Atmospheric Monitoring R&D at the Auger North Site





David Starbuck Colorado School of Mines

For the Pierre Auger Collaboration

Auger North Atmospheric R&D

Institution

·Adelaide ·CSU ·CSU-Pueblo **·CWRU ·KIT** Krakow ·L'Aquila ·Madrid-Cmp **·**Mines **·MTU ·Napoli ·**Rosario

Country Australia US US US Germany Poland Italy Spain US US Italy Argentina

Contribution

Cloud Radiometers AMT-Calibration Site Prep Firewall, GPS **AMT-DAQ Radiosondes** Molecular DB analysis Raman LIDAR Laser Calibration AMT, Site Prep, NAILS-lite Weather Stations AMT- DAQ analog Raman LIDAR



From Left to Right: Lawrence Wiencke (Faculty), Hans Klages (KIT guest), David Schuster (PhD student), John Claus (UG), Adam Botts (UG), Lucas Emmert (UG), Sarah Morgan (UG), Levi Hamilton (UG), Shay Robinson (UG), John Koop (UG-09), Eric Mayote (MS), Michael Coco (UG), Bryce Carande (UG) T.J. Heid (UG), Keri Kohn (UG), Mark Malinowski (UG), Martin Will (PhD student KIT), David Starbuck (MS), Fred Sarazin (Faculty), Manoja Weiss (Faculty EE), Orlen Wolf (Staff) Not shown: David Nitz (visiting from MTU), John Sherman (UG-09), Michael Calhoun (UG)



Atmospheric Research and Development for the Pierre Auger Cosmic Ray Observatory



Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Calhoun, Michael Coco, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke



Ultra-High Energy Cosmic Rays

- Highest energy particles known (>10²⁰ eV)
 Exact origins are unknown
- May be accelerated by super-massive black holes at center of galaxies
- Very rare (incident on the globe 23 times/day)
- Highest observed energy: 320 EeV



Atmospheric Research and Development

 Southern fluorescence detectors have 20 km view
 Northern detectors will have 40 km view
 Atmosphere is the largest correction factor and is most variable with time
 Understanding atmospheric clarity is critical

Method

-Use pulsed, UV, vertically firing laser as test beam (DLF/NAILS) - Laser produces scattered light equivalent to a 10¹⁹ eV cosmic ray -Measure scattered light with a modified fluorescence detector (AMT)



AMT – Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope DLF – Distant Laser Facility

NAILS – Nitrogen Automated Integrated Laser System



10¹⁹ eV Air Shower Measurement

Project Goal

Design and implement a system to collect one year of atmospheric clarity measurements at a 40 km distance and up to 10 km in height



Southern Site: Argentina Operational: 3000 km²



(siria)

Northern Site: Colorado Proposed: 21000 km²

Auger North





R&D Configuration





Auger North R&D Goals

- Measure the Vertical Aerosol Optical Depth (VAOD or τ_a) using two methods
 - Inelastic Back Scattering Raman LIDAR system
 - Elastic Side Scattering Vertical laser shot + FD
- Measure molecular atmosphere with radiosonde balloons and test molecular models
- Test new equipment and procedures
 - High quantum efficiency photomultiplier tubes, Temperature controlled UV LED, GPS Timing, "Super Test Beam" for Auger South site

Auger North R&D Equipment

- Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope (AMT)
 - Fluorescence
 Detector used to
 measure vertical
 laser shots







The Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope **Mechanical Operation**





Levi Hamilton

with Adam Botts, Michael Calhoun, Bryce Carande, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke

Objective

- · Automate and install AMT for daily operation under extreme weather conditions
- · Measures light scattered from distant laser to measure aerosol content in atmosphere
- Part of Pierre Auger North Project





Four segment mirror optimized for UV light



SBC is informational hub of AMT

Control and Sensing

- · Powered by rotary motors
- Actuator locking mechanism
- Limit switches sense and control position of door
- · Operated by Single Board Computer (SBC)
- · Weather station, cloud sensor
- Accessible from internet

