

# Future X-ray instruments relevant to CTAO science



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“We all were sea-swallow'd, though some cast again  
(And by that destiny) to perform an act  
Whereof what's past is prologue what to come,  
In yours and my discharge.”

William Shakespeare, “The Tempest”

1. Fundamentals of X-rays/ $\gamma$ -ray synergies
2. Science cases
  - SNR
  - AGN
  - GRB
3. Synergies with:
  - NewAthena [and XRISM]
  - THESEUS [and *Einstein Probe*]

Chapter on CTAO and v written by: M. Ahlers, A. Coleiro, E. de Oña Wilhelmi, J. Vink, P. Padovani.

# Athena

**Multi-messenger-Athena Synergy White Paper**

**Multi-messenger-Athena Synergy Team**



- **Synchrotron-emitting leptons ( $e^-$ )**
  - Probing (fast) acceleration conditions “on the act”
  - Identify sources of inverse Compton up-scattering (up to the  $\gamma$ -ray regime)
  - Complete the Cosmic Ray energy budget
  - Help disentangling (in principle) hadronic from leptonic  $\gamma$ -ray emission
    - Synchrotron brightness  $\approx n_e U_B$
    - $\gamma$ -ray brightness  $\approx n_e U_R$
    - Assuming single-zone leptonic emission  $\rightarrow B \rightarrow$  verify leptonic hypothesis
  - Determination (with radio) of the spectral index of electronic population
    - $\rightarrow$  intrinsic  $\gamma$ -ray spectral index  $\rightarrow$  Extra-galactic Background Light estimate
- **Thermal emission associated with regions of particle acceleration**
  - X-rays warrants higher-spatial resolution
  - Mapping of local plasma and radiation energy densities

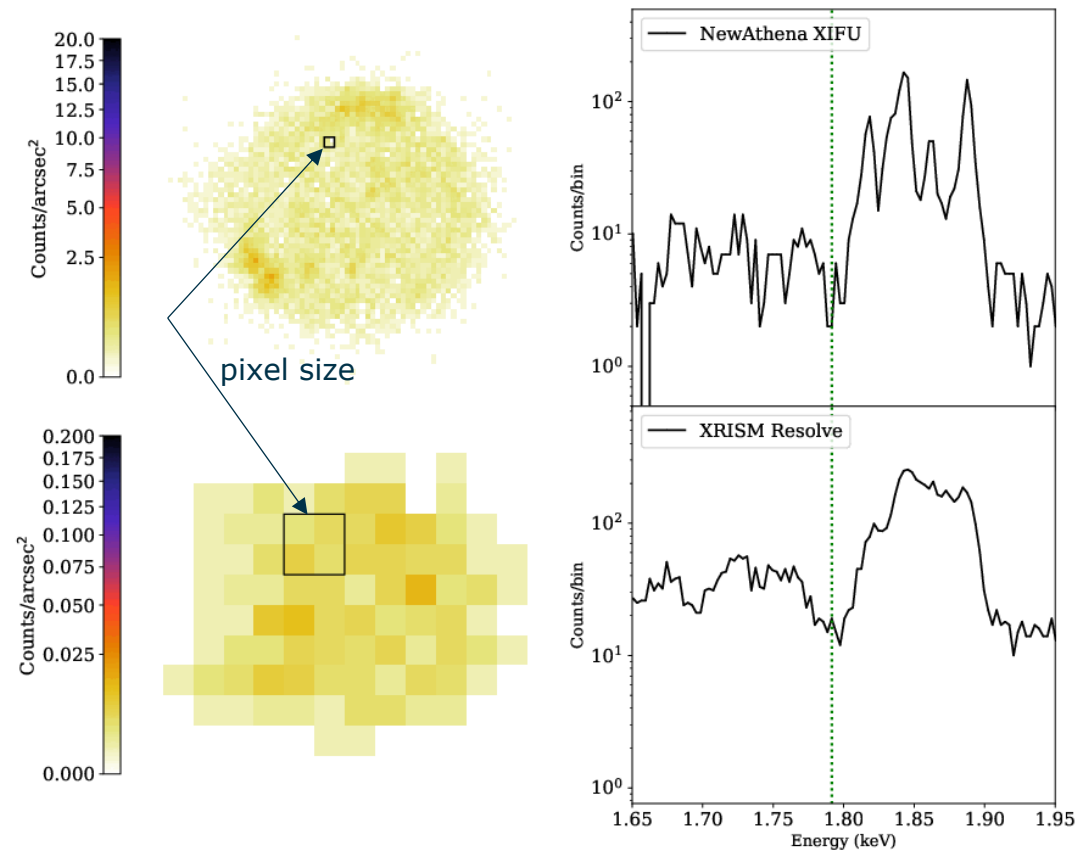
# Integral field unit capabilities in X-rays

## Cassiopea A (X-ray bright SNR)

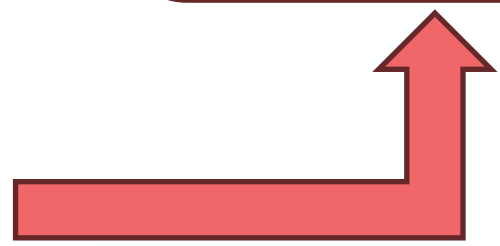
E= 1.791 keV

cf. H. Nakajima's talk

NewAthena X-IFU  
 $\Delta E \leq 4$  eV  
 ~1500 pixels, 5" side  
 Launch ~2037



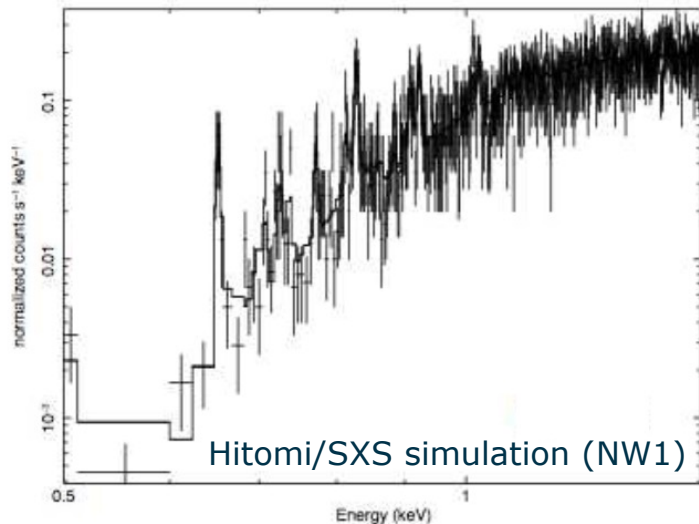
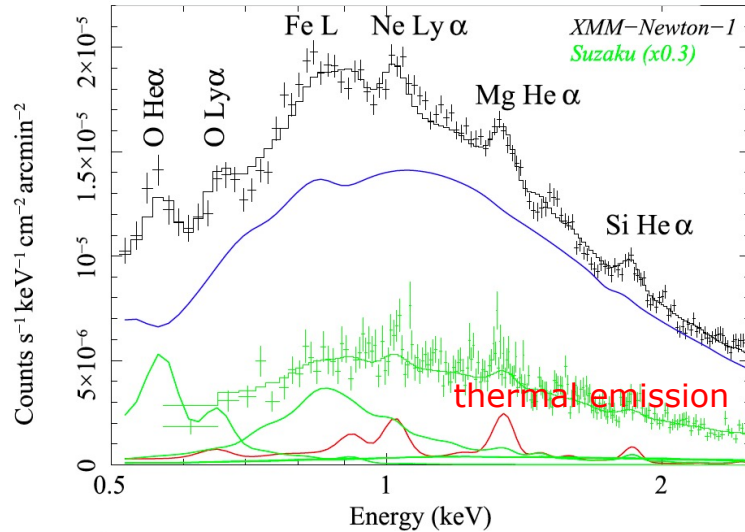
XRISM *Resolve*  
 $\Delta E \leq 5$  eV\*  
 35 pixels, 30" side  
 Operational (2023-)



