

# Constraints on super-heavy UHECR source model with a large-scale structure simulation

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**with Eiji Kido**  
**and Shigehiro Nagataki**

based on Higuchi et al. in prep.

# Three subjects of UHECR studies

## Air shower

- Energy estimation
- Mass composition
- Arrival direction

Atmosphere

Earth

deflections by magnetic field

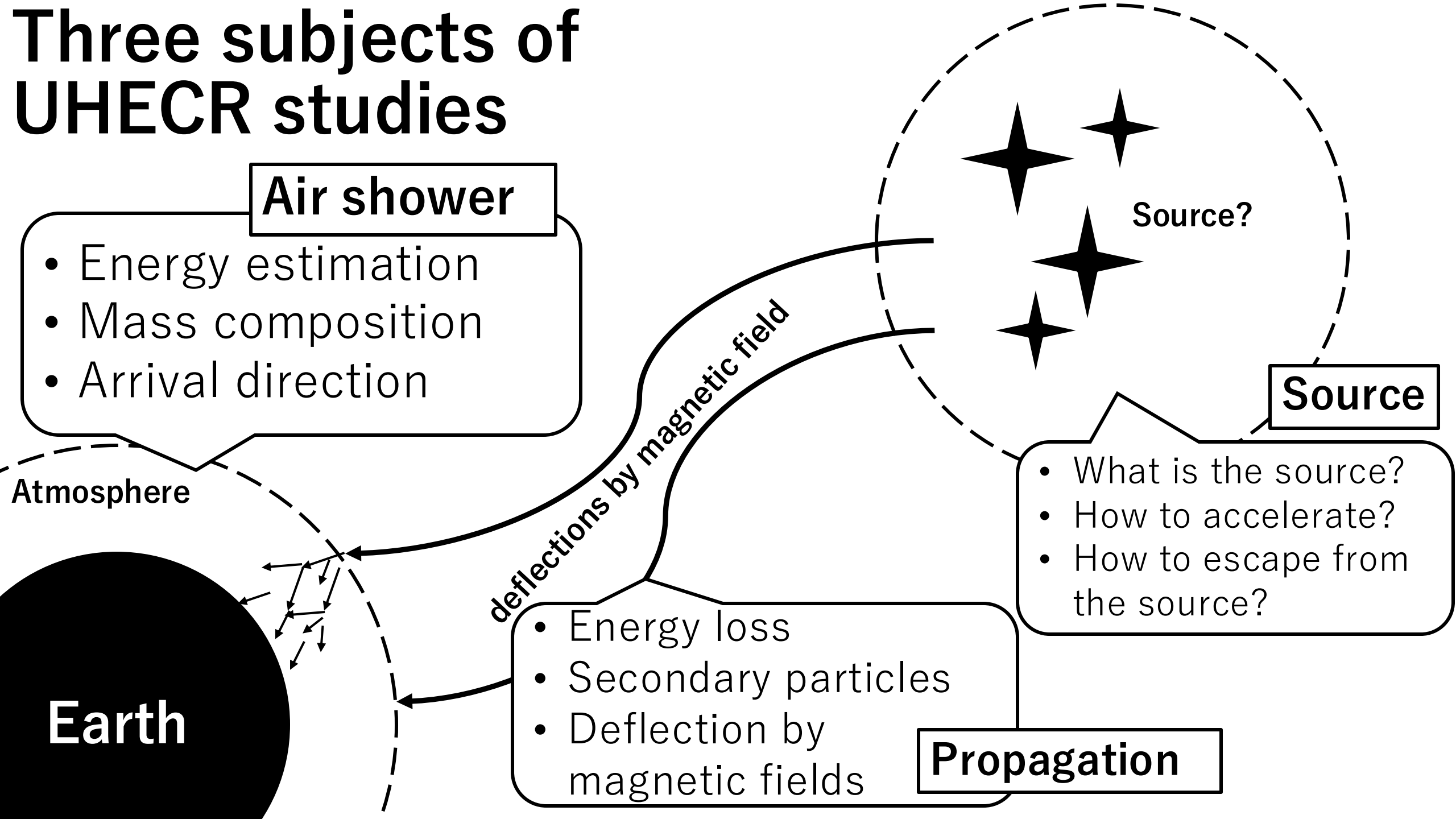
- Energy loss
- Secondary particles
- Deflection by magnetic fields

## Propagation

- What is the source?
- How to accelerate?
- How to escape from the source?

## Source

Source?



# Three subjects of UHECR studies

## Air shower

- Energy
- Mass
- Arrival

When we say “UHECR” studies, they are divided into  
Air shower detection (experiment)  
UHECR propagation (simulation)  
Source mechanism (theory)  
and people & techniques are different (in my feeling).  
→ Frequent communication between us is important!

## Source

source?  
accelerate?  
escape from  
e?

## Propagation

- Energy loss
- Secondary particles
- Deflection by magnetic fields

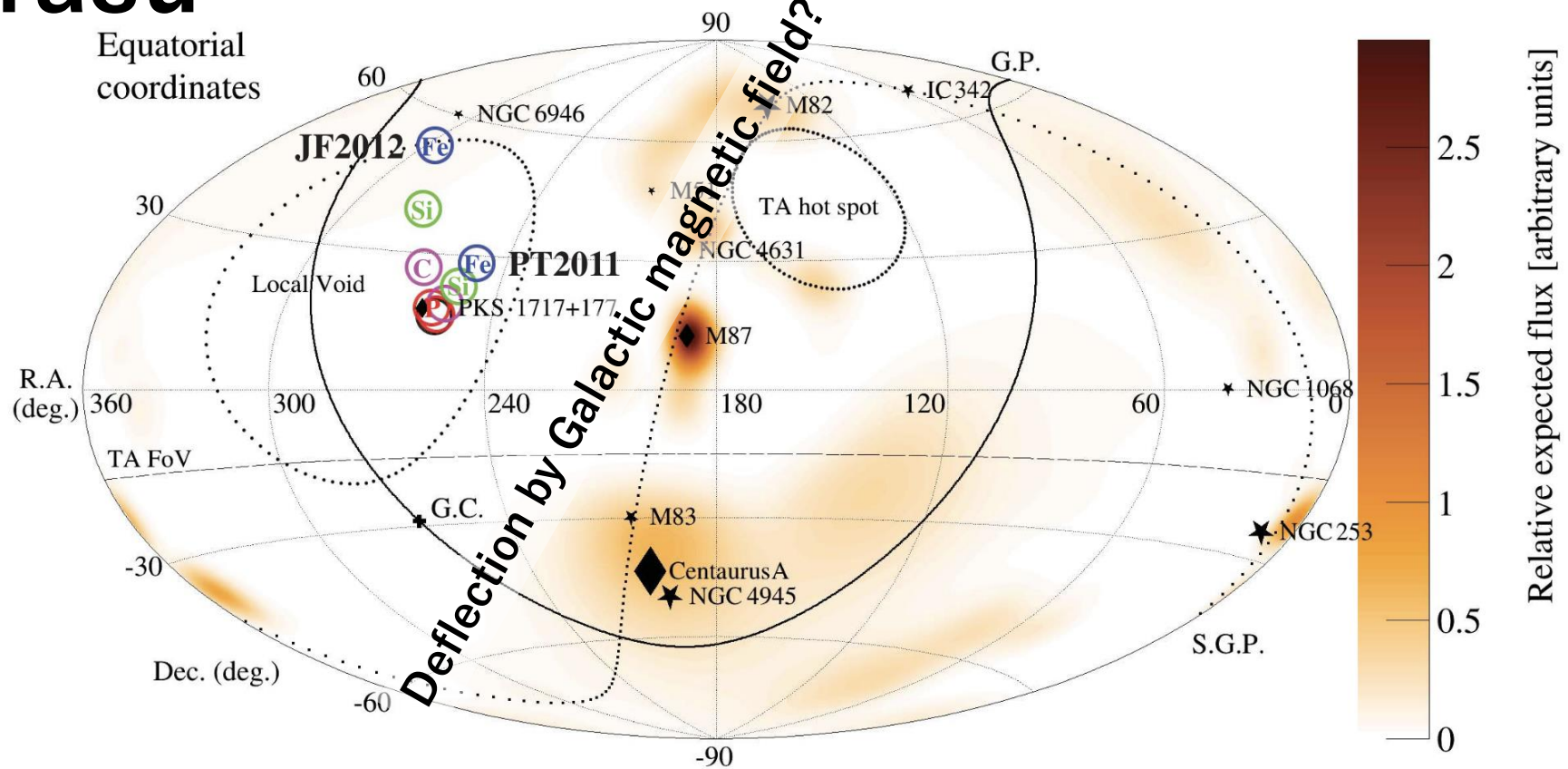
Earth

Atmosphere

Source?

