



# First Results from the Telescope Array Experiment

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For the Telescope Array Collaboration

Quarks-2010 Kolomna, Russia

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# Telescope Array (TA)

- **Telescope Array Collaboration was forged by Members of HiRes and AGASA**
  - Study Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays (spectrum, composition, anisotropy, ...)
  - Understand the differences between AGASA and HiRes
  - Study the galactic to extra-galactic transition: measure cosmic rays over the second knee, ankle, and GZK with one cross-calibrated detector
- **Telescope Array now has members from the US, Japan, Korea, Russia, and China**

# Telescope Array Collaboration

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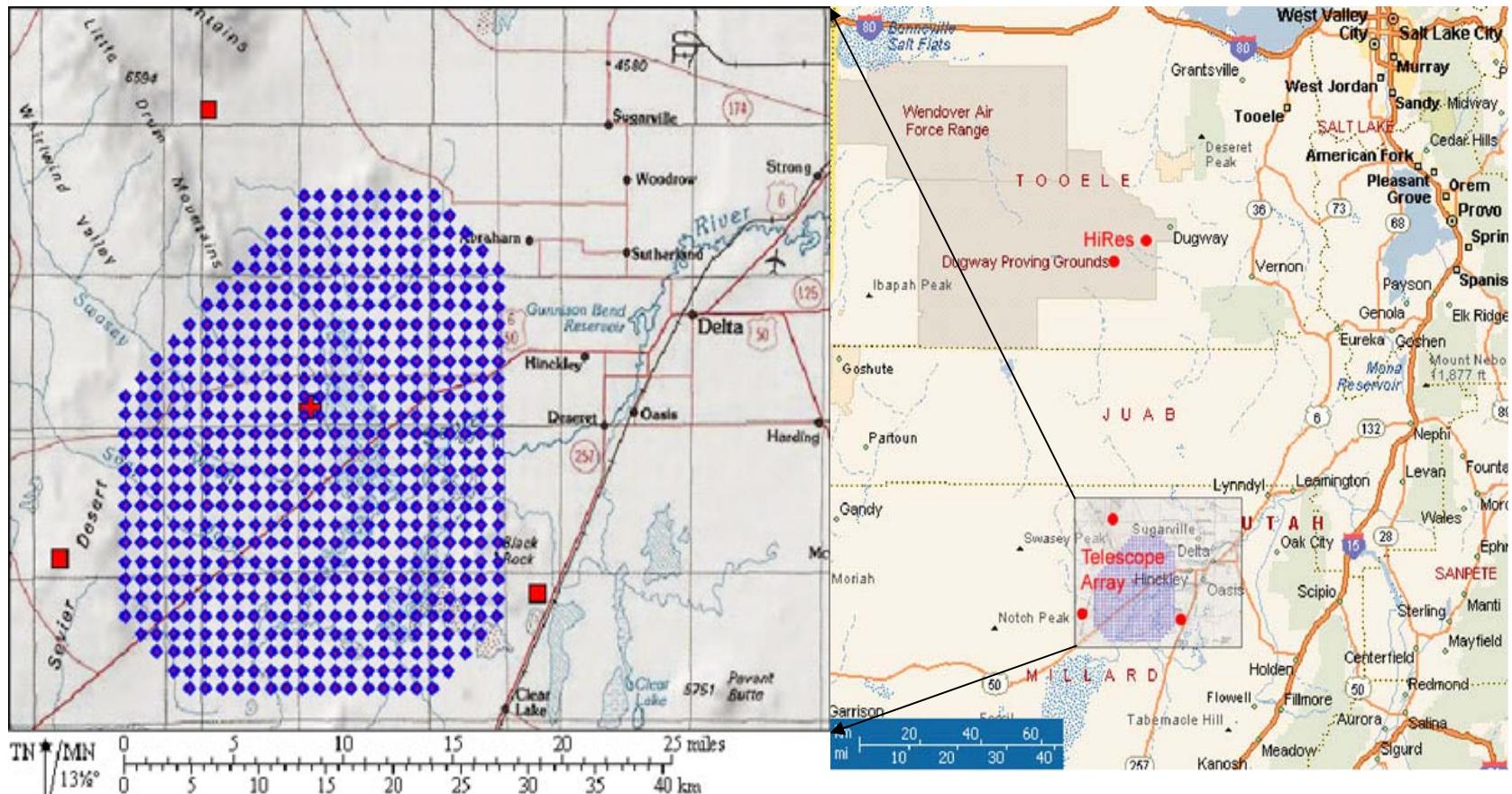
<sup>21</sup>University Libre de Bruxelles, <sup>22</sup>University of Tokyo, <sup>23</sup>Kochi University, <sup>24</sup>Hiroshima City University,

<sup>25</sup>National Institute of Radiological Science, Japan, <sup>26</sup>Ehime University

# Outline

- **Introduction**
- **FD Middle Drum Spectral Analysis**
- **SD Spectral Analysis**
- **Hybrid Spectral Analysis**
- **FD Stereo Composition Analysis**
- *(See talk by G. Rubtsov for a search for photon events)*
- **Plans**
- **Conclusions**

# Telescope Array - HE



The High Energy component of Telescope Array – 38 fluorescence telescopes (9728 PMTs) at 3 FD stations overlooking an array of 507 scintillator surface detectors (SD) - complete and operational as of ~1/2008.

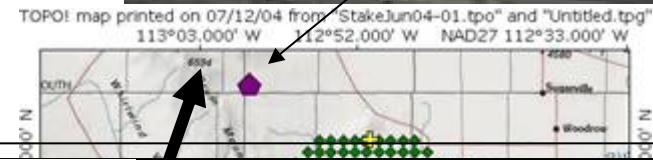
# TA Fluorescence Detectors

Refurbished  
from HiRes-I

Observations  
since ~10/2007

## Middle Drum

14 telescopes@station  
256 PMTs/camera



~30km

Observation  
since  
~11/2007

## New FDs

12 telescopes/station  
256 PMTs/camera  
Hamamatsu R9508  
FOV~15x18deg

## Long Ridge



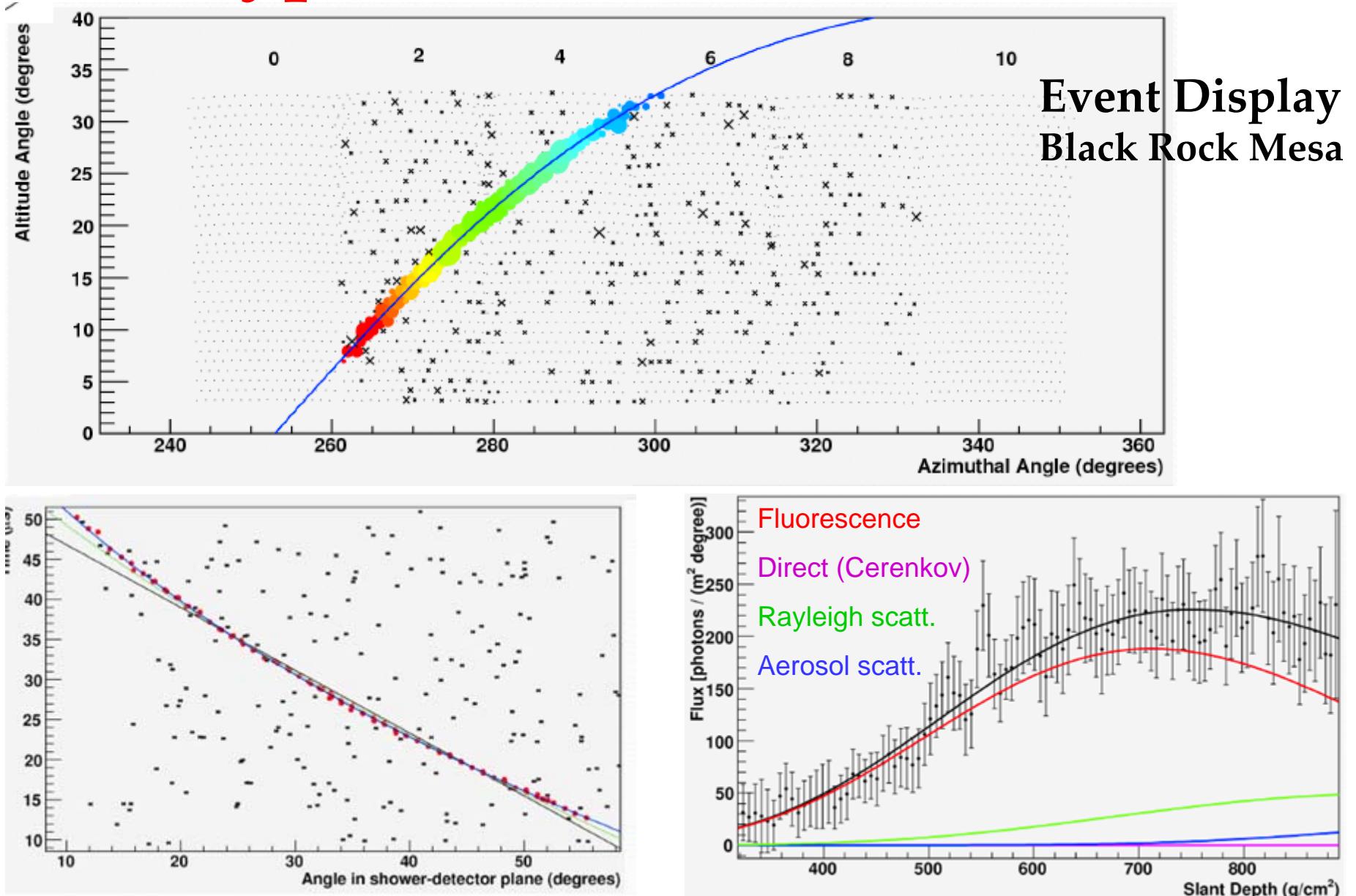
Observation  
since ~6/2007

## Black Rock Mesa

~1 m<sup>2</sup>



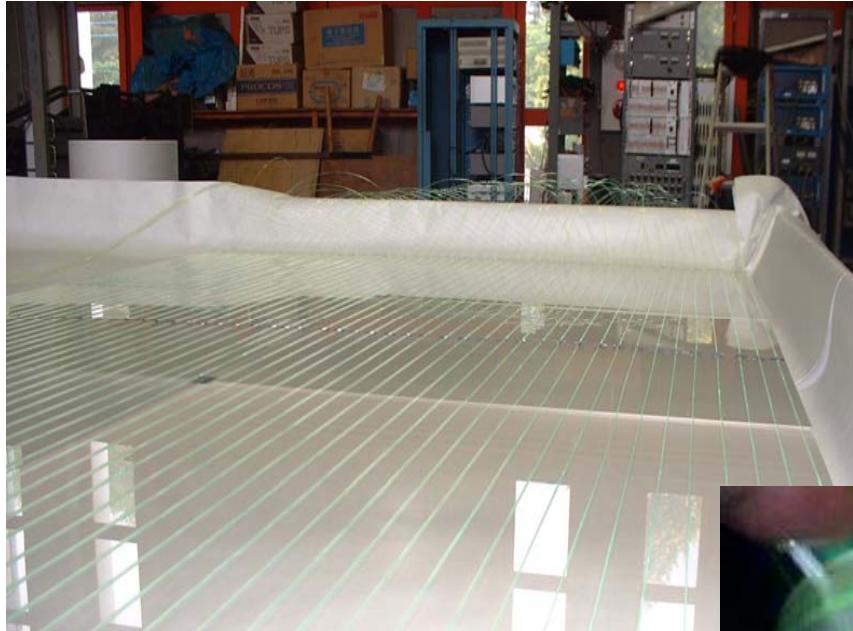
# Typical Fluorescence Event



Monocular timing fit

Reconstructed Shower Profile

# Surface Detectors



Pre-assembled in Japan, Final Assby/testing in Delta: 2 layers, 1.25 cm scintillator, 3m<sup>2</sup> area



**Deployment** (up to 50/day)  
485 SDs: 10/2006 - 3/2007

# Scintillator Detectors on a 1.2 km square grid



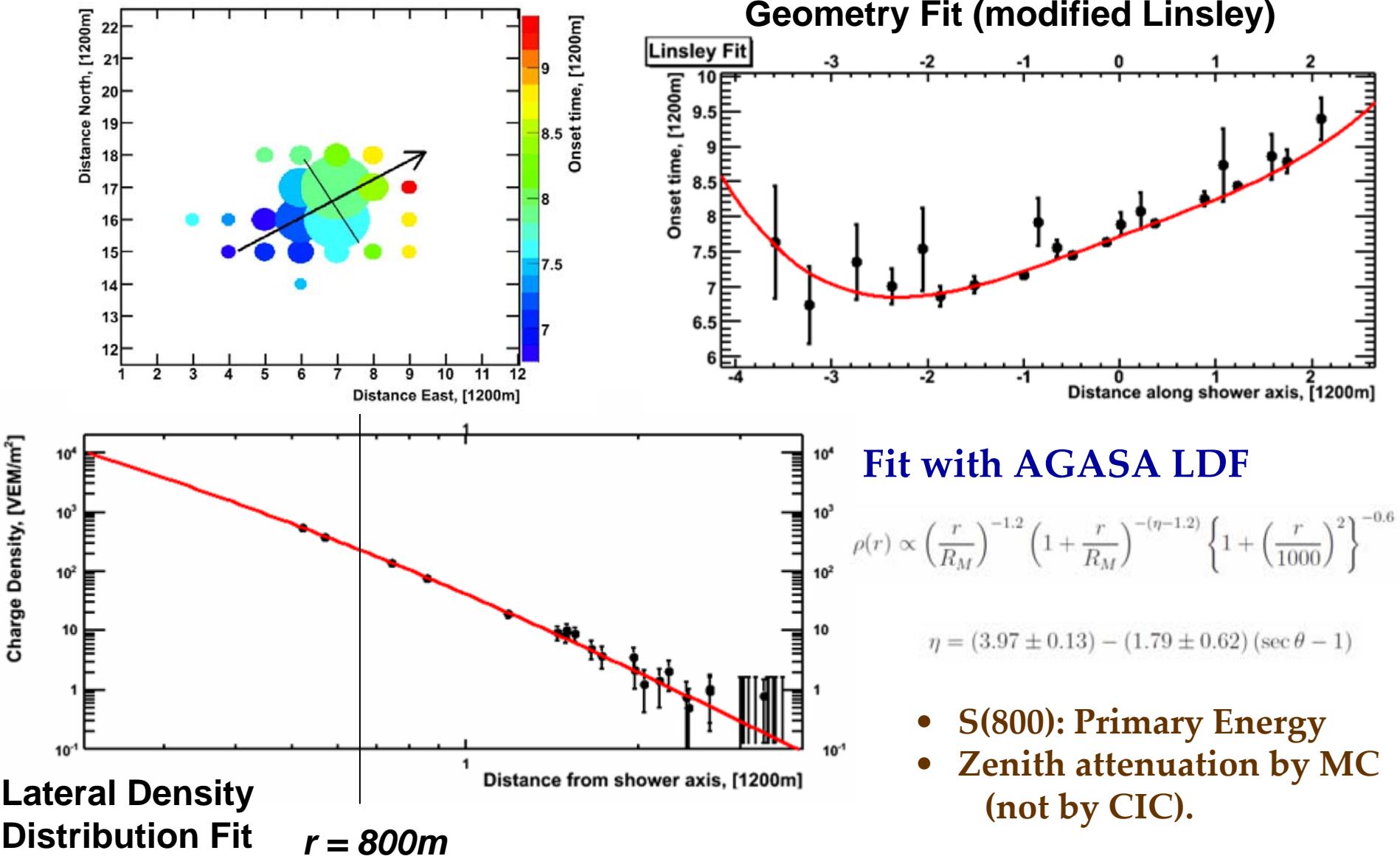
# TA Scintillator Detectors

- Power:  
Solar/battery
- Readout:  
Radio
- Self-calibrated:  
 $\mu$  background
- Operational:  
3/2008



# Typical Scintillator Detector Event

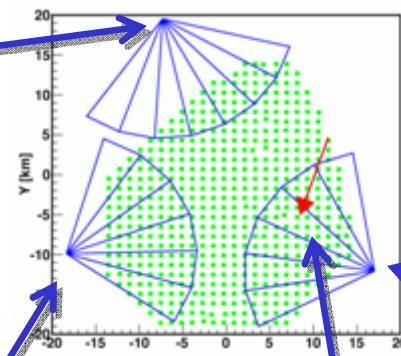
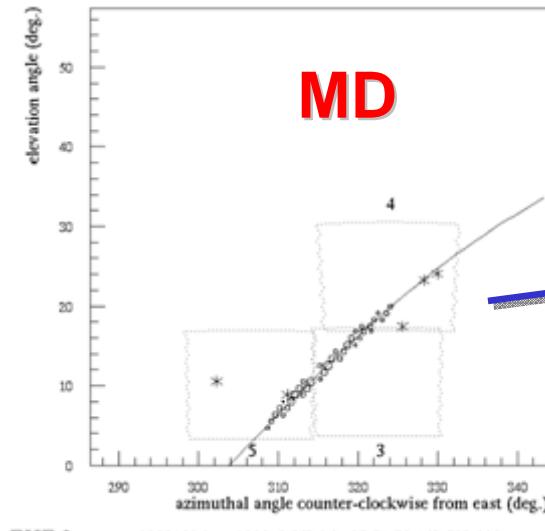
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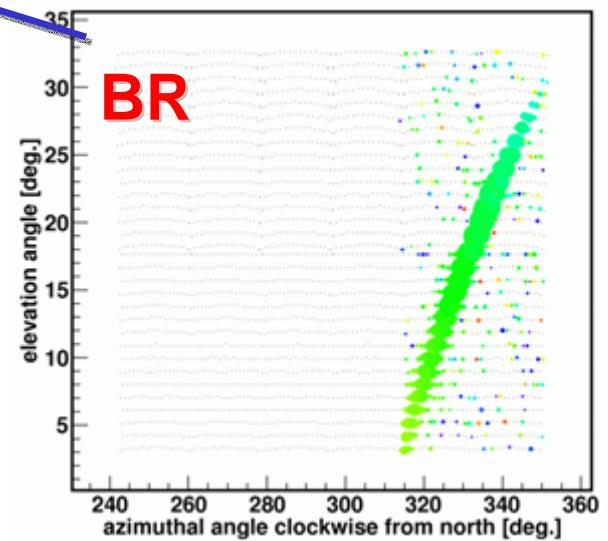
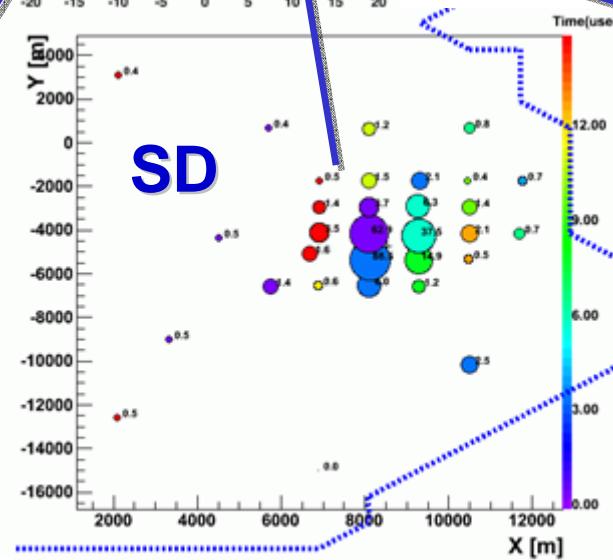
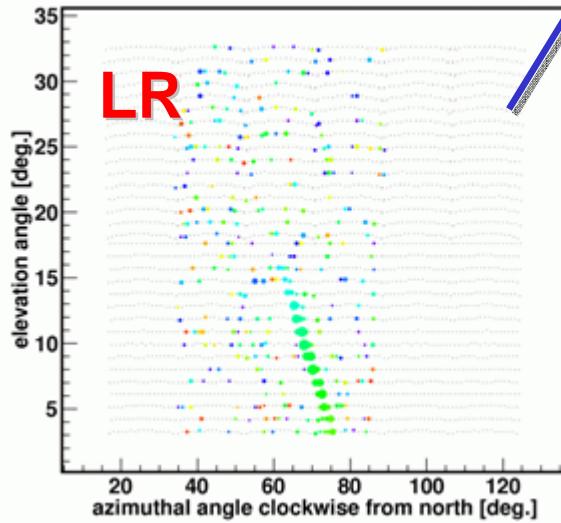
# **CR Observation:**

- Detector systems are independently operated thus far, however
- Many events are observed by multiple detector systems
  - FD mono has  $\sim 5^\circ$  resolution in  $\psi$  (angle within shower detector plane).
  - Adding SD information (hybrid reconstruction)  
→  $\sim 0.5^\circ$  resolution.
  - Stereo FD resolution  $\sim 0.5^\circ$
- Need stereo or hybrid for composition
- Hybrid trigger (FD to SD) currently being installed

# Example Event from 2008-10-26



	$\theta$ [°]	$\phi$ [°]	x[km]	y[km]
MD mono	51.43	73.76	7.83	-3.10
BR mono	51.50	77.09	7.67	-4.14
Stereo BR&LR	50.21	71.30	8.55	-4.88



# A Careful Analysis Method

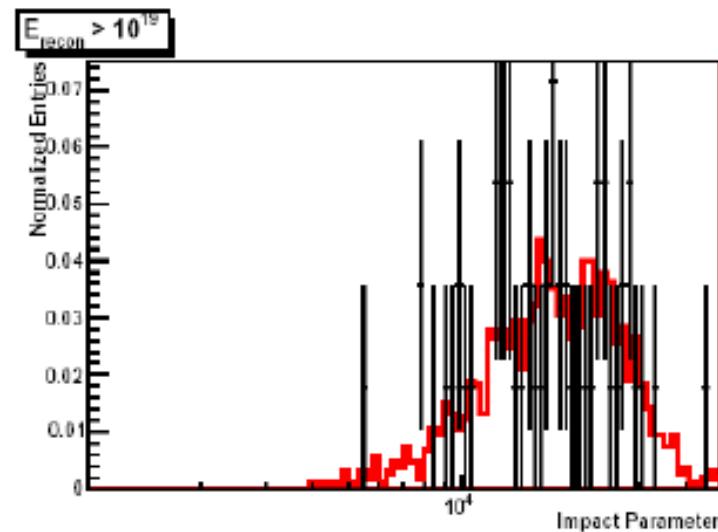
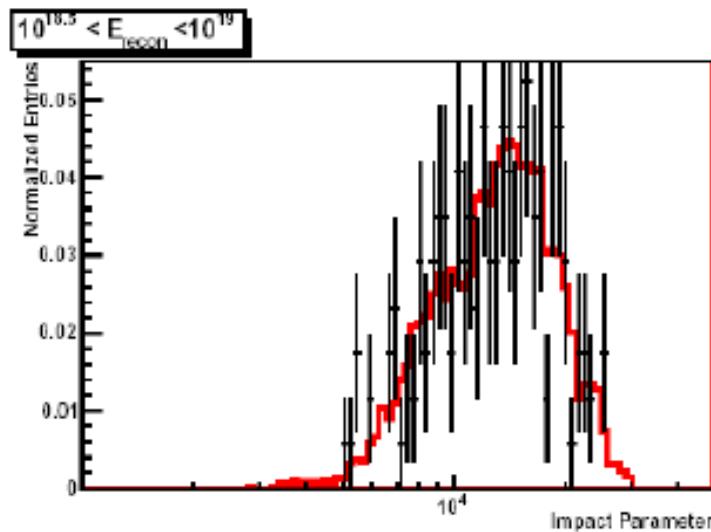
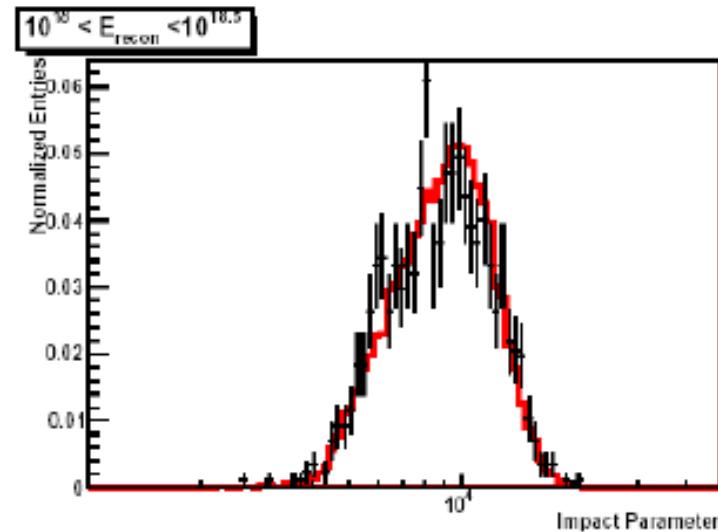
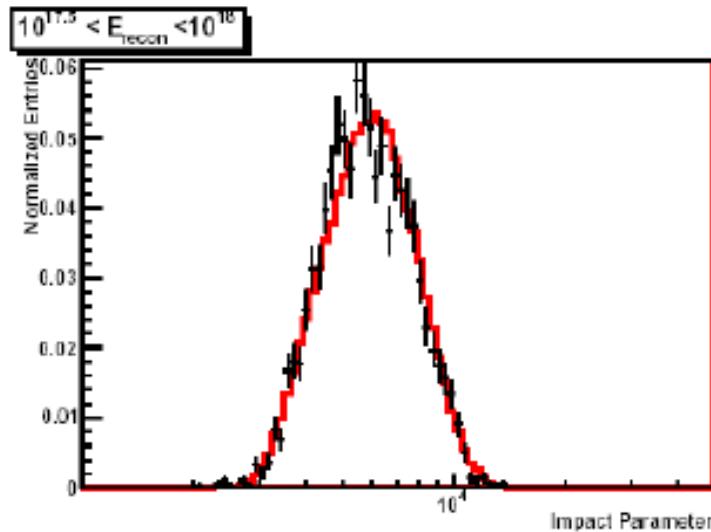
- Simulate the data the **same way** it is observed.
  - Start with previously measured spectrum and composition
  - Select an air shower simulation program  
(CORSIKA/QGSJET-II/FLUKA)
  - Throw an isotropic distribution
  - Include atmospheric scattering
  - Simulate detector, front-end electronics, trigger, and DAQ
  - Write out the MC events in **same format** as data
  - Analyze the MC with the **same programs** used for data
- *Test with data/MC comparison plots*
- If they agree: “**I understand my detector**”  
Otherwise: work harder

