



Fermi
Gamma-ray Space Telescope



Periodic Variability in gamma-ray Emitting Blazars with Fermi-LAT

Pablo Peñil

Marco Ajello

Sara Buson

Alberto Domínguez

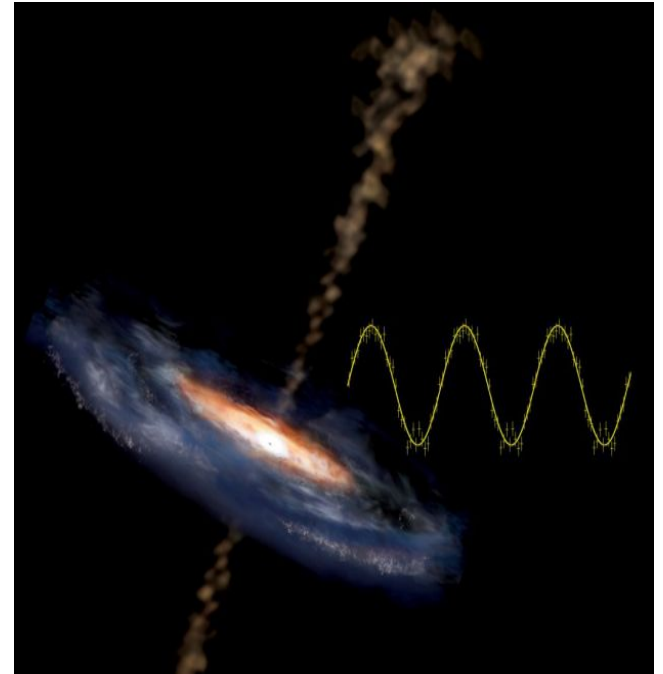
on behalf of the *Fermi*-LAT collaboration

Clemson University (SC, USA)

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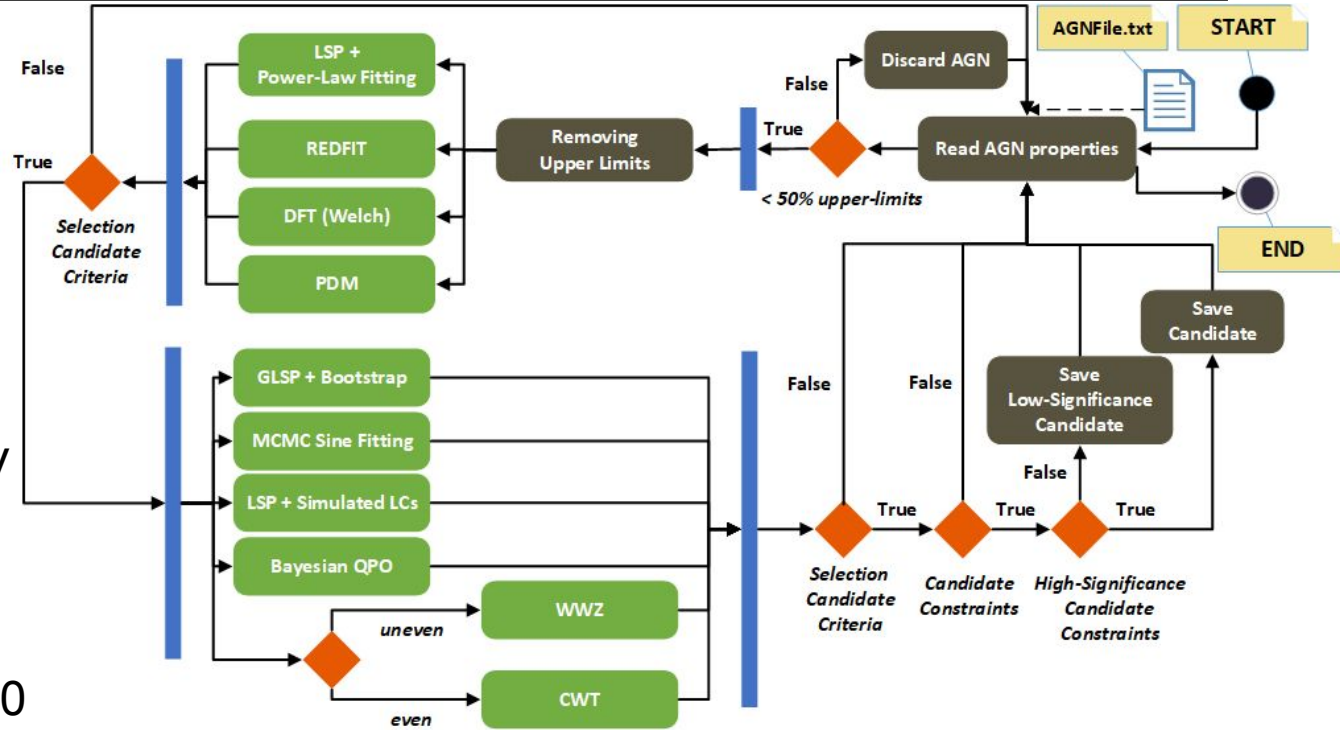
- Blazars: variability in the overall electromagnetic spectrum:
 - Different timescales:
 - Long-term variations
 - Short variations
- Pattern → **Periodicity**
- Astrophysical nature: single or a binary SMBH
- Find a sample with γ -ray periodic-emission



