

# FERMI-LAT OBSERVATIONS OF EXTENDED GAMMA-RAY EMISSION IN THE DIRECTION OF SNR G150.3+4.5

JAMIE M. COHEN, DANIEL CASTRO, ELIZABETH HAYS, JOHN W. HEWITT

## ABSTRACT

We report here a dedicated analysis of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission around supernova remnant (SNR) G150.3+4.5, observed with the Large Area Telescope (LAT) on board the *Fermi Gamma-Ray Space Telescope*. The Second Catalog of Hard *Fermi*-LAT Sources reported detection of a hard spectrum, spatially extended source from 50 GeV - 2 TeV, partially overlapping G150.3+4.5. Lowering the energy threshold to 1 GeV, we significantly detect a large ( $\sigma = 1.40^\circ \pm 0.03^\circ$ ) extended  $\gamma$ -ray source consistent with the entirety of the radio shell and displaying a power law spectral index of  $1.82 \pm 0.04$ . An obtained HI spectrum toward the SNR suggests that the remnant could be one of the closest to us. Estimates of its age, within the context of other LAT observed SNRs, indicate that G150.3+4.5 is in the Sedov-Taylor phase, and is compatible with a dynamically-young remnant [JAM: modify this with low density in mind?]. Despite the spectral similarities with other unevolved SNRs, ROSAT all-sky survey observations show no prominent X-ray emission in the region. We model the broadband non-thermal radiation from G150.3+4.5 using a published radio spectrum of the SNR and the GeV results presented here. We find that the emission is best described by [JAM: or, can be described equally well by blah. End with othe naima results]

**Keywords:** Supernova Remnants,  $\gamma$ -rays, Cosmic rays, Radio

## 1. INTRODUCTION

SNRs have long been thought to be the most-likely accelerators of cosmic rays (CRs) up to the knee of the CR energy spectrum, with diffusive shock acceleration being the primary mechanism accelerating the charged particles to  $\gamma$ -ray emitting energies (see Reynolds (2008) for a review of SNRs from X-rays to  $\gamma$ -rays). *Fermi*-LAT was instrumental [JAM: pun!] in demonstrating that CR protons can indeed be accelerated by SNR shock fronts (through detection of the characteristic "pion bump" feature), and are capable of generating the observed  $\gamma$ -ray emission in SNRs (Ackermann et al. 2013; Jogler & Funk 2016). In addition, observations of SNRs with the LAT have proven to be vital in uncovering a large swath of the  $\gamma$ -ray SNR population; both evolved SNRs interacting with dense surrounding material, as well as dynamically young remnants useful for probing acceleration directly at the shock (Acero et al. 2016).

The recently updated Pass 8 LAT event reconstruction provides a significantly improved angular resolution, acceptance, and background event rejection (Atwood et al. 2013a,b), all of which lead to an increase in the effective energy range and sensitivity of the LAT. Leveraging the increased sensitivity afforded by Pass 8 data, Ackermann et al. (2016) performed an all-sky analysis from 50 GeV to 2 TeV (referred to as the second catalog of hard *Fermi*-LAT sources, or 2FHL), directly connecting GeV LAT observations with those of ground-based Cherenkov telescopes at higher energies. While it's troublesome for Cherenkov telescopes operating under pointed observations to detect broadly extended sources on the sky (i.e. sources larger than the telescopes field of view (FOV)), the LAT, with its all-sky survey mode and wide FOV, is well suited for this task. The 2FHL catalog detected significant spatial extension from 31 sources above 50 GeV, 5 of which had not previously been detected as extended.

Of particular interest, one of the 5 blindly de-

tected sources, 2FHL J0431.2+5553e, was a large extended source (modeled as a uniform disk with radius,  $\sigma = 1.27^\circ \pm 0.04^\circ$ ), exhibiting a hard power-law spectral index ( $\Gamma = 1.66 \pm 0.20$ ). This 2FHL source was found to be coincident with a recently detected radio SNR, G150.3+4.5. Faint emission from the eastern portion of the shell of G150.3+4.5 was first reported in Gerbrandt et al. (2014) (called G150.8+3.8), and considered a strong SNR candidate due to the semi-circular shape of the emission, clearly non-thermal spectrum, and the presence of red optical filamentary structures. Gao & Han (2014) performed follow-up observations of the region using Urumqi 6 cm survey data (as well as Effelsberg 11cm and 21cm data and CGPS 1420 MHz and 408 MHz observations), taking advantage of the survey's extended Galactic latitude range, up to  $b=20^\circ$ . They reported clear detection of a  $2.5^\circ$  wide by  $3^\circ$  high, synchrotron emitting, shell-like object (G150.3+4.5), bolstering an SNR origin for the radio emission.

2FHL J0431.2+5553e only partially overlaps the northern region of G150.3+4.5, so the nature of the extended source is uncertain. In this paper, we perform an in depth study of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission in the direction of SNR G150.3+4.5, extending the energy from 50 GeV in 2FHL, down to 1 GeV. We report here detection of a significantly extended source whose extent matches well with that of G150.3+4.5. We describe the LAT observations and explore the spectral and spatial properties of the extended  $\gamma$ -ray source in §2. In §3 we employ archival HI and X-ray observations to assess the properties of the environment G150.3+4.5 resides in. Finally, in §4 we discuss potential  $\gamma$ -ray emission scenarios and model the broadband emission from the source to constrain the origin of the GeV emission and understand the connection between the radio detected source G150.3+4.5 and the  $\gamma$ -ray one.

## 2. *Fermi*-LAT OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

## 2.1. Data Set and Reduction

*Fermi*-LAT is a pair conversion telescope sensitive to high energy  $\gamma$ -rays from 20 MeV to greater than 1 TeV (Ackermann et al. 2016), operating primarily in a sky-survey mode which views the entire sky every 3 hours. The LAT has a wide field of view ( $\sim 2.4$  sr), a large effective area of  $\sim 8200$  cm<sup>2</sup> above 1 GeV for on axis events and a 68% containment radius angular resolution of  $\sim 0.8^\circ$  at 1 GeV. For further details on the instrument and its performance see Atwood et al. (2009) and Ackermann et al. (2012).

