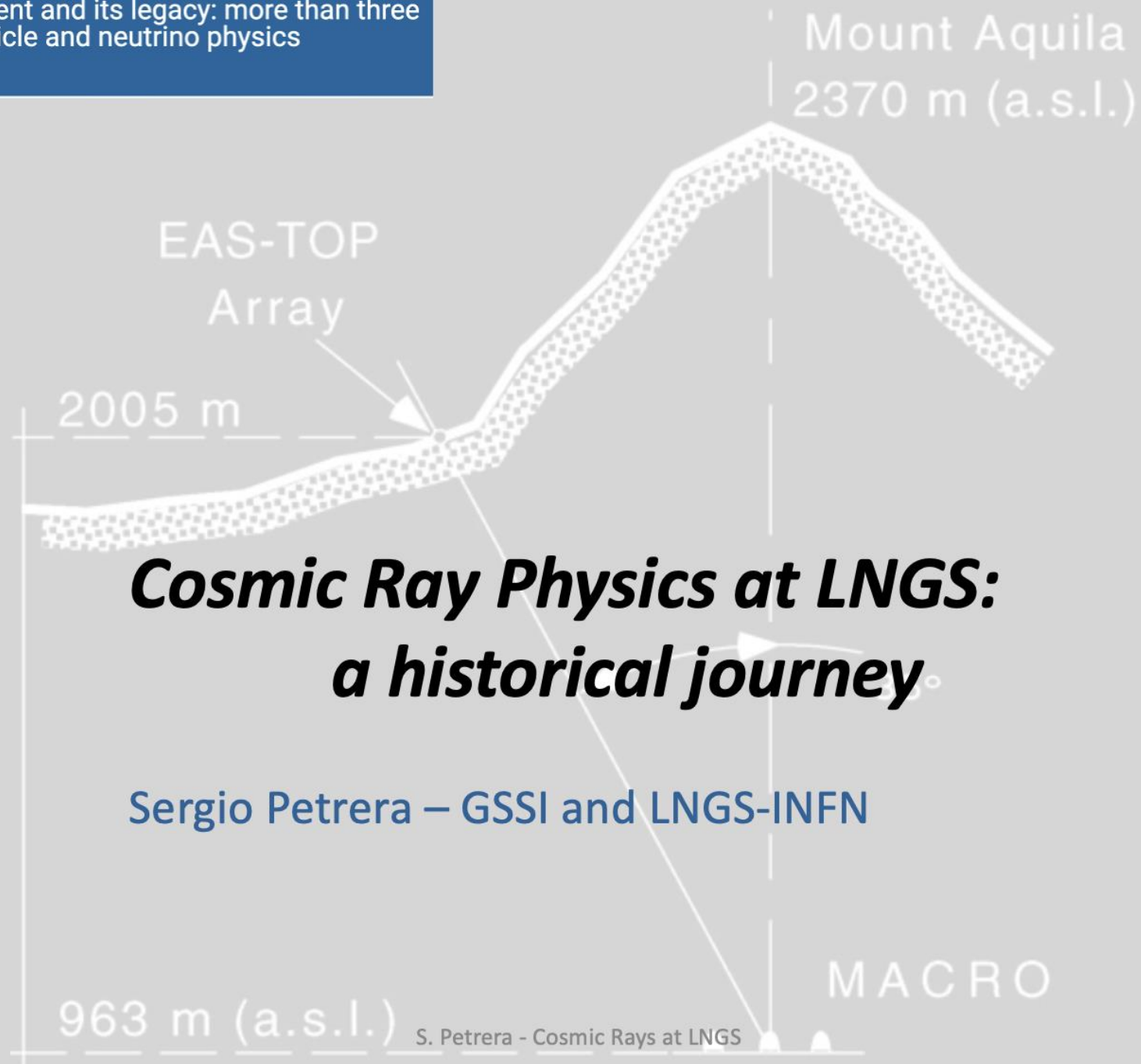




The MACRO experiment and its legacy: more than three decades of astroparticle and neutrino physics



Preamble: personal memories



- In early 80's our INFN director invited expressions of interest in upcoming major facilities (LEP, HERA, LNGS). **My choice: LNGS.**
 - ✓ Underground Labs: “main purpose is to **shield experiments from cosmic rays and other environmental noise**”
 - ⇒ **Studying cosmic rays very far from my expectations.**
- Roma (**): G. AURIEMMA, M. DE VINCENZI, E. LAMANNA, G. MARTELLOTTI, S. PETRERA, L. PETRILLO, P. PISTILLI, G. ROSA, A. SCIUBBA and M. SEVERI. **+ new entries... (OP, PL)**
 - ✓ Our previous activity in Particle Physics at accelerators (CERN, Fermilab, LNF)
- Initiated discussions with Frascati on a “super-NUSEX” project for **proton decay** after the GS Lab announcement.


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- ✓ Our previous activity in Particle Physics at accelerators (CERN, Fermilab, LNF)
- Initiated discussions with Frascati on a “super-NUSEX” project for **proton decay** after the GS Lab announcement.
 - ✓ However, growing **frustration** with proton decay experiment initial outcomes.
-  **GUT Monopoles!**
 - ✓ Strong interest from U.S. collaborators (e.g., B. Barish and others).
 - ✓ Required: **Large-area detector** with **dedicated trigger for low- β particles.**

MACRO

1982-1990

- St. Vincent 1985 started the process of selection of experiments

Approved:

- GALLEX (Gallium Experiment) solar neutrinos
 - LVD (Large Volume Detector)
 - MACRO (Monopole, Astrophysics and Cosmic Ray Observatory)
- + EAS-TOP shower array at Campo Imperatore

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Rationale:

- **Solar neutrinos (more than a promise):** Chlorine to Gallium provides lower threshold with better capability to investigate the reduced ν rate (Chlorex)
- GUT is still the promised land, but proton decay more & more unreachable (IMB, Kam-I, Soudan,...)
- Two detectors with complementary merits: *Large volume vs. Large area*
- Large volume focused on neutrinos
- **Large area to search for the last unexplored GUT prediction: relic monopoles** (*after t'Hooft & Polyakov, 1974*)

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Two unexpected events:

1983 Cygnus X-3
1987 SN1987A

Rationale:

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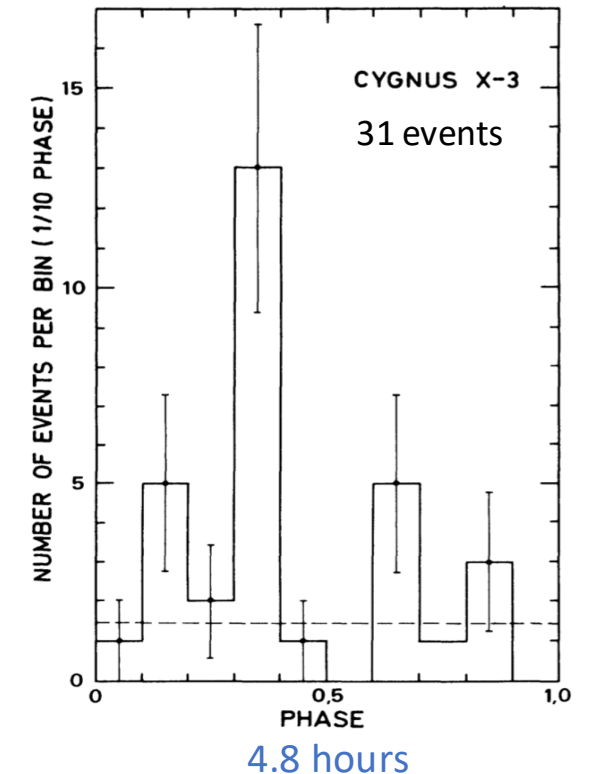
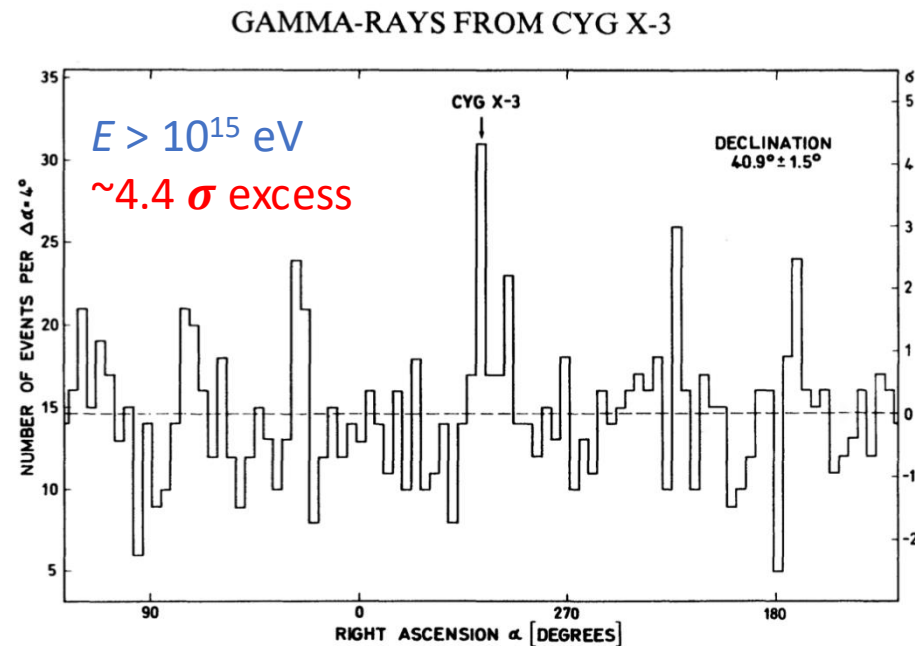
1983 Cygnus X-3

- X-ray emitting binary system, *R. Giacconi et al., ApJ (1967)*
- X-rays modulated 4.8 h
- Observed also in TeV range

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, **268**:L17-21, 1983 May 1
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DETECTION OF 2×10^{15} TO 2×10^{16} eV GAMMA-RAYS FROM CYGNUS X-3

M. SAMORSKI AND W. STAMM
Institut für Reine und Angewandte Kernphysik, University of Kiel
Received 1982 November 22; accepted 1983 January 5





1983 Cygnus X-3

- X-ray emitting binary system, *R. Giacconi et al., ApJ (1967)*
- X-rays modulated 4.8 h
- Observed also in TeV range

Viewpoint

From the ionization of air to beyond the LHC

Alan Watson looks at how the links between particle physics and cosmic-ray research have evolved over the past century.



Alan Watson.
(Image credit:
Fermilab.)

In August, some 100 physicists will gather at Bad Saarow in Germany to celebrate the centenary of the discovery of cosmic rays by the Austrian scientist, Victor Hess. The meeting place is close to where Hess and his companions landed following their flight from Aussig during which they reached 5000 m in a hydrogen-filled balloon; Health and Safety legislation did not restrain them. Finding the rate of ion-production at 5000 m to be about three times that of sea level, Hess speculated that the Earth's atmosphere was bombarded by high-energy radiation. This anniversary might also be regarded as the centenary of the birth of particle physics. The positron, muon, charged pions and the first strange particles were all discovered in cosmic rays between 1932 and 1947; and in 1938 Pierre Auger and colleagues showed, by studying cascade showers produced in air, that the cosmic-ray spectrum extended to at least 10^{15} eV, a claim based on the new ideas of QED.

Reviewing history, one is struck by how reluctant physicists were to contemplate particles other than protons, neutrons, electrons and positrons. The combination of the unexpectedly high energies and uncertainties about the validity of QED meant that flaws in the new theory were often invoked to explain observations that were actually evidence of the muon. Another striking fact is how many giants of theoretical physics, such as Bethe, Bhabha, Born, Fermi, Heisenberg, Landau and Oppenheimer, speculated on the interpretation of cosmic-ray data. However, in 1953, following a famous conference at Bagnères de Bigorre, the focus of work on particle physics moved to accelerator laboratories and despite some isolated discoveries – such as that of a pair of particles with naked charm by Kiyoshi Niu and colleagues in 1971, three years before the discovery of the J/ψ at accelerators – accelerator laboratories were clearly the

place to do precision particle physics. This is not surprising because the beams there are more intense and predictable than nature's:

the cosmic-ray physics

accelerator experts find

Cosmic rays remain

– at the energy front

devotees were perhaps

that particle-physics

made with cosmic ray

collaborations. Cosm

preferred to march to

own drums. This led

sometimes insufficient

field became ignored

many particle physic

after Bagnères de Big

observations of dram

claimed, including Co

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the monopole, the ion

others. Without excep

never replicated bec

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hidden in the proceed

International Cosmic

help. Not that the part

has never made false

will recall that in 197

Review Letters found

“bump hunting” rules

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led to a change of sc

at Kiel reported eide

of around 10^{15} eV fr

Cygnus X-3. Their cl

confirmed by the arra

the UK and at tera-ek

at the Whipple Telesc

particle physicists of

sucked into the field

led to the construction of the VERITAS, HESS and MAGIC instruments that have now created a new field of gamma-ray astronomy at tera-electron-volt energies. The construction of the Auger Observatory, the largest cosmic-ray detector ever built, is another major consequence. In addition to important astrophysics results, the instrument has provided information relevant to particle physics. Specifically, the Auger Collaboration has reported a proton–proton cross-section measurement at a centre-of mass energy of 57 TeV.

