

A promotional graphic for the Athena X-ray Observatory. The background is a vibrant purple and blue cosmic web. In the center, the Athena satellite is shown with its four large X-ray mirrors extended. Text is overlaid on the image.

**ATHENA**  
THE ASTROPHYSICS OF THE  
HOT AND ENERGETIC  
UNIVERSE

Europe's next generation **X-RAY OBSERVATORY**

HOW DOES ORDINARY MATTER  
ASSEMBLE INTO THE LARGE SCALE  
STRUCTURES THAT WE SEE TODAY?

HOW DO BLACK HOLES GROW  
AND SHAPE THE UNIVERSE?

## **Athena: The first deep Universe X-ray Observatory**

François Pajot, IAS, on behalf of the X-IFU collaboration

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*Date: 11/06/2014 (Colloque LSST France 2014)*



# Outline

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- **The hot and energetic Universe: What is it all about?**
- **Illustrative breakthrough observations to be performed**
- **The Athena mission**
- **The X-ray Integral Field Unit - A revolutionary instrument**

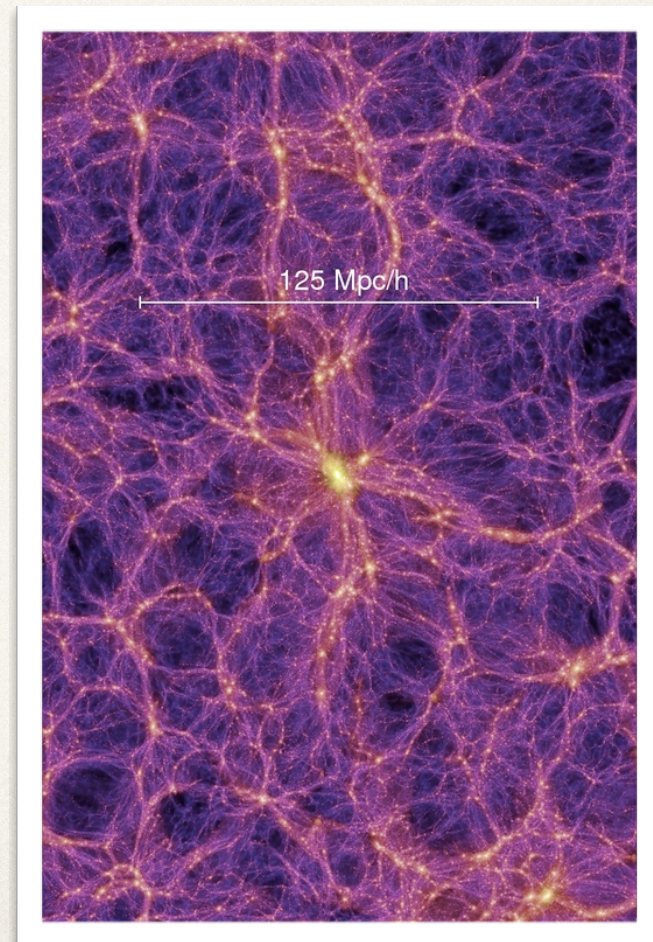


# The Hot Universe

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- How does ordinary matter assemble into the large scale structure that we see today?

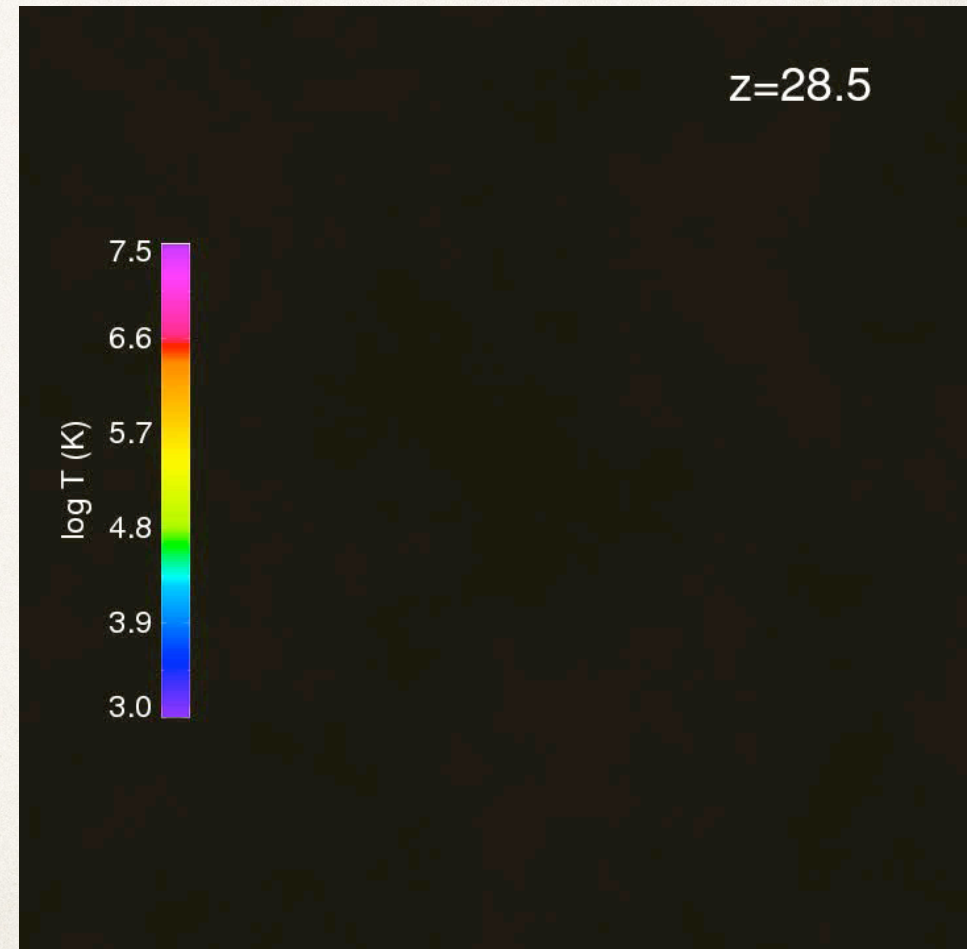
✓ 85% of the baryons in the local Universe are trapped in the hot gas of clusters





