

# Future X-ray missions (relevant to GRB science)



**Lorenzo Amati**  
INAF – OAS Bologna  
THESEUS Consortium



**HERMES-SP/TP 1ST SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP**  
**ASTROPHYSICS WITH CUBESATS**

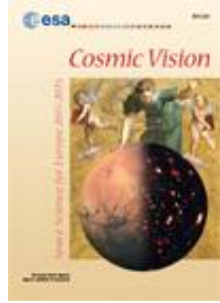


**SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP**  
**18 - 19 NOV. 2020**

# Future GRB missions: what is needed?

- ❑ **Physic of prompt emission, internal engine, progenitors** (es., sub-luminous, ultra-long, XRFs, NS vs. BH, jet structure and magnetization) -> extend sensitive measurements to soft X-rays (< 10 keV), improved polarization and timing, ...
- ❑ **Early afterglow emission:** -> internal engine, improve on prompt multi-wavelength measurements
- ❑ **GRB cosmology:** use of long GRBs for early Universe (SFR, first stars and galaxies, cosmic re-ionization) and as possible «standardizable» candels -> improve on high-z GRBs
- ❑ **GRBs and multi-messenger astrophysics:** short GRBs as a key e.m. phenomenon for GW and neutrino astrophysics
- ❑ **GRBs and fundamental physics:** extreme physics, BH and NS properties, test of quantum-gravity /LI, etc. -> timing and z
- ❑ **Synergy with mw and mm large facilities:** large FOV + accurate source location + prompt dissemination + fast TOO

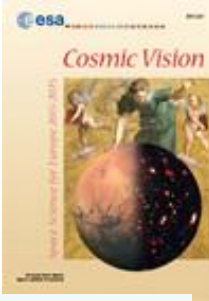
# The ESA Cosmic Vision Programme



## ❖ Selected missions

- M1: Solar Orbiter (solar astrophysics, 2018)
- M2: Euclid (cosmology, 2021)
- L1: JUICE (exploration of Jupiter system, 2022)
- S1: CHEOPS (exoplanets, 2018)
- M3: PLATO (exoplanets, 2026)
- L2: ATHENA (X-ray observatory, cosmology, 2032)
- L3: LISA (gravitational wave observatory, 2034)
- M4: ARIEL (exoplanets, 2028)
- S2 (ESA-CAS): SMILE (solar wind  $\leftrightarrow$  magneto/ionosphere)
- F1: COMET INTERCEPTOR (solar system origin, 2026)

# The ESA Cosmic Vision Programme



**Resonant keywords:** **cosmology** (dark energy, dark matter, re-ionization, structures formation and evolution), **fundamental physics** (relativity, quantum gravity, QCD, gravitational wave universe), **life** (exoplanets formation + evolution + census, solar system exploration)

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- ❑ **Synergy with mw and mm large facilities:** *large FOV, accurate source location, prompt dissemination*

# Future GRB missions: synergies

- ❑ **Many next generation large observatories of the near future** (e.g., SKA, CTA, ATHENA, LSST, ELT, TMT, JWST) have GRB-related science in their core-science programmes
- ❑ **GRBs as key phenomenon for multi-messenger astrophysics** (GW, neutrinos): synergy with, e.g., advanced LIGO/VIRGO KAGRA, I-LIGO and, in perspective, 3G detectors (ET, CE) and possibly LISA.
- ❑ **NOTE:** further investigation of GRB impact on emergence and survivability of life in the Universe may be of strong interest

## Future missions (early / mid '20s)

- ❑ **SVOM (2022-):** prompt emission down to 5 keV and up to MeVs, prompt follow-up with small X-ray and OUV telescopes, dedicated on-ground telescopes
- ❑ **Einstein Probe (2022-):** very good sensitivity, arcmin location accuracy, operating only in the very soft X-ray energy band (0.3 - 5 keV), 1.4 sr FOV, follow-up in X-rays
- ❑ **GECAM (2020):** all-sky FOV, 6 keV – few MeVs, source location a few degrees; **POLAR-2 (2024?):** improved polarimetry of prompt emission;
- ❑ **HERMES and other nano-satellite programs (2022-):** small detectors, energy band  $> 10$  keV, potentially very good location accuracy for mid-bright GRBs, very good timing, depends on follow-up from ground
- ❑ **eXTP (2025?)** China-Europe, monitoring in 2-50 keV on 4-5 sr, X-ray follow-up spectroscopic and polarimetric very deep)

# A Sino-French mission dedicated to GRBs and HE transients



## MXT



“The Micro-channel X-ray Telescope”  
Narrow-field X-ray telescope

Spectral range : 0.2 keV – 10 keV  
Localization accuracy < 1arcmin

## ECLAIRs



« The trigger camera »  
Wide-field X and Gamma rays telescope

Spectral range : 4 keV – 150 keV  
Localization accuracy < 12arcmin

## GRM



“The Gamma-Ray burst Monitor”  
X-rays and Gamma-rays detectors

30 keV – 5 MeV  
Localization accuracy < 5°

## VT



“The Visible Telescope”  
Narrow-field visible telescope

Ritchey Chretien  $\Phi=400\text{mm}$   
Localization accuracy < 1arcsec

## GFT-1



« Ground-based Follow-up  
Telescope »  
 $\Phi > 1000\text{mm}$



## GWAC

« Ground Wide-Angle  
Camera »  
 $\Phi = 130\text{mm}$



## GFT-2



« Ground-based  
Follow-up  
Telescope »  
 $\Phi > 1000\text{mm}$



## VHF Alert Network

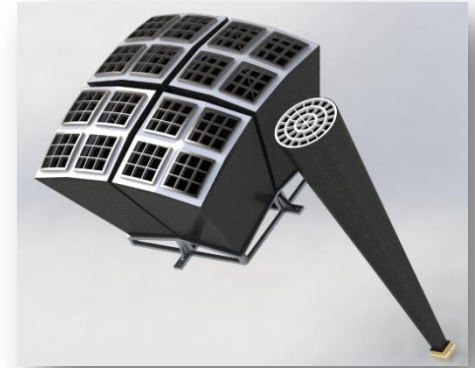


## Tracking antennas

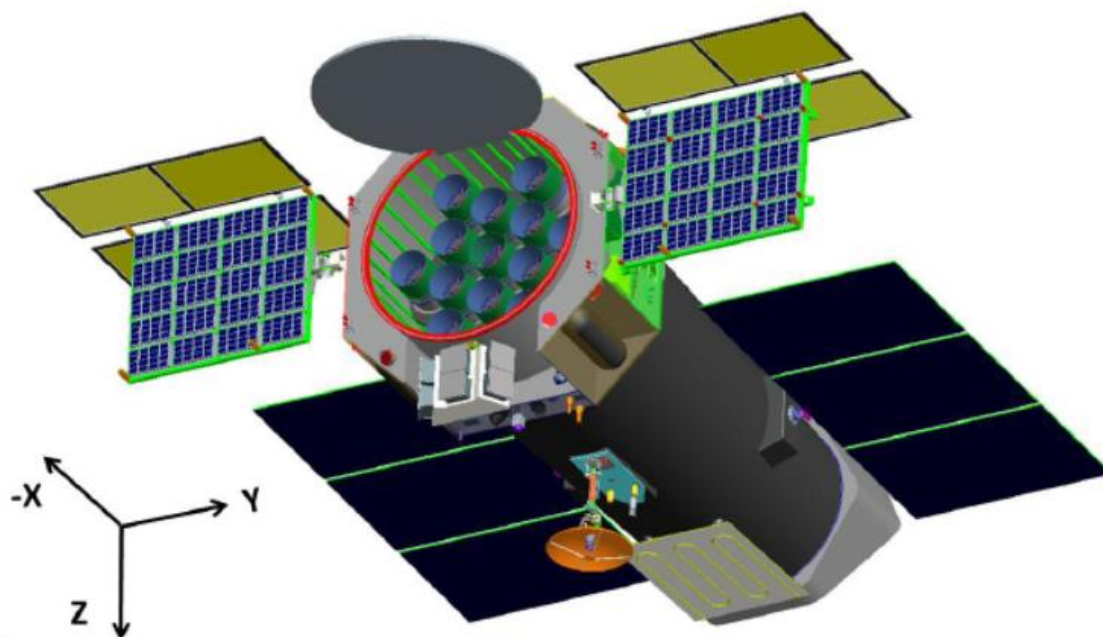


# Einstein Probe Mission Concept

- ✧ Payload
  - ✧ 12 x Wide-field X-ray telescope modules (WXT), each 348 sq. deg FOV – observe ~60% of sky several times per day using Lobster-eye technology + Chinese CMOS detectors
  - ✧ 2 x Follow-up X-ray telescope (FXT) – copy of eRosita telescopes with pnCCD
- ✧ Fast alerts data downlink (use BeiDOU + VHF)
- ✧ Rapid ToO uplink possible via BeiDOU for MM science
- ✧ Collaboration between CAS, ESA, MPE
- ✧ Orbit: 600-650km,  $i < 30^\circ$
- ✧ Mission life: 3 years
- ✧ Launch: Dec 2022



# eXTP: enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry Mission



Large eff. Area:  
 $>3.5\text{m}^2@6\text{keV}$

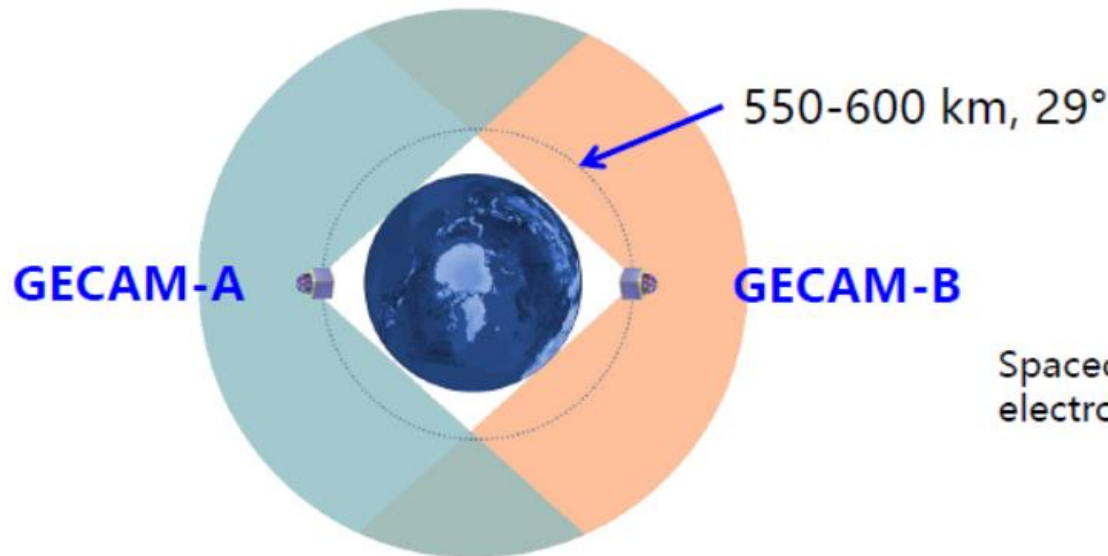
High spectral res.:  
 $\text{FWHM} < 180\text{eV}@6\text{keV}$

