#### Arrival Directions of Cosmic Rays above 32 EeV from Phase One of the Pierre Auger Observatory

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#### ABSTRACT

A promising energy range to look for angular correlation between cosmic rays of extragalactic origin and their sources is at the highest energies, above few tens of EeV (1 EeV  $\equiv 10^{18}$  eV). Despite the flux of these particles being extremely low, the area of  $\sim 3,000\,\mathrm{km^2}$  covered at the Pierre Auger Observatory, and the 17-year data-taking period of the Phase 1 of its operations, have enabled us to measure the arrival directions of more than 2,600 ultra-high energy cosmic rays above 32 EeV. We publish this data set, the largest available at such energies from an integrated exposure of 122,000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr, and search it for anisotropies over the 3.4 $\pi$  steradians covered with the Observatory. Evidence for a deviation in excess of isotropy at intermediate angular scale, with  $\sim 15^{\circ}$  Gaussian spread or  $\sim 25^{\circ}$  top-hat radius, is obtained at the 4 $\sigma$  significance level for cosmic-ray energies above  $\sim 40$  EeV.

Keywords: Ultra-high-energy cosmic radiation (1733), Cosmic ray astronomy (324), Clustering (1908), Active galaxies (17), Starburst galaxies (1570)

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Cosmic rays are observed up to the astounding ener-18 19 gies of more than  $10^{20}$  eV, making them the most en-20 ergetic particles known in the Universe. However, the 21 origin of these particles remains elusive. The search for 22 the sources of ultra-high energy cosmic rays (UHECRs), <sub>23</sub> at energies above a few EeV (1 EeV  $\equiv 10^{18}$  eV), is chal-24 lenging since they are almost all charged particles and 25 thus deflected by the magnetic fields permeating the in-26 terstellar, intra-halo and intergalactic media (see e.g. 27 Alves Batista et al. 2019, for an overview). These mag-28 netic fields are difficult to study and their modeling is far <sup>29</sup> from being complete. However, above a few tens of EeV,  $_{30}$  the deflections could be small enough for cosmic rays to 31 retain some directional information on the position of 32 their sources, at least for nuclei with a sufficiently small 33 charge (e.g. Erdmann et al. 2016; Farrar & Sutherland з 2019).

The cosmological volume within which UHECR sources should be sought is fortunately limited. Cosmic rays at EeV energies can interact with the photon

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backgrounds populating intergalactic space, through the so-called GZK effect (Greisen 1966; Zatsepin & Kuz'min 1966). In particular, protons are expected to undergo photo-pion production and nuclei photodissociation interactions. The mean free path for energy losses depends on the cosmic-ray mass and energy. At 100 EeV, the loss length is of the order of 200-300 Mpc for proton and from and 3-6 Mpc for intermediate nuclei such as helium and nitrogen (Allard 2012; see also Figure 6 from Addazi et al. 2022 for a recent overview). Such short distances mean that the sources of the highest-energy cosmic rays must be in the local universe.

The recent detection by the Pierre Auger Collaboration of a dipolar anisotropy in the arrival directions of UHECRs with energies above 8 EeV is evidence that the majority of UHECR sources are not in the Milky Way (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2017a). The direction of the dipole points  $\sim 120^{\circ}$  away from the Galactic center and is instead consistent at the 2  $\sigma$  level with the local distribution of stellar mass (2MASS redshift survey, Huchra et al. 2012), after accounting for the deflections expected in the Galactic magnetic field (Jansson & Farar 2012). Even without relying on magnetic deflections, the case for a density of UHECR sources following local extragalactic structures is further strengthened by the

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consistency at the 1  $\sigma$  confidence level (C.L.) between the directions of the UHECR anti-dipole and of the Local Void at equatorial coordinates  $(\alpha, \delta) = (294^{\circ}, 15^{\circ})$  or Galactic coordinates  $(l, b) = (51^{\circ}, -3^{\circ})$  (Biteau 2021). Combined with the growth of the dipole amplitude with energy expected from the shrinking horizon out to which extragalactic sources remain visible (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2018a), the properties of the large-scale anisotropy discovered by the Pierre Auger Collaboration provide a growing body of evidence against a Galactic origin of these cosmic rays. Which (classes of) extragalactic sources host UHECR accelerators nonetheless remains an open question.

In this article, we update previous searches for 77 anisotropies at the highest energies (Pierre Auger Col-78 laboration 2015a, 2018b) with an unprecedentedly large 79 data set. In particular, we exploit the entire *Phase 1* of 80 the Pierre Auger Observatory, i.e. the phase preceding 81 the AugerPrime upgrade (Pierre Auger Collaboration 82 2016a). Important progress has been made on estimat-83 ing the mass distribution of UHECRs using only the 84 surface detector of the Observatory with its full duty 85 cycle (see e.g. Pierre Auger Collaboration 2016b, 2017b; 86 Ave et al. 2017; Pierre Auger Collaboration 2021a,b). 87 However, the proposed methods are still not ready to 88 be employed in arrival-direction studies, e.g. by select-89 ing only the candidate light nuclei which would be less 90 deflected by magnetic fields, should such a subsample 91 exist in the data set. In the following, we then con-92 sider, as in previous works, only the energy and arrival 93 direction of each event recorded with the Pierre Auger 94 Observatory over 17 years of operation.

The data set includes more than 2,600 events with <sub>96</sub> energies  $E \geq 32 \,\mathrm{EeV}$  and zenith angles up to  $80^{\circ}$ , as de-97 scribed in Section 2. The release of this data set comple-98 ments the publication of the arrival directions of events 99 at energies between 4 and 8 EeV and above 8 EeV made <sup>100</sup> available in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2017a). The 101 choice of an energy threshold at 32 EeV for the present 102 release anticipates upcoming publications focused on lower energy bins, namely 8-16EeV and 16-32EeV, as 104 investigated e.g. in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018a) and Pierre Auger Collaboration (2020a) where  $\sim 1,500$ and  $\sim 2.000$  events were studied above 32 EeV, respec-107 tively. In Section 3, we describe a first set of analy-108 ses that are not based on specific source models, i.e. a 109 blind search for excesses in the sky, an autocorrelation 110 study and the search for correlations with the Galactic

and supergalactic planes as well as the Galactic center. Section 4 is devoted to the comparison of UHECR arrival directions with the expected flux pattern from specific classes of galaxies traced by their electromagnetic emission, from radio wavelengths to gamma rays. Finally, Section 5 is devoted to a more in-depth study of the Centaurus region, which has intrigued the UHECR community since the early days of the Pierre Auger Observatory (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2007).

To encourage further studies of the Phase 1 highenergy data set, this article is accompanied with supplementary materials. These include the data set itself in Appendix A and the dedicated analysis software in Appendix B. Appendix C describes the catalogs of galaxies used here.

### 2. THE DATA SET

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The Pierre Auger Observatory (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2015b) is located in Argentina near the town of Malargüe. Stable data acquisition began on 1 January 2004. The Observatory is composed of a surface detector (SD) made of 1,660 water-Cherenkov stations distributed on a triangular grid overlooked with a fluorescence detector (FD). The FD consists of 27 telescopes at four locations on the perimeter of the SD array.

Here, we analyse the events with reconstructed energies larger than 32 EeV recorded with the SD array from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2020. The SD is used to sample secondary particles in air showers and has full efficiency above 4 EeV with  $\sim 100\%$  duty cycle.

Events recorded with SD are reconstructed differently 141 based on their arrival direction in local coordinates: events with zenith angles,  $\theta$ , less than  $60^{\circ}$  are called 143 vertical events, while events arriving with zenith an-144 gles from 60° to 80° are called *inclined* events. Ver-145 tical events are included when the SD station with the 146 largest signal is surrounded by at least four active sta-147 tions. This a priori condition is complemented by the 148 a posteriori requirement that the reconstructed core of 149 the shower falls within an elementary isosceles trian-150 gle of active stations. These requirements ensure that 151 the footprint of the shower is well-contained within the 152 array, with ample data for an accurate reconstruction 153 (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2010a). Inclined events, on 154 the other hand, are selected if the station closest to the 155 reconstructed core position is surrounded by at least five 156 active stations. Note that other analyses performed by 157 the Pierre Auger Collaboration at lower energies may 158 use a tighter selection. For example, the UHECR spec-159 trum in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2020b) is measured 160 by requiring that all six active stations around the one 161 with the highest signal are active. We are able to use

https://www.auger.org/document-centre-public/download/ 78-data/4642-arrival-directions-8eev-science-2017

a relaxed selection as the high-energy events included here all have large footprints, with an average of 17.7 triggered stations. We inspected each event and verified that the reconstruction was robust even with inactive stations in the core region. With respect to previous analyses, the identification of active stations that were not triggered has been improved to ensure a better selection. This was done through an a posteriori check of the consistency of the signal distribution at ground: if a station is not triggered in a region of the array where the signal is more than twice that of the full trigger efficiency, which occurs for 11 events in the data set, the station is classified as non-active at the moment of the event (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2010a).

The selection results in 2,040 events with  $\theta < 60^{\circ}$  and 595 with  $\theta \geq 60^{\circ}$  above 32 EeV.<sup>2</sup> The exposure can be computed in a geometrical way since we are operating above the energy threshold for full efficiency for both data samples (3 EeV for vertical and 4 EeV for inclined). The geometrical exposure for the selection and time span considered is 95,700 km<sup>2</sup> sryr for the vertical sample and 26,300 km<sup>2</sup> sryr for the inclined data set.

The reconstruction procedure for vertical events is de185 scribed in detail in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2020c).
186 The arrival direction is determined by fitting a spherical
187 model to the arrival times of particles comprising the
188 shower front. For inclined events, the reconstruction
189 procedure is described in Pierre Auger Collaboration
190 (2014). The arrival direction is, in this case, obtained by
191 fitting the arrival times with a front which takes into ac192 count the muon propagation from its production point.
193 For both data sets, the angular resolution, defined as the
194 68% containment radius, is better than 1° at all energies
195 considered here.

The energy estimate is based on different observables for the two samples. The signal at a reference distance of 1000 m from the shower core, S(1000), is used for the vertical sample. The inclined reconstruction uses as estimator  $N_{19}$ , which represents the muon content of the shower with respect to a reference simulated proton shower with energy  $E=10^{19}$  eV. For both samples, a correction is applied to take into account the absorption that showers undergo at different zenith angles. This correction is performed through a data-driven procedure called constant intensity cut, which is described in Pierre

Auger Collaboration (2020b). The constant-intensitycut method is used to convert S(1000) and  $N_{19}$  for each
shower to the value they would have if the same shower
had arrived from a reference zenith angle of 38° and
for vertical and inclined events, respectively. The
corrected energy estimators,  $S_{38}$  and  $N_{68}$ , are then calibrated using hybrid events, i.e. events observed with
both the FD and the SD. Since the FD analysis enables
a quasi-calorimetric measurement of the shower energy,
the calibration procedure results in a reliable energy estimation for the whole SD data set without using airshower simulations. The systematic uncertainty in the
energy calibration is  $\sim 14\%$  while the energy resolution
for the SD at the energies considered here is  $\sim 7\%$  (Pierre
Auger Collaboration 2014, 2020d).

We checked the consistency between the vertical and 223 inclined data sets by comparing the ratio of number of events in the two samples,  $N_{\rm incl}/N_{\rm vert} = 0.292 \pm 0.014$ , 225 and the value expected from the ratio of geometrical 226 exposures, accounting for the finite energy resolution of each data stream,  $\frac{\omega_{\rm incl}/c_{\rm incl} \geq 32 \, {\rm EeV})}{\omega_{\rm vert}/c_{\rm vert} \geq 32 \, {\rm EeV})} = 0.278$ . In the lat-228 ter ratio,  $\omega$  is the geometrical exposure for each data set, which does not depend on energy, and  $c \geq 32 \text{ EeV}$  ac-230 counts for the net spillover of events from low to higher 231 energies (see the *unfolding* procedure described in Pierre 232 Auger Collaboration 2020b). The ratios are in agree-233 ment at the 1  $\sigma$  C.L., showing that the vertical and in-234 clined samples can be used together. To keep the analy-235 sis as data-driven as possible, we use the ratio of events 236 observed above 32 EeV as the expected exposure ratio <sup>237</sup> when constructing simulated data sets above any energy 238 threshold. It should be noted that at the highest energies probed here, E > 80 EeV, a deficit of inclined events 240 is observed at a significance level of  $2.5 \sigma$ . A further dis-241 cussion of this deficit, which does not affect the results 242 presented below, is provided in Appendix A together 243 with the information on how to access the data.