# The Hot Universe revealed in X-rays

- To understand the matter assembly in the Universe, one must determine the physical evolution of clusters and groups from their formation epoch at  $z \sim 2$  to today
- These structures grow over cosmic time by accretion of gas from the intergalactic medium, ending up as the massive clusters that we see today
- Hot gas in these structures emits predominantly in X-rays and dominates the baryonic content of the local Universe

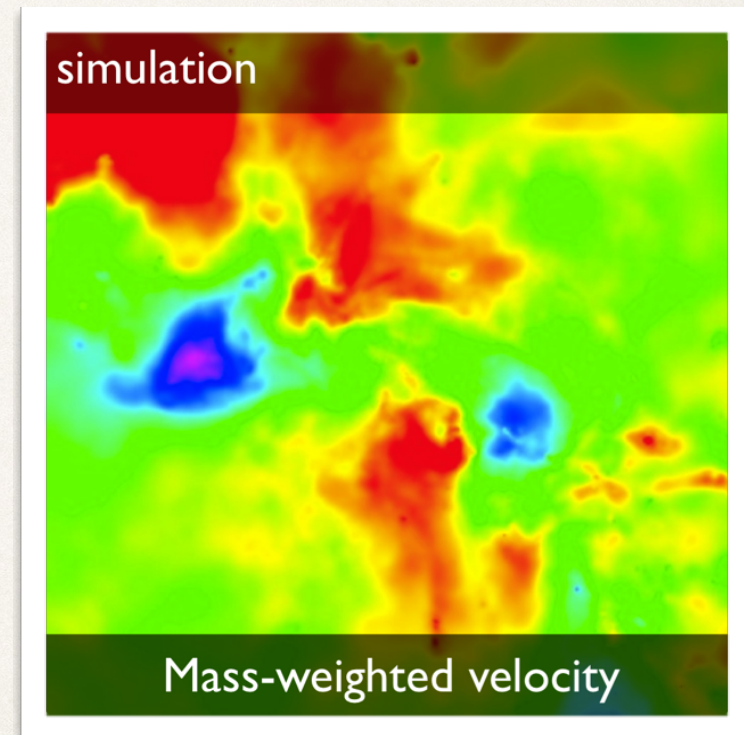




# The Hot Universe

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- While the growth of structure is set by the large scale dark matter distribution, processes of astrophysical origin have also a major effect
- To understand them, it is necessary to measure velocities, thermodynamics, chemical composition of the gas, to quantify the role of non gravitational heating (AGN feedback, SN driven winds, ..)
- ✓ Spatially resolved high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy enables to map the baryonic structures out to  $z \sim 1$

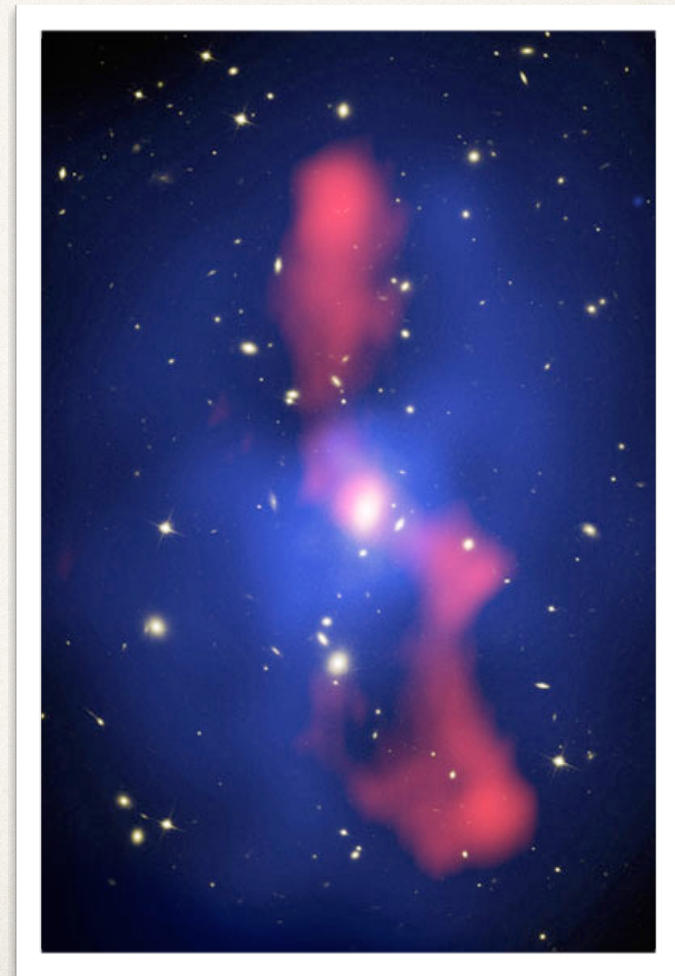




# The Hot Universe

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- One of the critical processes shaping the baryonic evolution is energy input, also known as feedback from supermassive black holes
  - ✓ Processes originating at the event horizon affecting structures on scales 10 orders of magnitude larger !
- X-ray observations are again key as they probe the mechanisms launching jets and winds from the black hole





