

Complex Analysis of Askaryan Radiation: UHE- ν Identification and Reconstruction via the Hilbert Envelope of Observed Signals

Jordan C. Hanson* and Raymond Hartig
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Whittier College
 (Dated: August 15, 2025)

The detection of ultra-high energy neutrinos (UHE- ν), with energies above 10 PeV, has been a long-time goal of the astroparticle physics community. A key strategy has been to deploy autonomous, radio-frequency (RF) detectors in polar regions that rely on the Askaryan effect in ice for the neutrino signal. The Askaryan effect occurs when the excess negative charge within a high-energy cascade radiates in a dense medium, and UHE- ν can induce such cascades that radiate in the radio-frequency (RF) bandwidth above thermal backgrounds. To identify UHE- ν signals in future data from Askaryan-class detectors, analytic models of the Askaryan electromagnetic field have been created and compared to simulations and laboratory measurements. These models have correctly described the Askaryan electromagnetic field, while leaving the effect of the RF detection channels on the field to simulation packages. In this work, we present a fully analytic Askaryan model that accounts for the effect of an RF detection channel. We provide formulas for the observed voltage trace, and for the Hilbert envelope of the trace. We match the equations to data computed with NuRadioMC, a key Monte Carlo toolset in UHE- ν detection. Our analytic model and NuRadioMC match, with correlation coefficients > 0.95 . Using this correlation, UHE- ν signals can be distinguished from RF backgrounds with an efficiency of xxx. Finally, we reconstruct the logarithm of the UHE- ν cascade energy with a precision of yyy using a single string of RF channels.

Keywords: Ultra-high energy neutrino; Askaryan radiation; Mathematical physics

I. INTRODUCTION

Cosmic neutrinos with energies up to 100 PeV have been detected by the IceCube and KM3NeT collaborations [1–8]. Previous analyses indicate that the discovery of neutrinos above 5 PeV to 20 EeV will require large Askaryan-class detectors [9]. Neutrinos with energies in the EeV range could potentially reveal the source of ultra-high energy cosmic rays (see sections 3.1-3.3 of [10]). Further, studying electroweak interactions at these energies is impossible on Earth, and Askaryan-class neutrino detectors provide new data (see section 3.4 of [10]).

This work is the first application of the Hanson and Hartig (HH) model for the purposes of reconstruction.

II. UNITS, DEFINITIONS, AND CONVENTIONS

- The result for $\mathcal{E}_{r*s}(t)$, Eqs. 51 and 53, depends on the model for $s(t)$, Eq. 7. Equation 7 is a simplified version of Eq. 28 in the analysis presented by Hanson and Hartig (HH) [11]. The E_0 simply represents all time-independent amplitude factors. The full expression for $s(t)$ is

$$r\vec{E}(t_r, \theta) = -\frac{E_0\omega_0 \sin(\theta)}{8\pi p} t_r e^{-\frac{t_r^2}{4p} + p\omega_0^2} \operatorname{erfc}(\sqrt{p}\omega_0) \quad (1)$$

The parameters of Eq. 1 are shown in Tab. I. Though Ralston and Buny (RB) [12] used c for the vacuum value of the speed of light, the formulae for $r\vec{E}$ presented in [12] refer to the wavenumber k in the medium, which is proportional to the index of refraction. Thus, the use of c in this work refers to the speed of light in the medium. For example, a phase factor of $\exp(jkr)$ could also be written $\exp(jr\omega/c)$, if c refers to the value in the medium. The distance r is between the observer and the radiating charge at the cascade peak. The longitudinal length over which $\Delta r < \lambda$, the RF wavelength in ice, is named the *coherence zone* Δz_{coh} in the RB model. The Δz_{coh} is limited by what RB call the “acceleration argument,” that $r(t)$ is accelerating while keeping $\Delta r < \lambda$.

The longitudinal cascade length, a , is set by the cascade physics. The ratio $\eta = (a/\Delta z_{\text{coh}})^2$ corresponds to the far-field limit as $\eta \rightarrow 0$, but this is not a requirement of the RB model. In fact, the RB equations are valid when $\eta > 1$. Hanson and Connolly (JCH+AC) have shown that η corresponds to low-pass filter with cutoff ω_C that limits the RF emissions, $\eta = \omega/\omega_C$ [13]. JCH+AC also studied ω_C over the frequency and a parameter space, because this parameter space is relevant for the LPM effect.

