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# Constraining Galactic dark matter in the Fermi-LAT sky with photon counts statistics

Dark Side of the Universe 2018  
Annecy-le-Vieux, France

**Silvia Manconi**

(University of Turin & INFN)

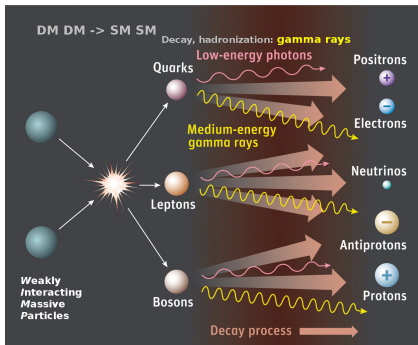
June 26, 2018

*In collaboration with: Hannes Zechlin, Fiorenza Donato*

# Outline

- 1 Indirect DM detection with  $\gamma$ -rays
- 2 Photon counts statistics of Fermi-LAT data
- 3 Results for Galactic Dark Matter
- 4 Summary

# Indirect dark matter (DM) detection with $\gamma$ -rays



Focus on **Weakly Interacting Massive Particles**, benchmark

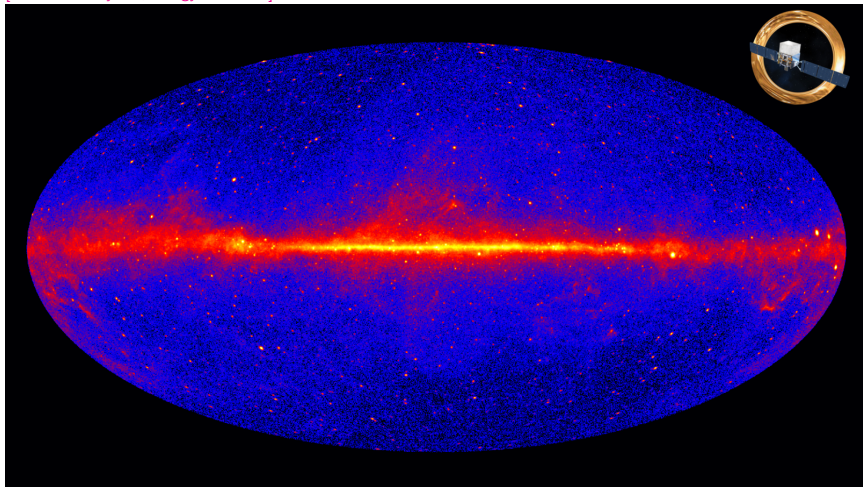
other candidates:  
axions, ALPs, ..

## Prompt $\gamma$ -rays emission:

- Production, decay of  $\pi^0$
- Hadronization
- Internal bremsstrahlung
- Monochromatic lines

# The $\gamma$ -ray sky seen from Fermi-LAT

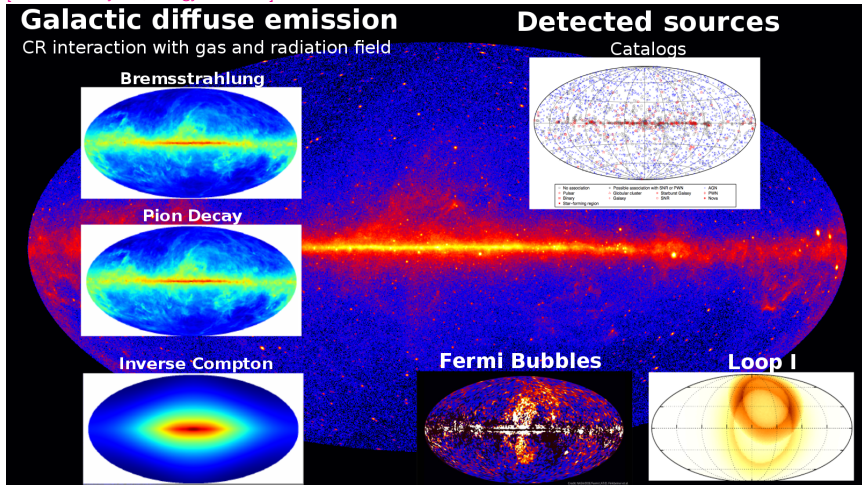
[Fermi-LAT 5 years, energy  $> 1$  GeV]



