

FSSC Science Tools

Generating Source Models: Using the LAT Catalog for Analysis



First LAT Catalog (1FGL)

- Released 2010-01-14, with small updates on 2010-02-04.
 - Second catalog scheduled for release in Spring 2011
- Available from FSSC at:

http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/access/lat/1yr_catalog/

- Full Catalog in FITS format
- Catalog column descriptions
- XML file containing output models for each source
- DS9 region files (point or ellipse)
- Change log for content updates
- Also available as a BROWSE table:
 - Allows for queries/searches based on Catalog content



1FGL Catalog

Cuts used for analysis

- 100 MeV 100 GeV
- Integrated data for 4 August 2008 4 July 2009 (11 months)
- Rocking angle < 43° (more recent data requires a looser cut)
- Excluded 20 min around GRB 080916C and 300 sec around GRB 090510

Catalog includes

- 1451 sources with Test Statistic ≥ 25
- Positions in celestial and galactic, 68% and 95% confidence error ellipses
- Total flux (>1 GeV), source significance
- Average flux in 5 energy bands (.1-.3-1-3-10-100 GeV) with significance per band
- Overall spectral index, pivot energy, curvature index
- Flux per month, variability index
- Associations with known sources and other gamma-ray catalogs
- ► Error flags to indicate possible concerns with selected sources



Source Identification

- Three types of sources in the catalog
 - Identified indicated by an uppercase class type (e.g. PSR)
 - Require periodic signature, correlated variability, or correlated spatial morphology
 - Associated indicated by a lowercase class type (e.g. bzq)
 - >80% probability of being associated with the indicated source
 - Associated sources are considered "unidentified," as they do not meet the requirements above
 - Unassociated class type left empty



Cautioned sources

- Certain source names end with a "c"
 - "c" indicates you should treat these sources carefully
 - "c" sources are **unidentified** sources flagged for one of three reasons
 - They are located within the Galactic ridge (|I|<60°, |b|<1°)
 - They are coincident with peaks in Galactic gas maps
 - They are located in a region with many LAT sources (overlapping PSFs)
- Galactic ridge is a difficult region
 - Many sources, overlapping PSFs
 - Low source to background ratio (<50% below 3 GeV)
 - Large uncertainties in Galactic diffuse model in this region



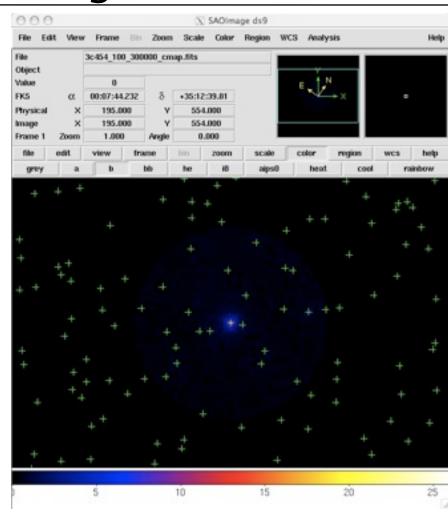
Using the Catalog for Data Analysis

- Useful to select specific sources for further study
 - Using more (or less) data than in the catalog
 - Compare output with different spectral models
 - Add fainter sources to reduce residuals
- Very useful to define an initial point-source model
 - Fitted parameters from the catalog can be an initial guess for future fitting, or held fixed for investigation of other sources
 - XML model results from catalog analysis are good model inputs
 - Use a text editor to create the XML, or
 - Use modeleditor gui to generate the XML
 - Python script available to generate initial model file from "User Contributed Tools" page at: http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/analysis/user/



Find sources in your region

- Plot counts map from gtbin
- Overlay catalog region file
- Find significant sources in your ROI
 - ► These should be input into your source model
 - For long integrations you need to include fainter sources