Previous Results



- 3FGL+2FHL+3FHL blazars (351)
- Telescope time: Aug. 2008-Sep. 2017
- Data Reduction: Flux integrated ≥ 1 GeV 28-days binning
- Methods:
 - Periodicity detection: 10
 - Significance estimation: 4

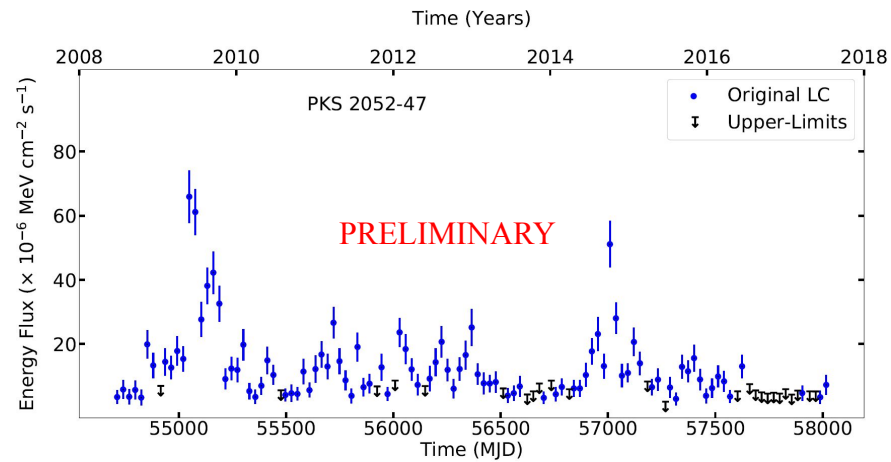
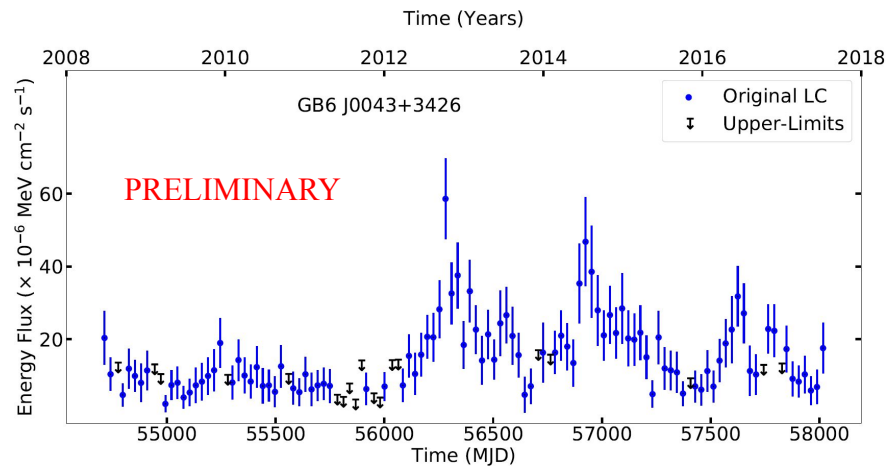


