



Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope



The GLAST Large Area Telescope (LAT)

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On behalf of the LAT collaboration

<http://www-glast.stanford.edu/>

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Outline

- Introduction
 - Mission
 - Collaboration
 - Instrument
- Overview of the LAT Science capabilities
- Schedule

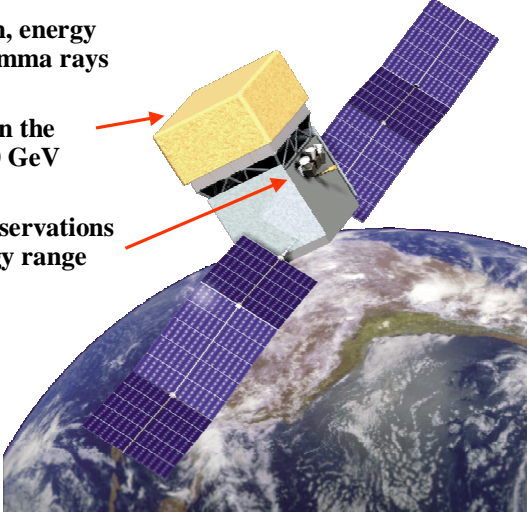
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GLAST Mission

GLAST measures the direction, energy and arrival time of celestial gamma rays

- **LAT** measures gamma-rays in the energy range ~20 MeV - >300 GeV
- **GBM** provides correlative observations of transient events in the energy range ~20 keV – 20 MeV

Launch: September 2006
Orbit: 550 km, 28.5° inclination
Lifetime: 5 years (minimum)




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Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope

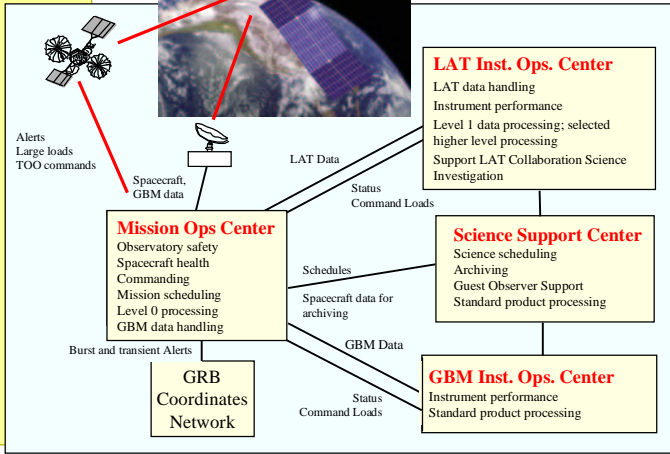
GLAST Mission

- high-energy gamma-ray observatory; 2 instruments
- Large Area Telescope (LAT)
- Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM)
- launch (March 2006): Delta 2 class
- orbit: 550 km, 28.5° inclination
- mission operations
- science
 - LAT Collaboration
 - GBM Collaboration
 - Guest Observers
- lifetime: 5 years (minimum)



GLAST Observatory

- spacecraft
- LAT
- GBM



Mission Ops Center

- Observatory safety
- Spacecraft health
- Commanding
- Mission scheduling
- Level 0 processing
- GBM data handling

Science Support Center

- Science scheduling
- Archiving
- Guest Observer Support
- Standard product processing

GBM Inst. Ops. Center

- Instrument performance
- Standard product processing

LAT Inst. Ops. Center

- LAT data handling
- Instrument performance
- Level 1 data processing; selected higher level processing
- Support LAT Collaboration Science Investigation

GRB Coordinates Network

Data and Command Flow:

- Alerts, Large loads, TOO commands → Spacecraft, GBM data
- Spacecraft, GBM data → Mission Ops Center
- Mission Ops Center → LAT Data, Status, Command Loads → LAT Inst. Ops. Center
- Mission Ops Center → Schedules, Spacecraft data for archiving → Science Support Center
- Mission Ops Center → GBM Data, Status, Command Loads → GBM Inst. Ops. Center
- Mission Ops Center → Burst and transient Alerts → GRB Coordinates Network

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GLAST LAT and Collaboration Overview

~200+ collaborators*

Si Tracker Tower

pitch = 228 μm
 5.52×10^4 channels
 12 layers \times 3% X_0
 + 4 layers \times 18% X_0
 + 2 layers