\*7 eV (requirement) shown

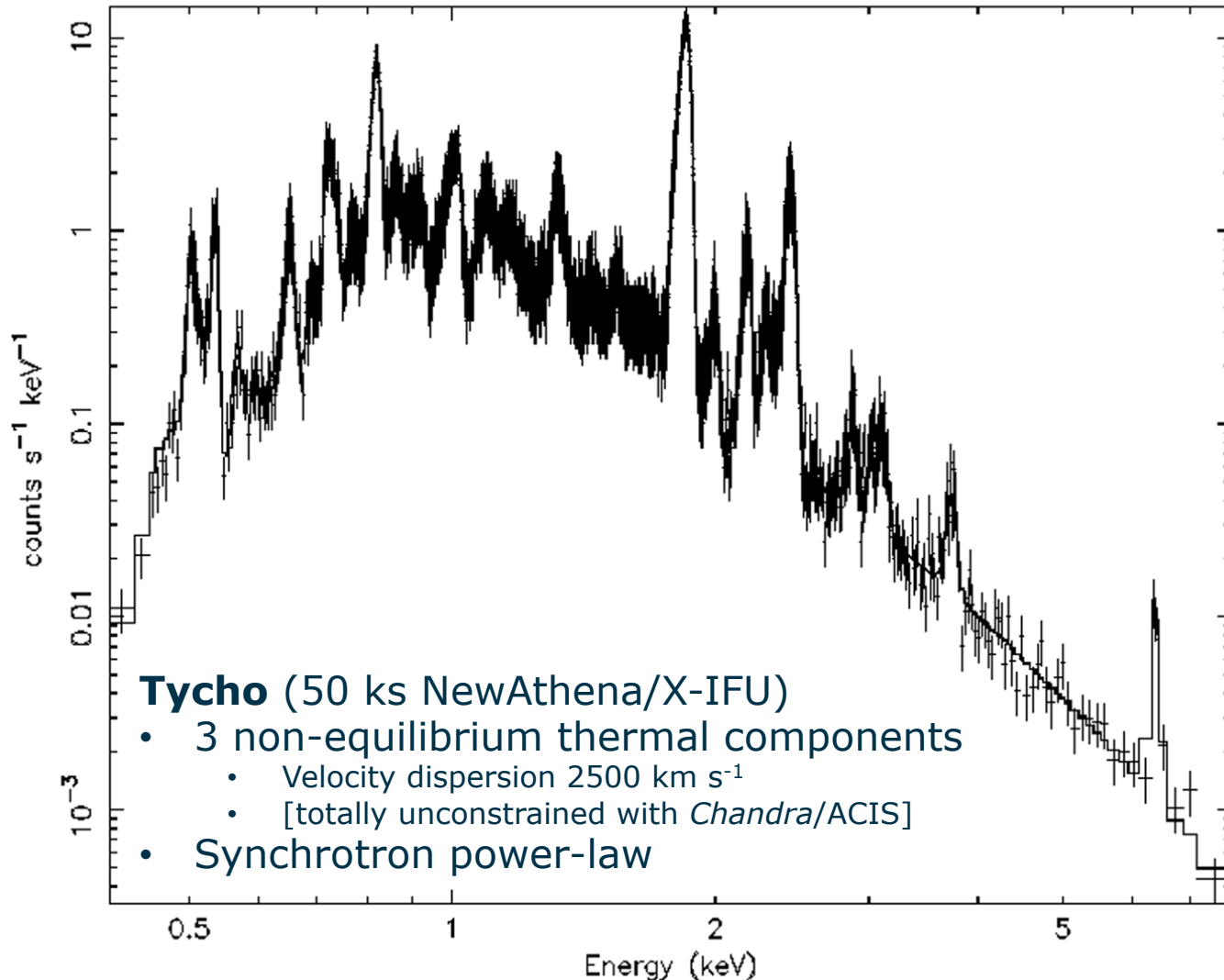
# Thermal emission in SNR synchrotron-dominated regions

Katsuda et al., 2015, ApJ, 814, 29; Hughes et al., 2014, arXiv:1412.1169



- Detecting thermal emission in synchrotron-dominated SNR regions is hard with CCD resolution
  - In the example: RXJ1713.7-3946
- Lack of density estimation prevents constraining the hadronic contribution to the  $\gamma$ -ray emission
- **Spatially-resolved, high resolving power is crucial**
  - [Note: *Hitomi/SXS* is the same technology as *XRISM/Resolve*]
- Enables measurements of density and composition of the SNR as a function of position
- Mapping of young SNR (*e.g.*, SN1006, Tycho,) in the observation plans of XRISM and *Athena*

# Ion temperature and CR acceleration efficiency



- Line profiles constraints thermal Doppler broadening →  $T_{\text{ion}}$
- Likely to dominate at the SNR edges
- Link to CR acceleration efficiency in shocks:

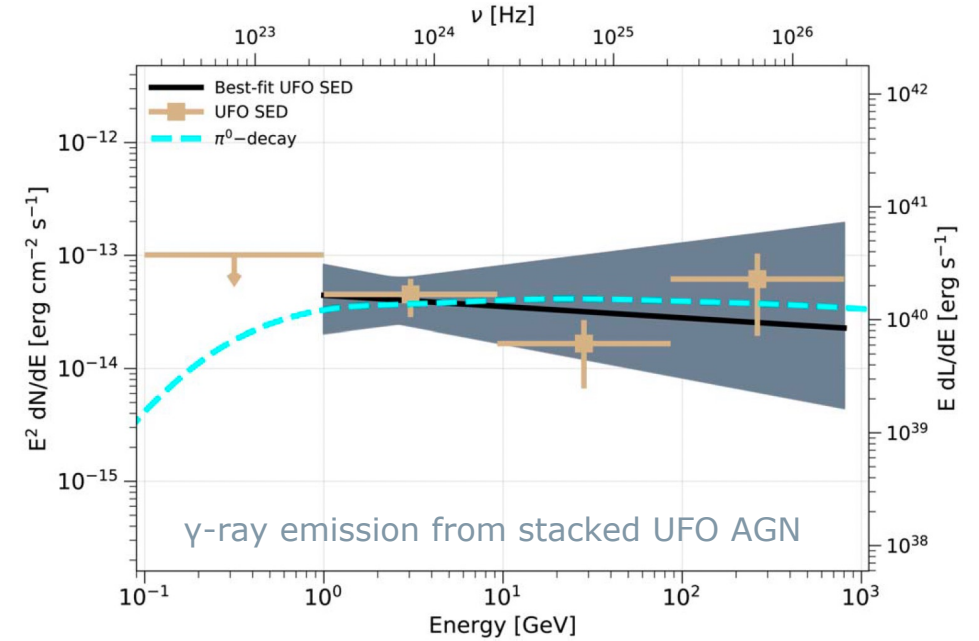
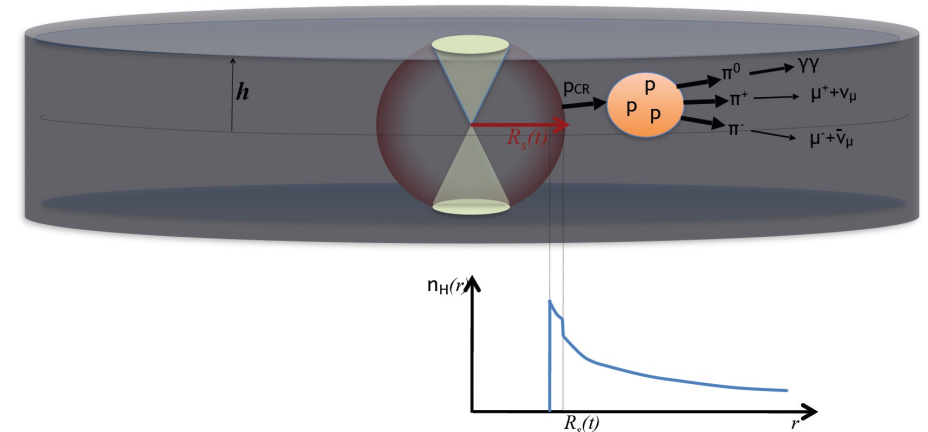
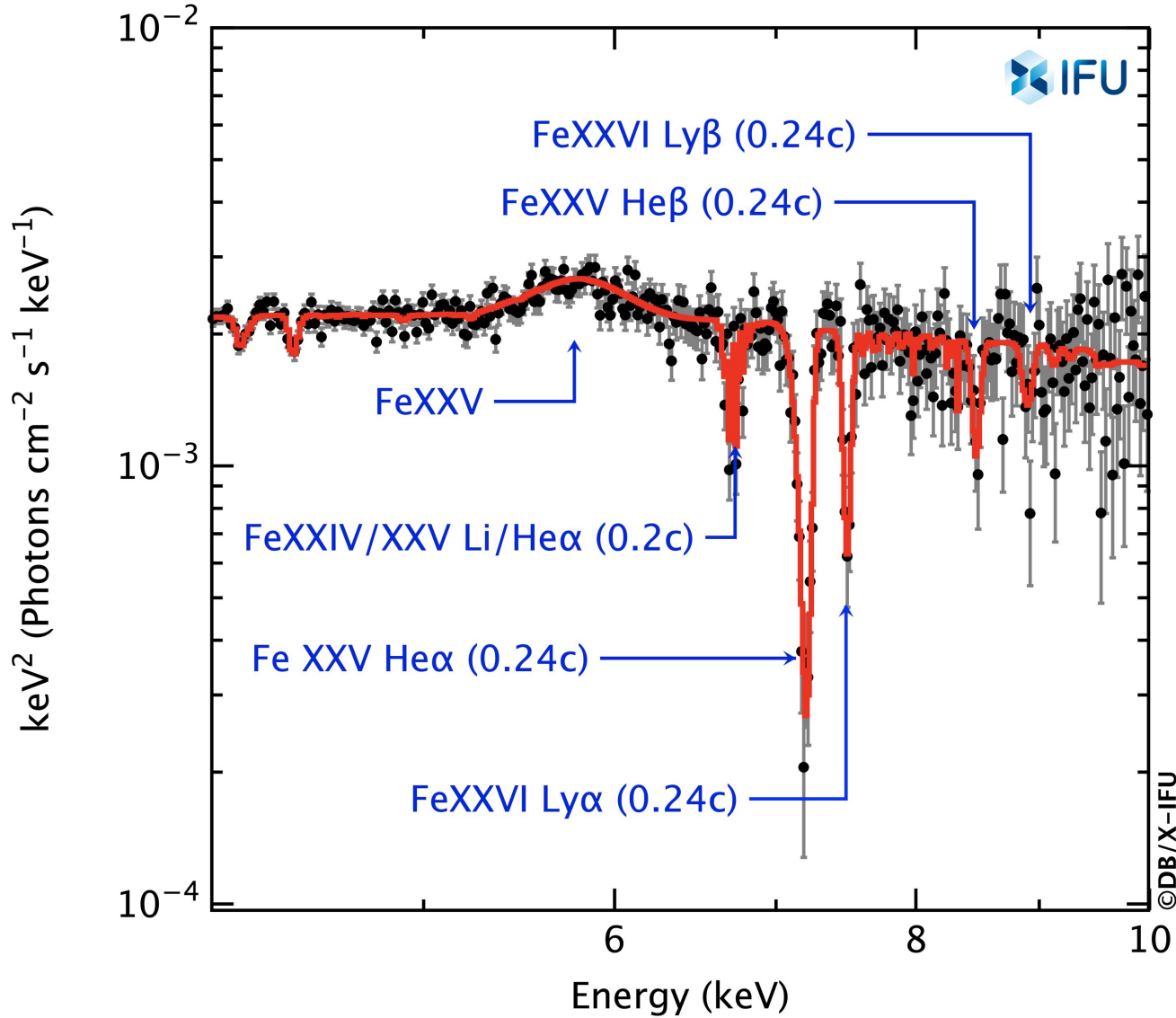
$$k_B T_2 = \frac{1}{\chi_{12}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\chi_{12}} \right) \mu m_p V_s^2 = \frac{3}{16} \mu m_p V_s^2$$

- Requires knowledge of shock velocities, measured by *Chandra* in many young SNRs
- Probably only NewAthena science

# Ultra-Fast Outflows (UFOs) in AGN

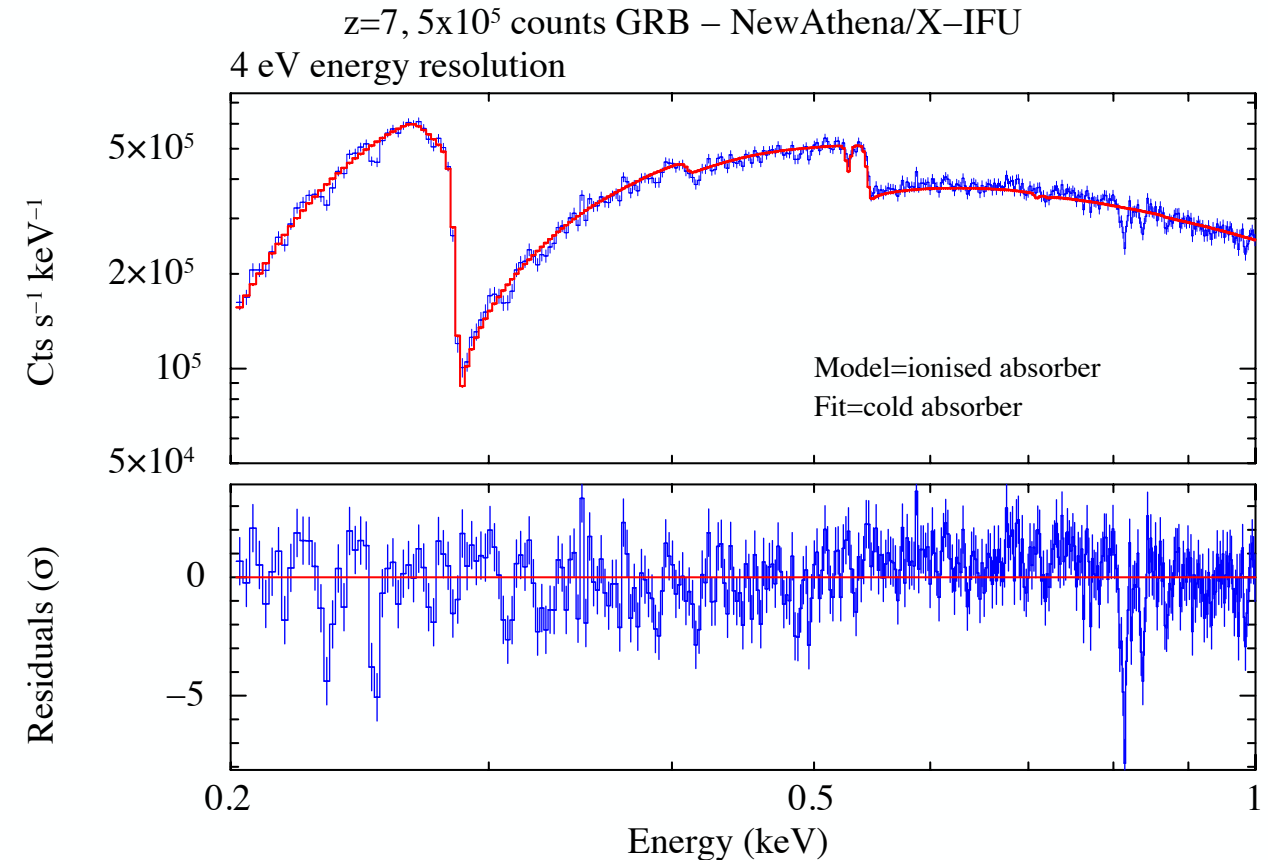
Credit: X-IFU Consortium

Lamastra et al., 2017, A&A, 607, 18; Aiello et al., 2021, ApJ, 921, 144





- Candidates for extragalactic CR
- Prompt emission:
  - X-rays: relativistic leptons
  - $\gamma$ -rays: shocks in jets
- Afterglows: jet interaction with the circum-/interstellar medium
- X-ray absorption lines  $\rightarrow$  close GRB environment:
  - First generation of stars
  - Generation of the first BH
  - dissemination of the first metals
- X-ray non-thermal component  $\rightarrow$  constrain emission mechanisms