The time t is the independent variable of the inverse Fourier transform of the equations in [12]. The delayed time is $t_r = t - r/c$. The Cherenkov angle θ_C is set by the index of refraction, n , via $\cos\theta_C = 1/n$. The value for the RF bandwidth in solid ice ($n = 1.78$) is 55.8 degrees. More detail

*Electronic address: jhanson2@whittier.edu

Variable	Definition	Units
c	speed of light in medium	m ns ⁻¹
r	distance to cascade peak	m
t_r	$t - r/c$	ns
θ_C	Cherenkov angle	radians
θ	viewing angle from cascade axis	radians
a	longitudinal cascade length (see [12])	m
n_{max}	max excess cascade particles (see [12])	none
E_0	$\propto n_{max}a$ (see [12])	V GHz ⁻²
p	$\frac{1}{2}(a/c)^2(\cos\theta - \cos\theta_C)^2$ (see [11])	ns ²
ω_0	$\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}(c\sqrt{2\pi\rho_0})/(\sin\theta)$ (see [13])	GHz
$\sqrt{2\pi\rho_0}$	lateral ICD width (see [13])	m ⁻¹

TABLE I: things.

on the index of refraction in polar ice is given in [14, 15]. The viewing angle θ is measured relative to the cascade axis, and Askaryan radiation is concentrated for $\theta \approx \theta_C$. The n_{max} parameter is the maximum excess negative cascade charge, and the overall RF amplitude, E_0 , is proportional to $n_{max}a$. JCH+AC and Hanson and Hartig (HH) demonstrate how the cutoff frequency ω_0 is related to the instantaneous charge distribution (ICD) and the cascade form factor [11, 13]. Monte Carlo simulations have shown that the lateral dependence of the ICD is, to first order, exponentially distributed [11, 16]. In JCH+AC, characterizing the lateral component of the ICD as $\exp(-\sqrt{2\pi\rho_0}\rho)$ led to an elegant expression for the ICD form factor, $\tilde{F}(\omega)$. Hanson and Hartig (HH) have shown that the parameter p is related to σ_t [11]:

$$\sigma_t = \sqrt{2p} \quad (2)$$

The authors of [11] have shown that, because $\cos\theta - \cos\theta_C \approx -\sin\theta_C(\theta - \theta_C)$ to first order in $\Delta\theta = (\theta - \theta_C)$, $p \propto \Delta\theta^2$ to second order, and

$$a\Delta\theta = \frac{c\sigma_t}{\sin\theta_C} \quad (3)$$

Qualitatively, this notion was identified by RB in Sec. III of [12]. HH analyzed the relationship between a , the cascade energy E_C and the critical energy E_{crit} for electromagnetic and hadronic cascades [11]. Let $E_C/E_{crit} = \Lambda$. Assuming the Greisen and Gaisser-Hillas parameterizations for electromagnetic and hadronic cascades, respectively, HH found the relationship

$$a = c_{em}\sqrt{\ln\Lambda} \quad (4)$$

$$a = c_{had}\sqrt{\ln\Lambda} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{\ln\Lambda}}{\ln\Lambda} = 2\left(\frac{\sigma_a}{a}\right) \quad (6)$$

Equation 6 corresponds to Eq. 42 in [11], and has been corrected for units. Equations 2-6 imply measurements of a and $\Delta\theta$ lead to a measurement of the logarithm of the cascade energy $\ln\Lambda$, and that the relative error in $\ln\Lambda$ is proportional to the relative error in a .

III. COLLECTION OF MAIN RESULTS

Here is a list of the basic results and ideas for this paper.

- Let the signal model $s(t)$ be

$$s(t) = -E_0 t e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t/\sigma_t)^2} \quad (7)$$

This is the off-cone field equation from [11]. The parameter σ_t is the pulse width, and it depends two quantities: the longitudinal length of the UHE- ν -induced cascade, and the angle at which the cascade is observed relative to the Cherenkov angle. The parameter E_0 is the amplitude normalization, and it depends on two parameters: σ_t , and ω_0 , the cutoff frequency from the cascade form factor. In Sec. III, E_0 and σ_t will be treated as constants, since neither depends on time.

