



# Sherpa

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CHASC Astrostatistics

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# Scientific Experiment

Observations

Data Reduction and Processing

Scientific Analysis

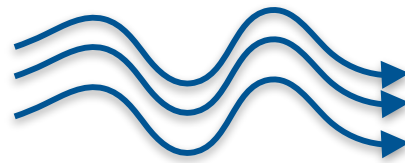
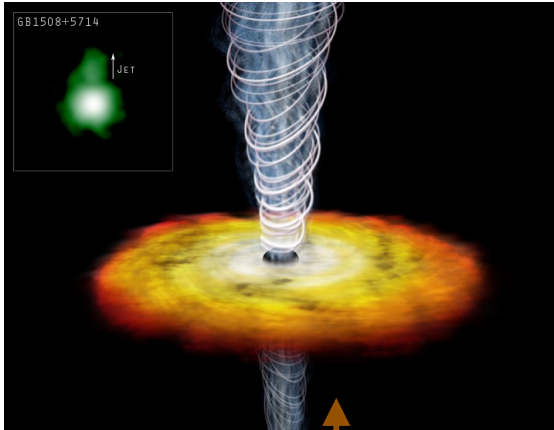
Results

Conclusion and Final Decision

# Observations and Data Collection

Detector collects photons, adds noise

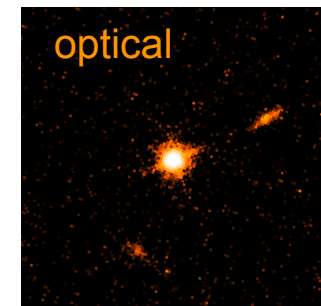
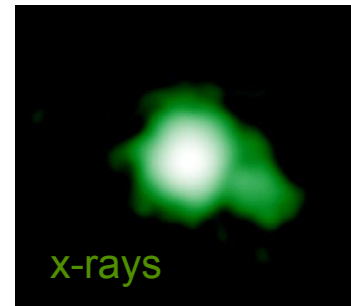
Astrophysical process

