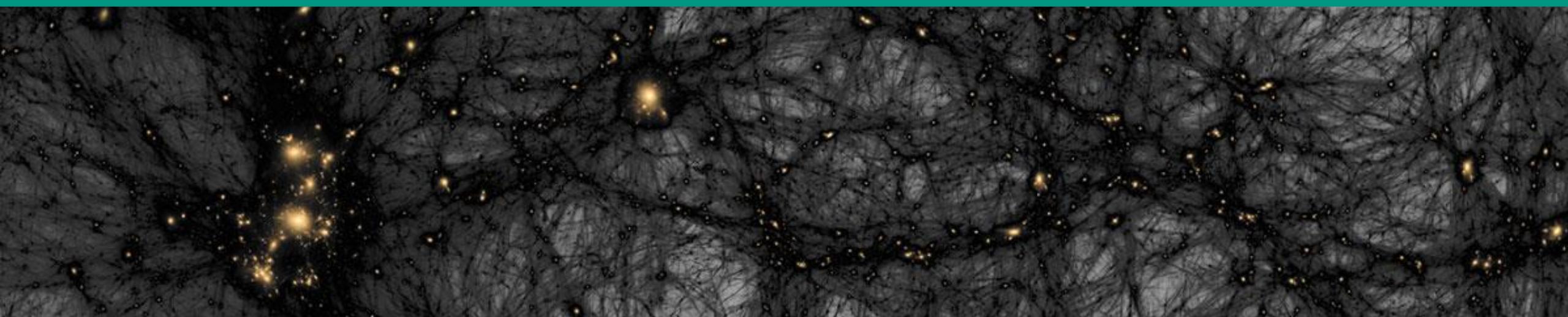


Astroparticle physics I – Dark Matter

Winter term 23/24

Lecture 4

Nov. 8, 2023



Recap of Lecture 3

- multi-messenger observations: all-sky maps in *CRs*, **gammas**, ν 's & **GW**
 - **Mollweide projection** with *GC* at the centre
 - sources of messengers: *SNR*, **GRB**, *AGN*, pulsars, binary compact objects,...
- studies of charged cosmic rays (*CR*)
 - **V. Hess** (**balloon**), **P. Auger** (**shower**), **J. Linsley** (**arrays**, up to 10^{20} eV)
 - energy spectrum of charged *CRs*: characteristic **power law**
 - direct *CR* detection via balloons & satellites (up to $\sim 10^{14} \text{ eV}$): element composition allows to determine **galactic storage time** of *CRs*
 - indirect *CR* detection (above $\sim 10^{13} \text{ eV}$) via air shower arrays: **3 components**

Air showers & jet physics at accelerators

■ synergy

- in the **calorimetry** of hadrons & electrons



shower physics at LHC

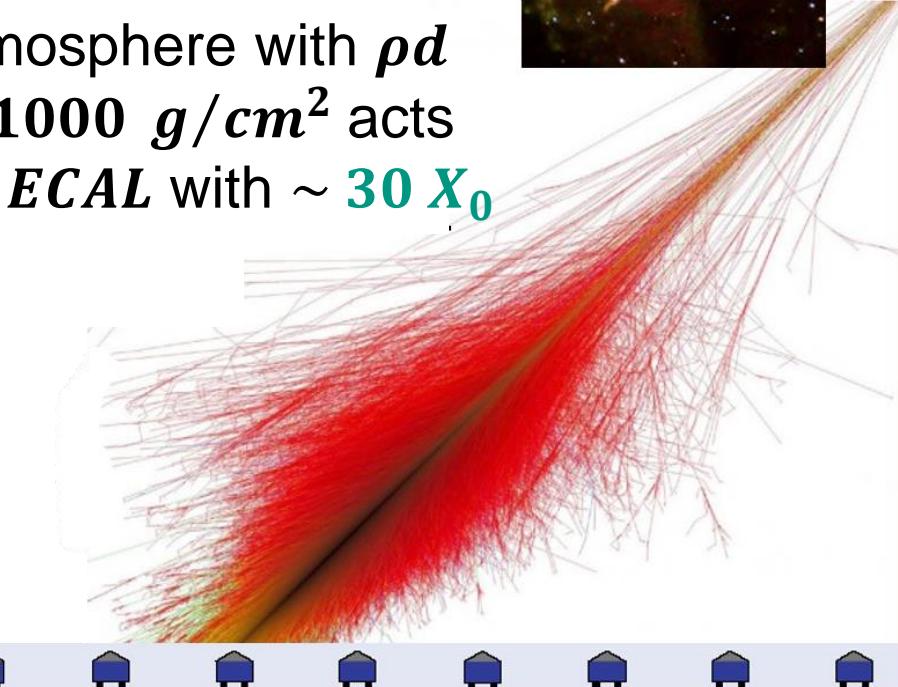
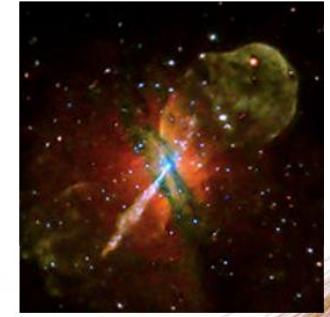
accelerators:
protons with up to $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ (\sqrt{s} is known)

ECAL
 $\sim 20 X_0$

61,200 PbWO₄
 $X_0 = 0.89 \text{ cm}$

showers from AGN accelerators

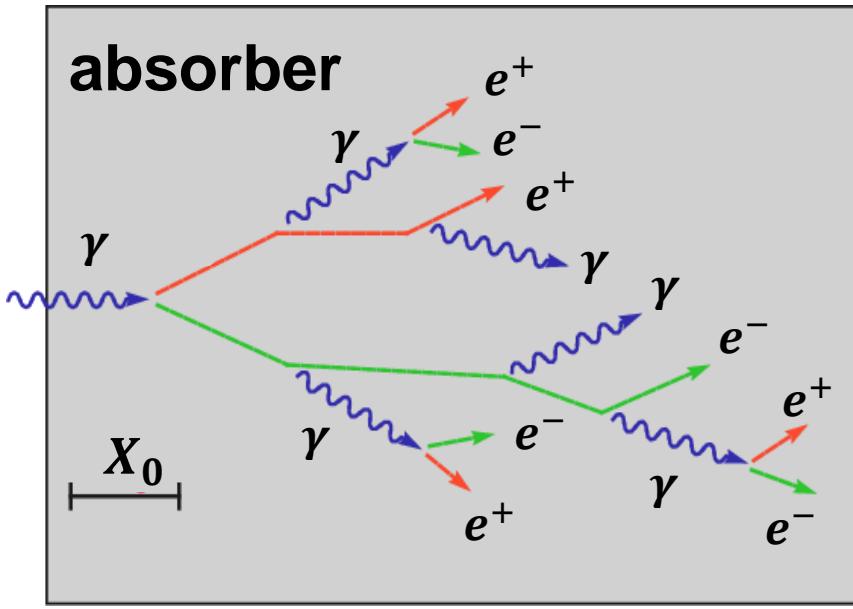
cosmic accelerators:
protons (nuclei) with up to $E = 10^{20} \text{ eV}$
atmosphere with $\rho d = 1000 \text{ g/cm}^2$ acts as **ECAL** with $\sim 30 X_0$



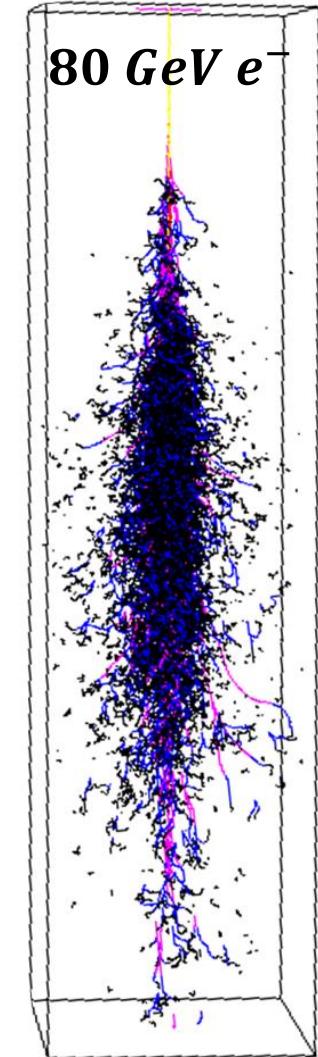
Electromagnetic component of showers

■ majority ($\sim 98\%$) of shower particles: from cascade $e^-e^+\gamma$

- cascade processes: pair production \Leftrightarrow bremsstrahlung
- *Heitler model for electromagnetic cascades:*



- initial increase of # of particles (successive particle 'generations')
- mean energy per particle decreases
- huge number of secondary, low-energy particles: $e^-e^+\gamma$
- shower 'dies out' once $E < E_C$
with: $E_C = \text{critical energy}$



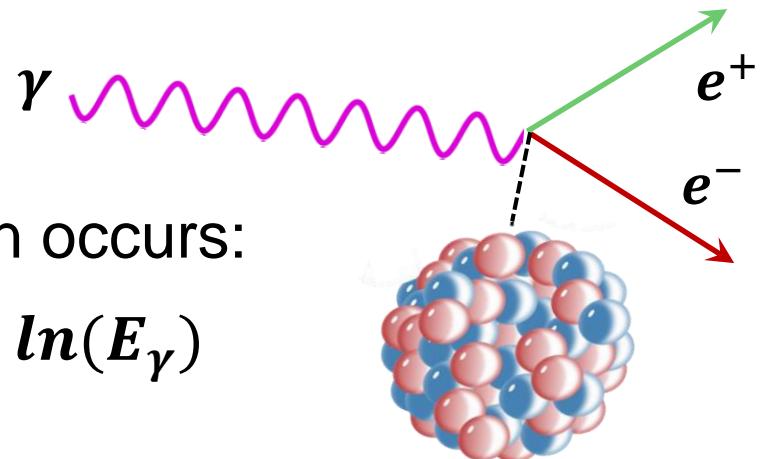
Electromagnetic component of showers

■ majority ($\sim 98\%$) of shower particles: from cascade $e^- e^+ \gamma$

- two processes: **pair production** \leftrightarrow **bremsstrahlung**

- **threshold** energy:

$$E_{\gamma, \text{thres}} \cong 2 \cdot m_e = 1.02 \text{ MeV}$$



- saturation occurs:

$$\sigma_\gamma(E_\gamma) \sim \ln(E_\gamma)$$

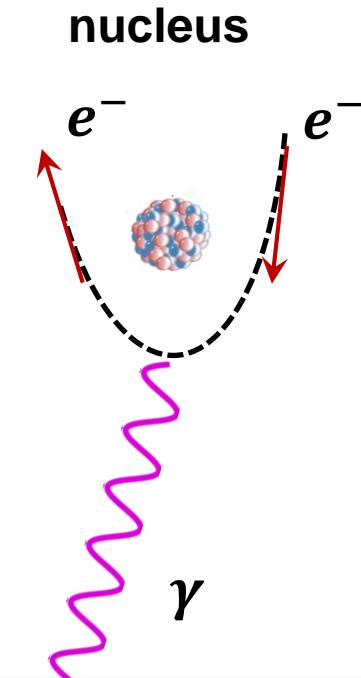
kinematics of nucleus: E_{rec} , \vec{p}

- radiative energy losses at high energies:

$$\left(\frac{dE}{dX} \right)_{\text{brems}} = \frac{1}{X_0} \cdot E$$

- important only for very light particles (e^- , e^+):

$$\sigma_{\text{Brems}} \sim 1/m^2$$



Electromagnetic component of showers

■ development of electromagnetic showers in the atmosphere

- key parameter: **radiation length X_0**

$$E(x) = E_0 \cdot e^{-(X/X_0)}$$

- for highly **relativistic electrons**:

i.e. after the passing of an atmospheric thickness $X = X_0$,
the **energy E** of an e^- has dropped from E_0 to a fraction of $1/e$

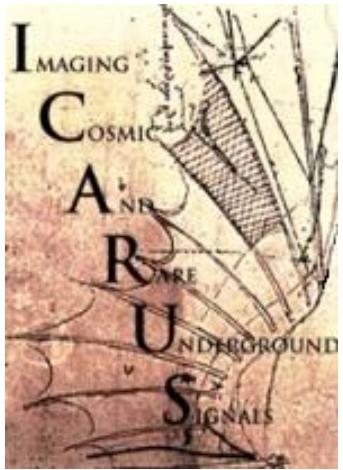
- for **high-energy photons**:

i.e. the **mean free path λ_{pair}** of high-energy photons
for **pair production** in the atmosphere is given by

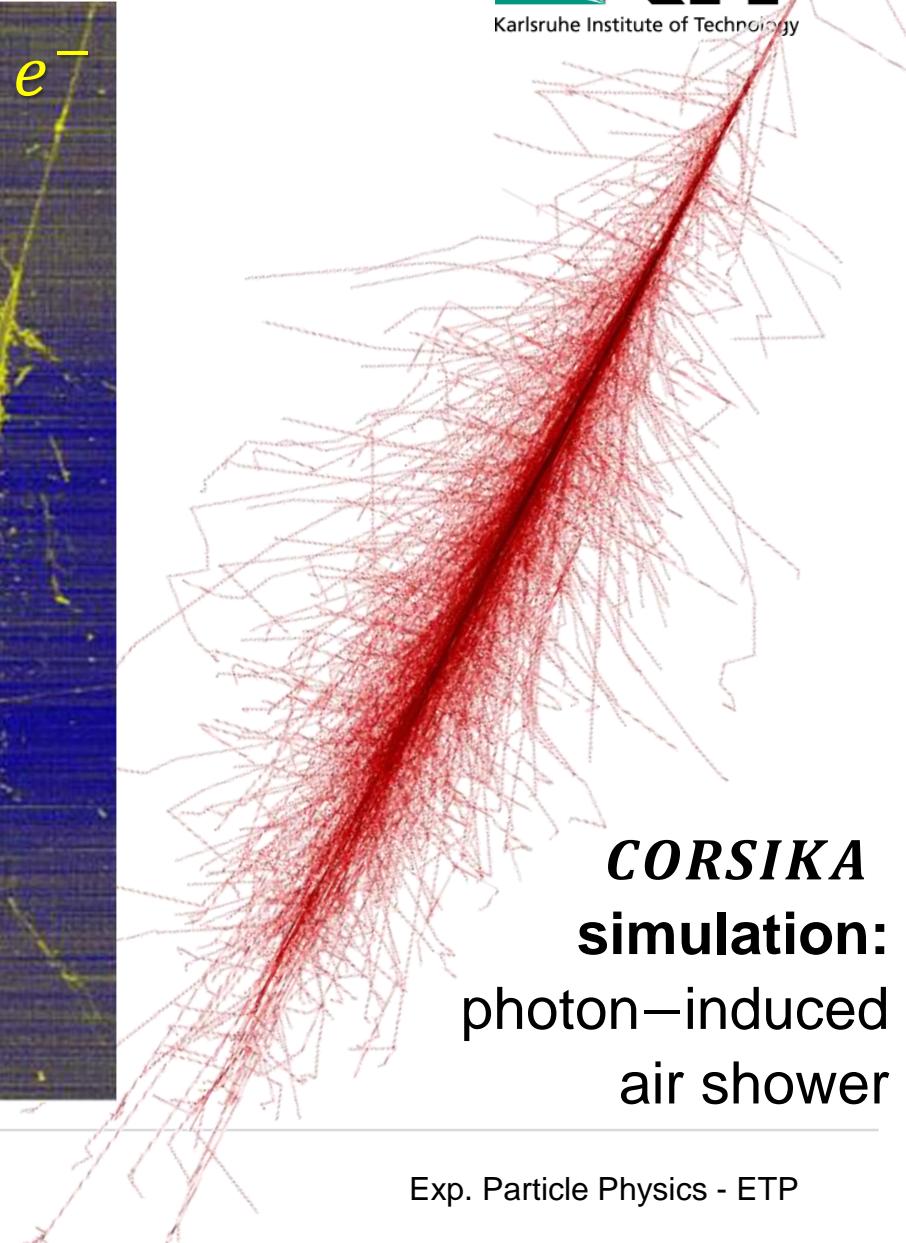
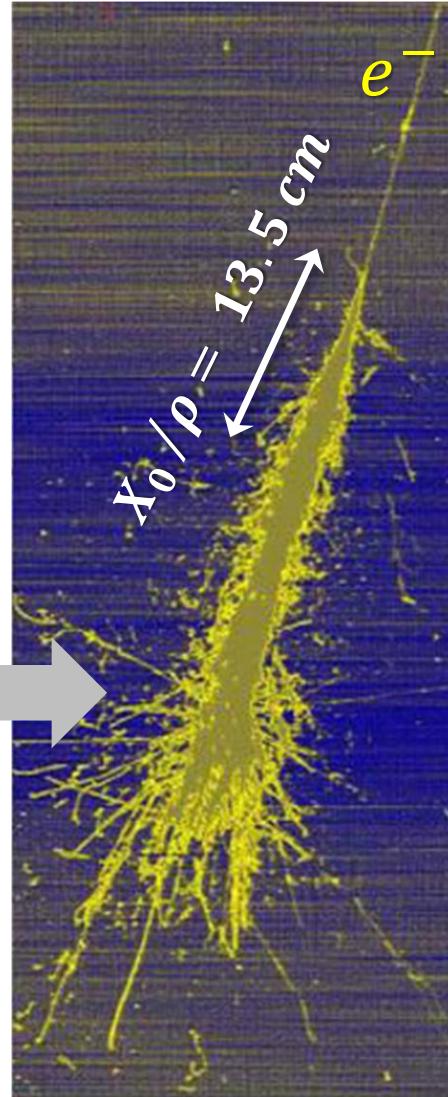
$$\lambda_{pair} = \frac{9}{7} \cdot X_0$$

Electromagnetic component of showers

- electromagnetic showers:
experimental signature & modelling
- experimental shower signatures &
modelling via simulation-codes*



ICARUS experiment
neutrino-induced
particle shower in a
liquid argon calorimeter:
interactions of a primary
high-energy electron

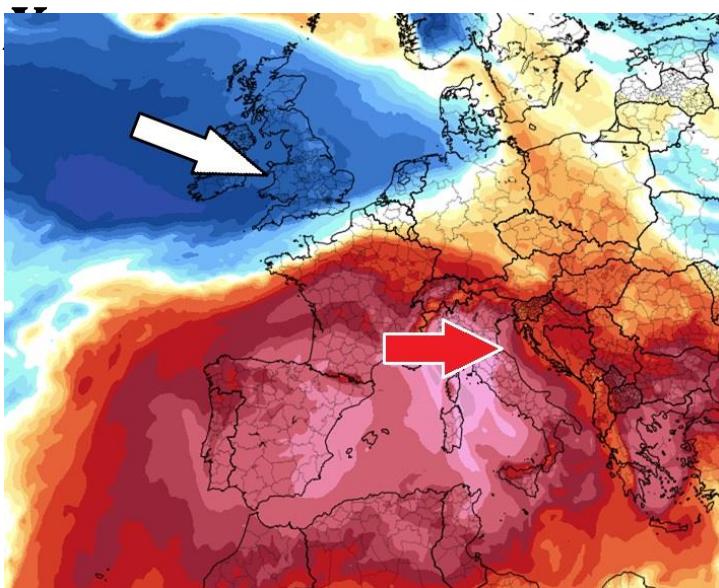


CORSIKA
simulation:
photon-induced
air shower

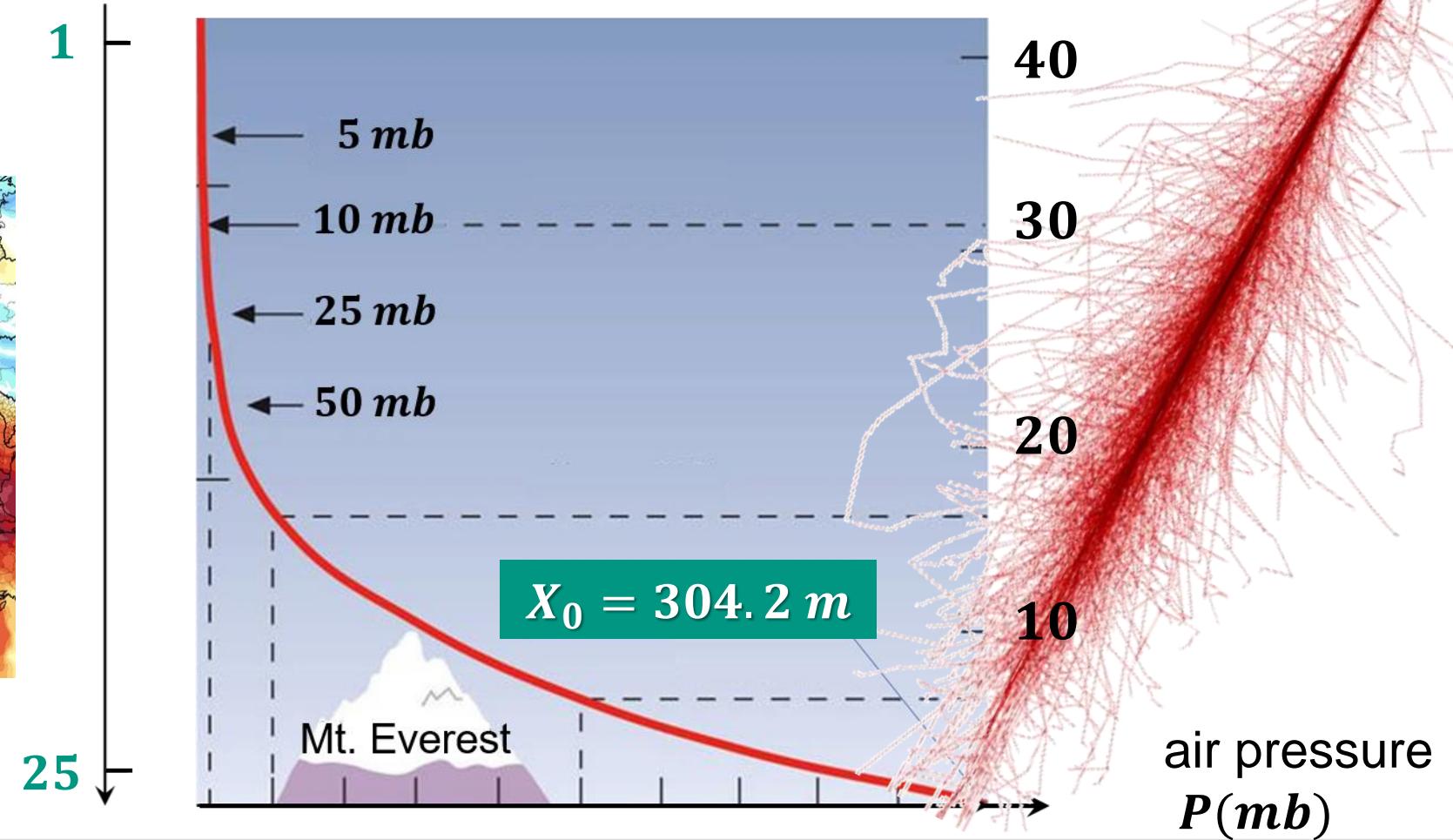
Electromagnetic component of showers

- atmosphere as electromagnetic calorimeter: $\sim 25 X_0$

- changing atmospheric weather: changes of



atmosphere (# of X_0)