ACD

Segmented scintillator tiles
 0.9997 efficiency
 minimize self-veto

Grid (& Thermal Radiators)

3000 kg, 650 W (allocation)
 1.8 m \times 1.8 m \times 1.0 m
 20 MeV – 300 GeV

CsI Calorimeter

Hodoscopic array
 $8.4 X_0$ 8 \times 12 bars
 2.0 \times 2.7 \times 33.6 cm
 \Rightarrow cosmic-ray rejection
 \Rightarrow shower leakage correction

Data acquisition

The Instrument will be integrated at SLAC.
 It will be tested at SLAC and
 NRL (“environmental tests”)

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GLAST LAT Overview: Performance

Instrument performance meets (or exceeds) all requirements in 433-SRD-0001

Single Photon Angular Resolution

3.5° @ 100 MeV
 0.15° @ 10 GeV

Wide Energy Range: 20 MeV - >300 GeV

Wide Field of View
 (> 2 sr)

Point Source Sensitivity:
 $< 6 \times 10^{-9}$ ph $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 (est. performance: $< 3 \times 10^{-9}$ ph $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$)

40 times EGRET's sensitivity

Source Localization:
 0.3' – 1' (unid EGRET)

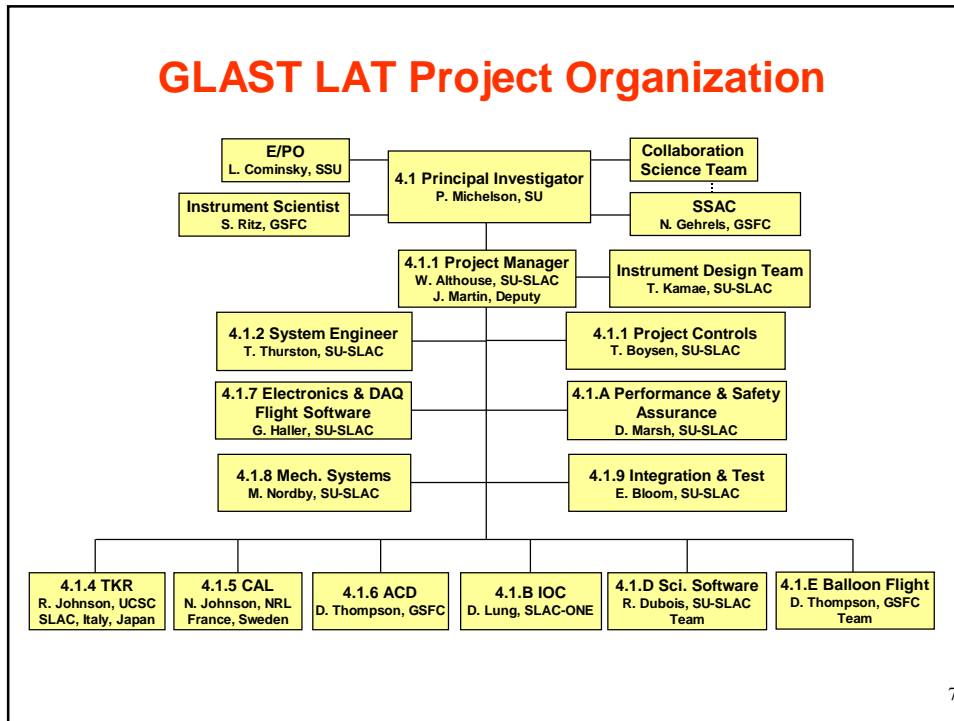
Low dead time:
 $< 100 \mu\text{s}/\text{event}$

Large Effective Area
 $(A_{\text{eff}})_{\text{peak}} > 8,000 \text{ cm}^2$

Good Energy Resolution

$\Delta E/E \sim 10\%$; 100 MeV – 10 GeV
 $\sim < 20\%$; 10 GeV – 300 GeV

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Why do we need a satellite ?

Atmosphere: γ

~ 30 km

$\sim 10^3$ g cm⁻²

For $E_\gamma < \sim O(100)$ GeV,
must detect above
atmosphere (balloons,
satellites, rockets)

For $E_\gamma > \sim O(100)$ GeV,
information from showers
penetrates to the ground
(Cerenkov)

GLAST complements the capabilities of
ground based observatories

Gamma Ray

X-Ray

Ultraviolet

Visible

Infrared

Radio

500 km

100 km

10 km

sea level

2005 GLAST


2001 GLAST Balloon Flight

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Why γ rays ?

