

Indirect Detection Searches for Dark Matter with the Fermi LAT

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Brookhaven Forum 2011: A First Glimpse of the Tera Scale

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Dark Matter Search

"...we suggest to view indirect searches as genuine particle physics experiments, complementing other strategies to probe so far unknown regions of parameter space..." Bergstrom et al. 2011, Phys Rev D, 83, 045024



Accelerator-Based

Direct Detection

Indirect Detection Channels



Dermi

A particle detector in space is the ideal instrument for these studies



Fermi Dark Matter Search

Exploring the Extreme Universe

- Particle Detector in Low Earth Orbit
- Tour of the GeV Gamma-ray Sky
- Search Results (limits)
 - Strategies
 - Gamma rays
 - Galactic Center
 - Milky Way Subhalos
 - Galaxy Clusters
 - ➤ Isotropic Diffuse
 - Electrons and Positrons
- Outlook



Springel et al. 2008



Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope (Fermi)

> Large Area Telescope (LAT) 20 MeV to >300 GeV

Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM) Few keV to 30 MeV

Space Telescope

LAT Detector Subsystems



Imaging Calorimeter

• 8.6 R.L.

Space Telescope

- 1536 Csl crystals
- Hodoscopic (12 x 8 layers)



Precision Converter and Tracker

- Single sided SSD (40 cm, 228 um) ~ 80 m²
- W foil interleaved (12x3% RL, 4x18% RL)
- 18 xy planes
- 1.5 RL

(+ Data Acquisition System)

500 Hz sent to ground



Anti-Coincidence Detector

- 4% RL
- Segmented (89 plastic
- scintillator tiles, 8 ribbons)
- 0.9997 efficiency



- Launched 11 June 2008
- 3 years of successful operations
- Expected lifetime of 10+ years



Observation Modes

- Gamma-ray Space Telescope
- Sky-survey mode
 - Normal operations mode
 - Full-sky every 2 orbits (~3 hrs)
- Target of Opportunity
 - Autonomous re-pointing for GRBs
 - Slew to keep target in FoV
 - Proposed pointed observations





Wide Field of View

LAT: ~2.4 sr, 20% of sky

GBM: Almost entire sky not occulted by Earth



Fermi LAT Collaboration



Gamma-ray Space Telescope

Extragalactic Accelerators

Cosmic Rays

Tour of the GeV Gamma-ray Sky

Gamma-ray Space Telescope

LAT photons from Galactic emission

2FGL Catalog - *Fermi* LAT Collaboration arXiv: 1108.1435, submitted to ApJS

Physics of Cosmic Rays

- Dominant components of interstellar energy density are non-thermal
 - Cosmic rays + Magnetic fields
- Complex interactions
 - **Sources:** Galactic accelerators, reacceleration, spallation, secondaries
 - **Transport:** Diffusion, convection, escape
 - Radiative cooling: radio synchroton, gamma-rays

Gamma-rays extend our knowledge of cosmic rays throughout the galaxy

(+ final state radiation + internal bremsstrahlung)

Two-body collision rate coefficient depends on velocity distribution

$$\sigma_{ann}v\rangle = \int_0^\infty \sigma_{ann}(v)vf_v dv$$

Trade-off between signal strength versus astrophysical background

Galactic Center Challenges

Space Telescope

- 32 months of LAT data, energy >1 GeV
- Physically motivated numerical diffuse model (GALPROP) accounts for most of emission in region
 - Peaks in residuals consistent with known point sources

See also combined Fermi and H.E.S.S. analysis by Cheryakova et al. 2011

Large Scale Diffuse Residuals

- Large scale residuals towards Galactic Center (Su et al. 2010)
 - Extended (50° above/below Galactic Center)
 - Hard spectrum relative to other diffuse components (E⁻², 1-100 GeV)
 - Sharp edges
 - Possible counterparts at microwave (WMAP) and X-ray (ROSAT) bands

Data – Model (1-100 GeV)

Su, Slatyer, & Finkbeiner 2010

Data - Example Model (0.2-100 GeV)

Fermi LAT Collaboration Preliminary

Interpretation??

