Imaging the Universe in

a Big Bucket of Water Results from Milagro Prospects for HAWC

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Outline:

High Energy Particle Astrophysics Gamma Ray Observatories Milagro Observations High Altitude Water Cherenkov (HAWC) future

The Mystery of the Leaking Electroscope

- Electroscopes measure static electricity: repulsion of like charges
- But they always discharge
- Why? What conducting medium carries away charge?
- How would you study it?
- Is it worse in a mine (thorium, radium)
- Does it get better farther away from the earth's surface?





Cosmic Rays Revealed

- In 1911-12 Victor Hess settled the question (Nobel '36)
- He measured rate of discharge in an electroscope in a balloon, ascending to 5000 meters
- The discharge got *faster* the further away from Earth
 - Not just decays on earth
 - Radiation from the cosmos
 - More evident outside shelter of earth's atmosphere





A Reprise in Aspen, 2001 (90 years later) Jeff Wilkes as Victor Hess





Hey, somebody had to analyze the data! Note the altitude dependence





Other surprising effects of cosmic rays

- The origins of High Energy Physics
 - Discovery of positron (antimatter), muon, pion, kaon
 - Still higher energy than any terrestrial accelerator
- One source of background genetic mutation rate
- Carbon 14 production
- Computer memory single bit soft errors
- Could limit manned Mars missions
- May be involved in nucleation of cloud droplets
- May be involved in forming ionized channels for lightning
- Significant in energy content of interstellar medium
 - Approximate equipartition with B fields, starlight



High Energy Particle Astrophysics

What do we know?

- Nature accelerates particles to >10²⁰ eV
- Gamma-ray sources accelerate particles to >10¹⁴ eV

What do we want to know?

- What astrophysical sources accelerate particles?
- How do astrophysical sources accelerate particles?
- What new high energy physics can we learn from astrophysics?
- γ rays point to their source (astronomy)





Producing Gamma Rays: Astrophysical Particle Accelerators



Spinning Neutron Star powering a relativistic wind



Chandra Image of Crab

TeV image of Vela Jr. Supernova Remnant



Binary Neutron Star Coalescing



Massive Star Collapsing into a Black Hole SuperComputer Calculation



8

MacFadyen, Woosley, & Heger (1999)



Origins of Cosmic Rays:

still not understood

Low E: Sun

Galactic (up to knee?):

Supernovae

Near neutron star: pulsed No pulsing beyond ~ 100 GeV: nebula?

Are electrons, or protons, the primaries?

 $\pi^{\circ} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ if hadronic; look for v coincidences with Ice Cube

Extragalactic (highest energies? NIMBY)

Composition change? (p/Fe) Active Galactic Nuclei Gamma Ray Bursts ???

Attack by collecting sources: angular associations, shape, energy spectra, multiwavelength observations

How do Cosmic Rays Get Accelerated?



- General picture of particle acceleration by electromagnetic shock waves (Fermi acceleration)
 - Details not fully understood: complex MHD behavior
 - Particles gain energy scattering off relativistic shock wave
 - Probability to escape from the shock, depending on energy
 - Leads to a power law spectrum, $rac{dN}{dE} \propto E^{-\Gamma}$
 - Γ the spectral index
 - For efficient acceleration, $\Gamma = 2$

-

Cosmic Rays Take a confused route!

- The problem: cosmic rays are charged particles
 - The universe is filled with magnetic fields
 - Arrival direction is scrambled by random magnetic deflections
 - Except at the very highest energies (above ~10¹⁹ eV)



But there are also neutral cosmic rays

- Gamma rays (very high energy photons)
- Because they are neutral, you can do astronomy with them
- That's because they travel in straight lines from their source
- Just like visible light reveals its sources to an optical telescope
- Neutrinos are also neutral, but harder to detect...
 - IceCube at the south pole...looks for sources in N hemisphere
- Neutrons exist also, but decay before arrival...



Comparison of Gamma-Ray Detectors

Low Energy Threshold EGRET/Fermi LAT (May 08)



Space-based (Small Area) "Background Free" Large Duty Cycle/Large Aperture Sky Survey (<10 GeV) AGN Physics Transients (GRBs) < 100 GeV

High Sensitivity HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS



Large Effective Area Excellent Background Rejection Low Duty Cycle/Small Aperture

High Resolution Energy Spectra Studies of known sources Surveys of limited regions of sky Large Aperture/High Duty Cycle Milagro, Tibet, ARGO, HAWC



Moderate Area Good Background Rejection Large Duty Cycle/Large Aperture Unbiased Sky Survey Extended sources Transients (GRB's) Solar physics/space weather



Cherenkov Radiation

- Source object moves to right at velocity v_s
- If source emits waves
 - Light or sound
- And it's moving faster than waves travel in the medium, a shock wave forms
- It travels perpendicular to the surface of the Mach cone
- Sonic boom, or Cherenkov light!