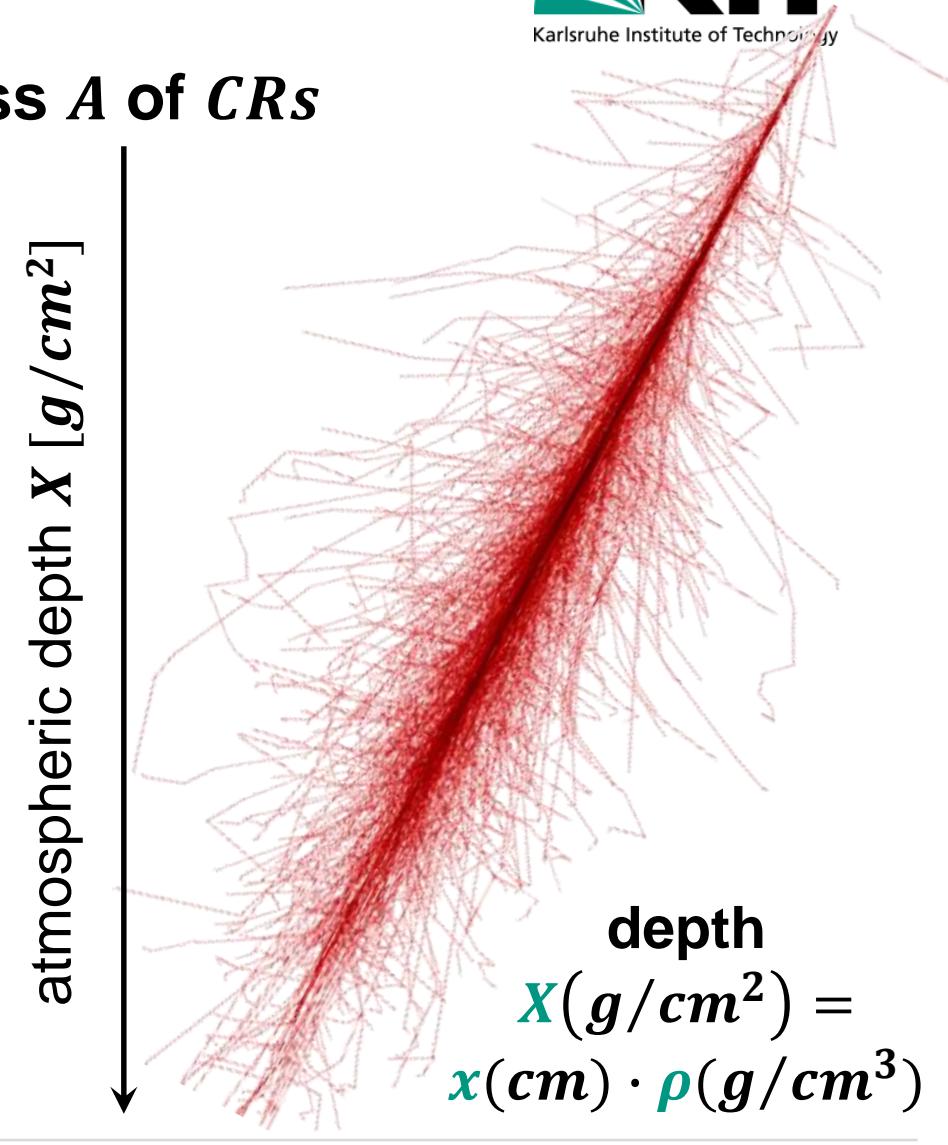
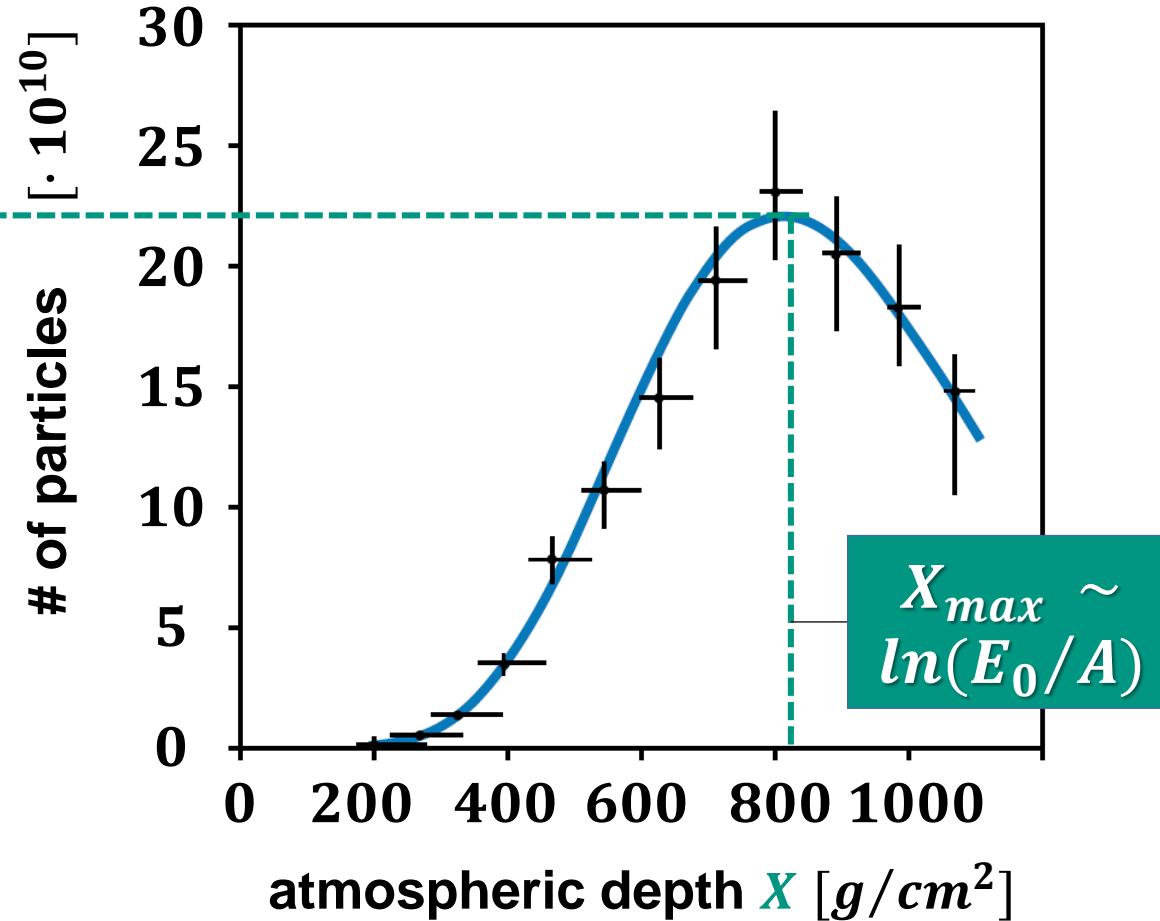


Electromagnetic showers in the atmosphere

- Key parameter: shower maximum X_{max} for mass A of CRs

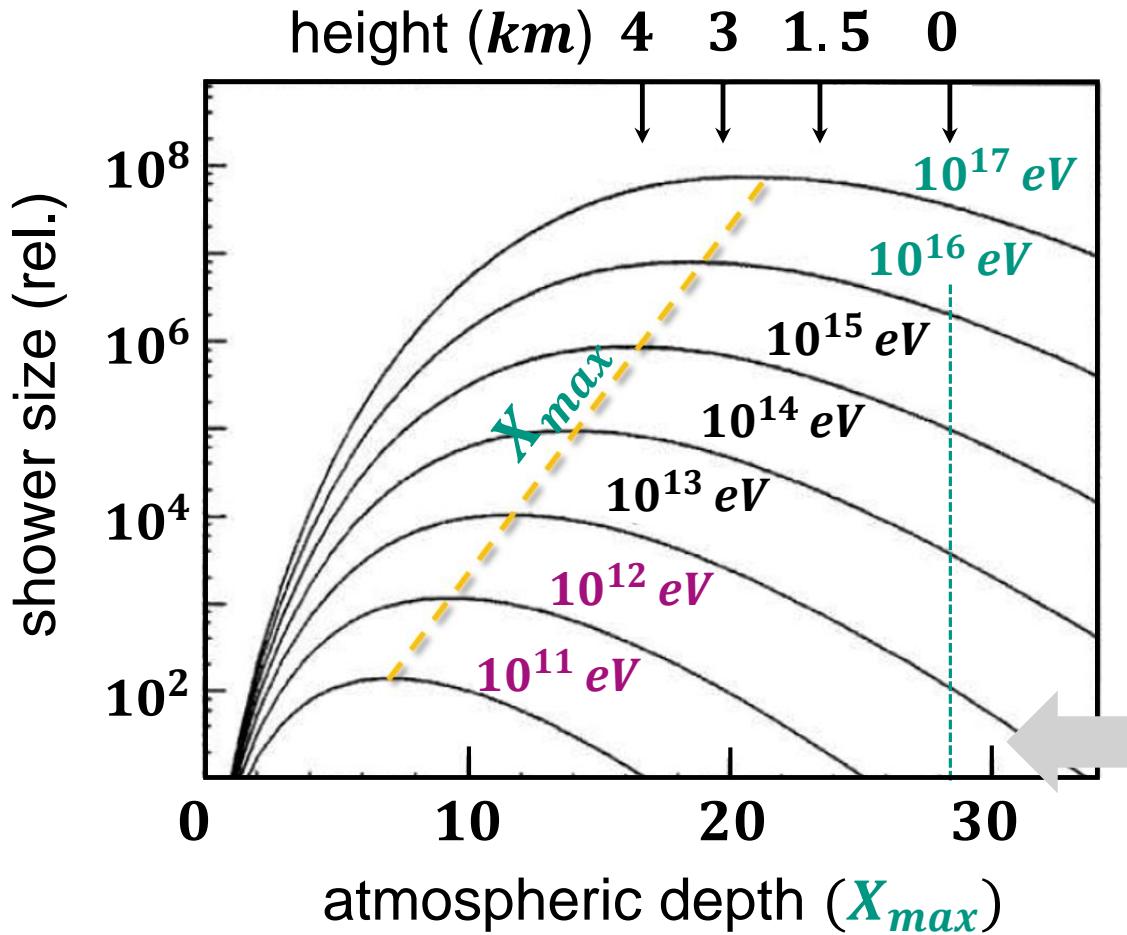
$$N_e(X_{max}) \sim E_0$$

look up!

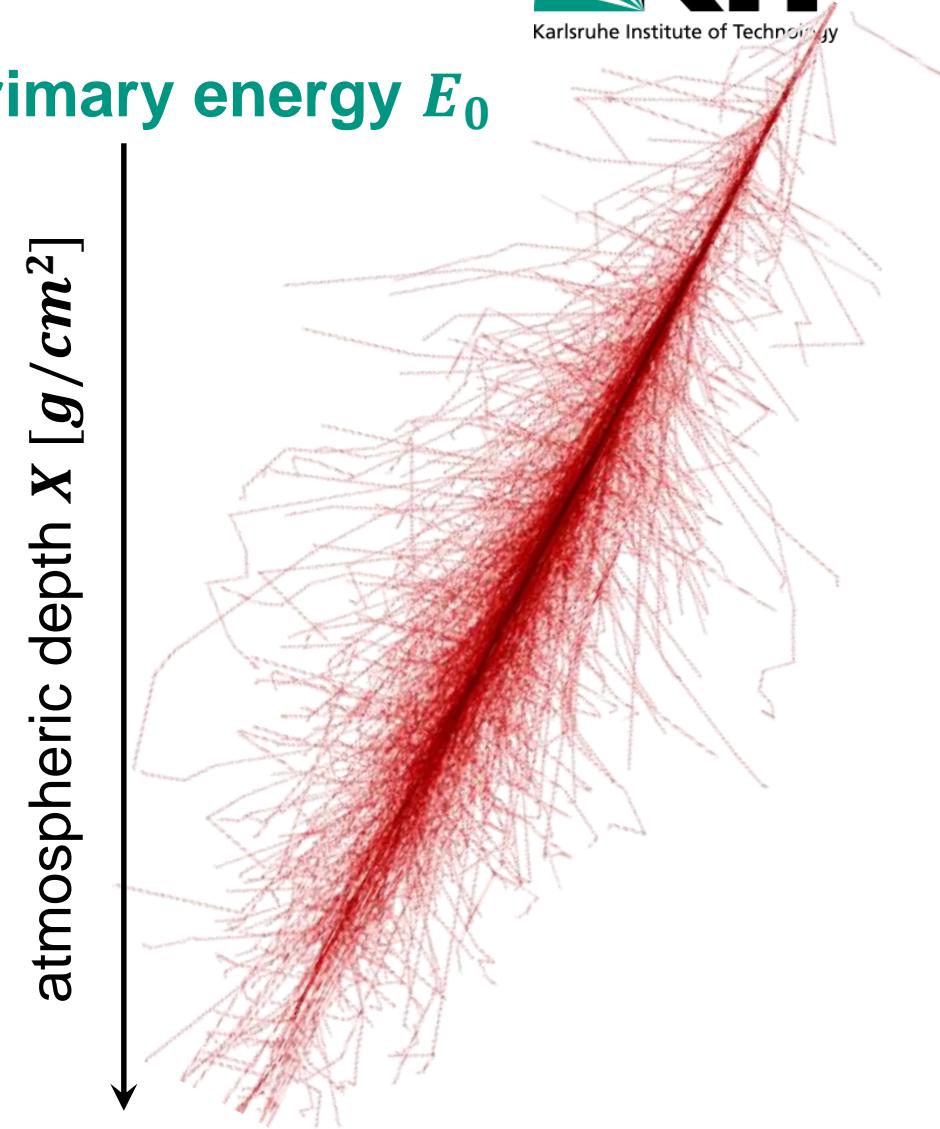


Electromagnetic showers in the atmosphere

- shower maximum X_{max} varies as function of primary energy E_0



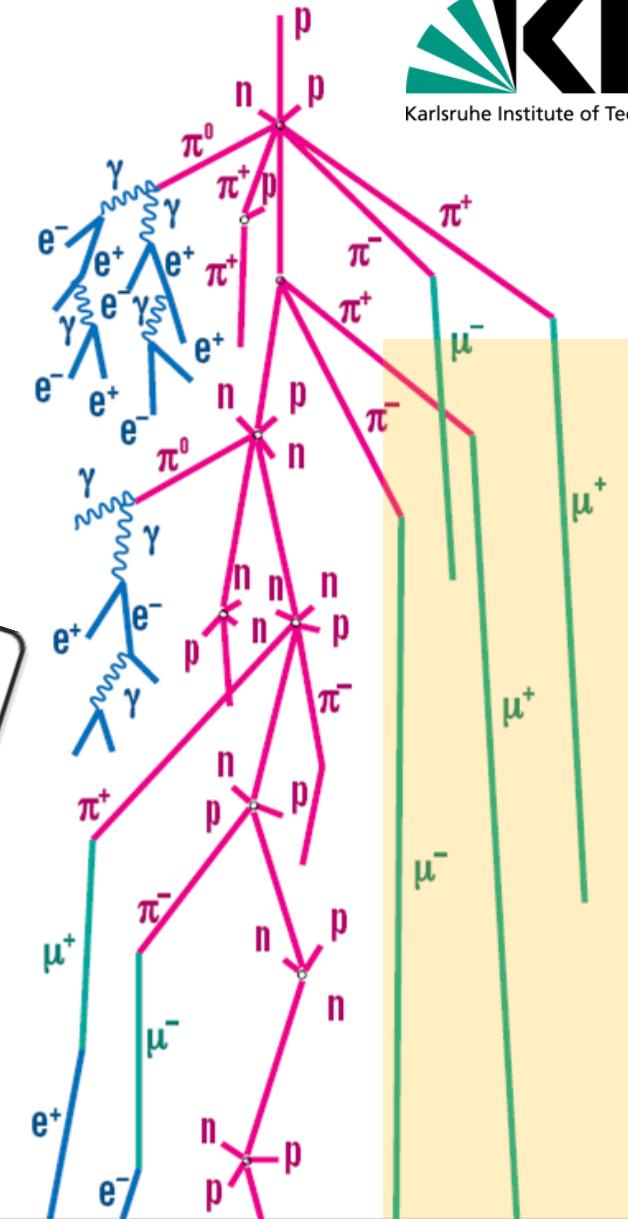
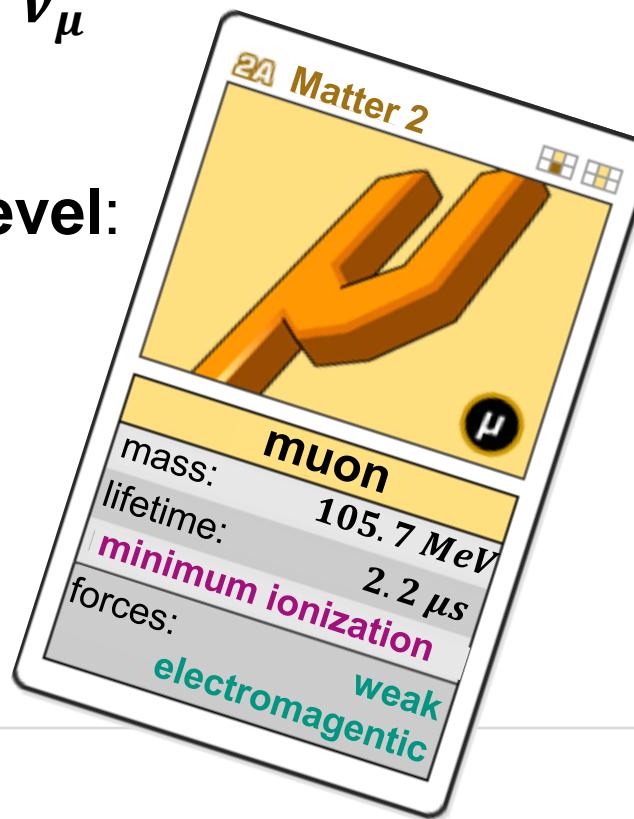
- primary CR energies
 $E_0 < 10^{13} \text{ eV}$
do not reach the surface



Muonic component: *mips*

■ muons are **m**inimum **i**onizing **particles (**m. i. p. s**)**

- 'cosmic' muons (slang: 'cosmics')
- from **pion decays** $\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + (\bar{\nu}_\mu)$ in upper atmosphere
- flux density of muons at **sea level**:
 $d\Phi/dA \sim 100 \mu's m^{-2}s^{-1}$
- charge ratio: $\mu^+/\mu^- = 1.2$
- overall fraction of secondary particles $\varepsilon_\mu \sim 1.7 \%$



application of air showers: muography

■ muography: muon rate depends on air pressure

physicsworld

PARTICLE AND NUCLEAR

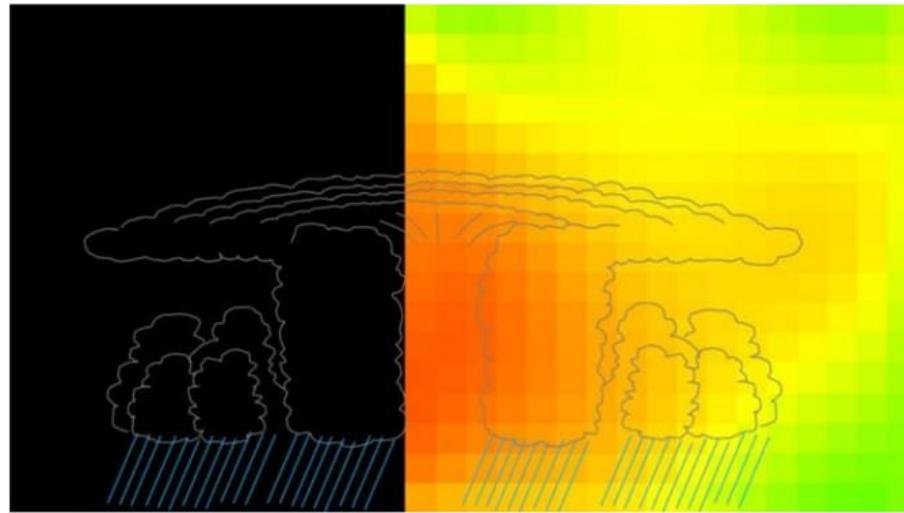
RESEARCH UPDATE

- advantage of using muons from showers:
long range of μ in the atmosphere

NEW

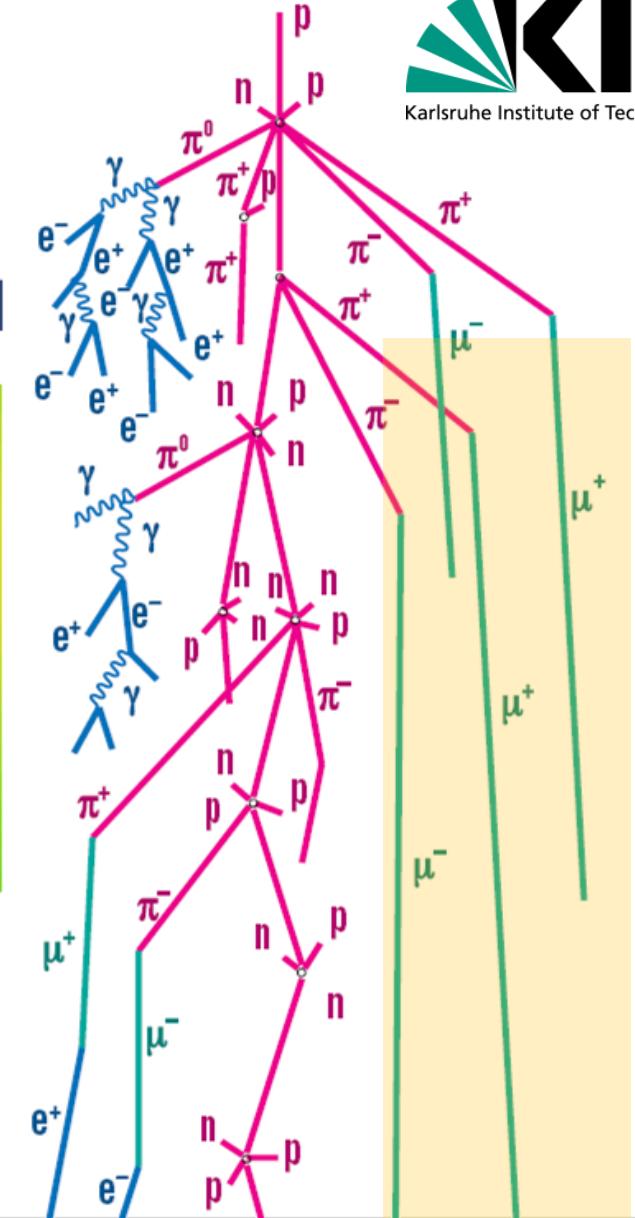
Cosmic muons probe the interiors of tropical cyclones

18 Oct 2022



Peering inside: the image on the right shows the interior of a cyclone. The redder areas are regions of lower pressure, and the greener areas are higher pressure.
(Courtesy: Hiroyuki KM Tanaka)

Cosmic muons have been used to image structures deep within tropical storms, according to an international team of researchers. Led by [Hiroyuki Tanaka](#) at the University of Tokyo, the team used a network of muon detectors to identify differences in air density within several typhoons.



