

A large radio telescope dish is positioned on a grassy hill. The dish is a complex structure of metal frames and cables, with a large, curved reflector. The background shows a sunset sky with warm orange and yellow hues, and a dark, silhouetted horizon. The overall scene is serene and scientific.

Adaptive observation scheduling

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Outline

- **Why** should we apply Adaptive Observation Scheduling?
- Effects of the **atmospheric transmission** on our data
- Data quality classes (LIDAR)
- Plan for the next 3 years

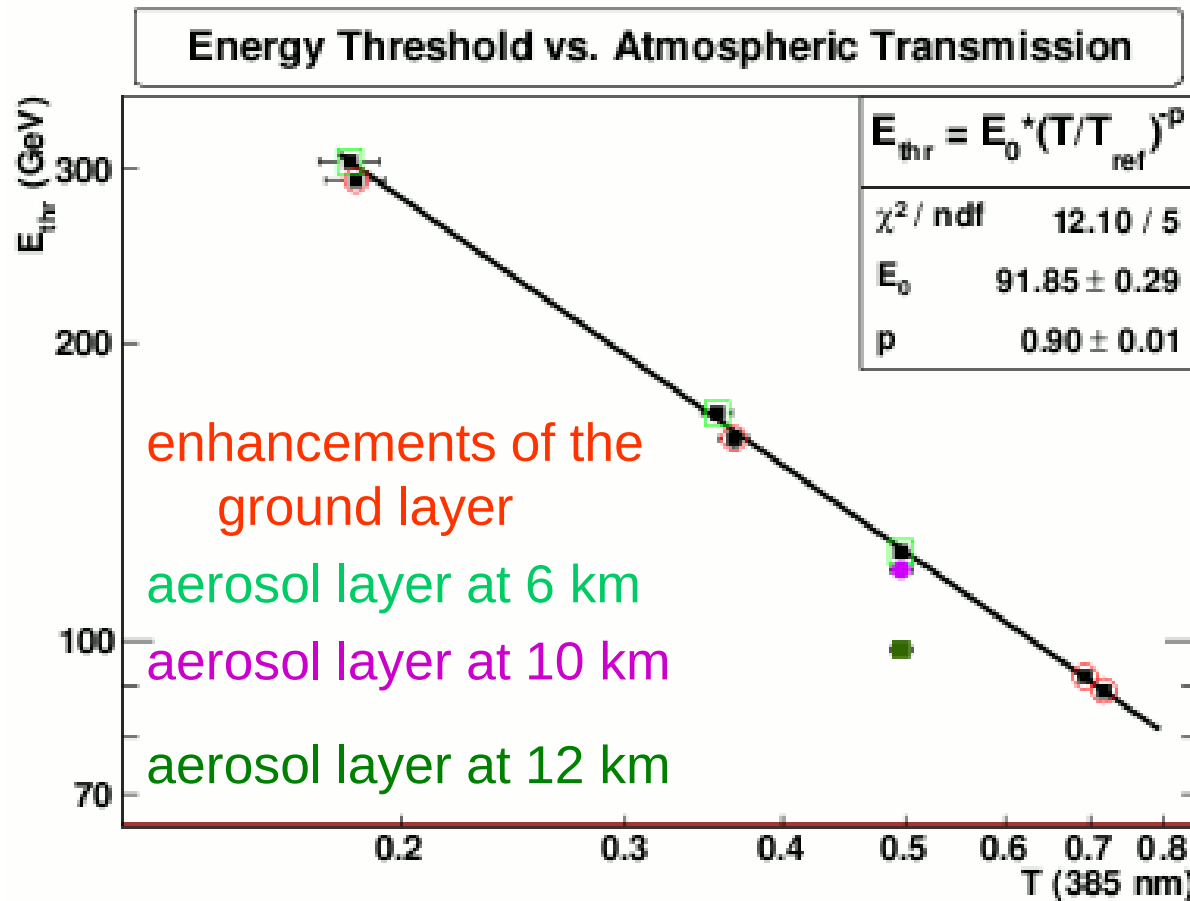
Motivation

- How much of the data observed by MAGIC is actually analyzed?
- What percentage of data is being rejected for different types of sources, due to the low atmospheric transmission?
- >20% of our observations can be corrected!
- We should optimize the usage of our observing time!

