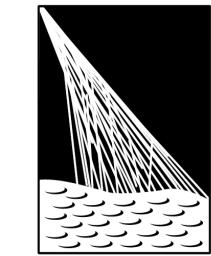




Karlsruher Institut für Technologie



PIERRE  
AUGER  
OBSERVATORY

PoS (ICRC21) 262

# Expected performance of the AugerPrime Radio Detector

Felix Schlüter on behalf of the Pierre Auger Collaboration



ICRC 2021

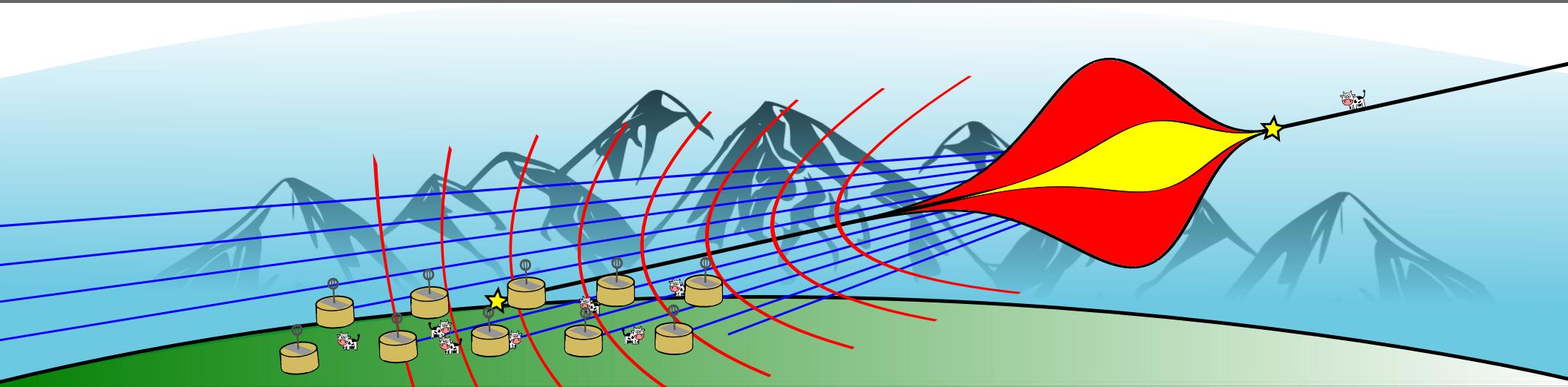
THE ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS CONFERENCE  
Berlin | Germany

37<sup>th</sup> International  
Cosmic Ray Conference  
15–22 July 2021



Institute for Astroparticle Physics (IAP)

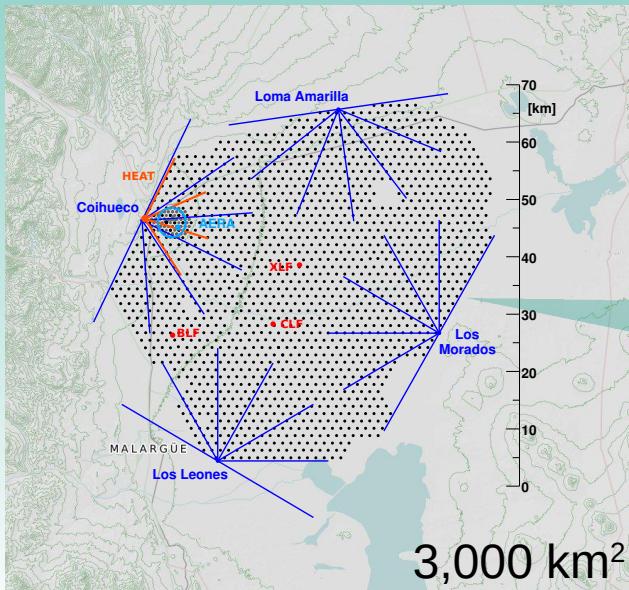
Instituto de Tecnologías en Detección y Astropartículas (ITeDA)



# The AugerPrime Radio Detector

1661 dual-polarized **Short Aperiodic Loaded Loop Antennas (SALLAs)**

- Triggers from water-Cherenkov detector (WCD)

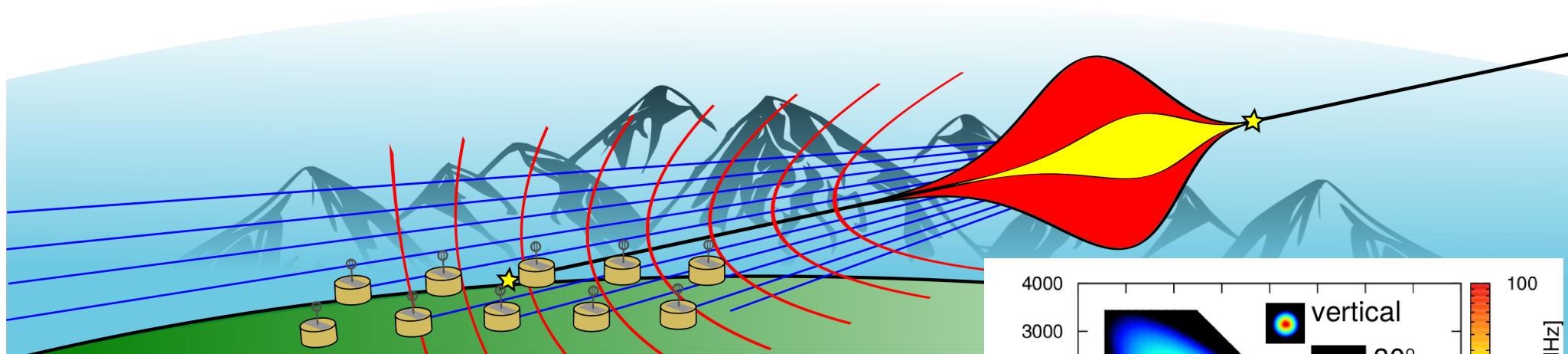


- Prototype stations in field  
→ Recording ambient noise

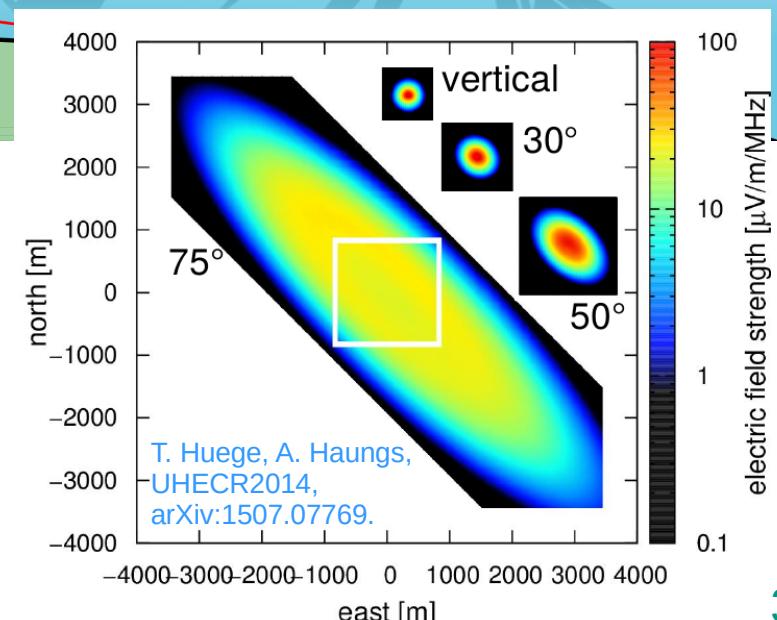


More details: [First results from the AugerPrime Radio Detector: PoS \(ICRC21\) 207](#)

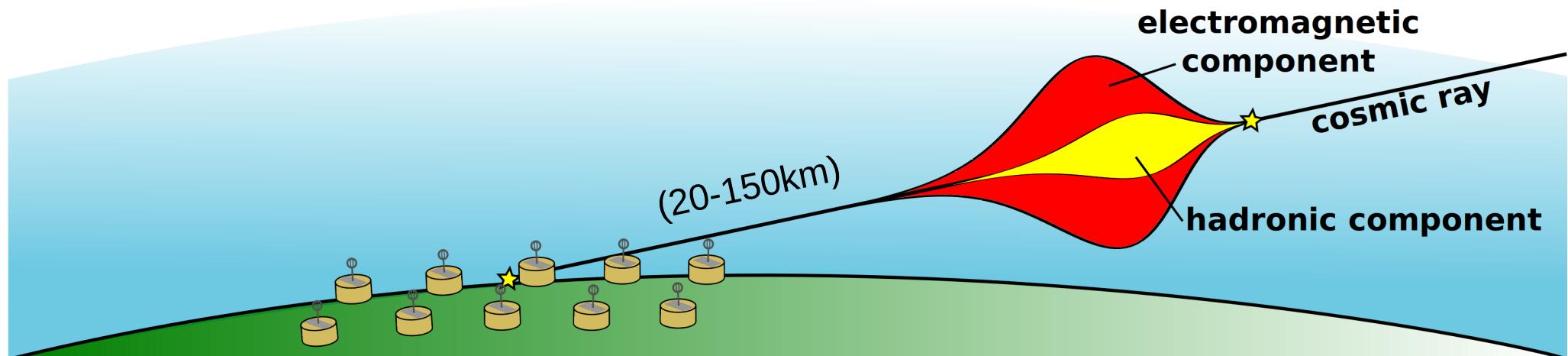
# Goal: Extends sky-coverage of mass-sensitive measurements



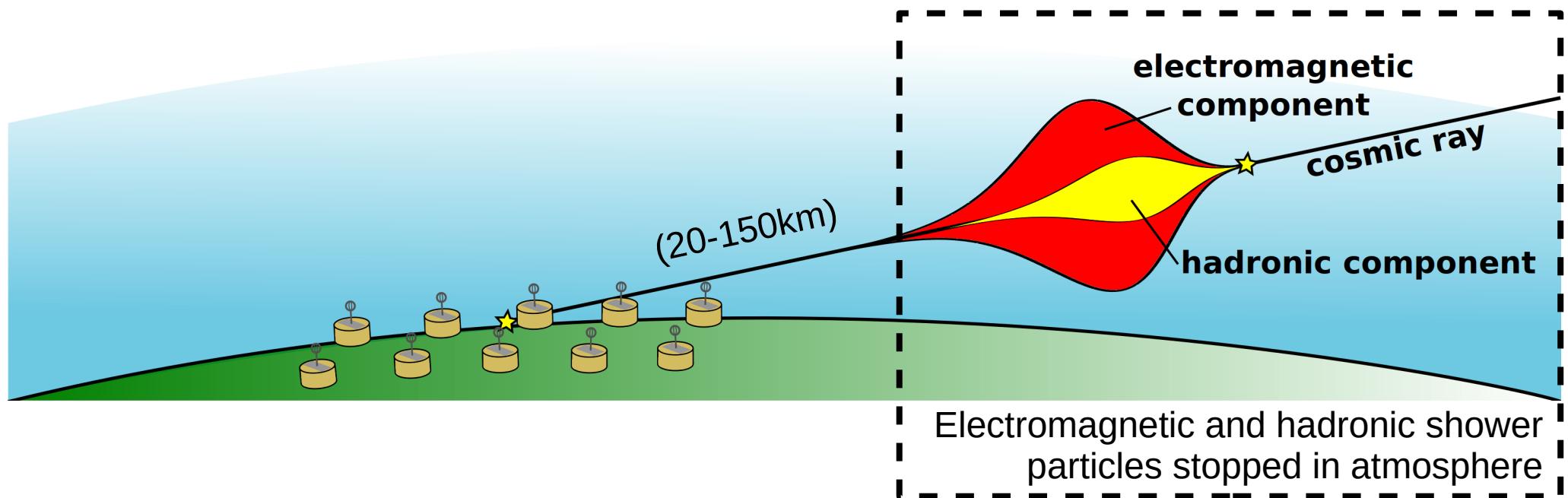
- Radio Detector (RD) combined with Auger particle detector will provide **muon-electron separation** → mass sensitivity
- **Very inclined air showers:**  $65^\circ \lesssim \theta \lesssim 85^\circ$
- Highest energies:  $\lg(E / \text{eV}) \gtrsim 18.8$



