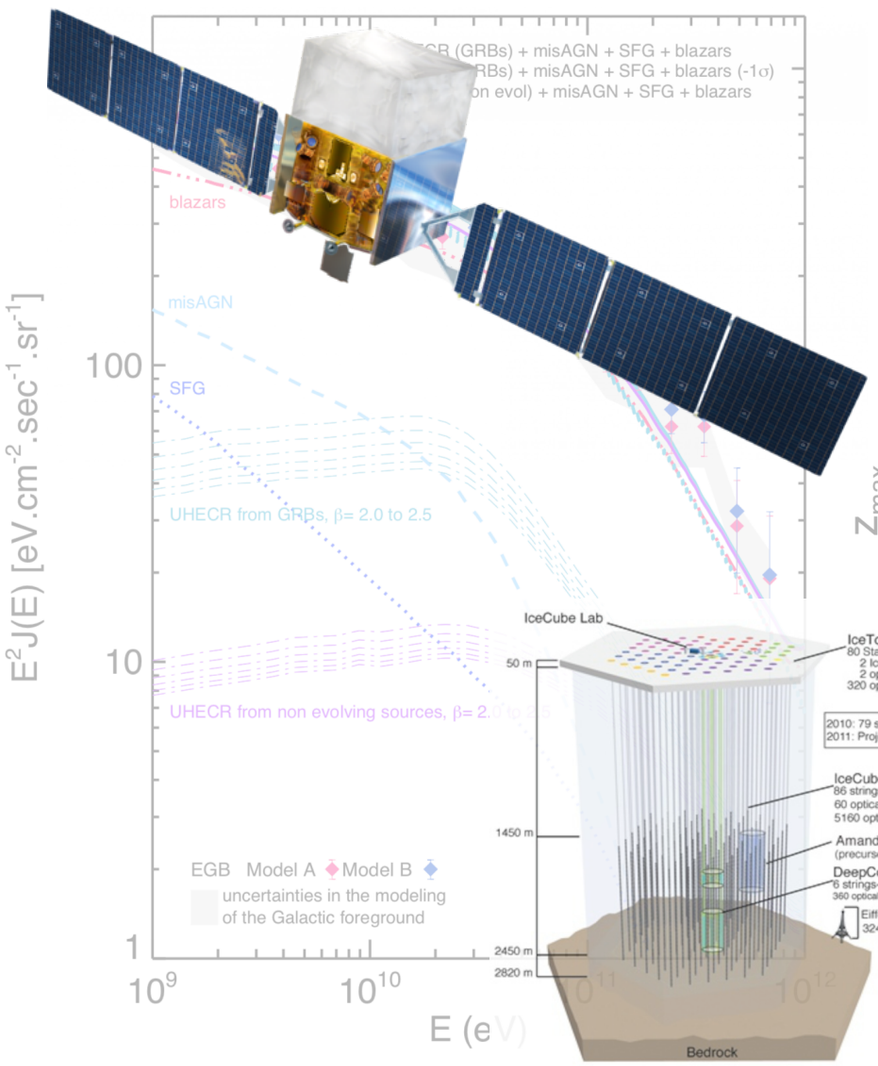
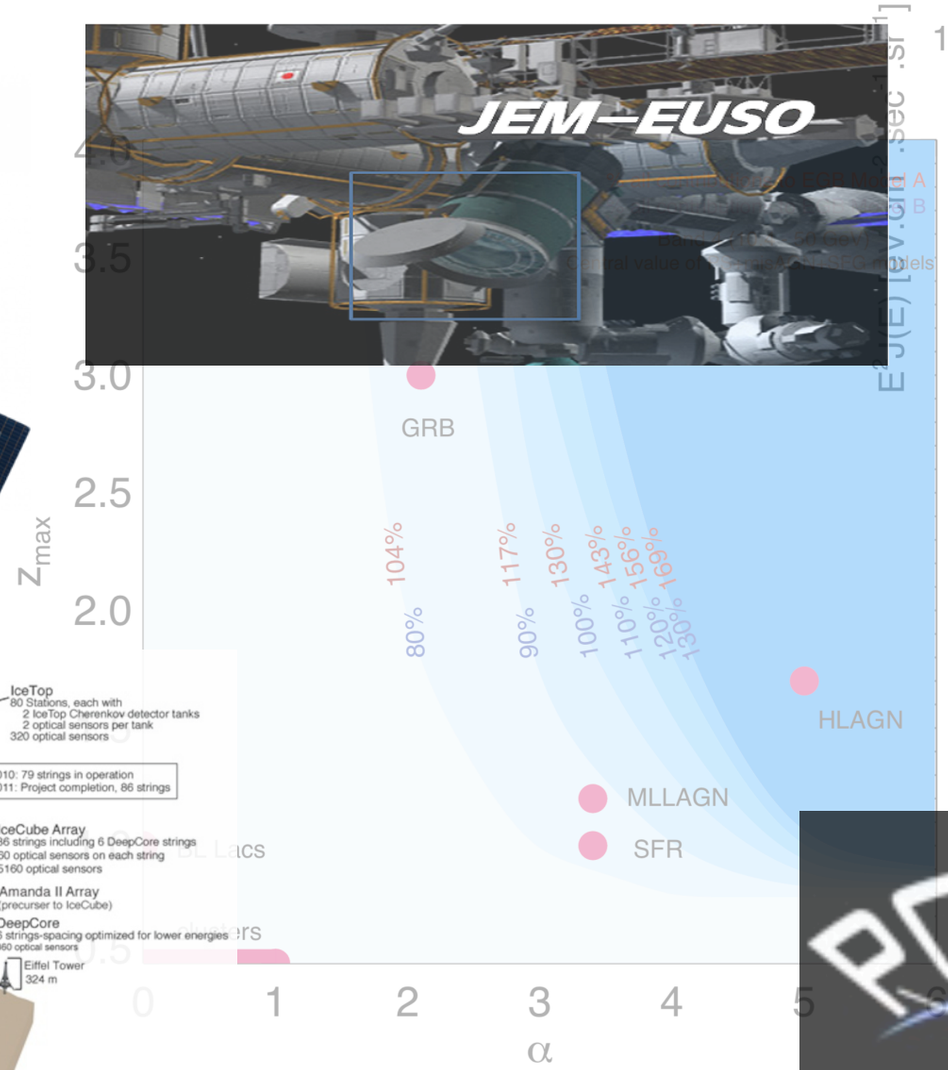
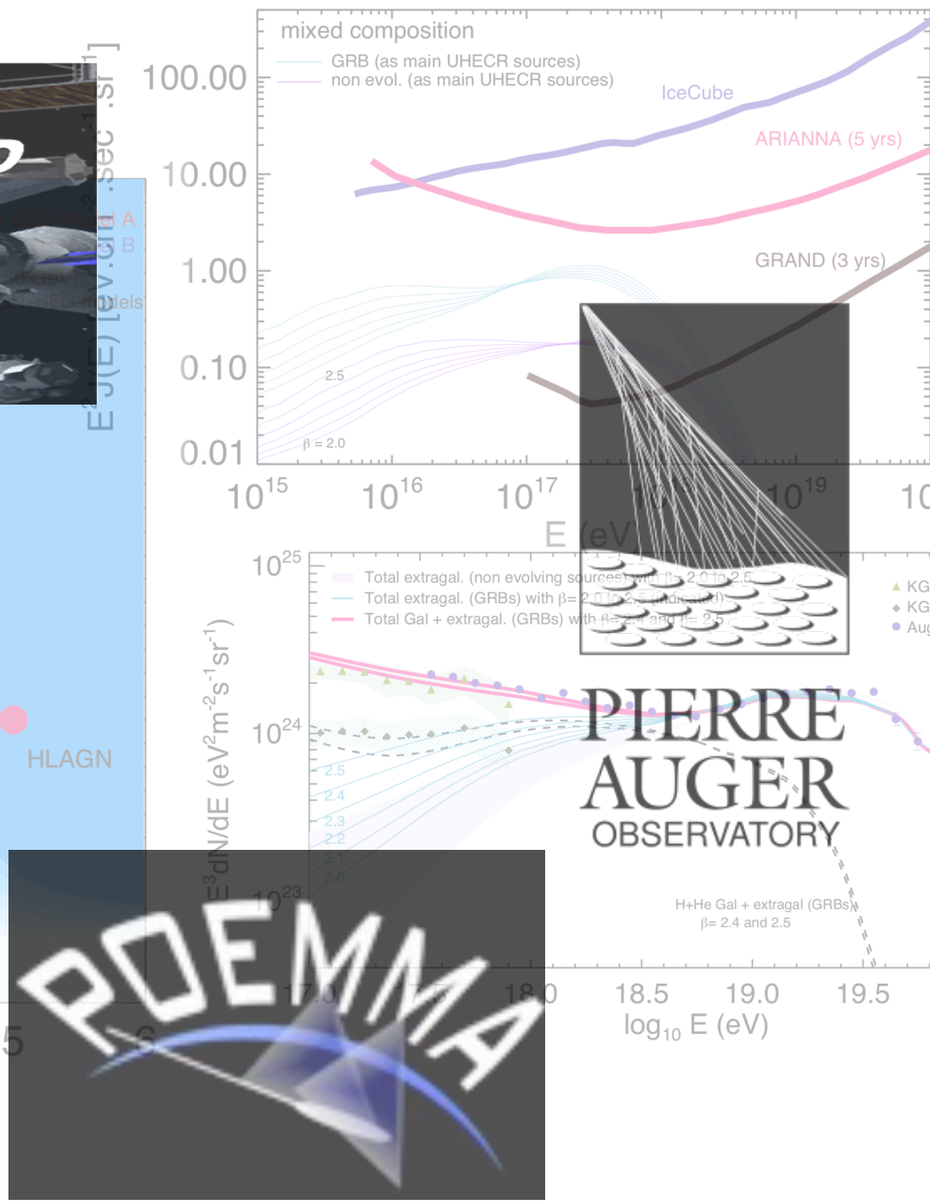
Probing the extragalactic cosmic rays origin with gamma-ray and neutrino backgrounds



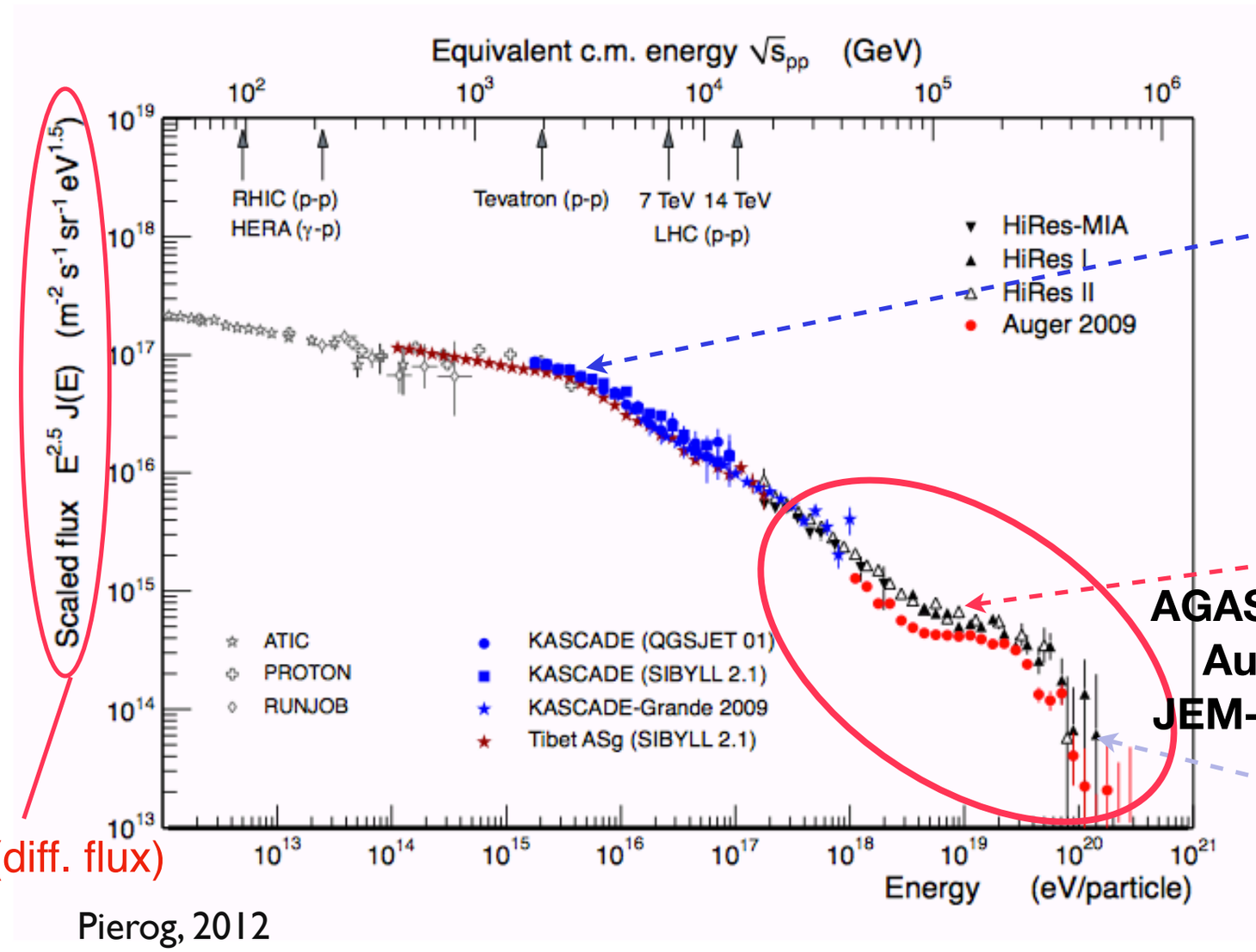




Denis Allard – laboratoire Astroparticule et Cosmologie (APC, CNRS/Paris 7)

in collaboration with **Noemie Globus**, E. Parizot, T. Piran, G.Decerprit et al.

Cosmic-rays and ultra-high-energy cosmic-rays spectrum



$E^{2.5}$×(diff. flux)

Pierog, 2012

The knee
(softening)
E~3-4.10^{15} eV

The ankle
(hardening)
E~3-4.10^{18} eV

AGASA, HiRes
Auger, TA
JEM-EUSO (?)

High energy cut-off
E~3-5.10^{19} eV

UHECRs are the most energetic particles known in the universe (up to ~3.10^{20} eV)
very rare < 1km^{-2}/century above 10^{19} eV
Origin so far unknown
Strongly suspected to be of extragalactic origin

Ultra-high-energy cosmic-rays (UHECR), neutrinos and photons : the multi-messenger link

UHECR are strongly suspected to be of extragalactic origin

Extragalactic very-high and ultra-high-energy cosmic-rays produce secondary (cosmogenic) neutrinos and gamma-rays during their propagation interacting with the extragalactic background light (UV-optical-IR, CMB)

- pair production: $N+\gamma \rightarrow N+e^{+}/e^{-}$ $==> secondary\ e^{+/-}$

  Threshold with CMB photons ~10^{18} eV per nucleon (at z=0)

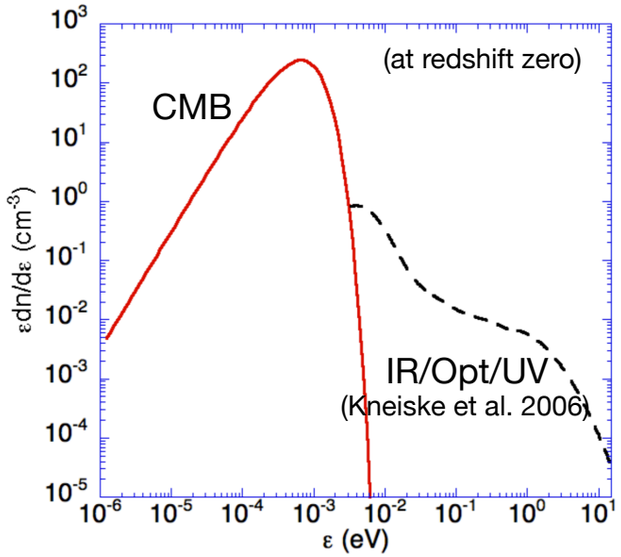
- Pion and meson production :

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu,\ \mu^+ \rightarrow \overline{\nu_\mu} + e^+ + \nu_e ==> secondary\ e^{+/-}, \gamma\ and\ \nu$$

$$\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \overline{\nu_\mu},\ \mu^- \rightarrow \nu_\mu + e^- + \overline{\nu_e}$$

Threshold with CMB photons ~10^{20} eV per nucleon (at z=0)