# Middle Drum FD Analysis

- Initially use HiRes-I methods:
  - Is HiRes spectrum reproduced? (Same telescopes, just moved and reconfigured)
  - Test effect of two rings: HiRes-I had one ring of mirrors ( $3^\circ$ - $17^\circ$ ) and short tracks
  - Middle Drum like HiRes-II, Black Rock, Long Ridge, & PAO observes  $3^\circ$ - $31^\circ$  in elevation

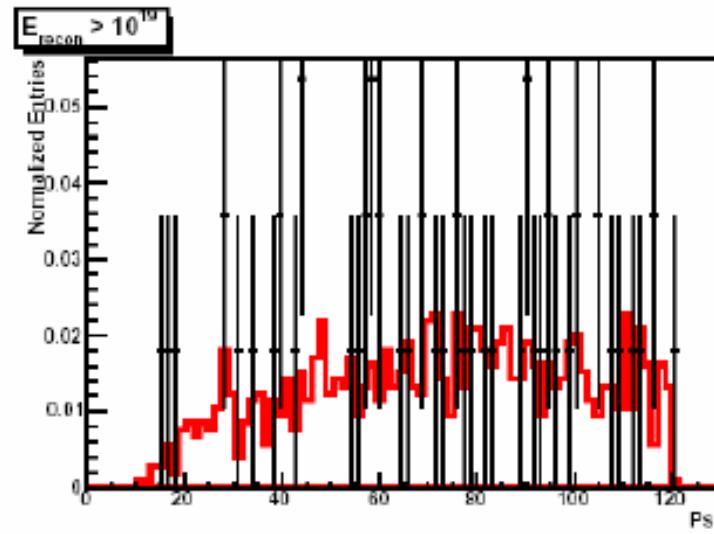
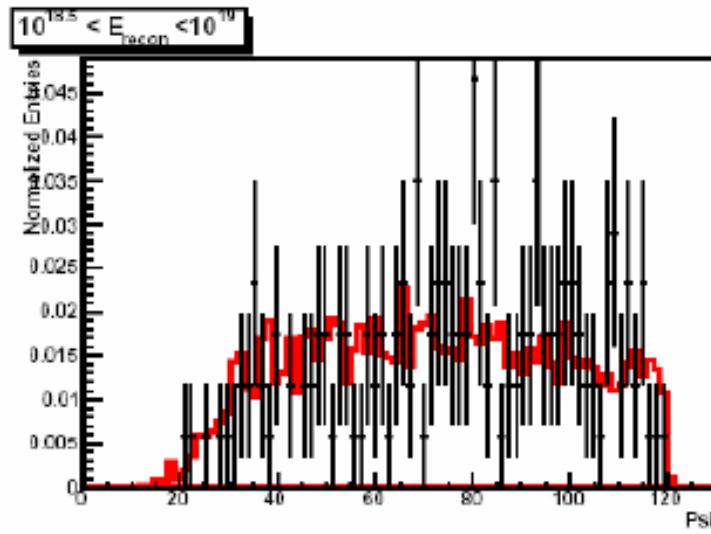
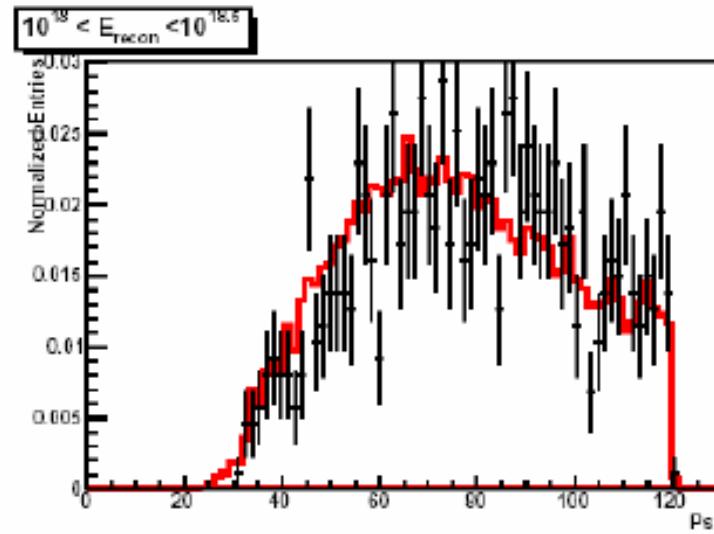
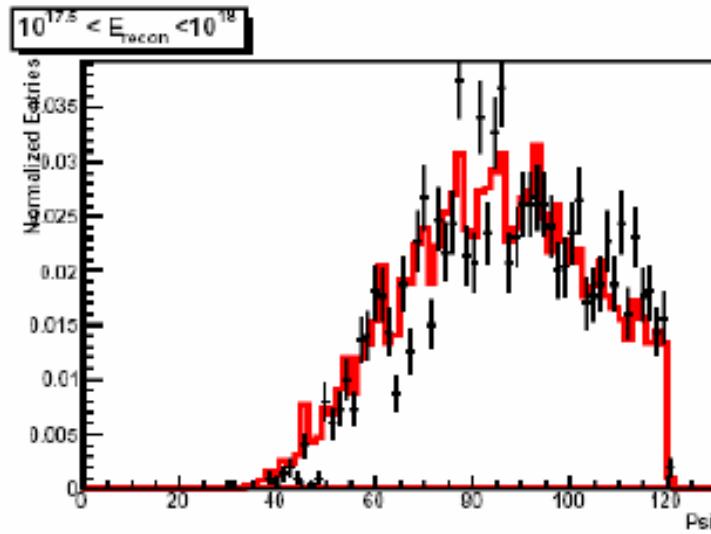
# Data – Monte Carlo Comparison

## R<sub>p</sub> (km)



# Data – Monte Carlo Comparison

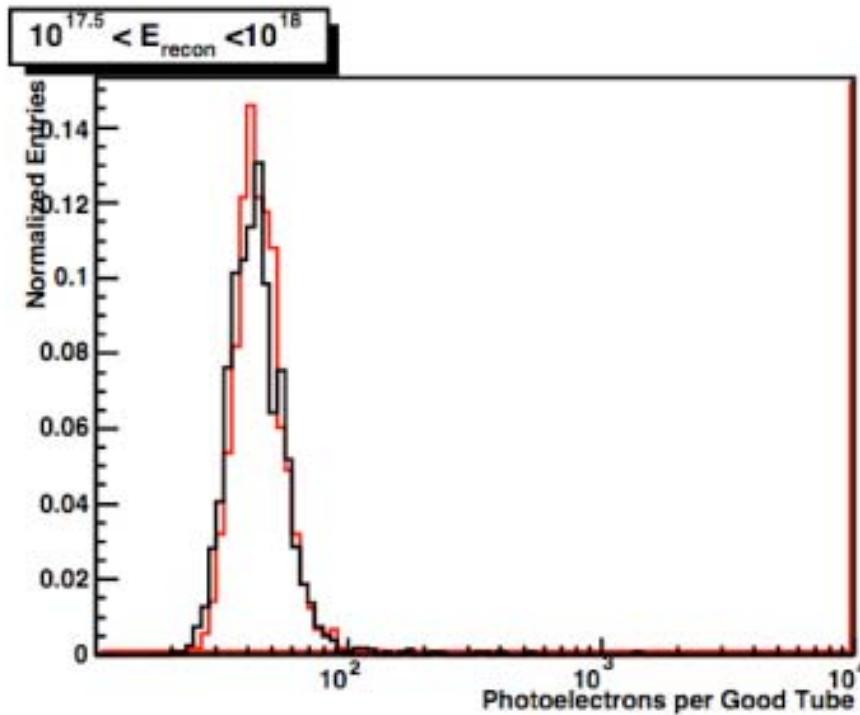
## Psi angle (deg)



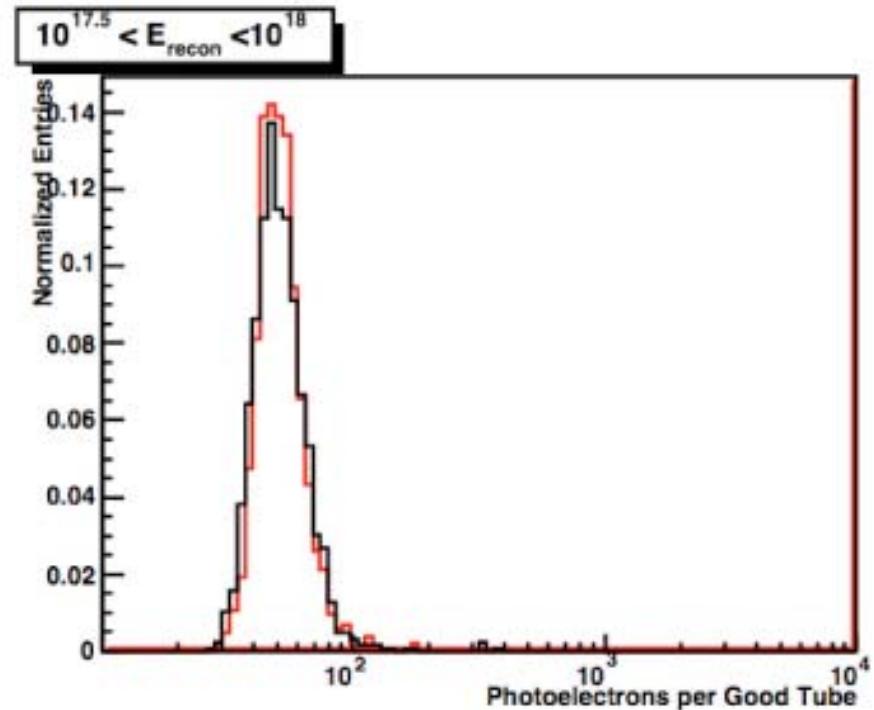
# Data – Monte Carlo Comparison

- Photo-electrons per good tube (pepgt)

Group A: Data-black, MC-red

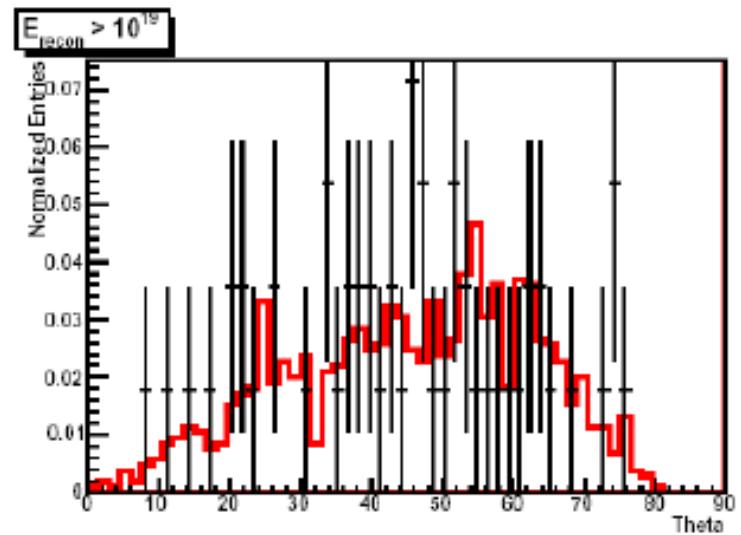
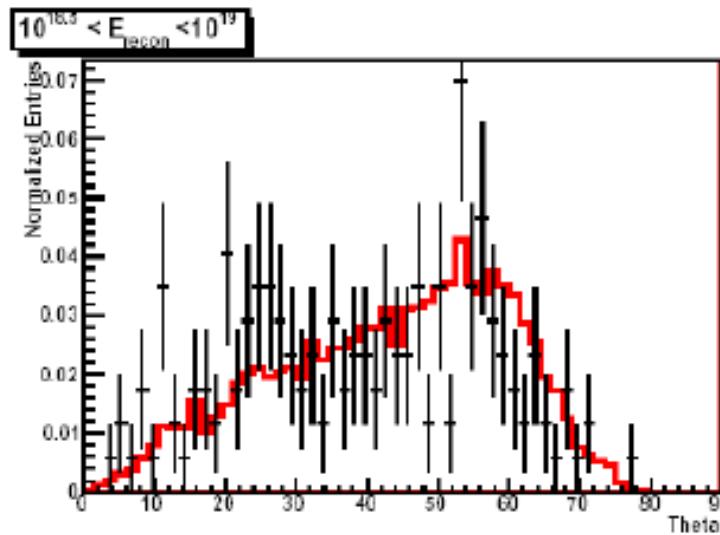
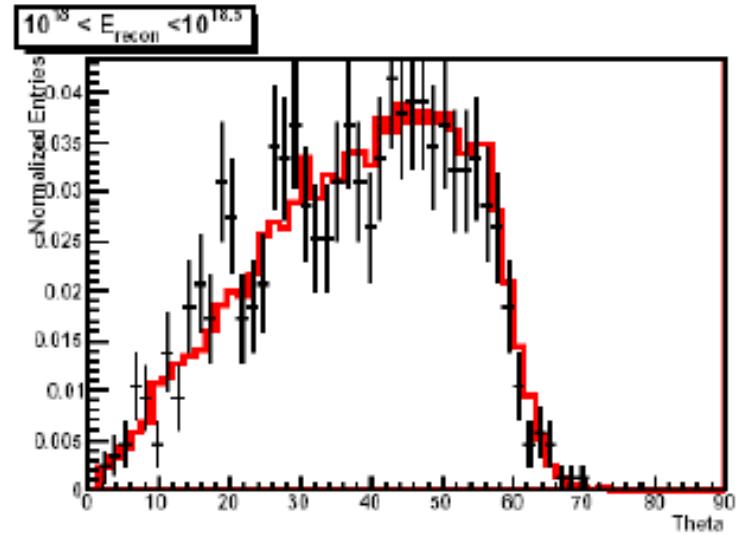
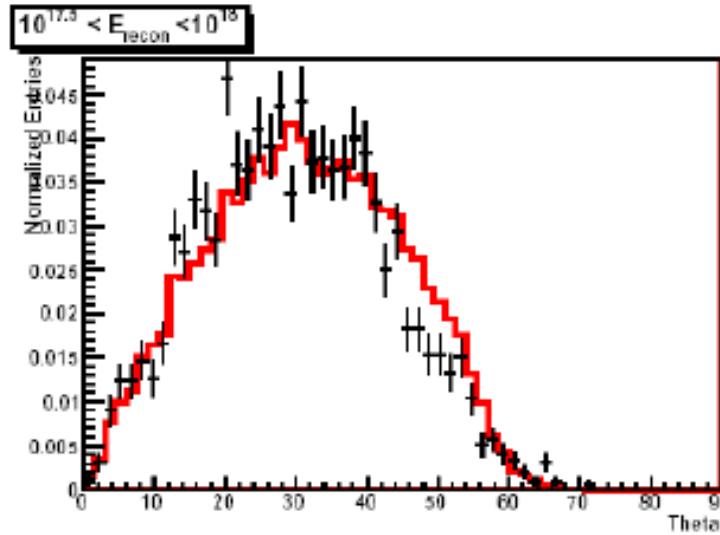


Group B: Data-black, MC-red



# Data – Monte Carlo Comparison

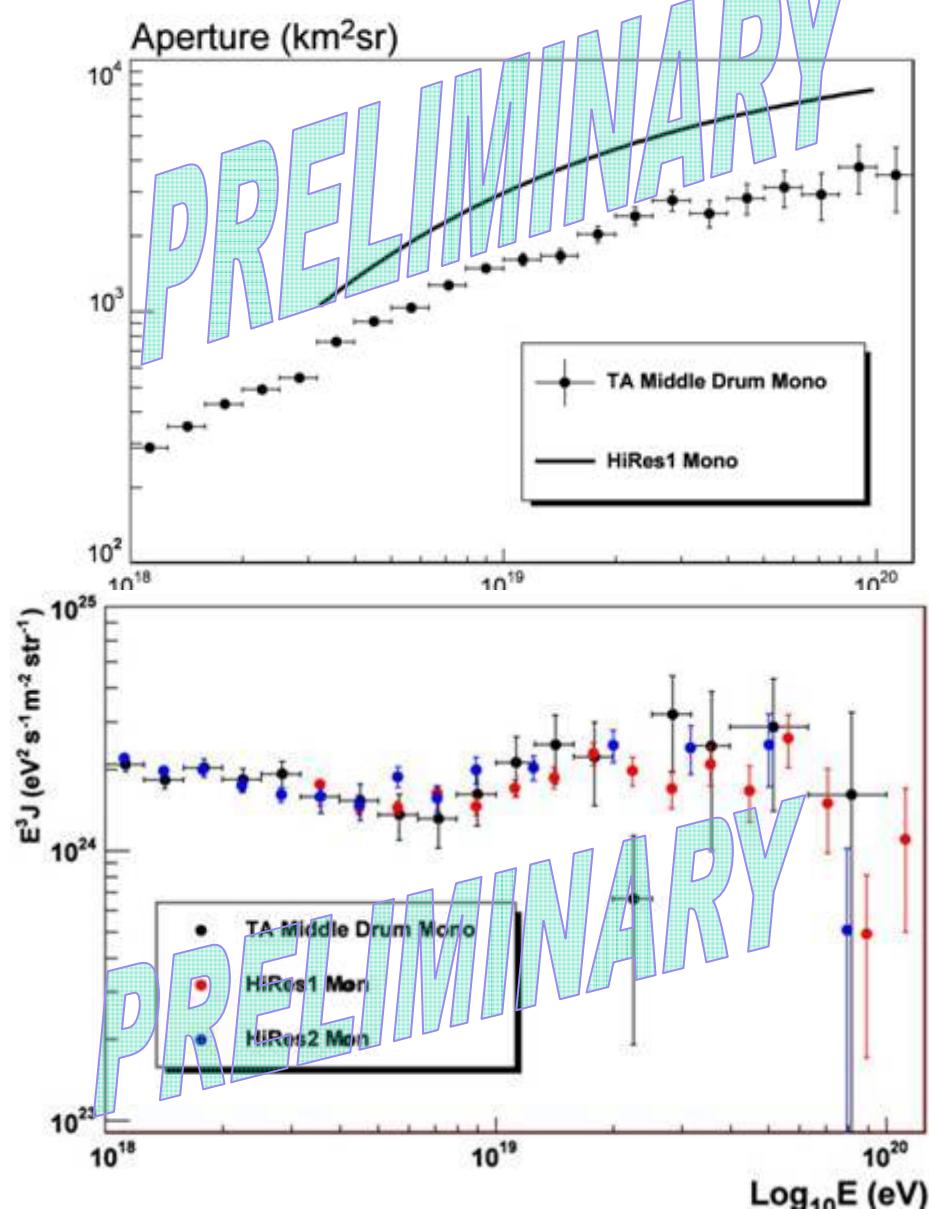
## Zenith angle (deg)



## Monocular Energy Spectrum from Middle Drum (MD) Detector

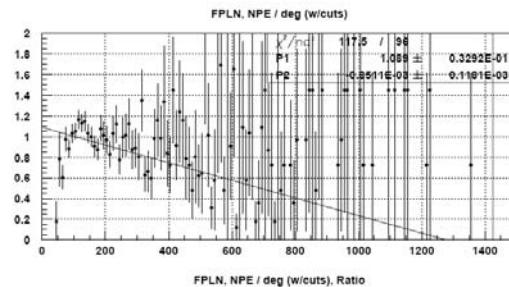
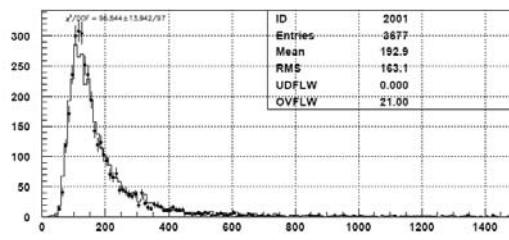
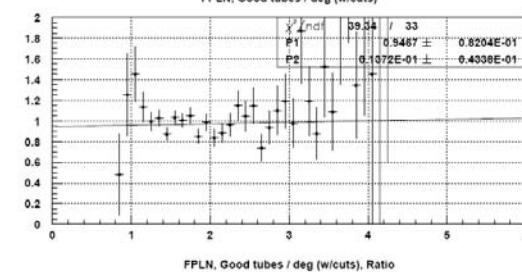
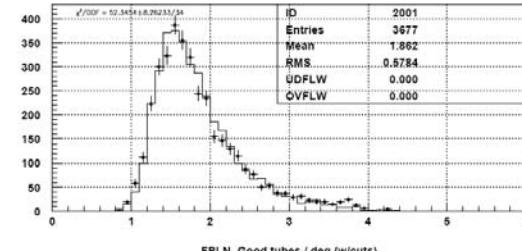
- 14 refurbished HiRes-I telescopes
- TAMD mono processing is identical to HiRes-I monocular data analysis
  - Same program set, event selection, cuts
  - Using the same “average” atmospheric model (aerosol VAOD=0.04)
- Differences
  - telescope location and pointing directions
  - Thresholds (~20% lower than HiRes-I – Delta is darker!)
- Preliminary MD spectrum in good agreement with HiRes

# Energy Spectra



# Black Rock, Long Ridge FD Analysis

- Carrying out the same type of analysis for the Black Rock and Long Ridge FD's.
- Analysis ongoing (no spectrum yet).



