

# IIHE RET EFFORTS

KRIJN D DE VRIES

ON BEHALF OF THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE  
COLLABORATION  
WWW.RADARECHOTELESCOPE.ORG

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL  
INTERUNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR HIGH ENERGIES



Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO



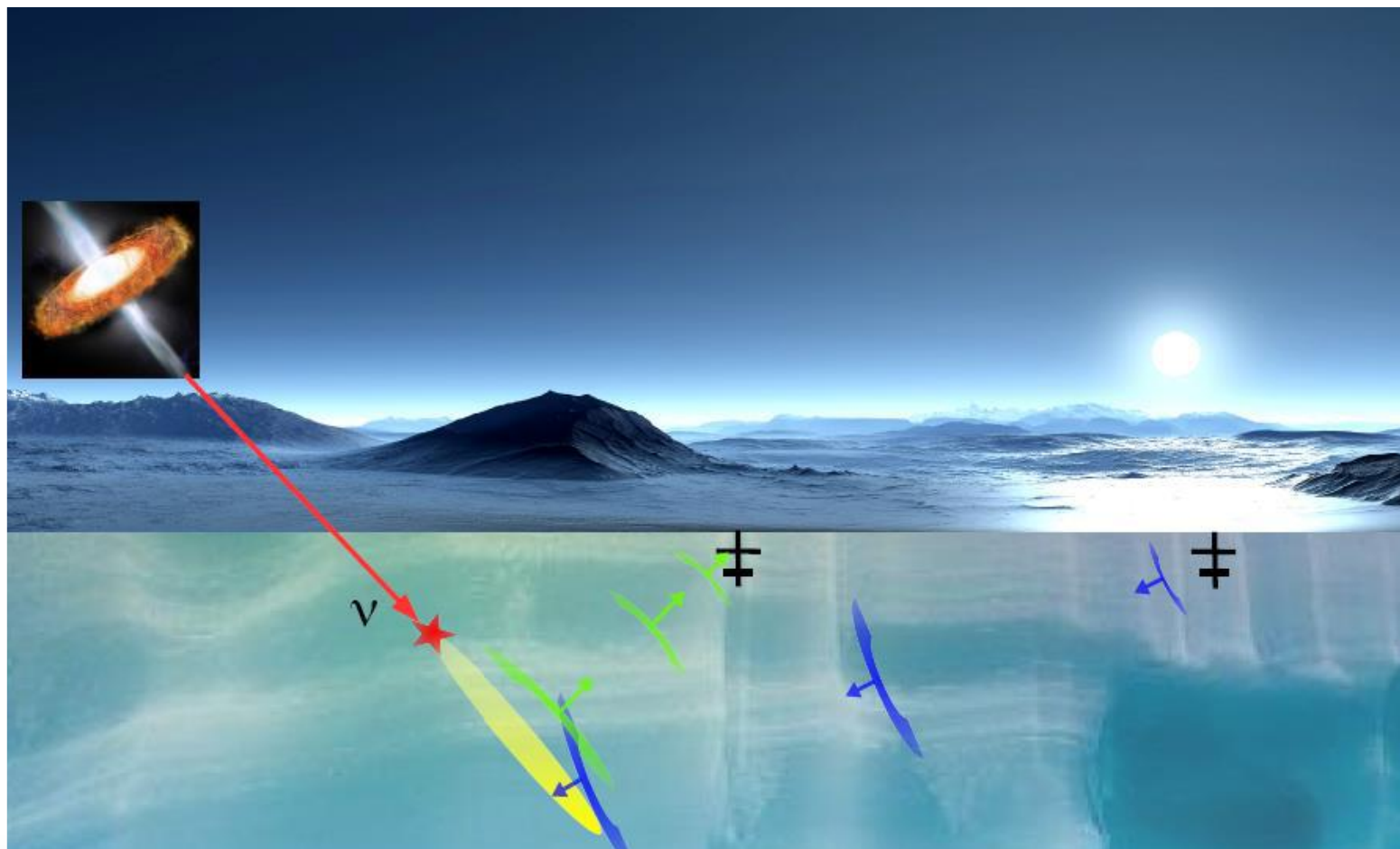
PennState



National  
Taiwan  
University

# RADAR DETECTION OF HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLE CASCADES IN ICE

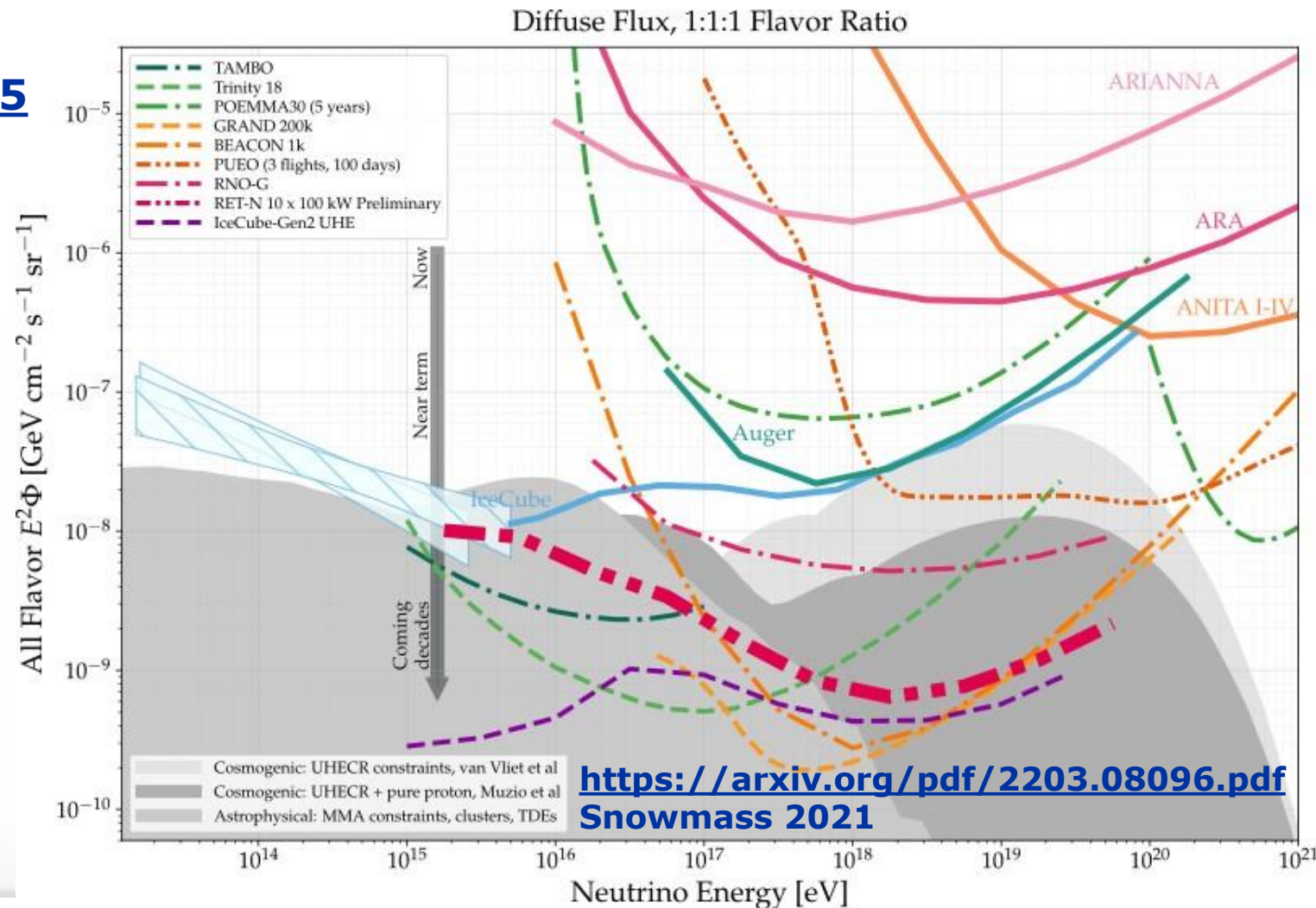
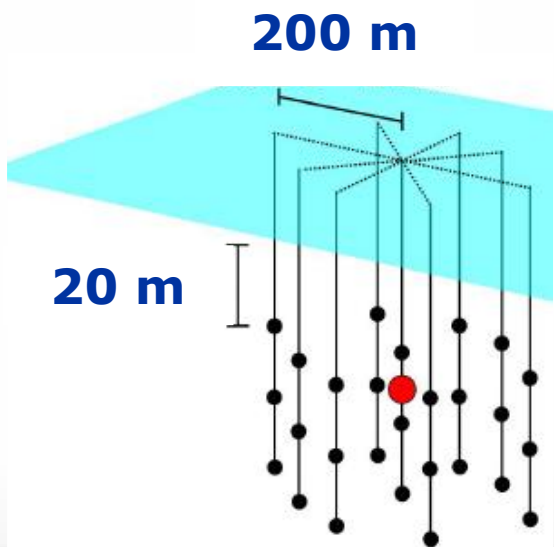
## THE MAIN IDEA



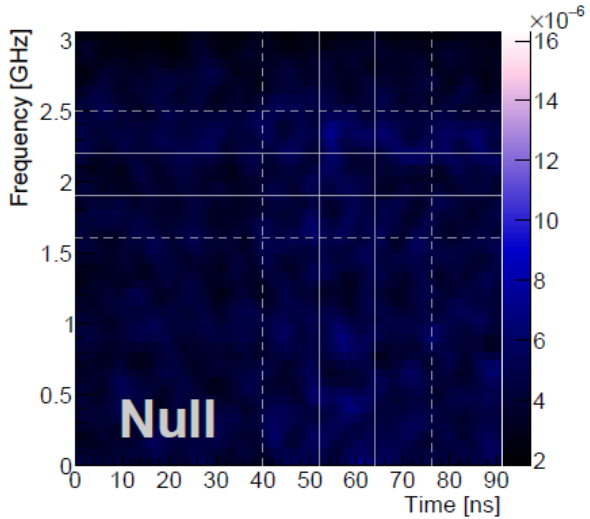
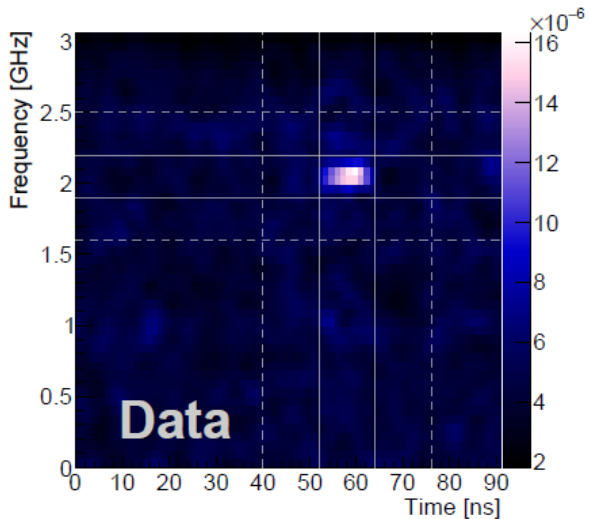
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR NEUTRINOS

## WHY RADAR? PROBING THE PEV-EEV COSMIC NEUTRINO FLUX

- **10 x 100 kW effective (phased) transmitter @ 1.5 km depth.**
- **Trigger at 0 dB w.r.t. 50 MHz bandwidth thermal noise**



# DETECTING HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLE CASCADES AT SLAC



First ever detection of a radar scatter from a high-energy particle cascade!!

