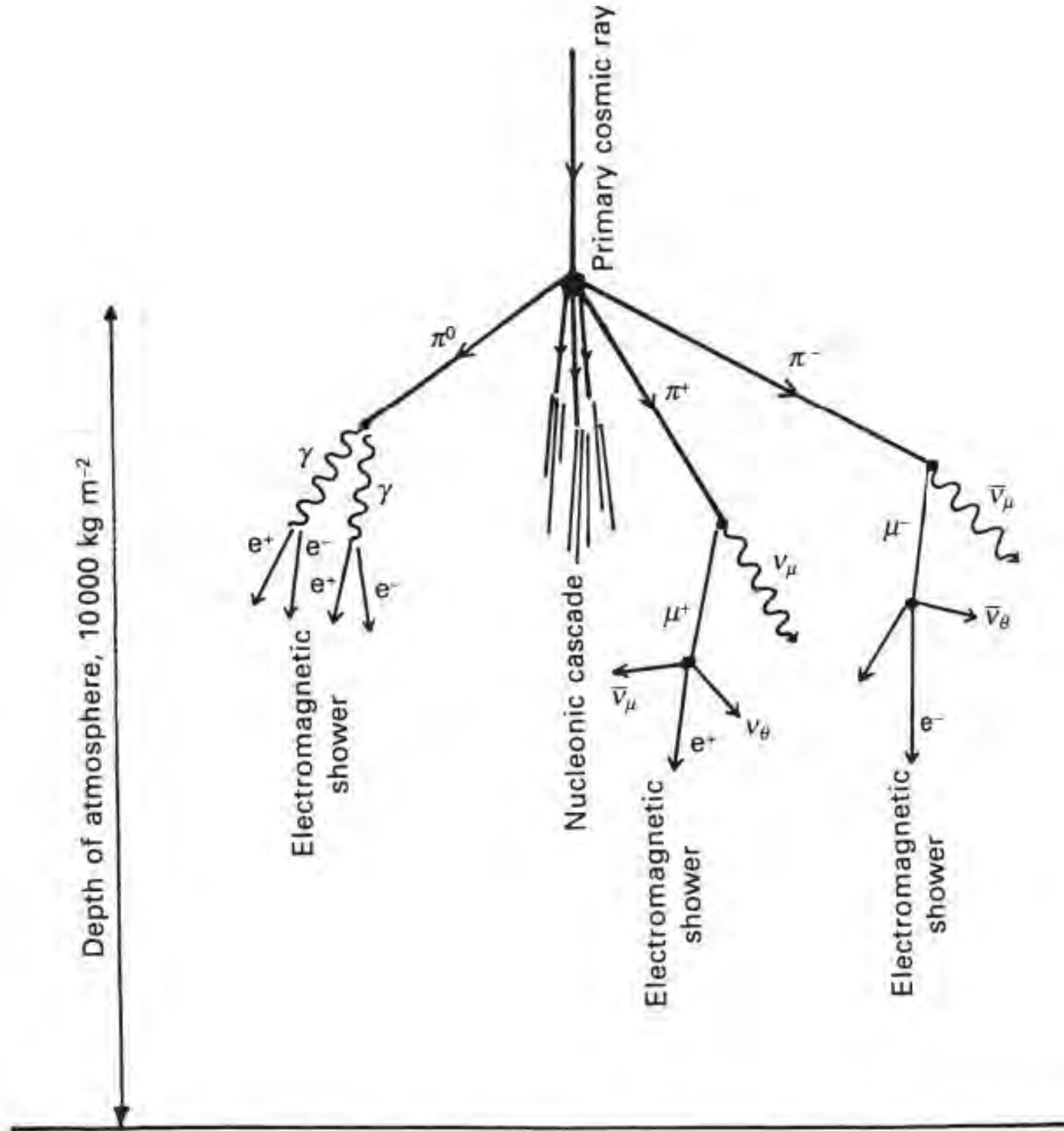




# Hadron Induced Air Showers

- When a cosmic ray enters the atmosphere it likely interacts with one of the protons or neutrons in either a Nitrogen or Oxygen atom
  - If it's a proton primary it typically has one strong interaction with one nucleon
  - If it's a nucleus incoming it typically has one strong interaction with one nucleon and breaks up the primary into N particles
- The atmosphere is ~an exponential with scale height 7-8km
  - Total mass at sea level  $1030 \text{ gm/cm}^2$
  - Proton interaction length  $80 \text{ gm/cm}^2$
  - Pion interaction length  $120 \text{ gm/cm}^2$
  - Pions have more chance to decay higher up due to thinner atmosphere
  - Pi zero's decay immediately into two photons

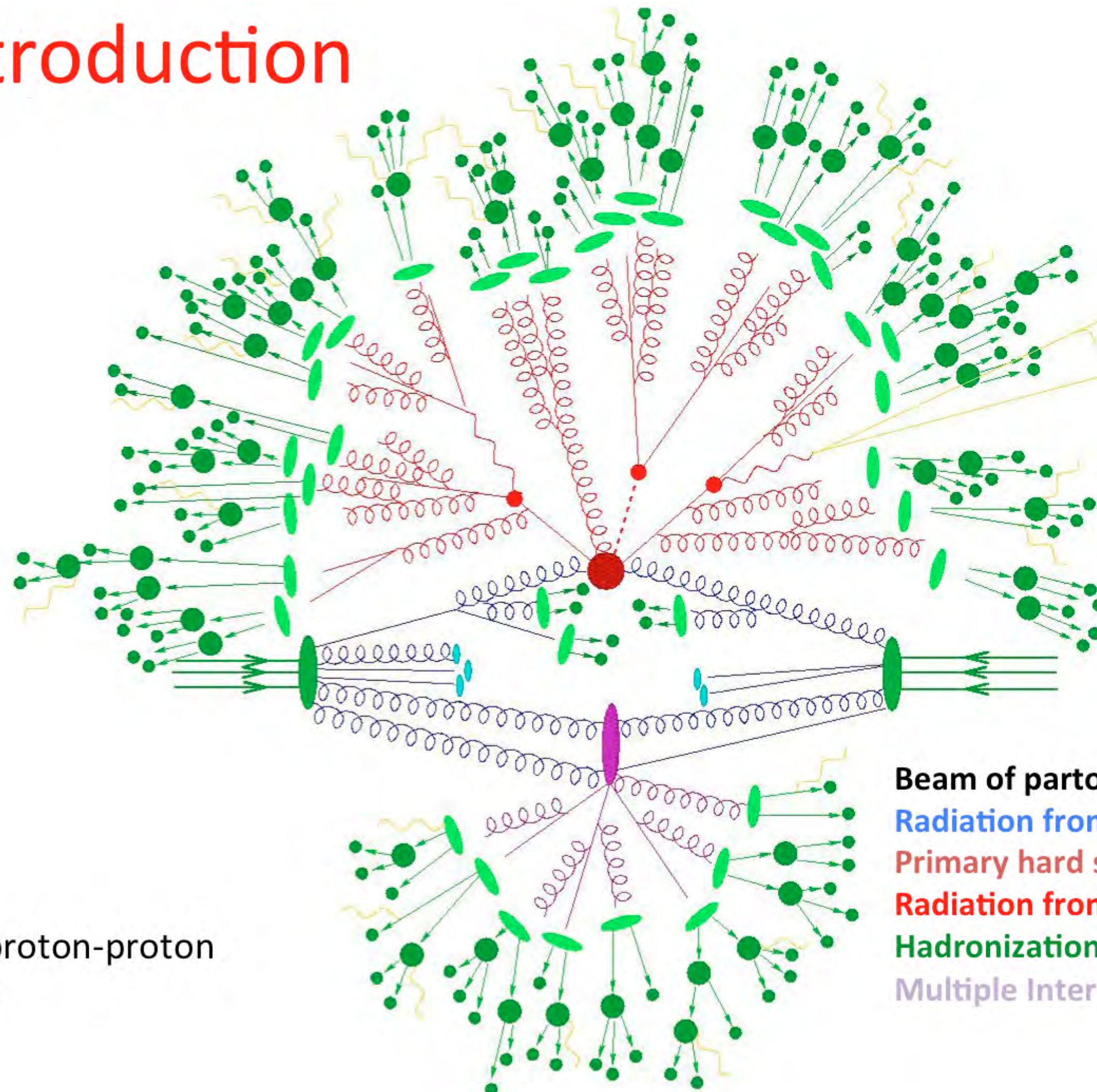
# Nuclear - Electromagnetic (Hadronic) Air Showers





# Proton - Proton Collision

## Introduction



This is a proton- proton collision seen in the center of mass

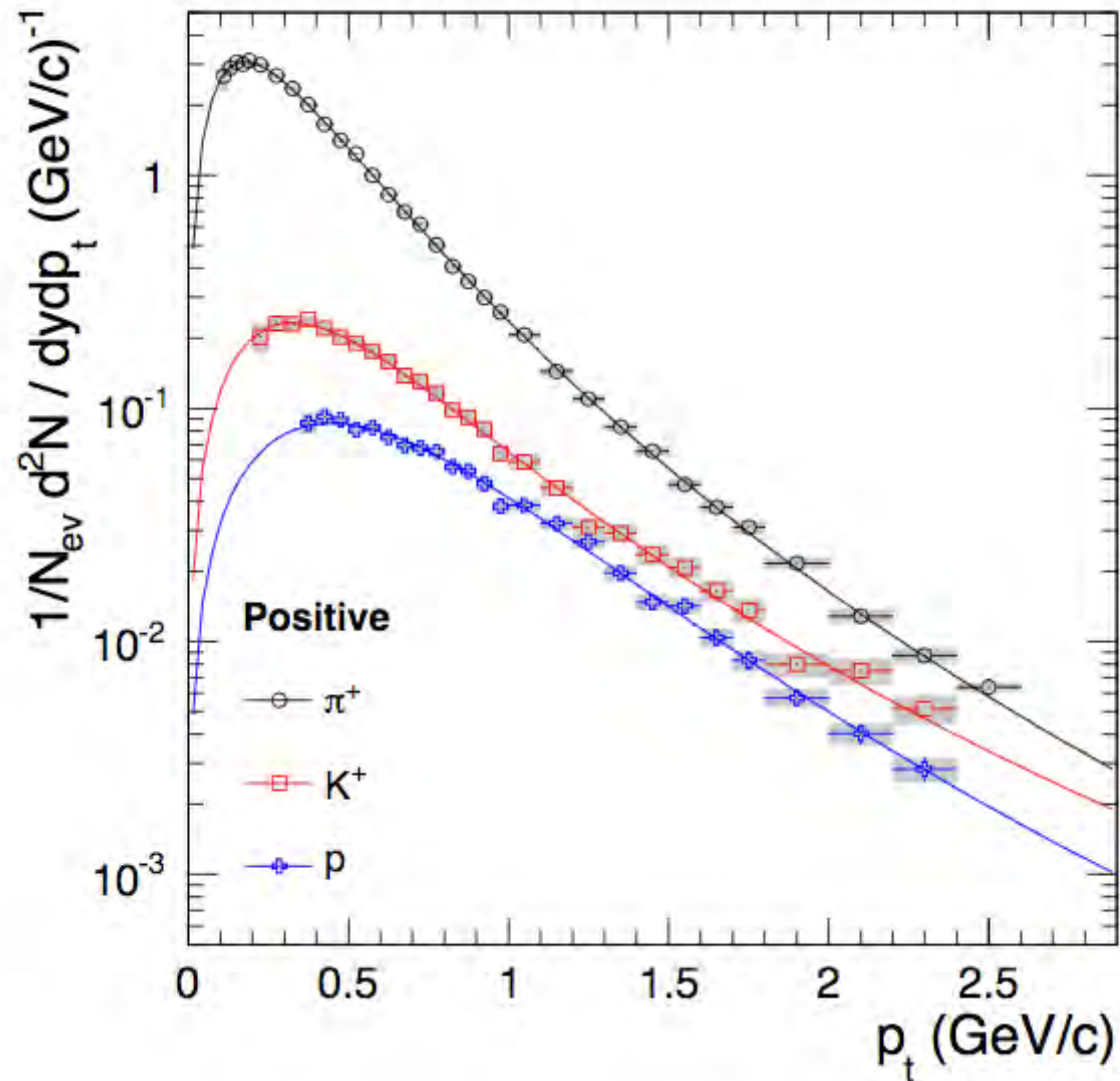
For air showers we are in the lab frame and everything goes forward

Typical proton-proton collision

- Beam of partons
- Radiation from incoming partons
- Primary hard scatter
- Radiation from outgoing partons
- Hadronization
- Multiple Inter. / Underlying event



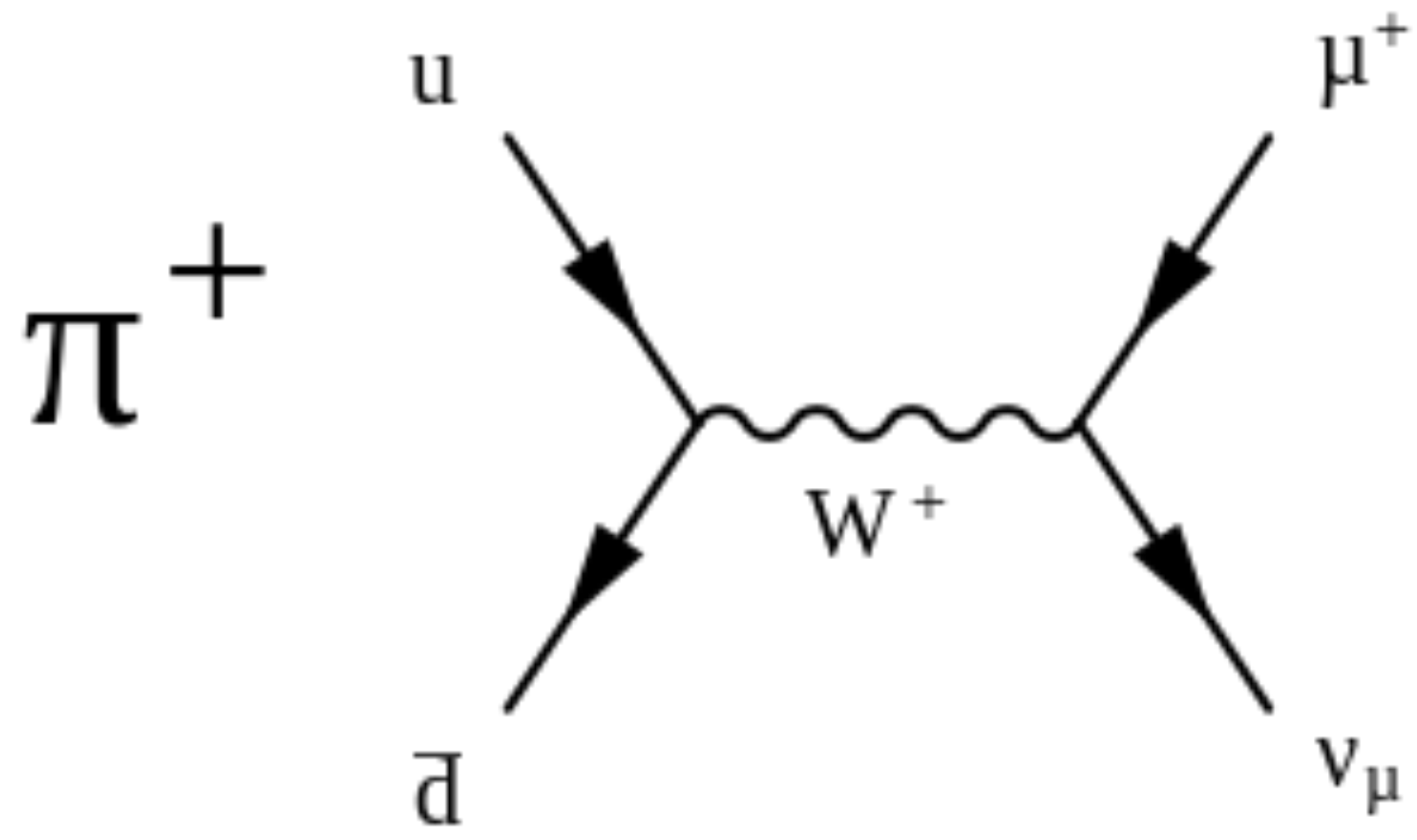
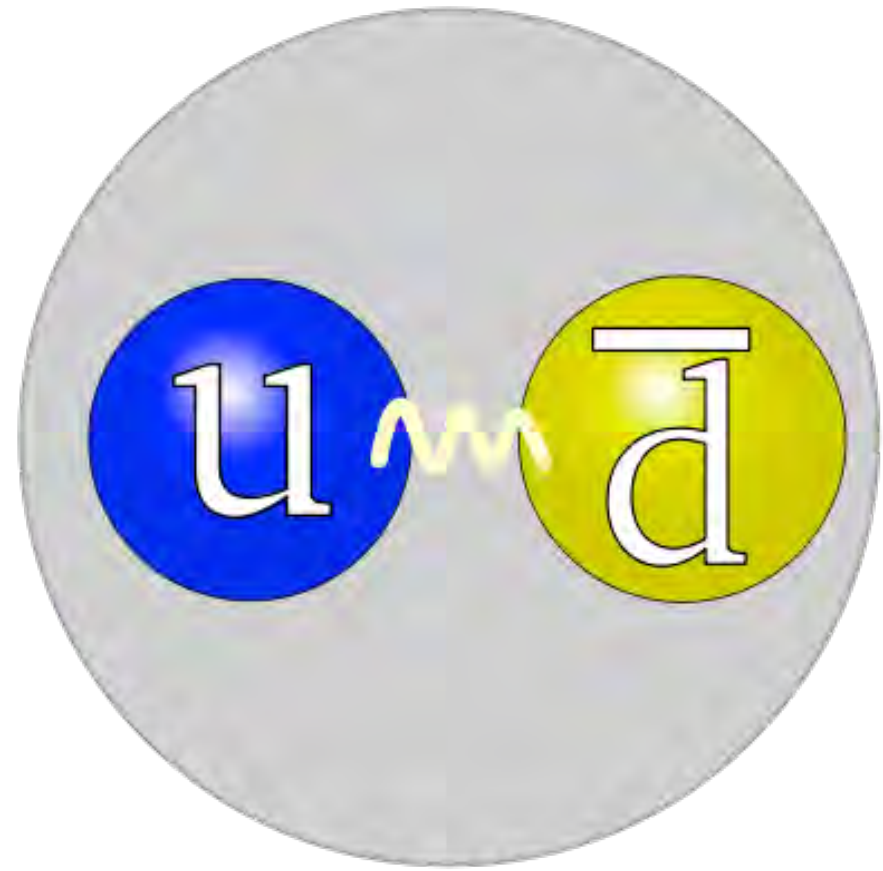
# Mostly Pions Produced



About 90% pions  
Equal numbers of  
 $\pi^+$   $\pi^-$   $\pi^0$



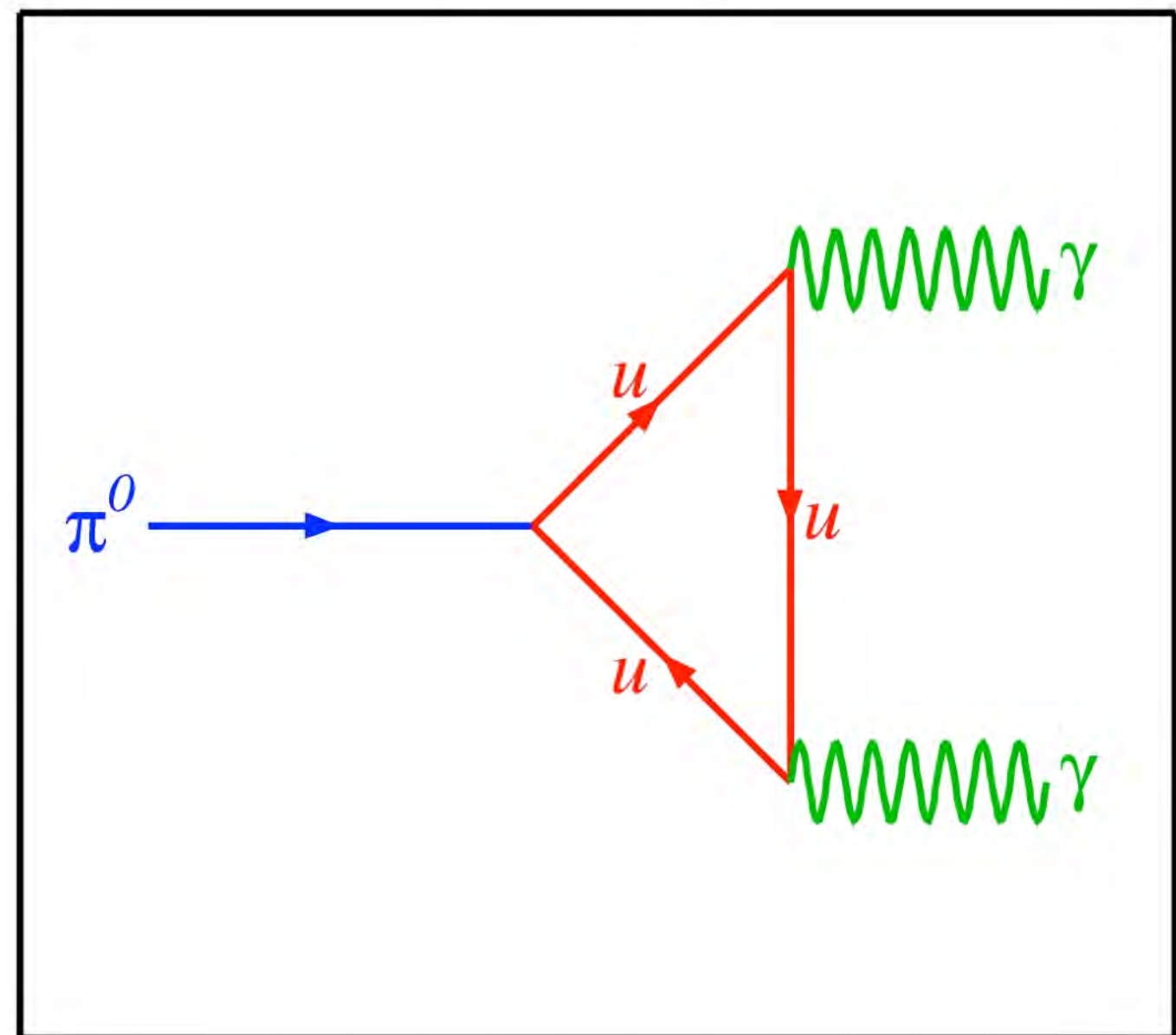
# Charged Pions can either decay or interact



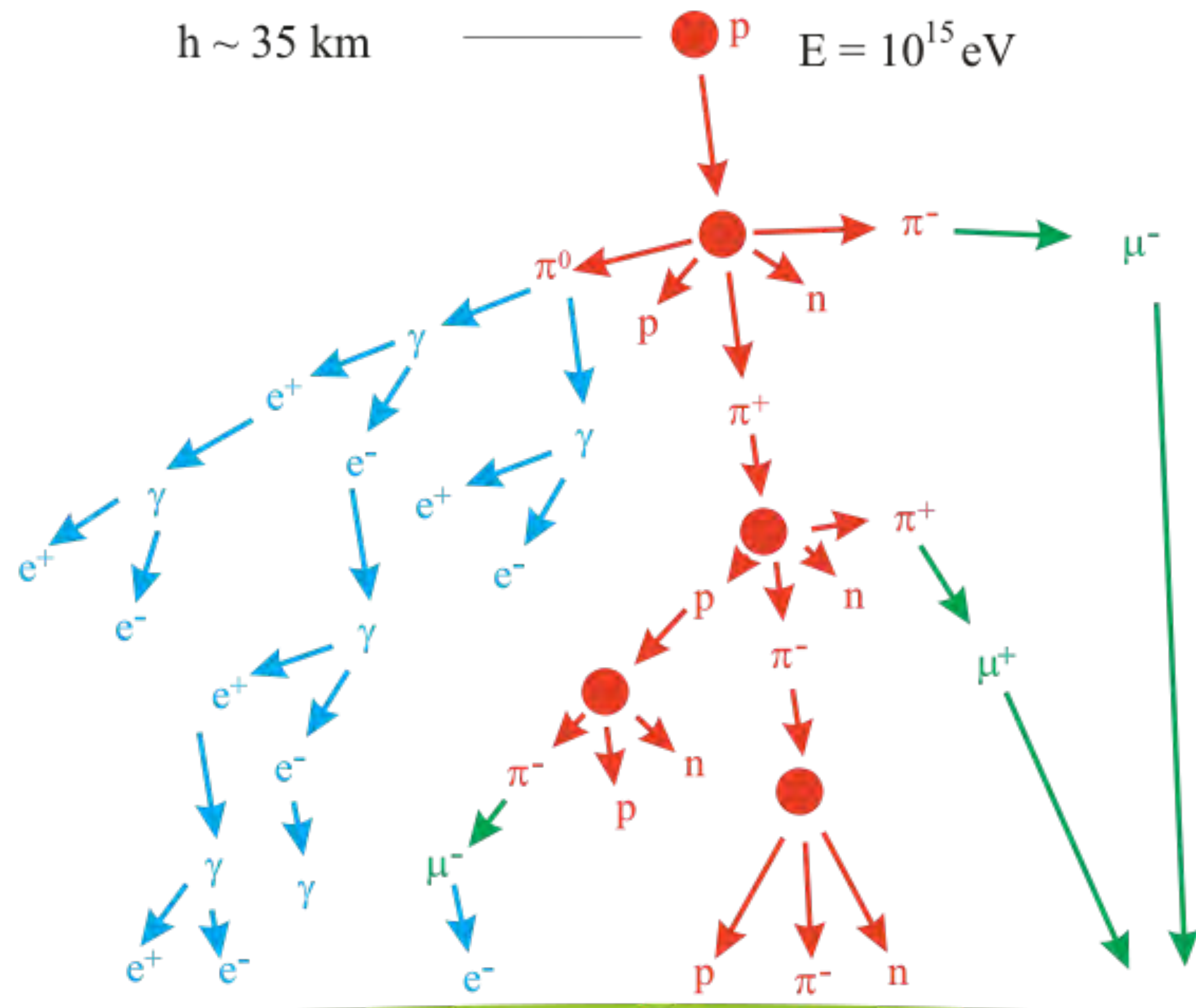
Mass 140 MeV  
 $\tau = 2.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{sec}$   
at 14 GeV  $c\tau = 800\text{m}$



