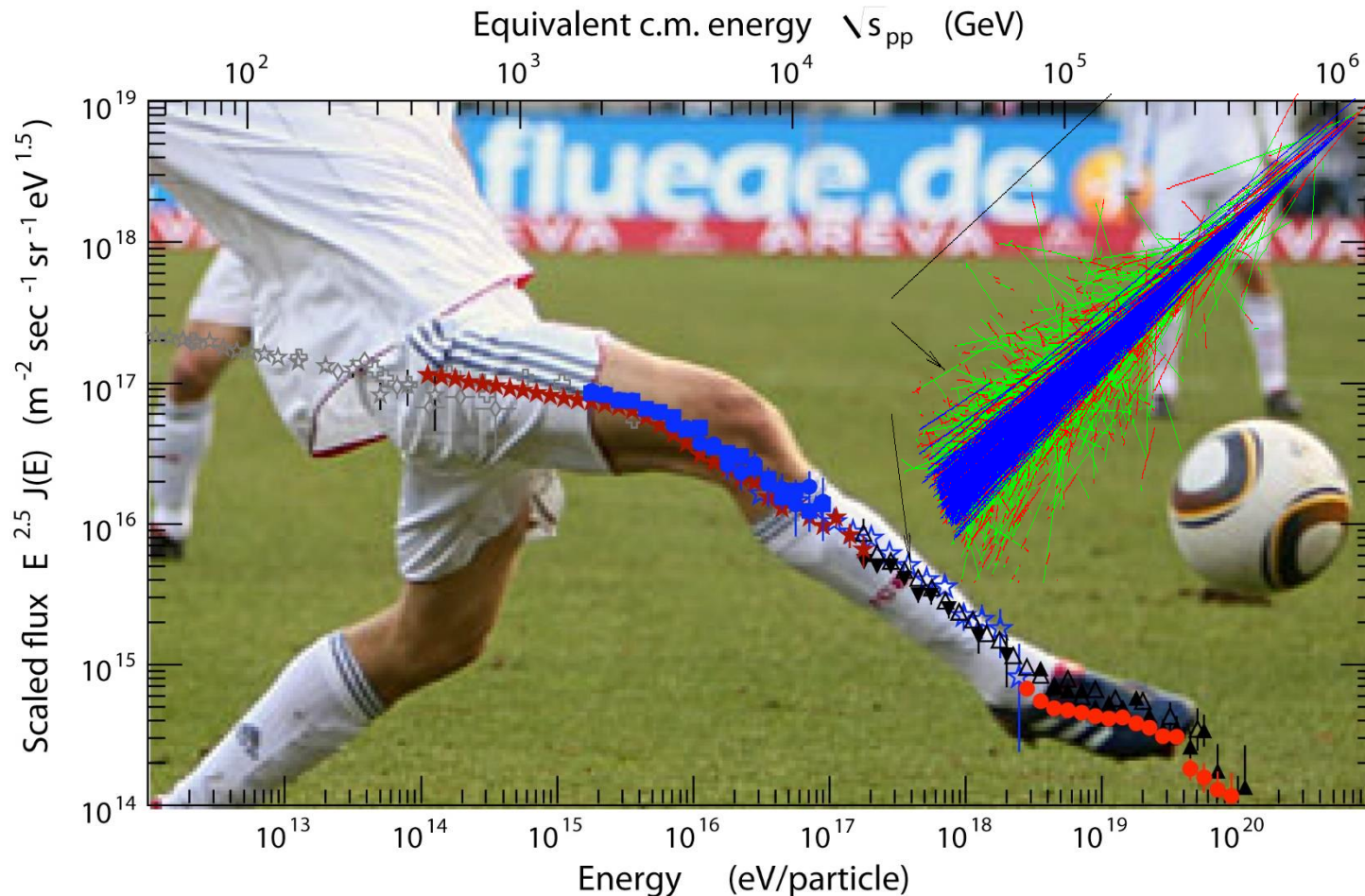


# KASCADE-Grande

## in the view of the post-LHC hadronic interaction models



# KASCADE

## KARlsruhe Shower Core and Array DETector

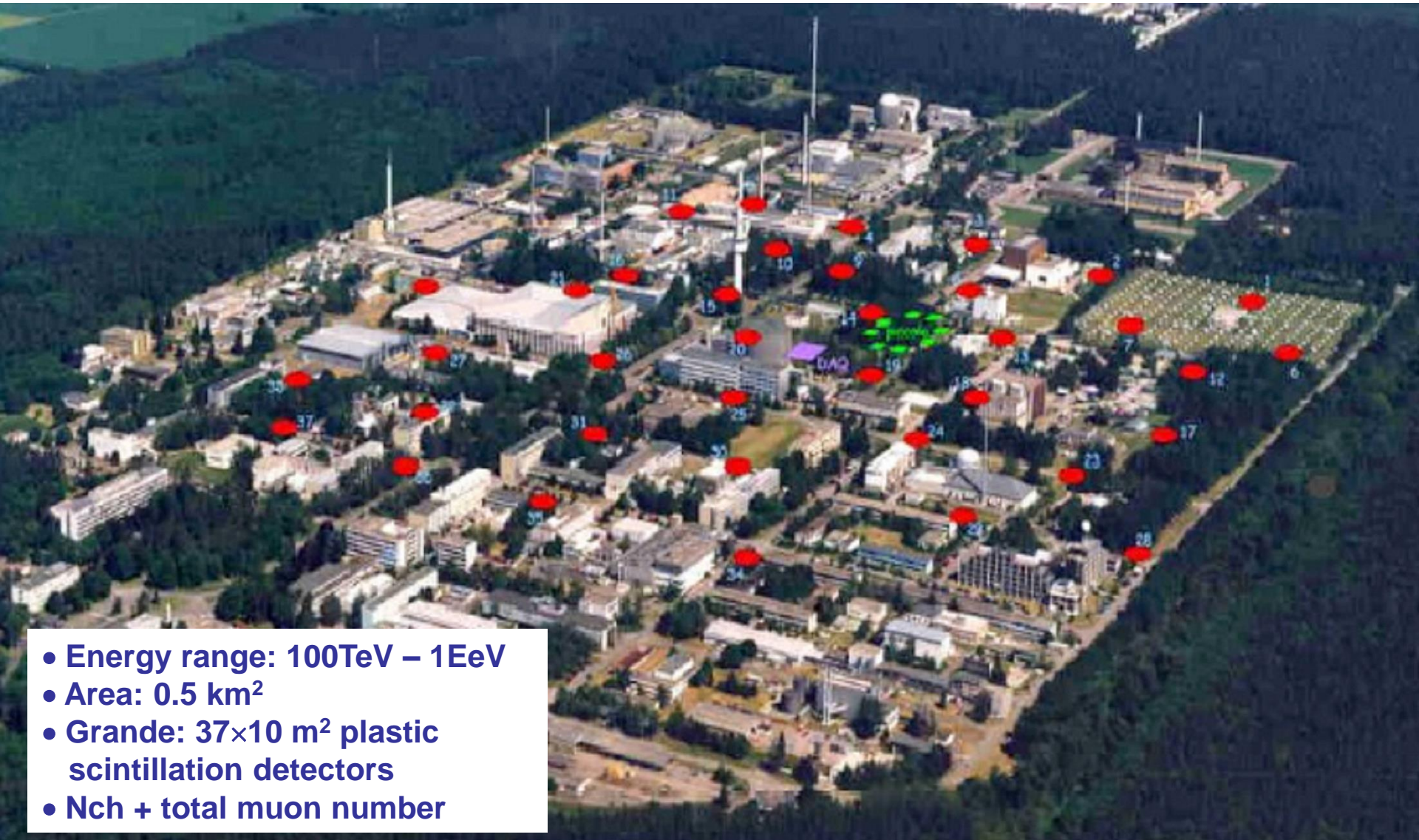


- Energy range 100TeV – 80PeV
- Since 1995
- Large number of observables: electrons, muons@4 thresholds, hadrons

