

Recent results on gamma-ray observation by the Tibet AS_γ experiment



Masato TAKITA (ICRR, Univ. of Tokyo) For the Tibet ASγ Collaboration, ICRR, the University of Tokyo

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Outline

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- The Tibet ASγ Experiment
- First detection of UHE (> 100 TeV) γ rays
- Sub-PeV diffuse γ rays from the Milky Way galaxy
- Future prospect and Summary

§ Introduction



10¹ 10² 10³ 10⁴ 10⁵ 10⁻² 10-1 1 Cosmic-ray Energy (PeV)

✤ Wide energy range

Main component is proton *

✤ Rate decreases to 1/1000 when energy is 10 times higher

As an open question, Did/Do "PeVatrons" really exist in our Galaxy?

PeVatron: Cosmic superaccelerators accelerating cosmic rays up to PeV energies

NASA/ESA/JHU/R.Sankrit & W.Blair



PeVatrons in past/present

Sub.Per

Earth

Cosmic rays interact with interstellar gas, and produce γ rays $p + p \rightarrow X$'s $+ \pi^{\pm} + \pi^{0} \rightarrow 2\gamma$ (γ -ray energy is ~10% of cosmic ray's)

§ The Tibet ASγ experiment



Tibet AS_Y Collaboration



M. Amenomori¹, S. Asano², Y. W. Bao³, X. J. Bi⁴, D. Chen⁵, T. L. Chen⁶, W. Y. Chen⁴, Xu Chen^{4,5}, Y. Chen³, Cirennima⁶,
S. W. Cui⁷, Danzengluobu⁶, L. K. Ding⁴, J. H. Fang^{4,8}, K. Fang⁴, C. F. Feng⁹, Zhaoyang Feng⁴, Z. Y. Feng¹⁰, Qi Gao⁶, A. Gomi¹¹,
Q. B. Gou⁴, Y. Q. Guo⁴, Y. Y. Guo⁴, Y. Hayashi², H. H. He⁴, Z. T. He⁷, K. Hibino¹², N. Hotta¹³, Haibing Hu⁶, H. B. Hu⁴, K. Y. Hu^{4,8},
J. Huang⁴, H. Y. Jia¹⁰, L. Jiang⁴, P. Jiang⁵, H. B. Jin⁵, K. Kasahara¹⁴, Y. Katayose¹¹, C. Kato², S. Kato¹⁵, I. Kawahara¹¹,
T. Kawashima¹⁵, K. Kawata¹⁵, M. Kozai¹⁶, D. Kurashige¹¹, Labaciren⁶, G. M. Le¹⁷, A. F. Li^{4,9,18}, H. J. Li⁶, W. J. Li^{4,10}, Y. Li⁵,
Y. H. Lin^{4,8}, B. Liu¹⁹, C. Liu⁴, J. S. Liu⁴, L. Y. Liu⁵, M. Y. Liu⁶, W. Liu⁴, X. L. Liu⁵, Y.-Q. Lou^{20,21,22}, H. Lu⁴, X. R. Meng⁶,
Y. Meng^{4,8}, K. Munakata², K. Nagaya¹¹, Y. Nakamura¹⁵, Y. Nakazawa²³, H. Nanjo¹, C. C. Ning⁶, M. Nishizawa²⁴, R. Noguchi¹¹,
M. Ohnishi¹⁵, S. Okukawa¹¹, S. Ozawa²⁵, L. Qian⁵, X. Qian⁵, X. L. Qian²⁶, X. B. Qu²⁷, T. Saito²⁸, Y. Sakakibara¹¹, M. Sakata²⁹,
T. Sako¹⁵, T. K. Sako¹⁵, T. Sasaki¹², J. Shao^{4,9}, M. Shibata¹¹, A. Shiomi²³, H. Sugimoto³⁰, W. Takano¹², M. Takita¹⁵, Y. H. Tan⁴,
N. Tateyama¹², S. Torii³¹, H. Tsuchiya³², S. Udo¹², H. Wang⁴, Y. P. Wang⁶, Wangdui⁶, H. R. Wu⁴, Q. Wu⁶, J. L. Xu⁵, L. Xu⁹,
Z. Yang⁴, Y. Q. Yao⁵, J. Yin⁵, Y. Yokoe¹⁵, N. P. Yu⁵, A. F. Yuan⁶, L. M. Zhai⁵, C. P. Zhang⁵, H. M. Zhang⁴, J. L. Zhang⁴, X. Zhang³,
Ying Zhang⁹, Y. Zhang⁹, Y. Zhang⁴, Yi Zhang³³, Ying Zhang⁴, S. P. Zhao⁴, Zhaxisangzhu⁶, X. X. Zhou¹⁰ and Y. H. Zou^{4,8}

