

# $\gamma$ -ray Emission from the Brightest Cluster Galaxy NGC 1275?

*A Multiwavelength Perspective*

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# An Outline...

- A Case Study of a Galaxy Cluster
  - NGC 1275 – a non-thermal picture
  - Emission scenarios and scales
- Some words about *Fermi*
  - The analysis procedure
- The work
  - Temporal and spectral analysis
  - Preliminary results and interpretation



# Galaxy Clusters

- Largest gravitationally-bound structures in the Universe
- Bremsstrahlung X-rays reveal hot intra-cluster gas ( $10^7 - 10^8$  K)
- Presence of dark matter inferred
- *Cooling flows* where
$$t_{\text{cool}} < t_{\text{age}}$$

Pandora's Cluster

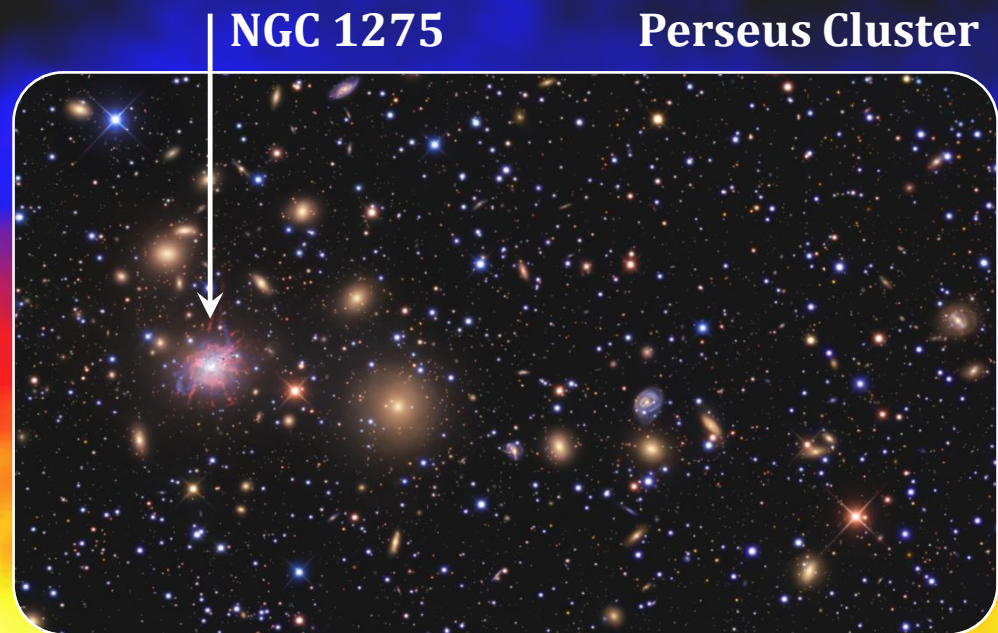




# Galaxy Clusters - BCGs

- In *cooling-core* clusters suppression of the cooling flow is observed, necessitating some reheating mechanism...
- Feedback from the central Brightest Cluster Galaxy (BCG) suggested.
- Gamma rays from AGN-driven processes

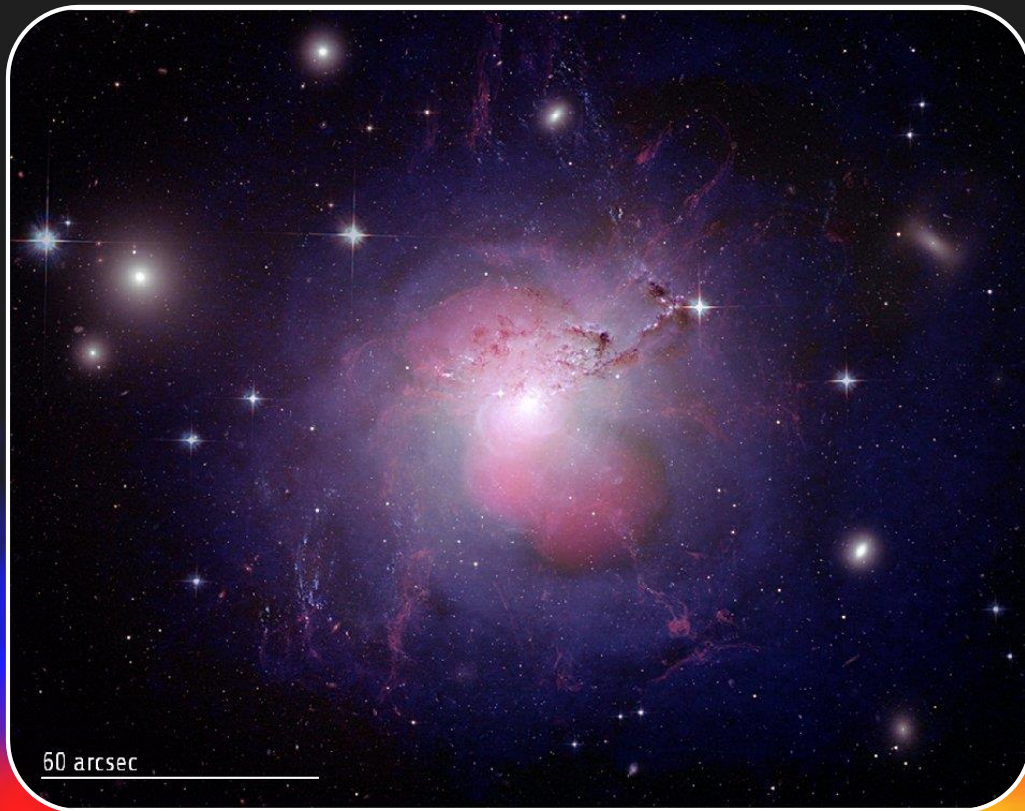
Prototypical case:



NGC 1275

Perseus Cluster

# NGC 1275 – A Non-thermal picture



- S-shaped radio lobes and relic 'ghost' bubbles suggest misaligned blazar of precessing jets blowing bubbles of relativistic plasma into the ICM
- Anticorrelation of radio (pink) and X-ray (blue) emission features

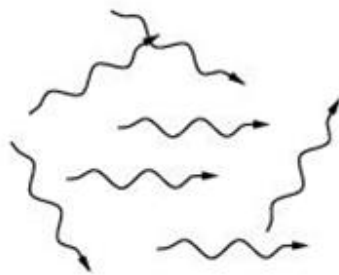
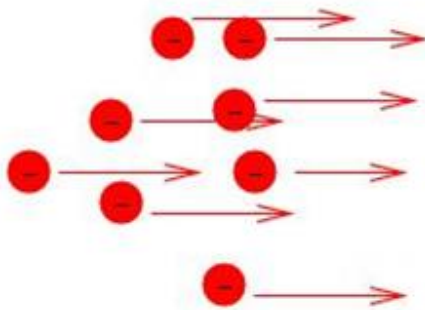
# $\gamma$ -rays from Clusters and BCGs?