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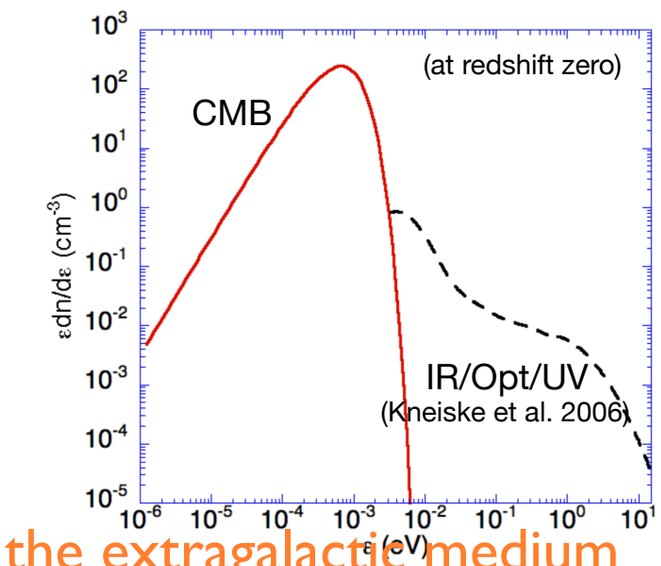

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ν s only suffer from the expansion of the universe while propagating in the extragalactic medium

e^{+}/e^{-} and γ further cascade by interacting with the photon backgrounds :

$e+\gamma_{EBL} \rightarrow e'+\gamma$ Inverse Compton ➡ the universe is opaque to high-energy γs (pile-up at sub-TeV energies)

$\gamma+\gamma_{EBL} \rightarrow e^{+}+e^{-}$ pair production

Diffuse UHECR ($E>10^{17}$ eV) flux

➡ diffuse ν flux in the PeV-EeV range

➡ diffuse γ-ray flux in the GeV-TeV range

Ultra-high-energy cosmic-rays (UHECR), neutrinos and photons : the multi-messenger link

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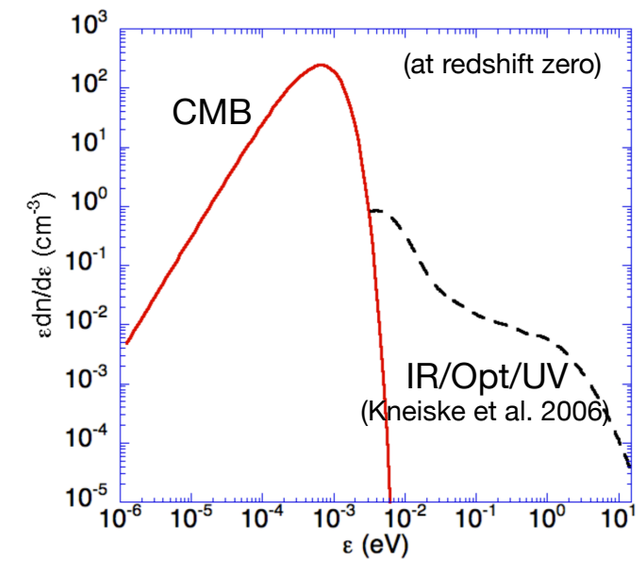
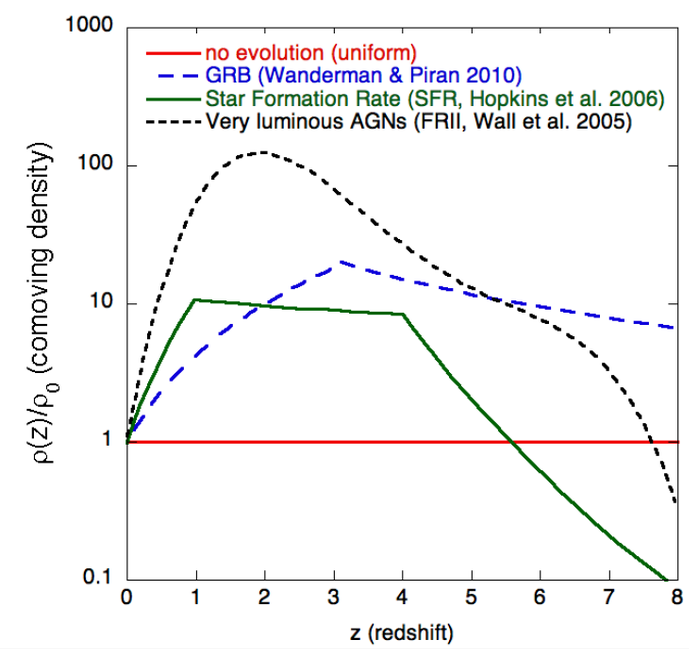


The extragalactic photon backgrounds evolve with time (CMB is hotter and denser as the redshift increases)

➡ cosmological evolution of the sources is expected to have a strong impact on cosmogenic photons and neutrino fluxes



Calculations of cosmogenic neutrino and photon fluxes what do we do ?

We assume a given extragalactic UHECR phenomenological model which relies on :

- source spectrum (usually a power law)
- source composition
- maximum energy at the sources
- cosmological evolution of the sources (distribution of initial redshifts)

Particles propagation from the sources to the Earth is simulated (energy losses, secondary particles productions)

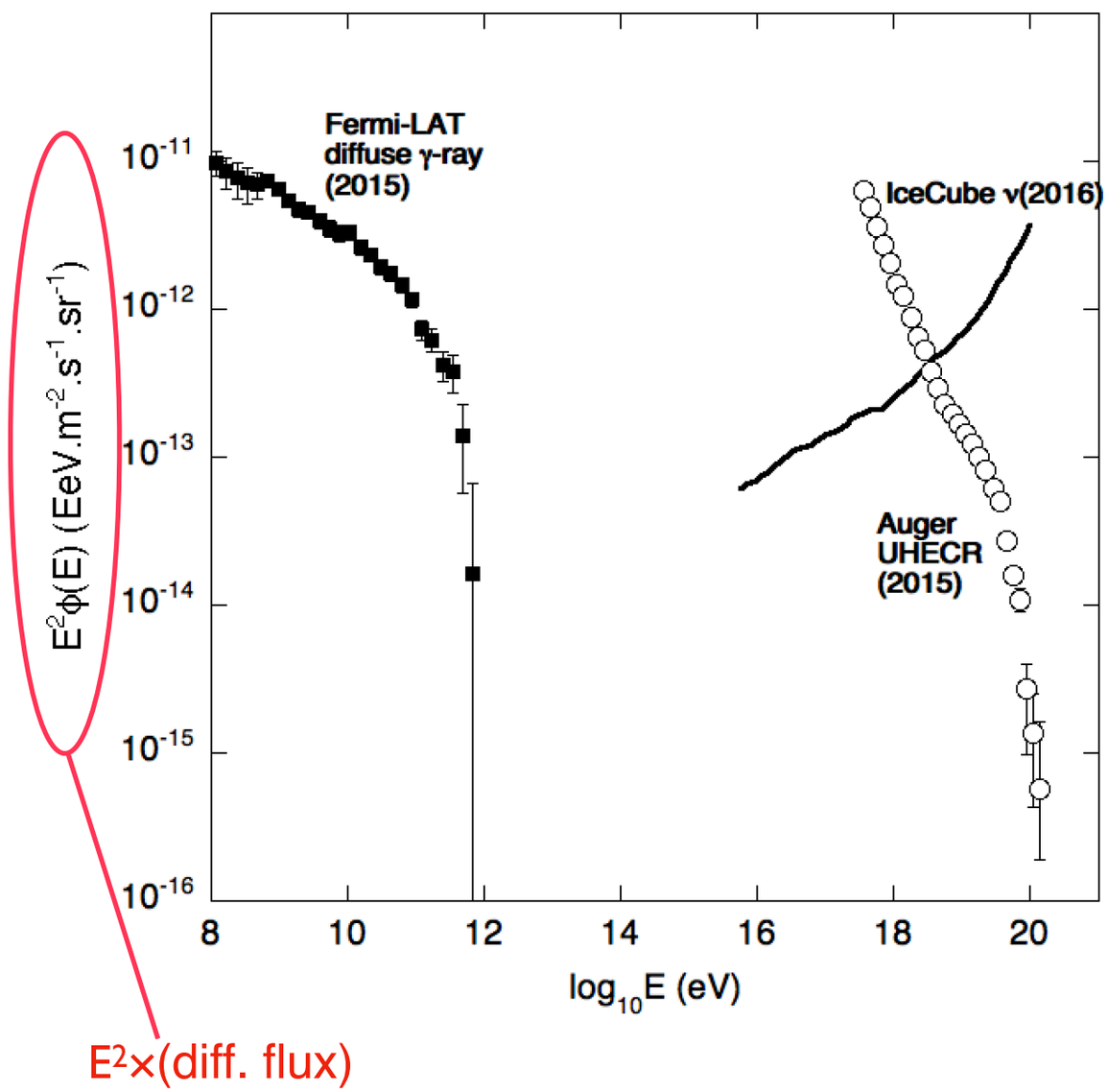
A "good" model should reproduce Auger or TA UHECR spectrum

➡ normalisation for the secondary ν and γ fluxes

➡ νs and γs must not overshoot IceCube UHEν sensitivity and Fermi-LAT isotropic gamma-ray background (IGRB)

NB : it should also reproduce the observed UHECR composition

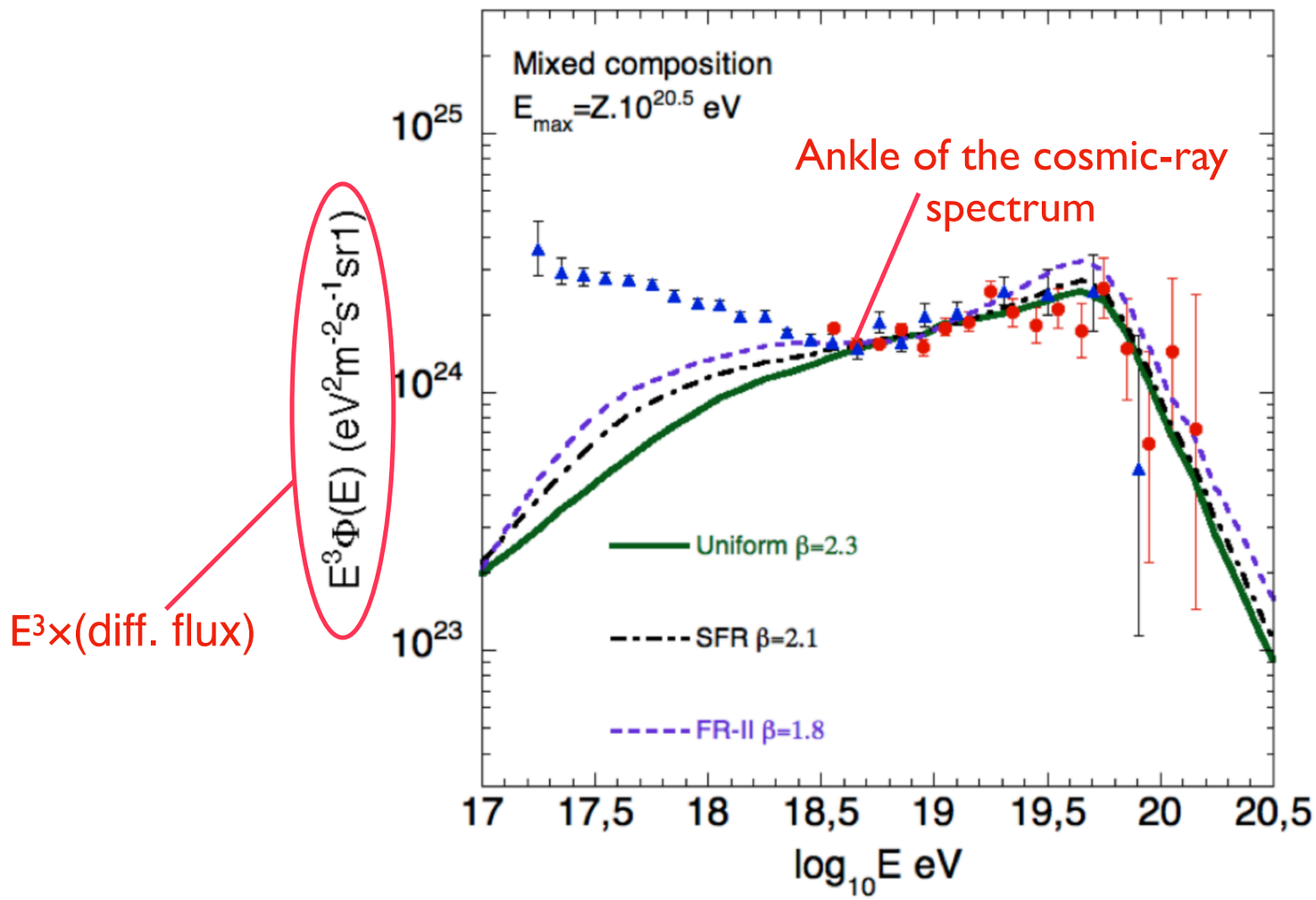
Aartsen et al. 2016, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117 (24)
Ackermann et al. 2015, ApJ 799:86
Auger Collaboration 2015 (ICRC)



One example : mixed composition assumed at UHECR sources

Assuming the maximum energy per nucleon is above 10^{20} eV (what most people thought until ~2010)
mixed composition similar to that of low energy galactic cosmic-rays :

$N(E) \propto E^{-\beta}$, $E_{max}(Z)=Z\times E_{max}^{proton}$, $E_{max}^{proton}=10^{20.5}$ eV



The UHECR spectrum can be well reproduced above the ankle
—> the ankle is interpreted in this case as a signature of the transition between Galactic and extragalactic cosmic-rays

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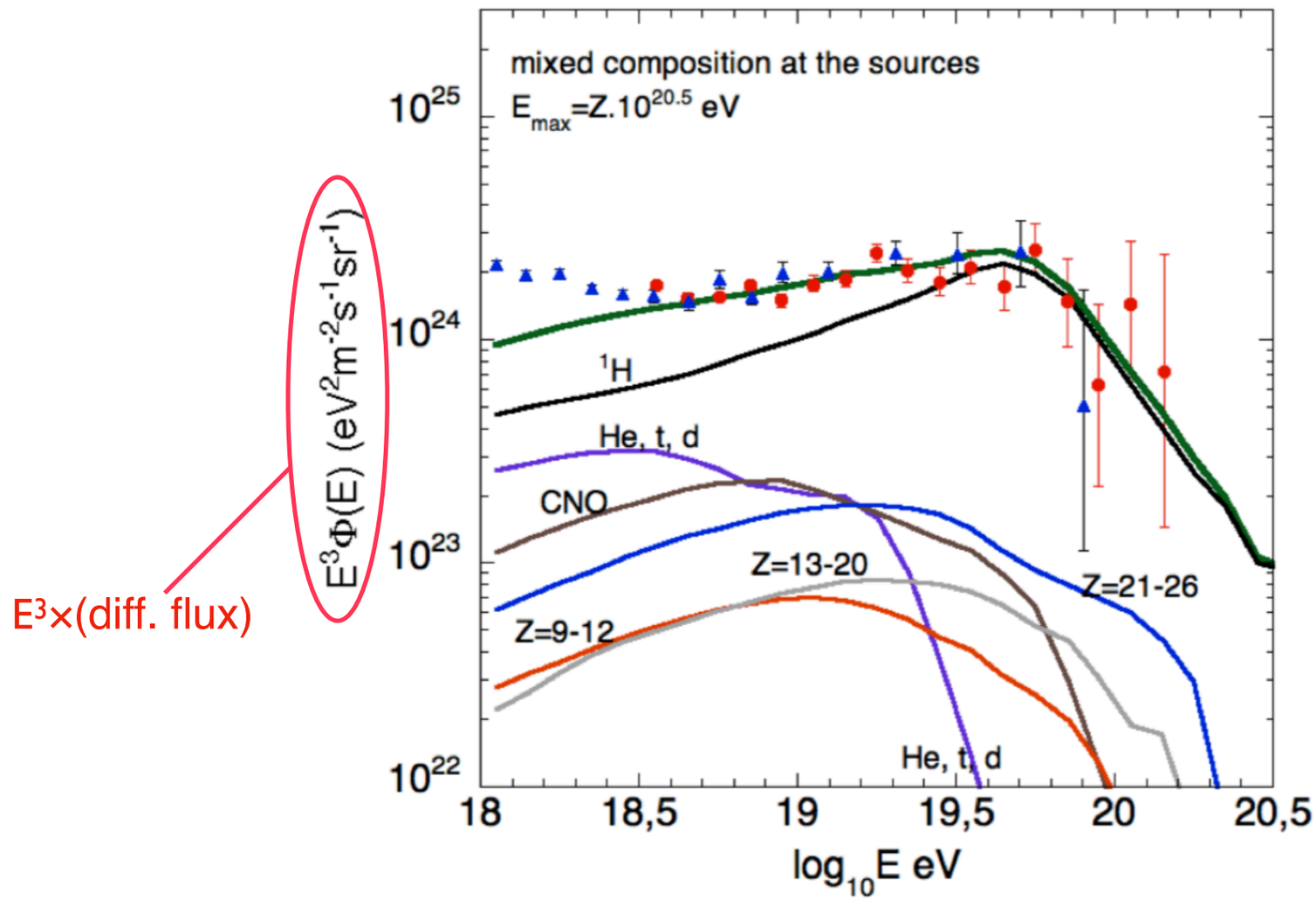
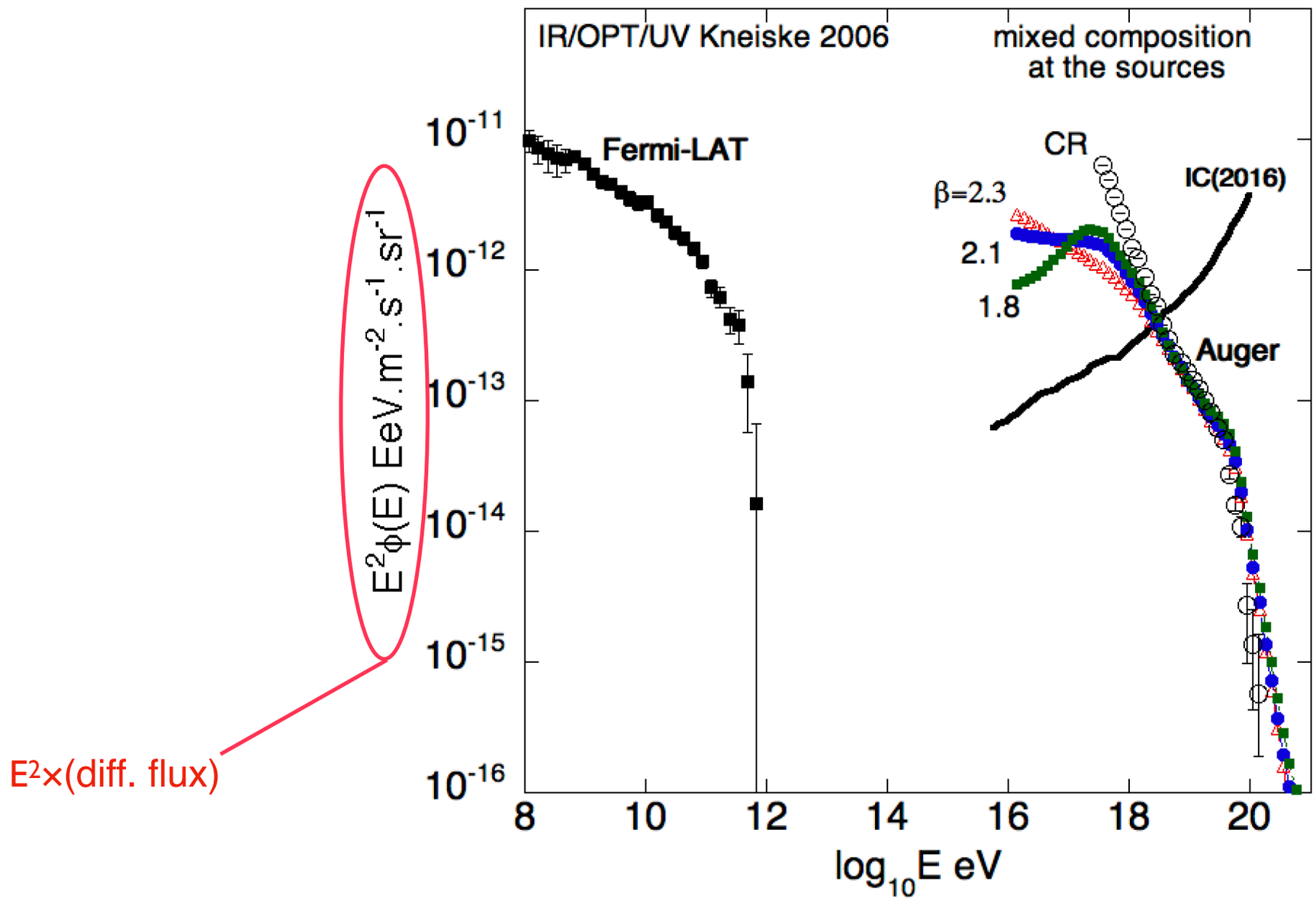


