

## Preface



The 18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Very High Energy Cosmic Ray Interactions (ISVHECRI 2014), held at CERN, Geneva, 18 to 22 August 2014, attracted more than 120 participants.

ISVHECRI is a biennial conference series launched in 1980 at Nakhodka (Russia) dedicated to very high energy cosmic ray research. A specific aspect of the ISVHECRI series is to focus on high energy hadron collisions of cosmic ray particles and related topics including all directions of very, and extremely, high energy cosmic ray studies with air showers. These Symposia highlight the accelerator studies of hadronic interactions at very high energies and the consequent interpretation of the cosmic ray data as well as an understanding of hadronic interactions from cosmic ray data.

This series brings together cosmic ray physicists and scientists involved with high energy accelerators and colliding beam facilities, including the LHC and RHIC. The ISVHECRI meeting at CERN was an ideal opportunity for cosmic-ray and particle physicists engaged in accelerator experiments to directly discuss problems of mutual interest.

Topics covered in this Symposium:

- Recent accelerator data and results
- Hadronic interaction models and cross sections
- Cosmic Rays and Gamma Rays up to  $10^{18}$  eV
- Exotic phenomena
- Extensive air showers
- Neutrinos and Inclusive Muons.

The Symposium consisted of plenary sessions, including invited review talks, as well as highlight talks and posters selected from the submitted abstracts. John Ellis gave a Public Lecture entitled “The Higgs Boson” and during the week a movie “Touschek with AdA in Orsay” was shown.

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The complete Timetable and Speakers' slides can be found on the Symposium website <https://indico.cern.ch/event/287474/>.

We wish to thank the International Advisory Committee and all the speakers who made this a most successful meeting. Thanks are also due to Michelle Connor and Elena Gianolio for their administrative support for the Symposium.

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