In this analysis, we analyzed 7 years of Pass 8 data, from August 2nd 2008 to August 2nd 2015. Source class events were analyzed within a  $14^\circ \times 14^\circ$  region centered on SNR G150.3+4.5 using the P8R2\_SOURCE.V6 instrument response functions, with a pixel size of  $0.1^\circ$ . To reduce contamination from earth limb  $\gamma$ -rays, only events with zenith angle less than  $100^\circ$  were included.

For spectral and spatial analysis we utilized both the standard *Fermi* Science Tools (version 10-01-01)<sup>1</sup>, and the binned maximum likelihood package *pointlike* (Kerr 2010). *pointlike* provides methods for simultaneously fitting the spectrum, position, and spatial extension of a source, and was extensively validated in Lande et al. (2012). Both packages fit a source model, the Galactic diffuse emission, and an isotropic component (which accounts for the background of misclassified charged particles and the extragalactic diffuse  $\gamma$ -ray background)<sup>2</sup> to the observations. In this analysis, we used the standard Galactic diffuse ring-hybrid model scaled for Pass 8 analysis, *gll\_iem\_v06.fits* (modulated by a power law function with free index and normalization), and for the isotropic emission, we used *iso\_P8R2\_SOURCE.V6\_v06.txt*, extrapolated to 2 TeV as in Ackermann et al. (2016).

In our source model for the region, we included sources from the third *Fermi*-LAT catalog (Acero et al. 2015, 3FGL) within  $15^\circ$  of the center of our region of interest (RoI). We replaced the position and spectrum of any 3FGL pulsars in the region with their corresponding counterpart from the LAT 2nd pulsar catalog (Abdo et al. 2013). Residual emission unaccounted for by 3FGL sources is present in the RoI due to the increased time range and different energy selection with respect to that in 3FGL. We added to the RoI several significant ( $TS \geq 16$ ) point sources to account for this unmodeled emission and minimize the global residuals. The closest of these sources added was about  $1^\circ$  away from the edge of the best fit GeV disk. [JAM: Considering the size of the PSF at 1 GeV, the affect of these sources on the disk fit was assumed to be negligible. do I need to say more about these sources? should I mention adding them automatically and iteratively based on TS maps and reference SNRcat/2FHL?]. The normalization and spectral index of sources within  $5^\circ$  of the center of the RoI were free to vary, whereas all other source parameters were fixed. A preliminary maximum likelihood fit of the RoI was performed, and sources with a test statistic ( $TS$ )  $< 9$  ( $TS$  is defined as,  $TS = 2 \text{Log}(\mathcal{L}_1/\mathcal{L}_0)$  where  $\mathcal{L}_1$  is the

likelihood of source plus background and  $\mathcal{L}_0$  that of just the background) were removed from the model.

## 2.2. Morphological Analysis

Studying the spatial extension of sources with the LAT is non-trivial due to the energy-dependent point spread function (PSF) and strong diffuse emission present in the Galactic plane. Soft spectrum point sources and uncertainties in the diffuse model can act as sources of systematic error when not accurately modeling extended emission as such, particularly at low energies where the PSF is broad. To strike a balance between the best angular resolution and minimal source and diffuse contamination, we restrict our morphological analysis to energies between 1 GeV and 1 TeV. We divide this energy range into 12 logarithmically spaced bins for both *pointlike* and *gtlike* binned likelihood analyses.

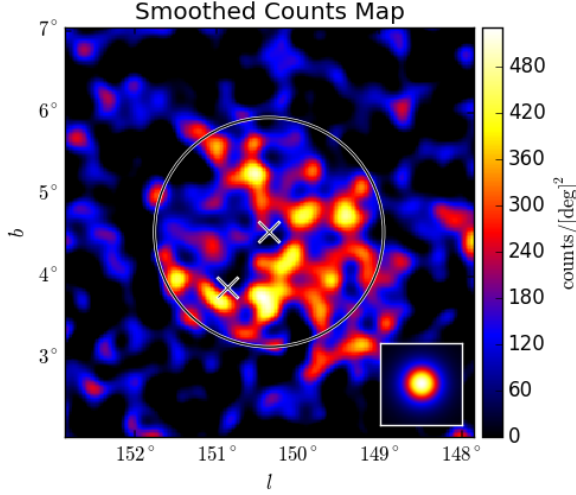
Three unidentified 3FGL sources are located within the extent of G150.3+4.5. 3FGL J0425.8+5600, located approximately  $0.6^\circ$  from the center of the SNR, is the closest of the three sources and is described with a power law spectrum of index  $\Gamma = 2.35 \pm 0.17$  in the 3FGL catalog. The closest radio source to 3FGL J0425.8+5600 is NVSS J042719+560823, at 0.25 away [JAM: ref?]. 3FGL J0423.5+5442, exhibits a power law spectral index,  $\Gamma = 2.63 \pm 0.15$ , with no clear multiwavelength source association. Finally, 3FGL J0426.7+5437 has a pulsar-like spectrum, yet in a timing survey performed with the 100-m Effelsberg radio telescope, Barr et al. (2013) were unable to detect pulsations from the source down to a limiting flux density of  $\sim 0.1$  mJy. This source is located about  $0.84^\circ$  from the center of the SNR. We discuss 3FGL J0426.7+5437 and potential association with G150.3+4.5 further in §4.2. Figure 1 is a counts map of the region, showing the location of the 3FGL sources [JAM: need to remake the cmap. Do I def want to include the other sources? put this sentence further down?]

In our analysis, we removed 3FGL J0425.8+5600 and 3FGL J0423.5+544 from the RoI, but kept 3FGL J0426.7+5437 in the model since preliminary analyses showed clear positive residual emission at the position of the source if it was removed from the RoI. Figure 2 shows a residual TS map for the region around G150.3+4.5. This point source detection-significance map was created by placing a point source modeled with a power law of photon index  $\Gamma = 2$  at each pixel and gives the significance of detecting a point source at each location above the background.

