

HERMES

Pathfinder

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Outline

- Why i am here
- Today challenges & opportunities: two revolutions:
 - Multimessenger astrophysics
 - Space 4.0
- HERMES ***distributed*** instrument: a coming breakthrough
 - Concept
 - Programmatics and funds
 - Status of the project(s)
 - Outlook and criticalities

Two revolutions

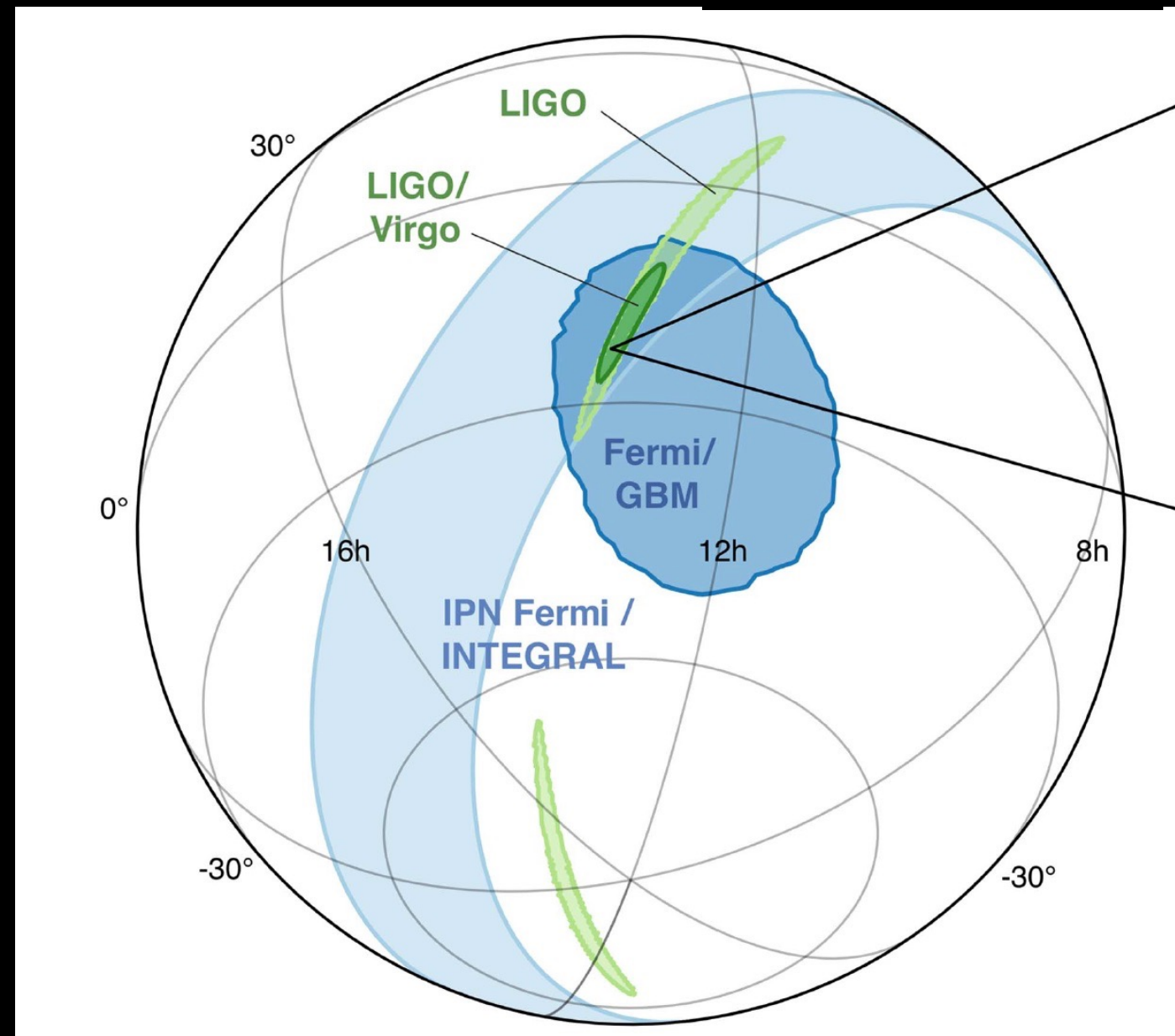
Multimessenger astrophysics

GW170817

Advanced Ligo/Virgo provide
position with accuracy
~ tens deg

NS-NS and BH-NS
coalescence:
100-200 Mpc horizon
GRB, cocoon, kilonova..

BH-BH coalescence:
>Gpc horizon
no expected EM counterpart
(even more exciting if one is
found...)



Two revolutions

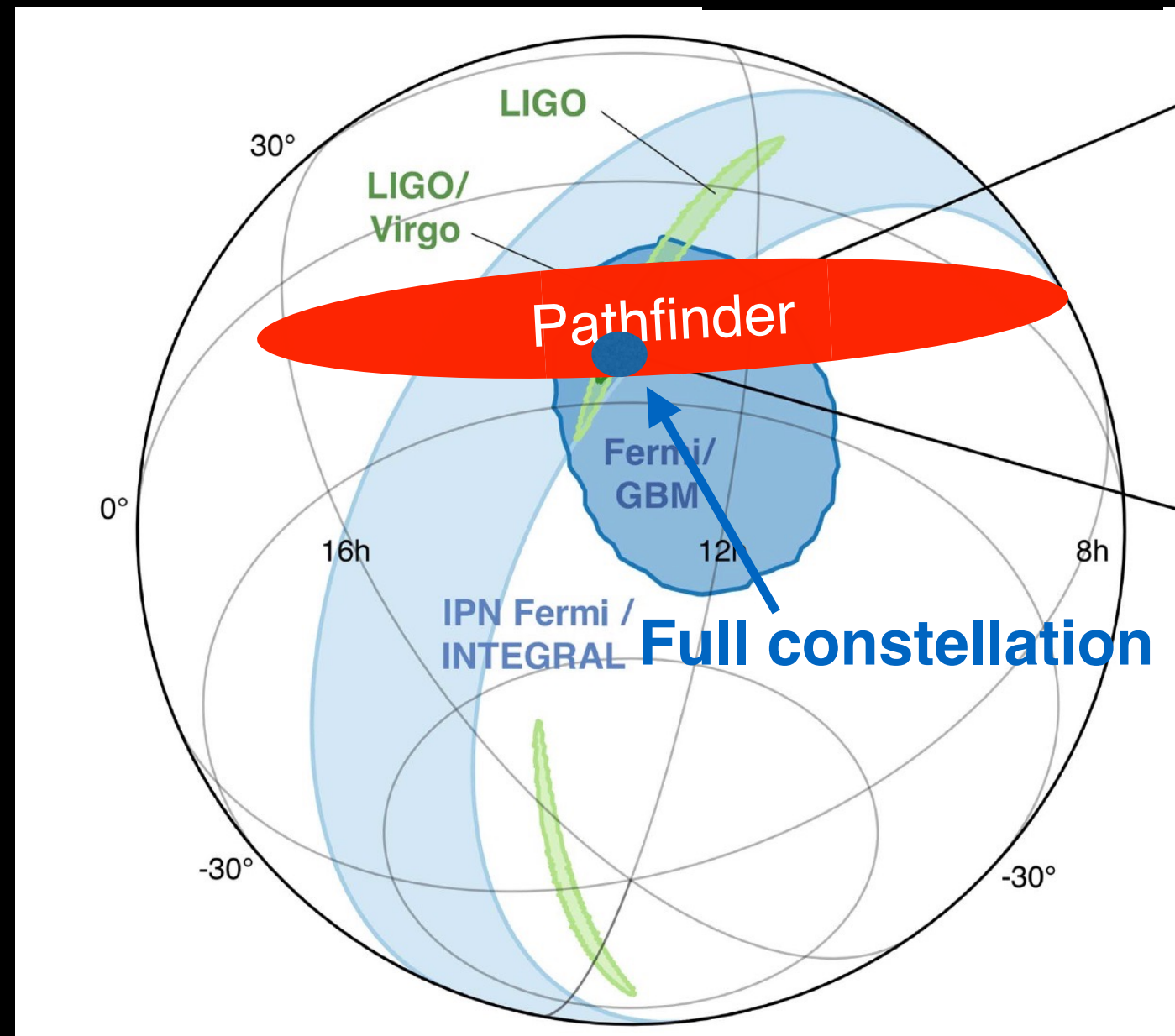
Multimessenger astrophysics

GW170817

Large volumes difficult to survey at optical λ .

Tens/hundreds/thousands optical transients.

Best strategy:
~ all sky prompt search for transients at high energies.
Negligible probability to find an uncorrelated HEA transient at the time of GWE



Two revolutions

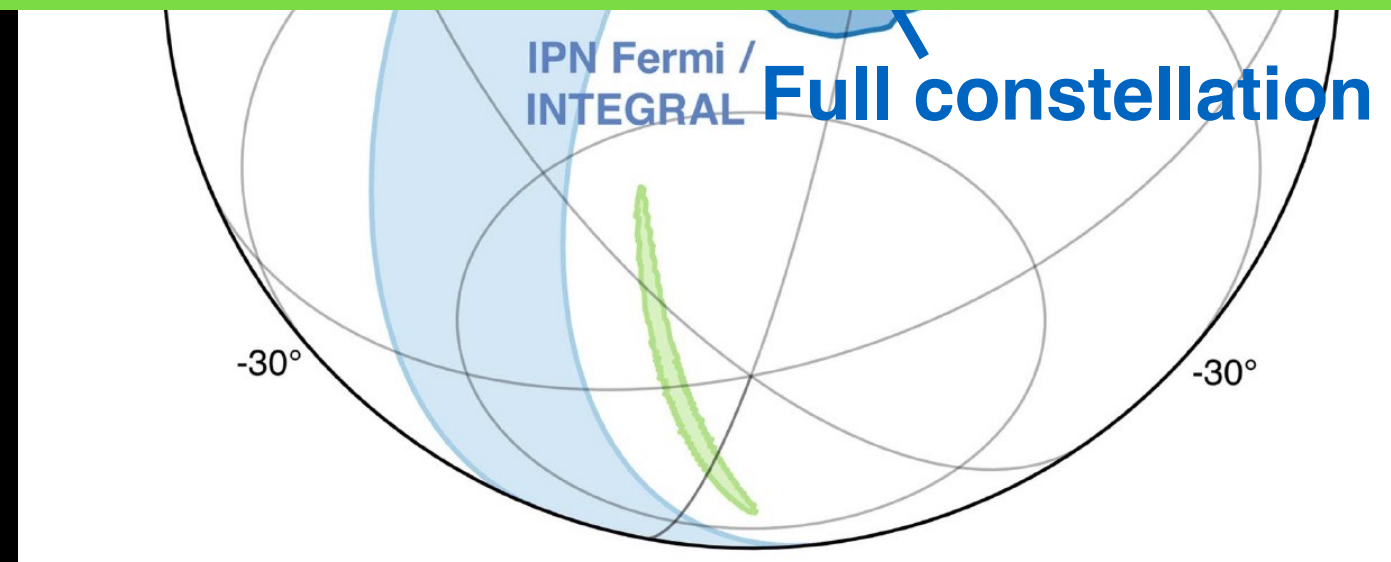
Multimessenger astrophysics

Current facilities, Swift, INTEGRAL, FERMI, AGILE, are aging:

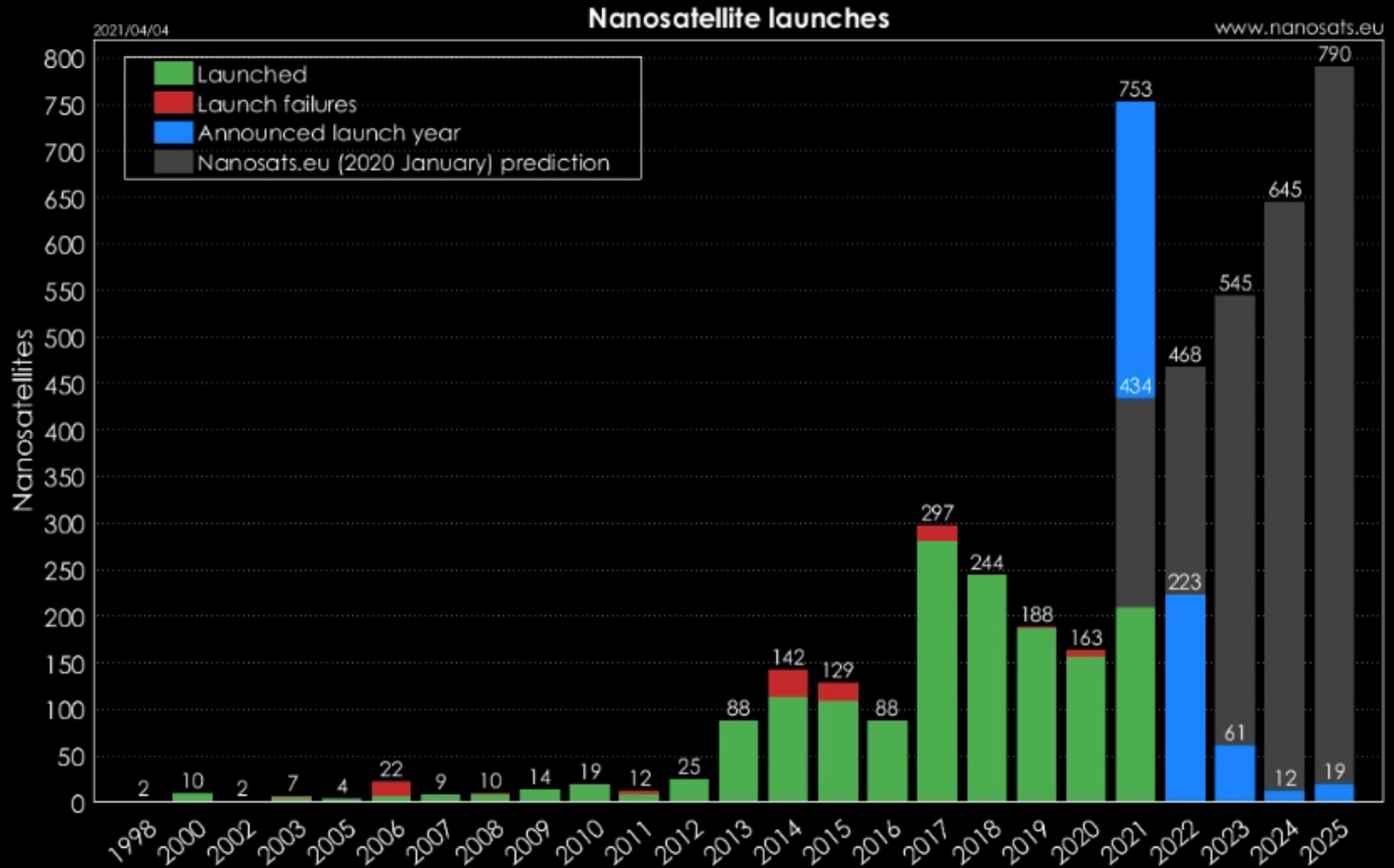
A sensitive X-ray all sky monitor during the 20'

Best strategy:

~ all sky prompt search for transients at high energies.
Negligible probability to find an uncorrelated HEA transient at the time of GWE



Space 4.0



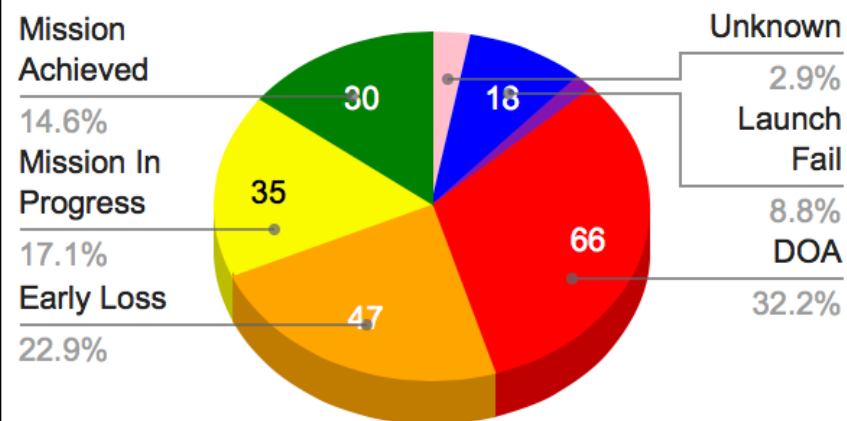
Space 4.0

Nanosatellite launches

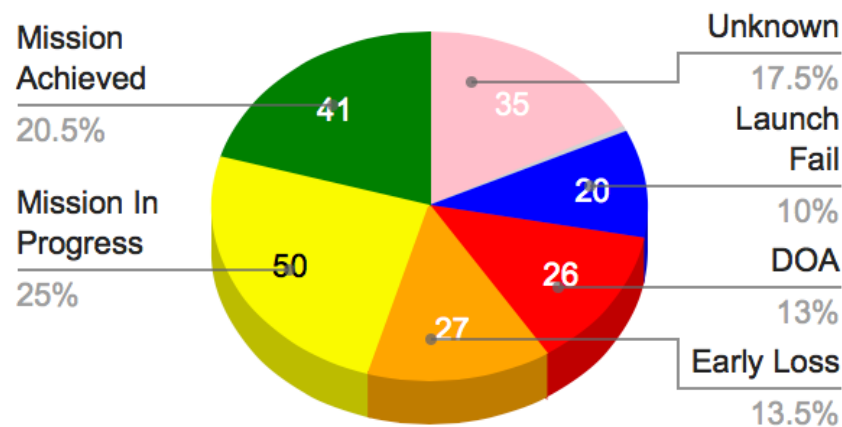
2021/04/04

www.nanosats.eu

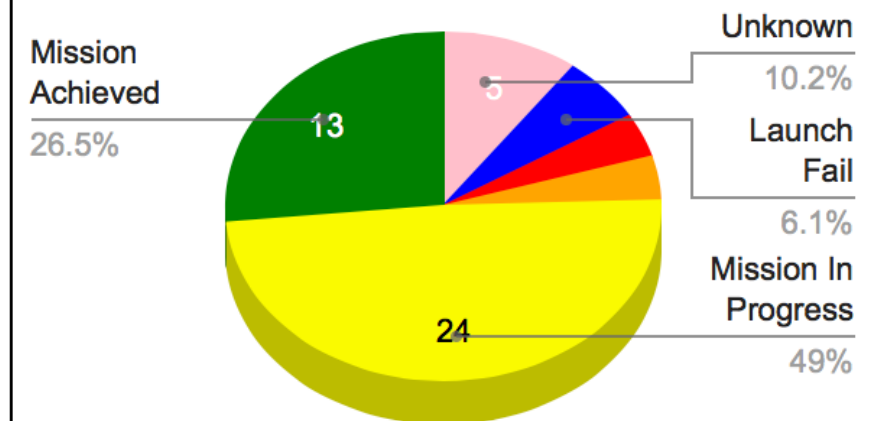
CubeSat Mission Status, 2000-present, Hobbyists, 205 Spacecraft

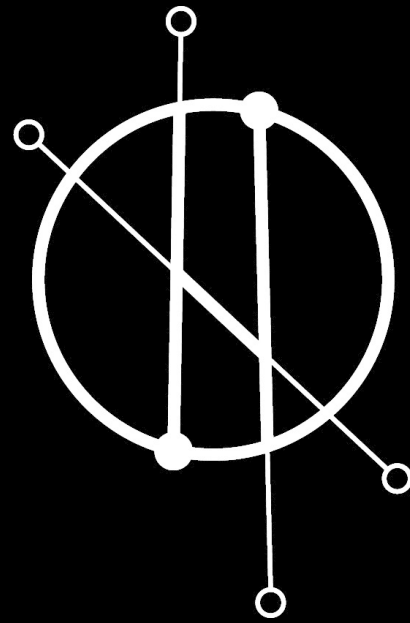


CubeSat Mission Status, 2000-present, Crafters, 200 Spacecraft

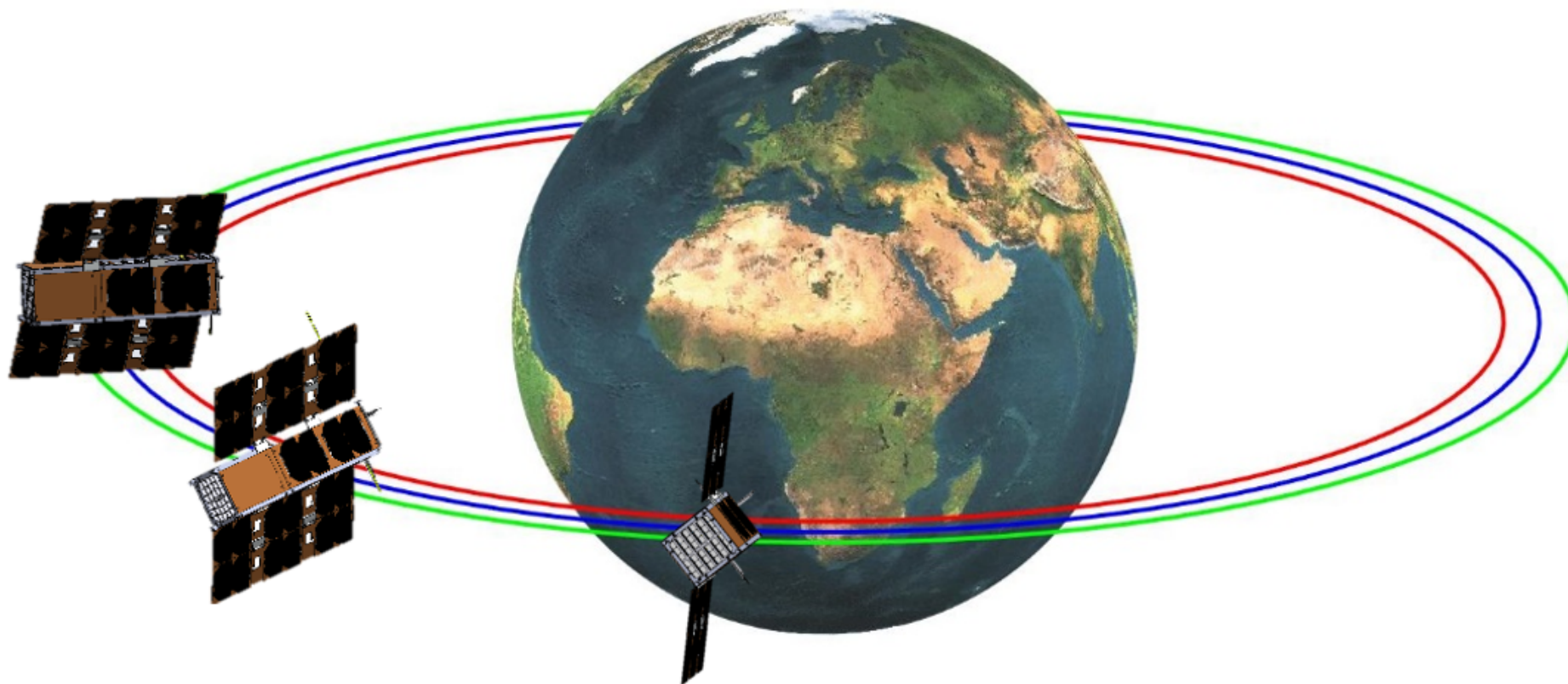


CubeSat Mission Status, 2000-present, Industrialists, 49 Spacecraft





HERMES



To Sun

Mission concept

Disruptive technologies: cheap, underperforming, but producing high impact. ***Distributed instrument:*** tens/hundreds of simple units to form a sensitive ***all sky monitor***