- Let $\hat{s}(t)$ represent the Hilbert transform of $s(t)$. The *analytic signal* of $s(t)$ is

$$s_a(t) = s(t) + j\hat{s}(t) \quad (8)$$

The magnitude of the analytic signal, $|s_a(t)|$, is the *envelope* of the signal. The Hilbert transform $\hat{s}(t)$ is equivalent to the convolution of $s(t)$ and the tempered distribution $h(t) = 1/(\pi t)$.

- Let $S(f)$ be the Fourier transform of $s(t)$. The Fourier transform of the analytic signal is

$$\mathcal{F}\{s_a(t)\}_f = S_a(f) = S(f)(1 + \text{sgn } f) \quad (9)$$

The sign function, sgn gives -1 if $f < 0$, 0 if $f = 0$, and 1 if $f > 0$.

- Taking the inverse Fourier transform of Eq. 9, the analytic signal may be written in terms of $S(f)$:

$$s_a(t) = 2 \int_0^\infty S(f) e^{2\pi j f t} df \quad (10)$$

- The Fourier transform of Eq. 7 is

$$S(f) = E_0 \sigma_t^3 (2\pi)^{3/2} j f e^{-2\pi^2 f^2 \sigma_t^2} \quad (11)$$

- Using the gaussian spectral width σ_f from [13], and the gaussian width of $s(t)$ from [11], it was shown in [11] that the uncertainty principle holds for off-cone signals:

$$\sigma_t \sigma_f \geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \quad (12)$$

The equality is reached in the limit the far-field parameter limits to zero: $\eta \rightarrow 0$. This makes the signal spectrum

$$S(f) = E_0 \sigma_t^3 (2\pi)^{3/2} j f e^{-\frac{1}{2}(f/\sigma_f)^2} \quad (13)$$

Inserting $S(f)$ into Eq. 10, $s_a(t)$ is

$$s_a(t) = \frac{E_0 \sigma_t^3 (2\pi)^{3/2}}{\pi} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}(f/\sigma_f)^2} e^{2\pi j f t} df \quad (14)$$

- Let $k^2/4 = \frac{1}{2}(f/\sigma_f)^2$, and $x = t/(\sqrt{2}\sigma_t)$. Equation 14 can be broken into real and imaginary parts:

$$s_a(t) = \frac{E_0 \sigma_t}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{dI}{dx} \quad (15)$$

$$\Re\{I\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-k^2/4} \cos(kx) dk \quad (16)$$

$$\Im\{I\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-k^2/4} \sin(kx) dk \quad (17)$$

The real part of I is even, so it can be extended to $(-\infty, \infty)$ if it is multiplied by $1/2$. The result is

$$\Re\{I\} = \sqrt{\pi} e^{-x^2} \quad (18)$$

The imaginary part of I is proportional to *Dawson's integral*, $D(x)$ [17]:

$$\Im\{I\} = 2D(x) \quad (19)$$

- The overall analytic signal, $s_a(t)$, is

$$s_a(t) = -E_0 \left(t e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t/\sigma_t)^2} - \frac{2j\sigma_t}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{dD(x)}{dx} \right) \quad (20)$$

The signal envelope is $|s_a(t)|$. It is important to note that, though $D(x)$ is not evaluated analytically, a high-precision algorithm for computing $D(x)$ was given in [18]. Note that $s_a(0) \neq 0$, since $dD(x)/dx = 1 - 2xD(x)$.

- Signal data in detectors designed to observe Askaryan pulses is equivalent to the convolution of the signal and detector response functions. Signal models are convolved with measured detector responses to create *signal templates*. Signal templates are cross-correlated with observed data to identify UHE- ν signals. The oscillations of signal templates and observed data can introduce various uncertainties when cross-correlated. This problem intensifies when the signal-to-noise ratio between Askaryan pulse data and thermal noise decreases. To reduce these uncertainties, the Hilbert envelope of observed signals is used in cross-correlations instead of the original signals. We seek an analytic equation for the Hilbert envelope of the data. That is, we seek the envelope of the convolution of the analytic signal model with a typical detector response. The RLC damped oscillator is a standard circuit model for the RF dipole antennas used in RNO-G and the proposed IceCube Gen2 [10, 19, 20].
- There are two paths to calculating the final result. The first option involves three steps. First, the detector response, $r(t)$ is convolved with $s(t)$. Second, the analytic signal of the result is found. Third, the magnitude of the analytic signal is computed, which can be compared to envelopes of observed signals. The second option involves computing the envelope of the convolution of $r(t)$ with $s(t)$ directly from $s_a(t)$ and $r_a(t)$.

