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COMBINED LOPES AND KASCADE-GRANDE DATA ANALYSIS

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First analyses of coincident data of the LOPES (LOfar PrototypE Station) radio antennas with the particle air shower experiment KASCADE-Grande show basic correlations in the observed shower parameters, like the strength of the radio signal and the particle number, or comparing the estimated shower directions. In addition, an improvement of the experimental resolution of the shower parameters reconstructed by KASCADE-Grande can be obtained by including the data of the radio antennas. This important feature will be shown in this article explicitly by an example event.

The KASCADE¹ (KARlsruhe Shower Core and Array DETector) experiment measures showers in a primary energy range from 100 TeV to 80 PeV and provides multi-parameter measurements on a large number of observables concerning electrons, muons at 4 different energy thresholds, and hadrons. The main detector components of KASCADE are a field array, the so called central detector and a muon tracking detector. The field array consists of 252 detector stations with shielded as well as unshielded scintillation detectors for measuring the electromagnetic and the muonic shower component.

KASCADE-Grande² is the extension of the multi-detector setup KASCADE to cover a primary cosmic ray energy range from 100 TeV to 1 EeV. Grande is an array of 700 x 700 m² equipped with 37 plastic scintillator stations sensitive to measure energy deposits and arrival times of air shower particles.

At present, LOPES³ operates 30 dipole radio antennas (LOPES-30) positioned inside or nearby KASCADE. For the present analysis only data of LOPES-10 (10 antennas in operation), which was running for 5 months, is used. The antennas operate in the frequency range of 40-80 MHz. The radio data is collected when a "large event" trigger is received from KASCADE which translates to primary energies above 10¹⁶ eV.

The LOPES-10 data set is subject of various analyses using different selections: With an event sample obtained by hard cuts the proof of principle to detect air showers in the radio frequency range was given³. With events fallen inside KASCADE the basic correlations with shower parameters are shown⁴. Further interesting features are investigated with a sample of very inclined showers⁵ and with a sample of events measured during thunderstorms⁶.

Here we report results from an analysis performed by correlating the radio signals measured by LOPES-10 with EAS events reconstructed by KASCADE-Grande with remote cores included⁷. Grande is taking data

in coincidence with KASCADE and LOPES and enables to reconstruct showers with primary energies up to 10^{18} eV and with distances between shower core and the LOPES-10 antennas up to 700 m. The Grande reconstruction accuracy of shower core position and direction is in the order of 4 m (13 m) and 0.18° (0.32°) with 68% (95%) confidence level for simulated proton and iron showers at 100 PeV primary energy and 22° zenith angle⁸.

A crucial element of the detection method is the digital beamforming which allows to place a narrow antenna beam in the direction of the cosmic ray event. This is possible because the phase information of the radio waves is preserved by the digital receiver and the cosmic ray produces a coherent pulse. This method is also very effective in suppressing interference from the particle detectors which radiate incoherently. The procedure of time shifting of the radio signals in the antennas is relatively safe when based on the values provided by the reconstruction for shower core and shower axis using the data of the original KASCADE field array. Due to the high granularity of the detector stations the accuracy of core and direction reconstruction is high enough to obtain a good coherence of the radio signals. The shower reconstruction using information from the Grande array is required for shower cores outside KASCADE. The Grande stations, 10 m^2 of plastic scintillator detectors each, are spaced at $\simeq 130$ m and cannot assure an accuracy comparable with the original KASCADE array. So, a so-called 'optimised' beamforming is performed, which searches for a maximum coherence by varying the core and the direction around the values provided by the Grande reconstruction.

In five months of LOPES-10 data taking a sample of 862 candidate events were selected. Selection criteria were i) coincident measurement of the event by LOPES 10, KASCADE field array which have triggered LOPES, and Grande array; ii) zenith angle of the shower less than 50° ; iii) a geometrical cut that the core position lies inside the Grande array (0.358 km^2); iv) to reduce the data sample additionally an energy and distance cut is applied which is motivated by Allan's formula⁹: $\epsilon_\nu = 20 \cdot \left(\frac{E}{10^{17} \text{ eV}}\right) \cdot \sin \alpha \cdot \cos \theta \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{R}{R_0(\nu, \theta)}\right) \left[\frac{\mu\text{V}}{\text{m}\cdot\text{MHz}}\right]$. The formula describes the pulse amplitude per unit bandwidth (ϵ_ν) of the radio signal induced by an EAS. Here E is the primary energy, α the angle to the geomagnetic field, θ the zenith angle, R the distance to the shower axis and R_0 the scaling radius $R_0 = 110$ m at 55 MHz; the exponential radial factor plays a significant role for remote showers. The cut has been considered as