# **FD Conclusions**

- **Middle Drum spectrum:**
  - Used identical analysis programs to HiRes-I
  - The spectrum is identical to HiRes mono
- **Black Rock and Long Ridge FD analysis is proceeding well.**

# SD Analysis

- Rigid quality cut strategy
  - Must calculate aperture by Monte Carlo technique
- Consistency
  - Use the **same techniques** for the SD as we've used for FD analysis (HiRes & TA)

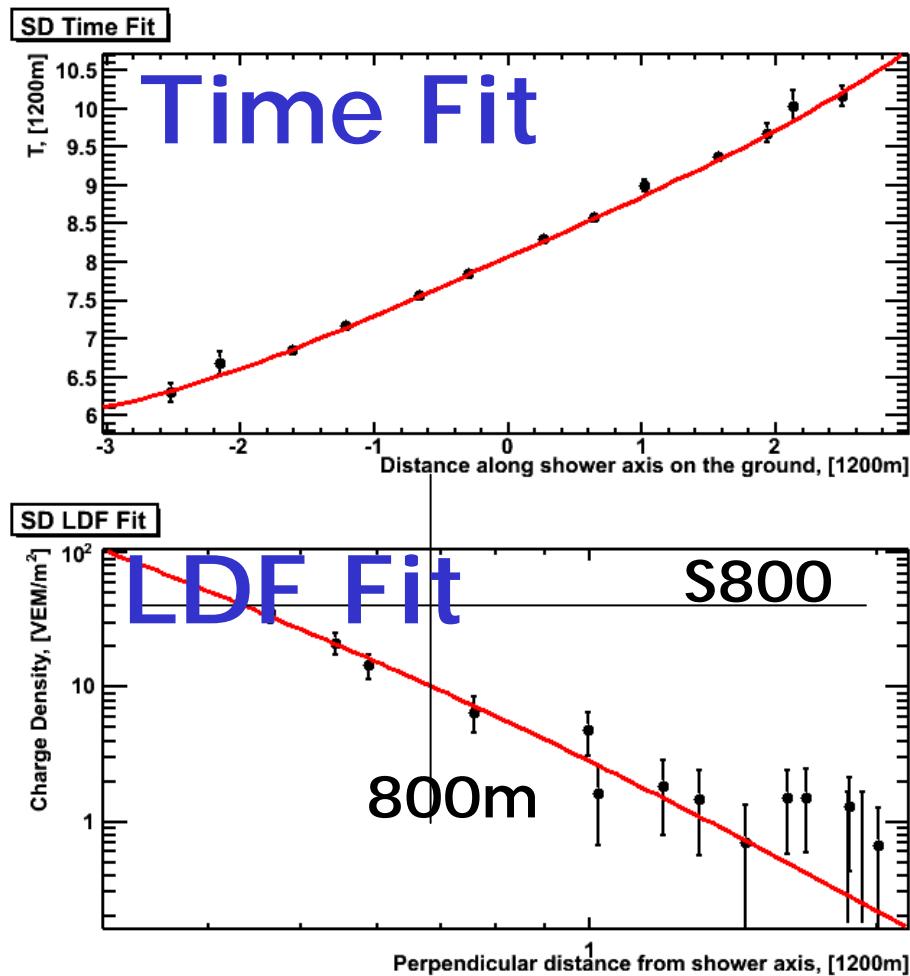
# SD Monte Carlo

- Simulate the data in detail – just like for the FDs
  - Start with previously measured spectrum and composition
  - Use CORSIKA/QGSJET-II/FLUKA events
  - Throw an isotropic distribution
  - Simulate front-end electronics, trigger, DAQ
  - Write out the MC events in same format as data
  - Analyze the MC with the same routines used for data
- *Test with data/MC comparison plots*

# SD Analysis

- Basic TA SD event reconstruction is done in a model independent way:
  - Fitting functions of previous ground array experiments are used as a starting point
  - Reconstruction procedures and formulas are adjusted to fit TA SD data by applying self-consistency tests to the results of fitting
  - This is then used to reconstruct event geometry, as well as lateral distribution profile
- A carefully tested MC set, which shares all the characteristics of the real data, is then introduced to estimate the event energy and calculate the aperture

# SD Event Reconstruction

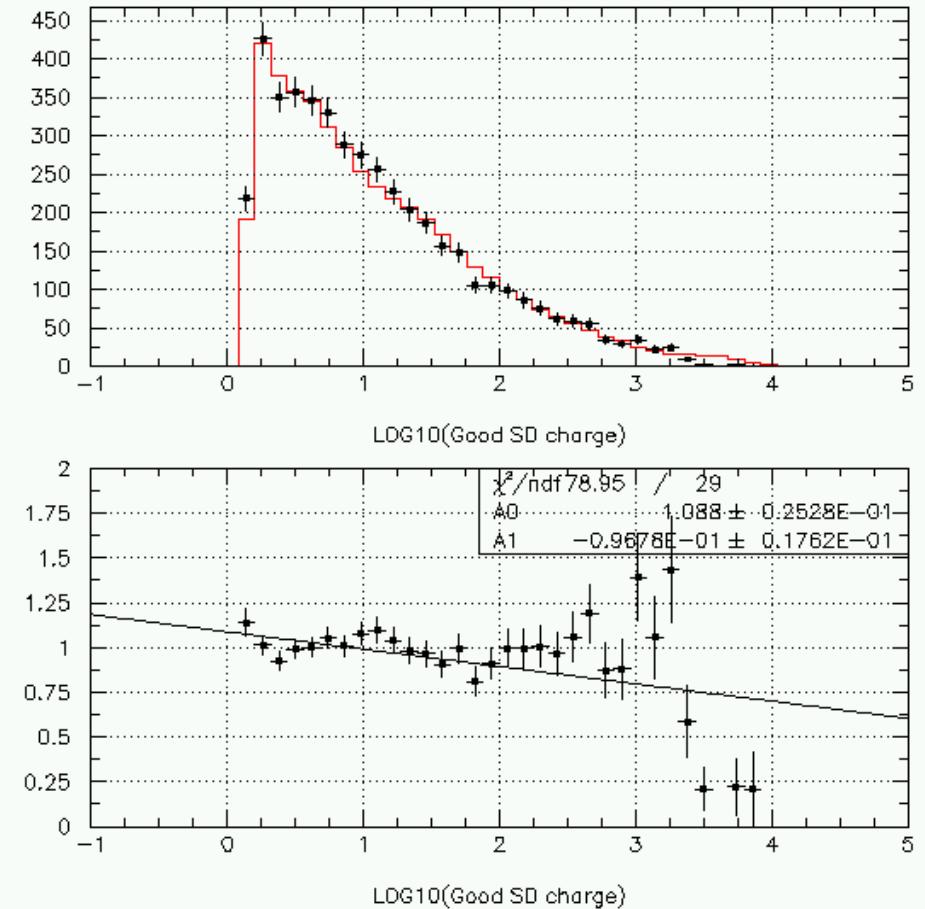
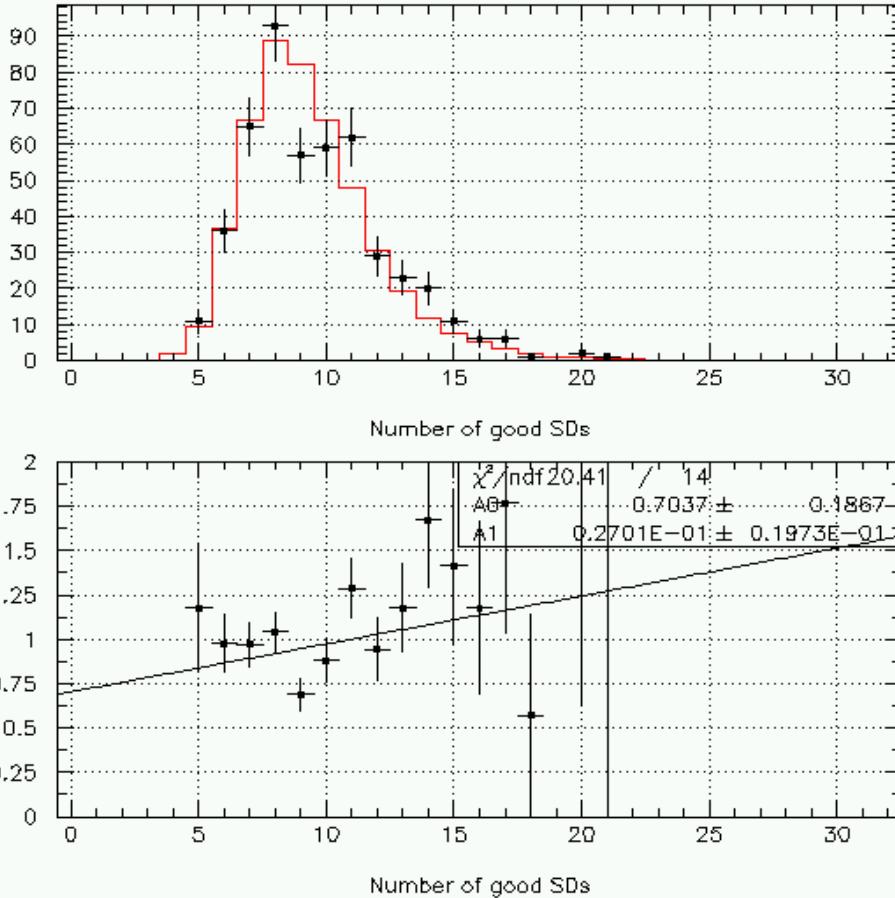


- Two fits:
  - Time fit to determine event geometry (modified Linsley function)
  - Lateral Distribution Fit (LDF) to determine signal size 800m from the shower axis, S<sub>800</sub> (AGASA fitting function)
- *Fitting procedure and formulas are adjusted using only the data*

# SD Monte-Carlo: Methodology

- Simulate an event set which has as many of the characteristics of the real data as possible:
  - Energy distribution is continuous and follows previously measured power laws:
    - $E^{-3.25}$ ,  $E < 10^{18.65}$  eV
    - $E^{-2.81}$ ,  $E > 10^{18.65}$  eV
  - Angular distribution is continuous and isotropic in the local sky.
  - Use previously measured composition
  - *Use actual CORSIKA events*
- Record the MC in the same format as the data
- Analyze the MC with the same routines as the data
- Validate the SD MC by comparing the distributions of its reconstructed variables with the real data.

# Data/MC: Event Size

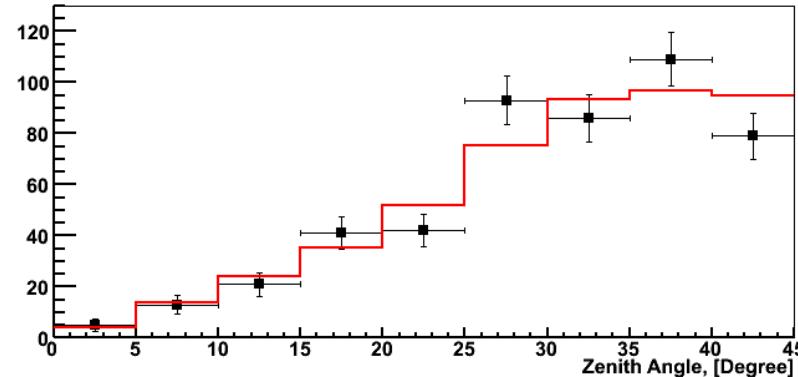


**Number of good  
SDs / event**

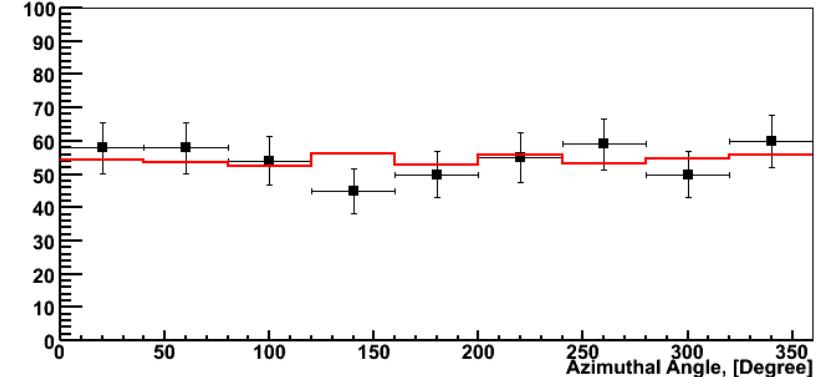
**VEM / SD**

# Data/MC: Geometry

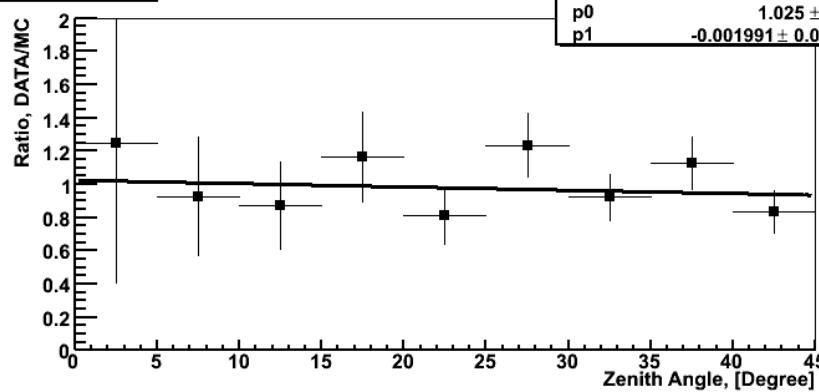
BLACK - DATA, RED - MC



BLACK - DATA, RED - MC

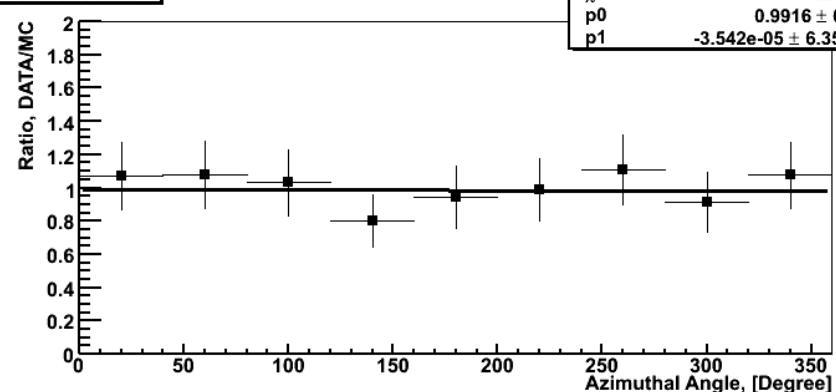


DATA/MC Ratio



$\chi^2 / \text{ndf}$  5.733 / 7  
 p0  $1.025 \pm 0.202$   
 p1  $-0.001991 \pm 0.006206$

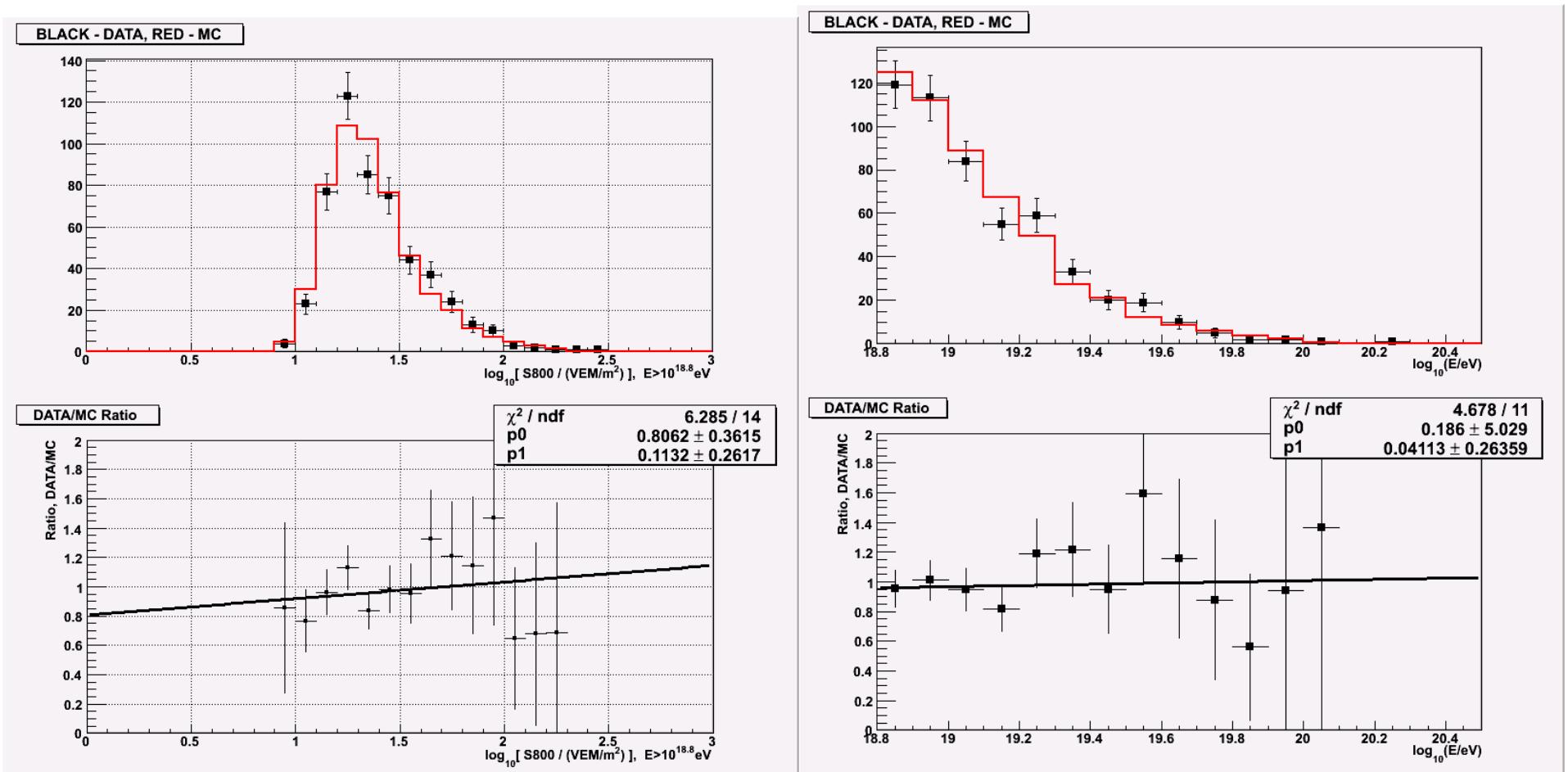
DATA/MC Ratio



Zenith angle

Azimuthal angle

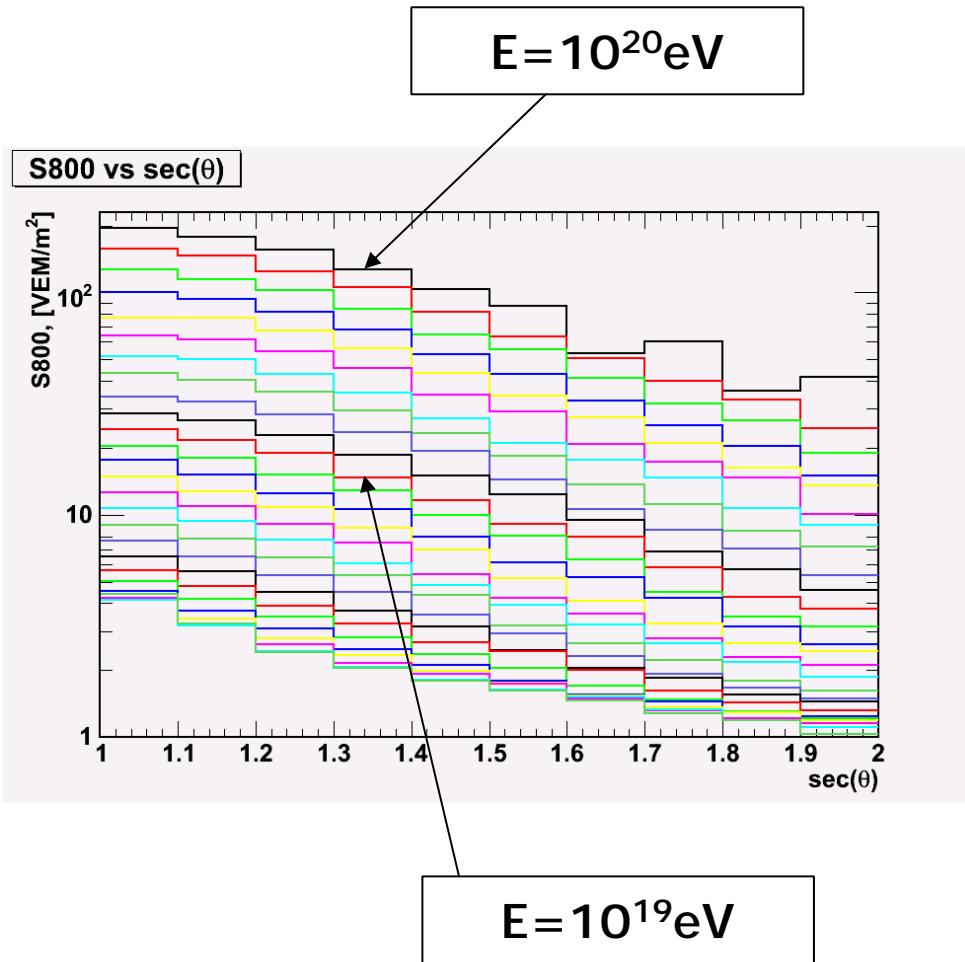
# Data/MC: S800, Energy



S800

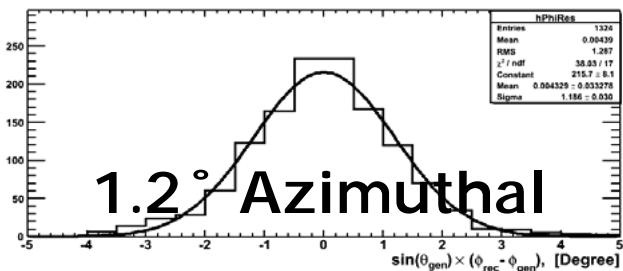
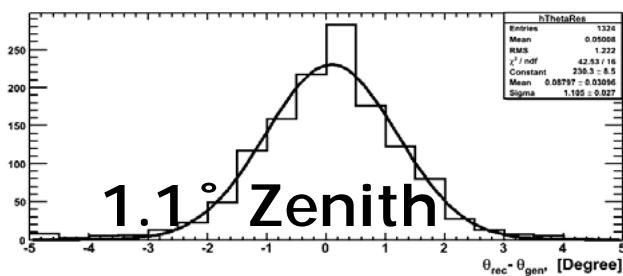
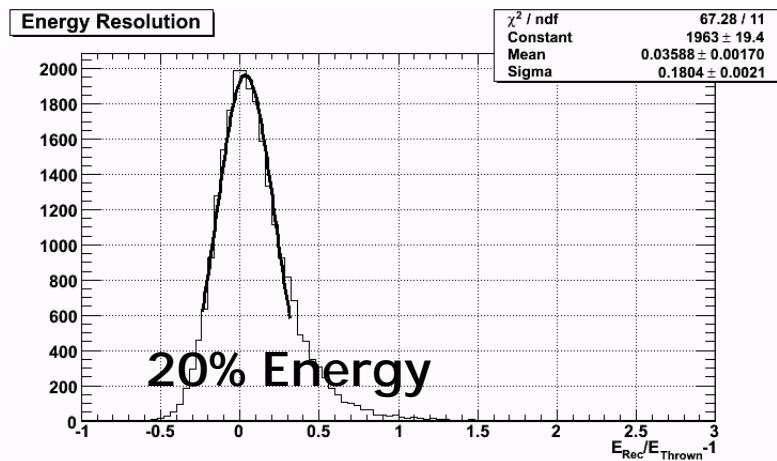
Energy

# First Energy Estimation



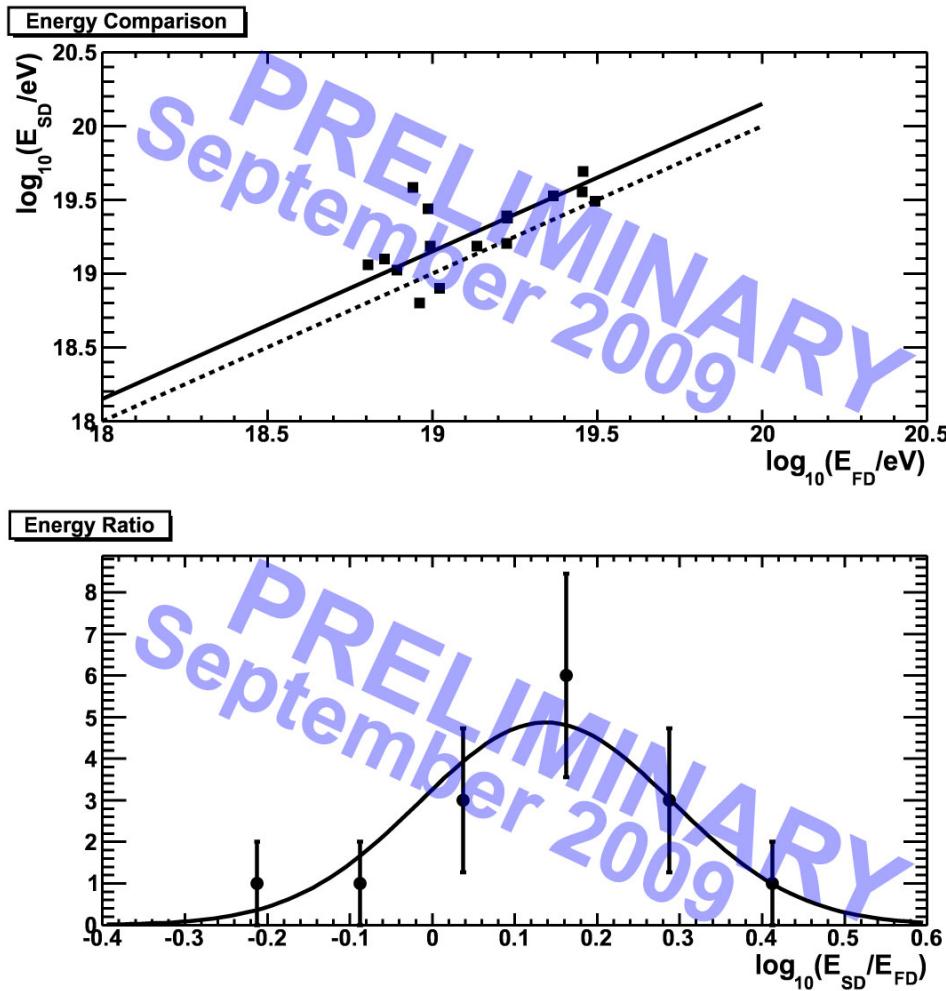
- Energy table is constructed from the MC
- First estimation of the event energy is done by interpolating between S800 vs sec $\theta$  lines