T.Antoni et al. NIM A513 (2003) 490



# KASCADE-Grande

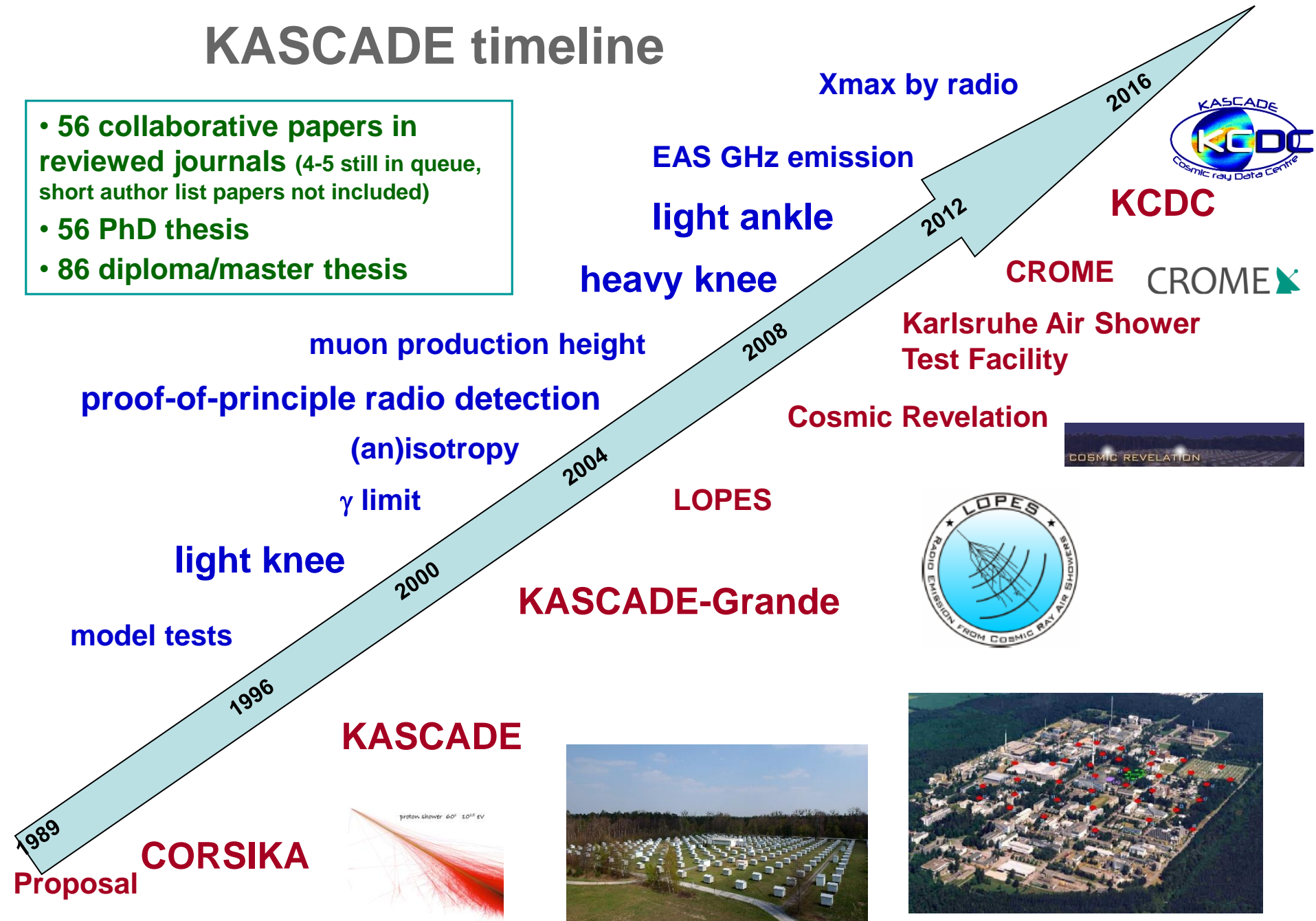


- Energy range: 100TeV – 1EeV
- Area: 0.5 km<sup>2</sup>
- Grande: 37×10 m<sup>2</sup> plastic scintillation detectors
- Nch + total muon number

W.D.Apel et al, Nucl.Instr. and Meth. A620 (2010) 202

# KASCADE timeline

- 56 collaborative papers in reviewed journals (4-5 still in queue, short author list papers not included)
- 56 PhD thesis
- 86 diploma/master thesis





