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VERITAS Discovery of Very High-Energy Gamma-Ray Emission from RGB J2243+203

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In this talk, we report the VERITAS discovery of very high energy ($E > 100$ GeV) gamma ray emission from RGB J2243+204, previously detected in radio and X-ray. This source is also consistent with the Fermi-LAT gamma-ray source 1FHL J2244.0+2020. RGB J2243+204 has been classified both as an intermediate-frequency-peaked BL Lac object and as a high-frequency-peaked BL Lac object in the past. Despite displaying a featureless spectrum, the source distance has been constrained through optical imaging, allowing the redshift of the source to be estimated at greater than 0.39. The source was detected by VERITAS at a statistical significance > 5.7 sigma with 4 hours of VERITAS exposure between 21 Dec 2014 and 24 Dec 2014 (UT). A preliminary flux estimate of $\sim 4\%$ Crab above 180 GeV was previously announced in ATel #6849 (24 Dec 2014). In this talk, the complete VERITAS observations, analysis, and spectral results of RGB J2243+204 will be summarized. Quasi-simultaneous observations with VERITAS, Fermi-LAT and Swift XRT will also be presented.

Collaboration

VERITAS

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Primary author: KIEDA, David (University of Utah)**Presenter:** KIEDA, David (University of Utah)**Session Classification:** Poster 1 GA**Track Classification:** GA-EX