# Cosmic rays: a proxy to study solar transient events

### Arun Babu K. P.

iamarunbabu@gmail.com arun@igeofisica.unam.mx

**ICRR Seminars** 

22 January 2021

### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# Outline

### Introduction

- Forbush Decrease Models
- Relation of FD and Interplanetary MAgnetic field
- Interplanetary Magnetic Flux-rope Observation by HAWC

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#### High-rigidity Forbush decreases: due to CMEs or shocks?\*

K. P. Arunbabu<sup>1</sup>, H. M. Antia<sup>2,3</sup>, S. R. Dugad<sup>2,3</sup>, S. K. Gupta<sup>2,3</sup>, Y. Hayashi<sup>4</sup>, S. Kawakami<sup>4</sup>, P. K. Mohanty<sup>2,3</sup>, T. Nonka<sup>4</sup>, A. Oshima<sup>4</sup>, and P. Subramanian<sup>1</sup> (The GRAPES-3 Collaboration)

<sup>1</sup> Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Sai Trinity Building, Pashan, 411 021 Pune, India

<sup>2</sup> Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, 400 005 Mumbai, India

3 The GRAPES-3 Experiment, Cosmic Ray Laboratory, Raj Bhavan, 643 001 Ooty, India

<sup>4</sup> Graduate School of Science, Osaka City University, 558-8585 Osaka, Japan

<sup>5</sup> National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, CfCA, 181-8588 Tokyo, Japan

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#### ABSTRACT

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# How are Forbush decreases related to interplanetary magnetic field enhancements?\*

K. P. Arunbabu<sup>1,2</sup>, H. M. Antia<sup>2,3</sup>, S. R. Dugad<sup>2,3</sup>, S. K. Gupta<sup>2,3</sup>, Y. Hayashi<sup>2,4</sup>, S. Kawakami<sup>2,4</sup>, P. K. Mohanty<sup>2,3</sup>, A. Oshima<sup>2,5</sup>, and P. Subramanian<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, 411 021 Pune, India e-mail: gupta@grapes.tifr.res.in

- <sup>2</sup> The GRAPES-3 Experiment, Cosmic Ray Laboratory, Raj Bhavan, 643 001 Ooty, India
- <sup>3</sup> Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Homi Bhabha Road, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- 4 Graduate School of Science, Osaka City University, Osaka 558-8585, Japan
- <sup>5</sup> College of Engineering, Chubu University, Kasugai, Aichi 487-8501, Japan

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#### Interplanetary Magnetic Flux Rope Observed at Ground Level by HAWC

