



Contribution ID: 31

Type: **not specified**

Detecting cosmic rays in high schools: an experimental approach for particle physics outreach activities in Sao Paulo

Tuesday 31 July 2018 11:45 (15 minutes)

For many years, it is well known that cosmic rays detection can be used as a valuable tool for discussing particle physics with high school students. An example of this is the operation of spark and cloud chambers in science museums, the Quarknet program in the US and, more recently, the Cosmic Pi and Cosmic Watch projects, just to mention a few. In Brazil, despite some proposals in the past, there is no ongoing widespread project to bring the cosmic ray detection topic in outreach activities. In this talk, we will present an initiative being coordinate at the Instituto de Fisica da Universidade de Sao Paulo to equip a network of schools with very low-cost cosmic ray detectors whose project was tailored to adapt our schools' resources and fulfill our pedagogical needs.

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Session Classification: Divulgação Científica

Track Classification: Divulgação Científica