$\pi^0$  Decay

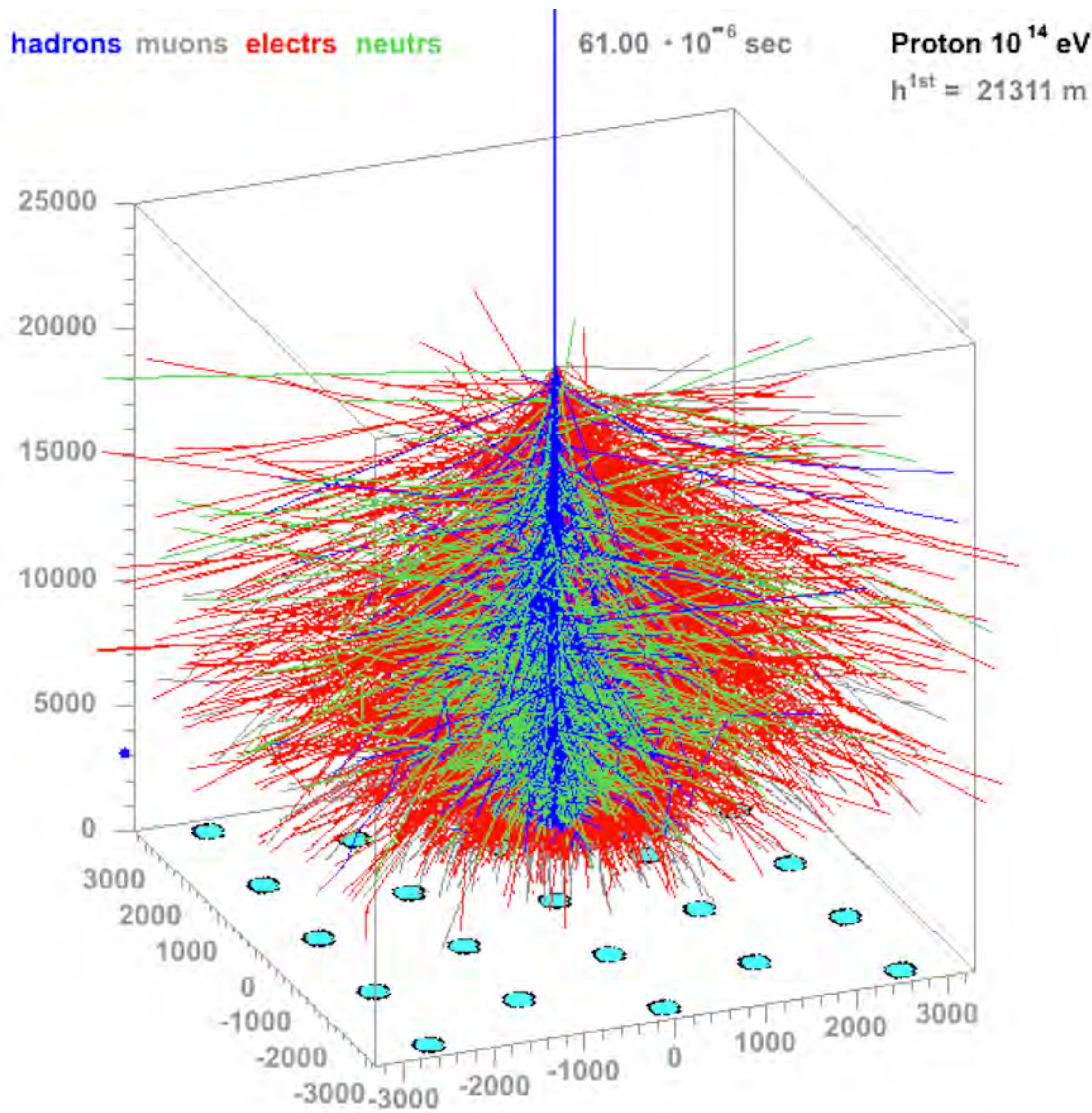


Mass 135 MeV  
 $\tau = 8 \times 10^{-17} \text{sec}$   
at 14 GeV  $c\tau = 2\mu\text{m}$





# Proton - 100 TeV



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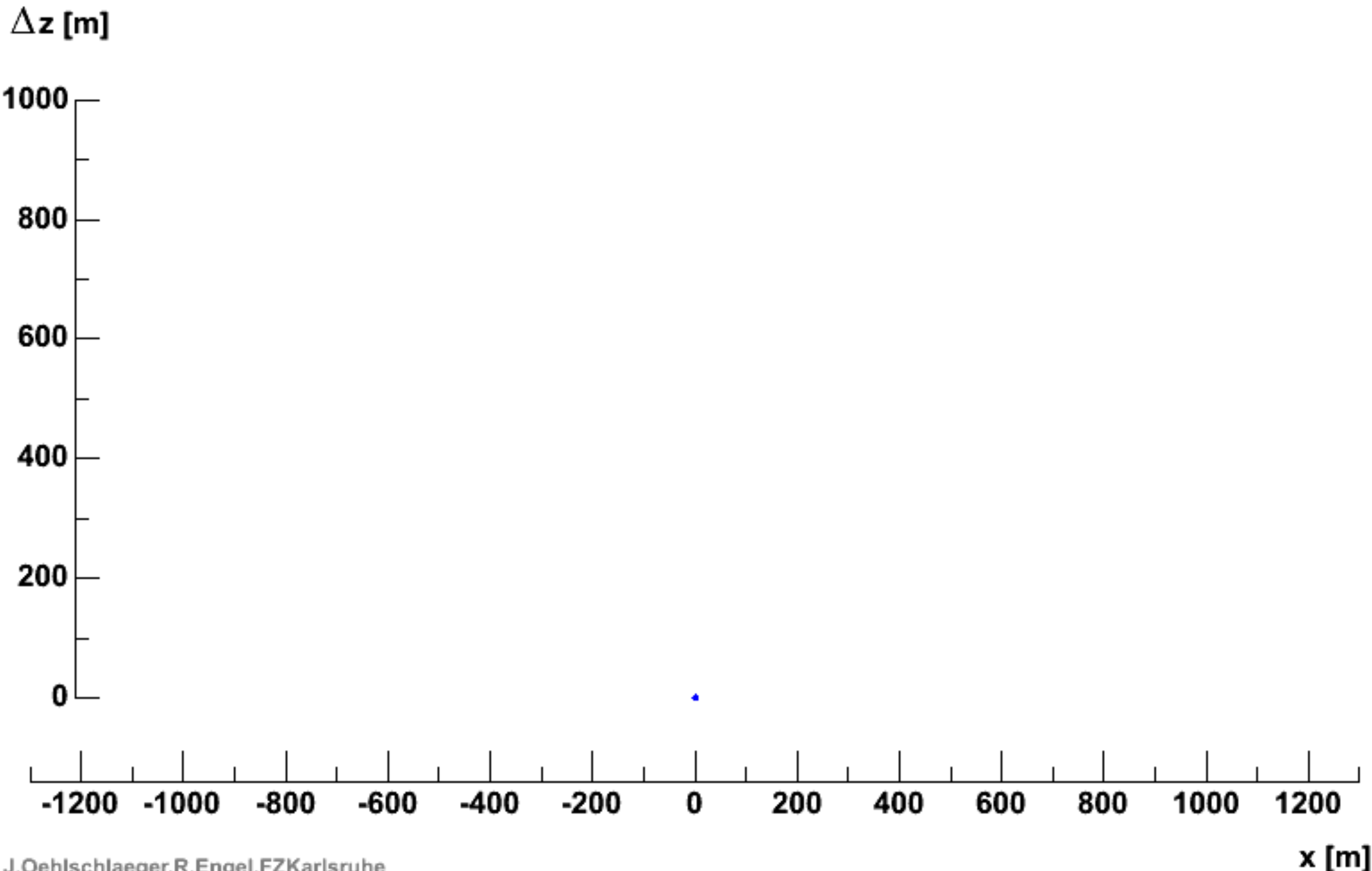


# Proton - 100 TeV

hadrons muons electrs neutrs

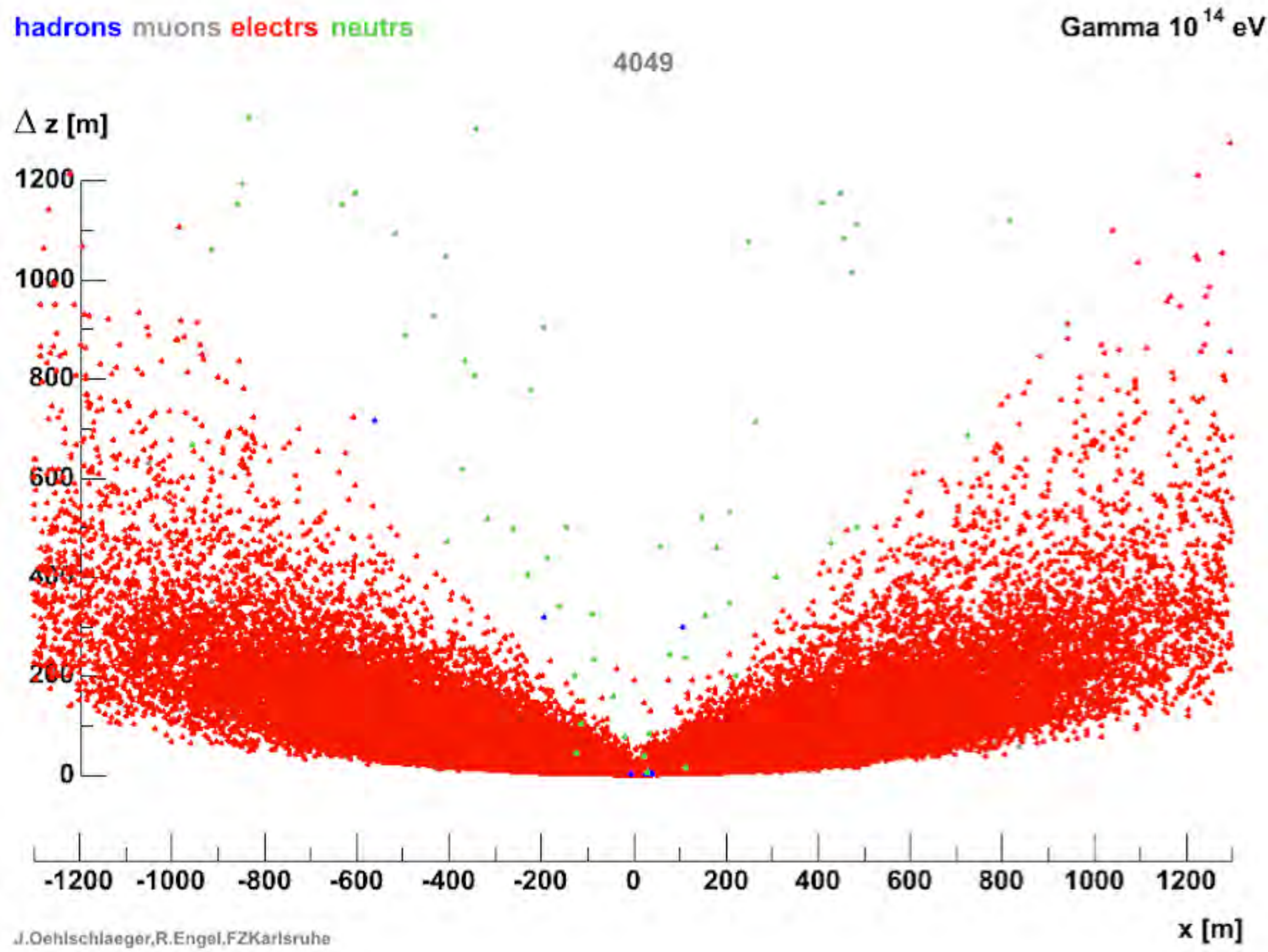
Proton  $10^{14}$  eV

16774

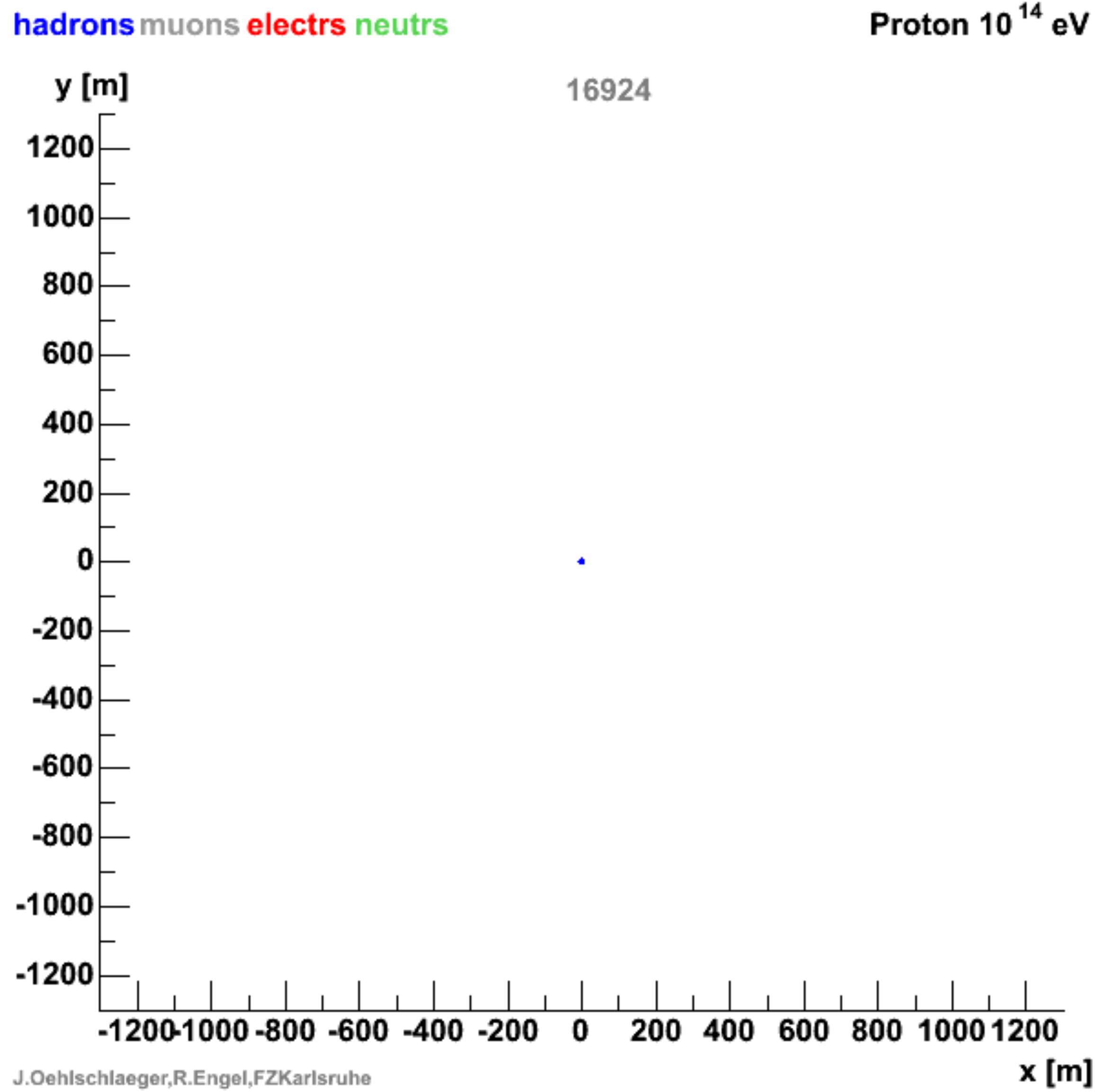




# Proton - 100 TeV



# Proton - 100 TeV

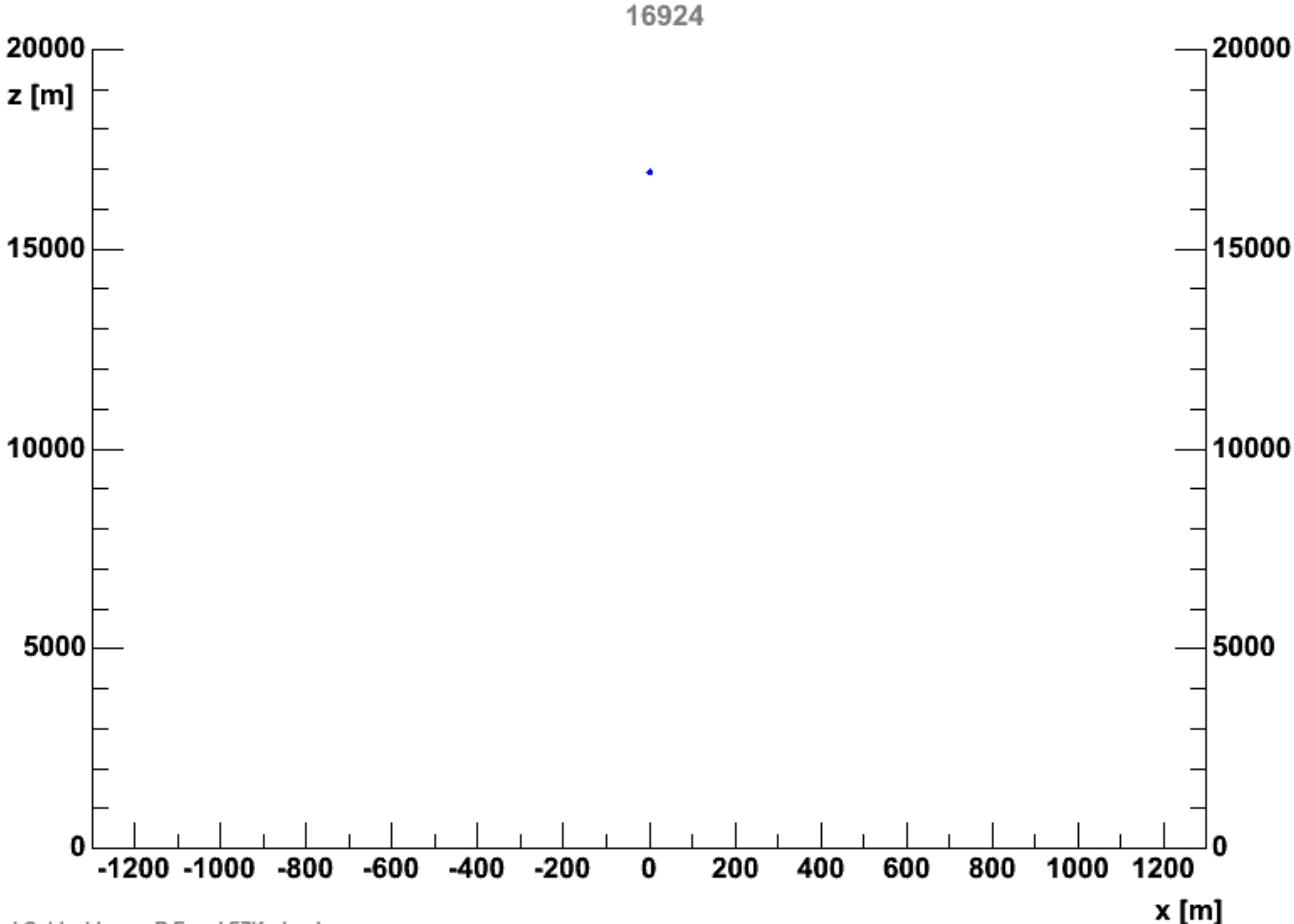




# Proton - 100 TeV

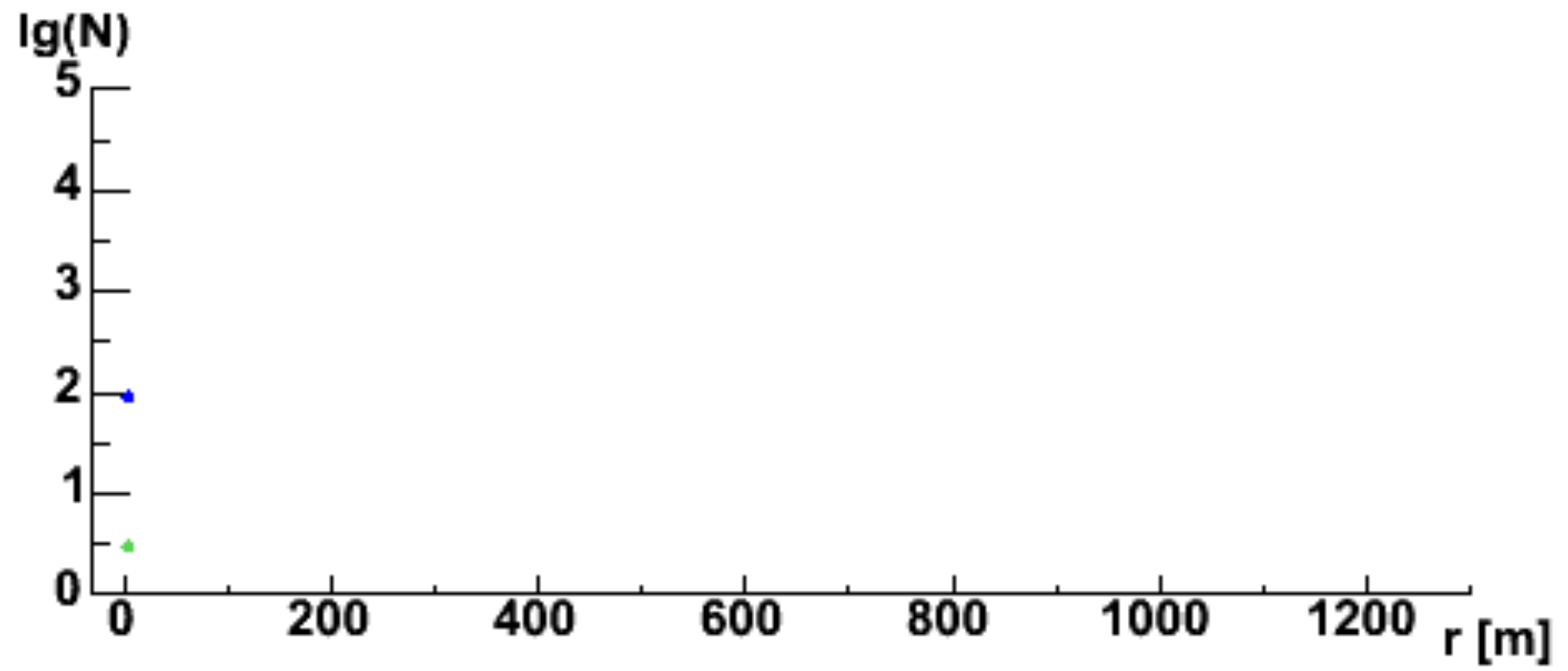
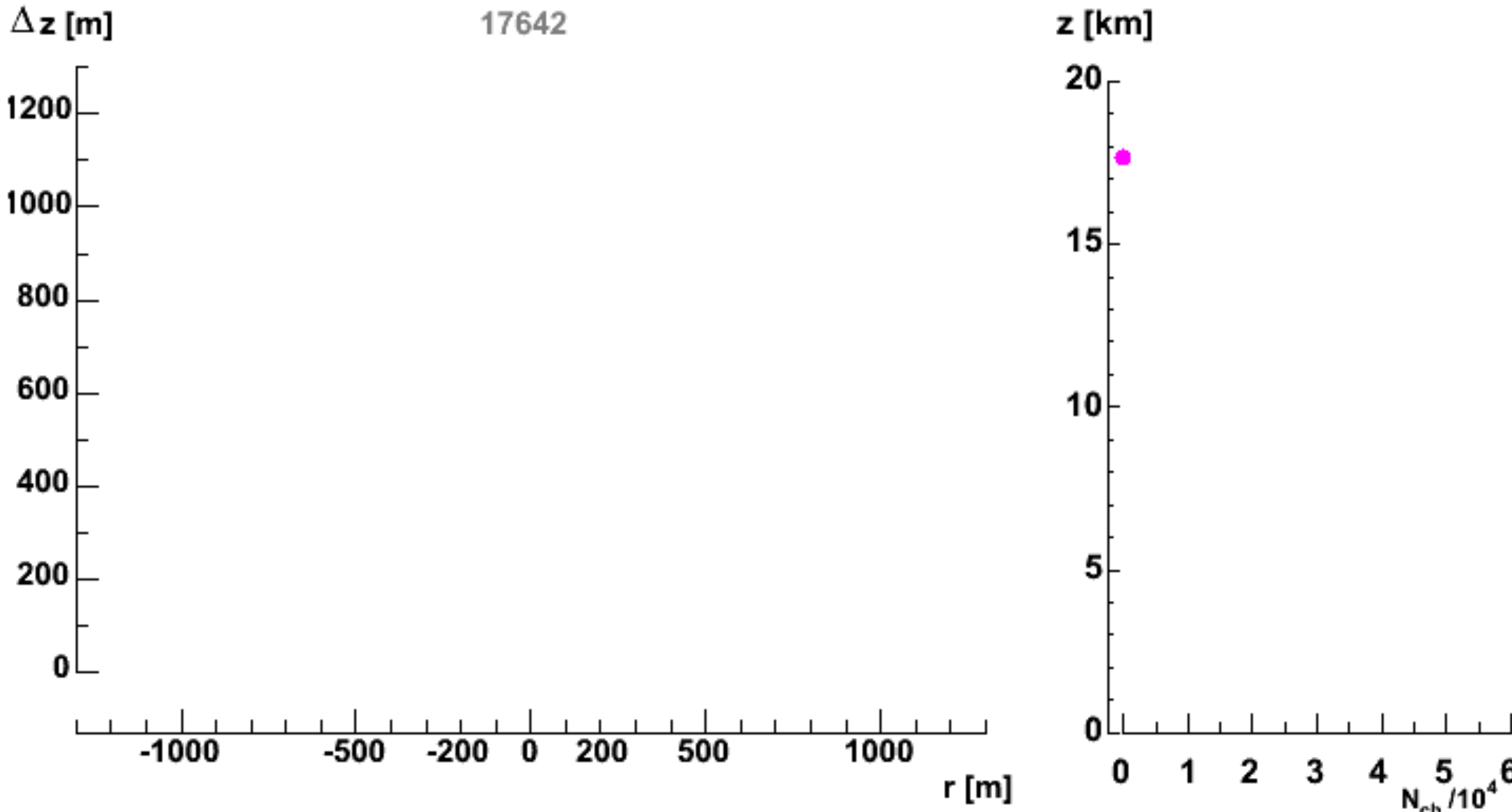
hadrons muons electrs neutrs

