



中国科学院
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



中国科学院近代物理研究所
Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Observations of super-heavy nuclei of cosmic rays with DAMPE

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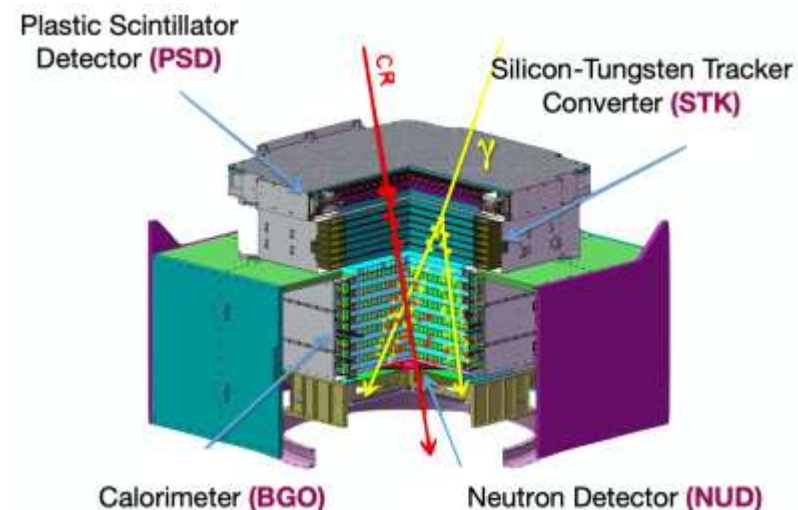
2025-12-18, Nan Jing, China

➤ DAMPE

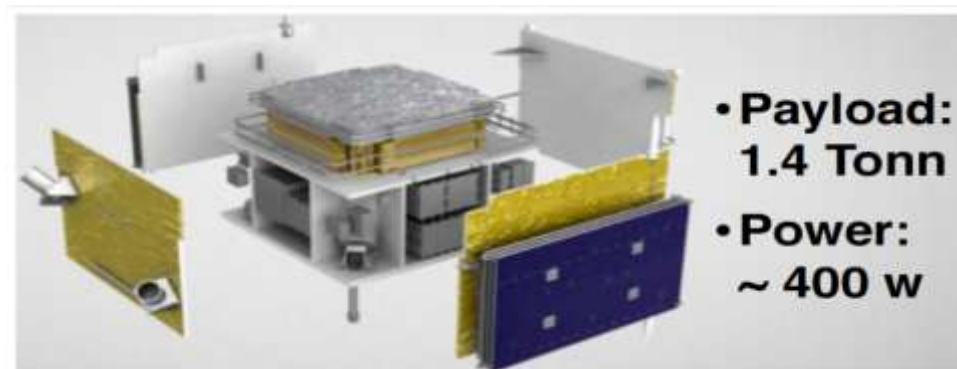
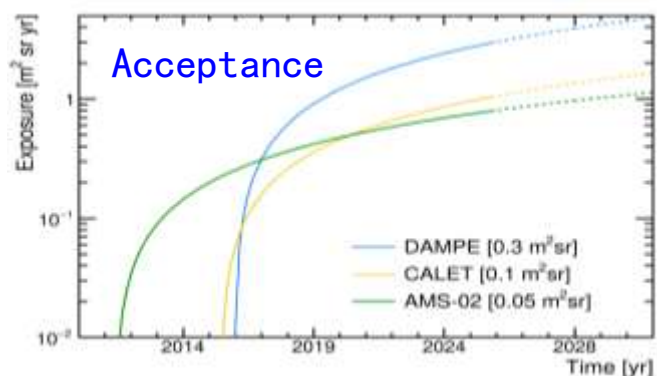
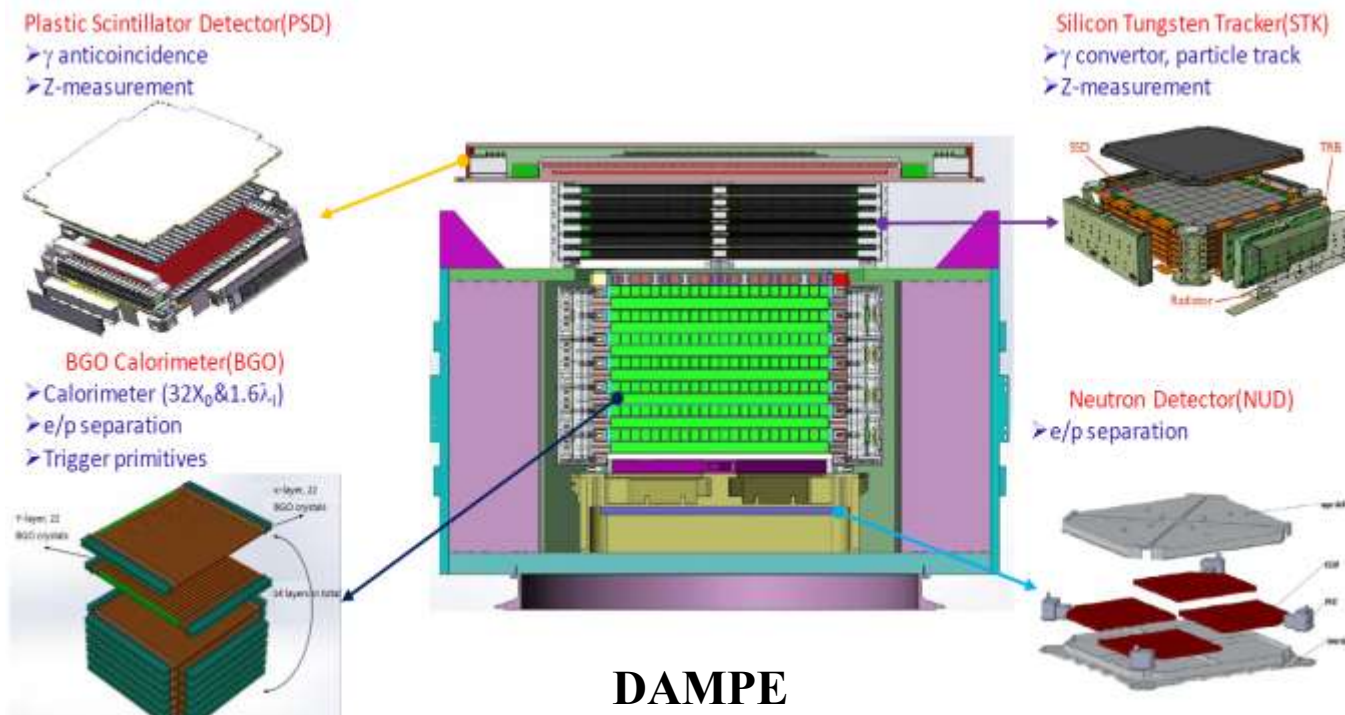
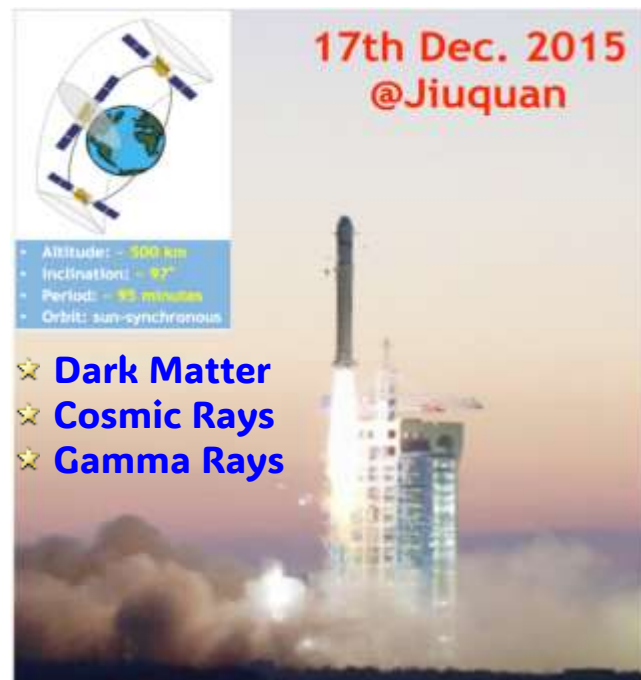
➤ Charge Reconstruction

➤ Results of DAMPE

➤ Summary



Dark Matter Particle Explorer (DAMPE)



DAMPE Charge measurement

Bethe-Bloch Equation:

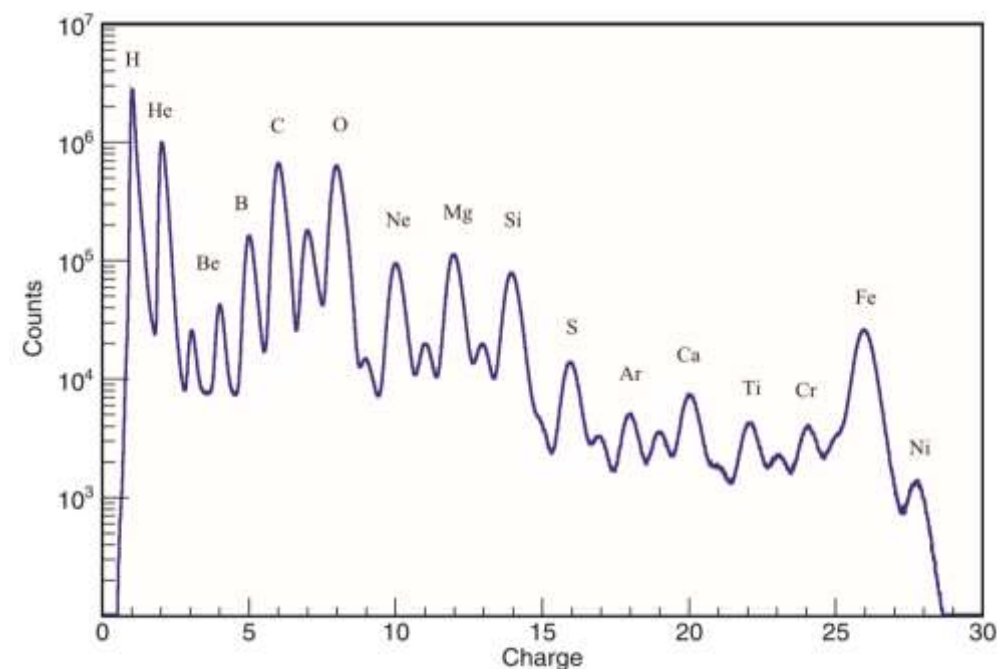
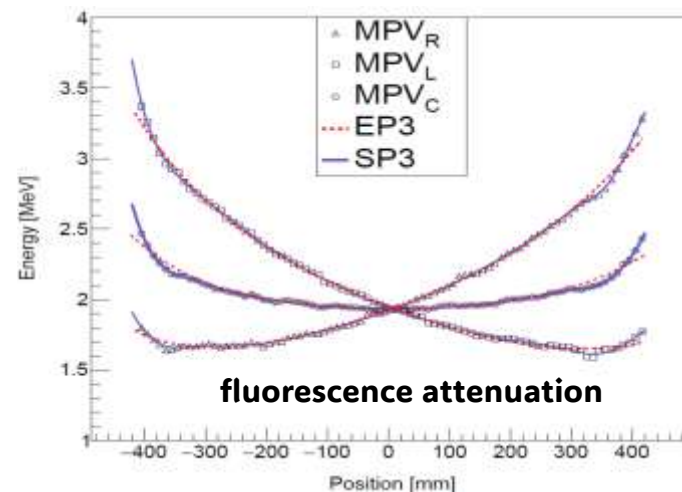
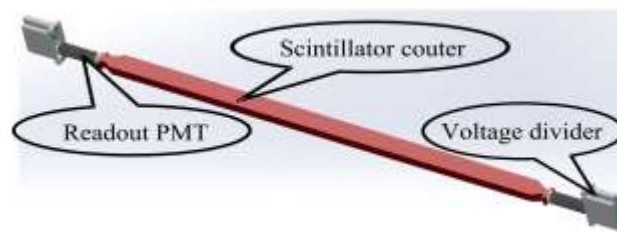
$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \propto Z^2$$