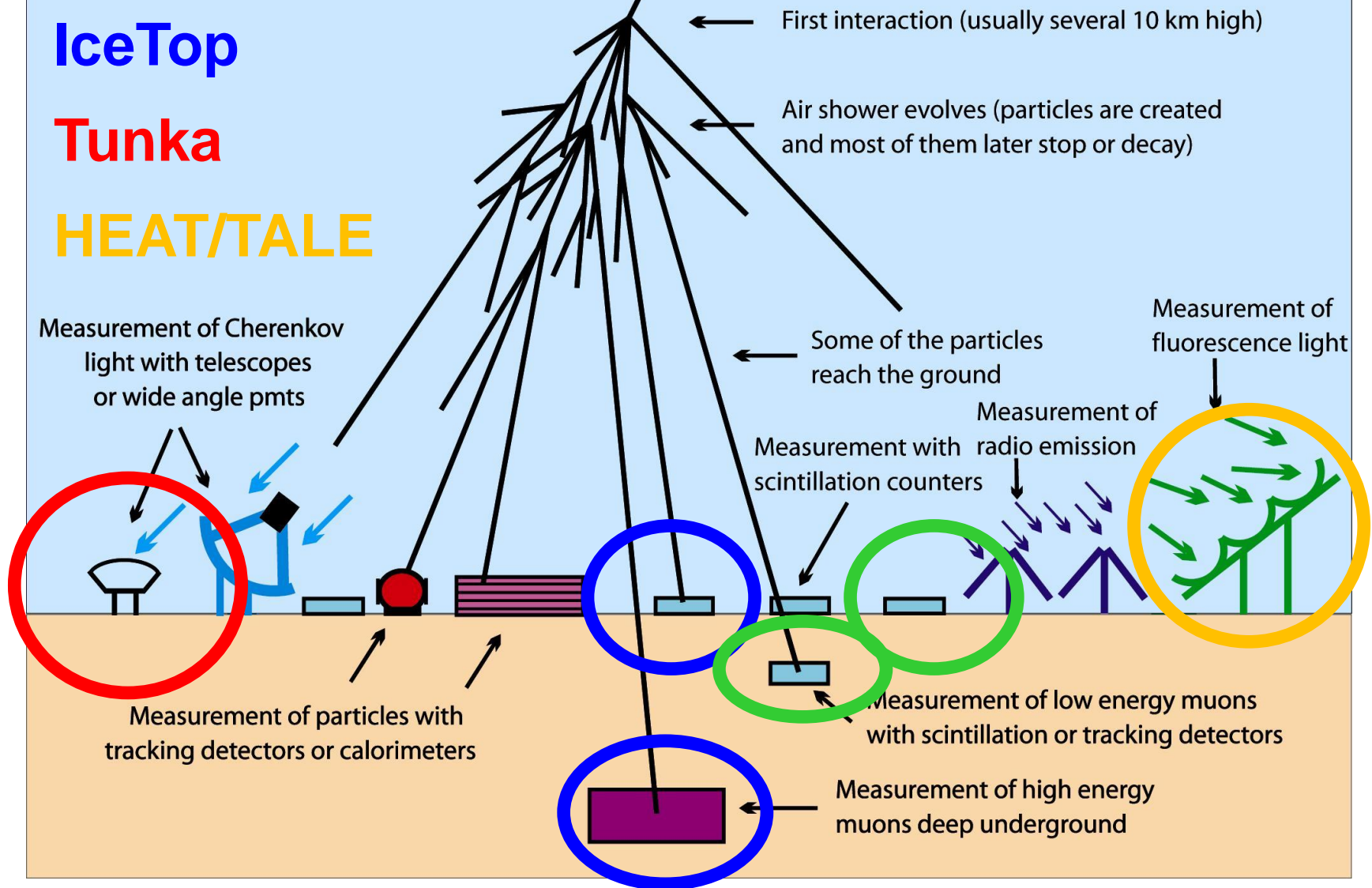
# Measurement Techniques of Air Showers

KASCADE-Grande

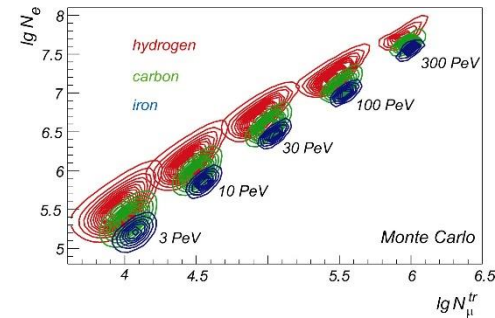
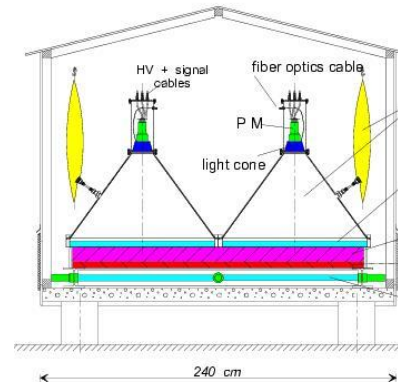
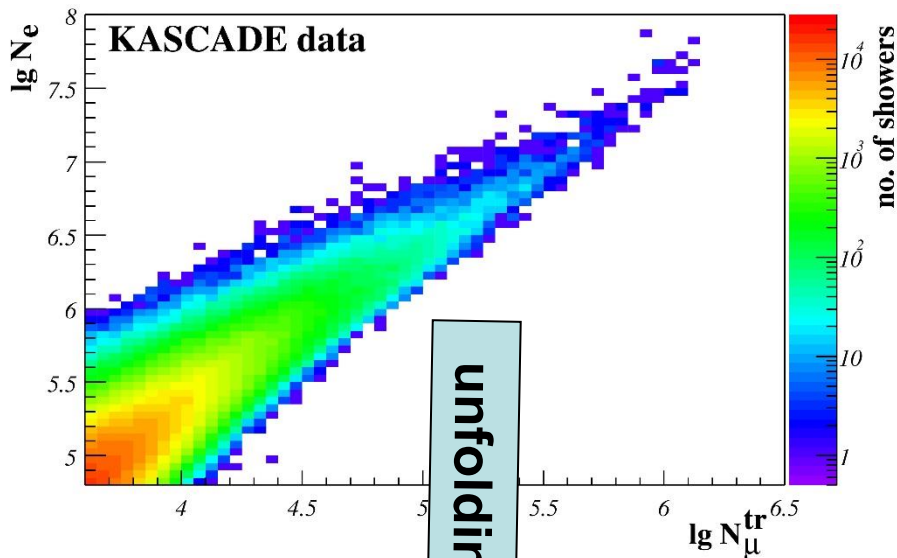
IceTop

Tunka

HEAT/TALE



# KASCADE : energy spectra of single mass groups



Searched:

**E and A of the Cosmic Ray Particles**

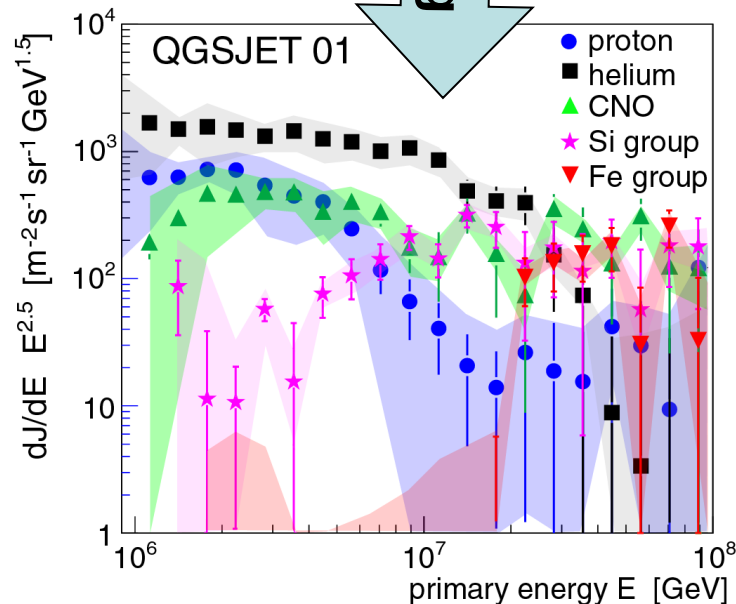
Given:

**$N_e$  and  $N_\mu$  for each single event**

**→ solve the inverse problem**

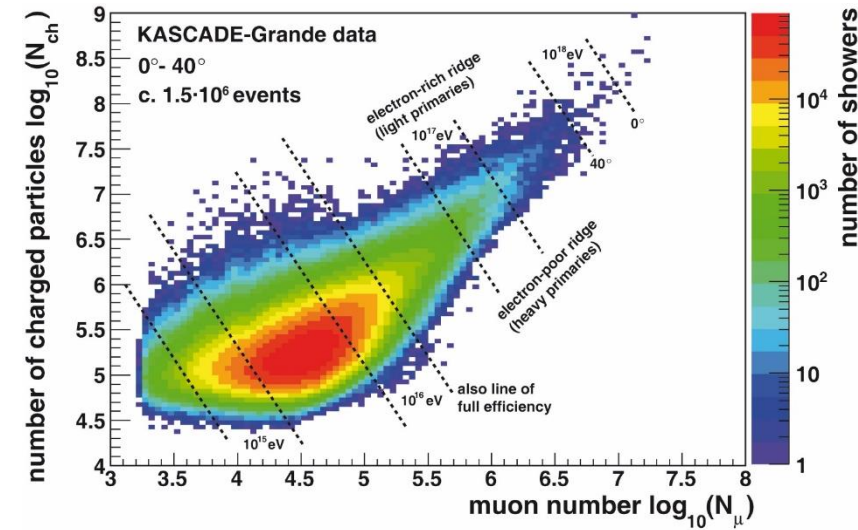
$$\frac{dJ}{d \lg N_e d \lg N_\mu^{tr}} = \sum_A \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{dJ_A}{d \lg E} p_A(\lg N_e, \lg N_\mu^{tr} | \lg E) d \lg E$$

- kernel function obtained by Monte Carlo simulations (CORSIKA)
- contains: shower fluctuations, efficiencies, reconstruction resolution



KASCADE collaboration, Astroparticle Physics 24 (2005) 1-25

# KASCADE-Grande: energy spectra of single mass groups



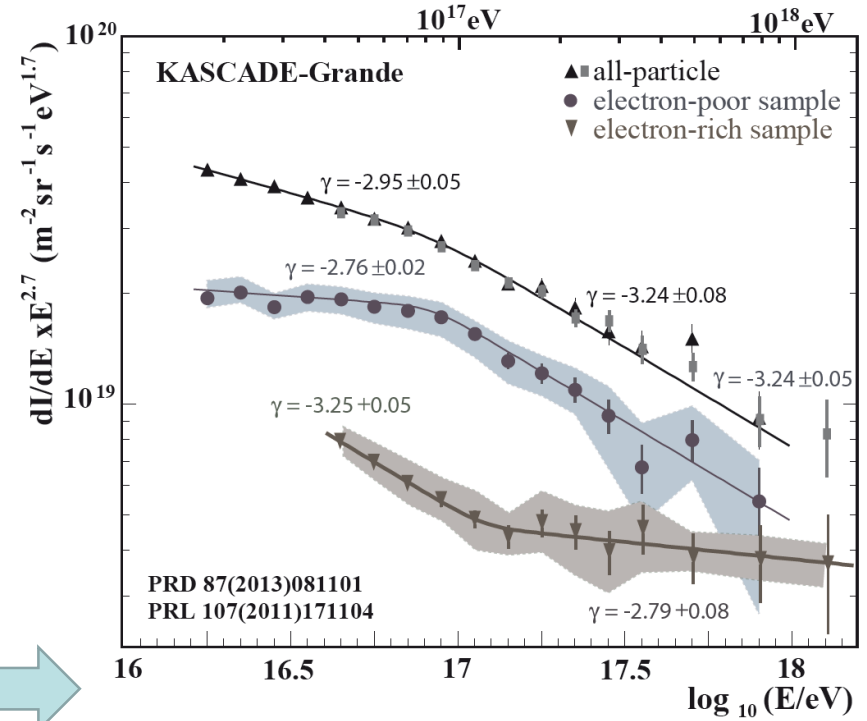
- determination of primary energy
- separation in “electron-rich” and “electron-poor” event

$$\log_{10}(E) = [a_p + (a_{Fe} - a_p) \cdot k] \cdot \log_{10}(N_{ch}) + b_p + (b_{Fe} - b_p) \cdot k$$

$$k = \frac{(\log_{10}(N_{ch}/N_{\mu}) - \log_{10}(N_{ch}/N_{\mu})_p)}{(\log_{10}(N_{ch}/N_{\mu})_{Fe} - \log_{10}(N_{ch}/N_{\mu})_p)}$$