# The Energetic Universe

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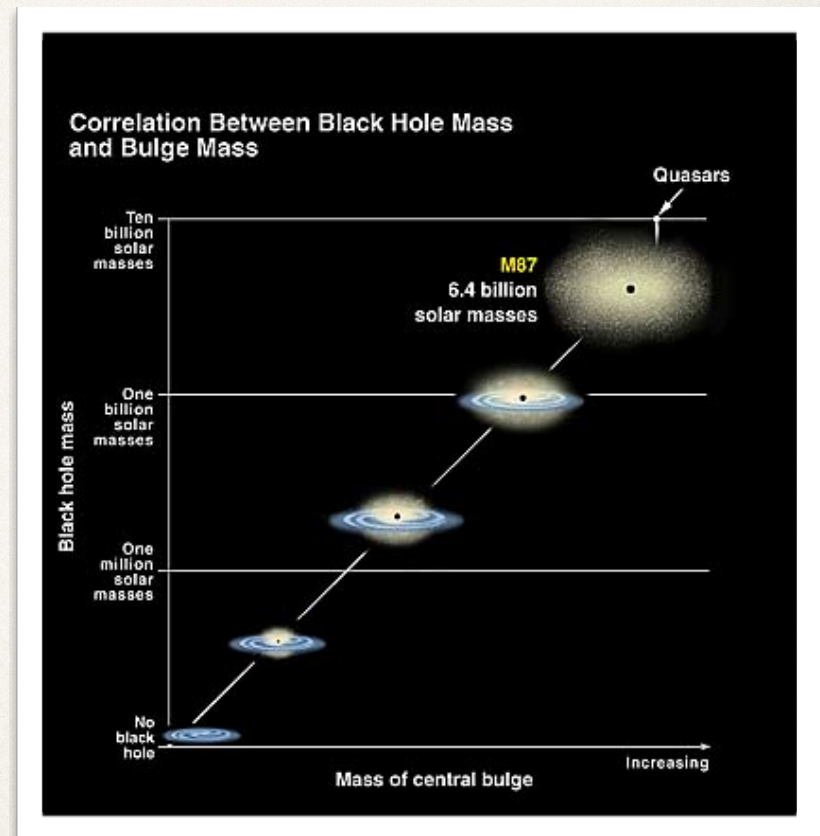
- How do black hole grow and shape the Universe?
  - ✓ Building a super massive black hole releases 10-100 times the binding energy of a galaxy
  - ✓ 15% of the energy output in the Universe is from accretion onto black holes





# The Energetic Universe

- All massive galaxies, not just those in clusters and groups, host a supermassive black hole (SMBH) at their centre, the mass of which is tightly correlated with the galaxy bulge properties (e.g. via the MBH- $\sigma$  relation).
- ✓ A self-regulating mechanism connecting the accretion-powered growth of the SMBH to the star-formation powered growth of the galaxy at much larger scales must exist.
- ✓ This process must be probed between  $z=1-4$  when most black holes and stars we see today were put in place
- Determining this feedback mechanism is key to understand the growth and co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies.