High throughput

Payload	Configuration	Eff. area ( $\text{m}^2$ )	Timing res. ( $\mu\text{s}$ )
Spectroscopic Focusing Array (SFA)	9 telescopes	$0.54\text{m}^2@1\text{keV}$	10
Large Area Detector (LAD)	40 modules	$>3.0\text{ m}^2@6\text{keV}$	10
Polarimetry Focusing Array (PFA)	4 telescopes	$\geq 380\text{cm}^2@3\text{keV}$	500
Wide Field Monitor (WFM)	6 cameras	$\geq 3\text{ Sr}$ (FOV)	10
Gamma Ray Burst Monitor (GRM) (optional)	3 units		
Launch date		~ 2025	

# GECAM

Gravitational wave high-energy Electromagnetic Counterpart All-sky Monitor

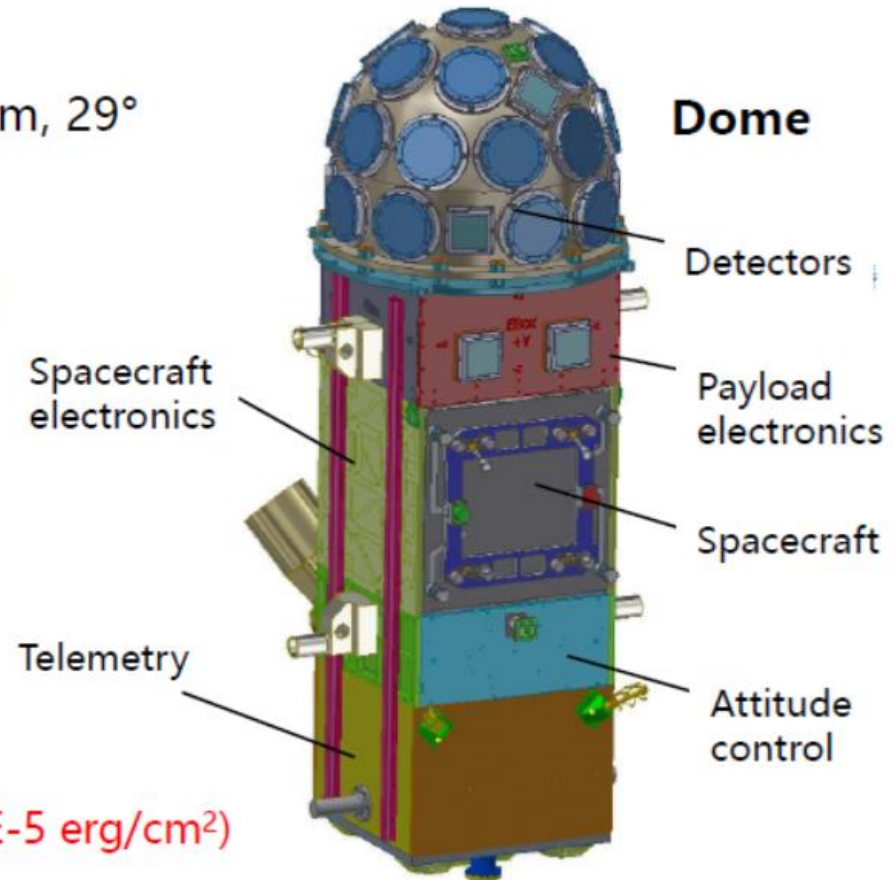


## ● Characteristics

- **FOV:** 100% all-sky
- **Sensitivity:**  $\sim 2 \times 10^{-8}$  erg/cm<sup>2</sup>/s
- **Localization:**  $\sim 1$  deg (1- $\sigma$  stat.,  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  erg/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- **Energy band:** 6 keV – 5 MeV

## ● Planned to launch by the end of 2020

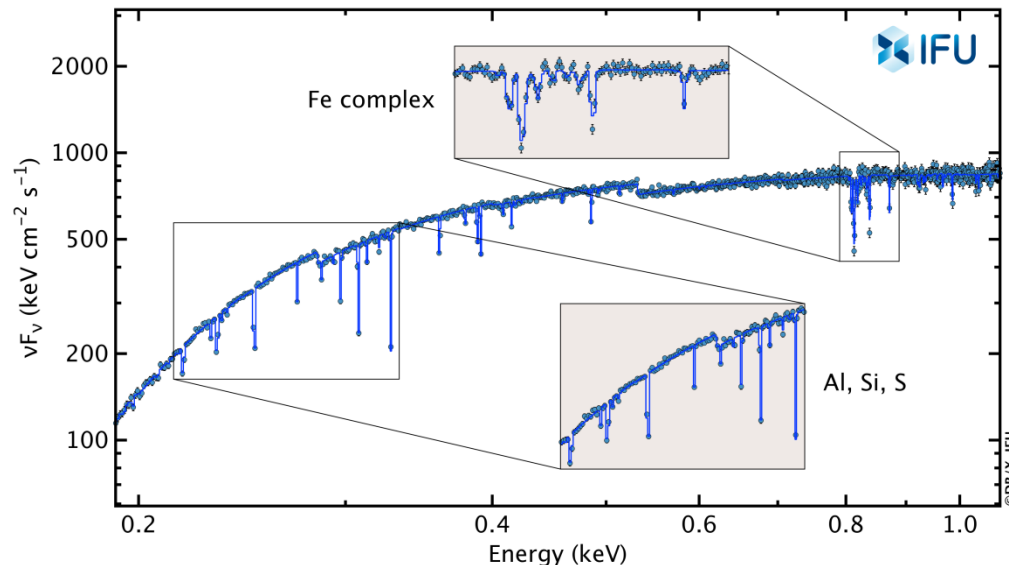
- since LIGO will reach the design sensitivity around 2020 to 2021



**GECAM satellite**  
(~140 kg for each)

# Future missions (late '20s and beyond)

- ❑ **THESEUS** (ESA Cosmic Vision / M5, decision on June 2021, launch in 2032), HiZ-GUNDAM (JAXA, under study), launch: mid-20s?), TAP (under study for NASA decadal survey), Gamow Explorer (under study for MIDEX): prompt emission from soft X-rays to MeVs, source location accuracy of arcmin, prompt follow-up with NIR telescope, on-board REDSHIFT
- ❑ **ATHENA (ESA L2, 2032):** GRBs as cosmic beacons (e.g., WHIM) and tracers of pop-III stars -> needs GRB trigger, accurate location and redshift



# theseus

TRANSIENT HIGH ENERGY SKY AND EARLY UNIVERSE SURVEYOR



European Space Agency



Agenzia Spaziale Italiana



# theseus

TRANSIENT HIGH ENERGY SKY AND EARLY UNIVERSE SURVEYOR



European Space Agency



Agenzia Spaziale Italiana



<http://www.isdc.unige.ch/theseus/>

*Amati et al. 2018 ( Adv.Sp.Res., arXiv:1710.04638 )*

*Stratta et al. 2018 (Adv.Sp.Res., arXiv:1712.08153)*

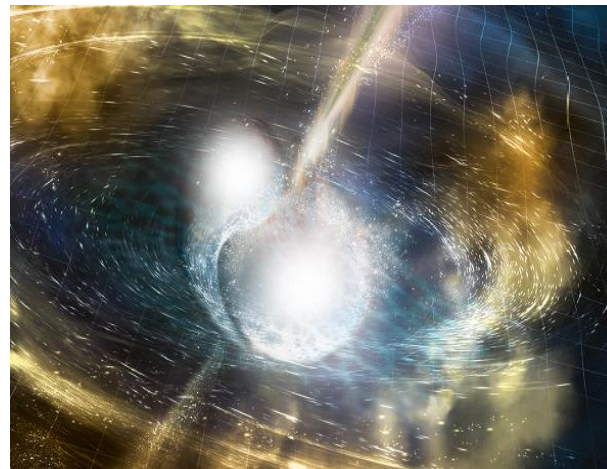
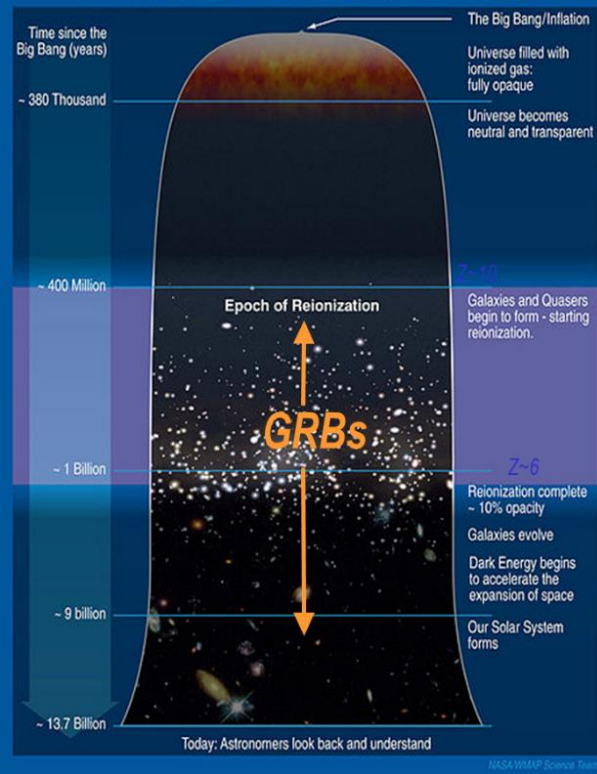
# Probing the Early Universe with GRBs

## Multi-messenger and time domain Astrophysics

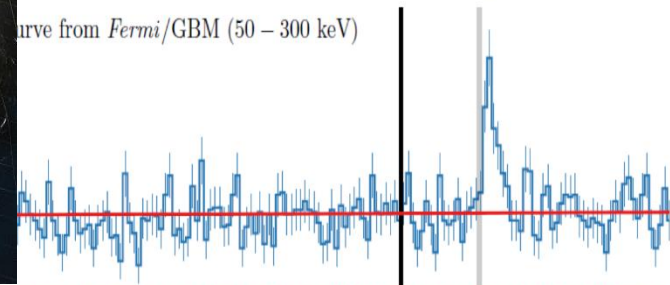
### The transient high energy sky

#### Synergy with next generation large facilities (E-ELT, SKA, CTA, ATHENA, GW and neutrino detectors)

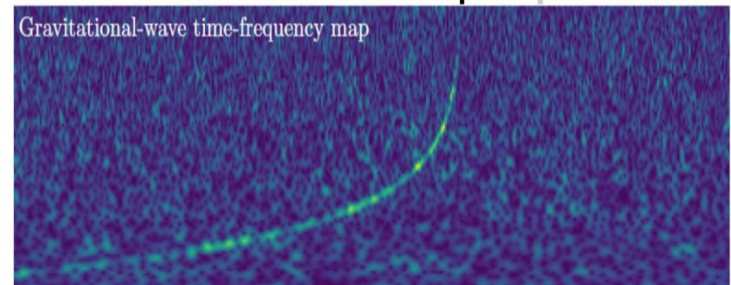
#### First Stars and Reionization Era



Curve from *Fermi*/GBM (50 – 300 keV)



