



Vela Senior

Puppis A

Max-Planck-Institut für  
extraterrestrische Physik

# Unveiling the intriguing nature of PSR J0855-4644: why no Gamma rays?



**PSR J0855**

Vela cocoon

$E < 1.3 \text{ keV}$

$E > 1.3 \text{ keV}$

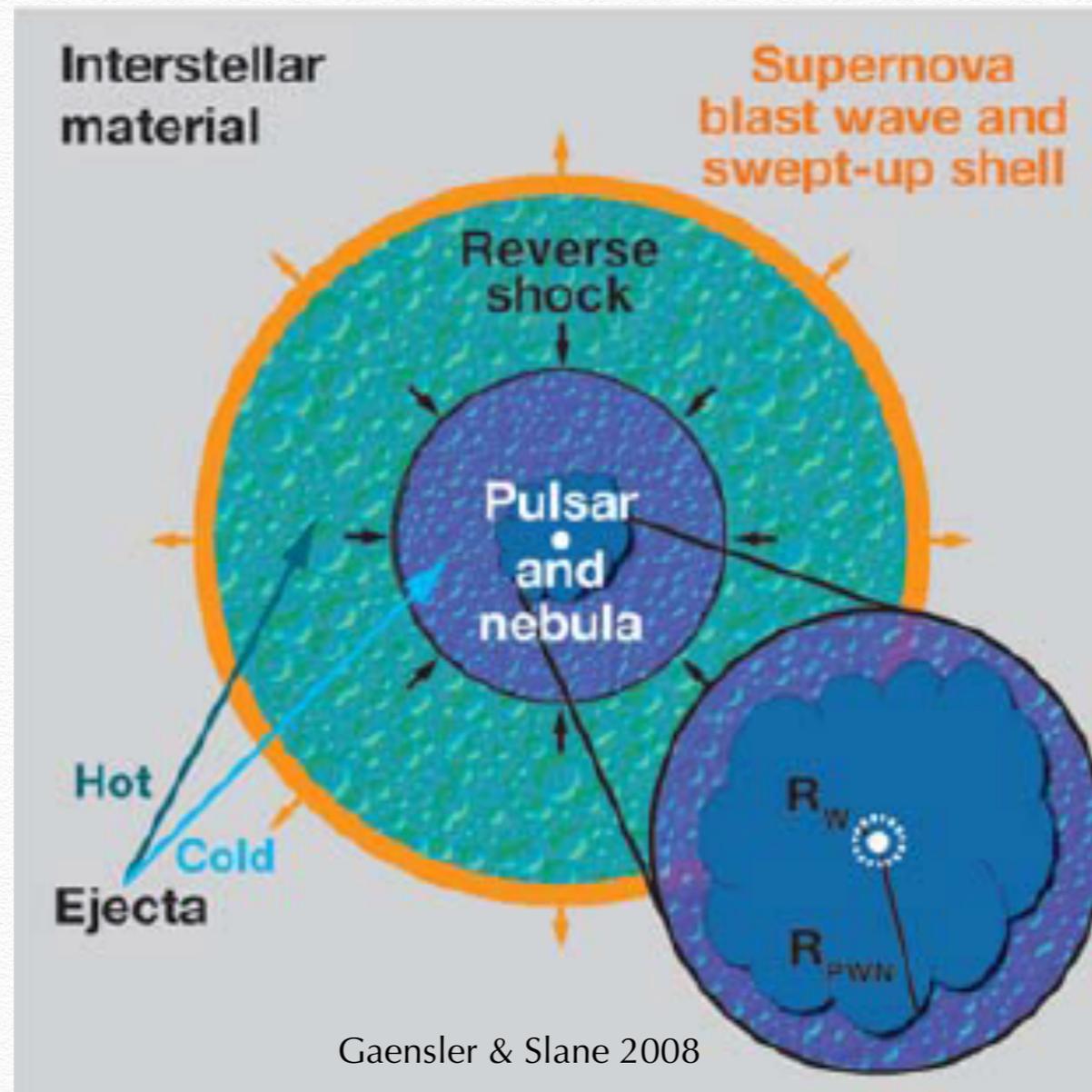
HESS

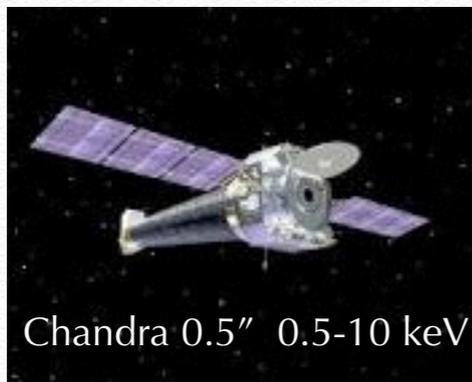
Vela Junior

Chandreyee Maitra



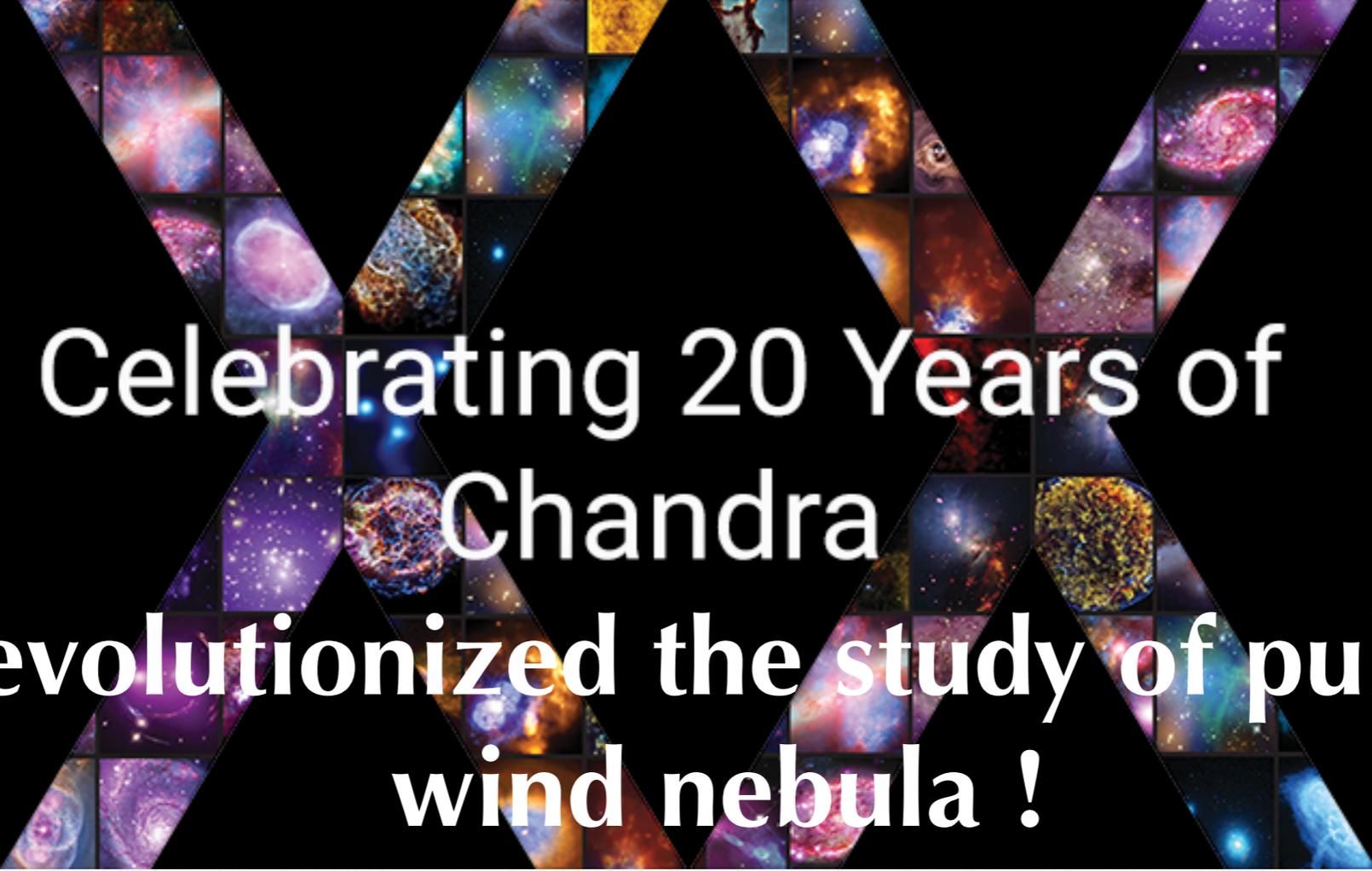
- a) **Anisotropic wind structures (tori/jet)**
- b) **Bow shocks**
- c) **Anisotropies**





Resolved sub arc second structures of the PWNe:

- a) **Anisotropic wind structures** (tori/jet)
- b) **Bow shocks**
- c) **Anisotropies**



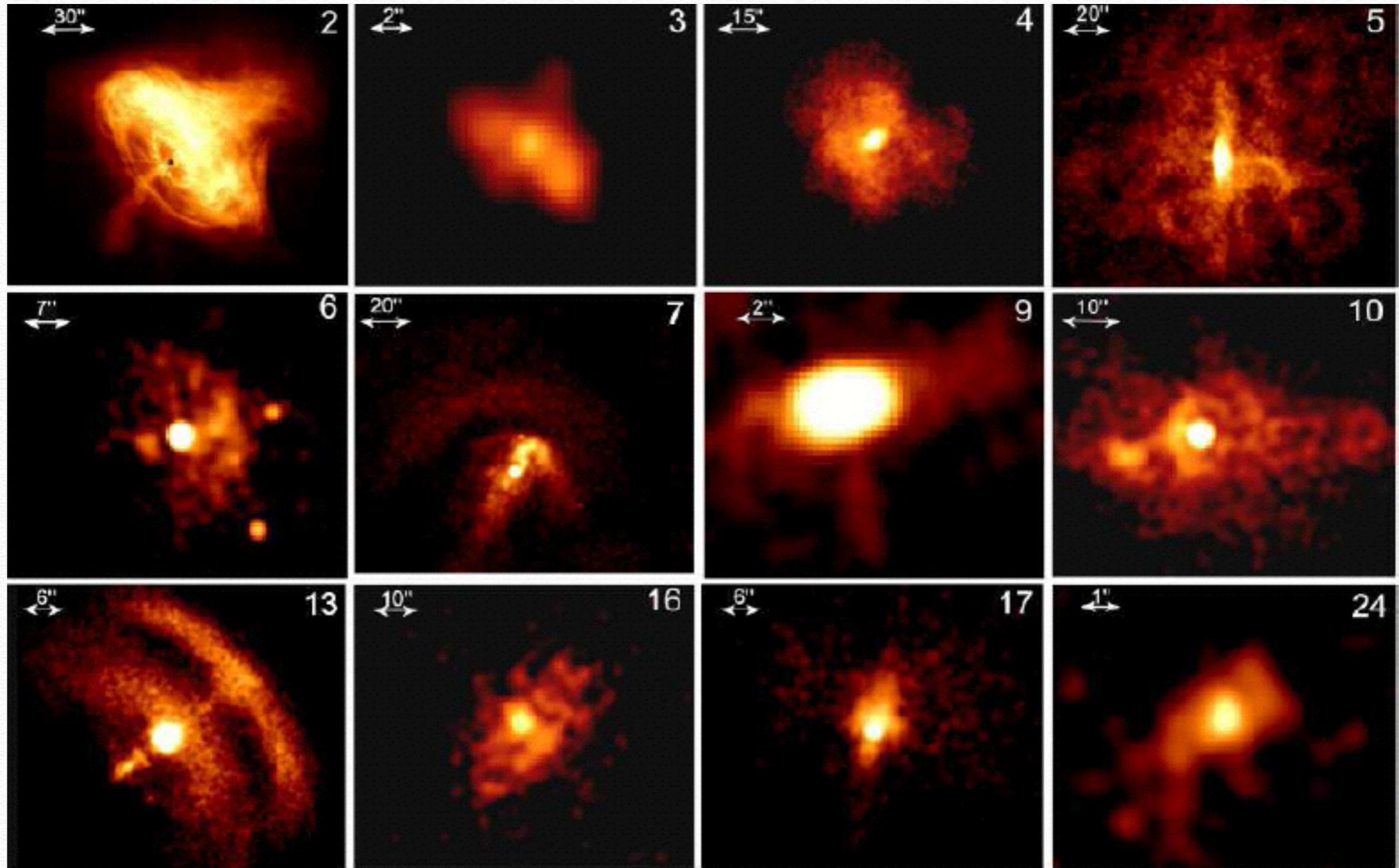
Celebrating 20 Years of  
Chandra  
Revolutionized the study of pulsar  
wind nebula !