# 3. SEARCH FOR OVERDENSITIES AND CORRELATION WITH STRUCTURES

An earlier wide-ranging search with the Observatory for small- and intermediate-scale anisotropy was reported in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a). Searches for localized excesses in top-hat windows of angular rational  $\Psi$  across the entire field of view of the Observatory, or around the Galactic center, Centaurus A and candidate host galaxies identified in multi-wavelength surveys, were performed by comparing the expected and observed numbers of events within the window. Similar analyses were performed along the Galactic and supergalactic planes, by counting the number of events within an angle  $\Psi$  from these structures, and an auto-

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  To avoid border effects at the zenith angle separating the inclined and vertical selections, we identified events in the  $60^\circ < \theta < 62^\circ$  region that are well-reconstructed with the vertical procedure but not included in the inclined data set and, vice-versa, events in the  $58^\circ < \theta < 60^\circ$  region that are well-reconstructed with the inclined procedure but not included in the vertical data set. We found one event in the former case and none in the latter.

258 correlation study exploited the number of pairs of events 259 separated by less than  $\Psi$ . The analyses were repeated 260 above energy thresholds ranging from 40 to 80 EeV. An 261 additional scan on the maximum distance of the sources was performed for analyses against catalogs of candidate 263 host galaxies. Both scans in energy threshold and max-264 imum distance were motivated by the limited horizon 265 from which UHECR can reach Earth, although the de-266 termination of its observational value remains hindered by uncertainties on UHECR composition.

In this Section, we update the results presented in <sup>269</sup> Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a), with the exception of the search for correlation with catalogs, which is per-271 formed in Section 4.

#### 3.1. Search for localized excesses

The first analysis is a blind search for excesses over the 273 274 fraction of the sky covered with the Observatory. The 275 number of UHECRs detected in circular windows on the 276 sky  $(N_{\rm obs})$  is compared to that expected, in the same window, from an isotropic distribution of events  $(N_{\text{exp}})$ . 278 This search is performed over the entire field of view, which covers about 85% of the sky. The search windows 280 are centered on a HEALPix grid (HEALPix v3.70, Górski et al. 2005), defined by the parameter nSide = 64, which 282 sets the size of the pixels to be of the order of the angu-283 lar resolution of the Observatory. Events are counted <sup>284</sup> within search windows of radius  $\Psi$ , ranging from 1° 285 to 30° in 1° steps. Similarly, the search is performed by selecting events above energy thresholds,  $E_{\rm th}$ , rang-287 ing from 32 EeV to 80 EeV in 1 EeV steps. For each <sup>288</sup> window and energy threshold, we estimate the binomial probability of obtaining by chance  $N_{\rm obs}$  or more events 290 from an isotropic distribution of data. The computa-291 tion of  $N_{\rm exp}$  is performed by simulating events with co-292 ordinates distributed according to the sum of the vertical and inclined exposures, weighted in proportion to the observed number of events at energies above  $32\,\mathrm{EeV}$ (see Section 2). For each realization of the simulated data set, the number of events is of the same size as observed across the field of view. Simulated events fol-298 low the same energy distribution as the observed events. Performing the analysis on simulated isotropic data sets allows us to take into account the trial factors for having tested different directions, radii and energy thresholds. We consider as *post-trial* probability the fraction of these  $_{303}$  simulations with an equal or lower local p-value than the best one obtained with the observed data set.

We also compute the local Li-Ma significance (equa-306 tion (17) in Li & Ma 1983) for each point in the sky, 307 where the ON-region is centered on each point of the 308 HEALPix grid and the OFF-region is defined as the re-

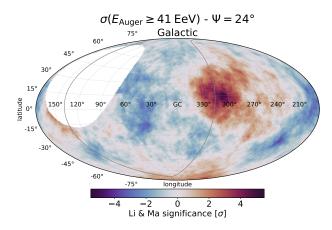


Figure 1. Local Li-Ma significance map at energies above 41 EeV and within a top-hat search angle  $\Psi = 24^{\circ}$  in Galactic coordinates. The supergalactic plane is shown as a gray line. The significance is not evaluated in windows whose centers lie outside of the field-of-view of the Observatory, as indicated by the white area.

mainder of the field of view. The local significance map 310 is displayed in Galactic coordinates in Figure 1. The most significant excess, with 5.4  $\sigma$  local significance, is 312 found above an energy threshold of 41 EeV within a 313 top-hat window of 24° radius centered on equatorial coordinates  $(\alpha, \delta) = (196.3^{\circ}, -46.6^{\circ})$ , which corresponds 315 to Galactic coordinates  $(l,b) = (305.4^{\circ}, 16.2^{\circ})$ . At this position of the parameter space, 153 events are observed when 97.7 are expected from isotropy. The local p-value 318 in this position is  $3.7 \times 10^{-8}$ , resulting in a post-trial p-value of 3%.

#### 3.2. Autocorrelation

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Another model-independent approach to assess the 322 clustering of events is the search for autocorrelation, i.e. 323 counting pairs of events separated by a given angular 324 distance. This approach is particularly effective if the 325 events form multiple clusters on similar angular scales 326 in different directions in the sky.

Following Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a), we 328 count the number of event pairs,  $N_{\rm obs}$ , above energy 329 thresholds ranging from 32 to 80 EeV, that are sepa-<sub>330</sub> rated by less than an angle  $\Psi$  ranging from 1° to 30° in  $_{331}$  steps of  $0.25^{\circ}$  up to  $5^{\circ}$  and of  $1^{\circ}$  above. We compute the expected number of pairs,  $N_{\rm exp}$ , by analysing simulated 333 isotropic event sets of the same size as the observed data 334 set. For each  $\Psi$  and  $E_{\rm th}$ , we consider as local p-value 335 the fraction of simulated data sets,  $f(E_{\rm th}, \Psi)$ , for which <sub>336</sub>  $N_{\text{exp}} \geq N_{\text{obs}}$ . The values of f are shown in Figure 2(a) 337 and the best results are shown in Table 1.

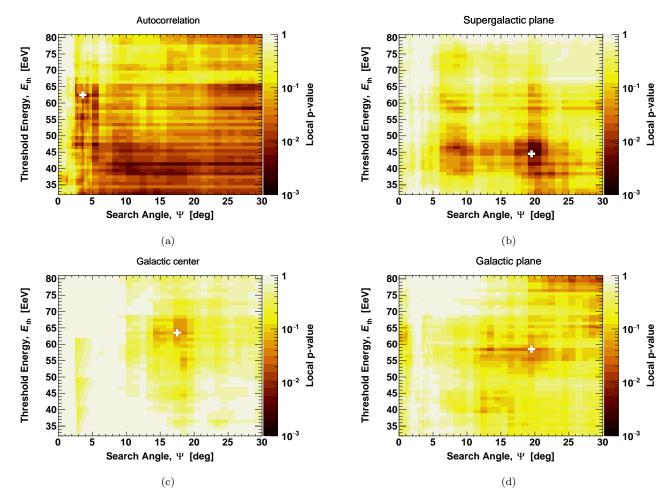


Figure 2. Local p-value as a function of search angle,  $\Psi$ , and threshold energy,  $E_{\text{th}}$ . Panels a, b, c, d display the results of the autocorrelation study, supergalactic-plane, Galactic-center and Galactic-plane searches, respectively. The most significant excess identified in each analysis is indicated with a white cross.

# 3.3. Correlation with structures

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The most constrained analysis performed in this Sec-340 tion is a search for correlation with local astrophysi-341 cal structures. Although a Galactic origin of UHECRs 342 at energies above 8 EeV is disfavored by the large-scale 343 anisotropy discovered by the Collaboration, we test as 344 targets the Galactic plane and the Galactic center in 345 addition to the supergalactic plane, for consistency with 346 Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a). The search is per-347 formed in a similar way as the study described in Sec-348 tion 3.2, with  $N_{\rm obs}$  being the number of events observed 349 within an angle  $\Psi$  from the chosen structure. In prac-350 tice, for the Galactic and supergalactic planes, we count 351 events with an absolute value of latitude smaller than  $\Psi$ 352 in the respective coordinate system.

The results are shown in Figure 2 and in Table 1. The lowest p-values are found for  $\Psi \approx 10-20^{\circ}$  above energy thresholds near  $\sim 40$  and  $\sim 60$  EeV. No significant

departure from isotropy is observed in these searches, as in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a).

# 58 4. LIKELIHOOD ANALYSIS WITH CATALOGS OF CANDIDATE HOST GALAXIES

In Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a), we presented the results of cross-correlation studies with three flux-limited catalogs: the 2MASS Redshift Survey of near-infrared galaxies (Huchra et al. 2012), the Swift-BAT 70-month catalog of active galactic nuclei (AGNs) observed in hard X-rays (Baumgartner et al. 2013) and a catalog of radio-emitting galaxies from van Velzen et al. (2012). Such cross-correlation analyses inherently assume all galaxies under investigation to have an equal weight (standard-candle approach) and do not easily account for the inverse-square law of the UHECR flux, nor for its attenuation resulting from energy losses induced by

**Table 1.** The results of the search for autocorrelation and correlation with astrophysical structures.

Search	$E_{\rm th} \ [{\rm EeV}]$	Angle, $\Psi$ [deg]	$N_{ m obs}$	$N_{\rm exp}$	Local $p$ -value, $f_{\min}$	Post-trial $p$ -value
Autocorrelation	62	3.75	93	66.5	$2.7 \times 10^{-3}$	0.26
Supergalactic plane	44	20	394	349.1	$1.8 \times 10^{-3}$	0.10
Galactic plane	58	20	151	129.8	$1.4 \times 10^{-2}$	0.37
Galactic center	63	18	17	10.1	$2.6 \times 10^{-2}$	0.38

Note—The energy threshold,  $E_{\rm th}$ , and the search angle,  $\Psi$ , which minimize the local p-value, based on the number of observed and expected events / pairs. The post-trial p-value accounts for the scan in energy threshold and search angle,  $\Psi$ .

propagation. These limitations were addressed in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b) through a likelihood-ratio test that expanded upon the maximum-likelihood test presented in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2010b). We also tested two additional catalogs based on gamma-ray observations from Fermi-LAT. The full-sky gamma-ray survey of Fermi-LAT has shown starforming galaxies and jetted AGN to be the main contributors to the extragalactic gamma-ray background at GeV energies, although their relative contributions remains uncertain (see e.g. Ajello et al. 2015; Roth et al. 2021).

#### 4.1. From catalogs to UHECR sky models

We first explore correlations with the large-scale distribution of matter using the Two Micron All-Sky Survey (2MASS, Skrutskie et al. 2006). The expected
UHECR flux in this scenario is traced by K-band observations at 2.16 µm, i.e. we assume an UHECR luminosity proportional to stellar mass. We limit the study to
galaxies up to a K-band magnitude of 11.75 mag, which
corresponds to the flux limit over more than 90% of the
2MASS Redshift Survey. We verified through the HyperLEDA<sup>3</sup> database (Makarov et al. 2014) that all the
selected objects are galaxies and we kept in the sample
AGN hosts, noting though that their near-infrared emission may be contaminated by non-thermal emission.

