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Search for high-energy neutrinos in coincidence with Fast Radio Bursts with the ANTARES neutrino telescope

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Abstract

In the past decade, a new class of bright transient radio sources with millisecond duration has been discovered. The origin of these so-called Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) is still a great mystery despite the growing observational efforts made by various multi-wavelength and multi-messenger facilities. So far, many models have been proposed to explain FRBs but neither the progenitors nor the radiative and the particle acceleration processes at work have been clearly identified. In this paper, the question whether some hadronic processes may occur in the vicinity of the FRB source is assessed. If so, FRBs may contribute to the high energy cosmic-ray and neutrino fluxes. A search for these hadronic signatures has been done using the ANTARES neutrino telescope. The analysis consists in looking for high-energy neutrinos, in the TeV-PeV regime, spatially and temporally coincident with the detected FRBs. Most of the FRBs discovered in the period 2013-2017 were in the field of view of the ANTARES detector, which is sensitive mostly to events originating from the Southern hemisphere. From this period, 12 FRBs have been selected and no coincident neutrino candidate was observed. Upper limits on the per burst neutrino fluence have been derived using a power law spectrum, $\frac{dN}{dE_\nu} \propto E_\nu^{-\gamma}$, for the incoming neutrino flux, assuming spectral indexes $\gamma = 1.0, 2.0, 2.5$. Finally, the neutrino energy has been constrained by computing the total energy radiated in neutrinos assuming different distances for the FRBs. Constraints on the neutrino fluence and on the energy released are derived from the associated null results.

Key words: acceleration of particles – neutrinos – astroparticle physics – radio continuum: transients – methods: data analysis

1 Introduction

Discovered in the last decade (Lorimer et al., 2007), Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) are characterised by a short duration ($t \sim$ a few ms) of intense radio emission ($> 1 \text{ Jy} \cdot \text{ms}$) measured so far in the 800 MHz and 1.4 GHz bands by various radio telescopes. The astrophysical origin of FRBs is largely unknown. However, their high dispersion measures (DM), due to the scattering of the radio wave propagating through an ionised column of matter, suggest an extragalactic/cosmological origin (Lorimer & Kramer, 2005; Thornton et al., 2013).

From the 34 FRBs already detected and reported in the FRB catalog¹ (Petroff et al., 2016), the observed DM can be used to derive upper limits on their cosmological redshift, $z_{\text{DM}} \in [0.12; 2.3]$. This translates into an upper limit on the isotropic radio energy release of $E_{\text{rad}} \in [10^{38}; 10^{41}]$ erg. Up to now, the FRB progenitors are thought to originate from a large variety of astrophysical sources (Keane et al., 2016) usually split into two classes: the repeating ones and the single cataclysmic events. Indeed, such a large amount of energy, released in a millisecond timescale, may favor a FRB origin from violent cataclysmic events. Those are powered by compact objects where the progenitor does not survive afterwards (single burst model). Several models have been proposed such as neutron star mergers (Totani, 2013; Wang et al., 2016) possibly associated to short Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs) (Zhang, 2014; Palaniswamy et al., 2014; Murase et al., 2017) or supramassive neutron star collapses (Falcke & Rezzolla, 2014; Ravi & Lasky, 2014; Li et al., 2014). Non-destructive flaring models including giant pulses from young and rapidly rotating neutron stars (Pen & Connor, 2015; Cordes & Wasserman, 2016), magnetar giant flares (Popov & Postnov, 2013; Lyubarsky, 2014), hyperflares from soft gamma-repeaters (Popov & Postnov, 2010), a young neutron star embedded in a wind bubble (Murase et al., 2016) or maybe from the interior of young supernovae (Bietenholz & Bartel, 2017) are however good astrophysical candidates to explain both types of repeating and non repeating FRBs. More exotic models have also been proposed such as radio burst radiation of superconducting cosmic strings (Cao & Yu, 2018; Ye et al., 2017).

Recently, the discovery of the repeating behavior of FRB 121102 (Spitler et al., 2016; Scholz et al., 2016) has brought new insights into the nature of the FRB progenitors. In addition, radio interferometric observations of FRB 121102 (Marcote et al., 2017; Chatterjee et al., 2017) made possible, for the first time, to unambiguously determine the redshift of the FRB source at $z \sim 0.19$ (Tendulkar et al., 2017), confirming the tremendous amount of radio energy that can be released during a FRB event.

Radio observation campaigns have been done to search for other FRB "repeaters" among the known FRB population but without any success (Lorimer et al., 2007; Ravi et al., 2015; Petroff et al., 2015a, 2017). However, the instrumental sensitivities and the short observation time of a few hours may account for this null result. Therefore, the question whether FRB 121102 belongs or not to a special class of FRB is still under debate.