Proton  $10^{14}$  eV



J.Oehlschlaeger,R.Engel,FZKarlsruhe

# Proton - 100 TeV



**Proton  $10^{14}$  eV**

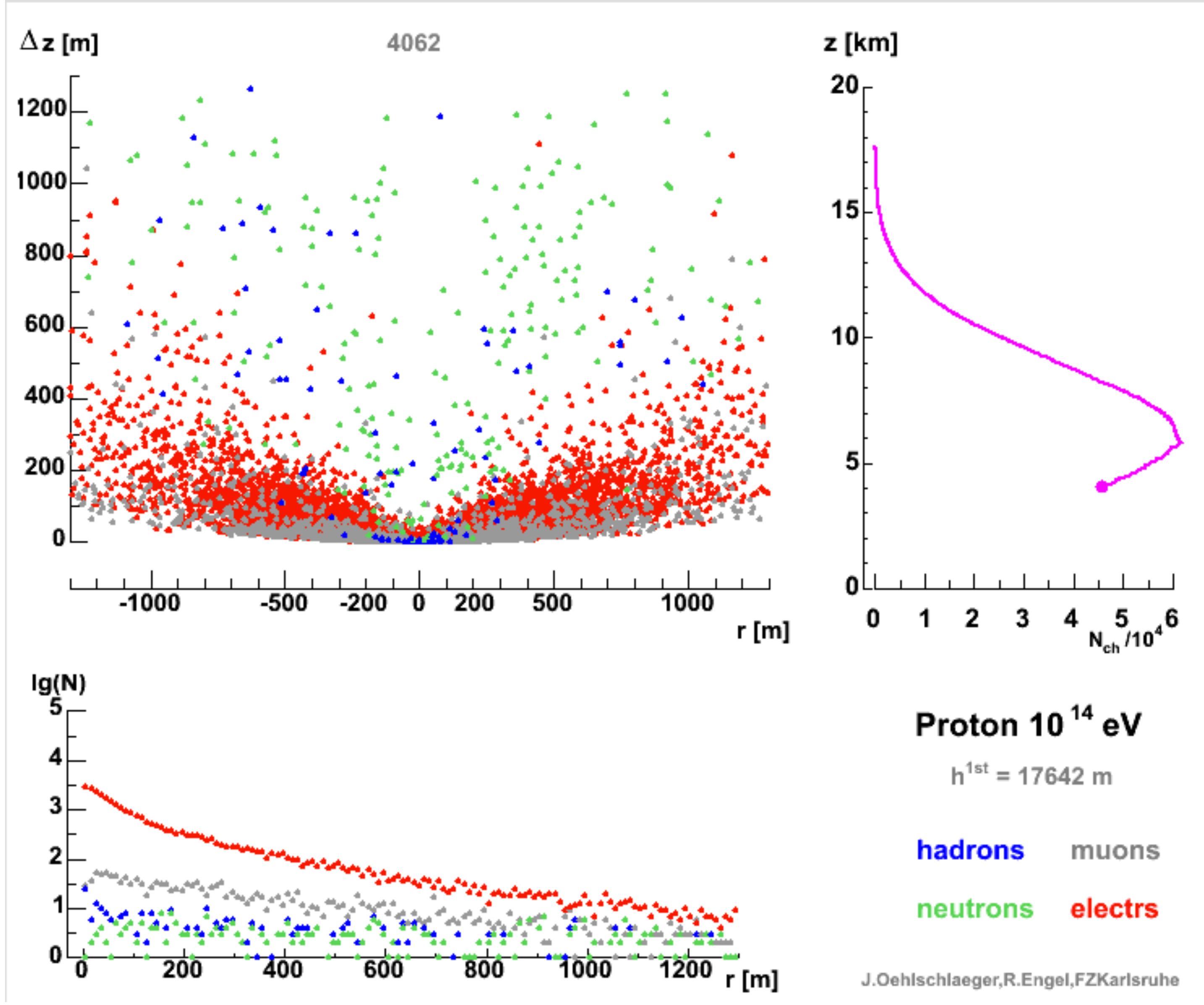
$h^{1st} = 17642$  m

hadrons    muons  
neutrons    electrs

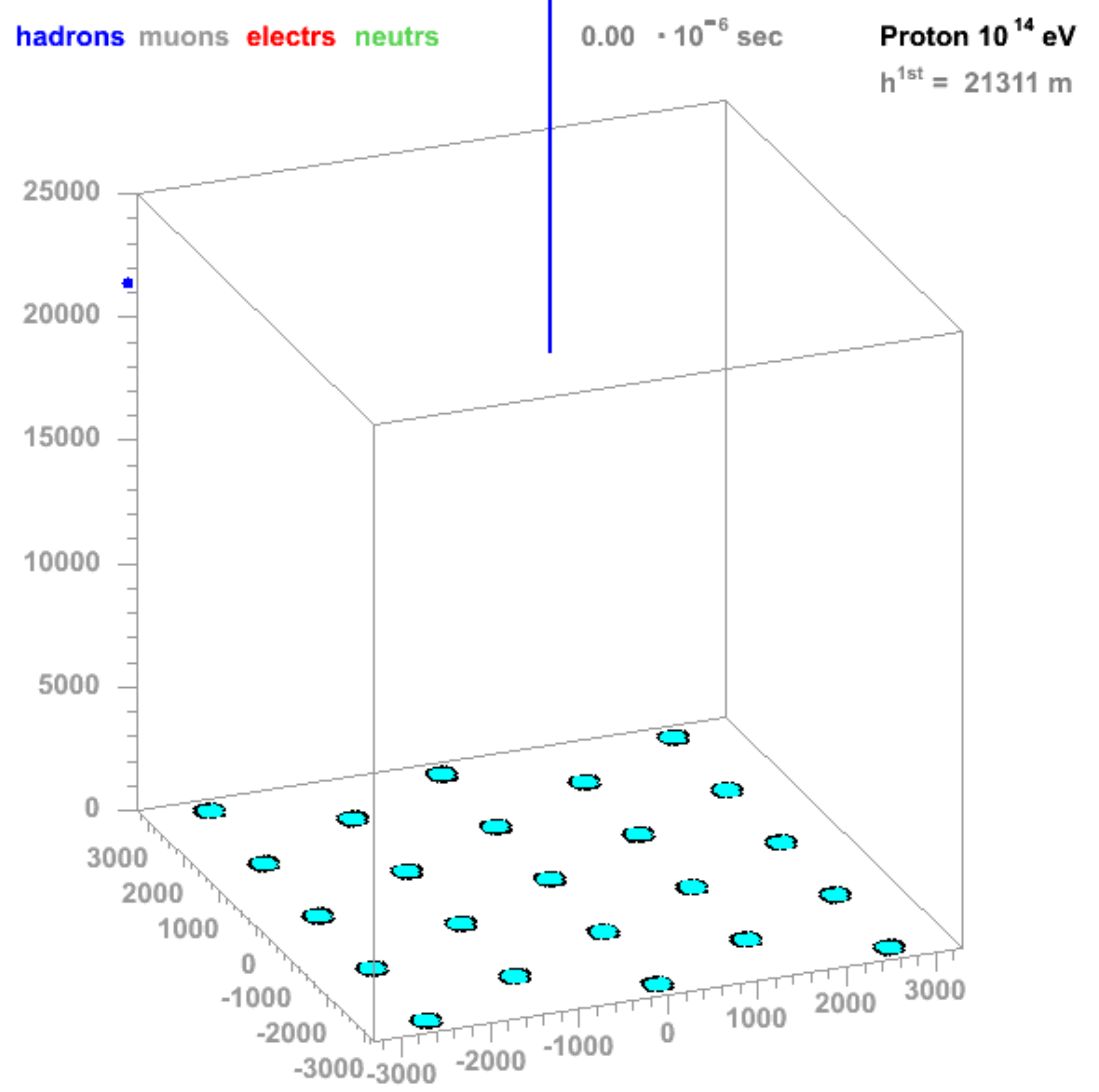
J.Oehlschlaeger,R.Engel,FZKarlsruhe



# Proton - 100 TeV

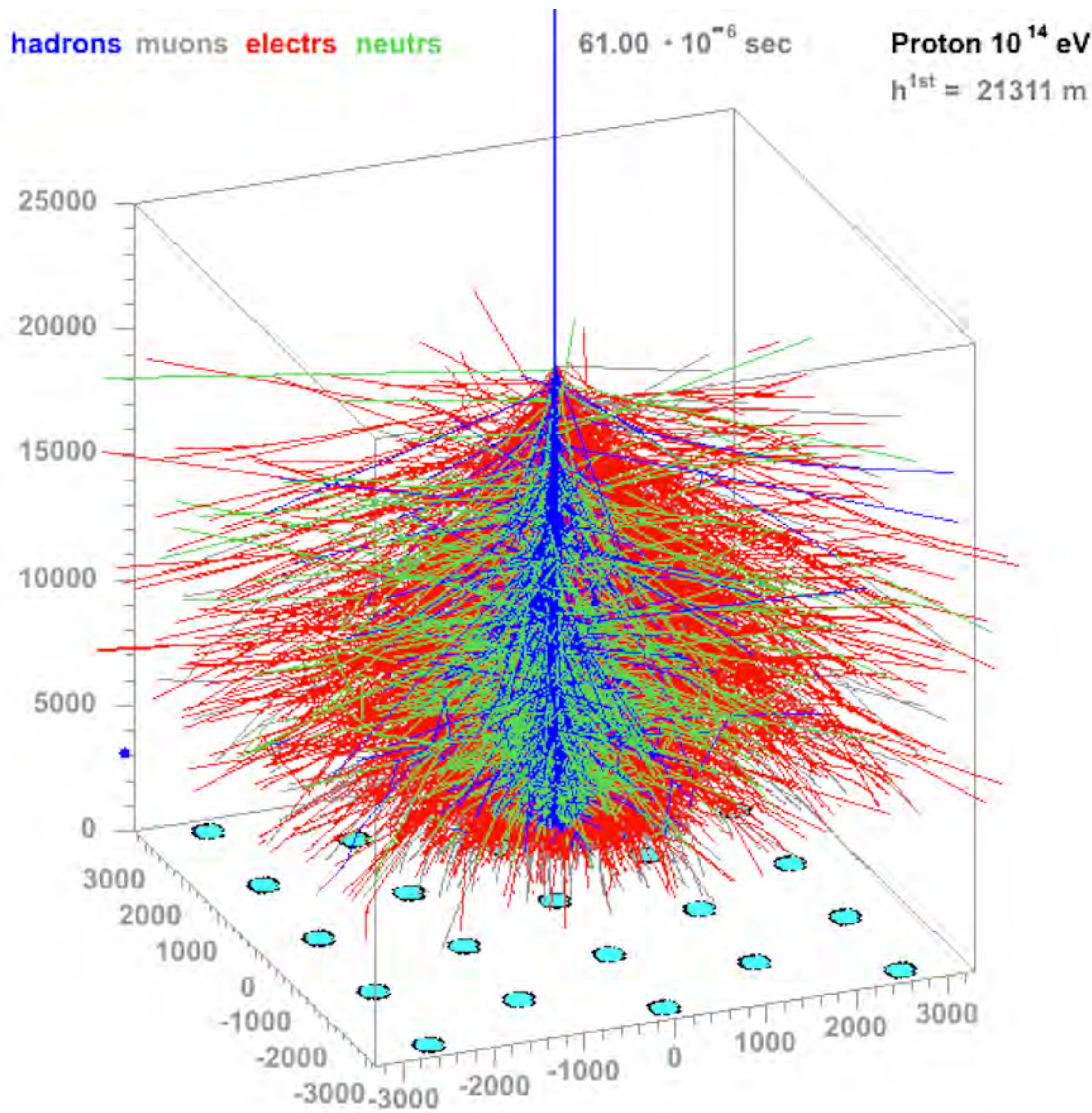


# Proton - 100 TeV





# Proton - 100 TeV

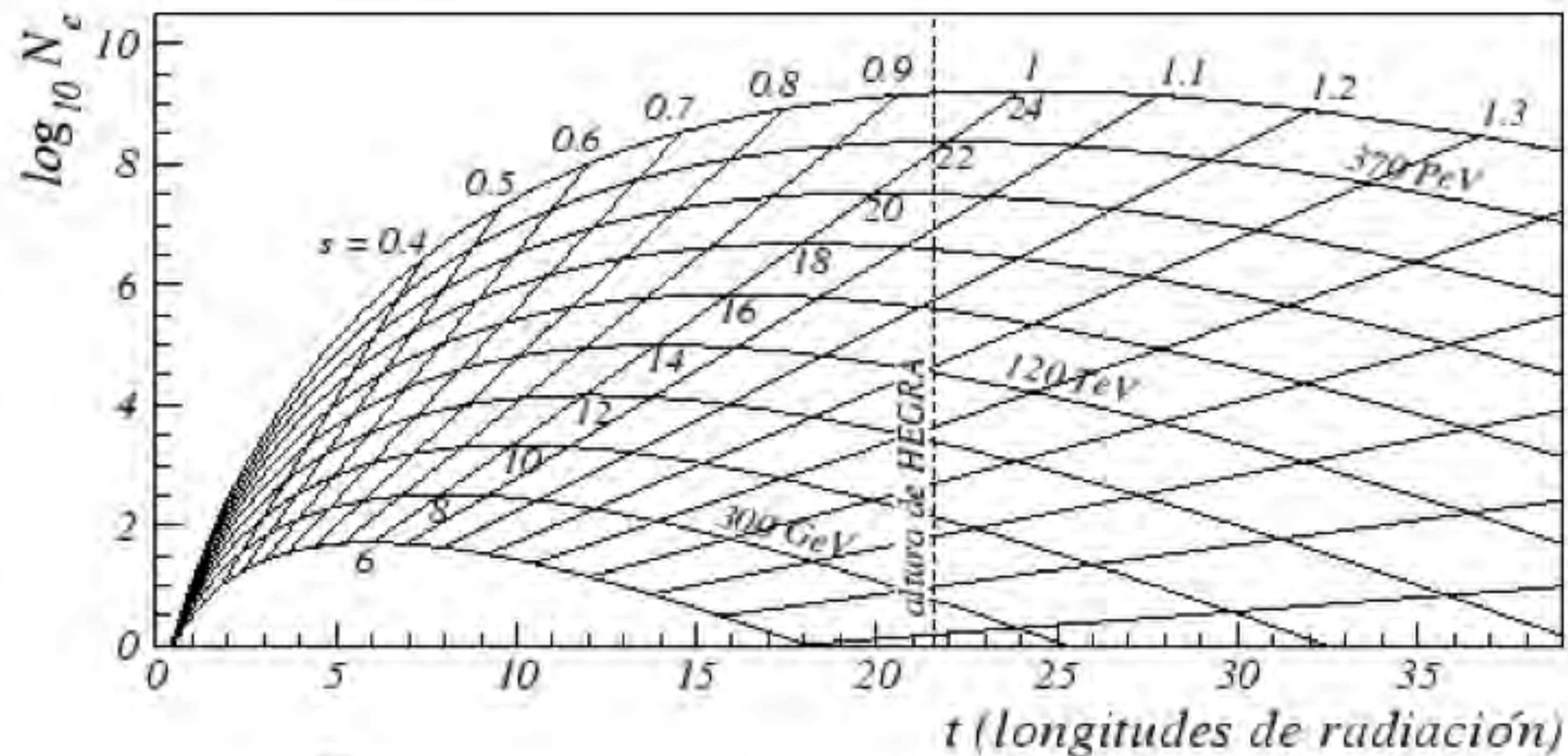


J.Oehlschlaeger,R.Engel,FZKarlsruhe



# Electromagnetic Showers

- For 2 TeV gamma ray in the atmosphere
  - $\text{Ln}(2 \times 10^6 \text{ MeV}/80 \text{ MeV})/\text{Ln}(2) = 14.6 \text{ r.l.}$
  - r.l. in air is  $37 \text{ gm/cm}^2$
  - Cascade max is at  $540 \text{ gm/cm}^2$





# The Atmosphere

- The atmosphere is about 80%N<sub>2</sub> and 20%O<sub>2</sub>
- Gas law gives us

$$P = \frac{\rho RT}{M_0}$$

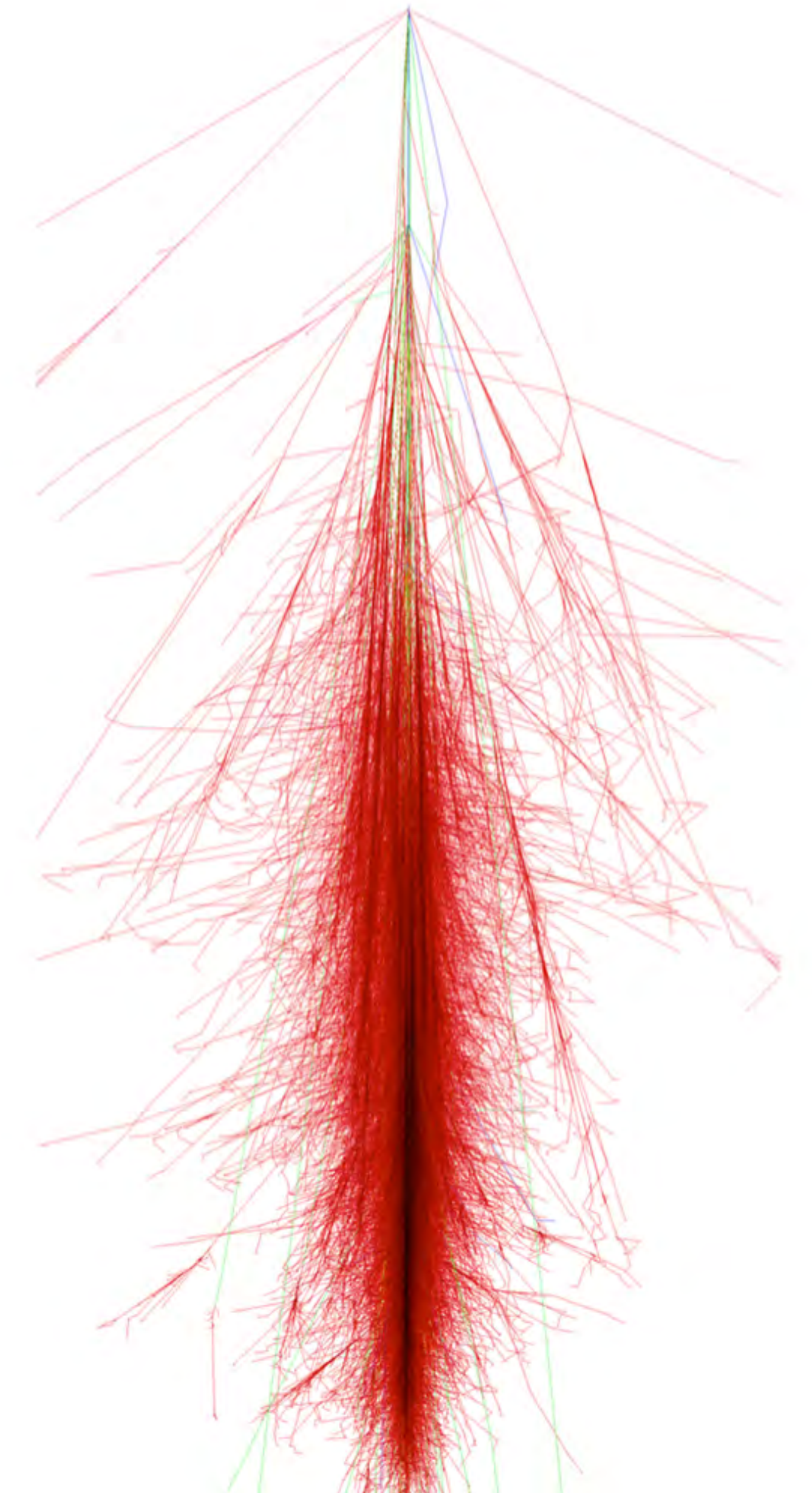
- Isothermal atmosphere

$$P = P_0 e^{-h/h_0} \quad X = X_0 e^{-h/h_0}$$

- Where  $h_0 = 7\text{km}$ ,  $P_0 = 101\text{kPa}$ , and  $X_0 = 1000\text{g/cm}^2$ .
- So  $X=540 \rightarrow \ln (P_0/P) = -h/h_0$
- $h_{\text{max}} \sim 4.7\text{km a.s.l.}$  (a little above HAWC)
  - HAWC measures more than  $e^+e^-$
  - Because r.l. in water is  $37\text{gm/cm}^2$  photons convert  $\sim 1'$

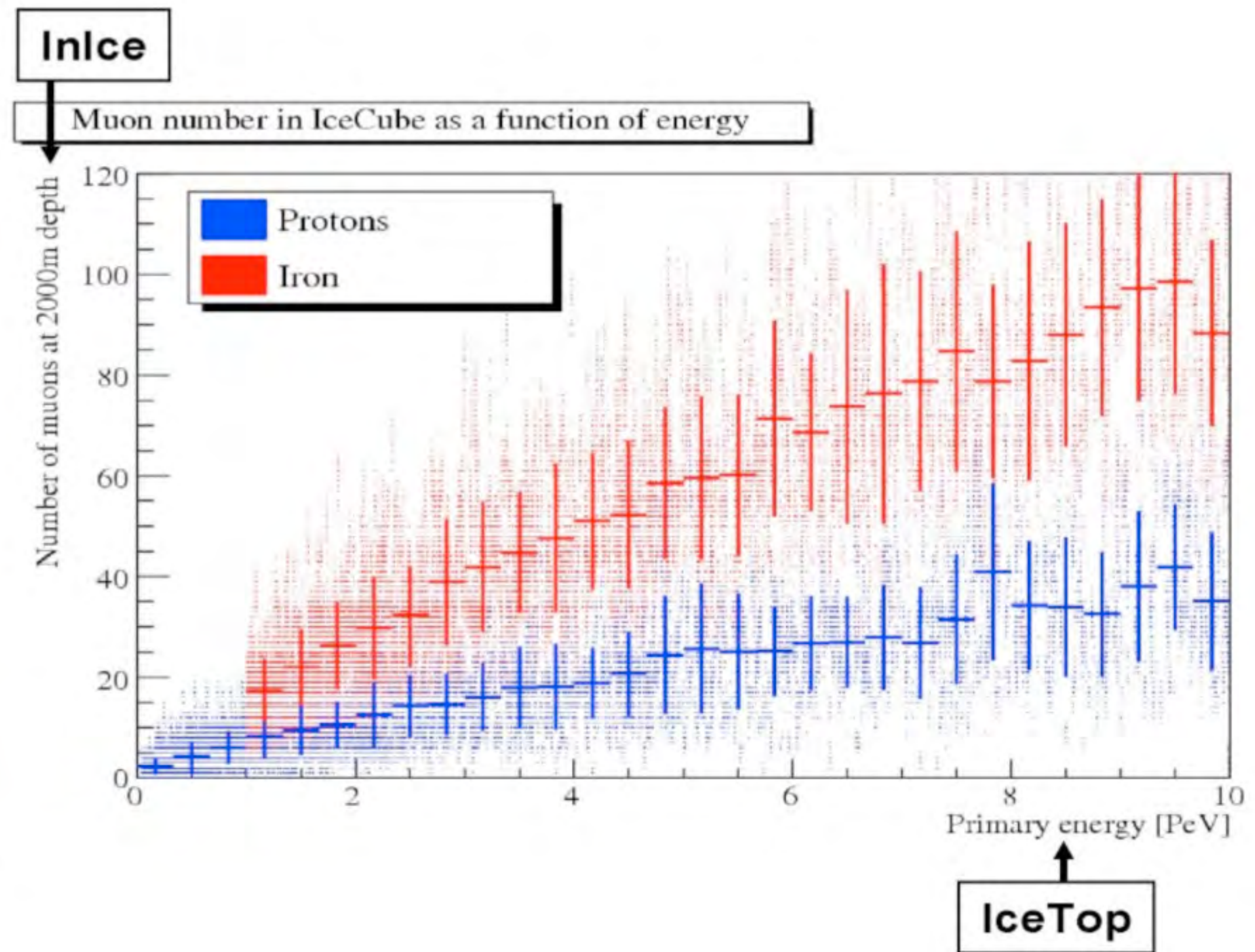
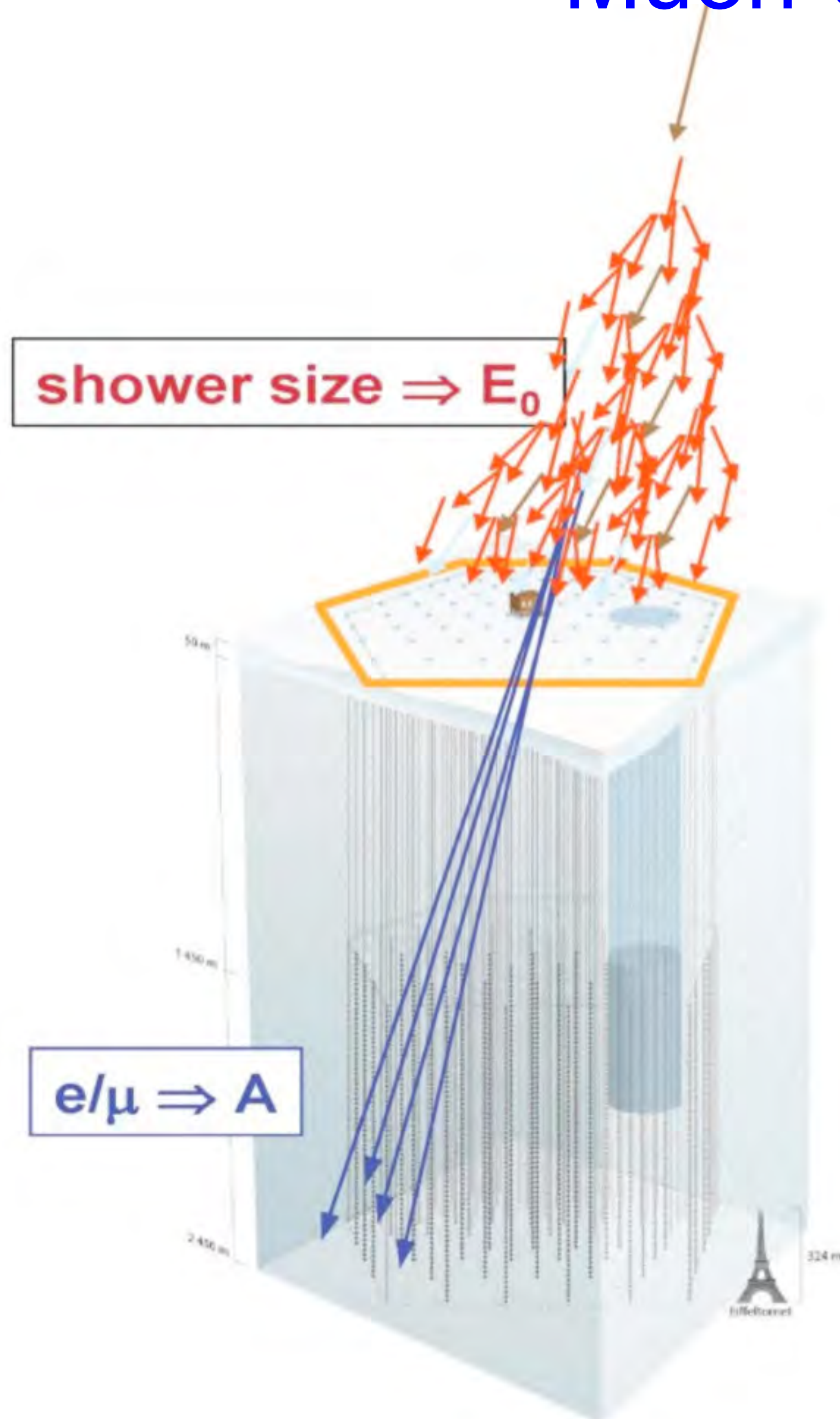
# Hadronic Showers