A second sample consists of galaxies with a high starformation rate, broadly denoted here as starburst galaxjes. Lunardini et al. (2019) selected local galaxies with
a far-infrared flux at 60 µm larger than 60 Jy from the
IRAS all-sky survey (Sanders et al. 2003) and with a radio flux at 1.4 GHz larger than 20 mJy from the NVSS
doi: (Condon et al. 1998) and Parkes surveys (Calabretta
et al. 2014) in the Northern and Southern hemispheres,
respectively. The authors also imposed a far-infrared to
fradio flux ratio larger than 30, which removes galaxies
dof dominated by jetted AGN emission. We further select

408 galaxies with a far-infrared to radio flux ratio smaller 409 than 1000, which excludes dwarf galaxies with negligible 410 radio emission. The latter criterion removes the Large 411 and Small Magellanic Clouds from the sample of star-412 burst galaxies in Lunardini et al. (2019), as these are 413 clear outliers of the flux-ratio distribution. Although 414 the IRAS survey can safely be considered as flux lim-415 ited over the entire sky for fluxes larger than 60 Jy, the 416 subtraction of the Galactic foreground is more demand-417 ing in studies of extended radio sources down to 20 mJy. 418 Following their reanalysis of the Southern radio sky, Lu-419 nardini et al. (2019) excluded areas close the Galactic 420 plane, which contain in particular the bright Circinus <sub>421</sub> galaxy at latitude  $l = -3.8^{\circ}$ . The latter galaxy satis-422 fies the above-mentioned selection criteria and we add 423 it to the sample using its radio flux tabulated in the 424 Parkes catalog (Wright & Otrupcek 1996). The radio 425 flux of galaxies in the sample is used as a tracer for 426 UHECR emission, effectively assuming an UHECR lu-427 minosity proportional to starforming activity.

The third sample encompasses AGNs observed in hard X-rays with Swift-BAT, as tabulated in their 105-month catalog (Oh et al. 2018). We select hard X-ray sources with a 14 – 195 keV flux larger than 8.4 × 10<sup>-12</sup> erg cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, which corresponds to the Swift-BAT flux limit over more than 90% of the sky. We retain objects labeled as jetted AGN, Seyfert galaxies, or other AGNs with or without jets. We adopt with this catalog the hard X-ray flux as a tracer for the UHECR flux, effectively assuming that the UHECR luminosity is driven by accretion onto super-massive black holes. We note though that the X-ray flux of the sub-sample of radio-loud AGN, in particular that of blazars, is expected to be dominated by jet emission.

Finally, the fourth sample comprises  $\gamma$ -ray selected AGN from the *Fermi*-LAT 3FHL catalog (Fermi-LAT AGN from the *Fermi*-LAT 3FHL catalog (Fermi-LAT AGN from the *Fermi*-LAT 3FHL catalog (Fermi-LAT AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux between 10 GeV and 1 TeV AGN from the AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the Sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the Sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the Sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the Sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the Sky (97% AGN from the Fermi-LAT 3FHL catalog is flux-limited over 90% of the

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  http://leda.univ-lyon1.fr/

<sup>448</sup> for Galactic latitudes  $|b| > 5^{\circ}$ ). The  $\gamma$ -ray flux is used <sup>449</sup> as UHECR proxy, effectively assuming an UHECR lu-<sup>450</sup> minosity proportional to the inner jet activity.

The bands adopted to trace UHECR emission are 452 affected by little absorption in the host galaxy and along the line of sight but UHECRs suffer increasing en-454 ergy losses and photo-dissociation with increasing travel 455 time. Robust estimates of the luminosity distances of 456 host galaxies are needed to account for the attenua-457 tion of their relative UHECR flux above a given energy 458 threshold. Putative sources within a few tens of Mpc 459 may in particular have a substantial impact on UHECR 460 anisotropies while their host galaxies are not in the Hub-461 ble flow, which would make their spectroscopic redshift biased distance estimate. We cross-matched all four 463 catalogs with the HyperLEDA database and adopted 464 the best distance estimate (modbest field) and associated uncertainty, which account for peculiar motion and 466 exploit cosmic-distance-ladder estimates whenever avail-467 able. Galaxies within 250 Mpc are retained in the sam-468 ple and we exclude those located in the Local Group 469 through a cut at 1 Mpc. Nearby galaxies would oth-470 erwise dominate sky models aimed at tracing UHECR emission on larger scales. A smaller horizon at 130 Mpc 472 is considered for starburst galaxies, following the selec-473 tion of Lunardini et al. (2019). We note that few (if any)  $_{474}$  starforming galaxies within  $130-250\,\mathrm{Mpc}$  are expected 475 to pass the radio and far-infrared flux selection. All 476 26 jetted AGNs and 44 starburst galaxies in our sample are included in HyperLEDA. The apparent total K-band 478 magnitude available in HyperLEDA (Kt field) enables a 479 straightforward selection of 44,113 2MASS galaxies. We 480 identified 23 Swift-BAT AGN, among 523 host galaxies, without a tabulated HyperLEDA distance that nonethe-482 less show compatible redshift estimates ( $|\Delta z| < 0.002$ ) 483 in NED<sup>5</sup> and SIMBAD.<sup>6</sup> The distances of these 23 galax-484 ies are based on their NED spectroscopic redshifts (cor-485 rected for the Local-Group infall to the Virgo cluster), 486 as tabulated in Appendix C.

<sup>487</sup> As in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b), the <sup>488</sup> UHECR flux expected from each host galaxy is increas-<sup>489</sup> ingly attenuated with increasing luminosity distance, <sup>490</sup>  $d_{\rm L}$ , following the best-fit model of the spectrum and <sup>491</sup> composition data acquired at the Pierre Auger Obser-<sup>492</sup> vatory (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2017c, first min $^{493}$  imum obtained with the EPOS-LHC hadronic inter- $^{494}$  action model). The attenuation weights,  $a(d_{\rm L})$ , are  $^{495}$  marginalized over distance uncertainty for the three cat- $^{496}$  alogs with less than 1,000 galaxies, with little impact on  $^{497}$  the final sky models. For the sake of computational in- $^{498}$  tensity, no marginalization over distance uncertainty is  $^{499}$  performed for the fourth sample, made of more than  $^{500}$  44,000 near-infrared galaxies, with negligible impact on  $^{501}$  the final results.

All four sky models represent significant improve-503 ments with respect to those studied in Pierre Auger Col-504 laboration (2018b) from an astronomical point of view. 505 From a quantitative perspective, the improvement in sky 506 coverage and depth of the surveys yield an increase in 507 jetted AGN from 17 to 26 objects, in starburst galax-508 ies from 23 to 44, in all AGNs from 330 to 523 and in 509 near-infrared galaxies from 41,129 to 44,113. The esti-510 mation of distance uncertainties also provides a quali-511 tative improvement with respect to the study presented 512 in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b). It should be 513 noted though that the results presented in Section 4.3 <sub>514</sub> are barely affected by such improvements, <sup>7</sup> suggesting 515 that our previous analysis already accounted for suffi-516 ciently complete surveys from an astroparticle point of 517 view.

We further evaluated in Pierre Auger Collaboration 518 519 (2015a) possible correlations with the catalog of van 520 Velzen et al. (2012). The latter compiles observations at 1.4 GHz and 843 MHz of extended radio sources down 522 to a flux limit corresponding to the flux of Centaurus A 523 placed at 200 Mpc. Accounting for attenuation, the re-524 sulting sky model is entirely dominated by the nearby 525 Centaurus A (distance of  $3.68 \pm 0.05$  Mpc) and can thus 526 be considered as redundant with the flux pattern ob-527 tained with the Swift-BAT model (see Appendix C). 528 We thus limit the present study to the four sky mod-529 els obtained from near-infrared emission of galaxies 530 (2MASS), radio emission from starburst galaxies, X-rays <sub>531</sub> from AGNs (Swift-BAT) and  $\gamma$ -rays from jetted AGNs 532 (Fermi-LAT).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Estimated from the data in Figure 6 of Fermi-LAT Collaboration (2017), where the flux limit is provided for a source of photon index  $\Gamma=2.5$  detected with a test statistic TS = 25. Data in the figure courtesy of the *Fermi*-LAT Collaboration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://ned.ipac.caltech.edu/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://simbad.u-strasbg.fr

 $<sup>^7</sup>$  The maximum test statistic is obtained at the same point of the parameter space using the catalogs of starburst galaxies, X-ray AGNs and infrared galaxies from Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b), with TS values differing by less than 2 units. The most important change is observed for the gamma-ray catalog of jetted AGNs: the maximum TS is obtained above  $\sim 60~{\rm EeV}$  for the earlier catalog version based on the 2FHL catalog ( $E_{\gamma} > 50~{\rm GeV}$ ), while it is obtained above  $\sim 40~{\rm EeV}$  with the current version based on the 3FHL catalog ( $E_{\gamma} > 10~{\rm GeV}$ ). The change can be understood from the lower energy threshold of the 3FHL catalog, which reduces the relative flux of blazars beyond 100 Mpc (Mkn 421, Mkn 501) with respect to the flux of local radio galaxies (Cen A, NGC 1275, M 87).

#### 4.2. Likelihood-ratio analysis

As in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b), the correlation of UHECR arrival directions with the flux pattern expected from the catalogs is evaluated against isotropy using a likelihood-ratio analysis. The model as a function of direction **u** is computed in equal-area bins on the sphere using HEALPix v3.70 with the parameter nSide = 64, as in Section 3.1.

The null hypothesis under investigation,  $H_0$ , is that of an isotropic flux distribution. Accounting for the directional exposure of the array,  $\omega(\mathbf{u})$ , the isotropic model for the UHECR count density reads

$$n^{H_0}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{\omega(\mathbf{u})}{\sum_i \omega(\mathbf{u}_i)},\tag{1}$$

which is normalized so that the sum over the HEALPix pixels indexed over i and of direction  $\mathbf{u}_i$  is equal to one. The alternative hypothesis,  $H_1$ , in which  $H_0$  is nested, is considered as the sum of an isotropic component and a component derived from the tested catalog. The amplitude of the latter component is a variable signal fraction,  $\alpha$ . The isotropic remainder accounts for faint or distant galaxies not included in the catalogs or for a heavy nuclear component deflected away on large angular scales. The model for the UHECR count density under  $H_1$  reads

$$n^{H_1}(\mathbf{u}) = (1 - \alpha) \times n^{H_0}(\mathbf{u}) + \alpha \times \frac{\sum_j s_j(\mathbf{u}; \Theta)}{\sum_i \sum_j s_j(\mathbf{u}_i; \Theta)}, (2)$$

where the index j runs over the galaxies in the catalog. The contribution to the UHECR flux from each galaxy,  $s_{j}(\mathbf{u};\Theta)$ , is modeled as a von Mises-Fisher distribution centered on the direction of the galaxy with a smearing angle  $\Theta$ . The amplitude of its contribution is proportional to the electromagnetic flux of the galaxy,  $\phi_{j}$ , accounting for attenuation as a function of luminosity distance,  $a(d_{j})$ , so that

$$s_j(\mathbf{u};\Theta) = \omega(\mathbf{u}) \times \phi_j a(d_j) \times \exp\left(\frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{2(1 - \cos \Theta)}\right).$$
 (3)

The von Mises-Fisher distribution is maximum in the direction of the galaxy of interest,  $\mathbf{u}_j$ , effectively leaving aside coherent deflections which remain underson constrained by current models of the Galactic magnetic fields (Erdmann et al. 2016). The smearing angle  $\Theta$ , equivalent to the 2D Gaussian extent in the small-angle limit, is assumed to be the same for all galaxies in a given catalog. This parameter accounts for the average angular dispersion in intervening magnetic fields. As a note, the normalization of the von Mises-Fisher distribution in equation (3) is omitted, as it is the same for

every galaxy and as the overall anisotropic component is normalized on the sphere (see equation (2)).

The likelihood-ratio test between the nested models  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  defines the test statistic,  $TS = 2 \ln(\mathcal{L}_1/\mathcal{L}_0)$ , where the likelihood scores of the null and alternative hypothesis,  $\mathcal{L}_0$  and  $\mathcal{L}_1$ , are obtained as the product over the events of the models  $n^{H_0}$  and  $n^{H_1}$ , respectively. The evaluation of the test statistic is performed by grouping events by HEALPix bin. With an observed event count  $k_i$  in the direction  $\mathbf{u}_i$ , the test statistic is evaluated as

$$TS = 2\sum_{i} k_i \times \ln \frac{n^{H_1}(\mathbf{u}_i)}{n^{H_0}(\mathbf{u}_i)}.$$
 (4)

The test statistic is maximized as a function of the 590 two free parameters in the analysis (the search radius,  $\Theta$ , and the signal fraction,  $\alpha$ ) above successive energy 592 thresholds. The maximization can be achieved by scan-593 ning the 2D parameter space by steps of 0.2% in sig-<sub>594</sub> nal fraction and  $0.2^{\circ}$  in search radius. This approach 595 provides an accurate estimate that is independent from 596 any specific maximization algorithm. Alternatively, a 597 maximization with the Minuit package provides a fast 598 estimate for simulated data sets, with an accuracy on 599 TS better than 0.1 units for event counts larger than 600 100. Above a fixed energy threshold, the test statistic 601 is observed through Monte Carlo simulations to follow 602 a  $\chi^2$  distribution with two degrees of freedom under the 603 null hypothesis (Wilks 1938). The 1 and 2  $\sigma$  C.L. on 604 the best-fit parameters are set by iso-TS contours dif-605 fering from the maximum TS value by 2.3 and 6.2 units, 606 respectively.

