

# Status of the GRAND experiment

Charles Timmermans

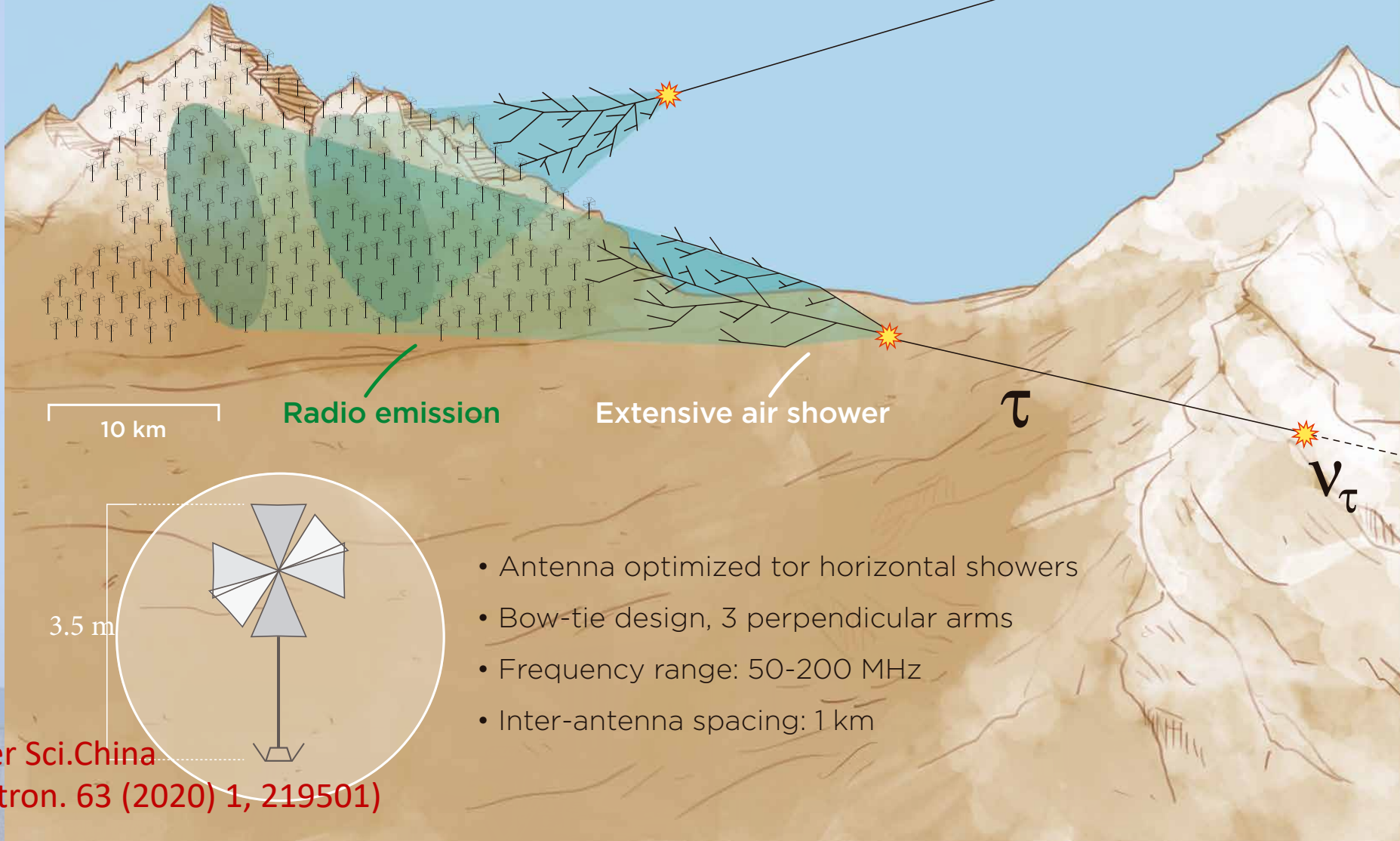


8/24/23

Charles Timmermans - ISMD 2023

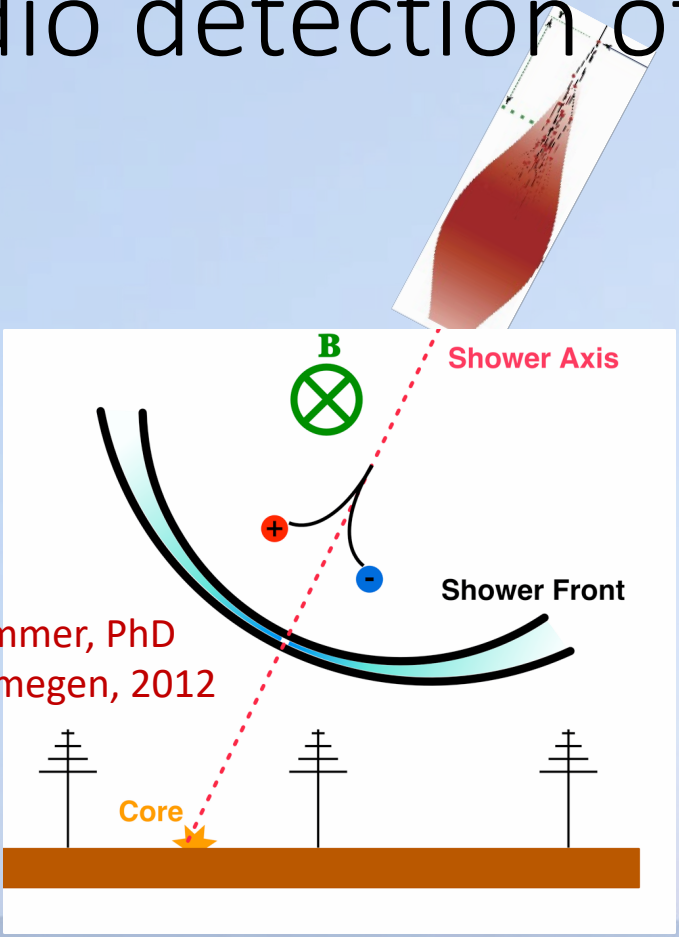




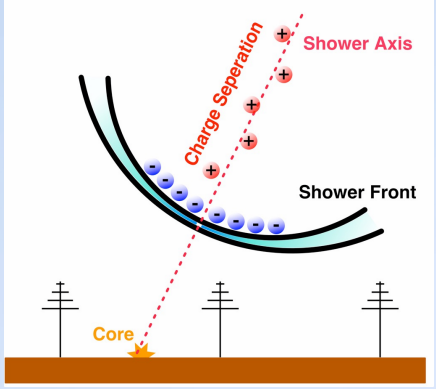


(Modified after Sci.China  
Phys.Mech.Astron. 63 (2020) 1, 219501)