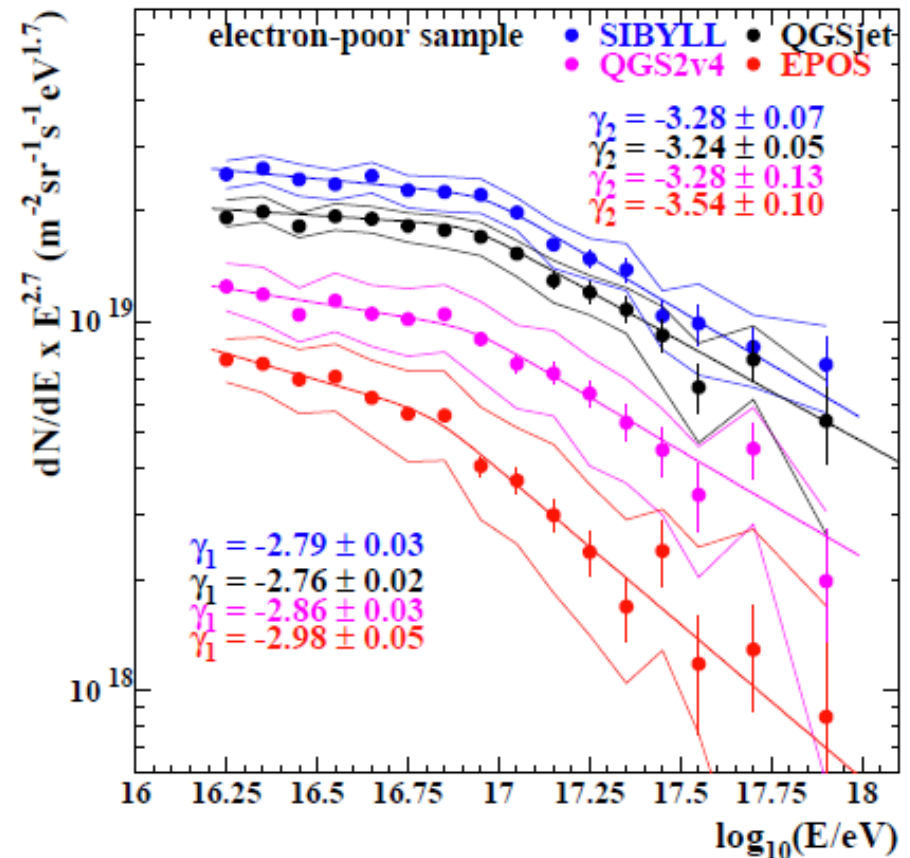
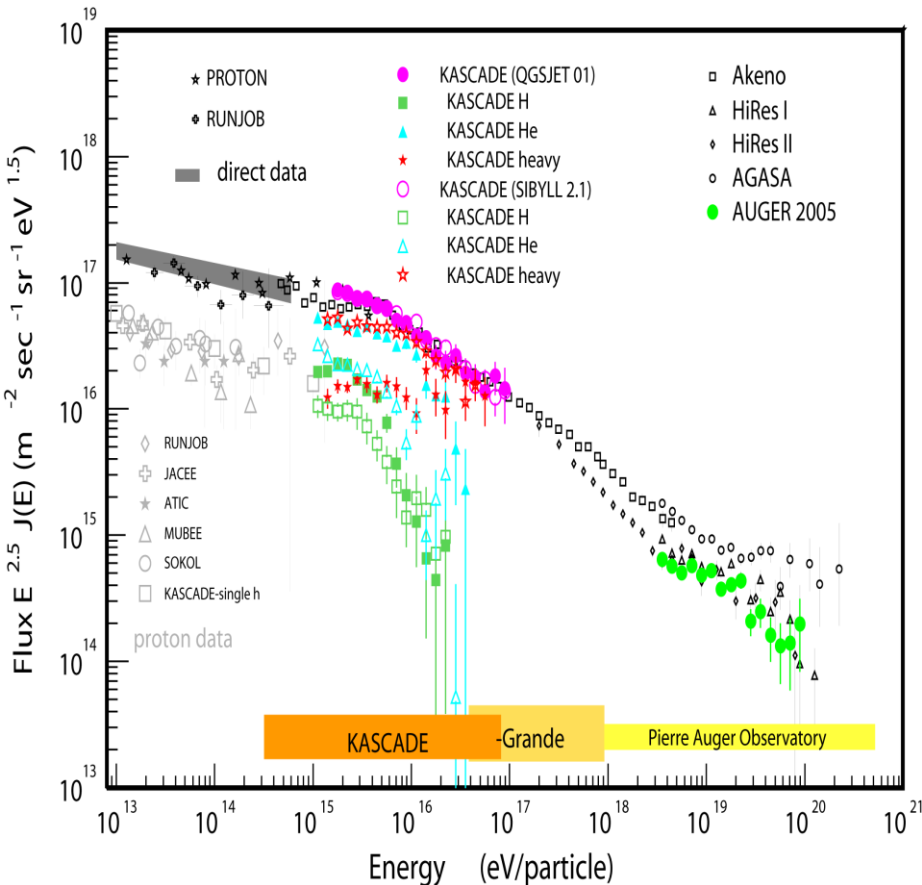
Phys.Rev.Lett. 107 (2011) 171104

Phys.Rev.D (R) 87 (2013) 081101



- steepening due to heavy primaries ( $3.5\sigma$ )
- hardening at  $10^{17.08}$  eV ( $5.8\sigma$ ) in light spectrum
- slope change from  $\gamma = -3.25$  to  $\gamma = -2.79$ !

# KASCADE / KASCADE-Grande: model dependence



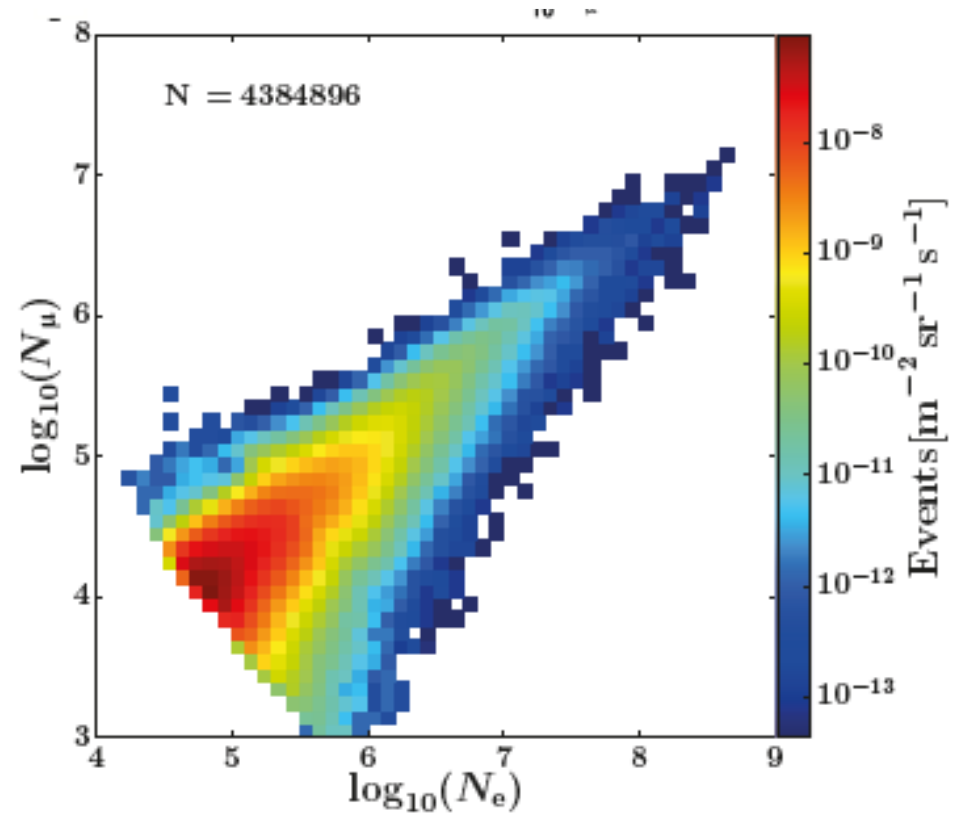
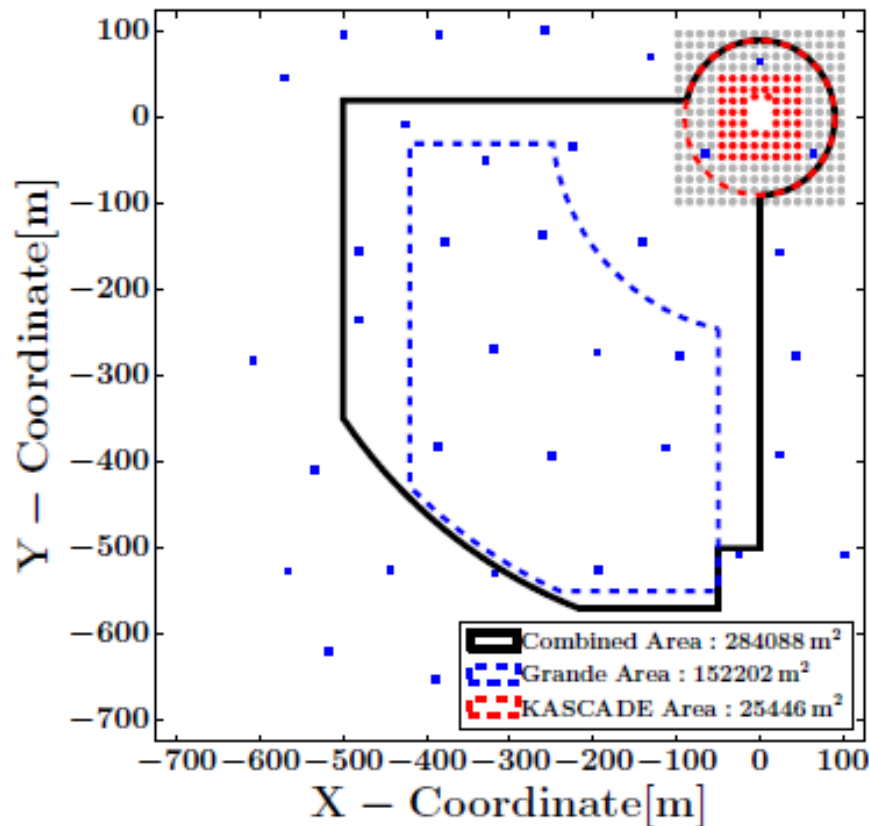
- Structures of all-particle, heavy and light spectra similar
- knee by light component and heavy component; ankle by light component
- relative abundances different for different high-energy hadronic interaction models