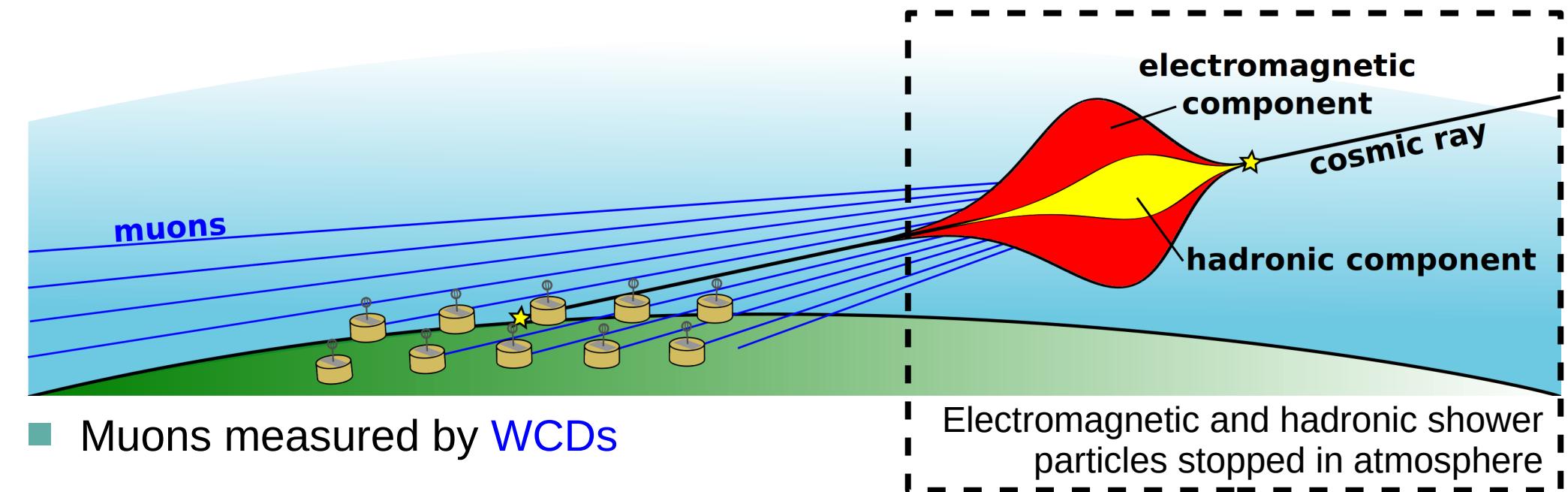
# Inclined air showers with AugerPrime



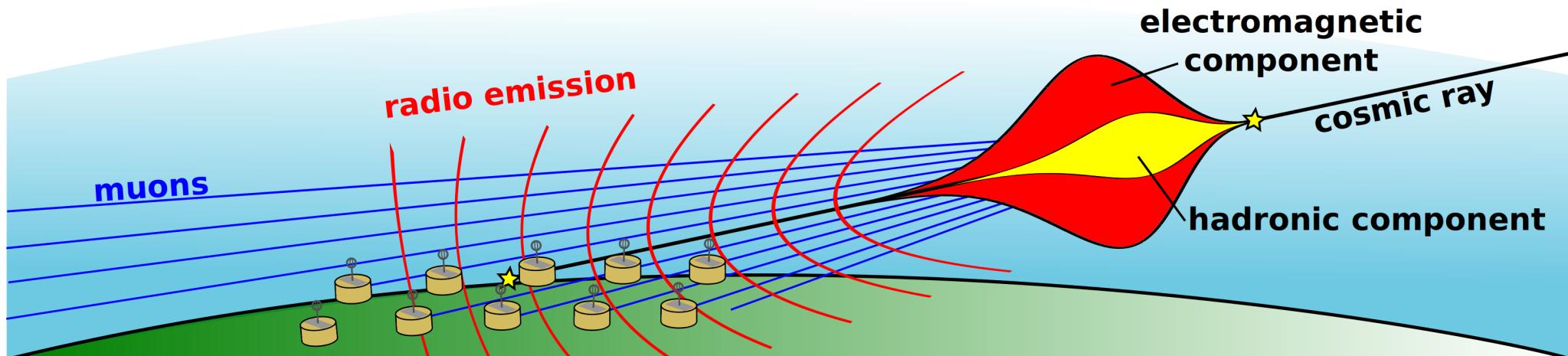
# Inclined air showers with AugerPrime



# Inclined air showers with AugerPrime



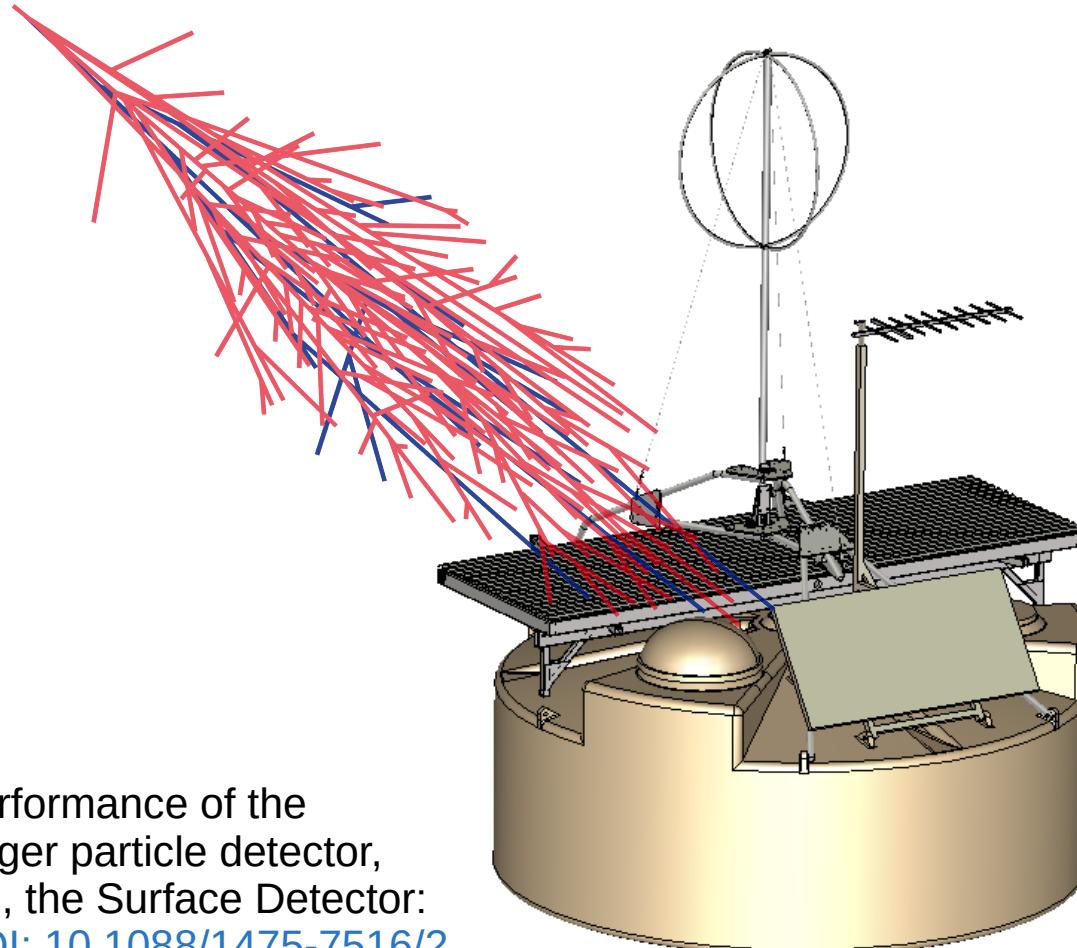
# Inclined air showers with AugerPrime



- Muons measured by WCDs
- Radio emission measured by SALLAs

-----  
| Muon-electron separation due to |  
atmospheric absorption

# Expected performance of the AugerPrime Radio Detector



Performance of the  
Auger particle detector,  
i.e., the Surface Detector:  
[DOI: 10.1088/1475-7516/2014/08/019](https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2014/08/019)

End-to-end simulation study:

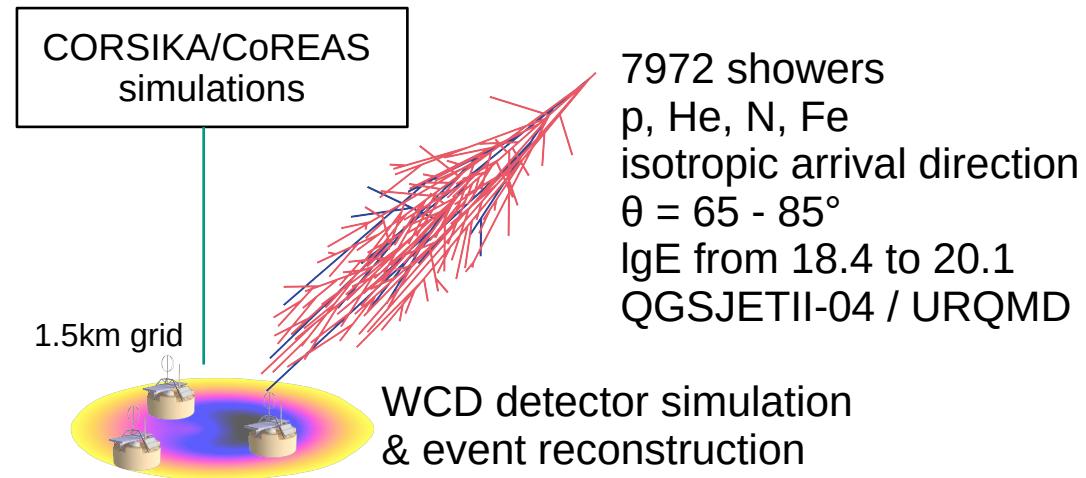
Monte-Carlo air shower  
simulations

↓  
Full detector simulation

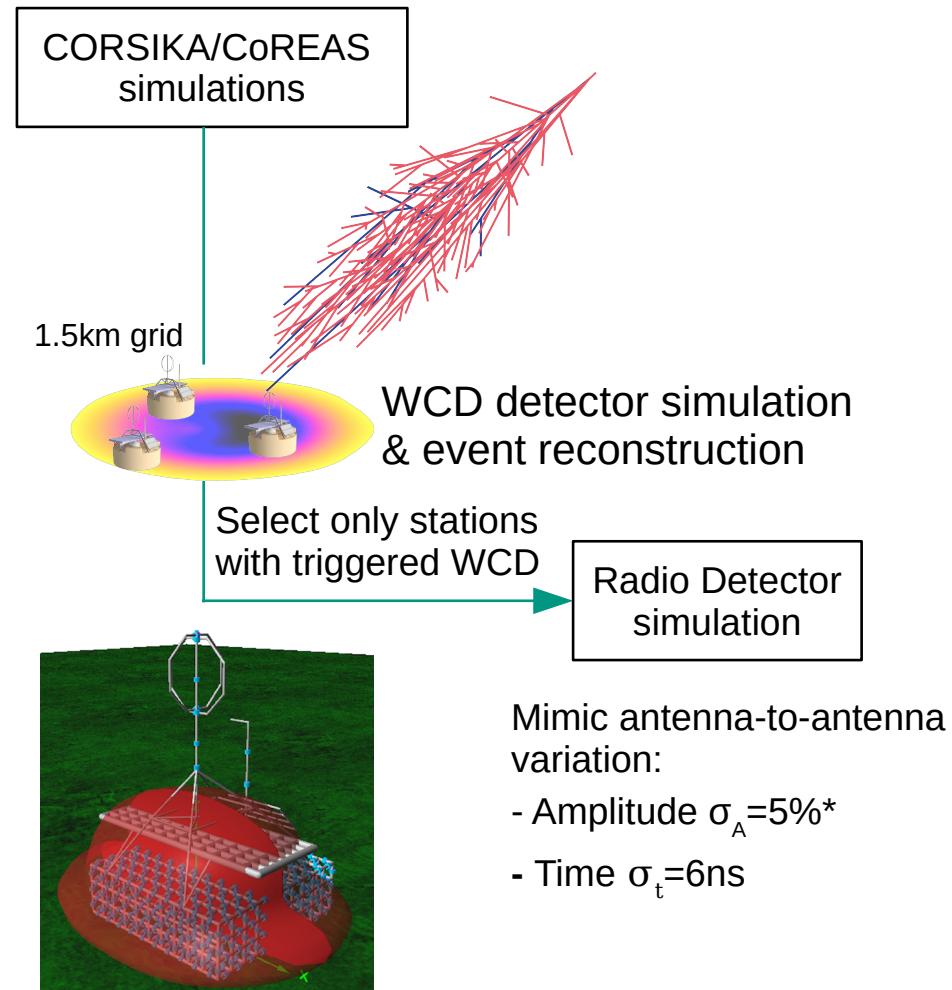
↓  
Full & realistic event  
reconstruction

