Dark Matter Direct Detection

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Where I've come from...







5,160 DOMs deployed in the ice

Antarctic bedrock











RESEARCH ARTICLE

NEUTRINO ASTROPHYSICS

Multimessenger observations of a flaring blazar coincident with high-energy neutrino IceCube-170922A

The IceCube Collaboration, *Fermi*-LAT, MAGIC, *AGILE*, ASAS-SN, HAWC, H.E.S.S, *INTEGRAL*, Kanata, Kiso, Kapteyn, Liverpool Telescope, Subaru, *Swift/NuSTAR*, VERITAS, and VLA/17B-403 teams*†

Previous detections of individual astrophysical sources of neutrinos are limited to the Sun and the supernova 1987A, whereas the origins of the diffuse flux of high-energy cosmic neutrinos remain unidentified. On 22 September 2017, we detected a high-energy neutrino, IceCube-170922A, with an energy of ~290 tera-electronvolts. Its arrival direction was consistent with the location of a known γ -ray blazar, TXS 0506+056, observed to be in a flaring state. An extensive multiwavelength campaign followed, ranging from radio frequencies to γ -rays. These observations characterize the variability and energetics of the blazar and include the detection of TXS 0506+056 in very-high-energy γ -rays. This observation of a neutrino in spatial coincidence with a γ -ray-emitting blazar during an active phase suggests that blazars may be a source of high-energy neutrinos.

RESEARCH ARTICLE

NEUTRINO ASTROPHYSICS

Neutrino emission from the direction of the blazar TXS 0506+056 prior to the IceCube-170922A alert

IceCube Collaboration*†

A high-energy neutrino event detected by IceCube on 22 September 2017 was coincident in direction and time with a gamma-ray flare from the blazar TXS 0506+056. Prompted by this association, we investigated 9.5 years of IceCube neutrino observations to search for excess emission at the position of the blazar. We found an excess of high-energy neutrino events, with respect to atmospheric backgrounds, at that position between September 2014 and March 2015. Allowing for time-variable flux, this constitutes 3.5σ evidence for neutrino emission from the direction of TXS 0506+056, independent of and prior to the 2017 flaring episode. This suggests that blazars are identifiable sources of the high-energy astrophysical neutrino flux.



IceCube Science has included a lot of indirect dark matter searches;

- WIMP annihilations in Sun and Earth
- nearby galaxies

Now: direct detection of dark matter with **SABRE South**





- involved from very beginning
- current organisational roles:
 convene weekly general meeting member executive board
 physics oversight

SABRE Adelaide

Senior: Gary Hill, Tony Williams, Paul Jackson

postdoc: Irene Bolognino (awaiting visa)
cosmic rays, gamma rays, dark matter (SABRE North)
neutrinos (reactor anomaly - SOLID) + industry
optical calibration system for veto vessel, physics simulations
and analysis

staff: Paddy McGee (IT and Research Support Specialist)
- web/computing support (SABRE/COE)

- optical calibration system

students:

Minh Tan Ha (PhD) (cosmic backgrounds, hardware) Geoffrey McNulty (Honours 2018) (cosmic backgrounds)

Optical Calibration

- need to understand how backgrounds (e.g. neutrons) interacting in the large veto vessel volume make photon signals detected in the surrounding PMTs
- some sort of outside laser system via optical fibre to emitting sites inside the vessel
- critical for understanding that we are vetoing correctly (and thus correctly identifying the dark matter signals in the sodium iodide crystals)

Cosmic backgrounds

- downgoing muons kick neutrons out of rock that can interact in the detector
- very rare that they would make it into the crystal
- but, important that we understand such rare processes





 matches what you would expect for the Earth going around the Sun in and out of the WIMP wind.



- what if it's just a seasonal effect in the North?
- then we'd expect the phase to reverse in the South, rule out dark matter signal (of course might not see anything, ruling it out)



- what if it's a real dark matter signal?
- then we'd expect the same phase in the south



- what if it's a real (non-seasonal) xxxxx?
- then we'd expect the same phase in the south



 we need to think carefully about periodic backgrounds that might mimic DAMA but not have the seasonal N-S difference