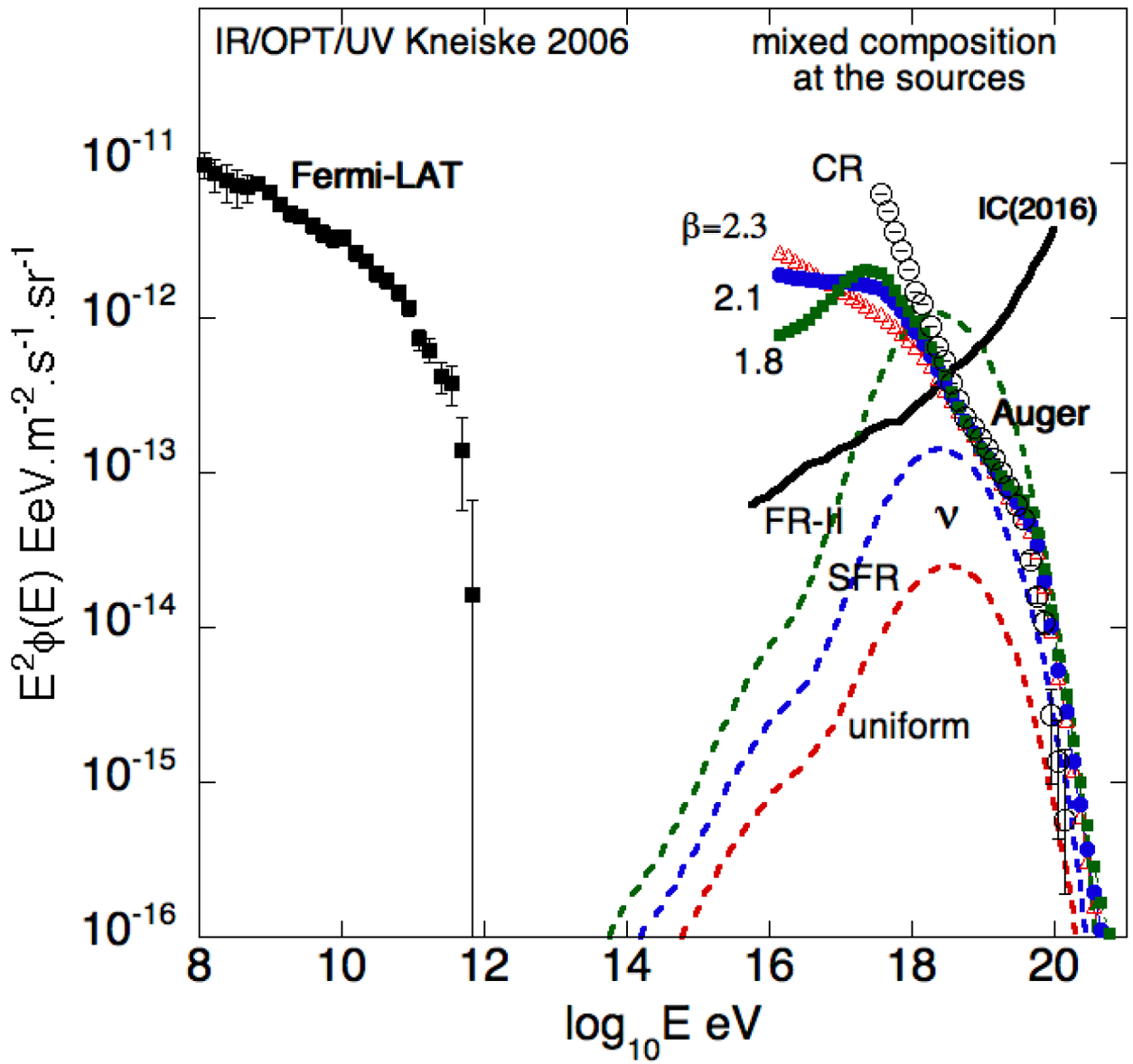
NB : when all the species are assumed to be accelerated above 10^{20} eV, the composition is expected to get lighter (i.e proton richer) above 10^{19} eV (photodisintegration of composed species)

One example : mixed composition assumed at UHECR sources



One example : mixed composition assumed at UHECR sources

Neutrino "bumps" peaking around 10^{18} eV —> produced by UHECR >>10^{19} eV per nucleon —> π-photoproduction on CMB photons



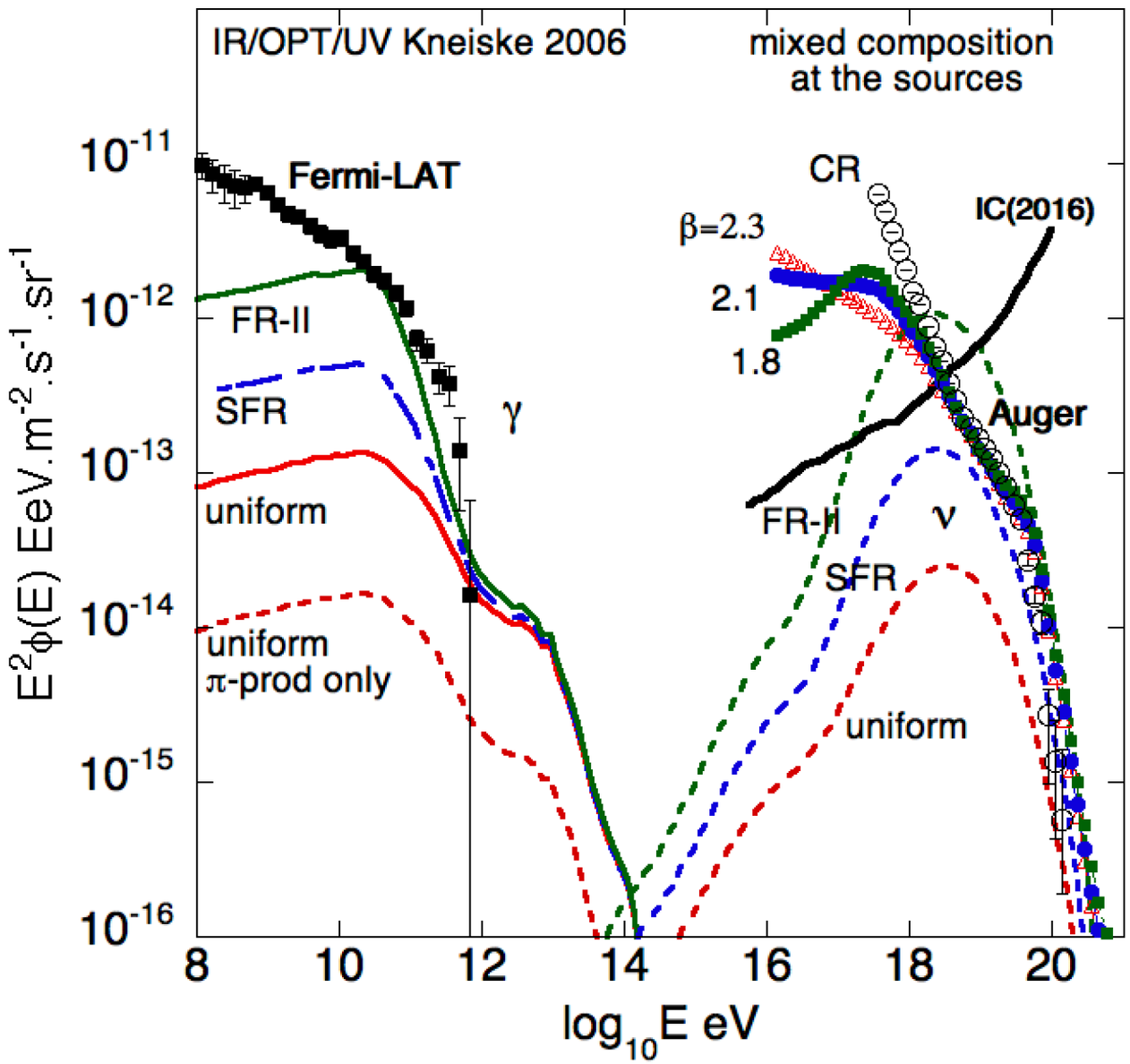
Strong impact of the cosmological evolution of the sources on the cosmogenic ν fluxes —> evolutions significantly stronger than SFR constrained by IceCube

One example : mixed composition assumed at UHECR sources

All the energy released in γ and e^+e^- piles up in the subTeV range

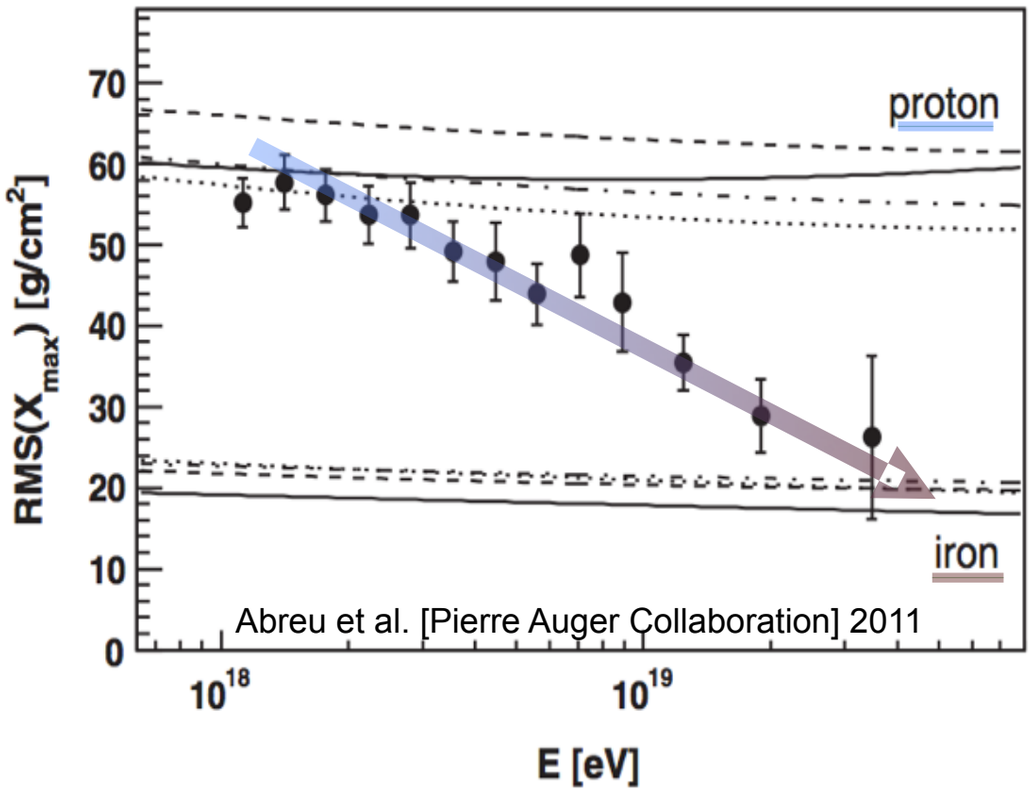
Strong impact of the cosmological evolution of the sources on the cosmogenic γ fluxes —> strongest evolution also ruled out by Fermi-LAT IGRB

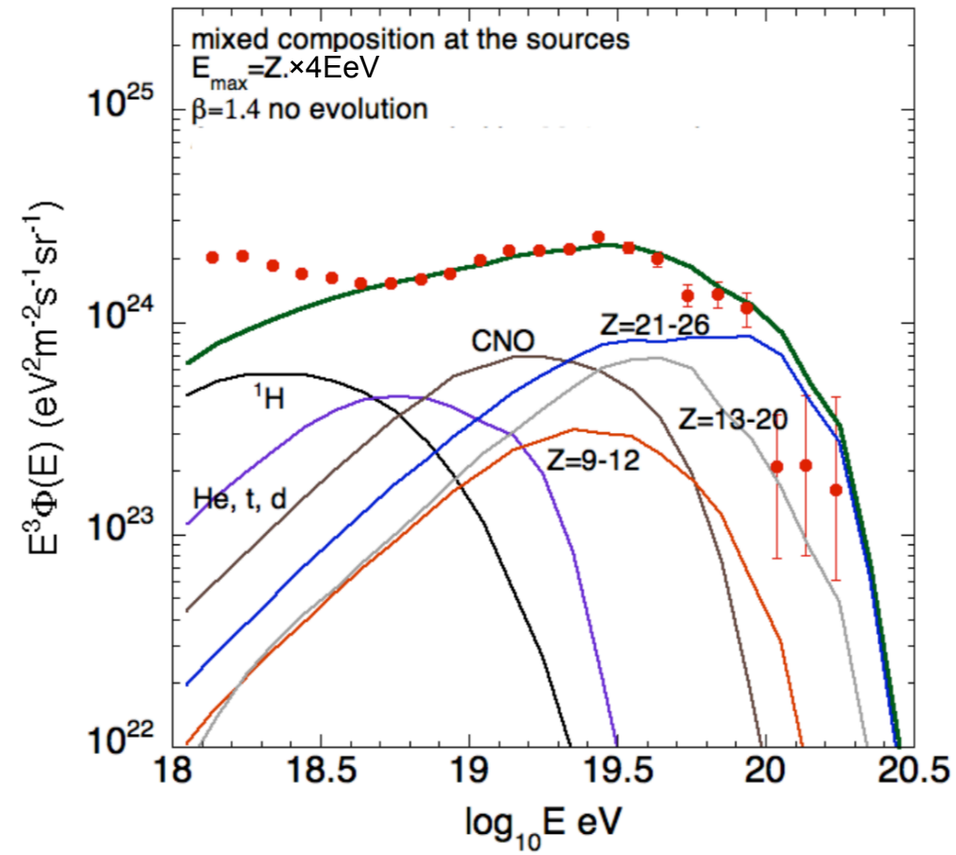
(Adapted from Decerprit and Allard, A&A, 2011)



subdominant contribution of π-photoproduction to cosmogenic γs —> dominant contribution of the e^+e^- pair production —> unlike cosmogenic νs, cosmogenic γs are not produced by the highest energy particles

