

Physical Characteristics Required of a Millisecond Pulsar Population to Reproduce the Galactic Center Excess

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Abstract. An excess of gamma rays emanating from the Galactic Center has been discovered and proven to be robust. One proposed solution is the presence of a large number of unresolved millisecond pulsars in the Galactic Center. We analyze the number of pulsars required for such a population to reproduce the GCE, and compare the predicted number of resolvable pulsars and the amount and distribution of flux emitted by those resolvable pulsars to observations. We predicate these calculations on luminosity functions discussed in literature and demonstrate which luminosity functions are excluded by observations. We conclude with an analysis of the capacity of future increases in observational sensitivity to rule out more luminosity functions.

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1 Introduction

What is the GCE?[9]

What are possible explanations for the GCE? DM or MSPs. What luminosity functions might they have?

Data sources

In this paper, we extract a total flux for the GCE drawn from other analyses, and use it to calculate the total number of pulsars, number of resolved pulsars, and flux from those resolvable pulsars as predicted by various luminosity functions that have been proposed in literature. We indicate the luminosity functions necessary in order to meet the observational constraints imposed by a point source template fit to *Fermi* data and the 4FGL catalog. *What do we find?* We conclude with an analysis of what further luminosity function constraints could be achieved by improvements to the sensitivity of *Fermi*.

2 Methods & Datasets

2.1 GCE Spacial distribution

We model the spacial distribution of MSPs in the GC with an NFW squared profile, to match with empirical data. The number density of an NFW profile is spherically symmetric, with radial density profile

$$\rho_{\text{NFW}}(r) \propto \left(\frac{r}{r_s}\right)^{-\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{r}{r_s}\right)^{-3-\gamma} \quad (2.1)$$

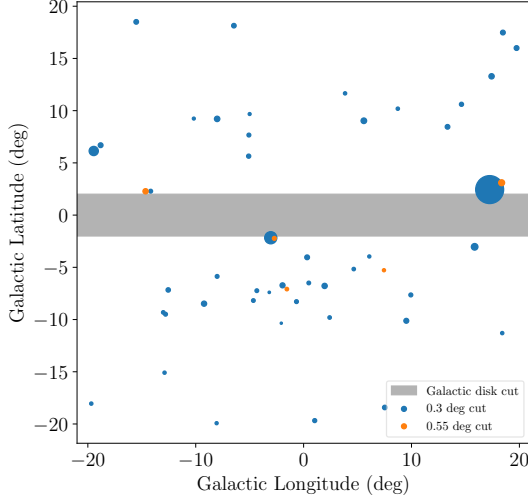


Figure 1: The 47 point sources within 0.3° of a 4FGL source. Also shown are the 5 sources added by extending to 0.55° separation. The sources are scaled by luminosity in radius. The gray band represents the $|b| \leq 2^\circ$ cut made around the galactic disk.

where $\gamma = 1.2$ and $r_s = 20$ kpc for this work. Other sources occasionally use $\gamma = 1$.

We allow this NFW distribution to extend over a region of interest (ROI) extending within $|\ell| < 20^\circ$ and $2^\circ < |b| < 20^\circ$, where we have cut out the Galactic disk. We also restrict the luminosity of the GCE to within $0.1 \text{ GeV} < E_\gamma < 100 \text{ GeV}$. Both these ranges are slightly on the wider side of those commonly used in literature.

2.2 Observables

To fit the luminosity functions described in section 2.4, we will use three observables: the total flux of the GCE F_{GCE} , the ratio of the total flux to the flux visible from point sources resolved by *Fermi* R_r , and the number of resolved point sources N_r . The first observable, F_{GCE} , is described in section 2.3, but we describe the other two observables in this section.

N_r and R_r have been studied by *Some technical name for the Fermilab team*. [14]. The authors performed a template fit to data from Fermi-LAT to isolate spacial peaks in flux, finding 110 (*I got 110; their paper says 107*) peaks within 0.3° of a source in the 4FGL catalog within the region of interest [2]. Of these 110 sources, they exclude all that are listed in the 4FGL catalog as not associated with pulsars. Of those that are known to be pulsars, they exclude all whose positions are known not to be within 2 kpc of the GC via the ATNF Pulsar Catalog [10]. This leaves 47 point sources in the 4FGL catalog whose origins are either known to be pulsars in the GC or are unknown. We will therefore set $N_r = 47$ for this paper. If the allowed distance between a flux peak and a 4FGL source is extended from 0.3° to 0.55° , five more sources are added. Together, the 47 sources are responsible for $R_r = 0.2$ of the total GCE flux. *Shouldn't I actually redo this addition given the fact that I'm now not using the same GCE flux as Fermilab?* These 47+5 sources used here are displayed in figure 1.

It is important to note that the above values for N_r and R_r define an allowed region, which includes populations with lower N_r and R_r , because some of the unknown sources might not be pulsars.

