

Intrabinary Interactions in Pulsars viewed by Fermi/LAT

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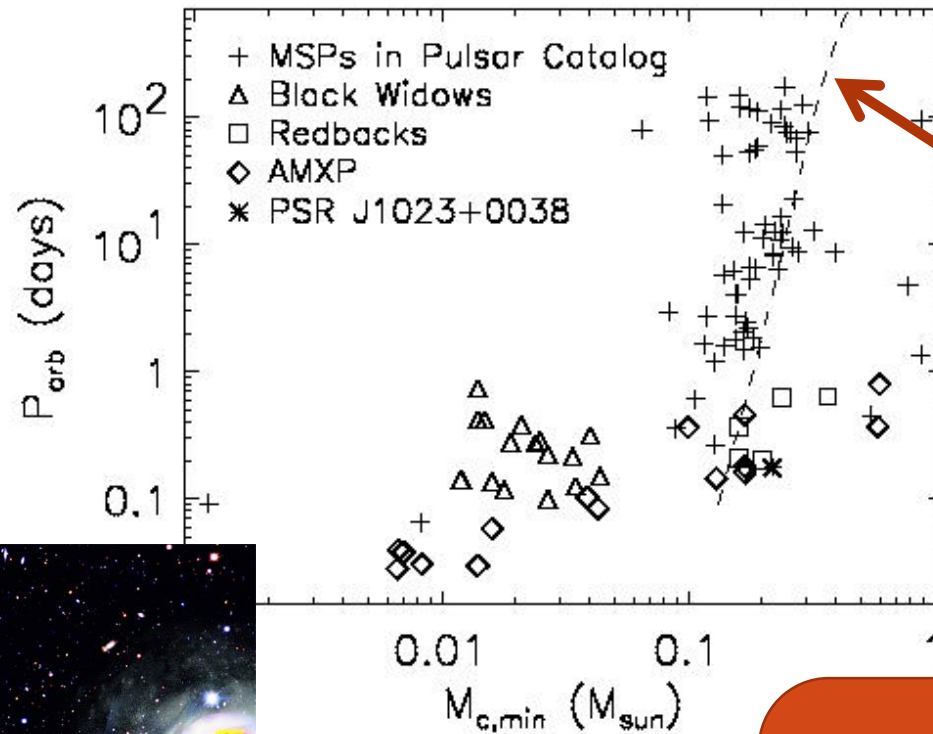
Collaborator: Dr. Yi Xing



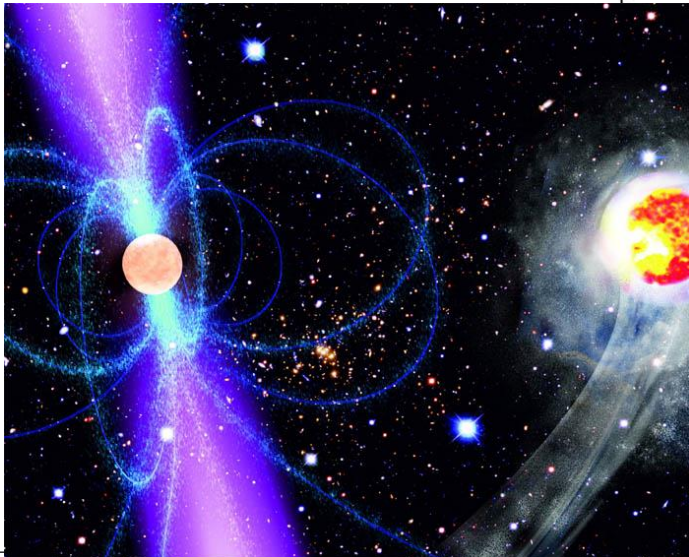
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Millisecond pulsar binaries

Black widow pulsars (Fruchter et al. 1988): eclipsing systems at radio, low-mass 0.02 M_{sun} companions