# Highest energy particle in TA experiment “Amaterasu”

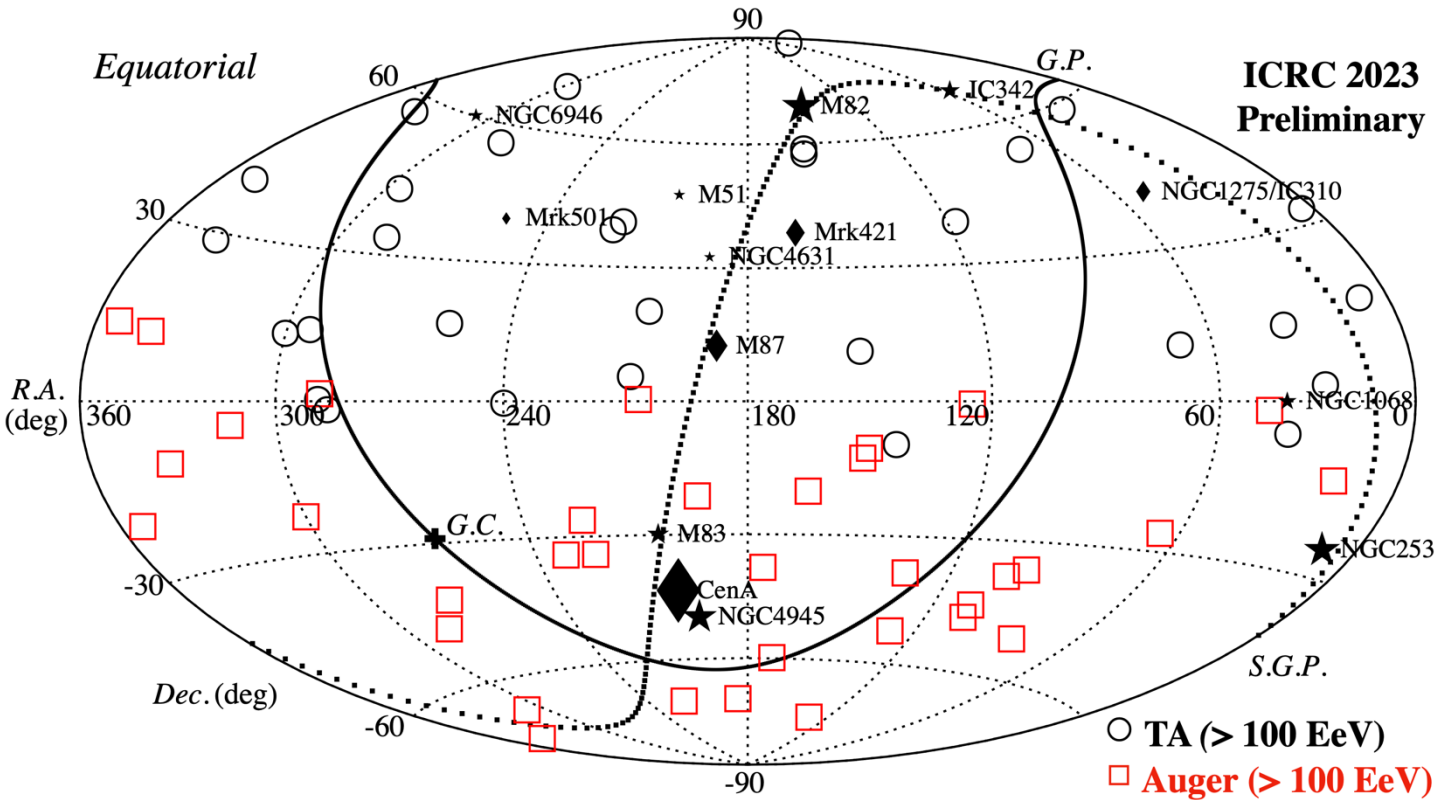
TA collaboration, Science, Volume 382, Issue 6673, pp. 903-907 (2023)



- Highest energy UHECR in TA experiment arrived on May 27<sup>th</sup>, in 2021 (244 EeV, second highest to “Oh-My-God” particle).
- Where does it come from?
  - Lack of mass information & large uncertainty between GMF models.
- **UHECR above 100 EeV is an interesting topic today!**

# Arrival directions of UHECRs above 100EeV

The correlation with source was expected for higher energy...



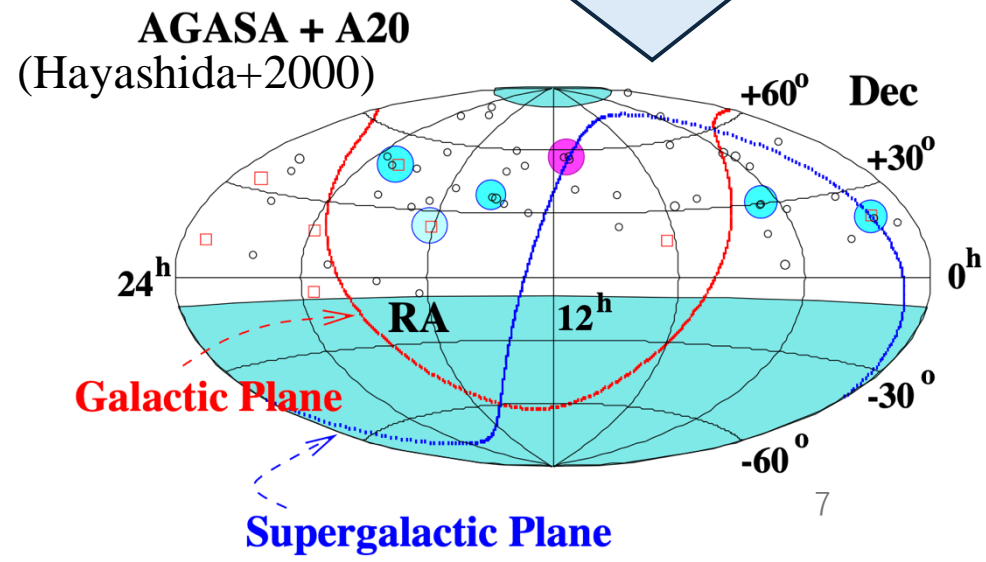
- (Currently )no significant anisotropy
- **Doublet/triplet** exist, but consistent with isotropy.

The situation looks the same as 20yrs ago, but **energy is  $\times 10$  higher** & we know UHECRs seems **not only protons!**

- Interpretation :
  - ① higher source density
  - ② stronger magnetic field
  - ③ heavier mass composition

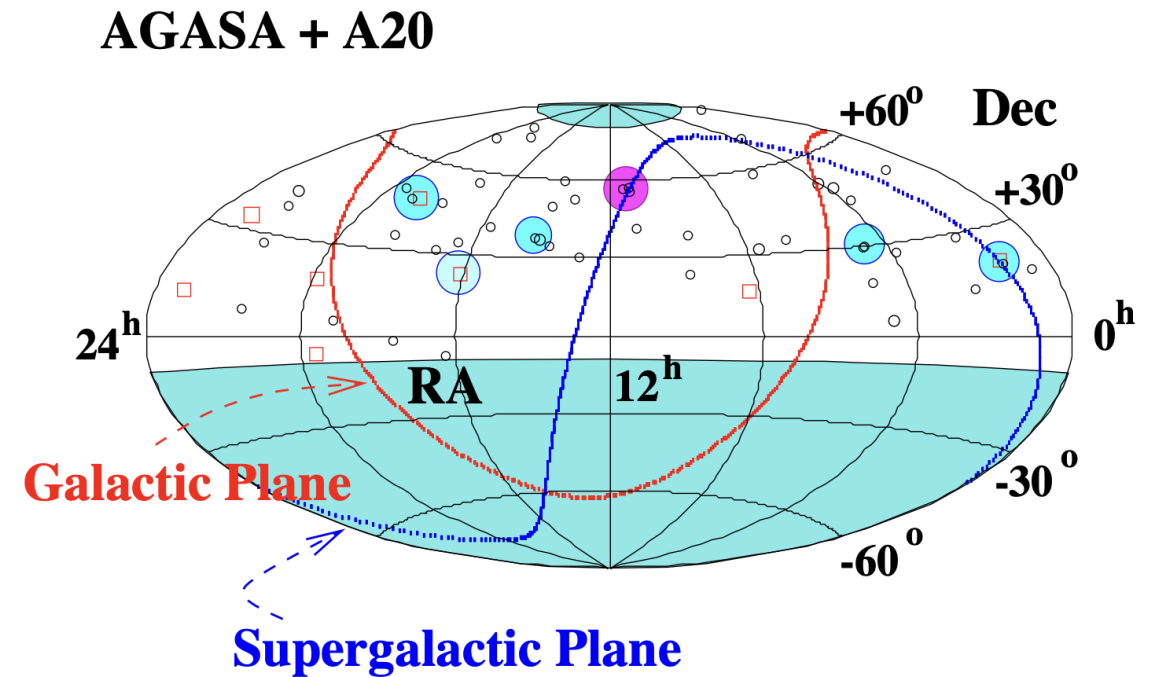
T. Fujii 2024 (ICRC2023)

• ...How to separate the scenario?



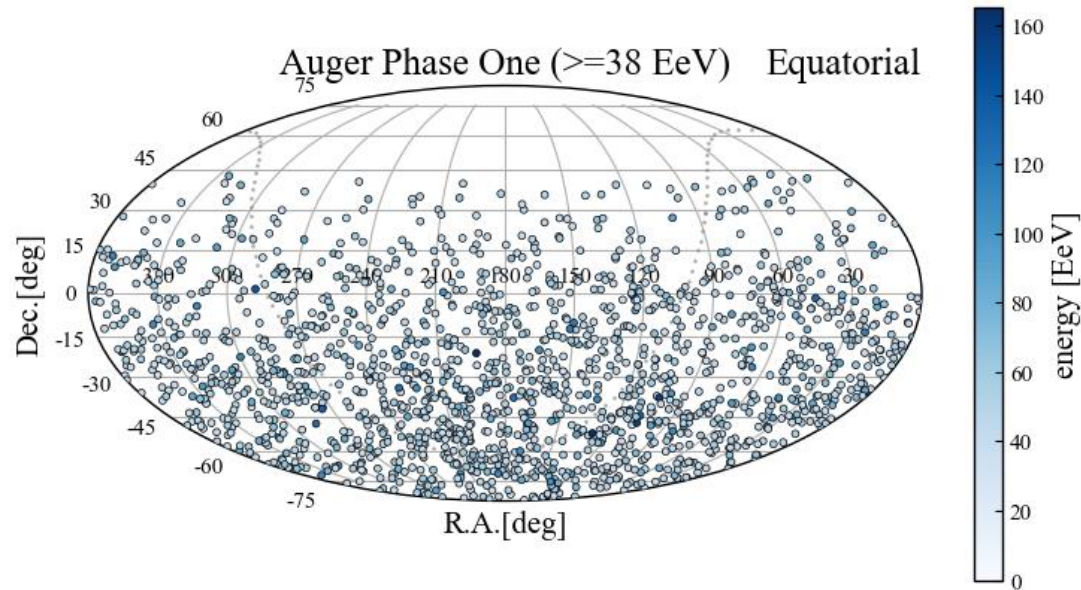
# Small-scale anisotropy

- Before TA & Auger experiment, there was an expectation to detect a **small-scale anisotropy (multiplet)**
  - Higher-energy UHECRs are less deflected by magnetic field, and concentrates around a point-source
  - **The situation is totally different!**
- Still works as a test for anisotropy?
  - Today we adapt **a number of multiplets** as a test parameter.