→ **Let's see if we can detect a particle cascade in-situ**

## Observation of Radar Echoes from High-Energy Particle Cascades

S. Prohira, K. D. de Vries, P. Allison, J. Beatty, D. Besson, A. Connolly, N. van Eijndhoven, C. Hast, C.-Y. Kuo, U. A. Latif, T. Meures, J. Nam, A. Nozdrina, J. P. Ralston, Z. Riesen, C. Sbrocco, J. Torres, and S. Wissel

**Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 091101 (2020)**

# DETECTING PARTICLE CASCADES IN NATURE

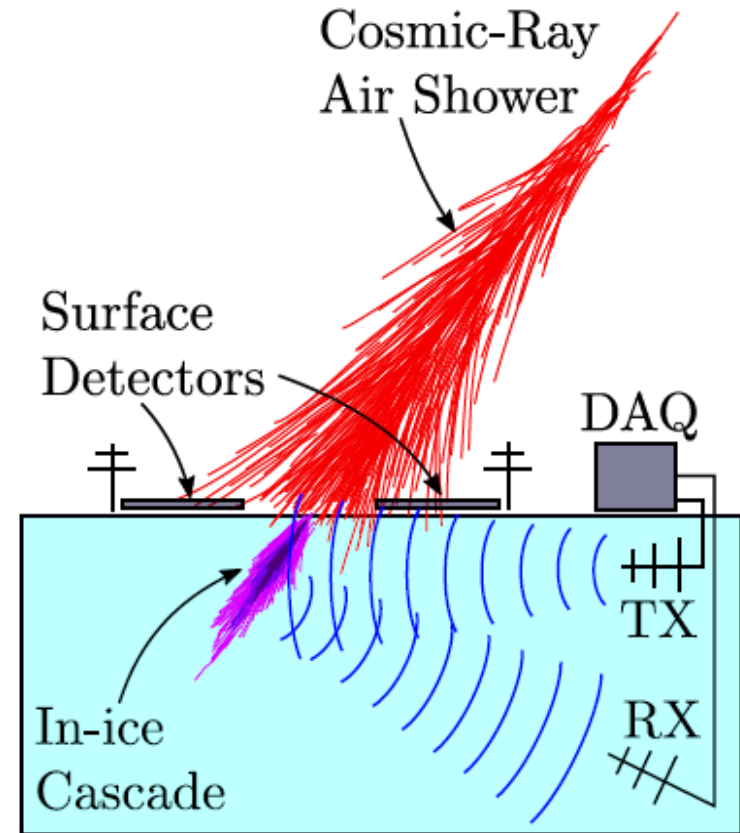
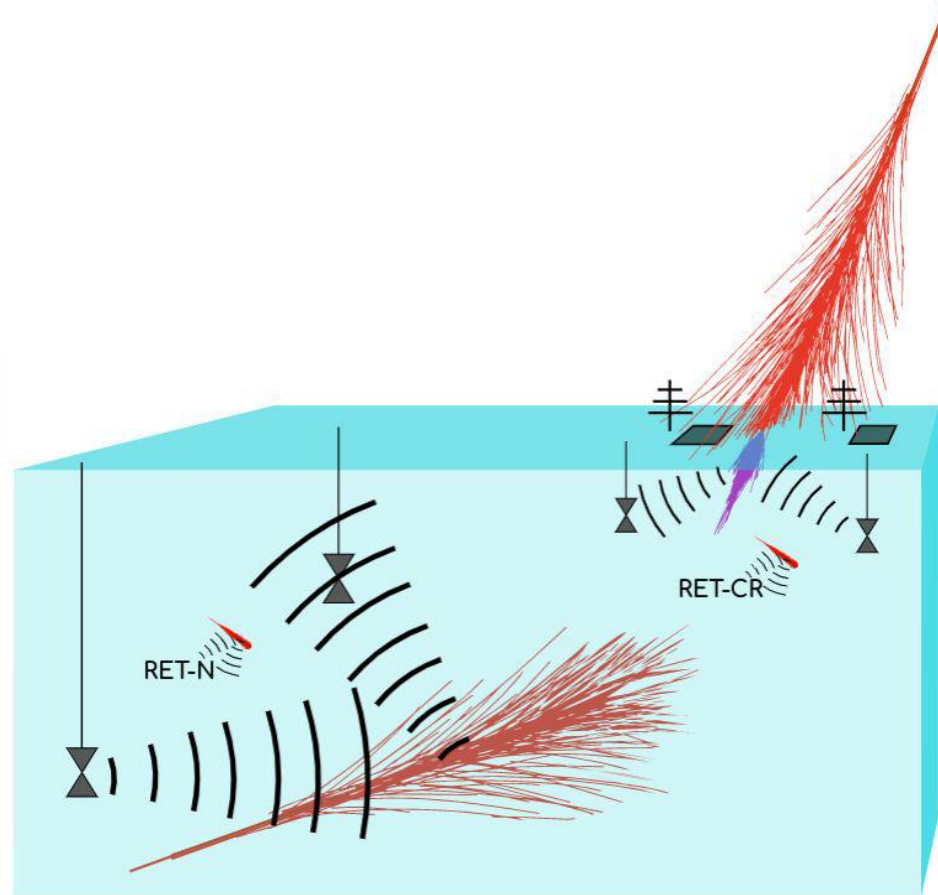
## THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS



Radar detection of high-energy particle cascades  
-- KD de Vries (VUB)  
November, 28, 2024 | 5

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

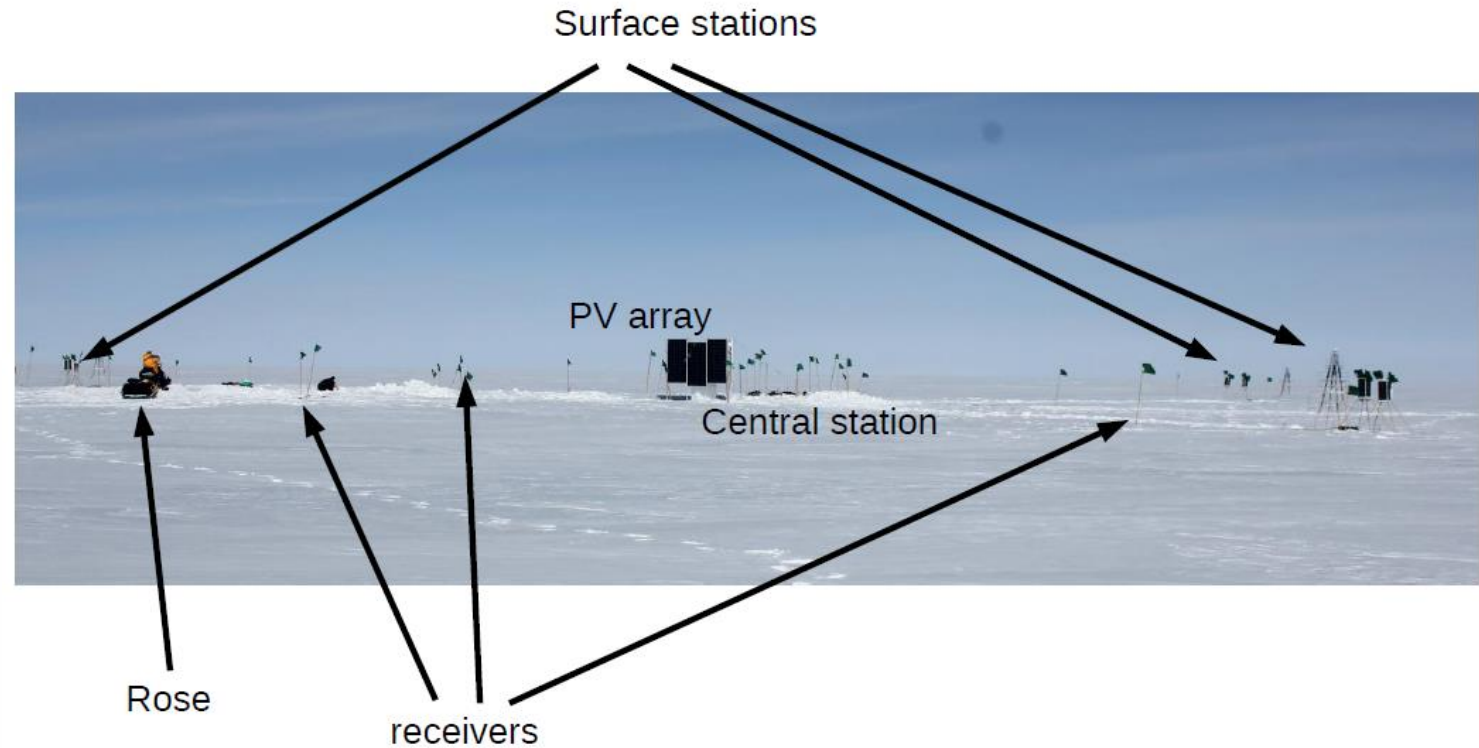
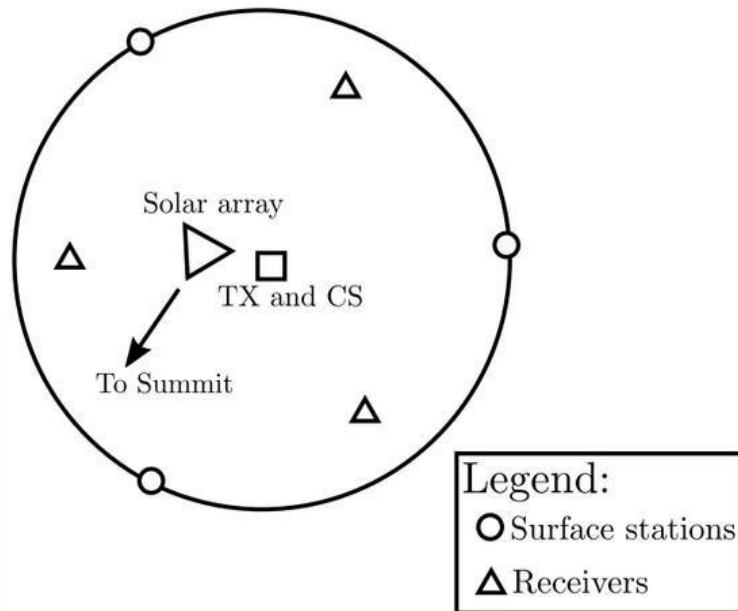
## DETECTING PARTICLE CASCADES IN NATURE



[RET-CR paper: arXiv: 2104.00459 - Phys. Rev. D 104, 102006](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.00459)

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

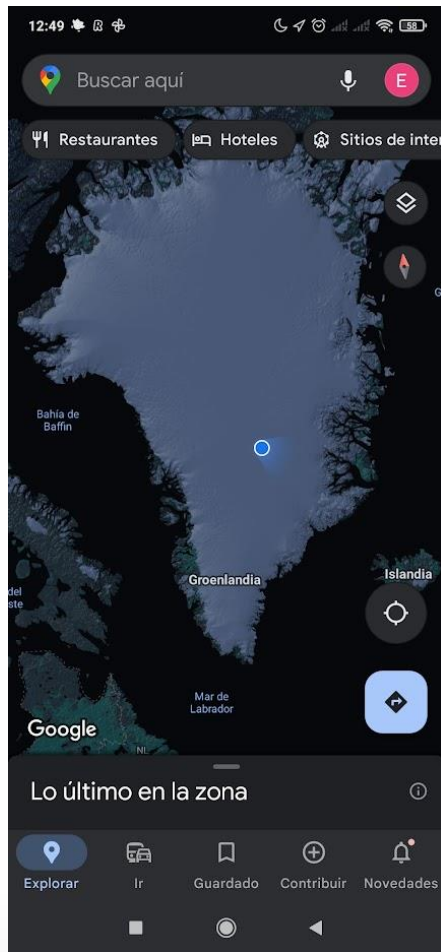
MAY 2023 DEPLOYMENT → MAY 2024 REDEPLOYMENT



- **3x1.2kW solar array with charge control and battery bank.**
- **4 downhole strings with single receiver dipole at 10m depth.**
- **8 channel phased dipole array centered at 10m.**
- **5 surface stations (2 scintillator panels + 1 radio antenna each).**
- **GPS, WLAN link, etc.**

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

MAY 2023-2024 DEPLOYMENT





# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## DEPLOYMENT

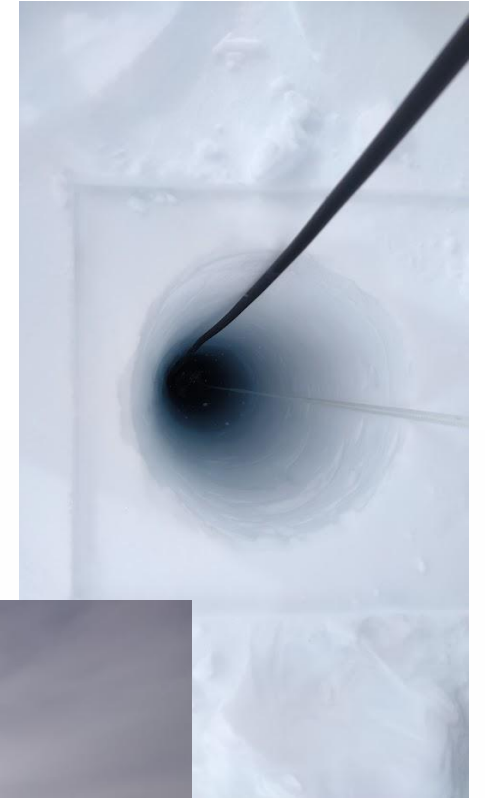
### IIHE involvement in RET-CR deployment / retrieval teams:

**Rose Stanley**  
**Enrique Huesca Santiago**  
**Simon de Kockere**  
**Krijn de Vries**  
**Katie Mulrey (former IIHE, currently Nijmegen)**



# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## DEPLOYMENT

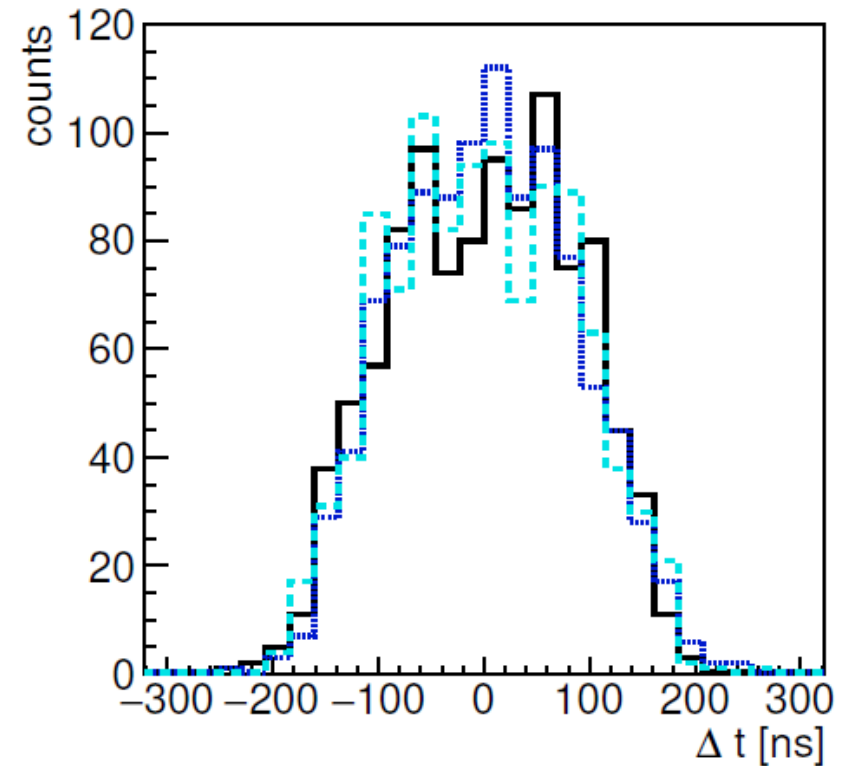


# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## MAY 2023 DEPLOYMENT

Several weeks of commissioning

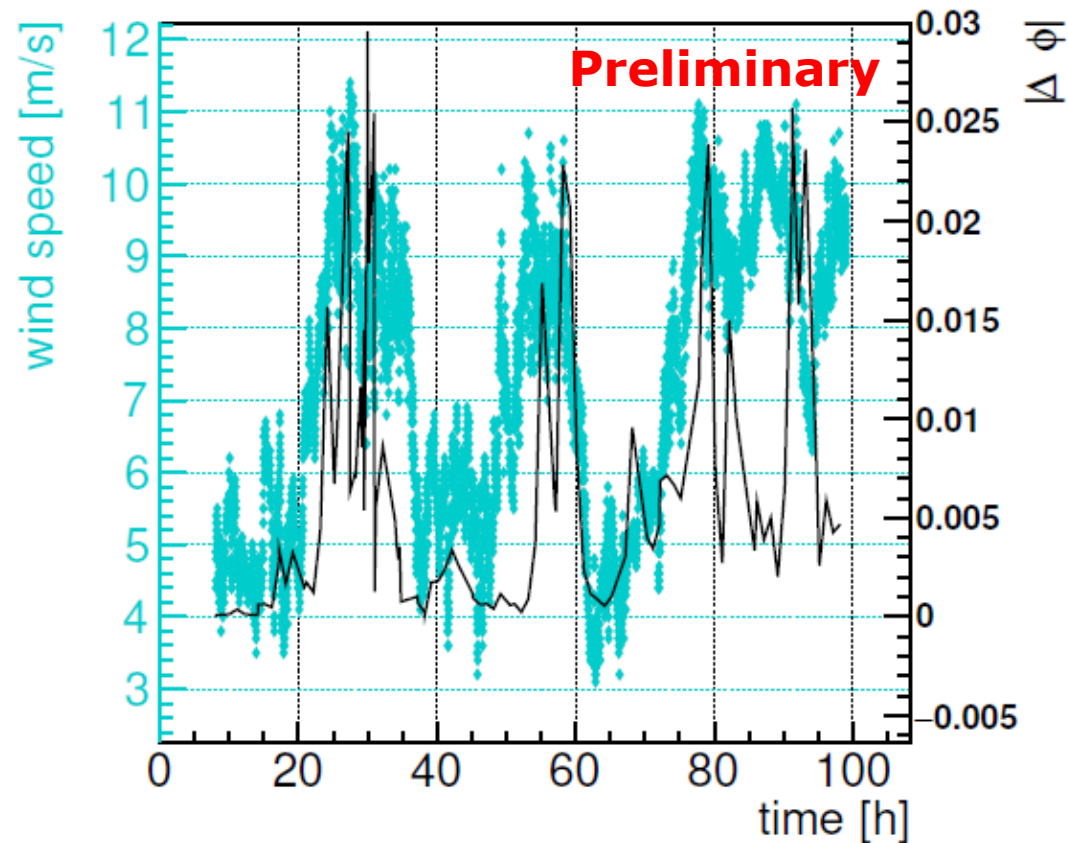
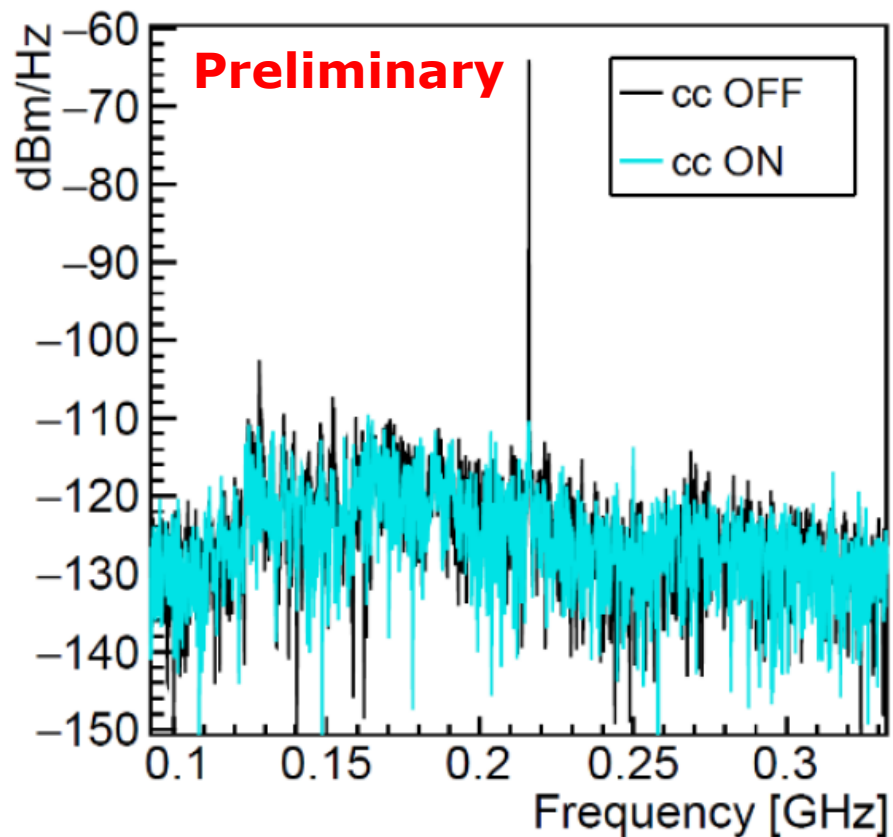
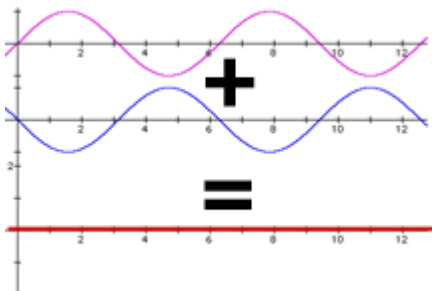
- Surface trigger worked as expected
- 9 days of full operation
- Radar system worked as expected:
  - Transmitter carrier cancellation
  - Beam forming
- Overheating issues caused system shutdown
- System noise makes analysis tricky
- Both overheating and system noise have been mitigated for the **2024 data-taking run**



[arXiv:2409.07511](https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.07511)

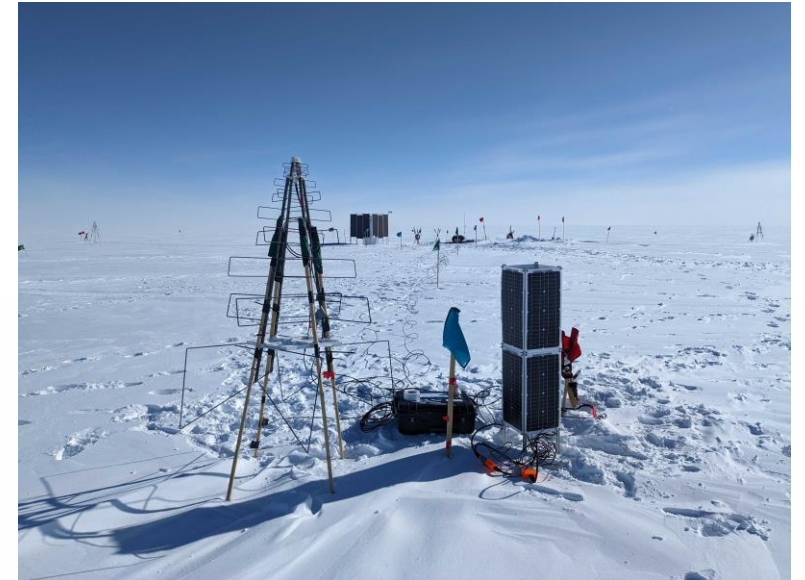
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

MAY 2023 DEPLOYMENT



# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

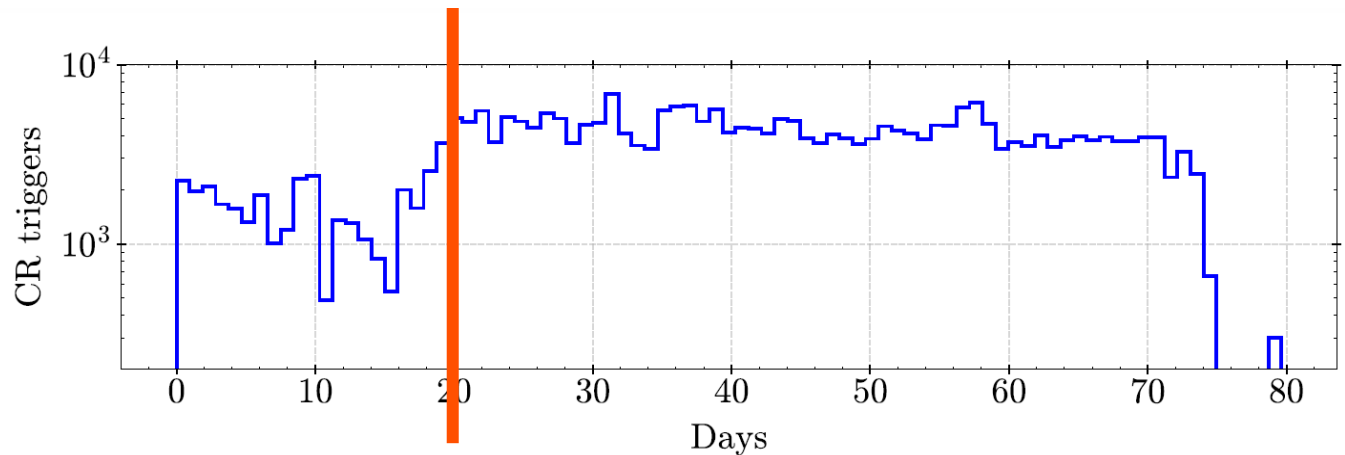
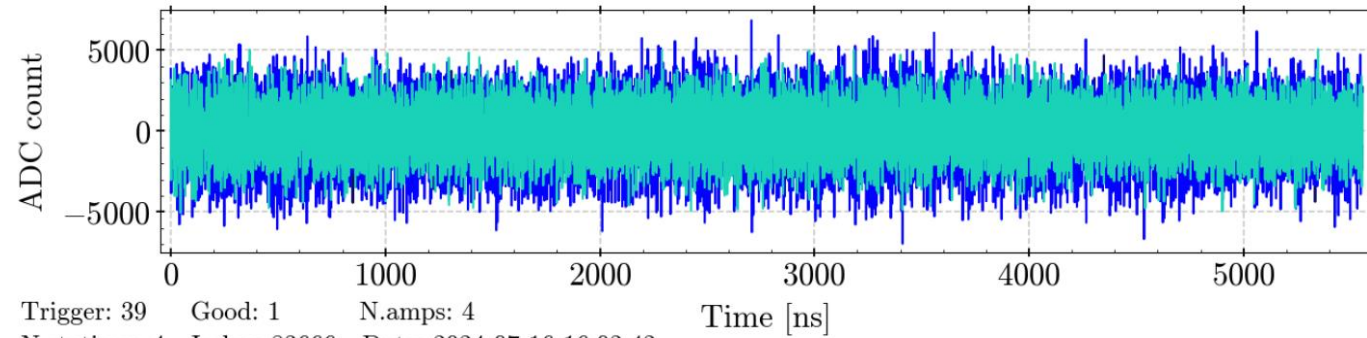
MAY 2024 DEPLOYMENT



# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

2024 RUN

- System operational from May 2024
- Physics data after commissioning from June-August 2024
- >100.000 Cosmic-ray triggered events.
- Analysis ongoing, results coming soon!!