Atmospheric as Cosmic Ray Calorimeter

(Radiation and Interaction Lengths); atmosphere depth = Do $e^{-h/s}$; pressure = matter/area above your height

Radiation and Interaction Lengths of Atmospheric Overbur <-----> q/cm^2-----> ATMOSPHERE height height XD. Coll Len Int Len **x**e site 62 (m) a.s.l.(m) a.s.l.atmos 36.66 90 depth 0 100% 28.1 11.4 16.6 Sea Level Π 1030 reck tire 1372 84% 23.7 9.7 Dugway (HighRes) 4500 870 14.0 8.3 Jemez Mtns (Milagro) 2630 8629 73% 750 20.512.1 72% Cerro Pachon(Soar) 2700 8858 740 20.2 8.2 11.9 HAWC (Sierra Negra) 4100 13451 61% 623 17.06.9 10.0 Mauna Kea 4200 13780 60% 615 16.8 6.8 9.9 606 16.5 Tibet/Argo arrays 4300 14108 59% 6.7 9.8 LMT (Sierra Negra) 4600 15092 57% 586 16404 54% 558 15.2 6.2 9.0 5000 Cerro Toco 5600 18373 50% 518 14.15.8 8.4 Pico de Orizaba 5610 18406 50% 517 29029 34% 348 9.5 3.9 5.6 Mt Everest 8848 10000 32808 29% 302 8.2 3.4 4.9 15000 16% 164 4.5 1.8 2.6 49213 20000 9% 89 2.4 65617 1.01.4 25000 82021 5% 48 1.30.50.8



Extensive Air Showers



Jemez Mountains: rim of Valle Grande Caldera

We like volcanoes, as you will see...

The Milagro Site



Water Cherenkov: an Active Medium Calorimeter



800

22.2

9.6

Much of EM shower in top meter or two

water: 8m

light: Cherenkov cone from e's

Hadrons and muons produce light nearer bottom tubes

78%

13.3



How Does Milagro Work?



- Reconstruct shower direction to ~0.5° from the time different PMTs are hit
- 1700 Hz trigger rate mostly due to Extensive Air Showers created by cosmic rays
- Field of view is ~2 sr and the average duty factor is







175 Outriggers: better rejection, resolution



Area \rightarrow Shower location \rightarrow hadron rejection Width (lever arm) \rightarrow Angular resolution



Milagro In a Nutshell

- Water Cherenkov Detector
- 2600m (8500') elevation
- 898 photomultiplier tubes
 - 450 in top layer in pond
 - 273 in bottom layer in pond
 - 175 water tank outriggers
- Pond Area is 3600 m²
 - Operational in January 2001
- Outrigger Array area is ~ 30000 m²
 - Operational in June 2004
 - ~ 175 x 175 m
- Decommissioned June 2008



Moon Shadow seen in Cosmic Rays



Moon Shadow: Energy Scale Calibration





Hadronic background ~ 10³ to 10⁴ > gamma signal On the other hand, gammas point back at the source So one tool is angular resolution

The second is seeing the difference in shower tails at ground level (20Xo or $8\lambda_I$ into the calorimeter)





Simulation of 2 TeV γ-ray in Atmosphere

...Videos\GShower2TeVPart.mov

Video by Miguel F. Morales, U Santa Cruz (now U Washington)



Simulation of 2 TeV Proton in Atmosphere

..\Videos\PShower2TeVPart.mov

Background Rejection in Milagro



Milagro Background Rejection (Cont'd)



drives A4 low for hadrons

S/B increases with increasing A_4 so analysis weights events by S/B as determined by the A_4 value of the event

Improves sensitivity by ~2x (Aous Abdo Ph.D. thesis)









"Once you have sources, you need astrophysicists" For fellow particle physicists, here's a map



Survey of the Galactic Plane



Abdo et al. ApJL 700 (2009) L127-131



Milagro's Unexpected Cosmic Ray Anisotropy Observation

- Anisotropy on 10 deg size scale with a fractional excess of 7e-4 above the cosmic ray background (15 σ)
- Excess is not gamma rays, but charged cosmic rays (11σ)
- Largest excess is not consistent with the locally measured cosmic ray energy spectrum (4 σ), but is harder with a cut off of ~10 TeV
- Explanations are difficult because the gyroradius of a 10 TeV proton in a 1 μG field is 0.01 parsecs=2000 AU