S. Akiyama<sup>1</sup><sup>o</sup>, R. Alfaro<sup>2</sup>, C. Alvarez<sup>3</sup>, J. R. Angeles Carnacho<sup>2</sup>, J. C. Arteaga-Velázquez<sup>4</sup>, K. P. Arunbabu<sup>5</sup><sup>o</sup>, D. Avila Rojas<sup>2</sup>, H. A. Avala Solares<sup>6</sup>, E. Belmont-Moreno<sup>2</sup>, K. S. Caballero-Mora<sup>3</sup>, T. Capistrán<sup>7</sup>, A. Carramiñana<sup>7</sup>, S. Casanova<sup>8</sup>, P. Colin-Farias<sup>5,9</sup>, U. Cotti<sup>4</sup>, J. Cotzomi<sup>10</sup>, E. De la Fuente<sup>11</sup>, C. de León<sup>4</sup>, R. Diaz Hernandez<sup>7</sup>, C. Espinoza<sup>2</sup>, N. Fraija<sup>12</sup> A. Galván-Gámez<sup>12</sup>, D. Garcia<sup>2</sup>, J. A. García-González<sup>2</sup>, F. Garfias<sup>12</sup>, M. M. González<sup>12</sup>, J. A. Goodman<sup>13</sup>, J. P. Harding<sup>14</sup>, B. Hona<sup>15</sup>, D. Huang<sup>15</sup>, F. Huevotl-Zahuantitla<sup>3</sup>, P. Hüntemever<sup>15</sup>, A. Iriarte<sup>12</sup>, V. Joshi<sup>16</sup>, D. Kieda<sup>17</sup>, G. J. Kunde<sup>14</sup>, A. Lara<sup>5</sup>, H. León Vargas<sup>2</sup>, G. Luis-Raya<sup>18</sup>, K. Malone<sup>14</sup>, J. Martínez-Castro<sup>19</sup>, J. A. Matthews<sup>20</sup>, P. Miranda-Romagnoli<sup>21</sup>, E. Moreno<sup>10</sup> A, Naverhoda<sup>8</sup>, L, Nellen<sup>22</sup>, M, Newbold<sup>17</sup>, T, Niembro<sup>23</sup>, T, Nieves-Chinchilla<sup>24</sup>, R, Noriega-Papagui<sup>21</sup>, E, G, Pérez-Pérez<sup>18</sup>, L. Preisser<sup>5</sup><sup>(10)</sup>, C. D. Rho<sup>25</sup>, J. Ryan<sup>26</sup><sup>(20)</sup>, H. Salazar<sup>10</sup>, F. Salesa Greus<sup>8</sup>, A. Sandoval<sup>2</sup>, R. W. Springer<sup>17</sup>, I. Torres<sup>7</sup>, F. Ureña-Mena<sup>7</sup>, L. Villaseñor<sup>10</sup>, and A. Zepeda<sup>2</sup> The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, USA <sup>2</sup> Instituto de Física, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Ciudad de México, Mexico Universidad Autónoma de Chianas, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chianas, Mexico <sup>4</sup> Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Morelia, Mexico <sup>5</sup> Instituto de Geofísica, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Ciudad de México, México; arun@igeofísica.unam.mx, alara@igeofísica.unam.mx <sup>6</sup> Department of Physics, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica, Puebla, Mexico <sup>8</sup> Institute of Nuclear Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences, PL-31342 IFJ-PAN, Krakow, Poland <sup>9</sup> Posgrado en Ciencias de la Tierra, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Ciudad de México, Mexico Facultad de Ciencias Físico Matemáticas, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by <u>HAWC</u> CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



• Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) are large blobs of (solar) coronal plasma

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- CMEs are expelled (together with magnetic fields) and propagate through the interplanetary medium.

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- We investigate the structure and effects of CMEs using Galactic cosmic rays (GCRs) as a probe

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# CME, Shock & Sheath



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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### CME, Shock & Sheath



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### Sun-Earth connection



Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by HAWC CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

# Cosmic rays and Solar activity



Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by HAWC CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

# Cosmic rays and Solar activity



• Being a charged particles, GCRs are profoundly affected by the magnetic fields carried by the solar wind, specially by CME-shock-sheath system.

Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by HAWC CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

# Cosmic rays and Solar activity



- Being a charged particles, GCRs are profoundly affected by the magnetic fields carried by the solar wind, specially by CME-shock-sheath system.
- Galactic cosmic rays (GCRs) are a good probe to study the Solar Transient Events.

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CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

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### Forbush decrease

Forbush decrease (FD) is a transient decrease in the observed galactic cosmic ray intensity at the Earth.



CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

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Can be due to magnetic field compression of shock (like an umbrella), or low (cosmic ray) density magnetic cloud behind it.

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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### Forbush decrease

Forbush decrease (FD) is a transient decrease in the observed galactic cosmic ray intensity at the Earth.



Can be due to magnetic field compression of shock (like an umbrella), or low (cosmic ray) density magnetic cloud behind it.

FD magnitude is estimated as the difference of GCR intensity at the pre-event time to that at the minimum of the decrease.

Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by HAWC CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



Forbush decrease Models FD & IP mag. field relation MFR observed by HAWC CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



- General (theoretical) view: Forbush decrease due to propagating, diffusive barrier; i.e, CME-driven shock
- "Two-step" Forbush decreases! second step due to near-earth CME/magnetic cloud.
- Some attribute entire Forbush decrease is due to the magnetic cloud; i.e, it is a manifestation of the low-density cavity(magnetic cloud) engulfing the earth.

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CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

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# Cut-off Rigidity

 Rigidity Rg (volts) = P c/Z e indicates how tightly a cosmic ray proton is tied to the magnetic field.

CME & Shock Solar modulation Forbush Decrease

### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# Cut-off Rigidity

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- Protons below the cut-off rigidity don't make it to the top of the atmosphere (to produce a muon shower); they are deflected by the geomagnetic field back into space.

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- The cut-off rigidity is very dependent on the B field geometry;

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- The cut-off rigidity is very dependent on the B field geometry;

Low  $(\rightarrow 0)$  for a nearly vertical field, High (*Maximum*) for nearly horizontal field;





*i.e.*, its dependent on the viewing direction (different for East, West, North, South)

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

High-rigidity Forbush decreases: due to CMEs or shocks?

• Cosmic ray Forbush decreases are a good proxy to understand the **near-Earth** structure of the CME-shock system.

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

# High-rigidity Forbush decreases: due to CMEs or shocks?

- Cosmic ray Forbush decreases are a good proxy to understand the **near-Earth** structure of the CME-shock system.
- The relative contributions of shocks and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) in causing FDs is a matter of debate.

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

# High-rigidity Forbush decreases: due to CMEs or shocks?

- Cosmic ray Forbush decreases are a good proxy to understand the **near-Earth** structure of the CME-shock system.
- The relative contributions of shocks and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) in causing FDs is a matter of debate.
- We studied the FD events by considering two independant models, and checked the validity of these models using the FD-magnitude to rigidity spectrum from GRAPES-3.
  - CME-only cumulative diffusion model
  - Shock-only model

"High-rigidity Forbush decreases: due to CMEs or Shock?", Arunbabu et al., 2013, Astronomy & Astrophysics, 555, 139

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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### GRAPES-3 tracking muon telescope



Located at Ooty, India

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



- Located at Ooty, India
- 11.4<sup>0</sup>N, 76.7<sup>0</sup>E, at an altitude of 2200 m.

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



- Located at Ooty, India
- 11.4<sup>0</sup>N, 76.7<sup>0</sup>E, at an altitude of 2200 m.
- 3712 propotional counters in 4 muon stations each contain 4 modules

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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- Cut-off rigidty 15-23.5 GV.
CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### GRAPES-3 tracking muon telescope



CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### GRAPES-3 tracking muon telescope





CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# The CME-only model: cumulative diffusion



High energy galactic (*not of solar origin*) cosmic rays progressively diffuse into the expanding, propagating CME bubble, across the B fields bounding it.

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# The CME-only model: cumulative diffusion



High energy galactic (*not of solar origin*) cosmic rays progressively diffuse into the expanding, propagating CME bubble, across the B fields bounding it. At the earth, the density contrast between the CME interior & outside (in high energy CR protons) is manifested as the Forbush decrease.

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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### The CME-only model: details

### CME-only model

Flux of protons entering CME is

$$\overline{P}(\mathrm{cm}^{-2}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}) = D_{\perp}(\rho,\sigma^2)\,\frac{\partial N_a}{\partial r}$$



CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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## The CME-only model: details

#### CME-only model

Flux of protons entering CME is

$$F(\mathrm{cm}^{-2}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}) = D_{\perp}(\rho,\sigma^2)\,\frac{\partial N_a}{\partial r}$$

#### where

- We used a TWO step velocity profile, first from observation in LASCO field of view, second we assume that CME dynamics are governed exclusively by the aerodynamic drag it experiences due to momentum coupling with the ambient solar wind.
- We assumed the density gradient, which are broadly consistent with observation , (De Simone et al., 2011)

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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### CME-only Model: cumulative diffusion