- Let $s(t) * r(t)$ represent the convolution of $s(t)$ and $r(t)$. Let the envelope of the convolution be $\mathcal{E}_{s*r}(t)$. $\mathcal{E}_{s*r}(t)$, $s_a(t)$, and $r_a(t)$ are related by

$$\mathcal{E}_{s*r}(t) = \frac{1}{2} |s_a(t) * r_a(t)| \quad (21)$$

The proof of Eq. 21 is based on two ideas. First, the Hilbert transform of a function $s(t)$ is equivalent to convolving it with the “tempered distribution” $h(t) = 1/(\pi t)$. Second, computing the Hilbert transform twice yields the original function, multiplied by -1 : $h * h * s = -s$. Given the definitions of the analytic signal and the Hilbert transform,

$$(s * r)_a(t) = s * r + j \widehat{s * r} \quad (22)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{s*r}(t) = |s * r + j s * r * h| \quad (23)$$

However,

$$r_a * s_a = (r + j\hat{r}) * (s + j\hat{s}) \quad (24)$$

$$r_a * s_a = r * s + jr * \hat{s} + j\hat{r} * s - \hat{r} * \hat{s} \quad (25)$$

$$r_a * s_a = r * s - r * h * s * h + 2jh * r * s \quad (26)$$

$$r_a * s_a = r * s - h * h * r * s + 2jh * r * s \quad (27)$$

$$r_a * s_a = 2r * s + 2jh * r * s \quad (28)$$

Multiplying both sides 1/2 and taking the magnitude completes the proof:

$$\frac{1}{2}|r_a * s_a| = |r * s + jh * r * s| = \mathcal{E}_{s*r}(t) \quad (29)$$

- Assume that a signal arrives in an RLC damped oscillator at $t = 0$. For $t \geq 0$, the impulse response and corresponding analytic signal are

$$r(t) = R_0 e^{-2\pi\gamma_f t} \cos(2\pi f_0 t) \quad (30)$$

$$r_a(t) = R_0 e^{-2\pi\gamma_f t} e^{2\pi j f_0 t} \quad (31)$$

The parameters γ_f and f_0 are the *decay constant* that corresponds to the *fall time* of the output signal, and the resonance frequency. Note that the envelope of $r(t)$, $|r_a(t)|$, is $R_0 \exp(-2\pi\gamma_f t)$, as expected. To prove Eq. 31, first compute the Fourier transform of $r(t)$:

$$R(f) = \frac{R_0}{4\pi j} \left(\frac{1}{f - z_+} + \frac{1}{1 - z_-} \right) \quad (32)$$

$$z_+ = f_0 + j\gamma_f \quad (33)$$

$$z_- = -f_0 + j\gamma_f \quad (34)$$

Given Eq. 10, the procedure to find $r_a(t)$ is to multiply the *negative* frequency components by 0 and the *positive* frequency components by 2, and take the inverse Fourier transform. The inverse Fourier transform may be completed by extension to the complex plane using the upper infinite semi-circle as a contour, and applying Jordan's lemma. The residue from the pole at z_+ drives the final result. (Check the sign of time here, to ensure that it is positive).

- The goal is now to apply Eq. 21 by convolving $s_a(t)$ with $r_a(t)$. The calculation may be split into two parts: $r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\}$, and $r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\}$. Let $u(t)$ represent the Heaviside step function. Starting with $r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\}$:

$$r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\} = R_0 e^{2\pi j f_0 t} e^{-2\pi\gamma_f t} u(t) * \left(-E_0 t e^{-\frac{1}{2}(t/\sigma_t)^2} \right) \quad (35)$$

Let $x = t/(\sqrt{2}\sigma_t)$, $y = \tau/(\sqrt{2}\sigma_t)$, and $z = (2\pi j f_0 - 2\pi\gamma_f)\sqrt{2}\sigma_t$. Changing variables while accounting for the relationship between $u(t)$, x , and y , gives

$$r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\} = -2R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \int_{-\infty}^x e^{z(x-y)} y e^{-y^2} dy \quad (36)$$