Different sources produce different spectra

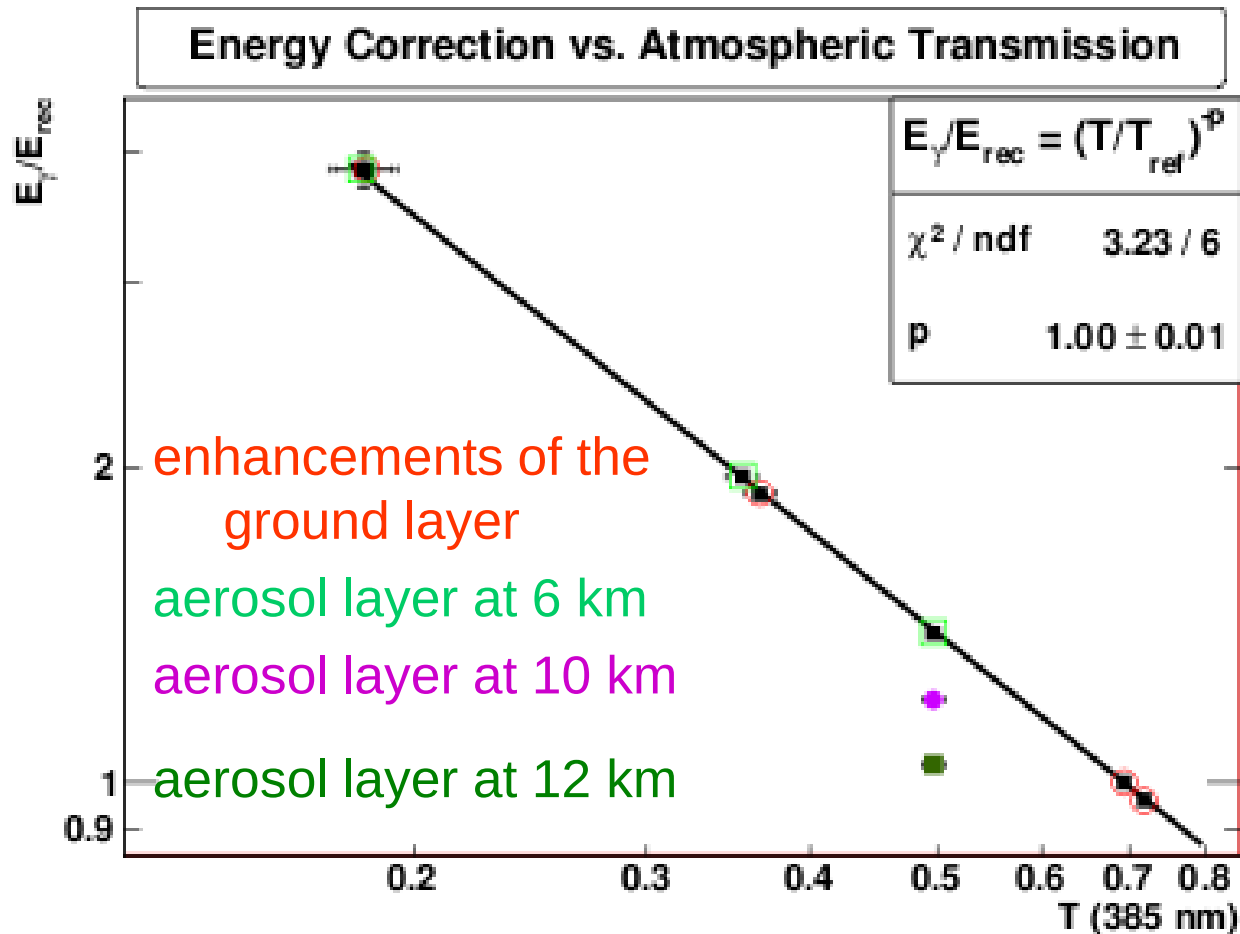
- “Hard” and “Soft” VHE gamma spectra
- EBL absorption (depending on the z)
- High-state (Flare) -> harder spectra
- Different energy thresholds needed for observations of different targets
- How does the atmospheric transmission change the observed spectra?