↓  
Physics performance

# End-to-end simulation study

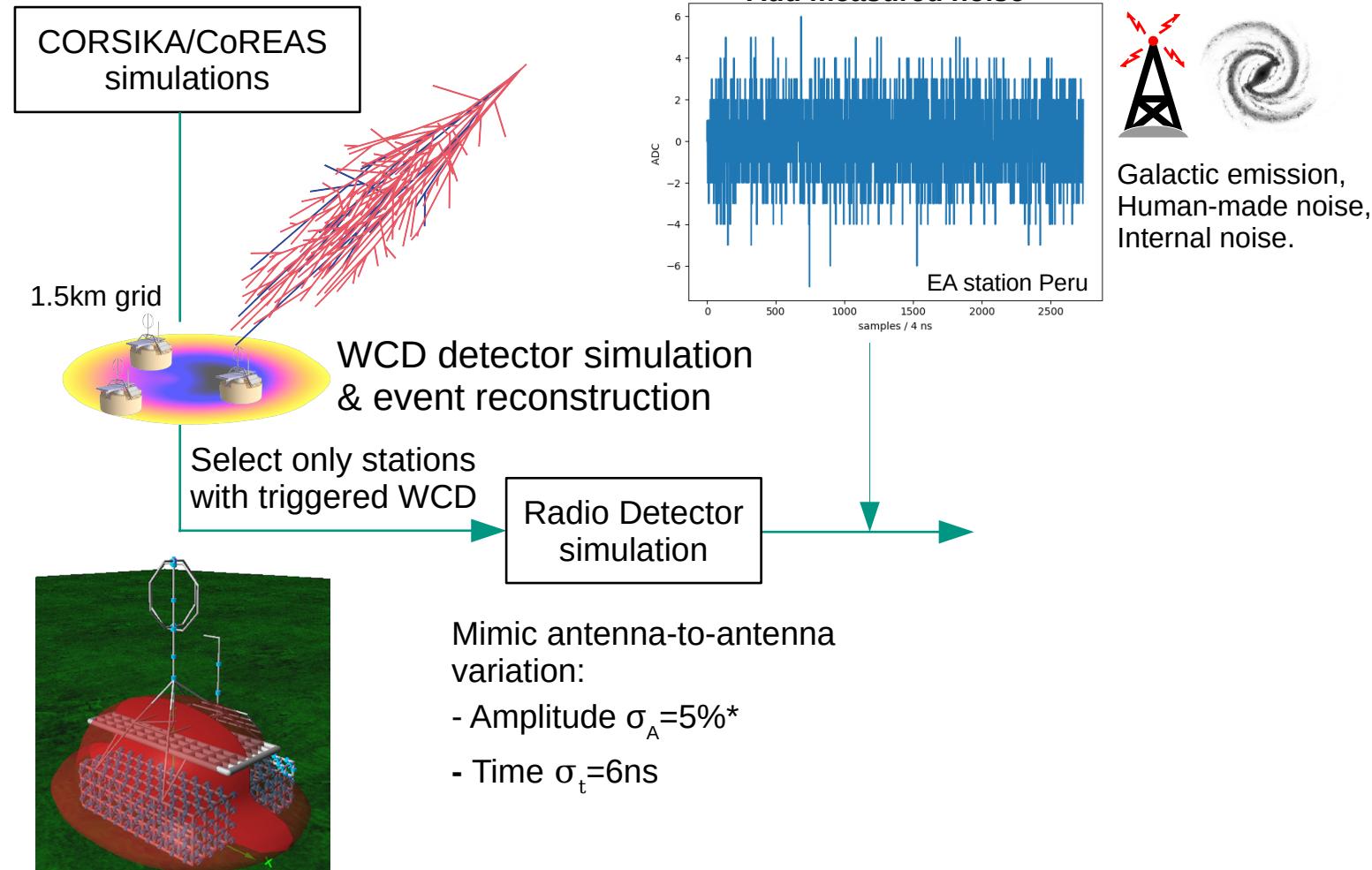


# End-to-end simulation study



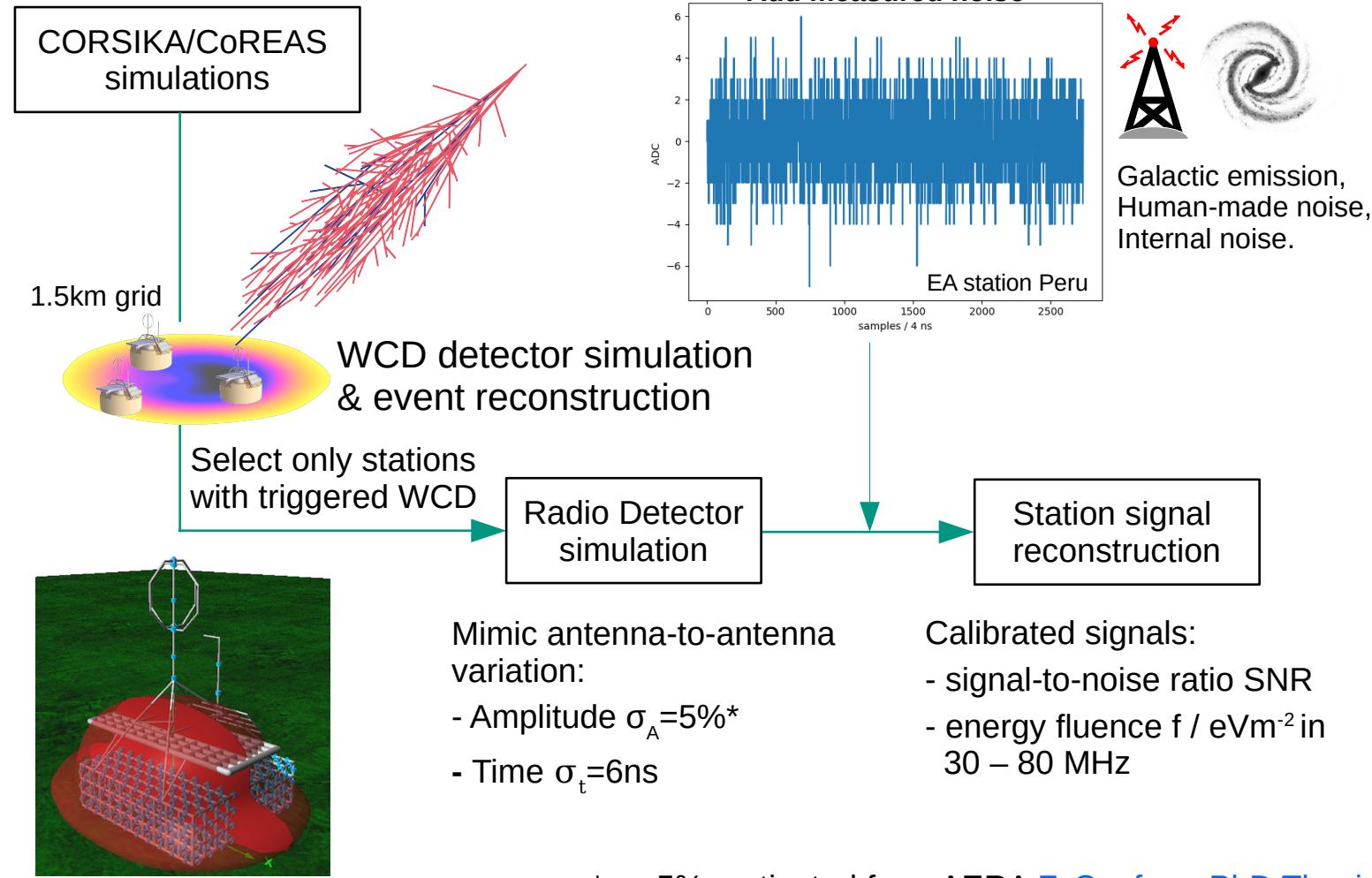
\*Motivated from AERA [F. Canfora, PhD Thesis](#)