Implications of Auger composition measurements





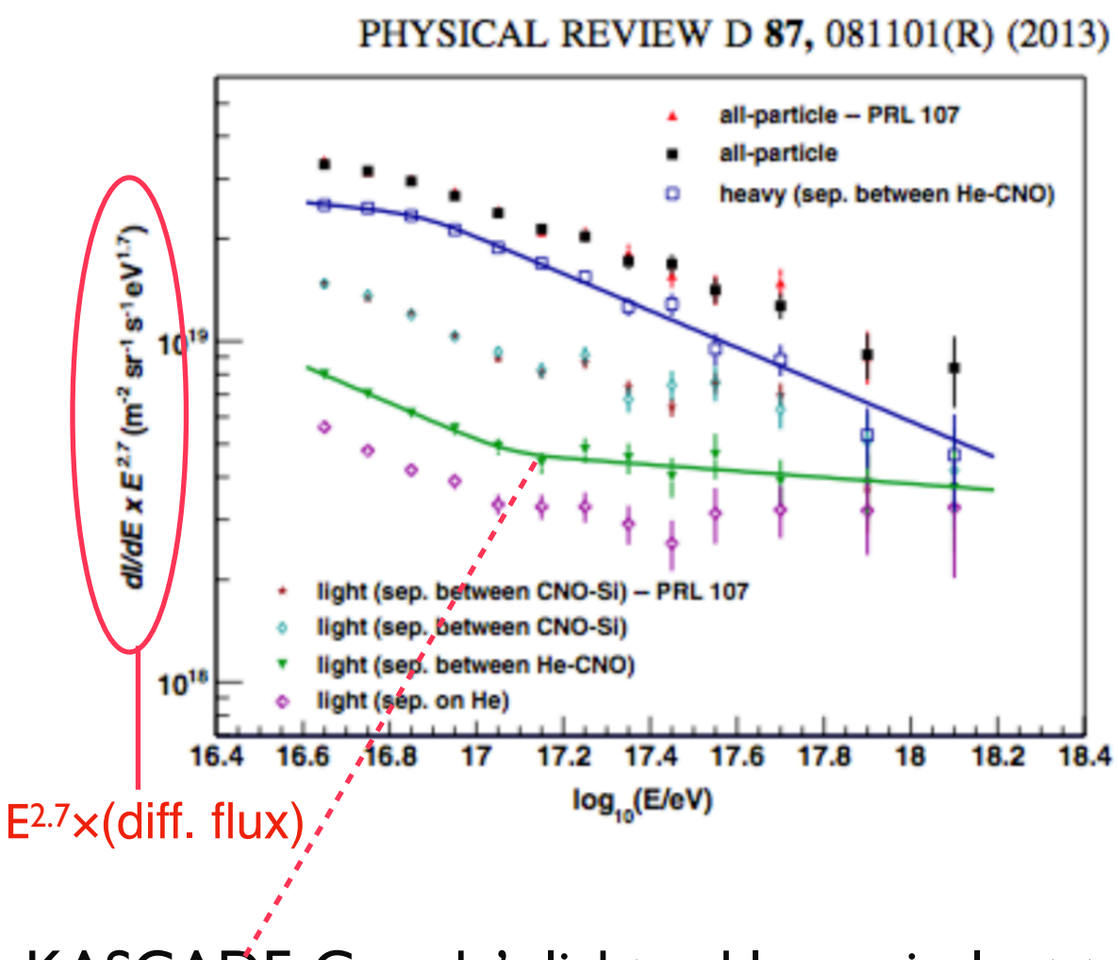
The evolution of the composition implied by Auger composition analyses strongly suggest that the composition is becoming heavier as the energy increases
—> dominant sources of UHECR do not accelerate protons to the highest energies

Low maximum energy per nucleon (a few EeV to 10^{19} eV, well below the pion production threshold with CMB photons) and hard source spectral indexes required

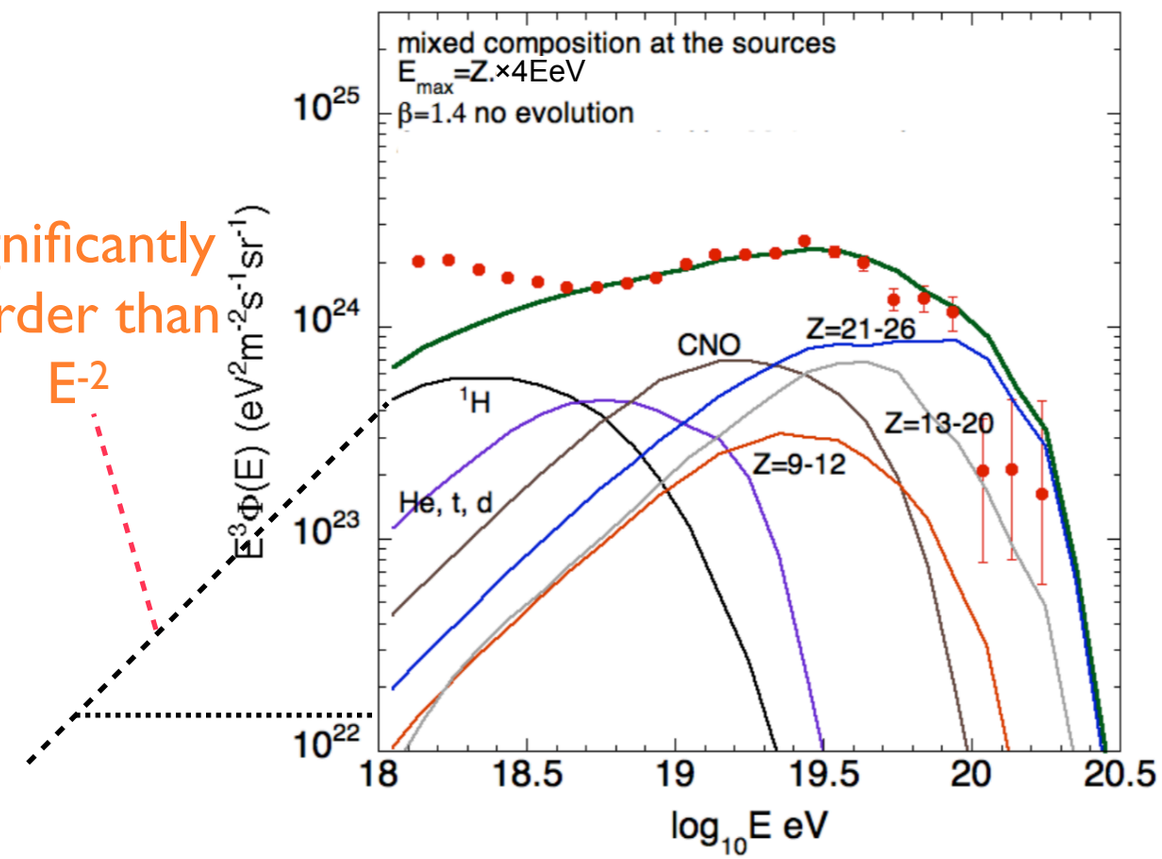
here $N(E) \propto E^{-\beta}$, $\beta=1.4$, $E_{max}(Z)=Z\times E_{max}^{proton}$, $E_{max}^{proton}=4.10^{18}$ eV

obviously not a good news for UHE cosmogenic neutrinos predictions

KASCADE-Grande's light ankle



significantly harder than E^{-2}



KASCADE-Grande's light ankle, equivalent to the ankle of the cosmic-ray spectrum but for the light component (H-He), around 10^{17} eV

—> most probably implies that extragalactic light component starts to be significant already at 10^{17} eV

—> light component quite soft above 10^{17} eV (~2.8)

Difficult to make a consistent picture of the Auger composition + the light ankle with the above phenomenological model

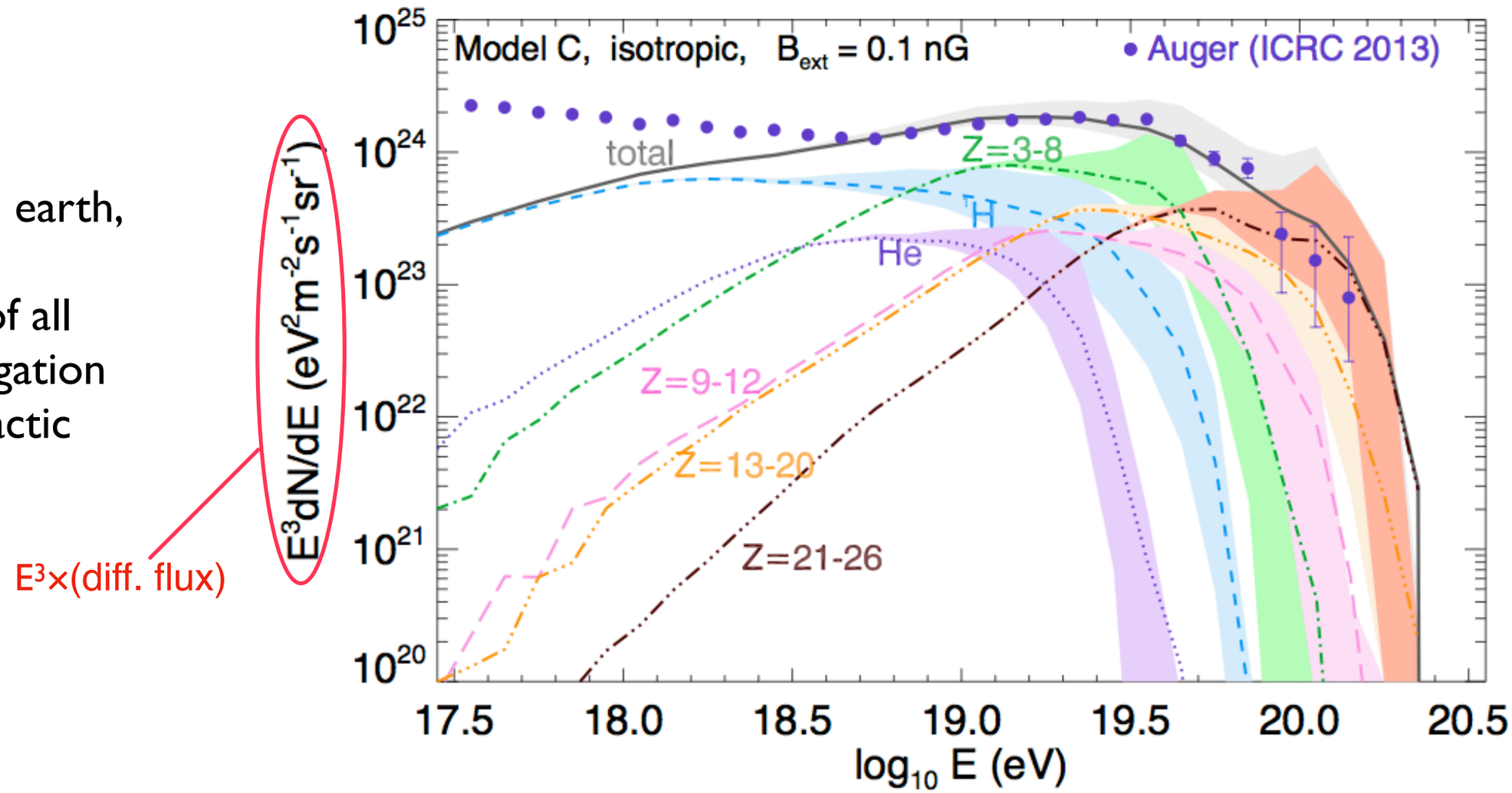
One would need a much softer spectrum for the light nuclei

Phenomenological model of UHECR acceleration as a solution to the soft proton spectrum issue

Model of UHECR acceleration at GRB internal shocks (Globus et al. 2015)
can reproduce UHECR data (Auger spectrum and composition)

- if most of the energy dissipated is communicated to accelerated cosmic-rays
- the composition injected at the shock has ~ 10 times galactic CR metallicity

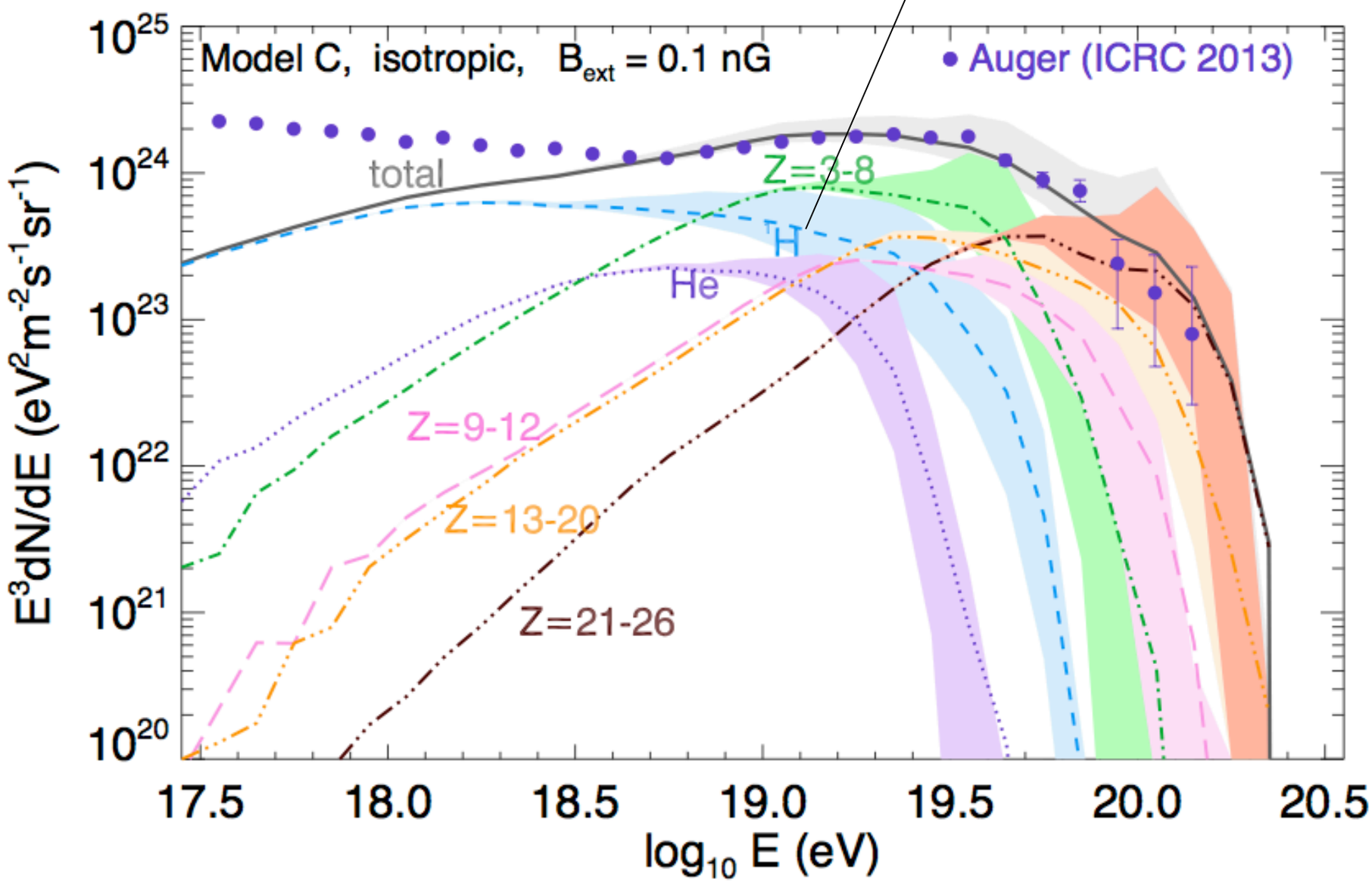
NB : Spectrum on earth, sum of the contributions of all GRB after propagation in the extragalactic medium



