Present status and Physics prospects at INO and mini-ICAL and feasibility of shallow depth ICAL

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Atmospheric neutrino detection in 1965

DETECTION OF MUONS PRODUCED BY COSMIC RAY NEUTRINO DEEP UNDERGROUND

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Received 12 July 1965


Atmospheric neutrino detector
at Kolar Gold Field –1965
Neutrino Events

Detector depth $\sim 2.3$ km
KGF Phase-I  Nucleon Decay Detector
1. India based Neutrino Observatory (INO)

- MoU between 6 DAE institutions signed (2002)
- INO Report submitted to Chairman DAE (2006)
- Detailed Project Report on INO site by TNEB (2010)
- MoEF – Govt. of India Environmental Clearance (EC) for Pottipuram site (2010)
- Financial sanction by Central Cabinet, GoI (Jan 2015)
- PILs in Madurai bench of Madras HC, NGT SZ at Chennai (2015)
- Fresh EC from MoEF in March 2018; PIL in NGT Delhi by same NGO
- Awaiting clearances from National Board of Wildlife clearance, TN Pollution Control Board
The INO Collaboration

Collaborating Institutions:
- AMU
- BHU
- DU
- HPU
- IGCAR
- IITG
- IMSc
- JU
- MU
- PRL
- SINP
- SU
- UoH
- BARC
- CU
- HNBGU
- HRI
- IITB
- IITM
- IOP
- KU
- NBU
- PU
- SMIT
- TIFR
- VECC

+IISER (Mohali), American College, Tezpur Univ, CKU (Gulbarga)

~28 institutions (national labs, Universities, IITs) participating

Participants of the INO Collaboration meeting at Madurai Kamaraj University (22-23 March 2018)
India based Neutrino Observatory at Pottipuram (Theni)

Will be largest electromagnet in the world – 51,000 tons. ~30000 glass RPCs (x3 world total)

Collaboration of ~28 institutions (research centres, Universities, IITs)
Experiments planned at INO

- Atmospheric neutrinos @ ICAL (NH/IH), KGF events, MM, ...
- Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay in $^{124}$Sn using a cryogenic bolometric detector – TINTIN (TIFR led collab.)
- Dark Matter search using a cryogenic scintillator for WIMPs - DINO (SINP led collab.)
- Low energy accelerator for nuclear reaction cross sections ~ Gamow energy of astrophysical interest (IUC-DAEF + Univ., IIT groups)
Iron Calorimeter (ICAL) detector

- Atmospheric neutrinos – provide a range of energies ($E_\nu \sim 1\text{-}10 \text{ GeV}$) and matter propagation lengths $\sim 1\text{ – 13000 kms (free!)}$
- Measurements hitherto did not distinguish between muon neutrinos ($\nu_\mu$) and anti-neutrinos ($\bar{\nu}_\mu$)

$\nu_\mu, \bar{\nu}_\mu$ identified via charged current interaction

\[ \nu_\mu + n \rightarrow \mu^- + p, \quad \bar{\nu}_\mu + p \rightarrow \mu^+ + n \quad \text{an subsequent tracking of muons in B-field} \]
Physics reach of Iron Calorimeter detector

ICAL will measure atmospheric muon neutrinos and antineutrinos in

Energy range: $1 \text{ GeV} \leq E_\nu \leq 20 \text{ GeV}$

Zenith angles: $0^\circ \leq \theta_\nu \leq 70^\circ$, $110^\circ \leq \theta_\nu \leq 180^\circ$

- Neutrino mass hierarchy – normal or inverted
- Neutrino mixing parameters, search for KGF events, magnetic monopole search, DM annihilation in sun, search for sterile neutrinos, NSI...

Mass hierarchy of neutrinos – sensitivity of ICAL

- $m_1 < m_2 < m_3$ (NH) or $m_3 < m_1 < m_2$ (IH)?
- ICAL can identify mass hierarchy using atmospheric $\nu_\mu$, $\bar{\nu}_\mu$
- With accelerator based expts. can help in probing CP violation in $\nu$-sector

**ICAL only**

*M.M. Devi et al, JHEP 1410, 189 (2014)*

**ICAL + T2K + NovA**

*S. Agarwalla et al.*
Searching for exotic particles at ICAL: Dark matter (DM) decay to $\mu^+\mu^-$


$\Phi_{DM} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^- \ M_{DM} \sim 1 – 50 \text{ GeV/c}^2$: Sensitivity of ICAL+ studied

However if $\Phi_{DM} \rightarrow \nu_\mu + \overline{\nu}_\mu$ lower bounds on DM lifetime from existing neutrino detectors much more stringent (Signal $\propto \int (4\pi \rho_{DM} r^2/r^2) \, dV$...)