The spatial distribution and the all-sky rate of FRBs, R_{FRB} , can provide additional constraints on the nature of the FRB progenitors when it is compared to those of known astrophysical sources. The all-sky rate $R_{\text{FRB}} \sim 10^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$ has been estimated for radio pulses with $F > 1 \text{ Jy} \cdot \text{ms}$ (Champion et al., 2016). This high event rate would already rule out a short GRB-dominated population of FRBs since $R_{\text{FRB}}/R_{\text{short GRB}} \sim 10^3$ assuming that $R_{\text{short GRB}} = \frac{N_{\text{short GRB}}}{N_{\text{all GRB}}} \times R_{\text{all GRB}}$ where $R_{\text{all GRB}} = 1000 \text{ yr}^{-1}$ in the entire sky and the detected GRB population is composed of 1/3 of short GRBs according to the CGRO-BATSE observations (Goldstein et al., 2013). Alternatively, R_{FRB} corresponds to only 10% of the observed CCSNe rate (Thornton et al., 2013). Therefore, the CCSNe reservoir may account for the high event rate of FRBs. For instance, Falcke & Rezzolla (2014) claimed that only 3% of the core collapse supernovae (CCSNe) producing supramassive neutron stars are needed to explain the FRB rate. The various models proposed are difficult to discriminate because of a lack of additional information on the broadband FRB spectra. Many multi-wavelength follow-ups have been organised recently (Petroff et al., 2015b, 2017; Scholz et al., 2017; Bhandari et al., 2018; Hardy et al., 2017) but no counterpart (optical/x-rays/gamma-rays/VHE gamma-rays) has been identified yet. However, in 2016, DeLaunay et al. (2016) reported the detection of a gamma-ray GRB-like counterpart in association with FRB 131104 but with a small significance (3.2σ). For FRB 131104, DeLaunay et al. (2016) determined that the radio to gamma-ray energy output ratio would be $E_{\text{rad}}/E_{\gamma} > 10^{-9}$ assuming the source is at the redshift inferred by the DM measurement. This may show that a large fraction of the total energy radiated during these radio bursting events may be emitted at high energy while being still undetected or marginally detected. If the radio emission is likely produced by coherent emission of leptons (Katz, 2014, and references therein), hadronic processes may be the source of the most energetic photons in the gamma-ray energy domain. In this case, TeV-PeV neutrinos can be produced by photohadronic interactions. These hadronic processes may occur in the energetic outflow released during a cataclysmic FRB event (Falcke & Rezzolla, 2014) or in the vicinity of the FRB progenitor through the interaction of the outflow with the surrounding environment (Zhang et al., 2003; Li et al., 2014; Murase et al., 2016; Dey et al., 2016).

Based on their high rate, R_{FRB} , and under the assumption that a fraction of FRBs are indeed efficient accelerators of TeV-PeV hadrons, they may contribute significantly to the cosmic diffuse neutrino signal discovered by the IceCube Collaboration (Aartsen et al., 2013, 2015a,b,c, 2016). This diffuse astrophysical neutrino signal is now established with a high significance. The ANTARES neutrino telescope also observes a mild excess over the background of neutrino candidates at high energies (Albert et al., 2018). Nevertheless, up to now, no astrophysical sources clearly emerge from the background to explain this diffuse flux. Multi-

¹see the FRB catalog : <http://frbcat.org/>

messenger observations of FRBs are crucial to probe them as cosmic accelerators. So far, neutrino searches from FRBs by the IceCube (Fahey et al., 2017; Aartsen et al., 2018) and the ANTARES (Albert et al., 2017a) Collaborations yielded a null result.

In this paper, a search for neutrinos in coincidence with FRBs detected between 2013 and 2017 using the ANTARES neutrino telescope is presented. Located in the Mediterranean Sea, ANTARES is the largest high-energy neutrino telescope in the Northern Hemisphere, operating since 2008 (Ageron et al., 2011). By design, the ANTARES detector continuously monitors, with a high duty cycle and good angular resolution, the Southern sky (2π steradian at any time), where most of the FRBs have been discovered to date. In section 2, the FRB sample used in the analysis is described as well as the results of the search for a neutrino counterpart. The constraints on the neutrino fluence and energy emission are given in section 3. Finally, in section 4, the results are discussed with respect to different expectations from FRB hadronic models and the FRB contribution to the diffuse neutrino flux. The conclusions are drawn in section 5.

2 Search for high-energy neutrinos from FRBs in the ANTARES data

2.1 The FRBs in the field of view of ANTARES

This analysis focuses on the period from Jan. 2013 to Jan. 2017 during which 16 FRBs were detected by the Parkes telescope, UTMOST and ASKAP. When active, the ANTARES telescope monitors the sky region with declinations $\delta < -48^\circ$ with almost 100% duty cycle; for $-48^\circ < \delta < +48^\circ$ the duty cycle decreases gradually because of the requirement that the neutrino candidates are upgoing. The first selection criterion is that the FRB position must be within the ANTARES field of view (FoV) within a chosen time window $\Delta T = [T_0 - 6h; T_0 + 6h]$ where T_0 is the FRB trigger time. In addition, the quality of the ANTARES data acquired during the whole day around each FRB detection was verified to avoid any anomalous behavior of the detector. One FRB in the ANTARES FoV (FRB 150610) was excluded since the detector was not active due to a power cut that happened 4 hours before the trigger time. The final sample is composed of 12 FRBs for which ANTARES data were considered. In Table 1, the main properties of the FRB sample are summarised and a sky map of the FRB positions superimposed with the ANTARES sky visibility is shown in Figure 1.

Table 1: Properties of the 12 FRBs visible by ANTARES in the period 2013-2017 according to the FRB catalogue (Petroff et al., 2016). z_{DM} corresponds to the upper limit on the cosmological redshift inferred from the DM measured in excess to the Galactic contribution.

FRB	z_{DM}	T_0 (UTC)	RA ($^\circ$)	dec ($^\circ$)	radio telescope
131104	0.59	18:04:11.20	101.04	-51.28	Parkes
140514	0.44	17:14:11.06	338.52	-12.31	Parkes
150215	0.55	20:41:41.71	274.36	-4.90	Parkes
150418	0.49	04:29:06.66	109.15	-19.01	Parkes
150807	0.59	17:53:55.83	340.10	-55.27	Parkes
151206	1.385	06:17:52.78	290.36	-4.13	Parkes
151230	0.76	16:15:46.53	145.21	-3.45	Parkes
160102	2.13	08:28:39.37	339.71	-30.18	Parkes
160317	0.70	09:00:36.53	118.45	-29.61	UTMOST
160410	0.18	08:33:39.68	130.35	6.08	UTMOST
160608	0.37	03:53:01.09	114.17	-40.78	UTMOST
170107	0.48	20:05:45.14	170.79	-5.02	ASKAP