- Gamma radiation is a tracer of Cosmic-ray acceleration.
- Clusters of galaxies are reservoirs of non-thermal particles.
- HE Emission via inverse Compton scattering:

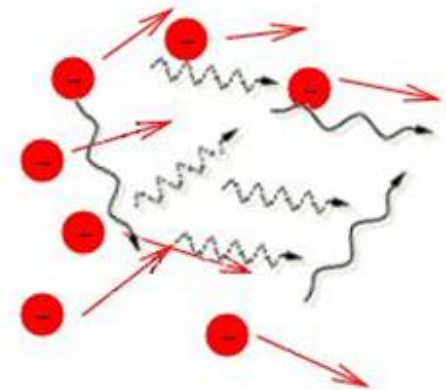
**Before**

electrons

background photons



**After**





# $\gamma$ -rays from Clusters and BCGs?

- Gamma radiation is a tracer of Cosmic-ray acceleration.
- Clusters of galaxies are reservoirs of non-thermal particles.
- HE Emission via inelastic proton-proton collisions:

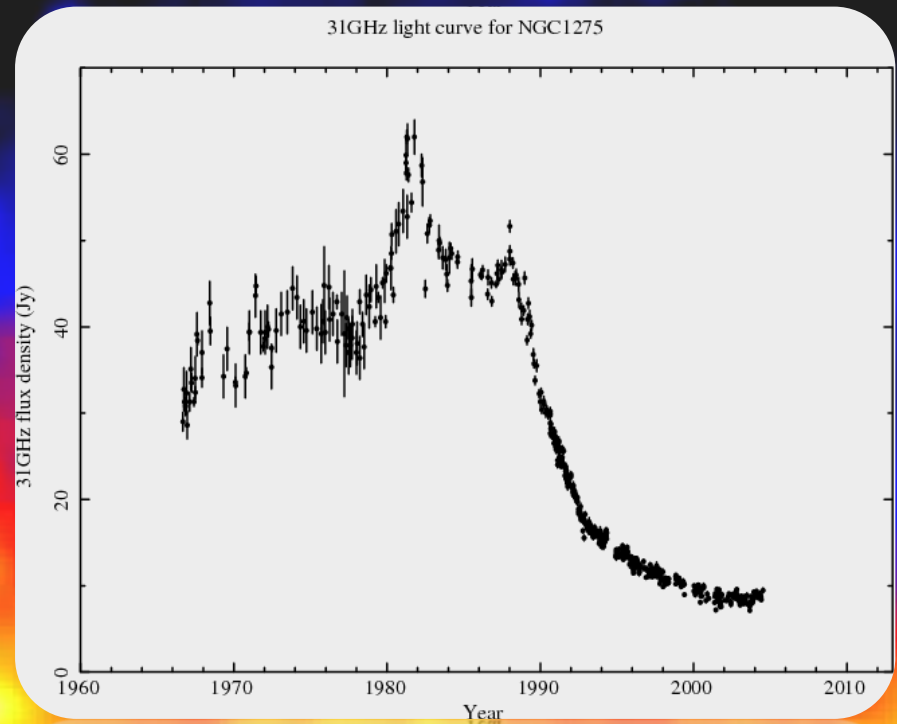
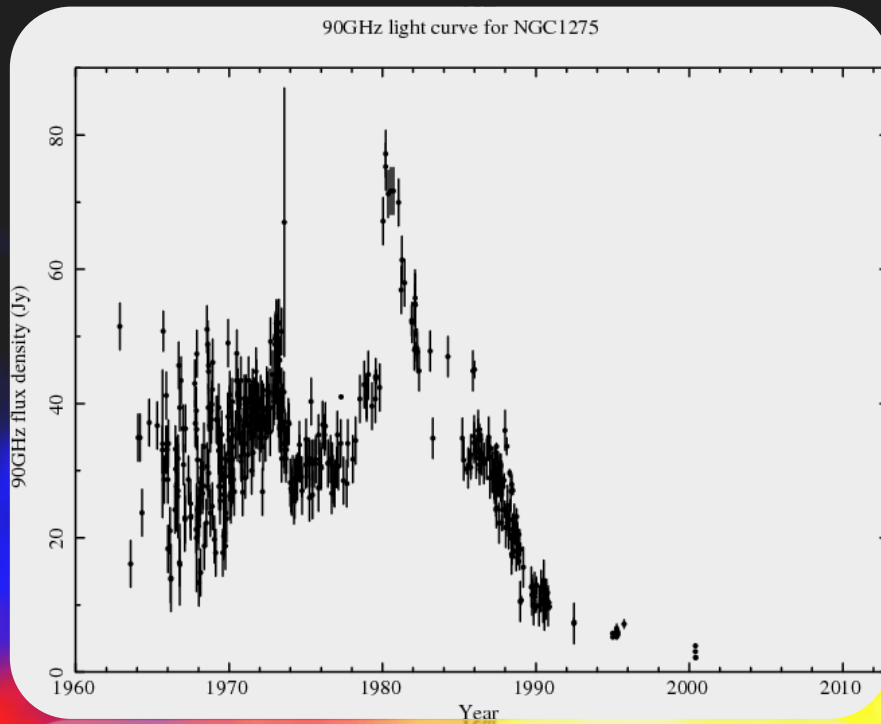
$$p + p \rightarrow p + p + \pi^0 \quad \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

$$p + p \rightarrow p + n + \pi^+$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