FROM CYGNUS X-3

of Kiel

However, another cosmic-ray “discovery” led to a change of scene. In 1983, a group at Kiel reported evidence for gamma rays of around 10^{15} eV from the X-ray binary, Cygnus X-3. Their claim was apparently confirmed by the array at Haverah Park in the UK and at tera-electron-volts energies at the Whipple Telescope in the US. Several particle physicists of the highest class were sucked into the field by the excitement. This led to the construction of the VERITAS, HESS and MAGIC instruments that have

OBSERVATION OF A TIME MODULATED MUON FLUX IN THE DIRECTION OF CYGNUS X-3

G. BATTISTONI ^a, E. BELLOTTI ^b, C. BLOISE ^a, G. BOLOGNA ^c, P. CAMPANA ^a,
C. CASTAGNOLI ^c, A. CASTELLINA ^c, V. CHIARELLA ^a, A. CIOCIO ^a, D. CUNDY ^d,
B. D'ETTORRE-PIAZZOLI ^c, E. FIORINI ^b, P. GALEOTTI ^c, E. IAROCCI ^a, C. LIGUORI ^b,
G. MANNOCCI ^c, G. MURTAS ^a, P. NEGRI ^b, G. NICOLETTI ^a, P. PICCHI ^c, M. PRICE ^d,
A. PULLIA ^b, S. RAGAZZI ^b, M. ROLLIER ^b, O. SAAVEDRA ^c, L. SATTA ^a, P. SERRI ^b,
S. VERNETTO ^c and L. ZANOTTI ^b

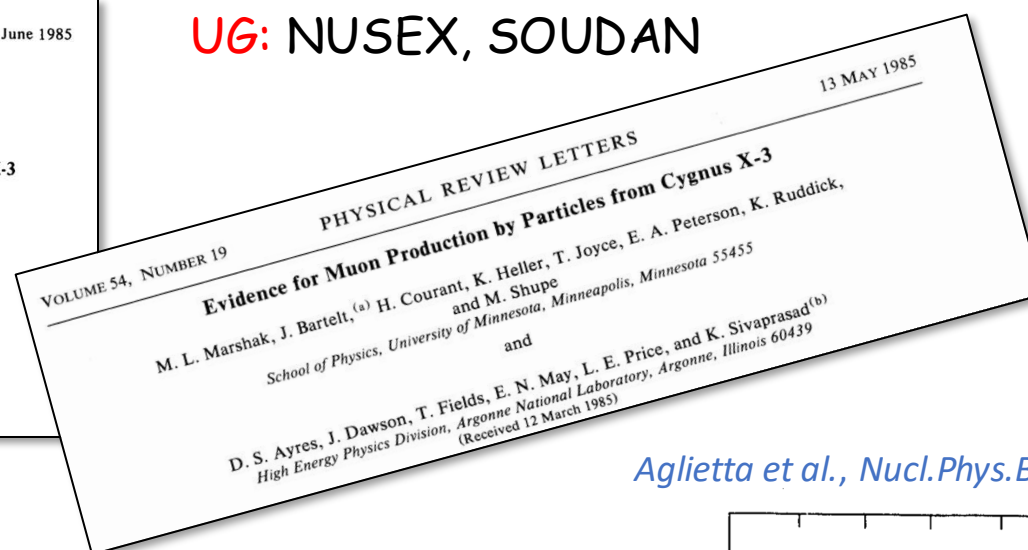
^a Laboratori Nazionali dell'INFN, Frascati, Italy

^b Dipartimento di Fisica dell'Università and INFN, Milan, Italy

^c Istituto di Cosmogeofisica del CNR, Turin, Italy

^d CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland

UG: NUSEX, SOUDAN



1983 Cygnus X-3

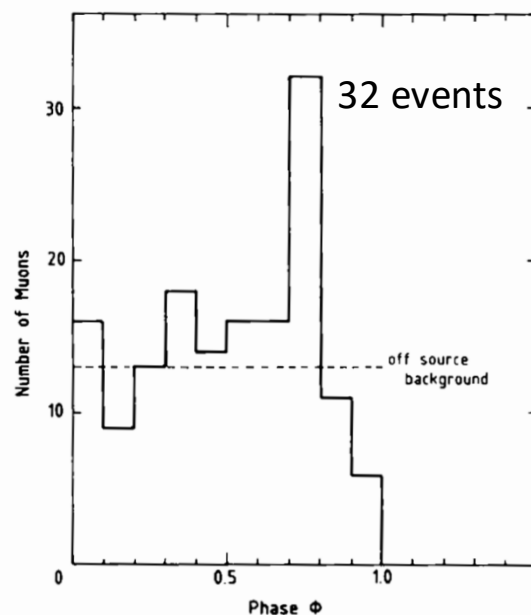
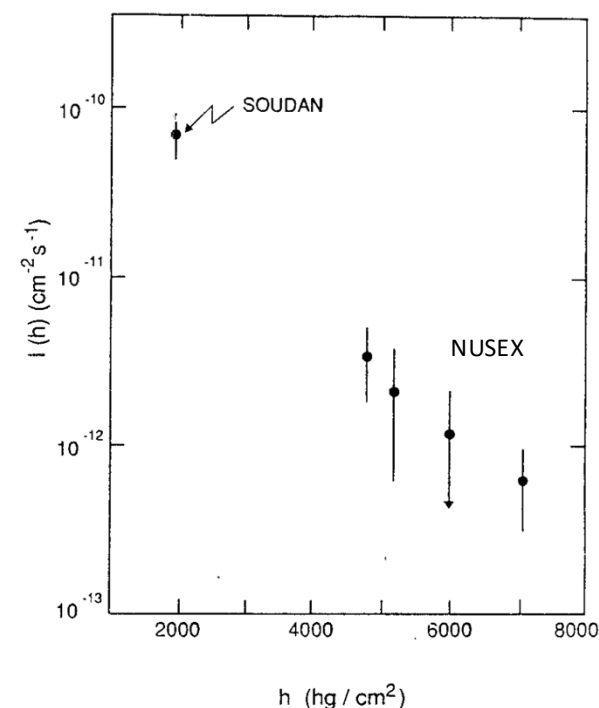


Fig. 1. Phase distribution for muons coming from an observation window of $10^\circ \times 10^\circ$ centred on Cygnus X-3.

Aglietta et al., Nucl.Phys.B Proc.Suppl. (1990)



Is Cygnus X-3 a monoenergetic 10^{17} eV accelerator?

A. M. Hillas

Physics Department, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK

1 SEPTEMBER 1985

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 5

Muons in gamma showers from Cygnus X-3?

T. Stanev* and T. K. Gaisser
Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, University of Delaware,
Newark, Delaware 19716

F. Halzen
Department of Physics, University of Wisconsin—Madison,
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
(Received 5 March 1985; revised manuscript received 2 May 1985)

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 301:235-239, 1986 February 1
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HIGH-ENERGY NEUTRINOS FROM CYGNUS X-3

V. S. BEREZINSKY
Institute of Nuclear Research of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, Moscow
AND
C. CASTAGNOLI AND P. GALEOTTI
Istituto di Cosmogeofisica del CNR, Torino, and Istituto di Fisica Generale dell'Università di Torino
Received 1985 March 21; accepted 1985 June 27

VOLUME 54, NUMBER 20

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

20 MAY 1985

Calculation of Neutrino Flux from Cygnus X-3

T. K. Gaisser and Todor Stanev
Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19716
(Received 12 March 1985)

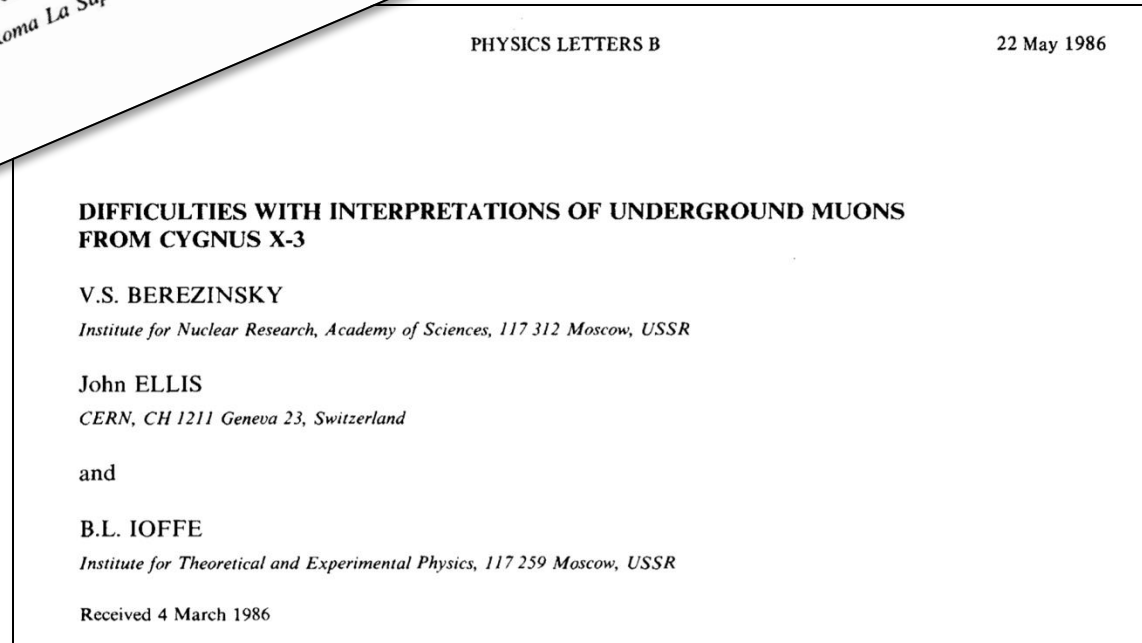
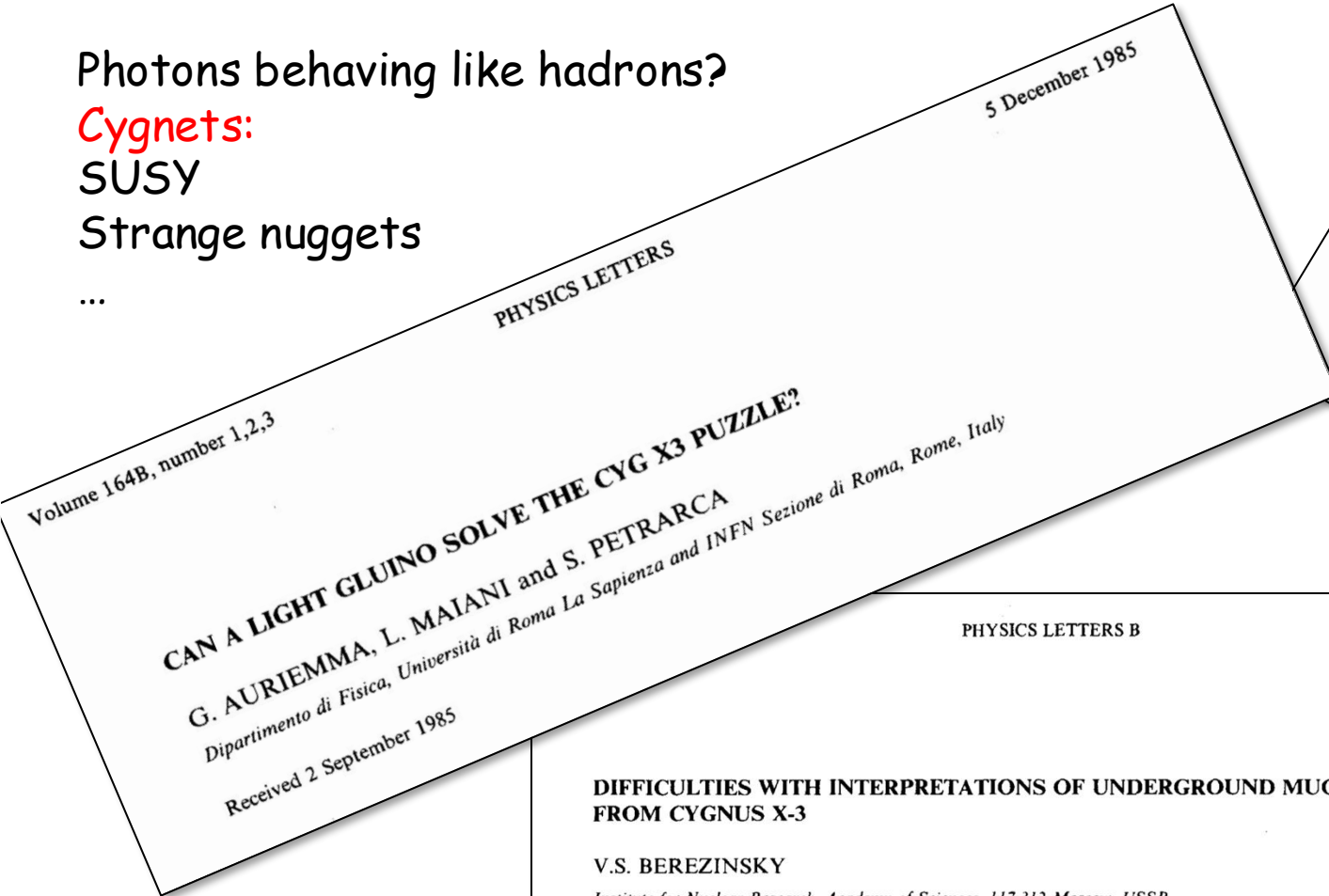
Photons behaving like hadrons?