2.2 Method

For each selected FRB, the ANTARES data set is extracted within a time window $\Delta T = [T_0 - 6h; T_0 + 6h]$. This time window is chosen to encompass various delay scenarios between the radio and the neutrino signals while keeping the background noise at a low level. Within ΔT , the event rates are checked to verify the detector stability. No significant time variability of the counting rates was found which ensures the quality of the extracted data. The search for a significant neutrino flux is then based on the detection of upgoing

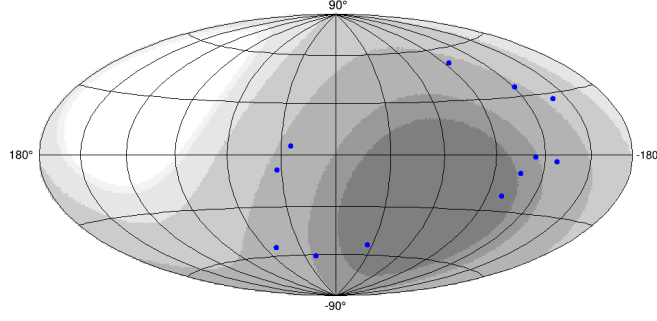


Figure 1: Skymap in Galactic coordinates showing the positions of the 12 selected FRBs (blue dots). The region of the sky observable by ANTARES (on average) is also displayed in greyscale from 100% of visibility for the darkest area to 0% for the white area when considering upgoing neutrino candidates in the detector.

neutrino-induced muons coincident with the position of the FRB within ΔT .

To suppress the atmospheric muon background contamination in the neutrino sample, selection cuts are applied using the quality variables of the track reconstruction algorithm (Adrián-Martínez et al., 2012): the reconstructed zenith angle, θ , the error estimate on the reconstructed direction, β , and the quality fit parameter, Λ . Each selected upgoing ($\cos\theta > 0$) event was required to have a direction error $\beta < 1^\circ$. The final selection criteria is based on the quality fit parameter Λ . For ΔT centered on each FRB time, the optimal value, $\Lambda_{3\sigma}$, was chosen in such a way that the presence of one neutrino candidate in the time window would correspond to a positive signal with 3σ significance (Albert et al., 2017b). Finally, a search cone of 2° is set around each FRB position. From radio information, the typical localization errors corresponds to radii of 10 arcmin.

2.3 Results

No upgoing events spatially and temporally correlated with the 12 selected FRBs were found. This null result is compatible with the background event rate of ANTARES estimated to be $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ event} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. Since no neutrino signal is detected in coincidence with any of the selected FRBs, constraints on the fluence of neutrinos that would have been observed by the ANTARES detector are derived.

3 Constraints on the neutrino fluence and energy emission from Fast Radio Bursts

3.1 Constraints on the per burst neutrino fluence

An upper limit on the neutrino fluence is computed burst per burst with the following procedure. For a given neutrino flux, the number of expected events, N_ν , depends on the detector effective area, $A_{\text{eff}}(E_\nu, \delta)$ (units: cm^2). Once the selection parameters ($\cos\theta, \beta, \Lambda_{3\sigma}$) have been defined, as explained in §2.2, the effective area only depends on the neutrino energy, E_ν and the source declination, δ . To compute the effective area at any declination, dedicated Monte Carlo simulations reproducing the ANTARES data taking conditions at the FRB trigger time, T_0 , have been produced.

For a given time-integrated neutrino flux, $\frac{dN}{dE_\nu}$ (units: $\text{GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$), the number of expected neutrino events for a source at declination δ is

$$N_\nu(\delta) = \int_{E_\nu} A_{\text{eff}}(E_\nu, \delta) \cdot \frac{dN}{dE_\nu} \cdot dE_\nu. \quad (1)$$

Usually, a neutrino power-law $dN/dE_\nu \propto E_\nu^{-\gamma}$ is assumed. The neutrino fluence at the detector can thus be defined as

$$E_\nu^2 \frac{dN}{dE_\nu} = \phi_0 \cdot \left(\frac{E_\nu}{E_0} \right)^{-\gamma+2} \quad (\text{in } \text{GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}). \quad (2)$$

The normalization factor, ϕ_0 , has the same units as the neutrino fluence and it corresponds to the expected neutrino energy fluence at the reference energy, $E_0 = 100$ TeV. Due to the strong energy-dependence of the effective area with E_ν , the sensitivity of the detector to a given neutrino flux is strongly dependent on the spectral index γ . As the neutrino production mechanisms for FRBs are unknown, three spectral models have been tested in this analysis: a hard spectrum with $\gamma = 1.0$, an intermediate spectrum with $\gamma = 2.0$ and a softer spectrum with $\gamma = 2.5$. The latter almost corresponds to the best fit value of the isotropic astrophysical neutrino signal measured by IceCube (Aartsen et al., 2015b).

By inverting equation 1, a null neutrino detection can be translated to an upper limit on the normalization factor ϕ_0 of the energy spectrum for the given values of the spectral index γ . Assuming Poisson statistics, the 90% confidence level (C.L.) upper limit, $\phi_0^{90\%}$, is defined by setting $N_\nu(\delta) = 2.3$. No neutrino event was observed in a temporal coincidence within $T_0 \pm 6$ h for any of the considered FRBs. The values of $\phi_0^{90\%}$ for each FRB and for the three assumed spectral indexes are reported in Table 2.

Starting from the upper limit on the normalization factor, the corresponding 90% C.L. upper limits on the fluence for each FRB has also been computed as:

$$F_\nu^{90\%} = \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} E_\nu \cdot \frac{dN}{dE_\nu} \cdot dE_\nu = \phi_0^{90\%} \cdot E_0^{\gamma-2} \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} E_\nu^{1-\gamma} \cdot dE_\nu. \quad (3)$$

The integration is over the range from $E_{\min}$ to $E_{\max}$, which corresponds to the energies that define the 5 – 95% range of the energy distribution of simulated events passing all the analysis cuts for the corresponding spectrum.