Energy Threshold



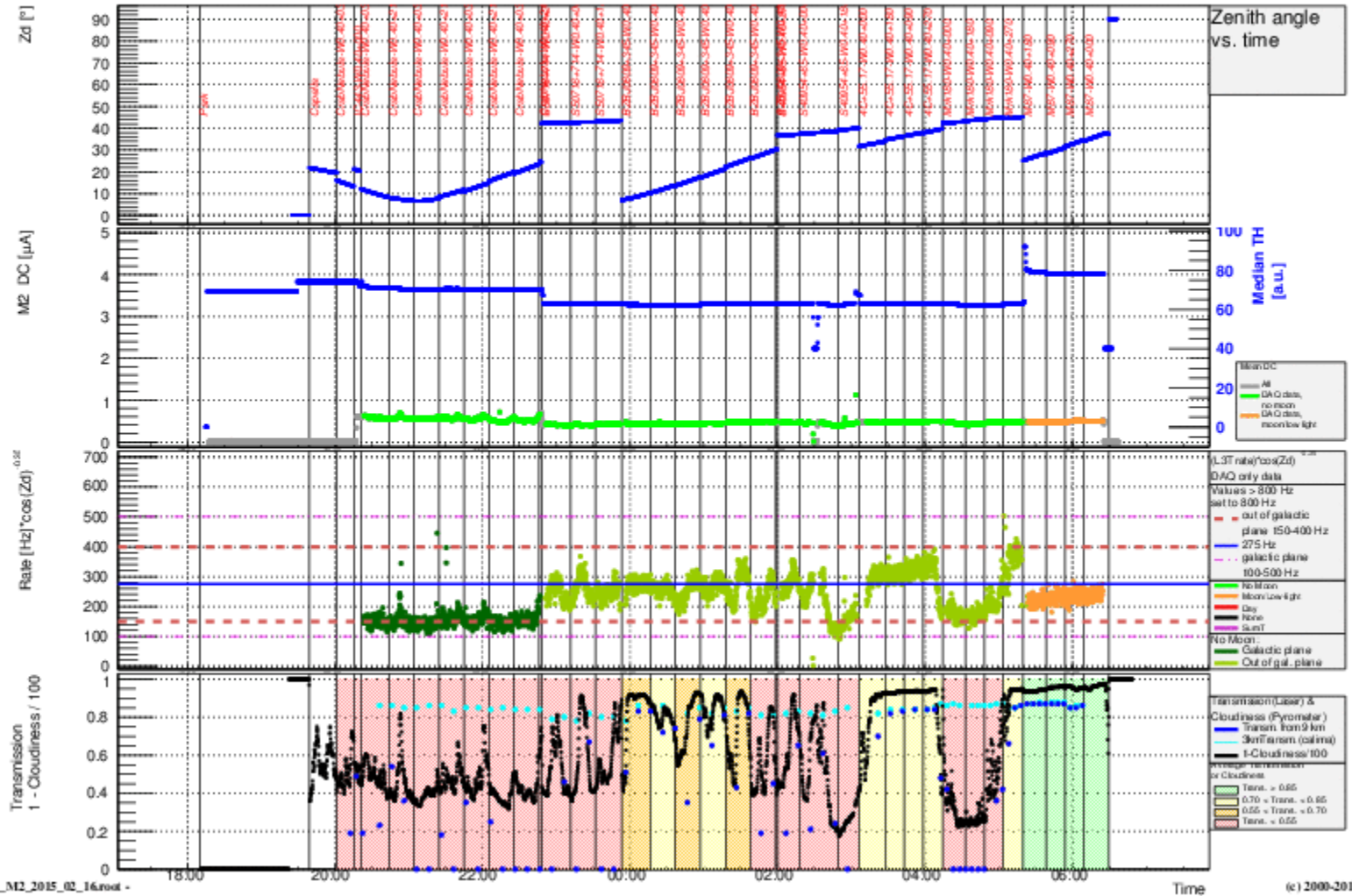
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Energy correction