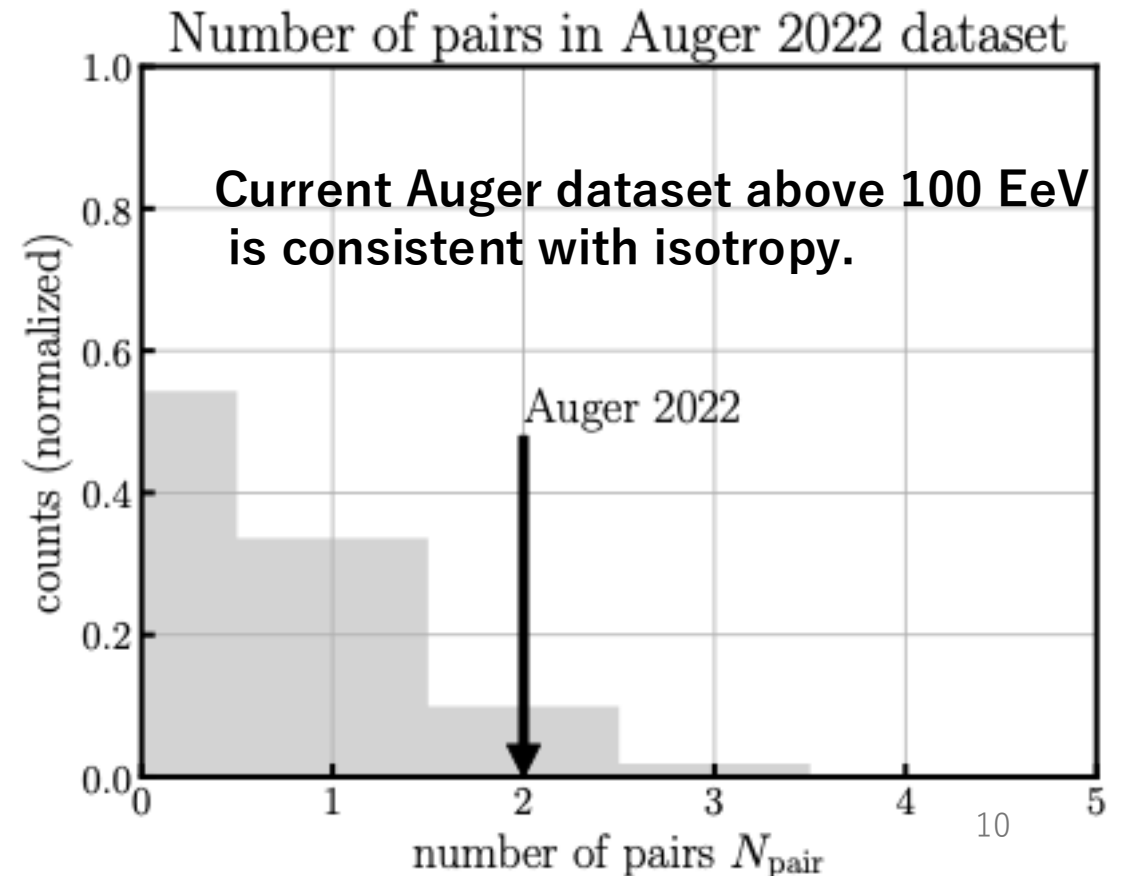


(Hayashida+2000)

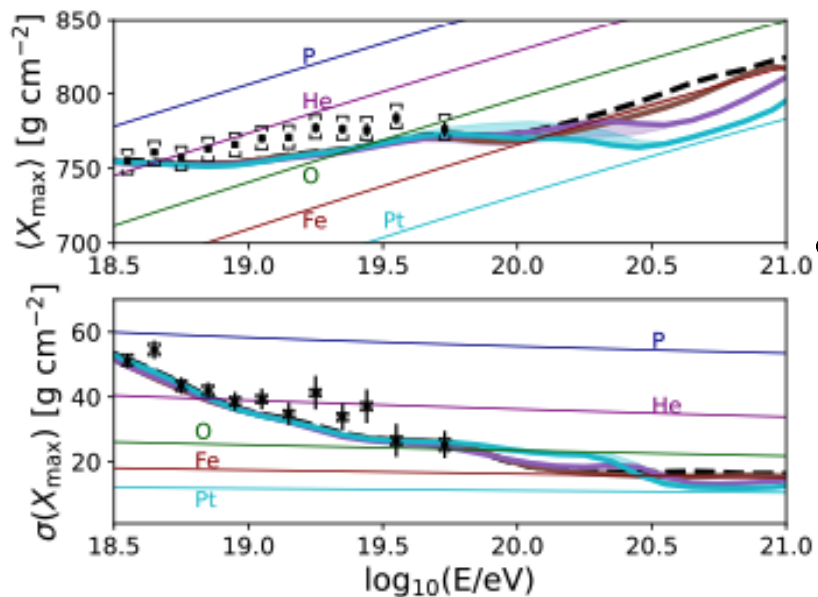
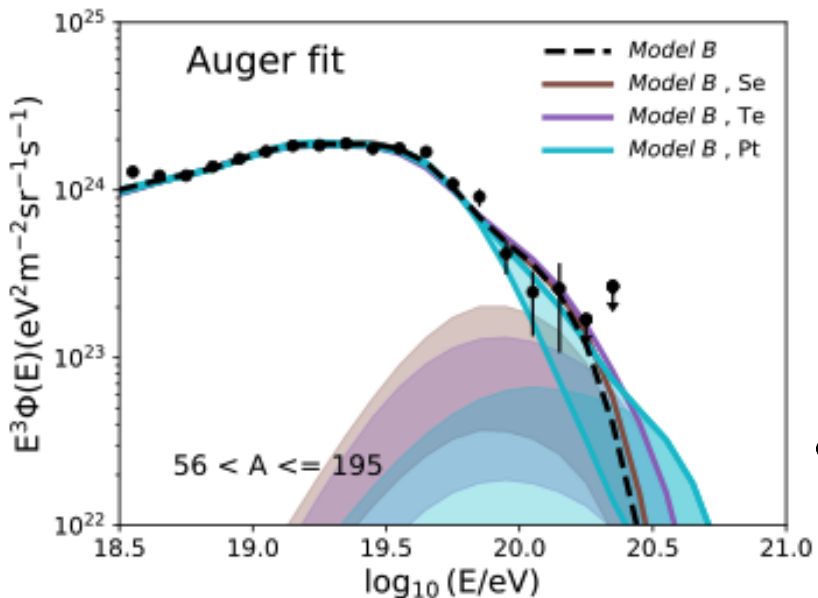
# How isotropic the distribution of UHECR above 100 EeV be?



- Public dataset of Auger experiment (Auger collaboration 2022)
- Evaluation with:
  - **number of multiplets** (within 3 deg):
  - Comparison with isotropic MC datasets



# “Super-heavy” UHECR ? (Farrar 24,Zhang+24)



- UHECRs include r-process nuclei heavier than iron?
  - Much larger deflection by magnetic field!
  - +longer propagation distance
  - source: BNS merger?
- Observational side:
  - We cannot constrain from current statistics...
  - Especially, **we don't have mass information above 100 EeV**
  - Just one of the theoretical possibility!



# Our work

## Questions:

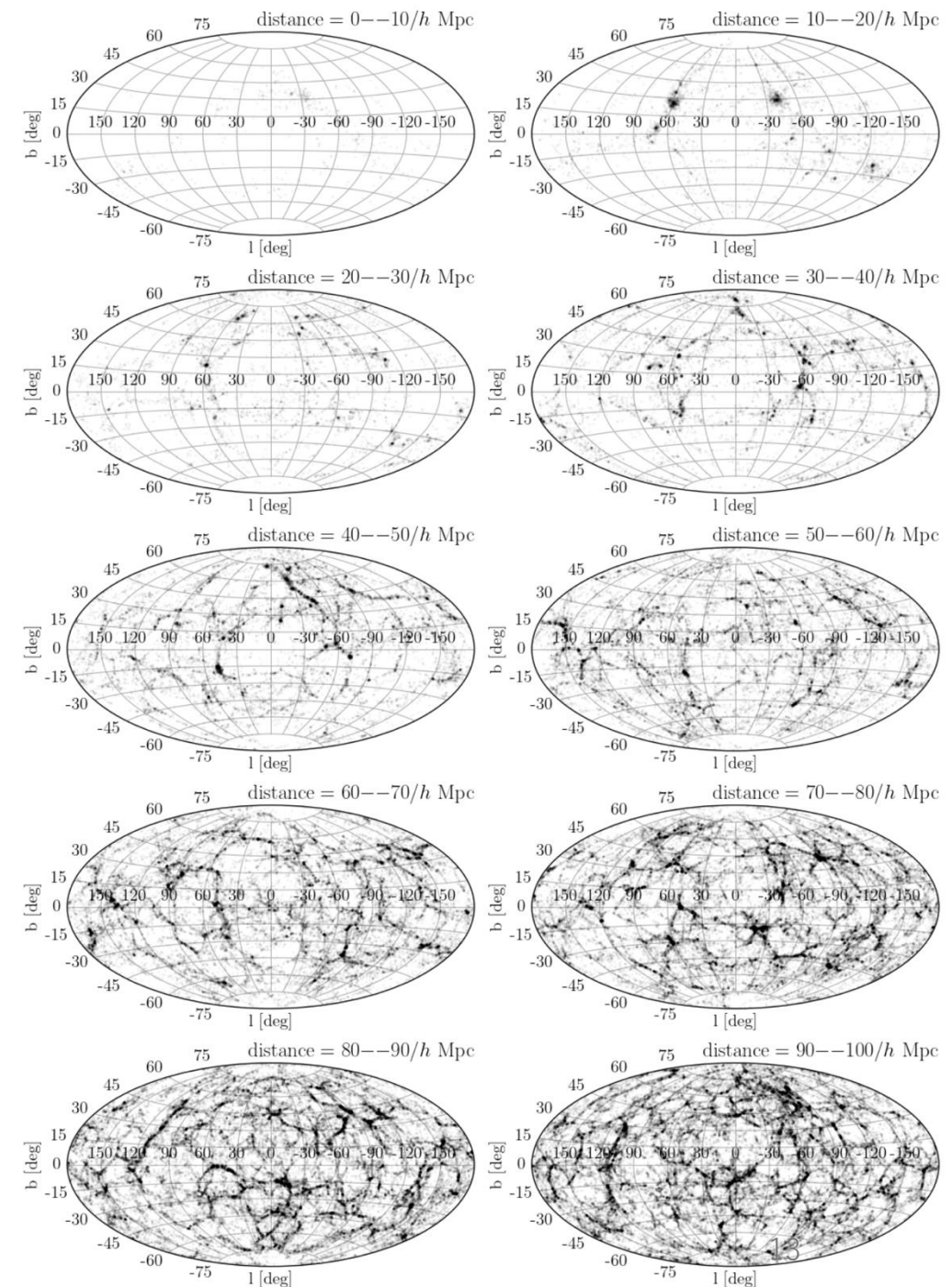
- How to explain **non-anisotropic UHECR distribution** above 100EeV?
- How to test the **super-heavy UHECR scenario**?
  - Detection completeness of galaxy catalog is a problem, when we assume distant sources.

