

Media and outreach

- What this session is and is not
- Reasons
- Resources
- Audiences
- Shaping the story
- Kinds of appeal

I'm doing it for ...

- Us
- Them
- Me

7 July 2011

Herschel helps solve mystery of cosmic dust origins

New observations from the infrared Herschel Space Observatory reveal that an exploding star expelled the equivalent of between 160,000 and 230,000 Earth masses of fresh dust. This enormous quantity suggests that exploding stars, called supernovae, are the answer to the long-standing puzzle of what supplied our early universe with dust.

Hubble reveals a new class of extrasolar planet

Observations by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope have come up with a new class of planet, a water world enshrouded by a thick, steamy atmosphere. It's smaller than Uranus but larger than Earth.

[text omitted]

“The high temperatures and high pressures would form exotic materials like ‘hot ice’ or ‘superfluid water’, substances that are completely alien to our everyday experience,” Berta said.

23 September 2011

**[http://press.web.cern.ch/press/
PressReleases/Releases2011/PR19.11E.html](http://press.web.cern.ch/press/PressReleases/Releases2011/PR19.11E.html)**

[text omitted]

The OPERA result is based on the observation of over 15000 neutrino events measured at Gran Sasso, and appears to indicate that the neutrinos travel at a velocity 20 parts per million above the speed of light, nature's cosmic speed limit. ...The OPERA measurement is at odds with well-established laws of nature ...

25 June 2010

Astronomers find cause of “dicky tickers”

In today's (June 25) issue of Science, CSIRO astronomer George Hobbs and colleagues in the UK, Germany and Canada report that they have taken a big step towards solving a 30-year-old puzzle: why the “cosmic clocks” called pulsars aren't perfect.

[text omitted]

“We've shown that many pulsar characteristics are linked, because they have one underlying cause.”

2 March 2012

Dark matter core defies explanation

It was the result no one wanted to believe.

Astronomers have observed what appears to be a clump of dark matter left behind during a bizarre wreck following a collision between massive clusters of galaxies.

[text omitted]

Now, astronomers are left with the challenge of trying to explain dark matter's seemingly oddball behavior in this cluster.

22 September 2009

High-School Student Discovers Strange Astronomical Object

A West Virginia high-school student analyzing data from a giant radio telescope has discovered a new astronomical object -- a strange type of neutron star called a rotating radio transient.

[text omitted]

Bolyard is likely the discoverer of one of only about 30 rotating radio transients known.



Images by Date

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2008	2007	2006	2005
2004	2003	2002	2001
2000	1999		