- In general showers max out deeper in the atmosphere due to longer hadronic interaction length  $X_{\text{had}} \sim 90 \text{ g/cm}^2$
- Typically modeled numerically
  - Corsika
- Hadronic showers are typically muon-rich with both penetrating muon component and soft EM component reaching ground level
- Lateral development is characterized by Molière unit equal to approximately  $0.2X_0$ , about 100 m at sea level.
- Hadronic showers are broader than  $\gamma$



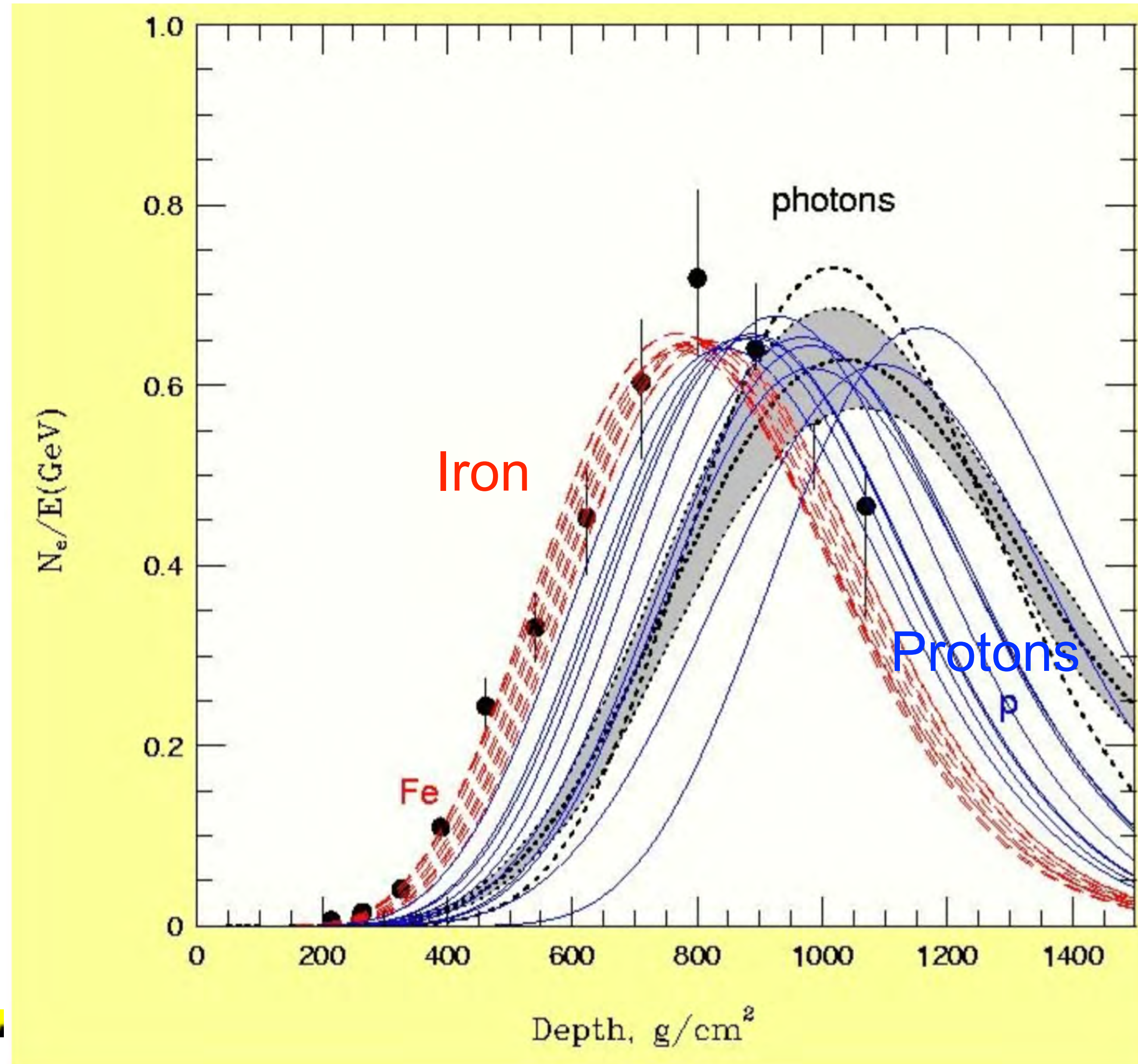


# Muon Content vs Primary

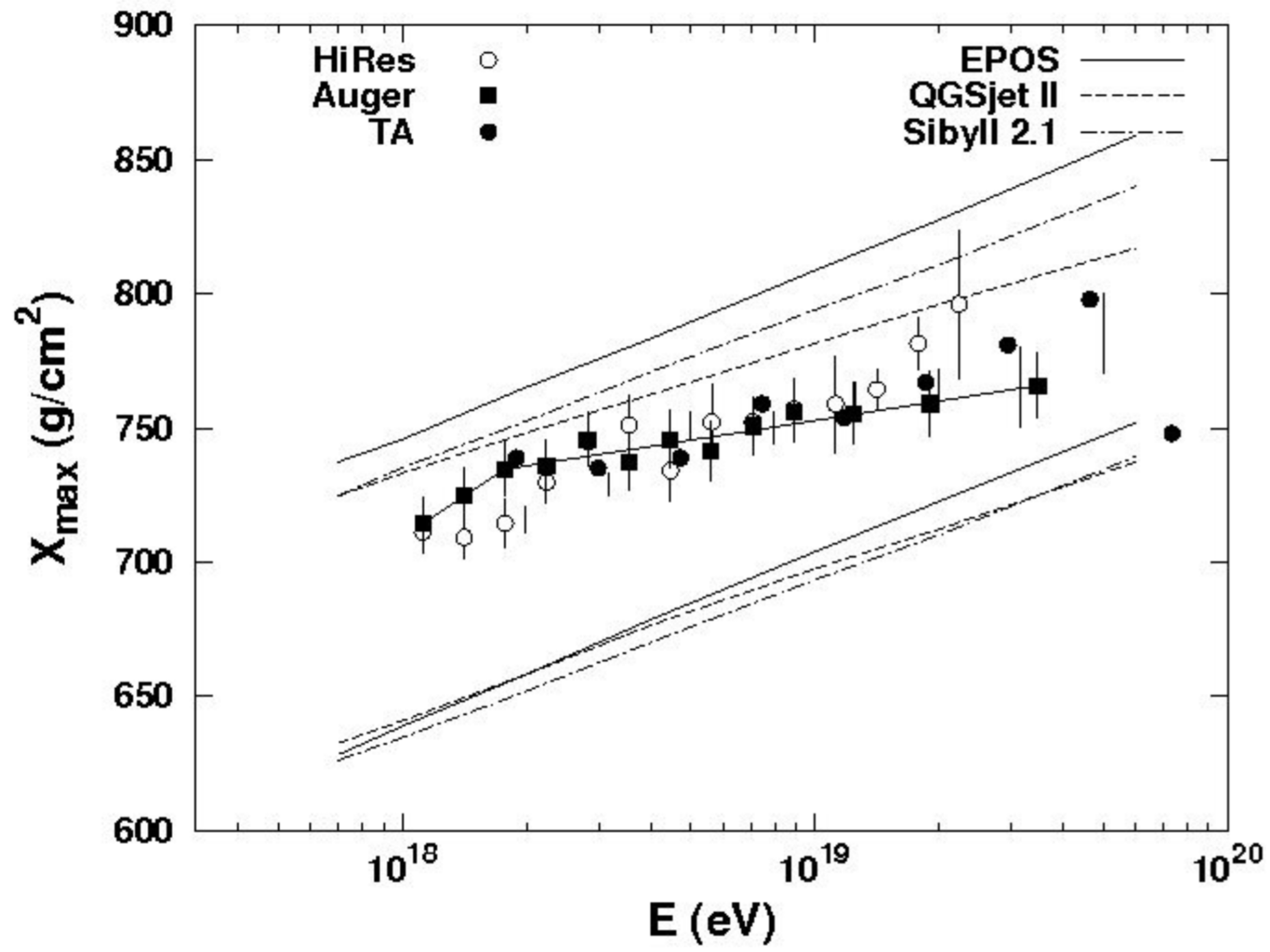




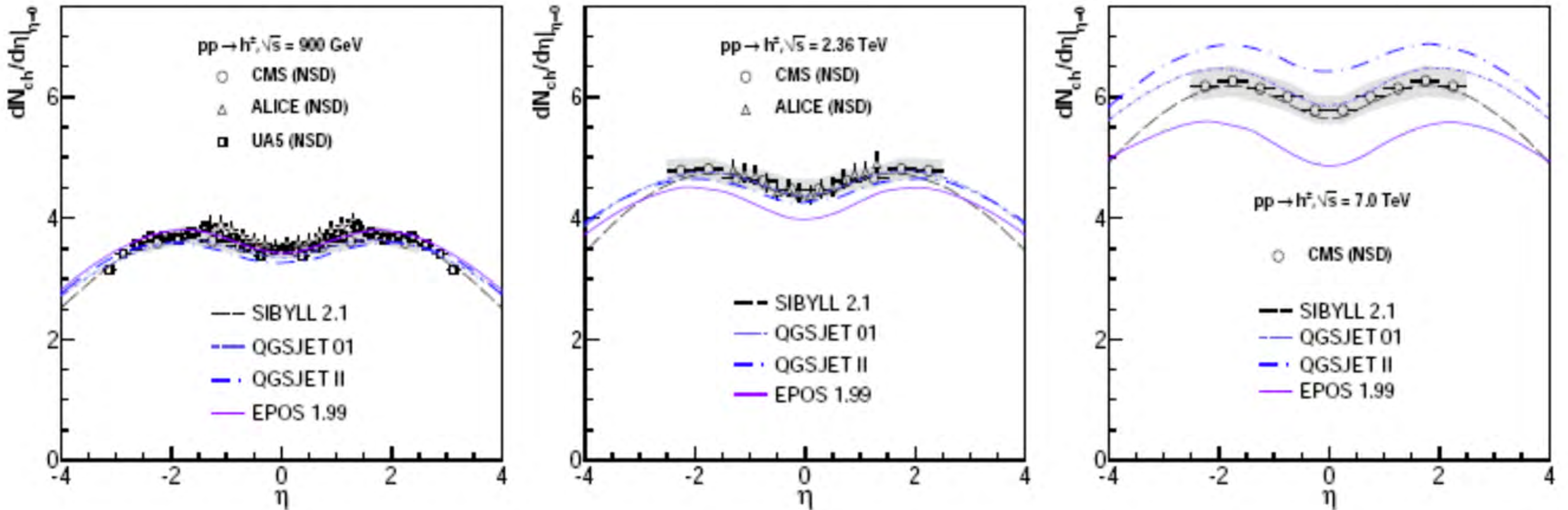
# Depth of Shower Maximum







# Physics models and LHC data



**Air shower development depends mostly on the forward region that is not measured in collider experiments.**



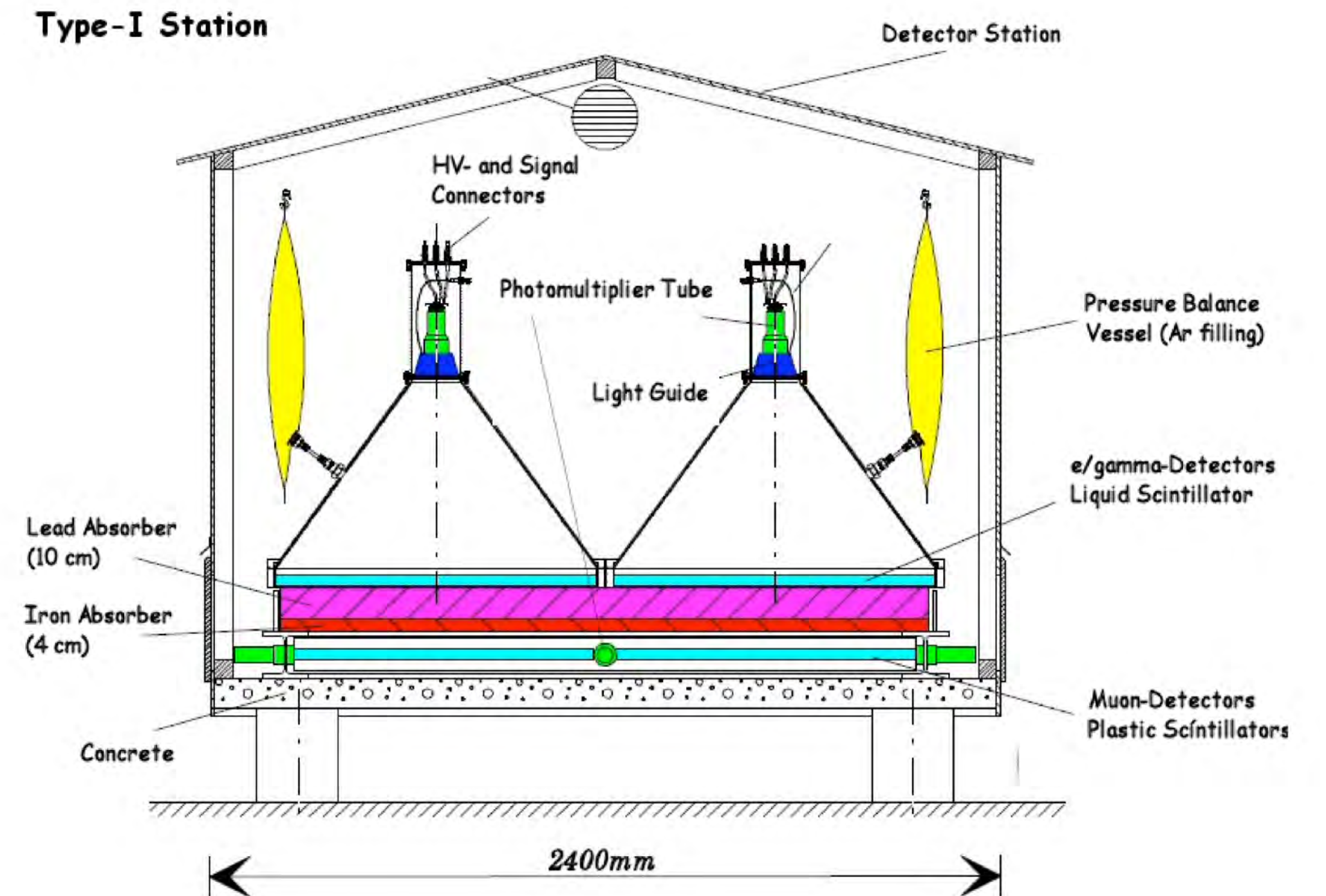
# Air Shower Detectors

- Basically five types of detectors - some are used in combination
  - Scintillator Arrays
  - Fluorescence Detectors (FDs)
  - Resistive Plate Carpets
  - Water Cherenkov Detectors
  - Imaging Atmosphere Cherenkov Detectors (IACTs)
- Night Sky Detectors - IACTs, FDs
  - 10-15% duty factor
  - IACTs Integrate shower - good for energy
  - FDs - see shower profile - good for energy and composition
- Surface detectors sample showers at one depth but operate 24/7



# EAS Detectors - Scintillators

## KASCADE Grande (Karlsruhe / Germany)



Energy Range 100 TeV - 200 PeV



# EAS Detectors - Scintillators

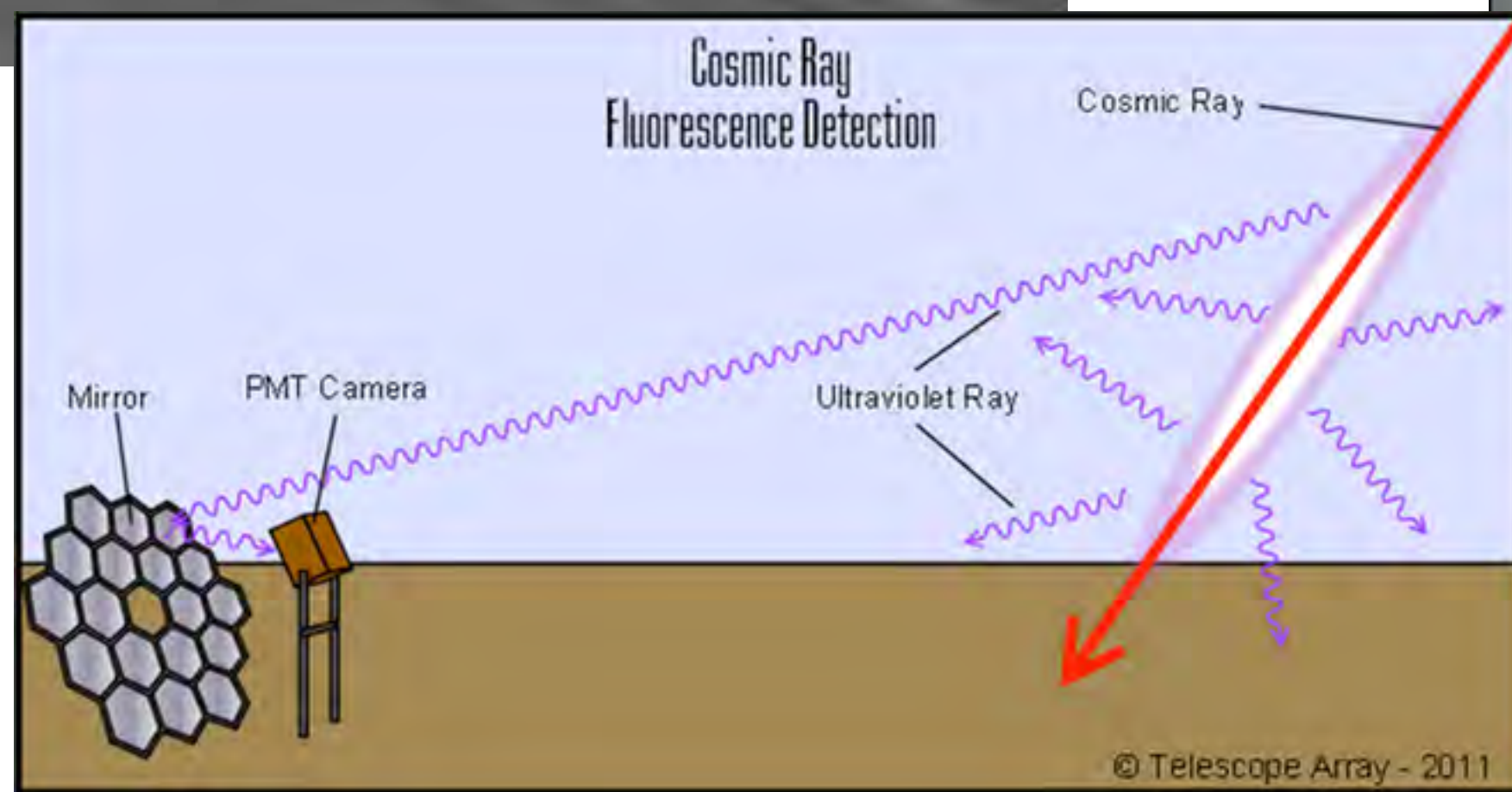
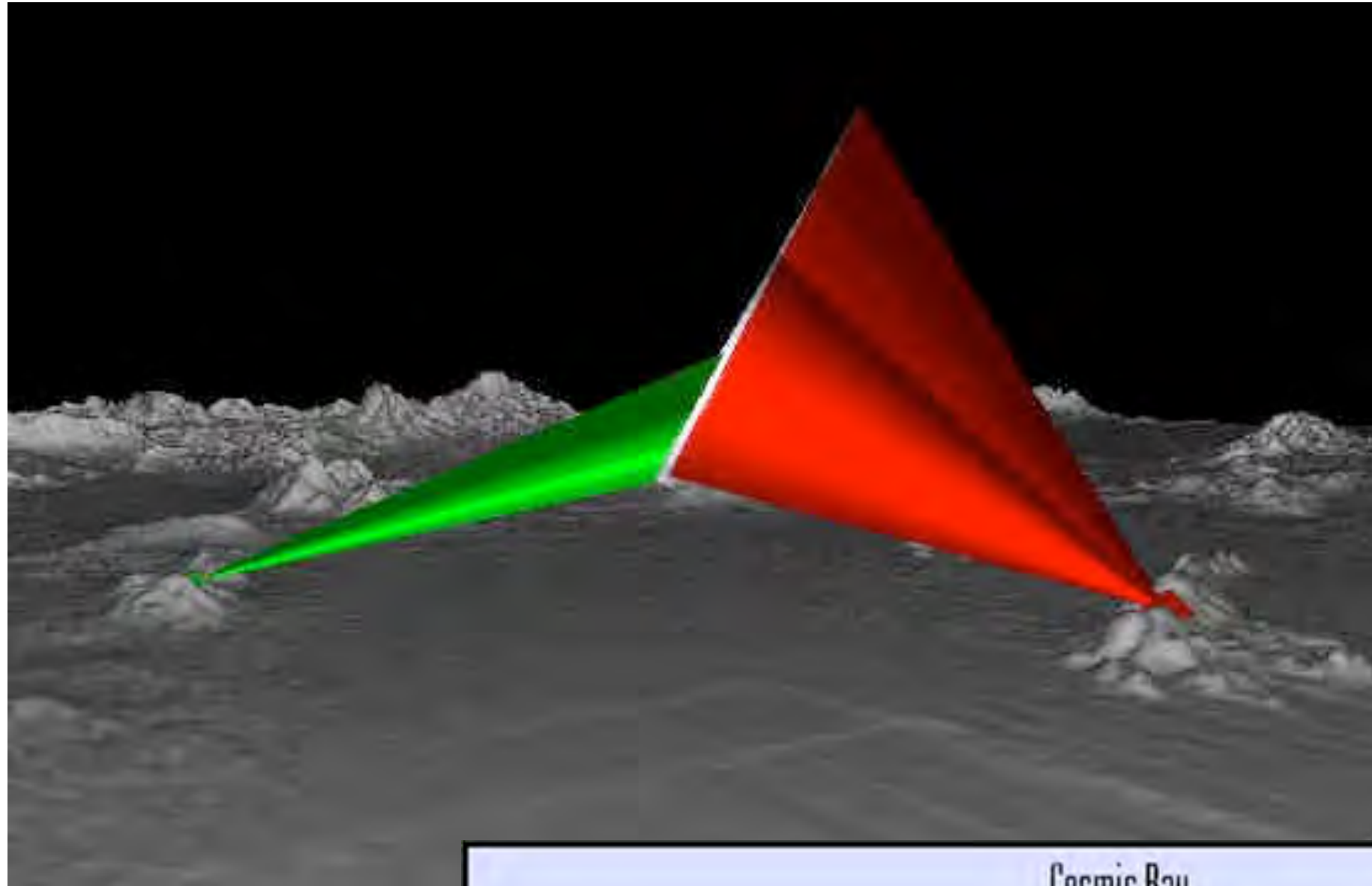
## EAS - $\gamma$ Tibet



Energy Range 3TeV - 10 PeV



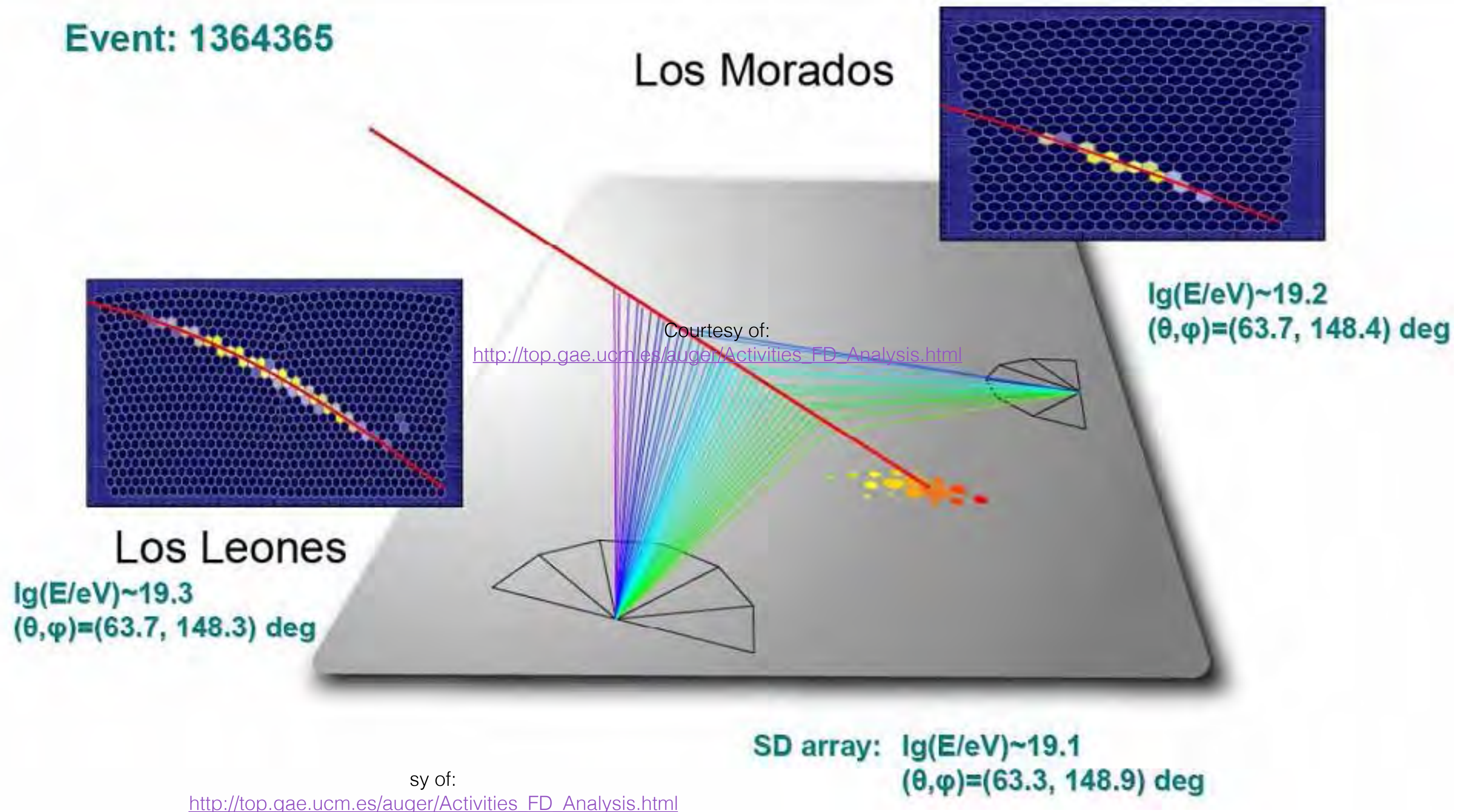
# EAS Detectors - Fluorescence HIRES



Energy Range ( $10^{17}$  -  $10^{20}$  eV)