## Goal:

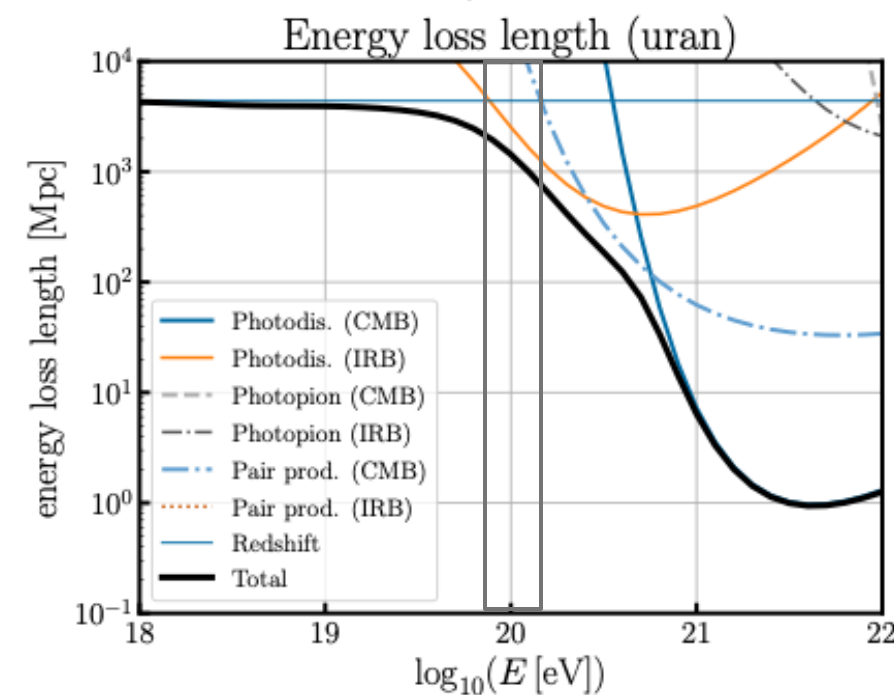
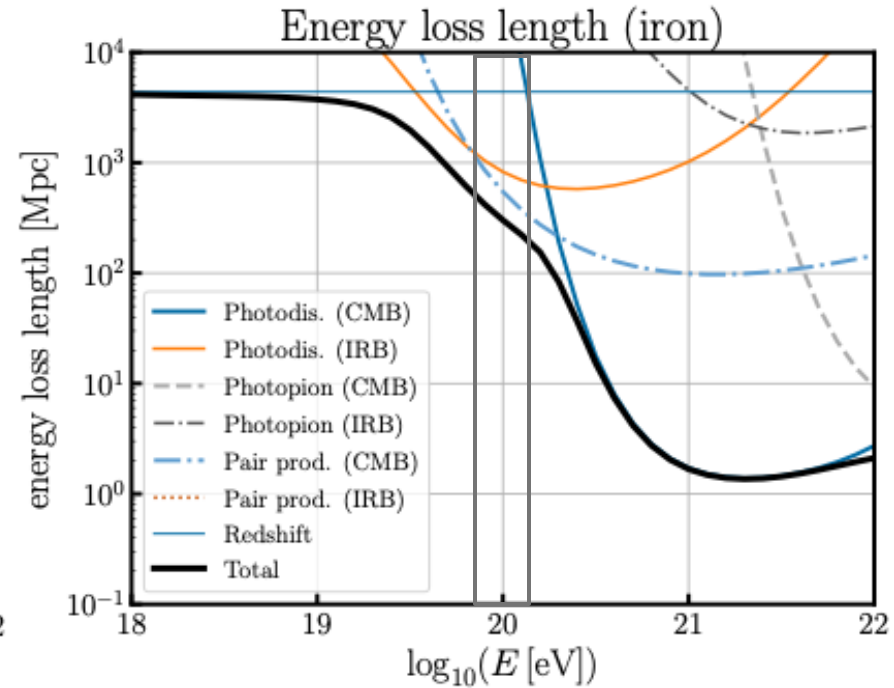
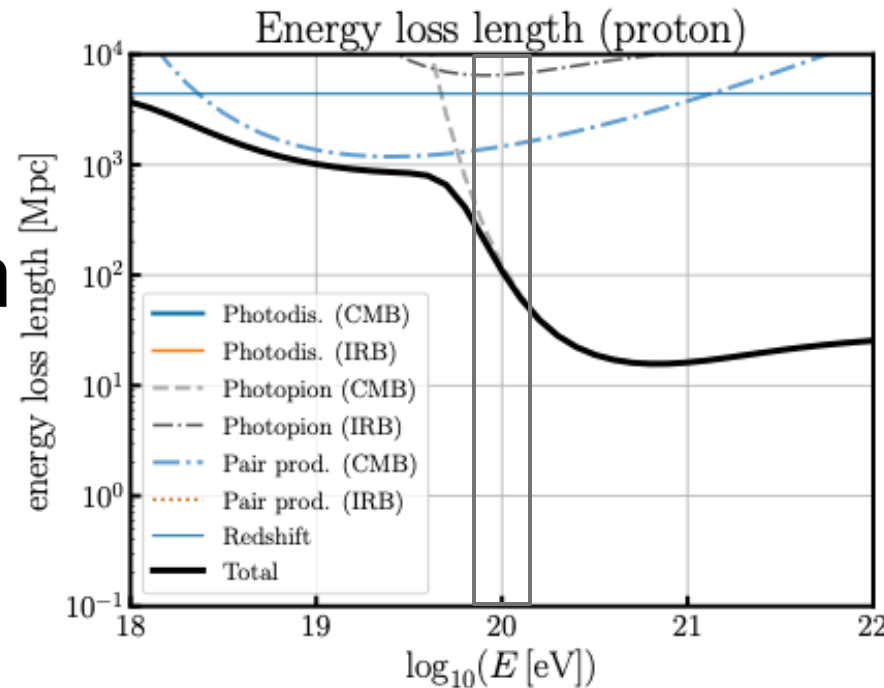
- Establish a simple method
  - **with a large-scale structure simulation,**
  - **which include super-heavy UHECR scenario,**
  - **to constrain source & magnetic field parameters.**

# Catalog: Millenium Run

- Today, we focus on a simple (and less-model dependent) discussion based on **simulated galaxy catalog**:
  - **Millenium Run** (Springel et al. 2005)
  - Semi-analytical galaxy model
  - Large-scale structure inside the cube  $(500 \text{ Mpc}/h)^3$
- The cluster can be seen around 10-20 Mpc.
- The distribution of more distance galaxies becomes more isotropic.

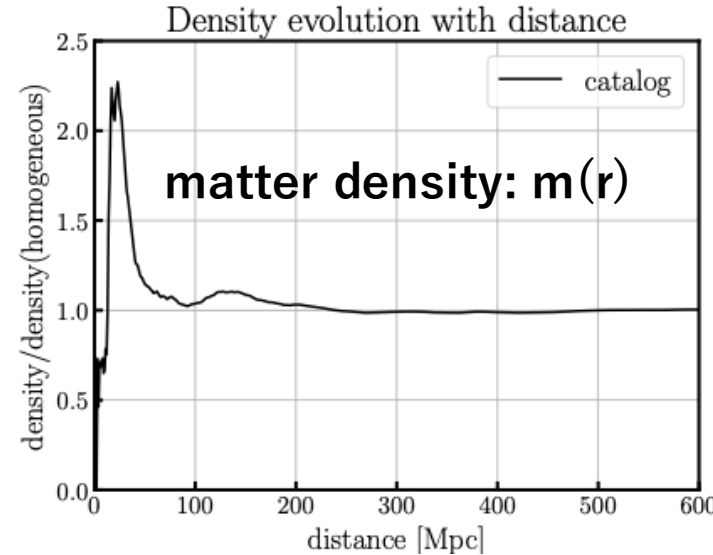


# Energy loss length

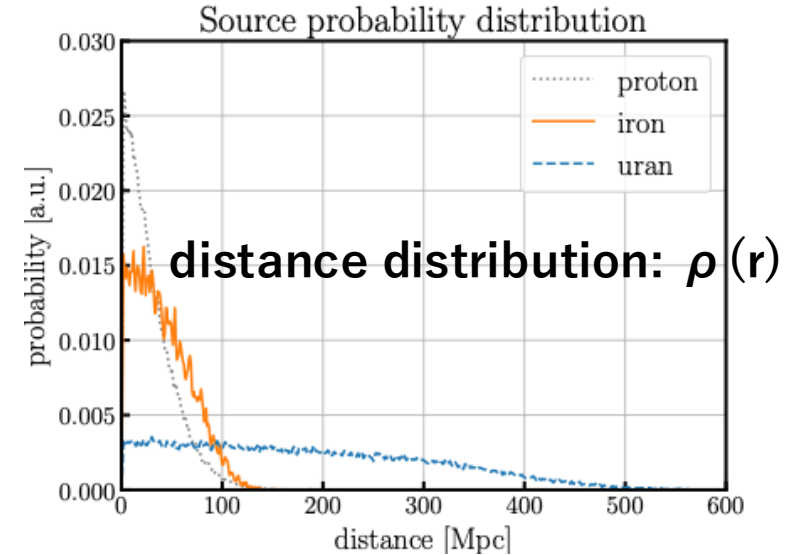


- Evaluation of energy loss length
  - propagation code: CRPropa
  - calculation of uran's cross-section: TALYS-2.0
- The energy-loss length of uranium is 1 magnitude larger !
- We calculate a distribution of source distance  $r$ :  $\rho(r)$