The scan in energy threshold is accounted for, as in Section 3, by estimating the post-trial p-value through isotropic Monte Carlo simulations. The post-trial p-siouvalue, which accounts for the energy scan, differs from the local p-value expected from Wilks' theorem by a penalty factor that is well-approximated by a linear function of TS: pen =  $1+(0.30\pm0.01)\times$ TS. This empirical penalty factor is estimated from simulated isotropic data sets analyzed against each catalog and the uncertainty on the linear coefficient is estimated from the variance across the four tested catalogs. The penalty factor reaches a value of  $\sim 10$  for TS = 30.

#### 4.3. Results

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The search radius and signal fraction maximizing the test statistic above fixed energy thresholds ranging in 32–80 EeV are displayed in Figure 3 for the four catalogs. The test statistic follows a double hump structure as a function of energy, with a first peak at energies above  $\sim 40 \, \mathrm{EeV}$  and a second peak at energies above  $\sim 60 \, \mathrm{EeV}$ . The similarities between the TS profiles ob-

tained with all four catalogs suggest an evolution with energy threshold that is driven by the data set rather than by the difference between the sky models, as discussed in Section 6. The second TS peak, at energies above  $\sim 60$  EeV, corresponds to the maximum signal fraction for all catalogs, ranging in 11–19%. Lower signal fractions ranging in 6–16% are inferred from the global TS maximum, at energies above  $\sim 40$  EeV. As shown in the upper axis in Figure 3, the four times larger number of events in the first peak (1,387 above 40 EeV vs 331 above 60 EeV) yields a more significant deviation from isotropy above 40 EeV.

The amplitude of variations of the best-fit parame-639 ters as function of energy threshold can be evaluated against the statistical uncertainties on these parameters, as shown in Figure 4. As the search is performed above successive energy thresholds by steps of 1 EeV, succes-644 sive energy bins have a non-negligible overlap. For reference, we estimate that there is a total of five to six inde-646 pendent energy bins, by identifying the successive reference energy thresholds above which the number of events 648 is less that half that above a previous reference energy. 649 Such a procedure suggests reference energy thresholds 650 at  $E \gtrsim 32, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 \text{ EeV}$ , with boundaries distant by more than  $\Delta \log_{10} E = 0.06$ , that corresponds to the energy resolution of  $\pm 7\%$  relevant in the range covered here (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2020b). As 654 illustrated by the set of Figures above energy thresholds ranging in 32-80 EeV (see online material attached to Figure 4), the reconstructed parameters do not show significant variations with energy.

For the sake of completeness, we provide the best-fit parameters and maximum test statistic obtained above energy thresholds corresponding to the global maximum at  $E \gtrsim 40 \,\mathrm{EeV}$ , in the upper part of Table 2, as well as those obtained above the secondary maximum identified at  $E \gtrsim 60 \, \mathrm{EeV}$ , in the lower part of the same table. The most significant departure from isotropy is identified for all four catalogs at energy thresholds in the range 38-40 EeV, with post-trial p-values of  $8.3 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $7.9 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $4.2 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $3.2 \times 10^{-5}$  for jetted AGNs traced by their  $\gamma$ -ray emission, galaxies traced by their 669 near-infrared emission, all AGNs traced by their X-ray 670 emission and starburst galaxies traced by their radio emission, respectively. As in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b), we do not penalize for the test of the four cata-673 logs, which all provide similar UHECR flux patterns. As 674 a note, the infrared sample of galaxies contains a large 675 fraction (more than 75%) of each of the three other cat-676 alogs and only jetted AGN and starburst catalogs can 677 be considered as strictly distinct galaxy samples.

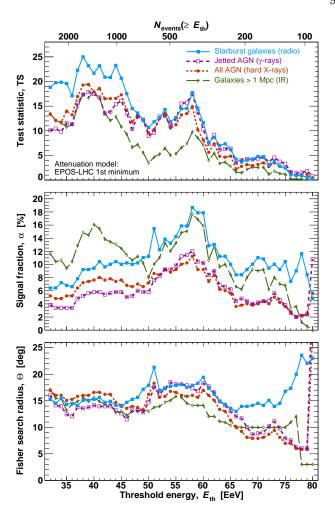
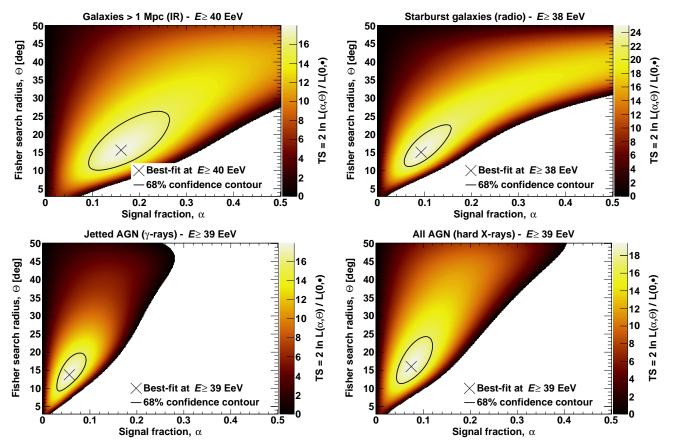


Figure 3. The test statistic (top), signal fraction (center) and Fisher search radius (bottom) maximizing the deviation from isotropy as a function of energy threshold. The results obtained with each of the four catalogs are displayed with varying colors and line styles, as labeled in the Figure. The uncertainties on the parameters, which are correlated above successive energy thresholds, are not displayed for the sake of readability.

#### 5. THE CENTAURUS REGION

A visual inspection of the sky models displayed in Appendix C highlights the main similarity between the four catalogs, namely a hotspot expected in the Auger field of view in the direction of the group of galaxies composed of the radio galaxy Centaurus A, the Seyfert galaxy NGC 4945 and the starburst galaxy M 83. These three galaxies, at distances of about 4 Mpc, constitute one of the pillars of the so-called Council of Giants (McCall 2014) surrounding the Milky Way and Andromeda galaxy. Inspection of the two AGN models, tracing accretion through X-ray emission and jet activity through  $\gamma$ -ray emission, does not suggest bright sec-



**Figure 4.** The test statistic as a function of signal fraction and search radius for the four tested catalogs, as labeled in the Figure. The reference best-fit parameters obtained above the energy threshold that maximizes the departure from isotropy are marked with a cross. The 68% C.L. contour is displayed as a black line. The complete Figure set (4 × 49 images), which shows the evolution of the test statistic mapping as a function of energy threshold, is available in the online journal.

Fig. Set 4a. The test statistic as a function of signal fraction and search radius for infrared galaxies. Fig. Set 4b. The test statistic as a function of signal fraction and search radius for starburst galaxies. Fig. Set 4c. The test statistic as a function of signal fraction and search radius for jetted  $\gamma$ -ray AGN.

Fig. Set 4d. The test statistic as a function of signal fraction and search radius for X-ray AGN.

ondary hotspots in other sky regions at the highest energies ( $E \gtrsim 60~{\rm EeV}$ ), as the attenuation of the UHECR flux dramatically reduces the contribution from more distant galaxies. On the other hand, both the infrared model of stellar mass and the radio model of enhanced starforming activity suggest hotspots in the directions of other members of the Council of Giants: the starburst galaxies NGC 253 and M 82, which are the only two starburst galaxies currently detected at TeV energies. While M 82 lies in the blind region of the Pierre Auger Observatory, which can only be observed with Telescope Array (Telescope Array Collaboration 2018), the contribution from NGC 253 is responsible for the larger departure from isotropy obtained with the starburst model with respect e.g. to the X-ray AGN model

<sup>706</sup> (see Appendix C). The infrared model instead yields a maller test statistic than both the X-ray AGN and star-<sup>708</sup> burst models. Within the infrared model, the region of the Virgo cluster (at  $d \sim 20$  Mpc) would be brighter than the Centaurus region, which is in tension with the UHECR observations. Following the same procedure as in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b), we performed a quantitative comparison between the four models to determine whether one of them is favored by the data gaainst the others. The infrared, X-ray and γ-ray models fit the data at  $E \geq 38 - 40$  EeV worse than the starburst model with C.L.  $\lesssim 3 \sigma$ . No firm evidence for a catalog preference is identified.

As indicated in Section 4.3, the deviation from row isotropy suggested with all four galaxy catalogs is driven by a hotspot in the direction of the group of galaxies composed of Centaurus A, NGC 4945 and M 83. The respectively peak direction of this hotspot, as identified through

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> http://tevcat2.uchicago.edu/

Catalog	$E_{\rm th} \ [{\rm EeV}]$	Fisher search radius, $\Theta$ [deg]	Signal fraction, $\alpha$ [%]	$\mathrm{TS}_{\mathrm{max}}$	Post-trial <i>p</i> -value
All galaxies (IR)	40	$16^{+11}_{-6}$	$16^{+10}_{-7}$	18.0	$7.9 \times 10^{-4}$
Starbursts (radio)	38	$15^{+8}_{-4}$	$9^{+6}_{-4}$	25.0	$3.2\times10^{-5}$
All AGNs (X-rays)	39	$16^{+8}_{-5}$	$7^{+5}_{-3}$	19.4	$4.2 \times 10^{-4}$
Jetted AGNs ( $\gamma$ -rays)	39	$14^{+6}_{-4}$	$6^{+4}_{-3}$	17.9	$8.3 \times 10^{-4}$
All galaxies (IR)	58	$14^{+9}_{-5}$	$18^{+13}_{-10}$	9.8	$2.9 \times 10^{-2}$
Starbursts (radio)	58	$18^{+11}_{-6}$	$19^{+20}_{-9}$	17.7	$9.0 \times 10^{-4}$
All AGNs (X-rays)	58	$16^{+8}_{-6}$	$11^{+7}_{-6}$	14.9	$3.2 \times 10^{-3}$
Jetted AGNs ( $\gamma$ -rays)	58	$17^{+8}_{5}$	$12^{+8}_{6}$	17.4	$1.0 \times 10^{-3}$

Table 2. The best-fit results obtained with the four catalogs at the global (upper) and secondary (lower) maximum.

NOTE—The energy threshold,  $E_{\rm th}$ , Fisher search radius,  $\Theta$ , and signal fraction,  $\alpha$ , which maximize the test statistic,  ${\rm TS}_{\rm max}$ , for each of the catalogs. The post-trial p-value accounts for the energy scan and search over  $\alpha$  and  $\Theta$ .

 $_{724}$  the blind search described in Section 3.1, points  $2.9^{\circ}$  away from the main contributor to the starburst model,  $_{726}$  NGC 4945, and 5.1° away from the main contributor to  $_{727}$  the AGN models, Centaurus A.

Centaurus A, being the closest radio galaxy at  $3.68 \pm$ 729 0.05 Mpc, has been the target of searches for UHECR 730 excess by the Pierre Auger Collaboration for more than decade (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2007). We update 732 such searches by performing the same analysis described 733 in Section 3.3 using as target the position of Centau-734 rus A,  $(\alpha, \delta) = (201.4^{\circ}, -43.0^{\circ})$ . The map of the local 735 p-values as a function of energy threshold and top-hat 736 search angle is shown in Figure 5. The most significant 737 excess is found at  $E_{\rm th}=38\,{\rm EeV}$  in a circle of top-hat radius  $\Psi = 27^{\circ}$ , where the number of observed events 739 is  $N_{
m obs}=215$  while  $N_{
m exp}=152.0$  events would be expected from isotropy. The minimum local p-value, which 741 is estimated as in Section 3 from the binomial probabil-742 ity to observe  $N_{
m obs}$  or more events from an isotropic distribution, is  $2.1 \times 10^{-7}$ . After penalization for the 744 scan in energy and search angle, the post-trial p-value is  $4.5 \times 10^{-5}$ , similar to that obtained with the likelihoodratio test for starburst galaxies against isotropy.

