

Preliminary Results from a New Analysis Method for EGRET Data

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In order to extend the life of EGRET, the gas in the spark chamber was allowed to deteriorate more than was originally planned for the nominal two year Compton Observatory mission. Gamma ray events are lost because the pattern recognition analysis rules are not optimized for the poorer quality data. By changing the rules used by the data analysts, we can recover a significant fraction of the lost events, allowing improved statistics for detection and study of sources. Preliminary results from the Crab, Geminga, and BL Lacertae indicate the feasibility of this analysis.