

High Time Resolution Astrophysics and ELTs

Andy Shearer

Centre for Astronomy

NUI, Galway

on behalf of the Opticon HTRA network

Chandra/HST - Hester et al, 2002

or we want to observe turbulence

Andy Shearer

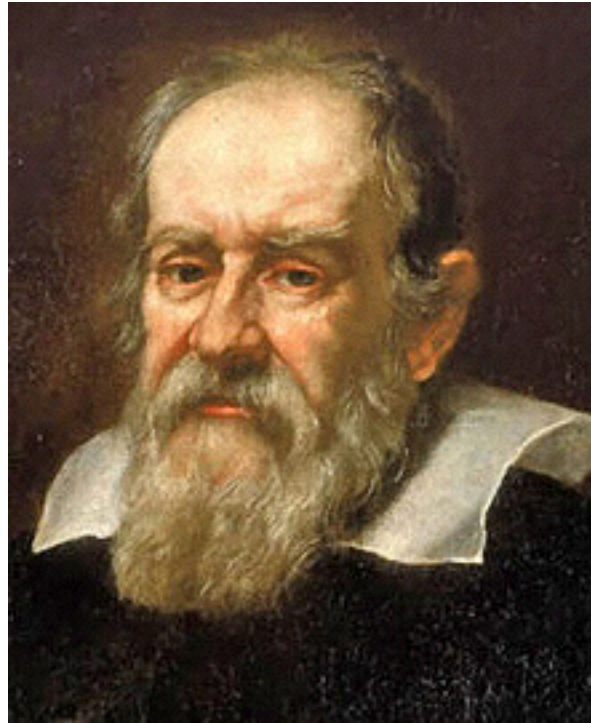
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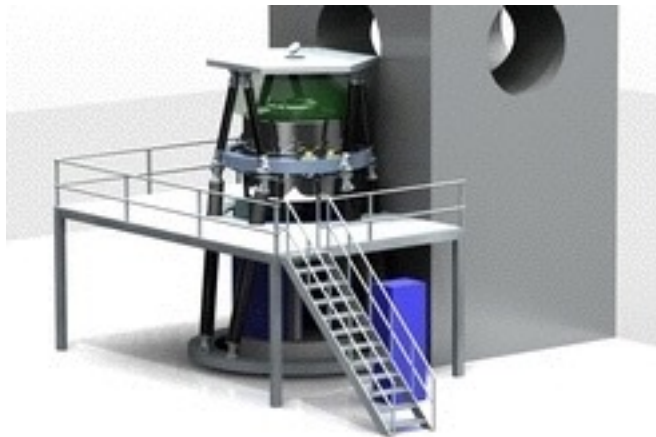
Time sensitivity



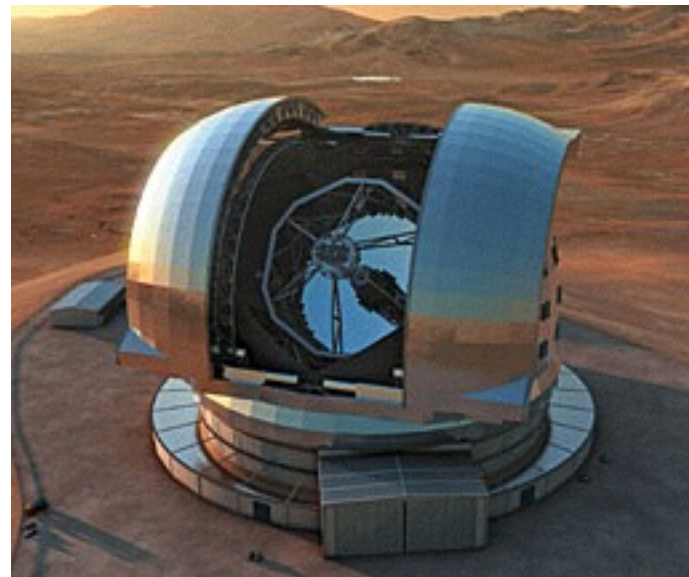
+



$\tau : \sim 30 \text{ ms}$
 $\varphi : m_v \sim 8.5$



+



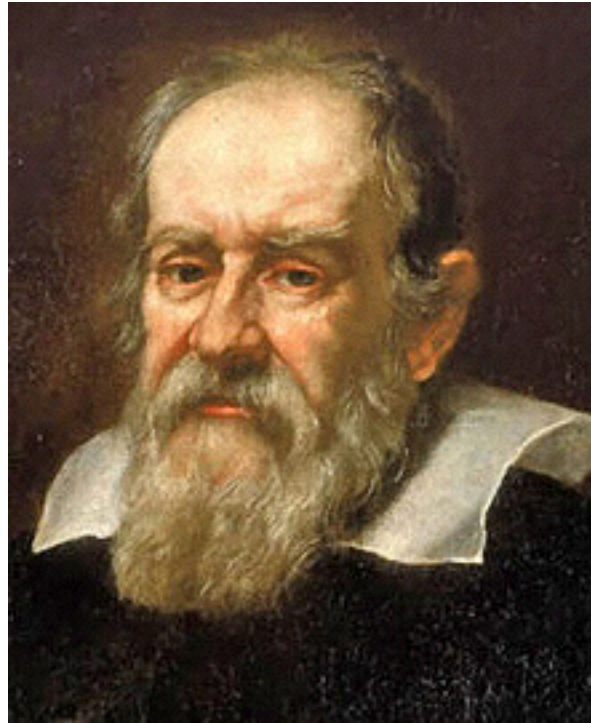
$\tau \sim 1 \text{ hour}$
 $\varphi \sim m_K \sim 30$



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Time sensitivity

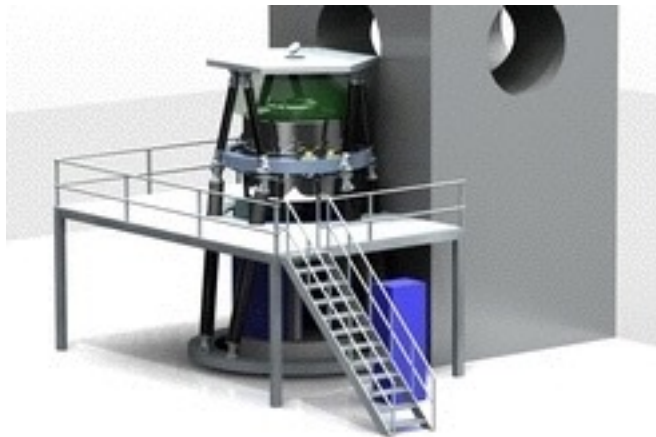


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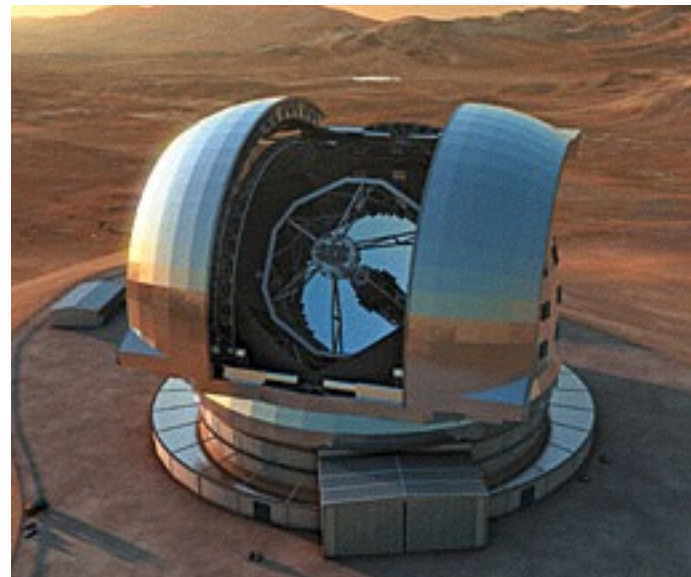


$\tau : \sim 30 \text{ ms}$

$\varphi : m_v \sim 8.5$



+



$\tau \sim 4 \text{ ms}$

$\varphi \sim m_K \sim 18.3$



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Six fundamental questions relating to *extreme physics*

- How did the universe begin?
- What is dark energy and dark matter?
- **Can we observe strong gravity in action?**
- **How do supernovae and γ -ray bursts work?**
- **How do black hole accretion, jets and outflows operate?**
- **What do we learn from energetic radiation and particles?**



A Science Vision for European Astronomy

Last four addressed through HTRA

What is the origin and evolution of stars and planets?

How do galaxies form and evolve?

Do we understand the extremes of the Universe?

How do we fit in?

Goes beyond *extreme physics*

- Topics addressed in recent HTRA workshops - see htra.ie for details

- Binary Systems
- CVs
- LMXBs
- HMXBs
- Neutron Stars
- Pulsars, Magnetars, Isolated NS
- Normal Stars
- Asteroseismology
- Stellar Pulsations
- Brown Dwarfs
- Transients and Occultations
- AGN
-

A Science Vision for European Astronomy

PoS

PROCEEDINGS
OF SCIENCE

Shearer et al. 2010, arXiv:1008.0605

High Time Resolution Astrophysics in the Extremely Large Telescope Era : White Paper*



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OÉ Gaillimh

Erice - October 2015

How does SKA1 compare with the world's biggest radio telescopes?



XIPE

The X-ray Imaging Polarimetry Explorer



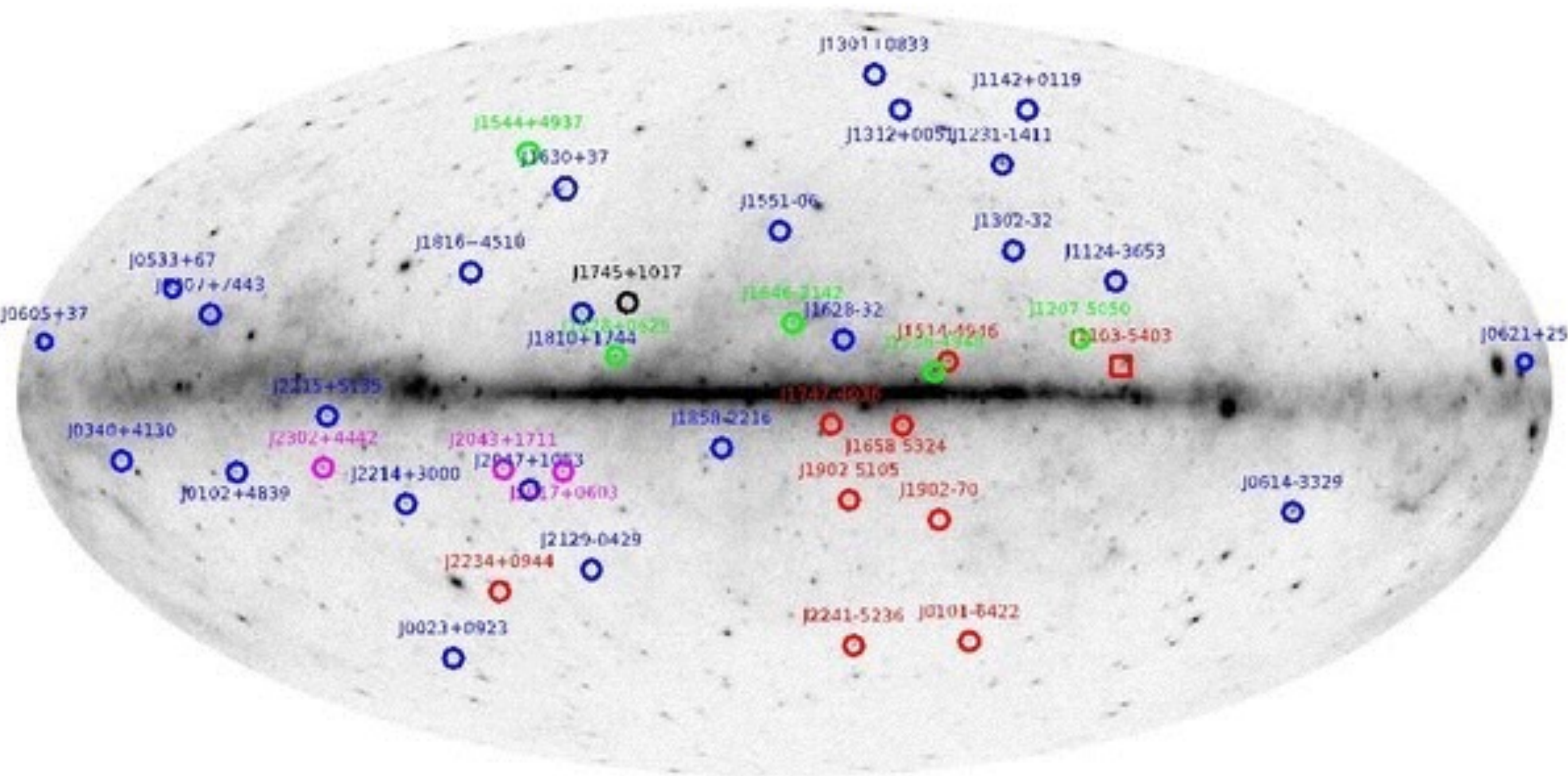
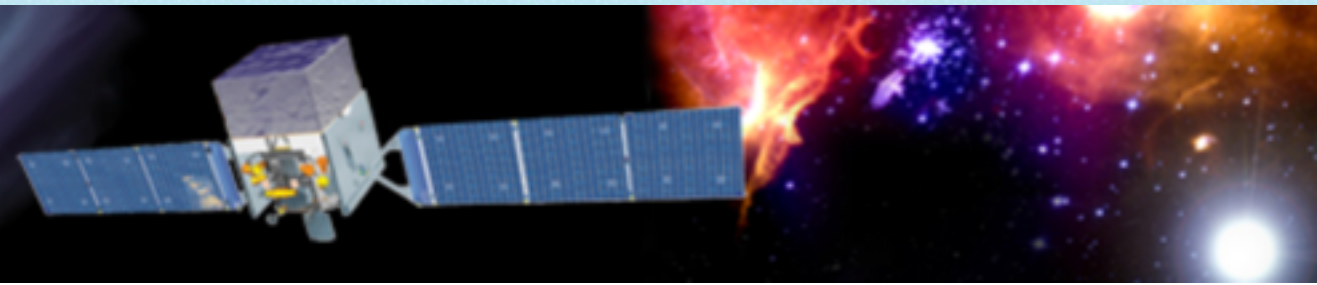
square Kilometre Array (SKA) will be the world's largest radio telescope, revolutionising our understanding of the Universe. The SKA will be in two phases - SKA1 and SKA2 - starting in 2018, with SKA1 representing a fraction of the full SKA. SKA1 will include two instruments - SKA1 MID and SKA1 LOW - observing the Universe at different frequencies.

A telescope's capacity to receive faint signals - called sensitivity - depends on its collecting area, the bigger the better. But just like you can't compare radio telescopes and optical telescopes, comparison only works between telescopes working in similar frequencies, hence the different categories above.

The collecting area is just one aspect of a telescope's capability though. Arrays like the SKA have an advantage over single dish telescopes: by being spread over long distances, they simulate a virtual dish the size of that distance and so can see smaller details in the sky, this is called resolution.

Fermi

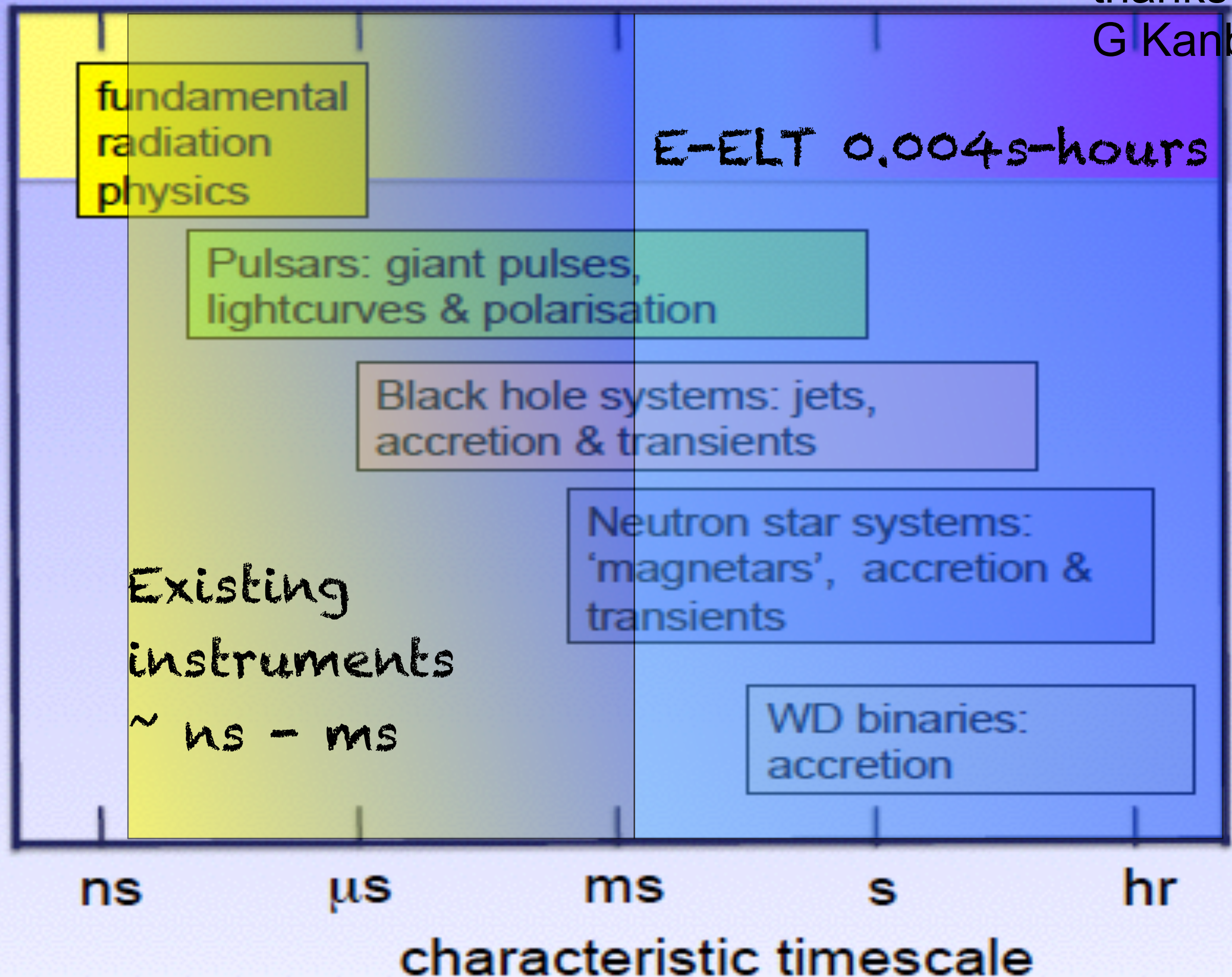
Science Support Center



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thanks to
G Kanbach



fundamental
radiation
physics

Pulsars: giant
lightcurves &

Black holes:
accretion & transients

Neutron star systems:
'magnetars', accretion &
transients

WD binaries:
accretion

	Radius (km)	Dynamic (s)	Crossing Time (ms)
Sun	700,000	2000	~2,000
White Dwarf	6,000	2	20
Neutron Star	10	0.001	0.03
Pulsar (minimum observed time)	~1m		<2 ns

$$\tau_{dynamic} \sim \sqrt{\frac{R^3}{GM}}$$

$$\tau_{light\ crossing} \sim \frac{R}{c}$$

ns

μs

ms

s

hr

characteristic timescale

Is there such a thing as HTRA Science?

- High Time Observations need
 - fast detectors - $\tau \sim \mu\text{sec}$, maybe $< 1 \text{ ns}$
 - low read noise detectors : $n_e = 0$
 - high quantum efficiency detectors : $\text{DQE} \sim 100\%$
 - high photon fluxes :
 - large collecting areas : **ELTs**
 - good throughput : ?



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SCIENCE WITH ULTRACAM

see Dhillon, V. S., et al, 2014, MNRAS, 444, 4021 and
Dhillon, V. S., et al, 2007, MNRAS, 378, 840

~400 nights of time

WHT: 237

NTT: 120

VLT: 40

>80 refereed papers

2 Nature papers

2 Science papers

(3 in the past year)

accreting white dwarfs/cataclysmic variables	19%
black-hole/neutron star X-ray binaries	13%
extrasolar planet transits and eclipses	11%
sdB stars/asteroseismology	11%
eclipsing, detached white-dwarf/red-dwarf binaries	10%
Isolated/non-accreting white dwarfs	10%
pulsars	6%
flare stars	5%
ultra-compact binaries/double degenerates	5%
occultations by Titan, Pluto, Uranus, Kuiper Belt Objects	4%
isolated brown dwarfs	2%
GRBs	2%
Miscellaneous objects (AGN, contact binaries, etc)	2%

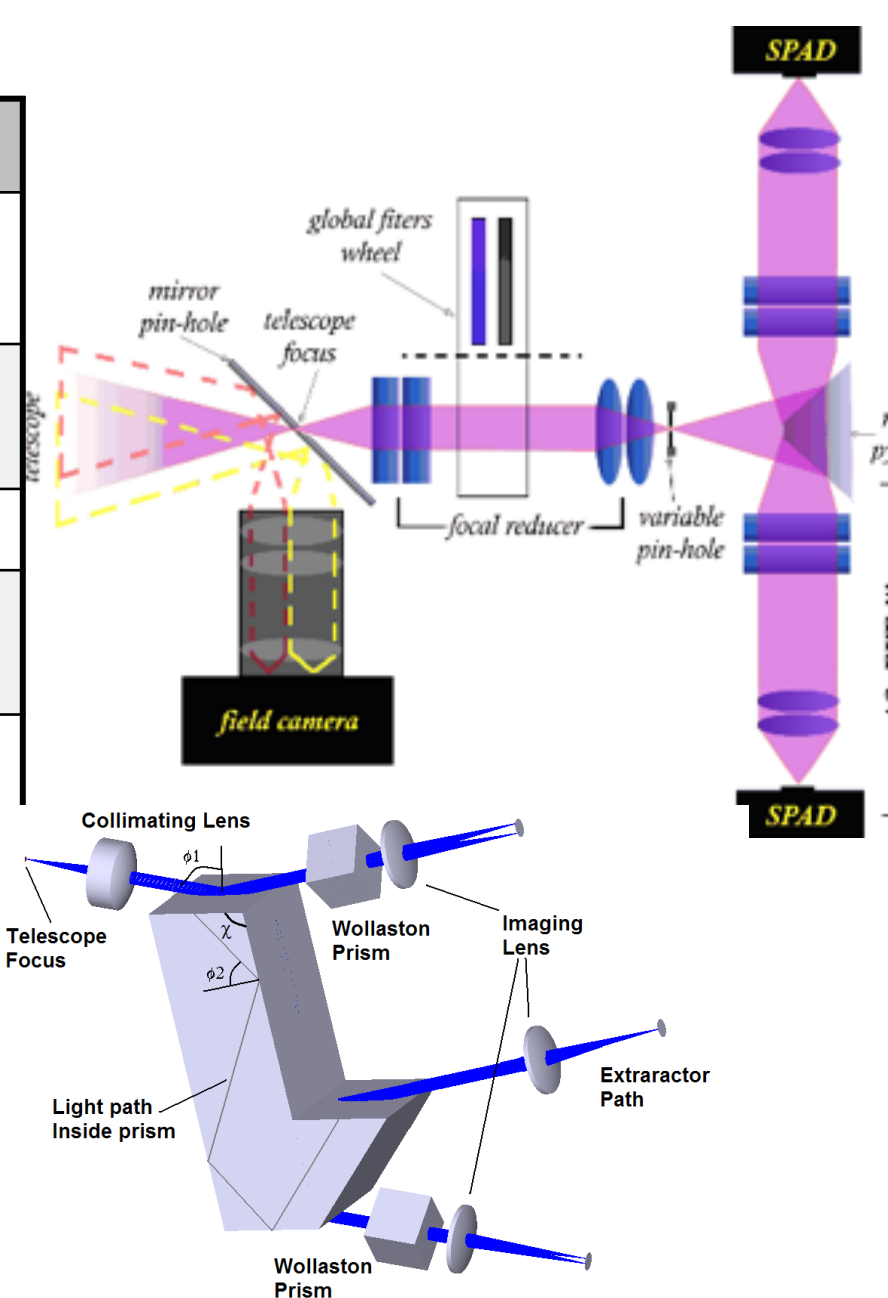
		Time-scale (now)	Time-scale (ELT era)
Stellar flares and pulsations		Seconds/ Minutes	10-100ms
Stellar surface oscillations	White Dwarfs Neutron Stars	1-1000 μsec	1-1000 μsec 0.1 μsec
Close Binary Systems (accretion and turbulence)	Tomography Eclipse in/egress Disk flickering Correlations (e.g. X-ray & optical)	100ms++ 10ms+ 10ms 50ms	10 ms+ < 1ms < 1ms <1ms
Pulsars	Magnetospheric Thermal	1μsec-100ms 10 ms	nsec(?) <ms
AGN		Minutes	Seconds(?)