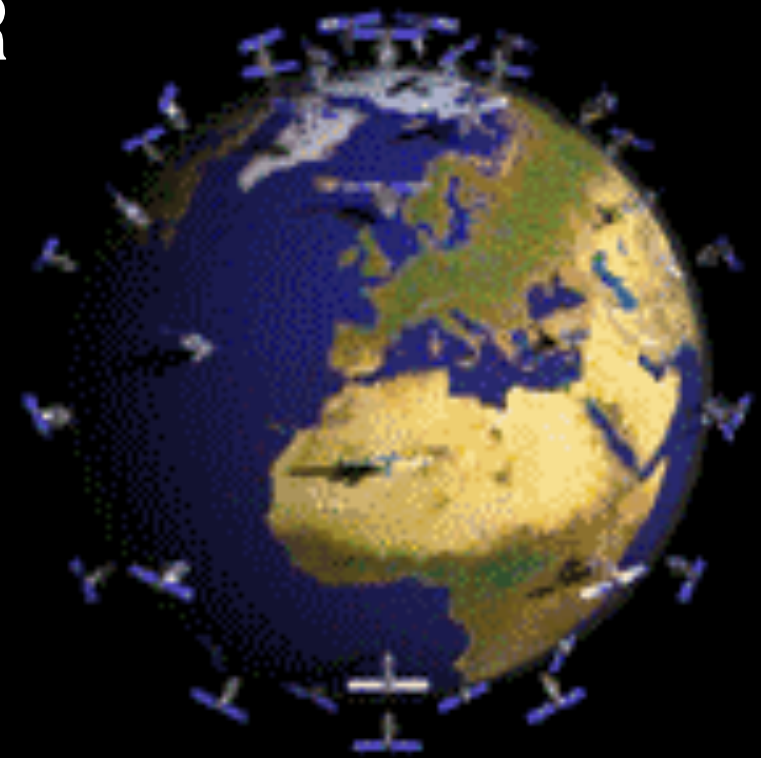
HERMES constellation of cubesat

2016: ASI funds for detector R&D: **0.4MEUR**

2018: MIUR funds (Progetti premiali 2015), managed by ASI **~3 MEUR**

2018 H2020 Space-SCI-20 project:
3.3 MEUR

2019 ASI internal progetto premiale:
1.9MEUR



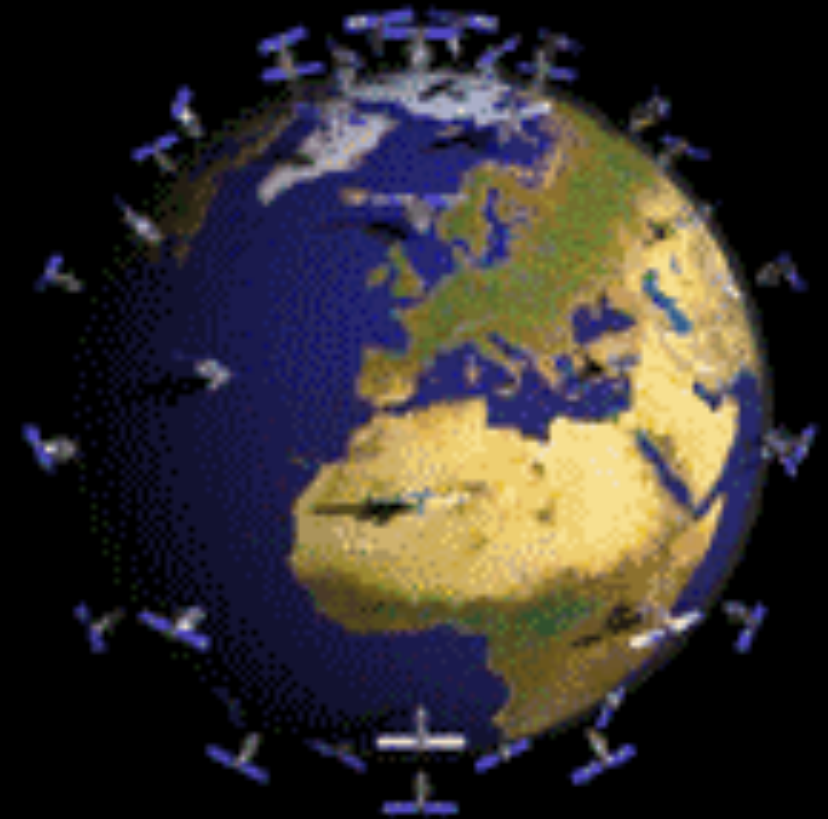
Why HERMES now

Breakthrough scientific case:

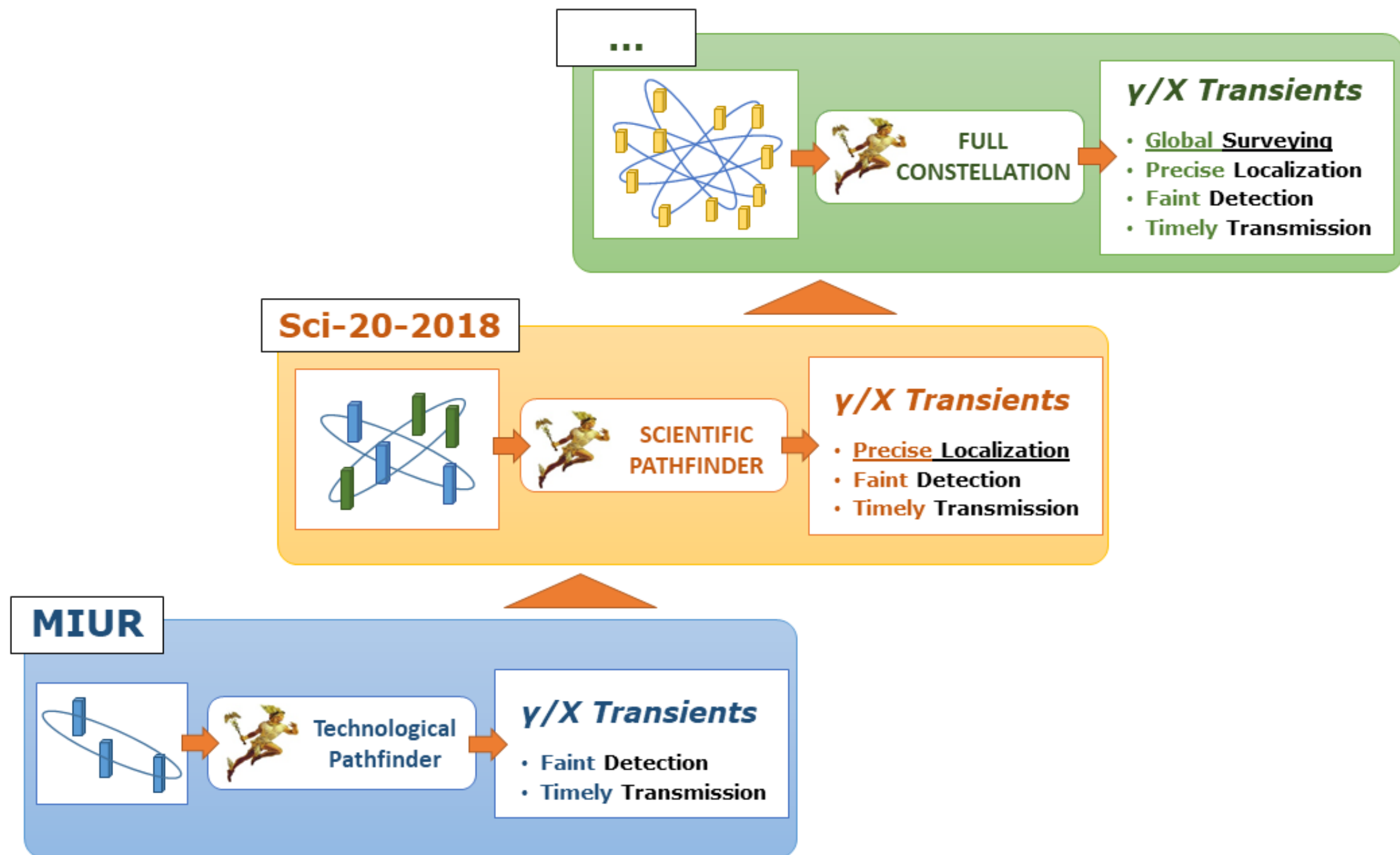
- EM of GWE

Modularity:

- Avoid single point failures, improve hardware
- Pathfinder



Why HERMES now



Why HERMES now

Breakthrough scientific case:

- EM of GWE

Modularity:

- Avoid single point failures, improve hardware
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Open μ sec - msec window:

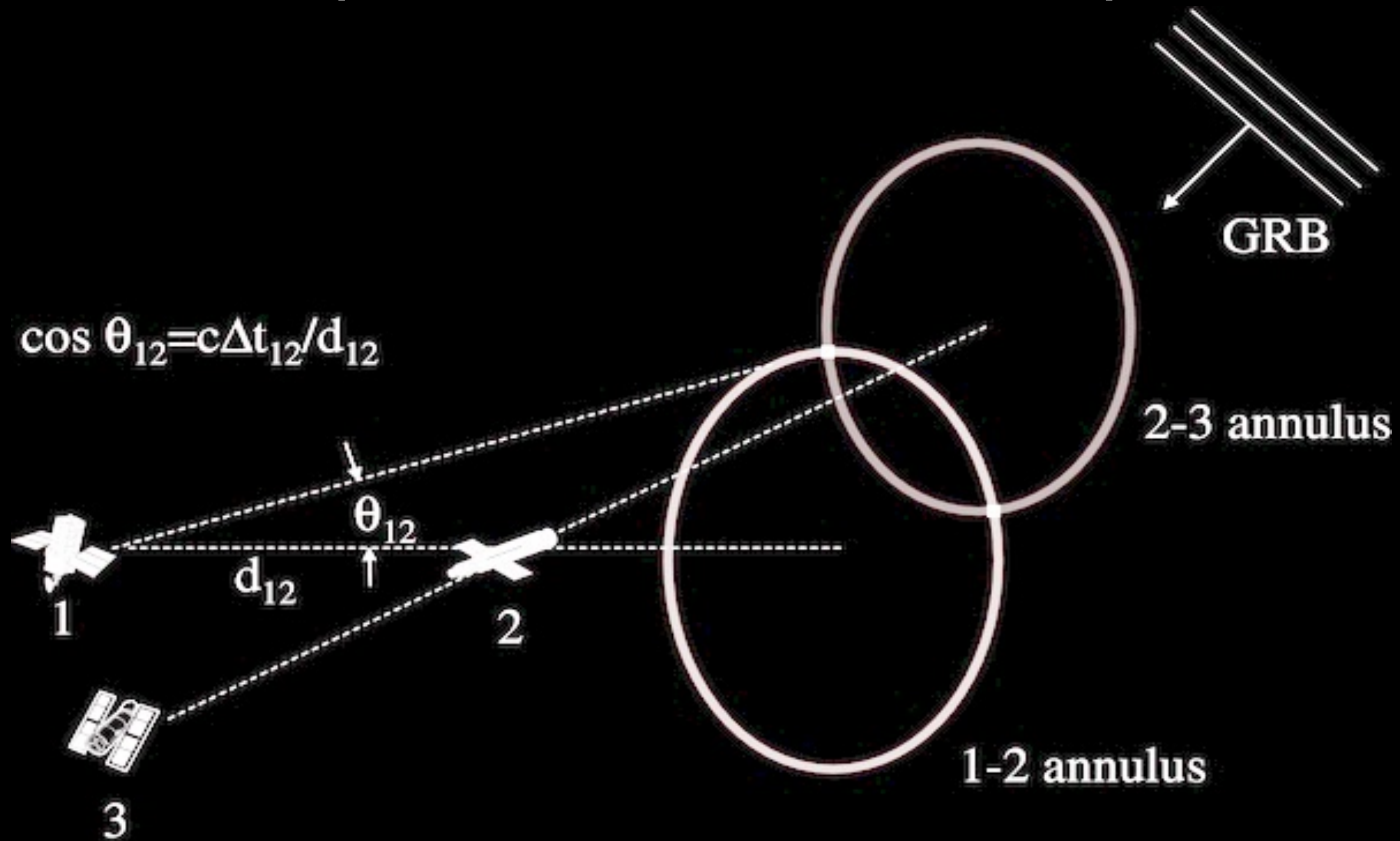
- Accurate positions
- QG tests

Limited cost and quick development

- COTS + in-house components
- Trend in cost reduction of manufacturing and launching QS