*Trigger condition after day 20 ;  
N-1 & N>2 stations trigger  
N: the number of stations alive*

# RF SCATTERING FROM PARTICLE CASCADES

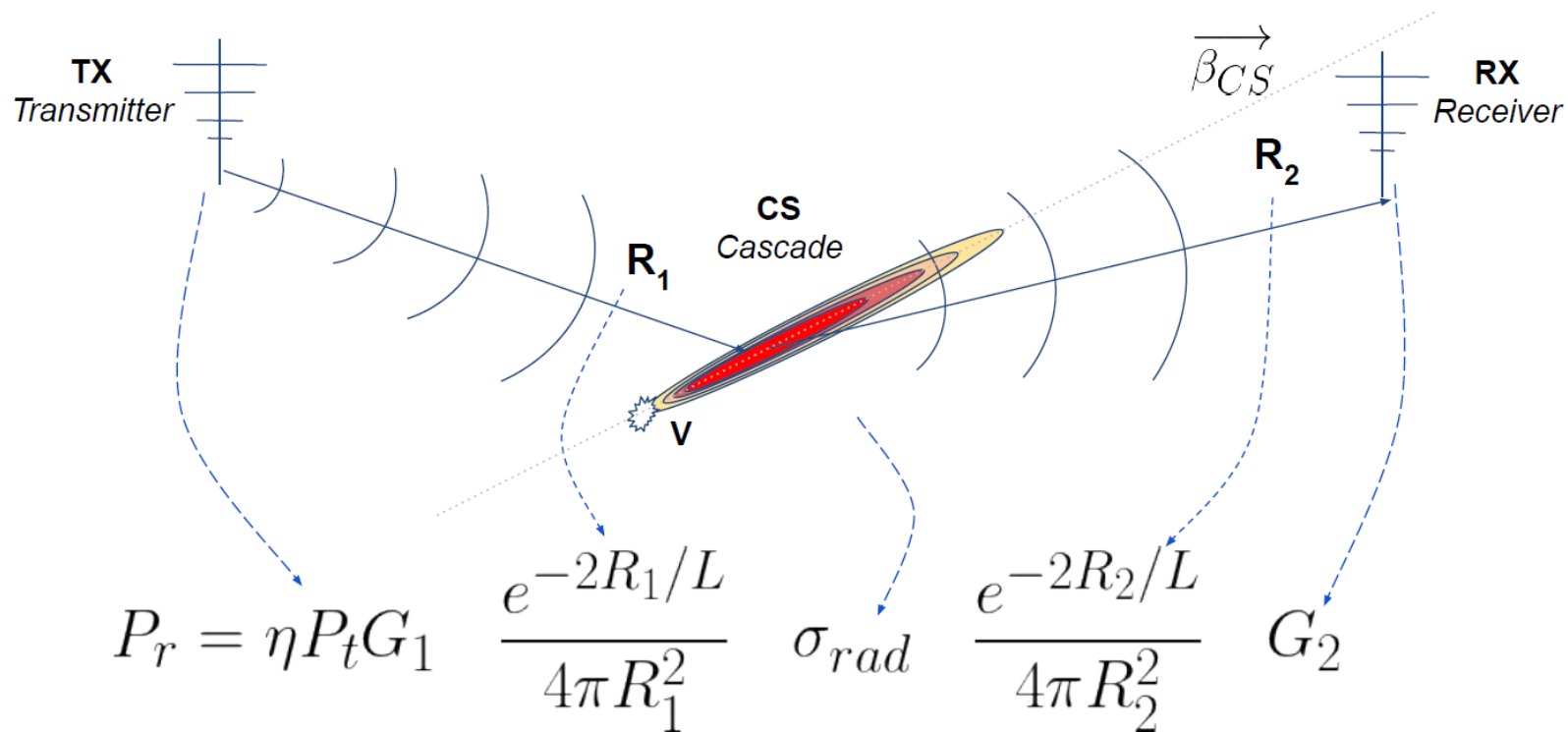
## RADAR ECHO MODELLING

IIHE involvement in  
RET simulation/data  
Analysis:

**Jethro Stoffels**  
**Dieder van den Broeck**  
**Krijn de Vries**  
**Simona Toscano**

New:  
**Jannes Loonen**  
**Isha Loudon**

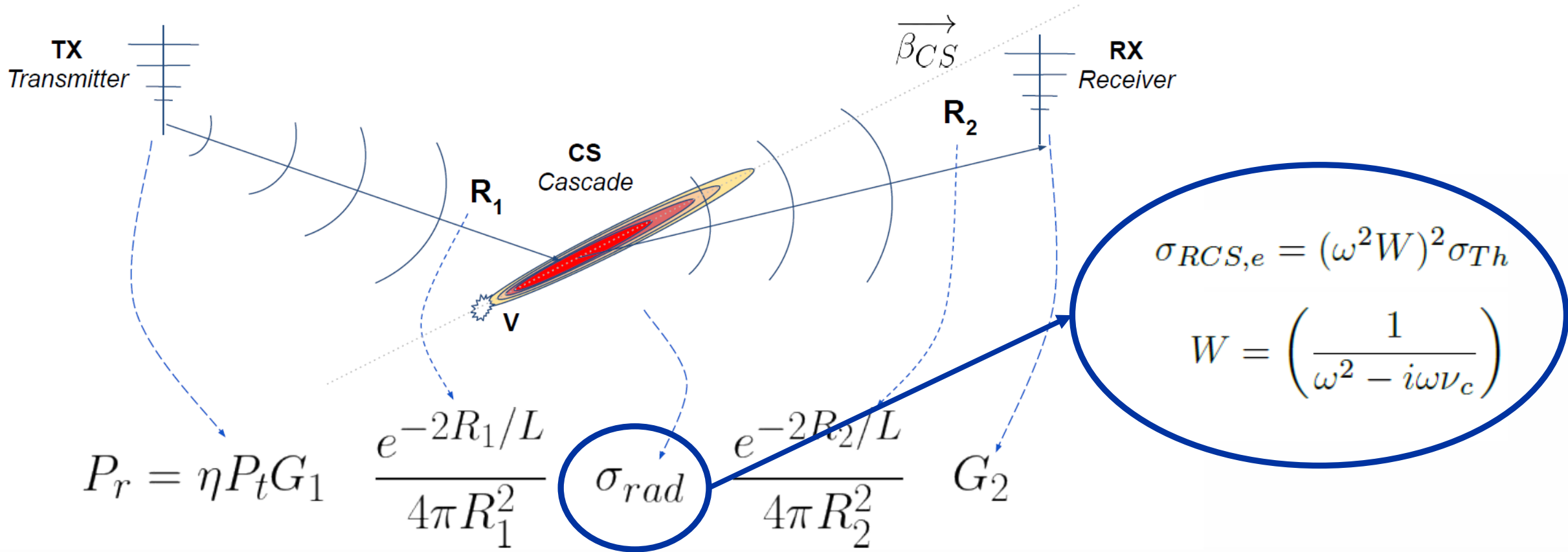
Former:  
**Rose Stanley (KUL)**  
**Enrique Huesca Santiago (DESY)**  
**Simon De Kockere (Public sector)**  
**Uzair Latif (Public sector)**  
**Katie Mulrey (Nijmegen University)**



# RF SCATTERING FROM PARTICLE CASCADES

MARES RADAR ECHO SIMULATIONS IN-HOUSE DEVELOPED BY ENRIQUE HUESCA SANTIAGO

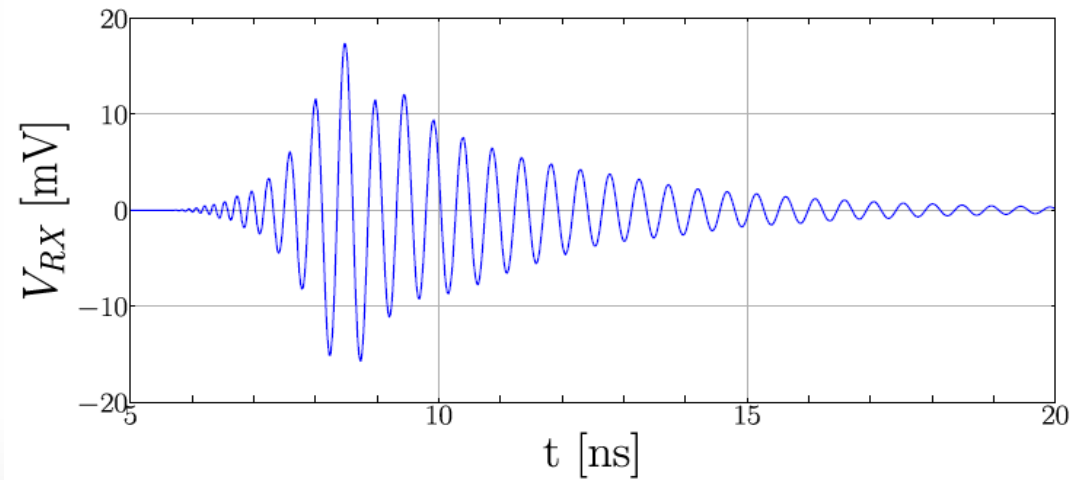
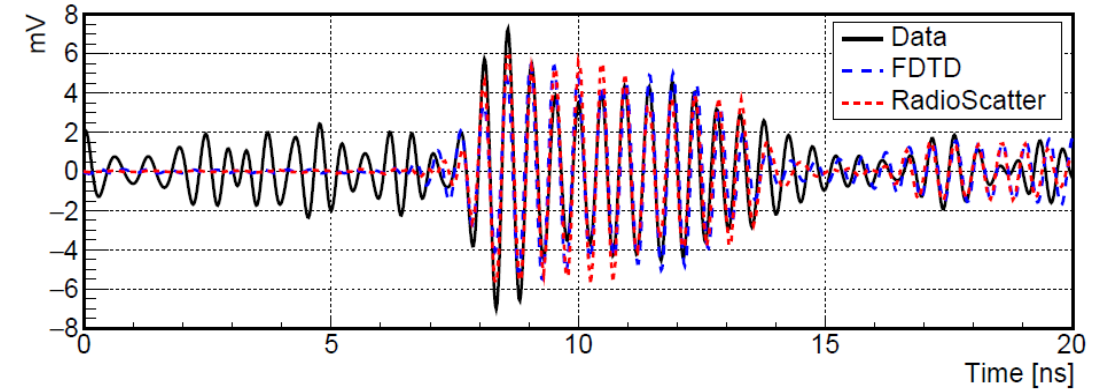
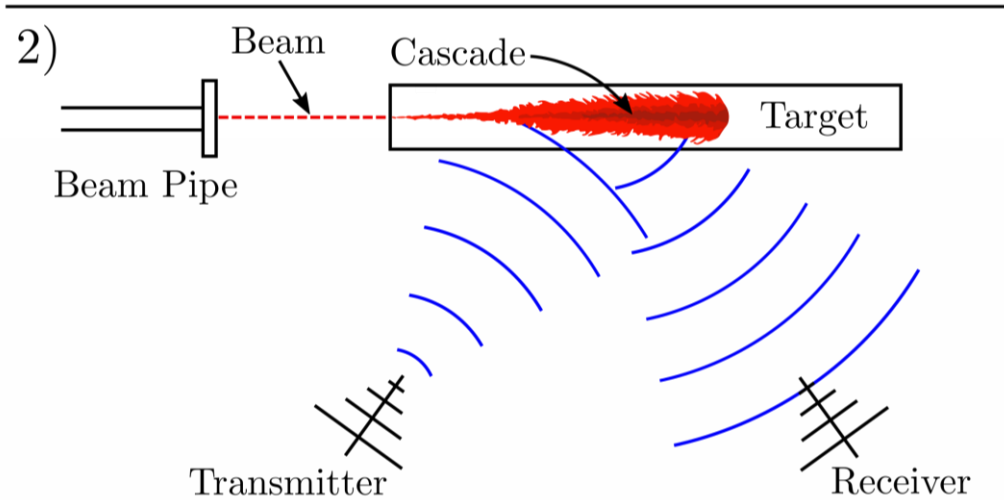
MARES: arXiv:2310.06731 ; Phys. Rev. D 109 (2024) 083012





# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

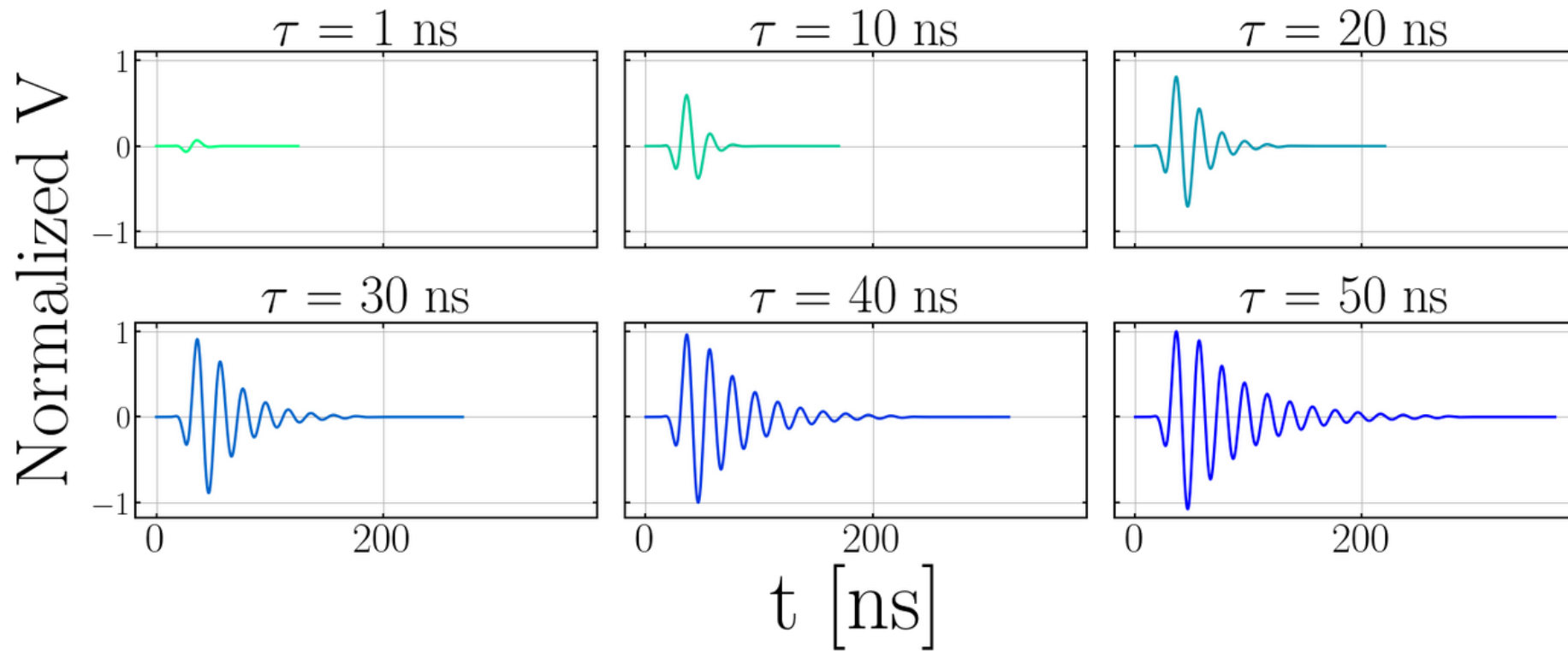
## SLAC-T576 VS FDTD/RADIOSCATTER/MARES



SLAC T-576: [arXiv:1910.12830](https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.12830) ; PRL 124, 091101 (2020)  
RadioScatter: [arXiv:1710.02883](https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.02883) ; NIM-A 922 (2019) 161-170  
MARES: [arXiv:2310.06731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.06731) ; PRD accepted

