



The EGRET Legacy: Setting the Stage for Fermi

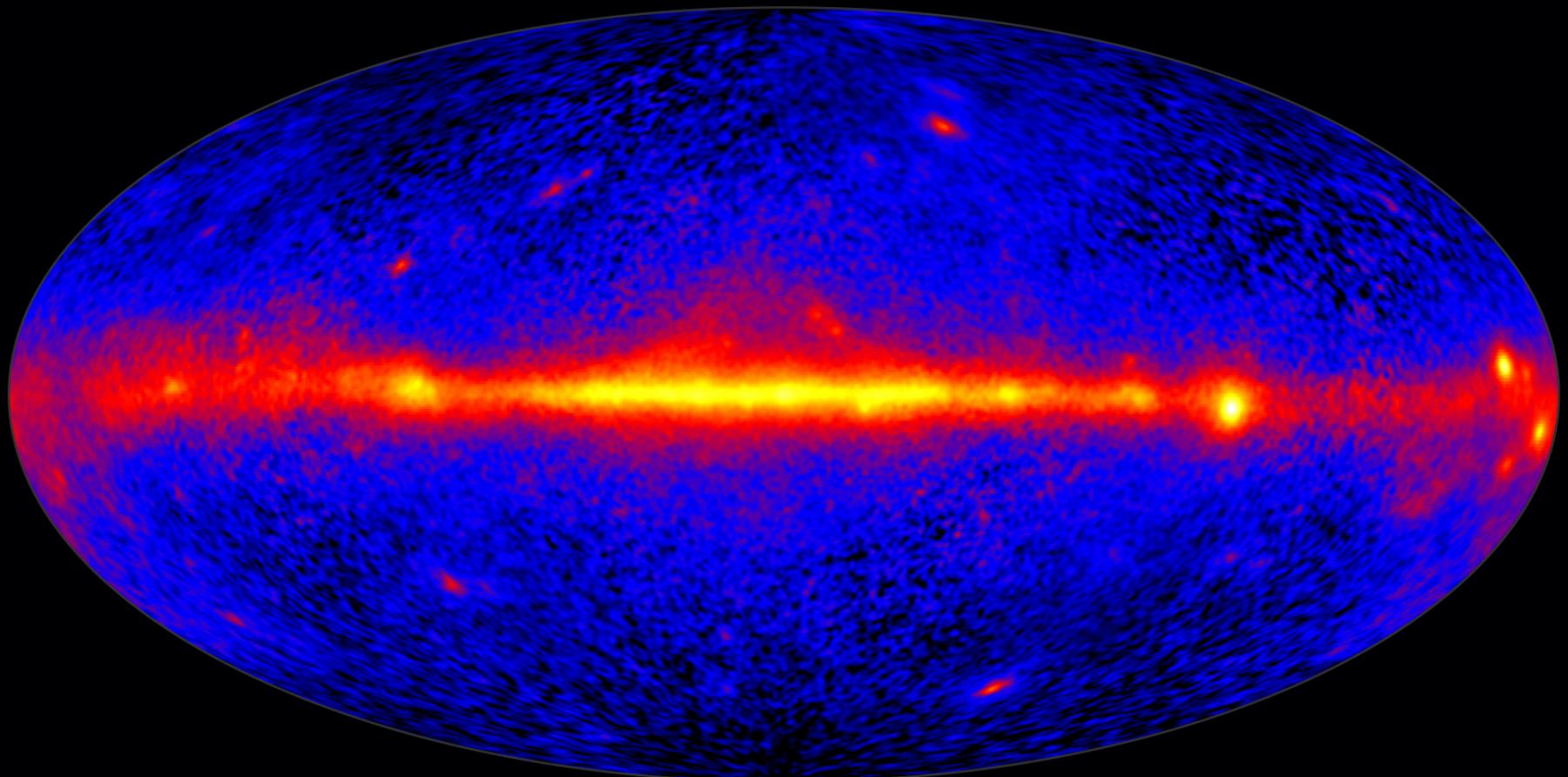
Dave Thompson, NASA GSFC

CGRO 25th Anniversary of Launch

