

Workshop on a wide field-of-view Southern Hemisphere TeV gamma ray observatory

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The development of HAWC at Sierra Negra

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The High Altitude Water Cherenkov (HAWC) gamma-ray observatory is currently in full operations, surveying the high energy sky on a quasi-permanent basis. Located at an altitude of 4100m, and covering a declination range reaching down to the Galactic Center, HAWC is now able to detect the Crab nebula within a single transit, allowing unprecedented studies of both variable and extended TeV gamma-ray sources. The development of HAWC was made possible by the experience of the Milagro collaboration and the presence of a scientific community in Mexico able to potentiate the favorable Sierra Negra site, including the infrastructure already present. I will recount the development of HAWC in Mexico, from the 2006 proposal of the Milagro collaboration to the installation of the gamma-ray observatory, marked by its formal inauguration on the 2015 equinox day, and the current on-site operations.

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