Auger Prime and MARTA

Pierre Auger Observatory Mendoza, Argentina



pedro.assis@lip.pt • LIP, May 2024

- Particles from above:
- Charged
 - electrons
 - Protons
 - Nuclei
- Neutral
 - Photons
 - neutrinos





Indirect detection of UHECR: Extensive Air Showers





Pierre Auger Observatory

...a hybrid detector



Pierre Auger Observatory

Hybrid Detector 1600 Detectors (Water tanks – Cherenkov) In a 1500m grid Covered area = 3000 km² 27 (24+3) fluorescence telescope





Auger – Fluorescence detector quasi calorimetric measurement

> An UV telescope observing the atmosphere Schimdt Telescope Camera: 440 PMTs

Particles from shower ionize Nitrogen Nitrogen de-excitation emit UV light







Auger – Surface detector Sample the particle disk

Cherenkov Water Tank Detectors



vertical muon





Sinal recorded in 1 Tank



LIP 3D display

Event ID:	81847956000 03 Jul 2008 11:05:36	
Date:		
Time:		
Reconstruction:	FD Los Leones	
Theta:	53.97°	
Phi:	55.04°	
Energy:	55.66 EeV	
View Re	sconstruction	



Galatic Latitude: -46.9			
Number	Pixels:	14	
17	View Pixels Camera		
ID	Time	~	Signal
1672	-	_	
1694		_	
1695			-
1717			
1696			Č.
1697			
1719			
1698			
1721			
1700			
1722			
1723			
1724			
1747			

ID:	1719
Delta Time:	308.51 ns
Total Signal:	5499.0 VEM



Event display developed by:



Pierre Auger collaboration results in a nutshell



ApJ 902 (2020)105

Astrophys.J. 933 (2022) 2, 125

Phys.Rev.D 96 (2017) 12, 122003

The muon puzzle



- State-of-the-art LHC-tuned hadronic interaction models unable to consistently explain the muon number measurements
 - Muon number scale off even accounting the huge uncertainties on the energy scale
- The muon number relative fluctuations are consistent with model expectations

=> Need to increase precision and measure muons

AUGER needs to upgrade: Auger Prime

The Pierre Auger Observatory Upgrade "AugerPrime"

Preliminary Design Report



The Pierre Auger Collaboration April, 2015



Observatorio Pierre Auger, Av. San Martín Norte 304, 5613 Malargüe, Argentina



Auger Prime

- SSD: 3.8 m² scintillator on each WCD
- **UUB**: Upgraded electronics
 - Increase sampling rate
 - support for new detectors
- **sPMT**: A small PMT in center to address saturation
- **UMD**: Buried scintillators to detect muons **RD**: Radio antennae







Auger Prime: Multi-hybrid shower events

(A plethora of measurements to fully understand the shower)





GAP2013-020

Muon Auger RPC for the Tank Array Design Report

MARTA

V1.0

GAP2013-XXX

MARTA

Muon Auger RPC for the Tank Array 1st Progress Report

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> with the collaboration of Peter Mazur and Alan Watson

27 May 2013





Baseline configuration





8x8 pads each RPC

2 x 1 mm gas gap RPC inside Al case

Concrete precast : 20 cm thick (~50 g/cm²)

The support structure

Precast structure built at the observatory Transported to the field Installed in a couple of hours (Emptying/Filling the tank is more time consuming)

















The MARTA module



Conlighted by Ulsa Eberto

1,85

0,80

1,00

1,85

1,85

.00

0,80

Readout electrodes: Segmentation



Segmented detector \rightarrow select regions based on traversed matter:

- Low attenuation \rightarrow everything
- High attenuation \rightarrow Muons



The MARTA station



Transforming 4 modules in a functional station is not trivial:

- Autonomous
- Low power
- Low comms
- Interfaced to existing tank
- In the pampas environment
- 10000 km from PT
- 60 km from Malargüe

Station:

- 4 RPC Modules
- Controlled by a central unit
- Interfaced to WCD
- With slow control
- With gas system



MARTA readout – the PREC

First readout for tests

- Up to 104 channels
- Each channel amplifier and threshold
- LVDS output to support long distances
- Low noise
- Better than few ns for timing

RPC

Concept of a single channel









... but the prototype electronics demanded a lot of power.

