Contribution ID: **105** Type: **not specified**

High-energy gamma-ray astronomy with ground-based observatories

Wednesday, 25 May 2011 10:30 (30 minutes)

In recent years, ground-based very-high energy (E>30 GeV) gamma-ray astronomy has taken on a major role in high-energy astrophysics. The high sensitivity and performance parameters, still far from the limits of the observation technique though, have lead to the detection and enabled studies of more than 100 sources of various source populations, like pulsar wind nebulae, shell-type supernova remnants, giant molecular clouds, binary systems, active galactic nuclei and starburst galaxies, or yet unidentified “dark” gamma-ray sources. Also studies of galaxy clusters, fundamental physics issues, searches for dark matter annihilation or gamma-ray burst emission have been conducted, proving the versatility of very-high energy instruments. In the talk, the current status of the field is reviewed and selected recent scientific results are highlighted.

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Session Classification: Welcome and Review on Experimental Results and Theories