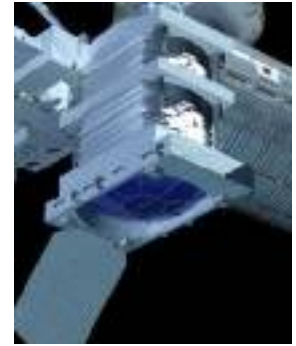
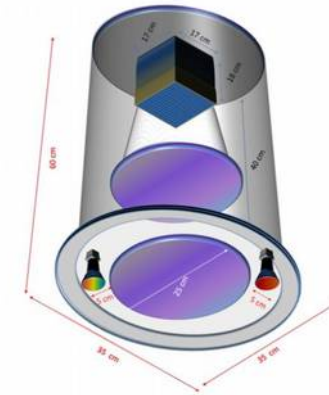
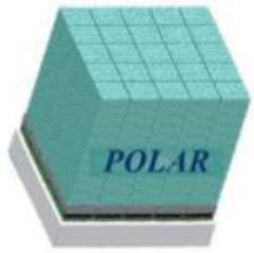


# **Eksperymenty satelitarne JEM-EUSO i POLAR – promieniowanie kosmiczne najwyższych energii.**



**Jacek Szabelski**  
**Zakład Astrofizyki**  
**Narodowego Centrum Badań Jądrowych**  
**Pracownia Fizyki Promieniowania Kosmicznego**  
**Łódź**  
**<http://ncbj.u.lodz.pl>**

**Seminarium Fizyki Jądra Atomowego,**  
**IF UW, 16 marca 2017 r.**



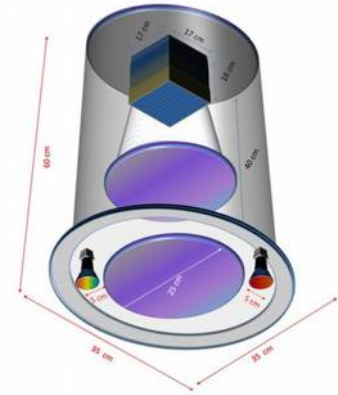
**POLAR –  
GRB polarisation  
at TianGong2  
since August 2016**

**SPB-EUSO  
NASA's Super  
Pressure Balloon,  
start in ~10 days**



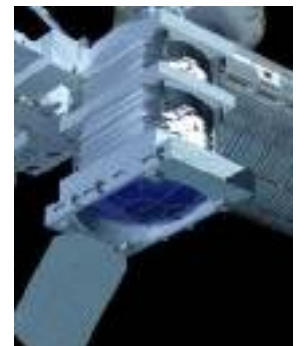
**EUSO-Balloon  
1 night flight  
from Timmins, Ontario  
in August 2014**

**Mini-EUSO  
for UV measurements  
from ISS, launch  
later 2017**



**TA-EUSO tests with  
Telescope Array  
at Utah, since 2015**

**JEM-EUSO  
the main target,  
2 tonnes telescope  
at ISS (?)**



**For all these experiments we have designed  
high voltage power supply units (HVPS),  
for POLAR we made HVPS EM model,  
for EUSO family we have made test models and flight models of HVPS**

## **Plans for further actions**

### **New experiments:**

- 1. POLAR-2 – improved but similar detector to POLAR, free flyer satellite experiment with leading Chinese role, collaboration with Swiss and Europe.**
- 2. KLYPHE – EUSO – new version of JEM-EUSO detector, with JEM-EUSO Collaboration and Russian leading role**
- 3. EUSO – SPB2 – proposal for the UHE CR (ultra high energy cosmic ray) measurements using NASA's Super Pressure Balloon technology, with US leading role.**

**POLAR data analysis (participation in Collaboration).**

### **Further participation in \*-EUSO tests:**

- A) Continuation of participation in EUSO-TA measurements and data analysis, modernisation of EUSO-TA detector, invitation of students for shifts and data analysis.**
- B) Data analysis from SBP-EUSO – measurements of CR EAS (Extensive Air Shower) with energies above  $1E18$  eV are expected.**
- C) Data analysis from Mini-EUSO.**
- D) Development of HVPS system (high voltage power supply) – towards large detector, further optimisation of power consumption.**

## **(Tentative) plan of this talk**

- 1) Most energetic events in the Universe
- 2) Energy balance of **GRBs** (gamma ray bursts)
- 3) Compton scattering – the method  
for  $\gamma$ -ray polarisation measurements
- 4) **POLAR** detector
- 5) **POLAR** expected results (polarisation vs. no-polarisation)
- 6) Ultra high energy cosmic rays (**UHE CR**) – unknown origin
- 7) **EUSO** method to measure **UHE CR**
- 8) Telescope description
- 9) Test experiments (balloons, desert, ISS)
- 10) Summary

## **Four hypothetical astrophysical types of ultra high energy cosmic ray sources**

- galaxy cluster accretion shocks,
- AGNs – active galactic nuclei
- pulsars,
- GRBs – gamma ray bursts.

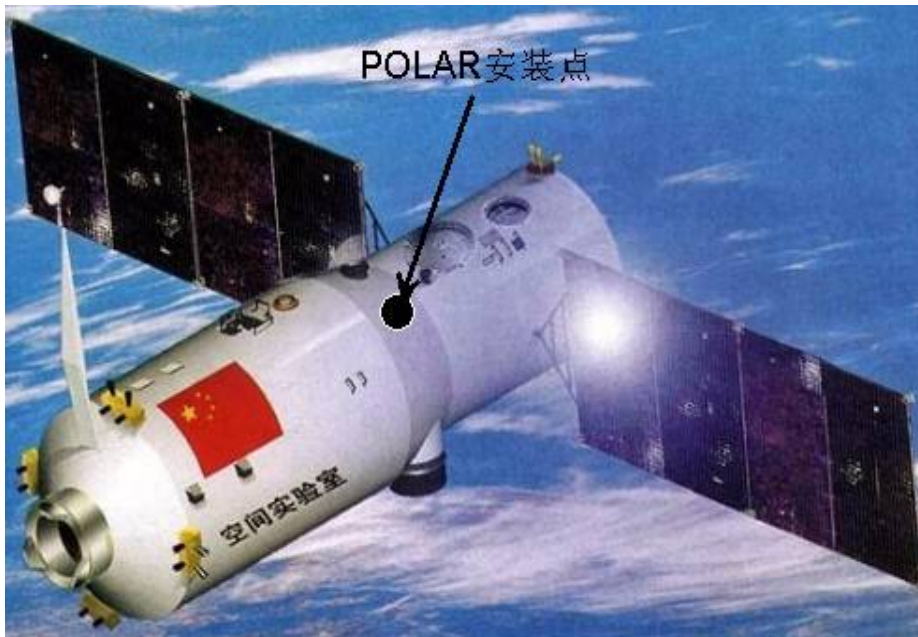
## **Another (unlikely) option**

so called “top – down” mechanism of UHE CR production:  
decay of very heavy particles, unknown yet.

# POLAR Experiment

*POLAR is a Compton polarimeter devoted to study the prompt emission of Gamma Ray Bursts in the energy range 50–500 keV.  
( N. Produit, et al., NIM (2005))*

**Compact detector (~30 kg, sensitive volume ~30x30x18 cm<sup>3</sup>)**  
**Field of view: ~1/3 of half sky**  
**Minimum detectable polarisation (MDP): < ~10%**  
**expected gain: ~10 strong GRB / year**



- mounted on Chinese spacelab TG-2
- launched in Sept. 15, 2016
- lifespan: ~ 3 years



# What is interesting in GRBs ?

GRBs are the most energetic events  
in the Universe  
observed in electromagnetic radiation.

GRBs are observed on average once per day, nowadays.  
The first detection in 1967.

- Basic observations are made from satellites which see **short lasting pulses** of gamma ray photons (keV energies).
- Each pulse from one direction. Pulses arrive **always from different direction**.
- Pulse lasts **from ~10 milliseconds to a few hours**.
- Gamma ray flux intensities within a pulse are **always different**.

The sources type, origin, mechanism of production **are unknown**.

# What is interesting in GRBs ?

GRBs are the most energetic events in the Universe observed in electromagnetic radiation.

Still, more energetic known events in the Universe are:

1. Big Bang – origin of the Universe
2. sources of gravitational waves (recently observed)

GRBs are observed on average once per day, nowadays.  
The first detection in 1967.

- Basic observations are made from satellites which see **short lasting pulses** of gamma ray photons (keV energies).
- Each pulse from one direction. Pulses arrive **always from different direction.**
- Pulse lasts from **~10 milliseconds to a few hours.**
- Gamma ray flux intensities within a pulse are **always different.**

The sources type, origin, mechanism of production **are unknown.**



# GRB astro-physics

Cosmic X-rays can not penetrate the Earth's atmosphere, so measurements have to be done at satellites or stratospheric balloons.

GRBs are always observed from different directions on the sky, and this suggests that the emission process is catastrophic, i.e. the source can do it only once (e.g. extremely huge explosions (?)).

The size of the emitting object is limited by the short time of the GRB.

**GRBs are at cosmological distances.**

Sometimes it was possible to measure GRB optical afterglow redshift. The largest  $z$  was 9.4 (as most probable, but  $z > 7$ ).

At  $z = 7$  age of Universe was  $0.76 \cdot 10^9$  yrs (now it is  $13.83 \cdot 10^9$  yrs)

light was travelling  $1.23 \cdot 10^{23}$  km = **4000 Mpc**.

The nearest GRB was about **40 Mpc from us**.

## GRB astro-physics - energy

Our Sun power for the reference:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Luminosity of the Sun } L_{\odot} &= 3.8 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ W} = 2.4 \cdot 10^{45} \text{ eV/s} = \\ &= 6.9 \cdot 10^7 \text{ (kg/s)} \cdot c^2 = 69000 \text{ (tons/s)} \cdot c^2 \\ &\text{(Sun mass } M_{\odot} = 2 \cdot 10^{30} \text{ kg)} \end{aligned}$$

Distance from Earth = 1 AU =  $1.5 \cdot 10^8$  km

At the Earth distance the Sun power density =  $1350 \text{ W/m}^2$

For GRB at 200 Mpc, and for POLAR visible burst (min. 1000 gammas):

POLAR effective area is about  $11 \text{ cm}^2$ ,  
therefore  $1000 \gamma / 0.0011 \text{ m}^2 = 9.1 \cdot 10^5 \gamma/\text{m}^2$ .

Average gamma energy is about 100 keV,

so during such GRB energy density is  $9.1 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ eV/m}^2 = 1.46 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ J/m}^2$

If the source emitted **isotropically**,

then **it emitted**  $7 \cdot 10^{42} \text{ J} = 7.7 \cdot 10^{31} \text{ kg} \cdot c^2 = 39 M_{\odot} \cdot c^2$  (within time of burst).

If GRB are emitted in a cone of angular diameter  $0.5^\circ$  (like the Sun or the Moon),  
then during above burst energy emitted =  $3.3 \cdot 10^{37} \text{ J} = 0.00018 M_{\odot}$ ,

**but** we see only one GRB of 210000 GRBs emitted in other directions.

(looks impossible !)

## GRB astro-physics – energy, cont.

For GRB at 200 Mpc, and for 1000  $\gamma$  at 11 cm<sup>2</sup> (POLAR effective area), we have following required energies:

isotropic emission:	$E = 7 \cdot 10^{42} \text{ J} = 39 M_{\odot}$ ,	we might see all GRBs,
emission in 30° cone,	$E = 1.2 \cdot 10^{41} \text{ J} = 0.66 M_{\odot}$ ,	we see 1/59 GRBs,
emission in 20° cone,	$E = 5.3 \cdot 10^{40} \text{ J} = 0.29 M_{\odot}$ ,	we see 1/132 GRBs,
emission in 8° cone,	$E = 8.5 \cdot 10^{41} \text{ J} = 0.05 M_{\odot}$ ,	we see 1/820 GRBs,
emission in 2° cone,	$E = 5.3 \cdot 10^{38} \text{ J} = 0.0029 M_{\odot}$ ,	we see 1/13000 GRBs,
emission in 0.5° cone,	$E = 3.3 \cdot 10^{37} \text{ J} = 0.00018 M_{\odot}$ ,	we see 1/210000 GRBs

Isotropic emission (in  $4\pi$ ) requires extremely large, and extremely compact objects.

Emission in the cones (like jets) requires smaller, but still large energy to be released inside the cone, only. Many events would miss the Earth (POLAR), but cones can not be too small, as we would see afterglows of them.

# GRB astro-physics - emitting object size

GRB lasts short time.

Therefore emitting object size (as we “see” it) has to be smaller than (GRB length x speed of light).

20% of GRBs are shorter than 2 s.

Light from the Sun needs 500 s to get to us.

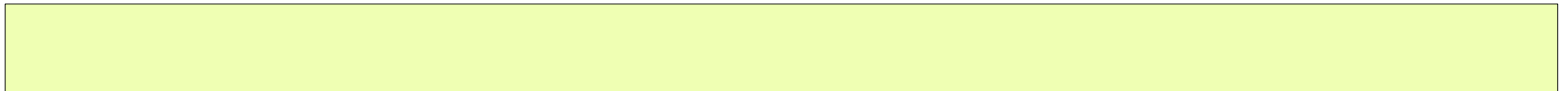
Sun radius  $R_{\odot} = 7 \cdot 10^5$  km

Sun diameter =  $14 \cdot 10^5$  km =  $14 \cdot 10^5$  km / ( $3 \cdot 10^5$  km/s)  $\cdot c = 4.7$  s  $\cdot c$

The distance to the Moon is 356000 km – 407000 km, so light travels 1.2 s - 1.35 s that distance.

**Why do we need to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?**

**How to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?**



# Why do we need to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?

Because it was not yet measured (sufficiently well).

Gamma-ray flux (light curve) is being measured, energy spectra, directions, time, in some cases afterglow in visible light can be measured, which provides opportunity to measure distances.

Our interest: GRBs are so energetic events, that they are possible candidates for cosmic ray sources. Gamma-ray emission spectrum is non-thermal, so flux of energetic particles is required.

# How to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?

## Why do we need to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?

Because it was not yet measured (sufficiently well).

Gamma-ray flux (light curve) is being measured, energy spectra, directions, time, in some cases afterglow in visible light can be measured, which provides opportunity to measure distances.

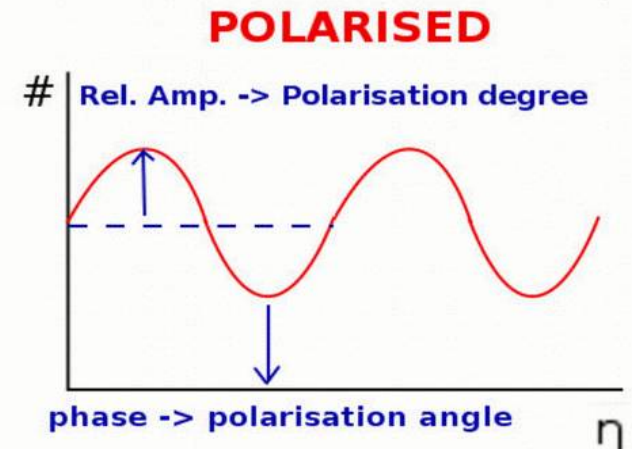
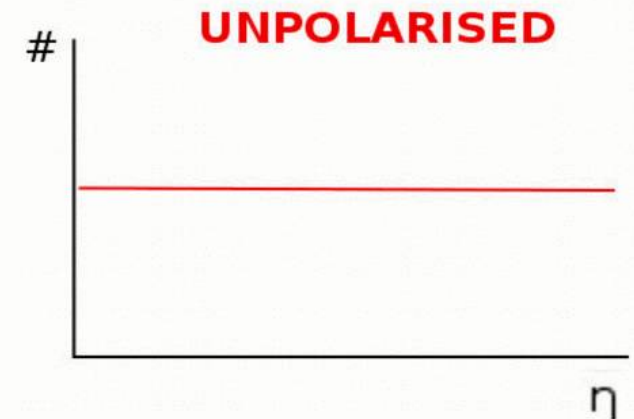
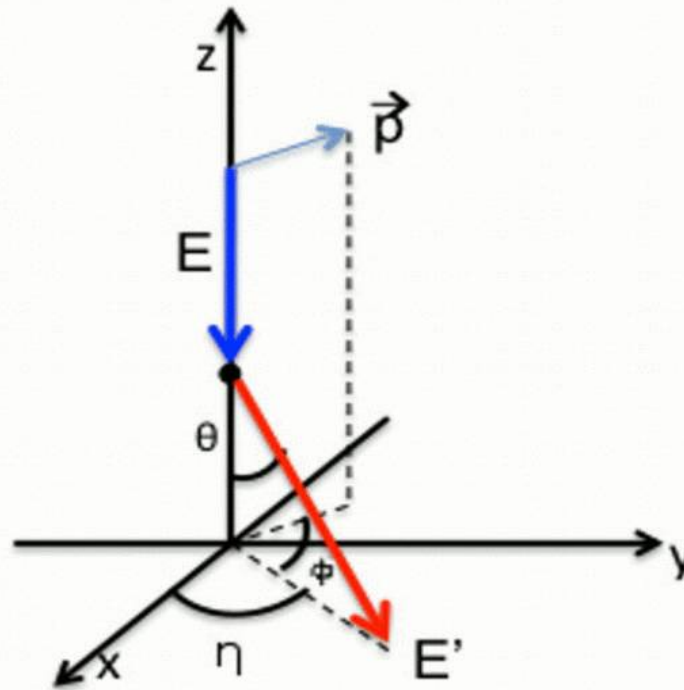
Our interest: *GRBs are so energetic events, that they are possible candidates for cosmic ray sources. Gamma-ray emission spectrum is non-thermal, so flux of energetic particles is required.*

## How to measure GRB gamma-ray polarisation?

Through measurements of azimuthal asymmetry of Compton scattering.

# Compton scattering – Klein-Nishina formula

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_0^2}{2} \frac{E'^2}{E^2} \left( \frac{E'}{E} + \frac{E}{E'} - 2 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi \right).$$



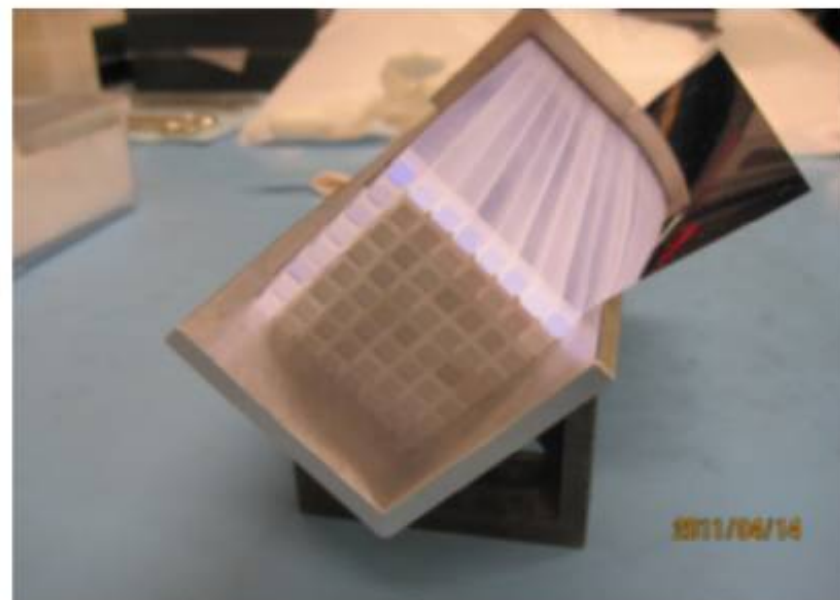
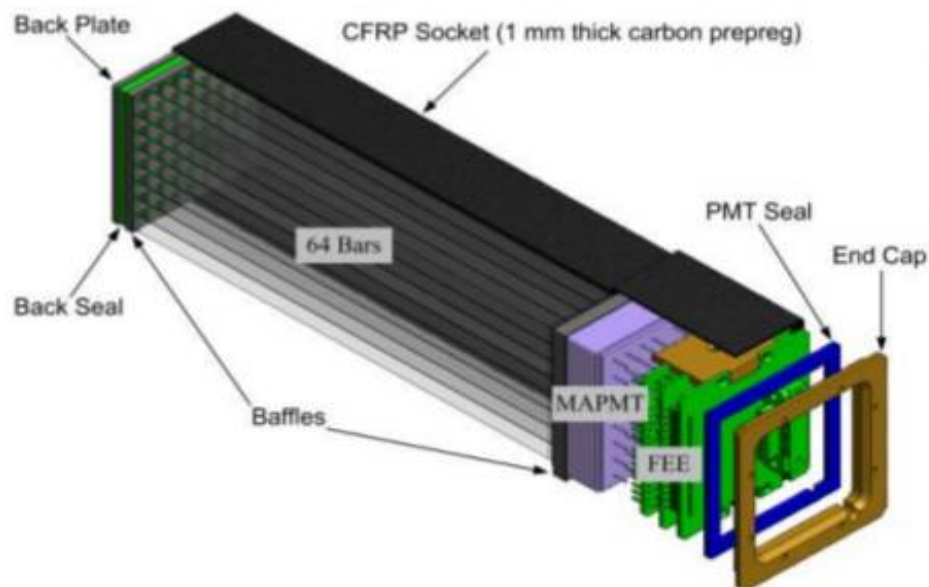
Relative amplitude is the polarisation degree measure. But to evaluate polarisation degree of the gamma flux, comparisons of measured anisotropy with simulation are necessary.