Gravitational-wave time-frequency map



# ***THESEUS***

## ***Transient High Energy Sky and Early Universe Surveyor***

**Lead Proposer (ESA/M5):** Lorenzo Amati (INAF – OAS Bologna, Italy)

**Coordinators (ESA/M5):** Lorenzo Amati, Paul O'Brien (Univ. Leicester, UK), Diego Gotz (CEA-Paris, France), A. Santangelo (Univ. Tuebingen, D), E. Bozzo (Univ. Genève, CH)

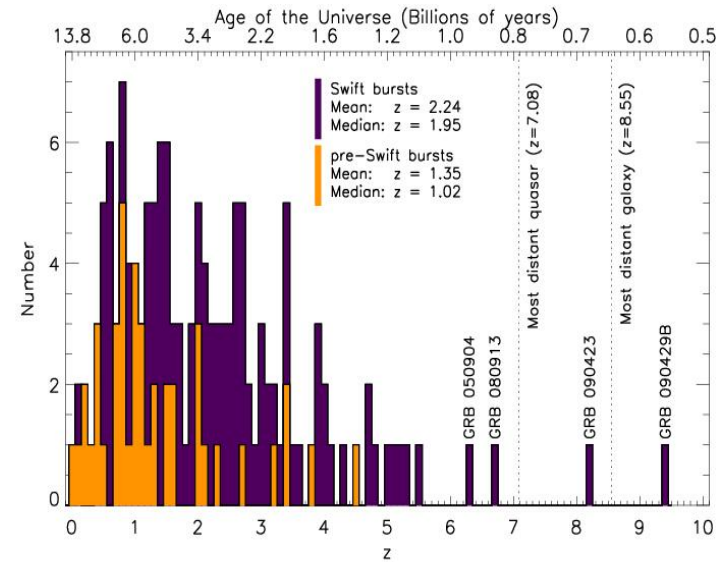
**Payload consortium:** Italy, UK, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Poland, Denmark, Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovenia, ESA

# May 2018: THESEUS selected by ESA for Phase 0/A study (with SPICA and ENVISION)

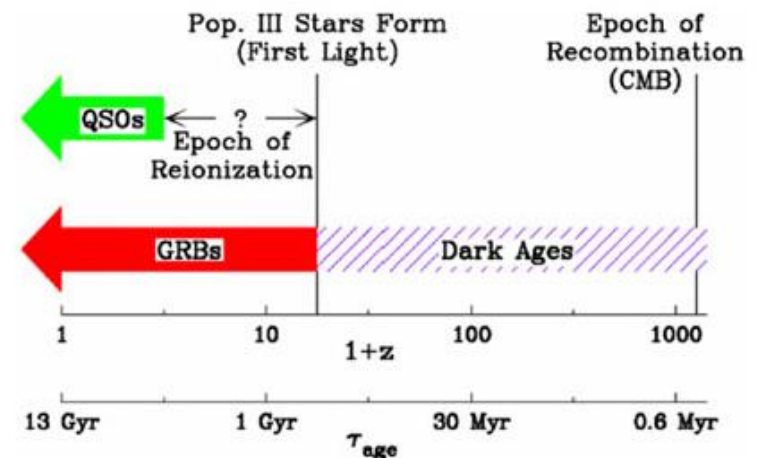
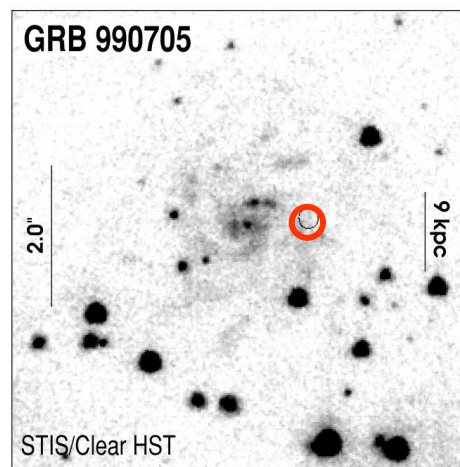
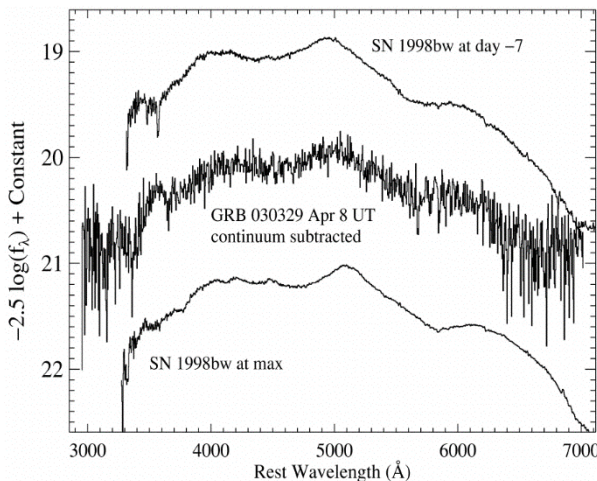
Activity	Date
Phase 0 kick-off	June 2018
Phase 0 completed (EnVision, SPICA and THESEUS)	End 2018
ITT for Phase A industrial studies	February 2019
Phase A industrial kick-off	June 2019
Mission Selection Review (technical and programmatic review for the three mission candidates)	Completed by June 2021
SPC selection of M5 mission	June 2021
Phase B1 kick-off for the selected M5 mission	December 2021
Mission Adoption Review (for the selected M5 mission)	March 2024
SPC adoption of M5 mission	June 2024
Phase B2/C/D kick-off	Q1 2025
Launch	2032

# Shedding light on the early Universe with GRBs

Because of their huge luminosities, mostly emitted in the X and gamma-rays, their redshift distribution extending at least to  $z \sim 9$  and their association with explosive death of massive stars and star forming regions, GRBs are unique and powerful tools for investigating the early Universe: **SFR evolution, physics of re-ionization, galaxies metallicity evolution and luminosity function, first generation (pop III) stars**



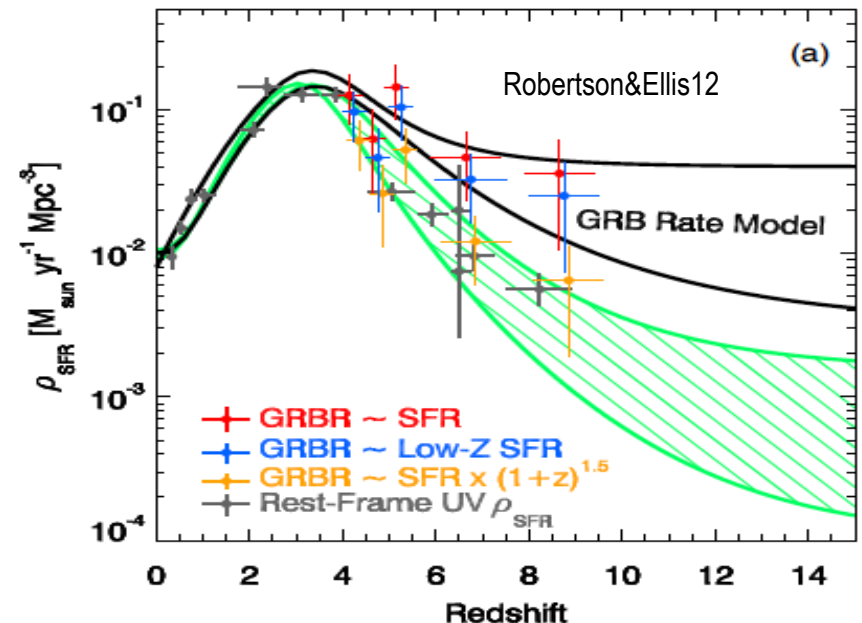
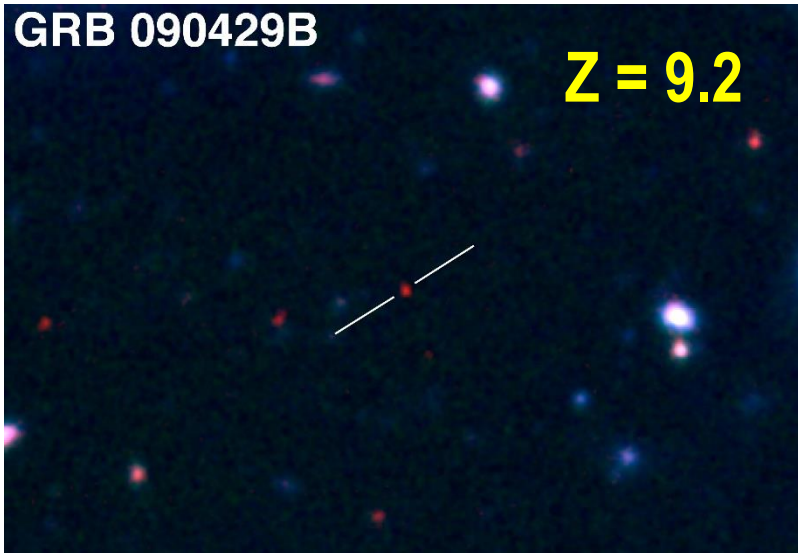
GRBs in Cosmological Context



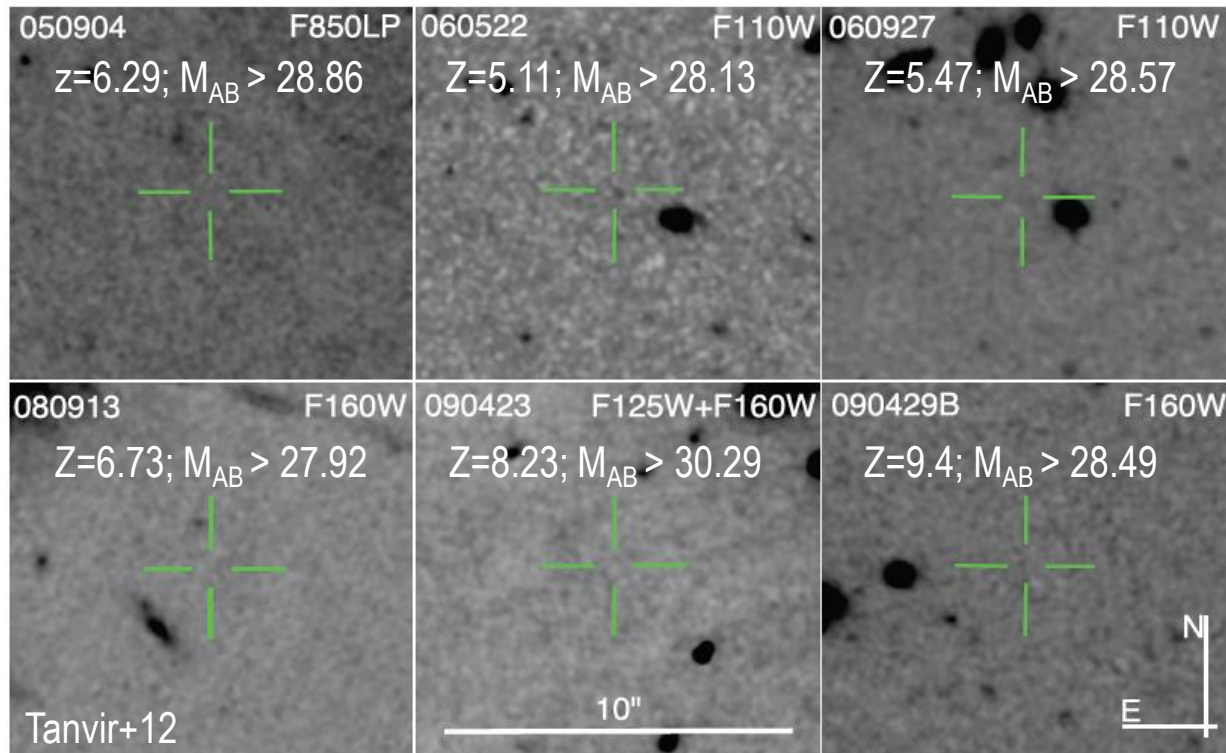
Lamb and Reichart (2000)