# Source distribution

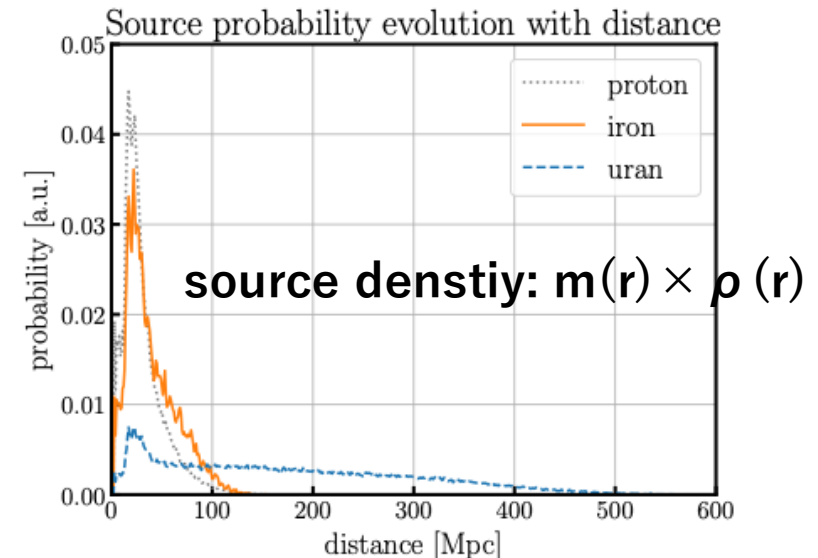


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- Calculation of source density distribution  $m(r) \times \rho(r)$
- The nearby matter density peak dominate proton/iron source distribution.
- Uranium can reach the Earth over 100 Mpc scale!

=

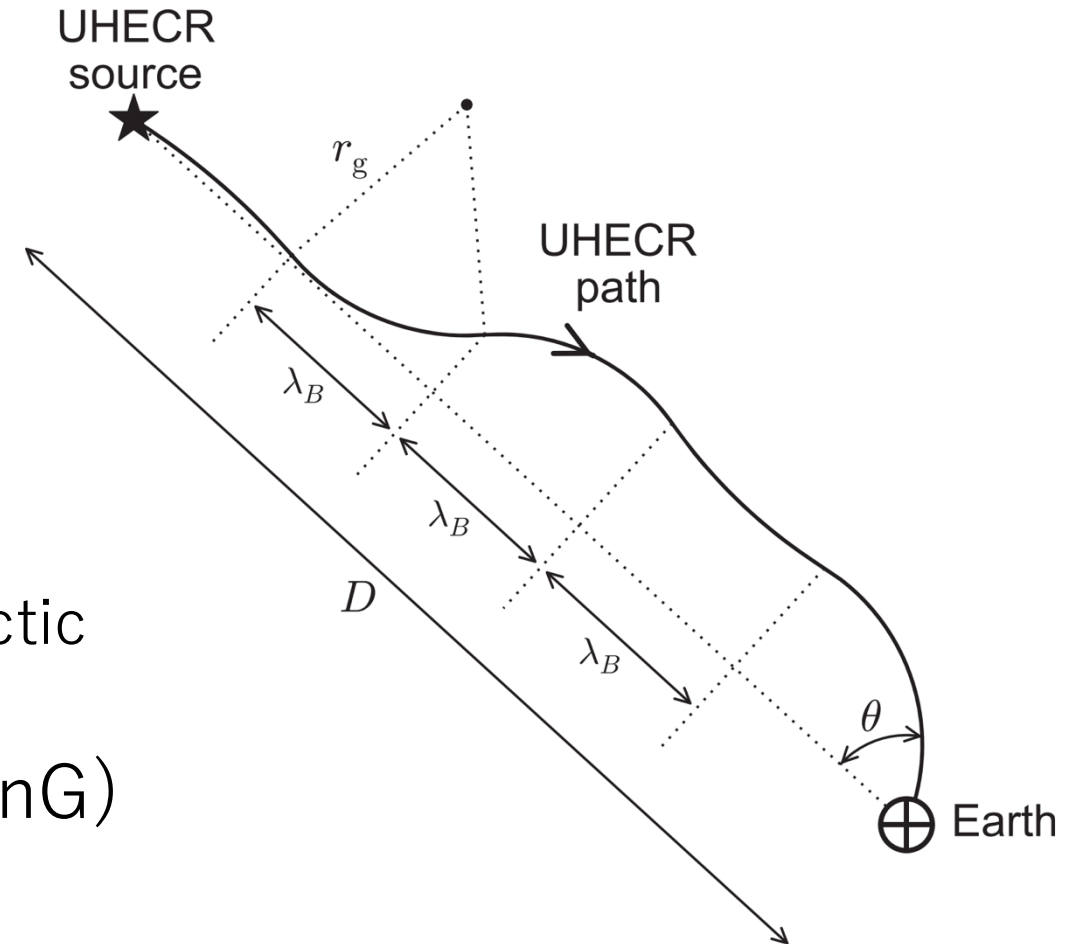


# Isotropic scattering by turbulent magnetic field

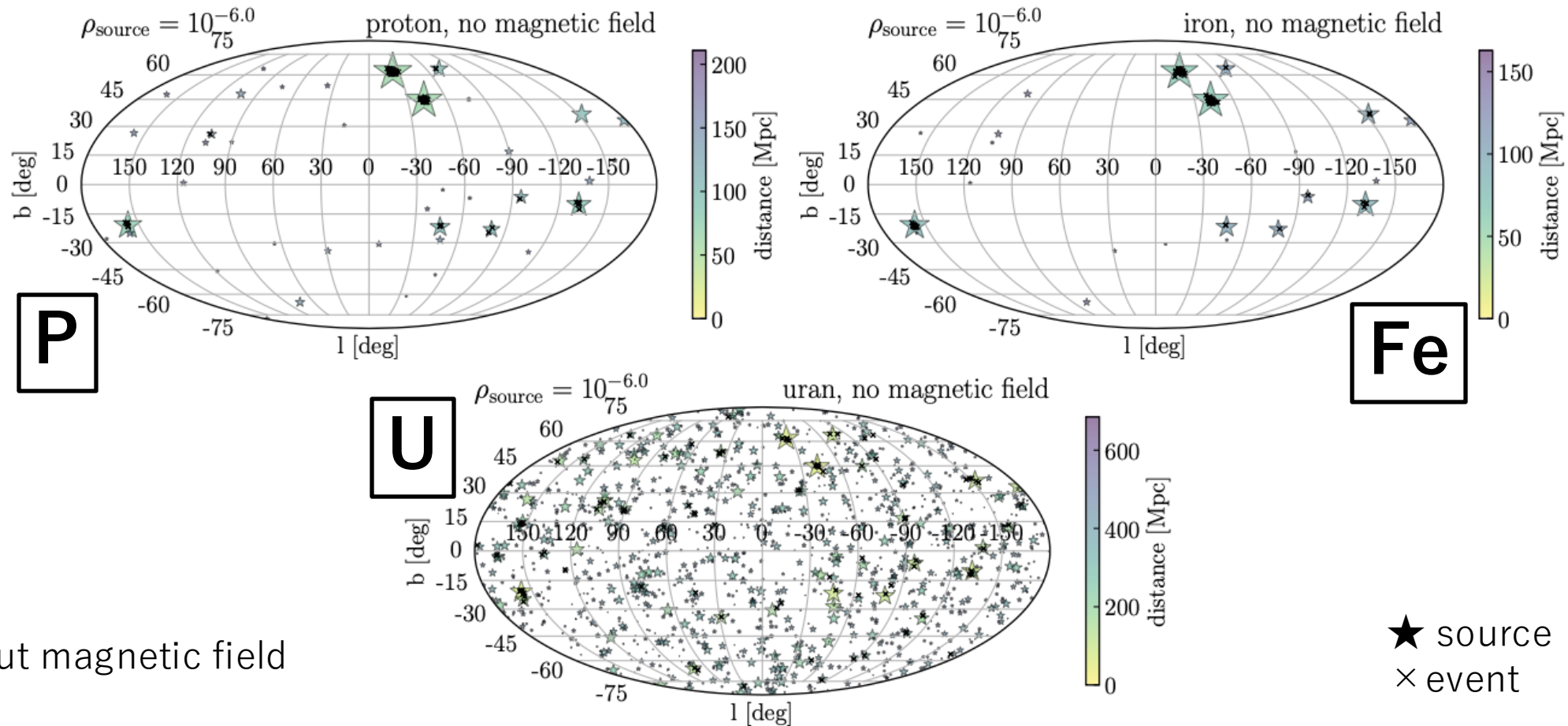
$$\theta_{\text{rms}} \approx \frac{\sqrt{D \lambda_B}}{2} \frac{ZecB_{\perp}}{E} \quad (6)$$

$$\approx 0.84Z \left( \frac{D}{10 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \frac{\lambda_B}{1 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \left( \frac{B_{\perp}}{10^{-9} \text{ G}} \right) \left( \frac{E}{10^{20} \text{ eV}} \right)^{-1}. \quad (7)$$

- For simplicity, we assume only isotropic random magnetic field.
  - coherent deflection by Galactic/extra-Galactic magnetic field is a next topic
- scale factor  $\alpha = (\lambda / 1\text{Mpc})^{1/2} \times (B/1\text{nG})$



