



Gamma-ray Halos around Pulsars

Introduction to the Workshop

1st December 2020

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The Moon (same scale)

Geminga

PSR B0656+14

REPORT

Extended gamma-ray sources around pulsars constrain the origin of the positron flux at Earth

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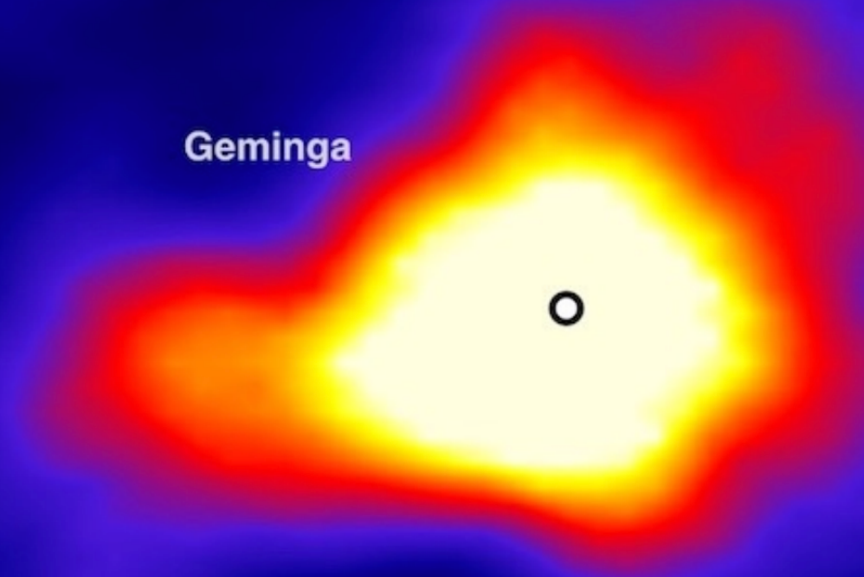
+ See all authors and affiliations

Science 17 Nov 2017:
Vol. 358, Issue 6365, pp. 911-914
DOI: 10.1126/science.aan4880

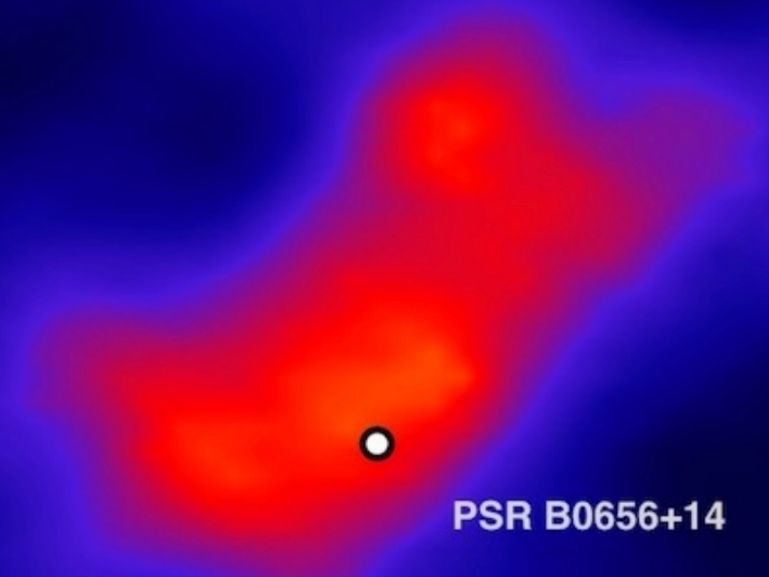


- Very old (10^5 y) low power systems – visible because they are very close – 200 pc
- Energy density inferred for electrons $< 1\%$ ISM \rightarrow Test particles (no longer inside PWN)

Geminga



























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- Unexpectedly bright / compact \rightarrow (much) slower diffusion than classical expectation

Suppressed diffusion locally?
ISM propagation not what we thought?



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- 14 2018MNRAS.480.5419B 2018/11 cited: 8   
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- 15 2018PhRvD..98f3017E 2018/09 cited: 25   
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Pulsar TeV Halos Explain the Diffuse TeV Excess Observed by Milagro
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- 19 2018APS...APRS17002L 2018   
Rise of the Leptons: Pulsar Emission Dominates the TeV Gamma-Ray Sky
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- 21 2017PhRvD...96j3016L 2017/11 cited: 26   
Using HAWC to discover invisible pulsars
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Energy dependent morphology of the pulsar wind nebula HESS J1825-137 with Fermi-LAT
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- 2020arXiv200604106C 2020/06   
The TeV gamma-ray luminosity of the Milky-Way and the contribution of H.E.S.S. unresolved sources to VHE diffuse emission
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- 2020arXiv200514079B 2020/05   
3D Relativistic MHD Simulations of Pulsar Bow Shock Nebulae
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Halo fraction in TeV-bright pulsar wind nebulae
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- 2020ApJ...889...12Z 2020/01   
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Pulsars in a Bubble? Following Electron Diffusion in the Galaxy with TeV Gamma Rays
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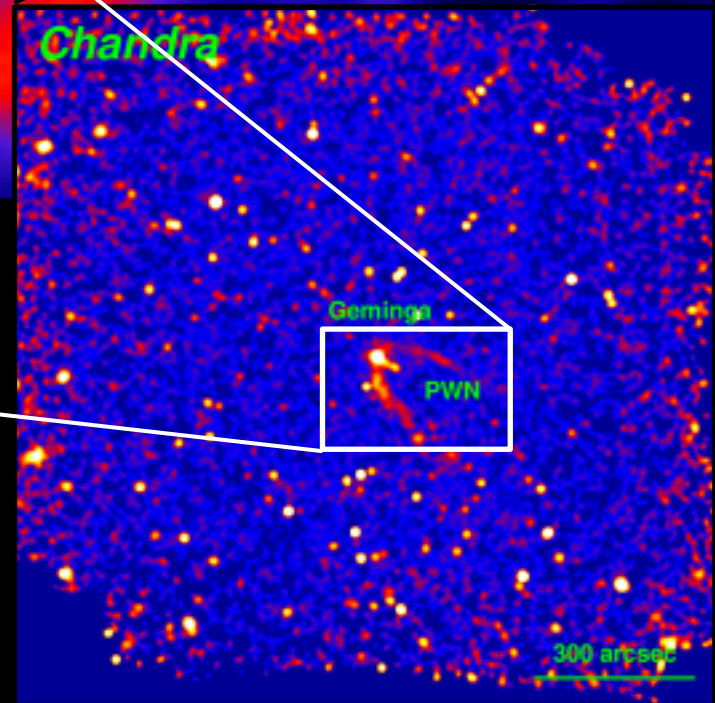
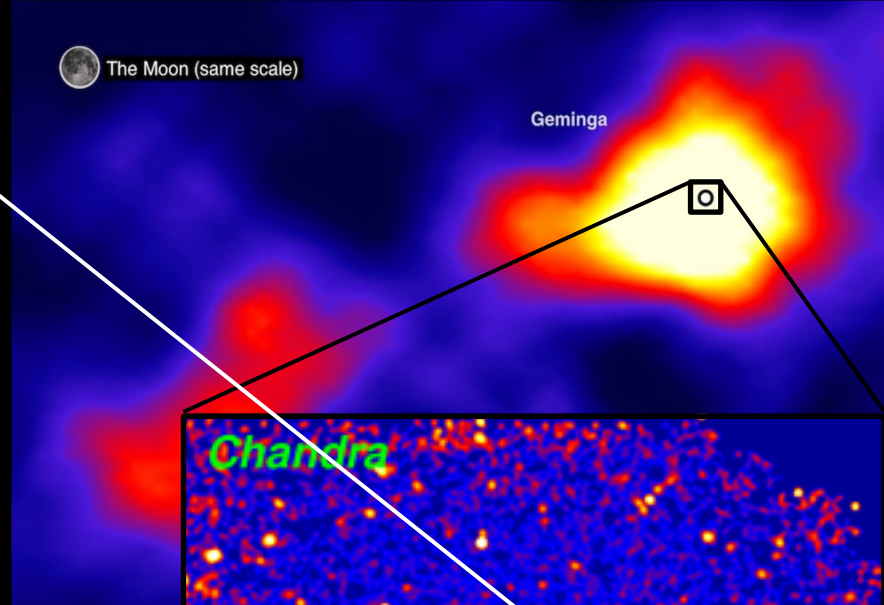
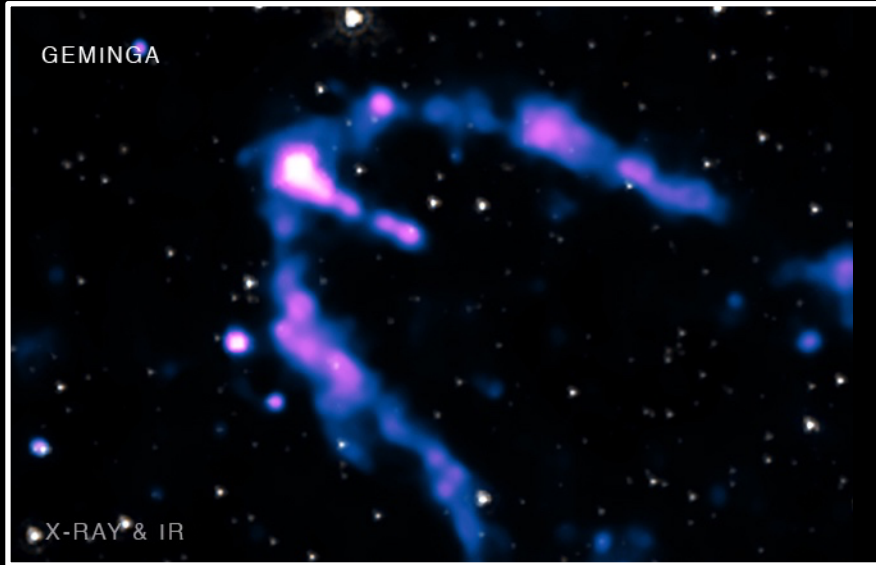
Why have a workshop?

