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ZHEJIANG LAB

Magnetic Fields in the Pulsar Wind Observed from the Spider Pulsars

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Organization: Zhijiang Lab (之江实验室)

Collaborator: Wei-wei Zhu, Di Li et al.

Outline



1. Background
2. Black widow pulsar J1720-0534
3. Timing results of PSR J1720-0534
4. Magnetic field measurement of PSR J1720-0534
5. 计算天文研究室

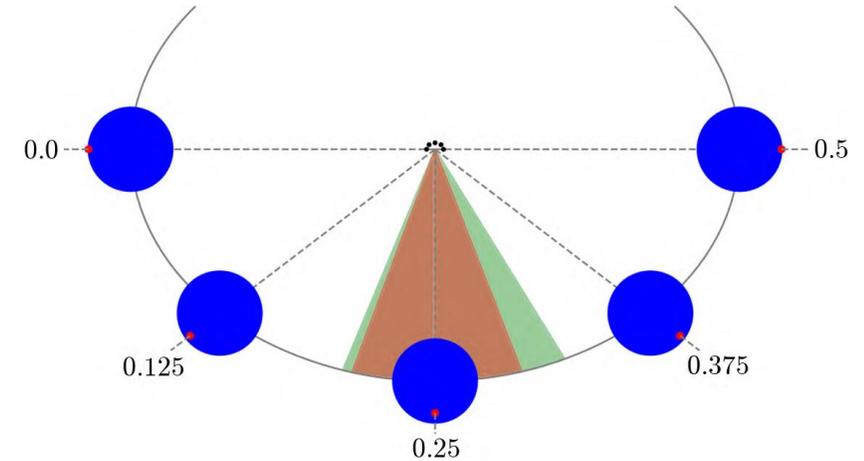
1. Background



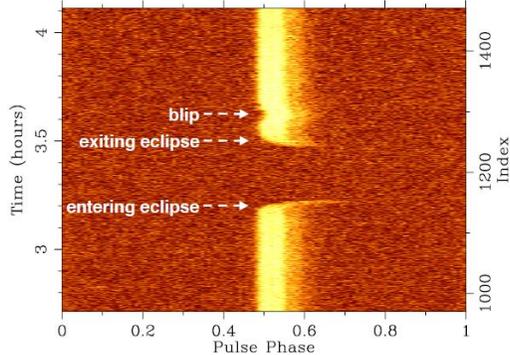
Observation features of Spider pulsar

- Pulsar signal diminished or fully eclipsed for some orbital phases
- Eclipse frequency dependence
- Centered near companion inferior conjunction
- Eclipse medium larger than companion's Roche lobe