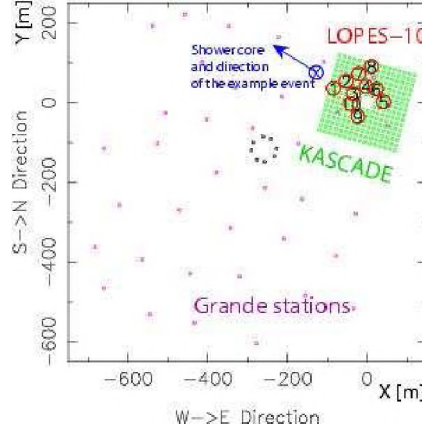


Figure 1. Sketch of the LOPES 10 layout inside KASCADE-Grande. Core position and shower direction of the candidate event 444 is also shown.

$\lg\left(\frac{E}{\text{eV}}\right) > \lg\left(\frac{E_0}{\text{eV}}\right) + 0.4343 \cdot \frac{R}{R_0}$ OR $\lg\left(\frac{E}{\text{eV}}\right) > 17.5$ with $E_0 = 10^{16.5}$ eV and $R_0 = 160$ m, i.e. weaker than Allan's scaling with radius.

Fig. 1 shows the layout of LOPES-10 in KASCADE-Grande including the core position and direction of an event (number 444 of 862) with a clear radio signal. Fig. 2 shows the radio signal of the event before and after the optimized beamforming. An noticeable increase is seen in the final beam signal after the optimised beamforming. Table 1 contains the values (azimuthal angle ϕ , zenith angle θ , X_{core} and Y_{core}) reconstructed by Grande and the corresponding values obtained after maximizing the radio coherence for this event; the small shifts assure an almost perfect coherence of the radio signal (lower left panel in Fig. 2).

Table 1. Shower parameters from the Grande reconstruction and after maximized radio coherence for an example event (geomagnetic angle $\alpha = 57.9^\circ$, $\lg(E/\text{eV}) = 17.73$).

parameter	Grande reconstruction	maximized radio coherence
ϕ	302.2°	299.3°
θ	41.0°	39.9°
X_{core}/m	-142.8	-139.2
Y_{core}/m	40.3	51.6
curvature/m	3250	4250

The maximization of the radio coherence (optimised beamforming) will be performed to all the candidate events. This will not only increase the

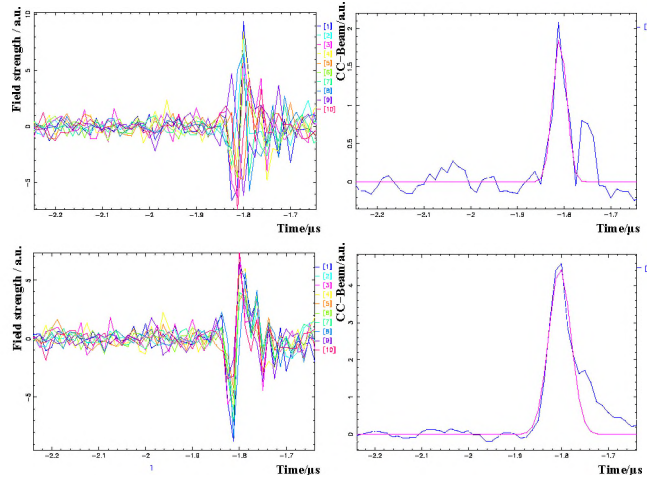


Figure 2. Radio signals in the 10 antennas and the resulting radio signal (so-called cross-correlation beam) with a gaussian fit to the signal after first beamforming (upper panels) and after *optimised* beamforming (lower panels).

efficiency ($\approx 30\%$ without optimized beamforming) for finding radio signals of air showers, but also improve the reconstruction quality on the primary energy of the cosmic rays if the information is included in the shower reconstruction of Grande.

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