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## SIMULATIONS AND SIGNAL PROPERTIES: LIFETIME



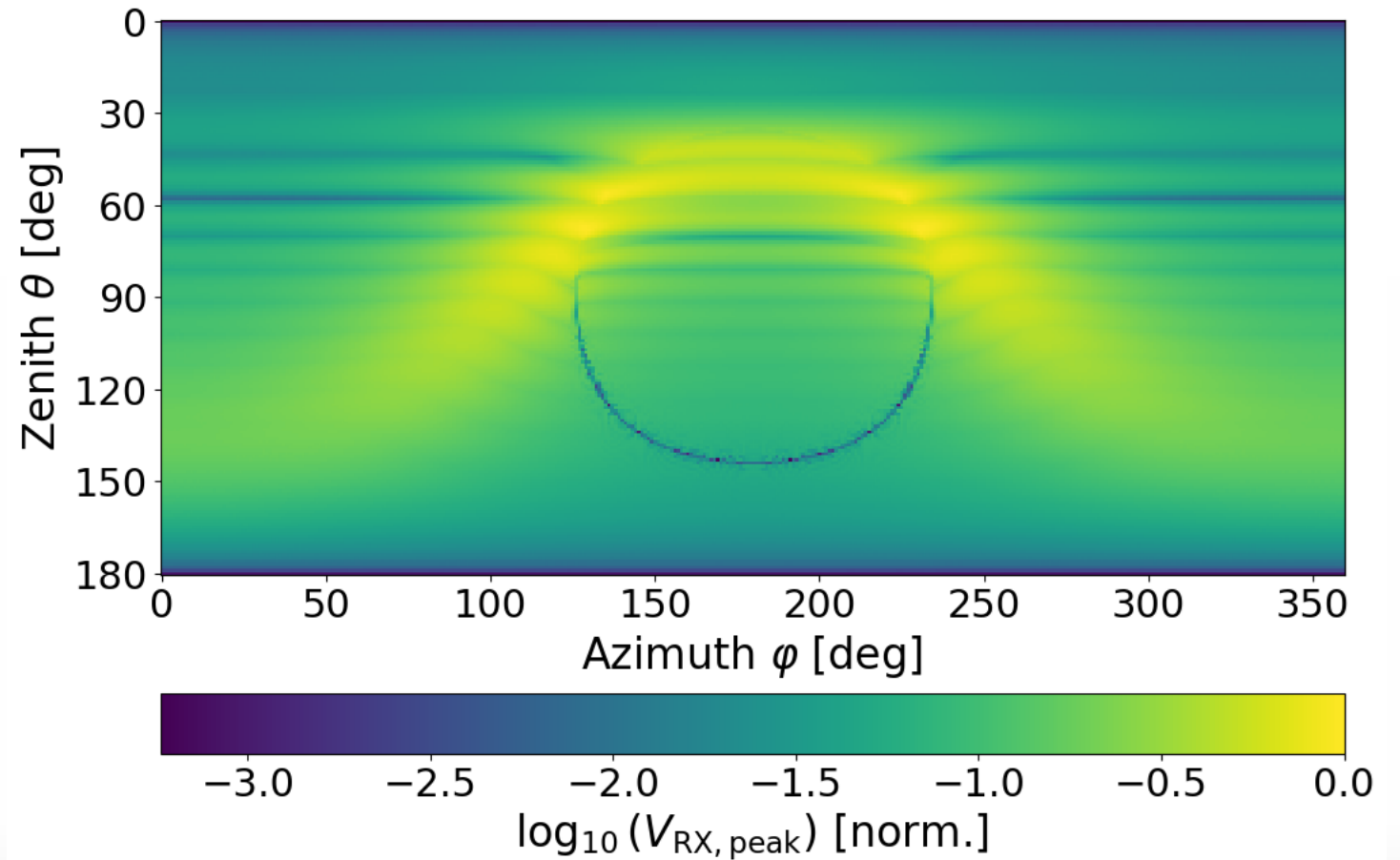
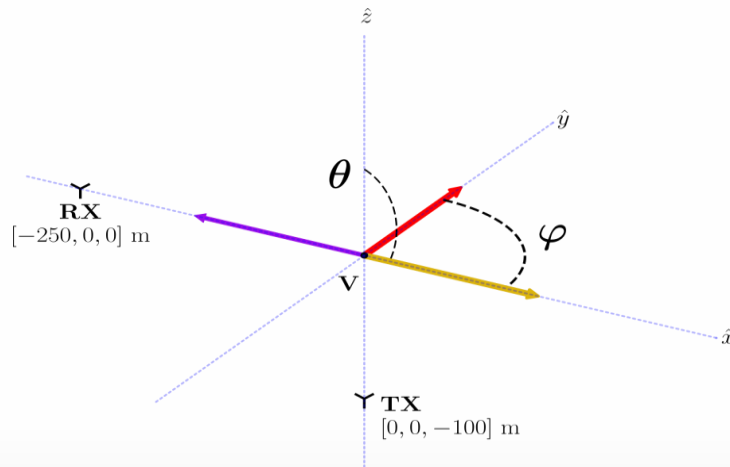
# MODELING AND UNDERSTANDING RADAR ECHOS FROM PARTICLE CASCADES

## SIGNAL PROPERTIES: INTENSITY

Credit: I. Loudon, J. Loonen  
E. Huesca-Santiago, D. Frikken

### Features:

- 1) Cherenkov-like effect
- 2) Diffraction bands
- 3) High-intensity swirl



# MODELING AND UNDERSTANDING RADAR ECHOS FROM PARTICLE CASCADES

## SIGNAL PROPERTIES: FREQUENCY

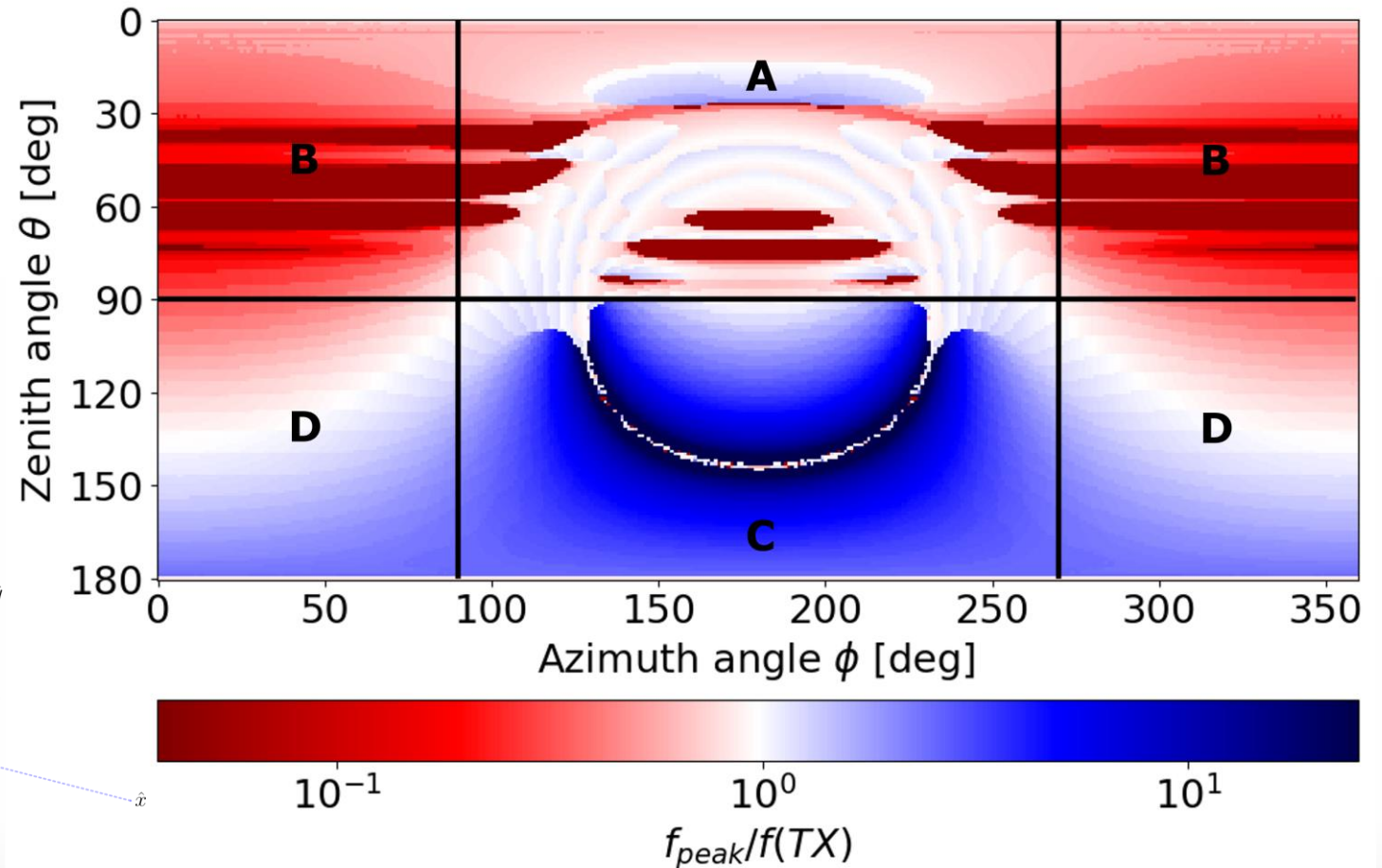
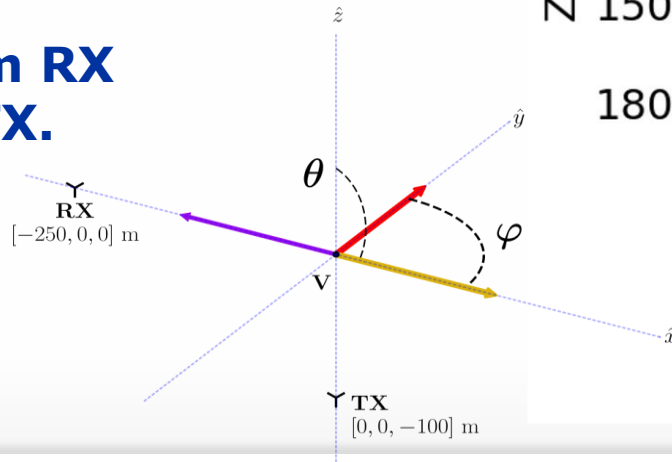
Credit: I. Loudon, J. Loonen  
E. Huesca-Santiago, D. Frikken

