The Quest for Dark Matter Signals and the gamma-ray sky

Aldo Morselli INFN Roma Tor Vergata

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The Fermi Large Area Telescope at 2 Years Happy 2nd Birthday, Fermi!

Fermi is Making a Major Impact

Science, December 2009

THE RUNNERS-UP >>

Opening Up the Gamma Ray Sky

LIKE A LIGHTHOUSE BLINKING IN THE NIGHT, A pulsar appears to flash periodically as it spins in space, sweeping a double cone of electromagnetic radiation across the sky. Since the discovery of the first pulsar 4 decades ago, astronomers have detected hundreds more of these enigmatic objects from the pulsing radio waves they emit. Now, astronomers have opened a new channel of discoverythe highly energetic gamma ray spectrumto find pulsars that radio observations could not detect. The advance, part of a torrent of recent gamma ray observations, is giving researchers an improved understanding of how pulsars work, along with a rich haul of new pulsars that could help in the quest to detect gravitational waves.

Sermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope

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The findings come from the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope, which has been mapping the gamma ray universe since it was launched by NASA in June 2008. Combing through data the telescope collected in its first few months, an international team discovered 16 new pulsars; strong gamma ray pulsations from eight

previously known pulsars with spin times of milliseconds, proving that these objects pulse brightly at gamma wavelengths as well as in the radio range; and high-energy gamma rays from the globular cluster 47 Tucanae indicating that the cluster harbors up to 60 millisecond pulsars.

Those Fermi results might be just the beginning. Armed with their new knowledge of pulsar behavior, researchers are checking whether some of the unidentified gamma ray sources Fermi has detected might be pulsars. In November alone, teams of astronomers in the United States and France discovered five new millisecond pulsars by training groundbased radio telescopes on candidate objects Fermi had pointed out-a much more targeted search technique than scanning the sky blindly with ground-based radio telescopes.

Gamma ray beams of pulsars are believed to be wider than their radio beams, so in principle a space-based gamma ray telescope should be more likely to encounter and discern a pulsar's sweep than a radio telescope on Earth is. However, Fermi's forerunner-



the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory, which flew from 1991 to 2000-did not have much luck finding these objects. What has made the difference is Fermi's high sensitivity, which enables it to detect pulsations that would have been too faint for Compton.

Already, the discoveries are shedding new light on the physics of pulsars. Researchers u





Erice. Sept. 22 2010 Aldo Morselli. INFN Roma Tor Vergata





Fermi Large Area Telescope First Source Catalog ApJS 2010 188 405 [arXiv:1002.2280]

Third EGRET Catalog 1991-2000, 270 sources, 1.5 My's E > 100 MeV







Assume χ present in the galactic halo

Neutralino WIMPs

- χ is its own antiparticle => can annihilate in galactic halo producing gamma-rays, antiprotons, positrons....
- Antimatter not produced in large quantities through standard processes (secondary production through p + p -> anti p + X)
- So, any extra contribution from exotic sources ($\chi \chi$ annihilation) is an interesting signature
- ie: $\chi \chi \rightarrow \text{ anti } p + X$

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• Produced from (e. g.) $\chi \chi \rightarrow q / g / gauge boson / Higgs boson and subsequent decay and/ or hadronisation.$

How Fermi LAT detects gamma rays



How Fermi LAT detects electrons

Trigger and downlink

- LAT triggers on (almost) every particle that crosses the LAT
 - ~ 2.2 kHz trigger rate
- On board processing removes many charged particles events
 - But keeps events with more that 20 GeV of deposited energy in the CAL
 - ~ 400 Hz downlink rate
- Only ~1 Hz are good γ-rays

Electron identification

- The challenge is identifying the good electrons among the proton background
 - Rejection power of 10³ 10⁴ required

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 Can not separate electrons from positrons



Event topology

A candidate electron (recon energy 844 GeV)

A candidate hadron (raw energy > 800 GeV)



- TKR: clean main track with extraclusters very close to the track
- CAL: clean EM shower profile, not fully contained
- ACD: few hits in conjunction with the track



- TKR: small number of extra clusters around main track
- CAL: large and asymmetric shower profile
- ACD: large energy deposit per tile



Fermi-LAT CRE data vs the conventional *pre-Fermi* model

Some changes are still needed with respect to the pre-Fermi conventional mode

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Dermi

Gamma-ray Space Telescope



"Conventional" model with injection spectrum 1.60/2.42 (break at 4 GeV)



new: Fermi Electron + Positron spectrum





Electron spectrum and a conventional GALPROP model +...





the positron ratio accounting for nearby pulsars (d < 1 kpc)



Pulsars

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1. On purely energetic grounds they work (relatively large efficiency)

- 2. On the basis of the spectrum, it is not clear
 - The spectra of PWN show relatively flat spectra of pairs at Low energies but we do not understand what it is
 - 2. The general spectra (acceleration at the termination shock) are too steep

The biggest problem is that of escape of particles from the pulsar
1. Even if acceleration works, pairs have to survive losses
2. And in order to escape they have to cross other two shocks

New Fermi data on pulsars will help to constrain the pulsar models

What if we randomly vary the pulsar parameters relevant for e+e- production?