**Fermi-Large Area Telescope:** high-energy gamma-ray telescope,  
data from  $E = 20$  MeV to more than 300 GeV, 10 years of operation

# The $\gamma$ -ray sky seen from Fermi-LAT

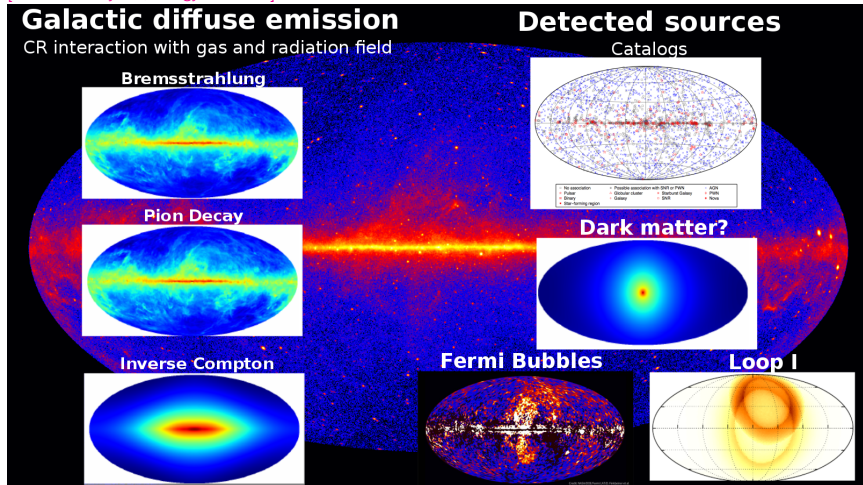
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+ isotropic emission from unresolved sources and truly diffuse processes

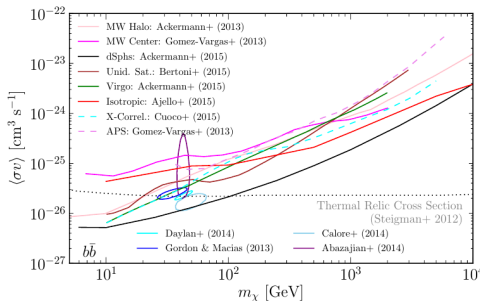
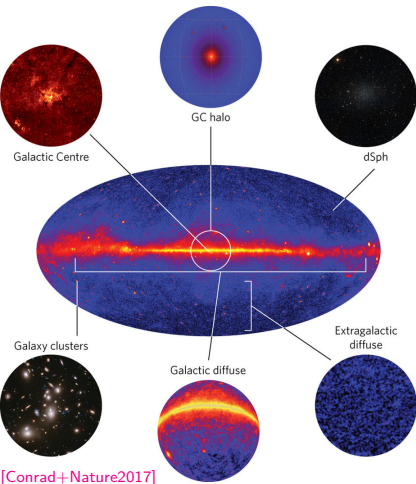
# The $\gamma$ -ray sky seen from Fermi-LAT

[Fermi-LAT 5 years, energy  $> 1$  GeV]



+ isotropic emission from unresolved sources and truly diffuse processes... DM?

# Targets for dark matter searches



Constraints from different targets,  
see [Charles+PhysRep2016]

This talk:  
**Galactic DM halo,  
high latitudes**

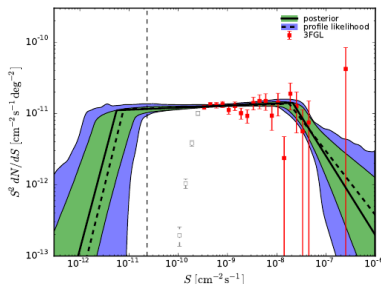
# Decomposing the $\gamma$ -ray sky

$\gamma$ -ray sky = Galactic diffuse + **Extragalactic  $\gamma$ -ray Background (EGB)** emissions.

