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H.E.S.S. observation of 3C 279 during optical and gamma-ray flares in 2017 and 2018

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The FSRQ 3C 279 (z=0.536) is a well known bright variable blazar.
In recent years it has undergone several luminous outbursts
detected at all wavelengths.
Here we highlight the results of H.E.S.S. observations of two types of
events of different nature
during the year 2017 and in January 2018. The first Target of
Opportunity followed
the external trigger from the ATOM optical telescope that observed the
source during a
historical maximum in the R band, with a peak brightness of 13
magnitudes. Interestingly,
this high optical flux was not mirrored at gamma-ray energies, which can
place strong limits
on the emission mechanism of this “orphan”flare. The 2018 observations
were instead
a reaction to a Fermi-LAT trigger for the second brightest flare ever
seen from this source.
We report a strong detection at very high energies during the decay
phase of the Fermi-LAT flare.
These events are presented in a multi-wavelength perspective in the
context of the active phase that this source is undergoing since early 2017, with
repeated outbursts.

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