

Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

Vincent Eberle, Torsten Enßlin,
Matteo Guardiani, Margret Westerkamp

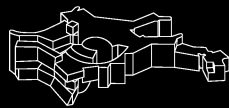


"Safe when taken as directed." Philip K. Dick

Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit



Vincent Eberle, Torsten Enßlin,
Matteo Guardiani, Margret Westerkamp



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR ASTROPHYSICS



“Safe when taken as directed.” Philip K. Dick



U

B

I

K

1996

U
B
I
K

1996

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



MartinaC2011

*But now I use economical
new powerful*



today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U
B
I
K

1996

"I came over to Ubik after
trying weak,
out-of-date reality supports
My pots and pans
were turning into
heaps of rust.
The floors of my
conapt were
sagging."



But now I use economical
new powerful



today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U
B
I
K

1996

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after
trying weak,
out-of-date reality supports
My pots and pans
were turning into
heaps of rust.
The floors of my
conapt were
sagging."



MartinaC2011

*But now I use economical
new powerful*



today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U
B
I
K

1996

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



powerful

But now I use economical new powerful



today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U

B

I

K

1996

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



MartinaC2011

powerful

miraculous results

But now I use economical
new powerful

ubik

today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U

B

I

K

1996

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



MartinaC2011

powerful

miraculous results

Entirely harmless if used as directed!



But now I use economical new powerful
today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U

B

I

K

1996

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



MartinaC2011

powerful

miraculous results

Entirely harmless if used as directed!



But now I use economical
new powerful
today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

U
B
I
K

1969

reality support

"I came over to Ubik after trying weak, out-of-date reality supports. My pots and pans were turning into heaps of rust. The floors of my conapt were sagging."



MartinaC2011

powerful

miraculous results

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

But now I use economical
new powerful



today's Ubik,
and with miraculous results.

Entirely harmless if used as directed!