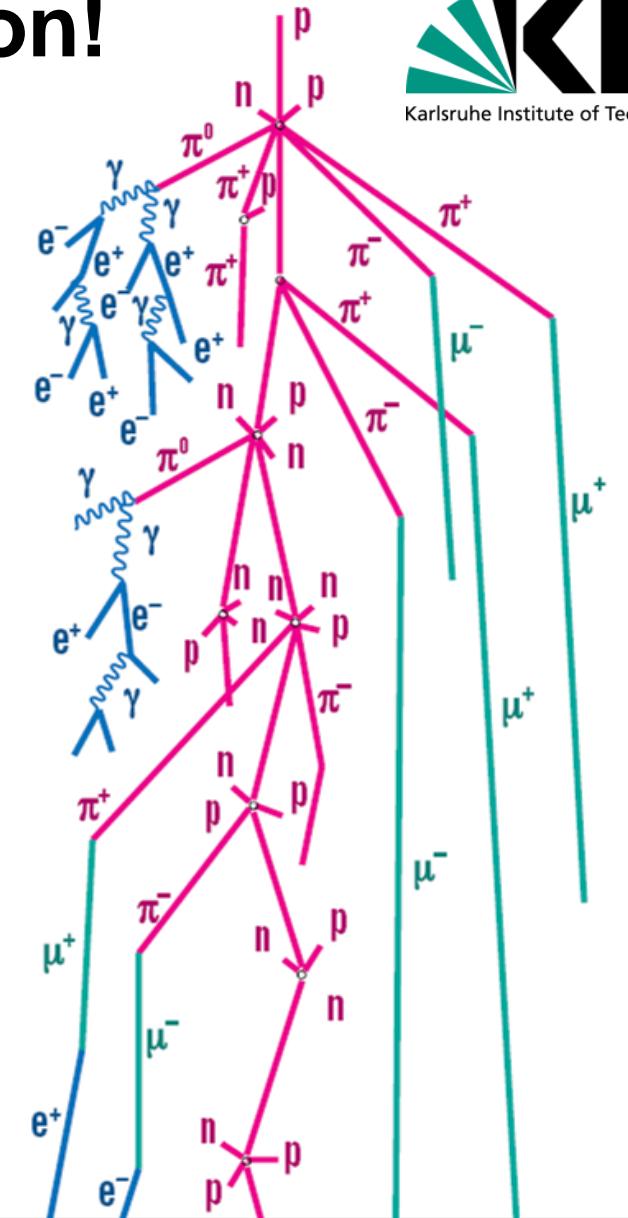
Muonic component: underground location!

■ muons are penetrating particles

- relativistic lifetime: $\tau = \gamma \cdot 2.2 \mu s$
- energy loss: $dE/dx = 2 \text{ MeV/cm} (H_2O)$
- very penetrating shower component, despite massive shielding ↴ underground laboratory



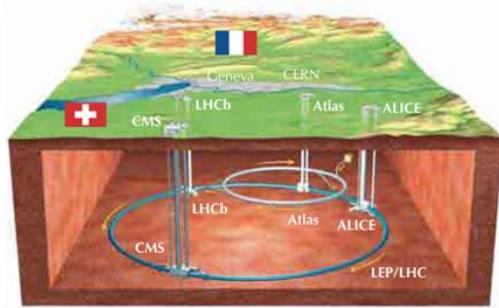
$\downarrow \gamma \cdot 2.2 \mu s$



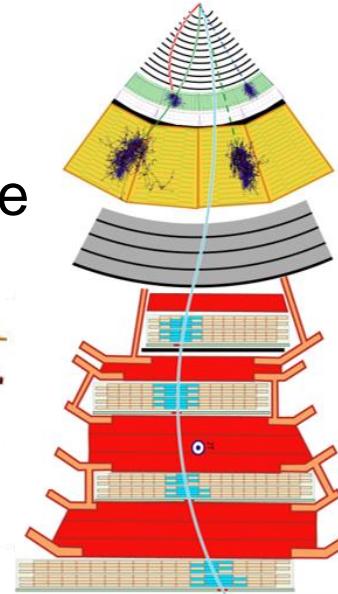
Muons at the *LHC* and in astroparticle physics

muons from an accelerator (LHC)

accelerators:
protons with up
to $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$
(\sqrt{s} is known)



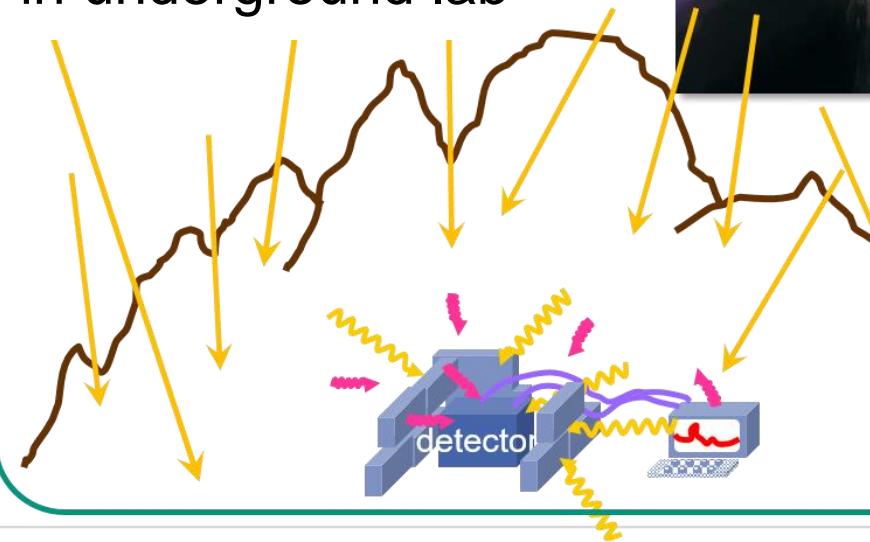
1400 muon chambers
at magnetic return yoke



muons from cosmic accelerators

cosmic accelerators:
protons (nuclei) with
up to $E = 10^{20} \text{ eV}$

shielding against muons
in underground lab

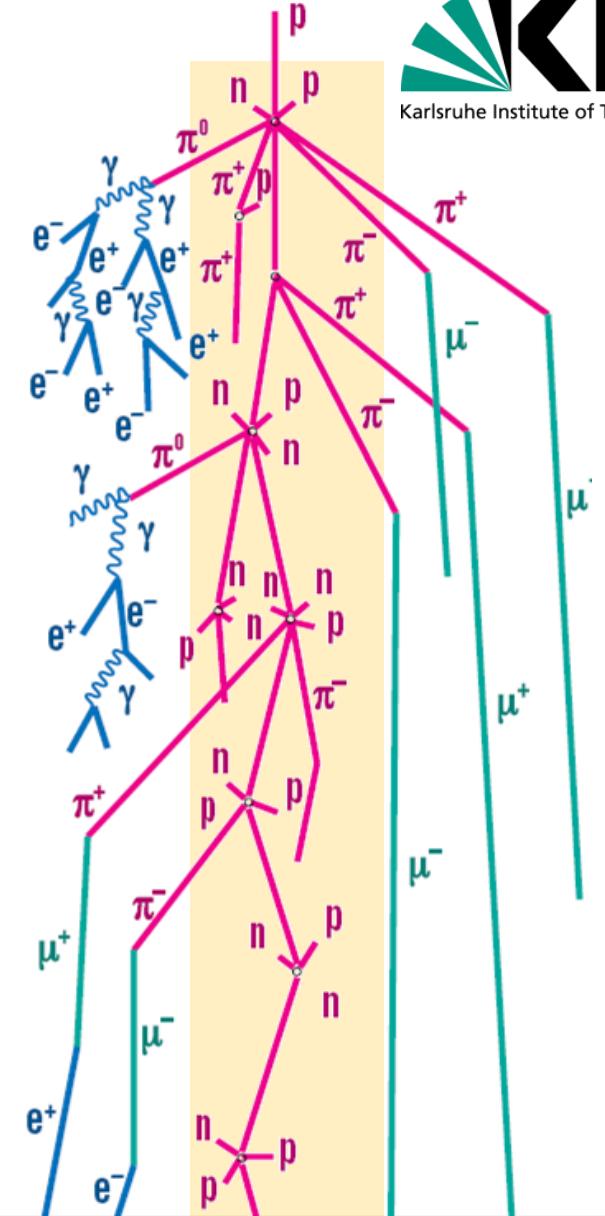


**Laboratori
Nazionali
del
Gran Sasso**

Hadronic component of air showers

■ Hadronic interactions in the atmosphere

- all hadrons ($p, n, \pi^+, \pi^-, \pi^0, K^+, K^-, K^0, \dots$): processes of the **strong** interaction, decays:
→ **hadronic** (& electromagnetic) **shower**
- charged hadrons ($p, \pi^+, \pi^-, K^+, K^-, \dots$): also
→ **electromagnetic interaction** (i.e. ionisation)
- hadrons are localized in **shower core** (~0.3% fraction)
- hadrons are characterized by their **large dE/dx**



Hadronic component of air showers

■ Hadronic interactions in the atmosphere

- hadronic interaction length Λ

measured in [g/cm^2 or cm]

= mean length for inelastic scattering

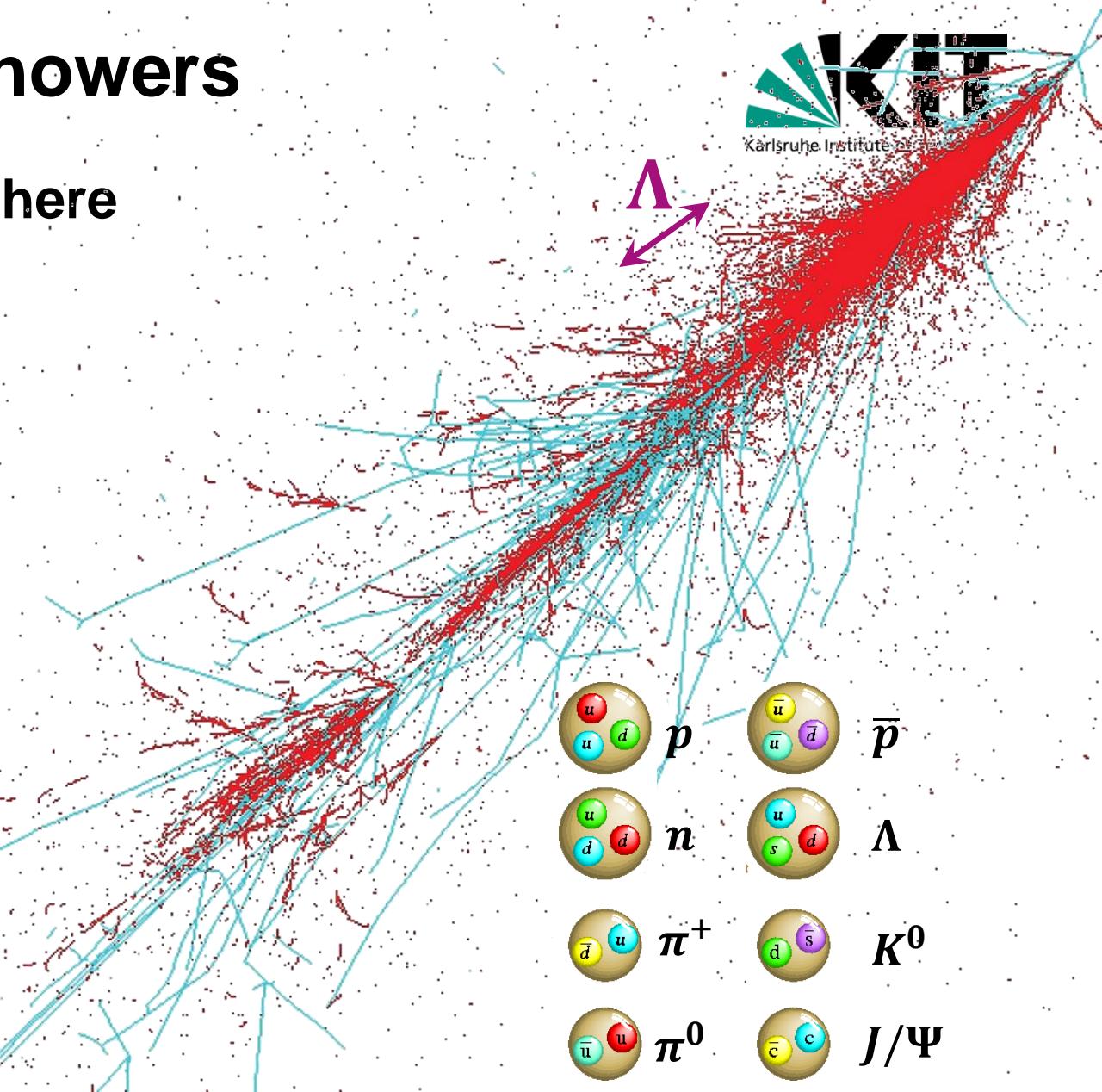
$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{\sigma \cdot n}$$

σ : cross section with nucleus

n : number of scatter centres

- atmospheric thickness corresponds

~ 11 hadronic interaction lengths Λ

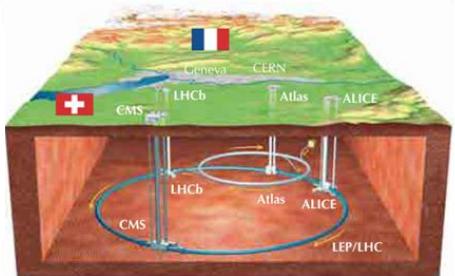


Hadronic component of air showers

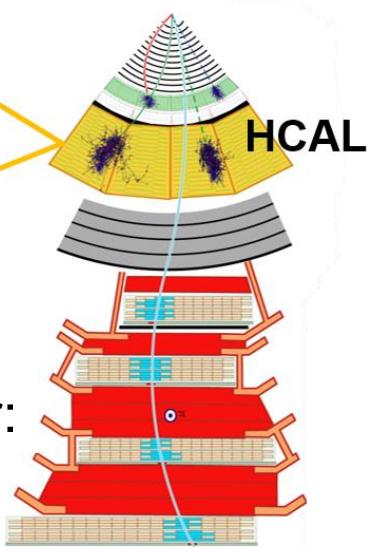
■ Hadronic interactions: *HCAL characteristics* at the *LHC* & in the atmosphere

HCAL for terrestrial accelerators

accelerators:
protons with up
to $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$



iron (*Fe*) as absorber:
 $\Lambda = 16.8 \text{ cm}$
 $X_0 = 1.76 \text{ cm}$

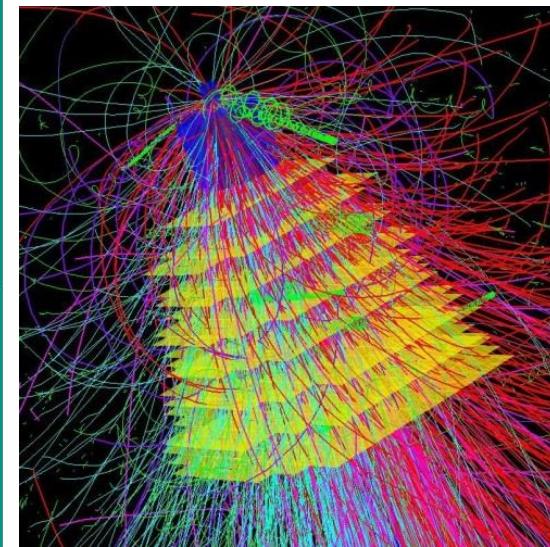
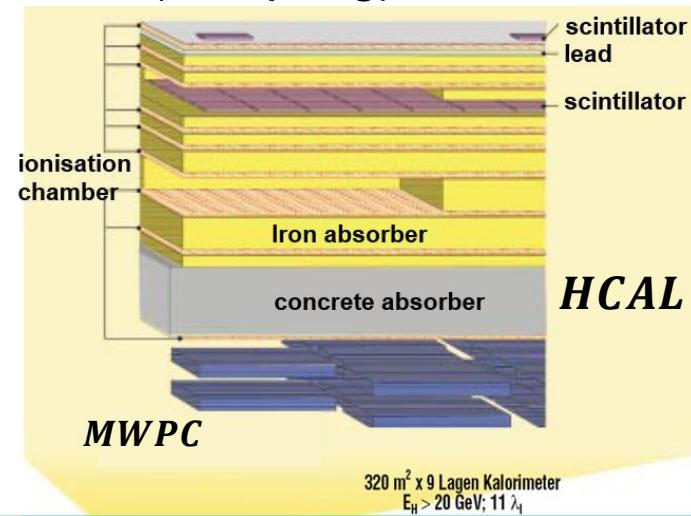


HCAL for cosmic accelerators

cosmic accelerators:
protons (nuclei) with
up to $E = 10^{20} \text{ eV}$

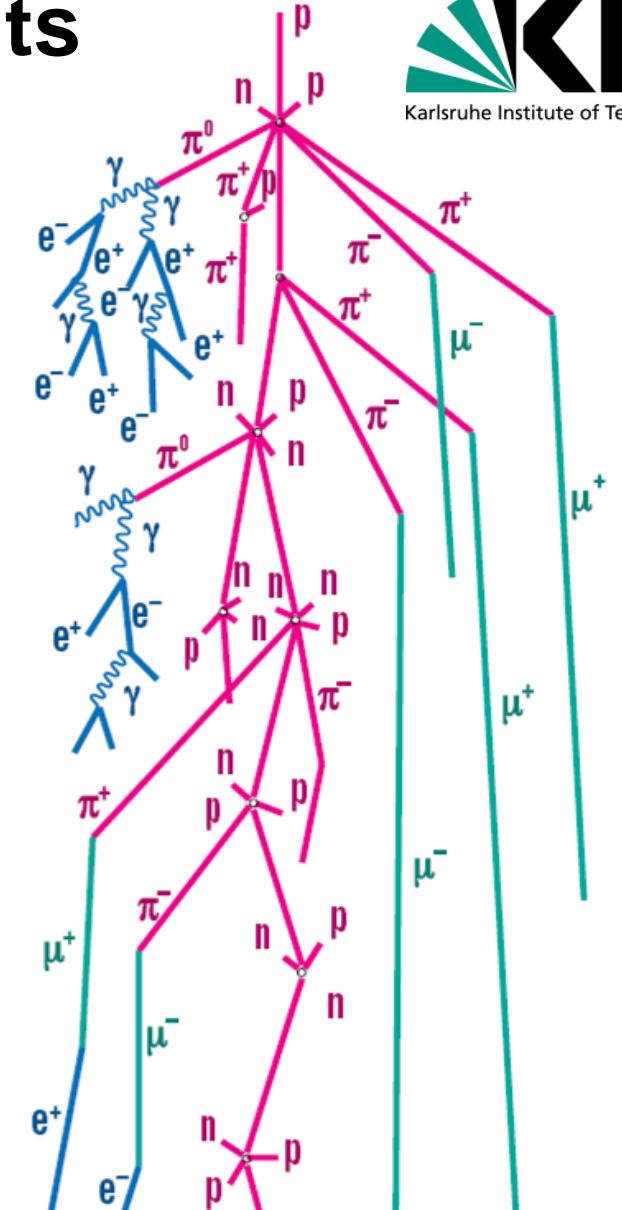
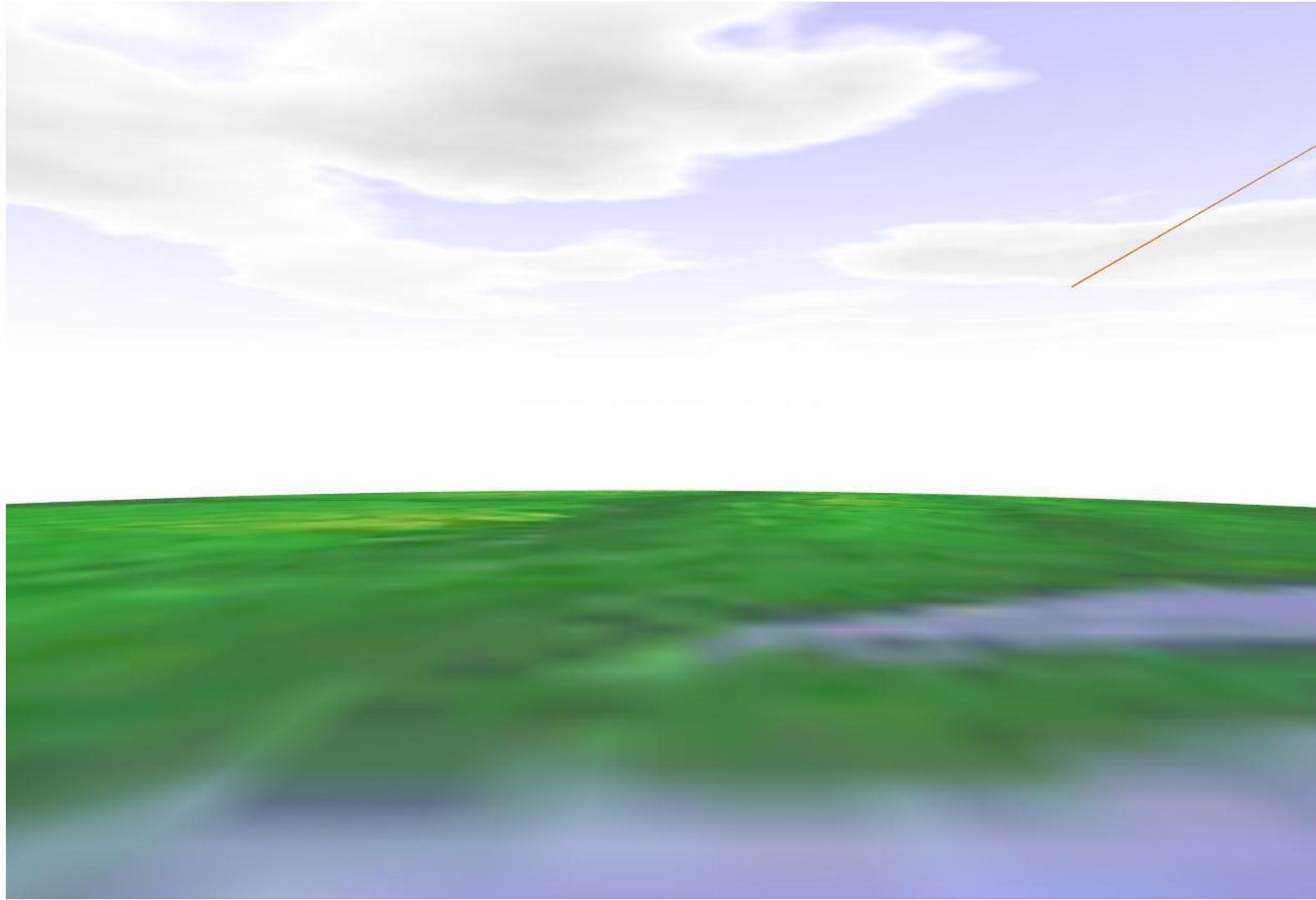


