



Measurement of the cosmic-ray electron and positron spectrum and anisotropies with the Fermi LAT

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on behalf of the Fermi LAT
Collaboration

The Fermi mission



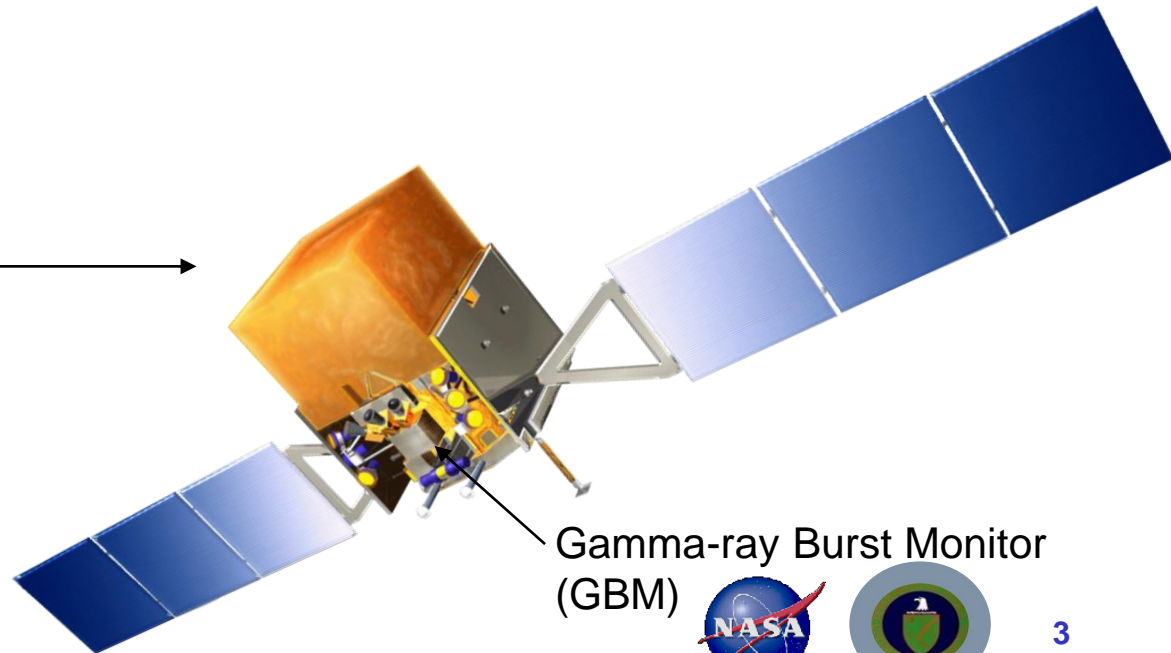
- **Launched by NASA on 2008 June 11, from Cape Canaveral, Florida**
 - **Almost circular orbit, at 565 km altitude and 25.6° inclination**
- **Science mission started on August 2008**
- **Mission extended until 2018 after the NASA Senior Review in 2016**

The Fermi satellite



- The Fermi Gamma-Ray Space Telescope is an international Science Mission exploring the gamma-ray sky by means of its two main instruments:
 - Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM): 8 keV \rightarrow 40 MeV
 - Large Area Telescope (LAT): 20 MeV \rightarrow > 300 GeV
- Huge energy range: including largely unexplored band for a total of >7 energy decades!

Large Area Telescope (LAT) 



Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM)



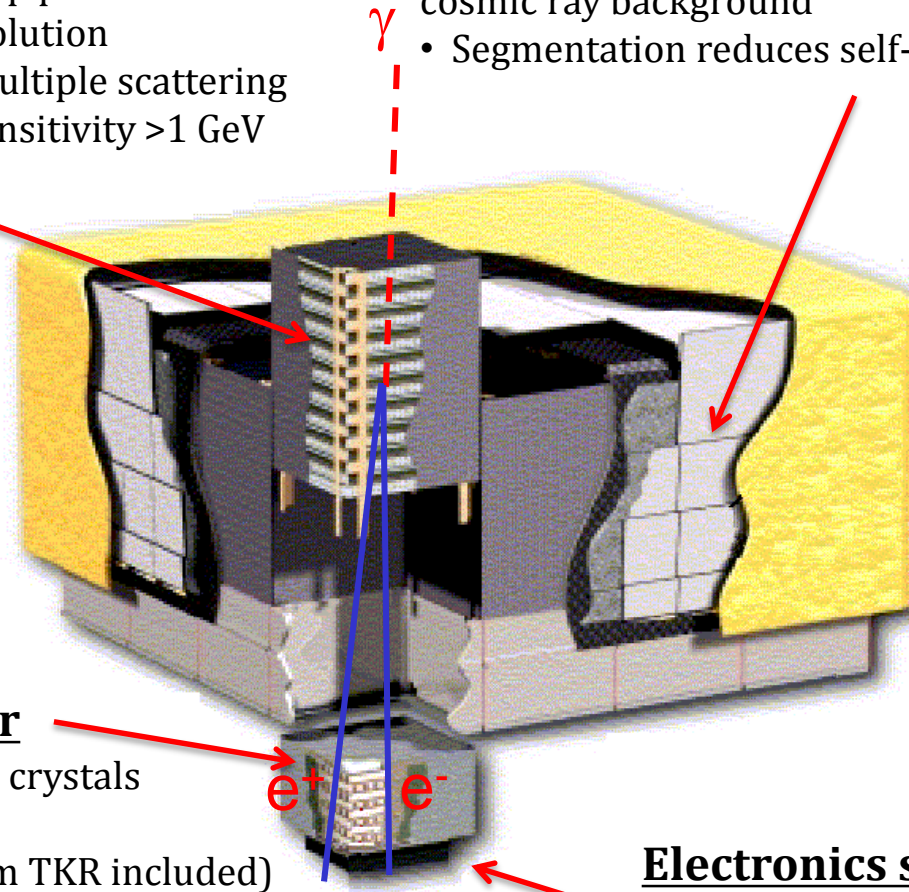


Precision Si-strip Tracker (TKR)