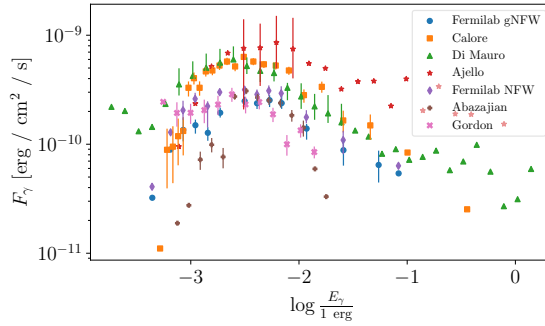


Figure 2: Spectra from seven analyses of the GCE, using different background models, shown with error bars when reported.

We will also discuss a third feature of a potential MSP population in the GC: the total number of MSPs N_{GCE} , resolved or unresolved. This number is not measurable, but serves as a useful reference to gauge the physicality of any population of MSPs. *Mention that it's expected to be around 40,000.*

2.3 Total GCE Luminosity

Since an estimate of the total flux of the GCE is necessary for our study, we extract the total flux from several previous analyses of spectra using the following three methods and compare them. The spectral analyses we study here are refs. [1, 4, 6, 7, 14?]. Each reference reports the total flux $F_\gamma(E)$ observed in an energy bin centered on E . Some studies use a ROI different from ours, so we convert to our ROI using the method outlined in appendix A. The spectra from these sources are reported in figure 2

Describe the sources: what's similar between them, what's different.

We use compare three methods of extracting the total GCE flux from these analyses. The first method is direct numerical integration of the spectra provided by each source. This method is most sensitive to the data measured by *Fermi* and does not attempt to abstract over it with a smooth function.

However, numerical integration cannot account for the spectrum lying outside of *Fermi*'s spectrum of sensitivity, and it may be oversensitive to experimental error. Therefore, we also consider a broken law fit to the data, of the same form as the NPTF luminosity function: eq. 2.4. It has four parameters: a constant of proportionality, the turnover flux F_b , and the slopes above and below the turnover flux n_2 and n_1 . This function can then be analytically integrated over all flux values to get the total flux of the GCE. Many of the analyses cited above only report error bars on some points, because error bars on the other points are too large. We therefore fit only to the points with error bars reported. *Mention the specific range fitted over.*

Unfortunately, for some analyses, the number of points reported with error bars is only slightly larger than the number of parameters of the broken power law function. To ensure that the fit result is less prone to statistical deviations of a small number of points, we use a third method in addition to the above two. Ref. [6] provides their fit parameters for their GCE flux spectral data: $F_b =$, $n_1 = -1.42$, $n_2 = 2.63$. *Check for sign errors in the original. Also get the flux they provide..* The third fitting method is to fix these three broken power

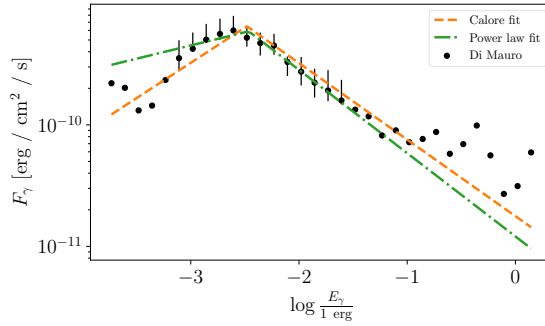


Figure 3: Spectrum produced by di Mauro in ref. [7], with the two broken power law models fitted and shown.

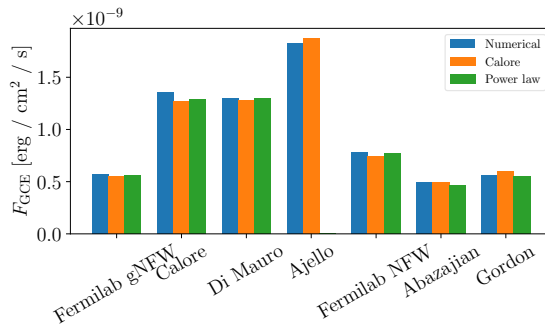


Figure 4: Total flux of the GCE as determined by the three integration methods discussed. *Here I would discuss why Ajello doesn't have a value for the power law case if this is still true once I have the original source.*

law parameters at these values and allow only the overall normalization to vary. An example of all three of these fitting methods applied to reference [7] and shown in figure 3.

In practice, the three fitting methods yield very similar results for a single analysis. However, the values provided by different analyses vary greatly. For this study, we use the value obtained from di Mauro's analysis because it occupies a position near the middle of the distribution of GCE luminosities and is a recent study. We choose the value obtained by numerical integration, which is $F_{\text{GCE}} = 1.295 \times 10^{-9} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Discuss how rescaling of the ROI was done

Just double check that I normalized the power law correctly in parse_spectrum.py.

2.4 Luminosity Functions

Previous work has interpreted this MSP model. Ref. [14] has proposed an exponentially damped power law luminosity function

$$P_{\text{Power law}}(L) = L^{-\alpha} \exp\left(-\frac{L}{L_{\text{max}}}\right) \left[\Gamma\left(1 - \alpha, \frac{L_{\text{min}}}{L_{\text{max}}}\right) L_{\text{max}}^{1-\alpha}\right]^{-1}. \quad (2.2)$$

The function has been normalized so that $P_{\text{Power law}}(L)$ represents the probability that a given MSP has luminosity L . This luminosity function restricts the range of luminosities to

$[L_{\min}, \infty)$, where L_{\min} , L_{\max} , and α are free parameters. *The following should probably be moved to the introduction, where Fermilab's research is described.* This reference found that $(1 \times 10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}, 1 \times 10^{35} \text{ erg s}^{-1}, 1.94)$ is required reproduced observations. They find that this model admits three million MSPs in the GCE, which differs from estimates based on the physical properties of observed MSPs that estimate the number of MSPs at the Galactic center at the order of 40,000 [?].

