





Sensitivity Study of IceCube-Gen2 Surface Array for Cosmic-Ray Anisotropy

Wenjie Hou for the IceCube-Gen2 Collaboration

TAUP 2023, Vienna, 30.08.23

Institute for Astroparticle Physics (IAP), Institute of Experimental Particle Physics (ETP) Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Karlsruhe, Germany



IceCube-Gen2: extending the IceCube Neutrino Obs.

an order of magnitude larger *deep optical* and *surface* arrays
sparse *in-ice radio* array for detection of Askaryan emission from ultra-high-energy neutrinos







Wenjie Hou | wenjie.hou@kit.edu



IceCube

Surface array of IceCube-Gen2



1 surface station per optical string (120), 240m spacing between stations

 + extra stations as surface enhancement of IceTop, the surface array of IceCube

Gen2 surface array: bigger aperture with increase in max. energy and accuracy for mass

- ×8 aperture surface only (8 km²), \sim 6.6 km² eff.
- > 30× aperture for coincidences with optical inice part



IceCube-Gen2 surface array: energy



Energy reach until Ankle: Galactic-to-extragalactic Transition (unsolved problem)



4/17

Cosmic-ray dipole anisotropy



- studying the anisotropy in the arrival directions of cosmic rays
- → strong constraints (the energy of the transition from Galactic to extra-galactic origin of cosmic rays)



Motivation of this work



Reconstructed dipole amplitude

- missing part on the reconstructed dipole amplitude plot with the main experiments data
- Gen2 will be able to fill in a part of the gap on the dipole anisotropy plot
- be able to know the sensitivity of Gen2 for CR anisotropy before the detection 10 years latter
- compare with the up limits by the observations of KASCADE and Pierre Auger Obs.

dipole anisotropy



CORSIKA simulations of cosmic ray air showers



IceCube-Gen2 surface array simulation
Hadronic interaction model: Sibyll 2.3d
Sim1: log10(E/GeV): (4, 8), zenith: sin²θ ≤ 0.6
Sim2: log10(E/GeV): (4, 7.5), zenith: sin²θ ≤ 0.8
The efficiency plots: Sim1 + Sim2 (sin²θ of 0.6-0.8)

Steps for getting **reconstruction efficiency**

- 100 m cut along the surface array edge (polygon)
- Scintillator triggered times ≥ 5
- Fit with 2d function (or by LLH)
- Estimation of Helium, Nitrogen, Aluminum by InA (logarithmic mass dependence of the cosmic-ray primaries)

Cosmic-ray air shower reconstruction efficiency





Reconstruction efficiency and Arrival directions





$$\epsilon_{\text{tot}}(E,\theta) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{5} \epsilon_i(E,\theta) \phi_{\text{H4a},i}(E)}{\sum_{i=1}^{5} \phi_{\text{H4a},i}(E)}$$

i: 5 primary particles



2d fit function of the 2d histogram:

$$N_{\text{eff},ij} = \int_{\theta_{\min}}^{\theta_{\max}} \int_{E_{j-1}}^{E_j} \epsilon_i (E,\theta) N_{\text{H4a},i} (E) dE d\theta$$

- j: 10 energy bins
- N_{H4a}: number of arrival directions with reco. Eff & 10 years exposure



Sensitivity studies of CR anisotropy: MC simulation



Injected arrival directions of primary particles (with dipoles):

- Gen2 surface array exposure + Gaisser H4a flux model
- Air shower reconstruction efficiency

Energy range: 1 PeV ~ 175 PeV, bin size: 0.4 (log₁₀E/GeV)

Exposure time: 10 years

Total events: ~ 8.4 billion

Dipole setup of arrival directions

Dipole location: right ascension: 270°, declination: (-80°, 80°)

declination bin size: 10° dipole amplitudes: 15 A per bin

Dipole amplitude input (true dipole): (7×10⁻³, 9.56×10⁻¹)

Reconstructed dipole amplitudes

Relativity intensity and dipole amplitude



Dipole maps

data maps & background maps

- 15 amplitude input & 15 maps with large significance in each energy bins
- selection of amplitude input (6 E bins): from 7 × 10⁻³ up to 9.56 × 10⁻¹
- different energy bins covering different ranges of the amplitude

relative intensity:
$$\delta I = \frac{N_{ipix} - \langle N \rangle_{ipix}}{\langle N \rangle_{ipix}}$$

Relative intensity sky maps: e.g. E1 (1.7 PeV)