- ⊙ Growing interest in ‘Halos’ and significant potential for important astrophysical results
- ⊙ Confusion (or perhaps Controversy!) on the definition
 - + Discussions here towards a common understanding
- ⊙ A broad spectrum of expertise is needed to (even begin to) understand the full system from pulsar → halo
 - + Bring people together with deep knowledge of the different aspects

Four brief introductory points – **scales, evolution, propagation, observational status**



Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/PSU/B.Posselt et al



The Moon (same scale)

Geminga

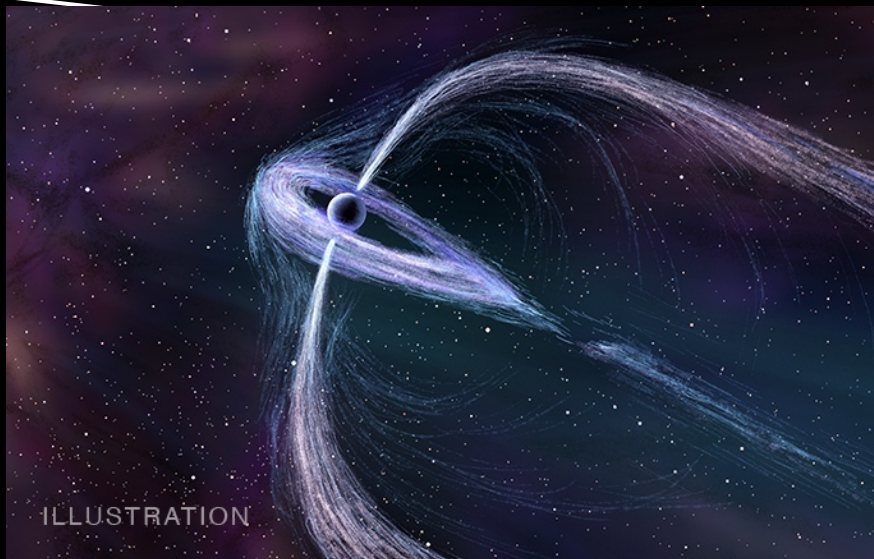
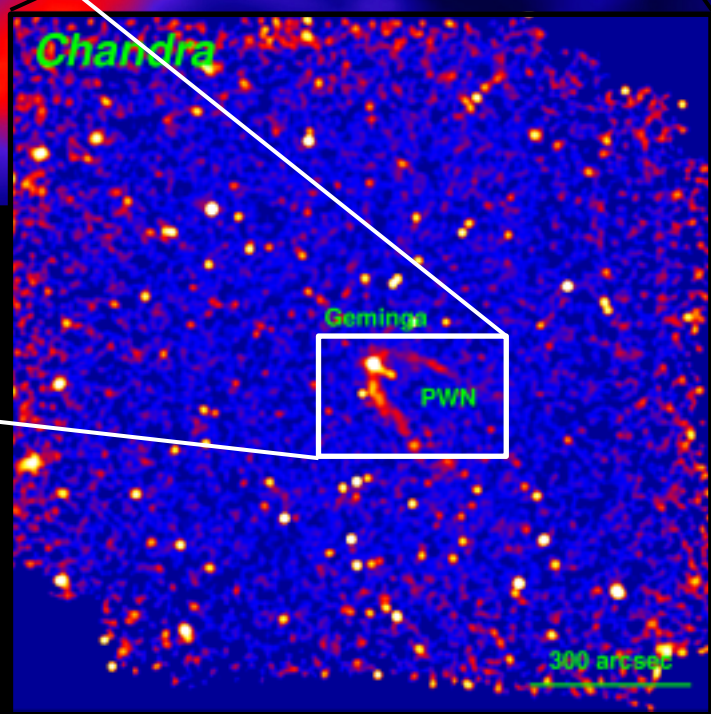
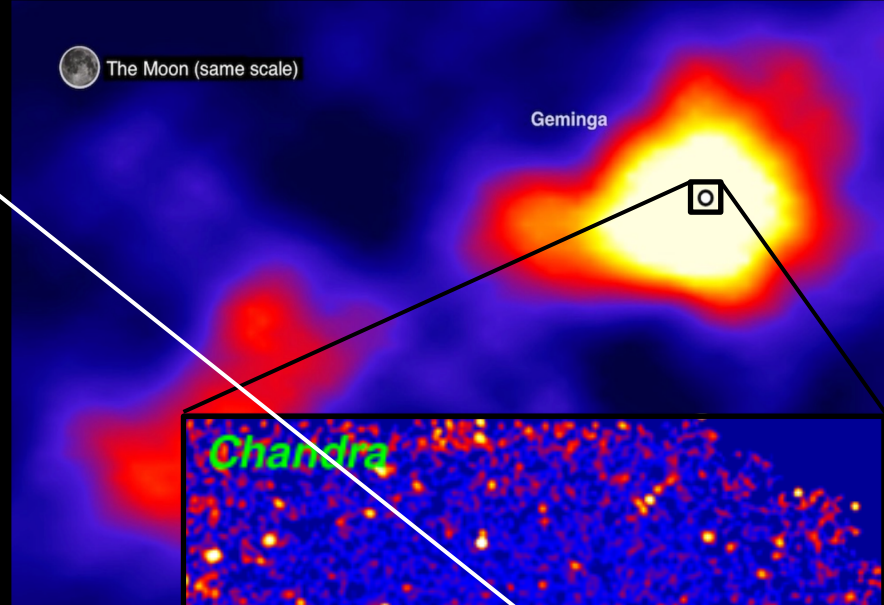
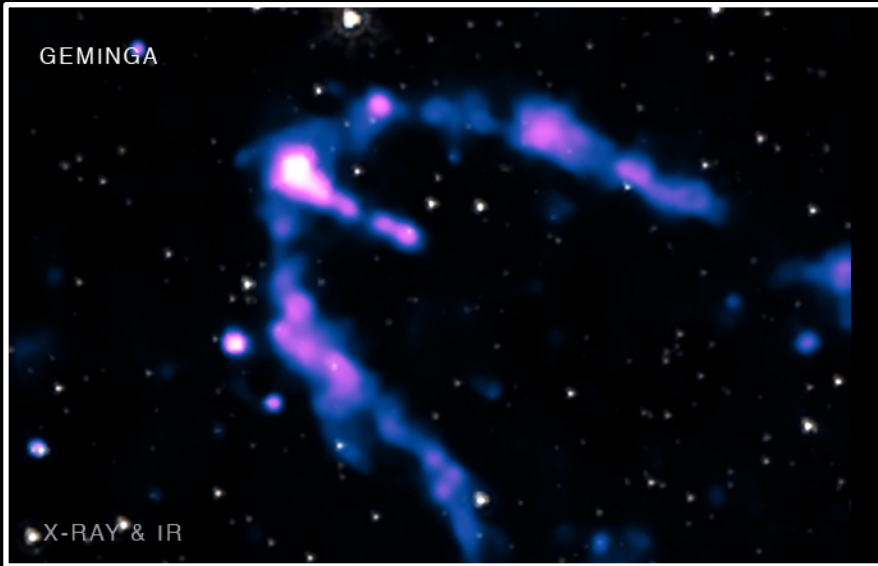
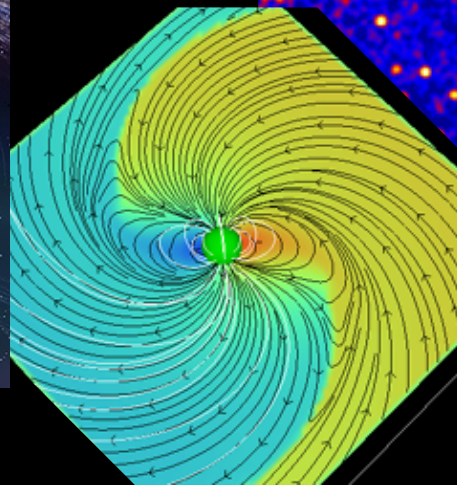
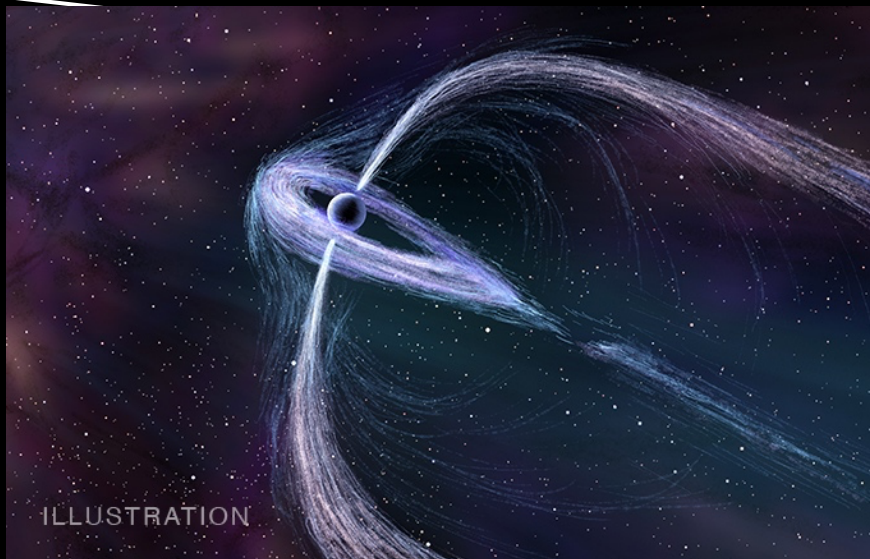
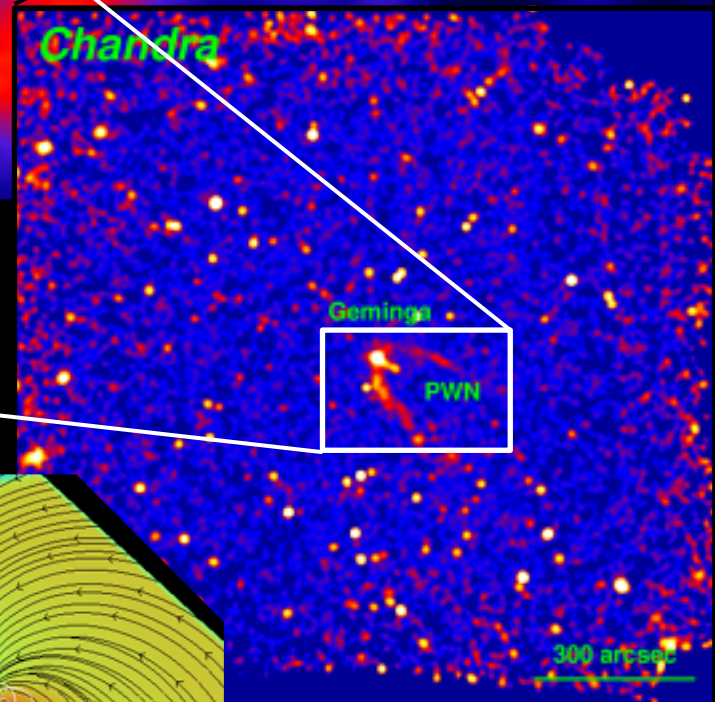
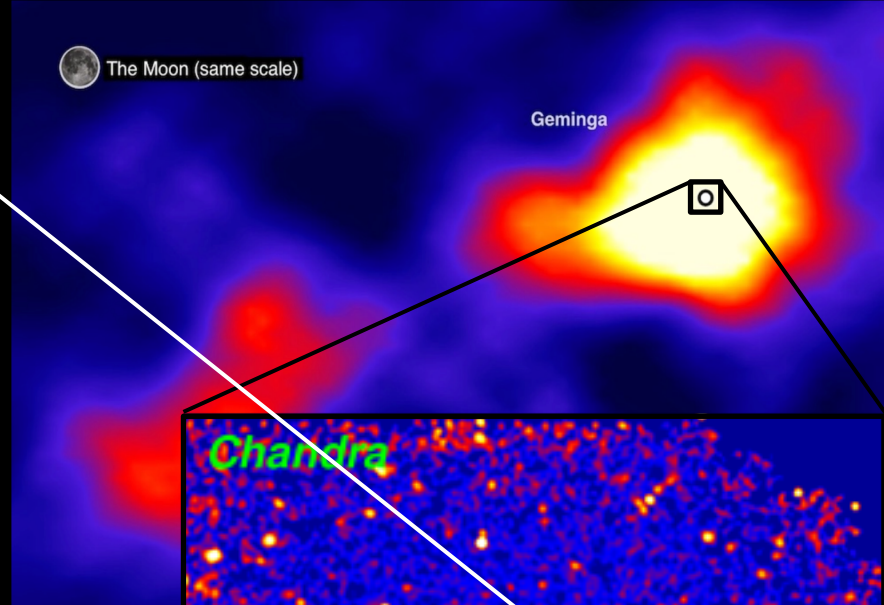
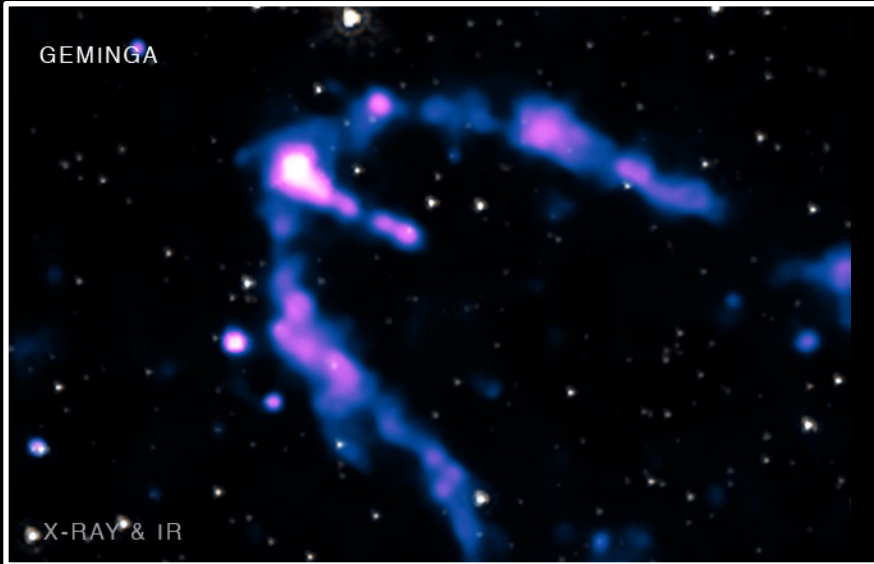