# TA SD Resolution



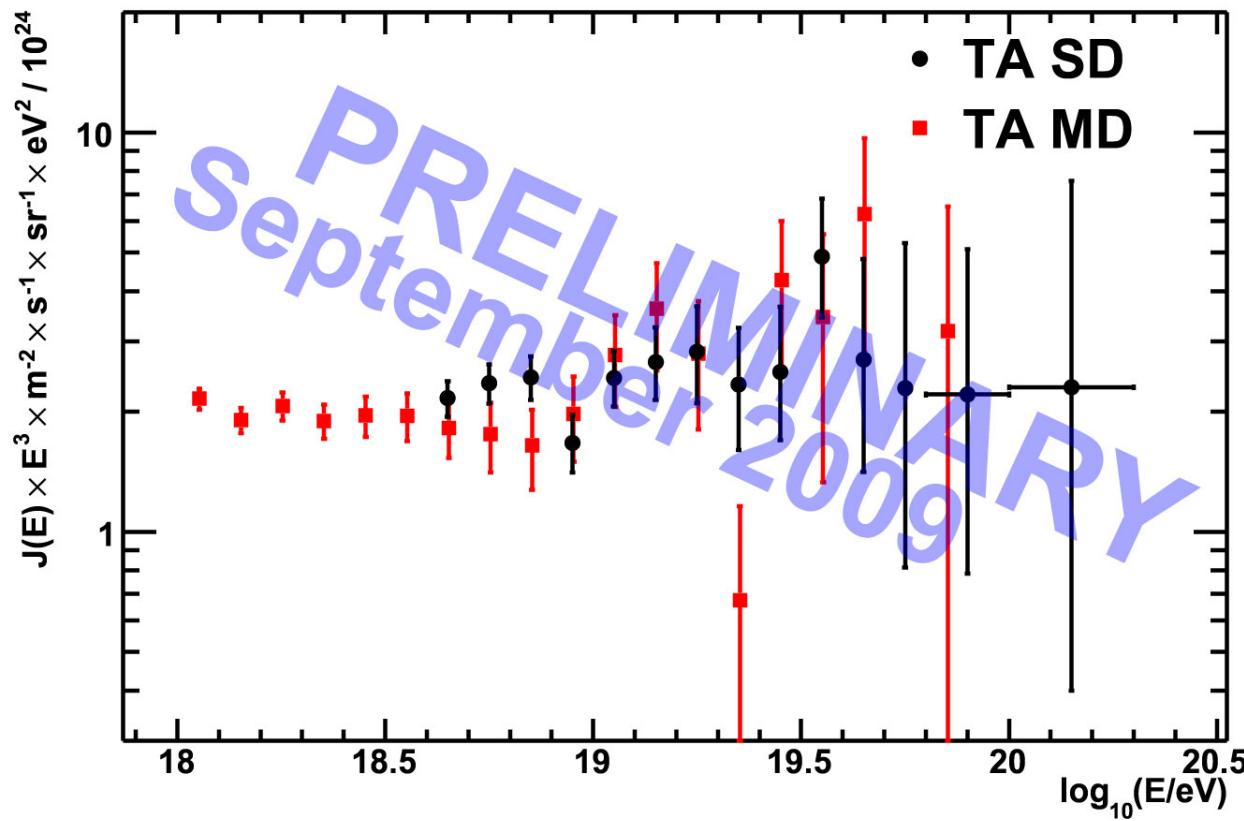
- To achieve good resolution one applies quality cuts
- Correct aperture is calculated from MC which:
  - Agrees with the data
  - Analyzed in the same way as the data, *including the quality cuts*

# Energy Scale



- Energy scale is determined more accurately by FD than by CORSIKA QGSJET-II
- Set SD energy scale to FD-Mono using well reconstructed events observed by both detectors

# Energy Spectrum



TA SD and FD results agree

# **SD Conclusions**

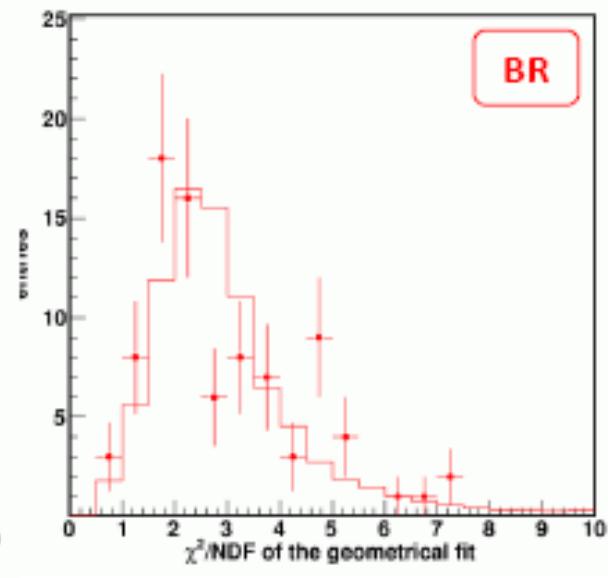
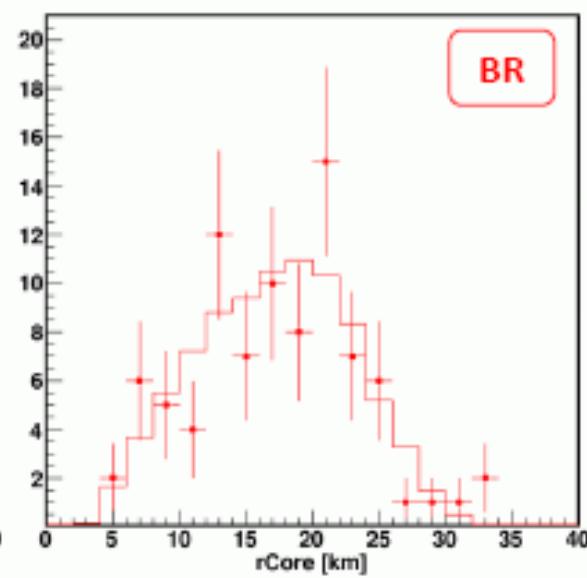
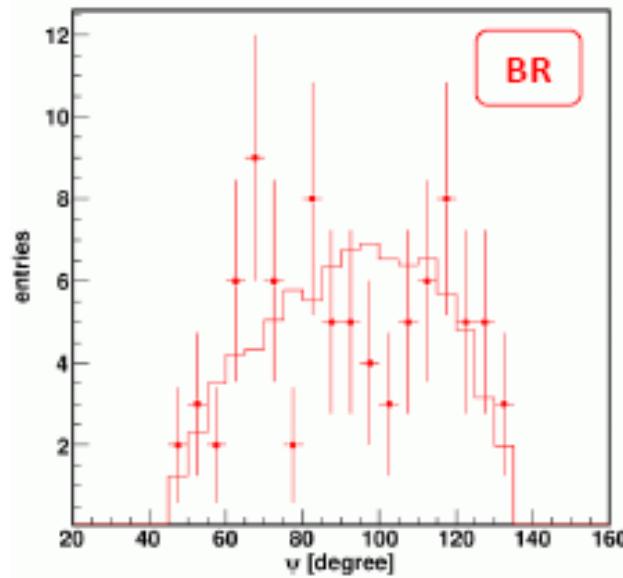
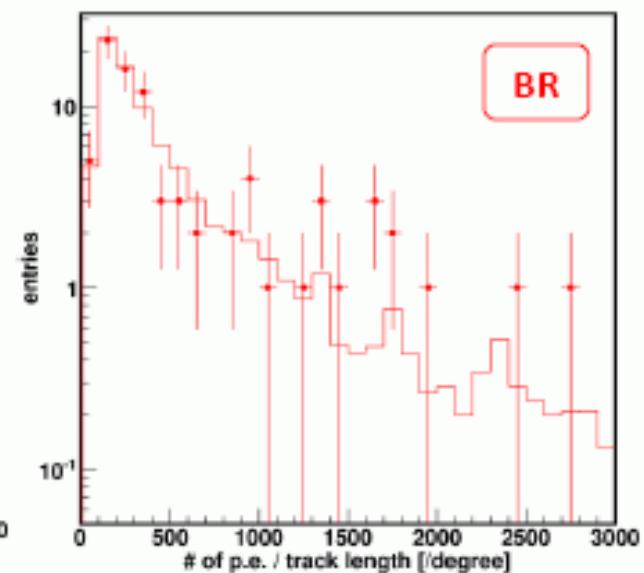
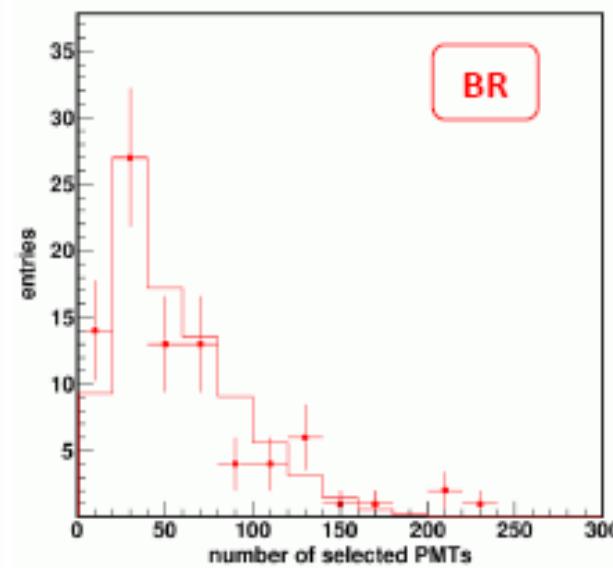
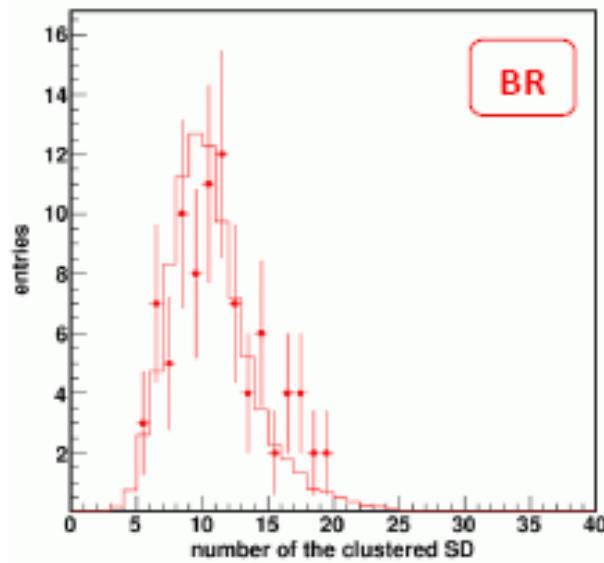
- Calculated SD energy spectrum :
- Geometry and LDF reconstruction are based solely on characteristics of the data
- Generated MC set with all characteristics of the real data
- Tested the accuracy of our MC by comparing with the data
- Tied SD energy scale to FD
- TA SD and FD energy spectra are in agreement

# **SD/FD Hybrid Results**

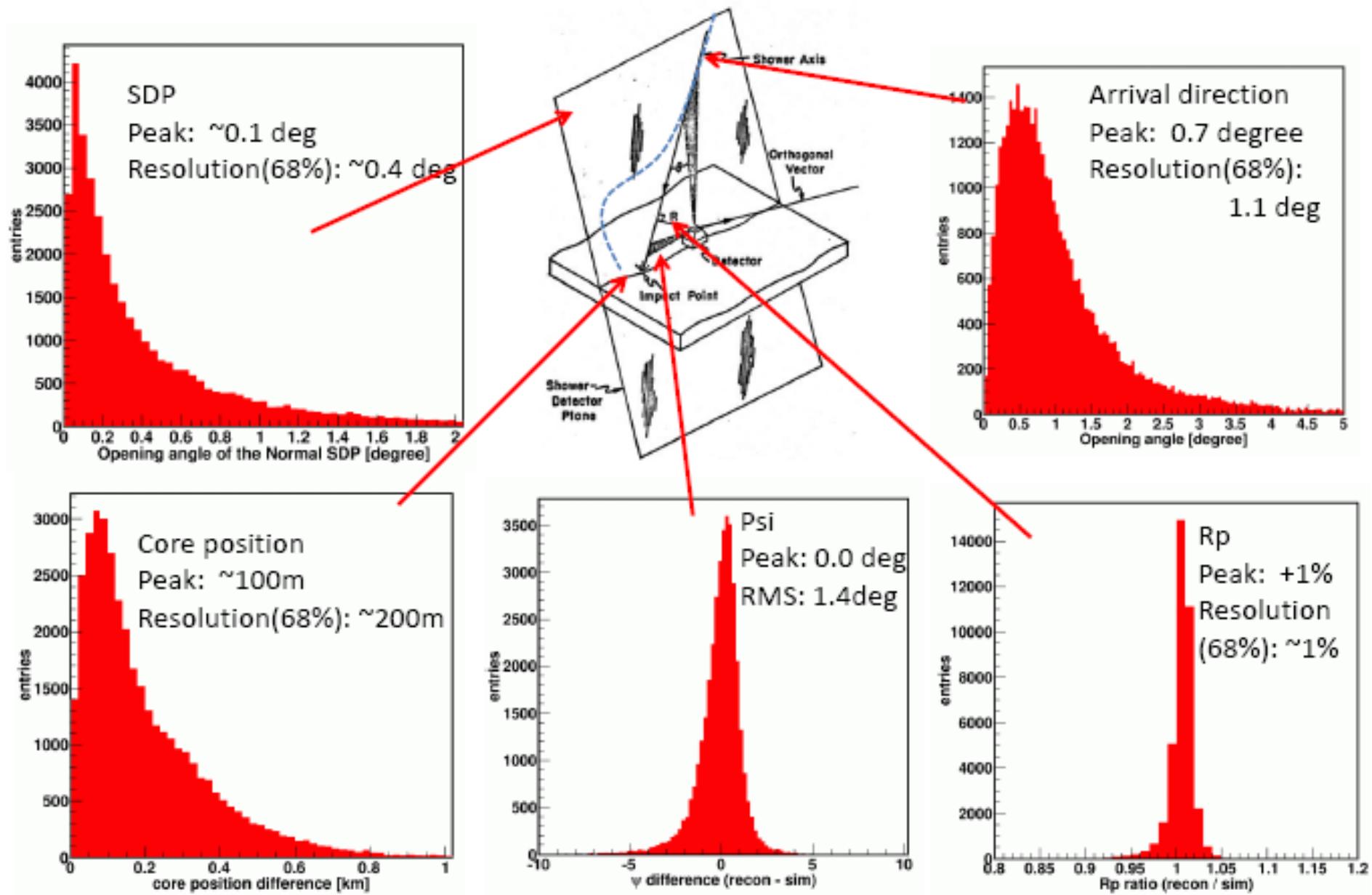
- Combine SD with Black Rock and Long Ridge FD observations
- Improved resolution over FD
- Efficiency at energy threshold can be modeled more reliably than with SD alone
- Analysis done as with SD and MD

# Data/MC comparison1

- BR station
- Filled circles : data
- Histograms : MC



# Resolution (Geometry)

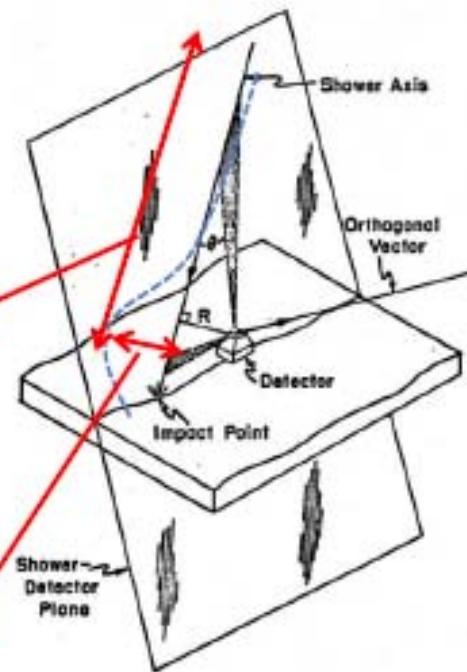
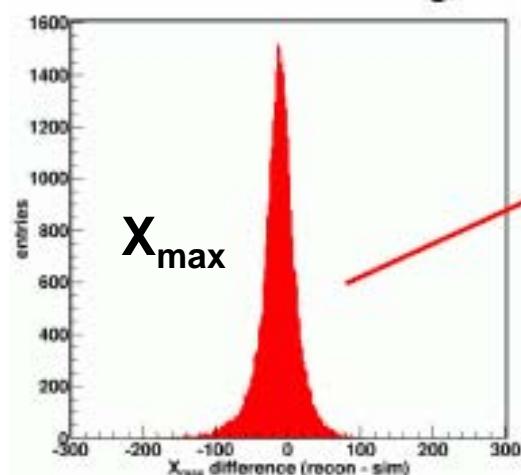


# Resolution (Shower profile)

Xmax

Peak: -11g/cm<sup>2</sup>

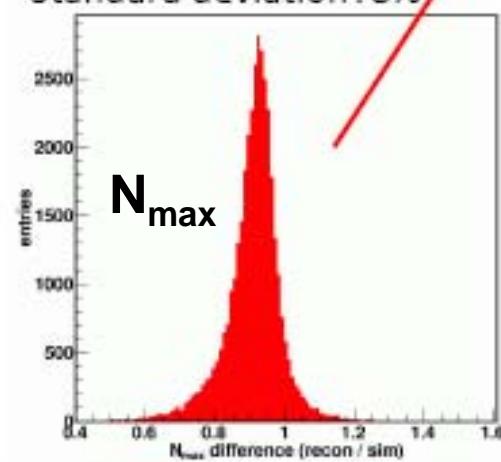
Standard deviation: ~30g/cm<sup>2</sup>



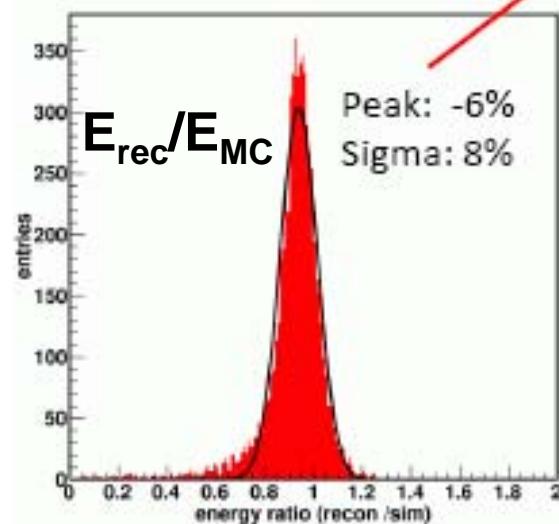
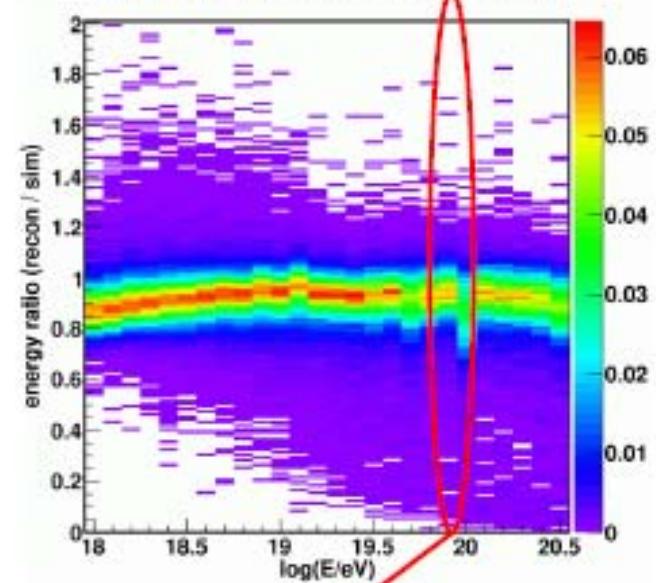
Nmax

Peak: -9%

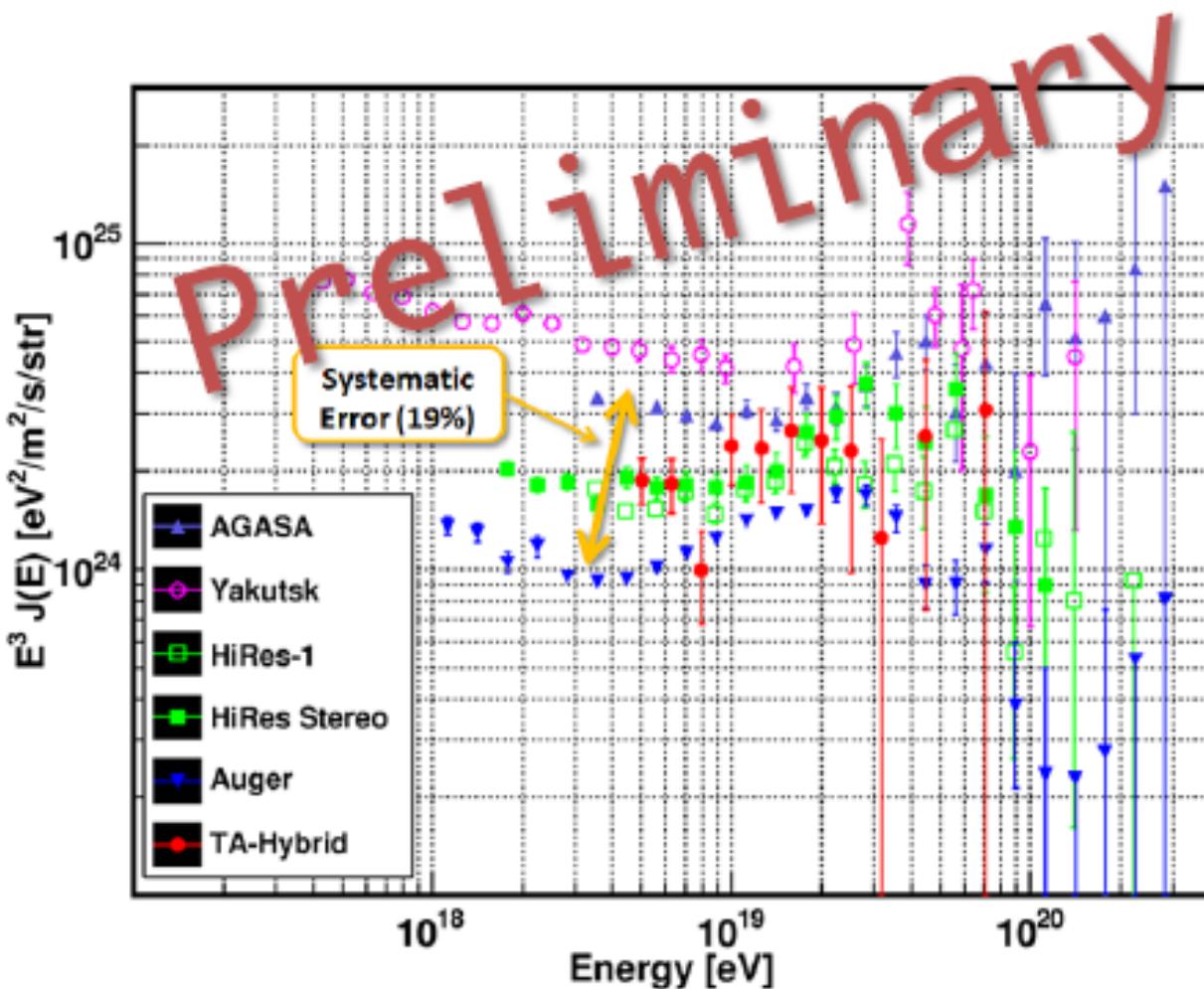
Standard deviation: 8%



Energy (MC correction)