**A:** Towards RX,  
Away from TX.

**B:** Away from RX  
Away from TX.

**C:** Towards RX  
Towards TX.

**D:** Away from RX  
Towards TX.



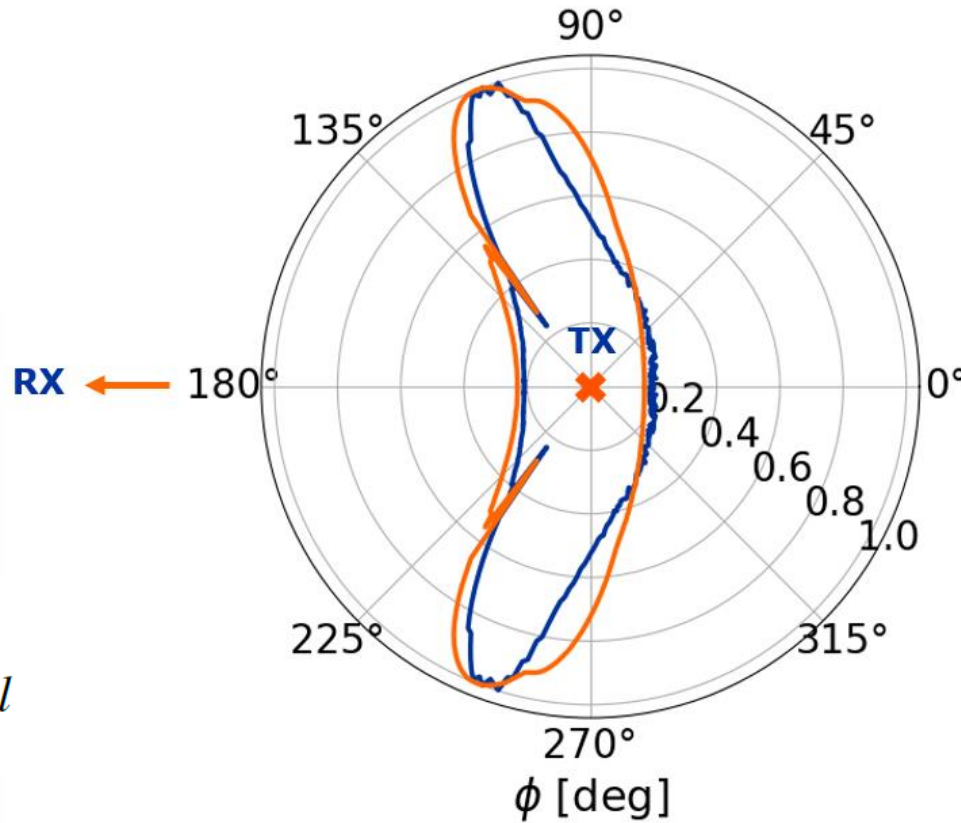
# MODELING AND UNDERSTANDING RADAR ECHOS FROM PARTICLE CASCADES

## SIGNAL PROPERTIES: PHASE ALIGNMENT

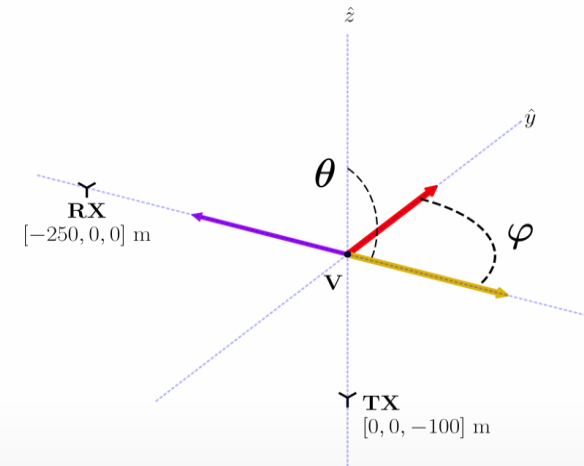
**Orange:** Simulation at fixed zenith angle of 90 degrees

**Blue:** Phase alignment measure:

$$C = \int \left( \cos(\varphi) \cdot \frac{n_{e^-}}{n_{max}} \right)_{norm} dl$$



**PRELIMINARY**  
**J. Loonen**



Thanks!!



*iihe*  
BRUXELLES BRUSSEL

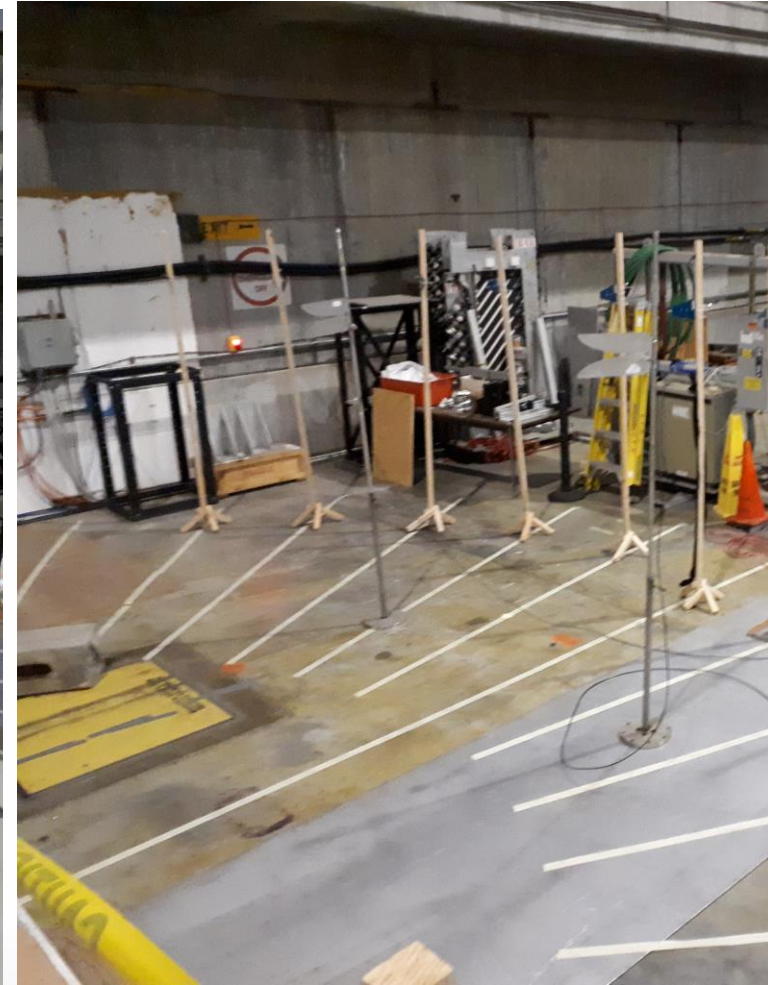
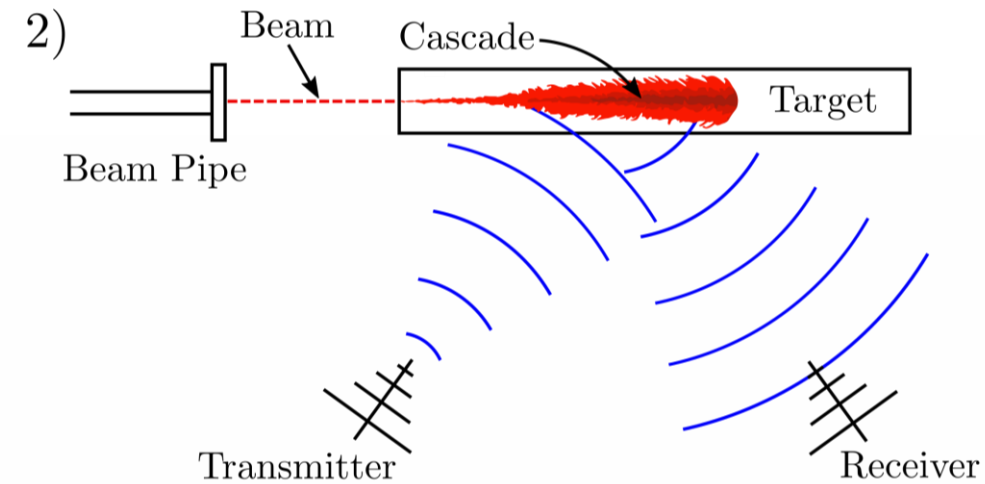
VUB

VRIJ  
UNIV  
BRU

  
COSMIC RAY ECHO TELESCOPE  
for COSMIC RAYS

# DETECTING HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLE CASCADES AT SLAC

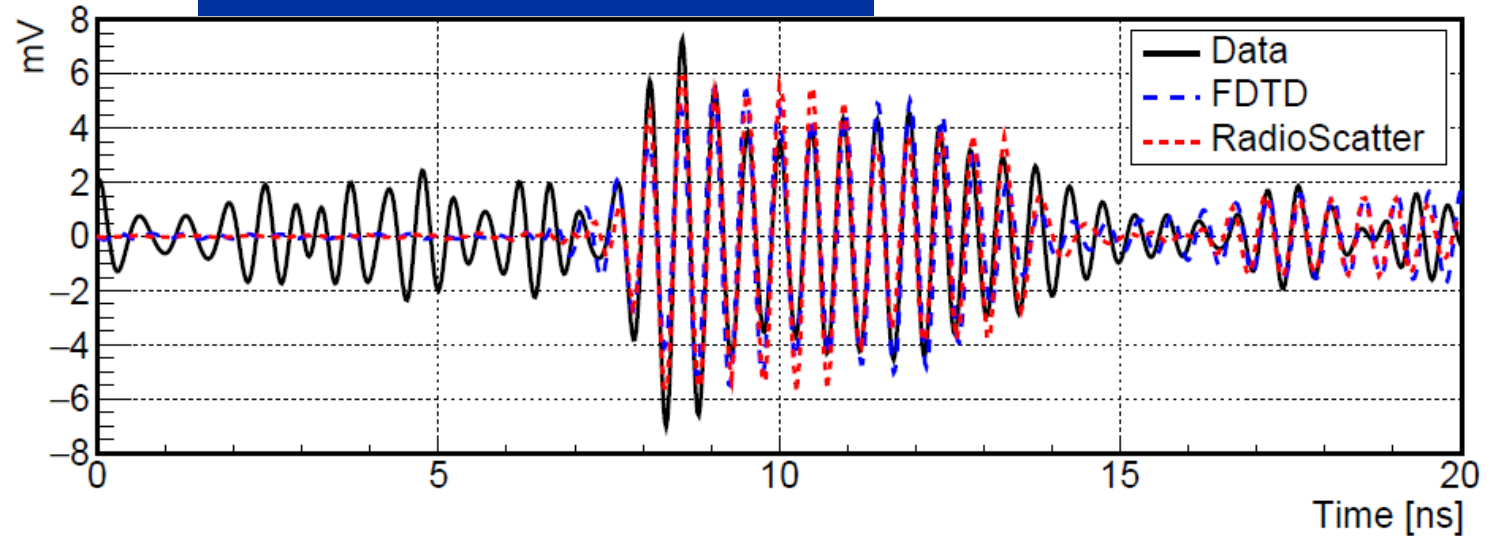
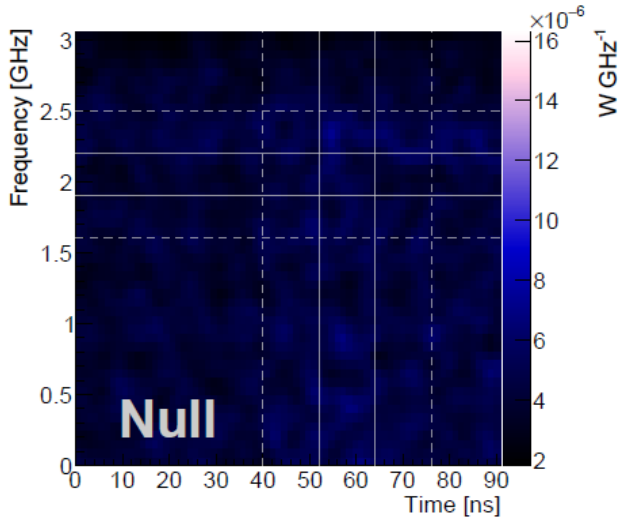
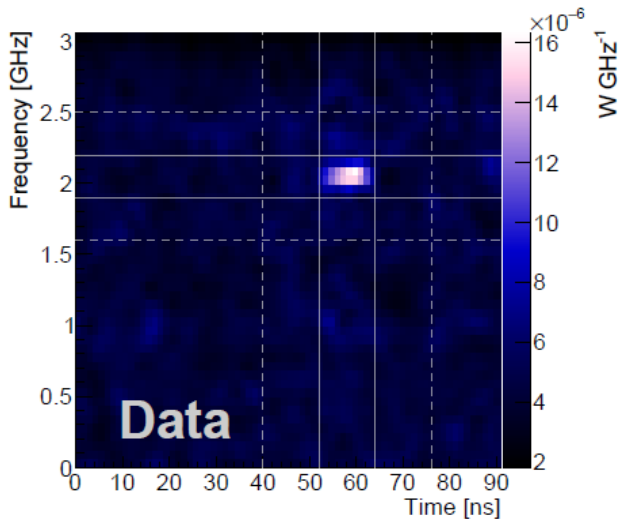
## SLAC T-576 EXPERIMENT



APS/Alan Stonebraker

# DETECTING HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLE CASCADES AT SLAC

## SLAC T-576 EXPERIMENT



Difficult analysis due to **Askaryan and Transition radiation** backgrounds → Singular Value Decomposition to filter.