Ref. [11] proposes a power law luminosity function of

$$P_{\text{Log normal}}(L) = \frac{\log_{10} e}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi} L} \exp \left(-\frac{(\log_{10} L - \log_{10} L_0)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right), \quad (2.3)$$

where L_0 and σ are free parameters. The ref. fits this model to data from globular cluster (GCL) data, yielding values $L_0 = 8.8 \times 10^{33} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ and $\sigma = 0.62$. It predicts thousands of MSPs to occupy the GCE if the entire excess is to be explained by MSPs.

Ref. [13] proposes several more intricate luminosity functions, derived from a model of the pulsars themselves. They find that the same model may be used for resolved, globular cluster MSPs in the Galactic disk and unresolved MSPs at the Galactic center. We use their luminosity function generated for the galactic disk. It closely resembles a log normal luminosity function as in equation 2.3, where $L_0 = 1.61 \times 10^{32} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ and $\sigma = 0.700$.

Another study by Gautam et al. analyzes the possibility that the hypothetical MSP population in the GCE is generated not by the Low Mass X-Ray Binary formation, but by Accretion Induced Collapse [8]. *To distinguish between this, a definition of these two collapse methods, along with models other than an MSP model, should be put in the introduction. Mention the fact that the MSPs in the GCE would have to look different from that in the disk.* Their binary system model yields a numerical luminosity function for MSPs in the GC, reported as a function of flux. Converting to luminosity in the manner described in appendix B, we find that a log normal distribution fits their function well, with $L_0 = 3.92 \times 10^{32} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ and $\sigma = 0.937$. We call this model the AIC Log normal model.

Finally, ref. [12] proposes a broken-power law luminosity function of

$$P_{\text{NPTF}}(L) = \left(\frac{(1 - n_1)(1 - n_2)}{L_b(n_1 - n_2)} \right) \begin{cases} (L/L_b)^{-n_1} & L < L_b \\ (L/L_b)^{-n_2} & L > L_b \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

where the free parameters n_1 , n_2 , and L_b were found via a Non-Poissonian Template Fitting model (NPTF) to be $(18.2, -0.66, 8.66 \times 10^{33} \text{ erg s}^{-1})$ for an NFW-squared-distributed population of MSPs named NFW PS. The paper proposes a second luminosity function named Disk PS with parameters $(17.5, 1.4, 3.34 \times 10^{35} \text{ erg s}^{-1})$, which is unnormalizable except when a minimum luminosity of pulsars L_{\min} is introduced. *I will want to remove the unnormalizable one. When should I do it?* The luminosity-valued parameters were originally given as fluxes in $\text{photon cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The photon energy was calculated via appendix C and the flux converted to luminosity via appendix B.

We set $L_{\min} = 1 \times 10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$, which is the same minimum pulsar luminosity used by ref. [14]. The turnover luminosity L_b was given as a photon flux value in units of photons per centimeter squared per second; the process used to convert from photon flux to luminosity is detailed in the methods section.

All the above-mentioned luminosity functions are shown in figure 5.