PSD Charge reconstruction:

$$Q_{rec}^{L,R,C} = \sqrt{\frac{E^{L,R,C}}{A^{L,R,C}(x)}} \times \frac{S}{L}$$

Quenching Correction:

$$Q^{L,R,C} = f(Q_{rec}^{L,R,C})$$

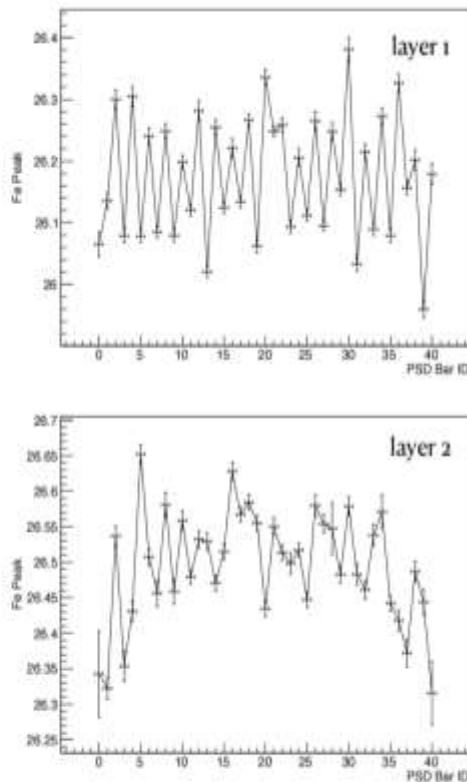
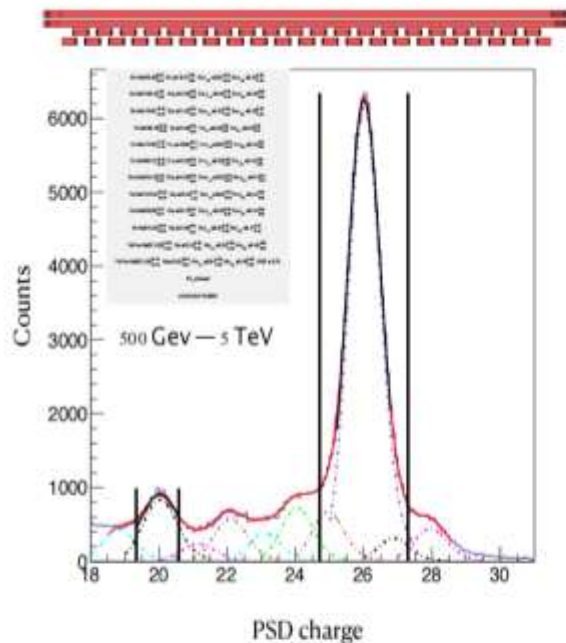


M. Ding, Y.P Zhang et al, RAA 2019 Vol. 19 No. 3, 47(2019)
 Dong T.K., Y.P Zhang et al. Astroparticle Physics 105, 31-36 (2019)

Element	σ_z	Element	σ_z	Element	σ_z	Element	σ_z
Li	0.14	C	0.18	Ne	0.21	S	0.25
Be	0.21	N	0.21	Mg	0.22	Ca	0.29
B	0.17	O	0.20	Si	0.25	Fe	0.30

Charge Reconstruction

Charge Readout Correction



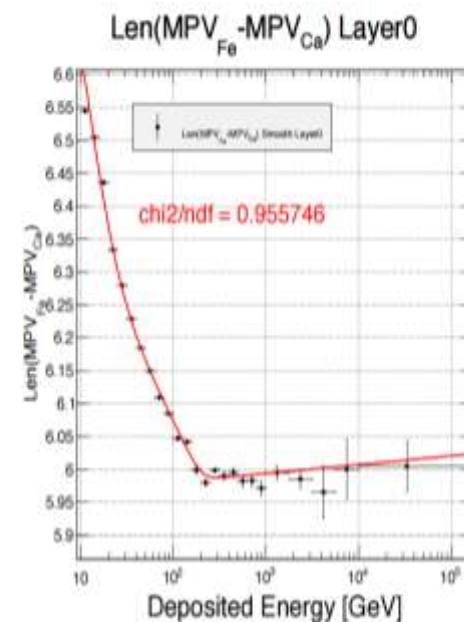
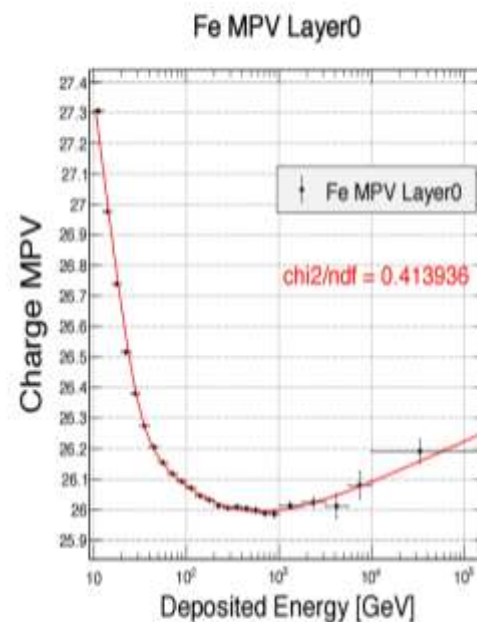
不同 PSD Bar 的拟合 Fe 峰值

各PSD Bar电荷读出的偏移: $\delta_i = Fe_P_i - 26$ 。

每一根PSD电荷独处的修正为:

$$C'_i = C_i - \delta_i, \quad i = 0, \dots, 81,$$

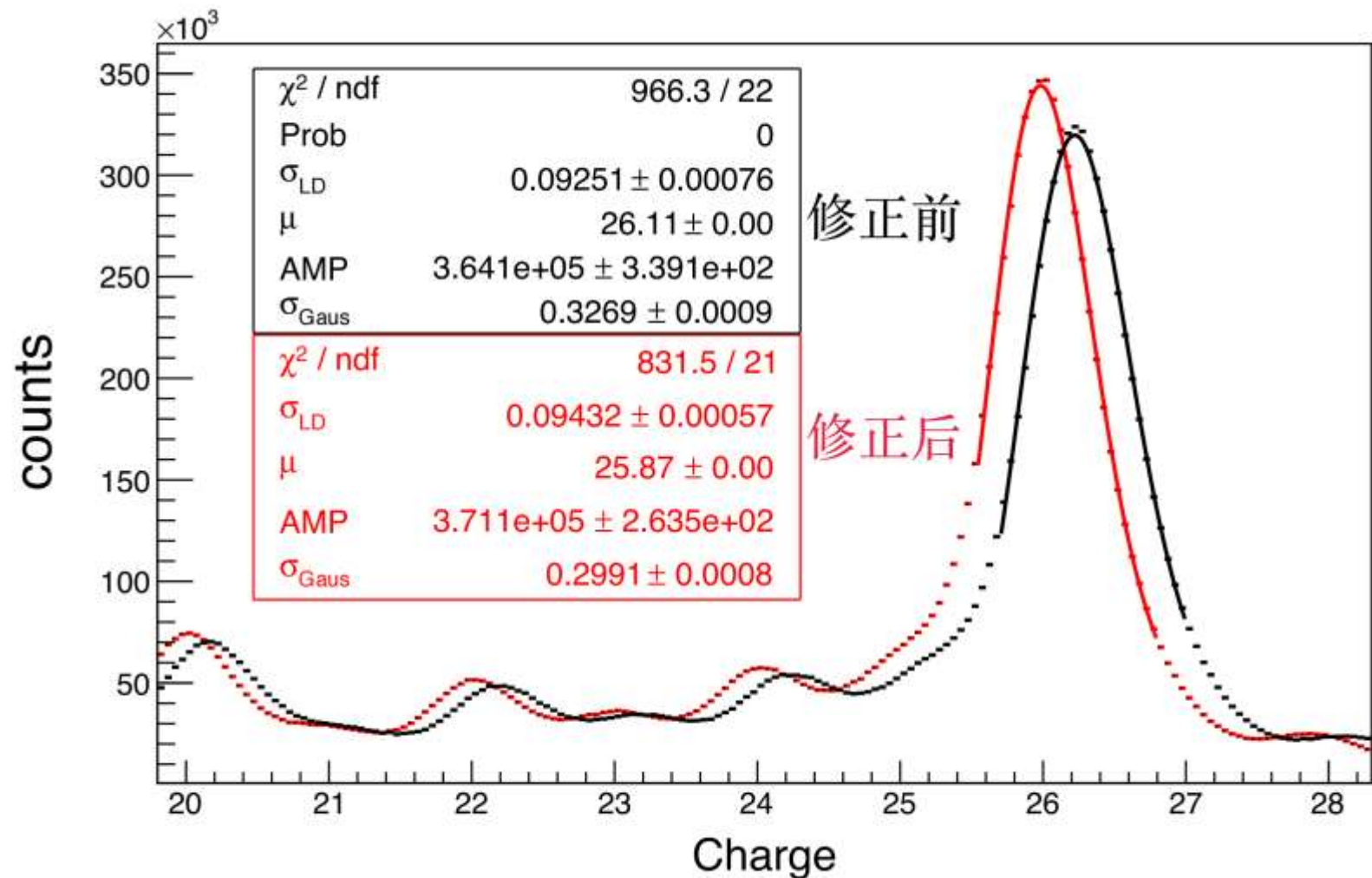
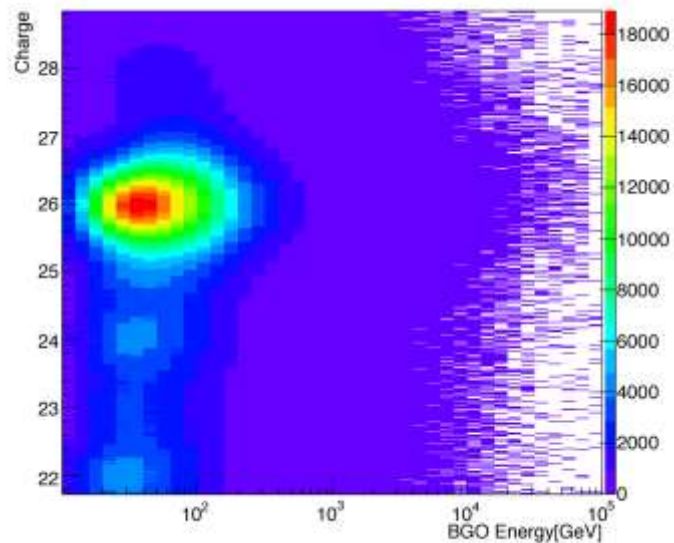
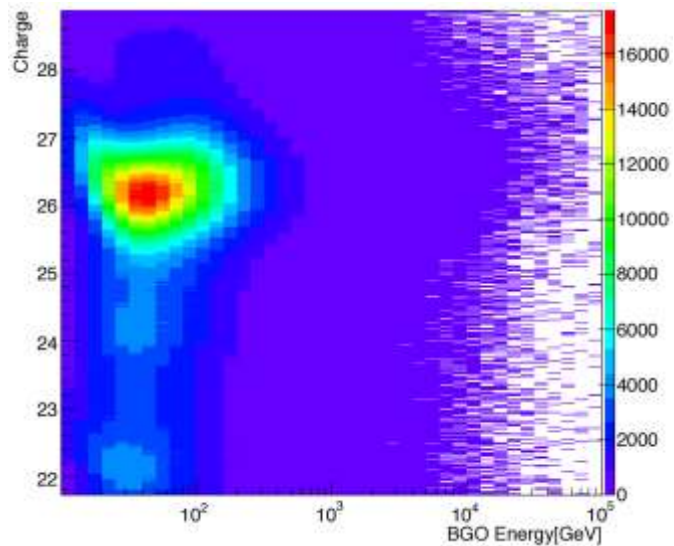
Charge Vary with Energy



$$C'' = (C'_i - Fe_P_i) \times 6 / (Fe_P_i - Ca_P_i) + 26, \quad i = 0, \dots, 3.$$

