Astrofisica Nucleare e Subnucleare TeV Astrophysics

The opacity of the atmosphere





Cerenkov and Extensive air shower (EAS) gamma ray telescope concepts



IACT & EAS experiments



- Cherenkov experiments consist of almost-optical telescopes devoted to detect Cherenkov light.
- EAS (Extensive Air Shower) experiments are huge arrays or carpets of particle detectors.
- Cherenkov experiments have lower energy thresholds, but also a lower duty-cycle as well as a smaller field of view.

Complementary Capabilities

	Ground-based		Space-based
Parameter	ACT	EAS	Pair
angular resolution	good	fair	good
duty cycle	low	high	high
area	large	large	small
field of view	small	large	large & can repoint
energy resolution	good	fair	good w/ smaller systematic uncertainties

The next generation of ground-based and space-based facilities are well matched!

EM Air Showers

Air shower development

• Pair production $I = I_0 e^{-x/\lambda}$

 λ = mean free path

• Bremsstrahlung $E = E_0 e^{-x/\chi_0}$

 $\chi_0 = radiation length$

In the ultra-relativistic limit $\lambda \sim \chi_0 = 36.5 \text{ g/cm}^2$ in air

 $R = \chi_0 \ln 2 \implies$ After a distance n R: $N_{e,\gamma} = 2^n \qquad E_{e,\gamma} \sim E_{pr} / 2^n$

EM Air Showers

The process continues until the electrons energy is $E > E_c$

 $E_c = critical energy = 83 \text{ MeV}$ in air

Number of particles at the shower maximum: $N_{max} = 2^n = E_{pr} / E_c$ Depth of the maximum: $n_{max} = \ln (E_{pr} / E_c) / \ln 2$

 $\Rightarrow X_{max} = n R = n \chi_0 \ln 2 = \chi_0 \ln (E_{pr} / E_c)$ Example: $E_{pr} = 1 \text{ TeV}$ $\Rightarrow X_{max} = 340 \text{ g} / \text{cm}^2 \sim 8 \text{ Km}$



CR interactions



The importance of MC

- CORSIKA (COsmic Ray SImulations for KAscade) is a program for detailed simulation of extensive air showers initiated by high energy cosmic ray particles. Protons, light nuclei up to iron, photons, and many other particles may be treated as primaries.
- The particles are tracked through the atmosphere until they undergo reactions with the air nuclei or in the case of instable secondaries decay.
- The hadronic interactions at high energies may be described by six reaction models alternatively: The VENUS, QGSJET, and DPMJET models are based on the Gribov-Regge theory, while SIBYLL is a minijet model. HDPM is inspired by findings of the Dual Parton Model and tries to reproduce relevant kinematical distributions being measured at colliders. The neXus model extends far above a simple combination of QGSJET and VENUS routines.
- Hadronic interactions at lower energies are described either by the GHEISHA interaction routines, by a link to FLUKA, or by the UrQMD model.
- In particle decays all decay branches down to the 1 % level are taken into account.
- For electromagnetic interactions a taylor made version of the shower program EGS4 or the analytical NKG formulas may be used.
- Options for the generation of Cherenkov radiation and neutrinos exist.
- CORSIKA may be used up to and beyond the highest energies of 100 EeV.
- http://www-ik.fzk.de/corsika/ → https://www.iap.kit.edu/corsika/

Shower Images







Development of vertical 1-TeV proton and γ-ray shower

Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes





The principle:

A telescope placed inside the (huge) Cherenkov light pool can obtain an image of the development of the shower above the bkg fluctuations

Observation tecnique







IACT image reconstruction

- Primary γ parameters reconstruction by particle shower image analysis
- Different primary particles give different image shapes
- Possible γ-hadron separation
- Reconstructed parameters of primary γ: energy, direction, arrival time
- Signal estimation
- Spectrum calculation
- Lightcurve



Hillas parameters



Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes



Typical γ shower images simulated with different energy and different impact parameter