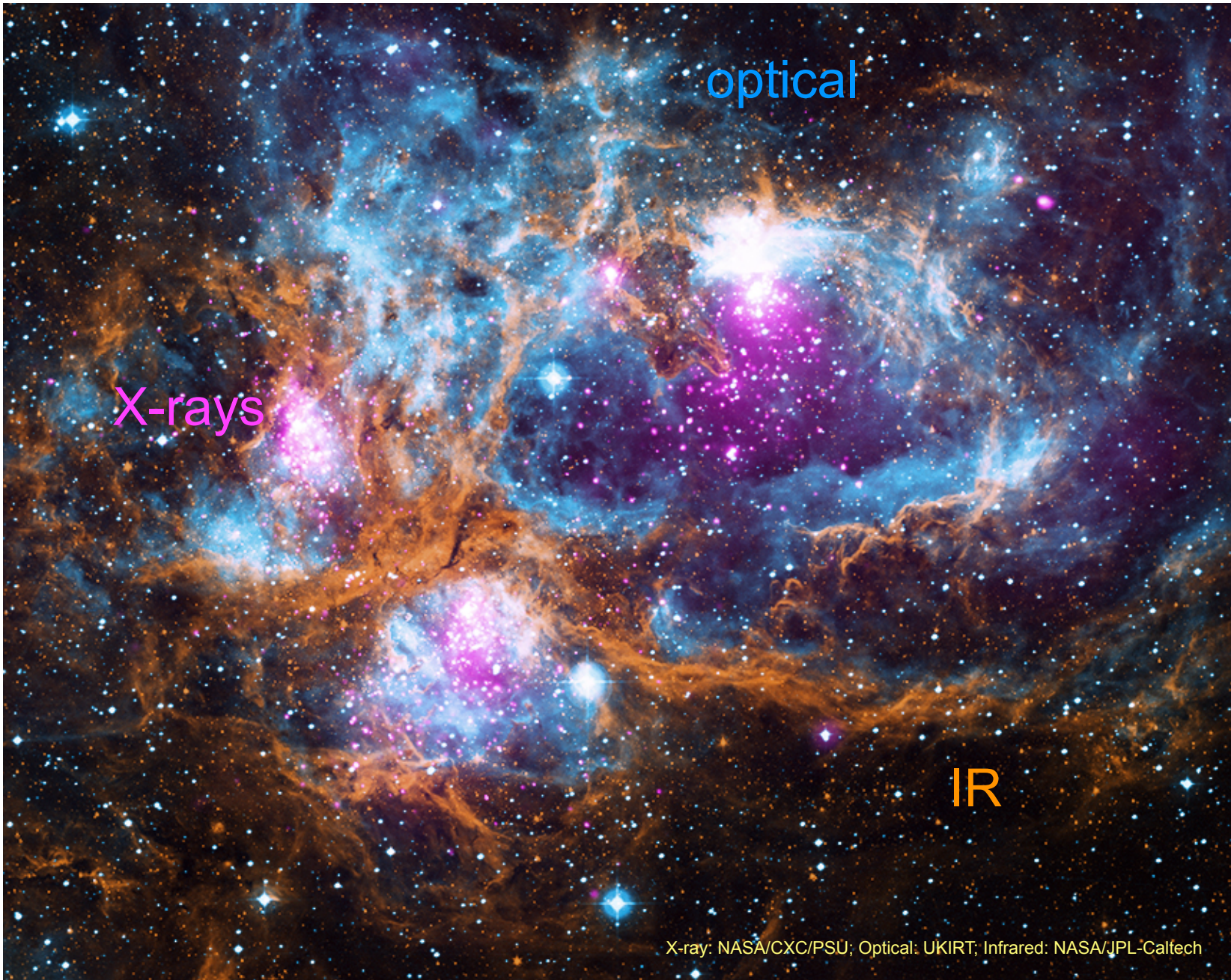


Random number of photons reach the detector



draw conclusion about the astrophysical source





NGC 6357  
Star-forming  
Region

X-ray: NASA/CXC/PSU; Optical: UKIRT; Infrared: NASA/JPL-Caltech

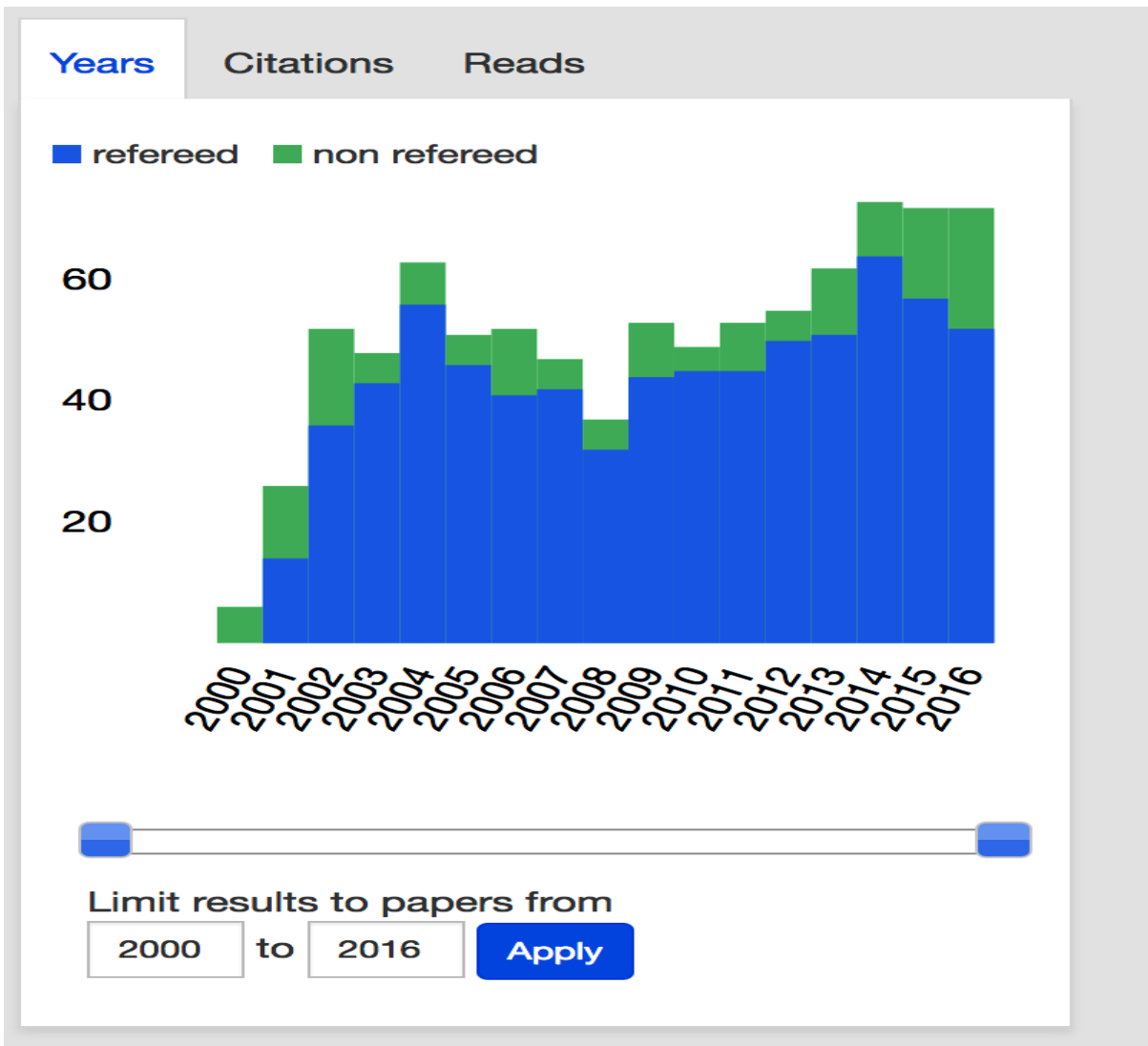




- Modeling 1D/2D (N-D) data: arrays, spectra, images.
- Powerful language for building complex expressions.
- Provides a variety of statistics and optimization methods (including Bayesian analysis) .
- Support for wcs, responses, psf, convolution.
- Extensible to include user models, statistics and optimization methods.
- Included in several Software packages.
- Modeling and fitting application for Python.
- User Interface and high level functions written in Python.
- Source code on GitHub <https://github.com/sherpa/sherpa>
- Open development with continuous integration via Travis.

# Sherpa in Astronomy Research

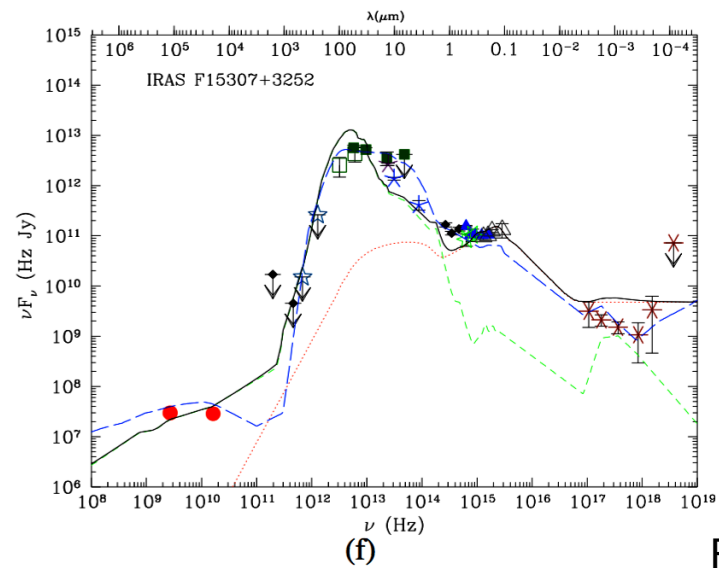
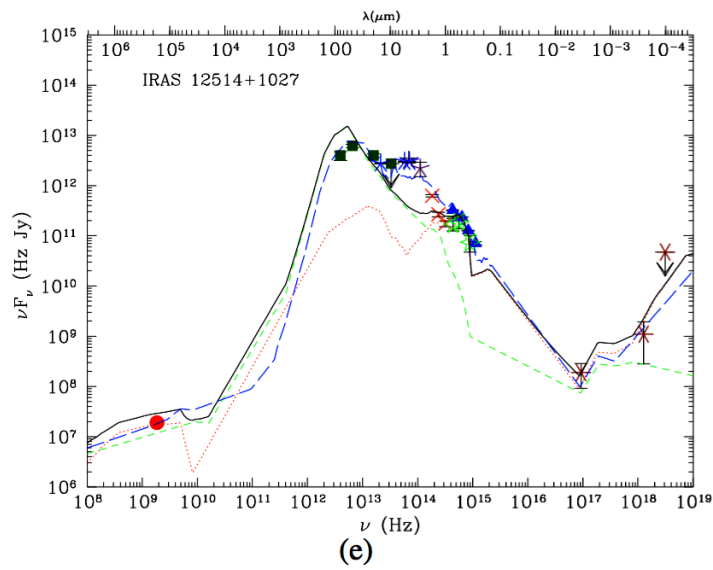
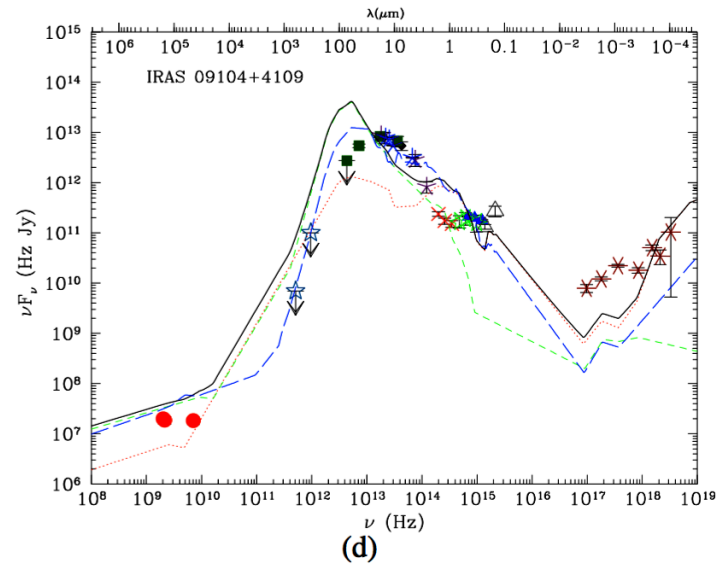
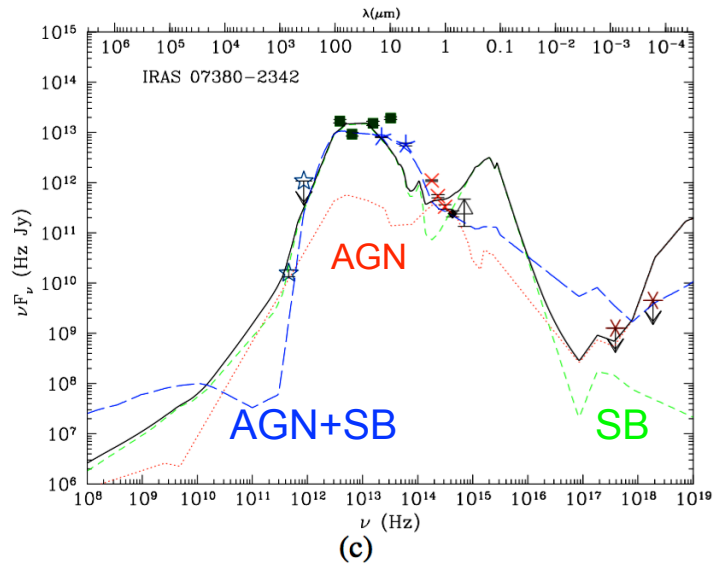
## ADS search results