**EGB = point sources\* + isotropic diffuse background**

**Source count distribution  $dN/dS$ :** # of sources  $N$  per  $d\Omega$  with integral flux in  $(S, S + dS)$ .

Catalog (3FGL)  $\rightarrow$   
 Detection efficiency  $< 1$   
 Statistical analysis results



[Zechlin+ApjS2016, 1-10 GeV]

- fundamental to understand composition of EGB  
 (  $\Rightarrow$  origin of IceCUBE  $\nu$ , UHECR, DM [Ahlers+ApJ2017, Taylor+PRD15, DiMauro+PRD15])
- extrapolations below detection threshold lead to **significant uncertainties**
- Statistical methods **increase sensitivity** for resolving faint point sources!

\*AGN, mAGN, star-forming galaxies,...



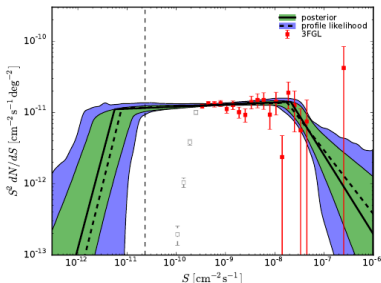
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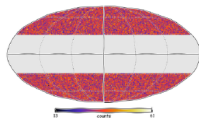
# Pixel count statistics with the 1-point Probability Distribution Function (1pPDF)

Statistical analysis of intensity to decompose the  $\gamma$ -ray sky

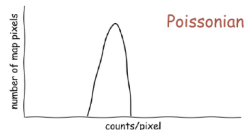
Examples:

courtesy of H. Zechlin

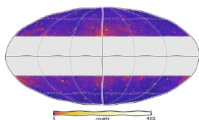
(A) diffuse isotropic background



1p-PDF



(B) adding point sources, Galactic foreground, ...



1p-PDF



- not to scale -

Details in [Malyshev+ApJ2011], [Zechlin+ApJ2016].

Similar methods used also in radio [Vernstrom+MNRAS2015] and X-ray [Soltan+A&A2011]

# The 1pPDF analysis

Separate sources based on statistical properties of their photon counts

Modeling: *probability generating functions*  $\mathcal{P}^{(p)}(t)$ :

$$p_k^{(p)} = \frac{1}{k!} \left. \frac{d^k \mathcal{P}^{(p)}(t)}{dt^k} \right|_{t=0}$$

$p_k^{(p)}$  = probability to find  $k$  photons in pixel ( $p$ )

**OBSERVED**

Probability distribution of  
photon counts in pixels  $p_k^{(p)}$



**WANTED**

Decompose  $\gamma$ -ray sky in:  
-Point sources  $dN/dS$   
-Diffuse contributions

$$\mathcal{P}^{(p)}(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_k^{(p)} t^k = \exp \left( \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} x_m^{(p)} (t^m - 1) \right)$$

$x_m^{(p)}$  = expected number of sources contributing  $m$  photons per pixel  $p$ :

- point sources ( $dN/dS$ )
- Galactic diffuse emission
- Diffuse isotropic background
- Dark matter ?

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**OBSERVED**

Probability distribution of  
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$\Leftrightarrow$

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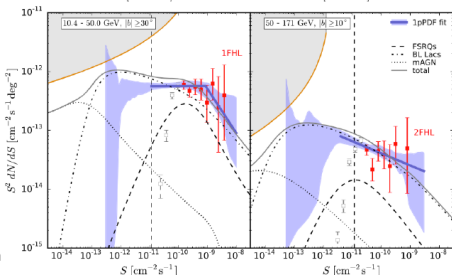
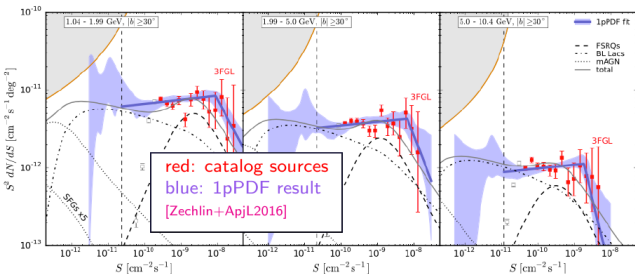
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- Galactic diffuse emission
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# 1pPDF results: source count distribution $dN/dS$