# End-to-end simulation study

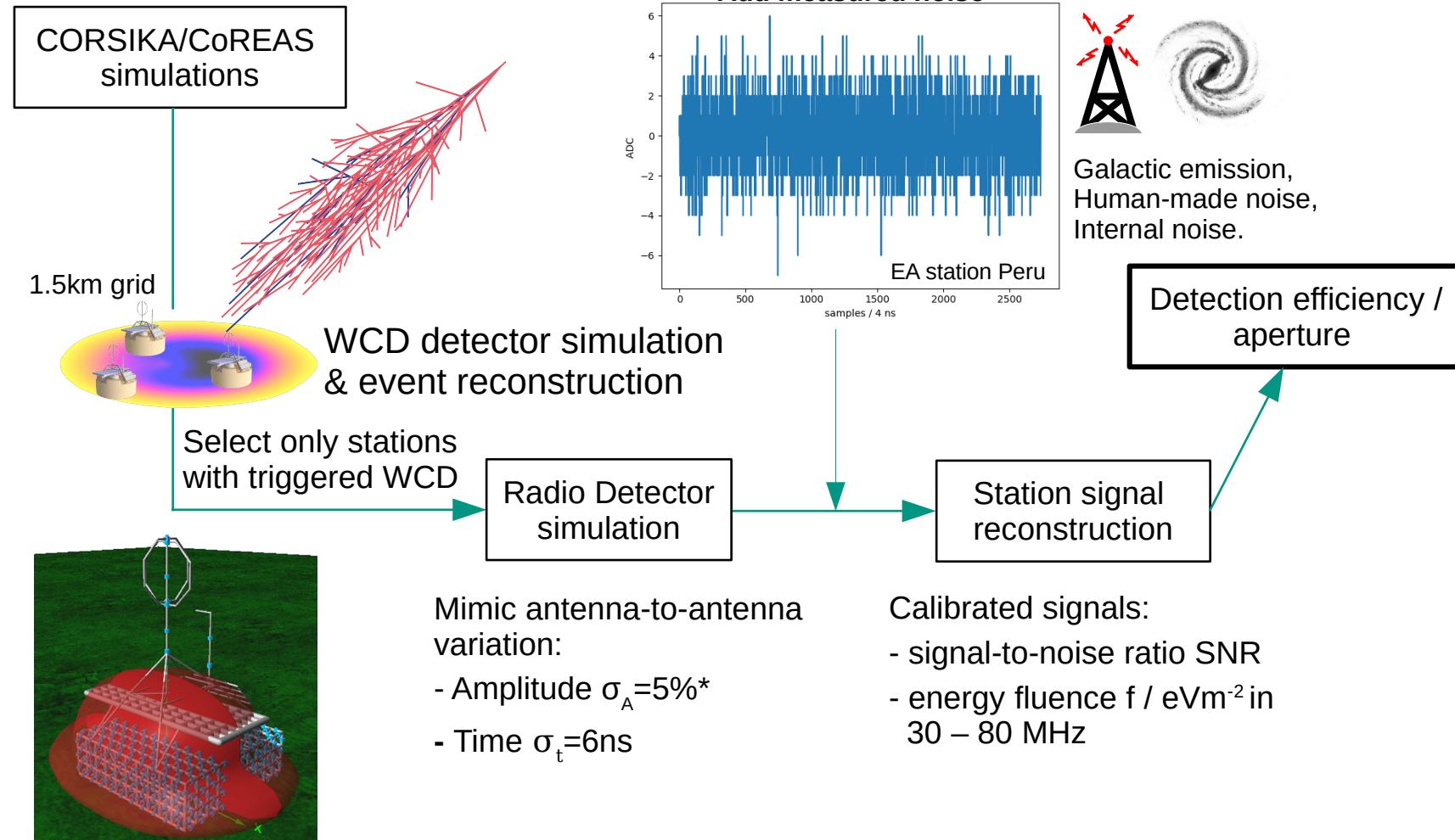


\*Motivated from AERA F. Canfora, PhD Thesis

# End-to-end simulation study



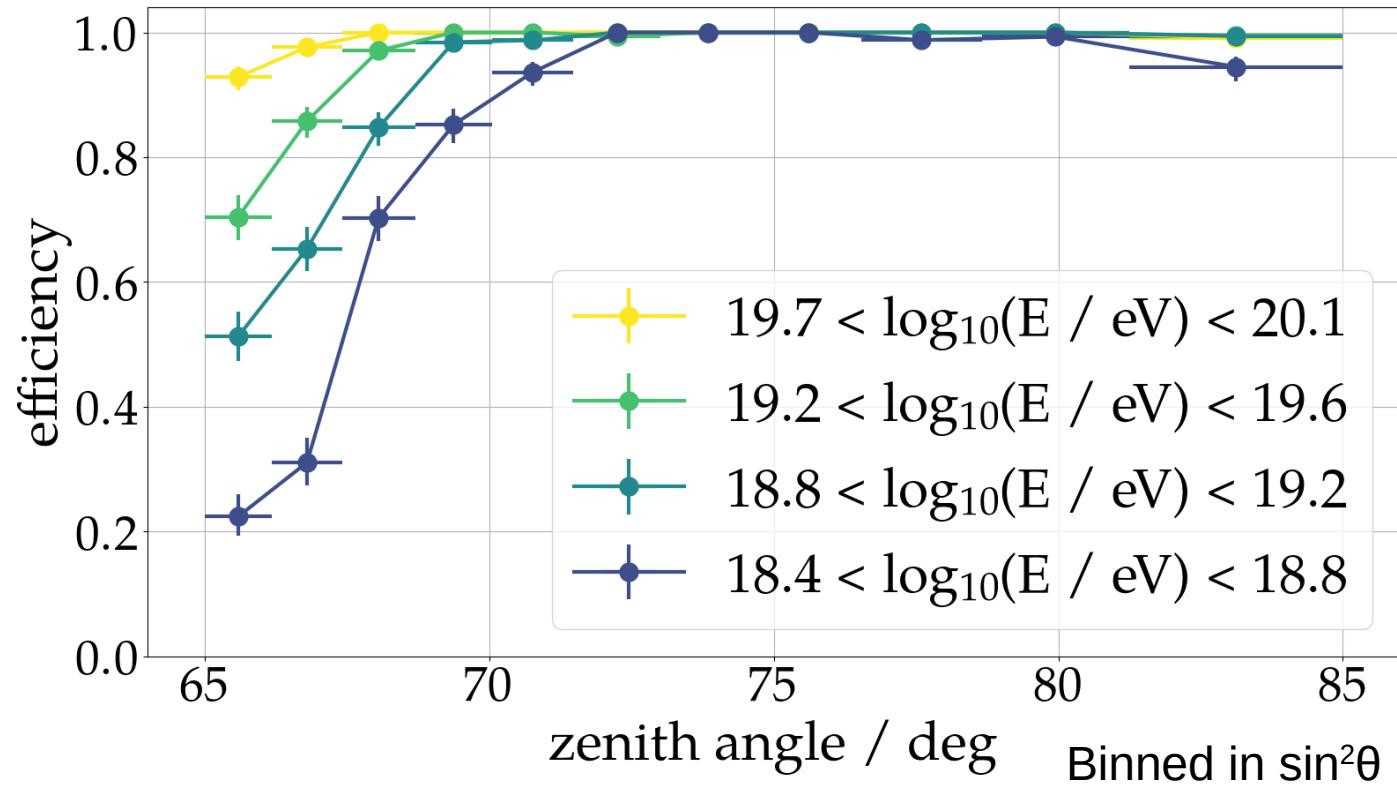
# End-to-end simulation study



# Detection efficiency

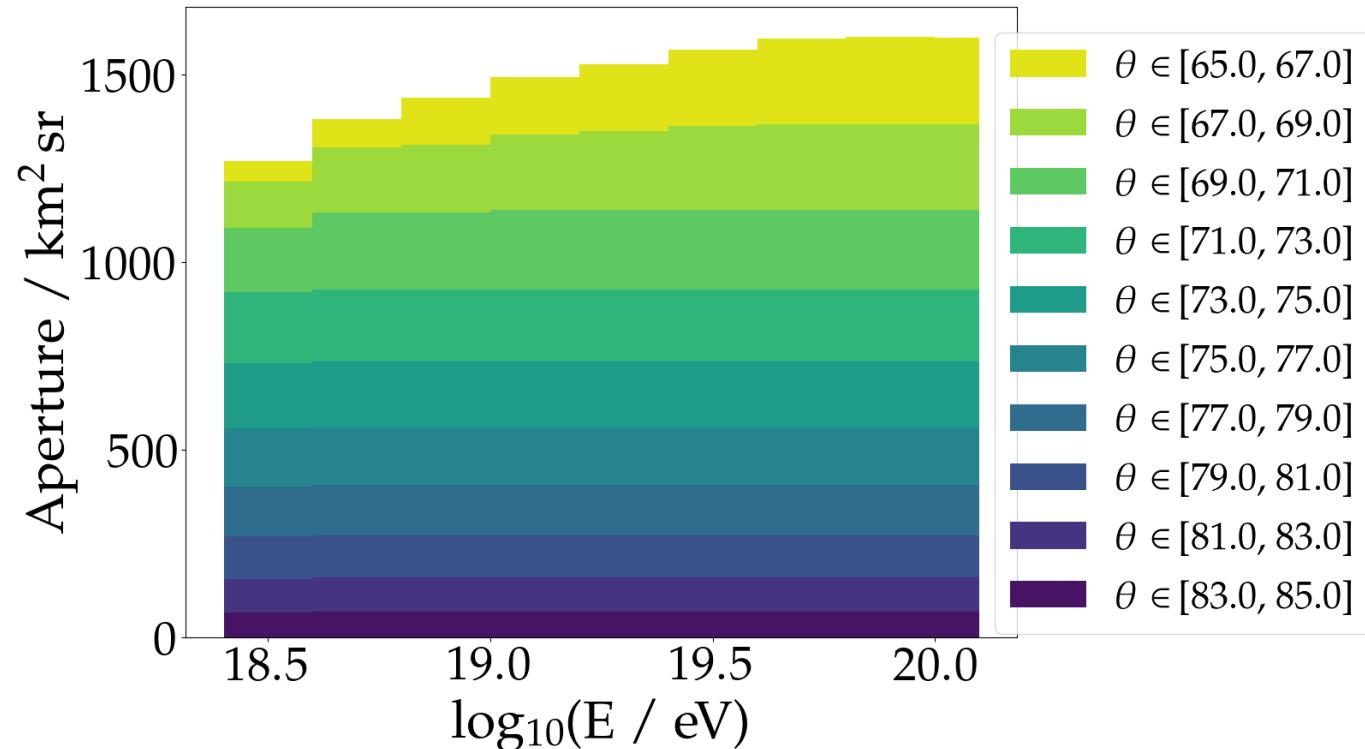
- Min. 3 antennas with signal
- Strong dependence on zenith angle
  - ▶ Increasing footprint size
- Weak dependence on energy
- Nearly fully efficient for  $\theta \gtrsim 70^\circ$  at higher energies

Normalized to WCD-reconstructed showers

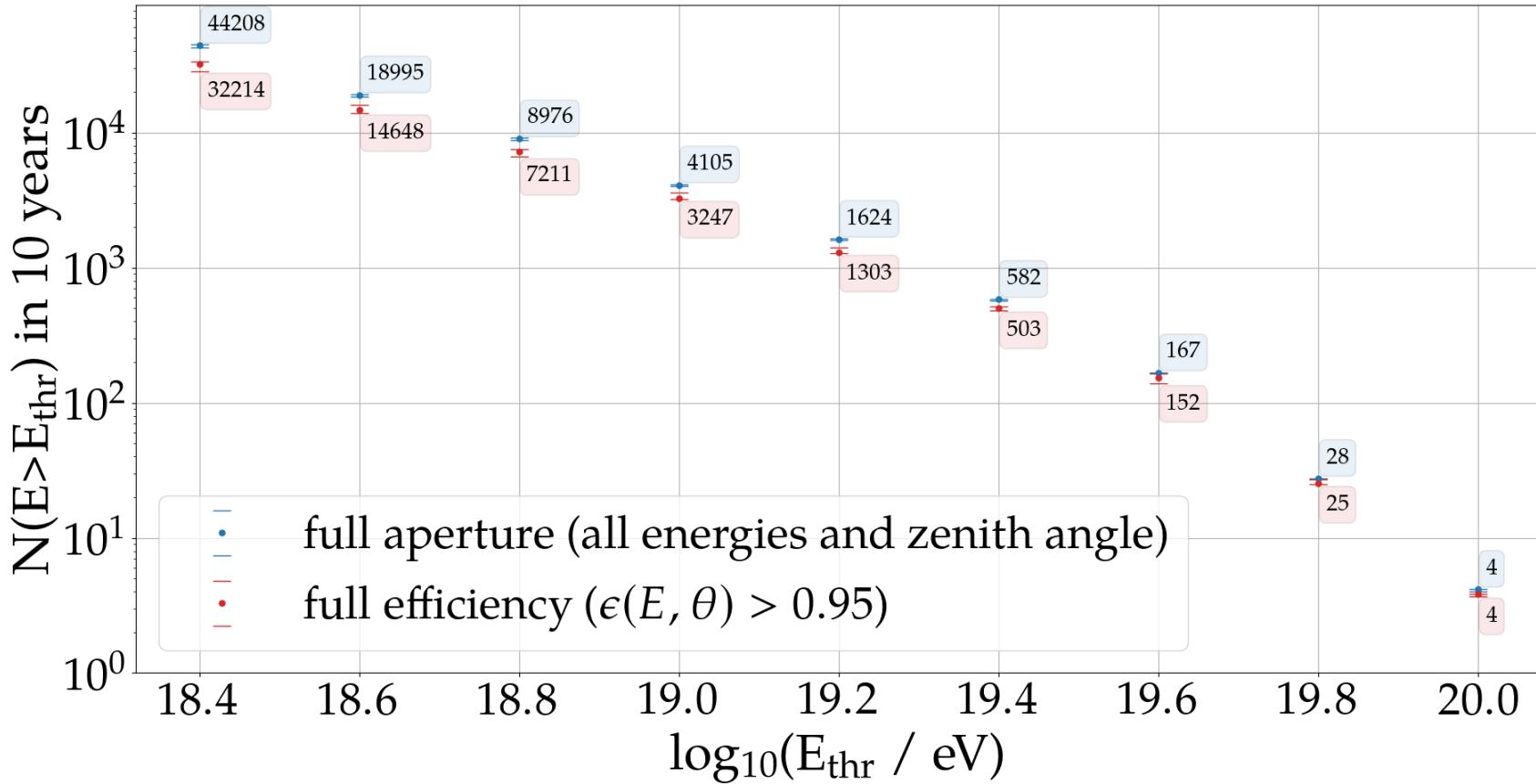


# Aperture for a 3000 km<sup>2</sup> array

- For "contained events" aperture decreases with zenith angle
  - ▶ array projection (in shower frame) shrinks
- Constant aperture → full efficiency
- Good agreement with previous study  
B. Pont, Auger POS(ICRC2019)395



# 10-year event statistics



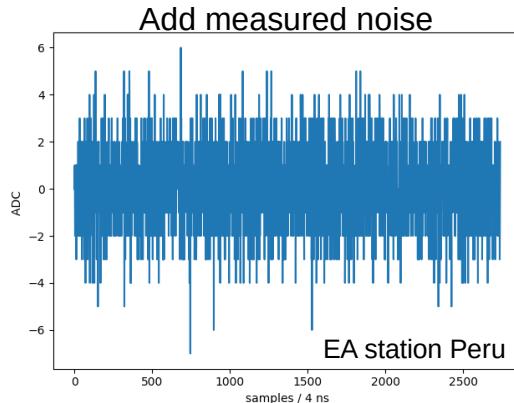
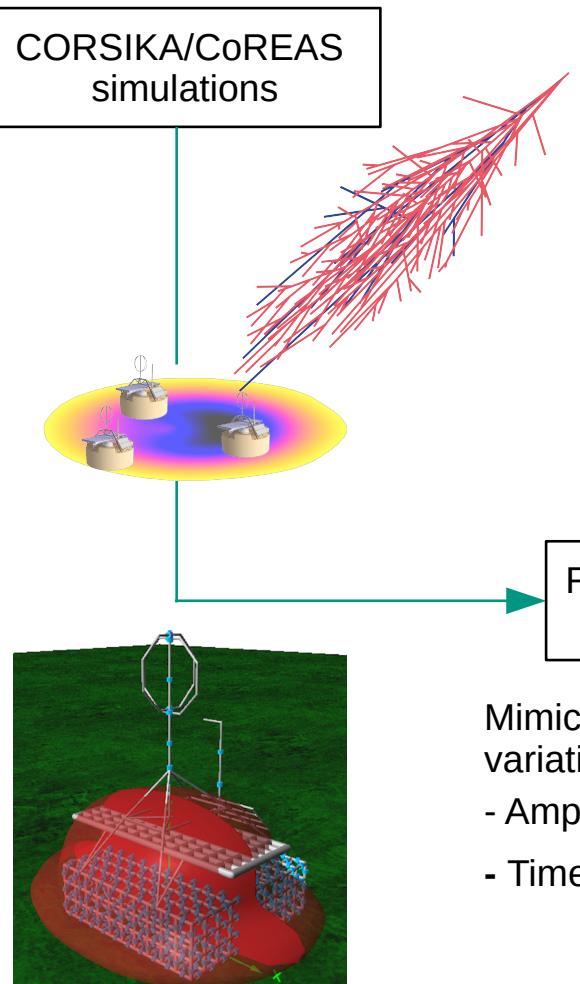
Estimated  
with Auger-  
measured  
flux:

Auger, PRD 102  
(2020) 062005

Aperture  
estimated in bins  
of  $\sin^2\theta$

$$\rightarrow N(E > 10 \text{ EeV}) \sim 4100 \quad N(E > 32 \text{ EeV}) \sim 330$$