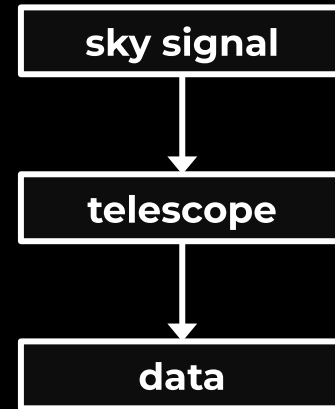
Universal
Bayesian
Imaging
Kit



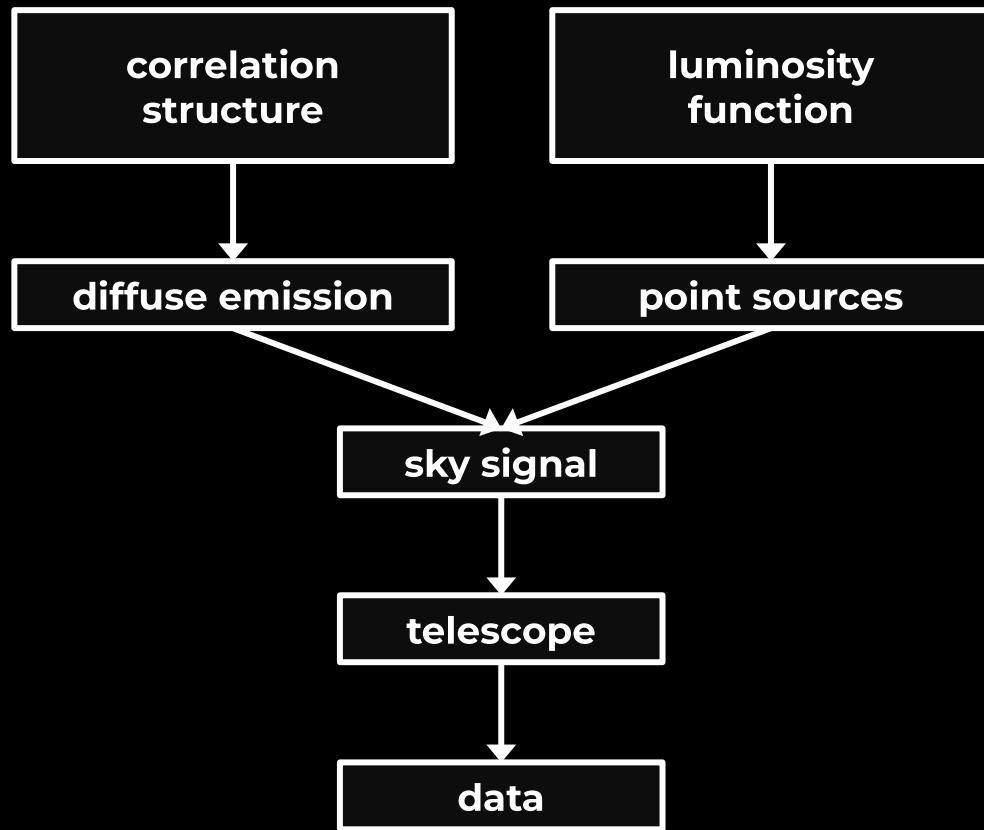
Digital Perception of Reality



Digital Perception of Reality



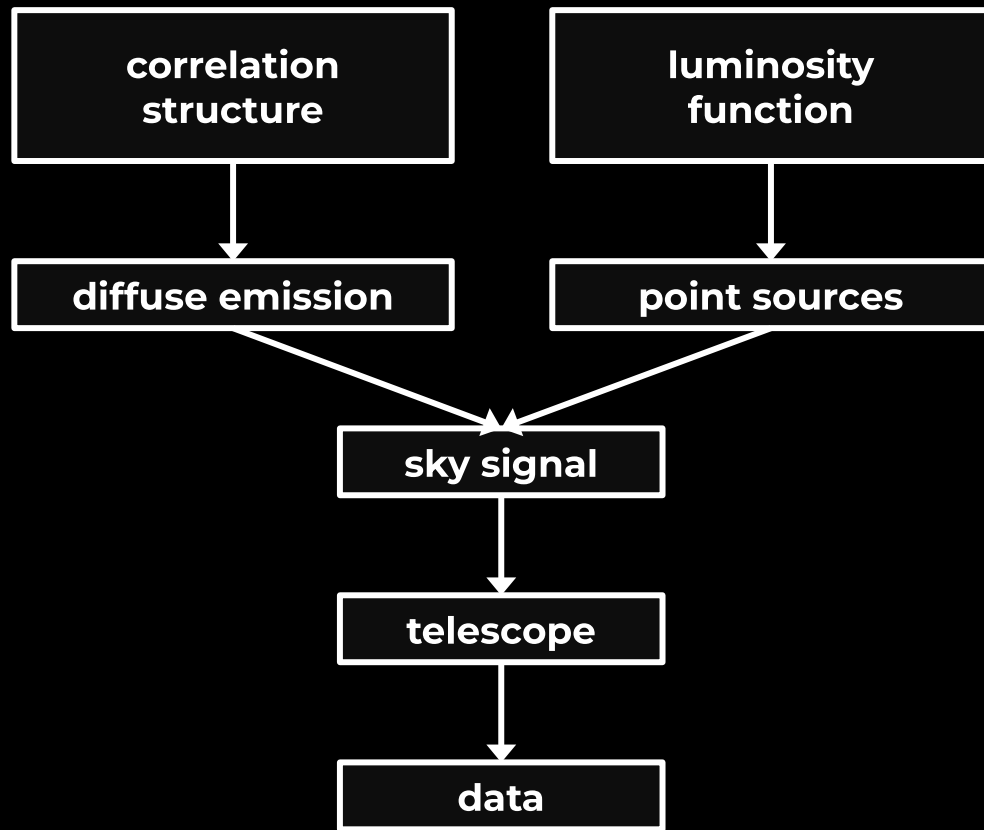
Digital Perception of Reality



Digital Perception of Reality



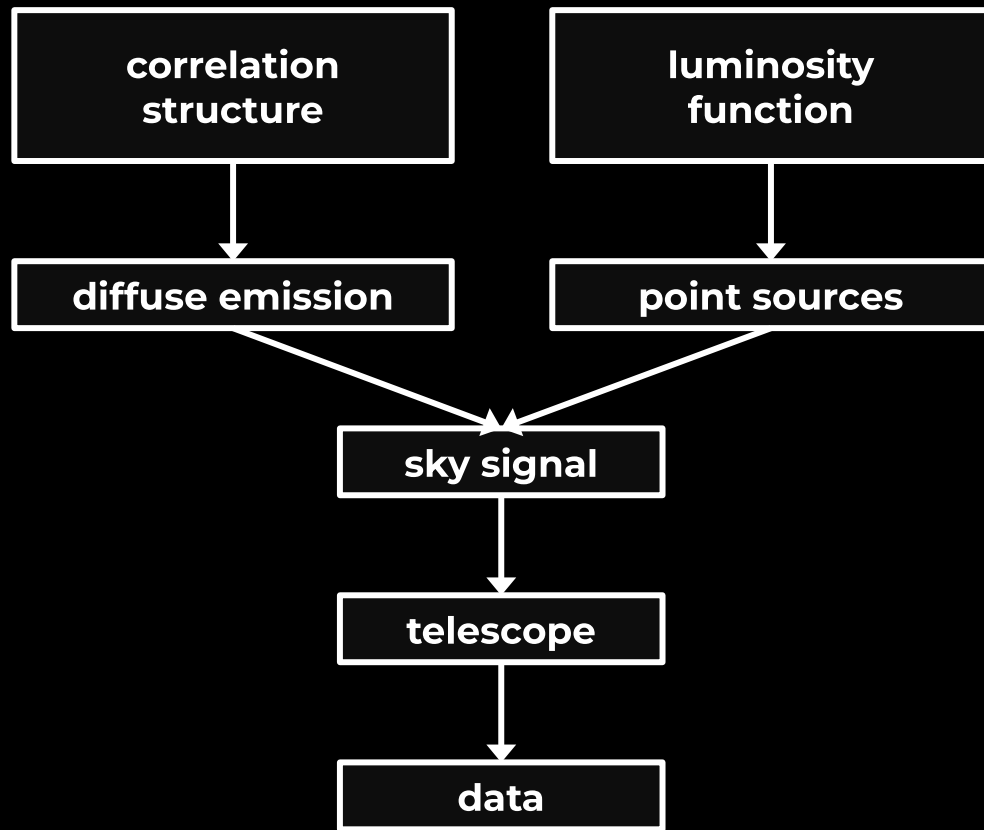
generative model
= simulation



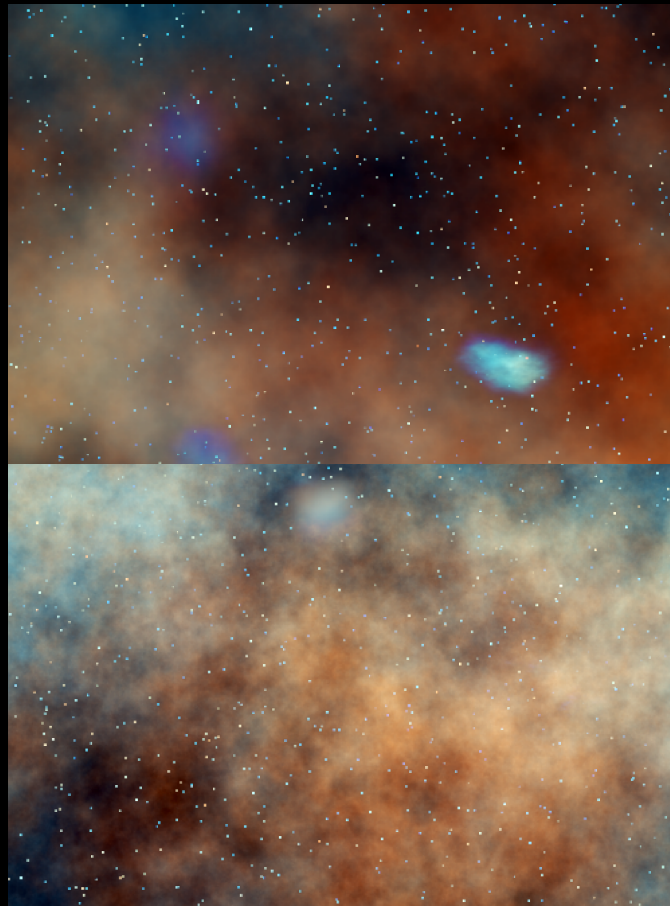
Digital Perception of Reality



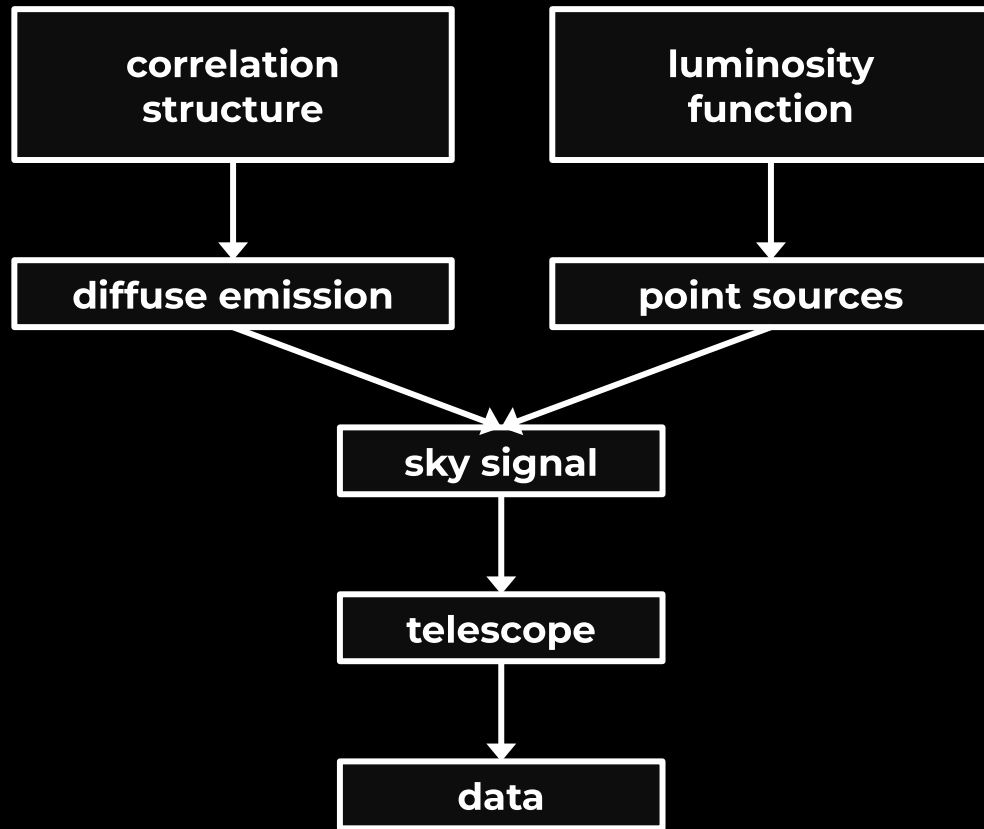
generative model
= simulation



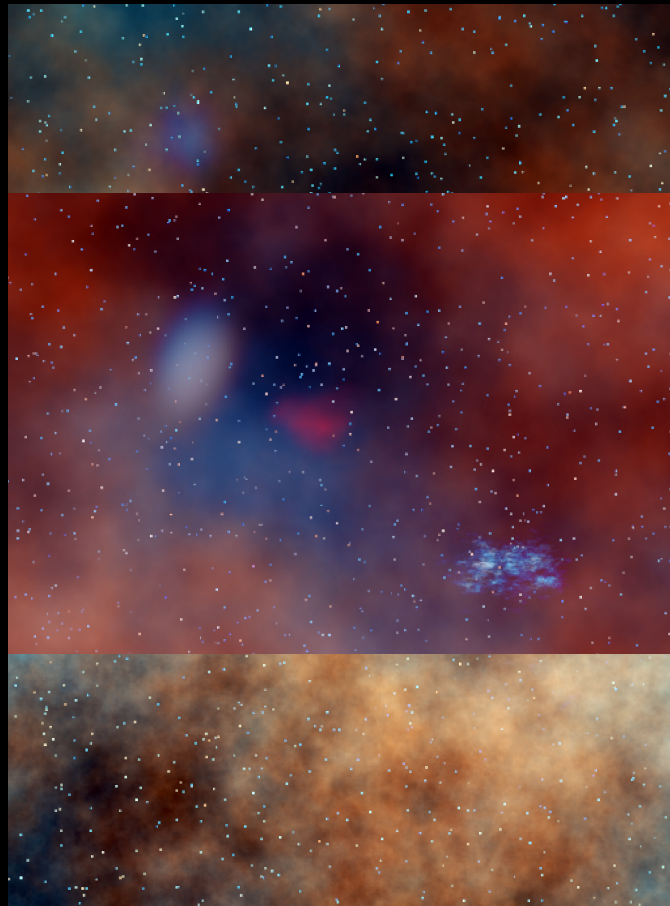
Digital Perception of Reality



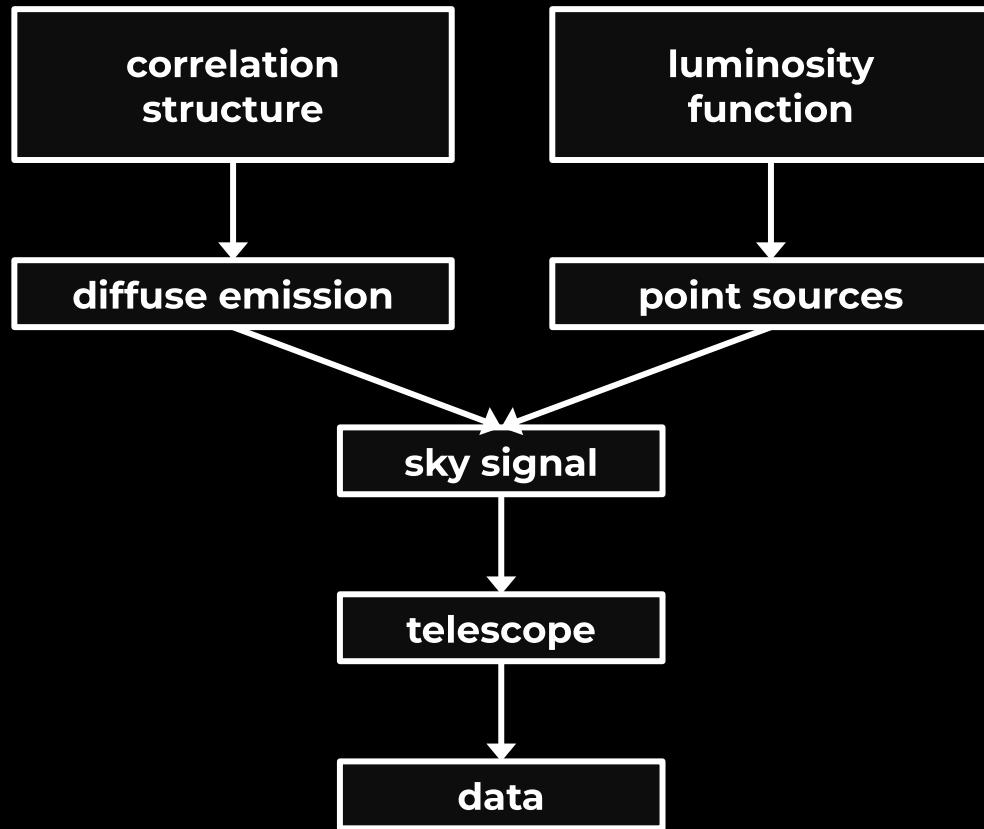
generative model
= simulation



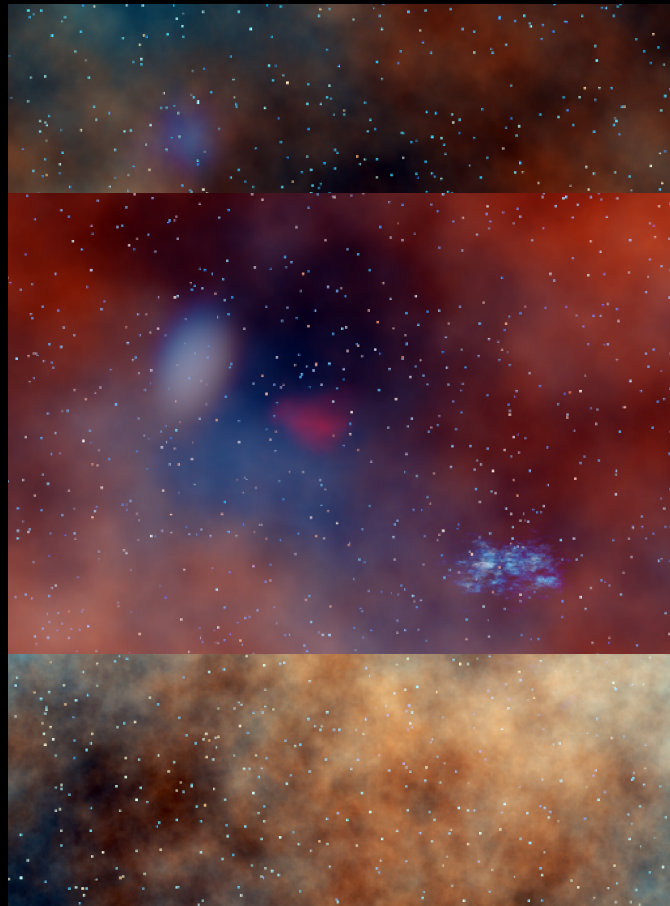
Digital Perception of Reality



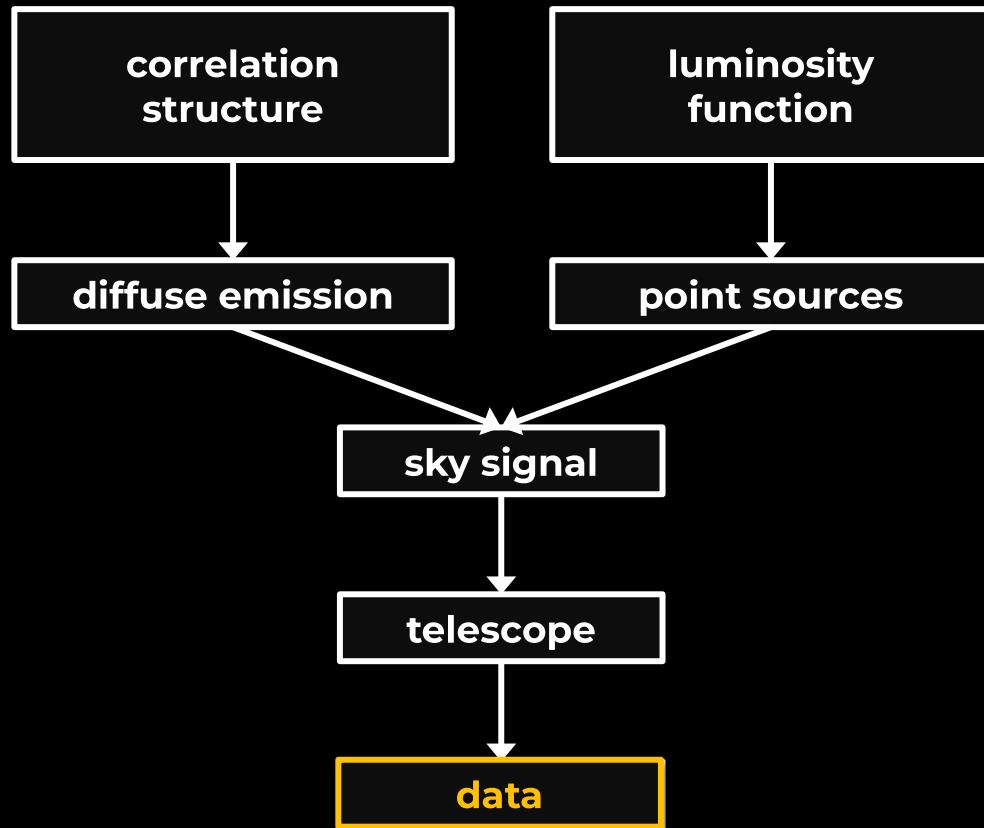
generative model
= simulation



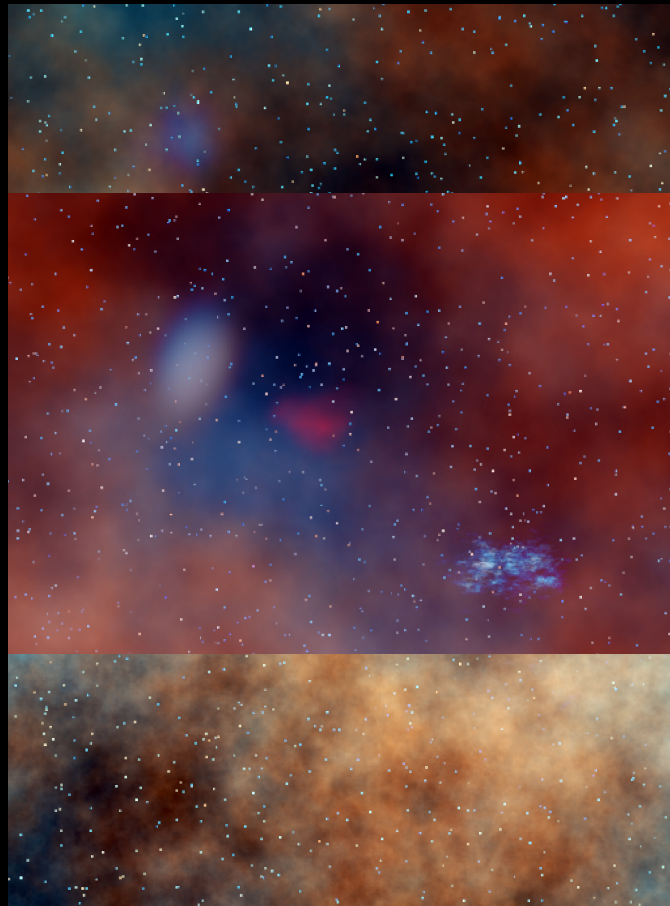
Digital Perception of Reality



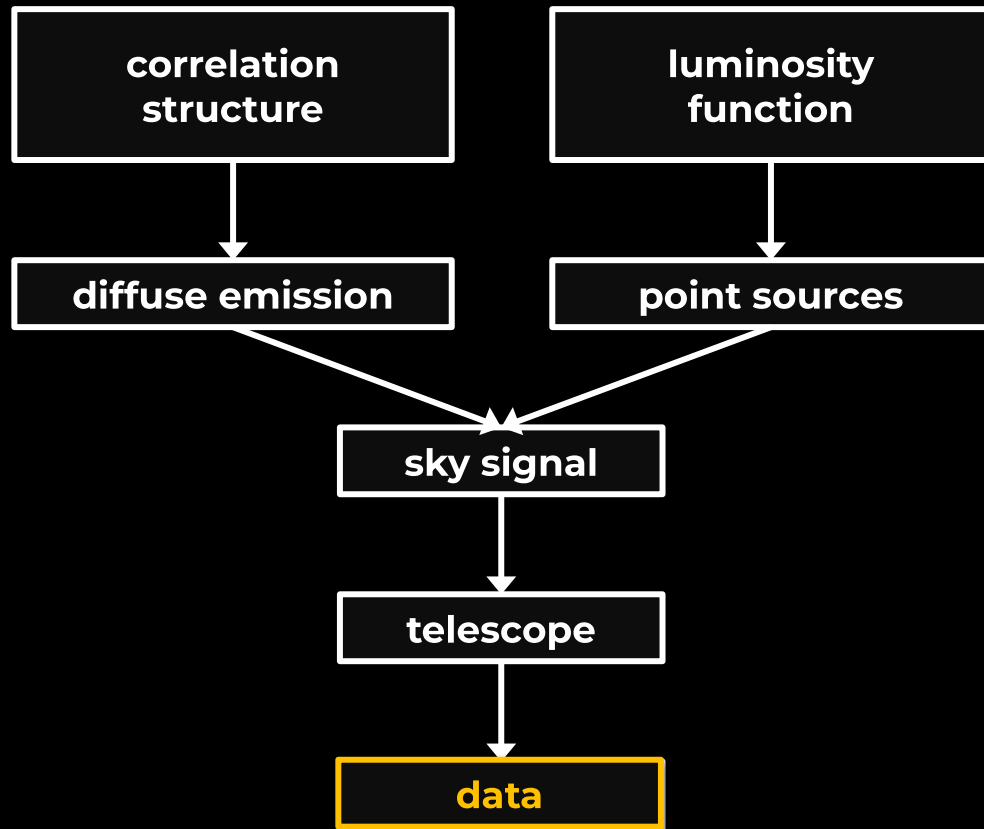
generative model
= simulation



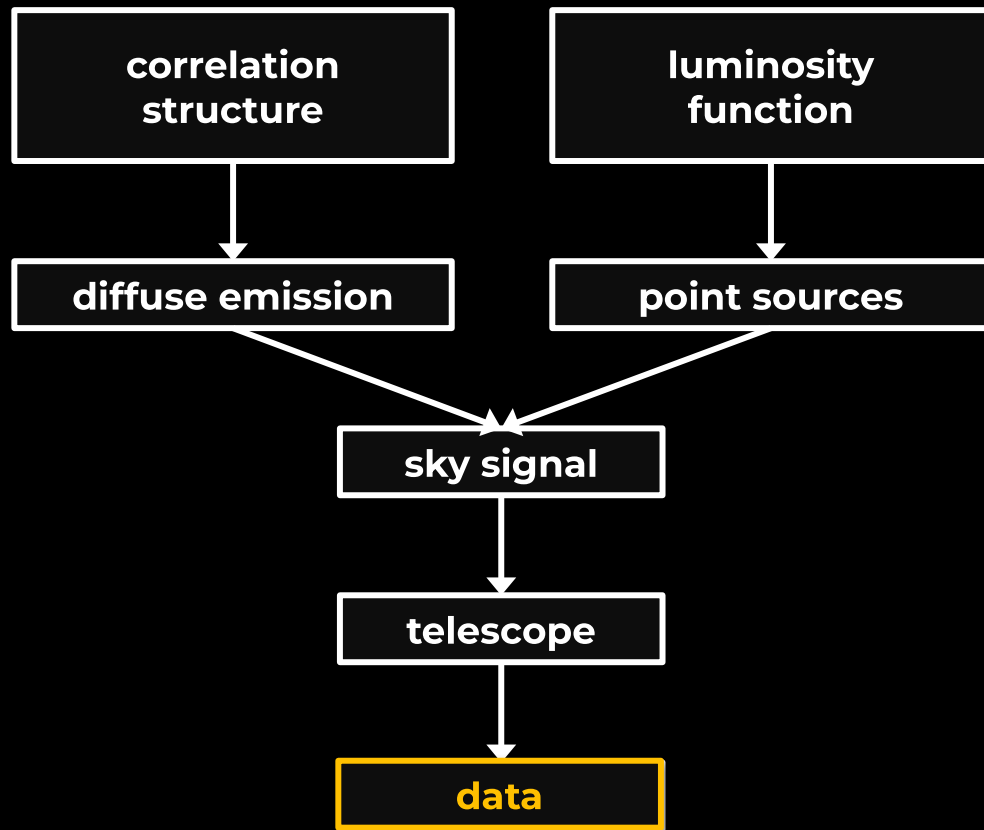
Digital Perception of Reality



back propagation
= inference



back propagation
= inference



back propagation
= inference

correlation
structure

diffuse emission

$\mathcal{P}(s)$

sky signal

telescope

data

back propagation
= inference

correlation
structure

diffuse emission

sky signal

telescope

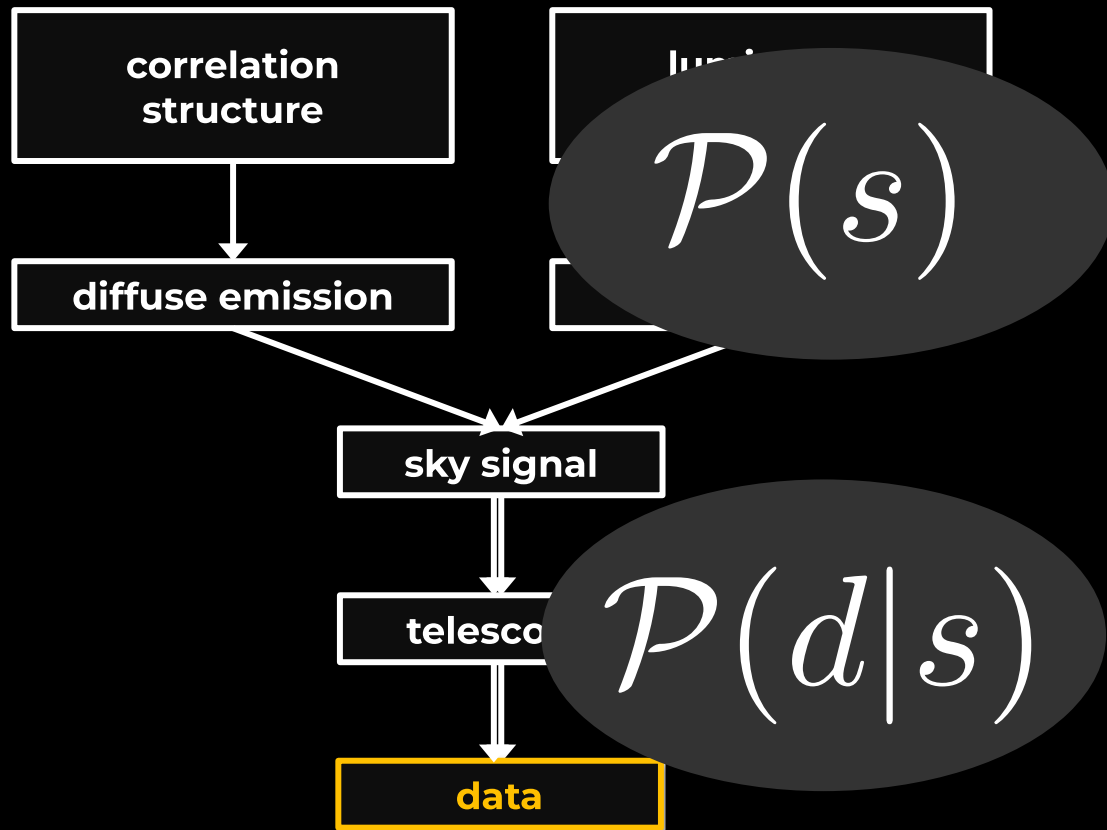
data

$\mathcal{P}(s)$

$\mathcal{P}(d|s)$

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

back propagation
= inference

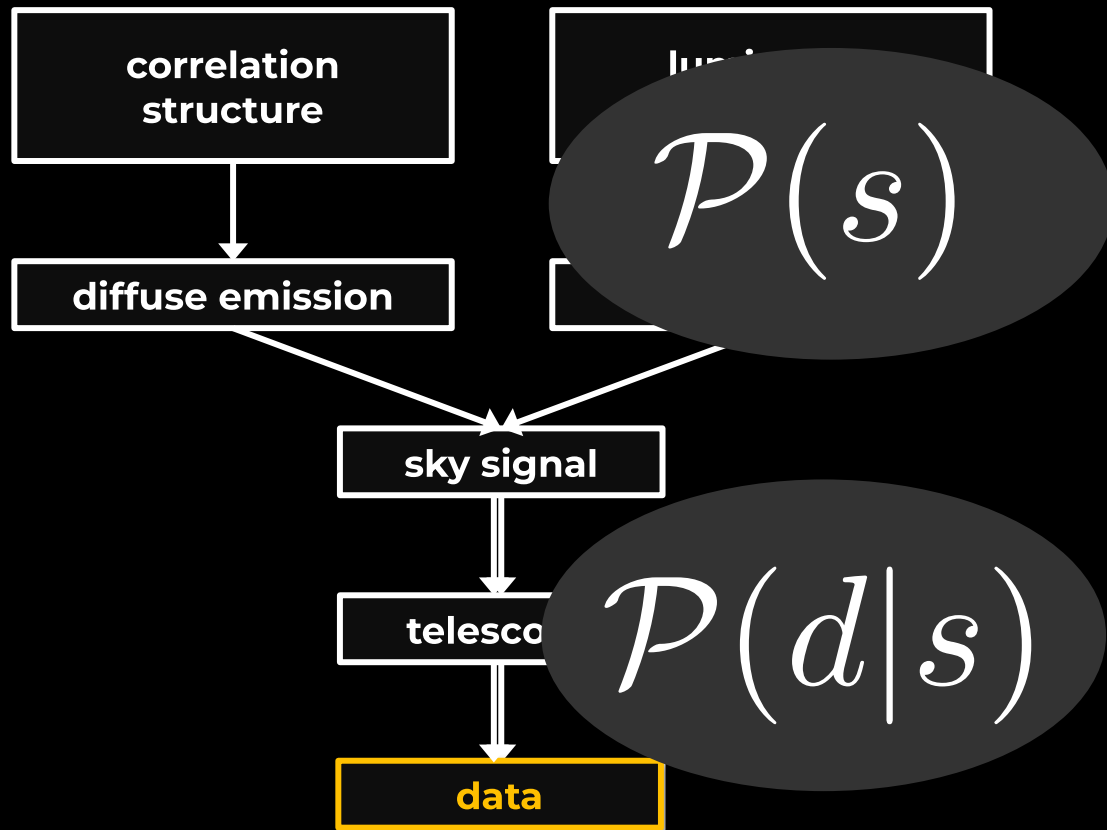


$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

back propagation
= inference



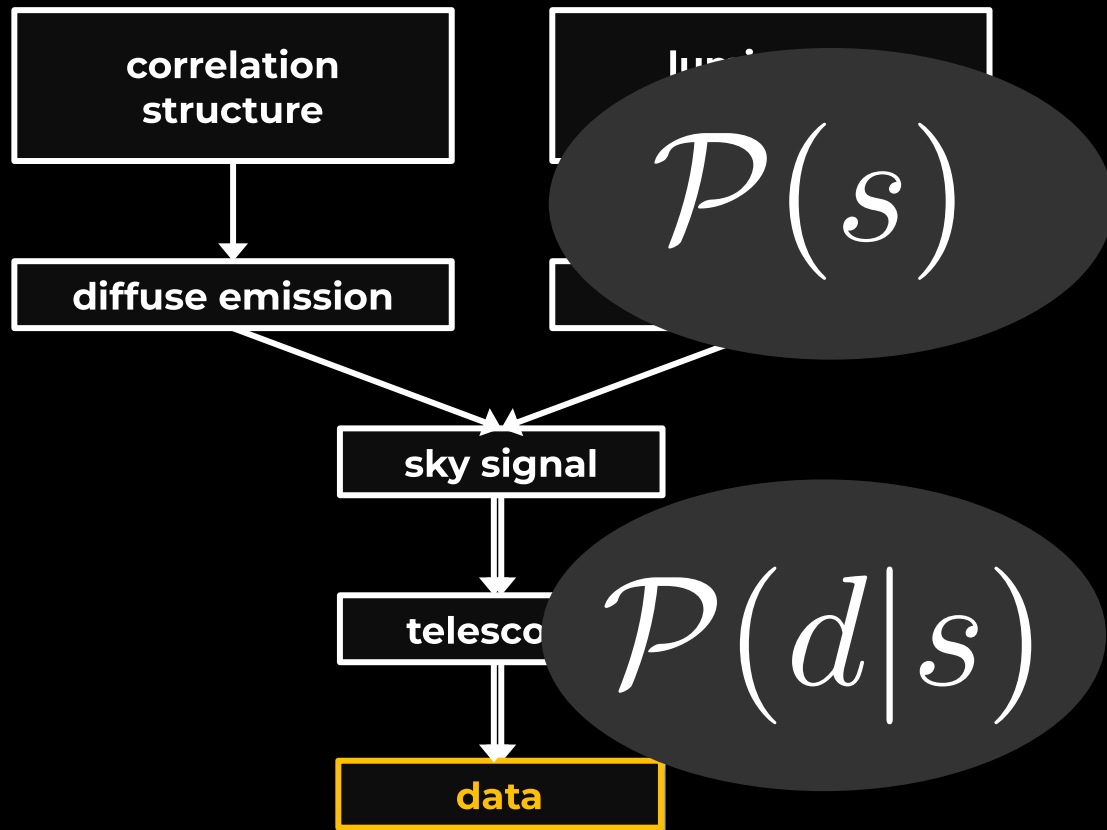
$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d)$$

