

PIERRE AUGER OBSERVATORY

RD event reconstruction and mass sensitivity

Spectral slope model for future improvements Uncertainty estimation with RICE distribution

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Extensive Air Showers

Source

EAS initiated by UHECRs

Ultra-High-Energy Cosmic Rays

CR Acceleration & Propagation to Earth

CR First interaction with the Earth atmosphere UHECR E>10¹⁸eV



EAS

Development of particles cascade

Xmax

Hybrid detection at Auger

Largest ground-based observatory combining several detection techniques



- Acceleration mechanisms?

- Composition?

This talk: focus on composition and Radio detection of UHECRs at the Pierre Auger Observatory



PIERRE AUGER

The Pierre Auger Observatory

Located in Argentina, 3000km²



Surface Detector (SD)



- Water Cherenkov Detectors (WCDs)
- 1600 stations on 1.5km grid

Fluorescence Detector (FD)



- 24 optical telescopes
- 4 sites
- atm. monitoring



Auger Engineering Radio Array (AERA)

- Radio detectors
- Coincidence with SD
- freq. band: 30-80 MHz
- Vertical showers
- E ~ 10¹⁷eV 10¹⁹eV
- 150 stations over 17 km²



The Pierre Auger Observatory

Located in Argentina, 3000km²



Fluorescence Detector (FD)



- Sensitive to the mass of the primary particle ($\rm X_{\rm max}$)

- Operation time limited by day light, moon light, clouds ...

Surface Detector (SD)



- Not sensitive to the mass
- 100% uptime



Upgrade to increase UHECR mass sensitivity

Mass sensitivity

Heitler-Mathews



WCD sensitive to muons

Upgrade SD to get sensitive to elm particles

AugerPrime



Ongoing upgrade of the Pierre Auger Observatory

Surface Scintillator Detector (SSD)

- 3.84 m² plastic scintillator panel on top of 1400 tanks

AugerPrime Radio Detector (RD)

- SALLA located on top of each tank
- Sensitive to radio in 30-80 MHz
- Trigger from WCD
- Mass deployment started and expected to be over by the end of 2023!
- RD-EA engineering array (10 antennas) already operative since end of 2021
 - background measurments
 - first showers



AugerPrime

Ongoing upgrade of the Pierre Auger Observatory

SSD+ WCD

SSD loses sensitivity for more inclined air showers \rightarrow vertical air showers (0° $\leq \theta \leq 60^{\circ}$)

RD + WCD

Works well with <u>inclined</u> <u>air showers</u> ($65^{\circ} \leq \theta \leq 85^{\circ}$)



Radio Detector

Complete mass deployment by the end of 2023 ... more air showers data soon!

- Radio reconstruction algorithm implemented in

 \overline{Off} line (official Auger simulation and reconstruction framework)

- Expected performance of RD
- Expected sensitivity to mass composition Work done by Felix Schlueter during his PhD



→ Ready!

Radio Reconstruction

E-field reconstruction

- Digital to analog conversion, upsampling, Hann window etc.
- Unfolding of the response of the signal-processing chain (LNA, impedance matching, filter amplifiers...)
- Unfolding of the antenna response (NEC-2) to get the E-field (EW, NS, N)

Calibrated signals (see Max Buesken's talk on last Monday)

- Decomposition of the E-field in the $\ensuremath{\text{shower plane}}$ coordinate system
- Estimation of signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)
- Estimation of the **energy fluence** $f [eV m^{-2}]$, the energy deposit per unit area

Still room for improvements (this talk, more in the next slides)





Radio Reconstruction

Geomagnetic energy fluence

- Analytic correction of early-late asymmetry

 Parameterized subtraction of charge-excess emission

 → 1-dim I DF

Radiation energy

- **LDF fit** to estimate the geo radiation energy E_{aeo} (energy emitted in form of waves)
- Correction on E_{geo} compensate for the second-order scaling with the geomagnetic angle and air density at Xmax

Electromagnetic energy





Signal Estimation

SNR quantification over the 3 polarizations

$$SNR = \left(\frac{|A_{tot}^{hilb}|_{max}}{V_{RMS}^{noise}}\right)^2$$

At the moment SNR cut is applied to determine presence of signal in a station

Estimation of the energy fluence



100 ns window around the Hilbert envelope peak



Uncertainties on the **energy fluence** underestimated (see backup slides)

Goal: get rid of the SNR selection and obtain better estimation of the signals and their uncertainties



CAVEAT: radio signal has amplitude and phase!

Our **measurement** can be expressed as: sum of **constant known phasor s** and a **random phasor sum**

Joint density function for **amplitude and phase:**

$$p_{A\Theta}(a,\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{2\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left[-\frac{(a\cos\theta - s)^2 + (a\sin\theta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] & -\pi < \theta \le \pi \text{ and} \\ a > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Based on Chapter 2.9 from J. W. Goodman, Statistical Optics (2015)

Marginal density function for amplitude only:





100 ns window around the Hilbert envelope peak

FFT in the signal window

$$p_A(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2 + s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right) & a > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

 $a(f) \rightarrow our measurement$

. . .



