

Disrupted Globular Clusters as the Source of the *Fermi* Excess

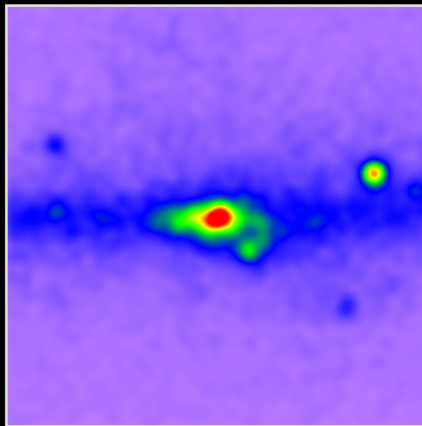
Gamma Rays and Dark Matter

Timothy Brandt

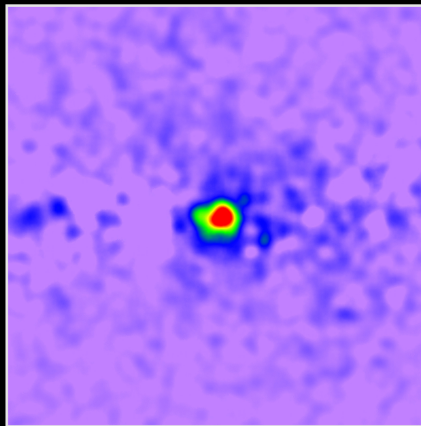
NASA Sagan Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study
with Bence Kocsis, IAS → Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest

10 December 2015

Uncovering a gamma-ray excess at the galactic center



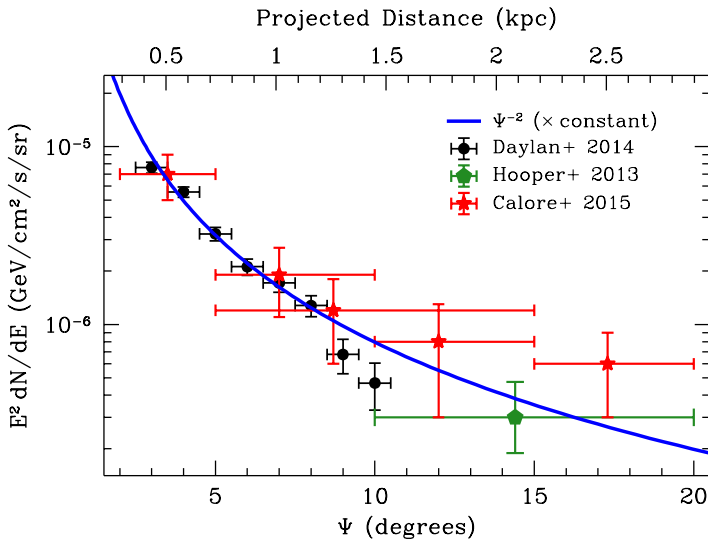
Unprocessed map of 1.0 to 3.16 GeV gamma rays

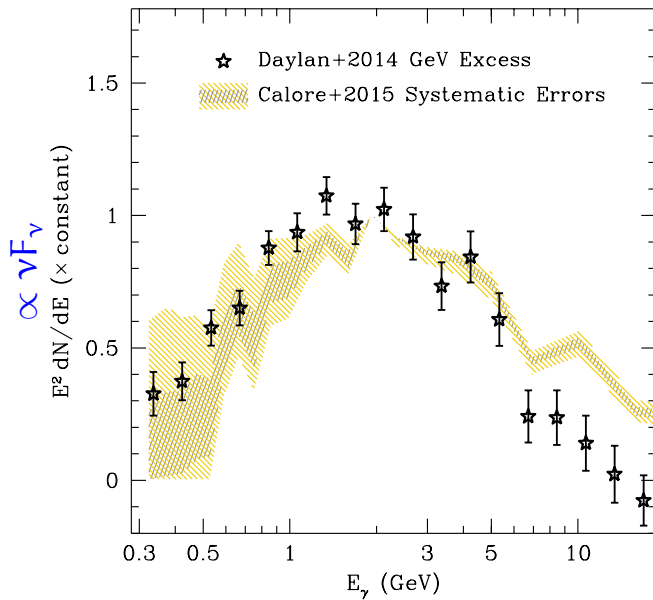


Known sources removed

Daylan et al. (2014)

