

# The Pierre Auger Observatory



El Observatorio  
Pierre Auger  
Enrique Varela C.



Laboratorio Nacional de Supercómputo  
del Sureste de México

# Outline of the talk

- El Observatorio Pierre Auger
- Extensiones
- AugerPrime
- Trabajo en la BUAP
- Resumen

# El Observatorio Pierre Auger

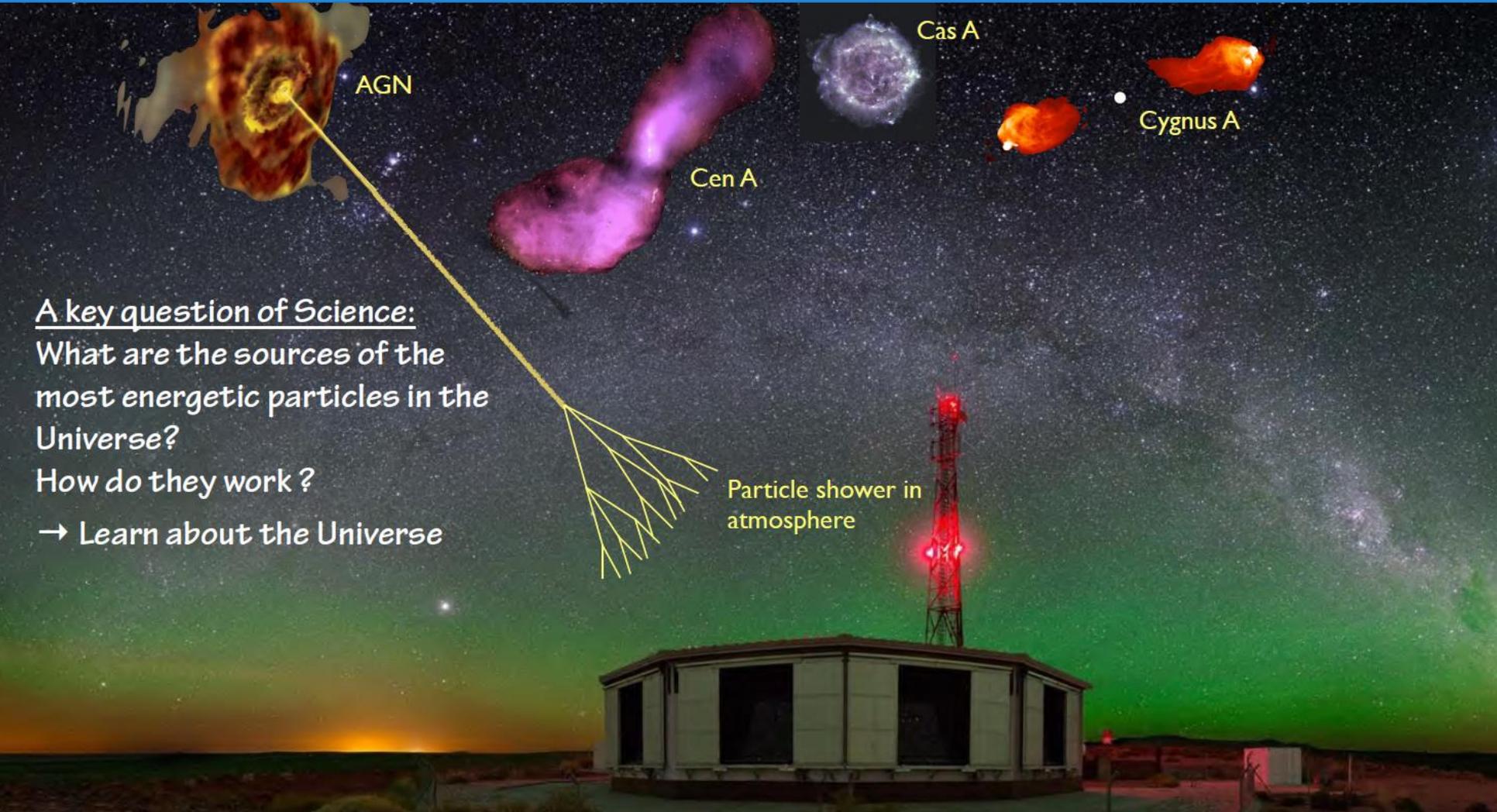
## Pierre Auger Observatory

The Pierre Auger Observatory (PAO) is the largest experiment for studying ultra-high energy cosmic rays, it is located in Argentina near the Malargüe city, it was completed in May 2008 and inaugurated in November 2008. It is taking data in stable manner since January 2004. The main objective of the project is to detect the cosmic ray particles with energy higher than  $10^{18}$  eV.

## The properties that we want to measure are of CR are:

- Energy
- Arrival direction
- Mass composition

# El Observatorio Pierre Auger



AGN

Cas A

Cygnus A

Cen A

A key question of Science:

What are the sources of the most energetic particles in the Universe?

How do they work ?

→ Learn about the Universe

Particle shower in atmosphere

# La Colaboración Auger

~500 Collaborators; 90 Institutions, 18 Countries:

**Argentina**

**Australia**

**Brasil**

**Colombia**

**Czech Republic**

**France**

**Germany**

**Italy**

**Mexico**

Not just the site,  
became a second  
home and is a  
key partner in this  
project!