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Variable atmosphere



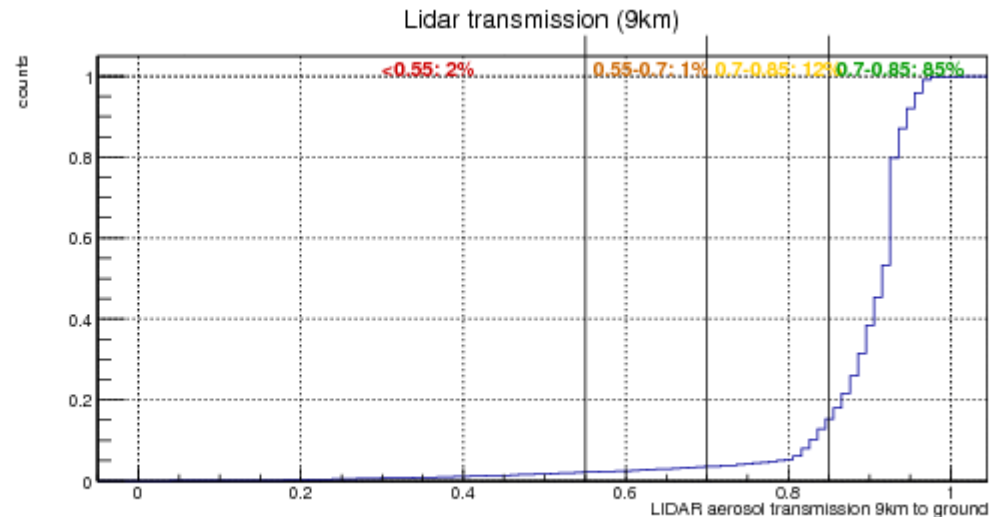
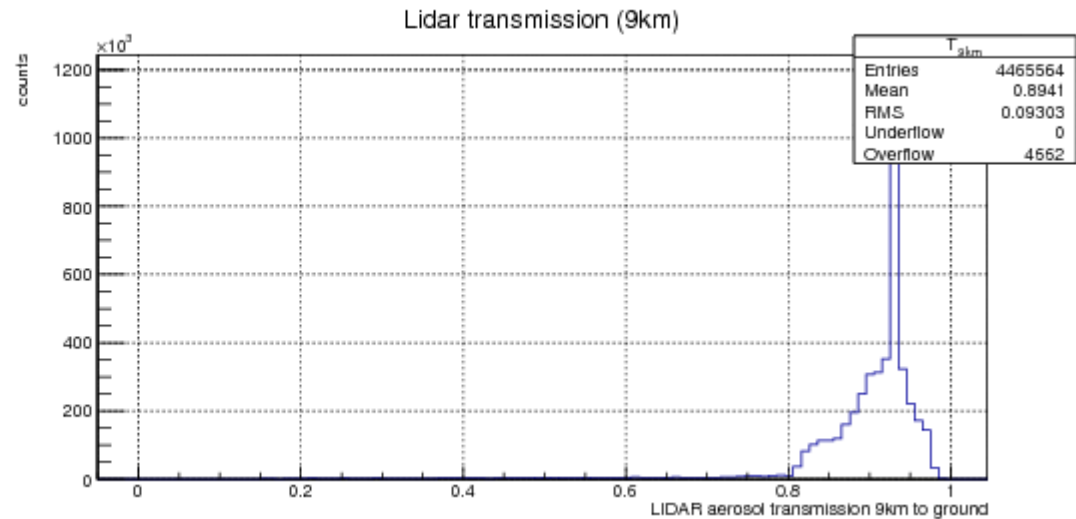
Data quality classes:

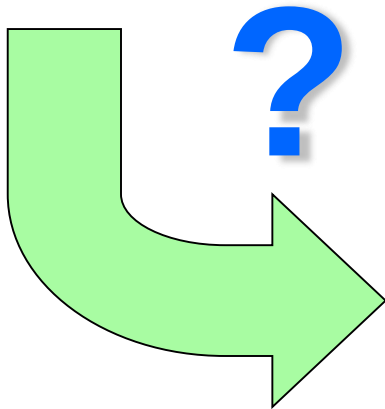
Preliminary MAGIC 2 year statistics

Data quality class	LIDAR T (9 km)	Without calima cut (% of time)	With calima cut
1. (no corrections)	1.00-0.85	69	85
2. (corrections)	0.85-0.70	17	9
3. (corrections)	0.70-0.55	6	2
4. (“garbage”)	0.55-0.00	8	4