This is anisotropy on a large scale





Fermi-LAT Bright Source List





Globular cluster
 Globular cluster

•	Sensitivity from 100 MeV to
	hundreds of GeV

- 205 10 σ sources in 3 months of data
- Blazars, pulsars identified by their variability.
- Several new pulsars (pulsations discovered in the GeV first)
- Deeper survey than entire EGRET dataset
- Angular resolution < 0.1° at the higher energies

Abdo et al. ApJS **183**:46-66,2009

+ X-ray binary



Milagro Search for TeV emission from

Galactic sources

- 34 / 205 BSL sources are possibly Galactic and in Milagro's field of view (δ > -5°)
 - 16 pulsars
 - 1 x-ray binary
 - 5 SNŘ
 - 12 unknown
- 14/34 are observed at 3σ or more in Milagro data
- Probability of a single 3σ detection in 34 trials is only 4%
- 6/14 have been reported by Milagro before
- 9/14 are pulsars (all 6 previous Milagro sources are now associated with pulsars)
- 3/14 are SNR



- 'Most' of the 3σ sources are true TeV detections, but cannot be claimed individually
- All of these will be observable with 3 months of HAWC data








Abdo et al. ApJL 700 (2009) L127-131

1° extent, consistent with IACT size of distant PWN





Aouo ei ui. Apji 700 (2007) L127-151













Milagro Gamma-Ray Sources

Our favorite



- Milagro's strongest sources are very likely TeV PWN. Typical TeV source is a PWN.
- TeV emission is quite commonly associated with MeV-GeV Pulsars.
- Spectrum to connect Milagro measurements to Fermi measurements are universally softer than 2.3.



From Milagro to HAWC

Altitude 2650 m to 4100 m Area 22,000 m² from 4,000 m² (top) or 2,200 m² (bottom) or 30,000 m² outrigger field Reuse 900 tubes & FE electronics Cost ~\$10M HAWC 10 – 15 x Sensitivity : HAWC: (5σ) Crab in ~ 1 day Milagro: (5σ) Crab in 3 mo



http://umdgrb.umd.edu/hawc/index.php 44



HAWC Detector Design

- 300 water tanks
- Tanks 7.5m diameter and 4.3m deep
- Build tanks on site
- Three 8" PMT/tank
- 150m x 150m array
 78% coverage





Tank Simulation







Site Location is Sierra Negra, Mexico

- 4100 m above sea level
- Latitude of 19 deg N
- Easy Access
 - 2 hr drive from Puebla
 - 4 hr drive from Mexico City
- Existing Infrastructure
 - Few km from the US/Mexico Large Millimeter Telescope
 - Power, Internet, Roads
 - Sierra Negra Scientific Consortium ~7 projects
- Excellent Mexican Collaborators
 - ~15 Faculty at 7 institutions have submitted proposal to CONACYT for HAWC
 - Experience in HEP, Auger, and astrophysics (including TeV)



"Don't worry: the lava flow predates the conquistadors"

Higher Altitude is Closer to Shower Max.



Difference between 2600m (Milagro) and 4500m (Tibet): ~ 6x number of particles ~ 2x lower energy threshold Result: 15-20 x Milagro sensitivity



- Constrain the origin of cosmic rays via HAWC's observations of γ-rays up to 100 TeV from discrete sources and the Galactic plane.
- Probe particle acceleration in extreme magnetic and gravitational fields via HAWC's observations of transient TeV sources, such as gamma ray bursts and supermassive black holes.
- Explore new TeV physics via HAWC's unbiased sky survey with a detection threshold of ~30 mCrab in two years.

HAWC Improvement over Milagro

- Larger effective area at low energies
- Better angular resolution
- Better Gamma/Hadron Separation
- Overall 15x improvement over HAWC
- Preserve all the raw data
 - **Better Calibration Sensitivity**
- See the Crab at 5σ every day Precise tuning of gamma-rav MC and stability





MSU projects

Hadron rejection: improve sensitivity x 2 (~ x 4 data)

- Abdo PhD Both Milagro and Fermi/Lat are Abdo et al.
- Shifts: at LANL, or comfort of MSU offices
- Sr Thesis on Fermi GeV sources off galactic plane
 - Ahren Barber
- Unfolding of energy spectrum
 - Energy estimator is fraction of tubes hit (variant of A4 variable)
 - Not pulse height! (PH is done by time over threshold)
 - Current method fits spectrum to estimator, but no E spectrum
 - Udara Abesekaya (grad student)
- HAWC Electronics
 - Jim: head of HAWC electronics
 - Dan Edmunds (help from Udara, postdoc)
 - re-optimization of front end boards for new TDCs, HAWC tanks
 - GPS absolute time scale for experiment
 - Interface to scalers, trigger, TDCs, DAQ
 - Design of replacement front end board (layout: an upgrade grant)



Status of HAWC

- ~1M USD from NSF, UMD, and INAOE, UNAM, CHIAPAS, CONACyT
 - Tank development
 - Prototype array at the HAWC site
 - Development of the HAWC site
- Road to the Site
- Tanks at the Site
- Successful data runs with the prototype array.







