Executive summary

An improved trigger for Askaryan neutrino detectors

What is this contribution about?

An optimization of the trigger for radio neutrino (Askaryan) detectors that measure UHE neutrinos (E>1e17eV) by detecting radio flashed generated by neutrino interactions in ice.

Why is it relevant / interesting?

We show a simple and inexpensive way to increase the sensitivity by up to 50%. As UHE neutrino detection is likely statistics limited, this will have significant impact on the science output.

What have we done?

First, a method to properly compare different trigger schemes is developed. Then, we studied the impact of the bandwidth in the trigger channels on the neutrino sensitivity.

What is the result?

The sensitivity can be improved by 50% by restricting the bandwidth to 80-200MHz compared to the currently used 80-800MHz.