Photons

- Universe is essentially transparent to γ rays (except for γ attenuation at high energies, $> \sim 20$ GeV)
- not affected by magnetic fields (point directly back to sources)
- probe cosmological volumes

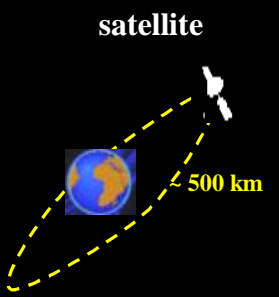


Active Galactic Nuclei

Gamma Ray Bursts

H.E. Gamma rays are essentially non thermal, hence they can probe the Universe in regions that are far from equilibrium. These are responsible for the most violent energy processes in Nature

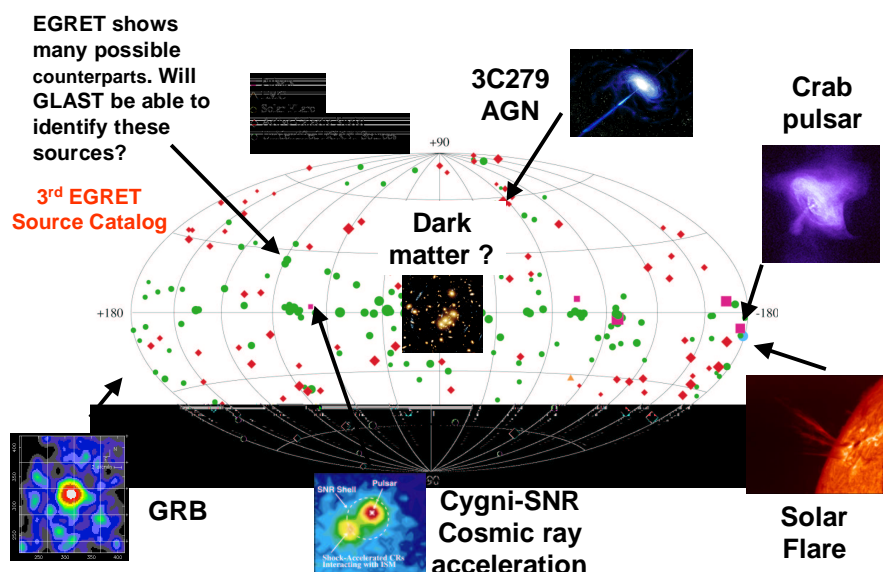
What is the source of energy for Nature's largest accelerators, limits on large extra dimensions, searches for Dark Matter ?



satellite

500 km

Overview of GLAST capabilities



EGRET shows many possible counterparts. Will GLAST be able to identify these sources?

3rd EGRET Source Catalog

3C279 AGN

Crab pulsar

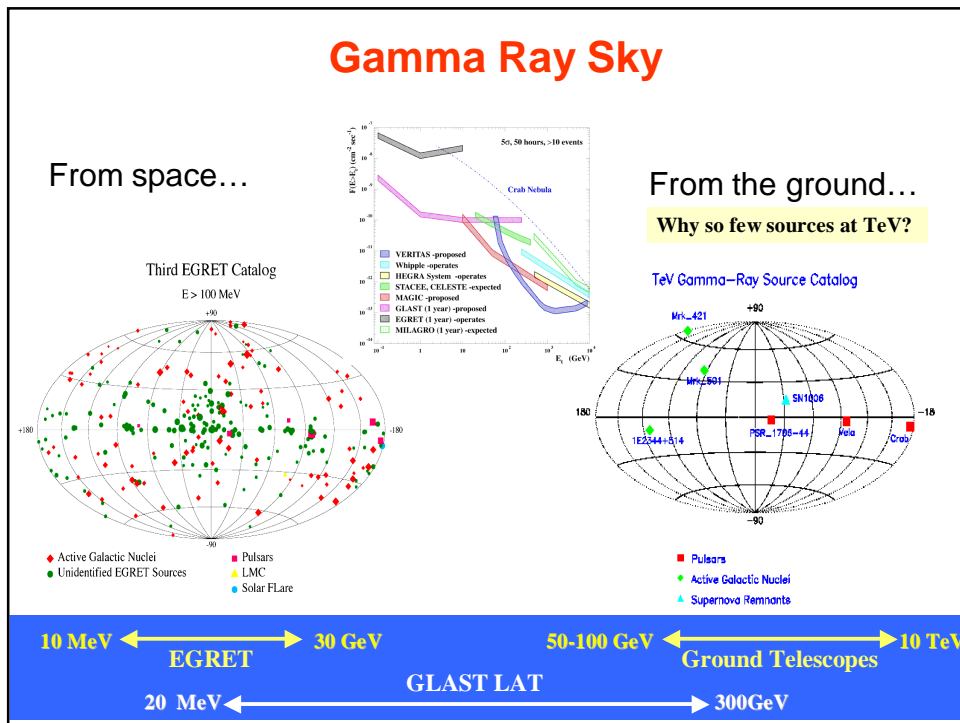
Dark matter ?