871 publications cited the use of Sherpa

Mature Package:  
15 years of development  
8 years of Python code

# Spectral (SED) Fitting with Composite Templates



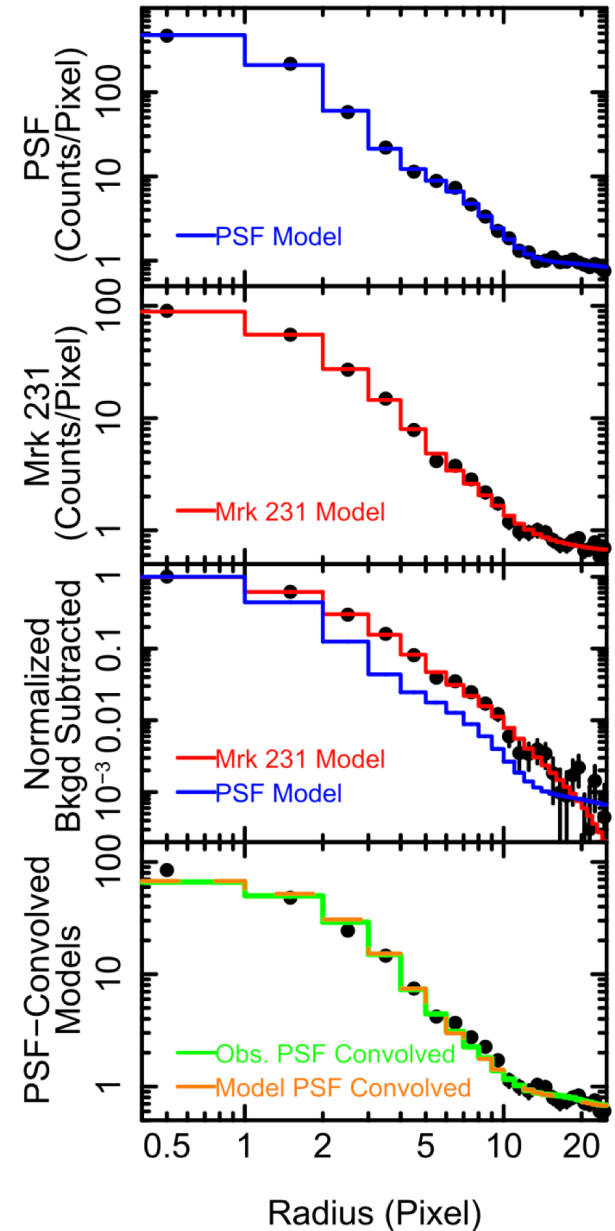
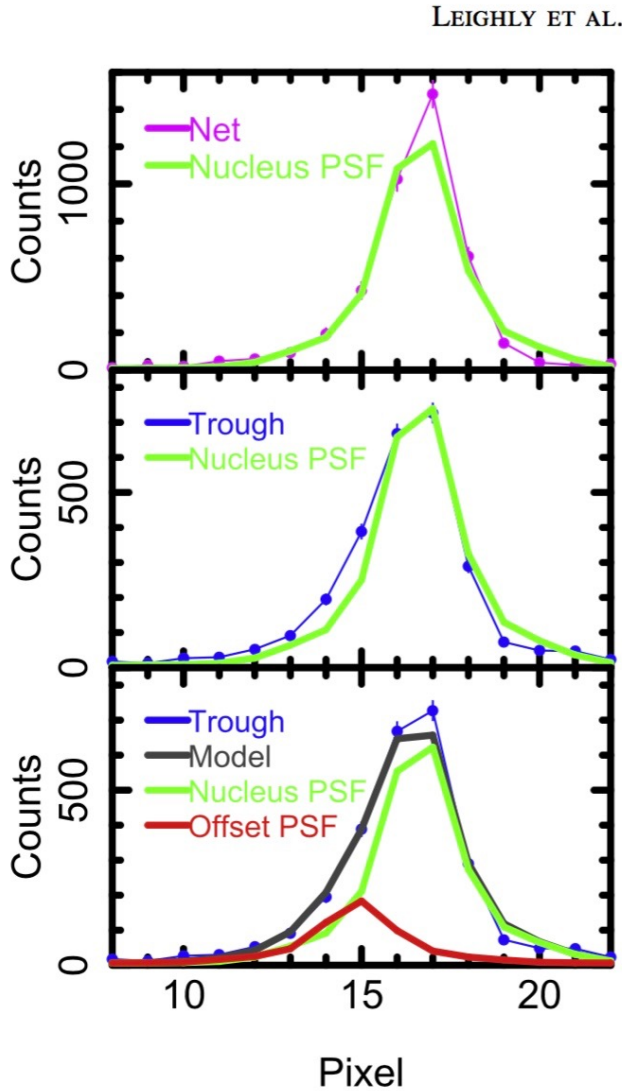
Ruiz et al. (2010)

**Fig. 6.** Rest-frame SED of class B HLIRG and their best-fit models. Symbols as in Fig. 5. The long-dashed lines (blue in the colour version) are the best fits obtained using composite templates (see Sects. 4.1 and 5.2).



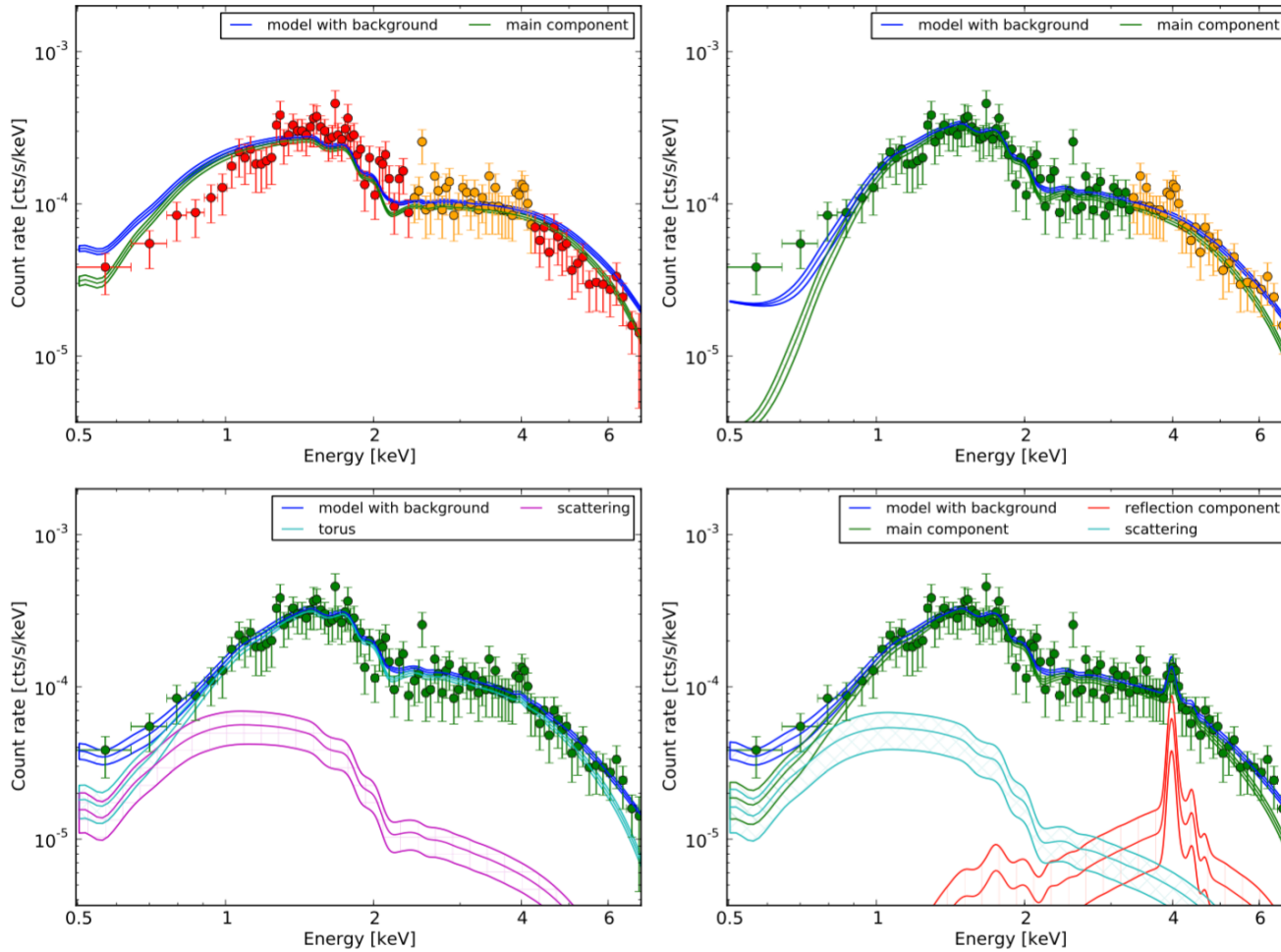
# Fitting Spatial Profiles of the HST observations of Mrk 231