N. Dash et al., Pramana 86, 927 (2016)
Searching for Magnetic Monopoles using ICAL

Screen printing for graphite coating @ St. Gobain, Sriperumbudur

Gluing spacer buttons with SPM (St. Gobain)

Stand for storing RPCs (IICHEP)

Closed loop gas system

4m×2m steel plates (Essar, Hazira to IICHEP, Madurai) on truck

Inspection of machined steel plate at Essar

ANUSPARSH-IIA ASIC: Quad Amplifier ASIC

ANUSPARSH-IIID ASIC: Octal Discriminator ASIC

RPC trolley (PCMT, Vellore)

DC-DC HV supply

Front End RPC, DAQ boards
INO Graduate Training Programme (affiliated to HBNI, a deemed to be University)

- First batch with 5 students in 2008, now in 11th year (~3-8 students)
- 1 year courses preceding work on PhD thesis problem
- Lectures in morning, lab work on projects in afternoon
- Guides from institutes in INO collaboration affiliated to HBNI or with institutions having MoU with HBNI (IIT-B, IIT-M, JNU....)
- Ex-students doing well (faculty positions, PDFs in good labs)
2. mini-ICAL (80 ton, 4m × 4m × 11 layers of Fe)

- Performance of Magnet: Measured magnetic field (*using sense coils and Hall probes*) vs 3D FE simulation
- Performance over long period of RPC including DC-DC supply, FE electronics in fringe B-field, EMI, closed loop gas system.....
- Feasibility of Muon Spin Rotation (µSR) for information about B-field complementary to sense loop and Hall probe data
- Measure $\Phi(\mu^+)$, $\Phi(\mu^-)$ at Madurai (near equator) and compare with simulation (by Athar, Honda)
- Prototype cosmic muon veto detector for mini-ICAL
mini-ICAL magnet assembly

- Base support structure for 80 ton magnet
- Assembly of 3 ton gantry (max. plate weight 1.4 tons), $\Delta z @ 3.8$ ton load
- G-10 sheets on floor on which OFHC Copper “U-sections” placed in 2 sets (for 2 sets of current carrying coils)
- Assembly of magnet plates around “U”s including fixing of Aluminium RPC guide strips (3 nos), field measurement sense coils on layers 1, 6, 11, 3mm shims for Hall probe insertion, inter-layer SS spacers, G-10 intra-coil spacers, induction brazing of “C”s and inlet & outlet pipes followed by leak testing at 10 bar
RPC re-assembly

- RPC tray delivery much delayed
- As some of the gaps are considerably smaller than their design value (due to bending of plates) it was decided that existing Al trays will be modified, pickup panels resized and FEE cards repositioned for use in mini-ICAL
- 6 completed trays are placed in mini-ICAL
- Mini-ICAL magnetic field measurements completed on layers 1, 11
- Closed loop gas system for RPCs working as expected
- First muon tracks with 8 RPCs in centre @ I=900A (B~1.4 Tesla) seen on 24/5
- All 10 RPCs expected to be in place by 1 June 2018
Powering up mini-ICAL, magnetic field measurements

- Low conductivity chilled water circulation system for Magnet PS and OFHC Cu coils of magnet (80 LPS, 8 bar)
- Magnet PS from VECC, Kolkata and set up in its shed (30V, 1500A. linear)
- Multi-core Cu cable (2×400mm²× 45m each way) for MPS-coil connection
- Magnetic field measurement system from Pune vendor installed, working
- Electrical power supply modifications completed (control/distribution panel, wiring modifications, earth pits)
- Diesel generator (125 kVA) installation completed
- First measurements with Hall sensors (150 nos) on L1 show $B_{\text{max}} \sim 1.2 \text{ T} @ 900\text{A}$
Plate machining Job

Spacers and Pins

Copper Conductor Spool

Magnet Components (Core & Coil)

Conductor bending machine

Conductor straightening machine

Coil fabrication
More pictures of mini-ICAL assembly .....
Gantry Crane for plate handling

Induction brazing machine

Induction brazing in progress

Associated systems

Brazing joint pressure test

RPC Gap measurement system

Mock-up test set-up
Magnet assembly in progress

Spacer, Al guide & G-10 bracket

Layers in assembly

Coil Brazing

Coil hydrostatic pressure test

Low conductivity water cooling system for magnet & power supply
Magnet power supply
30V DC, 1200 AMP