➔ Problem in models for describing absolute mass scale

Advances in Space Research 53 (2014) 1456



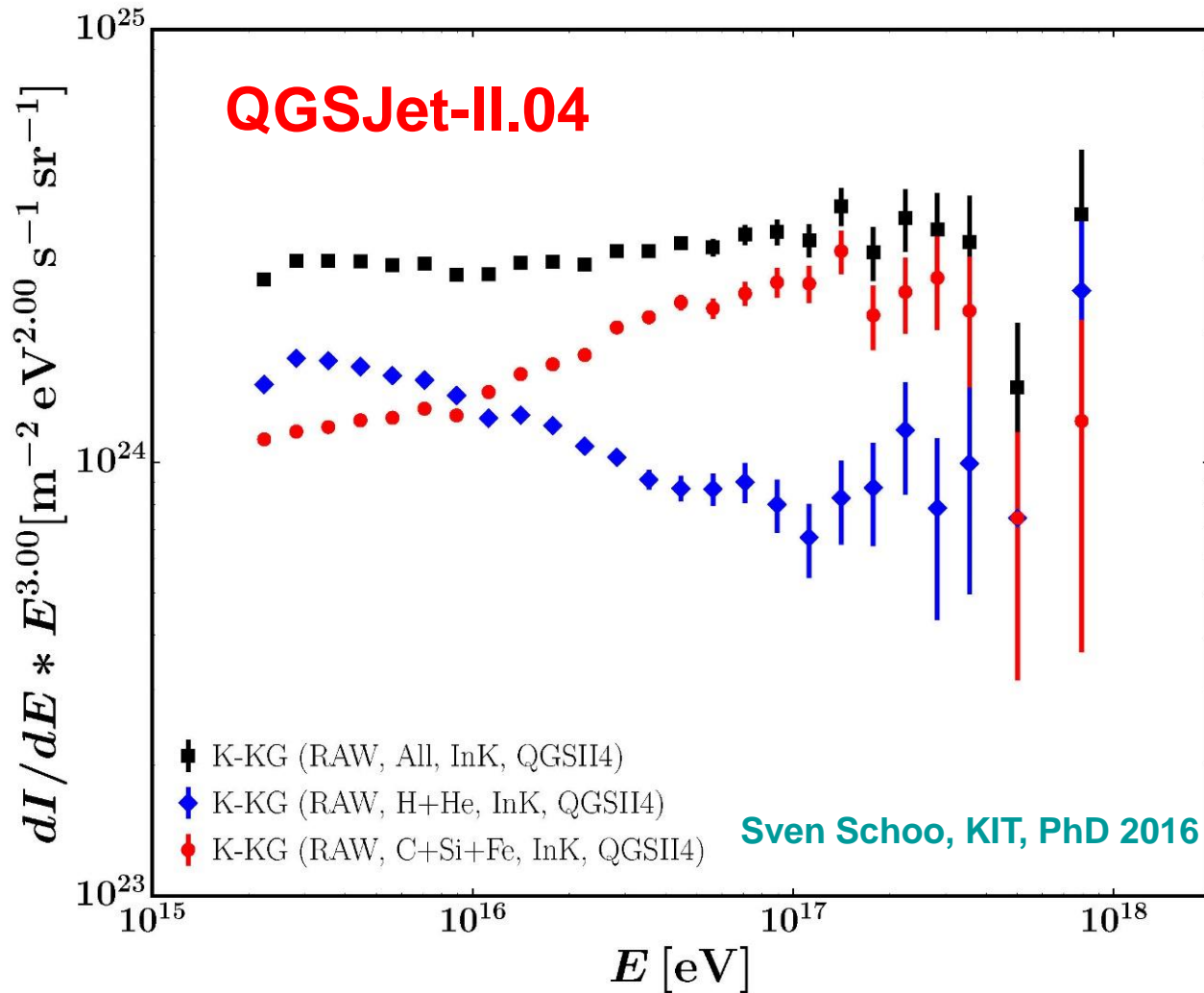
# KASCADE-Grande: Combined Analysis



- for KASCADE: additional stations at larger distances  
→ higher energies
- for Grande: additional 252 stations  
→ higher accuracy

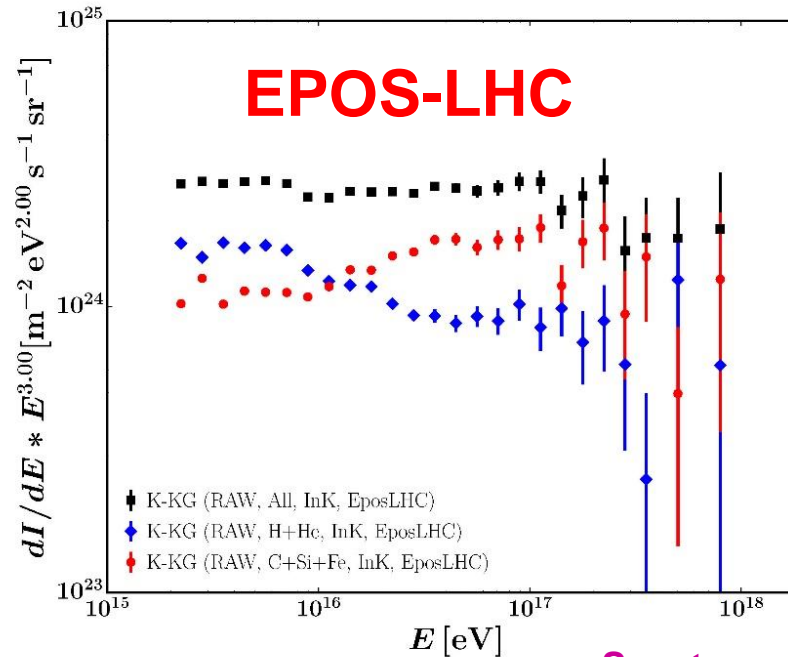
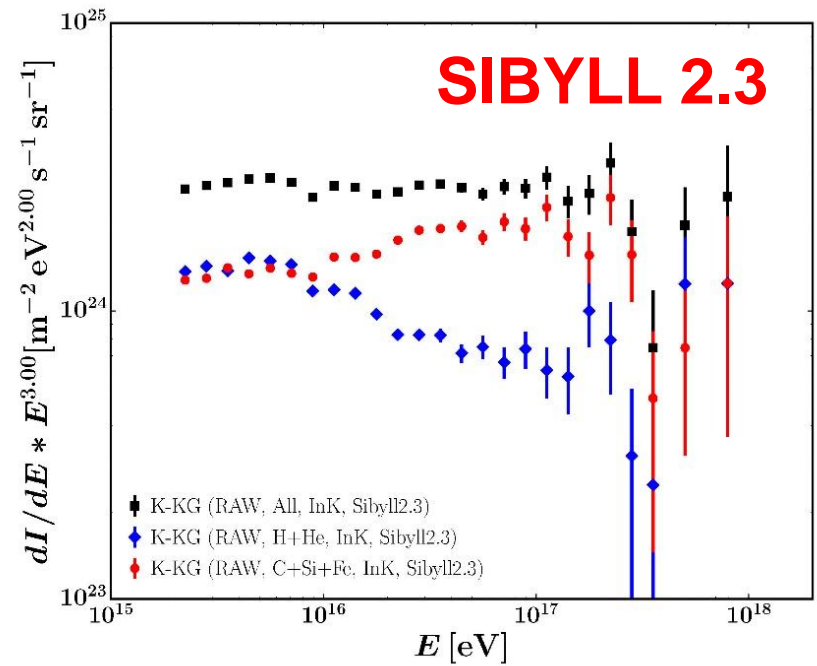
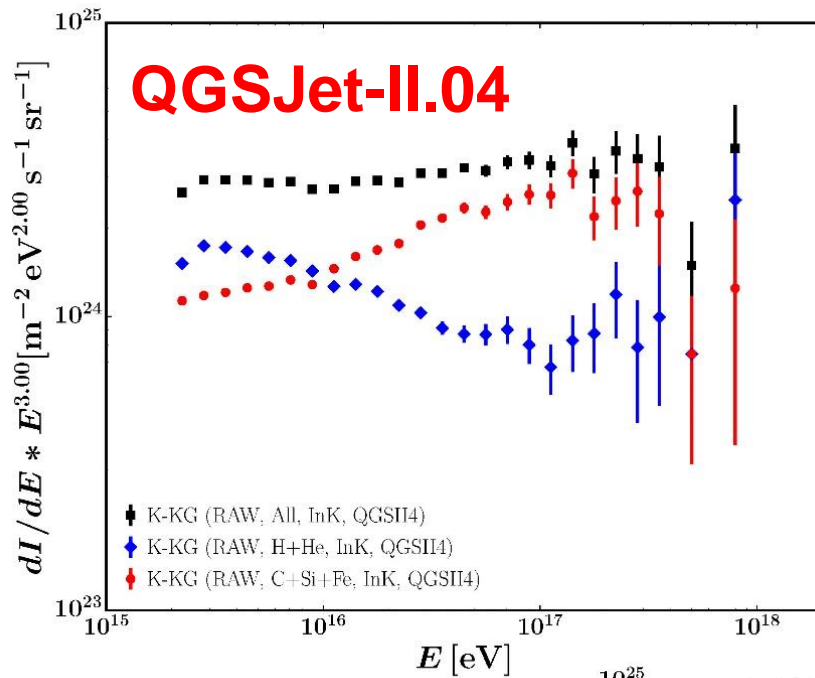
Sven Schoo, KIT, PhD 2016