# Pierre Auger Observatory: Fluorescence Detector



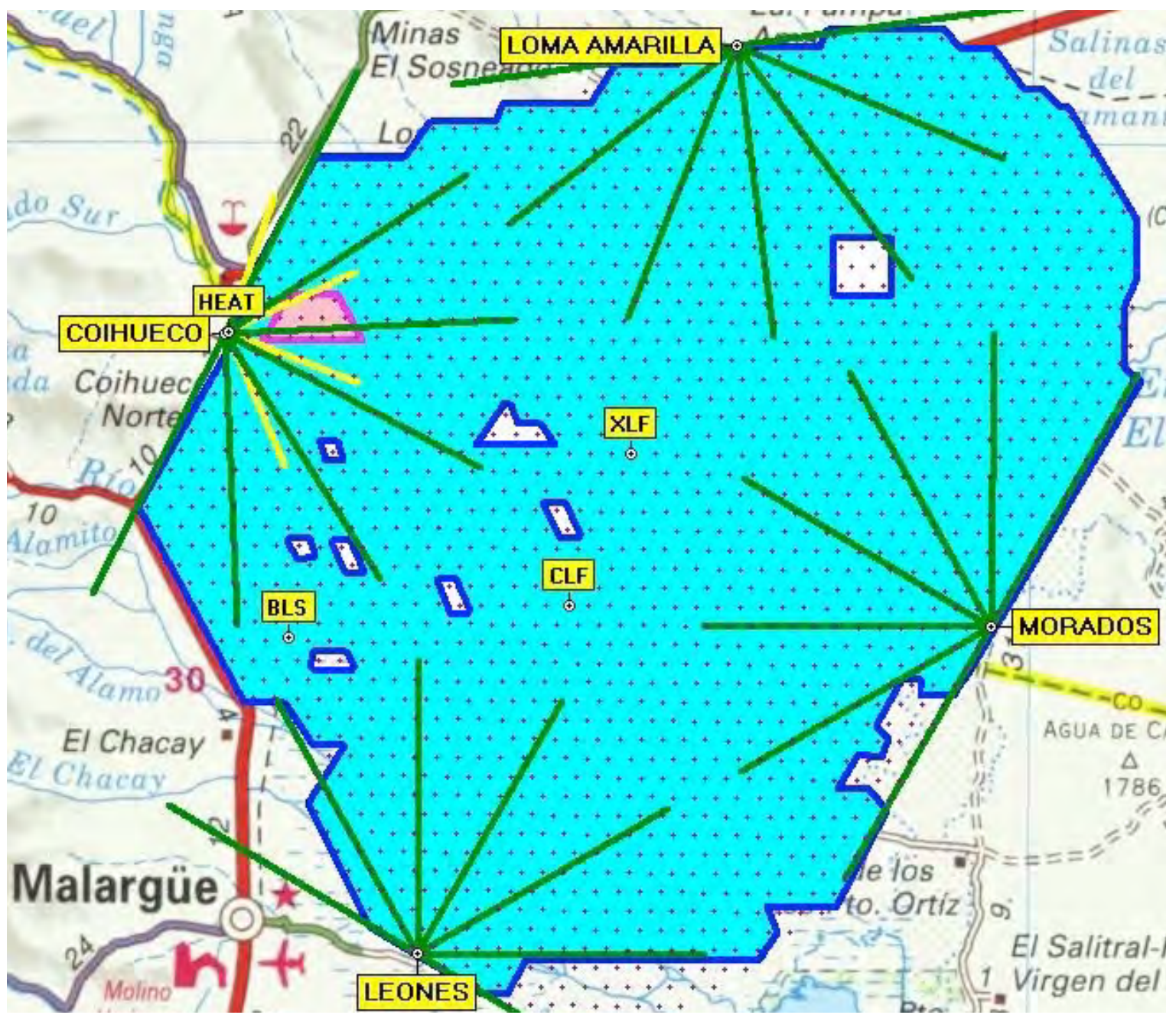


Water Cherenkov  
and FD - Hybrid

# Pierre Auger Observatory

- Two complementary detectors.
- Over 1600 surface detectors covering  $\sim 3000 \text{ km}^2$  arranged as an array on a triangular grid with 1500 m spacing.
- 24 air-fluorescence telescopes distributed equally between four sites overlooking a large portion of the surface detector array.

Energy Range ( $10^{17}$  -  $10^{21}$  eV)



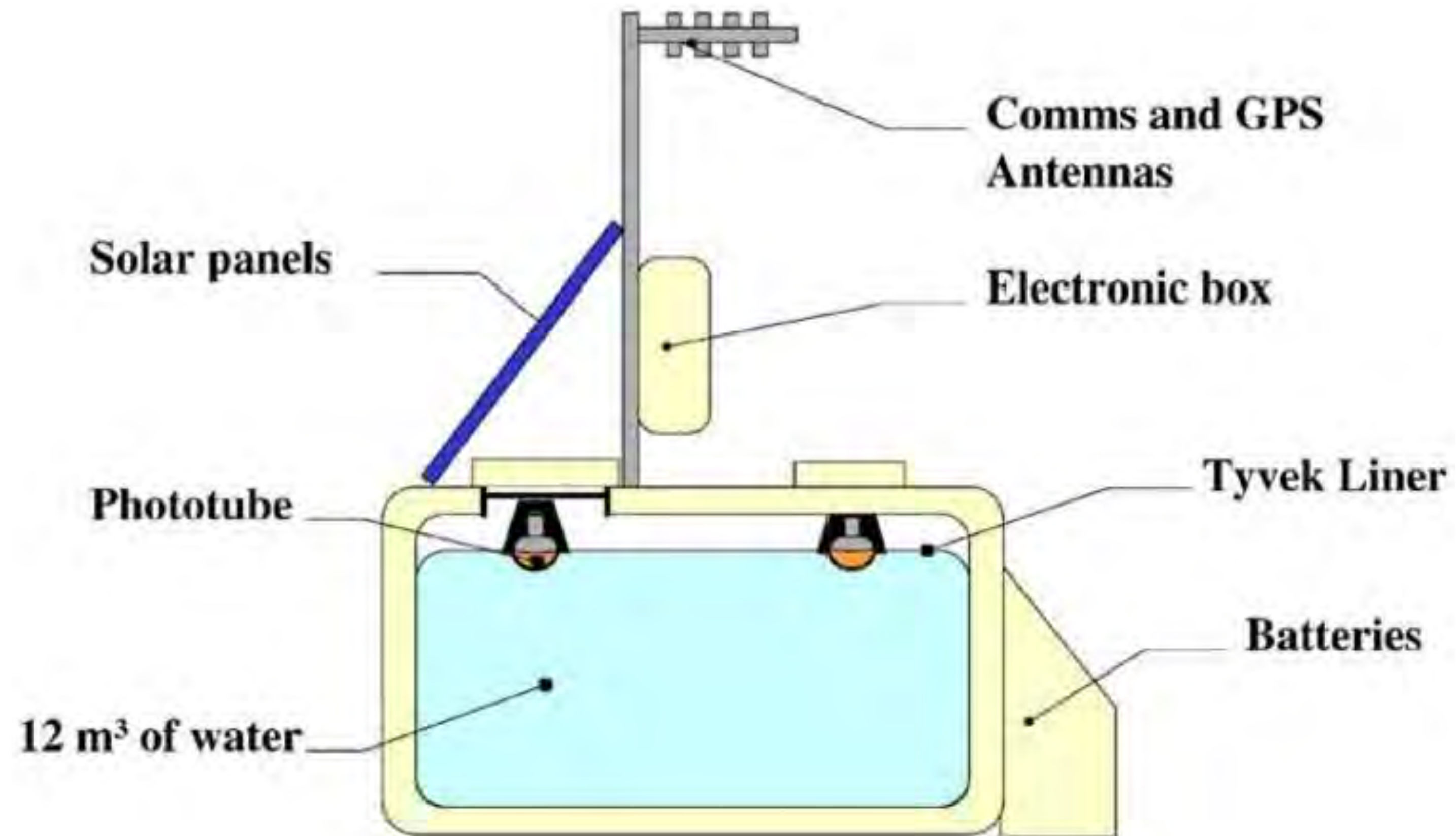
From I. Allekotte



[http://www.auger.org/media/image\\_highlights.html](http://www.auger.org/media/image_highlights.html)



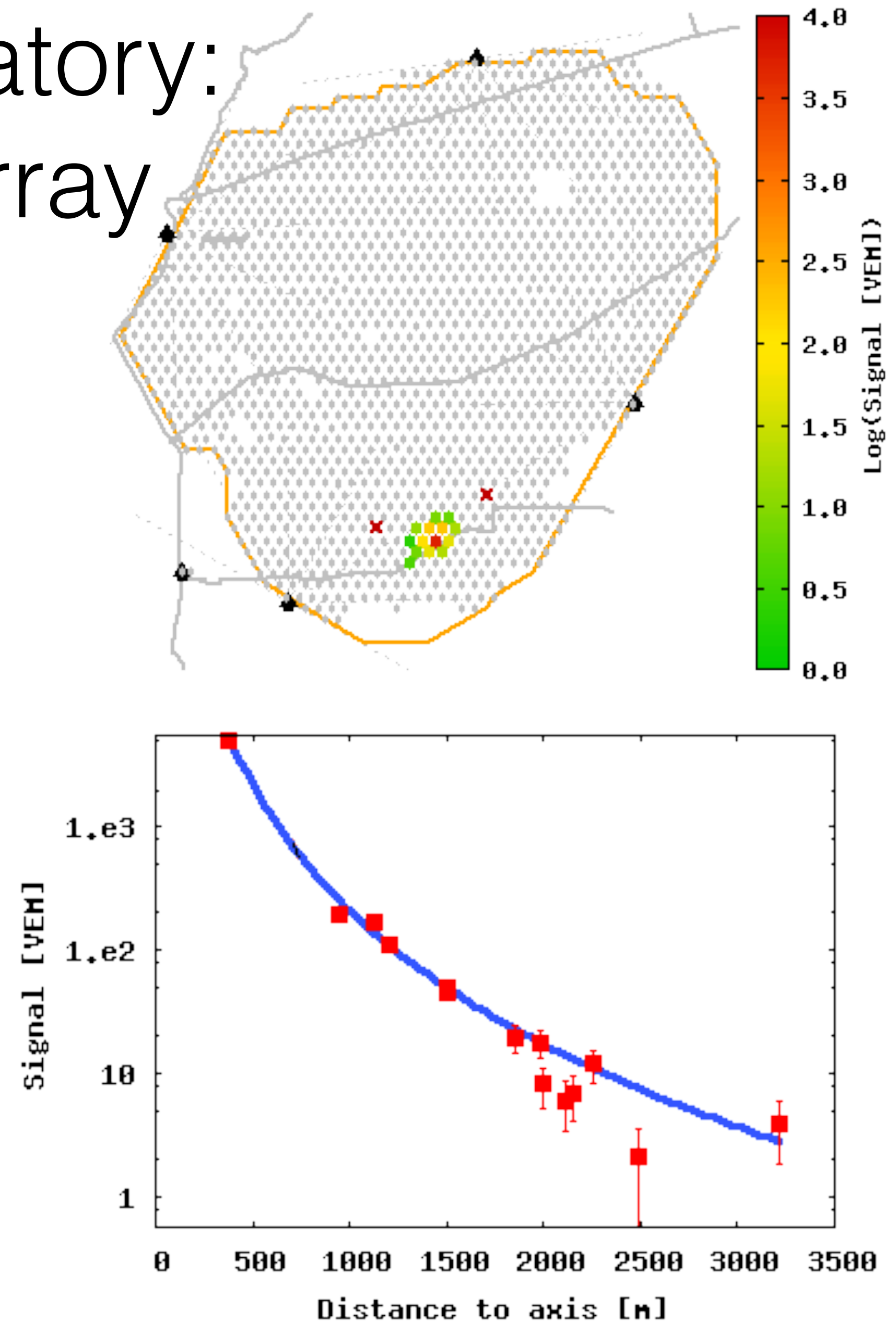
# Pierre Auger Observatory: Surface Detector Array





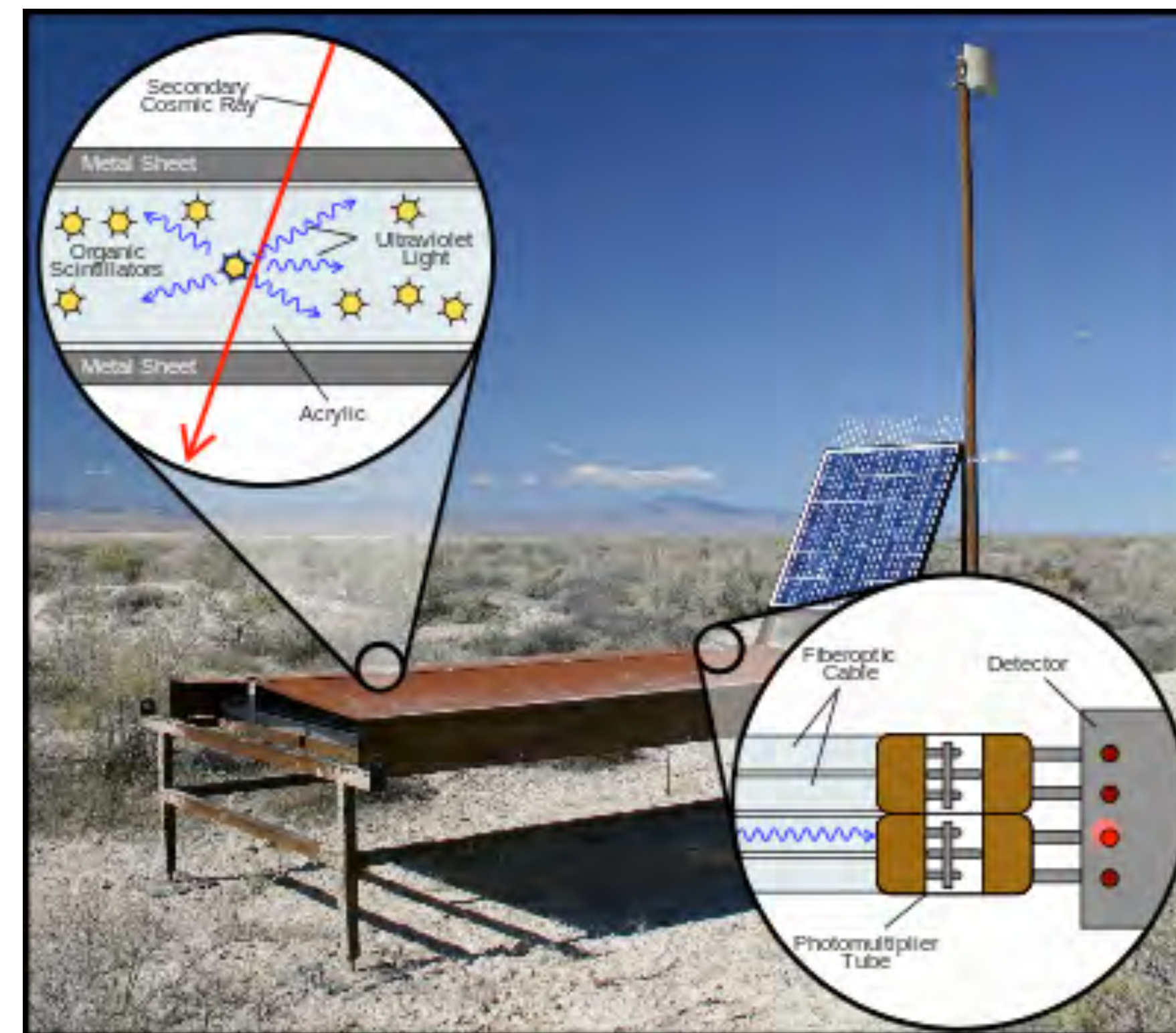
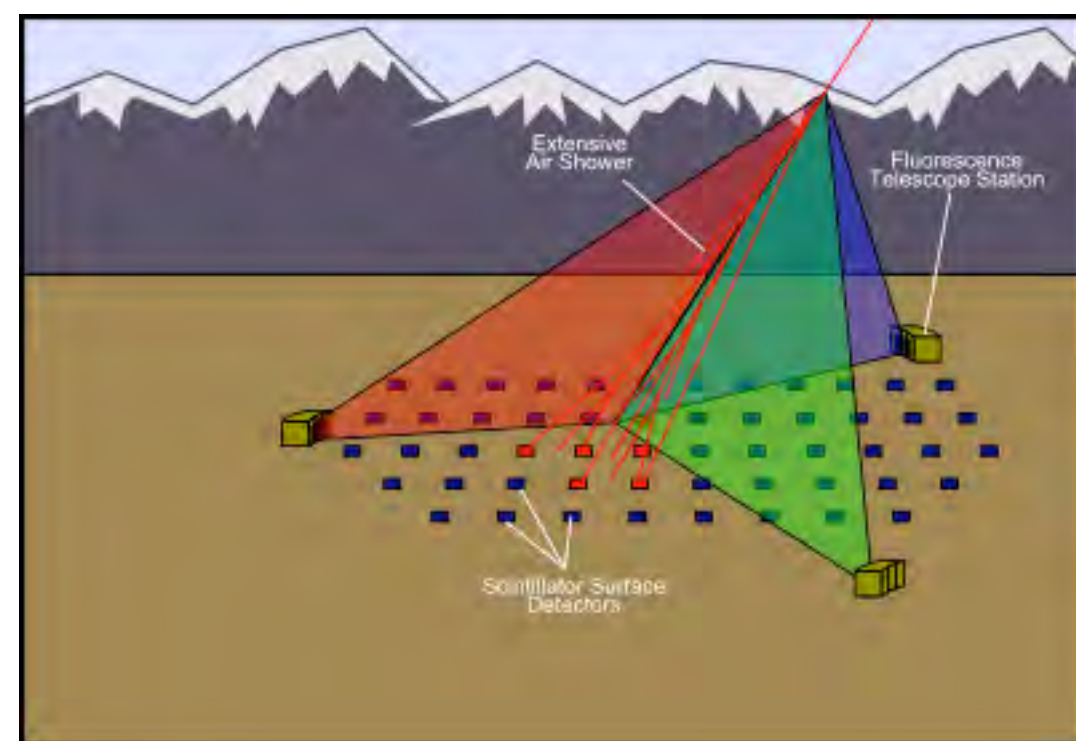
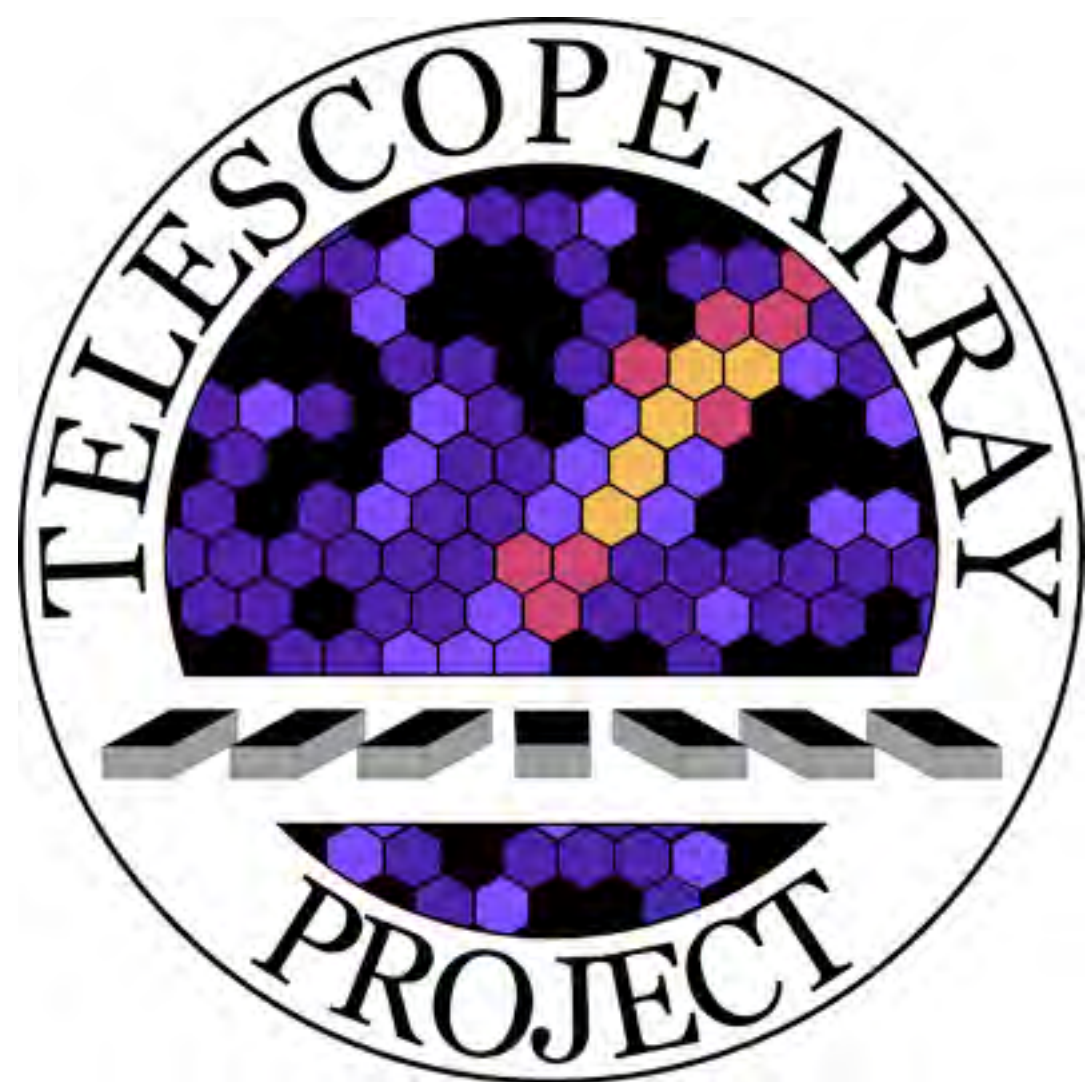
# Pierre Auger Observatory: Surface Detector Array

- Surface detector covers an area of  $3000 \text{ km}^2$  or roughly the size of the state of Rhode Island ( $3140 \text{ km}^2$ ).
- Precise measurement of the arrival times between tanks can be fit to provide accurate directional information.
- With calibration from the Fluorescence detector energy estimations are also possible.
- Near 100% duty cycle





# Telescope Array - Utah



Scintillator  
and FD - Hybrid



# ARGO

## The ARGO-YBJ experiment



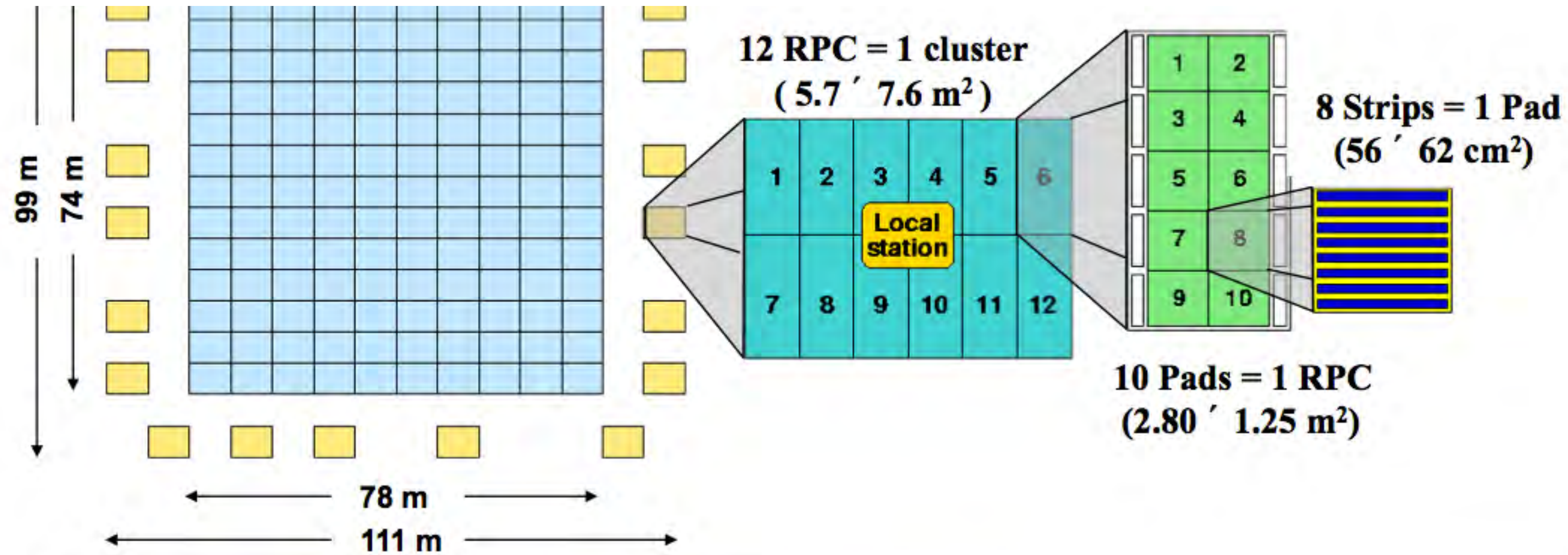
- **A**strophysical **R**adiation with **G**round-based **O**bservatory at **Y**ang**Ba**Jing
- Altitude 4300 m a.s.l.
- Longitude  $90^{\circ} 31' 50''$  East
- Latitude  $30^{\circ} 06' 38''$  North



