

6TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ULTRA HIGH ENERGY COSMIC RAYS



Wednesday 5th October 2022

Searches for Lorentz Invariance Violation at the Pierre Auger Observatory

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1. University of L'Aquila and INFN LNGS



Lorentz Invariance Violation

The need to study a possible violation of Lorentz invariance arises from the desire to unify quantum mechanics and general relativity

General Relativity is a classical theory, but quantum effects are not negligible when energy is of the order of the Planck scale

Possible **signatures** of Lorentz Invariance violation could be observed considering **physical phenomena** characterized by energy of the center of mass of the order of Planck scale!

Extragalactic propagation

Ultra High Energy Cosmic rays



the speed of light

THAT'S A VIOLATION OF THE

IORENTZ INVARIANCE

Extensive Air Showers

INTRODUCTION

See P. Auger talks Pierre Auger Observatory

The Pierre Auger Observatory has been designed to investigate the highest energy cosmic rays with energy exceeding $10^{19} \rm eV$, combining a surface array of particle detectors with fluorescence telescopes for <code>hybrid detection</code>



Pierre Auger Observatory Province Mendoza, Argentina



Calibration of the SD risetime with $X_{\rm max}$ distributions measured with the FD

The SDs measure photons and charged particles at ground level The FDs observe longitudinal development of air showers in the atmosphere

The RDs complement this setup studying radio emission from air showers

INTRODUCTION

How to 1



LIV searches in the Observatory

Lorentz Invariance Violation effects and signatures on:

Extragalactic propagation



Modification of the cosmic rays interactions during the propagation through the universe

Electromagnetic sector

- Suppression of the UHE photon absorption by photons of the background;

Hadronic sector





- Suppression of the nuclear disintegration;

Extensive air showers



Modification of the development of the cascade in the atmosphere

Electromagnetic sector

- Modification of BH cross sections;

Hadronic sector

- Suppression of the pion decay;







LIV searches in the Observatory

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- Suppression of the pion production;
- Suppression of the nuclear disintegration;

Electromagnetic sector

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UHECRs PROPAGATION

UHECRs undergo energy losses during the propagation in the IS caused by both of the <u>expansion of the universe</u> and the interactions with the background radiation fields

In particular charged particles can interact with the **CMB** photons at highest energies and with the **EBL** at slightly lower energies

Processes due to the UHECRs interactions with astrophysical background photons

UHECRs + $\gamma_{bkg} \longrightarrow \dots$

Nucleons: $N + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$ Nuclei: $A + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$ photons: $\gamma + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$

- Pair production $\epsilon' > 1 \text{ MeV}$ $N + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow N + e^- + e^+$
- Pion production $\epsilon' > 150 \text{ MeV}$ $p + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow p + \pi^0$

 $p + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow n + \pi^+$

- Photodisintegration of Nuclei (heavier than p) $A + \gamma \rightarrow (A - n) + nN$



*Dependence on redshift to be considered

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- Pair production e' > 1 MeV $N + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow N + e^- + e^+$
- Pion production $\epsilon' > 150 \text{ MeV}$

$$A + \gamma \rightarrow (A - n) + nN$$



source of cosmogenic photons

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Electromagnetic sector: Photon propagation

Expected effects

pair production inhibited at the highest energies -> more photons could reach the ground



UHE photons Modified process: $\gamma_{GZK} + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow e^- + e^+$

> ORDER OF LIV n=0,1, 2 $\delta < 0$ Subluminal LIV

Photons produced from pion decay, propagating in extragalactic space under LIV assumptions
Modifications in pair-production cross section → increase of mean free path → less interactions → more photons expected (subluminal LIV)

Lang, et al. ApJ2018 / JCAP01 (2022) 023

How LIV affects the interactions during propagation? Looking at observables measured at ground

Simulation of GZK photons for both LIV and LI scenarios

The LIV-modified mean free path was implemented in the software packages **CRropa3/EleCa** in order to obtain the arriving GZK photon flux

Electromagnetic sector: Photon propagation

Comparing the predicted LIV flux arriving at earth with the upper limits on the photons flux measured by the Pierre Auger Observatory

ORDER OF LIV n=0,1, 2 $\delta < 0$ Subluminal LIV

The LIV-modified mean free path was implemented in the software packages **CRropa3/EleCa** in order to obtain the arriving GZK photon flux

Considered scenarios

- 1. UHECRs (scenarios taken from **best fit of spectrum and composition** at escape from sources) propagating in extragalactic space (standard propagation)
- 2. Photons produced in extragalctic propagation by UHECRs with **additional proton component at high energies**.