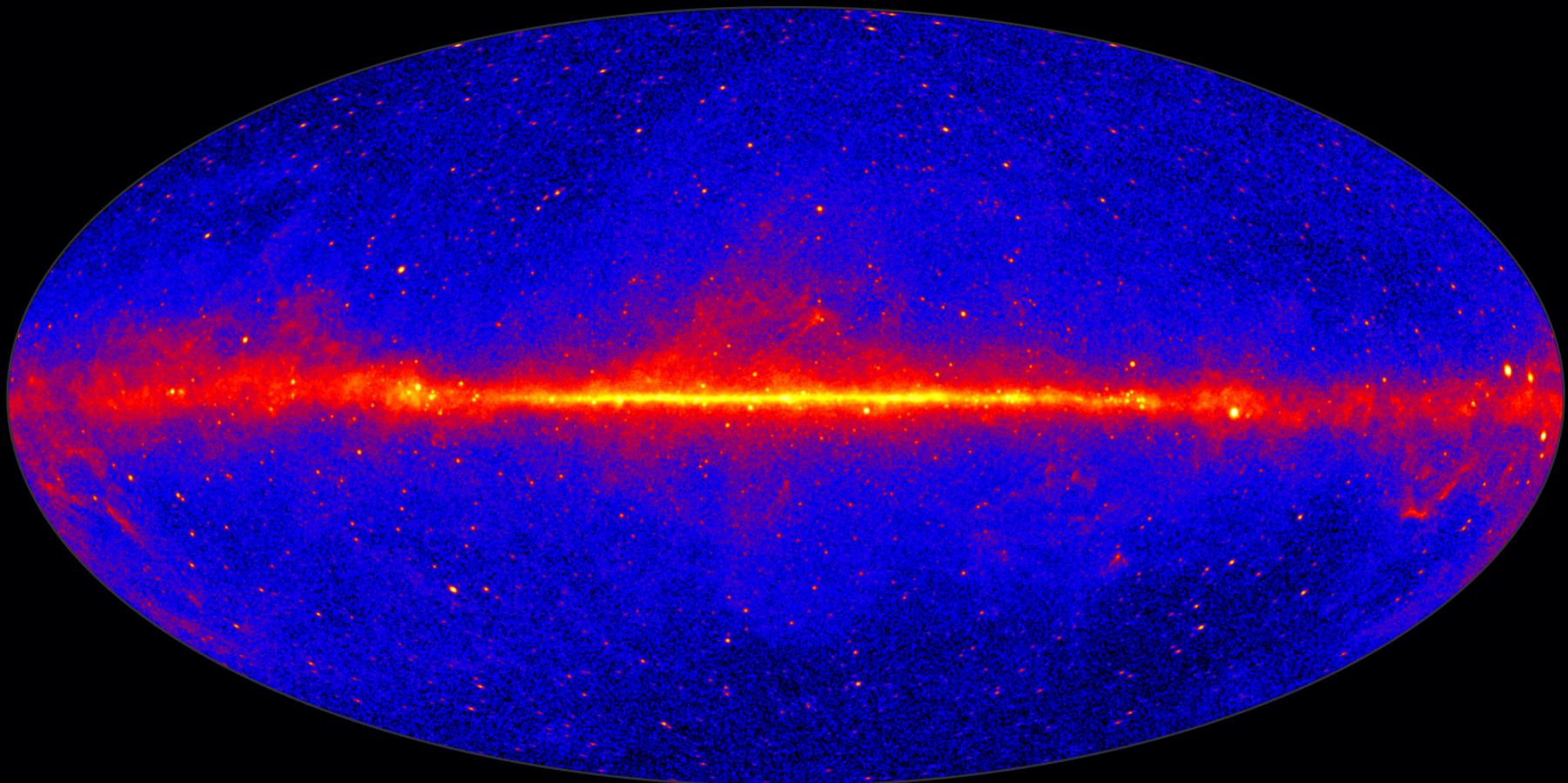


THE EGRET TEAM

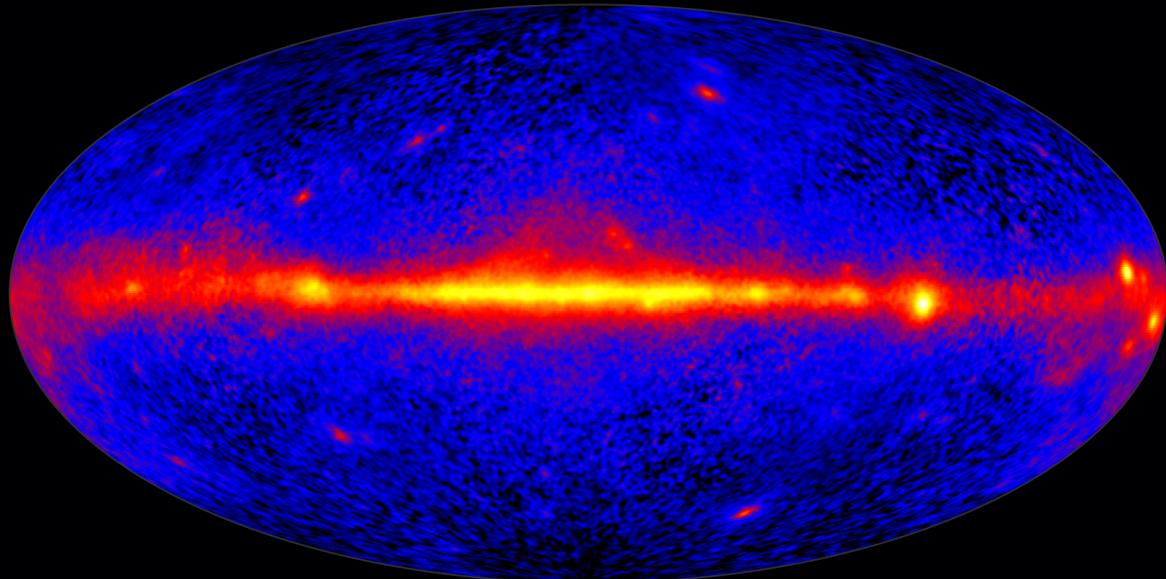




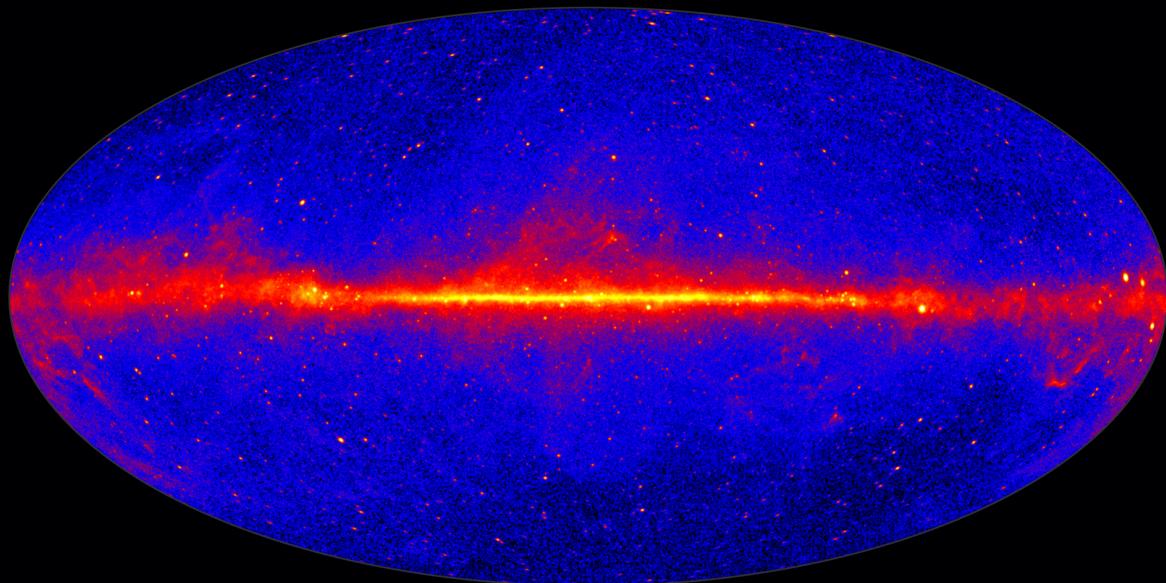
EGRET all-sky map of gamma rays above 100 MeV