Polzin et al. MNRAS 2017

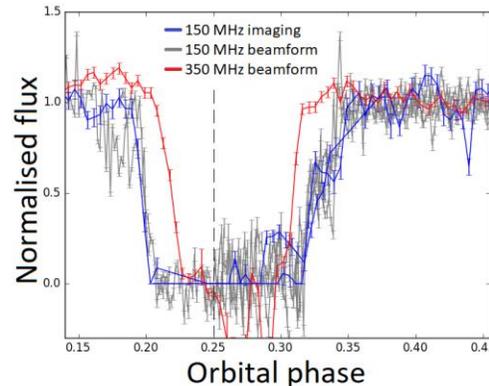


Crowter et al. MNRAS 2020

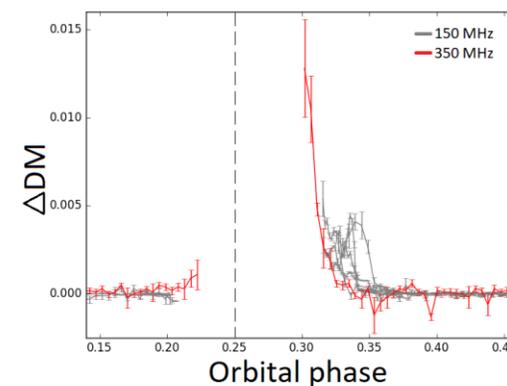


(a) Eclipse at 820 MHz on MJD 55 181 - GUPPI

Polzin et al. MNRAS 2017



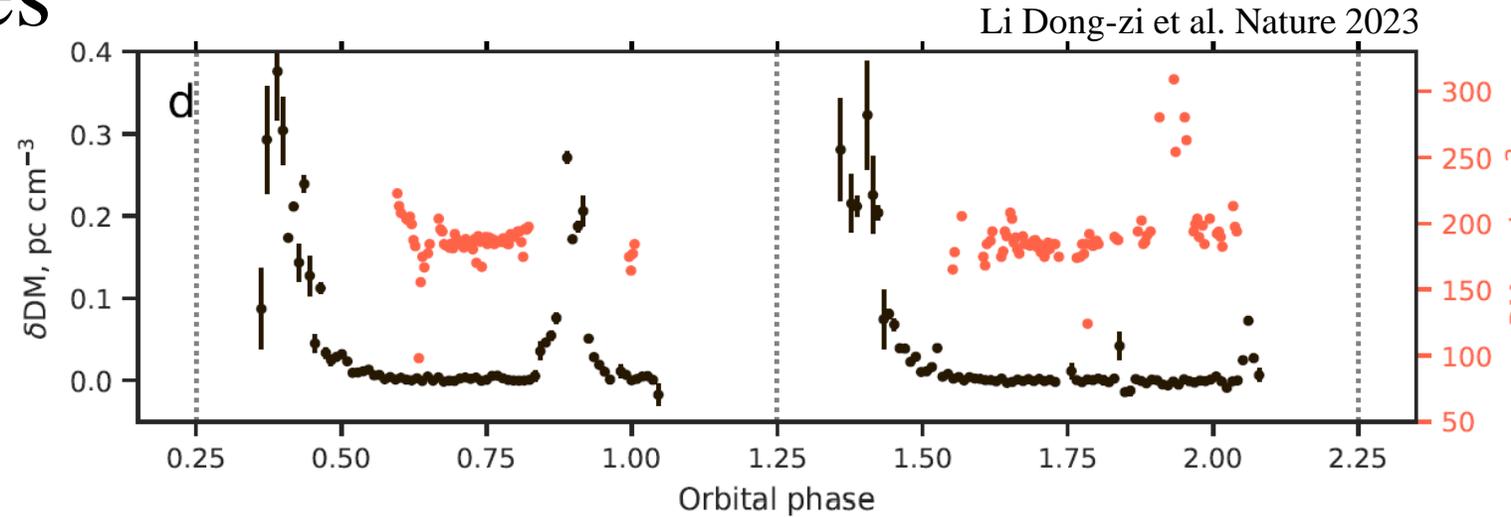
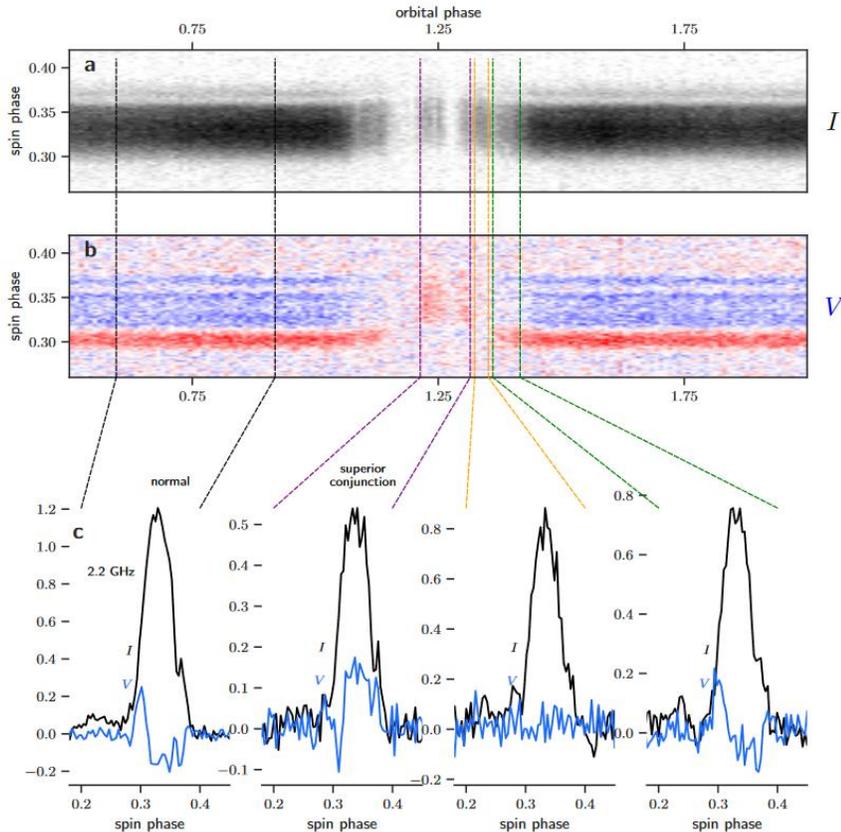
Polzin et al. MNRAS 2017



1. Background

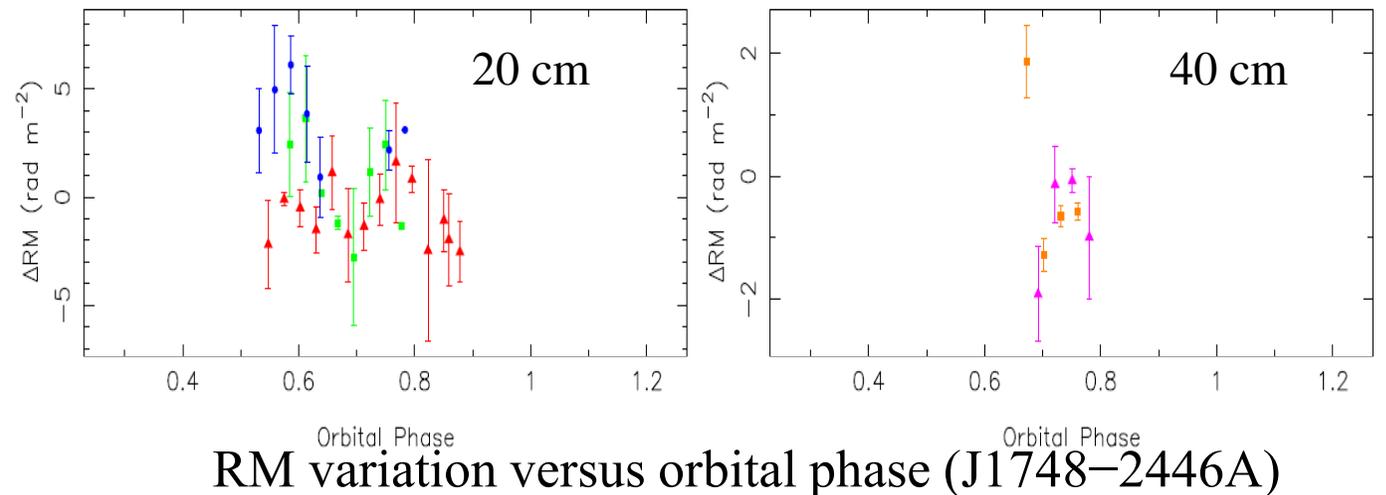
New Observation features

- linear depolarization
- sign reversal of V



DM&RM variation versus orbital phase (Ter5A)