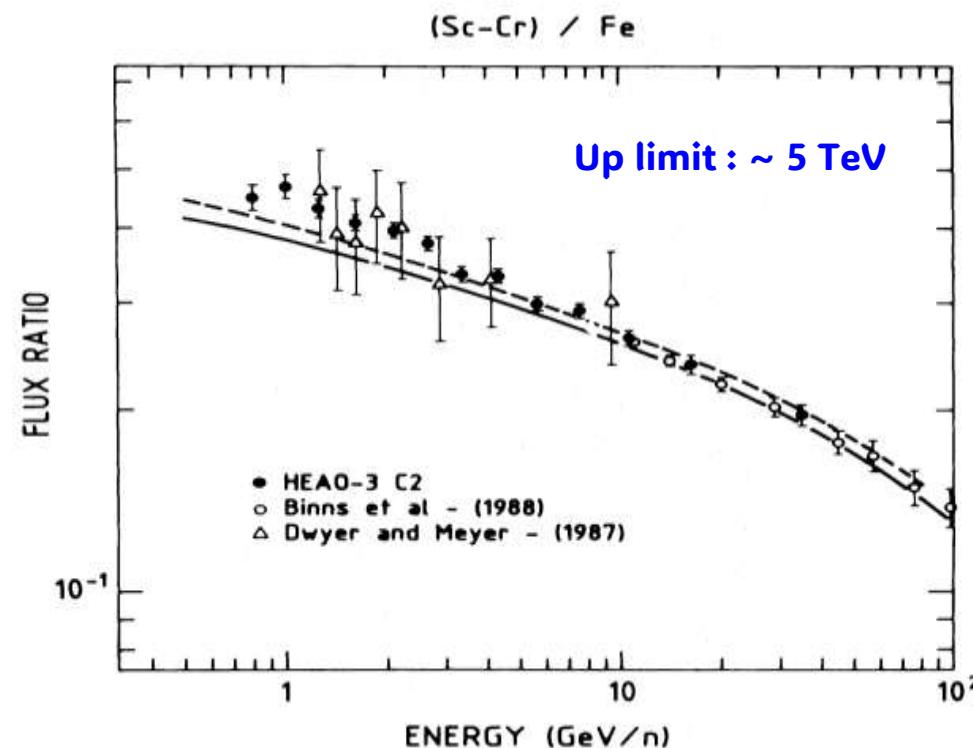
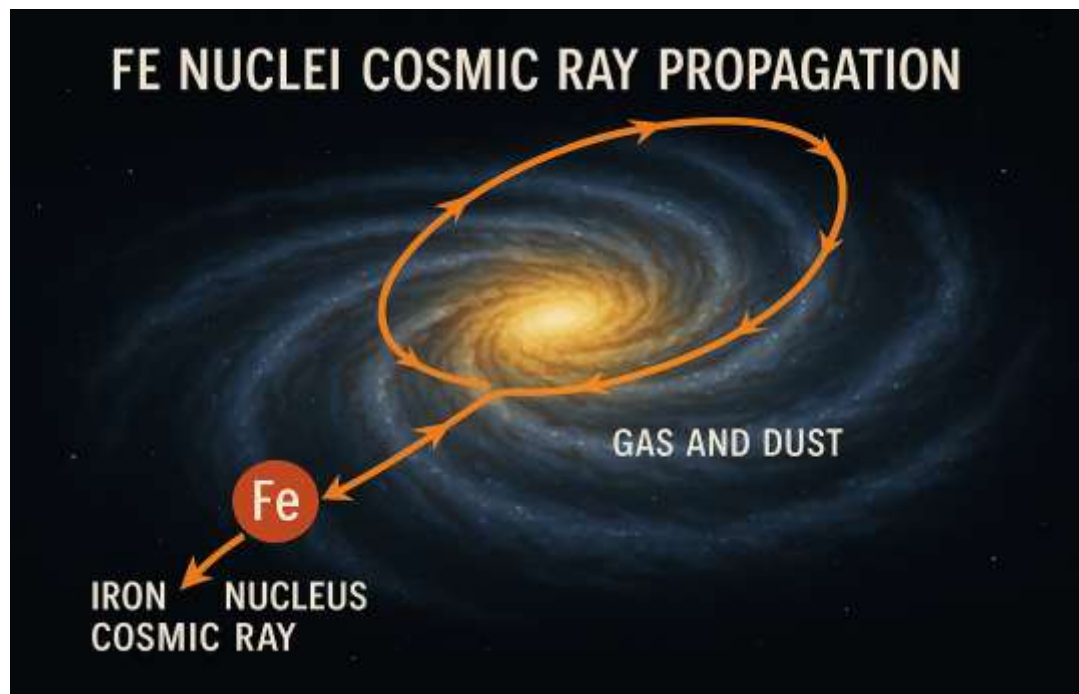
Enhance Charge resolution and evaluate contamination

Charge Reconstruction



After PSD charge correction, Fe-charge value located in 26, Ca in 20. Charge resolution improve ~10%.

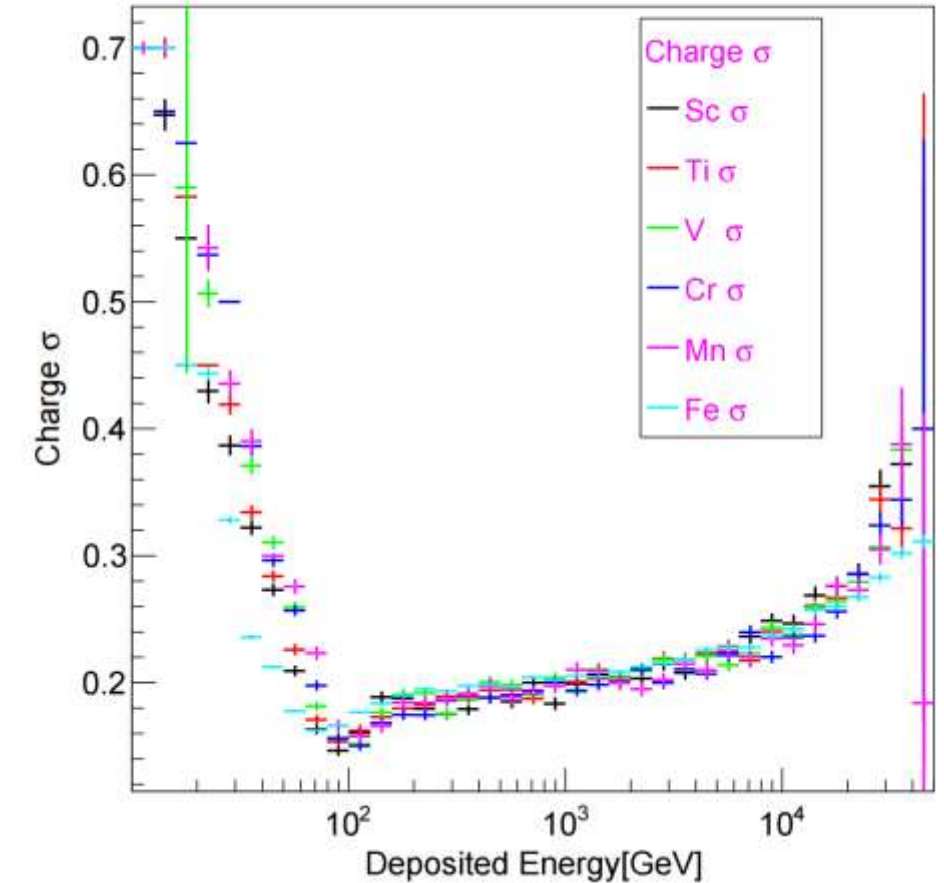
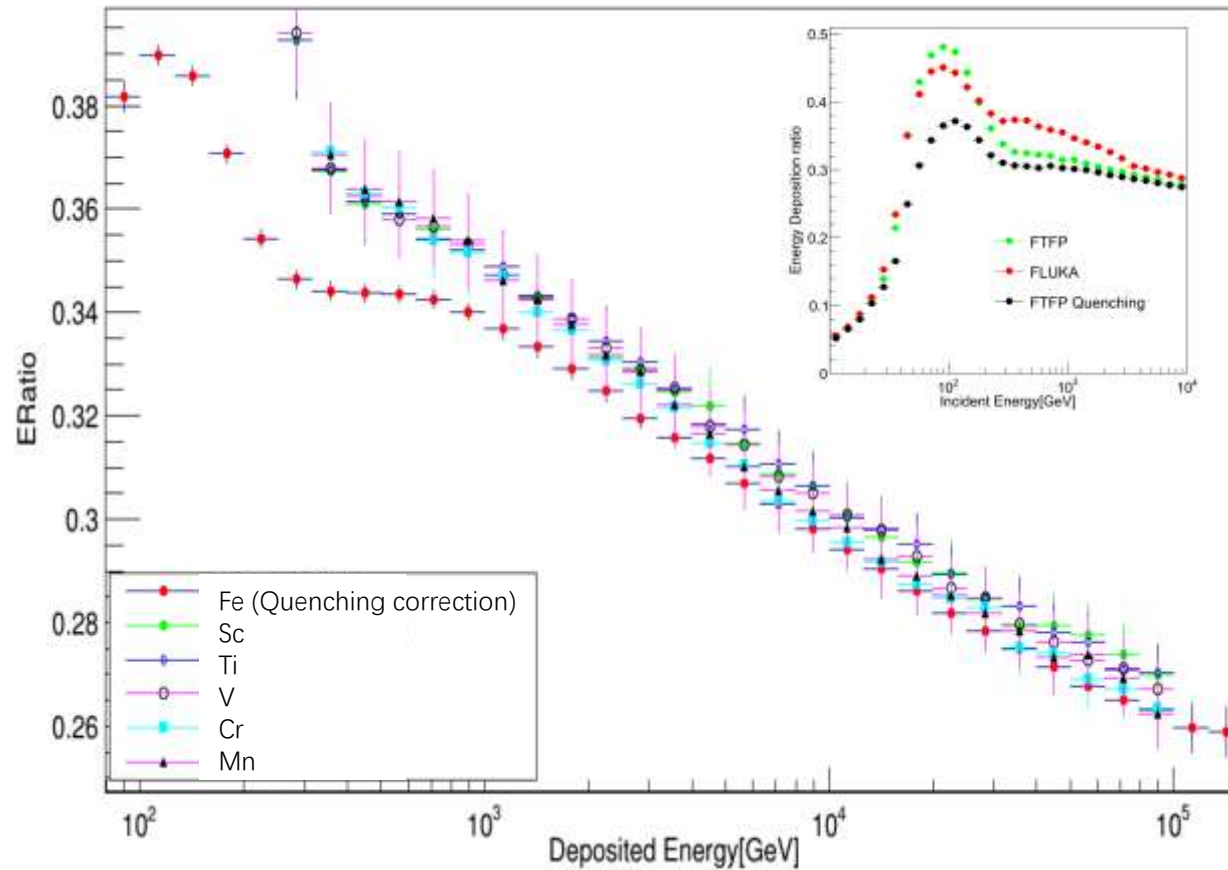
Sub-Fe and Fe



- Large Abundance and Fragment Cross section.
- The most effective probes of nearby cosmic-ray sources.
- The origin, acceleration, and propagation of heavy-nuclei cosmic rays.