- Measures incident γ -ray direction
- 18 XY tracking planes: 228 μm strip pitch
- High efficiency. Good position resolution
- 12x 0.03 X_0 front end \rightarrow reduce multiple scattering
- 4x 0.18 X_0 back-end \rightarrow increase sensitivity >1 GeV

Anticoincidence Detector (ACD)

- 89 scintillator tiles
- First step in the reduction of large charged cosmic ray background
- Segmentation reduces self-veto at high energy



Hodoscopic CsI Calorimeter

- Segmented array of 1536 CsI(Tl) crystals
- 8.6 X_0 : shower max contained
 - ~ 200 GeV normal (1.5 X_0 from TKR included)
 - ~ 1 TeV @ 40° (CAL-only)
- Measures the incident γ -ray energy
- Rejects cosmic-ray background

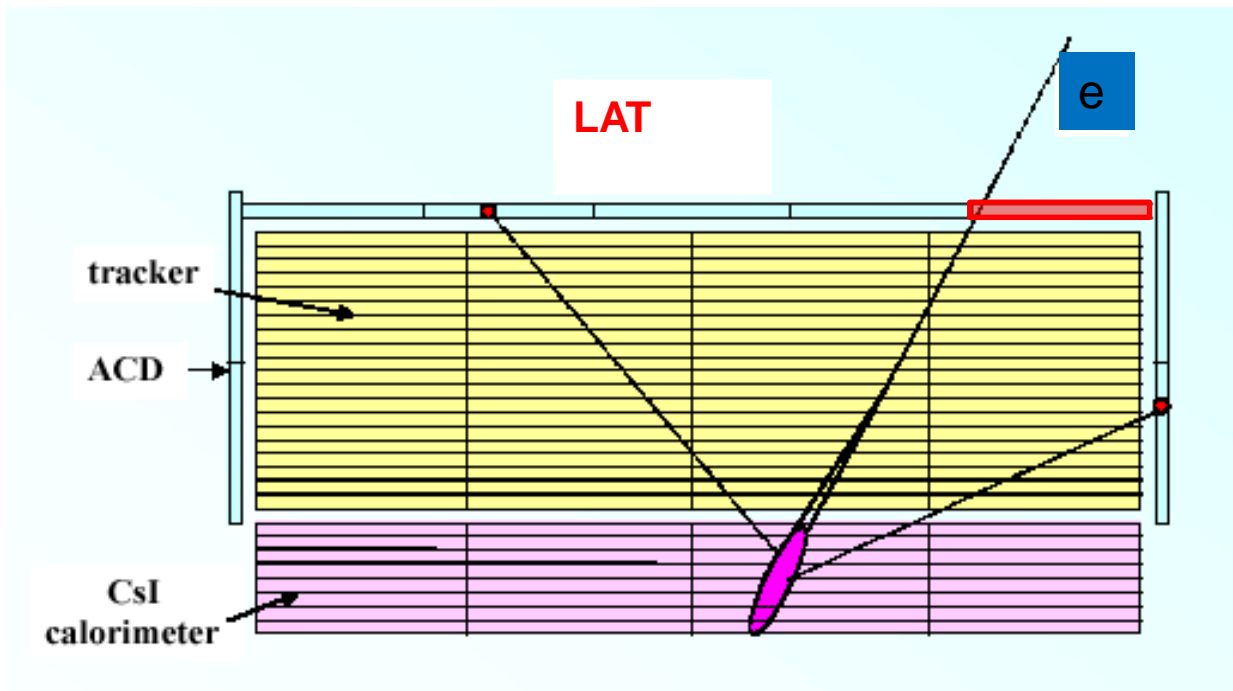
Electronics system

- Includes flexible, highly efficient, multi-level trigger

The LAT as an e^+/e^- detector



- **Gamma-ray detection:**
 - Look for an electromagnetic cascade
 - Reject incident charged particles \rightarrow ACD
- **Electron detection:**
 - Also an electromagnetic cascade! (removed charge veto, tighten the other cuts)
 - The LAT does not distinguish between e^- and e^+ , we use the word “electrons” to refer to both



Onboard trigger and filtering



- **Five hardware trigger primitives**
 - **TKR: 3 x + 3 y tracker planes hit in a row**
 - **CAL LO: single log with more than 100 MeV**
 - **CAL HI: single log with more than 1 GeV**
 - **ROI: MIP signal in a ACD tiles close to a triggering tower**
 - **CNO: heavy ion signal in the ACD**
- **Upon L1 trigger the entire detector is read out**
- **Need onboard filtering to fit the data volume within the allocated bandwidth**
 - **Gamma**
 - **Selects γ -ray candidates and events depositing >20 GeV in the CAL**
 - **High-energy events, including electrons, available for analysis on ground**
 - **Heavy Ions**
 - **Selects heavy ion candidates with large energy deposits in the ACD**
 - **MIP**
 - **Selects not showering charged particles (protons)**
 - **Disabled in standard science operations**
 - **Diagnostic**
 - **Selects an unbiased event sample for filter and background performance studies**
 - **The selected sample is prescaled of a factor 250**