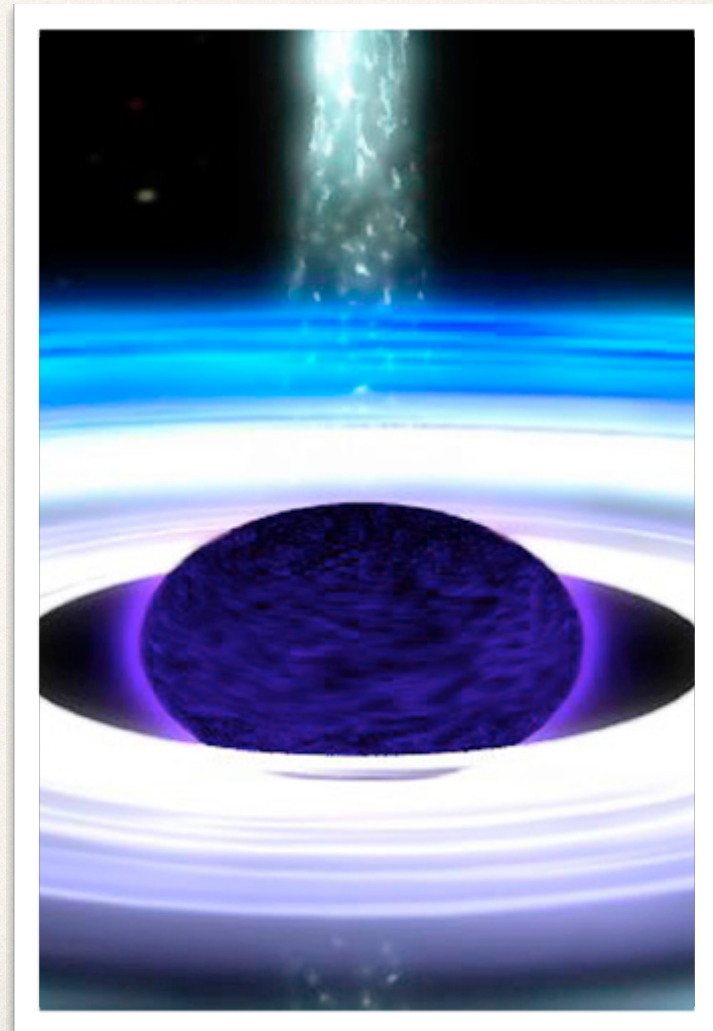




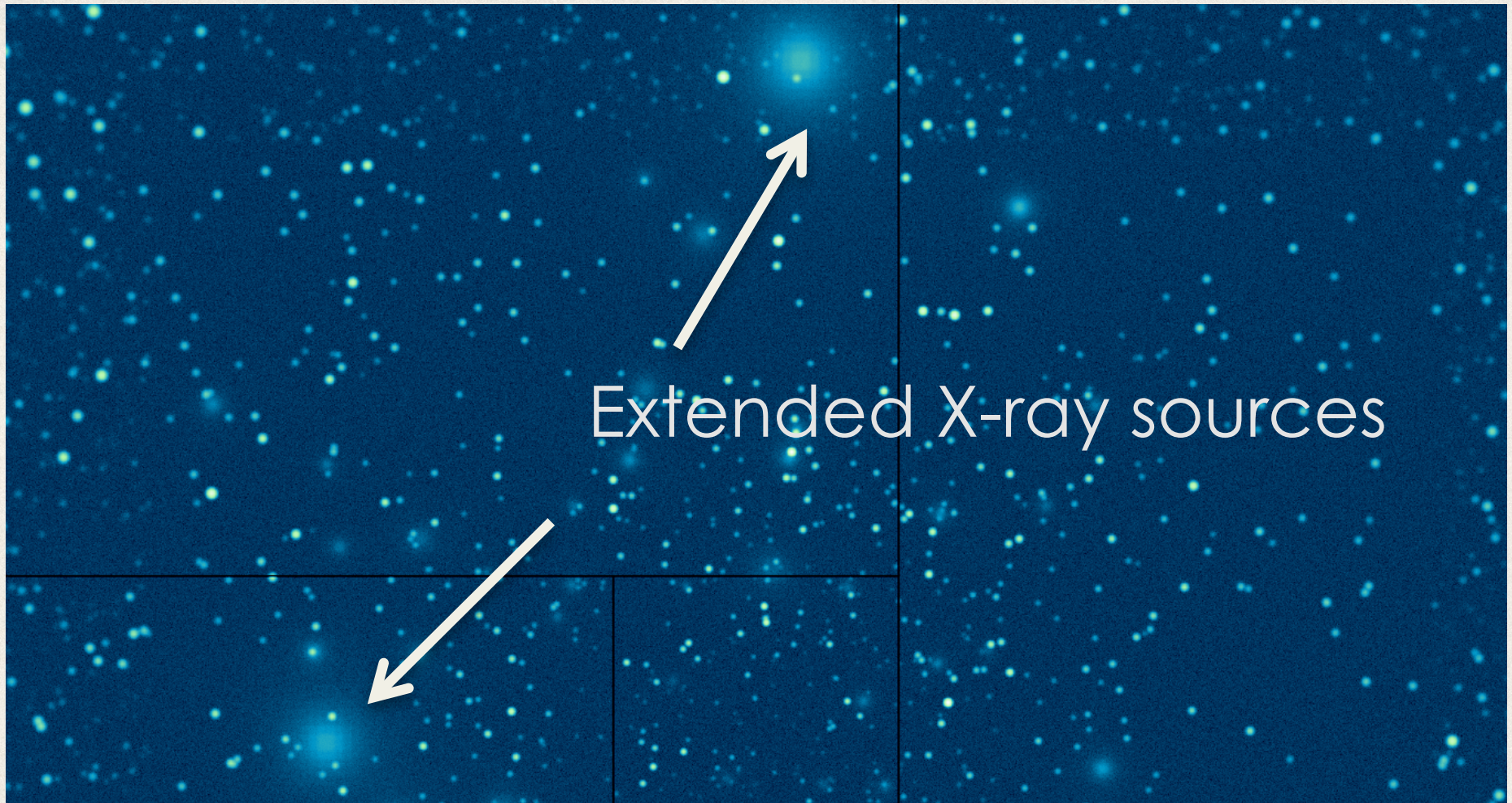
# The Energetic Universe

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- X-rays provide the clearest and most robust way of performing a census of black hole growth in the Universe, accounting for obscured objects
- On smaller scales, X-rays produced by gravitational energy released near the event horizon of black holes diagnose the accretion flow in the strong gravity regime
  - ✓ Give insights on jets, winds, and their link to accretion
  - ✓ And provide unique information on BH spins and its evolution as it grows







**Illustrative breakthrough observations**

The Hot Universe

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# Key questions for the Hot Universe

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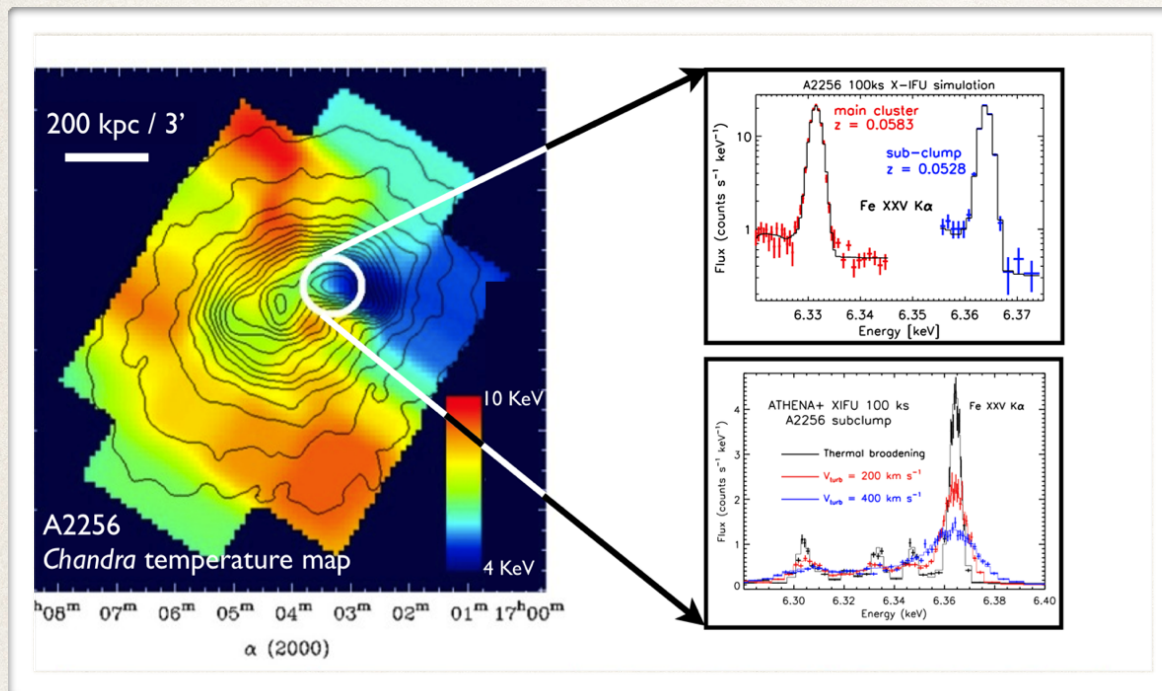
- A complete understanding of the Hot Universe - the baryonic gas that traces the most massive structures and drives the formation of galaxies within them - can only be achieved via X-ray observations.
- Key questions are:
  - ✓ How do baryons in groups and clusters accrete and dynamically evolve in the dark matter haloes?
  - ✓ What drives the chemical and thermodynamic evolution of the Universe's largest structures?
  - ✓ What is the interplay of galaxy, supermassive black hole, and intergalactic gas evolution in groups and clusters?
  - ✓ Where are the missing baryons at low redshift and what is their physical state?