### FD magnitude

$$M \equiv \frac{N_a - N_i}{N_a} \equiv \frac{\delta N}{N_a}$$
$$\equiv 1 - \frac{2\int_0^T \frac{L(t)R(t)D_{\perp}}{\kappa(t)R_L^{0.33}} dt}{R(T)^2 L(T)}$$



CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# CME-only Model: cumulative diffusion

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- M : predicted FD magnitude
- $D_{\perp}$  : diffusion coefficient  $\perp$  large scale B field
- R : MC radius
- L : MC length (into sky plane)
- R<sub>L</sub> : Larmor radius

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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The shock-only model (following Wibberenz et al 1998)



The Forbush decrease is due to the shock - a propagating, diffusive barrier. The B field enhancement at the shock acts as an "umbrella" against galactic cosmic rays.

# FD magnitude $M \equiv \frac{U_{a} - U_{shock}}{U_{a}} = \frac{\Delta U}{U_{a}} = \frac{V_{sw}L_{shock}}{D_{\perp}{}^{a}} \left(\frac{D_{\perp}{}^{a}}{D_{\perp}{}^{shock}} - 1\right)$

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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### 24 November 2001



CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### 24 November 2001



#### $\sigma^2 \equiv \langle B_{\rm turb}^2/B_0^2\rangle$

For CME-only (cumulative diffusion) model,  $\sigma_{mc} = 28$  %, while for shock-only model,  $\sigma_{\rm shock} = 400$  %. Typical quiet sun turbulence level:  $\sigma \approx 6$ –15 % (Spangler 2002, Bavassano & Bruno 1995).

CME-only model Shock only Model Results

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### 24 November 2001



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Forbush decrease due to cumulative diffusion of protons into the CME through the turbulent sheath is a more reasonable picture

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MFR observed by HA Results CME-only model Shock only Model Results

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Event	CME-only model	shock-only model
	$\sigma_{ m mc}$	$\sigma_{ m shock}$
11 April 2001	9.4 %	100 %
17 August 2001	13 %	180 %
24 November 2001	28 %	400 %
7 September 2002	13%	100%
20 November 2003	6.7 %	400 %
26 July 2004	46 %	200 %

FDs involving protons of rigidities ranging from 14 to 24 GV, the CME-only model is a viable one, while the shock-only model is not.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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### How are FDs related with IP mag-field enhancements?

Correlation between FD profile and interplanetary magnetic field enhancement: understanding cross-field diffusion



"How are Forbush decreases related with IP magnetic field enhancements ?", K.P. Arunbabu et. al., 2015, Astronomy & Astrophysics, 580, 41

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

### Forbush decrease & IP magnetic field

The shapes of FD profile and IP magnetic field compression are remarkably similar.



The FD looks like a lagged copy of the B field compression.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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# **IP** Magnetic fields



• B<sub>total</sub>, scalar magnetic field

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# **IP** Magnetic fields



- B<sub>total</sub>, scalar magnetic field
- $\bullet\,$  B\_x, is the magnetic field in the Sun-Earth line in the ecliptic plane and pointing towards Sun

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- By, is the magnetic field in the ecliptic plane pointing towards dusk (opposite the Earth's motion)

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- By, is the magnetic field in the ecliptic plane pointing towards dusk (opposite the Earth's motion)
- $B_{\perp} = (B_v^2 + B_z^2)^{0.5}$ , perpendicular magnetic field.

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Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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# Correlation of FD magnitude with B



Dir	Corr. with $B_{tot}$	Corr. with $B_{\perp}$
NW	0.682874	0.682926
N	0.692284	0.689747
NE	0.710686	0.706913
W	0.687189	0.684261
V	0.690613	0.683616
Е	0.677899	0.672830
SW	0.674214	0.669421
S	0.662859	0.656359
SE	0.628104	0.622673

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### B-field compression and Turbulence

#### **B-Field Compression**





Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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### B-field compression and Turbulence



• Enhancement of magnetic field compression responsible for the FD is in fact the **shock sheath**: the region between the shock and the magnetic cloud.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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## B-field compression and Turbulence



- Enhancement of magnetic field compression responsible for the FD is in fact the **shock sheath**: the region between the shock and the magnetic cloud.
- The turbulence level is also enhanced in the shock sheath.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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# The FD profile is very similar to the B field compression!



Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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# Cross-field diffusion

• We consider the (local) diffusion of high energy protons through the large scale B field compression.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

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# Cross-field diffusion

- We consider the (local) diffusion of high energy protons through the large scale B field compression.
- The lag between the IP mag. field compression and the FD profile can be attributed to (turbulent) cross-field diffusion of protons through the B field compression.

Corr. FD mag with  $B_{max}$ Magnetic field compression Corr. of FD profile with B

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# Cross-field diffusion

- We consider the (local) diffusion of high energy protons through the large scale B field compression.
- The lag between the IP mag. field compression and the FD profile can be attributed to (turbulent) cross-field diffusion of protons through the B field compression.
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 $\bullet\,$  The observed lag between the FD and the IP magnetic field compression  $\approx$  few tens to few hundred diffusion times.

Arun Babu K.P.

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ICRR

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### MFR observation by HAWC

Identification of a magnetic flux-rope, first time using a ground based observatory



"Interplanetary Magnetic Flux Rope Observed at Ground Level by HAWC", S. Akiyama et al., 2020 The Astrophysical Journal, 905, 73

HAWC

HAWC observation CME & its effects GCR guiding

#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



 Located on a plateau between Sierra Negra & Pico de Orizaba volcanoes in Mexico

HAWC

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#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



- Located on a plateau between Sierra Negra & Pico de Orizaba volcanoes in Mexico
- 18<sup>0</sup>59'41" N, 97<sup>0</sup>18'30" W, at an altitude of 4100 m.
MFR observed by H/

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HAWC

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- Span over 22000  $m^2$  area.

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

## TDC scaler system



• 4 PMTs, 10" PMT at center and 8" at equilateral triangle of side 3.2 m.

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



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- TDC DAQ counts hits in a time window of 30 ns for each PMT

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- TDC DAQ counts hits in a time window of 30 ns for each PMT
- Single PMT rate and multiplicity M2, M3, M4 are recorded.
- Cut-off rigidity 8GV and median rigidity 40-46 GV.
- Can measure GCR intensity with accuracy <0.01% for every minute.

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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

## Solar modulations

### Parker's Transport equation

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + V_{sw} \cdot \bigtriangledown n - \bigtriangledown \cdot (\kappa \cdot \bigtriangledown n) - \frac{1}{3} (\bigtriangledown \cdot V_{sw}) \frac{\partial n}{\partial \ln p} = S$$

 The GCR intensity can be considered to be in quasi-equilibrium, hence the source term S and rate of change of the GCR density <u>\u00f3n</u> can be ignored.

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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

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- By numerically solving the Fokker-Planck equation, it was shown that effect of the adiabatic cooling becomes very small at rigidities > 10 GV. Thus, the adiabatic term  $\frac{1}{3}(\nabla V_{SW})\frac{\partial n}{\partial \ln P}$  can also be ignored.

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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

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- The lowest-order approximation of the transport equation is the diffusion-convection framework.