- "Superbubbles" in star forming regions
- Nearby (<10 Mpc) supernovae
- Pulsar Wind Nebulae
- Starburst galaxies
- Accretion shocks in clusters of galaxies

# Athena

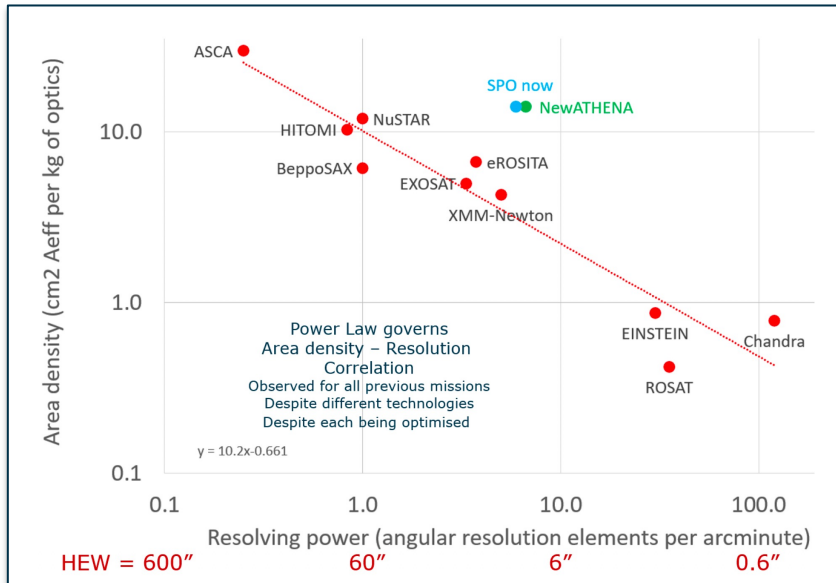
**Multi-messenger-Athena Synergy White Paper**

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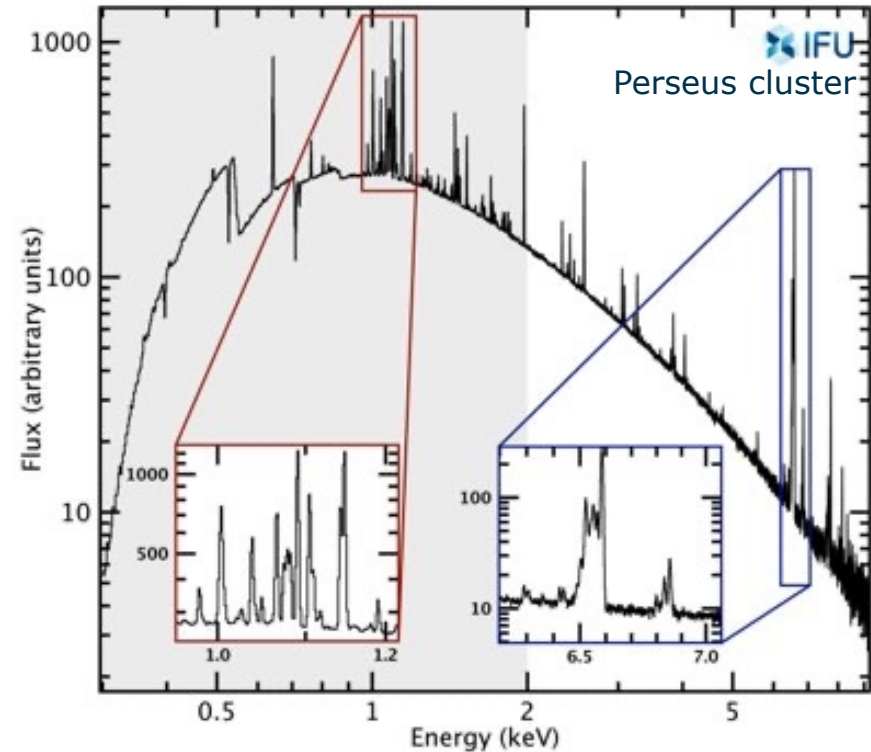
# NewAthena: three key science-enabling innovations

## The largest space-qualified X-ray mirror for astronomy



X-ray telescope based on Silicon Pore Optics technology (ESA), 9" HEW, 1.0 m<sup>2</sup> area @1 keV

## Unprecedented spectroscopic capabilities



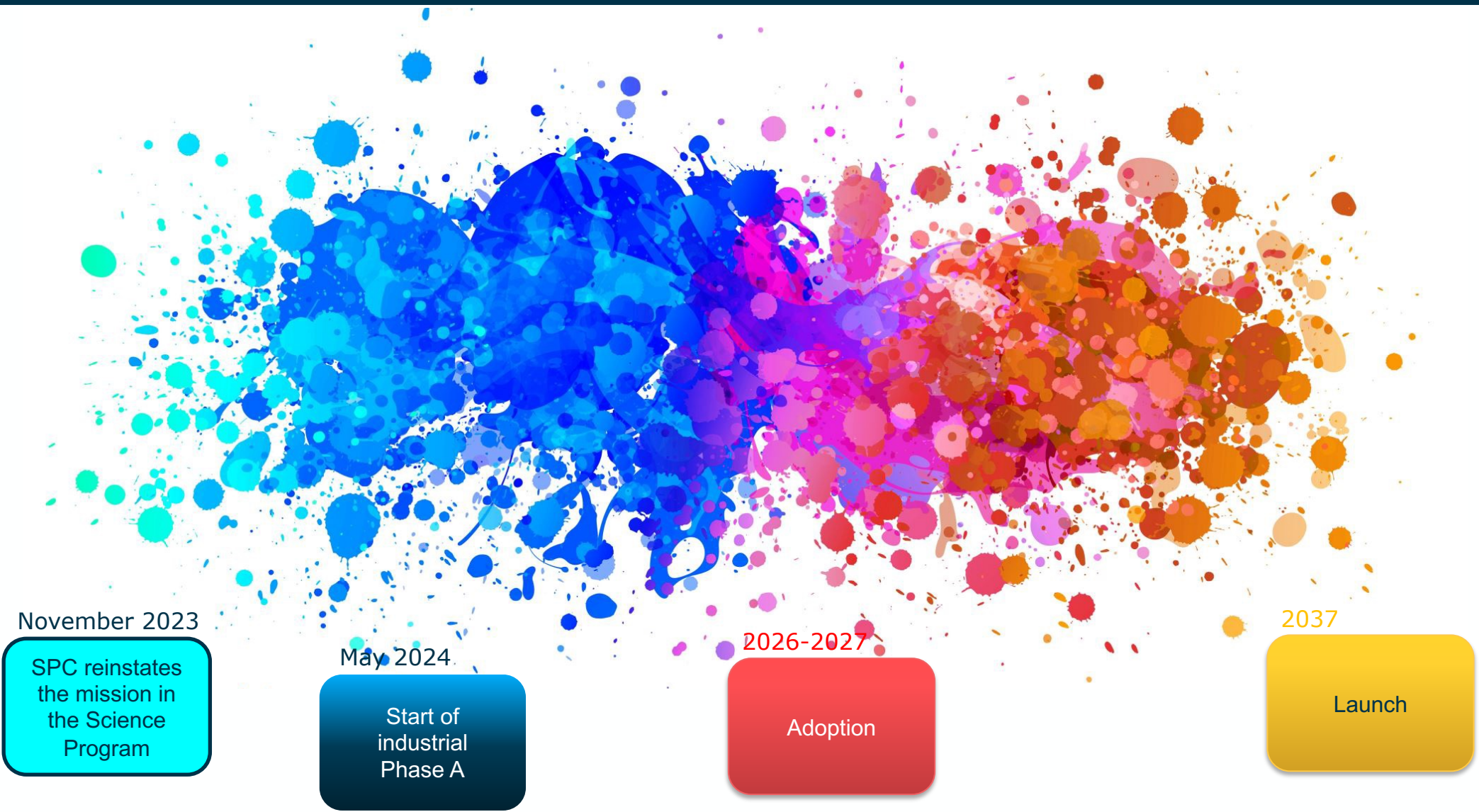
X-Ray Integral Field Unit (X-IFU) (CNES/IRAP-led), ≤4 eV energy resolution over >1500 pixels, ~5" each (4' effective diameter FoV)