N. Globus, D. Allard, R. Mochkovitch, E. Parizot, MNRAS, 2015

Phenomenological model : implications for the GCR to EGCR transition

low proton maximum energy
—> composition getting heavier as the energy increases



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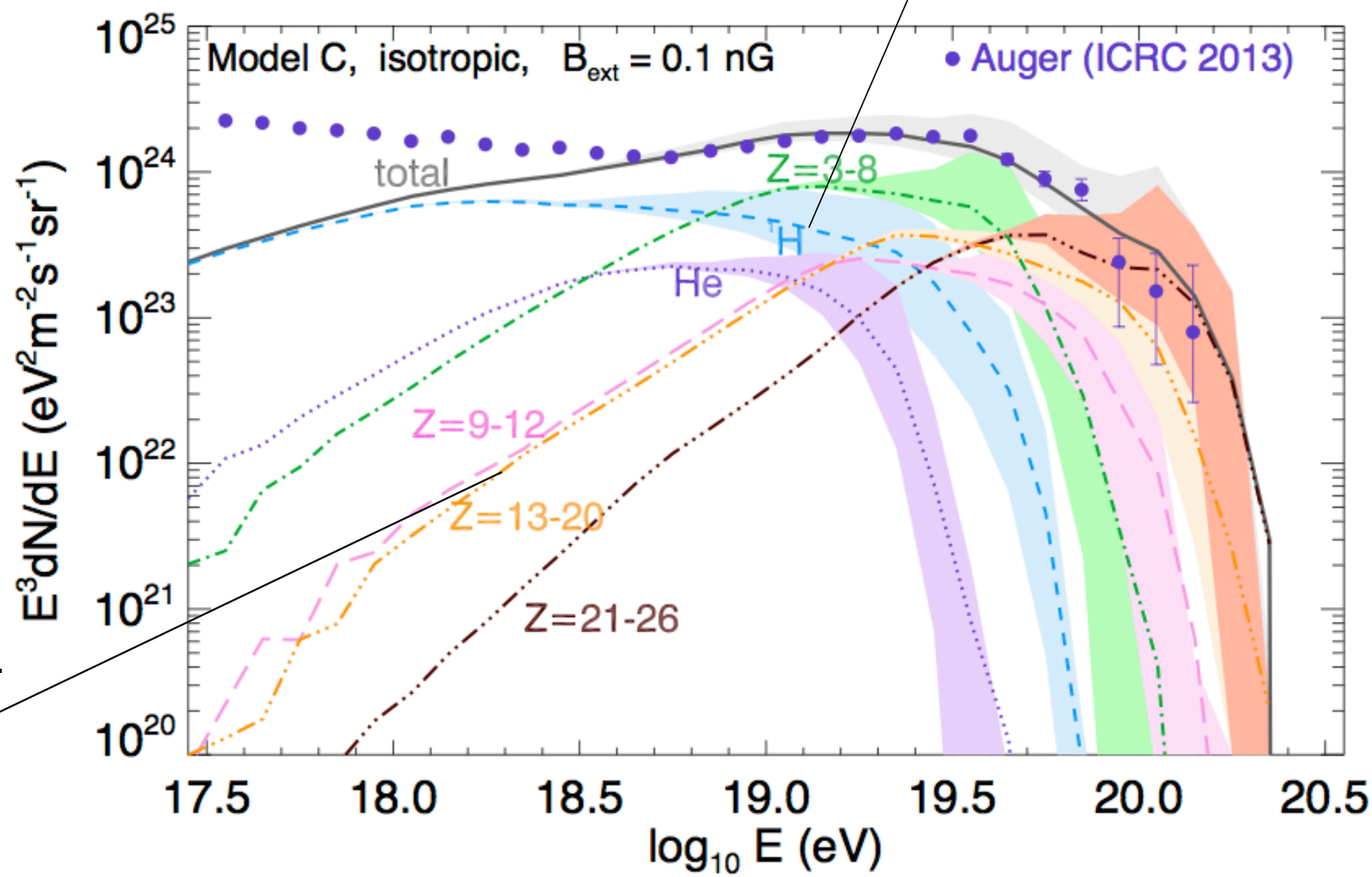
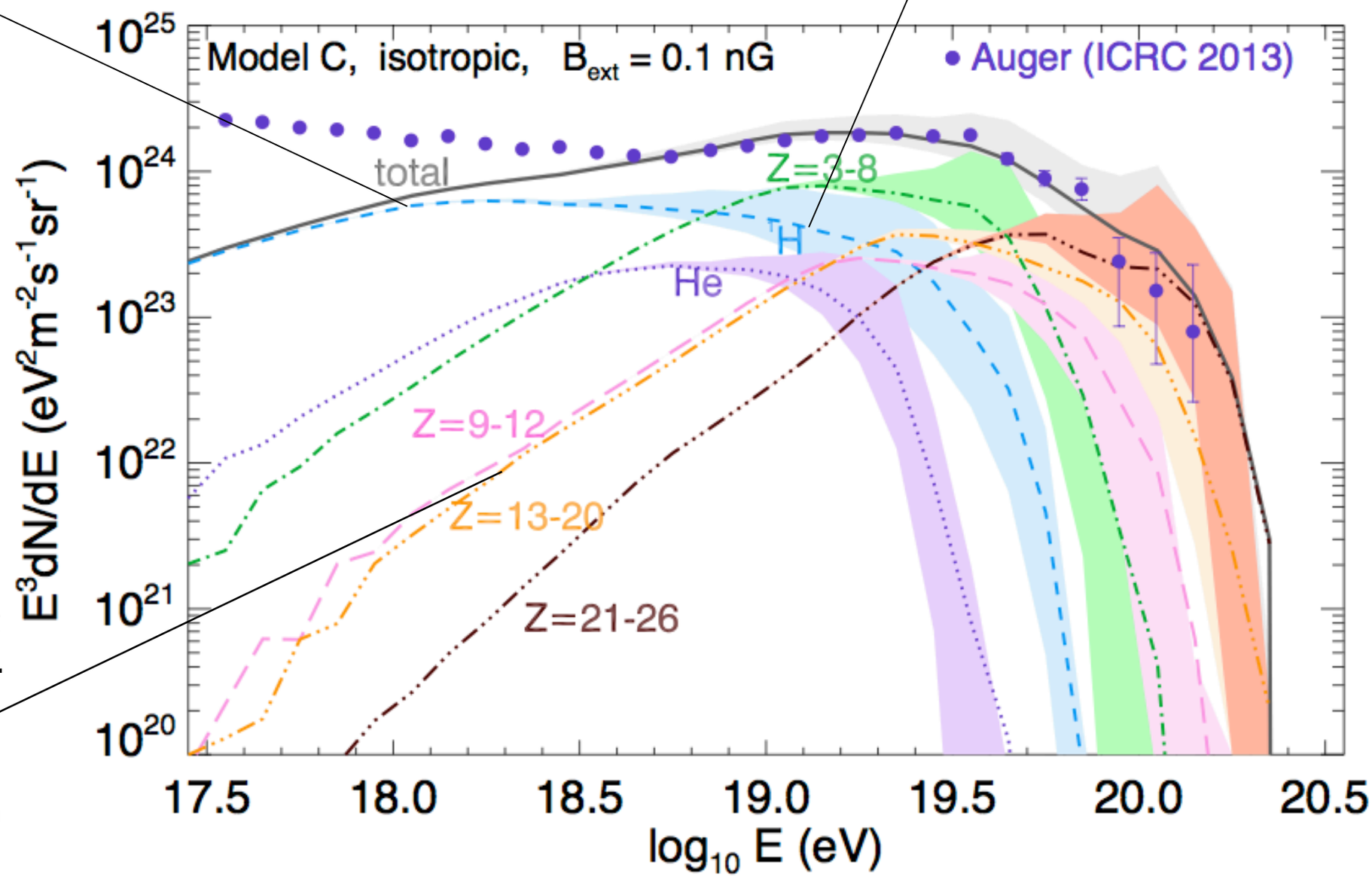


Heavier nuclei spectrum : Very hard due to the high-pass filter effect of the escape process
—> Hard nuclei spectrum required to fit Auger composition at high energy

Phenomenological model : implications for the GCR to EGCR transition

Proton spectrum : Soft due to the efficient escape of neutrons from the source (secondary neutron from the photodisintegration of nuclei within the source)
—> Allows the proton component to extend down to the light ankle seen by KASCADE-Grande

low proton maximum energy
—> composition getting heavier as the energy increases

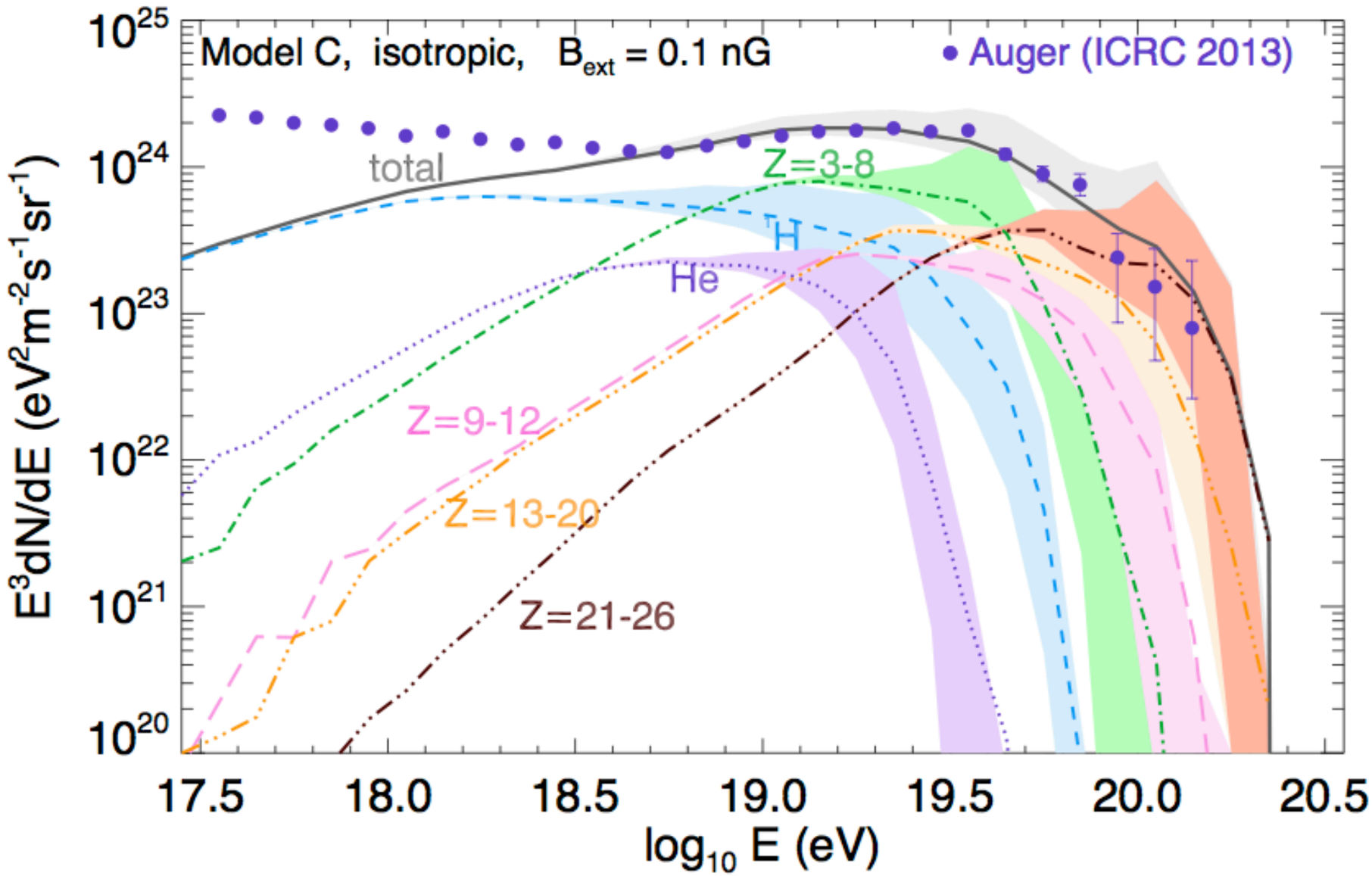


Heavier nuclei spectrum : Very hard due to the high-pass filter effect of the escape process
—> Hard nuclei spectrum required to fit Auger composition at high energy

Phenomenological model : implications for the GCR to EGCR transition

The difference in shape between the proton and nuclei spectra arises from the fact that the source environment is strongly magnetized and harbours dense radiation fields

—> should not be a distinctive feature of GRB sources



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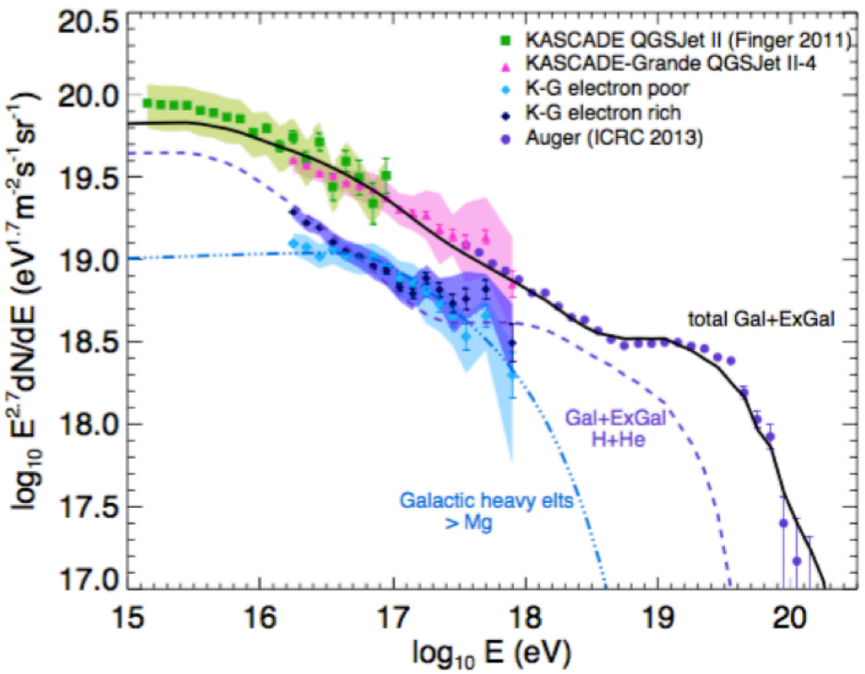
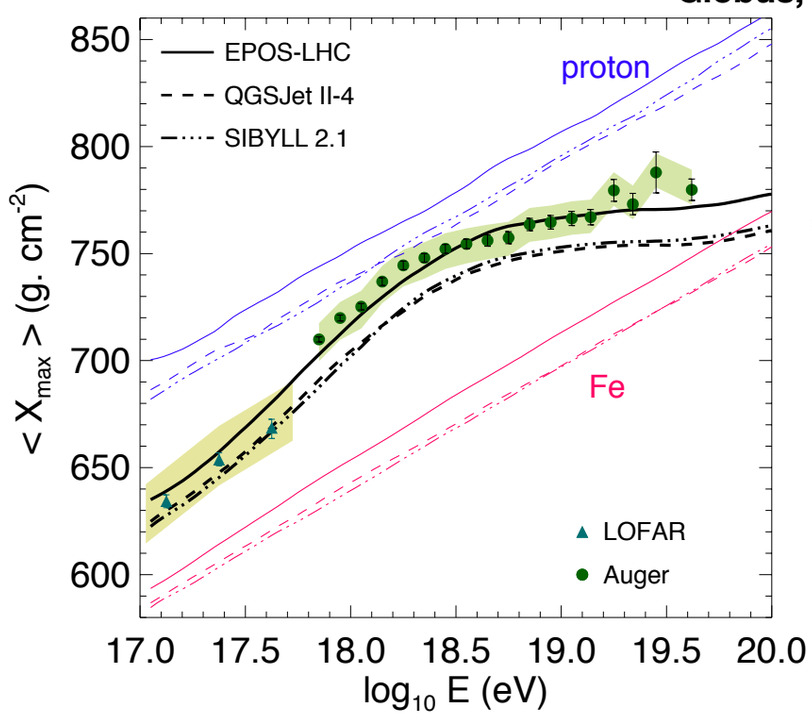
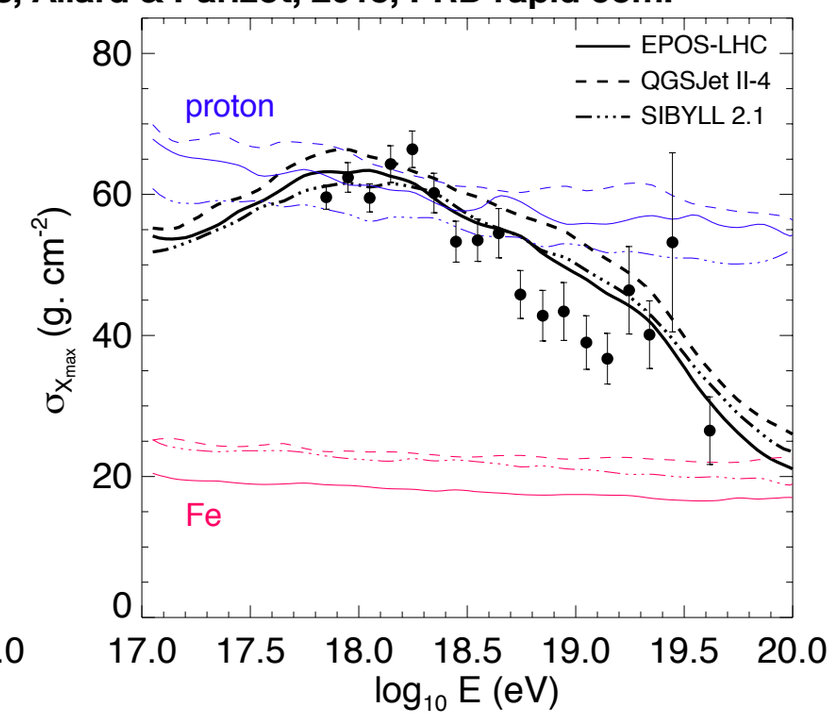


Globus, Allard & Parizot, 2015, PRD rapid com.