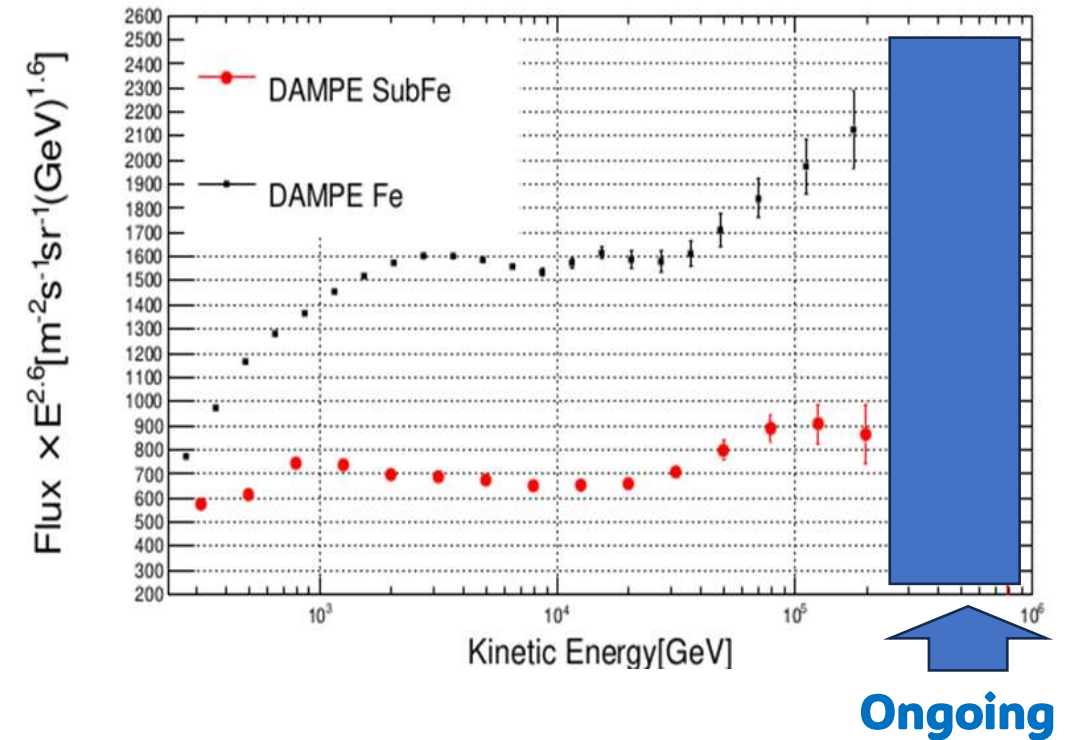
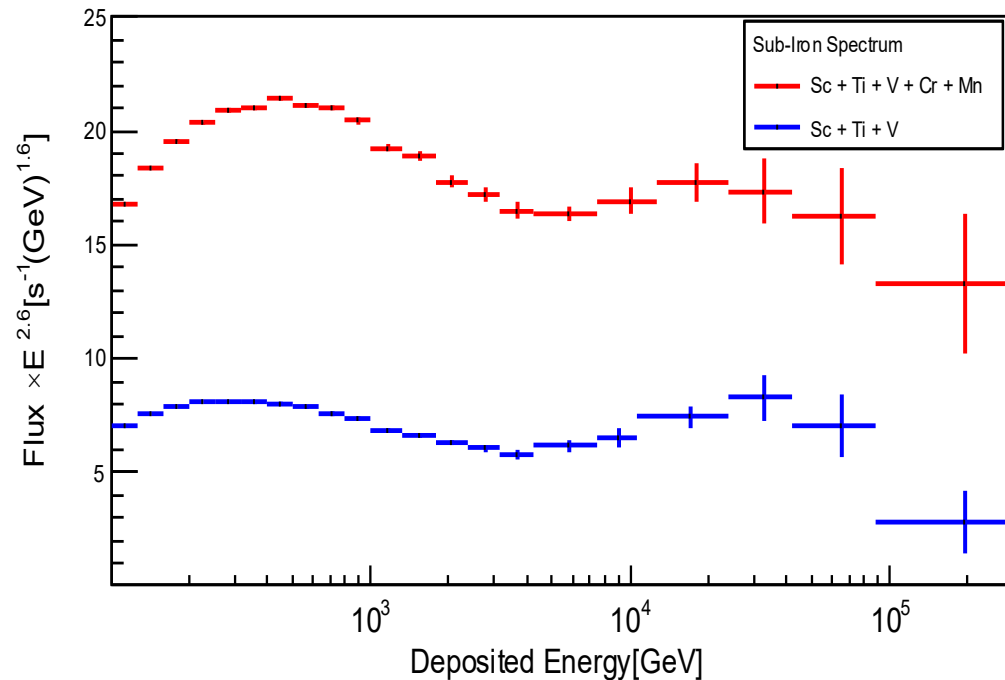
No measurement the hardening of the subFe/Fe (hardening of B/C) or the bump feature of secondary nuclei.

sub-Iron Energy Deposition and Charge



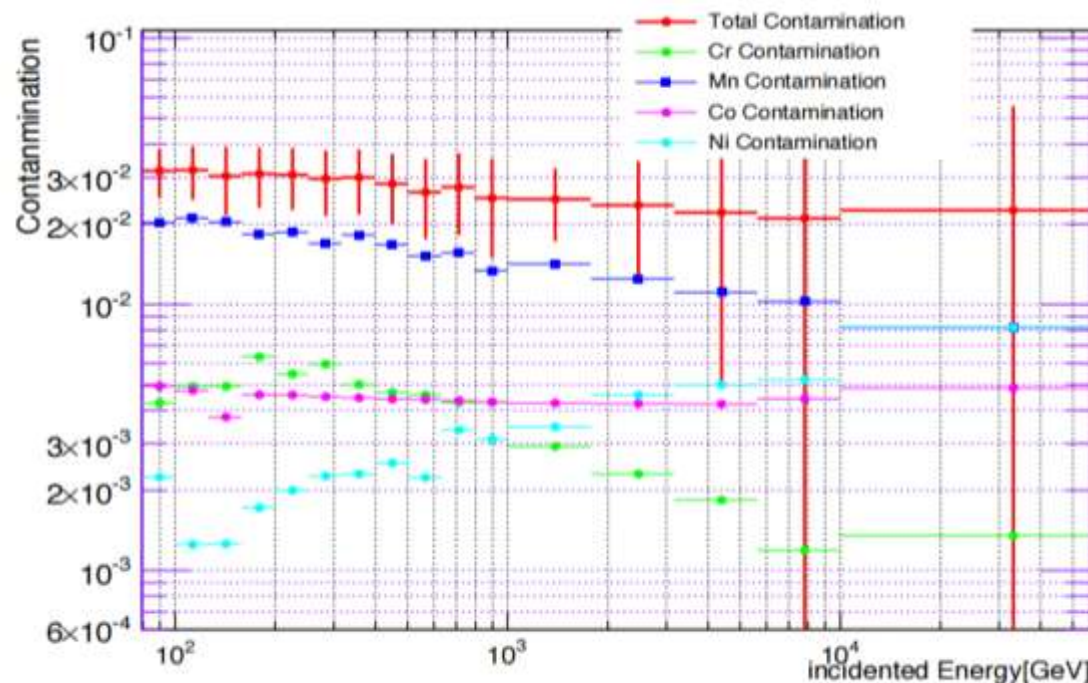
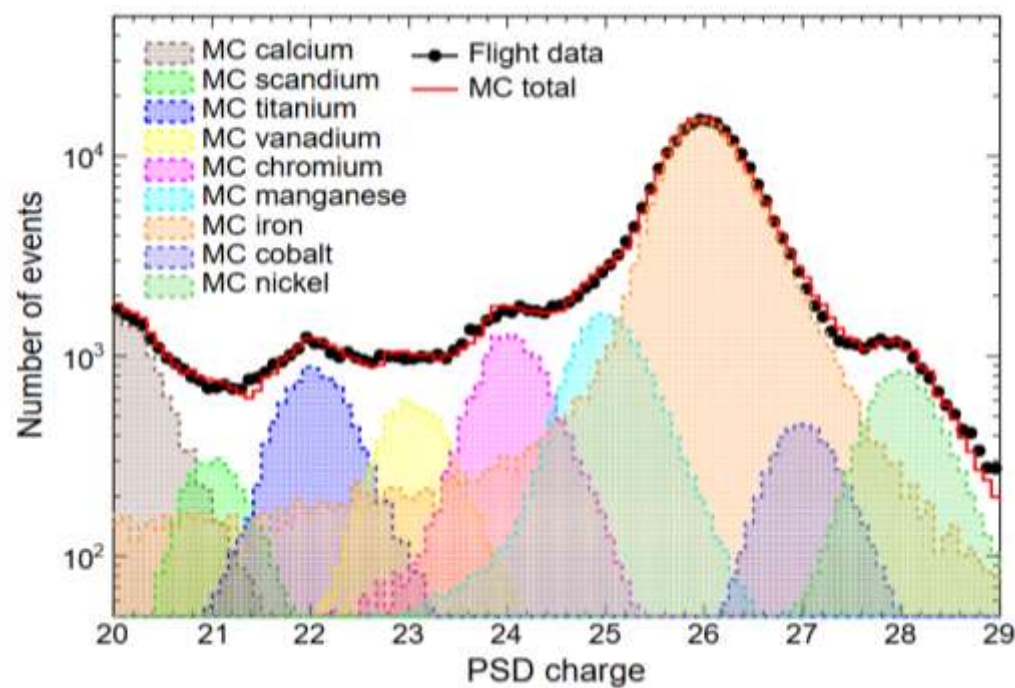
Sub-Fe and Fe has similar Energy deposition ratio and charge resolution.

Flux of sub-Iron elements



- DAMPE sub-iron deposited spectrum find the bump structure.
- **First-time** measurement of the bump structure of secondary cosmic rays.
- The ratio of sub-iron and iron is the most powerful probe to investigate heavy nuclei propagation, and help us understand the origin of the bump structure.

Fe Spectrum



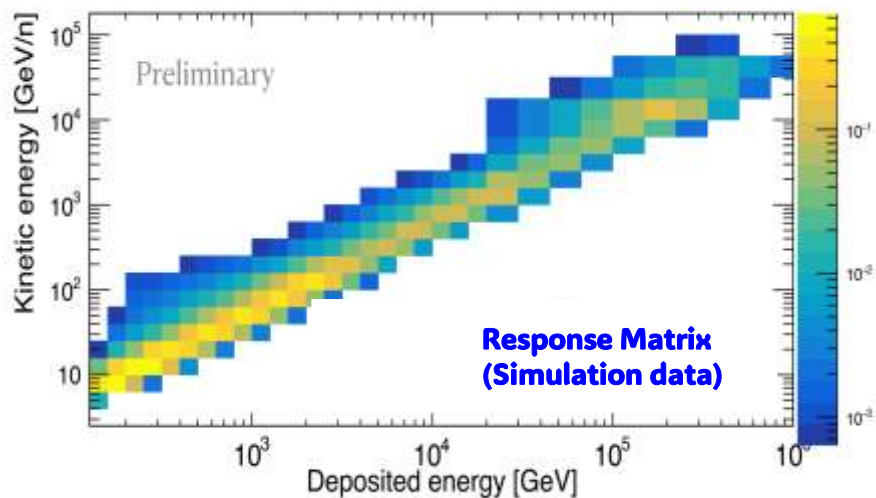
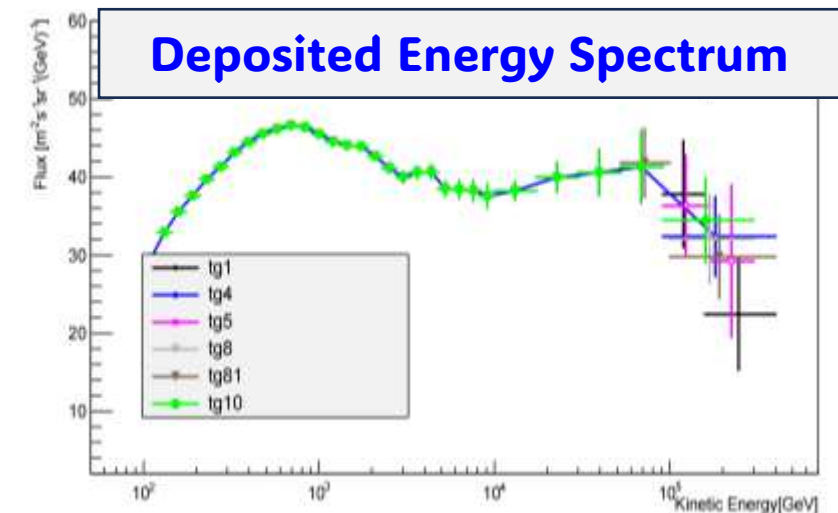
- Select Charge Range : 25.5 – 27.2
- Contamination of Fe main from Mn.
- All Contamination lower than 3.2%