Illustration: Nahks TrEhnl

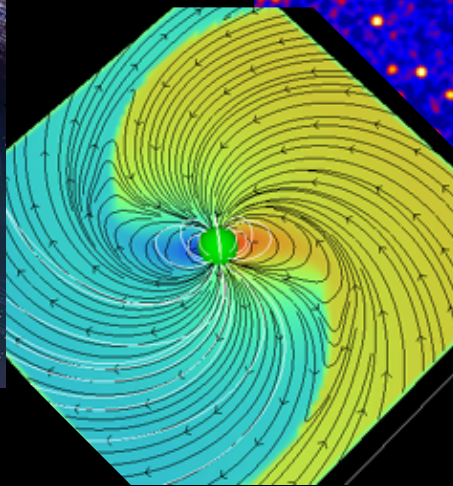
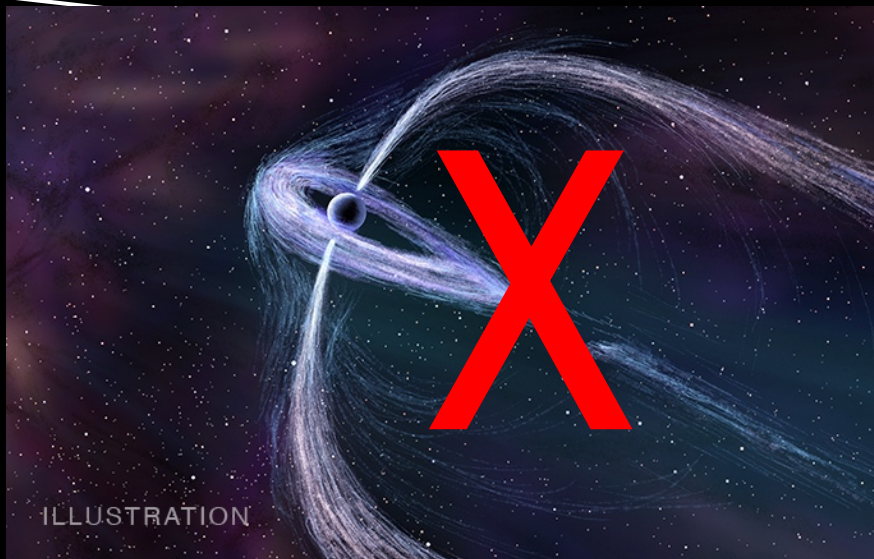
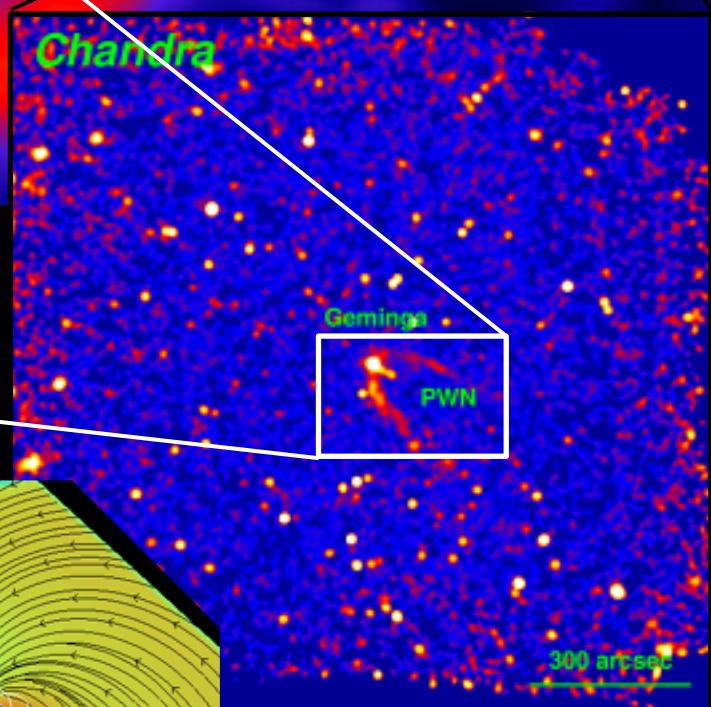
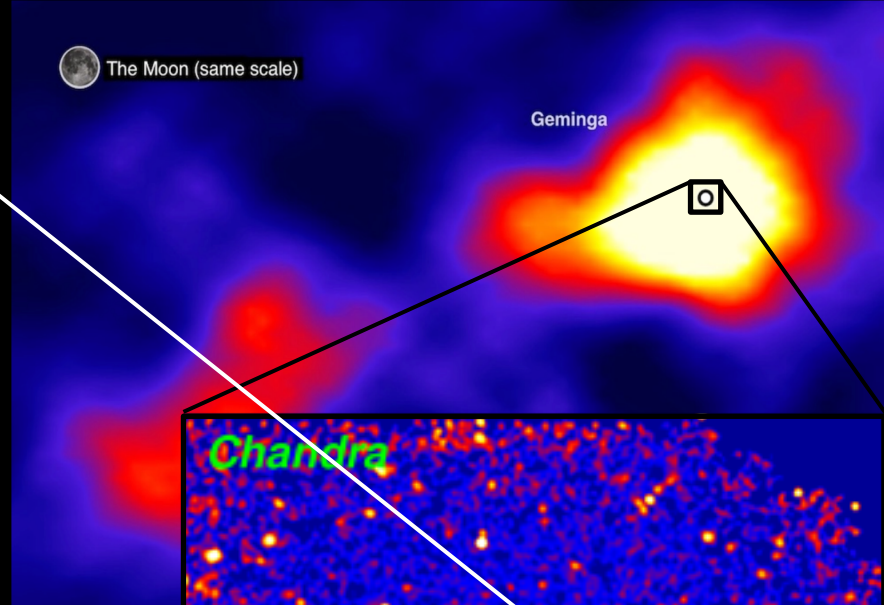
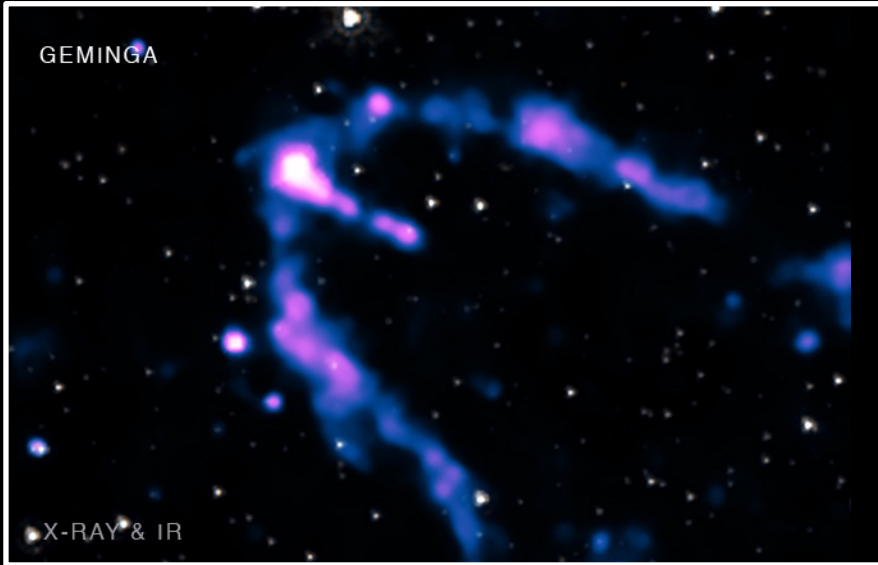
The Moon (same scale)

