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Raster Scanning the Crab Nebula to Produce an Extended VHE Calibration Source

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The Crab Nebula has long been the standard reference point source for very-high-energy (VHE, E > 100 GeV) gamma-ray observatories such as VERITAS. It has enabled testing and improvement of analysis methods, validation of techniques, and has served as a calibration source. No comparable extended source is known with a high, constant flux and well understood morphology. In order to artificially generate such a source, VERITAS has performed raster scans across the Crab Nebula. By displacing the source within the field-of-view in a known pattern, it is possible to generate an extended calibration source for verification of extended source analysis techniques. The method and results of this novel technique are presented.

Collaboration

VERITAS

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