Iron Spectrum

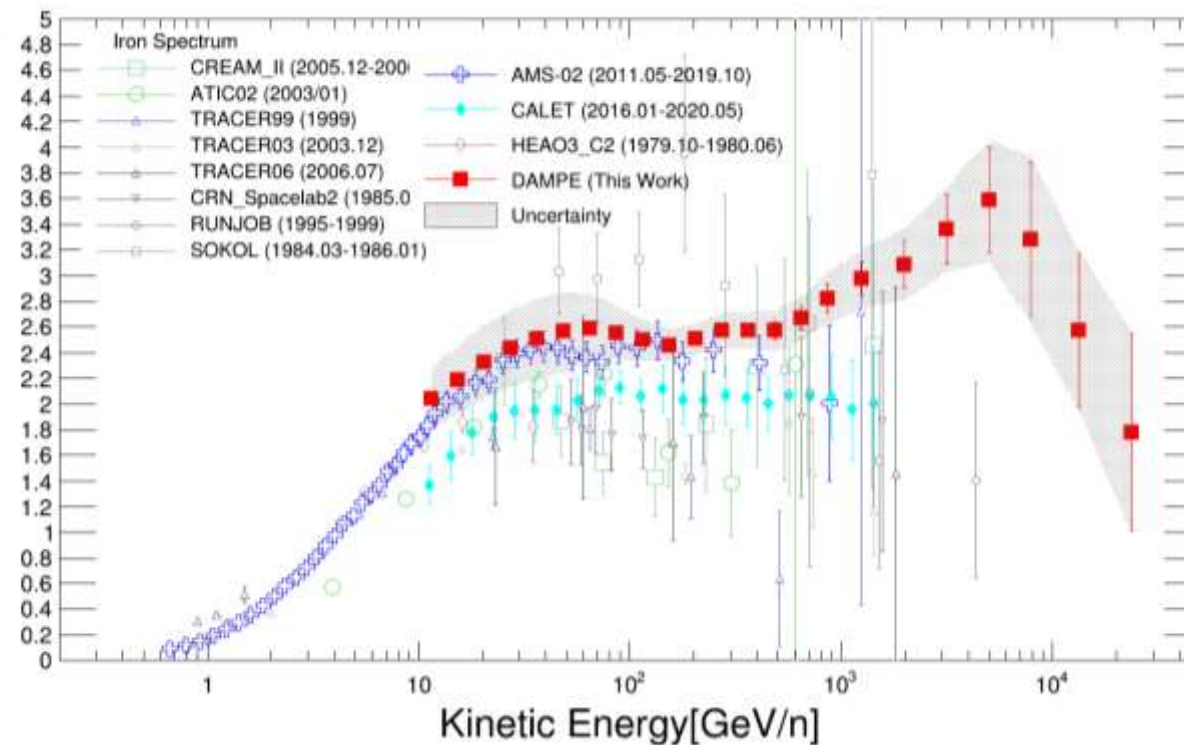


<https://arxiv.org/abs/2511.05409>

Deposited Energy Spectrum

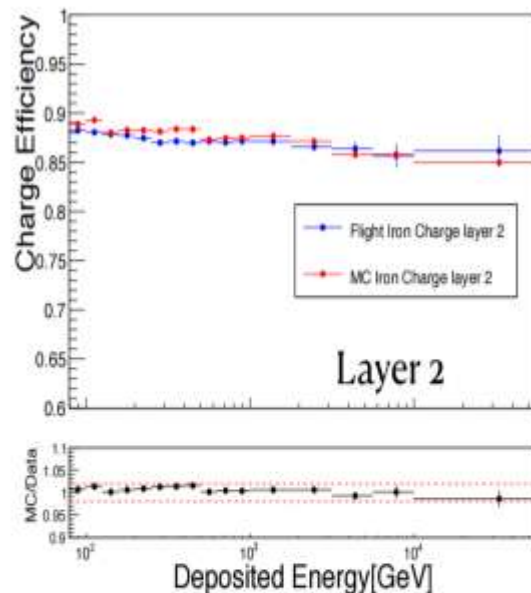
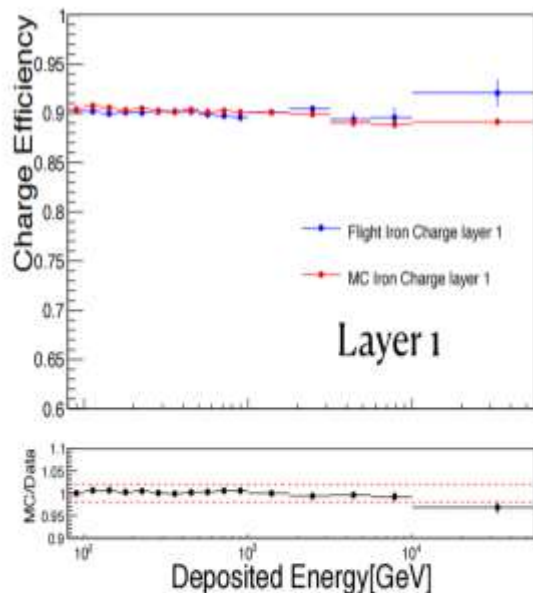


$\text{Flux} \times E^{2.6} [\text{m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1} (\text{GeV/n})^{1.6}]$



Soften: 2.4σ , Harden: 2.7σ .
PeV Iron Spectrum Reveals Bump at $\sim 15 \text{ TV}$

Efficiency calibration

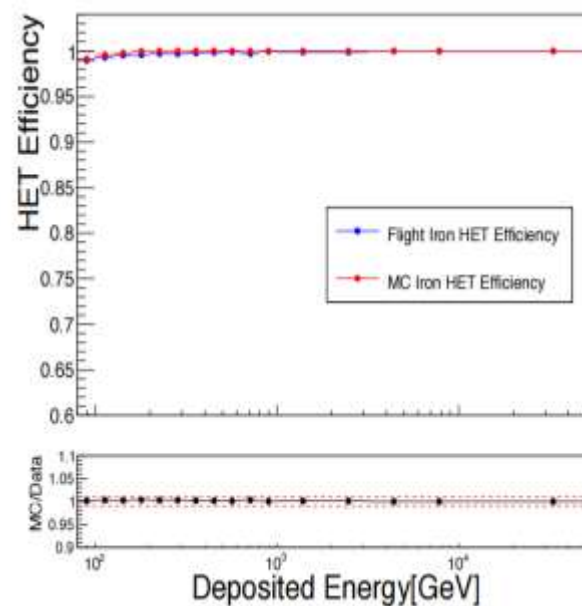


$$\epsilon_{PSD1} = \frac{N_{PSD1|PSD2}}{N_{PSD2}}$$

$$\epsilon_{PSD2} = \frac{N_{PSD2|PSD1}}{N_{PSD1}}$$

MC/Data < 2 % (Energy < 10TeV)

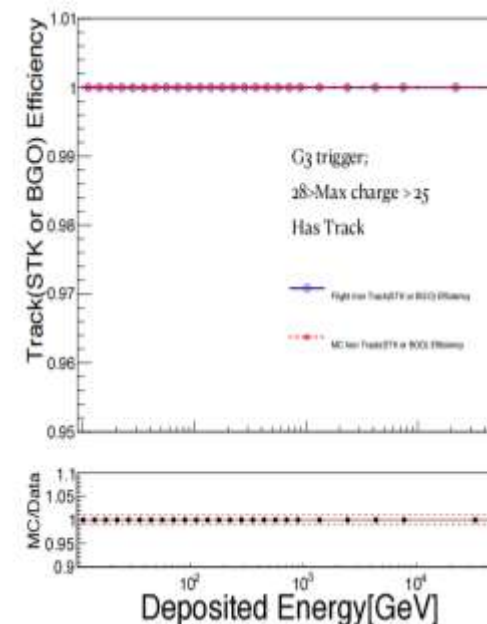
PSD charge Efficiency



MC/Data < 0.3 %

$$\epsilon_{HET} = \frac{N_{HET|UNBT}}{N_{UNBT}}$$

HET Efficiency

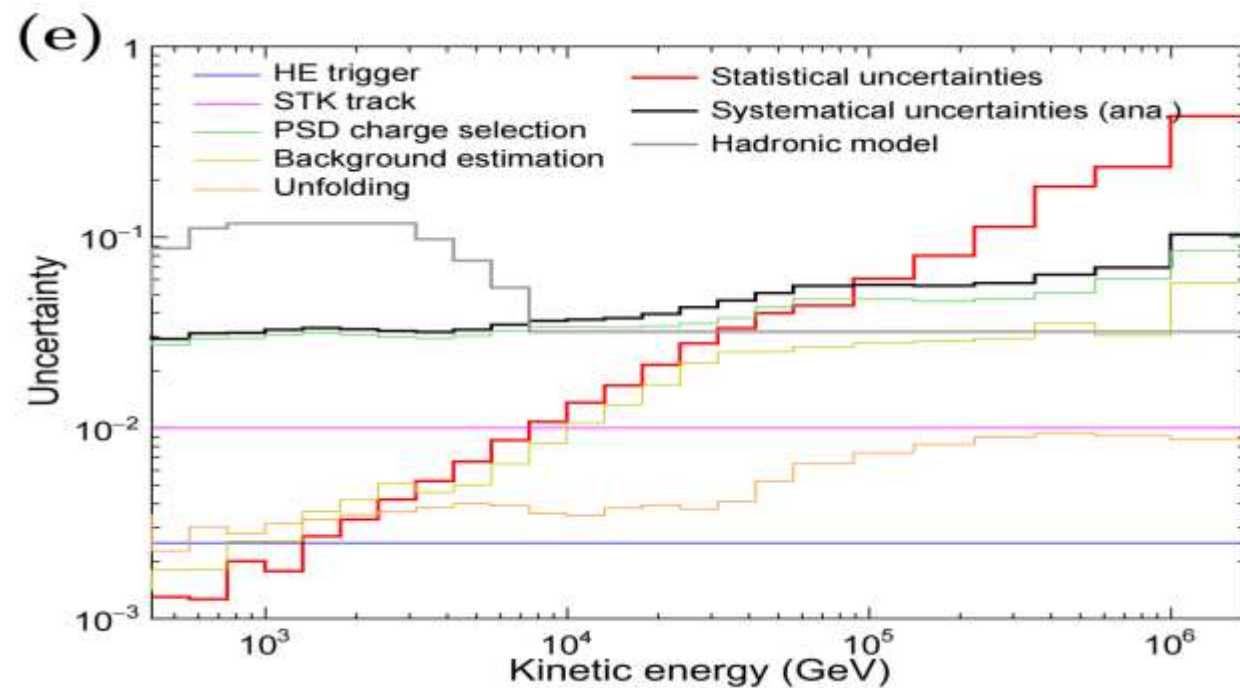
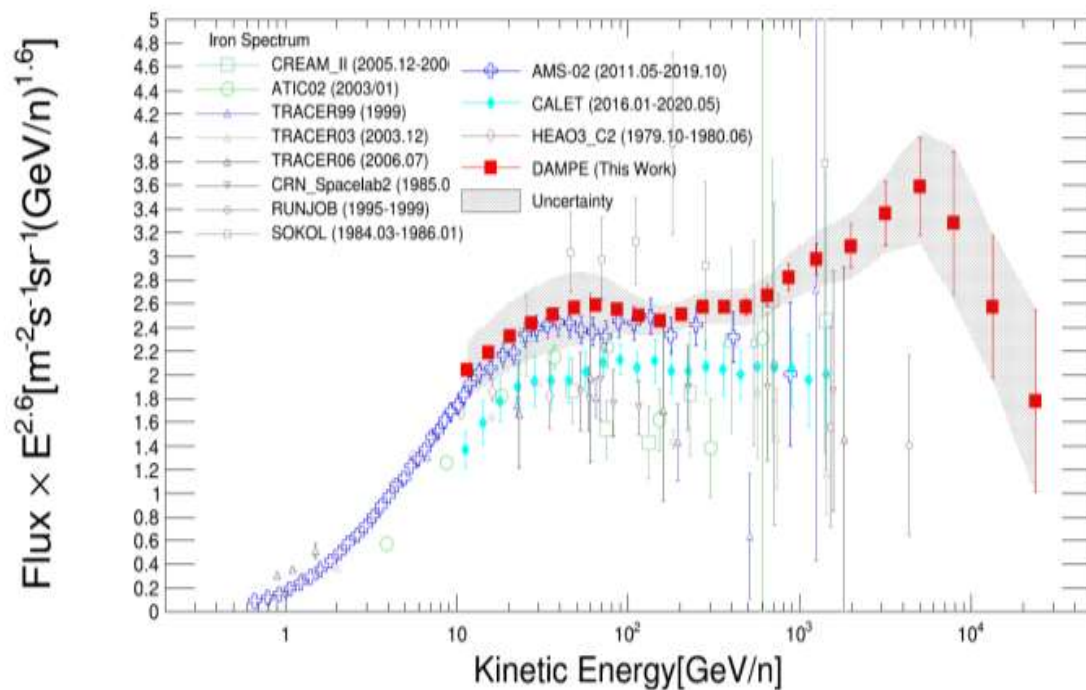


