R-ECFA Meeting, Warsaw, 25.02.2005

Astroparticle Physics in Poland

Grzegorz Wrochna Sołtan Institute for Nuclear Studies Józef Chełmoński (1849-1914)



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Discovery of hypernucleus in 1952





Jerzy Pniewski & Marian Danysz

Astroparticle Physics in Poland

Several groups, 2-10 people each

- Cosmic rays
- Space weather
- Extraterrestrial neutrinos talk by D.Kielczewska
- Gamma Ray Bursts

Fuzzy boundary between astronomy and particle physics ... **Space Research Centres** of Polish Academy of Sciences

Warszawa - <u>www.cbk.waw.pl</u> Wrocław - <u>www.cbk.pan.wroc.pl</u>

- Satellite instrumets for monitoring "space weather":
- solar activity
- magnetosphere
- radiation intensity

Regional Warning Center - www.cbk.waw.pl/rwc1



Kielce - Świętokrzyska Academy



Kraków

Jagiellonian University Astronomical Observatory www.oa.uj.edu.pl

• Theory of cosmic ray acceleration in interstellar turbulences and shock waves

Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences IFJ PAN - <u>www.ifj.edu.pl</u>

• Participation in the Pierre Auger Project



The Pierre Auger Project



A new cosmic ray observatory to study the highest energy cosmic rays

Explaining their origin is one of the most prominent problems in present-day astrophysics

Record: cosmic ray extensive air showers Determine: cosmic ray energy spectrum arrival directions composition

Two large air shower detector systems, 3000 km² each: *Mendoza, Argentina (construction underway) Utah or Colorado, USA (in planning)*

Hybrid detection system \rightarrow unprecedented accuracy of extensive air shower measurements

15 countries – 50 institutions www.auger.org



Auger Construction Plan

- Years 2000–2001: Engineering Array
- **32 prototype surface detector stations / 2 prototype fluorescence detectors**
- Year 2002–2003: Pre-production
- Year 2003–2006: Full production and deployment
- Auger already is the largest cosmic ray detection system in the world
- Preliminary data analysis:
 - first science results expected in 2005











IFJ PAN participation in Auger - 1

Construction of the Observatory: provided parts for mechanical structure of the fluorescence detector telescopes

•Aperture box structure

•Mirror mounts •External shutters







IFJ PAN participation in Auger - 2

Improving fluorescence technique of shower detection

 refined the procedure of air shower energy determination (account of lateral spread of air showers)

 better account of atmospheric effects (atmospheric density profiles measured instead of a model, correction for multiple scattering of light)

Identification of photons in UHE cosmic rays

Study of the preshowering effect: photon conversion in geomagnetic field and subsequent air shower development

 developed a procedure to determine the fraction of photons in UHECR

 set the (preliminary) experimental upper limit on photon fraction in UHECR



University of Łódź

Department of Experimental Physics <u>kfd2.fic.uni.lodz.pl</u>

Division of Cosmic Rays

• high energy cosmic rays (experiment Auger)

- gamma-ray astronomy (MAGIC)
- cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere

(experiment Pamir)

Division of High Energy Astrophysics

- models and mechanisms of X-ray and gamma-ray production in cosmic sources
- sources of high energy cosmic ray particles
- acceleration of particles and their propagation inside sources
- propagation of cosmic rays in the Galactic and intergalactic medium

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Department of Cosmic Ray Physics ipj.u.lodz.pl

Domestic experiments:

- Extensive Air Shower (EAS) detector: E>10¹⁵eV
- Underground Muon Telescope: E>5GeV
- Roland Maze Project

International experiments:

- Kascade, Kascade Grande (Karlsruhe)
- Baksan (Kaukaz)
- EAS detection at Airbus A380 (College de France)

Theory, modelling:

- mupltiparticle production by cosmic rays
- cosmic rays and microwave background correlations



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The Roland Maze Project: science + education

- Cosmic ray detectors distributed in schools
- 4 detectors per school
- Detector = 1m² of scintillator + PM
- GPS synchronisation (RMS=2ns)
- Local data preprocessing in schools
- Central data storage in the Institute





Gamma Ray Bursts (GRB)

- Short (0.01-100s) pulses of γ rays from pointlike sources in the sky
- Extragalactic origin (<13 M ly, z<4.6)
- Huge energy: 10⁵¹ergs
- Hypothesis (500 papers/year):
 - supernova collapsing to black hole
 - two neutron stars merging into black hole
 - creation of quark star
- Very frequent: 2-3/day (1-2/week detected by satellites)
- Information distributed to ground telescopes etc. via GRB Coordinate Network (GCN)
- So far:
 - ~3000 GRB detected by satellites
 - ~50 observed opticaly from ground after h or days
 - only 1 observed in real time (1 min after GRB)

"*π* of the Sky" grb.fuw.edu.pl

"Particle physics – like" way to search for GRB

- Continuous monitoring of all (> π) sky
- On-line data processing
- Multilevel trigger system

Participants:

- Sołtan Institute for Nuclear Studies, Warsaw/Świerk
- Center for Theoretical Physics, Polish Acad. of Sc.
- Institute of Experimental Physics, Warsaw Univ.
- Warsaw University of Technology

In collabotarion with:

- Princeton University
- Astronomical Observatory of Warsaw Univ.

" π of the Sky" prototype

Las Campanas Observatory, Chile

2 CCD cameras covering 33°×33°





First results (7.2004-2.2005):

- 3 limits shortly after GRB
- 1st ever limit during GRB
- 1 candidate (not cofirmed)

" π of the Sky" perspectives

2005 – 2×16 cameras to cover all sky
grant application positively recommended

 2006 – prototype of high sensitivity camera for next generation system (>100 cameras)
 plan to apply for EU FP7 grant

2007 – small systems at Greenland and AntarcticaEol submitted for International Polar Year

Proposal to establish *Laboratory for Astroparticle Apparatus* within Soltan Institute of Nuclear Studies



Particle physics or Astronomy?

I predict – they will merge quite soon

- Particle physics came from space (cosmic rays)
- The Universe is full of powerfull accelerators
- Particle physics is a key stone of cosmology
- Recently also experimental technics become similar

CCD invention for astronomy was like wire chamber for particle physics.

Astronomy is now moving from single observations of individual objects to massive data acquisition from millions of objects.

All sky surveys, farms of robotic telescopes, etc ... " 4π " detectors, huge data streams analysed online, multilevel trigger systems ...

all that we know so well ...

Nicolaus Copernicus The first Polish expert on analysis of large data samples