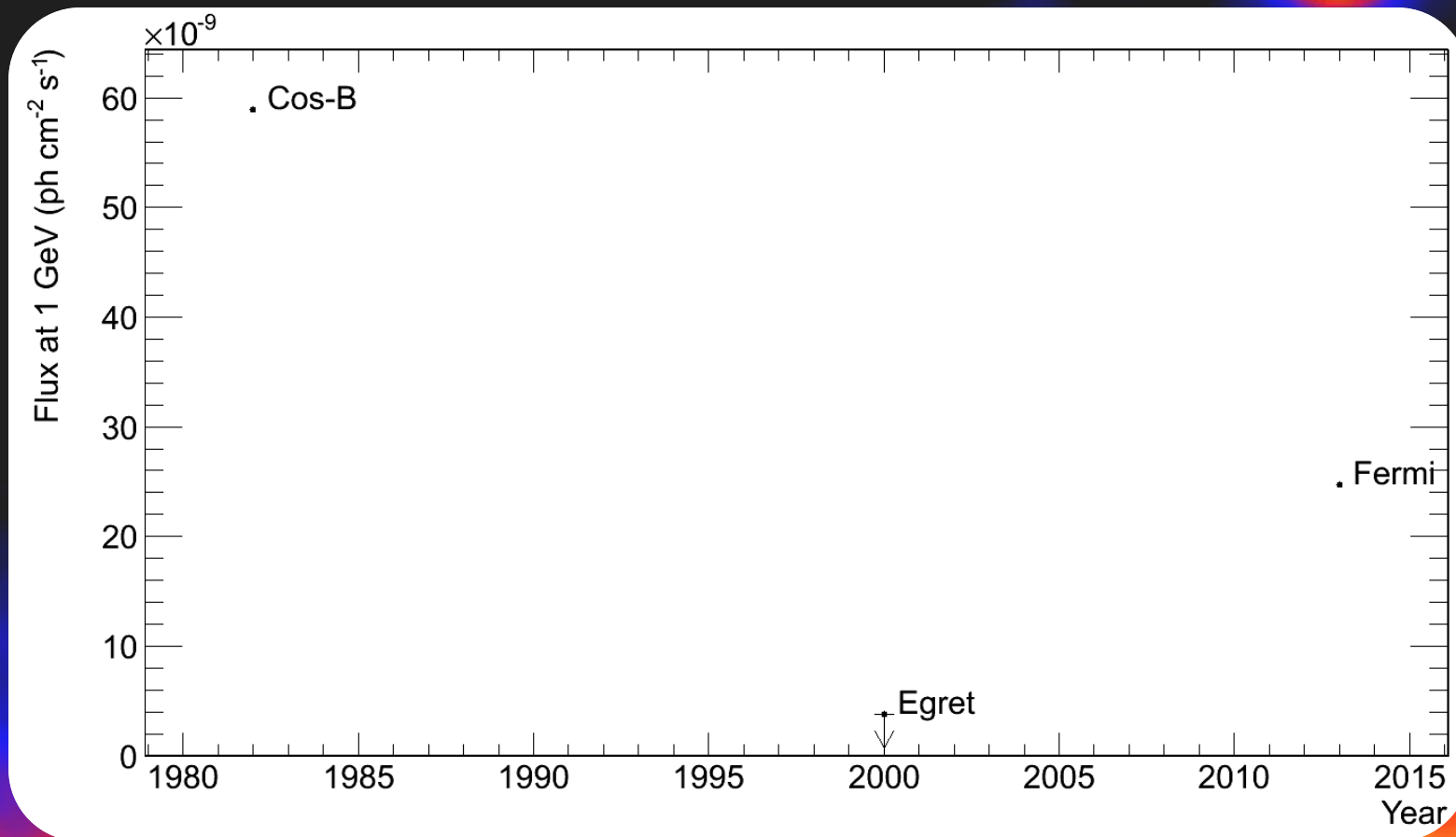
$$\pi^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

# Motivation – NGC 1275 in the Radio





# Motivation – NGC 1275 in $\gamma$ rays



# The *Fermi* Gamma-ray Space Telescope



- Launched in 2008
- Carries the **Large Area Telescope (LAT)**, which is sensitive to  $\gamma$ -rays of energy  
**20 MeV – 300 GeV**
- Surveys whole sky every  
~3 hours (two orbits)

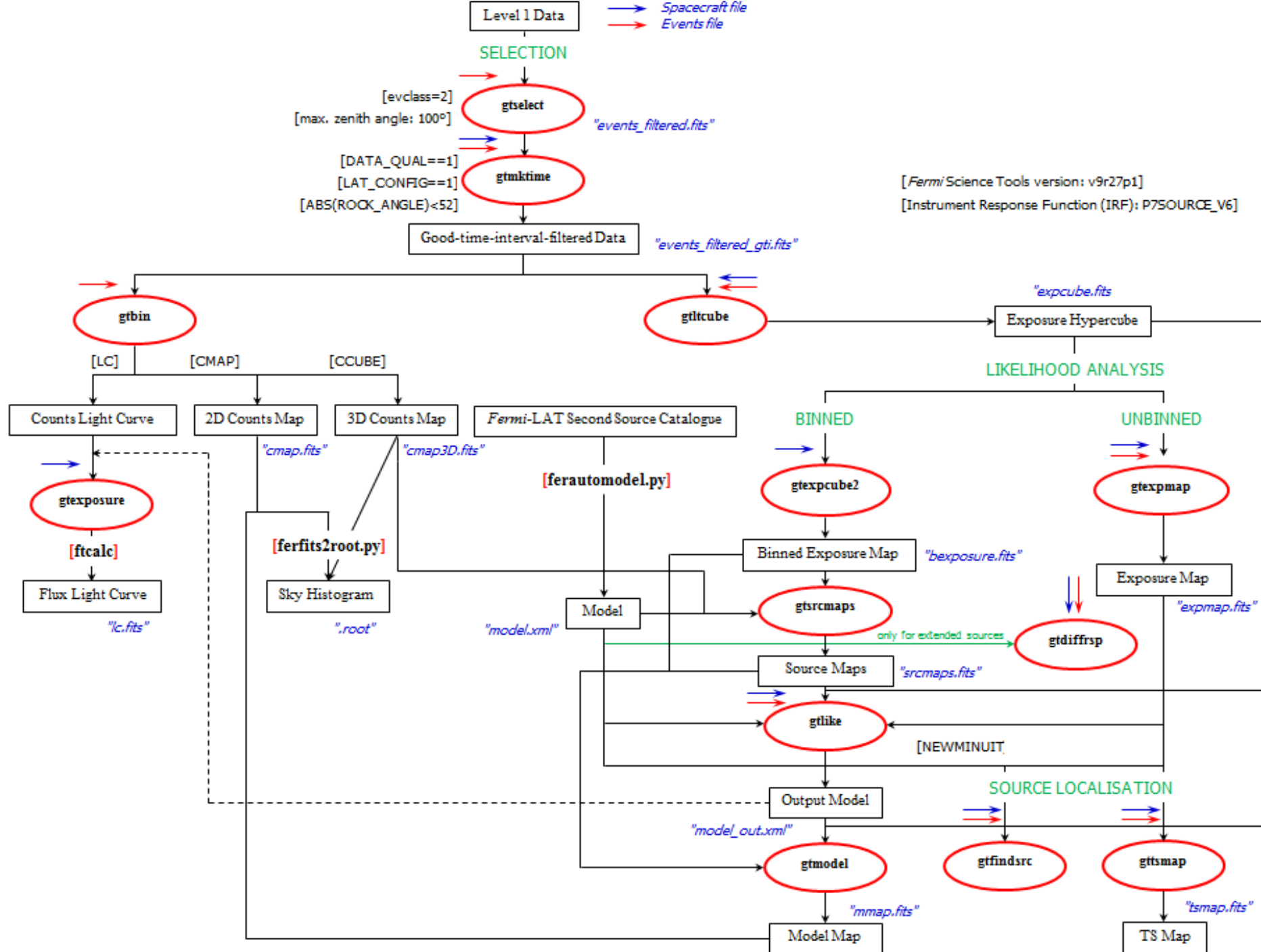


# *Fermi* Data Analysis

*Fermi* Science tools provided by the FSSC...

