Radio Detection of UHE neutrinos









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A Search for What Ought to Be

- 1. A brief introduction to UHE neutrinos
- 2. Radio Detection of UHE neutrinos
- 3. ANtarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna (ANITA)
- 4. Flight # 2 improvements, results
- 5. Flight # 3, large-scale prospects



Recent Hints from IceCube



First cosmic neutrino events?

- High energy neutrino analysis
- 672.7 live days (2010-2012)
- 79 string and 86 string configurations
- Two events observed on a background (atmospheric muons and neutrinos) of 0.14
- Energy: (1-2) x 10¹⁵ eV

Neutrinos: The Ideal UHE Messenger



- Photons lost above 100 TeV (pair production on CMB & IR)
 - Protons and Nuclei suffer curvature induced by B fields
- But: we know there are sources up to $10^{20} \text{ eV}!!$

UHE Neutrino Detectors:

- Highest energy observation of extragalactic sources
 - Very distant sources
 - Deep into opaque sources

UHE Neutrinos: The GZK Process

GZK process: Cosmic ray protons (E> 10^{19.5} eV) interact with CMB photons



Radio Observation in dense media





1960's: Askaryan predicted that the resultant compact cascade shower (1962 JETP 14, 144; 1965 JETP 21, 658):

- would develop a local, relativistic net negative charge excess
- would be coherent ($P_{rf} \sim E^2$) for radio frequencies
- for high energy interactions, well above thermal noise:
 - detectable at a distance (via antennas)
 - polarized can tell where on the Cherenkov cone

Design for discovery of GZK v flux

- Huge Volume of solid, RF-transparent medium: Antarctic Ice Sheet
- Broadband antennas, low noise amplifiers and high-speed digitizers to observe them
- A very high vantage point, but not too high nor too far away
- The end result: ANITA (balloon altitude)

ANITA concept



However, there were skeptics

Askaryan Effect Observed at SLAC



7.5 tons of ice







The Faces Behind ANITA



University of California, Irvine Ohio State University University of Kansas

Washington University in St. Louis

University of Delaware

Washington University in St.Louis



Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology

University of California, Los Angeles University of Hawaii at Manoa National Taiwan University University College London Jet Propulsion Laboratory Stanford Linear Accelerator Center







University of

MĀNOA

lawai'i

Flight Payload Design

A radio "feedhorn array" for the Antarctica Continent





- Quad-ridged horn antennas provide superb impulse response & bandwidth (200-1200 MHz)
- Interferometry & beam gradiometry from multiple overlapped antenna measurements

Major Hurdles

• No commercial waveform recorder solution (power/resolution)

• 3σ thermal noise fluctuations occur at MHz rates (need ~2.3 σ)

• Without being able to record or trigger efficiently, there is no experiment

Strategy: Divide and Conquer



- Split signal: 1 path to trigger, 1 for digitizer
- Use multiple frequency bands for trigger
- Digitizer runs ONLY when triggered to save power



Switched Capacitor Array Sampling







Large Analog Bandwidth Recorder and Digitizer with Ordered Readout [LABRADOR]



LABRADOR performance



- 10 real bits (1.3V/1.3mV noise)
- Excellent linearity, noise
- Sampling rates up to 4 GSa/s with voltage overdrive

Bandwidth Evaluation



Frequency [GHz]

SURFv3 Board

(SURF = Sampling Unit for RF) (TURF = Trigger Unit for RF)



Differential GPS Antennas

Battery box

ANITA-1 pieces

"instrument paper" arXiv:0812.1920 [astro-ph]

Solar cells for NASA equipment

32 Quad-ridge horn antennas
 200 MHz to 1200 MHz

- 10 degree downward angle

8 low gain antennas to monitor payload-generated noise

ANITA electronics box

Solar panels for science mission

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Trigger/Readout information

- This example Event most likely West Antarctica camp noise
- Triggers:
 - Yellow, L1: impulse above thermal noise for an individual antenna; ~150 kHz
 - Green, L2: coincidence between adjacent L1 in the same ring; ~40kHz
 - Blue, L3: coincidence between L2 triggers in same phi sector; ~5Hz





Flight sensitivity snapshot



- •T anti-correlated to altitude:
 - higher altitude at higher sun angle
 - sun+GC higher → farther off main antenna beam

- ANITA sensitivity floor defined by thermal (kT) noise from ice + sky
- Thermal noise floor seen throughout most of flight—but punctuated by station & satellite noise
- Significant fraction (>40%) of time with pristine conditions

Quiet, but are we sensitive?