Resolved sub arc second structures of the PWNe:

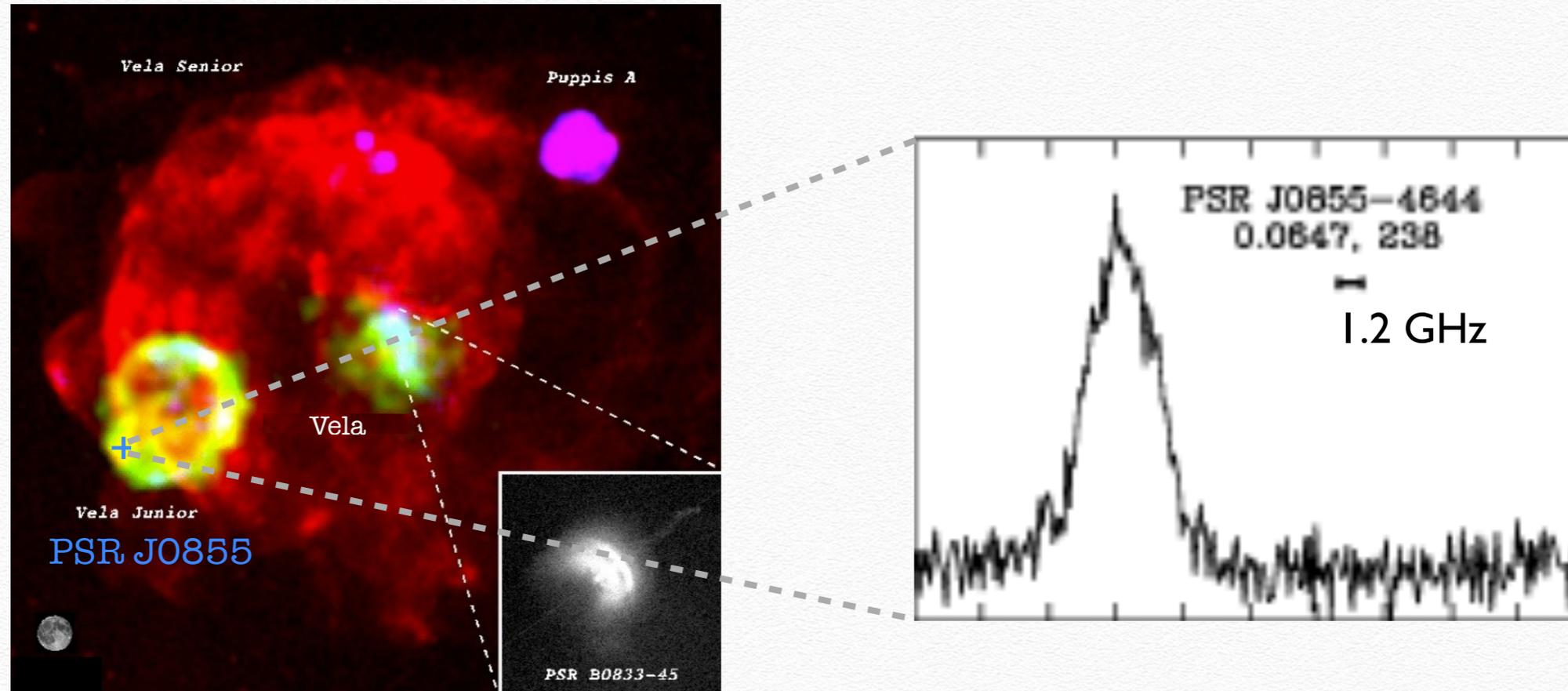
- a) Anisotropic wind structures (tori/jet)
- b) Bow shocks

PWNe ZOO



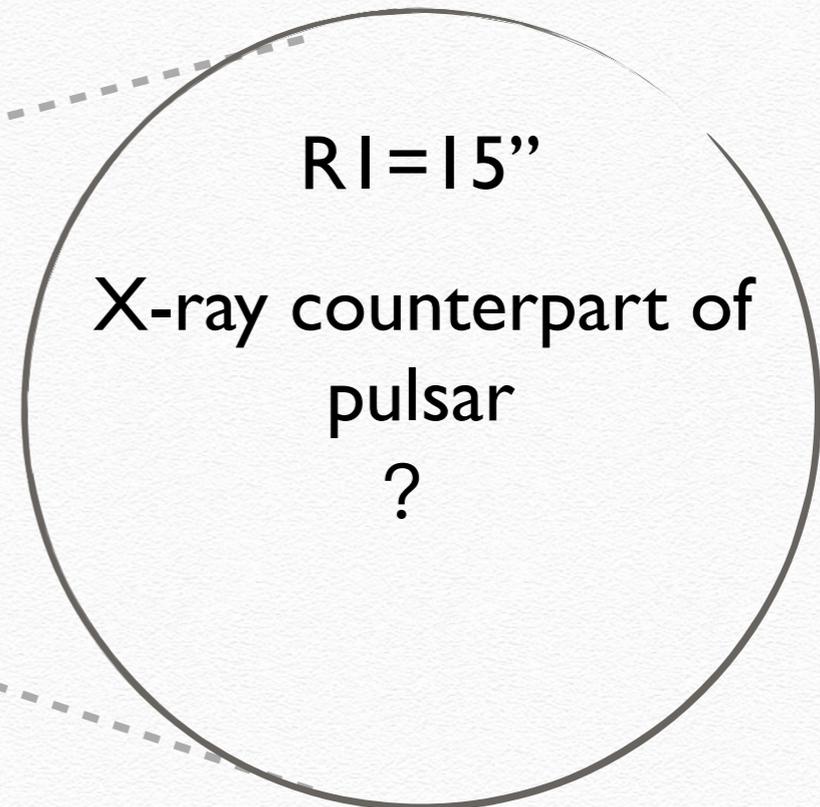
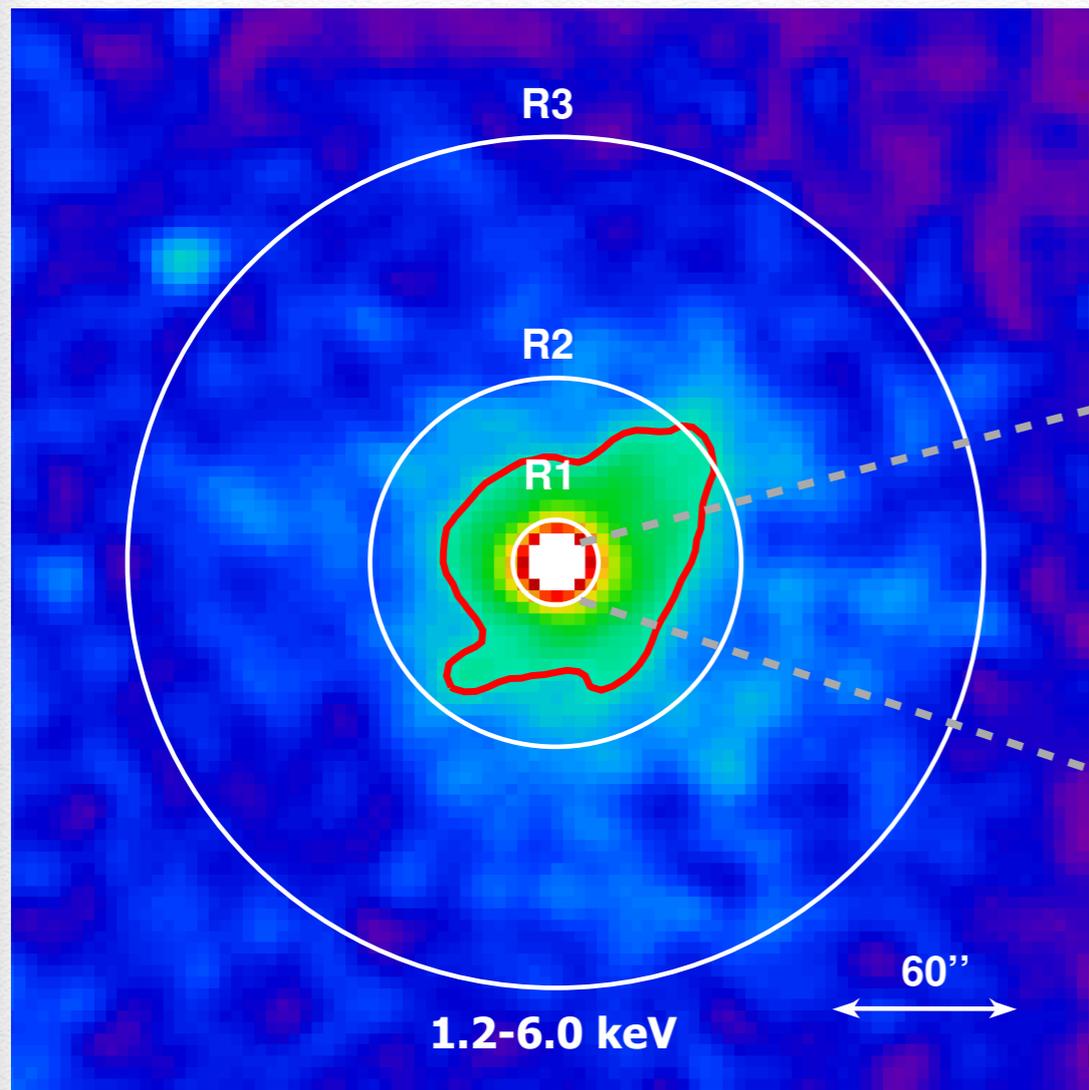
Pavlov & Kargalstev 2006

# PSR J0855-4644: nearby fast spinning, energetic radio pulsar



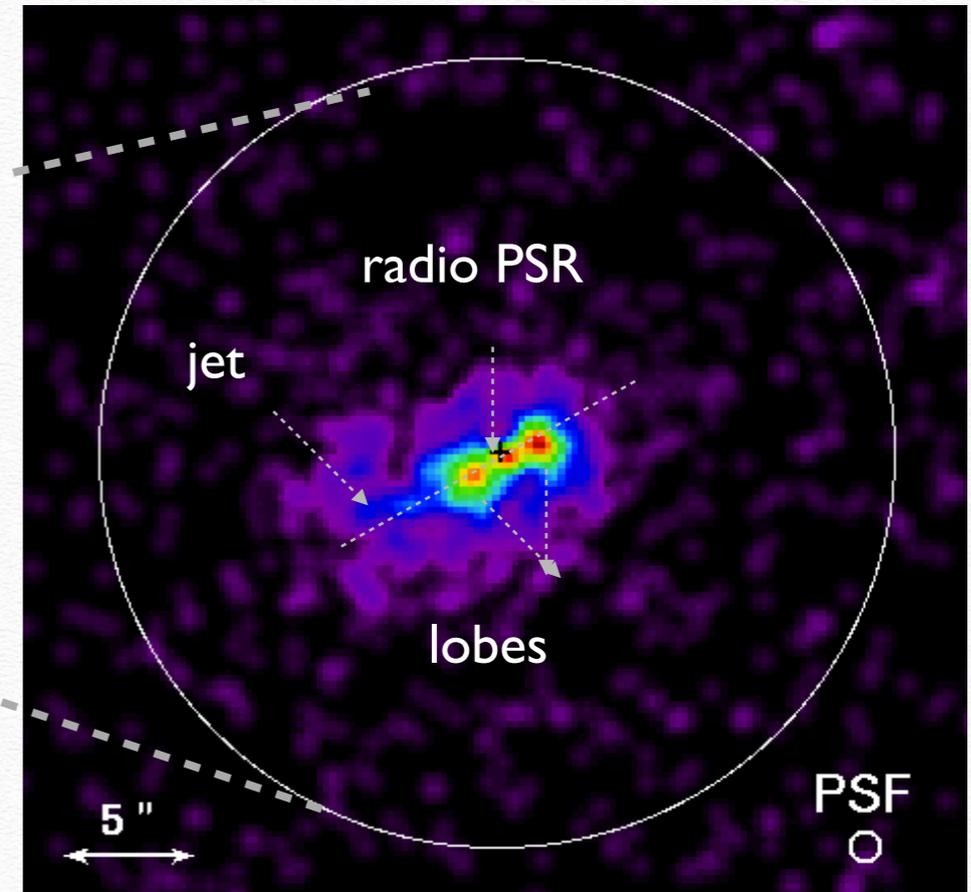
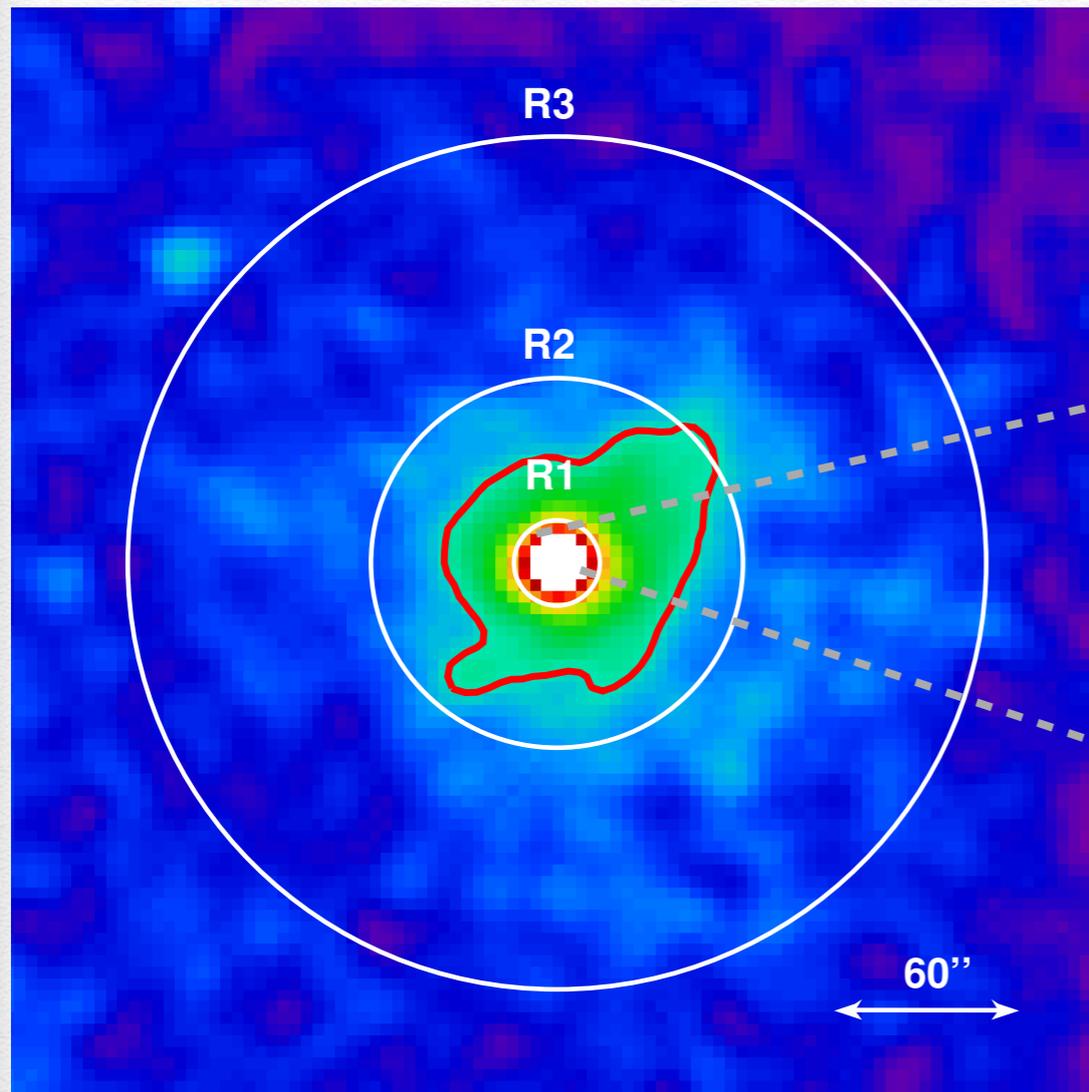
- ❖ Fast pulsar  $P = 65 \text{ ms}$ ,  $\dot{P} = 7.26 \times 10^{-15}$   $\dot{E} = 1.1 \times 10^{36} \text{ erg/s}$  ( from Parkes radio survey)
- ❖ Distance  $< 1 \text{ Kpc}$  (X-ray  $N_{\text{H}}$  estimate) ; second most energetic pulsar after Vela at this distance
- ❖ Highest  $\dot{E}/d^2$  system not seen by Fermi

