

The air shower experiments KASCADE and KASCADE-Grande

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Cosmic-Ray Energy Spectrum



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galactic cosmic rays

Origin of galactic cosmic rays explored with complementary approaches

γ-ray astronomy

sources acceleration

direct measurements above the atmosphere

elemental/isotopic composition propagation in Galaxy

air shower measurements

structures in E-spec. end of gal. comp. anisotropy acceleration., propag.

Relative abundance of elements at Earth

→Cosmic rays are "regular matter", accelerated to extremely high energies

JRH, Adv. Space Res. 41 (2008) 442

A Heitler Model – Electromagnetic Cascades

pair production $\gamma \rightarrow e^++e^-$

bremsstrahlung e \rightarrow e+ γ

splitting length d=X₀ ln2

radiation length X₀=36.7 g/cm²

after *n* splitting lengths:
$$x = nX_0 \ln 2$$
 and $N = 2^n = \exp\left(\frac{x}{X_0}\right)$
energy per particle $E = E_0/N$ critical energy $E_c^e = 85 \text{ MeV}$

number of particles at shower maximum

$$N_{max} = 2^{n_c} = \frac{E_0}{E_c^e}$$

$$n_c = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{E_0}{E_c^e}\right)}{\ln 2}$$

J. Matthews, Astrop. Phys. 22 (2005) 387

JRH, Mod. Phys. Lett. A 22 (2007) 1533

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A Heitler Model – Electromagnetic Cascades

A Heitler Model – Hadronic Cascades

hadronic interaction $\pi + A \rightarrow \pi^0 + \pi^+ + \pi^-$

interaction length $\lambda_{i}^{\pi\text{-air}} {\sim} 120 \text{ g/cm}^2$

π → hadronic interaction π → decay "critical energy" E_cπ~20 GeV

in each interaction 3/2N_{ch} particles:

 $N_{ch} \, \pi^{+\text{-}} \, and \, \frac{1}{2} \, N_{ch} \, \pi^0 \qquad N_{ch} \sim 10$

after *n* interactions $N_{\pi} = (N_{ch})^n$ $E_{\pi} = \frac{E_0}{\left(\frac{3}{2}N_{ch}\right)^n}$

after n_c interactions $E_{\pi} = E_c^{\pi}$: $n_c = \frac{\ln E_0 / E_c^{\pi}}{\ln \frac{3}{2} N_{ch}} = 0.85 \lg \left(\frac{E_0}{E_c^{\pi}}\right)$

superposition model

particle $(E_0, A) \rightarrow A$ proton showers with energy E_0/A J. Matthews, Astrop. Phys. 22 (2005) 387 JR

JRH, Mod. Phys. Lett. A 22 (2007) 1533

A Heitler Model – N_{μ} and N_{e}

A Heitler Model – N_u vs. N_e

 N_e - N_{μ} plane

N_e-N_u ratio

$$\begin{split} N_{\mu}|_{A=const} &\approx 0.18A^{0.14}N_{e}^{0.86} \\ N_{\mu}|_{E_{0}=const} &\approx 5.77 \cdot 10^{16} \left(\frac{E_{0}}{1 \text{ PeV}}\right)N_{e}^{-2.17} \quad \frac{N_{e}}{N_{\mu}} &\approx 35.1 \cdot \left(\frac{E_{0}}{A \cdot 1 \text{ PeV}}\right)^{0.15} \end{split}$$

KArlsruhe Shower Core and Array DEtector

Event reconstruction in the scintillator array electromagnetic component

e/γ-Detectors, Run 1, Event 71089, 96-03-05 22:07:48.956078

shower core	$\Delta r = 2.5 - 5.5 \text{ m}$
shower direction	$\Delta \alpha = 0.5^{\circ} - 1.2^{\circ}$
shower size	$\Delta N_{e}/N_{e} = 6 - 12 \%$

Two dimensional shower size spectrum Ig N_e vs. Ig N_{μ}

T. Antoni et al., Astropart. Phys. 24 (2005) 1

estimator for mass A of primary particle

JRH, Mod. Phys. Lett. A 22 (2007) 1533

Muon production height - KASCADE muon tracking detector

Muon production height – KASCADE muon tracking detector

Hadronic interaction models Energy flow in collider experiments

KASCADE Hadron Calorimeter

J. Engler et al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 427 (1999) 528

Reconstruction of hadrons

Unaccompanied hadron

spatial resolution: $\sigma_x \sim 10 - 12 \text{ cm}$

angular resolution: $\sigma_{\odot} \sim 1^{\circ} - 3^{\circ}$

energy resolution:

$$\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} [\%] \approx \frac{250}{\sqrt{E/\text{GeV}}}$$