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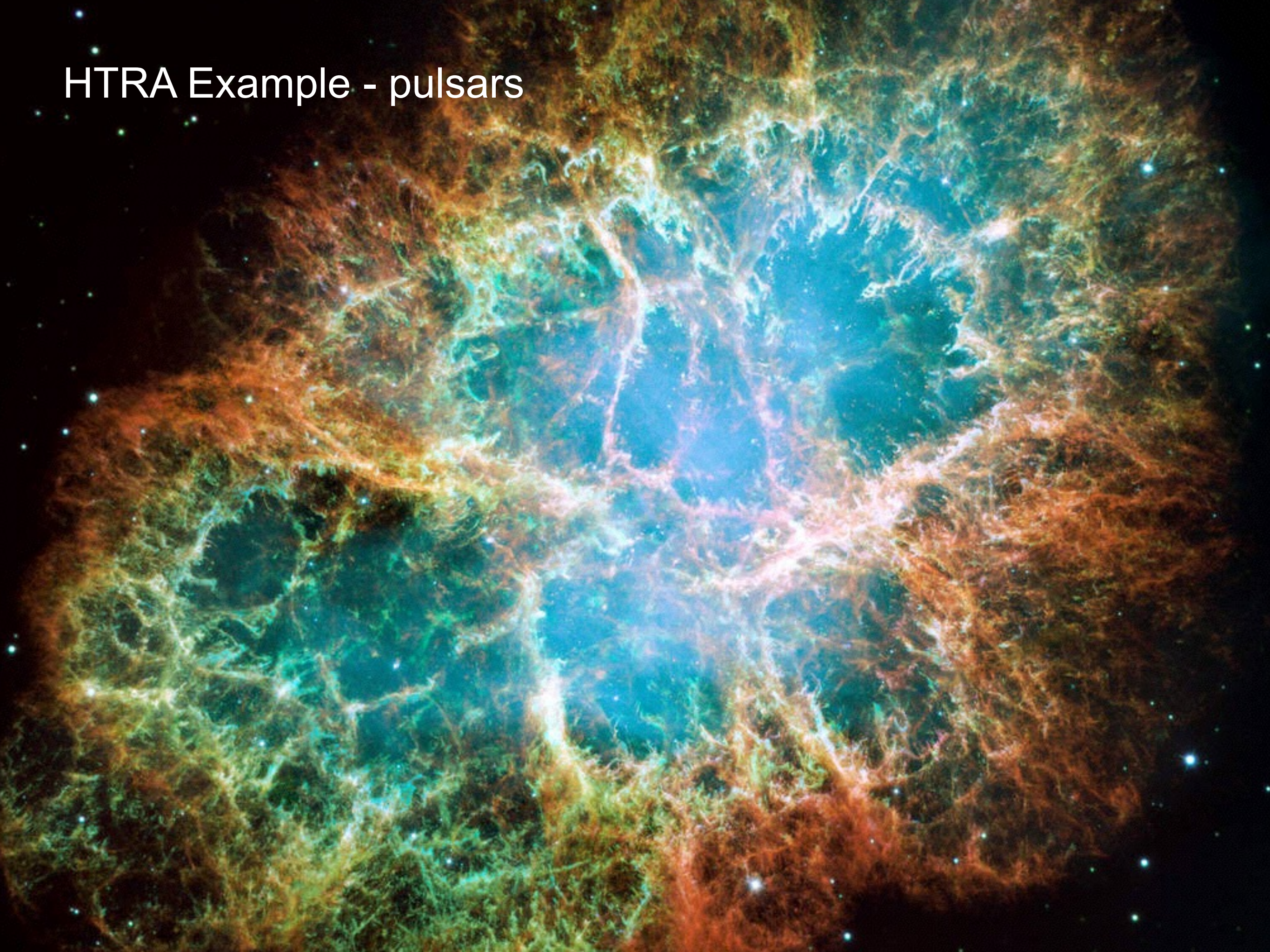
Instrument	Detector	Group	τ (ms)	Type
UltraCam	Frame Transfer	Sheffield/Warwick	5ms	Imager (3-Band)
UltraSpec	EMCCD	Sheffield/Warwick	1ms	Spectrograph
GASP	EMCCD	Galway	600 μ s	Polarimeter
Optima	APD	MPE	1 ns	Photoncounter / polarimeter
Iqueye	APD	Padua	0.1 ns	Photon counter
Arcons	MKID	UCSB	20 ns	Imager



ESO - HTRA : Richichi et al 2009

Instrument	Modes	Detector	Time Rate (Window)
VISIR	Burst	DRS	12.5 ms SF
SOFI	Burst, FastPhot	Hawaii	4 ms (8 x 8), 15 ms (32 x 32)
ISAAC	Burst, FastPhot	Hawaii-1, Aladdin	3 ms (32 x 32), 6 ms (64 x 64)
ISAAC	Burst	Hawaii-1, Aladdin	9 ms (1024 x 16)
NACO	Cube	Aladdin	7.2 ms (64 x 64), 350 ms (1024 x 1024)
HAWK-I	Fast	Hawaii-2RG	6.3 ms (16 x 16)
FORS2	HIT	CCD (charge shift)	up to 2.3 ms
VLTi	Fast	Various	up to 1 ms

HTRA Example - pulsars



Pulsars - despite nearly fifty years and a promising start.

Observation of a Rapidly Pulsating Radio Source

by

A. HEWISH
S. J. BELL
J. D. H. PILKINGTON
P. F. SCOTT
R. A. COLLINS

Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory,
Cavendish Laboratory,
University of Cambridge

In July 1967, a radio frequency
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Radio
designed
radio so
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NATURE, VOL. 216, NOVEMBER 11, 1967

Unusual signals
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NATURE, VOL. 219, JULY 13, 1968

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Rotating Neutron Stars, Pulsars and Supernova Remnants

I SHALL discuss here some problems connected with theories linking the pulsars to the rotation of neutron stars (ref. 1 and a preprint by L. Woltjer). Because

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Gold
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It is al
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rotation
individ
present

for a pulsating radio source in this part of the sky (Drake, private communication). Long term brightness variations

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 164:529-556, 1971 March 15

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A MODEL OF PULSARS

P. A. STURROCK

Applied Physics Department, Institute for Plasma Research,
Stanford University, Stanford, California

Received 1970 June 22

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“probably the only point of agreement between all these theories is the association of pulsars with magnetized, rotating neutron stars” - Roger Blandford 1998

Energy Emission from a Neutron Star

ALTHOUGH there are still many problems concerning the supernovae, there is little doubt that a very dense stellar core has to be left behind after the explosion (at least in some cases). During the contraction of this core, inverse β reactions take place and transform most of the nuclei and electrons into neutrons. If the mass of the neutron star does not exceed a critical value of about one or two solar masses, a stable equilibrium situation can be reached with the gas pressure balancing the gravitational force.

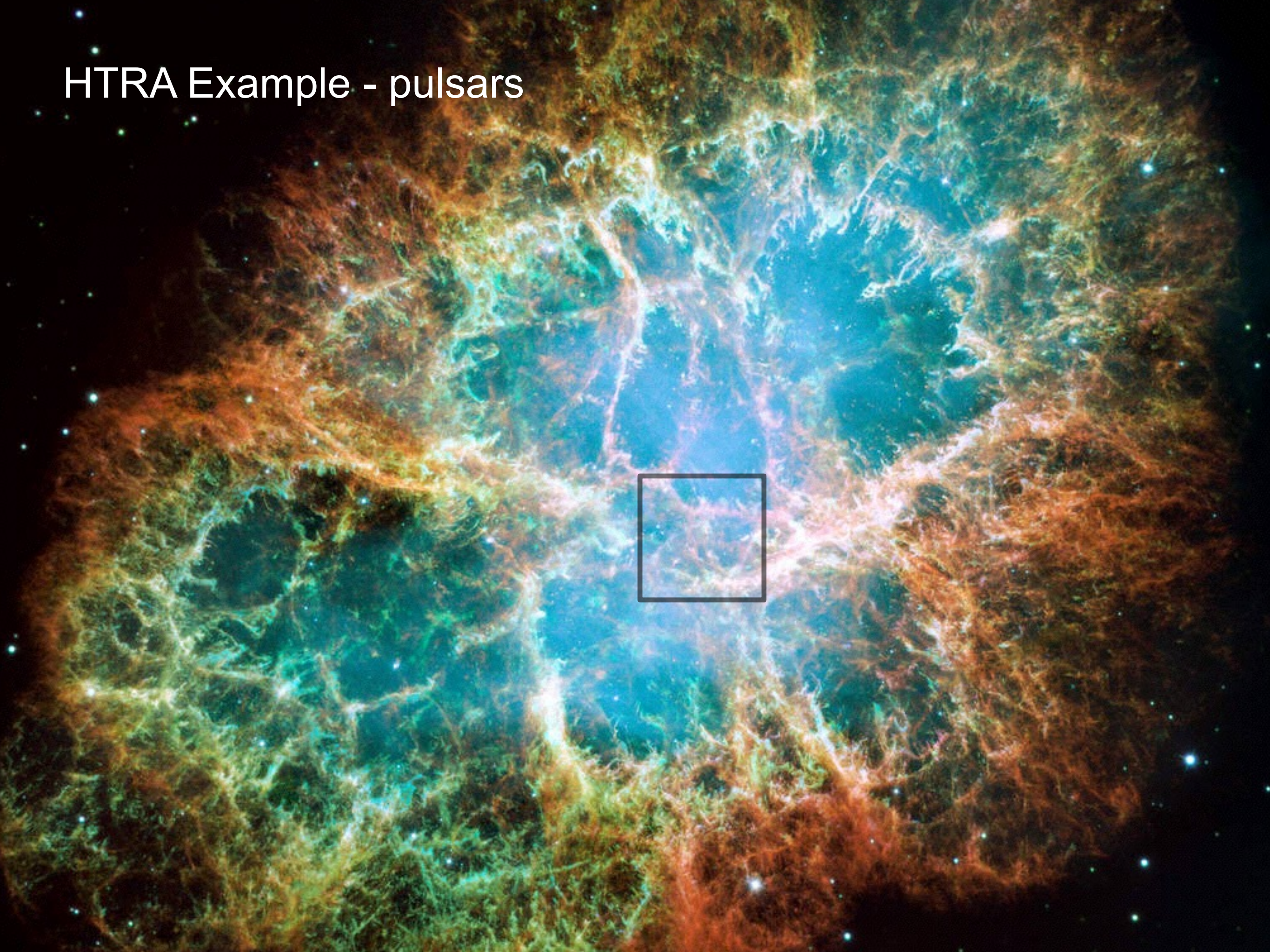


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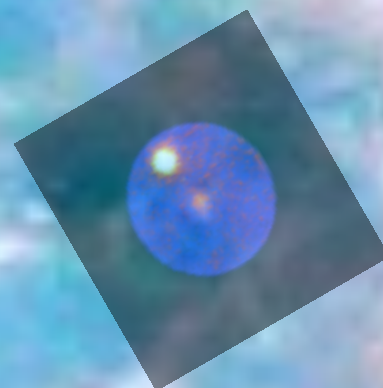
Erice - 2015



HTRA Example - pulsars







$f \sim 30 \text{ Hz}$

Name		Year	Age	mag	D(kpc)	A _v	Phot	Spec	Pol	Tim	Astrom
Crab	F	1969	3.10	16.5	1.73	1.6	UVOIR	Y	Y	P	PM
B1509-58	F	2000	3.19	26	4.2	5.2	OIR		UL*		
B0540-69		1984	3.22	22	49.4	0.6	OIR	Y	Y*	P	PM (UL)
J0205+6449	F	2013	3.73	27.4	2	2.5	O				
J1357- 6429	F	2012	3.86	24.6	2.4	2.2	O				
Vela	F	1976	4.05	23.6	0.23	0.2	UVOIR	Y	Y*	P	PM,PAR
B0656+14	F	1988	5.05	25	0.29	0.09	UVOIR	Y	Y	P	PM
Geminga	F	1984	5.53	25.5	0.16	0.07	UVOIR	Y		P	PM,PAR
B1055-52	F	1997	5.73	24.9	<0.72	0.22	UVO				PM
B1929+10		1996	6.49	25.6	0.33	0.15	UV				PM
B0950+08		1996	7.24	27.1	0.26	0.03	UVO				
B1133+16		2008	6.69	28	0.35	0.12	O				
J0108-1431		2008	8.3	27.	0.3	0.05	O				
J0437-471	F	2004	9.20	24.8	0.14	0.11	UV	Y			
J1308.6+2127		2002	6.17	28	<1	0.14	O				
J0720-3125		1998	6.27	26.7	0.35	0.10	O				PM,PAR
J1856-3754		1997	6.60	25.7	0.14	0.12	O	Y			PM,PAR
J1605.3+3249		2002	-	27.2	<1	0.06	O				PM
RBS1774		2008	-	27.4	<0.5	0.2	O				
J0806-4123		2011	>6.5	27.9	<0.5	0.1	O	Thanks to R Mignani			
SGR1806-20		2004	3.14	20.1	15	29	IR				
1E 1547.0-5408		2009	3.14	18.5	9	17	IR		Y*		
1E 1048.1-5937		2004	3.63	21.3	3	6.1	OIR		UL*	P	
XTE J1810-197		2004	3.75	20.8	4	5.1	IR		UL*		
SGR 0501+4516		2009	4.1	19.1	~2	5	IR			P	
4U 0142+61		2002	4.84	20.1	>5	5.1	OIR			P	
1E 2259+586		2002	5.34	21.7	3	5.7	IR		* phase-averaged		

	m _B	period (ms)	B photon Fluxes	
			photons/rotation	
			VLT	EELT
Crab	17.2	33	22861	64,4000
Vela	23.6	89	21	475
PSR 0540-69	22.5	89	32	736
PSR 0656+14	25.5	385	1.5	3567
Geminga	26.2	237	0.55	1125
PSR B0950+08	27.1	253	0.22	54
PSR B1929+10	25.6	227	8	1192
PSR B1055-52	24.9(U)	197	1.4	3128
PSR B1509-58	25.7	151	0.55	1117
PSR B1113+16	28.1	1188	0.44	1100
Crab at M31	29.7	33	0.00012	0.006

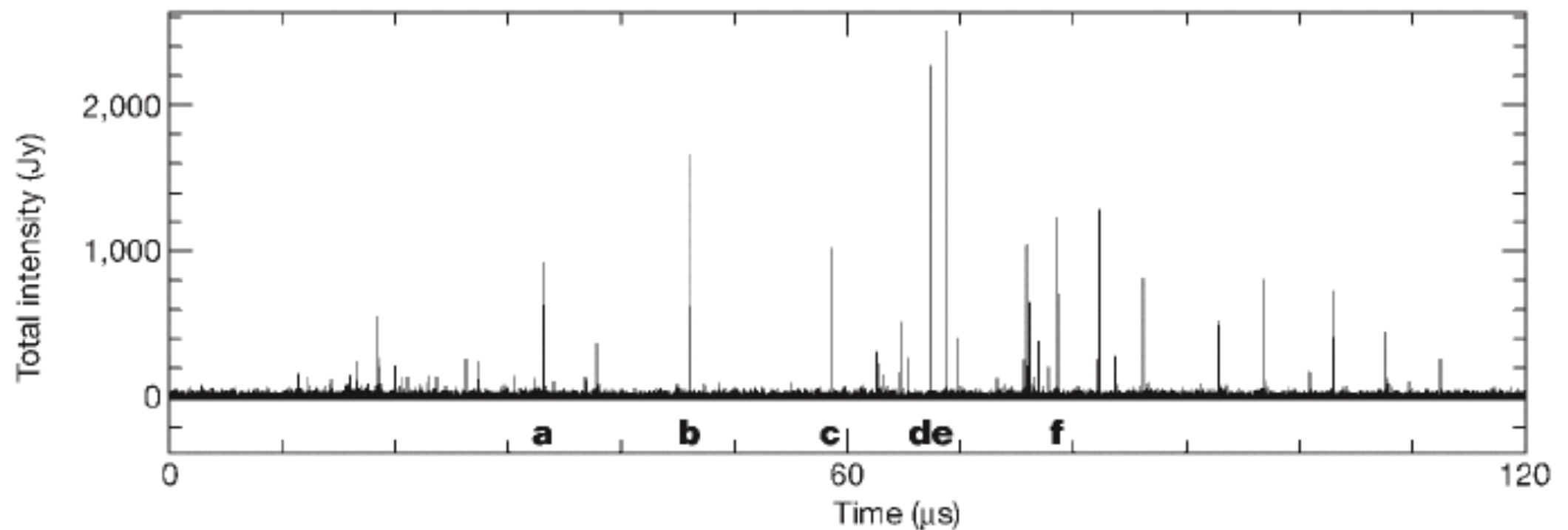
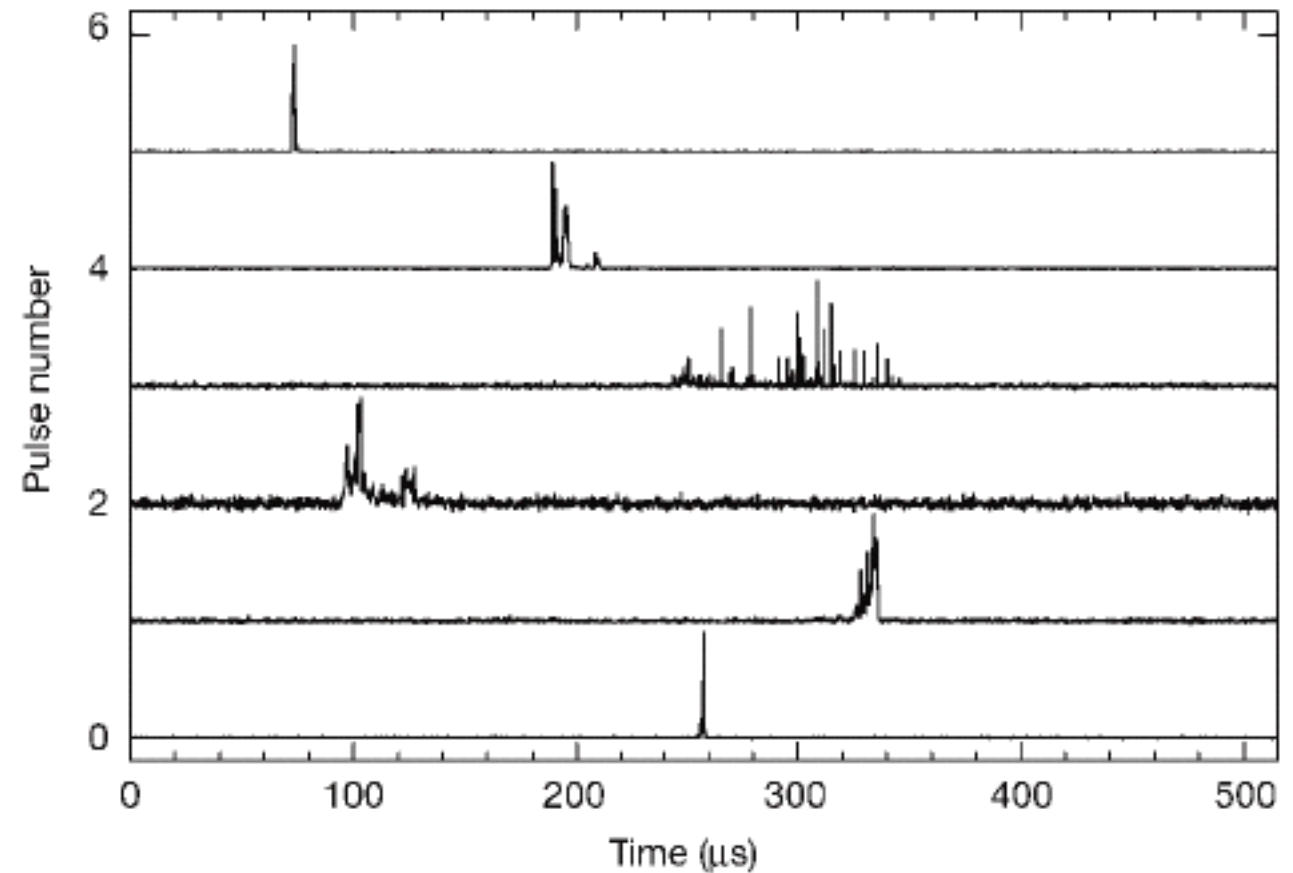


The fastest time-scale - radio observations

Hankins et al Nature, 2003, 422, 141

Structure at 3 nsec level

(resolving 1m at 2 kpc)



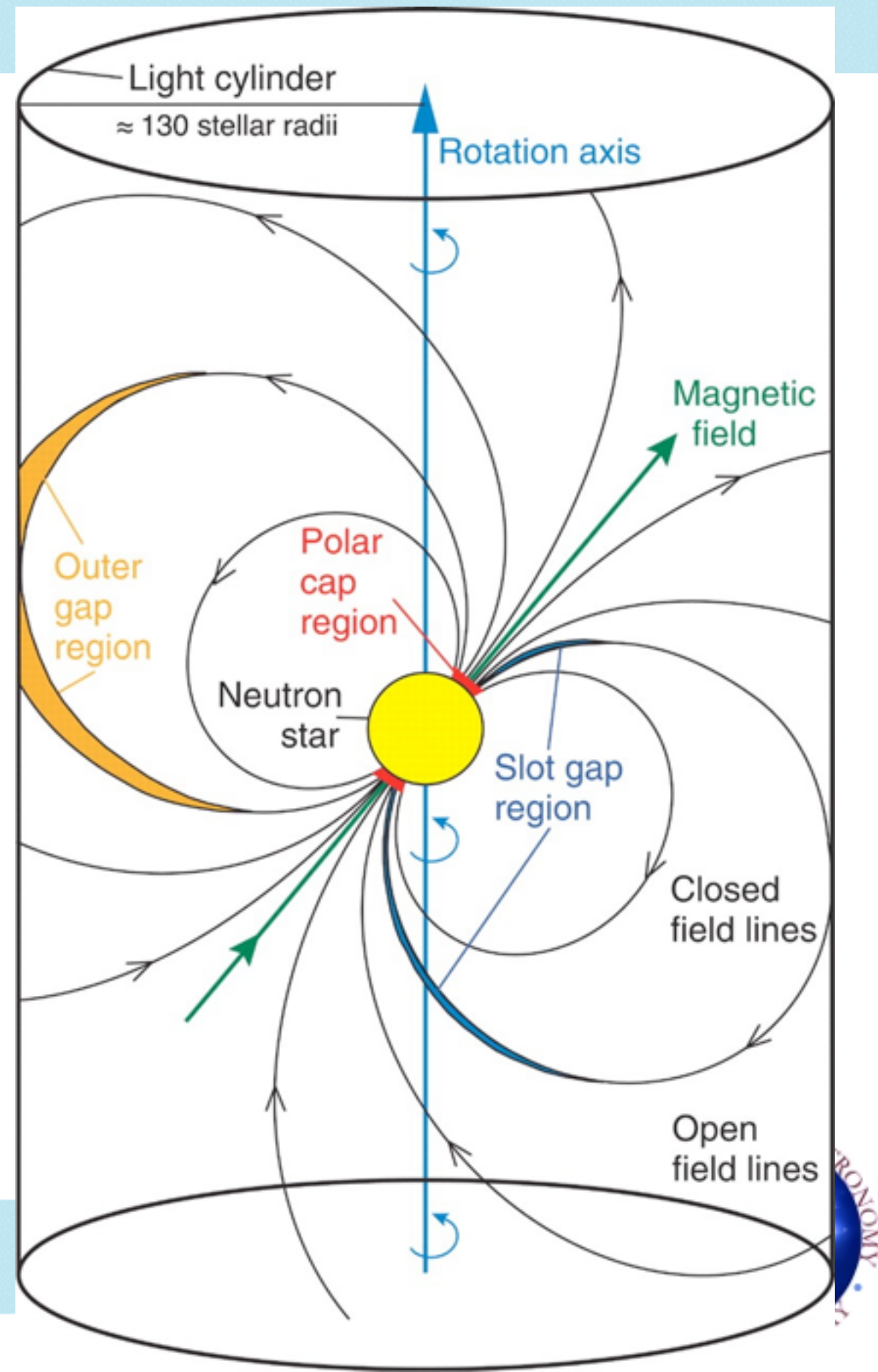
High Energy Emission

Three options

- Synchrotron - optical
 - Curvature - γ -ray
 - Inverse Compton in polar gap models
- The first two apply to the outer and slot gap

Outer gap models describe most high energy emission characteristics but have to explain existence of an outer gap and account for radio emission from the polar gap

But Fermi results rule out Polar Cap



What slows the pulsar down?