See L.Perrone talk



$$\delta^{(2)} > -10^{-58} \,\mathrm{eV}^{-2}$$

JCAP01 (2022) 023

INTRODUCTION LIV framework **LIV Propagation** LIV in EAS Muon Fluctuations **CONCLUSIONS**





 $\log_{10} (E_{\gamma}/eV)$

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 $\log_{10} (E_{\gamma}/eV)$

UHECRs PROPAGATION

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In particular charged particles can interact with the **CMB** photons at highest energies and with the **EBL** at slightly lower energies

Processes due to the UHECRs interactions with astrophysical background photons

UHECRs + $\gamma_{bkg} \longrightarrow \dots$

Nucleons: $N + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$ Nuclei: $A + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$ photons: $\gamma + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow \dots$

Pair production $\epsilon' > 1 \text{ MeV}$ $N + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow N + e^- + e^+$ Pion production $\epsilon' > 150 \text{ MeV}$ $p + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow p + \pi^0$

 $p + \gamma_{bkg} \rightarrow n + \pi^+$ - Photodisintegration of Nuclei (heavier than p) $A + \gamma \rightarrow (A - n) + nN$





Hadronic sector: UHECRs propagation

ORDER OF LIV n=0,1, 2 $\delta > 0$ Superluminal LIV

The LIV-modified attenuation length for pion production and the LIVmodified energy threshold for photo disintegration were implemented in SimProp v2.4

> Above the critical energy, the number of interactions during propagation is reduced
 > the UHECRs interact less > the cosmic ray can travel farther than LI scenario;

How LIV affects the interactions during propagation?

Looking at observables measured at ground

Spectrum and composition given by the LIV modified 10⁵ events produced with SimProv2.4 (simulations performed for 5 nuclei)

Threshold energy increases -> less interactions -> if LIV, lighter nuclear species are needed at the sources in order to reproduce the observed composition

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Hadronic sector: UHECRs propagation

ORDER OF LIV n=0,1,2 $\delta > 0$ Superluminal LIV

Fitting the data measured by the Pierre Auger Observatory with the expected spectrum and composition at ground for both LIV and LI scenarios (combined fit)

>For each UHECR scenario the free parameters of the fit are:

The nuclei fractions, the index of the energy spectrum, the maximum rigidity, the

normalization factor of the flux, the LIV parameter δ

>A log-likelihood fit gives the combination of the parameters which best describes the data

Comparing the deviances obtained in LIV and LI scenarios limits on δ have been imposed





See E. Guido talk

LIV Propagation LIV in EAS **Muon Fluctuations** CONCLUSIONS

LIV searches in the Observatory

Lorentz Invariance Violation effects and signatures on:

Extragalactic propagation



Modification of the cosmic rays interactions during the propagation through the universe

Electromagnetic sector

- Suppression of the UHE photon absorption

by photons of the background; Hadronic sector



- Suppression of the pion production;

- Suppression of the nuclear disintegration;

Extensive air showers



Modification of the development of the cascade in the atmosphere

Electromagnetic sector

- Modification of BH cross sections;

Hadronic sector

- Suppression of the pion decay;







Extensive Air Showers

An air shower is an extensive cascade, with a length of many km, of ionized particles and electromagnetic radiation that initiates when a **primary cosmic ray** ($E > 10^{18}$ eV) enters the atmosphere.

The shower is composed of three components:

- The em component characterized by the **pair production**, the **bremsstrahlung** and the **ionization energy loss**;
- The hadronic component produced by charged hadronic particles involved in the strong interactions with the atmosphere;
- The muonic component weakly interacts and it can be detected at ground using SD.
- ts: π^{0} π^{+} μ^{+} μ^{-} μ^{+} μ^{-} μ^{+} μ^{-} μ^{-}

hadronic component

muonic component

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- The lateral distribution;
- The Mean Longitudinal Profile, *dE/dX*.

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At the shower maximum we define:

- $N_{max} = E_0/E_c;$
- $X_{max} = X_0 + \lambda_{em} log_2(E_0/E_c)$

A nucleus with mass A and energy E_0 is considered as A independent nucleons with energy E_0/A each.