# End-to-end simulation study



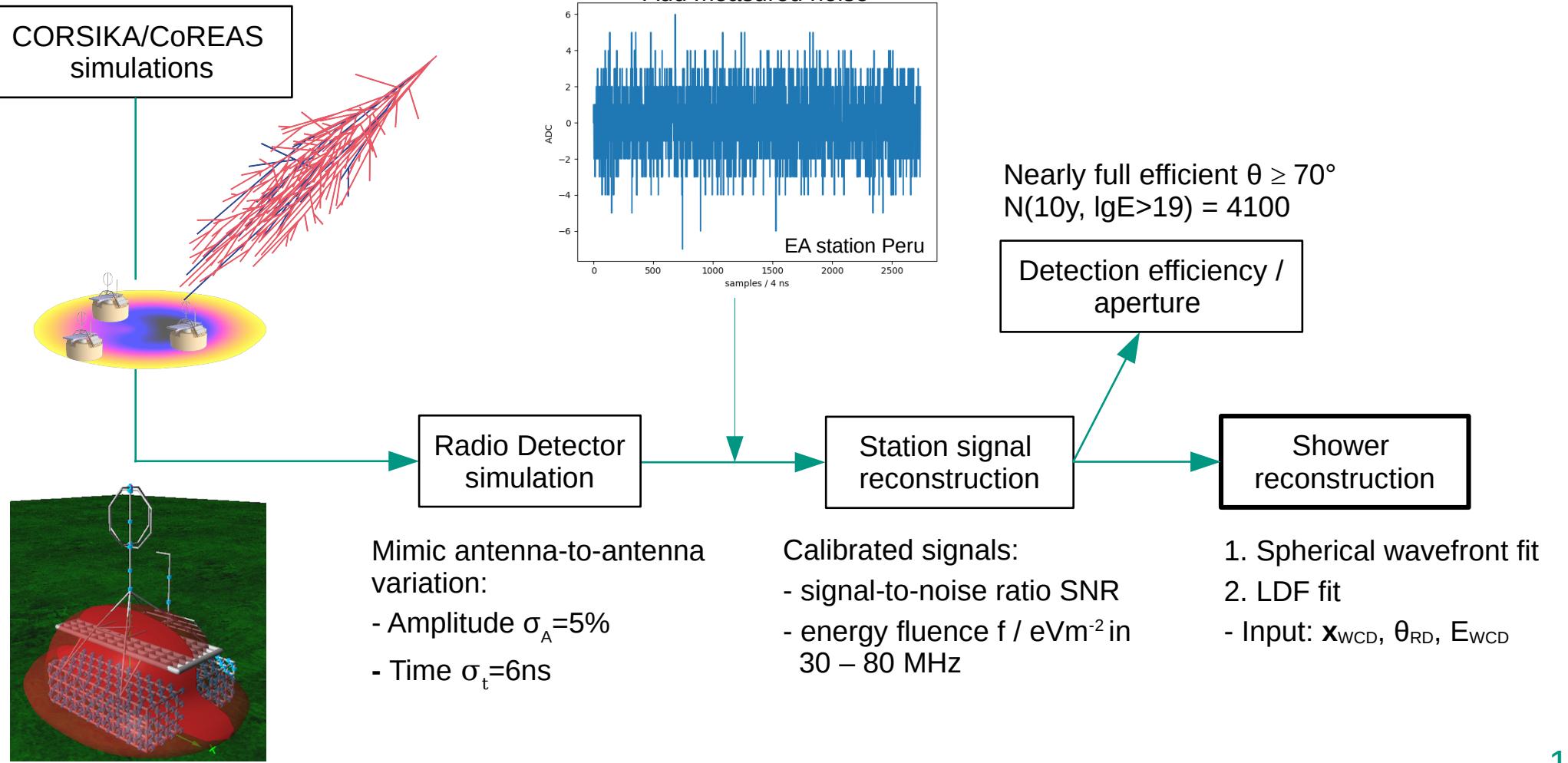
Nearly full efficient  $\theta \geq 70^\circ$   
 $N(10y, IgE > 19) = 4100$

Detection efficiency / aperture

Calibrated signals:

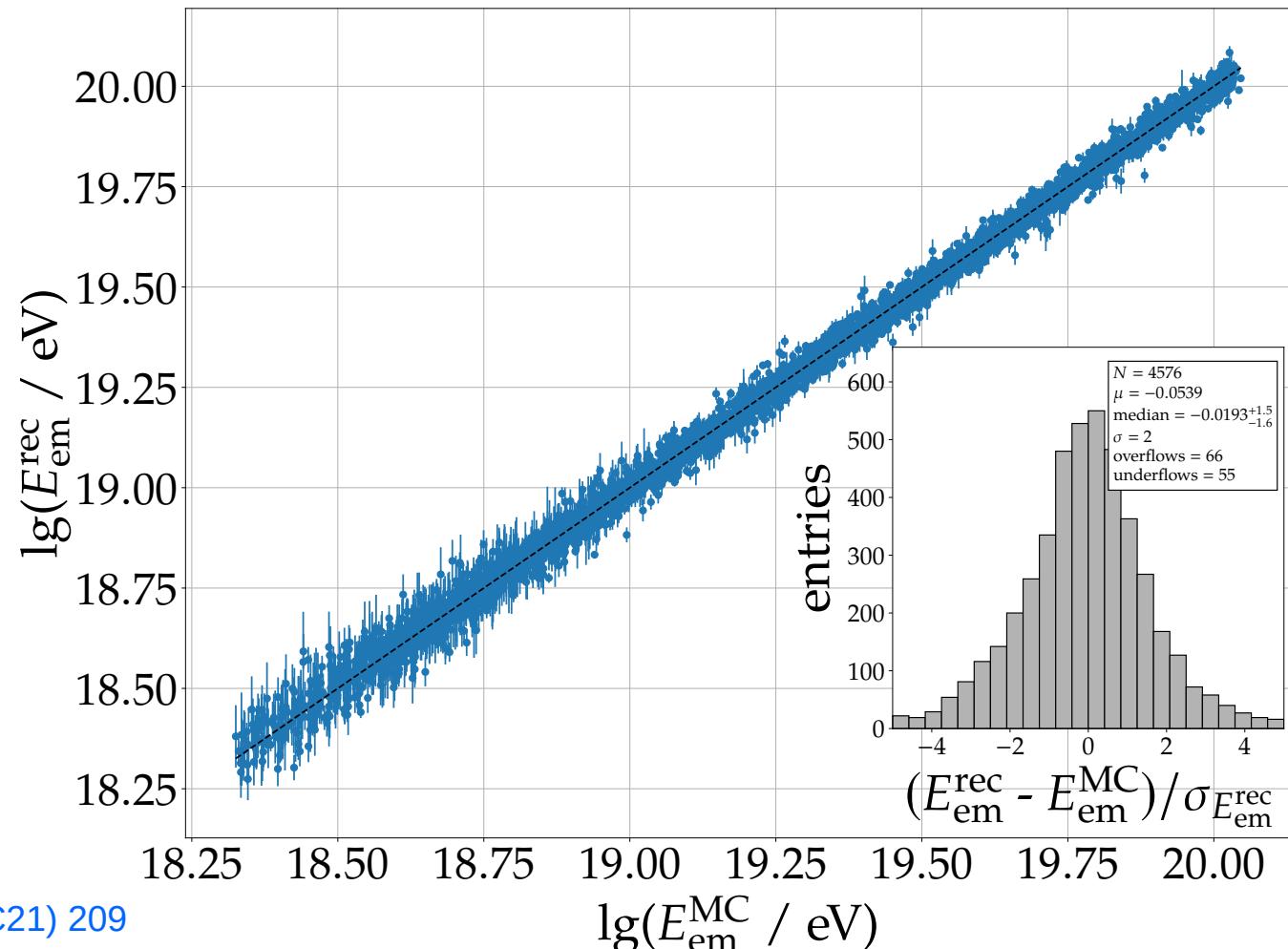
- signal-to-noise ratio SNR
- energy fluence  $f / \text{eVm}^{-2}$  in  
30 – 80 MHz

# End-to-end simulation study



# Shower reconstruction

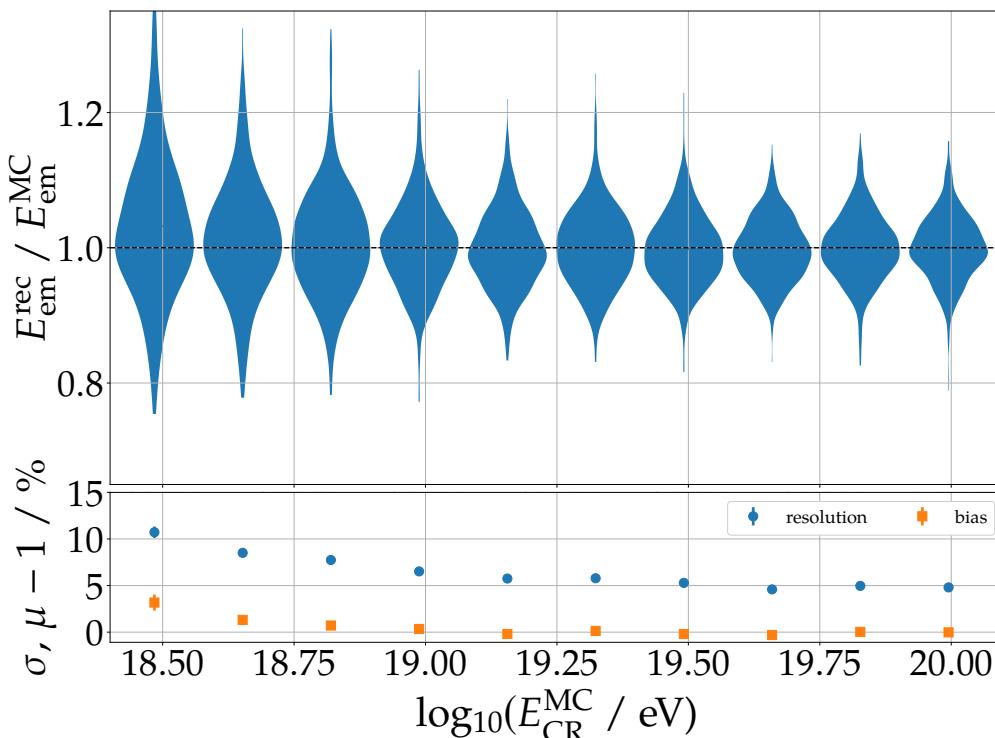
- Fit 4 parameters\*
  - ▶ Electromagnetic energy  $E_{\text{em}}$
- Selection applied
  - ▶ At least 5 signal stations, ...
  - ▶ Not equally efficient for all primaries
- Uncertainties underestimated



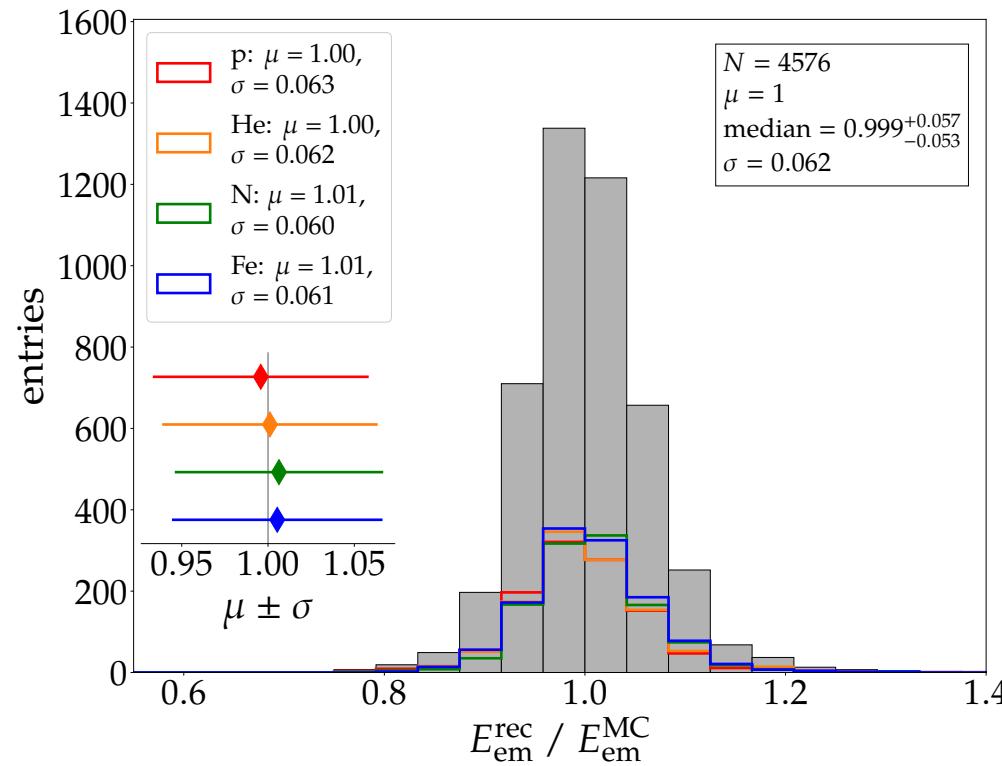
\*LDF model T. Huege, FS, PoS (ICRC21) 209