1 Department of Physics, Hirosaki Univ., Japan.

2 Department of Physics, Shinshu Univ., Japan.

3 School of Astronomy and Space Science, Nanjing Univ., China.

4 Key Laboratory of Particle Astrophysics, Institute of High Energy Physics, CAS, China.

5 National Astronomical Observatories, CAS, China.

6 Department of Mathematics and Physics, Tibet Univ., China.

7 Department of Physics, Hebei Normal Univ., China.

8 Univ. of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.

9 Institute of Frontier and Interdisciplinary Science and Key Laboratory of

Particle Physics and Particle Irradiation (MOE), Shandong Univ., China.

10 Institute of Modern Physics, SouthWest Jiaotong Univ., China.

11 Faculty of Engineering, Yokohama National Univ., Japan.

12 Faculty of Engineering, Kanagawa Univ., Japan.

13 Faculty of Education, Utsunomiya Univ., Japan.

14 Faculty of Systems Engineering, Shibaura Institute of Technology, Japan.

15 Institute for Cosmic Ray Research, Univ. of Tokyo, Japan.

16 Polar Environment Data Science Center, Joint Support-Center for Data

Science Research, Research Organization of Information and Systems, Japan.

17 National Center for Space Weather, China Meteorological Administration, China.

18 School of Information Science and Engineering, Shandong Agriculture Univ., China.

19 Department of Astronomy, School of Physical Sciences, Univ. of Science and Technology of China, China.

20 Department of Physics and Tsinghua Centre for Astrophysics (THCA), Tsinghua Univ., China.

21 Tsinghua Univ.-National Astronomical Observatories of China (NAOC)

Joint Research Center for Astrophysics, Tsinghua Univ., China.

22 Department of Astronomy, Tsinghua Univ., China.

23 College of Industrial Technology, Nihon Univ., Japan.

24 National Institute of Informatics, Japan.

25 National Institute of Information and Communications Technology, Japan.

26 Department of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Shangdong

Management Univ., China.

27 College of Science, China Univ. of Petroleum, China.

28 Tokyo Metropolitan College of Industrial Technology, Japan.

29 Department of Physics, Konan Univ., Japan.

30 Shonan Institute of Technology, Japan.

31 Research Institute for Science and Engineering, Waseda Univ., Japan.

32 Japan Atomic Energy Agency, TJapan.

33 Key Laboratory of Dark Matter and Space Astronomy, Purple Mountain Observatory, CAS, China.

Tibet Air Shower Array

□ Site: Tibet (90.522°E, 30.102°N) 4,300 m a.s.l.

Present Performance

- # of detectors
- Effective area
- Angular resolution
- Energy resolution
- 0.5 m² x 597 ~65,700 m² ~0.5° @10TeV ~0.2° @100TeV ~40%@10TeV γ ~20%@100TeV γ

Observation of secondary (mainly e^{+/-}, γ) in AS Primary energy : 2nd particle densities Primary direction : 2nd relative timings



Underground Water Cherenkov Muon detectors

- ✓ 2.4m underground (~515g/cm² ~9 X_0)
- ✓ 4 pools, 16 units / pool

Soil & Rocks 2.6m

Air 0.9m

Cherenkov lights

AS y

- ✓ 7.35m×7.35m×1.5m deep (water)
- ✓ 20" Φ PMT (HAMAMATSU R3600)

1.0m

20 inch

PMT

✓ Concrete pools + white Tyvek sheets



Reinforced concrete Waterproof & reflective materials

Basic idea: T. K. Sako+, Astropart. Phys. 32, 177 (2009) [•]

Water 1.5m

7.3m

e

Measurement of # of μ in AS $\rightarrow \gamma / CR$ discrimination

DATA: February, 2014 - May, 2017 Live time: 719 days

§ First detection of UHE (>100 TeV) γ rays



Gamma-ray Emission from Crab





First detection of sub-PeV γ (5.6σ) UHE γ-ray astronomy started! Amenomori+, PRL, **123**, 051101, (2019)