GRB

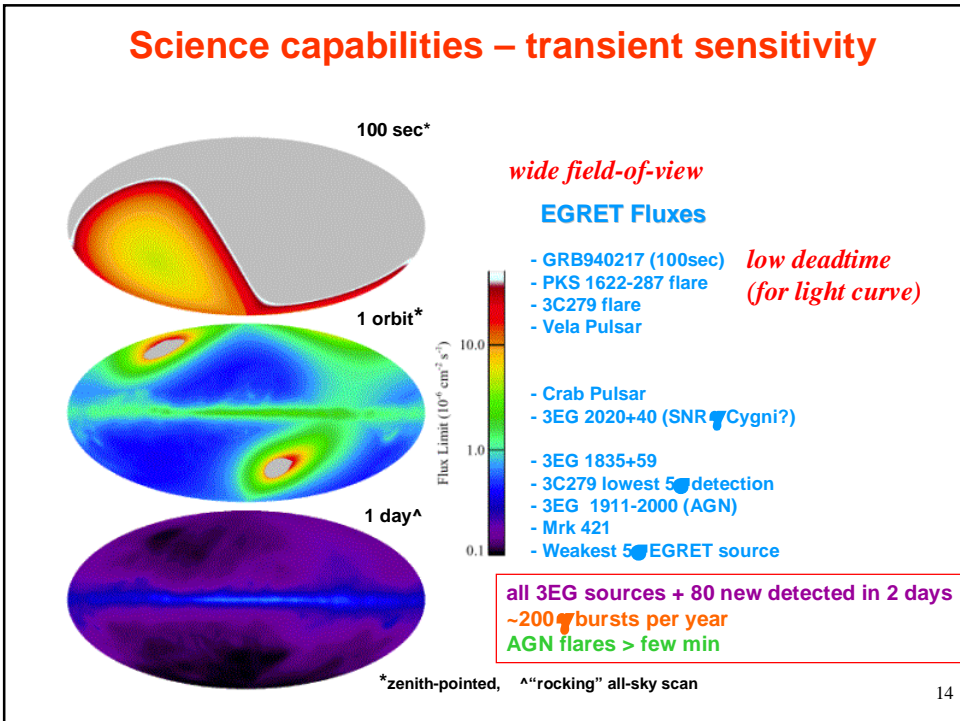
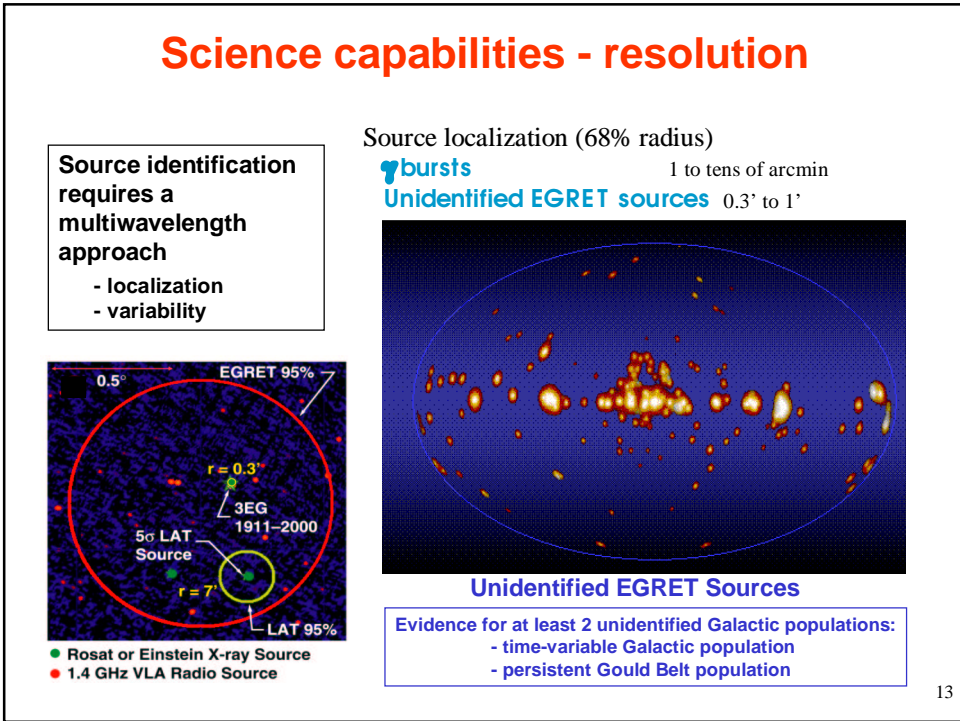
Cygni-SNR Cosmic ray acceleration

