Extreme Energy Cosmic Rays: the EUSO Experiment

Cosmic Rays Connection with Cosmology and Particle Physics

What cosmic rays (CRs) are a

Primary CRs are very energetic (E > 10⁹ eV) elementary particles (charged or neutral) that arrive continously onto the Earth.

Secondary CRs are the products of primary CRs after their interaction with C, N, O, ... nuclei in the Earth atmoshere.



The Earth atmosphere absorbs the majority of primary CR, depending on their interaction cross-section.

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Hess discovery of cosmic rays	1912		
	1927	Cosmic Rays observed in	
Anderson discovers antimatter	1932	bubble chambers	
	1937	Discovery of muons	
Auger discovers EAS	1938		
	1946	First experiments on EAS	
Fermi theory on cosmic rays	1949		
	1962	Discovery of the first event a	
GZK effect proposed	1966	$E = 10^{20} eV$	
	1991	First event in Fly's Eye	
Agasa detection of EECR	1994		
	1995	Project Auger starts	
Project EUSO starts	1997		

In 1912, the austrian physicist Victor Hess discovered that the intensity of some misterious particles, detected on ground and of unknwn origin, increases with height (he went up to 5000 m)





... elementary particle physics was born ...

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Nell' antichità



Nel XIX secolo





Ma l'atomo è fondamentale? No !!

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Il nucleo è fondamentale?

No !!



Esso è formato da protoni e neutroni



Protoni e neutroni sono a loro volta costituiti da quarks

Se guardiamo in profondità nella materia, troviamo ... **Elettroni Nucleoni** Stringhe Quarks aperte e chiuse le stringhe !! August 2004 P.Galeotti

I costituenti ultimi della materia sarebbero delle minuscole cordicelle, dette STRINGHE Lunghezza caratteristica 10⁻³³ cm





Stringa chiusa

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Le dimensioni in gioco





Volcano Ranch - MIT "Desert Queen"

<u>1957-1963</u> Volcano Ranch, New Mexico, an array of 19 plastic scintillators was built.





1959 John Linsley and Livid Scarsi observed a shower made by $3 \cdot 10^{10}$ particles, produced by a primary CR whose energy was estimated as $E_0 = 6 \cdot 10^{19}$ eV.

1962 The array was extended to a diameter of 3.6 km, and J. Linsley observed the first CR with energy above 10^{20} eV; the detected EAS was made of ~ 50 billions particles. Note that 10^{20} eV corresponds to the energy required to move up a mass of 1.5 kg for 1 m.

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Cosmic Rays

Many open questions:

- How/where are cosmic rays made?
- What process accelerates them to such enormous energies?
 - Supernova shocks?
 - Compact binary systems?
 - Active Galactic Nuclei?
- Why don't the highest energy cosmic rays point back to something interesting?
- Why are there kinks in the cosmic ray energy spectrum?
 - the knee at 10¹⁵ eV (1 PeV)
 - the ankle at 10¹⁹ eV (10 EeV)
 - the toe (?) at 10²¹ eV (1 XeV)
- How can the highest energy cosmic rays (>10²⁰ eV) ever reach us?
 - GZK cutoff should stop them

Charged particles from the cosmos

- Protons, α-particles, heavier nuclei
- No significant anisotropy seen
 ("well stirred" by Galactic magnetic field)
- Energies above 10¹⁰ eV are from our Galaxy

(note: TV or PC monitor uses 103 eV electron beam)

- Energies above 10¹⁸ eV are extra-galactic
- Intensity drops sharply with E (like E^{-2.7}):

Energy	Rate of arrival
10 ¹⁰ eV	1000 per m ² per sec
10 ¹² eV	1 per m ² per sec
10 ¹⁵ eV	1000 per m ² per <u>vear</u>
10 ¹⁹ eV	1 per <u>kilometer²</u> per year

Highest energy seen is $\sim 10^{20}$ eV, about 50 joules (energy of a 50 mph baseball in one proton!)















Only at low energies it is possible to measure primaries directly.

At high energies the flux is so low that only indirect measurements are possible.

AMS: A TeV Magnetic Spectrometer in Space



y2K025 _5 Gamma

Measuring cosmic-ray and gamma-ray air showers



Only muons and neutrinos can penetrate large depths of rock.