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§ Sub-PeV diffuse γ rays from the Milky Way galaxy





Event Distribution >100 TeV (Fig.1) Tight muon cut

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Blue points: Tibet AS +MD (Circle size ∝ Energy)

Red plus marks: TeV sources (TeVCat catalog)

>0.398 PeV (10^{2.6} TeV) 38 events in our FoV

→Not from known TeV sources!
 & No signal > 10 TeV around them
 Equatorial coordinates





Distribution of distance to the closest TeV source (deg) for events > 0.398 PeV

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Number of sub-PeV events observed by Tibet AS+MD array in the direction of galactic plane

(Eres ~ 10 % around 400 TeV & energy scale uncertainty ~13% in quadrature)

TABLE S1. Number of events observed by the Tibet AS+MD array in the direction of the galactic plane. The galactic longitude of the arrival direction is integrated across our field of view (approximately $22^{\circ} < l < 225^{\circ}$). The ratios (α) of exposures between the ON and OFF regions are 0.135 for $|b| < 5^{\circ}$ and 0.27 for $|b| < 10^{\circ}$, respectively.

		$ b < 5^{\circ}$			$ b < 10^{\circ}$	
Energy bin	$N_{ m ON}$	$N_{ m BG}$	Significance	$N_{ m ON}$	$N_{ m BG}$	Significance
$({ m TeV})$		$(= \alpha N_{ m OFF})$	(σ)		$(= lpha N_{ m OFF})$	(σ)
100 - 158	513	333	8.5	858	655	6.6
158 - 398	117	58.1	6.3	182	114	5.1
398 - 1000	16	1.35	6.0	23	2.73	5.9

TABLE S2. Galactic diffuse gamma-ray fluxes measured by the Tibet AS+MD array.

Energy bin	Representative E	Flux $(25^{\circ} < l < 100^{\circ}, b < 5^{\circ})$	Flux $(50^{\circ} < l < 200^{\circ}, b < 5^{\circ})$
$({ m TeV})$	$({ m TeV})$	$({\rm TeV^{-1}\ cm^{-2}\ s^{-1}\ sr^{-1}})$	$({\rm TeV^{-1}\ cm^{-2}\ s^{-1}\ sr^{-1}})$
100 - 158	121	$(3.16 \pm 0.64) \times 10^{-15}$	$(1.69 \pm 0.41) \times 10^{-15}$
158 - 398	220	$(3.88 \pm 1.00) \times 10^{-16}$	$(2.27 \pm 0.60) \times 10^{-16}$
398 - 1000	534	$(6.86 \ ^{+3.30}_{-2.40}) \ imes 10^{-17}$	$(2.99 \ ^{+1.40}_{-1.02}) \ imes 10^{-17}$

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Energy Spectrum (Fig.4)

After excluding the contribution from the known TeV sources (within 0.5° in radius) listed in the TeV source catalog (~13% to the diffuse flux, but no contamination to events > 0.398 PeV)

The measured fluxes are reasonably consistent with Lipari's galactic diffuse gamma-ray model assuming the hadronic cosmic-ray origin.



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Models: Lipari & Vernetto, PRD 98, 143003, (2018) 4 ev / 10 ev from

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Cygnus Cocoon Region

We found 4 events in the circle with radius 4°



Electron origin? vs Proton origin?

Tibet ASγ

✓ Gamma rays are coming isolated from known gamma-ray sources.
 → Electrons lose their energy quickly, so they should stay near the object.
 → Protons don't lose energy and can escape farther from the object.

Strong evidence for sub-PeV γ rays induced by cosmic rays

Scientific Interpretation

✓ This is the first evidence for existence of PeVatrons, in the past and/or present Galaxy, which accelerate protons up to the Peta electron volt (PeV) region.

Γibet ASγ

✓ This work proves a theoretical model that cosmic rays produced by PeVatrons are trapped in the Galactic magnetic field for a long time forming a pool of cosmic rays.