# KASCADE-Grande: Combined Analysis resulting energy spectra (post-LHC hadronic interaction models)



all structures confirmed

Spectra not corrected for uncertainties



- structures confirmed
- all particle spectrum good agreement

- relative abundance of light and heavy quite different

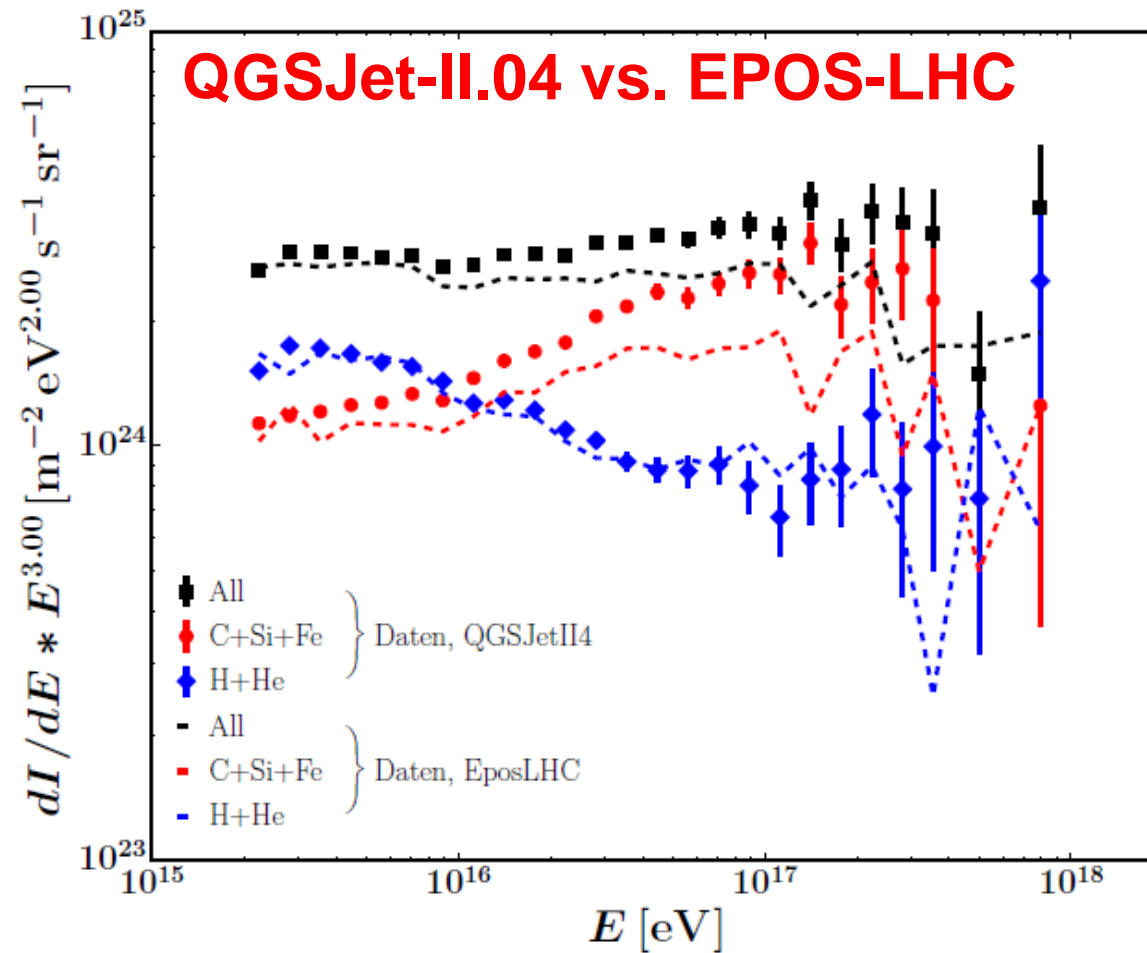
Sven Schoo, KIT, PhD 2016

Spectra not corrected for uncertainties



# KASCADE-Grande: Combined Analysis

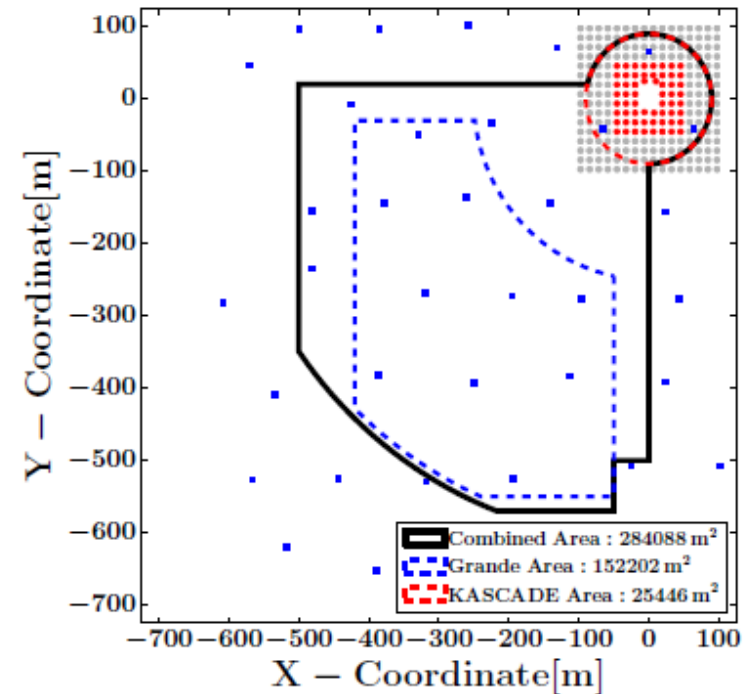
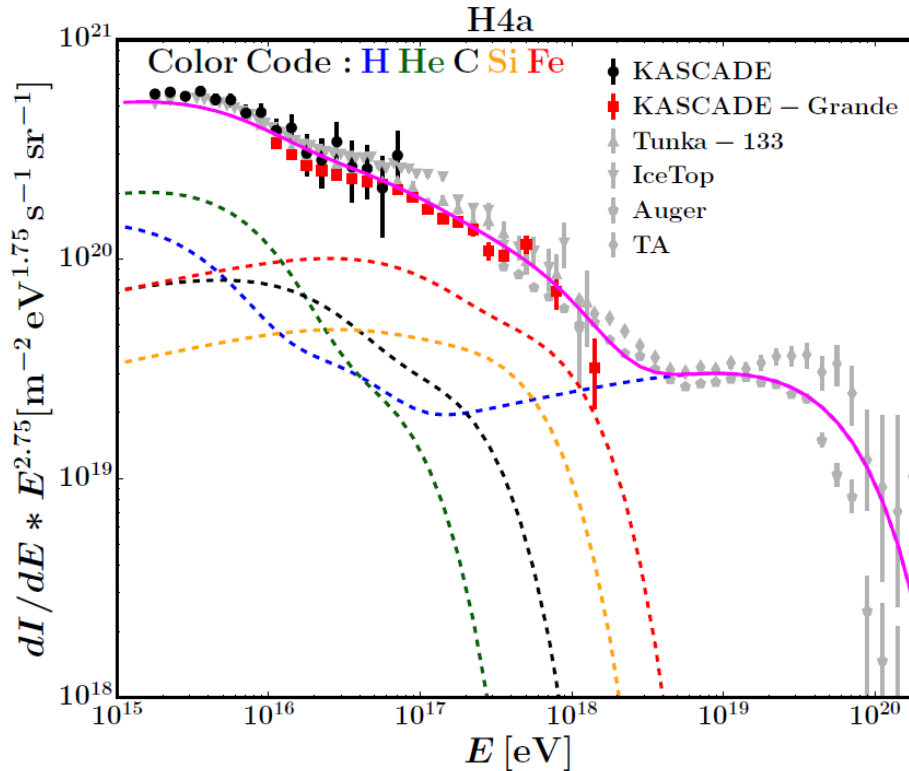
resulting energy spectra based on two hadronic interaction models