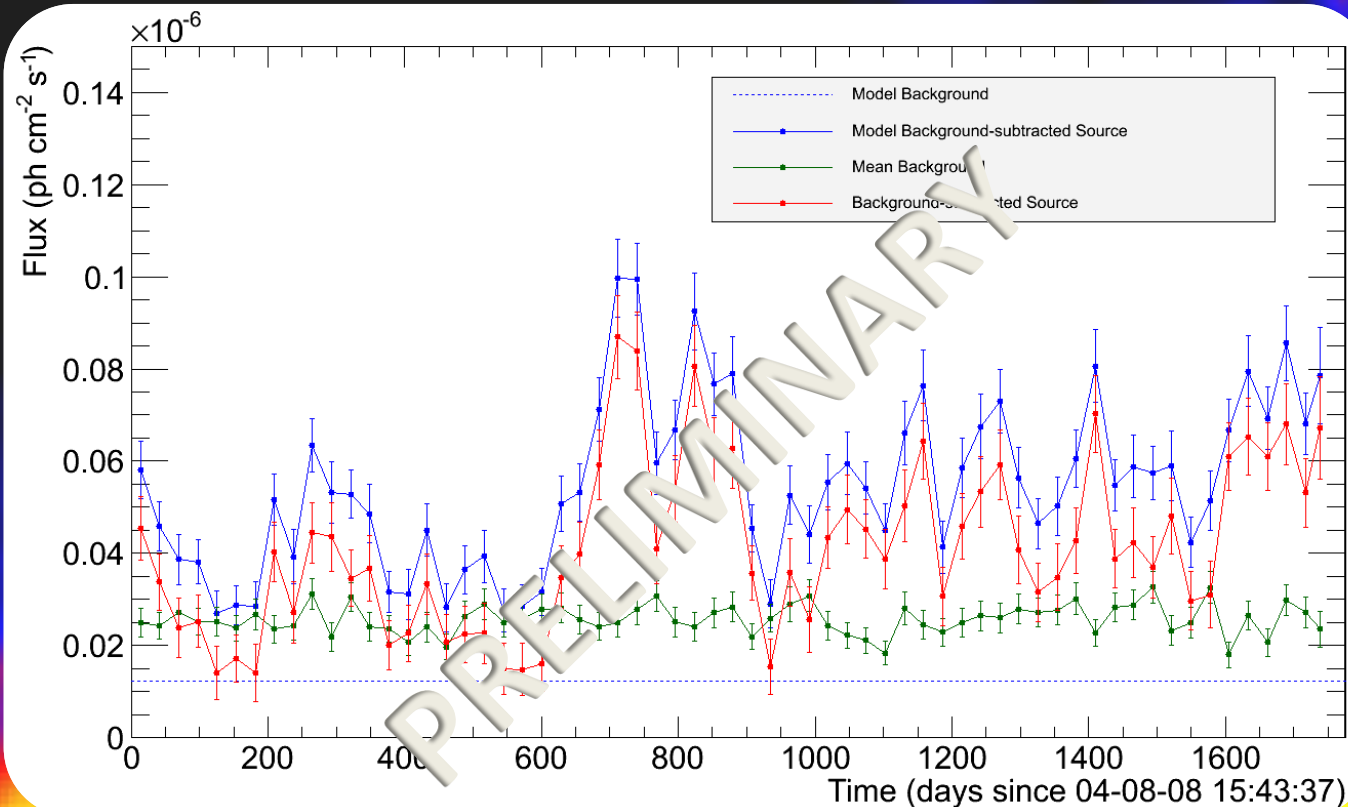






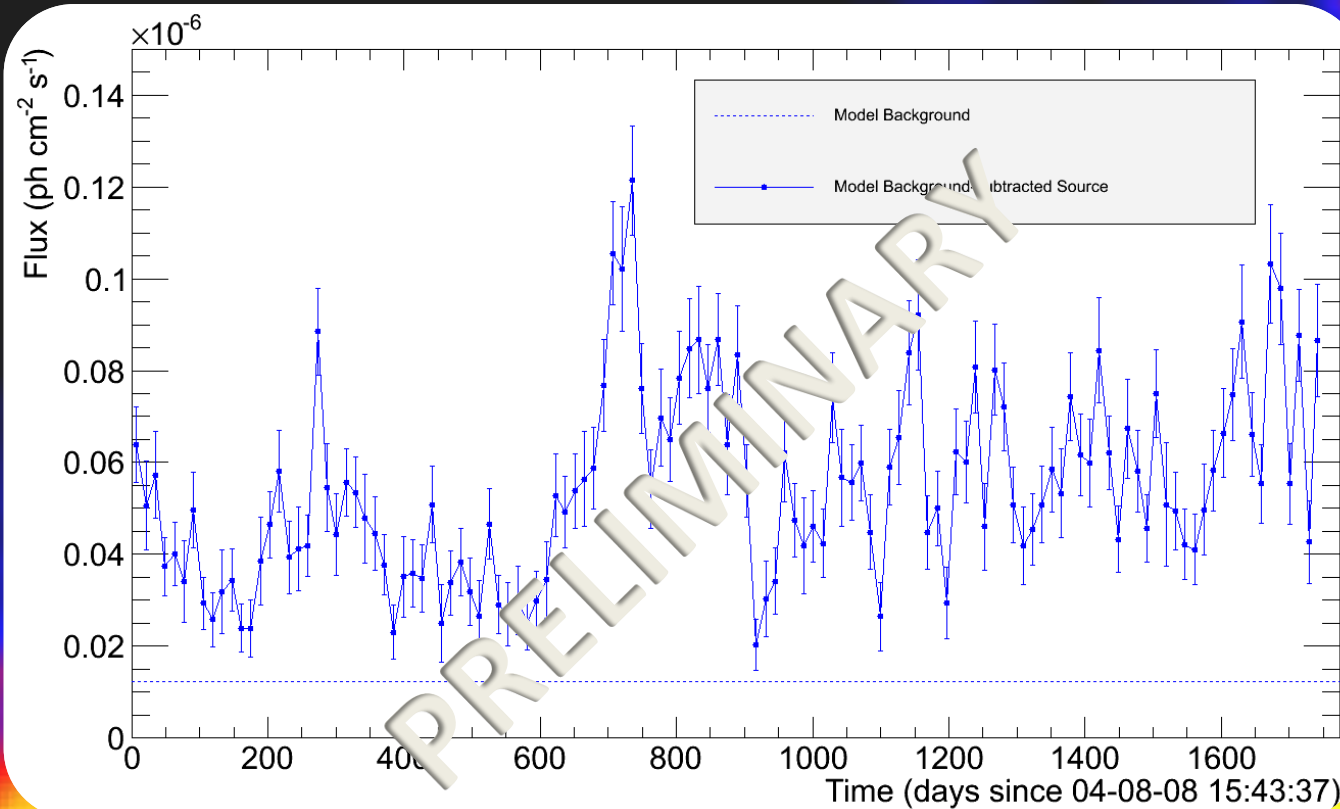
# Light Curves - *Fermi*

➤ Monthly bins:



# Light Curves - *Fermi*

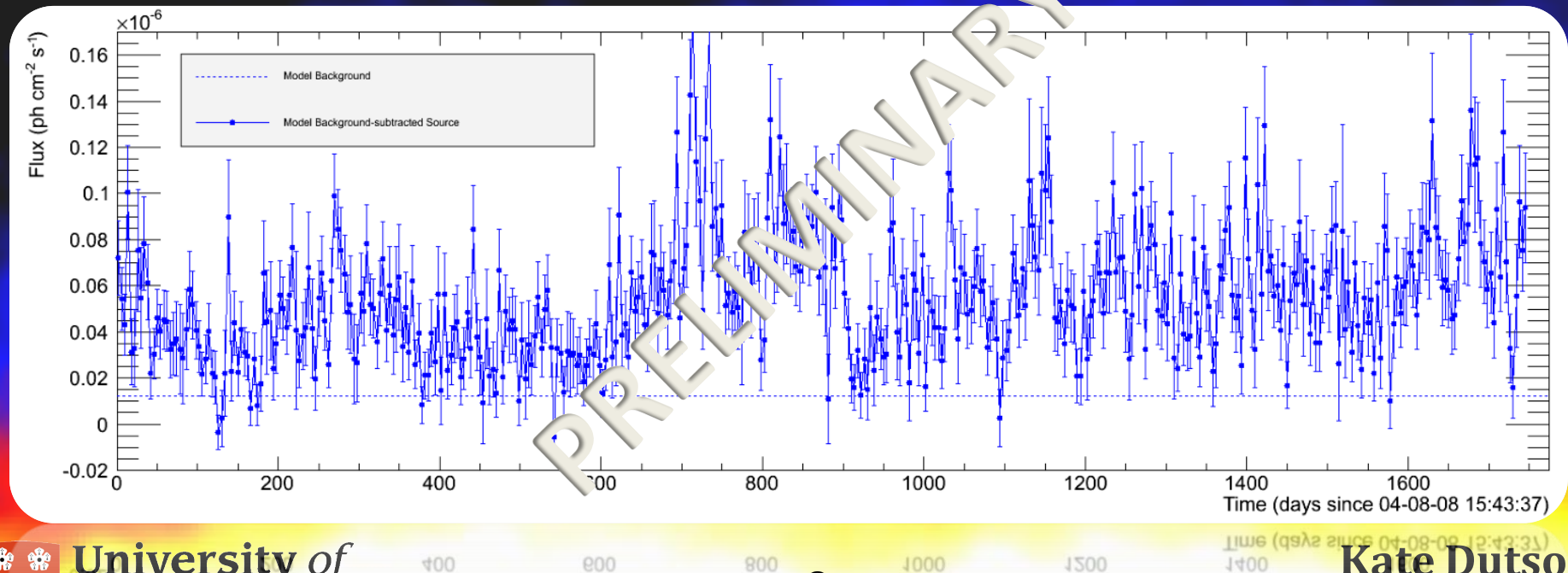
➤ 2-week bins:





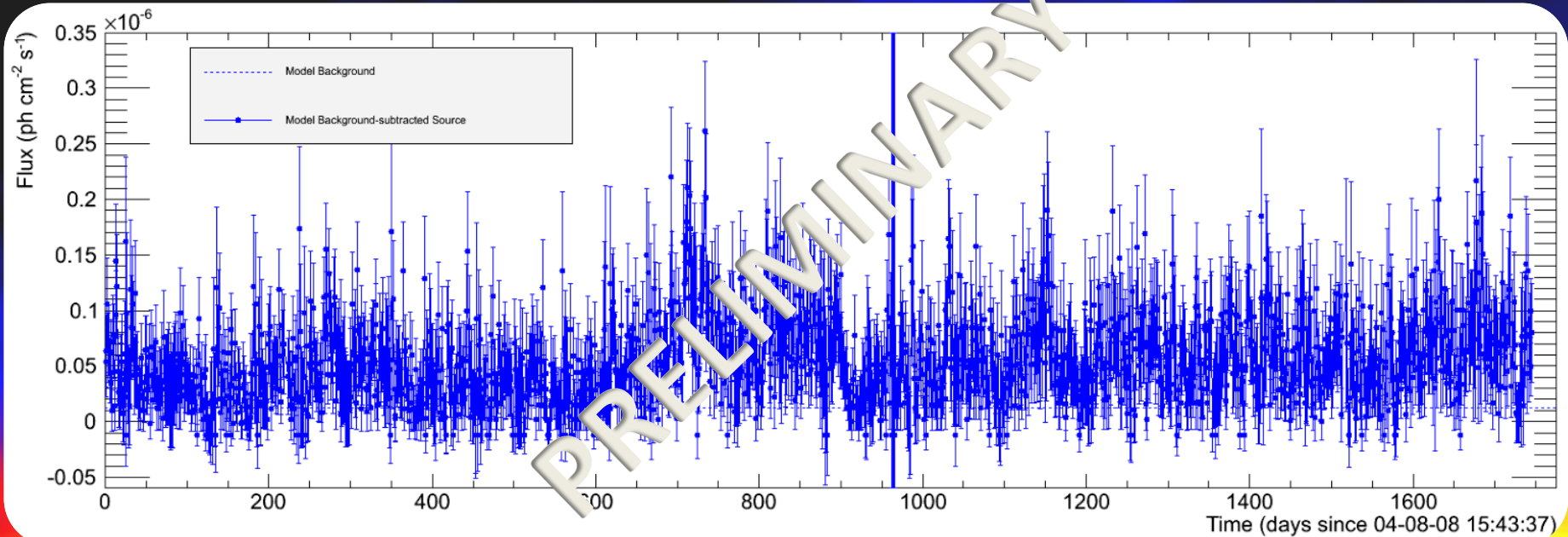
# Light Curves - *Fermi*

➤ 4-day bins:

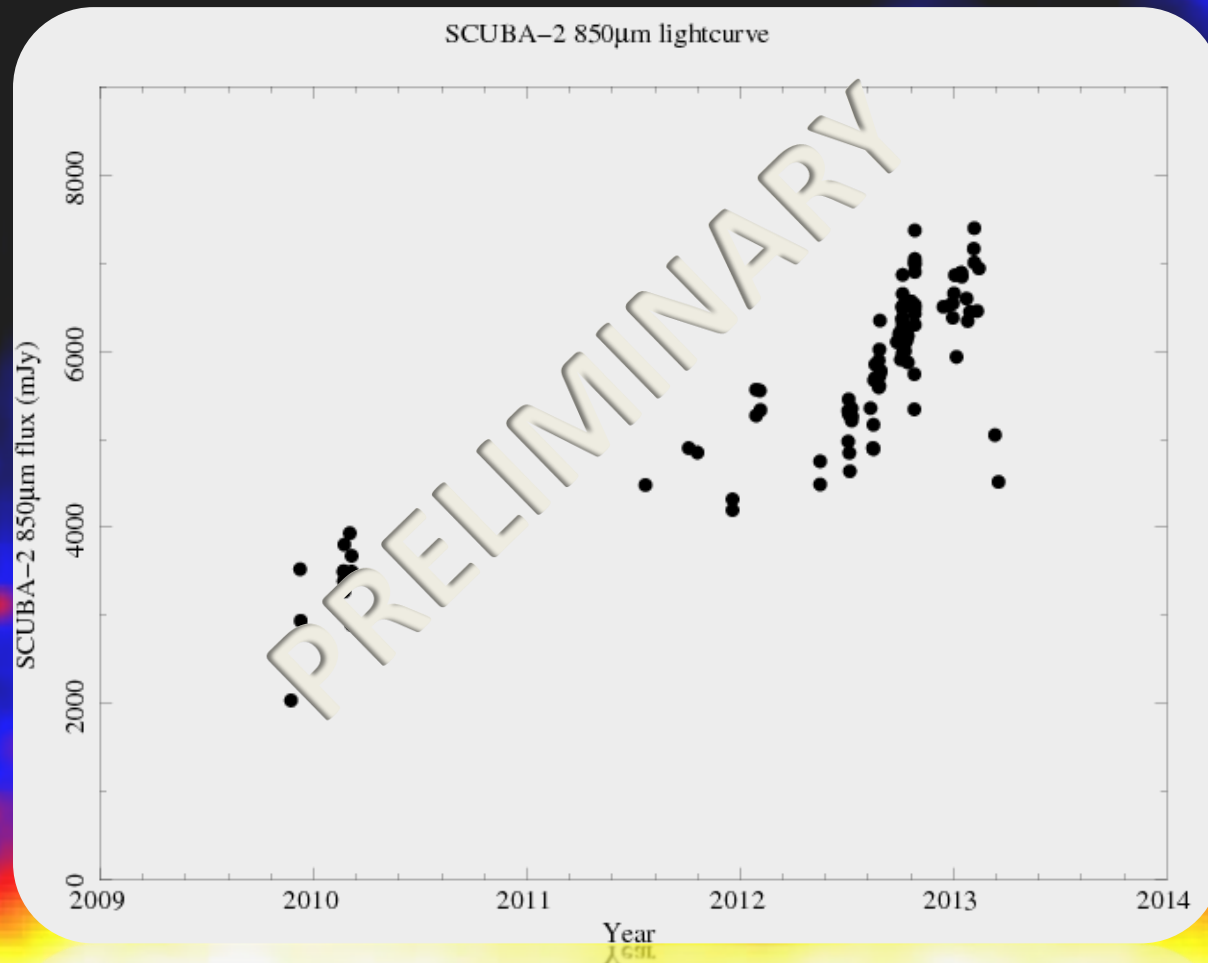


# Light Curves - *Fermi*

➤ daily bins:

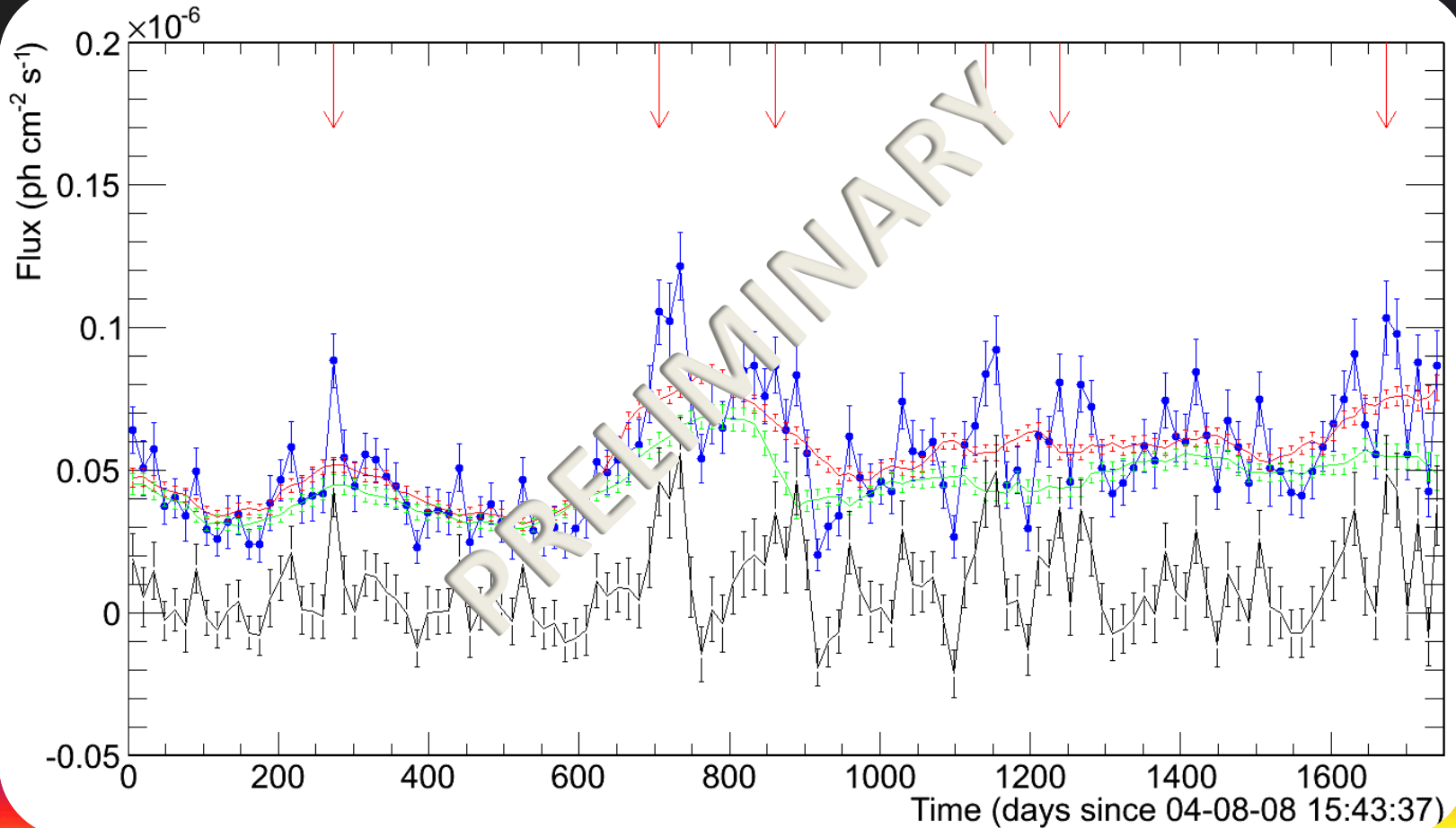


# Light Curves – SCUBA-2

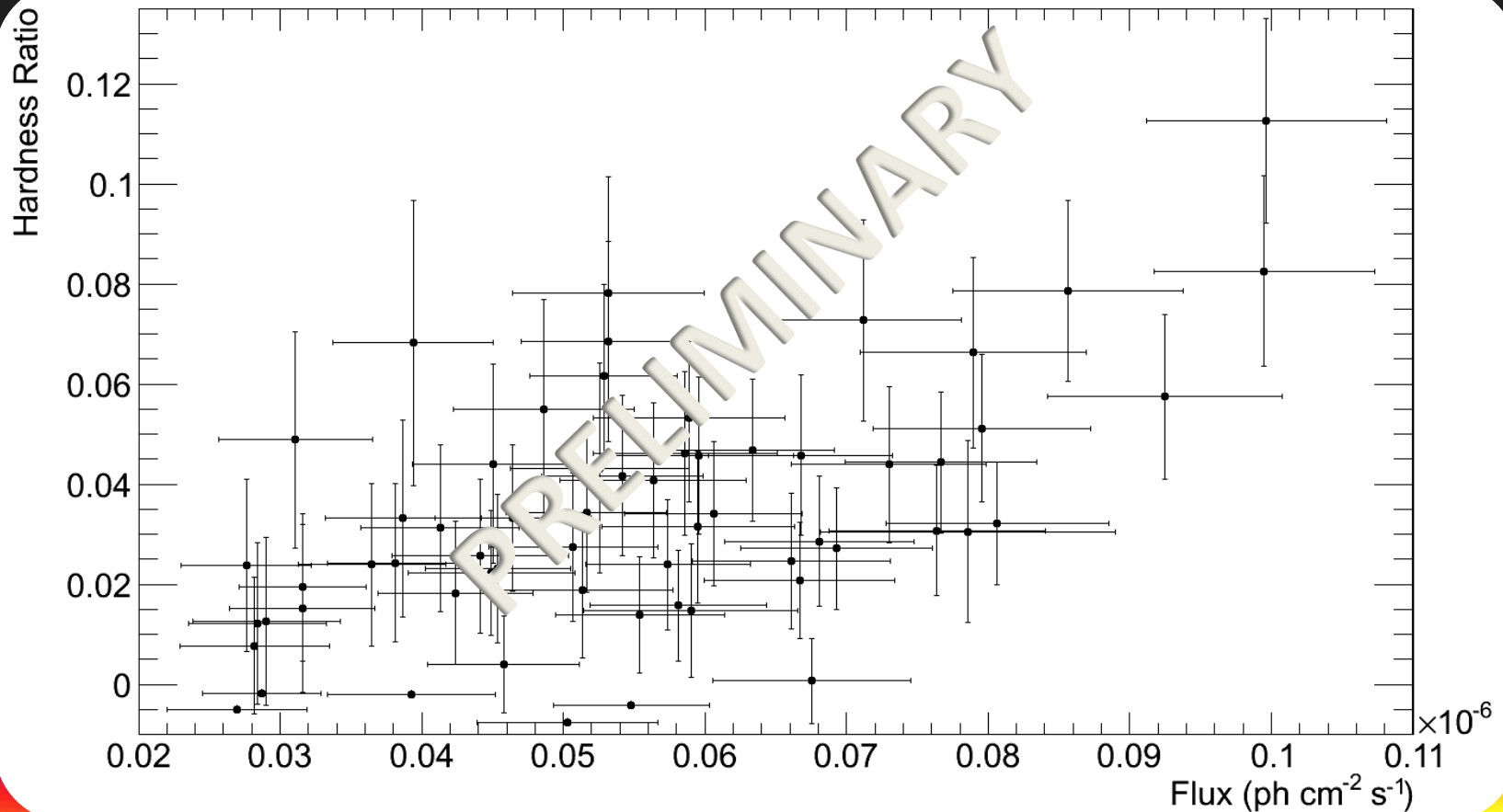




# Finding Flares...



# Hardness Ratio-Flux Correlation



# In Summary

- ❖ Historical motivation for observations of NGC 1275
- ❖ Highly variable source at radio wavelengths and in  $\gamma$  rays
- ❖ Correlation between overall flux and hardness ratio?
- ❖ Hints of a radio-gamma connection – to be further investigated!

