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Gamma-ray Flares from the Gravitationally Lensed Blazar B0218+357

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The double-image gravitationally lensed blazar B0218+357 displayed several intervals of enhanced activity at gamma-rays. Fermi LAT observations focussed on the 2012 flaring interval led to the measurement at >100 MeV energies of a delay between the two lensed images of 11.46 ± 0.16 days. The delay is about 1 day longer than previously measured at radio wavelengths. Renewed flaring activity has been detected recently in 2014 when the source displayed an exceptionally hard spectrum, significantly different from the 2012 interval, and a different behaviour between the images. We present new Fermi LAT variability and spectral studies of the system and discuss them in the context of previous measurements.

Collaboration

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