Wavelet analysis on the arrival directions of ultra high energy cosmic rays

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07. October 2011





2 Application of the wavelet

3 Anisotropy study





Anisotropy search in cosmic rays

Anisotropy in the cosmic microwave background.¹



- What are the sources of ultra high energy cosmic rays?
- Charged particles are deflected in the extragalactic and the galactic magnetic field so they most likely arrive at the Earth isotropically distributed.
- UHECRs are less deflected and can point back to their source regions.
- \rightarrow Goal of my thesis is to study the arrival directions of cosmic rays for point sources and large scale structures.

¹http://lambda.gsfc.nasa.gov/

Motivation of a wavelet analysis

Wavelets are a short periodic functions to filter and to reconstruct local features.

For example the 1-dim Mexican-Hat wavelet:



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Motivation of spherical wavelet analysis

- Wavelet analysis is useful in the study of arrival directions of UHECRs.
- Spherical wavelet were used in the search for anisotropy of the cosmic microwave background.

Monte Carlo UHECRs arrival directions with 4 point sources:

 Spherical wavelet analysis result:



Wavelet analysis on the sphere



• Compute the spherical harmonics of the signal skymap and the spherical wavelet

$$f(\theta,\varphi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^{+l} a_{lm} Y_{lm}(\theta,\varphi)$$
(1)

- Convolution of wavelet and signal by means of the spherical harmonics
- Backward transformation into spherical coordinates to get filtered skymap

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Introduction of the used wavelet 'needlet'



Needlet on the sphere:

Needlet:



Hammer-Aitoff-Projection Needlet features:

- good localization in spatial and frequency domain
- is a spherical wavelet introduced by the CMB community²
- can be easily implemented in Healpix, which is used for this analysis

²Narcowich et al.2006 and Baldi et al. 2006

Needlet analysis

Pixel value in filtered skymap is defined as needlet power coefficient β_{ik} :

$$\beta_{jk} := \sqrt{\lambda} \sum_{l} b(l, B^{-j}) \sum_{m=-l}^{l} a_{lm} Y_{lm}(\xi_{jk})$$
(2)



- Large j means small needlet size and therefore resolution of small structures
- Only small correlation of needlets with different scales

Generating MC test skymap for an ideal detector

Source density distribution:

Test skymap with isotropic noise (30000 Events):





MC skymap:

Source 1 with 100 events $\sigma = 5^{\circ}$ Source 2 with 100 events $\sigma = 5^{\circ}$ Source 3 with 200 events $\sigma = 10^{\circ}$ Source 4 with 300 events $\sigma = 15^{\circ}$ \rightarrow Now needlet analysis filters skymap to reconstruct the original source density distribution!

Needlet analysis of test skymap

Filtered skymaps (power maps) for different needlet scales j:



- $j=3 \qquad \qquad j=4 \qquad \qquad j=5$
- Structures are visible!
- \rightarrow Mathematical method needed to find the significant entries in power maps

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Threshold method

Goal: Reduce isotropic background and specify significant entries and regions

 \rightarrow Study power fluctuation (per pixel) from 10000 isotropic MC skymaps



 $\beta_{jk} =$ Power-Amplitude of scale j in Pixel k

 $<\beta_{jk}>$ and σ_{jk} are determined with a Gauss-Fit

Significance per pixel:

$$S_{jk} = \frac{|\beta_{jk} - \langle \beta_{jk} \rangle|}{\sigma_{jk}} \qquad (3)$$

Threshold: Set all $S_{jk} < 3$ to zero

Comparison of resulting skymap with source density distribution

Sum of the 6 power maps for different needlet scales j after threshold:

Source Density Distribution:



All 4 sources are found!

 \rightarrow Now testing for global significance compared to isotropic skymap.

Significance value for whole skymap:



Distribution of 10000 isotropic MC skymaps

Applying of global significance check

Isotropic MC skymap after threshold:

Skymap with signal after threshold:



Resulting skymap can be discriminated from isotropy!

Due to the non-uniform exposure the power-estimator is declination dependent



Declination dependency of β_{jk} (j = 2): Fullsky:

Considering Auger exposure:



Applying Auger Exposure

Source density distribution based on PSCz-Catalog:



Result after Threshold-Method:



Signalmap:



Significance:



Method works also for an incomplete and non-uniform exposure!

Conclusion:

- Wavelet analysis can be used to filter event-based skymaps
- Threshold method can determine the original source density distribution
- Significance of the threshold results can be evaluated
- Method is working with every exposure
- Signal can be discriminated from isotropy!
- Applied method to Auger data (not shown here)

ToDo:

- Evaluate the detection limit
- Evaluate systematics effects and errors

Backup Slides

HEALPix:

- stands for Hierarchical Equal Area isoLatitude Pixelization of a sphere
- can easily transform a skymap into their spherical harmonics
- can apply weighted mask for incomplete sky coverage

Healpix Pixel Pattern^a:



^ahttp://healpix.jpl.nasa.gov

Anisotropy Detection Limit with MC

Monte-Carlo-Study with 10000 skymaps with different numbers of signal events



 \rightarrow Detection Limit needs to be evaluated