There is a solar station nearby

But you need to protect the cables

MARTA readout

Requirements:

Constrains in power & space in field conditions

- Power from solar panel
- Real estate costly @ the pampa require integrated solution
- Minimize power (mW per channel)
- Minimize Data (only triggered pad in selected events)

Chosen solution

• ASIC + FPGA

Concept of a single channel



MARTA Readout System



Inserted in the test area and in the infill More low energy events for testing Installed on a full upgrade station: SSD + AMIGA



First field station



Gas hole



Slow control and monitoring



Monitoring





Lessons from the field Power

Not having a socket is not so easy: the power system is not stable and you need to be efficient

MARTA PSU:



Lessons from the field wildlife Logistics



Lessons from the field

- The pampas is very aggressive
- Not ideal conditions to work
- Might need to wait for good weather (Sometimes you need to run...)
- Everything takes a long time
- Small changes imply a 1-2h trip (larger if you include lunch)
- Staff can help but are not experts!
- Some problems only appear during comissioning (even if tested in the lab)
- Interface only tested in the field
- Materials deteriorate
 e.g. all gas tubing needed to be replaced







Gianni: a spin-off

a muon hodoscope for WCD characterization and calibration
The Gianni Navarra setup



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Results: Data vs Simulation

Testing the VEM: Vertical muons near the center



• Nearly vertical events near the center of the tank





- ♦ Scan tank response from [15;55] degrees
- Compare data with simulation expectations
- ♦ Agreement within less than 2%

RPC installation @ Gianni



GIANNI upgrade

Dataset

Recently the setup was upgraded:

- New top RPC (top RPC withstands 30^o excursions) Production model of MARTA
- New electronics: MAROC
- New Central Unit for trigger, same solution as in field
- New UUB: upgraded SD electronics
- Installed SSD (scintillator on standard position

Can collect in one day data equivalent to months in previous setup



Date	April	10-11	
Duration	16.	5 h	
Number of events	1M		
Multiple-hits / spurious triggers (13%)	128	382	
Single-hits (87%)	871618	100%	
No peak	50654	6%	
Saturated	1525	0.2%	
Baseline peak	5009	0.6%	
Multiple peaks	439	0.05%	
3-fold single peak	815795	93.6%	
4-fold single peak	235584	27.0%	

the straight lines indicate the current structures along which the RPCs may be moved

6

SSD analysis

1.2 < muon rec. track length / m < 1.21

SSD events

• We do see the 4-fold single peak events where we expect them from geometrical considerations





First field station: PETER MAZUR word

Exploring data and capabilities

Peter Mazur: station configuration



First MARTA station in the field Being commissioned and tested Setup for efficiency measurements: small loss of area, coincidence data



By Guilherme Neves

Pad Size: 14 x 18 cm²

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	69	τs	43	32	27	6I	π	3	
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_	1 9	23	945	2٤	50	57	13	g	
_	62	7 4	97	38	30	52	14	9	
	63	<mark>92</mark>	ĽÞ	<mark>6</mark> 2	31	53	SI	L	
	79	99	84	40	32	54	9T	8	
_	2	10	18	26	34	42	50	58	
	1	9	17	25	33	41	49	57	
	09 ZS VV 9E 8Z 0Z ZI 19 ES SV ZE 6Z IZ EI 29 VS 9V 8E 0E ZZ VI E9 SS ZV 6E IE EZ SI P9 9S 8V 0V ZE VZ 9I 2 10 18 26 34 42 50 1 9 17 25 33 41 49								