The best-fit parameters of the search in the direction of Centaurus A are unsurprisingly similar to those of the blind search. The lower post-trial p-value with respect to the blind search results from the direction being fixed p-ration, as suggested by the early-day searches from the Pierre Auger Collaboration (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2007, 2010b). The top-hat angular scale inferred from the blind search and from the search at the position of Centaurus A,  $\Psi = 24 - 27^{\circ}$ , can be compared to the Fisher search radius inferred from the catalog-

<sup>757</sup> based searches through the relation  $\Psi=1.59\times\Theta.^9$  The <sup>758</sup> catalog-based searches yield  $\Theta=14^\circ-16^\circ$  that corre-<sup>759</sup> sponds to  $\Psi=22^\circ-25^\circ$ , i.e. a range of values that is <sup>760</sup> consistent with those inferred from the other searches.

Both the catalog-based searches and search in the 762 Centaurus region point to a most significant signal at <sup>763</sup> an energy threshold close to 40 EeV. This energy range 764 encompasses the flux suppression of the energy spectrum 765 above the toe, at  $E_{34} = 46 \pm 3 \pm 6$  EeV (Pierre Auger 766 Collaboration 2020b). The reduced signal at lower and 767 higher energy thresholds appears to be mainly driven 768 by the event distribution in the Centaurus region, as 769 illustrated in Figure 6. The pre-trial p-value in the Cen-770 taurus region is obtained by profiling the local p-value 771 against the search radius and penalizing for this free pa-772 rameter. The profile as a function of energy threshold is 773 compared to the test statistic of the starburst catalog. 774 The latter is chosen as example, noting that the results 775 obtained with other catalogs show a similar dependence 776 on energy threshold (see Figure 3).

Constraints from maximum shower-depths up to a few tens of EeV and from the broad-band spectrum above the ankle energy suggest that UHECRs are accelerated in proportion to their charge, following so-called Persi ters' cycles (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2017c, 2020d). The cosmic-ray composition above the toe in the energy spectrum is then expected to be dominated by UHECRs near a maximum magnetic rigidity,  $R_{\rm cut}$ . Accounting for both systematic uncertainties on the energy and maximum shower-depth scales, we inferred in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> For a Fisher radius  $\Theta \ll 1$  rad, this relation provides the tophat radius  $\Psi$  that maximizes the signal-to-noise ratio, where the noise is  $\propto \sqrt{1-\cos\Psi}$  and the signal is  $\propto \exp(k) - \exp(k\cos\Psi)$ , with the concentration parameter  $k = [2(1-\cos\Theta)]^{-1}$ .

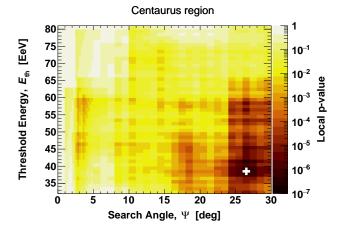
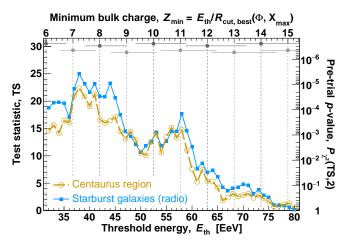


Figure 5. The local p-value for an excess in the Centaurus region as a function of top-hat search angle and energy threshold. The minimum p-value, obtained for the best-fit parameters, is marked with a white cross.

787 Pierre Auger Collaboration (2017c) a maximum rigidity  $\log_{10}(R_{\rm cut}/{
m V}) = 18.72^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$  with our reference model. 789 Adopting this value as the typical rigidity of UHECRs 790 above the toe, a lower bound on the charge of the bulk of UHECRs above a given energy threshold can be es-792 timated as  $Z_{\rm min} = E_{\rm th}/R_{\rm cut}$ , as figured in the top axis 793 of Figure 6. The uncertainties on the points illustrate 794 those on the maximum rigidity in the reference scenario. should be noted that the composition at the highest energies remains poorly constrained with Phase 1 data and can only be conjectured from a model-dependent 798 approach at this stage.

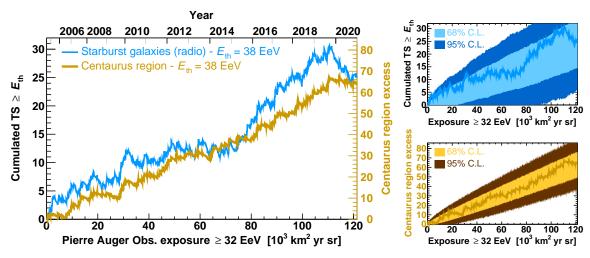
At rigidities close to  $R_{\rm cut} = 5 \, {\rm EV}$ , i.e.  $\log_{10}(R_{\rm cut}/{\rm V}) \approx$ 18.7, UHECR propagation in the magnetic field of the 801 Milky Way enters into a semi-ballistic regime (Erdmann et al. 2016). Excesses identified in the UHECR sky could thus be used both to track back putative sources and possibly to constrain the configuration and strength of the Galactic magnetic field (see Boulanger et al. 2018, and references therein). The angular scale inferred from the catalog-based search, as well as that from the blind 808 search and search in the Centaurus region, are consis-809 tent with the average angular dispersion expected in the 810 Milky Way of the Auger mix of nuclear species (Pierre 811 Auger Collaboration 2018b). Nonetheless, the lack of a 812 significant preference for a specific class of galaxies and 813 the strength of the anisotropy signal, reaching at best post-trial p-values of  $(3-5)\times 10^{-5}$ , still limit the identi-815 fication of the host galaxies of UHECR accelerators and UHECR constraints on the Galactic magnetic field.

Although only pieces of evidence for anisotropy on 818 intermediate angular scale can be claimed with the Phase 1 high-energy data set, the continued operation



**Figure 6.** The test statistic and pre-trial p-value, after profiling against the search radius and penalization for this free parameter, as a function of energy threshold. The gray points along the top axis figure the estimate of a lower bound on the bulk charge of UHECRs above a given energy threshold, under the assumption of an energy-to-charge ratio close to the maximum rigidity inferred by jointly modeling the energy spectrum and composition observables (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2017c).

820 of the array may enable the reach of the 5  $\sigma$  discovery 821 threshold. The latter corresponds to a post-trial p-value 822 of  $2.9 \times 10^{-7}$  or  $5.7 \times 10^{-7}$  considering a search for both 823 excesses and deficits (2-sided test) or just for excesses 824 (1-sided test). The growth of the signal in the Cen-825 taurus region, quantified by the excess of events with 826 respect to the isotropic expectation, and the growth of 827 the test statistic of starburst model are displayed as a 828 function of accumulated exposure in Figure 7. These analyses yield post-trial significances of 3.9–4.2  $\sigma$  for a 830 1- or 2-sided test applied to the Phase 1 high-energy data 831 set. Both the test statistic and the excess of events are 832 expected to grow linearly with exposure and the fluctua-833 tions observed around such a linear behavior are consis-834 tent with those expected from simulations. The model-835 independent search in the Centaurus region shows the 836 smallest fluctuations and may be the most robust ap-837 proach to forecasting the evolution of the signal. Assuming a fixed top-hat angular scale  $\Psi=27^{\circ}$  and a 839 continued growth of the excess at a rate of  $5.2\pm1.2$ 840 events per  $10,000 \,\mathrm{km^2} \,\mathrm{yr} \,\mathrm{sr}$ , the  $5 \,\sigma$  (1-sided) discovery 841 threshold would be expected for a total accumulated exposure of  $165,000 \pm 15,000 \,\mathrm{km^2} \,\mathrm{yr} \,\mathrm{sr}$  (68% C.L.), which would be within reach by the end of 2025 ( $\pm 2$  calendar 844 years) adopting an approach similar to that developed 845 in the present study.



**Figure 7.** Test statistic of the starburst model and excess in the Centaurus region above the best energy threshold as a function of exposure accumulated by the Pierre Auger Observatory. The fluctuations around the expected linear behavior are consistent with those expected from signal simulations, as illustrated in the right-most panels.

#### 6. CONCLUSION

We have presented the measurement and analysis of 847 848 arrival directions of the highest-energy events detected 849 at the Pierre Auger Observatory during its first phase of 850 operation. With a total of 2,635 UHECR events above 32 EeV and accumulated exposure of 122,000 km<sup>2</sup> sr yr, 852 no indication for anisotropies on angular scales rang-853 ing from one to thirty degrees emerges from autoorrelation studies or from blind searches over the entire sky. This lack of significant deviation from isotropy 856 can be attributed a posteriori to the small amplitude 857 of the anisotropic signal evidenced here, to the vast-858 ness of the parameter space that has been probed, in 859 addition to the limited number of events at the high-860 est energies. More focused searches along the Galactic center and Galactic plane do not reveal any excesses. The flux along these structures and the associated statistical uncertainty are  $\Phi_{GC}(\geq 40 \text{ EeV}, \Psi = 25^{\circ}) =$  $(10.9\pm1.1)\times10^{-3}{\rm km}^{-2}{\rm yr}^{-1}{\rm sr}^{-1}$  and  $\Phi_{\rm GP}(\ge40{\rm EeV},\Psi=$  $(25^{\circ}) = (9.8 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3} \text{ km}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}, \text{ respec-}$ These values can be compared to average flux over the field of view of the Observatory  $\Phi_{\rm ISO}(\geq 40 \,{\rm EeV}) = (11.3 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3} \,{\rm km}^{-2} \,{\rm yr}^{-1} \,{\rm sr}^{-1}$ . A 869 study along the supergalactic plane, not distinguishing 870 among the various galaxies forming this structure, sim-<sub>871</sub> ilarly yields  $\Phi_{\rm SGP}(\geq 40~{\rm EeV}, \Psi = 25^{\circ}) = (9.8 \pm 0.6) \times$  $10^{-3} \text{ km}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$ .

Accounting for the attenuation of the UHECR mix inferred from lower energy observations, the sky viewed from the Pierre Auger Observatory is better modeled with a  $\sim 10\%$  flux excess in the directions of nearby galaxies observed in the radio, near-infrared, X-ray and gamma-ray bands. Isotropy is disfavored at the 379  $3.3-4.2~\sigma$  level, depending on the catalog. A model-

 $^{880}$  independent analysis of the Centaurus region, which  $^{881}$  contains the most prominent active and star-forming  $^{882}$  galaxies expected to contribute at these energies, reveals  $^{883}$  an excess that is significant at the  $4.1~\sigma$  C.L.

The average flux above  $40 \,\mathrm{EeV}$  in a  $25^{\circ}$  top-hat 885 region centered on Centaurus A can be estimated 886 to  $\Phi_{\rm Cen}(\geq 40~{\rm EeV}, \Psi = 25^{\circ}) = (15.9 \pm 1.3) \times$  $10^{-3}$  km $^{-2}$  yr $^{-1}$  sr $^{-1}$ . In comparison, regions centered on 888 the Virgo cluster and on the starburst galaxy NGC 253 show fluxes of  $\Phi_{\mathrm{Virgo}}({\geq}40\mathrm{EeV},\Psi=25^\circ)=(12.2{\pm}1.8){ imes}$ <sub>890</sub>  $10^{-3} \mathrm{km}^{-2} \mathrm{yr}^{-1} \mathrm{sr}^{-1}$  and  $\Phi_{\mathrm{NGC}\,253} (\geq 40 \,\mathrm{EeV}, \Psi = 25^{\circ}) =$  $_{891}$   $(12.8 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{km}^{-2} \,\mathrm{yr}^{-1} \,\mathrm{sr}^{-1}$ . As illustrated by the 892 model sky maps in Appendix C, the regions of NGC 253 and of the Virgo cluster could be expected to be as bright as and brighter than the Centaurus region if the UHECR 895 emission rate was simply traced by star-formation rate 896 and stellar mass, respectively. At the present stage, al-897 though the starburst catalog enables the identification 898 of the most significant deviation from isotropy (4.2  $\sigma$  for 899 a 1-sided test) and the jetted AGN catalog the least significant deviation (3.3  $\sigma$ ), no firm preference for cor-901 relation with a specific class of galaxies can be stated. 902 It should further be noted that such a preferred cor-903 relation would not necessarily suggest causation in the 904 form of the identification of the origin of UHECRs, as 905 regular and turbulent magnetic fields traversed by these 906 charged particles could alter the anisotropic pattern ob-907 served on Earth (e.g. Kotera & Lemoine 2008; Erdmann 908 et al. 2016; Farrar & Sutherland 2019; Bell & Matthews 909 2022).