Solar Flare

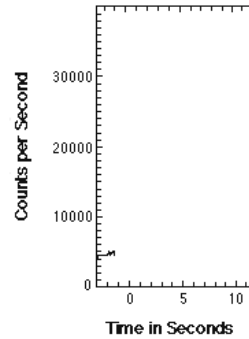
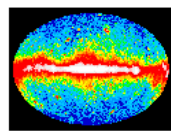
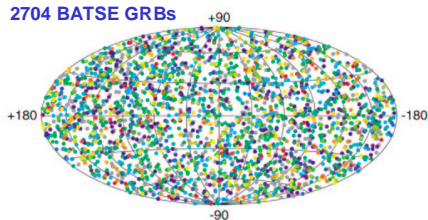
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3 rd EGRET Catalog E > 100 MeV	EGRET	GLAST	LAT Simulation E > 100 MeV
	1991-2001	2006 - ? 5 yr operation requirement 10 yr operation goal	
		Compare to EGRET	
Energy	20 MeV - 30 GeV	20 MeV - 300 GeV	
Effective area	1500 cm ²	> 10000 cm ²	> 6
Field of view	0.5 sr	> 2.0 sr	> 4
Sensitivity (1yr)	~ 10 ⁻⁷ γ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	< 6 10 ⁻⁹ γ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	> 20
Localization	15'	< 0.5'	> 30
Deadtime	100 ms	< 100 μs	> 100
		Large area Low instrumental background	



Science capabilities - Gamma-Ray Bursts



The Gamma-Ray Burst mystery...

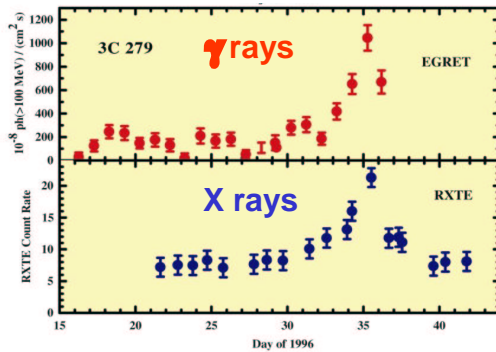
- Isotropic on sky (BATSE/ CGRO)
- Last from milliseconds to ~ 100 seconds
- Brightest transient phenomenon in the Universe
- ~ 1 per day - no repetitions
- Progenitors still not known

GLAST will....

- place strong constraints on physical conditions within the source region (because GeV photons are strongly susceptible to absorption via gamma-gamma pair conversion..)
- detect a GRB about once every 2 days, quite possibly including bursts from the first generation of stars

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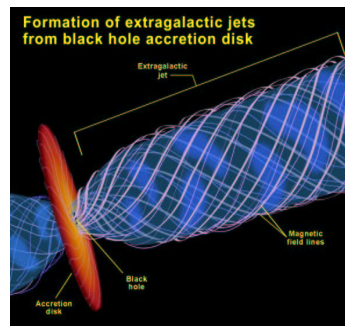
AGN - Supermassive Black Holes ?



