OVRO-LWA Science Results & Stage III Upgrade

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Owens Valley Radio Observatory Long Wavelength Array



Stage I OVRO-LWA (2013-2014) Stage II OVRO-LWA (2015-2016) Stage III 352-OVRO-LWA (2019-)



OVRO-LWA Stage I (2013-2014)

Stage | Core Array

- 251 LWA crossed-dipole antennas, in 200 m diameter core
- 5 LEDA antennas total power measurements (Price+2018)
- 28-84 MHz band, 24 kHz resolution
- full cross-correlation with 512input LEDA correlator (Kocz+2015)
- 1 deg resolution



OVRO-LWA Stage II (2015-present)

4

- 32 additional antennas out to 1.5 km (Long Baseline Demonstrator Array)
- RF signal transport over optical fiber
- 7 arcmin resolution at top of band
- >10,000 point sources in single 13 s snapshot
- ~800 mJy snapshot sensitivity



Stage II LBDA

200 m



OVRO-LWA Stage II Operations

1. Science datasets

- 28 hour run (February 2017)
- 120 hour run (March 2018)
- 2. Triggered observations- 24 hour buffer of visibilities
- 3. Non-standard observing
 - Cosmic ray observations



OVRO-LWA Stage III (2019-)

- Additional 64 antennas out to 2.6 km, for a total of 352
- Complete redesign of the analog receiver boards
- Digital backend redesign, nextgen correlator (maintaining the FPGA/GPU architecture of the existing 512-input LEDA), with 704 inputs and 70 MHz BW
- Upgraded calibration and imaging cluster, 3 PB usable storage and 4 TB RAM

 1 km
 0.89

 0.79
 0.68

 0.58
 0.58

 0.47
 0.37

 0.26
 0.16

 0.16
 0.051

Simultaneous!

standard correlation mode beamforming mode (12 beams) cosmic ray detection

Cosmic dawn and m-mode analysis



Eastwood+2018, 2019

- High fidelity, high resolution all-sky maps at <100 MHz, using 28 hour observation with <100 kHz BW
- First power spectrum upper limit in the frequency range of the EDGES feature (**Bowman+2018**)

Cosmic dawn and m-mode analysis

Led by Judd Bowman, Gregg Hallinan, Danny Jacobs, +

- Stokes I / V m-mode analysis maps across full 70 MHz BW, with 1000 hour dataset
- Observing band overlaps with EDGES signal

Eastwood+2018, 2019

• High fidelity, high resolution all-sky maps at <100 MHz

OVRO-LWA-352

• First power spectrum upper limit in the frequency range of the EDGES feature (**Bowman+2018**)

Blind transients survey



Anderson+2019

Blind transients survey



Anderson+2019

Prompt emission from compact object mergers



 Demonstration of follow-up capabilities with OVRO-LWA using observation of sGRB 170112A (Anderson+2018)

Prompt emission from compact object mergers



Prompt emission from compact object mergers



- Will continue to buffer visibility data in preparation for LIGO/Virgo events
- Beam available for higher time-resolution observations
- Plan in place for minutes-long buffer of raw voltage data from all antennas in response to automated GW trigger

 24-hour buffer observations ongoing, in preparation for O3 events

Mass composition of high energy cosmic rays

- First demonstration of RF-only detection of cosmic rays.
- 10 events detected in 40 hour observation (out of 6 million triggers)
- Sensitive to airshowers from cosmic rays with E ~ 3x10¹⁶ - 10¹⁸ eV (critical transition from Galactic to extragalactic CRs)



Monroe+2019

Mass composition of high energy cosmic rays



Led by Kathryn Plant, Andrés Romero-Wolf, Anne Nelles, Gregg Hallinan, +

- Cosmic ray detection system will run commensally with
- 10 events other observing modes hour observation (out of 6

million trie Real-time event detection on FPGAs, triggering dump of corresponding voltage data to CPUs

- Sensitive to airshowers
 - from $cos \bullet \sim 10$ cosmic ray airshowers detected per 24 hour $E \sim 3 \times 10^{10}$ observation
 - (critical transition from
 - Galactic to Larger array footprint means more sensitive to higher E CRs) CRs

Monroe+2019



- Simultaneous monitoring of nearly 4000 systems out to 25 pc
- Current 24-hour buffer allows for responding to triggers of interest (e.g. Swift stellar flares)
- Initial 31 hour dataset with 13 s time resolution and ~60 MHz BW; equivalent to ~5 years targeted observations (Anderson+in prep)





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- Simultaneous monitoring of nearly 4000 systems out to 25 pc
 100 mJy snapshot sensitivity in Stokes I
- Current 24-hour buffer allows for responding to triggers of interest (e.g. Swift stell 10 mJy sensitivity in 24-hour m-mode Stokes V maps
- Initial 31 hour dataset with 13 s time resolution and ~60 MHz BW; equivalent to ~5 years targeted observations (Anderson+in prep)

Summary of OVRO-LWA-352 capabilities

Full cross-correlation, all-sky imaging (10 s, 24 kHz resolution)

- m-mode analysis, cosmic dawn (1000 hours, Stokes I / V)
- transient surveys
- extrasolar spaceweather
- GW / compact object merger follow-up
- solar dynamic imaging spectroscopy

Beamforming observations (12 simultaneous; 1 ms, 24 kHz resolution)

- solar monitoring (dedicated beam)
- passive sounding of Jovian icy moons (dedicated beam)
- high-time resolution science, RFI characterization, antenna beam holography

Raw voltage stream (5 ns)

- cosmic ray air shower detection
- GW / compact object merger follow-up

Supplementary Slides