Successfully applied in [Zechlin+ApjS2016, ApjL2016], [DiMauro+Apj2018], [Lisanti+Apj2016] ( $dN/dS$  of high latitude sources), [Lee+PRL2015] (Galactic Center)



⇒ Point sources resolved below catalog detection threshold

⇒  $\gamma$ -ray sky decomposed (ex. [1,2] GeV)

- Point sources:  $0.27^{+0.002}_{-0.04}$
- Galactic diffuse:  $0.74^{+0.003}_{-0.05}$
- Isotropic:  $0.02^{+0.004}_{-0.01}$

# 1pPDF applied to Galactic DM searches

see arXiv:1710.01506

**Investigate sensitivity reach of 1-point statistics for constraining a diffuse DM component at *high latitudes***

- ⇒ Unresolved point sources: *subdominant BUT comparable* to DM component
- ⇒ 1pPDF is *independent* from source catalogs
- ⇒ First time 1pPDF is tested for constraining Milky Way DM halo

Similar analysis at high latitudes, standard template fitting: [Chang et al, arXiv:1804.04132]

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# 1pPDF applied to Galactic DM searches

Analysis overview:

- 1 **Data:** Fermi-LAT 8yrs, 3 energy bins from 1 GeV to 10 GeV
- 2 **DM profile:** \* Einasto,  $\rho_{\odot} = 0.4 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}$  [Catena+JCAP2010]
- 3 **DM spectra:**  $dN_f/dE$  from [Cirelli+JCAP2010],  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $\tau^+\tau^-$  final states
- 4 **Main systematics:** Galactic diffuse emission
  - ⇒ high latitudes  $|b| > 30 \text{ deg}$
  - ⇒ different benchmark templates
  - ⇒ ROI optimization
- 5 **Simulations** \*: to validate analysis framework

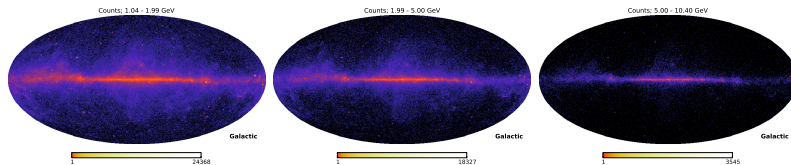


figure: Counts maps for 8 years of real-sky data and the different energy bins

\* see backup slides

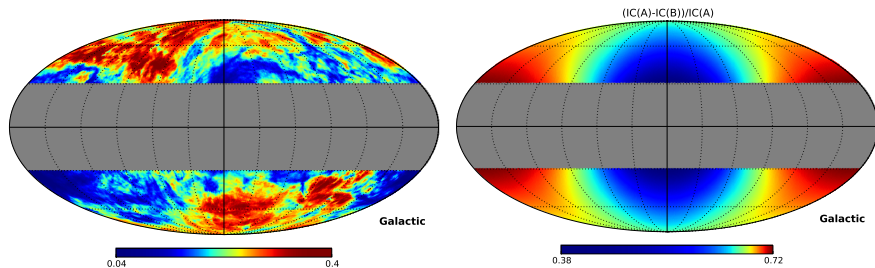


# Main systematics: Galactic Diffuse Emission

**Complex modeling**, e.g. possible degeneracy Inverse Compton  $\iff$  DM halo

Different benchmark templates:

- 1 *Official* released with pass8 Fermi-LAT data
- 2 *models A,B,C* from [Ackermann+ApJ2015]



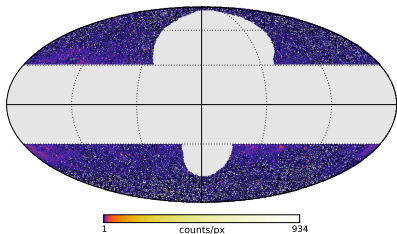
**figure:** Relative difference between Galactic diffuse emission (left) and Inverse Compton components only (right) from **mod A** and **mod B** integrated in the energy bin [2,5] GeV for  $|b| > 30$  deg

$\Rightarrow$  **Region of interest search depends from the galactic diffuse emission**