**Netherlands**

**Poland**

**Portugal**

**Romania**

**Slovenia**

**Spain**

**USA**

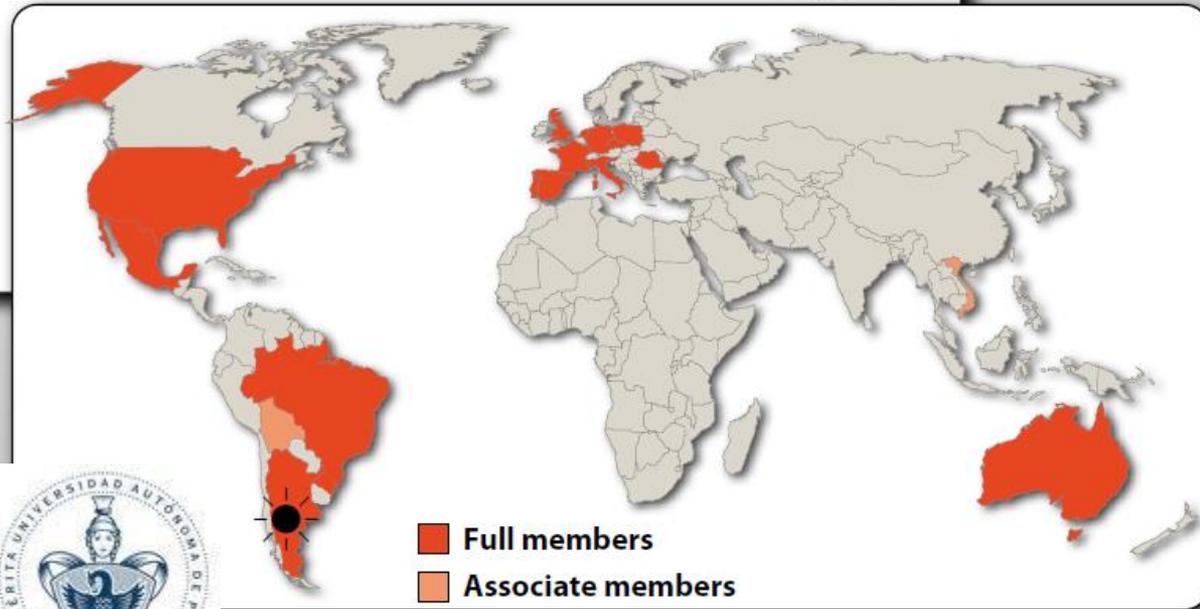
**Bolivia\***

**Vietnam\***

\*Associated



PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY



**BUAP**



Laboratorio Nacional de Supercómputo  
del Sureste de México

# Detector Híbrido

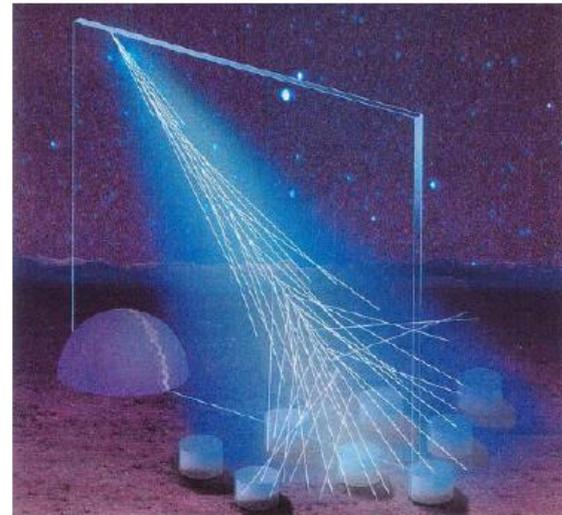
The most important characteristic of this experiment is the continual usage of so called hybrid detection when the same shower is detected by surface and fluorescence detector simultaneously

## Fluorescence Detector

It detects the fluorescence light, generated by the EAS passing through the atmosphere as a result of excitation of air molecules, mainly Nitrogen ( $N_2$ ).  
Duty cycle 15%.