Quick Facts:

- · Modified Cosmic Ray Air Fluorescence Detector
- · Four 1m² mirror segments
- PMT camera.
- Dimensions: 12x8.5x8.5 ft
- Weight: > 5000 lb
- · Location: SE Colorado
- Status: Operational

PMT Camera

- 48 PMTs
- UV filter
- · Adjusted to focal point
- Variable High Voltage Power Supply



Before Installation



PMT camera and High Voltage Power Supply







Rotary motors

open/close doors

Future Work

New door design:

- · Entire assembly housed in AMT
- Easy to retrofit existing system
- · Holds the door firmly in position when power is off
- Expected installation: summer 2010



After Installation





Limit switches sense door position

Acknowledgements Nevis Laboratories, Columbia University



Linear actuator



Alignment of the Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope

Lucas Emmert, with Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Calhoun, John Claus, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan

Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke



Mirror Alignment

- Set optical axis
- Aligned 4 spherical mirror segments along optical axis
- Used point light source
- Focused all mirror segments along optical axis
- Focused at radius of curvature 477.5 cm (188 in)
- •All of this done in the lab repeated in the field



Camera Placement





Placed at 232.4 cm (91.5 in)



Functional AMT

•Align AMT (Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope) with 0.1° of vertical laser 38.8 km away

Detect laser with AMT

Challenges

Goals

.DLF (Distant Laser Facility) is located below horizon with respect to AMT AMT direction must be adjustable with respect to azimuth and elevation AMT weighs 4500 lbs Installed in winter

Conclusions

 Aligned AMT within 0.11°±0.05° of azimuthal angle with respect to DLF. •AMT aligned so that laser beam can be detected



Using Theodolite



Adjustable Mounts





PIERRE

AUGER

Measured azimuthal angle from peak of Two Buttes Used theodolite

- Adjusted azimuth with come alongs and tow straps
- Alignment is good to within 0.11° ±0.05 °over 38.8 km
- Angle of elevation from horizontal to center of camera Final angle measured to be 8.72°
- Allows us to see certain region of sky: Troposphere
- 1 km to 10 km above the horizon
- Most of the energy from UHECR is deposited in the region



 Checked alignment with laser traces centered on desired PMT column











Adam Botts

With Michael Calhoun, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, Bryce Carande, Michael Coco, John Claus, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan AUGER

Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke

Goal: measure atmospheric clarity over one year using Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope (AMT) AMT is installed and has measured scattered light from two vertically firing lasers

Timeline of Measurement

Each instrument has GPS clock DLF laser fires at 1 Hz and at time GPS second + 0.250 000 000 100 ns Laser light scatters and travels 40 km in 133 ns DAQ begins measurement at GPS second + 0.250 130 000 100 ns DAQ records for 100 us in 200, 50 ns bins



Single row of PMT captured on oscilloscope Yellow is GPS trigger

NAILS laser fires at 1 Hz and at time GPS second + 0.350 000 000 100 ns Laser light scatters and travels 3 km in 10 ns DAQ begins measurement at GPS second + 0.350 000 000 100 ns DAQ records for 100 µs in 200, 50 ns bins

Operation

Remote operation through Internet Automated with C programming : - checks weather conditions - opens DLF hatch and AMT doors - turns on laser and PMT camera - synchronizes GPS timers Measurements taken at night with no/low moonlight



PMT camera sees an inverted trace of light The scattered laser light travels <u>down</u> the camera Time delay is longer as light travels further Also attenuated more as it travels through more atmosphere

Data measured over 4000 laser shots measured by 16 PMTs



STABLE

Energy of received light (top) is variable with atmosphere and energy of laser pulse (bottom) Each PMT is shown varying as the laser energy is changed Charge deposited on each PMT as the laser trace moves through more aerosols is lower



