



6th Roma International Conference on AstroParticle Physics



Contribution ID: 214

Type: **not specified**

CaloCube: a novel calorimeter for high-energy cosmic rays in space

Thursday, 23 June 2016 19:32 (1 minute)

The direct observation of high-energy cosmic rays, up to the PeV region needs highly performing calorimeters. Space operation requires great effort in optimizing size and mass. Calocube is a homogeneous calorimeter whose basic geometry is cubic and isotropic, so as to detect particles from every direction, maximizing the acceptance. High granularity is obtained by filling the volume with small

cubic scintillating crystals. Extensive optimization of the calorimeter parameters has been studied.

The problematic of calibration and monitoring during space operation is being addressed combining software and hardware approaches. A prototype, instrumented with CsI(Tl) cubic crystals, has been constructed and tested with particle beams. An overview

of the obtained results will be presented and the perspectives for future space experiments will be discussed.

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Session Classification: Posters