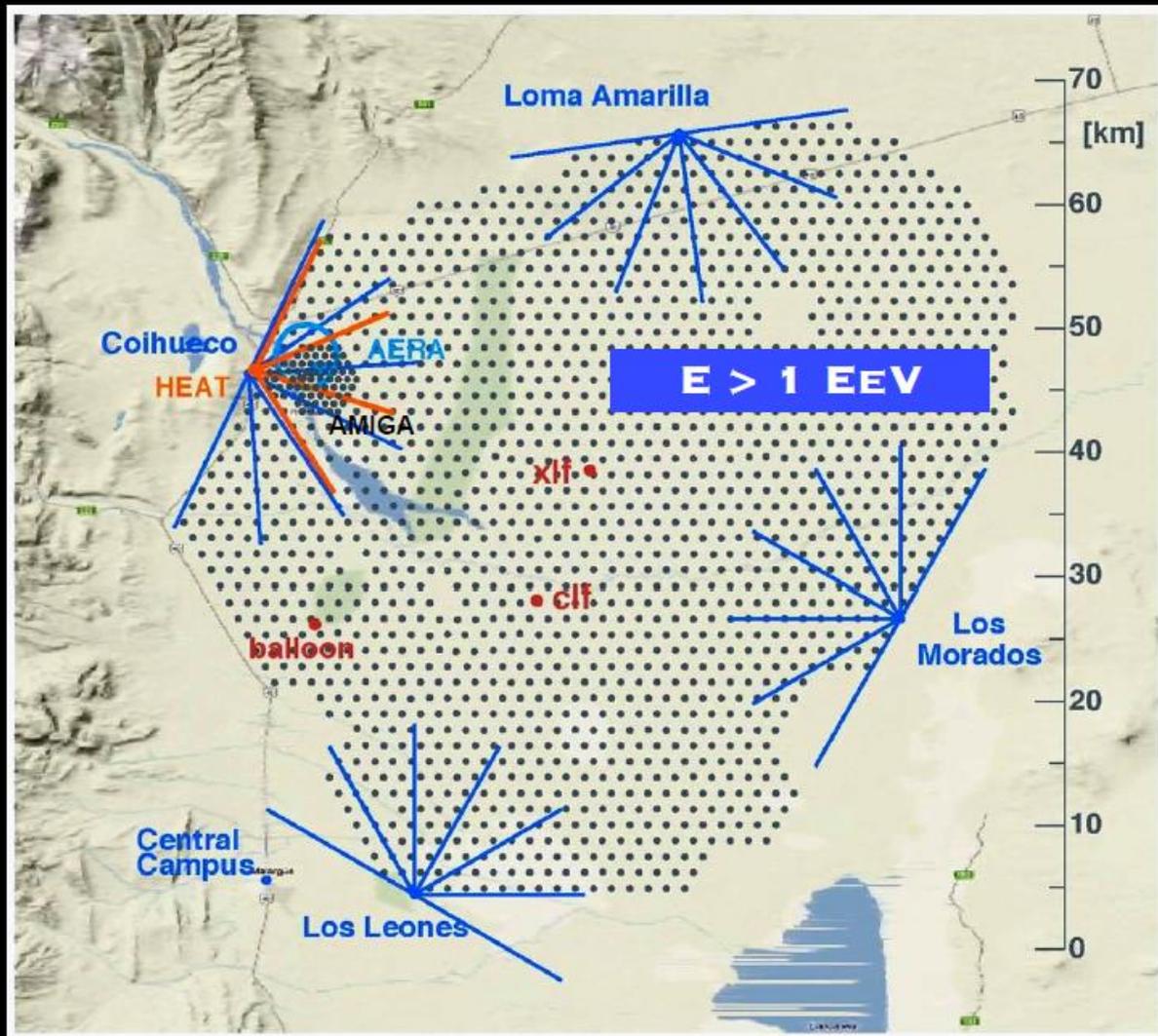
## Surface Detector

It detects the secondary particles at ground level.  
Duty cycle 100%.



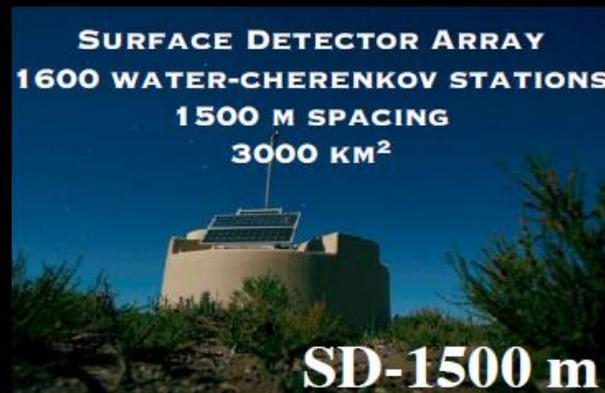
One important aspect of the hybrid detection is the energy calibration of SD measurements by FD data.

# The Pierre Auger Observatory, Argentina



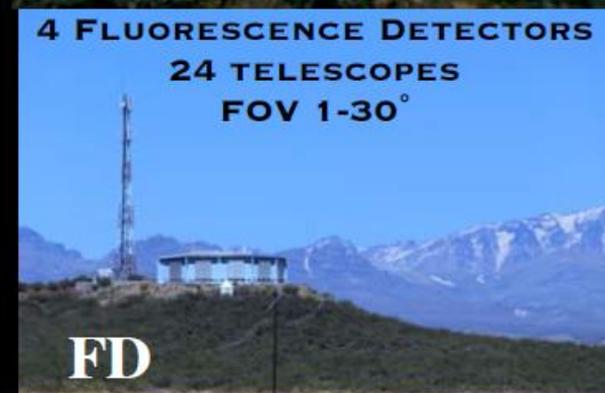
## THE INITIAL DETECTORS

**SURFACE DETECTOR ARRAY**  
1600 WATER-CHERENKOV STATIONS  
1500 M SPACING  
3000 KM<sup>2</sup>



**SD-1500 m**

**4 FLUORESCENCE DETECTORS**  
24 TELESCOPES  
FOV 1-30°



**FD**

**ATMOSPHERIC MONITORING**  
LASERS AND LIDARS



# Extensiones

FD extension

- High Elevation Auger Telescope (HEAT)

SD extension

- Auger Muons and Infill for the Ground Array (AMIGA)