back propagation
= inference

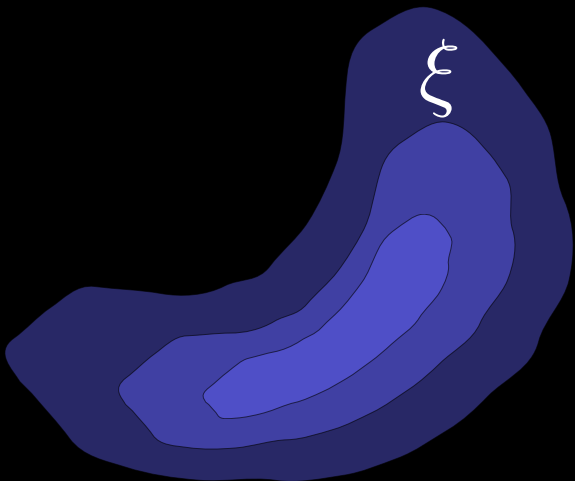


$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

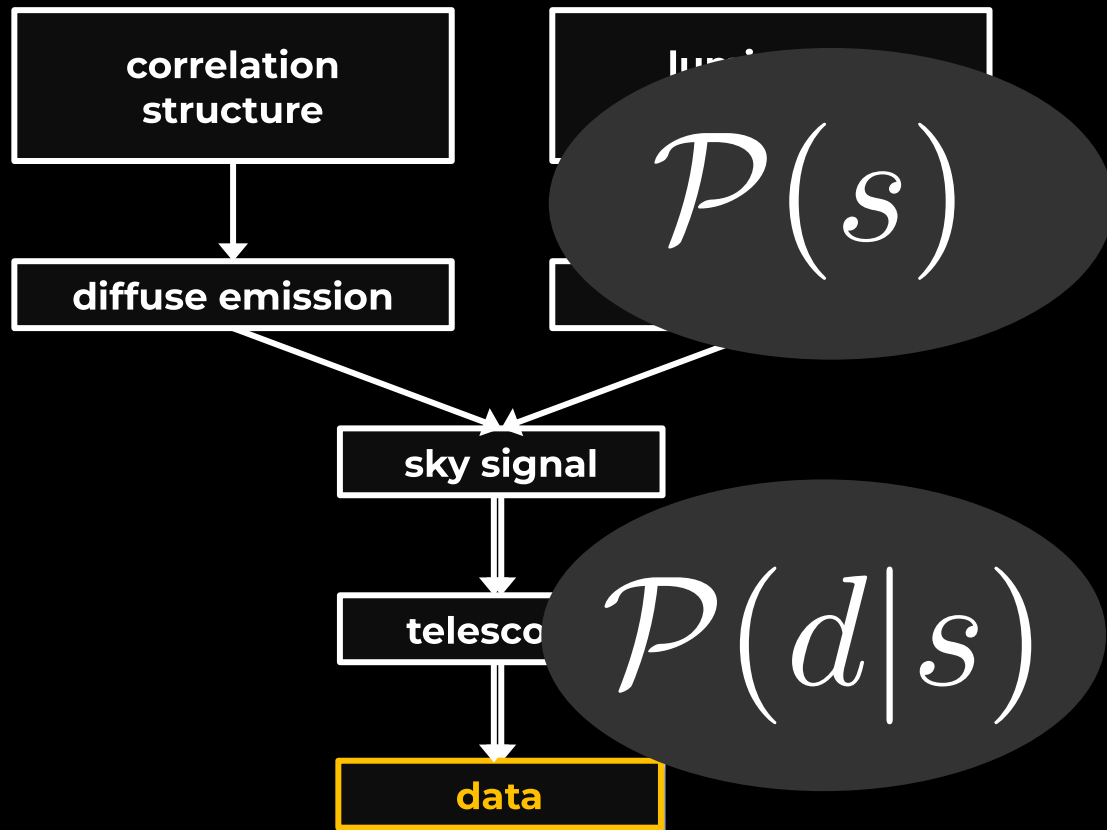
$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d)$$



= inference

back propagation

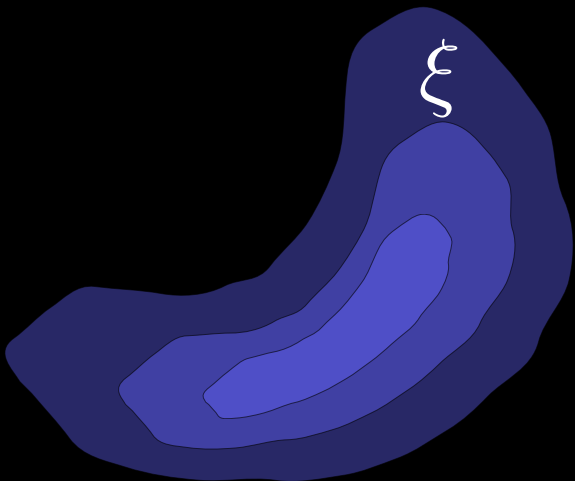


$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

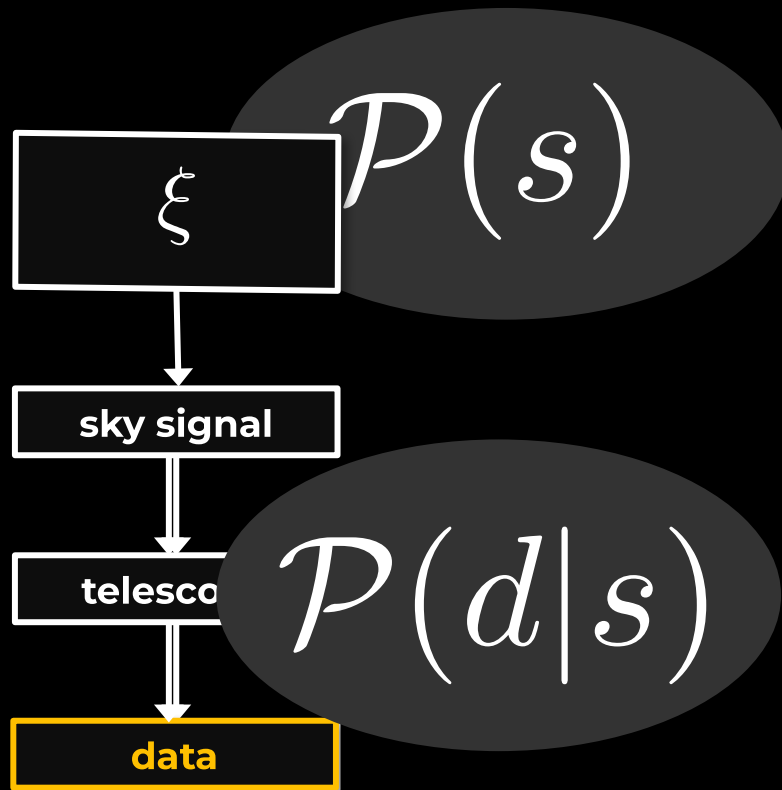
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d)$$



back propagation
= inference



$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

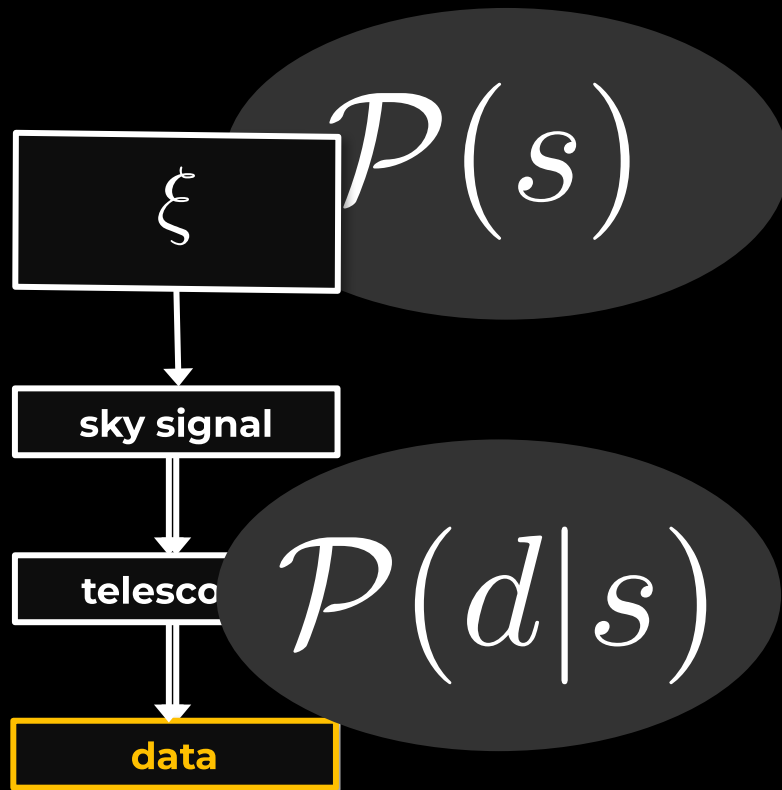
$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(\xi - \bar{\xi}, [\mathbb{1} + \mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}}]^{-1})$$



= inference

back propagation



$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

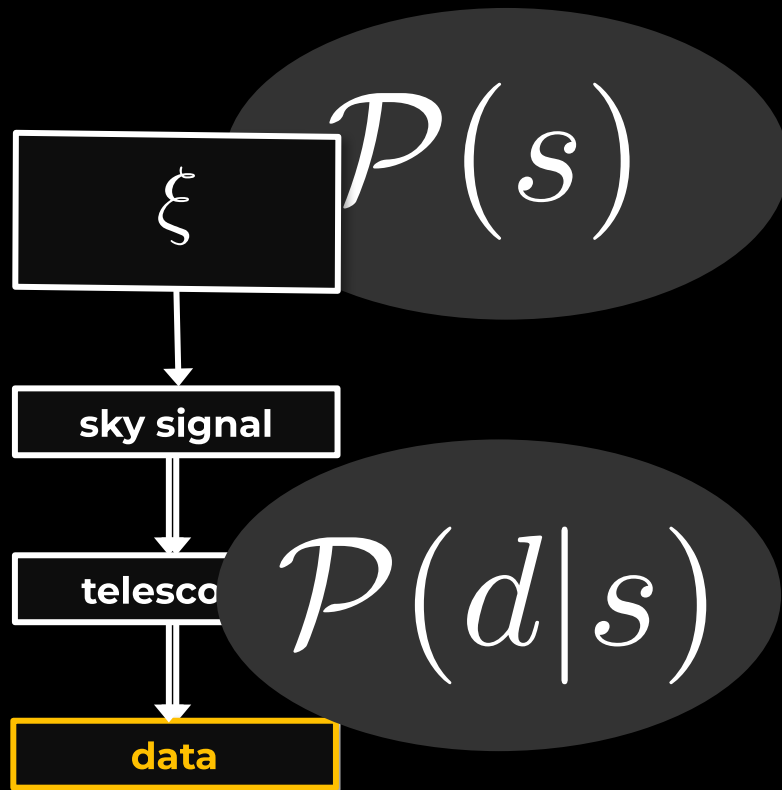
$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(\xi - \bar{\xi}, [\mathbb{1} + \mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}}]^{-1})$$



= inference

back propagation



$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

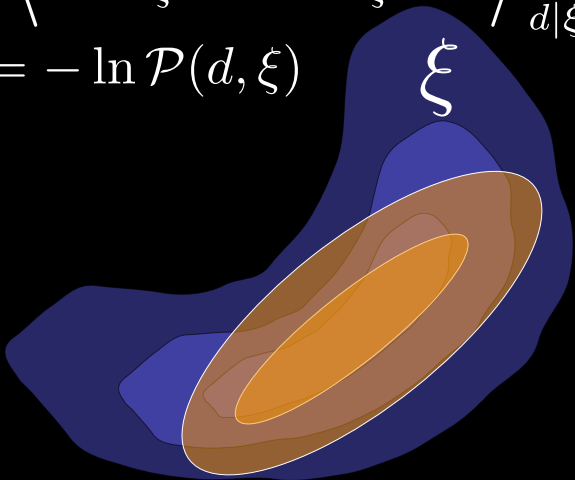
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(\xi - \bar{\xi}, [\mathbb{1} + \mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}}]^{-1})$$

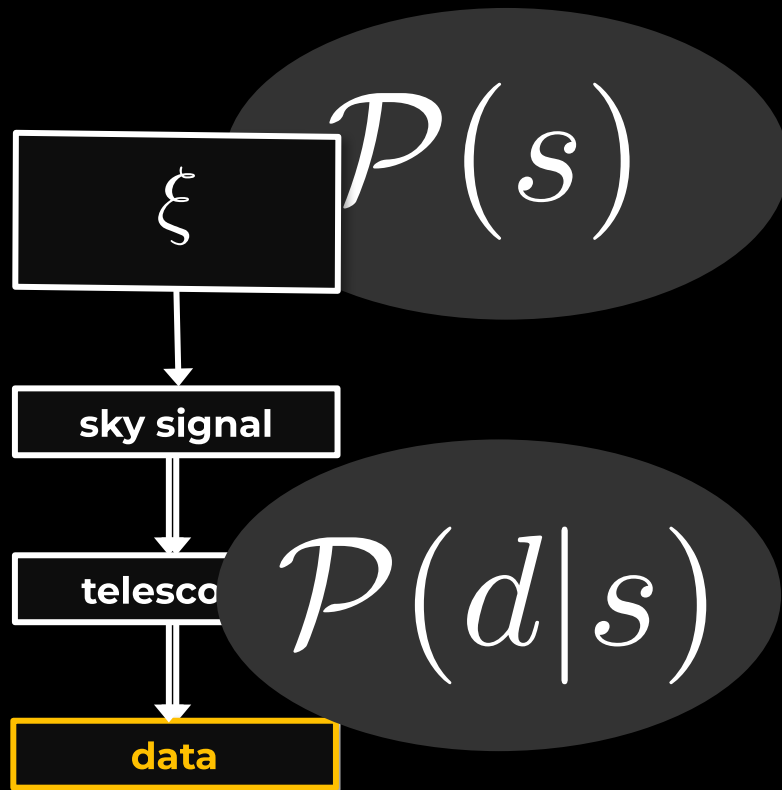
$$\mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}} = \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(d, \xi)}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(d, \xi)^\dagger}{\partial \xi} \right\rangle_{d|\bar{\xi}}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(d, \xi) = -\ln \mathcal{P}(d, \xi)$$



= inference

back propagation



Metric Gaussian Variational Inference

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

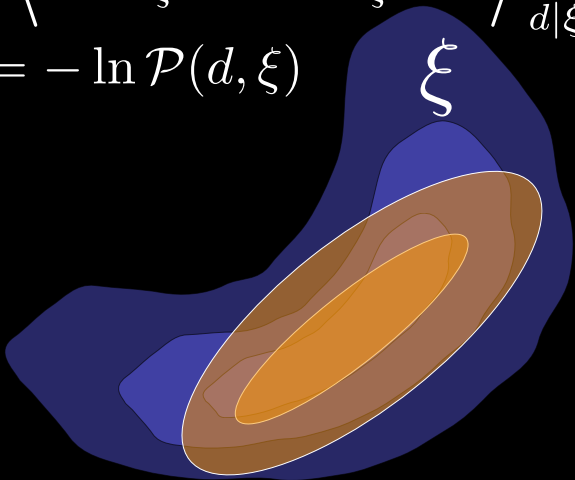
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(\xi - \bar{\xi}, [\mathbb{1} + \mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}}]^{-1})$$

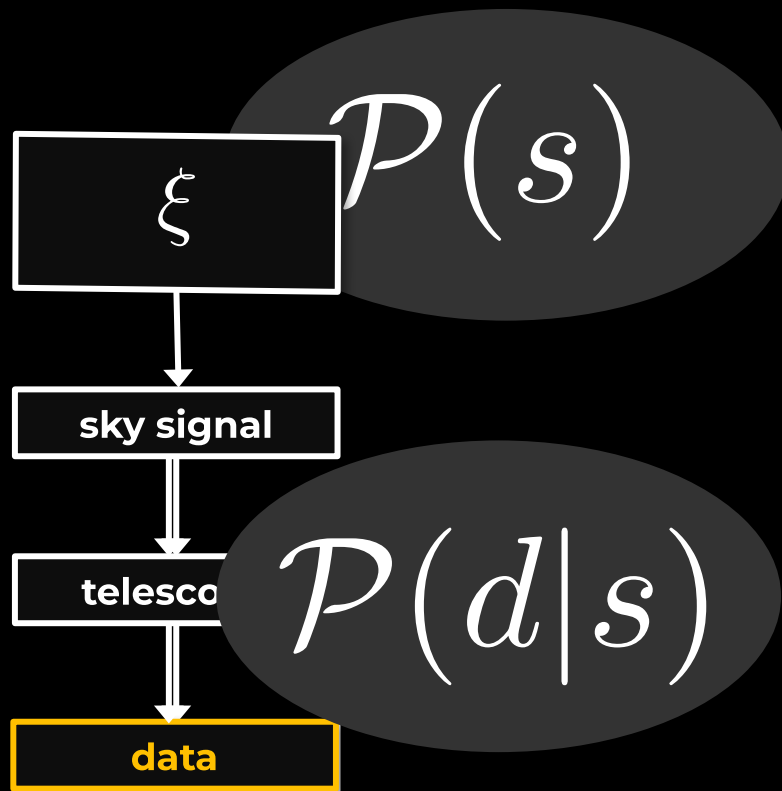
$$\mathcal{M}_{d|\bar{\xi}} = \left\langle \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(d, \xi)}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(d, \xi)^\dagger}{\partial \xi} \right\rangle_{d|\bar{\xi}}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(d, \xi) = -\ln \mathcal{P}(d, \xi)$$



= inference
back propagation

Knollmüller & Enßlin (arXiv:1901.11033)



$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{I})$$



= inference

back propagation



$$\mathcal{P}(s)$$

sky signal

telescope

$$\mathcal{P}(d|s)$$

data

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

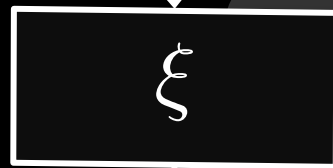
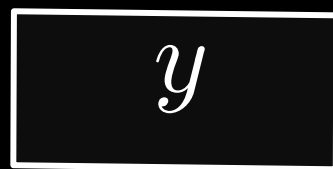
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{1})$$



= inference

back propagation



$$\mathcal{P}(s)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(d|s)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