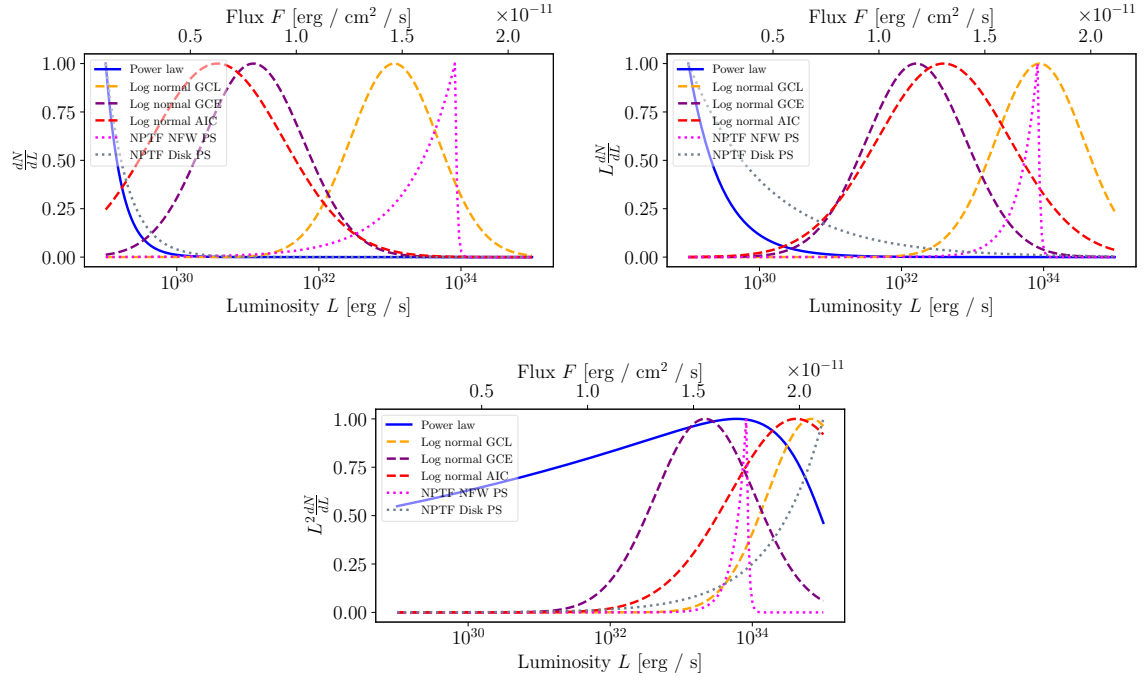


Figure 5: *Left:* Power law, GCL log normal, GCE log normal, and NPTF luminosity functions for MSPs in the GCE, vertically rescaled. *Right:* Same plot as *left* but weighted by luminosity. *Bottom:* Same plot as above two but weighted by luminosity squared.

2.5 Sensitivity Models

The *Fermi* telescope does not detect every pulsar in the GC; background emission obscures dimmer pulsars, and statistical effects cause some bright sources to be unresolved. We make use of three sensitivity models to model these factors.

The first, and simplest, is a step function luminosity model. It asserts that all point sources with $L > L_{\text{th}}$ are resolved, and none with $L < L_{\text{th}}$. Here, $L_{\text{th}} = 10^{34} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$. This sensitivity model is the one used by ref. [14] to obtain the parameters of the power law luminosity function described in the paragraph after eq. 2.2. The four properties we intend to measure are then given by

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{GCE}} &= N_{\text{GCE}} \int_{L_{\text{min}}}^{\infty} LP(L) dL, & L_{\text{r}} &= N_{\text{GCE}} \int_{L_{\text{th}}}^{\infty} LP(L) dL, \\ N_{\text{r}} &= N_{\text{GCE}} \int_{L_{\text{th}}}^{\infty} P(L) dL, \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where N_{GCE} is a normalization constant, fixed by requiring that L_{GCE} reproduces the flux F_{GCE} observed. The conversion between L_{GCE} and F_{GCE} is outlined in appendix B.

The second sensitivity model acknowledges the effect of background flux on resolvability and uses a position-dependent flux threshold $F_{\text{th}}(b, l)$ published by the *Fermi* team [3, 5] (figure 6). *Here, I could talk about how to convert between flux and luminosity and then use the mean of this map to assess how accurate $1e34 \text{ ergs/s}$ actually is. One way would be simply to average over all the pixels in the sensitivity map and convert to luminosity. But isn't it better to weight the average by NFW distribution? In that case, I have to do a line of sight*

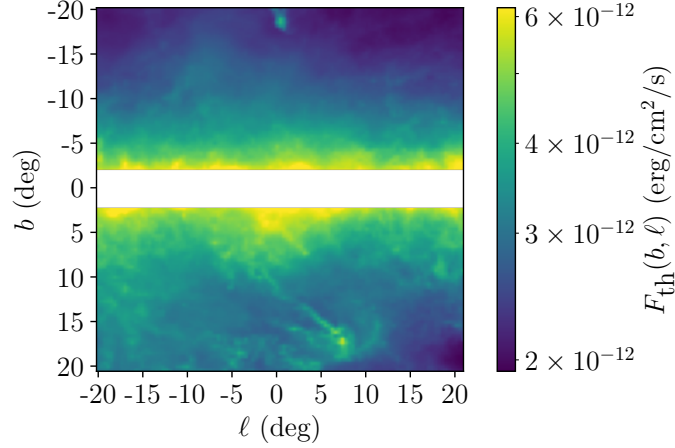


Figure 6: Position-dependent flux thresholds required to resolve an MSP, published by refs. [3, 5]. *Maybe I shouldn't show this plot. It's barely original; just a display of a FITS file pulled from the 4FGL website. But I could overlay the previous figure of where the 47 point sources are. Would that be useful?*

integral too, which means I can no longer use the flux to luminosity ratio in the appendix. It gets complicated.... To calculate the four properties of GC MSP populations, we use

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\text{GCE}} &= \int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} s^2 ds A \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \int_{L_{\min}}^{\infty} dL \frac{L}{4\pi s^2} P(L), \\
 N_{\text{GCE}} &= \int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} s^2 ds A \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r), \\
 F_{\text{r}} &= \int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} s^2 ds A \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \int_{4\pi s^2 F_{\text{th}}(b, \ell)}^{\infty} dL \frac{L}{4\pi s^2} P(L), \\
 N_{\text{r}} &= \int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} s^2 ds A \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \int_{4\pi s^2 F_{\text{th}}(b, \ell)}^{\infty} dL P(L).
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

Here, Ω represents the $20^\circ \times 20^\circ$ region of interest with $|b| < 2^\circ$ cut out, and A is the coefficient of equation 2.1, fixed by forcing F_{GCE} to equal the observed value. In equation 2.6 represents the distance to the galactic center from the point of integration, and is determined by the law of cosines: $r^2 = s^2 + r_c^2 - 2r_c s \cos \ell$.