# Through the eyes of XMM-Newton



PWN revealed  $\sim 150''$  in extent  
Acero et al. 2013, A&A, 551, A7

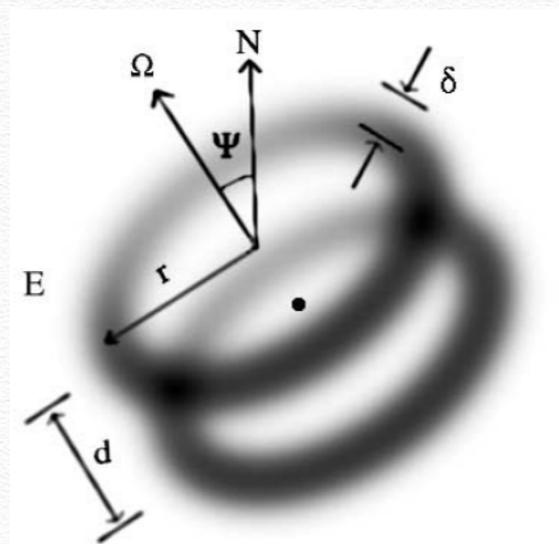
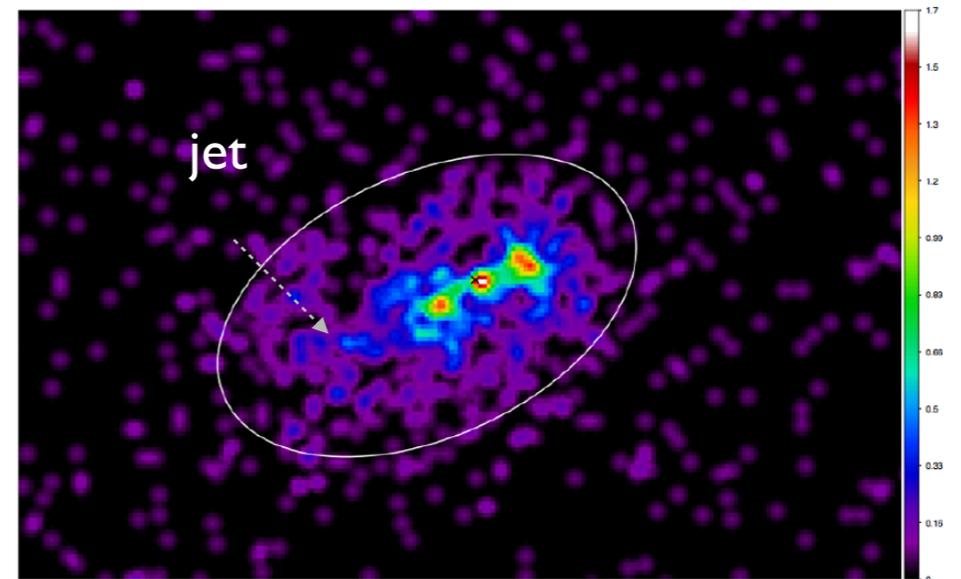
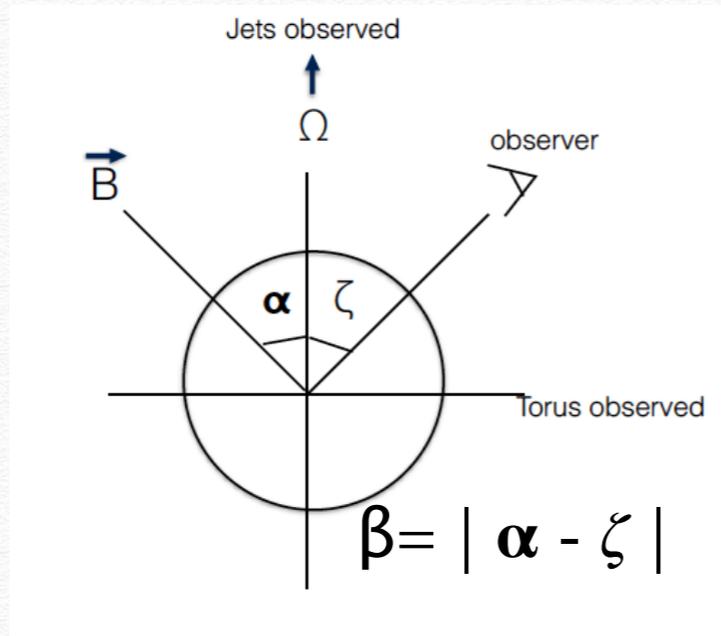
# Through the eyes of Chandra: Structured PWN revealed!



## Chandra: 38 ks ACIS-S observation

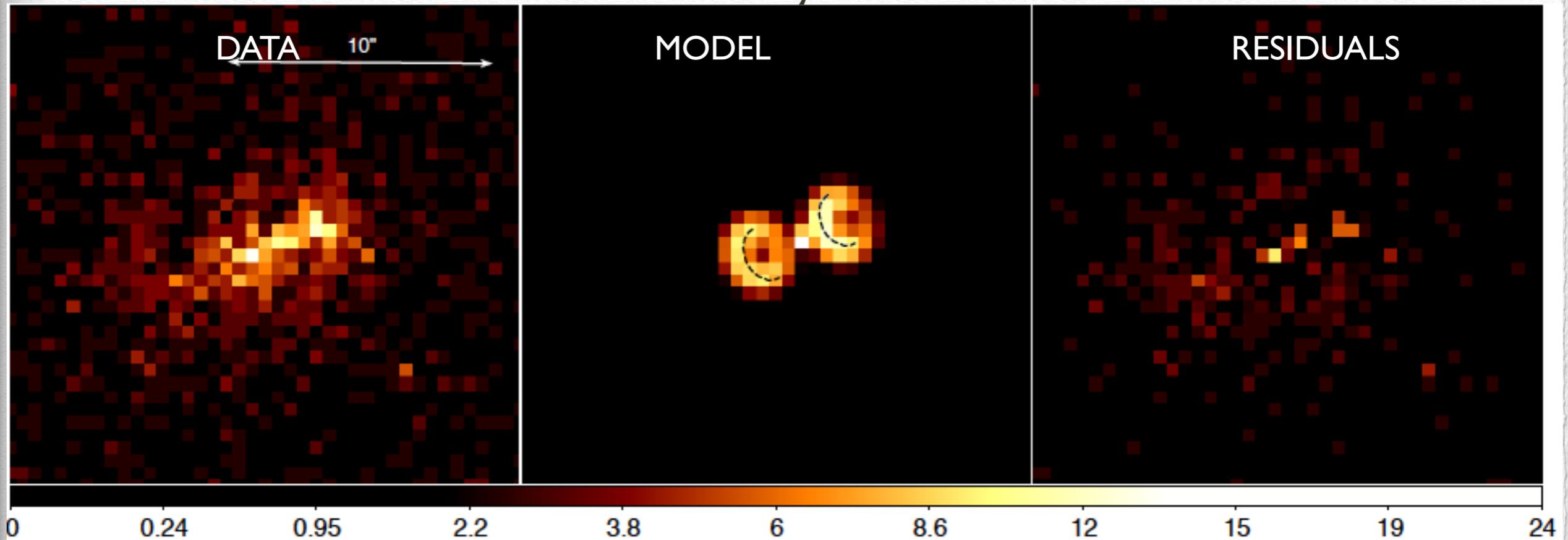
- What was thought to be X-ray pulsar: further resolved to 10" compact PWN (0.06 pc)
- Two lobes symmetric about the pulsar
  - jets
  - OR
  - double torus+one sided jet
- Very faint pulsar; contributes to 1% of flux of the XMM compact source, no non-thermal emission

# Spatial modeling: torus & jet structures indicate **spin inclination** of the pulsar

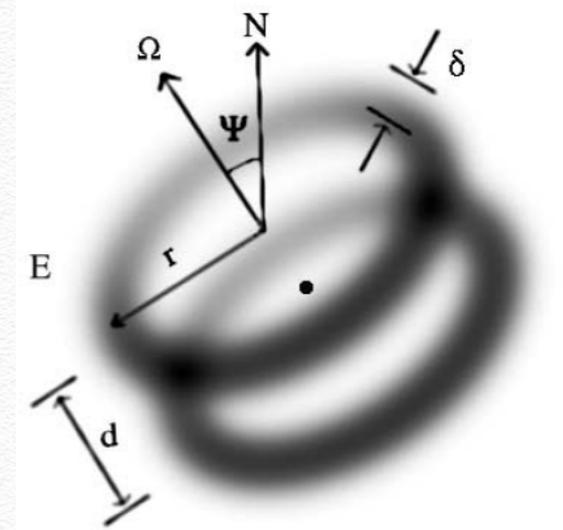


- Parameters PA  $\Psi$  (N to E), spin inclination  $\zeta$ , torus radius ( $r$ ), postshock velocity  $\beta$  (Ng & Romani 2004)

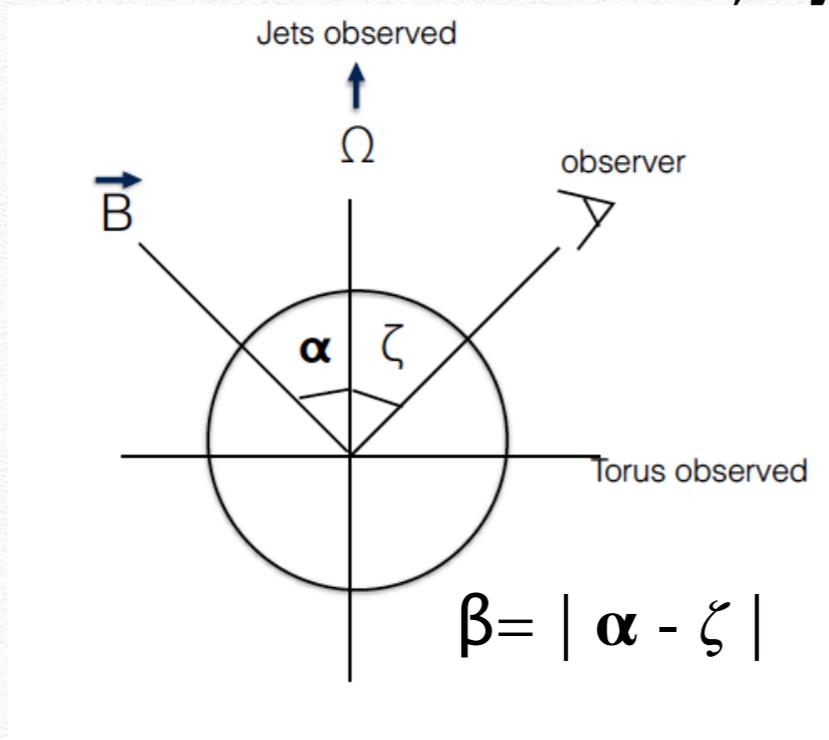
# Spatial modeling: Can we answer why no Gamma ray emission?