# Shower reconstruction

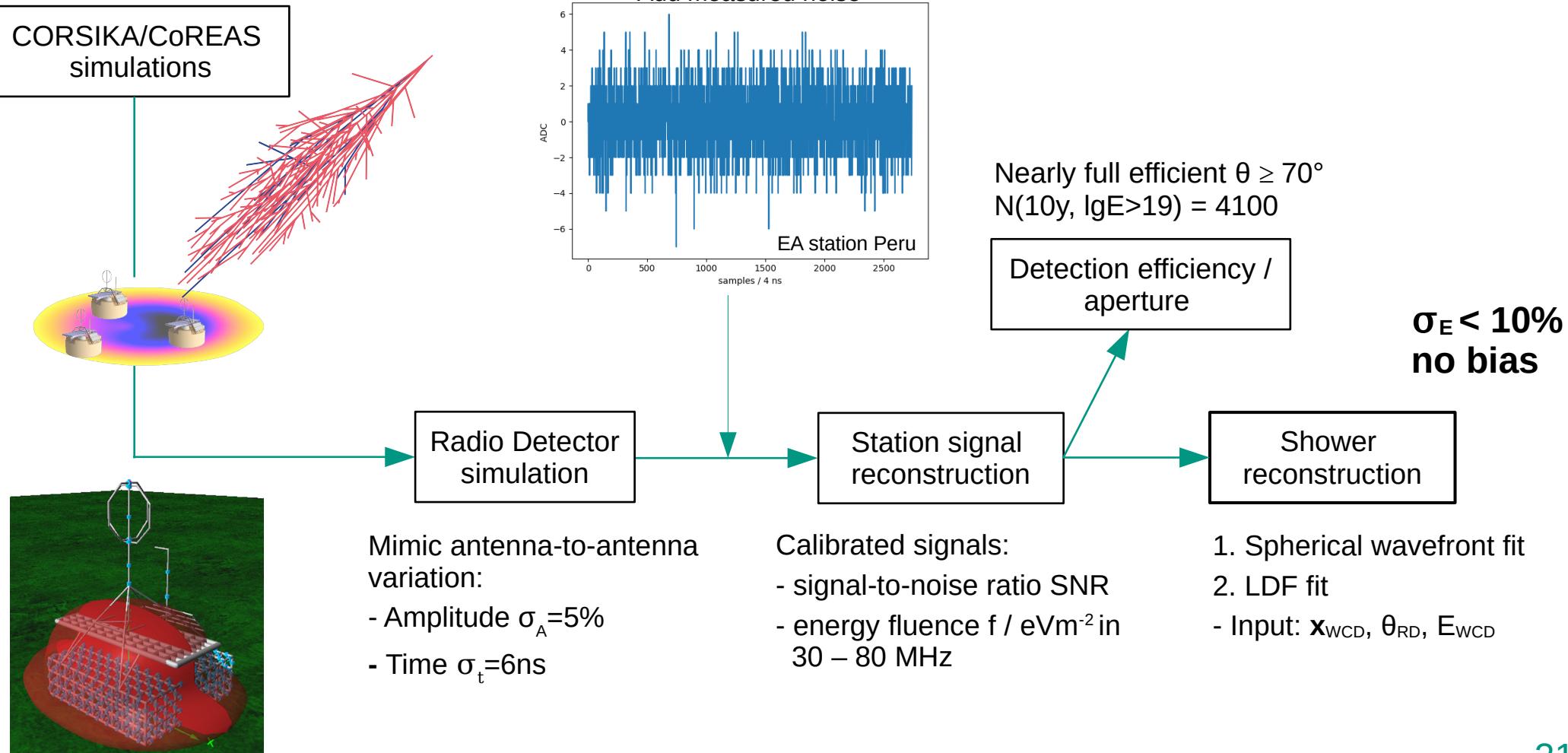
- Resolution < 10% at higher energies
  - ▶ Improves with energy expected due to noise



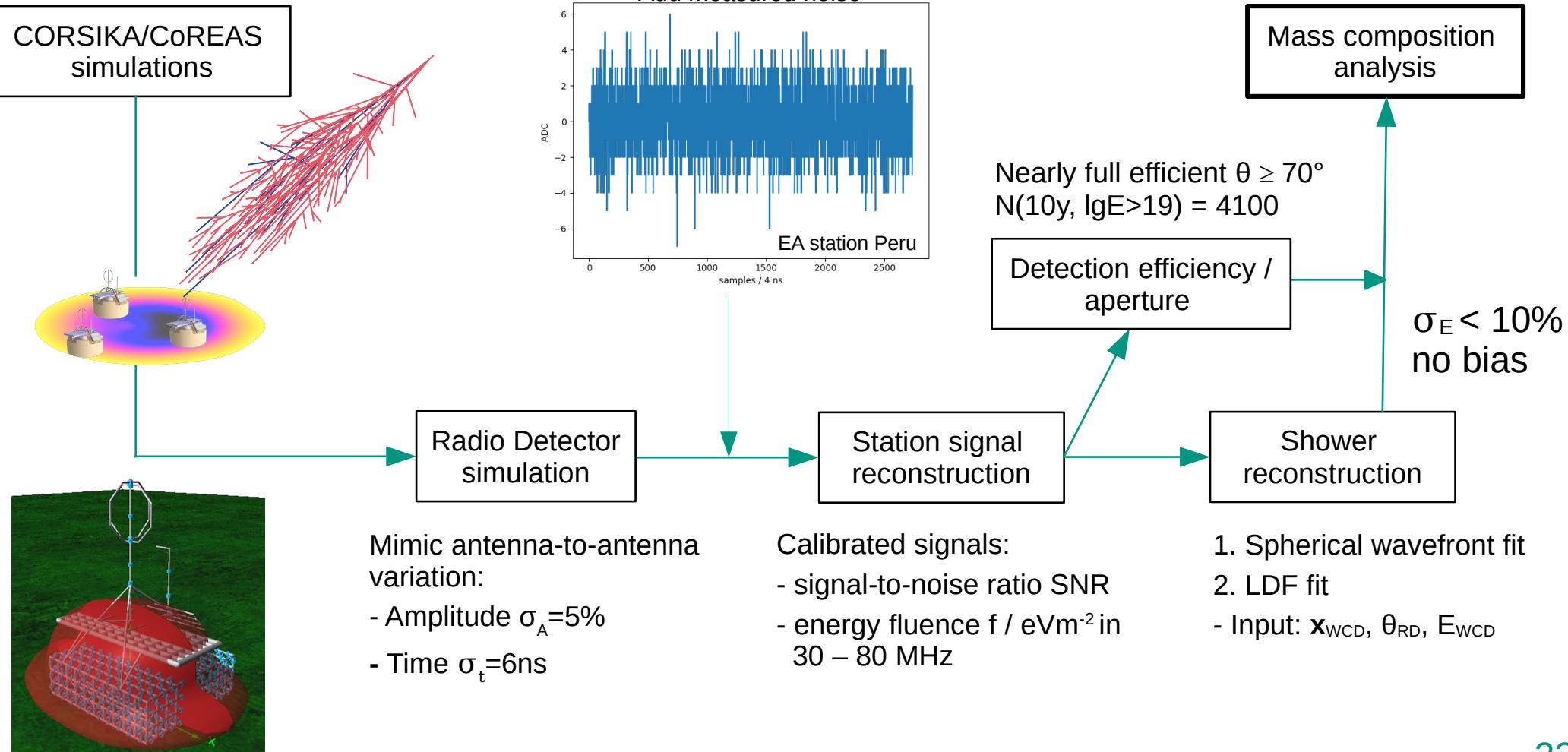
- No significant bias
- No dependency on mass