Surface Brightness at 2 GeV





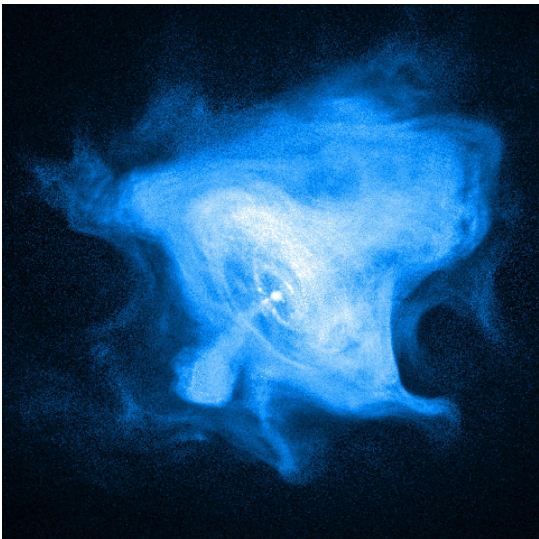
- Dark matter annihilation?
- Millisecond pulsars?
- Young pulsars?
- Cosmic ray outbursts?
- Background systematics?

● Millisecond pulsars?

- ① How do we explain the observed morphology?
- ② Why aren't the millisecond pulsar progenitors there?
- ③ Hard luminosity function—shouldn't we have seen individual pulsars?
- ④ And the spectrum isn't quite right?

Normal pulsars:

- $P \sim 1$ s
- $B \sim 10^{12}$ G
- Mostly single
- $t_{\text{spindown}} \sim 10^5$ years



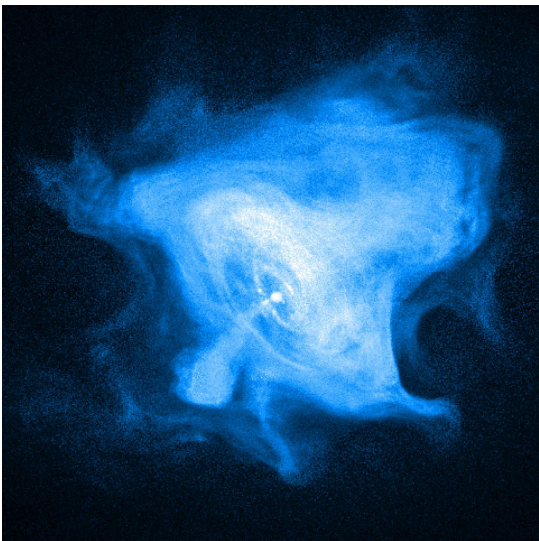
Crab pulsar, *Chandra* (X-ray)

Normal pulsars:

- $P \sim 1$ s
- $B \sim 10^{12}$ G
- Mostly single
- $t_{\text{spindown}} \sim 10^5$ years

Millisecond pulsars:

- $P \sim 5$ ms
- $B \sim 10^8$ G
- Mostly in binaries
- $t_{\text{spindown}} \sim 10^{10}$ years



Crab pulsar, *Chandra* (X-ray)

MSPs: E_{rot} up to 10^{52} erg

“Recycled” pulsars, spun up
by mass transfer

Accretion phase: **low-mass
X-ray binary (LMXB)**

LMXBs, MSPs **much** more
common in globular clusters



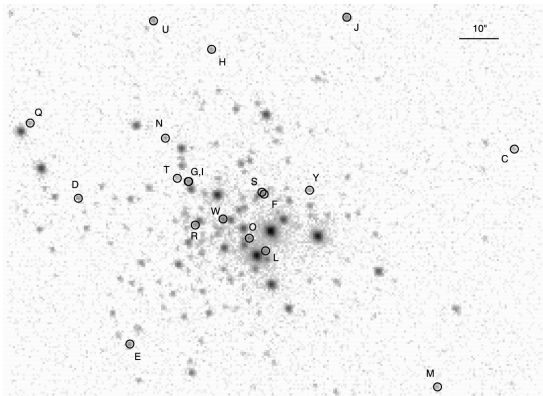
47 Tucana, Dieter Willasch

MSPs: E_{rot} up to 10^{52} erg

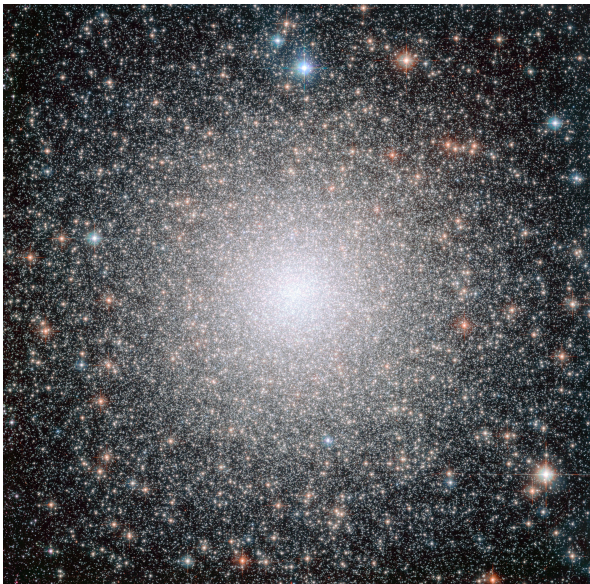
“Recycled” pulsars, spun up by mass transfer

Accretion phase: **low-mass X-ray binary (LMXB)**

LMXBs, MSPs **much** more common in globular clusters



47 Tuc in X-rays, Bogdanov et al. (2006)



NGC 6388, *HST*

~150 known Galactic globular clusters

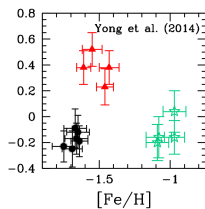
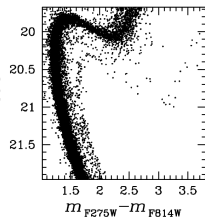
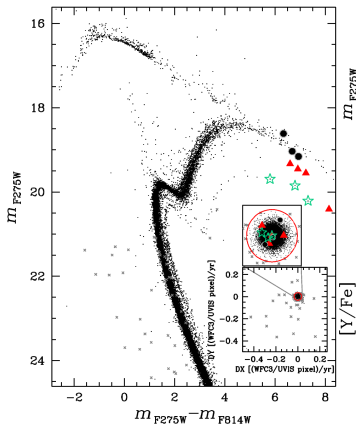
- $\sim 10^4 - 10^6 M_{\odot}$
- Spherically distributed
- $\gtrsim 10$ Gyr old
- Range of metallicities
- Up to $\sim 10^5 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$



Credit: Francesco Ferraro

Globular clusters are weird!

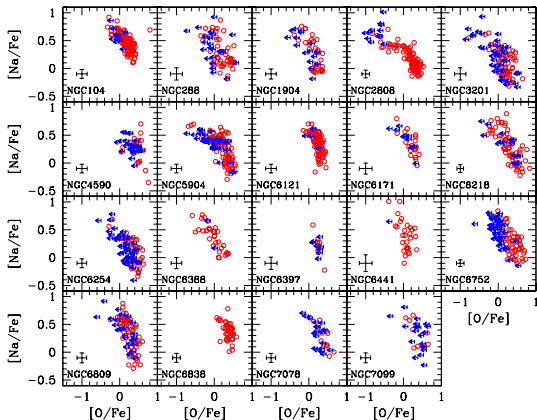
- Exotic objects
- Multiple populations
- Odd abundances



Milone et al. (2015)

Globular clusters are weird!

- Exotic objects
- Multiple populations
- **Odd abundances**



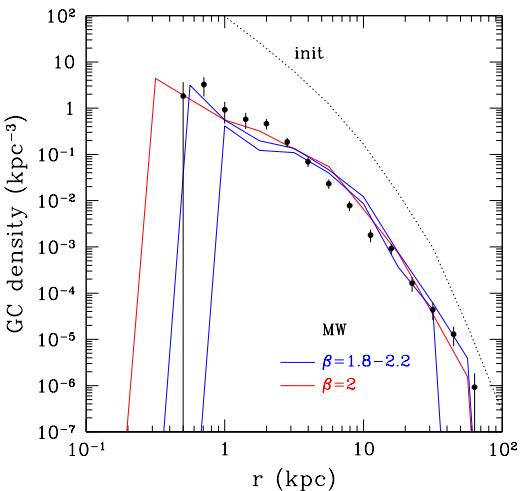
Carretta et al. (2009)

GCs are **dynamical systems** with **long, but finite, lifetimes**

6144 stars, credit Simon Zwart & Frank Summers

Most of the primordial GCs may be gone

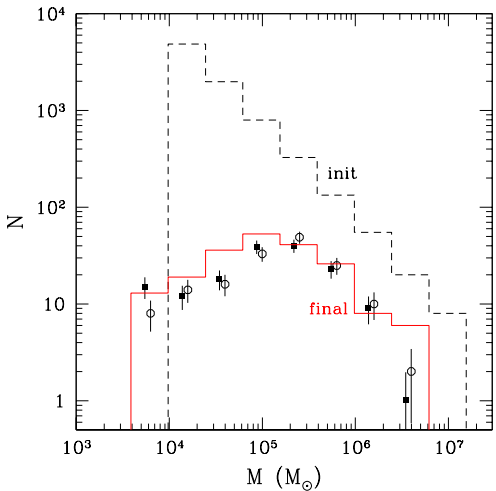
- Evaporation
- Dynamical friction
- Tidal disruption



Gnedin et al. (2014)

Most of the primordial GCs may be gone

- Evaporation
- Dynamical friction
- Tidal disruption



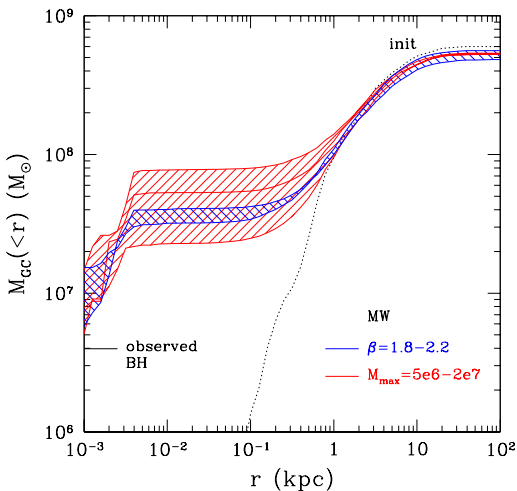
Gnedin et al. (2014)

The clusters may be gone,
but the stars and MSPs remain.

Where are they now?

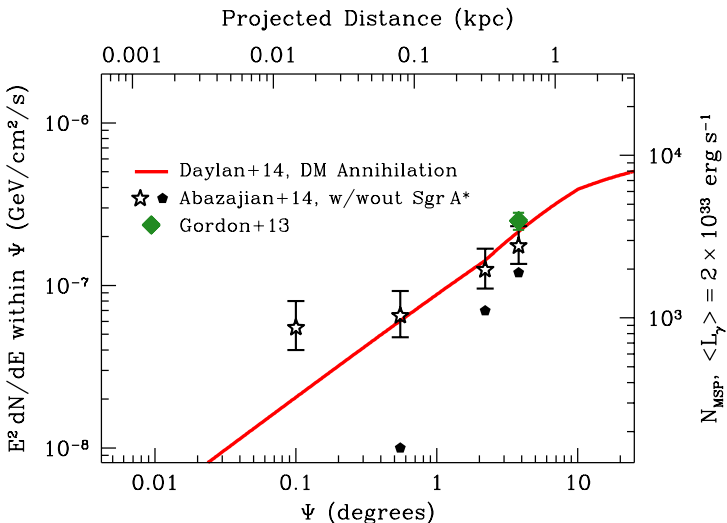
Take results of toy
model to recover
current GC properties

Scale to L_γ/M_* of
extant GCs

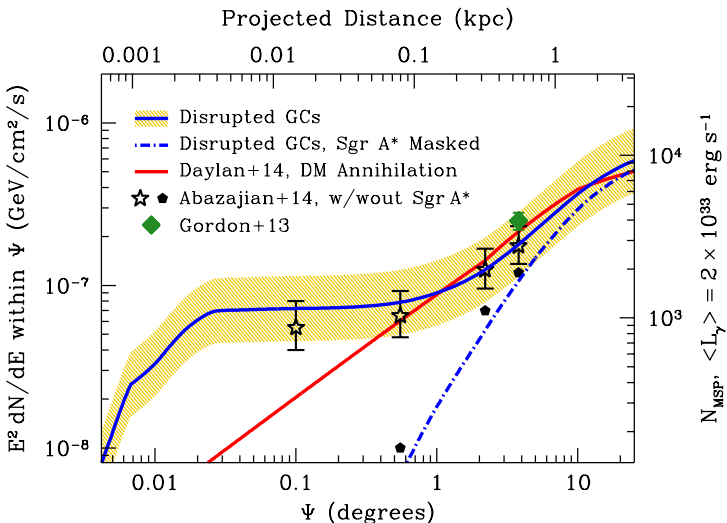


Gnedin et al. (2014)

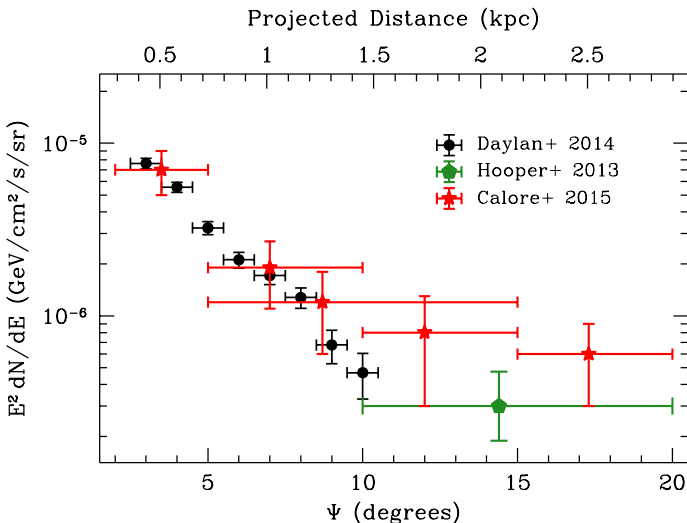
Results: 2 GeV Flux Within a Circular Aperture of Radius Ψ