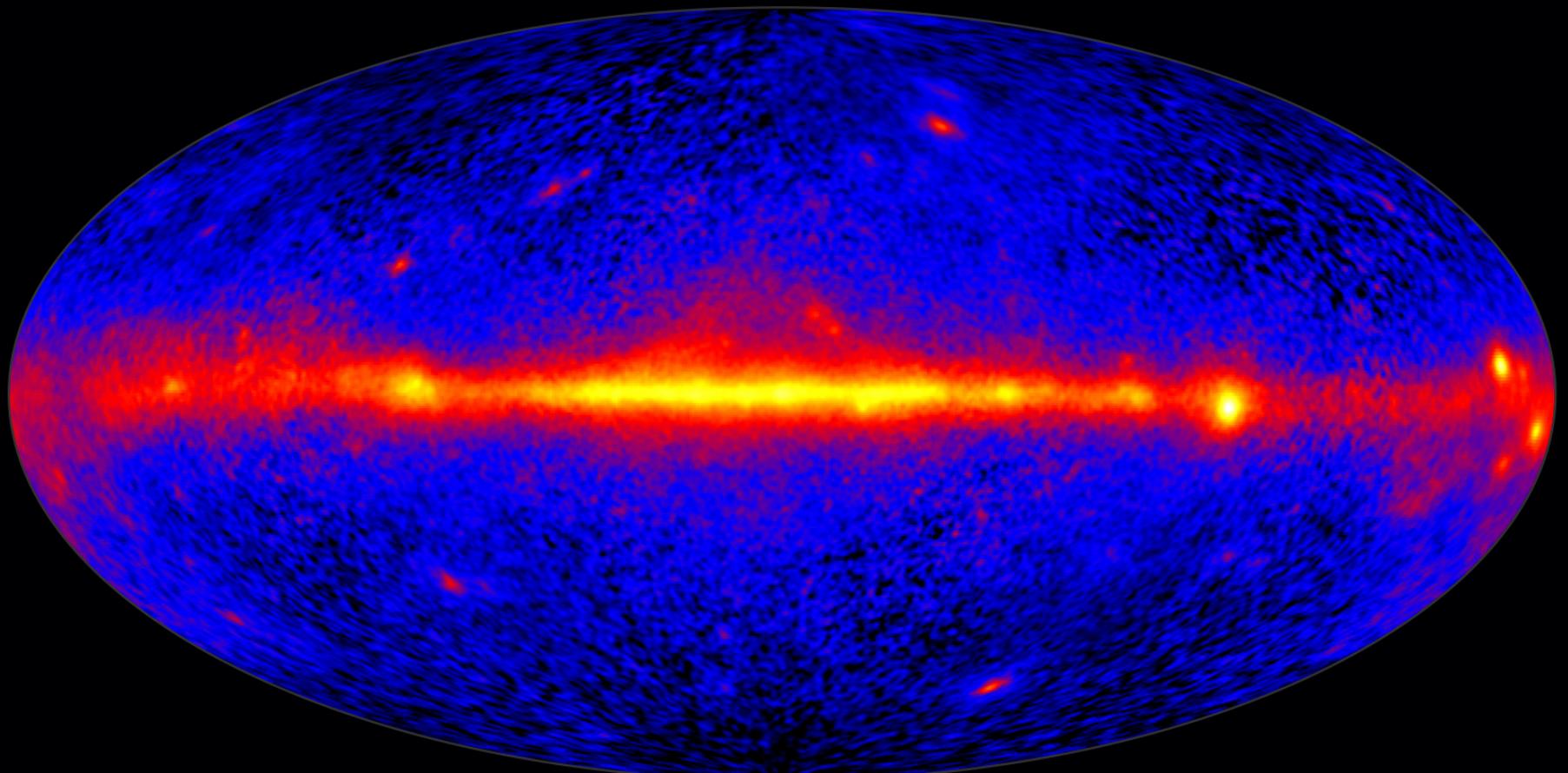
Fermi LAT 7-year all-sky map of gamma rays above 1 GeV