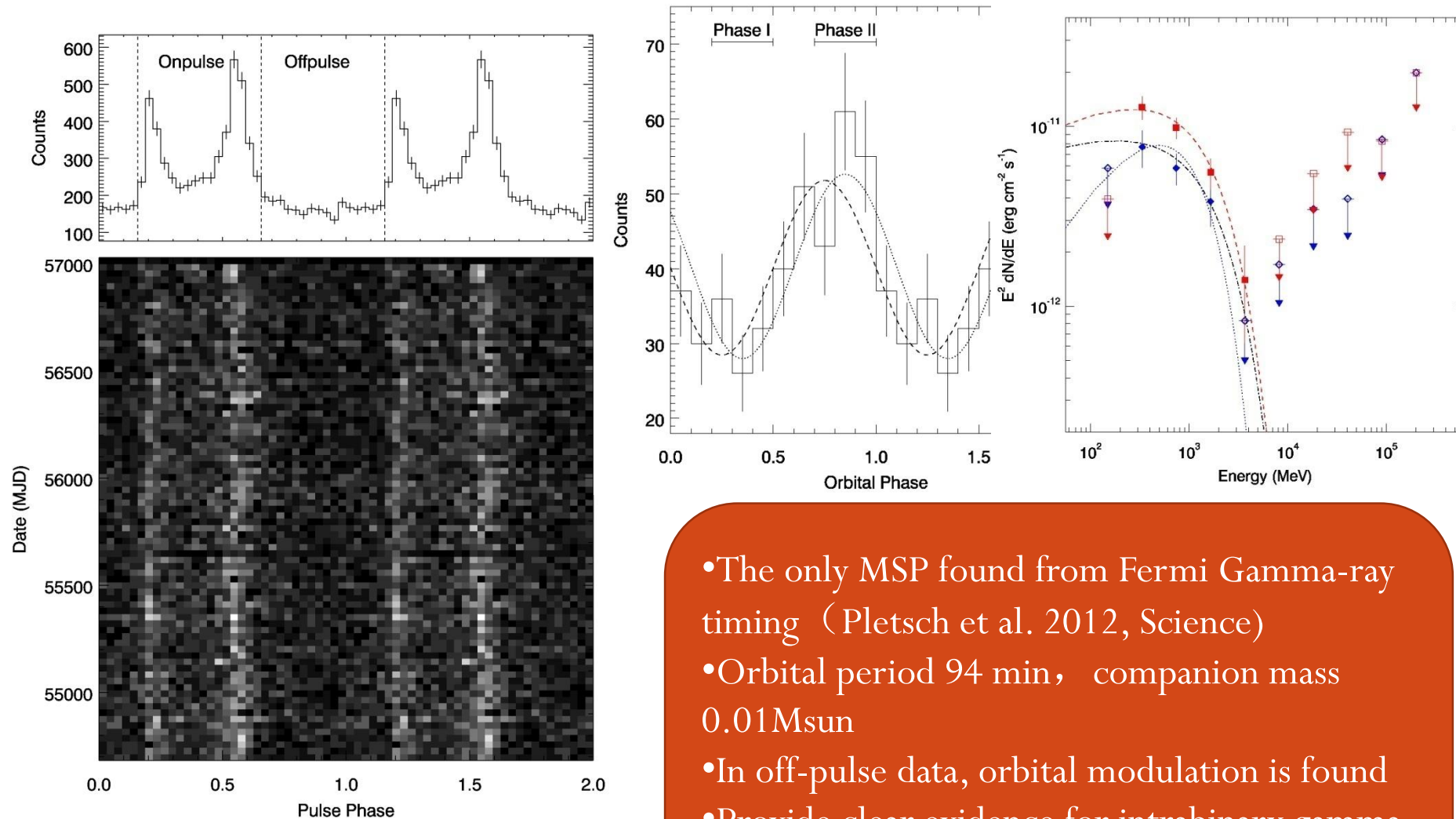


Regular binaries \leftarrow theoretical prediction (Tauris & Savonije 1999)



A new class of eclipsing systems recently identified (**redbacks**; Roberts 2013): they have relatively massive companions (0.1-0.6 M_{sun})

