POLAR a GRB polarimeter



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POLAR design



- Each group of 64 scintillators is read-out using a single MAPMT
- MAPMT is H8500 from Hamamatsu
- Allows for the read-out many channels with a sufficient gain to measure low energy depositions
- Optical cross-talk to neighbouring channels is an issue but can be fixed in analysis
- Cross talk reduced by shaping of scintillators

Flight model

- Relatively large effective area
- Small pixels allows for high precision scattering angle measurements
- Uniform effective area gives us a large Field of View
- We see half of the sky and perform polarimetry for sources within 1/3rd of the sky
- Full description of the instrument recently published: N. Produit et al. arXiv:1709.07191





Tiangong 2 mission



■ TG-2 Chinese Space Lab launched on September 15th 2016

GRB

- Total of 49 GRBs reported to community
- Light curves on: http://www.isdc.unige. ch/polar/lc/
- Approx. 10 of these GRBs have an MDP below 30%

-0.8

-1

-0.6

-0.4



-0.2 0 0.2 time (s) (T0 = 2017-01-27T01:35:48.7)

Crab

- Crab illustrates our timing capabilities
- Timing shown precision shown to be below 1 ms
- Crab can serve as energy calibration source
- and potential polarisation measurement target



Absolute clock timing

Quartz clock 12.5 MHz disciplined with GPS every 60 seconds 90 minutes orbit visible



Background

rate in aitoff



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POLAR-2: The first large scale Gamma-Ray Burst

- POLAR-2 design is based on that of the successful POLAR detector

- POLAR produced the first catalog of polarization measurements, results currently under review

- Results indicate more detailed measurements are required

- POLAR-2 will consist of 6400 plastic scintillator bars

- Scintillators are read out in groups of 64 by SiPM arrays, significant improvement over PMTs used in POLAR

Each SiPM array has its own
 FEE with one ASIC and FPGA

- 800x800x200 mm
- 80 kg





POLAR-2

- Design remains largely based on that of POLAR to allow for fast production and low costs

- Increase in size of a factor 4 compared to POLAR and use of SiPM arrays increases sensitivity significantly

- POLAR-2 will be more sensitive than Fermi-GBM

- Will detect even the weakest GRBs, making it also useful for gravitational wave counter part searchers

- Detection of ~150 GRBs per year
- Detailed polarization measurements
 30 GRBs per year
- Time resolved polarization measurements for 10 GRBs per year

- Launch ~2024, operation foreseen to be 2 years