The third and final sensitivity model takes into account the statistical fluctuation of photons from point sources. Ref. [13] models the probability that a point source with average flux F is resolved as

$$P_{\text{r}}(F) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \text{erf} \left(\frac{\log_{10} F - (\log_{10} F_{\text{th}}(\ell, b) + K_{\text{th}})}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_{\text{th}}} \right) \right) \tag{2.7}$$

where $K_{\text{th}} = 0.45$ and $\sigma_{\text{th}} = 0.28$ were determined via an MCMC fit to globular cluster MSPs. The observables are calculated simply by multiplying the integrand of the luminosity integral in equation 2.6 by $P_{\text{r}}(L/4\pi s^2)$ for F_{r} and N_{r} . (Not for F_{GCE} , because we do not require that the F_{GCE} flux be resolved.)

3 Results

3.1 N_r , R_r , and N_{GCE} for different luminosity functions

Using each of the luminosity functions outlined in section 2.5, we extract the total number of resolvable point sources N_r , the ratio of the flux received from those resolved point sources to the total flux of the GCE R_r , and the total number of point sources N_{GCE} by forcing each function to reproduce the observed flux of the GCE. This is done for many parameterizations of the power law and log normal luminosity functions (eqs. 2.2 and 2.3), with N_{GCE} displayed as a contour map in figures 7a and 7b, using the step function and the position-dependent sensitivity models respectively. Regions that satisfy the observational constraints $N_r < 47$ and $R_r < 0.2$ are marked.

The analysis is also performed on the NPTF luminosity function, but only for the parameterization outlined in ref. [12] and therefore no figure is generated. Predictions for N_r , R_r , and N_{GCE} for the specific parameterizations suggested by previous works are shown in table 1 for all three sensitivity models.

The results of this analysis scale linearly with the flux of the GCE used. Figure 8 shows figure 1b but with flux values from analyses other than di Mauro’s represented. Note that R_r does not vary because both fluxes in the ratio are scaled by the same amount. However, N_r varies greatly for different GCE fluxes, especially in the power law case.

It would probably be nice to have a table showing N_r and N_{GCE} as well for different values of GCE luminosity.

3.2 Flux distribution

Until this point, we have compared predictions for the population of point source in the GC to observations only through the number and flux of resolved point sources. We may expand this analysis by comparing the flux distribution of point source population as well.

Figure 9a shows the flux distribution of the four luminosity functions with the number of resolvable point sources fixed at 47, which is the number we observed. The distributions are superimposed on the observed flux distribution of the 47 sources as obtained from the 4FGL catalog [3], as well as the flux distribution with the 0.53° cut (see section 2.2). Figure 9b requires each model to reproduce the total flux of the GCE, allowing the aggregate number of resolved point sources to vary. These histograms are calculated with the position-dependent sensitivity model.

The total GCE flux yielded by the luminosity functions shown in figure 9a which are forced to reproduce the number of observed sources is shown in table 2.

4 Future Sensitivity

We simulate an increase in sensitivity of GCE measurements by reusing the same $F_{\text{th}}(b, \ell)$ sensitivity map (figure 6) as the one provided by the Fermi-LAT team, but with an overall multiplicative decrease. In particular, we study cases where the sensitivity is decreased by a factor of two, five, and ten and reproduce the analysis found earlier in the paper. Plots of N_r for different parameterizations of the power law and log normal luminosity functions are given in figure 6, and values for N_r , R_r , and N_{GCE} for specific parameterizations are given in table 3. Of course, the number of sources in the GCE does not depend on *Fermi* sensitivity and will not change. *That means that the backgrounds of the column plots do not change from plot to plot. I could put them all on the same thing.*

Luminosity function	N_r	R_r	N_{GCE}
Observation	47	0.2	
Power law	115	0.193	8.14×10^6
Log normal, GCL	296	0.910	638
Log normal, GCE	142	0.180	2.58×10^4
Log normal, AIC	258	0.744	3.87×10^3
NFW NPTF	19.9	0.0136	2.71×10^3
DISK NPTF	208	0.883	2.73×10^4

(a) Step function sensitivity model

Power law	17.6	0.101	5.91×10^6
Log normal, GCL	77.5	0.692	463
Log normal, GCE	13.4	0.0648	1.91×10^4
Log normal, AIC	55.6	0.552	2.81×10^3
NFW NPTF	7.48	0.0300	1.97×10^3
DISK NPTF	71.7	0.757	1.98×10^4

(b) Position-dependent sensitivity model

Power law	0	0	0
Log normal, GCL	0	0	0
Log normal, GCE	0	0	0
Log normal, AIC	0	0	0
NFW NPTF	0	0	0
DISK NPTF	0	0	0

(c) Smoothed sensitivity model

Table 1: Number of resolved point sources, ratio of resolved flux to total flux, and total number of point sources predicted to make up the GCE based on six luminosity function parameterizations and the requirement that the point sources reproduce the entire flux of the GCE. For definitions of the parameterizations, see section 2.4.