- Radiation mechanism
 - Inverse Compton scattering by high energy electrons (?)
- Proposed sources

Gamma-ray Space Telescope

- "Lobes" with sharp edges difficult to explain with dark matter annihilation/decay
- Jets from the supermassive black hole during prior active phase
- Starburst driven outflows

- Optically detected dwarf spheriodal galaxies
 - Largest clumps of dark matter predicted by N-body simulations
 - Dark matter dominated (mass to light ratios of 10 1000)
 - Astrophysically "clean" little star-formation, gas
 - ~25 discovered to far, many more predicted

Classical (Open) Ultra-faint (Filled) SSDS coverage (Gray)

Belokurov et al. 2006

Dwarf Spheroidal Galaxies

- Composite likelihood analysis of 10 dwarf spheroidal galaxies
- Limits below thermal WIMP cross section for masses < 25 GeV</p>

Nearby Galaxies (e.g. M31)

- Massive dark matter halos
 - Substructures could provide significant "boost" relative to smooth halo
 - N-body simulations suggest spatially extended emission
- Must consider cosmic-ray induced emission first

- Coma cluster proposed as a high signal to noise target
 - Extrapolations from N-body simulations (Gao et al. 2011, arXix:1107.1916)
- Highlights importance of understanding dark matter substructures

Isotropic Diffuse Component (IGRB)

- Universe mostly transparent to gamma rays with energy < 100 GeV
- Isotropic diffuse gamma-ray background (IGRB) component includes
 - Unresolved extragalactic sources,
 - Unresolved Galactic sources mimicking an isotropic population
 - Possible truly diffuse processes

IGRB

Hubble Ultra Deep Field Hubble Space Telescope • Advanced Camera for Surveys

Gainma-ray Space Telescope

IGRB Contributions

- Established sources
 - Blazars

Gamma-ray Space Telescope

- Non-blazar active galaxies
- Star-forming galaxies
- Gamma-ray Bursts (<1%)
- Millisecond pulsars
- Proposed contributors
 - Electromagnetic cascades
 - Galaxy clusters
 - Giant Galactic electron halo
 - Small solar system bodies
 - Dark matter halo (?)

A substantial fraction of IGRB emission can be accounted for by established extragalactic sources

Many different estimates in literature for different components, Could still be room for other source classes/processes

IGRB Spectrum

Dermi

Gamma rays above ~100 GeV can interact with extragalactic background light (IR, optical)

Exact spectral cutoff shape expected for cosmological populations varies by population and depends on extragalactic background light model

Indirect Detection Channels

Dermi

A particle detector in space is the ideal instrument for these studies

Total e⁺ e⁻ Spectrum

Dermi

Separate e⁺ e⁻ Spectrum

Separate e⁺ e⁻ Spectrum

- Positron fraction increases with energy between 20 200 GeV
 - Consistent with PAMELA results, will soon be tested by AMS-02

Fermi LAT Collaboration, Ackermann et al. 2011, arXiv:1109.0521, submitted to PRL

Indirect Detection Outlook

No conclusive indirect detection signal of dark matter Time to be concerned? Or should we remain hopeful?

CIPA KAVLI INSTITUTE FOR PARTICLE ASTROPHYSICS AND COSMOLOGY

Detecting Dark Matter with Gamma Rays

October 13-14, 2011 SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory Meno Park, CA

Workshop last week at SLAC to discuss these questions http://kipac.stanford.edu/kipac/events/detecting_dark_matter

Reasons for Optimism

- Only 1/5 of the sky surveyed to sufficient depth to find ultra-faint dwarf galaxies
 - Large optical surveys (e.g. DES, LSST) will find many more
- *Fermi* LAT not yet background-limited at high energies
 - Sensitivity will improve faster than square root of time
- Understanding of halo inner profiles and boost factors from substructure is work in progress
 - Source of astrophysical uncertainty when interpreting gamma-ray flux limits
- Discovery potential at colliders and direct detection experiments

Future of Gamma-ray Searches

- Proposed Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA)
 - Proven technology on a larger scale
 - 3 different telescope sizes
 - Energy Range: tens of GeV to multi-TeV
 - Field of view: 5 10 deg
- Highly ranked by astrophysics prioritization panels in US and Europe