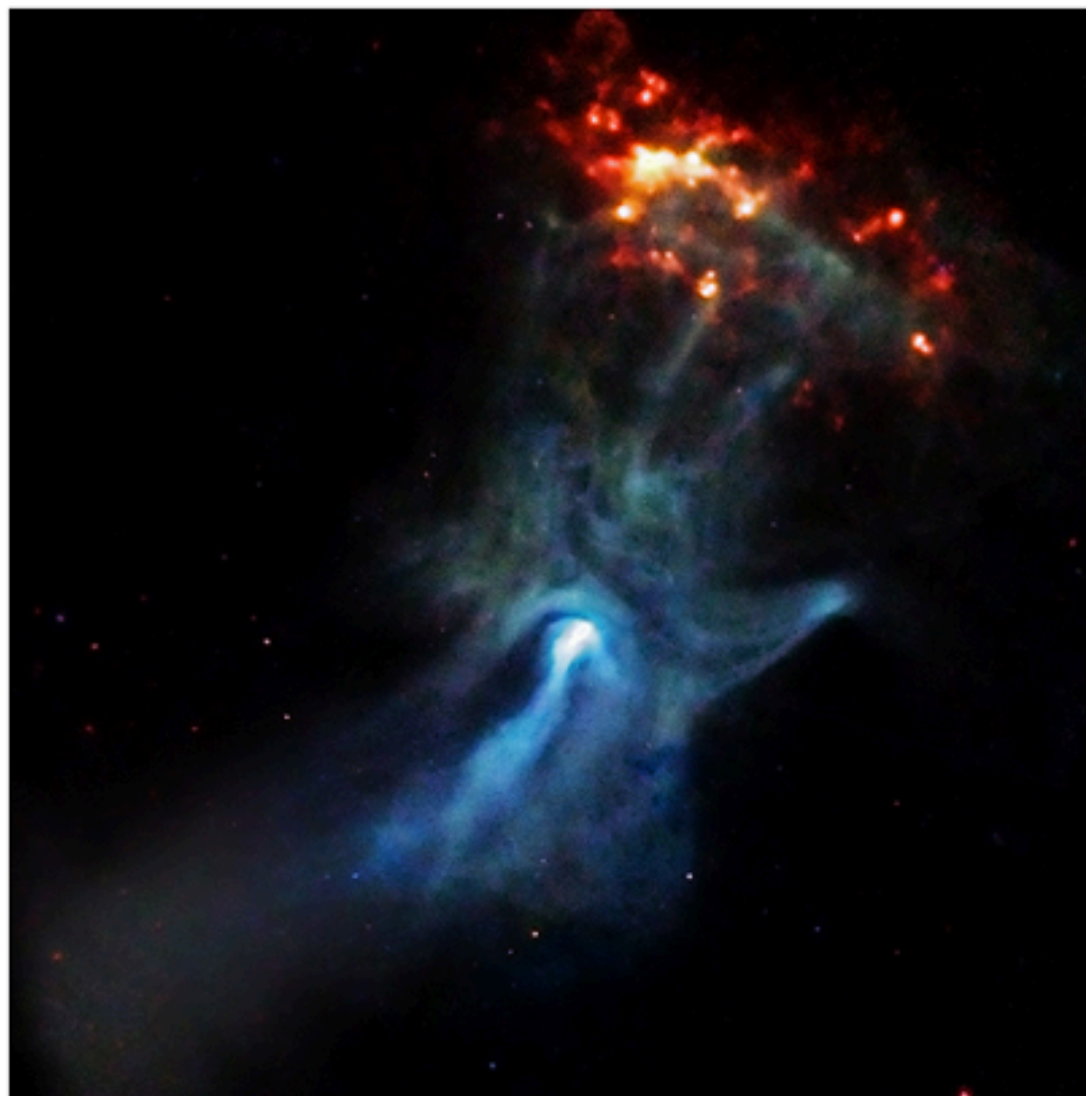
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PSR B1509-58: A YOUNG PULSAR SHOWS ITS HAND



Credit: NASA/CXC/SAO/P.Slane, et al.

A small, dense object only twelve miles in diameter is responsible for this beautiful X-ray nebula that spans 150 light years. At the center of this image made by NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory is a very young and powerful [pulsar](#), known as PSR B1509-58, or B1509 for short. The pulsar is a rapidly spinning neutron star which is spewing energy out into the space around it to create complex and intriguing structures, including one that resembles a large cosmic hand. In this image, the lowest energy X-rays that Chandra detects are colored red, the medium range is green, and the most energetic ones are blue. Astronomers think that B1509 is [about 1700 years old](#) as measured in Earth's time-frame (referring to when events are observable at Earth) and is located about 17,000 light years away.

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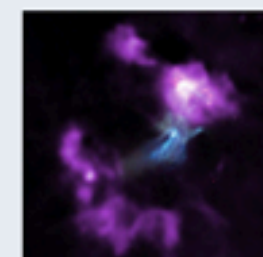
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More Information

- [Blog: A Young Pulsar Shows its Hand](#)
- [How Old Is It?](#)
- [Handout: html | pdf](#)
- [Zoom-In \(flash\)](#)

More Images

X-ray Radio Image
of PSR B1509-58



New molecules and star formation in the Milky Way: GREAT results of the early science flights with SOFIA, the airborne observatory

SOFIA, the “Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy”, completed its first series of science flights using the German Receiver for Astronomy at terahertz Frequencies (GREAT). The scientific results are now being published in a special issue of the European journal “Astronomy & Astrophysics” (Volume 542, May 10) along with reports on GREAT’s advanced technologies. These results demonstrate the instrument’s versatility, include first detections of new interstellar molecules and important spectral lines in space, and address different stages of the star formation process. The GREAT instrument has been developed by a consortium of German research institutes led by Rolf Güsten (Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy).

How to learn

- Watch others do it
- Take media training
- Do practice interviews
- Explain to innocent lay-people
- Practise in front of a mirror