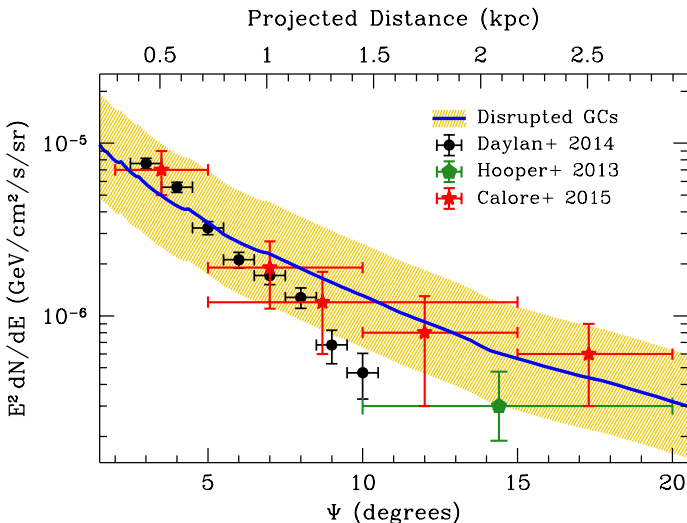
Results: 2 GeV Flux Within a Circular Aperture of Radius Ψ



Results: 2 GeV Surface Brightness



Results: 2 GeV Surface Brightness



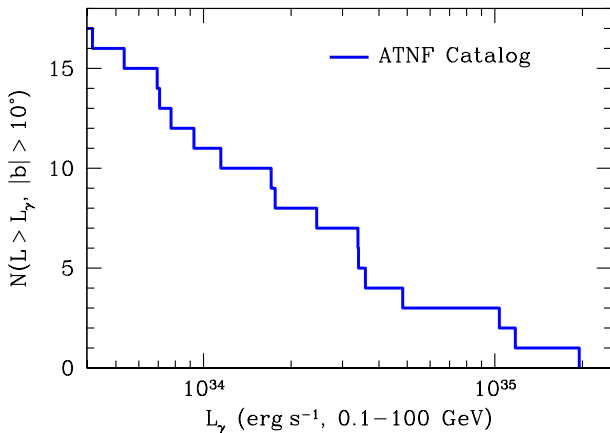
Objections to Millisecond Pulsars

- 1 No theoretical reason to expect observed distribution out to ~ 2 kpc
- 2 Pulsar progenitors (LMXBs) aren't there
- 3 Luminosity function is hard—should have seen individual pulsars
- 4 Spectrum isn't quite right

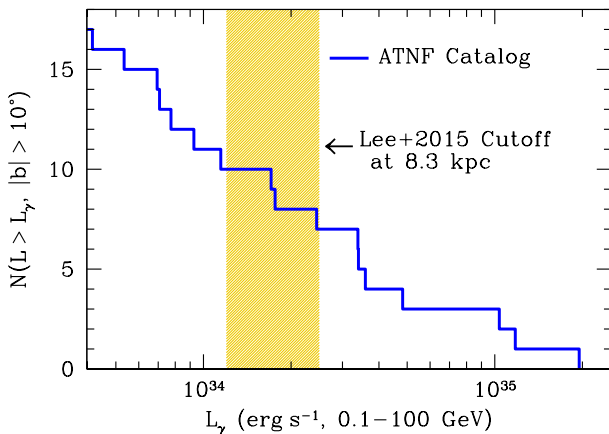
Objections to Millisecond Pulsars

- 1 ~~No theoretical reason to expect observed distribution out to ~ 2 kpc~~
 - ▶ Dissolved globular clusters
- 2 ~~Pulsar progenitors (LMXBs) aren't there~~
 - ▶ Millisecond pulsar creation ceases when clusters dissolve
- 3 ~~Luminosity function is hard—should have seen individual pulsars~~
- 4 ~~Spectrum isn't quite right~~

Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

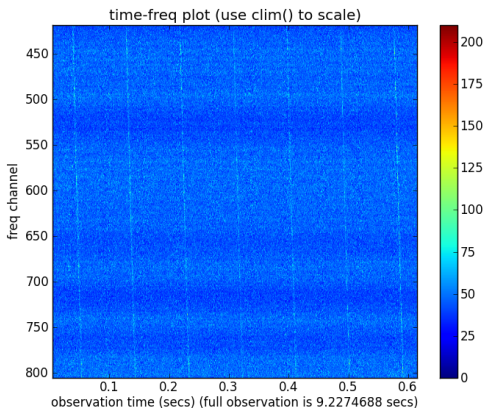


Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV



Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

Observable:
**dispersion
measure**

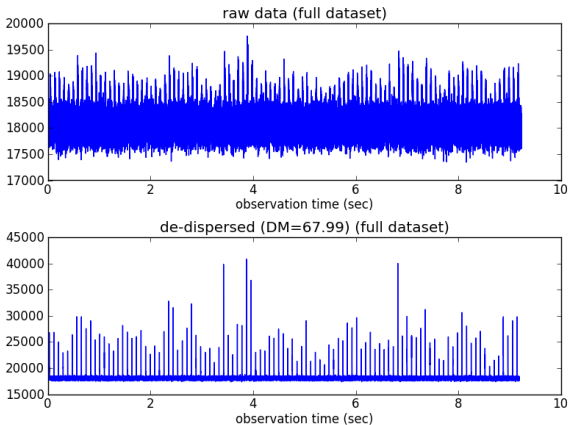


Vela pulsar, KAT-7 (radio)

Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

Observable:

**dispersion
measure**



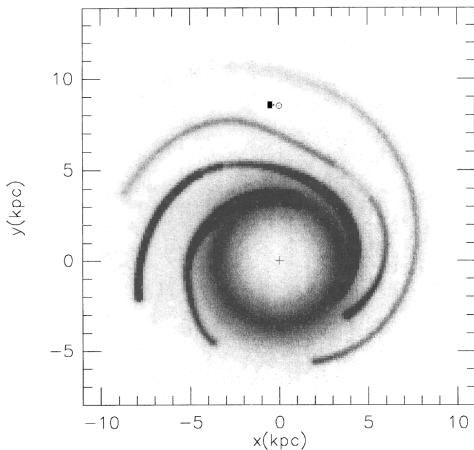
Vela pulsar, KAT-7 (radio)

Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

Distances almost always
from dispersion measures

$$DM = \int_0^{\text{dist}} n(e^-) ds$$

**Requires modeling free
electron density**



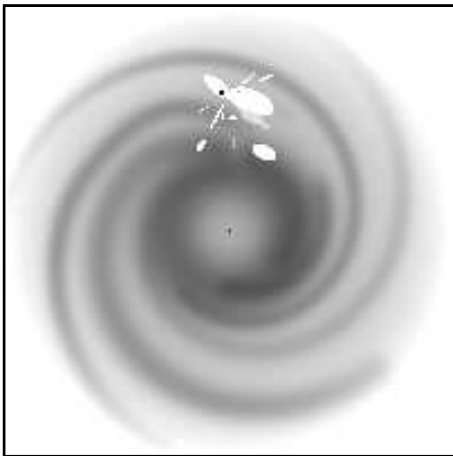
Taylor & Cordes (1993)

Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

Distances almost always
from dispersion measures

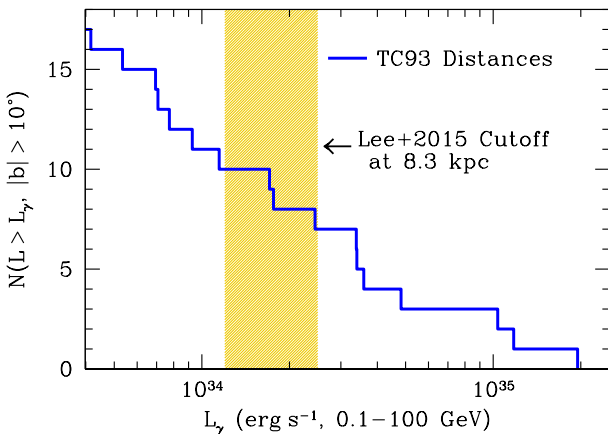
$$DM = \int_0^{\text{dist}} n(e^-) ds$$

**Requires modeling free
electron density**

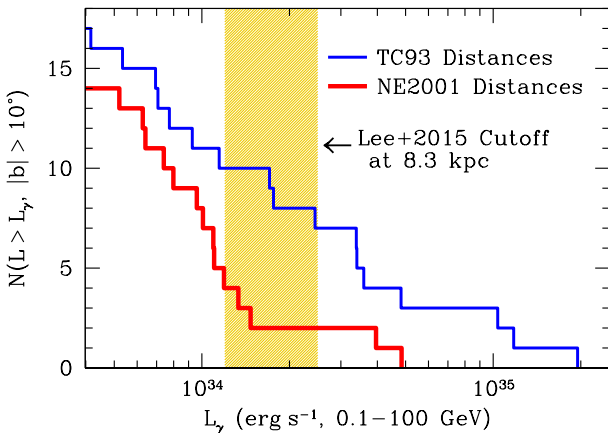


Cordes & Lazio (2002)

Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV

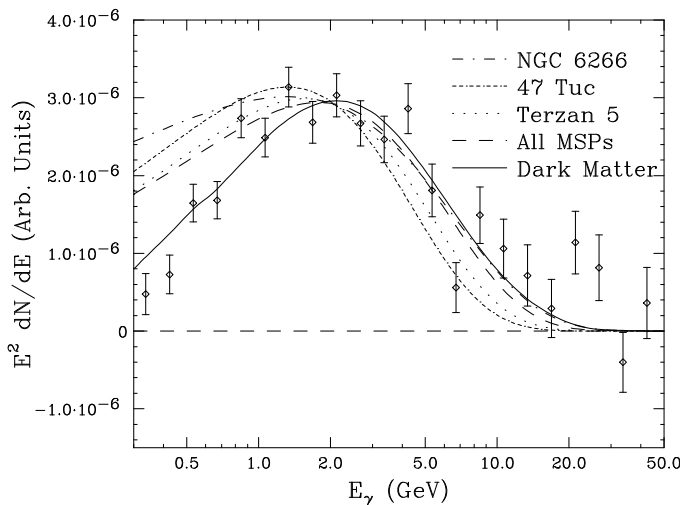


Objection: MSPs are too luminous at 2 GeV



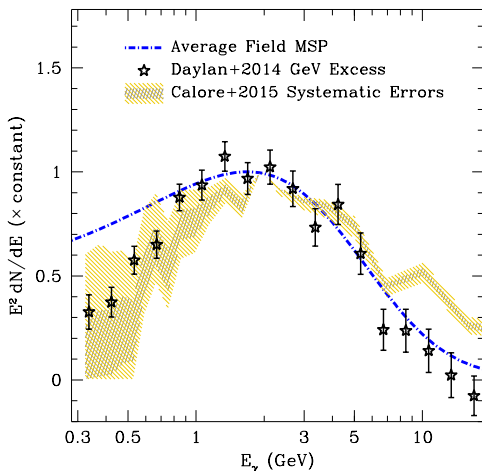
Only a problem with questionable dispersion measure distances

Objection: spectrum of GeV excess is too soft to be MSPs



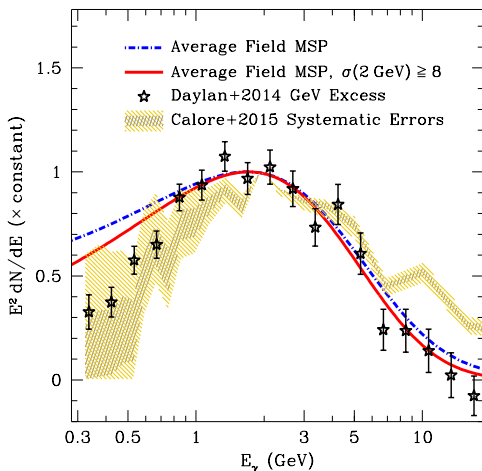
Daylan et al. (2014)

Objection: spectrum of GeV excess is too soft to be MSPs



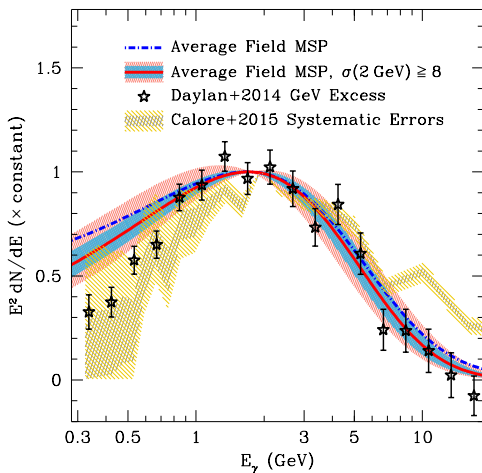
Unweighted average of *Fermi* MSPs

Objection: spectrum of GeV excess is too soft to be MSPs



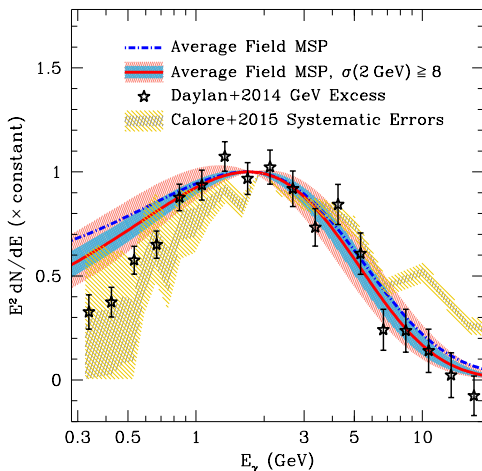
2 GeV-Selected, Luminosity Weighted

Objection: spectrum of GeV excess is too soft to be MSPs



Bootstrap Sample Variances Added

Objection: spectrum of GeV excess is too soft to be MSPs



Biases, systematics, etc. $\Rightarrow \lesssim 2\sigma$ discrepancy

Objections to Millisecond Pulsars

- 1 No theoretical reason to expect observed distribution out to ~ 2 kpc
- 2 Pulsar progenitors (LMXBs) aren't there
- 3 Luminosity function is hard—should have seen individual pulsars
- 4 Spectrum isn't quite right