Geminga



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The Moon (same scale)

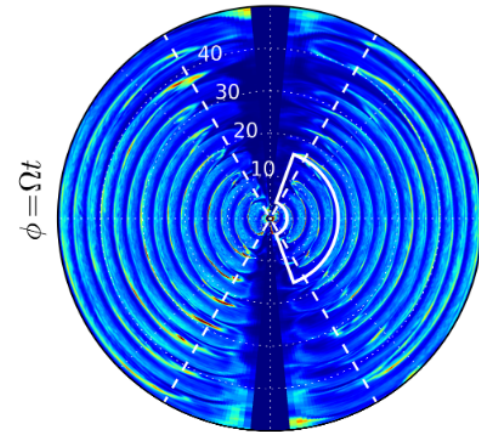
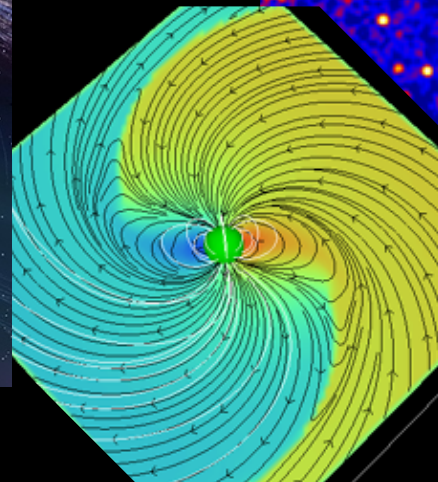
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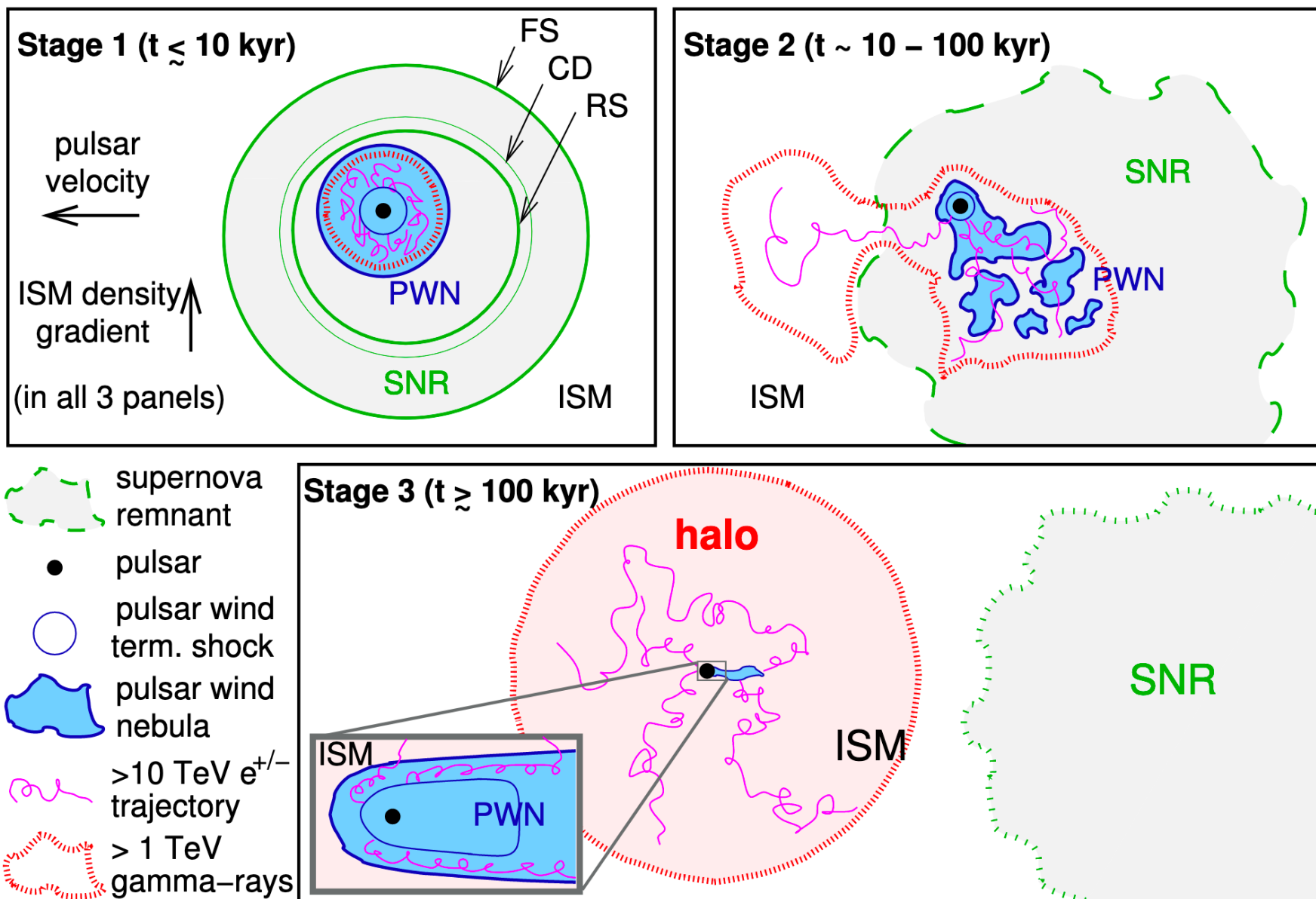
GEMINGA