MC/Data < 0.01 %

$$\text{Track Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Track(STK or BGO)}}{\text{Max Charge}}$$

Track Efficiency

Iron Spectrum

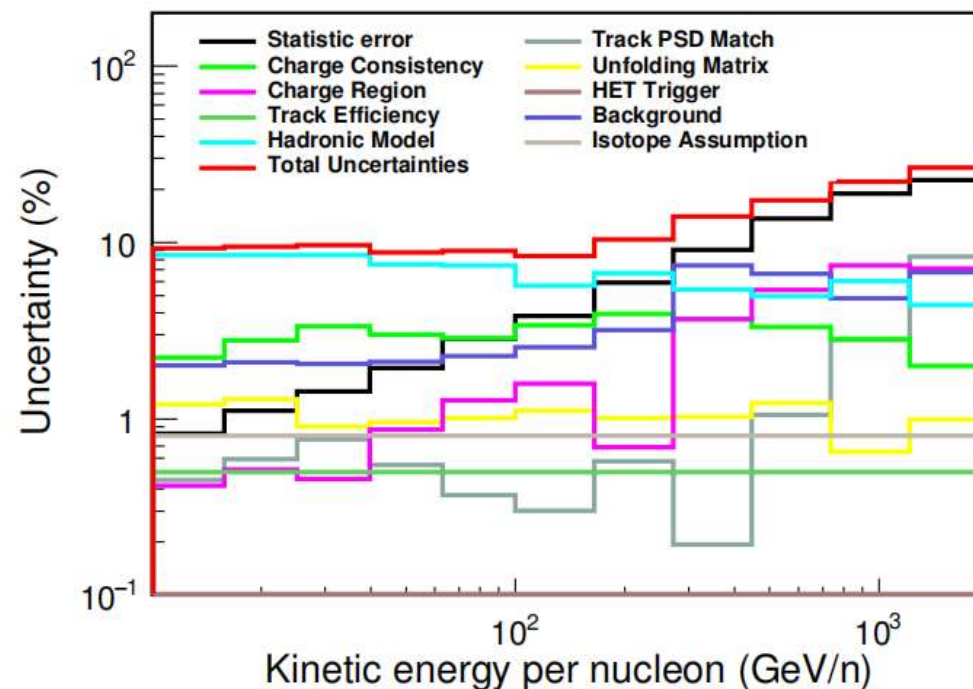
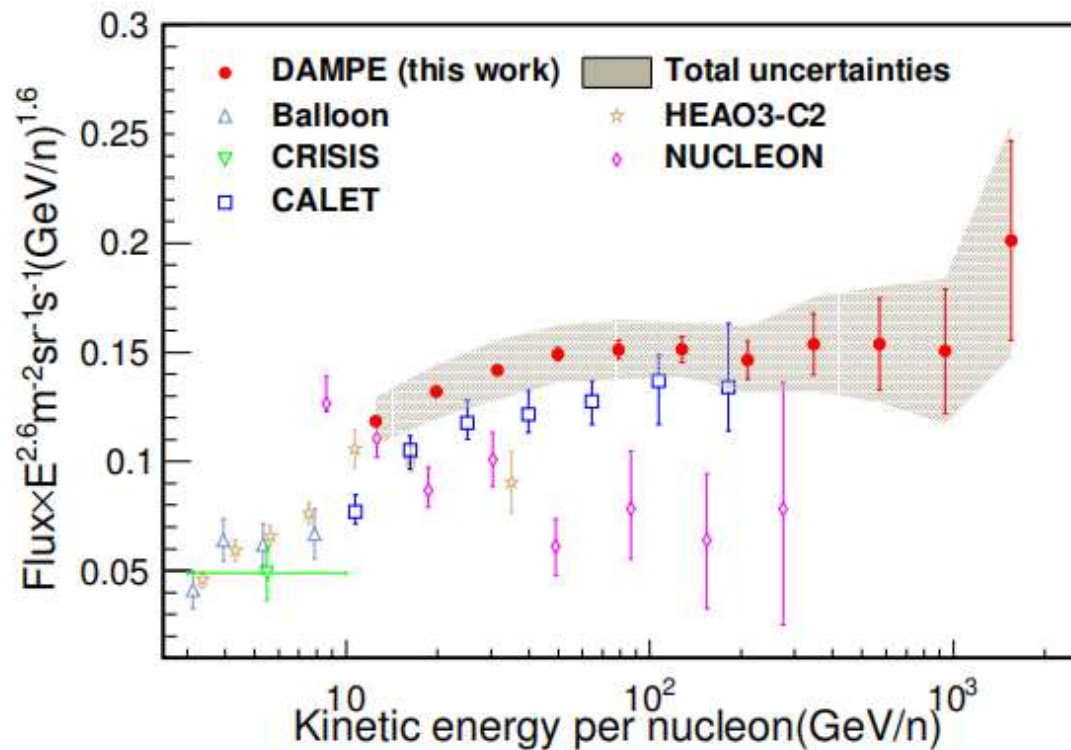


Analysis uncertainties of the iron spectrum.

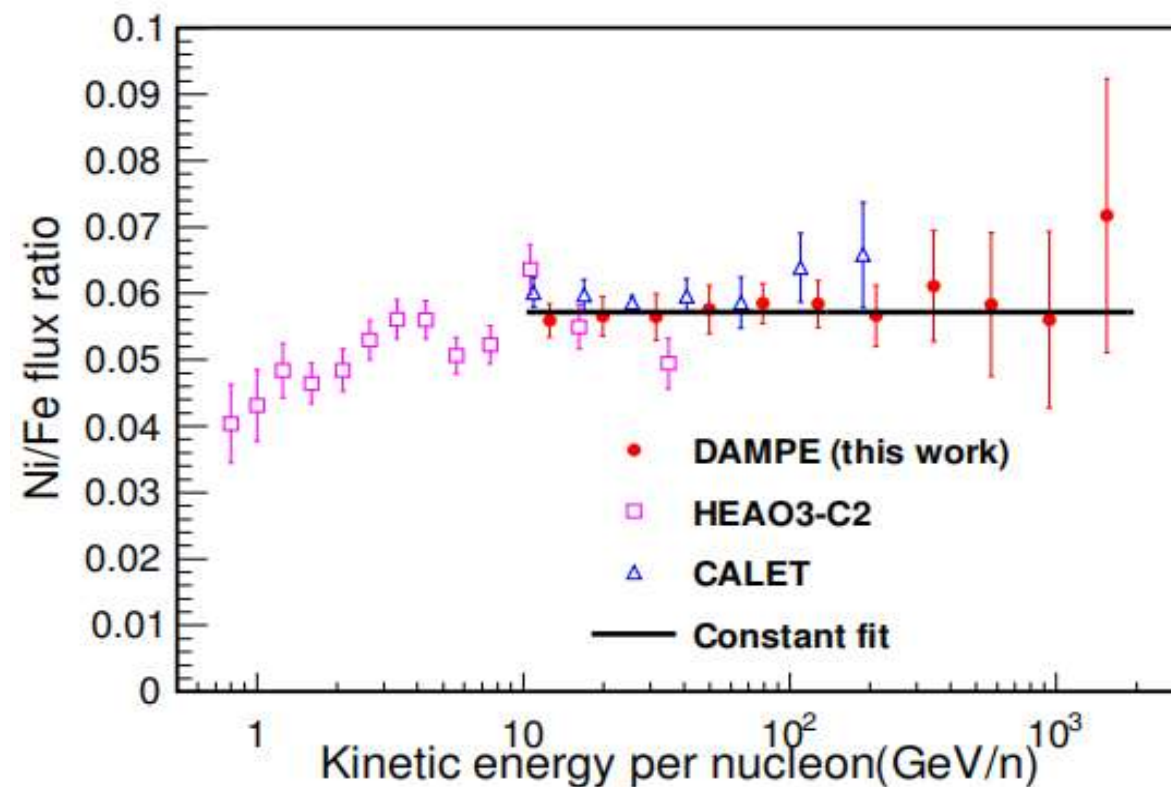
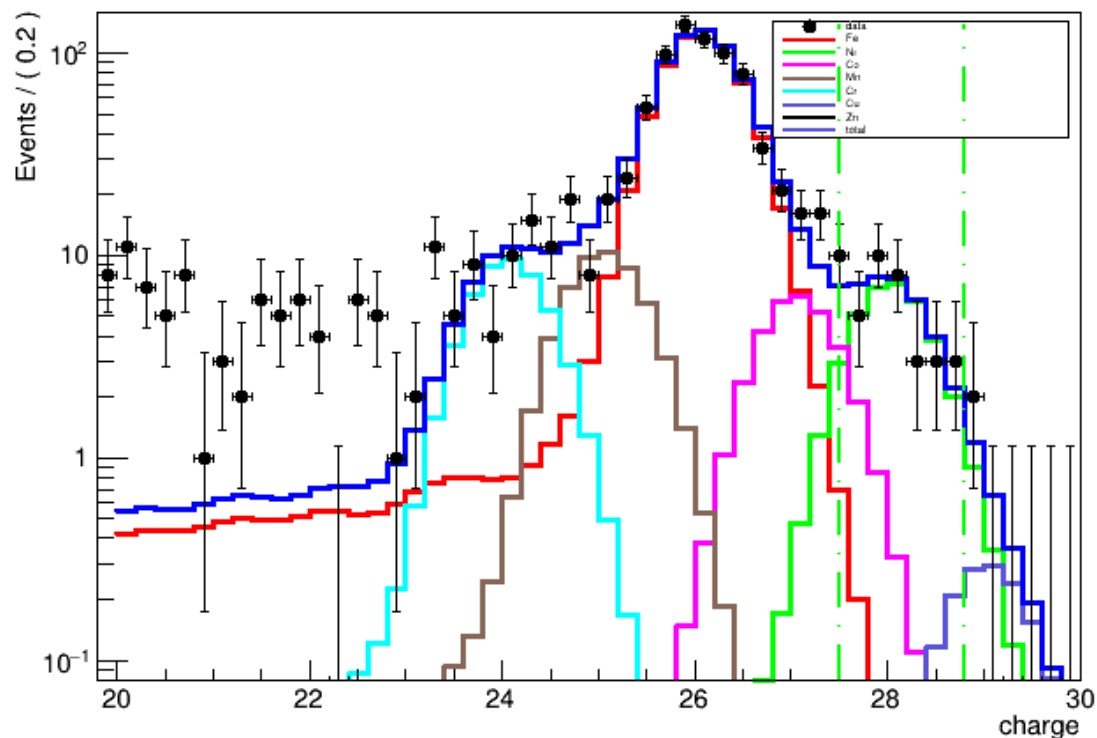
Nickel Spectrum



- The differential flux of nickel from 10 GeV/n to 2TeV/n was obtained.
- A similar structure to CALET, but an absolute value shift
- A single power law is used to fit, with $\gamma = -2.60 \pm 0.03$