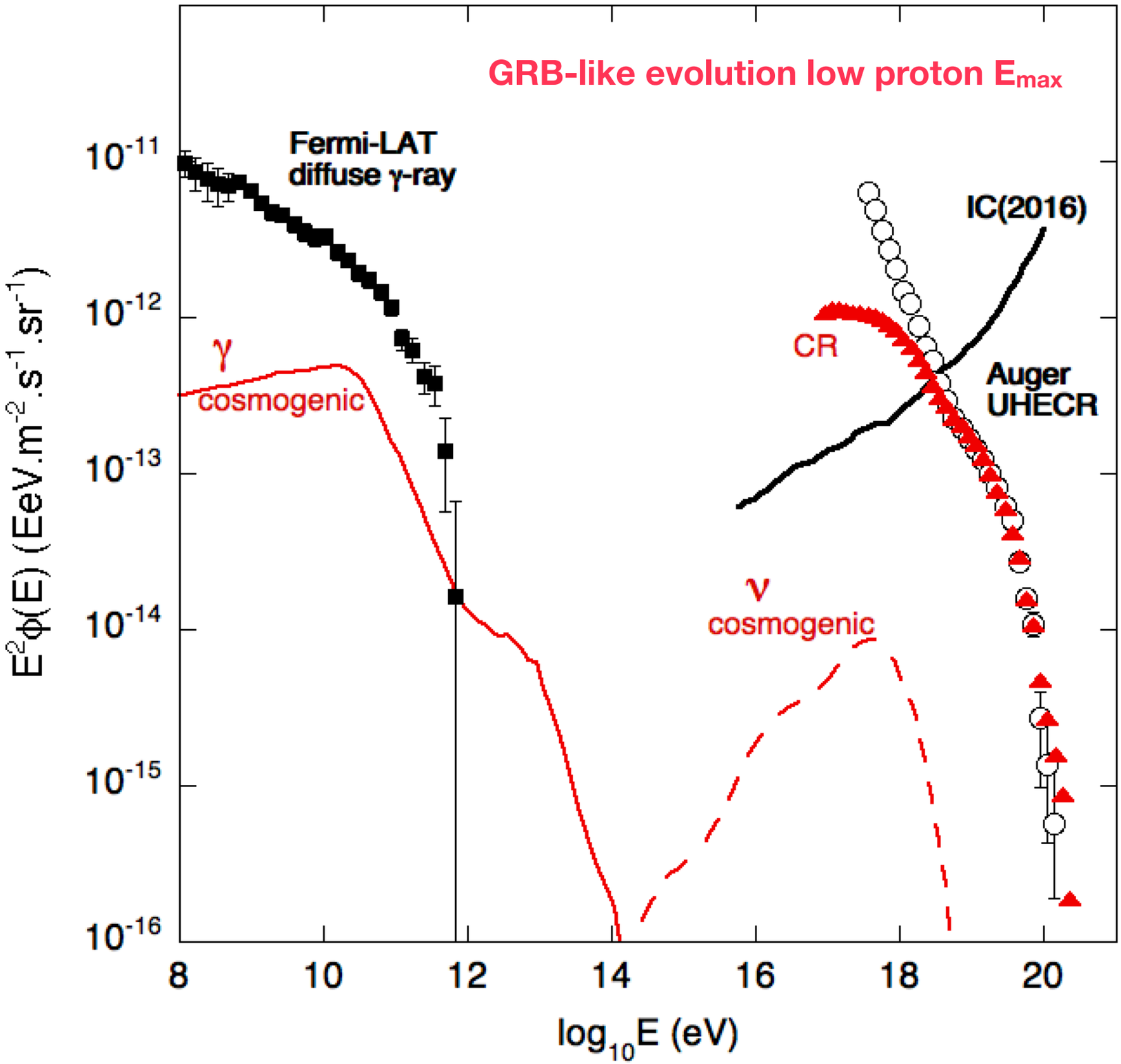




Extragalactic model coupled to a simple description of the Galactic component
(abundances obtained from balloon and satellite measurements, broken power laws assumed to reproduce the knee of the different species at energies proportional to Z)

- Fair reproduction of the light ankle and heavy galactic component
- Good description of Auger composition observables when using the latest (LHC tested) hadronic models
- Good agreement with more recent Auger analyses (down to 10^{17} eV) and recent LOFAR (radio) measurements (as well as older HiRes MIA results)

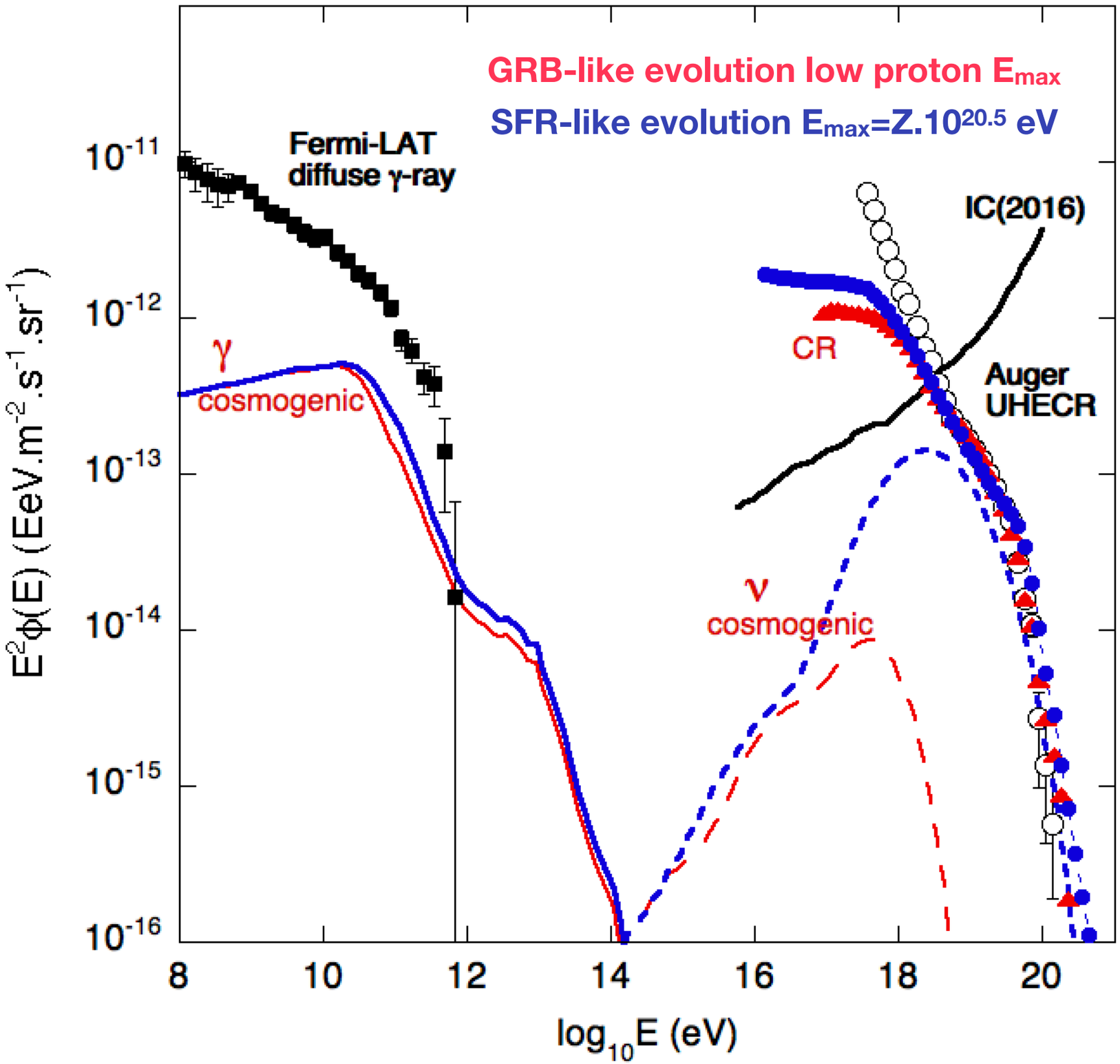
Phenomenological model : multi-messenger implications



The impact is, as expected, very strong on the predicted cosmogenic neutrino fluxes

Despite the low maximum energy per nucleon, the diffuse γ-ray flux is very similar to that of previous mixed composition case

Phenomenological model : multi-messenger implications



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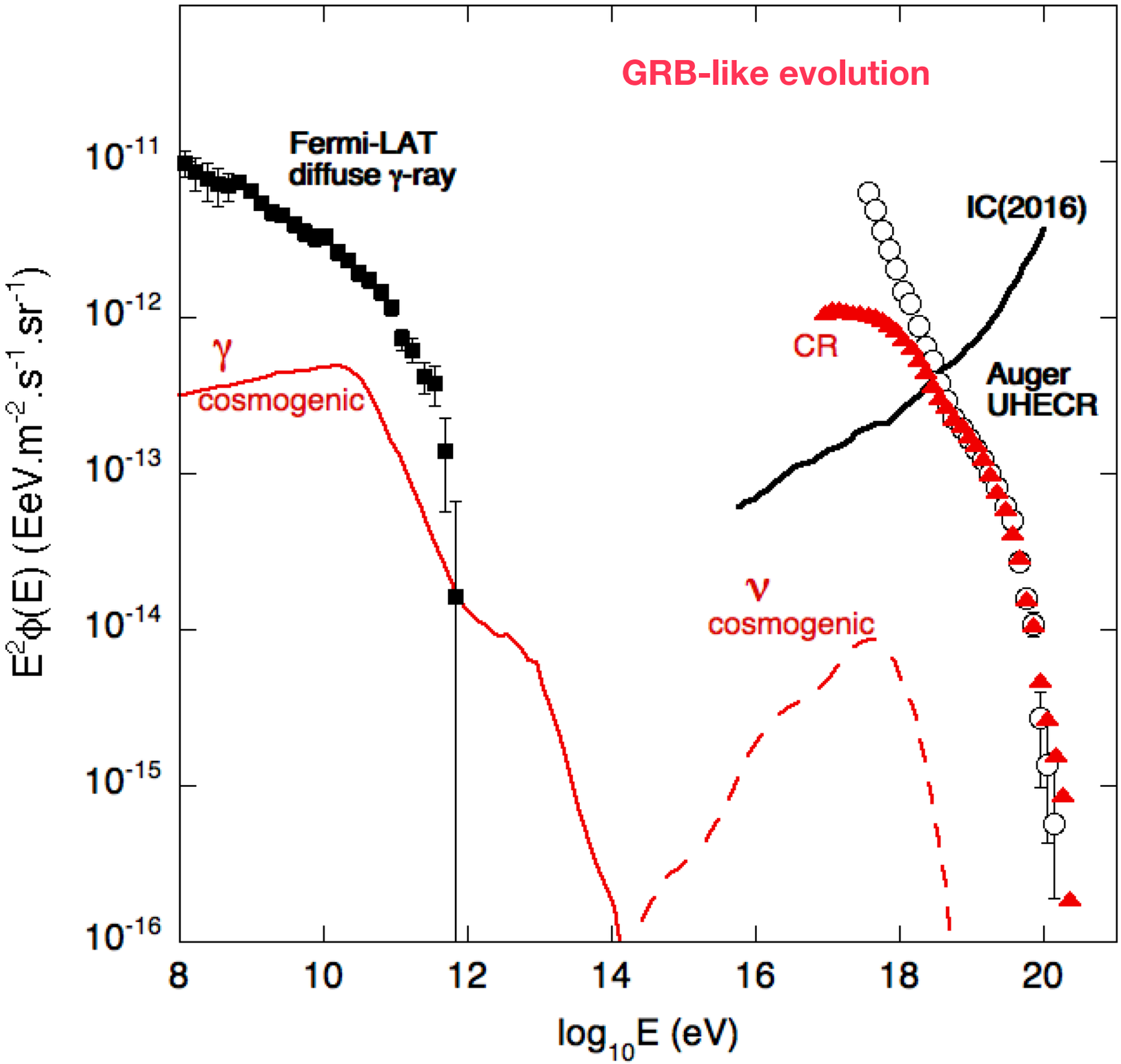


The impact is, as expected, very strong on the predicted cosmogenic neutrino fluxes

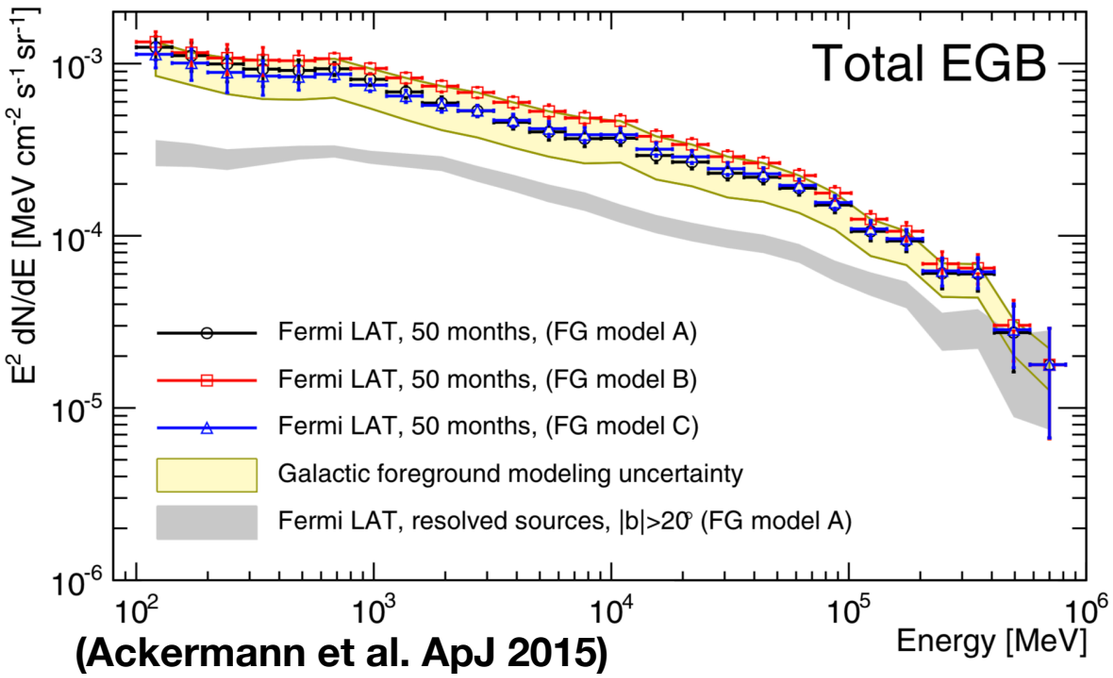
Despite the low maximum energy per nucleon, the diffuse γ-ray flux is very similar to that of previous mixed composition case

This scenario looks completely unconstrained from the point of view of cosmogenic neutrinos and photons

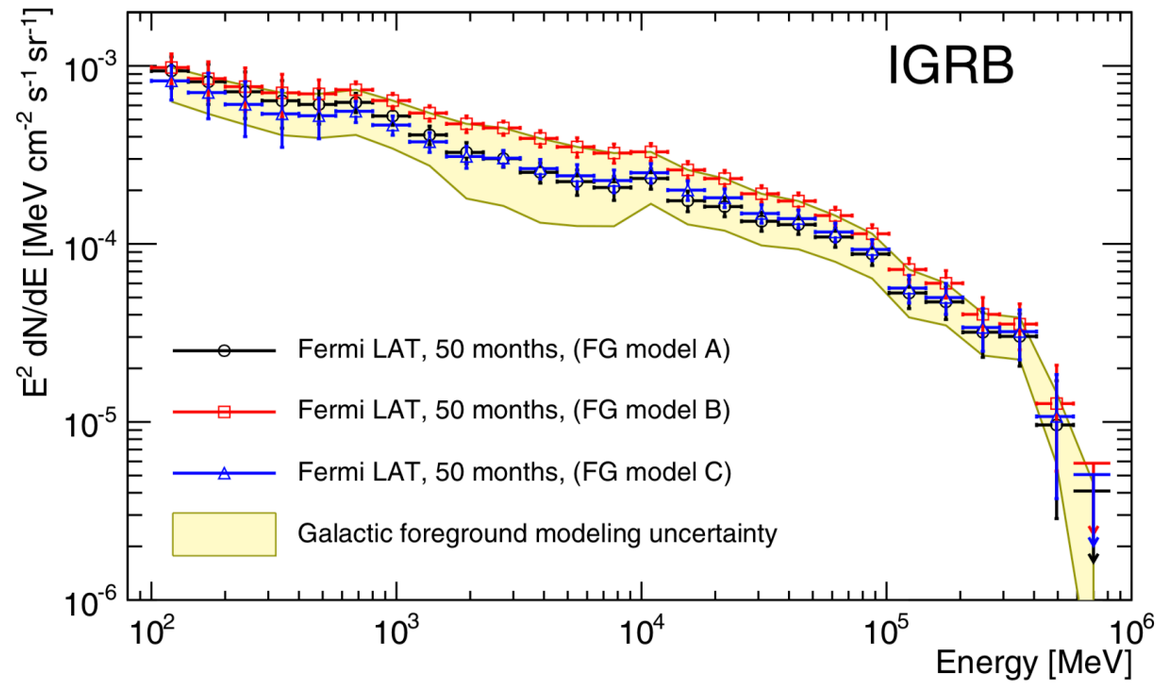
But Fermi-LAT data contain more informations than what we just discussed