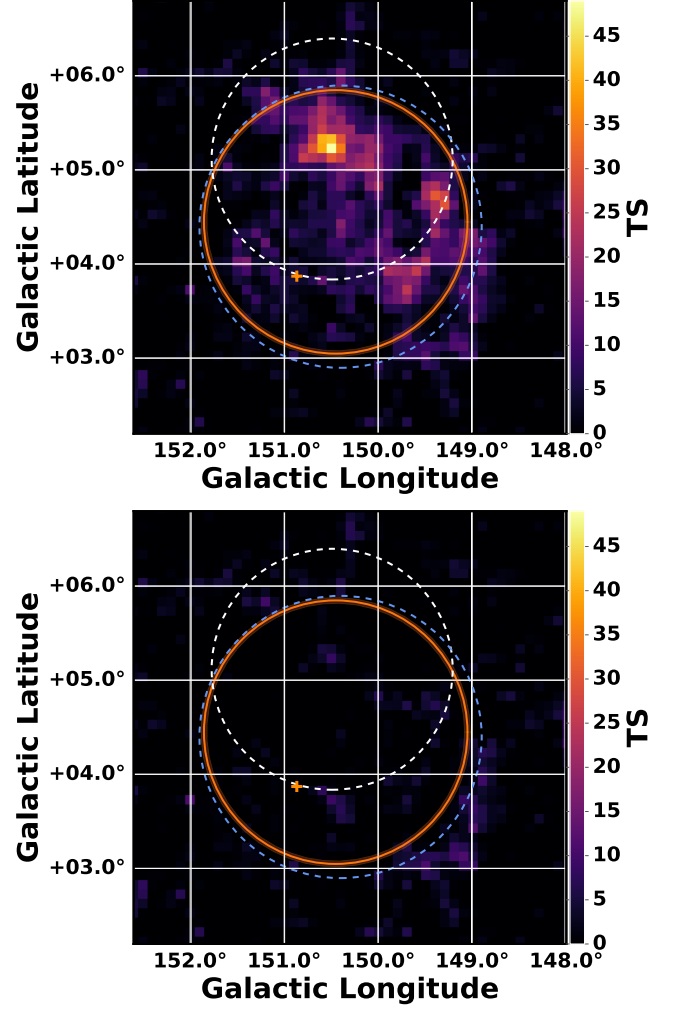
We modeled the excess emission in the direction of G150.3+4.5 with a uniform intensity, radially-symmetric disk, simultaneously fitting the spatial and spectral components of the model via *pointlike*. The extension of the disk was initialized with a seed radius of  $\sigma = 0.1^\circ$  and position centered on the radio position of G150.3+4.5. We define the significance of extension as in Lande et al. (2012);  $TS_{\text{ext}} = 2 \text{log}(\mathcal{L}_{\text{ext}}/\mathcal{L}_{\text{ps}})$ , with  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ext}}$  being the likelihood of the model with the extended source and  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ps}}$  that of a point source located at the peak of emission interior to the extended source. For the disk model we found that  $TS_{\text{ext}} = 298$ , for the best fit radius,  $\sigma = 1.40^\circ \pm 0.03^\circ$ , and position, R.A. =  $55.46^\circ \pm 0.03^\circ$ , DEC. =  $66.91^\circ \pm 0.03^\circ$ , all in excellent agreement with the radio SNR size and centroid determined in Gao & Han (2014). [JAM: do other LAT papers give the TS

<sup>1</sup> <http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://fermi.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc/data/access/lat/BackgroundModels.html>



**Figure 1.** Smoothed background subtracted residual counts map above 1 GeV with  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$  pixels, centered on SNR G150.3+4.5. 3FGL J0426.7+5437 and the diffuse backgrounds are included in the region model, 3FGL J0425.8+5600 and 3FGL J0423.5+5442 are not. Inset shows the size of the PSF above 1 GeV. [JAM: not sure if I should include the disk fit or not] [JAM: add more description after i remake the map. Add the other 2 3FGL sources? The point of this is to give an sense of what our model thinks the GeV emission from the SNR looks like] [JAM: redo these removing the extended source? 3FGL removed in a diffetent color? Redo them as pdf/eps. Remove titles, use same cmap as figure 1, bigger bolder font.do I have the TS map for these? Or maybe I can just go into pointlike and give it the right cmap and also add in the 2 other 3FGL sources? something about the emission being clearly extended beyond the extent of the inset PSF]



**Figure 2.** Background subtracted residual TS map above 1 GeV with  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$  pixels, centered on SNR G150.3+4.5. The orange circle and translucent shading show the fit disk radius and  $1\sigma$  errors, respectively, for the extended source, the orange cross shows the position of 3FGL J0426.7+5437 (included in the background model), blue dashed circle is the extent of the radio SNR, and white dashed circle depicts 2FHL J0431.2+5553e. Bottom map includes G150.3+4.5 in the background model, top does not.

of extended source too?]. Figure 3 shows radially integrated counts for the region as a function of angular radius squared. It's clear from this figure that there is significant excess of counts above the Galactic diffuse radiation in this region that is adequately modeled by a symmetric disk. We tried adding back in to our model the two removed 3FGL sources but both were insignificant when fit on top of the best fit disk. The bottom map in Figure 2 is a residual TS map of the same region as the top map, but with the disk source included in the background model, demonstrating that the disk can account well for the emission in the region and justifying the exclusion of the two aforementioned 3FGL sources.