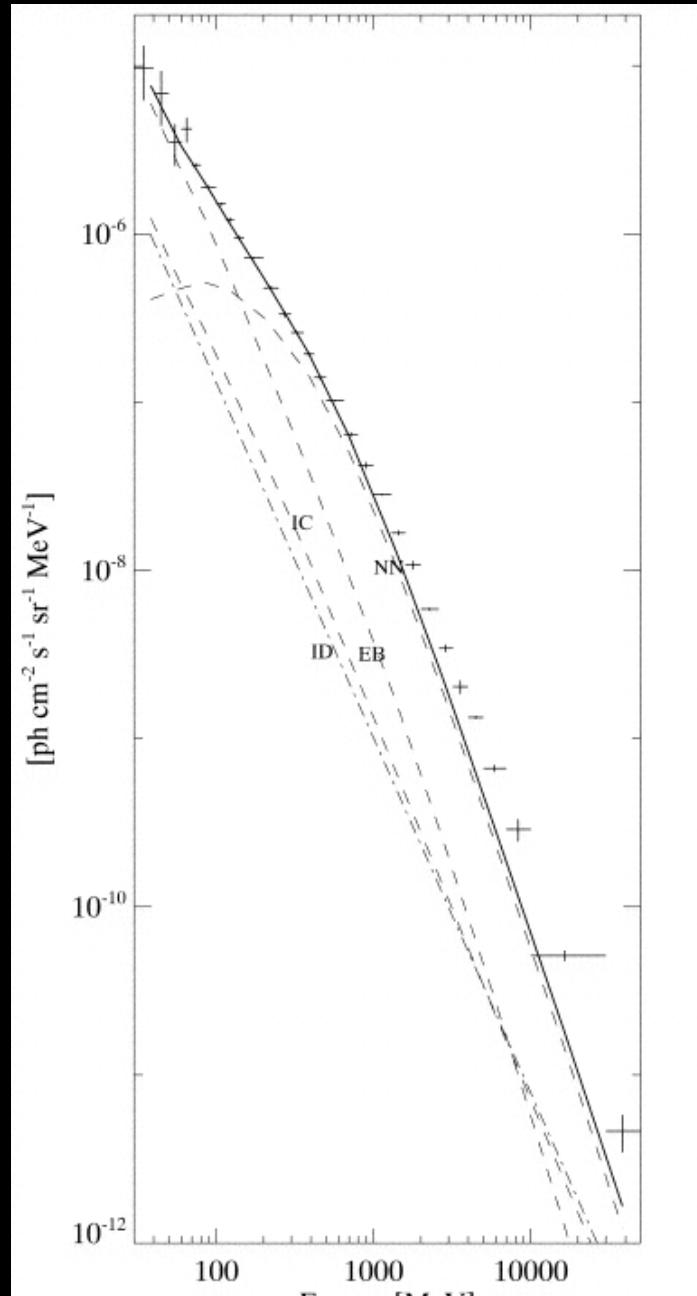
EGRET all-sky map of gamma rays above 100 MeV



Fermi LAT 7-year all-sky map of gamma rays above 1 GeV



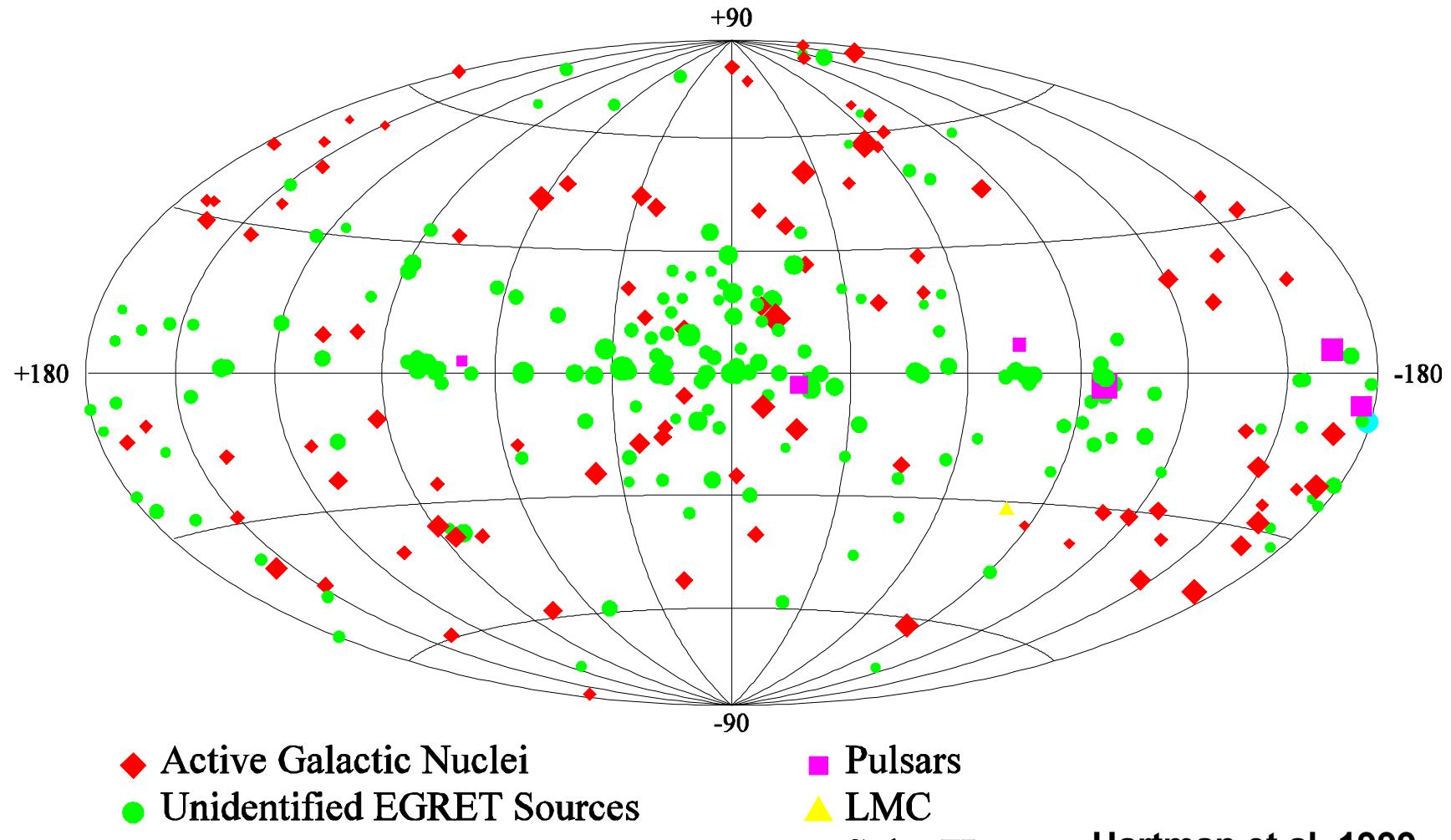
EGRET all-sky map of gamma rays above 100 MeV