Cygnets:

SUSY

Strange nuggets

...



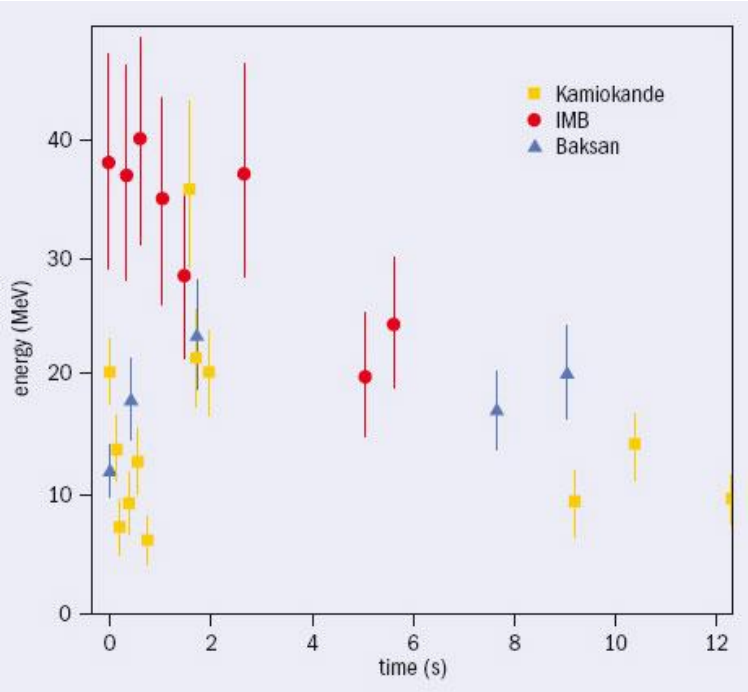


Table 1 SN1987A neutrino data

| Detector | Event number | Time ^a (seconds) | Electron energy (MeV) | Electron angle with respect to LMC (degrees) | Comment |
|------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| IMB | 1 | 7:35:41.374(UT) | 38 ± 7 | 80 ± 10 | ± 50 ms |
| | 2 | 0.411 | 37 ± 7 | 44 ± 15 | |
| | 3 | 0.650 | 28 ± 6 | 56 ± 20 | |
| | 4 | 1.141 | 39 ± 7 | 65 ± 20 | |
| | 5 | 1.562 | 36 ± 9 | 33 ± 15 | |
| | 6 | 2.683 | 36 ± 6 | 52 ± 10 | |
| | 7 | 5.010 | 19 ± 5 | 42 ± 20 | |
| | 8 | 5.581 | 22 ± 5 | 104 ± 20 | |
| KII | 1 | 7:35:35(UT) | 20.0 ± 2.9 | 18 ± 18 | ± 1 min background |
| | 2 | 0.107 | 13.5 ± 3.2 | 40 ± 27 | |
| | 3 | 0.302 | 7.5 ± 2.0 | 108 ± 32 | |
| | 4 | 0.323 | 9.2 ± 2.7 | 70 ± 30 | |
| | 5 | 0.507 | 12.8 ± 2.9 | 135 ± 23 | |
| | 6 | 0.685 | 6.3 ± 1.7 | 68 ± 77 | |
| | 7 | 1.540 | 35.4 ± 8.0 | 32 ± 16 | |
| | 8 | 1.728 | 21.0 ± 4.2 | 30 ± 18 | |
| | 9 | 1.915 | 19.8 ± 3.2 | 38 ± 22 | |
| | 10 | 9.219 | 8.6 ± 2.7 | 122 ± 30 | |
| | 11 | 10.432 | 13.0 ± 2.6 | 49 ± 26 | |
| | 12 | 12.439 | 8.9 ± 1.9 | 91 ± 39 | |
| Baksan | 1 | 7:36:11.818(UT) | 12 ± 2.4 | | |
| | 2 | 0.435 | 18 ± 3.6 | | |
| | 3 | 1.710 | 23.3 ± 4.7 | | |
| | 4 | 7.687 | 17 ± 3 | | |
| | 5 | 9.099 | 20.1 ± 4.0 | | |
| Mont Blanc | 1 | 2:52:36.792(UT) | 7 | | IMB-4.7 hrs |
| | 2 | 3.857 | 8 | | |
| | 3 | 4.215 | 11 | | |
| | 4 | 5.904 | 7 | | |
| | 5 | 7.008 | 9 | | |

^a The UT times on February 23, 1987, are given for the first event; the time for each subsequent event is relative to the first.

A. Burrows, *Annu. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci.*, 1990

- Both CygX3 and SN1987 strongly impacted the designs of LV and LA detectors
- LVD strongly focused on neutrinos (SN, astrophysical, atmospheric): 1 kton Liq.Sc. but poor tracking capabilities → improved tracking system (+ streamer tubes)
- MACRO good tracker on wide area ($77 \times 12 \text{ m}^2$) (needed for monopoles) → + 'attico' for increased Liq. Scint. mass (SN), tot. 0.56 kton and up/down discr. (atm- ν)

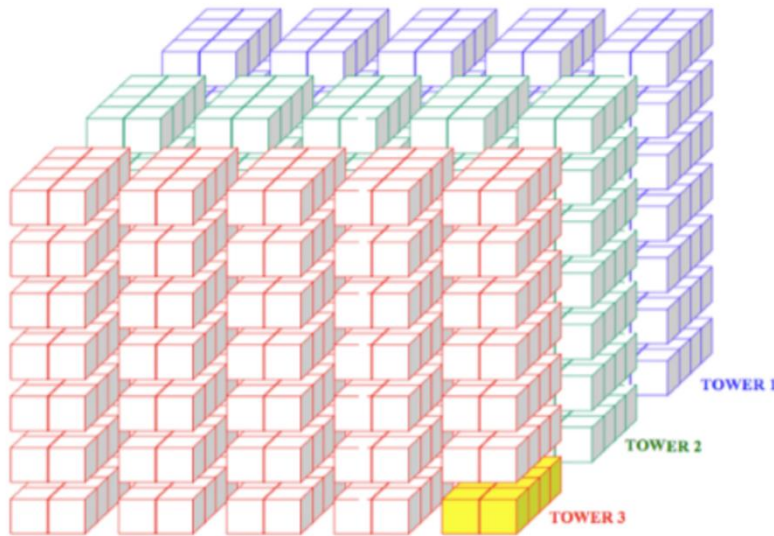
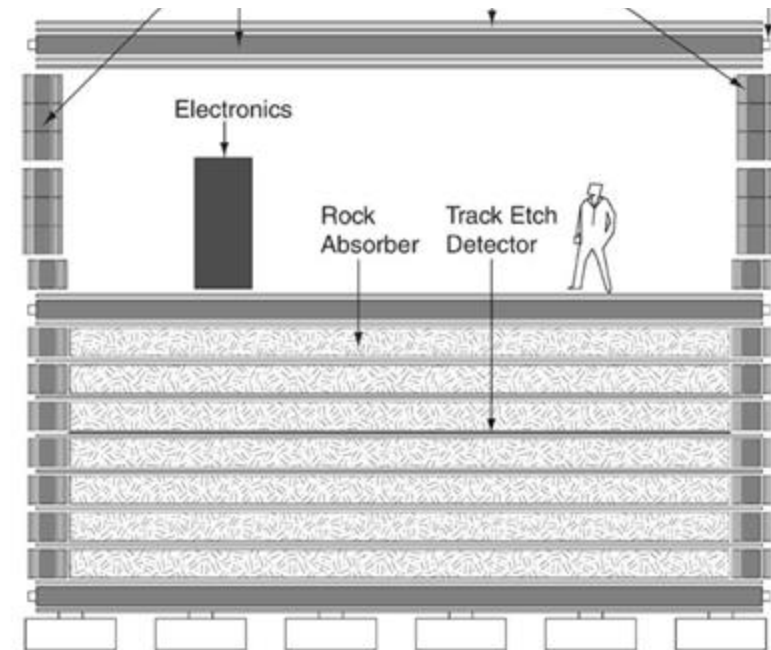
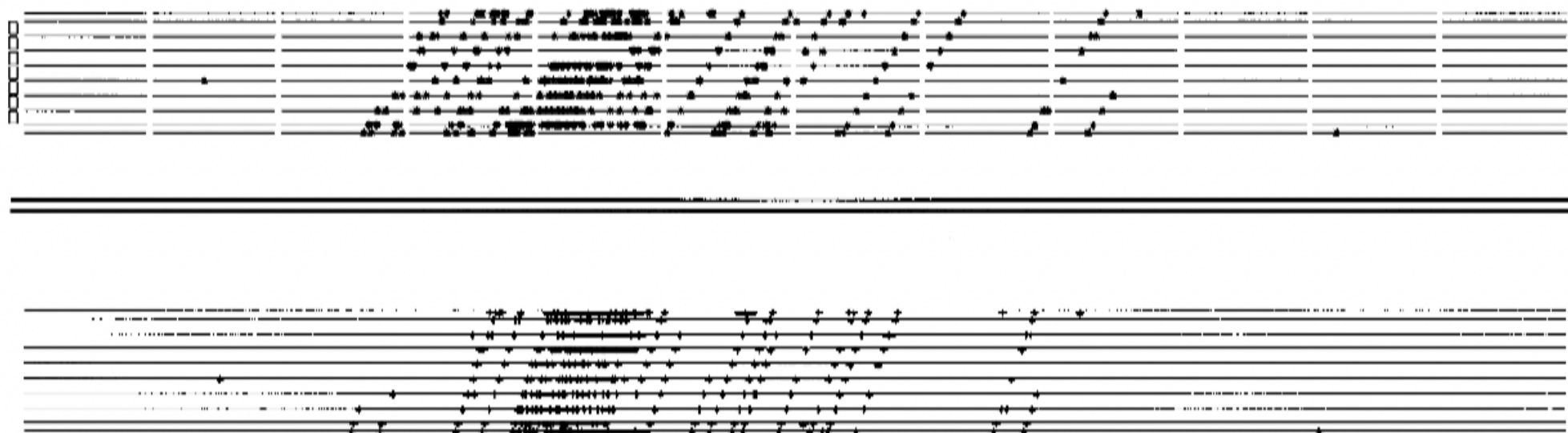


Figura 1: scheme of the arrangement of the counters in LVD



My approach to Cosmic Rays (1)