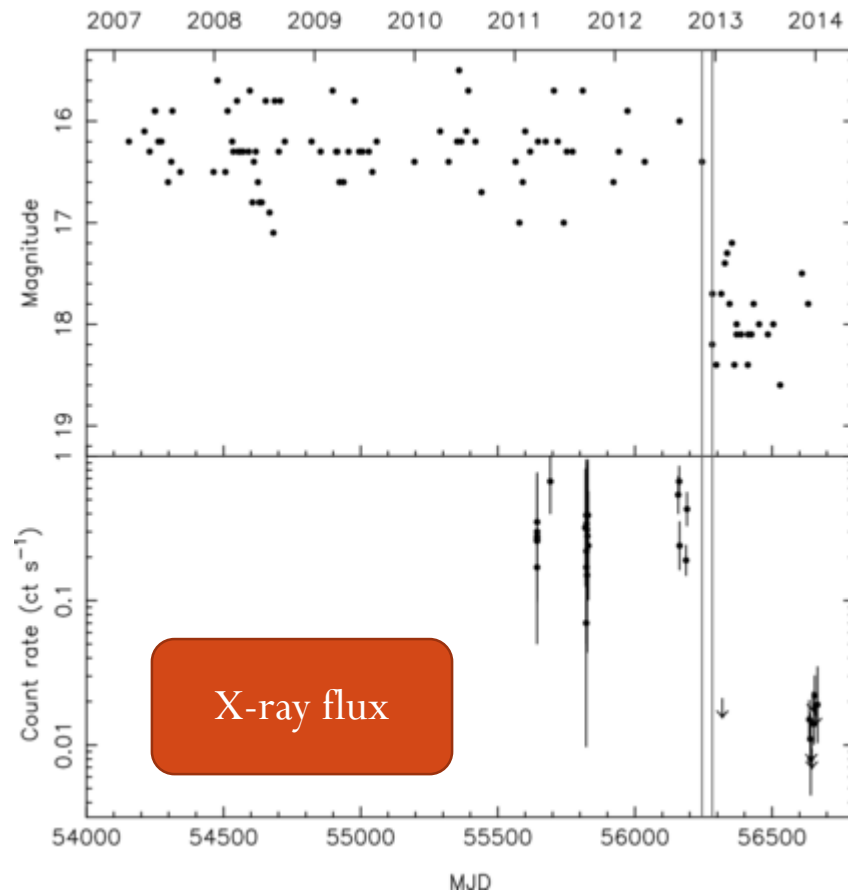
Intrabinary gamma-ray emission from black widow PSR J1311-3430



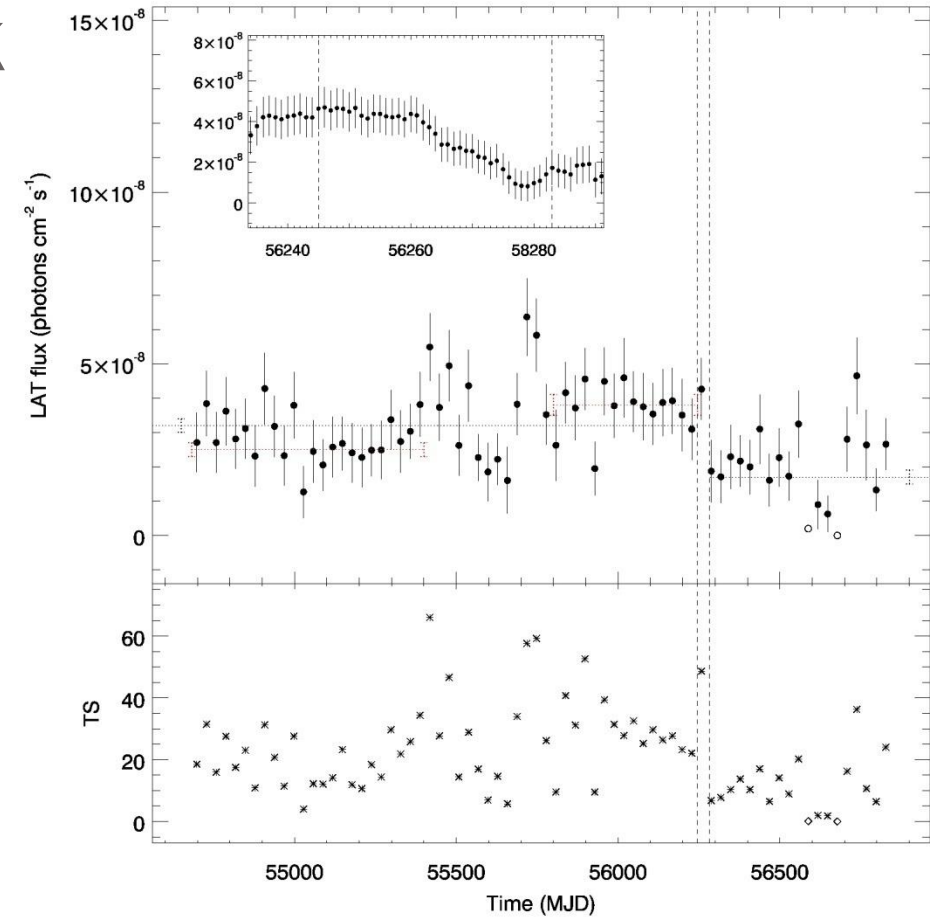
Xing & Wang (2015, ApJL)