The upper limits on the neutrino fluence, $F_\nu^{90\%}$, for each individual FRB and for the three test spectral indexes are reported in Table 2 and shown in Figure 2. As shown later in Figure 5, compared to a time-integrated neutrino point source analysis (e.g. Albert et al., 2017c), searching for neutrinos from short transient events permits to improve the upper limit derived on the neutrino fluence by a factor of $\sim 30\%$.

Table 2: The 90% C.L upper limits on the spectral fluence, $\phi_0^{90\%}$, evaluated at 100 TeV, and the fluence, $F_\nu^{90\%}$, for the three spectral models considered in this analysis ($\gamma = 1.0, 2.0, 2.5$). $\phi_0^{90\%}$ and $F_\nu^{90\%}$ are expressed in $\text{GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$. The [5% ; 95%] energy boundaries, $E_{\min}$ and $E_{\max}$, used to compute the energy integrated fluence are also shown in the units of $\log_{10}(E_\nu/\text{GeV})$.

FRB	$\gamma = 1.0$				$\gamma = 2.0$				$\gamma = 2.5$			
	$\phi_0^{90\%}$	$F_\nu^{90\%}$	$E_{\min}$	$E_{\max}$	$\phi_0^{90\%}$	$F_\nu^{90\%}$	$E_{\min}$	$E_{\max}$	$\phi_0^{90\%}$	$F_\nu^{90\%}$	$E_{\min}$	$E_{\max}$
131104	1.6	$1.3 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	7.9	1.1	8.80	3.4	6.8	0.4	13.5	2.6	5.5
140514	3.2	$2.8 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	7.9	1.9	14.4	3.6	6.9	0.6	19.1	2.6	5.6
150215	2.9	$2.6 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	7.9	2.3	17.7	3.1	6.5	0.4	15.8	2.4	5.0
150418	1.7	$1.5 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	8.0	1.7	13.2	3.5	6.9	0.5	15.6	2.6	5.6
150807	0.4	$3.4 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	8.0	1.6	12.1	3.6	6.9	0.9	25.1	2.6	5.7
151206	0.3	$2.5 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	8.0	1.3	9.4	3.6	6.9	0.7	21.7	2.5	5.6
151230	1.0	$8.9 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	8.0	1.6	12.8	3.2	6.8	0.5	17.1	2.4	5.2
160102	0.6	$5.1 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	8.0	2.0	15.0	3.6	7.0	0.8	23.4	2.7	5.7
160317	3.1	$2.7 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	7.9	1.6	12.8	3.5	6.9	0.4	14.9	2.5	5.5
160410	0.5	$4.4 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	7.9	1.5	11.8	3.6	6.9	0.6	19.6	2.6	5.6
160608	1.7	$1.5 \cdot 10^3$	5.8	7.9	2.1	16.3	3.6	7.0	0.6	18.5	2.7	5.7
170107	0.3	$2.7 \cdot 10^2$	5.8	7.9	1.1	8.8	3.5	6.9	0.7	21.3	2.6	5.6

3.2 Constraints on the TeV-PeV neutrino energy released by FRBs

The isotropic neutrino energy, $E_{\nu, \text{iso}}$, possibly released during a FRB event is an important physical property of the bursting source. It may give information on the baryonic load within the ejected outflow as well as the efficiency of the hadronic processes at work in the acceleration site nearby the progenitor source. It can

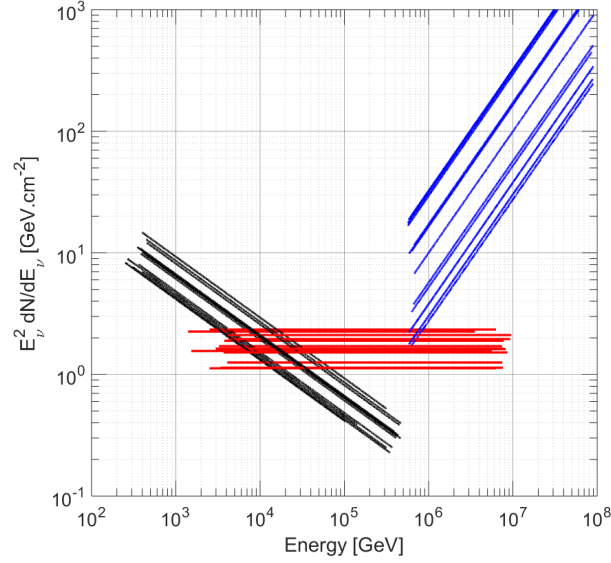


Figure 2: The 90% confidence level ANTARES upper limits on the neutrino fluence for the power law spectral models with $\gamma = 1.0$ (blue), 2.0 (red), 2.5 (black), for each FRB. The limits are computed in the energy range $[E_{\min}; E_{\max}]$ where 5-95% of the neutrino signal is expected.

be expressed as:

$$E_{\nu, \text{iso}} = \frac{4\pi D(z)^2}{1+z} \cdot F_{\nu} \quad (4)$$

where z is the redshift of the source and $D(z)$ is the distance traveled by the neutrinos depending on the assumed cosmological model:

$$D(z) = \frac{c}{H_0} \int_0^z \frac{(1+z')dz'}{\sqrt{\Omega_m(1+z'^3) + \Omega_\Lambda}} \quad (5)$$

where c is the velocity of light in vacuum and the cosmological parameters are $H_0 = 67.8 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ Mpc}^{-1}$, $\Omega_m = 0.308$ and $\Omega_\Lambda = 1 - \Omega_m$ (Ade et al., 2016). For distances in the range $d \in [1 \text{ kpc}; D(z_{\text{DM}})]$, the 90% C.L. upper limits on $E_{\nu, \text{iso}}$ have been computed and the results are shown in Figure 3 for each FRB. The excluded region in the $E_{\nu, \text{iso}}-D(z)$ plane for the hardest considered spectrum ($\gamma = 1.0$) and the softest spectrum ($\gamma = 2.5$) are also indicated. The constraints on $E_{\nu, \text{iso}}$ obtained with the power law spectrum $\gamma = 2.0$ are similar to that obtained with $\gamma = 2.5$ as the two corresponding $F_{\nu}^{90\%}$ are similar.