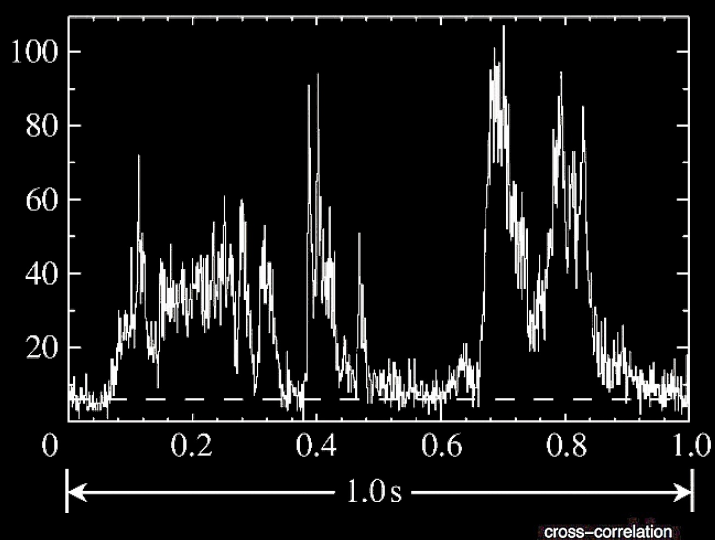
Experiment concept



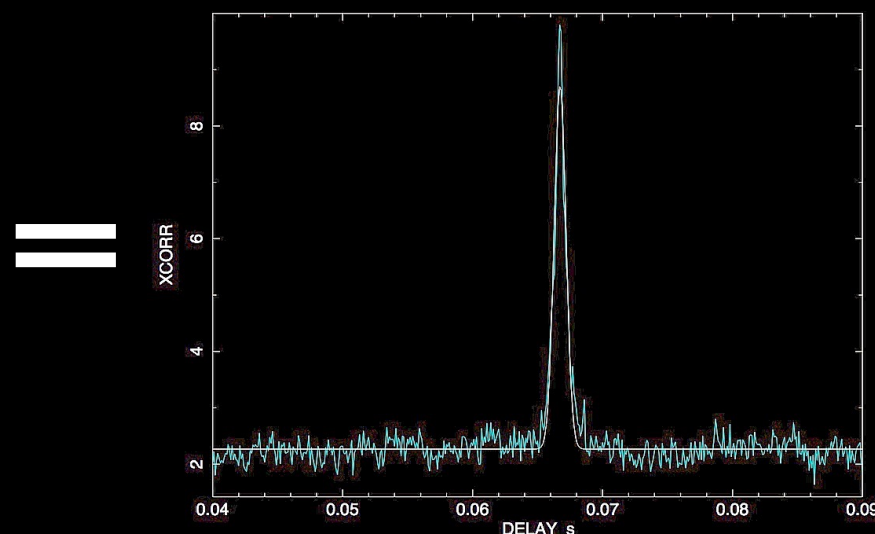
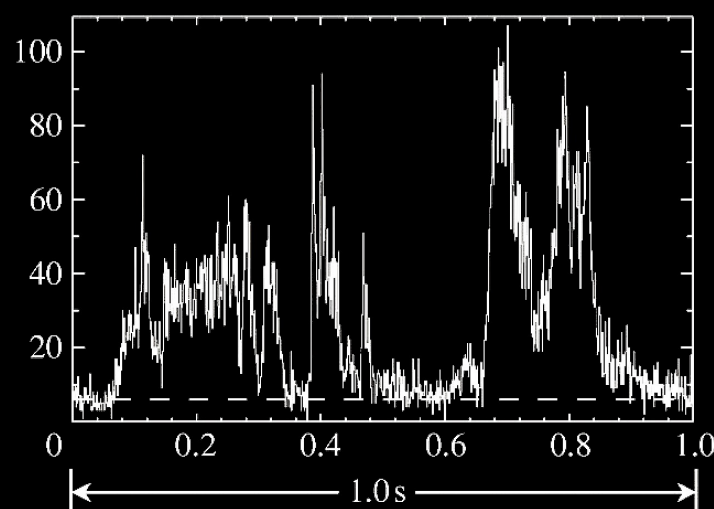
Experiment concept

1. Measure GRB positions through delays between photons arrival times:

$$\sigma_{\text{Pos}} = (\sigma_{\text{CCF}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{sys}}^2)^{0.5} \times c / \langle B \rangle / (N - 1 - 2)^{0.5}$$



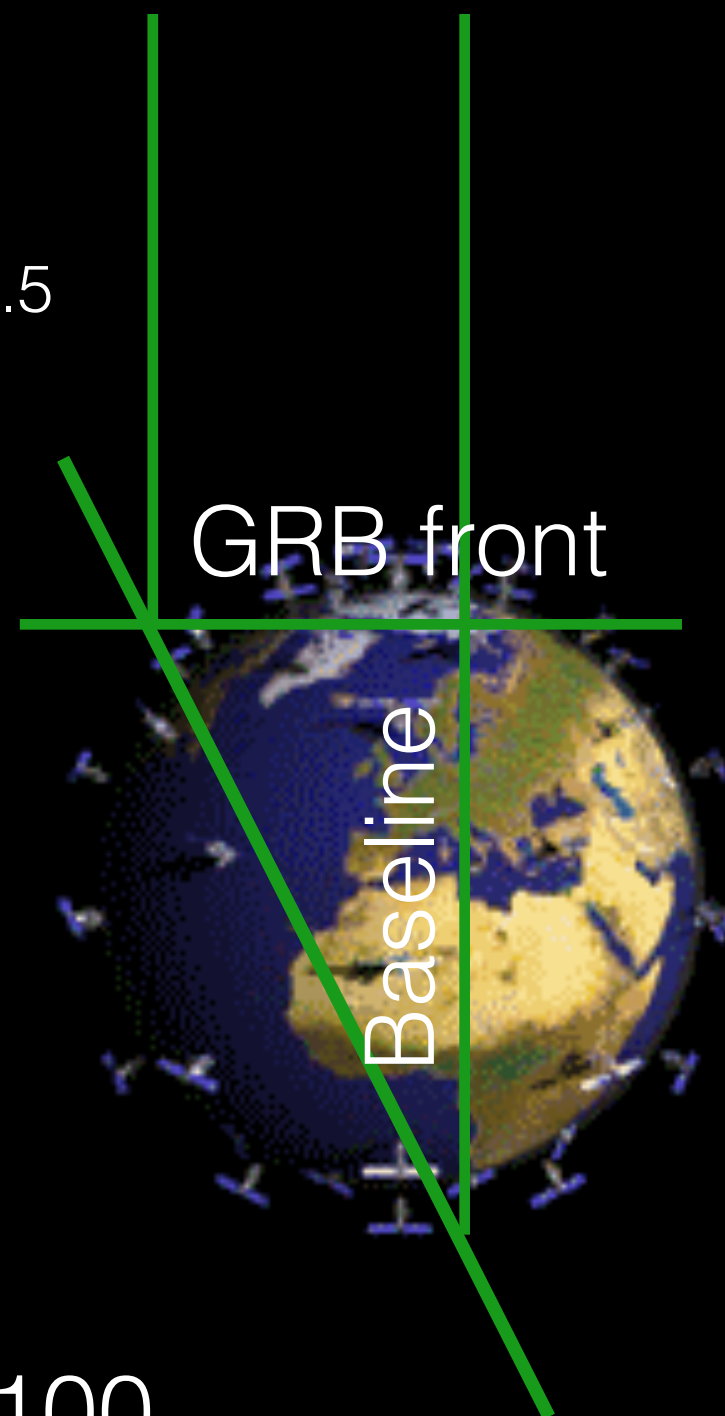
+



$$\sigma_{\text{CCF}} \sim 10 \mu\text{s}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{Pos}} \sim 10 \text{ arcsec}$$

$$\text{if } \langle B \rangle \sim 7000 \text{ km}, N \sim 100$$



Experiment concept

2. Add the signal from different units

Total collecting area $50\text{-}100\text{-cm}^2 \times 100\text{-}200 = 0.5\text{-}2\text{ m}^2$

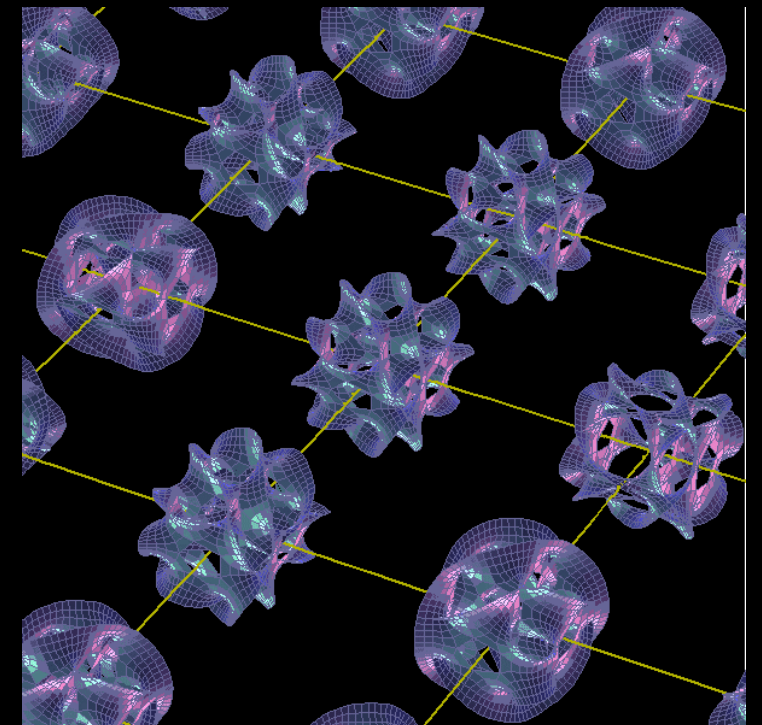
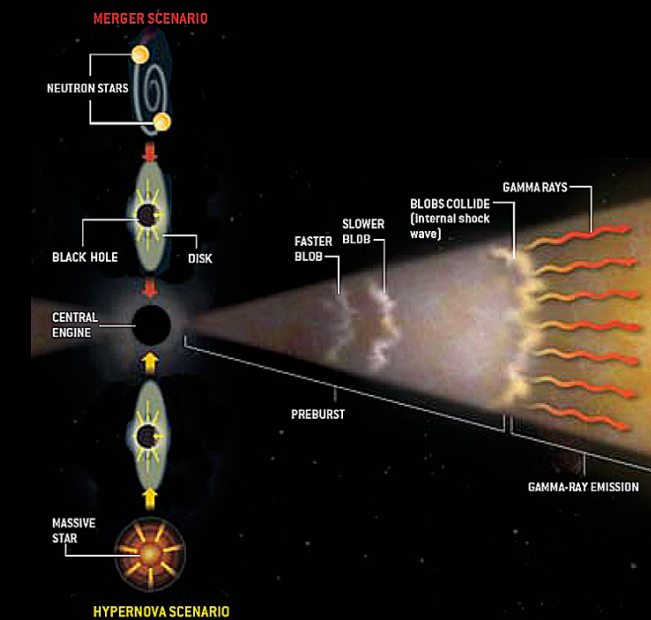
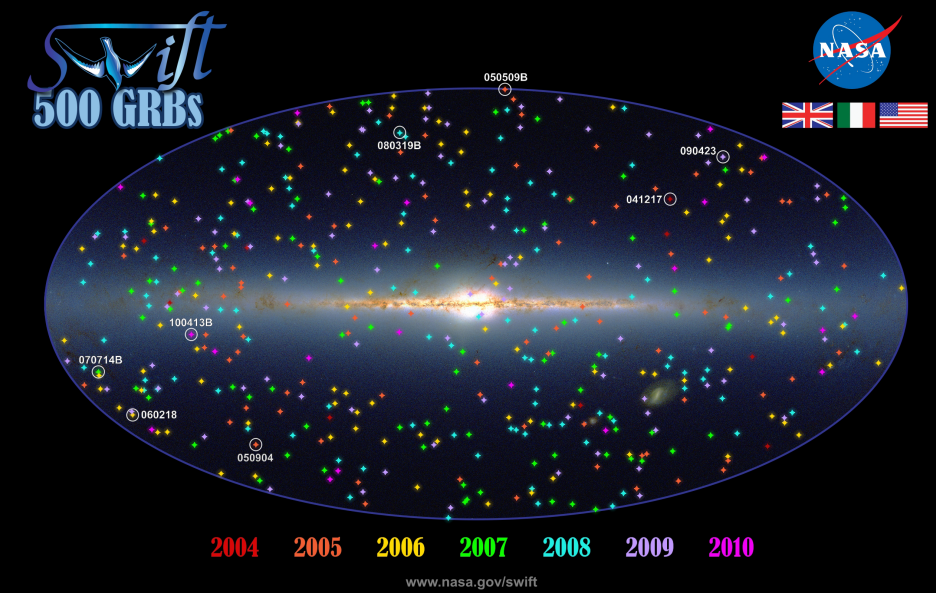
Transient fine (sub μ s-ms)
temporal structure



How to *promptly* localise a GRB
prompt event?

How to construct a GRB
engine?

Which is the ultimate granular
structure of space-time?