Peñil et al. 2020

Previous Results



- 11 High-significance candidates ($\geq 4\sigma$)
 - 9 New detections
- 13 Low-significance candidates ($>2.5\sigma$)
 - 9 New detections
- 6 objects previously reported in the literature:
 - 5 with the same period
 - S5 0716+ 714 (2.9 yr)
- False-positive detection rate: 1 detection



New Periodicity Study

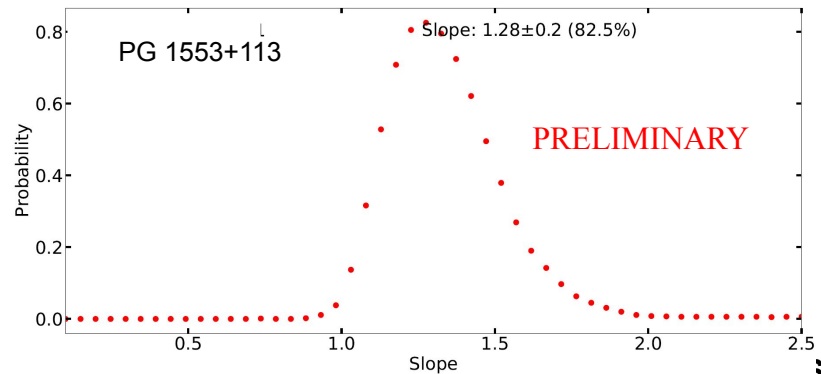
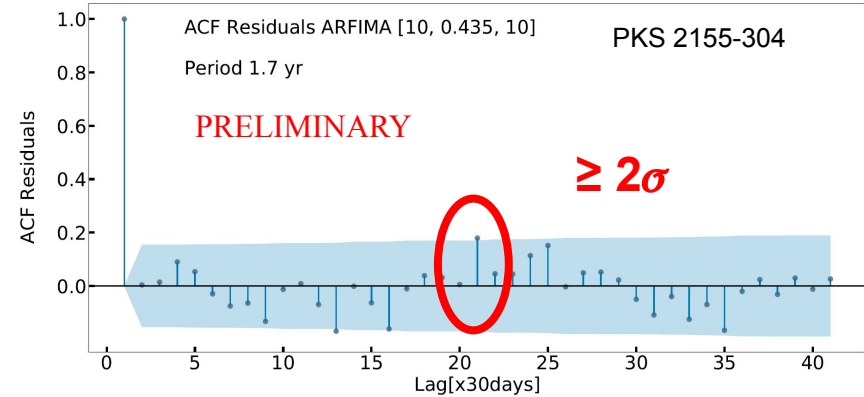


- 24 periodicity candidates from previous work Peñil et al., 2020
- Light curves:
 - Telescope time: August 2008-December 2020
 - Extended with 3 extra years → total of 12 years
- Data reduction:
 - Flux integrated ≥ 100 MeV (Reduction of upper-limits)
 - 28-days binning