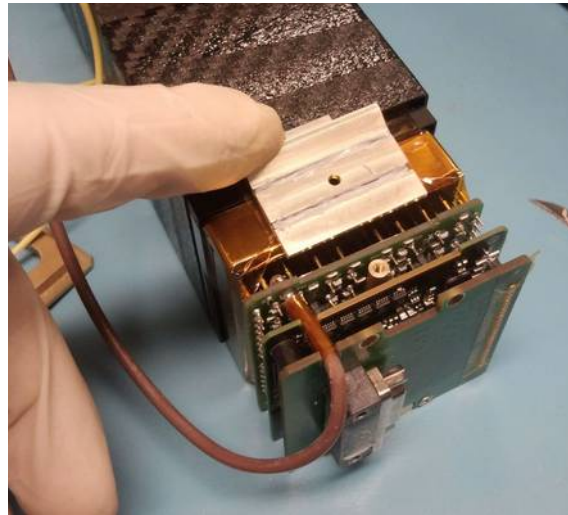
# POLAR - detector for Compton scattering asymmetry measurements

POLAR uses a segmented scintillator array to measure the Compton scattering angle  
In total 1600 plastic scintillators (BC409),  
 $5.8 \times 5.8 \times 176$  mm.

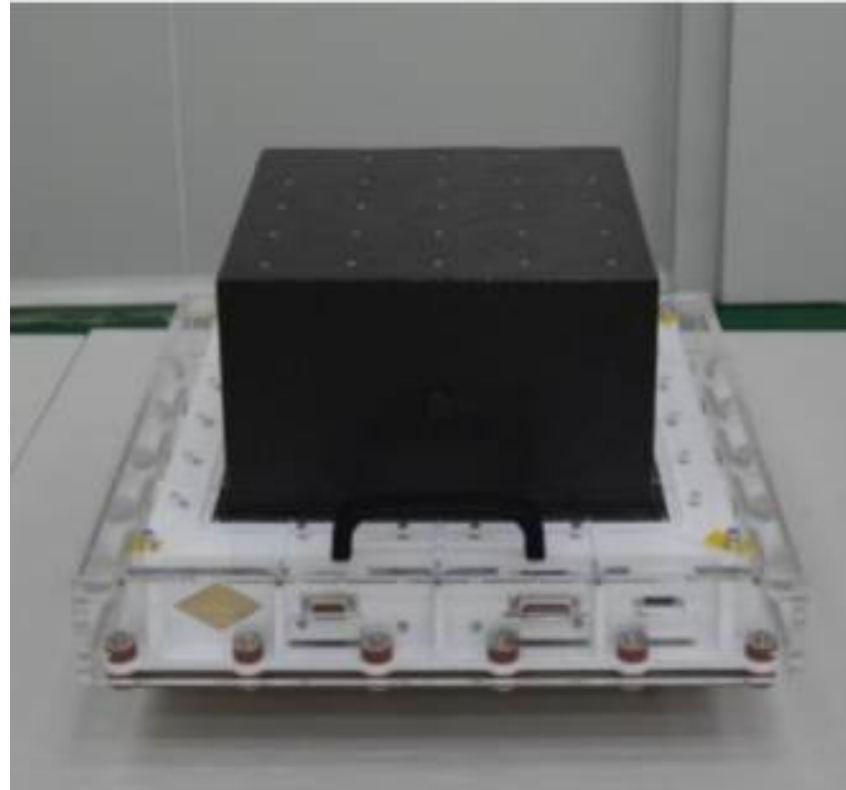
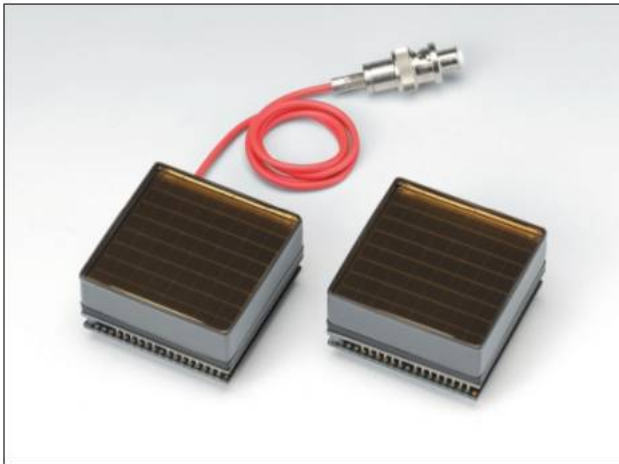
Each group of 64 scintillators is read-out using a single MAPMT (64 anodes photomultiplier, H8500 by Hamamatsu).  
Total there are 25 MAPMTs each with its own FE electronics.



# POLAR Experiment



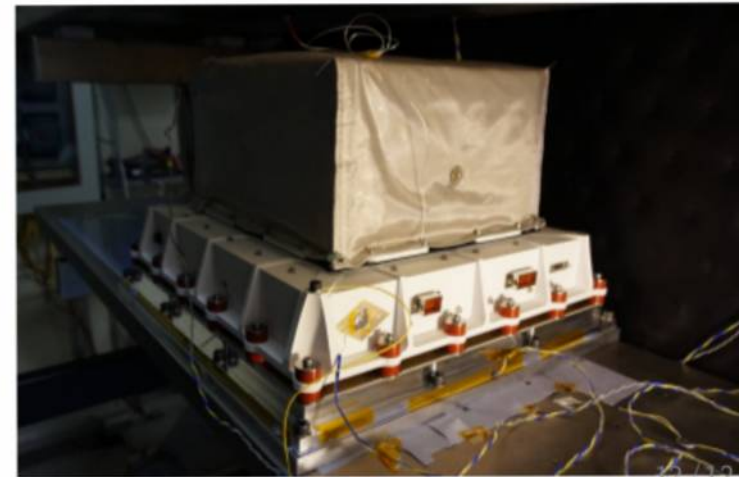
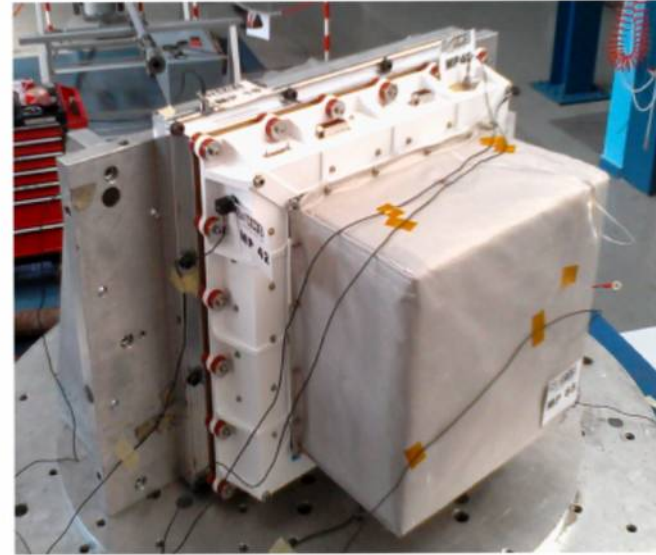
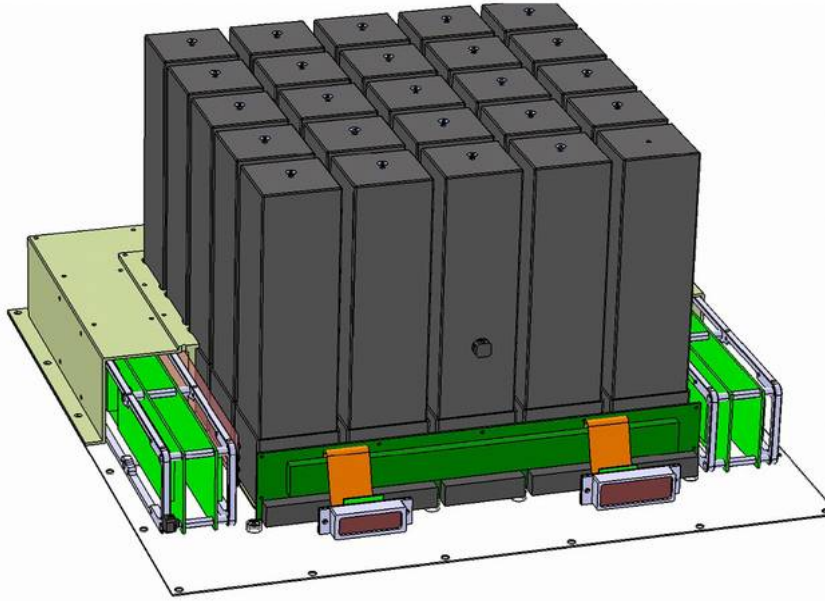
**Module:**  
scintillating bars  
with MAPMT  
are in carbon  
cover,  
FE is visible



**64 anodes photomultipliers,  
H8500 by Hamamatsu**

**In POLAR we have 25 PMTs HAMAMATSU R10551-00-M64**

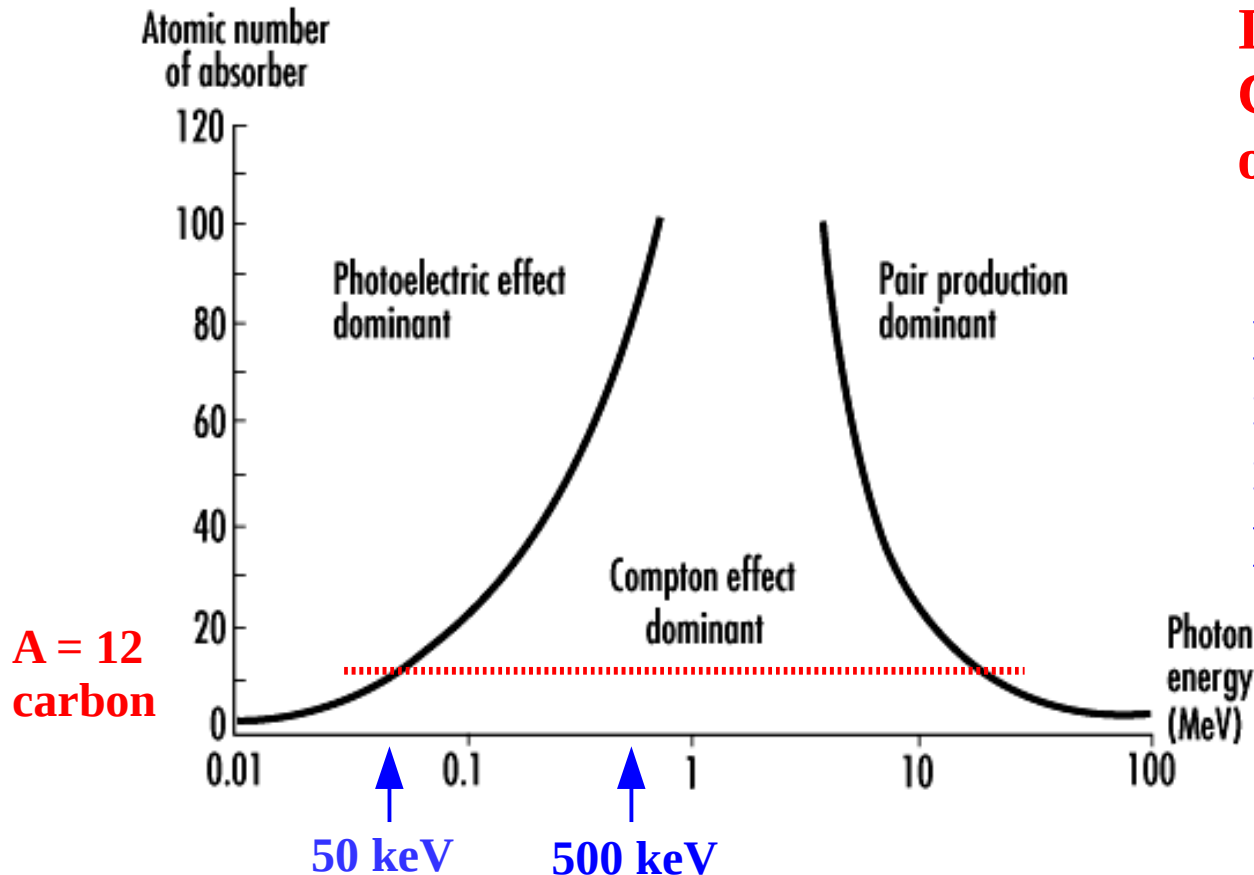
# POLAR detector



at Terni (Italy) vacuum thermal tests

# How to measure gamma polarisation: Compton scattering

**POLAR is measuring polarisation of gamma rays  
in energy range 50 – 500 keV  
by measuring azimuthal asymmetry in the first gamma interaction.**

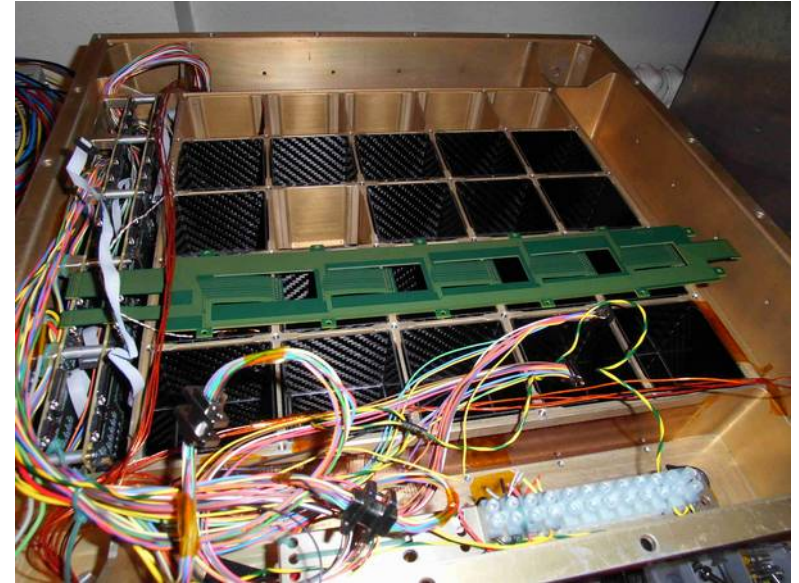
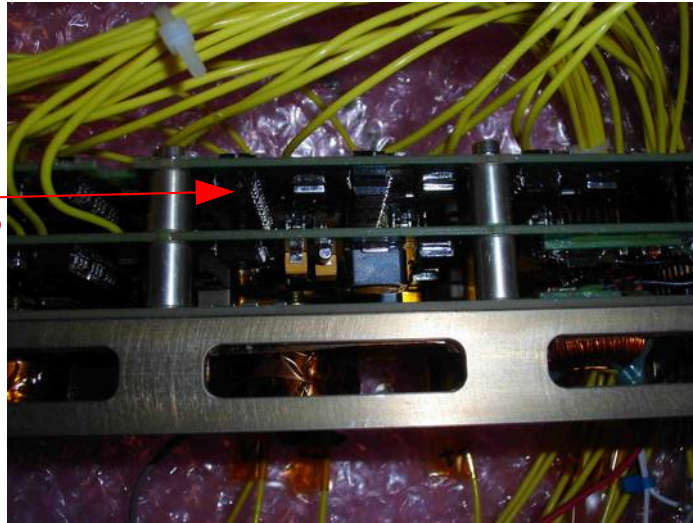


**Interesting process is  
Compton scattering  
of gammas on electrons**

**Higher energy limit  
is due to background  
induced by charged cosmic ray  
particles.**

# **POLAR HVPS designed in NCBJ-Łódź, made by AoT, Zurich, Switzerland**

**separate  
“current sources”  
to set individual  
HV for each  
MA PMT**

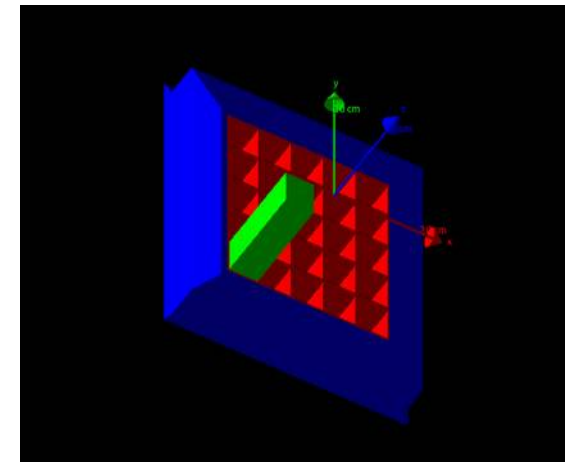
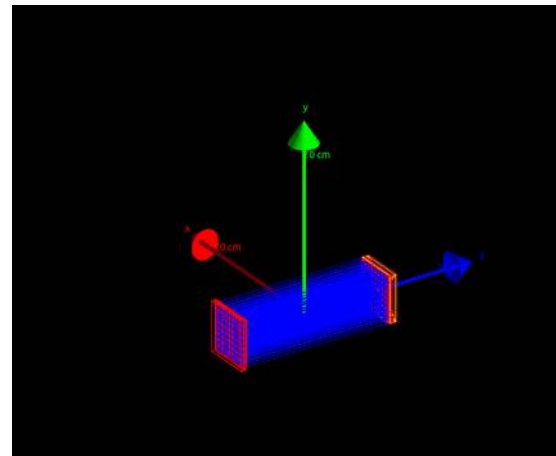
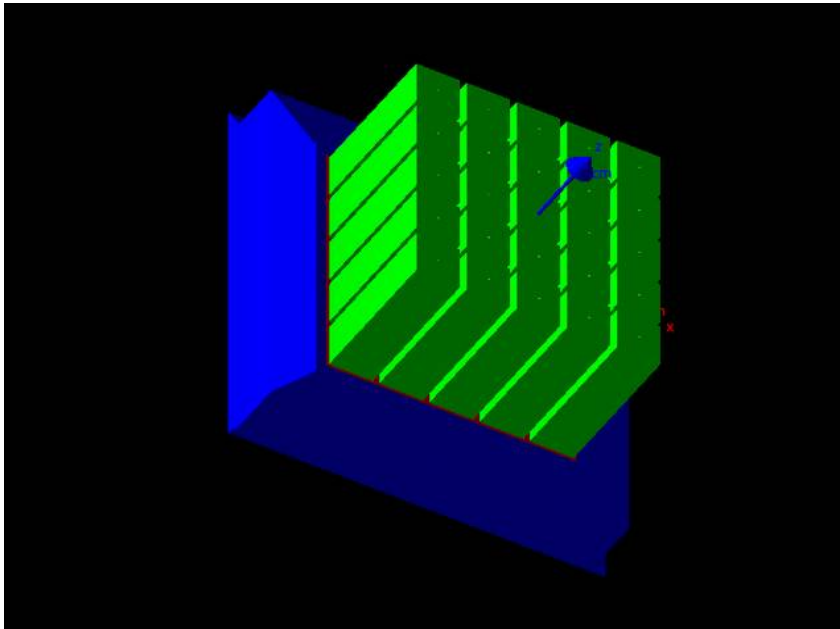
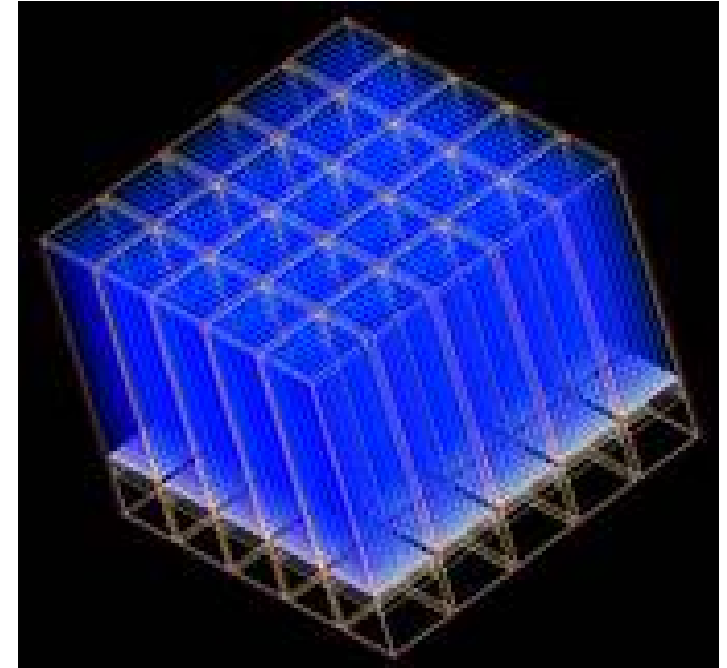


**4-fold  
redundancy  
in HV generators**



# POLAR - detector for Compton scattering asymmetry measurements

Geant4 simulations are necessary to evaluate measured polarisation.