(injection spectrum, e+e- production efficiency, PWN "trapping" time)



Under reasonable assumptions, electron/positron emission from pulsars offers a viable interpretation of Fermi CRE data which is also consistent with the HESS and Pamela results.





other Astrophysical solution



 Positrons created as secondary products of hadronic interactions inside the sources

 Secondary production takes place in the same region where cosmic rays are being accelerated

-> Therefore secondary positron have a very flat spectrum, which is responsible, after propagation in the Galaxy, for the observed positron excess Blasi, arXiv:0903.2794



Positrons created as secondary products of hadronic interactions inside the sources (2)

if this is true we should observe a rise in the secondary/primary CR fraction



Lepto-philic Models

here we assume a democratic dark matter pairannihilation branching ratio into each charged lepton species: 1/3 into e+e-, 1/3 into μ + μ - and 1/3 into $\tau + \tau$ - Here too antiprotons are not produced in dark matter pair annihilation.





Cosmic Ray Electrons Anisotropy

More than 1.6 million electron events with energy above 60 GeV have been analyzed on anisotropy

•Upper limit for the dipole anisotropy has been set to 0.5 – 5% depending on the energy

• Upper limit on fractional anisotropic excess ranges from a fraction to about one percent depending on the minimum energy and the anisotropy's angular scale

Distribution of significance, fitted by a Gaussian \longrightarrow

Fermi Coll. Phys. Rev. D accepted [arXiv:1008.5119]





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Cosmic Ray Electrons Anisotropy

the levels of anisotropy expected for Vela-like and Monogem-like sources (i.e. sources with similar distances and ages) seem to be higher than the scale of anisotropies excluded by the results However, it is worth to point out that the model results are affected by large uncertainties related to the choice of the free parameters



electron + positron expected anisotropy in the directions of Monogem and Geminga



Search Strategies

Satellites:

Low background and good source id, but low statistics

Galactic center:

Good statistics but source confusion/diffuse background

Milky Way halo:

Large statistics but diffuse background

> And electrons! and Anisotropies

Spectral lines:

No astrophysical uncertainties, good source id, but low statistics

Galaxy clusters:

Low background but low statistics

Extra-galactic:

Large statistics, but astrophysics,galactic diffuse background



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Pre-launch sensitivities published in Baltz et al., 2008, JCAP 0807:013 [astro-ph/0806.2911]



Different spatial behaviour for decaying or annihilating dark matter







Search for Dark Matter in the Galactic Center

 Steep DM profiles => Expect large DM annihilation/decay signal from the GC!

- Good understanding of the astrophysical background is crucial to extract a potential DM signal from this complicated region of the sky:
 - source confusion: energetic sources near to or in the line of sight of the GC
 - diffuse emission modeling: uncertainties on the intensity and spectra of the CRs and distribution of gas and radiation field targets along the line of sight


Preliminary Analysis

7° x 7° Region Of Interest centered at RA=266.46° Dec=-28.97°

- 11 months of data
- events from 400 MeV to 100 GeV
- IRFs Pass6_v3

- Diffuse Class events, converting in the front part of the tracker
- Model of the Galactic Center includes:
- 11 sources from Fermi 1st year Catalog (inside or very near the ROI)
- Galactic and Extragalactic Diffuse Background
- Binned likelihood analysis using the GTLIKE tool, developed by the Fermi/LAT collaboration

Spectrum (E> 400 MeV, 7°x7° region centered on the Galactic Center analyzed with binned likelihood analysis)



GC Residuals 7°×7° region centered on the Galactic Center 11 months of data, E >400 MeV, front-converting events analyzed with binned likelihood analysis)

The systematic uncertainty of the effective area (blue area) of the LAT is ~10% at 100 MeV, decreasing to 5% at 560 MeV and increasing to 20% at 10 GeV



Search for Dark Matter in the Galactic Center

- Model generally reproduces data well within uncertainties. The model somewhat under-predicts the data in the few GeV range (spatial residuals under investigation)
- Any attempt to disentangle a potential dark matter signal from the galactic center region requires a detailed understanding of the conventional astrophysics and instrumental effects
- More prosaic explanations must be ruled out before invoking a contribution from dark matter if an excess is found (e.g. modeling of the diffuse emission, unresolved sources,)
- Analysis in progress to updated constraints on annihilation cross section

Dwarf spheroidal galaxies (dSph): promising targets for DM detection



Dwarf spheroidal galaxies (dSph): promising targets for DM detection CVn II Com Segue SDSSJ1049+5103 Boo Leo I > dSphs are the most DM dominated systems known in the Universe with very high M/L ratios (M/L ~ 10- 2000). Many of them (at least 6) closer than 100 kpc to the GC (e.g. Draco, Umi, Sagittarius and new SDSS dwarfs). SDSS [only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sky covered] already double the number of dSphs these last years Sgr Most of them are expected to be free from any other astrophysical gamma source. Low content of gas and dust. For

No detection by Fermi with 11 months of data. 95% flux upper limits are placed for several possible annihilation final states.