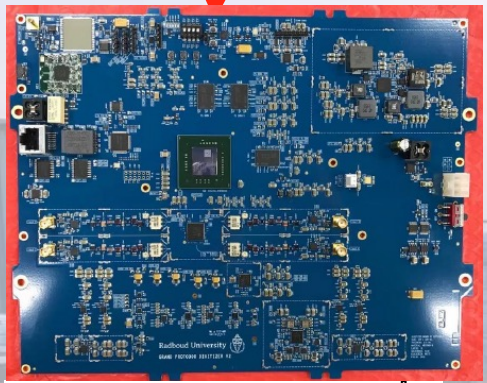
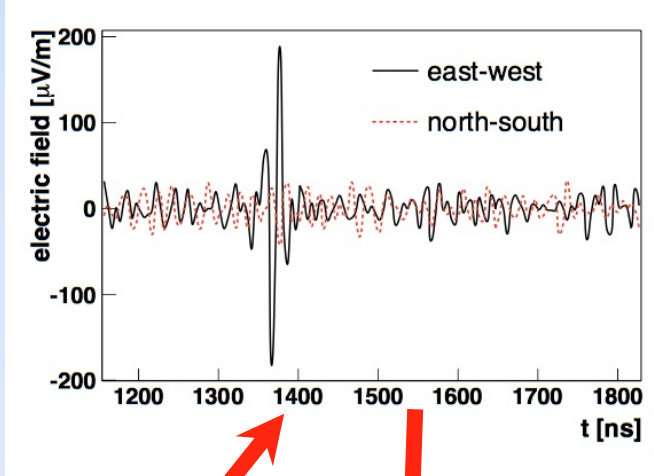
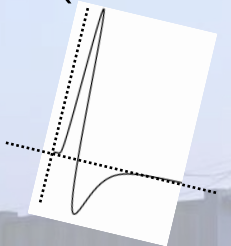
# Radio detection of air showers



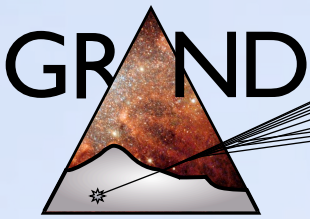
H. Schoorlemmer, PhD thesis U. Nijmegen, 2012



Short Pulse (~100ns)







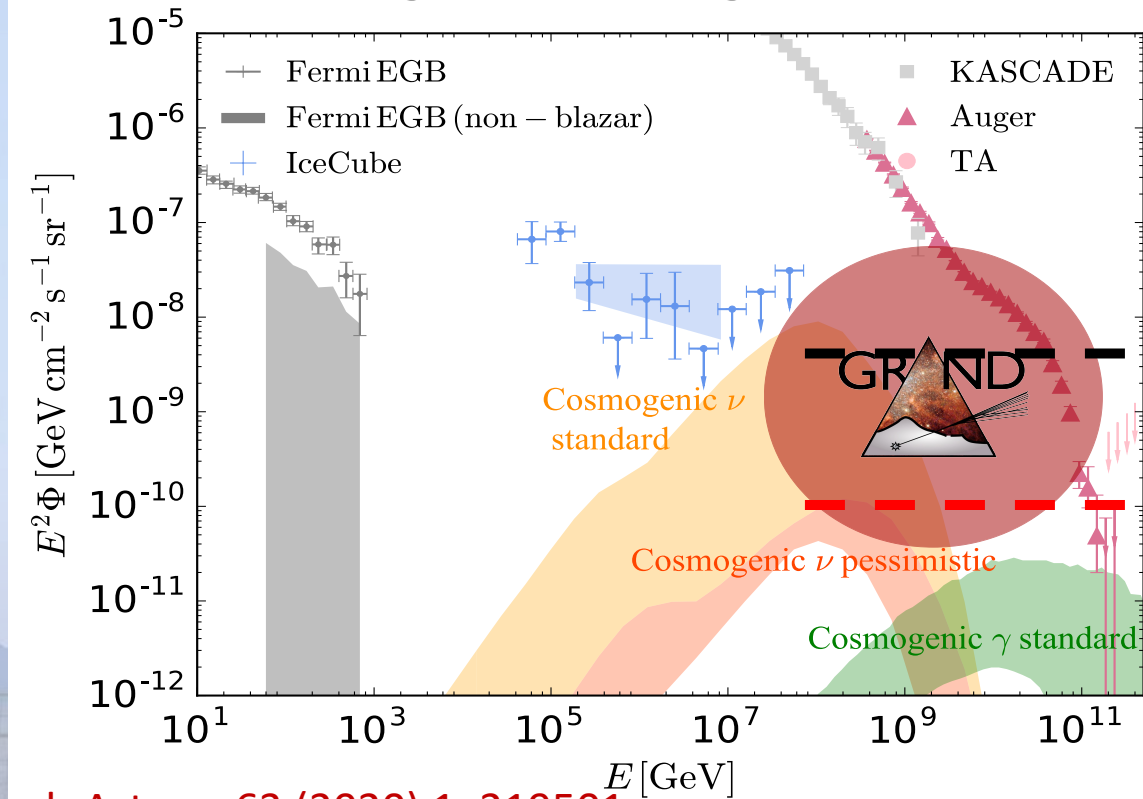
# GRAND Fundamental Parameters

- Layout: 10-20 arrays with a combined area of 200,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 24/7 near 4  $\pi$  sky coverage
- Angular Resolution <0.05 degrees ([ArXiv 2107.03206](#))
- $X_{MAX}$  resolution 20-40 g/cm<sup>2</sup>. ([ArXiv 2112.07542](#))
- Shower Energy resolution  $\sim 15\%$  ([Sci.China Phys.Mech.Astron. 63 \(2020\) 1, 219501](#))
- Neutrino sensitivity  $10^{-10}$  GeV cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup> after  $\sim 10$  years of running
- Fully efficient for UHECR and gamma rays above  $10^{10}$  GeV for zenith angles beyond 65°



# The Physics of GRAND

- GRAND is a multi-messenger experiment with the sensitivity to discover/detect neutrinos at the highest energies



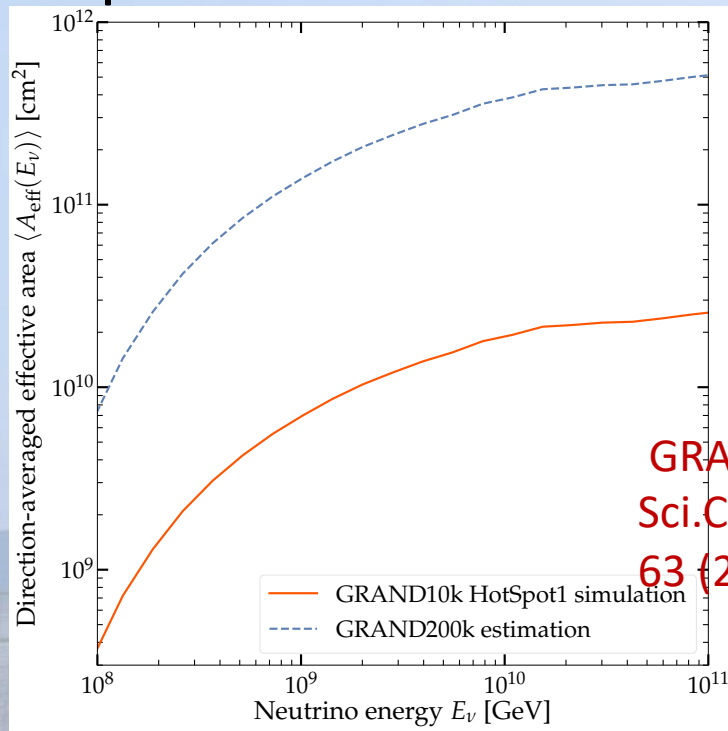
Auger 90% integrated  
diffuse neutrino limit