## The fastest sky X-ray survey machine



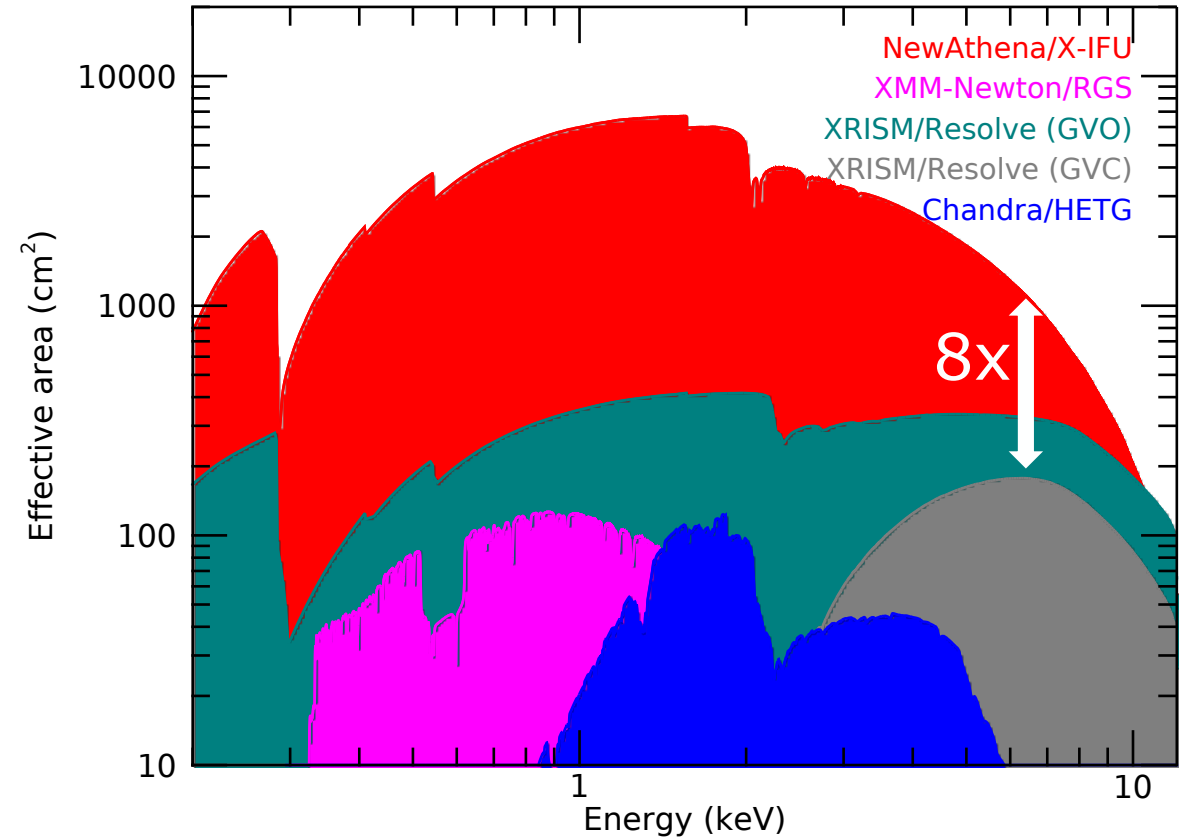
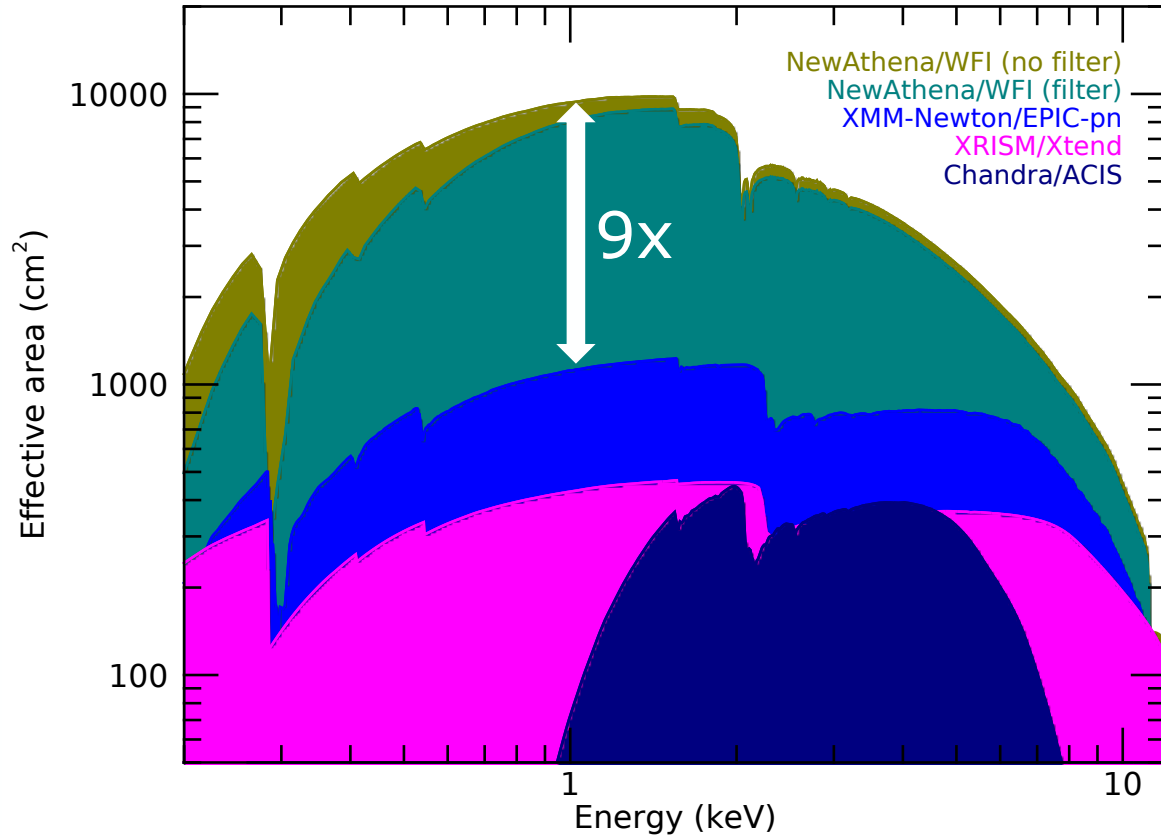
Wide Field Instrument (WFI) (MPE-led), DEPFET sensor, <170 eV resolution @7 keV, 40'x40' FoV