Lidar statistics plot (calima cut)

By M. Gaug





Next 3 years

Cycle 10 (ongoing, 2015)

- Test data quality classes (evaluation of proposal times)
- LIDAR vs. Pyrometer relation
- Define Dark vs. Moon limit
- Implement shifter-user-friendly LIDAR flags for different data quality classes in the operations
- Take more “Crap Crab” data
- Simulations of source visibilities for different sources including probable transmission ranges
- **PI-s, Conveners, Schedulers: exchange the ideas on the E_th limits for different sources**

Next 3 years

Cycle 11 (2015-2016)

- Moderate application of adaptive scheduling - TESTING
- Crab in different data quality classes
- Observe Mrk421 and Mrk501 during moderate transmission? (hard sources, complementary in visibility to Crab)
- Shifters learn switching between the 2 schedules (for high vs. Low transmission)
- Schedulers learn producing adaptive schedules
- Software development, testing CTA scheduling software on MAGIC
- Final definition of data quality classes

Next 3 years

Cycle 12 (2016-2017)

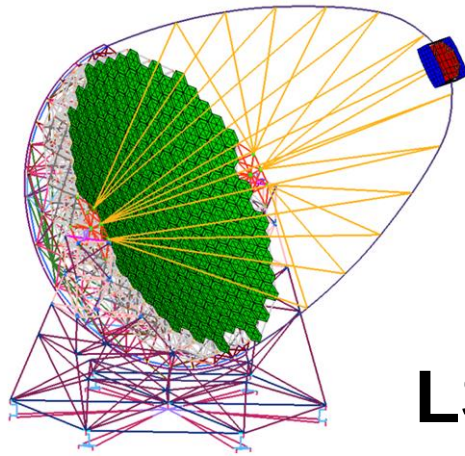
- Proposals submitted and graded for different data quality classes (E_{th} limit)
- Conveners recommend classes for different sources
- TAC decides
- Analyzers apply corrections
- Testing of the method in parallel on MAGIC and LST1 prototype (if ready)

Next 3 years

Cycle 13 (2017-2018)

- Proposals submitted and graded for different data quality classes (E_{thr} limit)
- Application on both MAGIC, and the LST1 prototype on La Palma
- Comparison of the two methods: transmission ranges (MAGIC) and continuous variables (CTA)
- Commission LST1, test and prepare for the CTA

MAGIC



LST



Conclusion

- We can recover most of the **30% accounted time** (otherwise removed during analysis)
- **Tight collaboration** among conveners, schedulers, analyzers and the ATCA experts needed for this task
 - => analyzers will finally have **more** time of **useful data** for the analysis
- Test and commission LST1 – prepare for the CTA
- **If we learn to understand how to deal with the atmospheric conditions, they become a less important factor!**