Requirements

System:

≈from a few to hundreds detectors

single collecting area $\geq 50\text{cm}^2$

total collecting area $\geq 1\text{m}^2$

Energy range 3-10 — 300-1000 keV

Temporal resolution a few hundred ns

Position reconstruction of each satellite $< 30\text{m}$

Absolute time reconstruction $< 100\text{ ns}$

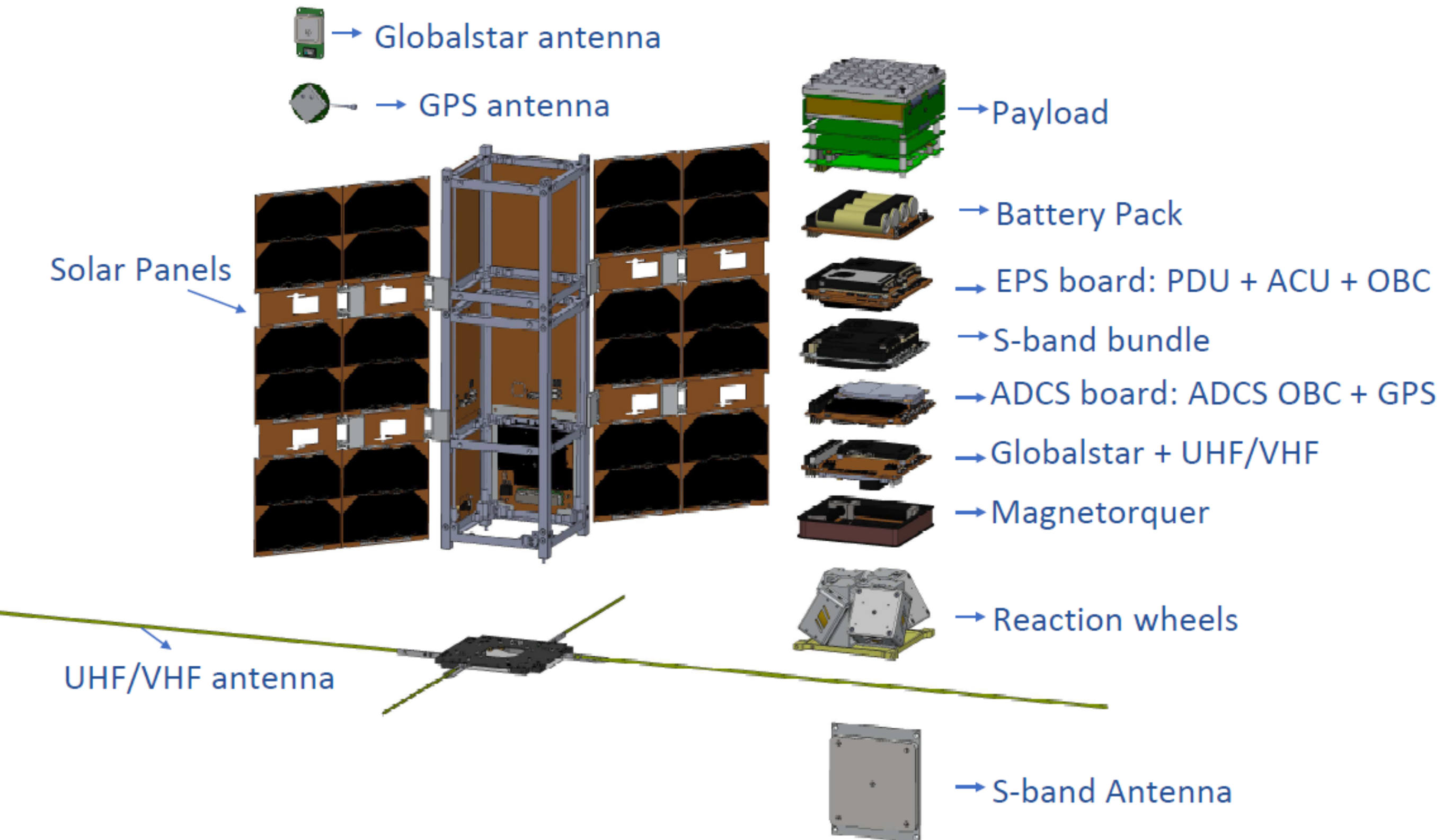
Download full burst info in minutes

Spacecraft

3U minimum, simplest basic configuration
50 cm² detector: Pathfinder

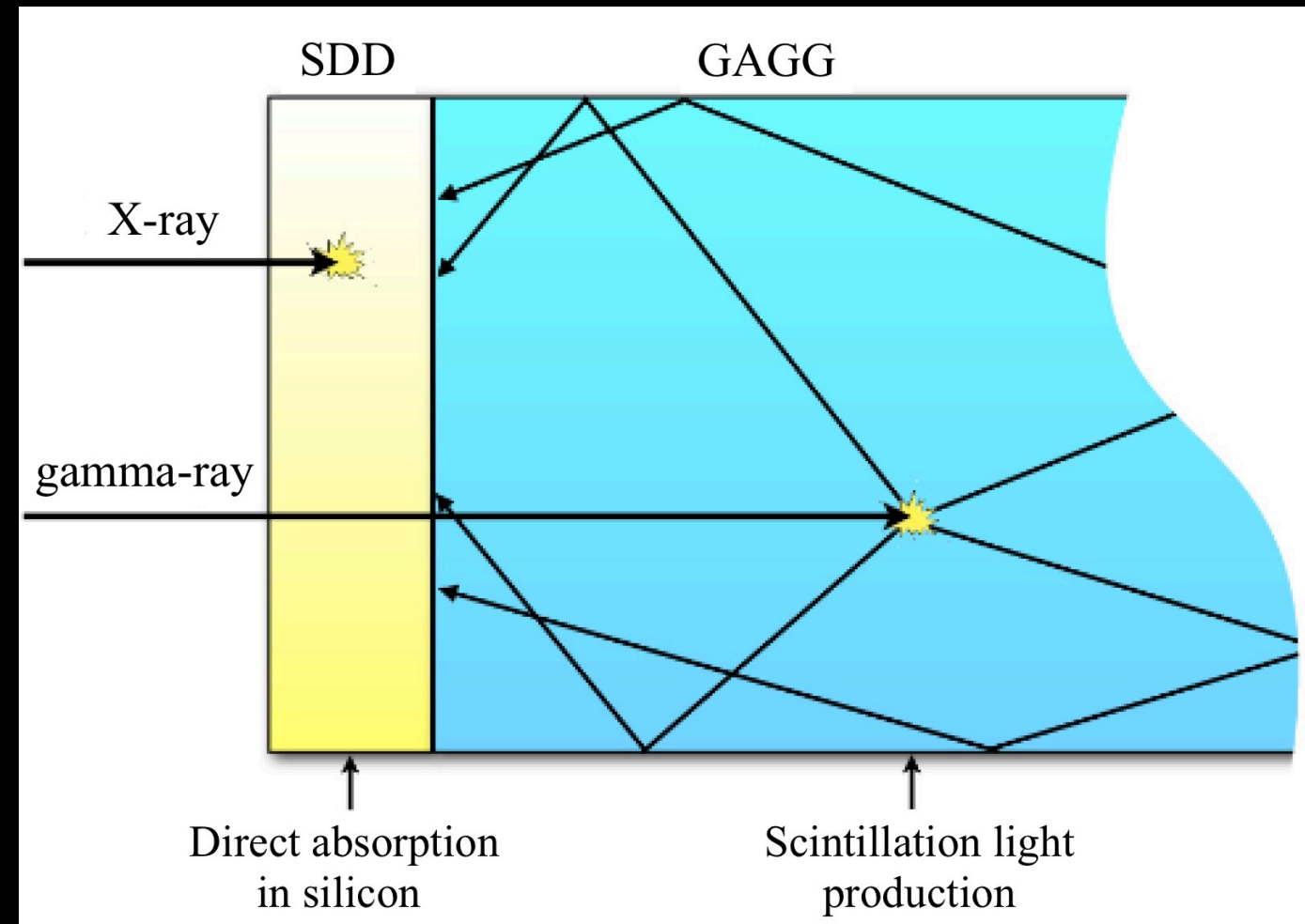
6U more performing configuration
~200cm² detector, more accurate GPS, more
accurate AOCS: Full Constellation

Spacecraft



Payload concept

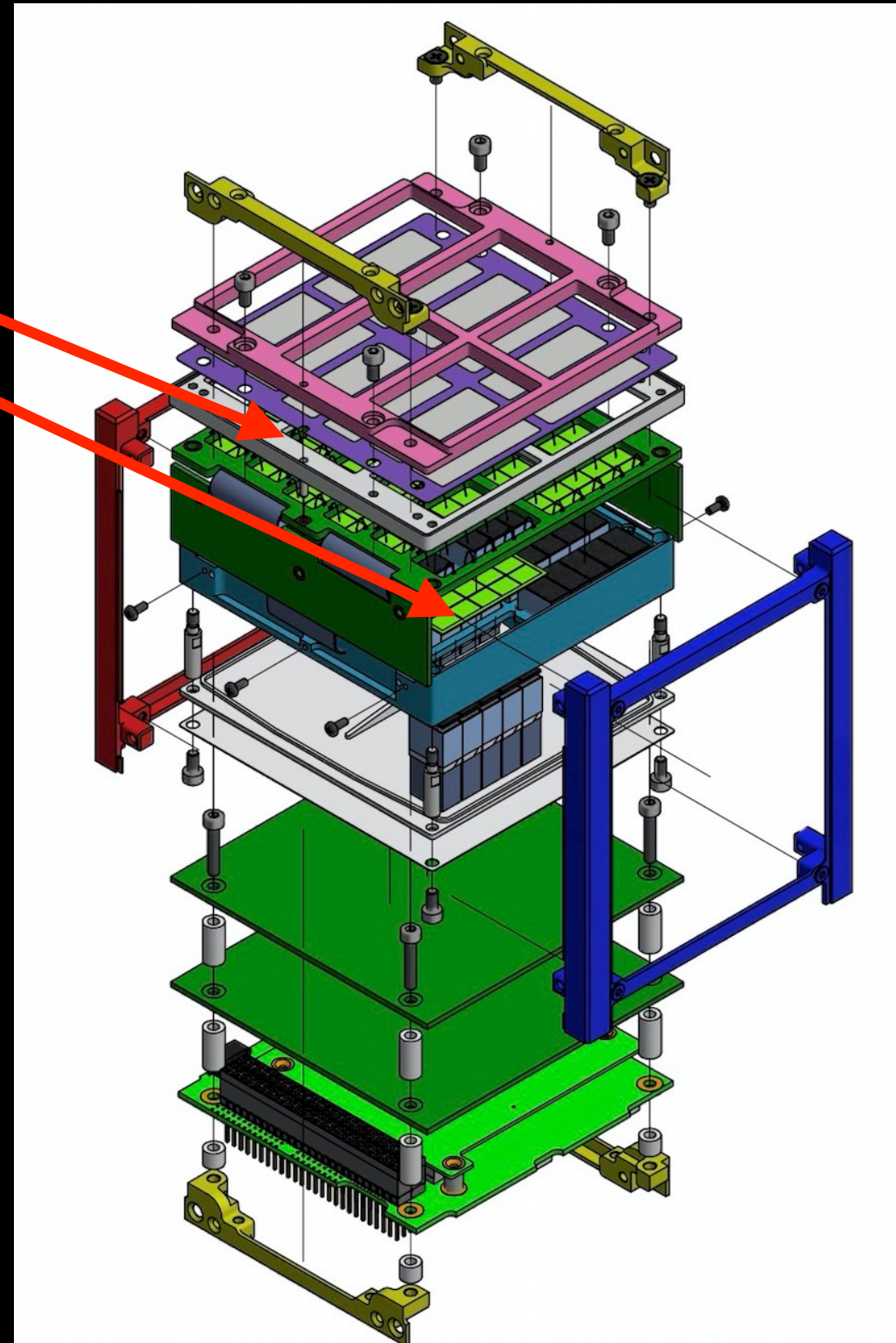
- Photo detector, SDD
Scintillator crystal GAGG