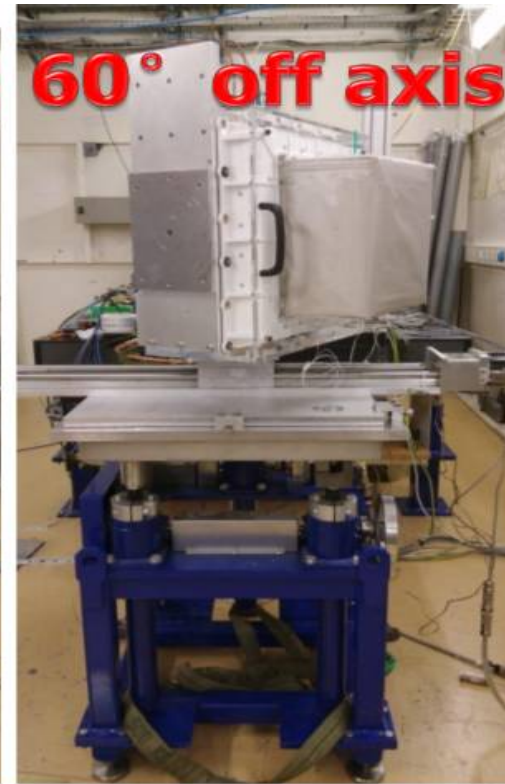
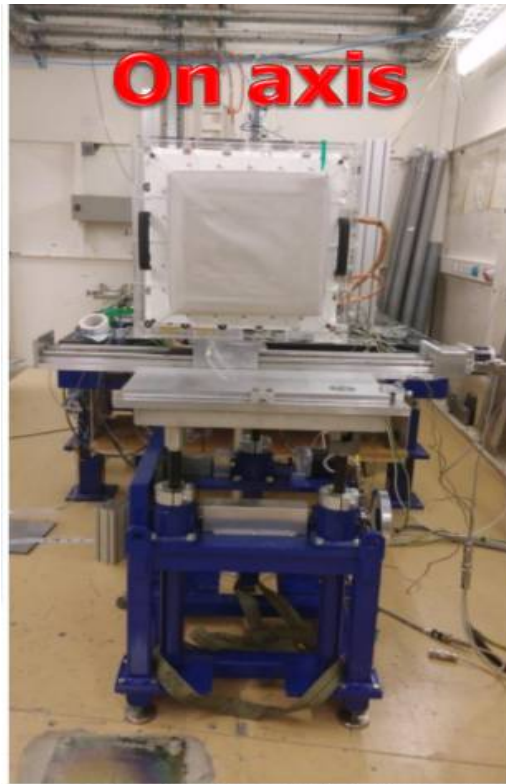


## **POLAR calibration at ESRF in Grenoble (2015)**

**The ESRF - the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility**

**100 % polarised gamma beam, beam size 0.5 cm x 0.5 cm,  
photon intensities:  $10^3$  phs/s –  $10^4$  phs/s**

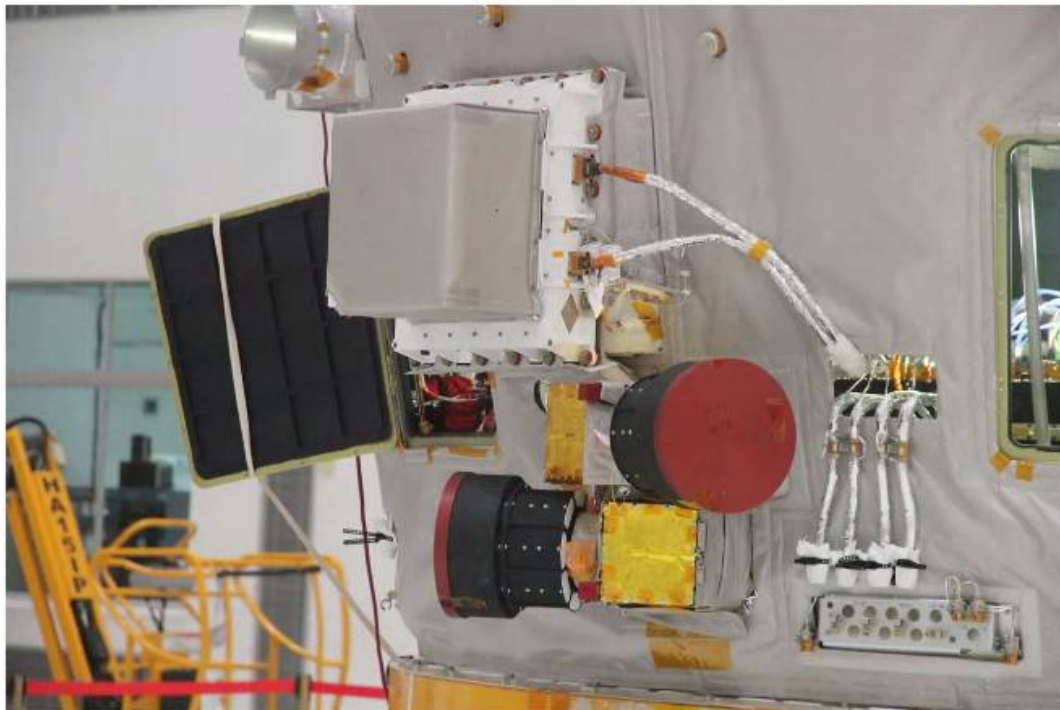
**4 gamma energies: 60 keV, 80 keV, 110 keV, 140 keV**



# **POLAR fixed to TG-2**

POLAR has been mounted: OBOX

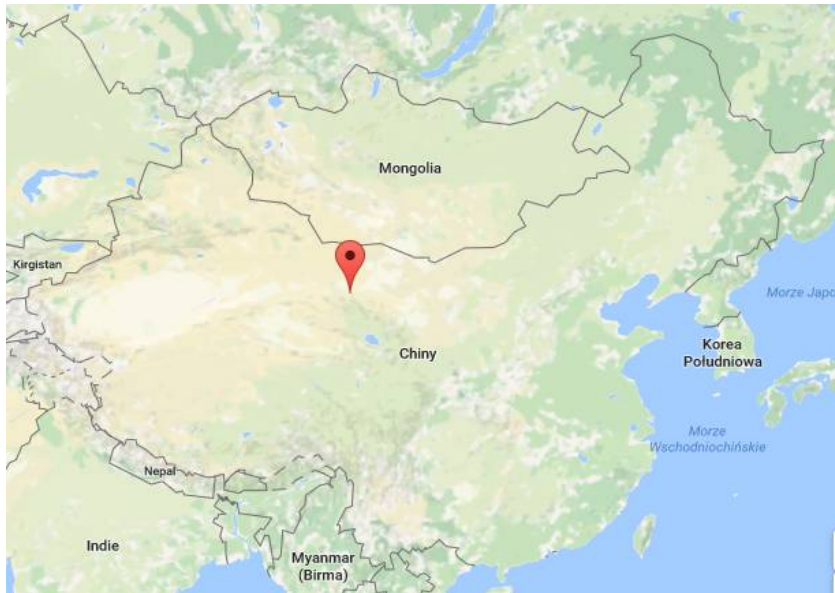
OBOX on TG2





# Experiment goes to space

Launch on the September 15, 2016,  
from the Chinese Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center.  
Rocket: Chang Zheng-2F  
Module: Tiangong-2 (TG-2) – test space laboratory.



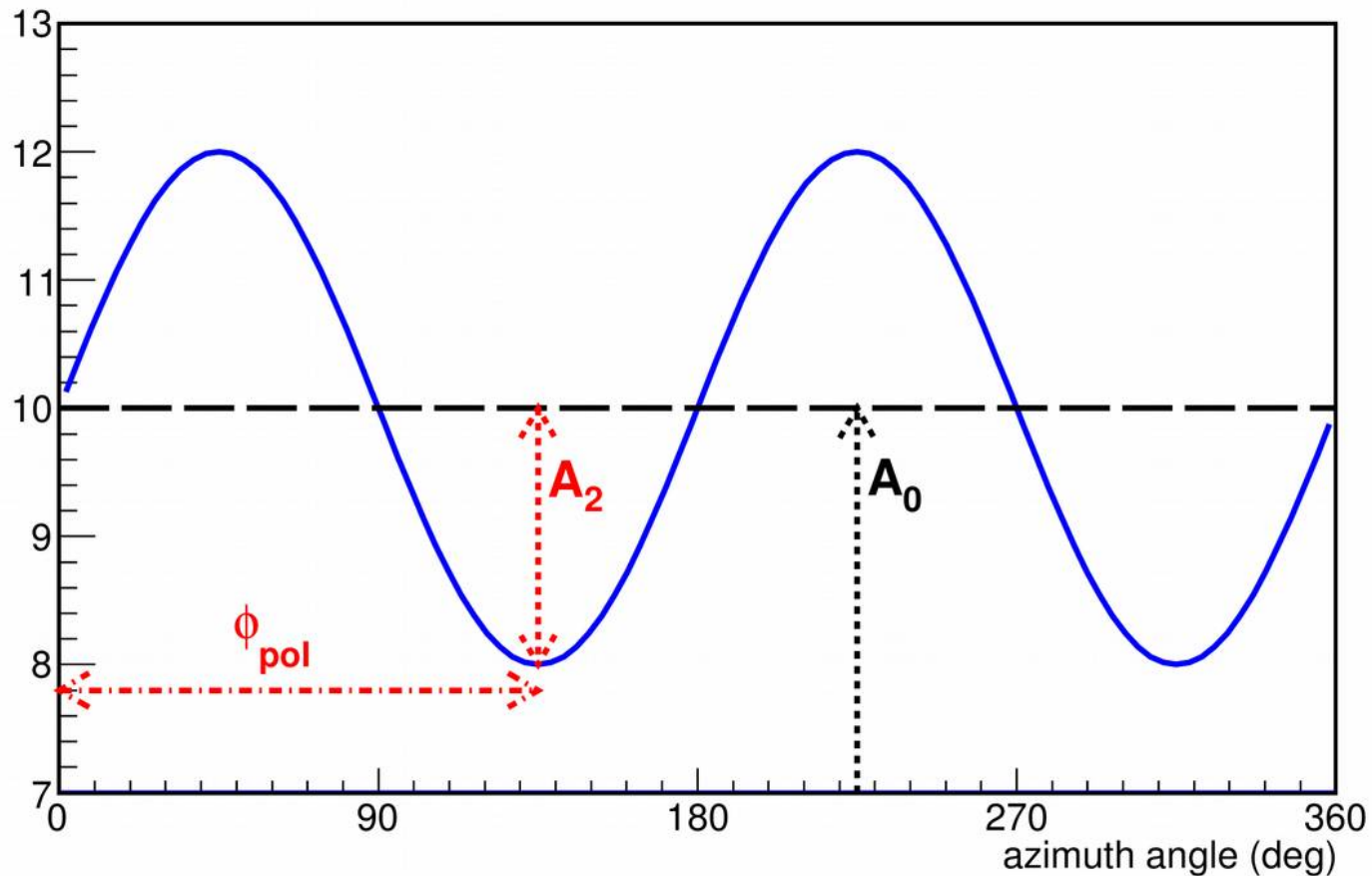
# basic definitions

polarised beam Compton scattering  $\rightarrow \sin(2\cdot\varphi)$  dependence

**A2 – sinus amplitude**

**A0 – average value**

**A2/A0 – polarisation level (for  $\gamma$ -beam),  
or relative amplitude (for  
measurements)**



# GRB polarisation measurements

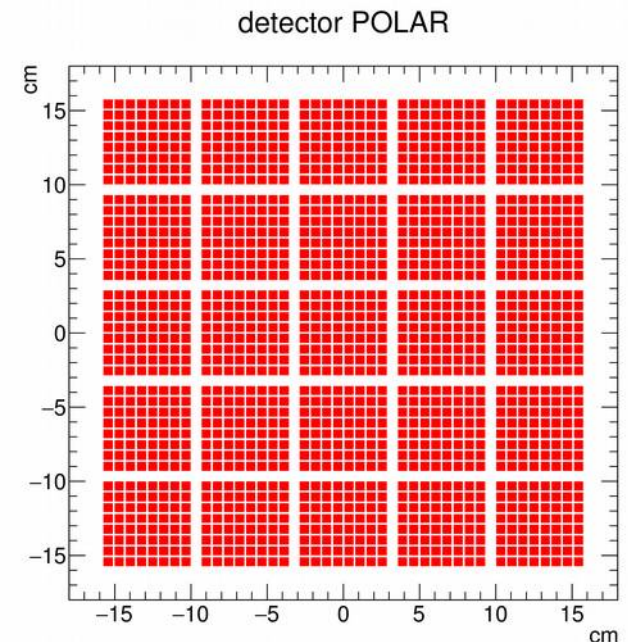
To measure GRB polarisation degree we have following scheme:

1. pair of scintillation bars measured during GRB are selected,
2. azimuth angle is evaluated,
3. azimuth angle distribution is made,
4. with Fourier analysis (or equivalent)  $A_0$ , and  $A_2$  (period  $180^\circ$ ) are evaluated,
5. relative modulation  $A_2/A_0$  is evaluated,
6. from comparison with Monte-Carlo simulation results (made for the same directions, spectrum, background etc., and for 100% polarisation) GRB polarisation degree can be evaluated.

**This looks relatively simple, but there is a problem  
uniformity of detector response.**

**We are still working on that.**

**POLAR is measuring 1-3 GRB light curves  
every week.**



# **GRB polarisation**

**Most of GRB emission models predict measurable polarisation degree. For models with jets, polarisation degree might depend on relative angle between gamma flux direction (to us) and jet direction. But polarisation degree distributions (for different GRBs) are different for different models.**

**Result with no polarisation would be probably the most interesting. However, the described method always gives positive result to  $A_2/A_0$ , so we can only set an upper limit for low level polarisation. This limit depends on the number of events measured during GRB.**

# Cosmic rays

**Astrophysics (primary cosmic rays):**

**energetic stable particles**

**energetic – non-thermal energy distribution**

**energy range up to about  $10^{20}$  eV (is there a limit ?)**

**stable particles:**

**protons, nuclei, electrons, gammas, neutrinos,  
anti-protons, positrons**

**Secondary cosmic rays:**

**secondary energetic particles in atmosphere**

**generated by primary cosmic rays**

**coherent events: EAS (extensive air showers)**

**cascades of gammas, electrons/positrons, muons  
and hadrons**

**muons**

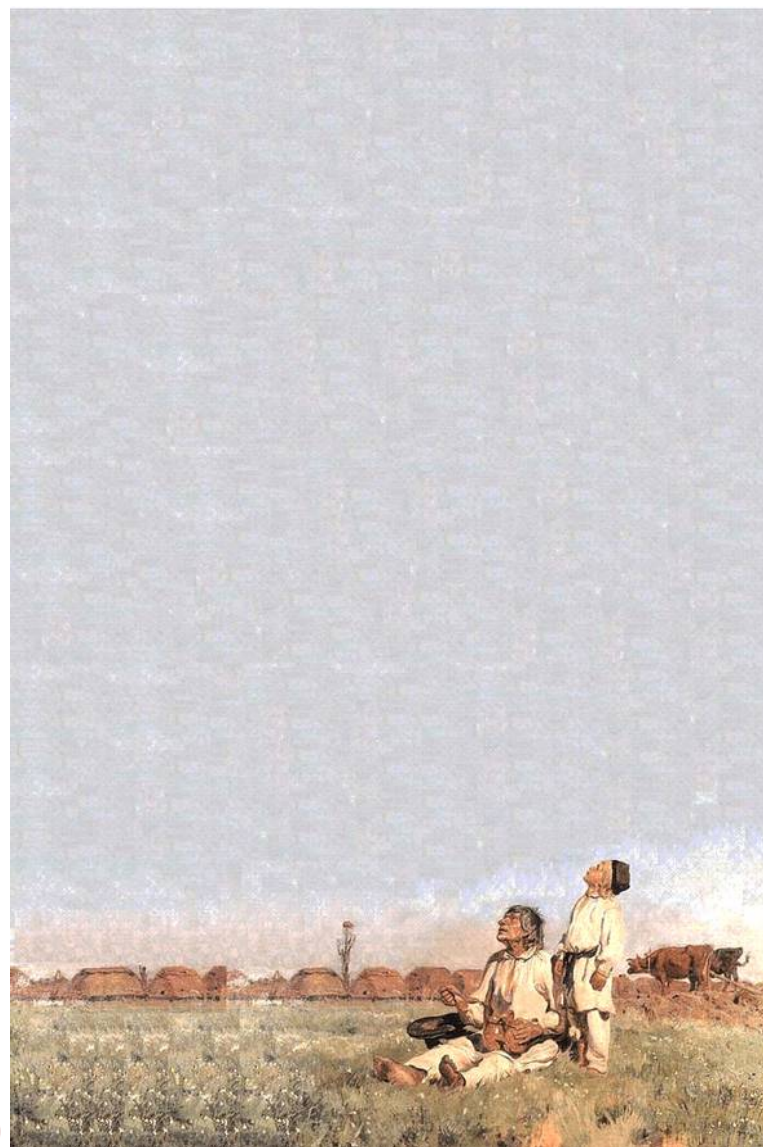
# ground level observations of EAS (extensive air showers)

The atmosphere is  
a target/detector

## Particles in EAS:

photons	(10 x Ne)
electrons + positrons	(Ne)
muons	(0.1 x Ne)
hadrons	(0.01 x Ne)
neutrinos	

EAS particles move with a speed  
nearly  $c$  – light speed in vacuum  
(i.e. might be faster than light in the atmosphere)



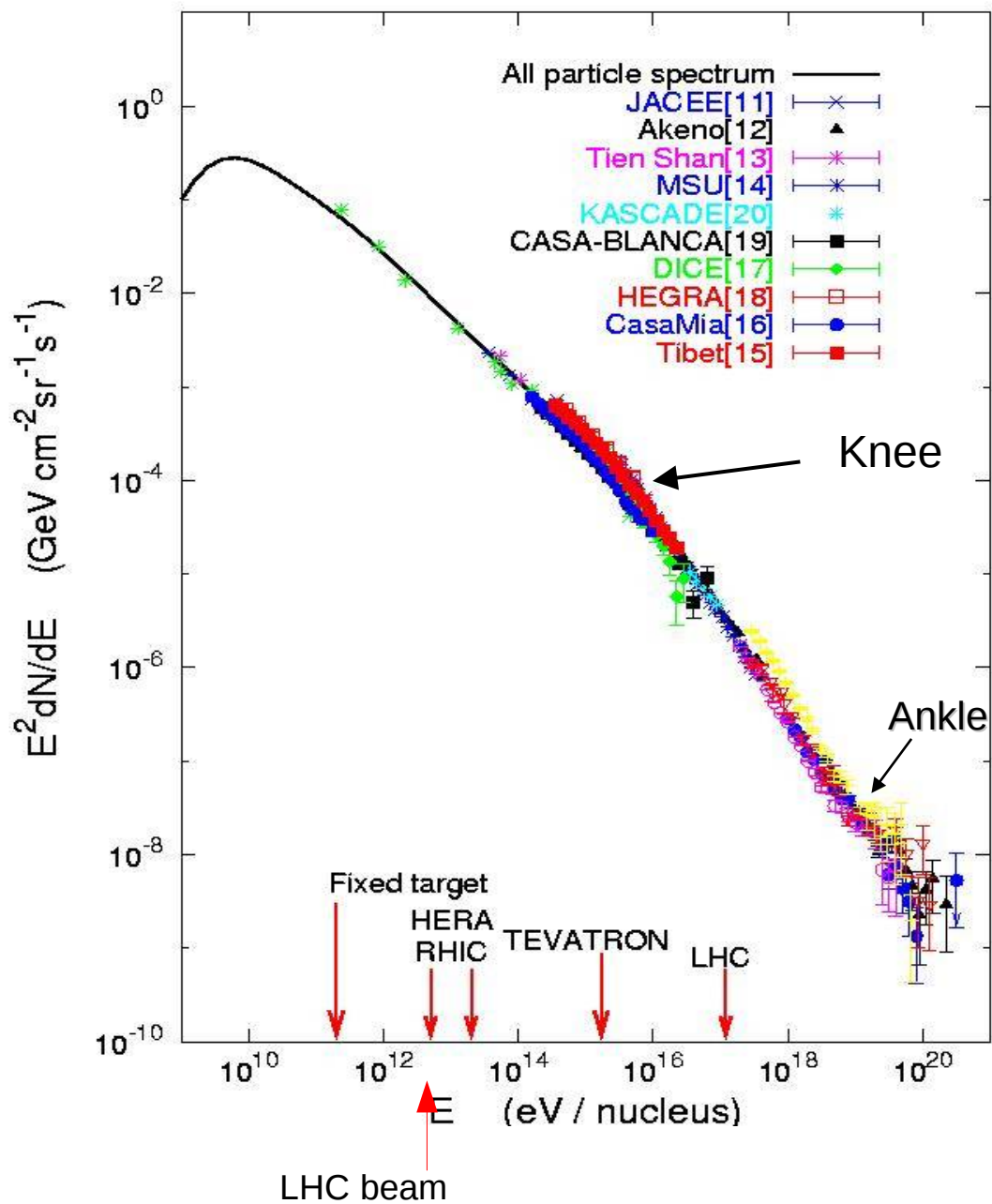
animation: T.Wibig

typical EAS lasts about 30 microseconds (i.e. about 10 km/c)