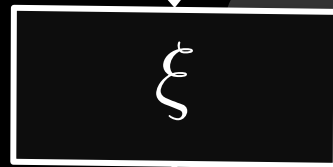
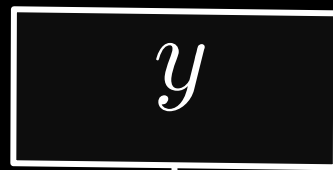
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{I})$$

$$\xi = g^{-1}(y) \quad \mathcal{P}(y|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(y, \mathbb{I})$$



back propagation
= inference



$$\mathcal{P}(s)$$

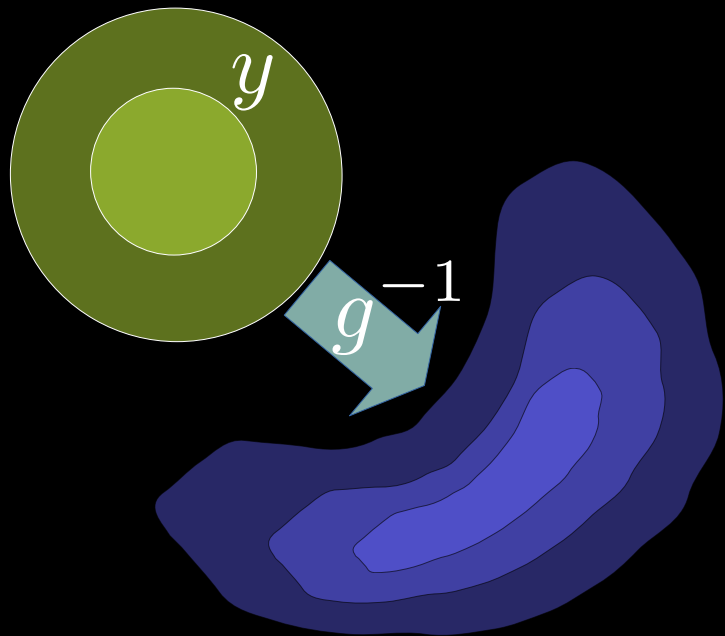
$$\mathcal{P}(d|s)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

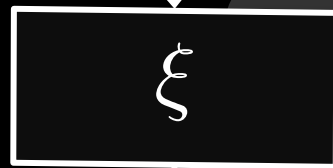
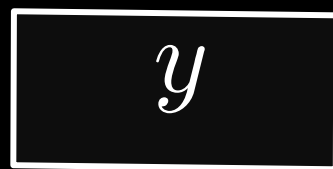
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{I})$$

$$\xi = g^{-1}(y) \quad \mathcal{P}(y|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(y, \mathbb{I})$$



= inference
back propagation



$$\mathcal{P}(s)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(d|s)$$

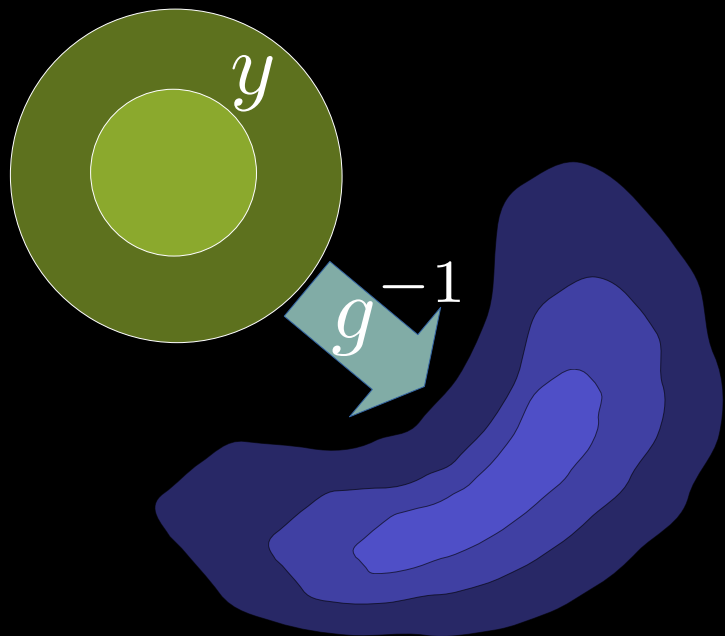
Geometric Variational Inference

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

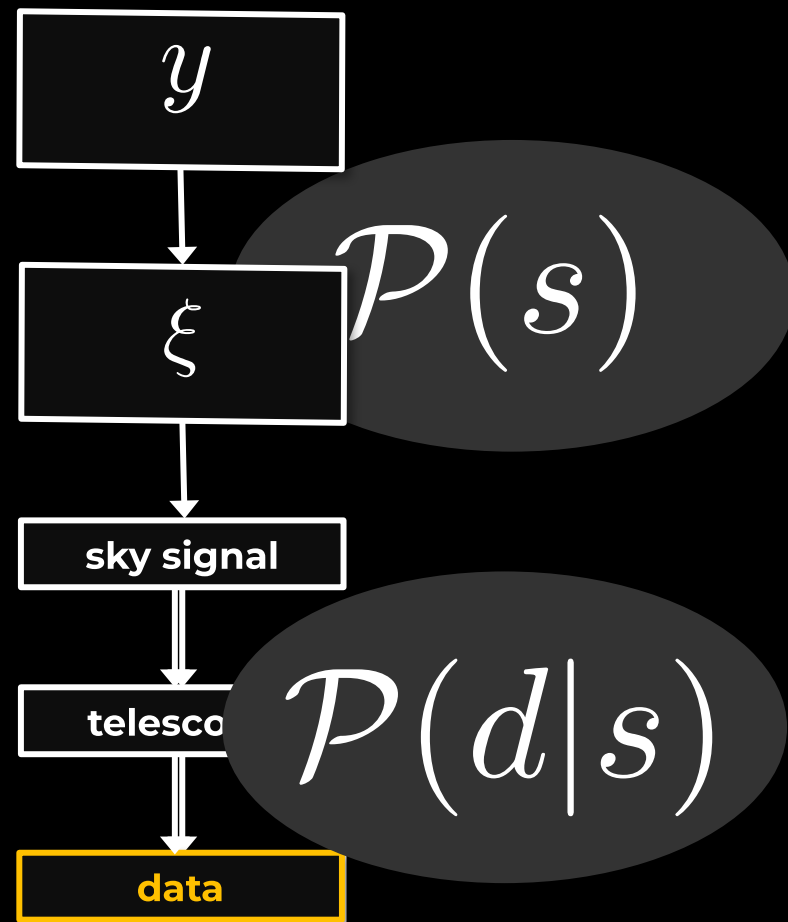
$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{I})$$

$$\xi = g^{-1}(y) \quad \mathcal{P}(y|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(y, \mathbb{I})$$



Frank, Leike, & Enßlin (arXiv:2105.10470)



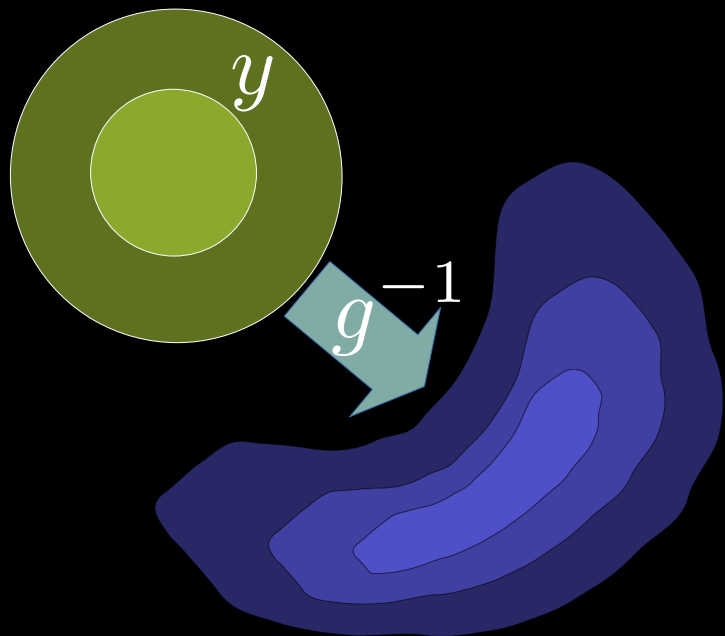
Geometric Variational Inference

$$\mathcal{P}(s|d)$$

$$s = f(\xi)$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, \mathbb{I})$$

$$\xi = g^{-1}(y) \quad \mathcal{P}(y|d) \approx \mathcal{G}(y, \mathbb{I})$$



= inference

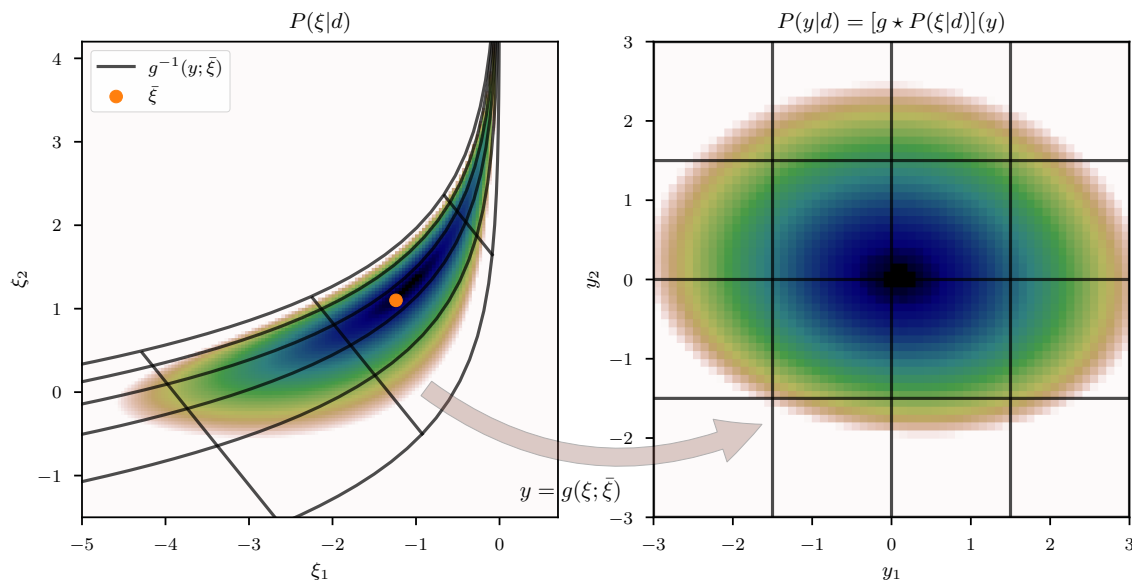
back propagation

Frank, Leike, & Enßlin (arXiv:2105.10470)

$$y$$

$$\xi$$

$$\mathcal{P}(s)$$





Models



Instrument

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Instrument

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Instrument

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

Instrument

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

Instrument

Models

Signal



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

PRIOR MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

Instrument

Models

Signal



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Signal

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

PSF

Exposure

...

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Signal

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Models



LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Signal

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Models



Inference

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

PSF

Exposure

...

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Signal

Models



Inference

MAP

VI

HMC

...

geoVI

MGVI

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Signal

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Models



Numerics

Inference

MAP

VI

HMC

...

geoVI

MGVI

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

PSF

Exposure

...

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Signal

Models



Numerics

Inference

NIFTY

MAP

VI

HMC

...

geoVI

MGVI

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

PRIOR MODEL

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Dimensions

Signal

Noise

Instrument

Models



Numerics

Inference

Gauss

Poisson

...

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PSF

Exposure

...

NIFTY

Minimizer

Autodiff

...

MAP

VI

HMC

...

geoVI

MGVI

LIKELIHOOD MODEL

Gauss

Poisson

...

Noise

Instrument

PSF

Exposure

...

Spatially
varying

Spatially
non-varying

PRIOR MODEL

Dimensions

Space

Time

Energy

Polarization

...

Signal

Sources

Diffuse emission

Point sources

Emission lines

...

Models



Numerics

Inference

MAP

VI

HMC

...

geoVI

MGVI

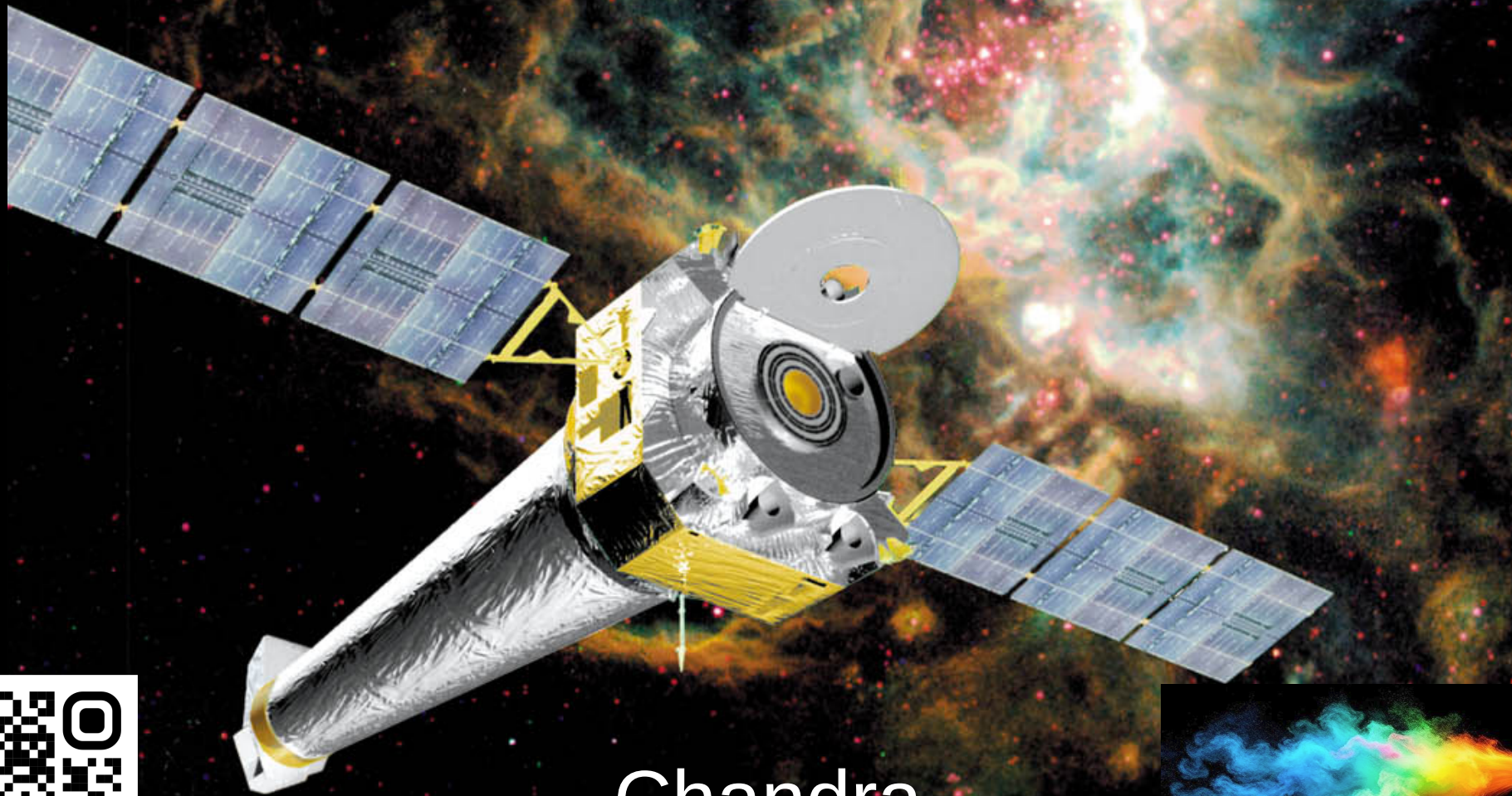


Autodiff

...

Eberle et al. et al. (2024)