Event selection

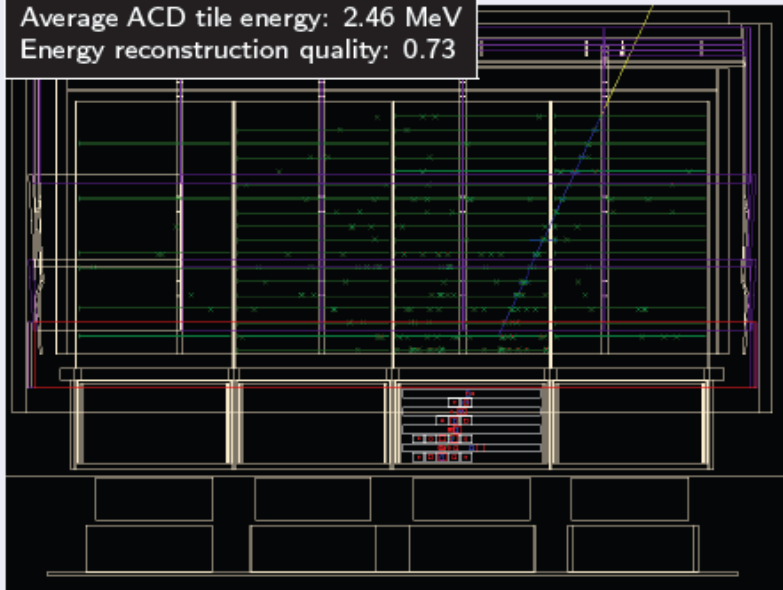


- **Data sample:**
 - Data collected from Aug 4, 2008 to June 24, 2015 (~7 years)
 - ~4.7 years live time
- **High-energy analysis ($E > 42$ GeV)**
 - Events selected by the gamma filter
- **Low-Energy analysis ($7 \text{ GeV} < E < 70 \text{ GeV}$)**
 - Events selected by the diagnostic filter
 - **The sample is prescaled by a factor 250**
- **Pre-cuts:**
 - Events with a well reconstructed track
 - Path length through the CAL $> 8X_0$
 - Angle of the track with respect to the LAT z-axis $< 60^\circ$
 - Fit of the shower profile with $\chi^2/n.d.f. < 20$
 - Further cuts on the ACD signal and on the TKR time over threshold
 - **These quantities are corrected taking path-length into account**
 - **Cuts needed to remove the residual contamination from heavy ions**
 - Above 42 GeV the residual non-proton background after pre-cuts is negligible
- **Further selection made using Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)**
 - Selection is based on topological information
 - BDTs are trained with Monte Carlo simulations



Candidate electron
475 GeV raw energy, 834 GeV reconstructed

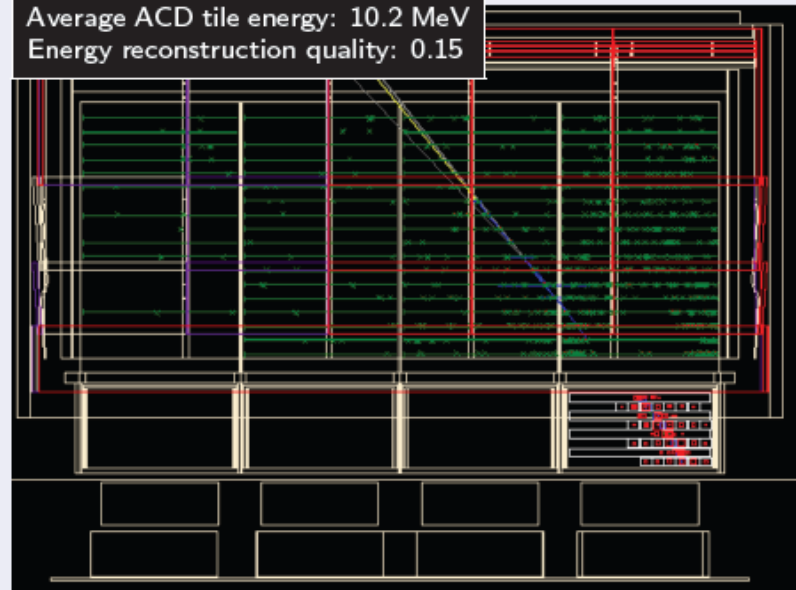
Transverse shower size: 23.2 mm
Fractional extra clusters: 1.48
Average ACD tile energy: 2.46 MeV
Energy reconstruction quality: 0.73