Energy Range (500 GeV - 10 TeV)



# ARGO



✓ Layer of Resistive Plate Chambers (RPC)

✓ Active area : central carpet ~ 5600 m<sup>2</sup>  
sampling guard-ring ~ 1000 m<sup>2</sup>

✓ Data taking : since July 2006 with the central carpet  
since November 2007 with the carpet + guard-ring

Analog charge read-out is working

No Real Hadron Rejection

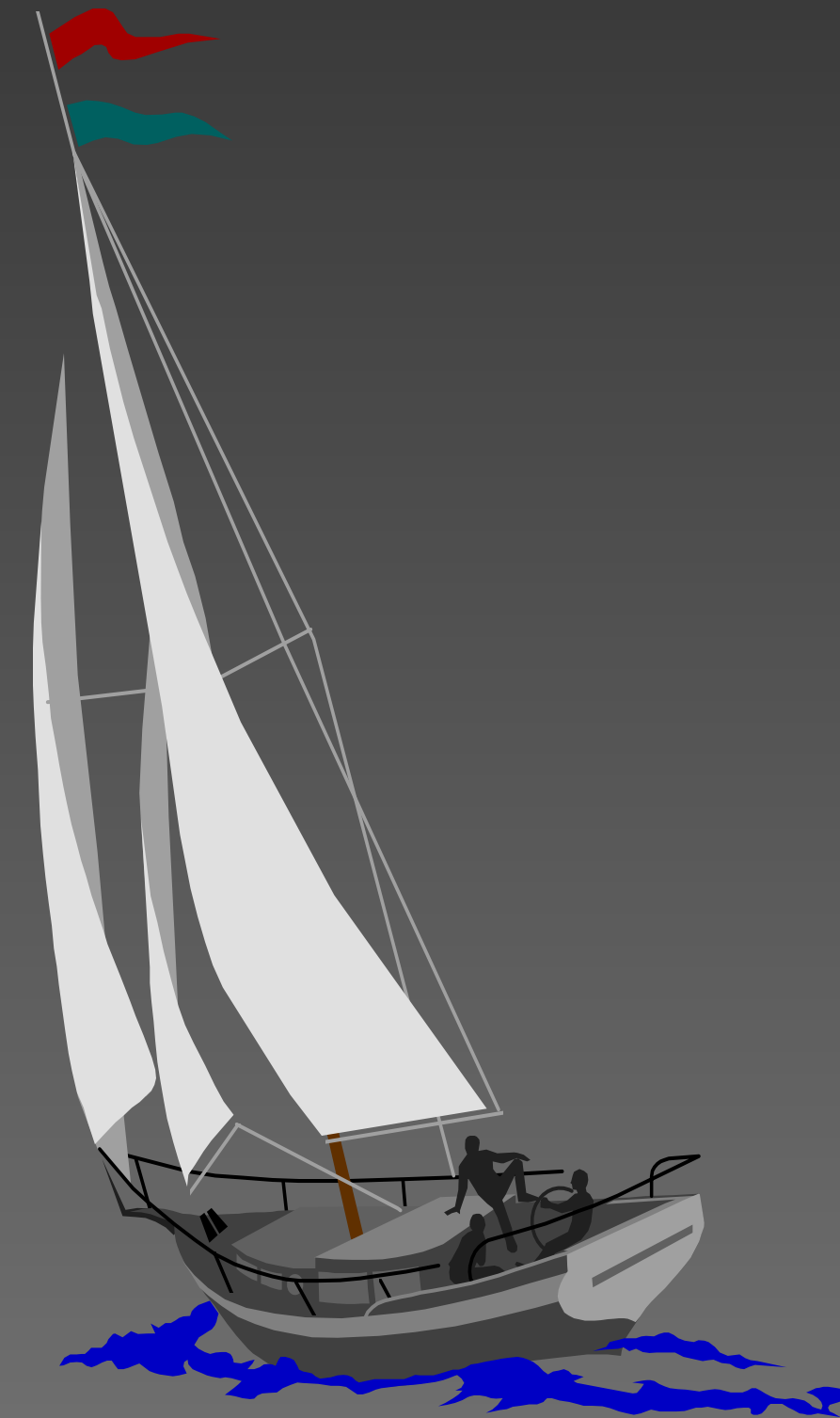


# Cherenkov Radiation

Boat moves through water faster than wave speed.



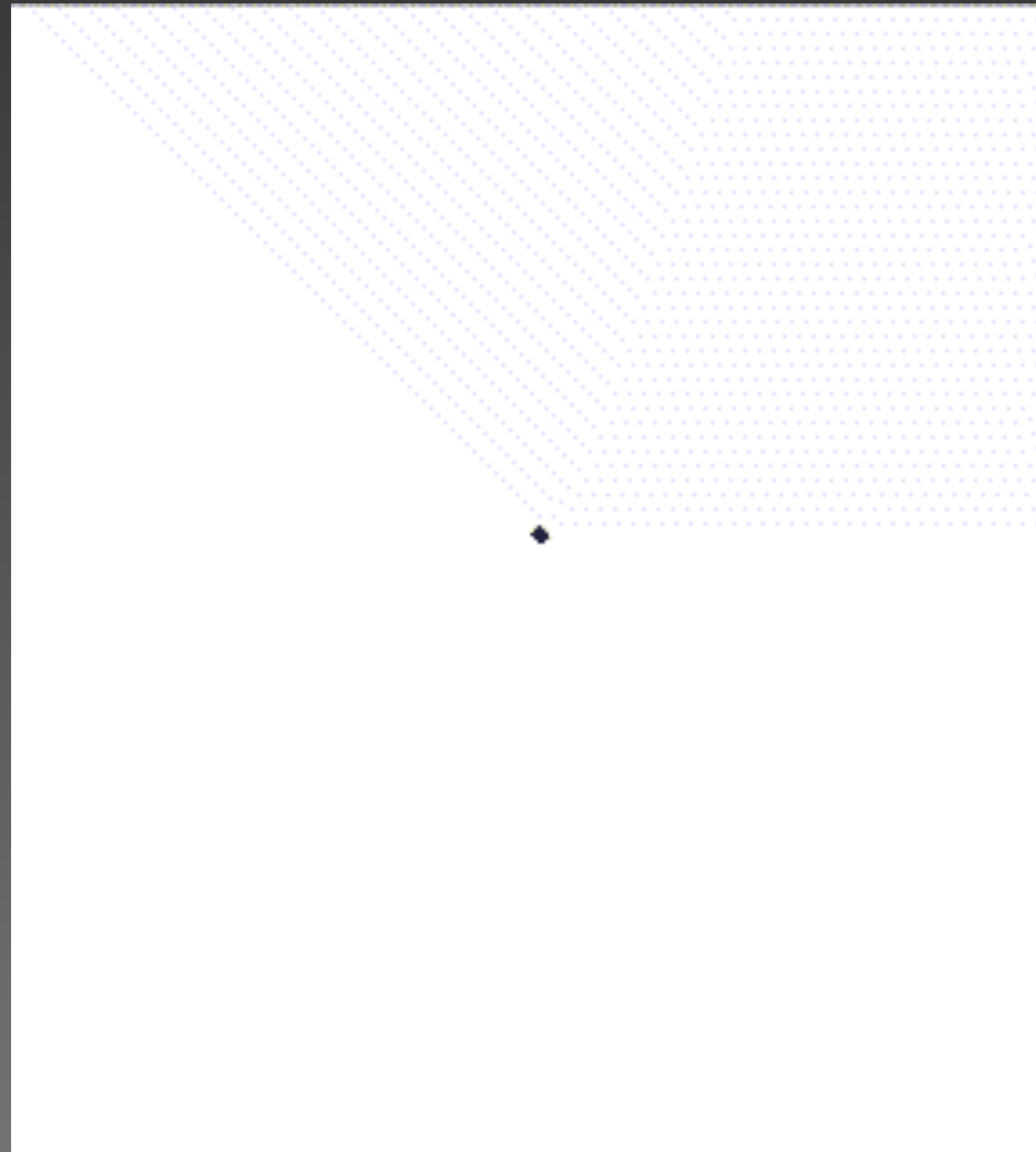
Bow wave  
(wake)



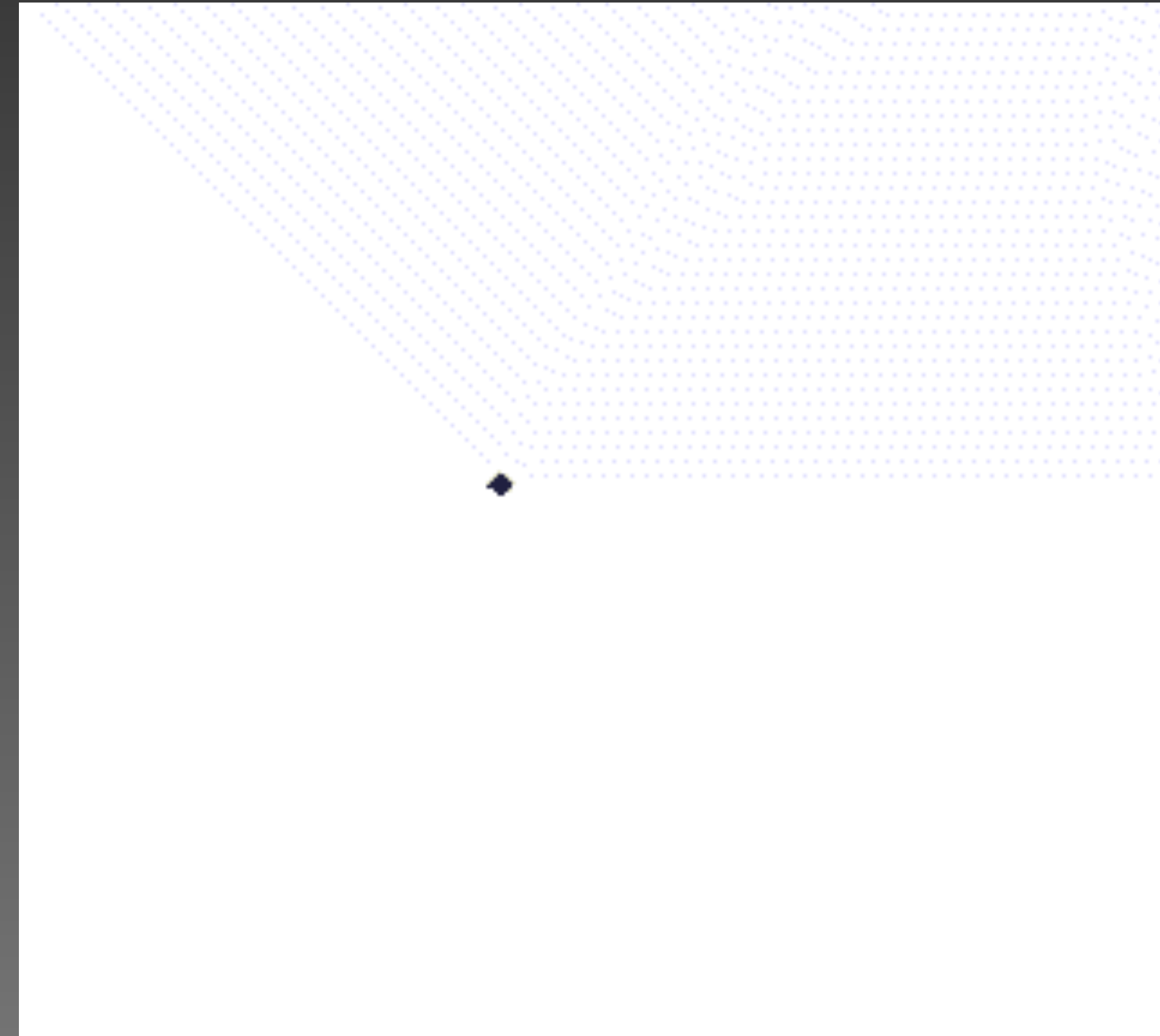


# Cherenkov Radiation

Slower than wave speed



Faster than wave speed





# Cherenkov Radiation

Aircraft moves through air faster than speed of sound.



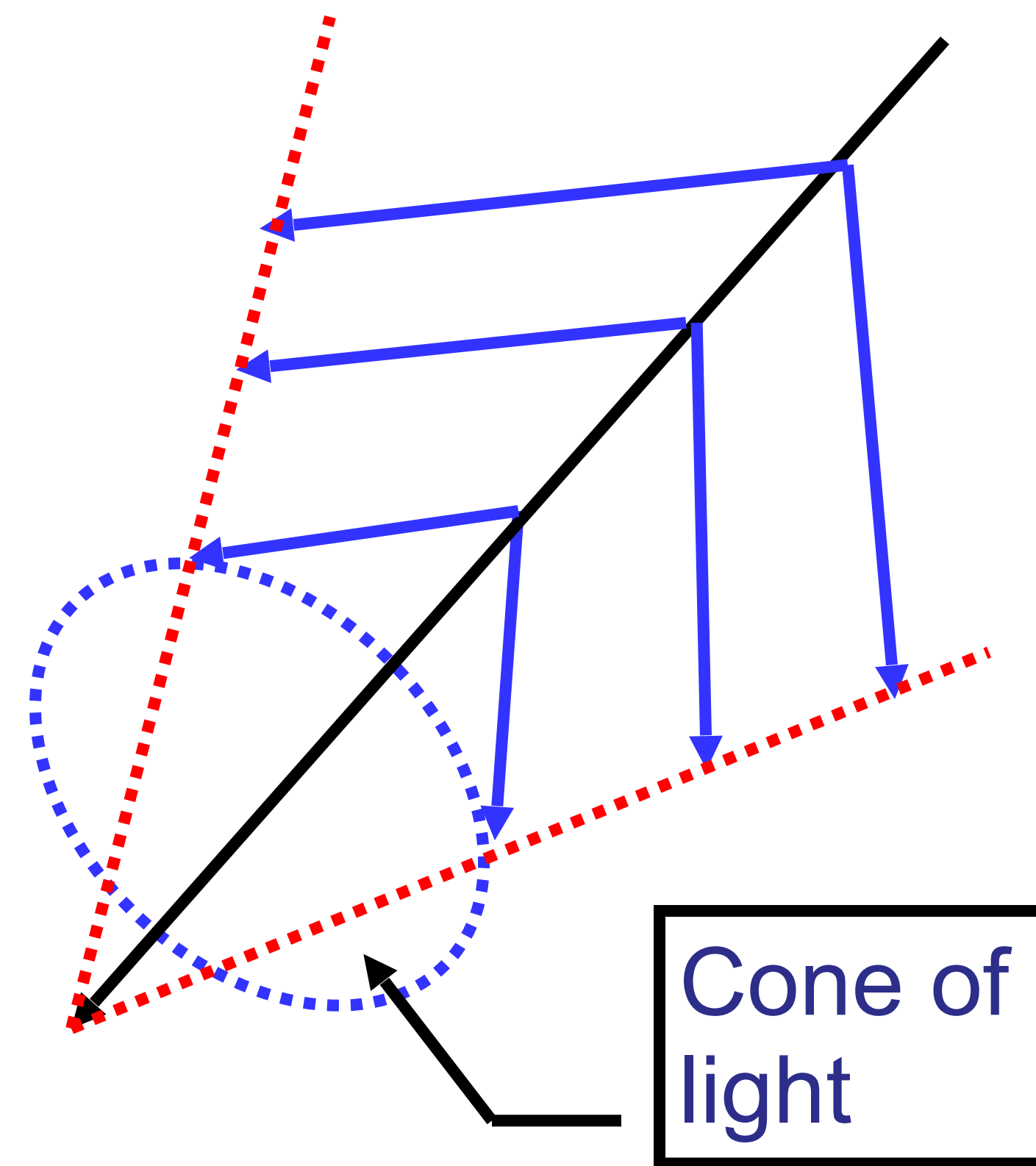
## Sonic Boom



# Cherenkov Radiation

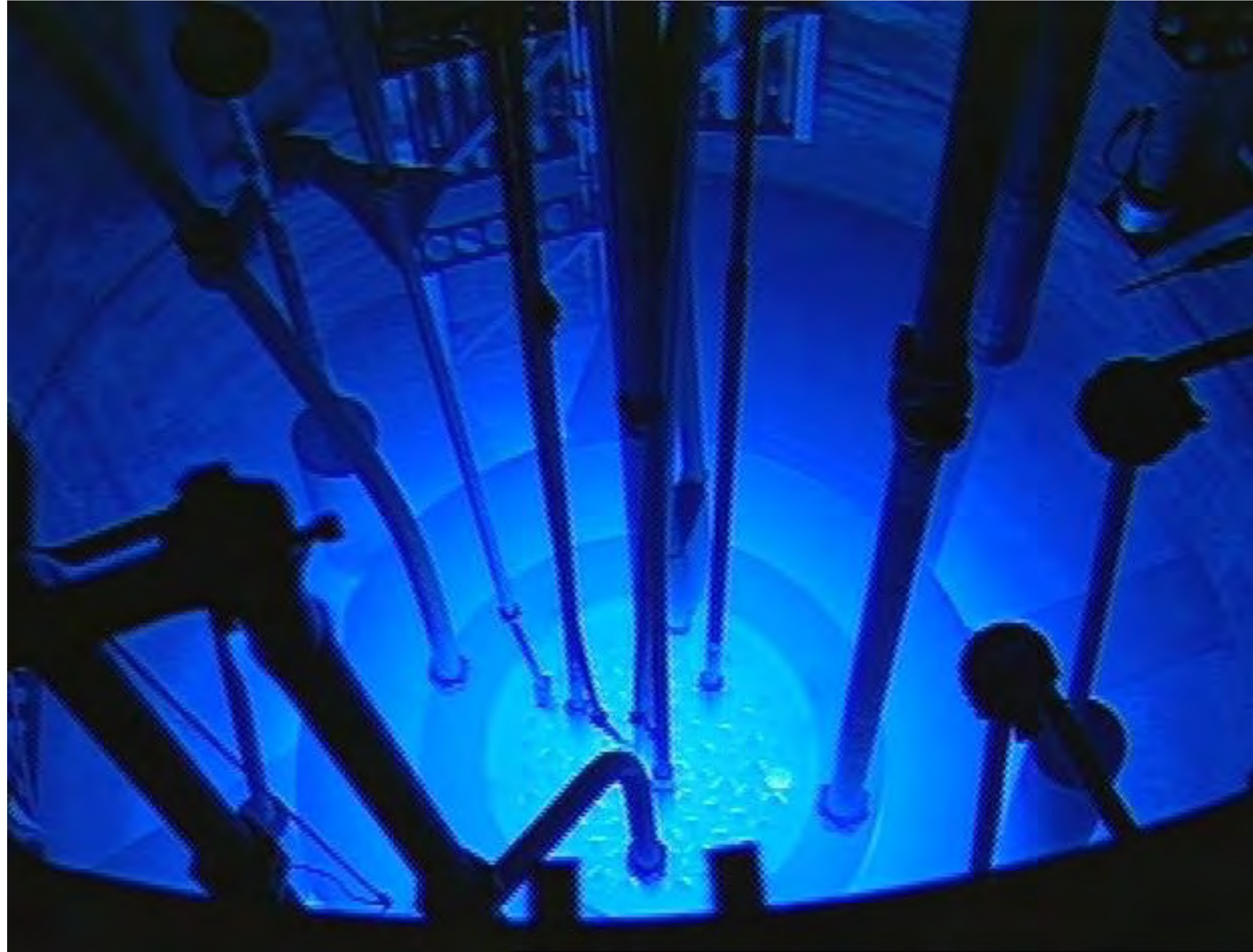
When a charged particle moves through transparent media faster than speed of light in that media.

→ Cherenkov radiation



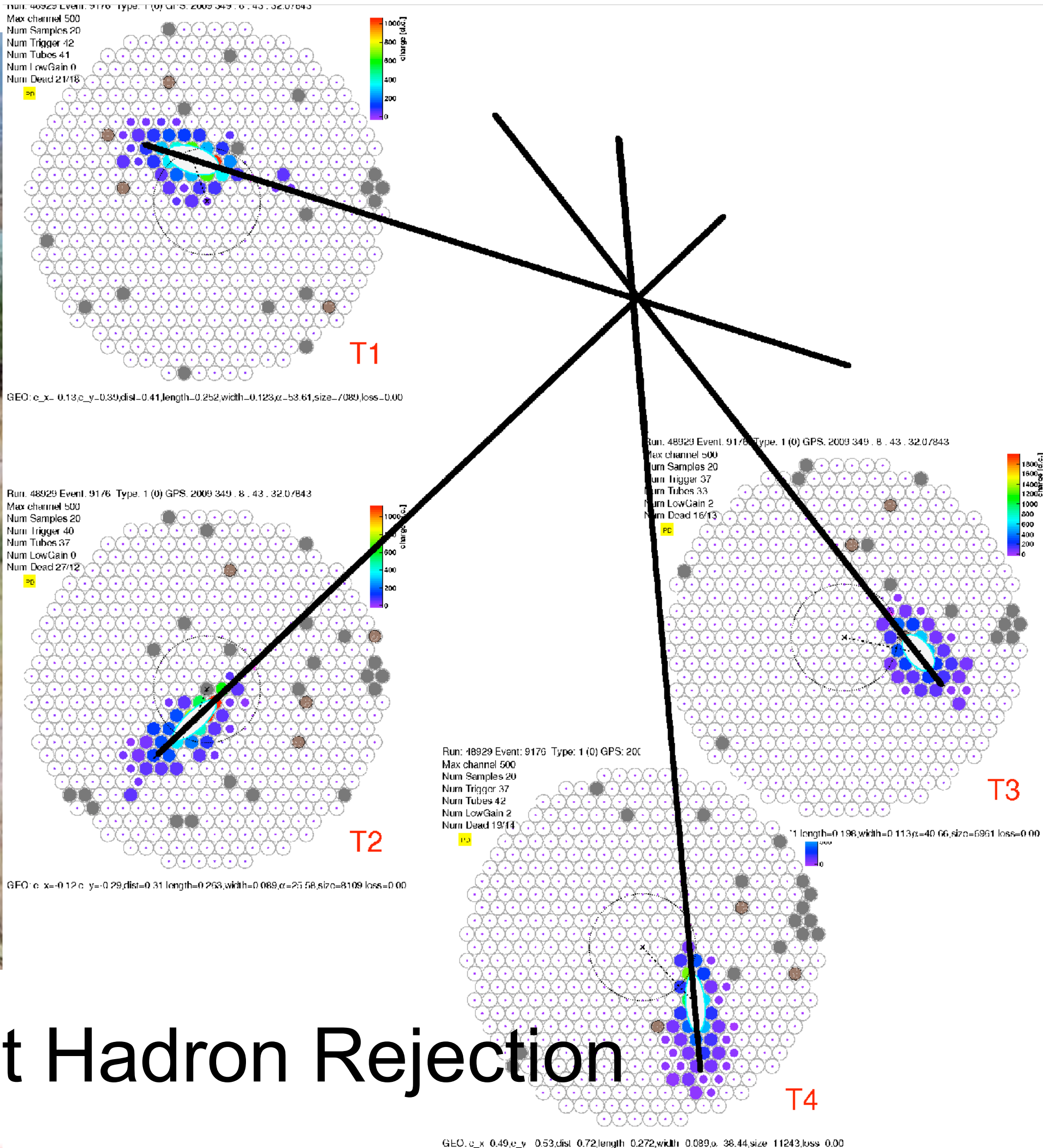


# Cherenkov Radiation





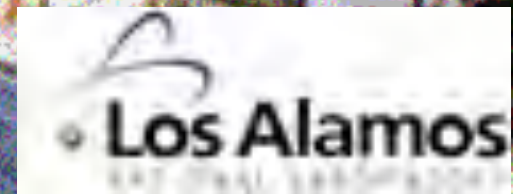
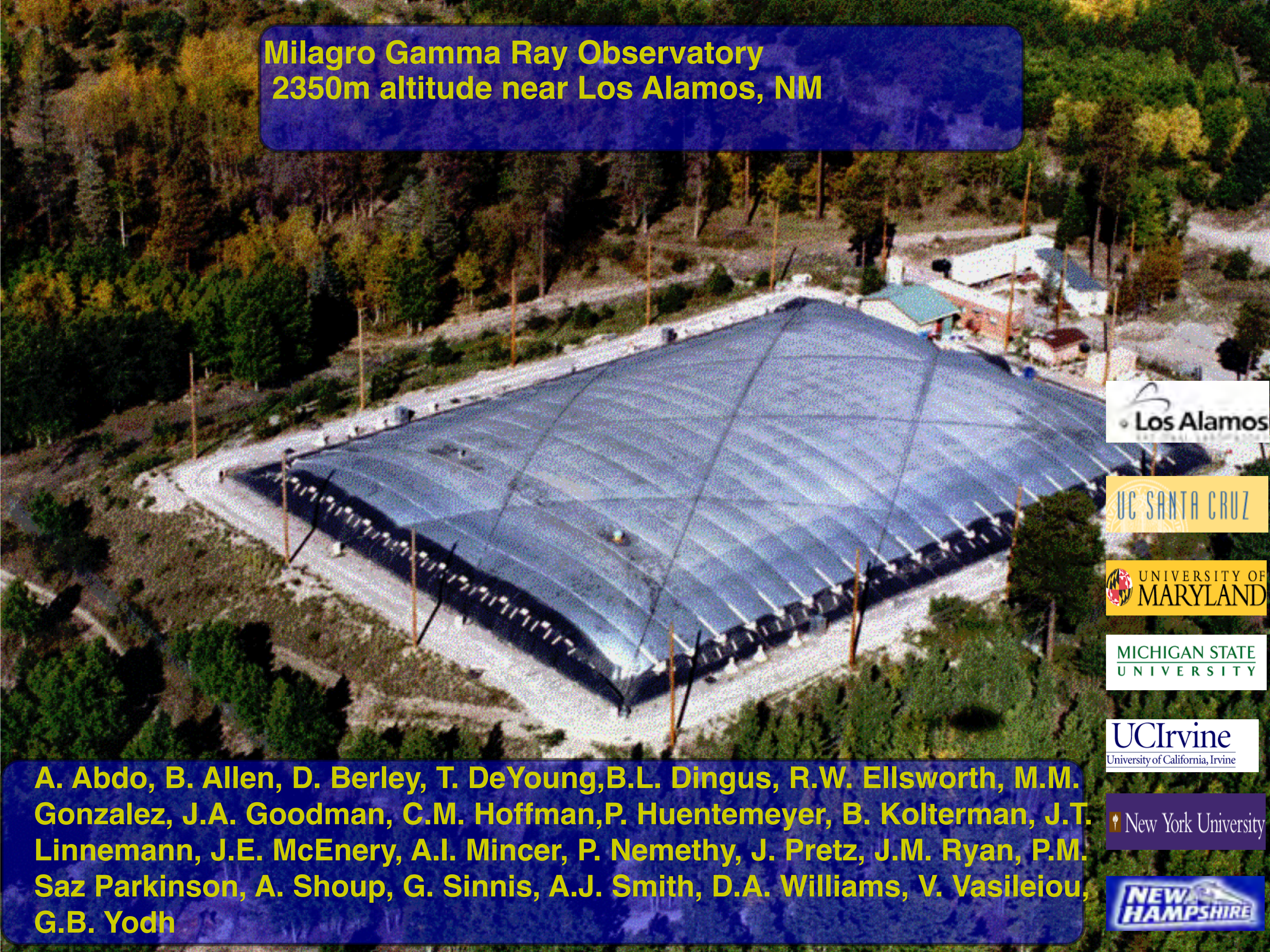
# EAS Detectors - IACT's