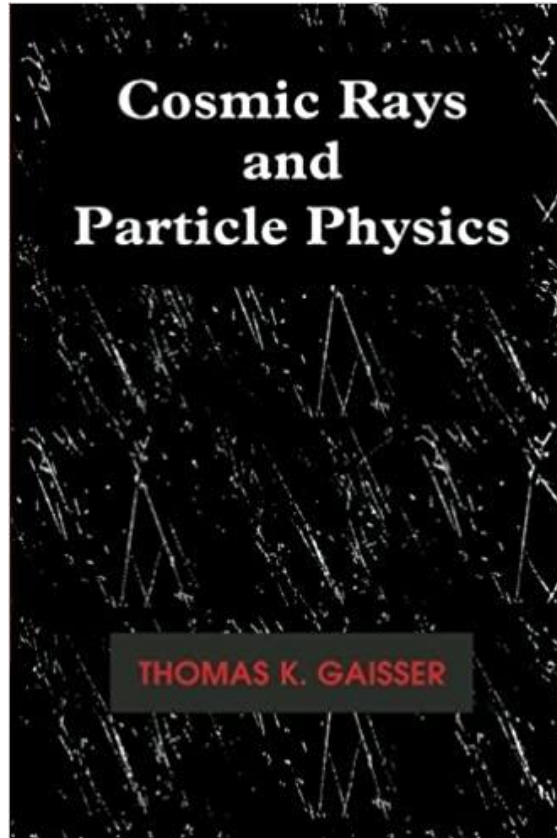
- Large area tracking system with dedicated trigger for low- β
MACRO
- An excellent tracker (50,000 ST) for UG muons, multimuons \Rightarrow **Cosmic Rays**



$\langle D_\mu \rangle \approx 12$ m
muon count \approx unbiased

My approach to Cosmic Rays (2)

Memories



Air showers

205

For a nuclear projectile of mass A incident on a target nucleus of mass B the generalization is (Bialas, Bleszynski & Czyz, 1976)

$$\langle N \rangle_{AB} = \frac{A \sigma_{pB}}{\sigma_{AB}} + \frac{B \sigma_{pA}}{\sigma_{AB}}.$$

The first term is the number of wounded nucleons in the projectile and the second the number of wounded nucleons in the target. This simple geometrical result predicts that a somewhat larger fraction of the freed nucleons interact to produce pions than the analysis of emulsion data described above.

Problem: Show that the expression (5.1) for the absorptive proton-nucleus cross section can be developed as a sum of partial cross sections for exactly N wounded nucleons:

$$\sigma_{pA} = \sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \sigma_N,$$

where

$$\sigma_N = \int d^2b \frac{[\sigma T(b)]^N}{N!} \exp[-\sigma T(b)],$$

and σ is the nucleon-nucleon cross section. Calculate the mean number of wounded nucleons in this approximation.

14.5 Coincident multiple energetic muons

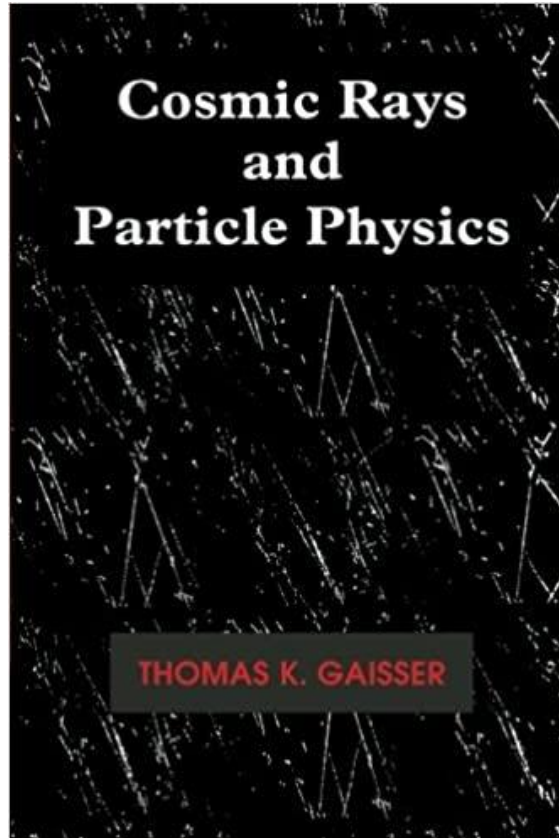
Before embarking on a more detailed discussion of cascade calculations in the next few chapters, I describe here the case of coincident, multiple muons detected with a large, deep detector. Because the muons must have high energy at production in the atmosphere to penetrate to a deep underground detector, only the highest energy parts of the cascades are relevant. These events therefore illustrate some of the principle questions of air shower physics in a particularly clear way. The questions include the problem of the chemical composition of the primary cosmic rays above 100 TeV, which has not been measured directly because of the extremely low flux at high energy. Interpretation of the results also depends on details of hadronic interactions at high energies, particularly the transverse momentum distribution, which determines the fraction of the muons above threshold that falls within the detector. The amount of charm production may also be important because charmed mesons are a source of prompt muons.

Cosmic Rays and Particle Physics

To Sergio Petrerá and
Rome MACRO group
with best wishes and
thanks for hospitality
in Rome,
Tom Gaisser



From UG muons to Cosmic Rays



Air showers

205

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E_μ (thresh) ≈ 1.4 TeV at LNGS
Originate from CR's around the 'knee' region
Multimuons sensitive to composition

Gaisser & Stanev, NIM, 1985

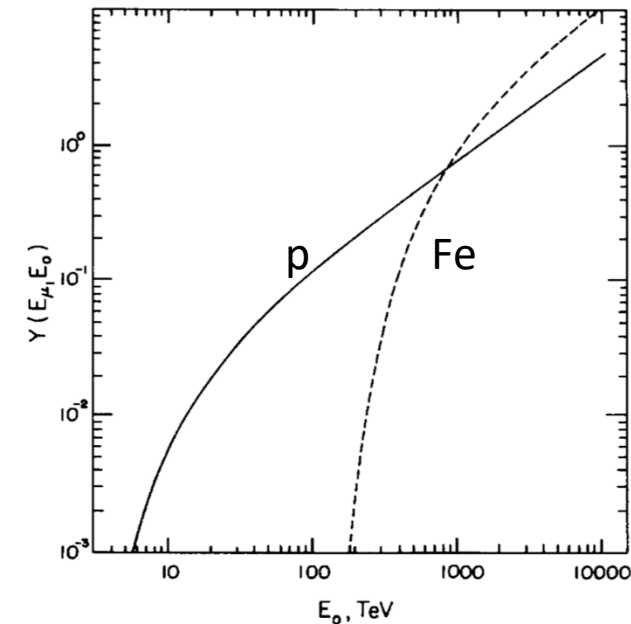
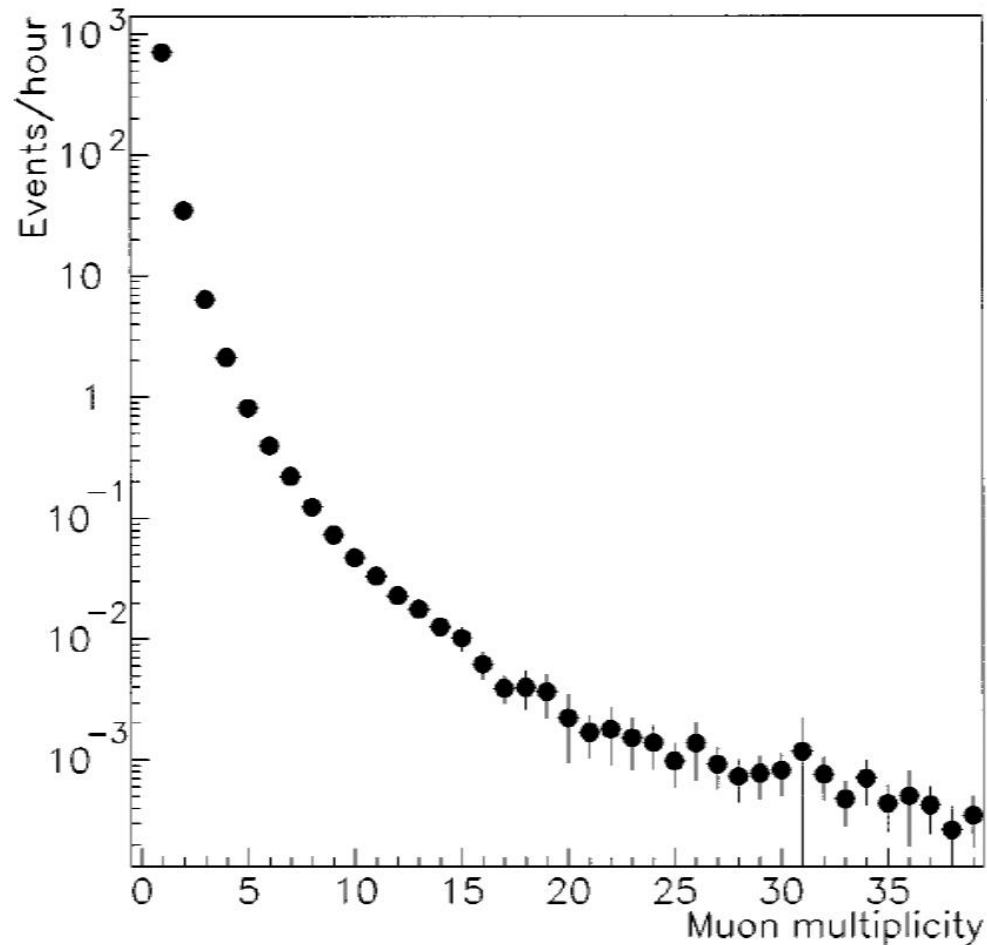


Fig. 5. Muon yields from primary protons (solid line) and iron nuclei (dash line) at depth of 4 km.w.e.

A selection of CR results from Gran Sasso Lab

- Spectrum and composition from MACRO multimuons
- EAS-TOP-MACRO results
- Other UG muon results

Fit of spectrum and composition from multimMuon



$$R(N_\mu) = \Omega S \sum_A \int dE \Phi_A(E) \cdot D_A(E, N_\mu)$$

$D_A(E, N_\mu)$ probability for a primary of mass A and energy per nucleus E to be reconstructed as an event with N_μ muons in MACRO. Obtained from MC detector simulation using **HEMAS** (Forti et al., PRD, 1990) as UG muon generator.