GRAND 90% integrated  
diffuse neutrino limit  
after 10 years running

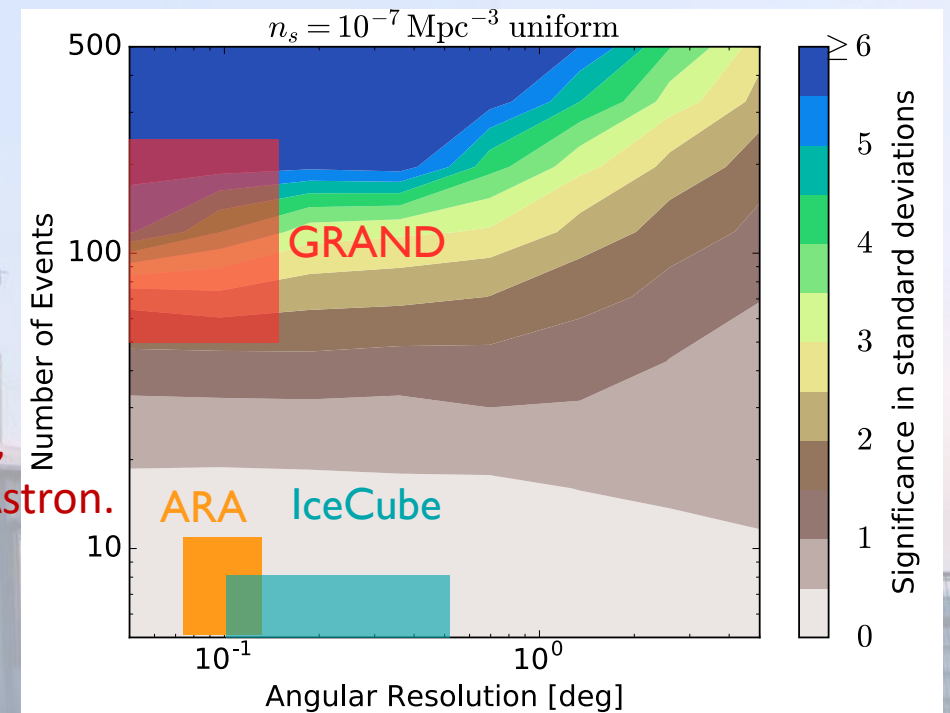
GRAND Collaboration, Sci.China Phys.Mech.Astron. 63 (2020) 1, 219501

# The Physics of GRAND

- GRAND is a multi-messenger experiment with the sensitivity to discover/detect neutrinos at the highest energies
- GRAND will open the field of neutrino astronomy at the highest energies



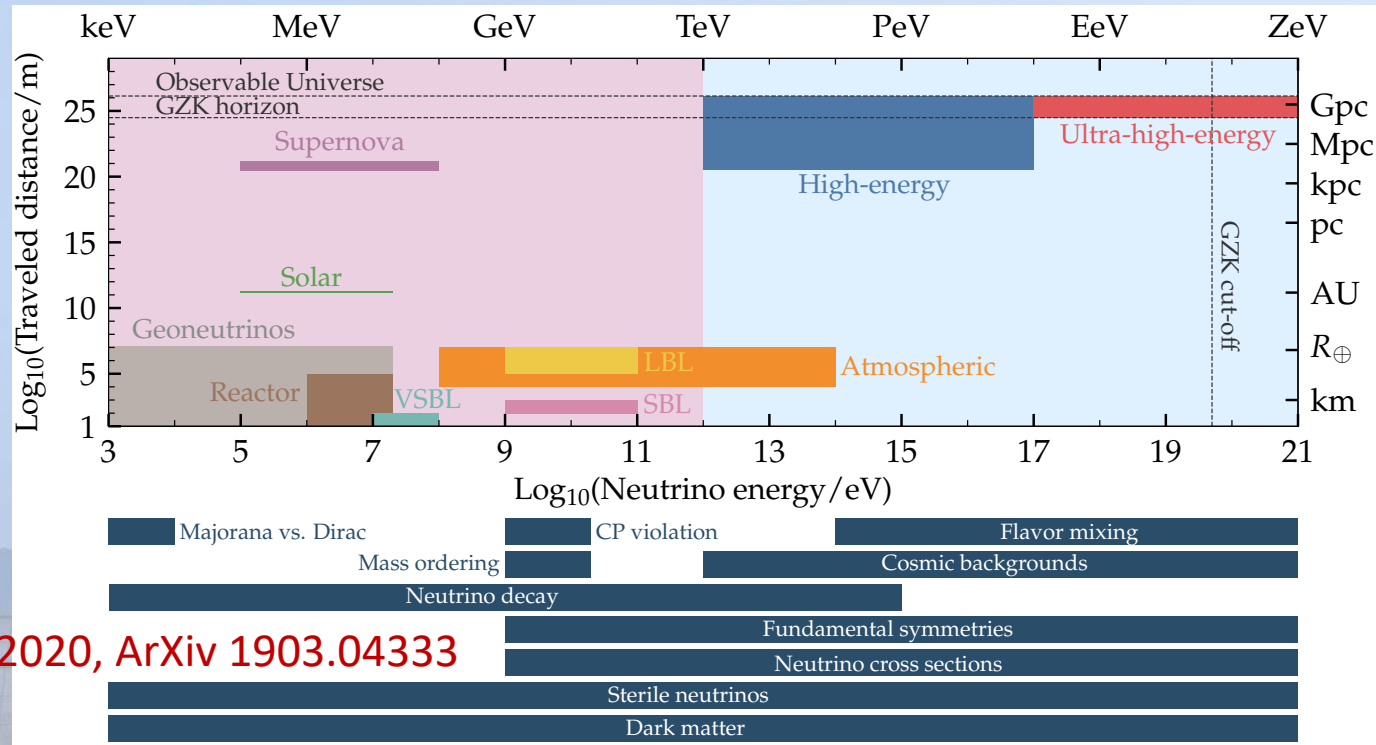
GRAND Collaboration,  
 Sci.China Phys.Mech.Astron.  
 63 (2020) 1, 219501



