

## ICECUBE Neutrino Observatory

James Vincent Mead

















## Digital optical module arrays



### • IceCube detector

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- $\nu$ -ice interactions  $\rightarrow$  relativistic charged particles
- Superluminal products emit Cherenkov photons
- Instrumentation
  - 5160 sensors embedded within 1 km<sup>3</sup> of glacial ice
  - Low-energy dark matter array at 5x density, **DeepCore**







## Low-energy extension



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- 5160 sensors embedded within 1 km<sup>3</sup> of glacial ice
- Low-energy dark matter array at 5x density, **DeepCore**
- **Upgrade** (installation 2022-2023)
  - 7 columns of improved sensors at 10x density
  - Extending low energy range & building upon calibration tools
- Gen-2 (operational 2033)
  - 10km<sup>3</sup> instrumented volume for huge boost in statistics
  - New surface radio array for Askaryan photons



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## High-energy extension





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## **UH-energy** extension





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## v-oscillations at IceCube



### • Neutrino oscillations

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- Three flavours  $v_{e,\mu,\tau} \nleftrightarrow$  Three mass states  $v_{1,2,3}$
- Propagate as flavour superpositions  $\Rightarrow \Delta m_{ij} \neq 0$
- Oscillations between flavours  $\Rightarrow m(v)_{1,2,3} \neq 0$
- $P(\text{Transition}) \propto f(L/E)$
- Upgoing atmospheric muon neutrinos
  - Abundant & high-*E* source:
    - Accesses oscillations with  $Q^2$  for transition into  $v_{\tau}$
  - Maximum ~13,000km baseline, *L*, as  $f(\theta_Z)$ :
    - Near maximal  $(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau})$  oscillations for O(10 GeV)
  - DeepCore optimised for ~25 GeV, sensitive > 5 GeV:
    - Upgrade sensitivity designed for *O*(1 GeV)



## $\nu$ -oscillations physics





- Unitarity tests
  - 4<sup>th</sup> generation / heavy neutral leptons
- Non-standard interactions
  - New mediators / enhanced couplings

### $v_{\tau}$ -appearance

- $\nu_{\tau}$ -normalization,  $N_{\nu_{\tau}} \neq 1 \Rightarrow$  non-unitarity
- Neutrino mass ordering
  - CP violation
  - Majorana fermions

### $v_{\mu}$ -disappearance

• Mass splitting ( $\Delta m_{23}^2$ ) & mixing angle (sin<sup>2</sup>  $\theta_{23}$ )

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## $U_{PMNS} =$



Mixing angles: $\theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \theta_{23}$ CP violating complex phase: $\delta \equiv \delta_{CP}$ 



## **Beyond unitarity**



$$\begin{pmatrix} |\nu_e\rangle \\ |\nu_{\mu}\rangle \\ |\nu_{\tau}\rangle \end{pmatrix} = U_{PMNS} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_1\rangle \\ |\nu_2\rangle \\ |\nu_3\rangle \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_1\rangle \\ |\nu_2\rangle \\ |\nu_3\rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

If U is unitary:  $U^{\dagger}U = UU^{\dagger} = I$ , then norms (magnitude of vector from origin) are preserved, crucial for probability amplitude calculations in QM

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## **Beyond Standard Model**



$$\begin{vmatrix} \nu_{e} \\ |\nu_{\mu} \rangle \\ |\nu_{\tau} \rangle \end{pmatrix} = U_{PMNS^{+}} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_{1} \rangle \\ |\nu_{2} \rangle \\ |\nu_{3} \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} U_{PMNS} & \cdots & U_{en} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ U_{f1} & \cdots & U_{fn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_{1} \rangle \\ |\nu_{2} \rangle \\ |\nu_{3} \rangle \end{pmatrix}$$

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 $\begin{pmatrix} |\nu_e\rangle \\ |\nu_{\mu}\rangle \\ |\nu_{\tau}\rangle \end{pmatrix} = U_{reality} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_1\rangle \\ |\nu_2\rangle \\ |\nu_3\rangle \end{pmatrix}$ 