# A statistical sample of high- $z$ GRBs can provide fundamental information:

- measure independently the **cosmic star-formation rate**, even beyond the limits of current and future galaxy surveys
- directly (or indirectly) detect the **first population of stars (pop III)**



- the number density and properties of **low-mass galaxies**

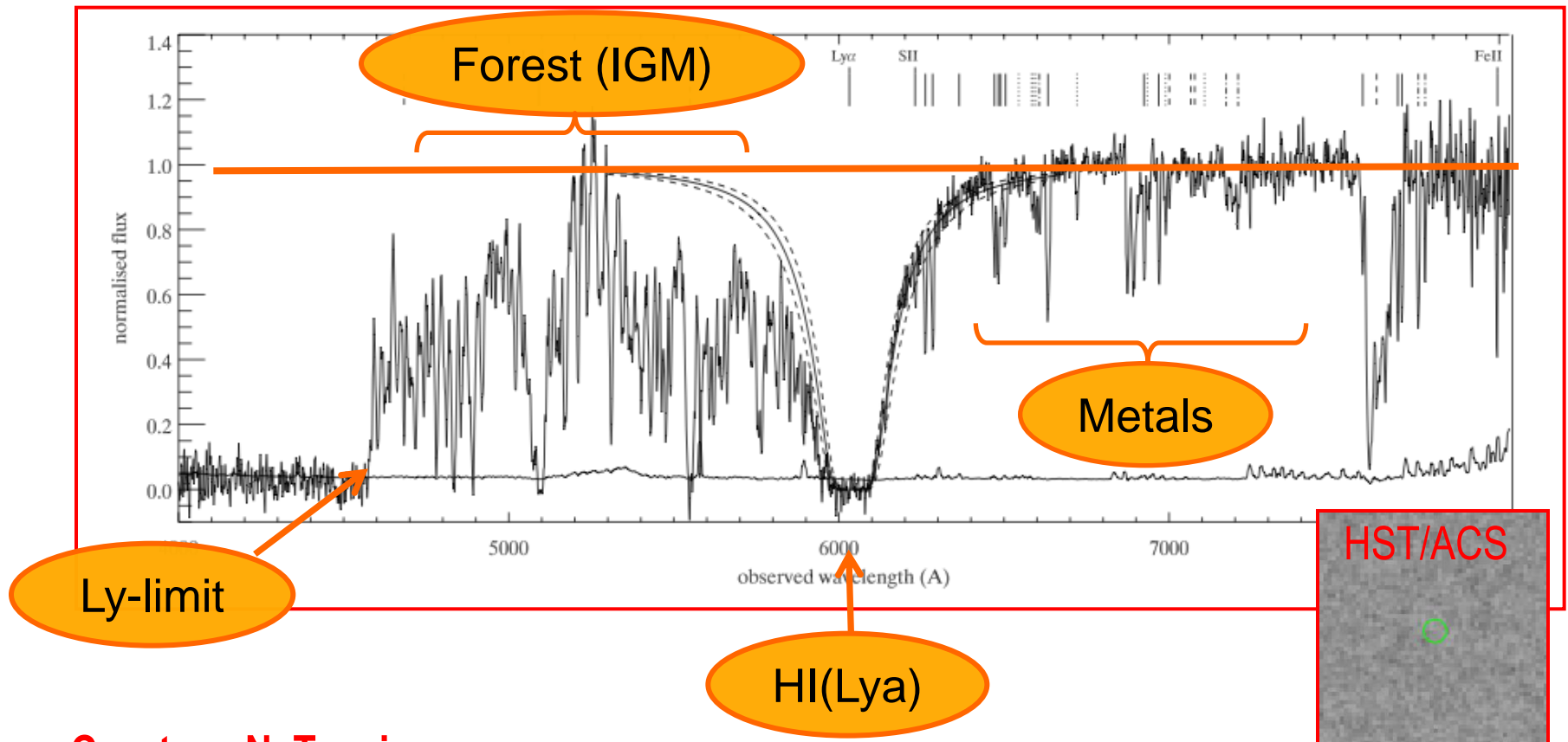


Robertson&Ellis12

Even **JWST** and **ELTs** surveys will be not able to probe the faint end of the galaxy Luminosity Function at high redshifts ( $z>6-8$ )

- the neutral hydrogen fraction
- the escape fraction of UV photons from high- $z$  galaxies
- the early metallicity of the ISM and IGM and its evolution

Abundances, HI, dust, dynamics etc. even for very faint hosts. E.g. GRB 050730: faint host ( $R > 28.5$ ), but  $z = 3.97$ ,  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -2$  and low dust, from afterglow spectrum (Chen et al. 2005; Starling et al. 2005).

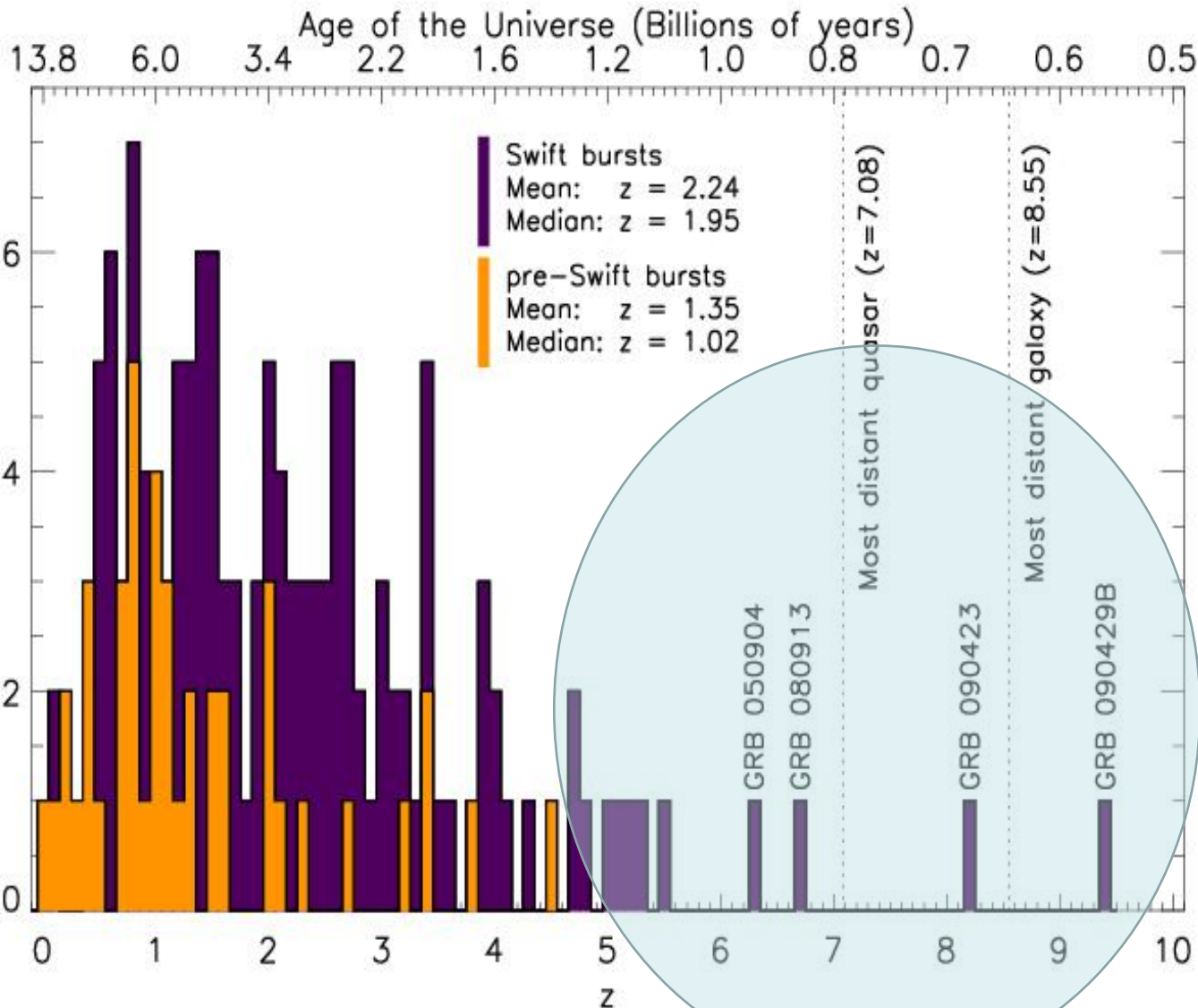


Courtesy N. Tanvir

- the neutral hydrogen fraction

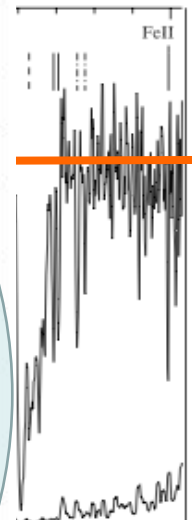
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Abundant  
faint  
(Chandra)



on

050730:  
spectrum



IST/ACS



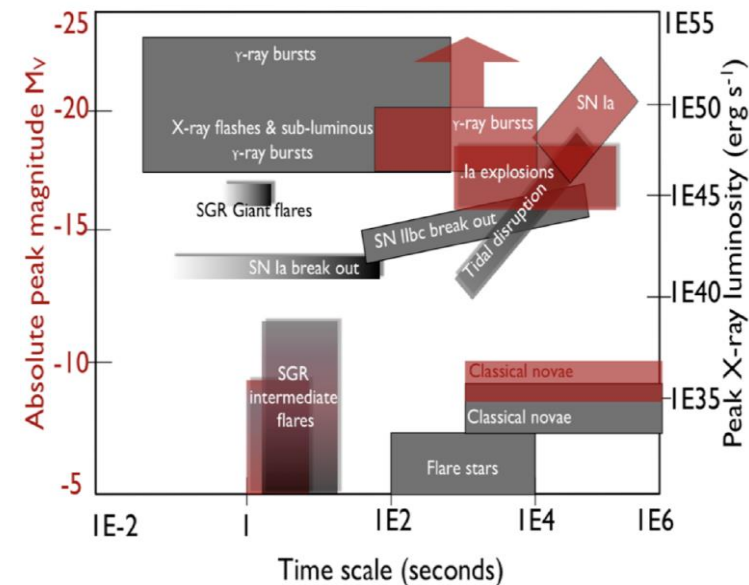
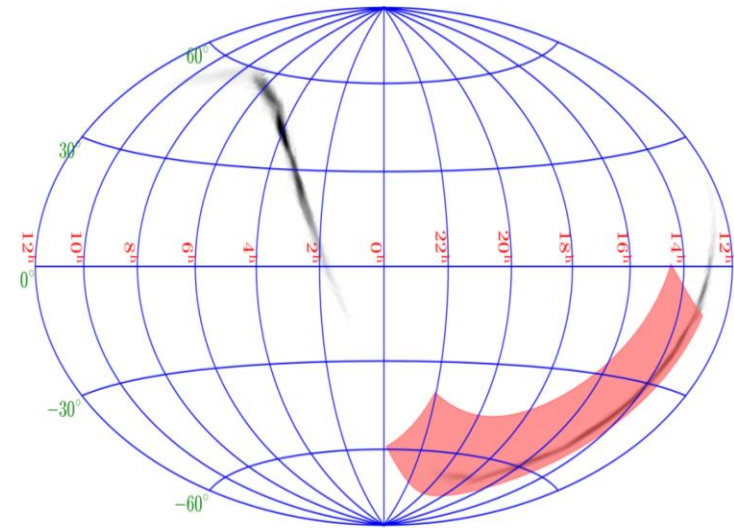
Lya