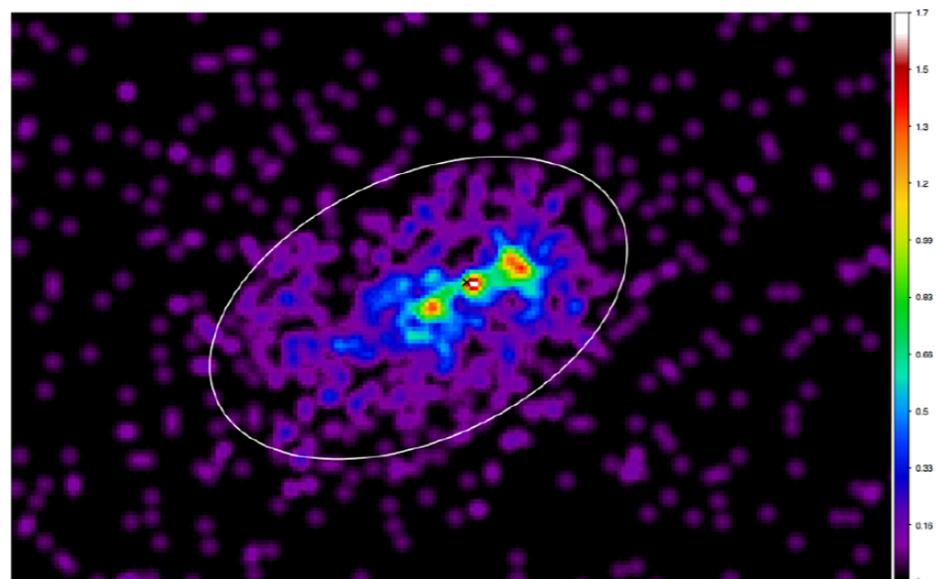
Parameter	Value
position angle $\Psi$	$114.4 \pm 2.3 \pm 1.1 \pm$
spin inclination $\zeta$	$32.5 \pm 4.0^\circ \pm 1.7^\circ$
radius of each torus $R$	$2.1 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.08^\circ$
post-shock flow velocity $\beta$	$0.41 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.06$
seperation between each torii $d$	$3.6 \pm 0.70 \pm 0.30$



# Geometry of PSR J0855-4644: radio loud, $\gamma$ ray quiet with high $\dot{E}/d^2$

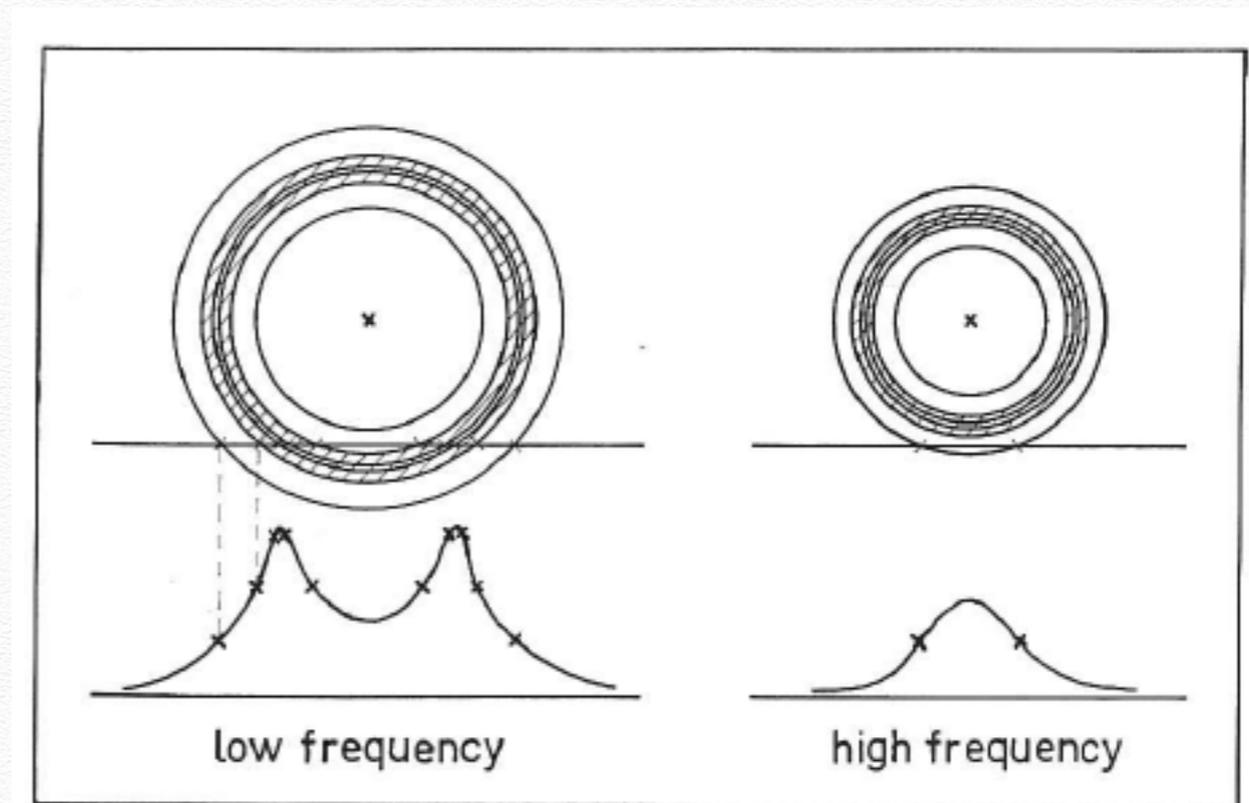
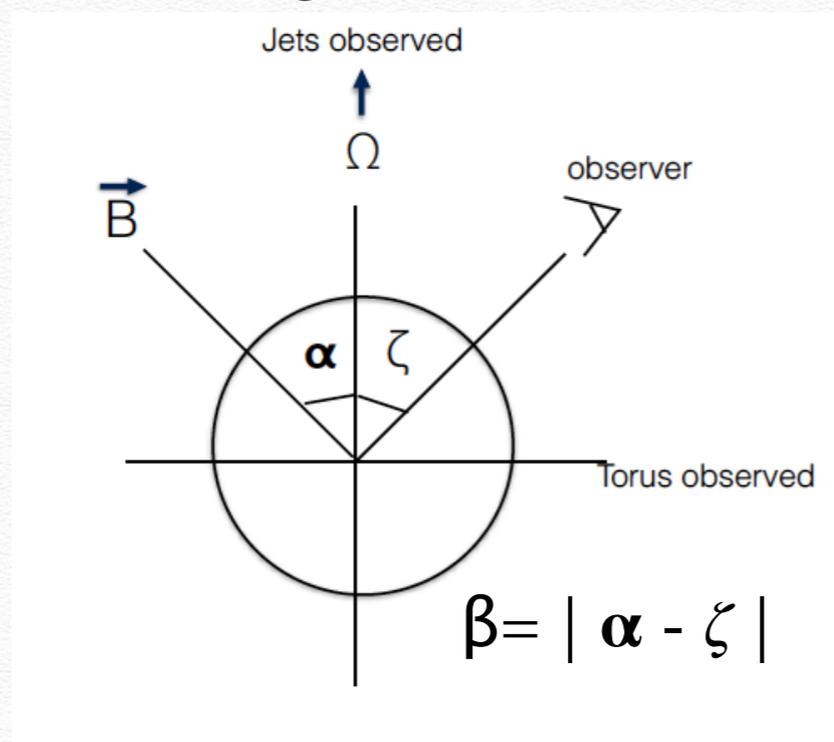


- Double torus fit to the PWN implies  $\zeta < 37^\circ$
- Small viewing angles limits access to X-ray/ gamma ray beam ?
- Absence of  $\gamma$  ray emission from a high  $\dot{E}/d^2$  pulsar
- Radio &  $\gamma$  ray emission sites different in RPPs



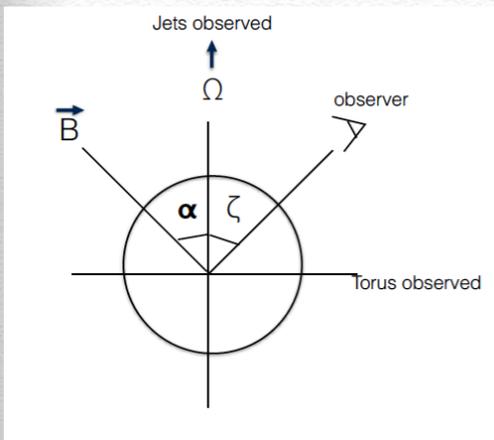
# Independent constraints from predictions of geometric light curve models

- ❖ **Geometric light curve models** from (Dyks & Rudak 2003) TPC and OG (Romani 1996) and **hollow-cone radio beam model** (Radhakrishnan & Cooke 1969) generated to **match the observed radio pulse** profile for different combinations of  $\alpha, \zeta$  ( $5^\circ, 5^\circ$  grid)

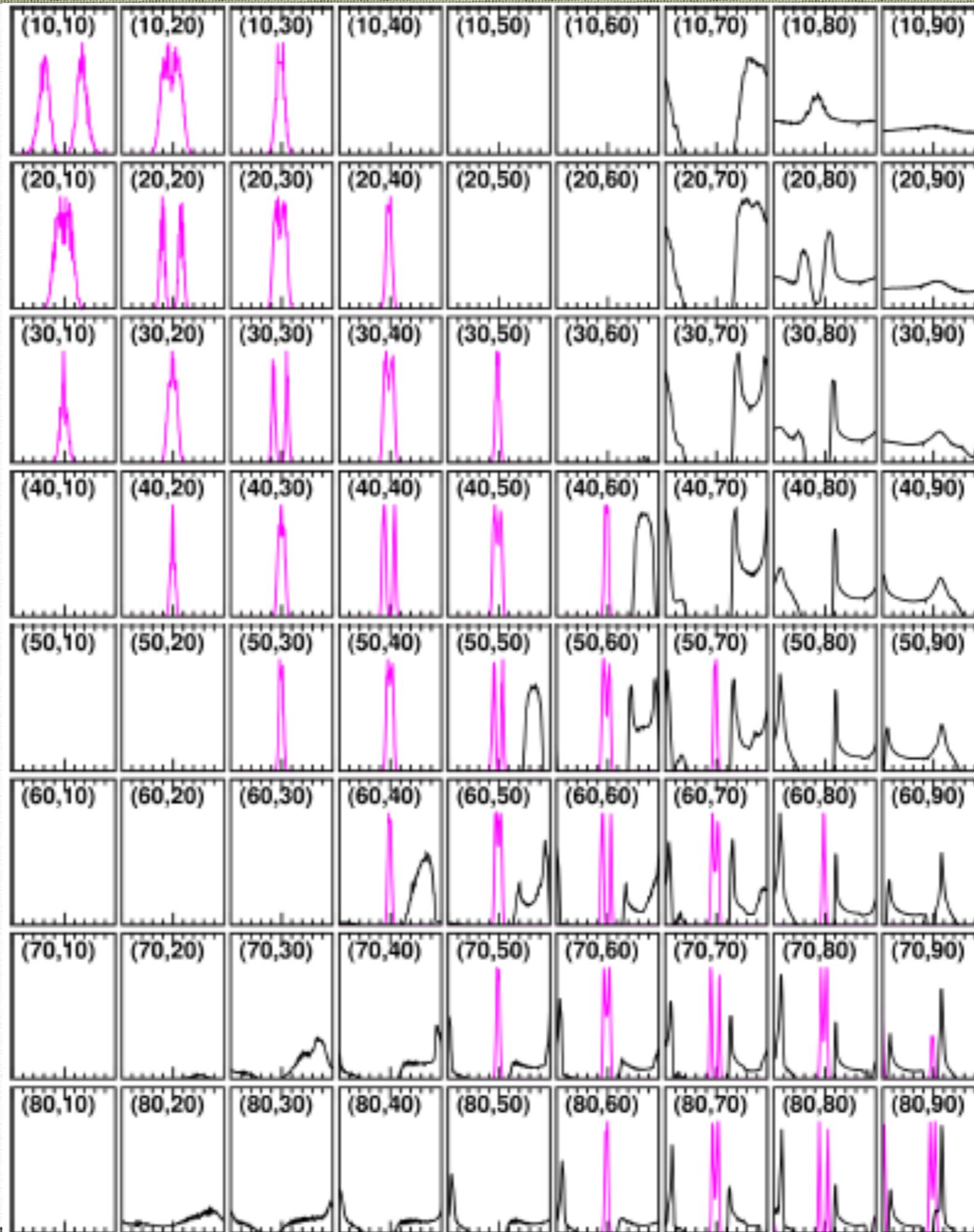


- ❖ Details of method in C. Venter, T. J. Johnson, and A. K. Harding 2012, ApJ, 744, 34

# $\alpha, \zeta$ $10^\circ$ grid



Predicted OG  $\gamma$ -ray (black), radio (magenta) light curves.  $\gamma$ -ray light curves have been normalized globally so that maximum is unity

