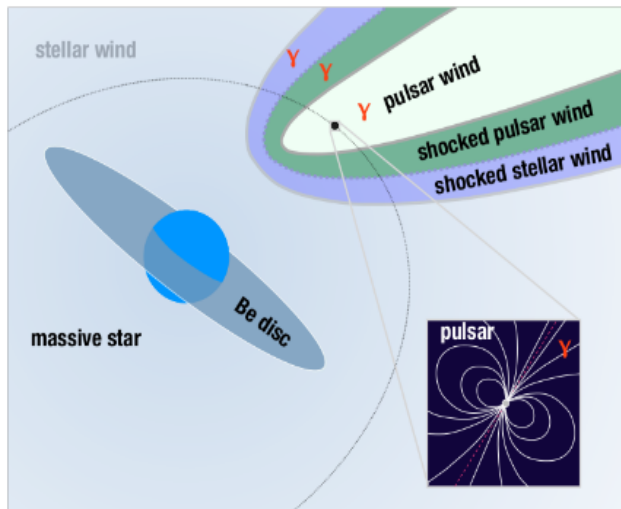


Investigating the circumstellar disc of PSR B1259-63/LS 2883 using optical SALT spectra

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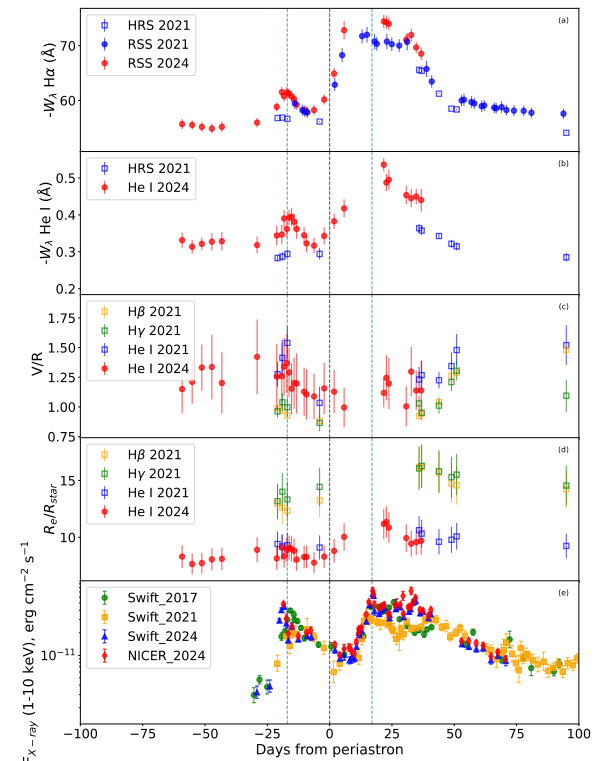
Dubus G., 2013, The Astronomy and Astrophysics Review, 210

The gamma-ray binary system:

- 48 ms pulsar & O9.5Ve star
- 3.4 yr orbital period with $e = 0.87$
- High energy emission arises due to the interaction of the stellar wind with the relativistic pulsar wind.
- Near periastron the pulsar crosses the circumstellar disc twice, perturbing the disc.

Aims:

- Use emission lines from optical SALT spectra to investigate the properties of the circumstellar disc.
- The ultimate goal is to study the long term behaviour of the disc and how it influences the non-thermal emission.



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High Energy Astrophysics in Southern Africa (HEASA 2026)
29 September – 2 October 2026