Validation data: borehole pulser



RF Impulses from borehole antenna at Williams field

Detected at payload out to 300-400 km, consistent with expected sensitivity

Allows trigger & pointing calibration

ANITA 1 Data

- 8.2 M hardware triggers
- Cuts optimized on 10% data set (blind analysis)
 - Require upcoming plane wave, impulsive broadband, isolated from camps and other events.



ANITA 1 Results

- 6 H-pol, 0 V-pol survive cuts
 - H-pol originate above ice sheet (not v candidates)
 - Fresnel transmission
 - Askaryan impulse generation
- In absence of observed v, a limit is set
- First result to constrain GZK v production models



99.99+% of triggers: incoherent thermal noise

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ANITA-2 Upgrades...

- More typical flight path
- Change L1 trigger
 - only trigger on V-pol signal,
 - 3 narrow-band channels + 1 full band
 - Move preamps to the antenna (-20K)
- New preamps (-20K)
- New front end filters (-20K)
- Faster CPU
- Redundant Differential GPS

Efficiency Comparison





New preamp



New front end filter



ANITA 2 Improvements

- "Dynamic Phi-Masking"
 - Active suppression of phi-sector readout during transit over noisy areas
 - McMurdo, South Pole, etc
 - Automatically activated
- 8 "nadir" antennas
 - One antenna shared w/ 2 phi sectors
- Only trigger on V-pol
- Improve T_{sys} by 40K
 - New Low-Noise Amplifier
- Overall energy threshold improvement:
 - Factor of ~1.7
 - ANITA gains as E_{th}^{-2} , so ~ factor of 3 event rate increase





Improved Timing Calibration



Pulse Phase interferometry A. Romero-Wolf (Hawaii)

Ultrawide-band Interferometry

- Interferometric technique applied by radio astronomers.
- -They use single narrow band frequency.
- -More interested in source imaging rather than point source direction reconstruction.



Produce Ultrawide-band Interferometric Images with ANITA



Mapping Waveforms to Interferometric Images



Mapping Time Delay Correlations



Interferometric Image



ANITA-2 Deep Field Pulser Event:



> 200,000 calibration pulser events from deep field for ANITA -II



After full calibration – 100's km



ANITA 2 Flight Path

- 2+ Orbits
- Time aloft: 30d 14h
 45m
- Compared with
 ANITA 1...
 - More time near
 E. Antarctica
 - Less time near
 SP
- Dynamic phi masking seemed to work as advertized...



Courtesy Kim Palladino
A. Vieregg (UCLA)



ANITA2 Results



Cosmic-Ray Candidate Event Locations



ANITA3 Upgrades



Not deployed

Deployed

2x new ASICs

New SURF & TURF



The last hurrah

- Rebuild "space flight" readout instrumentation (half a decade old technology)
- Threshold limited new trigger ASIC (RITC)
- New digitizer (LAB4) to go to longer waveforms
- "go for broke" ARA/ARIANNA/GNO is successor



Where we might be in a few years...

ANITA-III:

IceCube Auger Discovery of ~few GZK Discovery of bottom-up Discovery of a few GZK _ neutrinos? sources neutrinos? (or limit !!) Discovery of ~ few GZK _ neutrinos sun rotator SIP omni directional PV array ANITA directional two 8 horn PV array clusters ~7.5m charge controller and batteries SIP ANITA electronics 16 horn cluster 8 horn nadir cluster (folds in) landing frame ~5m

How to "go big" ?

• Salt

-Salt domes

- Ice
 - -In situ (RICE \rightarrow AURA \rightarrow IceRay)
 - -Ultra-Longer duration Balloon (EVA)
 - -Overflight (satellite)
- Silica sand
 - -Lunar regolith (GLUE)

Detector Energy Scales – the tonne



Detector Energy Scales – the kT



Detector Energy Scales – the MT

MEGA-DETECTORS

Thinking big: the next generation of detectors

The conference on the Next Generation of Nucleon Decay and Neutrino Detectors looked at the development of new, large-scale detectors. Alain de Bellefon reports.





