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SALT observations of gamma-ray binaries

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Gamma-ray binaries are a small, but growing, subclass of high mass binary systems that show consistent gamma-ray emission up to very high energies. These systems all have compact objects in the mass range of black holes or neutron stars. For only two sources have are pulsed signals unambiguously detected, confirming a neutron star compact object. For the other systems, the binary parameters of the source are only derived from radial velocity measurements of the optical companion. In this talk we review results from our recent SALT observations to better constrain the orbital parameters of three gamma-ray binaries, and discuss what this implies about the production of the observed non-thermal and gamma-ray emission in these systems.

Apply to be considered for a student ; award (Yes / No)?

No

Level for award;(Hons, MSc, PhD, N/A)?

N/A

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