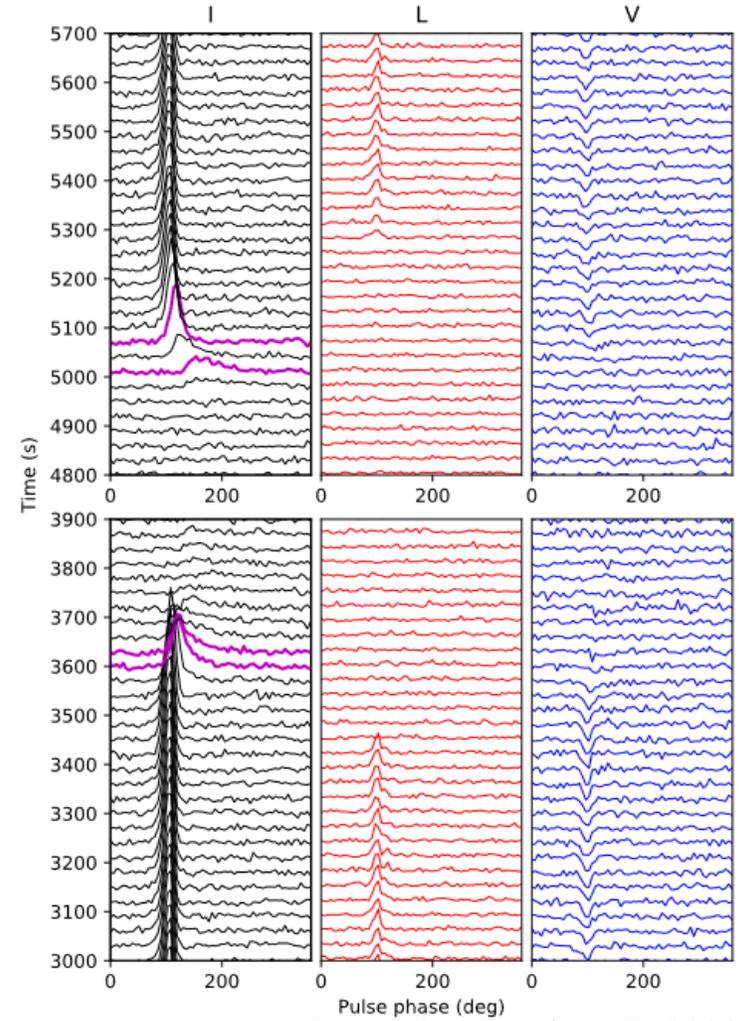
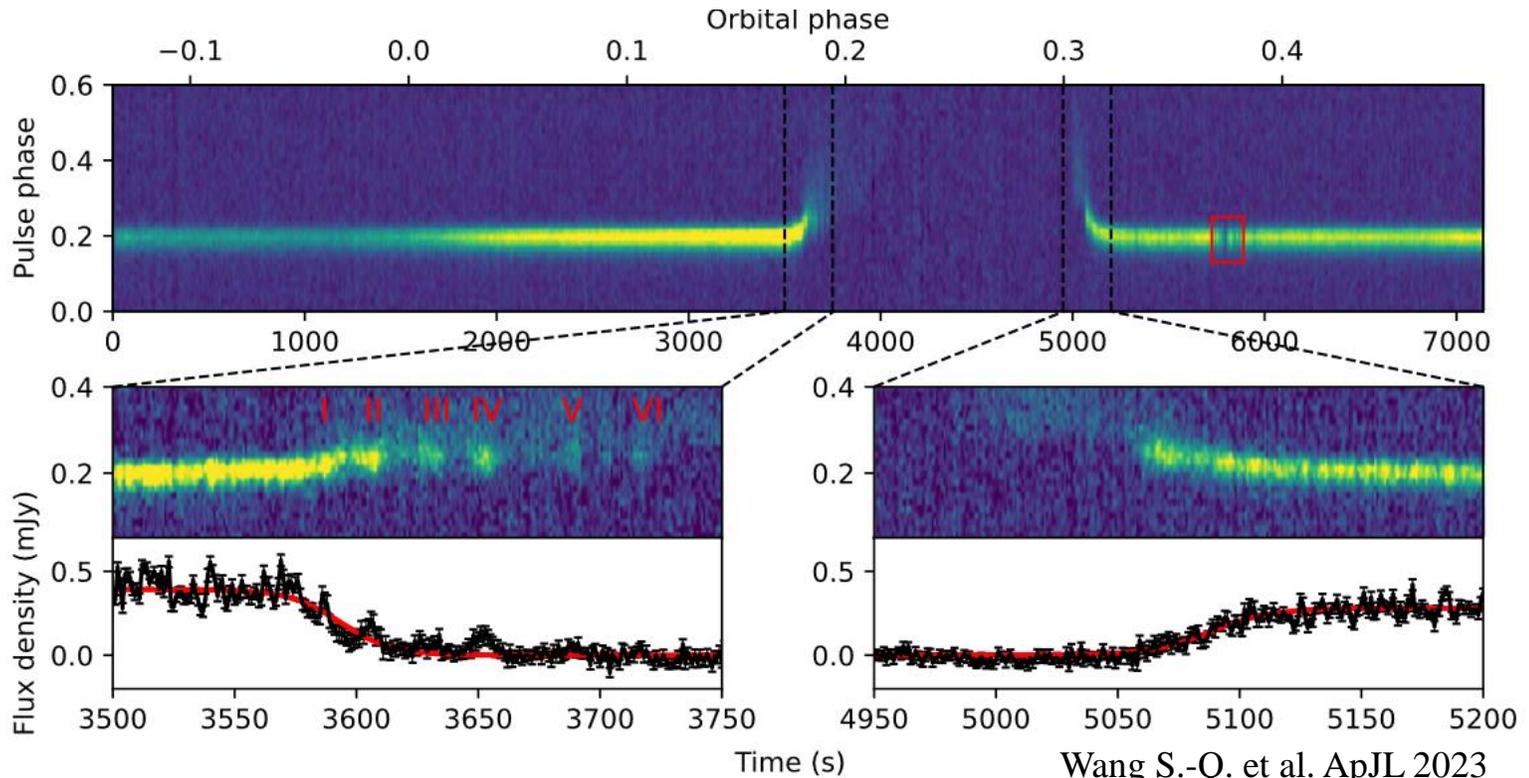
You Xiao-peng et al. ApJ 2018



RM variation versus orbital phase (J1748-2446A)