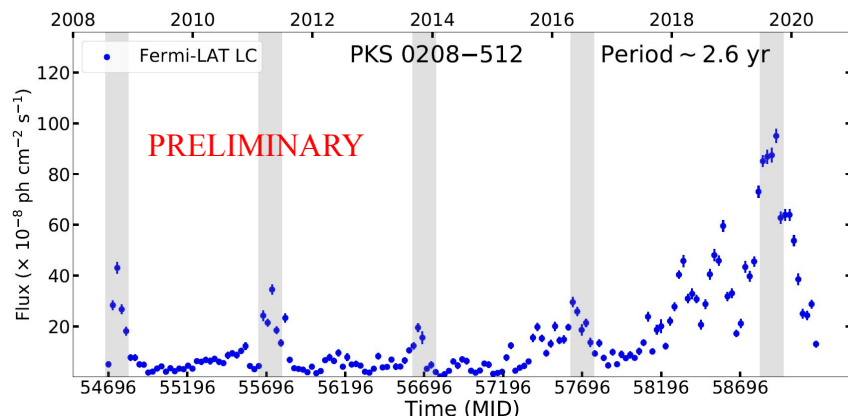
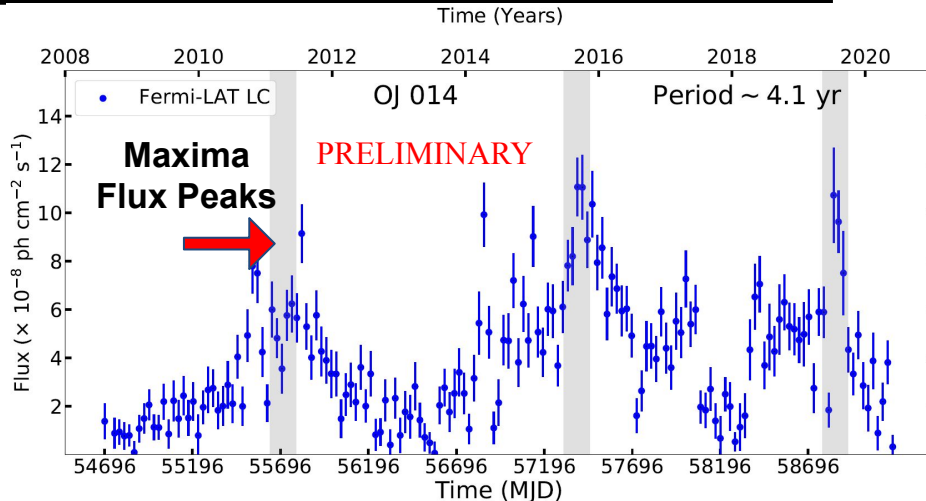
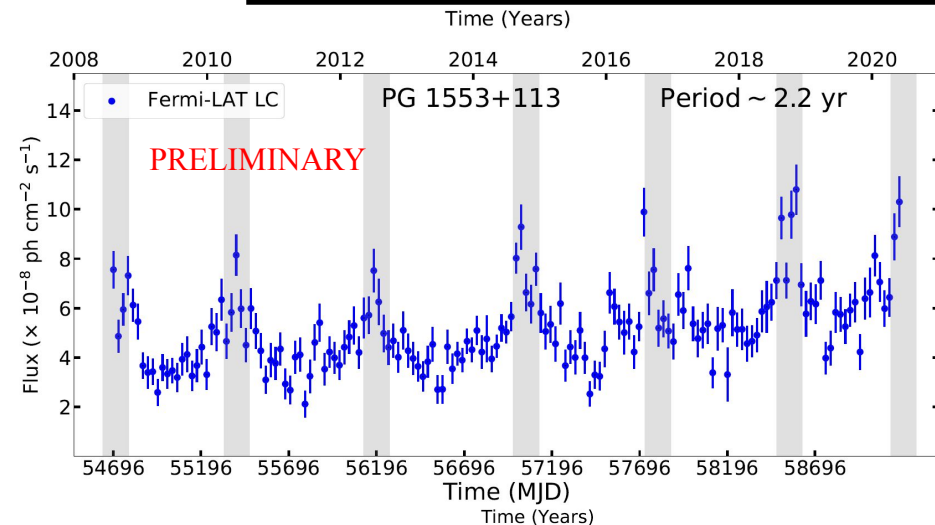
Extended Pipeline



- Full Width Half Maximum (FWHM)
- ARIMA/ARFIMA analysis
 - Robust against stochastic noise (Feigelson et al., 2018)
- Power Spectral Index (β):
 - Power Spectrum Response method (Uttley et al. 2002)
- Flux Distribution:
 - Log-Normal & Normal
 - Shapiro-Wilk Test & MLE