Note that the units for the convolution of $r(t)$ and $s(t)$ correspond to $R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2$. Let $u = x - y$, so that $du = -dy$. The result is

$$r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\} = 2R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(\frac{dI(x, z)}{dz} - xI(x, z) \right) \quad (37)$$

where

$$I(x, z) = \int_0^\infty e^{zu} e^{-(u-x)^2} du \quad (38)$$

Let $b = x + \frac{1}{2}z$. Completing the square in the exponent and substituting $k = u - b$ gives

$$I(x, z) = e^{-x^2} e^{b^2} \int_{-b}^\infty e^{-k^2} dk = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{-x^2} e^{b^2} \operatorname{erfc}(-b) \quad (39)$$

Let $b = jq$, and $w(q)$ be the *Faddeeva function* [17]. The integral becomes

$$I(x, z) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{-x^2} w(q) \quad (40)$$

The chain rule is required to find dI/dz :

$$\frac{dI}{dz} = \frac{dI}{dq} \frac{dq}{dz} = -\left(\frac{j}{2}\right) \frac{dI}{dq} \quad (41)$$

The final result is

$$r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\} = -\sqrt{\pi} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(x e^{-x^2} w(q) + \left(\frac{j}{2}\right) e^{-x^2} \frac{dw(q)}{dq} \right) \quad (42)$$

- Turning to the convolution of $r_a(t)$ with $\Im\{s_a(t)\}$,

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = (R_0 e^{2\pi j f_0 t} e^{-2\pi\gamma_f t} u(t)) * \left(\frac{2E_0 \sigma_t^2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{dD(t/\sqrt{2}\sigma_t)}{dt} \right) \quad (43)$$

Note that $f'(t) * g(t) = f(t) * g'(t) = (f(t) * g(t))'$. Thus,

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \frac{d}{dt} \left(e^{2\pi j f_0 t} e^{-2\pi\gamma_f t} u(t) * D(t/\sqrt{2}\sigma_t) \right) \quad (44)$$

Accounting for the step function in the convolution gives

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \frac{d}{dt} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{(2\pi j f_0 - 2\pi\gamma_f)(t-\tau)} D(\tau/\sqrt{2}\sigma_t) d\tau \quad (45)$$

Adopting the earlier definitions of x , y , and z gives

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \frac{d}{dx} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{z(x-y)} D(y) dy \quad (46)$$

Using the fundamental theorem of calculus, and the limiting cases of $D(x)$,

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(D(x) + z \int_{-\infty}^x e^{z(x-y)} D(y) dy \right) \quad (47)$$

Let $u = x - y$, $z = -k$, and note that $D(x)$ is an odd function. These substitutions give

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(D(x) + k \int_0^{\infty} e^{-ku} D(u-x) du \right) \quad (48)$$

The remaining integral is the Laplace transform of the shifted Dawson function, $\mathcal{L}\{D(u-x)\}_k$. The final result is

$$r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 (D(x) + k \mathcal{L}\{D(u-x)\}_k) \quad (49)$$

Though a closed analytic form for $\mathcal{L}\{D(u-x)\}_k$ is elusive, finishing this calculation through numerical integration is straightforward.

- Combining Eq. 42 and Eq. 49 gives $r_a(t) * s_a(t)$, since

$$r_a(t) * s_a(t) = r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\} + j r_a(t) * \Im\{s_a(t)\} \quad (50)$$

which yields

$$r_a(t) * s_a(t) = -\sqrt{\pi} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(x e^{-x^2} w(q) + \left(\frac{j}{2} \right) e^{-x^2} \frac{dw(q)}{dq} \right) + \frac{2j}{\sqrt{\pi}} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 (D(x) + k \mathcal{L}\{D(u-x)\}_k) \quad (51)$$

The units of convolution should be $R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2$, and each term in Eq. 51 has these units. Remember that the relationship between q and x is given by

$$q = -jb = -j \left(x + \frac{z}{2} \right) \quad (52)$$

Taking the magnitude of Eq. 51, and multiplying by $1/2$, yields the **Hilbert envelope of the convolution of $s(t)$ with $r(t)$** :

$$\mathcal{E}_{r*s}(t) = \frac{1}{2} |r_a(t) * s_a(t)| \quad (53)$$

- It is important to note that the convolution of $s(t)$ and $r(t)$ may be done analytically in the time-domain:

$$s * r = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} s(t-\tau) r(\tau) d\tau \quad (54)$$

Inserting the definitions of $s(t)$ and $r(t)$,

$$s * r = -E_0 R_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (t-\tau) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{t-\tau}{\sigma_t} \right)^2} \Re \{ e^{2\pi j f_0 \tau} e^{-2\pi \gamma \tau} \} u(\tau) d\tau \quad (55)$$

