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TeV gamma-rays from Galactic sources: Tycho's SNR, Geminga and Crab Nebula

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Abstract content

The gamma-quantum spectra produced by the electronic and hadronic components of cosmic rays have similar shapes at the energies from 1 GeV to 1 TeV due to the synchrotron losses of the electrons. So, the only observational possibility to discriminate between leptonic and hadronic contributions is to measure the gamma-quantum spectrum at energies higher than 1 TeV, where these two spectra are expected to be essentially different. The gamma-quantum emitting objects in our Galaxy are the supernova remnants and binary. According to the theoretical prediction about 20 Supernova Remnants should be visible in the TeV gamma-rays whereas only two were detected up to now by SHALON in northern hemisphere, namely Tycho's SNR and Geminga. The observation results of gamma-quantum sources Tycho Brage and Geminga by SHALON gamma-telescope are presented. The energy spectra of Geminga supernova remnants and Tycho's SNR $F(E_{>0.8\text{TeV}}) \propto E^k$ are found to be harder than Crab Nebula spectrum. The integral energy spectrum of Crab Nebula is well described by the single power law $I(> E_\gamma) \propto E_\gamma^{-1.44 \pm 0.07}$. Geminga is one of the brightest sources of MeV – GeV gamma-ray. The value Geminga flux obtained by SHALON is lower than the upper limits published before. Its integral gamma-ray flux is found to be $(0.48 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-12}$ at energies of > 0.8 TeV. Within the range 0.8 - 5 TeV, the integral energy spectrum is well described by the single power law $I(> E_\gamma) \propto E_\gamma^{-0.58 \pm 0.11}$. The integral gamma-ray flux of Tycho's SNR above 0.8 TeV by SHALON was estimated as $(0.52 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-12}$. The energy spectrum of Tycho's SNR at 0.8 - 20 TeV can be approximated by the power law $I(> E_\gamma) \propto E_\gamma^{k_\gamma}$, with $k_\gamma = -1.00 \pm 0.06$. The expected π^0 -decay gamma-quantum flux $F_\gamma \propto E_\gamma^{-1}$ extends up to ~ 30 TeV, whereas the Inverse Compton gamma-ray flux has a cutoff above the few TeV. So, the detection of gamma-rays at energies of $\sim 10 - 40$ TeV by SHALON is the evidence of hadron origin.

If this papers is presented for a collaboration, please specify the collaboration

Summary

Reference

Proceedings of the 30th International Cosmic Ray Conference; Rogelio Caballero, Juan Carlos D'Olivo, Gustavo Medina-Tanco, Lukas Nellen, Federico A. Sánchez, José F. Valdés-Galicia (eds.); Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City, Mexico, 2008; Vol. 2 (OG part 1), pages 543-546

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