Example of unstable PMT assembly This PMT will be replaced in debugging

Auger North R&D Equipment

- Distant Laser Facility (DLF)
 - Laser system used to fire vertical laser shots









The Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope Lasers as Cosmic Rays



Data Collection

AMT camera output

One pulse per PMT



Lasers and **Cosmic Rays**

Sarah Morgan With John Claus, Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Calhoun, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke

Differences

- Cosmic ray showers emit fluorescence light
- Laser light is scattered off the atmosphere
- Lasers travel up
- Cosmic rays travel down



· Wavelength in middle of 300-400nm UV fluorescence spectrum

Scattered

Light

Pulse length of 9ns

Laser

Cosmic

Rav

Light

Fluorescence





Vertical alignment setup

- Depolarize light for equal scattering in all directions
- A vertical beam is easiest to measure and simulate

Energy Stability

- Laser energy measured
- Laser energy varies over time
- Less than 10% variation in relative energy



Laser energy over 3 weeks



Laser shot hits a cloud

Future Work

- · Ongoing gathering of atmospheric data
- Summer 2010, Raman-LIDAR (U. L'Aguila)
- Complete atmospheric model for Auger North

Advantages

- Specify time, position. direction and measure energy
- Can fire 1000s of times
- Can fire laser as often as needed Cosmic ray and laser in the atmosphere

- 350 Bard Fredle Ë 300 Simulated Prefile € 250 5x1019 eV Air Shower 2 200 @ 16 km 5x10¹⁰ eV Air Showe

Comparison of laser shot and cosmic ray shower

Depolarization plot showing light equally

polarized over 360 degrees with a 3.1 percent deviation



Increasing time = increasing height

Laser shot with clear sky

Pierre Auger North Distant Laser Facility Electronic Systems & Programming



Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Calhoun, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan Advisor: Dr. Lawrence Wiencke Colorado School of Mines, 1500 Illinois Street, Golden, CO 80401

Background

o Integral part of Pierre Auger North Atmospheric Research & Development

o Laser used in coordination with an Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope to measure side scattering of fluorescent light in the atmosphere

o Laser at same frequency as light from high energy cosmic ray showers



o Located 2 miles south of Lamar, CO

o Future site of Pierre Auger North Observatory

Power System

o System uses 120v 60 Hz AC power

o Automatic controls of equipment through use of Remote Power Controller (RPC)

o Weather Station and Single Board Computer (SBC) connected independent of RPC

o All equipment including stand alone PC connected to UPS

oOccasional power outages at site

oTimer recycles power on router once per day





A B\$R-35-1025 B B\$R-31-1025 C Y3-1025-45UNP D PW-1012-UV E Y3-1025-45UNP F CVI Optical Mounts 1100-10 G Y3-1025-45UNP 355nm Laser Big \$ky Laser Technologies Model Ultra \$N: 98041402 Beam Expander CVI Melles Griot Energy Probe LaserProbe \$N: 042-065-001



o TS-5500 Embedded Single Board Computer with 133Mhz 586 CPU

o Compact Flash Drive used for as hard drive

o Digital Input and Output (DIO) ports tied directly to memory locations

o Additional serial connections from expansion cards

o Connected via Ethernet LAN to Stand Alone PC

Serial Port Connections and Controls

o RPC controlled via serial connection with SBC

o Power for Radiometers, Laser, and GPS controlled by RPC

o Initialization and functionality control for laser, radiometers, and GPS through serial connection

o Hatch cover operation controlled remotely through RPC

o Weather Station independently tied and controlled through serial port.

o Hatch cover sensors tied directly to DIO ports on SBC



o Automatically closes when weather station senses poor weather

o Independent daemon controls automatic hatch functions

o Manual control available

o Hatch functions accessible within primary DLF program

Programming



Linearity test with DLF (40 km)



DLF Pulse Measurement vs Time



DLF Laser Energy vs Time



Normalized DLF Pulse Measurement vs Time



Auger North R&D Equipment





The Nitrogen Automated Integrated Laser System





Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Calhoun, Michael Coco, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, <u>T.J. Heid</u>, Sarah Morgan

Background

The (NAILS) is a portable roving laser system used to provide absolute photometric calibration for the AMT used at the future site of the Northern Pierre Auger Observatory. The observatory is looking for ultra high energy cosmic rays by observing the resultant shower of secondary particles that arise from the interaction of the ray with the atmosphere. The laser simulates a cosmic ray by scattering off aerosols in the atmosphere like the ray's shower of particles would.