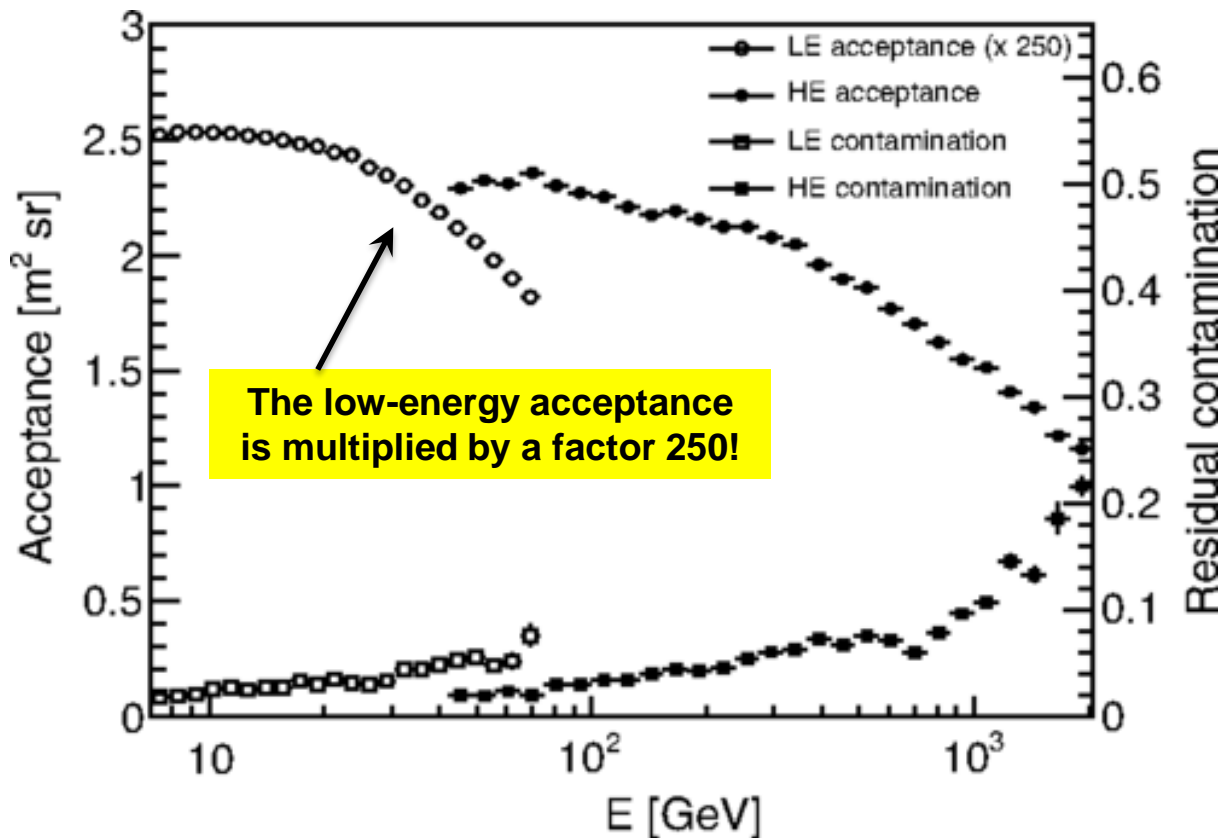
- ▶ Well defined (not fully contained) symmetric shower in the calorimeter.
- ▶ Clean main track with extra clusters close to the track (note backsplash from the calorimeter).
- ▶ Relatively few ACD tile hits, mainly in conjunction with the track.

Candidate hadron
823 GeV raw energy, 1 TeV reconstructed

Transverse shower size: 34.4 mm
Fractional extra clusters: 0.17
Average ACD tile energy: 10.2 MeV
Energy reconstruction quality: 0.15

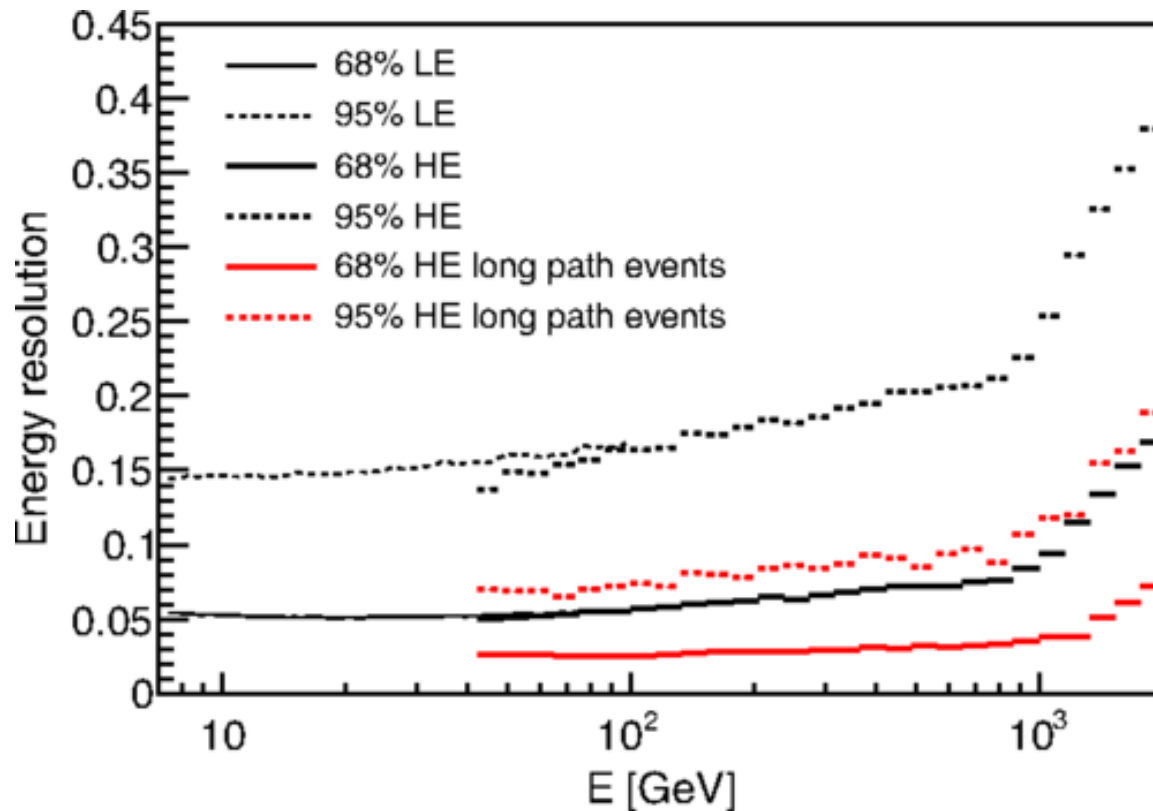


- ▶ Large and asymmetric shower profile in the calorimeter.
- ▶ Small number of extra clusters around main track, many clusters away from the track.
- ▶ Different backsplash topology, large energy deposit per ACD tile.