Detailed schematic of a second-generation detector. Hyper-Kamiokande, a megatonne water Cherenkov detector, is proposed as a successor to Super-Kamiokande. It is located at Tochibora, a few kilometres from the Kamioka site.



How to "go big" ?

- Salt
 Salt domes
- Ice
 - -In situ (RICE \rightarrow AURA \rightarrow IceRay)
 - -Ultra-Longer duration Balloon (EVA)
 - -Overflight (satellite)
- Silica sand
 - -Lunar regolith (GLUE)

High Threshold

Askaryan Radio Array (ARA)

Askaryan Radio Array





South Pole? RICE started late '90's

RICE readout







Cluster Station



Askaryan Radio Array (ARA)

Askaryan Radio Array



Neutrino Flavor/Current ID



- Charged/neutral current & flavor ID possible on subset of SalSA events
- At least 20% of GZK CC events will get first order flavor ID
- Detailed initial studies looks very promising [BLAB ASIC 64us deep version of LABRADOR makes possible [NIM A591 (2008) 534]

Summary

Radio Detection good bet to "discover" GZK neutrinos:

- ANITA first experiment to probe the "guaranteed" GZK flux
 - Many lessons from first flight
 - Very successful flight 2008/2009 Antarctic campaign
 - How to go larger?
- ANITA technology evolution \rightarrow enables low-cost, extensive terrestrial arrays:
 - ARA first stations in operation
 - ARIANNA (Ross Ice Shelf)
 - GNO (Greenland Ice Shelf)



GZK nu's \rightarrow the hunt continues

Back-up slides



Diode detector Response



Cosmogenic Neutrinos

- 10¹⁸ eV neutrinos predicted by many acceleration and interaction processes at source locations
 - Observations, interaction physics suggest ultra-high energy cosmic rays will interact with the CMB to produce neutrinos
- Berezinsky & Zatsepin, 1970, REQUIRE 10¹⁸ eV neutrinos
 - Lack of neutrinos could mean
 - UHECRs are not hadrons (?!)
 - Lorentz invariance wrong (!!)
 - New physics...
- Expected fluxes are small
 - 1 neutrino per km² per week!



A great idea that took a while to catch on

- 1962: G. Askaryan predicts coherent radio Cherenkov from particle showers in solid dielectrics
 - His applications? Ultra-high energy cosmic rays & neutrinos
- Mid-60's: Jelley & collaborators see radio impulses from high energy cosmic ray air showers
 - - from geo-sychrotron emission, NOT radio Cherenkov
 - Renewed interest: LOPES/Codelema
- 1970-2000: Askaryan's hypothesis remained unconfirmed
- 2000-2001: Argonne & SLAC beamtests confirm strong radio Cherenkov from showers in silica sand
- Salt (2004) & ice (2006) also tested, all confirmed



Saltzberg, et al PRL 2001



Gorham, et al PRD 2004

ANITA 1 Sensitivity

- Effective livetime: 17.3 days
- False color map in celestial coordinates (RA, Dec)
 - For 10²⁰ eV neutrinos



Validation at SLAC

~7.5 metric tons ice



Gorham et al., PRL 99, 171101 (2007) see also: PRE 62, 8590 (2000), PRL 86, 2802 (2001), PRD 72, 023002 (2005) PRD 74, 043002 (2006)



Askaryan Effect in the Lab



Askaryan Effect at SLAC



Amplitude expected

- 100% linearly polarized
- Cherenkov angle

ARA Readout Electronics



- Uplink bandwidth (~1Mbit/s [wireless])
 - First (test station) this season
 - 1 detector station each of next 2 seasons after (building more)

Ice Radio Sampler (IRS) Specifications

32768	samples/chan (16-32us trig latency)
8	channels/IRS ASIC
8	Trigger channels
~9	bits resolution (12-bits logging)
64	samples convert window (~32-64ns)
1-2	GSa/s
1	word (RAM) chan, sample readout
16	us to read all samples
100's	Hz sustained readout (multibuffer)

- Strictly only 5 channels necessary
 - 4x antenna, 1x reference channels
 - Could interleave for twice depth, or multiple reference channels



ANITA-1 Data



Data:





Sampling Unit for RF (SURF) board



ANITA-2 Data Antenna Noise Temperature (includes ice temp)





Askaryan in Salt: SLAC T460



RF Coherence vs. energy & frequency



- Much wider energy range covered than previously: 1PeV up to 10 EeV
- Coherence (quadratic rise of pulse power with shower energy) observed over 8 orders of magnitude in radio pulse power
- Differs from actual EeV showers only in leading interactions == > radio emission almost unaffected