Energy spectrum of the
Galactic Center region,
showing the curvature
produced by the decay of
neutral pions produced in
cosmic-ray collisions with
the interstellar gas
(Hunter et al. 1997)

Third EGRET Catalog

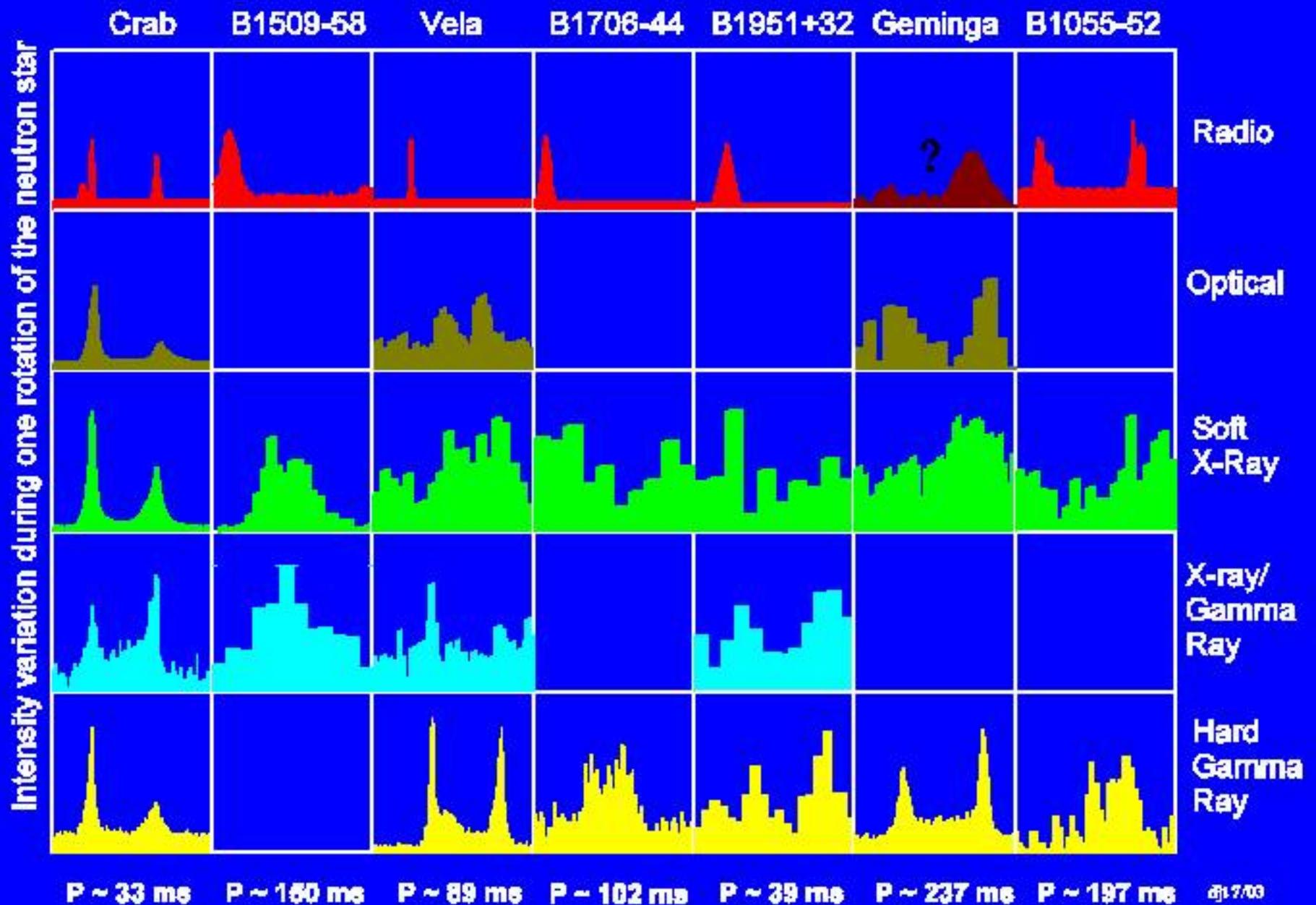
$E > 100 \text{ MeV}$



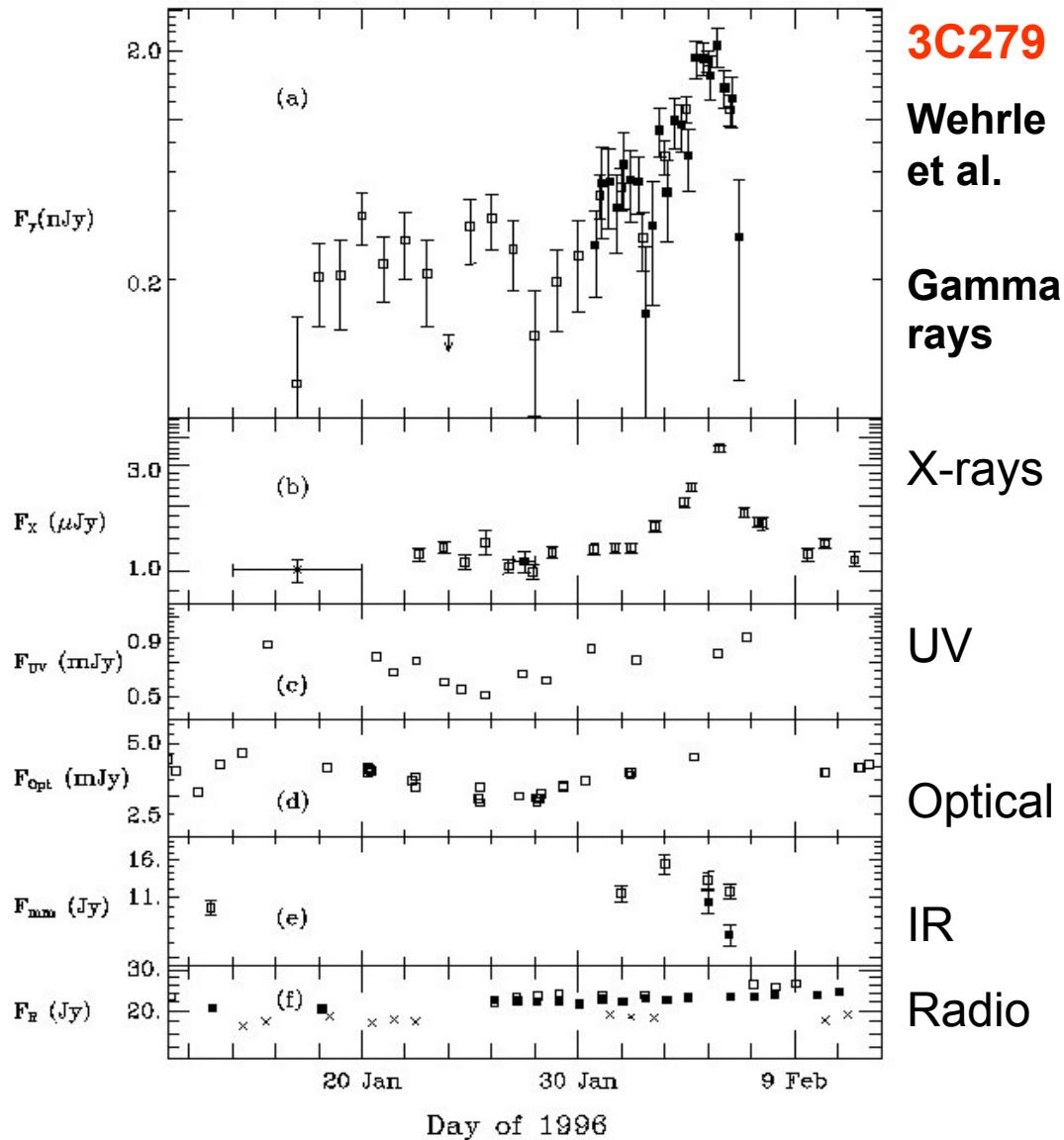
Hartman et al. 1999

271 Sources. Over half the total are unidentified

Variety in Pulsar Light Curves Emphasizes the need for Multiwavelength Studies



Multiwavelength Blazar Variability - 1996



3C279

Wehrle
et al.