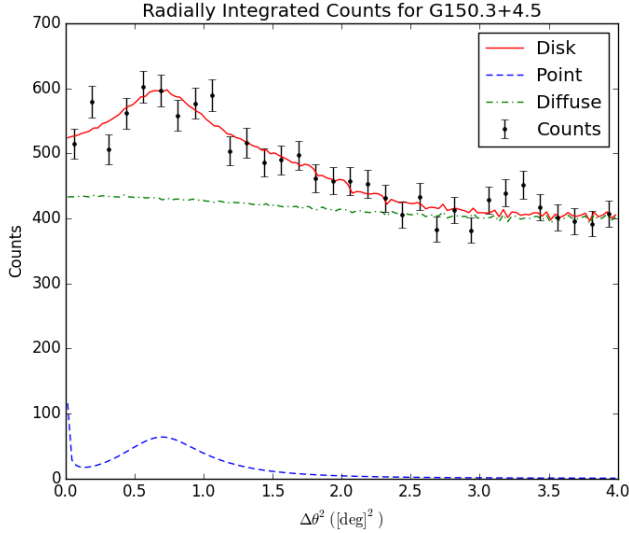
The morphology of the radio emission is suggestive of an elliptical or ring morphology, so both of these spatial models were tested as well. For the ring model, the fit reduced to a disk with parameters matching those stated above. Using the elliptical model showed a weak improvement over the radially symmetric model at the  $2.6\sigma$  level ( $\Delta\text{TS} = 9$  with two additional degrees of freedom), which we did not consider significant enough to say the GeV emission had an elliptical morphology (see Table 1). For the remainder of this study, we only considered the disk spatial model.

2FHL J0431.2+5553e is the extended source detected in the 2FHL catalog found to be overlapping the northern region of G150.3+4.5 Ackermann et al. (2016). The source has a power law spectral index  $\Gamma = 1.66 \pm 0.2$ , and disk radius  $\sigma = 1.27^\circ \pm 0.04^\circ$  (see Figure 2). When comparing the best fit extension of the 2FHL source with the result from this paper, factoring in the uncertainty in both extension and position, we see that the  $> 50$  GeV

and  $> 1$  GeV results are not incompatible. It is likely that the paucity of events above 50 GeV is the cause of the smaller fit radius, as opposed to the difference arising from the effects of an energy dependent morphology. To explore the connection between the 2FHL and above 1 GeV emission, we tested a few other spatial hypotheses.

First, we replaced the  $\sigma = 1.40^\circ$  disk with an another disk matching the spectral and spatial parameters of 2FHL J0431.2+5553e and calculated the likelihood with this new source's position and extension fixed. For this hypothesis, we find  $\text{TS}_{\text{ext}} = 165$ , and  $\text{TS} = 226$ , demonstrating that the fixed disk matching the 2FHL source is clearly disfavored over the previously determined best fit disk at this energy. Our next test consisted of placing a second extended source on top of the best fit disk detected above 1 GeV. We added a source, initially matching the spatial and spectral parameters of 2FHL J0431.2+5553e, to our source model of the region (in addition to the  $\sigma = 1.40^\circ$  disk), and fit its spectrum and extension. Fitting a second extended source in this re-





**Figure 3.** Radially integrated counts map centered on the GeV emission coincident with G150.3+4.5. Red line shows the expected counts for a uniform intensity disk with radius,  $\sigma = 1.40^\circ$ , green line is that of the Galactic diffuse background. Error bars on data points are statistical. [JAM: Replot without the point model? I feel like it's distracting and doesn't really add anything.]

gion serves two purposes: 1. it acts as a check on whether there was residual emission unaccounted for by the previously best-fit disk, and 2. it allows us to determine if the best fit disk can be split into two spectrally distinct components. This fit resulted in the source wandering north (but still partially overlapping G150.3+4.5) and having an insignificant extension,  $TS_{\text{ext}} = 4$ . Details on the spatial parameters are given in Table 1.

[JAM: Something about J0426? like how modeling G150 as point vs extended if it's really extended can affect the fit of other point sources nearby, like J0426, so show the spectrum of this source too? I fit both the norm and index of the source. Save this for discussion? How does the spectrum of J0426 change with the new source? Maybe the most that needs to be said is that below 1 GeV it's confused with]

[JAM: from Lande et al 2012 modelling the spectrum of an intrinsically extended source as point sources skews the PS spectrum to softer energies "Specifically, modeling a spatially extended source as point-like will systematically soften measured spectra", idk if I get why. We see it with the 2 removed 3FGL sources being softer than what the disk winds up being.]

### 2.3. Spectral Analysis

After determining the best fit morphology with `pointlike` for the GeV emission coincident with SNR G150.3+4.5, we used those results as a starting point for our `gtlike` maximum-likelihood fit of the region to estimate the best spectral parameters for our model. The LAT data is well described by a power law from 1 GeV to 1 TeV with a photon index,  $\Gamma = 1.82 \pm 0.04$ , and energy flux above 1 GeV of  $(7.3 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{-11} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $TS = 389$  [JAM: pointlike results were index = 1.80 flux =  $(7.17 \pm 0.73 \times 10^{-11}) \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ]. We tested the  $\gamma$ -ray spectrum of the extended disk for spectral curvature using a log-normal model (Log Parabola), and find no significant deviation from a power law ( $\Delta TS \sim 1$ ).

**Table 1**  
Extended Source Analysis Results

Spatial Model	$TS_{\text{ext}}$	$TS^a$	$\sigma$ [ $^\circ$ ]	R.A. [ $^\circ$ ]	DEC [ $^\circ$ ]
Disk	278.843	-32.850	49.80	LMC	gal
Elliptical Disk	189.048	3.033	398.64	IC 443	snr
2FHL (free) <sup>b</sup>	260.317	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	snr
2FHL (fixed)	260.317	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	snr
Disk & 2FHL <sup>b</sup>	260.317	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	snr