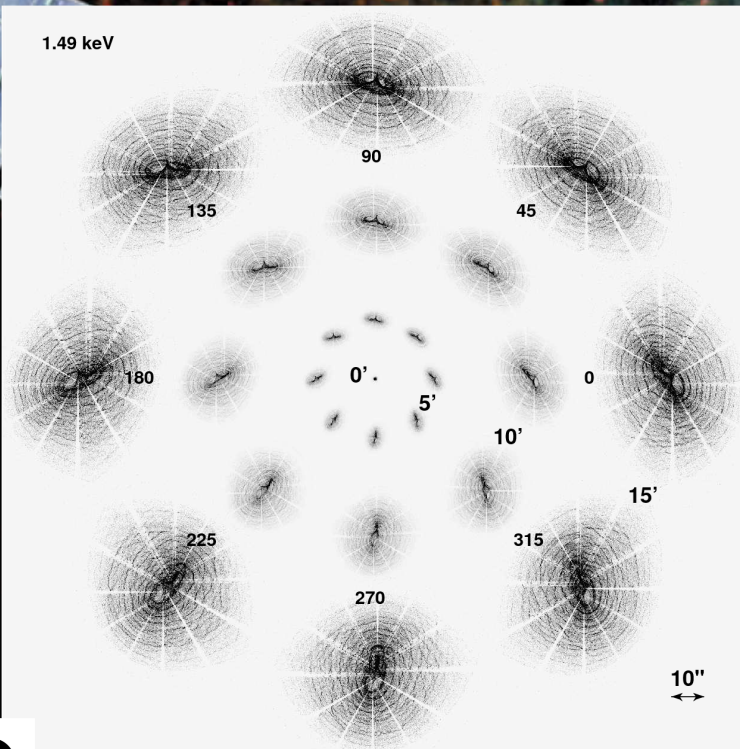




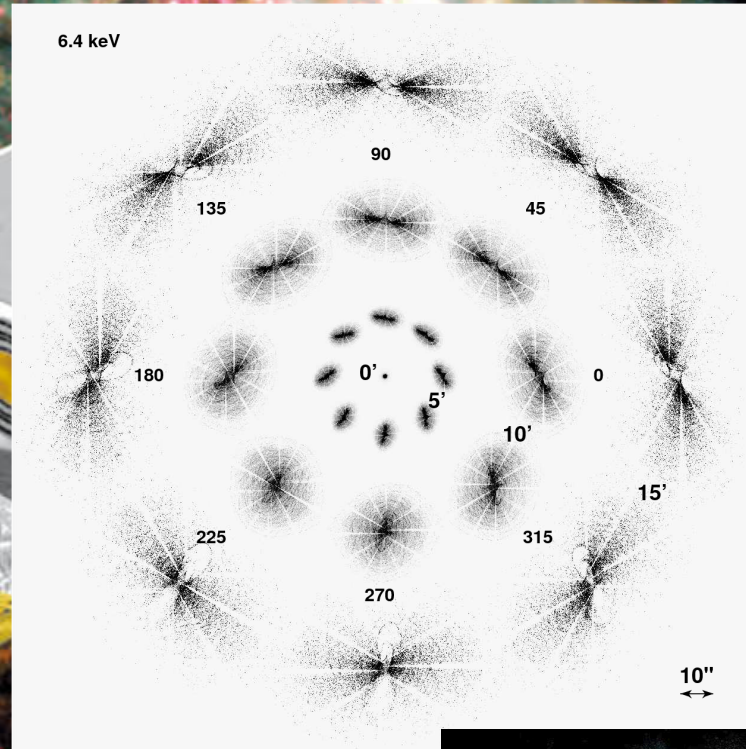
Chandra



1.49 keV



6.4 keV

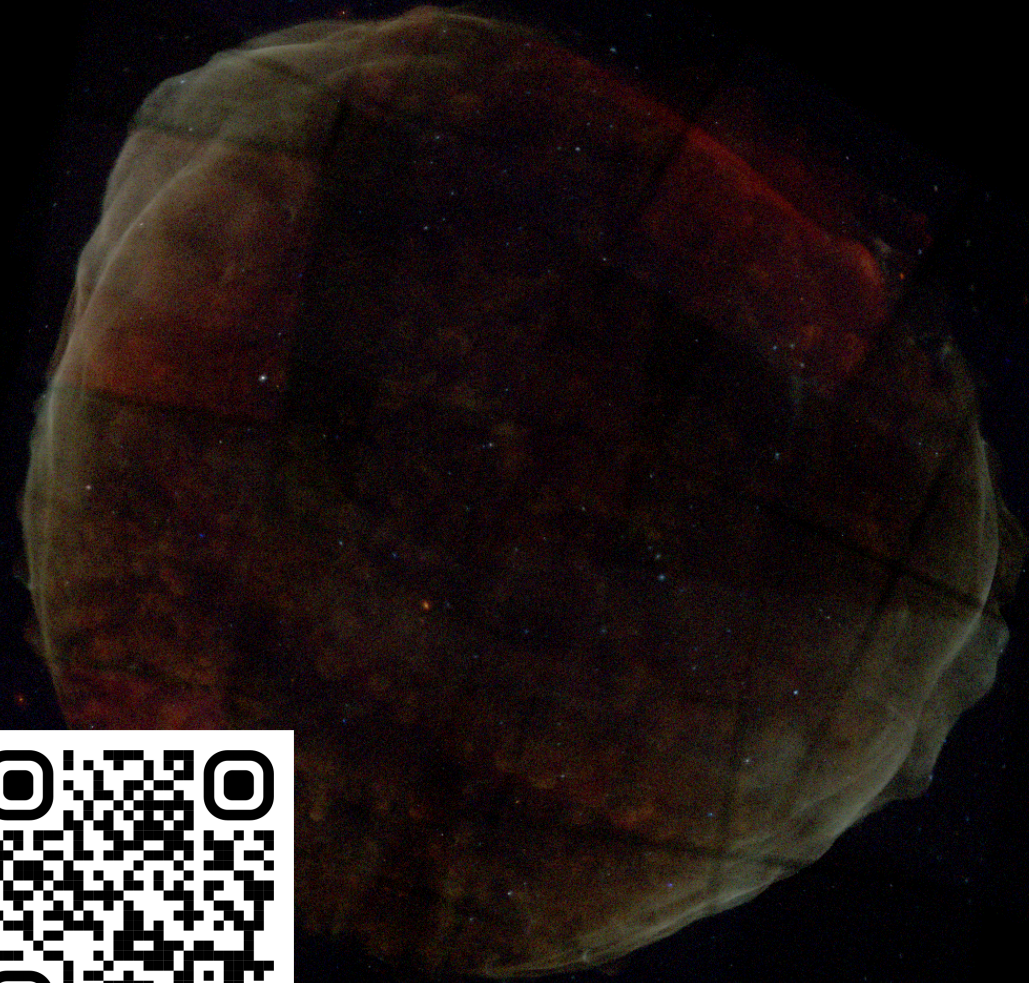


<https://cxc.harvard.edu/proposer/POC4/chap4.html>

Chandra



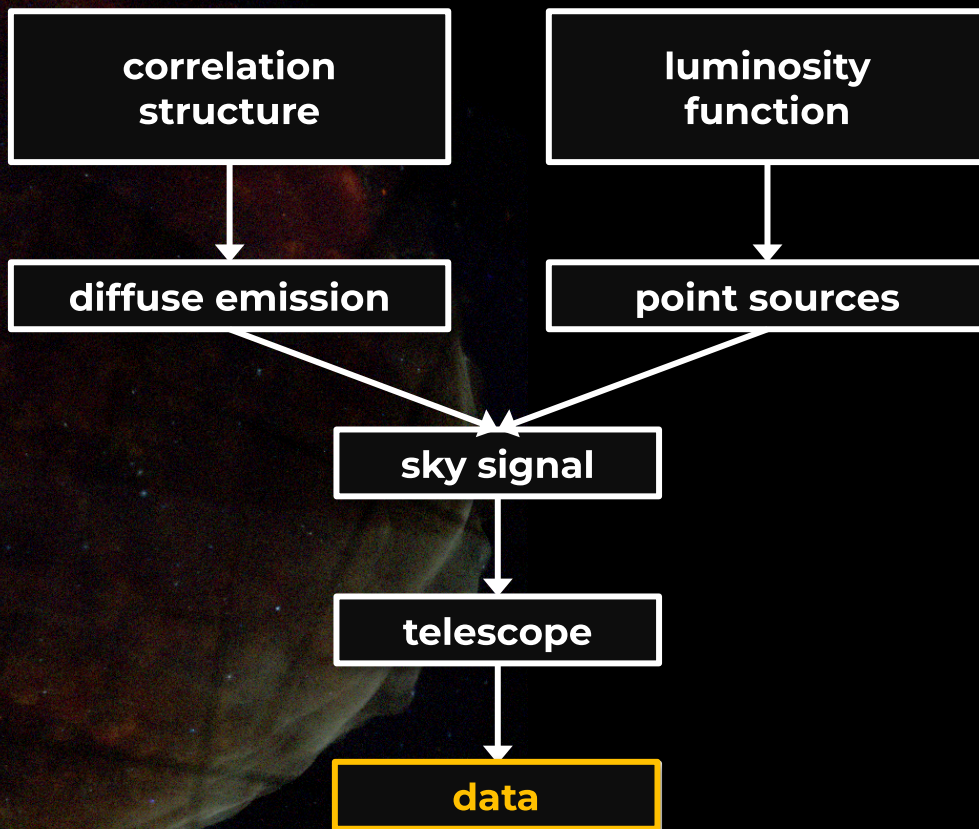
Data



(Westerkamp et al. 2024)



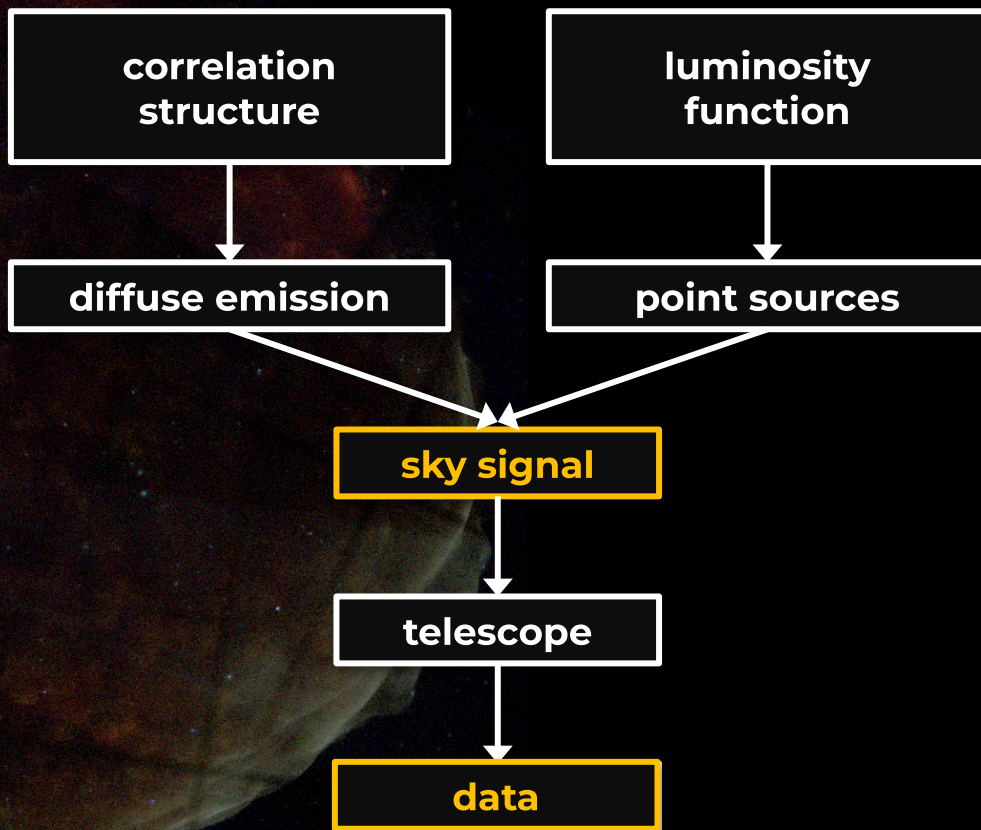
Data



(Westerkamp et al. 2024)



Data

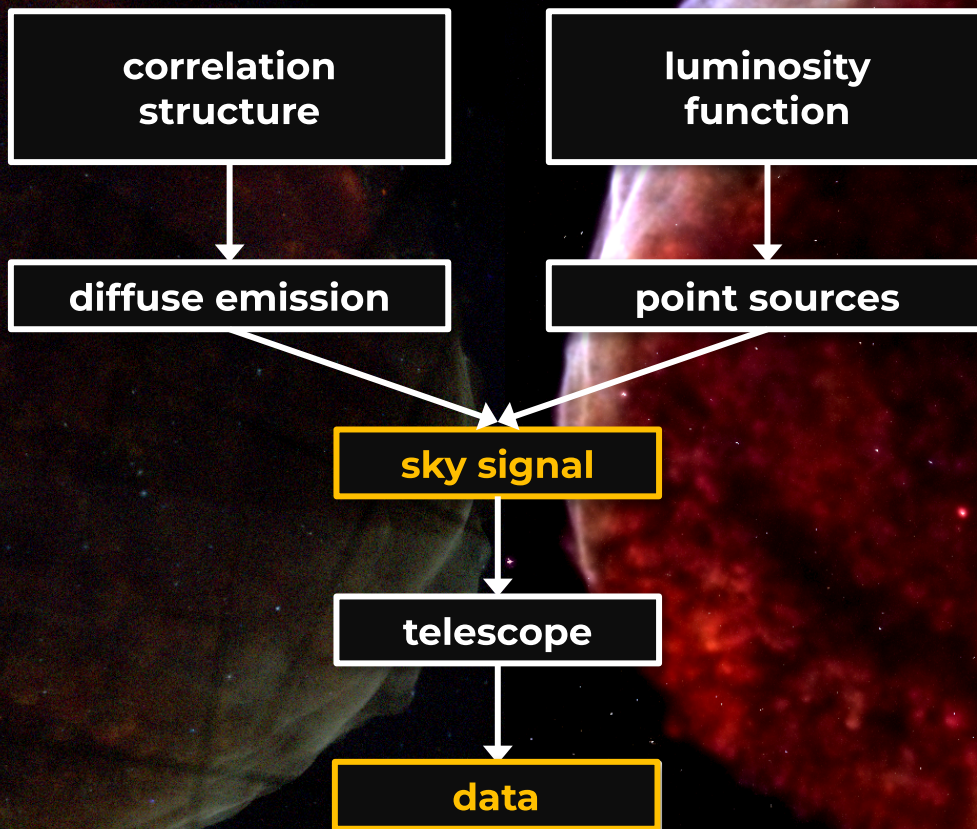


(Westerkamp et al. 2024)



Data

Reconstructed Sky

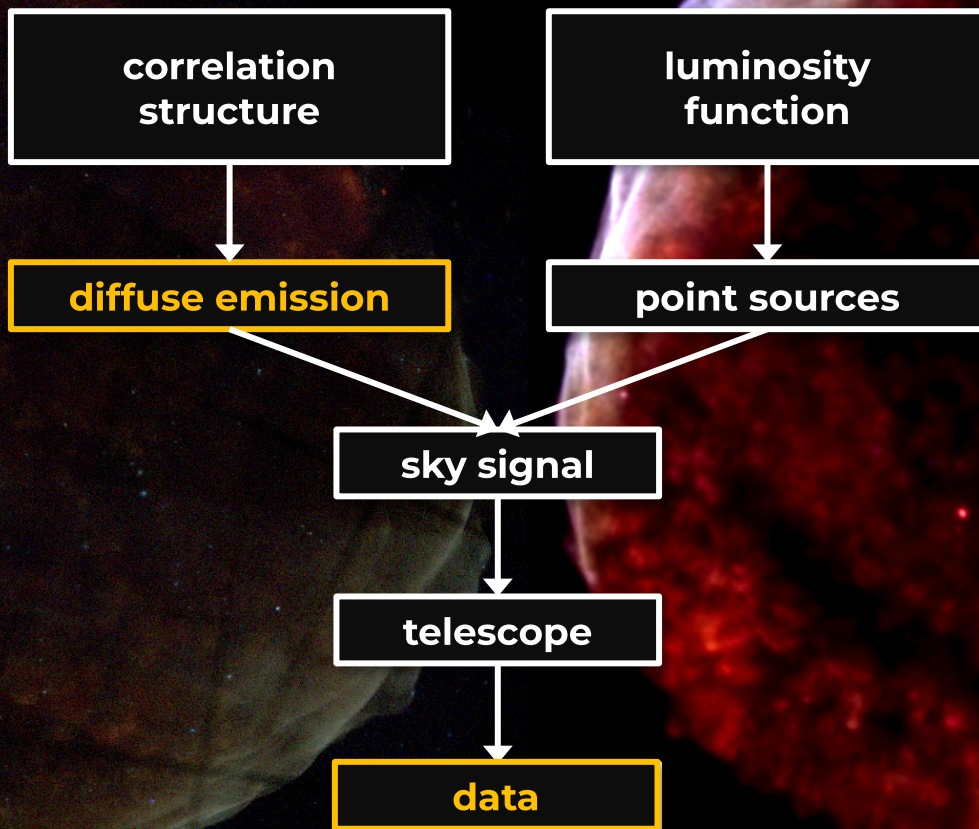


(Westerkamp et al. 2024)



Data

Diffuse Emission

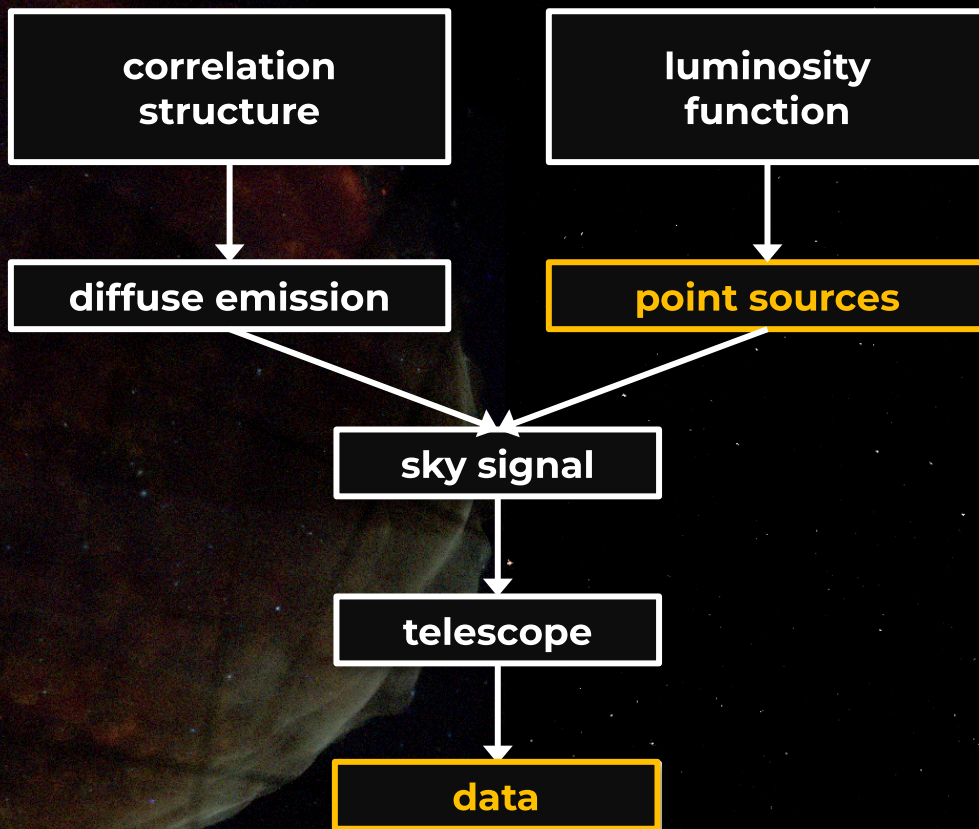


(Westerkamp et al. 2024)



Data

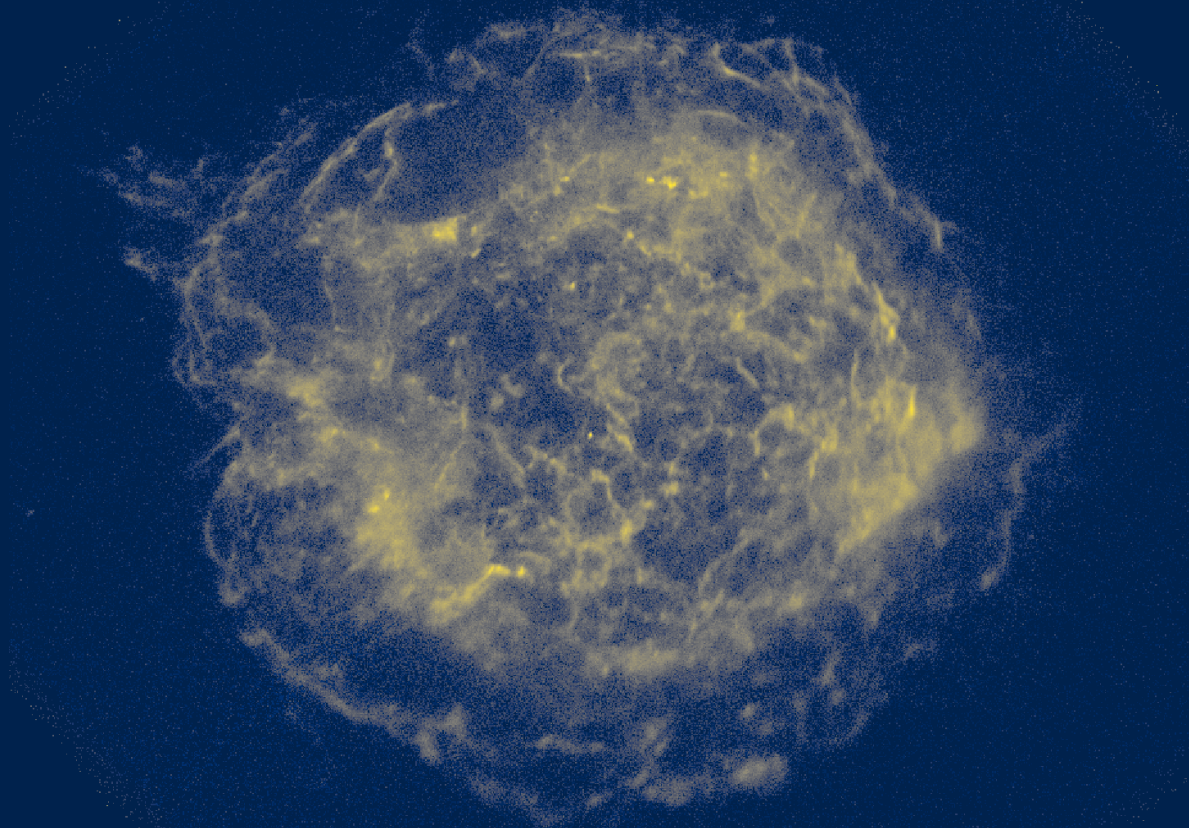
Point Sources



(Westerkamp et al. 2024)