LHAASO Experiment (ICRC2021)

Composition Dependence (ICRC2021)

CRs interact with interstellar gas $(\gamma$ -ray energy has 10% of CRs)

 $CR + ISM \rightarrow X's + \pi^0 \dots \rightarrow 2\gamma$

→ Diffuse gamma-ray spectrum depends on the CR composition

Vernetto & Lipari (ICRC2021)

factor 1.5 – 2 difference @ ~600 TeV

§ Future Prospect & Summary

UHE γ -ray astronomy E > 100 TeV (ICRC2021)

Draw the "Kifune" plot - the integral number of high energy sources detected as a function of year - in the style of a plot developed by Tadashi Kifune (for example http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/1996NCimC..19..953K). The data for the number of X-ray and HE (GeV) gamma-ray sources come from a page on HEASARC maintained by Stephen A. Drake (retrieved 2017-09-28) : https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/heasarc/headates/how_many_xray.html The data for the number of VHE (TeV) gamma-ray sources is from TeVCat maintained by Deirdre Horan and Scott Wakely (retrieved 2017-09-28) : http://tevcat.uchicago.edu/

✓ Tibet AS γ experiment opened a new energy window UHE (>100 TeV).

✓ A dozen of UHE γ -ray sources discovered (Tibet AS γ , HAWC, LHAASO) in northern sky.

 \rightarrow UHE γ -ray observatories necessary in southern hemisphere

Go South! (e.g., ALPACA [2022-24], Mega ALPACA, SWGO, CTA, ...) & Neutrinos

PeVatron hunting in Northern and Southern hemispheres
 Blackhole at the Galactic center (A candidate of PeVatron)
 Hot gas bubble around the Galactic center

✓ Survey heavy dark matter search

Summary

Unraveling 60-Year-Old Mystery,

 \checkmark Tibet AS γ experiment: First detection of UHE (>100 TeV) γ -rays from Crab, 2019 and Opening of UHE γ -ray astronomy. -> Now, a dozen of UHE γ -ray sources discovered by Tibet AS_Y, HAWC, LHAASO. Tibet ASγ experiment : First detection of sub-PeV diffuse gamma rays from our galaxy ->Evidence for existence of PeVatrons in past and /or present Milky Way galaxy ->Experimental verification for the theoretical model of high-energy "cosmic-ray pool" in Milky Way galaxy ✓ Future prospect: Go South! & Neutrinos

Back-up

Gamma-like Event from the Crab

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K. Kawata +, Experimental Astronomy 44, 1 (2017) ³²

After Nµ cut,~99.9% CR rejection & ~90% γ efficiency @100 TeV

Relative muon number distribution for events > 0.398 PeV

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Arrival Directions of the 38 events (> 0.398 PeV) See PRL supplemental materials

TABLE S3. Event IDs and arrival directions in the equatorial coordinates (Right Ascension, Declination) of the gamma-ray like events with 398 < E < 1000 TeV observed by the Tibet AS+MD array during period between February 2014 and May 2017.

TASG	R.A. J2000	Dec. J2000	-
Event ID	(degrees)	(degrees)	
TASG-D01-001	18.74	55.31	-
TASG-D01-002	26.44	68.23	
TASG-D01-003	35.21	54.46	A
TASG-D01-004	49.16	44.38	
TASG-D01-005	55.90	43.25	
TASG-D01-006	62.31	38.11	
TASG-D01-007	63.13	55.26	
TASG-D01-008	63.72	34.74	
TASG-D01-009	67.01	46.54	
TASG-D01-010	96.16	9.02	
TASG-D01-011	98.31	11.21	
TASG-D01-012	99.60	1.58	
TASG-D01-013	114.74	-7.55	
TASG-D01-014	127.01	38.26	
TASG-D01-015	174.45	24.48	
TASG-D01-016	183.43	39.60	
TASG-D01-017	228.12	26.53	
TASG-D01-018	230.56	44.40	
TASG-D01-019	243.22	66.27	
TASG-D01-020	255.47	26.46	
TASG-D01-021	256.49	35.31	
TASG-D01-022	261.10	25.56	
TASG-D01-023	264.29	17.95	
TASG-D01-024	284.38	4.50	
TASG-D01-025	286.96	7.96	
TASG-D01-026	290.28	16.36	
TASG-D01-027	291.45	10.03	
TASG-D01-028	293.62	20.36	
TASG-D01-029	295.63	2.30	
TASG-D01-030	297.17	13.82	
TASG-D01-031	305.44	44.21	
TASG-D01-032	307.08	39.02	
TASG-D01-033	308.69	43.92	
TASG-D01-034	309.49	51.05	
TASG-D01-035	312.33	40.23	
TASG-D01-036	320.32	49.46	
TASG-D01-037	354.97	49.65	
TASG-D01-038	359.96	59.19	

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