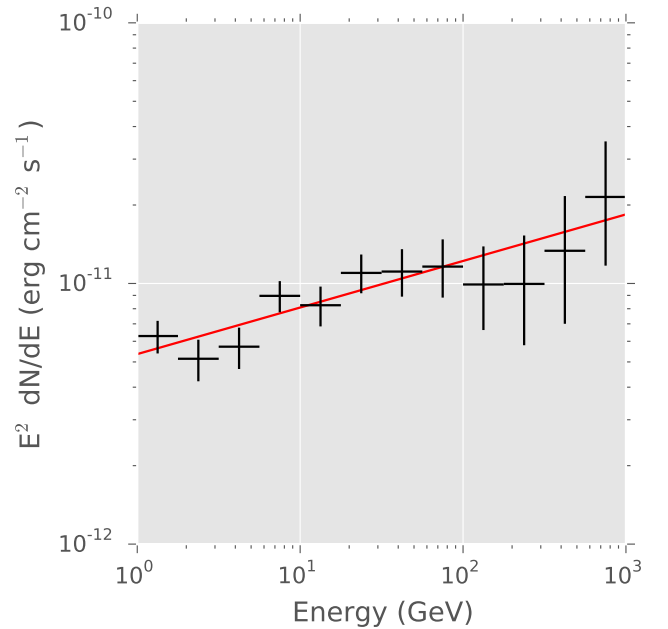
**Note.** — 2FHL (free) corresponds to the model where a disk matching 2FHL J0431.2+5553e, was included in the likelihood model and the spectral and spatial parameters we free to vary. For the 2FHL (fixed) model, 2FHL J0431.2+5553e was included with spatial parameters fixed. In the Disk & 2FHL model, we included both the best-fit disk determined in §2.2, fixed in position and size, and added a source resembling the 2FHL J0431.2+5553e with free spectral and spatial parameters. This model reports the fit values of 2FHL J0431.2+5553e [JAM: Haven't filled in real numbers for G150 yet just copied from 2FHL table.] [JAM: Other things to add  $N_{\text{dof}}$ , LL, spectral params?]

<sup>a</sup> Calculated in `gtlike`

<sup>b</sup> Started with disk matching the spectral/spatial parameters of 2FHL J0431.2+5553e, then left them free to fit in the likelihood model.

Figure 4 shows the best-fit power law spectral energy distribution for the GeV source whose morphology was described in Section 2.2. Spectral data points were obtained by dividing the energy range into 12 logarithmically spaced bins and modeling the source with a power law of fixed spectra index,  $\Gamma = 2$ . We overplotted the SED of 3FGL J0426.7+5437, to demonstrate how the spectra of the two sources would grow more confused at energies below 1 GeV [JAM: Need to remake Fig 1 with J0426].

[JAM: what else to include here? Systematics. Bracketing IRFs, still to be done.]



**Figure 4.** Spectral energy distribution for the extended source coincident with SNR G150.3+4.5 from 1 GeV to 1 TeV. Red line corresponds to the best fit power law model. Crosses are shown with statistical error bars. Grey dashed line is the SED of 3FGL J0426.7+5437, modeled with an exponential cut-off power law. [JAM: [need to remake this and add J0426]] [JAM: add systematics when I have them]. [JAM: Butterfly?]

## 3. MULTIWAVELENGTH OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

## 3.1. HI

[JAM: Jack is working on this]

## 3.2. CO?

[JAM: Jack's looking into Planck data for HI and CO]

## 3.3. X-ray

[JAM: Dan is working on this.]

[JAM: No diffuse nonthermal X-ray emission observed by ROSAT. No point sources near the center? Should a pulsar even be near the center?]

[JAM: Place a limit on ambient density with an upper limit on thermal X-ray emission. upper limit on potential pulsar spin-down power, then see what fraction of that power the lum of J0426 would be, assuming it's at the distance of G150 to see if that's reasonable for it being the putative pulsar?]

[JAM: When I have the xray flux, Can I say what edot of the psr would be if I know the LAT flux and xray flux? here's the flux detected from G150... assuming the derived distance, here's the luminosity...If it's a PWN does this luminosity suggest a spindown power?...or at least what fraction of some reasonable spin down power is this lum?...If we have an upper limit on the x-ray flux, does the ration of x-ray to gamma suggest a spin down power?...which paper I was looking at today mentioned the connection between xray lum and psr spin down power? W41 parer does something, but I thought there was another? Look at Dan's W41 too, and MSH 11-61A something like Mattana et al. 2009 correlation between  $\text{flux}_x/\text{flux}_g \propto \text{Edot}^2$ ]

## 4. DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

## 4.1. SNR or PWN?

The follow-up observations of the  $\gamma$ -ray emission in the direction of G150.3+4.5, presented here, of the source detected above 50 GeV in 2FHL have led to the detection of an extended  $\gamma$ -ray source whose centroid and radius match extremely well with those of the radio detected SNR. The broad size of the extended source and correlation with the radio shell leave few plausible scenarios for the nature of the GeV emission. Namely, the GeV emission can arise from the wind nebula of the putative pulsar of G150.3+4.5 or the GeV emission corresponds to  $\gamma$ -rays produced in the SNR. We argue here that the SNR is favored over a pulsar wind nebulae (PWN) as the generator of the observed  $\gamma$ -rays. [JAM: other extended sources, MC? Can the HI, CO say anything about this?]

The first problem with the PWN hypothesis is that there is no pulsar candidate detected near the centroid of the SNR to power a PWN. While 3FGL J0425.8+5600 is the closest  $\gamma$ -ray source to the center of the remnant, it does not have a pulsar-esque spectrum, it lies about  $0.25^\circ$  away, and we showed in §2.2 that with the best-fit disk hypothesis, neither 3FGL J0425.8+5600 nor 3FGL J0423.5+5442 are significant in the likelihood model of the region. 3FGL J0426.7+5437, with a spectrum reminiscent of a pulsar, may actually be one, but as discussed previously, Barr et al. (2013) detect no pulsations from the source [JAM: something to say about SWIFT nondetection?].

Furthermore, the source is  $0.84^\circ$  away from the centroid of G150.3+4.5. Typical pulsar ballistic velocities range from  $V_{\text{PSR}} \sim 400 - 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , with extreme velocities exceeding  $1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (Gaensler & Slane 2006). If 3FGL J0426.7+5437 was the compact remnant of the progenitor star that birthed G150.3+4.5, it would have to be traveling with a velocity,  $V_{\text{PSR}} = 1125 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  (assuming an age of 5 kyr, which we derive in the following section, §4.2), and would make it one of the fastest known pulsars (Chatterjee et al. 2005). While possible, this scenario is unlikely without further evidence to support such a high velocity. [JAM: Fastest pulsar (till 2011 at least) 1100 km/s, more recent ref?]