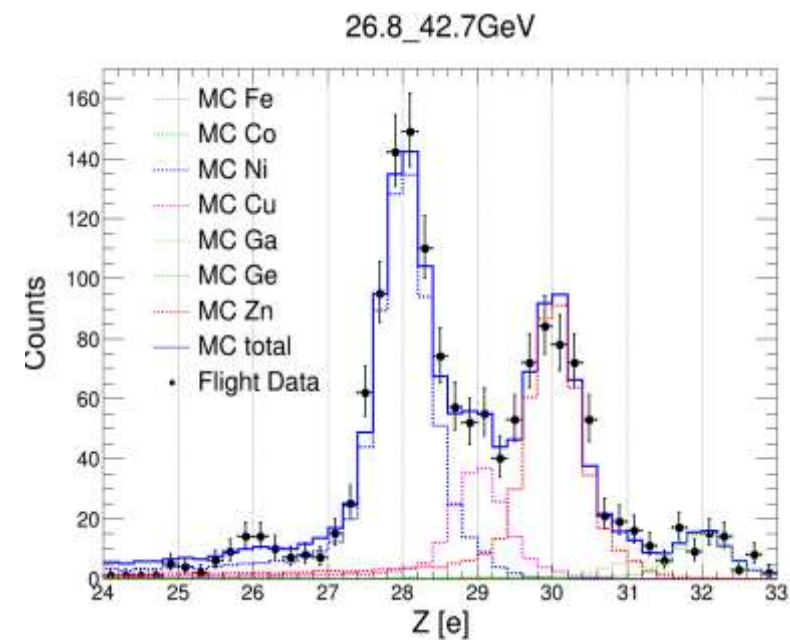
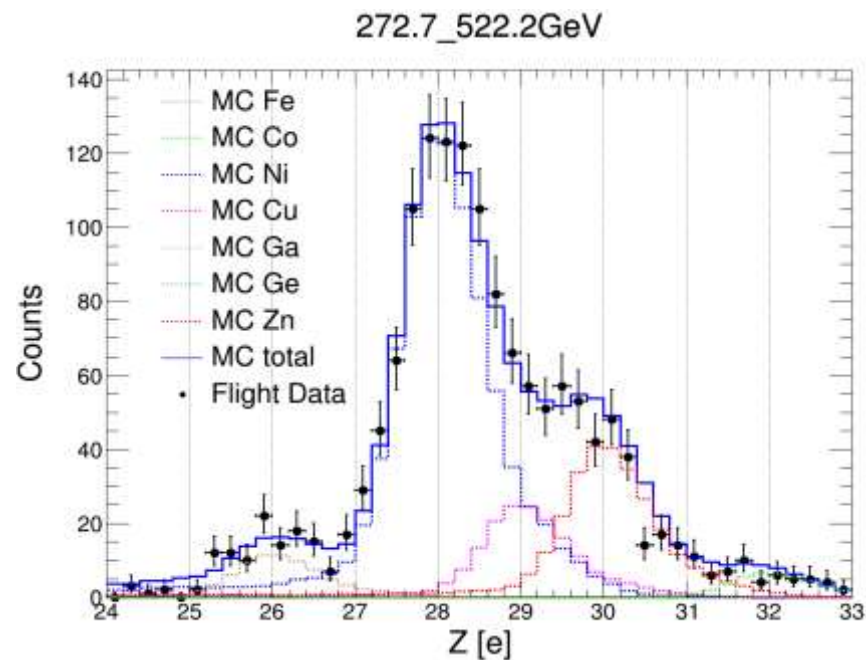
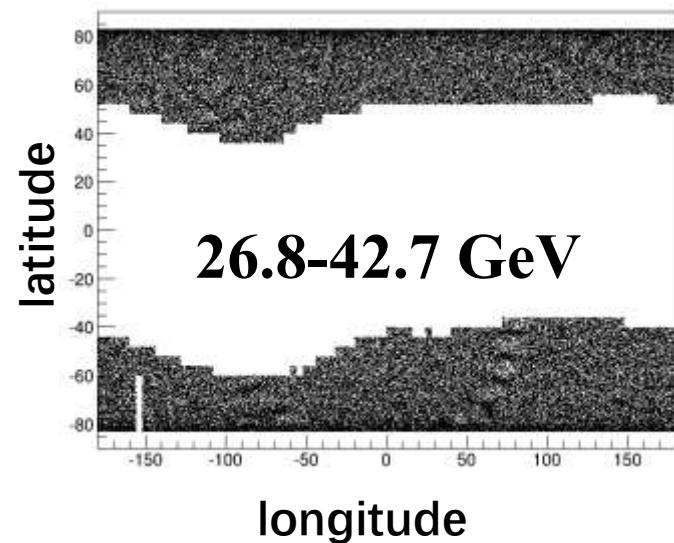
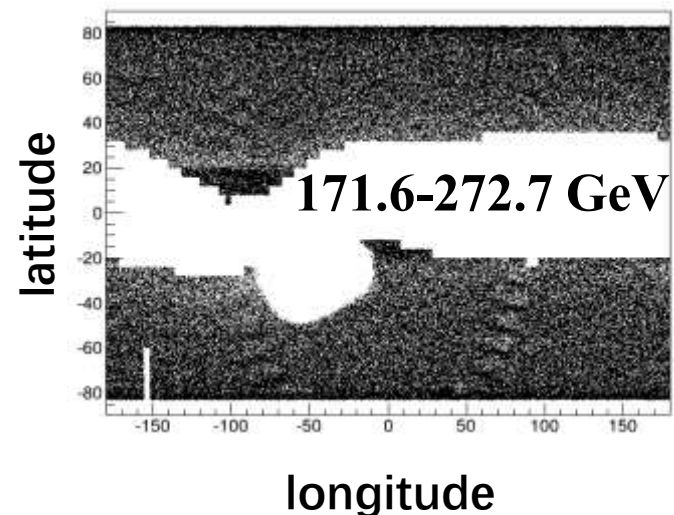


Nickel and Iron Spectrum Ratio



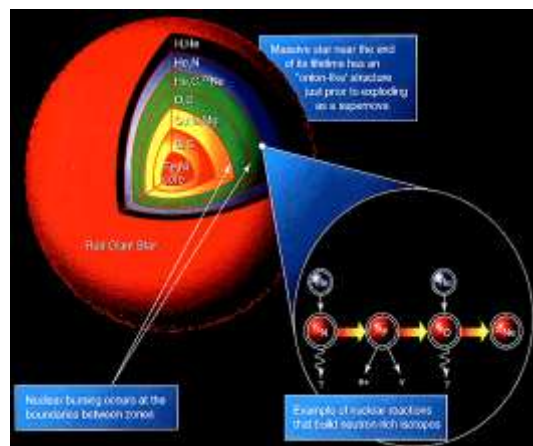
The nickel to iron ratio can be approximated by a constant fit 0.057.

Zn(Zinc) Spectrum

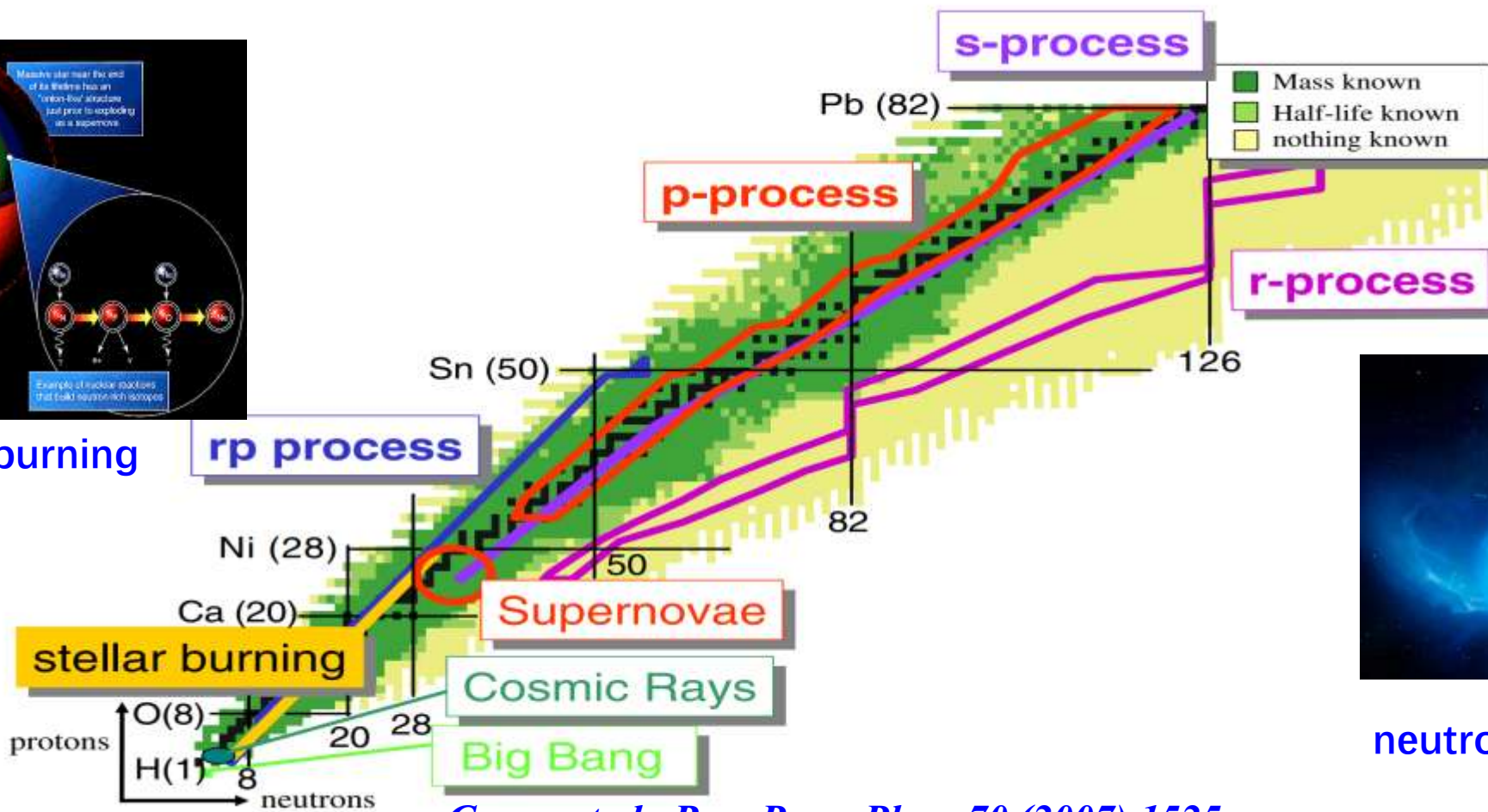


Measurement of the Zn Charge Spectrum Peak (20-500 GeV)
Enabled by DAMPE's superior charge resolution and large acceptance.

