Status of the Yakutsk air shower array and future plans

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Outline

- Introduction
- Cosmic ray energy spectrum
- Mass composition
- Directional anisotropy
- Muonic component of extensive air showers
- Theory of particle acceleration at shocks
- Prospect of future upgrade
- Summary

The Yakutsk EAS array team (as of June 2021)

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The Yakutsk array

The Yakutsk extensive air showers array (YEASa) is a stationary research site, located in the Lena river valley 55 km south of Yakutsk (61.7° N, 129.4° E, ~100 m above the sea level).

The Yakutsk extensive air shower array studies cosmic rays of extremely high energies above 10 PeV (=10¹⁶ eV)

The Yakutsk Extensive Air Shower Array has been continuously operating for more than 50 years (since 1970) and up until recently it has been one of world's largest ground-based instruments aimed at studying the properties of cosmic rays in the ultra-high energy domain.





The Yakutsk array



- Array area: 11 km²
 (18 km² before 1990)
- 49 stations equipped with scintillation counters
- 19 detectors of Cherenkov light
- 3 detectors of muons
- 3 detectors-obscura

Energy spectrum of UHECRs



A.V. Glushkov, M.I. Pravdin, Yu.A. Egorov, A.A. Ivanov, S.P. Knurenko et al. PoS(ICRC2017)552. Glushkov A.V., Pravdin, M.I. Saburov A.V. JETP, 2019. 128 415.

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Search for UHE photon flux



S.P. Knurenko and I.S. Petrov, JETP Lett. 107, No. 11, pp. 676-683 (2018)

<In A>







 $\langle lnA \rangle = \frac{X^{exp}_{max} - X^p_{max}}{X^{Fe}_{max} - X^p_{max}} \cdot lnA_{Fe}$

S. Knurenko, I. Petrov, Advances in Space Research 64, 2570-2577 (2019)



 $E_0 > 5 \times 10^{18} \,\mathrm{eV}$



Data – relative abundance of muons in EAS recorded at the Yakutsk array.

(50 ± 10)% are protons and helium nuclei,
(32 ± 6) % - nuclei of carbon, nitrogen and oxygen,
(16 ± 8)% - nuclei of iron,
about 2% - gamma-rays of ultrahigh energies.

S. P. Knurenko and I. S. Petrov, Phys. Rev. D 102, 023036 (2020)

Observation of a Beam of Ultrarelativistic Particles



A short-term beam of CR particles with energies above 30 EeV was detected from a compact region of the sky

G. F. Krymsky, M. I. Pravdin, I. E. Sleptsov & A. D. Krasilnikov. Astronomy Lett. 45, 576–579 (2019)

Zenith angle distribution of cosmic ray showers



While the null hypothesis cannot be rejected with data from the Yakutsk array, an upper limit on the fraction of cosmic rays from a separable source in the uniform background is derived as a function of declination and energy.

A. A. Ivanov Phys. Rev. D 97, 083003, (2018)

Muon component



$$z = \frac{\ln N_{\mu}^{\exp} - \ln N_{\mu}^{\mathrm{p}}}{\ln N_{\mu}^{\mathrm{Fe}} - \ln N_{\mu}^{\mathrm{p}}}$$

Muon component



Glushkov A.V., Saburov A.V. JETP Lett. 2019. 109. P.559.

Muon component



Glushkov A.V., Saburov A.V. JETP Lett. 2019. 109. P.559.

A numerical method for study the diffusive shock CR acceleration process (*Krymsky 1977*) in the SNR, the evolution of remnants and the properties of their nonthermal radiation has been developed (*Berezhko, Ksenofontov 1996*).

- It was shown that the process of CR acceleration by a supernova shock wave is characterized by high enough efficiency.
- The theory explains most of the observed properties of the nonthermal radiation of well-known supernova remnants SN 1006, SN Tycho, SN 1987A and others.
- Based on a detailed study of the process of diffusive shock acceleration of CR in SNRs, it was found that SNRs are the main source of galactic CRs up to ~ 10¹⁷ eV

Overall nonthermal spectra



NE polar cap and SW polar cap

may have somewhat different densities. Agree with H.E.S.S. overall.

