# Mysteries of Cosmic High-Energy Neutrinos



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## A 2015 Nobel Laureate in Physics Said...



"I want to thank the neutrinos, of course. And since neutrinos are created by cosmic rays, I want to thank them, too."

But we do not know well about "them"...



### Motivation: Cosmic Rays – A Century Old Puzzle



$$\frac{dN_{\rm CR}}{dE} \propto E^{-s_{\rm CR}}$$

### **Open problems**

How is the spectrum formed?
(ex. transition to extragalactic)
How are CRs accelerated?
(ex. Fermi mechanism: s<sub>CR</sub>~2)
How do CRs propagate?

The key question **"What is the origin?"** extreme energy (EeV-ZeV) → extreme sources

### Multi-Messenger Approach

# **Neutrino: Weak Interaction**



$$\mathcal{N} \sim (\varepsilon_{\nu} \Phi_{\varepsilon}) \sigma_{\nu N} (2\pi N_A \rho V) \simeq 10 \text{ yr}^{-1} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_{\nu}^2 \Phi_{\varepsilon}}{10^{-8} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}} \right) \left( \frac{V}{\text{km}^3} \right)$$

# IceCube: Gton Neutrino Detector

ΡΜΤ

(HAMAMATSU)





# **How to Detect Neutrinos?**

3 main event types



"Track" (detected) "Shower" (detected)

### "Double-bang & others" (not detected)



 $\nu_{\mu}\text{+}N \rightarrow \mu\text{+}X$ 

~2 energy res. <1 deg ang res.





 $\nu_e$ +N  $\rightarrow$  e+X  $\nu_x$ +N  $\rightarrow$   $\nu_x$ +X

~15% energy res. ~10 deg ang res. seen at >100 TeV  $\nu_{\tau}\text{+}\text{N}\rightarrow\tau\text{+}\text{X}$ 

observable at higher E

# **Upgoing & Downgoing Neutrinos**



ν

ν

CR

## **Downgoing neutrinos**

caveat: atm. muons (rapidly decreasing as E) good: avoid attenuation by Earth



### **Upgoing neutrinos**

good: avoid atmospheric "muons" caveat: attenuation by Earth at > 0.1-1 PeV

## **Discovery: Early Results in 2012-2013**



- $E_v^2 \Phi_v = (1.2 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$  (per flavor)
- Consistent w. flavor ratio  $v_e:v_{\mu}:v_{\tau}=1:1:1$
- Favoring cutoff at ~2 PeV for  $E_v^{-2}$  or steeper than  $E_v^{-2.2}$

## **IceCube Neutrinos: Updates in 2015**



## Lowering the Threshold: Steep Spectra?



## **Upgoing Muon Tracks: Hard Spectra?**



# **HE Neutrino Astrophysics Started**

### **Origins and mechanism of cosmic neutrinos?**

-pp or p $\gamma$ ? -connection to UHECRs? -connection to  $\gamma$  rays? – new physics?



KM, Ahlers & Lacki 13 PRDR, Ahlers & KM 14 PRD)

#### Astrophysical "Isotropic" Neutrino Background – Mean Diffuse Intensity

diffuse v intensity of extragalactic sources (cf. supernova v bkg.)  $\leftarrow$  consistent w. isotropic distribution



Most contributions come from unresolved distant sources, difficult to see each

# Cosmic-ray Accelerators (ex. UHECR candidate sources)



### **Cosmic-ray Reservoirs**



#### - <u>γ-ray bursts</u>

ex. Waxman & Bahcall 97, KM et al. 06 after Neutrino 2012: Cholis & Hooper 13, Liu & Wang 13 KM & Ioka 13, Winter 13, Senno, KM & Meszaros 16

#### - Active galactic nuclei

ex. Stecker et al. 91, Mannheim 95 after Neutrino 2012: Kalashev, Kusenko & Essey 13, Stecker 13, KM, Inoue & Dermer 14, Dermer, KM & Inoue 14, Tavecchio et al. 14, Kimura, KM & Toma 15, Padvani et al. 15, Wang & Liu 16 Starburst galaxies (not Milky-Way-like) ex. Loeb & Waxman 06, Thompson et al. 07 after Neutrino 2012: KM, Ahlers & Lacki 13, Katz et al. 13, Liu et al. 14, Tamborra, Ando & KM 14, Anchordoqui et al. 14, Senno et al. 15

#### - Galaxy groups/clusters

ex. Berezinsky et al. 97, KM et al. 08, Kotera et al. 09 after Neutrino 2012:

KM, Ahlers & Lacki 13, Fang & Olinto 16

#### Cosmic-ray Accelerators (ex. UHECR candidate sources)





### **Cosmic-ray Reservoirs**





#### Cosmic-ray Accelerators (ex. UHECR candidate sources)



ν

PeV

0.1/TeV

 $E^2 \Phi$ 

obs. photon spectra

& source size

### **Cosmic-ray Reservoirs**



E<sub>v</sub> ~ 0.04 E<sub>p</sub>: PeV neutrino ⇔ 20-30 PeV CR nucleon energy

CR

S<sub>v</sub>≠S<sub>CR</sub>

Ε,

#### Cosmic-ray Accelerators (ex. UHECR candidate sources)



### $p + \gamma \rightarrow N\pi + X$



### **Cosmic-ray Reservoirs**



E<sub>v</sub> ~ 0.04 E<sub>p</sub>: PeV neutrino ⇔ 20-30 PeV CR nucleon energy

# **Cosmic-Ray Accelerators**



CRs may or may not escape

## **HE Neutrinos from Classical GRBs**

Standard jet models as the cosmic v origin: excluded by multimessenger obs. - Classical GRBs: constrained by stacking analyses <~  $10^{-9}$  GeV cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup>  $\therefore$  space- and time-coincidence (duration~30 s  $\rightarrow$  background free)



Bustamante, Baerwald, KM, & Winter 15 Nature Comm.

He+ KM 12 ApJ

## **HE Neutrinos from AGN Jets**

Standard jet models as the cosmic v origin: disfavored by multimessenger obs. - Blazars: 1. obs. SEDs (int. & ext.)  $\rightarrow$  hard spectral shape (KM, Inoue & Dermer 14) 2. no clustering (KM & Waxman 16) 3. no source association (IceCube Coll. 15)



- Very hard spectra: a general trend of one-zone models
- Many of them (including a leptonic-hadronic model) are excluded by IceCube

### **Controversy: Blazars as the Origin of IceCube's Neutrinos?**

#### IceCube 15



NO! (IceCube 15, Wang & Li 15, KM & Waxman 16)
Comparison w. FSRQs' γ-ray bkg. (Ajello+ 13 ApJ)
→ average ratio: L<sub>v</sub>/L<sub>γ</sub>~0.1 (for all-flavor L<sub>v</sub>)
Blazars are rare objects in the Universe L<sub>γ</sub>/L<sub>v</sub>~0.1 → nearby blazars should be seen but unobserved
Some model-dependence but quite reasonable

(e.g., power-law assumption,

γ-dim population of blazars)

- YES! (Padovani & Resconi 14, Krauss+ 15)
- Three PeV events may be associated with distant blazars
- Low significance
- (~ $2\sigma$  association of the 2 PeV event w. a FSRQ )
- Association w. a HESE event can be explained if  $L_{\gamma}{\sim}L_{\nu}$

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### **Cosmic-ray Reservoirs**



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# **Cosmic-Ray Reservoirs**





## Inelastic pp Neutrinos from CR Reservoirs

• Explain >0.1 PeV v data with a few PeV break (theoretically predicted)



**Common origin for neutrinos and gamma rays?** 

## Inelastic pp Neutrinos from CR Reservoirs

- Explain >0.1 PeV v data with a few PeV break (theoretically predicted)
- Escaping CRs may contribute to the CR flux (theoretically predicted)



**Common origin for neutrinos, gamma rays & UHECRs?** 

## How to Test?: Multi-Messenger Approach

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

 $p + \gamma \rightarrow N\pi + X \qquad \pi^{\pm}:\pi^{0} \sim 1:1 \rightarrow \mathsf{E}_{\gamma}^{2} \Phi_{\gamma} \sim (4/3) \mathsf{E}_{\nu}^{2} \Phi_{\nu}$  $p + p \rightarrow N\pi + X \qquad \pi^{\pm}:\pi^{0} \sim 2:1 \rightarrow \mathsf{E}_{\gamma}^{2} \Phi_{\gamma} \sim (2/3) \mathsf{E}_{\nu}^{2} \Phi_{\nu}$ 

>TeV  $\gamma$  rays interact with CMB & extragalactic background light (EBL)  $\gamma + \gamma_{\text{CMB/EBL}} \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$  ex.  $\lambda_{\gamma\gamma}(\text{TeV}) \sim 300 \text{ Mpc}$  $\lambda_{\gamma\gamma}(\text{PeV}) \sim 10 \text{ kpc} \sim \text{distance to Gal. Center}$ 



## Inelastic pp Neutrinos from CR Reservoirs

- Explain >0.1 PeV v data with a few PeV break (theoretically predicted)
- Must largely contribute to diffuse γ-ray bkg. (perhaps "common" origins?)



Strong predictions: spectral index s<2.1-2.2, >30-40% to diffuse γ-ray bkg.
 Proposed tests: 1. Measurements of neutrino data below 100 TeV
 2. Decomposing the diffuse γ-ray bkg.

### **Application: Gamma Rays Challenge Dark Matter Models**

Quasi-isotropic emission from the Galactic halo (e.g., DM) can be constrained



- Galactic:  $\gamma \rightarrow$  direct (w. some attenuation),  $e^{\pm} \rightarrow$  sync. + inv. Compton
- Extragalactic  $\rightarrow$  EM cascades during cosmological propagation

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- If steep (s~2.5)  $\rightarrow$  ruling out a single origin & another component is required py sources (KM & loka 13 PRL, Kimura, KM & Toma 15 ApJ), Galactic (Ahlers & KM 14 PRD)

## **Implications of Detailed Gamma-Ray Studies**

Contributing >30-40% of diffuse sub-TeV gamma-ray flux  $\rightarrow$  improving and understanding the Fermi data are crucial



Be cautious but If >50% come from blazars  $\rightarrow$  tighter constraints: s<2.0-2.1 If >60-70% come from blazars  $\rightarrow$  insufficient room for pp scenarios!