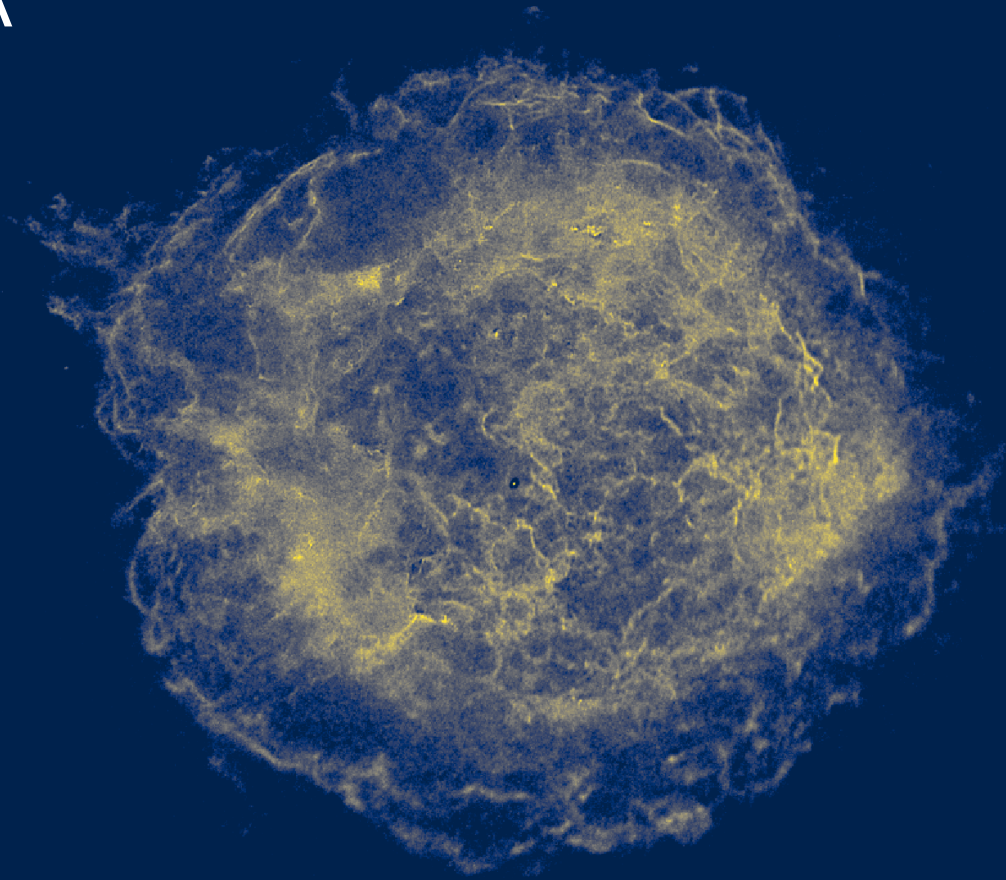


Cassiopeia A



Data

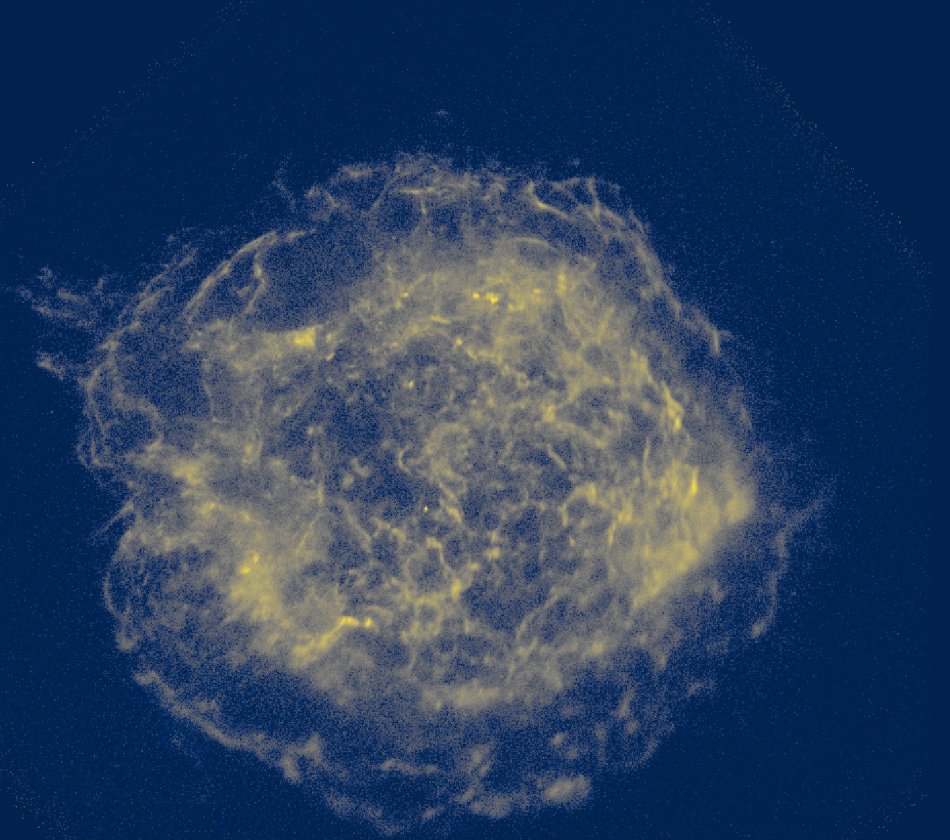
Cassiopeia A



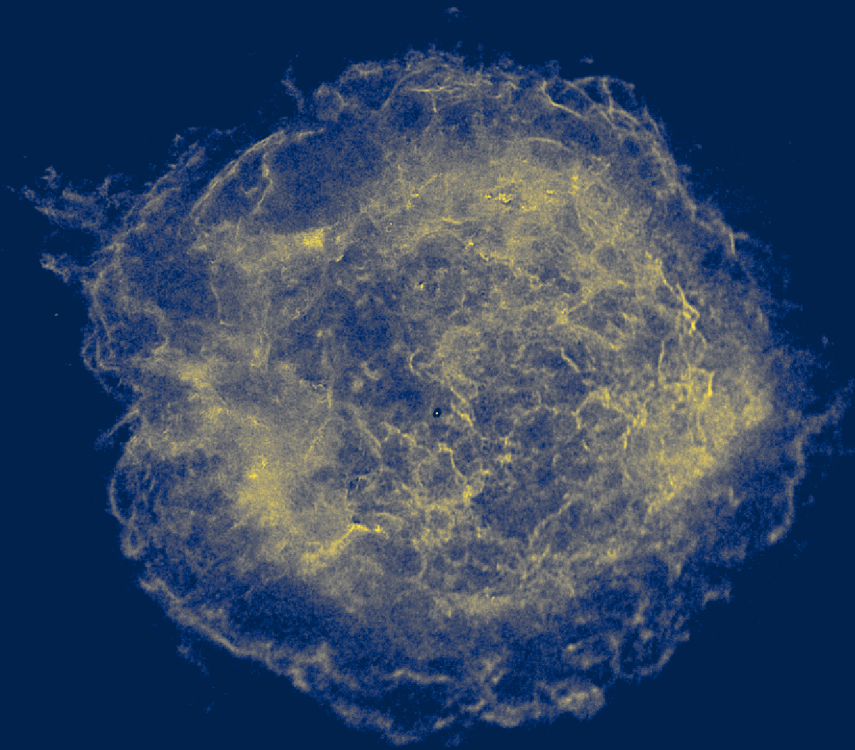
Reconstruction

Cassiopeia A

Eberle et al. in preparation



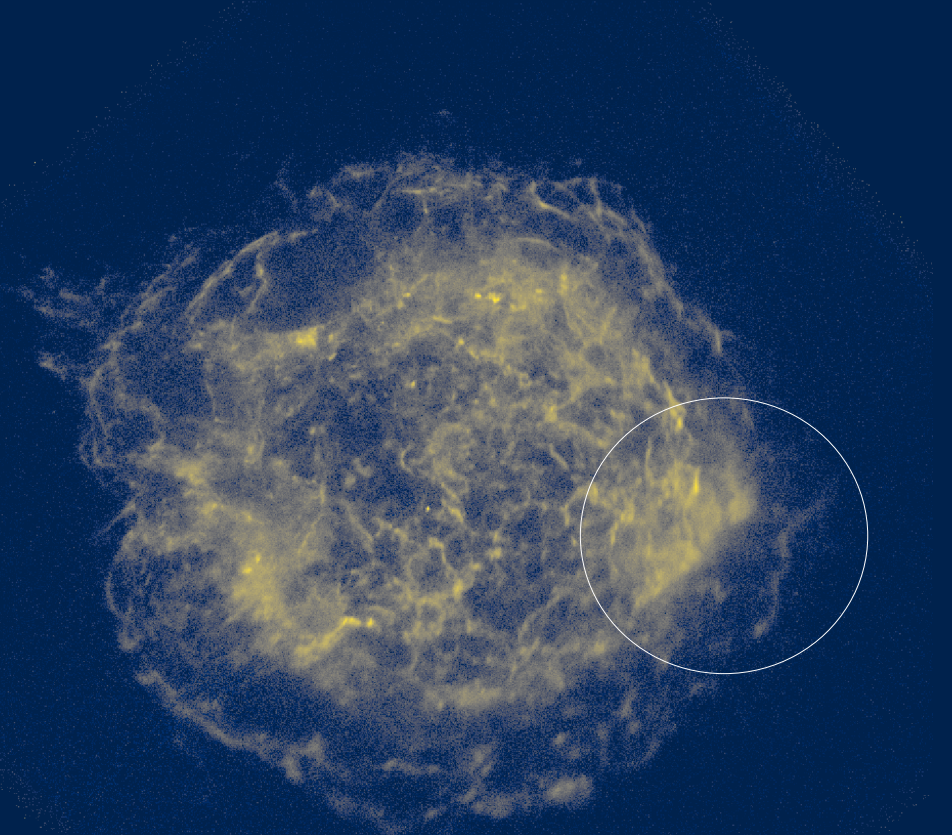
Data



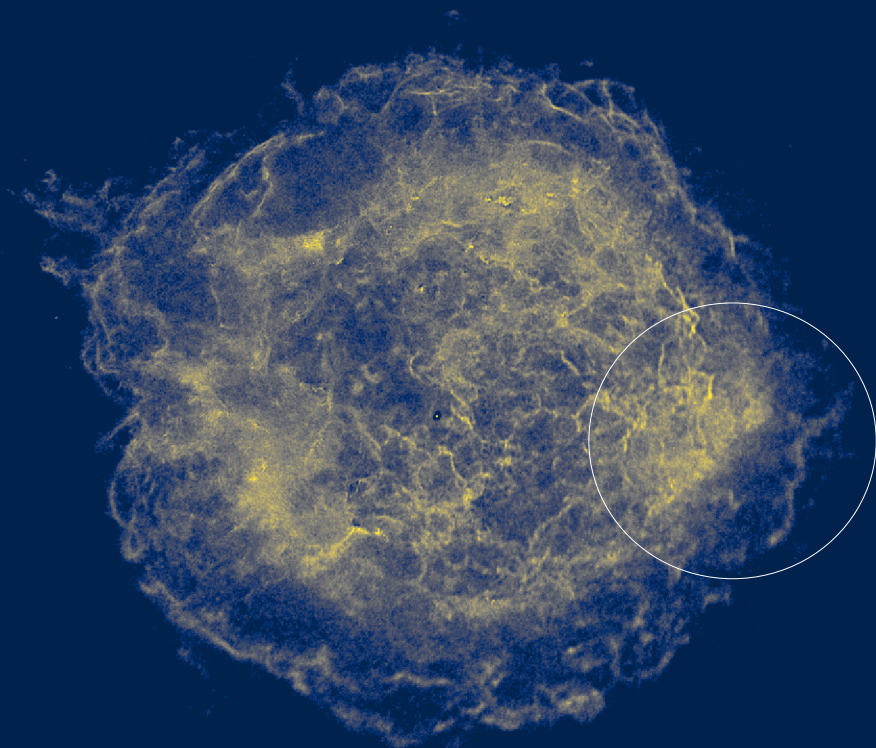
Reconstruction

Cassiopeia A

Eberle et al. in preparation

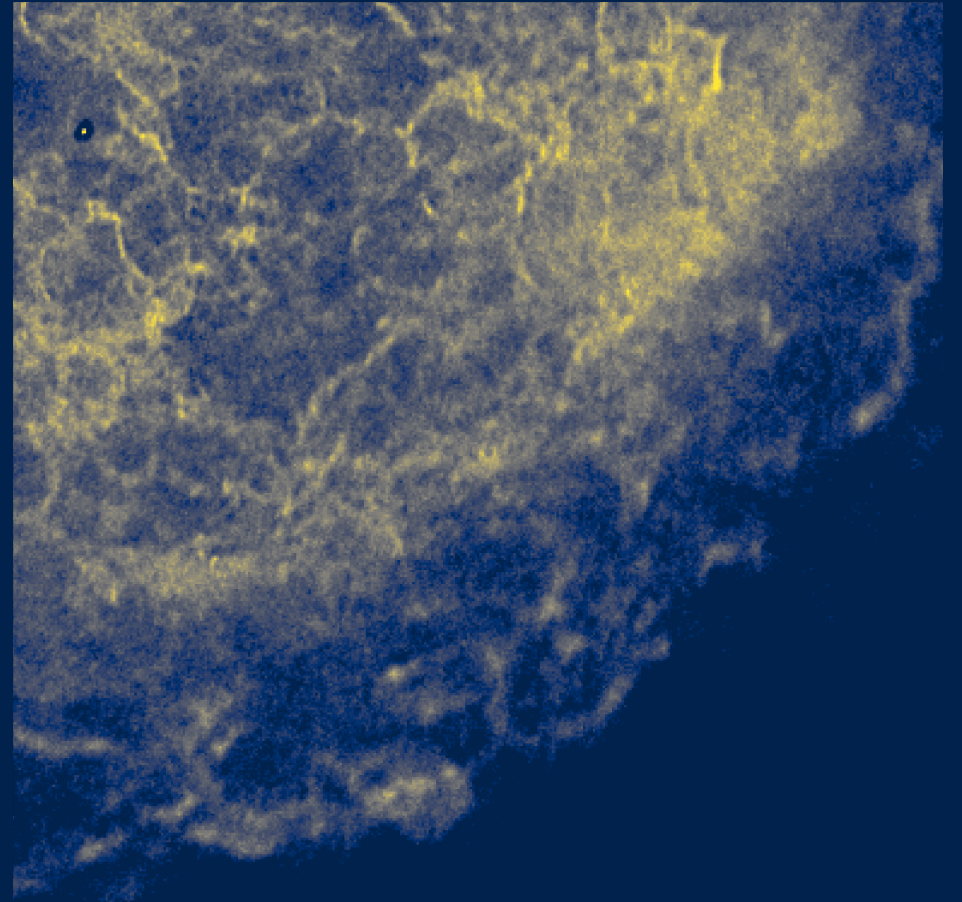
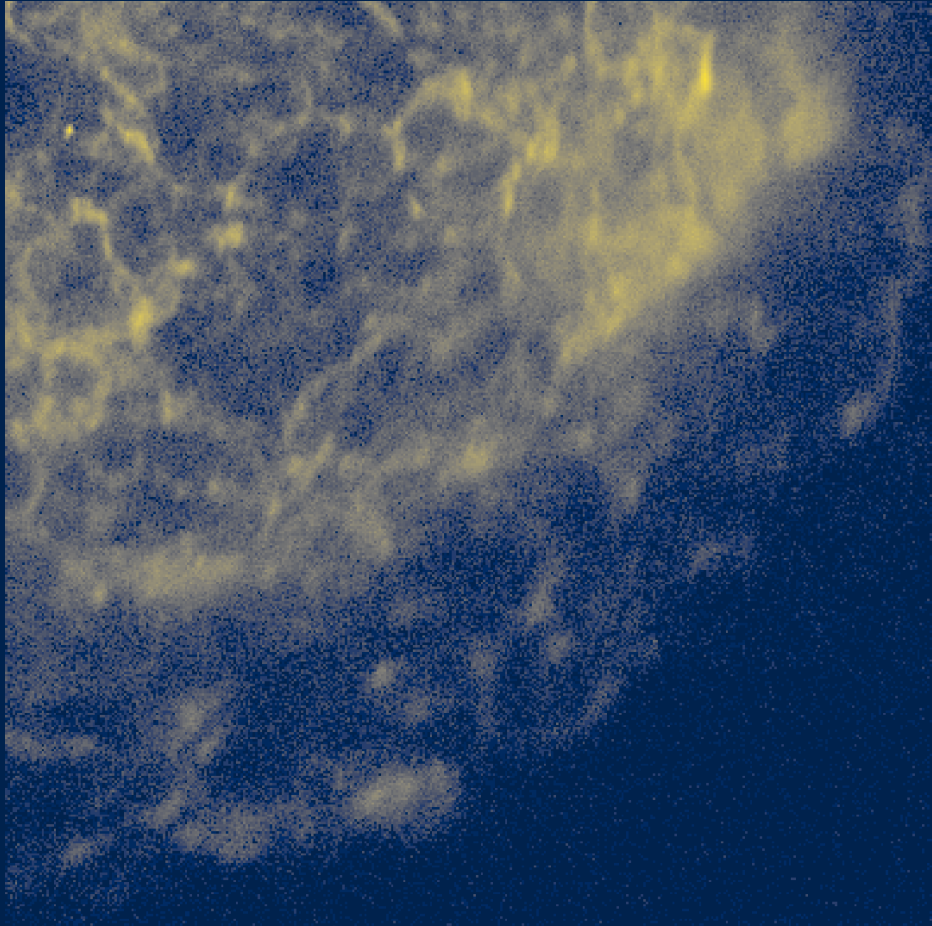


Data

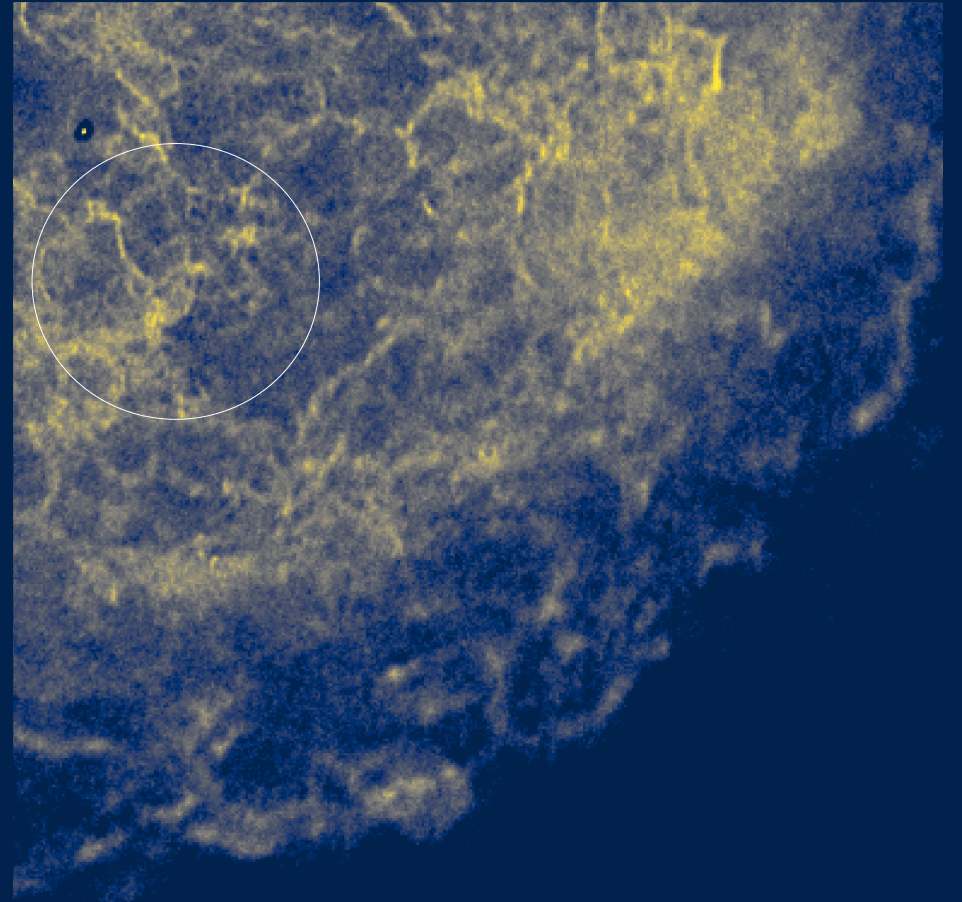
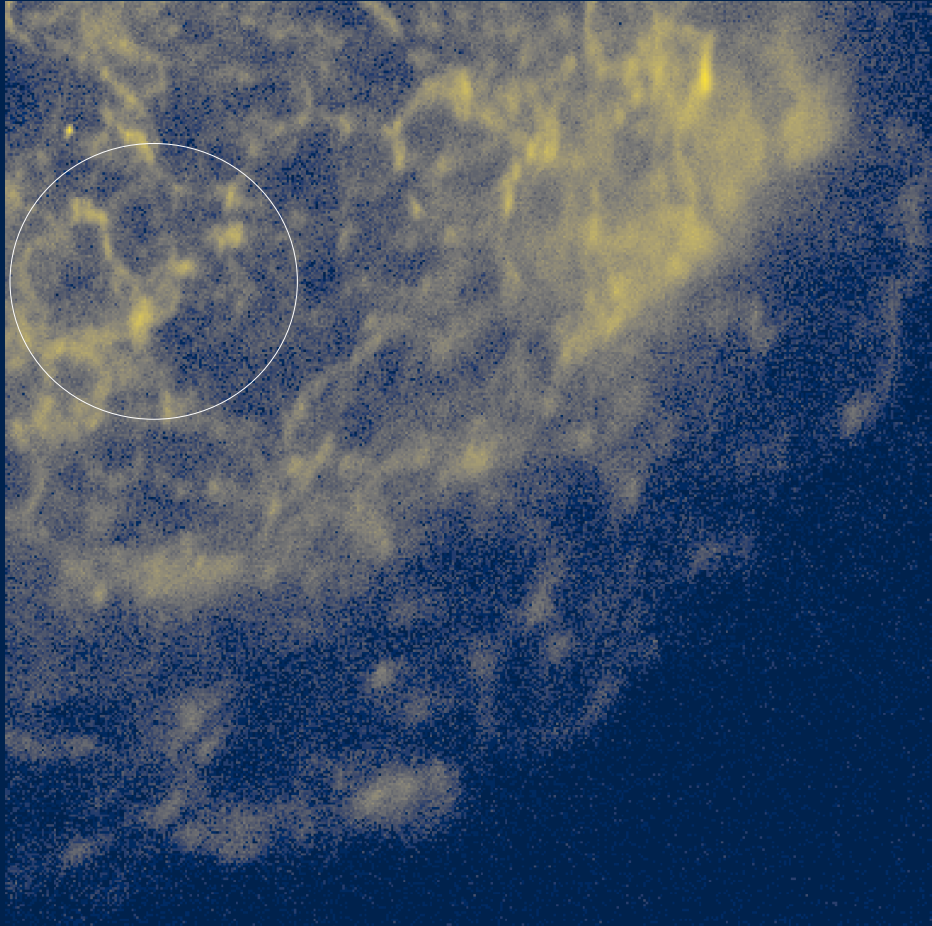