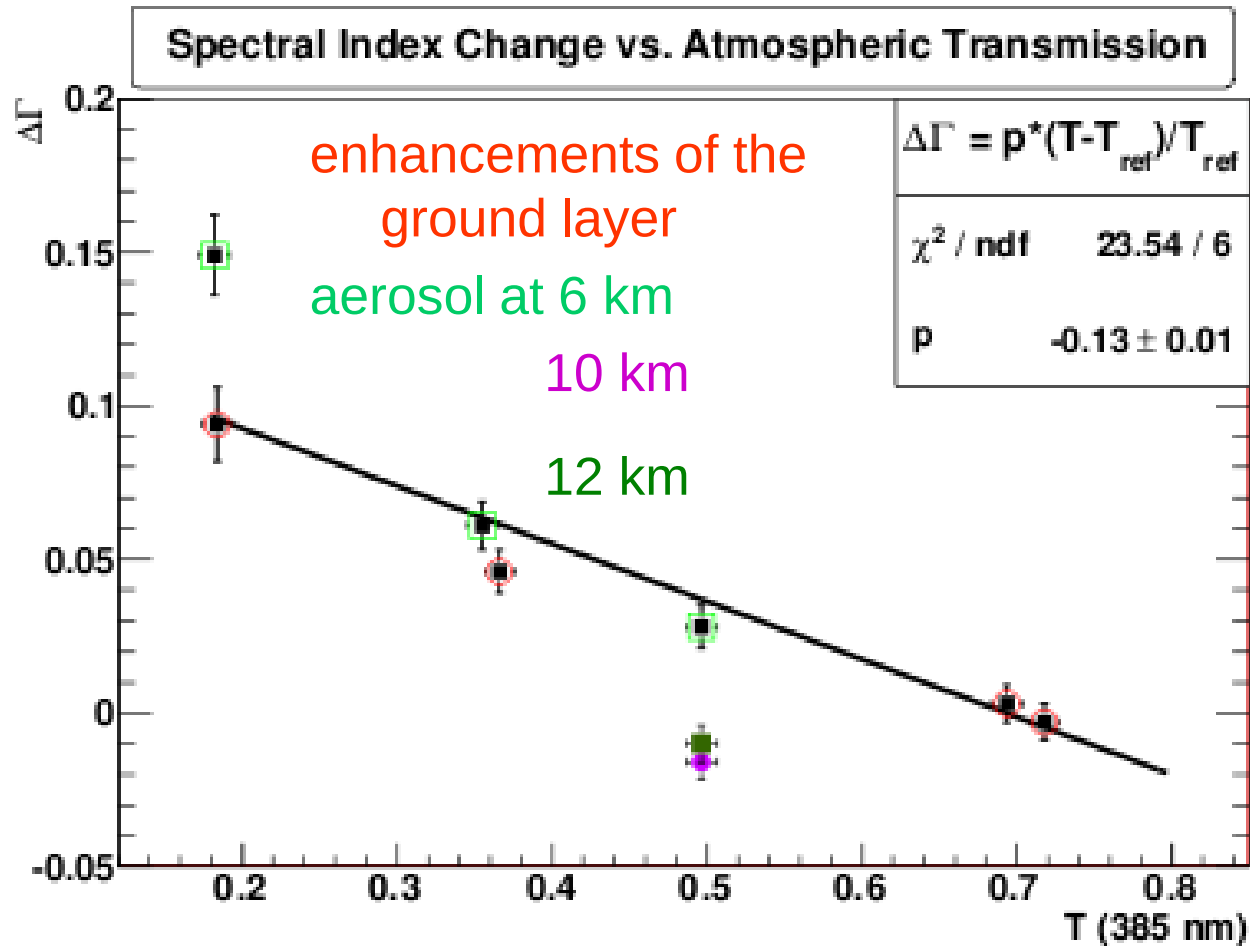


***“I love the clouds, the clouds that pass up there.
Up there, the wonderful clouds!”***

Charles Baudelaire: “The Stranger”