# Cluster astrophysics: baryonic evolution

**Key issue:** Understand how baryons accrete and evolve in the largest dark matter potential wells of groups and clusters.

**Key measurement:** Measure the gas bulk motions and turbulence through high spectral resolution spatially resolved spectroscopy.



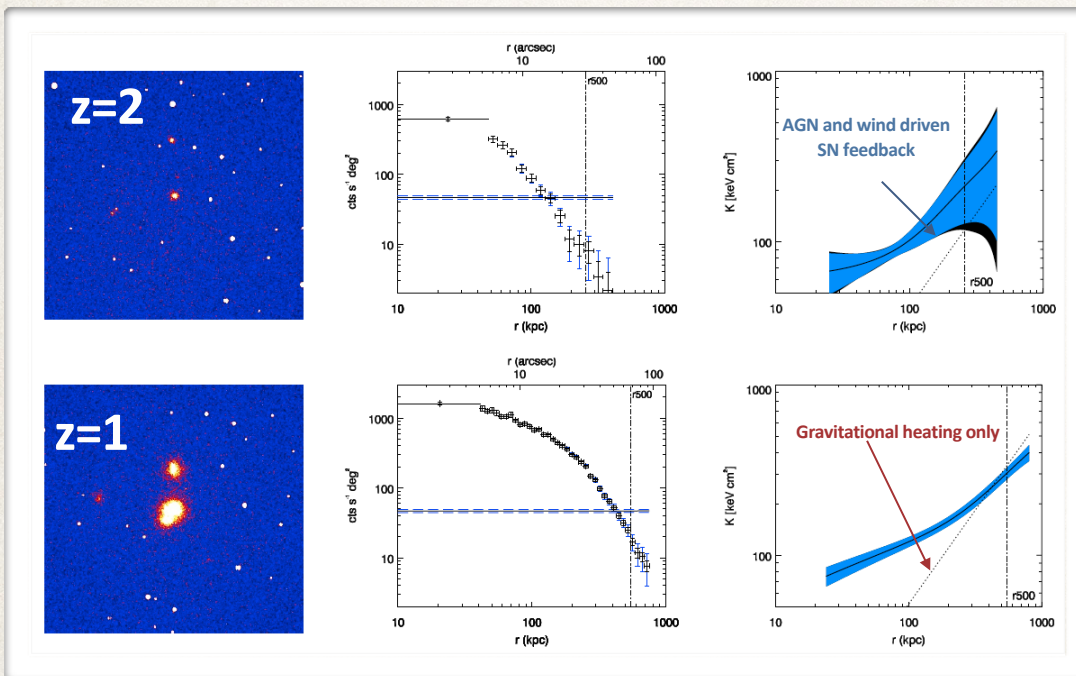
**Captions:** Bulk motion and turbulent broadening of the Iron K line centered on the sub-clump accreting onto the main body, opening the way to understand how structures assemble. Coupled with lensing observations will show how gas reacts to an evolving dark matter potential.



# Cluster astrophysics: energy deposition in the ICM

**Key issue:** Determine how and when the energy contained in the hot intracluster medium was generated.

**Key measurement:** Map the structure of the hot gas trapped in galaxy clusters at various redshifts out to the virial radius, resolving gas density and temperature.



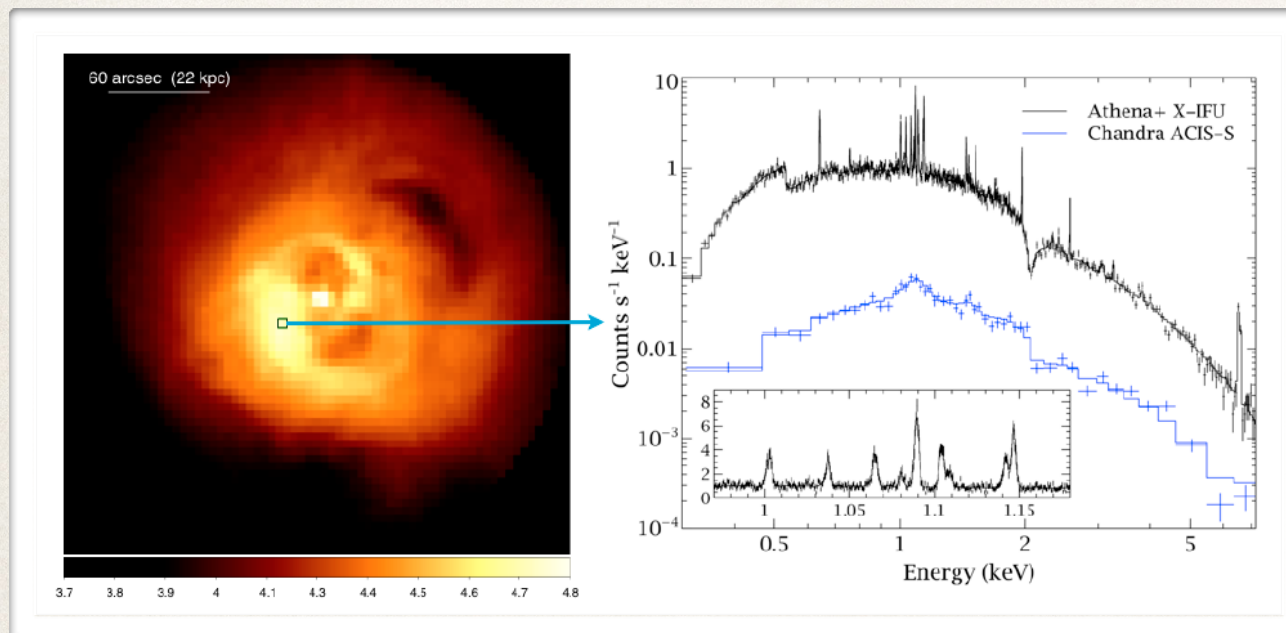
**Captions:** Left) X-ray images of a cluster at two redshifts. Middle) Surface brightness profile, to recover the gas density profile. Right) Entropy profiles derived the gas density profile and electron temperature. Entropy profile derived from numerical simulations with only gravitational heating processes are shown with a dotted line.



