Search for energetic neutrinos from the Sun - Dark Matter or Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos ?

1398

# Carsten Rott

Sungkyunkwan University, Korea December 22nd 2017 Seminar - Laboratoire de Physique Théorique et Hautes Energies

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#### CR protons





- Motivation
- Energetic Radiation from the Sun
  - Gamma-rays from the Sun
- Observing the Sun with IceCube
  - IceCube Neutrino Telescope
  - Sun Shadow
  - Solar Dark Matter
  - Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos and the Dark Matter Neutrino Floor

2

Outlook and Conclusions

## Motivation





# Motivation





- GeV Radiation from the Sun
  - Inverse Compton (IC)
    - Cosmic ray electrons and positrons on solar photons
  - Solar Disk (Disk)
    - Cosmic rays with solar atmosphere
  - Exotics
    - Dark matter, ...



## **Energetic Radiation from the Sun**



## Sun – Cosmic-Ray Beam Dump

Leptonic

**CR** electrons

Moskalenko, Porter, Digel (2006) Orlando, Strong (2007)

Nov 12 2015

Kenny C.Y. NG, 6th Fermi Symposium

## Sun – Cosmic-Ray Beam Dump

#### Hadronic



Seckel, Stanev, Gaisser (1991) Moskalenko, Karakula (1993) Ingelman, Thunman (1996)

### CR protons

## Cosmic Rays vs Dark Matter

## CR protons

Kenny C.Y. NG, 6th Fermi Symposium

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#### Cosmic ray interactions with the Sun



- Cosmic-ray interactions with the solar atmosphere produce gamma-rays and neutrinos
  - Neutrino background to dark matter search from the Sun
  - First high-energy neutrino point source ?



#### Leptonic

- Moskalenko, Porter, Digel (2006)
- Orlando, Strong (2007)

#### Hadronic

- Seckel, Stanev, Gaisser (1991)
- Moskalenko, Karakula (1993)
- Ingelman & Thunman (1996)



## Gamma-ray Observations of the Sun (GeV Range)



## Sun

 The Sun is the best understood and measured star, yet poorly studied at energies beyond a GeV

• Past

- EGRET
- Present
  - Fermi-LAT
  - (DAMPE)
- Future
  - GAMMA-400
  - HERD

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## EGRET

- Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope (EGRET) --- one of four instruments on the NASA's Compton Gamma Ray Observatory satellite
  - 30 MeV to 30 GeV sensitivity
  - Consisted of spark chamber (pair production), calorimeter (Nal(Ti)), plastic scintillator anti-coincidence dome
- 1. Type: spark chambers, NaI(Tl) crystals, and plastic scintillators.
- 2. Energy Range: 20 MeV to about 30 GeV.
- 3. **Energy Resolution:** approximately twenty percent over the central part of the energy range.
- 4. Total Detector Area: approximately 6400 cm<sup>2</sup>
- Effective Area: approximately 1500 cm<sup>2</sup> between 200 MeV and 1000 MeV, falling at higher and lower energies.
- 6. Point Source Sensitivity: varies with the spectrum and location of the source and the observing time. Under optimum conditions, well off the galactic plane, it should be approximately 6 x 10<sup>-8</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> for E > 100 MeV for a full two week exposure.
- 7. **Source Position Location:** Varies with the nature of the source intensity, location, and energy spectrum from 5 30 arcmin.
- 8. **Field of View:** approximately a gaussian shape with a half width at half maximum of about 20. Note that the full field of view will not generally be used.
- 9. Timing Accuracy: 0.1 ms absolute
- 10. Weight: about 1830 kg (4035 lbs)
- 11. Size: 2.25 m x 1.65 m diameter
- 12. Power: 190 W (including heater power)





# EGRET Solar Analysis

Orlando & Strong 2008

EGRET Sun-centred counts maps



 Evidence for the gammaray emission from the sun



Table 5. Fluxes used to produce the plotted solar spectra. Fluxes are in  $10^{-7}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