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 829:4 (17pp), 2016 September 20



# Composite Models in BXA Bayesian X-ray Analysis

Buchner et al.: Absorption and reflection model comparison of AGN in the CDFS

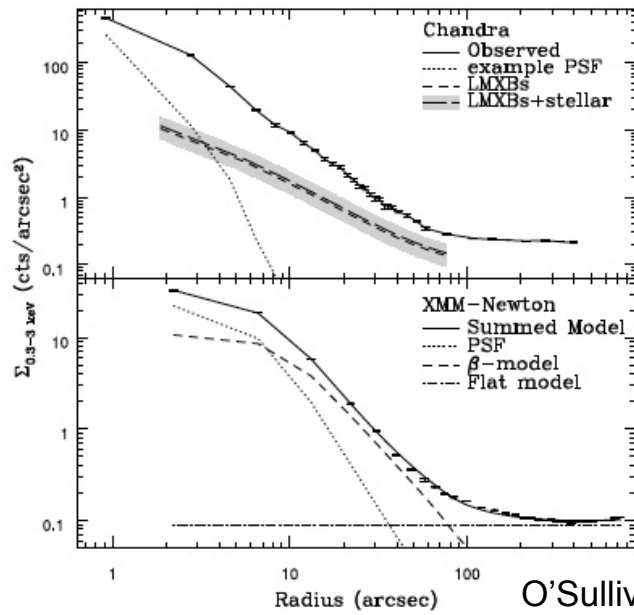


Chandra Deep Field South  
X-ray Spectrum of an object fit  
with different composite models

Figure 5: Observed (convolved) spectrum of object 179, binned for plotting to 10 counts per bin. Shown are analyses using various models and their individual components: **powerlaw** (upper left), **wabs** (upper right), **torus+scattering** (lower left) and **wabs+pexmon+scattering** (lower right). The posterior of the parameters are used to compute the median and 10%-quantiles of each model component.

Buchner et al. 2014

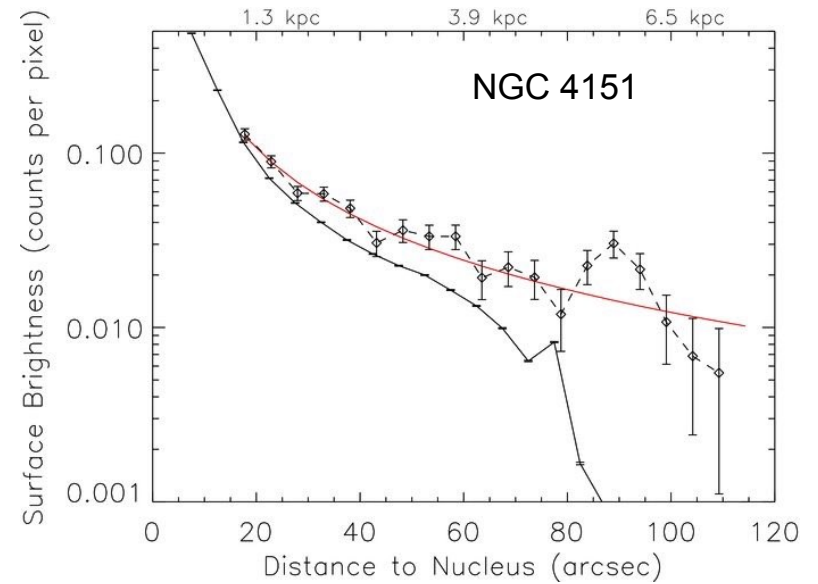
# Chandra and XMM



O'Sullivan et al. (2011)

# Surface Brightness Profiles (with & without PSF)

## Chandra



Wang et al. (2010)

# HST Images

Radio loudness and surface brightness profile 2167

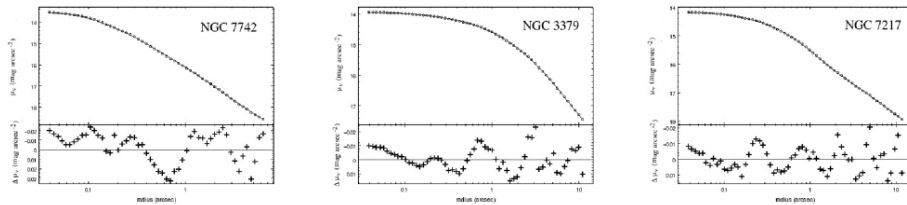
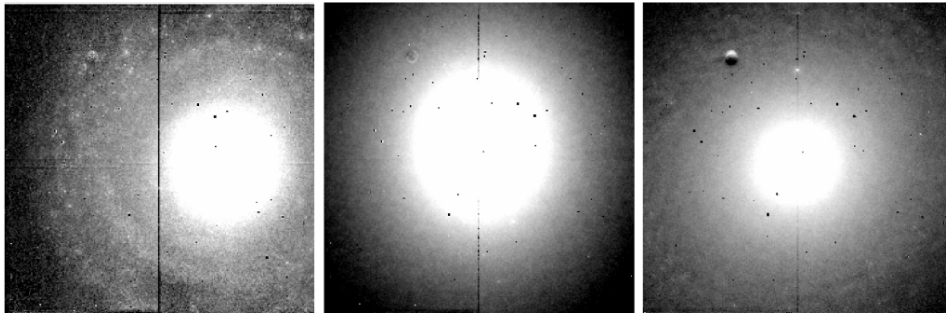
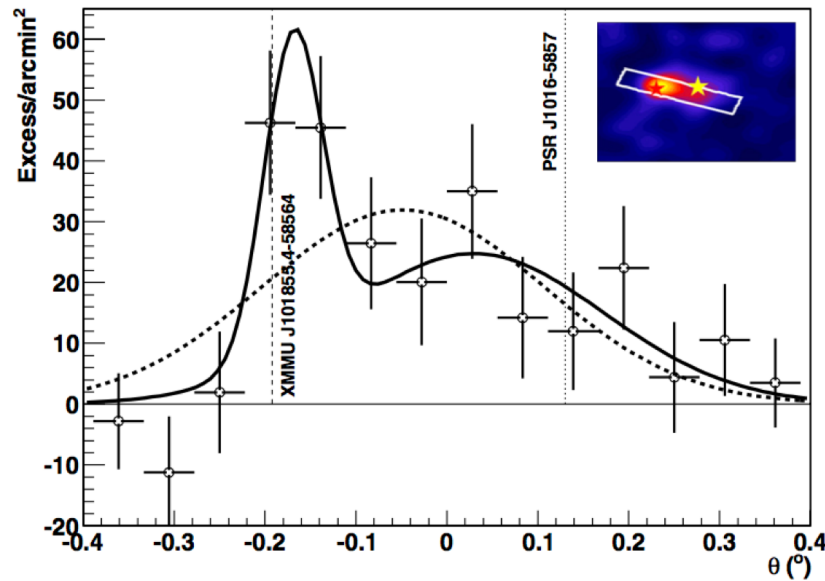