Energy Range (100 Gev - 20 TeV) Excellent Hadron Rejection



**Milagro Gamma Ray Observatory  
2350m altitude near Los Alamos, NM**



**A. Abdo, B. Allen, D. Berley, T. DeYoung, B.L. Dingus, R.W. Ellsworth, M.M. Gonzalez, J.A. Goodman, C.M. Hoffman, P. Huentemeyer, B. Kolterman, J.T. Linnemann, J.E. McEnery, A.I. Mincer, P. Nemethy, J. Pretz, J.M. Ryan, P.M. Saz Parkinson, A. Shoup, G. Sinnis, A.J. Smith, D.A. Williams, V. Vasileiou, G.B. Yodh**



- In the mountains above Los Alamos at 2650m
- In an existing pond
  - 60m x 80m x 8m
  - 175 outriggers
  - 20,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Operated from 2000- 2008
- 1st wide-field TeV Observatory



Energy Range (3 TeV - 40 TeV)



Good Hadron Rejection

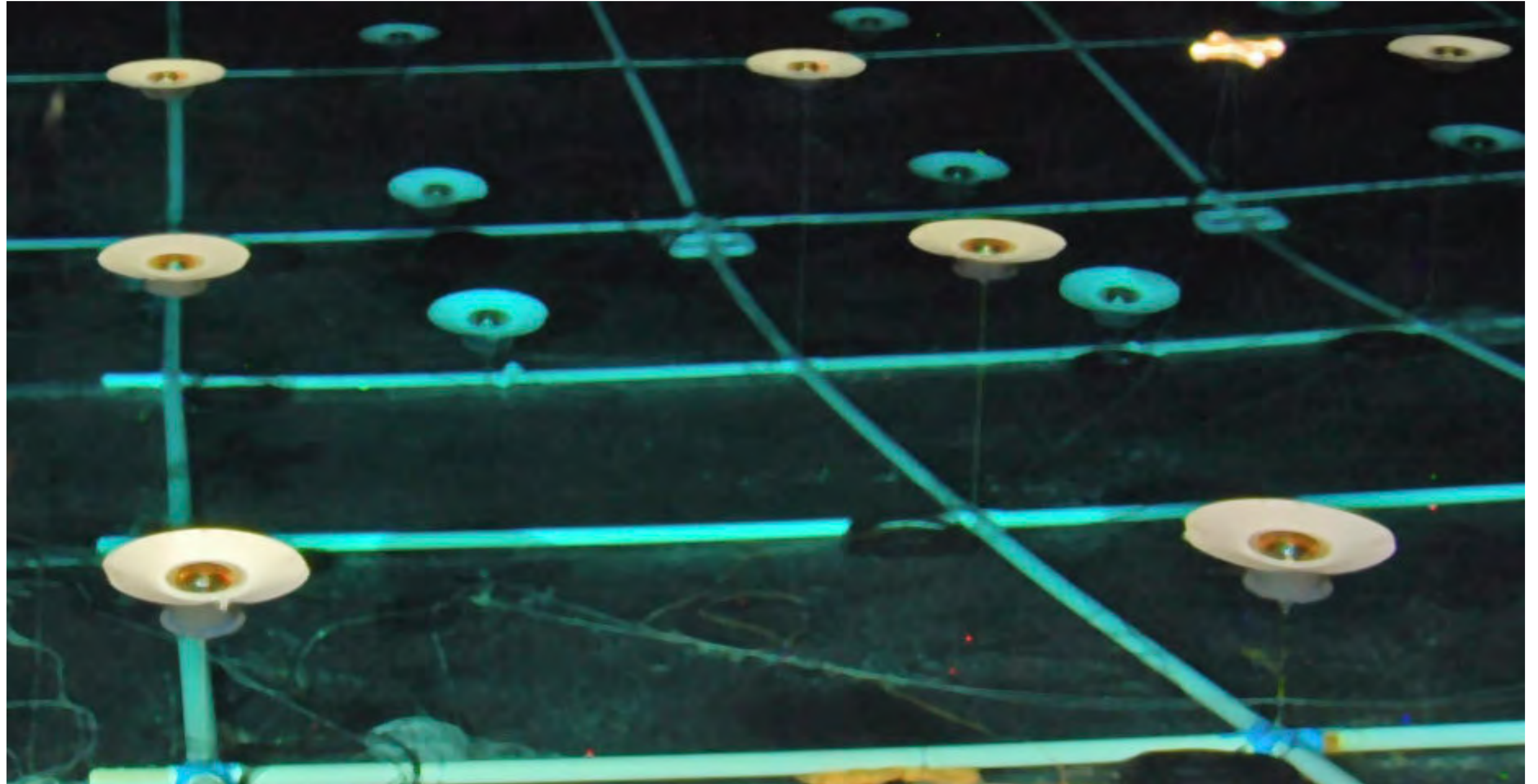




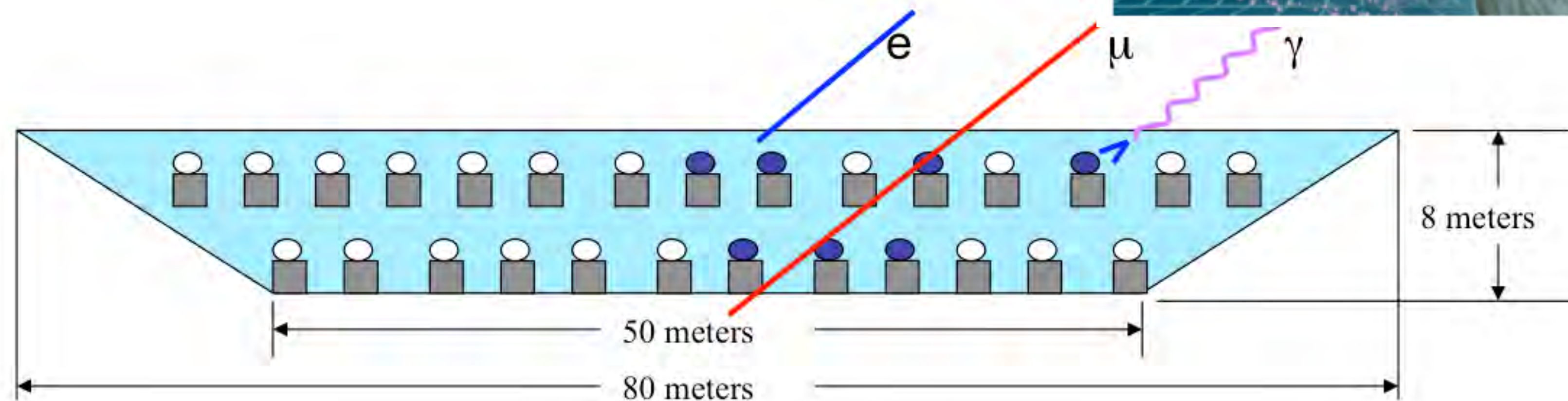
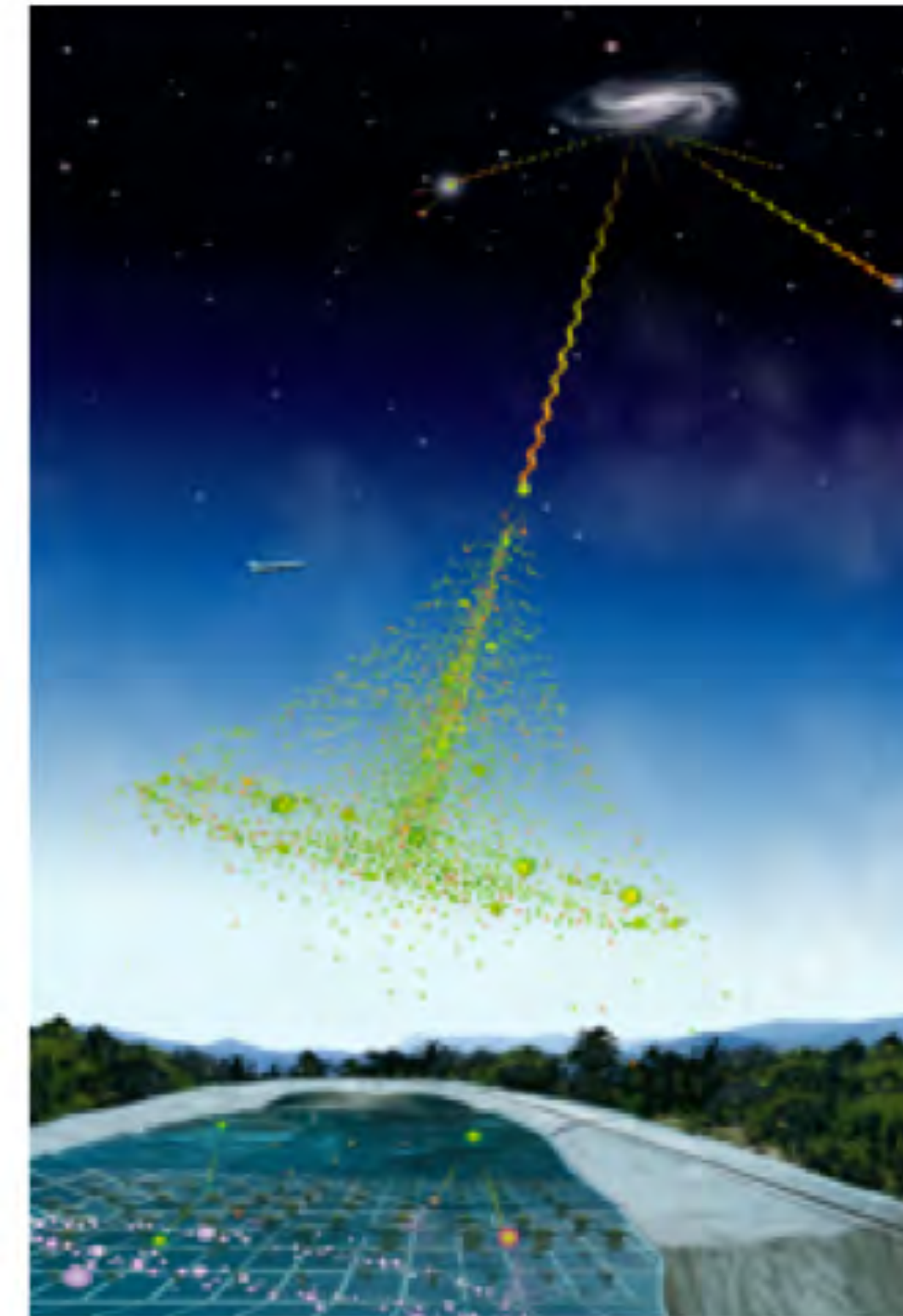
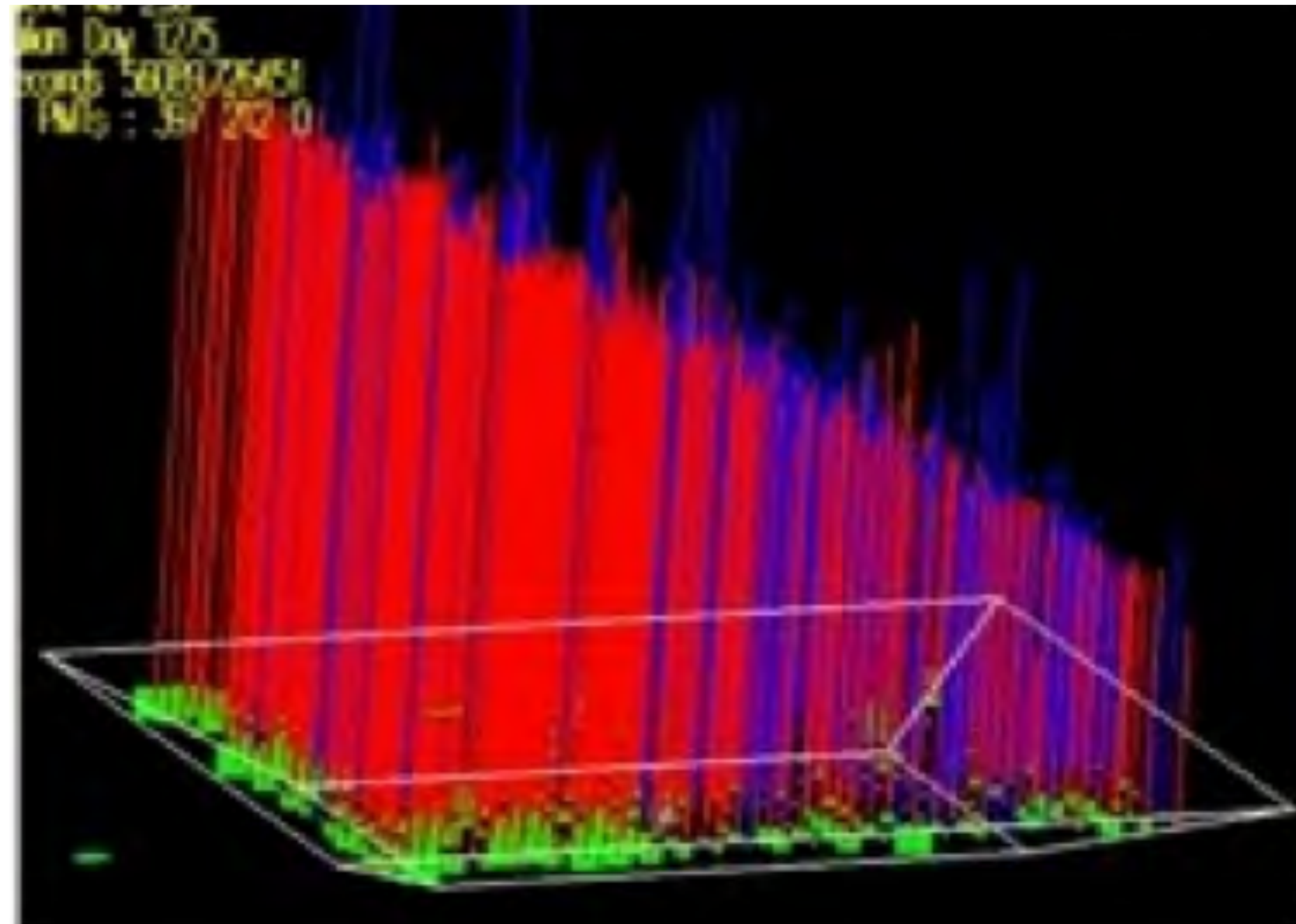














# Development of a 2TeV Gamma Ray Shower from first interaction to the Milagro Detector

Viewed from below the shower front -  
Color coded by Particle Type

This movie views a CORSIKA simulation of a gamma ray initiated shower. The purple grid is 20m per square and is moving at the speed of light in vacuum. The height of the shower above sea level is shown at the bottom of the screen.

Blue - electrons and positrons  
Yellow - muons  
Green - neutrinos and antineutrinos  
Purple - photons and hadrons  
Red - other secondary particles (protons)



# Proton Shower 2 TeV (movies by Miguel Morales)

## Development of a 2TeV Proton Shower from first interaction to the Milagro Detector

Viewed from below the shower front -  
Color coded by Particle Type

This movie views a CORSIKA simulation of a proton initiated shower.  
The purple grid is 20m per square and is moving at the speed of light in  
vacuum. The height of the shower above sea level is shown at the  
bottom of the screen.

Blue - electrons and positrons  
Yellow - muons  
Green - neutrinos  
Purple - gamma rays  
Red - other secondary particles

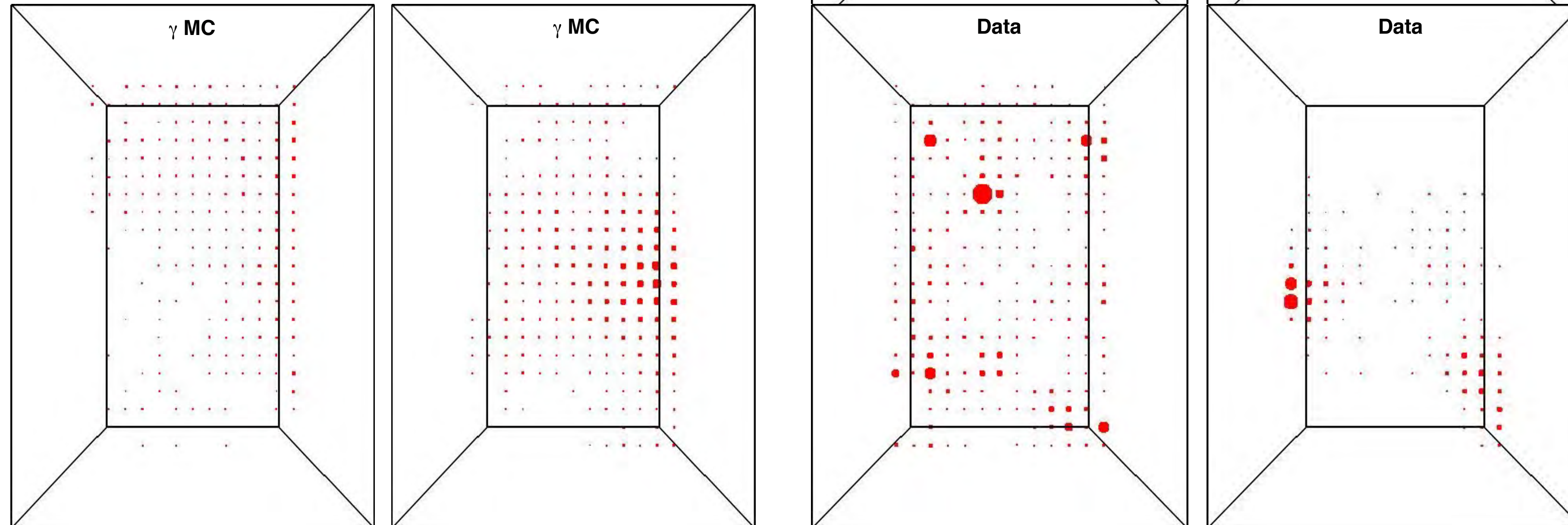
Blue

Purple



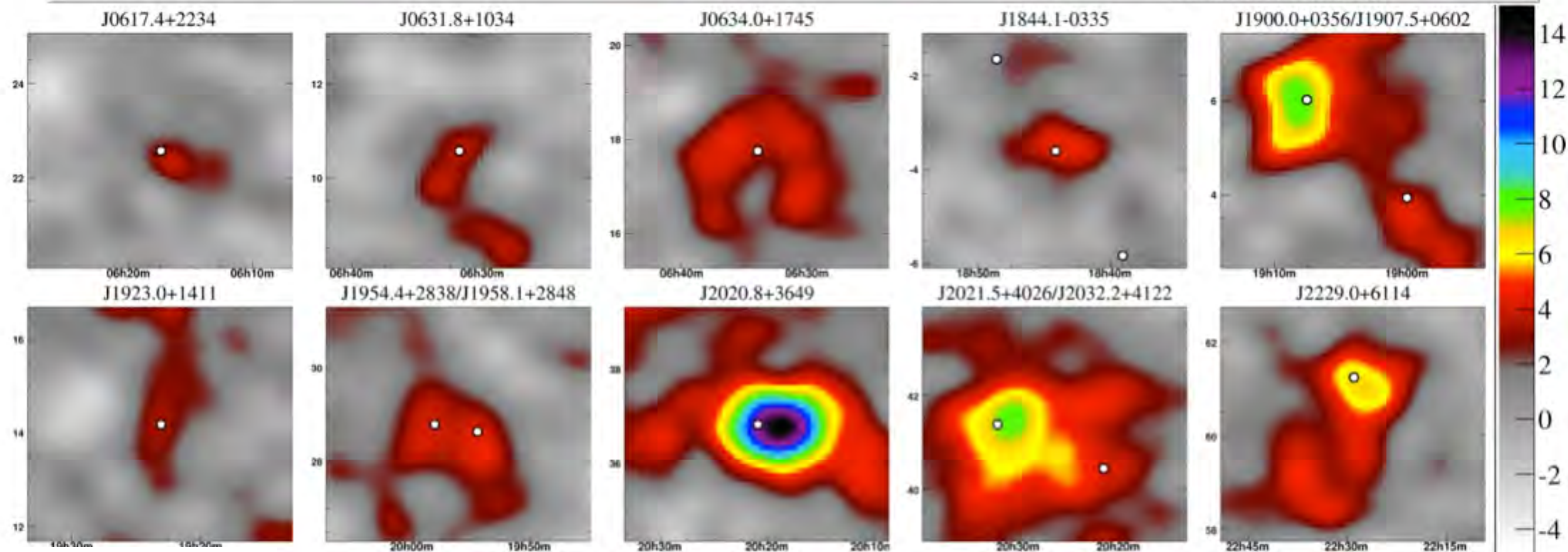
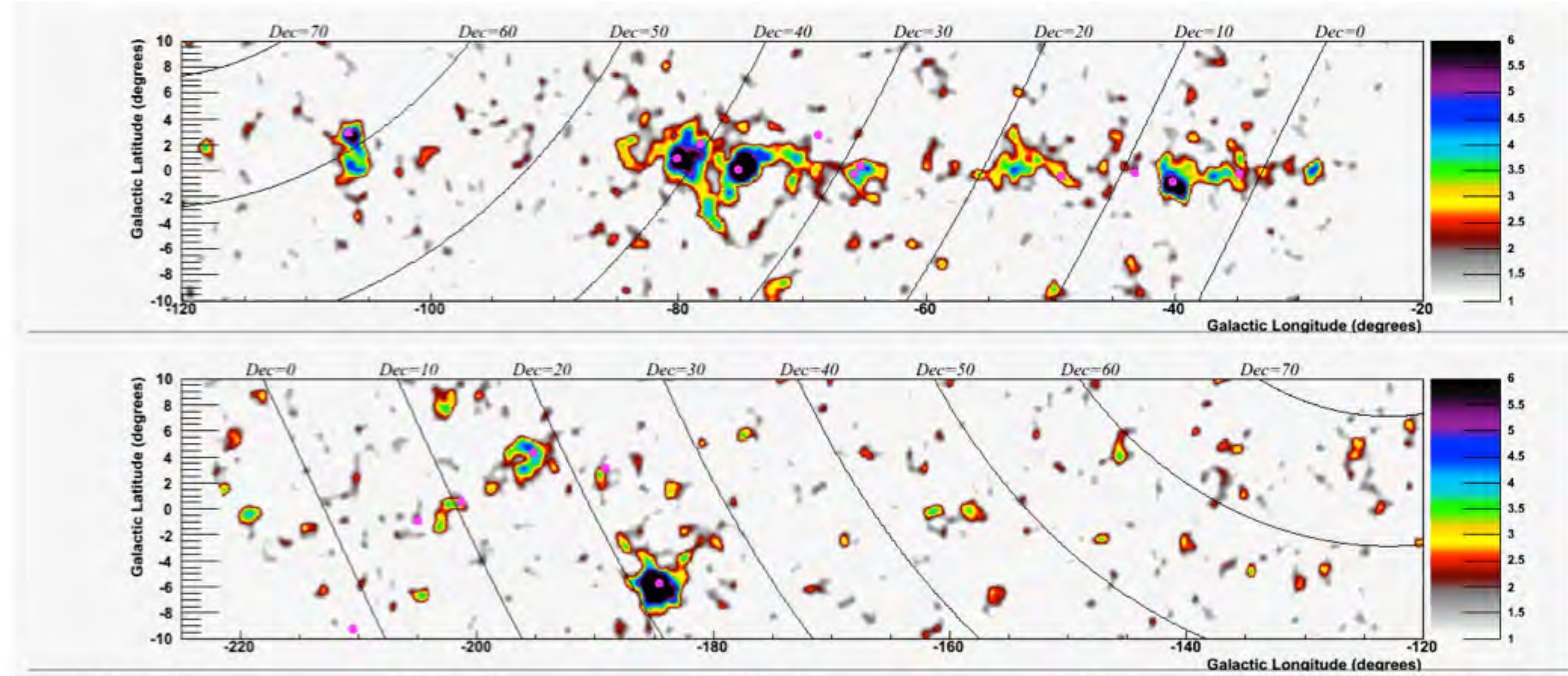
# Background Rejection in Milagro

Use bottom layer of Milagro to detect penetrating particles (primarily muons) which are more prevalent in cosmic-ray (hadronic) showers than gamma-ray (electromagnetic) showers