Gamma
rays

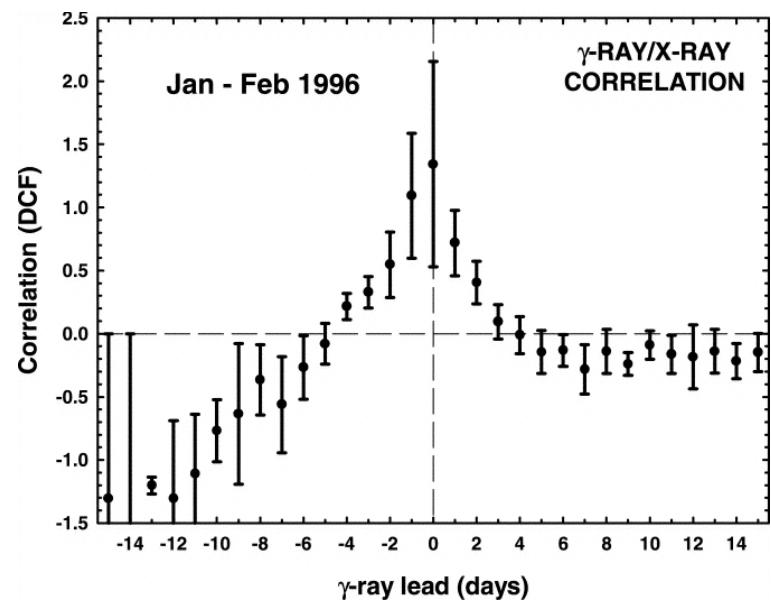
X-rays

UV

Optical

IR

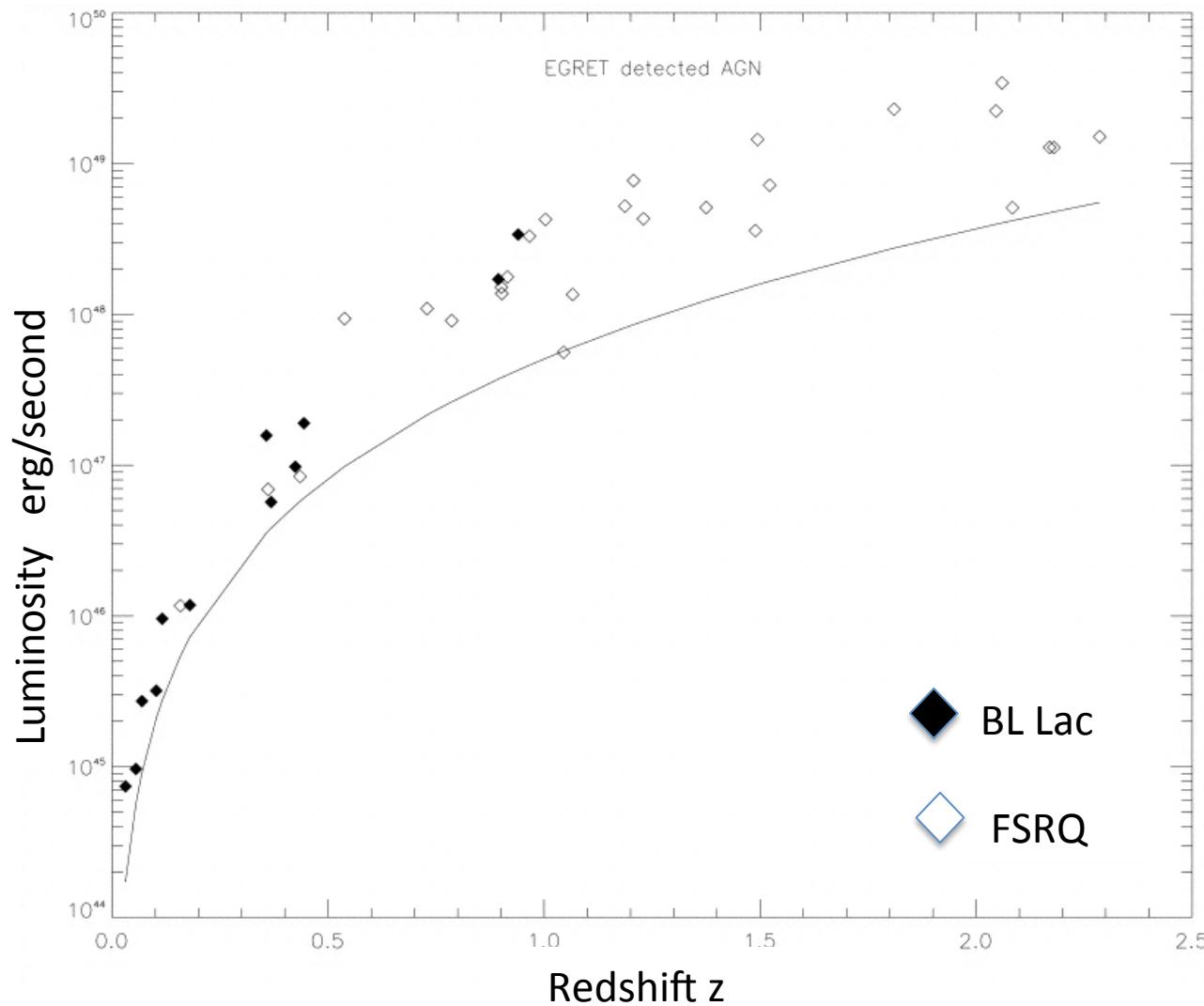
Radio



Strong X-ray/gamma ray
correlation with no lag

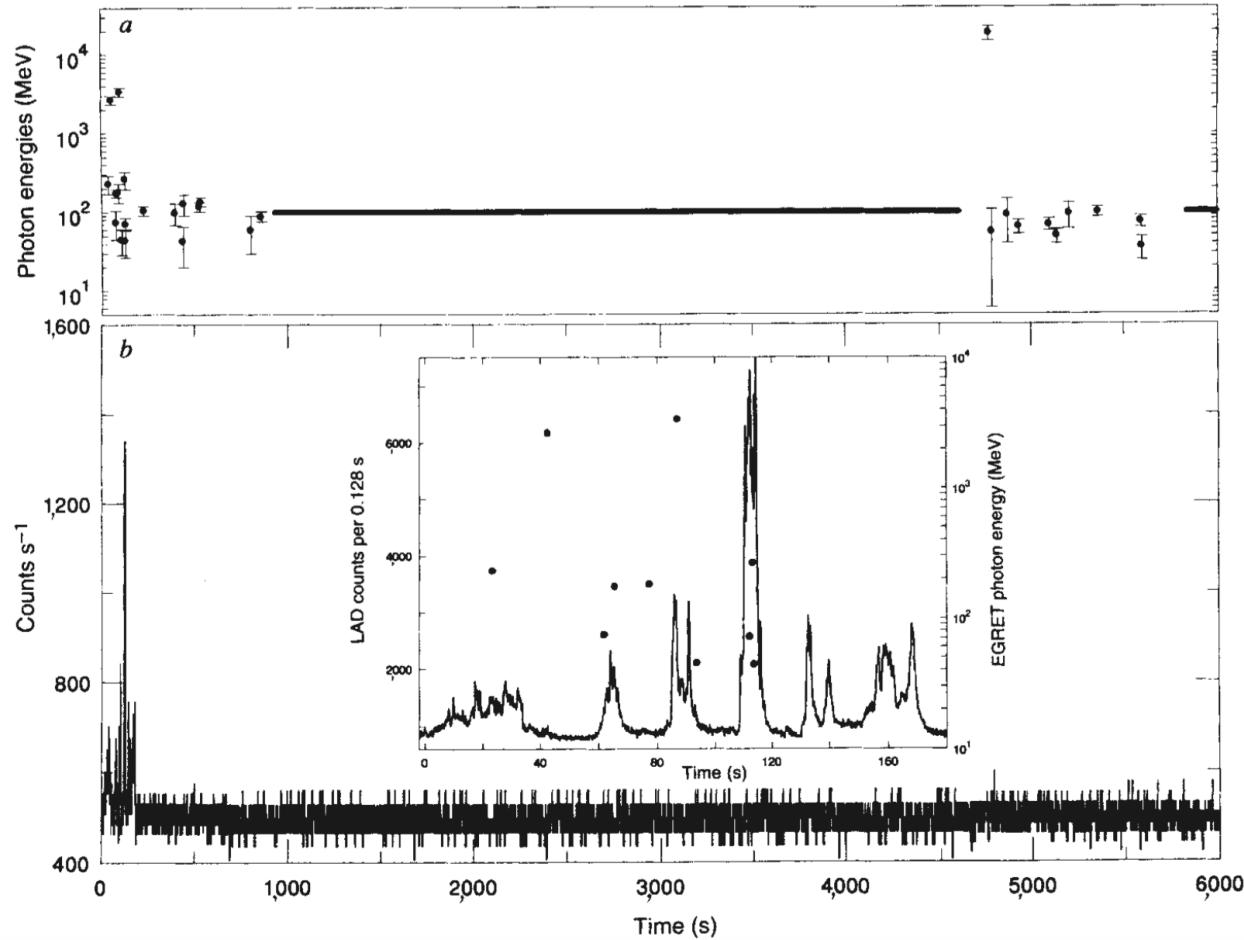
Hartman et al. 2001

Blazar Population Study



EGRET detected enough blazars to carry out a population study, showing that BL Lac objects are closer and have lower luminosity than Flat Spectrum Radio Quasars (Mukherjee et al. 1997)

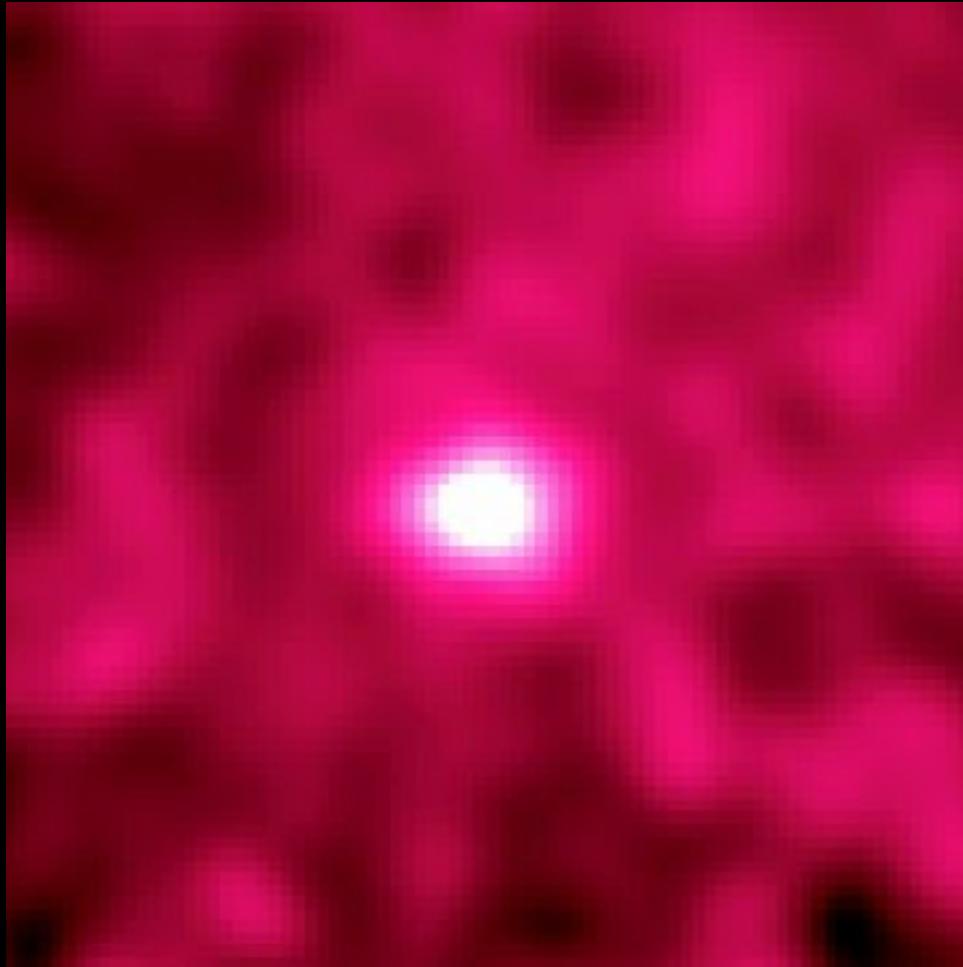
Gamma-ray Bursts



EGRET showed that gamma-ray bursts could have long-duration and multi-GeV emission
(Hurley et al. 1994)

Much of the EGRET GRB analysis was done by Brenda Dingus.