Another argument disfavoring the PWN scenario is that, despite the hard  $\gamma$ -ray spectral index extending to TeV energies, ROSAT X-ray observations detect no significant emission suggestive of a PWN in the direction of G150.3+4.5 (see §3.3). Typical PWNe spectral indices range from about  $-0.3 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim 0$  (Gaensler & Slane 2006). The radio spectral index as determined in Gao & Han (2014) ( $\alpha = 0.4 \pm 0.17$  for part of the eastern shell,  $\alpha = 0.69 \pm 0.24$  for a region in western shell) suggests that the radio object is likely not a PWN.

Many of the arguments disfavoring the PWN hypothesis in fact bolster that of SNR. First and foremost in favor of an SNR origin for the  $\gamma$ -ray emission is the excellent agreement between the GeV best-fit disk radius and centroid with that of the radio shell. The radio shell-like appearance, non-thermal radio spectrum, and strands of red optical filamentary structures led both Gao & Han (2014) and Gerbrandt et al. (2014) to regard the radio source an SNR as opposed to a PWN. The radio spectral index, while not quite in line with typical PWN spectra, is actually common of SNRs.

While the above factors lend credence to an SNR origin for the GeV  $\gamma$ -rays the PWN scenario can not be ruled out due to the lack of an associated pulsar. Regardless, for the remainder of this study, we assumed the observed  $\gamma$ -rays were produced in the shock front of SNR G150.3+4.5

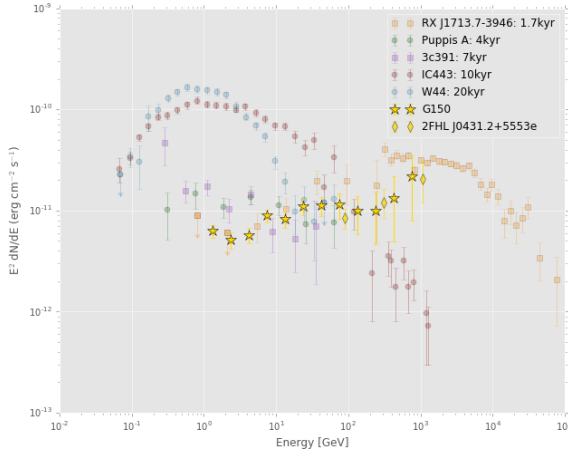
## 4.2. G150.3+4.5 in Context

Having associated the  $\gamma$ -ray emission with G150.3+4.5, next, we assessed the evolutionary state of the remnant to place it in context within the current population of LAT SNRs. Using the most viable HI kinematic distance,  $d \approx 0.38 \text{ kpc}$  derived in §3.1, we showed that the projected radius of G150.3+4.5 is  $R \approx 9.4 \text{ pc}$ . Employing a standard Sedov-Taylor solution for the expansion of a blast wave, we estimated the age of G150.3+4.5. In the Sedov phase, the radius of the shock front is given by,

$$R_{ST} = 0.314 \left( \frac{E_{51}}{n_0} \right)^{1/5} t_{\text{yr}}^{2/5} \text{ pc} \quad (1)$$

Where  $E_{51}$  is the kinetic energy output of the supernova in units of  $10^{51} \text{ erg}$ , and  $n_0$  the ambient density the shock is expanding into in units of  $\text{cm}^{-3}$ . Assuming standard values of 1 for  $E_{51}$  and  $n_0$  we solved equation 1 for  $t_{\text{yr}}$  (the current age of the remnant in years) and used the value of  $R$  derived for G150.3+4.5 to estimate the age of the SNR as  $t \approx 4.9 \text{ kyr}$ .

Figure 5 shows the SED of G150.3+4.5 overlaid on the spectra of a selection of other LAT observed SNRs with ages ranging from  $\sim 10^3 - 10^4$  yr. G150.3+4.5 exhibits a hard spectrum extending to TeV energies with no spectral break (breaks are commonly seen in LAT SNRs interacting with nearby molecular material (Hewitt & Lemoine-Goumard 2015)) and appears spectrally similar to the younger SNRs like RX J1713.7-3946 and RX J0852.0-4622. In figure 6, we plotted the luminosity of several LAT SNRs against their squared diameters (a proxy for age, as evident from equation 1). [JAM: maybe I really should be using SNR cat fig 18. need to reword things if I'm just taking their figure and putting my points on]. Similarly, with its low luminosity [JAM: give L here, in what range?], G150.3+4.5 appears to correlate well with the younger set of LAT SNRs. Our age estimate alone does not unambiguously determine the evolutionary state of G150.3+4.5. However, when combined with the results of Figures 5 and 6 comparing G150.3+4.5 to the population of other LAT SNRs, it indicates that G150.3+4.5 is more compatible with a dynamically unevolved, non-interacting (with the surrounding interstellar medium) stage of expansion.



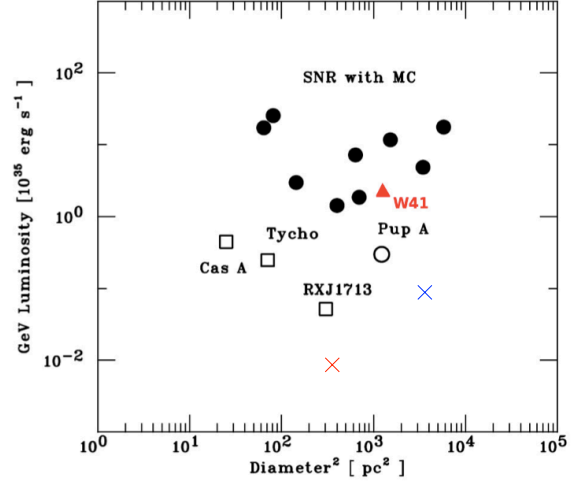
**Figure 5.** SEDs for several LAT observed SNRs with ages spanning  $\sim 10^3 - 10^4$  yr. The GeV spectrum of G150.3+4.5 is shown as stars. [JAM: Replot with white bkg, bigger font, lines, change colors/shapes? get rid of 2FHL, less, different SNRs? I need refs for each]

[JAM: how to factor errors into all these calcs? necessary?]