Source	100-300 MeV	>300 MeV
Extended	$2.1 \pm 1.3$	$1.7 \pm 0.9$
Model extended	1.3	0.9
Disk	$1.4 \pm 0.9$	$0.4 \pm 0.2$
Seckel's disk model	0-1.1	0.1-0.5



## Fermi-LAT Sun observations

14

Fermi-LAT Collaboration: The Astrophysical Journal 734 (2011) 116 (<u>http://arxiv.org/pdf/1104.2093.pdf</u>)
 Kenny Ng, John Beacom, Annika Peter, Carsten Rott "First Observation of Time Variation in the Solar-Disk Gamma-Ray Flux with Fermi" Phys.Rev. D94 (2016) no.2, 023004



## Fermi-LAT Analysis



# 6 years of Fermi data

ISES Solar Cycle Sunspot Number Progression Observed data through Nov 2015

- More data (and better understood)
- Time variability
  - Flares: Flux should increase with solar activity
  - Cosmic Rays: Flux should decrease with solar activity

Fermi-LAT Collaboration (2011) - 18month Ng, Beacom, Peter, Rott (2017) - 6 years



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# Gamma-ray flux





- Gamma-ray flux extends to 100GeV and beyond
- 6yr data is lower compared to Fermi2011 (1.5yrs)
- Observed flux factor 5 larger compared to central prediction of SSG1991
- Spectrum could be fit by single power law (γ~2.3)

## Energy spectrum solar-disk



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#### High Energy Gamma-rays from the Sun

- How far does the gamma-ray spectrum extend
  ?
  - cut-off ?
  - shape ?
- Water Cherenkov
  - HAWC (now performing this analysis)
  - LHASSO (proposed, ~2020)





## The IceCube Neutrino Observatory







#### Geographic South Pole



## Christmas at the South Pole











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## Christmas at the South Pole



Seongjin In at the Pole. Image: Seongjin In, IceCube.





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### The IceCube Neutrino Telescope

- Gigaton Neutrino Detector at the Geographic South Pole
- 5160 Digital optical modules distributed over 86 strings
- Completed in December 2010, data taking with full detector since May 2011
- Neutrinos are identified through Cherenkov light emission from secondary particles produced in the neutrino interaction with the ice

Solar Observations

Sun is between +/- 23°



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University of Adelaide

#### BELGIUM

Université libre de Bruxelles Universiteit Gent Vrije Universiteit Brussel

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#### FUNDING AGENCIES

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FRS-FNRS) Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO-Vlaanderen)

German Research Foundation (DFG) Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

The Swedish Research Council (VR) University of Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) US National Science Foundation (NSF)



# Signals in IceCube



### IceCube "Observations" of the Sun



## Calibration and Performance

- Calibration Sources:
  - 12 LED flashers on each DOM
  - In-Ice Calibration Laser
  - Cosmic Rays
  - Moon Shadow
  - Atmospheric Neutrinos
  - Minimum-ionizing Muons





Moon blocks cosmic rays - Observed muon deficit
 I4σ significance



# Sun Shadow

Sun



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## Solar Dark Matter Searches



# Solar Dark Matter



#### **3yrs IceCube Solar Dark Matter Analysis**











## Solar Dark Matter Summary





Spin-dependent scattering





Spin-independent scattering



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### Impact of astrophysical uncertainties



https://mdanning.web.cern.ch/mdanning/public/Interactive\_figures/

## Solar Atmospheric Neutrino Search





## Theoretical predictions

• Argüelles et al. [astro-ph/1703.07798]







- Flux predictions vary by <30%, based on
  - primary models
  - hadronic and composition models
  - extremal solar density and composition models

Recent works on the Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos / Atmospheric Neutrino Floor