Hadronic shower core

$E_0 \sim 6 \text{ PeV}$

Number of reconstructed hadrons $N_h = 143$

Hadronic shower core

$E_0 \sim 6 \text{ PeV}$

Number of reconstructed hadrons $N_h = 143$

Transverse momentum in hadronic interactions

T. Antoni et al., Phys. Rev. D 71 (2005) 072002

KASCADE: Test of hadronic interaction models

previously

J. Milke et al., 29th ICRC, Pune (2005)

Contemporary models with composition QGSJET 01 N_e-N_u analysis

J. Milke et al., 29th ICRC, Pune (2005)

KASCADE – Test of EPOS 1.6

 \rightarrow energy per hadron too small

EPOS delivers not enough hadronic energy to the ground

→ EPOS 1.6 is NOT CONSISTENT with KASCADE observations!

W.D. Apel et al., J. Phys. G 36 (2009) 035201

KASCADE – Test of EPOS 1.6

Inelastic cross sections

W.D. Apel et al., J. Phys. G 36 (2009) 035201

Two dimensional shower size spectrum Ig N_e vs. Ig N_{μ}

KASCADE: Energy spectra for elemental groups

description of interactions in the atmosphere

T. Antoni et al., Astropart. Phys. 24 (2005) 1

KASCADE: Energy spectra for elemental groups

description of interactions in the atmosphere

T. Antoni et al., Astropart. Phys. 24 (2005) 1

KASCADE: Energy spectra for elemental groups

Different zenith angle bins

knee in all-particle energy spectrum caused by cut-off of light components

W.D. Apel et al., Astropart. Phys. 31 (2009) 86

Muon production height – KASCADE Muon Tracking Detector

Cosmic-ray energy spectrum

according to Astropart. Phys. 19 (2003) 193

Transition to extragalactic CR component

JRH, Adv. Space Res. 41 (2008) 442

KASCADE GRANDE Array

37 detector stations
370 m² e/γ:
scintillation counter

700 m

G. Navarra et al., Nucl Instr & Meth A 518 (2004) 207

700 m

M. Bertaina (2010)

KASCADE-Grande – Lateral distributions

J. v. Buren et al., Proc. 29th ICRC, Pune 6 (2005) 301

R. Glasstetter et al., Proc. 29th ICRC, Pune 6 (2005) 293

Cross-check between KASCADE and Grande

M. Bertaina (2010)

Reconstruction of the energy spectrum

We use three different methods:

- $\cdot N_{ch}$ as observable
- $\cdot N_{\mu}$ as observable
- •Combination of N_{ch} and N_{μ} as observables
- Cross check of reconstruction procedures
- Cross check of systematic uncertainties
- Test sensitivity to composition
- Cross check of validity of hadronic interaction models

If not explicitly mentioned in the following CORSIKA QGSjetII/FLUKA interaction model is used

*additional method to reconstruct the energy spectrum employs the particle density at 500 m (S500) (see G. Toma's poster on Thursday's morning - Session 4)¹¹ M. Bertaina (2010)

KASCADE-Grande first results

lateral distribution of single event muon lateral density

charged-particle lateral density

N_e - N_μ correlation

S(500): charged-particle density 500 m from shower axis

Constant Intensity Cut and Muon Data

integral muon number spectrum

shower size spectrum

A. Haungs et al., Nucl. Phys. B (Proc. Suppl.) 2009

muon attenuation curves

but: attenuation length

Comparing the 3 methods (dl/dE x E³)

M. Bertaina, ECRS (2010)

Comparison with KASCADE & EAS-TOP

M. Bertaina (2010)

The all-particle energy spectrum

M. Bertaina, ECRS (2010)

The air shower experiments KASCADE and KASCADE-Grande

- •Behaviour of light cosmic-ray components at knee confirmed
- Knee caused by cut-off of light nuclei
- •Test of hadronic interaction models ongoing Improvement of interaction models in progress
- Analysis of KASCADE-Grande successfully ongoing
 All-particle energy spectra have been reconstructed
- Mass reconstruction in progress
- •New insight to end of galactic component upcoming...

KASCADE-Grande Collaboration

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