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On behalf of the **ANTARES Collaboration**

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ANTARES

ANTARES Collaboration





- University of Bari
- * University of Bologna
- University of Catania
- * LNS Catania
- * University of Rome
- University of Genova



* IFIC, Valencia



Motivations

- High Energy Neutrino Astrophysics:
 - Galactic (SN bursts, young SN, SNR, microquasars)
 - Extragalactic (AGN, GRB)
- Cosmology:
 - WIMPS (neutralinos)
 - Topological defects
 - Monopoles, Q-balls, strangelets...
- * Neutrino properties:
 - *n* oscillations
- * Other studies:
 - Oceanology
 - Earth Tomography
- Unexpected phenomena







Antares evolution

- 1996 Creation of the ANTARES Collaboration.
- Oct 1996–1999: Site exploration (more than 30 deployments):
 - Optical water properties
 - Biofouling and sedimentation
 - Optical backgrounds (bioluminescence and ⁴⁰K)
- 1996–1999 0.1 km² design, R&D.
- * **1998–1999** Special tests :
 - Test of mechanics and deployment techniques.
 - Tests of submarine connection.

- May 1999: Proposal of a 0.1 km² detector.
- Nov. 1999: A demonstrator string. Test of:
 - Full-size string deployment
 - Mechanical issues
 - Positioning systems
 - EO cable, data transmission, reconstruction, etc.
- 2000: Start of final design and construction phase.
- ✤ 2001: Deployment of a first string.
- ✤ 2002: First six strings deployed.
- ✤ 2003: 0.1 km² string detector in place.



- * 3.5 π sr of the sky is covered
- * 0.5π sr overlap with Amanda
- Galactic Centre surveyed



0.9

Environmental measurements

Optical background



Short bursts (bioluminescence) over a continuous background (40 K). ~ 40 kHz (8" PM) + < 5% deadtime

No major drawbacks

Good optical properties

Efficiency loss

On lower hemisphere, efficiency loss is smaller than <1.5% after 8 months.

Water transparency





The 0.1 km² detector (a view)



Expected performances



Including effects of reconstruction and selection, PMT TTS, positioning, timing calibration accuracy and scattering.

Below ~10 TeV angular error is dominated by n-mphysical angle.

✤ Above ~10 TeV angular accuracy is better than 0.4° (reconstruction error).



$$\bigstar \ \sigma_{\rm E}/E \approx 3 \ (E > 1 \text{ TeV})$$

✤ Below E ~ 100 GeV, energy estimation via muon range.

A demonstrator string

- ♦ A full-scale line (340 m): test of mechanics and deployment.
- Partially instrumented: 7 PMTs, CTDs, tiltmeters, positioning system, Slow Controls, etc.
- * Read-out via electro-optical cable.
- Operational since December 1999 (retrieved last month).









Compass and tiltmeters

- ✤ Taut string at ~2.3° from vertical.
- Tilt stability: ~0.2° over one week (x and y).
- ✤ Heading stability: 2° over one week.



Top view

Negligible twist

Tilt x (°) Top tiltmeter -0.1 -0.2 -0.3 -0.40 500 1000 1500 2000

 $\times 100 \text{ sec}$

Acoustic positioning





4 transponders 3 rangemeters +Sound velocimeter

Devices	Accuracy (σ)
Inter-rangemeter	~ 1 cm
Inter-transponder	~ 1 cm
RangTranspond.	≤ 6 cm

Triangulation allows ~5 cm accuracy



Atmospheric muons

- More than 5×10^4 coincidences in all 7 PMTs have been recorded.
- Polar angle of down-going muons deduced from depth vs. time pattern.
- Hyperbolic fit (including multimuons).
- 40 K filtered out by the reconstruction software (see boxed hit in example).



Demonstrator results





 Angular distribution agrees with expectations from single + multimuons.

Around 1100/day down-going μ 's reconstructed (in agreement with MC).



- ANTARES has successfully performed its planned R&D programme:
 - Site exploration (environmental parameters)
 - Design of a 0.1 km² detector
 - Detailed tests of its components
 - Verification of undersea connection procedure
 - Deployment of a demonstrator string
- ✤ First string will be deployed in summer 2001.
- A 0.1 km^2 detector (13 strings) will be deployed by the end of 2003.
- Operation of such a detector will be a thorough test-bench for a 1 km³ neutrino telescope in the Mediterranean Sea.