Multiwavelength observations of Fermi-LAT monitored blazars with SMARTS

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Collaborators



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Sources



LAT monitored blazars visible from CTIO (Chile) + other sources of interest (e.g. 0948+0022)

FSRQ		BL Lac
0208-512	0528+134	0235+164
3C 273	3C 279	OJ 287
1406-076	1510-089	2155-304
1622-297	1730-130	
2155-304	3C 454.3	

Optical/IR observations

- Bright blazars observed near-daily with the Small and Moderate Aperture Telescope System (SMARTS) at Cerro Tololo, Chile
- SMARTS I.3m + ANDICAM. Can obtain simultaneous data from 0.4 to 2.2 microns (BVRJK). Photometry taken with I-3 day cadence.
- Spectra of brighter blazars taken about once per month.
- Data through 31 July 2009 released at

http://www.astro.yale.edu/smarts/glast



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0208-512



0528+|34



0235+164



3C 279



3C 273



OJ 287



|5|0-089



|5|0-089



3C 454.3



3C 454.3



3C 454.3



3C 454.3



3C 454.3



3C 454.3: underlying optical emission



3C 454.3 Fractional variability amplitude



3C 454.3: color-magnitude



3C 454.3: color-magnitude





3C 454.3: Spectra



From J. Isler

2155-304



2155-304



2155-304: colors v R-band



Future directions

- SMARTS monitoring of bright blazars is ongoing.
 - Favorite source? Let us know glast@panlists.yale.edu
- Can the time-dependent SED be modeled self-consistently?
- Do optical emission line properties correlate with jet power?
- Short v. long term variability studies

- How is jet powered?
- What particle populations?

Challenges to SED modeling

- Single-epoch SED can be fit with leptonic or hadronic models.
- Variable sources require simultaneous data
- Broad-band SED
 measurements require
 multiple observatories
- Long term, simultaneous, multi-wavelength monitoring programs required



Boettcher et al. 2009

MW light curve

• NIR, Optical, UV, and Gamma-ray fluxes vary together with lag of less than one day.

 Variability amplitude in IR comparable to that in Gamma rays; decreases towards the UV

• Colors redder at higher fluxes.

• X-rays uncorrelated with other wavelengths.



Bonning et al., ApJL, 697, L81 (2009)

Historical comparison



Raiteri et al. 2007