HI(Lya)

Courtesy N. Tanvir

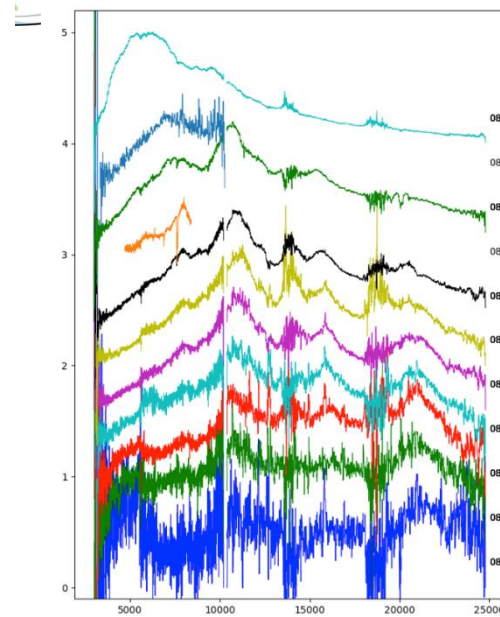
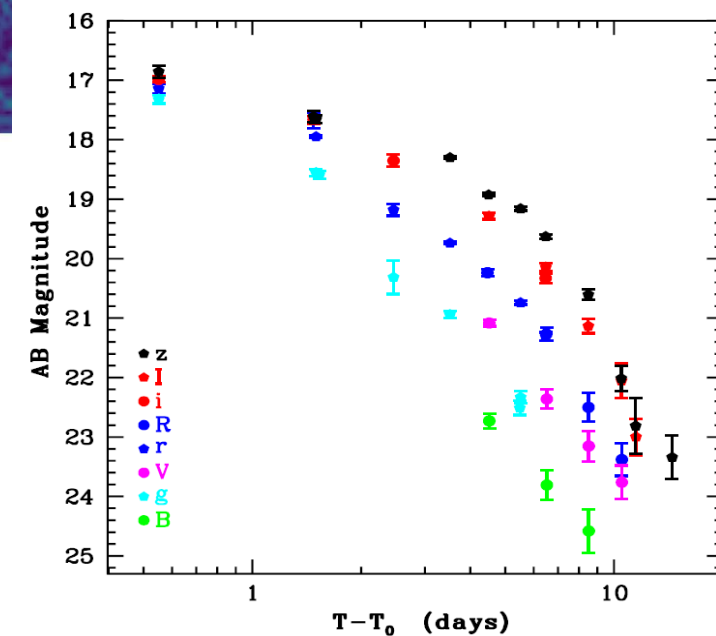
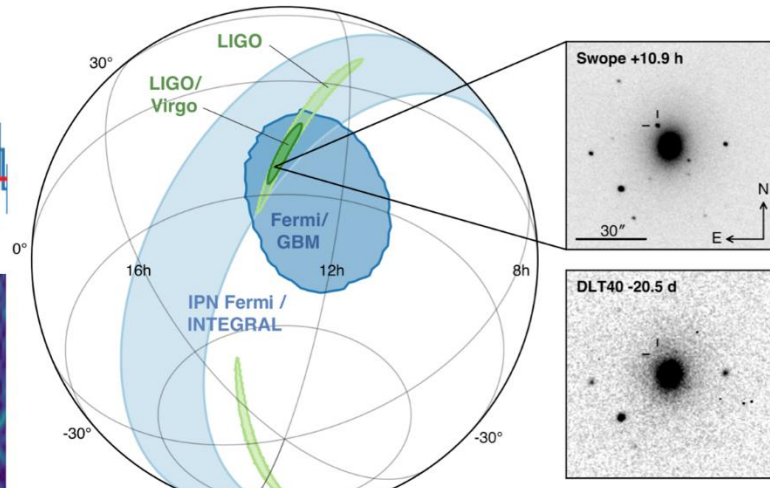
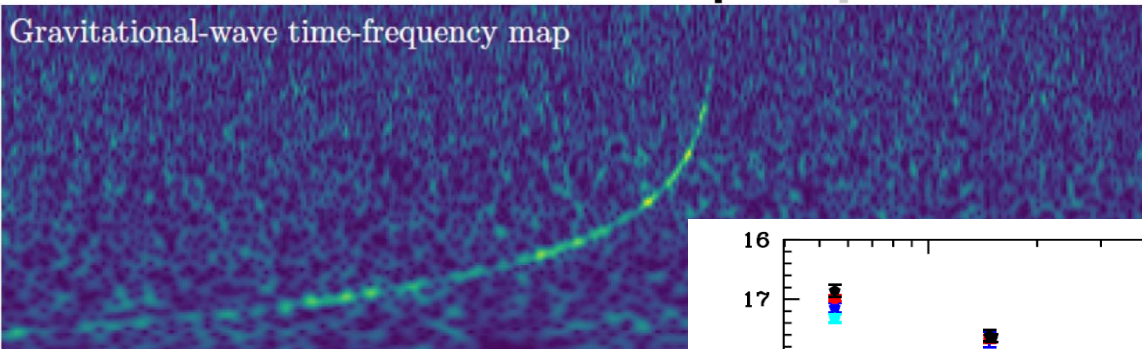
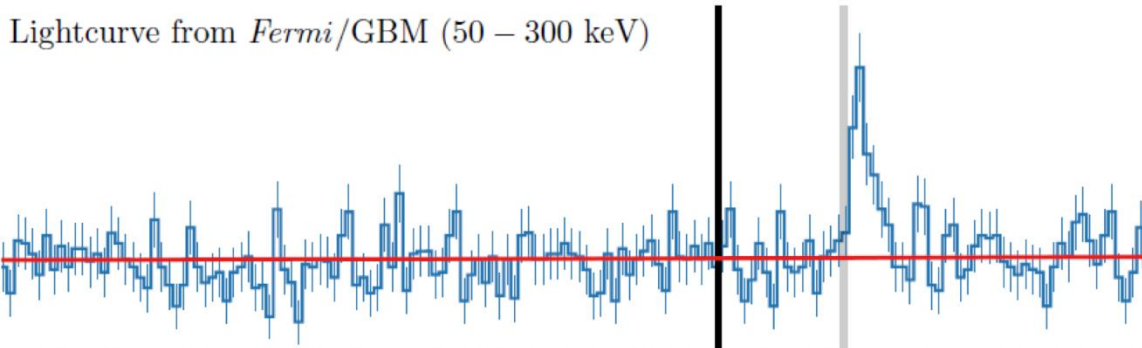
# Exploring the multi-messenger transient sky

- ❑ Locate and identify the electromagnetic counterparts to sources of gravitational radiation and neutrinos, which may be routinely detected in the late '20s / early '30s by next generation facilities like aLIGO/aVirgo, eLISA, ET, or Km3NET;
- ❑ Provide real-time triggers and accurate ( $\sim 1$  arcmin within a few seconds;  $\sim 1''$  within a few minutes) **high-energy transients for follow-up with next-generation optical-NIR (E-ELT, JWST if still operating), radio (SKA), X-rays (ATHENA), TeV (CTA) telescopes; synergy with LSST**
- ❑ Provide a fundamental step forward in the comprehension of the physics of various classes of transients and **fill the present gap in the discovery space of new classes of transient events**



# LIGO, Virgo, and partners make first detection of gravitational waves and light from colliding neutron stars

Lightcurve from *Fermi*/GBM (50 – 300 keV)