Luminosity function	$F_{\text{GCE}}^{\text{hyp}}$ (erg s $^{-1}$)	$F_{\text{GCE}}^{\text{hyp}}/F_{\text{GCE}}^{\text{obs}}$
Power law	3.49×10^{-9}	2.69
Log normal GCL	7.91×10^{-10}	0.61
Log normal GCE	4.57×10^{-9}	3.60
Log normal AIC	1.10×10^{-9}	0.85
NPTF	8.29×10^{-9}	6.40

Table 2: Total GCE flux ($F_{\text{GCE}}^{\text{hyp}}$) required by each luminosity function to yield 47 observed forces, and the ratio of that flux to the observed GCE flux $F_{\text{GCE}}^{\text{obs}}$ for comparison.

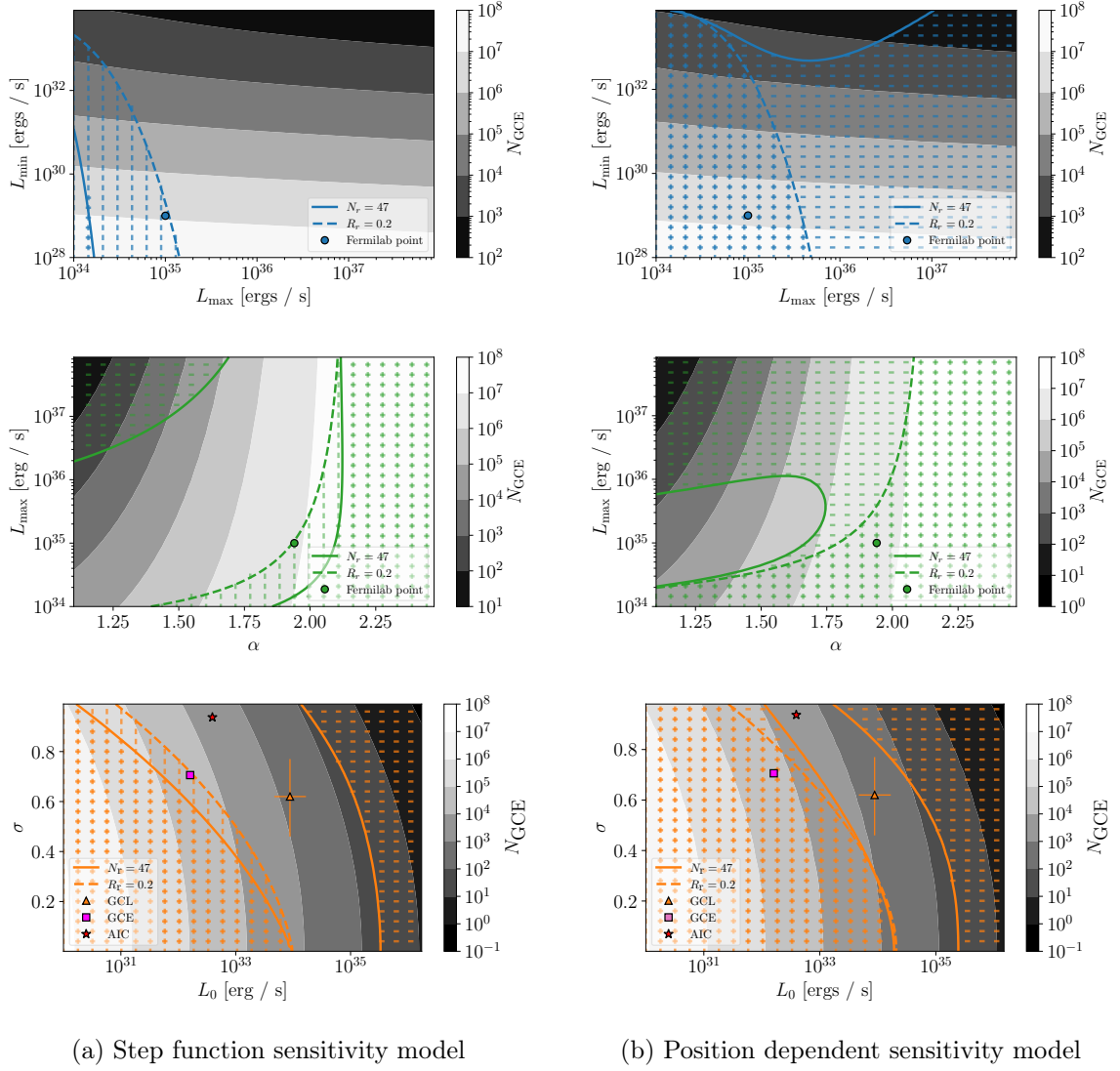


Figure 7: N_r , R_r , and N_{GCE} calculations generated for parameterizations of a power law luminosity function (top two plots) and log normal (bottom plots). The parameterizations used in other analyses are marked. Regions allowed by the $N_r \leq 47$ and $R_r \leq 0.2$ are marked with + and - respectively, while regions allowed by both constraints are marked with +. The top power law plot (blue) fixes $\alpha = 1.94$ while the lower (green) fixes $L_{\text{min}} = 1 \times 10^{29}$ erg/s