Fe – hadron – (sampling) calorimeter

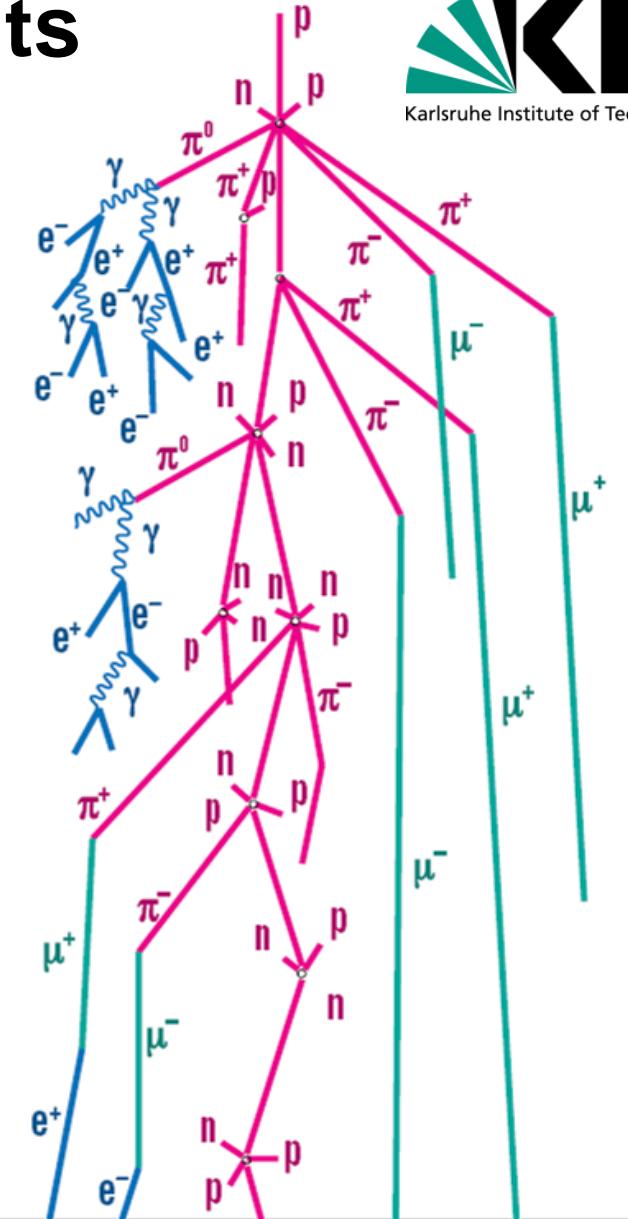
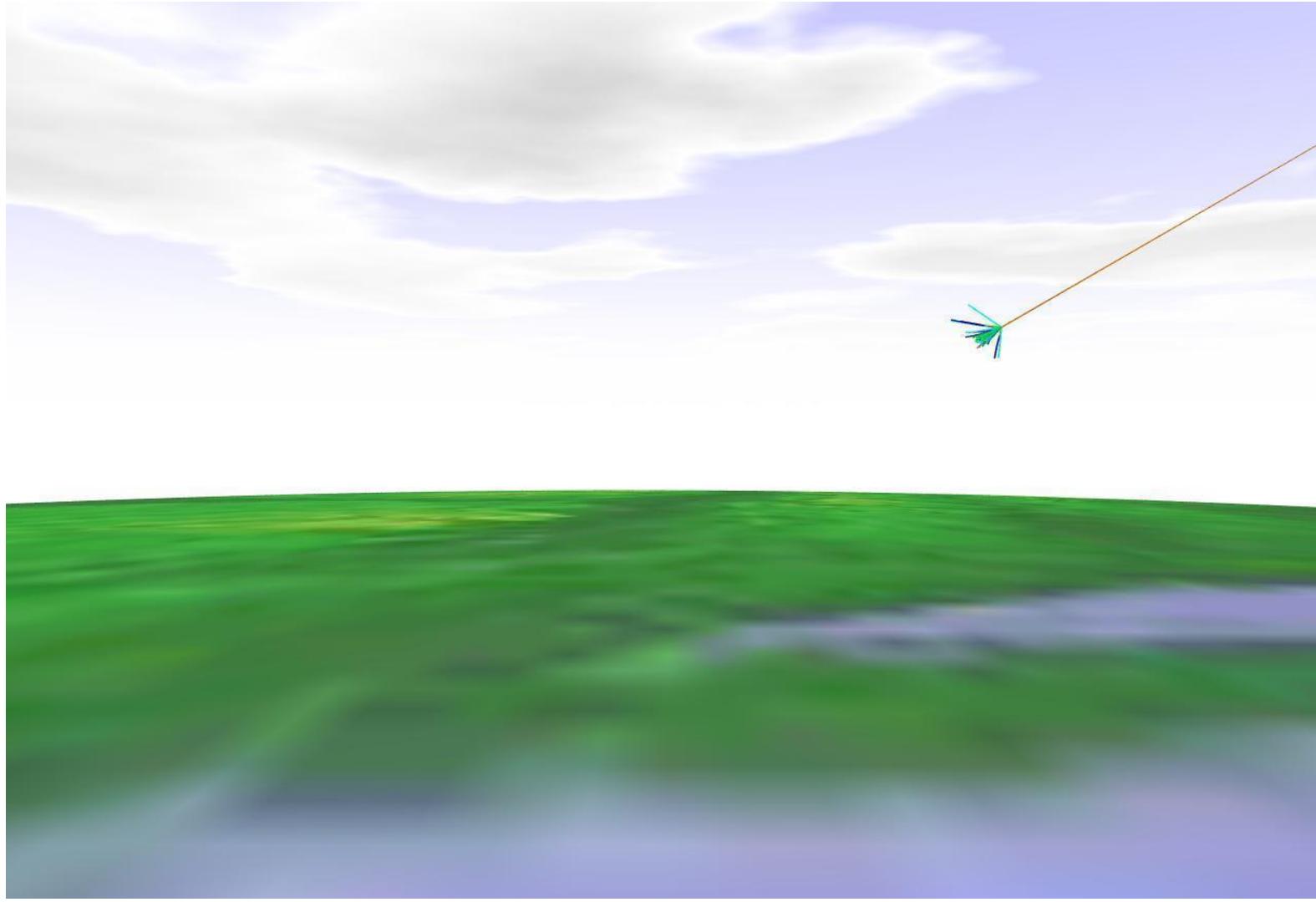


hadronic shower
(*MC*) in an *HCAL*

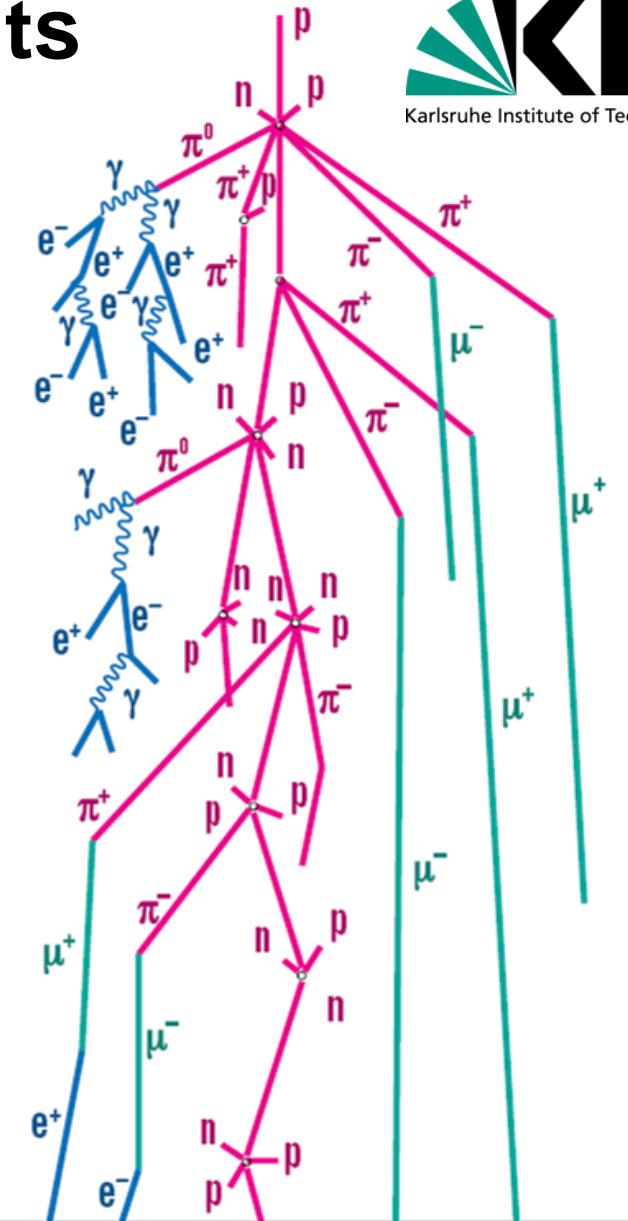
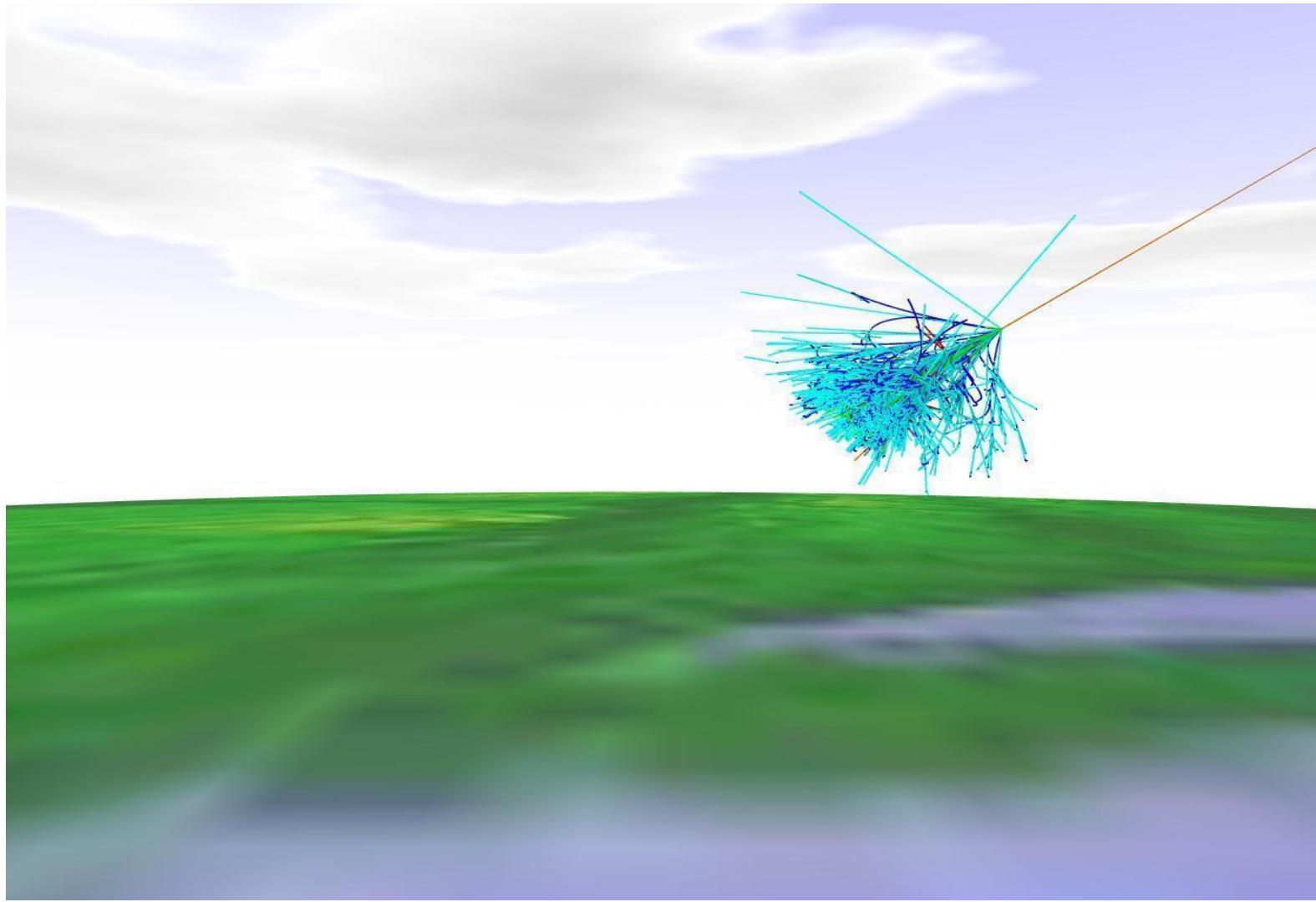
Simulation of air showers: all components



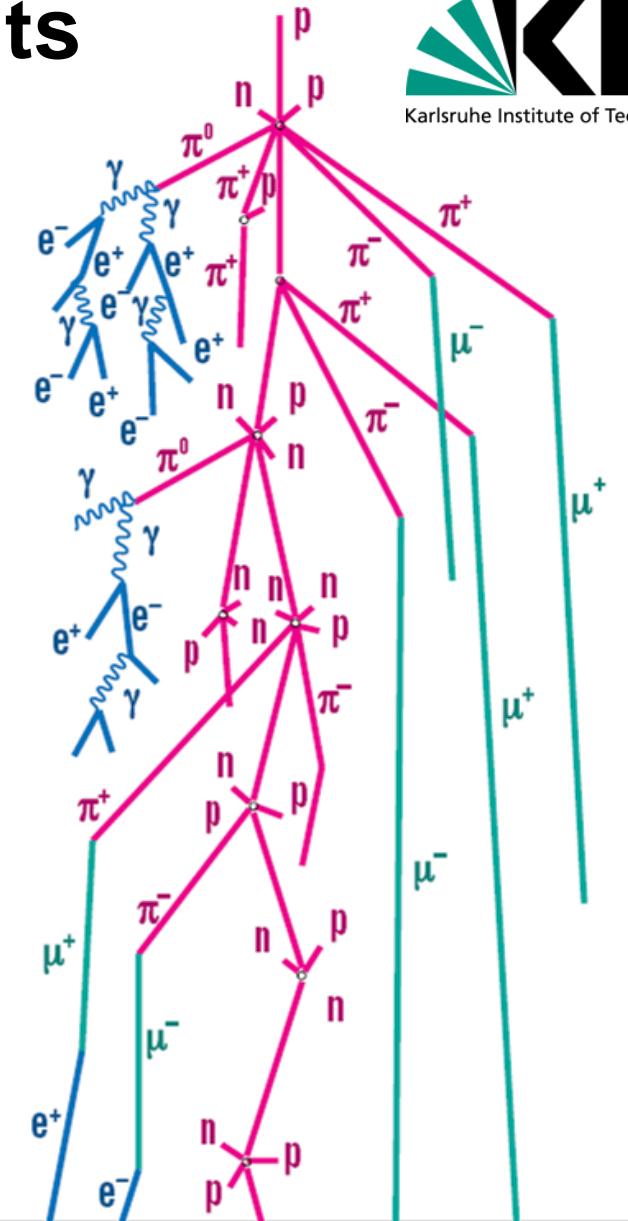
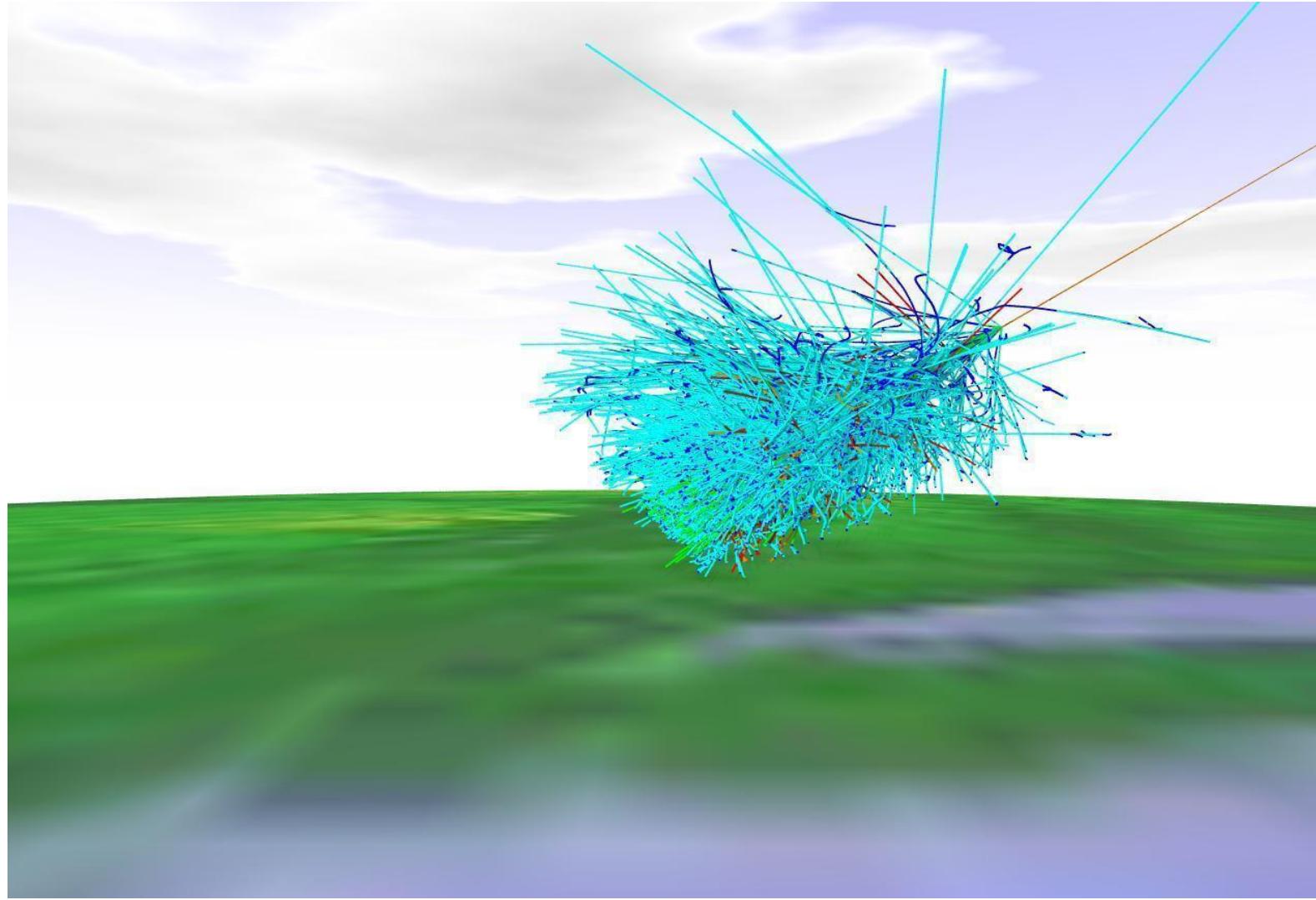
Simulation of air showers: all components



