

About JBCA



Areas of research

- Time domain: pulsars, exoplanets, transients
- Cosmology: CMB, dark matter, gravitational lensing
- SSG: solar physics, Galactic astrophysics, galaxies and clusters

Classifying Astrophysical Sources Using Machine Learning

Is it a Star?



Is it a Galaxy?



Is it a Quasar?



See Alex Clarke's talk later using Random Forests

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

SKA GROUP @ MANCHESTER



Future SKA Science Archive



73PB

searches on
Google
98PB

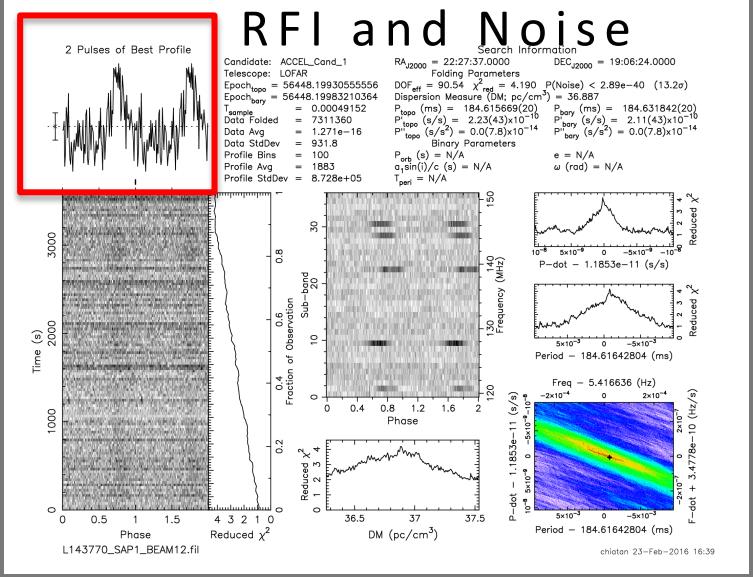
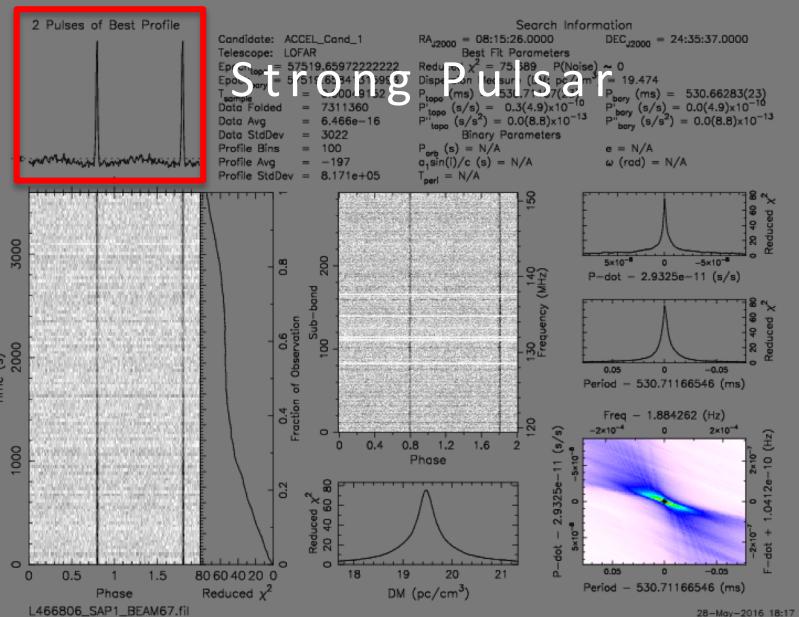
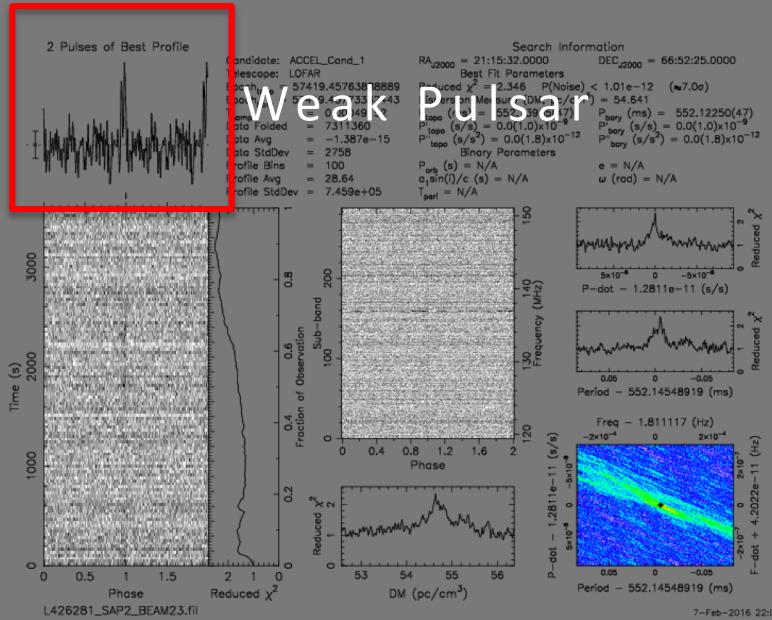
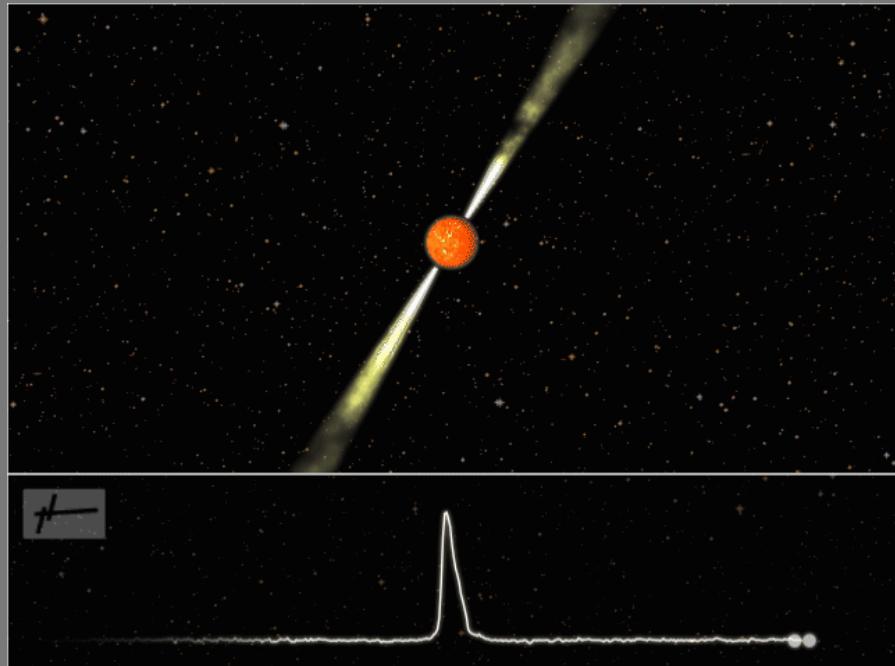
15PB 6PB
 4PB
 3PB
 2PB