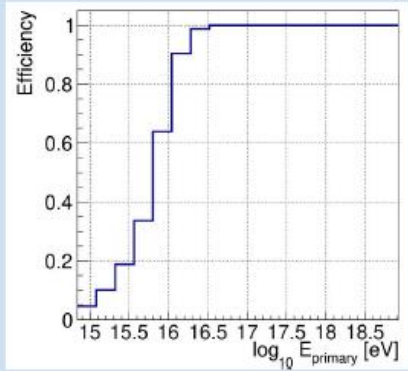
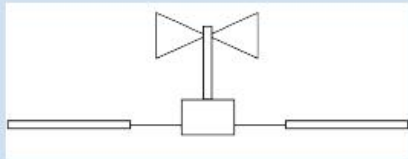
→ **Excellent agreement between data and simulations**

Method: S. Prohira, et al., [Phys. Rev. D 100, 072003 \(arxiv:1810.09914\)](#) || S. Prohira, [2020 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 1525 012119 \(arxiv:1910.11314\)](#)



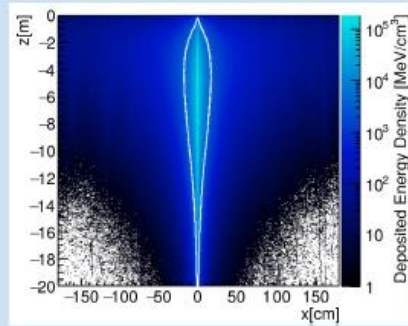
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## CR Surface Detector

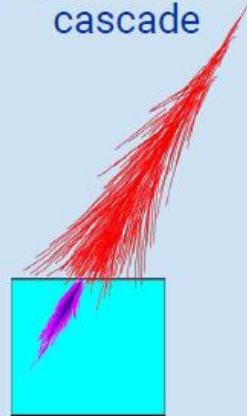


100% efficiency at  $10^{16.5}$  eV

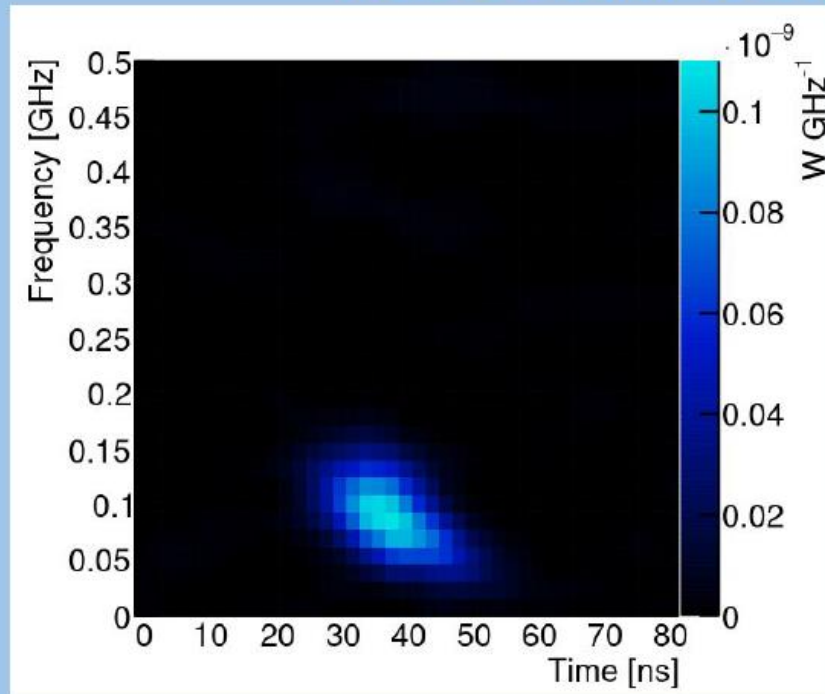
## Air-ice transition



10% of primary energy in secondary cascade



## In-ice Radar Detector



- Interrogating frequency of 100 MHz
- Data readout triggered by surface detector

### Simulations

- Radio Scatter 1.1.0

### RadioScatter

- particle-level C++ code
- simulates radio scattering from ionization deposit

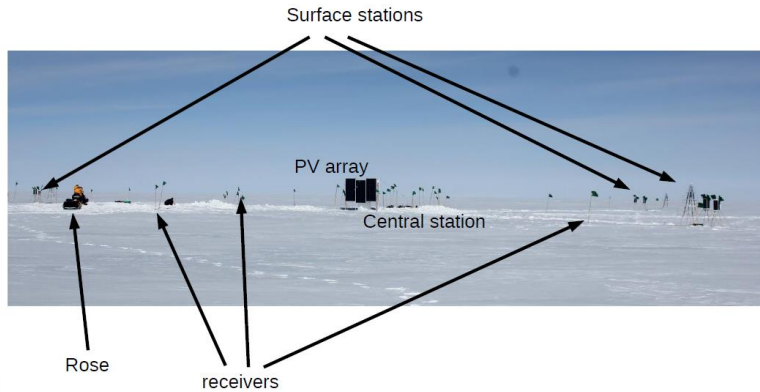
**R. Stanley, K. Mulrey**

**S. de Kockere**

**S. Prohira**

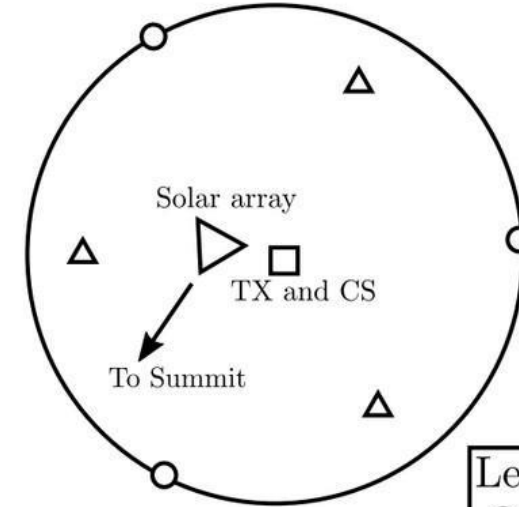
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

MAY 2023 DEPLOYMENT



RET-CR site

Flag line



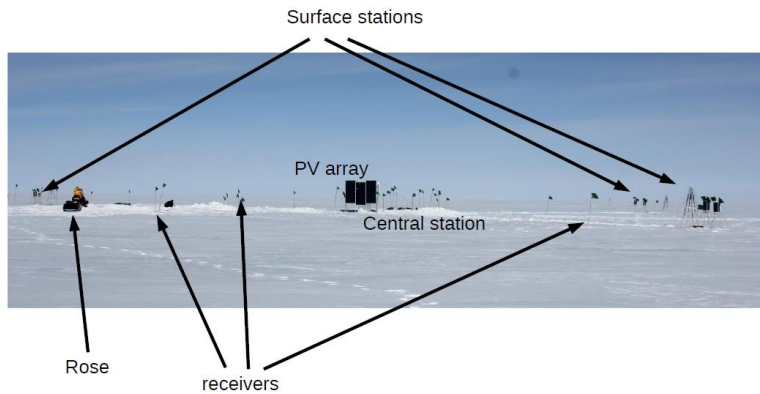
Legend:  
○ Surface stations  
△ Receivers

**Circle diameter 80 meters**

- **3x1.2kW solar array with charge control and battery bank.**
- **3 downhole strings with single Receiver dipole at 10m depth.**
- **8 channel phased dipole array centered at 10m. Currently 4 power amps (channels) operational.**
- **3 surface stations (2 scintillator panels + 1 radio antenna each).**
- **GPS, WLAN link, etc.**

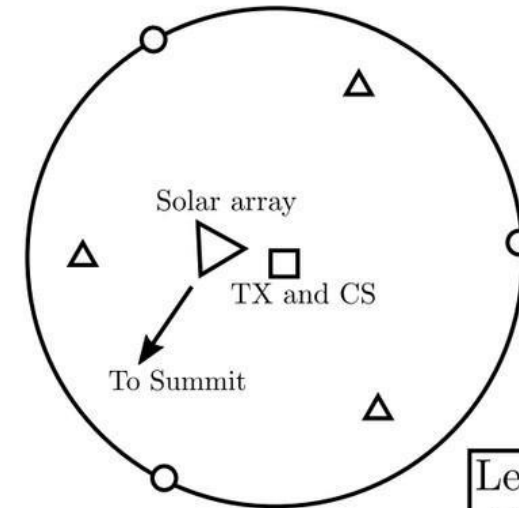
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

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RET-CR site

Flag line



Legend:  
○ Surface stations  
△ Receivers

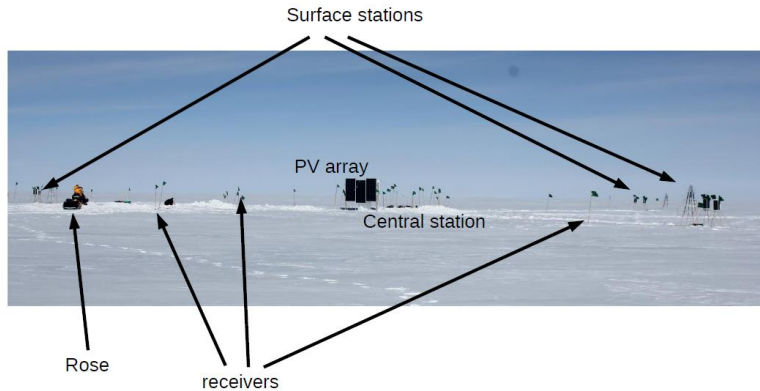
**Circle diameter 80 meters**

## Radar in-ice system:

- 8 channel phased transmitter ; 4 receiver channels
- Active transmitter cancellation (TC).
- DAQ: xilinx zcu111 RFSoc development board,
- 8 channel ADC, 8 channel DAC.
- RFSoc clocked at ~ 3GHz.
- Custom-made board breaks out all 8 DAC channels and all 8 ADC channels.
- software controlled variable attenuator on DAC (up to 32 dB)
- 4 DAC channels used to actively cancel the TX signal in the RX channels

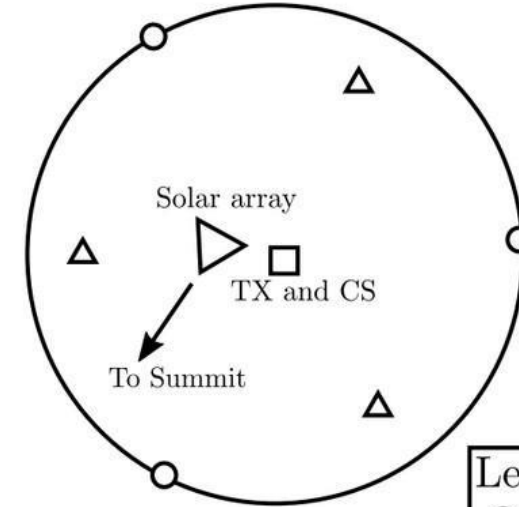
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

MAY 2023 DEPLOYMENT



RET-CR site

Flag line



Legend:  
○ Surface stations  
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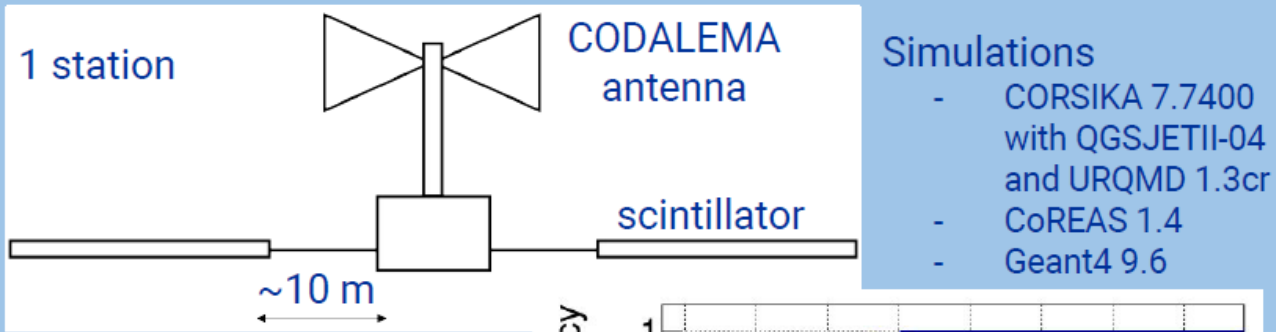
## Surface system:

- 2 scintillator panels, LPDA
- Power system: 4x20W solar array, 10 Ah, 12V battery buffer
- SBC: raspberry pi with redundant storage, and electronics for readout of the scintillators and radio antenna.
- Comms: Ethernet cat-7 cable
- Trigger signal: separate cat-7 cable

**Circle diameter 80 meters**

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

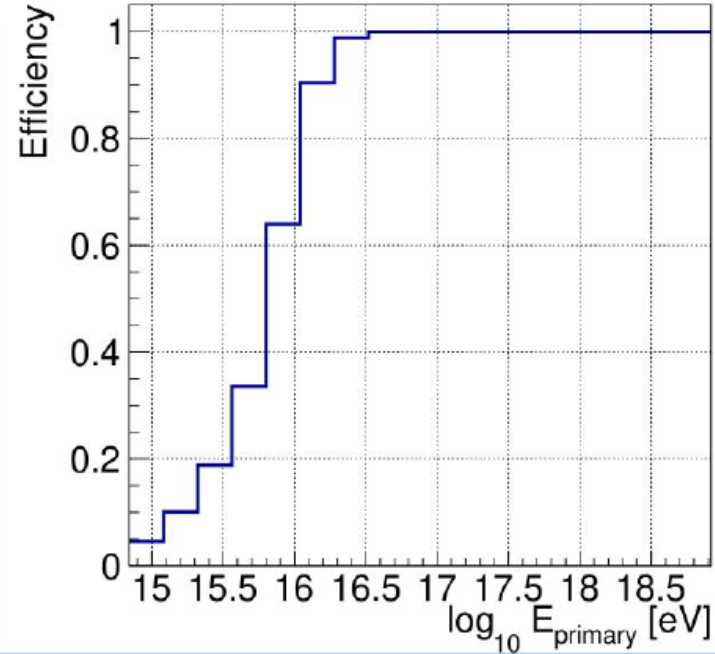
## Cosmic Ray Surface Detector



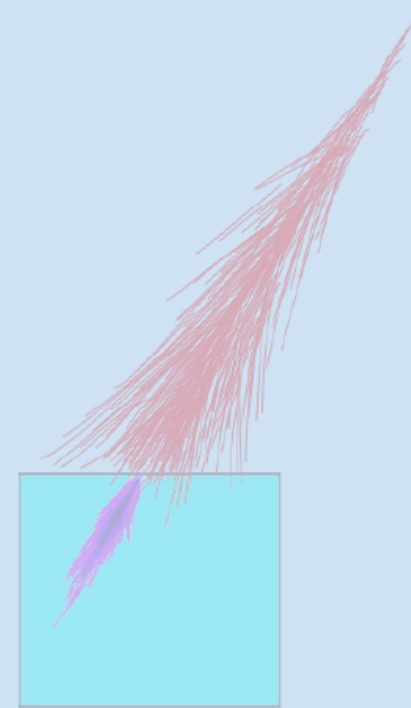
### Simulations

- CORSIKA 7.7400 with QGSJETII-04 and URQMD 1.3cr
- CoREAS 1.4
- Geant4 9.6

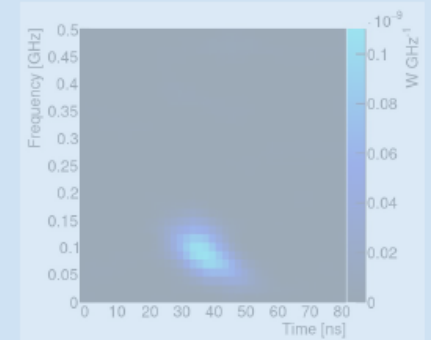
- Stations trigger independently
- 6 MeV threshold
- L0 trigger: both scintillators in one station
- L1 trigger: all stations within one cluster
- Trigger sent to radar detector