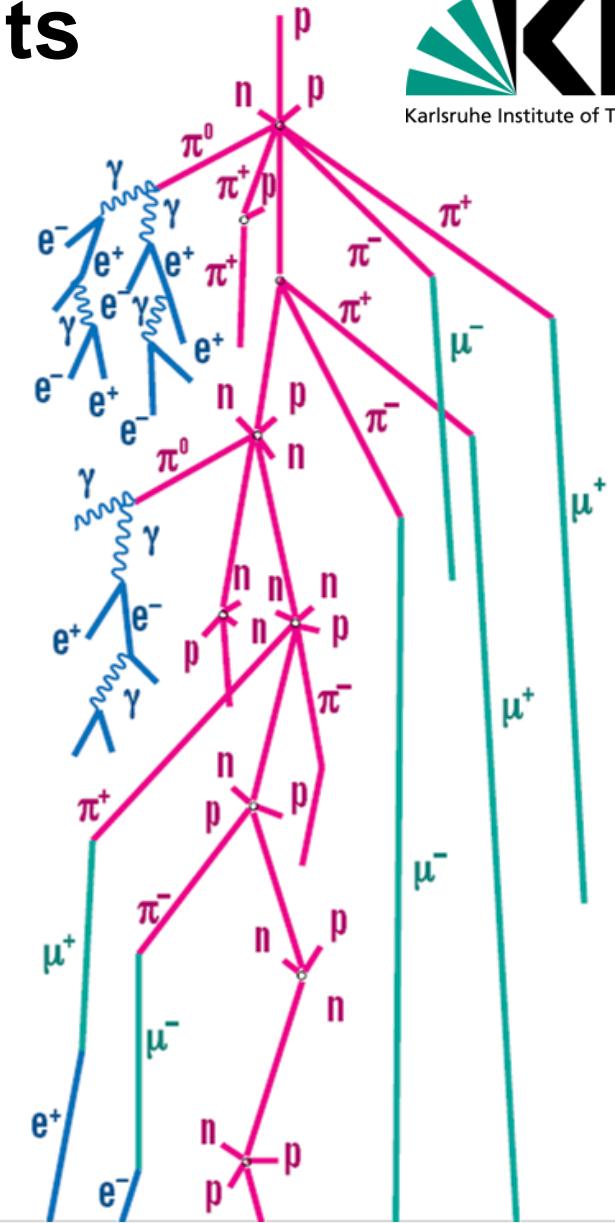
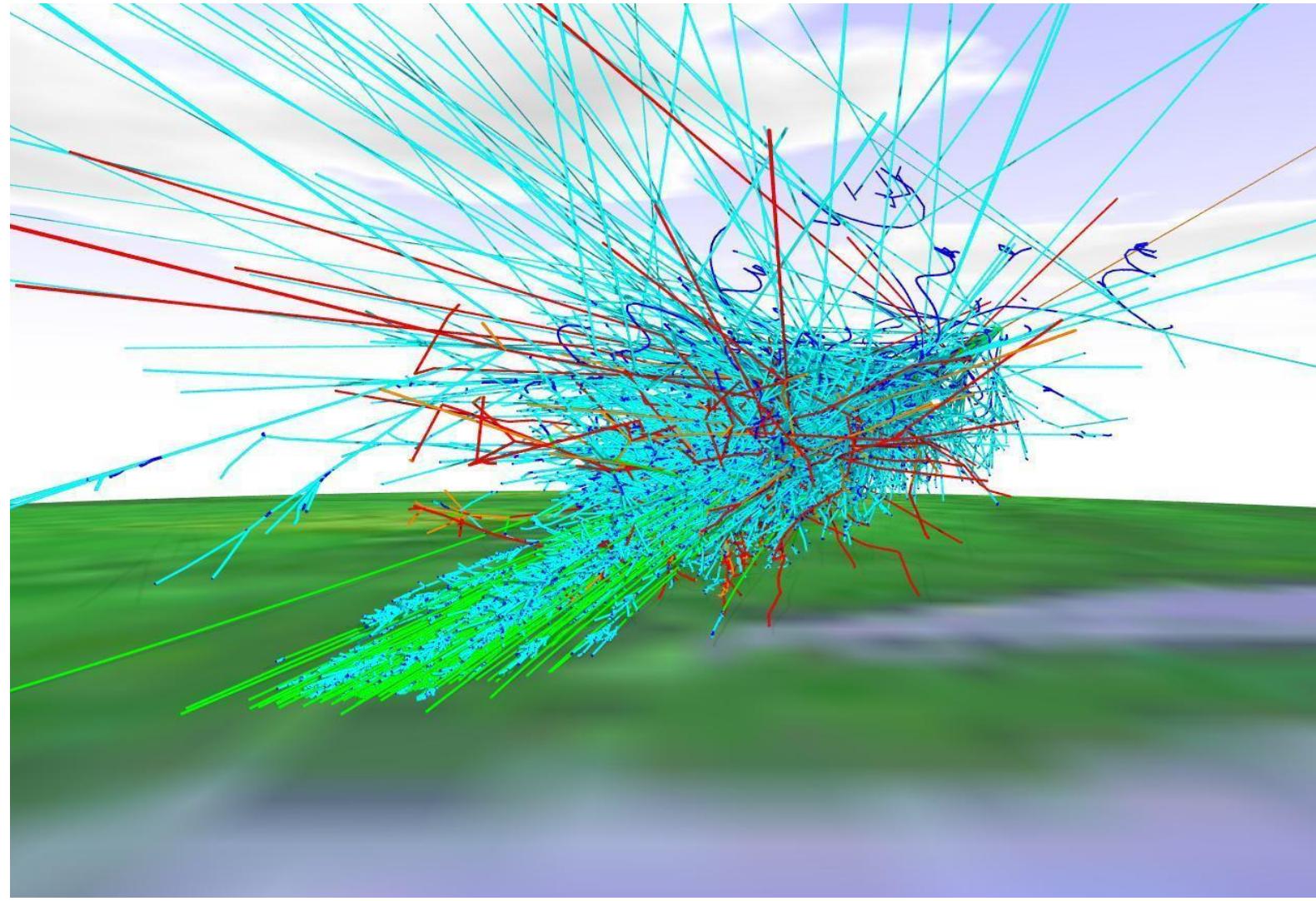
Simulation of air showers: all components



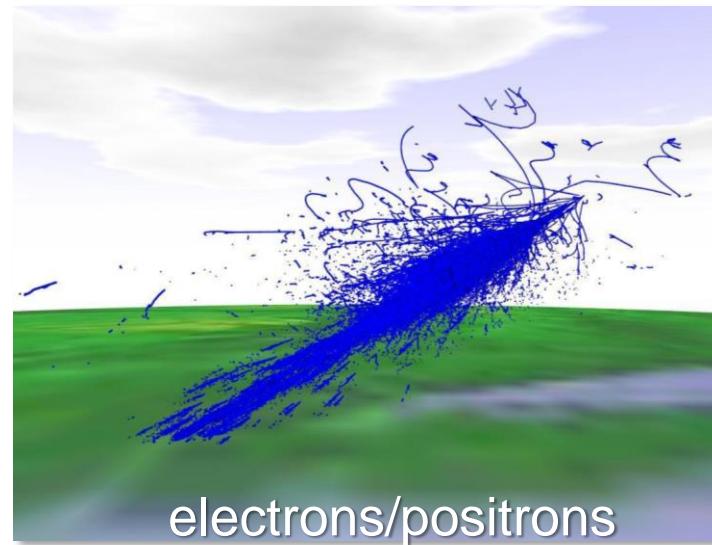
Simulation of air showers: all components



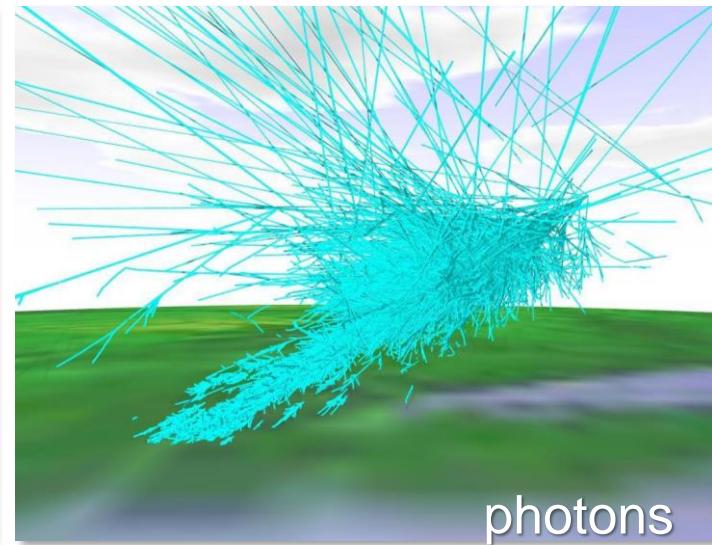
Simulation of air showers: all components



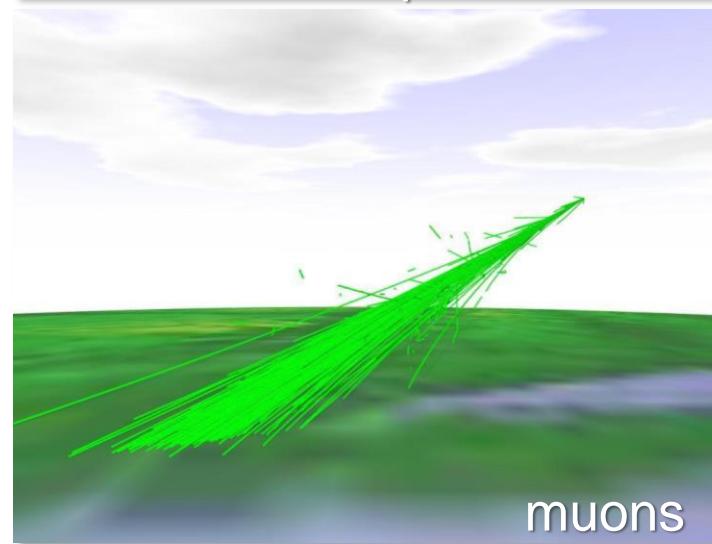
Simulation of air showers: all components



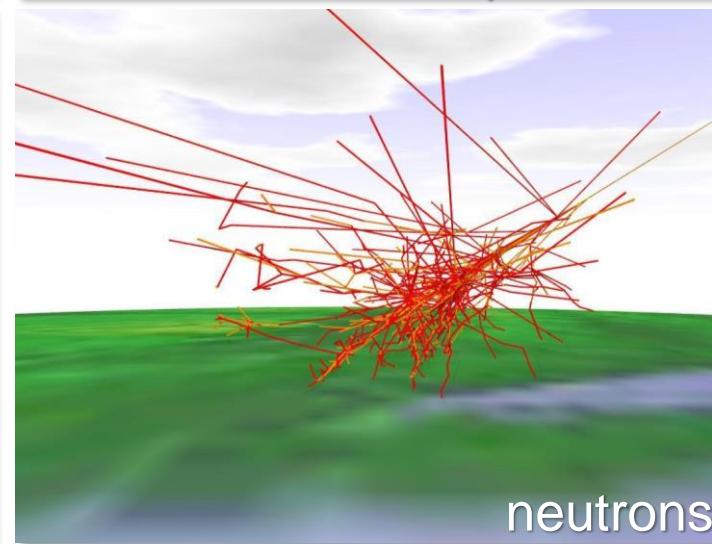
electrons/positrons



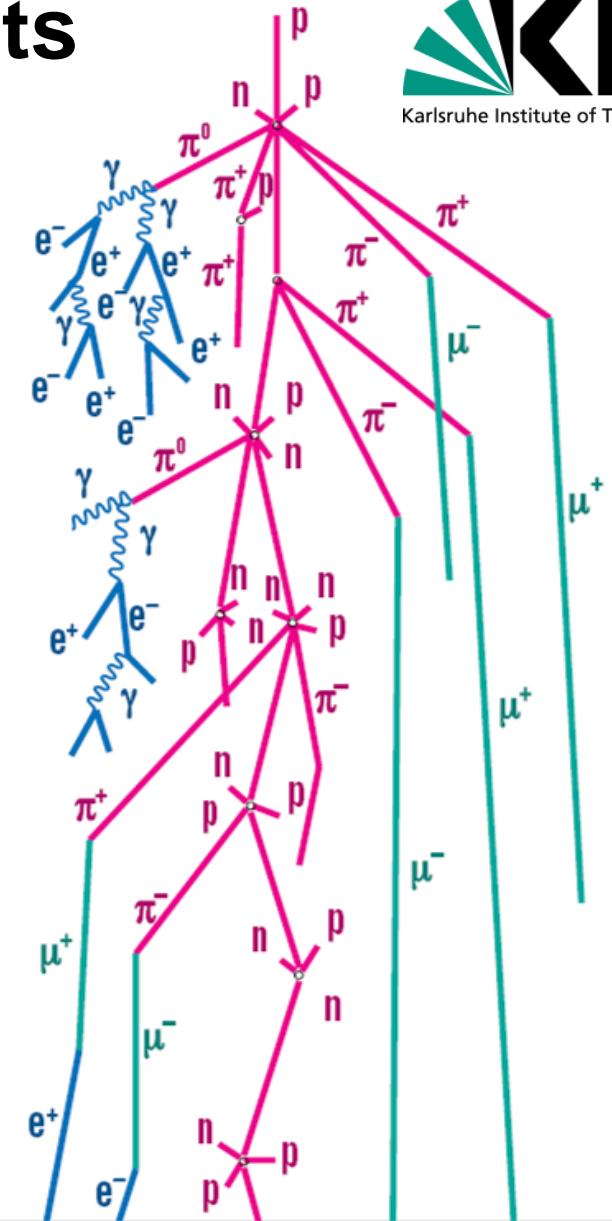
photons



muons

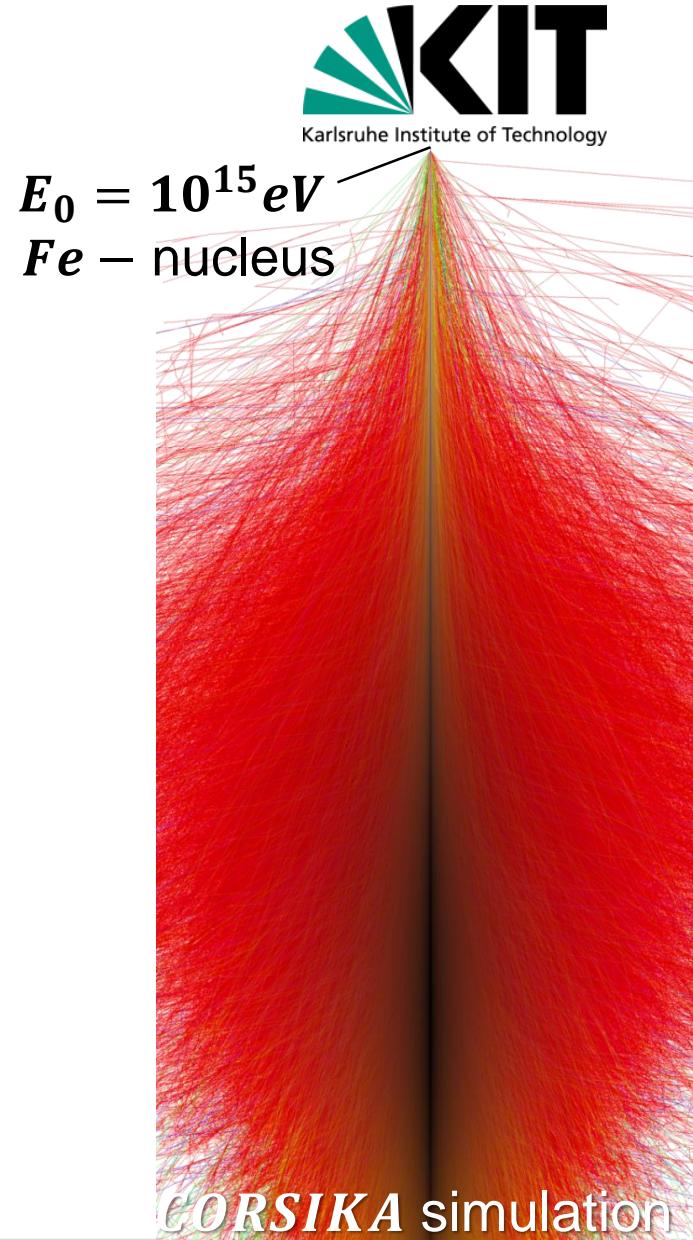
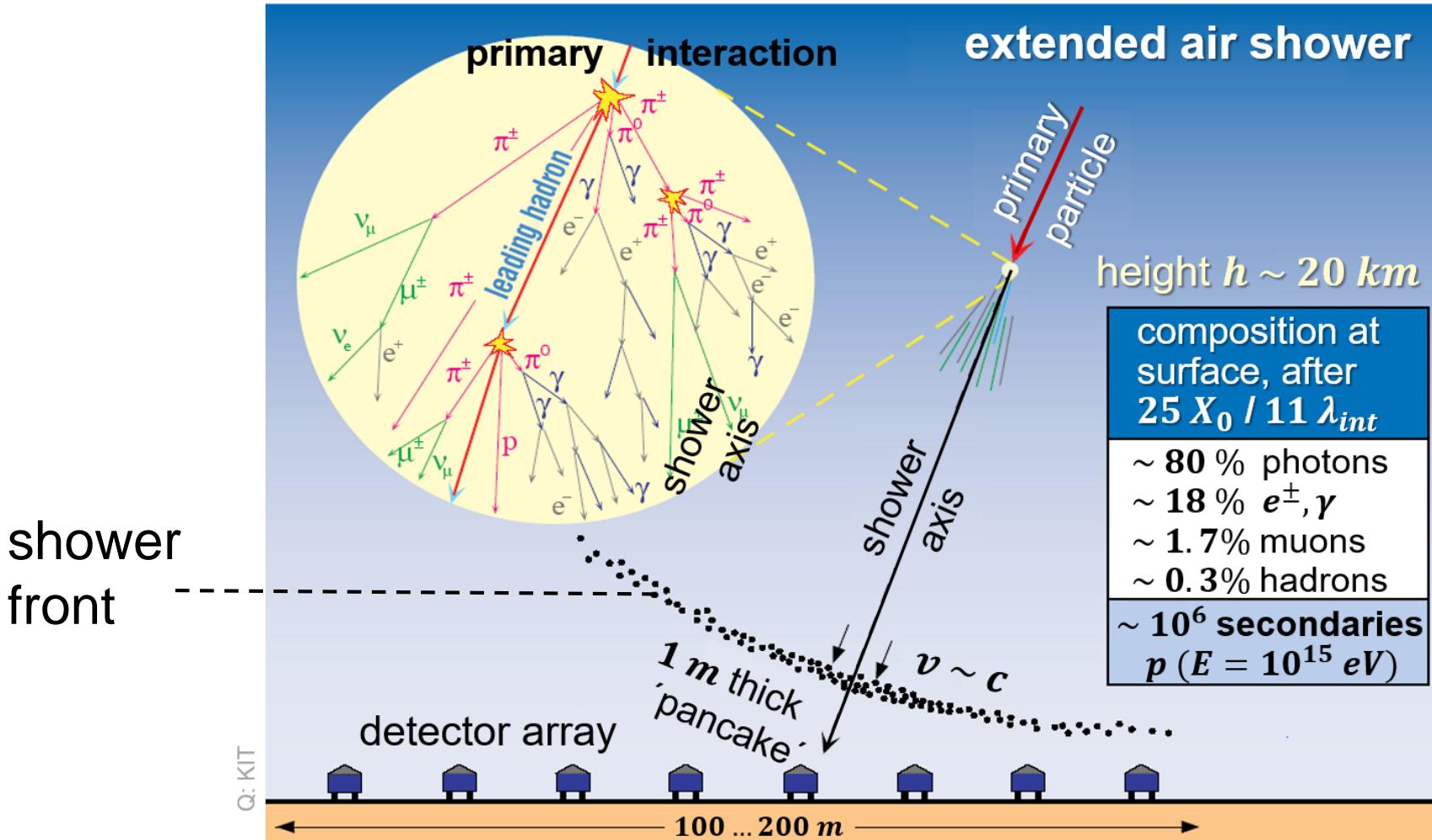


neutrons



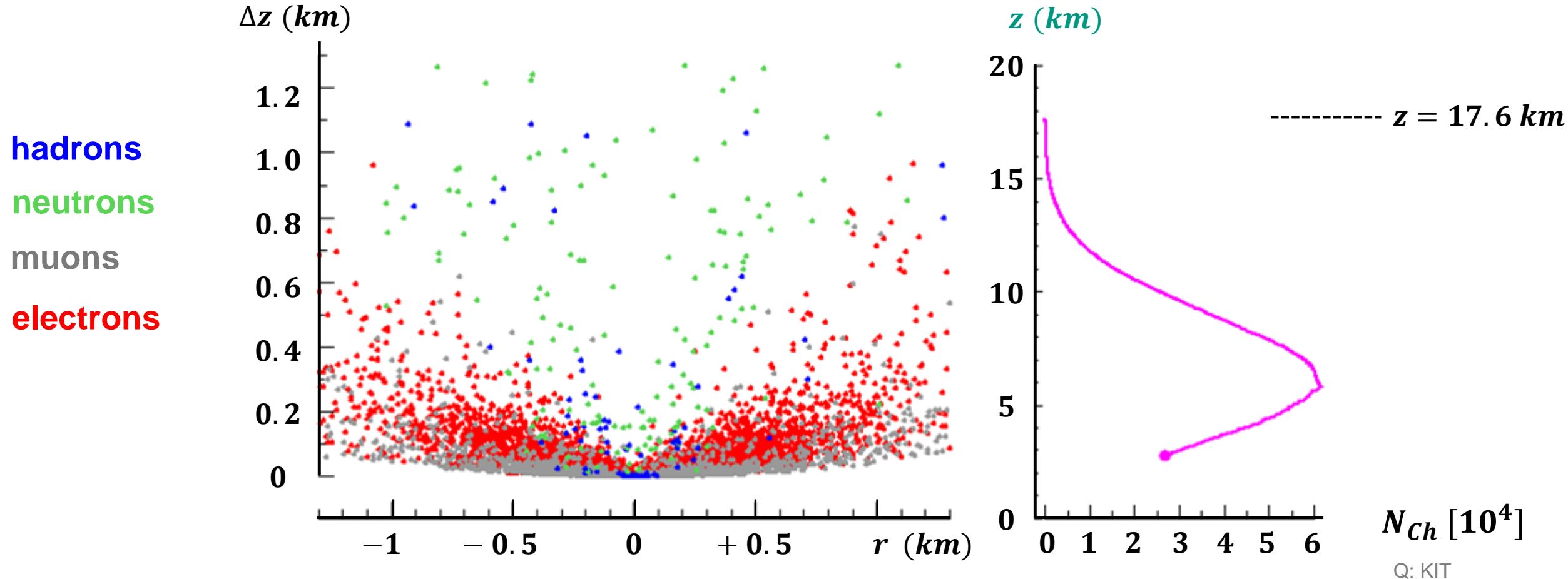
Features of an extended air shower

- primary CR: Earth's atmosphere acts as calorimeter



Extended air showers – time development

- Longitudinal air shower profile = shower particles as function of height z

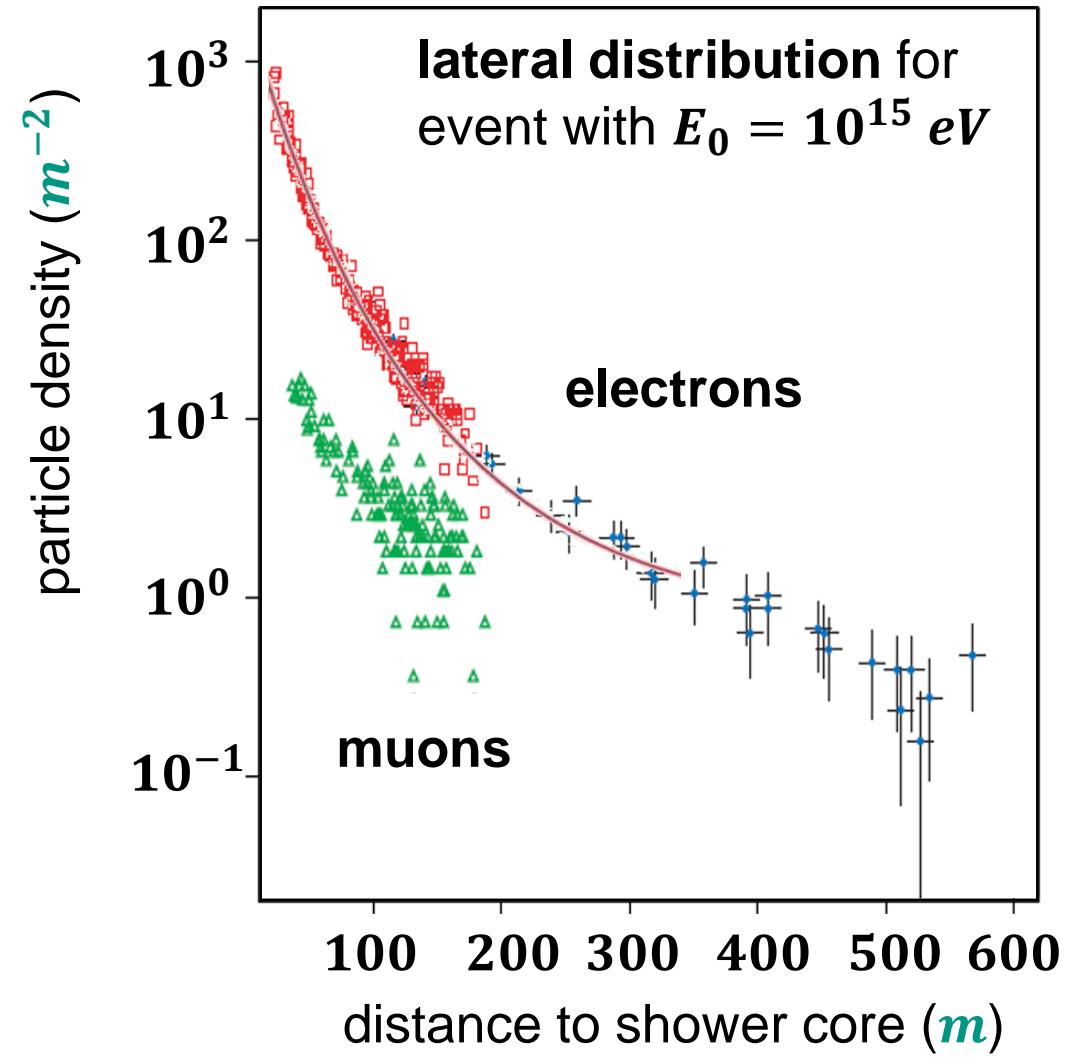


Shower parameters: extracting primary energy E_0

- **Lateral distribution of air showers** = the 'footprint' at the surface, which allows to determine energy E_0