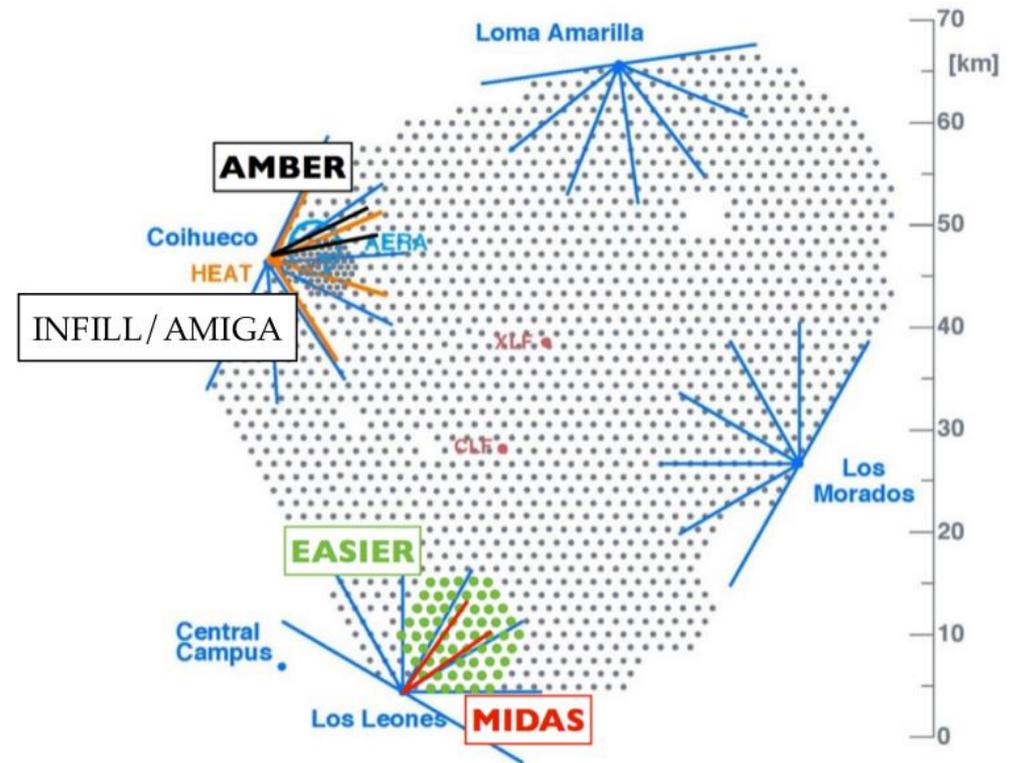
Objective:

- extend observations down to lower energy
- obtain better composition information

Infill + HEAT  $\Rightarrow$  low energy hybrid trigger

Radio detection

- AERA (MHz)
- AMBER (GHz)
- EASIER (GHz)
- MIDAS (MHz, GHz)

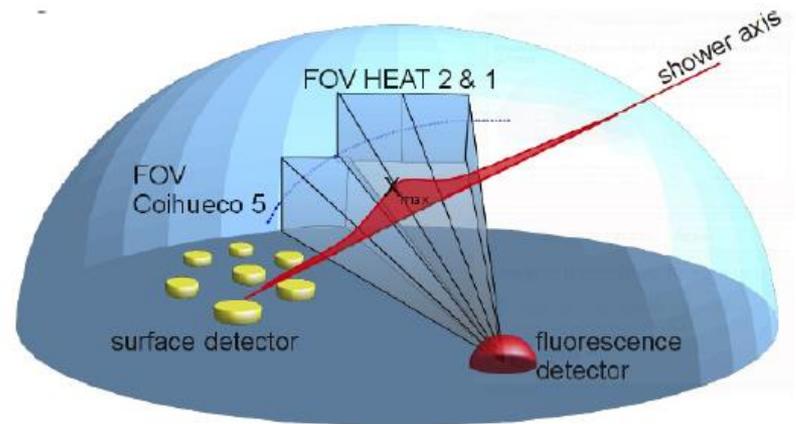


# Extensiones

## High Elevation Auger Telescopes

### HEAT

- 3 tiltable telescopes.
- 180 m from Coihueco site.
- Field of view from  $30^{\circ}$  to  $60^{\circ}$  in elevation.
- operated as independent site
- Infill area in FOV
- Energy  $\geq 10^{17}$  eV.