 $= U_{PMNS} \begin{pmatrix} ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} |\nu_1\rangle \\ |\nu_2\rangle \\ |\nu_2\rangle \end{pmatrix}$ 

## **Beyond Standard Model**



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## IceCube oscillogram





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## Oscillations with the Upgrade





- **Reconstruction & particle identification** 
  - 2x improvement in *E* resolution  $\supset$  3x for  $\tau$ -appearance
  - 3x improvement in  $\theta_{z}$  resolution
- **Detection efficiency**

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- 2x detection efficiency  $\supset$  10x efficiency below 10 GeV
- Overall 2x  $v_{\tau}$  rate, 3x  $v_{\mu}$  rate  $\Rightarrow v_{atm}$  every 15 mins
- Systematics limited measurements
- **Projections** 
  - 1yr  $\rightarrow$  world leading  $\nu_{\tau}$ -appearance
  - $3yrs \rightarrow competitive \nu_{\mu}$ -disappearance



## DeepCore event energy





• The same simulated 30 GeV  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \mu$ -track as viewed by each setup

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## Upgrade event energy





• The same simulated 3.8 GeV  $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \mu$ -track as viewed by each setup

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## $\nu$ -oscillations physics





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## PeV resonant scattering



### Article | Published: 10 March 2021

# Detection of a particle shower at the Glashow resonance with IceCube

The IceCube Collaboration

Nature 591, 220–224 (2021) Cite this article

### Summary

- Only  $3^{rd}$  IceCube event with E > 5 PeV
- $m_W = 80.38 \ GeV \Rightarrow$  resonance at  $E_{\overline{\nu}} = 6.32 \ PeV$
- $5\sigma$  within expected  $W^-$  resonance width
- Early pulses ahead of cascade imply hadronic *W*-decay
- Likelihood ratio test prefers GR(h) over CC(e) to 2.3 $\sigma$
- Suggests presence of  $\bar{\nu}$  astrophysical flux



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## PeV resonant scattering





## COPENHAGEN Astrophysical neutrino production



### Letter | Published: 22 February 2021

# A concordance scenario for the observed neutrino from a tidal disruption event

Walter Winter 🖂 & Cecilia Lunardini

Nature Astronomy 5, 472-477 (2021) Cite this article

### Summary

- Star torn apart by tidal forces of a supermassive black hole
- 50% of the star's mass accreted by the black hole
- Track-like astrophysical neutrino (IceCube-191001A16) associated with known tidal disruption event (AT2019dsg17)
- Indicates such events can accelerate cosmic rays to PeV energies
- Expanding cocoon progressively obscures the X-rays emitted
- Provides target for  $p\gamma$ -production of neutrinos

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## We've spotted a neutrino blasted out by a black hole shredding a star

### f 💙 🕲 in 🚭 🖓 😨

SPACE 22 February 2021

By Leah Crane



A view of the accretion disc around a supermassive black hole, with jet-like structures flowing away from the disc





## Astrophysical neutrino production





## Multi-messenger astronomy





HESE 4yr with  $E_{dep} > 100$  TeV (green) / Classical  $v_{\mu} + \bar{v}_{\mu}$  6yr with  $E_{\mu} > 200$  TeV (red)

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Auger 2014 E  $\geq$  52 EeV (×) / TA 2014 E  $\geq$  57 EeV (+) / smoothed anisotropy map ( $\Delta\theta_{50\%}=20^\circ)$ 



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## Conclusions



### • Broad programme of astro- and particle physics

- Neutrino oscillations
- Neutrino astrophysics
- Multi-messenger astronomy

### • Ongoing projects

- Upgrade is in finalising stages following delay due to pandemic
- Gen-2 development well underway
- Radio extension to be matched in Greenland (RNO-G)
- Opportunities for the future
  - 3 years of Upgrade data expected to exceed 10 year DeepCore precision
  - Gen-2 on track for beginning 2025 installation and first data by 2033
  - Plenty of unanswered questions still out there, neutrino sector is still growing!







## Conclusions







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## Conclusions







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## $\overline{\nu_e} + e^- \rightarrow W^-$





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