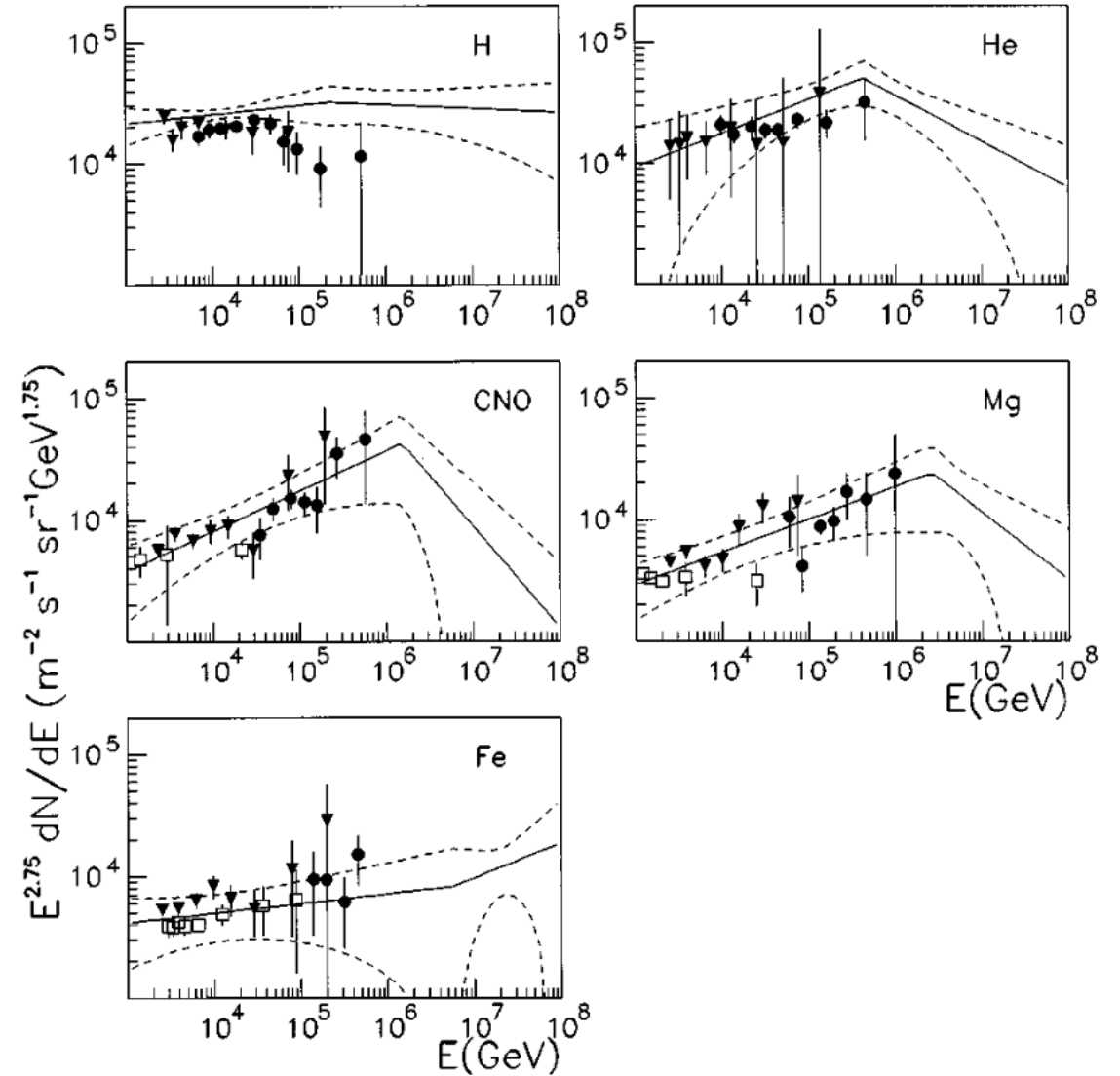
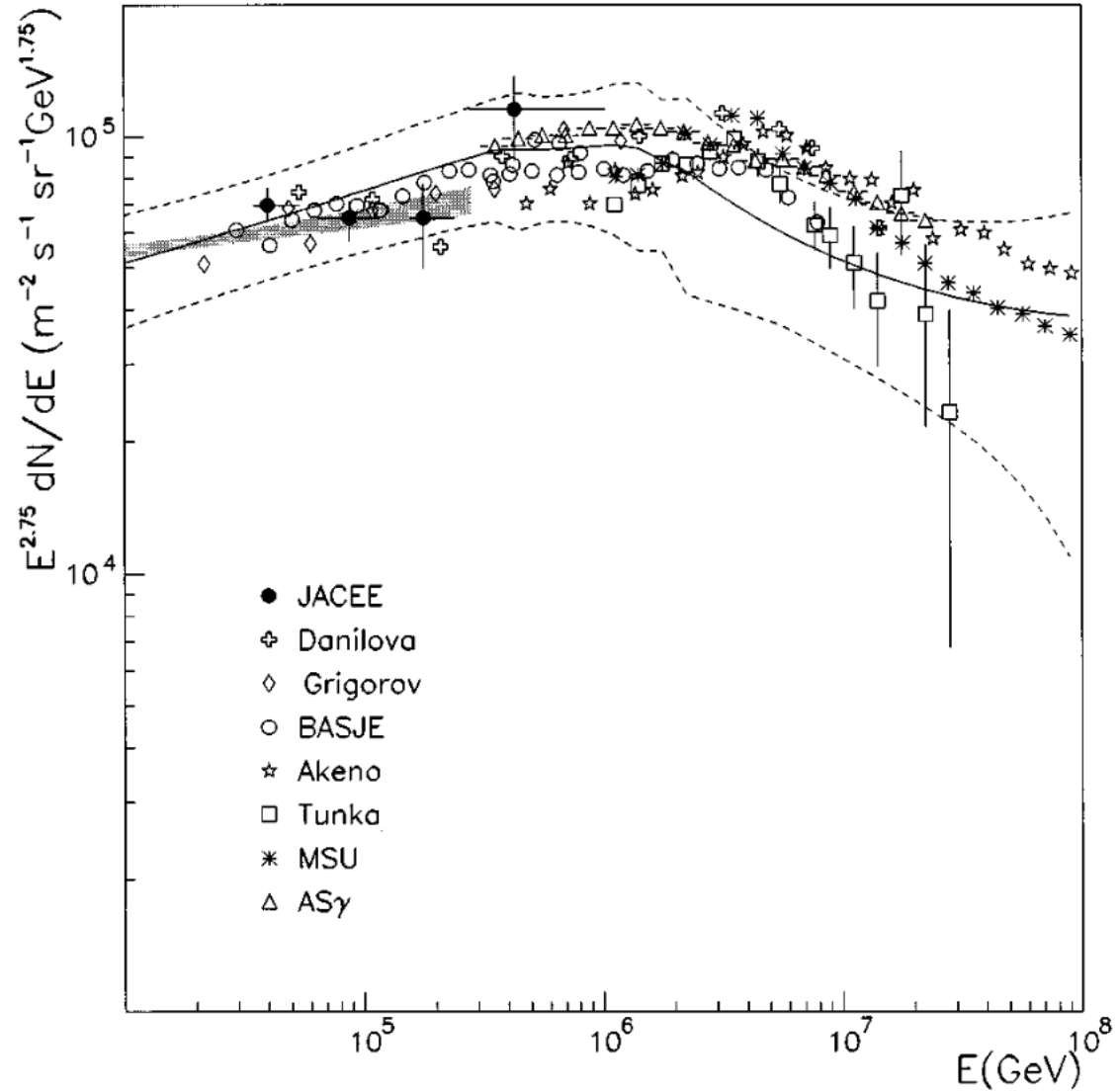
Comparison with **Sibyll**: largest differences for single muons.

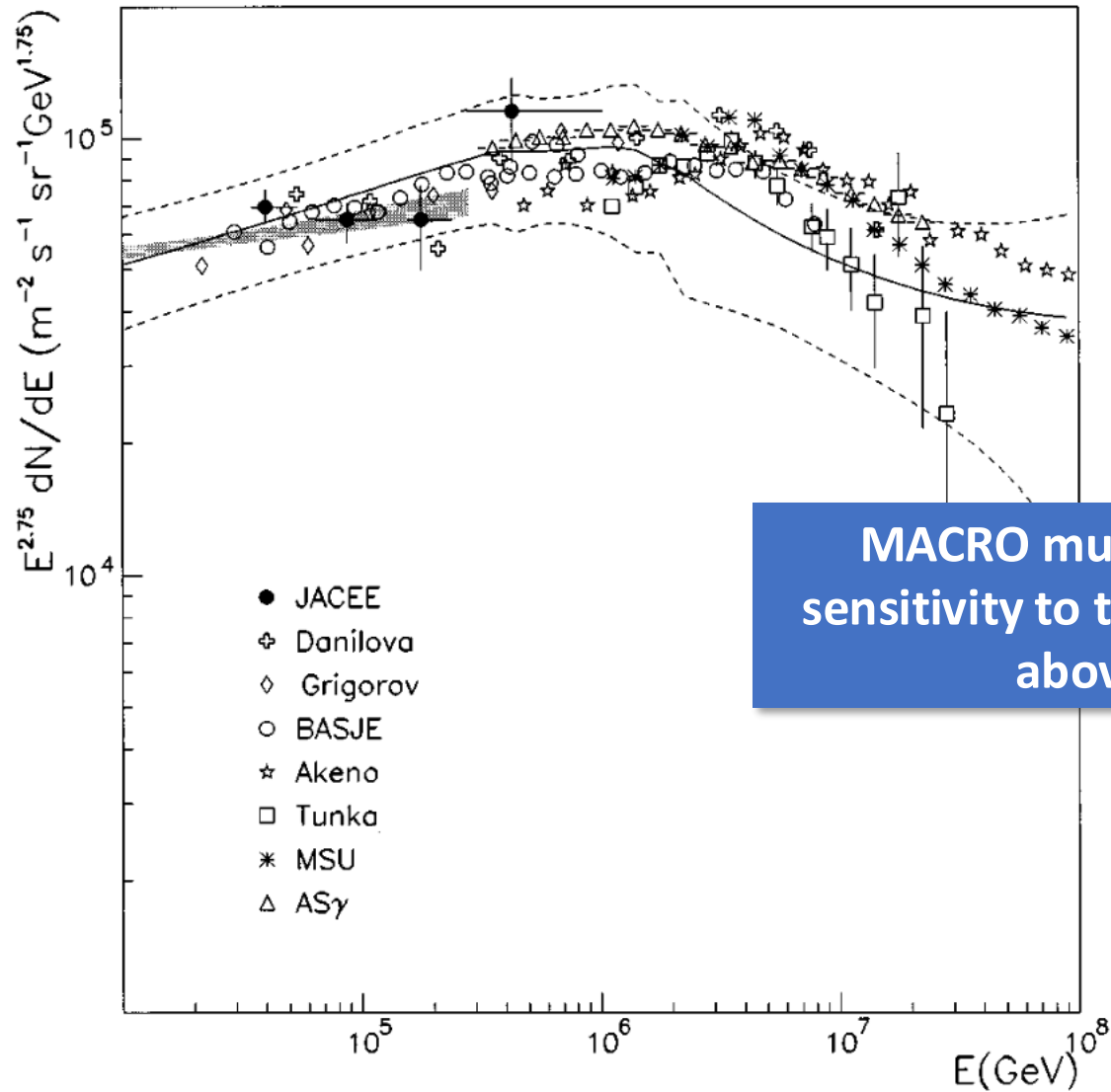
Parametric fluxes to fit

$$\Phi_A(E) = K_1(A) E^{-\gamma_1(A)} \quad \text{for } E < E_{\text{cut}}(A),$$

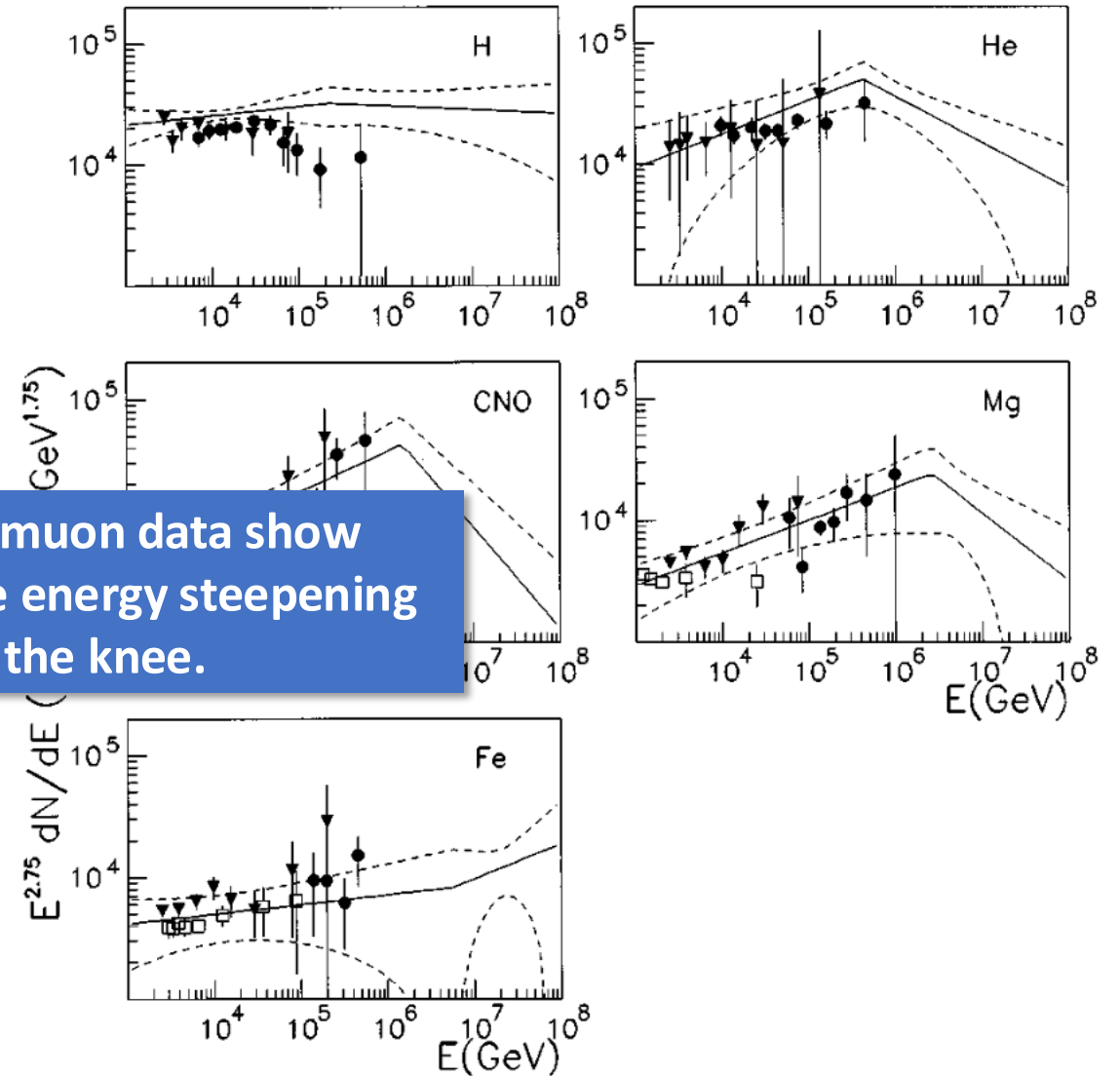
$$\Phi_A(E) = K_2(A) E^{-\gamma_2(A)} \quad \text{for } E > E_{\text{cut}}(A),$$

$$\text{with } K_2 = K_1 E_{\text{cut}}^{\gamma_2 - \gamma_1} \quad E_{\text{cut}}(Z) = E_{\text{cut}}(\text{Fe}) \cdot Z/26$$