Using the previous definitions of x , y , and z gives

$$s * r = -2R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \int_0^{\infty} (x-y) e^{-(x-y)^2} \Re \{ e^{zy} \} dy \quad (56)$$

Note that the $\Re\{\}$ operator can encompass the whole integral, since $s(t)$ is real. Splitting the integral and employing differentiation under the equals sign yields

$$s * r = -2R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \Re \left\{ x e^{-x^2} I(x, z) - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} \frac{dI(x, z)}{dx} \right\} \quad (57)$$

with

$$I(x, z) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y^2 + (2x+z)y} dy \quad (58)$$

As above, let $b = x + \frac{1}{2}z$, and $b = jq$. In a procedure resembling the calculation for $r_a(t) * \Re\{s_a(t)\}$, the result for $I(x, z)$ is

$$I(x, z) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} w(q) \quad (59)$$

where $w(q)$ is the Faddeeva function. Note that the Faddeeva function is *entire*, meaning the $\Re\{\}$ operator and differentiation commute. Inserting this result into Eq. 57, and distributing the $\Re\{\}$ operator to the instances of $I(x, z)$, gives

$$s * r = -\sqrt{\pi} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(x e^{-x^2} \Re \{ w(q) \} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} \frac{d\Re \{ w(q) \}}{dx} \right) \quad (60)$$

From the definition of q and the chain rule, $dw(q)/dx = -j dw(q)/dq$, and $dw(q)/dq = -2qw(q) + 2j/\sqrt{\pi}$ [17]. The final result is left in terms of the real part of the Faddeeva function, which may be computed using the *Voigt function* $U(x, t)$ [11, 17].

$$s * r = -\sqrt{\pi} R_0 E_0 \sigma_t^2 \left(x e^{-x^2} \Re \{ w(q) \} + \left(\frac{j}{2} \right) e^{-x^2} \frac{d\Re \{ w(q) \}}{dq} \right) \quad (61)$$

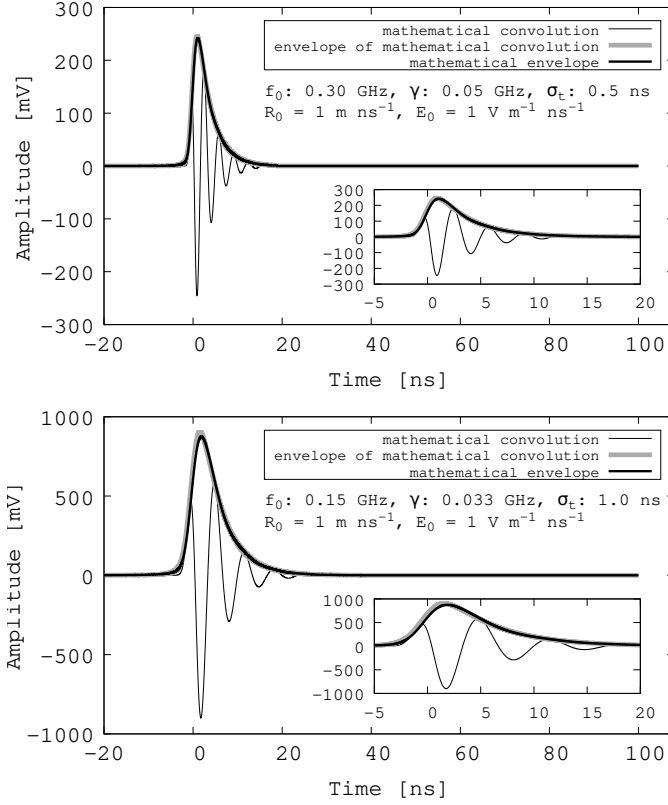


FIG. 1: (Top) The thin black line represents $s(t) * r(t)$. The light gray envelope represents the envelope of $s(t) * r(t)$ computed with the Python3 SciPy function `scipy.signal.hilbert`. The dark gray envelope represents Eq. 51-53. (Bottom) Same as top, for different parameter values.