80 noise windows 100 ns wide along the 8192 ns trace

FFT in the noise windows

$$p_A(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2 + s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right) & a > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

σ(f) → noise level σ = μ / √(π/2)





Get estimators of s for each frequency bin using the maximum of the Likelihood function

$$p_A(a) = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2 + s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right) & a > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{dL(s)}{ds}\Big|_{s=s_{\mathrm{ML}}} = 0$$
$$L(s \mid a = a_0, \sigma = \sigma_0) = \frac{a}{\sigma^2} \cdot exp\left(-\frac{a^2 + s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cdot I_0\left(\frac{as}{\sigma^2}\right), \quad s \ge 0$$





Uncertainty Estimation with Rice





a a.u.

Bias with Rice (work in progress)

S pure simulated signal
 N noise (from background measurements)

 $\underline{S + N}$ measurement

Add to the same simulation different noise and **study the bias obtained for the energy fluence**

 \rightarrow Compare to the bias of the actual standard estimation

Offline: storing f, s, sigma, uncertainties in the ParameterStorage to have the full likelihood



Frequency spectrum

$$\theta = 85.0^{\circ}, \phi = 45^{\circ}, E = 10^{18.6} \text{ eV}, D = 1843 \text{ m}$$



A further improvement would be to use a Signal model describing the shape of the frequency

spectrum and fit all points maximizing the likelihood $\mathscr{L} = \sum_{i} -\log(P(x_i | S_i, \sigma)) = -\sum_{i} \log(\operatorname{Rice}(x_i, S_i, \sigma))$

Frequency spectrum



Frequency slope

Lateral distance function

$$f(r) = A_1 \cdot \left[-e^{B \cdot (r-r_0)} + A_2 \cdot e^{-C \cdot (r-r_0)^2} \right]$$



Parameterization as a function of the geometrical distance between core and shower maximum



Conclusions

- Mass deployment of RD completed by the end of 2023
- Radio reconstruction algorithm available in Offline
- Ongoing improvements about the signal estimation using the Rice distribution willl be soon implemented in Offline
- Parameterization of the spectral content of radio emission in 30-80 MHz available for future improvements (constrain geometry)

Backup

Early-late asymmetry

Charge-excess asymmetry











Resolution: how good we reconstruct the energy, std of Eem /EemMC in zenith bins

The relative uncertainties do not match the resolution \rightarrow uncertainties underestimated

Goodness of the LDF fits: too small p-values \rightarrow uncertainties probably underestimated



Rice distribution: a trivial example



FFTs computed from whole traces



$$\sigma = \mu / \sqrt{(\pi/2)}$$

of the noise trace

S mean value of the signal trace

Rice distribution: a less trivial example (a)







Amplitudes in the 30.0-80.0 MHz

S mean value of the signal trace $\sigma = \mu I \sqrt{(\pi/2)}$

Rice distribution: a less trivial example (b)







Amplitudes in the 30.0-80.0 MHz

S mean value of the signal trace $\sigma = \mu I \sqrt{(\pi/2)}$

Slightly steeper frequency spectrum





Toy MC

Binned MC signal &ML signal estimator







Bias normalized to the mean value of MC bin



Example of estimators for a given trace, s from pure simulation without noise



Single-event lateral distribution

Frequency slopes of the Geo component from a simulation having $\theta = 85.0^{\circ}, \ \phi = 45^{\circ}, \ E = 10^{18.6} \text{ eV}$



Flattening of the spectrum \rightarrow shorter pulses and coherence

Slope lateral distribution: fit vs parameterized values



Parameterization: Geomagnetic frequency slope

$$f(r) = A_1 \cdot \left[-e^{B \cdot (r-r_0)} + A_2 \cdot e^{-C \cdot (r-r_0)^2} \right]$$

$$r_0(d_{\max}) = \frac{-3.558}{d_{\max}} \cdot \log(d_{\max}) + 1.738$$

$$\frac{B(d_{\max})}{C(d_{\max})} = \frac{-7.078}{d_{\max}} \cdot \log(d_{\max}) + 1.625$$

$$A_2(d_{\max}) = \frac{3.468}{d_{\max}} \cdot \left[\log(0.2335 \cdot d_{\max}) + 0.4805 \,\mathrm{km}\right] + 0.5863$$

$$C(d_{\max}) = 0.9985^{-d_{\max}/km} - \frac{0.2155}{km} \cdot \log(d_{\max} - 11.69\,km) + 0.6492$$

$$A_1(d_{\max}) = \left[\frac{-0.3792}{d_{\max}} \cdot \log(0.2008 \cdot d_{\max}) + \frac{4.057 \cdot 10^{-5}}{\mathrm{km}} \cdot d_{\max} + 0.0359\right] \mathrm{MHz}^{-1}$$

Xmax dependence