# NewAthena status (diagram created by AI, not in scale)



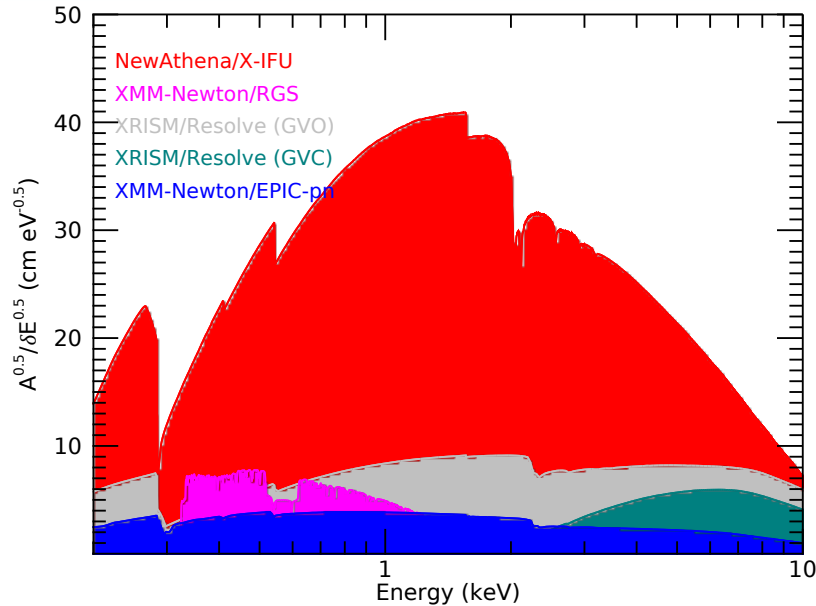
# A large mirror area mission

## Comparison with commensurate operational X-ray observatories

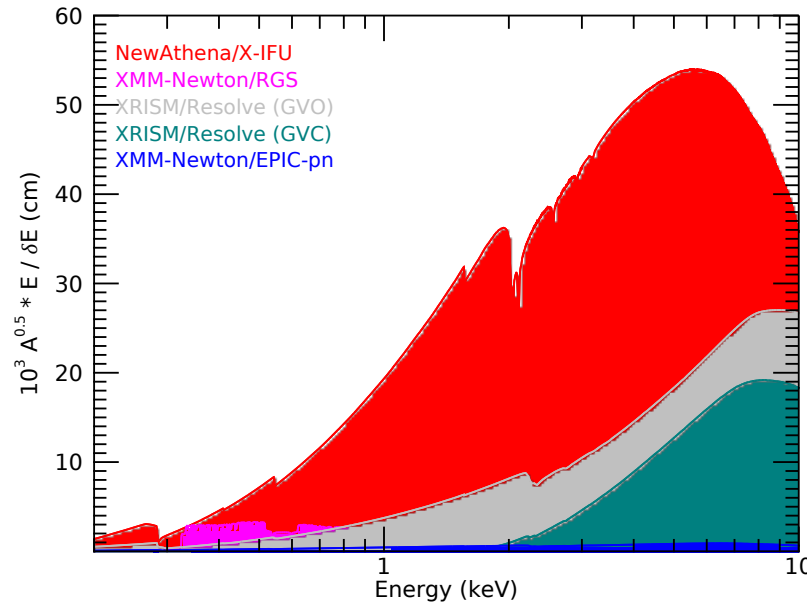


# X-IFU spectroscopic capabilities in context

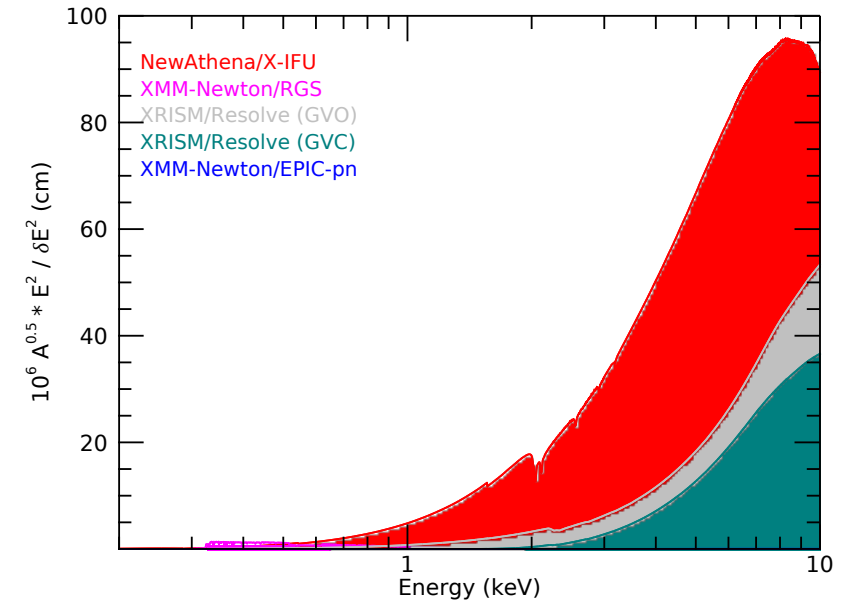
## Detection weak lines



## Velocity strong lines



## Broadening strong lines



Detection  
Velocity  
Broadening

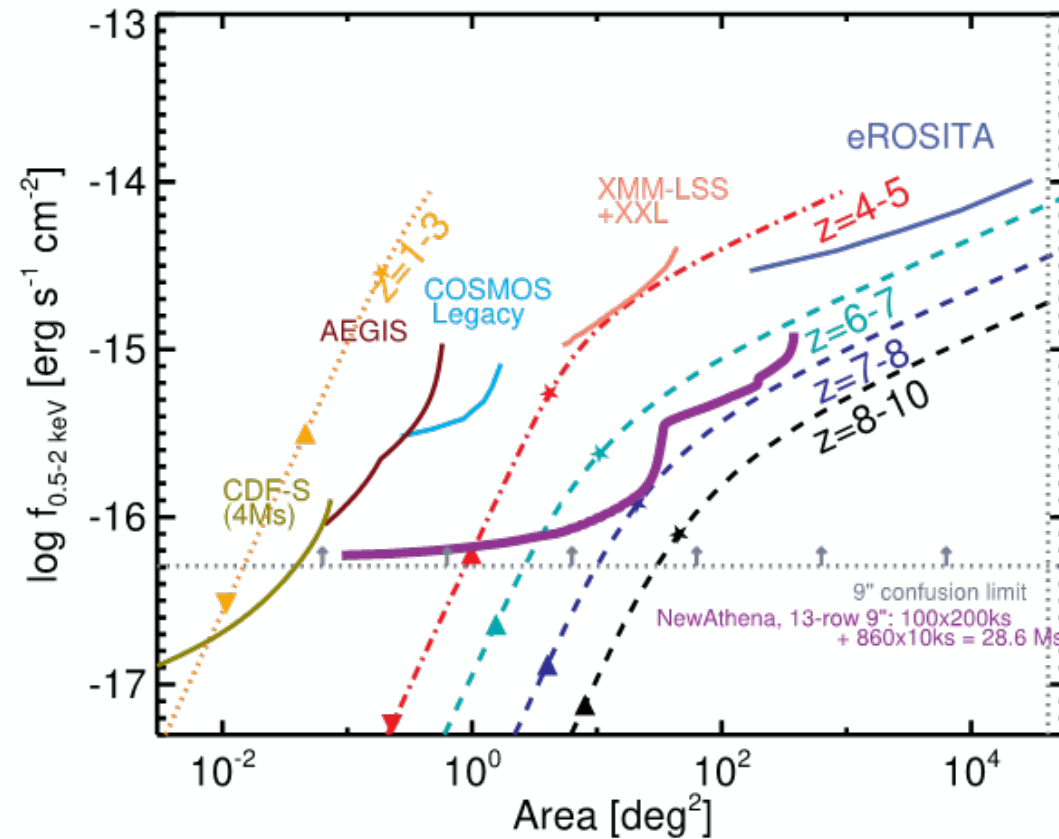
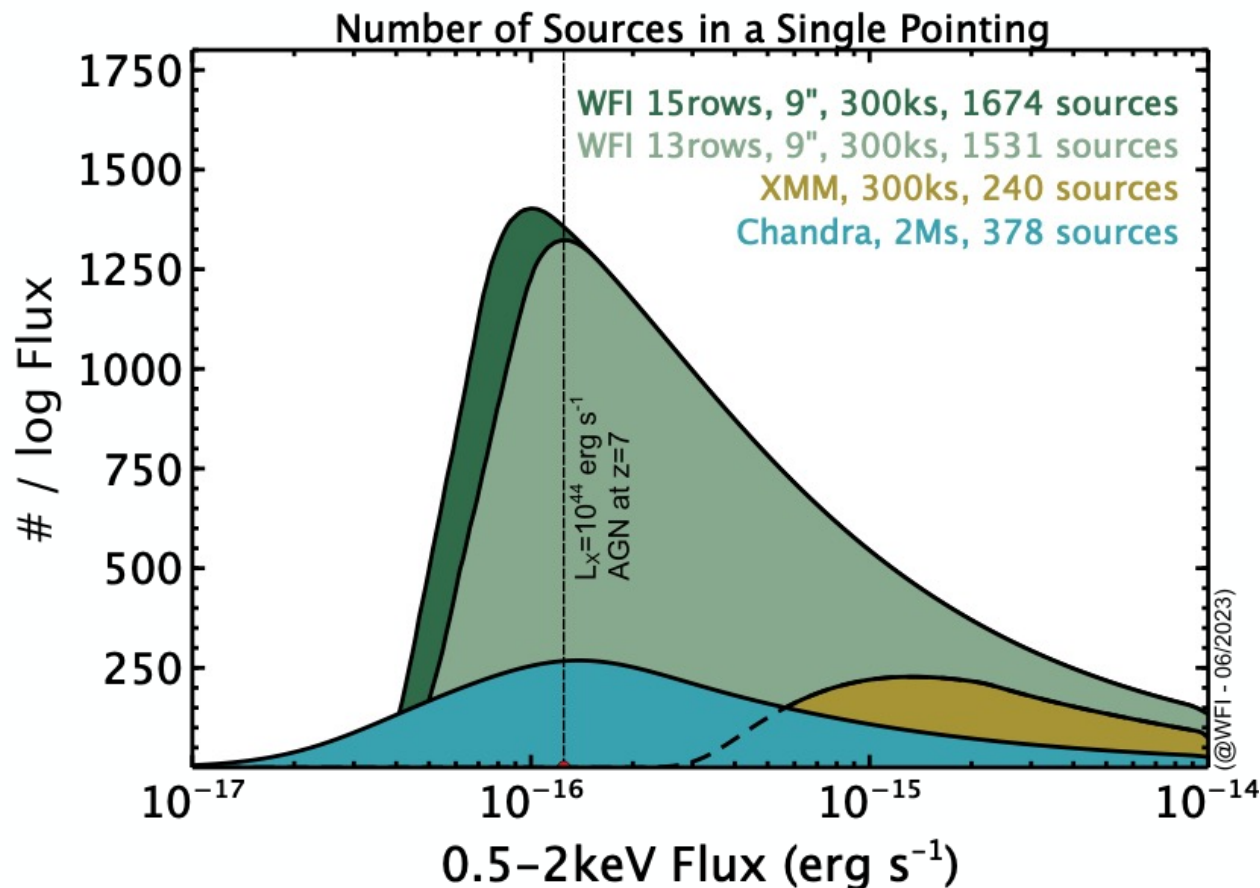
FoM	Strong line	Weak line
$M_l$	6.1	6.8
$M_v$	7.5	8.4
$M_\sigma$	9.1	10.2

Energy-weighted 2-9 keV ratio  
between X-IFU and *Resolve* FoMs