2. Black widow pulsar J1720-0534

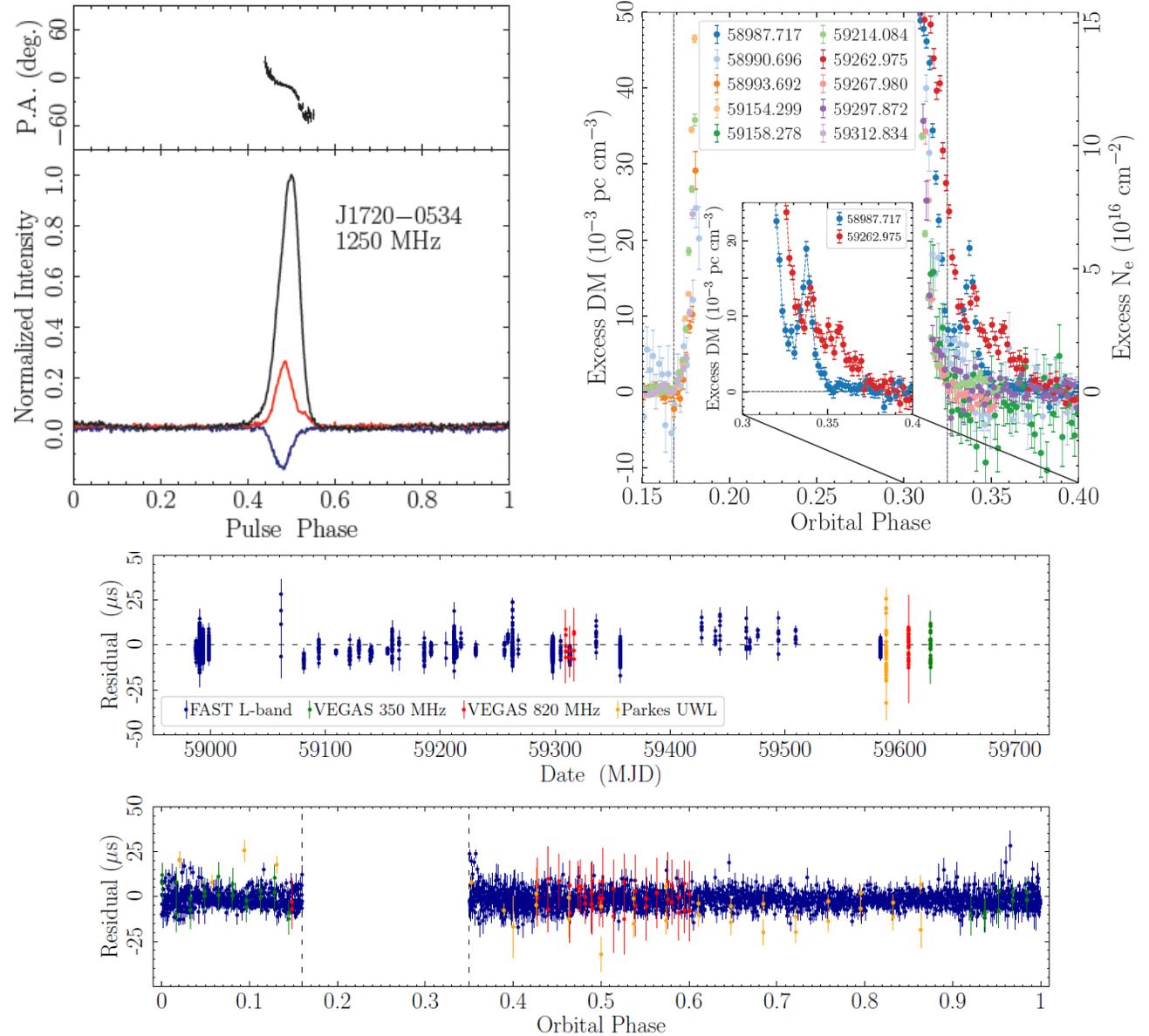
- The first black widow pulsar in CRAFTS
- First reported in Wang et al. 2021
- Pulse emission variations ~22 s during the ingress
- **Linear depolarization near the eclipse**



