

cherenkov telescope array

Cherenkov Telescopse Array



Ueli Straumann, 12. April 2017, PGZ





Cosmic Rays and very high energy gamma rays

- IACT and CTA measuring concept
- CTA technical project details
- Government
- Physics perspectives
- **Summary**

Cosmic Rays and Gamma Rays



What is a cosmic ray?

- High energy particles from Universe produce extensive air showers.
- Charged particles, mainly protons, also higher mass nuclei.
- Deflected by interstellar / intergalactiv magnetic fields -> no assignment to specific source possible
- In addition gamma rays and neutrinos arriving from outer space -> pointing to source!

Detection:

- Direct detection from satellites
- Air acts as a calorimeter for earthbound detectors.



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Cosmic Rays

- Hess (1912) discovered, that ionizing radiation increases with height, Clay (1927) found deviations by geomagnetic fields. Rossi and Auger (1937) proposed the shower mechanism resulting in the extensive air showers
- Todays view:
 - Cosmic rays are composed of all atomic nuclei
 - Flux decreasing exponentially over 10 decades in Energy (about E^{-2.8}) with little structure
 - Extend to very high energies: Acceleration mechanism??
 - GZK (Greisen, Zatsepin, Kusmin, 1966) predicted cut-off at 6x10¹⁹ eV for protons, exp. confirmed

 $egin{aligned} &\gamma_{ ext{CMB}}+p
ightarrow \Delta^+
ightarrow n+\pi^+. \ &\gamma_{ ext{CMB}}+p
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^E (m² sr s GeV)⁻¹



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Cosmic Rays



Some structure in spectrum

- Flux decreasing exponentially about E^{-2.8}
- "Knee" at 10¹⁵ eV = limit of p confinement in galactic magnetic field: Larmor rad > Galaxy)
- second knee at 10¹⁷ eV (heavy elements?)
- "Ankle" at 5x10¹⁸ eV (extragalactic, protons?)





Nature, 531 (2016)

Cosmic Rays: below knee



confined in galaxy by magnetic field

- comparable energy density in interstellar medium as thermal gas and magnetic fields
- heavy elements contribute (some composition data from satellites at low E)
- second knee at 10¹⁷ eV is not fully understood ("iron knee")



Cosmic Rays: data above knee



Auger data: Water Cherenkov tanks, 3000 km² in Argentinia Telescope array: 500 scintillator detectors, 1000 km² in Utah

- extensive studies about energy calibration 10¹⁷eV
- GZK cut-off confirmed
- Most likely extragalactic
- Acceleration mechanism?



Gaisser et al., arXiv:1303.3565v1

Cosmic Rays: above knee



Gamma Ray Bursts?

- Speculations about originating from gamma ray bursts (GRB) brightest electromagnetic events in the Universe
- Heavy nuclei may explain some data beyond proton GZK cut-off
- Artist view of GRB:



- Last 10 msec to hours

N. Globus et al., arXiv:1409.1271v1



Detect very high energy Gamma Rays!



To improve knowledge on origin of cosmic rays, accelerator mechanisms, and other high energy sources

- Cosmic rays are charged, thus deviated by magnetic fields -> no way to know origin -> Use neutrinos or photons
- Other fundamental physics: Dark matter annihilation, Possible energy dependance of travel time (Quantum gravity).

Very high energy photons from GRB and other possibly unknown sources: very low rate.

- Very big detection surface because of low statistics -> earth bound
- Pointing accuracy
- Some energy accuracy
- Wide FoV to be able to make scans
- Fast reaction on GRB alert

-> Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescope IACT





Cherenkov Telescope







Extensive Air shower:

- Cosmic particle -> particle shower -> Cherenkov light
- "Pancake of particles": diameter 250m, thickness 1 m, 3ns
- Need telescope with large focal plane camera -> high FoV

Cherenkov Telescope





Cherenkov Telescope Array



Requirements:

- Pointing accuracy, Energy resolution -> use relatively simple telescopes
- Big detection surface -> use array of telescopes
- Sensitive from 20 GeV to 300 TeV:
 - Low energy -> low light -> large telescope; high rate -> few telescopes
 - High energy -> lots of light -> cheap telescope; low rate -> many telescope.
- Wide FoV to be able to make scans -> big cameras
- Fast reaction on GRB alert -> fast repositioning

CTA uses three types of telescopes in South (North) Array: 4 (4) Large (LST), 25 (15) Medium (MST), 70 Small (SST)

Cherenkov Telescope Array







CTA project details







Atacama desert, ESO site, Chile





Sites & Site Infrastructure









La Palma, Canary Islands, IAC site







November 2016 Foundation Construction of LST 1





Sites & Site Infrastructure









Reflector: parabolic, Diameter=23m, f=28m Point Spread Function: 0.05° Tracking accuracy online: 20 arcsec

> Weight moving parts 103 tons Repositioning time 20sec.

1855 Pixels of PMT with FoV 0.1° FoV total 4.5°

Optimized for 20 ... 200 GeV

Mirror actuators



Mirror segments need to be adjusted individually 2 Actuators, one fixed point per segment. Zurich design



To be used for LST, also for MST, SST-1M



mirror segment mounting flansh for SST-1M





Reflector: spherical, Diameter=12m, f=19.2m Point Spread Function: 0.18° Tracking precision: 0.1° Pointing precision 7 arcsec

Repositioning time 90sec.

1700 Pixels of PMT with FoV 0.18° FoV total 7°

Number foreseen 15 (N), 25 (S) Optimized for 100 GeV ... 10 TeV

MST Camera: 2 options. only FlashCam shown here.