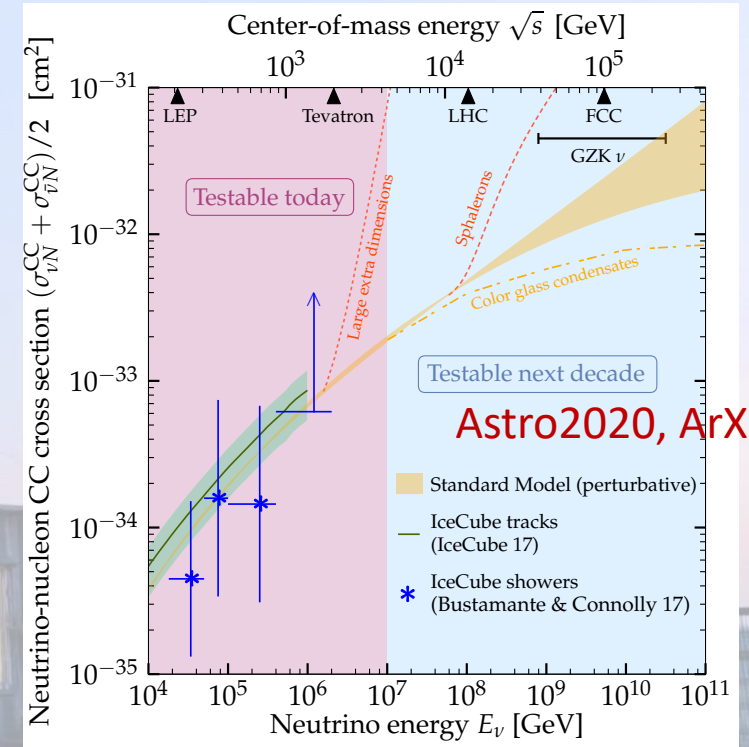


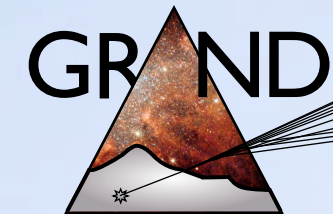
# The Physics of GRAND

- GRAND is a multi-messenger experiment with the sensitivity to discover/detect neutrinos at the highest energies
- GRAND will open the field of neutrino astronomy at the highest energies
- GRAND will measure fundamental properties of UHE interactions



Astro2020, ArXiv 1903.04333





**Particle detectors**  
Penn State U.

**Science case**  
IAP  
Nanjing U.  
NBI  
PMO  
Penn State U.

**Electronics prototyping**  
Nikhef/Radboud U.  
NAOC  
PMO

**Fast Radio Bursts**  
PMO  
Obs. Paris/Nançay

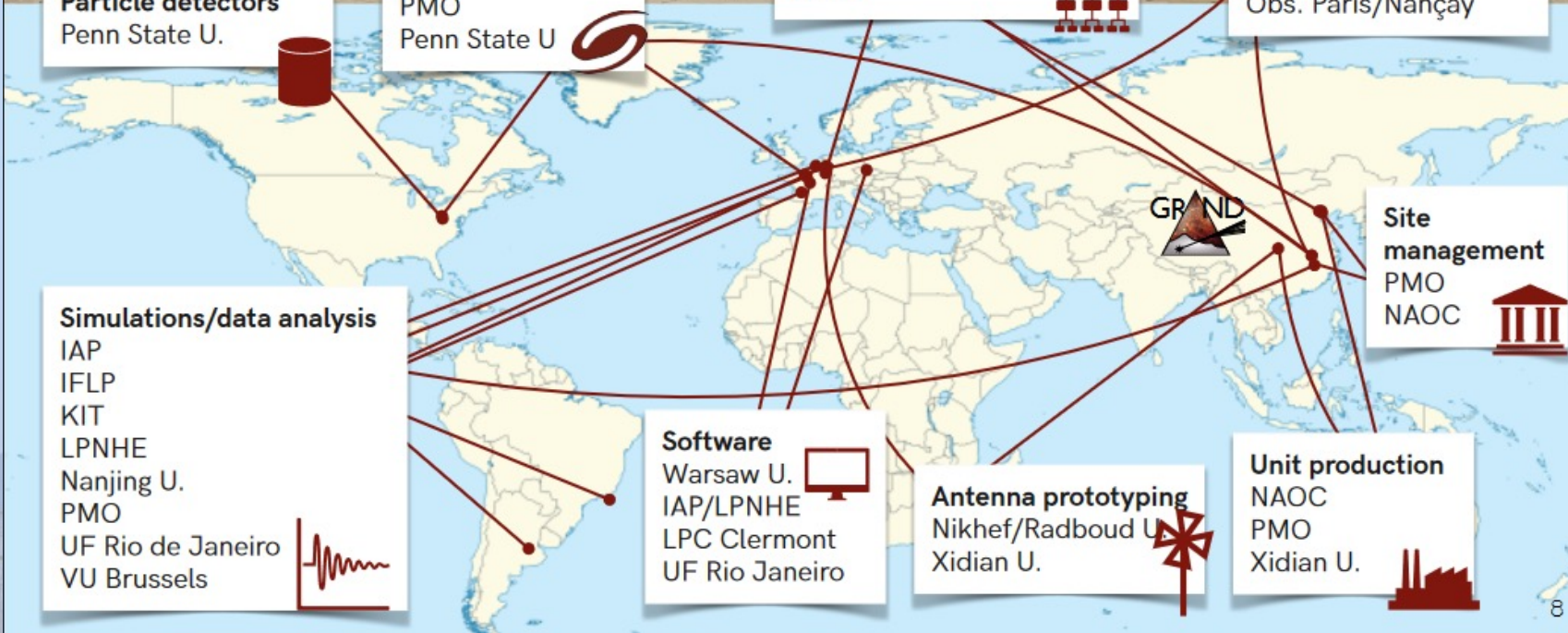
**Simulations/data analysis**  
IAP  
IFLP  
KIT  
LPNHE  
Nanjing U.  
PMO  
UF Rio de Janeiro  
VU Brussels

**Software**  
Warsaw U.  
IAP/LPNHE  
LPC Clermont  
UF Rio Janeiro

**Antenna prototyping**  
Nikhef/Radboud U.  
Xidian U.

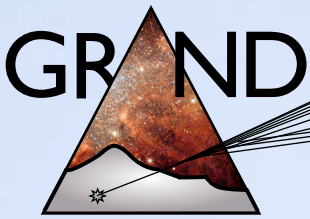
**Unit production**  
NAOC  
PMO  
Xidian U.

**Site management**  
PMO  
NAOC





# A staged approach with self-standing pathfinders



	Prototype stage	GRAND10k	GRAND200k
	2021	2028	203X
Goals	autonomous radio detection of very inclined air-showers  cosmic rays $10^{16.5-18}$ eV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Galactic/extragalactic transition</li> <li>•gamma rays</li> <li>•muon problem</li> <li>•radio transients</li> </ul>	Two GRAND 10K arrays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discovery of EeV neutrinos for optimistic fluxes</li> <li>• radio transients (FRBs!)</li> <li>• one in each hemisphere</li> </ul>	sensitive all-sky detector  1st EeV neutrino detection and neutrino astronomy!
Setup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•GRAND@Nançay: 4 antennas for trigger testing</li> <li>• GRAND@Auger: 10 antennas for cross-calibration</li> <li>• GRANDProto300: 300 antennas over 200 km<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•10,000 radio antennas over 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> on each site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 200,000 antennas over 200,000 km<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• 20 sub-arrays of 10k antennas</li> <li>• on different continents</li> </ul>
Budget	2 M€ 100 antennas produced funded by China + ANR PRCI NUTRIG (France) + Radboud University	13 M€ host country	1500€/unit  300M€ in total to be divided among participating countries