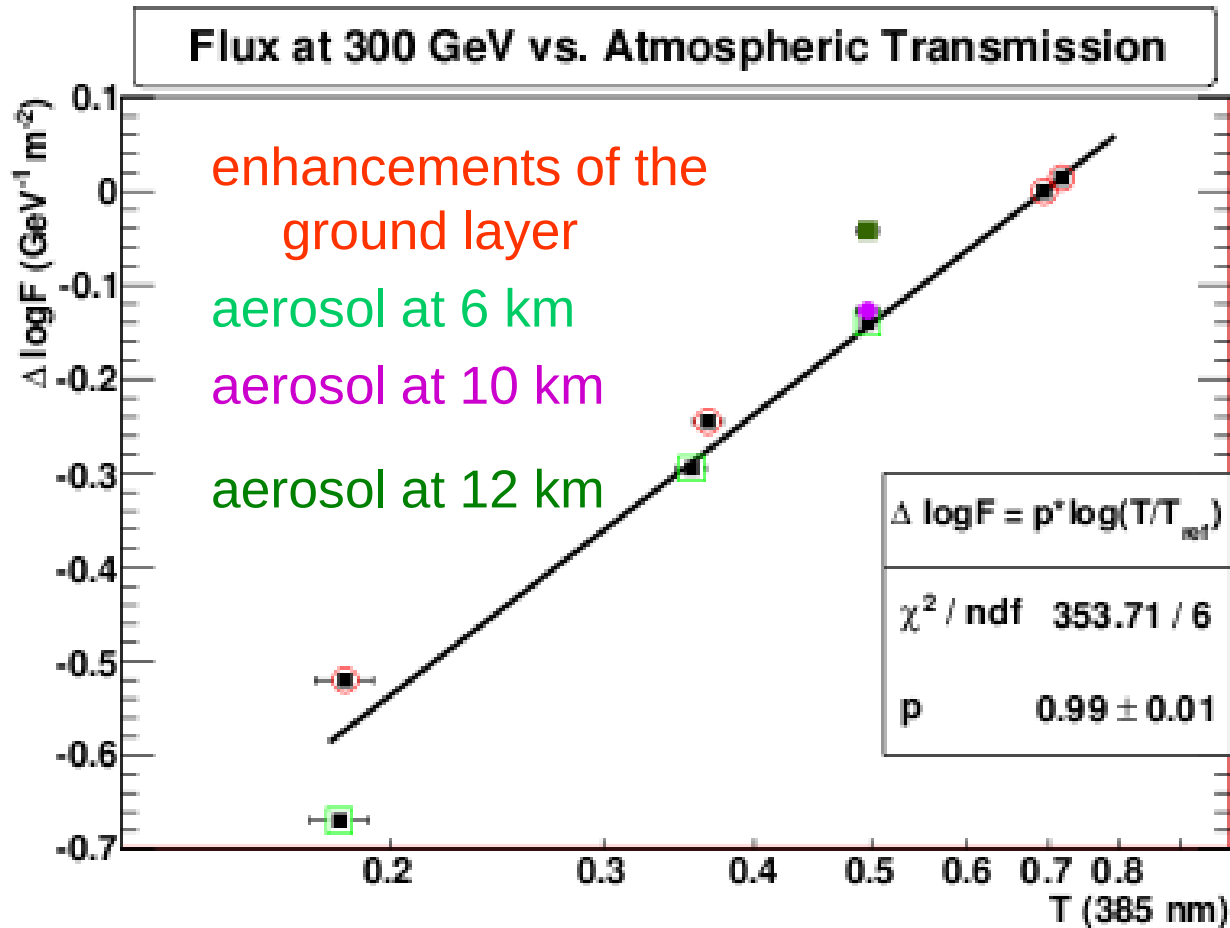
Backup slides

Spectral index change

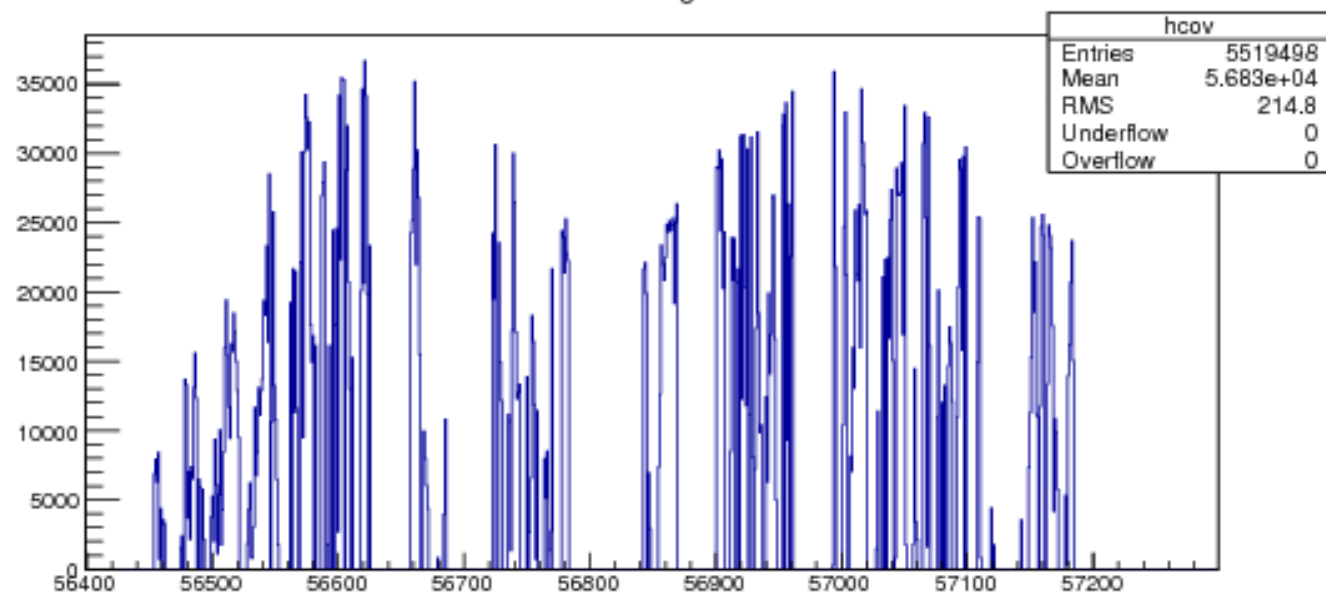


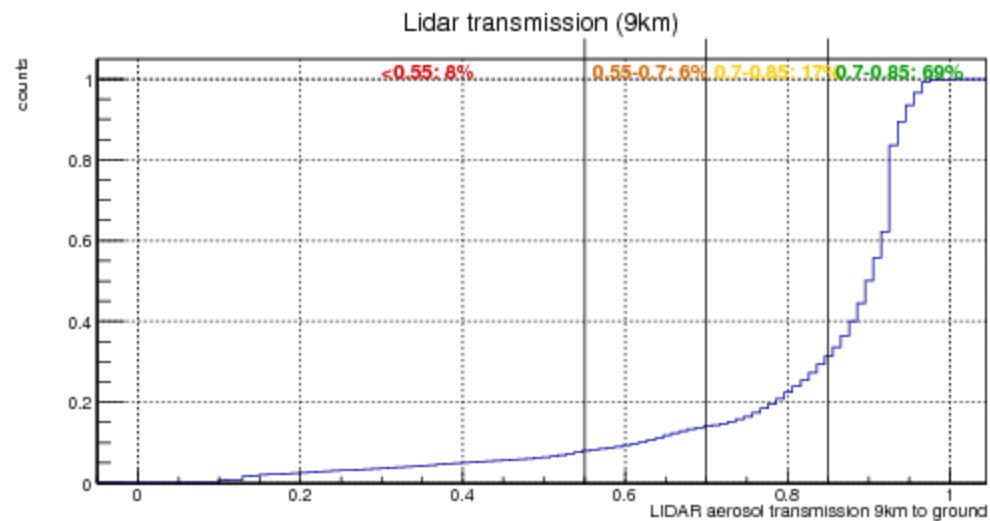