- 1d projection fit to the first harmonic
- $\blacksquare \rightarrow 15$ reconstructed amplitude in each energy bin
 - $\mathcal{A}_{_{1}}$, $\mathcal{A}_{_{2}}$, $\mathcal{A}_{_{3}}$, $\mathcal{A}_{_{4}}$,..., $\mathcal{A}_{_{15}}$
- Error bars from covariance matrix of fitting (standard deviation 1σ)

Dipole sensitivity to the cosmic ray anisotropy



Sensitivity: number of sigmas

Common approach: $n_{\sigma} = (X_i - \mu)/\sigma$

This work: $n_{\sigma} = (A_{reco} - A_{hypo}) / \sigma_{A}$ with $A_{hypo} = 0$

 \rightarrow significance of a dipole deviation from a null hypothesis

 $\rightarrow \sigma_{A}$ from the covariance matrix in the corresponding first harmonic fit of the 1D projected map

 $\sigma_{A} \propto 1/\sqrt{N}$ verified by MC, a similar case in paper [1]

 $\blacksquare n_{\sigma} = S(\delta_{d}, \delta_{obs.}) \mathcal{A} \forall N$ (S is the sensitivity coefficient)

True dipole:
$$n_{\sigma} = S_{true} A_{true} \sqrt{N}$$

The corresponding reconstructed dipole: $n_{\sigma} = S_{reco} A_{reco} \sqrt{N}$

Sensitivity coefficients

Plot: scatter points $(n_{d}/\sqrt{N}, A)$

• \rightarrow Sensitivity coefficient is the slope of the points

[W. Hou PoS ICRC2023 354]

Dipole sensitivity to the cosmic ray anisotropy



Sensitivity coefficients:



[W. Hou PoS ICRC2023 354]

Sensitivity coefficient (S) of reco. dipole

Sensitivity coefficient (S) of true dipole



Wenjie Hou wenjie.hou@kit.edu

Dipole sensitivity to the cosmic ray anisotropy



Ratio between reconstructed dipole and the corresponding true dipole: A_{reco}/A_{true}

Small reconstruction ratio for larger declinations of dipole



Sensitivity plot



- Fill in between the top and bottom of A(dec) at each energy bin
 - Left: sensitivity with reco. A compared with reco. data of obs., but different reco. ratio A_{reco}/A_{true}
 - Right: sensitivity with true A, (KA: small FoV \rightarrow small reco. ratio, Auger: large FoV \rightarrow A_{reco} close to A_{true})

Sensitivity band with reco. A



Sensitivity band with true A



An example: sky map with a certain dipole sensitivity



- dipole orientation: (270°, −10°)
- 📘 median energy: 176 PeV
- Injected true dipole amplitude: 0.0144
- reconstructed amplitude 9 × 10⁻³
- with 20° top hat smoothing





Summary



- We present the 2D function of the air shower reconstruction efficiency of proton and iron primaries for the IceCube-Gen2 surface array based on CORSIKA simulation, estimate the helium, nitrogen, and aluminum
- Simulate the CR arrival directions for the surface array using Monte-Carlo simulation by injecting 15 different dipoles at declinations ranging from –80° to 80° for 7 energy bins
- We compare the actual sky map of an injected dipole with a reference map without a dipole, make the sky maps of relative intensity and perform 1D projections of the sky maps and fit them with first harmonic functions
- To assess the sensitivity of IceCube-Gen2 surface array to a dipole anisotropy, we consider a null hypothesis and the propagation of the sigmas
- We get the sensitivity function and show the 3σ and 5σ sensitivity to the CR dipole anisotropy with curves and bands for the surface array



Thank you!

Wenjie Hou wenjie.hou@kit.edu



Absolute difference between simulations and the fits: *diff = sim-fit*







e.g.: 1.7PeV RI 1d projection

Wenjie Hou | wenjie.hou@kit.edu



Estimated reconstruction efficiencies

- The reconstruction efficiencies for helium, nitrogen, and aluminum using the natural logarithm of their mass number, denoted as ln A.
- This estimation is based on the logarithmic mass dependence of the cosmic-ray primaries
- The reconstruction efficiency for helium, nitrogen, and aluminum can be written as

$$\epsilon(A_i, E, z) = \frac{\ln A_i}{\ln A_{\rm Fe} - \ln A_{\rm P}} \left[\epsilon_{\rm Fe}(E, z) - \epsilon_{\rm P}(E, z)\right] + \epsilon_{\rm P}(E, z),$$



Zoom-in dipole sensitivity plot

In the first two energy bins



Sreco shows nearly consistent results with all dec (in the first two energy bins)



Sensitivity band with reco. A and true A

Combined sensitivity plot