# Prototype setup in Argentina and China

- Sensor antenna, 3 polarizations
- Pole 3.5 m high
- Communication antenna
- GPS antenna
- Inside box: battery, electronics
- Solar panel
- Optimized for horizontal showers



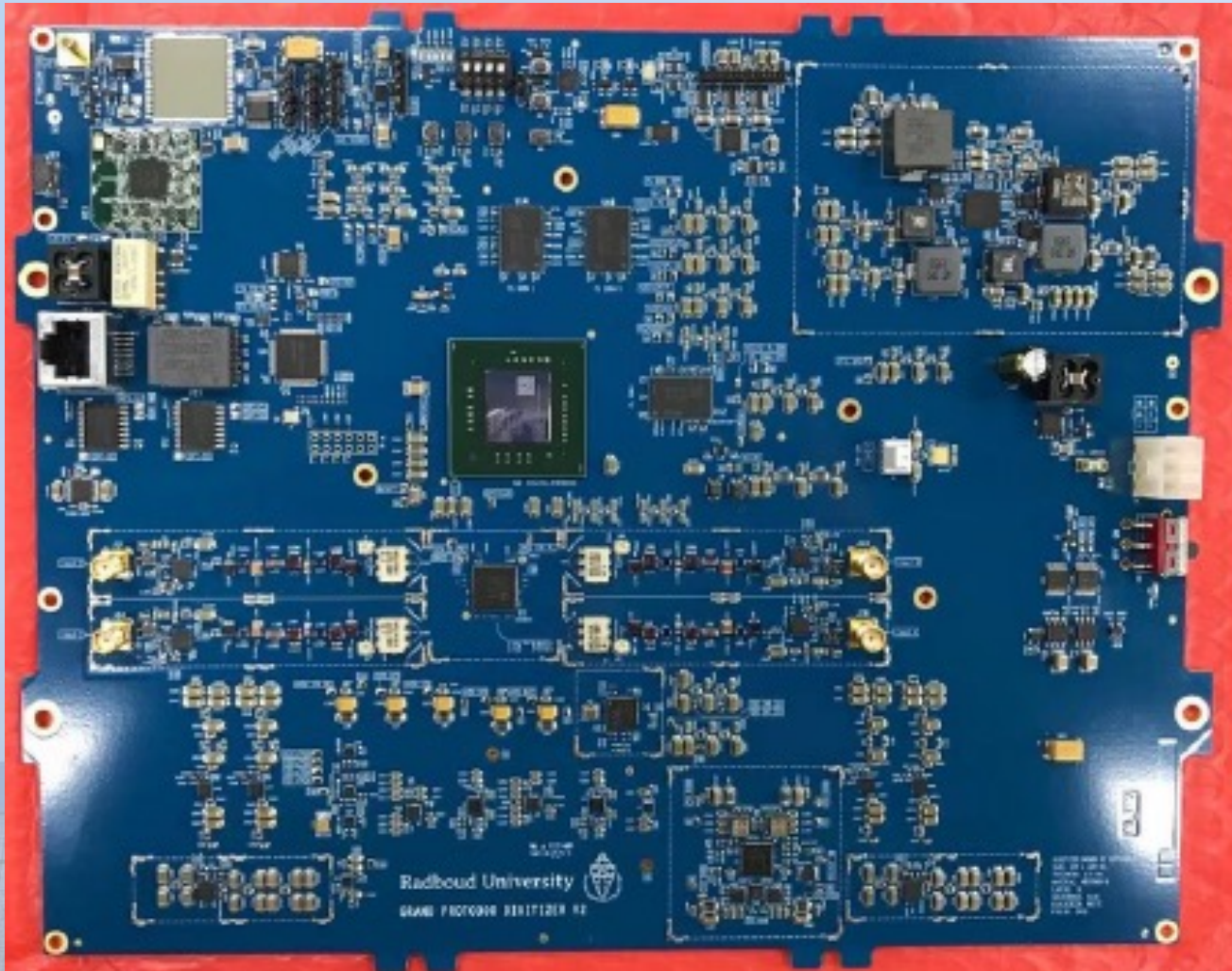
Gansu, China



Malargüe, Argentina



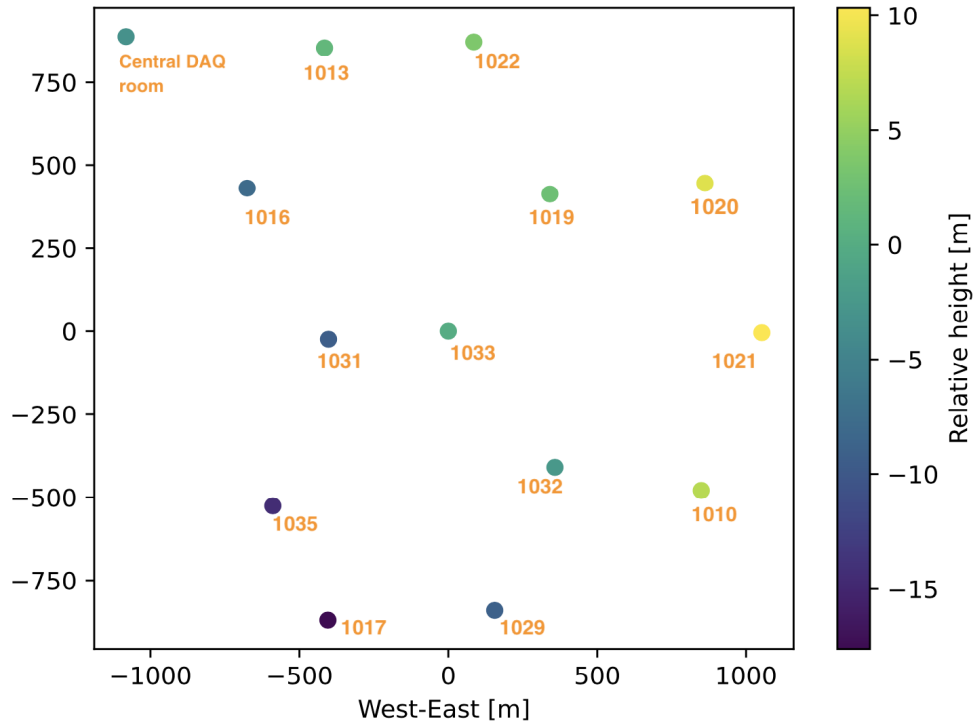
# Prototype Electronics



- 30-230 MHz analog filter
- 500 MSPS ADC
- Powerful FPGA/CPU for flexible digital options in filtering and triggering
- Ethernet output allows for several options for (wireless) data transfer
- Data Transfer:
  - Ubiquity AIRMAX<sup>®</sup> system in China and Auger
  - Data Transfer through fiber in Nançay



