



Contribution ID: 1177

Type: **Oral contribution**

FACT - Status and Experience from Three Years Operation of the First SiPM Camera

Monday 3 August 2015 12:00 (15 minutes)

The First G-APD Cherenkov Telescope (FACT) is pioneering the usage of solid state photosensors (G-APD, also known as SiPM). The 1440 pixel camera is installed in a 10m² refurbished HEGRA telescope on the Canary Island La Palma.

Physics data-taking with FACT started in October 2011, few hours after installation of the camera. Since Summer 2012, FACT is operated remotely without the need of a data-taking crew onsite. During more than three years of operation of FACT, G-APDs have proven to be very reliable. Despite operating them regularly also under very strong moonlight conditions, the G-APDs show no change in their properties or any indication for ageing.

This allows FACT to have a successful monitoring program of the brightest TeV blazars in the northern hemisphere and several flare-alerts per year have been sent to the community.

This presentation will describe the status of FACT and report the lessons learned about the usage of SiPM in a Cherenkov telescope from the construction and operation of FACT.

Collaboration

FACT

Registration number following "ICRC2015-I/"

871

Author: BILAND, Adrian (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zurich (ETH))

Presenter: BILAND, Adrian (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zurich (ETH))

Session Classification: Parallel GA11 Instruments / Prospects

Track Classification: GA-IN