Bottom

RPC

RPC2 RPC2 RPC2 RPC2 RPC1 rptof rptof

Pad Size: 14 x 18 cm²

Bottom

RPC

8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64
7	15	23	31	39	47	55	<mark>63</mark>
6	14	22	30	38	46	54	62
5	13	21	29	37	45	53	61
4	12	20	28	36	44	52	60
3	11	19	27	35	43	51	59
2	10	18	26	34	42	50	58
1	9	17	25	33	41	49	57
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63	92	<i>4</i> ۷	68	31	53	SI	L			
7 9	99	48	40	32	54	91	8			

Top RPC

Pad combinations

Pad Size: 14 x 18 cm^2

Bottom

RPC



horiz shift **11+48=59** vert shift **11+55=66**

8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64
7	15	23	31	39	47	55	63
6	14	22	30	38	46	54	62
5	13	21	29	37	45	53	61
4	12	20	28	36	44	52	60
3	11	19	27	35	43	51	59
2	10	18	26	34	42	50	58
1	9	17	25	33	41	49	57
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(electronics, HV, gas)									
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63	22	<i>4</i> ۷	68	31	53	SI	L		
79	99	48	40	32	54	91	8		

Top RPC



Horiz shift 46+11=59 Vert shift 46+18=66



MARTA-efficiency



Data suggests a shift of about 3-4cm in width. Final numbers to appear



Next: Correlate with Slow control



The power of a single station



Assessing the particle energy spectrum

- Particle energy distributions in air showers have yet to be measured
- Measurement of the muon energy spectrum may yield information on the muon puzzle

Three detectors with different response behavior:

- **SSD:** Functions primarily as a particle counter (MIP)
- WCD: signal proportional to:
 - E.m.: particle energy
 - Muons: tracklength; below 1 GeV, signal depends on particle β
- **RPC:** Segmented counter shielded by non-uniform WCD mass-overburden

Electromagnetic component particle energy spectrum

dN dLog(E)

10⁵

10

10³

10²

10



MARTA SD Station

log(E_FM/GeV)

Modifying the particle energy distribution

Modifying the high-energy tail of the • electromagnetic distribution with:

$$f(E) = \exp\left\{\frac{\ln(c)}{b-a} \cdot (E-a)\right\}$$

a and b define the region, c controls the • magnitude

0

400

Modified

200

100

300

SSD signal (MIP)

200

150

100

50

0

0

WCD signal (VEM)



10

signal difference

Original

EM component distribution



Quantifying the sensitivity

•
$$f(E) = \exp\left\{\frac{\ln(c)}{b-a} \cdot (E-a)\right\}$$

- Use different values of parameter c
- Quantify the response of the detectors to the modifications





Quantifying the sensitivity

- The goal is to find a variable that can relate detector sensitivity with the magnitude of the modification
- Define two sets to separate bins with positive and negative values and take the barycenter of each
- From here we can consider two quantities:
 - The **distance** between the barycenters which is proportional to parameter c
 - The angle corresponding to the slope of the line formed by these two points



Quantifying the sensitivity

- As expected, distance between barycenters seems to be proportional to the parameter c
- WCD-RPC has a very welldefined angle between the barycenters, indicating the correlation between detectors

Distance -> Intensity of the modification
Angle -> Relative information on the detectors and types of modifications



MARTA @ Peter Mazur SD station

- Peter Mazur: First MARTA station being commissioned and taking data
- First SD-MARTA data being analysed showing a stable RPC behaviour
- Possibility to apply the method shown in this presentation in this single R&D station





Conclusions

- Auger data from phase-I raised new puzzling questions
- Great effort to increase data quality and address systematic uncertainties
- Studies to disentangle primary variations from Shower development ongoing
- MARTA allows to provide direct information from muons crossing the tanks
- Even with only one station can give important contributions

Plans for the future

Operate, test and explore PeterMazur tank data
Hodoscope (?) for ML applied to shower events Engineering necessary
WCD and SSD response studies
Enlarge the Engineering array:
Twin station nearby with full area
Other stations on the SD1500 array

Thank you



















- Designed for the ATLAS detector;
- 64 input channels;
- 64 trigger outputs;
- Able to measure charge.