 $N_{\rm H} \approx 0.05$ /cc from thermal X-rays (Acero et al. 2007)



SN Ia + SN IIb

SN IIb :

 $E_{SN} = 3 \times 10^{51} \text{ erg}$

RSG wind:

Energy spectrum of CRs

Ankle scenario



Energy spectrum of CRs

Dip scenario



Mean logarithm of CR atomic number



Prospect of the future upgrade

Improve the accuracy of EAS arrival direction reconstruction (by factor 5)



Prototype of the online monitoring system

Ойский подвал М1.Ой

Посмотреть записи в журнале

Тип каналов: EASV3 и EASV4 Количество ЭСН: 3

Количество детекторов: 10

ЭСН	ЦС/ПОРТ	Линк	Канал	Данные EASv4	Шаг RC	RC
41	24	ОК	656 D9 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 9-й детектор	ОК		
			660 D10 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 10-й детектор	ОК		
40	26	ОК	640 D1 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 1-й детектор	ОК		
			644 D2 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 2-й детектор	ОК		
			648 D3 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 3-й детектор	ОК		
			652 D4 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 4-й детектор	ОК		
11	25	ОК	176 D5 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 5-й детектор	ОК		
			180 D6 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 6-й детектор	ОК		
			184 D7 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 7-й детектор	ОК		
			188 D8 ШАЛ/М1.Ой 8-й детектор	ОК		



Закрыть

бще	бщее состояние установки 🦻												
Станция	ЭСН	КОНФ. ЦСПОРТ	РАБ. ЦСПОРТ	Линк	Канал	Данные EASv4 / Конфигурация	Уровень одной в микросекундах время экспоз. 10 мин.	Частота RC	Частота с динодным соб.	Шаг RC	RC		
1 23 [[0:1]	[0:1]	ОК	368 L ШАЛ/ст.1/АК1-левый	OK/OK	12.89	445.92	358.80	27.14	081			
					376 R ШАЛ/ст.1/АК2-правый	OK/OK	13.44	535.98	372.95	27.61	067		
2	1	[0:7]	[0:7]	ОК	16 L	OK/OK	12.12	470.87	414.18	26.5	084		

Detector electronics

Спектр RC/LC усилителя



Current Station Electronics Unit v.3 (SEU-v.3):

- amplitude resolution (RC-signal): $\geq 1 \ \mu s$

- timing resolution: ≥100 ns

Station Electronics Unit v.4 (SEU-v.4): FPGA-based multi-functional unit (data collection + timing +calibration),

- amplitide resolution (RC-signal): 6.25 ns
- timing resolution: ≥ 6.25 ns
- dynamic compensation of delays in timing channel

Planned:

Station Electronics Unit v.4.1 (SEU-v.4.1): SEU-v.4 +

- + pulse shape recording
- + integral Cherenkov detectors with improved accuracy

System of fast Cherenkov detectors (ChID-2)

t, ns

- Complementing the main Cherenkov grid
- Reduced aperture: less affected by antropogenic light pollution
- Frensel lense+fast PMT / ADC, ~2.5 ns front resolution
- Portable design: easily reconfigurable

Fresnel lens

- Field test: prototype setup x 4 detectors, saturated pulse reconstruction

Fresnel lens







Extension of the muon array



Extension of the muon array

Calibration telescope project:

- SD station above the "Oy" muon registration point
- Background muons selection
- Clarify / confirm the detector response to the muon component in EAS





Plans:

- Detailed detector simulations (SD, muon): CORSIKA + GEANT4
- Test detectors response
- Clarify / confirm the resolution
- Test measured muon content

Summary

- The Yakutsk Extensive Air Shower Array has been continuously operating for more than 50 years.
- At present the array area is about 11 km²
- The cosmic-ray flux obtained from surface array data can be agreed with that measured using only the Cherenkov detectors adjusting the energy only by 5%
- Different methods of measuring composition of UHECR give a well agreed results.
- Mass composition derived from muon measurements is agree as well as with the other X_{max} based measurements, as well as with GSF and theoretical models.
- Extensive modernization of EAS is going on.