- The only MSP found from Fermi Gamma-ray timing (Pletsch et al. 2012, Science)
- Orbital period 94 min, companion mass 0.01 M_{sun}
- In off-pulse data, orbital modulation is found
- Provide clear evidence for intrabinary gamma-ray emission

2nd Transitional Redback XSS 12270-4859

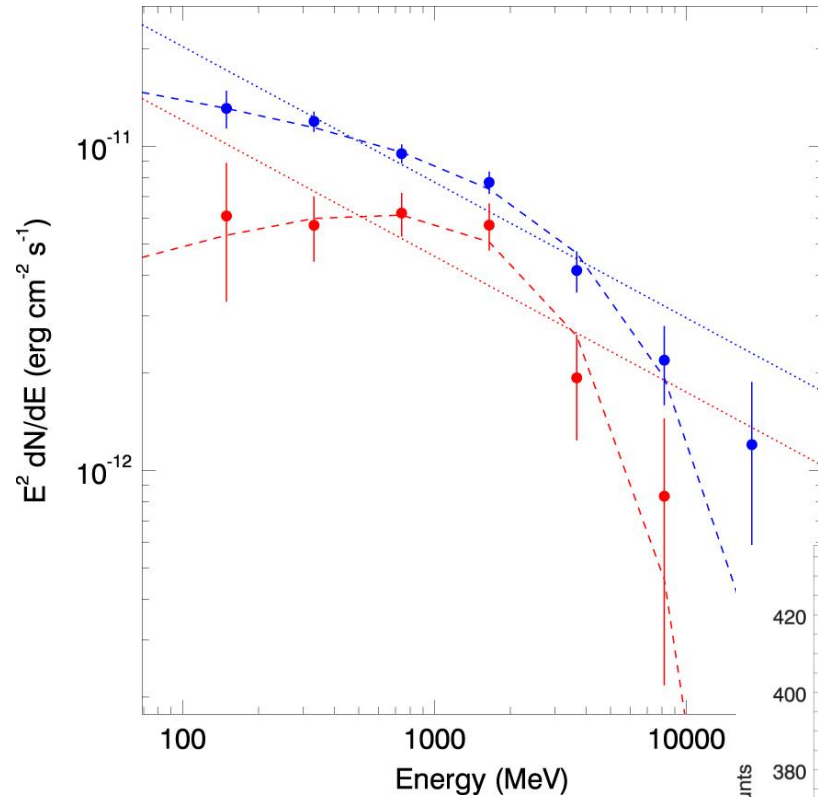


Disk disappearance occurred at the end of 2012 (Bassa et al. 2014)

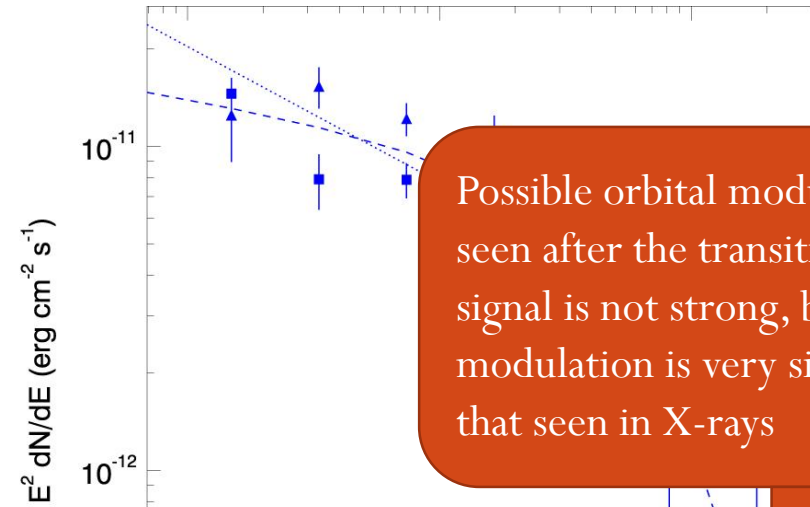


- A redback, but can switch between the states of having an accretion disk and being disk-free
- After the transition (to disk-free):
 - a $P=1.69$ ms pulsar is seen
 - X-rays are orbitally modulated
 - Gamma-ray flux has decreased by a factor of 2