- 112 hrs of observation with H.E.S.S.
 - Max usable time ~1000 hrs / yr, systematics limited after ~100 hrs for single target
- Galactic Center is a promising target for TeV observatories

H.E.S.S. Collaboration, Abramowski et al. 2011, PRL, 106, 161301

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Summary

- Indirect detection methods connect dark matter in the cosmos with dark matter in the lab
- *Fermi* LAT operating smoothly for 3 years
 - Broad science mission, many astrophysical + fundamental physics results
- No indirect detection of dark matter signal
 - Limits start to explore WIMP thermal relic parameter space
- Opportunities for progress exist on many fronts
 - Theory (e.g. inner profile, substructure boost factors)
 - Discovery potential of accelerator-based and direct detection searches
 - Multiwavelength (e.g. optical surveys finding more dwarfs)
 - Continued gamma-ray observations with *Fermi* (and hopefully CTA)

Extras / Back-ups

P7SOURCE_V6 Point Spread Function (normal incidence)

Gamma-ray Space Telescope

P7SOURCE_V6 acceptance (averaged over φ)

Energy (MeV)

Tour of the GeV Gamma-ray Sky

3 month "movie" of GeV gamma-ray sky

Flares of the Crab Nebula

- Historical supernova (1054)
 - Pulsar

Gamma-ray Space Telescope

• Pulsar wind nebula

Slow-motion pulsations at 800 nm Actual period is 33 ms Cambridge University Lucky Imaging Camera

- Often used as calibration source
 - Bright across electromagnetic spectrum
 - The "Crab" is a commonly used flux unit

IR (Spitzer) Optical (Hubble) X-ray (*Chandra*)

- 3 unexpected flares detected by Fermi LAT
 - Brightest yet occurred in April 2011
 - Closer look reveals low-level variability at all times

Exposure Corrected Counts Map > 100 MeV

Pulsar Phasogram

Geminga constant, Flare stands out

Flares first reported by the Fermi LAT Collaboration, Abdo et al. 2010, Science, 331,739

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Gamma-ray Space Telescope

Flares of the Crab Nebula

- Flux doubling time < 8 hours</p>
- Synchrotron emission
- PeV electrons!
 - Highest energy particles ever associated with a particular object

Light Curve

Spectral Evolution

Grey curve is 35 month average nebula spectrum

IGRB Anisotropy Analysis

- IGRB anisotropies provides another handle for dark matter searches
 - Dark matter annihilation could be significant for multipoles $\ell > 150$

IGRB Anisotropy Analysis

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- Significant (>5σ) detection of anisotropies found in 1-5 GeV range
 - Less significant detection (>2.5 σ) up to 50 GeV
- Consistent with arising from a source class with power law energy spectrum E^{-2.4}
 - Matches mean spectral index of LAT-detected blazars

- Anisotropy analysis and population studies point to blazars contributing ~30% of IRGB intensity and ~100% of IGRB anisotropy
- Implies components making up remaining ~70% of IGRB intensity have a very low level of anisotropy
 - Consistent with e.g. star-forming galaxies as major contributor
 - Inconsistent with e.g. millisecond pulsars as major contributor
 - Suggests dark matter annihilation/decay contributes less than ~45% of IGRB intensity (model dependent, large uncertainties)

Results from Cuoco, Komatsu, & Siegal Gaskins, in prep

Search for e⁺ e⁻ from the Sun

- Two classes of dark matter models
 - Annihilation through light intermediate states proposed to satisfy PAMELA, ATIC, and *Fermi* e⁺ e⁻ results
 - Inelastic dark matter models proposed to reconcile inconsistencies between DAMA/LIBRA and CDMS results
- Both predict high energy e⁺ e⁻ from the Sun
 - No known astrophysical background of e⁺ e⁻ with energy >100 GeV

Most stringent limits on intermediate state dark matter models using gamma rays

Limits exclude inelastic dark matter models that reconcile DAMA/LIBRA and CDMS for masses > 70 GeV and assuming annihilitation into e⁺ e⁻

Fermi LAT Collaboration, Ajello et al. 2011, Phys Rev D., 84, 032007