Pulsars have a strong surface magnetic field - assumed to be dipolar [it isn't]

A rotating magnetic dipole with moment $|\mathbf{m}|$ radiates electromagnetic

The electromagnetic power, $\dot{E}_{dipole} = \frac{2}{3c^3} |\mathbf{m}|^2 \Omega^4 \sin^2 \alpha$

If $\dot{E}_{dipole} \approx \dot{E}_{spin\ down}$ then

$$\frac{2}{3c^3} |\mathbf{m}|^2 \Omega^4 \sin^2 \alpha = -I \Omega \dot{\Omega} \Rightarrow |\mathbf{m}| \propto \sqrt{I \dot{\Omega}}$$

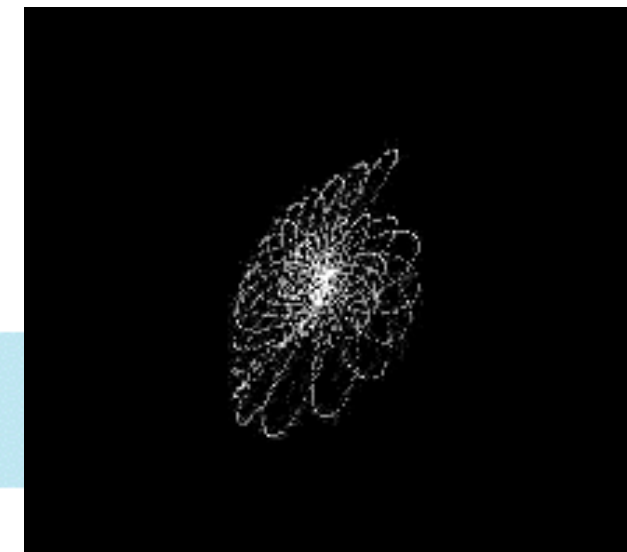
$$\dot{\Omega} = \frac{2 |\mathbf{m}|^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{3I c^3} \Omega^3 \text{ or more generally } \propto \Omega^n$$

Or in terms of the frequency $\nu = 1/p$

$$\dot{\nu} = -K \nu^n, \text{ n is the braking index}$$

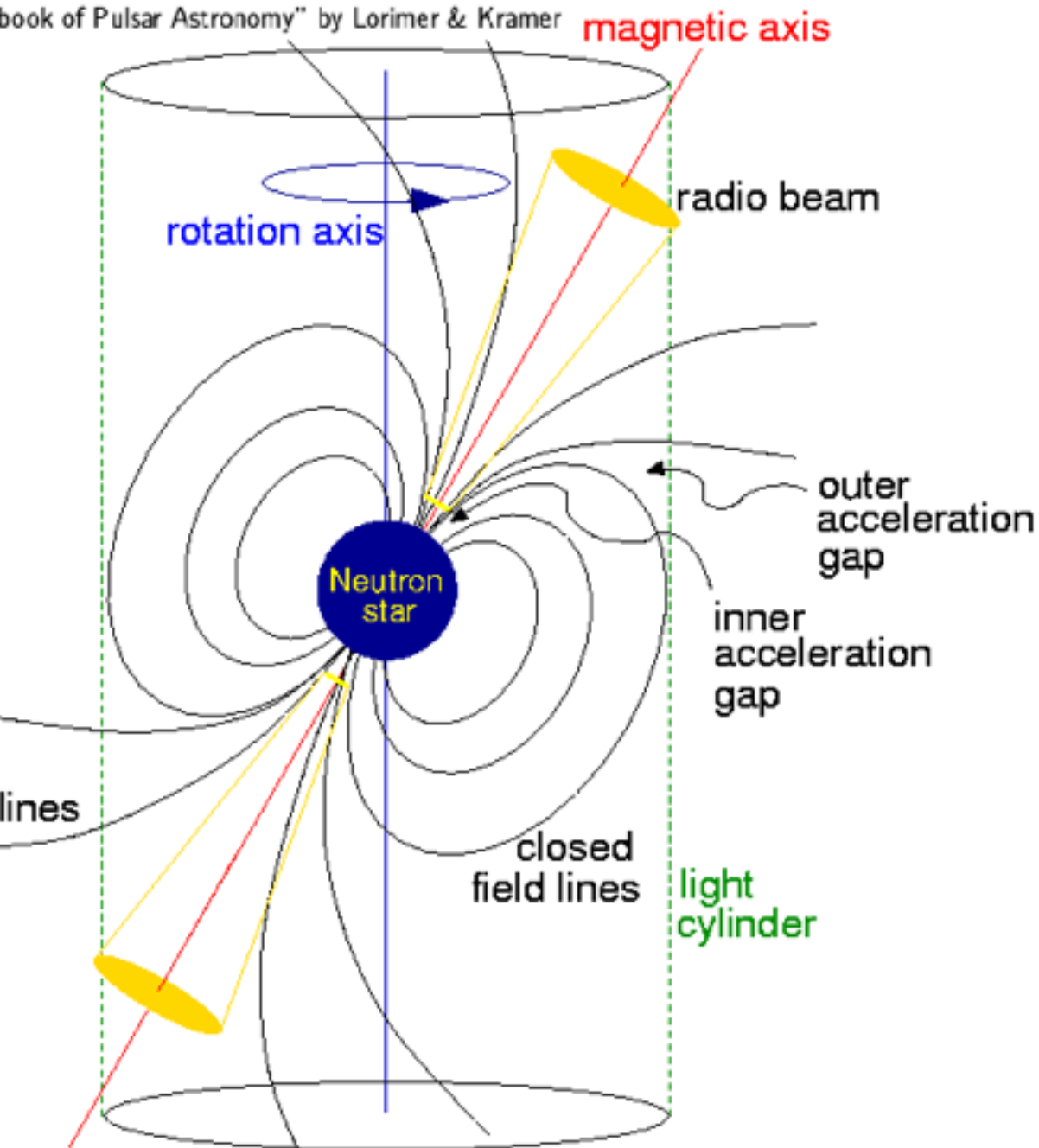


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Very basic geometry

book of Pulsar Astronomy" by Lorimer & Kramer



Light Cylinder Radius

$$R_{LC} = \frac{c}{\Omega} = \frac{cP}{2\pi} \approx 4.8 \times 10^4 \left(\frac{P}{s} \right) km$$

and the magnetic field strength at R_{LC} is

$$B_{LC} = B_s \left(\frac{R}{R_{LC}} \right)^3 \approx 9.2 \left(\frac{P}{s} \right)^{-5/2} \left(\frac{\dot{P}}{10^{-15}} \right) G$$

Magnetic Field Strength, $B_r \approx |\mathbf{m}| / r^3$

$$\text{Surface field, } B_s = B_{r=R} = \sqrt{\frac{3c^3 I}{2\pi^2 R^6} P \dot{P}}$$

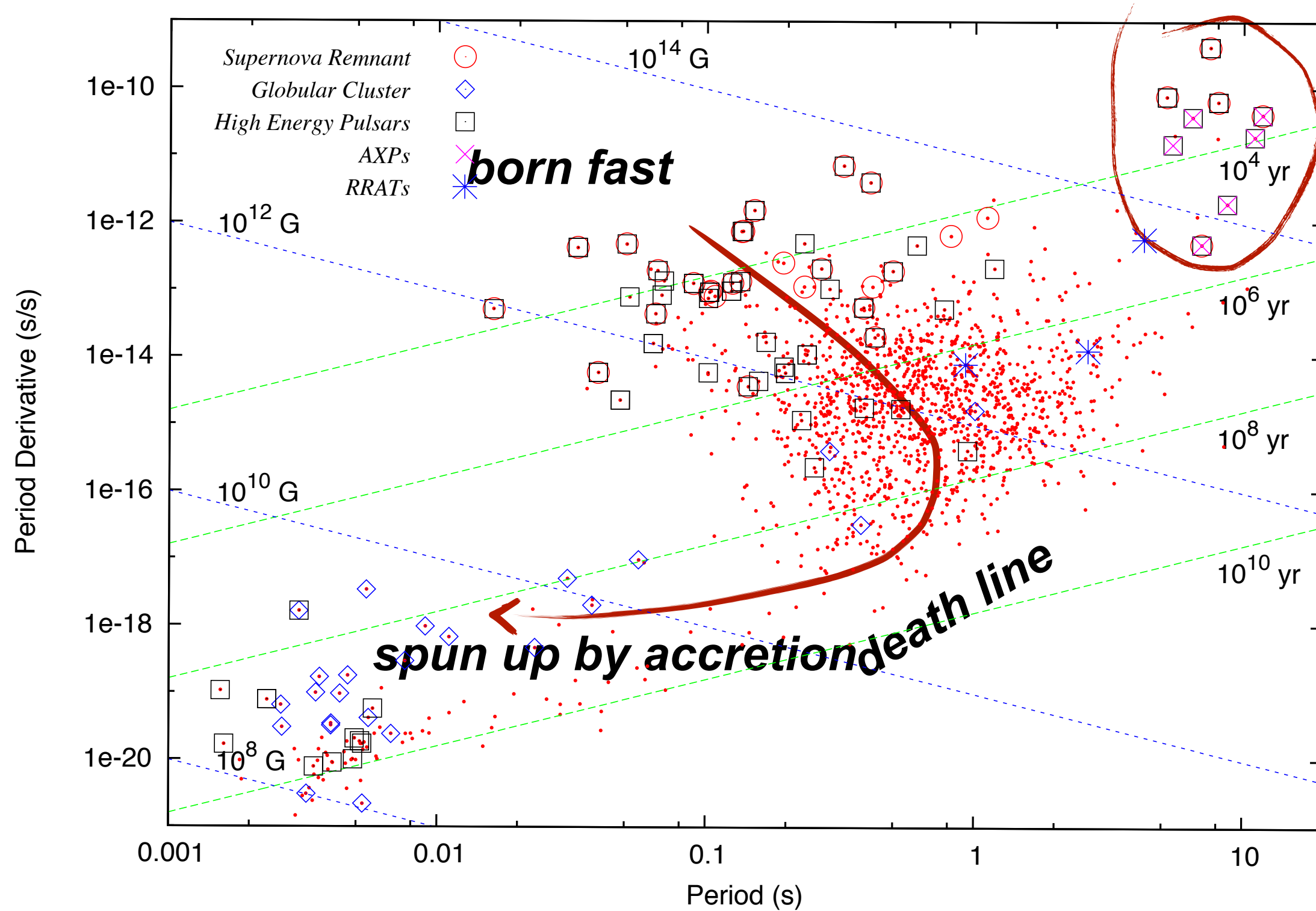
assuming $R=10$ km and $I = 10^{45} \text{ g cm}^2$

$$B_s = 3.2 \times 10^{19} G \sqrt{P \dot{P}} \approx 10^{12} G \left(\frac{\dot{P}}{10^{-15}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{P}{s} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\text{Characteristic Age, } \tau = \frac{P}{2\dot{P}}$$



P-P diagram



what about
these magnetars or
anomalous X-ray
pulsars - IR objects



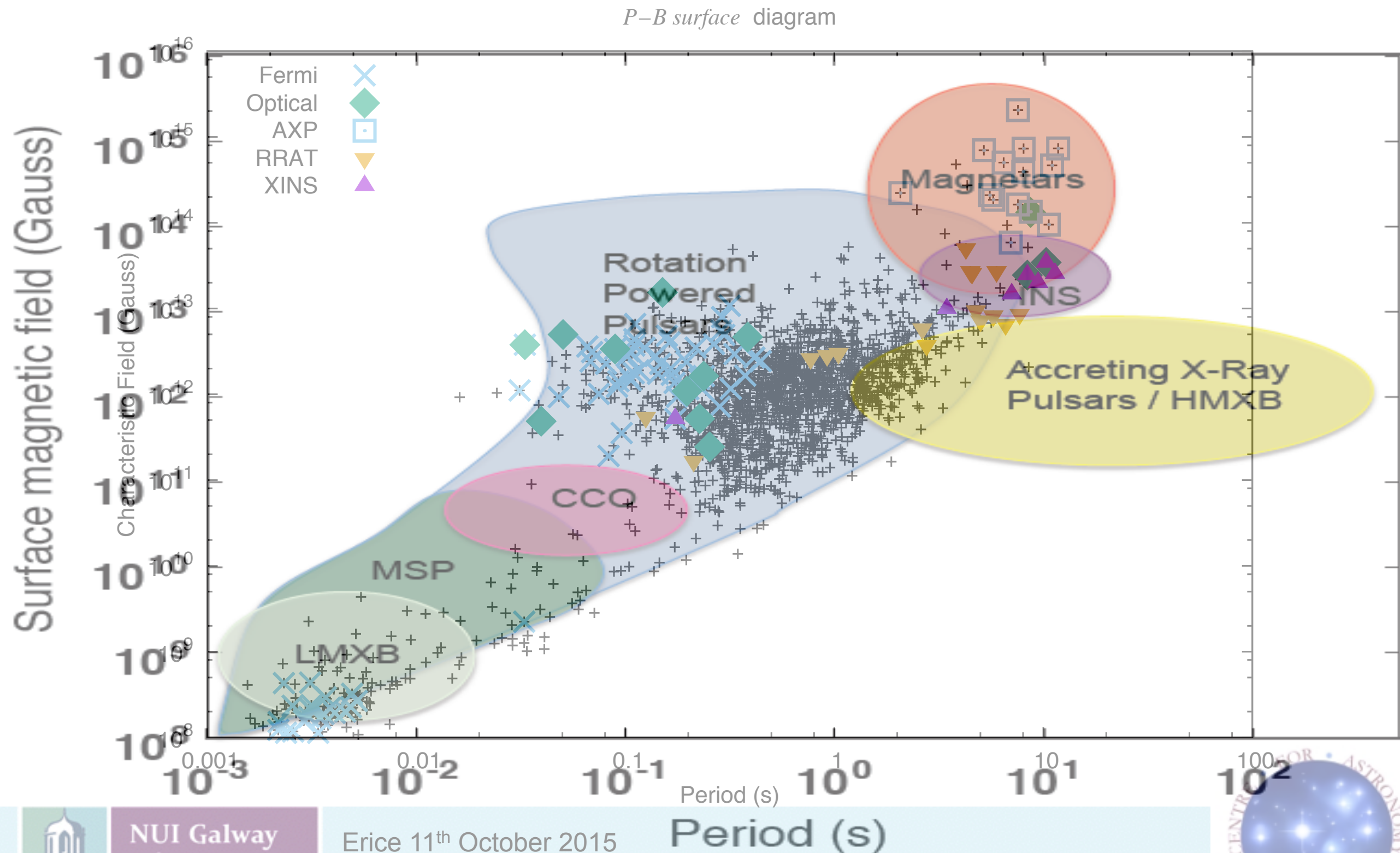
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Asiago 2013

see Chen and Ruderman (1993)



taken from Harding - “Neutron Star Zoo” 1302.0869



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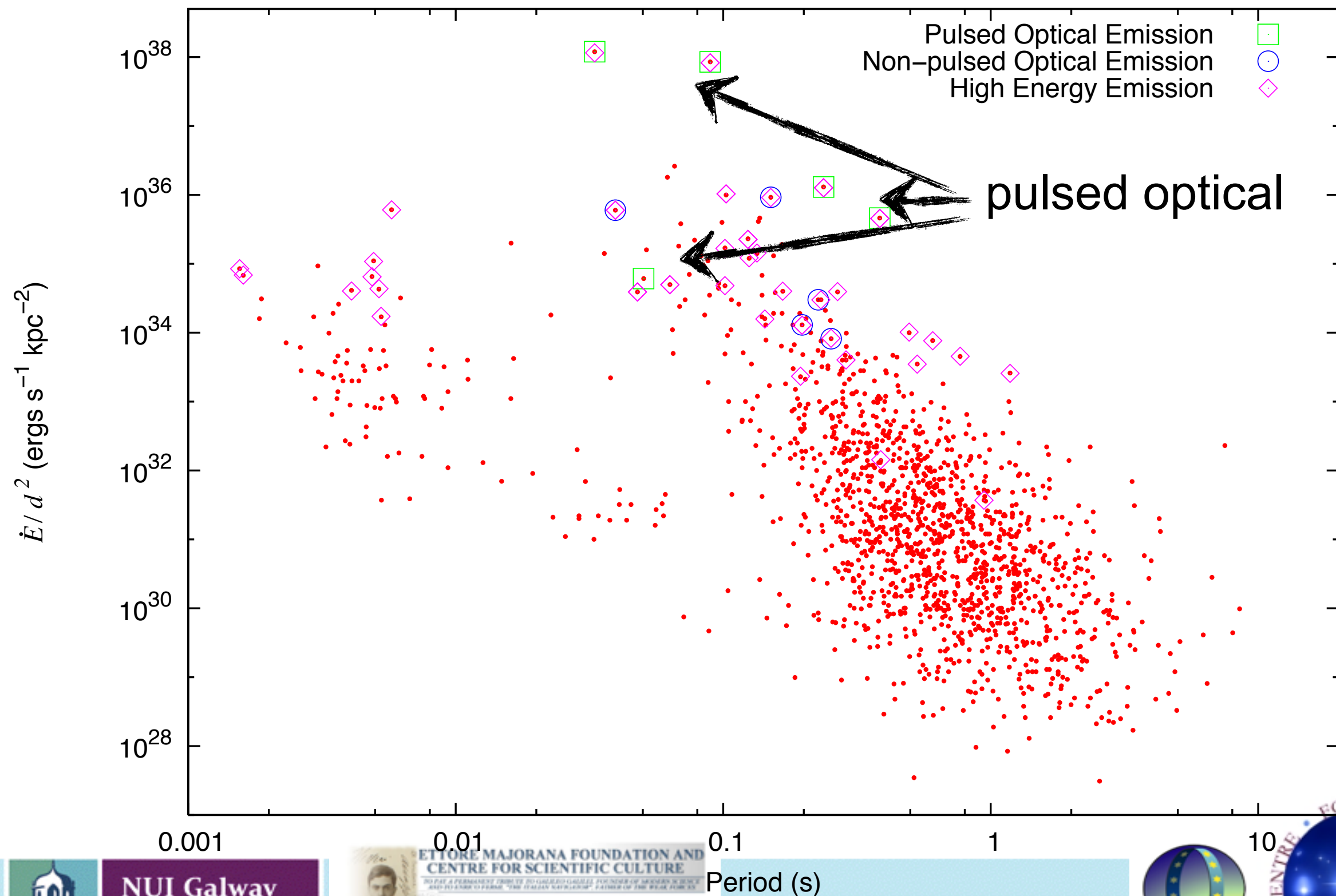
Erice 11th October 2015

Period (s)



Optical Pulsars - Position on the $P\dot{P}$ diagram

$P-\dot{E}/d^2$ diagram

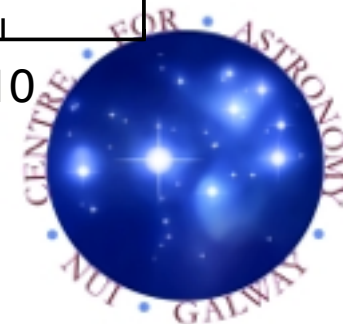


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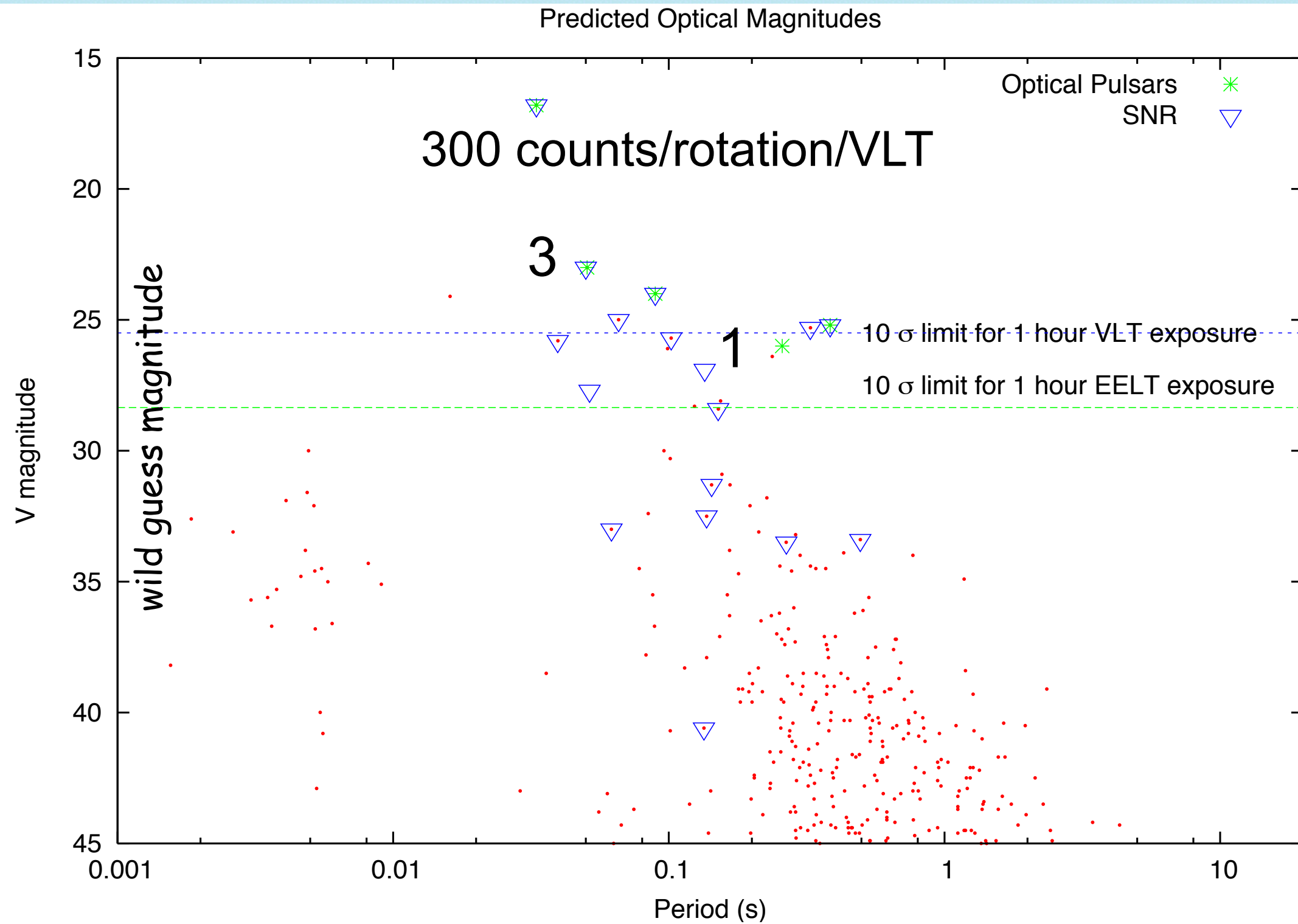


ETTORE MAJORANA FOUNDATION AND
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Period (s)



Optical Pulsars - the problem



Pulsars - Polarisation

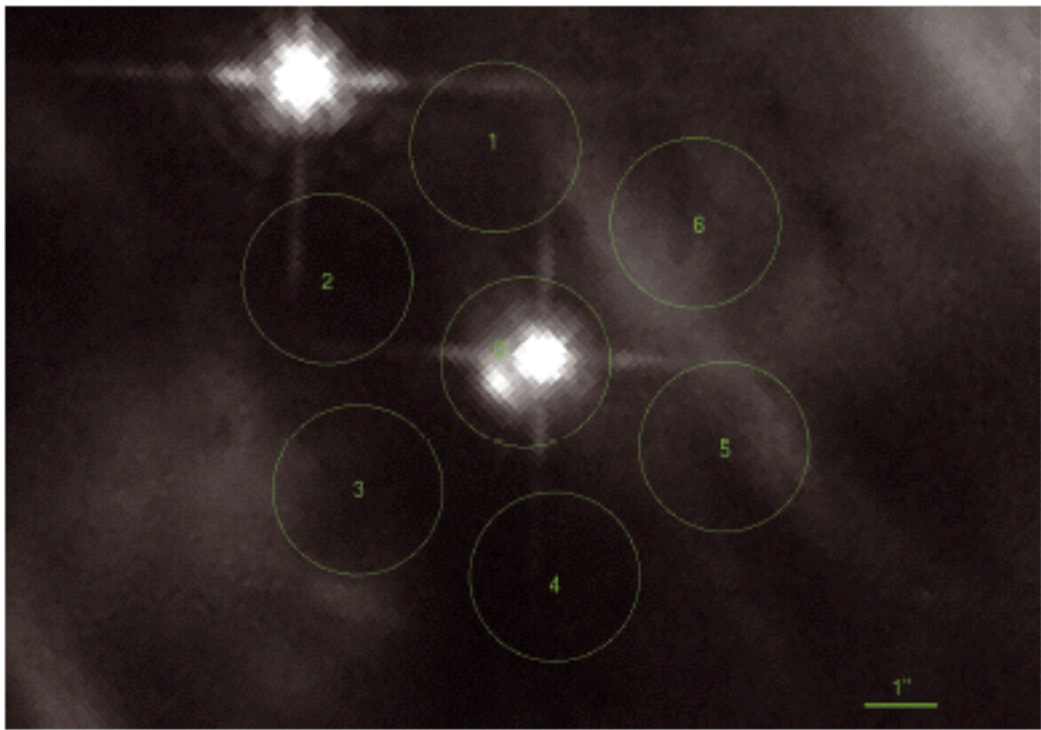
Słowikowska et al., 2009

Table 1. High energy polarisation measurements of pulsars and their nebulae. Polarisation degree is given as a percentage, and position angle in degrees (North, 0° to East, 90°).