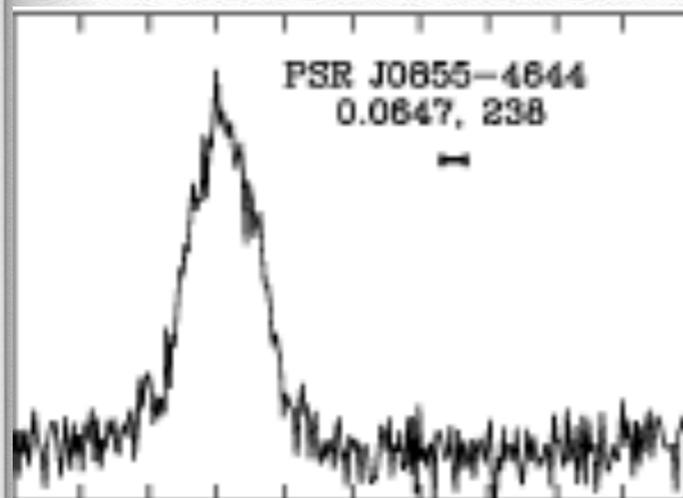


# Independent constraints from predictions of geometric light curve models

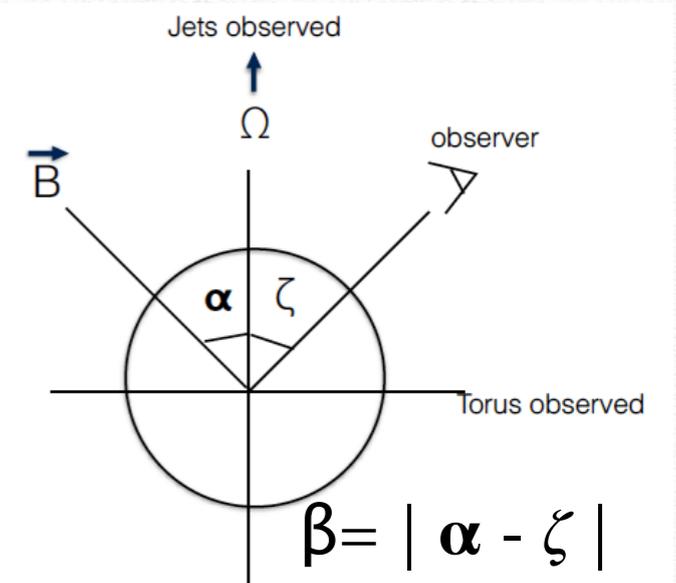
radio visibility  
& peak  
multiplicity

$\gamma$  ray invisibility  
(non-detection)

radio profile fit



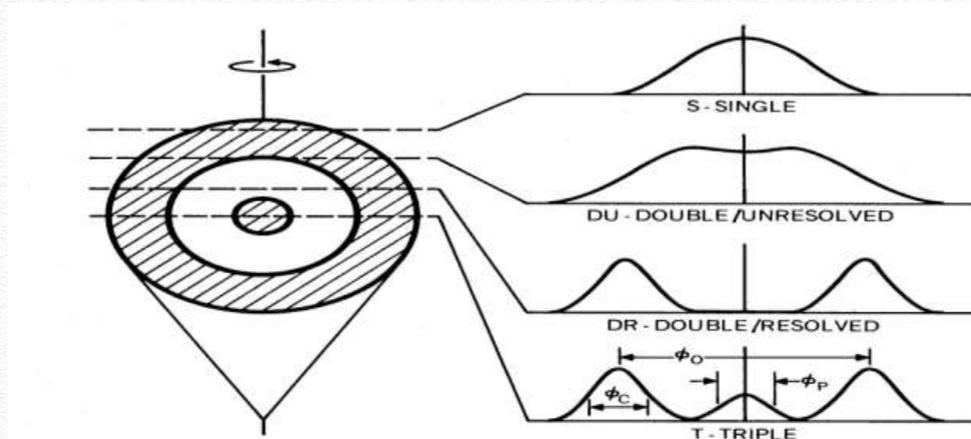
- constrain on  $\zeta, \alpha$
- $\beta = |\alpha - \zeta|$



# Radio visibility & peak multiplicity: limits on $\beta$

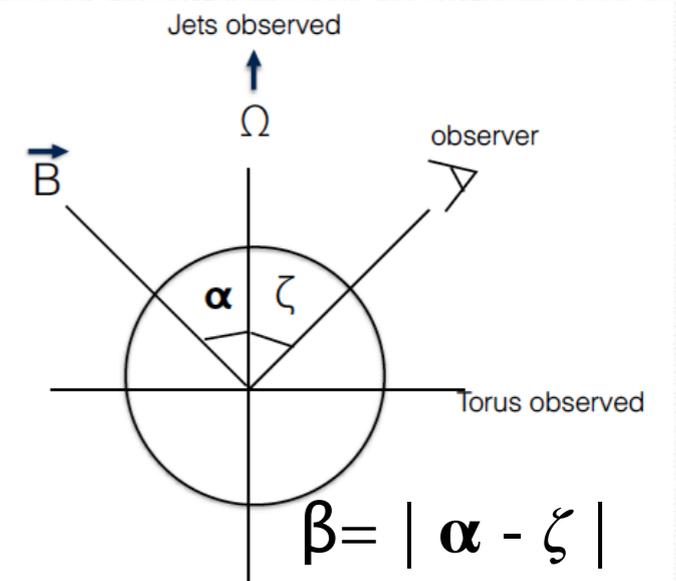
As  $\beta$  increases, radio beam progressively moves out of L.O.S and model predicts double peak, wide single peak, narrow single peak & no peak.

lower limit on  $\beta$ :  
single radio peak  
 $\beta \gtrsim 10^\circ$  (depends also  
on  $\alpha$ )



lower limit on  $\beta$ :  
radio visibility  
 $\beta \lesssim 30^\circ$

$$10^\circ \lesssim \beta \lesssim 30^\circ$$



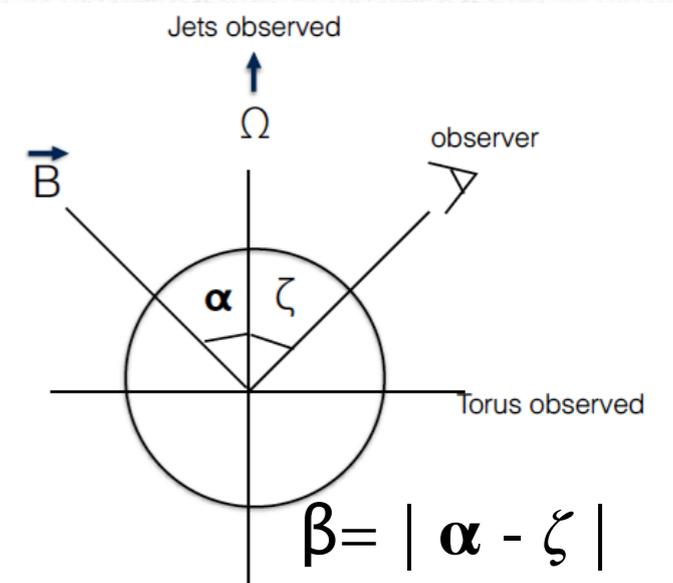
# Independent constraints from predictions of geometric light curve models

radio visibility  
& peak  
multiplicity

$\gamma$  ray invisibility  
(non-detection)

radio profile fit

- constrain on  $\zeta$ ,  $\alpha$
- $\beta = |\alpha - \zeta|$



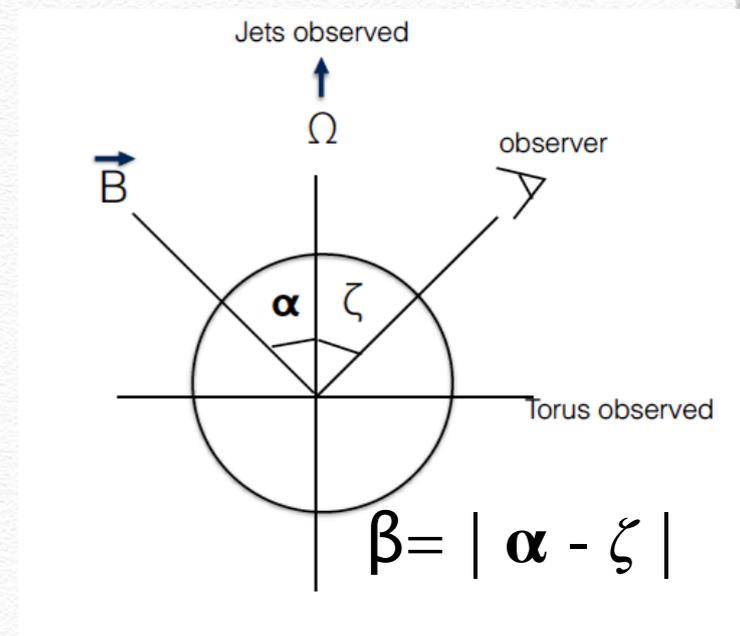
# $\gamma$ ray invisibility (non detection) limits on $(\alpha, \zeta)$

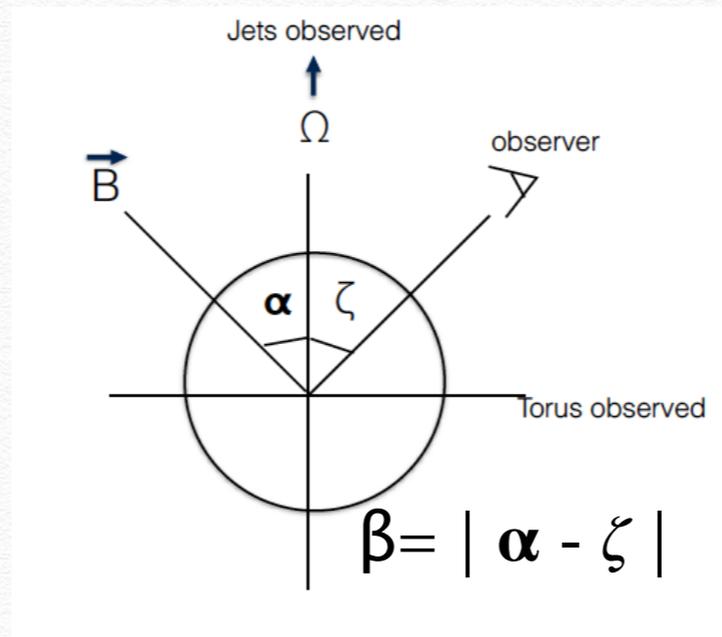
For OG:  $\gamma$  ray visible only at large  $(\alpha, \zeta) \approx (55^\circ, 55^\circ)$ .

For TPC:  $\gamma$  ray visible almost at all angles, but low level emission are small  $(\alpha, \zeta)$

$\gamma$  ray is not detected

$$(\alpha, \zeta) \approx (55^\circ, 55^\circ)$$





$$10^\circ \approx \beta \approx 30^\circ$$

$$(\alpha, \zeta) \approx (55^\circ, 55^\circ)$$

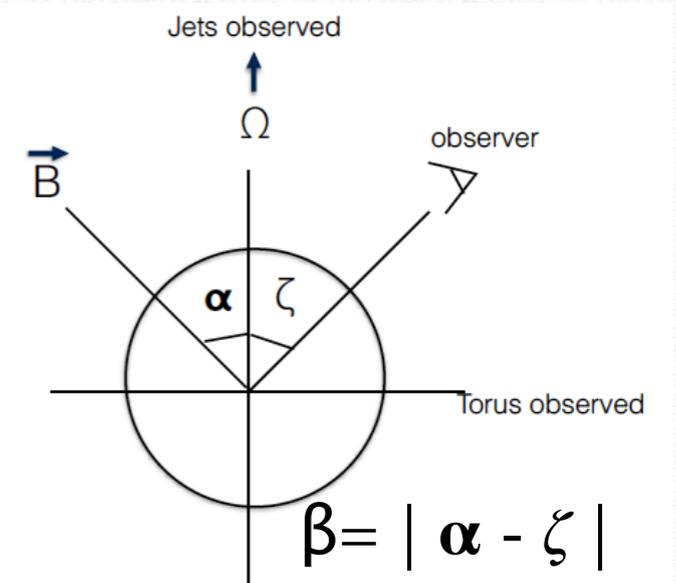
# Independent constraints from predictions of geometric light curve models

radio visibility  
& peak  
multiplicity

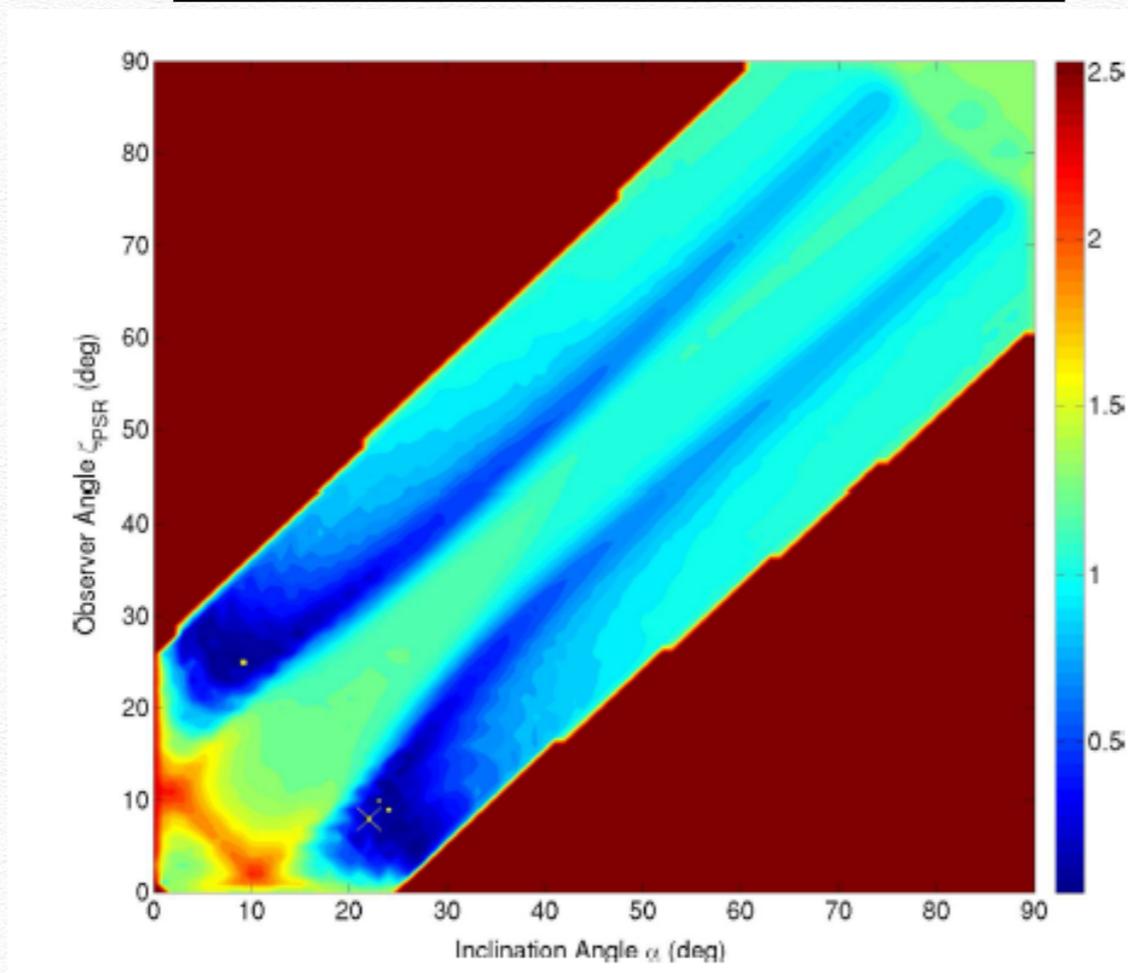
$\gamma$  ray invisibility  
(non-detection)