# GP13: Prototype in the Northern Hemisphere



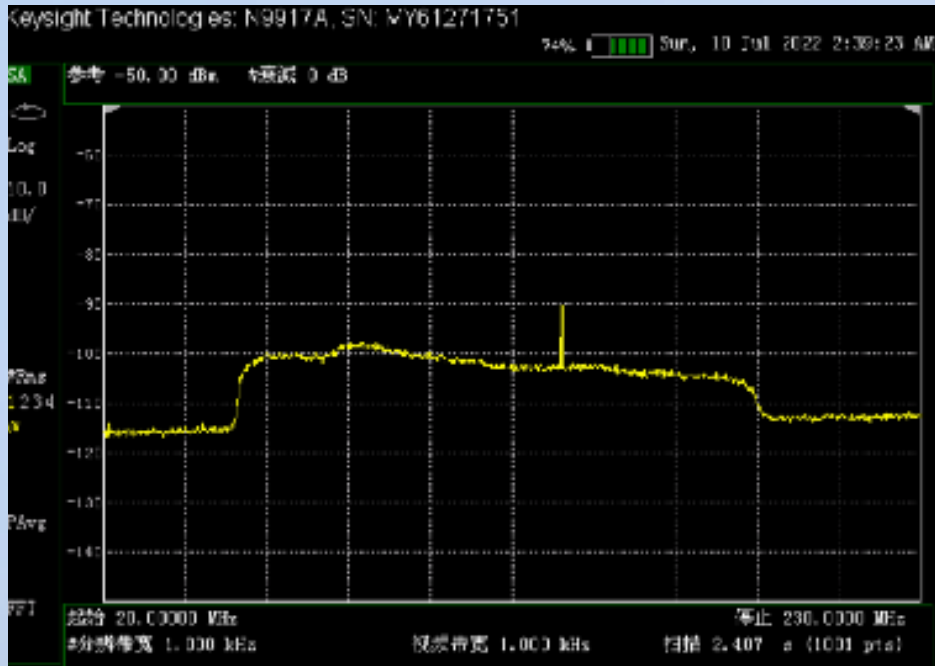
- ★ 13 antennas (+1 reference antenna) deployed in Dunhuang, Gansu, China by Xidian U. & Purple Mountain Observatory
- ★ exceptionally low levels of radio background noise across a wide frequency range, ranging from MHz to hundreds of MHz