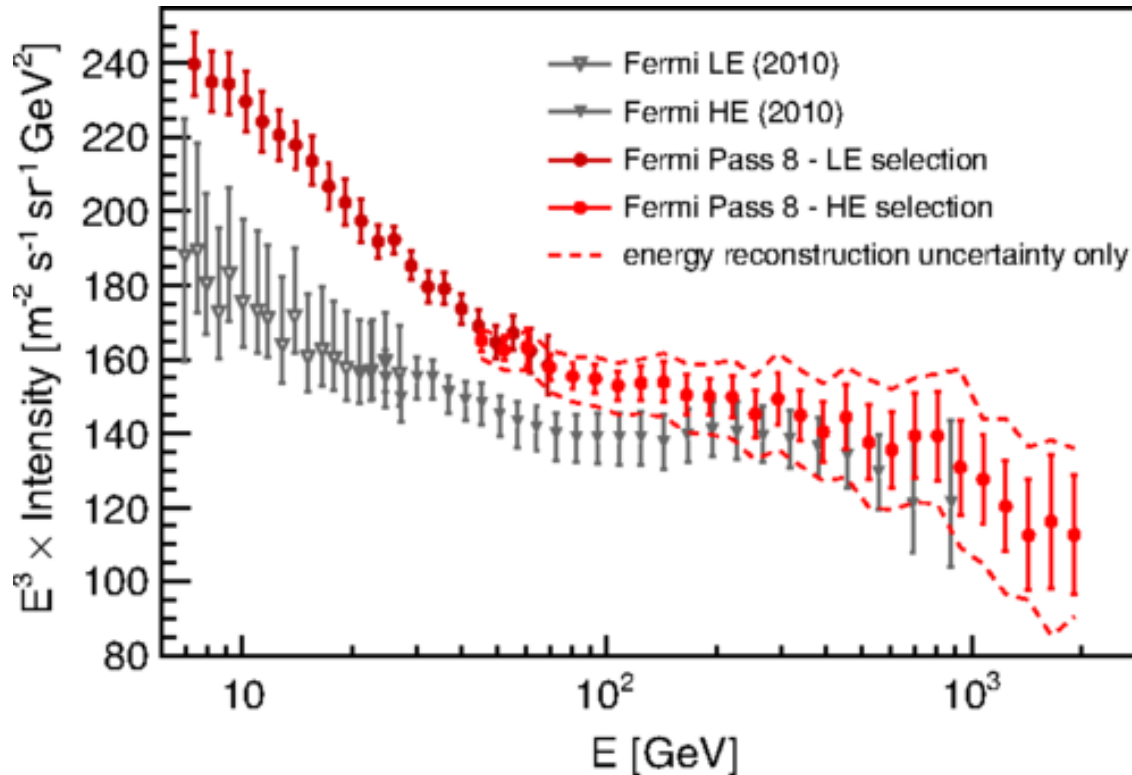
- For the high-energy analysis a pure proton MC background sample is used
- For the low-energy analysis the MC background sample consists of charged cosmic rays (both primaries and secondaries) and Earth limb photons

Energy resolution



- Long path events are events with path length $> 12 X_0$ in the CAL
 - ❑ They correspond to $\sim 15\%$ of the dataset
 - ❑ These events are used to check systematics on the energy measurement

The CRE energy spectrum



Differences up to 30% wrt previous results:

- Below 30 GeV the previous analysis did not take into account the loss of CREs due to the geomagnetic field
- The previous analysis did not include “ghost events” in the MC simulation

- The spectrum is well fitted by a broken power law:
 - Break energy: **53 ± 8 GeV**
 - Spectral index below the break: **3.21 ± 0.02**
 - Spectral index above the break: **3.07 ± 0.02**
- An exponential cutoff lower than 1.8 TeV is excluded at 95% CL

Search for anisotropies in the CRE arrival directions



- The search is performed using the high-energy data sample
 - 9 energy bins between 42 GeV and 2 TeV
 - Energy dependent field of view to avoid distortions in the distribution of CRE arrival directions due to geomagnetic effects
- The observed sky map in each energy bin is compared with a reference (isotropic) sky map:
 - Direct pixel-to-pixel comparison
 - Comparison of integrated count maps
 - Each pixel is assigned the counts of all pixels within a circular region of given integration radius centered on the given pixel
 - Are used to search for anisotropies of the same angular scale as the integration radius
 - The counts in different pixels are correlated!
 - Spherical harmonic analysis of fluctuation maps
 - The auto-angular power spectra (APS) are evaluated
 - Each multipole coefficient C_l is sensitive to anisotropies at an angular scale $\sim 180^\circ/l$
- The reference sky maps are built starting from observed data
 - The comparison of the actual sky maps with the reference sky maps avoids features which could arise from the calculation of the exposures

The reference maps

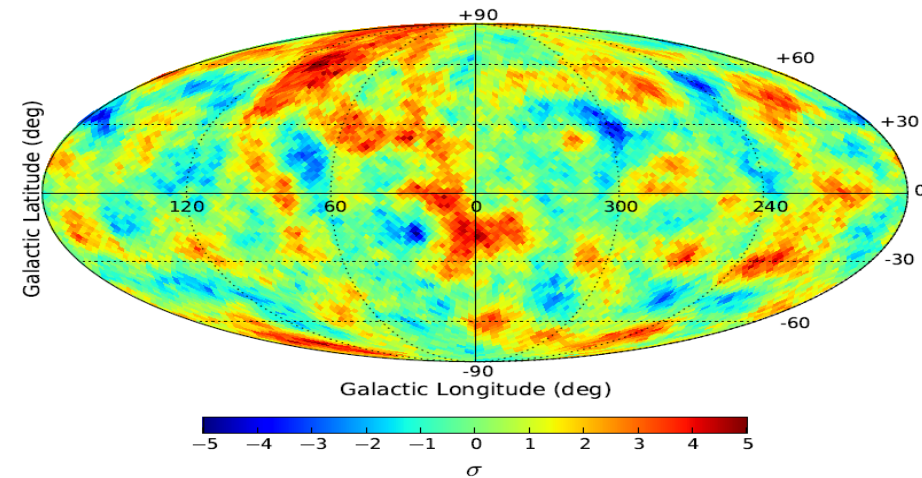


- Two methods implemented to build the reference sky maps:
 - Method 1 (“shuffling” technique)
 - Event times taken from observed events
 - Event directions in the LAT taken from observed events
 - Method 2 (“event rate” technique)
 - Event times generated from an exponential distribution with the same average rate as in real data
 - Event directions in the LAT generated from the observed distribution $P(\vartheta, \varphi)$
- These methods have been validated with dedicated MC simulations