- **Post LHC models**
  - light primary interactions okay?
  - heavy primary interactions show differences

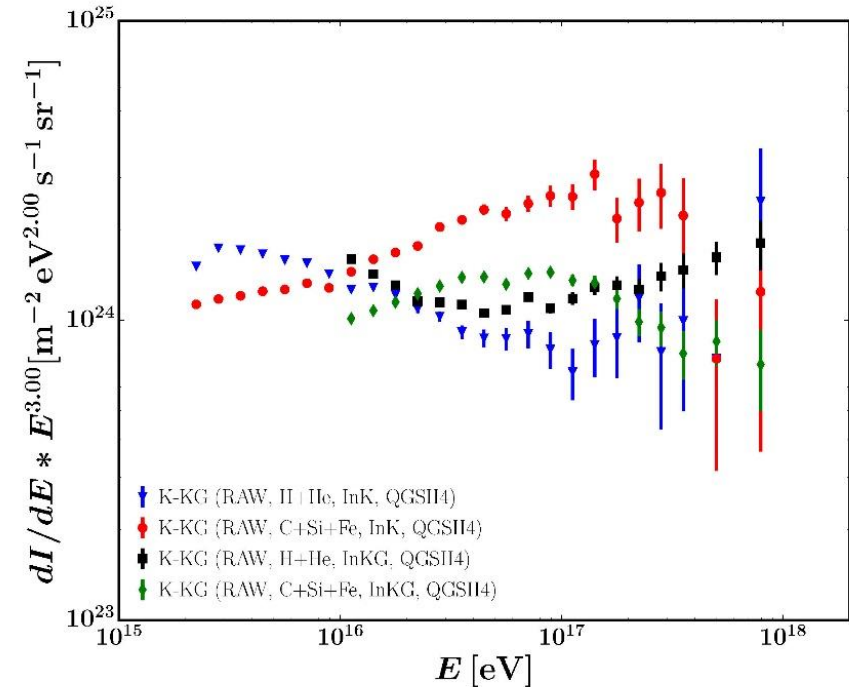
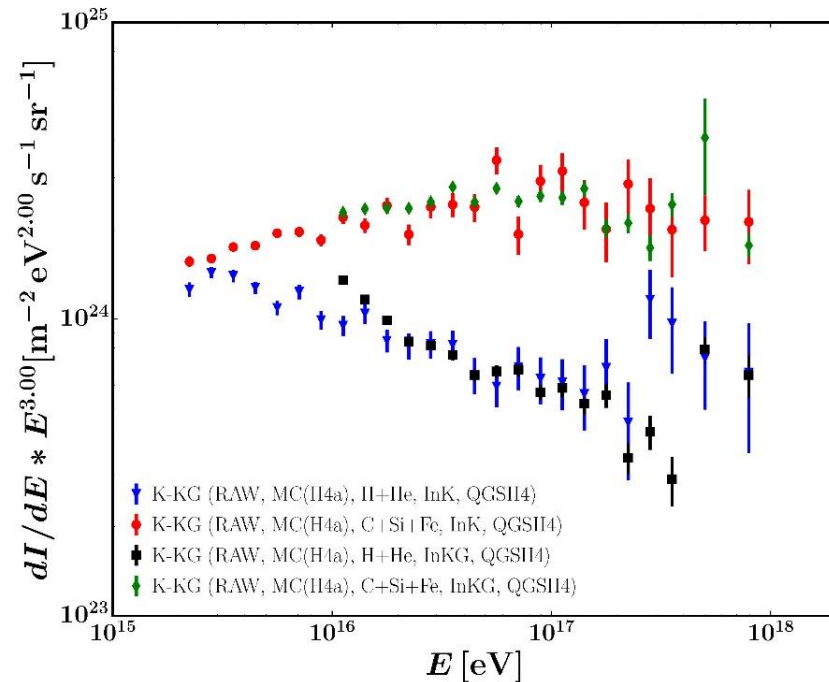
# KASCADE-Grande: combined analysis

## Check Hadronic Interaction Models



- assume a composition model: H4a by Tom Gaisser
- two selections: core located in KASCADE, core located in Grande  
→ we measure “different” muons

## Test of models



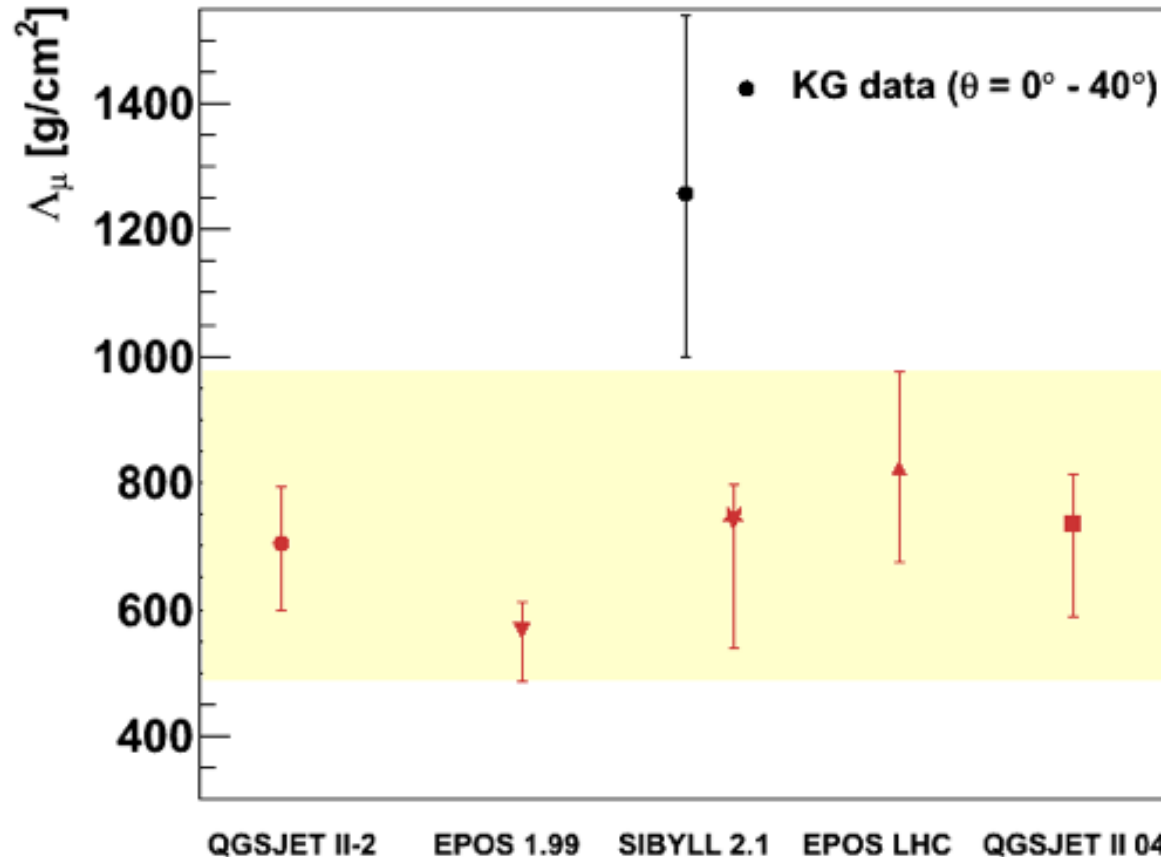
- One model, but two selections:  
Simulations okay, but strong differences in data  
(similar result for **QGSJet-II.04**, **EPOS-LHC**, **SIBYLL 2.3**)

