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Search for VHE emission from PSR J0218+4232

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PSR J0218+4232 is one of the most energetic millisecond pulsars (MSP) known and has been considered as one of the best candidates for very high energy (>100 GeV) γ -ray emission. It has a period of 2.3 ms in a 2-day orbit with a \sim 0.2MM white dwarf companion. With a characteristic age τ <0.5 Gyr it is one of the youngest MSPs known, with an extremely strong magnetic field at the light cylinder (BLC \sim 3.2 \times 105 G), only slightly weaker than young Crab-like pulsars. PSR J0218+4232 is in the Third Fermi-LAT Catalog of High-Energy Sources and was shown to have pulsations above 10 and 25 GeV.

Using 11.5 years of Fermi Large Area Telescope (LAT) data (2008-2020) and ~90 hours of MAGIC observations (from 2018 November 2 to 2019 November 4), we have searched for high energy gamma-ray pulsed emission from PSR J0218+4232. The MAGIC data were collected in stereoscopic mode with the Sum-Trigger-II system, designed to improve the performance of the telescopes in the sub-100 GeV energy range.

In this contribution we will show the results of our searches for gamma-ray emission, together with our theoretical modeling.

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