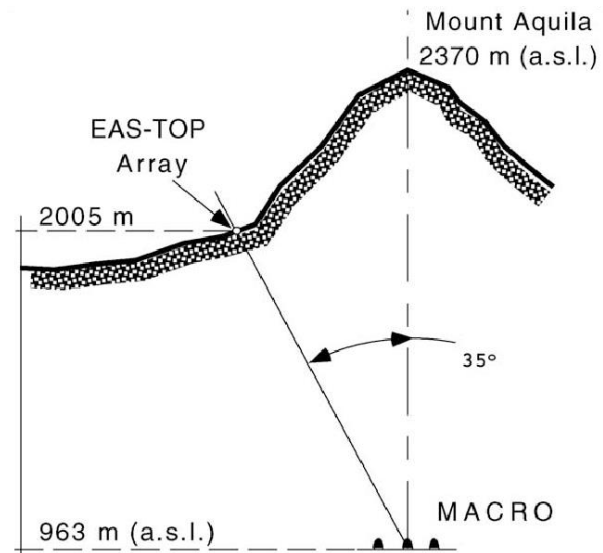
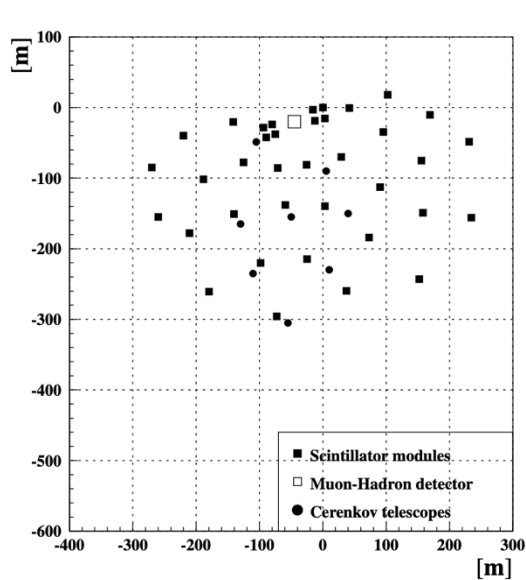




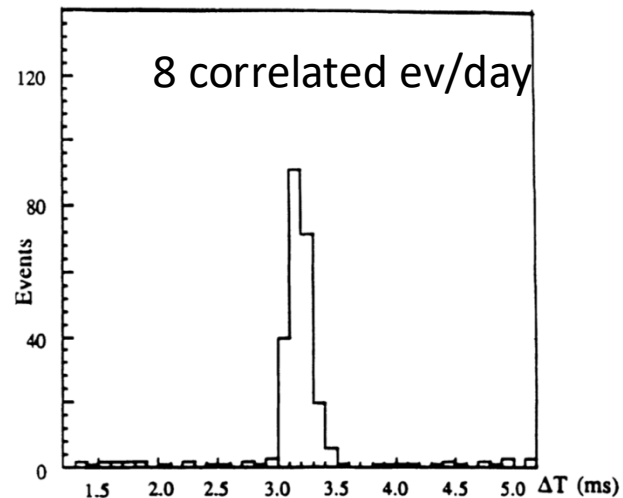
MACRO multimueon data show sensitivity to the energy steepening above the knee.



EAS-TOP-MACRO

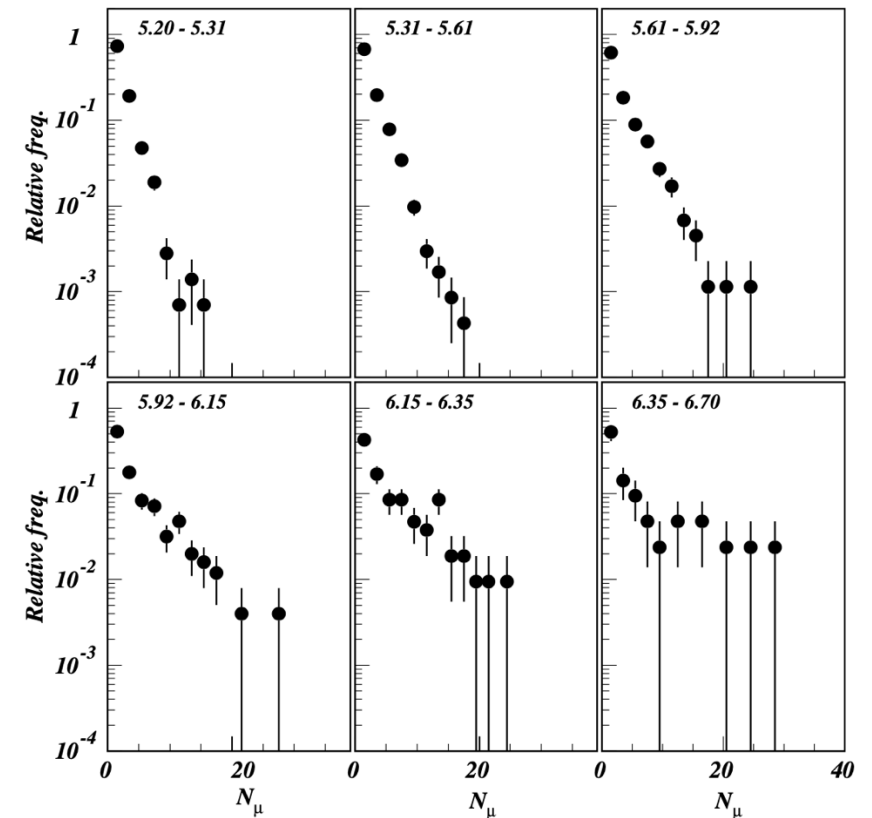


27-Jun-2025



Correlating EAS-TOP sizes N_e to MACRO UG muon multiplicities N_μ

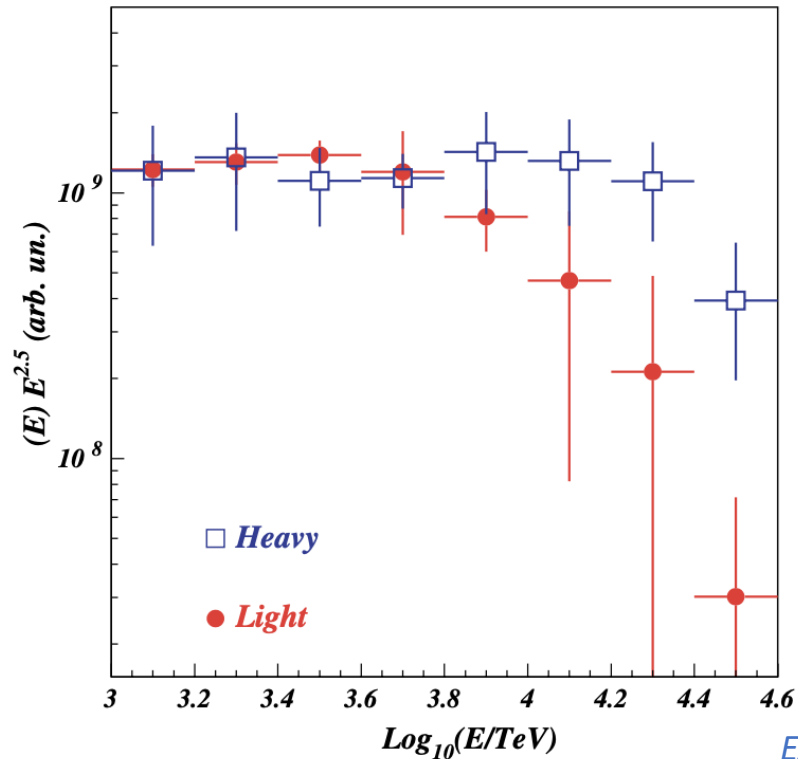
M. Aglietta et al. / Astroparticle Physics 20 (2004) 641–652



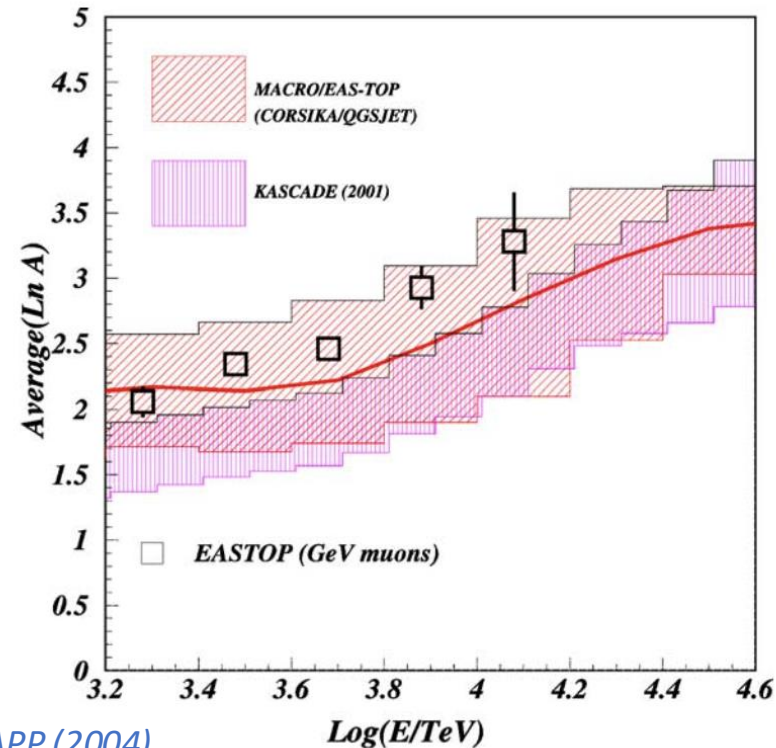
CORSIKA simulation. Five samples with different nuclear masses have been generated:

- grouped into [L] proton + helium and [H] magnesium + iron

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{\text{exp}} - p_L N_i^L - p_H N_i^H)^2}{\sigma_{i,\text{exp}}^2 + (p_L \sigma_{i,L})^2 + (p_H \sigma_{i,H})^2}$$