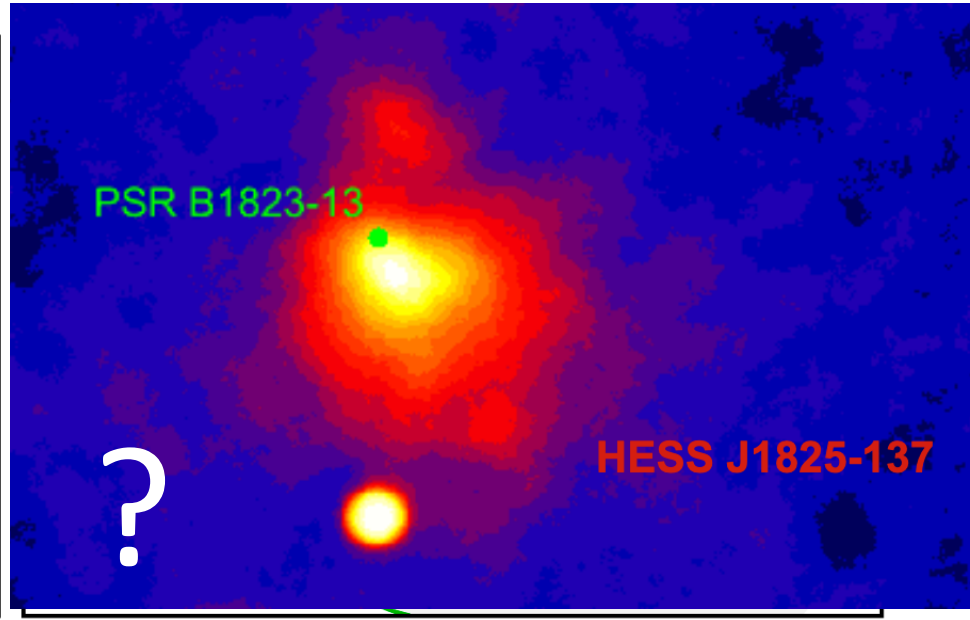
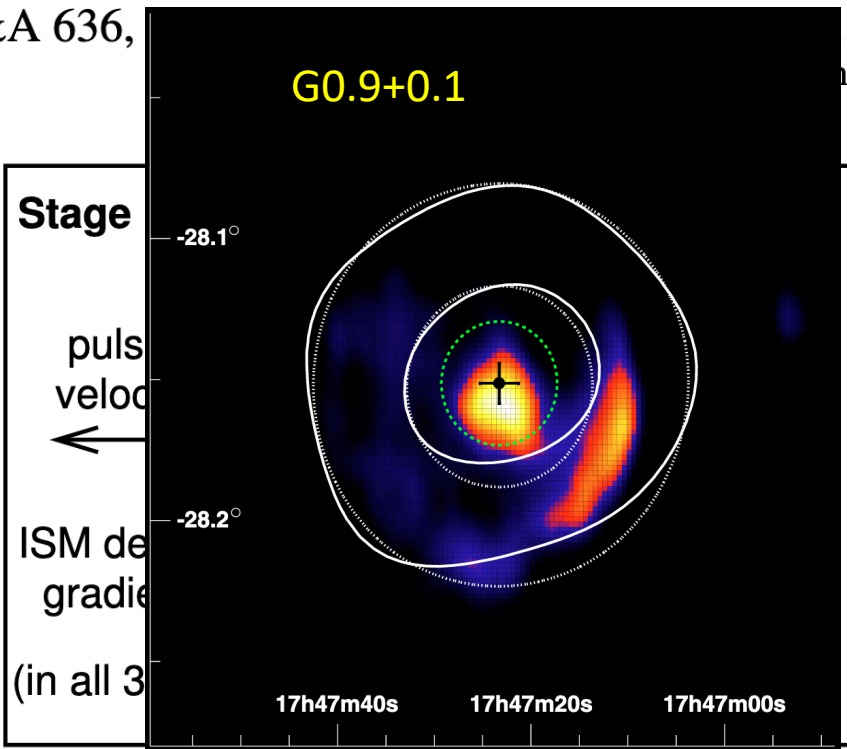
X-RAY & IR







- ⊙ Pulsar - light microsecond
- ⊙ Light cylinder – light millisecond
- ⊙ Termination shock (stand off) – light month
- ⊙ X-ray tail – light year
- ⊙ Gamma halo – light century

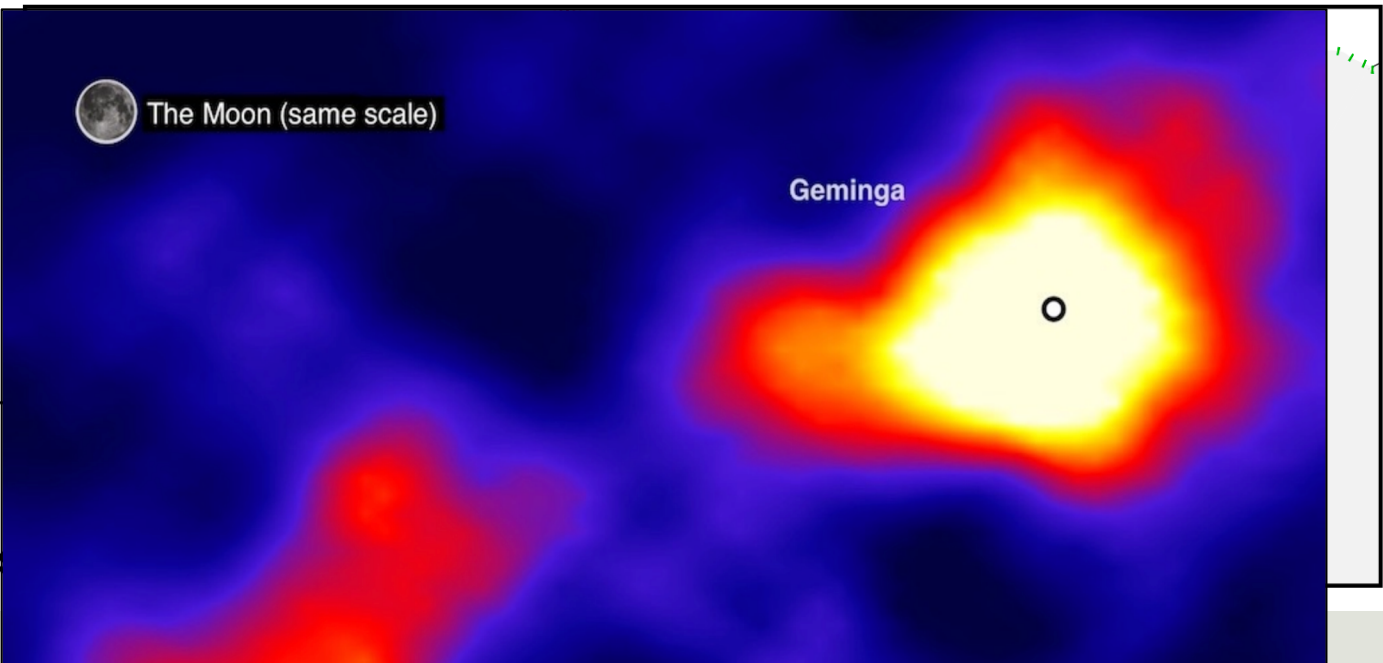
ILLUSTRATION







-  supernova remnant
-  pulsar
-  pulsar wind term. shock
-  pulsar wind nebula
-  >10 TeV e^{+/-} trajectory
-  > 1 TeV gamma-rays