Formula di Bethe e Bloch



Luce Čerenkov Fronti d'onda



Fronte d'onda per una sorgente ferma

Fronte d'onda per una sorgente in moto a velocità v

Fronte d'onda per una sorgente in moto a velocità $> v_c$

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In water (n = 1,33, $v_l = 2,25 \cdot 10^8$ m/s) Cerenkov

- light is produces only if $\beta = 0.75$,
- and emitted with $\theta \sim 41$ degrees.



The table shows the minimum Lable shows the minimum Lable shows to produce Cerenkov ight in water.

particles	e	m	k	p	a
mc ² (MeV)	0,51	106	493	938	3752
(E _K) _{min} (MeV)	0,78	162	753	1432	5034

In air (n = 1,0003) only ultrarelativistic particles produce Cerenkov light along a very narrow cone with $\theta \sim 1,3$ degrees.

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Cosmic Rays & Neutrinos Messenger from Extreme Universe



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From Boltzmann (k = $1.4 \cdot 10^{-23}$ J/K) one obtains the temperature corresponding to energy values

n (Hz)	~ 10¹⁰ radio	~ 10 ¹⁴ ottico	~ 10²⁰ raggi X	~ 10²⁵ raggi γ	R.C.
E (eV)	~10-4	~5	10 ⁵	1010	10 ²⁰
T (K)	1	104	1010	10^{15}	10 ²⁵

CR particles (*p*, but also *n* and *g*) can have an energy so large that their origin could be only cosmological. $n + n \rightarrow n^{\pm}(K^{\pm}) + X$

$$p + p \rightarrow p^{-1} (K^{-1}) + X$$

$$\rightarrow m^{\pm} + n_{m}(\bar{n}_{m})$$

$$p + p \rightarrow p^{0} \rightarrow g + g$$

$$\rightarrow e^{\pm} + \bar{n}_{m}(n_{m}) + n_{e}(\bar{n}_{e})$$

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Cosmic Ray Propagation in our Galaxy

Deflection angle < 1 degree at 10²⁰ eV





Greisen, Zatsepin and Kuzmin (1960) pointed out that there ought to be a "cutoff" in the cosmic ray spectrum around 10²⁰ eV:

- The universe is filled with Cosmic Background Radiation (CBR), relic photons from the Big Bang
- CBR photons have an energy spectrum characteristic of a blackbody at ~3K, so they are in the ~0.001 eV (microwave) energy range
- But in the rest frame of a 10²⁰ eV proton, they look like high energy (10⁹ eV) gamma rays!
- Protons and nuclei have a high probability (cross section) for interacting with GeV gamma rays and getting smashed into other (lower energy) particles

GZK Effect $p + hn \mathbb{R} \mathbb{D}^+ \mathbb{R} \mathbb{N} + p$

Energy and attenuation factor ($e^{-x/\lambda}_{GZK}$) are:

E_{GZK} ~ 5•10¹⁹ eV l_{GZK} ~ 30 Mpc

• Super-GZK hadrons from distant sources will lose energy and pile-up at sub-GZK energies. • If UHE CR are protons, they show the highest value for the Lorentz factor ($g \sim 10^{11}$) observed in nature. P.Galeotti



Cosmic Ray Energy Spectrum




UHE CR PRODUCTION MECHANISMS

Observations and Experiments are needed to answer to the questions remaining open

Bottom – up signatures

- •Protons/nuclei
- Power law spectrumcounterparts

Top – down signatures

- Photons/neutrinos
- •Non-power law spectrum
- •No counterparts/repeats
- •Halo distribution

Many hypotheses have been offered, suggesting UHE CRs are due to:

- Bottom-up models: some variant of the same mechanism valid for lower energies
- Top-down models: created at UHE due to decay of a very heavy parent particle (GUT or supersymmetry models), or perhaps due to topological defects in the Universe
- Neutrino interactions in intergalactic space
- Exotic astrophysics: AGNs, , jets, GRBs little is known about gamma ray bursters or UHE CRs, so maybe there is a connection!
- Magnetic field models: maybe intergalactic space has a larger magnetic field than expected, so charged particles do not point back to sources even at UHE
- Violation of Lorentz invariance would solve the GZK puzzle

用一一日没三年三月之史出来的一個人一一日没三年三月了去月之日出来北方近濁有芒甚至丁日月一日没三年六月两辰出算慶中至七月丁明月没至和元年五月已去出天開東南可數寸處有沒無容三年十一月丁未出天開東南可數寸處 一個人人一個没三年六月两辰出算慶中至七月丁明月天在出来度中把掩倒星玉子把九天里去了一月丁未出天開東南可數寸成 一個人人一個没三年一月丁未出天開東南可數寸處 一個人人一個没三年三月子多万散船與八年五月一日

THE UNIFIED MODEL



Slanted story. Seemingly diverse astronomical objects may be different views of galactic cores.



