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Dark matter, pulsars, and the Galactic Center Gamma-Ray Excess

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A bright and statistically significant flux of GeV-scale gamma rays has been detected from the region surrounding the Galactic Center. While the spectrum, angular distribution, and intensity of this signal is consistent with the predictions of annihilating dark matter particles, it has also been suggested that these gamma rays could potentially be produced by a large population of millisecond pulsars. In this talk, I'll review the arguments for each of these interpretations, and discuss the current status of the hunt for dark matter particles using gamma-ray telescopes.

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