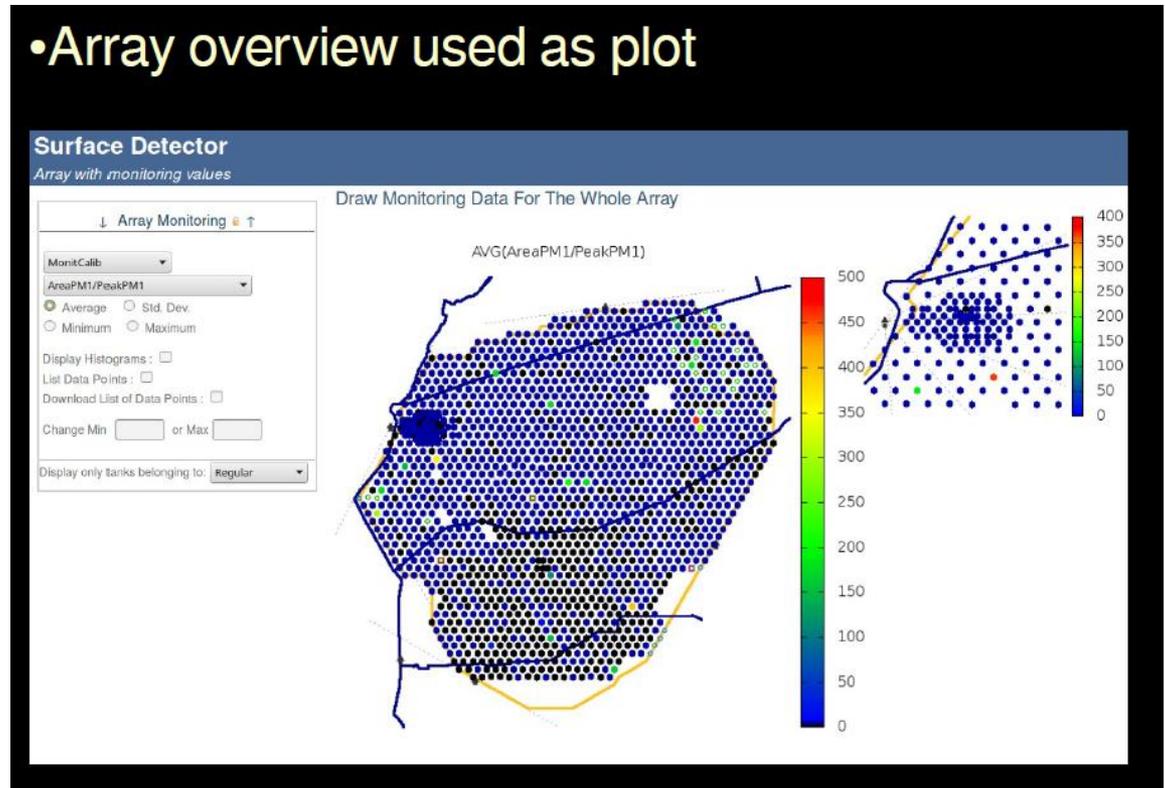


Virtual eye 6 (HeCo)

# Extensiones

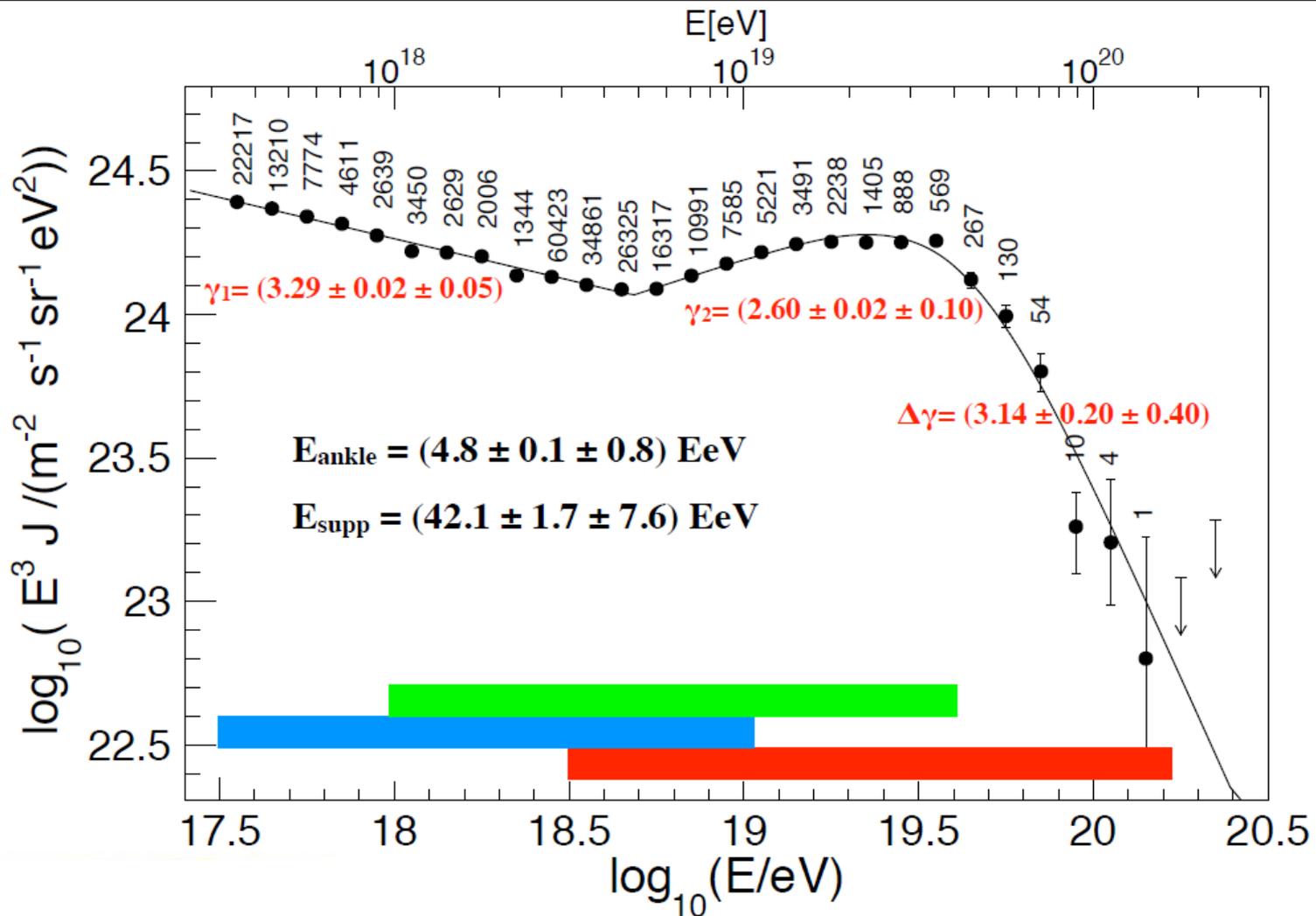
- 60 WCD stations, 750 m
- Near and in FoV of HEAT