Band	Pulsar / Polarisation	Nebula (near PSR)	Ref.
Crab			
Optical ($V \sim 16.6$)	phase-resolved (Fig. 4) phase-averaged $9.8\% \pm 0.1\%$ and $109.5^\circ \pm 0.2^\circ$	$9.7\% \pm 0.1\%$; $139.8^\circ \pm 0.2^\circ$ ($< 5''$ from PSR)	[1], [2], [3]
UV	phased-resolved, similar to optical - P.D. and P.A. (MP and IP)		[4]
X-ray	only upper limits	$19.2\% \pm 0.9\%$; $155.8^\circ \pm 1.4^\circ$	[5], [6]
Hard X-ray/ soft γ -ray	off-pulse (phase: 0.52–0.88) $> 72\%$; $120.6^\circ \pm 8.5^\circ$ phase-averaged $47\%^{+19\%}_{-13\%}$; $100^\circ \pm 11^\circ$		[7] [7]
γ -ray	off-pulse (phase: 0.5–0.8) $46\% \pm 10\%$; $123^\circ \pm 11^\circ$		[8]
B0540-69			
Optical ($V \sim 22.5$)	phase-averaged: $\sim 5\%$, no error quoted; phase-resolved: $< 15\%$	$5.6\% \pm 1.0\%$; $79^\circ \pm 5^\circ$	[9], [10], [11]
Vela			
Optical ($V \sim 23.6$)	phase averaged: $9.4\% \pm 4\%$, $146^\circ \pm 11^\circ$		[9], [12]
B0656+14			
Optical ($V \sim 25$)	double peak light curve; P.D. bridge $\sim 100\%$, peaks $\sim 0\%$ P.A. sweeps in agreement with RVM		[13]
B1509-58			
Optical ($V \sim 25.7$)	phase-averaged: $\sim 10.4\%$ (very uncertain, no error quoted)		[9]

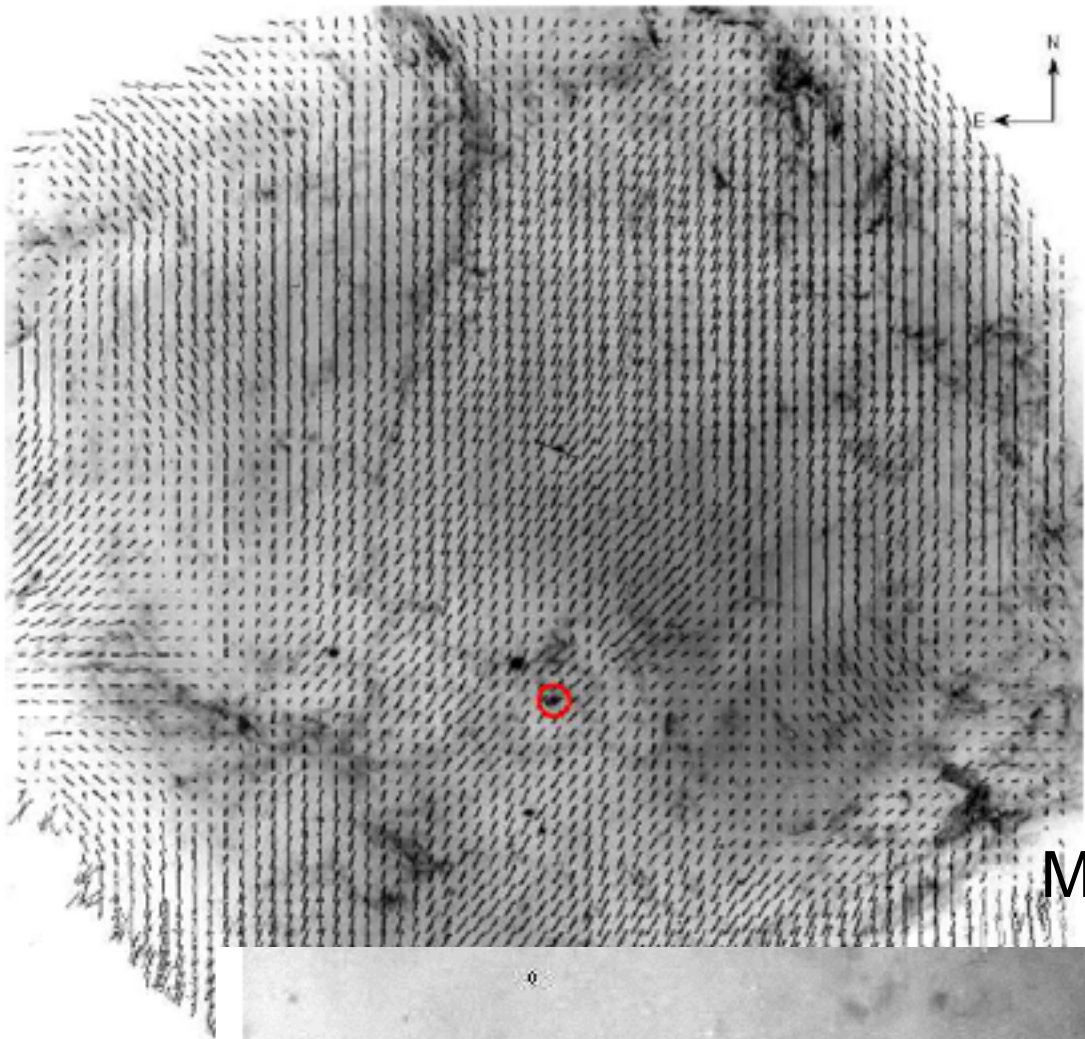
[1] Smith et al. (1988), [2] Słowikowska et al. (2008), [3] this paper, [4] Graham-Smith et al. (1996), [5] Silver et al. (1978), [6] Weisskopf et al. (1978), [7] Forot et al. (2008), [8] Dean et al. (2008), [9] Wagner & Seifert (2000), [10] Middleditch et al. (1987), [11] Chanan & Helfand (1990), [12] Mignani et al. (2007), [13] Kern et al. (2003),



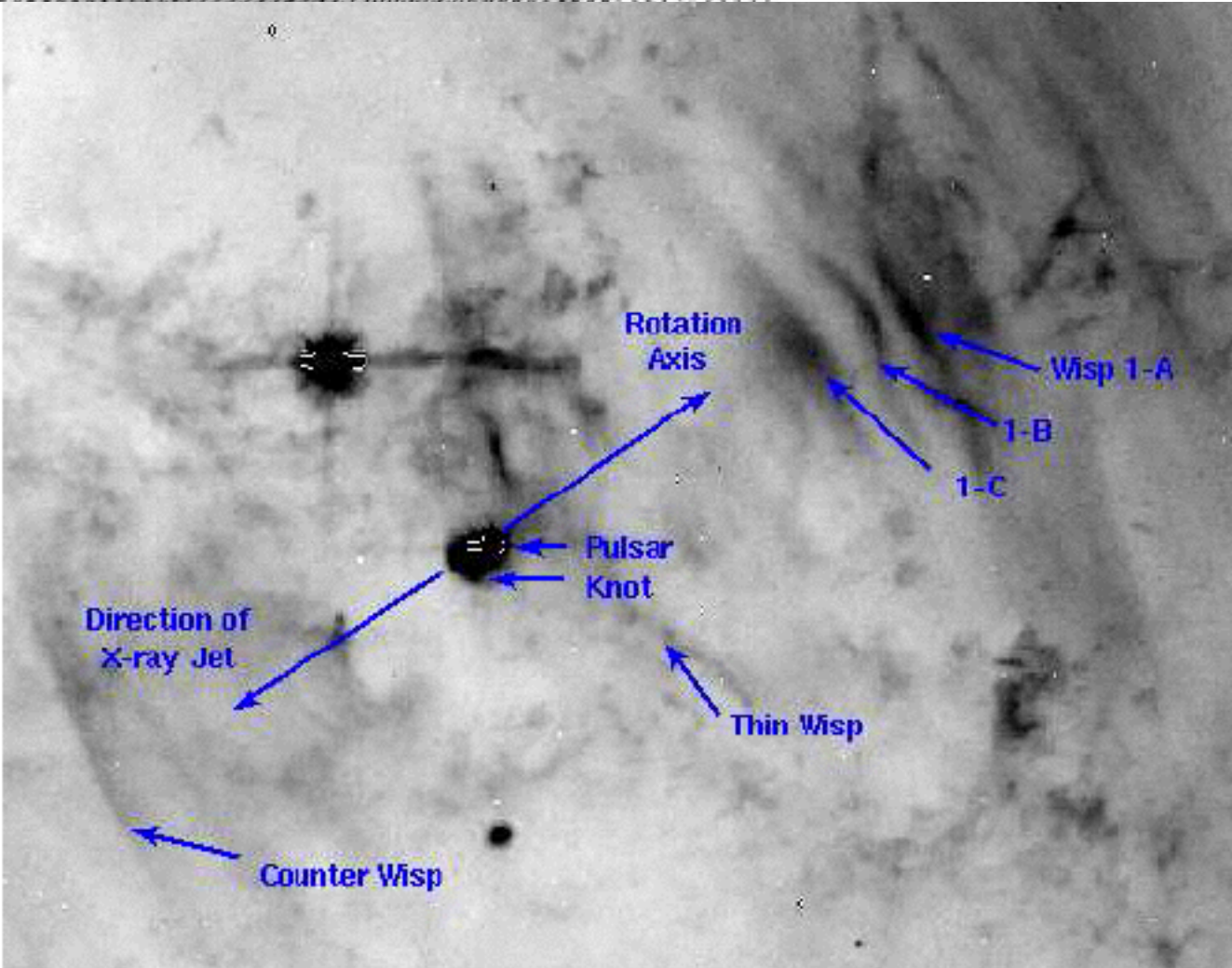
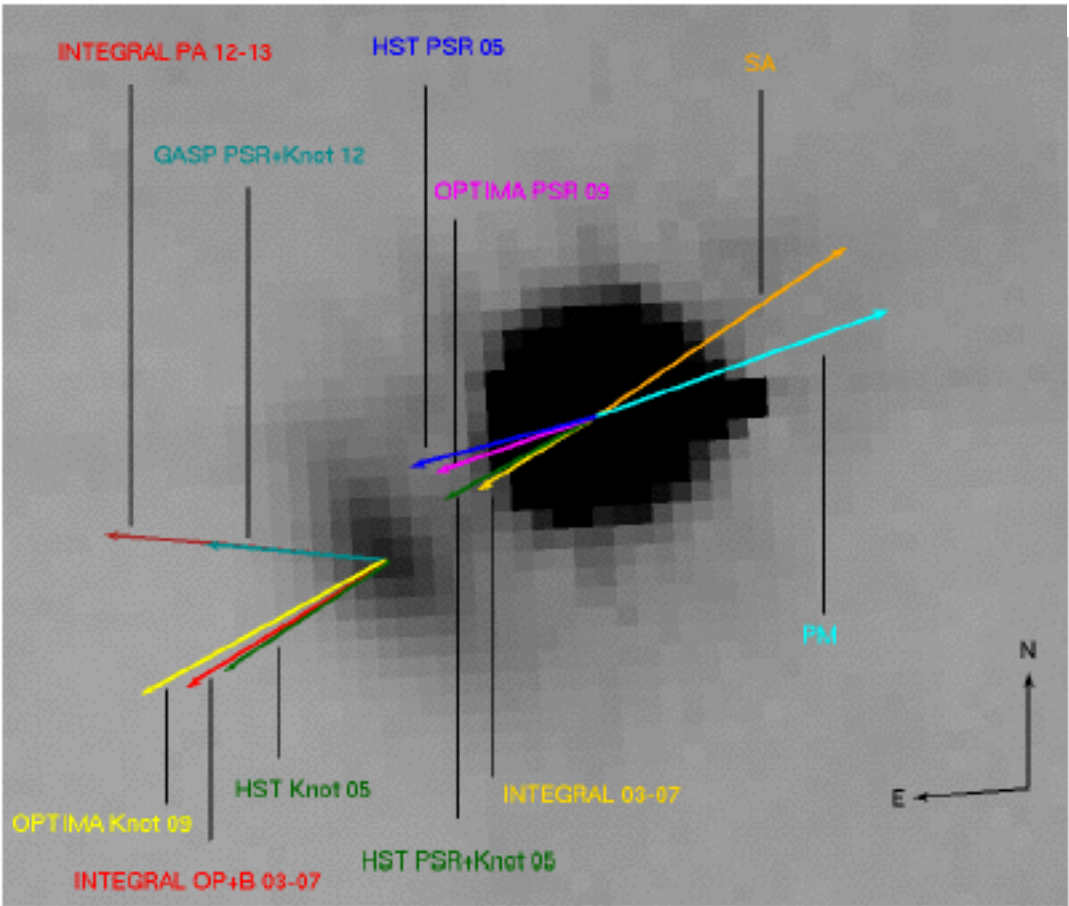


Słowikowska et al 2009

Moran et al, 2015, in prep

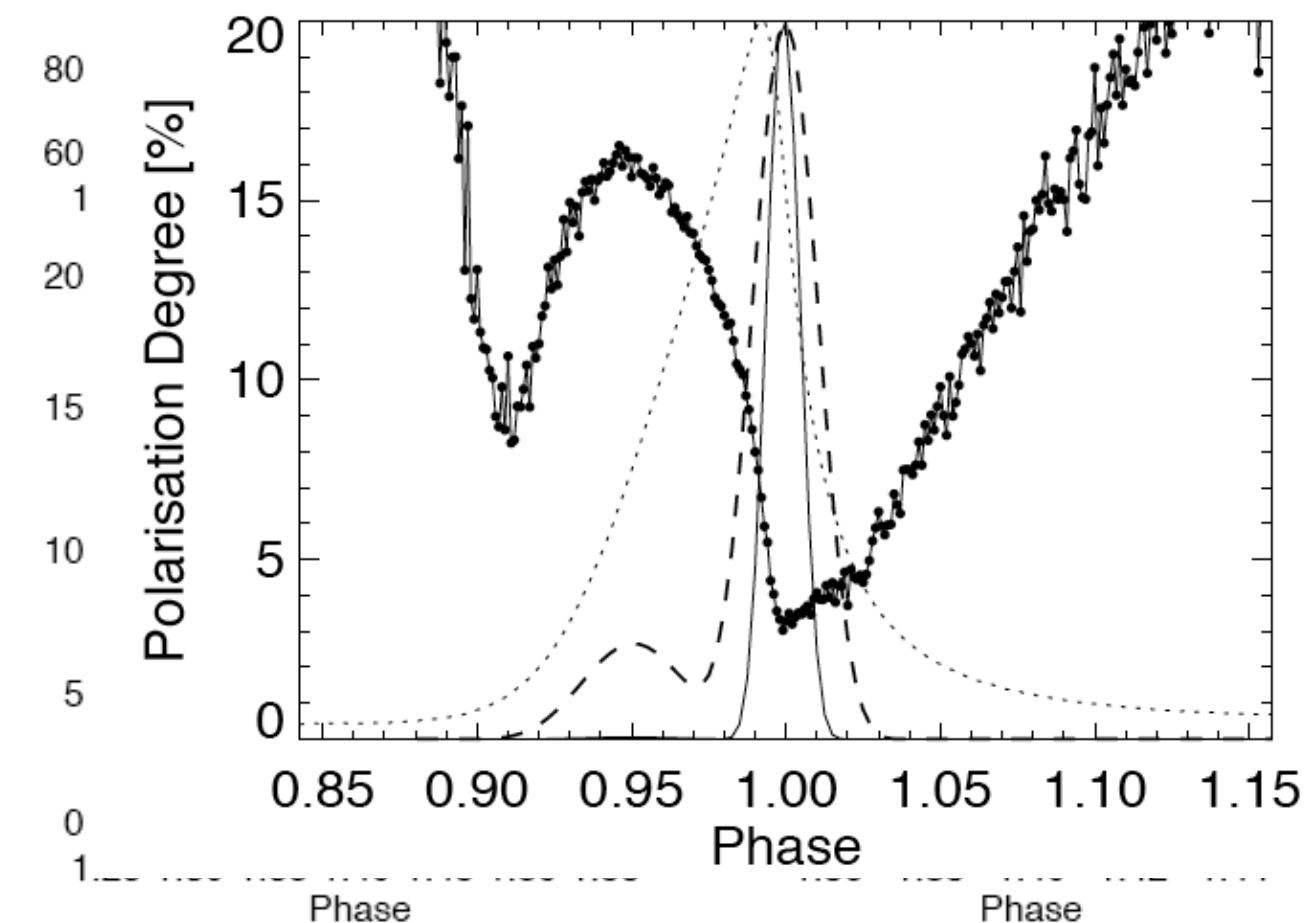
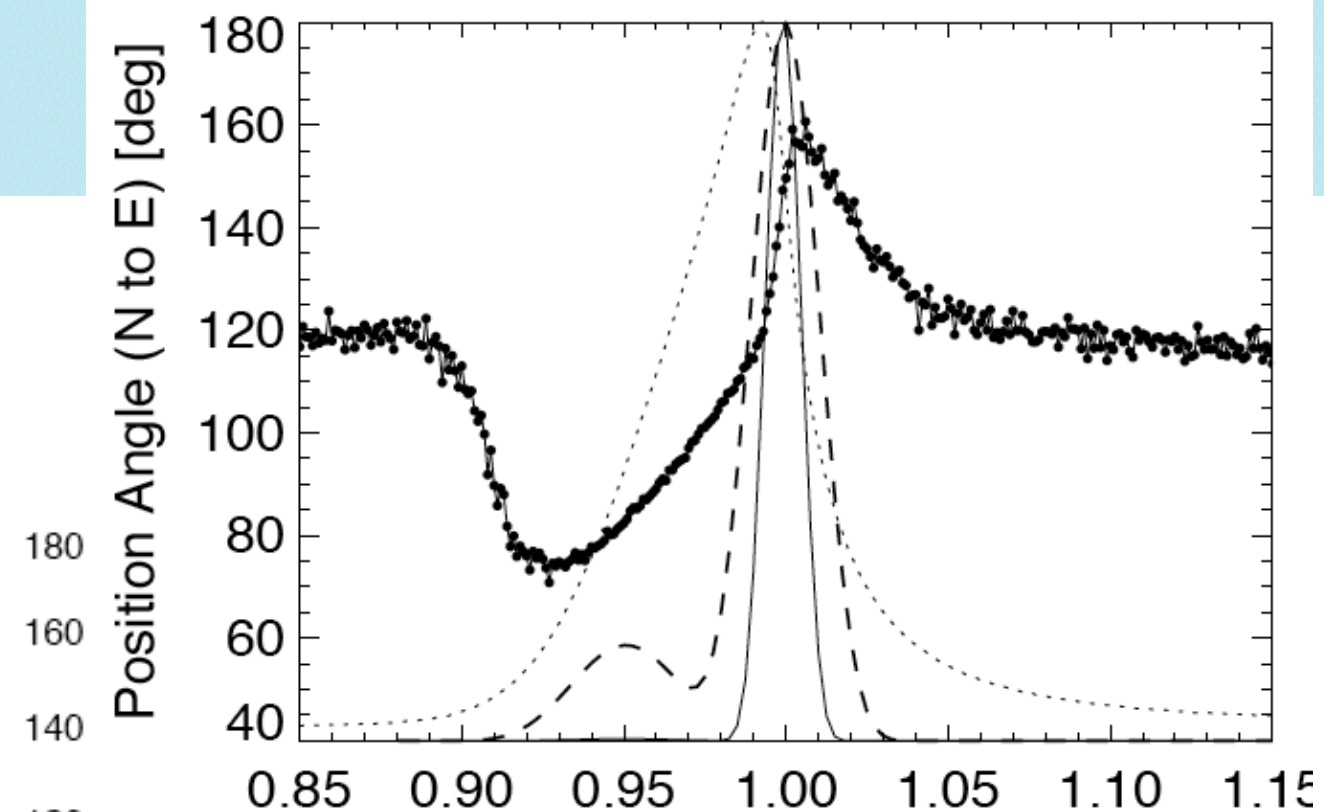
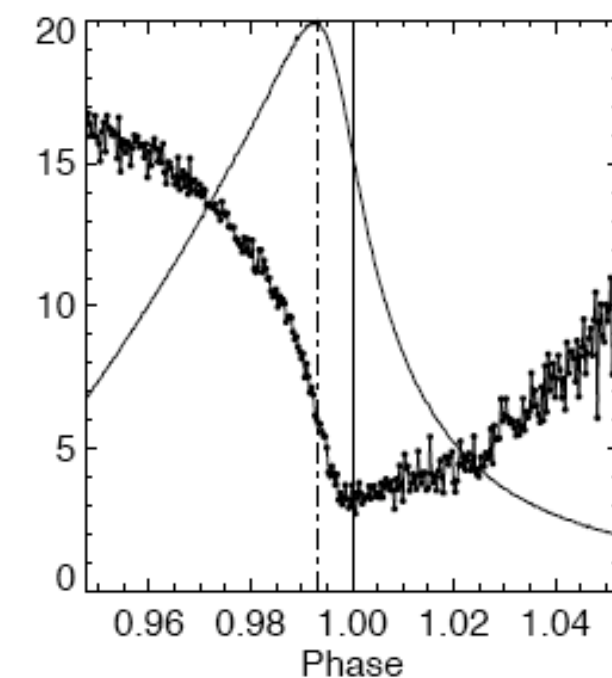
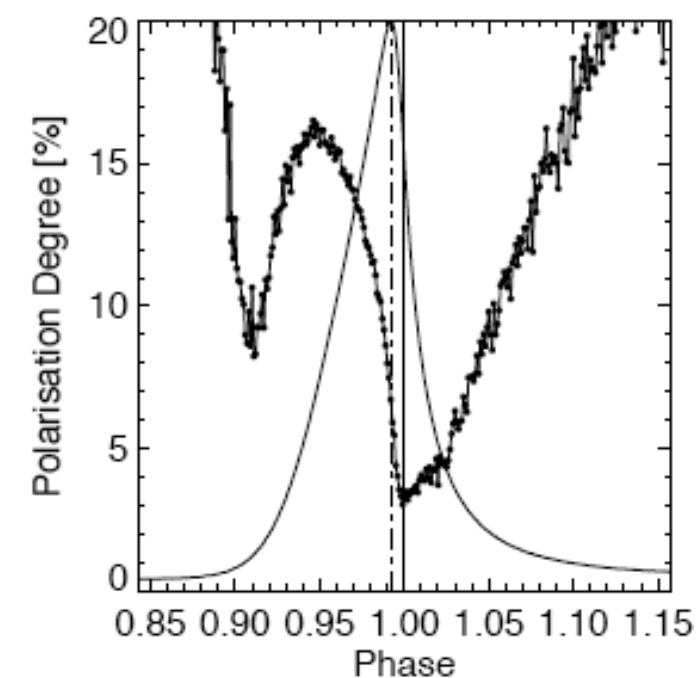
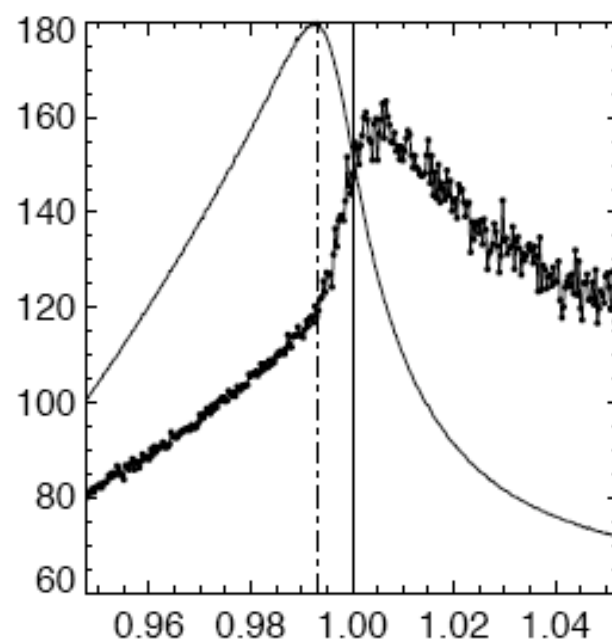
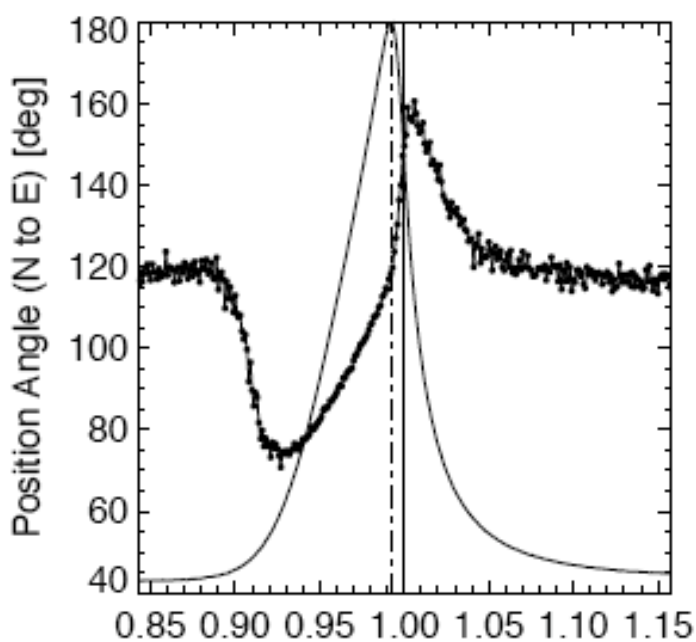


Moran et al, 2013



Crab - Optima Observations

Słowikowska et al., 2009, MNRAS.397, 103



Optical studies and particularly polarisation can separate models - taken from Słowikowska et al 2009