# Energy spectrum

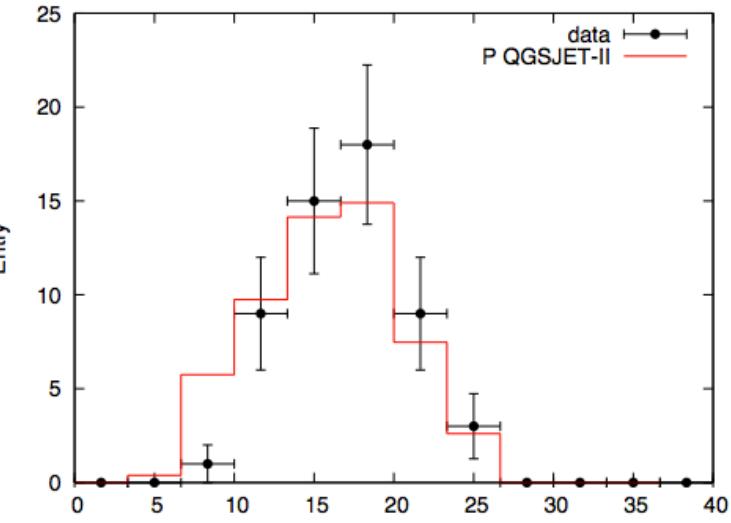


Item	Systematic error
Fluorescence yield	12%
Detector	10%
Atmosphere	11%
Primary particle mass	5%
MC correction	3%
Total	19%

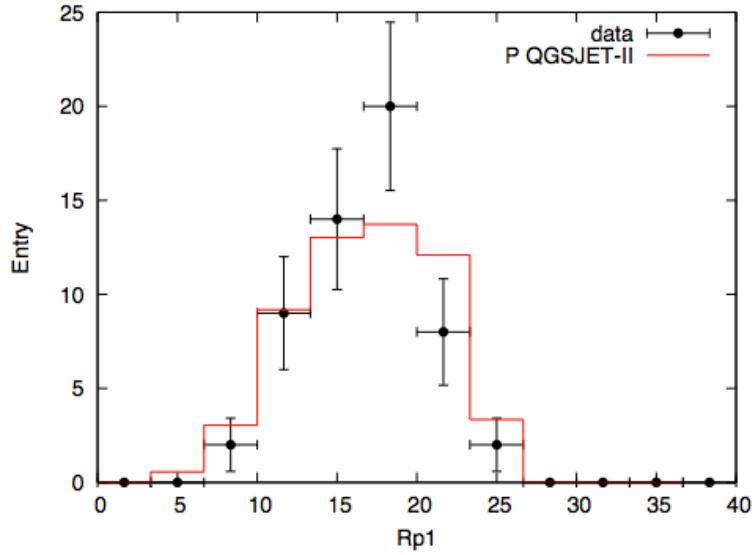
# FD Stereo: Composition

- Measure  $x_{\max}$  for Black Rock/Long Ridge FD stereo events
- Apply strict quality cuts in order to improve  $x_{\max}$  resolution
- Create simulated event set
- Apply exactly the same procedure as with the data

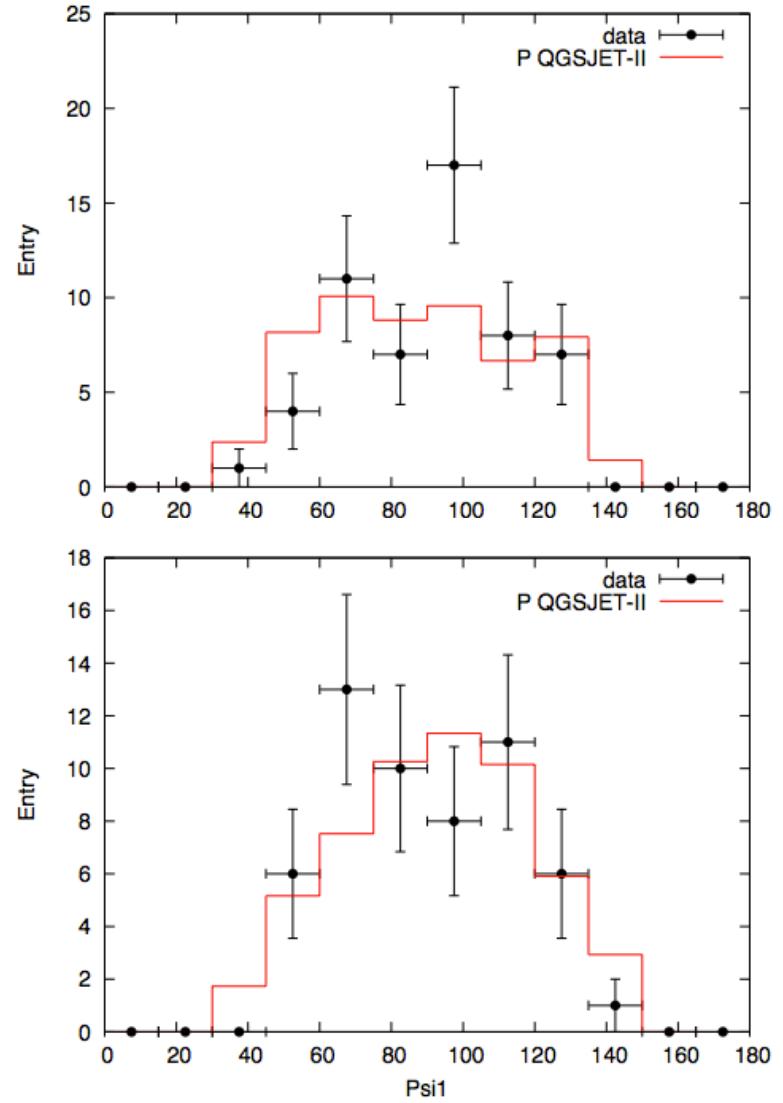
**Black  
Rock**



**Long  
Ridge**

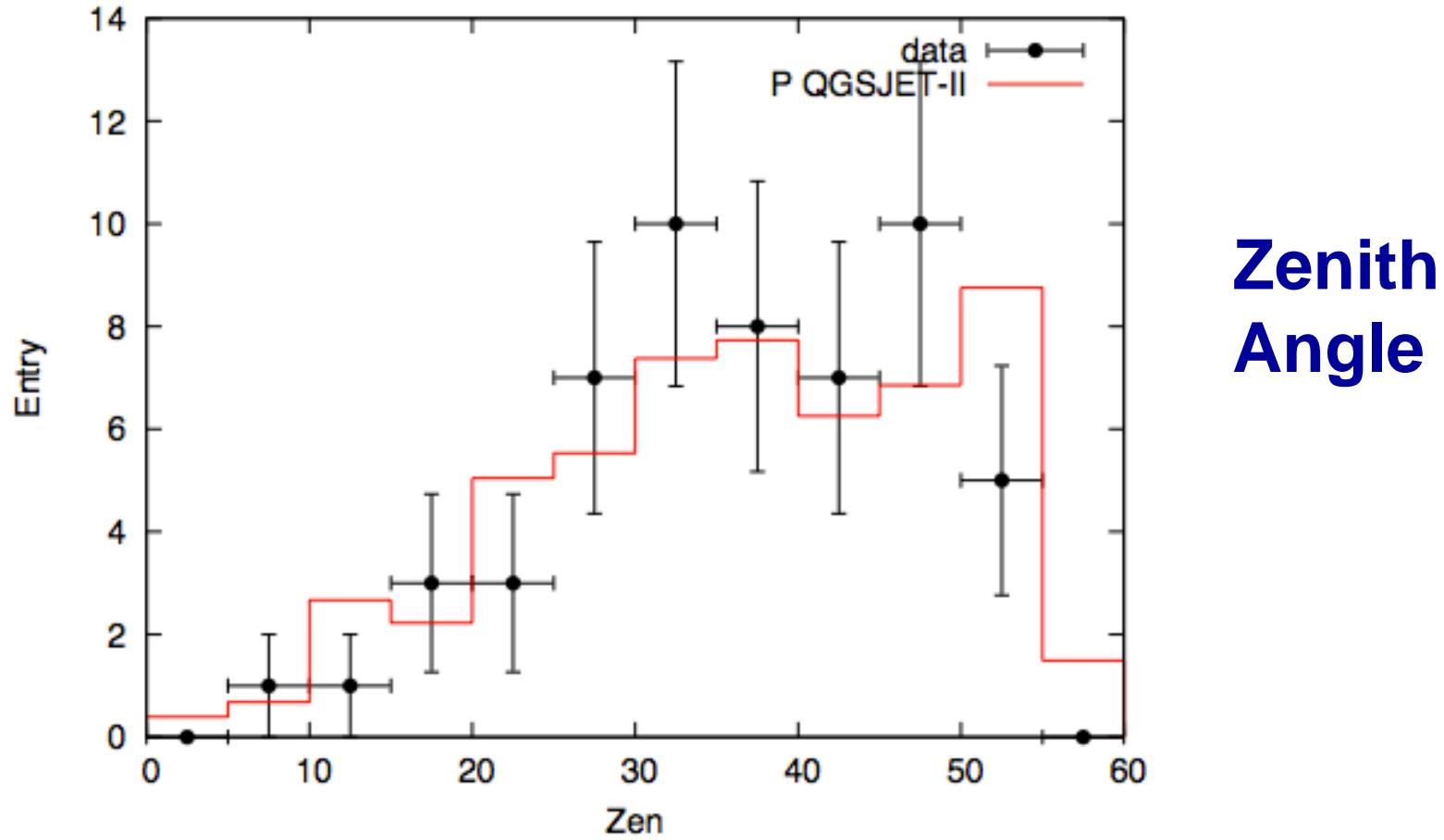


$R_p$



$\psi$

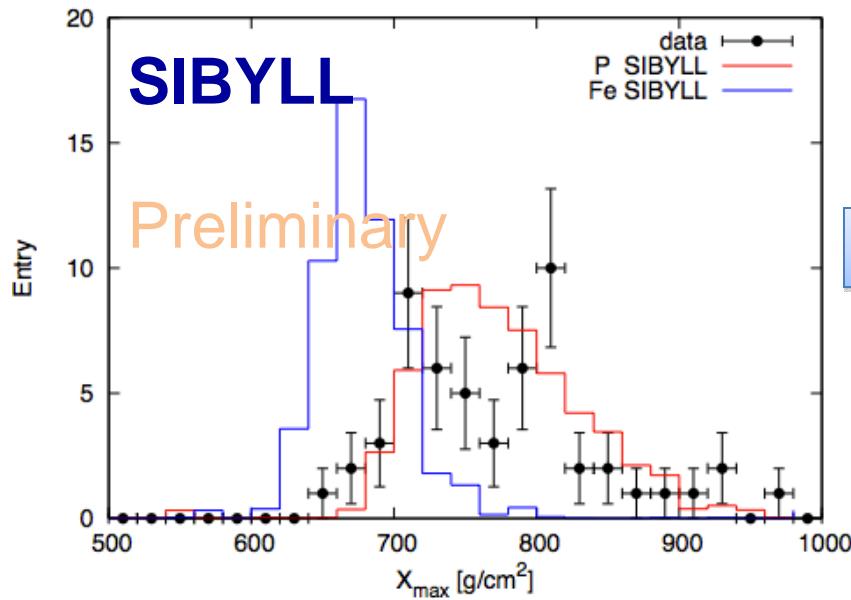
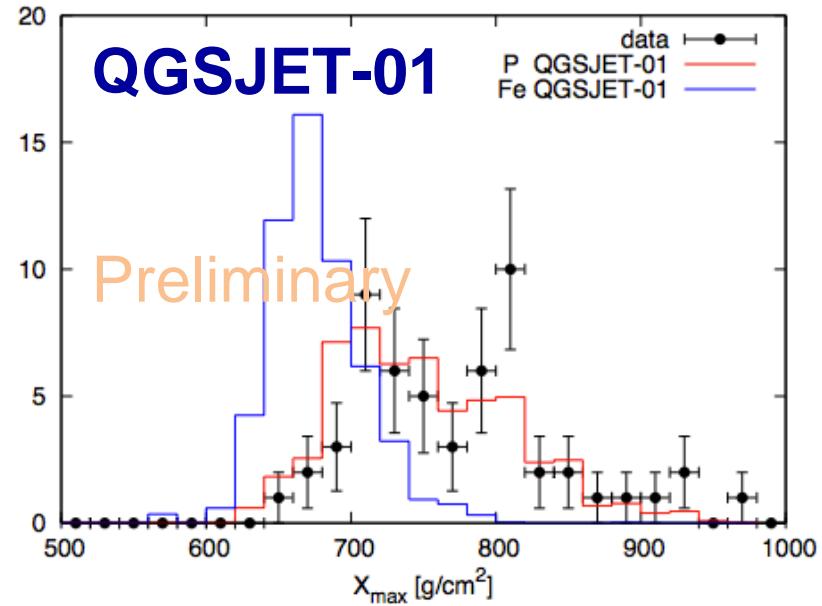
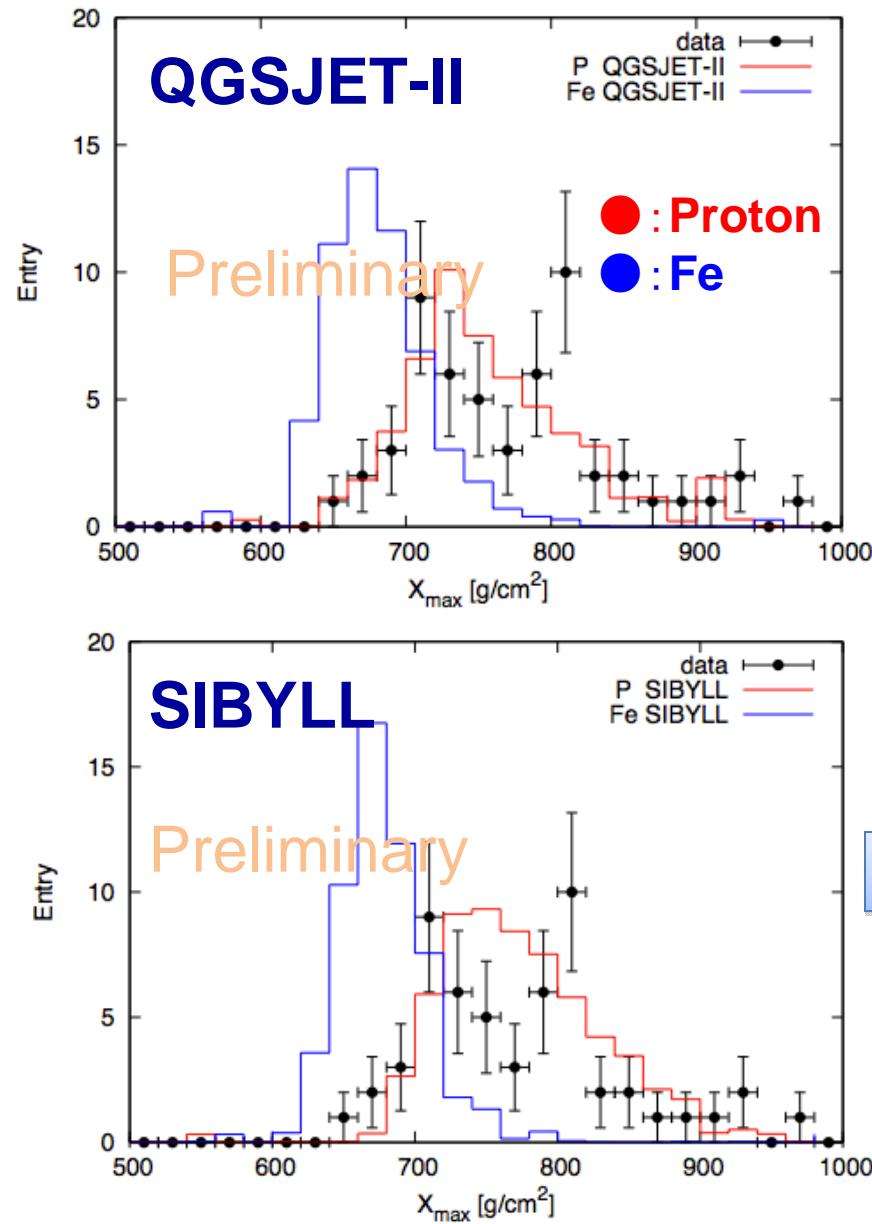
# Data/MC Comparisons (cont.)



Zenith  
Angle

- Data and MC show excellent agreement geometric agreement
- What about  $x_{max}$ ?

# $x_{max}$ Data/MC comparison

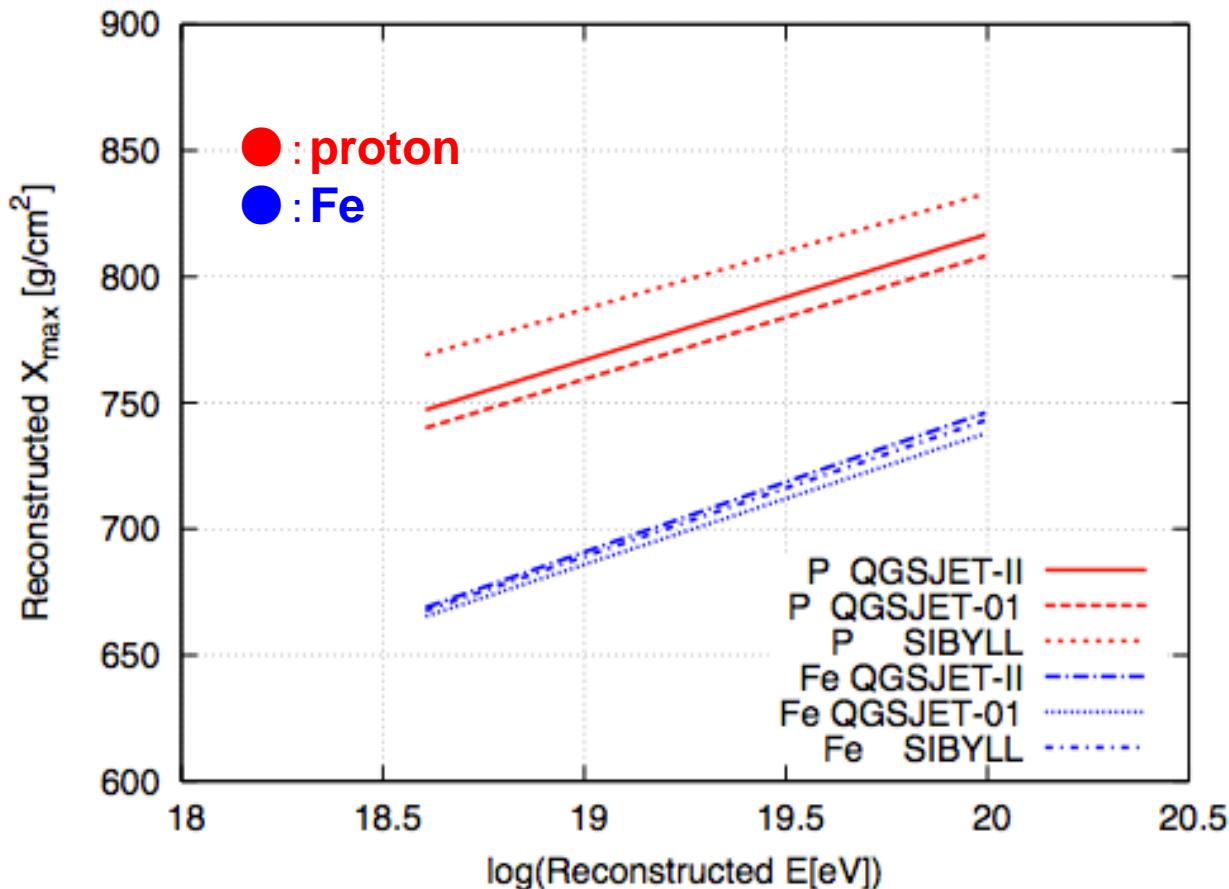


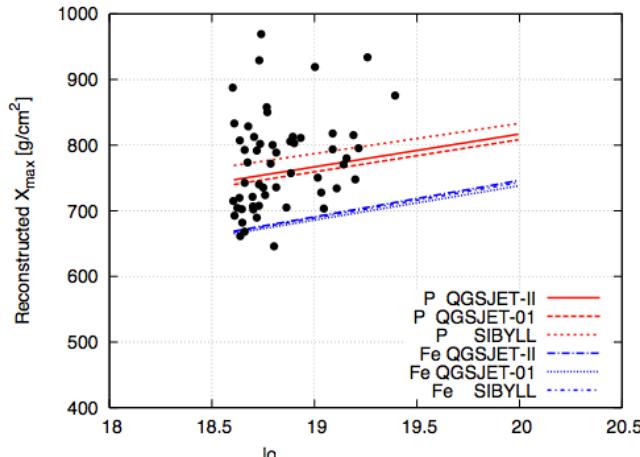
$\chi^2 / \text{dof}$

	QGSJET-II	QGSJET-01	SIBYLL
P	1.44	1.046	1.63
Fe	55.54	56.67	85.71

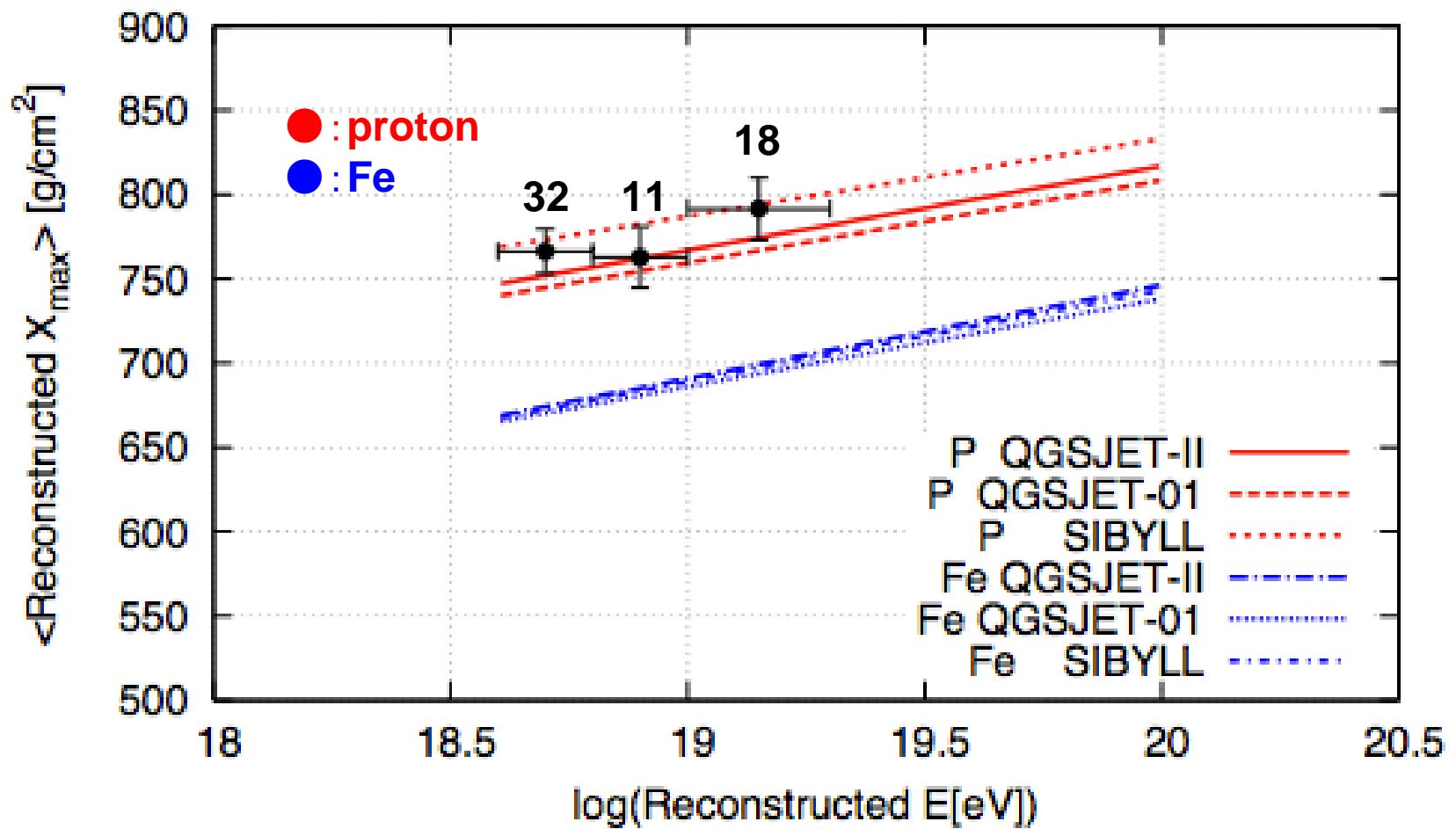
# $x_{max}$ vs. Energy

- Use MC treated identically to the data to establish energy dependence





# $x_{\max}$ vs. Energy + Data



# Stereo Composition Conclusion

- Data consistent with continuing light composition above  $10^{19}$  eV
- However...statistics are very limited at this time
- *(HiRes talk by J.Belz)*
- *Stay Tuned! – More to come...*

Ongoing...