## • Array overview used as plot



# Results

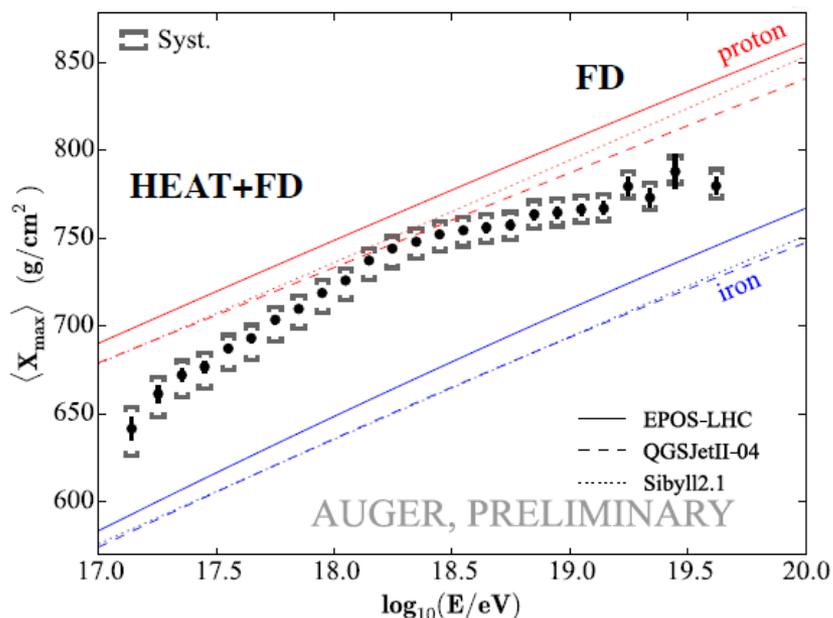
4 data sets combined: **SD 750 m**, **FD (hybrid)**, **SD 1500 m (0-60°)**, **SD 1500 m (60-80°)**  
 $\approx 200\,000$  events,  $\approx 50\,000$  km<sup>2</sup> sr yr exposure, FOV:  $-90^\circ$ ,  $+25$  in  $\delta$



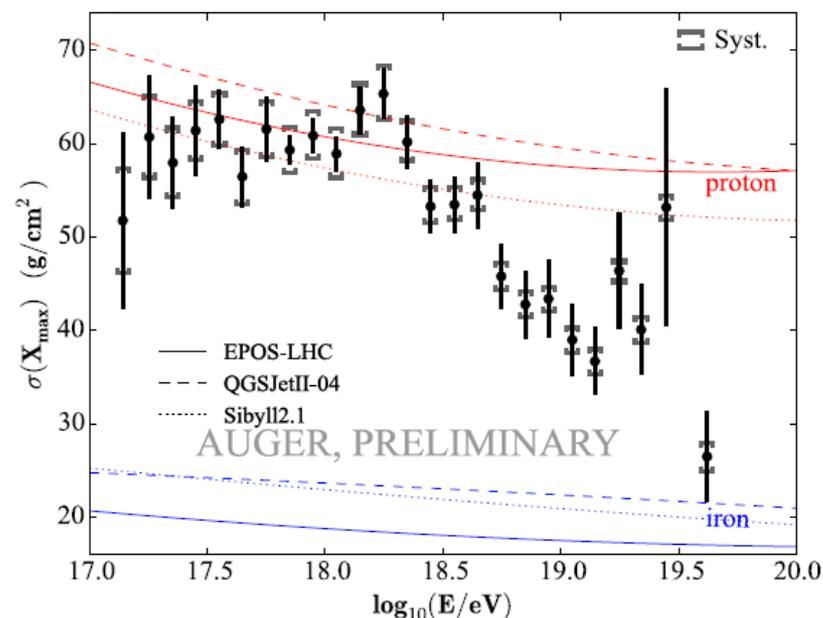
# Results

Depth of shower maximum premiere observable for mass composition studies  
HEAT data extends the FOV of the fluorescence detector up to  $60^\circ$   
Extension of the depth of shower maximum measurements down to  $10^{17}$  eV

Average of  $X_{\max}$



Std. Deviation of  $X_{\max}$



# Results and Upgrade

After 10 years of operation

1. All-particle spectrum: unquestionable existence of a flux suppression above  $\approx 40$  EeV (GZK-reminiscent)
2. Trend towards a heavier composition at the highest energies (from  $X_{\max}$  data, very few data above 40 EeV). Spectrum and  $X_{\max}$  data together favors the scenario where the suppression is a source effect. **NEED FOR MASS COMPOSITION DATA IN THE SUPPRESSION REGION - ACCESSED BY THE SURFACE DETECTOR**

Auger data indicate that the most energetic particles are not only protons but mostly heavy, highly-charged, nuclei. These are deflected by cosmic magnetic fields, which makes it difficult to track back to their origin. Another ten years of operation is expected to double the data set and to identify the cosmic accelerators