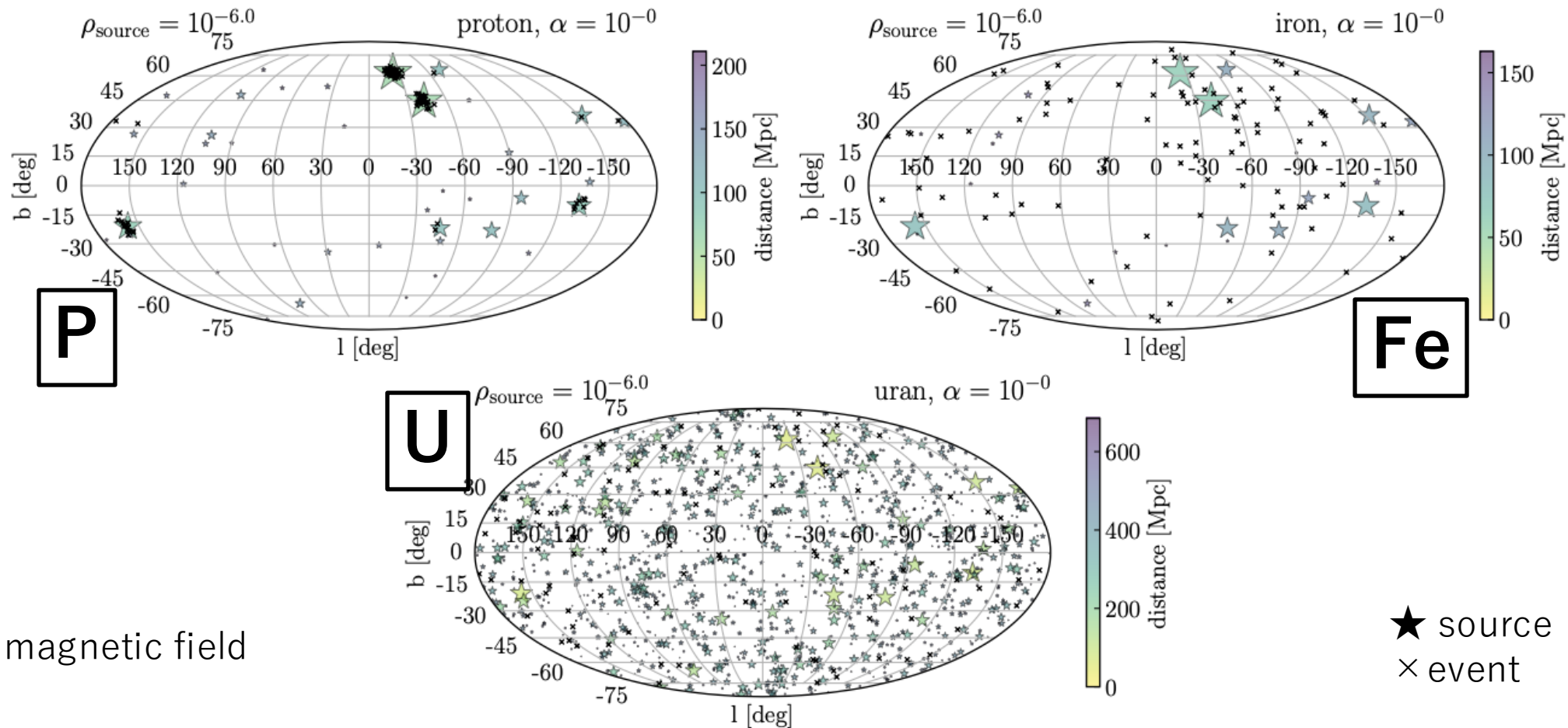
# Simulated UHECR distribution above 100 EeV



without magnetic field

- 100 events over the sky  $\times$  1000 datasets
- Even without magnetic fields, uranium reflects isotropic distribution of distant sources.

# Simulated UHECR distribution above 100 EeV

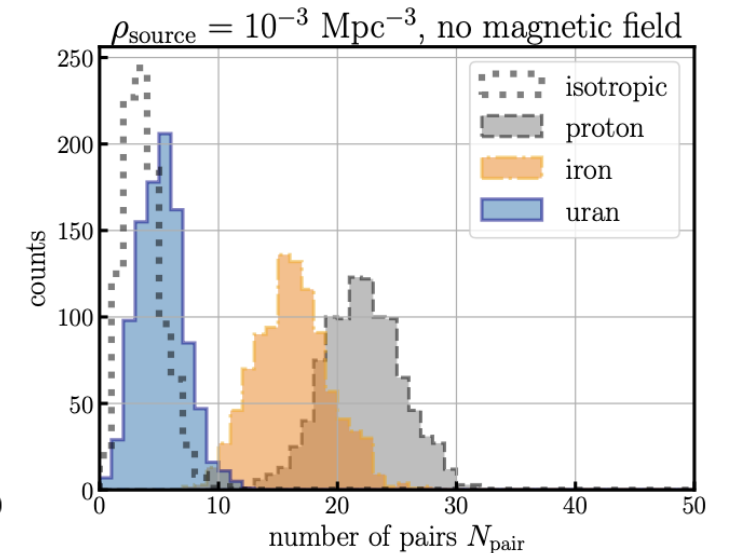
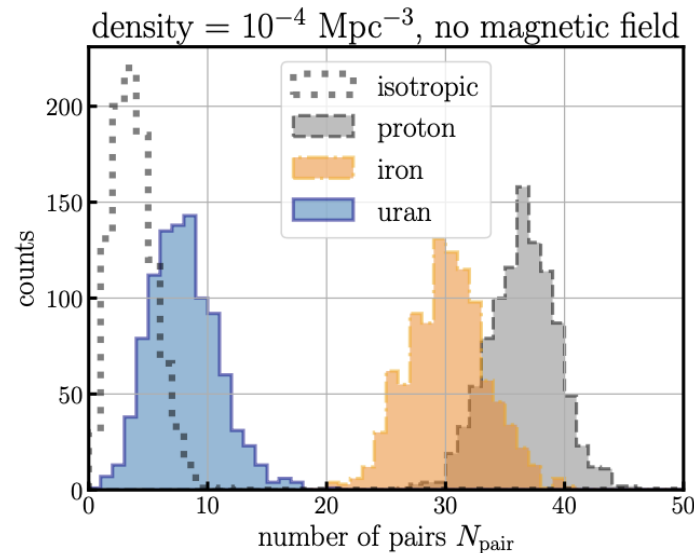
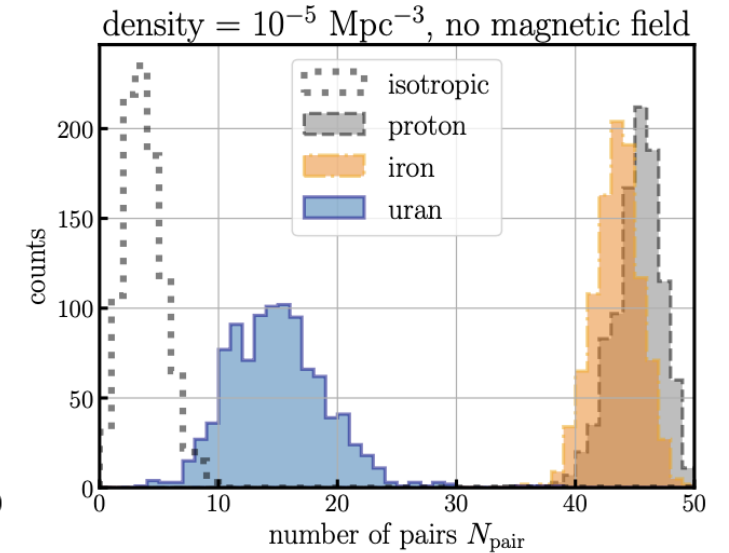
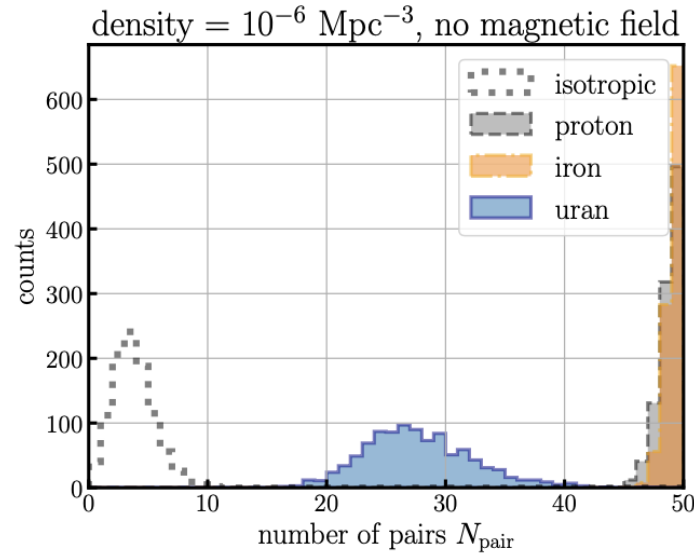


with magnetic field

- 100 events over the sky  $\times$  1000 datasets
- Even without magnetic fields, uranium reflects isotropic distribution of distant sources.