Up to 10000 times the luminosity of typical galaxy in a volume of one cubic parsec ! (1 pc = 3.1 x 10¹⁸ cm ~ 3 light years) (assuming isotropic emission)

Accretion processes can explain huge output power since they are very efficient

Changes in Luminosity in a fraction of a day !
Variability constrains the size of the emitting source

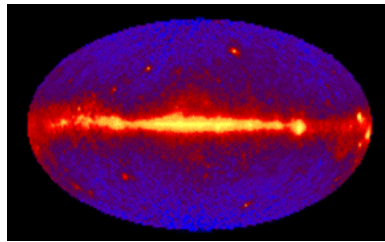


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Diffuse Background Emission

- **Galactic** (falls rapidly at higher latitudes, away from the plane we have less gas, backgrounds are instrumental, extragalactic diffuse and point sources such as pulsars)
- **Extragalactic**- $|b| > 10$ deg (backgrounds are instrumental, galactic diffuse and point sources such as AGN)

EGRET Gamma Ray Emissions > 100 MeV



Diffuse Model includes

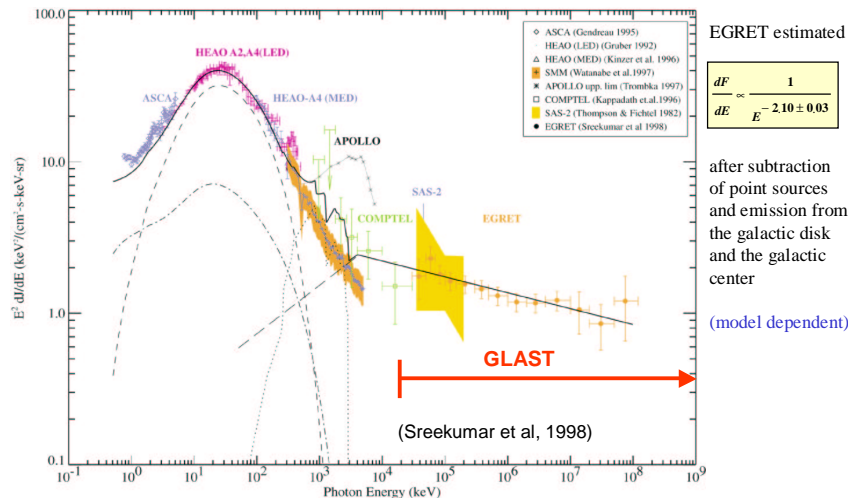
- **Cosmic ray nucleon interactions** with nucleons in the interstellar gas, which dominates for $E > 70$ MeV (via pizero decays)
- **Bremstrahlung** of cosmic ray electrons which dominates below ~ 20 MeV
- **Inverse Compton interactions** between relativistic cosmic ray electrons and soft photons in the interstellar gas (100 MeV photons appear from interactions between 1 – 100 GeV e^- with MW to UV photons). More significant at high latitudes.

Hunter et al (1997), showed that there is generally a good agreement between EGRET observations of the gamma ray diffuse radiation in the Galactic Plane and model calculations

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Extragalactic Diffuse Background

Could the EGRET diffuse background have a larger contribution of extragalactic point sources, such as AGN (blazars), which were not completely resolved ?



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EGRET Limits on Large Extra Dimensions

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New Supernova Limit on Large Extra Dimensions: Bounds on Kaluza-Klein Graviton Production