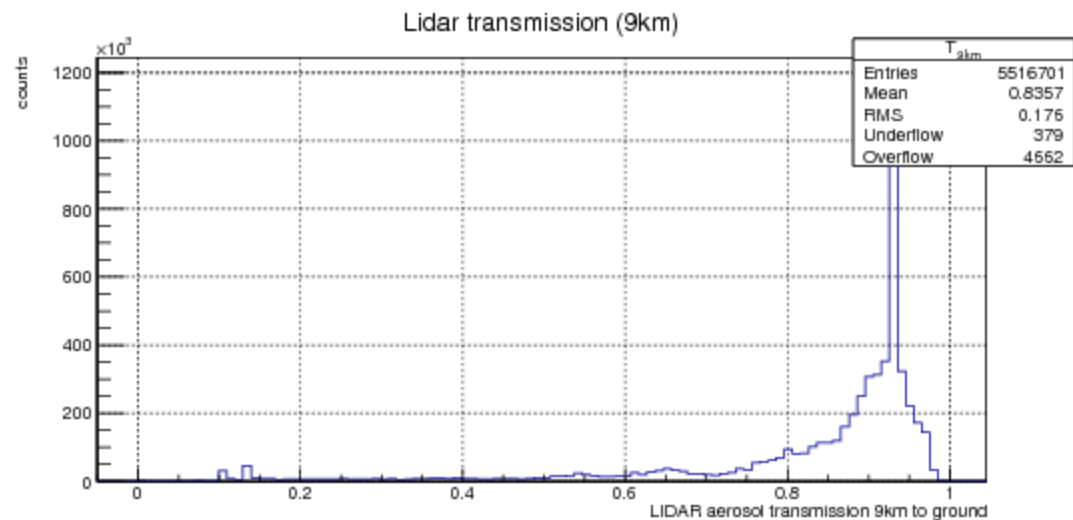
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Flux at 300 GeV



coverage





Fraction Of Good Time