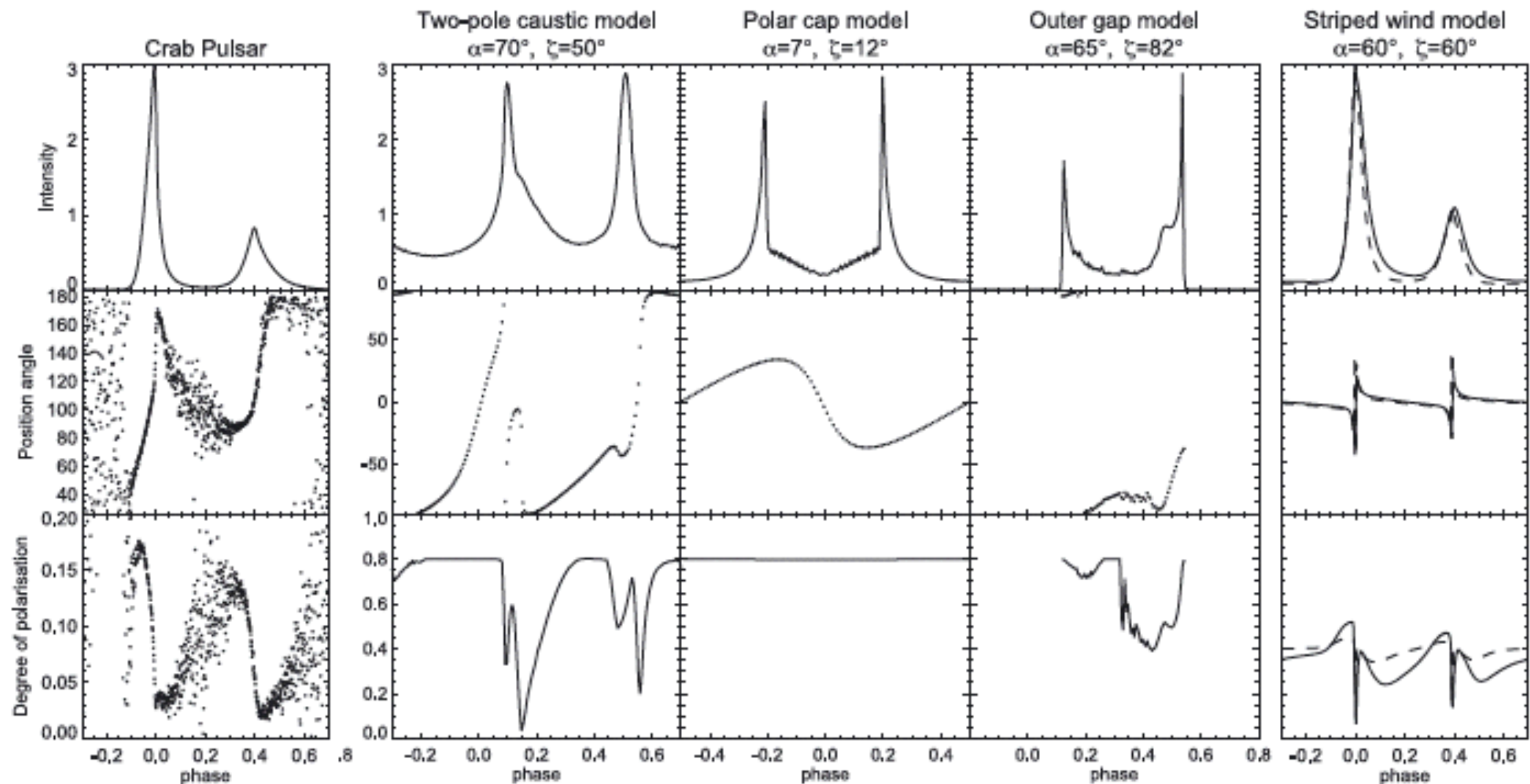


Figure 10. Comparison between observations and models. The left-hand column shows results of our measurements of the Crab pulsar (DC subtracted) optical polarization characteristics, i.e. light curve (Stokes I), PA and PD as a function of pulsar phase (from top to bottom, respectively). In the next four columns, optical light curve, PA and PD calculated for the following high-energy radiation models are shown: the two-pole caustic model; the polar cap model and outer gap model (Dyks et al. 2004b), as well as the striped wind model (Pétri & Kirk 2005). The latter model is calculated for two Lorentz factors, 20 and They are shown as solid and dashed lines, respectively. (We thank to Jarek Dyks and John Kirk for supplying the numerical values.)

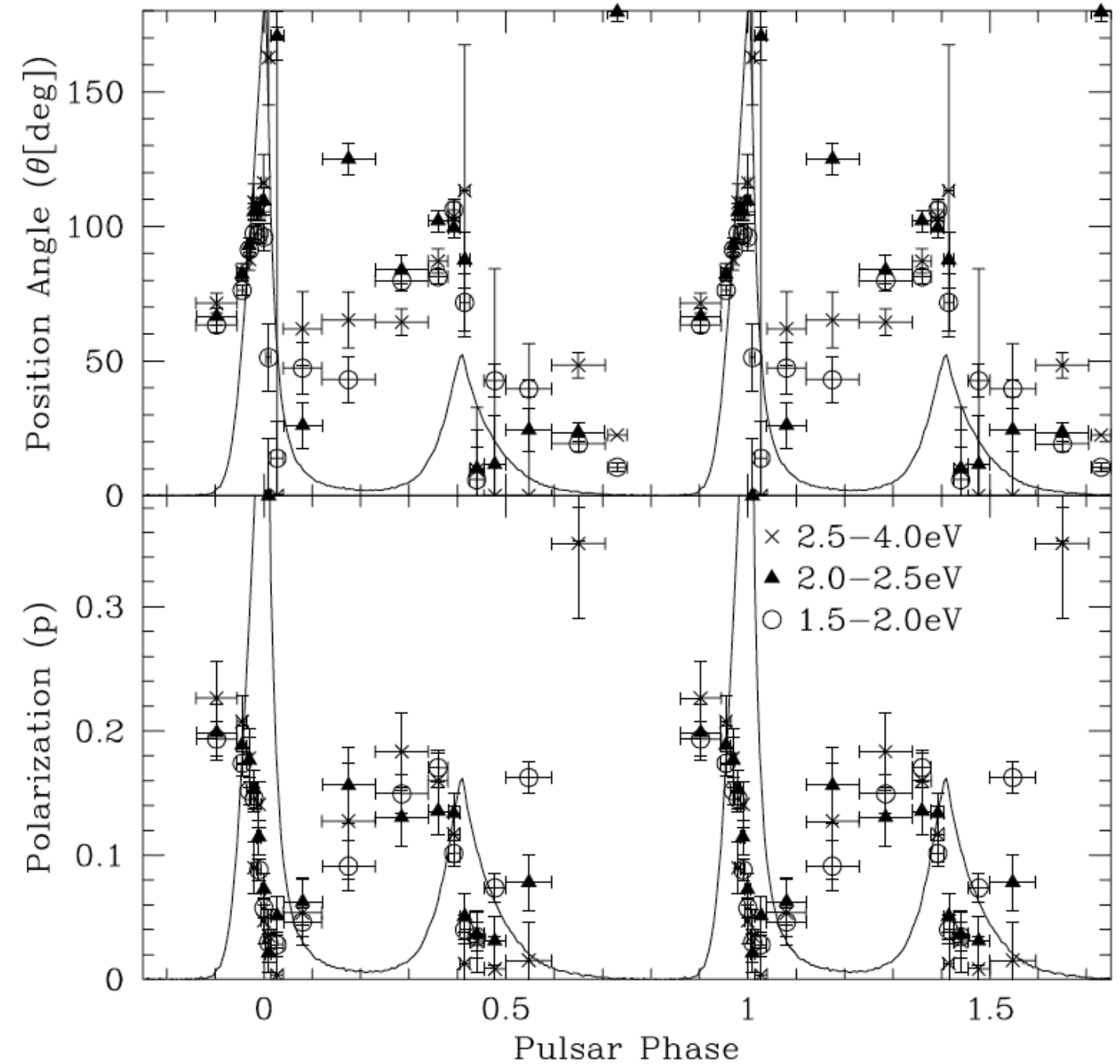
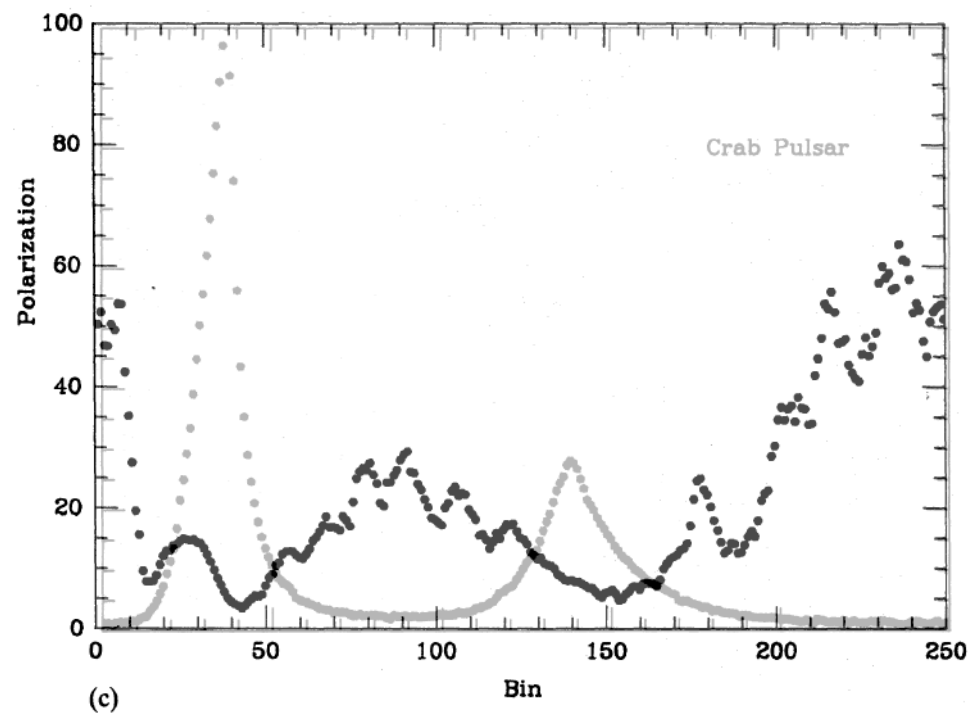
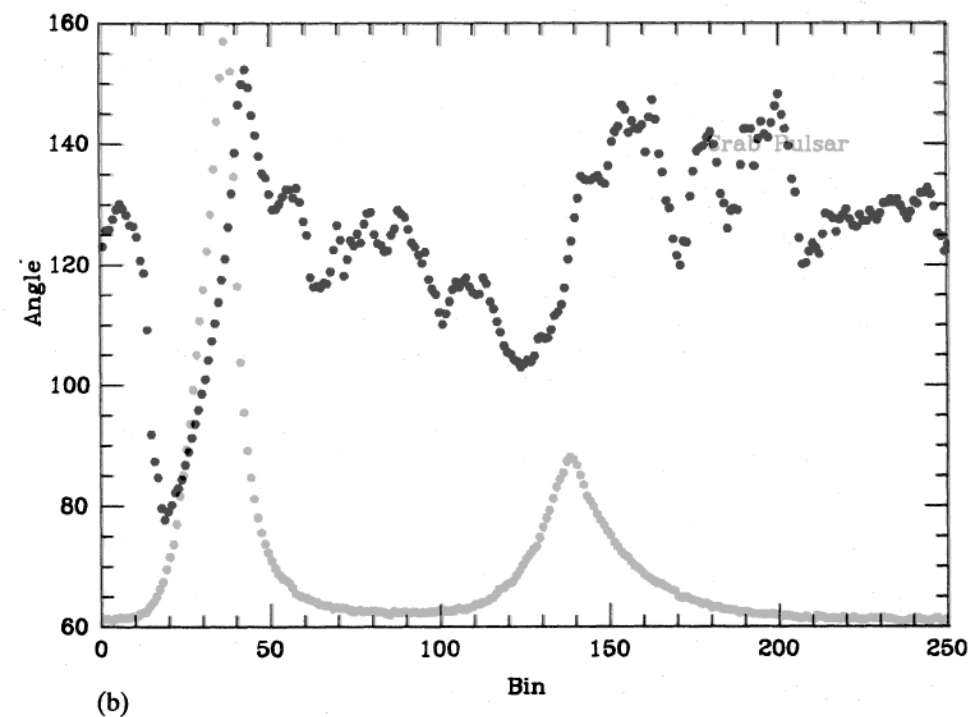
Crab - Polarisation

Polarisation studies

Smith et al, 1988, MNRAS, 233, 667

Romani et al, 2001, ApJ

Słowikowska et al., 2009, arXiv:0901.4559v1



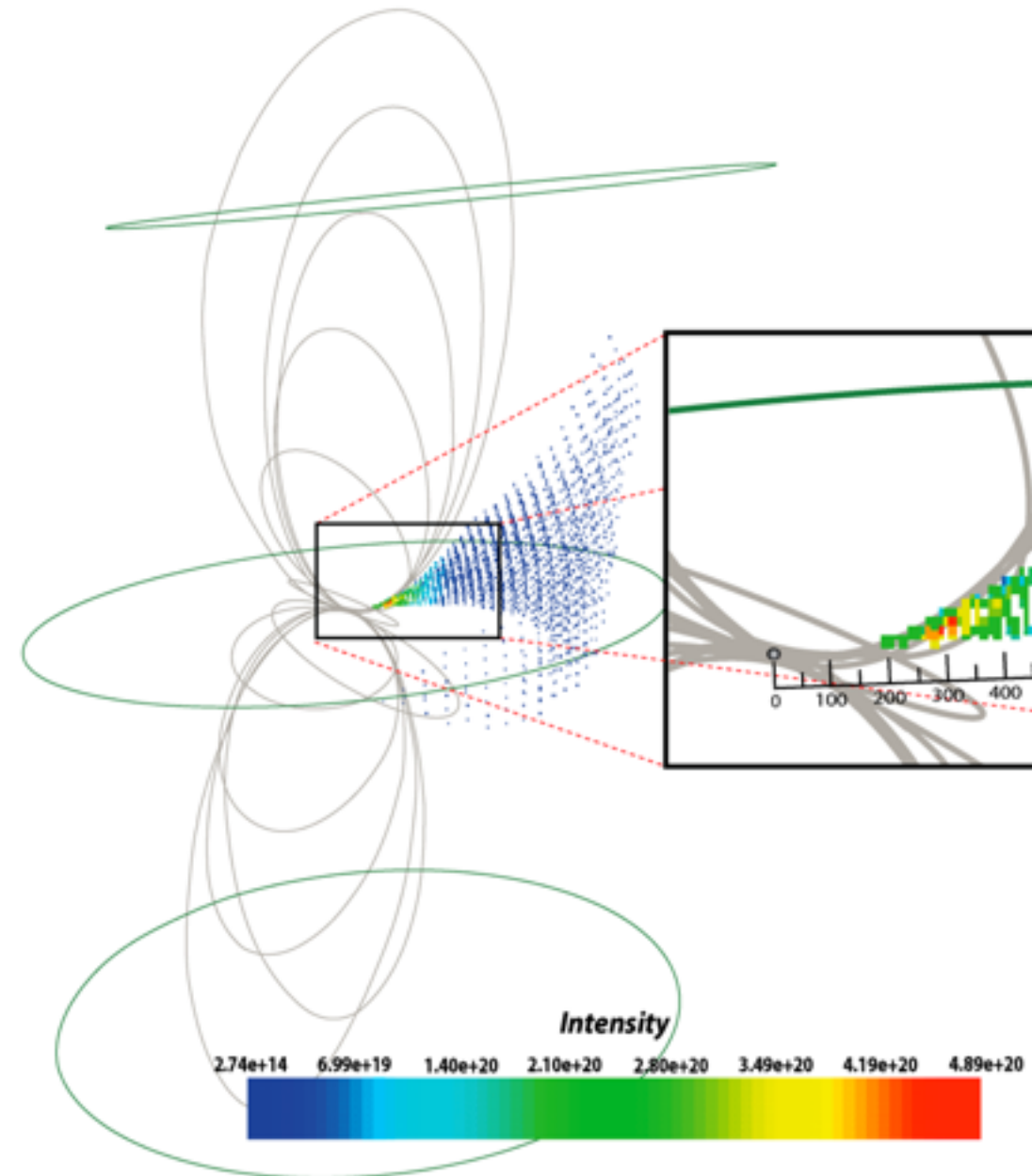
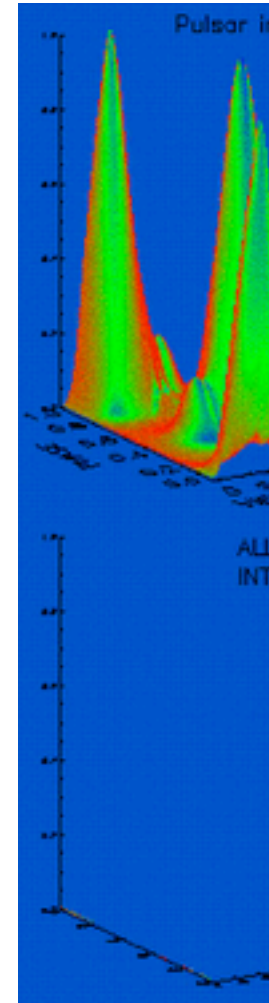
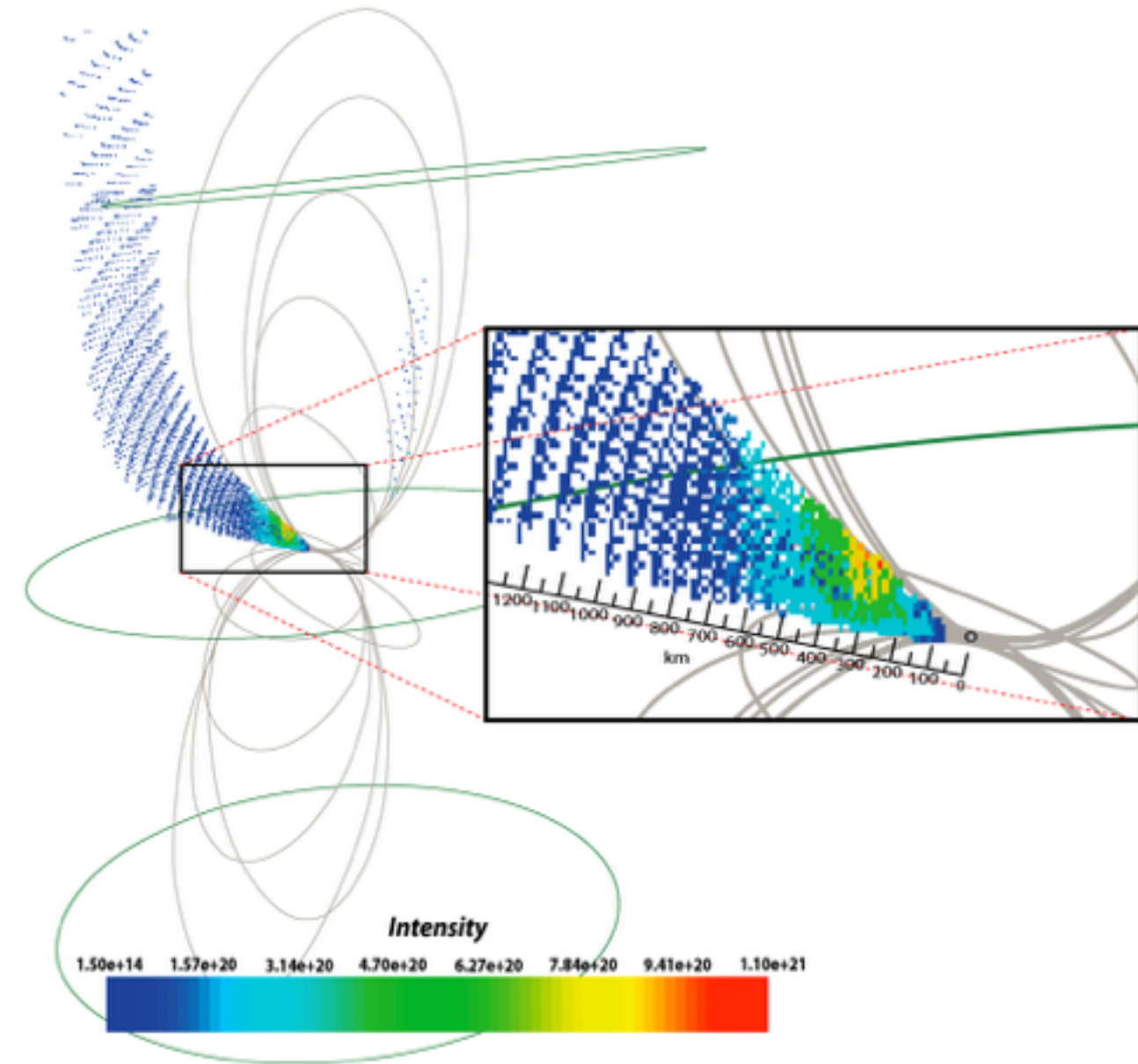
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OÉ Gaillimh

Erice 11th October 2015



Crab - Polarisation reverse engineering

McDonald et al, 2010, MNRAS



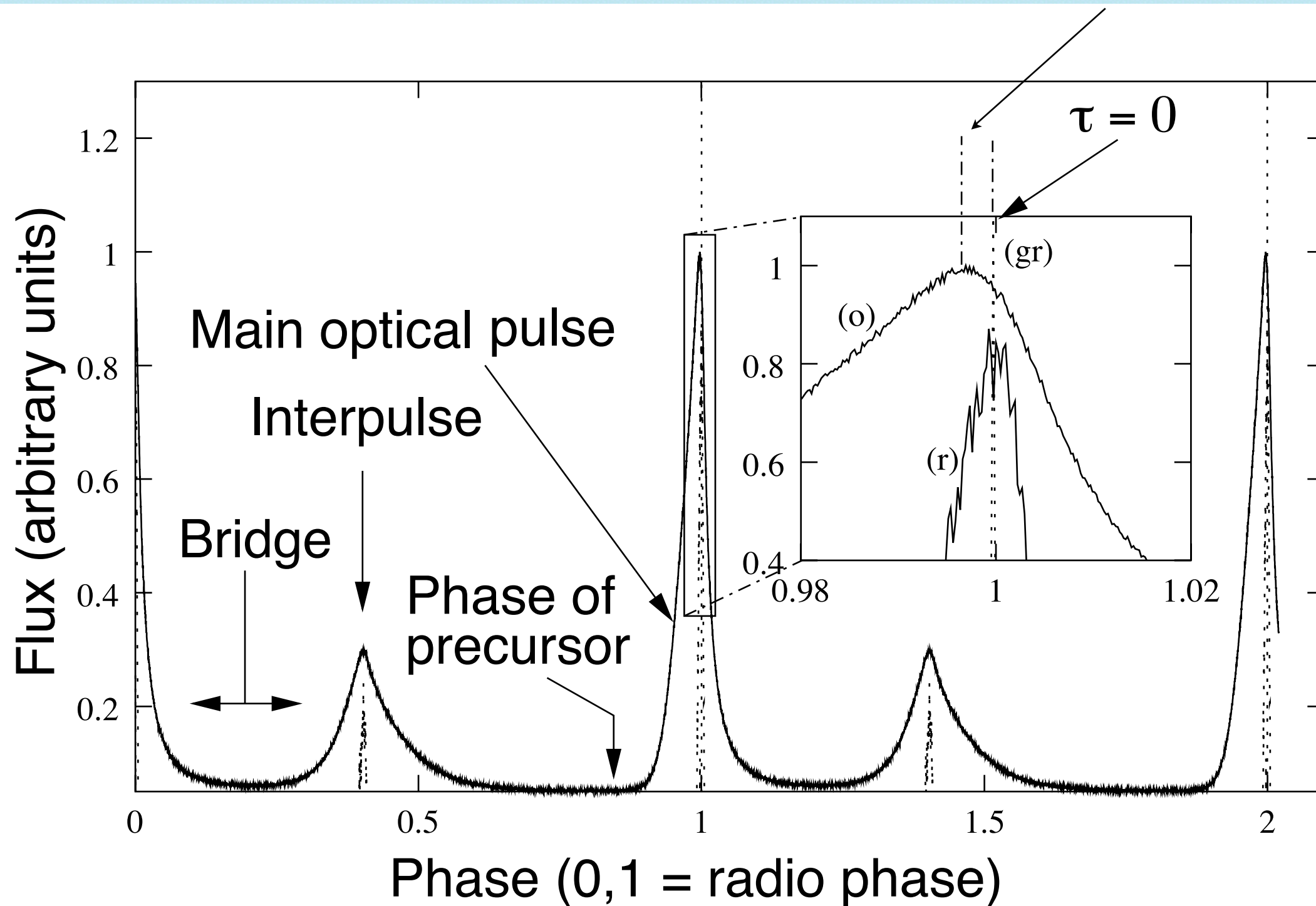
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Crab - Optical radio link

$255 \pm 21 \mu\text{s}$ - Oosterbroek et al
 $231 \pm 68 \mu\text{s}$ - Słowińska et al