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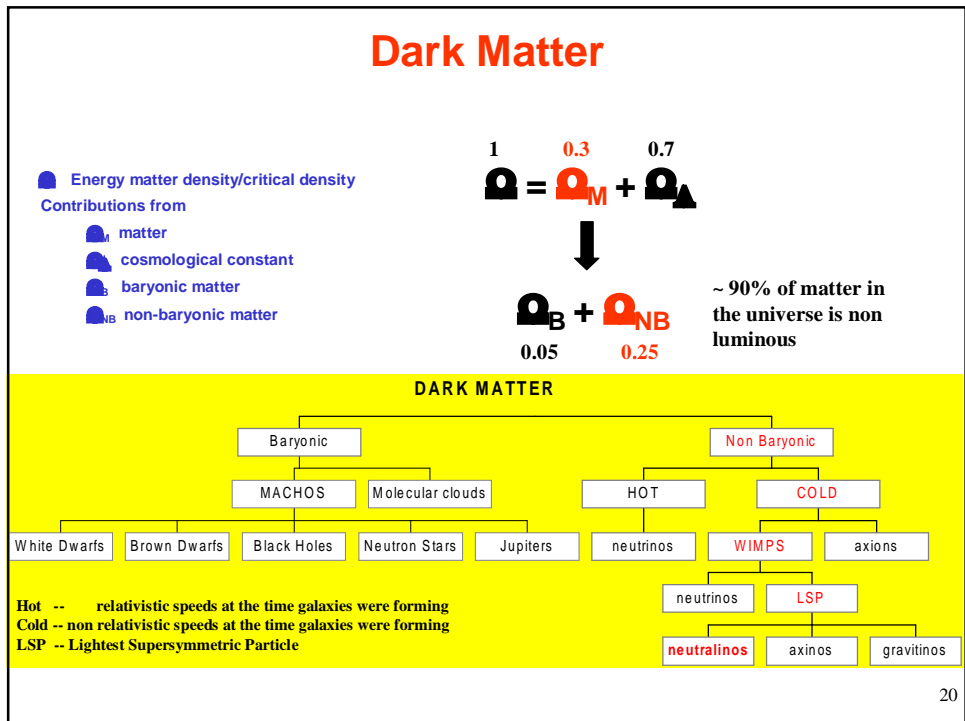
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(Received 22 March 2001; published 11 July 2001)

If large extra dimensions exist in nature, supernova (SN) cores will emit large fluxes of Kaluza-Klein gravitons, producing a cosmic background of these particles with energies and masses up to about 100 MeV. Radiative decays then give rise to a diffuse cosmic **γ-ray background** with $E_\gamma < 100$ MeV which is well in excess of the observations if more than 0.5%–1% of the SN energy is emitted into the new channel. For two extra dimensions we derive a conservative bound on their radius of $R < 0.9 \times 10^{-4}$ mm; for three extra dimensions it is $R < 1.9 \times 10^{-7}$ mm.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.87.051301
PACS numbers: 97.60.Bw, 04.50.+h, 11.10.Kk, 11.25.Mj

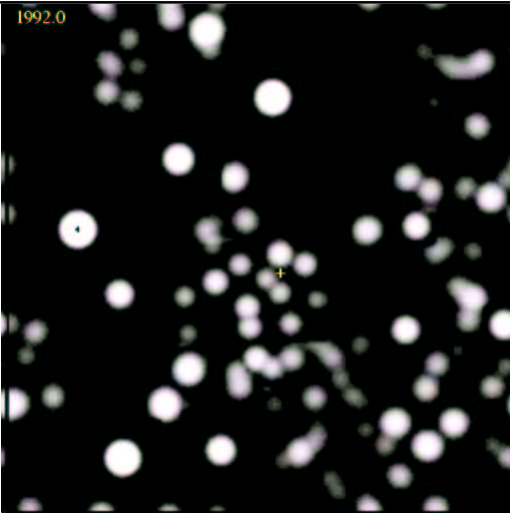
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The Nature of the Dark Mass in the Center of the Milky Way

REINHARD GENZEL, ANDREAS ECKART, THOMAS OTT, FRANK EISENHAUER

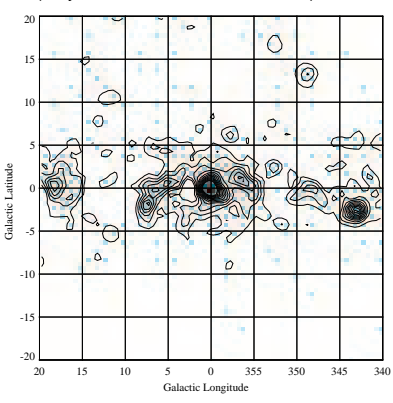
Derivation of stellar proper motions within 3" of the compact radio source Sgr A* obtained from 0".15 astrometric K-band maps in five epochs between 1992 and 1996. Allow whose infrared counterpart may have been detected, for the first time, in a deep image in June 1996. All available checks including a first comparison with high resolution maps now becoming available from other groups support our conclusion that there are several fast moving stars ($\geq 10^3$ km/s) in the immediate vicinity (0.01 pc) of Sgr A*.