[JAM: other reasonable values for n, E? Lower n would result in younger age, explosion could expand quicker]

#### 4.3. Nonthermal Modeling

SNR shock fronts are known accelerators of cosmic rays to very high energies. There are potentially multiple radiation mechanisms operating at the shock that produce GeV  $\gamma$ -rays. Accelerated electrons can give rise to inverse Compton (IC) emission via upscattering of ambient cosmic microwave background (CMB), stellar, and IR photon fields, as well as non-thermal bremsstrahlung radiation. Energetic protons can collide with ambient protons in the surrounding, producing neutral pions which decay into  $\gamma$ -ray photons.



**Figure 6.** Luminosity of several LAT SNRs plotted against their [JAM: radio? GeV?] diameter square. [JAM: taken from W41 paper, overplotted G150] [JAM: Should I actually remake this myself or is it ok to just use the one from the other paper with my points on it? Add more text when I settle on a plot.]

To infer the properties of the underlying relativistic particle populations in the SNR environment, it is vital to understand the origin of the observed  $\gamma$ -ray emission detected from G150.3+4.5. To do so, we employ the **naima** Python package. **naima** is an open-source code base that computes the non-thermal radiation from a relativistic particle population (Zabalza 2015). It utilizes known parameterizations and analytic approximations to the various non-thermal processes (i.e., synchrotron, IC, bremsstrahlung, and pion decay emission), which results in the calculations being computationally inexpensive. **naima** also makes use of **emcee**, a Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) ensemble sampler for Bayesian parameter estimation (Foreman-Mackey et al. 2013). The sampler is used to find the best-fit parameters of the radiative models to the observed photon SED for a given particle distribution function.

To determine the best fit parameters, **naima** calls **emcee** to sample the log-likelihood function (i.e., the likelihood of the observed data given the assumed spectrum) of the radiative model. [JAM: should I include what the likelihood function looks like here?] The radiative models require as input a particle distribution function to model the present-age electron or proton spectrum. We used a one-zone, homogeneous particle distribution model (which **naima** inherently assumes) and scaled the likelihood function by a uniform prior probability distribution. For this work, we model the separate proton and electron and spectra as power laws with an exponential cut off,

$$\frac{dN}{dE}_{(e,p)} = A_{(e,p)} (E/E_0)^{-s} \exp\left(\frac{-E}{E_{\text{cutoff}}(e,p)}\right) \quad (2)$$

where  $E$  is the particle energy,  $E_0$  the reference energy,  $s$  the spectral index, and  $E_{\text{cutoff}}$  the cutoff energy. The electron distribution's normalization is related to the proton normalization through the electron-to-proton ratio scaling factor,  $A_e = K_{ep} A_p$ . We also assumed that the electron and proton distributions have the same spec-

**Table 2**  
Naima Model Best Fit Parameters

s	K <sub>ep</sub>	A <sub>p</sub>	B <sup>a</sup>	E <sub>cutoff(e)</sub>	E <sub>cutoff(p)</sub>
Fixed K <sub>ep</sub> = 0.01					
1.5 ± 0.2	0.01	-32.850	49.80	LMC	2
Fixed K <sub>ep</sub> = 0.1					
1.5 ± 0.2	0.1	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	2
Fixed K <sub>ep</sub> = 1					
1.5 ± 0.2	1	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	2
Fixed s					
2 ± 0.2	1	-3.277	63.87	Puppis A	2

**Note.** — [JAM: add better caption] Results from naima model? Right now the free params are index, kep, elecut, protcut, B. Fixed are nh, all the IC photon field values distance (this is just for determining flux) [JAM: Correct values aren't in yet][JAM: ]add units to params

<sup>a</sup> Calculated in gtlake

tral shape.

For our radiation models, we assumed a gas density,  $n_0 = 1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  for proton-proton [JAM: and brems when I get it working] interactions For IC emission, we include CMB ( Talk about free/ fixed params of the model, reference the table, and figure to show best fit, discuss results and what the fits imply regarding lep/had dom and energy in e- p.

[JAM: Used radio SED from (Gerbrandt et al. 2014)]  
[JAM: estimates min of negative loglike through sampling]

[JAM: Say something about what the radio index is and the connection to the gev index]

[JAM: use ratio of  $\gamma$ -ray to radio flux to set kep, assuming it's hadron dom? I can't remember what paper I saw this in.]

[JAM: naima to do: Add brems. properly scale the radio flux density. should I be using a power law particle dist function because I have a power law photons spec? increase walker number burn in and runs? Do the energetics make sense? Are there params that I can fix? Kep, B? Any reason to have different n? Liz had doubts about the pp component extending to such high energy, is this really an issue? gtlake finds the best fit index, does the fit value from naima for the particle dist match this? maybe I should fix the particle index based on this? Should the cutoff be the same for e- and p? Do I have to set E0 in naima to 10 GeV for Kep? LAT RCW 86 uses 512 keV for elec, 1 GeV for PP for min energies and says Kep = 0.01 at 1 GeV/c. Try fixing Kep to 1, 0.1, 0.01, index to 2]

[JAM: Discuss implications of the naima fits. Do they show preference for lep/had? suggest something about total energy content in particles?]

[JAM: for synchrotron  $\alpha = (1-s)/2$ , where  $\alpha$  is the radio spectral index, and s the electron distribution power law index. Same for IC below break?]