All electronics powered by uninterruptable power supply
The Single board computer (SBC) sends a trigger signal to the radiometer and the laser timed of the GPS clock.

 Probe readings are sent through the calibrated pre-amp then to the analog input on the radiometer.

•The radiometer gives the digital reading to the SBC over an RS232 serial cable where the data is stored in the log files.



Adjustable feet at each corner for vertical alignment.
Two ¼" X ¼" aluminum cross beams for added stability.
Energy probe and adjustable iris mounted on aperture plate.
Leveling laser aligns with pre-calibrated target on aperture plate to provide vertical alignment.

 Adjustable iris provides attenuation of output energy and eliminates beam halo.



Weight of Photons at AMT aperture vs. Distance from AMT (km) from simulation of scattering and attenuation effects.
NAILS is operated at the point where effects cancel.
The spot is located approximately 2.5 km from the AMT.
NAILS coordinates: 37' 38.566" LAT -102 deg 27' 21.033" LONG



Satellite view of the AMT and NAILS sites.
NAILS site picked to be on Co-Rd. 34.
DLF located 30 km northeast of AMT
AMT – NAILS – DLF configuration.
AMT tilted up 7° provides 13° field of view

References

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[1] The Pierre Auger Collaboration, The Fluorescence Detector of the Pierre Auger Observatory. May 25, 2009, pp. 31 – 40.

 [2] L. Wiencke, Atmospheric Monitoring R&D plan for Auger North. Feb. 4, 2009.
 [3] J. Abraham et al., Atmospheric effects on extensive air showers observed with the surface detector of the Pierre Auger observatory, Astropart. Phys. (2009), doi:10.1016/j.astropartphys.2009.06.004 24



NAILS: Performance and Calibration

Bryce Carande With Adam Botts, Michael Calhoun, Michael Coco, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke



sor: Lawrence

Background

The Nitrogen Automated Independent Laser System (NAILS) is a portable, self-powered laser system for use in the atmospheric R&D of the Pierre Auger North site. NAILS fires a laser pulse vertically into the sky, and scattered light from this pulse is observed 3.24 km away by the AMT.



- AMT camera composed of PMT array
- · Each PMT sees laser pulse at different angle
- PMT array tracks laser pulse as it travels upwards

PMT Signals for a single NAILS pulse



- Provide nearby laser system (insensitive to aerosol condition)
 Measure stability of system and atmosphere
- over multi-hour duration
- Calibrate relative PMT gains
- Relate energy level of laser pulses to observed signal →Photometric calibration of AMT detector



AMT Measurements over multiple energy sets



- Many pulses fired at varied energy levels
- · Energies above 70 µJ saturate detector
- · Measurements very stable during good weather conditions
- Cloud cover strongly affects measurements



- Averaged measurements of each energy group
- · Used data from PMT 23 least likely to see clouds
- Related pulse energy (measured at NAILS) to PMT charge (observed at AMT)
- · Linearity in laser energy and observed PMT charge



Conclusions

- · NAILS provides nearby calibration laser for AMT
- · Observed signal stable over many hours
- · Observed signal increases linearly with pulse energy
- Accumulated results allow relative calibration of AMT camera
- NAILS will continue to provide AMT with means of absolute photometric calibration

DLF vs NAILS Pulses



Linearity test with NAILS (3 km)