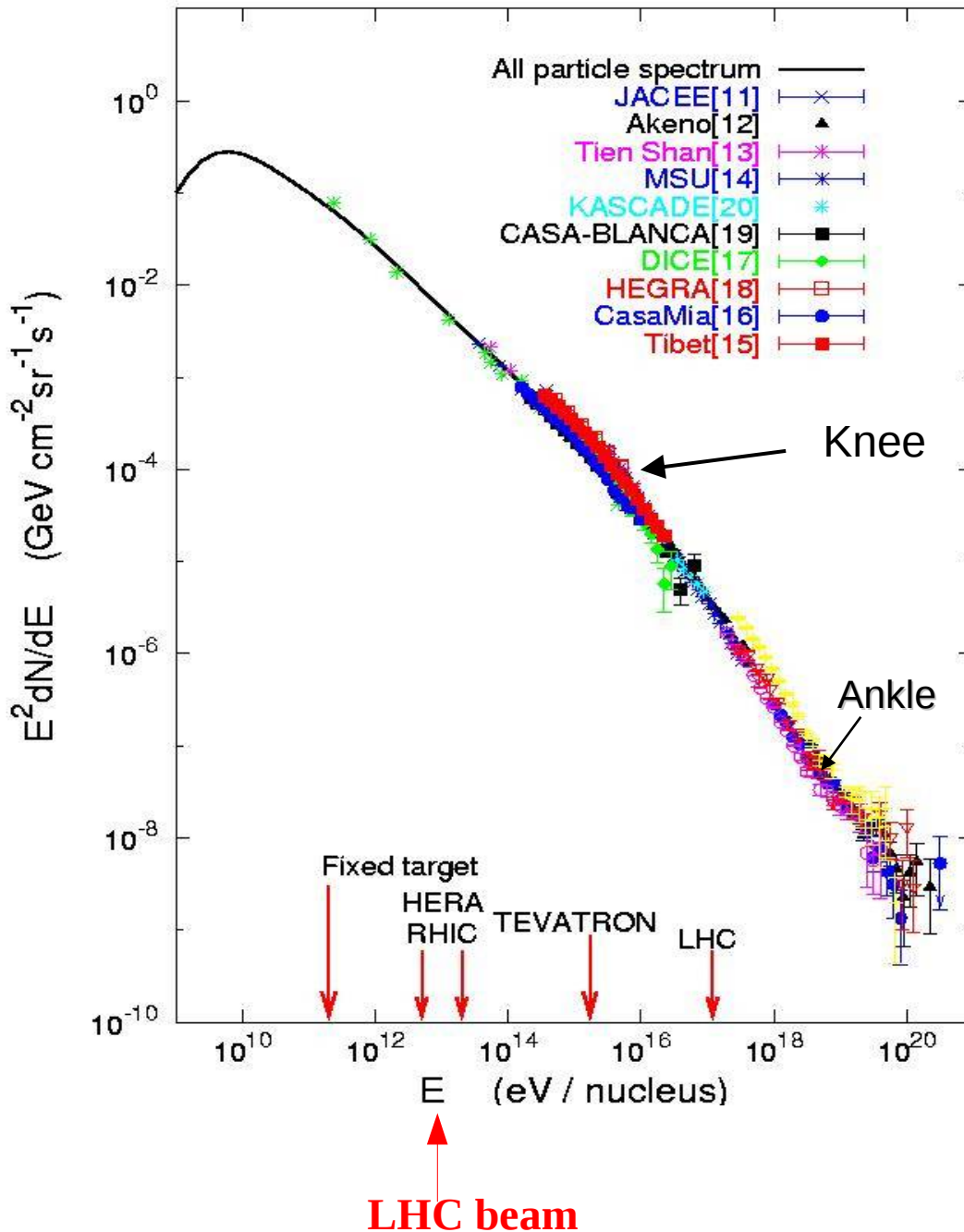
# Cosmic ray energy spectrum

Direct measurements  
on balloons and satellites  
up to  $10^{15}$  eV  
(limited by:  
exposure  
energy estimation )

Above  $10^{14}$  eV  
EAS measurements  
(problems with:  
mass determination  
energy estimation)



# The Cosmic Ray energy spectrum



Stable charged particles,  
atomic nuclei.

Nonthermal energy spectrum.

Proton in LHC beam at CERN  
(will) have max energy  $7E12$  eV.

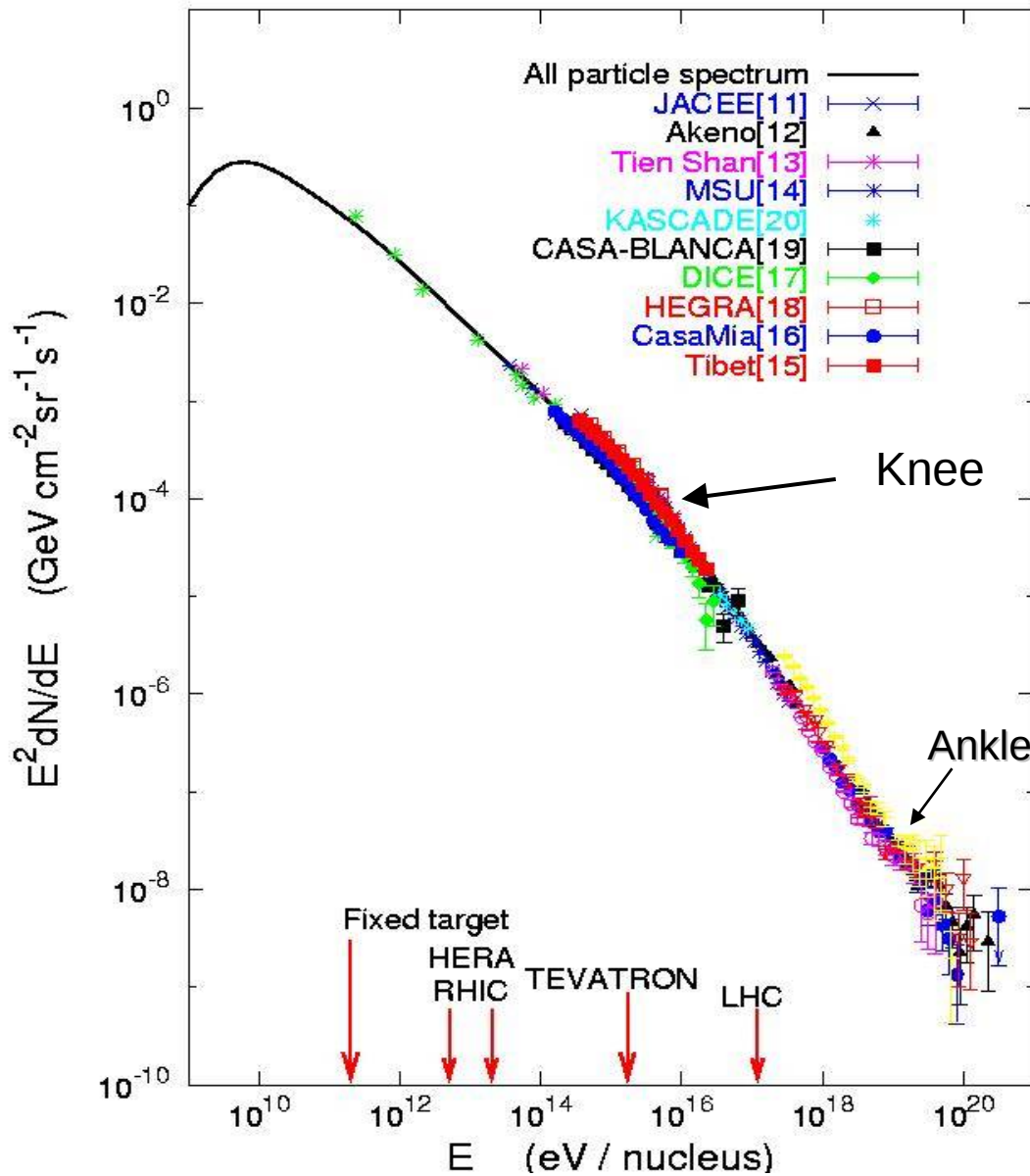
The highest measured  
Cosmic Ray particle energies are  
about  $3E20$  eV.

Nature does provide particles  
accelerated to energies  
 $40 \cdot 10^6$  times higher than  
LHC physicists at CERN do



# The Cosmic Ray (CR) energy spectrum

physics



The main scientific problem of CR:

- How Nature made them ?
- Where they were made ?
- Where do they come from ?

Particles have electric charge so Galactic and extragalactic magnetic fields bend their trajectories.

↓  
**We do not know CR sources from direct measurements .**

We measure photons emitted in the vicinity of CR sources from high energy CR interactions with matter or magnetic field (vide observations of nonthermal radio emission, infrared – IR, UV, X and gamma).

↑  
**LHC beam**

# The GZK Effect



**Kenneth Greisen**



**George Zatsepin**

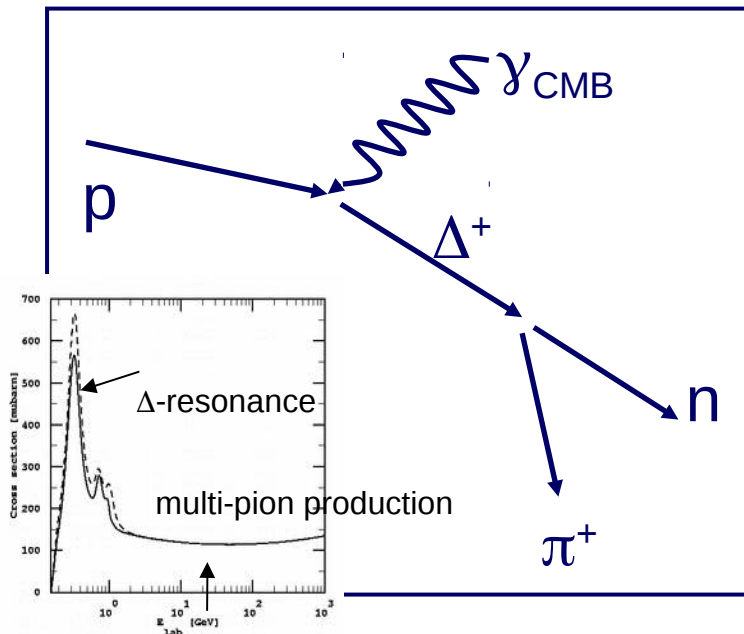


**Vadim Kuz'min**

**Greisen (1966) and, independently Zatsepin & Kuz'min (1966)**

**range of CR < 50 Mpc ( $E_{CR} > E_{GZK}$ )**

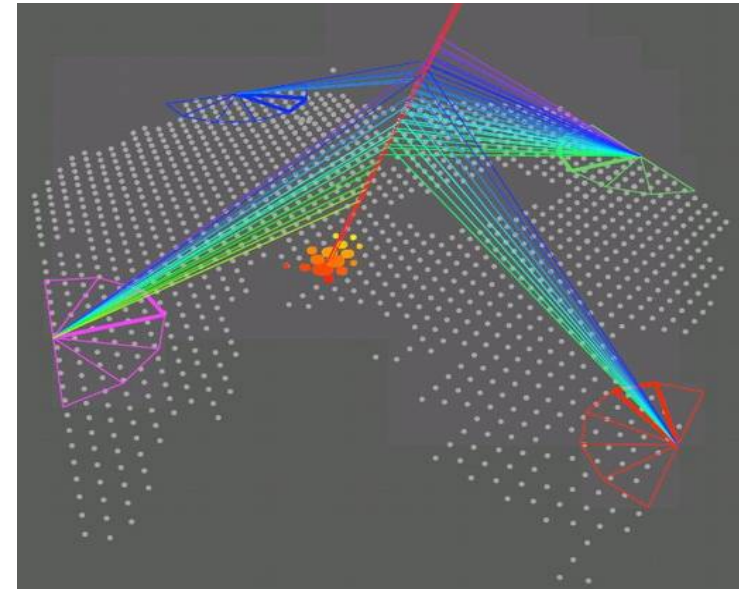
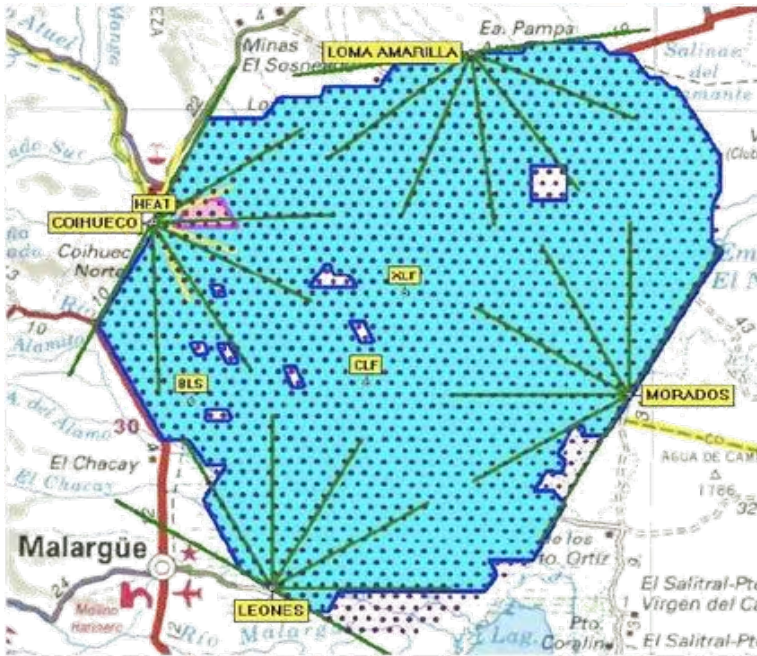
$$E_{th} = \frac{2m_N m_p + m_p^2}{4e} \rightarrow 5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ eV}$$



# PAO – Pierre Auger Observatory (South hemisphere)

method

very large area detector  
using atmosphere as target,  
and observing EAS



FD & SA measurements

Expected 25 EAS/ year  
( $E > 5.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV)

3000 km<sup>2</sup> 7000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr ( $\theta < 60^\circ$ )

FD – only during clear dark nights

FD – fluorescence detectors

SA – surface array

Still, too small detector area (too low statistics)  
to provide significant result of UHE CR source problem.

## **Larger exposure (statistics) is needed to enable experimental solution**

- Measurements of energy spectrum (GZK cut-off)
- Measurements of primary particle masses (sources and GZK cut-off)
- Measurements of direction of the events (search for point-like sources, isotropy/anisotropy)

(Statistics is more important than spatial resolution)

