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VERITAS Observations of HESS J1943+213

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HESS J1943+213 is a very-high-energy (VHE; > 100 GeV) gamma-ray point source detected during the H.E.S.S. Galactic Plane Survey. Radio, infrared, X-ray, and GeV gamma-ray counterparts have been identified for HESS J1943+213; however, the classification of the source is still uncertain. Recent publications have argued primarily in favor of either an extreme BL Lac object behind the Galactic plane or a young pulsar wind nebula. We present deep VERITAS observations of HESS J1943+213, which provide the most significant VHE detection of the source so far, with >20 sigma excess. The source is detected at ~2% Crab Nebula flux above 200 GeV, consistent with the H.E.S.S. detection. The source spectrum is well fit by a power-law function. Moreover, no significant flux variability is detected over the course of VERITAS observations. We place the VERITAS results in a multi-wavelength context to comment on the HESS J1943+213 classification.

Collaboration

VERITAS

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