



Contribution ID: 50 Type: Oral

All Sky Camera for the CTA CCF Atmospheric Calibration work package

Wednesday, 21 May 2014 12:35 (25 minutes)

The All-Sky-Camera (ASC) is a passive non-invasive imaging system for rapid night sky atmosphere monitoring.

The operation of the ASC will hence not disturb standard operation of the CTA telescopes, however results from the measurements will help to improve the accuracy and effective duty-cycle of the CTA observatory. The goal of ASC, and recently developed intelligent image analysis algorithms, is to identify the position of clouds, atmospheric attenuation and time evolution of the local sky conditions.

The monitoring will be able to predict the night-sky quality on a short term basis.

In case of partly cloudy night-sky, the cameras will identify uncovered regions of the sky during the CTA operation time, and pinpoint those regions where observation targets can be viewed without atmospheric disturbance.

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Session Classification: Instruments and Tecniques Developments