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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

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- This inward diffusive flux is countered by an outward convective flux,  $Vn - \kappa \frac{dn}{dr} = 0$

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- The lowest-order approximation of the transport equation is the diffusion-convection framework.
- This inward diffusive flux is countered by an outward convective flux,  $Vn - \kappa \frac{dn}{dr} = 0$
- where  $\kappa$  depends on magnetic field B, turbulence level and rigidity of particle.
- Our observations will have modulation effects, due to variation in velocity V and magnetic field B

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#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

## **TDC Scaler Rate**



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### **TDC Scaler Rate-Local**



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# Significance of Event in HAWC observation



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# Significance of Event in HAWC observation



Time [UT] (Start time : September 1, 2016 00:00 UT)

TDC-Scaler	σ	Magnitude of Peak 1		Magnitude of Peak 2	
	(%)	(%)	in terms of $\sigma$	(%)	in terms of $\sigma$
R <sub>1</sub>	$9.18 \times 10^{-03}$	0.7122	77.6	0.7761	84.6
M2	$1.46 \times 10^{-02}$	0.7562	51.8	0.7843	53.7
M <sub>3</sub>	$1.60 \times 10^{-02}$	0.7235	45.2	0.7940	49.7
M4	$2.72 \times 10^{-02}$	0.6690	24.6	0.7570	27.8

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## First thought



But this event was not due to these analogy

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## CME transport

Using a 2D hydrodynamic code we are able to reproduce the speed and density SW profiles observed at 1AU before, during and after the passage of the ICME



In this particular event the CME/magnetic-cloud/flux-rope was not perturbed by other SW structures in the interplanetary medium

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### Effects on magnetosphere



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GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### Effects on magnetosphere



Also time of event was not correlating with the magnetosphere disturbances.

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

### What can be the cause?



Flux-rope

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#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather



• We fitted the fluxrope model in circular cylindrical coordinate system (Nieves-Chinchilla et al. 2019)

Flux-rope

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• 
$$B_r = 0,$$
  $B_y = B_y^0 \left[1 - \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^2\right],$   $B_{\phi} = -H \frac{B_y^0}{|C_{10}|} \frac{r}{R},$ 

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• MFR was having an axis orientation of longitude  $\phi = 99^{O}$  and latitude  $\theta = -21^{O}$ .

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- MFR was having an axis orientation of longitude  $\phi = 99^{O}$  and latitude  $\theta = -21^{O}$ .
- Radius of fluxrope were 0.146 AU.

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## Validating GCR guiding



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#### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# Validating GCR guiding



• Low turbulene level make it feasible for Lorentz acceleration.

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

## Validating GCR guiding



- Low turbulene level make it feasible for Lorentz acceleration.
- Larmor radius and diffusion length are << than size of MFR

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

## Simulation of Particle Trajectory

• We used Cordinate system with origin at MFR center.

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### GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

- We used Cordinate system with origin at MFR center.
- It can be obtained from GSE by rotation  $R_Z$  by  $\theta$  and  $R_Y$  by  $\phi$ .

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# GCR guiding

0

Θ<sub>γp</sub> = -60

0\_=-3

Θ<sub>up</sub> = 00 Θ<sub>up</sub> = 30



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θ<sub>α</sub> = 00 Φ<sub>α</sub> = 270

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## GCR guiding- Crossection view



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## Coupling to HAWC direction

Assymtotic direction of HAWC, Estimated using IGRF12, and backtracing method.



HAWC observation CME & its effects GCR guiding

GCRs: Proxy for Space weather

# Coupling to HAWC direction

Assymtotic direction of HAWC, Estimated using IGRF12, and backtracing method.



 $\Lambda$  is the angle between assymtotic direction and the interplanetary magnetic field.

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#### Other observations

Time difference as a function of geo-longitude of the observed decrease of rates



#### HAWC rate is scaled down by a factor of 30

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Results

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HAWC observation CME & its effects GCR guiding



- The CME was associated with a very weak shock, which does not shield away the GCRs from getting into the fluxrope.
- The MFR was with perfect magnetic topology and low density cavity, because of which the ram-pressure was lower than ambient solar wind.

HAWC observation CME & its effects GCR guiding



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HAWC observation CME & its effects GCR guiding

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- These particle were allowed to enter in to Earth's atmosphere while it was passing through MFR.
- The first enhancement observed in HAWC was dues to 14-30 GeV protons, where as second peak was due to 8-12 GeV protons.
- First evidence of particle guiding inside a fluxrope.