# AugerPrime

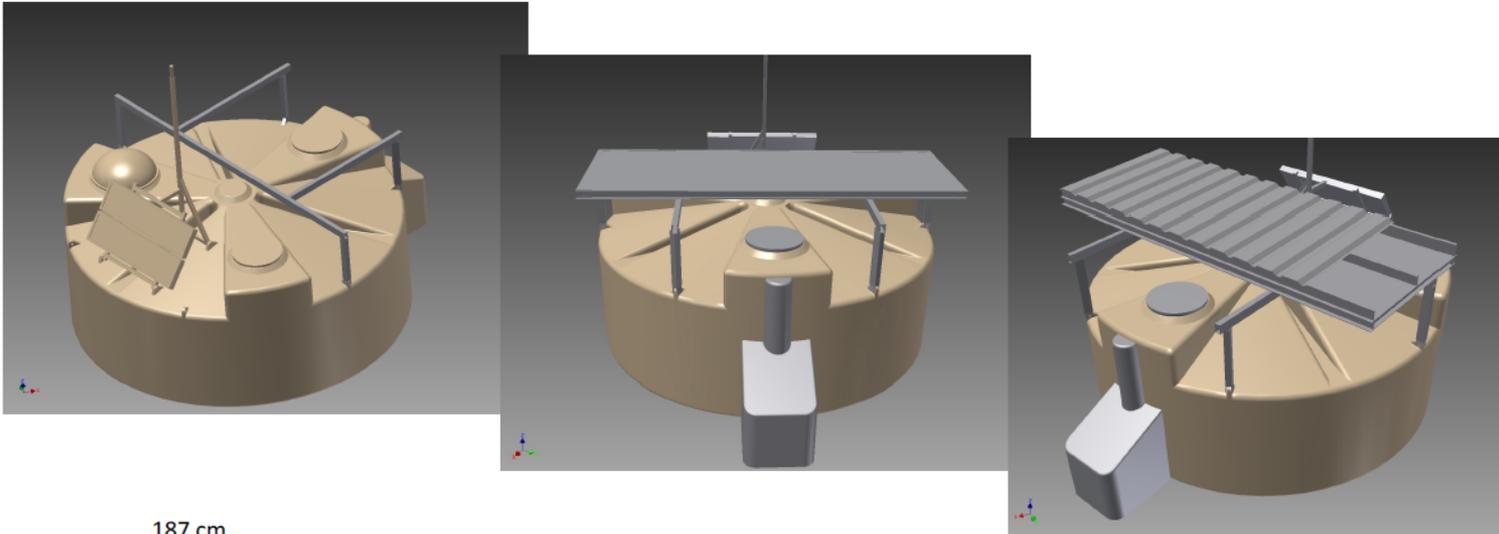
The key element of the upgrade will be the installation of a plastic scintillator on top of each existing surface detector stations. It will provide a complementary measurement of the showers allowing the reconstruction of muons and electromagnetic particles. The surface scintillator detector stations (SSD) will be deployed over the full 3,000-km<sup>2</sup> area of the overall surface detector (SD).



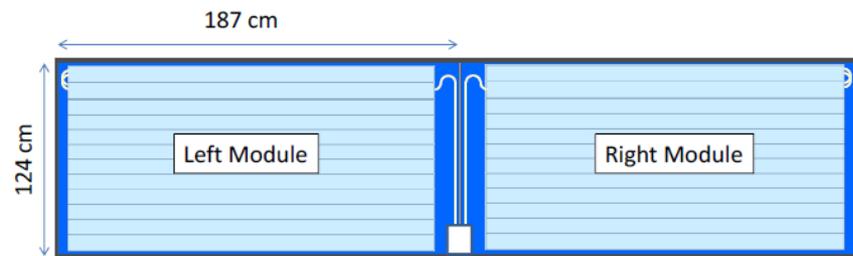
Electronics  
prototypes (120 MHz)



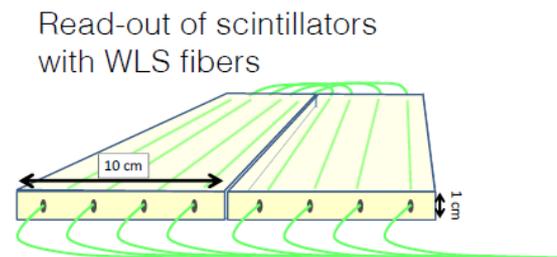
# Practical implementation



Simple and robust construction of detector module and mounting frame, double roof for thermal insulation



Two modules in one box per station, readout by one PMT, area  $\sim 4 \text{ m}^2$



Both WCD and SSD to be connected to new 120 MHz electronics

# Auger @ BUAP (2016)

**Dr. Humberto Salazar (DCyTIC)**

**Dr. Oscar Martinez Bravo (FCFM)**

**Dr. Epifanio Ponce L. (FCFM)**

**Dr. Enrique Varela Carlos (LNS)**

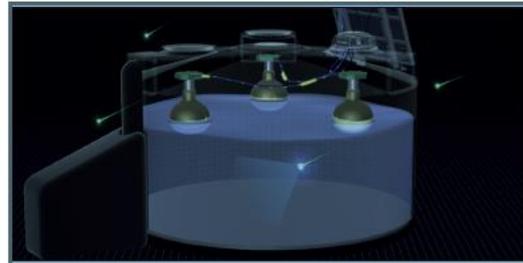
**PHD Students**

**M.C. Alejandra Parra**

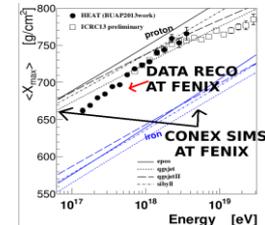
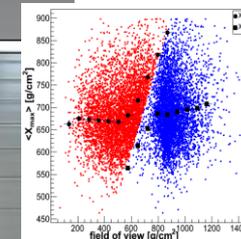
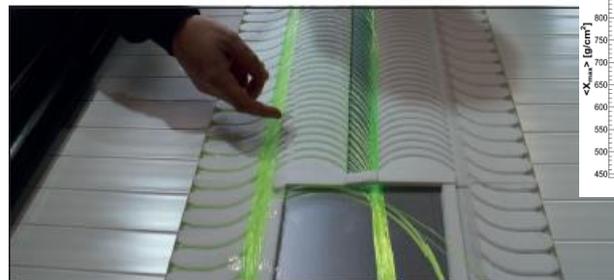
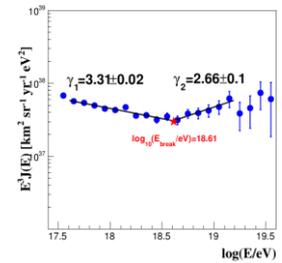
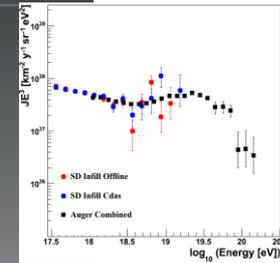
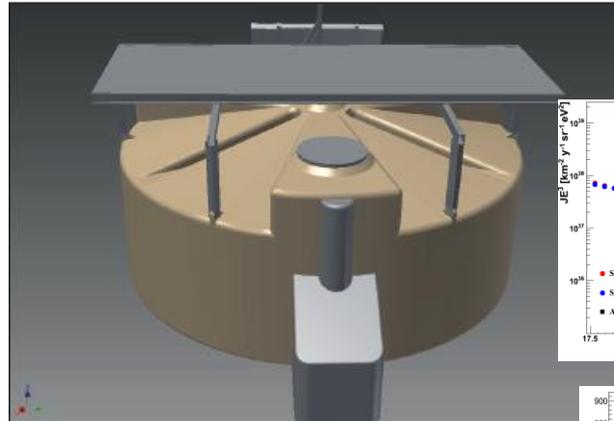
**M.C Cederik de Leon**

