

## SEARCH FOR COINCIDENT AIR SHOWERS OVER A VERY LARGE AREA

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We are performing the network observation of air showers ( $\bar{E}_0 \approx 10^{15}$  eV) since 1996 in Japan. Thirteen small-scale air shower arrays (stations) are scattered over a very large area of  $130,000 \text{ km}^2$  in order to find out large-scale correlations in primary cosmic rays. Using air shower data from six stations of the network, we have searched for pairs of coincident air showers, hypothetically induced by ultra-high-energy  $\gamma$ -rays from point sources or by secondary particles from interactions of extremely-high-energy cosmic rays with interstellar matter. Quite recently we find an intriguing event with a very small time difference of  $41 \mu\text{s}$  and an angular distance of 16 degrees, which is within the angular accuracy of our arrays. The significance and implication of this event will be discussed in the conference.