# Cluster astrophysics: jet energy dissipation

**Key issue:** Understand how jets from AGN dissipate their mechanical energy in the intracluster medium, and how this affects the hot gas distribution. Determine whether jets from powerful radio-loud AGN are the dominant non-gravitational process affecting the evolution of hot gas.

**Key measurement:** Measure hot gas bulk motions and energy stored in turbulence directly associated with the expanding radio lobes in the innermost parts of nearby clusters. Map temperatures in radio-loud AGN out to intermediate redshifts and map shock structures.



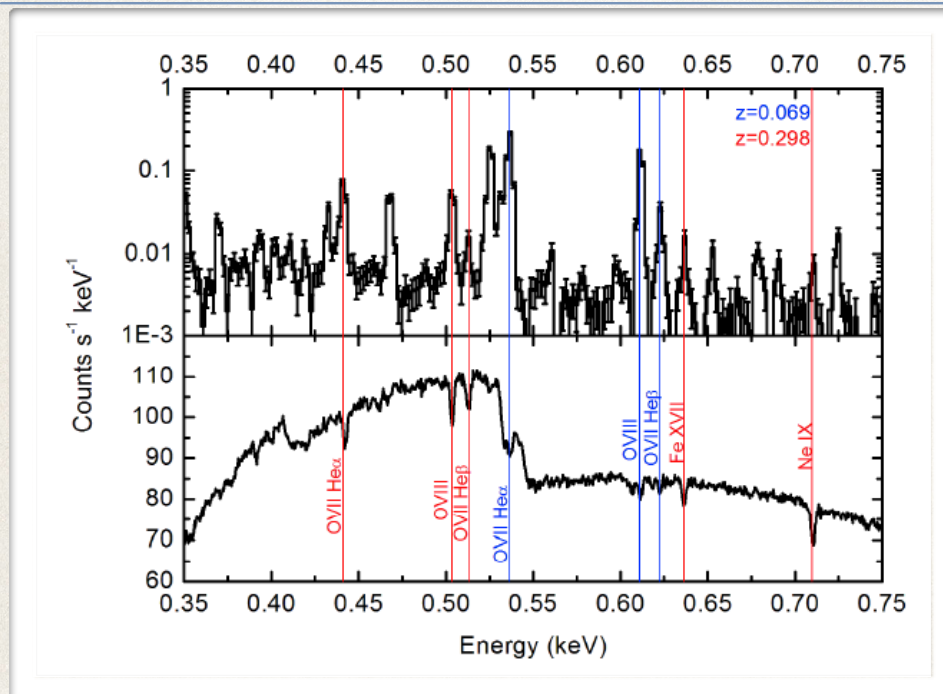
**Captions:** Simulated Athena+ observations of the Perseus cluster. The spectrum on the right is from the single 5"×5" region marked by the box, with the existing Chandra ACIS spectrum for comparison. The inset shows the region around the iron L complex.



# The missing baryons

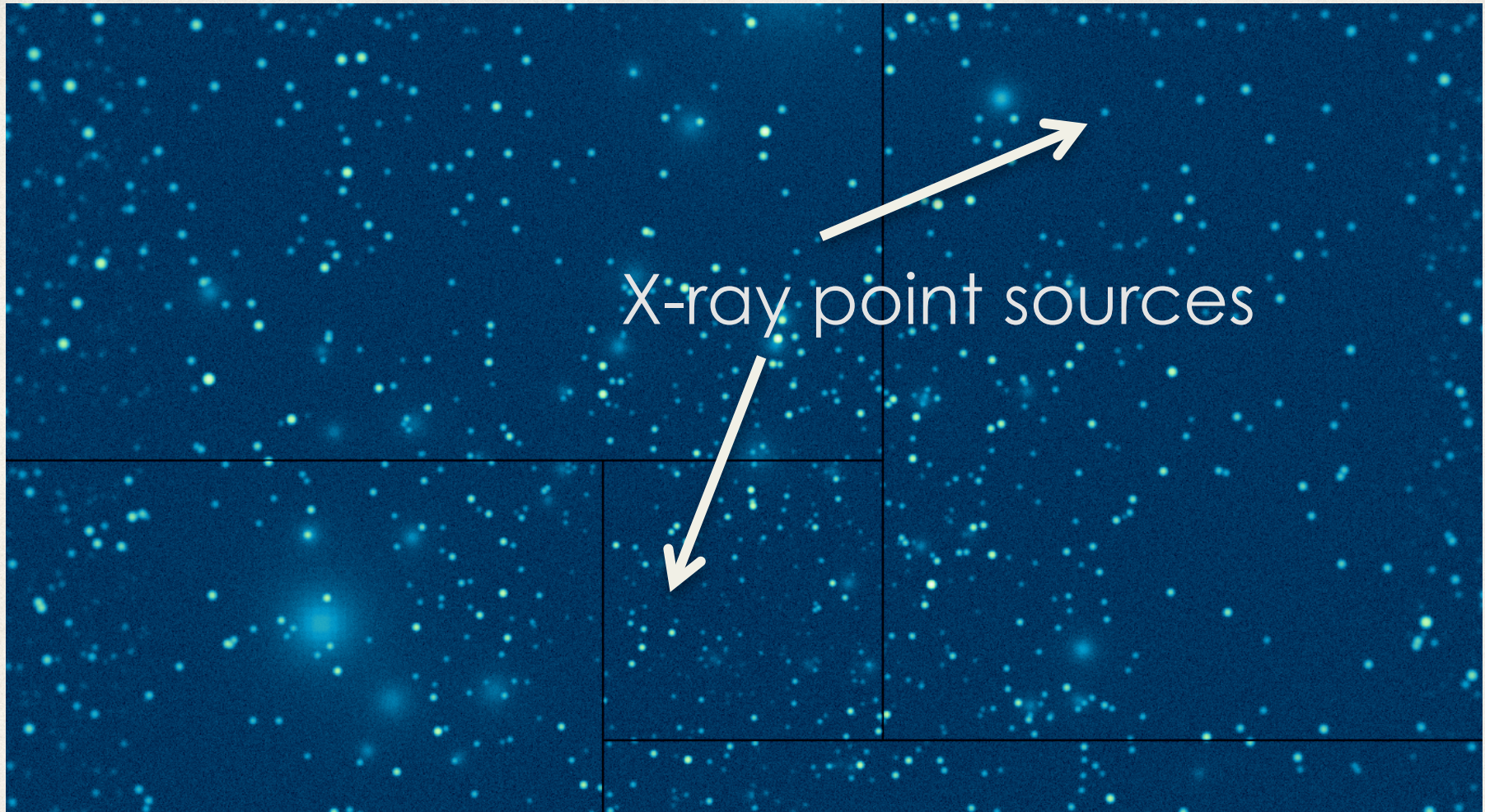
**Key issue:** As a probe of structure formation and metal enrichment theory, find the missing baryons at low redshifts ( $z < 1$ ), determine their physical state and composition, and identify whether they trace filaments of the Cosmic web, as predicted.

