Chandra Science Highlight

IGR J11014-6103: A Runaway Pulsar With A Long Helical Jet



Scale: Image is 22 arcmin across (about 147 light years). Distance Estimate: 23,000 light years

Instrument: Chandra ACIS Observation

CXC Operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

A composite image containing X-ray data from Chandra (purple), radio data from the Australia Compact Telescope Array (green), and optical data from the 2MASS survey (red, green, and blue) show a runaway pulsar, or neutron star, escaping from a supernova remnant, with an associated pulsar wind nebula, and a helical jet perpendicular to the pulsar's motion.

- □ The pulsar presumably received a strong kick during the supernova, and has traveled ~ 60 light years from the center of the supernova remnant in 10000 to 20000 years, implying a speed >1,000 km/s.
- The shape of the pulsar wind nebula indicates the direction of motion of the pulsar.
- □ Chandra detected an unusually long, corkscrew-shaped jet extending ~ 37 light years from the pulsar in a direction nearly perpendicular to the pulsar's motion.
- □ The jet is presumably aligned with the pulsar's spin axis, and its shape suggest that the pulsar is precessing.
- □ This discovery suggests that a supernova can impart high kick velocities to misaligned spinning neutron stars

Reference: Pavan, L. et al, 2014 A&A (in press), <u>arXiv:1309.6792</u>

Credit: NASA/CXC/ISDC/L. Pavan et al, Radio: CSIRO/ATNF/ATCA Optical: 2MASS/UMass/IPAC-Caltech/NASA/NSF