radio profile fit

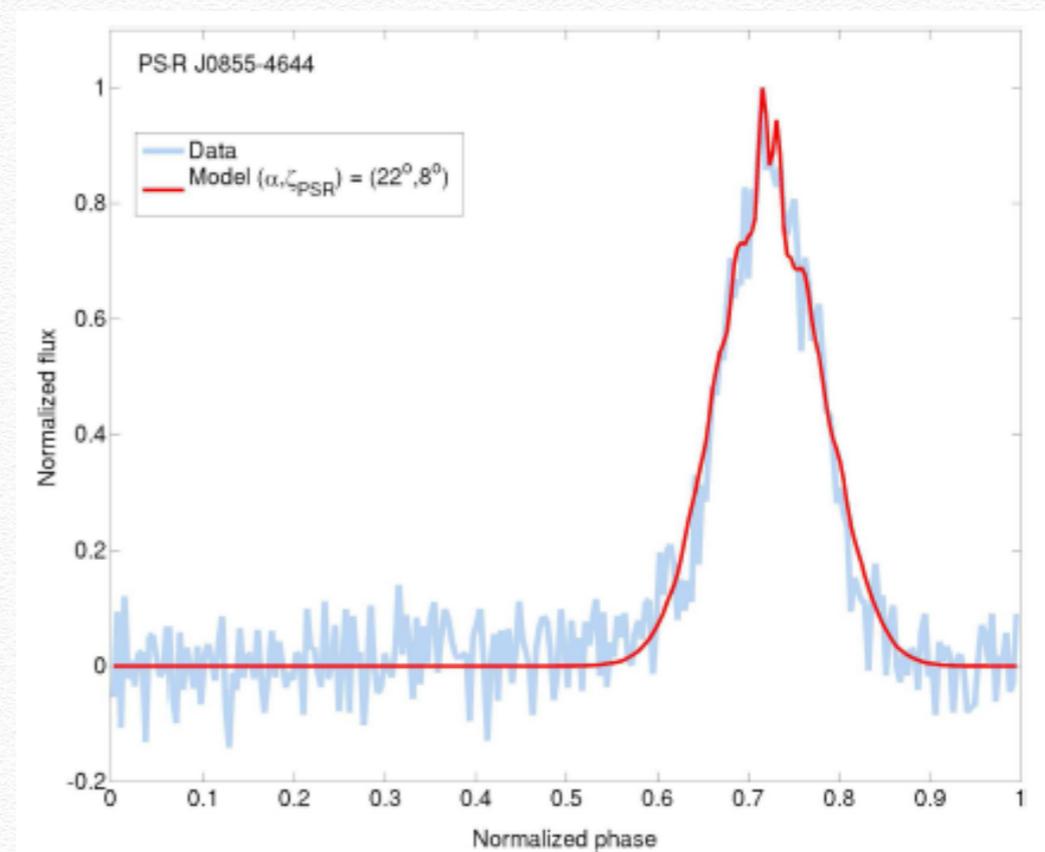
- constrain on  $\zeta$ ,  $\alpha$
- $\beta = |\alpha - \zeta|$



$\log_{10}\chi^2/N_{\text{dof}}(\alpha, \zeta)$  map showing the best fit with the yellow cross



Best-fit radio light curves over plotted on the data



Best-fit at  $(\alpha, \zeta) = (22^\circ, 8^\circ)$  map showing the best fit with the yellow cross

Alternative fit at  $(\alpha, \zeta) = (9^\circ, 25^\circ)$  with almost comparable  $\chi^2$ .

$$\chi^2/N_{\text{dof}} \sim (285/255 \ \& \ 294/255)$$

# Geometry of PSR J0855-4644

Maitra, Acero & Venter, *A&A*, 2017, 597, 75

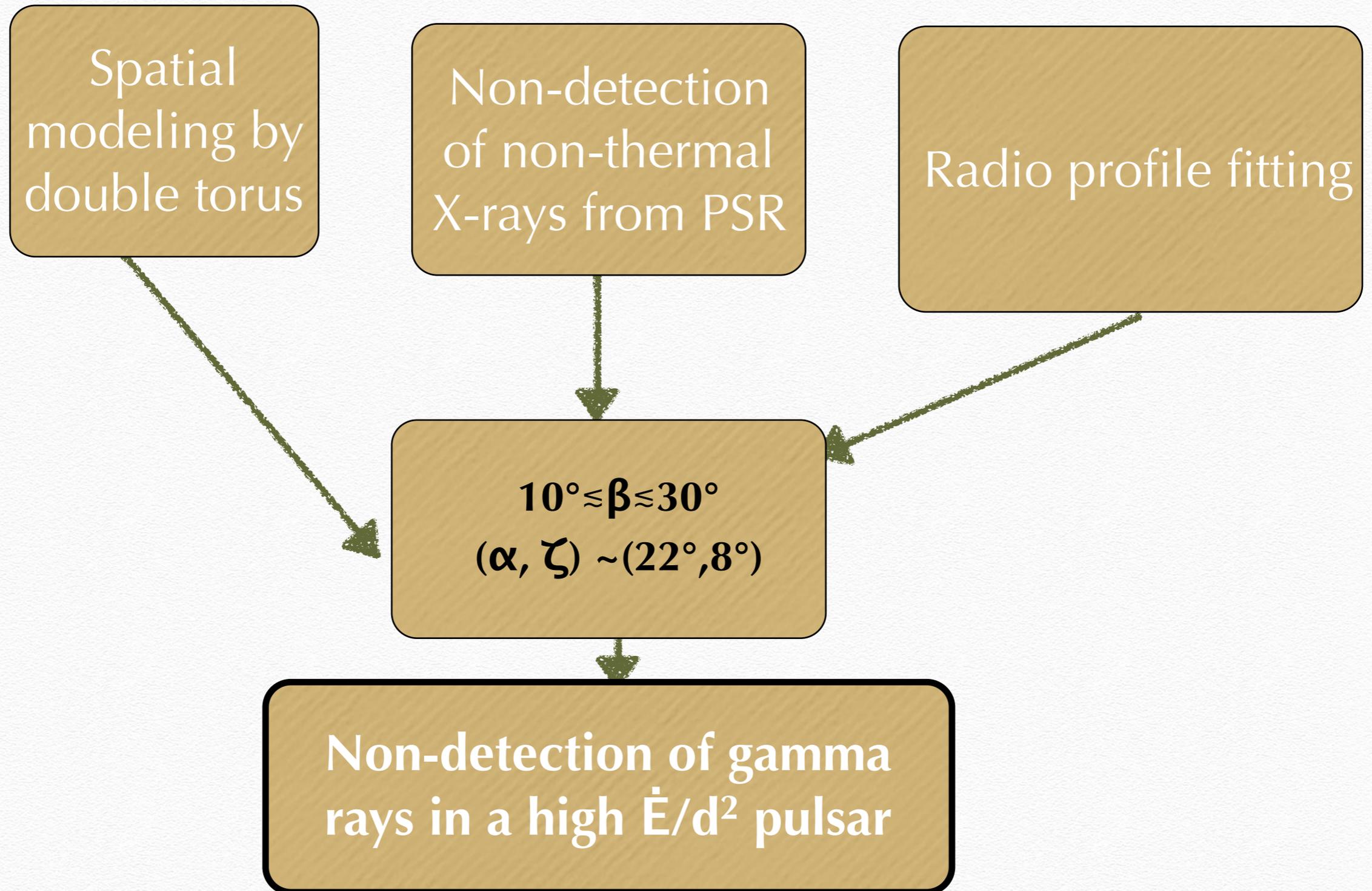
Spatial  
modeling by  
double torus

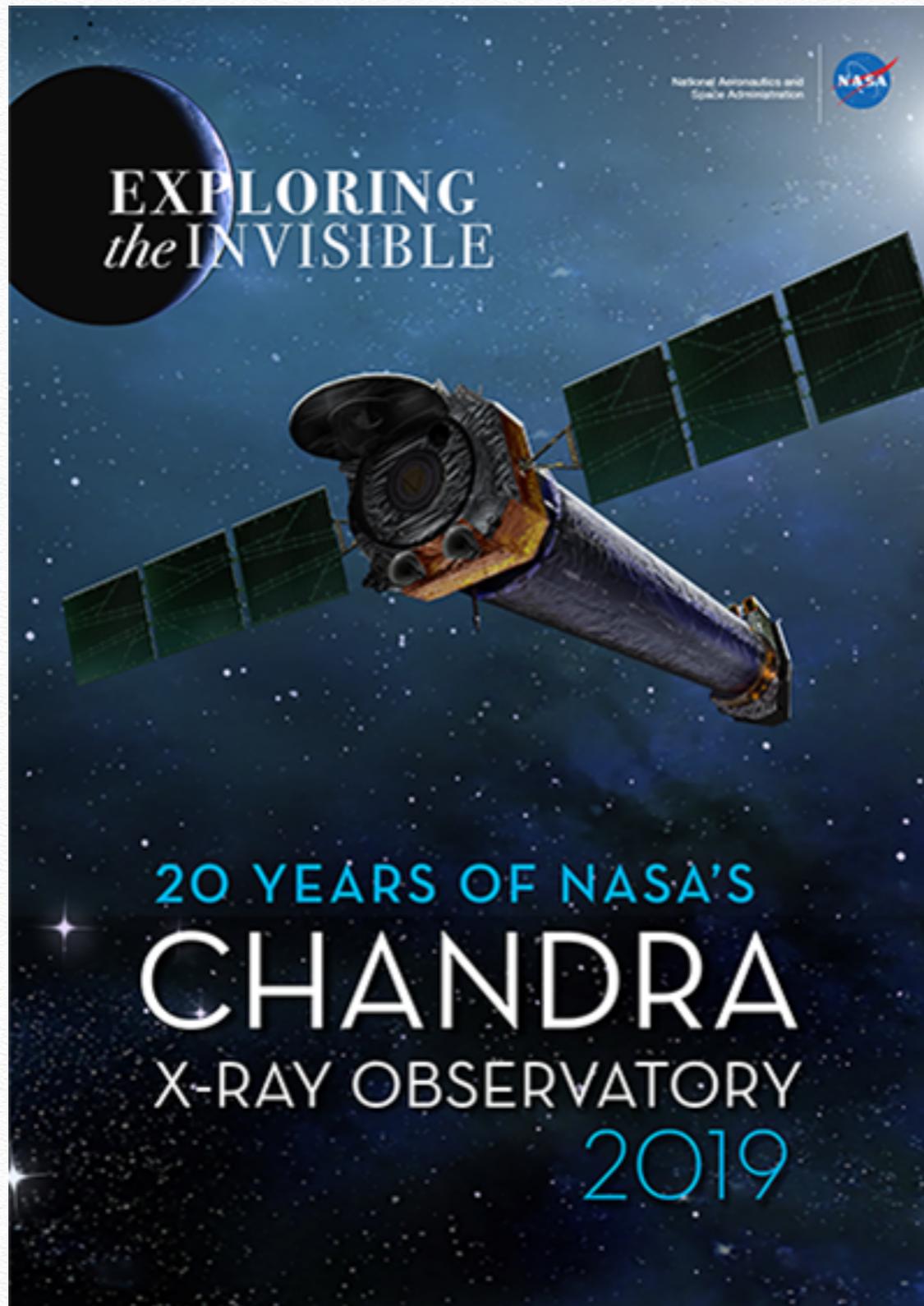
Radio profile fitting

$$10^\circ \lesssim \beta \lesssim 30^\circ$$
$$(\alpha, \zeta) \sim (22^\circ, 8^\circ)$$