Though the most significant deviation from isotropy  $_{911}$  is found at energies around  $\sim 40$  EeV for almost all the  $_{912}$  analyses, the excess is also hinted at for all catalogs and  $_{913}$  the Centaurus region at energies around  $\sim 60$  EeV, as

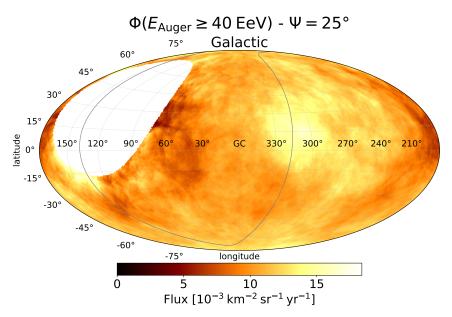


Figure 8. Flux map at energies above 40 EeV with a top-hat smoothing radius  $\Psi = 25^{\circ}$  in Galactic coordinates. The supergalactic plane is shown as a gray line. The blank area is outside the field of view of the Pierre Auger Observatory. The complete Figure set (49 images), which shows the map as a function of energy threshold, is available in the online journal. // Fig. Set 8. Flux map above the energy threshold labeled in the Figure.

914 shown in Figure 8 (see online material). Indeed, it was 915 in this higher energy range that the first indication of 916 anisotropy was found in early Auger data (Pierre Auger 917 Collaboration 2007). An interpretation of the energy 918 evolution of the signal on intermediate angular scales 919 could be drawn in terms of maximum energy achieved 920 for higher-charge nuclei. In a Peters' cycle scenario such 921 as discussed in Section 5, the evidence for anisotropy  $_{922}$  above  $\sim 40\,\mathrm{EeV}$  would be interpreted as stemming from 923 CNO nuclei, which would suggest  $Z \approx 10-12$  nuclei 924 to be responsible for the departure from isotropy above  $_{925}\sim 60~{
m EeV}.$  The estimate of maximum rigidity used here 926 is based on the combined fit of spectrum and depth of 927 shower maximum performed in Pierre Auger Collabora-928 tion (2017c). The direct inclusion in such analyses of 929 arrival-direction information will enable us to test more 930 directly this scenario. If this scenario of local extragalactic sources is extrapolated to lower energies, one could 932 expect a contribution from He nuclei (see e.g. Lemoine 933 & Waxman 2009) in the energy range where a signifi-934 cant dipole, but no significant quadrupole has been re-935 ported using data from the Observatory. The strength 936 of such an anisotropic contribution could nonetheless 937 be further diluted in the contribution from more dis-938 tant sources. We foresee that an in-depth comparison 939 could be drawn studying the evolution of the large-scale 940 dipolar and quadrupolar components as a function of

941 energy. 10 Alternatively, a more model-dependent but 942 also more-constrained approach could exploit full-sky 943 flux-limited catalogs encompassing galaxies out to the 944 cosmic-ray horizon at the ankle energy.

At this stage, it is not possible to make claims on 946 which are the sources of the highest energy particles 947 known in the Universe. This is in part due to the de-948 flection they suffer in magnetic fields. Identifying the 949 sources of UHECRs indeed runs parallel to deducing 950 properties of Galactic and extragalactic magnetic fields, 951 and constraints on one of these will enhance our un-952 derstanding of the other. An important step will be 953 taken through the inclusion of composition-sensitive ob-954 servables in arrival direction studies. This will be done 955 either through searches for anisotropy in the moments 956 of such composition observables or by their use, event 957 by event, to select only candidate light nuclei. Future 958 studies using the Observatory offer the promise to do so 959 by means of the AugerPrime upgrade, currently being 960 completed, which will enhance mass discrimination with 961 the 100% duty cycle of the surface detector.

We checked that no significant large-scale deviation from isotropy can be inferred from arrival-direction data in the energy range covered here, with constraints on the dipolar and quadrupolar components not in tension with those expected from best-fit catalog-based models (as inferred e.g. for the 2MASS Redshift Survey in di Matteo & Tinyakov 2018).

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962

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1055 APPENDIX

A. DATA

The data set used here consists of 2,635 events above 32 EeV collected at the Pierre Auger Observatory from 1058 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2020. The data set is formatted as shown in Table 3, which lists the twenty highest 1059 energy events. For each event, we report the year in which the event was detected, the Julian day of the year and 1060 the time of detection in UTC seconds. The arrival directions are expressed in local coordinates,  $(\theta, \phi)$ , the zenith and 1061 azimuth angle (measured counterclockwise from the east), respectively, and in equatorial coordinates (J2000),  $(\alpha, \delta)$ , 1062 the right ascension (R.A.) and declination (Dec), respectively. Finally, the reconstructed energy, in EeV, and the 1063 integrated exposure accumulated up to the time of detection are reported in the last two columns. The full list of 1064 2,635 events, with the same information as in Table 3, is available at https://zenodo.org/record/xxxxxx together with 1065 the code, the structure of which is described in Appendix B.

The energies and arrival directions of the events may have changed with respect to those already released in previous works, such as Pierre Auger Collaboration (2015a). These changes are due to the refinements in the reconstruction reported in Section 2 and to updates in the energy scale and calibration which were improved over the years. Similarly, a subsample of the vertical events used here is included in the recent Data Release from the Collaboration (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2021c). The latter were derived with the other reconstruction software used in the Collaboration, which enables independent cross checks and shows good consistency with the reconstruction software used here (Pierre Auger Collaboration 2020c).

As mentioned in Section 2, the ratio of the number of inclined and vertical events is energy dependent. Anisotropy 1073 itself could impact the ratio of inclined and vertical events, as the two exposures differ over the sky. This effect is however small: the excess reported in Section 5 would imply an expected ratio of  $N_{\rm incl}/N_{\rm vert} = 0.273$  instead of 0.278 for an isotropic distribution. Above 32 EeV, a non-significant excess of inclined events is observed with respect to expectations from the exposure ratio and finite energy resolution ( $N_{\rm incl}/N_{\rm vert} = 0.292 \pm 0.014$ ). Above 80 EeV, there are 10 events with  $\theta \ge 60^{\circ}$  and 86 with  $\theta < 60^{\circ}$ , which corresponds to a ratio of  $N_{\rm incl}/N_{\rm vert} = 0.116 \pm 0.039$ . The deficit of inclined events is most significant above  $\sim 90 \,\mathrm{EeV}$ , which results in a post-trial significance (under the assumption of isotropy) at the level of  $\sim 2.5 \, \sigma$ , when penalized for a search as a function of energy. Such a discrepancy or a stronger one would have a 1.3% probability of being found as a statistical fluctuation under the hypothesis that the energy 1082 calibrations of both data streams are correct. For completeness, we also consider the hypothesis that the deficit of inclined events at the highest energies is at least partly due to a systematic underestimation of inclined energies (or overestimation of vertical ones), as different reconstruction techniques are used for the two sets. We tested for this effect empirically by selecting the events with zenith angles between  $57^{\circ} < \theta < 63^{\circ}$  that are reconstructed by both the vertical and inclined reconstructions and for which six active stations surround the one closest to the core position. There are 161 such events and a power-law relation of the form  $E_{\text{vert}} = A \cdot E_{\text{incl}}^B$  was fitted to extract the parameters (A,B) that would convert the energies obtained from the inclined reconstruction to the energies obtained from the vertical reconstruction. The results are such that  $E_{\rm vert}=80~{\rm EeV}$  would correspond to  $E_{\rm incl}=76.1\pm1.6~{\rm EeV}$ . We 1090 applied the change to the energies of events in the inclined data set and performed, as a cross-check, the likelihood analysis with the starburst catalog (as in Section 4.1) and the Centaurus-region analysis (as in Section 5). In both 1092 cases, we found the same results presented with the standard data set. This cross-check demonstrates that the possible 1093 systematic uncertainties induced by the difference in energy calibration of the vertical and inclined reconstructions do 1094 not affect the results presented in this paper.

**Table 3.** Excerpt of the full data set of 2,635 events above 32 EeV collected at the Pierre Auger Observatory between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2020.

Year	JD	UTC	Zenith angle, $\theta$	Azimuth angle, $\phi$	R.A., α	Dec, $\delta$	E	Cumulative exposure
		s	0	•	0	0	$\mathrm{EeV}$	${\rm km}^2{\rm sr}{\rm yr}$
2019	314	1573399408	58.6	-135.6	128.9	-52.0	165.5	111928.9
2007	13	1168768186	14.2	85.6	192.9	-21.2	164.7	9784.9
2020	163	1591895321	18.9	-47.7	107.2	-47.6	155.2	116796.7
2014	293	1413885674	6.8	-155.4	102.9	-37.8	155.1	70647.3
2018	224	1534096475	47.9	141.7	125.0	-0.6	146.5	101397.8
2008	268	1222307719	49.8	140.5	287.8	1.5	139.9	21324.1
2019	117	1556436334	14.8	-32.7	275.0	-42.1	132.6	107370.7
2017	361	1514425553	41.7	-30.5	107.8	-44.7	131.6	96084.6
2014	65	1394114269	58.5	47.3	340.6	12.0	130.6	65277.3
2005	186	1120579594	57.3	155.7	45.8	-1.7	127.0	3117.6
2015	236	1440460829	20.1	-46.1	284.8	-48.0	124.9	77711.0
2008	18	1200700649	50.3	178.9	352.5	-20.8	123.7	16099.9
2016	26	1453874568	22.6	-14.7	175.6	-37.7	122.3	81177.2
2016	21	1453381745	13.7	-179.8	231.4	-34.0	121.8	81056.9
2011	26	1296108817	24.9	90.9	150.0	-10.4	115.8	39260.2
2016	68	1457496302	23.7	108.7	151.5	-12.6	115.2	82087.0
2015	268	1443266386	77.2	-172.0	21.7	-13.8	113.3	78448.5
2016	297	1477276760	49.5	104.5	352.1	13.2	110.6	86824.4
2020	66	1583535647	41.4	-20.6	133.6	-38.3	109.7	114595.1
2018	174	1529810463	42.7	4.3	300.0	-22.6	109.6	100244.0

Note—See text for a description of the columns. Events are sorted here by decreasing energy, E, and only the 20 highest-energy events are displayed. The full data set is available in the same format at https://zenodo.org/record/xxxxxx.

B. CODE

The structure of the code used to produce the results of this paper is presented in Figure 9. The main analyses are contained in two folders, called Targeted\_Blind for Sections 3 and 5, and Catalog\_Based for Section 4. The add-ons and utilities needed to run the analyses are contained in the folders Data, Utilities and Visuals. A brief description of each folder follows.

# Auger2022\_Anisotropy32EeV

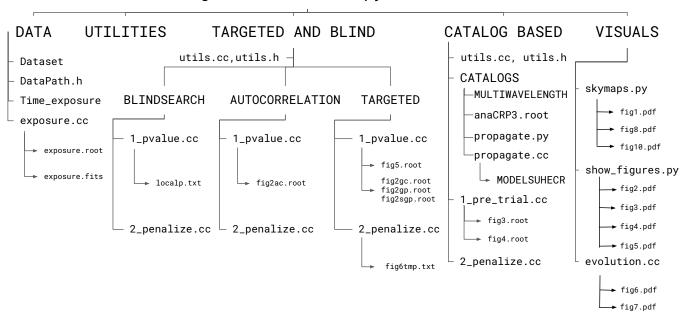


Figure 9. Schematic view of the code.

