Cosmic-ray physics with IceCube

IceTop

the surface component of IceCube

Outline

- Motivation: to understand
 - the end of the galactic cosmic-ray spectrum
 - the transition to extra-galactic cosmic rays
- Concept:
 - composition vs energy reflects sources
- Status:
 - 2005: data with 10^4 m^2 on surface & 1 string
 - 2006: running with $10^5 \text{ m}^2 \& 9 \text{ strings}$
- Plan: 10⁶ m² & 80 strings in 5 years



B. Peters on the knee and ankle



Rigidity-dependence

- Acceleration, propagation
 - depend on B: $r_{gyro} = R/B$
 - Rigidity, R = E/Ze
 - $E_c(Z) \sim Z R_c$
- r_{SNR} ~ parsec
 - $\rightarrow E_{max} \sim Z * 10^{15} \, eV$
 - − 1 ≤ Z ≤ 30 (p to Fe)
- Slope change should occur within factor of 30 in energy
- With characteristic pattern of increasing A
- Problem: continuation of smooth spectrum to EeV





Composition inferred from $N_{\mu} - N_{e}$ data





Figure 7. Result of the unfolding procedure based on QGSJET 01.

Figure 8. Result of the unfolding procedure based on SIBYLL 2.1.

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Where is transition to extragalactic CR?





Models of galactic particles, E > knee

- Fine-tuning problem:
 - continuity of spectrum over factor 300 of energy implies relation between acceleration mechanisms
- Axford:
 - reacceleration by multiple SNR
- Jokipii & Morfill, Völk:
 - reacceleration by shocks in galactic wind (termination shock or CIRs)
- Erlykin & Wolfendale:
 - Local source at knee on top of smooth galactic spectrum
- Need measurements of composition to E > 10¹⁷ eV



Völk & Zirakashvili, 28th ICRC p. 2031



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New experiments for knee to ankle

- KASCADE-Grande (e / μ)
- Tunka (air Cherenkov)
- TALE (hybrid)
- LOPES (radio)
- IceCube (e / energetic μ)
 - Primary E to ~ 10^{17} eV now
 - to $\sim 10^{18}$ eV when complete





IceCube **Digital Optical Module**





33 cm Benthosphere

Science with IceCube/IceTop

- IceCube neutrino astronomy
 - Looks for neutrinos from interesting objects like accreting black holes
- IceTop makes IceCube a 3D air shower array
 - Origin of high-energy cosmic rays
 - Controls background for neutrinos
- Ratio surface/deep signal sensitive to nuclear composition of primary cosmic rays

Calibration - pointing $-\Delta\theta/\theta$ - E deposition Tag background -Reconstruction -rejection • Cosmic-rays -3 x 10¹⁴ - 10¹⁸ eV -'knee' to 'ankle' - galactic to extragalactic?





Muon / electron ratio reflects nuclear composition of primaries



November 27, 2005

∕ ~ 5-10 TeV

IceTop station

- **Two Ice Tanks** 2.7 m² x 0.9 m deep (scaled-down verticen of Haverah, Auger)
- Integrated with IceCube: same hardware, software /
- Coincidence between tanks = potential air shower
- Local coincidence with no hit at neighboring station with the station of the st
- Signal in single tank = potential muon
- Significant area for horizontal muons
- Low Gain/High Gain operation to achieve dynamic range
- Two DOMs/tank gives redundancy against failure of any single DOM because only 1 low-gain detector is needed per station



DOMs in IceTop







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Filling tanks (Dec 2005)

Use filtered water from drill system



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Daan Hubert 8-dec-04?

Station 39



Steffen-CRW_0361 19-jan-05







04/05 deployment season

4 IceTop Stations deployed in December 2004 1st IceCube string deployed on Jan 29 2005



Waveforms in a 4-fold shower



Calibration with muons



How to interpret waveforms?



Fluctuations in tank response



Fig. 38. Left panel: Fluctuations in tank response to signals measured by comparing the response of two DOMs in the same tank to air showers. Right panel: Shower-front fluctuations measured by comparing resonse of two tanks at the same station to air showers.

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Shower reconstruction with IceTop4

Zenith

Azimuth



String21-IceTop coincidences



Spectrum of visible energy



IceTop in 2006





Now running in IceTop: 16 stations, 32 tanks, 64 DOMs





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run 86764 event 1790

Expectations for IceTop16



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IceCube Collaboration



Alabama University, USA

University of Alaska, Anchorage, USA

Bartol Research Institute, Delaware, USA

Pennsylvania State University, USA

UC Berkeley, USA

UC Irvine, USA

Clark-Atlanta University, USA

University of Maryland, USA

IAS, Princeton, USA Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

University of Wisconsin, River Falls, USA Université de Gent, Belgium

LBNL, Berkeley, USA Université de Mons-Hainaut, Belgium

University of Kansas, USA Universität Mainz, Germany SouthErk Universität, a20 & M College, Baton Rouge, Usigaboldt Universität, Germany



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Plan to complete IceCube in 2011



Summary

- First year's operation (1 string, 8 tanks)
 - Timing accuracy maintained to 3 ns over 2.5 km
 - Demonstrates IceCube will work as planned
- 2006: 9 strings, 16 stations in operation
 - Hardware running since beginning of February
 - Verification and Commissioning in progress
- Plan for completion in five more years
- IceCube with IceTop:
 - Neutrino telescope & 3D air shower array
 - Coincident events from 300 TeV to 1 EeV