Auger North R&D Equipment

- Distant Raman Laser Facility (DRLF)
 - Laser system used to fire vertical laser shots
 - Raman LIDAR measures VAOD from backscattering
 - AMT measures VAOD from side scattering







Raman LIDAR VAOD Measurement

LAMAR 06_08_2010-041719-042656 (10min)

vertical aerosol optical depth



Auger North R&D Equipment

- Temperature controlled
 UV LED
 - Fires UV light inside the AMT
 - Used for PMT calibration
 - Located at center of AMT mirrors



UV LED Time/Temperature Stability



UV LED Temperature Stability



Auger North R&D Equipment

- Radiosonde Balloons
 - Measures temperature, pressure, rel. humidity, wind
 - Used to characterize molecular atmosphere





First Launch Oct 14, 2010

GDAS Auger North



- •Global Data Assimilation System (GDAS)
- Good agreement with measured data



Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope:

Michael Calhoun, Adam Botts, Bryce Carande, Michael Coco, John Claus, Lucas Emmert, Levi Hamilton, T.J. Heid, Sarah Morgan

AUGER

Advisor: Lawrence Wiencke

First Atmospheric Measurements at Auger North Site

 Measurements taken from 40 km away Clouds Measure time and height

System response

Stability

Laser and AMT gain stable

Small changes in VAOD can be seen

AMT: Atmospheric Monitoring Telescope •PMT: Photomultiplier Tube

•VAOD: Vertical Aerosol Optical Depth Transmission of light through Atmosphere Scattering from molecules and aerosols Function of Height Laser Detector 40 km DİF AMT Camera



No clouds: March 5, 2010



PIVIT 38

9.57 km

-PMT 28

4.27 km

PMT 23

1.55 km

Point is a single laser shot .PMT signals drop over the night Aerosols? Laser? PMT's?



Clouds scatter more light .Early in the night no cloud .Later in the night cloudy Clouds above DLF will increase the PMT signal

 A cloud in between the DLF and AMT will reduce the signal



PMT 23 PMT 28 PMT 38 1.5 km 4.3 km 9.6km 1.00 Set 2 1.02 1.00 Set 3 0.99 0.93 0.99 Set 4 0.99

A set is an average of 1000 shots. Each set is normalized to set 1.



for site



- AMT gain
- Atmosphere
- Largest and most variable

Laser Light Profile: March 5, 2010



Points Represent 10 min average

Can be used to calculate VAOD at specific height. Error bars are the Standard deviation of each set •Two samples: 1 hour apart

Measurement of Vertical Aerosol Optical Depth



Planned PMT Upgrade

Old PMT

High QE PMT



Will soon upgrade to PMTs higher quantum efficiency at AMT.

PMT QE Comparison



Sven Querchfeld, Wuppertal

Conclusion

- Very active group for Auger North R&D
- On track to measure atmospheric clarity at AN
 - Raman LIDAR installed July 2010
 - Most equipment can be operated remotely
- Great test bench for Auger South
 - Temperature controlled UV LED, GDAS models, Roving Laser, "Super Test Beam"





filter IFN2 + neutral density Filters (NDN2)

> notch filters (NO) + lens

air/Raman beam-splitter

LLG launcher (2 lenses)



DRLF System

A. Mirror Enclosure

B. Receiver Box

C. Rack- SBC, HVPS, DAQ, RPCs, Weather Station

- D. Laser/Optics Box
- E. Radiometer
- F. Window/Hatch



LAMAR 06_08_2010-041719-042656 (10min)

aerosol backscatter coefficient



LAMAR 06_08_2010-041719-042656 (10min)

vertical aerosol optical depth



UV LED First Data

Pmt 26 Time Vs Charge 05-27-2010 06_07_59 UTC



Radiosonde Balloon Launches





Measured

- Derived
- · Temperature
- · Pressure
- · Rel. Humidity
- \cdot Wind

- · Vapor Pres.
- · Density
- · Atm. Depth