[JAM: SNR cat figure 8 suggests there are only 4(ish) SNRs with an index less than 2]

[JAM: eastern shell (Jack called this overall) radio index  $\alpha = 0.4 \pm 0.17$  Gao & Han (2014), but  $\alpha = 0.69 \pm 0.24$  for the western]

[JAM: For energies below the high energy break, For

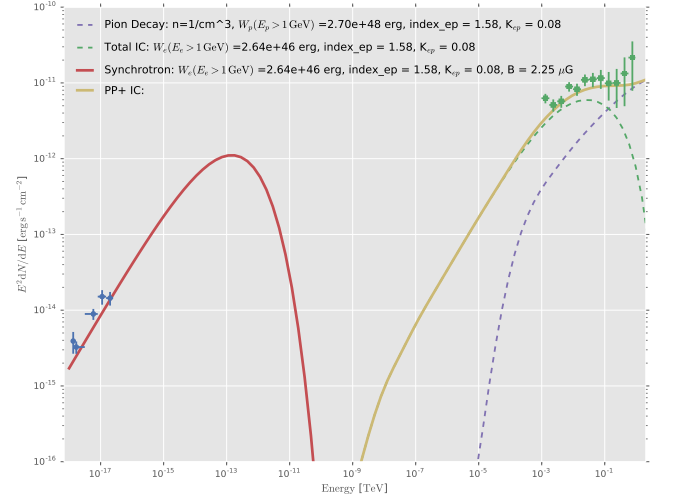
pion and brems  $\Gamma = 2\alpha + 1$  (says SNR cat) For IC,  $\Gamma = \alpha + 1$  ) for positive  $\alpha$ ]

[JAM: From Gaensler & Slane (2006) Typical indices for PWNe are  $\sim -0.3 \lesssim \alpha \lesssim 0$  in the radio band, and ( $\Gamma \approx 2$ ) in the X-ray band. So  $\alpha$  is not inconsistent, but at the boundary.]

[JAM: For puppis A paper, why did they use particle index = gam photon index?]

[JAM: cr abundances at earth kep = 0.01 (Hillas 2005). I think in the puppis A paper the use 0.02?]

[JAM: Sooo, my index is consistent with either?]



**Figure 7.** G150.3+4.5. Naima SED [JAM: bigger font, get rid of text for each line, better colors]

[JAM: Another section here? The last thing I want to do is say something about what further observations are necessary to get at any unanswered questions. ]

[JAM: looks like young SNRs, but no x-ray and lower luminosity than most other LAT SNRs. It's possibly just that ROSAT is no sensitive enough.]

[JAM: Deeper x-ray observations to search for the compact stellar remnant. ROSAT all-sky not that sensitive, dedicated X-ray to search for thermal/nonthermal components]

[JAM: What can be done in TeV? The difficulty pointed TeV observations are that it might be difficulty for them to detect such broadly extended emission (why? I know they'd have to tile their observations, but there's something inherently difficulty for them about observing large extended sources. Is it just that the emission is spread out so it might be faint and below the detection threshold?). What about HAWC? Why does it not detect the emission that Fermi clearly shows extending to VHE energies? Is it not as sensitive at this energy for some reason? HAWC energy range extends to 100 GeV.]

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

We analyzed 7 years of *Fermi*-LAT data in the direction of SNR G150.3+4.5, lowering the energy threshold from that previously reported in the 2FHL catalog, and report detection of significantly extended  $\gamma$ -ray emission coincident with the entirety of the radio remnant's shell. We find the emission from 1 GeV to 1 TeV to be well described by a power law of spectral index



$\Gamma = 1.82 \pm 0.04$ , with morphology consistent with a uniform disk with best-fit radius,  $\sigma = 1.40^\circ \pm 0.03^\circ$ . Based on radio and  $\gamma$ -ray properties of emission in the direction of G150.3+4.5, within the context of the current LAT SNR population, we argued that the GeV emission likely originates in the shock of G150.3+4.5, and disfavor a PWN origin. To estimate the distance to the SNR, we obtained an HI spectrum toward G150.3+4.5 from the Leiden/Argentine/Bonn survey of Galactic HI. Calculating distances from the derived HI velocity peaks, we showed that the most reasonable distance estimate places G150.3+4.5 at a distance of  $d = 0.4$  kpc, making it one of the closest known SNRs detected by the LAT [JAM: how off can this number be? SNR catalog says 8 SNRs are within 1.5 kpc and have some kind of classification in the catalog. These are (closest first) Vela, cygnus loop, Vela Jr, RX J1713, G073, S147, IC443, Monoceros loop. if 0.4 kpc is correct for G150, it's the second closest LAT detected SNR. Even at 1.5 kpc it would be within top 10]. Using this distance and a standard Sedov-Taylor SNR evolution model, we estimate the age of the G150.3+4.5 to be  $t \sim 5$  kyr [JAM: same as dist, how much can this be off? and what does that mean for assumptions of what phase of evolution the SNR is in]. Say something about X-ray once I know it To assess the underlying particle population acting in G150.3+4.5 we use the `naima` Python package to fit the observed radio and  $\gamma$ -ray SED to non-thermal electron and proton radiation models. We find that blah, which suggests more blah. Something about how G150 fits in with other LAT detected SNRs based on age, spectrum luminosity, spectral modeling. End with what further observations can get us.

[JAM: thanks?]

## 6. SCRATCH

$L_\gamma = 1.3 \times 10^{33}$  erg s $^{-1}$  from 1 GeV to 1 TeV for best d and flux above

energy flux from 100 MeV to 100 GeV:  
 $4.84 \times 10^{-11}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$

$L_\gamma = 8.6 \times 10^{32}$  erg s $^{-1}$  from 100 MeV to 100 GeV for best d and flux in same range

energy flux from 1 GeV to 100 GeV:  
 $3.83 \times 10^{-11}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$

$L_\gamma = 6.8 \times 10^{32}$  erg s $^{-1}$  from 1 GeV to 100 GeV for best d and flux in same range

For diamMax = 60pc, dmax = 1.22kpc, and Lmax (100mev-100GeV) = 8.7e+33

[JAM: One potential scenario is that the  $\gamma$ -rays in this region are produced by a pulsar wind nebula (PWN) generated by the putative pulsar of SNR G150.3+4.5.]

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