Since the distance of these FRBs are unknown, three distance scenarios can be assumed: i) the sources are galactic or very close to our Galaxy, typically up to the distance to the Magellanic Clouds $d \leq 50 \text{ kpc}$, ii) extragalactic but non-cosmological $d \in [50 \text{ kpc}; 100 \text{ Mpc}]$ or iii) cosmological $d \geq 100 \text{ Mpc}$. For these three ranges of distance, the upper limits on the neutrino fluence, see Figure 3, for a $E_{\nu}^{-2.5}$ model, can be converted in the source rest frame by $E_{\nu, \text{iso}}^{90\%} \leq [10^{43}; 10^{46}]$, $[10^{46}; 10^{52}]$ and $[10^{52}; 10^{57}] \text{ erg}$, respectively.

4 Discussion

The upper limits on the neutrino energy released by both the individual FRB sources and the whole population must be compared to the expectations of some FRB hadronic models.

4.1 Short GRB progenitor

In the merger scenario, collapsing neutron stars may power a FRB at the merger time and then produce a short γ -ray burst few seconds to hundreds of seconds after (Zhang, 2014). In the standard framework of GRBs, particles are accelerated by internal shocks within the relativistic jetted outflow and photo-hadronic

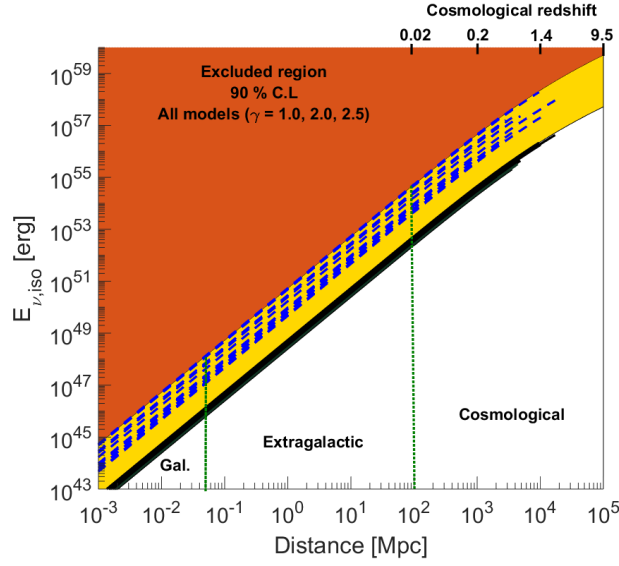


Figure 3: The 90% confidence level upper limits on the neutrino energy released by the FRB sources. The per burst limits, assuming different neutrino power law spectra, are shown with the dashed blue lines ($\gamma = 1.0$) and the black solid lines ($\gamma = 2.5$). These limits are computed in the distance range $d \in [1 \text{ kpc} ; D(z_{\text{DM}})]$. The red area indicates the region that is already excluded by ANTARES at the 90% C.L. for any considered hadronic model ($\gamma = 1.0, 2.0, 2.5$). The yellow area is only excluded by the soft spectral models ($\gamma = 2.0, 2.5$). The white area, divided in 3 distance scenarios, is still allowed according to the ANTARES sensitivity.

processes may give rise to a burst of high-energy neutrinos (Waxman & Bahcall, 1997; Guetta et al., 2004; Murase & Nagataki, 2006; Zhang & Kumar, 2013). The neutrino flux can be roughly scaled to the γ -ray flux and to the baryonic load in the outflow according to (Zhang & Kumar, 2013) :

$$E_{\nu, \text{iso}} \approx \frac{f_p}{8} \cdot (1 - (1 - \langle \chi_{p/\gamma} \rangle)^{\tau_{py}}) \cdot E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} \quad (6)$$

with f_b the baryonic loading factor assumed to be preferentially in the range $f_p \in [1 ; 100]$, $\langle \chi_{p/\gamma} \rangle \sim 20\%$ the fraction of the proton energy transferred to the pions, and τ_{py} the optical depth for photohadronic interactions (Albert et al., 2017d). For short GRBs, the isotropic γ -ray energy released is usually in the range $E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} \in [10^{47} ; 10^{50}]$ erg. The short GRB 170817A associated to the binary neutron star merger event of august 2017 (Abbott et al., 2017a) was subluminal with $E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} = 3.1 \pm 0.7 \cdot 10^{46}$ erg integrated over an observed duration $T = (2 \pm 0.5)$ s (Abbott et al., 2017b). Typically, for a so-called standard short GRB², the optical depth is $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{-2}$. Based on these rough estimates, the neutrino expectations are in the range $10^{-3} \cdot E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} \lesssim E_{\nu, \text{iso}} \lesssim 0.1 \cdot E_{\gamma, \text{iso}}$. As shown in Figure 4, the derived limits on the neutrino flux can rule out short GRB models in a very nearby environment ($d < 1$ kpc) assuming that the neutrinos are produced with an unbroken power law spectrum. Our limits can not constrain any model associating FRBs to short GRBs if the astrophysical sources are located at distances $d > 100$ Mpc. Recent advanced hadronic models imply a broken power law spectrum for the neutrino emission in short GRB events. Also the predictions from those models are weakly constrained by our exclusion regions. For instance, Biehl et al. (2018) have computed the expected neutrino spectrum from the short GRB GRB170817A using the NeuCosmA model (Hümmer et al., 2010, 2012) for different configurations of the jetted outflow. Considering the low luminosity jet scenario ($\Gamma = 30$, $f_p \in [1 ; 1000]$), see Figure 2 given by Biehl et al. (2018), the corresponding neutrino fluences integrated over 100 TeV-100 PeV are $F_\nu \in [4.3 \cdot 10^{-5} ; 0.07]$ $\text{GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$. At a distance of 40 Mpc and a redshift $z = 0.008$, this translates into $E_{\nu, \text{iso}} \in [10^{46} ; 10^{49}]$ erg which is still below the ANTARES sensitivity as shown in Figure 4.

