AGILE activity for the GW e.m. counterpart search

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AGILE characteristics

Science Data Center

AGILE is unique combination of X-ray and gamma-ray detectors for GW searches

two co-aligned detectors in hard X-rays (20-60 keV; super-A) and gamma (30 MeV-10GeV; GRID) + MCAL (0.4-100 MeV)



ANTICOINCIDENCE

HARD X-RAY IMAGER SUPER-AGILE (SA)

Energy Range: 18–60 keV SILICON TRACKER

GAMMA-RAY IMAGER (GRID)

Energy Range: 30 MeV – 30GeV

(MINI) CALORIMETER

Energy Range: 0.3–100 MeV



AGILE characteristics

- Furtherly improved performance
- MCAL upgraded configuration and automatic Alert issue
- Hard X-ray Super-AGILE continuous coverage
- Bright future for O3: reaction to Open Public alerts

AGILE search for gamma-ray counterparts of GW events

GW ID	AGILE GCN #s	% coverage of 90% c.l. contour	NEAREST EXP.	Comments on Prompt and papers
150914		0 %	+330	Prompt just missed; Tavani et al. 2016
151226		30 %	0	Partially covered;
170104	20375, 20395	36 %	0	Partially covered GRID, covered by MCAL ; Verrecchia et al.2017a
170608	21224, 21228	40 %	0	Partially covered GRID, covered by MCAL for a few tens of ms;
170814	21477, 21482	0 %	+ 500	Not covered (1 st with Virgo data);
170817	21525,21526, 21562, 21785	0 %	+ 930	OT NOT covered; Verrecchia et al. 2017b

Review of main public events prompt maps











Spinning mode: GW150914 exposure animation



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Spinning mode: one single rotation



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GW150914 analysis (No MoU) AGILE exposure at T₀+330 sec (+/- 50 sec)



2-sigma upper limit (E > 50 MeV) = 1.9 x 10⁻⁸ erg cm⁻² s⁻¹

GW150914 as test case for dedicated AGILE GW analyses

- Developed dedicated MCAL&GRID data analysis tasks
- Tested on archival search
- Pre-cursor/delayed GRID event search on short (100s) up to long (days) time scales: «grb-mode», maximum likelihood
- MCAL&GRID automatic data analysis reaction pipeline on-trigger
- Improvement of the on-board triggering capabilities: need for larger time coverage

AGILE reconfiguration in 2016

- AGILE commissioning activity on summer
- Improvement of MCAL burst detection: goal GRB090519 pre-cursor like events
- TM allocation revision, GRID, MCAL, Super-A in full configuration but not uniformly (data gaps)
- Tests (November 2016)

MoU signed in Nov. 2016, real-time participation to the counterpart search during the O2 run

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AGILE-MCAL GRB090510 light curve



AGILE-GW GROUP

LIGO/Virgo Notices & Circulars:

=>AGILE-GW pipeline on LVC triggers

AGILE GW GROUP:

- QUICK RESPONSE TO GW EVENTS
- CHECK MCAL, GRID, SUPER-AGILE
- FIRST ISSUING OF GCN CIRCULARS
- **REFINED ANALYSIS**
- ALSO standard transients, i.e. GRBs

ACTIVE ROUND-THE-CLOCK, 24HR/DAY

Participation to the O2 run

- AGILE observed all the GW events
- Main scientific results:
 - the 1st O2 event, GW170104 : prompt partial spatial coverage in gamma-rays (E > 30 MeV), U.L.; MCAL light curve covering of the T_0
 - the famous GW170817 event, the first with an identified e.m. counterpart : prompt occulted by the Earth; nearest in time gamma-ray U.L.; precursor/delayed emission scan

GW170104

T₀ = 10:11:58:59 UT, 4 January, 2017

- 90% c.l. contour covered for 36% at event time
- Two LVC-GCN, by MCAL and GRID published

AGILE gamma-ray exposure at trigger time (-2 / +2 sec)



3-sigma upper limit (E > 50 MeV) = 2.9 x 10⁻⁸ erg cm⁻² s⁻¹

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Lesson learned: MCAL data analysis revision

- MCAL data are now processed with a focus on short & weak events
- Statistically characterized FAR and post-trial probability
- ✓ similar to the precursor and GBM/Integral signal of GW170817

Prospect for O3: improved multi-binning
 automatic detection

The event: GW170817

- T₀ = 12:41:06 UT, 17 August, 2017
- LVC error region OCCULTED by the Earth at T_0
- first γ-ray instrument with exposure starting at ~ T₀ + 930s
- Four LVC-GCN published, 1 on MCAL data analysis and 3 on GRID data, regarding the prompt data analysis and OT follow-up.

AGILE exposure at trigger time (-2 / +2 sec) occulted!