(Antonucci 1993, Urry & Padovani 1995)



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Hillas plot

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New Projects for UHECRs



EUSO: AN EXPERIMENT TO STUDY EECRs FROM SPACE



EUSO Concept

Large Distance and Large F.O.V.

- → Large Aperture
- $~6x10^5 \, \text{km}^2 \, \text{sr}$
 - Good Cosmic Ray detector
- ~2000 Giga-ton atmosphere
 - Good neutrino detector
- All Sky coverage
 - North and south sky covered uniformly.
 ISS orbit: ~50° inclination.
- Complementary to the observation from the ground
 - Different energy scale
 - Different systematic errors
- Shower Geometry is well defined
 - Constant distance from detector





EUSO (Instantaneous) ~3000 x AGASA ~ 100 x Auger EUSO (10% duty cycle) ~ 300 x AGASA ~ 10 x Auger

400km

EUSO

AGASA

50km Auger



EUSO: Extreme Universe Space Observatory

An Innovative Space Mission doing astronomy by looking downward from the Space Station at the Earth Atmosphere.

EUSO is devoted to the exploration from space of the highest energy processes present and accessible in the Universe. They are directly related to the extreme boundaries of the physical world.



EAS DETECTOR EUSO APPROACH

To obtain a statistical significant sample of EECR events at $E > 10^{20} \text{ eV}$, with flux value at the level of:

1 particle/year/100 km²

or with very low interaction cross section (neutrinos), a giant detector is required.

The earth atmosphere, viewed from space with an acceptance area of the order of $6 \cdot 10^5 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr}$, and a target mass of the order of $2 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ tons}$ constitutes an ideal target to UHE CR and cosmic neutrinos.



NATURAL DETECTOR: THE EARTH ATMOSPHERE

- → Atmosphere is required for the primary particle to interact and develop shower with a production of :
 - Cherenkov light
 - ➡ fluorescence light

→ Details of the UV light production yield details of the primary particle :

- the amount of UV light produced is proportional to the particle's energy
- the shape of the shower profile and the atmospheric depth of the shower maximum contain information about particle mass composition



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The Auger Observatory **Area** ~ **3000** km² Aperture ~ 7400 km² sr Rio Atuel Buitres NORTE Eagrampa 19 Minas Amarilla El Sosneado Cañada Los Pocitos (C COIHUECO Coihueco intada Norte HORADOS Alamo AGUA DE CA El Chacay El Chacay Malargüe gua de los Novillos-Pto. Ortiz El Salitral-H Virgen del LEONES

SD Array 1600 **Cherenkov tanks** 1.5 km spacing

FD 24 luorescence elescopes n 4 buildings

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EUSO OBSERVATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Extension of the measurements of the energy spectrum of UHE CR beyond the GZK limit
- Is there a maximum energy?
- How does the spectrum continues beyond the existing data?
- All sky survey of the arrival direction of UHE CR.
- Observation of a possible flux of UHE Cosmic Neutrinos.
- Systematic sounding of the atmosphere with respect to cloud distribution and UV light absorption and emission characteristics.
- Investigation of atmospheric phenomena such as meteors and electrical discharges.



The instrument





Focal Surface Detector Baseline design

THE FOCAL SURFACE DETECTOR HIERARCHICAL VIEW

Focal surface detector

(89 macrocells = 205056 pixels)



Macrocell



Basic unit (8x8 pixels)





EUSO – The Focal Surface 200.000 pixels at single PE





Macrocell





Microcell



R8900 – M36







Advantage of a space-based fluorescence detector for EECR

Geometrical Factor (A · W) » 6 · 10⁵ km² sr (FoV=±30° at ISS mean distance h_{ISS}@430km

ATMOSPHERE

- rather constant signal attenuation ~0.5
- Negligible Proximity Effect
- $(\Delta D_{ist.}/D_{ist.} < 1\%)$
- acceptance not depending on energy)
- Full Sky Coverage
- Cerenkov "footprint" of shower



Comparison of UHECR Experiments. Large encircled area: EUSO, small encircled area: AUGER. No duty cycle included. Ratio of effective geometrical factor (EUSO/AUGER): • including duty cycle (10% for both arrays): ~70

with duty cycle (10%) only for EUSO: ~7

In absence of moon, the background is estimated 300 ph/m²/nsec/sr mainly due to starlight and "l'Airglow"



DETECTION TECHNIQUE

Euso will observe the **fluorescence signal** looking to Nadir at the dark Earth atmosphere from its location on the CEPF under a 60° full field of view. Fluorescence light will be imaged by a large Fresnel lens onto a **finely segmented focal surface**. A Cerenkov signal will be detected in a delayed coincidence with the fluorescence signal.