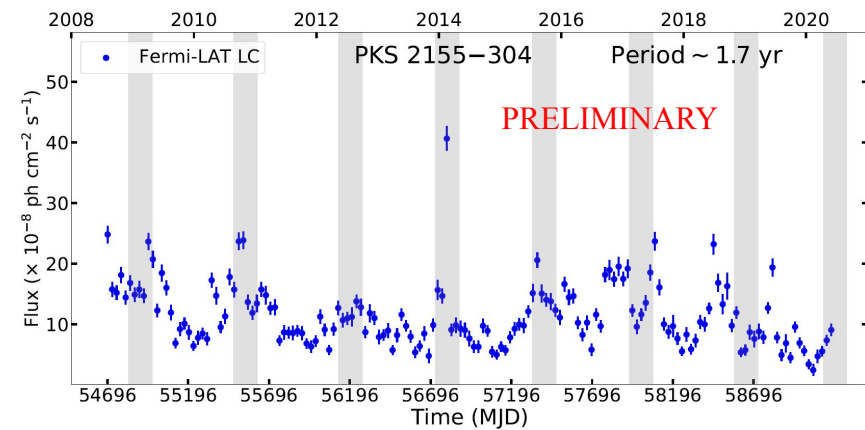
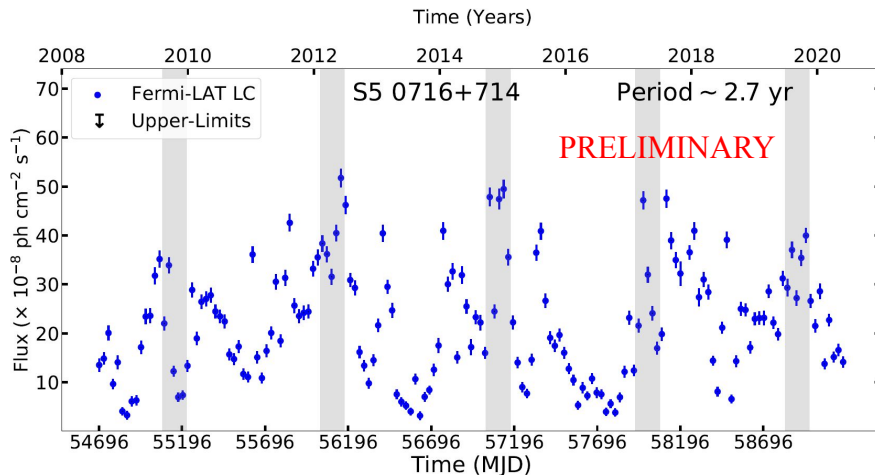
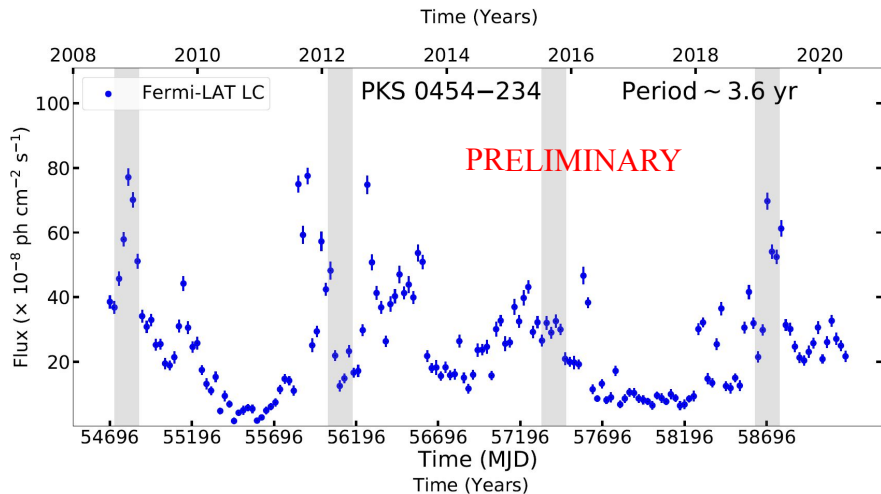
Results: 6 Blazars $\geq 5\sigma$ (local) periodicity detection



$\geq 5\sigma$ (local) periodicity detection

Peñil et al. 2020: $>4\sigma$, $>3.5\sigma$, $>3\sigma$ respectively

Results: 6 Blazars $\geq 5\sigma$ (local) periodicity detection



4FGL Source Name	RAJ2000	DecJ2000	Type	Redshift	Association Name	Period (yr)
J0210.7-5101	32.68952	-51.01695	fsrq	1.003	PKS 0208-512	2.6
J0457.0-2324	74.26096	-23.41384	fsrq	1.003	PKS 0454-234	3.6
J0721.9+7120	110.48882	71.34127	bl	0.127	S5 0716+714	2.7
J0811.3+0146	122.86418	1.77344	bl	1.148	OJ 014	4.1
J1555.7+1111	238.93169	11.18768	bl	0.36	PG 1553+113	2.2
J2158.8-3013	329.71409	-30.22556	bl	0.116	PKS 2155-304	1.7

Peñil et al. 2020: $>2.5\sigma$, $>2.5\sigma$, $>3\sigma$, respectively

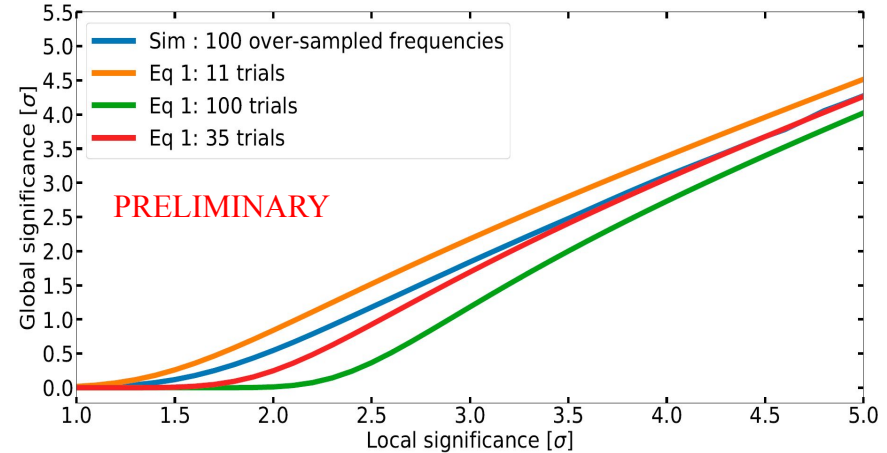


- Genuine periodicity: larger number of cycles, increase the significance (Vaughan, et al. 2015)
 - 14 blazars increase their significance
 - 4 blazars same significance
 - 6 blazars decrease their significance
- Power Spectral Index:
 - $\beta=[0.9-1.5]$
 - Jet modulations are likely coupled to the disk modulations (e.g, Abdo, et al. 2010)
- Flux Distribution:
 - Log-normal distribution
 - Fluctuations in the accretion disk to produce an aggregate multiplicative effect transmitted to the jet (e.g., Shah, et al., 2018)

Global Significance



- Local Significance (pipeline techniques)
- Look-elsewhere effect:
 - $P_{\text{Global}} = 1 - (1 - P_{\text{Local}})^N$
 - N: trial factor
- $N = N_{\text{blazars}} * \text{indep. frequencies}$:
 - N_{blazars} : 351
- Indep. frequencies:
 - Bottom-limit: 11 (# points in LC, samples/year)
 - Upper-limit: 100 (# frequencies in the periodograms)
 - Monte-Carlo simulations \rightarrow indep. frequencies=35
 - **$5\sigma \rightarrow 3.5\sigma$**





- Calibrated the significance of the methods:
 - Calculate the number of X_σ detections with artificial LCs
 - LCs with same PSD and PDF (Emmanoulopoulos, D., et al. 2013)
 - $\Delta\sigma = [8\%-15\%]$
 - LCs based on a power-law $[\beta-\Delta, \beta, \beta+\Delta]$ (Timmer and Koenig, 1995)
 - $\Delta\sigma = [9\%-25\%]$
- Evaluation of the method's detection against the noise:
 - Sinusoidal signal:
 - Different periods [1.5-4.5] yrs
 - Contaminated with noise :
 - white, pink, red
 - Methods more robust against pink\red noise: detection in [25%-65%]

Conclusions & Future Work



- We confirm the evidence of periodicity in 18 blazars:
 - We find 6 blazars with periodicity detected with 3.5σ (global significance)

- **Future Work:**
 - Multiwavelength and cross-correlation study of the 24 blazars
 - New periodicity analysis of all blazars in 4FGL catalogue: ~3000 blazars