Figure 1. Galaxy images (top row) and radial brightness profiles (bottom row) for a confident Sérsic fit (NGC 7742; left), Core fit (NGC 3379; centre) and Double-Sérsic fit (NGC 7217; right).

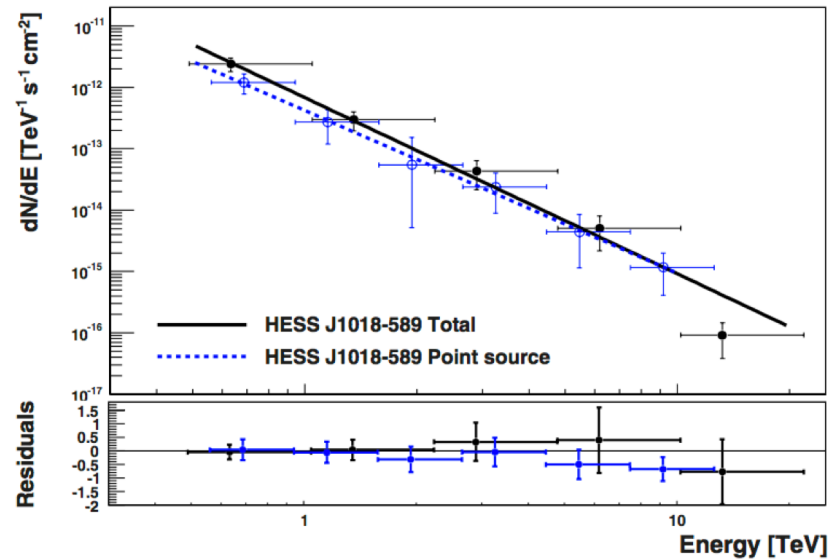
Richings, Utley & Kording (2011)

# Spatial Fitting of the TeV emission in H.E.S.S. observations

A&A 541, A5 (2012)



**Fig. 3.** Profile of the VHE emission along the line between the peak of the point-like emission and the peak of the diffuse emission, as illustrated in the inset. Fits using a single and a double Gaussian function are shown in dashed and solid lines respectively. The positions of XMMU J101855.4-58564 and PSR J1016-5857 are marked with dashed and dotted vertical lines and red and yellow stars in the inset, in which the significance image obtained using an oversampling radius of  $0.1^\circ$  is shown.

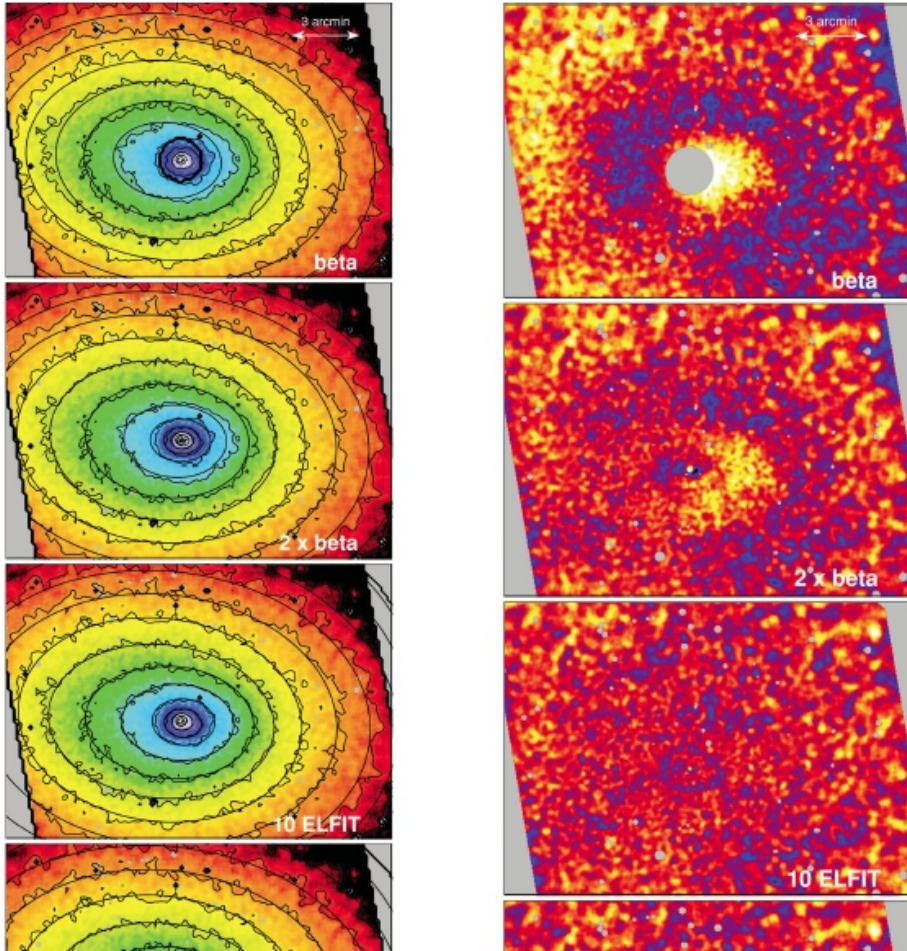


**Fig. 4.** VHE photon spectrum of HESS J1018-589 for a point-like source at position A (in blue dots and dashed blue line) and derived from a region of size  $0.30^\circ$  comprising the point-like and diffuse emission (in black dots and solid black line). The residuals to the fit are shown in the bottom panel.

