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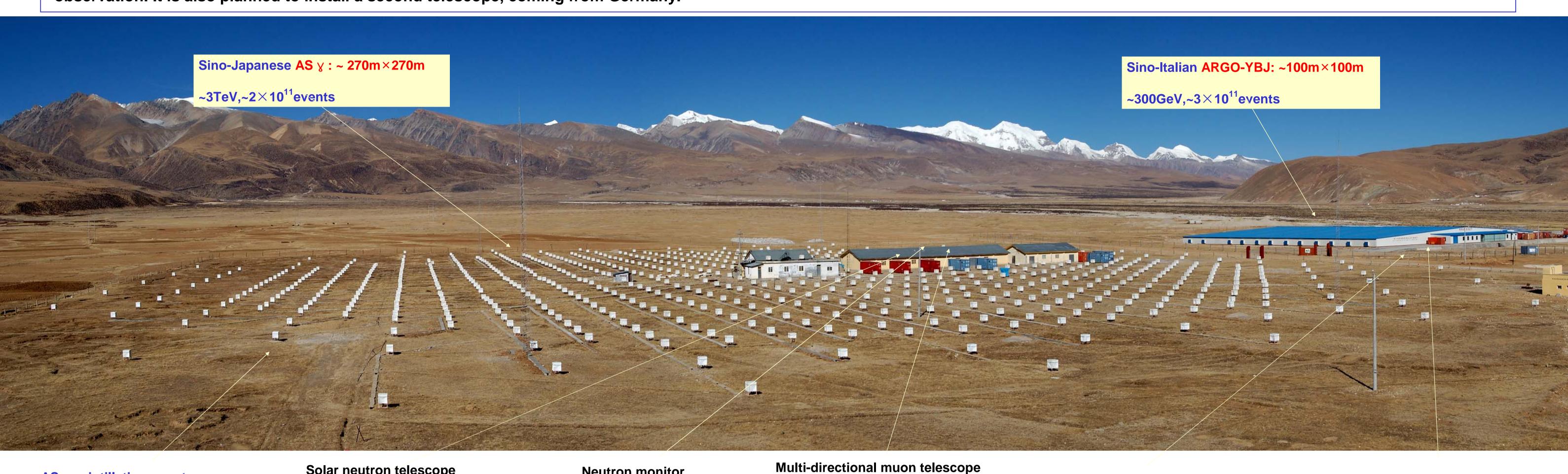
YangBaJing International Cosmic Ray Observatory

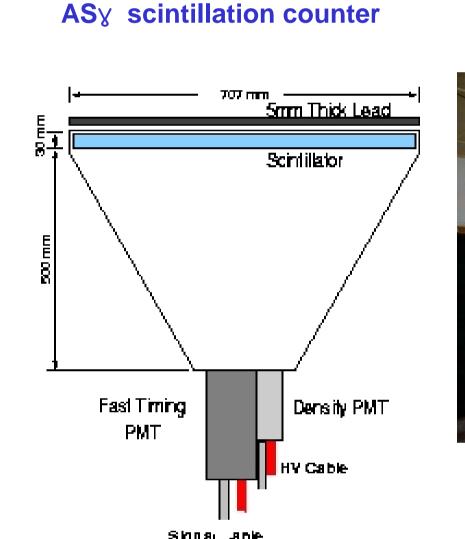
INFN and Lecce University **INFN** and Napoli University **INFN Section of Napoli and University of Salerno** INFN Section of Napoli and University of Sonnio, Benevento **INFN and University Roma "Tor Vergata" INFN and University "Roma Tre" Roma** INFN and Institute of Cosmogeo Physics of CNR, Torino

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The observatory is located at 90°26'E and 30°13'N in Yangbajing (YBJ) valley of Tibetan highland, about 90KM NW of Lhasa, the capital city of Tibet, China. Currently, the YBJ observatory hosts two cosmic ray experiments. One is a Sino-Japanese collaboration called ASy, a sampling detector with 400 m² sensitive area covers an effective area of about 40,000m² and has been operating since 1990. Another one is a Sino-Italian experiment called ARGO-YBJ, a "full coverage" carpet detector with a very large sensitive area of about 6700m², and has been in operation since 2006.

ASy uses scintillation counters and ARGO-YBJ uses resistive plate chambers (RPCs) to detect the arrival times and number densities of the secondary particles, with which the original direction and energy of the cosmic rays can be determined. Both experiments study the origin and acceleration of cosmic rays by measuring the spectrum and anisotropy of cosmic rays, by observing the TeV y rays emission etc. As a sampling detector, ASy has a threshold energy of a few TeV while ARGO-YBJ can significantly decrease the threshold energy down to a few hunderd GeV. The two experiments have the advantages of high duty cycle and large field of view, which make them particularly suitable for sky surveys and observations of sporadic sources. In addition, YBJ observatory is equipped with a neutron monitor system, a neutron telescope and a multi-directional muon telescope for solar cosmic rays observation. Various sensors are installed for thunderstorms, meterologic and seismological studies. Recently, one sub-mm telescope from Delingha observatory in QingHai has been moved to the site for astronomic observation. It is also planned to install a second telescope, coming from Germany.