From the stellar radial and proper motion data, we infer that a dark mass of $2.61 (\pm 0.15_{\text{stat}}) (\pm 0.35_{\text{stat+sys}}) \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ must reside within about a light week of the compact radio source. Its density must be $2.2 \times 10^{12} M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$ or greater. There is no stable configuration of normal stars, stellar remnants or sub-stellar entities at that density. From an equipartition argument we infer that at least 5% of the dark mass ($\geq 10^5 M_{\odot}$) is associated with the compact radio source Sgr A* itself and is concentrated on a scale of less than 15 times the Schwarzschild radius of a $2.6 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ black hole. The corresponding density is $3 \times 10^{20} M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$ or greater. If one accepts these arguments it is hard to escape the conclusion that there must be a massive black hole at the core of the Milky Way.

Gamma Ray Excess from the Galactic Center

(Mayer-Hasselwander et al, 1998)



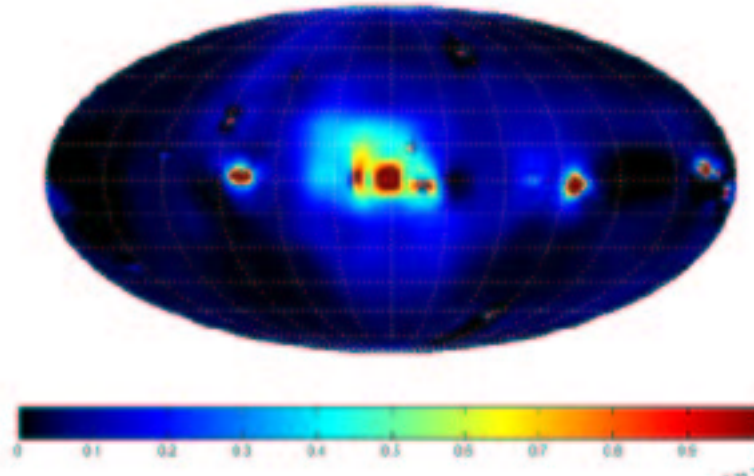
Residual count map of the galactic center after subtraction of diffuse background model (excess is model dependent)

EGRET analysis revealed an excess of γ rays from a position consistent with the galactic center

The EGRET team (Mayer-Hasselwander et al, 1998) have seen a convincing signal for a strong excess of emission from the galactic center, with $I(E) \times E^2$ peaking at ~ 2 GeV, and in an error circle of 0.2 degree radius including the position $l = 0^\circ$ and $b = 0^\circ$. In their paper it was speculated that among other possible causes, this excess could be due to the continuum γ -ray spectrum from WIMP annihilation. With the dramatically improved angular resolution and effective area of GLAST, this effect should become both more localized and pronounced if it is a Galactic Center phenomenon.

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Is There a Galactic Halo that Glows in High Energy Photons?



Contours of photon intensity in units of 10^{-5} ph cm^{-2} sec^{-1} sr^{-1} for $E_\gamma > 1$ GeV, after subtraction of "best estimate" of Galactic diffuse model. Data indicates presence of a galactic halo (Dixon et al. 1998).

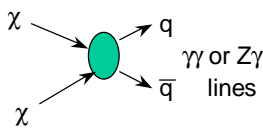
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Neutralino Annihilations

Good particle physics candidate for galactic halo dark matter is the LSP in R-parity conserving SUSY

$$\chi_1^0 = a_{11}\tilde{B} + a_{12}\tilde{W}^3 + a_{13}\tilde{H}_1^0 + a_{14}\tilde{H}_2^0$$

If true, there may well be observable halo annihilations



Example: χ^0 from Standard SUSY, annihilations to jets, producing an extra component of multi-GeV γ flux that follows halo density (not isotropic) peaking at $\sim 0.1 M \chi^0$ or lines at $M \chi^0$. Background is galactic γ ray diffuse.

Although calculation for γ -rays is less uncertain than for other signals (multi-GeV antiprotons, positrons) a null result will not likely constrain SUSY parameter space.

If SUSY uncovered at accelerators, GLAST may be able to determine its cosmological significance quickly.

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