Gamma rays from the Moon



EGRET detected the Moon as it moved through the EGRET field of view. These gamma rays come from cosmic rays hitting the lunar surface. In the EGRET energy range, the Moon is brighter than the quiet Sun (Thompson et al. 1997).

Some Other EGRET Results

- Supernova remnants like IC443 and W44 (tentative)
- Radio galaxy Centaurus A
- High-mass binaries LSI +61 303 and LS 5039 (tentative)
- Galactic Center
- Large Magellanic Cloud

Some EGRET Statistics

From the Astrophysics Data System:

Since 1986, there have been 2850 abstracts that mentioned EGRET.

The Third EGRET Catalog paper (Hartman et al 1999) has been cited by other papers nearly 1500 times.

The extragalactic diffuse paper (Sreekumar et al 1998) and the Galactic diffuse paper (Hunter et al 1997) each have over 600 citations.

Ten other EGRET team papers and 12 other papers based on EGRET have at least 200 citations.

SUMMARY

EGRET, designed for a two-year mission, operated successfully to the end of the nine-year Compton Observatory mission.

The EGRET results demonstrated the dynamic nature of the gamma-ray sky.

In addition to the important EGRET results on pulsars, blazars, gamma-ray bursts, and diffuse radiation, EGRET provided hints of some of the future discoveries to be made with Fermi.