Recent Fermi estimates of the extragalactic γ-ray background

Fermi recently released an updated estimate of the extragalactic γ-ray background for both the resolved and unresolved components



(Ackermann et al. ApJ 2015)



Account of the uncertainties on the modelling of the galactic foreground

➡3 different estimates (models A, B and C) corresponding to three equally realistic theoretical modelings of the galactic foreground

NB : The total extragalactic γ-ray background is made of several contributions :

- resolved point sources (very large majority of Blazars)
- unresolved point sources (mostly blazars, misaligned AGNs and star forming galaxies (contribute also to the IGRB)
- truly diffuse processes (UHECR for sure, possibly DM)

➡ **estimating the different contributions would help constraining that of UHECRs**

Recent Fermi measurements : estimates of point sources contribution to the γ-ray background

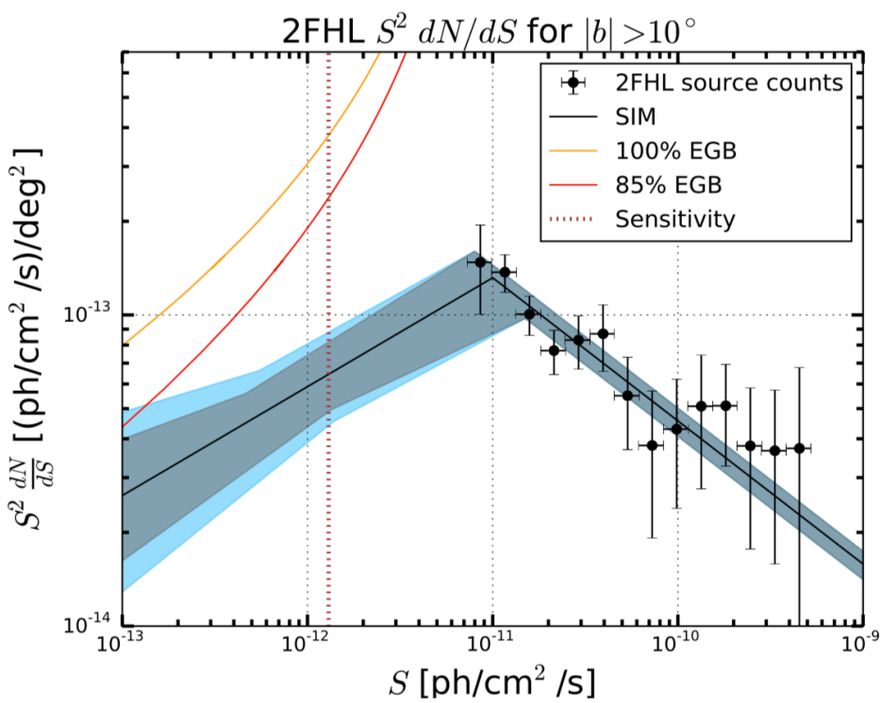
Different estimates of the contribution of point sources (resolved and unresolved) to the total γ-ray background were proposed

2 recent studies:

- Ackermann et al. , PRL, 2016 (**A16**)
- Zechlin et al., ApJ, 2016 (**Z16**)

(based on a method proposed in Malyshev & Hogg 2011)

	(Z16)					(A16)
Energy bands (in GeV)	① 1.04–1.99	② 1.99–5.0	③ 5.0–10.4	④ 10.4–50	⑤ 50–171	⑥ 50–2000
F_{PS} ($\times 10^{-9}$ cm$^{-2}\cdot$s$^{-1}\cdot$sr^{-1})	250^{+20}_{-40}	124^{+7}_{-25}	27^{+8}_{-3}	14^{+6}_{-1}	$1.7^{+1.1}_{-0.4}$	$2.07^{+0.40}_{-0.34}$
F_{PS}/F_{EGB} (% Model B)	68^{+5}_{-10}	63^{+4}_{-13}	52^{+15}_{-6}	51^{+22}_{-4}	65^{+41}_{-15}	71^{+13}_{-12}



(Ackermann et al., PRL 2016)

The contribution of the resolved point sources is estimated for fluxes well below the point source detection limits using the so-called "photon fluctuations analysis"

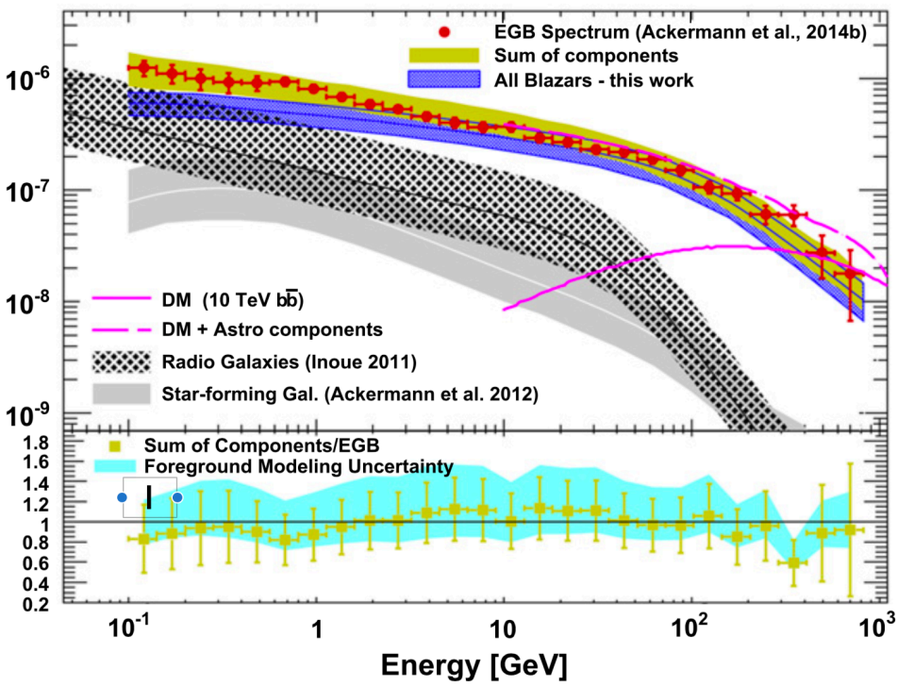
➡ fluxes due to (resolved and unresolved) point sources are estimated in each energy bands

➡ fractional contributions to the total γ-ray background are deduced in each bands

➡ **Large fractions deduced**

NB : these estimates are probably including blazar point sources and might not include the contributions of weak sources (but numerous) such as star-forming galaxies and misaligned AGNs

Recent Fermi measurements : estimates of point sources contribution to the γ-ray background



Ajello et al., ApJ, 2015

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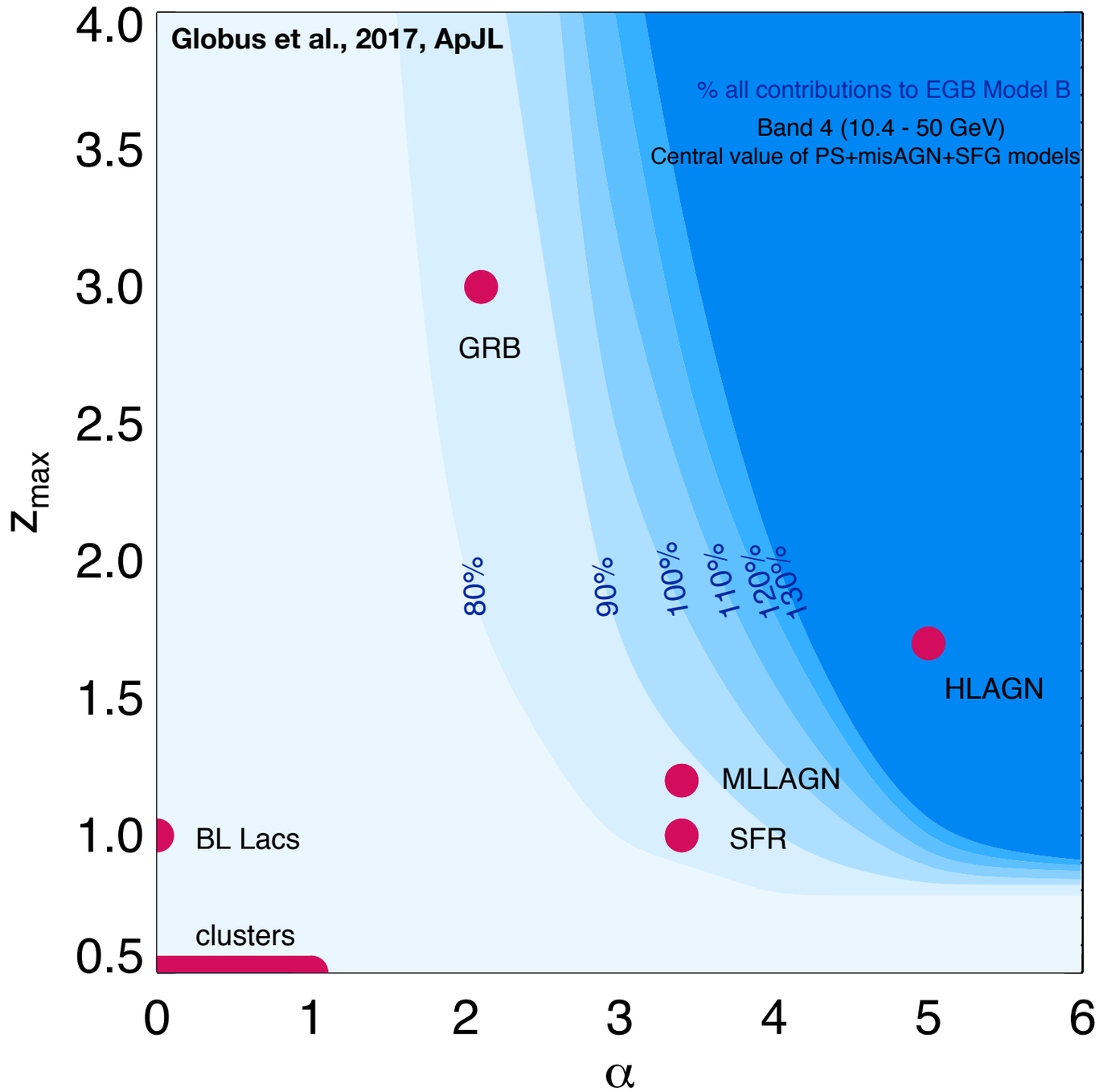
$F_{\rm PS}$ ($\times 10^{-9}\,{\rm cm}^{-2}\cdot{\rm s}^{-1}\cdot{\rm sr}^{-1}$)	250^{+20}_{-40}	124^{+7}_{-25}	27^{+8}_{-3}	14^{+6}_{-1}	$1.7^{+1.1}_{-0.4}$	$2.07^{+0.40}_{-0.34}$
$F_{\rm PS}/F_{\rm EGB}$ (% Model B)	68^{+5}_{-10}	63^{+4}_{-13}	52^{+15}_{-6}	51^{+22}_{-4}	65^{+41}_{-15}	71^{+13}_{-12}
$F_{\rm SFG+misAGN}$ ($\times 10^{-9}\,{\rm cm}^{-2}\cdot{\rm s}^{-1}\cdot{\rm sr}^{-1}$)	94^{+100}_{-36}	44^{+49}_{-18}	10^{+12}_{-4}	$4.5^{+5.4}_{-1.9}$	$0.17^{+0.18}_{-0.07}$	$0.18^{+0.19}_{-0.07}$
$F_{\rm SFG+misAGN}/F_{\rm EGB}$ (% Model B)	25^{+27}_{-10}	23^{+25}_{-9}	20^{+23}_{-8}	16^{+20}_{-7}	6^{+7}_{-3}	6^{+6}_{-2}

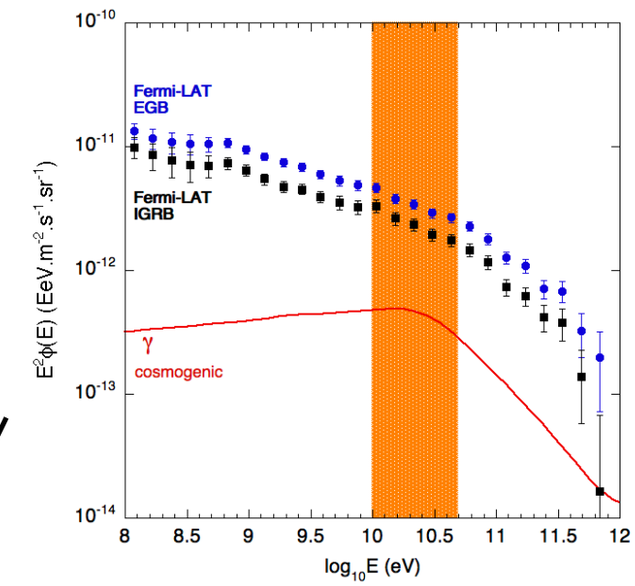
Using theoretical estimates of the contribution (almost exclusively unresolved) of SFG and misaligned AGNs one can add their contributions to that attributed to blazars in Z16 and A16

The contribution of UHECR must added to those of astrophysical sources to check whether or not a given astrophysical model is viable.

Summary plot on the allowed cosmological evolutions



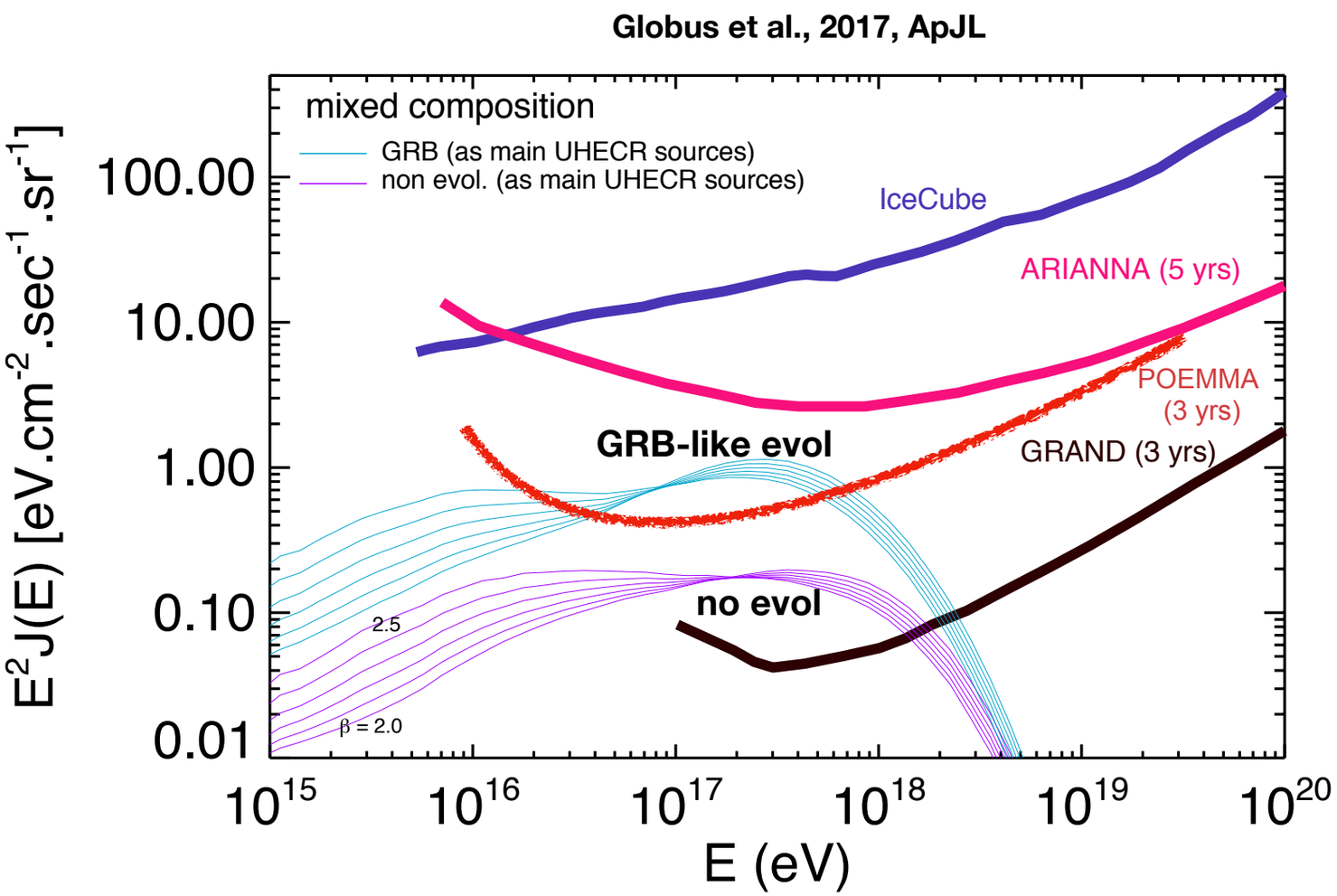
Astrophysical sources evolution usually parametrised as :
$(1+z)^{\alpha}$
up to a redshift z_{max}