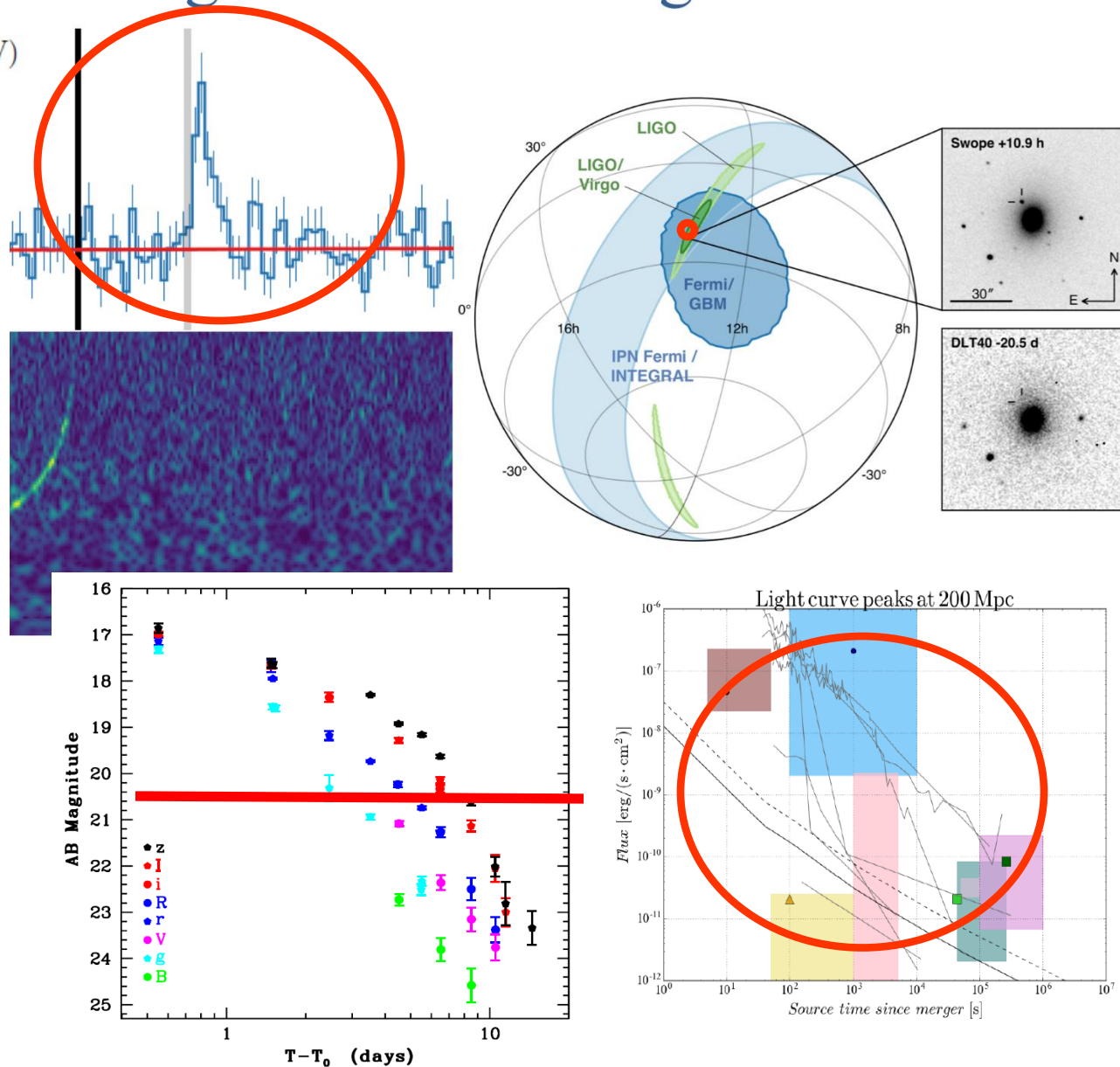


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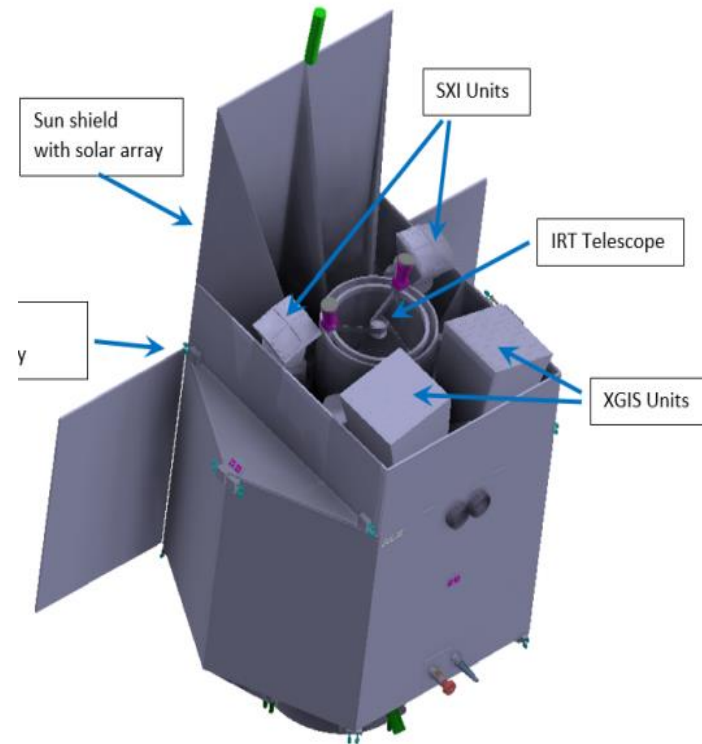
## THESEUS:

- ✓ short GRB detection over large FOV with arcmin localization
- ✓ Kilonova detection, arcsec localization and characterization
- ✓ Possible detection of weaker isotropic X-ray emission



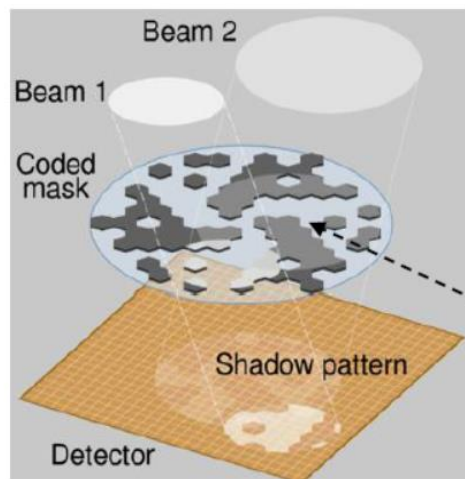
# THESEUS mission concept

- ❑ **Soft X-ray Imager (SXI):** a set of two sensitive lobster-eye telescopes observing in **0.3 - 5 keV band**, total FOV of  **$\sim 0.5\text{sr}$**  with source location accuracy  **$< 2'$** ;
- ❑ **X-Gamma rays Imaging Spectrometer (XGIS,):** 2 coded-mask X-gamma ray cameras using Silicon drift detectors coupled with CsI crystal scintillator bars observing in **2 keV – 10 MeV band**, a FOV of  **$> 2\text{ sr}$** , overlapping the SXI, with  **$< 15'$**  GRB location accuracy in 2-150 keV
- ❑ **InfraRed Telescope (IRT):** a 0.7m class IR telescope observing in the **0.7 – 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$**  band, providing a **15'x15' FOV**, with both imaging and moderate resolution spectroscopy capabilities (-> redshift)

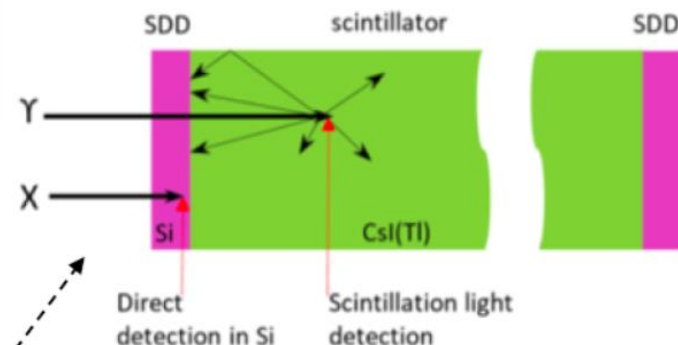
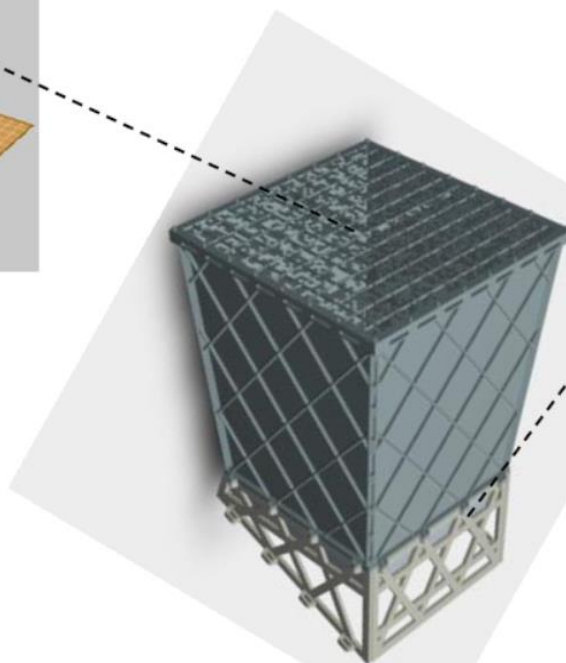


**LEO ( $< 5^\circ$ ,  $\sim 600\text{ km}$ )**  
**Rapid slewing bus**  
**Prompt downlink**

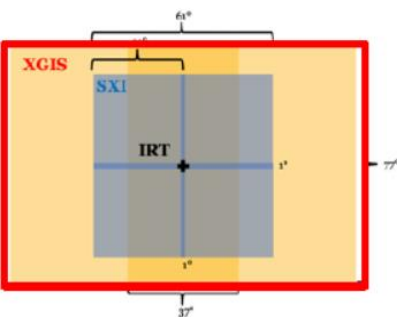
# XGIS: X- and Gamma Imaging Spectrometer



**Targets: long (hi-z) and short (black-hole mergers/GW counterparts) GRBs**



- Coded mask telescopes with scintillator crystal and silicon drift detectors
- 2 keV–10 MeV
- 2 sr imaging FoV: 2 keV–150 keV with <15' source location accuracy
- 4 sr spectrometer FoV above 150 keV



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THESEUS team | 13/5/2020 | Slide 3

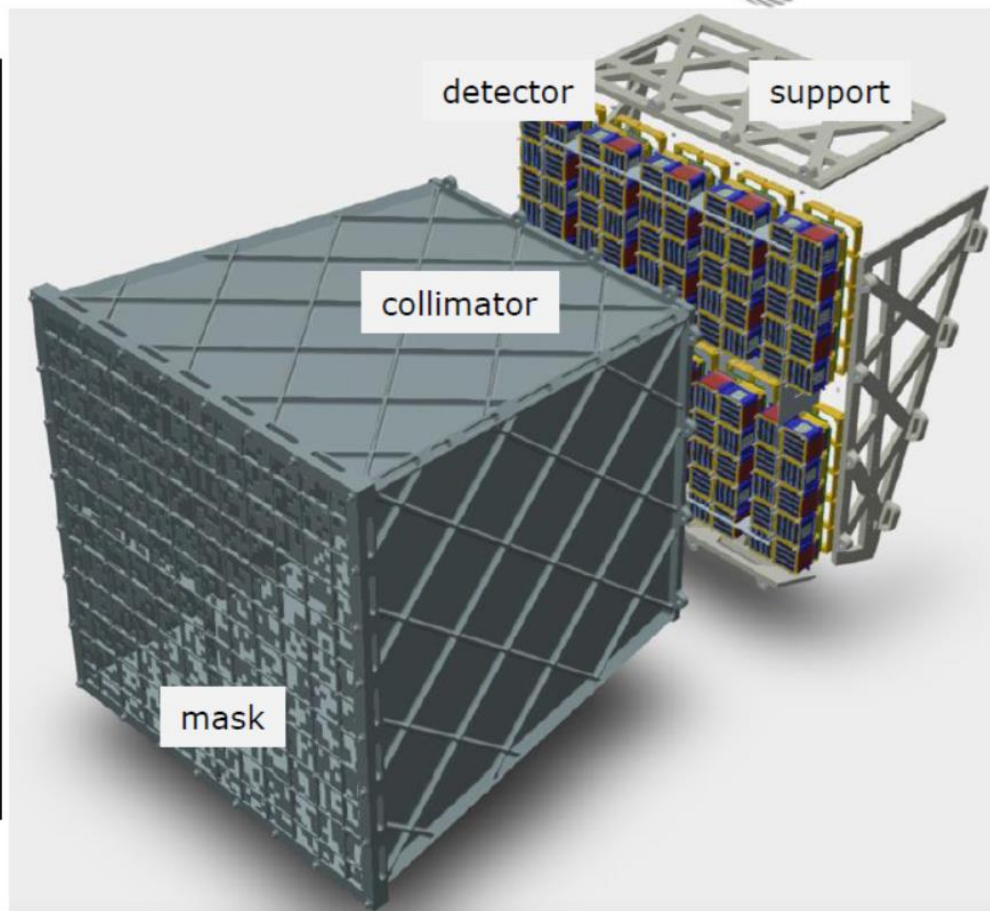


European Space Agency

# XGIS: key numbers & elements



<b>XGIS</b>	<b>Lead: INAF Bologna, IT</b>		<b>2x units</b>
Budgets (total)	158 kg	211 W	25 Gbit/day
Dimensions/ unit (mm)	740 (h) x 600x600 (@ mask) 490x490 (@ detector)		
Energy ranges	2-30 keV	30 – 150 keV	150 keV- 10 MeV
Detector technologies	Silicon drift detectors (SDD)	CsI(Tl) scintillating crystal + SDD	
Imaging capability	<15' loc. accuracy FoV 2 sr		None, 4 sr
Energy resolutions	20% @ 6keV	6% @ 600 KeV	