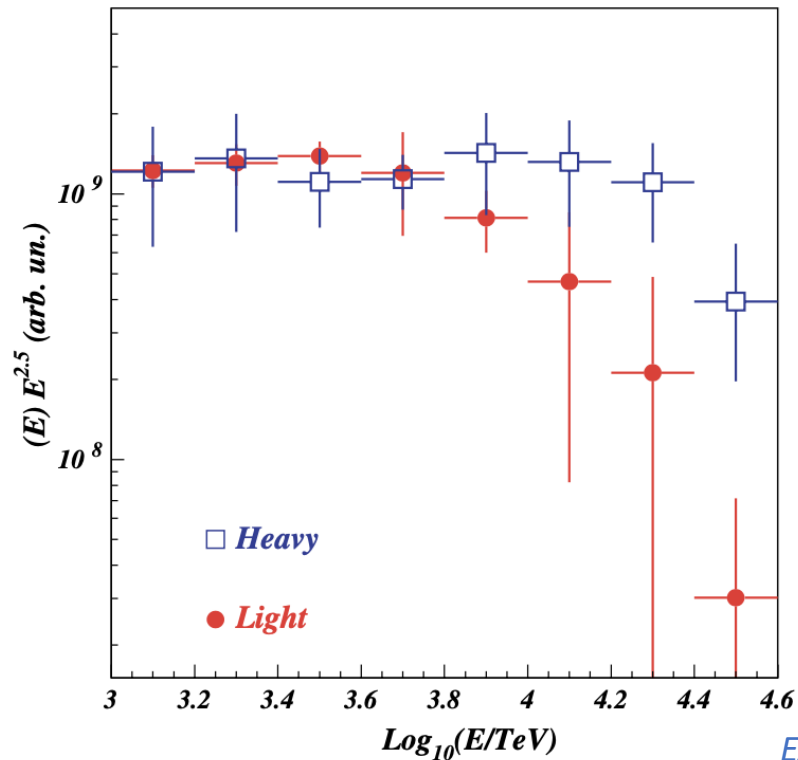
EAS-TOP-MACRO Coll., APP (2004)



CORSIKA simulation. Five samples with different nuclear masses have been generated:

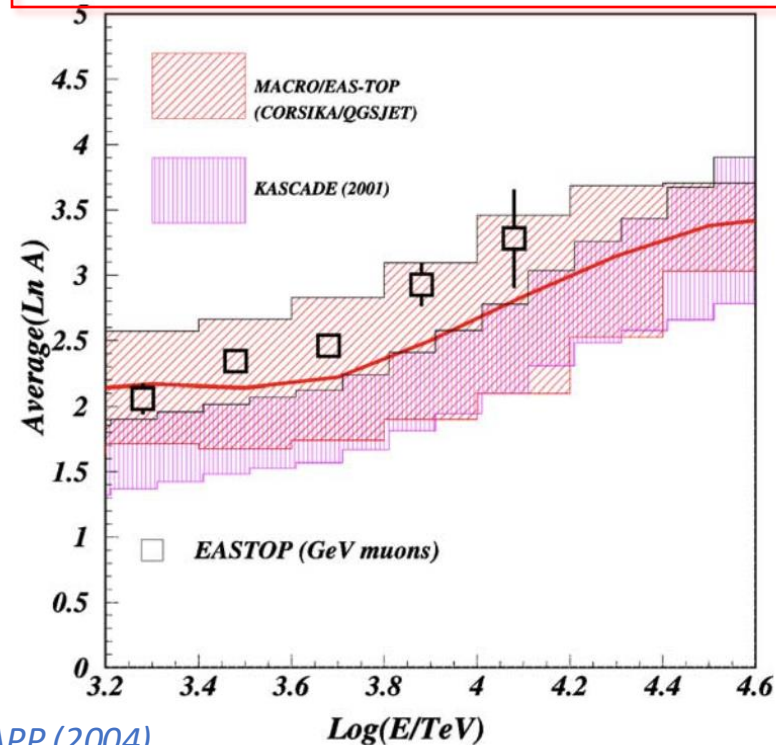
- grouped into [L] proton + helium and [H] magnesium + iron

$$\chi^2 = \sum_i \frac{(N_i^{\text{exp}} - p_L N_i^L - p_H N_i^H)^2}{\sigma_{i,\text{exp}}^2 + (p_L \sigma_{i,L})^2 + (p_H \sigma_{i,H})^2}$$



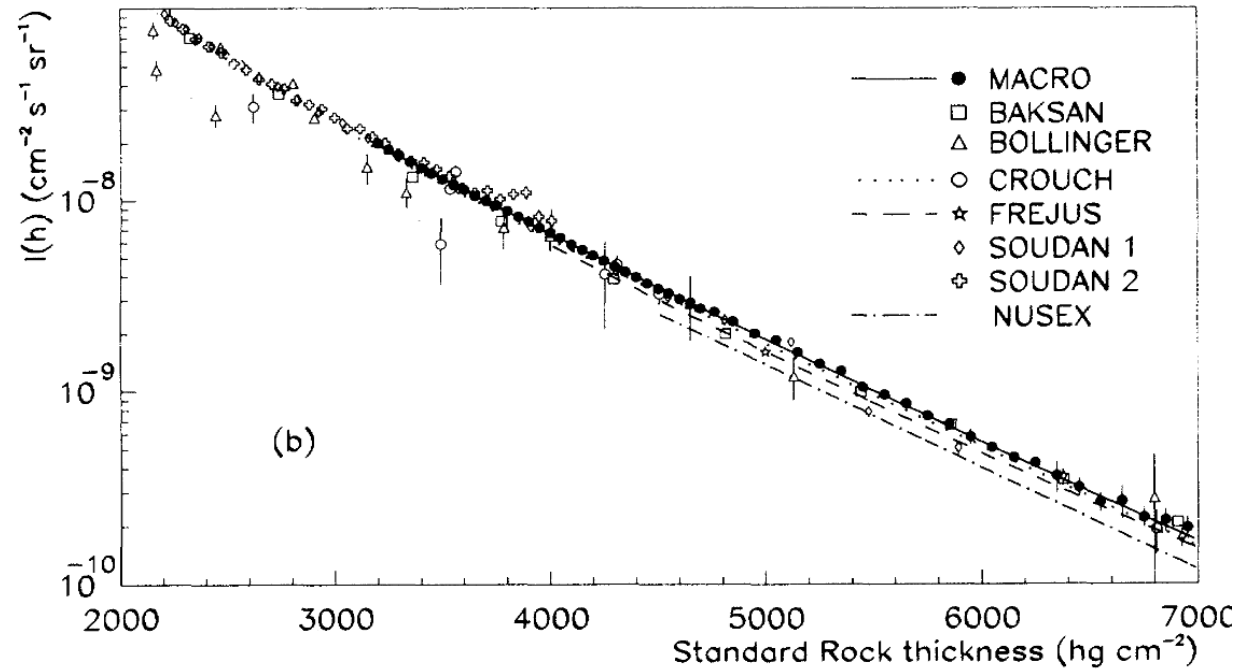
EAS-TOP-MACRO Coll., APP (2004)

Also correlation of EAS-TOP Cherenkov light to MACRO UG muons exploited to get spectrum for p+He (80 TeV) and p+He+CNO (250 TeV)

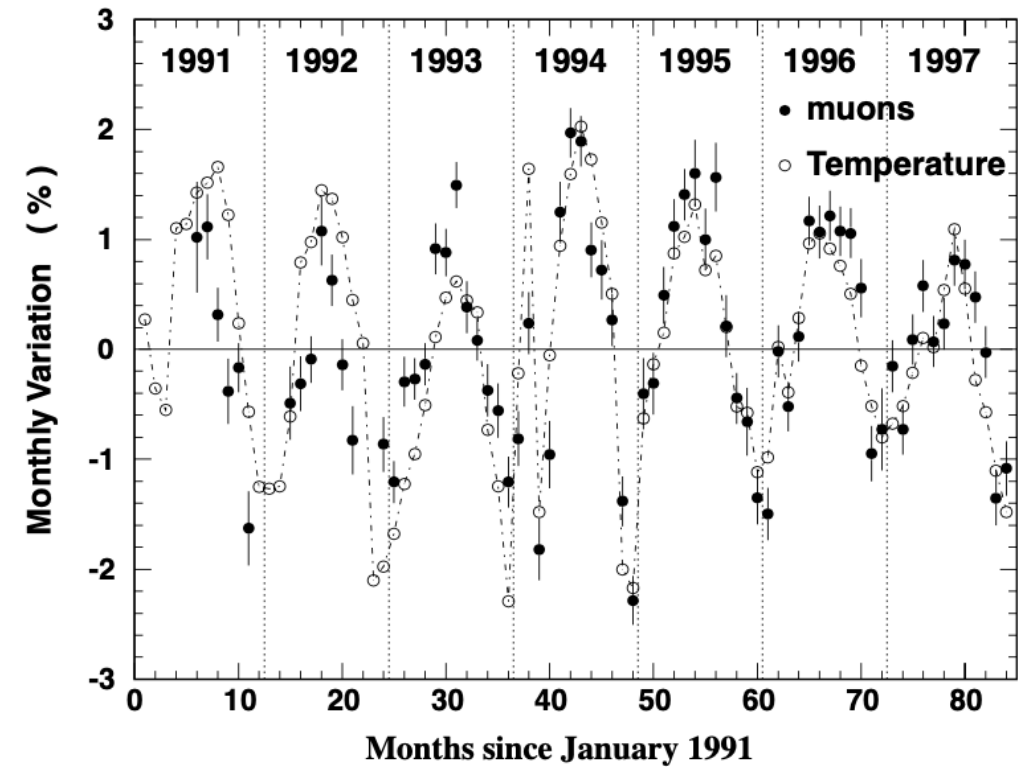


Other UG muons results

Vertical muon intensity



Muon rates vs temperature



The heritage

- After MACRO some of us “captured” by Cosmic Rays
- I took part to Paris UNESCO meeting (1998), the “official” launch of **Pierre Auger project**. Aurelio also showed interest
- A new “Cosmic Ray” adventure: from Appennines to Andes



*“...E quindi uscimmo a riveder le stelle”
“...And thence we came forth to see again the stars”
(La Divina Commedia. Dante Alighieri)*

Backup slides

The birth of Underground Laboratories

- Underground labs are needed to reduce `noise`
- R. Davis ^{37}Cl Experiment (1960's) on solar neutrinos probably **the father of all large UG labs**
- In the late 1970's a strong boost to build UG experiments from
Grand Unified Theories (GUT)
- GUT's (from Georgi & Glashow, 1974) predict **nucleon instability**: expected decay times $\sim 10^{30}$ yr for SU(5), larger $10^{32} \div 10^{34}$ yr for SO(10), SUSY-GUT
- Many experiments with sensitivity \mathcal{O} (kt-yr) since early 80's searching for proton-decay
- Two classes:
 - Fine grained tracking calorimeters: Kolar GF (India), Nusex, Frejus (Europe), Soudan (USA)
 - Water Cherenkov: IMB, HPW (USA), Kamioka (Japan)
- All hosted in disused mines or in side-halls of road tunnels

The birth of Gran Sasso Laboratory (LNGS)

1979: Proposal by A. Zichichi to Italian Parliament

Initial ideas for new detectors. Two main directions: solar neutrinos, proton decay

1982: Approval of LNGS construction

New collaborations formed, new detector designs

Symposium on Underground Physics, Saint-Vincent, Italy, April 1985

1987: Construction completed

1989: Start data taking of first large experiment (MACRO)

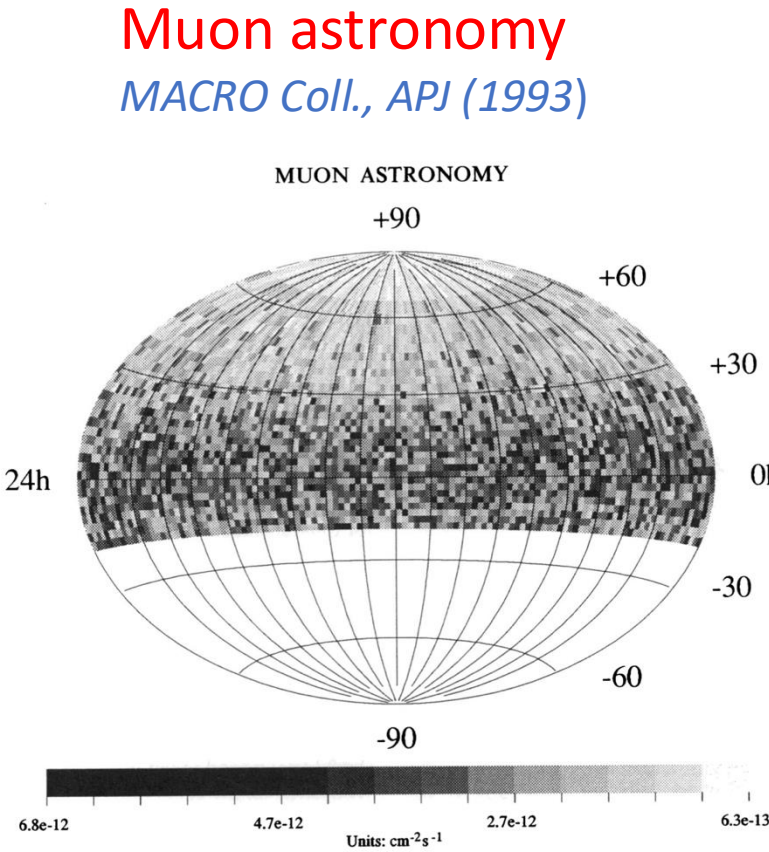
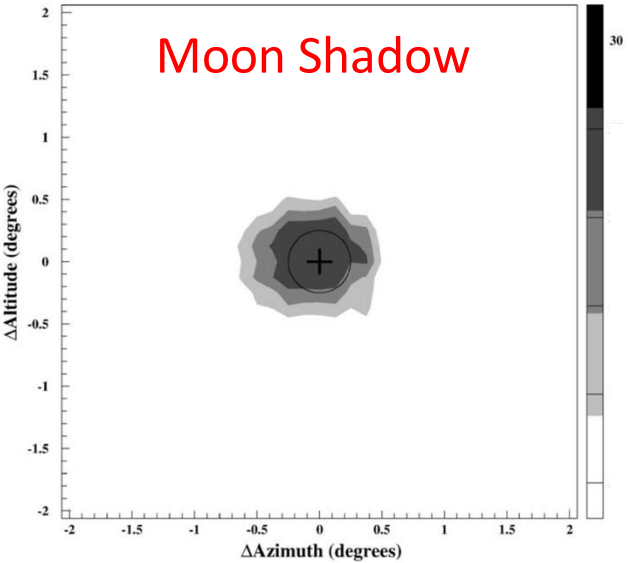