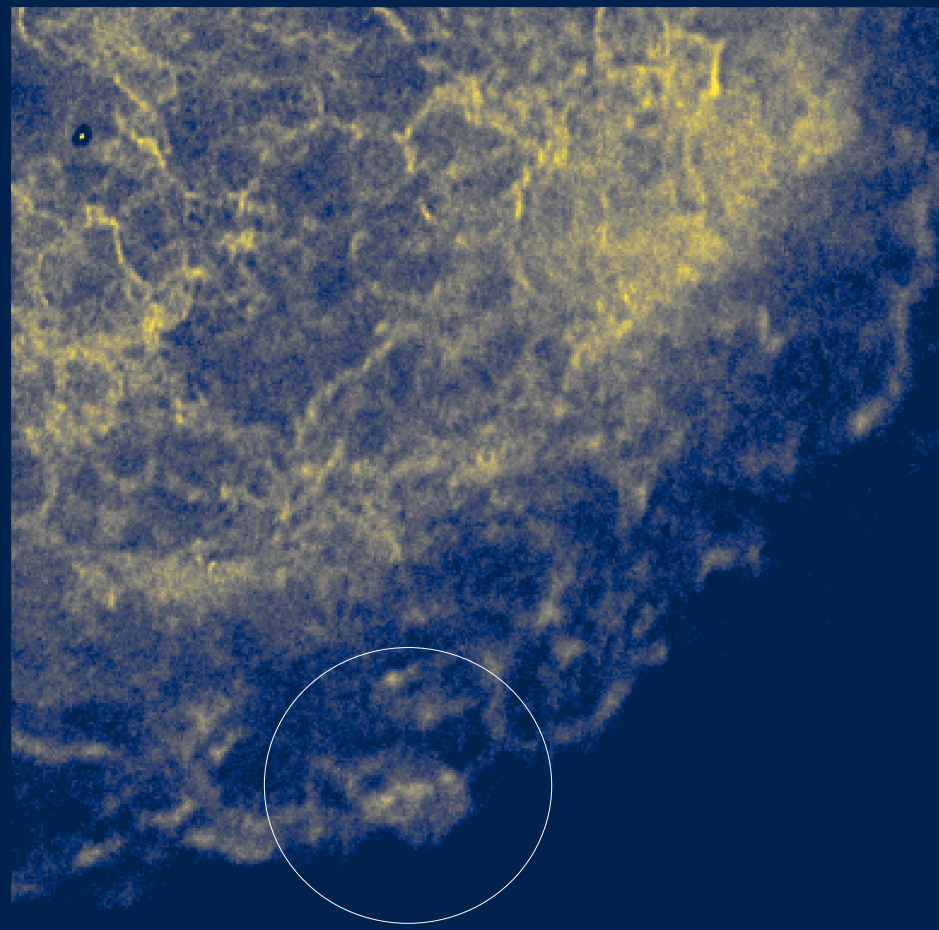
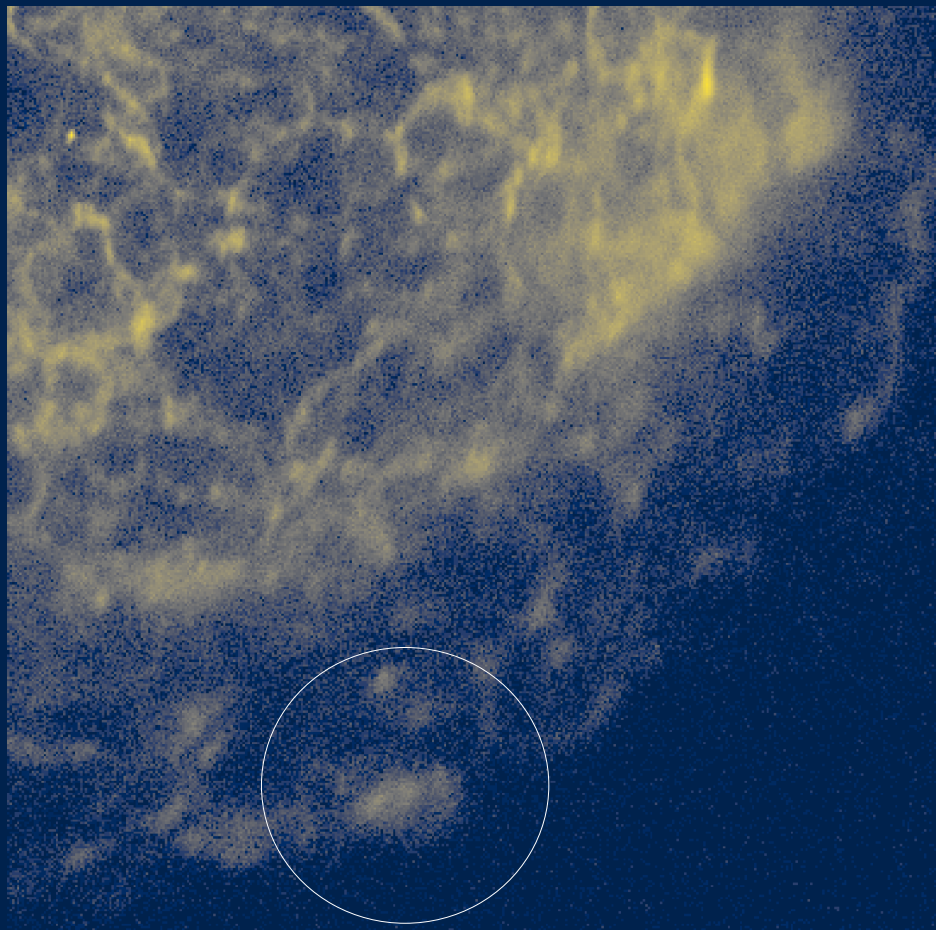
Reconstruction

Cassiopeia A



Cassiopeia A

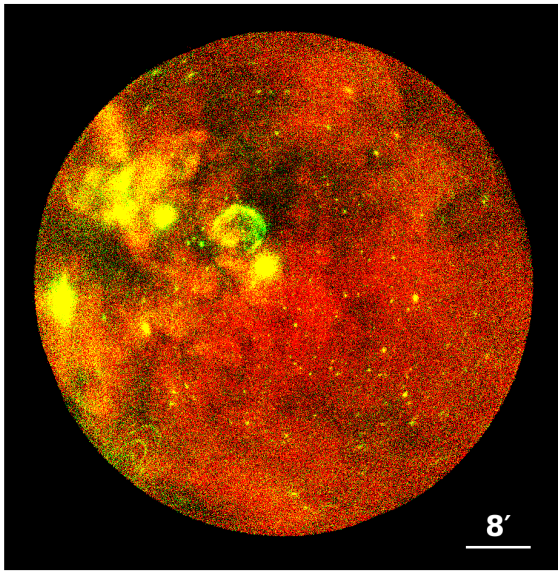






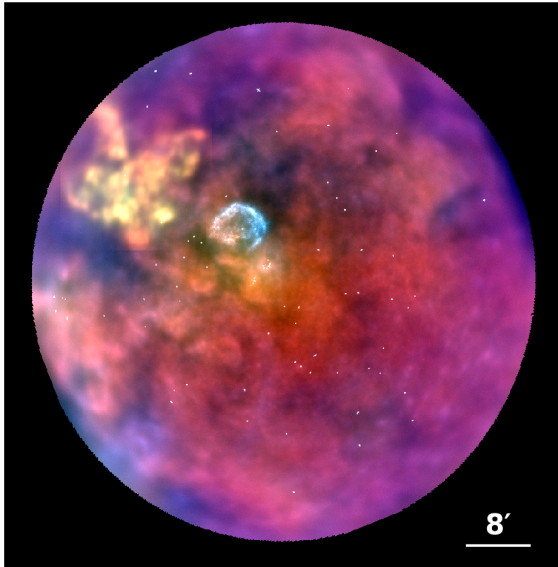
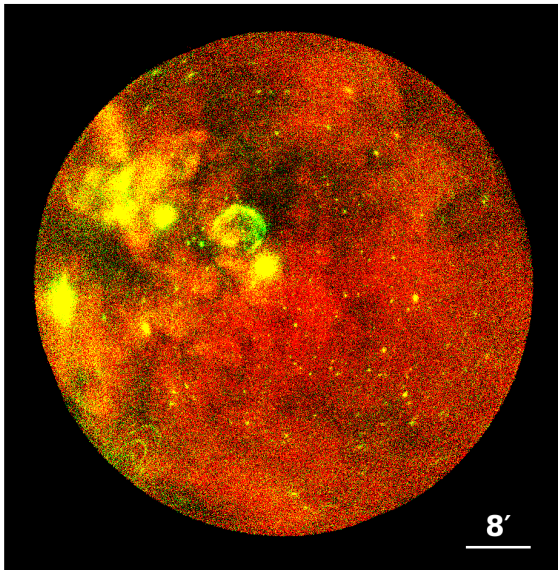
eROSITA

LMC



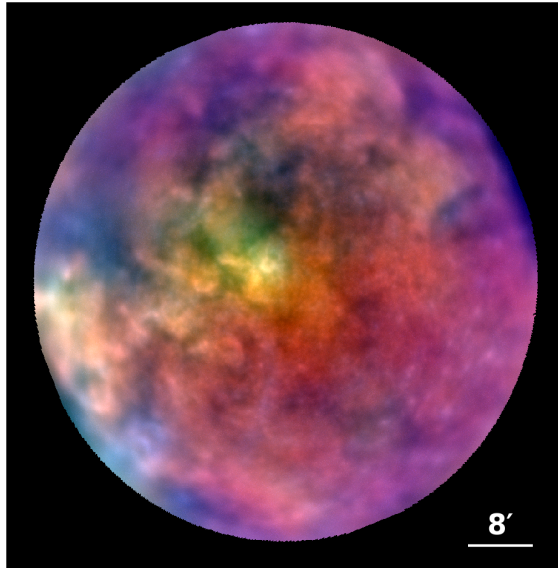
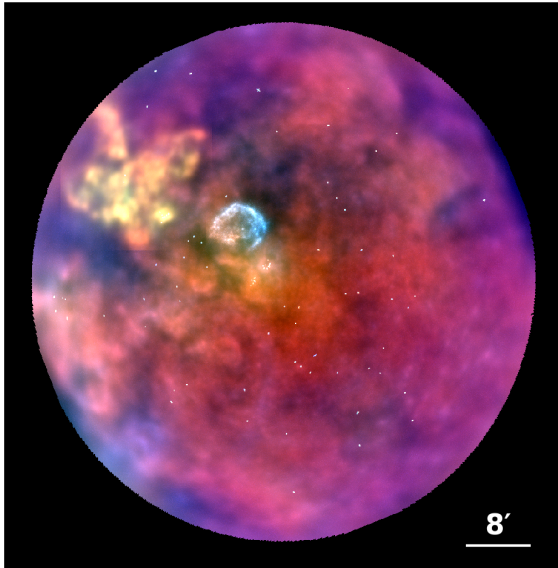
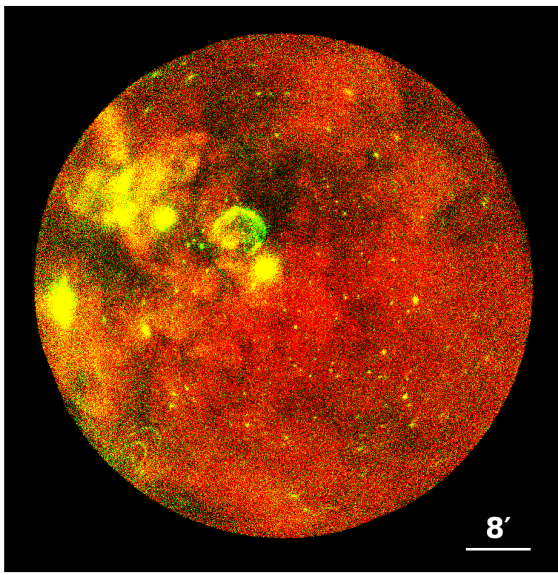
Guardiani et al. (2025)

LMC



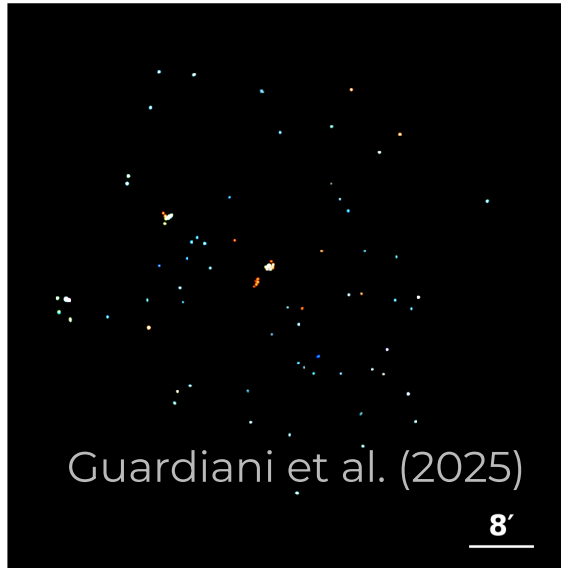
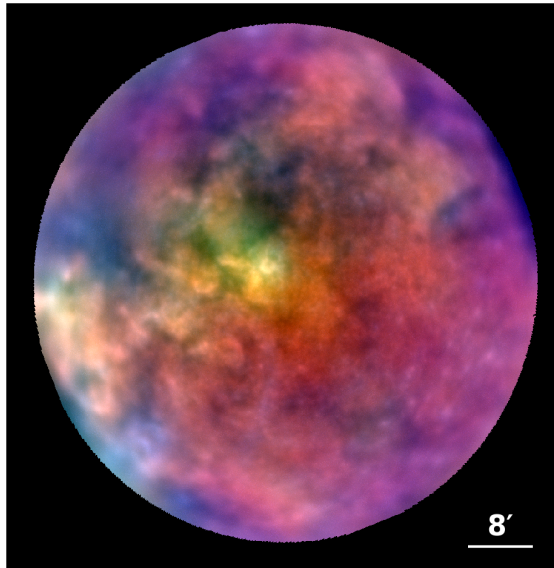
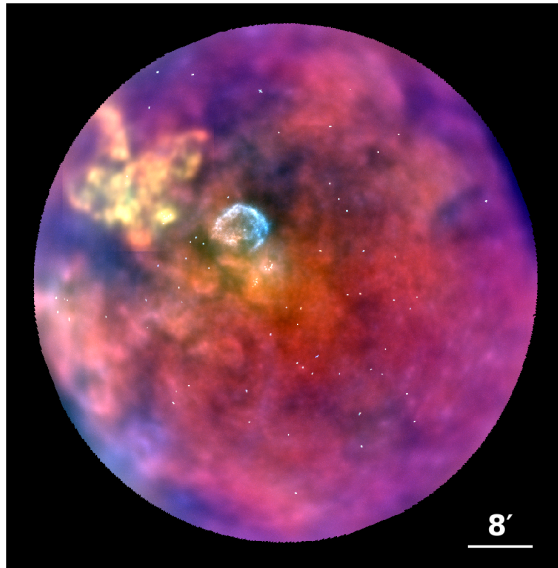
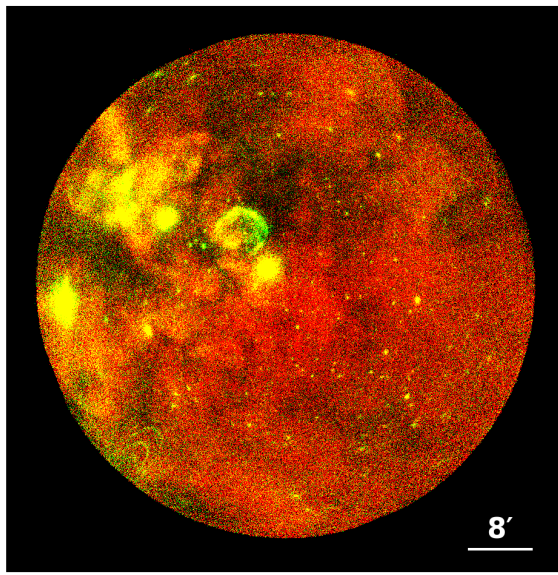
Guardiani et al. (2025)