Source Model Structure

```
K?xml version="1.0" ?>
         <source_library title="source library">
                                       Diffuse components may be scaled
         <!-- Diffuse Sources -->
                                       by a constant or power law
         <source name="GAL_v02" tupe="DiffuseSource">
              <spectrum type="PowerLaw"> 
                 Leave
              scale="1" value="1.22"/>
   parameters
                  free (1) to
                  have them fit
              <spatialModel file="/net/users/ddavis/lat/bkg/gll_iem_v02.fit" type="MapCubeFunction">
   by likelihood

</pre
              </spatialModel>
         </source>
         <source name="EG_v02" type="DiffuseSource">
              <spectrum type="FileFunction" file="/net/users/ddavis/lat//bkg/isotropic_iem_v02.txt">
                  <spatialModel type="ConstantValue">
                  </spatialModel>
         </source>
                                        Scale is used to interpret results
         <!-- Target Sources -->
         (source name="_3c454" type="PointSource")
Change
          → (spectrum type="PowerLaw2")
spectral
             models for
             different
             </spectrum>
source types
           <spatialModel type="SkyDirFunction">
             </spatialModel>
          </source>
```

Science Support Center



Available Models

- A listing of all available models and their functional forms can be found at:
 - <u>http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/analysis/scitools/source_models.html</u>
 - Available models include:

Constant Gaussian

Power Law Log Parabola

Broken Power Law Exponential Cutoff

BPL with Exp Cutoff PL with Superexponential Cutoff

Band Function User-defined Function

Also several spatial models are available:

Constant Value Sky Direction Function (point only)

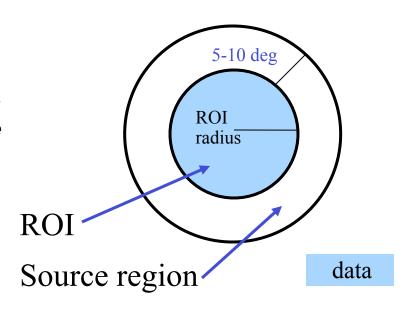
Spatial Map (extended sources) Map Cube Function (usually

diffuse)



Building the Source Model

- Model should cover both the ROI and the source region
 - ROI includes the data you have selected
 - Primary source, and nearby sources should have appropriate parameters left free for the fit
 - Source region is the modeled area, and includes sources outside the data region
 - It is recommended that you set parameters for sources outside your ROI to the values in the catalog since no data is available for a proper fit





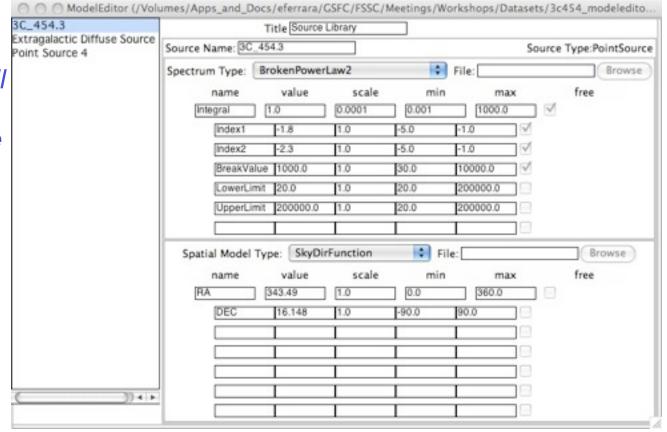
Using Modeleditor

Enter each source separately and provide initial

guesses

Save when all needed sources have been input.

Can be time consuming





Using Python

- User-contributed tool "make1FGLxml"
 - Extracts data from 1FGL catalog file and auto-generates XML
 - ► Automatically leaves parameters for sources near the center of the field free, and fixes those for sources farther away
 - ► ALL 1FGL sources in the ROI, plus those up to 5 deg outside the ROI
 - Best to hand-tune model after generation, to ensure content is as desired
- Validate source model by loading it into modeleditor
 - Works for any method of generating a source model
 - ▶ Will generate errors if the format is incorrect for use with the Science Tools