TA  
Electron  
Light  
Source  
@ BRM



# ELS Facility in Delta, UT 2/2010





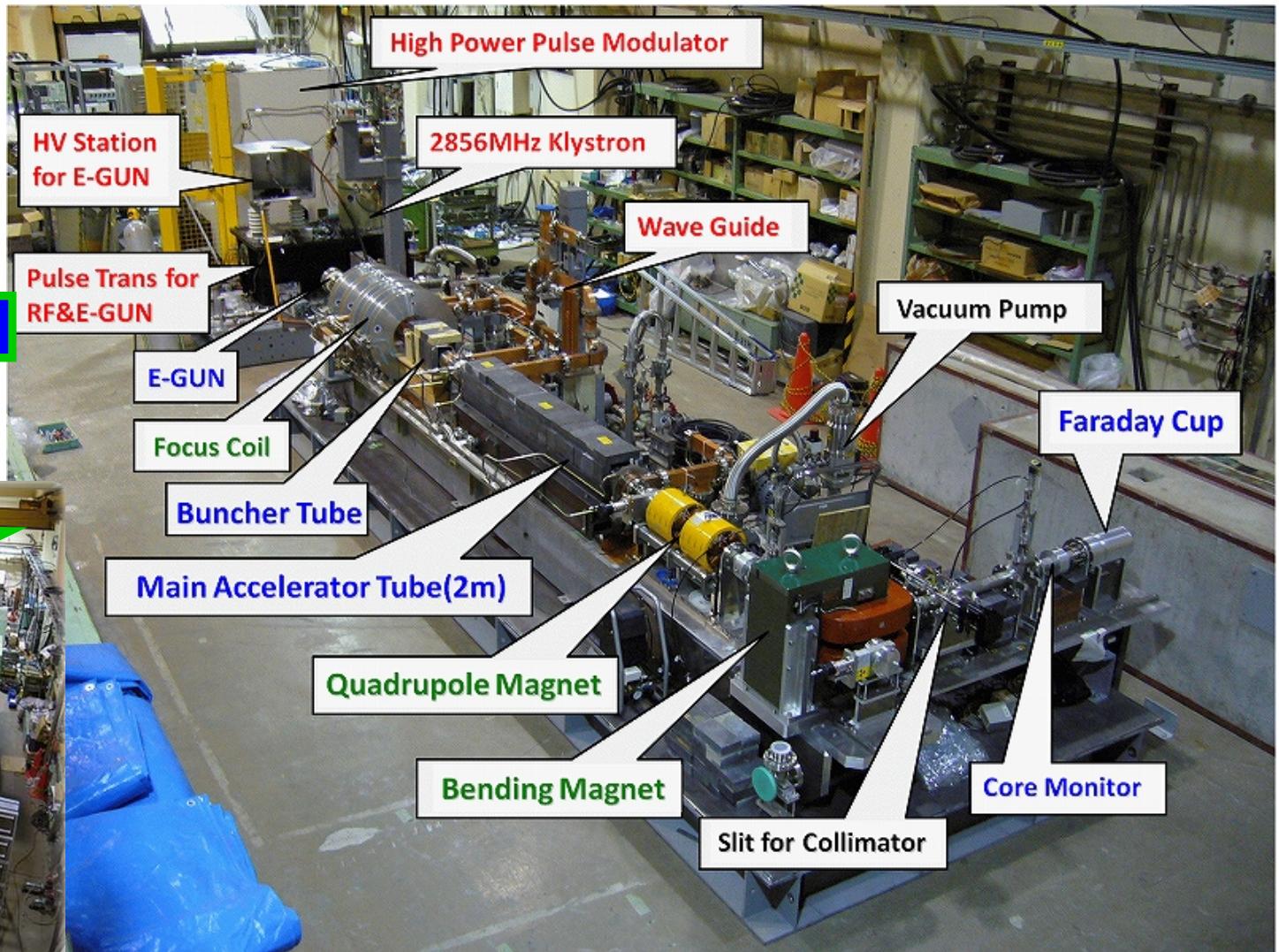
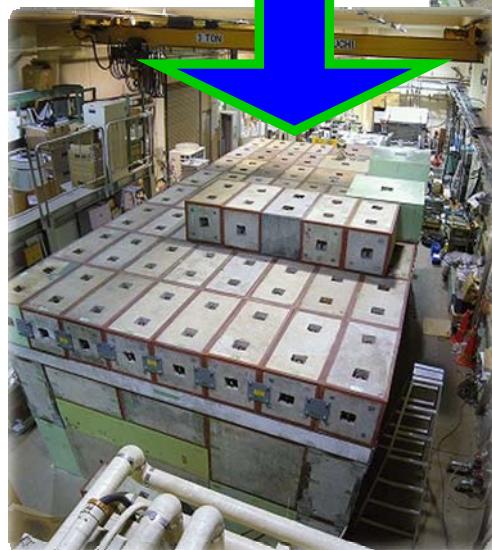
# The Electron Light Source @ KEK

- Beam Operation '08.Feb.22<sup>th</sup> - Dec.10<sup>th</sup> ( 89days = 716hours )

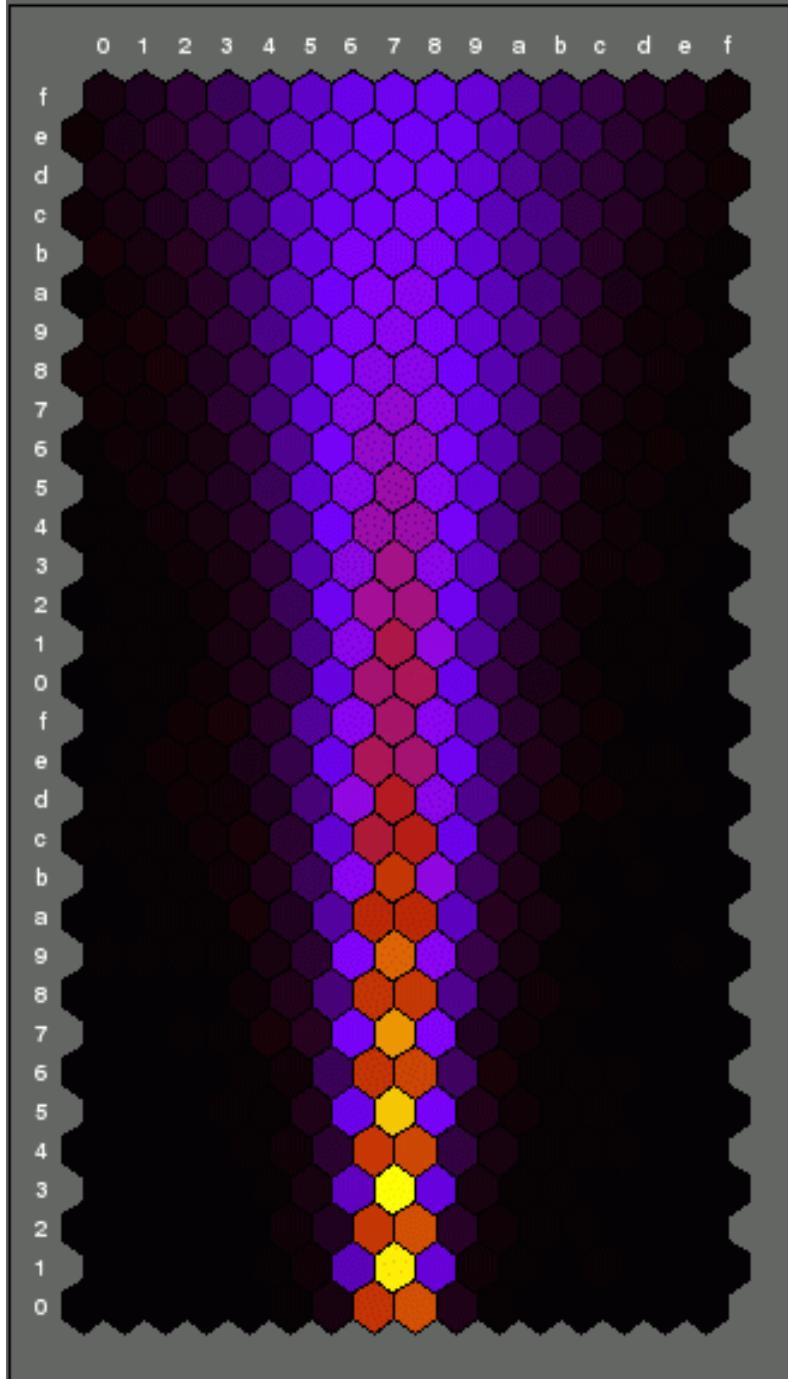
## Beam Condition

- Repetition ~ 0.5Hz
- Energy ~ 40MeV
- Current  
10~250pC/pulse

## Built in Shield room



This photo was taken in '08.Dec.24 after removal all Shields.



Absolute Energy Calibration *in situ* by 40 MeV electron beam fired vertically into the sky

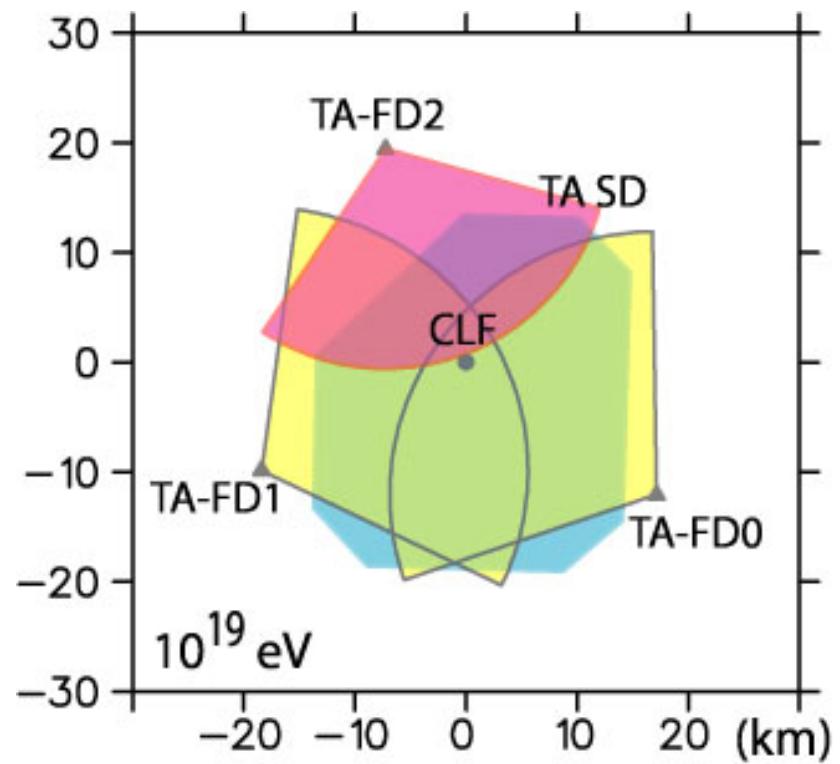
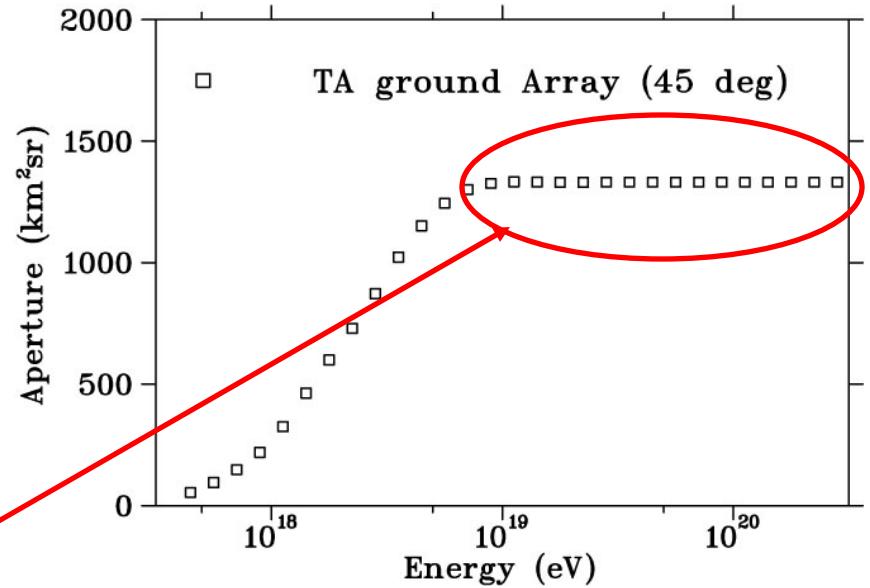
Automatically takes into account fluorescence yield ( $\lambda$ ) and detector inefficiencies

## ELS Status

- Background measurements ongoing for a couple years
- Suffered some minor damage in transit to Utah – finishing repairs
- Beginning to re-commission the accelerator (testing the klystron, electron gun, etc)
- Hope to have first beam shots soon! (end of the month??)

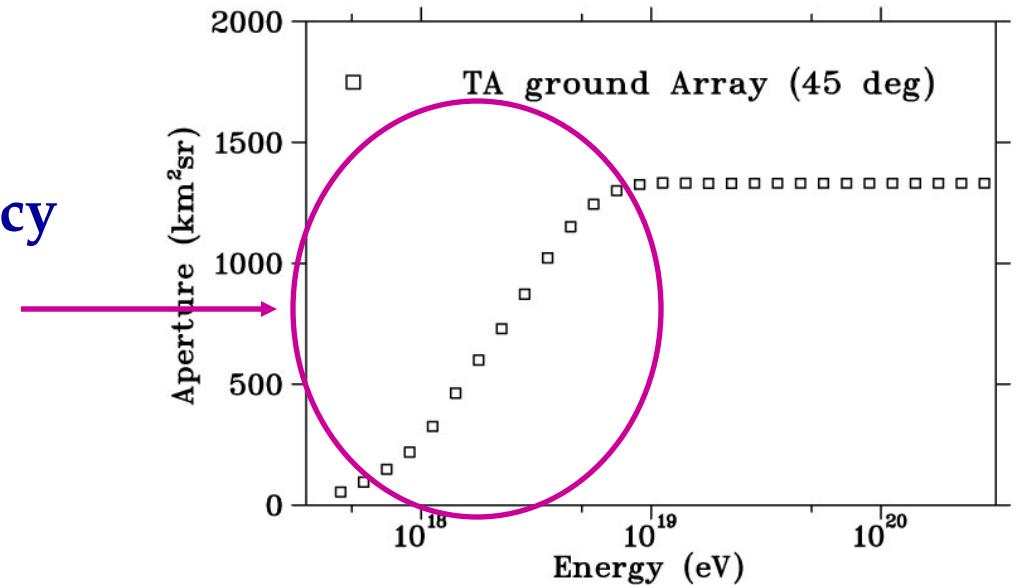
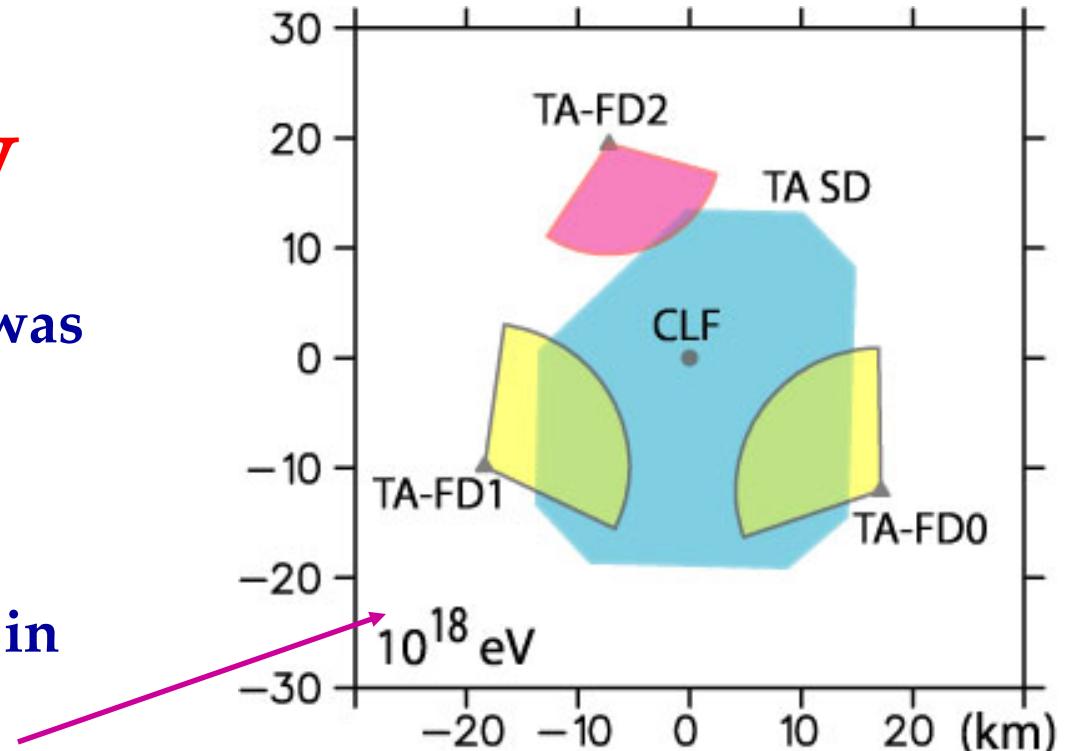
# TA Stage-1

- The energy region  $> 10^{19}$  eV is well-covered by the existing TA detectors
- Ground Array becomes fully efficient at  $\sim 5 \times 10^{18}$  eV
- The three FD stations
  - TA-FD0 at Black Rock Mesa
  - TA-FD1 at Long Ridge
  - TA-FD2 at Middle Drum
- provide ~100% coverage of the ground array above  $10^{19}$  eV



# Below $10^{19}$ eV

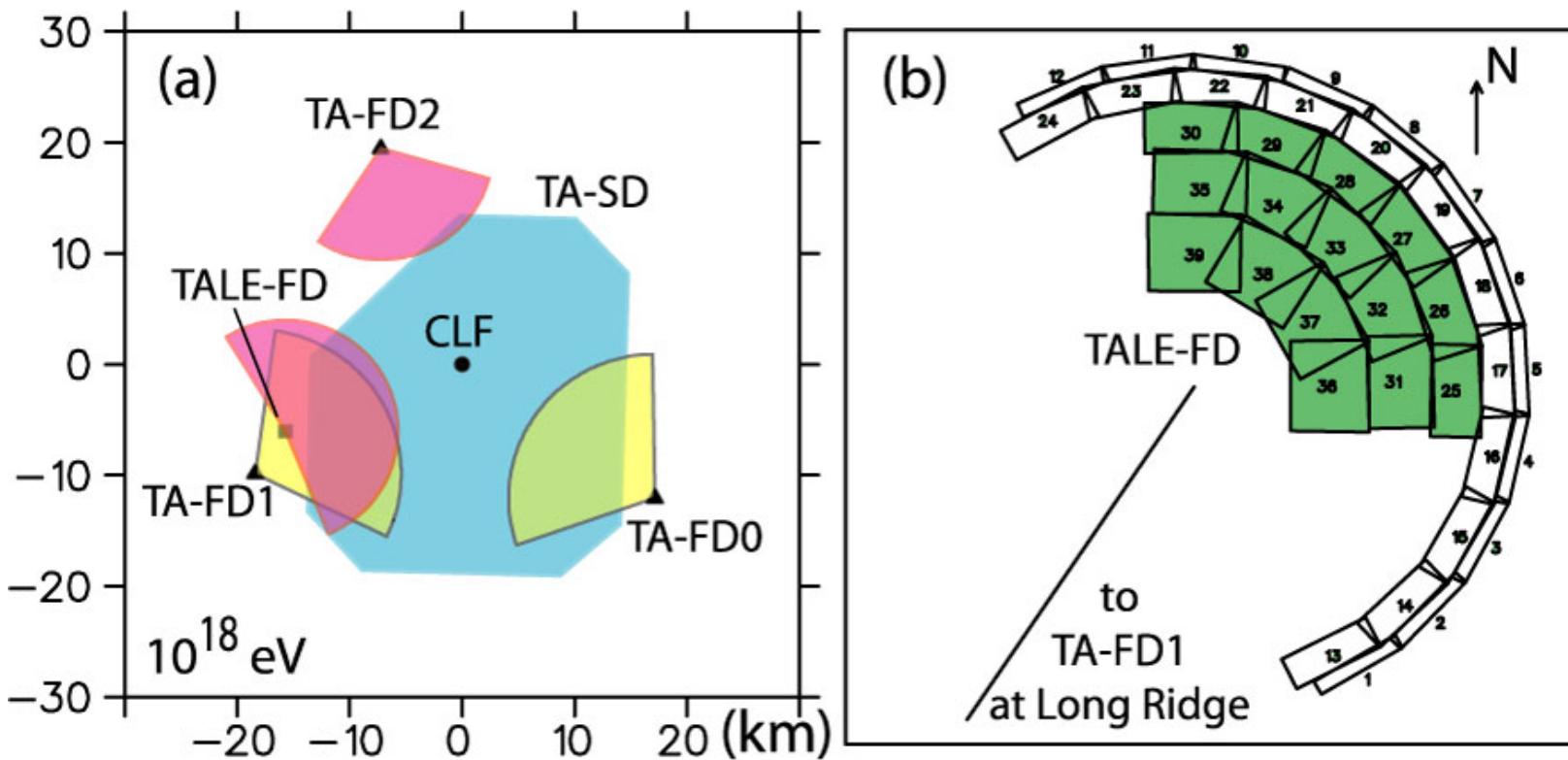
- However, Stage-1 of TA was not designed for physics below  $10^{19}$  eV
- There is no overlap at all in the aperture of the three fluorescence detectors at  $10^{18}$  eV
- The ground array efficiency drops quickly in the  $10^{18}$ - $10^{19}$  eV decade



# Plan: TA Low Energy Extension (TALE)

- **4<sup>th</sup> Fluorescence Station - 6 km separation**
  - 24 telescopes (3-31° elevation) – “ring 1 & 2”
  - 15 large area Tower telescopes (31-73° elevation)
- **Infill scintillator array 111 (3m<sup>2</sup>/ea) detectors at 400 m spacing**
- **Graded muon array – 25 (12m<sup>2</sup>/ea) detectors, buried 3 m**

# 6 km Stereo and Tower



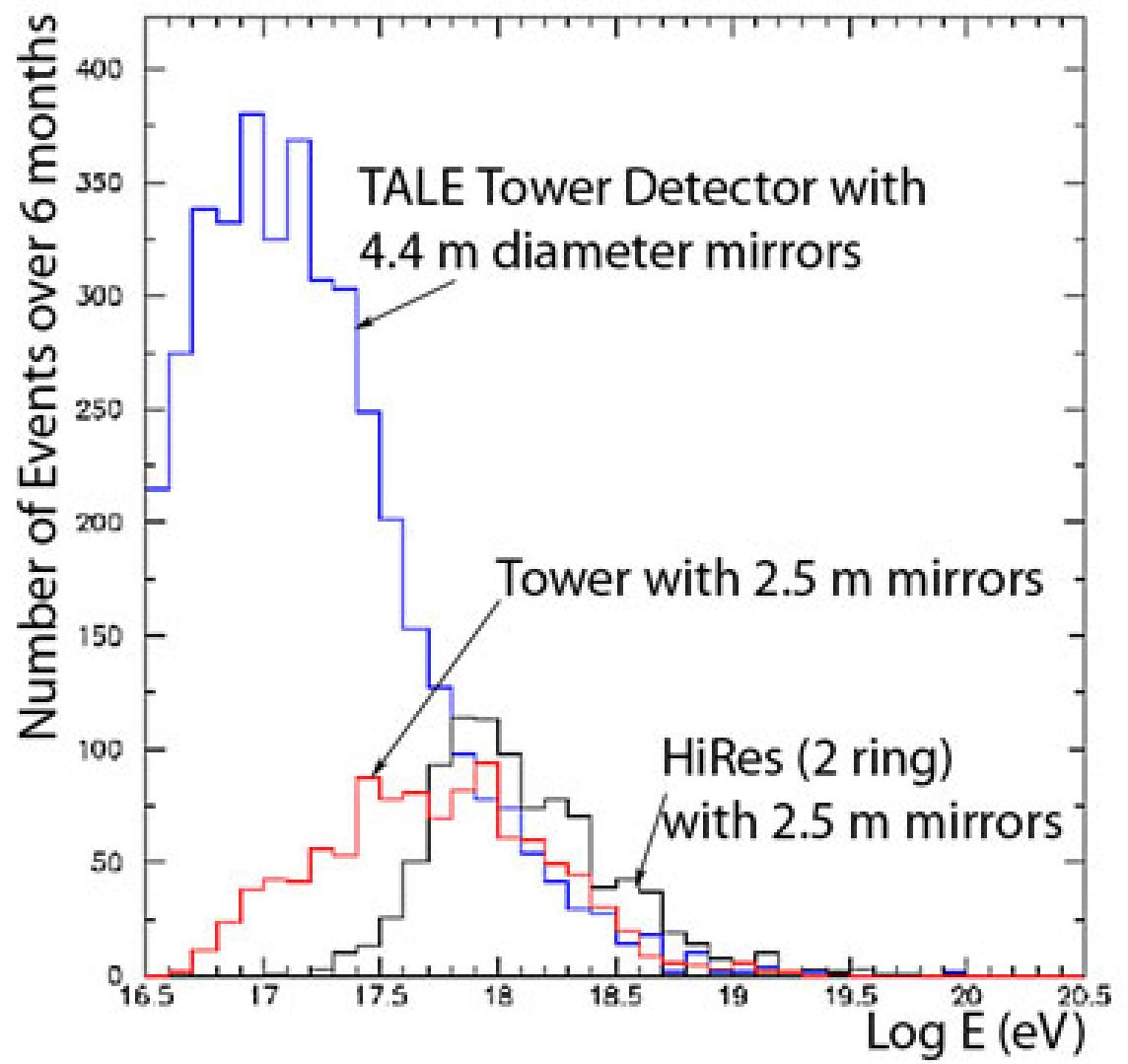
- 24 low elevation (ring 1 & 2) telescopes; mirrors the same effective area as HiRes and Auger
- 15 higher elevation (rings 3-5) telescopes; mirrors 3x larger area

# Zero in on the Ankle

- The energy, angular, and Xmax resolutions of the 6km stereo pair is expected to be similar to that of the HiRes stereo pair, except that the aperture is flattened in the decade of energy containing the ankle.
- Will provide stereo composition measurement down to  $\sim 10^{18}$  eV, where we expect the elongation rate to begin to change...overlapping with the "Tower" hybrid detector.