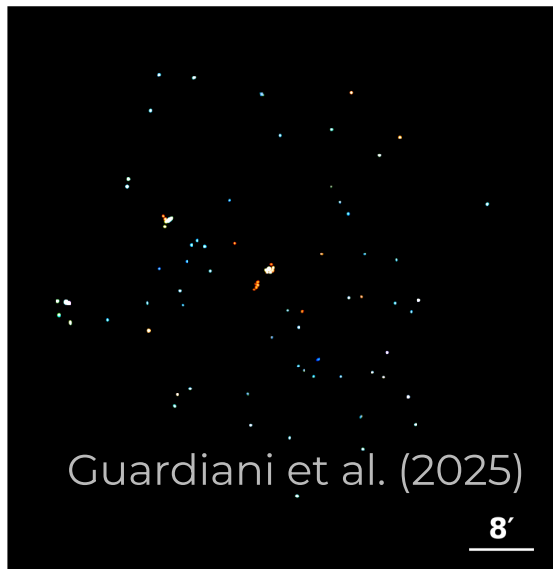
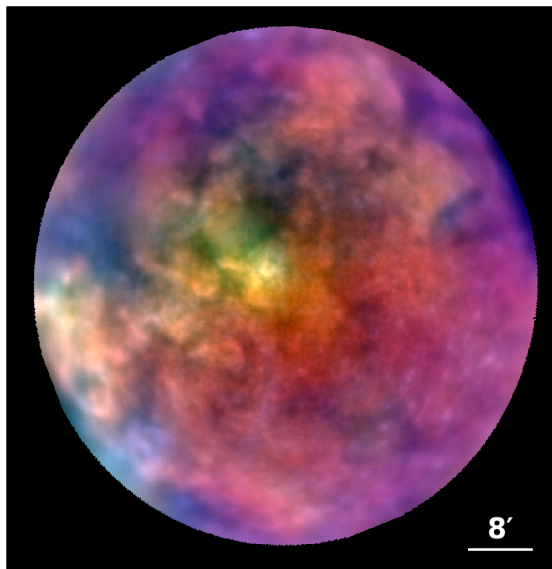
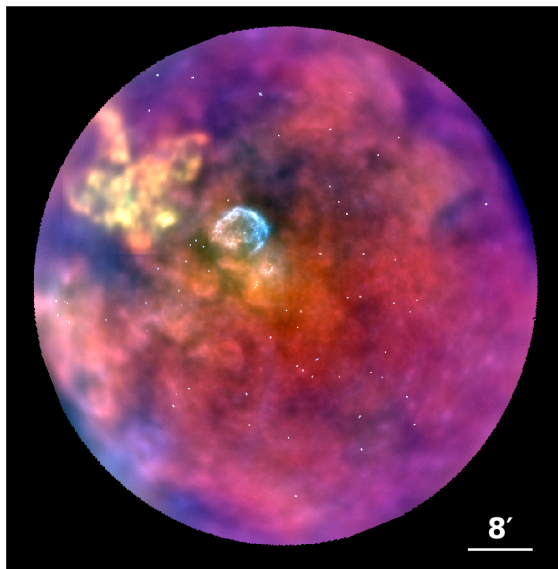
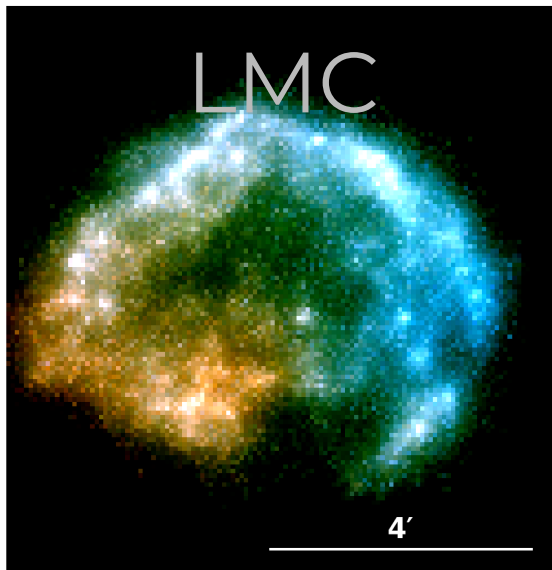
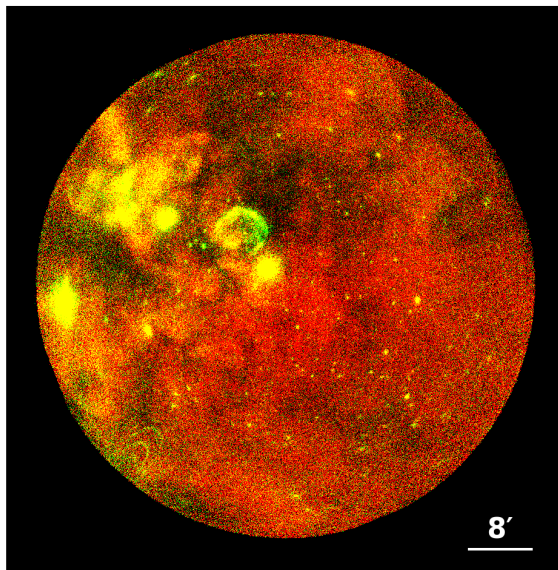
LMC

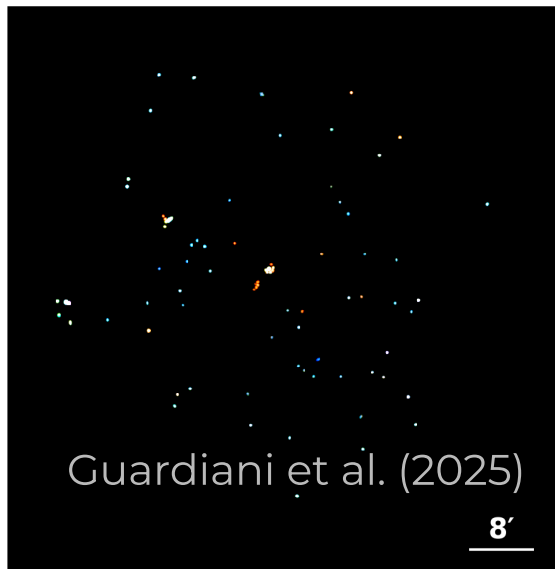
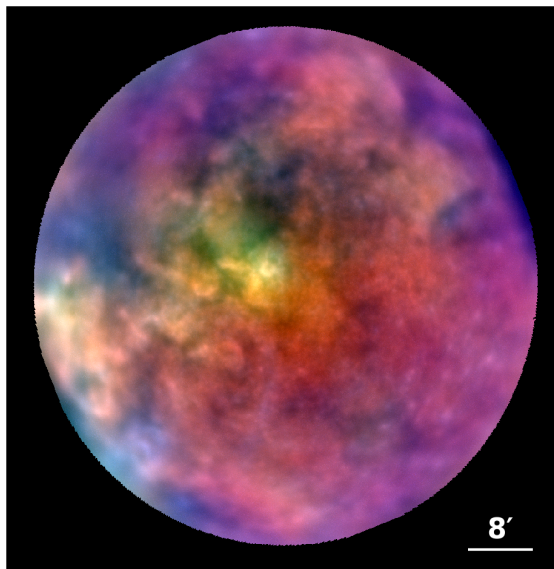
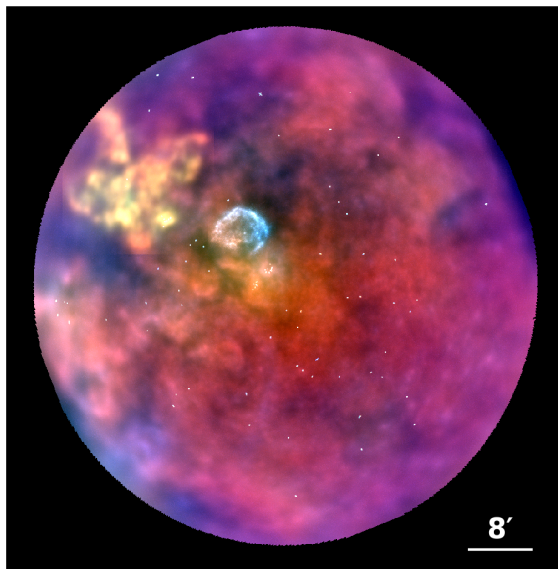
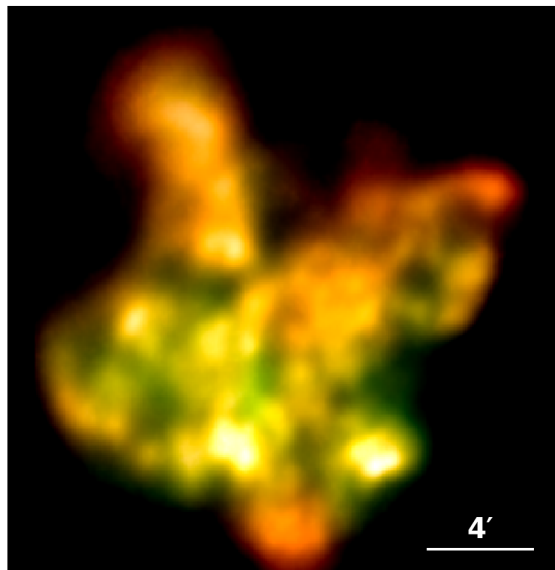
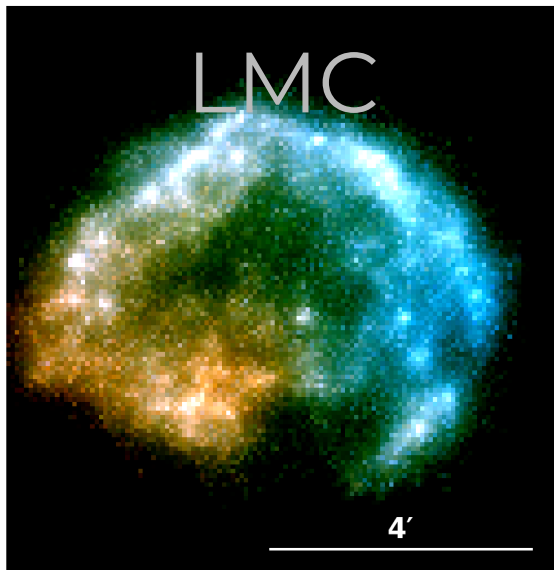
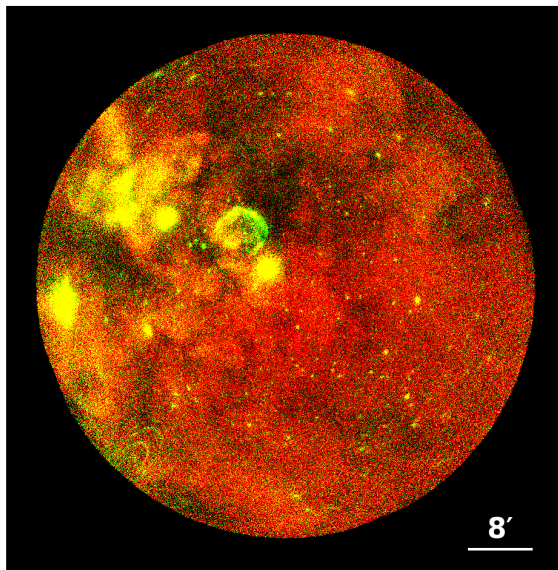


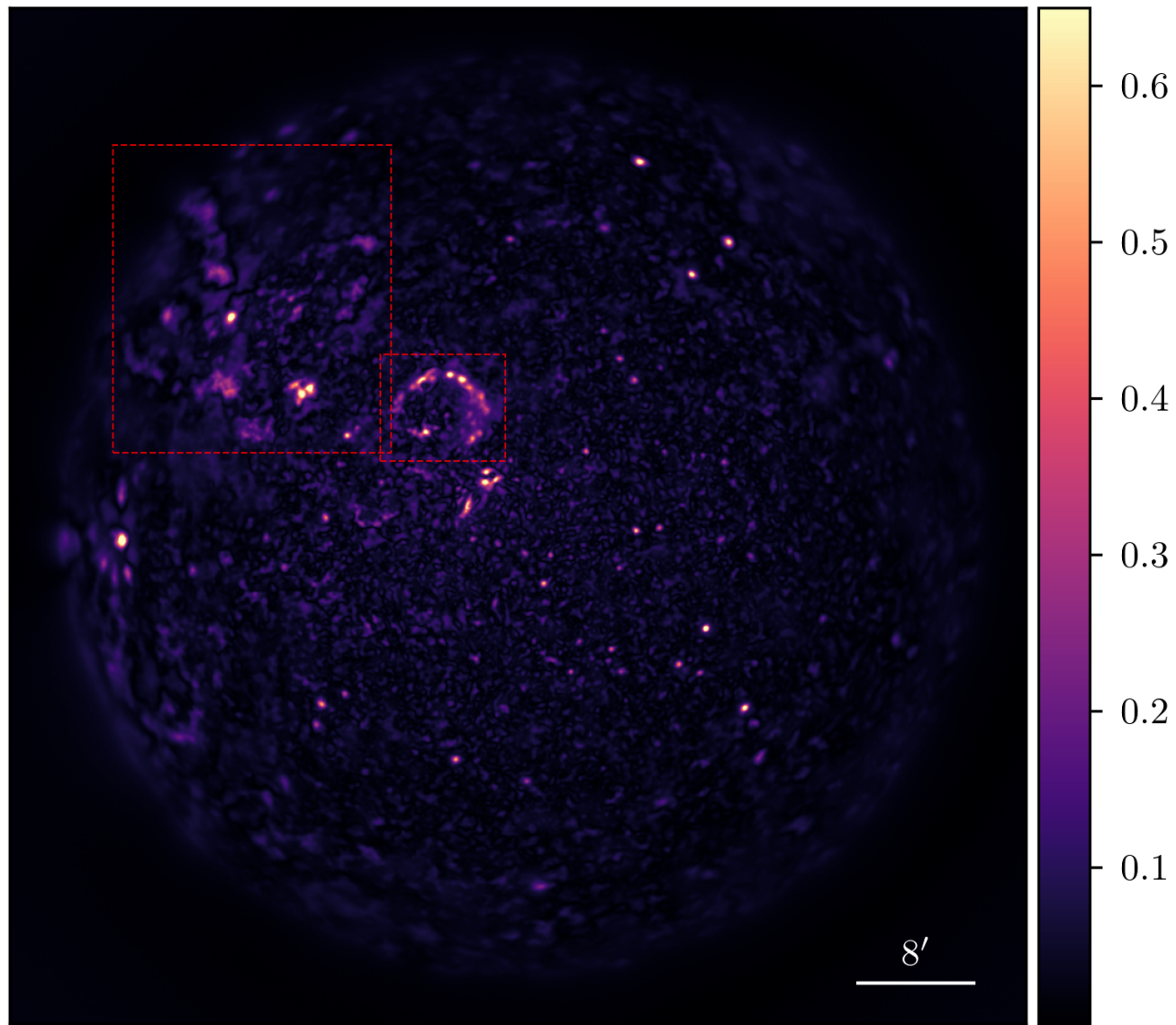
Guardiani et al. (2025)

LMC

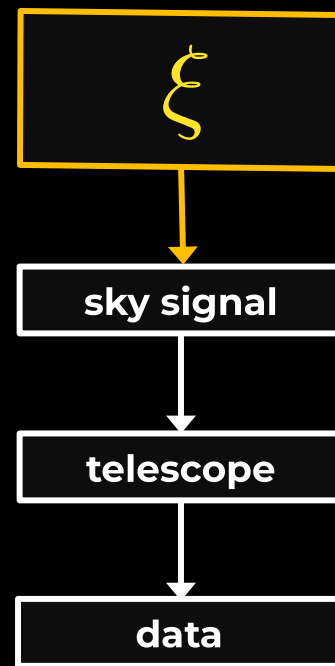


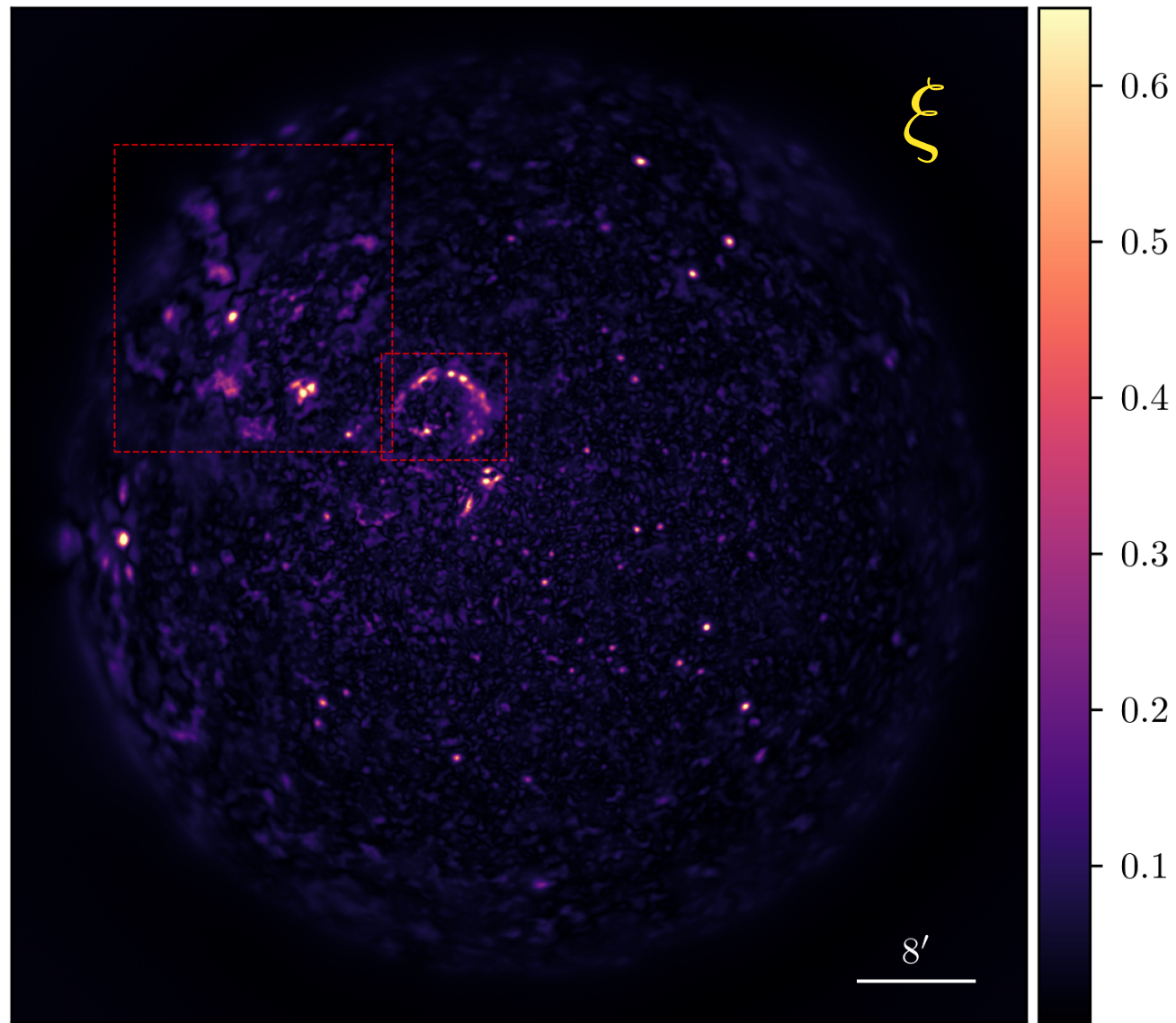




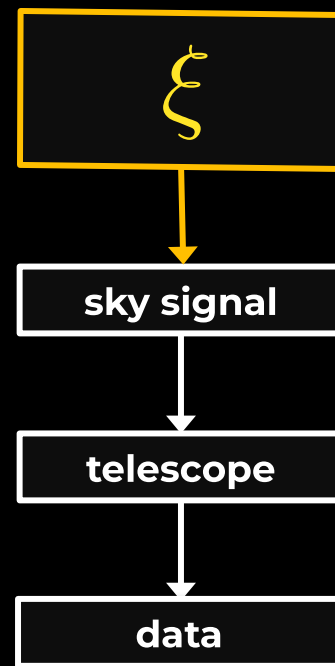


Matteo Guardiani et al.
(arXiv:2506.20758)





Matteo Guardiani et al.
(arXiv:2506.20758)





James Webb Space Telescope



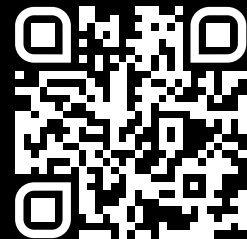
Soon: Radio Telescopes (VLA, Meerkat, ALMA)

Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

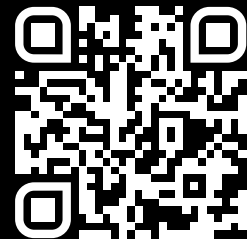
- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis
- provides Bayesian uncertainty quantification



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis
- provides Bayesian uncertainty quantification
- is artificial intelligence without training



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis
- provides Bayesian uncertainty quantification
- is artificial intelligence without training
- is based on information field theory, NIFTy, & JAX



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis
- provides Bayesian uncertainty quantification
- is artificial intelligence without training
- is based on information field theory, NIFTy, & JAX
- is open source



Universal Bayesian Imaging Kit

UBIK

- unifies imaging for a growing number of instruments
- is multi-frequency, -instrument, & -component data analysis
- provides Bayesian uncertainty quantification
- is artificial intelligence without training
- is based on information field theory, NIFTy, & JAX
- is open source
- “... Safe when taken as directed.” – Philip K. Dick