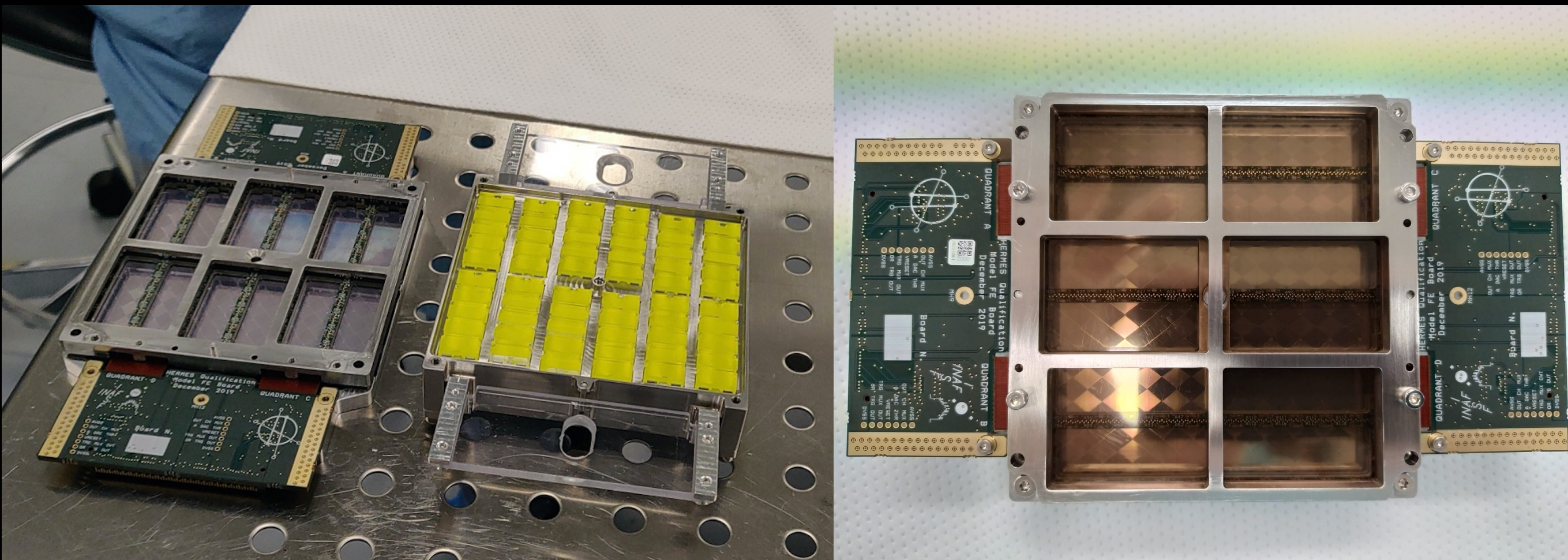
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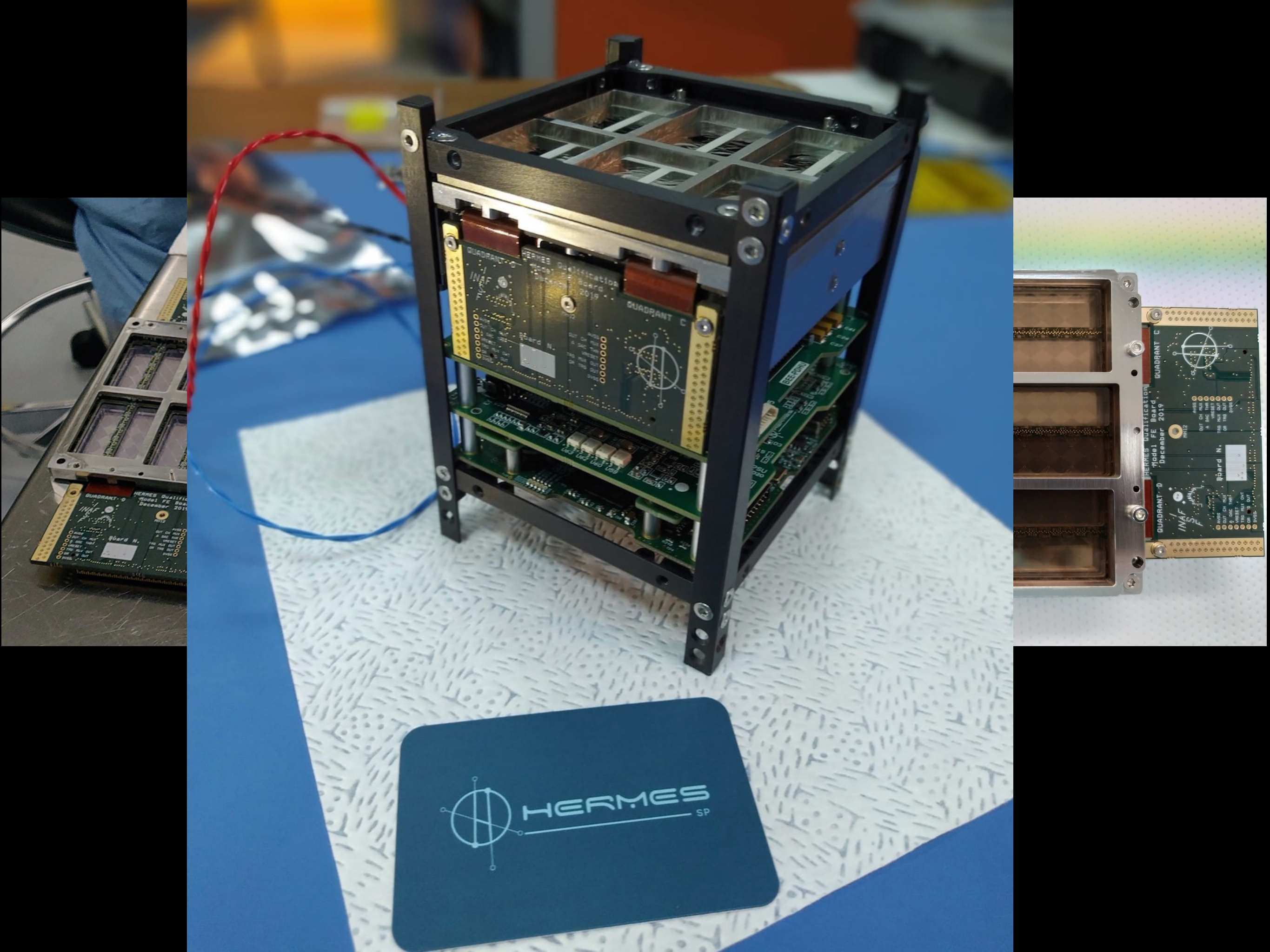
- Photo detector, SDD
Scintillator crystal GAGG
- 5-300 keV (3-1000 keV)
- $\geq 50 \text{ cm}^2$ coll. area
- a few st FOV
- Temporal res. $\leq 300 \text{ nsec}$
- $\sim 1.6 \text{ kg}$

Fuschino+2018, 2020
Evangelista+2020
Campana+2020



Hardware

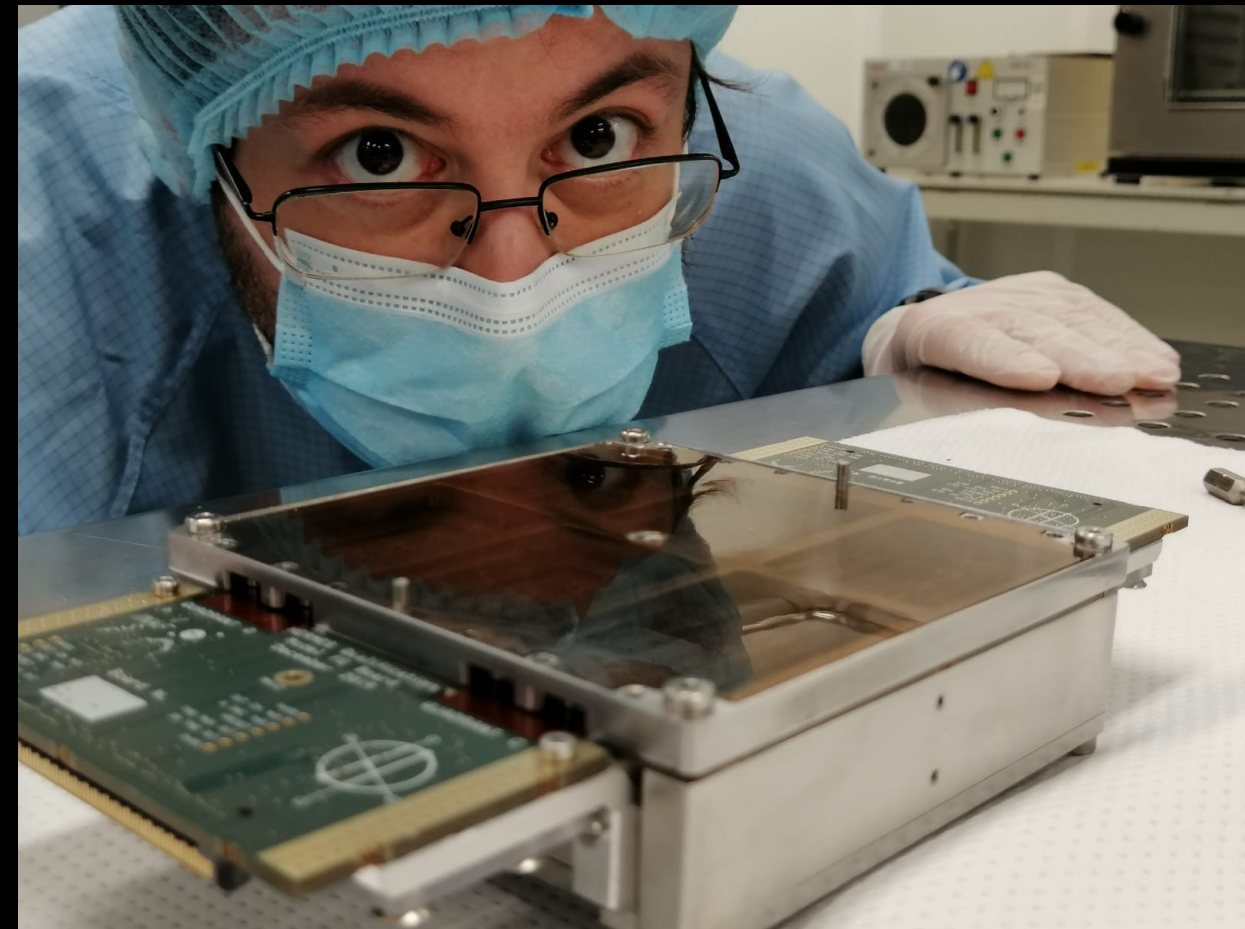




Payload DM

<http://www.hermes-sp.eu/?p=5010>

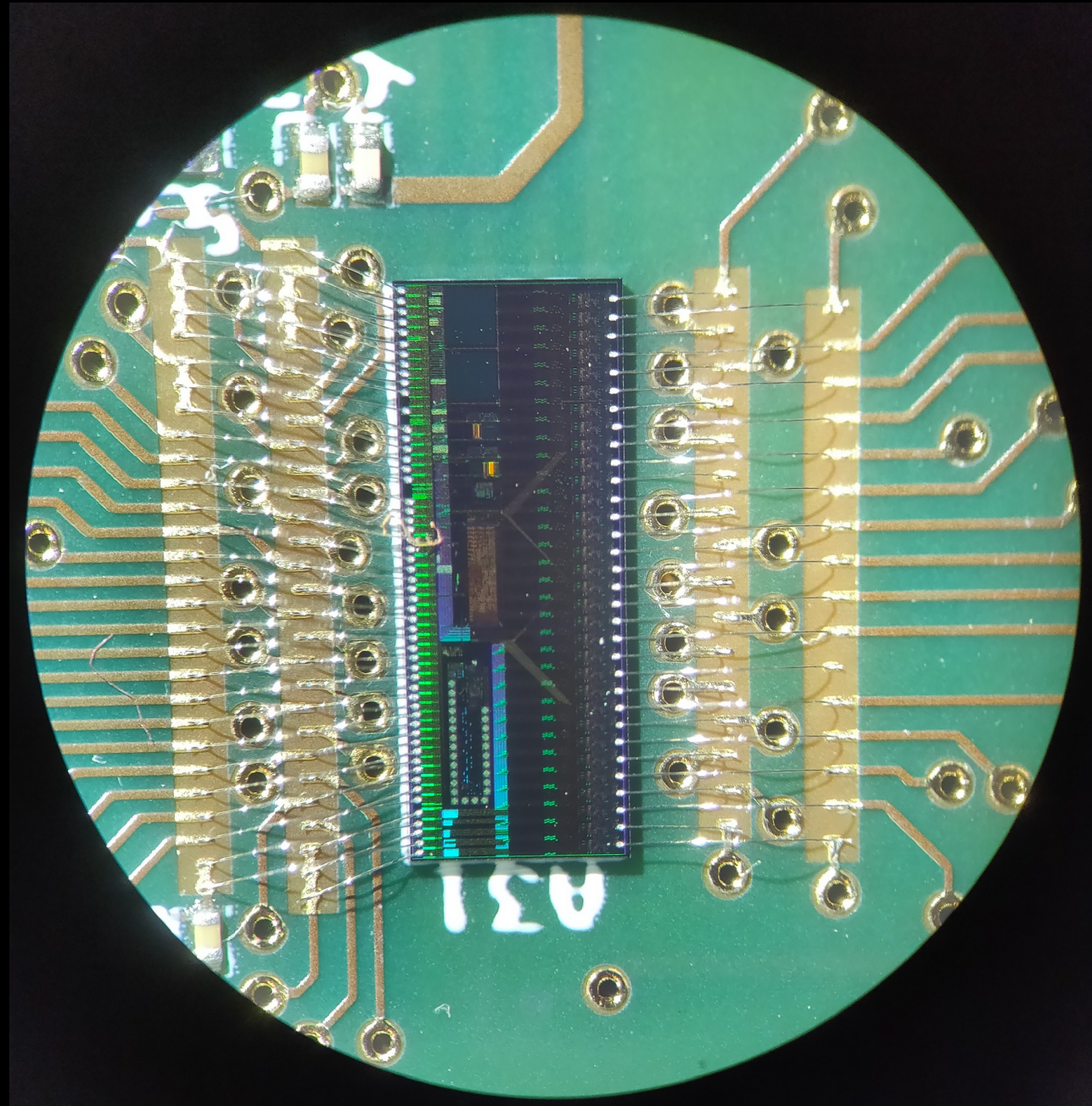
- Assembly, Integration procedure and test plan consolidation
- FEE PCB functional tests
- FEE PCB (preliminary) performances verification
- SDD + ASICs power consumption verification
- Absence of channel-to-channel electrical cross-talk
- Room-temperature performance as expected. Spectroscopic characterisation with ^{137}CS