Flux upper limits are combined with the DM density inferred by the stellar data^(*)for a subset of 8 dSph (based on quality of stellar data) to extract constraints on < a> vs WIMP mass for specific DM models

^(*) stellar data from the Keck observatory (by Martinez, Bullock, Kaplinghat)

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Fermi Coll. ApJ 712 (2010) 147-158 [arXiv:1001.4531]



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Inverse Compton Emission and Diffusion in Dwarfs

We expect significant IC gamma-ray emission for high mass WIMP models annihilating to leptonic final states.

The IC flux depends strongly on the uncertain/unknown diffusion of cosmic rays in dwarfs.

We assume a simple diffusion model similar to what is found for the Milky Way

 $D(E) = D_0 E^{1/3}$ with $D_0 = 10^{28} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$

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(only galaxy with measurements, scaling to dwarfs ??)

Exclusion regions

already cutting into interesting parameter space for some WIMP models

Stronger constraints can be derived if IC of electrons and positrons from DM annihilation off of the CMB is included, however diffusion in dwarfs is not known ⇒ use bracketing values of diffusion coefficients from cosmic rays in the Milky Way

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Galaxy Clusters upper-limits



Galaxy Clusters upper-limits

Stronger constraints on leptophilic DM models can be derived with galaxy clusters when the IC contribution off the CMB of secondary electrons (from DM annihilation) is included



Galaxy Clusters upper-limits

Constraints for a onsing obbar final sture are weaker than or the parable to (depending on the assumption on substructures) the ones obtained with dSph





SED of the isotropic diffuse emission (1 keV-100 GeV)



Fermi LAT Isotropic Diffuse Flux



extragalactic gamma-ray spectrum



extragalactic gamma-ray spectrum



Fermi LAT Extragalactic Gamma-ray Background



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extragalactic gamma-ray spectrum



limits on dark matter annihilation into $\mu + \mu -$ final states

Search for Spectral Gamma Lines

Smoking gun signal of dark matter

- Search for lines in the first 11 months of Fermi data (30-200 GeV en.range)
- Search region |b|>10° and 30° around galactic center
- For the region within 1° of the GC, no point source removal was done as this would have removed the GC
- For the remaining part of the ROI, point sources were masked from the analysis using a circle of radius 0.2 deg
- The data selection includes additional cuts to remove residual charged particle contamination.



Wimp lines search



Search for Spectral Gamma Lines



Gamma-ray detection from gravitino dark matter decay in the $\mu\nu$ SSM



Search for Spectral Gamma Lines



Conclusion:

The Electron+positron spectrum (CRE) measured by Fermi-LAT is significantly harder than previously thought on the basis of previous data

Adopting the presence of an extra e^+ primary component with ~ 1.5 spectral index and $E_{cut} \sim 1$ TeV allow to consistently interpret Fermi-LAT CRE data (improving the fit), HESS and PAMELA Such extra-component can be arise if the secondary production takes place in the same region where cosmic rays are being accelerated (to be tested with future B/C measurements) • or by pulsars for a reasonable choice of relevant parameters (to be tested with future Fermi pulsars measurements) •or by annihilating dark matter for model with $M_{DM} \approx 1 \text{ TeV}$ Improved analysis and complementary observations (CRE anisotropy, spectrum and angular distribution of diffuse γ ,

DM sources search in γ) are required to possibly discriminate the right scenario.

2nd Conclusion : Gamma

No discovery (yet).... (a)

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.... however promising constraints on the nature of
DM have been placed

(exclusion of a lot of DM models that explain the origin of the Fermi/Pamela lepton excess)

In addition to increased statistics, better understanding of the astrophysical and instrumental background will improve our ability to reliably extract a potential signal of new physics or set stronger constraints

 Further improvements are anticipated for analysis that benefits from multi-wavelength observations (for example galactic center, dwarf spheroidal galaxies and DM satellites)

NEXT FERMI SYMPOSIUM 9-12 May 2011 in Rome

You are all invited!

📕 Fermi Symposium

The 2011 Fermi Symposium is dedicated to results and prospects for scientific exploration of the Universe with the Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope and related studies.

Topics include blazars and other active galactic nuclei, pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernova remnants, diffuse gamma radiation unidentified gamma-ray sources, and searches for dark matter. Multi-wavelength/multi-messenger contributions to these topics are welcome.

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http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/science/symposium/2011/

thank you !

Electron spectrum and a conventional GALPROP model



An extra-component with injection index = 1.5 and an exponential cutoff at 1 TeV gives a good fit of all datasets!



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Energy reconstruction

Reconstruction of the most probable value for the event energy:

- based on calibration of the response of each of 1536 calorimeter crystals - energy reconstruction is optimized for each event -calorimeter imaging capability is heavily used for fitting shower profile --tested at CERN beams up to 280 GeV with the LAT **Calibration Unit**

Very good agreement between shower profile in beam test data (red) and Monte Carlo (black)



Energy reconstruction



Fermi LAT Energy resolution for electrons




Comparison of standard and high-XO spectra