# End-to-end simulation study

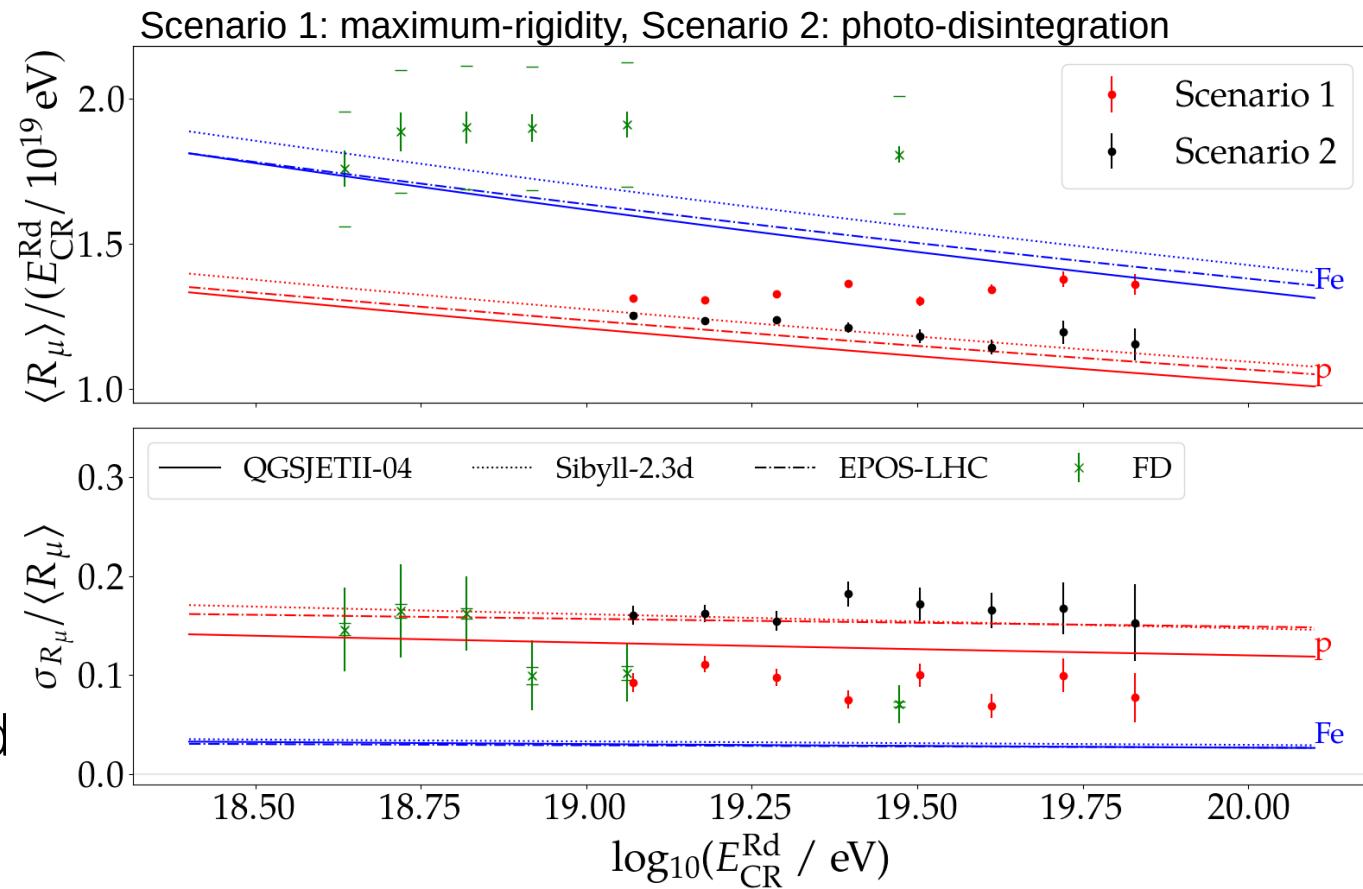


# End-to-end simulation study



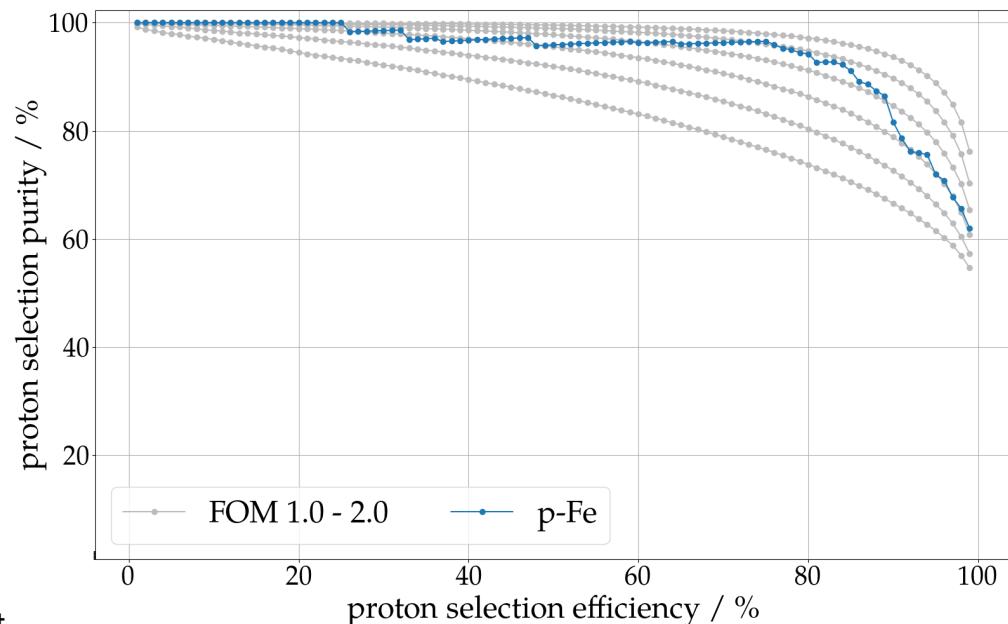
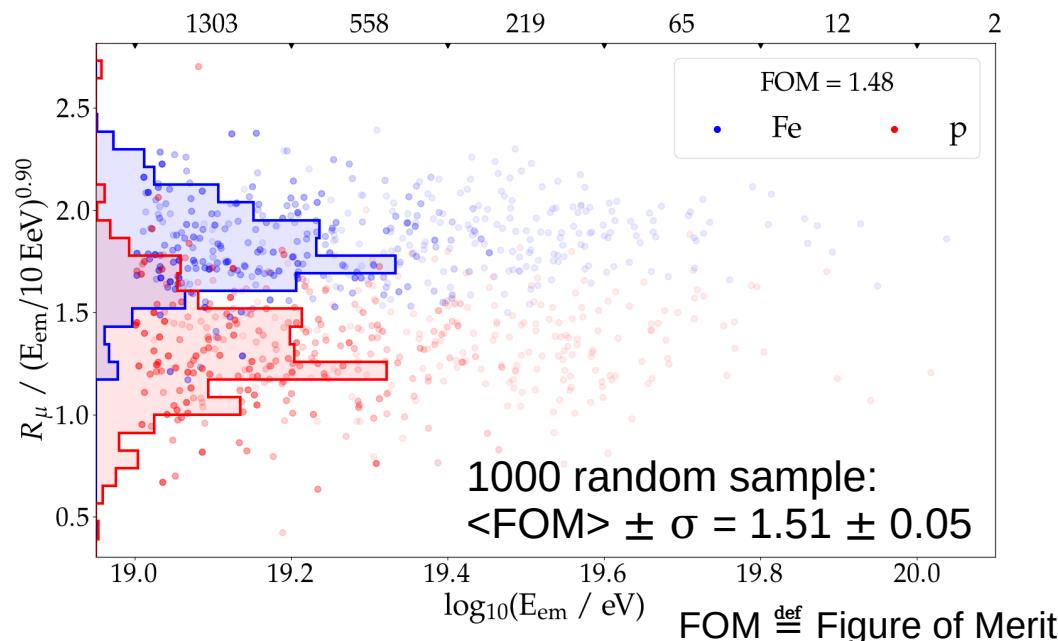
# Relative number of muons

- Mass composition sensitive variables
  - ▶ Lighter primaries produce fewer muons
- Exp. exposure and two mass-composition scenarios\*
- **Higher statistics (w.r.t. FD) at highest energies**
- Fluctuation less affected by systematic uncertainties → **discrimination potential**



# Event-by-event mass discrimination

- 50-50 p-Fe, with expected energy spectrum (events appear several times)
- Simple, energy-independent discriminator  $R_\mu / E_{\text{em}}^{0.9}$  (~ Fisher analysis)
  - ▶ Good energy resolution critical!
  - ▶ FOM of  $1.5 \approx$  separation with  $X_{\text{max}}$  and  $\sigma_{X_{\text{max}}} = 15 \text{ g/cm}^2$

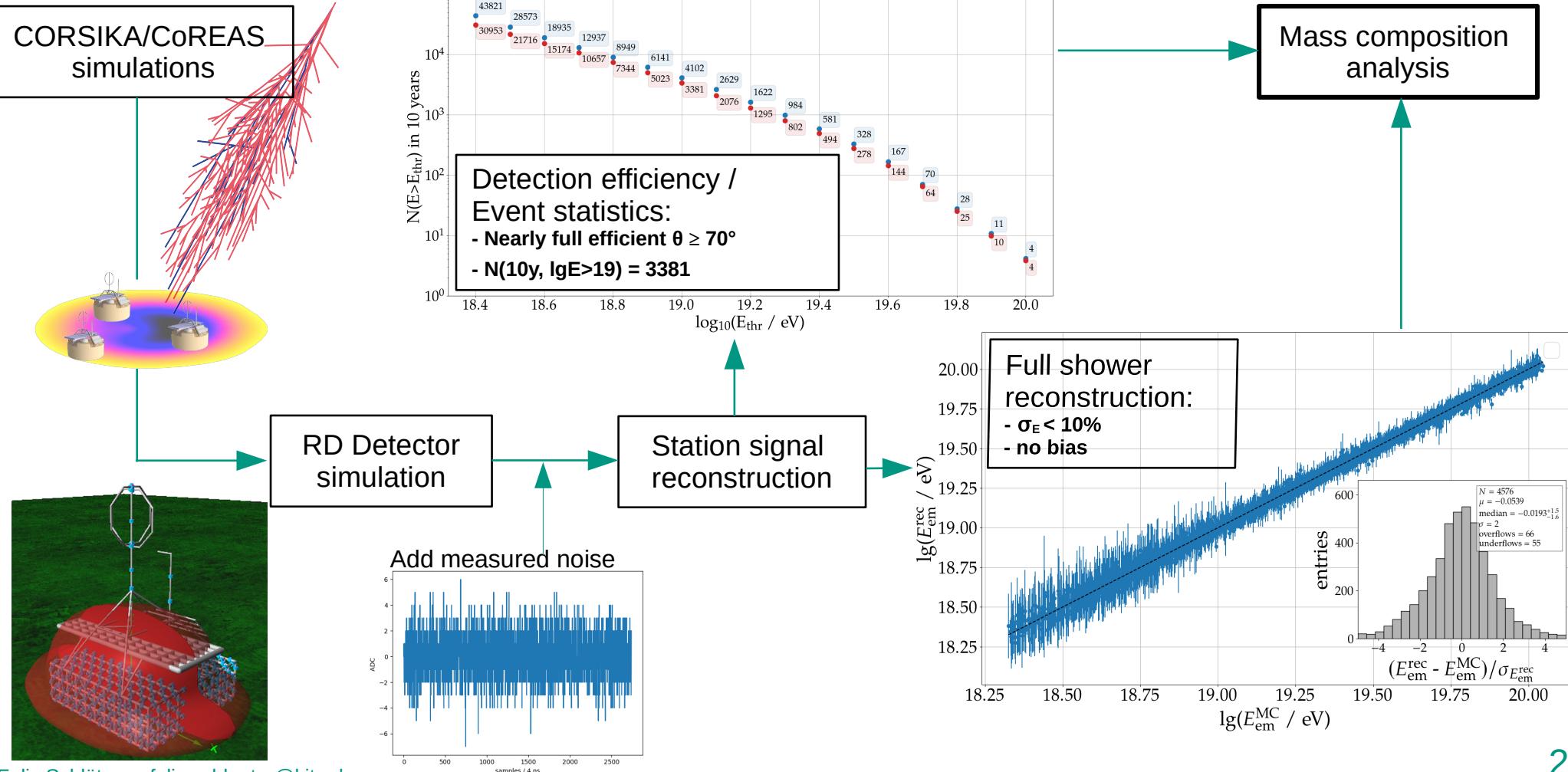


# Summary & Conclusion

- End-to-end simulation study:
  - ▶ Monte-Carlo shower simulations, full detector simulation, measured background, realistic radio-based reconstruction
- Expected performance:
  - ▶ Event statistics:  $N(10y, \lg E > 19) = 4105$
  - ▶ Preliminary energy resolution:  $\sigma_E < 10\%$
- Explored potential of hybrid measurements
  - ▶ Discriminate between composition scenarios
  - ▶ Discrimination between proton and iron / Contain a wealth of mass information

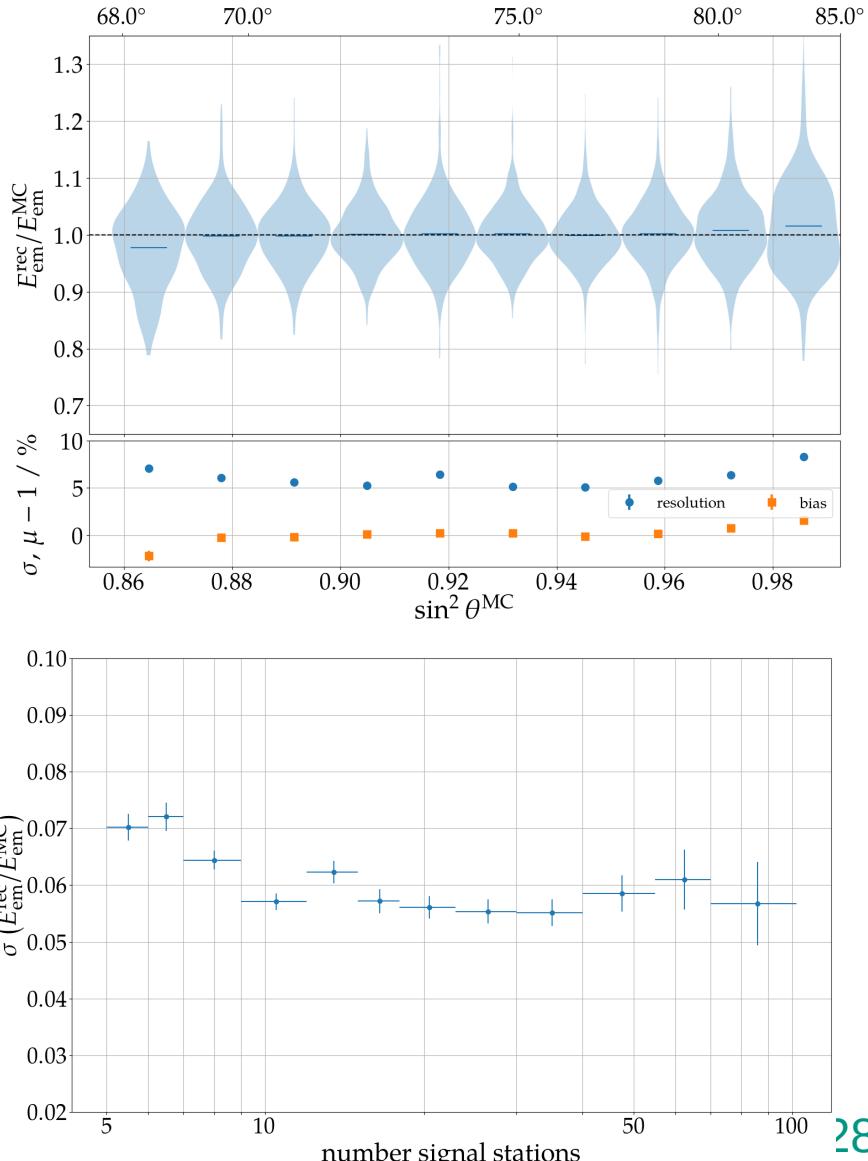
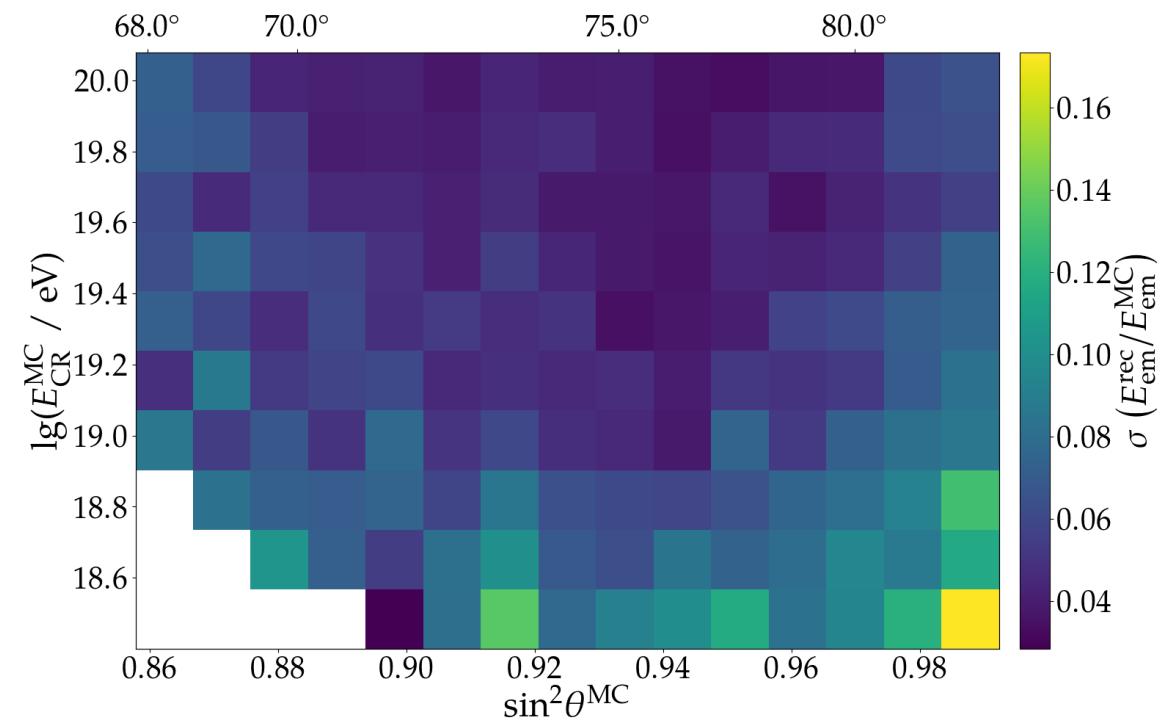
# Backup

# Expected performance of the AugerPrime Radio Detector



# Energy reconstruction

- $\Theta > 68^\circ$ ,  $n_{\text{ant}} \geq 5$ , ...



