Auger at the Telescope Array: Recent Progress Toward a Direct Cross-Calibration of Surface-Detector Stations

Sean Quinn^{1,⋄}, C. Covault¹, J. Johnsen², P. Lebrun³, P. Mantsch³, J.A.J. Matthews⁴, P. Mazur³, F. Sarazin² and R. Sato⁵ for the Pierre Auger Collaboration^a; R. Cady⁶, T. Fujii⁷, J.N. Matthews⁶, T. Nonaka⁷, S. Ogio⁸, H. Sagawa⁷ and R. Takeishi⁷ for the Telescope Array Collaboration^b; S. Colognes⁹, B. Courty⁹, B. Genolini¹⁰, L. Guglielmi⁹, R. Halliday¹, R. Lorek¹, M. Marton¹¹, E. Rauly¹⁰, T. Trung¹⁰, O. Wolf²

E-mail: ♦ spq@cwru.edu

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Since 2007 the Telescope Array Project (TA) and the Pierre Auger Observatory (Auger) have collected extensive data sets spanning several orders of magnitude in energy of the cosmic-ray spectrum. In both experiments the bulk of data is generated from the surface-detector (SD) array, which is energetically calibrated with fluorescence detectors using a hybrid approach. However, each experiment has implemented a different SD station design, resulting in different sensitivities of extensive air-shower channels. Understanding these differences and any potential unforeseen systematic errors is essential for future joint analyses. In this paper we present an update on the progress of an in-situ cross-calibration program. We focus on recent hardware installations which enable the read out of co-located Auger and TA SD stations at the TA central laser facility (CLF). We also present a preliminary analysis of event signals observed at the CLF.

KEYWORDS: (cross) calibration, data acquisition, instrumentation

1. Introduction

1.1 Participants

The Pierre Auger Observatory is a hybrid cosmic-ray (CR) observatory located in Mendoza province, Argentina, which detects extensive air showers using four fluorescence-telescope detectors (FD) and 1660 surface-detector (SD) stations. The Observatory began formal data collection in 2004. Fluorescence observations provide high-quality data of shower energy as well as depth of maximum shower development, but have a limited duty cycle. A subset of hybrid events passing stringent quality cuts is used to calibrate "SD only" events which represent most of the experiment's data. The

¹Dept. of Physics, Case Western Reserve Univ., 2076 Adelbert Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44106, USA

²Physics Department, Colorado School of Mines, Golden CO, USA

³Fermilab, Batavia IL, USA

⁴Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, USA

⁵Pierre Auger Observatory, Malargüe, Argentina

⁶Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA

⁷Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, University of Tokyo, Kashiwa, Chiba, Japan

⁸Graduate School of Science, Osaka City University, Osaka, Osaka, Japan

⁹Laboratoire Astroparticules et Cosmologie (APC), Université Paris 7, CNRS-IN2P3, Paris, France

¹⁰Institut de Physique Nucléaire d'Orsay (IPNO), Université Paris 11, CNRS-IN2P3, Orsay, France

¹¹Laboratoire de Physique Subatomique et de Cosmologie (LPSC), Université Joseph Fourier, INPG, CNRS-IN2P3, Grenoble, France

^a Auger author list: auger.org/archive/authors_2016_09.html

^b TA author list: telescopearray.org/images/papers/201703-authorlist.pdf