Geometric relations between a shower and the Cherenkov Telescope optics



HESS



HESS-II



The MAGIC Telescope

Major Atmospheric Gamma Imaging Cherenkov telescope

Located at the Roque de los Muchachos on La Palma, Canary Islands (Spain) at -2200 m asl





Largest imaging Cherenkov telescope for γ -ray astronomy

Designed for:

- Low energy threshold Eth~50 GeV
- Fast repositioning in < 30 s

Construction 2001-2003 Inauguration 10/10/2003 Commissioning 2004 Cycle I 2005-2006



MAGIC



Key technological elements for MAGIC



The trigger architecture

The trigger is split into two stages: level 1 (L1) and level 2 (L2). The L1 is a fast coincidence device (2-5 ns) with simple patterns (n-next-neighbor logic) while L2 is slower (50-150 ns) but can do a more sophisticated patter recognition.





MAGIC telescopes



MAGIC – II

+ The telescope(s)



Performance

- Energy threshold ~50 GeV (~ 25 GeV with a special trigger)
- FOV 3.5deg
- Energy Resolution ~16% (E>300 GeV)
- Angular Resolution ~0.07deg (E>300 GeV)
- Colin, ICRC 2009 Sensitivity (5 σ in 50 hours) ~0.8% Crab Nebula flux (> 250 GeV)

Michele Doro - From MAGIC to MAGIC stereo - Ricap 2011

Design

- Solar power-plant design
- 17-m diameter .
- F/D=1
- ~500kg camera
- Signal digitization off-telescope
- 64 tons total moving weight
- Fast-movement (GRBs): 20 sec ptp

Several "firsts"

- Worldwide largest mirror dish.
- Lightweight CFRP tubes for structure
- Diamond milled light weight allaluminum sandwich mirrors
- Active mirror control
- Low gain hemispherical PMTs with diffuse lacquer coating
- Transmission over 160 m by optical
- 2 GHz FADCs

MD, ICAPTT 2008

MAGIC – II



Michele Doro - From MAGIC to MAGIC stereo - Ricap 2011

VERITAS



Air Shower Arrays



Reconstruction of the γ direction with the particles arrival times

Large field of view: ~ π sr Duty cycle ~ 100% Gamma-hadrons discrimination: μ-poor showers

Longitudinal development of the electron component of photon initiated shower (with electron threshold energy of 5 MeV and fluctuations superimposed)







EAS technique

Charged particles produce Cherenkov photons in water ~1400 times more Cherenkov photons than in air per unit length track of charged particle Cherenkov cone in water ~41° (in air: less than 1°)

Uniform sky view with an array of PMTs

Direction reconstruction through PMTs signal times


Wide Angle Telescopes

Tibet AS-γ– Air Shower Array ARGO – Carpet array with RPC MILAGRO – Water Cherenkov

Advantage: Wide Angle 0.5π~1π Non-bias observation

Cons: Moderate sensitivity $\sim 5\sigma/yr^{1/2}$ for Crab











ARGO

Area 5.200 m² (full coverage) (10.000 m² with guard ring) Field of view ~ 1 sr E = 50 GeV - 50 TeVLocation: Tibet 4300m alt.





17400 Pads 56 by 60 cm² each of Resistive Plate Chamber (RPC).

Each pad subdivided in pick-up strips 6 cm wide for the space pattern inside the pad. The CLUSTER is made of 12 RPCs Pads



TIBET air shower array





Our air shower array consists of 697 scintillation counters which are placed at a lattice with 7.5 m spacing and 36 scintillation counters which are placed at a lattice with 15 m spacing. Each counter has a plate of plastic scintillator, 0.5 m² in area and 3 cm in thickness, equipped with a 2-inch-in-diameter photomultiplier tube (PMT). The time and charge information of each PMT hit by an air shower event is recorded to determine its direction and energy. The detection threshold energy is approximately 3 TeV, which is the lowest one achieved by an air shower array in the world.