In the 10-50 GeV band, where the UHECR contribution to the EGRB is the largest

In the case of our UHECR model (transition and low Emax), only very strong evolutions such as that of very luminous AGNs are clearly disfavoured

Discussion of the resulting cosmogonic neutrino fluxes

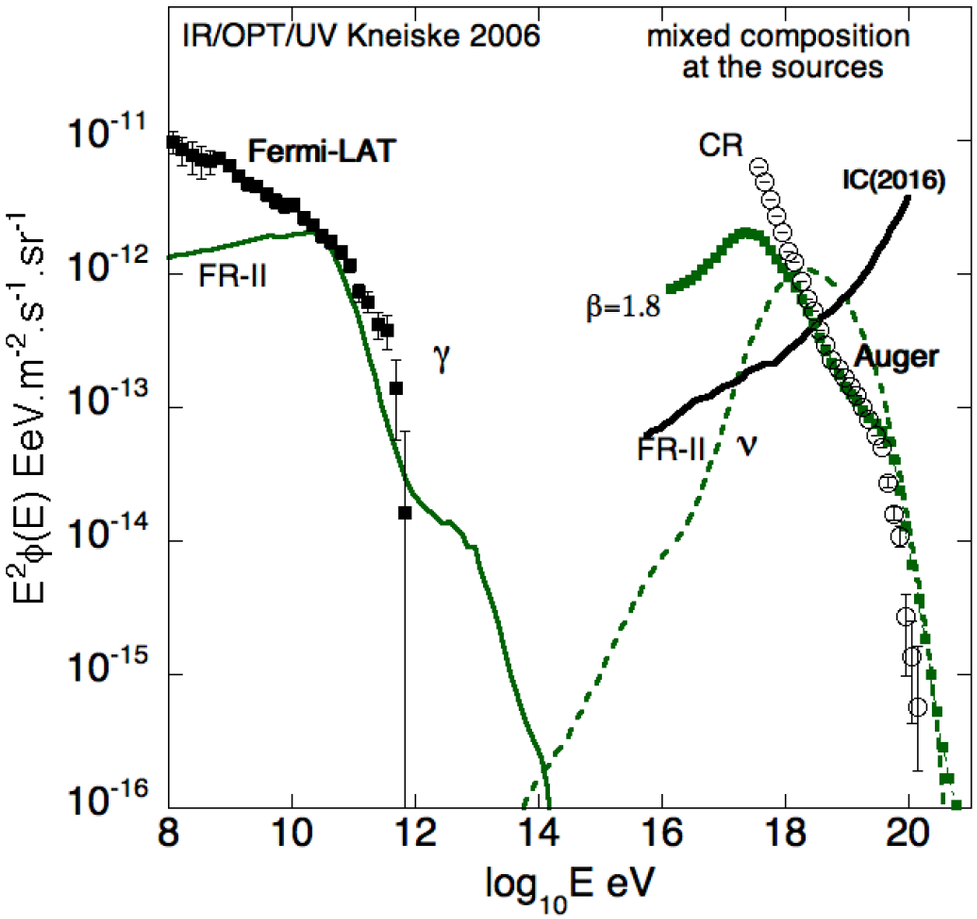


The range of cosmogenic neutrino fluxes predicted in the framework of our model are low (mostly due to the low value of the maximum energy per nucleon)

Not observable by current and mid-term experiments
POEMMA could see some neutrinos for GRB or SFR-like evolutions

However there is possibly more to observe than just the cosmogenic neutrinos from the dominant contribution to UHECRs

Constraining the presence of powerful protons accelerators in the universe

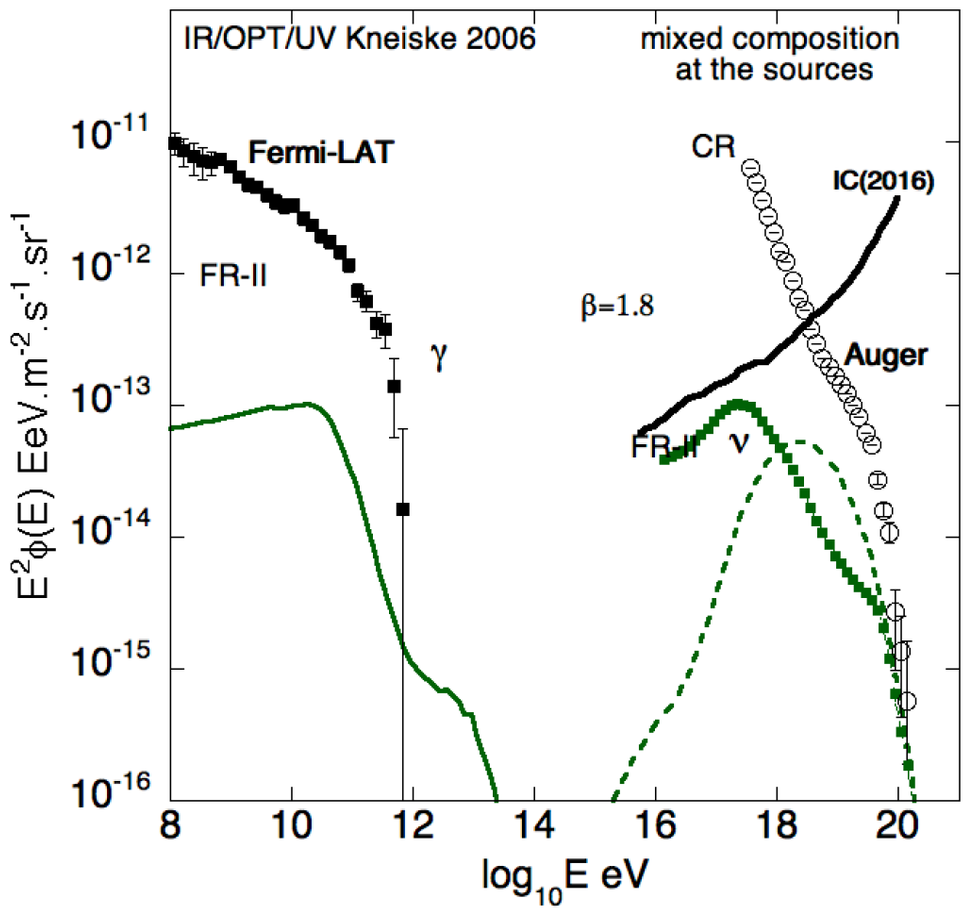


Let us consider proton accelerators (above 10^{20} eV) with a strong source evolution

➡ green curve is ruled out by Fermi, IceCube and Auger (composition)

➡ Let us instead assume it is a subdominant part of the spectrum, say 5% at 10^{19} eV

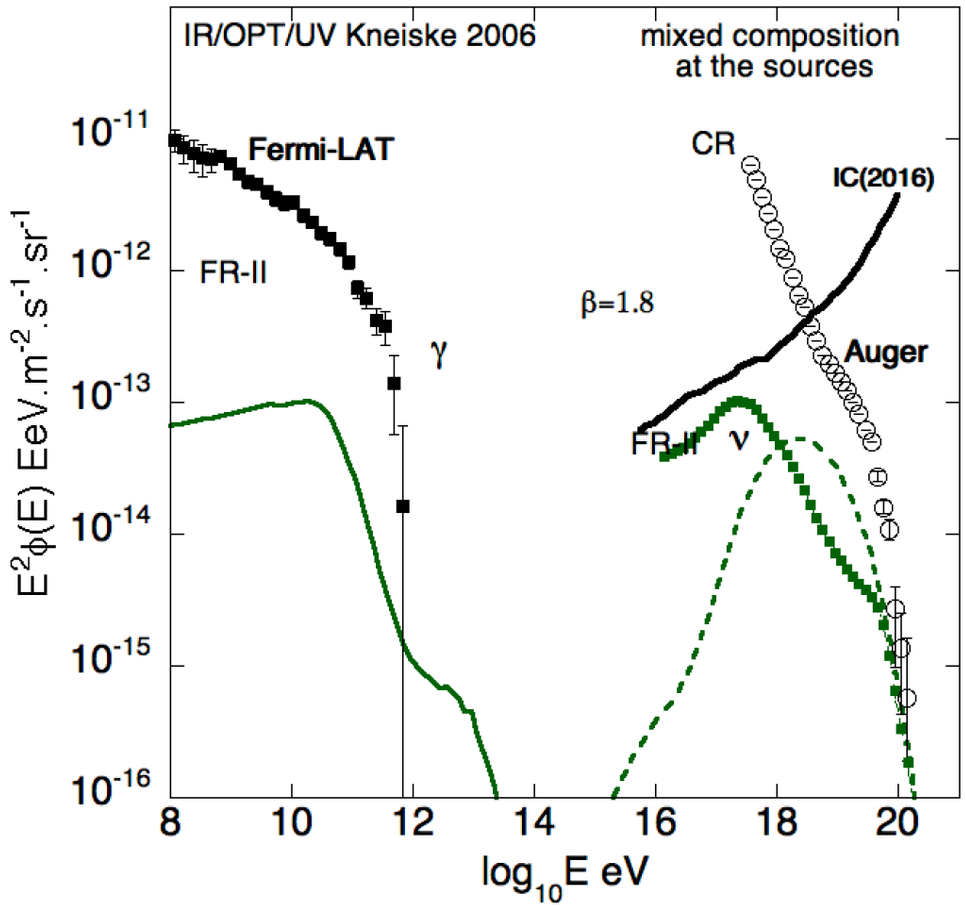
Constraining the presence of powerful protons accelerators in the universe



Let us consider proton accelerators (above 10^{20} eV) with a strong source evolution

- ➡ Let us instead assume it is a subdominant part of the spectrum, say 5% at 10^{19} eV
- ➡ Then it is not ruled out anymore by any experimental constraint

Constraining the presence of powerful protons accelerators in the universe



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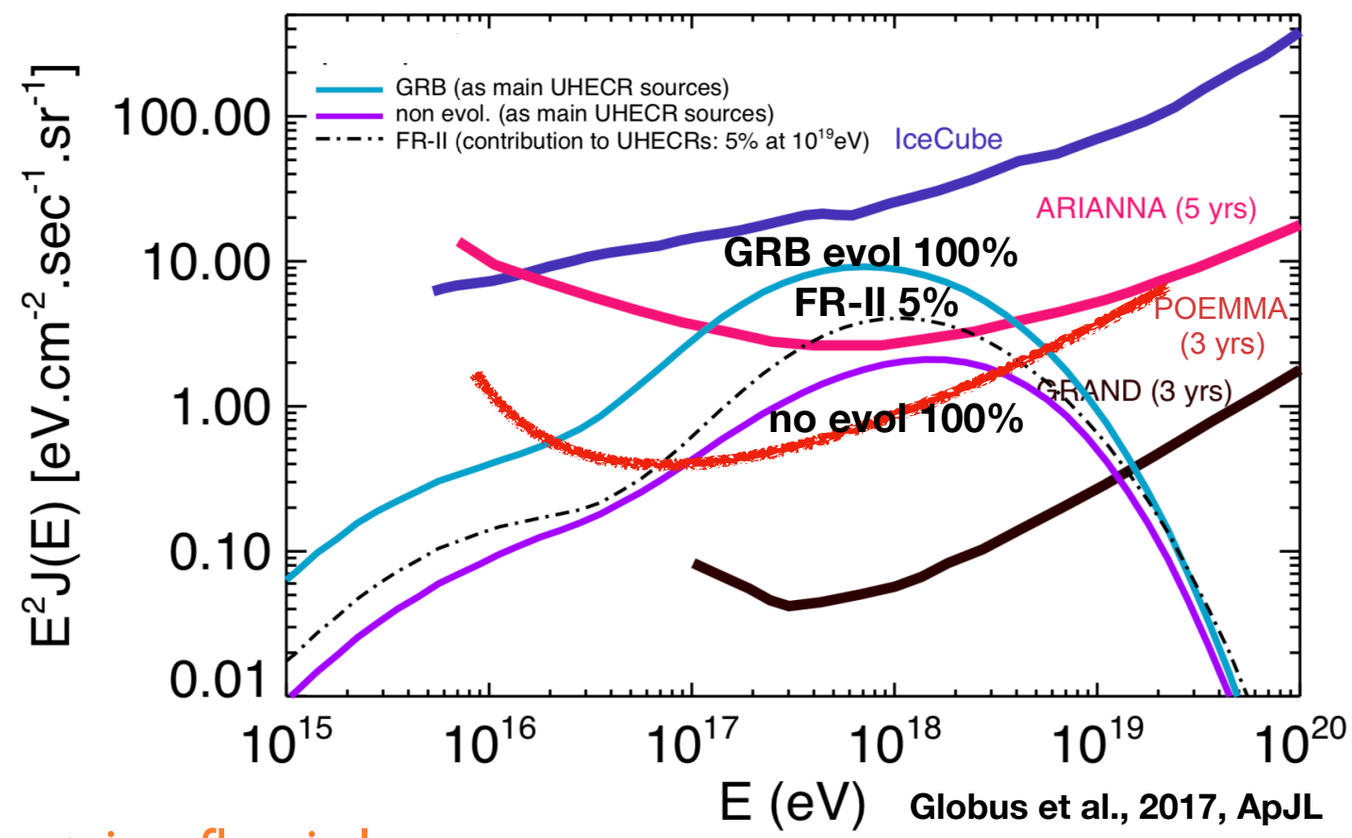
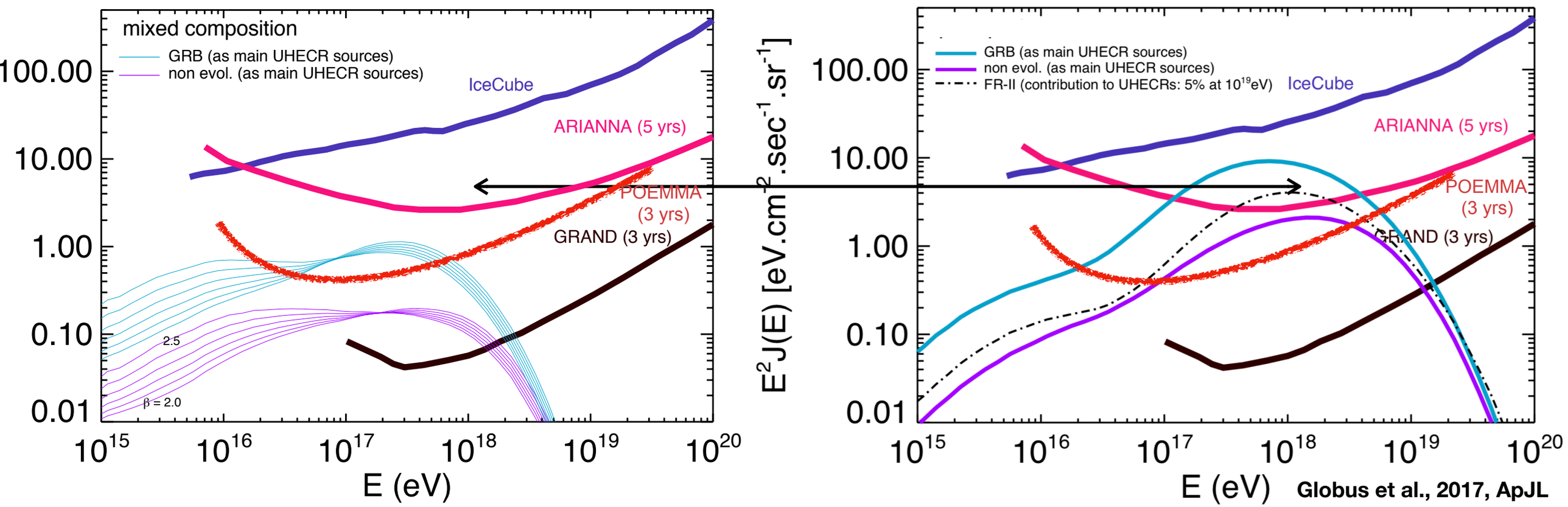


Globus et al., 2017, ApJL

The resulting neutrino flux is larger than that of a non evolving source scenario and 100% contribution to the UHECR spectrum

Constraining the presence of powerful protons accelerators in the universe

The resulting neutrino flux is significantly larger than that of the main UHECR component



Globus et al., 2017, ApJL

Real window to constrain the presence of proton accelerator in the universe
(and not only within the GZK horizon)


thank you very much !!
どうもありがとうございました