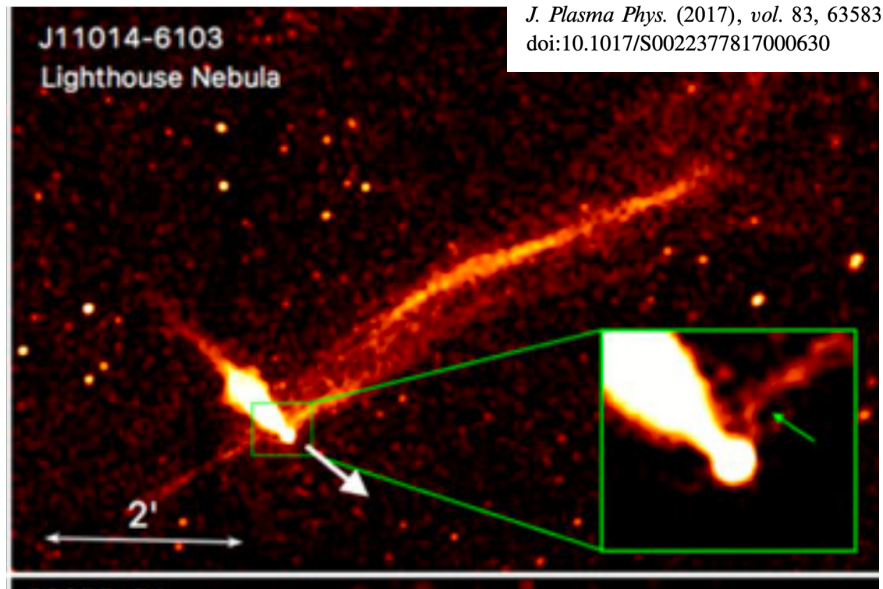
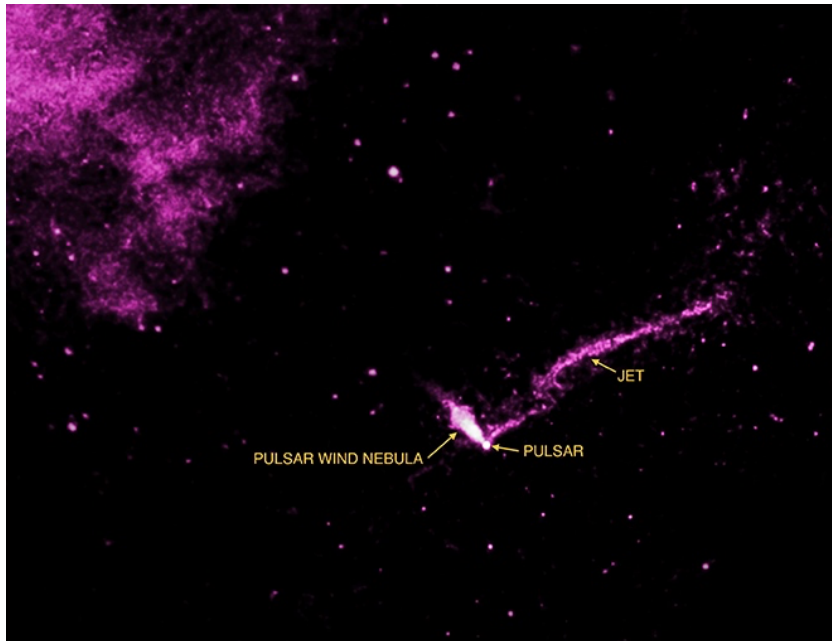
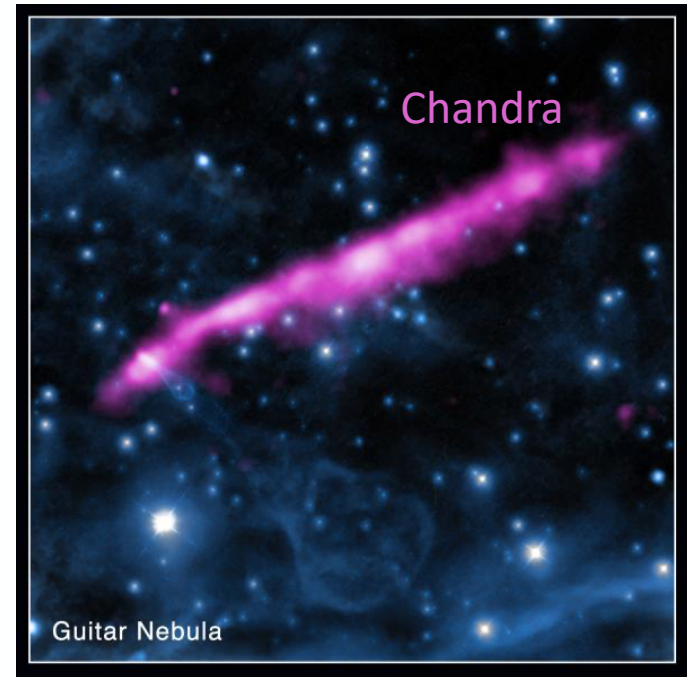
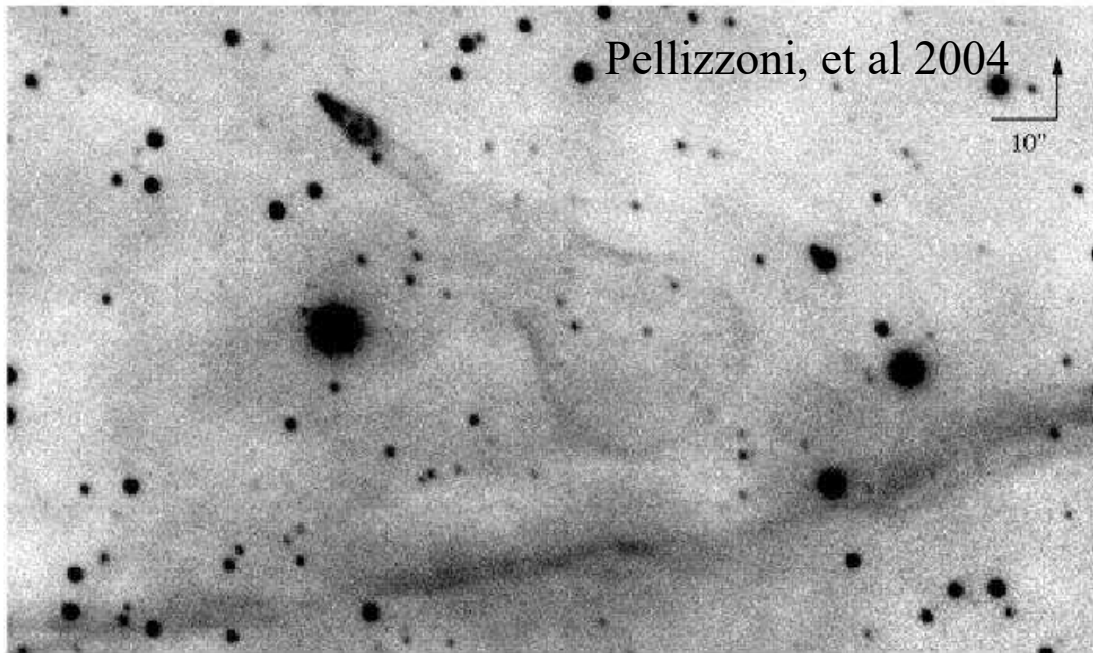
How to get a diffusion coeff?

- ⊙ Burst-like injection, no cooling, uniform target → easy!
 - + Blob – if you know the **age** width gives you D
- ⊙ Continuous injection
 - + Feature associated with **cooling** limit of propagation – characteristic ‘cooling radius’
 - + Changes with electron energy, ambiguities in terms of measured energy in particular for instruments with poor energy resolution
 - + Or: Feature associated with limited **age** of the sources
 - + BUT
 - + Cooling rate poorly constrained (IC losses, synch losses)
 - + Injection history poorly constrained, pulsar and PWN evolution...
- ⊙ Old source, no cooling
 - + Steady state, $1/r$ profile, no info from shape → BUT
 - + **Luminosity provides constraint** on D → available injected power