GRAND Collaboration, ICRC2023



# GP13: First Data

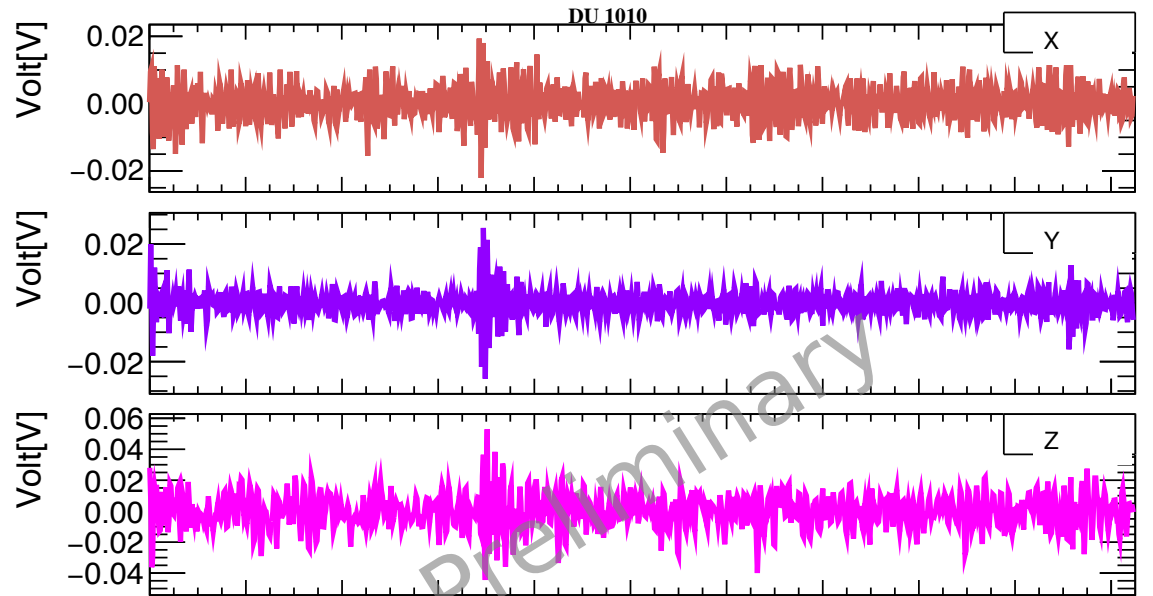


GRAND Collaboration, ICRC2023

Background verified with spectrum analyzer

8/24/23

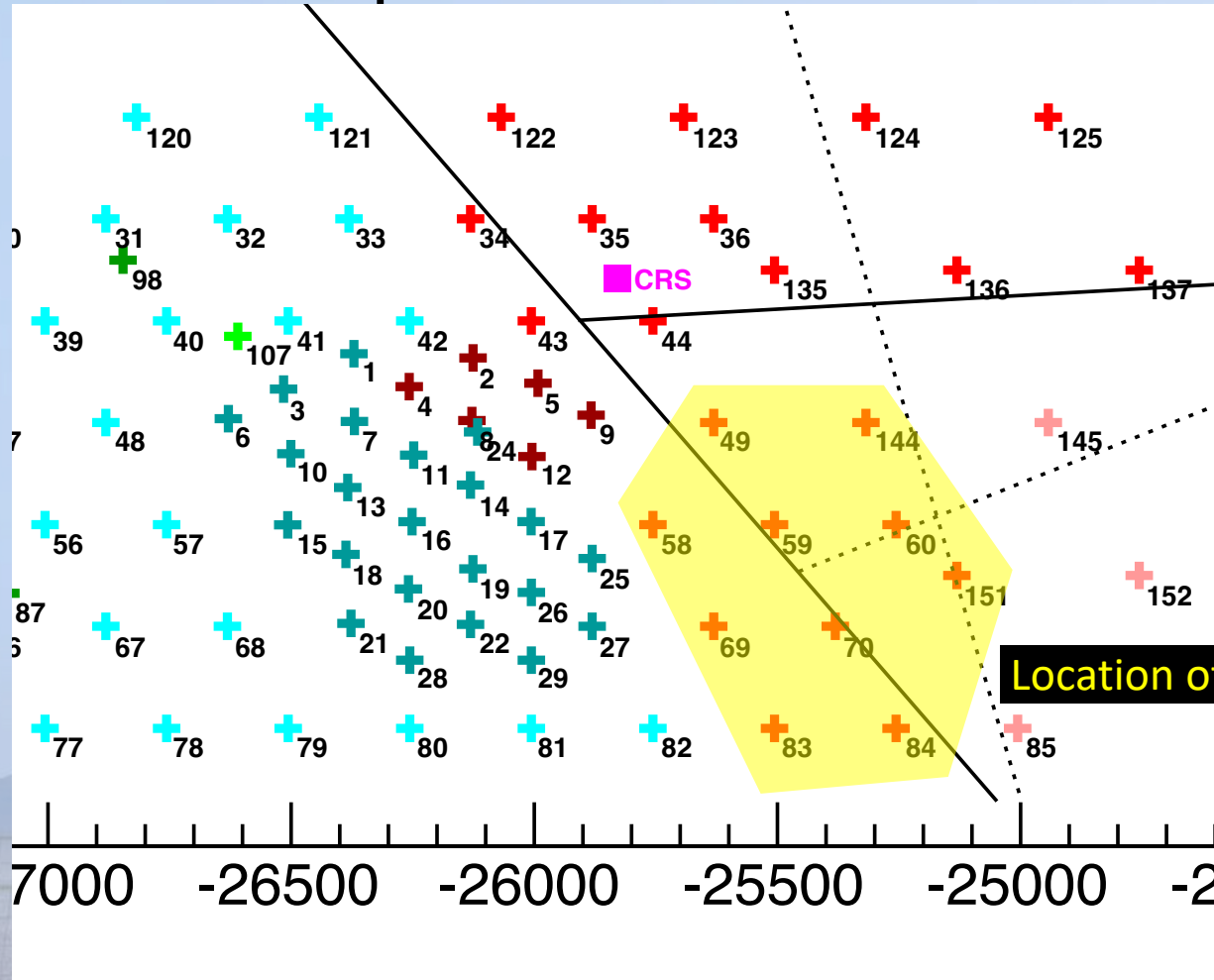
GRAND Collaboration, ArXiv 2307.13638



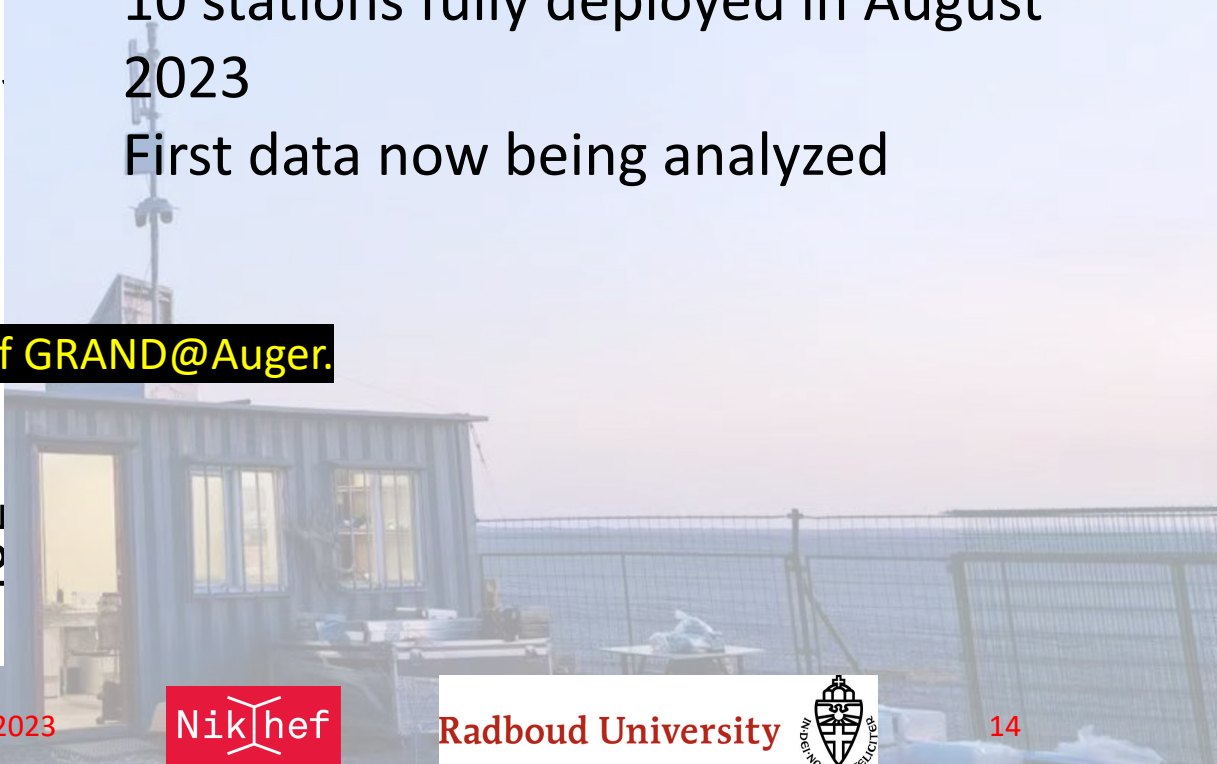
Status: Validating current setup

Next step: Deployment of 70 additional antennas

# GRAND@Auger: Prototype in the Southern Hemisphere



Re-use part of the AERA array in the Auger experiment  
 10 stations fully deployed in August 2023  
 First data now being analyzed

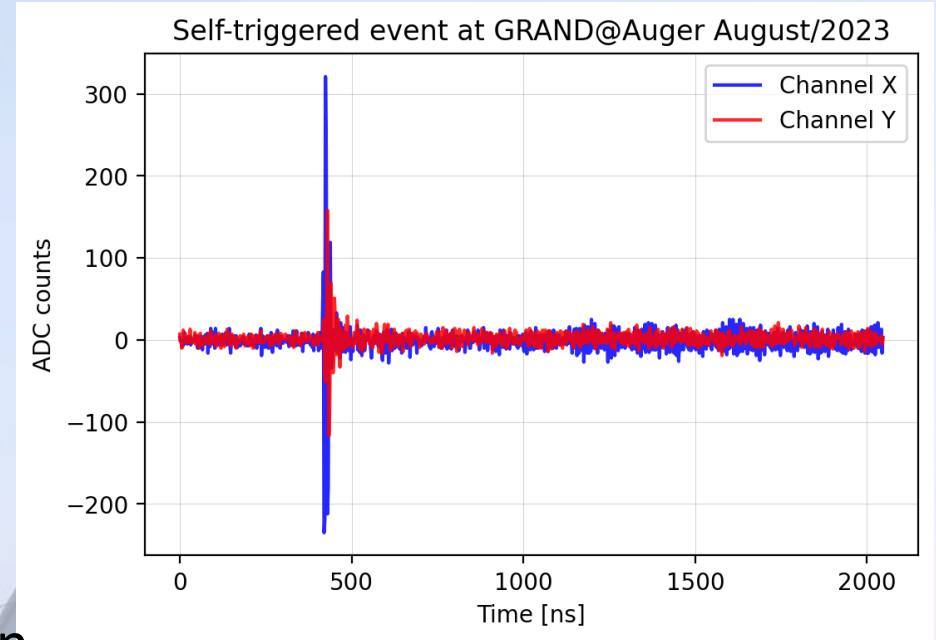
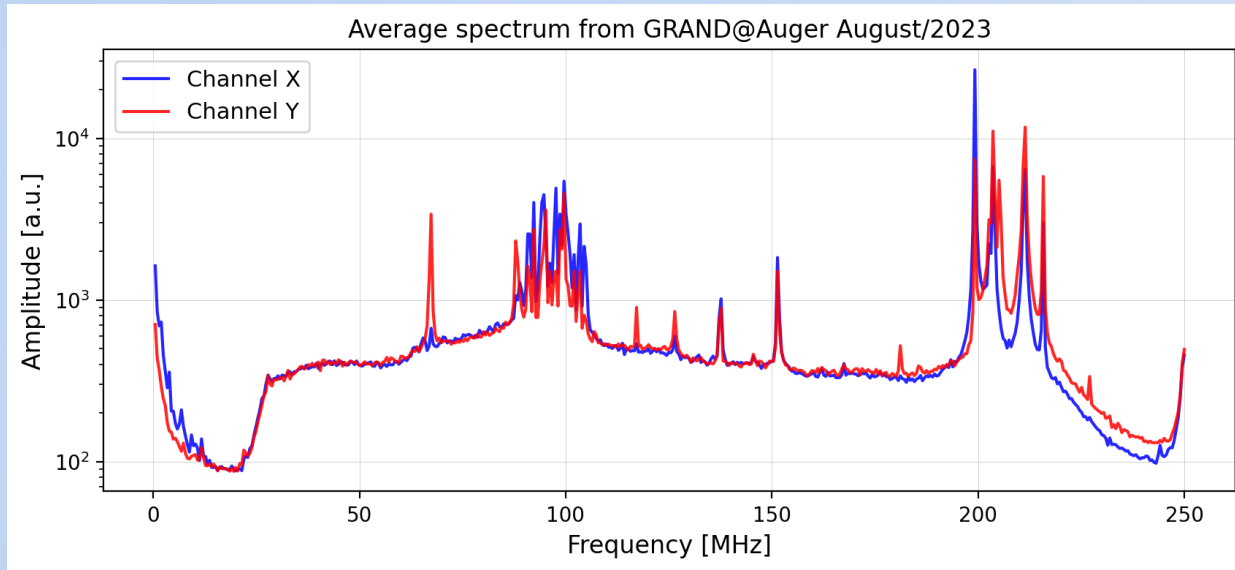


