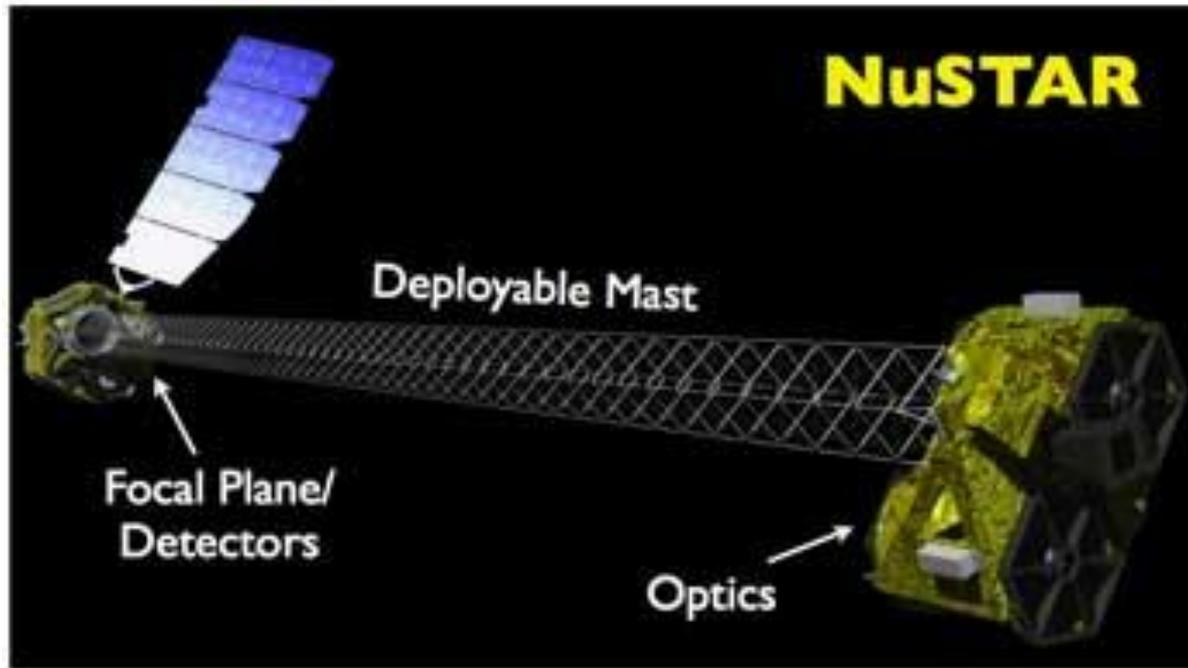


'Hand of God'
seen by
NASA's Nuclear
Spectroscopic Telescope
Array,
or
NuSTAR



NuStar was launched during the summer of 2012 as a part of a NASA mission intended to explore not only high-energy X-rays but black holes and other extreme objects throughout our galaxy and even beyond its borders as well.

NASA's NuStar...



- Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuStar) that is uniquely capable of seeing “the highest-energy X-rays.”
- Official website <http://www.nustar.caltech.edu/>

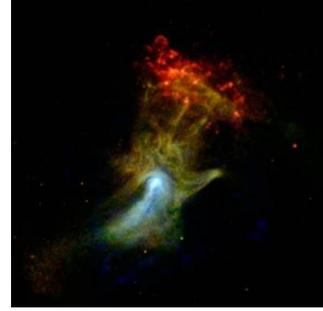
'Hand of God'

09th Jan, 2014:

A new image of the pulsar wind nebula known as the 'Hand of God' has been captured by US space agency Nasa's Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR).



'Hand of God'



- The photograph captured by the telescope shows the nebula 17,000 light-years away, which is powered by a dead, spinning star called “pulsar-PSR B1509-58”.
- Light travels at a constant speed, about 186,000 miles per second = 5.9 trillion miles per year.
- So 1000 light years literally means 5,900 trillion miles (5.9 e+15 miles).
- 17,000 light years means 1,00,300 trillion miles.

'Hand of God'



NuSTAR has imaged the structure in high-energy X-rays for the first time, shown in blue. In the image, lower-energy X-ray light previously detected by NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory is shown in green and red.

Interpretations:

- For Nasa, one of the biggest remaining mysteries surrounding the object is whether the pulsar particles are interacting with the material in a specific way to make it look like a hand, or if the material is in fact shaped like a hand.
- "We don't know if the hand shape is an optical illusion," Hongjun An of McGill University, Montreal, Canada told Nasa. "With NuSTAR, the hand looks more like a fist, which is giving us some clues."

Sources:

- [http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/image feature 1323.html](http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/imagegallery/image_feature_1323.html)
- <http://www.nustar.caltech.edu/>
- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/10/hand-of-god-nasa-nustar-space-telescope n 4572622.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/10/hand-of-god-nasa-nustar-space-telescope_n_4572622.html)
- <http://guardianlv.com/2014/01/nasa-telescope-captures-new-hand-of-god-image/>