Shower profile observed by radio (~2GHz)



- Measured pulse field strengths follow shower profile very closely
- Charge excess also closely correlated to shower profile (EGS simulation)
- Polarization completely consistent with Cherenkov—can track particle source
Askaryan Signature



- Significant signal power at large frequencies
- Strong linear polarization (near 100%)

Trigger/Digitizer Specifications

ANITA trigger & digitizer uses a proven dual-track



- Split signal: 1 path to trigger, 1 for digitizer
- Use multiple frequency bands for trigger
- Digitizer runs ONLY when triggered to save power

	parameter	quantity	comments
Sampling	# of RF channels	80	32 top; 32 bottom; 8 monitor; 8 veto
	Sampling rate	2.6 GSa/s	> Nyquist
	Sample resolution	> 9 bits	3 bits noise + dynamic range
	Samples per window	260	100ns time window
	# of Sample buffers	4	multi-hit + extended window
	Power/channel	< 1W	excluding LNA, triggering
Trigger	# of Trigger bands	4	0.2-0.4; 0.4-0.65; 0.65-0.88; 0.88-1.2GHz
	# of Trigger channels	8	per antenna (4bands x RCP,LCP)
	Trigger threshold	<= 2.3 ₀	operation down to ~300K thermal noise
	Accidental trigger rate	< 5Hz	at target Trigger threshold
	Level2 Trigger latency	~50ns	to issue Hold signal

Particle Physics: Energy Frontier

- GZK v spectrum is an energyfrontier beam:
 - up to 300 TeV center of momentum particle physics
 - Search for large extra dimensions and micro-black-hole production at scales beyond reach of LHC
 - \Box v Lorentz factors of $\gamma = 10^{18-21}$



Particle Physics: Neutrinos

- GZK neutrinos are the "longest baseline" neutrino experiment:
 - Longest L/E (proper time) for: sterile v admixtures & anomalous v decays
 - SUN: L/E ~ 30 m/eV
 - GZK: L/E ~ 10^9 m/eV
- Measured flavor ratios of ν_e:ν_µ:ν_τ can identify nonstandard physics at source





Neutrino decay leaves a strong imprint on flavor ratios at Earth

Cherenkov polarization tracking



Cherenkov radiation predictions:

- 100% linearly polarized
- plane of polarization aligned with plane containing Poynting vector S and particle/cascade velocity U

- Radio Cherenkov:
 polarization measurements
 are straightforward
- Two antennas at different parts of cone:
 - Will measure different projected plane of E, S
 - Intersection of these planes defines shower track

Polarization tracking



 Measured with dual-polarization embedded bowtie antenna array in salt

9-FEB-11

G. Varner -- Radio Detection of UHE neutrinos -- High 1, Korea

ANITA as a neutrino telescope







- Pulse-phase interferometer (150ps timing) gives intrinsic resolution of <1° elevation by ~1° azimuth for arrival direction of radio pulse
- Neutrino direction constrained to ~<2° in elevation by earth absorption, and by ~3-5° in azimuth by

G. Varner -- Radipolarization and Generations -- High 1, Korea

9-FEB-11

Neutrinos: The only known messengers at PeV energies and above



- Photons lost above 30 TeV: pair production on IR & μwave background
- Charged particles: scattered by B-fields or GZK process at all energies
- Sources extend to <u>10⁹ TeV</u> !
- => Study of the highest energy processes and particles throughout the universe *requires* PeV-ZeV neutrino detectors
- To guarantee EeV neutrino detection, design for the GZK neutrino flux

GZK neutrino sensitivity details, 1 yr



- 2 independent MC calculations: UCLA & UH
- UCLA: Saltzberg 2002 SPIE; also 2005 Nobel symposium
 - Simplified 10x10 strings, 10 antenna nodes per string
 - Did not truncate dome, so high energies extended
- UH: Gorham et al. PRD 2005
 - 12x12 strings, 12 nodes with realistic trigger sims
 - Even 4-string array sees GZK events in 1 year!

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Goldstone Lunar Ultra-high energy neutrino Experiment (GLUE)

• PRL 93:041101 (2004) limits published





Greenland Ice



• PRD 69:0133008 (2004)