Area:16 mm^{2;} Power consumption: 200 mW \rightarrow 3.5 mW per channel; Power supply: 3.5 V.

Central unit



Being developed for Auger-MARTA

Front-End





40 boards produced Board tested with success at Lx, Coimbra

6U form factor



The MARTA Engineering Array

FCT – FAPESP project

(Portugal – Brasil)

Results from a specific call FAPESP-FCT

- RPC R&D
- RPC technology @ Brasil
- Build RPC detectors
- Install EA (hexagon) in Auger

Synergies with AugerPrime

- RPC hodoscopes for testing SSD
- Cross-calibration
- Physics at E=10^17 eV





Install a unitary cell (hexagon) In the infill area, in AMIGA tanks

The MARTA module





Add a segmented detector under the tank \rightarrow get only the muons





The amount of material crossed can be accurately computed for each pad and each shower geometry

RPC Module





Read-out: Segmentation



The MARTA module

Each module contains:

- Sensitive volume
- Pickup system
- sensors
- Enclosure
- Annex:
 - DAQ
 - HV
 - PSU
 - Control Board
 - Bubbler



Gas Volume: Coimbra Gas control: Coimbra HV: Coimbra Electronics: Lisboa Housing: São Carlos Integration: São Carlos, Rio
Script:

- UHECR
- Auger
- Muon Puzzle
- (Auger Prime)
- Marta (Paper)
 - Concept
 - Gianni
 - Field (Peter Mazur)
 - Efficiency
 - Milton
- Conclusion
 - Marta R&D
 - Hodoscopios ML + calib showers
 - EA aberto but on SD-1500

The muon puzzle

- Simplistic astrophysical scenarios: Proton or Iron + GZK effect
- The change in spectra can be due to source exhaustion, implying composition change
- Shower development models can mimic different behaviours

Primary composition is key! Muons can give a hint to the composition... Auger data on muons:



Cosmic Rays – (rare) free energetic particles

Cosmic Ray Spectra of Various Experiments



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Cosmic Rays – particle physics in space



https://web.physics.utah.edu/~whanlon

Cosmic Rays – particle physics in space

The GZK effect



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The chosen detector - RPC

Resistive Plate Chamber

- Gaseous detector
- Planar geometry
- uniform electrical field imposed.
- High resistive plates in between the electrodes limit the avalanche current.
- Signal is picked up by the induction of the avalanche in the readout pads.



Avalanche mode





SIGNAL PICKUP MODULE



Total area $150 \times 120 = 18000 \text{ cm}^2$

Area covered with pads, "efficient" area $64x18x14=16128 \text{ cm}^2 \Leftrightarrow 90 \%$ of the total area

Area covered with guard rings, 18000 - 16128 = 1872 cm² \Leftrightarrow 10 % of the total area







The RPC module





Electronics box (1285 x 407 mm²)

Designed, developed, built @ LIP



Selected Results

Flux of Cosmic Rays





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Selected results

Elongation rate, the development of shower

Depth of shower related with nature of primary



²⁰log₁₀(E/eV)^{20.5}

10

18

18.5

19

19.5

Combined fit



2

Can we explain the spectrum suppression via source exhaustion

Development of new observable

- Shower Physics and Data Analysis
 - Focus on the EAS muon distributions
- Hadronic Models and interface with accelerator measurements
 - Impact on showers
- Example:

Lorenzo Cazon, Ruben Conceição, Miguel Alexandre Martins, and Felix Riehn: <u>"Constraining the energy</u> <u>spectrum of neutral pions in ultra-high-energy protonair interactions"</u>, *Phys. Rev. D* 103, 022001

• Exploring the relation between tail of muon distribution and energy spectrum of pions from first interactions.