*Better modeling:* ongoing effort, e.g. SkyFact [Storm+17], [Porter+17,Gaggero+15, Selig+15]

# Region Of Interest (ROI) optimization

- Mask galactic plane:  $|b| > 30 - 40$  deg
- Mask structures: Fermi Bubbles, Loop I
- Small ROI: over-subtraction of background
- Simulations w/o DM, expected sensitivity



⇒ DM\_ROI at high latitudes where real sky results consistent with simulations in all bins:

95% CL from simulations

Real sky ↘

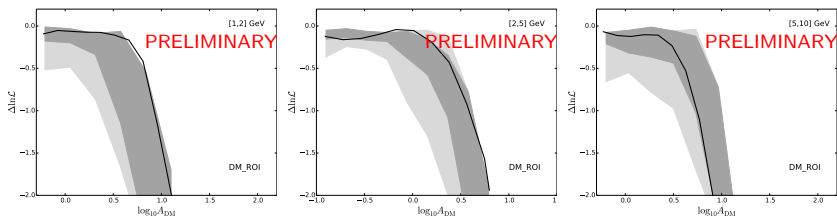
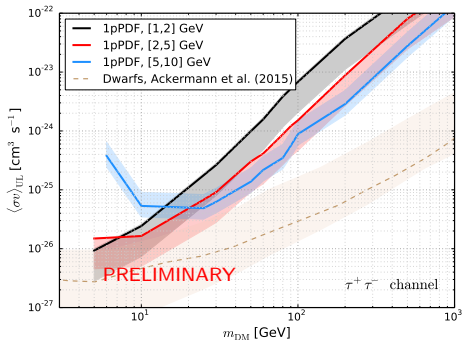
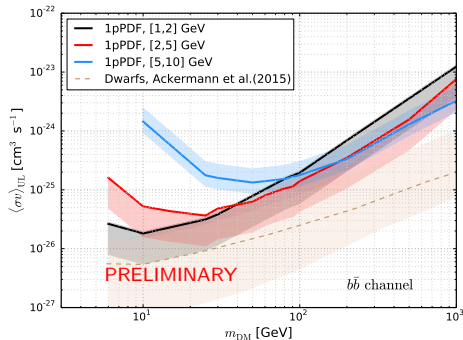


figure: Profile likelihood for  $A_{\text{DM}}$ , rescaling parameter for  $\langle\sigma\nu\rangle_0 = 10^{-26} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $m_{\text{dm}} = 15 \text{ GeV}$

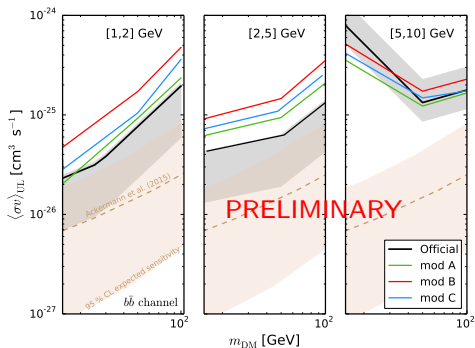
# Results: upper limits on $\langle\sigma v\rangle$



Sensitivity of 1pPDF for DM searches at high latitudes is comparable with other methods and targets

# Systematics on Galactic Diffuse Emission

upper limits on  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$



$\Rightarrow$  **Scatter between models: factor  $\sim 2 - 5$  in  $\langle\sigma v\rangle$**

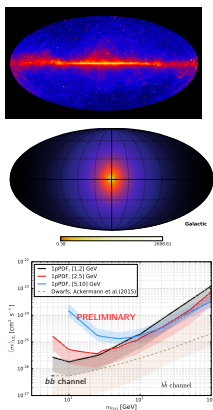
model B has lower inverse Compton for  $|b| > 30$  deg, so more room for DM

# Galactic DM with photon counts statistics at high latitudes- Summary

- The **1-point Probability Distribution Function** is a **powerful statistical method** to:
  - ★ resolve faint point sources
  - ★ dissect  $\gamma$ -ray sky components
- **1pPDF sensitivity for Galactic DM halo signals at high latitudes was explored in simulated and real data** (8 yrs Fermi-LAT, [1,10] GeV)