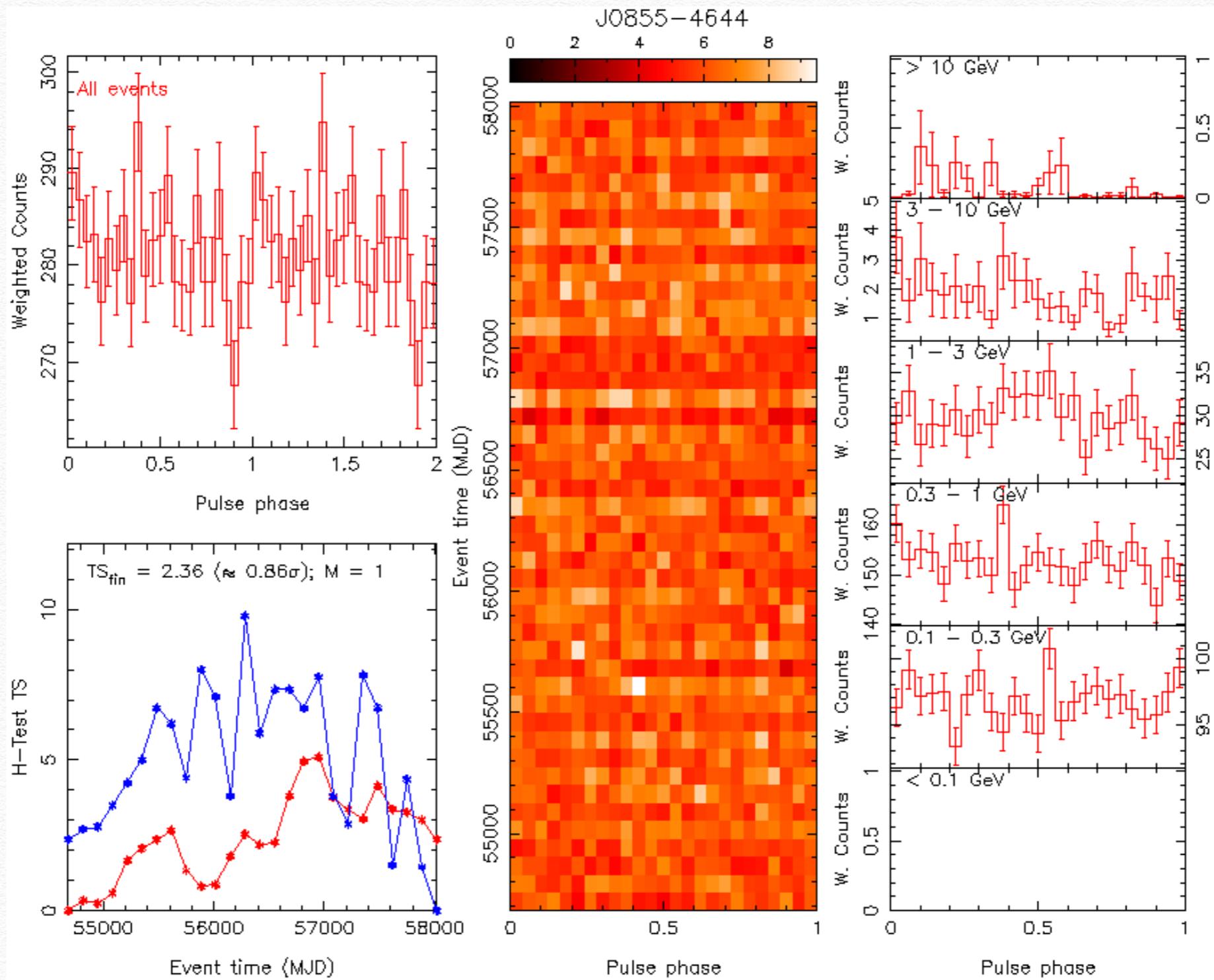
# Geometry of PSR J0855-4644

Maitra, Acero & Venter, *A&A*, 2017, 597, 75



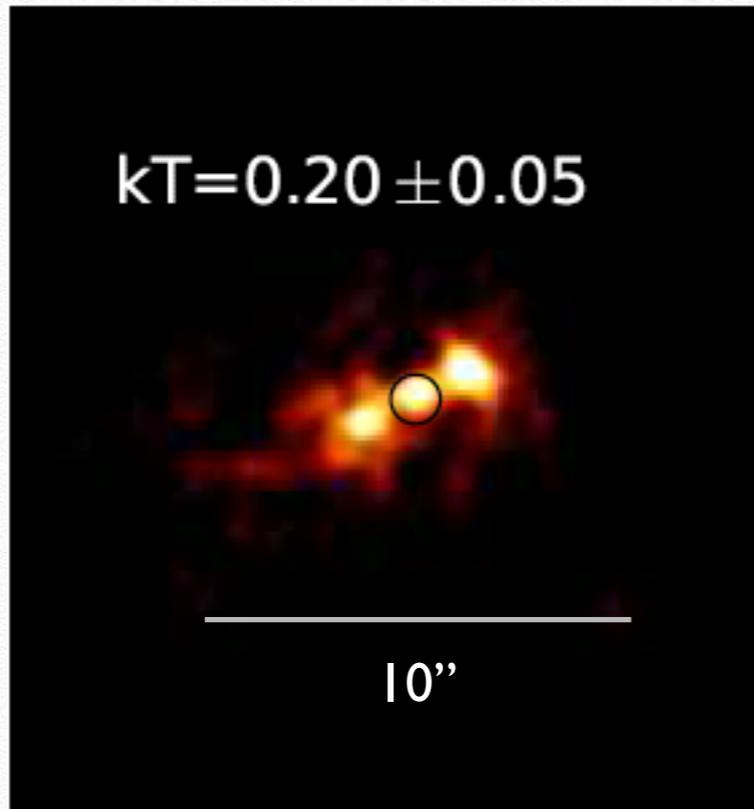


**THANK YOU!**

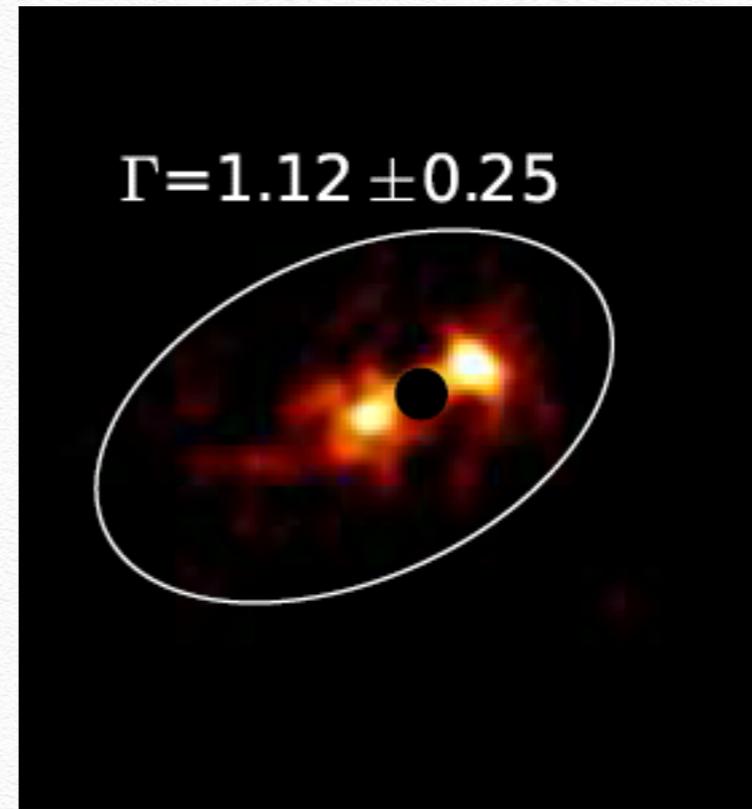


David Smith, Mathew Kerr (private comm)

# Faint soft pulsar & it's bright & hard nebula



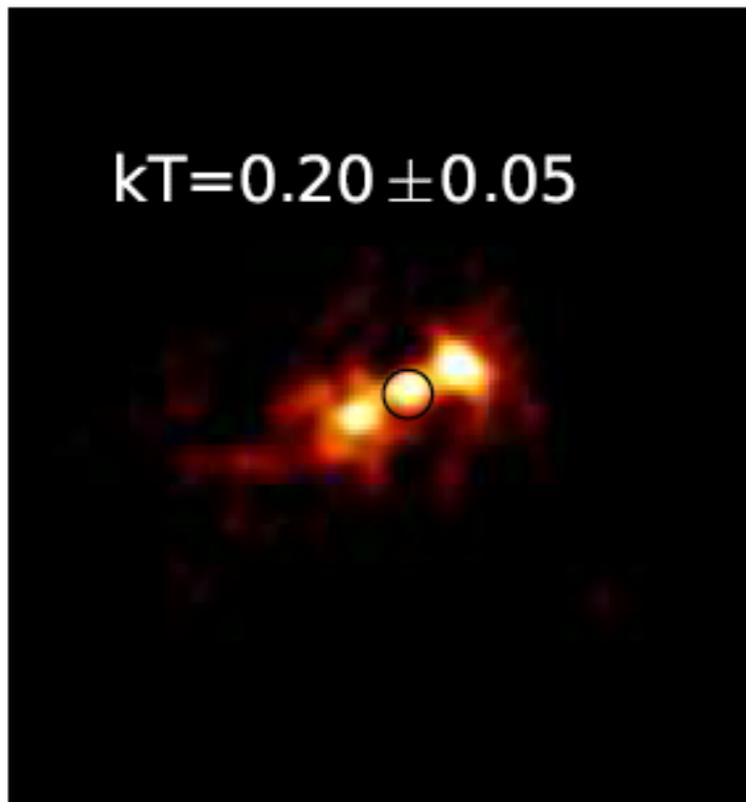
$L_x (0.5-8) = 1.3 \times 10^{30} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   
Reff  $\sim 1.5 \text{ km}$  : emission from  
hot spot of neutron star



$L_x (0.5-8) = 3.3 \times 10^{31} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   
non-thermal emission  
 $\eta \equiv \dot{E} / L_x \sim 10^{-5}$   
compact nebula  $\sim 0.06 \text{ pc}$  ( $d = 900 \text{ pc}$ )