- PER YEAR
1 Petabyte

uploads to
facebook.
180PB

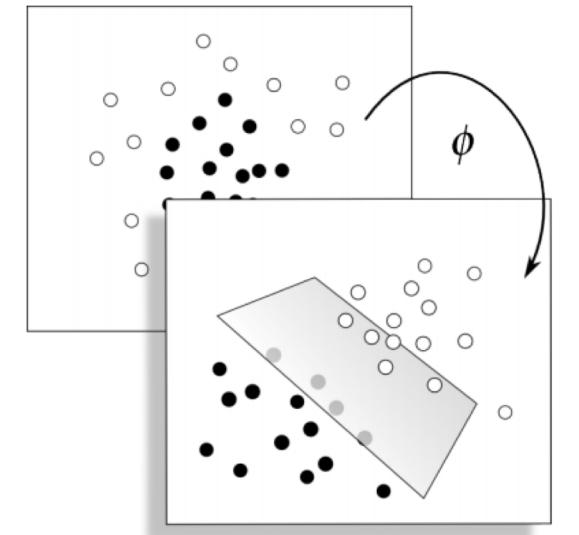
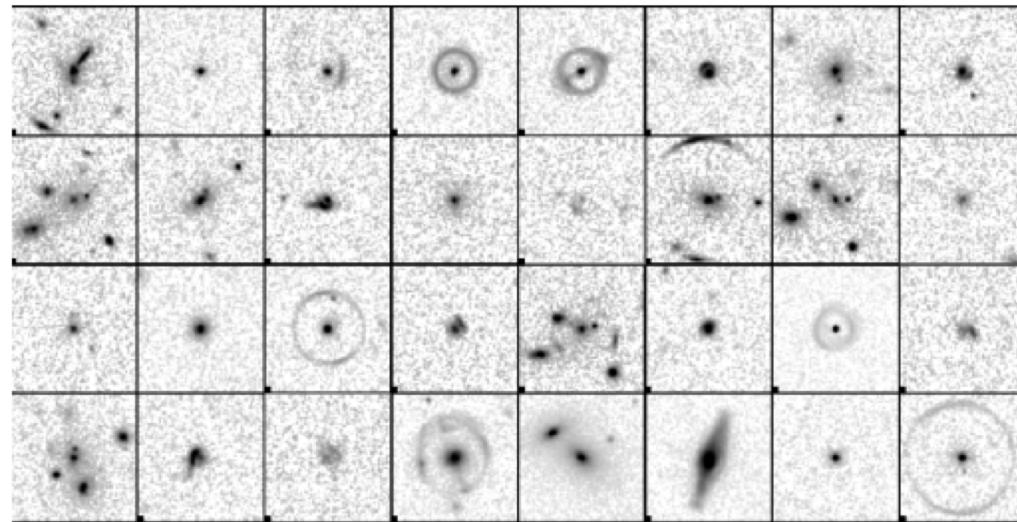
LOFAR
Long Term Archives
25PB
SKA
Phase1 Science Archive
300PB2017 /
2023

Example: Pulsars



Example: Gravitational lensing

- Support Vector Machine classification
- Rejection of false positives



JBCA Machine Learning Club

- Run monthly machine learning lunches
- Hacknights for hands-on experience in a wide variety of topics and disciplines
- Funded by Invest in Success grant

- Replace "AI", "Neural Network", and other buzz terms with “predictive model:” It removes a false sense of agency, better reflects reality, and instantly brings the hype factor down by 300%. – Jesse Engel
- On the other hand...

Large grant in
machine learning

£1,000,000

Large grant in
statistics

£50,000