5 Conclusion

A Scaling of ROIs and Spectral Ranges

To establish a value for the total flux of the GCE, we draw on several analyses of the GCE spectrum in section 2.3. However, not all the analyses we study use the same ROI as ours. To convert between our ROI and others', we assume an NFW squared spacial distribution of MSPs in the GCE as discussed in section 2.1. Then we simply calculate the ratio of flux in

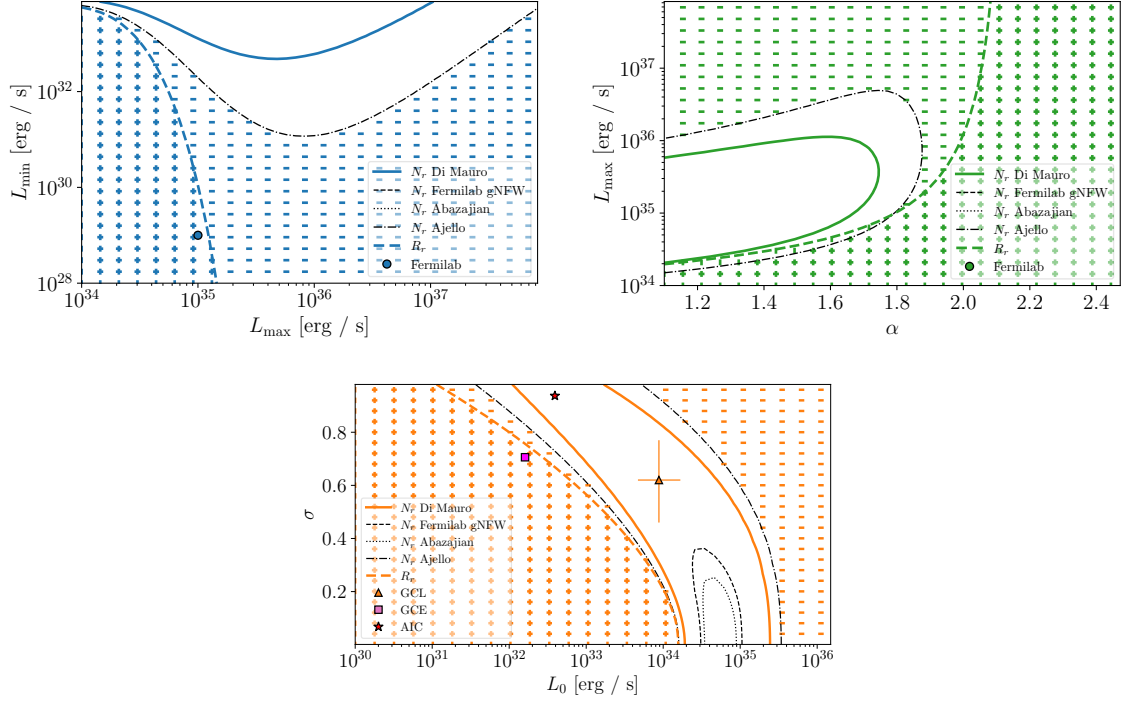
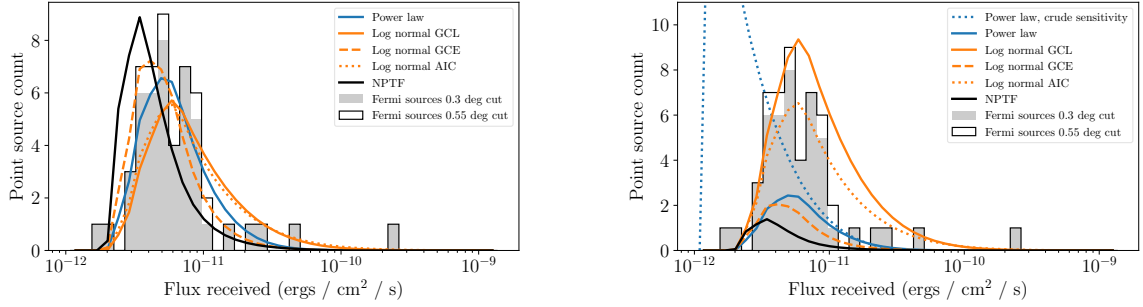


Figure 8: N_r and R_r for each luminosity function, with results for $N_r = 47$ constraint shown for Fermilab gNFW's, Abazajian's, and Ajello's estimates of the GCE spectrum.



(a) Each luminosity function is forced to reproduce 47 sources, which is the observed number

(b) Each luminosity function is forced to reproduce the flux of the GCE

Figure 9: Distribution of resolved sources predicted by each luminosity function compared to observed distribution, where observed point sources are allowed to be within 0.3° of spatial peaks in the GCE flux (gray histogram) and 0.53° (black histogram).