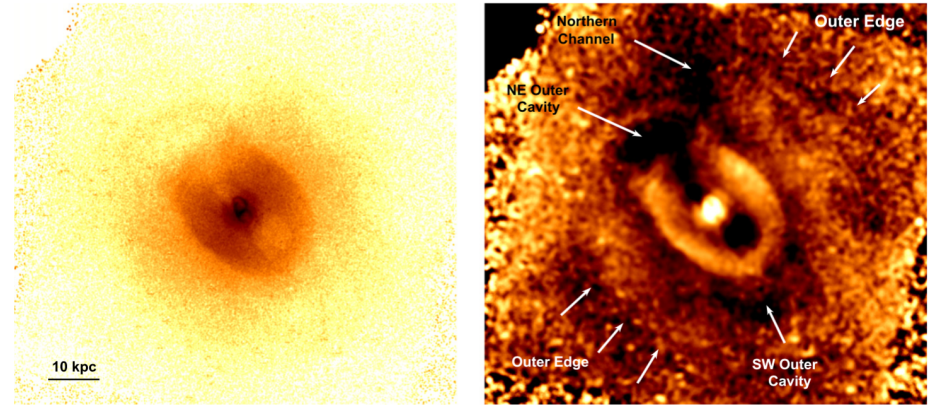
Abramowski et al. (2012)

# Identifying Substructures in X-ray Clusters

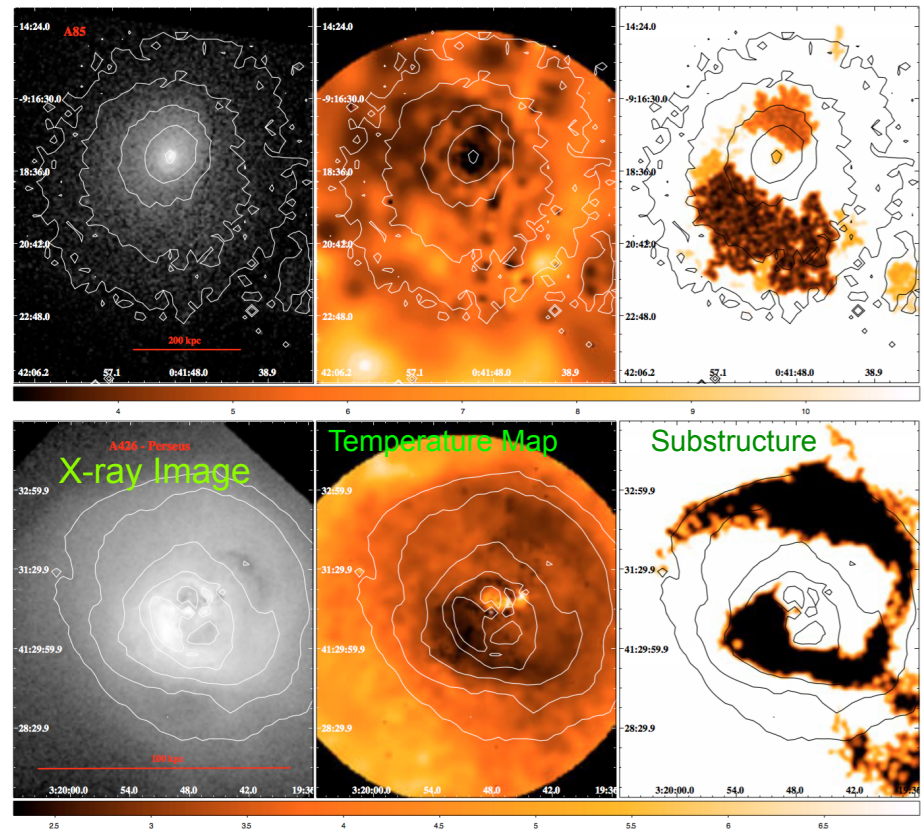
734 J. S. Sanders and A. C. Fabian



Sanders & Fabian (2012)



Randall et al. (2015)



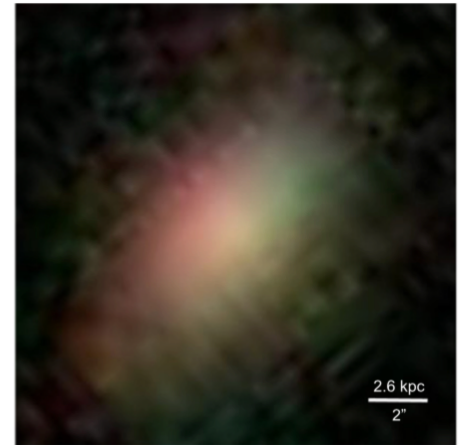
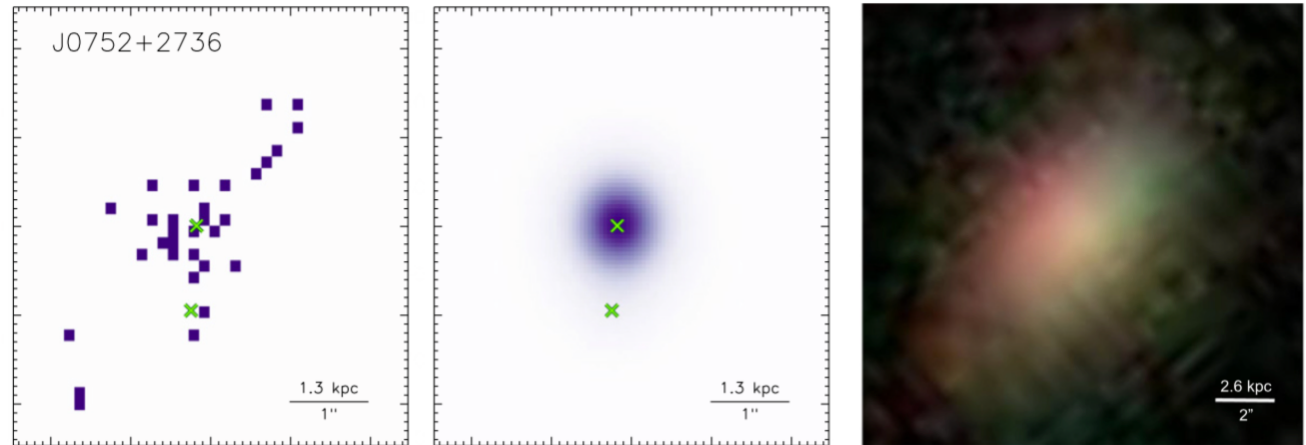
Lagana, Santos & Lima Neto (2010)

# Image Analysis

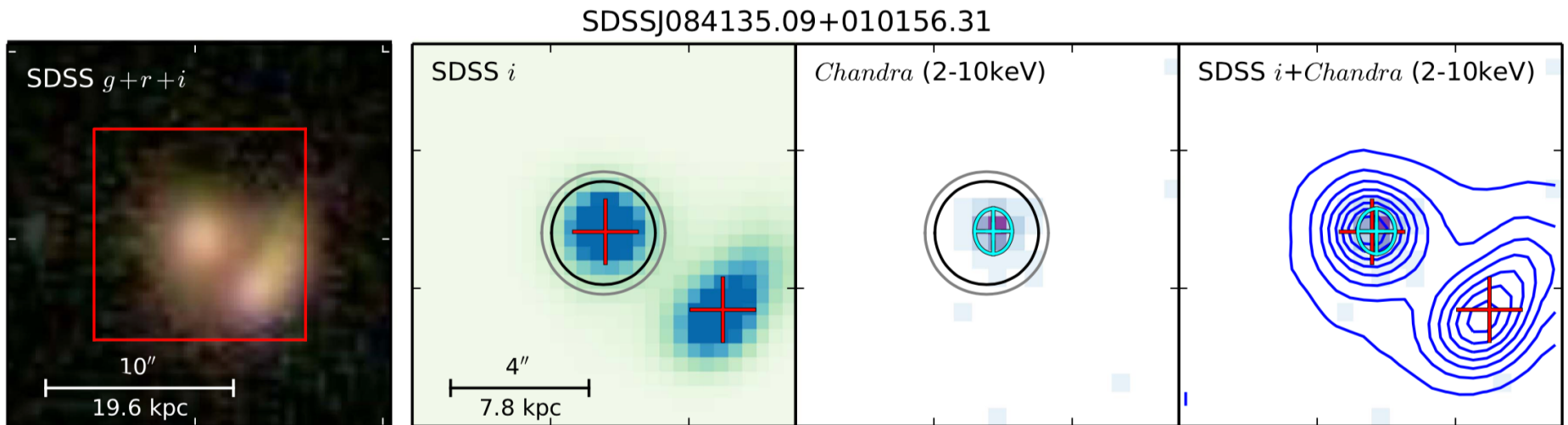
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 806:219 (20pp), 2015 June 20