Field map at 26kAT

Magnetic measurement system
(1st, 6th, 11th layer)

Hall probe PCB in the gap

Hall probe PCB strip

Search coils for flux measurement
mini-ICAL assembly
RPC re-assembly
First muons seen in mini-ICAL on 8-5-2018 (6 RPCs on edge)
8 RPCs at centre of mini-ICAL (23-5-2018)

Offset corrected X-Y hit data

\[ I = 900 \, \text{A} \implies B \sim 1.4 \, \text{Tesla} \]
3. Is a Shallow depth ICAL feasible?

Can one overcome the background due to cosmic rays?

- **Muons**: primary and secondary
- Primary $\gamma$-rays, $p$, $n$, will not survive at $\sim 100m$ depth ($\lambda_{em} \sim 0.15m$, $\lambda_{had} \sim 0.3m$)

A cosmic muon veto (CMV) detector with $\varepsilon \geq 99.99\%$ needed

If SICAL at $\sim 100m$ depth is feasible then

(a) can be sited almost **anywhere**, access tunnel much shorter, cavern construction faster
(b) Larger caverns so much bigger detectors possible
(c) detector monitoring using cosmic muons
(d) information about B-field via Muon Spin Rotation.
Results from a small (1m × 1m × 0.3m) CMV detector promising

Veto efficiency = 99.978 ± 0.003 %


Prototype CMV detector with 3 layers of 1 cm thickness 5m×5m×2m (~2 tons) for mini-ICAL will be built with extruded plastic scintillator (Fermilab), 1.2mm WLS fibre, SiPM and associated electronics
Requirements for CMV detector for mini-ICAL

- Size of CMV detector \( \sim 5m \times 5m \times 2m \)
- No. of plastic scintillator (PS) layers : 3
- Extruded PS dimensions: 5cm (W) \( \times \) 1cm (H) \( \times \) 5m (L)
- 2 holes at centre 1.4 mm dia, 12.5 mm from side edge
- WLS fibre 1.4mm diameter read out by SiPM at either end
- WLS length \( \sim 8 \text{ km} \), 3200 SiPMs
- Electronics includes SiPM biasing, fast preamp and gain control

**PS to be given at no cost for CMV detector by Fermilab, rest by INO**

Quotes for SiPM (Hamamatsu), WLS (Kuraray) received.
Simulating muon induced neutral particle production in rock (prelim. results)

- Cosmic muons (MSL spectrum from CORSIKA) propagated through 100m rock undergoing only energy loss ($10^{12}$)
- In next 3m muons allowed to undergo nuclear interactions ($\sigma_{\text{int}} \times 100$) and all particles propagated ($\lambda_{\text{had}} \sim 0.3$ m) using GEANT4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particles</th>
<th>Fraction (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$n$</td>
<td>47.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$p$</td>
<td>24.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\pi^+$</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\pi^-$</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\pi^0$</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K^0_L$</td>
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<tr>
<td>$K^0_S$</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K^+$</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$K^-$</td>
<td>2.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\mu^+$</td>
<td>0.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\Sigma^0$</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\eta^0$</td>
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</table>
Energy spectra of neutrons and $K^0_L$

Simulation using $10^{10}$ muons after 100m rock (or $10^{10}$ at surface, secondaries producing muon track ($\geq 5$ layers). For $\sim 10^8$ muons/day on 100m deep ICAL bkgd events $\sim 0.0023$/day, while $N_{\text{atm}} \sim 3$/day $\Rightarrow$ Preliminary results show promise!

Have to tackle false vetoes (Thanks Tianlu Yuan) next!
In summary.....

- Pushing for clearances in TN site
- Mini-ICAL close to being set up
- Shallow depth ICAL appears to be promising
Mini-ICAL team members:


**SINP:** N.K. Mondal


**VECC:** S.K. Thakur, A. Bera, A. Ghosh, Noor Mohamed

*INO Graduate students

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Mini-ICAL Design Safety Review Committee of BARC Safety Council for their suggestions

Essar Steel (steel plates), Green & Green (assembly), St. Gobain (RPC gaps), Ferrite India (Pune), BEC (Bhilai), Entech (B’luru) ....
Thank you!

Lesser flamingoes @ mangroves near BARC, Mumbai

Green woodpecker @ Corbett National Park