- Fully digital readout, 250 MS/s ADC
- digital trigger on same data
- Protoype 24/7 operation for several months
- >30 kEvents/sec readout without no dead time,
- slow control, trigger, timing interfaces work
- parts of electronics / mechanics designed at UZH



SCT: alternative design for MST

pSC7

cherenkov telescope array

Schwarzschild-Couder double mirror optics

compacter design cheaper mechanics? smaller foundation?

PSF 0.07° -> pixels 6.2 mm -> use SiPMT

FoV 8.3°

03-01-2017 12:59:24

SST Telescopes



- 70 SSTs planned for South, 3 TeV ... 300 TeV, 6 m²
- large showers, lots of light, low statics -> large area needed
- Main challenge: Reliability!
- Three options: very nice -- how to choose?



SST-2M GCT

SST-2M ASTRI

SST-1M

ASTRI Prototype in Sicily

1984 pixels, size 6.1 mm, SiPMT







SST-2M-GCT:



Protoype in Meudon, Paris Camera protoype with MC-PMT New version planned with SiPMT





Azimuth and elevation maximum velocities: the telescope can reach to any point in the sky within **60s**.





- Davies Cotton single mirror telescope
- focal length 5.6 m
- FoV 9.1°
- PSF 0.08°
- 1296 pixels of 6mm, SiPMT readout
- Camera built by UniGe
- Protoype structure in Poland





More infrastructure



- Buildings
- Roads
- Foundations
- Power
- Datanetwork
- Software
- Computers

Interfaces - Interfaces - Interfaces



Roads





Universal SST Foundation





CTA Software Architecture





North Computing & Network



- Final specifications agreed for the full northern computing & network system
 - 1500 processor cores
 - 2 PB disk space
 - Switches: 4 x 10 Gb Ethernet to each LST, 2 x 10 Gb to each MST
 - Located in 40 ft contained with air cond., UPS
- Procurement documentation in preparation



Sensitivity



- Overall system sensitivity (5 sigma discovery limit reached in 50 h)
- Comparing to existing detectors
 - LAT on Fermi satellite
 - Magic on La Palma (2 IACT)
 - H.E.S.S. in Namibia (5 IACT)
 - VERITAS in US (4 IACT)
 - HAWC (High Altitude Water Cherenkov)







CTA Consortium, growing since 2006





CTAO GmbH and more politics



- The countries which intend to significantly contribute financially for construction and operation founded a limited liability company, called CTAO GmbH in 2014.
- Present shareholders with formal voting rights:
 - Austria (University of Innsbruck)
 - France (CRNS, CEA),
 - Germany (DESY. MPG),
 - Italy (INAF, INFN),
 - Japan (Uni Tokio),
 - Czech Republic,
 - Spain,
 - Switzerland (University of Zurich),
 - UK (STFC).
- Associate members:
 - The Netherlands,
 - South Africa,

Council of CTAO GmbH



- The council is the main governing body of CTAO gGmbH.
- It consists of shareholder representatives, each country may have up to two shareholders.
- Counil has set up 3 committees with external experts who support CTAO:
 - Scientific and technical advisory committee (STAC)
 - In-kind contribution review committee (IKRC)
 - Administrative and financial advisory committee (AFC)
- Council decided on sites:
 - Headquarters in Bologna (being setup now), thus Italy = host country
 - Science Data Management Centre in Berlin-Zeuthen
 - North site in La Palma (IAC, Canary Islands)
 - South site in Atacama desert (ESO site, Chile)





- Total investment for construction: about 300 MEuro + 100 MEuro person power
- This includes infrastructure at observation sites and at European centres of about 60 MEuro
 - Streets, power, data net, service buildings, computer centres, calbration and service facilities
- Many parts are supposed to be delivered "in-kind" by the shareholders
 - Good idea, but produces a lot of legal overhead, not finished yet. Use ESS (European Spallation Source) as a template.
- Final legal entity to be defined yet. Main seat in Italy = hosting country.
- Operation costs estimated to be 16 MEuro per year (incl. personnel).
- Swiss financial contribution: 2%.
- Swiss intellectual contributions to construction:
 - SST-1M design and prototypes (Uni GE)
 - Data acquisition software (Uni GE)
 - Active mirror control (Uni Zuerich
 - FlashCam mechanics and part of electronics (Uni Zuerich)





Present plan: Observation time will be split into

60% based on proposals to observe specific regions, everybody can hand in.

40% key science projects (organized by consortium):

- Indirect search for dark matter constituents (centre of Galaxy, satellite galax.)
- More insight in cosmic rays accelerations
- Lorentz invariance violations?

Source example

Radius (degrees)





H.E.S.S. Collaboration: Observations of RX J1713.7-3946



Most brilliant SNR measured so far Visible source diameter 2 * moon!

HESS collaboration, arXiv:1609.08671v2

Source example Crab Pulsar



Crab Pulsar is a neutron star, 20km diameter, rotating 30 times a second remnant of Supernova 1054.

- Two pulses P1 and P2 are observed from radio up to gamma ray
- The pulses are synchronous over all the energy range



More Sources in Galactic Disk





More Sources









- CTA will be 10 times more sensitive -> possibly 1000 sources to discover
- Energy resolution 10% -> spectral features -> dark matter
- Rapid slewing rate allows to watch GRB
- CTA will extend the observable electromagnetic spectrum up to 300 TeV
- 8 degree FoV allows fast surveys and measure extended regions of gamma ray emission
- Good angular resolution to resolve cosmics sources

Technology in good shape,

Physics as fascinating as ever,

Politics needs to do a lot of work.