Payload DM

<http://www.hermes-sp.eu/?p=5010>

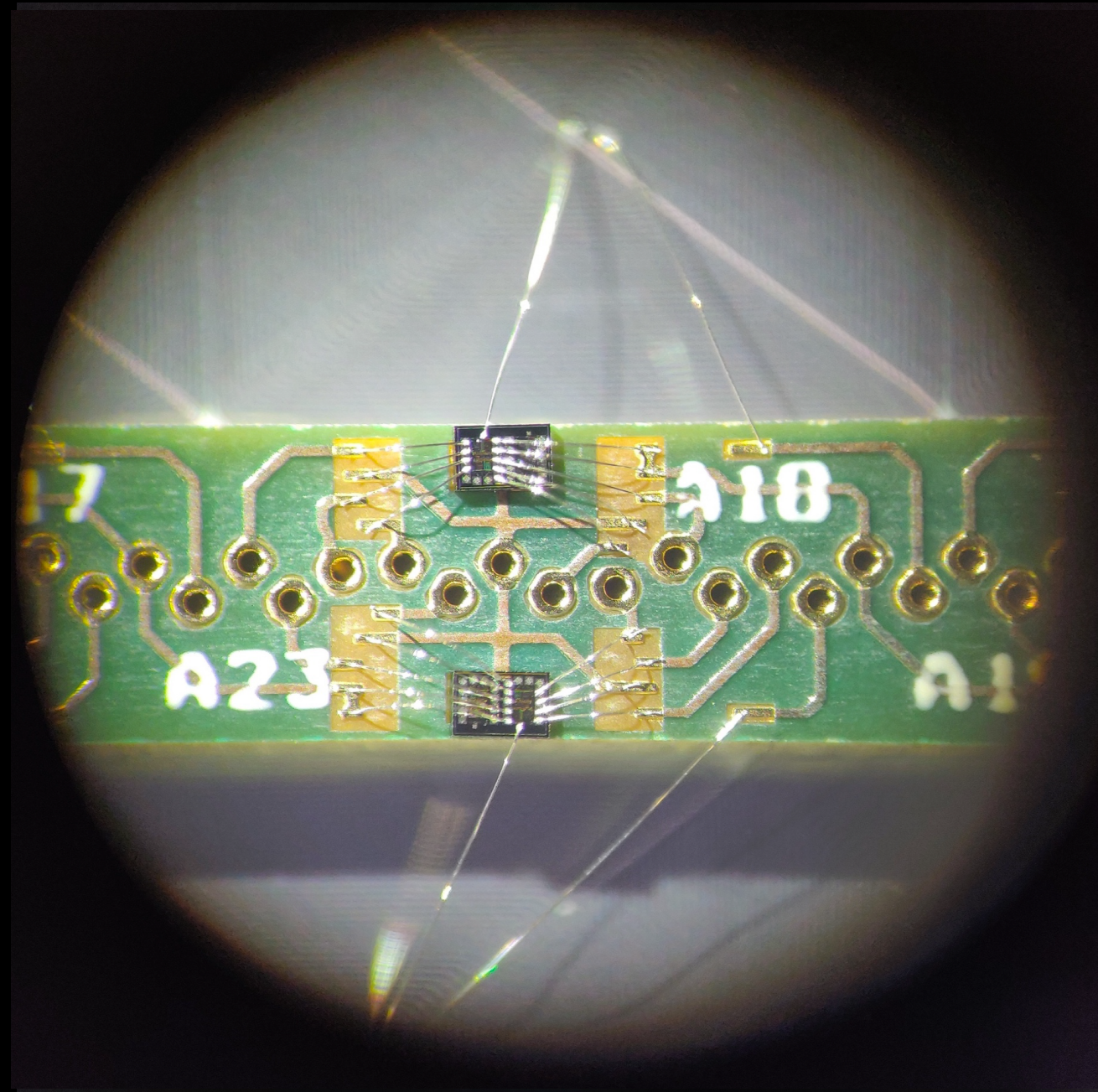
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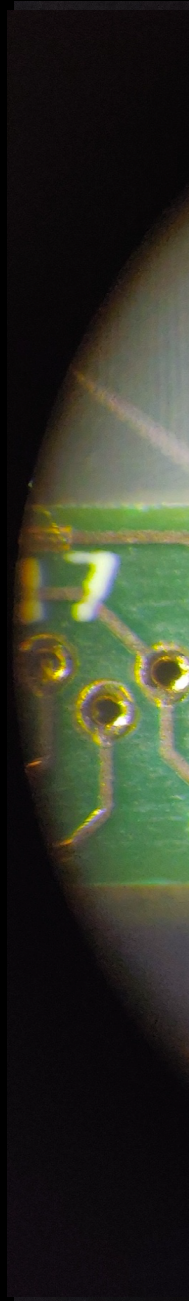
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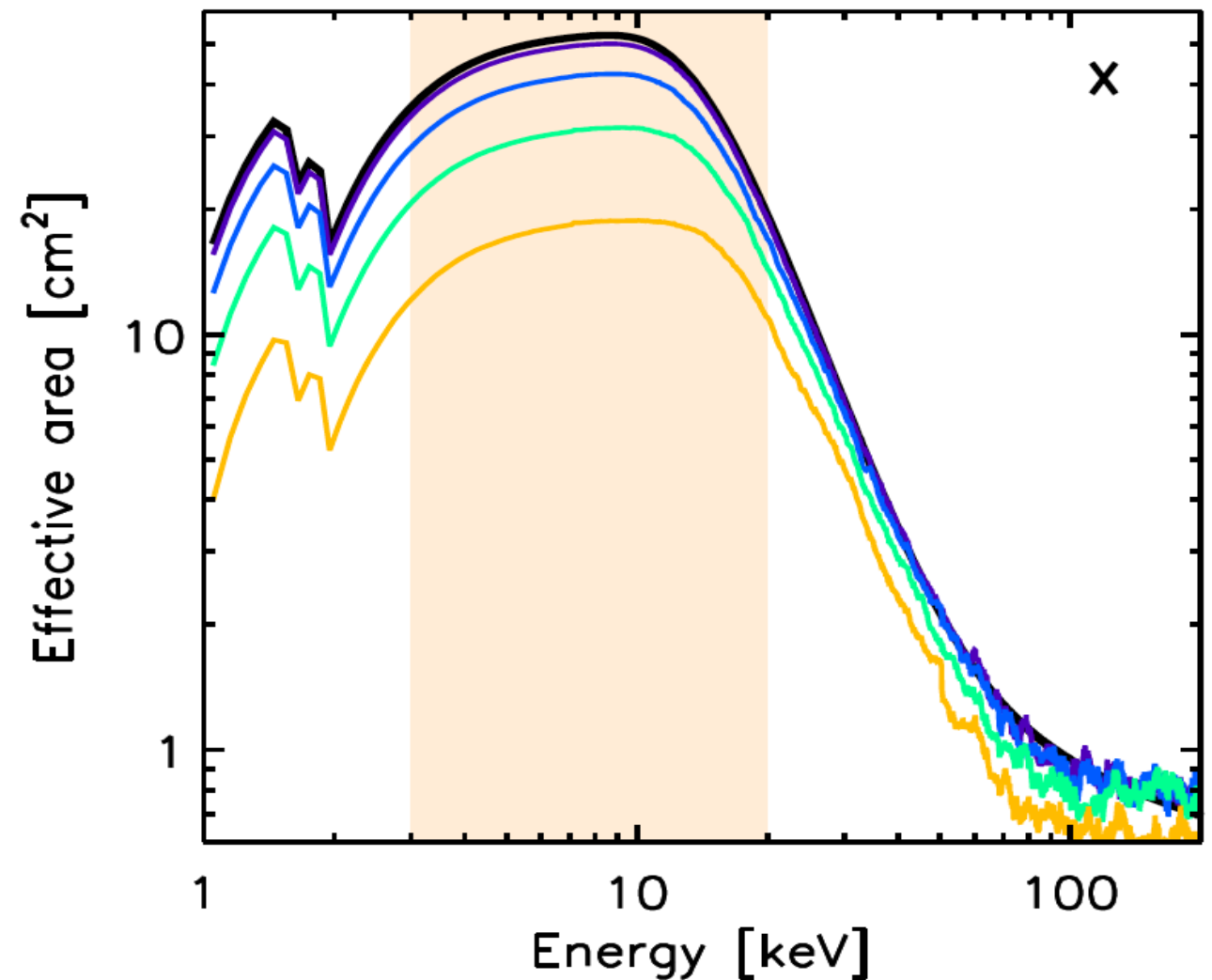
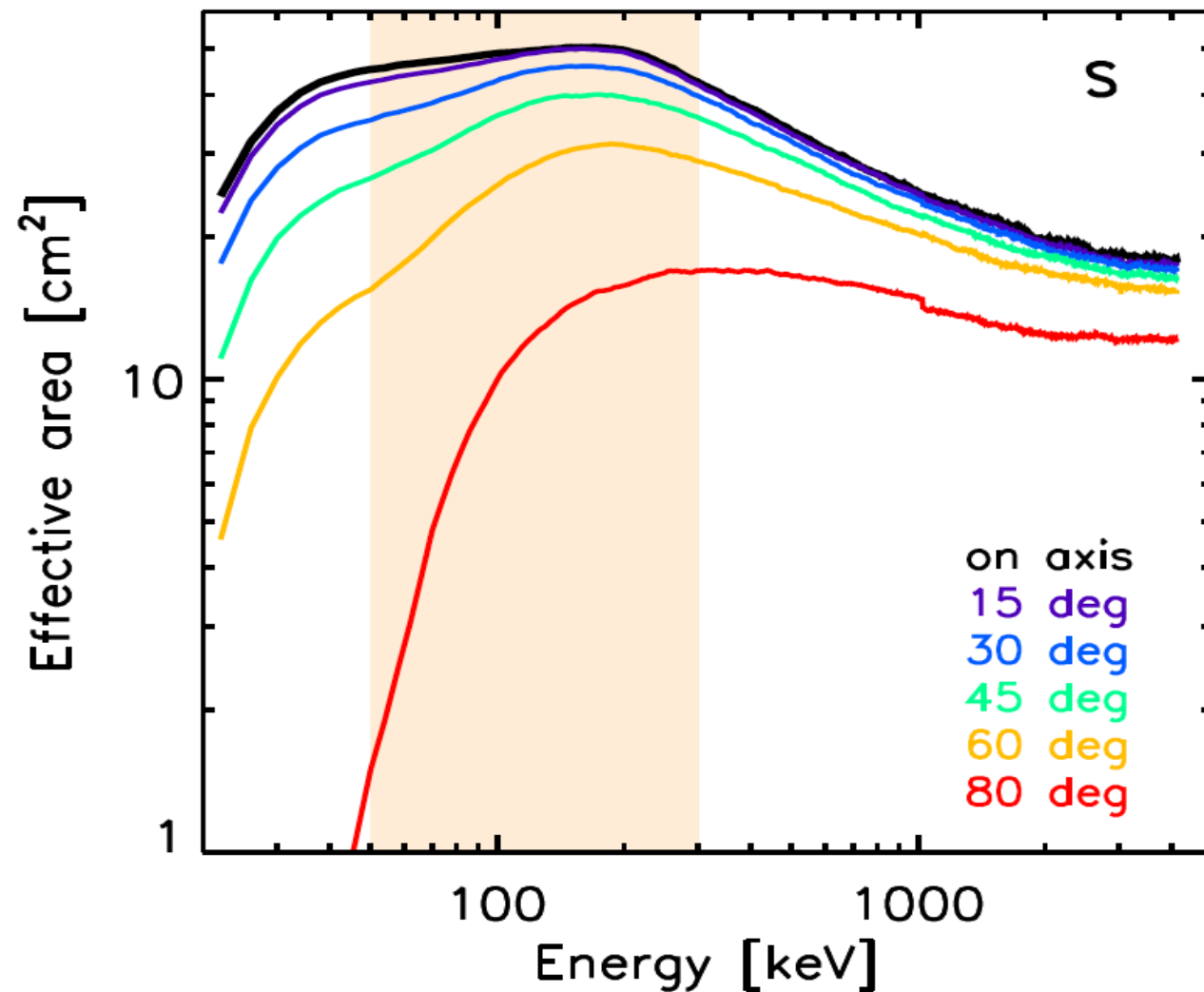
Payload

[http:](http://)