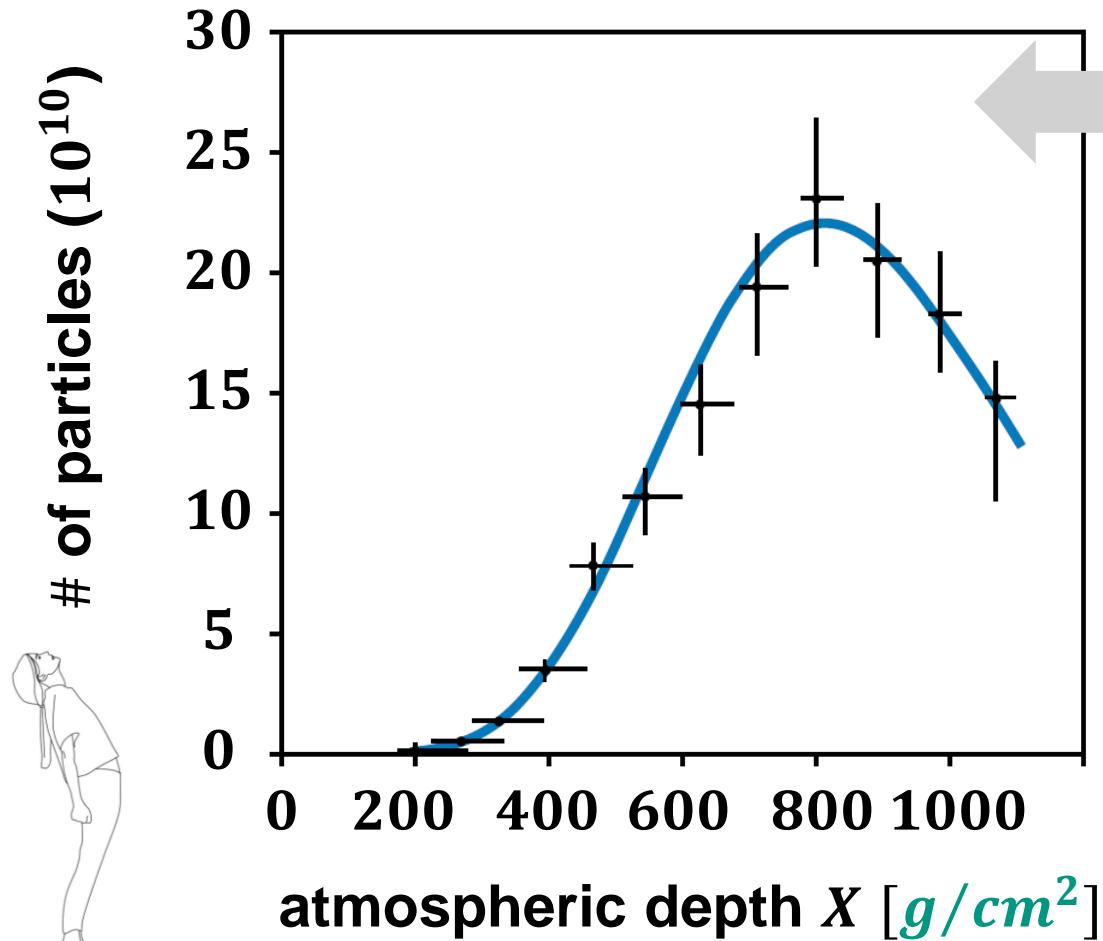
- extraction of E_0 via
 - N_e = number of electrons
 - N_μ = number of muonsin a shower
- analytical parameterisation of $\rho(r)$ via a so-called *Greisen – fit**

Kenneth Greisen

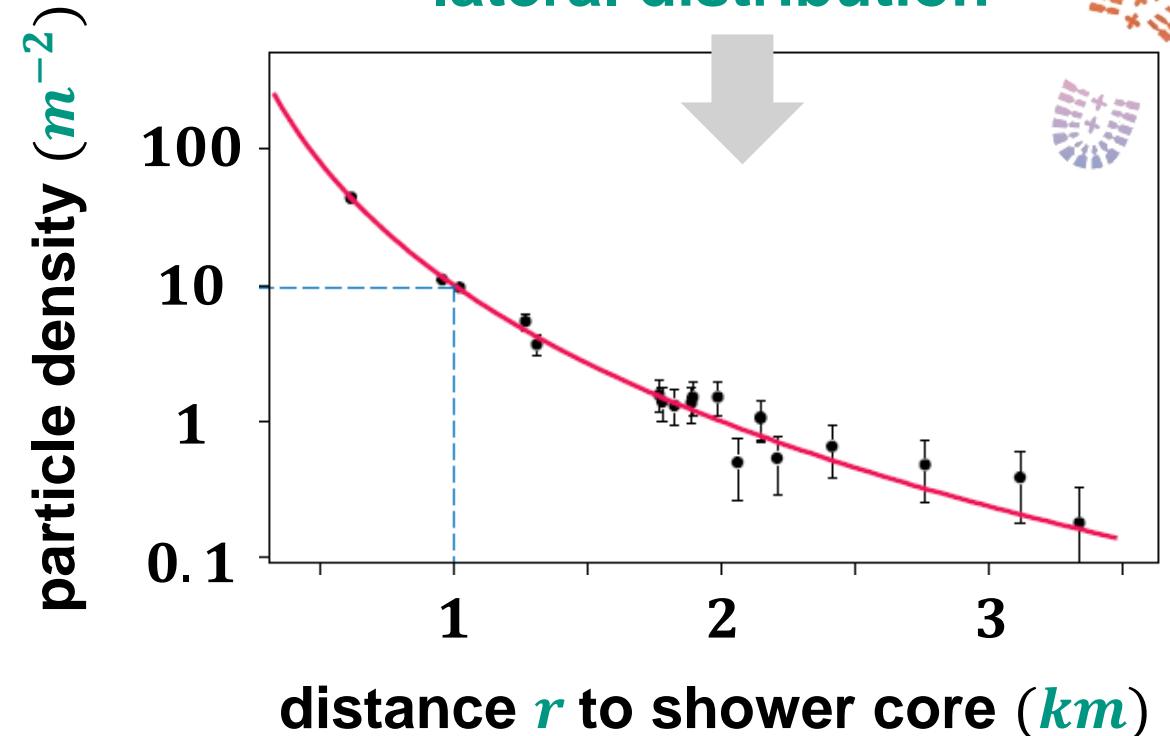


Combining lateral $\rho(r)$ with longitudinal profile

- Reconstructing two key shower parameters: primary energy E_0 & mass A



longitudinal distribution

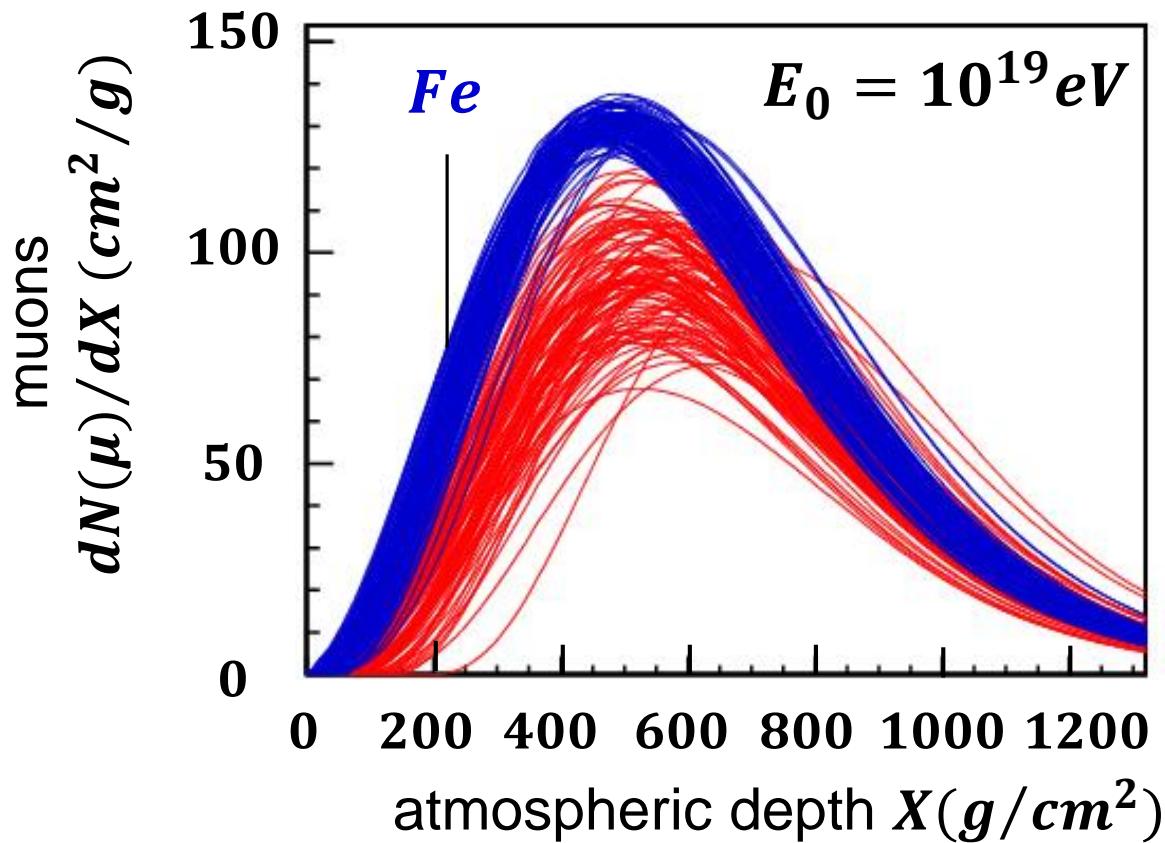


lateral distribution

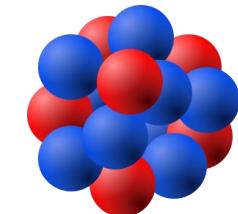
Air showers: determining the primary mass A

■ Method 1: longitudinal distributions – example nucleus Fe vs. proton p

- longitudinal profiles allow to discriminate **heavy nuclei** from light ones & protons



heavy nuclei ($^{56}_{26}Fe$):

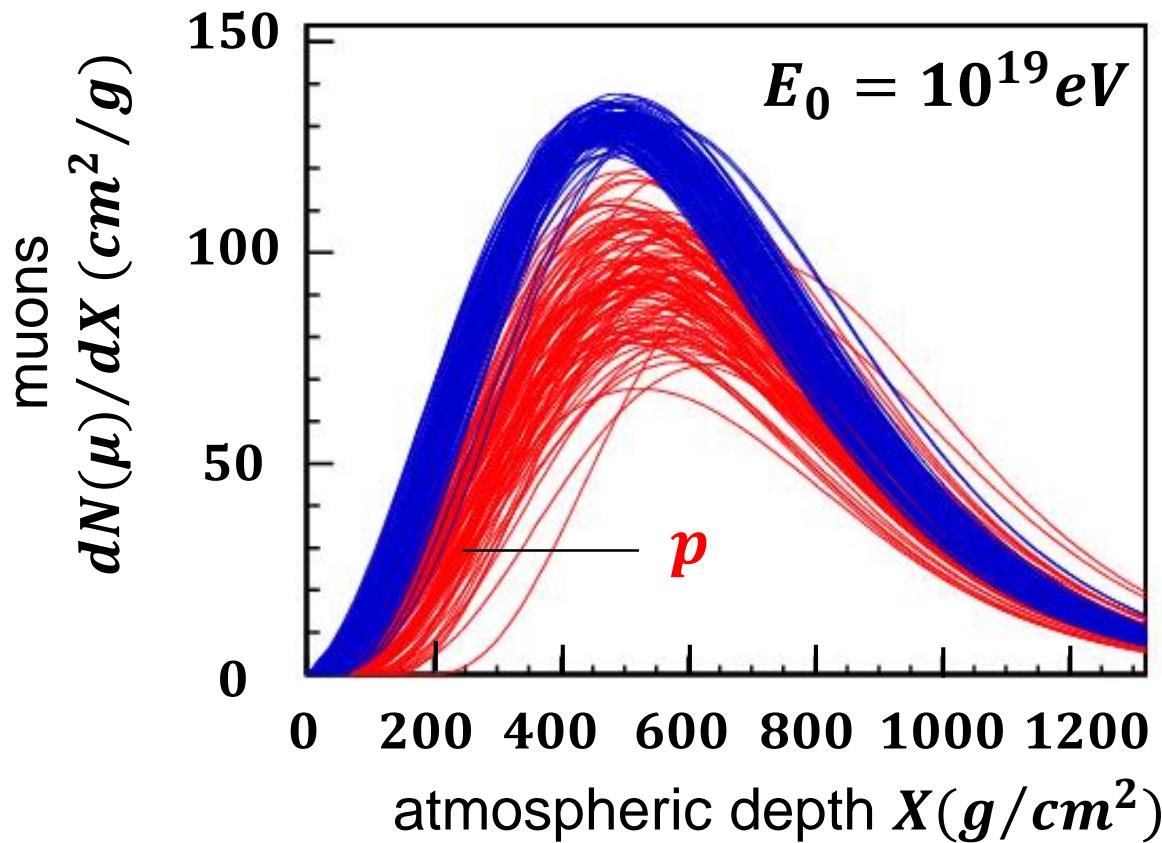


- **extended size of Coulomb fields**
($Z = 26$)
 - ⇒ nuclei already interact in **topmost** atmospheric layers
 - ⇒ **smaller X_{max}**

Air showers: determining the primary mass A

■ Method 1: longitudinal distributions – example nucleus Fe vs. proton p

- longitudinal profiles allow to discriminate **heavy nuclei** from **light ones** & **protons**



lightest nuclei (incl. p):



- **smaller size** of Coulomb fields
($Z = 1, \dots$)
 - ⇒ light nuclei penetrate to **deeper** atmospheric layers
 - ⇒ **larger X_{max}** & **large fluctuations**

Air showers: determining the primary mass A

■ Method 2: lateral distributions – heavy nuclei Fe vs. light ones (proton p)

- surface measurements allow to determine the ratio N_e/N_μ :

electron number N_e –
muon number N_μ

electrons (e):

- #: in general much **more e than μ**
 - e have a **short range** in atmosphere
- ⇒ reach surface only from **larger X**

muons (μ):

- #: in general much **less μ than e**
 - μ have a **large range** in atmosphere
- ⇒ reach surface also from **smaller X**

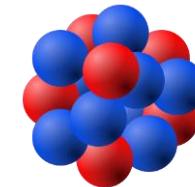
Air showers: determining the primary mass A

■ Method 2: lateral distributions – heavy nuclei Fe vs. light ones (proton p)

- surface measurements allow to determine the ratio N_e/N_μ :



X_{max} : $N_e - N_\mu$ ratio



lightest nuclei (p):

- small nuclear charge ($Z = 1, \dots$)

⇒ **larger X_{max} & large fluctuations**

⇒ **large ratio of N_e/N_μ**

heavy nuclei ($^{56}_{26}Fe$):

- large nuclear charge ($Z = 26$)

⇒ **smaller X_{max}**

⇒ **small ratio of N_e/N_μ**

CR - detector technologies

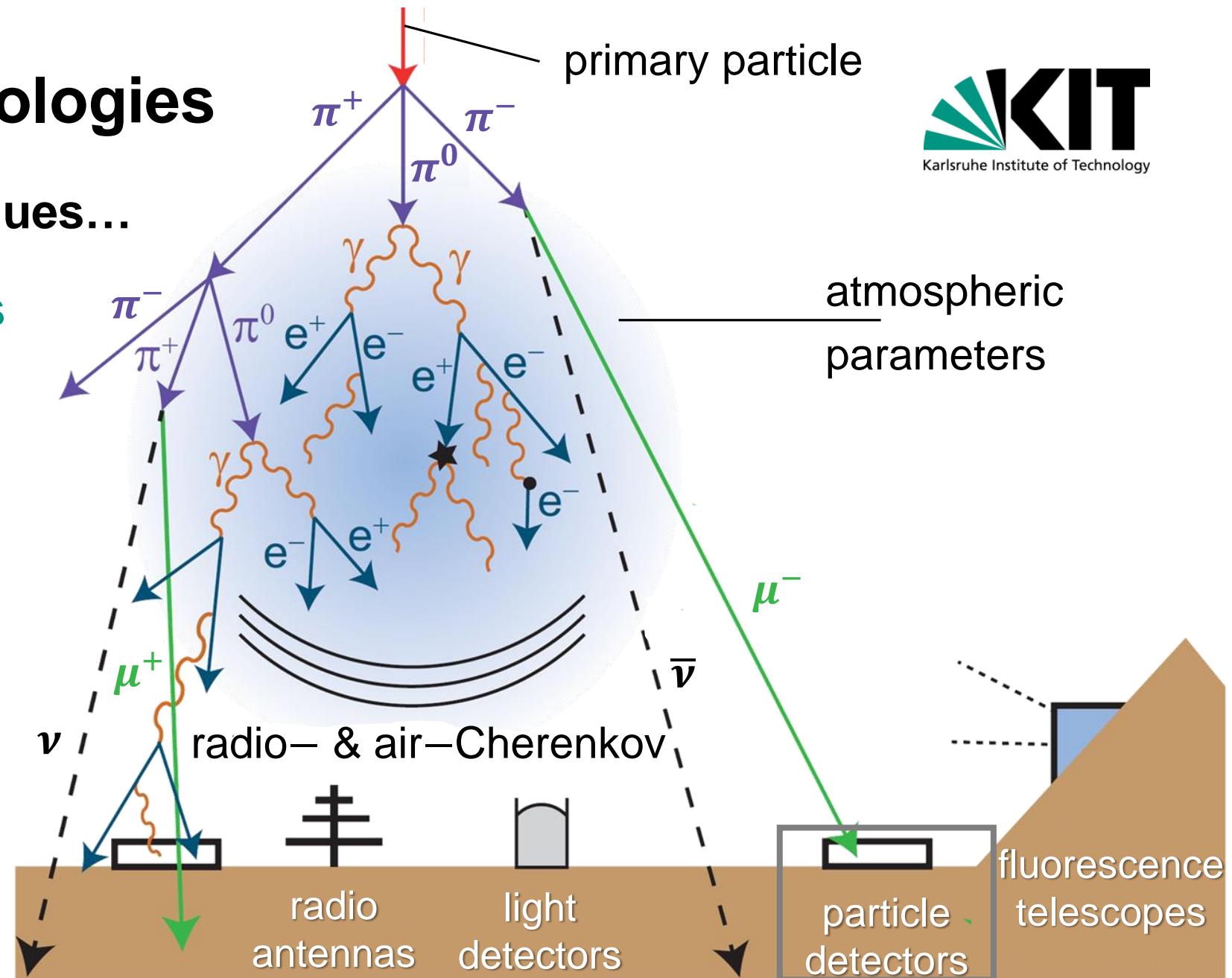
■ A wide range of techniques...

longitudinal distributions

- telescopes for
 - fluorescence light
 - Cherenkov light
- radio antennas

lateral distributions

- scintillators
- **MWPC***
- water Cherenkov



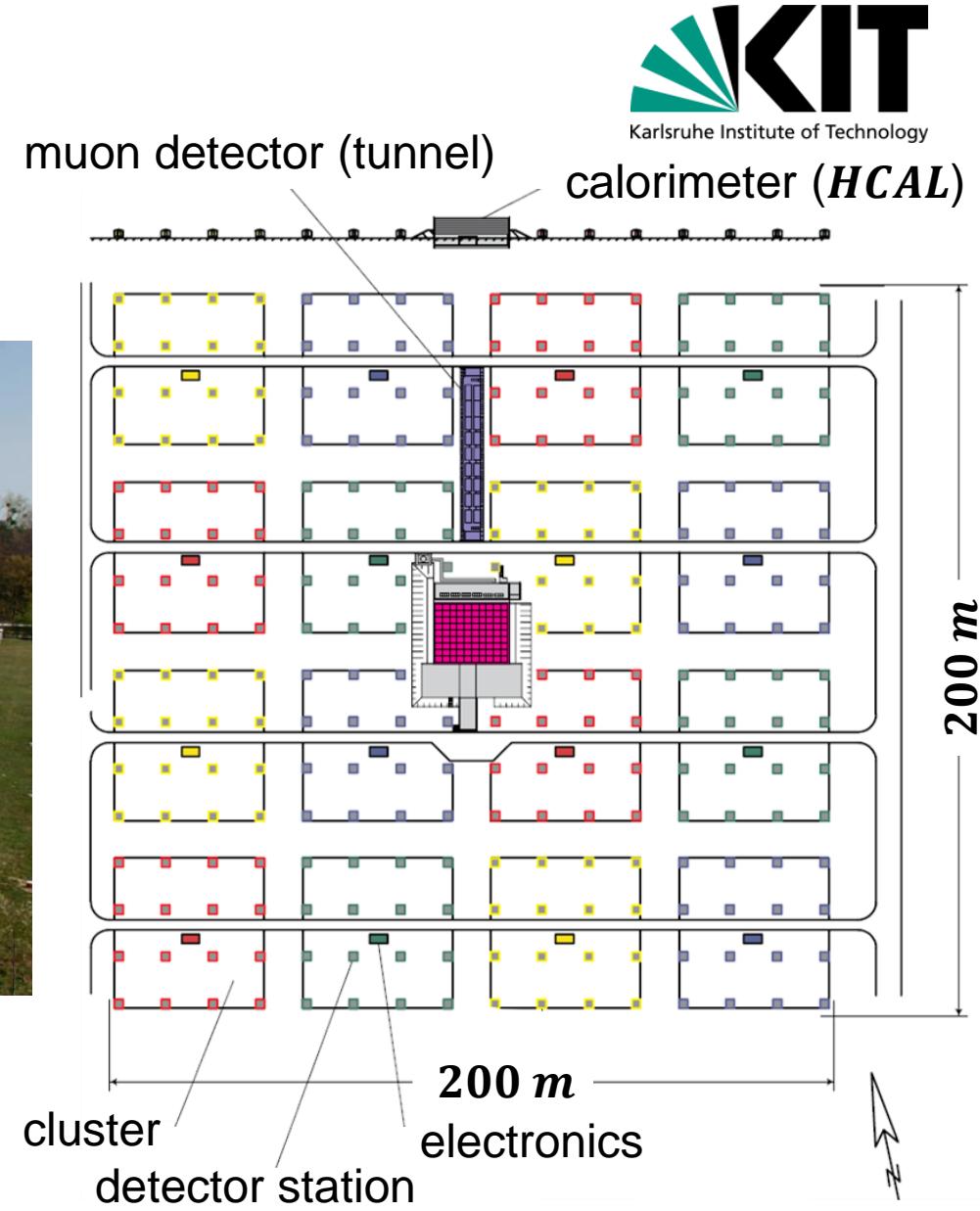
KASCADE experiment at KIT

- **KASCADE** – KArlsruhe **S**hower **C**ore and **A**rray **D**Etector (1996 ... 2009)



total area: $A \sim 200 \times 200 \text{ m}^2$

coverage: $\varepsilon \sim 2 \%$ of total area



KASCADE experiment at KIT

■ **KASCADE** – three main components

Array:

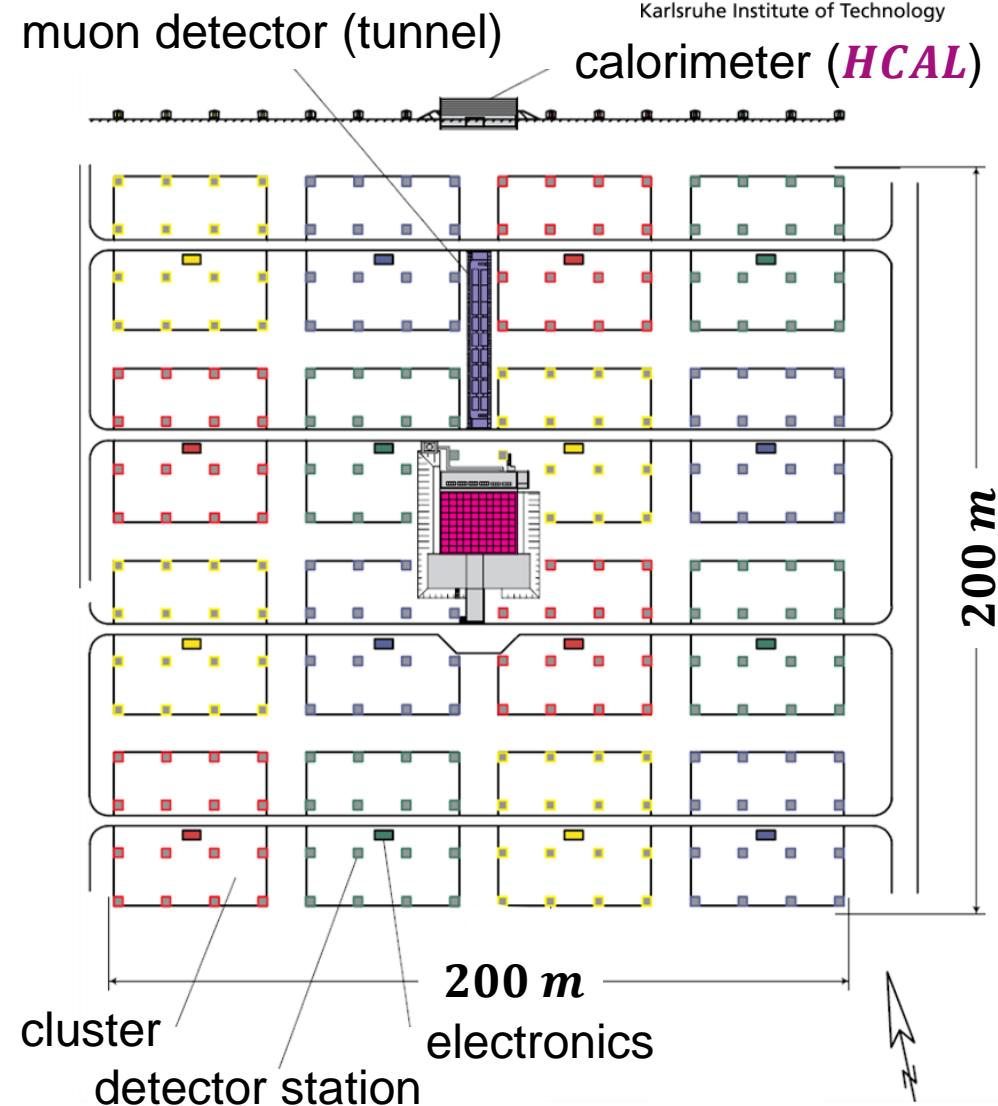
16 × 16 detector stations
detectors for muons / electrons
trigger electronics for entire shower

central calorimeter (**HCAL**):

TMS* ionisation chambers
⇒ detection of hadronic shower core

muon tunnel:

sampling of muon distribution

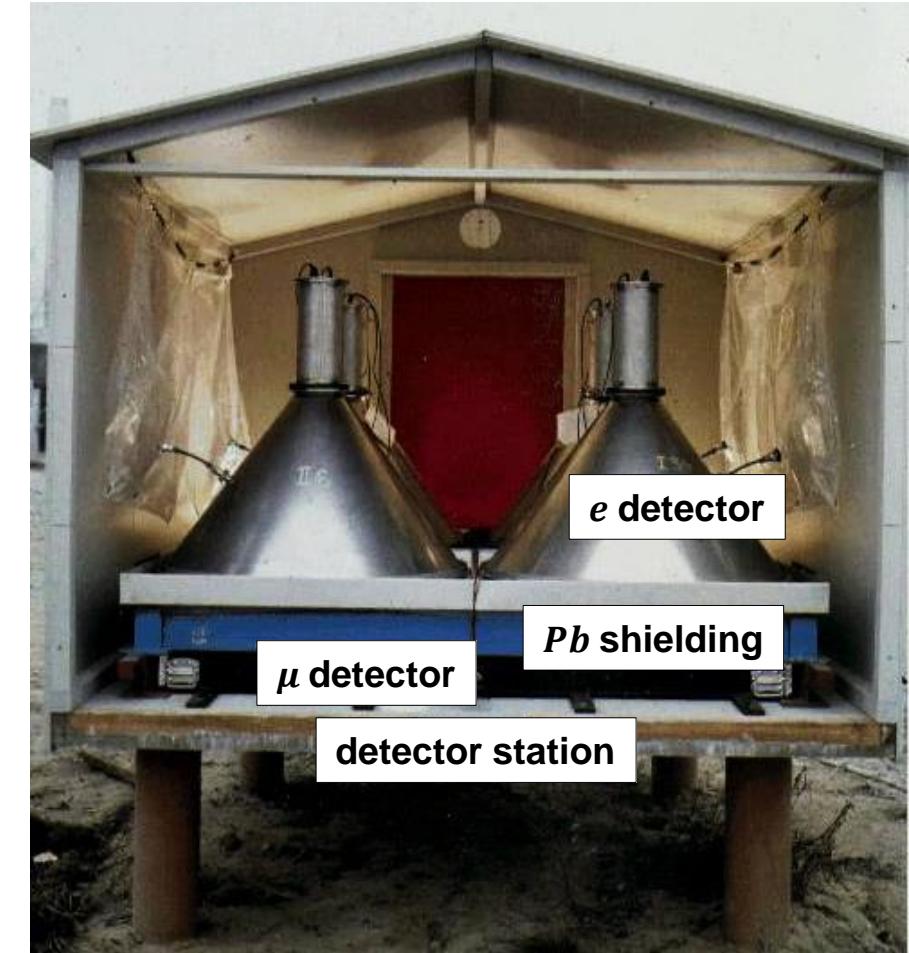
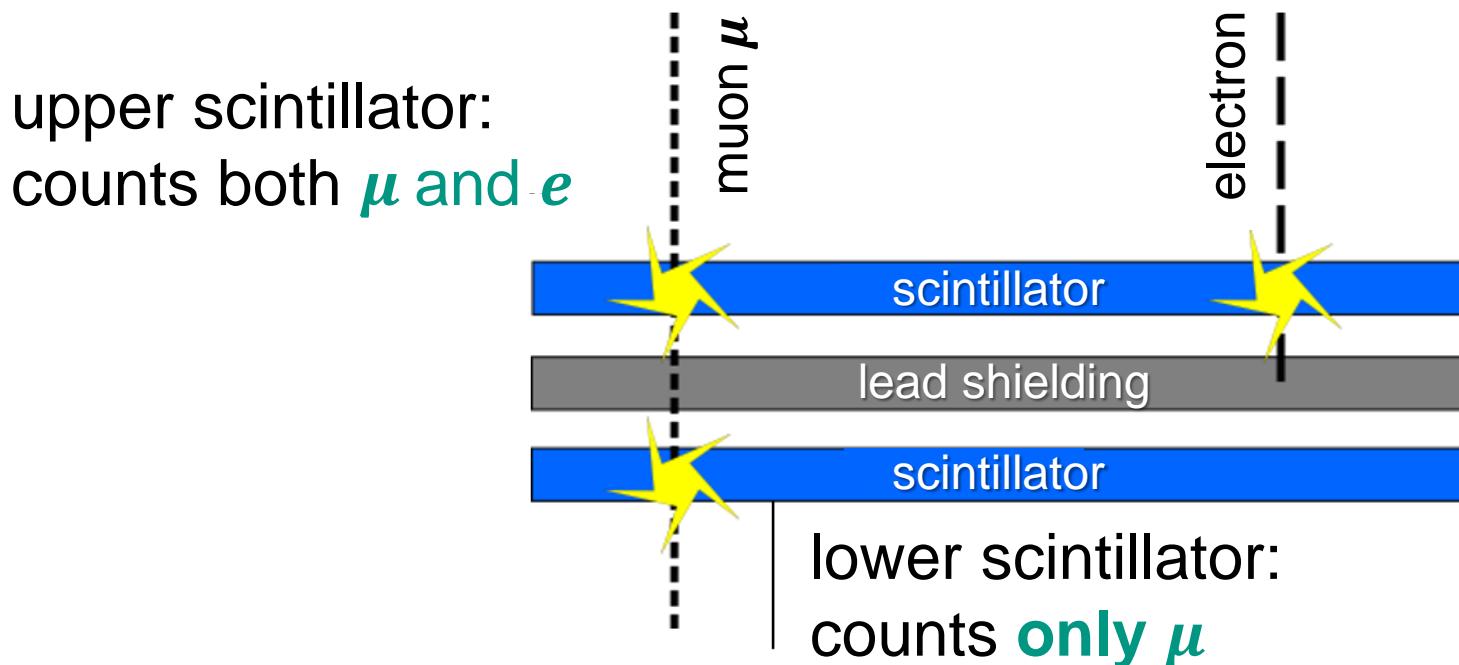


KASCADE experiment

■ The detector array to measure electron & muon distributions **separately**

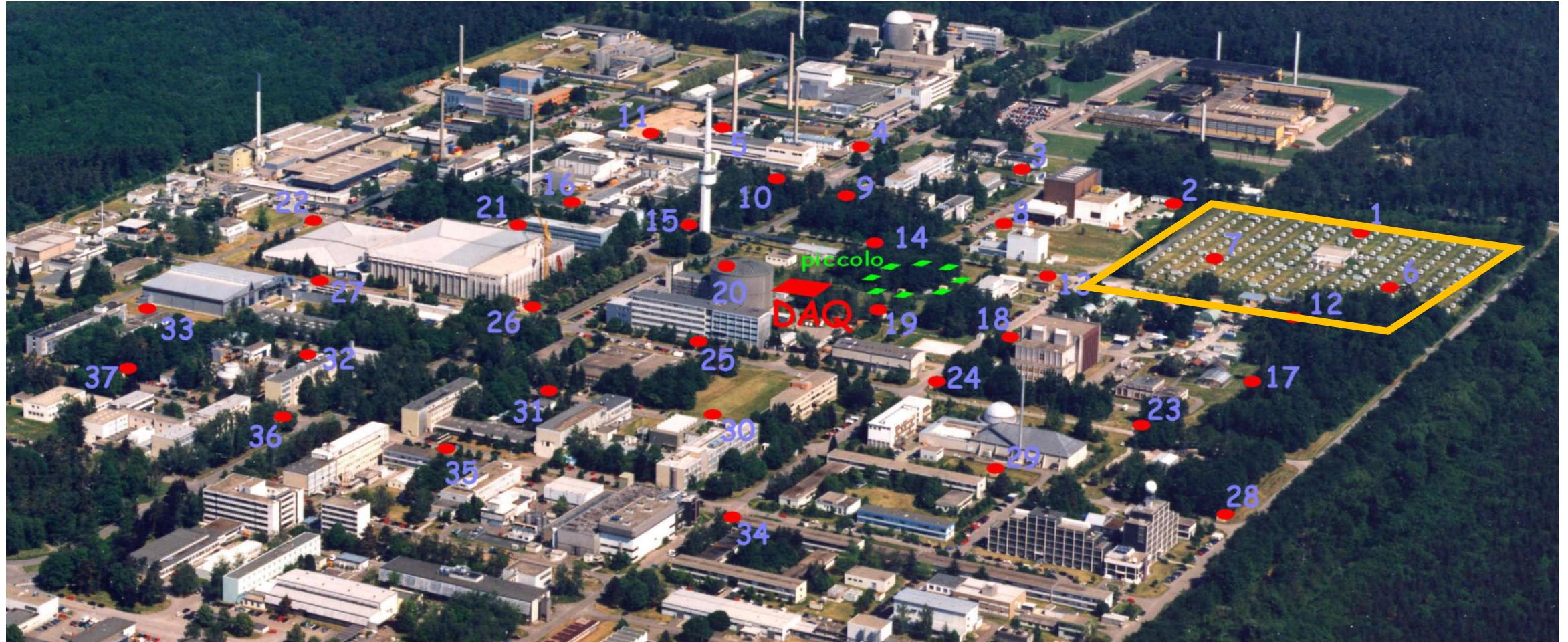
Muon number N_μ and electron number N_e :

- separate measurement via 2 scintillator layers with **massive Pb – shielding** in between



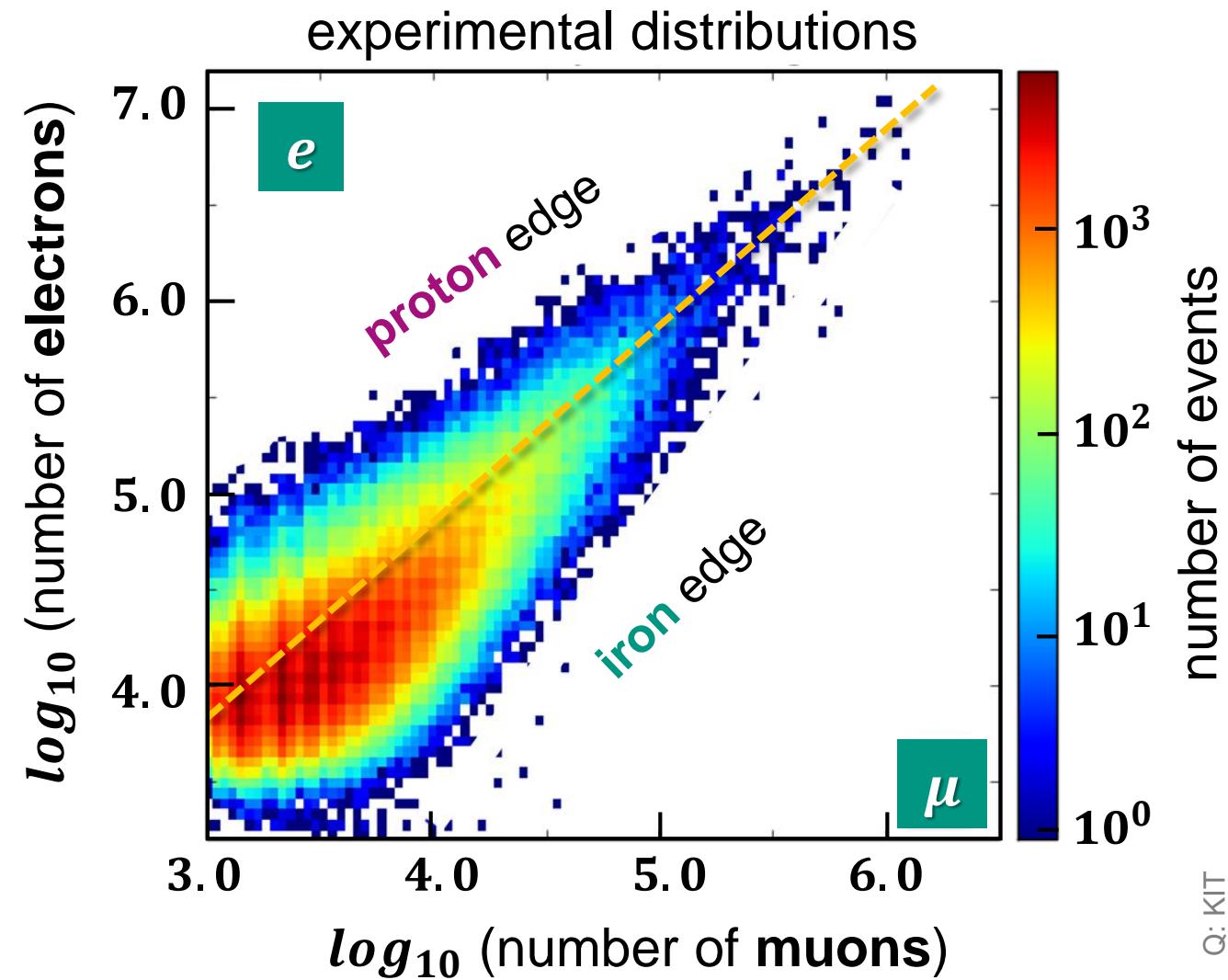
KASCADE - Grande experiment at KIT

- Extending the detector array to measure up to higher *CR* energies



KASCADE – measuring mass A of primary nuclei

- measuring N_e and N_μ : using sum $N_e + N_\mu$ & ratio N_e/N_μ
 - good correlation of N_e and N_μ
 - ↳ sum $N_e + N_\mu$ as indicator for primary energy E_0
 - light nuclei ($p, \alpha, {}^{12}C$): reactions start deep in atmosphere
 - ↳ ratio N_e/N_μ large: small A
 - heavy nuclei (${}^{56}Fe$): reactions start at top of atmosphere
 - ↳ ratio N_e/N_μ small: large A



KASCADE – experimental observations

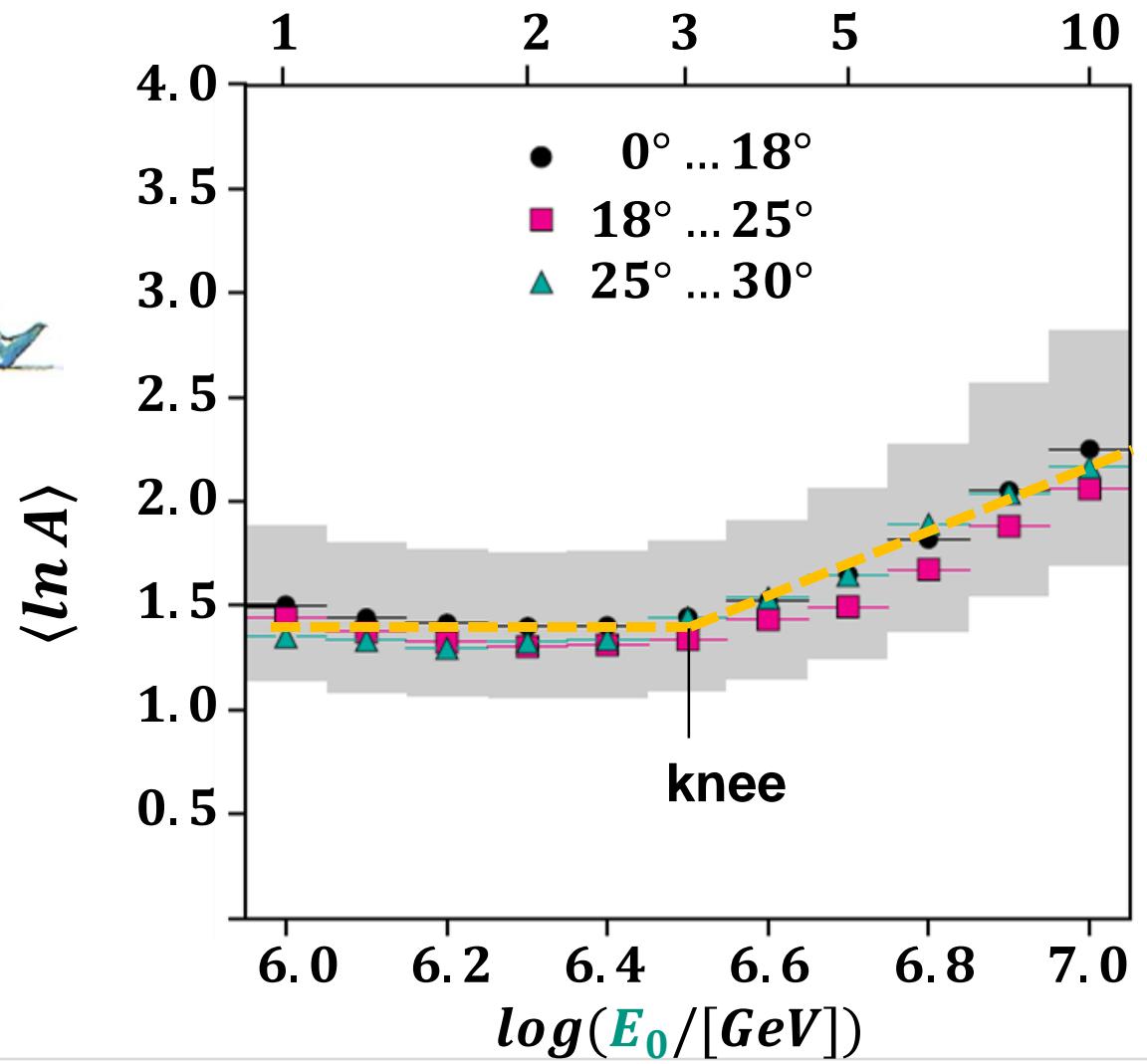
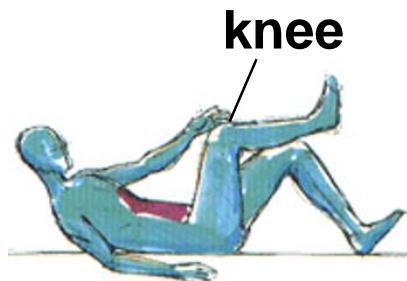
■ Chemical composition of CR changes as function of energy E_0