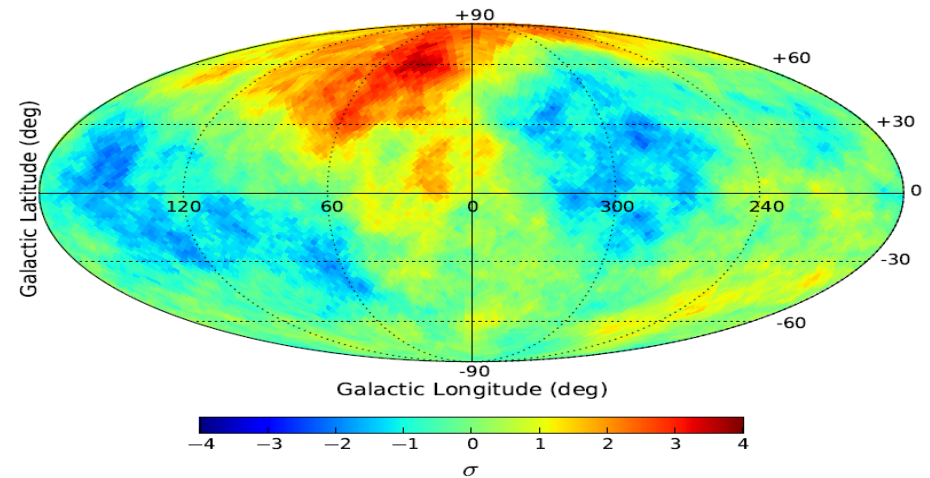
Significance for integrated sky maps



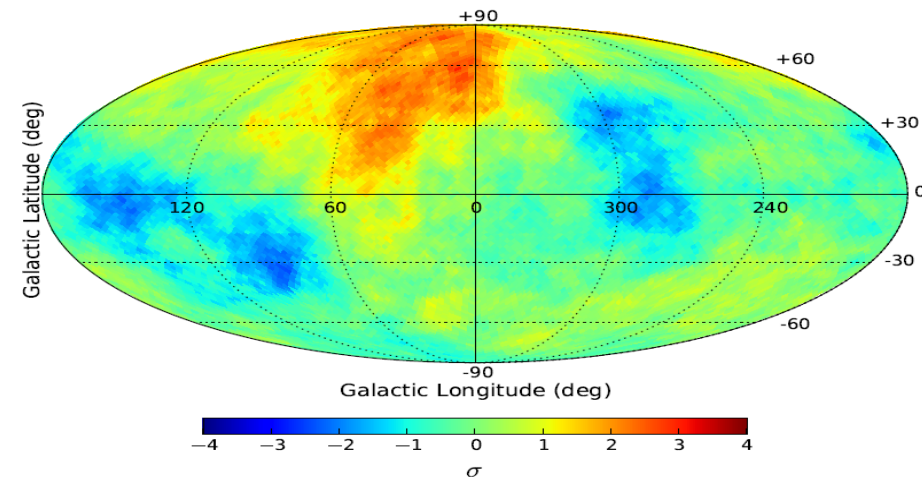
$E(\text{GeV}) = [237, 316]$, Significance, Rol (deg)=10



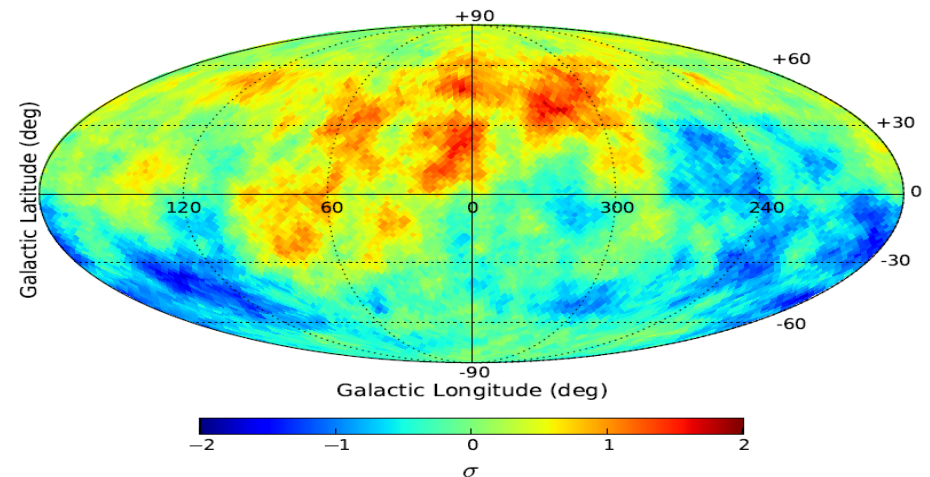
$E(\text{GeV}) = [237, 316]$, Significance, Rol (deg)=45