²with the following parameters : the Lorentz factor $\Gamma = 300$, the gamma-ray energy $E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} \approx 10^{50}$ erg, the minimum variability time scale of the gamma-ray emission $t_{\text{var}} = 0.01$ s, the radius at which the py interactions occur $R_{py} \approx 10^{13}$ cm and the redshift $z = 0.5$.

4.2 Magnetar giant flare / Soft Gamma Repeater (SGR)

In these two scenarios, the FRB event is produced by a sudden release of energy in the magnetosphere of the magnetar either driven by magnetic instabilities or high rotational loss (spin-down power). Protons may be accelerated into the polar cap regions and interact with the x-ray photon field emitted in the neutron star environment to produce high-energy neutrinos and secondary particles (Zhang et al., 2003). In the first scenario, the extremely strong magnetic field ($B > 10^{15}$ Gauss) is the source of the x-ray photon field and of the particle acceleration. It corresponds to the giant flares from magnetars or the SGR models. The second scenario is related to some highly magnetised ($B \sim 10^{14}$ Gauss) neutron stars which are born with a millisecond timescale period of rotation making them able to power the particle acceleration and the subsequent high-energy neutrino emission (Dey et al., 2016). In both neutron star scenarios, a very high magnetic field is required with at least $B > 10^{14}$ Gauss. For a magnetar, the typical values for the stellar radius and the magnetic field used here are $B = 10^{15}$ Gauss, $R = 10$ km. The rotational period, P , can vary from hundreds of milliseconds for a very young neutron star to few seconds for slow rotating magnetars (with $P > 2$ s). Based on these magnetar properties, the models of Zhang et al. (2003); Dey et al. (2016) predict a high-energy neutrino luminosity in the range $L_{\nu, \text{quiescent}} \in [10^{32}; 10^{35}] \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ when the magnetar is in the quiescent state. For a giant flare like the one observed from SGR 1806-20 (Palmer et al., 2005), the luminosity of the x-ray/ γ -ray background (with $E_{\gamma} = 20 - 30$ keV Zhang et al. (2000)) can increase by at least a factor 10^6 in less than a second compared to the quiescent periods of the magnetar (Thompson, 2000). This kind of bursting event may also produce a FRB. By scaling the typical neutrino luminosity expected from quiescent magnetars to the SGR bursting events (with typical duration for the main spike $t_{\text{spike}} \sim 0.1$ s (Thompson, 2000; Palmer et al., 2005)), one can obtain a rough estimation of the total energy released in neutrinos during giant flares from magnetars $E_{\nu, \text{iso}} \leq 10^6 \cdot L_{\nu, \text{quiescent}} \cdot t_{\text{spike}} \leq [10^{37}; 10^{40}] \text{ erg}$.

These estimates are also compared, in Figure 4, to the ANTARES neutrino upper limits. Magnetar/SGR sources are very likely weak sources of high-energy neutrino according to the models depicted above. Hence the magnetar flare origin of FRBs can not be significantly constrained burst per burst with the neutrino analysis presented here.

4.3 Core collapse supernova environment

Core collapse supernovae are known to produce a compact object such as a neutron star or a black hole surrounded by the material ejected from the progenitor star during the explosion, the so-called supernova remnant. Murase & Nagataki (2006); Falcke & Rezzolla (2014); Ravi & Lasky (2014); Li et al. (2014) mention the possibility that cosmic-rays and high energy neutrinos may be produced by the interaction of an energetic outflow ejected by the newly born compact object with the surrounding pulsar nebula or supernova remnant at a distance $R \sim 10^{15-16}$ cm. A FRB could be also produced during this interaction or directly inside the ejected outflow. The resulting neutrino flux may be low since at such distance from the progenitor the density of the target medium for the photo-hadronic interaction is quite small. In addition, the delay between the production of the radio and the neutrino signal is not clear yet.

For all the hadronic models listed in this discussion, it seems that detecting a neutrino signal from single FRB sources may be difficult as most of the FRB hadronic model predictions remain orders of magnitude below the ANTARES neutrino detection threshold. However, the expected large number of FRBs over the entire sky may contribute to a diffuse flux that can be tested by a large scale neutrino telescope. This possibility is discussed in the following section.

4.4 Contribution to the neutrino diffuse flux

In 2013, the IceCube Collaboration reported the significant detection of a cosmic diffuse neutrino flux (Aartsen et al., 2013). So far, the sources responsible for this cosmic signal have not been identified, but the GRB contribution to this diffuse flux has already been constrained to be less than 1% (Aartsen et al., 2015d). The population of fast radio bursts may, on the other hand, contribute significantly since their expected rate is high, $R_{\text{FRB}} \sim 10^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$ (Champion et al., 2016). This hypothesis is tested here by computing the 90% C.L. upper limit on the diffuse neutrino flux associated with FRBs. As before, the neutrino flux associated with FRB sources is assumed with a power law energy distribution with spectral indexes $\gamma = 1.0, 2.0, 2.5$.