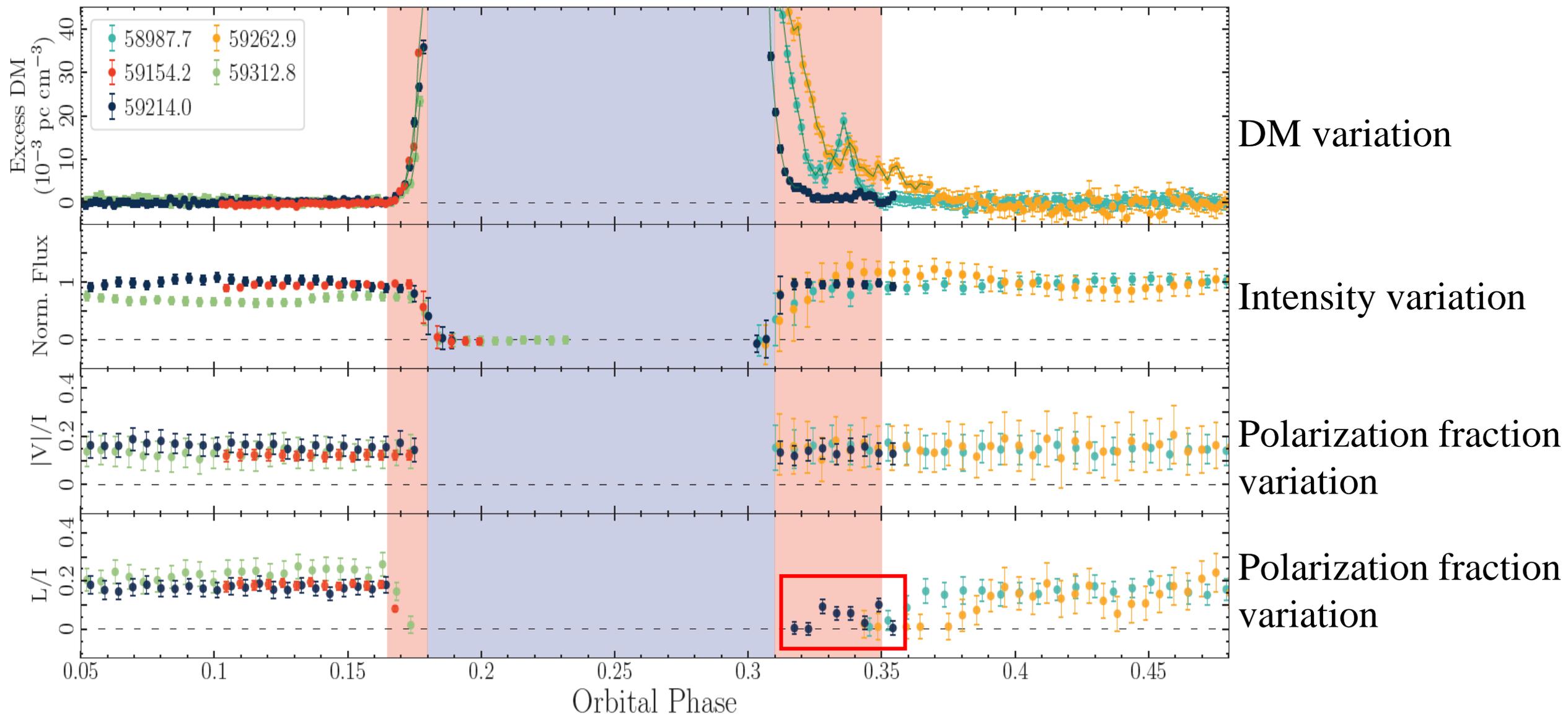
3. Timing results of PSR J1720-0534

- Spin period: 3.26 ms
- Dispersion Measure: $36.82 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ pc}$
- Orbital period: 3.16 hr
- Pulsar-companion separation: $1.2 R_{\odot}$
- Minimum companion mass: $0.029 M_{\odot}$
- Eclipse length: $\sim 24 \text{ min}$

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.00731>



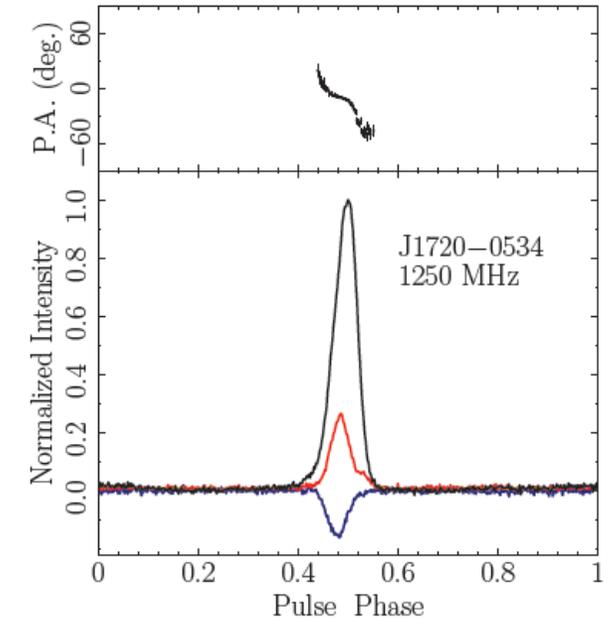
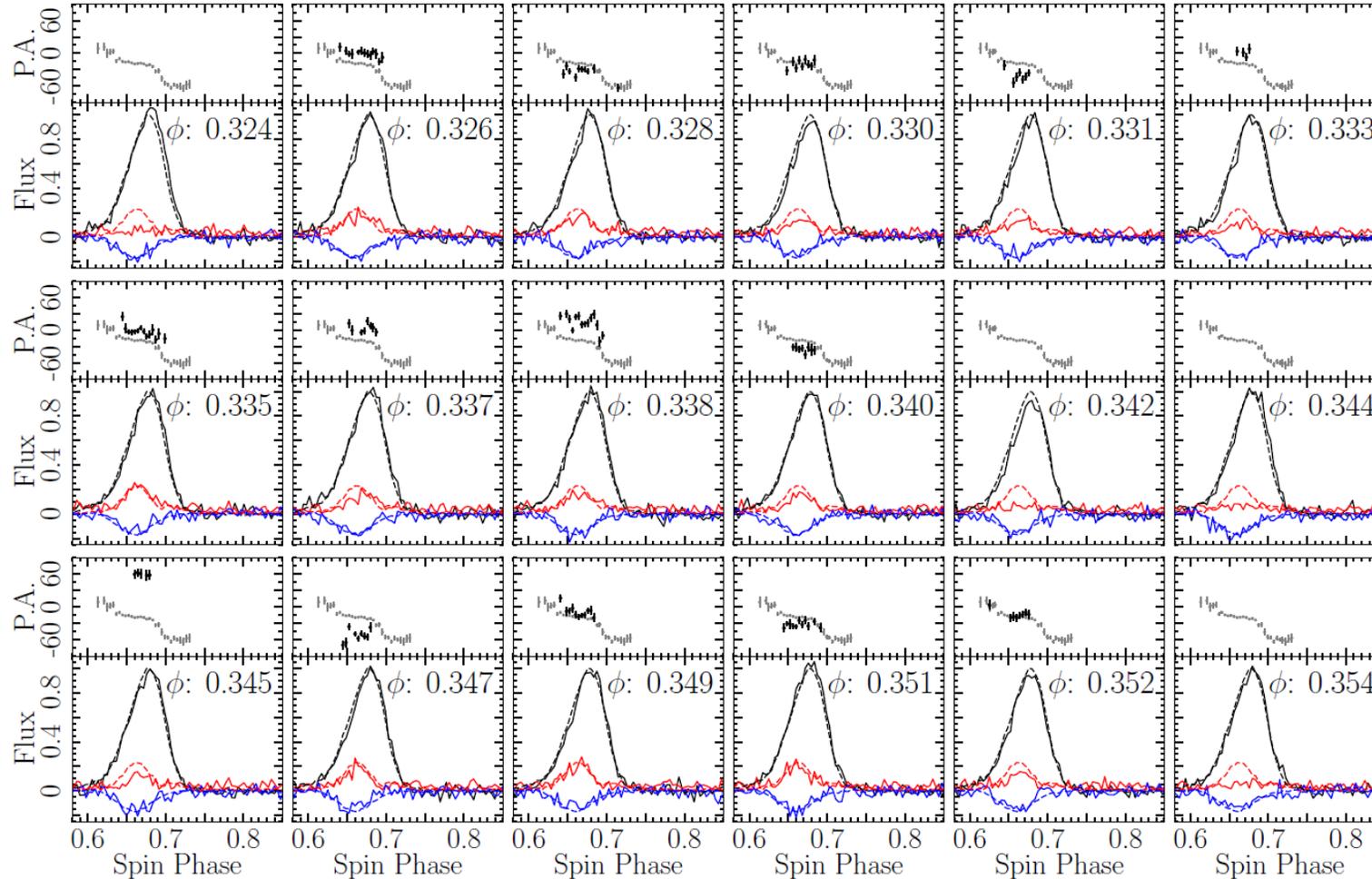
4. Magnetic field measurement