The superposition of the individual nucleon showers yields:

1)
$$X_{max} \propto \lambda \frac{E_0}{AE_c}$$

2) $N^A_\mu(X_{max}) = A \left(\frac{E_0/A}{E_{dec}}\right)^\alpha = A^{1-\alpha} N^p_\mu(X_{max})$ The muon fluctuation:

The muon fluctuation:
$$\frac{N_{\mu}}{\langle N_{\mu} \rangle} = \alpha_1 \dots - > \frac{N_{\mu}}{\langle N_{\mu} \rangle} = \frac{\alpha_1}{A} \dots$$

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How to break Lorentz Invariance



We consider the right-hand side of the modified dispersion relation as a new mass:

$$m_{\rm LIV}^2 = m^2 + \eta^{(n)} \frac{p^{n+2}}{M_{\rm Pl}^n}$$

We can define the Lorentz factor as: $\gamma_{\text{LIV}} = \frac{E}{m_{\text{LIV}}}$

In terms of the lifetime au of particles: $au=\gamma_{
m LIV} au_0$

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 $\eta^{(n)}$ assumes both positive and negative values!







MUON CONTENT DISTRIBUTION

ORDER OF LIV n=1

0.15

EPOS-LHC $n = -10^{-3}$



Ratio of the fluctuations to the average number of muons



Considering the dependence of the decrease of the relative fluctuations on the different LIV strengths, a new bound for the LIV parameter can be obtained

Which combination of primaries gives the most conservative LIV model?



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Most conservative LIV Relative Fluctuations

for any LIV parameter value we found the most conservative LIV relative fluctuations as a function of the energy without repeating any shower simulation



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LIV framework

LIV Propagation

LIV in EAS **Muon Fluctuations**

Most conservative LIV Relative Fluctuations



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Most conservative LIV Relative Fluctuations





LIV can be tested with UHECRs

- Extragalactic propagation of UHECRs:
 - ✦ Searches signatures in electromagnetic sector and hadronic sector;
 - Astrophysical scenarios predict low maximum energy at the sources and mixed composition
- ✤ Development of cascade of particles in atmosphere
 - ✦ Fluctuations of number of muons used for the first time to constrain LIV



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Other works PoS ICRC (2015) 521 PoS ICRC (2017) 561 PoS ICRC (2019) 327



Backup

LIV effects on air shower development



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MUON CONTENT DISTRIBUTION



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Pierre Auger Observatory

See talk di qualcuno

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CONCLUSIONS



HYBRID DETECTOR: Fluorescence detector (FD)

- 24 telescopes in 4 sites, FoV: 0-30°, E>10¹⁸ eV
- HEAT (3 telescopes), FoV: 30 60°, E>10¹⁷ eV

Surface detector (SD): ground array of water Cherenkov detectors

- 1660 stations in 1.5 km grid, 3000 km² E > 10^{18.5} eV
- 61 stations in 0.75 km grid, 23.5 km²,E > 10^{17.5} eV

Underground muon detector



Hybrid Detection





LIV Propagation LIV in EAS Muon Fluctuations CONCLUSIONS

hadronic component

- Lateral distribution measurement with the SD

Earth

LIV effects on air shower development



LIV Propagation

LIV in EAS

Muon Fluctuations

CONCLUSIONS

First order: $\eta_{\gamma}^{(1)} > -1.2 \cdot 10^{-10}$ (R. G. Lang, H. Martìnez-Huerta and V. De Souza 2018);

Second order: $-10^{-3} < \eta_{\pi}^2 < 10^{-1}$ (Maccione et al. 2009).

CONEX shower simulation

Lorentz Invariant case & in presence of LIV

Shower Simulation Options:

Primary particles: H, He, N, Si, Fe;

Primary particle energy: 10¹⁴-10²¹ eV;

Zenith angle: $\theta = 70^{\circ}$;



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21 energy bins of width $\Delta \log_{10}(E/eV) = 0.25$ ranging from 10^{14} to 10^{21} ;

Hadronic interaction model: EPOS LHC-LIV, QGSJETII-04.

in presence of LIV

LIV parameter η :

- 1st order: $\eta = -10^{-1}, -10^{-3}, -10^{-4}, -10^{-5}, -10^{-6}, -5 \cdot 10^{-7}, -10^{-7}, -10^{-8}$ - 2nd order: $\eta = -1, -10^{-1}, -10^{-2}, -10^{-3}$

A number of 5000 events has been simulated for each primary particle for definite energy intervals.

 $)^{-6}, -5 \cdot 10^{-7}, -10^{-7}$ te energy intervals.