# NewAthena X-ray survey performance (WFI)

Credit: A. Rau (MPE), J. Aird (UoE)

Credit: J. Aird (UoE)



Hint: the NewAthena/WFI grasp exceeds that of eROSITA by a factor  $\sim 2$

# Einstein Probe (operational)

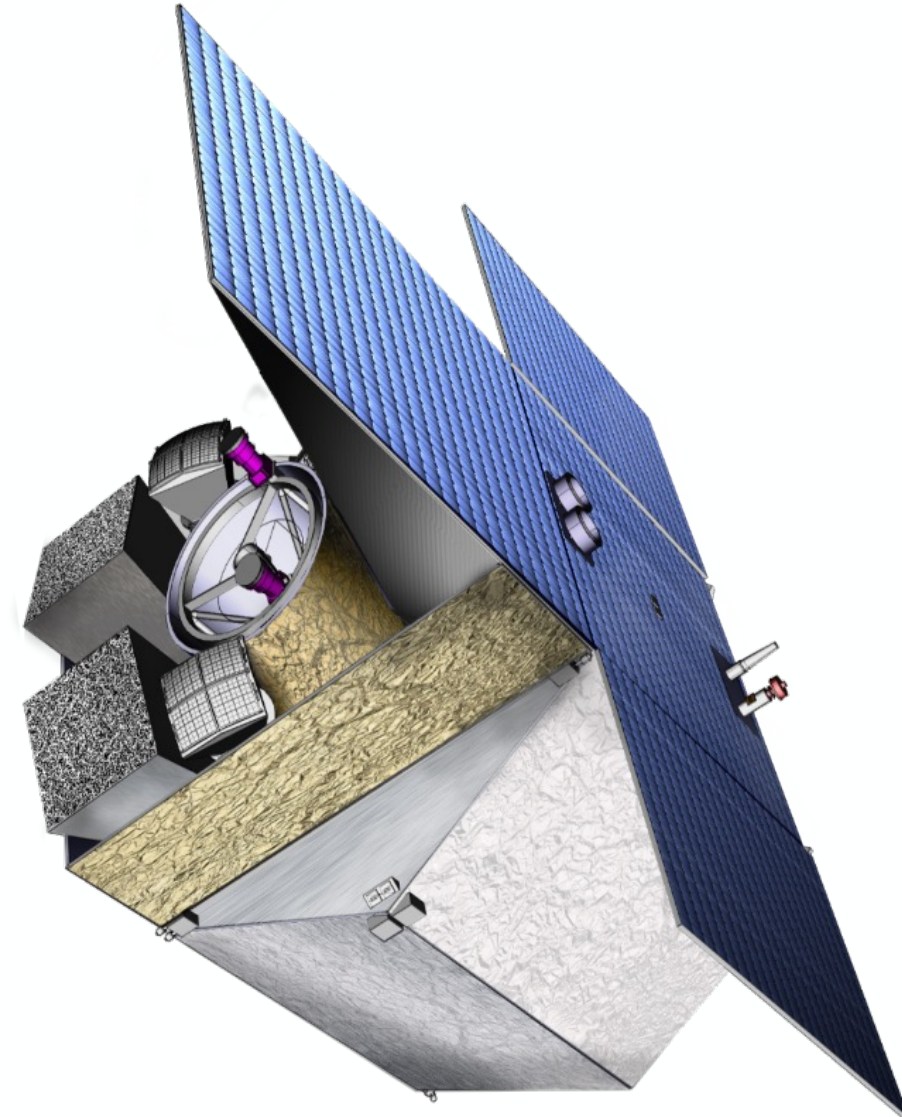
- China/CAS-led mission with participation by ESA and MPE
- Combination of wide-field ( $\sim 1.1$  sr) and narrow (“follow-up” telescopes in the soft X-ray band
- Rapid downlink and uplink capabilities
- Science pillars:
  - Soft X-ray transients
  - Transient flares from quiescent super-massive black holes
  - Multi-messenger astrophysics
- Launch: **January 2024**: 3-years nominal operations