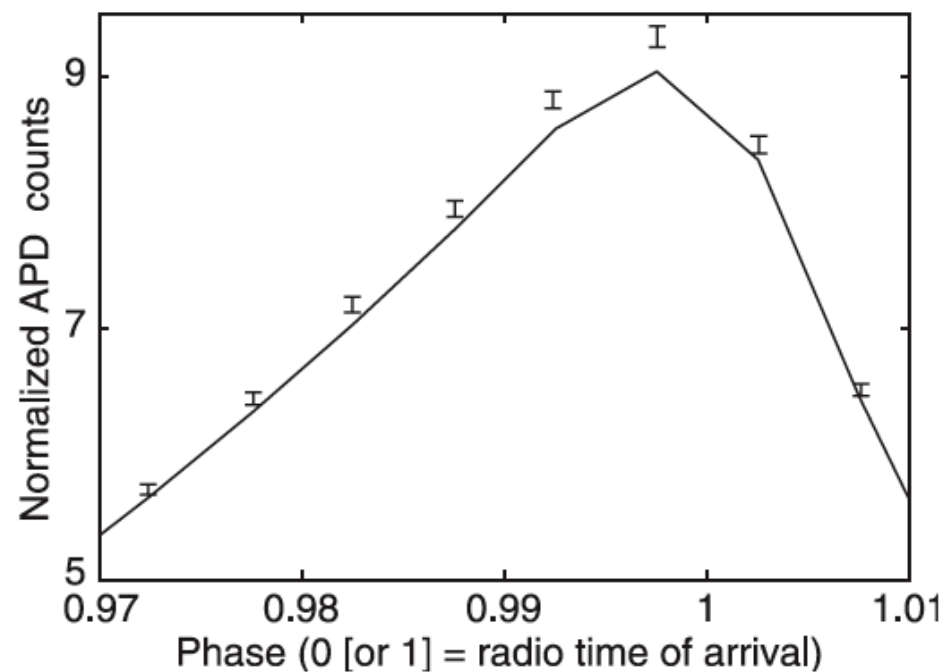


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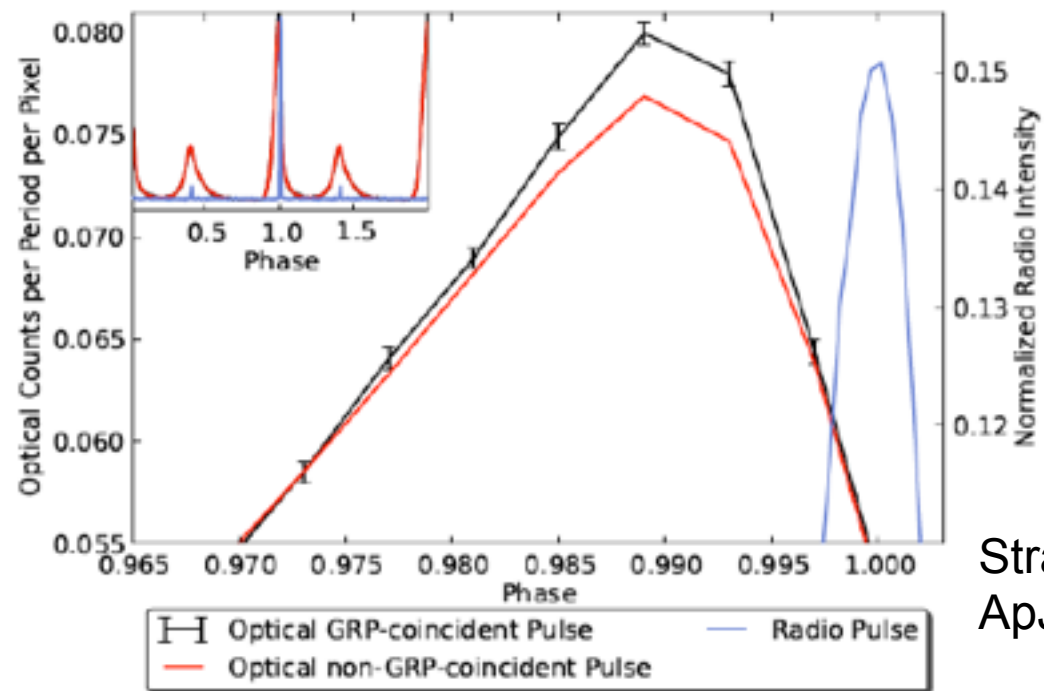
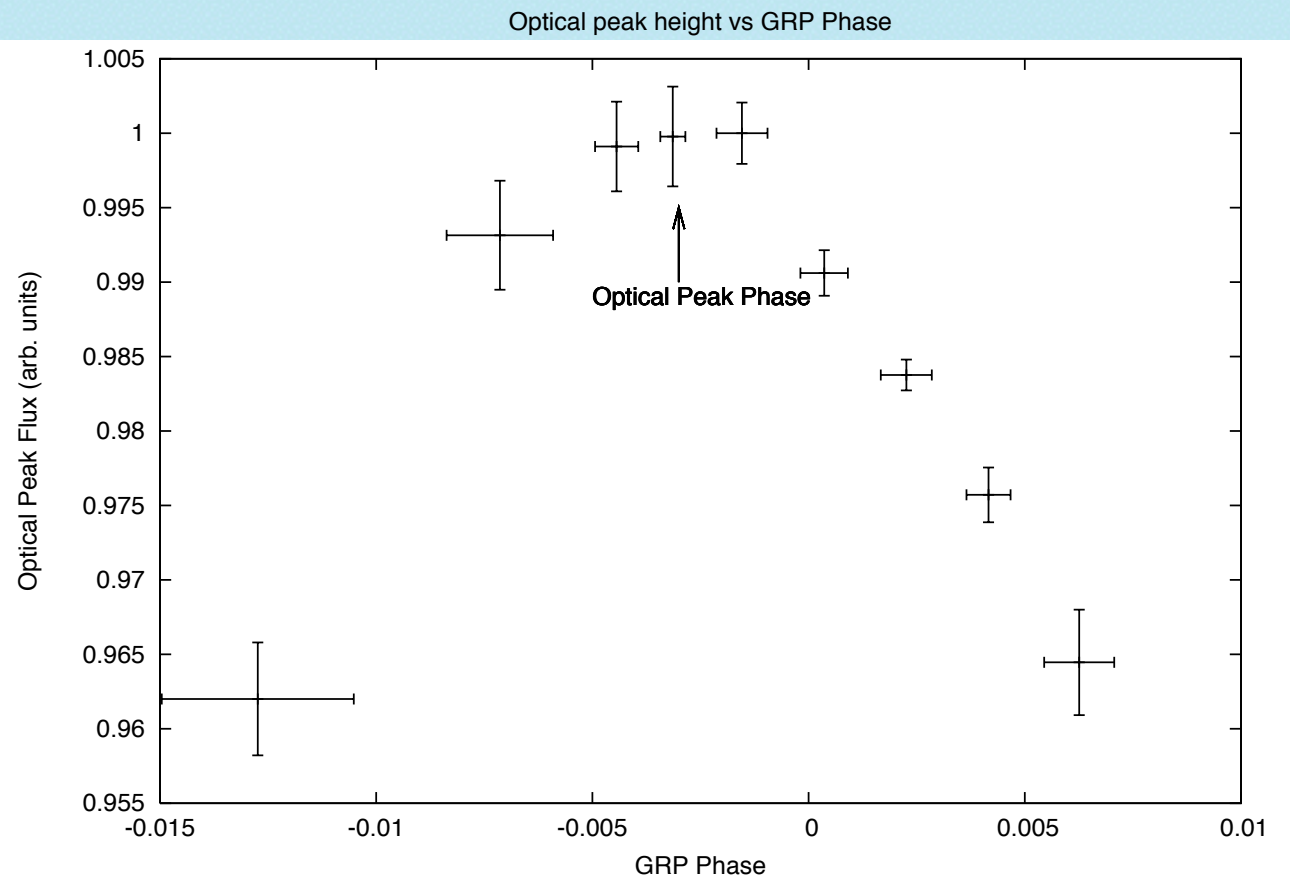
Erice 11th October 2015



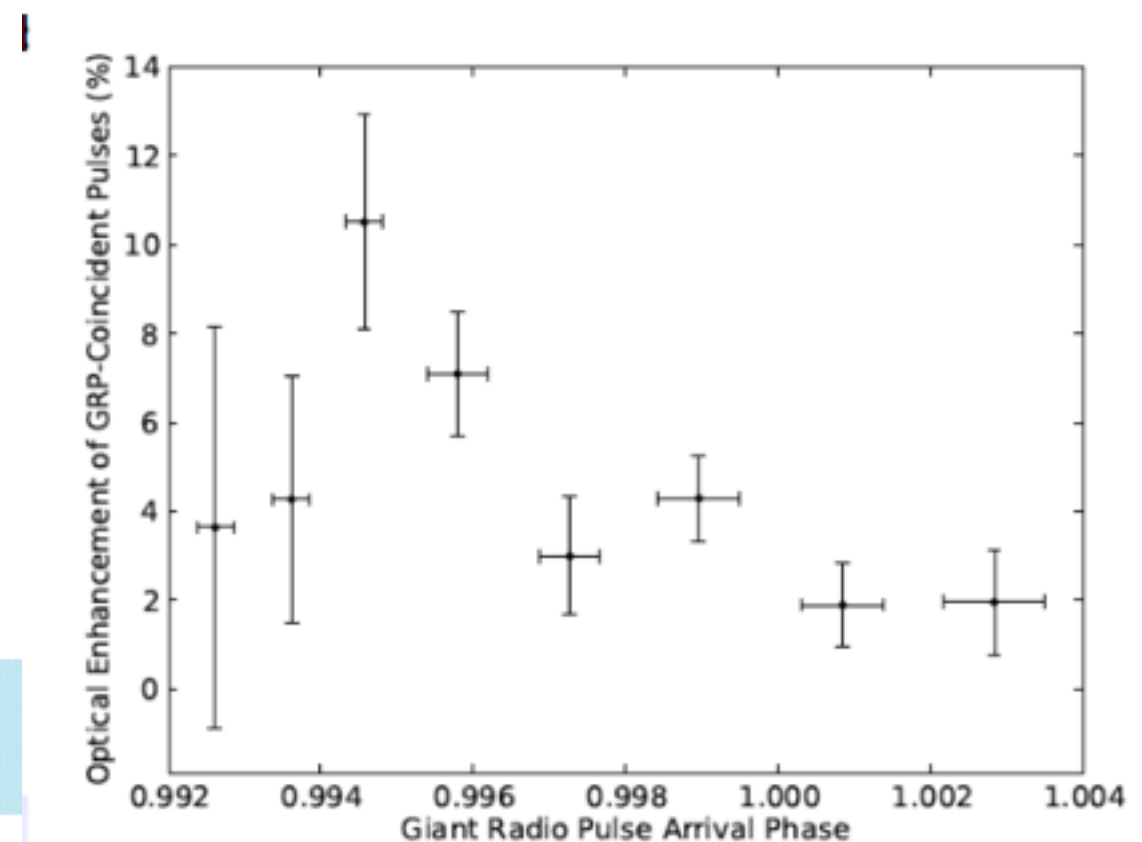
Crab - Optical Radio link - Giant Radio Pulses



Shearer et al, 2003, Science, 301, 493



Strader et al, 2013, ApJ, 779, L12

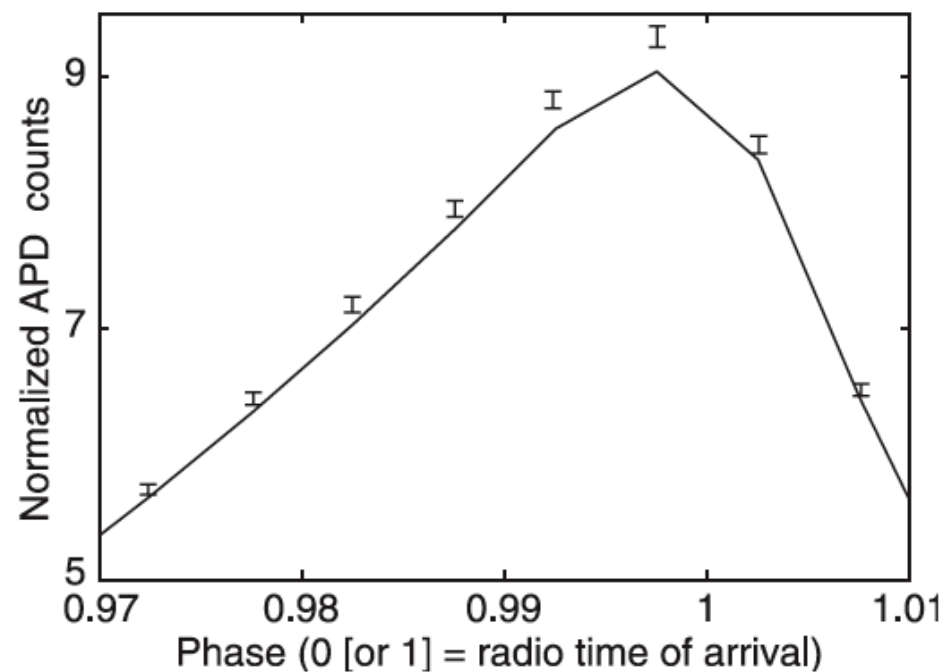


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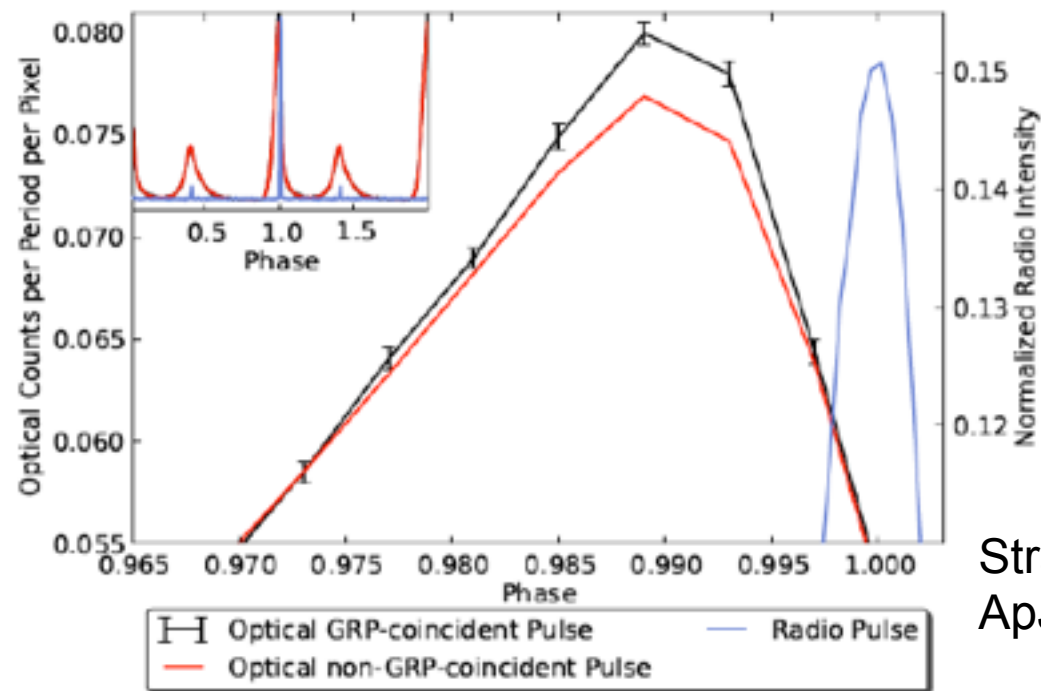
Asiago March 1st 2013



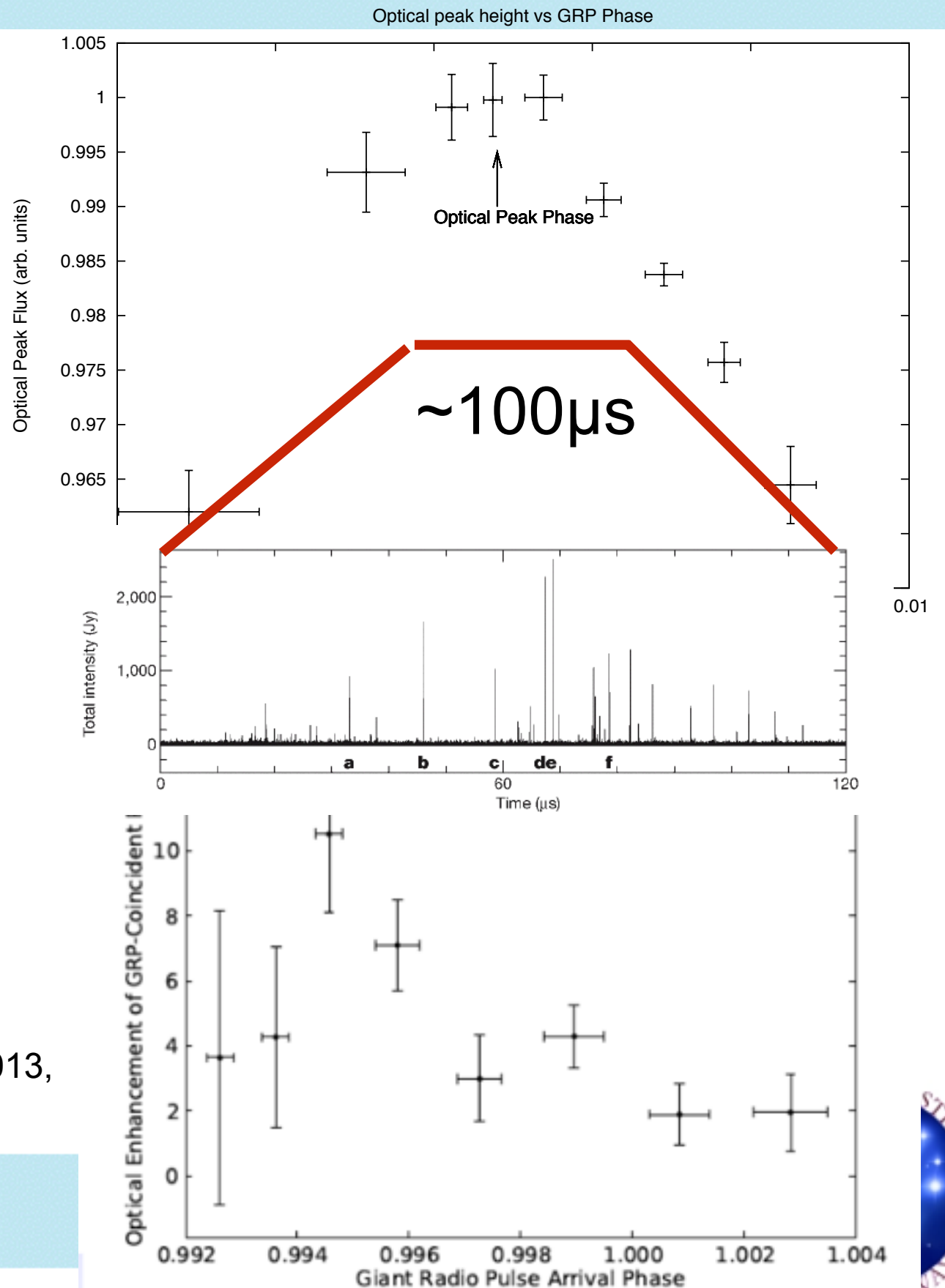
Crab - Optical Radio link - Giant Radio Pulses



Shearer et al, 2003, Science, 301, 493



Strader et al, 2013, ApJ, 779, L12

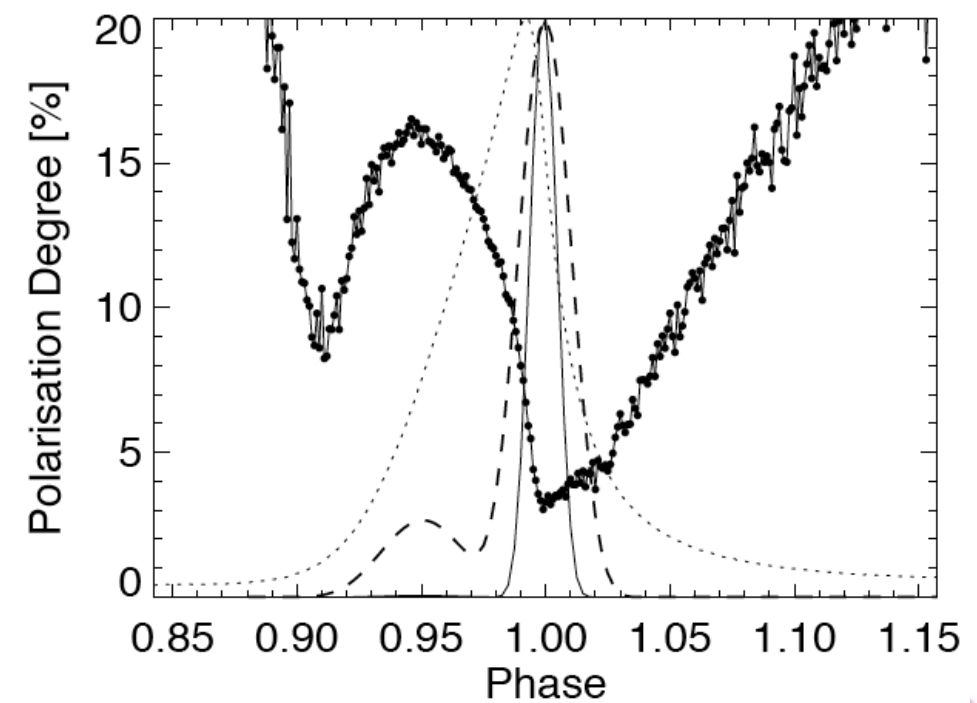
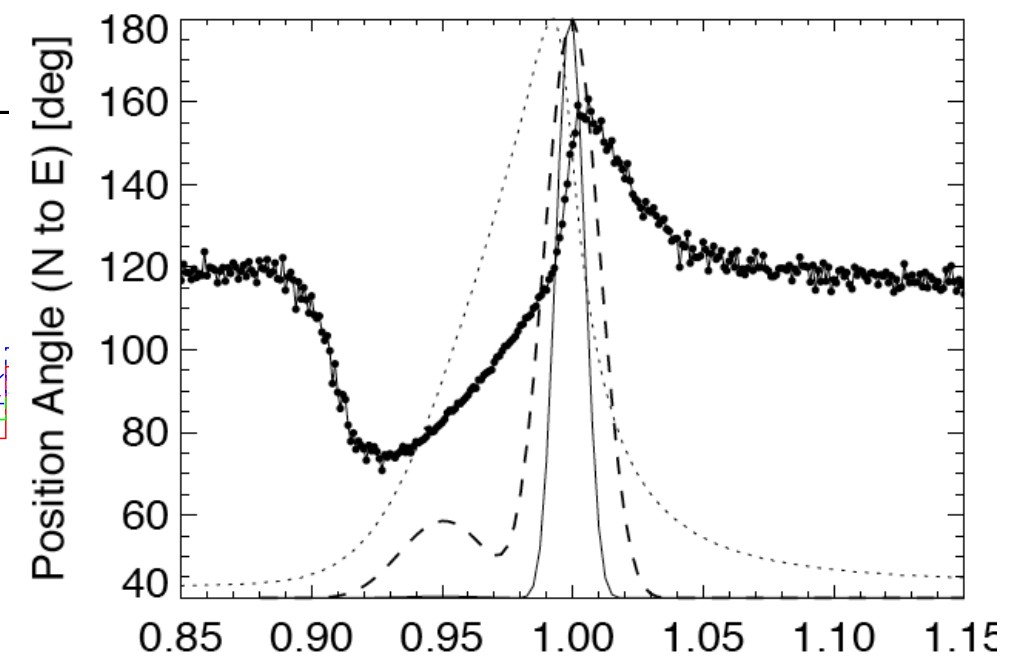
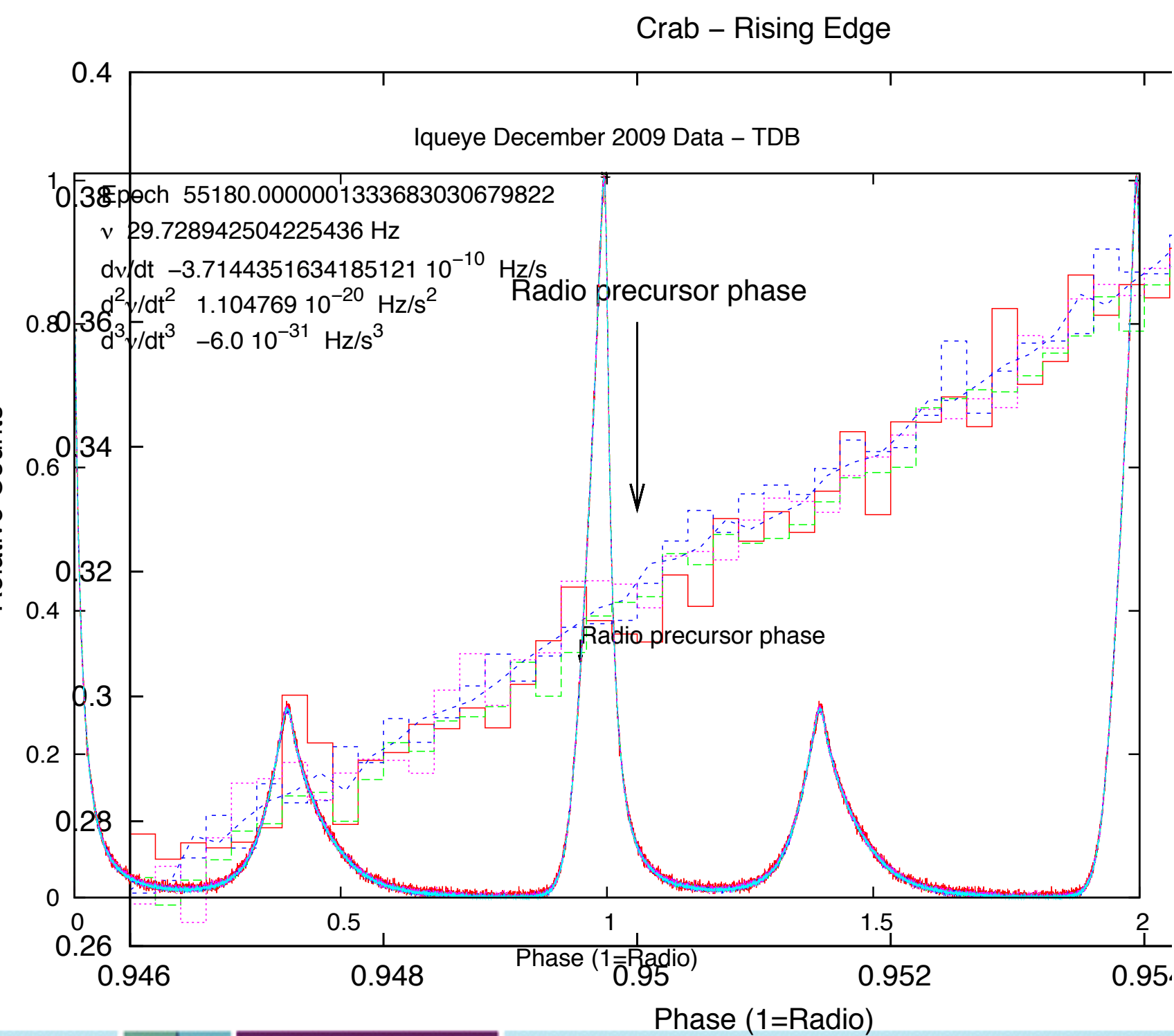