Shown for the first time that it is possible to access the first interaction multi-particle production properties!



 $\Lambda_{\mu} \Lambda_{\alpha}$ are the slopes of exp. fit

Measure Muons and its fluctuations

Improve the analysis to measure the fluctuation on the number of muons

For a limited set of events (inclined events), Auger can measure the muon content

Average is not compatible with models Underestimated in simulations

Fluctuations is compatible with models



The Muon Puzzle



Phys.Rev.Lett. 126 (2021) 15, 152002

MARTA capabilities

- Muon distributions with MARTA
- Can we measure the distribution tail and access the first interaction pion energy spectrum?
- Yes, provided that we get enough muons
 - Need to measure muons near the shower core



Miguel Martins

Use MARTA to get near the shower

- At low energies (10¹⁷eV)
- Saturation prevents us to have measurements near the shower core
- Lower number of muons far from core
- Extend MARTA DAQ mode to get into the shower core



Apply novel analysis

- Novel analysis for shower classification (shower azimuthal fluctuations)
 - Developed in the context of SWGO
 - Can it be applied in Auger?
- Can we extend the shower identification? Measure the muon content by higher level analysis?



QGP?

- Cosmic Rays provide a very high energy environment
- Could QGP get turned on?
- What are the influence in the shower development?
- What are the signatures on ground?
- Tweak the hadronic simulation codes to include the phenomena



Look at sky

- Auger provides a unique instrument to look for very high energetic particles from the sky
- The upgrade will boost shower classification
- Can we search the sky? Namely look at photon sources? Do we have sufficient discriminant power? Can we improve it with new instruments?

The Detector field



Measurement of EAS at Auger

♦ Fluorescence Detector

Quasi-calorimetric energy measurement

♦ ~ 15% duty cycle

Surface Detector

Sensitive to both e.m. and muonic shower components



0

Longitudii

nower description

Phys.Rev.Lett. 126 (2021) 15, 152002



Fluorescence Detector

Combination of different measurements **reveals** tension between data and all hadronic interaction models

Ruben Conceição

0

0

0

Muon

Muon excess seen by several experiments



Ruben Conceição

1

Measuring Muons : MARTA

A dedicated muon detector: An array of particle detector installed beneath the tanks.



• Water tank • Precast structure

RPCs



Partnership between Portugal and Brazil

Improving detection capabilities: New detectors with LIP expertise



Electronics box (1285 x 407 mm²)

Must develop the detector, electronics, slow control, logistics, ...













Making precision measurements to shed light on what's the muon content

The muons "problem"

"number" of muons Measured by tanks



Depth of shower – Measured by FD



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> > 27 May 2013



Baseline configuration





8x8 pads each RPC

2 x 1 mm gas gap RPC inside Al case

Concrete precast : 20 cm thick (~50 g/cm²)

Punch-through

- "only muons reach the RPCs"
- Some parts of the RPC are more "exposed"
 - Segmented readout allows to create e.m. contamination maps
 - Dynamically define a fiducial area (shower to shower, dependent on station-shower distance)
 - Only pads with e.m. contamination below predefined threshold are used
 - Allows for muon measurement with small bias from e.m. component










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The support structure

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The modules

4 modules of RPC to be installed in each station Triggered by the WCD

The active medium







RPC Module





Read-out: Segmentation





The MARTA module

Each module contains:

- Sensitive volume
- Pickup system
- sensors
- Enclosure
- Annex:
 - DAQ
 - HV
 - PSU
 - Control Board
 - Bubbler



Gas Volume: Coimbra Gas control: Coimbra HV: Coimbra Electronics: Lisboa Housing: São Carlos Integration: São Carlos, Rio

The MARTA module



The MARTA module



MARTA Readout System



RPC channel





First field station