In E > 30 MeV energy band

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AGILE-GRID precursor/delayed emission search: short time scales (-/+1 hr)

Evaluation of GRID 2- σ upper limit Pre-/Post -T₀ @OT position, in three ranges: Short, integrations of 150s, within -/+ 1h: in «GRB detection mode» (E > 30 MeV); medium integrations (1-12hrs) within -/+ 1d; long (1-100 d) within -100/+21d.



AGILE-GRID precursor/delayed emission search: medium/long time scales (-/+1, -101/+21 days)



AGILE Symposium, Accademia dei Lincei-ASI, Roma, Dec 11, 2017

AGILE limits on magnetar emission:

High-energy emission from a magnetar remnant left by NS-NS coalescence model:



Gray: MCAL U.L., GBM spectrum mostly out of MCAL band

AGILE limits on magnetar emission:

AGILE results important in the early phases to exclude a highly magnetized magnetar for the remnant of GW170817.

Further possible models for different short-GRB detection; pre-cursor or delayed emission



Lesson learned: MCAL data analysis revision

- GBM/INTEGRAL signal of GRB170817A/ GW170817: dedicated scientific MoU with LVC regarding e.m. signal triggering LVC and sub-threshold event search
- MCAL statistically validated sub-threshold (STE) events;

 comparison with events from other missions, before and during O3

Prospects for LIGO-Virgo O3 run

- Open Public Alerts!
 - Automatic LVC public alerts issued within minutes w/o human vetting. Retraction managing
 - Specific «scientific MoU» for particular topics
- Ranges of likely rates (from LVC):
 - ✓ BBH: at least a few per month, maybe more
 - ✓ BNS: 1−10, possibly up to ~1 per month
 - ✓ NSBH: Could detect one or more during O3, but uncertain.
- Timeline: joint LIGO-Virgo 1-month engineering run on ~Nov; O3 Start: Dec 2018-Jan 2019??

AGILE Work in progress

- Optimal overall configuration of the instrument
 Full telemetry (14 orbits/day), no data gaps
- Sensitivity to weak ("sub-threshold") events: possible correlation with events from other missions, IPN (almost done), GBM (started)
- O3: reduced human vetting of detections
- MCAL automatic detection and notification to community
- Super-AGILE operative, continously

AGILE-MCAL: new detection pipeline

MCAL automatic detection pipeline: 4 binning timescales (16, 32, 64, 128 ms), 4 phase shifts.

Three event classes: preliminary, under revision

- 1) standard GRBs (short & long),
- 2) GRB-like (single+S/N >5 σ),
- 3) Sub-Threshold Events (STEs, single+S/N>=4 σ).



differences among the three classes

AGILE-MCAL: new detection pipeline

Example of GRB detection: short 170816A, on 32 ms binning (33 σ)



Recent results:

- Automatic detection testing and calibration, for shorter events but..
- prototypes active in last months, detecting also some confirmed new GRB events:
 180111A (GCN), 180305A, 180325A
 180326A, 189329B (GRB-like)?
 180404C ->IPN notified
 all long burst
- «Spin-off», next scientific result: new MCAL GRB catalog! 16th AGILE Workshop, ASI-HQ, Roma, May 18, 2018

Recent results: GRB 180111A

- 180111A T0 = 16:43:34.1 UT, 11 January, 2018 by Swift (Lien, GCN #22318), with optical location.
 >LONG burst
- AGILE published a GCN Circular on MCAL data analysis on Jan 12

GRB 180111A

Real-time comparison among three detector ratemers



and GRB 180326A

• 180326A T0 = 03:26:07.1 UT, 26 January, 2018

by Konus-Wind (Hurley, GCN #22550), with IPN triangulation. =>LONG burst



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About Super-AGILE detections: GRB 170115B

• T0 = 17:49:14.03 UT, 15 January, 2017

by Fermi GBM (Hamburg & Meegan, GCN #20463), with on-ground location, (R.A.,Dec = 189.03, -51.55, error radius= 1.43 d).

- =>LONG burst
- SA detection: localisation!
- AGILE published two GCN Circulars on MCAL/SA data analysis on Jan 16, at 23:00 and Jan 25

SA localisation example



GCN #20525: GRB 170115B: AGILE/SuperAGILE localisation

Summary

- AGILE has unique capabilities: hard X/gamma-ray coverage
- much improved performance with enhanced MCAL and full Super-A
- Ready for automatic detection of short-weak events
- capable very soon to issue alerts to LVC for AGILE-detected events (new channel)
- Can play an important role in the New Astronomy of gravitational waves

AGILE AGILE characteristics

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AGILE GRB ON-BOARD SEARCH PROCEDURE



GRB 170115B: SA localisation