## **Implications of Detailed Gamma-Ray Studies**



Photon fluctuation analyses (Poisson term of angular power spectra)  $C_P = \int_0^{S_{\text{max}}} (1 - \omega(S')) S'^2 \frac{dN}{dS'} dS' [(\text{ph cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1})^2 \text{sr}^{-1}] \text{ Non-blazar contribution < 14±14\%}$ 

## **Implications of Detailed Gamma-Ray Studies**

### The proposed tests for pp scenarios have been done



Given that IceCube's data above 100 TeV are explained...

Decomposition of extragalactic γ-ray bkg. gives tighter limits: s<2.0-2.1 Insufficient room for pp scenarios to explain the 10-100 TeV neutrino data

### Two Components?: Low-Energy "Excess" Problem

- Best-fit spectral indices tend to be as soft as s~2.5
- 10-100 TeV data: large fluxes of ~10<sup>-7</sup> GeV cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup>



- If  $\gamma$ -ray transparent  $\rightarrow$  strong tensions w. diffuse  $\gamma$ -ray bkg. for both pp & p $\gamma$ pp  $\rightarrow \sim 100\%$  of diffuse  $\gamma$ -ray bkg. even w. s $\sim 2.0$ minimal p $\gamma \rightarrow >50\%$  diffuse  $\gamma$ -ray bkg. (via EM cascades) AGN interpretation!

## py/yy Optical Depth Correspondence

- $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ : unavoidable in py sources (ex. GRBs, AGN)
- Same target photons prevent γ-ray escape



30 TeV-3 PeV  $\nu$  constrains 1-100 GeV  $\gamma$ 

- Neutrino production efficiency f<sub>py</sub> cannot be too small
  - 1.  $f_{p\gamma} \ll 1$  unnatural (requiring fine tuning), Do not overshoot the observed CR flux
  - 2. Comparison w. non-thermal energy budgets of known objects (galaxies, AGN, cluster shocks etc.)



### Indication of Gamma-Ray Dark Cosmic-Ray Accelerators





Bounds on  $\tau_{yy}$  hold for both thermal and nonthermal photon targets

py mechanism: v sources should naturally be obscured in GeV-TeV  $\gamma$  rays

### **GRBs and AGN as Hidden Neutrino Factories?**

#### Low-power GRBs (choked jets)



#### Supermassive blackhole cores



### What's Next?: Need to Detect Individudal Sources



# Summary

### What is the origin of cosmic v signals?

mostly isotropic & diffuse TeV-PeV γ-ray limits → extragalactic component
 pp scenarios: theoretical predictions & may consistently explain the CR data
 s<2.1-2.2 & >30% to the diffuse sub-TeV γ-ray bkg.
 pγ scenarios: classical GRBs & blazars (most powerful jets) are subdominant
 (although they can still be the sources of UHECRs)
 dim CR accelerators (ex. low-power GRBs/AGN cores) allowed

LE excess: atm. bkg.? magical combination w. Gal. comp.? or something new? pp scenarios: strong tensions w. detailed studies of the diffuse γ-ray bkg. pγ scenarios: natural in hidden CR accelerators (ex. low-power GRBs/AGN) Are cosmic-ray connections coincident?

### Toward identifying individual sources

- IceCube-Gen2: almost all (reasonable) models can be tested
- Gal. sources:  $\nu_{\mu}$  search by KM3Net & sub-PeV  $\gamma$  in the Southern Hemisphere
- X-ray/soft  $\gamma$ -ray detectors for hidden sources, UHE (>10 PeV) v searches

# Appendix

# **Galactic Contributions?**

So far, more papers about Galactic sources (a fraction of vs are explained except Galactic halo models)



### Importance of TeV-PeV y-ray Limits on Galactic Sources

### Airshower arrays have placed diffuse γ-ray limits at TeV-PeV

Galactic Plane (ex. diffuse Galactic cosmic rays, supernova remnants, SF regions)



- Existing diffuse TeV-PeV γ-ray limits are already close to predicted fluxes
- No significant overlap between vs and search regions
- Need deeper diffuse TeV-PeV γ-ray obs. in the Southern Hemisphere

# **Secret Neutrino Interactions**

#### Majorna neutrino self-interactions via a scalar







# **Constraints on Self-Interactions**



- An example that IceCube can be used for testing nonstandard interactions
- Can be more powerful than laboratory tests

## **Neutrino Constraints on Dark Matter Decay**



- Neutrino bound is very powerful at high energies
- Cascade γ-ray bound: more conservative/robust at high m<sub>dm</sub>