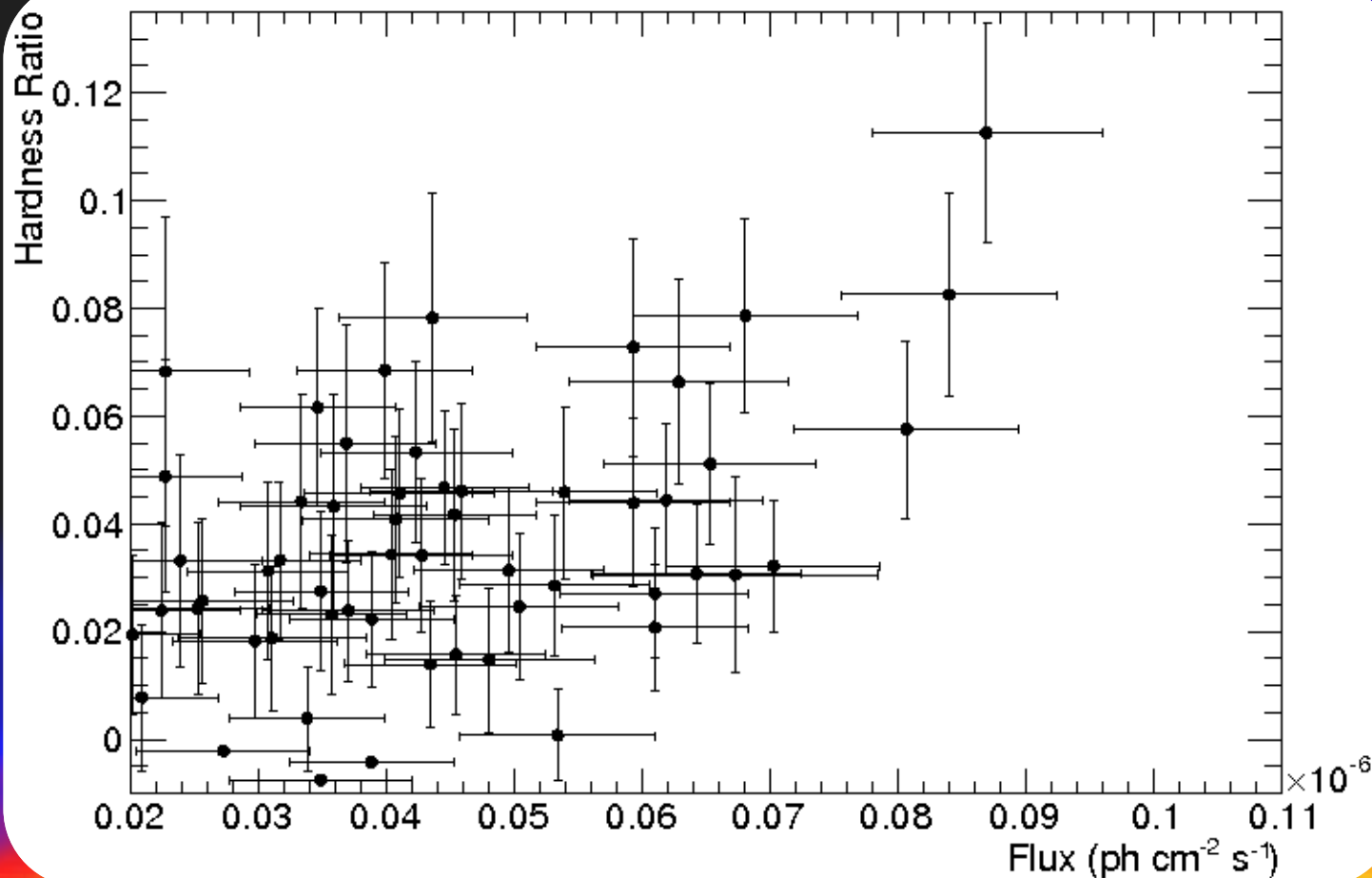


A Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) fluctuation map showing temperature variations across the sky. The map uses a color scale where blue represents cooler regions and red/yellow represents warmer regions. Several bright, localized sources are visible, including a prominent one in the upper right and another in the lower right. The background is a complex pattern of small-scale fluctuations.

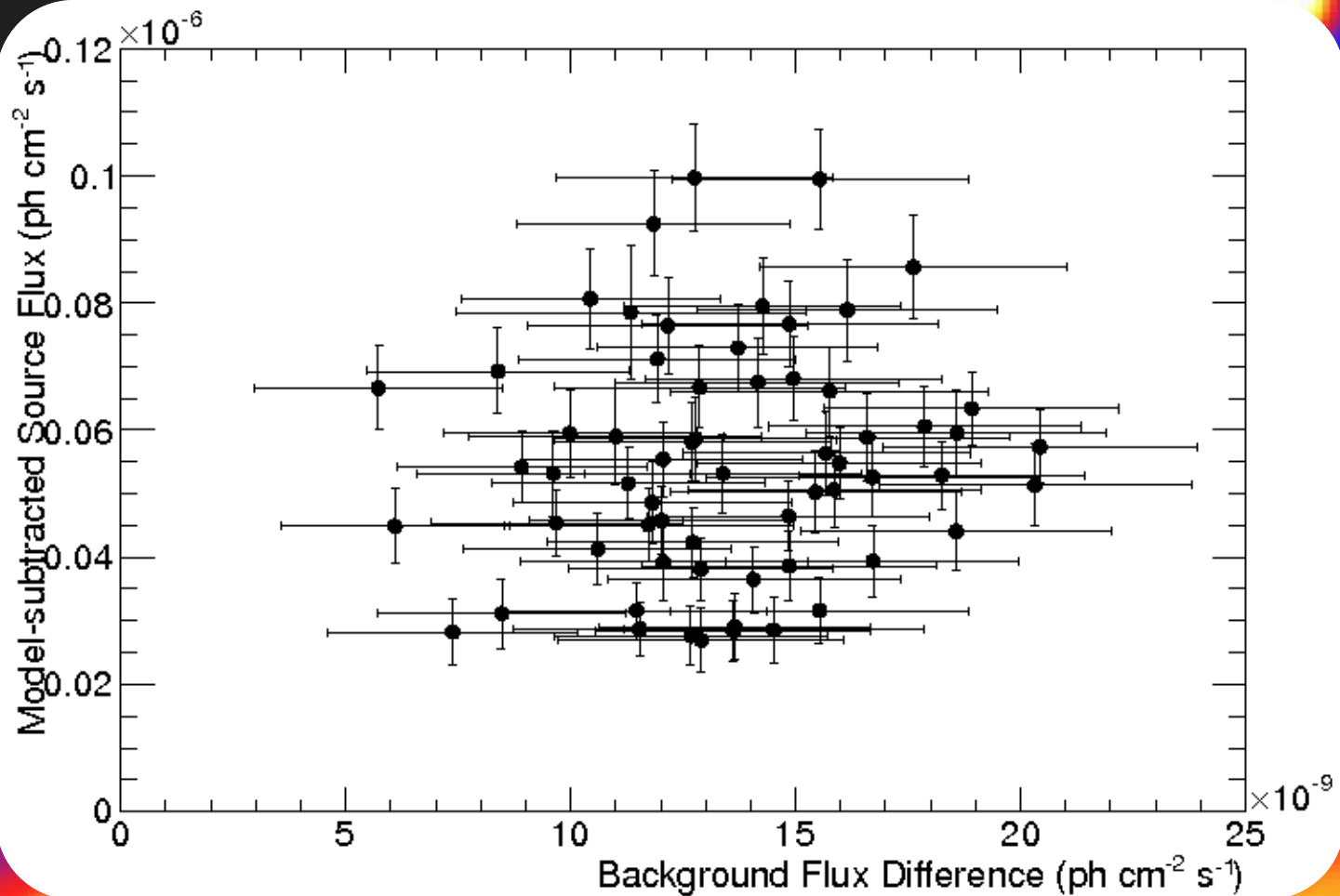
Any questions...?



# Diagnostic Plots



# Diagnostic Plots



Background Flux Difference ( $\text{ph cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )