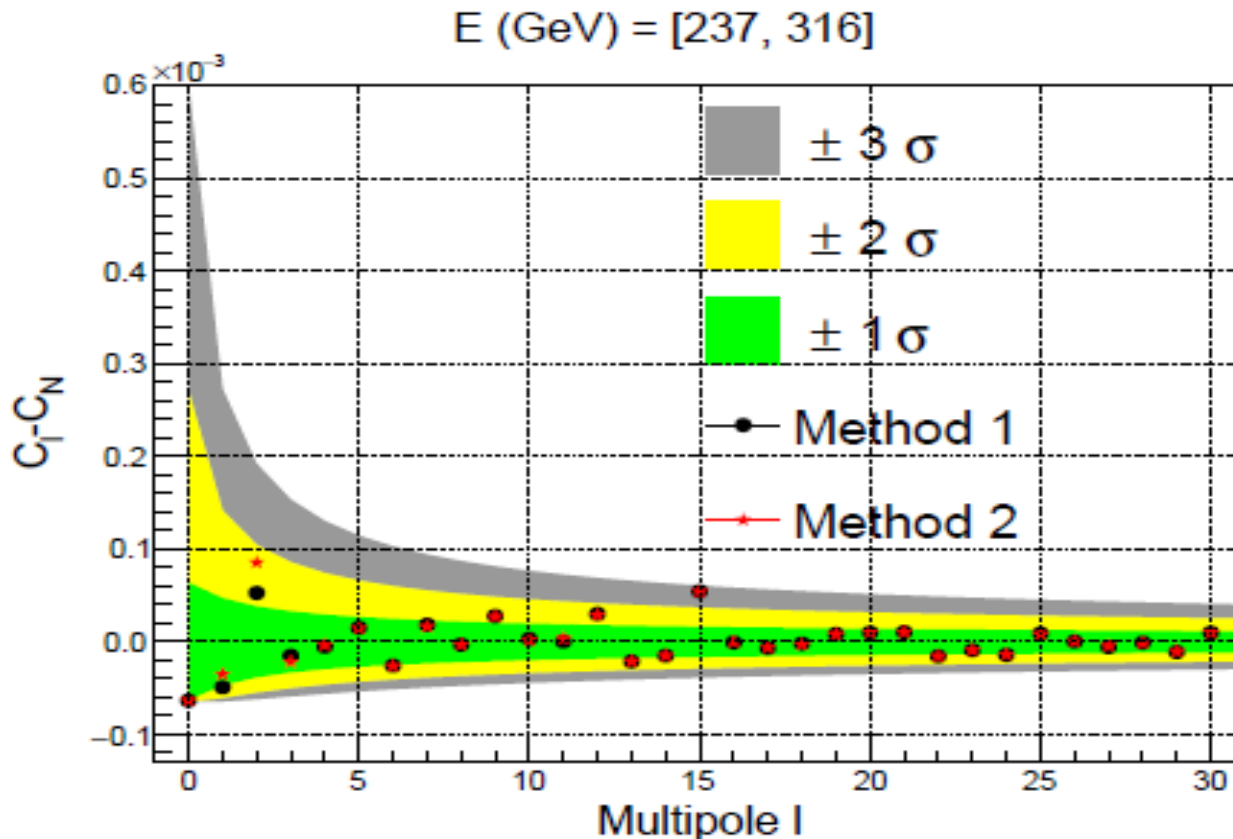
$E(\text{GeV}) = [237, 316]$, Significance, Rol (deg)=60



$E(\text{GeV}) = [237, 316]$, Significance, Rol (deg)=90

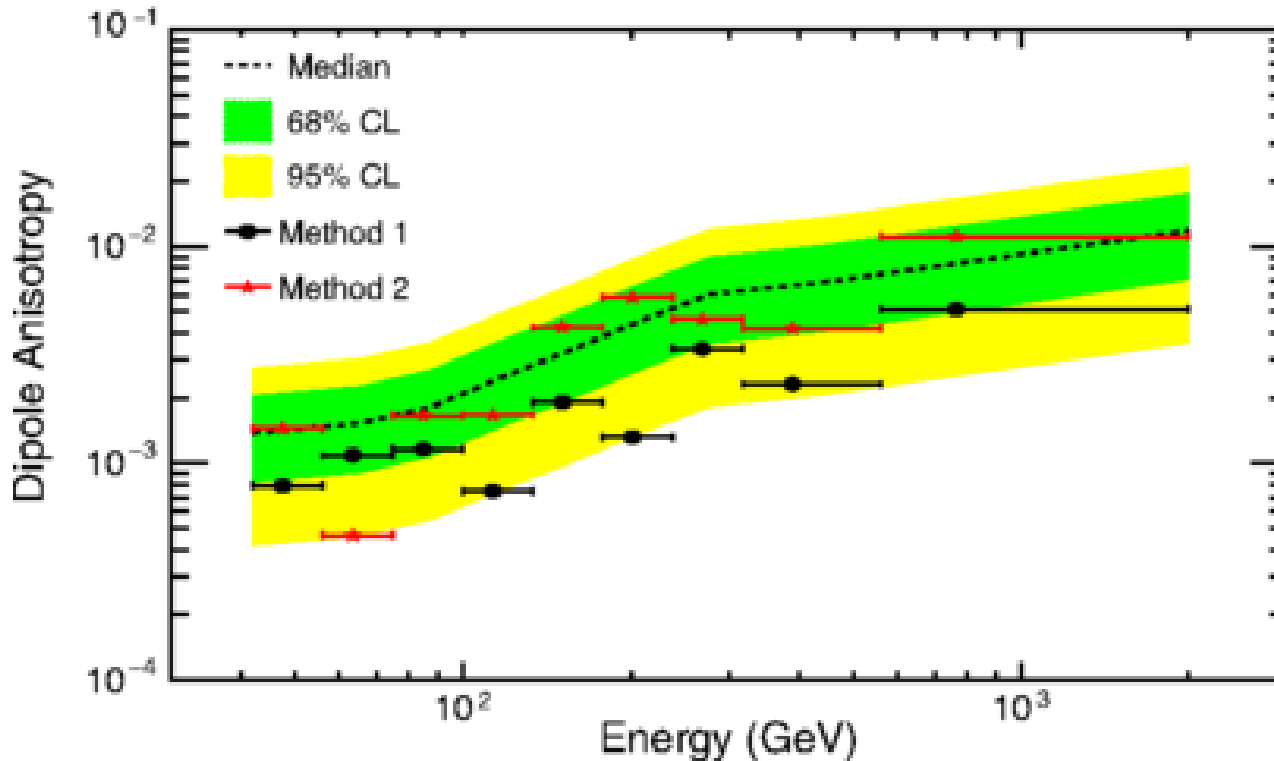


Significances shown in these plots are pre-trials!



- The measured APS are consistent with the white noise APS in all the energy bins

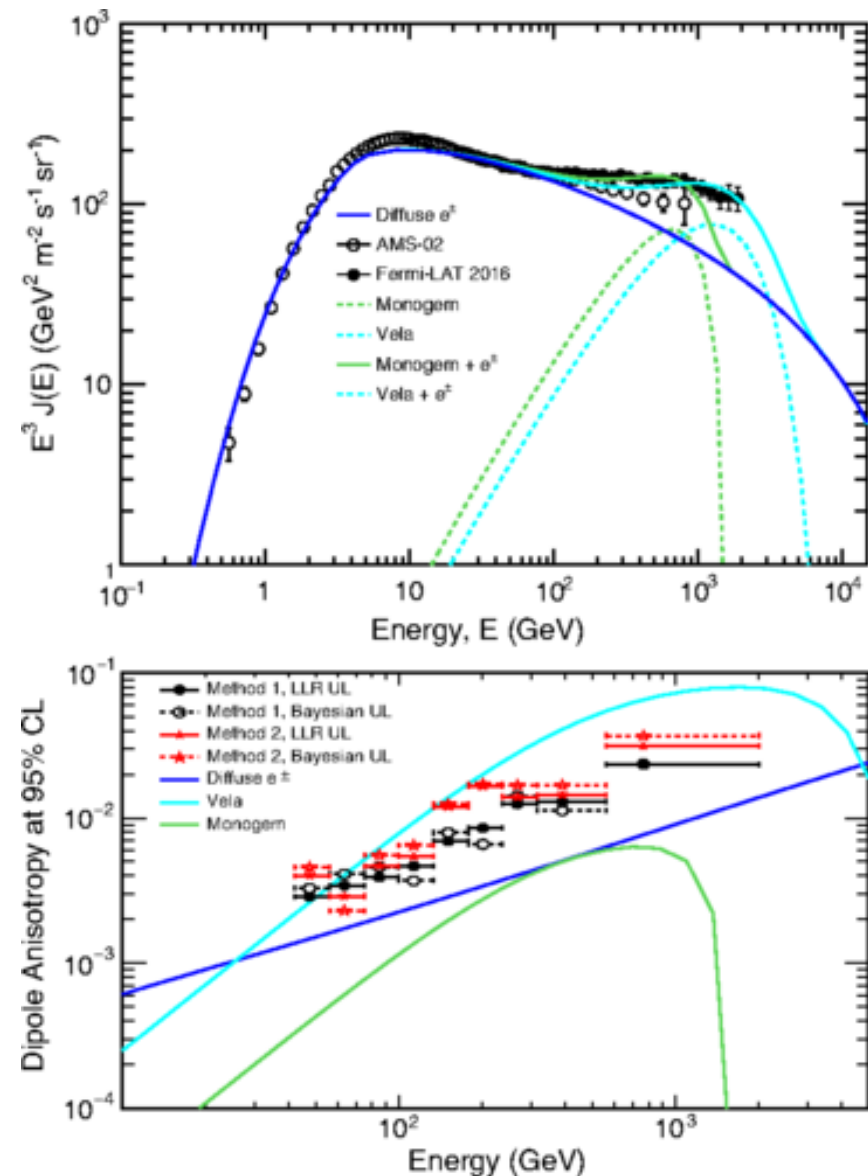
Dipole anisotropy



- The dipole anisotropy is evaluated from the multipole coefficient C_1 of the APS:

$$\delta = 3\sqrt{C_1/4\pi}$$
- The measured values are consistent with those expected in the isotropic case
- Upper limits on C_1 are converted into upper limits on δ

Interpretation of the results



- The CRE spectrum can be reproduced assuming the presence of an additional high-energy source
- The Galactic CRE component is evaluated using a simulation based on the DRAGON propagation code
- We have evaluated the contributions from two possible sources:
 - Vela ($d=290\text{pc}$, $T=10^4$ yrs)
 - Monogem ($d=300\text{pc}$, $T=10^5$ yrs)
 - The injected luminosity of each source is such that the total flux is not higher than the one measured by the Fermi-LAT and AMS-02
 - The injection spectrum of both sources is a power law with spectral index 1.7 and cut-off energy at 1.1 TeV
- The anisotropy limits disfavor a scenario with a nearby young source

Conclusions



- **The Fermi LAT has measured the energy spectrum of CREs in the range 7 GeV – 2 TeV**
 - **The spectrum is well fitted by a broken power law with break at ~50 GeV and spectral index of 3.07 above 50 GeV**
 - **An exponential cutoff lower than 1.8 TeV is excluded at 95% CL**
- **A search for possible anisotropies in the arrival directions of CREs in the energy range 42 GeV – 2 TeV has been performed**
 - **No anisotropies detected**
 - **Upper limits on the dipole anisotropy <1% in the whole energy range**
 - **The constraints on the anisotropy data can probe the presence of nearby young or middle-aged CRE sources**
- **For further details:**
 - **S. Abdollahi et al., Phys. Rev. D 95, 082007 (2017)**
 - **S. Abdollahi et al., Phys. Rev.Lett. 118, 091003 (2017)**