**Key measurement:** Detect highly ionized species (C, N, O, Ne, and Fe) in high resolution X-ray spectra to measure their chemical composition, density, size, temperature, ionization and turbulence.



**Captions:** Simulated emission and absorption line spectra for two filaments at two different redshifts. The absorption spectrum is produced by illumination of the filaments by a strong background source (quasar or bright GRB afterglow).





**Illustrative breakthrough observations**

The Energetic Universe

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# Key questions for the Energetic Universe

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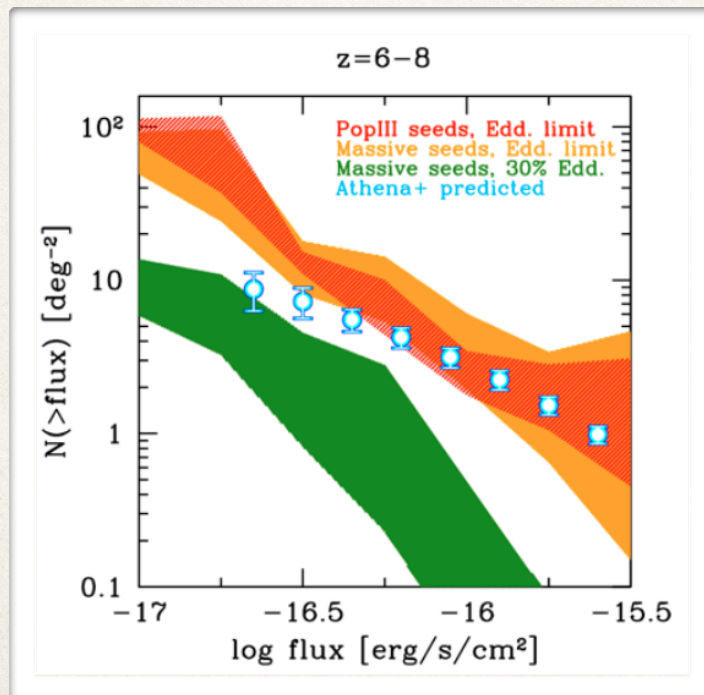
- Pushing the frontiers of black hole evolution at the redshifts when the first galaxies were forming ( $z > 6$ ), performing a complete census of black hole growth, understanding how quasars work and influence their surroundings is best done in X-rays.
- Key questions are:
  - ✓ How do early supermassive black holes form, evolve and affect the distant Universe?
  - ✓ What is the role of (obscured) black hole growth in the evolution of galaxies?
  - ✓ How do accretion-powered outflows affect larger scales via feedback?
  - ✓ How do accretion and ejection processes operate in the near environment of black holes?



# Black hole seeds

**Key issue:** Determine the nature of the seeds of high redshift ( $z > 6$ ) SMBH (pop-III seeds versus primordial gas clouds) and which processes dominated their early growth.

**Key measurement:** Detect low luminosity accreting SMBH, out to the highest redshifts through their X-ray emission in large area X-ray surveys. The most obscured objects will be unveiled by targeted high-res X-ray spectroscopy revealing strong reflected iron lines and follow-up observations.



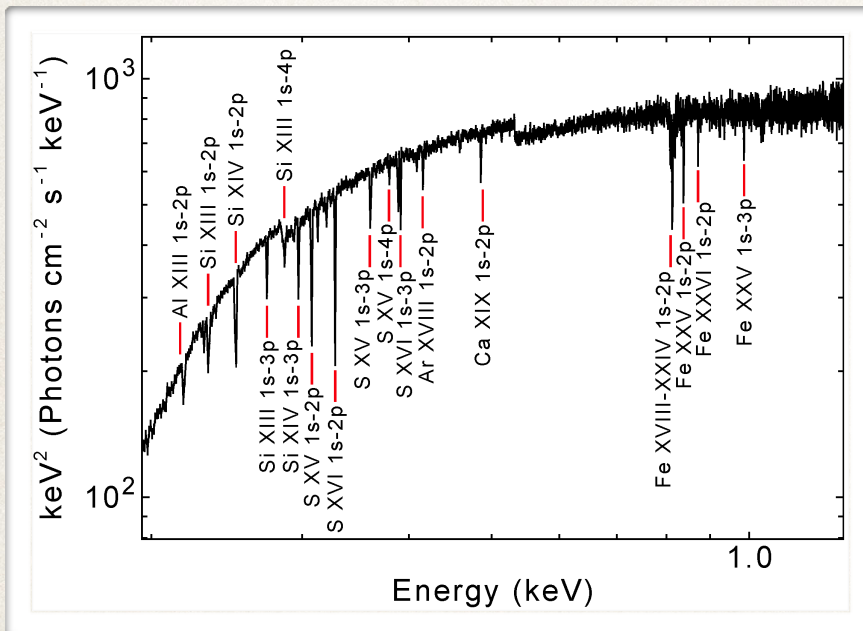
**Captions:** Expected number counts of  $z=6-8$  AGN from the survey (circles). Note that at present no purely X-ray selected objects have yet been found in this redshift range. The shaded regions show predictions based on theoretical models that differ by black hole formation mechanism and growth rate (Volonteri & Begelman, 2010).