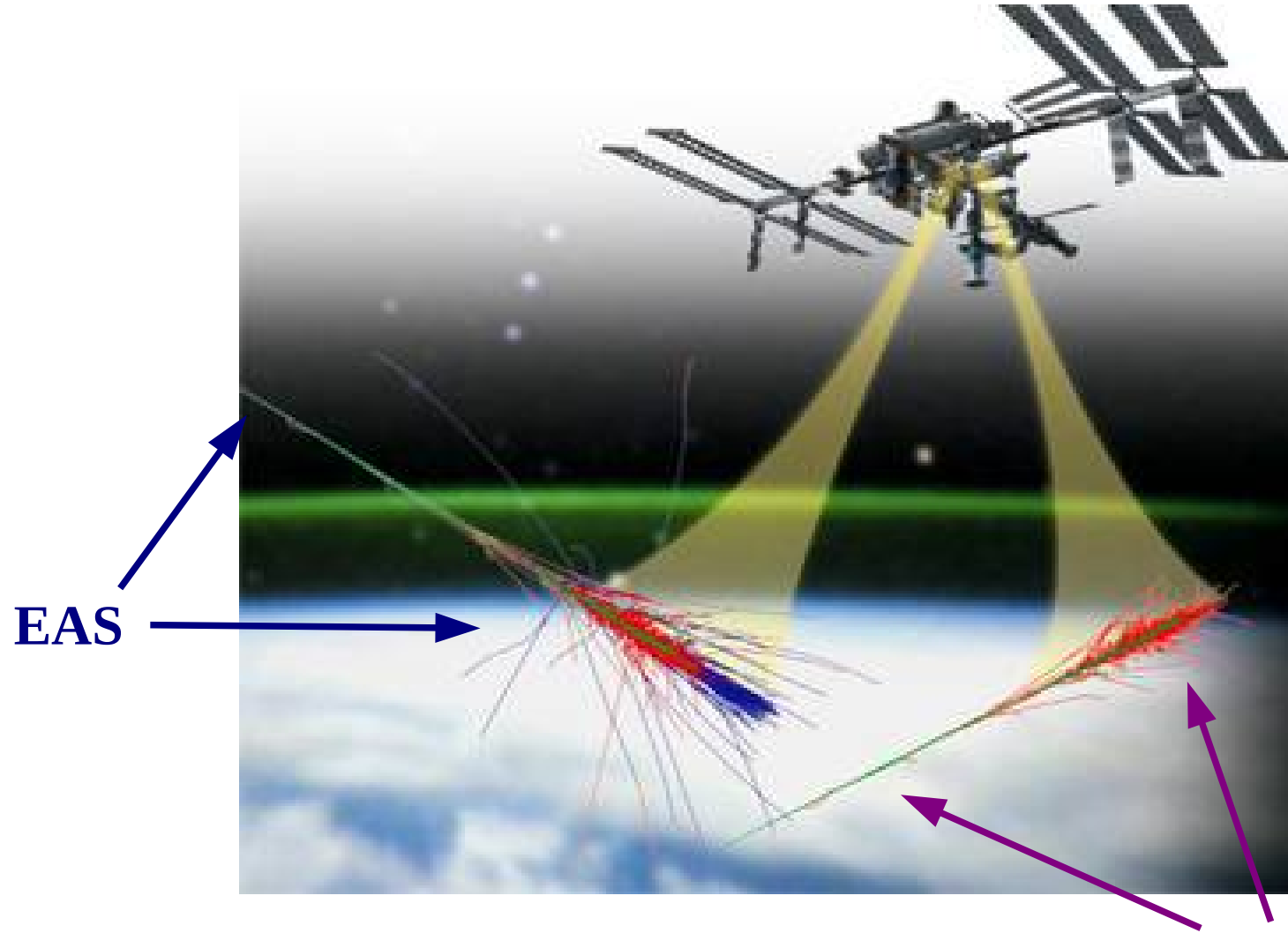
# **Observations from space !!**

**ISS – altitude about 400 km**

**JEM-EUSO: fast camera  
400 000 frames per second  
to measure events lasting about 30  $\mu$ s**

**method**

above 300 000 pixels



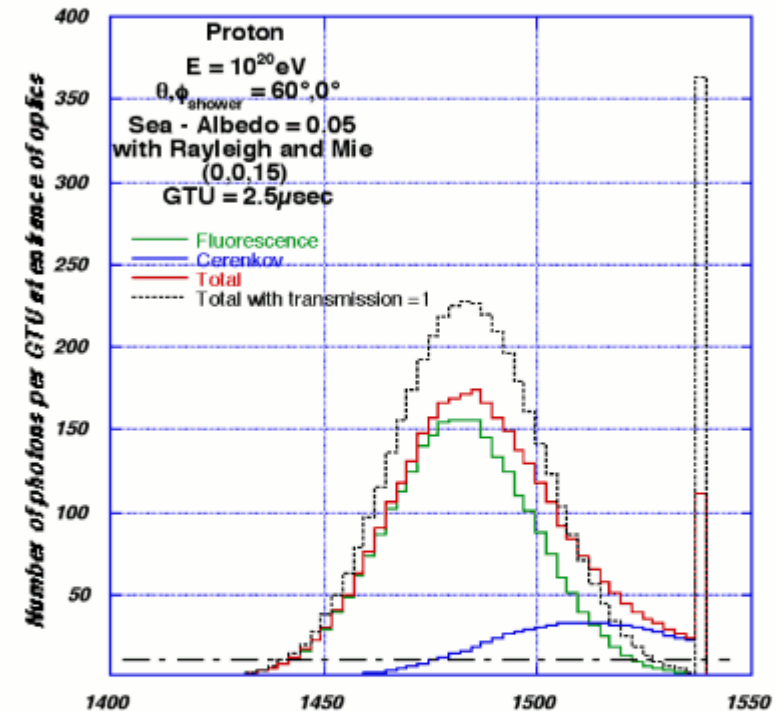
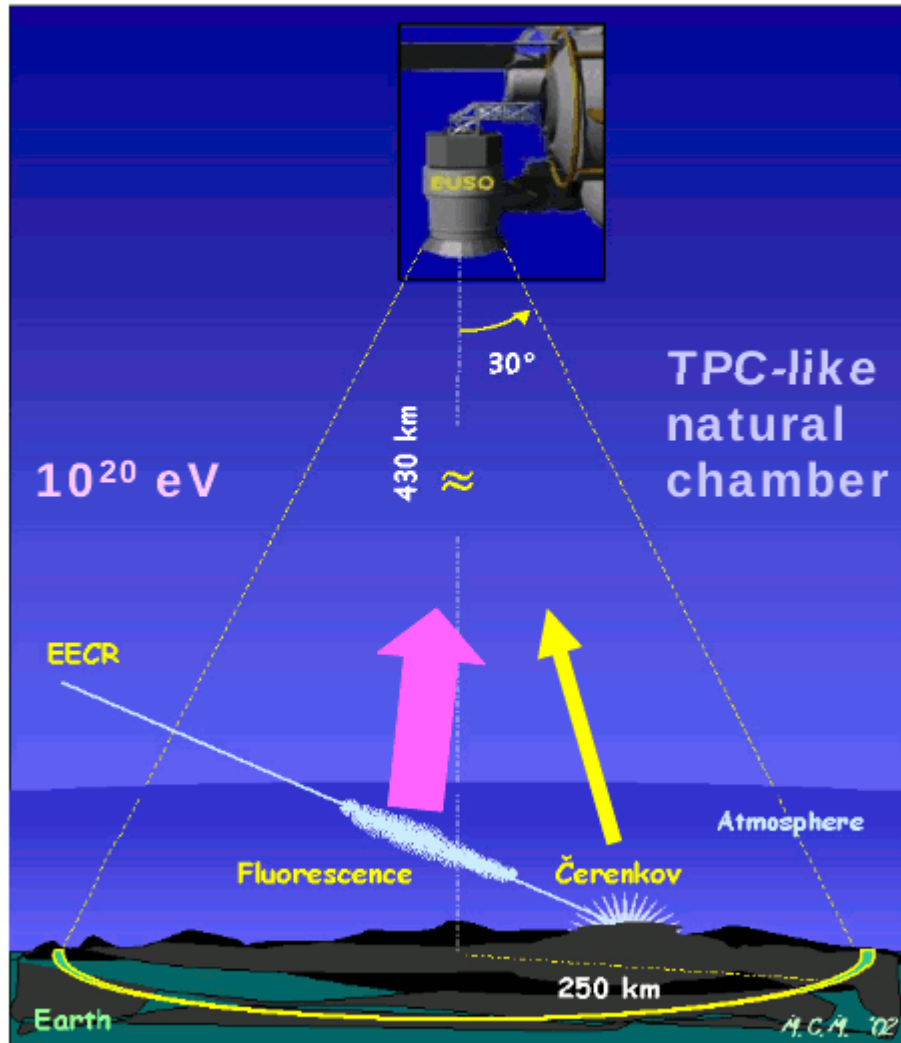
**EAS**

**neutrino shower**

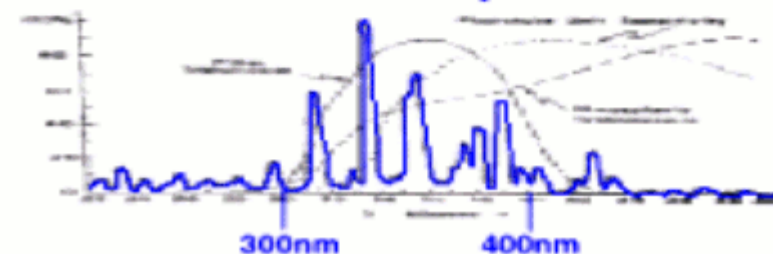
**particles excite  $N_2$ , and  $N_2$  emits UV light**

# Principle of EUSO

- first *remote-sensing* from space, opening a new window for the highest energy regime



## Fluorescence Spectrum

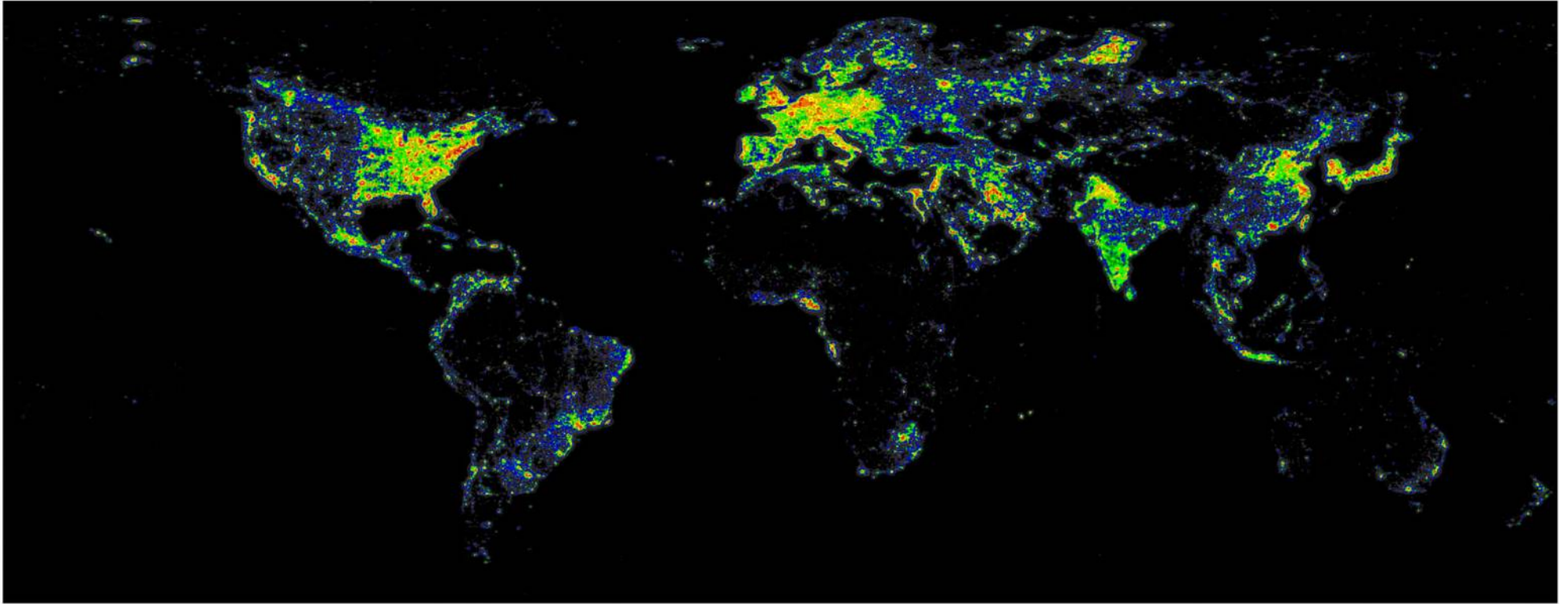


Cf: Ground-based arrays < 0.01 EUSO

(1) Scintillator array, (2) Fluorescence telescope array

From College de France: better data now

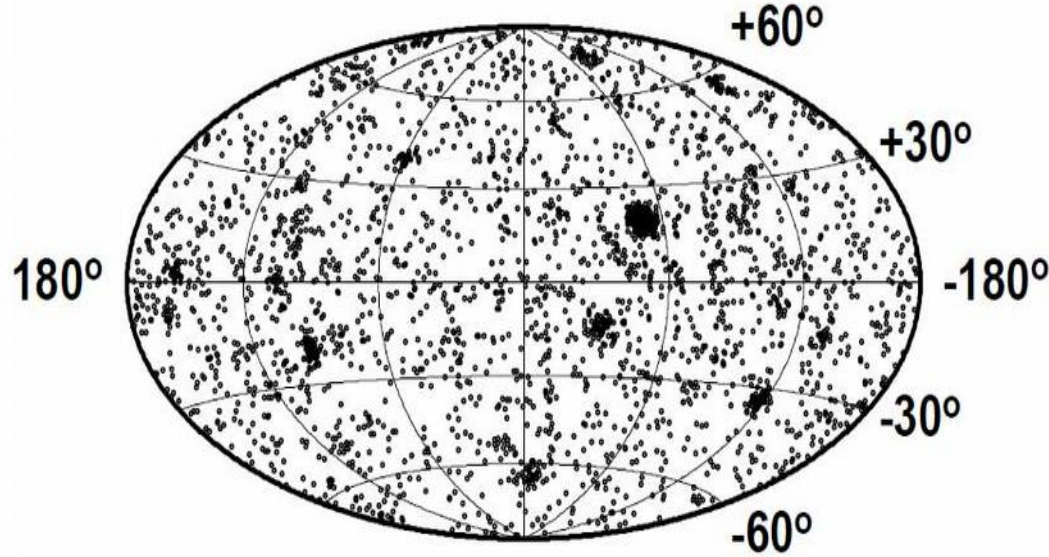
# Light pollution of the Earth



<http://darksitefinder.com/maps/world.html>

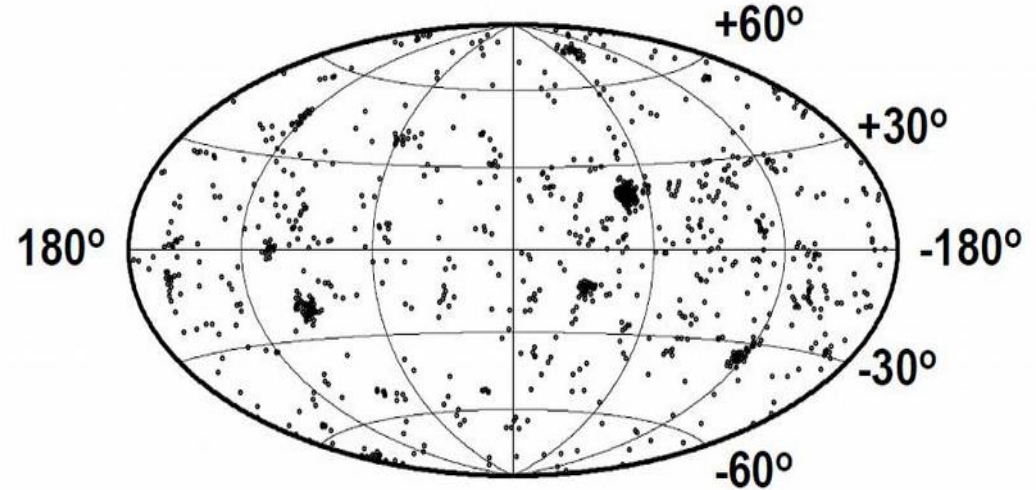
# Simulations assuming that AGNs are CR sources

JEM-EUSO  
astrophysics



3000 events  
 $E > 5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ eV}$

1000 events  
 $E > 7 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ eV}$



Assumptions about magnetic field in the Galaxy and in extra galactic space are essential in these simulations.

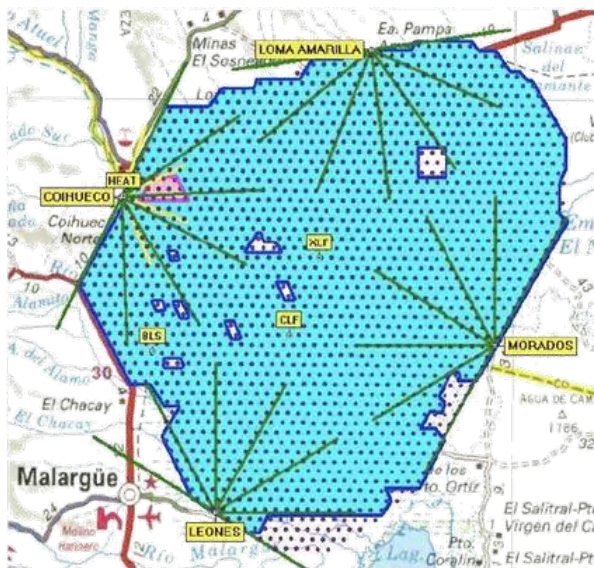
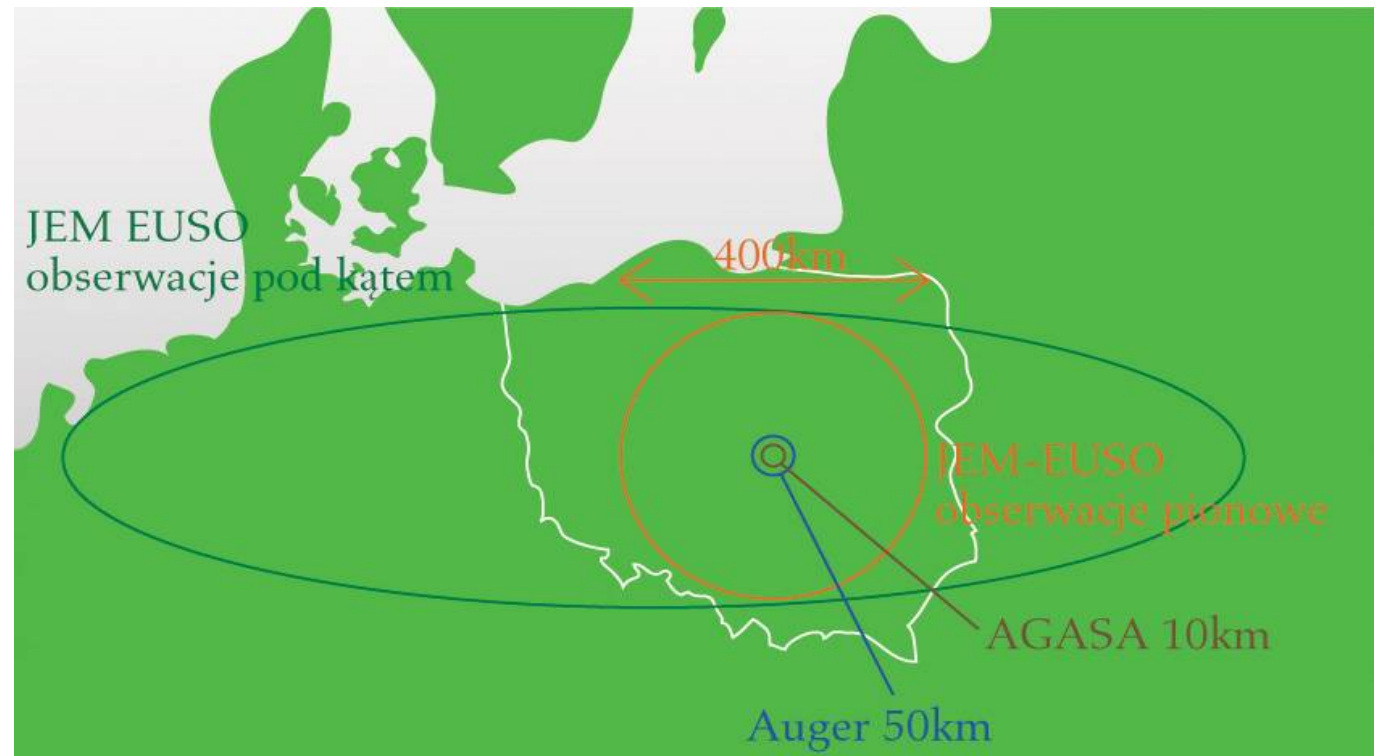
Discovery of UHE CR sources would provide information (at least limits) about magnetic fields.

particle astronomy ?



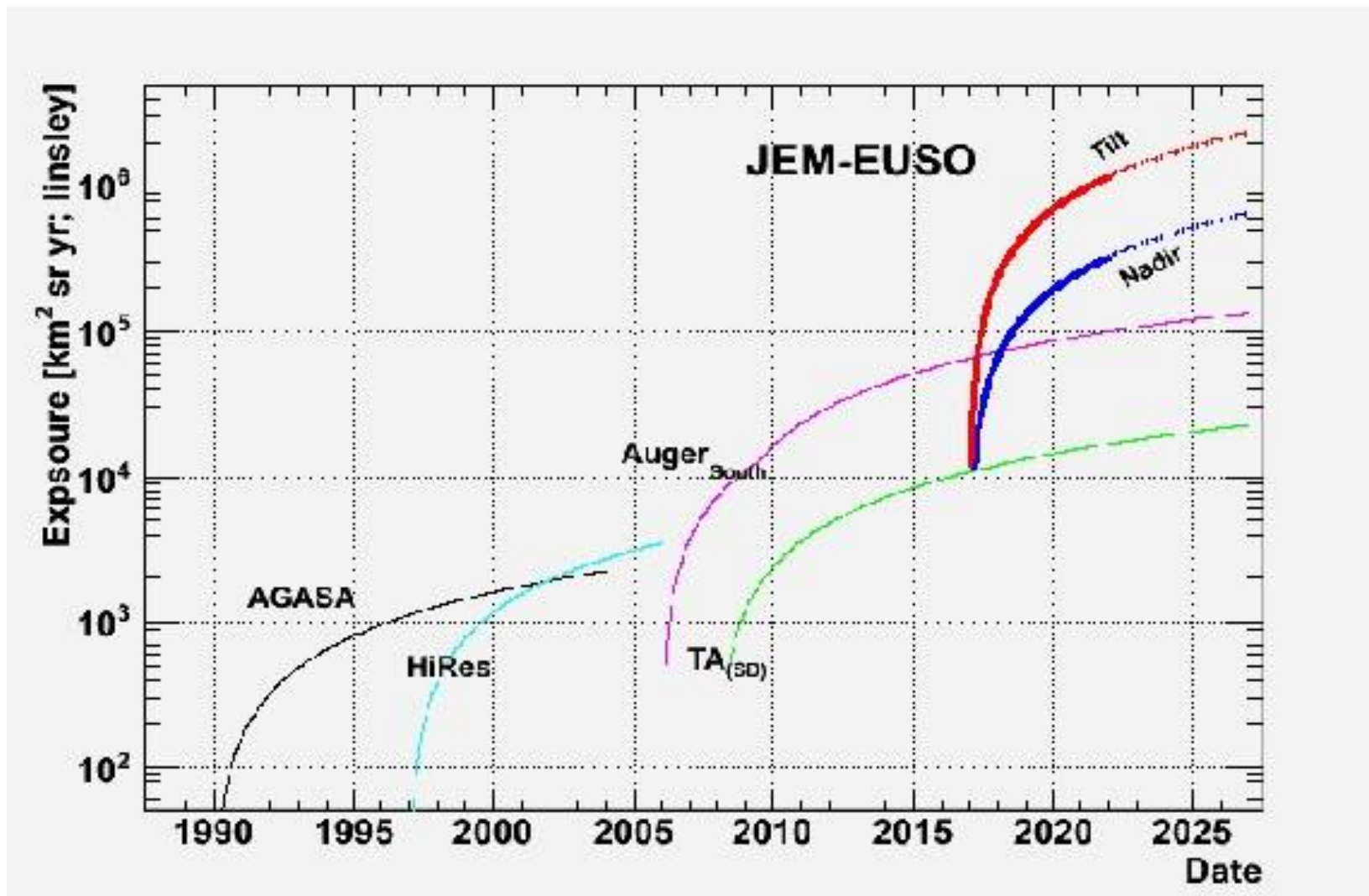
## JEM-EUSO observation areas (nadir and tilt)