# Result: number of multiplets

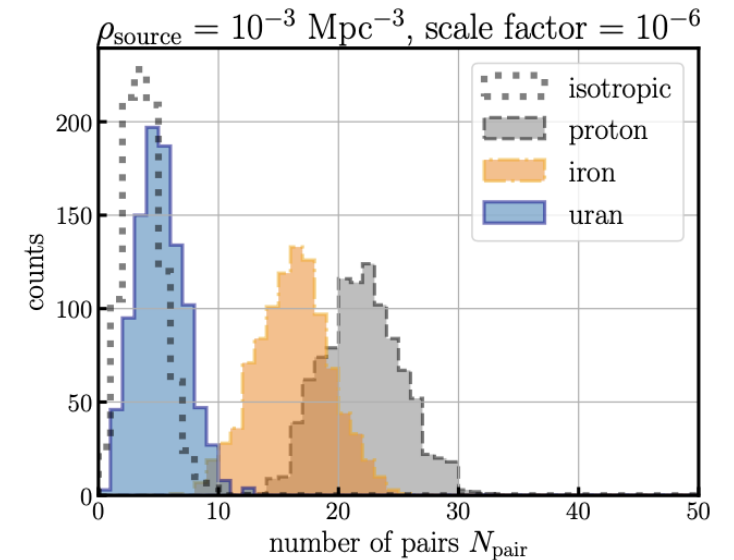
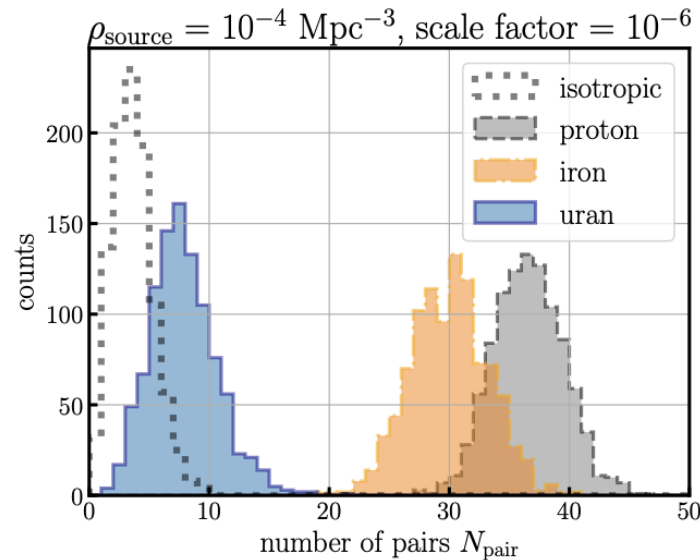
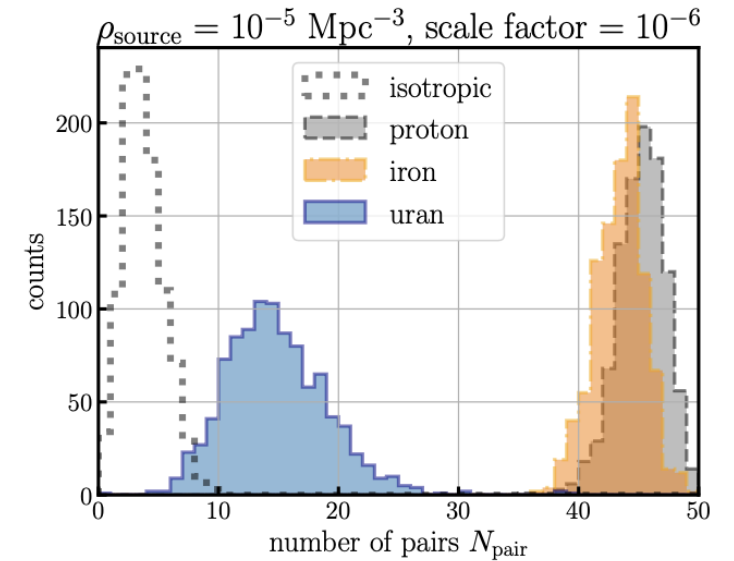
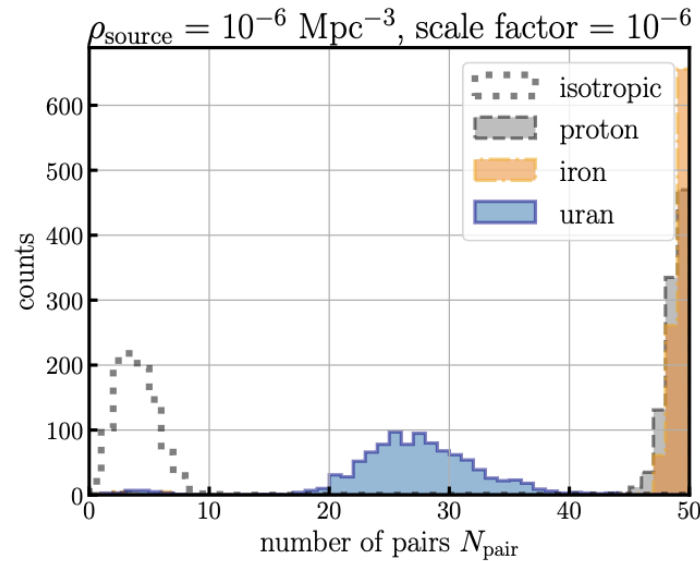
- no magnetic field case:
  - single-proton is rejected
  - single-iron is rejected
- for higher source density, only single-uran case can reproduce isotropy.





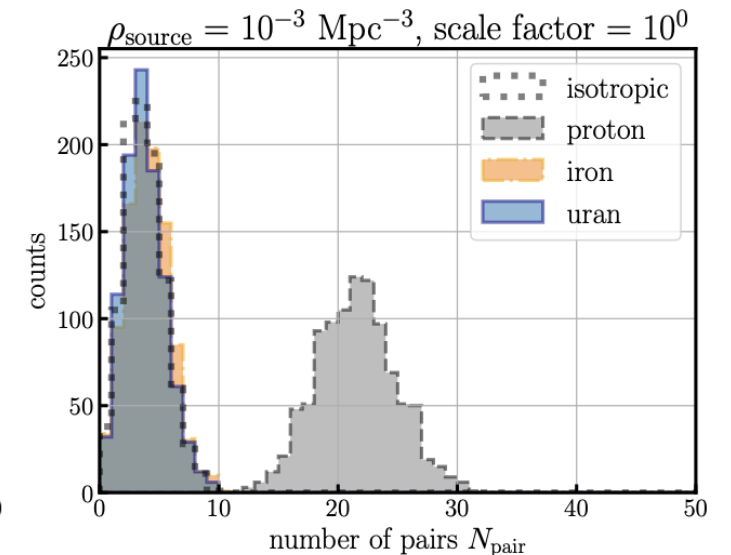
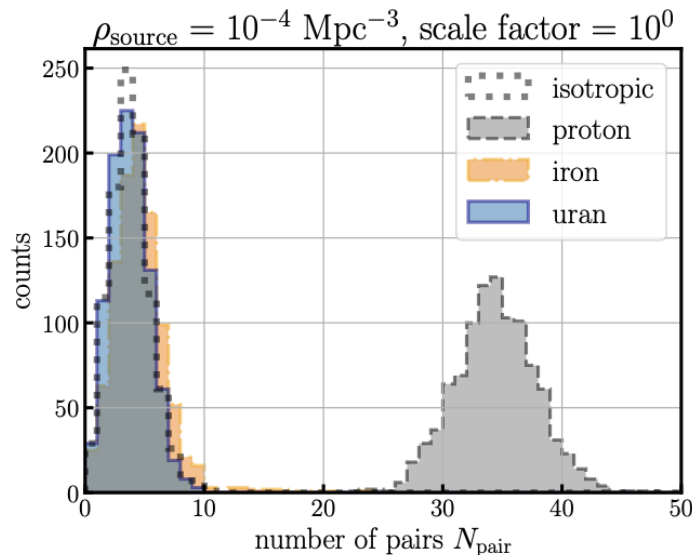
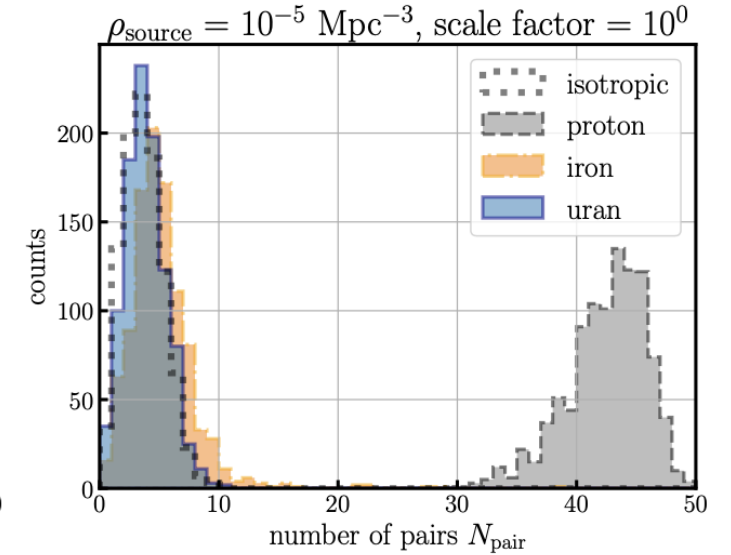
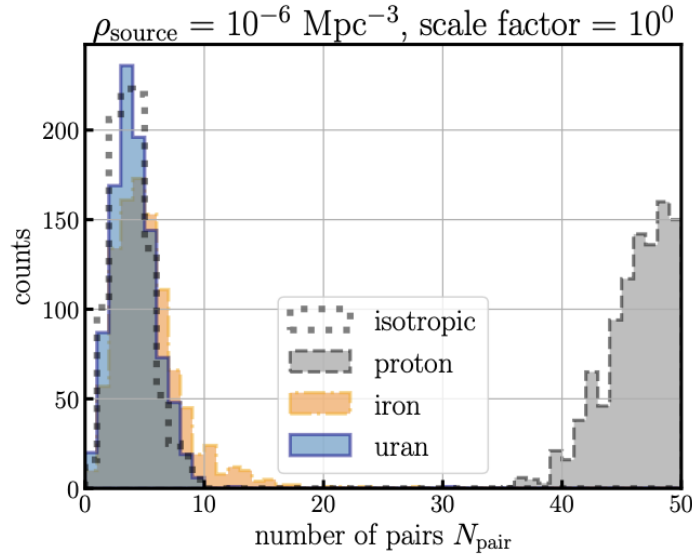
# Result: number of multiplets

- Weak magnetic field:
  - single-proton is rejected
  - single-iron is rejected
- for higher source density, only single-uranium case can reproduce isotropy.