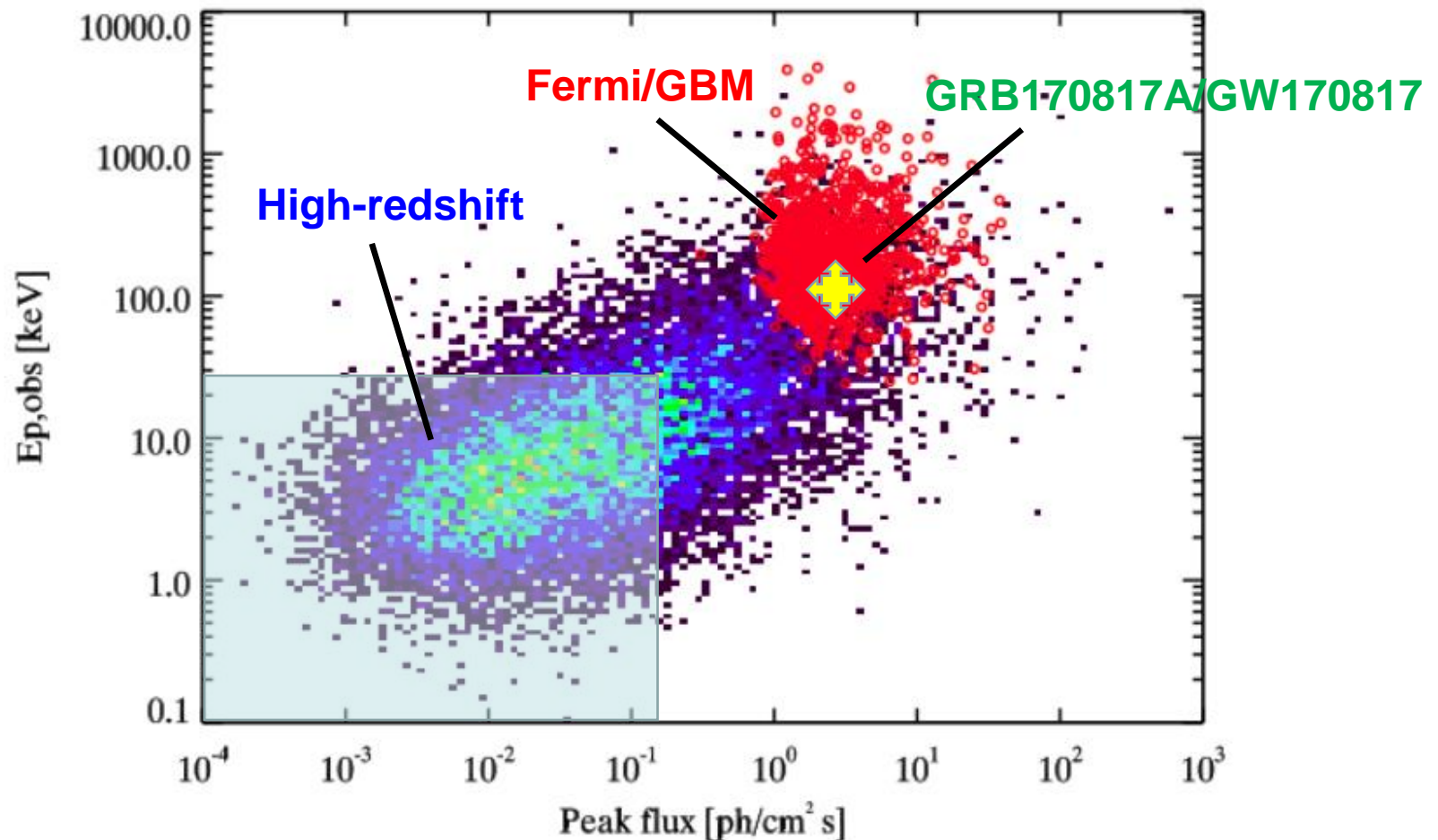


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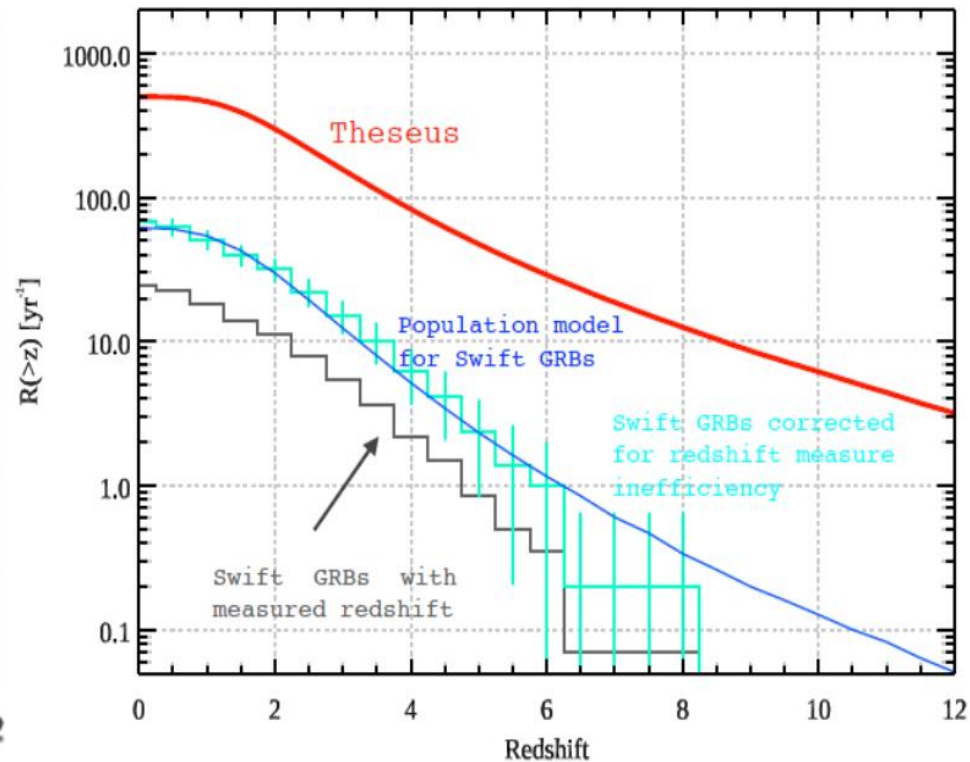
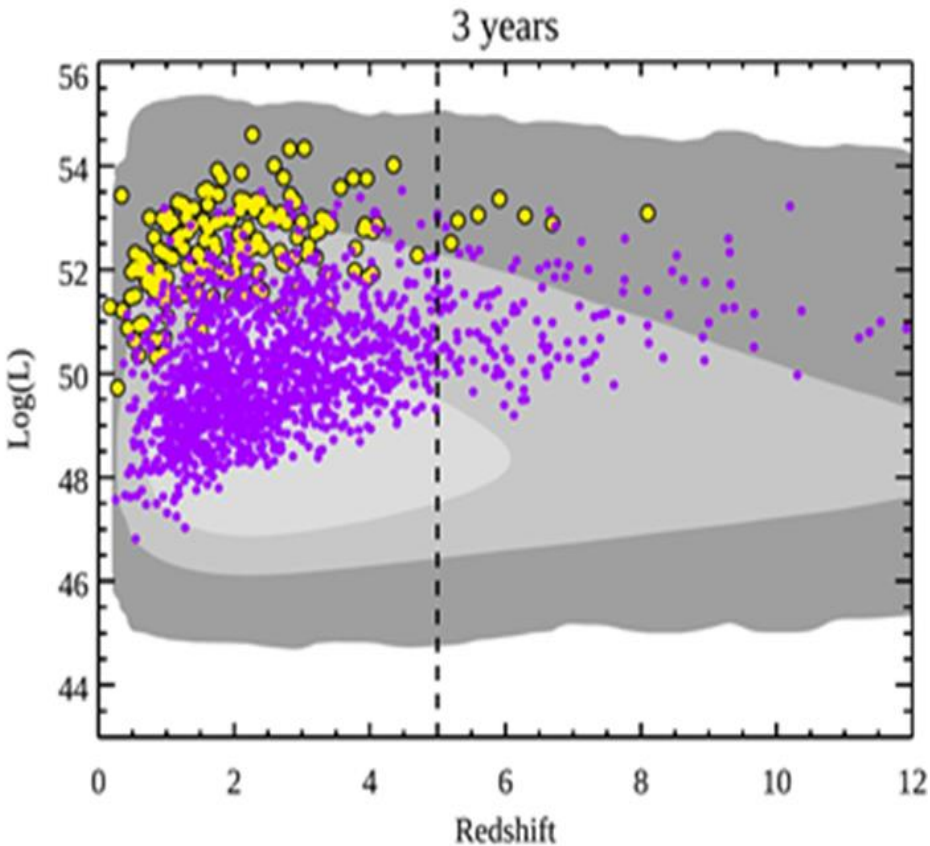


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❑ THESEUS will have the ideal combination of instrumentation and mission profile for detecting all types of GRBs (long, short/hard, weak/soft, high-redshift), localizing them from a few arcmin down to arsec and measure the redshift for a large fraction of them