- The increased mirror size will improve substantially the sensitivity of TALE in the  $10^{16.5}$ - $10^{17.5}$  eV energy decade
- Note the gain in sensitivity comes from the improvement in signal.
- The HiRes trigger scheme is not S/N limited, but limited by having enough signal to reconstruct a reliable shower profile.

## Improved Sensitivity



# Conclusions

- The Telescope Array (TA) Experiment has picked up where HiRes left off and is collecting UHE cosmic ray data in the northern hemisphere
- TA is a large experiment is attempting to carefully control systematic uncertainties
- Multiple analyses are all ongoing:
  - FD mono, Stereo, SD mono, hybrid, hybrid-stereo
- More TA spectrum, composition, and anisotropy results will be presented in the coming year
- TALE – the Low Energy Extension to TA will soon be extending the reach of TA down to  $\sim 3 \times 10^{16}$  eV to sort out the measurements between galactic and extra-galactic regions.



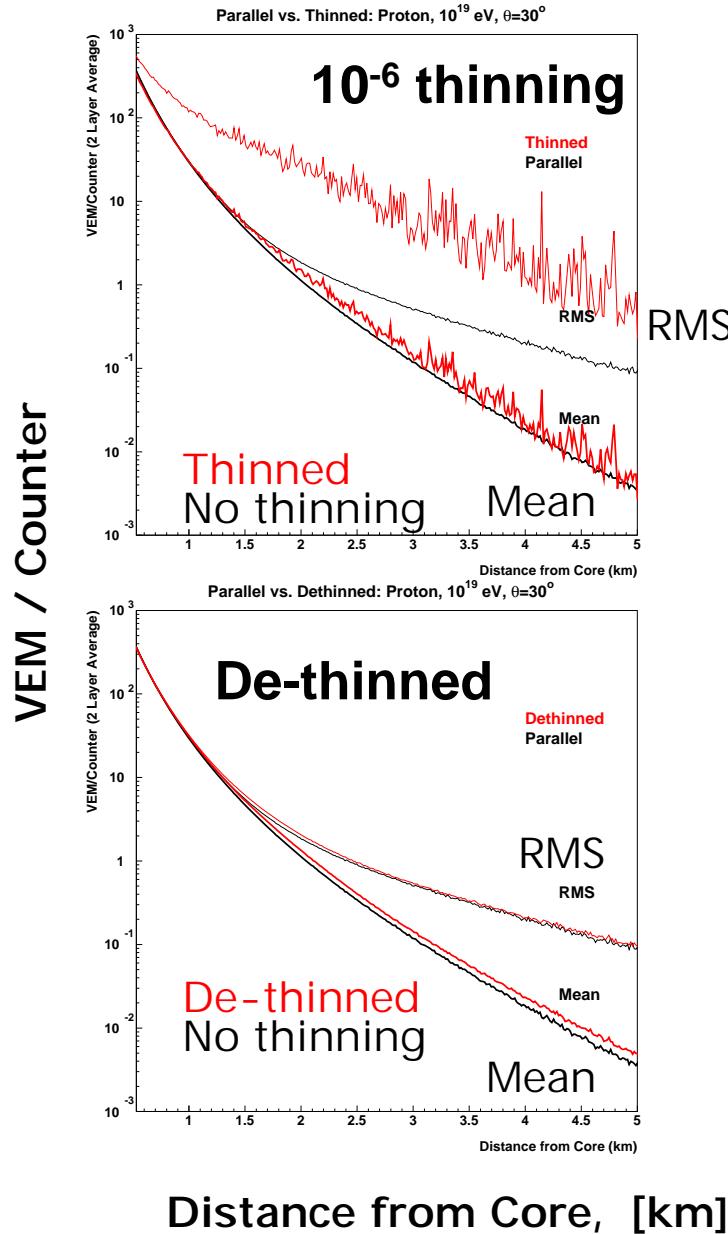
# Acknowledgments

The Telescope Array experiment is supported by the

- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology-Japan
- U.S. National Science Foundation
- Korea Research Foundation
- Korean Science and Engineering Foundation
- Russian Academy of Sciences,
- Belgian Science Policy
- Dr. Ezekiel R. and Edna Wattis Dumke Foundation
- Willard L. Eccles Foundation
- George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation
- State of Utah Economic Development Board
- University of Utah, Office of the Vice President for Research
- Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA)
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Air Force

We also wish to thank the people and the officials of Millard County, Utah, for their steadfast and warm supports. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions from the technical staffs of our home institutions and the University of Utah Center for High Performance Computing

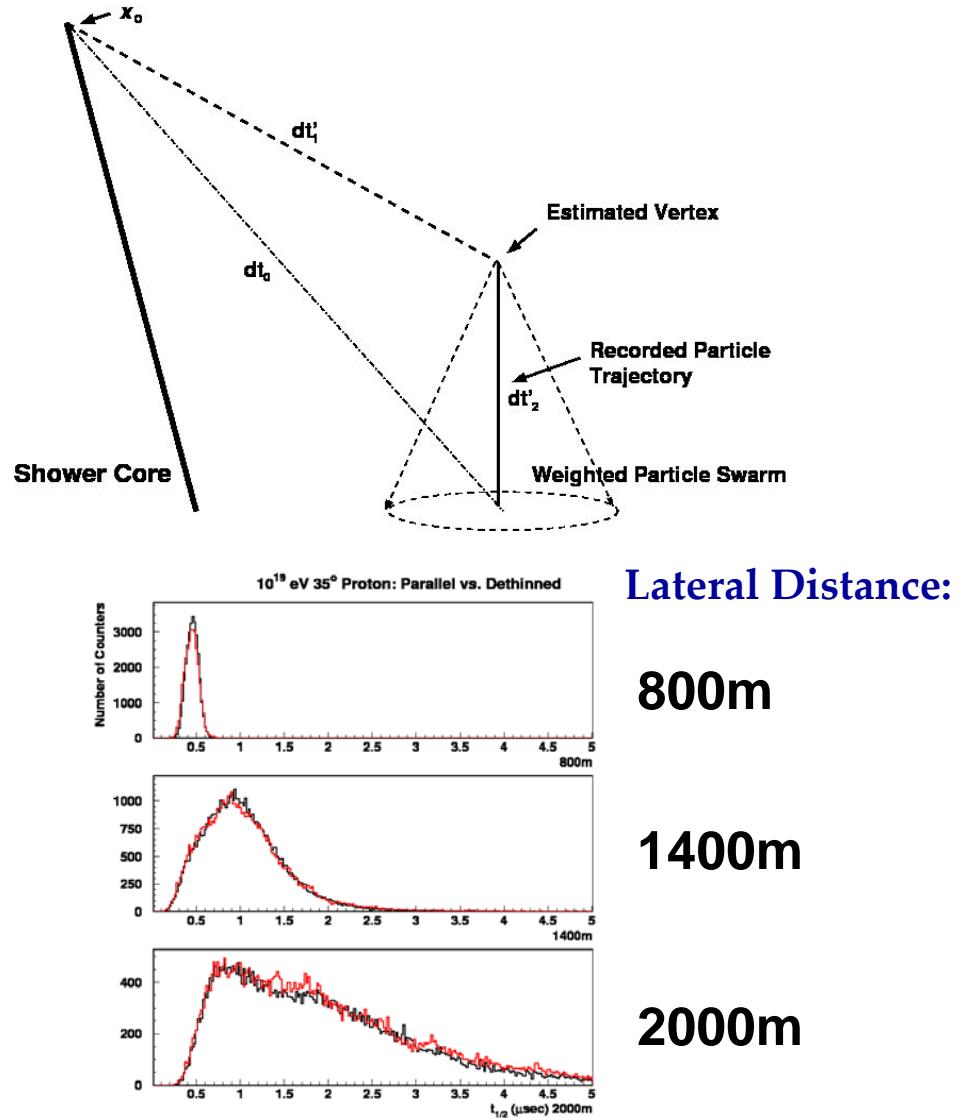
# Using CORSIKA Events



- Use  $10^{-6}$  – thinned CORSIKA QGSJET-II proton showers that are **de-thinned** in order to restore information in the tail of the shower.
- De-thinning procedure is **validated** by comparing results with **non-thinned** CORSIKA showers, obtained by running CORSIKA in parallel
- We fully simulate the SD response, *including actual FADC traces*

# Dethinning Technique

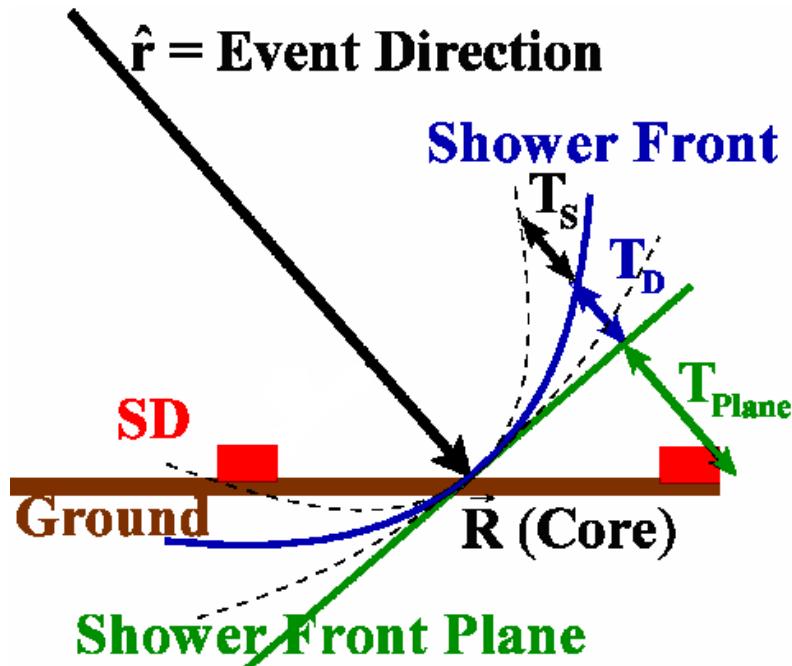
- Change each CORSIKA output particle of weight  $w$  to  $w$  particles; distributed in space and time.
- Time distribution agrees with un-thinned CORSIKA showers.



# SD Time Fit

- Event direction is found by minimizing:

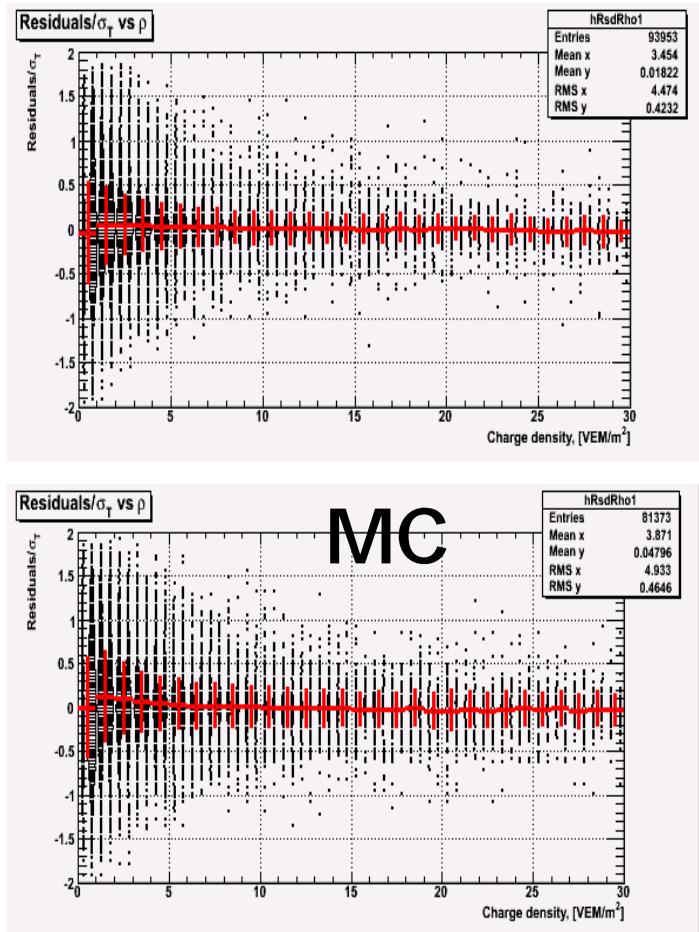
$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n\text{SDs}} \frac{(t_i - T_0 - T_{\text{Plane}} - T_D)^2}{T_S^2} + \frac{(\vec{\mathbf{R}} - \vec{\mathbf{R}}_{\text{COG}})^2}{(180\text{m})^2}$$



- $T_0$  Time of the core hitting ground
- $T_{\text{Plane}}$  Time of the shower front plane
- $T_D$  Time delay (Modified Linsley)
- $T_S$  Fluctuation of time delay (Modified Linsley)
- $\vec{\mathbf{R}}$  (Fitted) core position
- $\vec{\mathbf{R}}_{\text{COG}}$  Core position found from the center of gravity of charge

## Time fit residual over sigma

## DATA



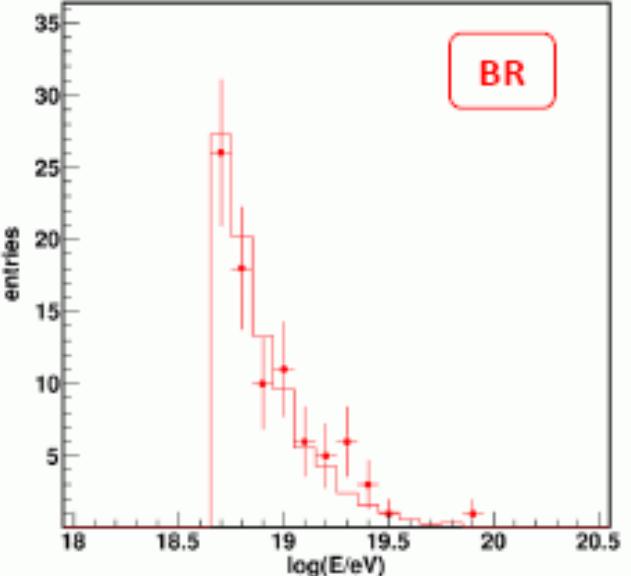
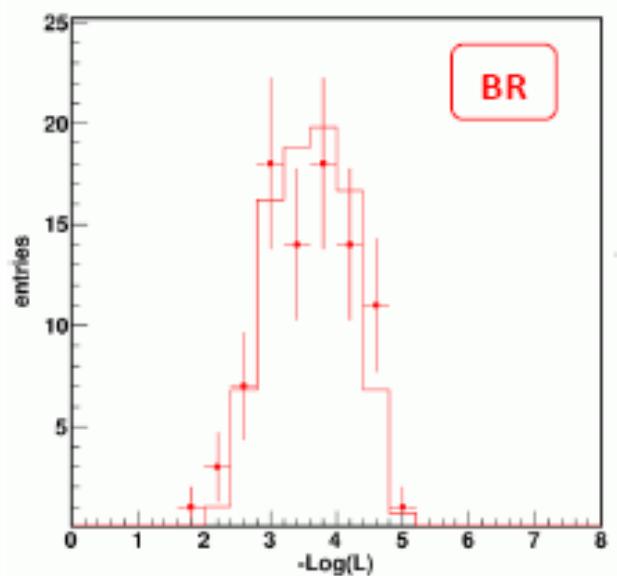
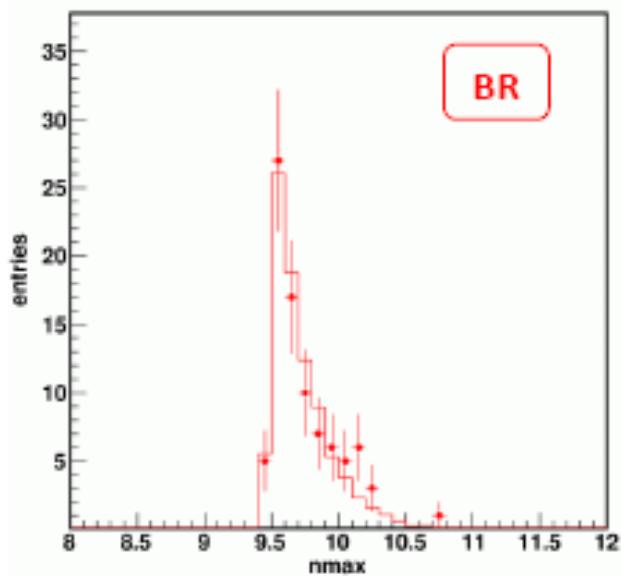
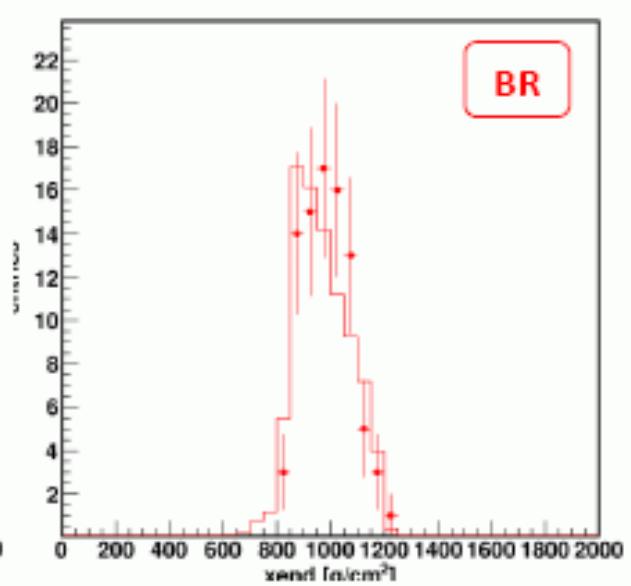
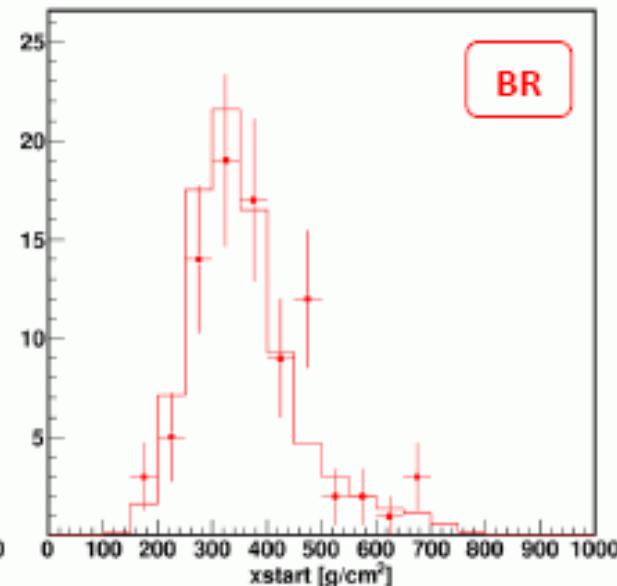
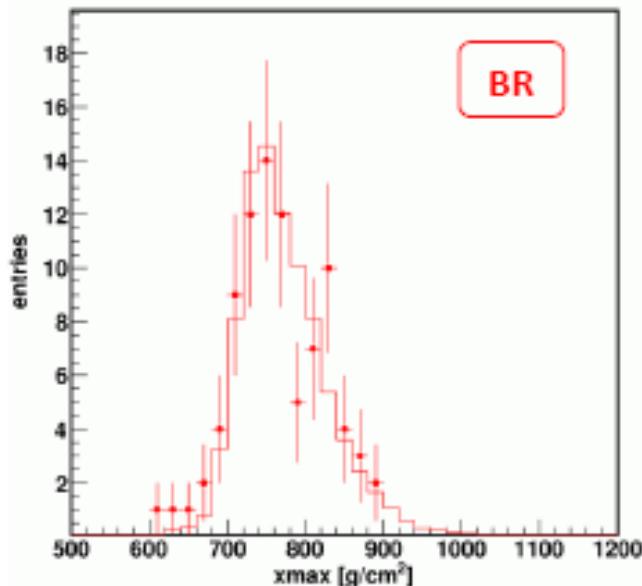
Counter signal, [VEM/m<sup>2</sup>]

# Fitting results

- Fitting procedures are derived solely from the data
- Same analysis is applied to MC
- Fit results are compared between data and MC
- MC fits the *same way* as the data.
- Consistency for both time fits and LDF fits.