**JEM-EUSO:**  
**nadir: 350 EAS/yr**  
**( $E > 5.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV)**

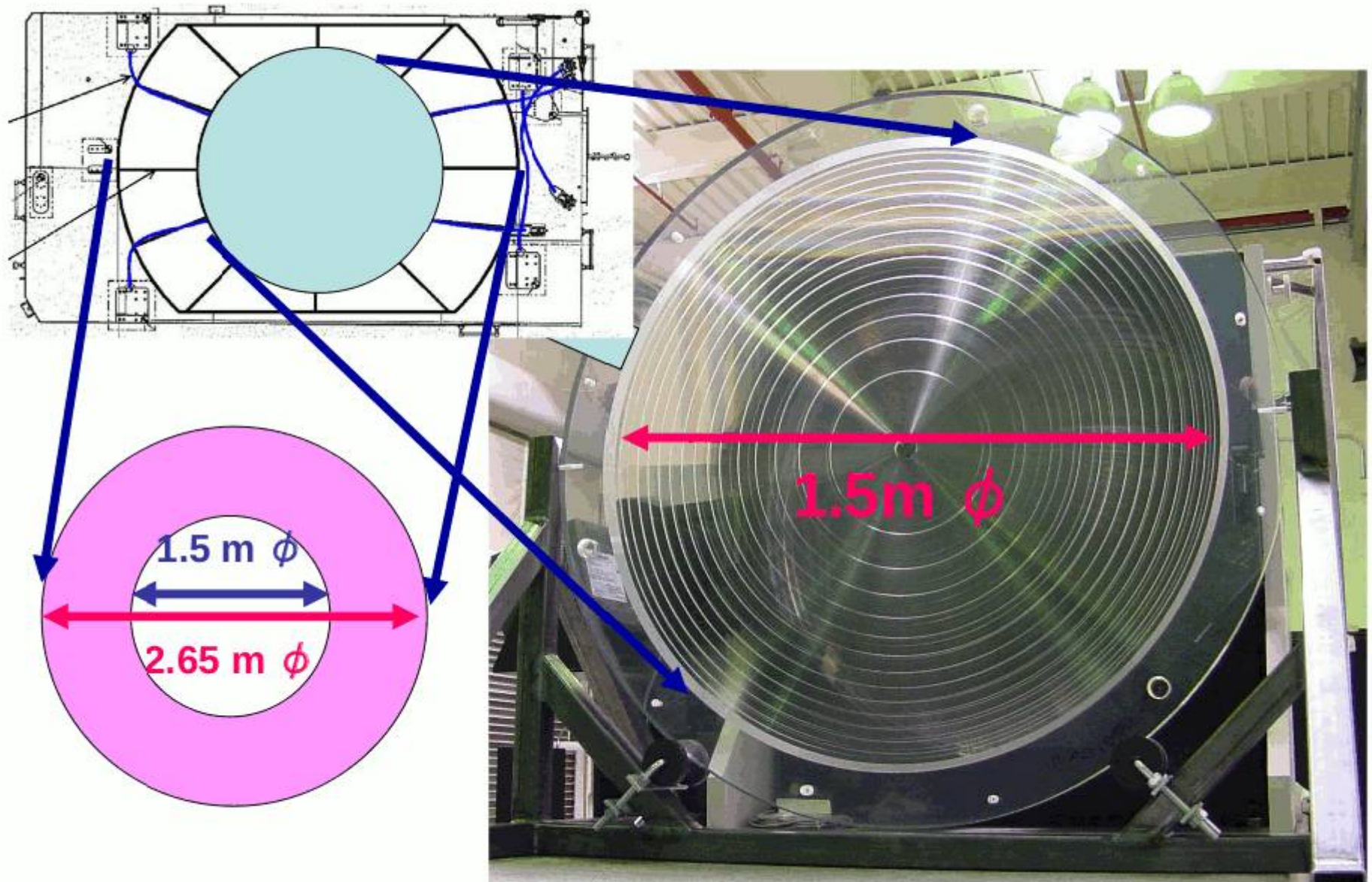


**PAO – Pierre Auger Observatory**  
**(South hemisphere) – 3000 km<sup>2</sup>, 7000 km<sup>2</sup> sr**  
**25 EAS/yr ( $E > 5.5 \cdot 10^{19}$  eV)**

# Porównanie ekspozycji

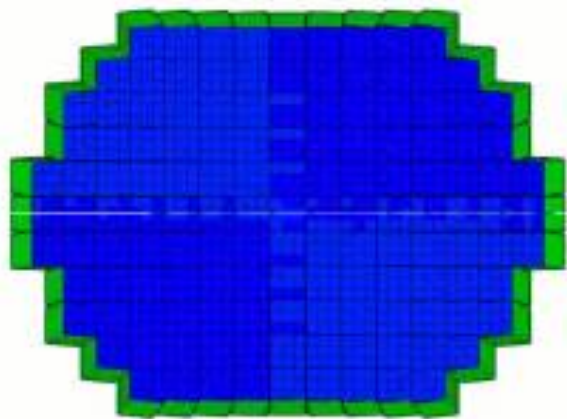


# Soczewki Fresnela



# multianode photomultipliers, layout at focal surface

Focal Surface detector



Elementary Cell  
(2x2 PMTs = 144 pixels)

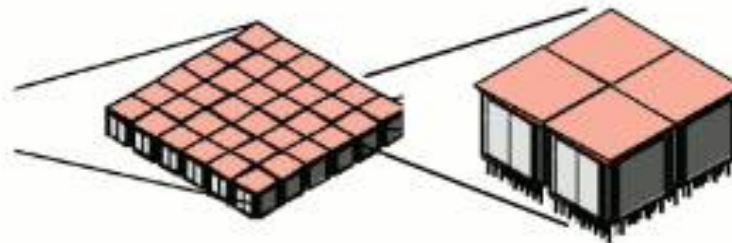
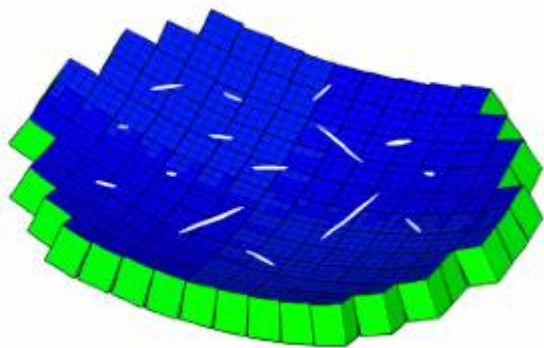


Photo-Detector Module  
(3x3 ECs = 1296 pixels)

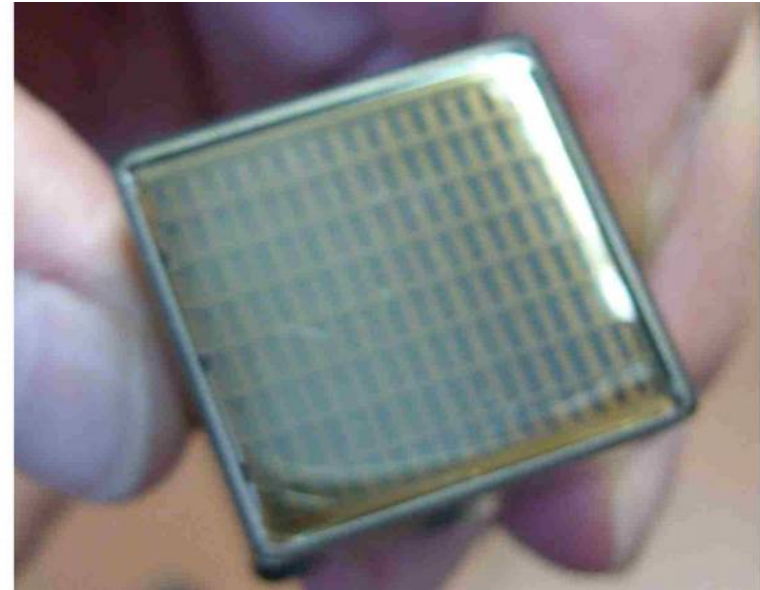


FC – Focal Surface = 137 PDM  
PDM – Photo-Detector Module = 36 MAPMTs  
MAPMT – multi-anode photomultiplier  
= 64 pixels  
1 pixel = 500m x 500m  
at Earth ground level

**photomultiplier (PMT)**  
**multianode photomultiplier (MAPMT)**

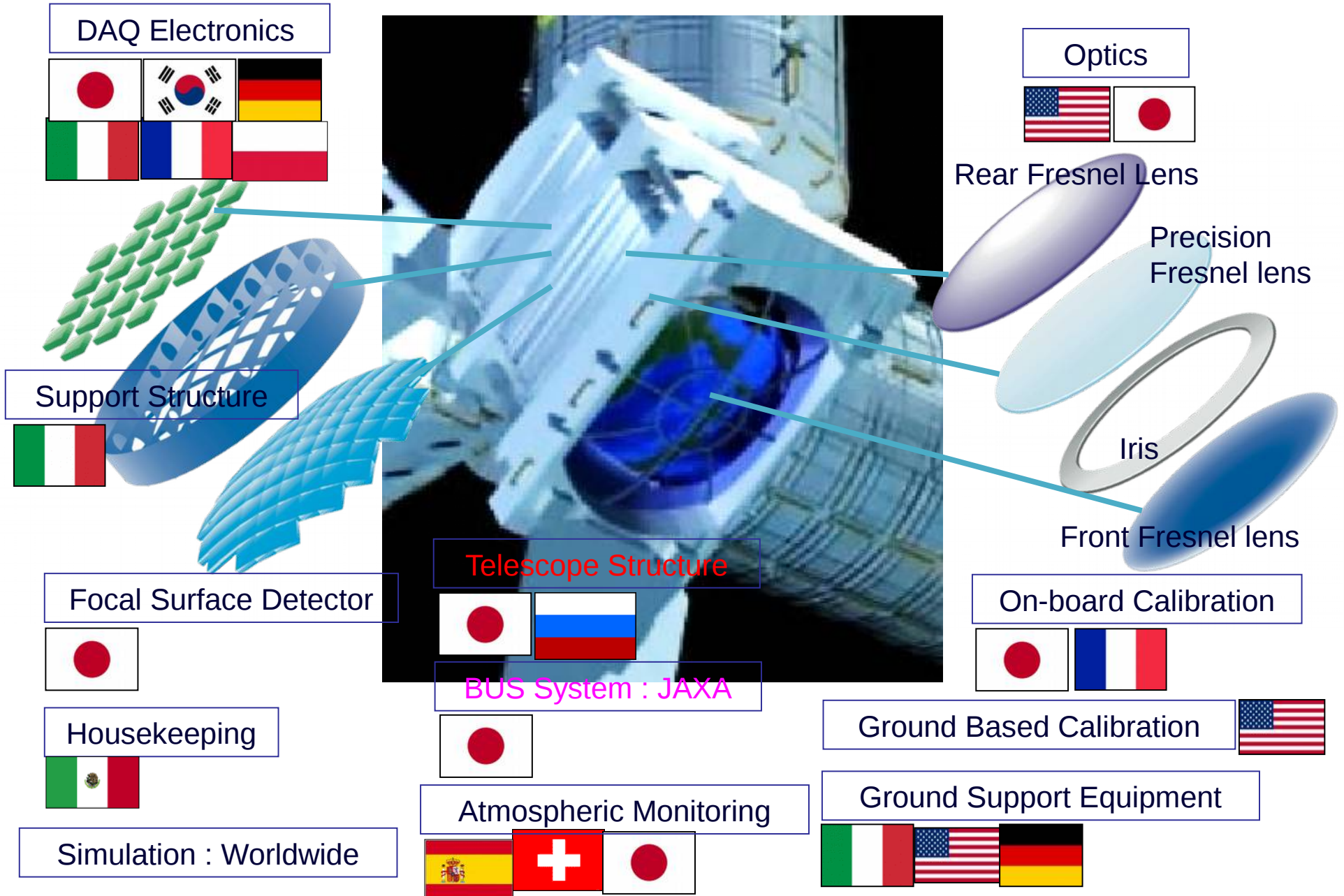
photon  $\rightarrow$  photo-electron (pe)  $\rightarrow 10^6$  electrons at anode

**New MAPMT – M64 – 64 anodes (pixels)**



# JEM-EUSO elements and task sharing

collaboration



# **JEM-EUSO: atmospheric phenomena observations**

(some events produce too much light and are danger for detector, but switching system allows for their observations/measurements with photon counting)

- meteor observations (slow trigger, bright objects), contribution to hazard estimations + science
- lightnings observations (last milliseconds, very bright objects), evolution measurements with very good time resolution
- TLE – transient luminous events (extremely bright, last milliseconds) evolution measurements with very good time resolution
- UV background (albedo, reflected UV from stars, atmospheric night emission) very accurate measurements

- ✓ very good time resolution (GTU = 2.5  $\mu$ s)
- ✓ very good signal dynamics: 0 – 1 000 000 (due to HV switches)
- ✓ absolute calibration (due to single photon counting)

## **EUSO tests**

**The JEM-EUSO like telescope is very expensive, therefore tests are essential**

**Many laboratory tests, including vacuum in APC or CNES**

**EUSO-Balloon – method test at 3 mbar (~40km), equipment test, HV test, UV background measurements, performance tests (trigger, fast moving objects detection, optics)**

**TA-EUSO – tests at the Telescope Array (UHE CR detector, Utah desert), calibration, performance tests**



# TA-EUSO – test in Utah – Telescope Array

tests

## Main goals/tasks of test:

- Calibration by comparison with FD TA (for NSB – night sky background),
- Calibration on LIDAR flushes and electron beam – absolute calibration
- Measurements of a few EAS in coincidence with TA.

Similar tests at PAO are possible

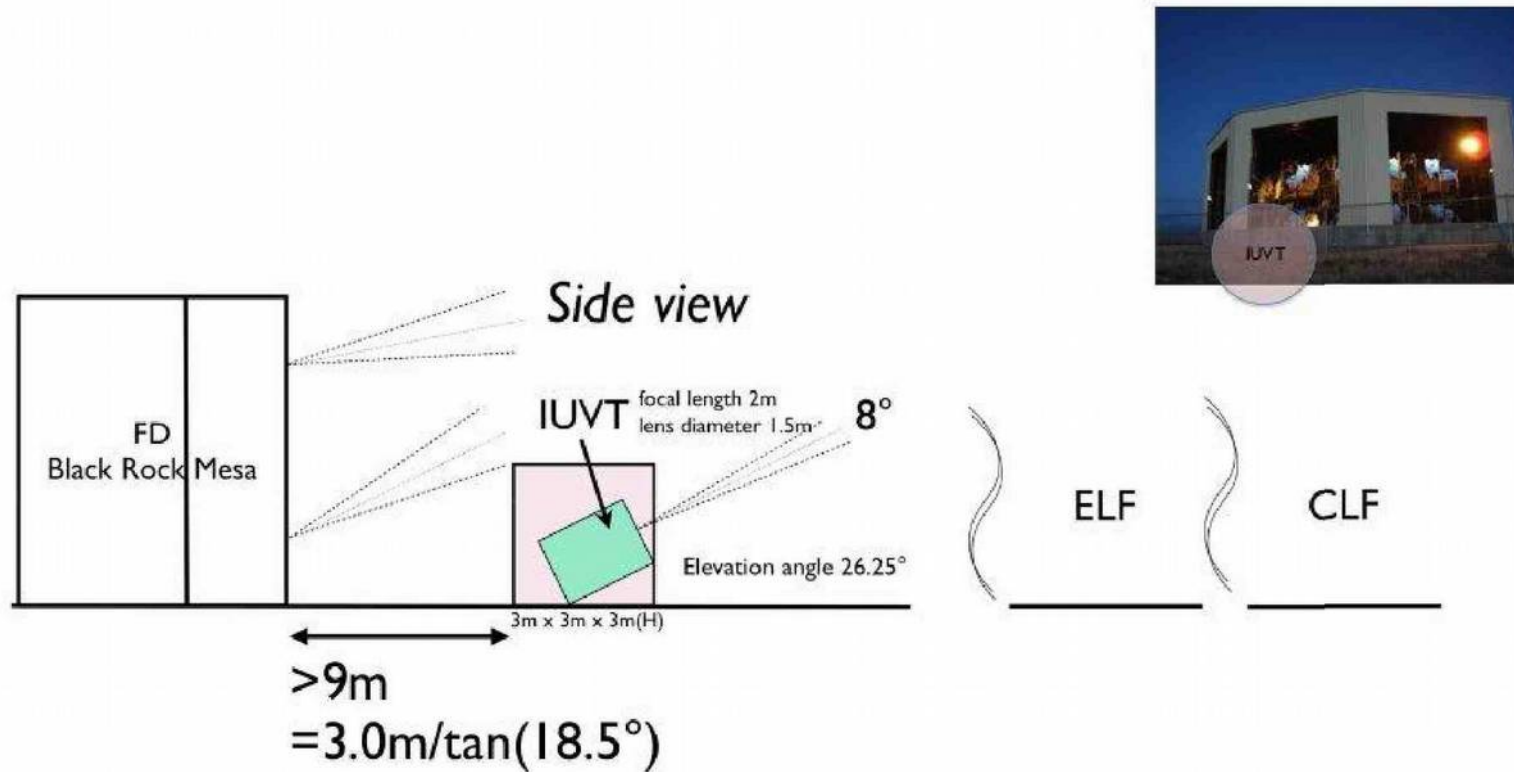
TA-EUSO @ Black Rock Mesa

Electron Light Source at 100m  
Most nearby SD is at ~3.5 km  
Central Laser Facility ~21km



# EUSO TA – test in Utah – Telescope Array

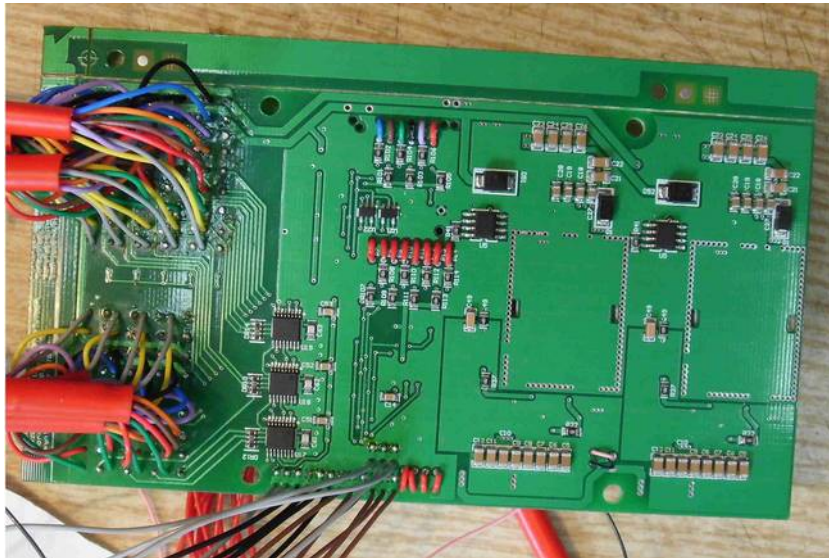
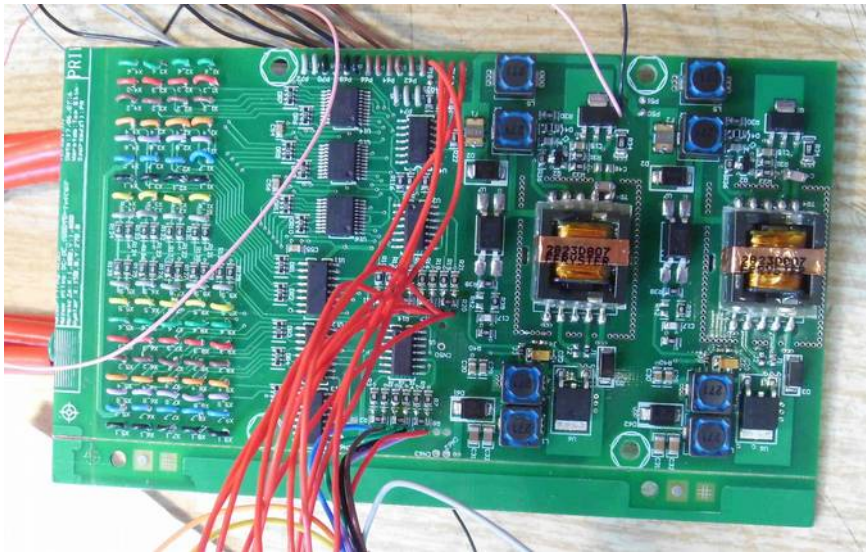
## Setup position



As in EUSO-Balloon: 36 MAPMT (PDM) and similar optics, elevation of EUSO TA can be set in a range  $5^\circ - 25^\circ$ .

