



Contribution ID: 30

Type: **Contributed Talk**

RPC trigger counter cosmic ray tests in the ATLAS experiment

Tuesday 20 February 2007 11:45 (20 minutes)

Extensive tests with cosmic rays have been performed with RPC trigger chambers installed in sector 13 of the ATLAS muon spectrometer. We illustrate the effort and report the results of this pre-commissioning phase, which represent a test bench to address the final commissioning of ATLAS RPC by cosmic rays. The tests done are mainly concentrated to establish a set of software and analysis tools necessary to debug and to understand the detector performance, mainly in terms of noise, cluster size, and efficiency. Nevertheless, the data, taken with and without the toroidal magnetic field, have a quality high enough to allow a first detector characterization.

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Session Classification: Session 3