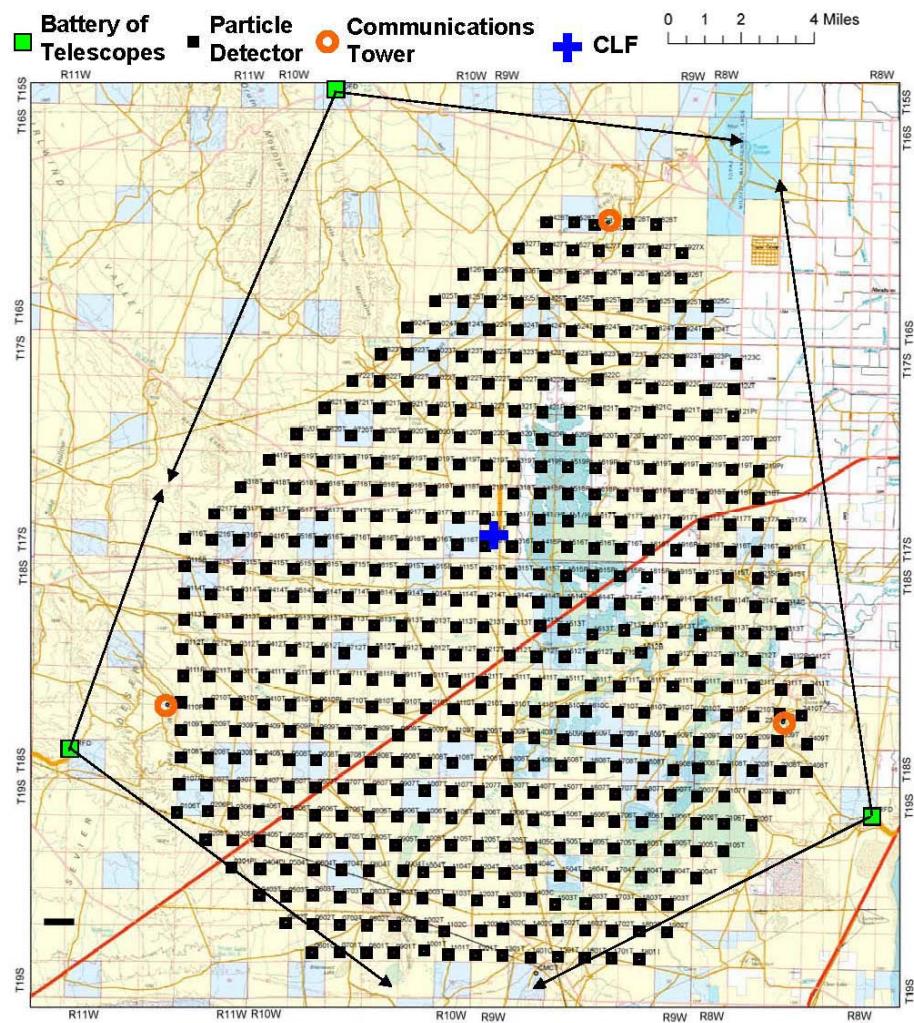
# Data/MC comparison2

- BR station
- Filled circles : data
- Histograms : MC

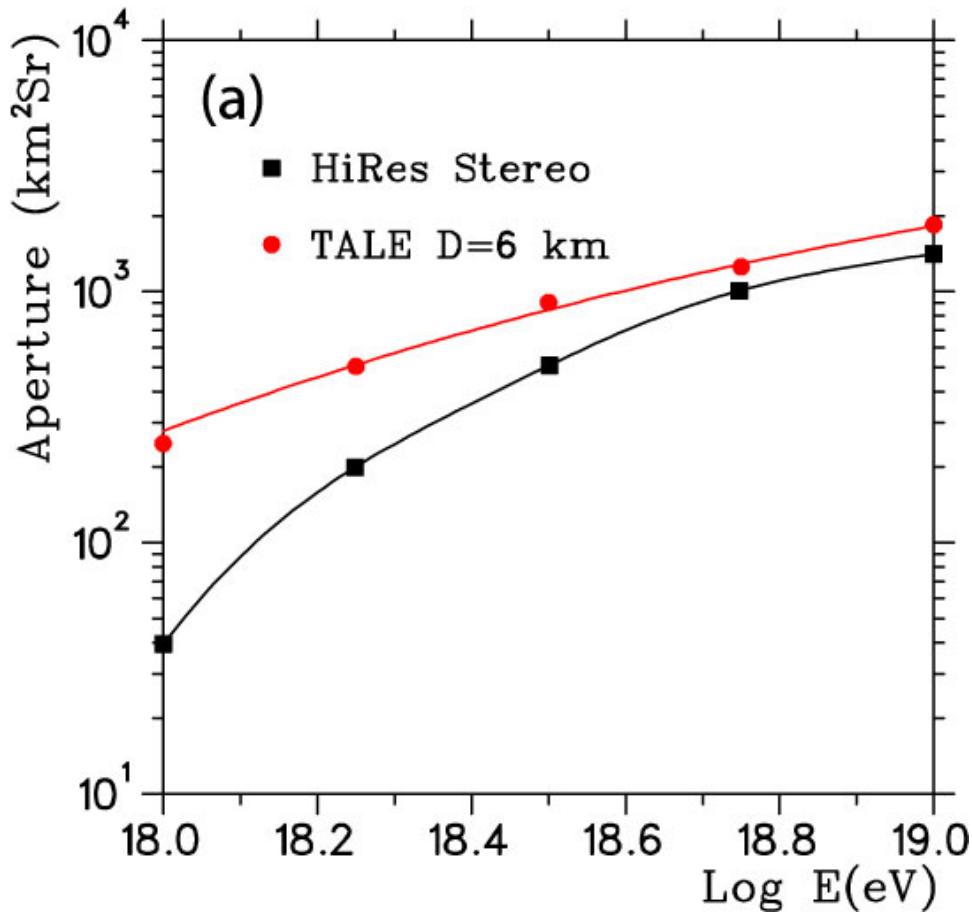


# Introduction: The Telescope Array

- TA is in Millard County, Utah, ~200 km southwest of Salt Lake City
- SD: 507 scintillation counters, 1.2 km spacing, scintillator area= 3 sq. m., two layers.
- FD: 3 sites, each covers 120° az., 3°-31° elev.
- 2.5 yr (FD) and 2 yr (SD) of data have been collected.



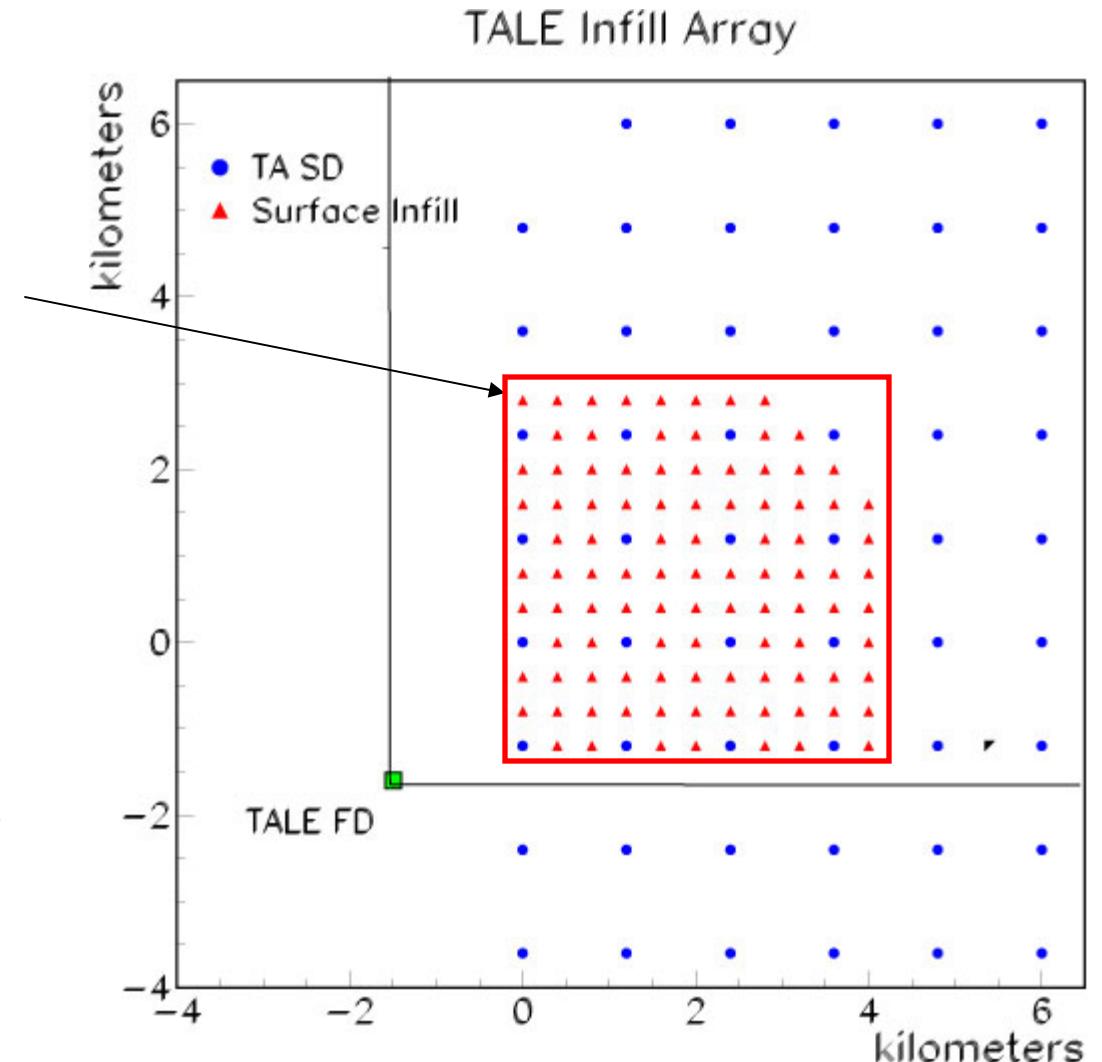
# Tale Aperture



The 6 km stereo provides

- a much flatter stereo aperture than HiRes
- a 10x increase in aperture at  $10^{18}$  eV

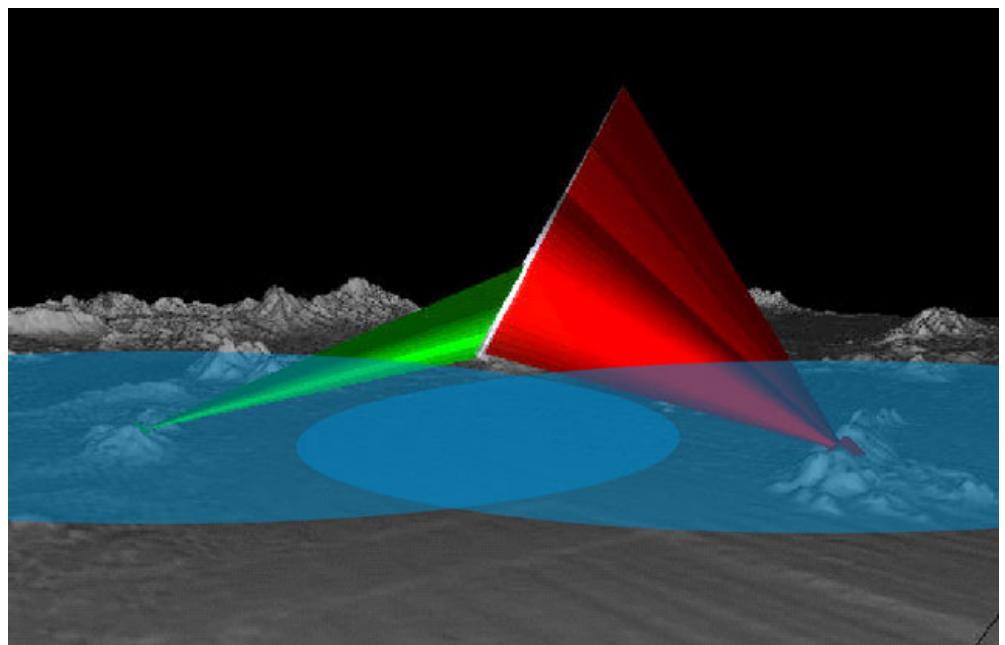
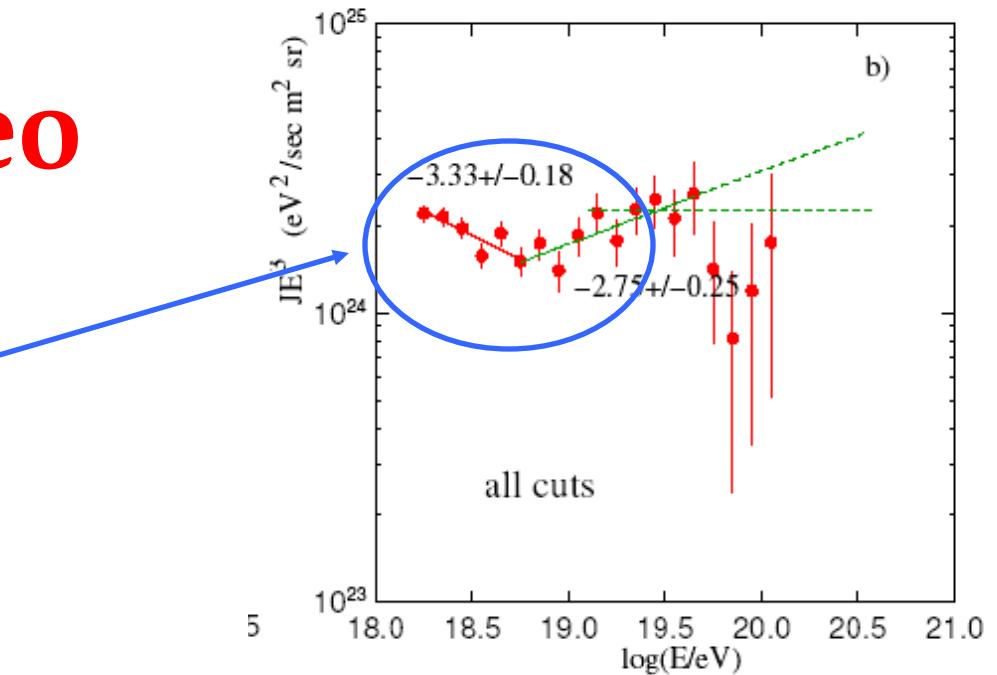
# Infill Array



- Will place 111 additional surface array counters overlapping with main ground array:  $4\text{km} \times 4\text{km}$
  - 16 of the counters in the main ground array will form part of the infill
  - Potentially re-use the AGASA scintillators and PMTs for the infill array

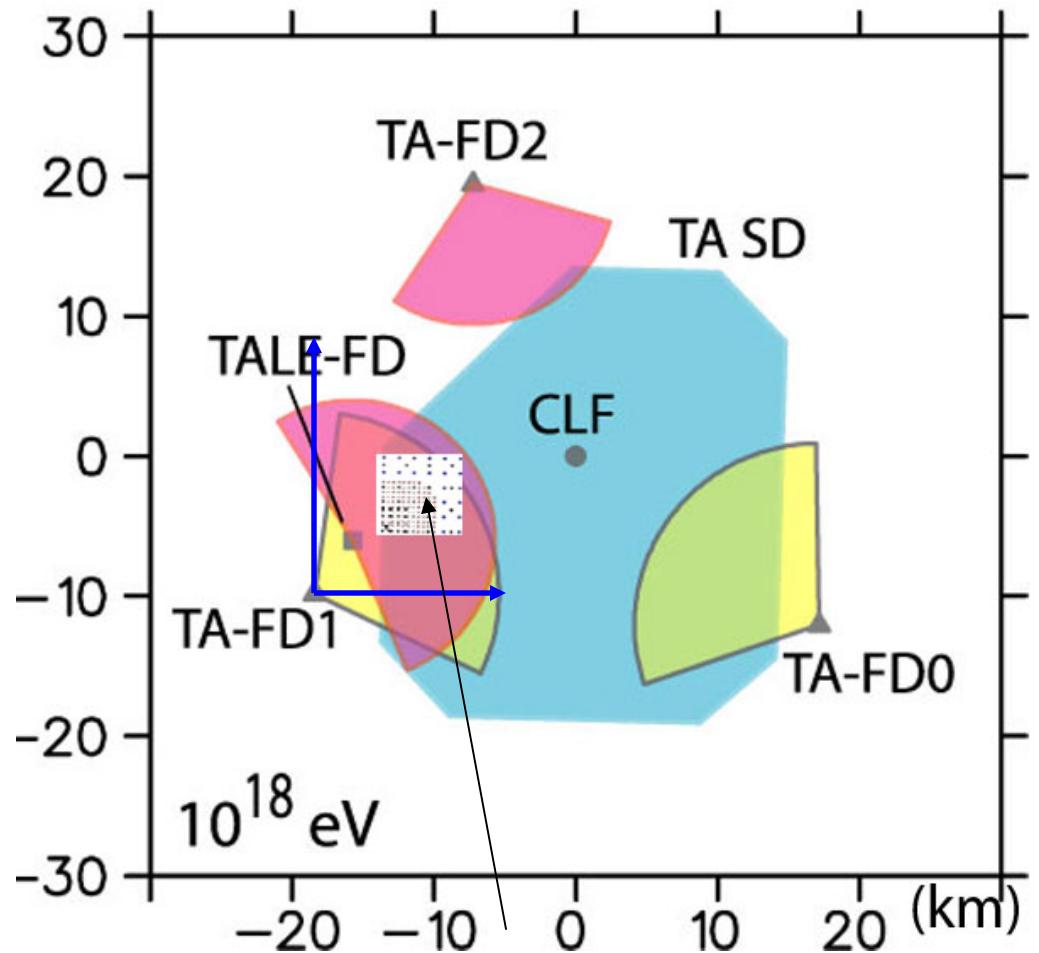
# HiRes Stereo

- HiRes Stereo aperture falls too rapidly through the ankle region to extend flux measurements much below  $\sim 3 \times 10^{18}$  eV.
- There are two primary reasons for this:
  1. The **12.6 km separation** of the two stations **is too large**: the overlap between the two shrinks very quickly below  $3 \times 10^{18}$  eV
  2. HiRes-1 only covers elevation angles up to  $17^\circ$ , which further limits the aperture near and below the ankle itself



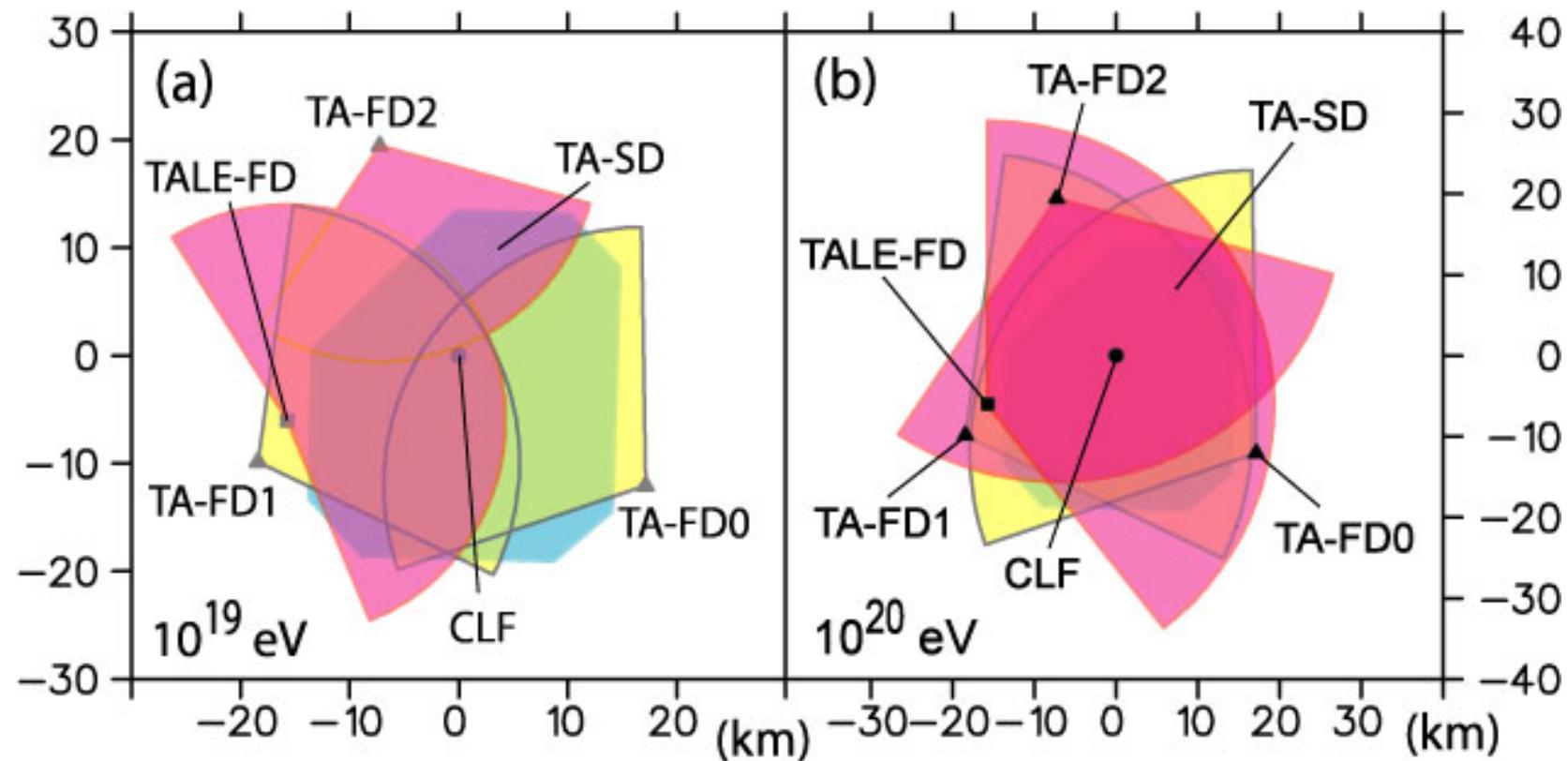
- The tower can operate in monocular mode, but limited to Xmax resolution of ~50 g/cm<sup>2</sup>.
- Stereo overlap with Long Ridge FD site is too small to have large enough stereo aperture (but enough for direct MC validation of resolutions)
- Need infill array for hybrid operation
- Simulations show 400 m spacing and ~4km x 4km array to be the optimal solution for hybrid operation the 10<sup>16.5</sup>-10<sup>19</sup> eV energy range

## Hybrid Operation

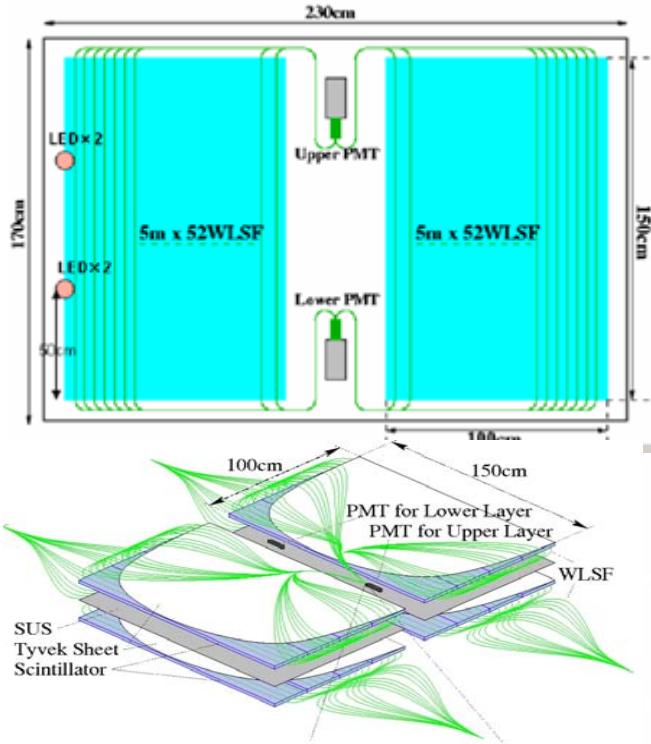


Part of the main ground array northeast of TALE-FD site is suitable for infill AND muon array

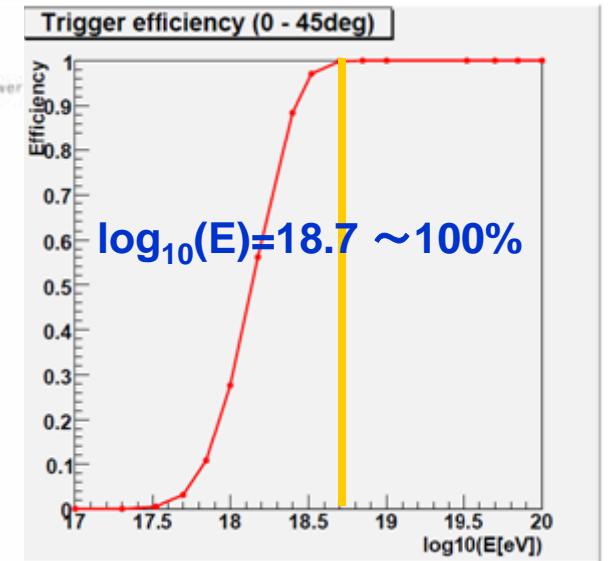
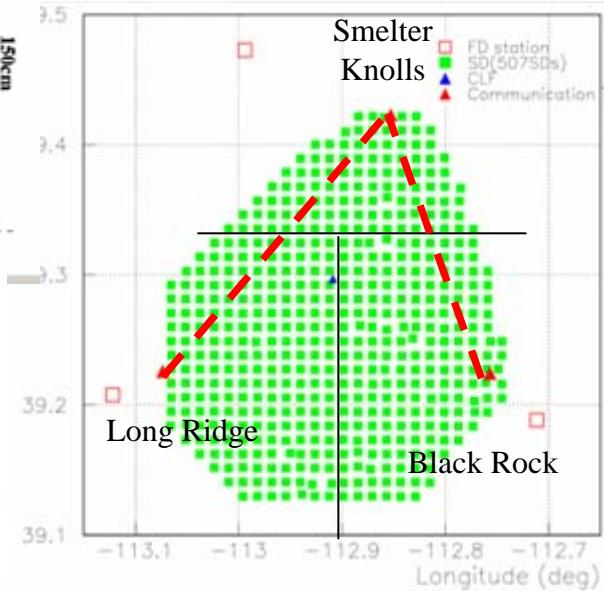
# Telescope Array - HE



Complete FD Coverage of the scintillator array at  $10^{19}$  eV and complete stereo hybrid coverage at  $10^{20}$  eV



# TA Surface Array



## Counter Trigger

### 0. Wave form recording

>1/3 mip signal  
(160ns)

740 counts/sec

### 1. List of large signal

>3mip signal (2560 ns)  
~20 counts/sec

## Array Trigger:

>3 mip & 3 adjacent detectors  
(within 8  $\mu$  sec)  
(+cross boundary trigger)

Save wave forms >0.3mip  
 $\pm 32 \mu$  sec

**Event Rate: ~20 trig/hr**

## Milestones

- 485 counters deployed  
10/2006 - 3/2007
- Test with 3 small arrays: 6/2007
- Observations with 507 counters divided into 3 sub-arrays: 3/2008
- Observations with full array trigger: 11/2008