## Air-ice transition



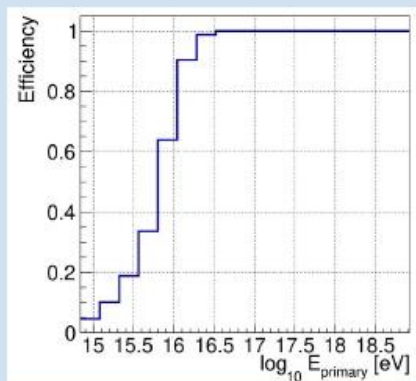
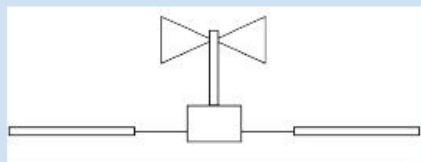
## In-ice Radar Detector



R. Stanley, K. Mulrey

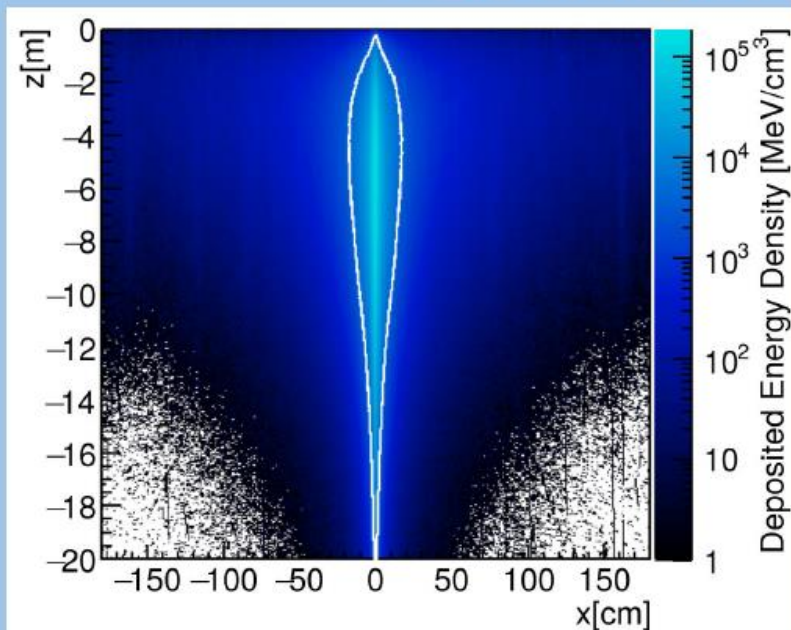
# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## CR Surface Detector



100% efficiency at  $10^{16.5}$  eV

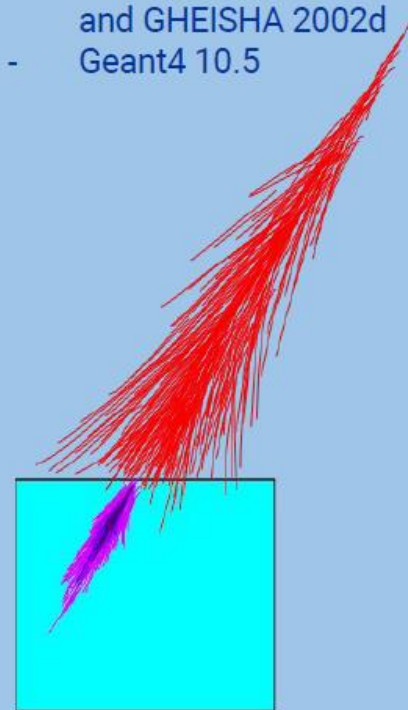
## Air-ice transition



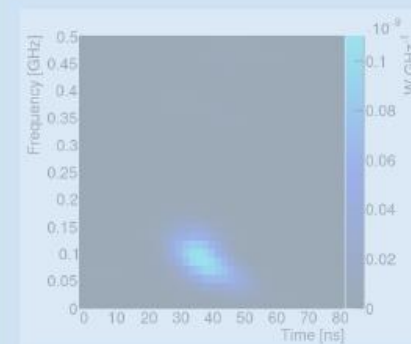
- Approximately 10% of primary energy deposited into the ice at 2400 m
- Secondary cascade in high elevation ice sheet

### Simulations

- CORSIKA 7.7100 with QGSJETII-04 and GHEISHA 2002d
- Geant4 10.5



## In-ice Radar Detector



R. Stanley, K. Mulrey

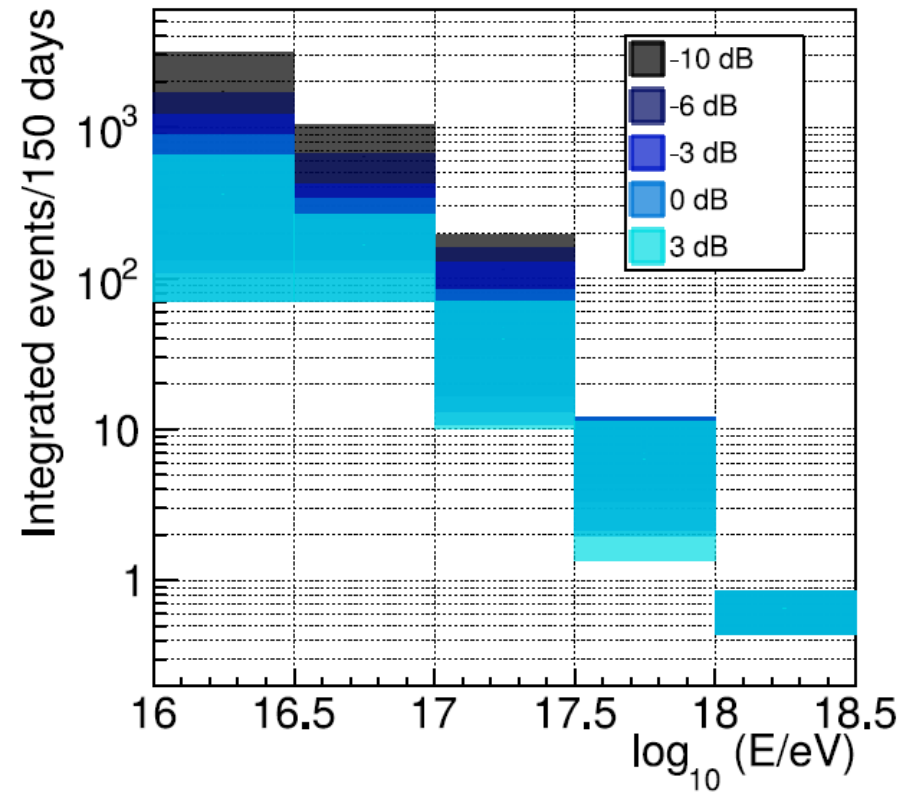
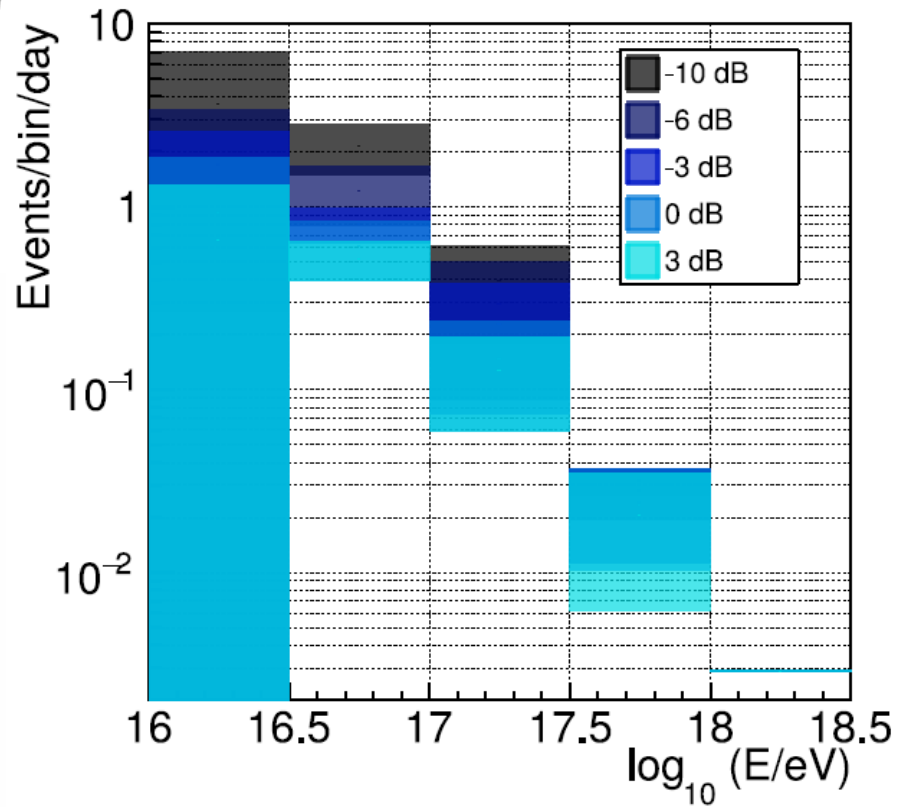
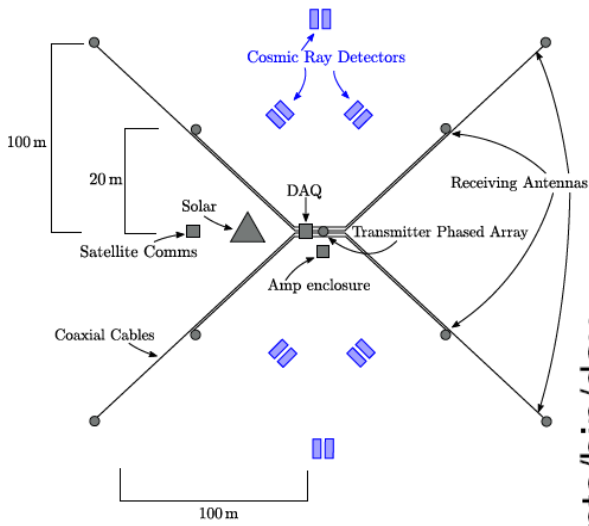
S. de Kockere

Slide from R. Stanley

Radar detection of high-energy particle cascades  
 -- KD de Vries (VUB)  
 May, 6, 2021 | 30

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

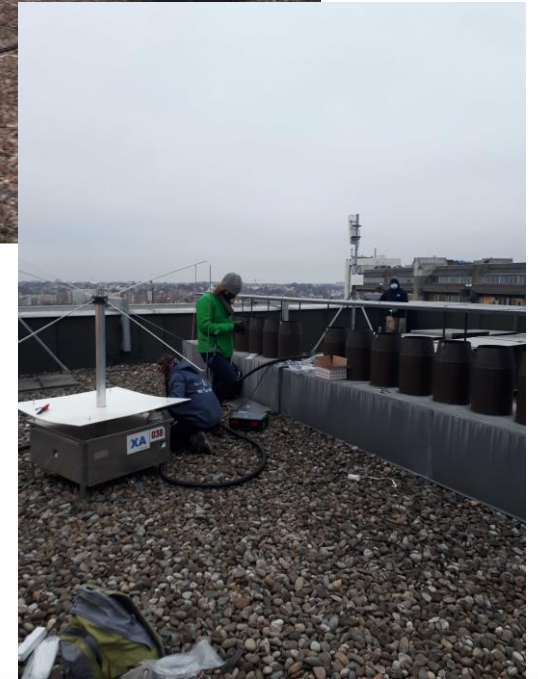
## DETECTING PARTICLE CASCADES IN NATURE



[RET-CR paper: arXiv: 2104.00459 - Phys. Rev. D 104, 102006](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.00459)

# THE RADAR ECHO TELESCOPE FOR COSMIC RAYS

## SURFACE SET-UP AT VUB INSTALLED AND TAKING DATA





# DETECTING HIGH-ENERGY PARTICLE CASCADES AT SLAC

## SLAC T-576 EXPERIMENT

