Contribution ID: **191** Type: **Poster**

CTA-Pol: An optical polarimeter to support gamma-ray transient science

Tuesday 8 July 2025 12:59 (1 minute)

CTA-Pol is an optical polarimeter to deliver ancillary data for the Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory (CTAO), the next-generation very high-energy gamma-ray observatory. Blazar flares combine increases in gamma-ray flux with changes in the fraction and orientation of visible-light polarisation. Other variable and transient sources to be targeted include gamma-ray bursts and tidal disruption events. CTA-pol will be used on small- to medium-sized telescopes in Australia to follow up gamma-ray flares and to monitor blazars directly. An emphasis will be an installation on the ANU 2.3m telescope which was recently automated. The instrument, currently under construction, is part of Australia's engagement with the CTA Observatory.

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Session Classification: Poster