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Asiago March 1st 2013



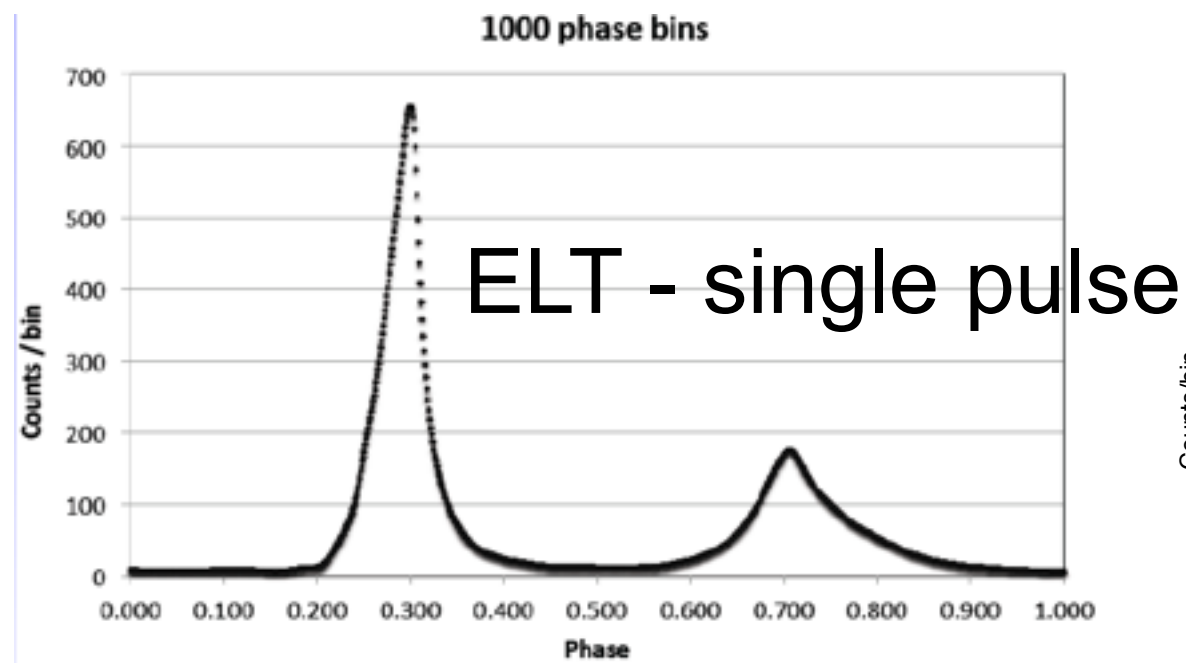
Crab - rising edge



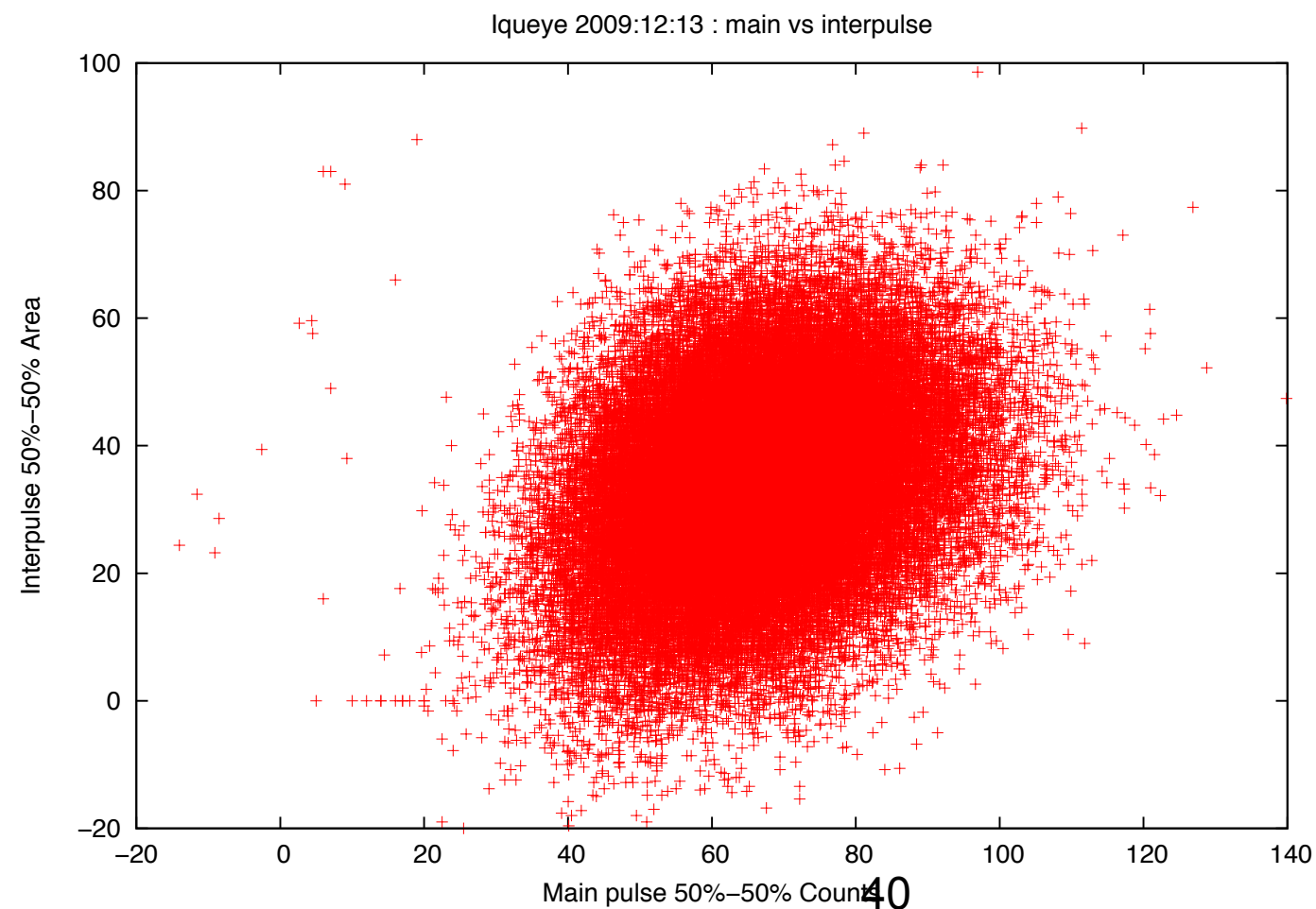
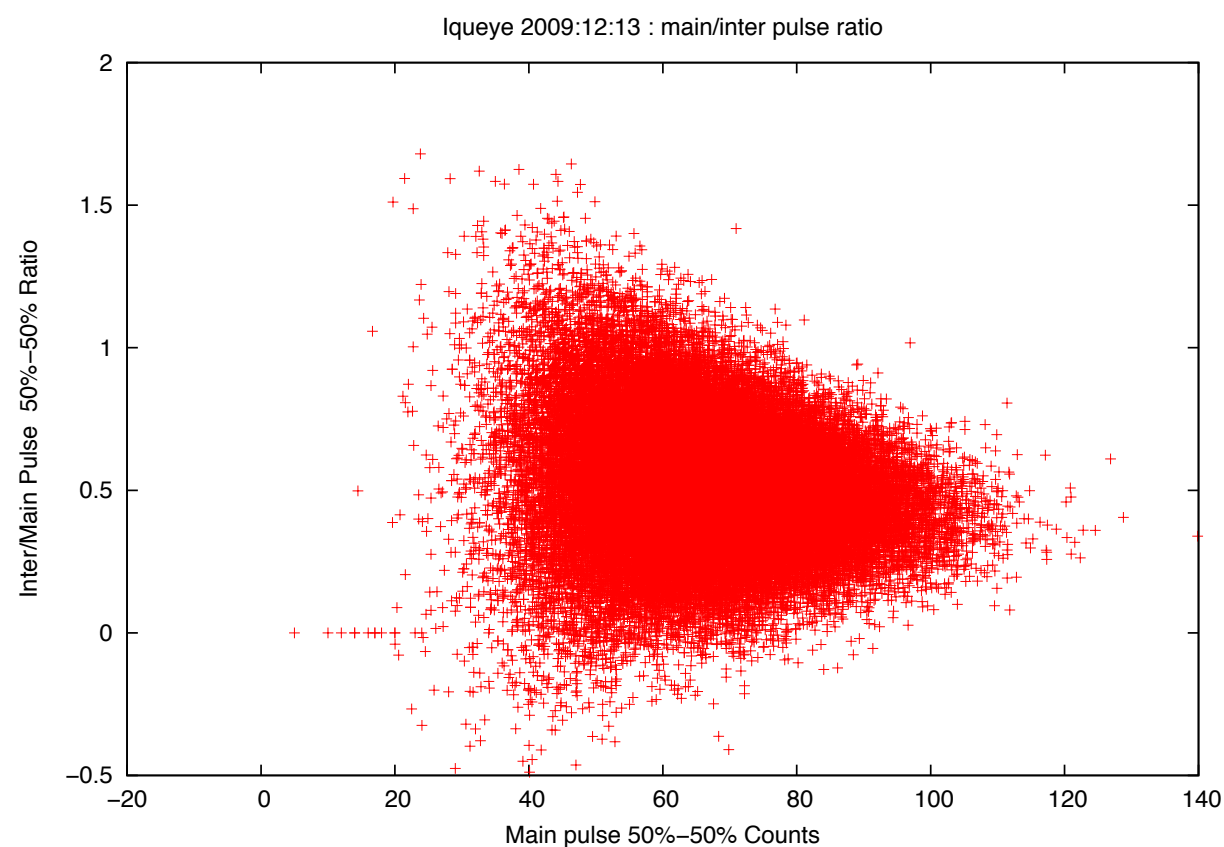
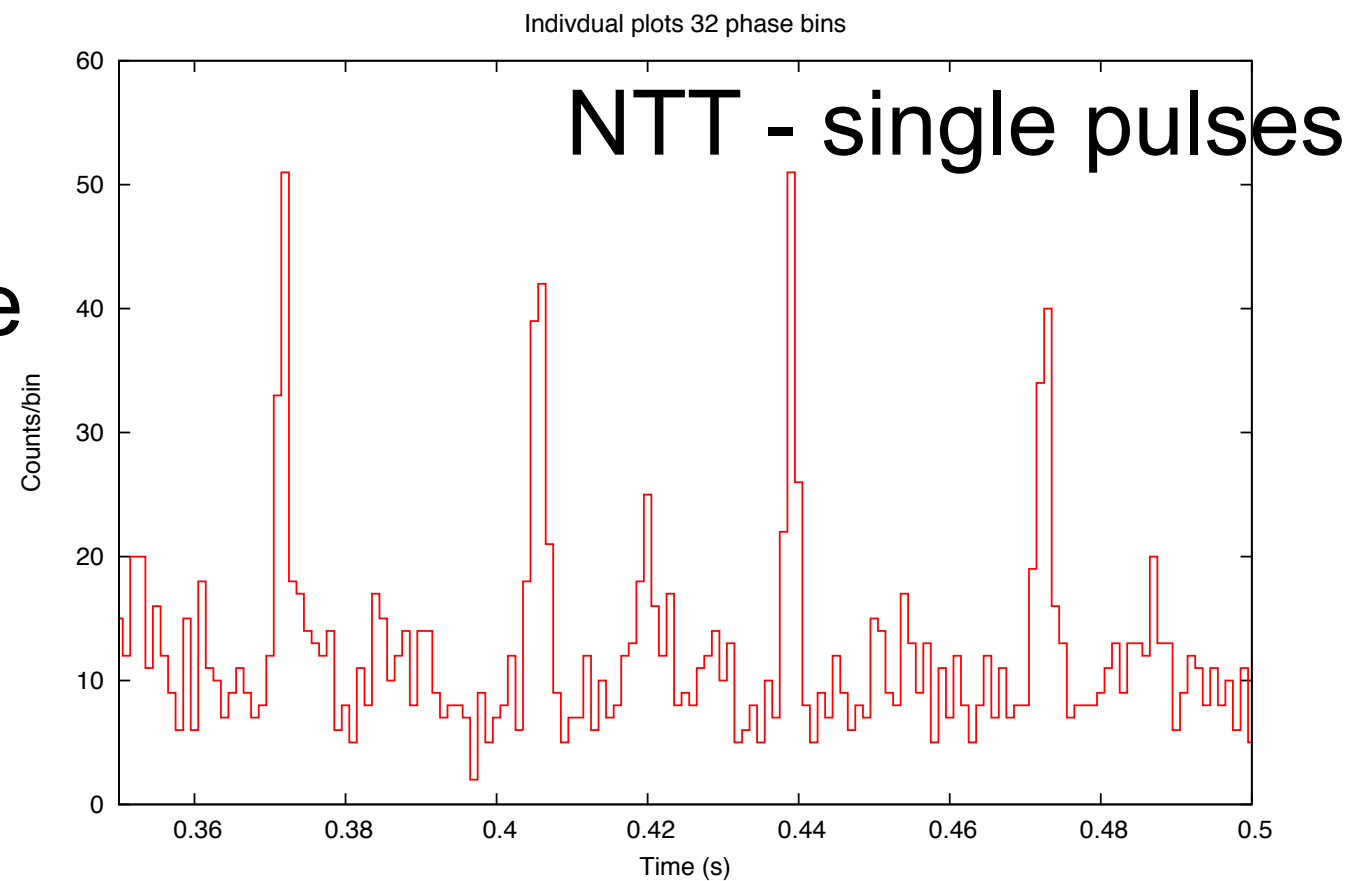
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Stochastic variability?



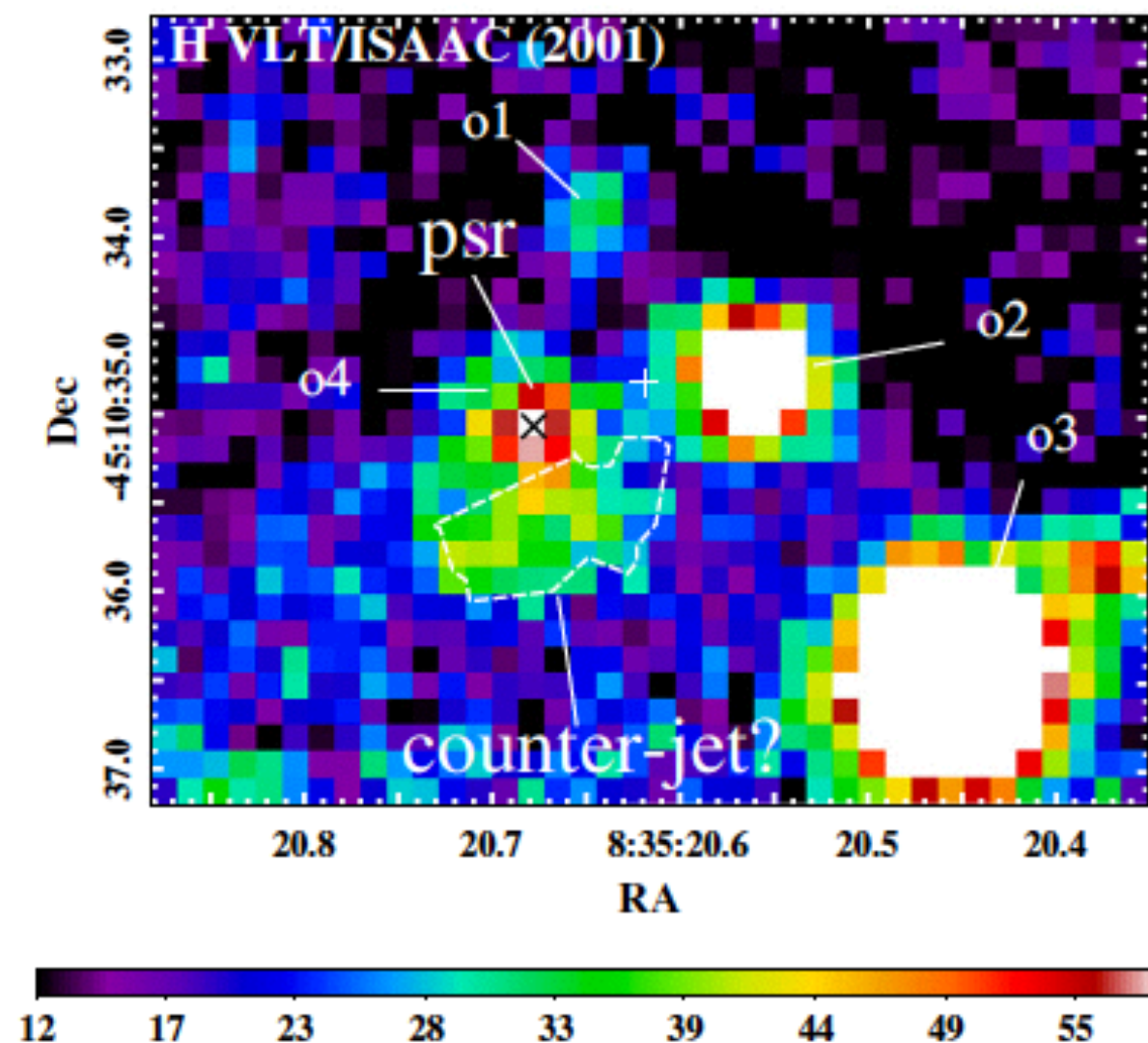


Figure 1. $5''.5 \times 4''.5$ fragment of the Vela pulsar vicinity as seen with the VLT/ISAAC (2001) observations. The pulsar and nearby field objects are marked using notations from Shibano et al. (2003). A dashed line indicates the projection of the X-ray counter-jet axis on the sky. The blue label 'counter-jet?' indicates the likely counter-jet feature. The long and short arrows indicate the extended feature, respectively. The polygon is the aperture used for the photometry.

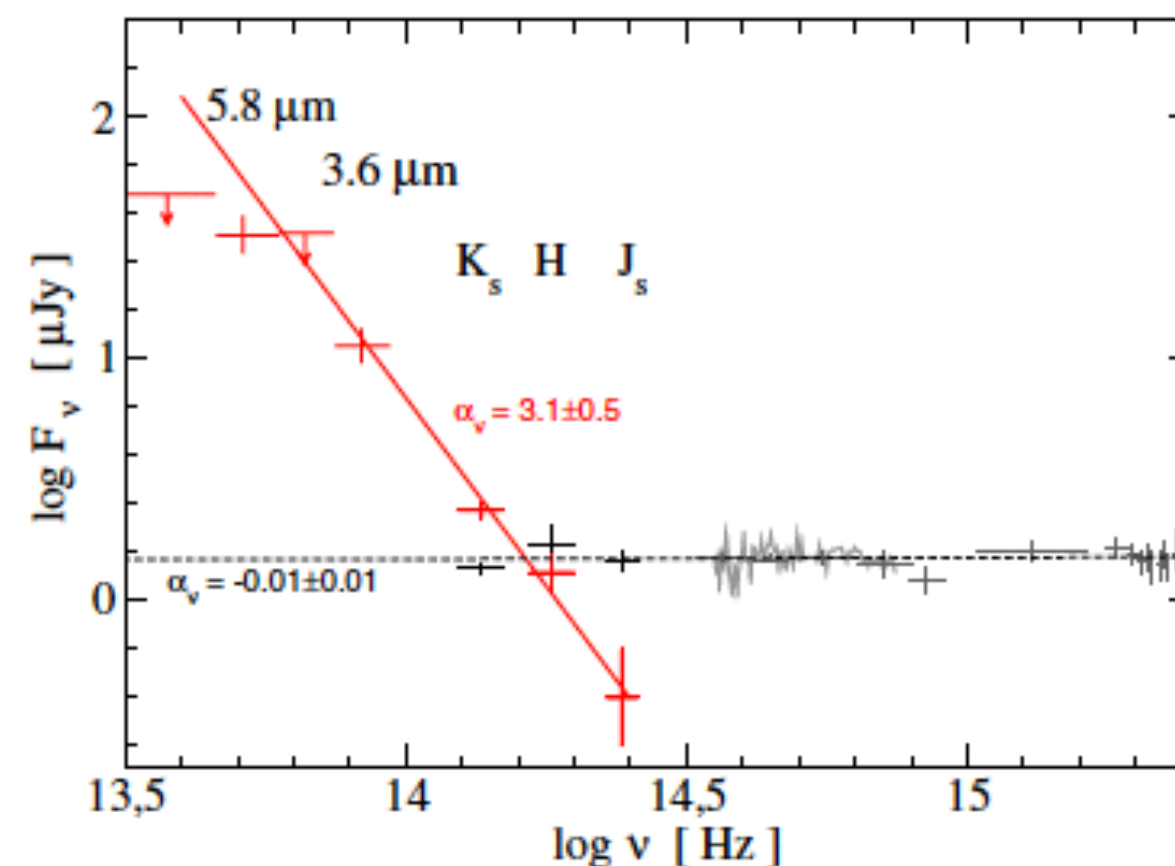
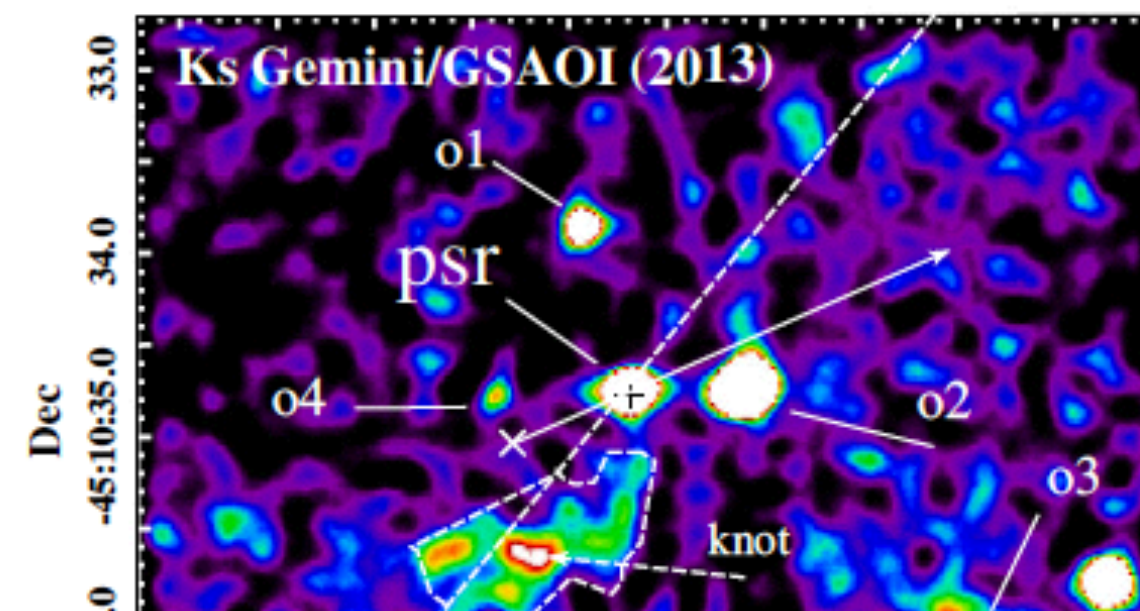
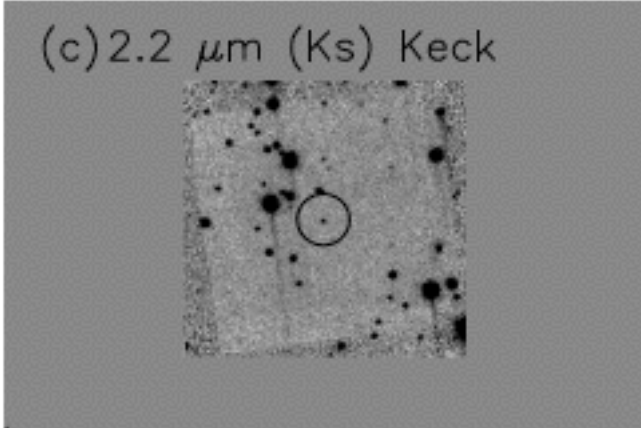
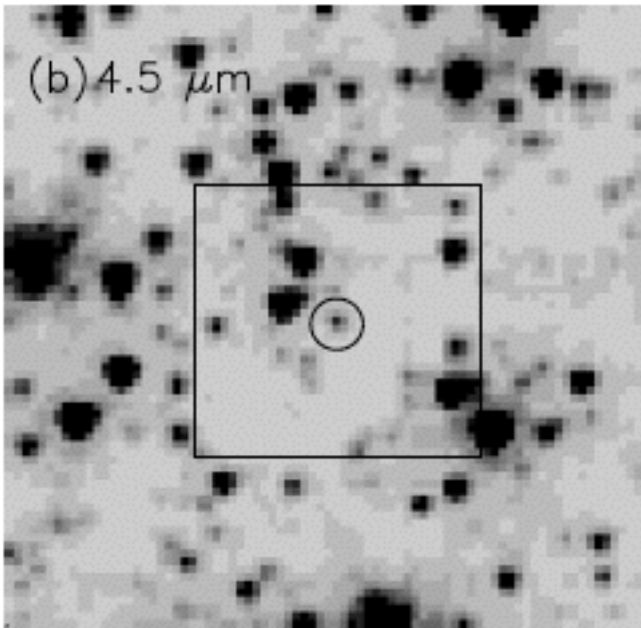
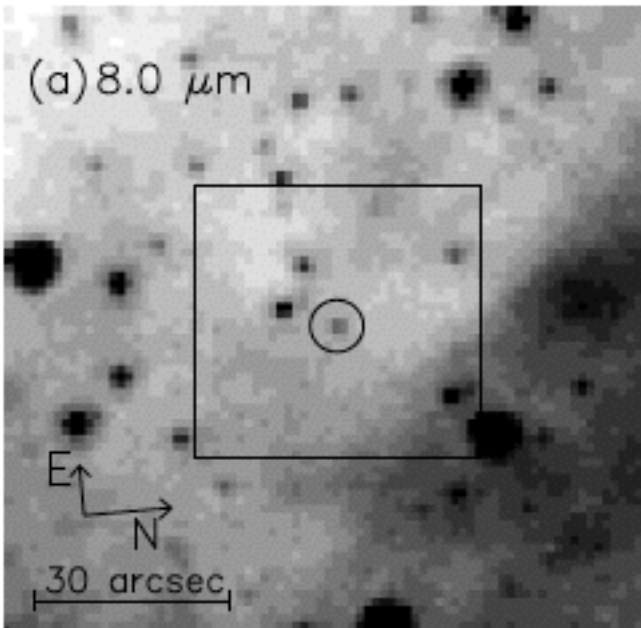