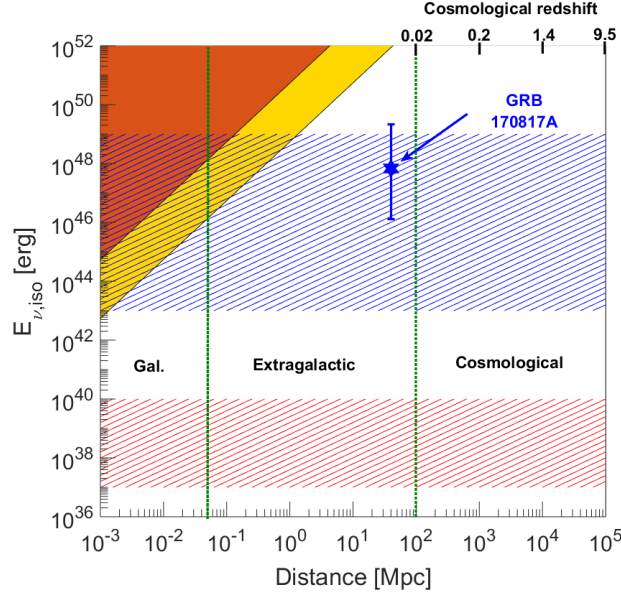


Figure 4: The $E_{\nu,iso}$ – distance plane with the region already excluded by ANTARES for different neutrino models (red: $\gamma \geq 1.0$, yellow : $\gamma \geq 2.5$). The neutrino predictions from short GRBs (standard internal shock model) are represented by the blue hatched region while the magnetar/young neutron star neutrino flare expectations are shown with the red hatched area. The neutrino expectations for the short GRB GRB 170817A given by (Biehl et al., 2018) are also shown. The errors are due to the possible range for $f_p \in [1 ; 1000]$

The derived diffuse upper limits depend on the assumed neutrino spectrum. Hence,

$$E_{\nu}^2 \Phi_{\nu}^{90\%} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \cdot \phi_{\text{FRB}}^{90\%} \cdot \frac{R_{\text{FRB}}}{N_{\text{FRB}}} \text{ GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1} \quad (7)$$

where N_{FRB} are the number of FRBs considered in this analysis and $\phi_{\text{FRB}}^{90\%}$ is the characteristic neutrino fluence normalised to 100 TeV as defined in equation 2 of the combined neutrino spectrum from the 12 FRBs. The neutrino fluence limit has been computed at the 90% confidence level by estimating the average ANTARES effective area over the 12 FRB events for the different spectral models :

$$\phi_{\text{FRB}}^{90\%} = \frac{2.3 \cdot E_0^{-\gamma+2}}{\int < A_{\text{eff}}(E_{\nu}) > \cdot E_{\nu}^{-\gamma} \cdot dE_{\nu}} \text{ GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \quad (8)$$

According to the ANTARES upper limit on the individual neutrino fluxes from the 12 selected FRBs (see Table 2) and assuming the last updated estimate on the all-sky FRB rate $R_{\text{FRB}} \sim 1.7 \cdot 10^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$ (Bhandari et al., 2018), one can obtain the upper limits on the quasi diffuse flux normalised to $E_0 = 100 \text{ TeV}$, $E_{\nu}^2 \Phi_0^{90\%} < 0.9, 2.0$ and $0.7 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$ for $E^{-1.0}, E^{-2.0}$ and $E^{-2.5}$ neutrino spectra respectively.

The neutrino diffuse flux observed by the IceCube Collaboration for $E_{\nu} > 60 \text{ TeV}$ is at the level of $E_{\nu}^2 \Phi_0 \sim 10^{-8} \text{ GeV} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$ normalised to $E_0 = 100 \text{ TeV}$ and with $\gamma = 2.46$ (Aartsen et al., 2015a). In the present analysis, the derived upper limit on the diffuse flux for FRBs with $\gamma = 2.5$ is above the signal measured by IceCube by a factor ~ 7300 . This result is in agreement with the possibility that FRBs may originate from a wide variety of astrophysical progenitors with few of them leading to hadronic processes in their environment. In addition, according to the FRB rate mentioned above and the fact that on average one cosmic neutrino with $E_{\nu} > 60 \text{ TeV}$ is detected every 20 days by IceCube (Aartsen et al., 2015a), it appears that finally less than 1 over ~ 20000 FRB could be a neutrino emitter. Nevertheless, according to the IceCube analysis, the number of cosmic neutrinos at lower energy is one or two orders of magnitude larger than those with $E_{\nu} > 60 \text{ TeV}$, depending on the spectral index of the cosmic signal and the low-energy cut-off. These cosmic neutrinos at energies below 60 TeV are hidden in the IceCube data set in the much larger sample of atmospheric neutrinos. The possibility to observe a temporal and spatial coincidence allows for a significant suppression of this background. In this paper, a selection method is presented and

guarantees the 3σ significance based on the observation of one coincident event. If the IceCube cosmic neutrino diffuse flux is totally produced by the mechanism that induces FRBs, accounting for the neutrinos below 60 TeV, the number of neutrinos per FRB can increase by two orders of magnitude. This means that searches for neutrinos with IceCube or ANTARES in coincidence with hundreds of FRBs could significantly constrain such a scenario. Alternatively, the non detection of a neutrino signal from FRBs could be also due to non-hadronic production mechanisms in the FRB environment, or to the presence of a beamed jet of neutrinos.

Up to now, very few FRBs have been detected which strongly limits the capability of large neutrino detectors to constrain the contribution of FRBs to the neutrino diffuse flux. In the near future, many radio facilities e.g. UTMOST (Caleb et al., 2016, 2017; Bailes et al., 2017), SKA/ASKAP (Johnston et al., 2008; Bannister et al., 2017), CHIME (Bandura et al., 2014; Newburgh et al., 2014; Amiri et al., 2017), Lofar (van Leeuwen, 2014; Maan & van Leeuwen, 2017) will increase the statistics of FRB detection up to a few per year to several hundreds per year. In the meantime, bright and very close events may be also detected (by CHIME and ASKAP, for instance) which will also increase the discovery capabilities of the large scale neutrino detectors for individual point sources.