Solar neutron telescope

(IHEP, Nagoya University, RIKEN)

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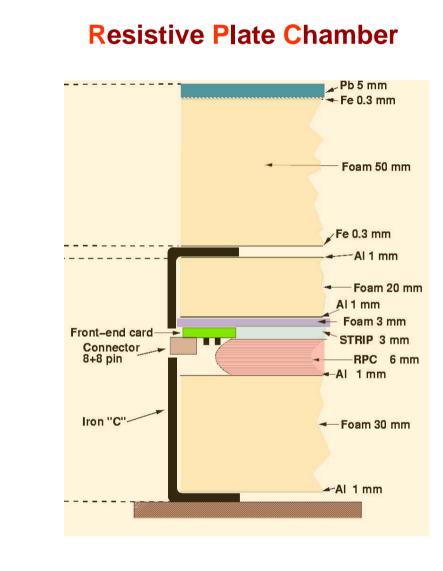
Neutron monitor

(IHEP)

and sandwich neutron system

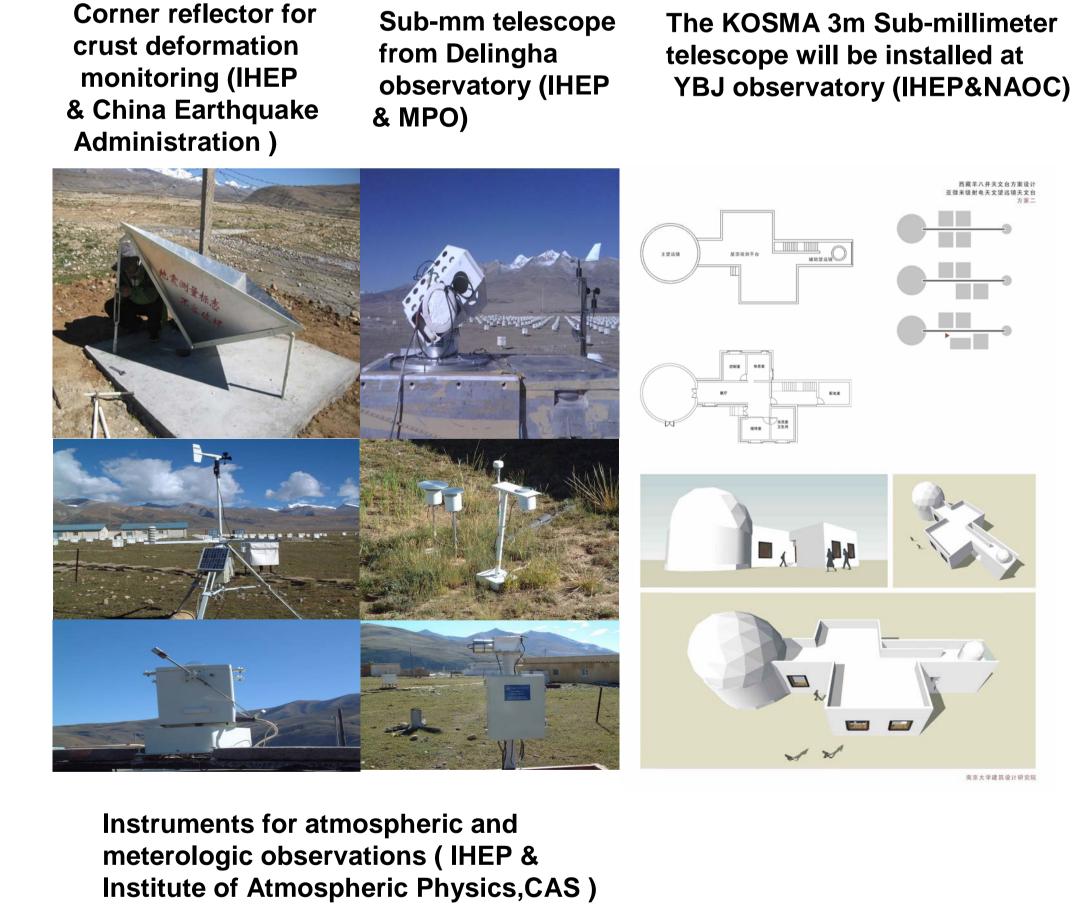
ARGO hall with carpet of RPCs

ARGO-YBJ images moon's shadow

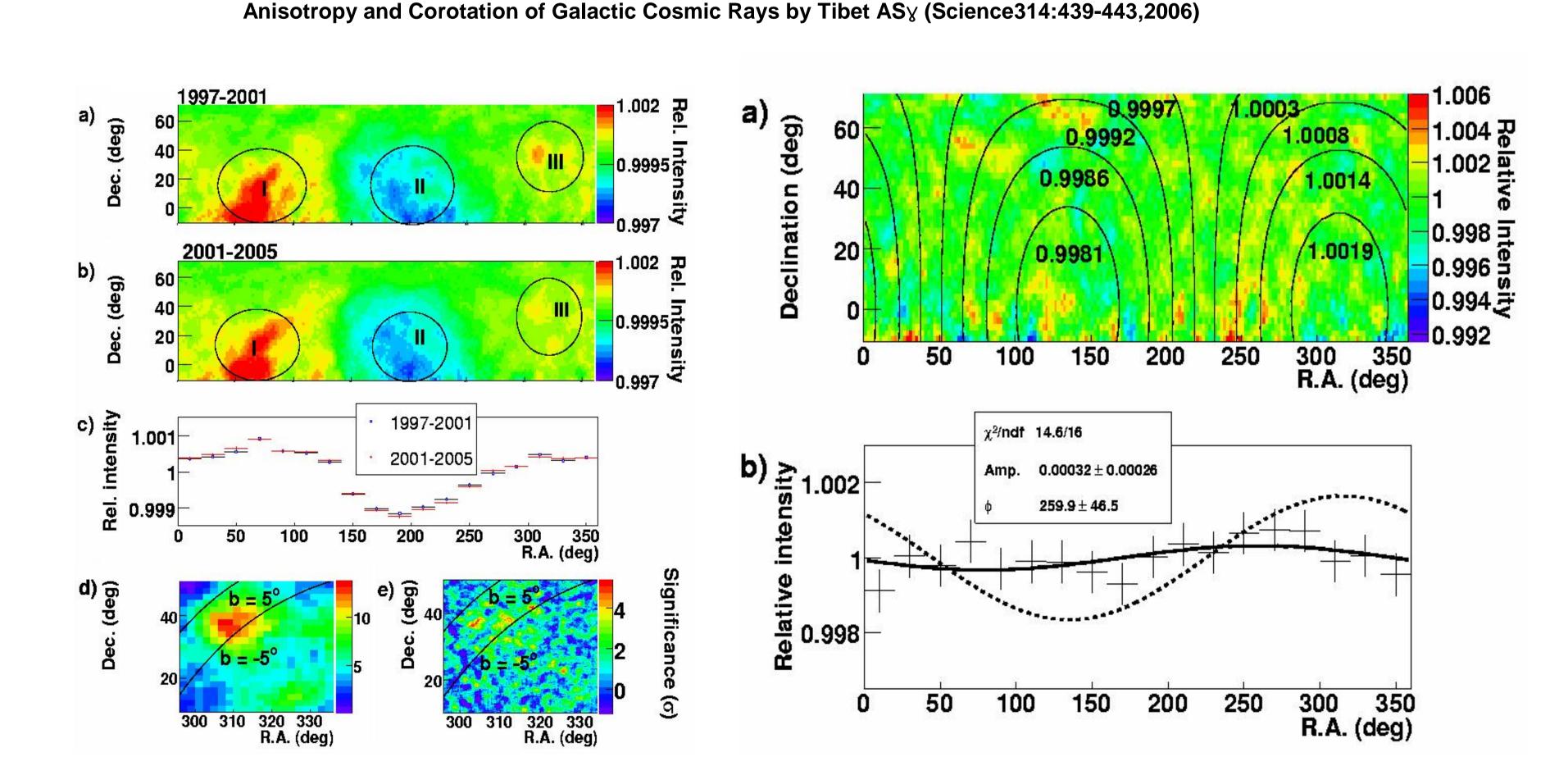


as observed by ARGO-YBJ

Proton/Helium spectra and sharp knee by ASY (Phys. Lett. B 632, 58-64 (2006); ApJ, 678 1165-1179 (2008)) CASA/MIA +----HEGRA :-- *---HEAO-3 +--*--Simon +-- - - - - : H.E.S.S.QGS +--- - - - - - : H.E.S.S.SIB ⊢ Primary Energy [eV/particle]



-20 g -50 Ra [Deg] TeV y rays emission from the MGRO 1908+06 extragalactic source Mrk421 278 280 282 284 286 288 290 292 294 296 166 Ra [Deg] 168 170 162 164 Ra [Deg]



Proton-Air cross section measurements by ARGO-YBJ (Phys. Rev. D 80 (2009) 092004)