➔ Muon component not sufficiently described



# KASCADE-Grande: Muon Attenuation Length

total muon number :  $N_\mu = N_{\mu,0} \exp[ - X_0 \sec(\theta) / \Lambda_\mu ]$



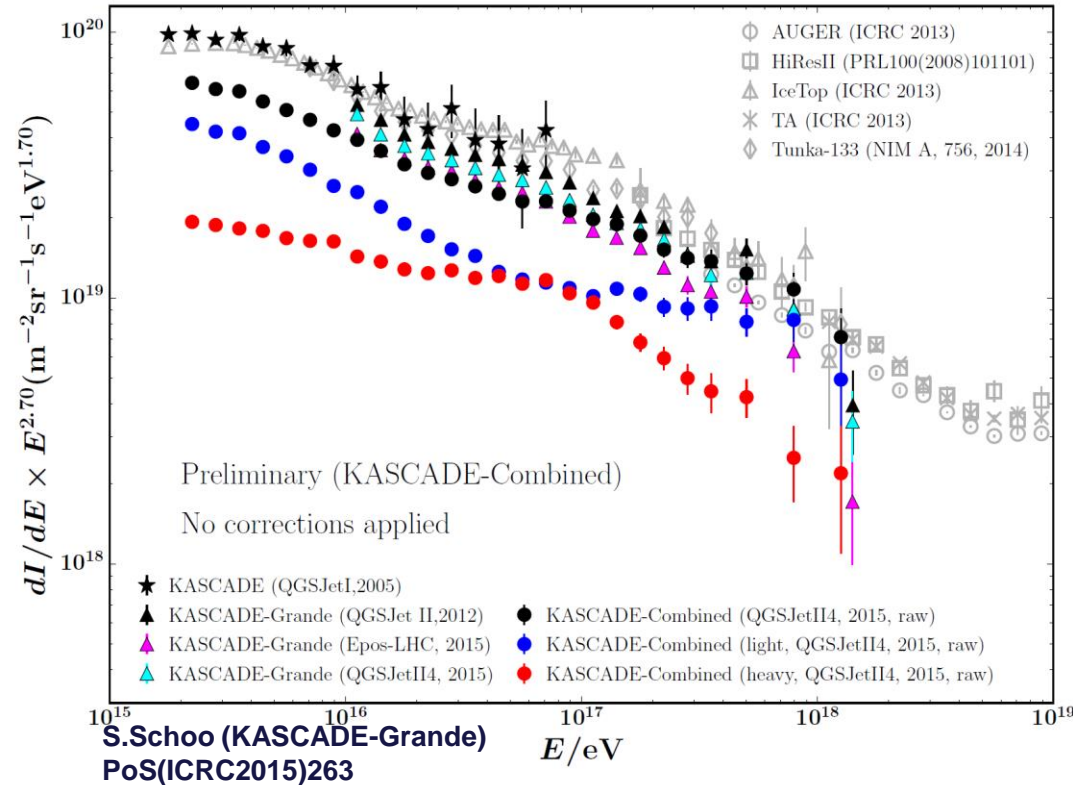
SIBYLL 2.3 model is presently under investigation

Distance dependent muon absorption under investigation

Juan Carlos Arteaga, submitted to AstroP.Phys.

# Conclusion new analysis:

All particle, light and heavy spectra for 3 orders of magnitude



Paper in preparation  
Analysis by Sven Schoo

- Structures of spectra confirmed
- H4a model probably not far away from real composition
- Hadronic models still do not agree to each other and to data
- Light component seems to agree better than heavy
- Problem probably in the muons (known due to special selection)
- Around  $10^{15}$  eV still (again) no clear picture

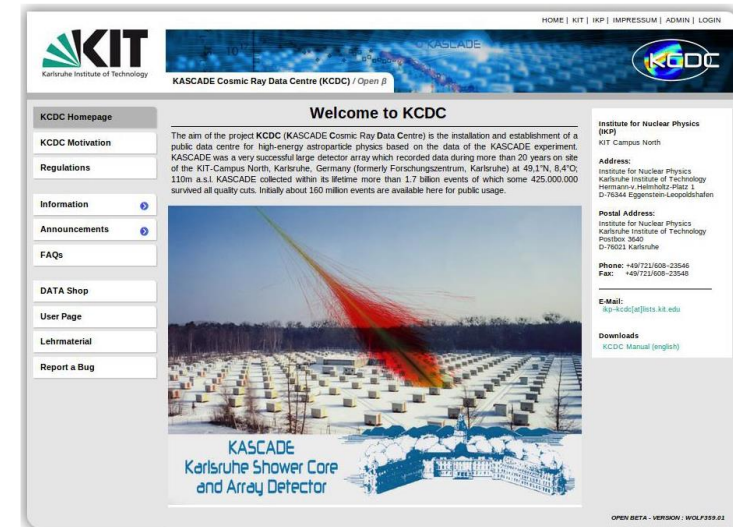
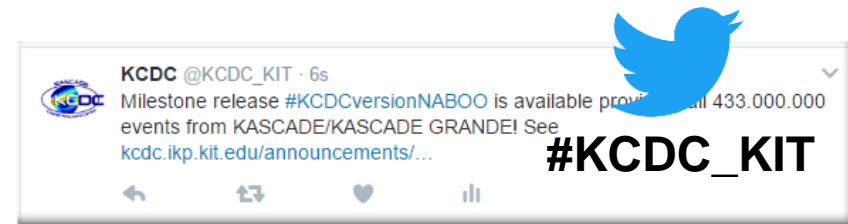
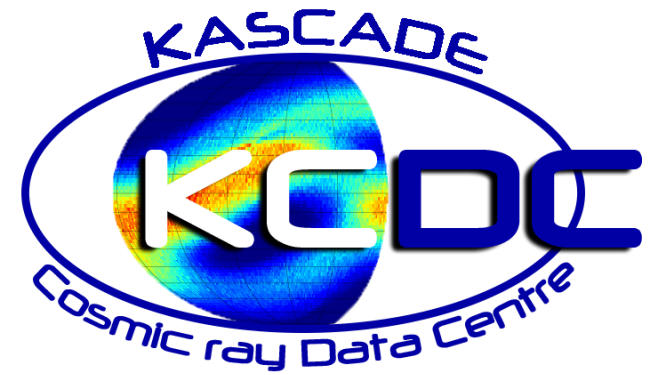
<https://kcdc.iqp.kit.edu>





<https://kcdc.i kp.kit.edu/>

- KCDC = publishing research data from the KASCADE experiment
- **Motivation and Idea of Open Data:**  
general public has to be able to access and use the data  
the data has to be preserved for future generations
- **Web portal:**  
providing a modern software solution for publishing KASCADE data for a general audience  
In a second step: release the software as Open Source for free use by other experiments
- **Data access:**  
Version NABOO is released (Feb.2017)  
 $4.3 \cdot 10^8$  EAS events are available



Paper in preparation

# KASCADE-Grande: Mission Accomplished !!



open access to research data  
<https://kcdc.ikp.kit.edu>



# KASCADE-Grande: Mission Accomplished !!



open access to research data  
<https://kcdc.ikp.kit.edu>



# Conclusions – open points

- **Light and heavy knee established**
- **Light ankle probably there**
- **Difficult to compare experiments due to different observables  
what is contribution of MHz-Radio?**
- **Yet no conclusive result due to insufficient hadronic interaction models**
- **Continuation in improving hadronic interaction models required**
- **Still main problem: absolute mass scale**
- **Confrontation of the data with astrophysical models still challenging**
- **Future: (mass dependent) Anisotropy studies**
- **Future: Multi-messenger Analyses (cosmic rays,  $\gamma$ -rays, neutrinos)**
- **IceTop(-Gen2), TAIGA, LHAASO, GRAPES, TALE, Auger-HEAT, HAWC?**
- **Global Data Centre for Astroparticle Physics envisaged**

*Confirmed by IceTop and Tunka-133 (!)?*