4.5 The complementarity of the ANTARES and IceCube detectors for FRB searches

A similar search for a high-energy neutrinos from FRBs has been performed by the IceCube Collaboration (Aartsen et al., 2018). Despite the larger detection volume with respect to the ANTARES telescope, no significant signal was found. The IceCube effective area is largely reduced for declination $\delta < -20^\circ$ with respect to positive declinations. For this reason, the IceCube neutrino telescope is mostly sensitive to FRBs occurring in the Northern hemisphere. As a consequence, the ANTARES telescope is still competitive with IceCube to constrain models that assume a soft spectral index such as $\gamma = 2.5$. The strongest upper limit on the neutrino fluence given by ANTARES for a FRB is a factor ~ 1.3 better than the one given by IceCube (Aartsen et al., 2018, see the Figure 7). The effective area of ANTARES described in this analysis is larger than that of IceCube below $E_\nu \lesssim 25$ TeV for the 2/3 of the Southern sky and in the large portion of the energy range where 90% of the neutrino signal is expected for $\gamma = 2.5$. In Figure 5, the ANTARES A_{eff} computed at a declination $\delta = -55^\circ$ for FRB 150807 is compared to the IceCube A_{eff} computed for FRB searches in the declination range $\delta \in [-90^\circ; -42^\circ]$ (Aartsen et al., 2018) and illustrates the complementarity between IceCube and ANTARES in terms of sky and energy coverages. Thus, in the Southern hemisphere, using both the ANTARES and the IceCube neutrino telescopes to search for transient events with soft spectra, as the one observed for the neutrino cosmic diffuse flux, maximises the discovery potential.

Despite the good performances of IceCube for hard neutrino spectra (high energy part of spectrum) in the Southern sky, see Figure 5, a larger detector than ANTARES located in the Northern hemisphere is required to improve the sensitivity of the neutrino telescopes to sources located in the Southern hemisphere. The next generation of the large-scale³ high-energy neutrino detector, KM3NeT/ARCA (Adrián-Martínez et al., 2016), is now under construction in the Mediterranean sea and will be fully operational in the upcoming years. With KM3NeT/ARCA, an unprecedented sensitivity to the high-energy neutrino flux should be obtained at Southern declinations. In the next few years, combined analysis between the KM3NeT/ARCA and the IceCube detectors will provide the most sensitive and homogeneous coverage of the neutrino sky ever reached for energies $E_\nu > 1$ TeV.

5 Conclusions

Fast radio bursts are candidate sources of efficient particle acceleration as they may release a great amount of energy in a short timescale, similar to the short gamma-ray bursts. The question whether a hadronic component is injected in the energetic outflow has been investigated in this paper by directly searching for high energy neutrinos in coincidence with 12 FRBs using ANTARES data in the period 2013-2017. No significant coincident neutrino signal was found. The 90% confidence level upper limits on the neutrino fluence has been derived per burst and for the whole population as well as the neutrino energy released. These limits are not stringent enough to significantly constrain the prediction of some FRB hadronic models, e.g. merger events, magnetar flares, particularly if these sources are located at cosmological distances. FRBs could be weak sources of high energy neutrinos, but because of their high rate in the Universe, the signal from the whole population may be detectable as a diffuse neutrino flux. So far, the lack of FRB statistics

³with a detection volume of the order of the km^3

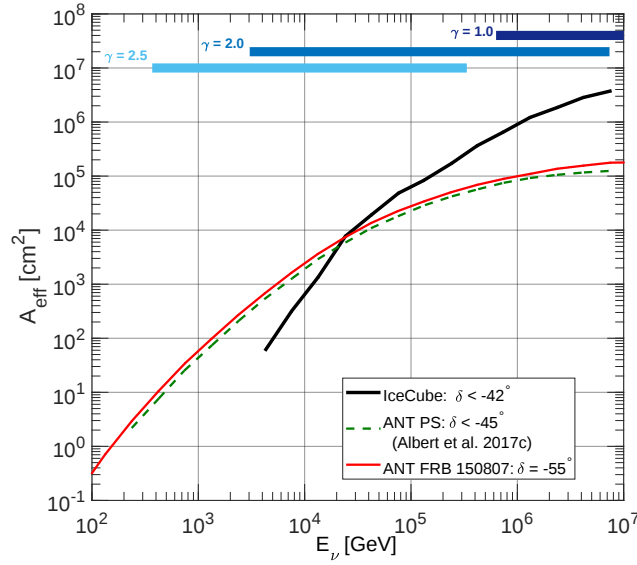


Figure 5: The ANTARES and the IceCube (Aartsen et al., 2018) effective areas (A_{eff}) as function of the neutrino energy. The dashed dark green line is the ANTARES A_{eff} computed as for the standard point source neutrino searches in ANTARES data at a declination $\delta < -45^\circ$ (Albert et al., 2017c). The red line illustrates the gain of about 30% in the A_{eff} ($\delta = -55^\circ$) typically achievable when searching for a transient event, such as the FRBs presented in this paper. The IceCube A_{eff} computed in the last FRB analysis (Aartsen et al., 2018) in the same range of Southern declinations is represented with the black line.

does not allow to firmly test this hypothesis since the detection of at least a hundred of FRBs are required to bring significant constraints. The upcoming first observations of KM3NeT/ARCA, the next generation of large-scale high-energy neutrino telescope in the Northern hemisphere, will also permit to strongly improve the constraints on the fluence per burst and the FRB contribution to the cosmic neutrino diffuse flux. Recently, new facilities such as UTMOST, CHIME, SKA/ASKAP, have emerged with high discovery capabilities of tens of FRBs per month (against $\sim 3 - 4$ per year for now). In addition, these radio facilities may be able to observe bright FRBs at close distance ($d < 100$ Mpc), which will enhance the probability of a multimessenger detection at high energies for an individual FRB. Finally, more accurate models describing the neutrino production associated with FRBs will greatly help to refine the constraints on the neutrino fluence and energy released.

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