The segmentation and the time resolution adopted will enable the reconstruction of the EAS energy with an accuracy of order **DE/E** ~ **30%**, and of the arrival direction **from a fraction of a degree to a few degrees** depending on energy and zenith angle of the primary particle.

Main characteristics of EUSO, a collaborative effort of research groups from Europe, USA and

Japan

Field of view	+ 30 around nadir
Lens diameter	≥ 2.5 m
Entrance pupil diameter	≥ 2.0 m
F/#	<i>≤</i> 1.25
Operating wavelengths	330 – 400 nm
Angular resolution	~ 1 ⁰
Pixel diameter	~ 5 mm
Pixel size on ground	~ 0.8 x 0.8 km ²
Number of pixels	~ 2.5 10 ⁵
Operational lifetime	3 years

Baseline configuration of the EUSO instrument to be located on the CEPF of the ISS.

Item Description	Characteristic Value
EECR - Telescope	
Mass	1200 kg
Power	750 Watt
External Geometry	Cylindrical (pointing to Nadir)
Dimension	Ø 2.8 m ´ 4.2 m
Telemetry	2 kbit/s continuous
LIDAR for Atmosphere characterization	
Mass	200 kg
Power	300 Watt
External Geometry	Cylindrical (co-axial to Main Telescope)
Dimension	Ø1m´3m
Telemetry	25 kbit/s (per event)

SYSTEM ELECTRONICS

Multi-level trigger implementation

- **Trigger Mode 1 or normal mode** (EECRs up to 300µs, GTU=833ns)
- Trigger Mode 2 or *slow mode*

(ex. Meteors up to 2 sec, GTU = 833ns ? 1ms)

• **Trigger Mode 3 or fast mode** (ex. Calibration, GTU=200ns)

Lightnings





NEUTRINO EVENTS IN ATMOSPHERE



2000 km³ we of target for EUSO But : duty cycle, efficiency, very high energy threshold

The Cerenkov signal gives a unique signature to discriminate between high penetrating neutrinos and quick interacting hadrons



ULTRA measurements



This kind of measurements are also very interesting by themselves since very few experimental data are available

Plateau Rosa (Italy) *Nuovo Cimento 6C, 2(1983) 202* SPHERA (Kazakhstan) *Nuclear Physics , 52B (1997) 182* Lake-p. Mussala (Bulgaria) *Proc. ICRC 2001, 900*

> All these experiments have measured the Cerenkov light reflected by snow with no information about the associated EAS.

Other goals of the ULTRA experiment are:

- Study of the atmospheric radiative transfer (LIDAR)
- Measure the UV background at different Moon phases
- Meteor observations

What do we measure with ULTRA?

Cerenkov light diffused by:-Desert land-Grass-covered land-Ocean (water) Surface-Trees-covered land-Iced (snow) Landas a function of the shower size andaxis inclination.





Associated EAS parameters for each event: - e.m. Size N_e -Arrival Direction (**q**,**f**)
Experimental setup





Mont-Cénis:

- 2401 events in 17848 s, with a frequency of 0.1345 Hz,
- 2382 events with arrival direction reconstructed,
- $Q < 10^{\circ} \rightarrow 261$ events, with a frequency 0.0147 Hz
- $10^{\circ} < q < 30^{\circ} \rightarrow 1333$ events, with a frequency 0.0753 Hz



EUSO basic parameters

- **Target mass:**
- 2.10¹² tons (2000 km³ we)
- **Aperture:**
- 6x10⁵ km²sr
- **Threshold:**
- $\mathbf{E} > \mathbf{3} \cdot \mathbf{10^{19} eV}$

concepts and



EUSO PERFORMANCE



EUSO in a year operation will cover all sky directions

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Arrival direction of 59 events ($E > 4 \ 10^{19} \text{ eV}$)







Figure 4.1-1 The EUSO End-to-End simulation and event reconstruction flow-chart.



