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## VERITAS Observations under Bright Moonlight

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The presence of moonlight is usually a major limiting factor for Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes due to the high sensitivity of the camera photomultiplier tubes (PMTs). In their standard configuration, the extra noise limits the sensitivity of the experiment to gamma-ray signals and the higher PMT currents also accelerates PMT aging. Since fall 2012, observations have been carried out with VERITAS under bright moonlight (Moon illumination > 35%), in two observing modes, by reducing the voltage applied to the PMTs and with UV bandpass filters, which allow observations up to ~80% Moon illumination resulting in 25% more observing time over the course of the year. In this presentation, we provide details of these new observing modes and their performance relative to the standard VERITAS observations.

### Collaboration

VERITAS

### Registration number following "ICRC2015-I"

595

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