Power Source for the Most Energetic Explosions in the Local Universe

Super-Luminous Supernova Gaia16apd

Posner Program

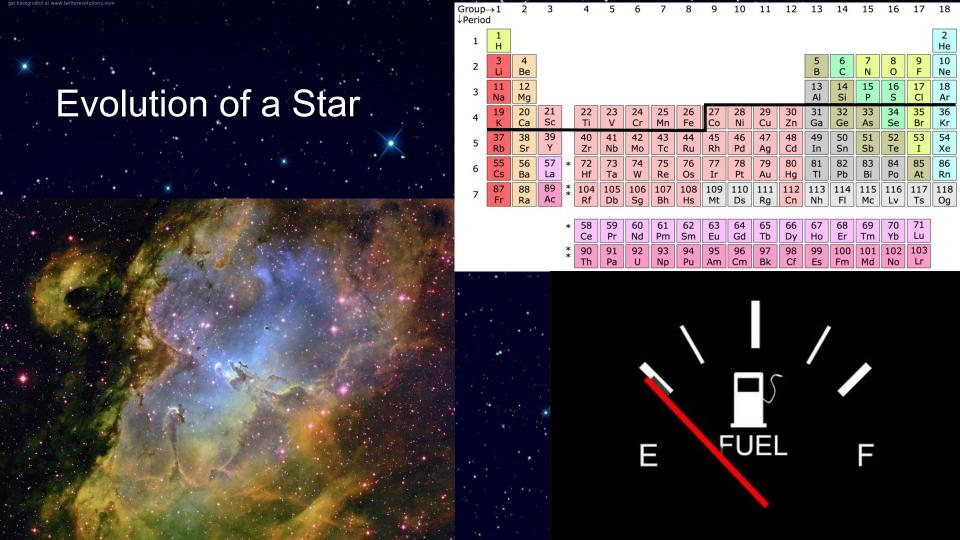


Angelo Bastas

Professor Raf Margutti

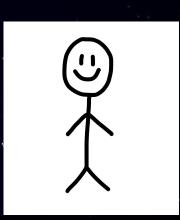
Postdoc Deanne Coppejans

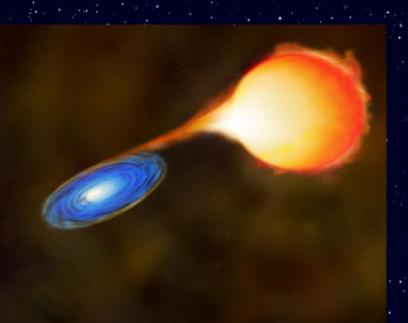




Explosion!!! The Big Question: What Powers this explosion?

But First - Why Does this Matter?







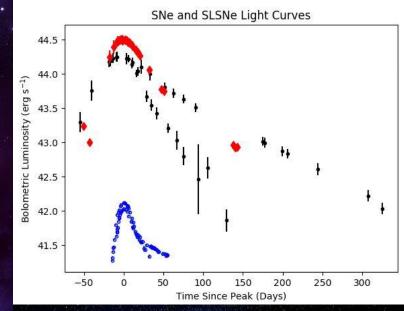
Brightness? Distance?

5.282 x 10²⁵ erg

Total combined energy used by all homes in the U.S. in one year

0.0000000000000000000000000003%

Milky Way = 100,000 light years across

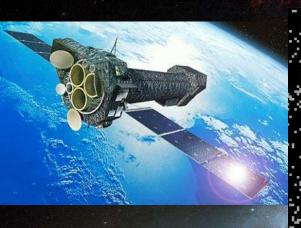




The Magnetar: The Best of the Three Models Explaining the Power Source



X-Ray Telescopes and Data



XMM Newton

We used 4 of these observations

Gaia16apd

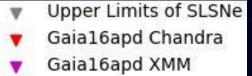
X-Ray Photons From Chandra

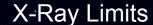


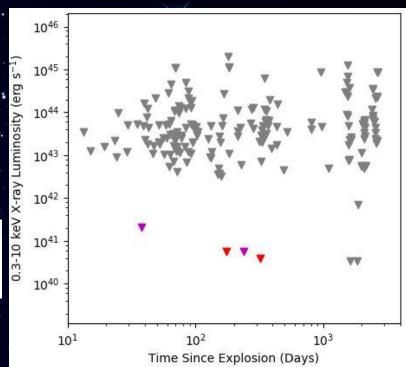
Chandra

Parameters for Jet Simulations

- Kinetic Energy
- Circumstellar Material Density
- Jet Opening Angle
- Observer Angle
- Epsilon E
- Epsilon B





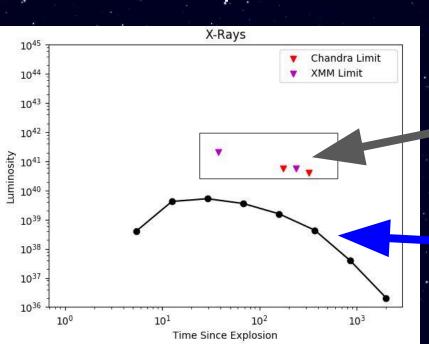


700+ Jet Simulations

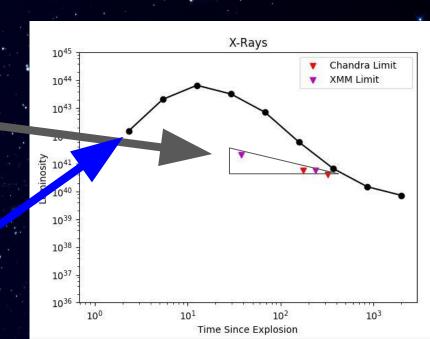
Data

Jet

This Jet is plausible



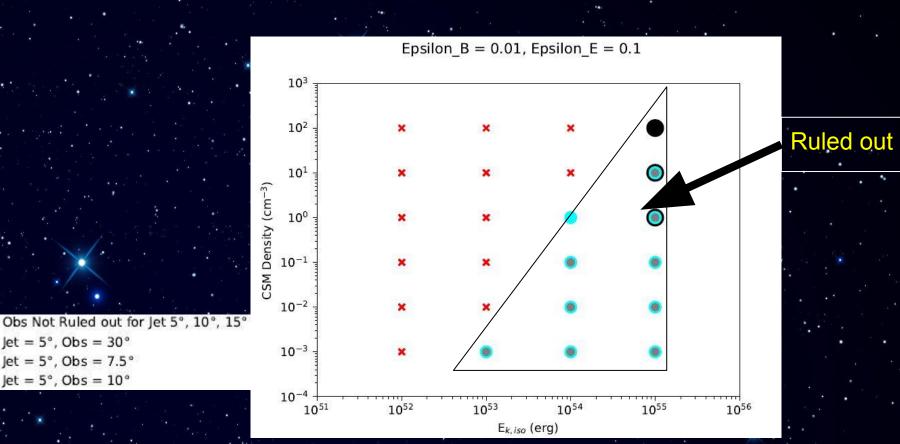
This Jet is Ruled Out



What We Learned From This

 $jet = 5^{\circ}, Obs = 30^{\circ}$

 $Jet = 5^{\circ}, Obs = 7.5^{\circ}$ Jet = 5°, Obs = 10°



Conclusion

- Observations have ruled out environments with high kinetic energy
- This means that the most powerful jets are not behind the most energetic explosions





The Electromagnetic Spectrum







Gamma Ray X-Ray Ultraviolet Atom Radius

0.01 - 10 nm

Visible

Infrared

Microwave

Radio Wave

Hair Width