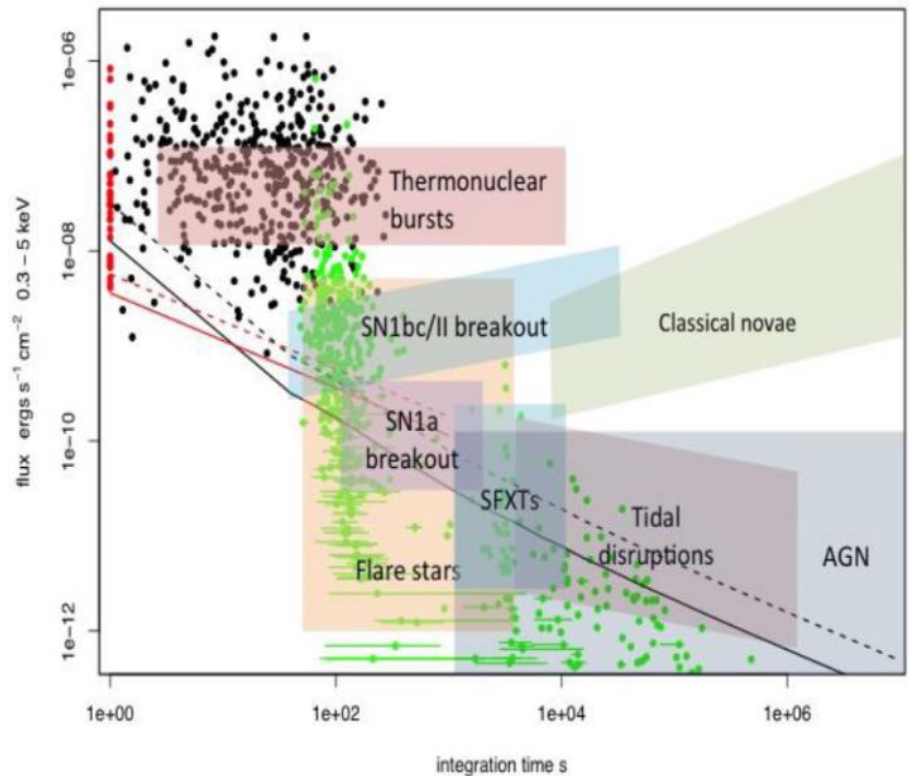
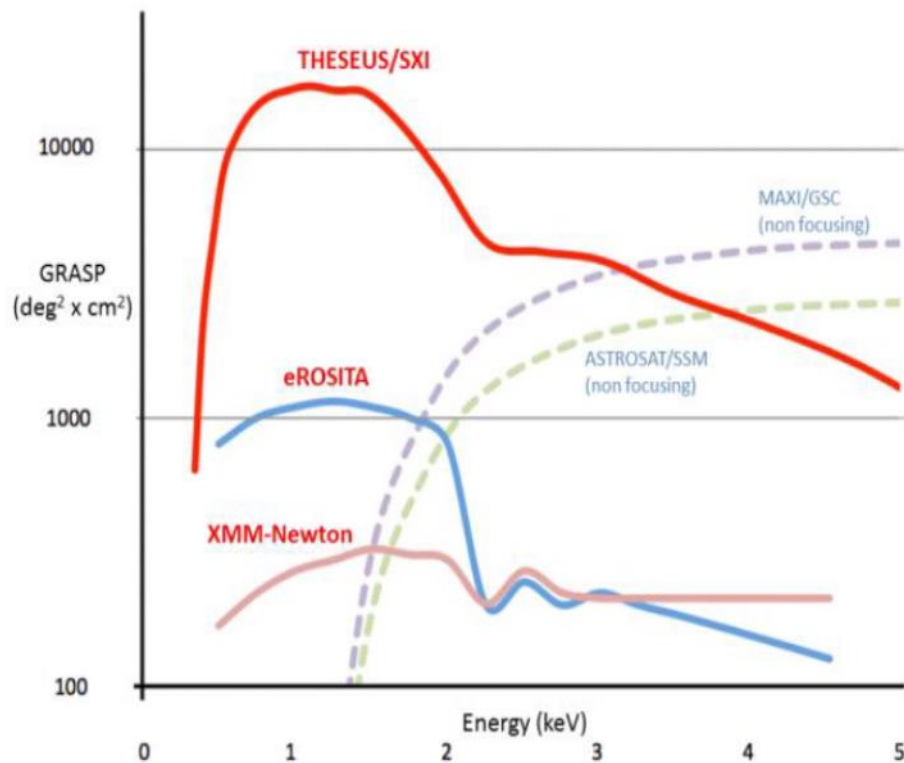


# □ Shedding light on the early Universe with GRBs

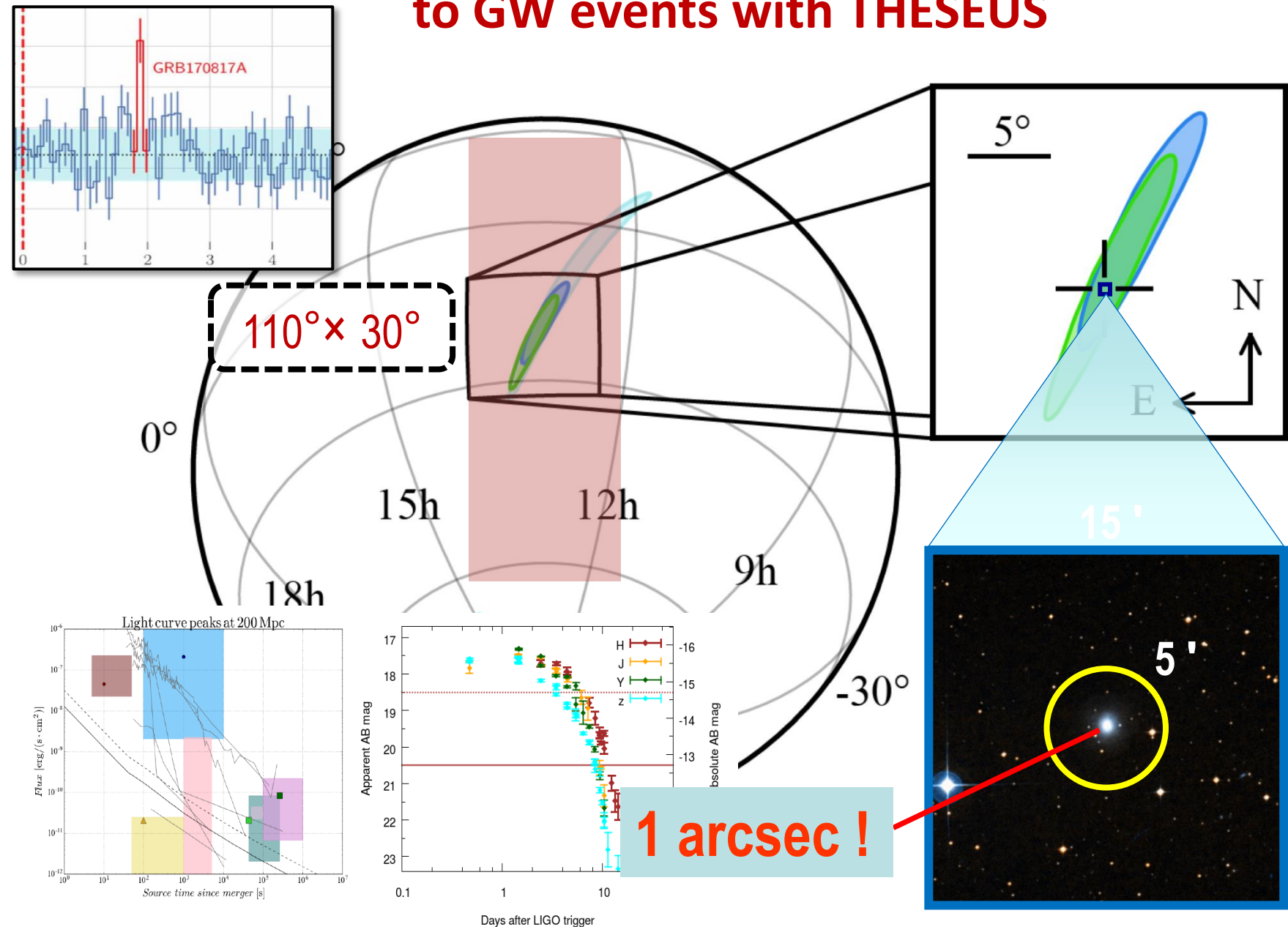


❑ **THESEUS will also detect and localize down to 0.5-1 arcmin** the soft X-ray short/long GRB afterglows, of NS-NS mergers and of many classes of galactic and extra-galactic transients

❑ **For several of these sources, THESEUS/IRT may provide detection and study of associated NIR emission, location within 1 arcsec and redshift**



# □ Promptly and accurately localizing e.m. counterparts to GW events with THESEUS





NS-BH/NS-NS merger  
physics/host galaxy  
identification/formation  
history/kilonova  
identification

Localization of GW/neutrino gamma-ray  
or X-ray transient sources  
NIR, X-ray, Gamma-ray characterization

Transient sources  
multi-wavelength  
campaigns

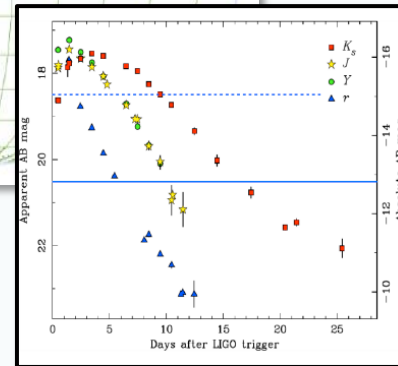
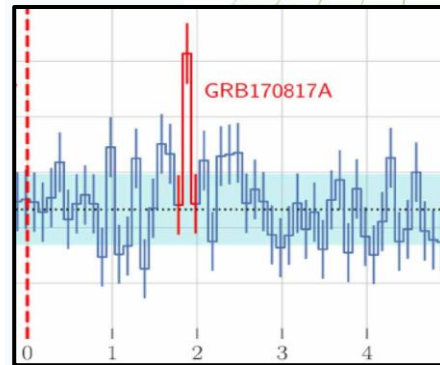
Accretion  
physics

Jet physics

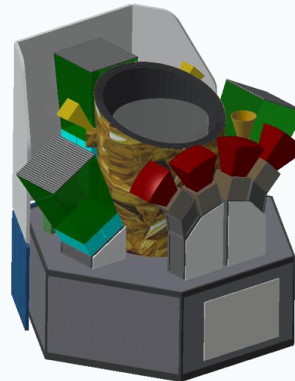
Star formation

Hubble  
constant

r-process  
element  
chemical  
abundances



*theseus*  
TRANSIENT HIGH ENERGY SKY AND EARLY UNIVERSE SURVEYOR



THESEUS SYNERGIES

Einstein Telescope

ELT TMT GMT

SKA

LSST

ATHENA

# *theseus*

TRANSIENT HIGH ENERGY SKY AND EARLY UNIVERSE SURVEYOR

- **THESEUS Core Science** is based on two pillars:
  - probe the **physical properties of the early Universe**, by discovering and exploiting the population of high redshift GRBs.
  - provide an **unprecedented deep monitoring** of the soft X-ray transient Universe, providing a fundamental contribution to multi-messenger and time domain astrophysics in the early 2030s (synergy with aLIGO/aVirgo, eLISA, ET, Km3NET and EM facilities e.g., LSST, E-ELT, SKA, CTA, ATHENA).
- **THESEUS Observatory Science** includes:
  - study of thousands of faint to bright X-ray sources by exploiting the **unique simultaneous availability of broad band X-ray and NIR observations**
  - provide a **flexible follow-up observatory** for fast transient events with multi-wavelength ToO capabilities and **guest-observer programmes**.

# In summary

- ❖ THESEUS, submitted to ESA/M5 by a large European collaboration with strong interest by international partners (e.g., US) **will fully exploit GRBs as powerful and unique tools to investigate the early Universe and will provide us with unprecedented clues to GRB physics and sub-classes.**
- ❖ THESEUS will also play a **fundamental role for GW/multi-messenger and time domain astrophysics at the end of next decade, also by providing a flexible follow-up observatory for fast transient events with multi-wavelength ToO capabilities and guest-observer programmes**
- ❖ THESEUS is a **unique occasion for fully exploiting the European leadership in time-domain and multi-messenger astrophysics and in key-enabling technologies**
- ❖ THESEUS observations will impact on **several fields of astrophysics, cosmology and fundamental physics and will enhance importantly the scientific return of next generation multi messenger (aLIGO/aVirgo, LISA, ET, or Km3NET;) and e.m. facilities (e.g., LSST, E-ELT, SKA, CTA, ATHENA)**
- ❖ **Phase A will be concluded in Spring 2021; final selection on June THESEUS International Conference in Malaga (or virtual) on Spring 2021**  
***<http://www.isdc.unige.ch/theseus/>***