FIG. 7.—The 95% confidence limits on the muon flux for the all-sky survey in equatorial coordinates

Muon astronomy

MACRO Coll., APJ (1993)

TABLE 4
SEARCH FOR MODULATED MUON SIGNALS FROM POINT SOURCES

| Source | P_0 | Type | $W(\geq Z^2)$ | $J_{\mu}^{\text{mod}}(95\%)$ ($\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$) |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------------|---|
| 4U 0115+63 | 24.32 days ^a | Orbital | 0.79 | $<8.9 \times 10^{-13}$ |
| Crab | 33.3 ms ^b | Pulsar | 0.90 | $<1.1 \times 10^{-12}$ |
| Her X-1 | 1.70 days ^c | Orbital | 0.98 | $<9.4 \times 10^{-13}$ |
| 4U 1907+09 | 8.38 days ^d | Orbital | 0.57 | $<1.4 \times 10^{-12}$ |
| Cyg X-1 | 5.60 days ^e | Orbital | 0.68 | $<9.0 \times 10^{-13}$ |
| Cyg X-3 | 4.79 hr ^f | Orbital | 0.06 | $<1.1 \times 10^{-12}$ |

^a Ricketts et al. 1981.
^b Massaro et al. 1991.
^c Ögelman 1987.
^d Bolton 1975.
^e Makishima et al. 1984.
^f van der Klis & Bonnet-Bidaud 1989.

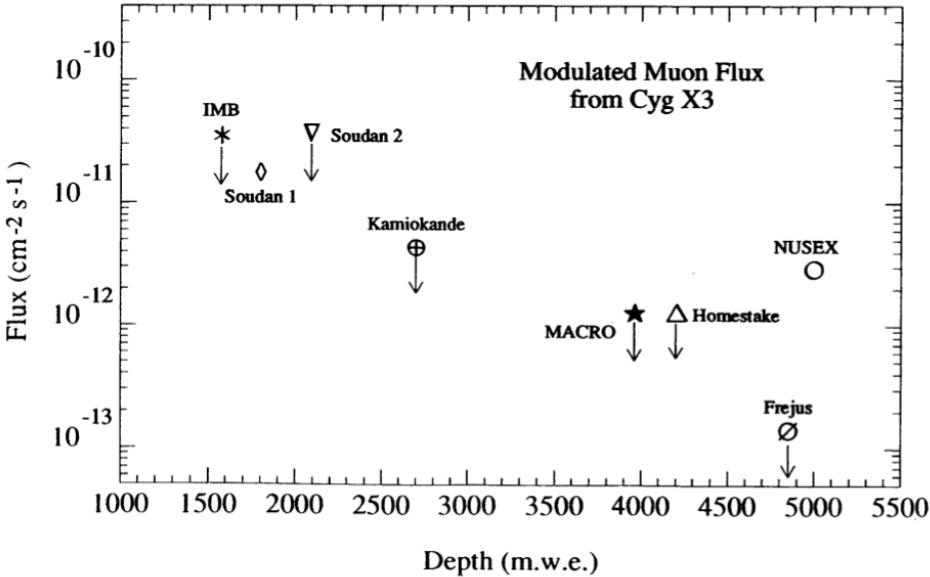
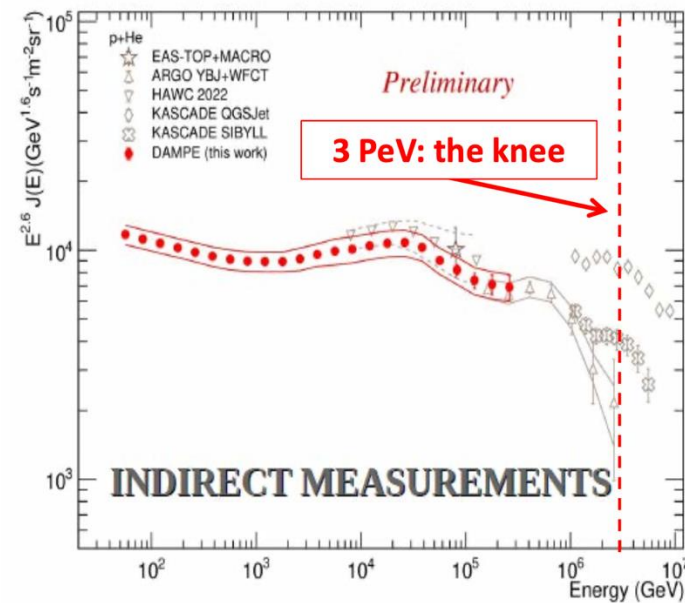
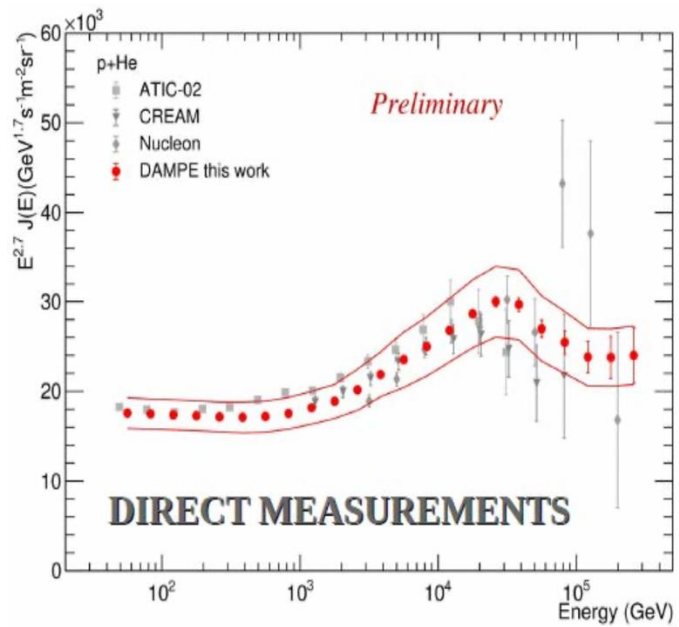
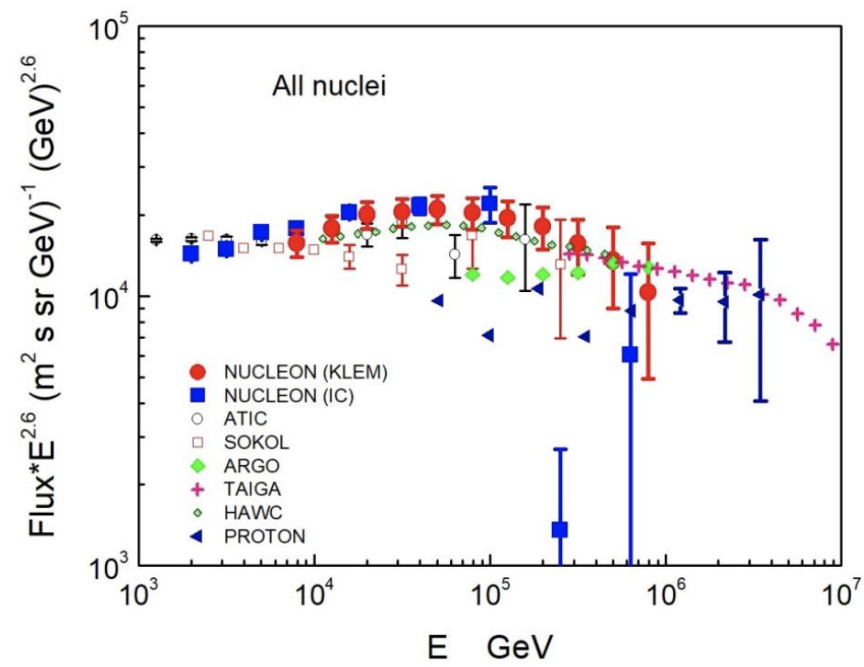


FIG. 9.—MACRO limit to the modulated muon flux from Cyg X-3 compared with the results from other underground detectors.



p+He

Correlation of EAS-TOP Cherenkov telescopes to MACRO N_μ

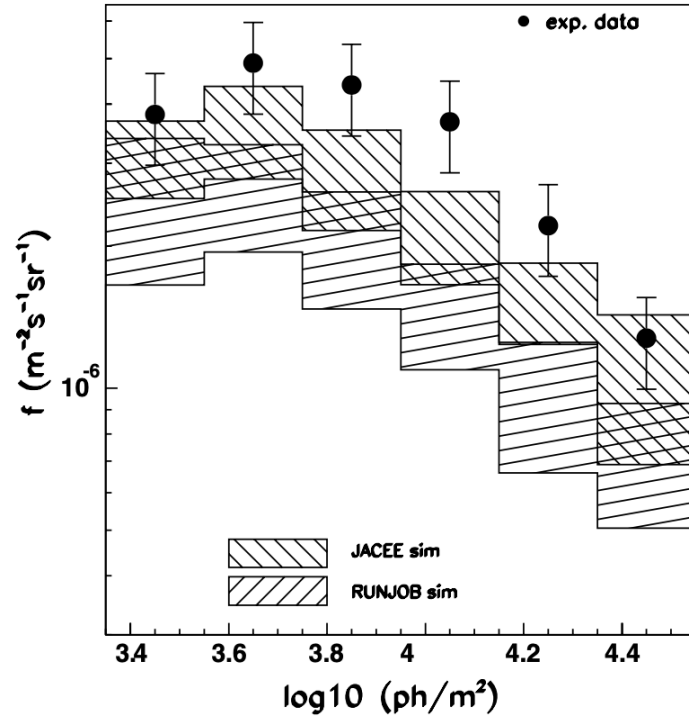


Fig. 12. Same as Fig. 11 in fixed intervals of photon density and scaling all core distances in the region $r \in [145, 185]$ m to $r \in [125, 145]$ m.

Table 5

Comparison (a) of the present results alone and (b) combined with the direct p-flux measurements, with the JACEE and RUNJOB data

| Quantity(*) | EAS-TOP and MACRO | JACEE | RUNJOB |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) $J_{p+He}(80 \text{ TeV})$ | 18 ± 4 | 12 ± 3 | 8 ± 2 |
| (b) $J_{He}(80 \text{ TeV})$ | 12.7 ± 4.4 | 6.4 ± 1.4 | 3.1 ± 0.7 |
| (b) $\frac{J_p}{J_{p+He}}(80 \text{ TeV})$ | 0.29 ± 0.09 | 0.45 ± 0.12 | 0.63 ± 0.20 |
| (a) $J_{p+He+CNO}(250 \text{ TeV})$ | 1.1 ± 0.3 | 0.7 ± 0.2 | 0.5 ± 0.1 |
| (a) $\frac{J_{p+He}}{J_{p+He+CNO}}(250 \text{ TeV})$ | 0.78 ± 0.17 | 0.70 ± 0.20 | 0.76 ± 0.25 |

CNO data and all errors of JACEE and RUNJOB are interpreted by ourselves from plots. (*)Intensity units are $10^{-7} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1} \text{ TeV}^{-1}$.