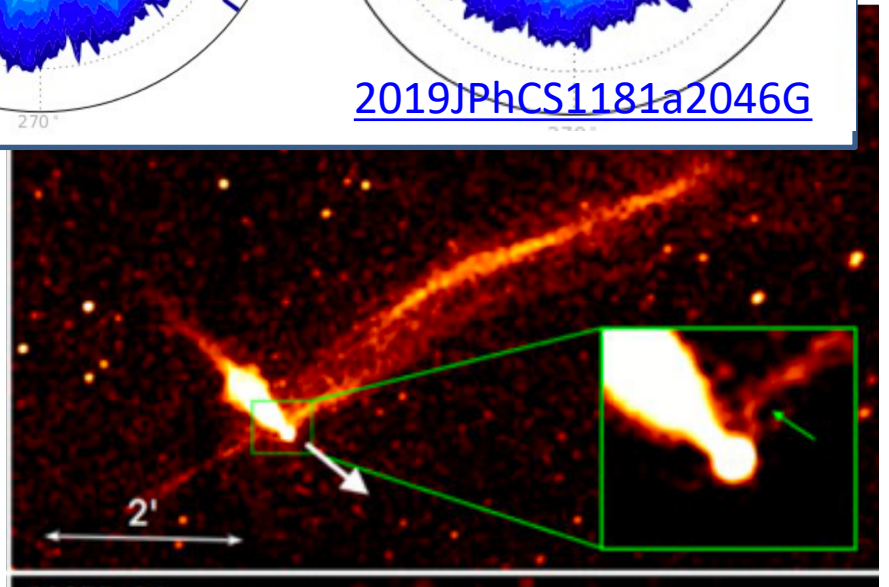
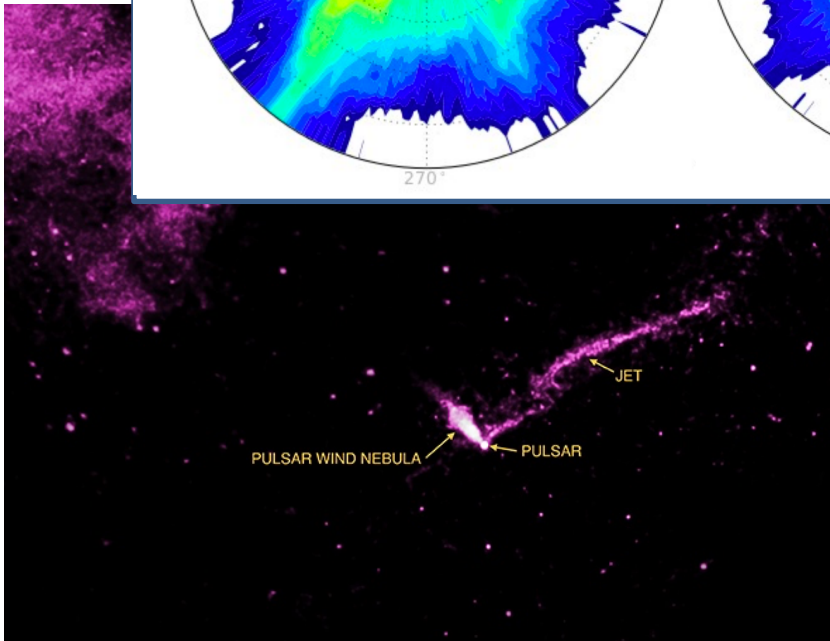
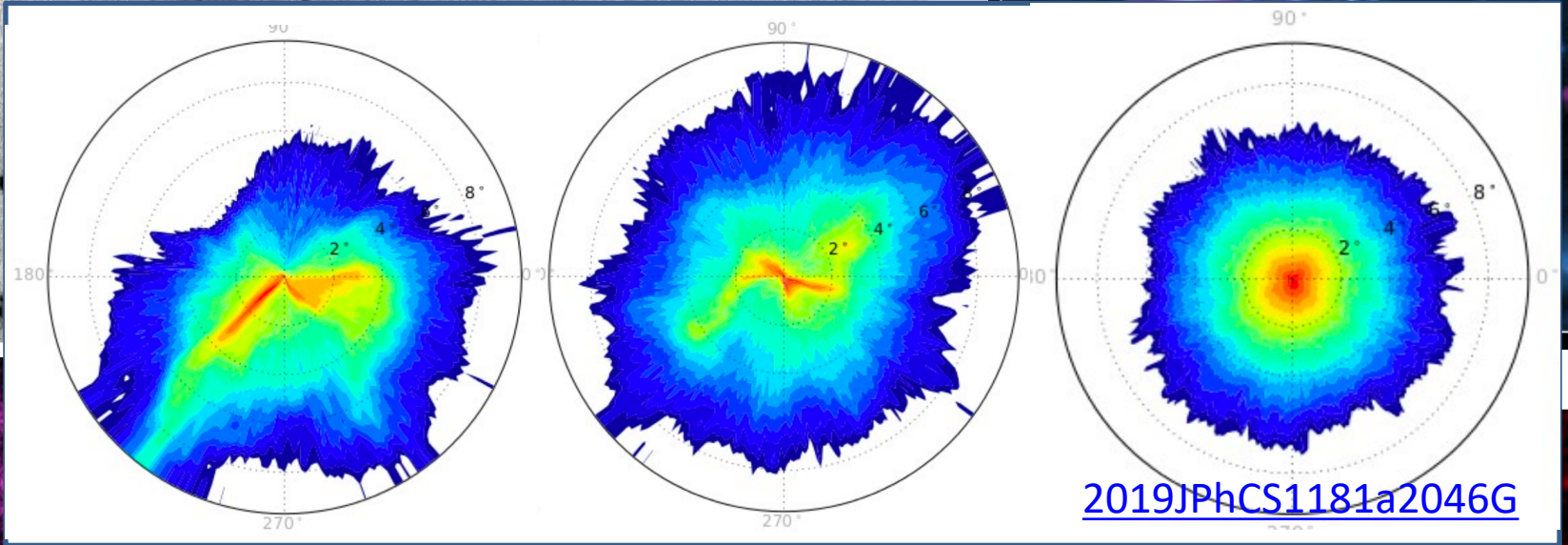
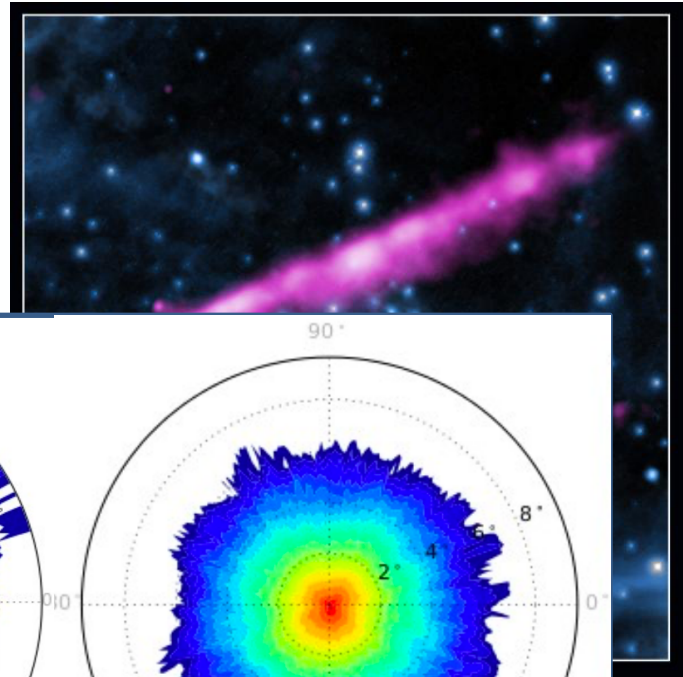
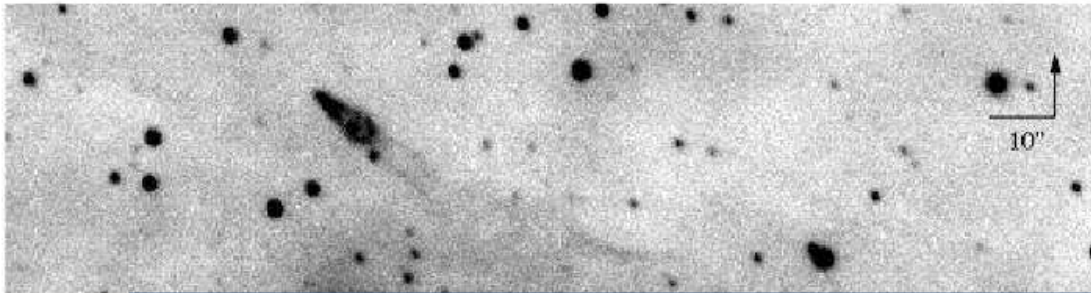
BUT → all assumes isotropic diffusion on all relevant scales...

Also projection effects complicate the picture





J. Plasma Phys. (2017), vol. 83, 635830501
doi:10.1017/S0022377817000630



Observational Status