- The Data folder contains the file of the data set used in all of the analyses, named AugerApj2022\_Yr\_JD\_UTC\_Th\_Ph\_RA\_Dec\_E\_Expo. Additionally, the folder contains a C++ script named exposure.cc, which computes the directional exposure of the Observatory for both vertical and inclined events, which is integrated over the duration of the acquisition period; the exposure script produces two files, exposure.root and exposure.fits, which contain the exposure as a function of declination in TF1-root format and in healpixmap-fits form (RING scheme, Galactic coordinates), respectively. The Time\_exposure file provides the evolution of exposure with time, as displayed in the upper axis of Figure 7. The DataPath.h contains the declaration of the data set file to be used by all the analyses for easy user intervention.
- The Utilities folder contains files with auxiliary classes and functions used by all other parts of the code, in particular coordinate-conversion utilities and HEALPix map manipulation.
- The Targeted\_Blind folder contains the code for the targeted (Sections 5 and 3.3), blind (Section 3.1) and autocorrelation (Section 3.2) analyses. The first folder level contains:
  - dedicated utilities (utils.h and utils.cc);
  - three sub-folders: Blind, Targeted and Autocorrelation containing the respective analyses.

Each of the three sub-folders contains a script performing the computation of the local p-value, 1\_pvalue.cc, and a script penalizing for the search over the parameter space, 2\_penalization.cc. The results of the Blind

code are stored in .txt files for easy readout, while the results of Autocorrelation code are stored as a .root file. In the Targeted folder, 1\_pvalue.cc produces the outputs fig5.root, fig2gc.root, fig2gp.root and fig2sgp.root, which contain the local p-value in bins of energy threshold and search radius for the Centaurus region, Galactic center, Galactic plane and supergalactic plane analyses, respectively; the .root files in the Autocorrelation and Targeted folders contain also copies of the support histograms used to calculate the local p-value which will be re-used by the penalization. The script 2\_penalization.cc produces the post-trial p-value in single-value text form, as well as the file fig6tmp.txt, which stores the pre-trial p-values as a function of energy threshold penalized only for the scan in angle (see Figure 6).

- The Catalog\_Based folder contains the code for the catalog-based likelihood-ratio analysis. The first folder level comprises:
  - dedicated utilities (utils.h and utils.cc);

- the folder Catalogs, which contains the raw catalogs of galaxies in the subfolder Multiwavelength, as described in Appendix C. The raw catalog files are input, above a fixed energy threshold, to the script propagate.cc, in conjunction with the Auger composition model contained in the file AnaCRP3.root, to produce the attenuated models used in the analysis. These attenuated models can be produced above all energy thresholds by running the script propagate.py, with outputs stored in the subfolder ModelsUHECR. The latter is organized as different folders for each catalog;
- the analysis routines: 1\_pre\_trial.cc, which produces the results stored in the files fig3.root, showing the test statistic, signal fraction and search radius as a function of threshold energy, and fig4.root, showing the test statistic as a function of the signal fraction and search radius with 68% C.L. contours for each catalog; 2\_penalization.cc produces the post-trial p-values.
- The Visuals folder contains scripts that produce the figures shown in the paper. The python script skymaps.py produces the sky maps in Hammer-Aitoff view: the Li-Ma significance map, fig1.pdf, the flux maps above successive energy threshold stored in fig8.pdf and the model maps stored in fig10.pdf. The script show\_figures.py produces fig2.pdf, fig3.pdf, fig4.pdf and fig5.pdf from their respective root files. The script evolution.cc produces fig6.pdf, the plot of the pre-trial p-values from the Centaurus-region analysis and likelihood-ratio analysis against starburst galaxies as a function of threshold energy; it also produces fig7.pdf, the plot of the evolution of test statistic of the starburst analysis and of the excess in the Centaurus region as a function of the exposure accumulated at the Observatory.

1145 C. CATALOGS

The best-fit sky models above 40 EeV obtained with the four catalogs described in Section 4.1 are shown in Figure 10.

These sky maps do not include any isotropic component and display only the flux expected from galaxies included in the catalogs, which is smeared on the best-fit Fisher angular scale above 40 EeV obtained with each catalog. A further top-hat smoothing on an angular scale  $\Psi = 25^{\circ}$  is performed for the sake of comparison with Figure 8.

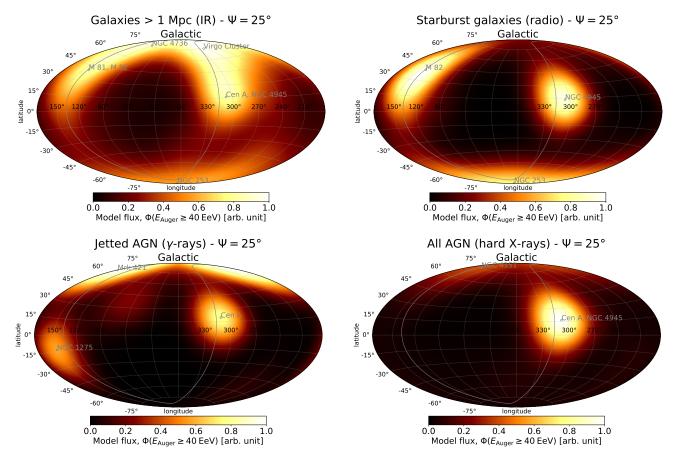


Figure 10. Best-fit UHECR source models above 40 EeV with a top-hat smoothing radius  $\Psi = 25^{\circ}$  in Galactic coordinates. The supergalactic plane is shown as a gray line. Prominent sources in each of the catalogs are marked with gray circles.

The models shown in Figure 10 are based on the UHECR flux expected from each galaxy in proportion to its electromagnetic flux. The multiwavelength information on the galaxies is made available in the Multiwavelength 1151 sub-folder of the catalog-based study, as described in Appendix B, and is available online at https://zenodo.org/ 1152 record/xxxxxx. The Multiwavelength folder contains one file per catalog, with tabulated values detailed in Tables 4, 5, 6 and 7. The first column of each of these tables provides the name of the source as referenced by the authors of the source catalog. The second column provides a counterpart name that is consistent across all four catalogs. The third 1155 olumn provides the type of galaxy, extracted either from the source catalog or from the HyperLEDA database. The 1156 fourth and fifth columns provide the equatorial coordinates of the galaxy. The sixth and seventh columns display the distance modulus and associated uncertainty extracted from the modbest entry of the HyperLEDA database, and the eighth and ninth columns display the corresponding luminosity distance in Mpc as well as the relative uncertainty on this quantity. The electromagnetic flux of each galaxy is provided in column 10, except in Table 4 where the K-band magnitude is provided. Whenever available, the uncertainty on the quantity provided in column 10 is shown in column 11. Finally, a flag is provided in the last columns of Tables 5, 6 and 7. This flag indicates whether the galaxy was also included in the main samples studied in Pierre Auger Collaboration (2018b) (Y), in one of the cross-check samples (X), or not included in earlier versions of these catalogs (N). The flag column of Table 6 indicates the origin of the 1165 redshift estimate, either from HyperLEDA or from NED for the 23 X-ray AGNs that are not listed in HyperLEDA.

**Table 4.** Galaxies (2MASS(K<11.75)  $\times$  HyperLEDA).

PGC	Counterpart	Object Type	R.A.	Dec	(m-M)	$\sigma(m-M)$	$d_{ m L}$	$\sigma(d_{ m L})/d_{ m L}$	$ m K_t$	$\sigma({ m K}_{ m t})$
			0	0	mag	mag	${ m Mpc}$		mag	mag
29128	NGC3109	Ŋ	150.78	-26.16	25.56	0.02	1.29	0.007	9.57	0.4
29653	PGC029653	ŭ	152.75	-4.69	25.59	0.03	1.31	0.013	11.31	0.56
28913	UGC05373	ŭ	150.0	5.33	25.79	0.01	1.44	0.006	10.76	0.23
100169	PGC100169	ŭ	31.52	0.69	26.15	0.2	1.7	0.092	69.6	0.24
80629	IC5152	ŭ	330.67	-51.3	26.46	0.03	1.96	0.012	9.05	0.36
3238	NGC0300	ŭ	13.72	-37.68	26.53	0.03	2.03	0.007	6.58	0.36
1014	NGC0055	ŭ	3.72	-39.2	26.62	0.01	2.11	0.006	6.34	0.18
9140	PGC009140	ŭ	36.18	-73.51	26.63	0.07	2.12	0.032	10.83	0.1
13115	UGC02773	ŭ	53.03	47.79	26.69	0.2	2.18	0.092	8.6	0.1
39573	IC3104	ŭ	184.69	-79.73	26.86	0.03	2.36	0.007	9.24	0.14
60849	IC4662	ŭ	266.79	-64.64	27.03	0.01	2.55	0.006	9.45	0.21
47495	$\rm UGC08508$	ŭ	202.68	54.91	27.07	0.02	2.6	0.011	11.51	0.1
40904	UGC07577	ŭ	186.92	43.5	27.08	0.03	2.6	0.011	10.45	0.2
54392	ESO274-001	ŭ	228.56	-46.81	27.24	90.0	2.8	0.026	8.3	0.39
51472	${ m UGC09240}$	ŭ	216.18	44.53	27.25	0.02	2.82	0.008	10.89	0.13
39023	NGC4190	ŭ	183.44	36.63	27.26	0.04	2.83	0.03	11.4	0.77
14241	PGC014241	ŭ	59.96	67.14	27.37	0.03	2.98	0.012	8.24	0.16
4126	NGC0404	ŭ	17.36	35.72	27.37	0.03	2.98	0.007	7.53	0.02
39225	NGC4214	ŭ	183.91	36.33	27.37	0.01	2.98	0.002	8.09	0.21
38881	NGC4163	ŭ	183.04	36.17	27.38	0.03	2.99	0.007	10.92	0.08
15488	NGC1560	ŭ	68.2	71.88	27.38	0.1	2.99	0.046	9.07	0.22
49050	ESO383-087	ŭ	207.32	-36.06	27.52	0.02	3.19	0.007	9.91	0.14
15439	PGC015439	ŭ	68.01	63.62	27.53	0.02	3.2	0.024	10.97	0.17
21396	NGC2403	ŭ	114.21	65.6	27.53	0.01	3.2	0.004	6.24	0.14
47762	NGC5206	Ů	203.43	-48.15	27.53	0.01	3.21	0.005	8.39	0.25
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
127001	PGC127001	Ğ	62.39	-61.25	36.99	0.07	249.7	0.03	11.72	0.18

NOTE—44,113 entries within 250 Mpc. 17,143 entries at  $d_{\rm L} < 100$  Mpc, 39,563 at  $d_{\rm L} < 200$  Mpc.

Table 5. Starburst galaxies (Lunardini+ '19).