## Results:

- Sensitivity is comparable** with other searches and methods
- Limited** by systematics from **background Galactic emission modeling**



*Constraining Galactic dark matter with gamma-ray pixel counts statistics*

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arXiv:1710.01506

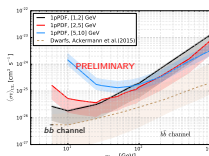
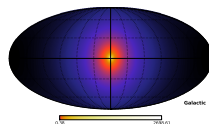
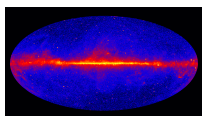
*Thank you for your attention!*

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## Backup

# Simulations of the Fermi-LAT sky

Components simulated with Fermi Science Tool *gtobbsim*:

- 1 **Point sources** following same dNdS of real sky
- 2 **Galactic diffuse** background (gll\_iem\_v06)
- 3 **Isotropic** background (iso\_P8R2\_ULTRACLEANVETO\_V6\_PSF3\_v06)

Each simulation contains a list of point sources from a different Monte Carlo realization of the dN/dS:

- Power law,  $\Gamma_{\text{mean}} = 2.4$ ,  $\sigma_{\Gamma} = 0.4$
- $S_{\text{min}} = 10^{-12} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$
- random positions across the sky

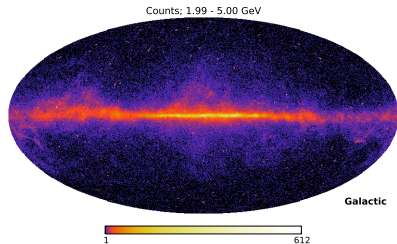


figure: Counts map for a simulation w/o DM, [2,5] GeV



# Galactic DM halo modeling

Flux per unit energy and solid angle:

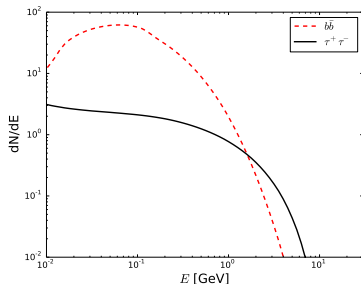
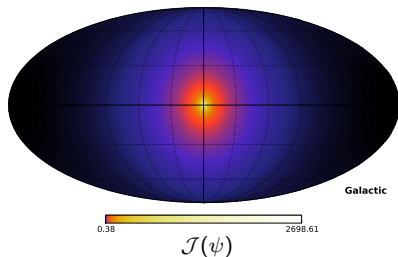
$$\frac{d\phi_{\text{DM}}}{dE d\Omega} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\langle\sigma v\rangle}{2} r_{\odot} \frac{\rho_{\odot}^2}{m_{\text{DM}}^2} \sum_f \left( \frac{dN_f}{dE} B_f \right) \mathcal{J}(\psi).$$

**Spatial :**

- Smooth DM halo: Einasto,  
 $\rho_{\odot} = 0.4 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}$  [Catena+JCAP2010]
- Extragalactic: subdominant
- possible DM subhalos absorbed by  $dN/dS$

**Energy:**

- WIMP self-annihilations into pure  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $\tau^+\tau^-$  final states
- $dN_f/dE$  from [Cirelli+JCAP2010]



# Fermi-LAT Data selection

- 8 years of Pass8 data [239557417, 492018220] s MET
- DATA\_QUAL==1 and LAT\_CONFIG==1
- evclass=ULTRACLEANVETO, evtype=PSF3
- Energy bins: [1, 2] GeV, [2,5] GeV, [5,10] GeV as in [\[Zechlin+ApjS2016, ApjL2016\]](#)
- Derived PSF widths: 0.31 deg, 0.18 deg, 0.10 deg
- HEALPix order 7

# The 1-point Probability Distribution Function analysis

- Pixel-dependent likelihood:

$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = \prod_{p=1}^{N_{\text{pix}}} P(k_p)$$

- Parameter estimation:  
profile likelihood from Bayesian posterior, MCMC sampling (MultiNest)

Details in [Zechlin+ApjS2016].