Figure 2. IR–UV spectra of the Vela pulsar (black/gray) and the likely counter-jet feature (red). The UV–optical data are from Romani et al. (2005) and Mignani et al. (2007) and the IR data are from Shibano et al. (2003) and Danilenko et al. (2011). The dashed line approximates the flat UV–optical spectrum of the pulsar. The red line is the best fit to the near-IR fluxes of the counter-jet. The index α_v is defined as $F_v \propto \nu^{-\alpha_v}$.

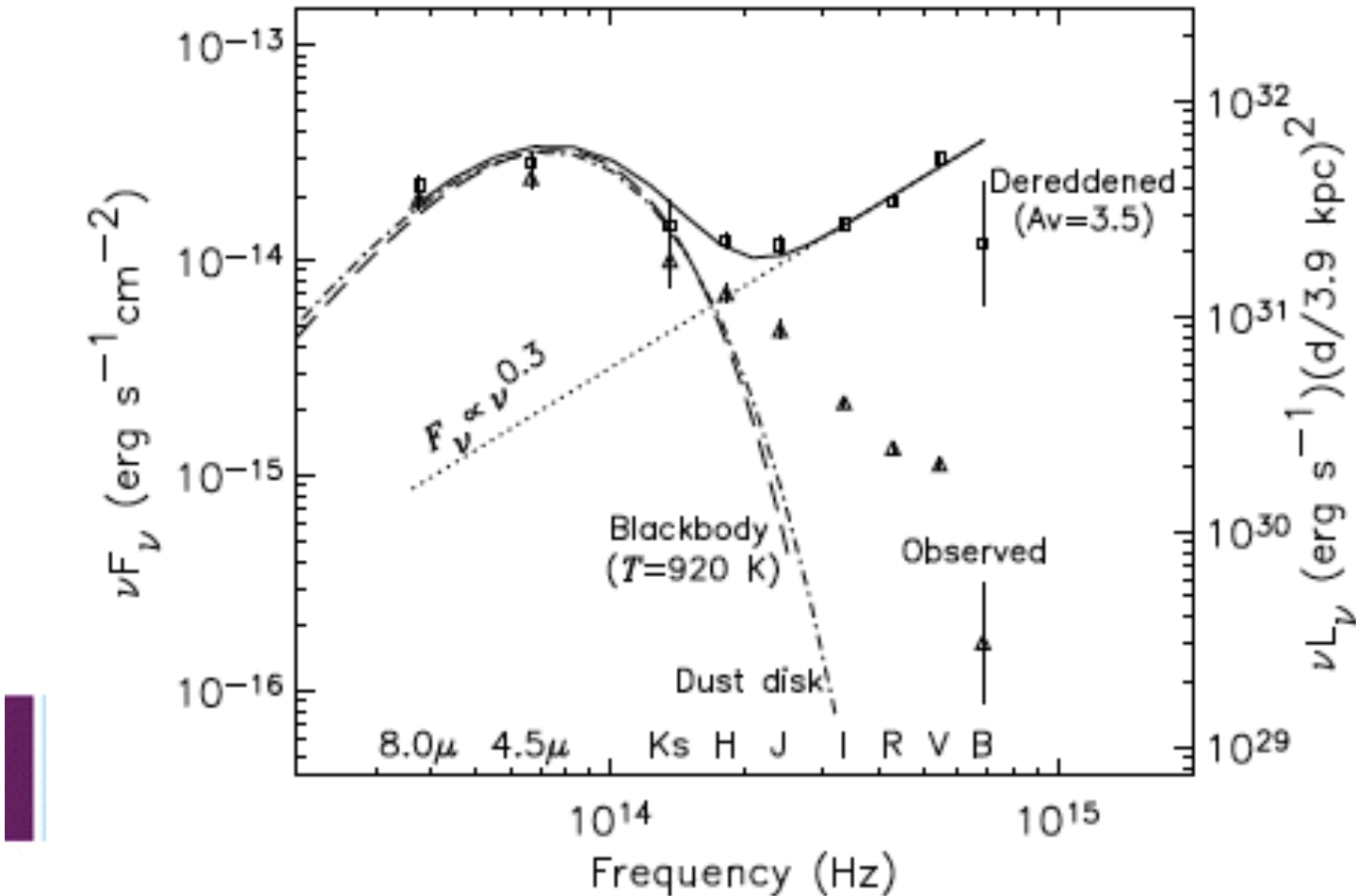
Vela : K Band

Optical/NIR Magnetars

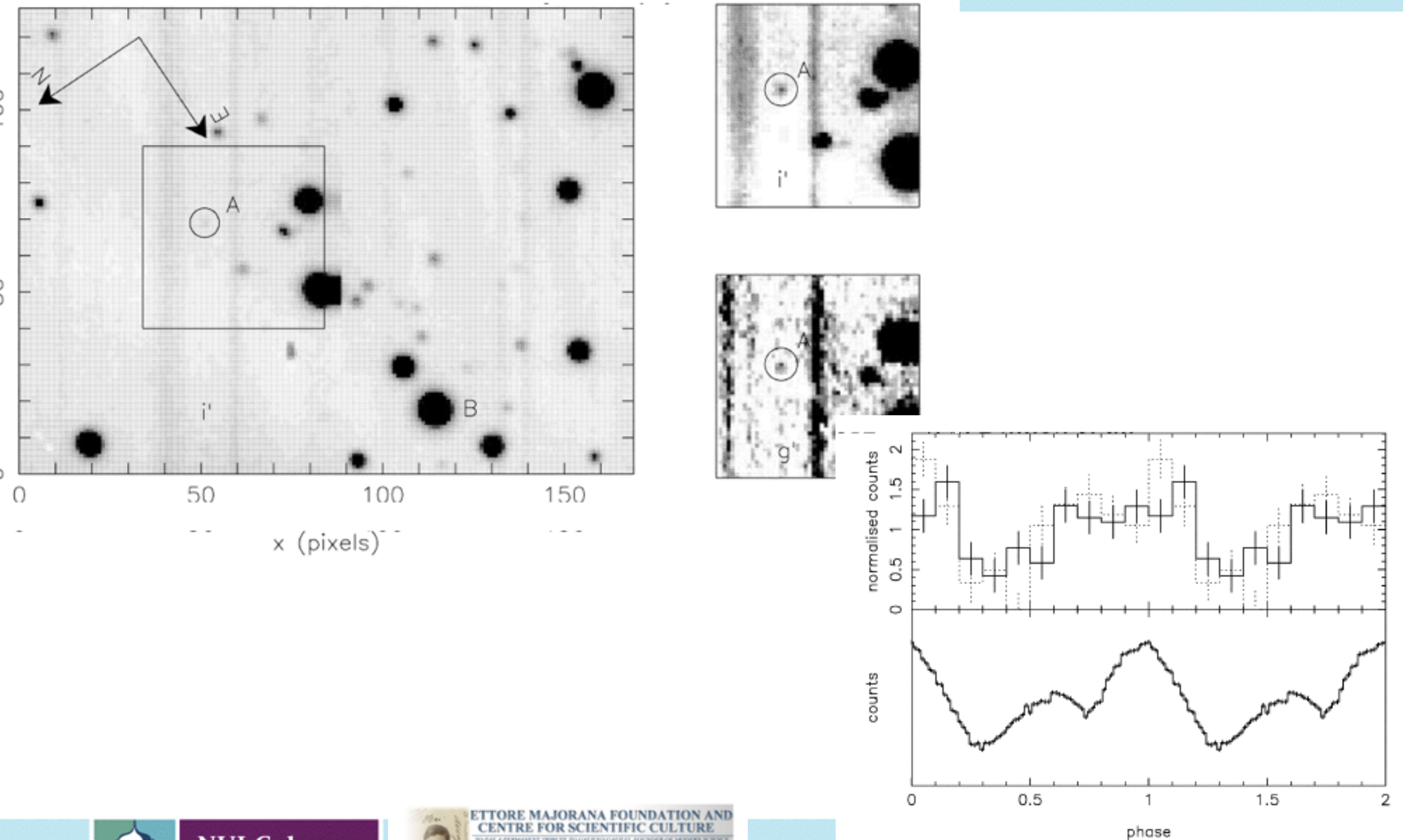
4U 01642+61 : Wang et al, 2006, Nature, 440, 772



SGR1806-20	2004	3.14	20.1	15	29	IR
1E 1547.0-5408	2009	3.14	18.5	9	17	IR
1E 1048.1-5937	2004	3.63	21.3	3	6.1	OIR
XTE J1810-197	2004	3.75	20.8	4	5.1	IR
SGR 0501+4516	2009	4.1	19.1	~2	5	IR
4U 0142+61	2002	4.84	20.1	>5	5.1	OIR
1E 2259+586	2002	5.34	21.7	3	5.7	IR



4U01642+61 : Dhillon et al, 2006, 363, 609



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HTRA Science Case II

Close Binary Systems

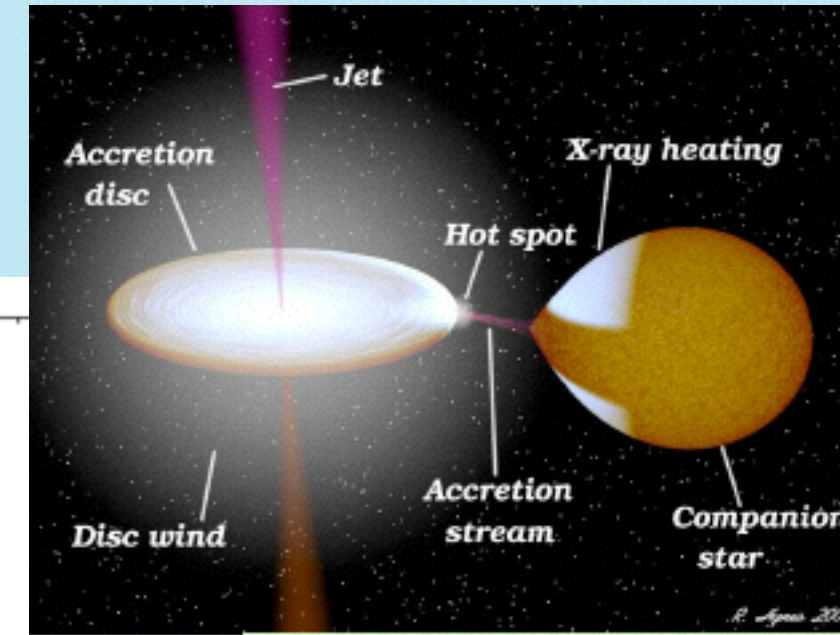
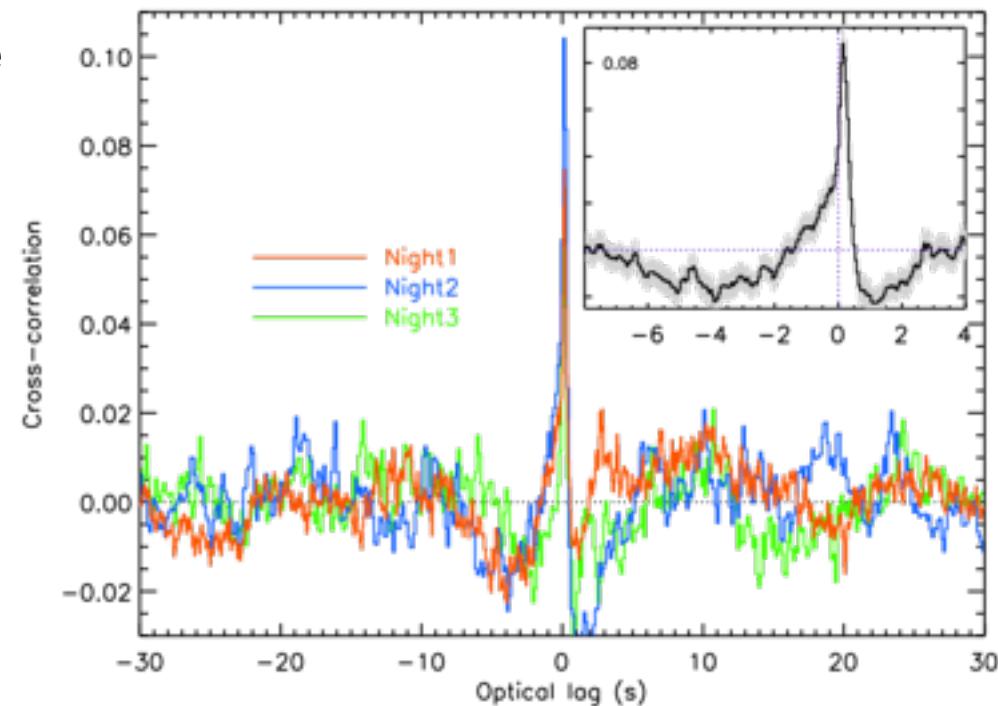
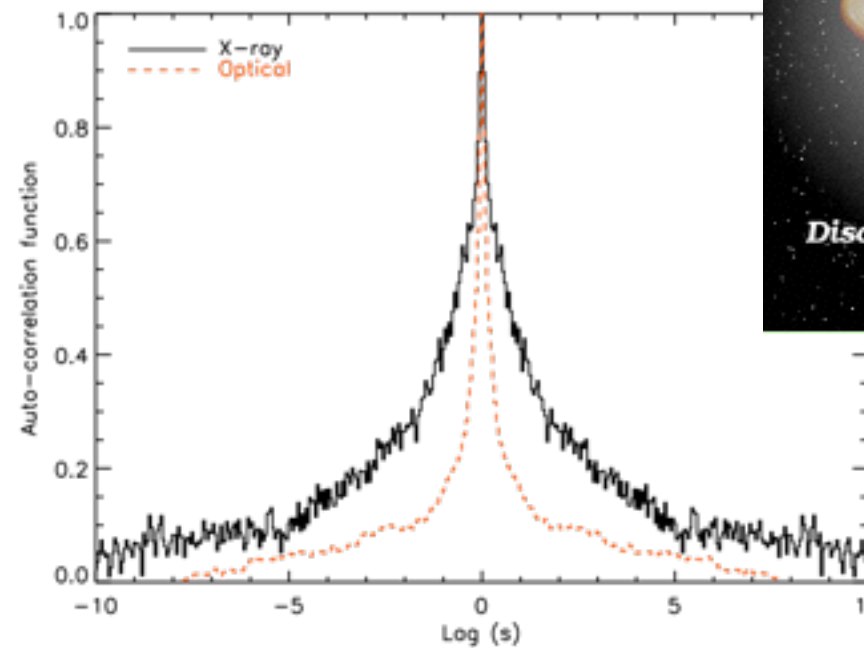
X-ray-Optical cross-correlations
observed by UltraCam and Optima

Shown are UltraCam observations of
the black-hole accretor GX339-4 -
Gandhi et al (2008)

Time scales < 1 sec

Optical Autocorrelation indicated
synchrotron emission from a possible
jet structure rather than being driven
by X-ray reprocessing.

GX339-4 is reasonably bright $V \sim 17$.
Other objects considerably fainter -
E-ELT required to look at spectral
variability



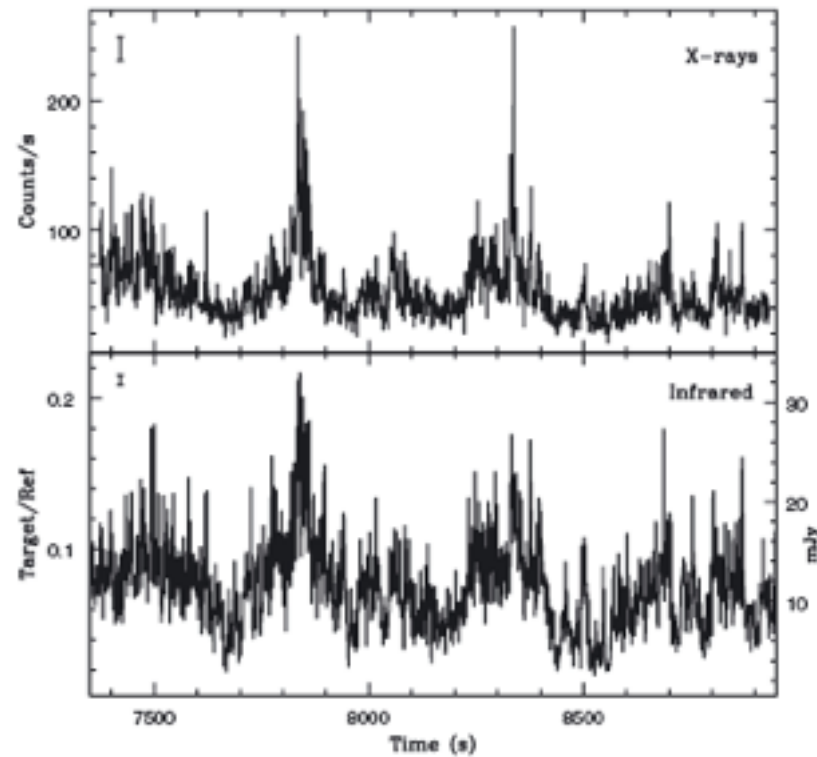


Figure 1. Top panel: a sample of the X-ray light curve of GX 339–4, obtained with the PCA onboard *RXTE*. The data are background subtracted, in the 2–15 keV energy range, at 1-s time resolution. Bottom panel: the simultaneous IR light curve, obtained with ISAAC. We show the ratio of the source (average 4.4×10^5 counts s^{-1}) to the reference-star (6×10^6 counts s^{-1}) count rates in the K_S filter, at 1-s time resolution. The right ordinates show the dereddened flux. We show the typical error bars in the top left-hand corner of each panel.

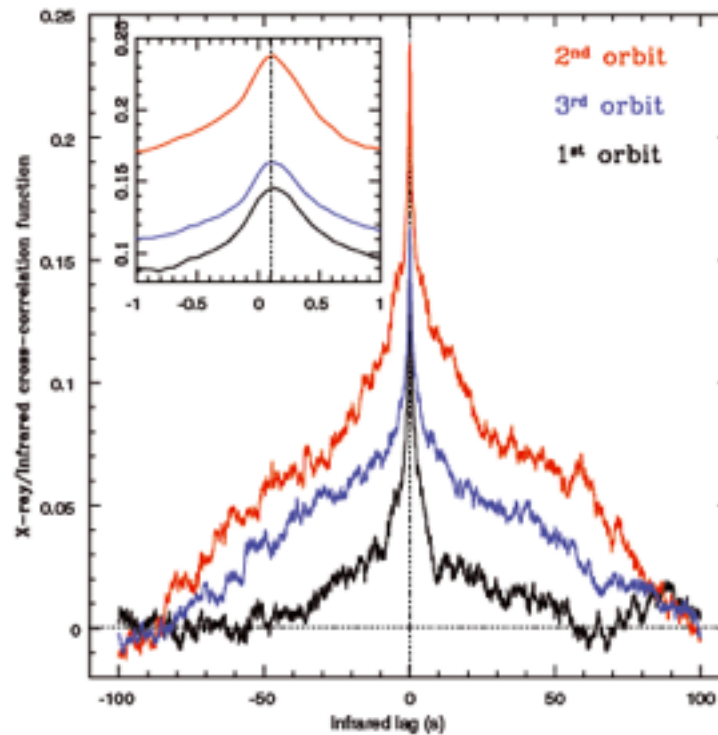


Figure 2. Cross-correlations of the X-ray and IR light curves of GX 339–4 (positive lags mean IR lags the X-rays). A strong, nearly symmetric correlation is evident in all the three time intervals, corresponding to different *RXTE* orbits. In the inset, we show a zoom of the peaks, showing the IR delay of ~ 100 ms with respect to the X-rays. The inset also shows a slight asymmetry towards positive delays.

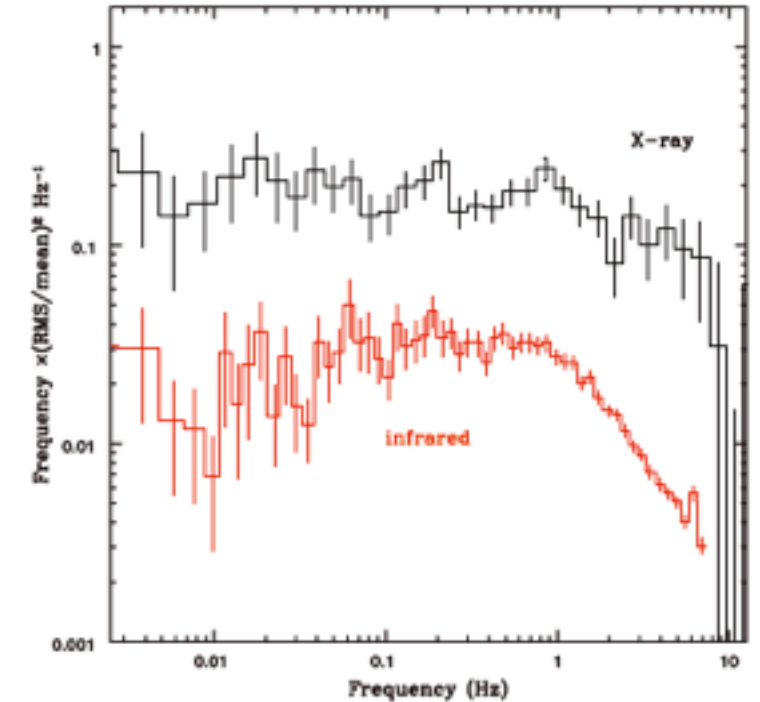


Figure 3. X-ray (2–15 keV) power spectrum of the second *RXTE* orbit (upper curve), together with the power spectrum of the simultaneous IR light curve (lower curve). The Poissonian noise has been subtracted from both the spectra. The peak at ~ 6 Hz in the IR spectrum is instrumental. The high-frequency portion of the IR spectrum has yet unmodelled systematics, which however do not affect the results presented here.

Variable IR emission coming from jet near the BH, 100 ms delay wrt X-ray emission