Tank Development





Proto-HAWC





- Simple array near HAWC site (by LMT)
- Testing
 - Infrastructure
 - Site workability
 - Initial scientific tests
 - Test bench for calibration, DAQ, and other preparation
 - Tank designs



Proto-HAWC





- 3 3.0-meter black plastic water tanks at the LMT site (4600 meters)
- Tanks operated in triplecoincidence
- 3 channels of 12 µs FADC sampling every 0.5 ns
- 16 Hz Rate



Proto-HAWC First Event











Initial Reconstruction



- Fit is the plane consistent with all 3 hit times
- Simple fit not representative of HAWC performance
 - No correction for shower curvature, core location, etc





We are actively developing HAWC Site

- Road to the Site
 - Drainage coming in
- Purchased tanks in US and shipped to Mexico
- Now have tanks at the HAWC Site (not the LMT site)



 Pursuing a test well and power to the site.



TeV γ-rays: A New Window on the Sky

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Conclusion

- Milagro has demonstrated success of the water Cherenkov technique for gamma rays
 - Discovery of TeV emission from the Galactic plane
 - Image of TeV emission from the Cygnus region
 - 7 New Candidate TeV Sources; more with Fermi/LAT
- Future Plan is HAWC
 - Building on expertise with Milagro
 - Design improvements in Size, Altitude, Tanks...
 - 15 x Milagro sensitivity
- HAWC: Synergistic Component of Particle Astrophysics Portfolio
 - Identify which of Fermi/LAT 1000s of sources extend to TeV energies and monitoring these sources daily
 - Determine targets for the Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes to use their enhanced angular and energy resolution
 - Improve IceCube sensitivity x10 by identifying flaring sources
 - "Fund under all scenarios"
 - by HEPAP Particle Astrophysics Advisory Group

HAWC Sensitivity 15x Milagro's

Larger Effective Area at Lower E

Better Angular Resolution

Improved Background Rejection

- → 10-15 x improvement in flux sensitivity
- \rightarrow (10-15)² = 100-200 x faster to observe same flux





Milagro Extension of TeV spectrum of MGRO J1908+06 – *Preliminary*

full E scale still in progress

A4 is correlated with Energy of Gamma-Ray Initiating Shower

Harder A4 cut give median detected energy of 90 TeV and 6 sigma detection significance





Lateral Distribution of Extensive Air Showers

- Gammas have NARROW lateral distribution of electrons
- Protons have BROAD lateral distribution of muons (decays high in atm)





Moon for Monitoring

- Cosmic Rays are Shadowed by the Moon (0.5° dia.)
- Shadow is deflected by Earth's magnetic field at low energies
- Deflection measures Milagro's energy scale for protons
- Shadow size measures Milagro's angular resolution for protons





Nearby AGN

- M87 is a known, variable source of TeV γ -rays HAWC will detect average flux at 5.8 σ extending spectra to highest energies
 - & monitoring variability
- Auger's evidence for a correlation of UHECR with AGN point to other nearby particle accelerators
 - UHECR directions are deflected by several degrees, so individual sources can't be determined
 - However, UHECR will produce TeV gamma-rays near the sources due to interactions with the CMB & infrared
 - HAWC can search the 100s of nearby AGN to find UHECR emitters

Auger's 27 UHECRs (black circles) > 6e19eV & nearby, z<0.018, AGN (red *) plotted in Galactic coordinates with the SuperGalactic plane indicated by the dashed line





Satellite γ-ray Observatories >30 MeV



- SAS2
- CosB
- EGRET on the Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory (1991-2000)
- GLAST = Fermi Lat (May 2008-2018)





Solar Physics

- Coronal mass ejections are an ideal laboratory to study particle acceleration
- By monitoring the singles rates in all PMTs we are sensitive to "low"-energy particles (>10 GeV)
- Milagro has detected 4 outbursts from the Sun with >10 GeV particles



X7-Class flare Jan. 20, 2005





Forbush Decreases – The interplanetary field





Absorption of TeV Photons







Active Galactic Nuclei

- Open questions
 - Protons or electrons?
 - Plasma Bulk Lorentz factor?
 - B-field?
 - Location of γ-ray production?
 - Acceleration mechanism?
- HAWC observations
 - Many flares from known TeV AGN
 - New TeV AGN
 - Spectra > 1 TeV
 - Multiwavelength Observations with other wide field observatories & by rapid notification



Milagro Observation in Galactic Coordinates