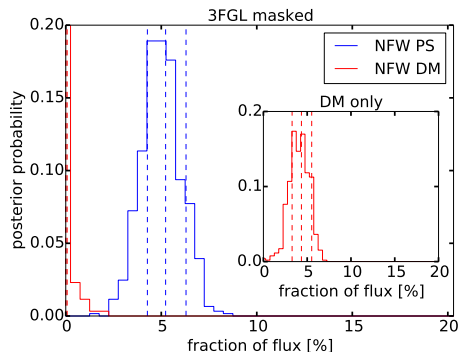
Objections to Millisecond Pulsars

- 1 ~~No theoretical reason to expect observed distribution out to ~ 2 kpc~~
 - ▶ Dissolved globular clusters
- 2 ~~Pulsar progenitors (LMXBs) aren't there~~
 - ▶ Millisecond pulsar creation ceases when clusters dissolve
- 3 ~~Luminosity function is hard should have seen individual pulsars~~
 - ▶ Only with highly questionable distances
- 4 ~~Spectrum isn't quite right~~
 - ▶ $\sim 1.5\sigma$ or 2σ discrepancy

Other Evidence:

Fermi excess looks like
unresolved point sources

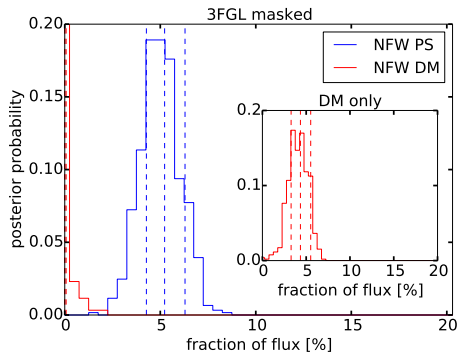
- Lee et al. (2015)
- also Bartels et al. (2015),
talks by Daylan, Zechlin,
Portillo



Other Evidence:

Fermi excess looks like
unresolved point sources

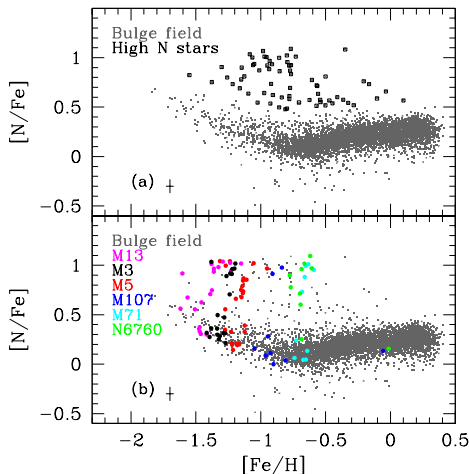
- Lee et al. (2015)
- also Bartels et al. (2015),
talks by Daylan, Zechlin,
Portillo



If you are allowed a population of point sources with the right spatial distribution, the favored (diffuse) dark matter contribution is **zero**.

Bulge Chemistry

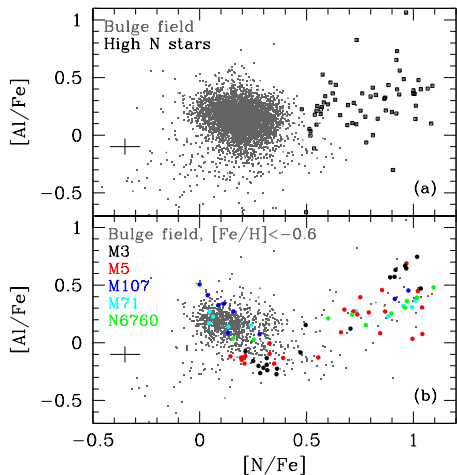
- $\sim 1\%$ of bulge stars show strong Al, N enhancements
 - $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ of globular cluster stars show similar enhancements
- $\Rightarrow \sim 2\%$ of bulge is dissolved globular clusters?



Schiavon et al. (2015), submitted

Bulge Chemistry

- $\sim 1\%$ of bulge stars show strong Al, N enhancements
 - $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ of globular cluster stars show similar enhancements
- $\Rightarrow \sim 2\%$ of bulge is dissolved globular clusters?



Schiavon et al. (2015), submitted

How can we confirm this scenario?

- 1 Better models of GC, MSP formation
- 2 Find the MSPs! (pulsing γ rays, radio)
- 3 Other (chemical?) evidence of dissolved GCs

How can we confirm this scenario?

- 1 Better models of GC, MSP formation
- 2 Find the MSPs! (pulsing γ rays, radio)
- 3 Other (chemical?) evidence of dissolved GCs

Is the *Fermi* excess the first **direct** evidence for globular cluster destruction?