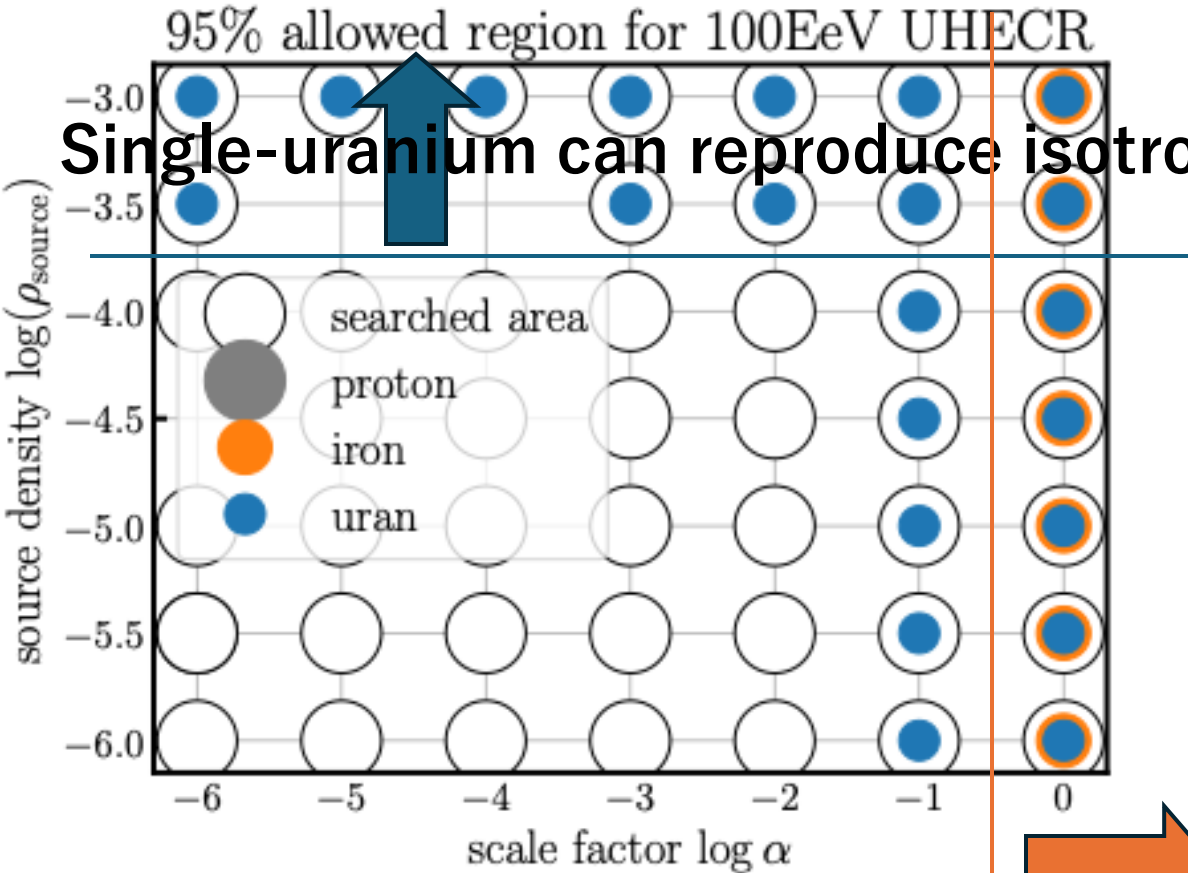


# Result: number of multiplets

- strong magnetic field:
  - single-proton is rejected
- single-iron/uranium can produce the isotropy



# Result: allowed region for isotropy

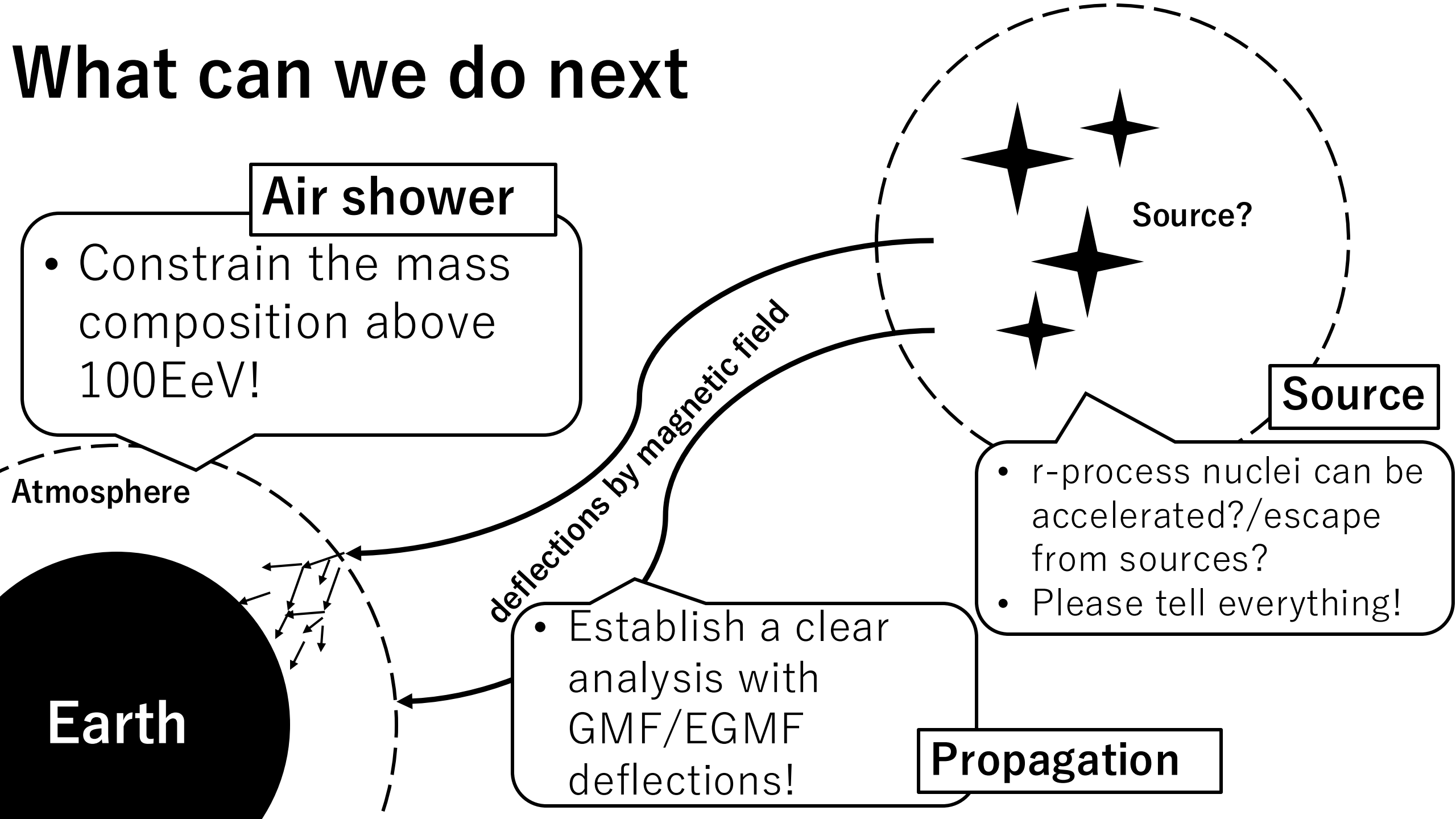


- Single-proton is rejected for all parameters
- Single-iron case can reproduce isotropy, only when turbulent EGMF is strong ( $\alpha > 0.1$ ).
- Single-uranium can reproduce isotropy when the source density is high ( $\rho > 10^{-3}/\text{Mpc}^3$ )

# Summary & future

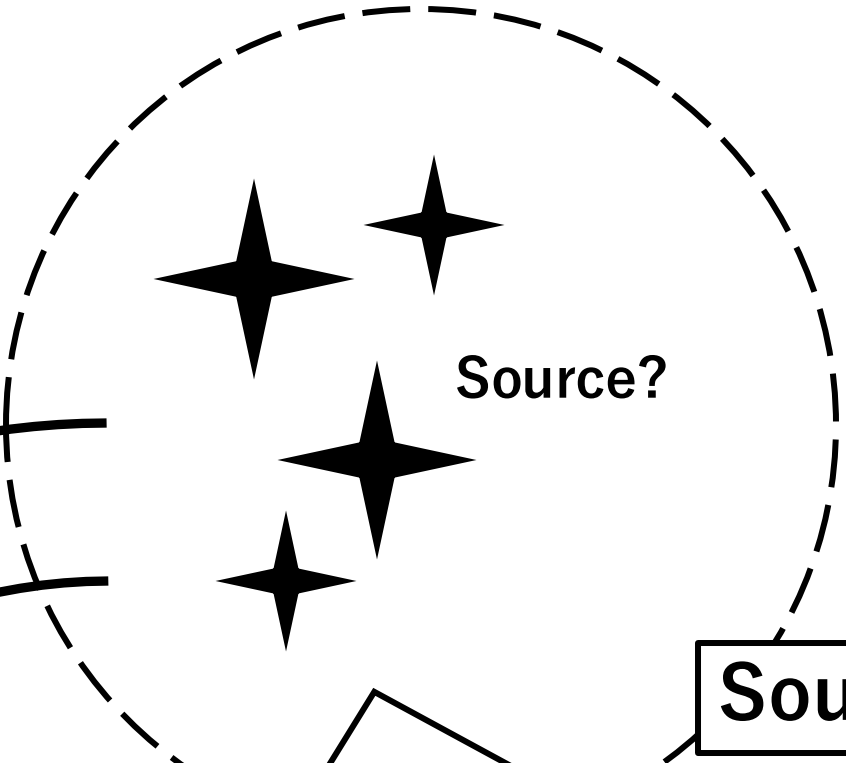
- **Single-proton can be rejected** above 100 EeV?
- When the EGMF turned to be weak, **super-heavy UHECR model & high-source density** may explain the non-anisotropic distribution.
- The simple multiplet counts still works!
  - Lower limits of **source density** and **magnetic field**
  - We cannot distinguish heavy/super-heavy UHECR, when the magnetic field is strong.
  - The intermediate & large-scale anisotropy should be able to distinguish them (next goal)

# What can we do next



## Air shower

- Constrain the mass composition above 100EeV!



Source?

## Source

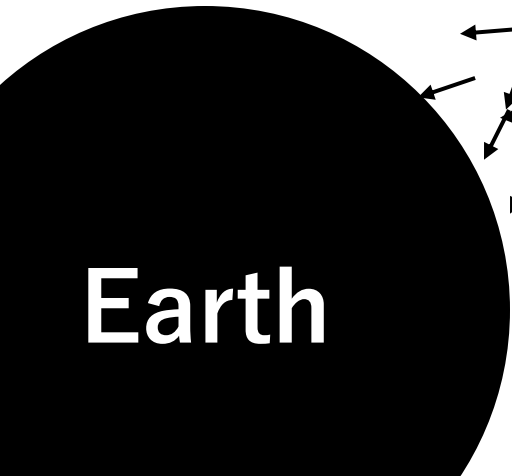
- r-process nuclei can be accelerated?/escape from sources?
- Please tell everything!

deflections by magnetic field

- Establish a clear analysis with GMF/EGMF deflections!

## Propagation

Atmosphere



Earth