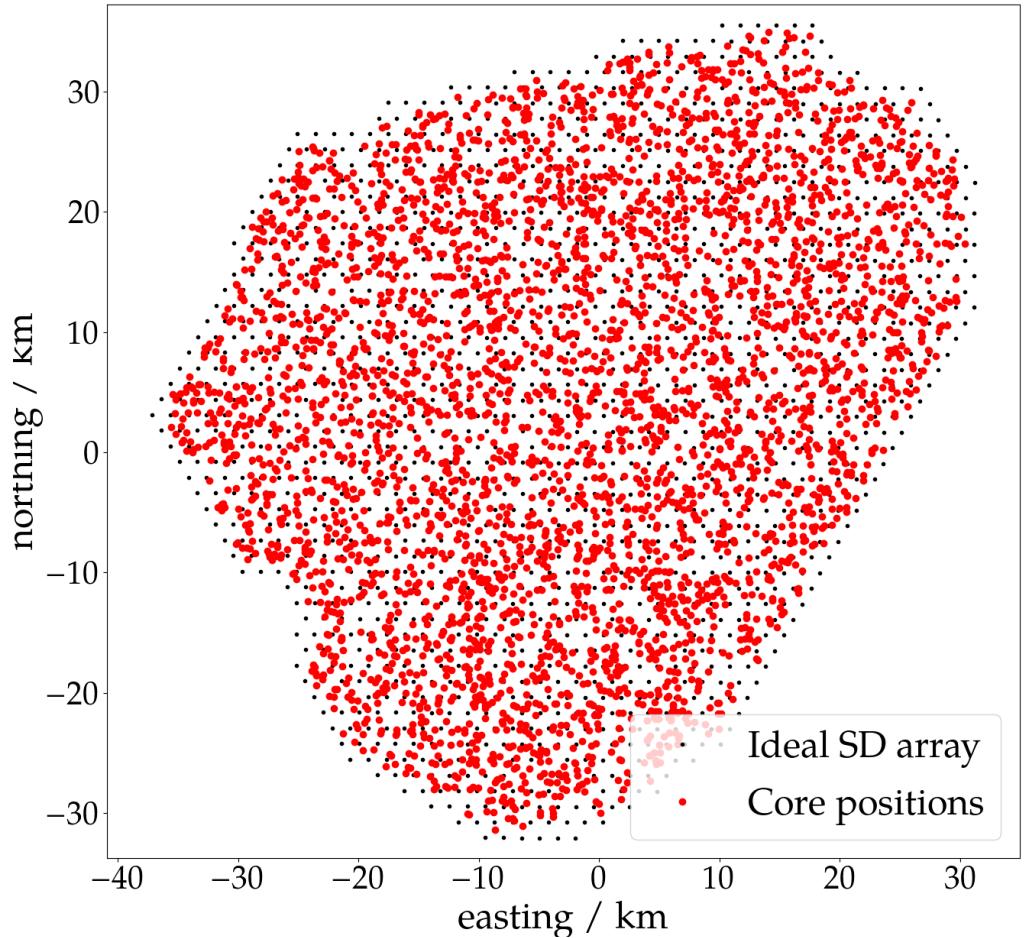
# Selection for good RD energy reconstruction

## ■ Selection bias for different primaries

	p / 1996	Fe / 1979	All / 3975
Has SD rec. LDF	1911 (95.7%)	1954 (98.7%)	3865 (97.2%)
<u>min. RD signal stations: 5</u>	1305 (68.3%)	1396 (71.4%)	2701 (69.9%)
Has RD spherical fit	1288 (98.7%)	1388 (99.4%)	2676 (99.1%)
$\alpha_{\text{RD}} > 20.0^\circ$	1268 (98.4%)	1364 (98.3%)	2632 (98.4%)
$\theta_{\text{RD}} \geq 68.0^\circ$	1232 (97.2%)	1310 (96.0%)	2542 (96.6%)
$\sigma_{\theta_{\text{RD}}} < 0.3^\circ$	1229 (99.8%)	1309 (99.9%)	2538 (99.8%)
Has RD rec. LDF	1229 (100%)	1309 (100%)	2538 (100%)
RD LDF with core	1229 (100%)	1309 (100%)	2538 (100%)
$n_{\text{stat}}(r < 1.5r_0) > 0$	1201 (97.7%)	1289 (98.5%)	2490 (98.1%)
$\sigma_{S_{\text{rad}}} < 60.0\%$	1145 (95.3%)	1266 (98.2%)	2411 (96.8%)
$\sigma_{d_{\text{max}}} < 30.0\%$	1141 (99.7%)	1256 (99.2%)	2397 (99.4%)
$\chi^2 / \text{ndf} < 5.0$	1113 (97.5%)	1235 (98.3%)	2348 (98.0%)
fitted core at limit <sup>3</sup>	1106 (99.4%)	1233 (99.8%)	2339 (99.6%)
$\angle(\hat{a}_{\text{RD}}, \hat{a}_{\text{SD}}) < 1.50^\circ$	1098 (99.3%)	1222 (99.1%)	2320 (99.2%)

# Simulation library

- 7972 p, He, N, Fe showers
  - ▶  $p \sim \sin(\theta)^2$  from 65 - 85°
  - ▶  $p_E \sim \lg E$  from 18.4 to 20.1
- Simulated radio signals for stations within  $r_{\max}()$
- Malargüe October atmosphere
  - ▶ density profile & refractivity
- QGSJETII-04 / URQMD



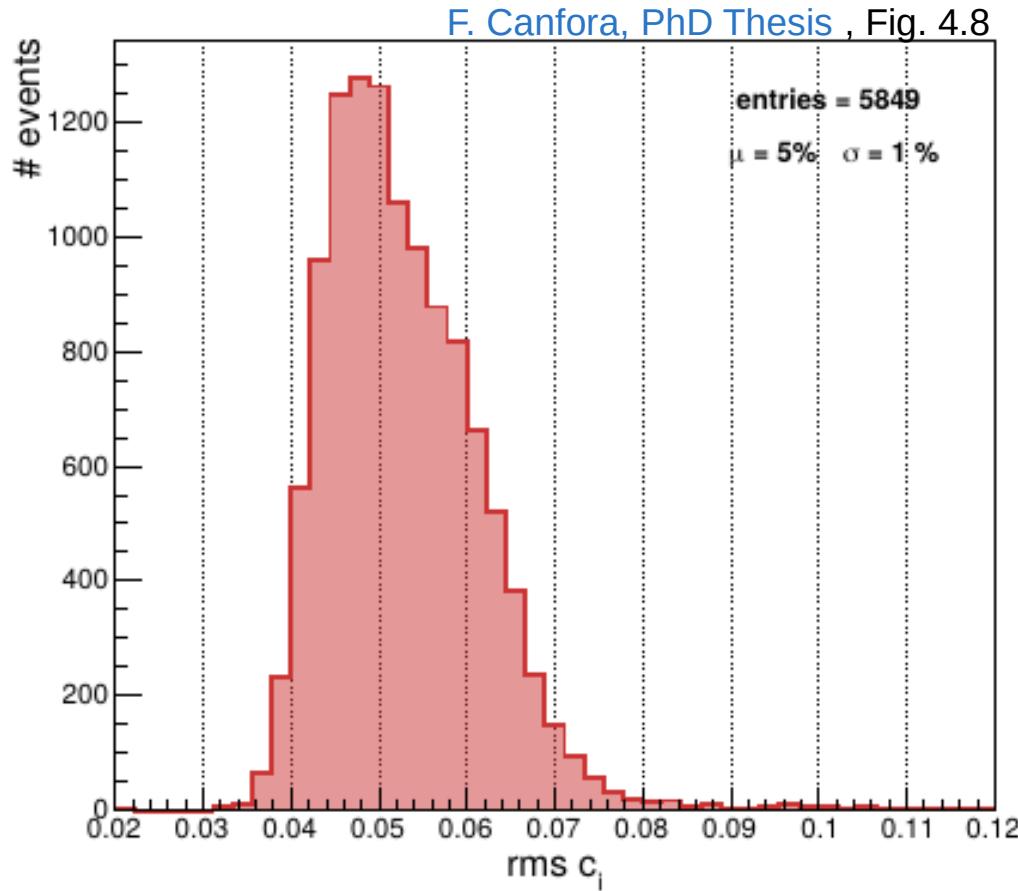
# Antenna-to-antenna variation for AERA Butterfly antennas

- After galactic calibration

$$c_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=\nu_1}^{\nu_n} \frac{A(\nu_i)}{\bar{A}_{\nu_i}},$$

- ▶ spread of the amplitudes in single antennas over all antennas for 1 periodic trigger event

- Average over polarization
- Average of RMS is 5%



# Reference Scenarios

## 2.2. OPEN QUESTIONS AND GOALS OF UPGRADING THE OBSERVATORY

13

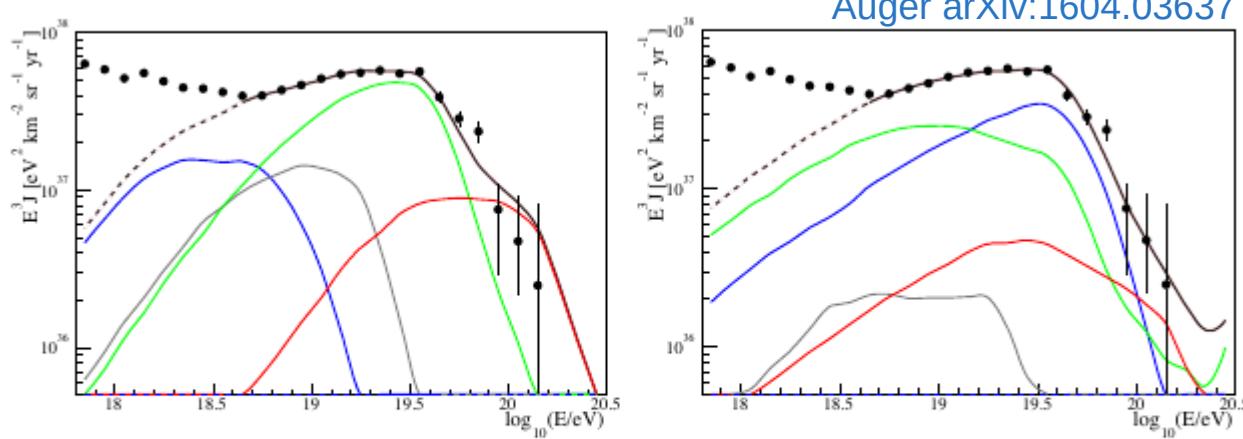


Figure 2.10: Examples of fluxes of different mass groups for describing the Auger spectrum and composition data. Shown are the fluxes of different mass groups that are approximations of one maximum-rigidity scenario (left panel) and one photo-disintegration scenario (right panel). The colors for the different mass groups are protons – blue, helium – gray, nitrogen – green, and iron – red. The model calculations were done with SimProp [30], very similar results are obtained with CRPropa [29].

- Extract primary fractions
- Use 10-years RD exposure

# Arrival direction reconstruction

- RD: Spherical fit (point sources, spherical expansion, changing radius)