MILAGRO

Cherenkov in water, Arizona



Crab: $\sim 5\sigma$ in 100 days Median energy ~ 20 TeV







Pico de Orizaba, altitude 4100 m, latitude 18° 59' N Two hours drive from Puebla, four from México City Site of Large Millimeter Telescope (existing infrastructure)



Sensitivity to Point Sources

- Long integration times lead to excellent sensitivity at highest energies (> few TeV)
- 5σ sensitivity to: 10 Crab in 3 min 1 Crab in 5 hr
 0.1 Crab in ¹/₃ year



Around 15x the sensitivity of Milagro





HAWC

The High-Altitude Water Cherenkov Gamma-Ray Observatory

Home News Science Observatory Details Publications Collaboration Contact Support Español

Latest News



http://www.hawc-observatory.org



• Milagro γ-Ray Observatory

LHAASO



LHAASO



The LHAASO experiment

The Large High Altitude Air Shower Observatory (LHAASO) project is a new generation all-sky instrument to investigate the '*cosmic ray connection*' through a combined study of cosmic rays and gamma-rays in the wide energy range 10¹¹ -- 10¹⁷ eV.

The first phase of LHAASO will consist of the following major components:

- 1 km² array (LHAASO-KM2A), including 5635 scintillator detectors, with 15 m spacing, for electromagnetic particle detection.
- An overlapping 1 km² array of 1221, 36 m² underground water Cherenkov tanks, with 30 m spacing, for muon detection (total sensitive area <u>40,000 m²</u>).
- A close-packed, surface water Cherenkov detector facility with a total area of 90,000 m² (LHAASO-WCDA), four times that of HAWC.
- 24 wide field-of-view air Cherenkov (and fluorescence) telescopes (LHAASO-WFCTA).
- 452 close-packed burst detectors, located near the centre of the array, for detection of high energy secondary particles in the shower core region (LHAASO-SCDA).

LHAASO main components



G. Di Sciascio, CSN2 Rome July 21, 2015

LHAASO



Astrofisica Nucleare e Subnucleare VHE Gamma Astrophysics

The unexplored spectrum gap

 Satellites give a nice crowded picture of energies up to 10 GeV. E > 100 MeV

 Ground based experiments show very few sources with energies > ~300 GeV.



The unexplored spectrum gap

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The VHE γ ray sky

2005









TeV Source Catalog



http://tevcat.uchicago.edu/

The TeV Catalog 2012



The TeV Catalog 2016



The TeV Catalog 2021



TeV Sky Survey

- HESS Galactic plane survey sees many new TeV sources (Aharonian et al. 2005)
 - This might possibly inform a detailed model of the distribution of CR sources, although the distribution is so confined to the plane that the sources (probably plerions and SNR) are at least several kpc distant





Aharonian et al. 2006







Aharonian et al. 2018



Aharonian et al. 2018

MILAGRO Sky Survey

 Milagro reports detecting the diffuse emission of the Milky Way at >1 TeV energies (Abdo et al 2008)



HAWC Sky Survey

• HAWC 3rd catalog of Gamma Ray sources



$$-3$$
 -0 3 6 9 12 15 18 21 24
 \sqrt{TS} Albert et al. 2021

HAWC Sky Survey

• HAWC 3rd catalog of Gamma Ray sources


HESS "new" sources





Close-up view of the new sources, discovered in the Galactic plane scan. Shown as white circles are close-by supernova remnants , that are known to be sources of very high energy gamma-rays (with the radius of the circle representing the size of the supernova remnant). Also shown in white are close-by pulsars, another class of sources of very high energy gamma-rays.

HESS Diffuse Gamma-Ray



VERITAS Cygnus Survey



http://arxiv.org/abs/1508.06684

VERITAS Cygnus Survey



http://arxiv.org/abs/0912.4492

CR origin and propagation



VHE gamma rays from secondary interactions:
p: π^o production and decay
e: Inverse Compton scattering and Bremsstrahlung
Trace beam density x target density