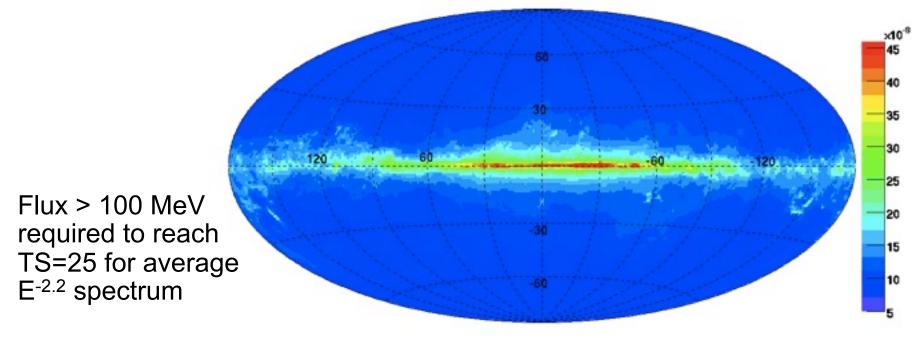


Backup Slides



Sensitivity

- Factor of 10 difference depending on location
 - Structure is mostly due to Galactic diffuse background
 - At high latitudes (|b|>30), sensitivity is below 10^{-8} ph/cm²/s
 - Strongly dependent on source spectral index



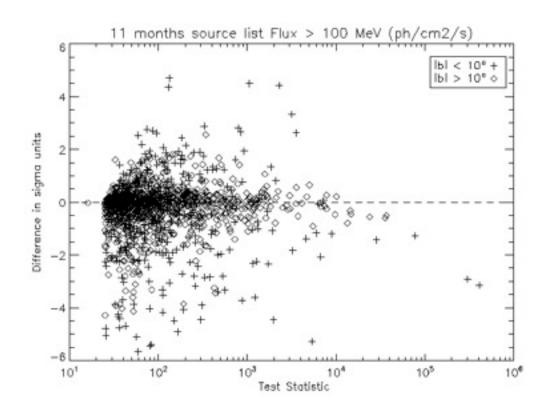


Diffuse Emission Uncertainties

- Compared output using two different diffuse models
 - With good statistics, 10% of the background can still be significant

In the Galactic plane, dispersion due to diffuse model is 1.8o

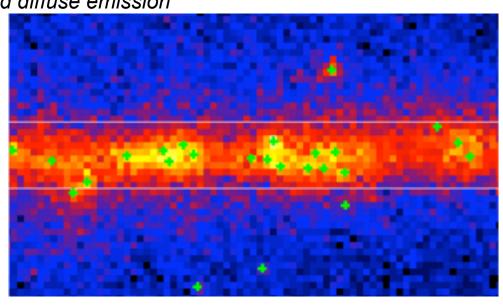
Outside the plane, dispersion is 0.7σ





Source Confusion

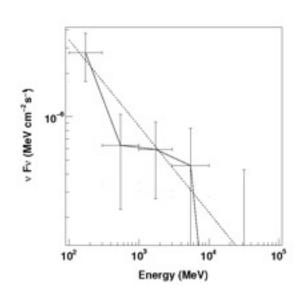
- Overlapping PSFs
 - Spectrally weighted PSF is much larger for soft sources
 - Outside the plane, average separation is ~3°
 - Much larger than r₆₈ (0.8°) at 1 GeV
 - In the plane, sources clearly not separated (below)
 - Possibly unmodeled diffuse emission
 - 15° region of the Galactic Ridge
 - 1 100 GeV
 - Crosses are sources
 - Pixel size = 0.2°
 - Strong galactic diffuse component introduces bias against soft sources





Finding Interesting Sources

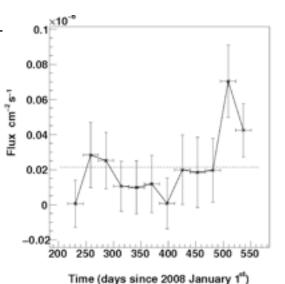
- Source variability
 - Light curves and variability index for each source (available in Browse)
 - Variability index is χ^2 against constant hypothesis (~250 sources)
 - Pulsars are stable within 3%
 - Bright blazars are very clearly variable



Spectral shape

- 5-band initial spectrum for each source
 - Curvature index is χ² against power-law spectral shape
- Typical spectrum is broken, so power-law estimate is high

Upper limits are given for bands or intervals where the source is not significant





Finding More Interesting Sources

Source Associations

- Positional associations with other gamma-ray catalogs
 - 3rd EGRET, Revised EGR, and First AGILE catalogs
- Probabilistic associations with likely source catalogs
 - Pulsars, SNRs, PWNe, blazars, other AGN, etc.
- Find your favorite source!

Be aware...

- For studies at low Galactic latitudes and toward prominent local clouds, be aware that some 1FGL sources may be unresolved diffuse emission
- Whether or not to include such sources in the source model is a caseby-case decision