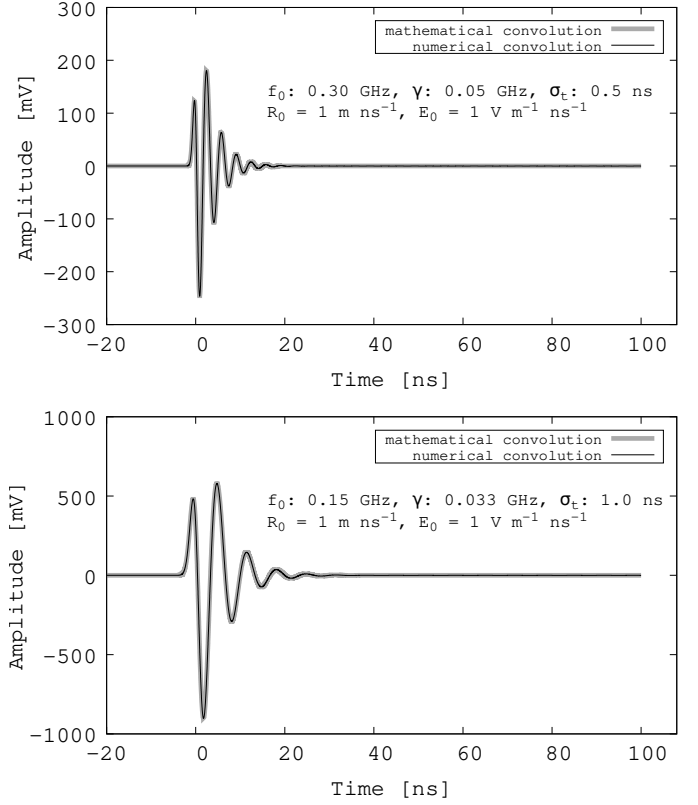


FIG. 2: (Top) The thin black line represents $s(t) * r(t)$, produced using the Python3 SciPy function `scipy.signal.convolve`. The dark gray line represents Eq. 61. (Bottom) Same as top, for different parameter values.

- To illustrate the accuracy of the model, Eqs. 51-53 and 61, are shown in Fig. 1.
- To demonstrate that *numerical convolution* of $s(t)$ and $r(t)$ produces the same results as the *mathematical convolution* of $s(t)$ and $r(t)$ (Eq. 61), the corresponding waveforms are shown in Fig. 2.
- A Monte Carlo data set was generated using NuRadioMC for UHE- ν interactions in a cylindrical ice volume with a depth of 0.65 km and a radius of 0.850 km. The UHE- ν energies ranged from 10-100 PeV, with roughly equal numbers of UHE- ν in each 10 PeV bin. The detector included a single string of 8 RF dipole antennas, a filtered passband of [80,1000] MHz, and 256 samples per channel at a 1 GHz sampling rate. The RF trigger responded when 3 of the 8 voltage traces exceeded ± 3 times the v_{rms} of the thermal noise within 256 ns. For each triggered UHE- ν interaction, the Hilbert envelope of the coherently summed waveform (CSW) was calculated and correlated against Eqs. 51-53. A quick optimization over the whole data set yielded 0.15 GHz and 0.025 GHz for the f_0 and γ parameters, respectively. Each individual correla-

tion was maximized by varying the just the σ_t parameter, yielding an optimized analytical envelope for each event. A thermal noise waveform reflective of the detector properties was also generated using NuRadioMC tools for each UHE- ν event. The noise waveform was also correlated against the optimized analytical envelope. The probability distributions for the correlation coefficients are shown in Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, the black circles represent the normalized histogram of the correlation coefficient between the optimized analytic envelope and the thermal noise waveform. A function of the form $x^2 \exp(-0.5x^2)$ was fit to the black circles on the interval [0.1,1.0], and is represented by the gray dashed line. A function of the form $\exp(-x)$ was fit to the noise distribution on the interval [0.28,1] to capture the limiting behavior, and is represented by the solid black line. The solid gray line represents the signal distribution, which peaks at a correlation value of 0.96. The vertical black dashed line represents a threshold value, 0.438. For the simulated UHE- ν sample, 92% of CSWs meet or exceed this correlation value when fit to an optimized analytic envelope. Assuming the solid black line correctly describes the tail of the probability distribution function for noise cor-