# HPC for High Energy Physics: Auger

- Offline framework (**Offline v2r9p1**)
- CDAS
- Corsika v75000 (For shower simulations for energies from  $10^{17}$ - $10^{20}$ eV)
- CONEX v2r4.37(For FD shower simulations for energies from  $10^{17}$ - $10^{18.5}$ eV)
- GEANT4 (Simulation on Detector Response)
- ROOT
- ADST (For analysis)

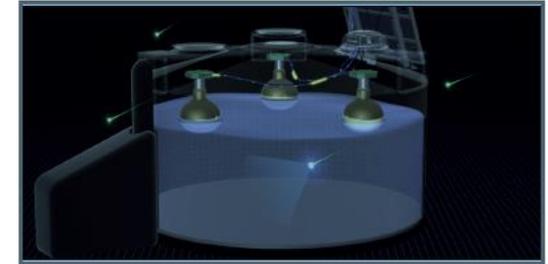
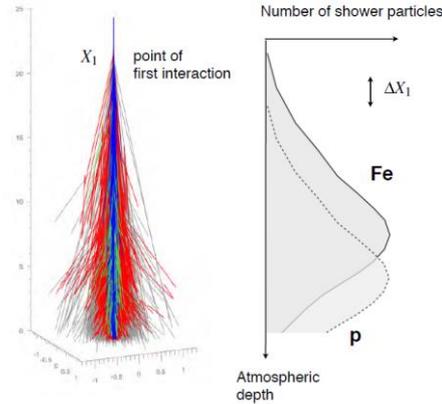


Cherenkov light produced by air-shower particles is detected by three photomultiplier tubes, which view the water volume

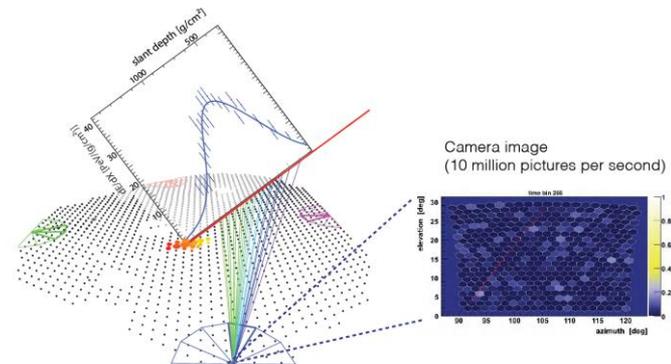
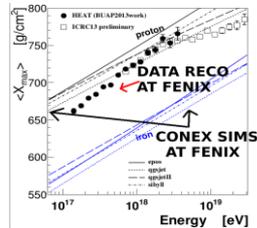
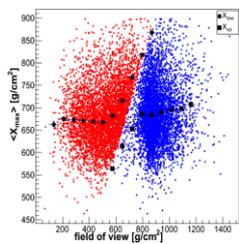
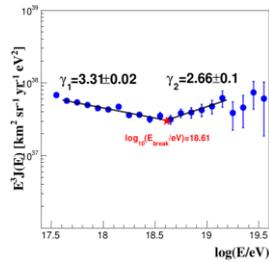
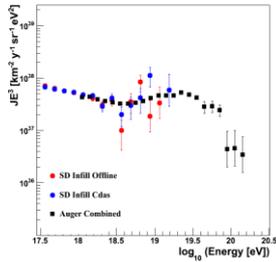


# HPC for High Energy Physics: Auger

- MC Simulations for HEAT, ASCII using CONEX, CORSIKA, GEANT4
- Reconstruction and Data Analysis
- Electronic



Cherenkov light produced by air-shower particles is detected by three photomultiplier tubes, which view the water volume.



# Auger Remote Control @ BUAP

## Remote Control

New-comer: Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP), Mexico  
Enrique Varela, Alejandra Parra



<https://www.auger.unam.mx/AugerWiki/RemoteShift>

# Auger Remote Control @ BUAP

Dr. Epifanio. M.C. Cederik



# SUMMARY

- Data indicate that, in addition to the propagation effect known as GZK cutoff, this flux suppression may reveal the limiting energy of the most powerful cosmic particle accelerators.
- The Observatory Pierre Auger has begun the upgrade operations

LABORATORIO NACIONAL DE SUPERCÓMPUTO  
DEL SURESTE DE MEXICO

FLNS

**Thank you for your attention**