Lunardi Name	Counterpart	Host Type	R.A.	Dec	(m-M)	$\sigma(m-M)$	$d_{ m L}$	$\sigma(d_{\rm L})/d_{\rm L}$	$\Phi(1.4\mathrm{GHz})$	$\sigma(\Phi)$	flag: in Aab+ '18?
			0	0	mag	mag	$\mathrm{Mpc}$		Jy	$J_{y}$	(No/Yes/Xcheck)
NGC0055	NGC0055	SBm	3.72	-39.2	26.62	0.01	2.11	0.005	0.37	N/A	Z
NGC1569	NGC1569	IB	67.7	64.85	27.53	0.05	3.21	0.023	0.4	N/A	×
NGC2403	NGC2403	$_{ m SABc}$	114.21	65.6	27.53	0.01	3.21	0.005	0.39	N/A	X
IC342	IC342	$_{ m SABc}$	26.7	68.1	27.68	0.03	3.44	0.014	2.25	N/A	Y
NGC4945	NGC4945	$\mathrm{Spc}$	196.37	-49.47	27.7	0.03	3.47	0.009	9.9	N/A	Y
NGC3034(M82)	M82	S	148.97	89.69	27.79	0.01	3.61	0.005	7.29	N/A	Y
NGC0253	NGC253	$_{ m SABc}$	11.89	-25.29	27.84	0.03	3.7	0.009	0.9	N/A	Y
N/A	Circinus	$^{\mathrm{Sp}}$	213.29	-65.34	28.12	0.36	4.21	0.166	1.5	N/A	Y
NGC5236(M83)	M83	$_{ m Sc}$	204.25	-29.87	28.45	0.03	4.9	0.009	2.44	N/A	Y
Maffei2	Maffei2	$\mathrm{Spc}$	40.48	59.6	28.79	0.12	5.73	0.055	1.01	N/A	×
NGC6946	NGC6946	$_{ m SABc}$	308.72	60.15	29.14	0.02	6.73	0.023	1.4	N/A	Y
NGC4631	NGC4631	SBcd	190.53	32.54	29.33	0.03	7.35	0.009	1.12	N/A	Y
NGC5194(M51)	M51	SABb	202.48	47.2	29.67	0.03	8.59	0.009	1.31	N/A	Y
NGC5055(M63)	NGC5055	Sbc	198.96	42.03	29.78	0.01	9.04	0.005	0.35	N/A	¥
NGC2903	NGC2903	Sbc	143.04	21.5	29.85	0.11	9.33	0.051	0.44	N/A	Y
NGC891	NGC891	$^{\mathrm{Q}}$	35.64	42.35	29.94	1.72	9.73	0.792	0.7	N/A	Y
NGC1068	NGC1068	$^{\mathrm{qs}}$	40.66	0.0	30.12	0.34	10.6	0.157	4.85	N/A	¥
NGC3628	NGC3628	SBb	170.07	13.59	30.21	0.34	11.0	0.157	0.47	N/A	¥
NGC4818	NGC4818	SABa	194.2	-8.53	30.27	0.33	11.3	0.152	0.45	N/A	Z
NGC3627	NGC3627	$^{\mathrm{qs}}$	170.06	12.99	30.3	0.04	11.5	0.018	0.46	N/A	¥
NGC1808	NGC1808	Sa	76.93	-37.51	30.45	0.36	12.3	0.166	0.5	N/A	×
NGC4303	M61	Sbc	185.48	4.47	30.45	0.1	12.3	0.046	0.44	N/A	×
NGC3521	NGC3521	SABb	166.45	-0.04	30.47	0.29	12.4	0.134	0.35	N/A	Z
NGC0660	NGC660	Sa	25.76	13.65	30.5	1.31	12.6	0.603	0.37	N/A	¥
NGC4254	NGC4254	$S_{\rm c}$	184.71	14.42	30.77	1.13	14.3	0.52	0.37	N/A	Z
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NGC6240	NGC6240	S0-a	253.26	2.4	35.18	0.15	108.6	0.069	0.65	N/A	Y
- V				, ,	1001	3 / 1 7 11	7 000				

NOTE—44 entries within 250 Mpc. 43 entries at  $d_{\rm L} < 100$  Mpc, 44 at  $d_{\rm L} < 200$  Mpc.

Table 6. Jetted and non-jetted AGNs (Swift-BAT 105 months).

BAT105 Name	Counterpart	AGN Type	R.A.	Dec	(m-M)	$\sigma(m-M)$	$d_{ m L}$	$\sigma(d_{\rm L})/d_{\rm L}$	$\Phi(14-195\mathrm{keV})$	$\sigma(\Phi)$	flag: ref. $(m-M)$
			0	0	mag	mag	$\mathrm{Mpc}$		$10^{-12}~{\rm erg}~{\rm cm}^{-2}~{\rm s}^{-1}$	$10^{-12}  \mathrm{erg  cm^{-2}  s^{-1}}$	$({\rm HyperLEDA/NED})$
J1305.4-4928	NGC4945	Sy2	196.37	-49.47	27.7	0.02	3.47	0.009	282.1	N/A	Н
30955.5 + 6907	M81	Sy1.9	148.94	90.69	27.78	0.01	3.6	0.005	20.3	N/A	Н
J1325.4-4301	CenA	BeamedAGN	201.37	-43.02	27.83	0.03	3.68	0.014	1346.3	N/A	Н
J1412.9-6522	Circinus	Sy2	213.29	-65.34	28.12	0.36	4.21	0.166	273.2	N/A	Н
J1210.5 + 3924	NGC4151	Sy1.5	182.64	39.41	28.39	1.65	4.76	0.76	618.9	N/A	Н
J1202.5 + 3332	NGC4395	Sy2	186.45	33.53	28.39	0.01	4.76	0.005	27.5	N/A	Н
J0420.0-5457	NGC1566	Sy1.5	64.96	-54.94	29.13	1.16	6.7	0.534	19.5	N/A	Н
J1219.4 + 4720	M106	Sy1.9	184.75	47.29	29.41	0.01	7.62	0.005	23.0	N/A	Н
J1329.9 + 4719	M51	Sy2	202.48	47.2	29.67	0.03	8.59	0.009	13.3	N/A	Н
J0242.6 + 0000	NGC1068	Sy1.9	40.66	0.0	30.12	0.34	10.6	0.157	37.9	N/A	Н
J1717.1-6249	NGC6300	Sy2	259.25	-62.83	30.15	0.00	10.7	0.041	96.4	N/A	Н
J1203.0 + 4433	NGC4051	Sy1.5	180.78	44.52	30.28	0.35	11.4	0.161	42.5	N/A	Н
J1652.0-5915B	NGC6221	Sy2	253.18	-59.23	30.34	0.62	11.7	0.286	22.4	N/A	Н
J1209.4 + 4340	NGC4138	Sy2	182.35	43.7	30.7	0.25	13.8	0.115	24.4	N/A	Н
J1157.8 + 5529	NGC3998	Sy1.9	179.46	55.44	30.73	0.19	14.0	0.087	13.2	N/A	Н
J2235.9-2602	NGC7314	Sy1.9	338.95	-26.05	31.03	0.25	16.1	0.115	57.4	N/A	Н
J1432.8-4412	NGC5643	Sy2	218.19	-44.15	31.03	1.0	16.1	0.461	16.8	N/A	Н
J1001.7 + 5543	NGC3079	Sy2	150.46	55.67	31.16	0.32	17.1	0.147	36.7	N/A	Н
J1341.9 + 3537	NGC5273	Sy1.5	205.47	35.66	31.16	0.12	17.1	0.055	16.0	N/A	Н
J1207.8 + 4311	NGC4117	Sy2	181.95	43.12	31.18	0.94	17.2	0.433	12.9	N/A	Н
J0333.6-3607	NGC1365	Sy2	53.39	-36.14	31.19	0.02	17.3	0.009	63.5	N/A	Н
J0241.3-0816	NGC1052	${\bf BeamedAGN}$	40.29	-8.24	31.22	0.11	17.5	0.051	31.4	N/A	Н
J1132.7 + 5301	NGC3718	Sy1.9	173.22	53.02	31.25	0.89	17.8	0.41	12.2	N/A	Н
J1206.2 + 5243	NGC4102	Sy2	181.59	52.71	31.29	0.25	18.1	0.115	32.1	N/A	Н
J2318.4-4223	NGC7582	Sy2	349.6	-42.37	31.41	0.1	19.1	0.046	82.3	N/A	Н
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
J0534.8-6026	2 MASXJ05343093-6016153	Sy1	83.7	-60.27	36.98	90.0	248.9	0.028	10.7	N/A	Н
	North 1593 and time suithin 950 Mrs		$\frac{201}{2}$ and $\frac{100}{2}$ Mrs.	$d_{\rm r} = 100$	750	24 dr / 200 Mrs	Mac				

NOTE—523 entries within 250 Mpc. 201 entries at  $d_{\rm L} < 100$  Mpc, 458 at  $d_{\rm L} < 200$  Mpc.

Table 7. Jetted AGNs (Fermi-LAT 3FHL).

3FHL Name	Counterpart	Jetted AGN Type	R.A.	Dec	(m-M)	$\sigma(m-M)$	$d_{ m L}$	$\sigma(d_{ m L})/d_{ m L}$	$\Phi(0.01-1~{\rm TeV})$	$\sigma(\Phi)$	flag: in Aab+ '18?
			0	0	mag	mag	${ m Mpc}$		$10^{-10}~{\rm cm^{-2}~s^{-1}}$	$10^{-10}~{\rm cm}^{-2}~{\rm s}^{-1}$	(No/Yes)
J1325.5-4300	CenA	RDG	201.37	-43.02	27.83	0.03	3.68	0.014	1.54	0.25	Y
J1230.8 + 1223	M87	RDG	187.71	12.39	31.12	90.0	16.7	0.028	86.0	0.2	Y
J0322.6-3712e	FornaxA	RDG	50.67	-37.21	31.55	0.03	20.4	0.014	0.48	0.16	Z
J1346.2-6026	CenB	RDG	206.7	-60.41	33.71	0.29	55.2	0.134	0.64	0.18	Z
J0319.8 + 4130	NGC1275	RDG	49.95	41.51	34.46	0.08	78.0	0.037	14.17	29.0	Y
J0316.6 + 4120	IC310	RDG	49.18	41.32	34.6	0.19	83.2	0.087	0.43	0.13	Y
J0153.5 + 7115	TXS0149+710	BCU	28.36	71.25	35.07	0.15	103.3	0.069	0.44	0.12	Y
J0308.4 + 0408	NGC1218	RDG	47.11	4.11	35.48	0.13	124.7	90.0	0.54	0.16	Z
J1104.4 + 3812	Mkn421	BLL	166.1	38.21	35.63	0.12	133.7	0.055	59.35	1.38	¥
J1653.8 + 3945	Mkn501	BLL	253.47	39.76	35.91	0.1	152.1	0.046	19.17	0.76	Y
J0131.1 + 5546	TXS0128 + 554	BCU	22.81	55.75	36.06	0.1	162.9	0.046	0.33	0.12	Z
J1543.6 + 0452	CGCG050-083	BCU	235.89	4.87	36.26	0.09	178.6	0.041	0.69	0.17	Z
J0223.0-1119	1RXSJ022314.6-111741	BLL	35.81	-11.29	36.31	0.00	182.8	0.041	0.4	0.13	Z
J2347.0 + 5142	1ES2344+514	BLL	356.76	51.69	36.47	0.08	196.8	0.037	3.32	0.31	¥
J0816.4-1311	PMNJ0816-1311	BLL	124.11	-13.2	36.51	0.08	200.4	0.037	2.71	0.33	Z
J1136.5 + 7009	Mkn180	BLL	174.11	70.16	36.54	0.08	203.2	0.037	1.74	0.21	¥
J1959.9 + 6508	1ES1959+650	BLL	299.97	65.16	36.63	0.08	211.8	0.037	8.43	0.46	X
J1647.6 + 4950	SBS1646+499	BLL	251.9	49.83	36.64	0.08	212.8	0.037	0.48	0.12	Z
J1517.6-2422	APLibrae	BLL	229.42	-24.37	36.68	0.07	216.8	0.032	3.76	0.37	X
J0214.5 + 5145	TXS0210 + 515	BLL	33.55	51.77	36.7	0.11	218.8	0.051	0.42	0.12	¥
J1806.8 + 6950	3C371	BLL	271.71	69.82	36.77	0.07	225.9	0.032	1.3	0.18	Z
J1353.0-4413	PKS1349-439	BLL	208.24	-44.21	36.79	0.07	228.0	0.032	0.33	0.12	Z
J0200.1-4109	$1 \rm RXSJ 020021.0\text{-}410936$	BLL	30.08	-41.16	36.85	0.07	234.4	0.032	0.51	0.14	Z
J0627.1-3528	PKS0625-35	BLL	82.96	-35.49	36.89	0.07	238.8	0.032	1.81	0.26	¥
J2039.4 + 5219	1ES2037+521	BLL	309.85	52.33	36.89	0.07	238.8	0.032	0.58	0.15	Z
J0523.0-3627	PKS0521-36	BLL	80.76	-36.46	36.91	0.07	241.0	0.032	1.17	0.21	Z
	Note—26 entries w	NOTE—26 entries within 250 Mpc. 6 entries at $d_1$	ies at dr	$< 100  \rm{M}$	< 100 Mpc. 14 at dr <	$< 200  { m Mpc}$					

NOTE—26 entries within 250 Mpc. 6 entries at  $d_{\rm L}<100\,{\rm Mpc},\,14$  at  $d_{\rm L}<200\,{\rm Mpc}.$ 

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