- **knee**: a spectral feature at energies $E_0 \sim 3 - 4 \cdot 10^{15} eV$

- above the **knee**:

charged CR get 'heavier'

mean mass number $\langle A \rangle$ of primary increases with increasing energy E_0



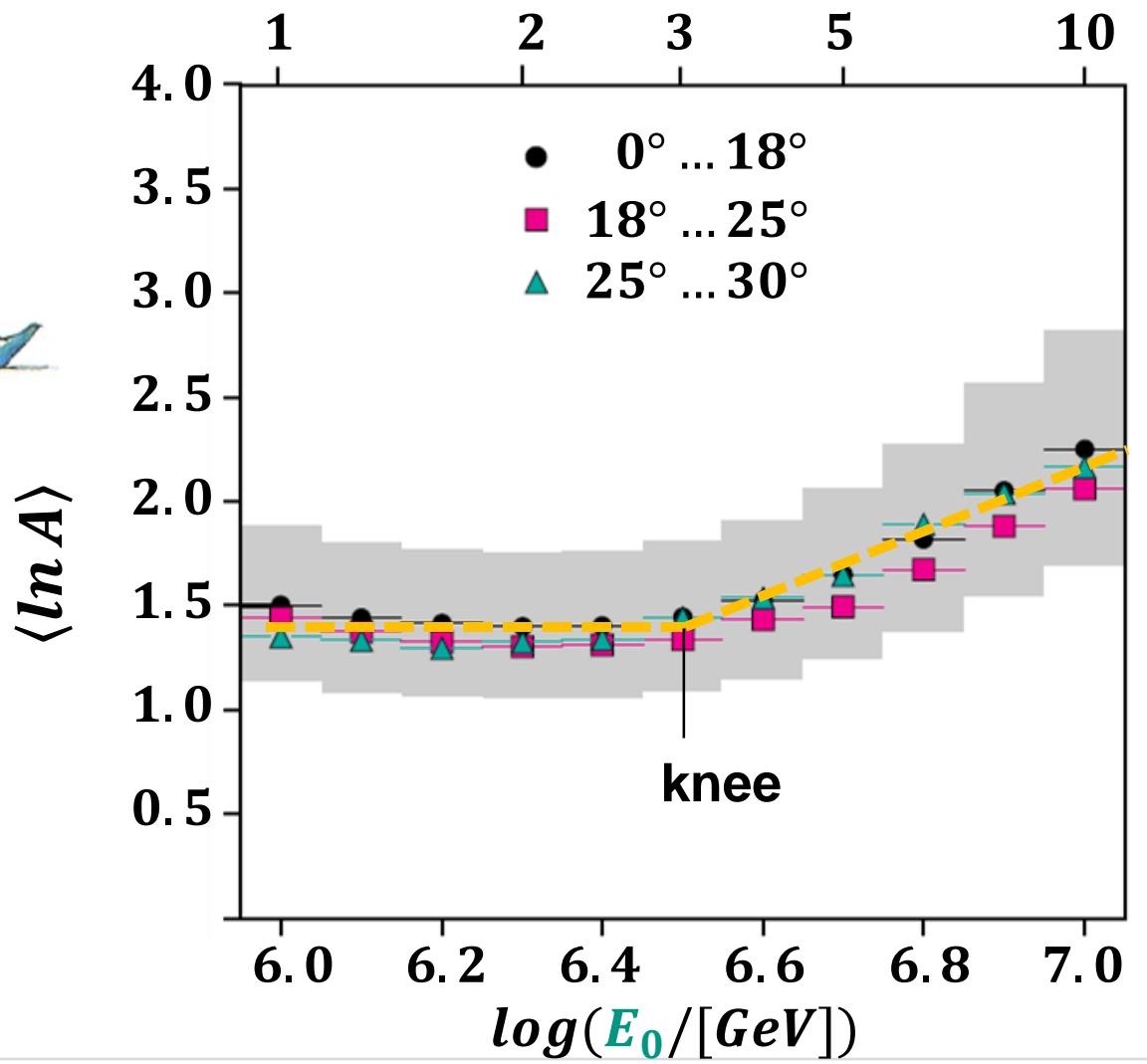
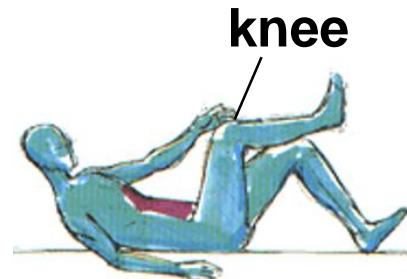
KASCADE – experimental observations

■ Chemical composition of CR changes as function of energy E_0

- 2 resulting questions as to
the **root cause** of the knee:

a) **cosmic accelerators**:
do they reach the end of their
'acceleration power' for light nuclei?

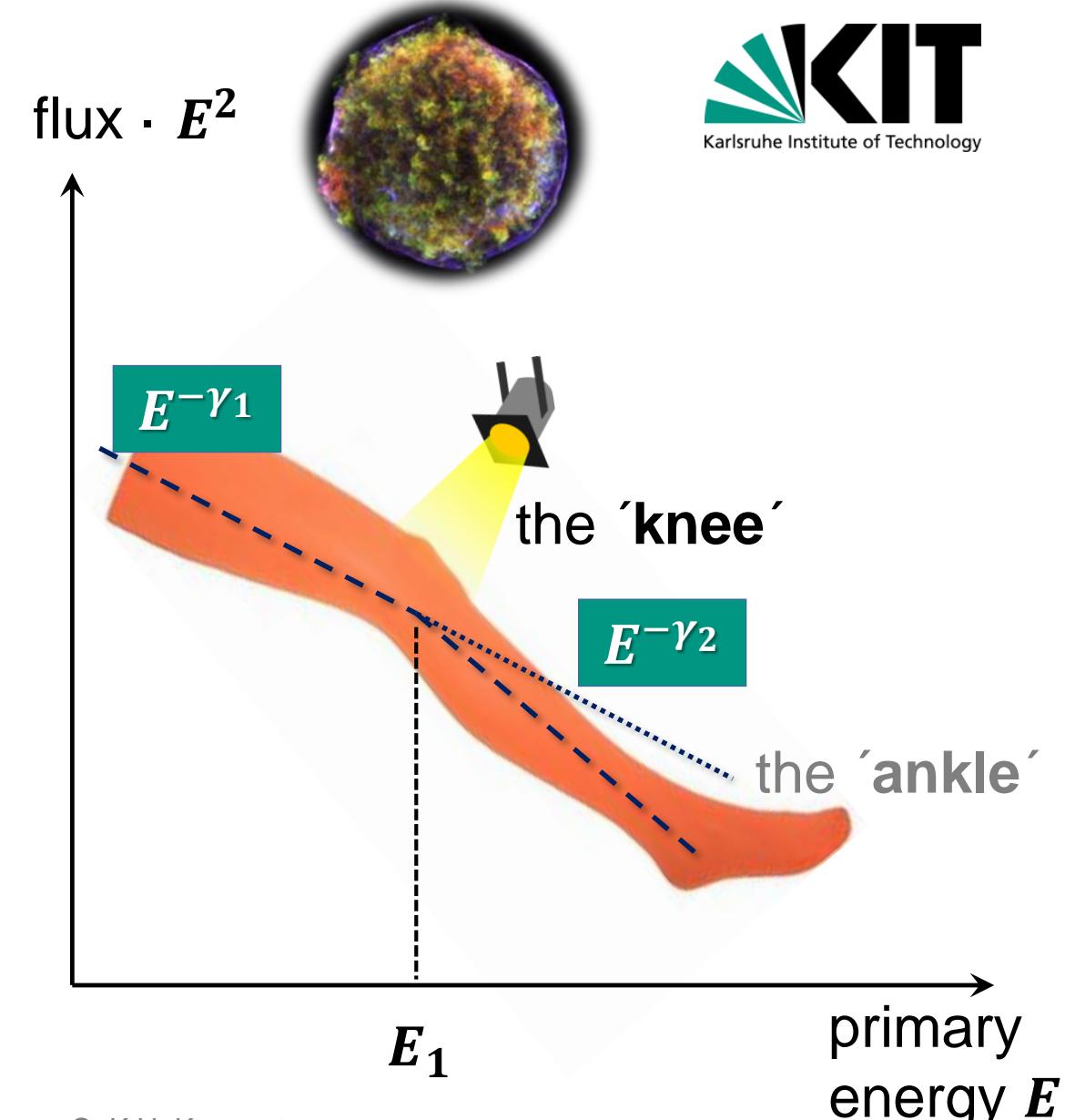
b) **propagation effects**:
does the **CR propagation** in magnetic
fields (of our galaxy) cause a **loss**
of light nuclei from source to Earth?



CR energy spectra – the knee

- Distinct feature: change of spectral index & mass composition of CRs

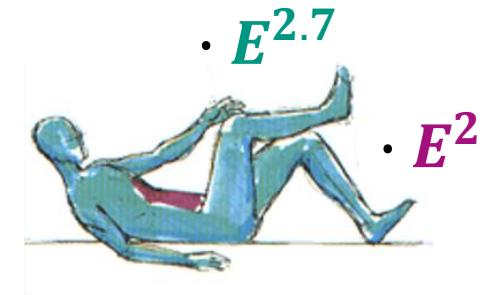
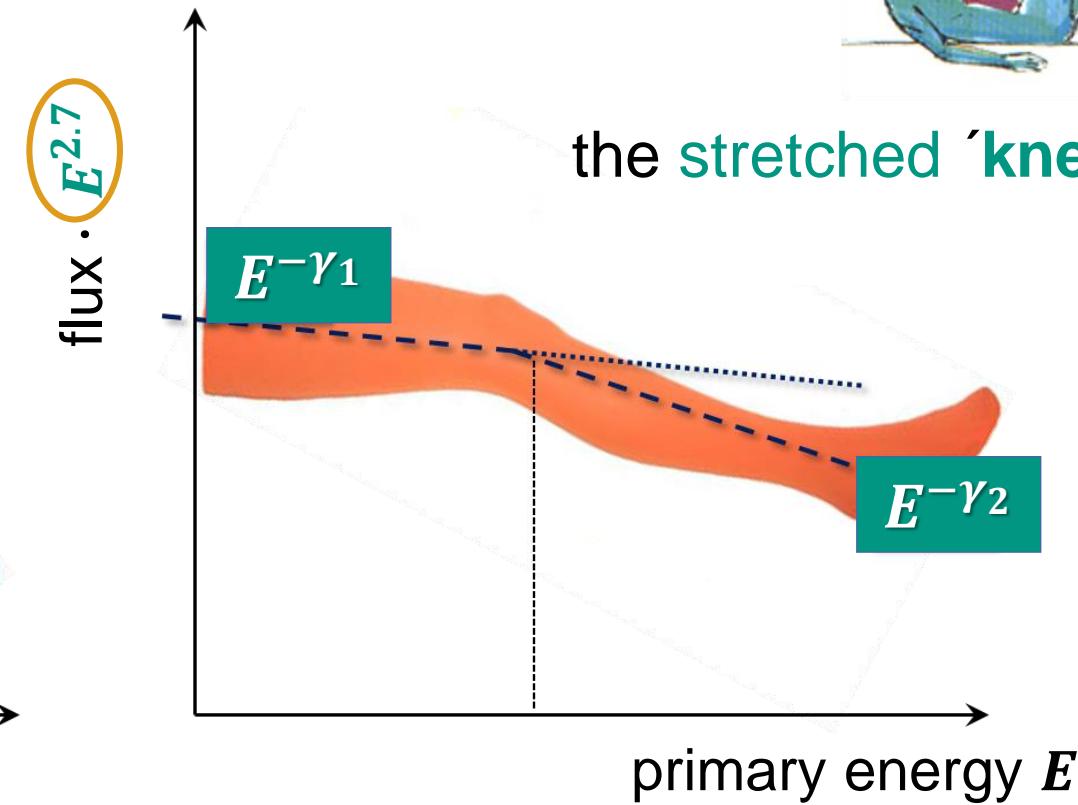
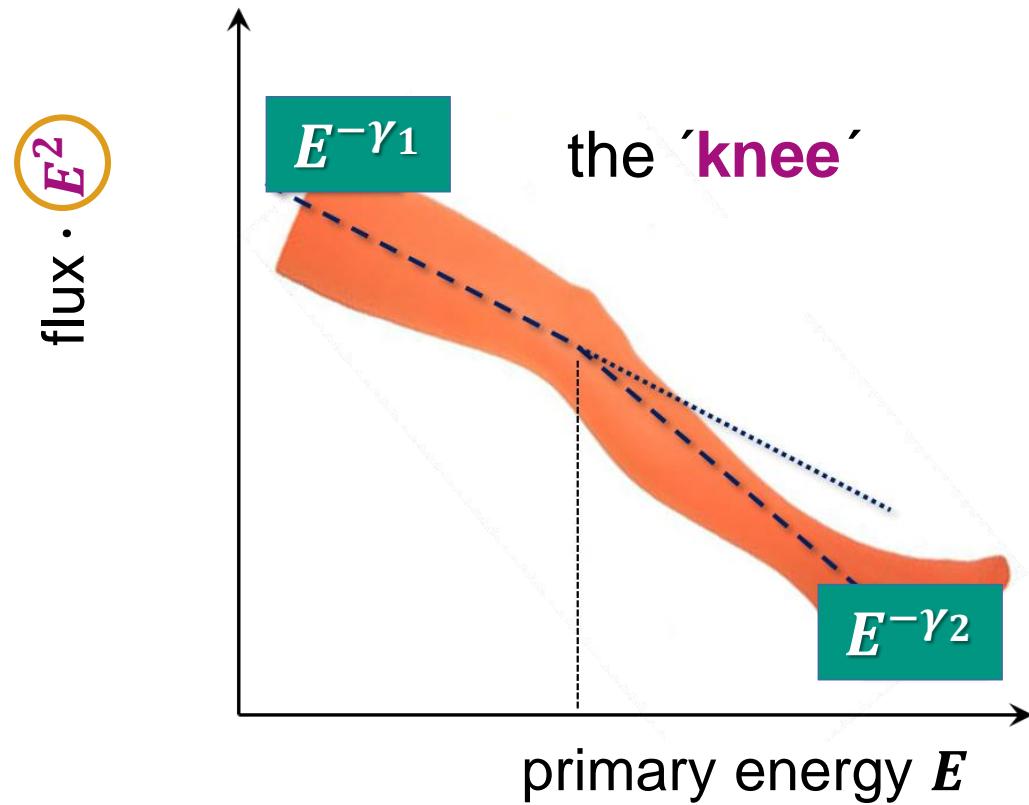
- at characteristic energy E_1 :
 - change of **energy spectral index γ**
 - change of mass composition:
light (p) → heavy nuclei (^{56}Fe)
- galactic CR accelerators = SN shocks
→ **SNR reach their maximum energy E_0**
- the ‘ankle’: change of acceleration sites -
galactic ⇔ extragalactic



Q: K.H. Kampert

CR – energy spectra multiplied by energy factors

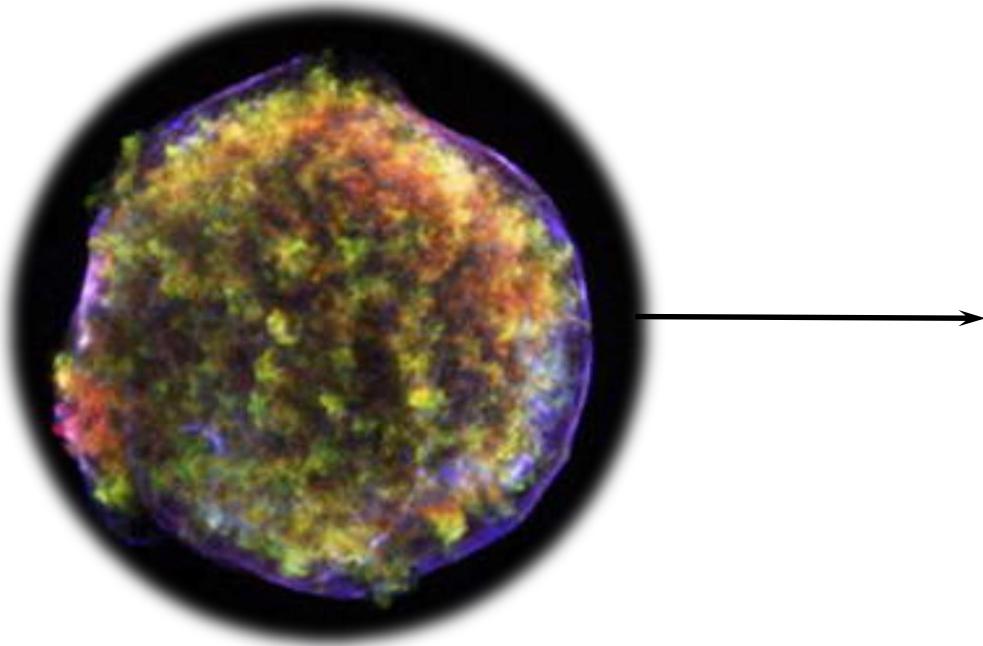
- CR community routinely multiplies spectra with an energy factor ($E^2 \dots E^3$)



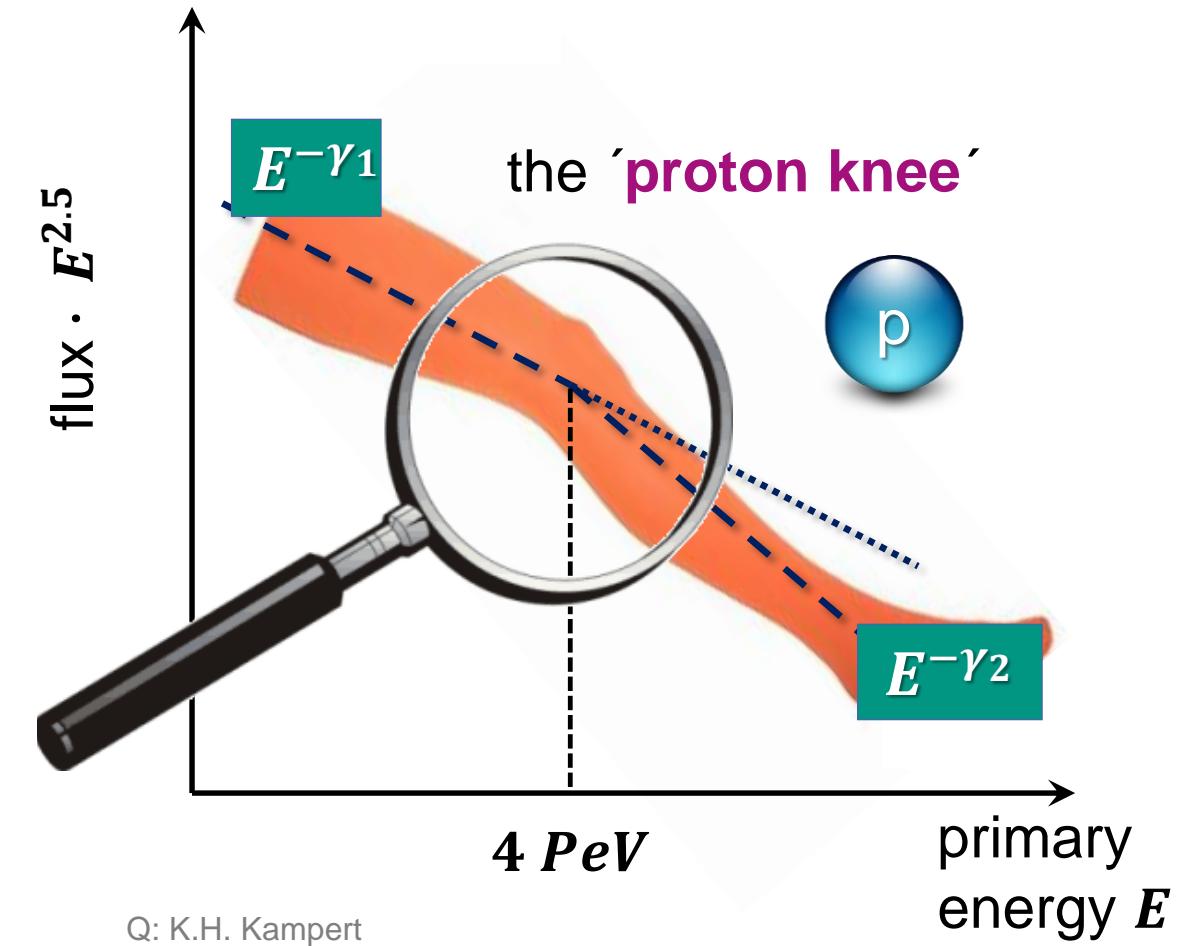
CR energy spectra – the p , Fe knee

■ observation of several 'knees': from the p – knee up to the Fe – knee

- important: different nuclear charges



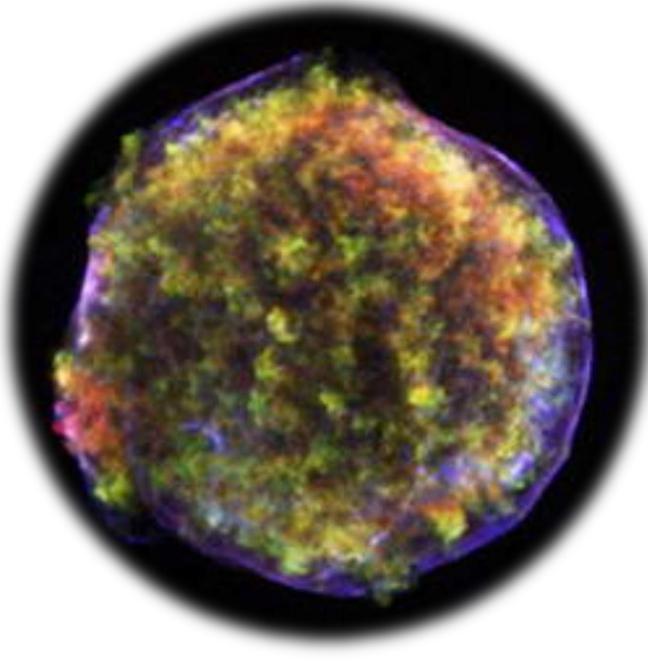
proton acceleration in SN – shock front



CR energy spectra – the p, Fe knee

■ observation of several 'knees': from the p – knee up to the Fe – knee

- important: **different nuclear charges z**



acceleration in SN – shock front