- C. Argüelles, G. de Wasseige, A. Fedynitch, B. Jones JCAP 1707 (2017) no.07, 024 [arXiv:1703.07798]
- K. Ng, J. Beacom, A. Peter, <u>C. Rott</u> Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.10, 103006 [arXiv:1703.10280]
- J. Edsjö, J. Elevant, R. Enberg, and C. Niblaeus, JCAP 2017 .06 (2017), p. 033, arXiv: 1704.02892 [astro-ph.HE]
- M. Masip Astropart.Phys. 97 (2018) 63-68 [arXiv: 1706.01290]



#### Solar Atmospheric Neutrino Analysis

Ingelman & Thunman flux as reference signal Honda atmospheric neutrino flux as background Calculate flux within cone opening angle matching kinematic angle at given neutrino energy

- 68% of solar disk neutrino flux falls within the cone (assume Sun is a point source)
- Background isotropic (angle averaged flux)



### Solar Atmospheric Neutrino Analysis

- Strategy:
  - Muon neutrinos for good pointing
  - Up-going neutrino events (reject large atmospheric muon background) → consider declination angles of δ = 5° to -30°
  - Base analysis on well tested existing data samples
    - Check suitable samples for their sensitivity and optimize cuts where needed





#### Event Expectation Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos

- Using point source analysis sample we determine the expected event rates as function of the distance from the Sun
- Assume emission of solar atmospheric neutrinos homogeneously over the surface of the Sun
- Optimize signal to sqrt(background) ratio based on energy and angle selection cut

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#### Event Expectation Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos





# Next steps

- Cut & Count sensitivity
  - Sensitivity falls short by factor of ~3 compared to expected signal flux (assuming 3 years of data)
    - Promising ! With careful optimization we might be able to find an excess ?
- Improvements
  - Lifetime
    - 7years of full IceCube detector data are available
  - Detection channels
    - All flavors (not just muon neutrinos)
  - Likelihood analysis
    - Likelihood based on energy (E) and angle to the Sun ( $\psi$ )





## Signal Expectation and Systematics

- Signal expectations
  - Consider extreme cases:
  - (1) Point source at the center of the Sun
  - (2) Rim of the Sun
  - (3) Homogenous over the surface of the Sun
  - Different Signal Models / Distributions
- Systematics

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- Signal acceptance
  - Detector systematics (ice, DOM efficiency, ...)
- Background

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Use off-source region (background prediction from data itself)

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## Solar Atmospheric Neutrino Floor

Kenny C. Y. Ng, John F. Beacom, Annika H. G. Peter, Carsten Rott Phys.Rev. D96 (2017) no.10, 103006 [astro-ph/1703.10280]



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## Cosmic background from the Sun



- Natural background to Solar Dark Matter Searches !
- However, energy spectrum expected to be different
- DM annihilation neutrinos significantly attenuated above a few 100GeV

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## Cosmic background from the Sun



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- However, energy spectrum expected to be different
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#### Expect ~2events per year at cubic kilometer detector



#### Recent works on the Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos / **Atmospheric Neutrino Floor**

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#### Supersymmetry and Neutrino Floor

- SUSY parameter space scans reveal that many models fall below the neutrino floor
  - Energy spectral information needs to be included to distinguish solar atm. neutrinos from a DM signal
  - Solar atm. neutrinos are identifiable through their high energy (TeV) component



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## Outlook



- Solar Atmospheric Neutrinos seem to be in reach of IceCube
  - First high energy neutrino point source ?
  - Expect results early next year

#### IceCube Gen2 Facility



#### **10 Big Ideas for Future NSF Investments**

Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multi-messenger Astrophysics



We have arrived at a special moment in our quest to understand the universe. For years, we have been making observations across the known electromagnetic spectrum -- from radio waves to gamma rays -- and many great discoveries have been made as a result. Now, for the first time, we are able to observe the world around us in fundamentally different ways than we previously thought possible. Using a powerful and synthetic collection of approaches, we have expanded the known spectrum of understanding and observing reality. Just as electromagnetic radiation gives one view of the universe, particles such as neutrinos and cosmic rays provide a different view. Gravitational waves give yet another.

