



*"Bullets"
in the Orion Nebula*

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Orion Bullets/GeMS

The “Bullets” region of the Orion Nebula is shown in this sequence obtained with the Gemini Multi-conjugate adaptive optics System (GeMS) at Gemini South. This near-infrared image is comprised of three, 3-band pointings using GeMS with the Gemini South AO Imager (GSAOI). A comparative Hubble Space Telescope (optical) view is shown at upper left.

In the GeMS/GSAOI image, strong winds from violent explosions associated with a region of star birth, associated with the Orion Nebula, expel bullets of gas that created this spectacular system of molecular hydrogen wakes. Researchers used this GeMS data to determine the intensity of the blast and the nature of the bullets.

Image data from John Bally and Adam Ginsberg, University of Colorado. Color composite image by Travis Rector, University of Alaska Anchorage. (Upper left image – Space Telescope Science Institute/NASA)

Technical Data:

Field-of-view: 2.9 x 3.8 arcminutes Orientation: north up

Instruments: Gemini Multi-conjugate adaptive optics System (GeMS) & Gemini South Adaptive Optics Imager (GSAOI)

Filters and Color Assignments for composite color image:

FeII: Blue

H2: Orange

K-2.2 microns: White

Total (integrated) exposure time - 30 minutes cumulative for all filters and fields.

Full press release and image downloads:

<http://www.gemini.edu/node/12028>