**Location of GRAND@Auger.**



# GRAND@Auger Data

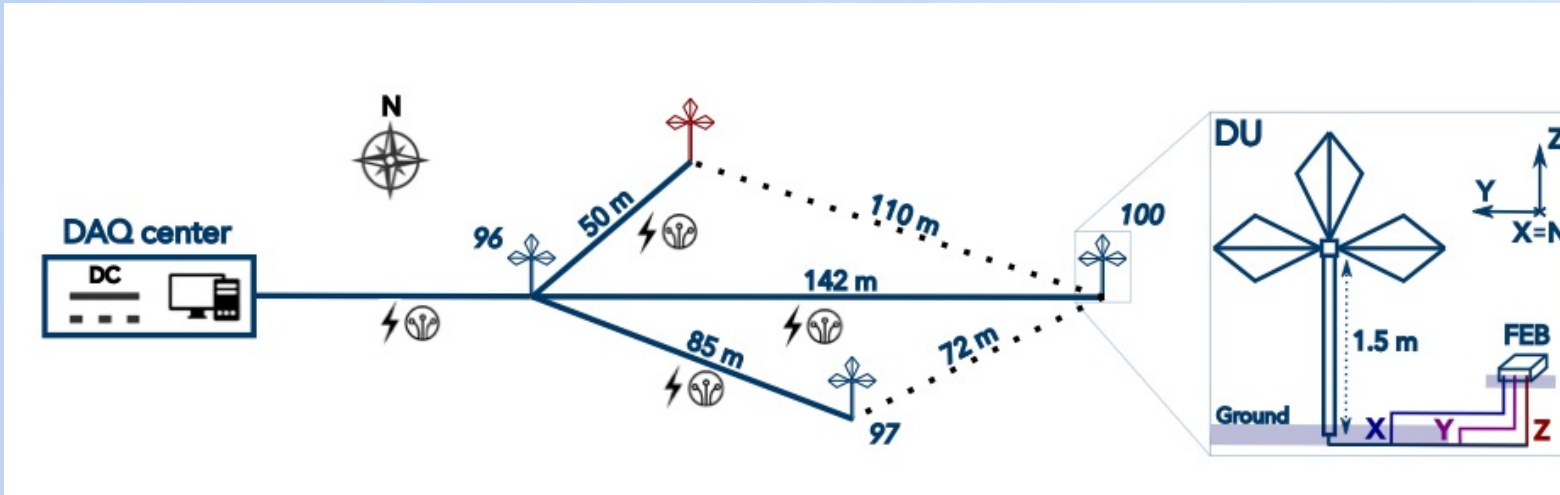
## Example of a self-triggered radio event



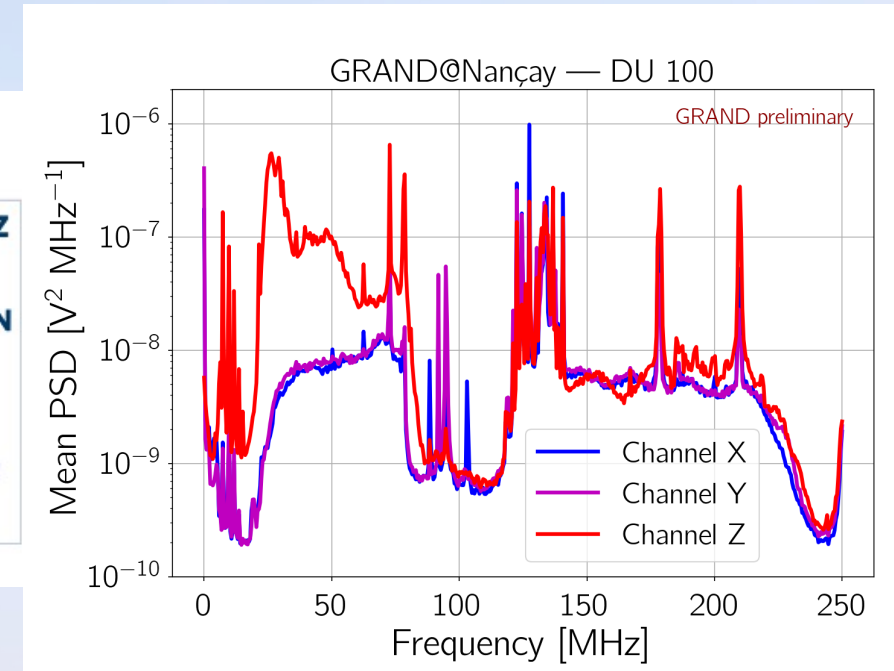
Averaged Frequency spectrum of a single station

Next steps: Commissioning of setup and calibrate the detector  
 Compare common events to well known Auger detector

# GRAND@Nançay – European test facility



GRAND Collaboration, ICRC2023



Setup at the Nançay observatory in order to test equipment and new ideas in design, triggering and acquisition



# Conclusion

- GRAND is a distributed next generation multi-messenger experiment with emphasis on neutrino (Astro) physics
- GRAND development proceeds in stages in both the Northern and the Southern Hemispheres
- First prototypes are taking data and first data looks very promising
- A test setup in Nançay enables swift testing of new designs and ideas