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## High-energy neutrino search 6years

REAKTHROU

#### HESE 6yrs 80 events (track-like & showers) observed Expected from the Earth atmosphere ~41 events

Energy Threshold



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1.0

# The IceCube Upgrade



#### Sungkyunkwan Gen2 Ice Camera System







- Ice properties dominant source of sys. uncertainties for most analyses
- Solution: Low cost camera system
  - Monitor freeze in
  - Hole ice studies
  - Local ice environment
  - Position of the sensor in the hole
  - Geometry calibration
  - Survey capability

# SKKU Spice Core Camera

#### SKKU SPICE Hole camera



80cm

# IceCube Gen2

- IceCube has provided an amazing san of events, but is still statistics limited
- Observed astrophysical flux is consist with a isotropic flux of equal amount all neutrino flavors
  - So far non of the analyses has sho any evidence for point sources
- Where are the point sources?
- What is the flavor composition?
- What is the spectrum? Cutoff?
- Transients ?
- Multi-messenger physics?
- GZK neutrinos?
- New physics or something unexpecte





## Conclusions



## Conclusions

- The Sun is an exciting target for neutrino telescopes
  - IceCube set the worlds best bound on spin-dependent dark matter nucleon scattering for masses above 100GeV
  - Cosmic ray shadow provides clues about propagation in the inner solar system
  - Solar atmospheric neutrinos might be observable in the near future
    - First sensitivity evaluated further optimization on going
- Observing solar atmospheric neutrinos is important for:
  - Understanding solar magnetic fields
  - Cosmic ray propagation in the inner solar system
  - Improving models of CR interactions in the solar atmosphere
  - Identifying a first high-energy neutrino point source

#### Arrival directions (highest energy events)

IceCube Collaboration, Science 342, 1242856 (2013)



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Nachrichten > Wasenachaft > Natur > Neutrinos > Neutrinos im IceCube-Experiment: Erde verachluckt Gelatertelicher

#### Neutrino-Experiment Erde verschluckt geheimnisvolle Geistertelichen

Neutrinos rasen weitgehend ungestört durchs All, weil sie fast nicht mit normaler Materie Interagieren. Aber nur fast. Ausgerechnet unsere Erde ist ein effizienter Neutrino-Killer, wie ein Experiment beweist.







#### Gamma-ray flux within 9° of the Sun





#### Gamma-ray flux within 9° of the Sun



FIG. 2. Left: Angular distribution of the 1–10 GeV intensity in the Sun ROI. Black points show the observed data with statistical uncertainties only. Colored histograms show the fitted results for the signal and two backgrounds (the estimate of the diffuse background incorporates independent data from the fake Suns). The inset shows the same with smaller angular bins, but without the two solar components (note the different vertical scale). Right: Same, but for 10–100 GeV (note the lower flux).

## Fermi 18month Analysis



## Fermi 18month Analysis



# Data Analysis

- Fermi science tools version v9r33p0
- Weekly **P7REP** data set from week 010 321
  - 2008-08-07 to 2014-07-31
- Weeks are divided into 40 equal time segments
  - The data of the time segments are stacked with the Sun in the centre position
    - Binning with pixel size of 0.1°x0.1°
    - Movement of the Sun is small compared to its diameter
- Event Selections
  - DATA\_QUAL == 1
  - LAT\_CONFUG==1

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ABS(ROCK\_ANGLE<52)</li>

Exposure time reduced by 40% Total photon count reduced by 76%

Solar Positional drift ~0.2° Sun diameter ~0.5° LAT PSF ~1° (@1GeV) / 0.1° (>10GeV)

> Remove data periods when the Sun is near the Galactic plane lbl<30°

# **Data Selection**



- Total gamma-ray flux (I-I.8 GeV) within I.5° from the Sun
- Periods with significant flaring have been remove