EUSO resolution

Angular res = $1^{\circ} - 4^{\circ}$

Energy res = 20% (RMS)+... (with Lidar info)

Xmax res = 50 g/cm^2 (with Lidar info)

EUSO skymap > 10²⁰eV maximum cluster 60~70





Shower X_{max} distribution from Monte Carlo simulations: neutrino events can be distinguished from proton and nuclei.





Ultrahigh-energy neutrinos arise from

- Decay of cosmic string or superheavy relic particles
- Decays of pions in the GZK process
- Z₀-burst mechanism

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Theoretical neutrino flux upper limits



Predicted differential fluxes of g, n, and p



AGASA vs HiRes (See Teshima Energy determination in AGASA)



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EUSO PERFORMANCE



Triggered event is validated only if shower profile is identified (reconstruction criterium: $X_{max} \pm 100 \text{ g/cm}^2$) P.Galeotti La Paz, August 2004 90

EUSO PERFORMANCE



The trigger aperture includes a 10% duty cycle

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energy threshold and event statistics for various configurations.

10²¹

10²⁰

10¹⁹

1.0

9.7 x 10¹⁹ eV

1.2

1.4

Pupil diameter (m)

Energy threshold (eV) 50% of trigger efficiency

(8)



AUGER – EUSO BRIDGE



In 5 years operation @ $5 \cdot 10^{19}$ eV AUGER statistical errors within ~ 5%

In 1 year operation @ 5 ·10¹⁹ eV EUSO statistical errors within ~ 5% La Paz, August 2004

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Study of EECR Energy Spectrum

	>4x10 ¹⁹	>10 ²⁰	> 3x10 ²⁰	> 10 ²¹
Extended spectrum	~4000	~1000	~100	~10
GZK spectrum	~3000	~150	~2	0

Exposure (AGASA unit)

Exposure





BOTTOM - UP PROCESSES

Here acceleration of low energy particles occurs in objects such as AGN and their radio lobes, interacting galaxies or highly magnetized neutron stars (an extreme case in this class are GRBs).

The observation of a direction of arrival and time coincidence of a GRB and an extreme energy neutrino ($E > 10^{19}$ eV) would provide a crucial test for the identification of GRBs as the UHE CR sources, in spite of their location at distances well beyond the GZK limit.



TOP – DOWN PROCESSES

One way to overcome the many difficulties with the acceleration of EECR is to introduce a new, unstable supermassive particle called the X-particle. The decay of these particles is thought to produce copious amounts of photons, neutrinos and leptons, and a smaller fraction of protons and neutrons which could be detected as UHE CR.

The X-particles themselves could be produced by the decay of topological defects or supermassive relic particles produced at the end of the GUT phase transition stage of the universe.

Big Bang





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The fundamental interactions







electromagnetism



week

strong



STANDARD MODEL (1970) GUT SU(3)xSU(2)xU(1) gravity not include

~ 100 GeV electroweak unification



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(+)

<u>Models of inflation</u>

old, new, used (pre-owned), chaotic, quixotic, ergodic, exotic, eckpryotic, autoerotic, faith-based, free-based. 3-brane, D-brane, no-brain, supersymmetric, superstitious, supercilious, natural, supernatural, au natural, hybrid, low-bred, white-bread, one-field, two-field, left-field, eternal, internal, infernal, self-reproducing, self-promoting, dilaton, dilettante, **R.Kolb**

<u>Superheavy relic (wimpzilla)</u> <u>characteristics:</u>

- supermassive (~10¹² GeV)
- abundance depends only on mass
- abundance independent of interactions
 - sterile?
 - electrically charged?
 - strong interactions?
 - weak interactions?
- unstable (lifetime > age of the universe)?

primordial perturbations

- In the standard inflationary scenario, they originate as quantum fluctuations in inflaton and graviton fields
- CBR maps on the largest scales are direct, faithful images of quantum fields
- Each blob is a faithful image of about a "single quantum" during inflation
- The expanding universe acts like a giant microscope, better than any lab imager

String theory requires 10 dimensions, but the universe has only 4 dimensions COMPACTIFICATION 10 ? 4

6 dimensions are small and compact



Will EECR solve the cosmology problem?





A proposed large mirror system



Design of a mirror optics, based on the Schmidt camera principle, with FOV up to 25°

5-7 m 3 identical DETECTORS ASSEMBLED INSIDE THE ISS ?

Solid state detectors?

OWL



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