4. Magnetic field measurement



Linear polarization and PA variation between orbital phase 0.3 and 0.35



Pulse profile at 1250 MHz
from non-eclipse phase

Magnetic field measurement



➤ $PA_{obs} = RM\lambda^2 + PA_{\infty}$

➤ The cause of the PA shift:

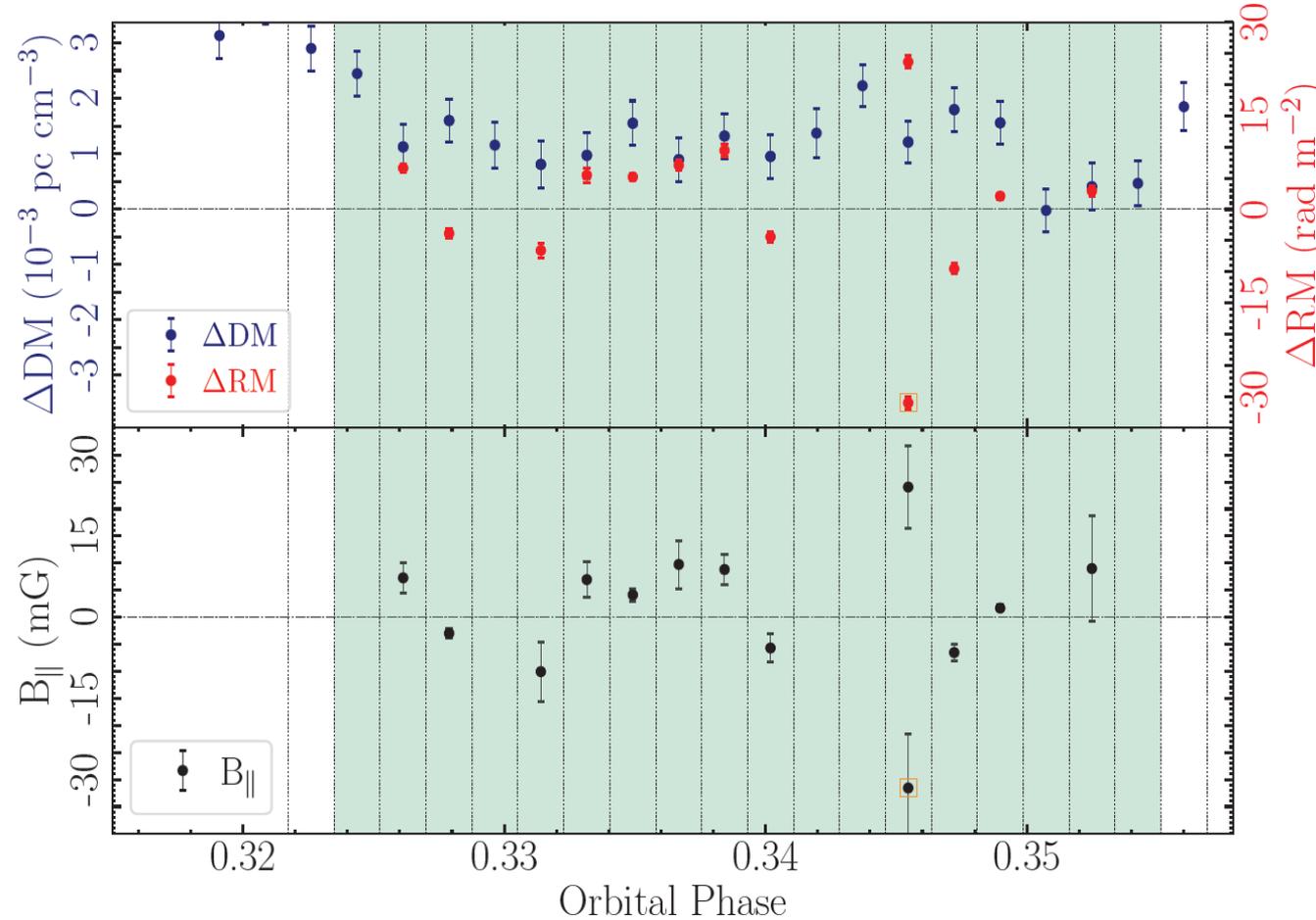
RM variation ($\Delta RM = \Delta PA\lambda^2$)

➤ RM and DM gives the average B strength

$$\langle B_{\parallel} \rangle = 1.232 \mu G \left(\frac{RM}{\text{rad m}^{-2}} \right) \left(\frac{DM}{\text{pc cm}^{-3}} \right)^{-1}$$

$$RM = \Delta PA\lambda^2$$

$$t_{ex} = 4.15 \times 10^3 \times \Delta DM \times \nu_{\text{MHz}}^{-2}$$



Magnetic field measurement



- Results:

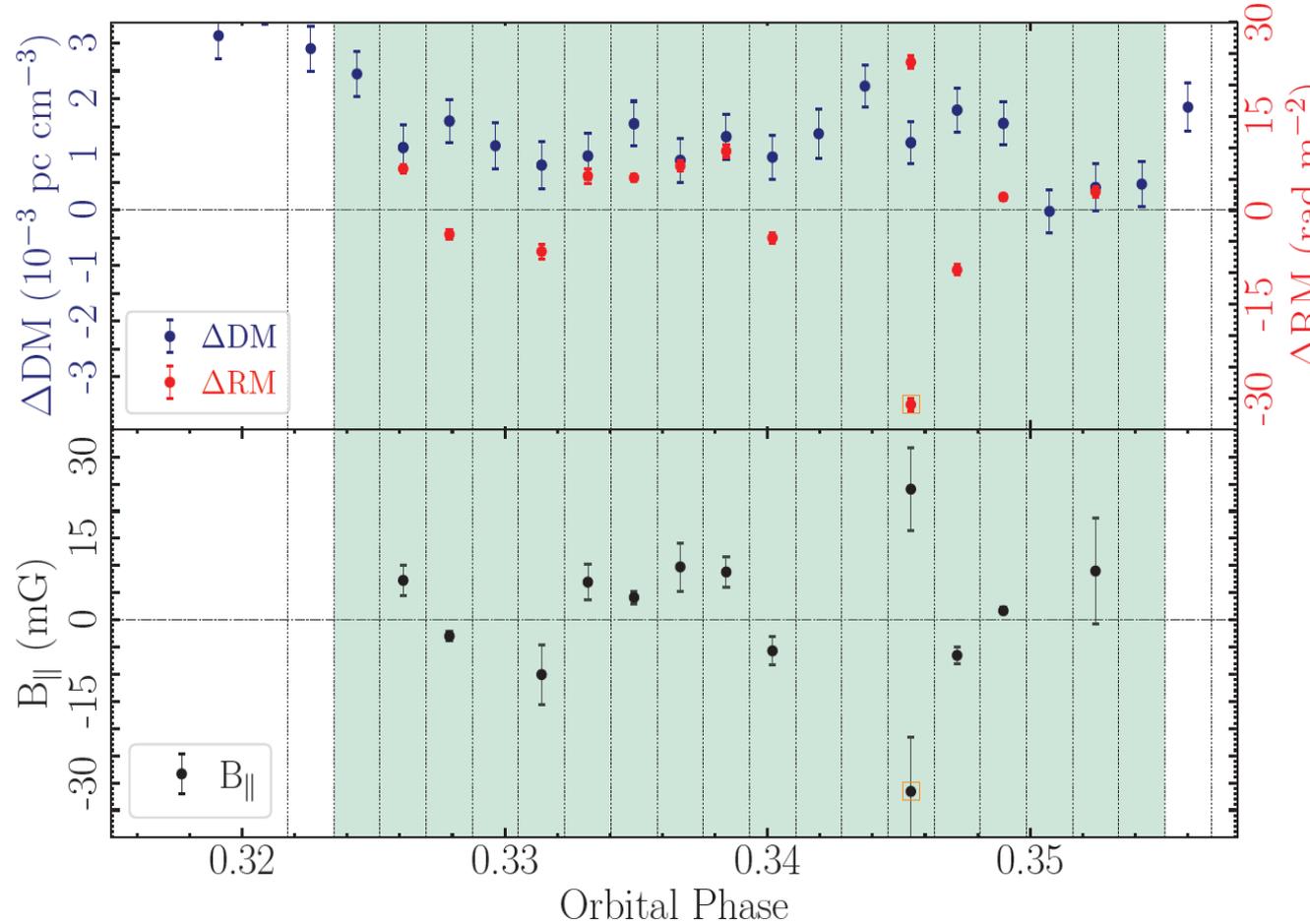
B_{Max} towards the LOS : -24 ± 8 mG

B_{Max} at opposite direction : -10 ± 5 mG

$$\langle B_{\parallel} \rangle = 1.232 \mu\text{G} \left(\frac{\text{RM}}{\text{rad m}^{-2}} \right) \left(\frac{\text{DM}}{\text{pc cm}^{-3}} \right)^{-1}$$

$\text{RM} = \Delta\text{PA} \lambda^2$

$t_{\text{ex}} = 4.15 \times 10^3 \times \Delta\text{DM} \times \nu_{\text{MHz}}^{-2}$



Magnetic field measurement



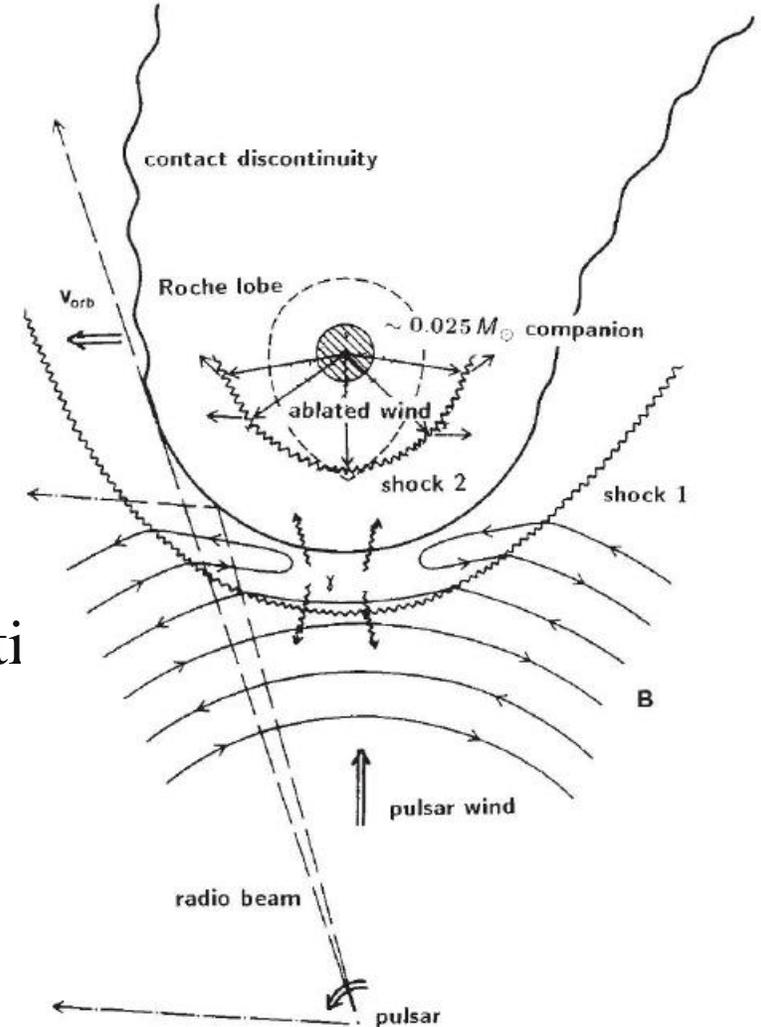
A simple explanation

- Magnetic fields provided by pulsar winds
- Ionized materials from companion's magnetosphere
- Oscillating pulsar wind around the shock boundary