COMER

Optical-X-ray offsets  
Searches for Binary BH  
and GW Recoils



Comerford et al. (2015)



Barrows et al. (2016)

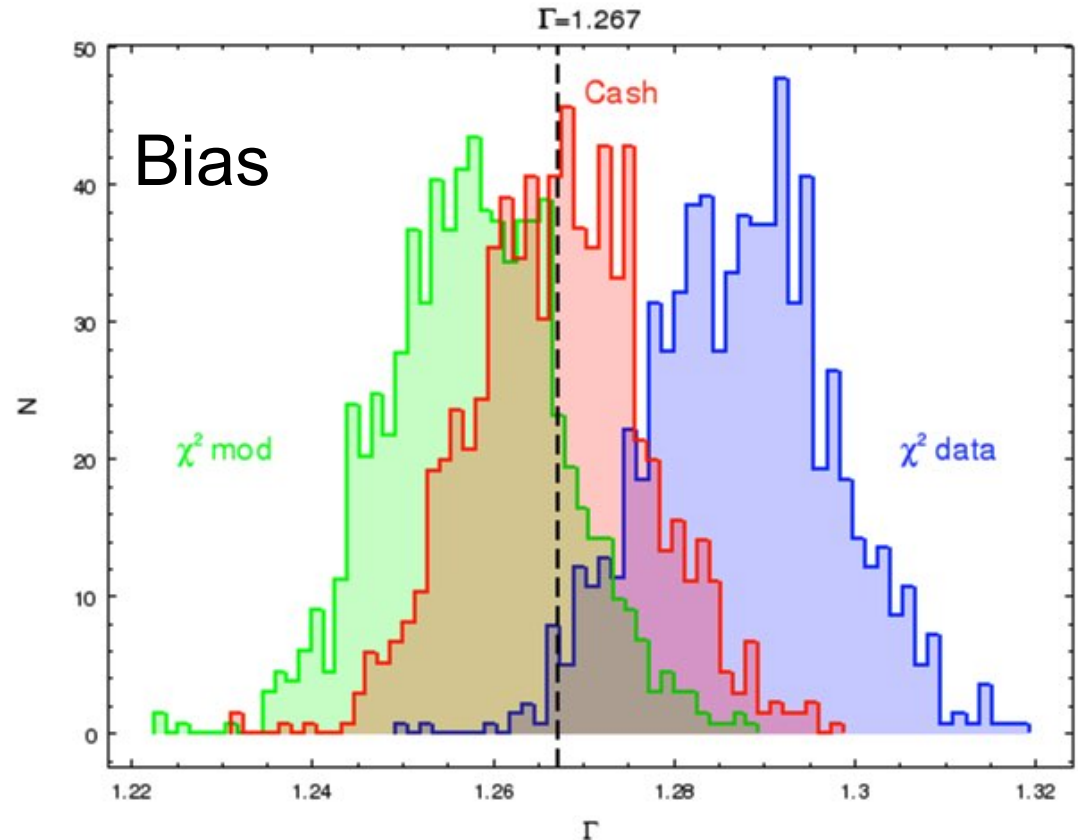
# Models & Model Manipulation

- Parameterized models
- Library of models
- User Models can be added (can be ND)
- Model language to build compound model expressions
  - standard operations: +, -, :, X
  - link parameters
  - convolution

# Fit Statistics in Sherpa

Fit statistics - math operation on data and model arrays

```
In [19]: list_stats()
Out[19]:
['cash',
 'chi2',
 'chi2constvar',
 'chi2datavar',
 'chi2gehrels',
 'chi2modvar',
 'chi2xspecvar',
 'cstat',
 'leastsq',
 'userstat',
 'wstat']
In [20]: set_stat('cash')
```



“Handbook of X-ray Astronomy “  
(2011), Arnaud, Smith, Siemiginowska

chi2 statistics as defined by different weights  
and Poisson likelihood - cash/cstat/wstat



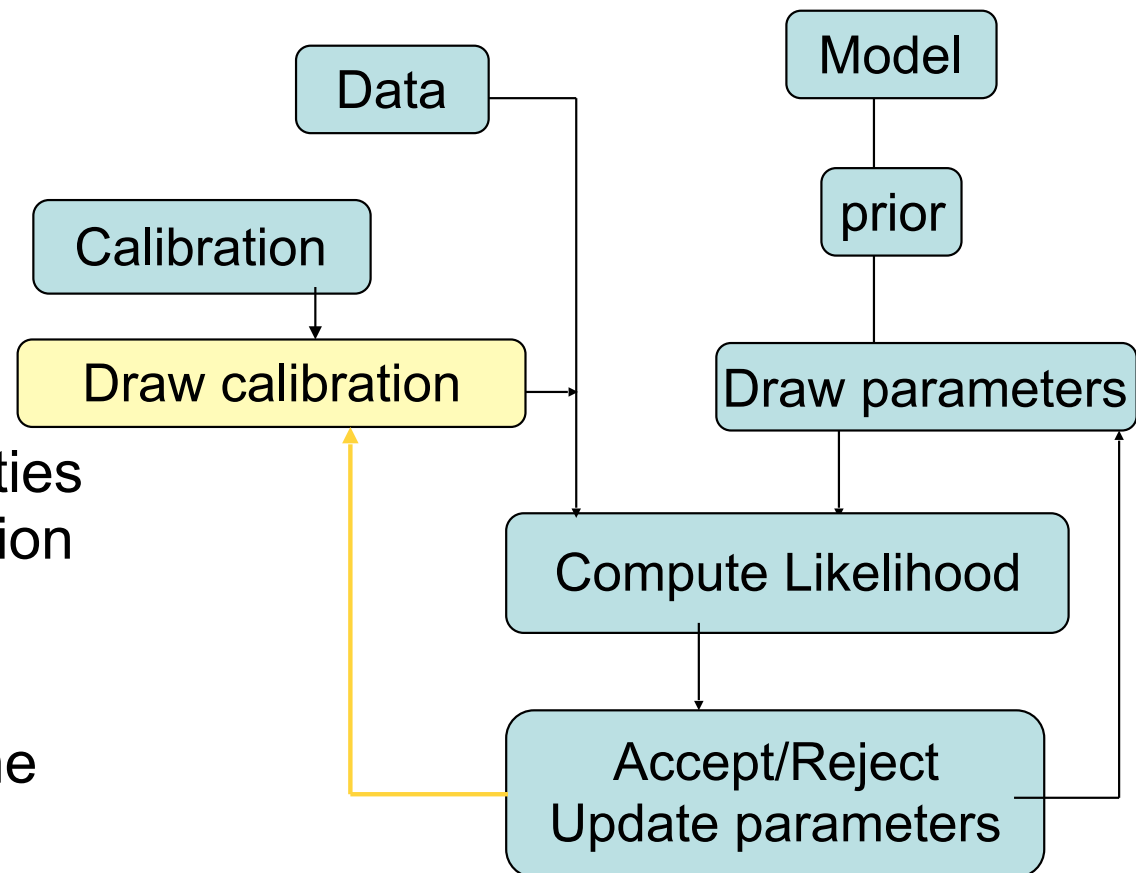
# Sherpa, MCMC and Bayesian Analysis

MCMC samplers:

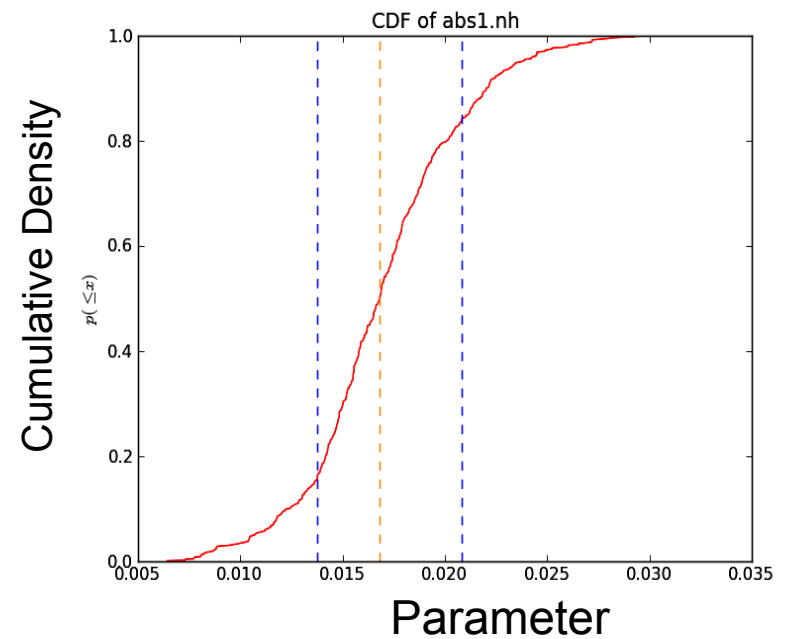
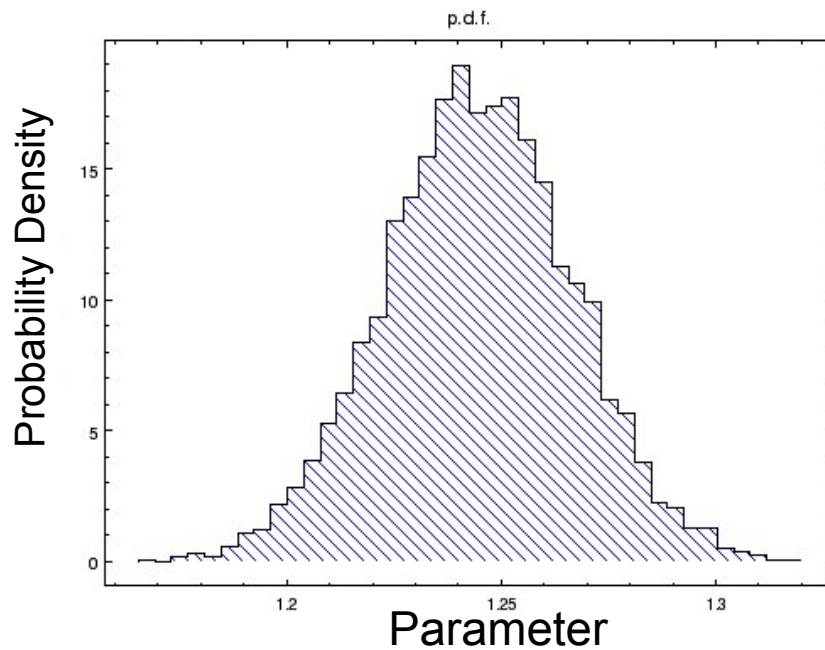
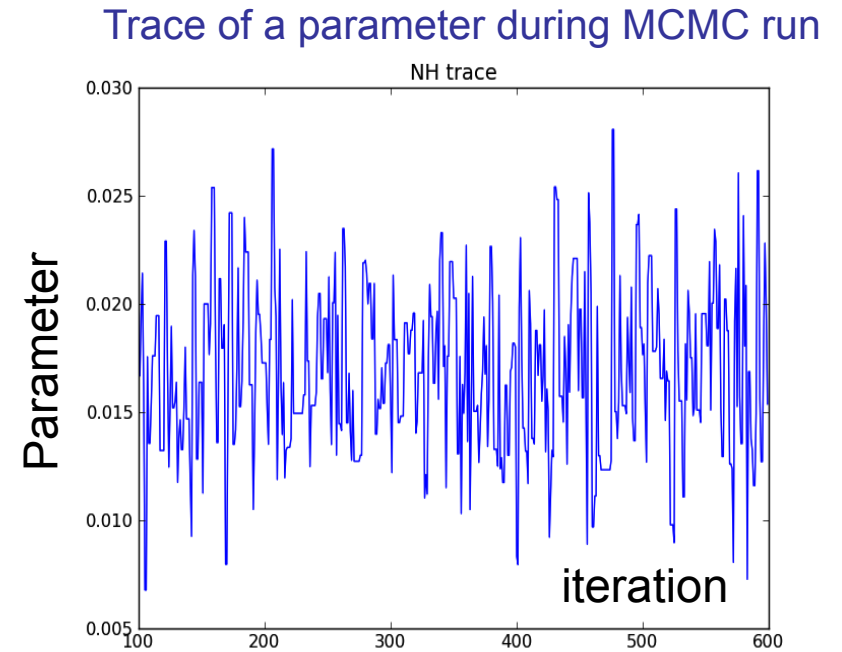
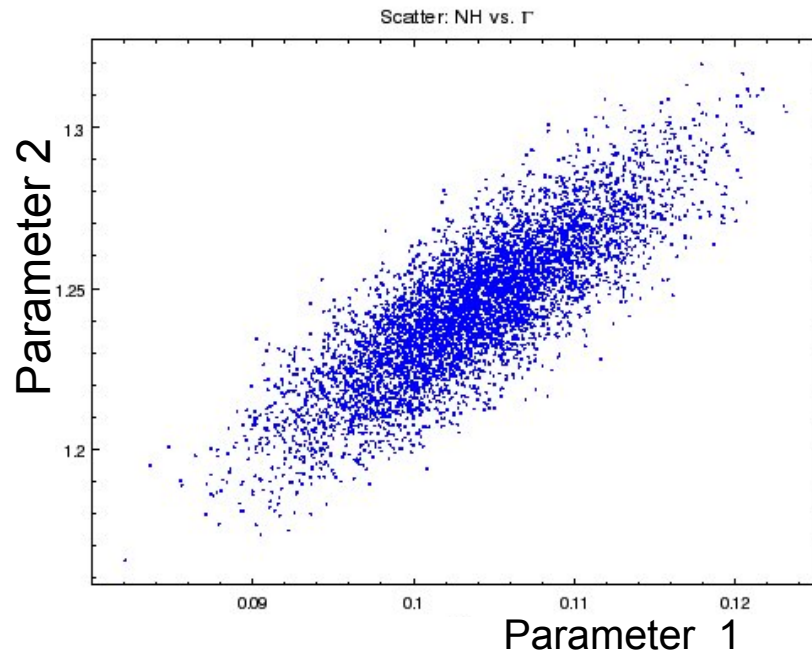
Metropolis and Metropolis-Hastings algorithms

Support for Bayesian analysis with priors.

- Explores parameter space and summarizes the full posterior or profile posterior distributions.
- Computed parameter uncertainties can include systematic or calibration errors.
- Simulates replicate data from the posterior predictive distributions.



# Visualization of the MCMC Results



# Optimization Methods in Sherpa

- “Single - shot” routines: **Simplex and Levenberg-Marquardt**  
start from a set of parameters, and then improve in a continuous fashion:
  - Very Quick
  - Depend critically on the initial parameter values
  - Investigate a local behaviour of the statistics near the initial parameters, and then make another guess at the best direction and distance to move to find a better minimum.
  - Continue until all directions result in increase of the statistics or a number of steps has been reached
- “Scatter-shot” routines: **moncar (differential evolution)**  
search over the entire permitted parameter space for a better minima than near the starting initial set of parameters.

# Sherpa & Python