



Contribution ID: 63

Type: **Oral Presentations**

Review of synchrotron-based activities in South Africa

Wednesday, 18 November 2015 15:00 (20 minutes)

Synchrotron radiation has revolutionized basic and applied research in many fields of science and technology. South African, like most countries, has seen an ever larger number of scientists accessing synchrotrons for their research. South African synchrotron radiation usage has correspondingly increased steadily over the last decades despite spiralling cost and long distance travel. This talk aims to give an overview of synchrotron-based activities currently undertaken in South Africa, provide some examples of successes achieved thus far including government support and commitment for accessing international synchrotron facilities; highlight some challenges experienced by the community and outline the long-term goals for the country and the region for the use of synchrotron radiation. We will outline current efforts of building momentum towards the realisation of a future African light source.

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Session Classification: Policy and Strategy Talks

Track Classification: Main