Joint annual meeting of Swiss and Austrian Physical Societies 2017



Contribution ID: 340 Type: Talk

[353] In-Orbit Performance and First Results of POLAR: A dedicated Gamma-Ray Burst Polarimeter

Thursday 24 August 2017 17:00 (15 minutes)

POLAR is a new space-borne gamma-ray polarimeter launched in September 2016 as part of the Chinese-Spacelab TG-2. POLAR does optimized polarisation measurements for the 50-500 keV component of GRBs with unprecedented precision by taking advantage of the non-uniformity of the Compton scattering angles. POLAR uses an array consisting of 1600 plastic scintillators to detect the incoming photons. It provides the location and the scattering angle. It has a relatively large effective area and a field of view of half of the sky. Up until April, POLAR has detected about 10 GRBs/month. Preliminary flight results and results from on-ground calibration measurements will be presented along with future prospects.

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Session Classification: Nuclear, Particle-and Astrophysics (TASK-FAKT)

Track Classification: Nuclear, Particle- and Astrophysics (TASK - FAKT)