Plate 14. Homogeneous vs. inhomogeneous nucleus (after Crifo et al., 2002b). The nucleus has the shape of P/Halley nucleus (Fig. 5) smoothed by removal of the shape-spherical harmonics of degree >10. The middle and lowermost panels show isocontours of the decimal logarithm of the gas number density, in the image planes of the Vega 2 flyby camera (image #90, center panels), and of the Giotto HMC camera (lower panels). The projected Sun directions are to the angular graduations 198.6° (Vega 2) and 197° (Giotto).

The central blue area on the panels is the cross section of the nucleus in the image plane. On the left-hand panels, the nucleus is assumed homogeneous (constant icy area fraction $f$). On the right-hand panels, $f$ has the random pattern shown on the nucleus shape in the top panel.