Auger Enhancement Projects: AMIGA & HEAT

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Physics motivation: sources



Physics motivation: composition



Measurement of composition at low energy (ankle region)

(Allard et al., 2005; Aloisio et al. 2006)

Physics motivation: secondary particles



Possible to measure with neutrino telescopes ?

(Seckel & Stanev PRL 2005; Allard et al., JACP 2006)

Physics motivation: propagation



Propagation of 10¹⁸ eV proton in Galaxy (simulation without random component)

Anisotropies correlated with composition?

(Medina Tanco & Watson, ICRC 2001)

Current surface detector threshold



(March 2007: ~ 1300 of 1600 SD tanks)

Simulated acceptance



Auger SD array 1500m

AMIGA infill tanks and muon counters



Detector pairs

AMIGA energy threshold



(Medina et al., astro-ph/0607115)

AMIGA scintillator design (i)



Extruded polystyrene doped with fluors, 14 pe per passing muon

MINOS-type scintillators





AMIGA scintillator design (ii)



Detector station:

3 multi-anode PMTs 4m long strips PVC housing 25 ns, 7 bit electronics area ~ 31.5m²



Multi-anode PMT:

64 pixels (2 x 2 mm²) gain 10⁶ QE 13.5% at 520 nm



3 m deep hole: no water

Expected performance of muon detectors

Reconstructed muon count rates for 10^{18} eV showers at 30°



Example: reconstructed muon lateral distribution (p, 10¹⁸ eV, 30°)



Improved shower reconstruction

Examples: simulations for proton and iron showers at 30°



(Medina et al., astro-ph/0607115)

Layout of AMIGA subarray detectors





seen only at large distance

HEAT telescope design



Calibration & maintenance position



Data taking position

- 3 ``standard'' Auger telescopes tilted to cover 30 60° elevation
- Custom-made metal enclosures
- Prototype studies for northern Auger Observatory



Combined field of view



Hybrid event rate with AMIGA (750m): ~200 high quality events / year in energy region ~10¹⁸ eV

Example: simulated nearby event



Simulated shower with core distance $R_p = 1.2$ km, $E = 10^{17.25}$ eV



- simulated profile
- reconstructed profile

Expected acceptance

Acceptance strongly selection cut dependent, here shown for high quality cuts (mean X_{max})

Threshold lowered to ~10¹⁷ eV



Conclusions and outlook

Auger enhancement detectors

- lower detection thresholds to few times 10^{17} eV
- add muon information
- improve reconstruction quality
- AMGIA: tanks and muon scintillators
- HEAT: high elevation telescopes

(details: A. Etchegoyen) (details: H. Klages)

Construction has begun

- HEAT operational in 2008
- AMIGA prototype cluster 2007/2008
- AMIGA 750m array (23 km²) in 2009
- AMIGA 433m array (5.9 km²) under discussion (2009?)