magnetic + ionized materials = Faraday rotation

- Varying RMs/DMs cause the depolarization
- An appropriate electron density allows us to detect this magneti

Phinney Evans Blandford Kulkarni 1988 Nature



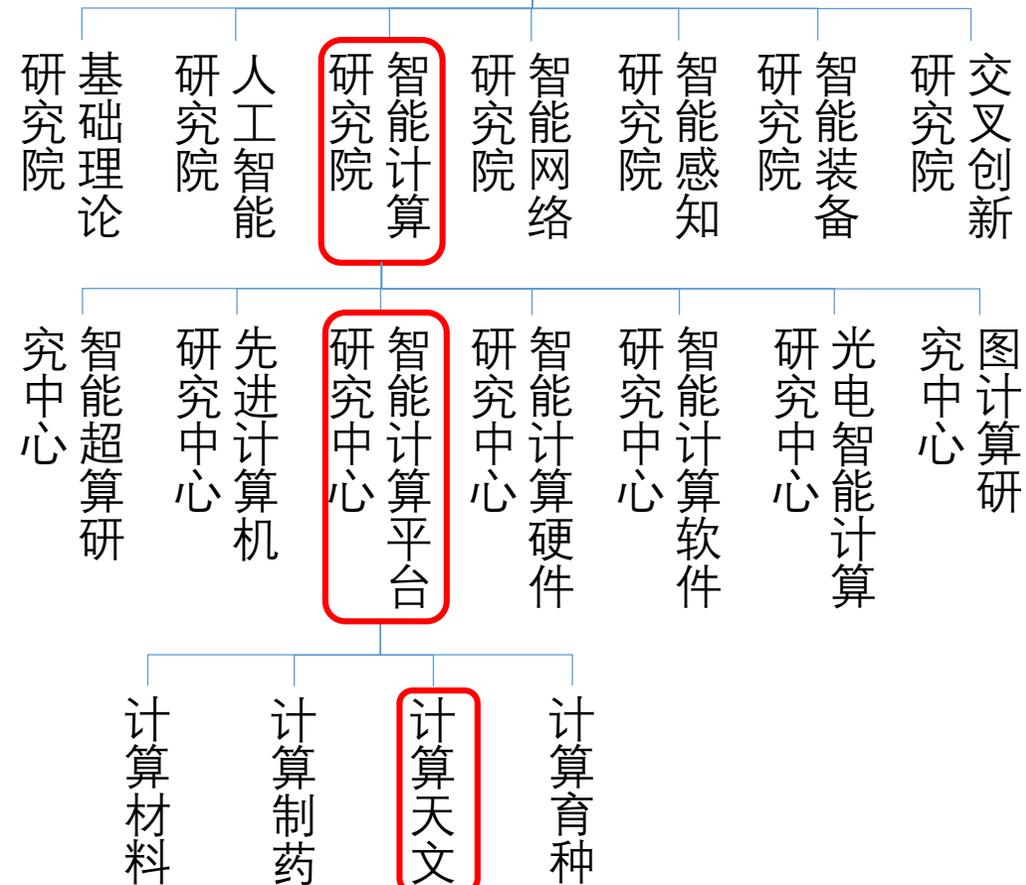
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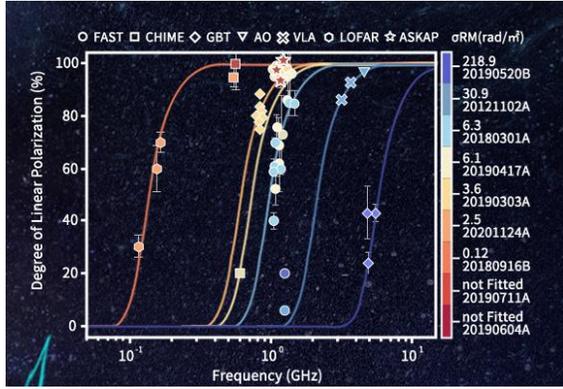


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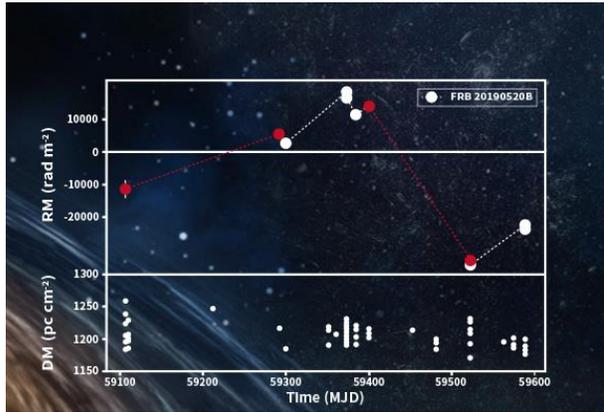
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Feng & Li* et al. 2022,
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Niu, Aggarwal & Li* et al.
2022, **Nature**, 606, 873



Anna-Thomas*, Dai, Feng & Li*
et al. 2023, **Science**, 380, 599



李萋(兼职)



全东辉



冯毅



庆道冲



陈华曦

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- 高级专家5人
- 全职人员共14人
- 博士后10人
- 实习、项目聘6人

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