Muon Fluctuations



- in the presence of LIV <u>Reduction of Muon Fluctuations:</u> the proton is behaving as a heavier nucleus and the fluctuations decrease



Relative Fluctuations

Effects of the different composition scenarios



Where

$$\langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{\text{mix}}(\alpha;\eta) = (1-\alpha) \langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{p} + \alpha \langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{Fe} \sigma^{2}(N_{\mu})_{\text{mix}}(\alpha;\eta) = (1-\alpha) \sigma^{2}(N_{\mu})_{p} + \alpha \sigma^{2}(N_{\mu})_{Fe} + (\alpha(1-\alpha)(\langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{p} - \langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{Fe})^{2}$$

See GAP-notes GAP 2011-118

 $1 - \alpha$ is the fraction of proton α is the fraction of iron

Looking for... the most conservative relative Fluctuations

- 1. **Effects of the different composition scenarios:** The mixture of the two components p and Fe gives the maximum value of relative fluctuations.
- 2. Define $\frac{\sigma_{\mu}}{\langle N_{\mu} \rangle} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma^2(N_{\mu})_{\text{mix}}(\alpha;\eta)}}{\langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{\text{mix}}(\alpha;\eta)}$ $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \alpha \text{ is the fraction of proton} \\ \alpha \text{ is the fraction of iron} \end{pmatrix}$
- 3. Parametrize as function of η and energy $\langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{p'} \langle N_{\mu} \rangle_{Fe'} \sigma(N_{\mu})_p$ and $\sigma(N_{\mu})_{Fe'}$



The maximum wrt α curve is always above the curves given by any other α combinations

Only if the fluctuations stand below the data the $\max_{\alpha} \frac{\sigma_{\mu}}{\langle N_{\mu} \rangle}$ is the most conservative LIV model

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 η_{π} > 0

LIV SECOND ORDER



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The Spectrum

Phys. Rev. D 102, 062005 (2020) Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 121106 (2020)

INTRODUCTION

Mass Composition

AugerPrime CONCLUSIONS

Spectrum



R. Engel, ICRC2021

The method to derive the spectrum is entirely data-driven

E [eV]





Spectrum Mass Composition Anisotropy AugerPrime CONCLUSIONS

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Mass Composition @ Earth

Measured considering the atmospheric depth at which the number of particles in an air shower reaches its maximum



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Anisotropy: Large scale

Combination of vertical and inclined showers

Harmonic analysis in right ascension α

$E \left[EeV \right]$	events	amplitude r	phase [deg.]	$P(\geq r)$
4-8	81701	$0.005^{+0.006}_{-0.002}$	80 ± 60	0.60
> 8	32187	$0.047^{+0.008}_{-0.007}$	100 ± 10	$2.6 imes 10^{-8}$

significant modulation at 5.2σ (5.6 σ before penalization for energy bins explored)

The amplitude of 3-d dipole above $8\cdot 10^{18} \text{eV}$

 $(6.5^{+1.3}_{-0.9})\%$ at $(\alpha, \delta) = (100^{\circ}, -24^{\circ})$ $(l, b) = (233^{\circ}, -13^{\circ})$



1.1 1.08 1.06 Normalized Rate 1.04 1.02 0.98 0.96 Constant fit (isotropy) 0.94 data E>8 EeV 0.92 first harmonic 0.9 360 300 120 60 240 180 0 Right Ascension [deg]

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 868:4 (12pp), 2018 November 20



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Auger Coll., Science (2017), APJ (2018)



This direction is about 125° from the galactic center suggesting that the anisotropy has an extragalactic origin

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-90° < δ < 45°



Figure 2. Maps in equatorial coordinates of the CR flux, smoothed in windows of 45°, for the energy bins [4, 8] EeV (left) and $E \ge 8$ EeV (right). The Galactic plane is represented with a dashed line, and the Galactic center is indicated with a star.



Figure 5. Map in Galactic coordinates of the direction of the dipolar component of the flux for different particle rigidities for CRs coming from Galactic sources and propagating in the Galactic magnetic field model of Jansson & Farrar (2012) (blue points) and the bisymmetric model of Pshirkov et al. (2011) (red points). The points show the results for the following rigidities: 64, 32, 16, 8, 4 and 2 EV (with increasing distance from the Galactic center). We also show in purple the observed direction of the dipole for $E \ge 8$ EeV and the 68% CL region for it. The background in gray indicates the integrated matter density profile assumed for the Galactic source distribution (Weber & de Boer 2010).

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Cosmogenic neutrino and photon fluxes



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Hadronic sector: UHECRs propagation

ORDER OF LIV n=0,1, 2 $\delta > 0$ Superluminal LIV

The LIV-modified attenuation length for pion production and the LIVmodified energy threshold for photo disintegration were implemented in SimProp v2.4 (simulations performed for 5 nuclei)

Modified processes:



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Looking at observables measured at ground



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Existent Limits



PAO INTRODUCTION