**NCBJ-Łódź provides HVPS**

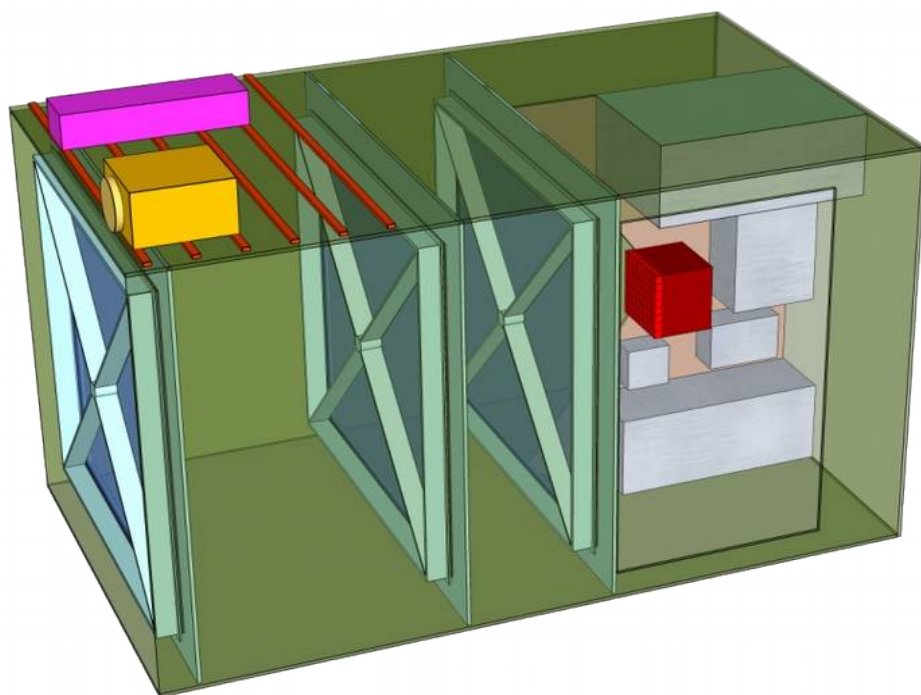
# SPB,Mini – EUSO: HVPS, designed and made in NCBJ-Łódź





JEM-EUSO

## EUSO-Balloon – test teleskop

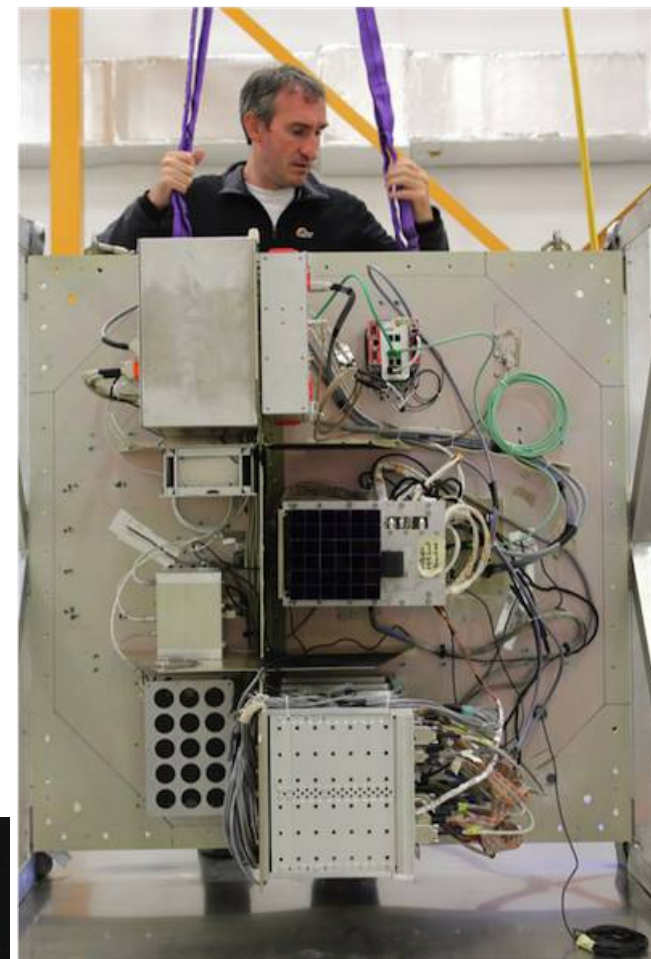


**The first flight:**  
**new moon, 24 August 2014**  
**Timmins, Ontario, Canada**

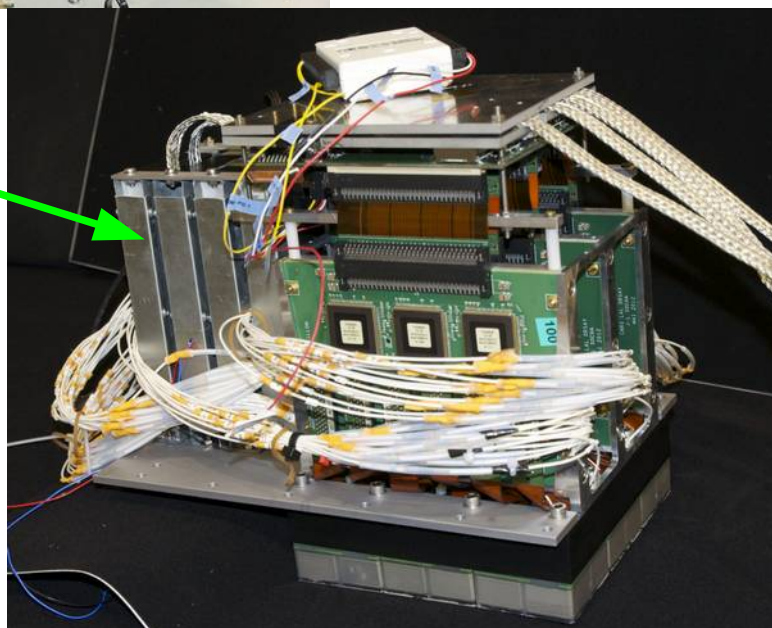
**NCBJ – Łódź: HVPS system:**  
**HV power suppliers + fast switches**

# EUSO-Balloon detector

EUSO-Balloon



HVPS

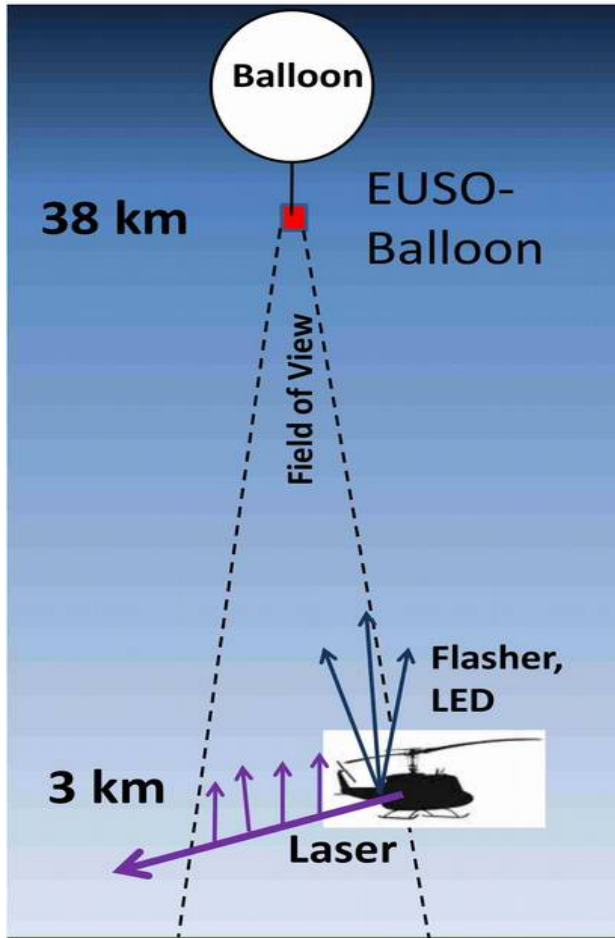


**The flight: new moon, 24/25 August 2014,  
Timmins, Ontario, Canada**

EUSO-Balloon

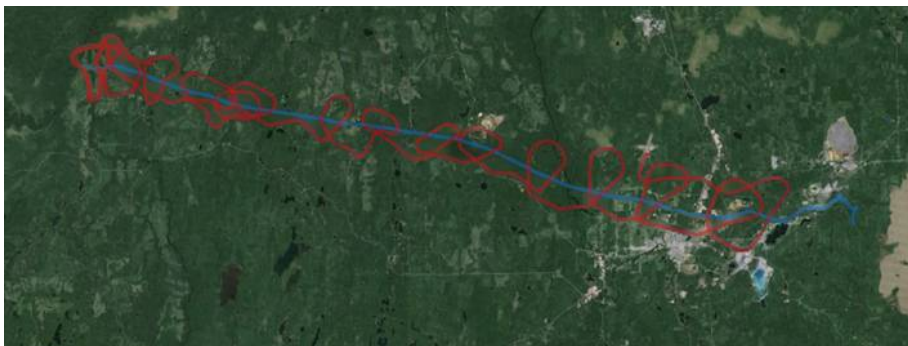
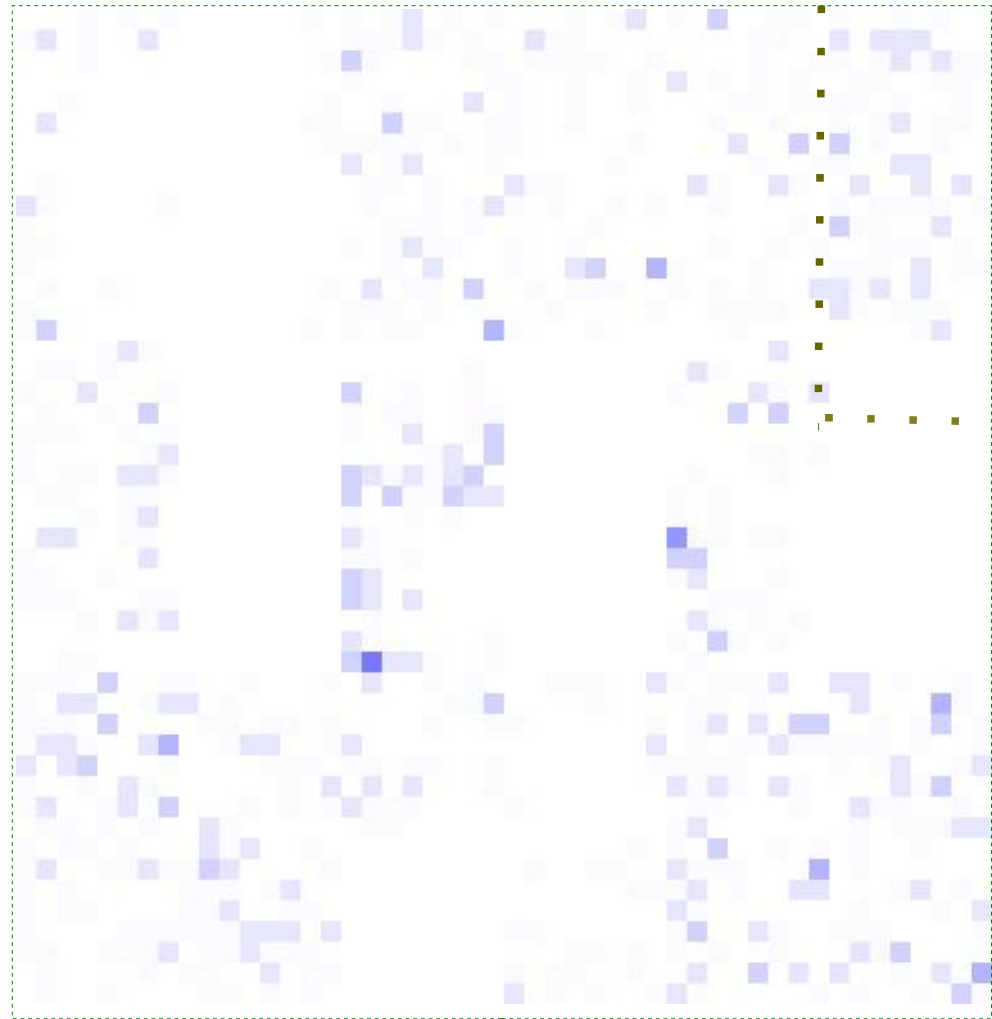


# source with light speed



one frame time = GTU  
GTU – gate time unit  
2.5  $\mu$ s, 400000 frames / s

EUSO-Balloon  
helicopter position





See Inside

The new detector passes tests involving a helicopter, balloon and lasers

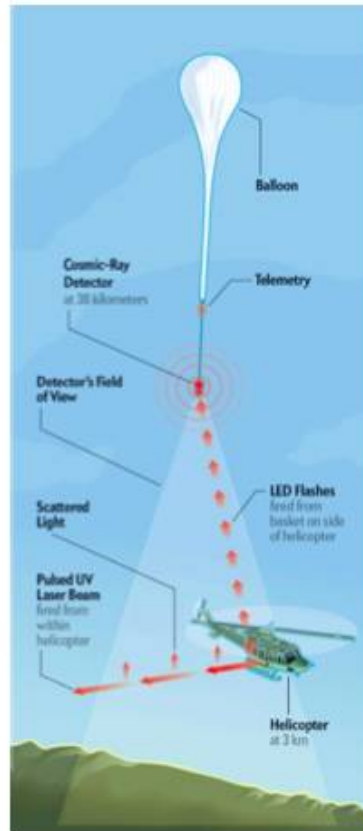
Oct 14, 2014 | By Debra Weiner

Cosmic rays, traveling nearly at the speed of light, bombard Earth from all directions. The electrically charged particles are the most energetic component of cosmic radiation—yet no one knows where they come from.

Astrophysicists speculate that high-energy cosmic rays may have emerged from supermassive black holes in faraway galaxies or possibly from decaying particles from the big bang.

Whatever their origin, these rays crash into Earth's atmosphere about once per square kilometer per century. The impact produces an air shower of tens of billions of secondary, lower-energy particles that in turn excite nitrogen molecules in the atmosphere. The interactions produce ultraviolet fluorescence that lights up the air shower's path. Scientists are trying to use such paths to measure the direction and energy of cosmic rays and reconstruct their trajectories back millions of light-years into space to pinpoint their source.

Seeing these extreme events is rare. Earth-based observatories can spot cosmic-ray



This summer in Timmins, Ontario, scientists tested

collisions only if they occur directly above the detectors. The Pierre Auger Observatory in Argentina, which houses the world's largest cosmic-ray detector and covers an area roughly the size of Rhode Island, records about 20 extreme-energy particle showers a year.

Hoping to improve the odds of observing the rays, a team of scientists from 15 nations came together more than a decade ago and designed a cosmic-ray telescope for the International Space Station (ISS). On the Japanese Experimental Module, the Extreme Universe Space Observatory (JEM-EUSO) will record ultraviolet emissions with a wide-angle, high-speed video camera that points toward Earth. With such a large observation area, the camera will see more air showers. The team originally hoped to launch EUSO in 2006. But troubles on Earth—first the space shuttle *Columbia* disaster in 2003, then the Fukushima nuclear meltdown in 2011 and now the turmoil in Ukraine—have delayed its deployment until at least 2018.

The science, however, marches onward. In August the team launched a prototype of the telescope 38 kilometers into the stratosphere onboard a helium-filled balloon. For two hours, researchers followed below in a helicopter, shooting a pulsed UV laser and LED into the telescope's field of view. The test was a success: the prototype detected the UV traces, which are similar to the fluorescence generated by extreme energy cosmic-ray air showers. In 2016 astronauts will transport a shoebox-size prototype called Mini-EUSO to the ISS and see how it fares at the altitude of the full mission.

*This article was originally published with the title "Catching Some Rays."*

the prototype of a new cosmic-ray telescope.

Stephen Rountree

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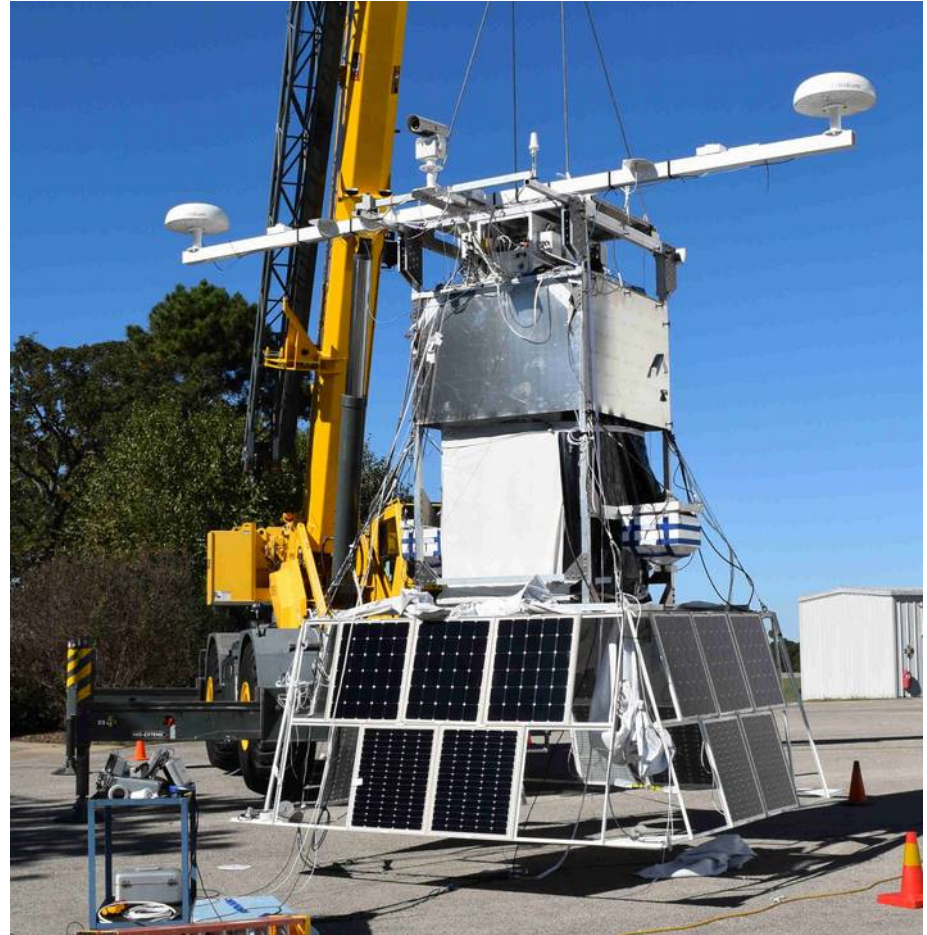
sciamblogs The a Comet http://... 1 hour ago · reply



## **Super Pressure Balloon - EUSO Asembly and tests @ Palestine, TX**

**Now this equipment is  
in Wanaka, New Zealand.**

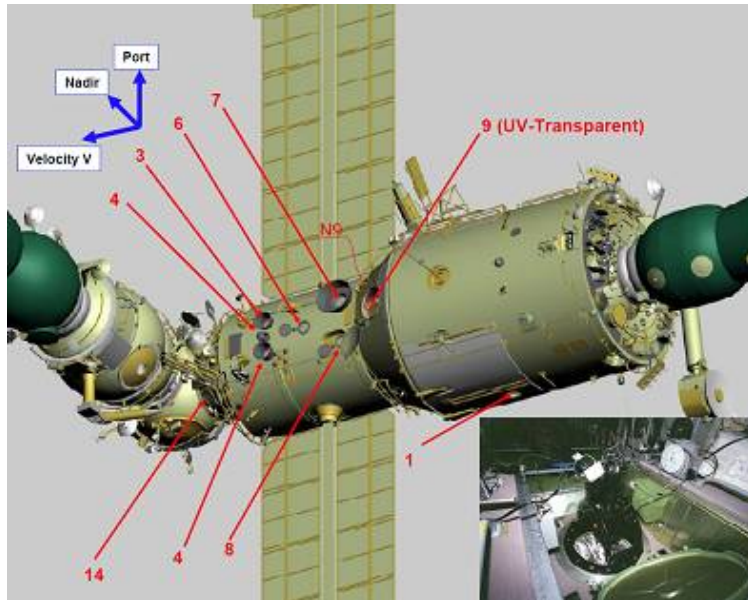
**It should measure several  
EAS with energies  
above  $1E18$  eV, by measurements  
of fluorescence light from the top  
for the first time.**



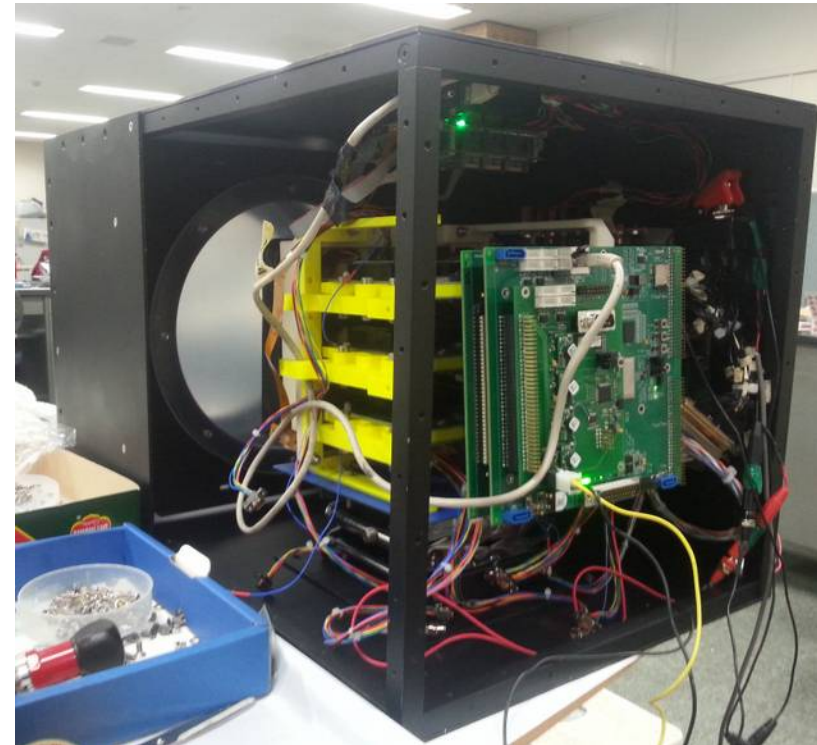
**The launch to the very long flight at about 35 km altitude  
is scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> of March – in 10 days.**