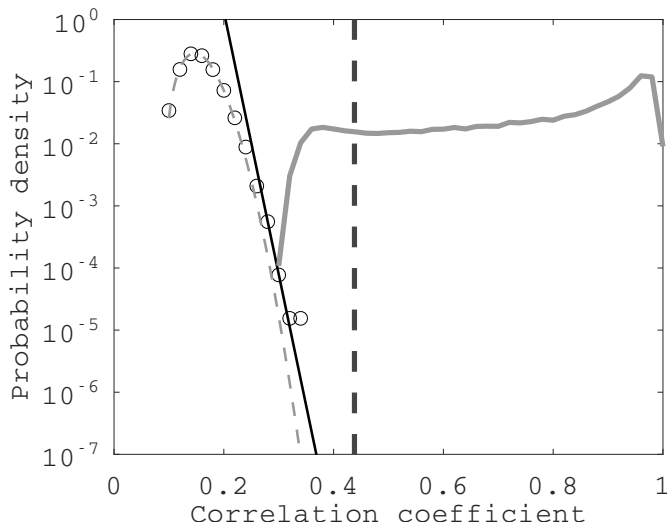


FIG. 3: (Black circles) Noise distribution. (Gray dashed line) Fitting function to noise distribution. (Solid black line) Exponential fit to tail of noise distribution. (Solid gray line) UHE- ν signal distribution. (Dashed black line) Optimized correlation coefficient threshold value.

relation, a threshold of 0.438 is equivalent to 0.95 noise events per detector over a period of 5 years, at a noise trigger rate of 1 Hz.

Correlation vs SNR

IV. CONCLUSION

The conclusion.

Appendix A: Details

The details.

-
- [1] The IceCube Collaboration, *Science* **342**, 1242856 (2013), ISSN 0036-8075, 1311.5238.
 - [2] The IceCube Collaboration, *Physical Review Letters* **111**, 021103 (2013), ISSN 0031-9007, 1304.5356.
 - [3] The IceCube Collaboration, *The Astrophysical Journal* **833**, 3 (2016), ISSN 0004-637X, 1607.08006.
 - [4] The IceCube Collaboration, *Science* **361**, 147 (2018), ISSN 0036-8075, 1807.08794.
 - [5] The IceCube Collaboration, *Nature* **591**, 220 (2021), ISSN 0028-0836, 2110.15051.
 - [6] The IceCube Collaboration, *Science* **378**, 538 (2022), ISSN 0036-8075.
 - [7] The IceCube Collaboration, *Science* **380**, 1338 (2023), ISSN 0036-8075.
 - [8] The KM3NeT Collaboration, *Nature* **638**, 376 (2025), ISSN 0028-0836.
 - [9] The IceCube Collaboration, *Physical Review D* **98**, 062003 (2018), ISSN 2470-0010, 1807.01820.
 - [10] The IceCube-Gen2 Collaboration, *arXiv* (2020), 2008.04323.
 - [11] J. C. Hanson and R. Hartig, *Phys. Rev. D* **105**, 123019 (2022), URL <https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevD.105.123019>.
 - [12] R. V. Buniy and J. P. Ralston, *Physical Review D* **65** (2001), ISSN 2470-0029.
 - [13] J. C. Hanson and A. L. Connolly, *Astroparticle Physics* **91**, 75 (2017), ISSN 0927-6505.
 - [14] The ARIANNA Collaboration, *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics* **2018** (2018).
 - [15] The ARA Collaboration, *Astroparticle Physics* **108**, 63 (2019), ISSN 0927-6505, URL <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0927650518301154>.
 - [16] E. Zas, F. Halzen, and T. Stanev, *Physical Review D* **45**, 362 (1992).
 - [17] DLMF, *NIST Digital Library of Mathematical Functions*, <http://dlmf.nist.gov/>, Release 1.1.1 of 2021-03-15, f. W. J. Olver, A. B. Olde Daalhuis, D. W. Lozier, B. I. Schneider, R. F. Boisvert, C. W. Clark, B. R. Miller, B. V. Saunders, H. S. Cohl, and M. A. McClain, eds., URL <http://dlmf.nist.gov/>.
 - [18] G. B. Rybicki, *Computers in Physics* **3**, 85 (1989), ISSN 0894-1866.
 - [19] I. Kravchenko et al, *Physical Review D* **85**, 062004 (2012), ISSN 2470-0029, 1106.1164.
 - [20] J. A. Aguilar, P. Allison, J. J. Beatty, H. Bernhoff, D. Besson, N. Bingefors, O. Botner, S. Buitink, K. Carter, B. A. Clark, et al., *Journal of Instrumentation* **16**, P03025 (2021), 2010.12279.