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HERMES performances

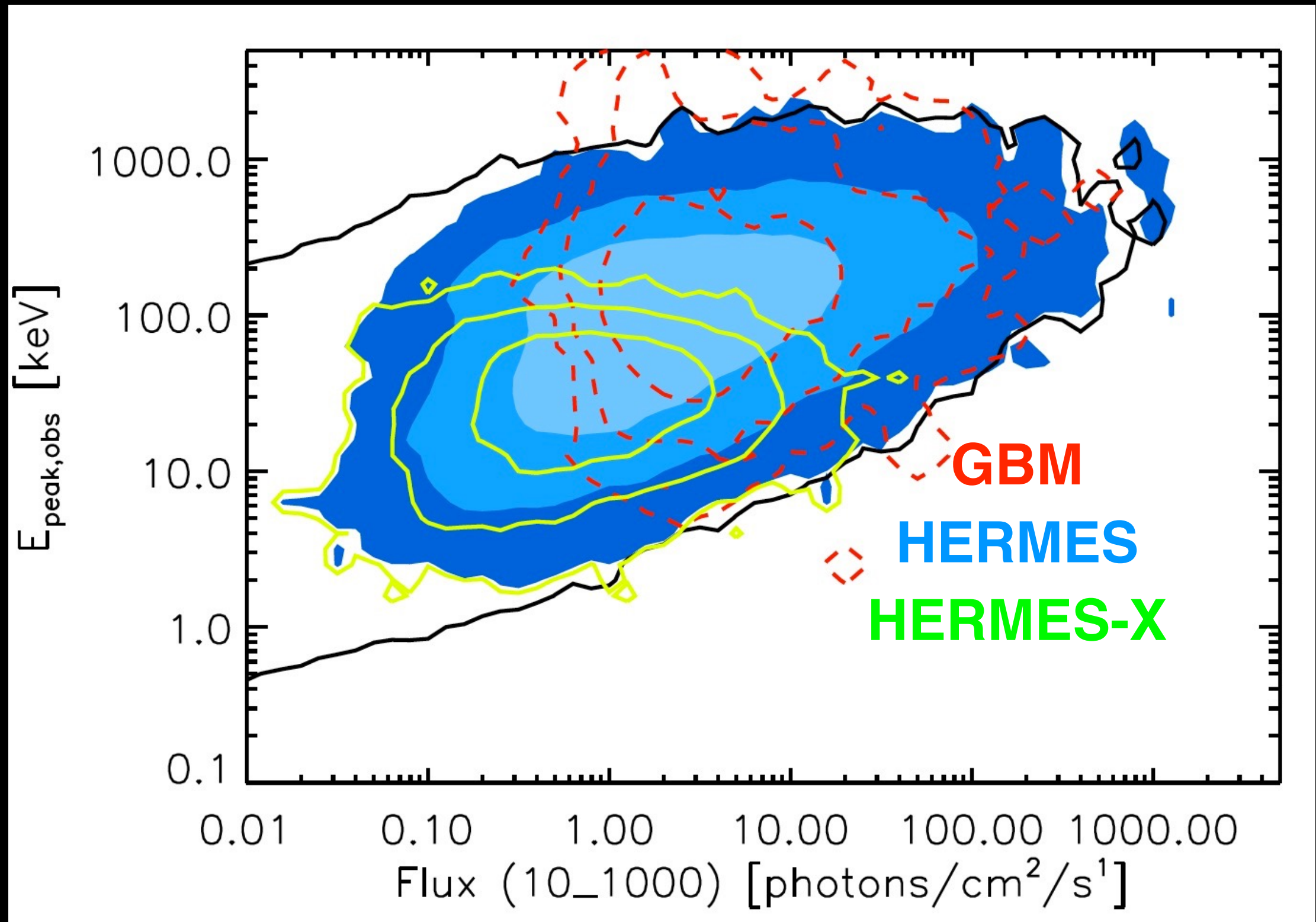


Background: 50-300 keV = 75 counts/s; 3-20 keV 390 counts/s

HERMES vs. GBM: half collecting area but $\sim 1/3$ lower background and soft energy band

HERMES performances

Ghirlanda & Nava



HERMES performances

$$\sigma_{\text{Pos}} = 2.4^\circ [(\sigma_{\text{CCF}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{sys}}^2) / (N-3)]^{0.5}$$

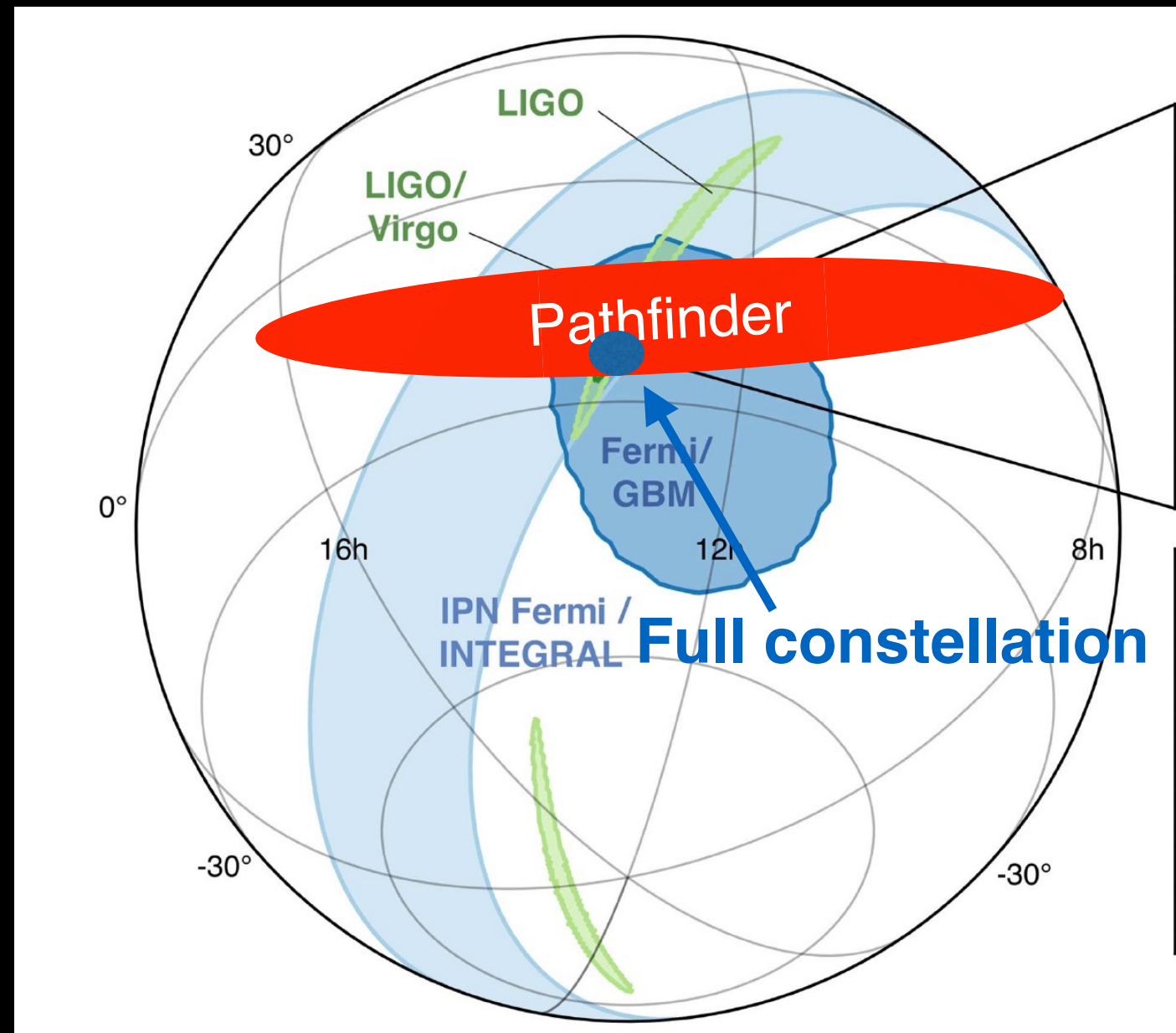
$\langle B \rangle \sim 7000\text{km}$

$N(\text{pathfinder}) \sim 6-8$, active simultaneously 4-6

$\sigma_{\text{Pos}} \sim 2.4 \text{ deg}$ if $\sigma_{\text{CCF}}, \sigma_{\text{sys}} \sim 1\text{ms}$

$N(\text{Full constellation}) \sim 100$, active 50

$\sigma_{\text{Pos}}(\text{FC}) \sim 15 \text{ arcmin}$
if $\sigma_{\text{CCF}}, \sigma_{\text{sys}} \sim 1\text{ms}$



HERMES Institutes

- INAF, ASI, PoliMi, UniCagliari, UniPalermo, UniUdine, UniTrieste, UniPavia, UniFedericoII, UniFerrara, FBK, FPM
- University of Tübingen (Germany)
- University of Eötvös Budapest, C3S (Hungary)
- University of Nova Gorica, Skylabs, AALTA (Slovenia)
- Deimos (Spain)
- Institute of High Energy Physics, Chinese Academy of Science

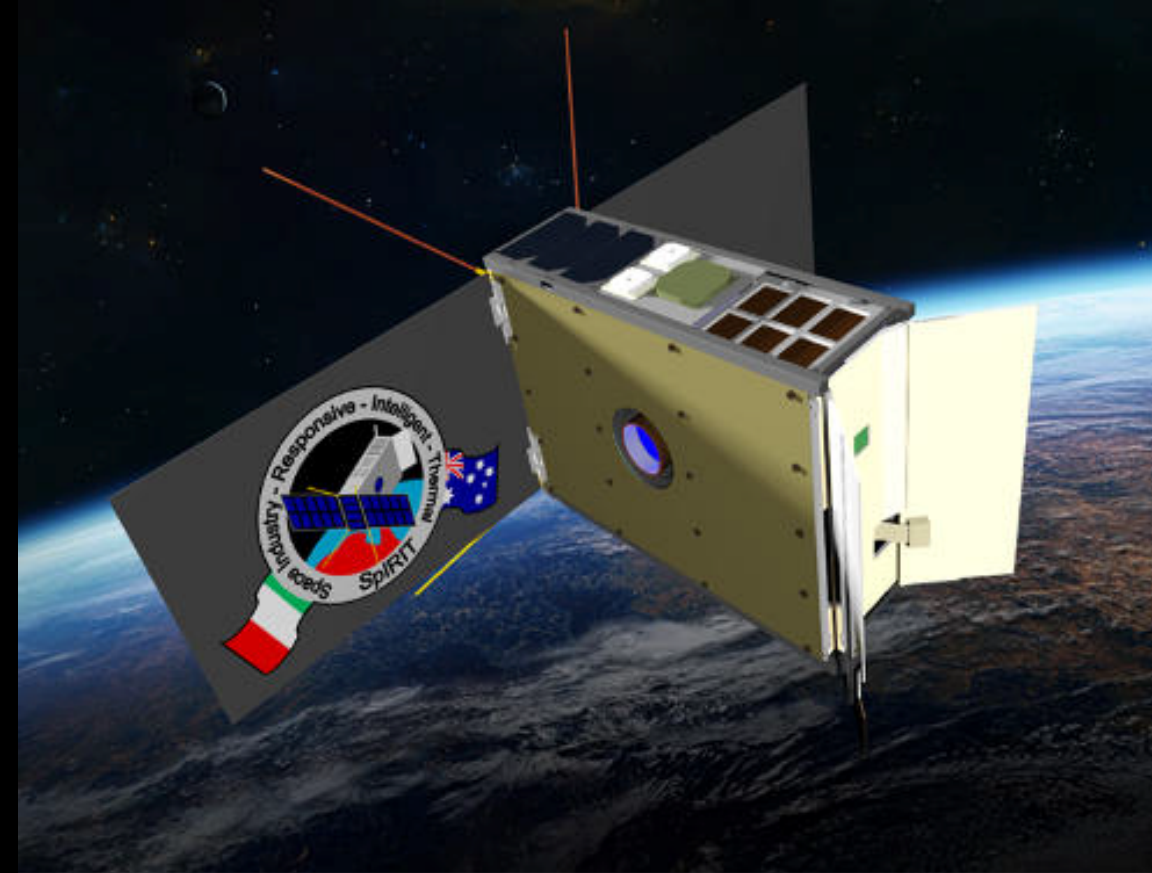


Programmatics

- Progetto Premiale 2015: **HERMES-Techonogic Pathfinder**
- H2020 SPACE-SCI-20: **HERMES-Scientific Pathfinder**
- Main objectives:
 1. Detect GRBs with simple payload hosted by a 3U CubeSat
 2. Study statistical and systematic errors in the CCF determination
- **3. First GRB localization experiment with ≥ 3 CubeSat**
- KO May 2018, Nov. 2018
- PDR February-March 2019, DeltaPDR November 2019
- CDR Q3 2020
- QR Q1 2022—> PFM1
- AR Q3 2022 —> FM2+FM3+FM4+FM5+FM6
- Launch 2022-2023, ASI provided

Next Step

- ◆ Addition of a seventh unit: SpIRIT!
 - Australian Space Agency, University of Melbourne
 - 6U hosting 1 HERMES payload
 - Launch: Q3 2022
 - SSO



Outlook

- Toward the full constellation
 - mass production, assembly/test lines
 - Increase the baseline: outside LEO, toward the Moon
- Planetary HERMES, Moon, Mars (TASTE), Asteroids
- Exploit HERMES heritage to build a network of capacities in the field of **distributed instruments and nano-satellites** and transfer it to the territory
 - complete missions/experiments
 - complement of larger satellites
 - test of payloads/systems to be flown on larger satellites

Criticalities

- Covid-19 sanitary emergency
- ASI reorganization
- Still missing:
 - Contract for MOC deployment and operations
 - Contract for the launch

Stay tuned!