**The last and the longest so far NASA's SPB flight lasted 34 days.  
The maximum flight duration is estimated for about 100 days.**

# Mini-EUSO



**Zvezda@ISS:**  
UV window transparency >80%  
transparency range 300-400nm



**30 kg, 60W**  
**UV: 300-450 nm**  
**37 x 37 x 62 cm<sup>3</sup>**

# MINI-EUSO on the International Space Station

PI: M. Casolino

Russian PI: P. Klimov

Designed, built and integrated in RIKEN

Approved & financed by Italian Space Agency

Approved & financed by Russian Space Agency

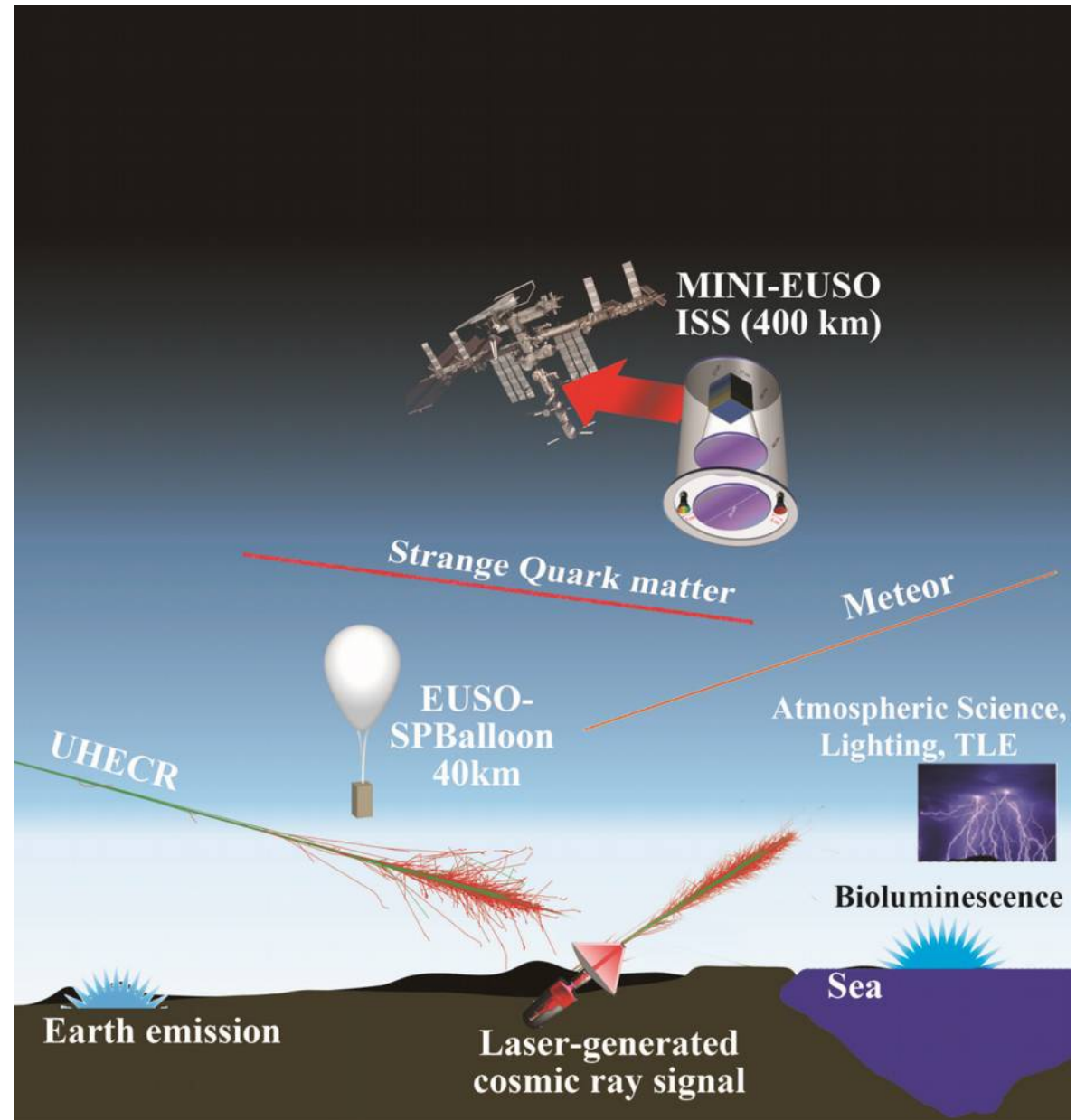
Funding from JAXA

Inside the ISS

2 Fresnel lenses and one PDM

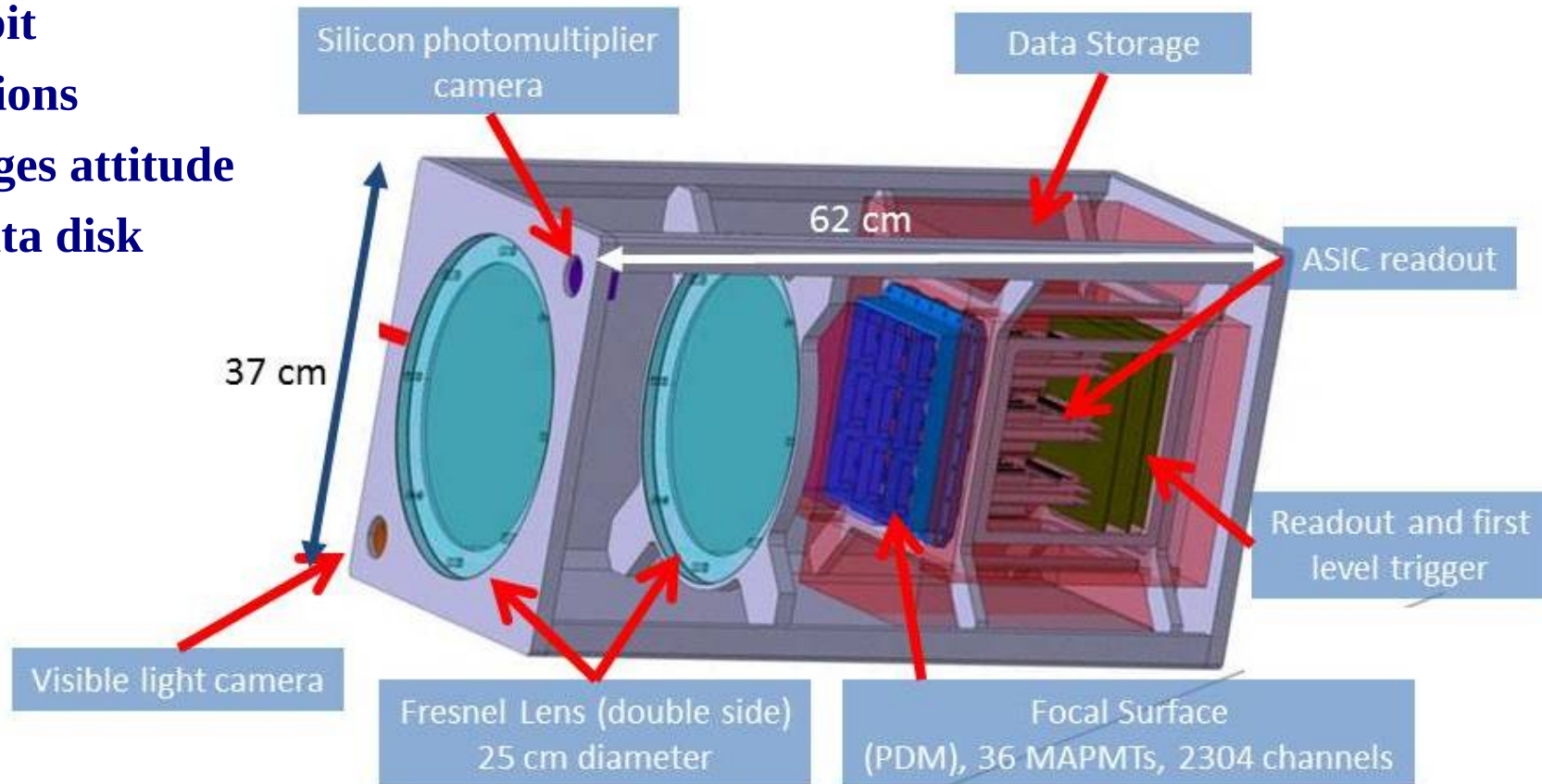
60W @ 27V

30kg not incl SSD



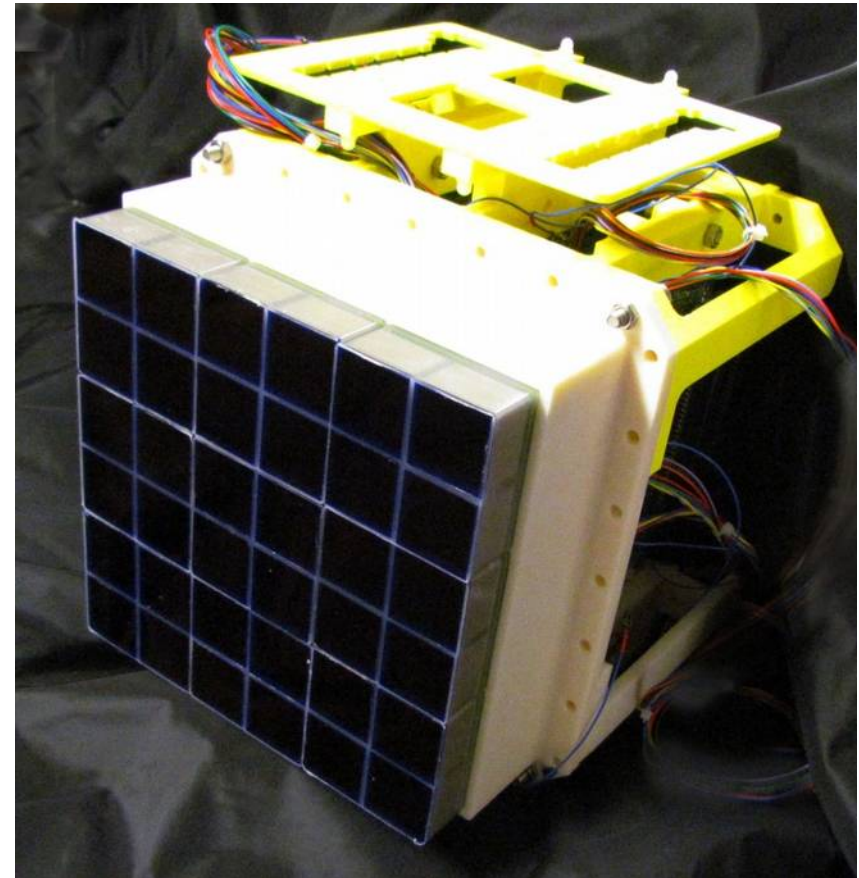
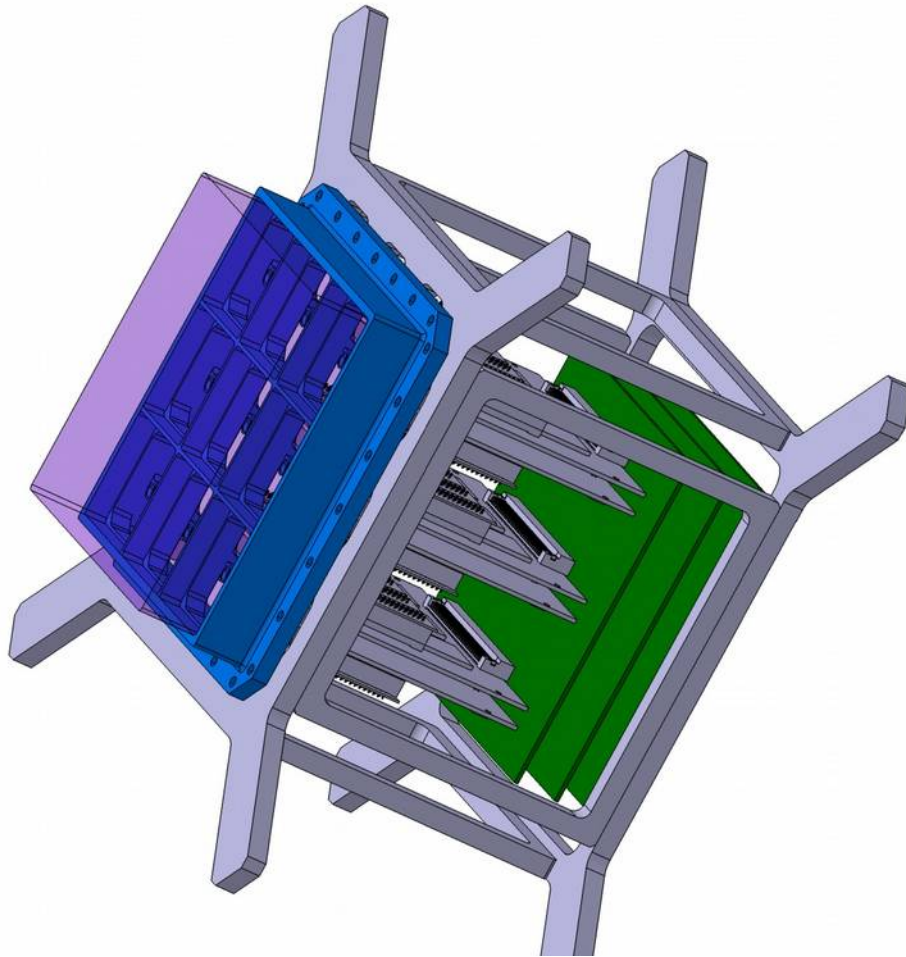
# Detector Operations – Mini EUSO

- Night observations
- About 40% orbit
- Nadir observations
- Off if ISS changes attitude
- Exchange of data disk

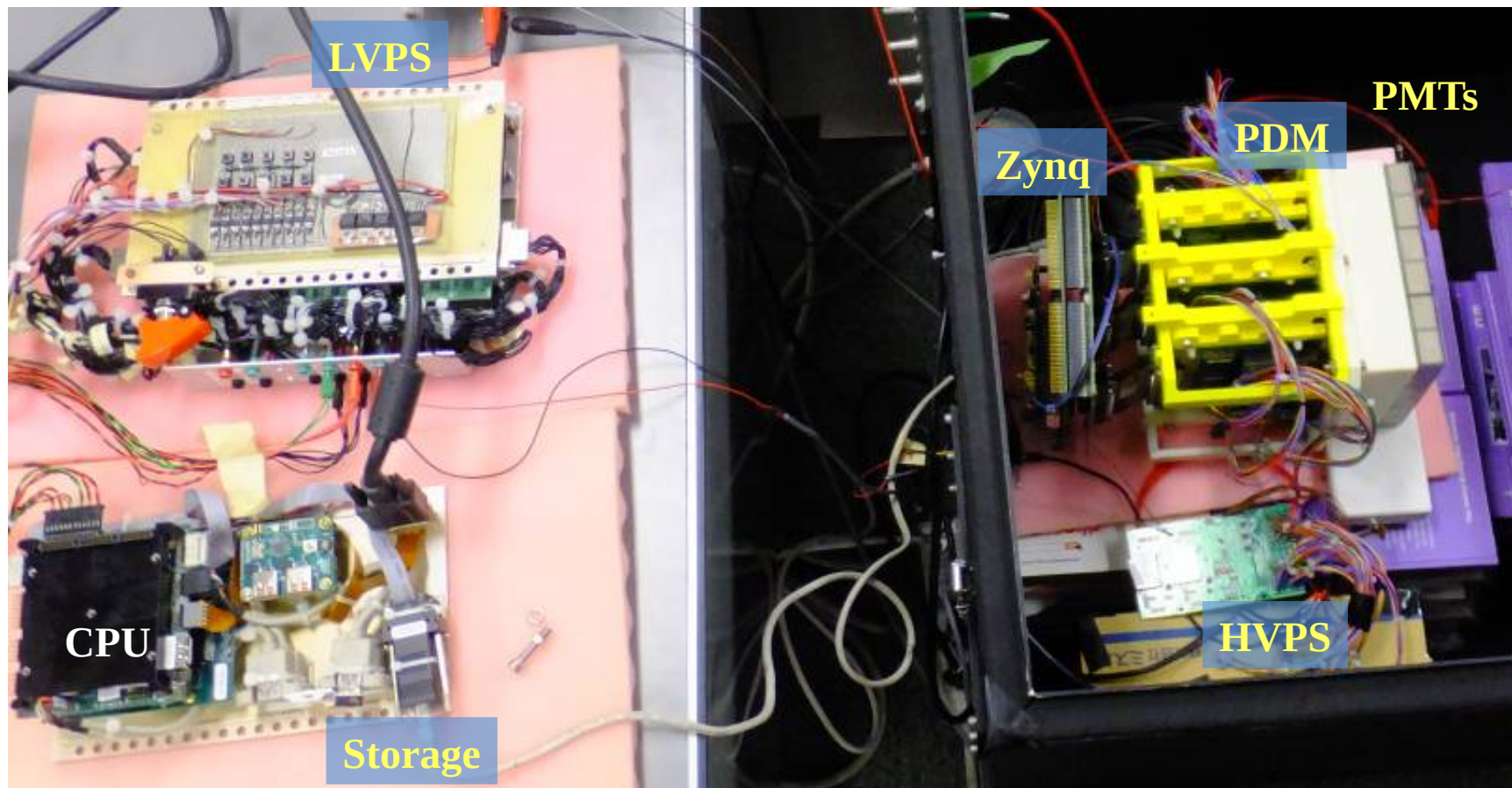


# Mini-EUSO: PDM – Photo Detection Module

36 MAPMT in 9 EC (Elementary Cells)  
MAPMT – 64 anodes PMT



# Mini-EUSO laboratory tests at RIKEN (Jan. 2017)



# Mini-EUSO Scientific objectives

## UV emissions from night-Earth

*6.5 km resolution, from  $2.5\mu\text{s}$ ,  
and above  $\pm 51^\circ$  latitude;*

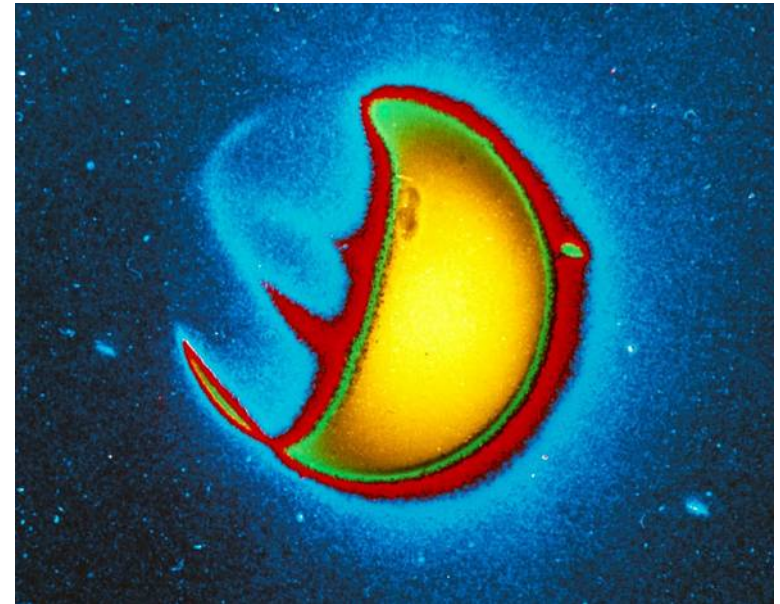
*Lightnings + TLEs*

*Background from different conditions:  
moon phase, year*

*Noise from different inclinations*

**Map of night time Earth in UV**

**Data will be made available**



**Apollo 16**  
**1050-1260 Å and 1200-1550 Å.**

# **Summary**

**For the last 8 years our group focused experimental activity at the space experiments.**

**We hope that results of measurements would improve our knowledge about UHE CR sources, but we still need to wait for them (results), and working hard.**

**The main problem is man power. We are looking for students, and young scientists, but also for experienced scientists interested in cosmic experiments and data analysis.**









