



ID de Contribution: 2

Type: **Talk**

The Site of the ASTRI SST-2M Telescope Prototype: atmospheric monitoring and auxiliary instrumentation

mardi 11 juin 2013 12:00 (30 minutes)

ASTRI ("Astrofisica con Specchi a Tecnologia Replicante Italiana") is a Flagship Project financed by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research, and lead by the Italian National Institute of Astrophysics, INAF. Primary goal of the ASTRI project is the design, development and construction of an end-to-end prototype of a Small Size Telescope for the CTA (Cherenkov Telescope Array) in a dual-mirror configuration (SST-2M), equipped with a camera at the focal plane composed by an array of multi-pixel Silicon Photo-Multipliers, and devoted to the investigation of the highest gamma-ray energy band.

The ASTRI SST-2M prototype will be placed at the INAF "M.G. Fracastoro" observing station in Serra La Nave, 1735 m a.s.l. on the Etna Mountain near Catania, Italy.

We present the Serra La Nave site, its weather and sky conditions, and the complex of auxiliary instrumentation that will be used on site to support the calibration and science verification phase of the ASTRI SST-2M prototype.

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Classification de Session: Tuesday morning 2

Classification de thématique: Monitoring facilities under development