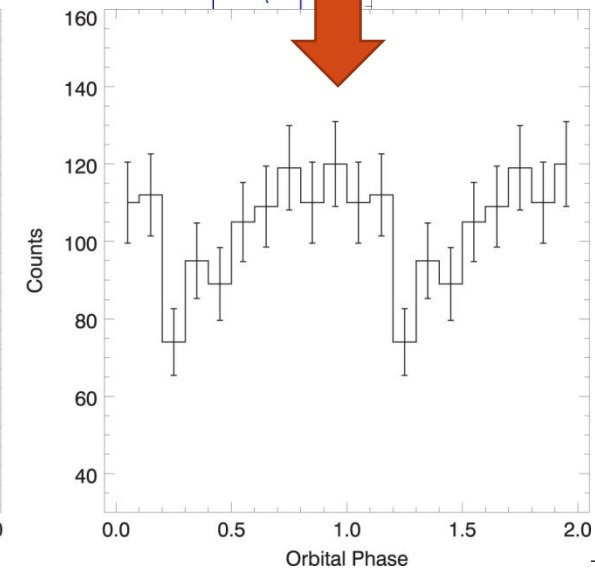
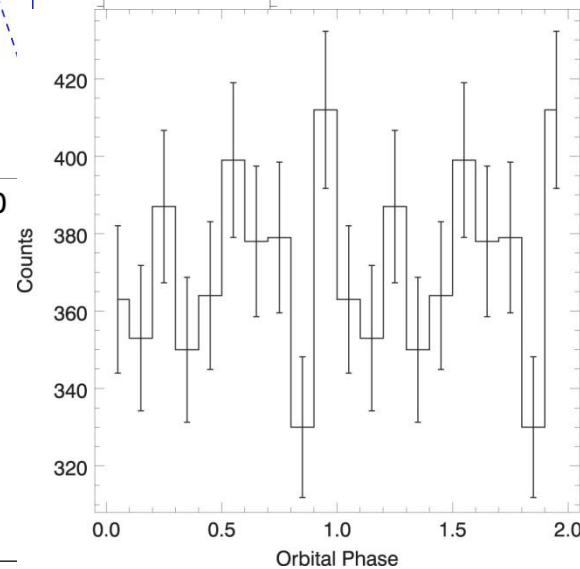
Spectra and Orbital Variability



Fermi Spectra before and
after the transition
(Xing & Wang 2015)



Possible orbital modulation
seen after the transition; the
signal is not strong, but the
modulation is very similar to
that seen in X-rays