Luminosity function	$N_r^{\times 1}$	$R_r^{\times 1}$	$N_r^{\times 2}$	$R_r^{\times 2}$	$N_r^{\times 5}$	$R_r^{\times 5}$	$N_r^{\times 10}$	$R_r^{\times 10}$
Power law	17.6	0.101	45.8	0.157	137	0.237	290	0.298
Log normal, GCL	77.5	0.692	142	0.831	251	0.941	331	0.979
Log normal, GCE	13.4	0.0648	48.9	0.129	222	0.270	599	0.416
Log normal, AIC	55.6	0.552	113	0.670	256	0.803	432	0.878
NFW NPTF	7.48	0.0300	50.7	0.0920	574	0.480	1.40×10^3	0.879
DISK NPTF	71.7	0.757	110	0.839	180	0.907	252	0.939

Table 3: Number of resolved point sources and ratio of resolved flux to total flux, predicted to make up the GCE based on six luminosity function parameterizations and the requirement that the point sources reproduce the entire flux of the GCE. The assumed sensitivity of the telescope, $F_{\text{th}}(\ell, b)$, has been varied by a factor of 1 (i.e., sensitivity is at its current value), 2, 5, and 10, with the factor of increase given as superscripts in the header. All use the position-dependent sensitivity model. For definitions of the parameterizations, see section 2.4. *Maybe this should be a plot.*

our region of interest F_Ω to flux in another analysis's region of interest $F_{\Omega'}$ via

$$\frac{F_{\Omega'}}{F_\Omega} = \left[\int_{\Omega'} d\Omega \int_0^\infty ds \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \right] \left[\int_\Omega d\Omega \int_0^\infty ds \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \right]^{-1}. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

Here, s represents the distance between Earth and the point of integration, and r represents the galactocentric distance. They are related by $r^2 = s^2 + r_c^2 - 2sr_c \cos \ell$, where ℓ is the Galactic longitude and r_c is the distance between Earth and the center of the Galaxy, taken here to be 8.5 kpc to be consistent with the rest of this study.

The flux ratio as computed by equation A.1 between our region and the same $40^\circ \times 40^\circ$ without the Galactic disk cutout is 2.10. Similarly, the ratio is 1.64, 1.27, 0.915, and 1.013 *Wrong!* for a $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$, $20^\circ \times 20^\circ$, $10^\circ \times 10^\circ$, and $7^\circ \times 7^\circ$ respectively.

B Conversion Between GCE Luminosity and Flux

This analysis requires luminosity functions to be expressed as probability distributions as a function of luminosity, since they are intended to be statements solely about the GC MSP population, made without reference to the distance of observation, and therefore the flux. Yet several papers referenced in this study express luminosity functions as a function of flux. This appendix describes how the conversion to luminosity is done.

As discussed in section 2.1, we represent the MSP population as distributed according to an NFW squared distribution with $\gamma = 1.2$. One way to convert a function of flux to luminosity would be to simply use the luminosity function which, when integrated over the NFW squared spacial distribution, would reproduce the observed function of flux. But this method would change the functional form of the luminosity function so that, for example, a luminosity function that is log normal when written in terms of flux would no longer be log normal when written in terms of luminosity. *Is it worth devoting a whole paragraph to describing something I do not intend to do? I do it to avoid confusion.*

So for this paper, we simply convert the flux value of every bin to a luminosity according to the following method. We assume that the entire population of MPSs only contains pulsars with luminosity L and ask what average flux F per pulsar is observed. Integrated over the

region of interest Ω , this yields a constant flux to luminosity ratio of

$$\frac{F}{L} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[\int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} ds \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \right] \left[\int_{\Omega} d\Omega \int_0^{\infty} s^2 ds \rho_{\text{NFW}}^2(r) \right]^{-1} = 1.11 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^{-2}. \quad (\text{B.1})$$

Here, s represents the distance from Earth to the point of integration, and r represents the distance from the GC to the point of integration. They are related by the law of cosines: $r^2 = s^2 + r_c^2 - 2sr_c \cos \ell$, where ℓ is the Galactic longitude. The numerical value reported was computed for $r_c = 8.5 \text{ kpc}$. It is slightly lower than the naïve value of $\frac{F}{L} = \frac{1}{4\pi r_c^2} = 1.16 \times 10^{-46} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, which assumes that all the MSPs are at the Galactic center, and therefore does not rely on a choice of γ .

C Calculation of photon energy

The parameterization of the NPTF luminosity function of ref. [12] is given with flux units of photons per second. To convert this to luminosity via appendix B, we need to find the energy of a single GCE photon. To do this, we fit a broken power law to the GCE spectrum found by di Mauro and described in section 2.3, defining the flux observed from photons in an energy bin of energy E_{γ} and width dE_{γ} as $dF = E_{\gamma} N(E_{\gamma}) dE_{\gamma}$. The function $E_{\gamma} N(E_{\gamma})$ is plotted in figure 3. The average photon energy is then calculated by

$$\langle E_{\gamma} \rangle = \left[\int_{0.1 \text{ GeV}}^{100 \text{ GeV}} E_{\gamma} N(E_{\gamma}) dE_{\gamma} \right] \left[\int_{0.1 \text{ GeV}}^{100 \text{ GeV}} N(E_{\gamma}) dE_{\gamma} \right]^{-1} = 0 \text{ GeV}. \quad (\text{C.1})$$

I'd like to finish this. Give examples of photon energy.

Acknowledgments

This is the most common positions for acknowledgments. A macro is available to maintain the same layout and spelling of the heading.

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