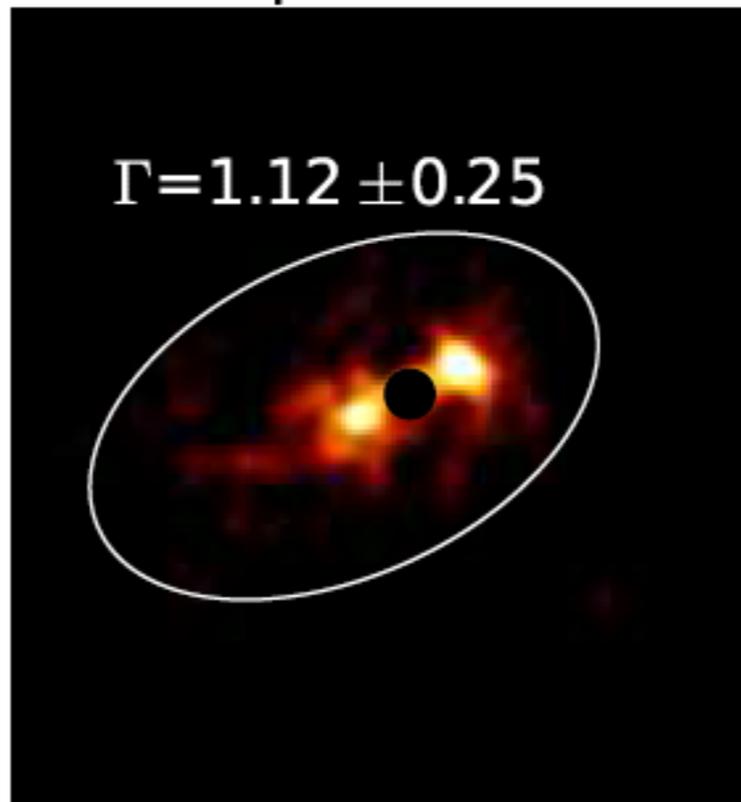
Pulsar

$$kT=0.20 \pm 0.05$$



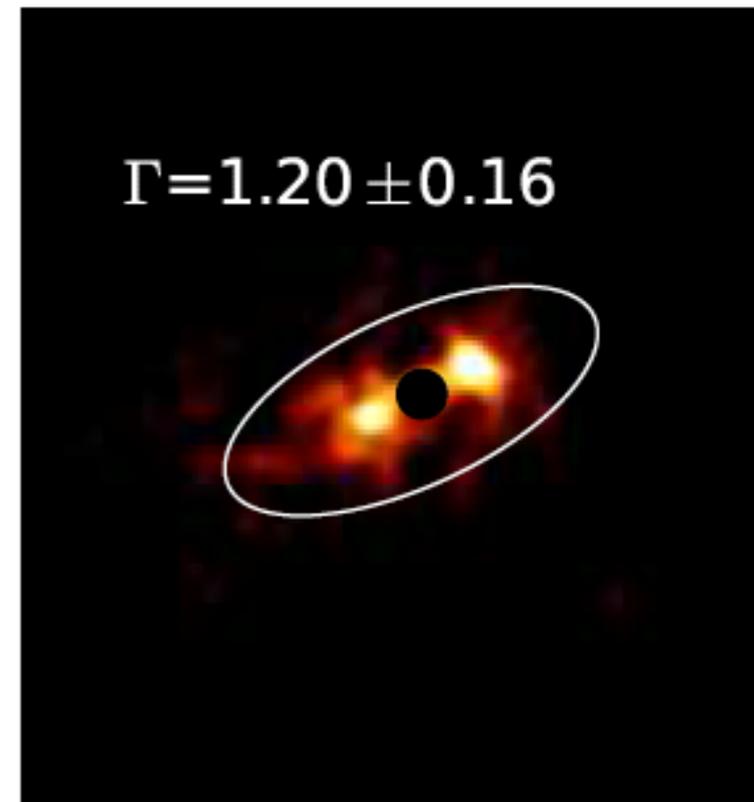
Compact nebula

$$\Gamma=1.12 \pm 0.25$$



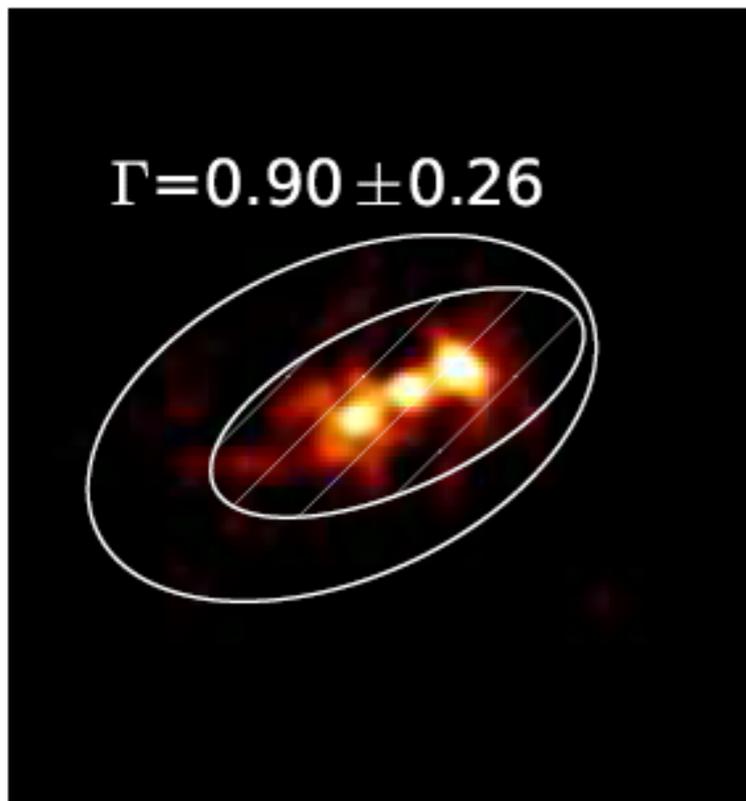
Inner nebula

$$\Gamma=1.20 \pm 0.16$$



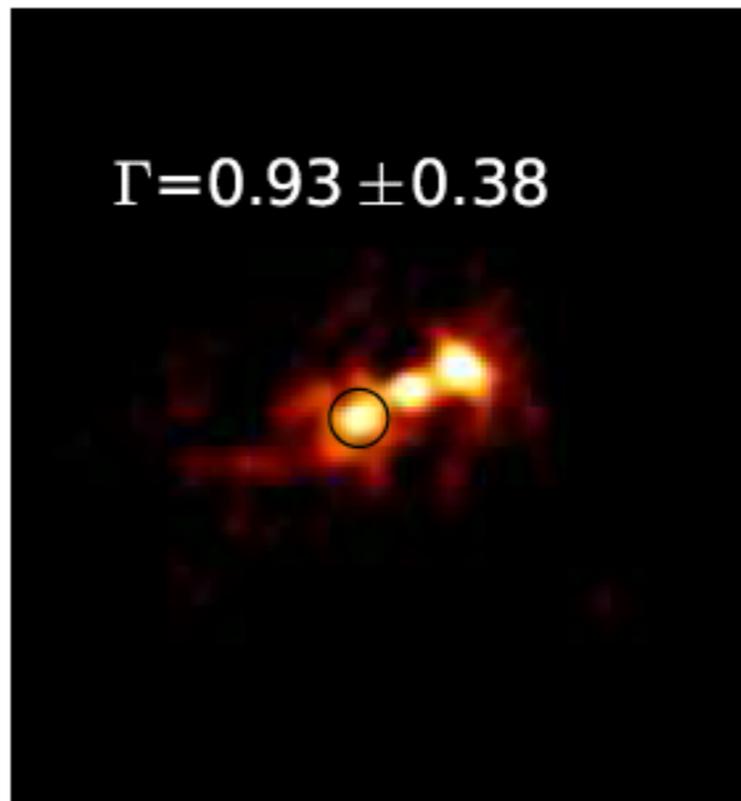
Outer nebula

$$\Gamma=0.90 \pm 0.26$$



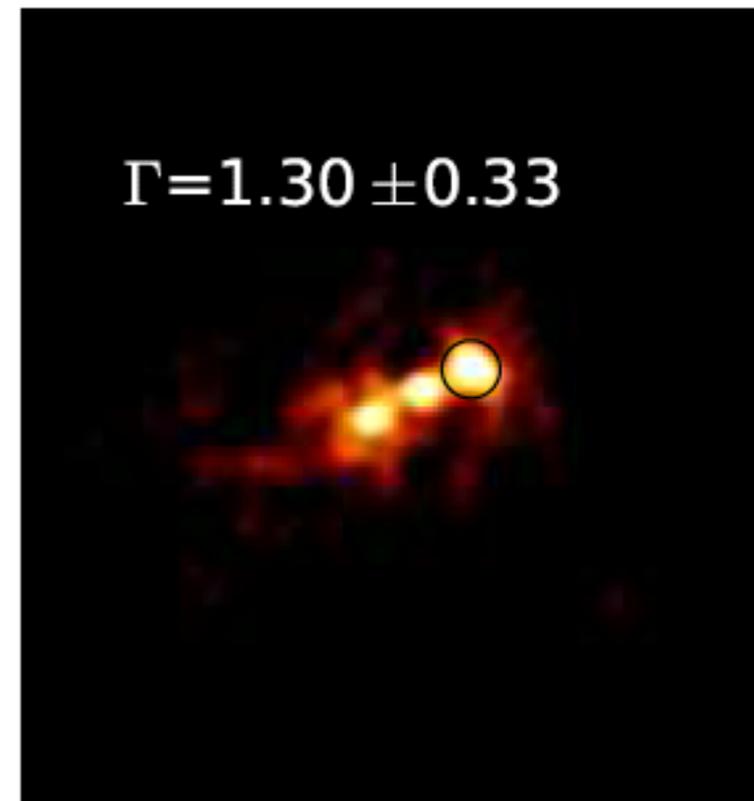
East Lobe

$$\Gamma=0.93 \pm 0.38$$

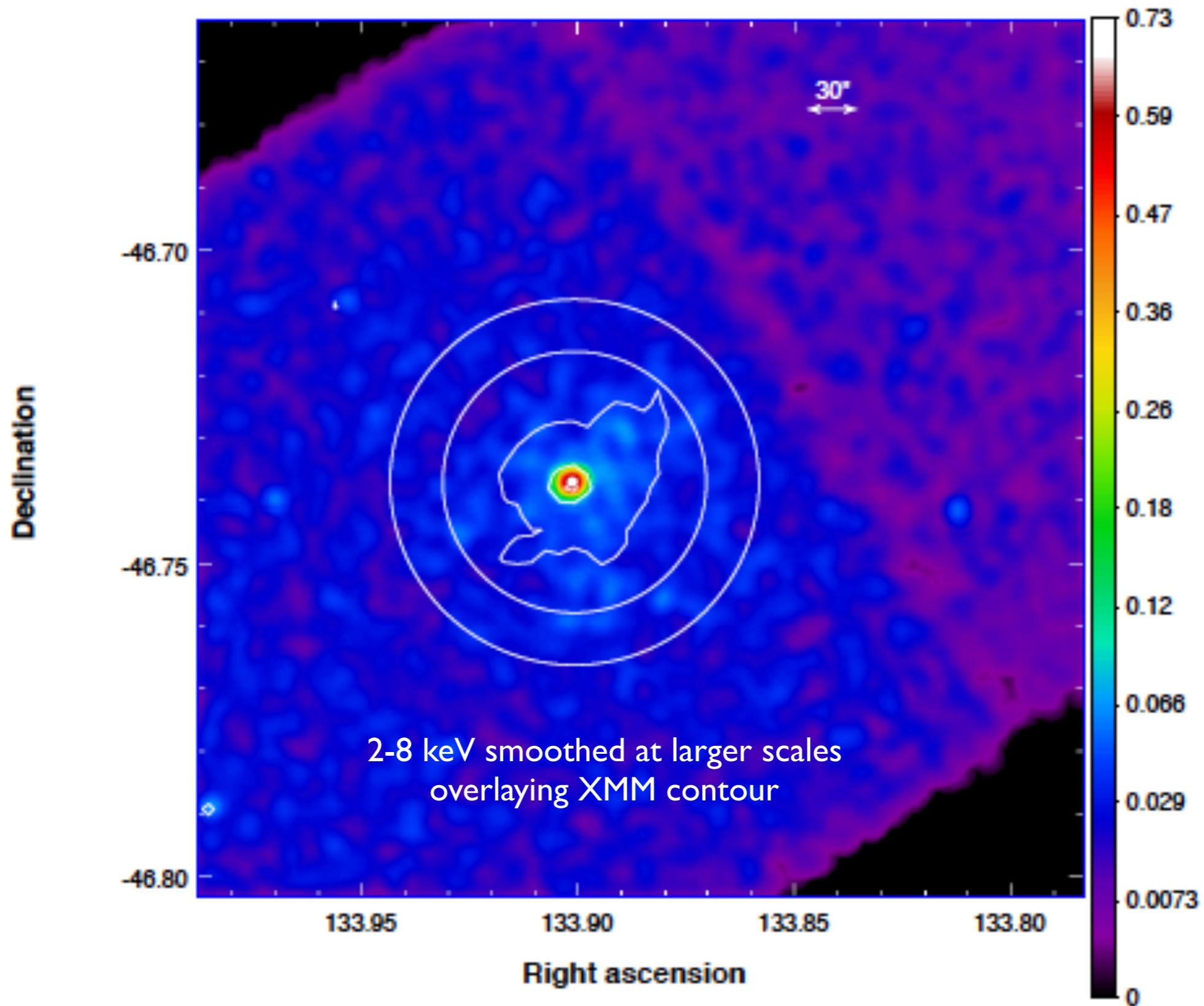


West Lobe

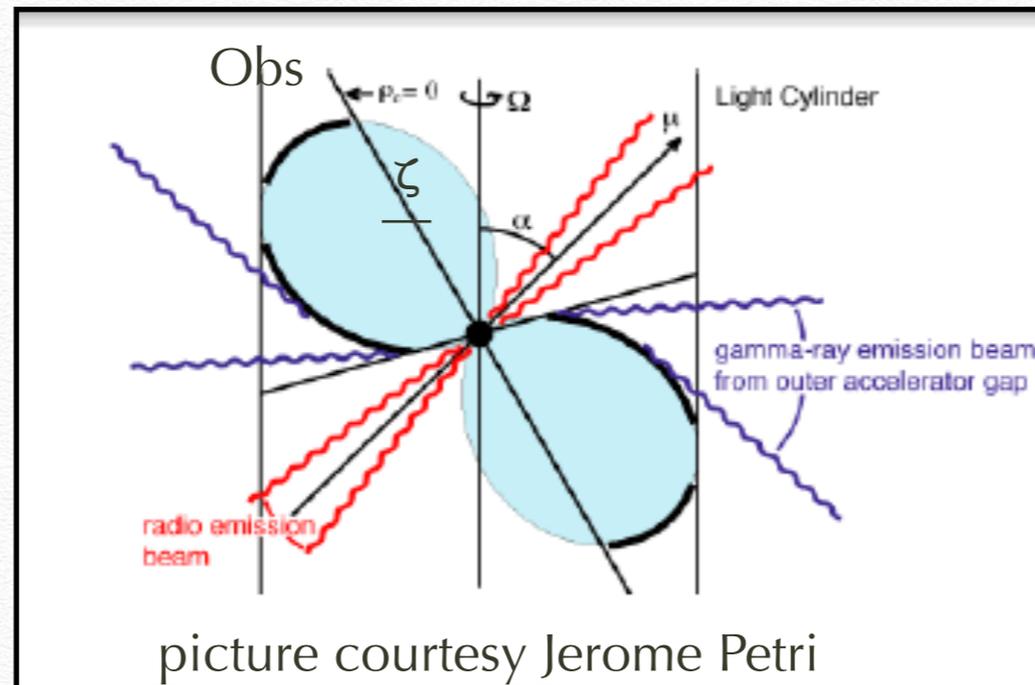
$$\Gamma=1.30 \pm 0.33$$



# diffuse emission



# Emission from rotation powered pulsars



- ❖ **Polar cap** (Daugherty & Harding 1996): Particle acceleration & radiation at the magnetic poles: **Radio**
- ❖ **Outer Gap** (Romani 1996): Particle acceleration & radiation between caustic and light cylinder: **X-rays and Gamma rays**
- ❖ **Slot gap or Two-Pole-Caustic (TPC)** model: (Dyks & Rudak 2003)
- ❖ Models of outer-gap emission of gamma rays predict  $\zeta > 45$  deg and large  $\alpha - \zeta > 30$  deg (Romani & Yadigaroglu 1995 & references): **Constraint on pulsar geometry**

# Independent constraints from predictions of geometric light curve models

- ❖  $P=65$  ms and  $\nu=1.2$  GHz sets the beam width for radio as

Radio beam width from a single altitude  $\sim \theta_{pc} \propto P^{-1/2}$

- ❖ Beam width in conjunction with  $\zeta$  sets radio visibility of the pulsar

- ❖ **Derive  $\alpha$ ,  $\zeta$  based on radio visibility, and gamma ray non-visibility ->**

## Geometry

- ❖ Geometric model, so does not predict flux, but match normalized pulse shape to the observed profile
- ❖ Details of method in reference **1)** C. Venter, A. K. Harding, L. Guillemot, 2009, ApJ, 707, 800 **2)** C. Venter, T. J. Johnson, and A. K. Harding 2012, ApJ, 744, 34