Origins of the Elements



stellar burning

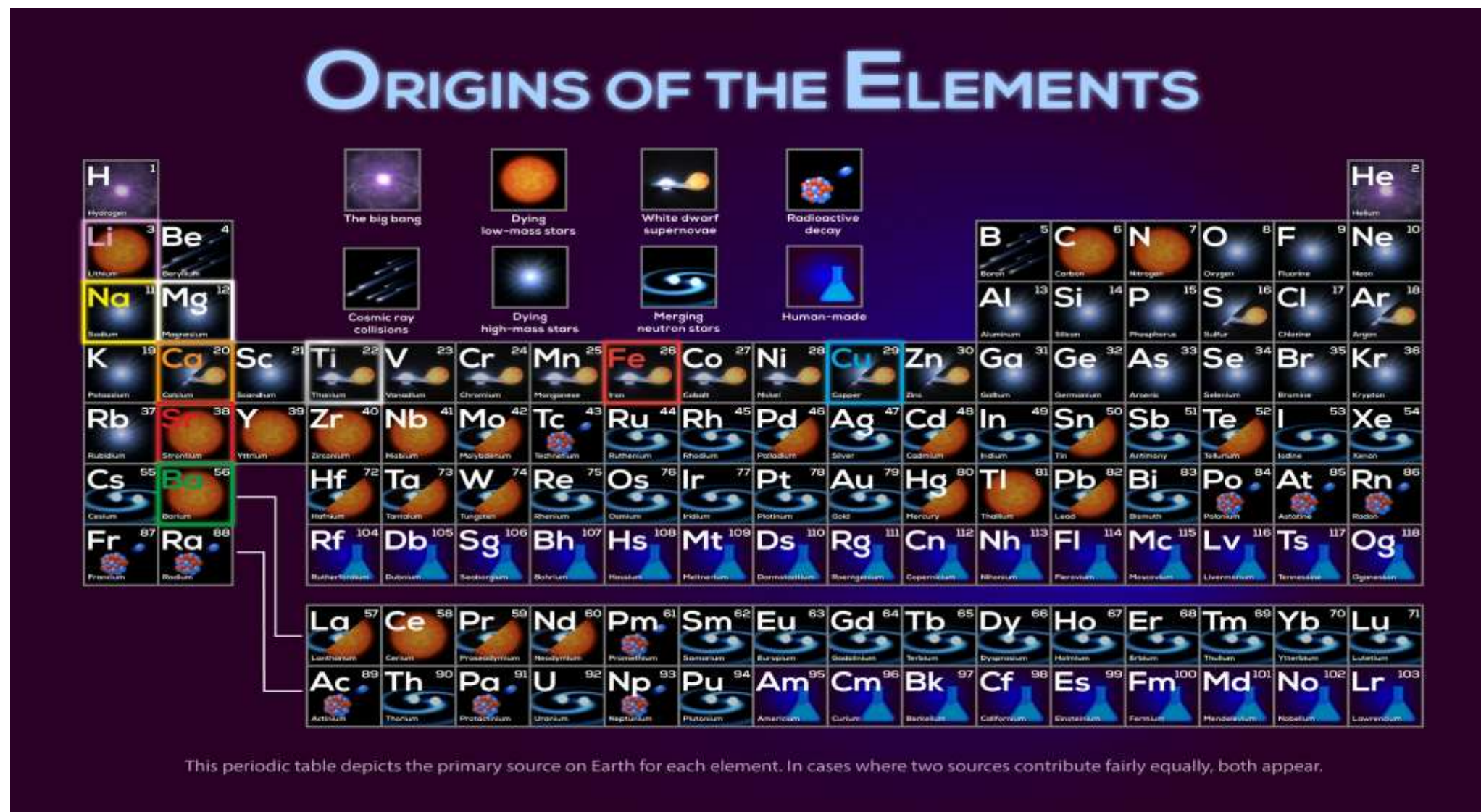


neutron star mergers

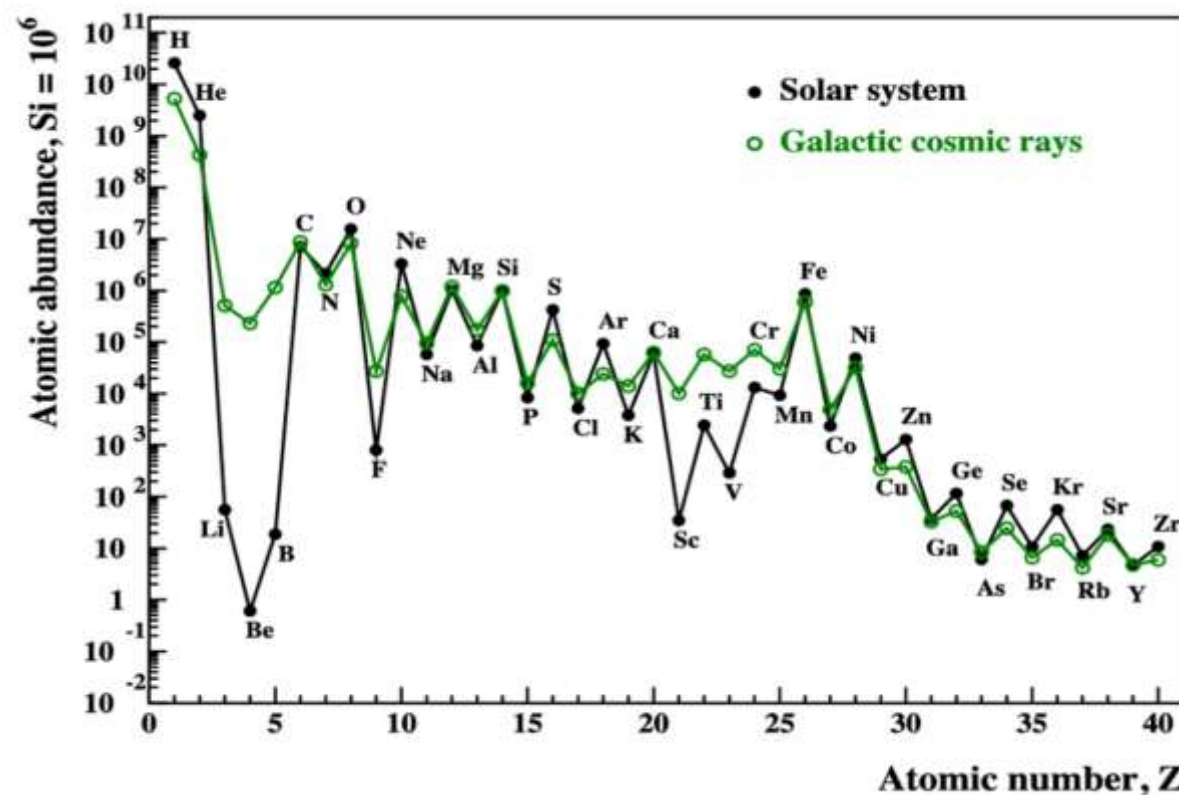
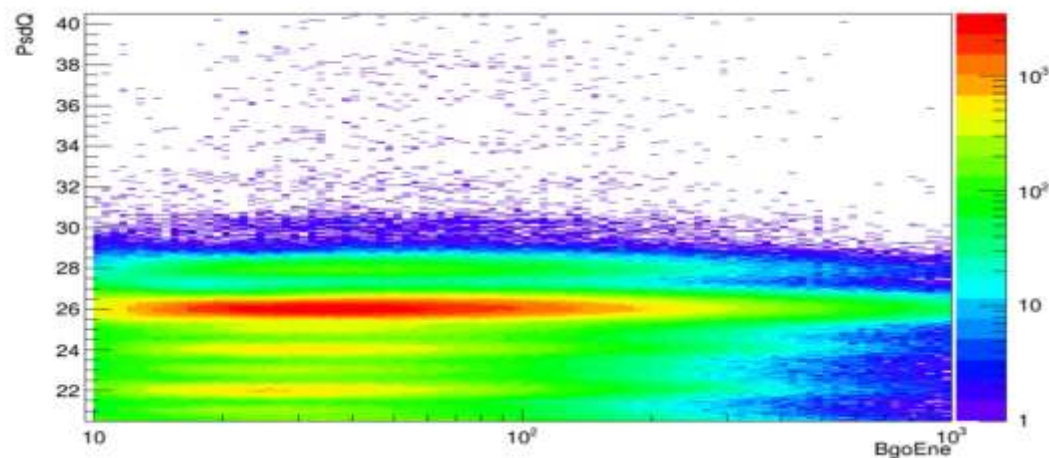
Grawe et al., Rep. Prog. Phys. 70 (2007) 1525

The relative abundances of Ultra-iron reveal production mechanisms (r or s process) and sources.

Origins of the Elements



Origins of the Elements



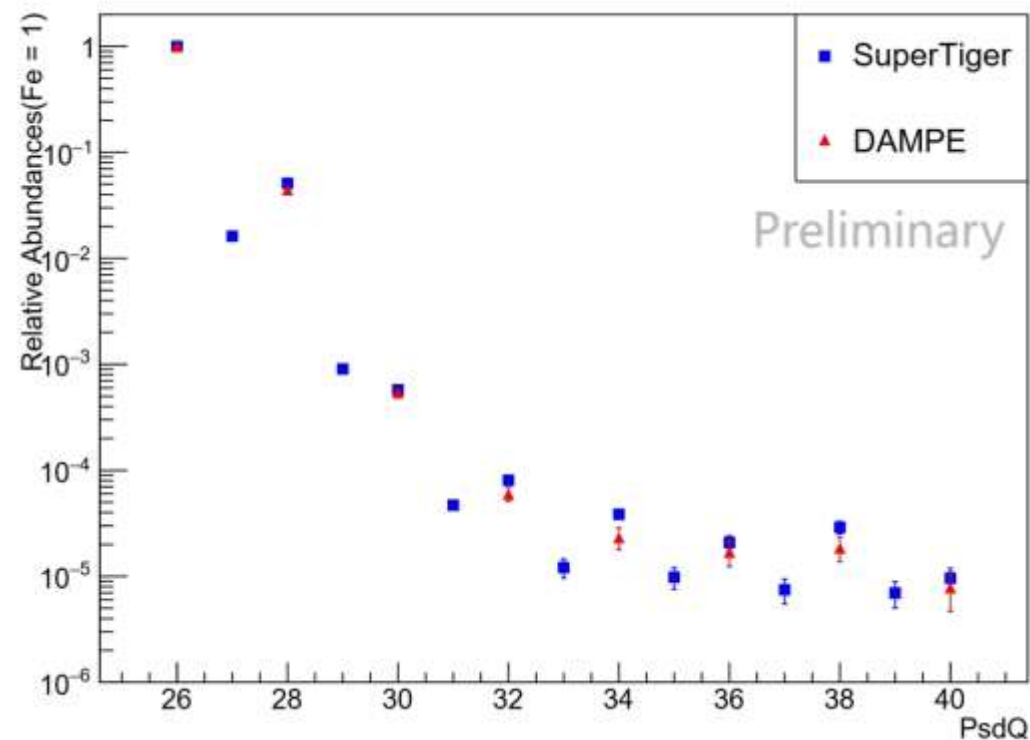
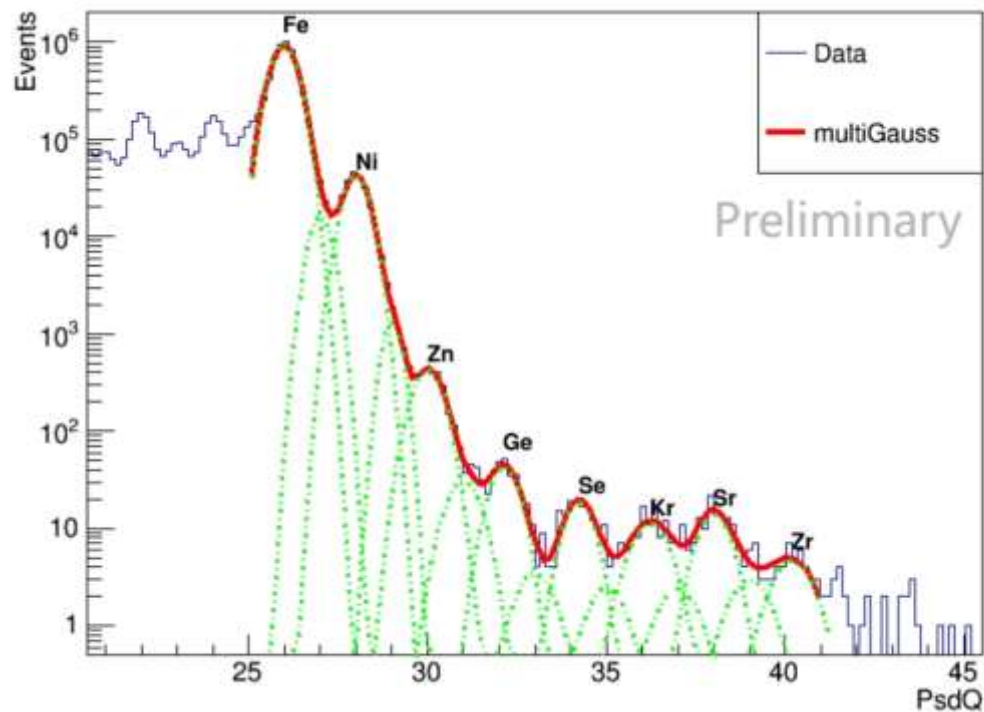
Experiment	Effective Acceptance ($\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{sr}$)	Observation Time (d)	Energy Range
CRIS	0.025	>8000	0.1–1 GeV/u
Super-TIGER	3.9	55	0.8–10 GeV/u
DAMPE	0.15	>3000	3 GeV–100 TeV

Broader energy range.
Largest event collection at high energies.

Ultra-Iron Nuclei Abundances



Relative abundance of ultra-Iron nuclei (norm. to Iron)



Summary



- We obtain a preliminary sub-Fe flux, The Energy Range bigger than previous. Need more MC data.
- Iron Spectrum show a bump structure, in low Energy Range Match Well with AMS-02.
- Ni Spectrum up to 2TeV/n was obtained, Zn Charge Peak observed in Charge Spectrum.
- Preliminary Ultra-Iron Spectrum obtained. Match wee with Super-Tiger

Thanks for your attention