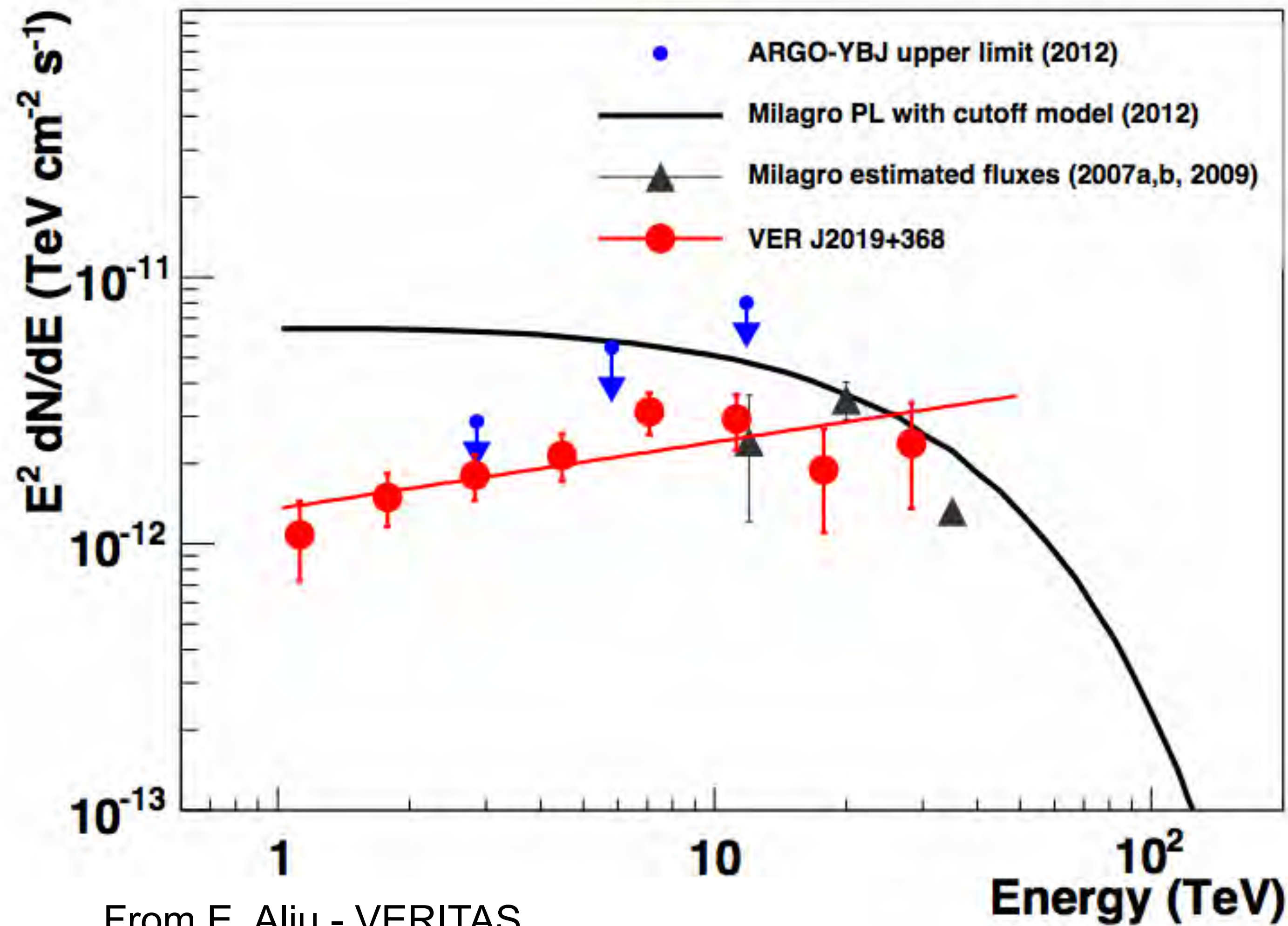




# Milagro TeV Sources





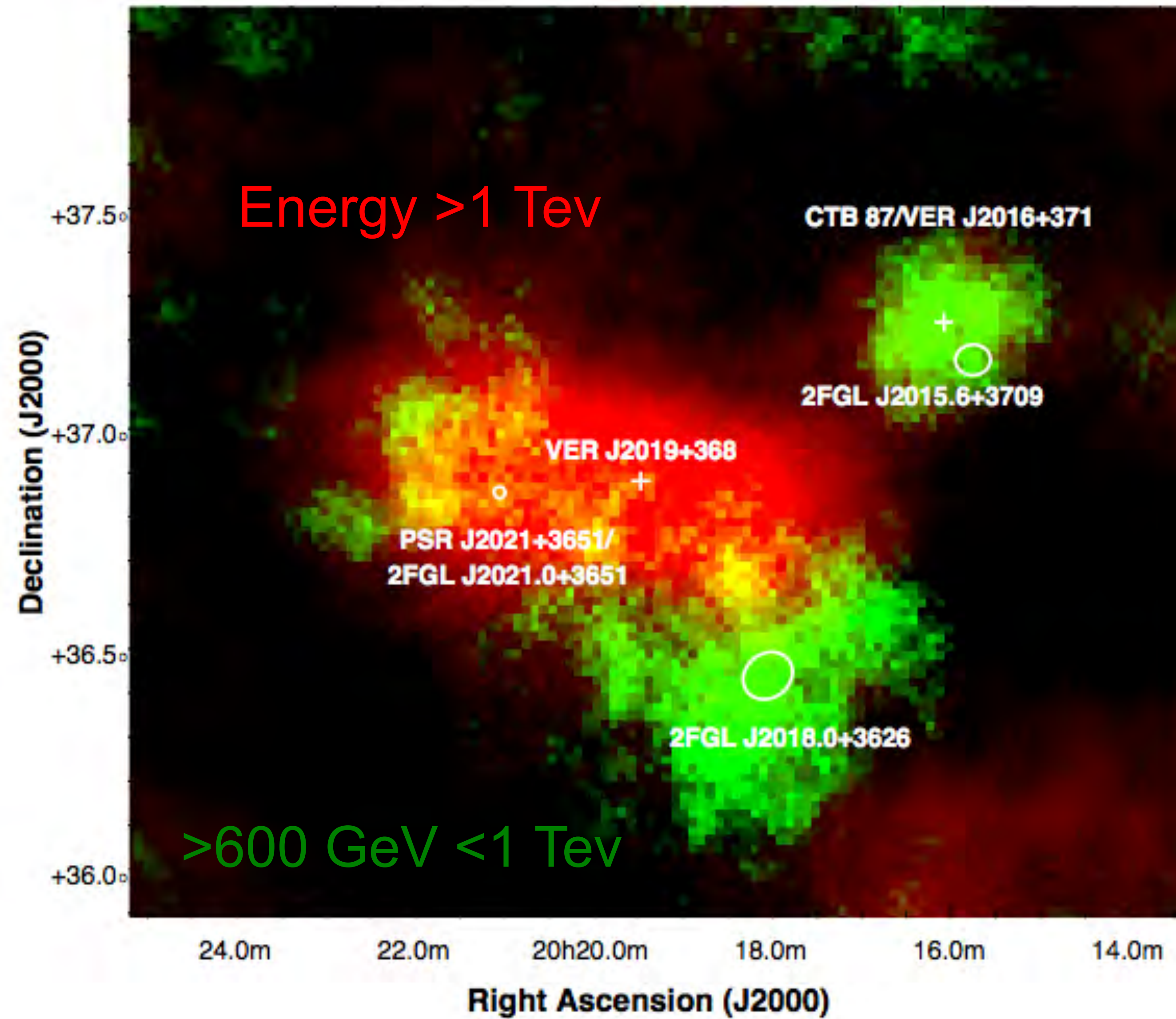


- Measuring the spectrum from 30-100 TeV will tell if this a hadron accelerator
- High energy emission comes from a different spot than the lower energy

From E. Aliu - VERITAS

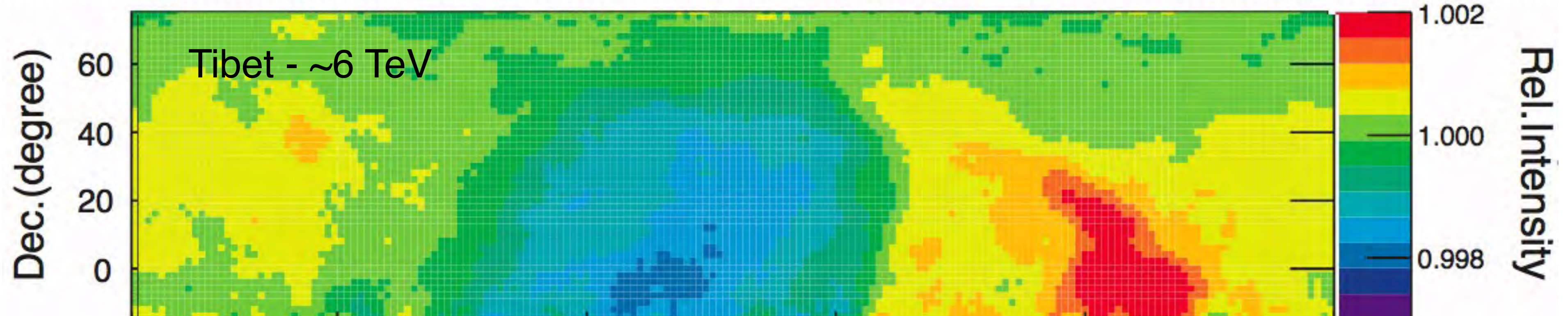
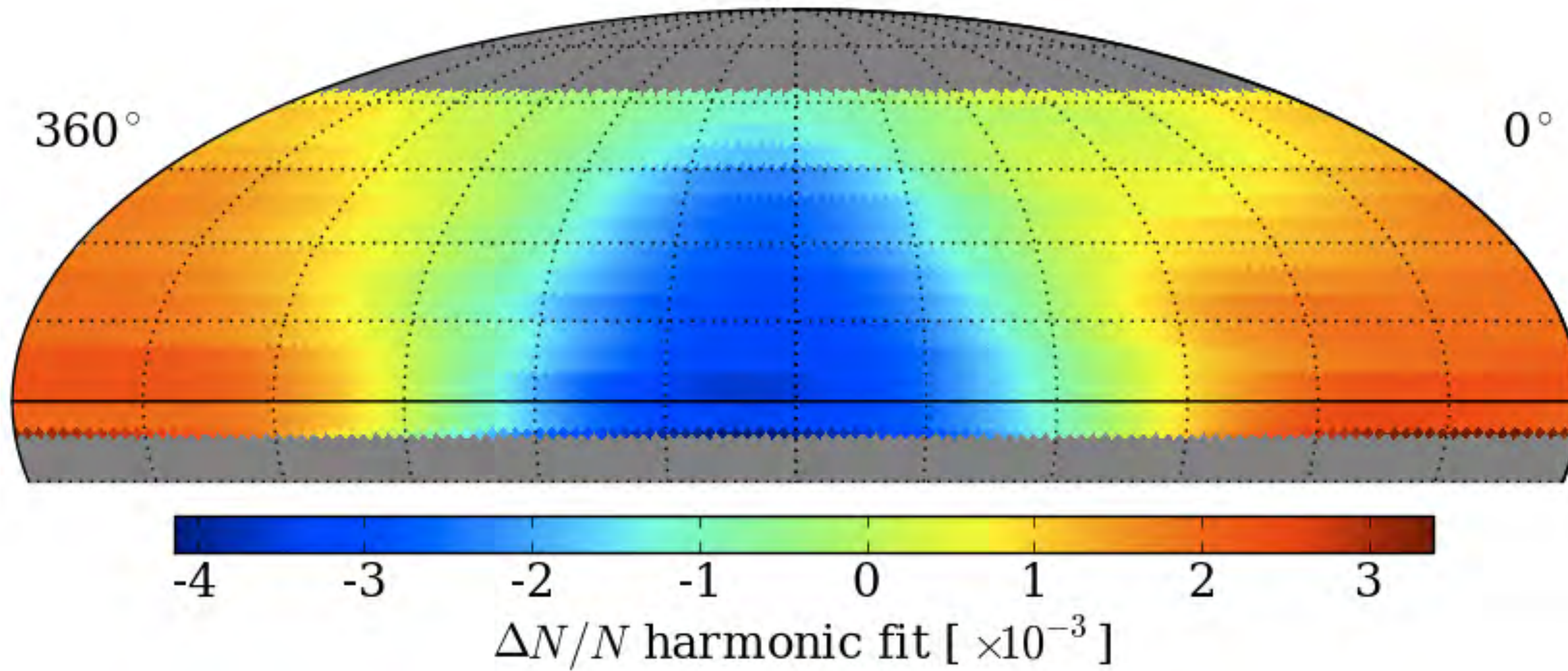
<http://arxiv.org/pdf/1404.1841v1.pdf>





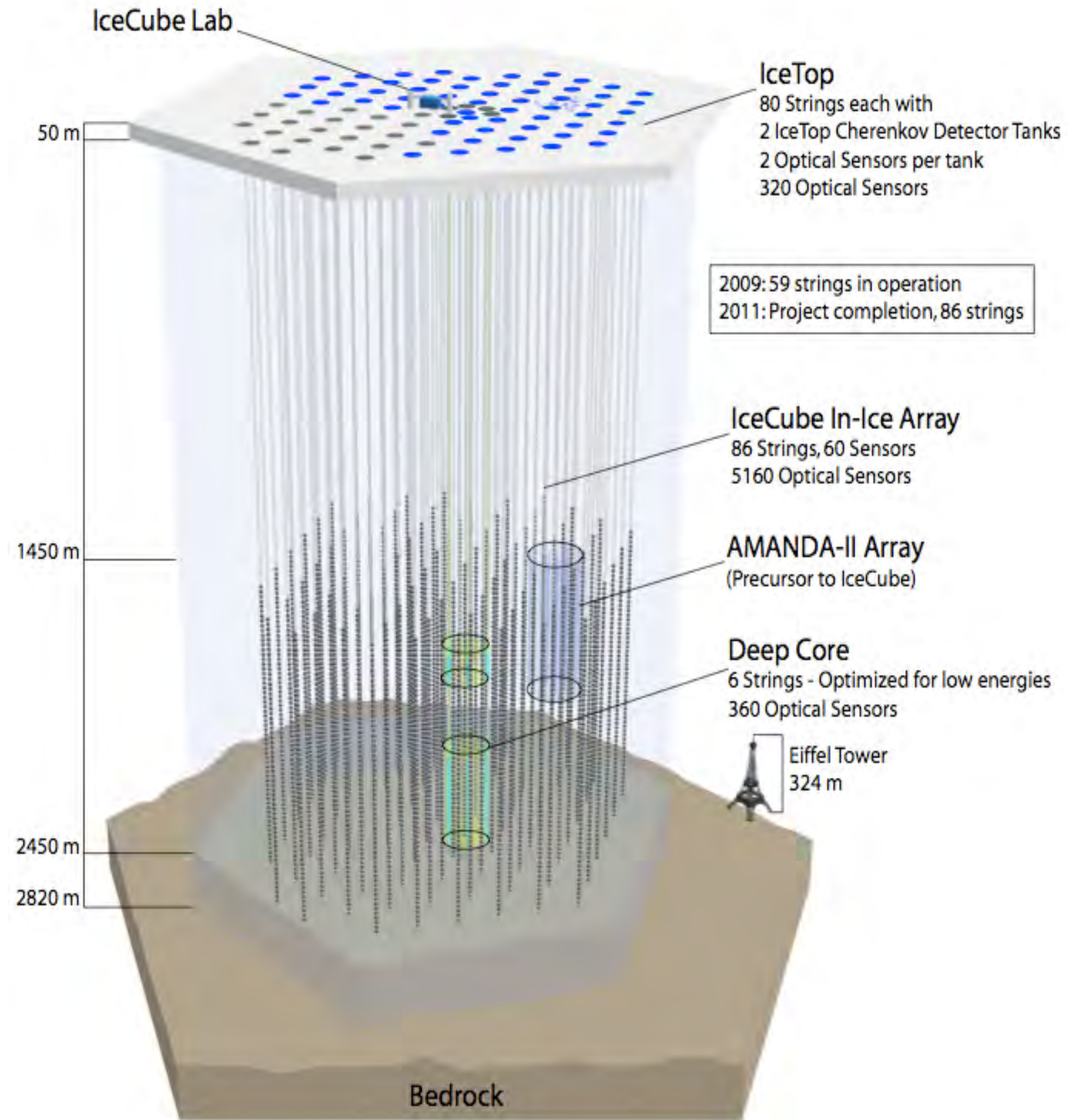


Milagro - ~6 TeV



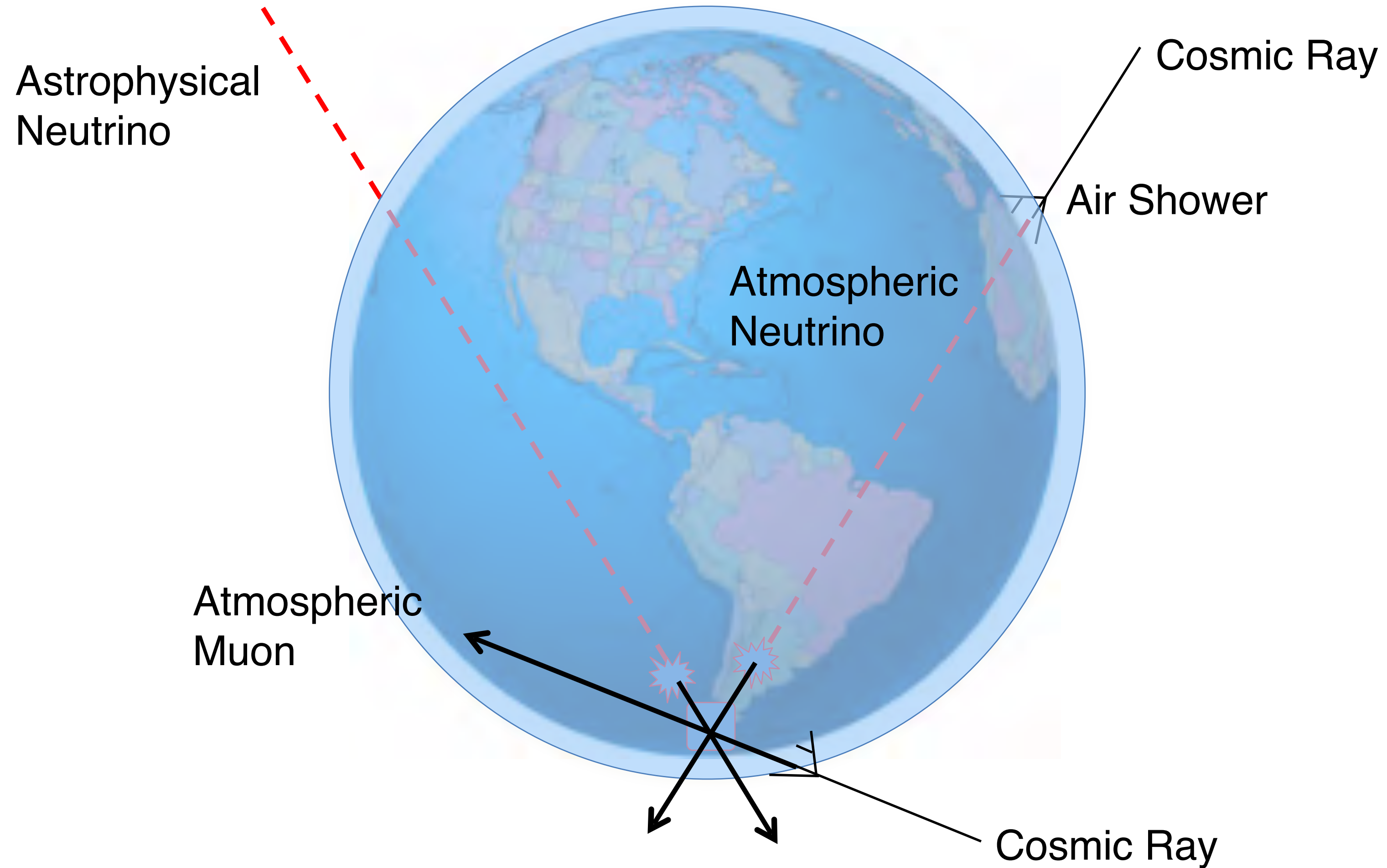


# IceCube





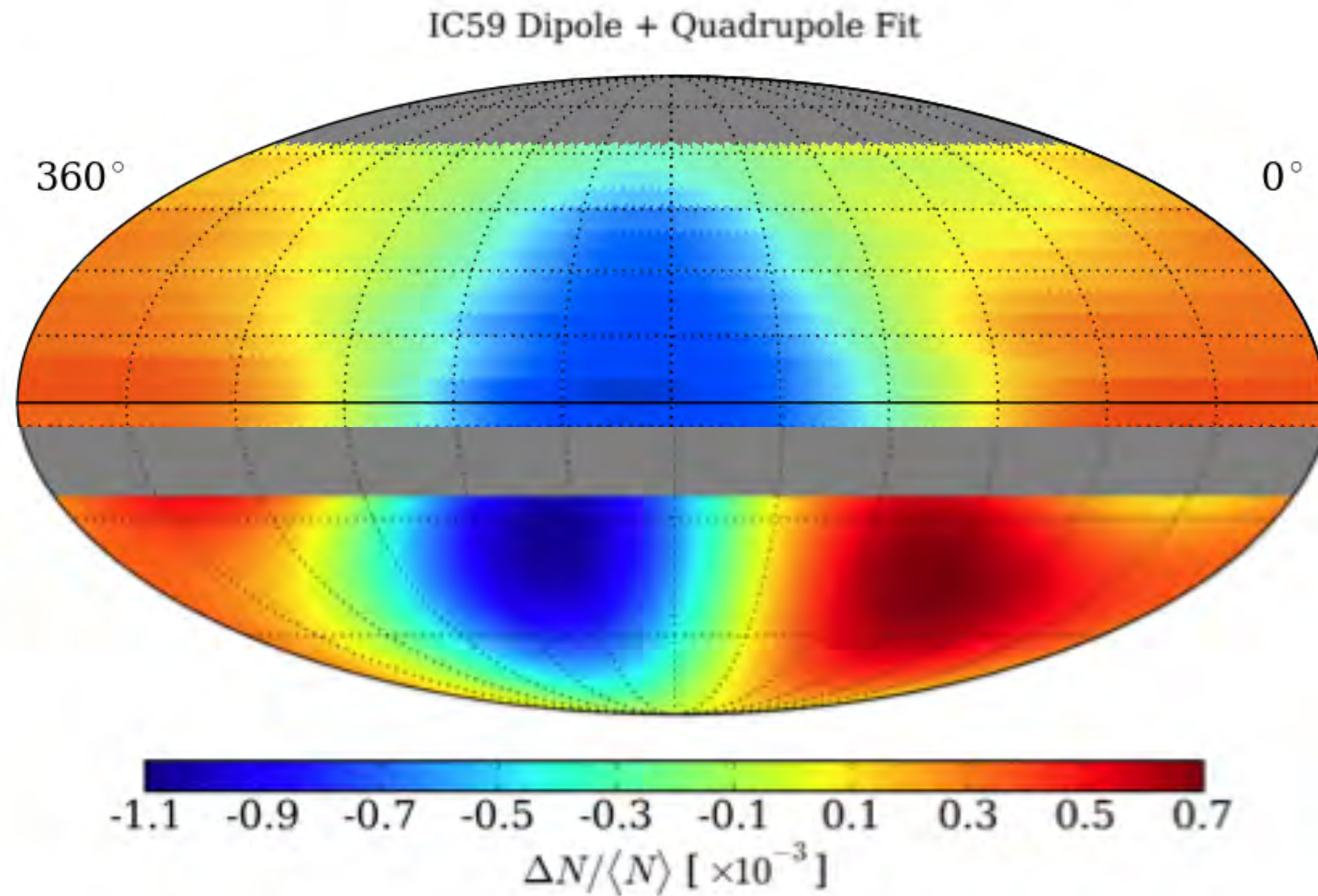
# IceCube



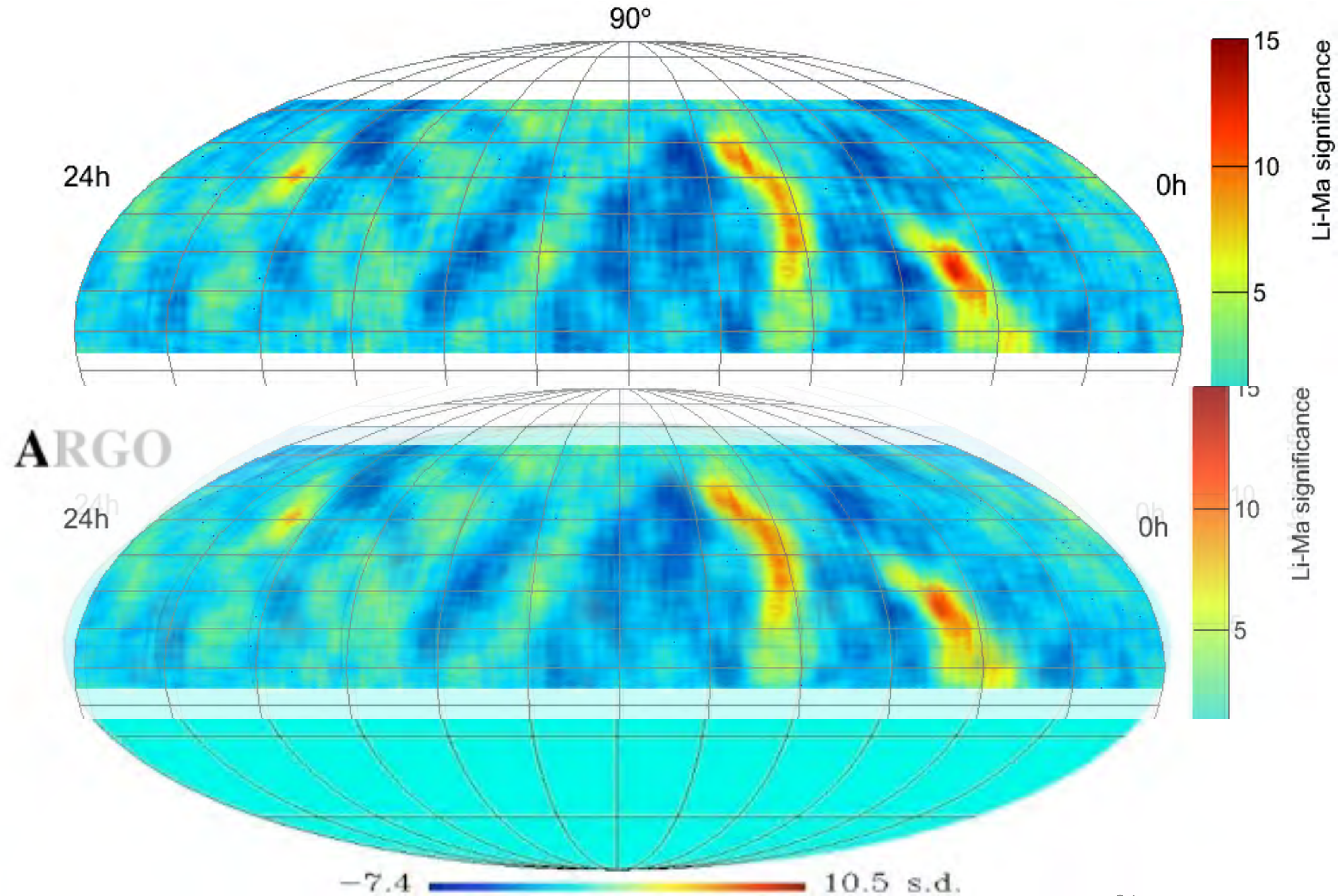
IceCube uses Atmospheric muons from the Southern Hemisphere



# Milagro & IceCube









High Altitude Water Cherenkov