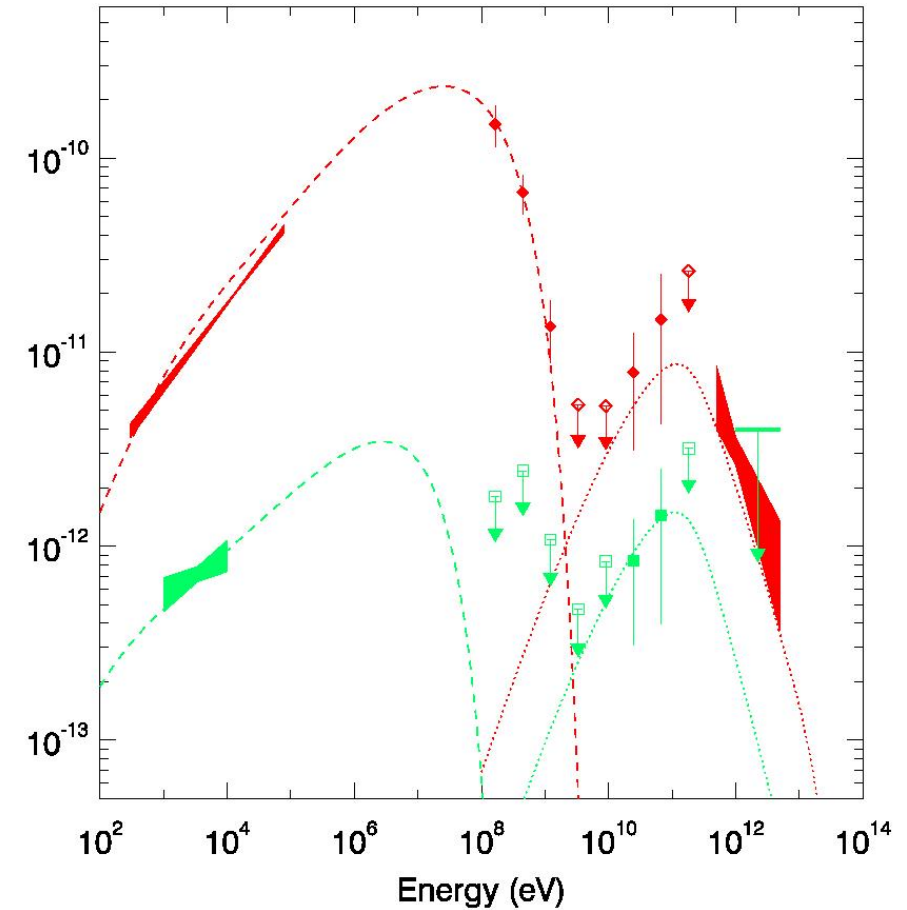
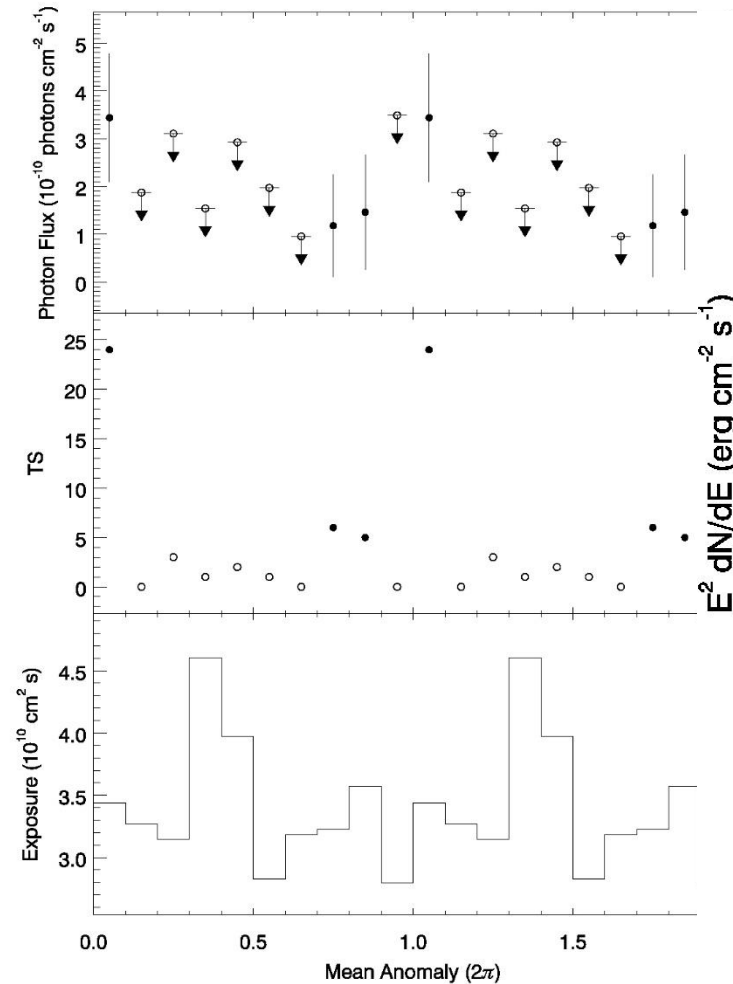


High-energy component of PSR B1259-63/LS 2883



Orbital Period 3.4 yr,
enhanced emission
is seen near
periastron

- A 5-300 GeV component is detected during the flares (near periastron passages)
- The component is even present in the 2nd half orbit
- Inverse-Compton process: high-energy particles from the pulsar up-scatter seed photons from the companion



Xing, Wang, Takata (2016
ApJ)