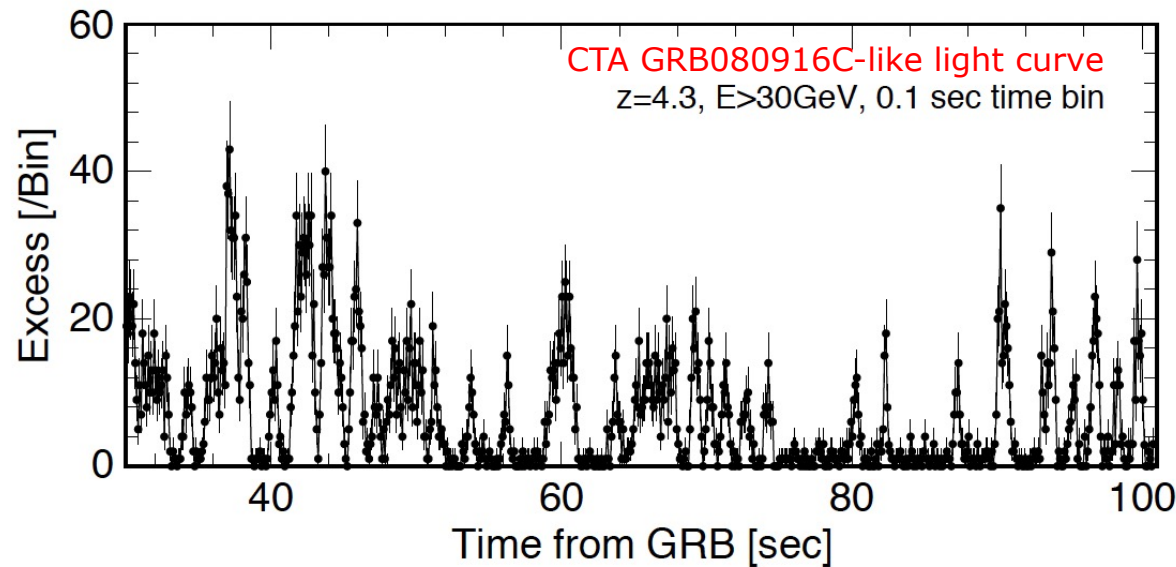




# THESEUS (M7 candidate)

- Candidate ESA mission for the “M7”-slot
  - Three missions in competition
- Payload:
  - Wide-field monitors 0.3 keV to  $\sim 20$  MeV
    - Broad field-of-view ( $\sim \text{sr}$ )
    - Arcminute-level source localization
  - 70-cm class IR telescope
- Autonomous repointing capabilities ( $\leq 10$  mins.)
- Science pillars:
  - Early Universe GRBs
  - Multi-messenger astrophysics
  - The transient X-ray sky
- **Selection  $\sim 2026$ , launch  $\leq 2037$**





External trigger, accurate location and z for GRBs, TDEs, supernova breakouts, XRBs, AGN flares, multi-messenger transients

CTAO THESEUS-triggered GRB detection rate **5-10 GRB/site/year**

Broad-band characterization of high-energy transients in the CTAO Key Science Projects

... more in the poster by L. Amati

# Take-home message

Whatever your favourite CTAO science question:

Multi-messenger astrophysics

Nature of relativistic particle populations

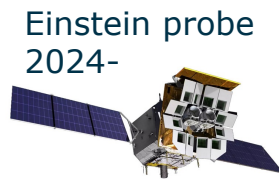
EBL

Origin of cosmic rays

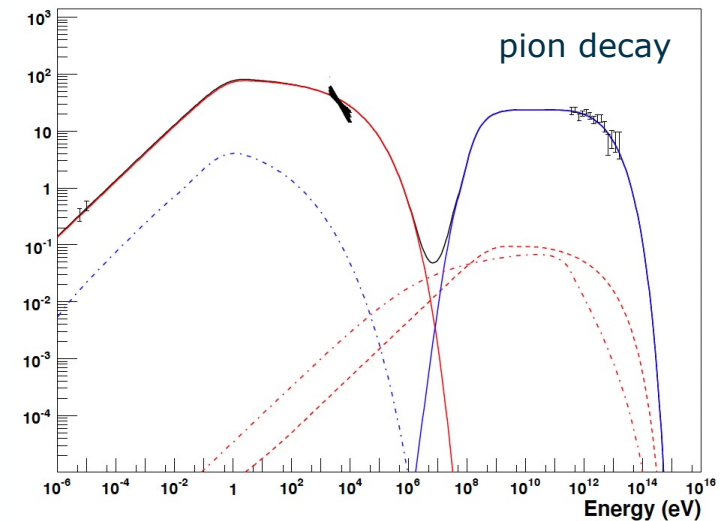
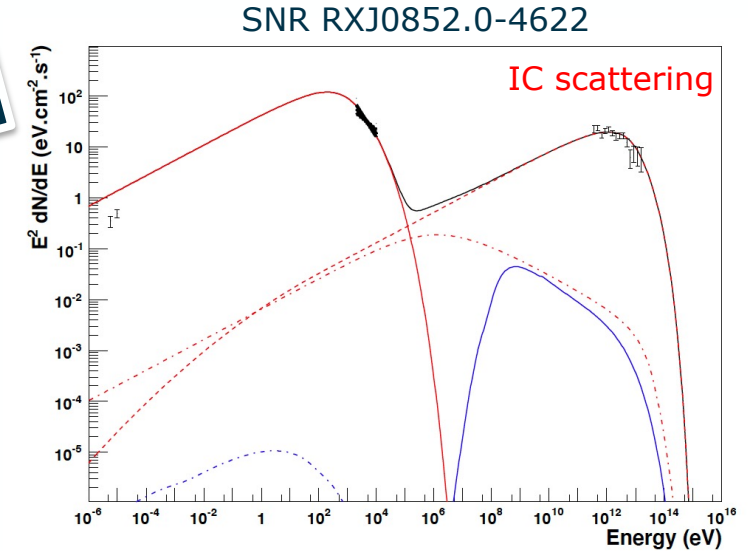
Particle acceleration and their environment

Interaction of outflows, jets and blast waves on the ISM

**X-rays probe environment, enable broad-band coverage, provide accurate triggers and space-resolved measurements.**



... not to forget eXTP, and a (possible) X-ray NASA probes



# XRISM and NewAthena scientific performance



Parameter	XRISM performance	Athena requirement
<b>Spectrometer</b>	<b>Resolve (Gate Valve Closed)</b>	<b>X-IFU</b>
Total effective area at 7keV	0.012 m <sup>2</sup>	0.09 m <sup>2</sup>
Total effective area at 1 keV	0	0.52 m <sup>2</sup>
Energy resolution at 7keV	5 eV	4 eV
Field of View (diameter)	3 arc mins	4 arc mins
Pixel Size	30 arc secs	5 arc secs
Background (2-7 keV)	10 <sup>-3</sup> ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> keV <sup>-1</sup>	5x10 <sup>-3</sup> ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> keV <sup>-1</sup>
<b>Imager</b>	<b>Xtend</b>	<b>WFI</b>
Effective area at 1 keV	0.03 m <sup>2</sup>	0.86 m <sup>2</sup>
Field of view (side)	38x38 arcmins	40x40 arc mins
Background (2-10 keV)	2x10 <sup>-5</sup> ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> keV <sup>-1</sup>	8x10 <sup>-3</sup> ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> keV <sup>-1</sup>
Optics angular resolution on-axis @ 1 keV	1.3 arc mins	5 arc secs
ToO Response time	≤72 hours	≤12 hours