# Tracing the first generation of stars

**Key issue:** Trace the first generation of stars to understand cosmic re-ionization, the formation of the first seed black holes, and the dissemination of the first metals.

**Key measurement:** Measure metal abundance patterns for a variety of ions (e.g., S, Si, Fe) in high- $z$  gamma-ray burst X-ray afterglows as a way to distinguish between progenitors.



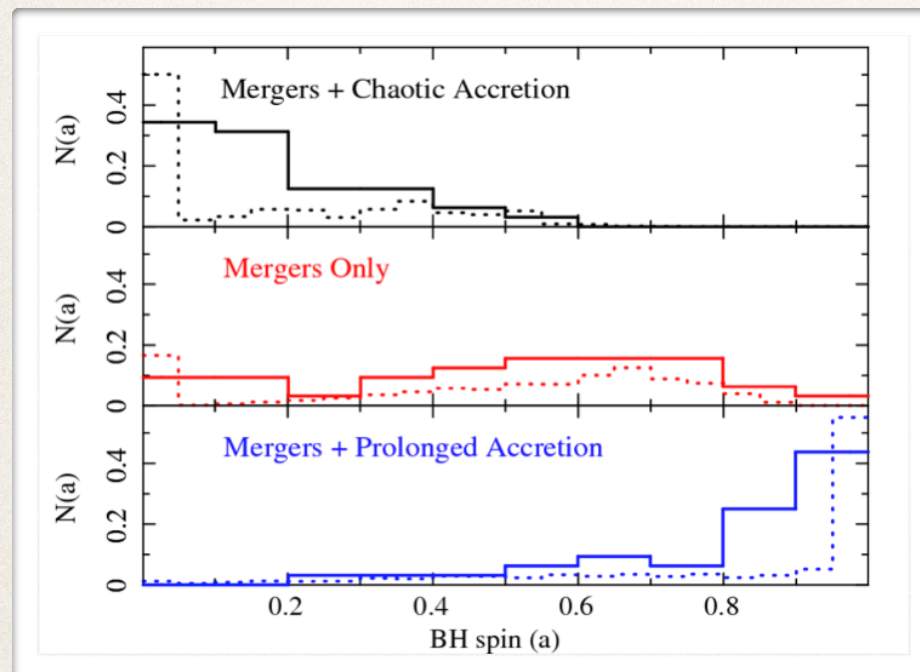
**Captions:** A simulated X-ray spectrum of a GRB afterglow at  $z=7$ , characterized by deep narrow resonant lines of Fe, Si, S, Ar, Mg, from the ionized gas in the environment of the GRB. The abundance pattern measured by Athena+ can distinguish Population III from Population II star forming regions.



# Black hole growth probed by spins

**Key issue:** Infer whether accretion or mergers drive the growth of SMBH across cosmic time.

**Key measurement:** Measure black hole spins through reverberation, time-resolved X-ray spectroscopy and average spectral methods to perform a survey of SMBH spins out to  $z \sim 1-2$  and compare with predictions from merger and accretion models.



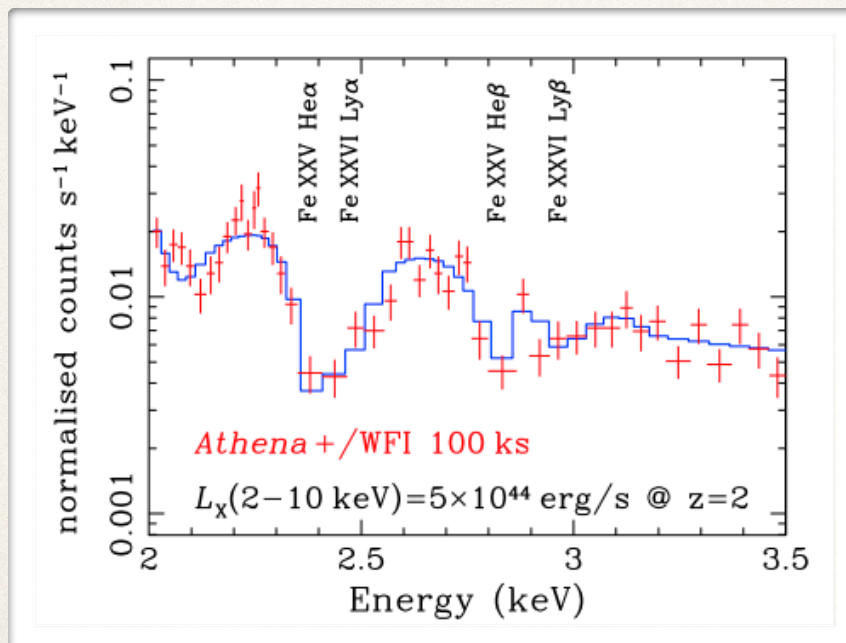
**Captions:** The theoretical expectations for each SMBH growth scenario (dotted histograms) is shown (Berti & Volonteri 2008) and compared to simulated Athena+ measurements (solid histograms), accounting realistically for all observational errors and spectral complexities.



# Blowout phase - feedback in action

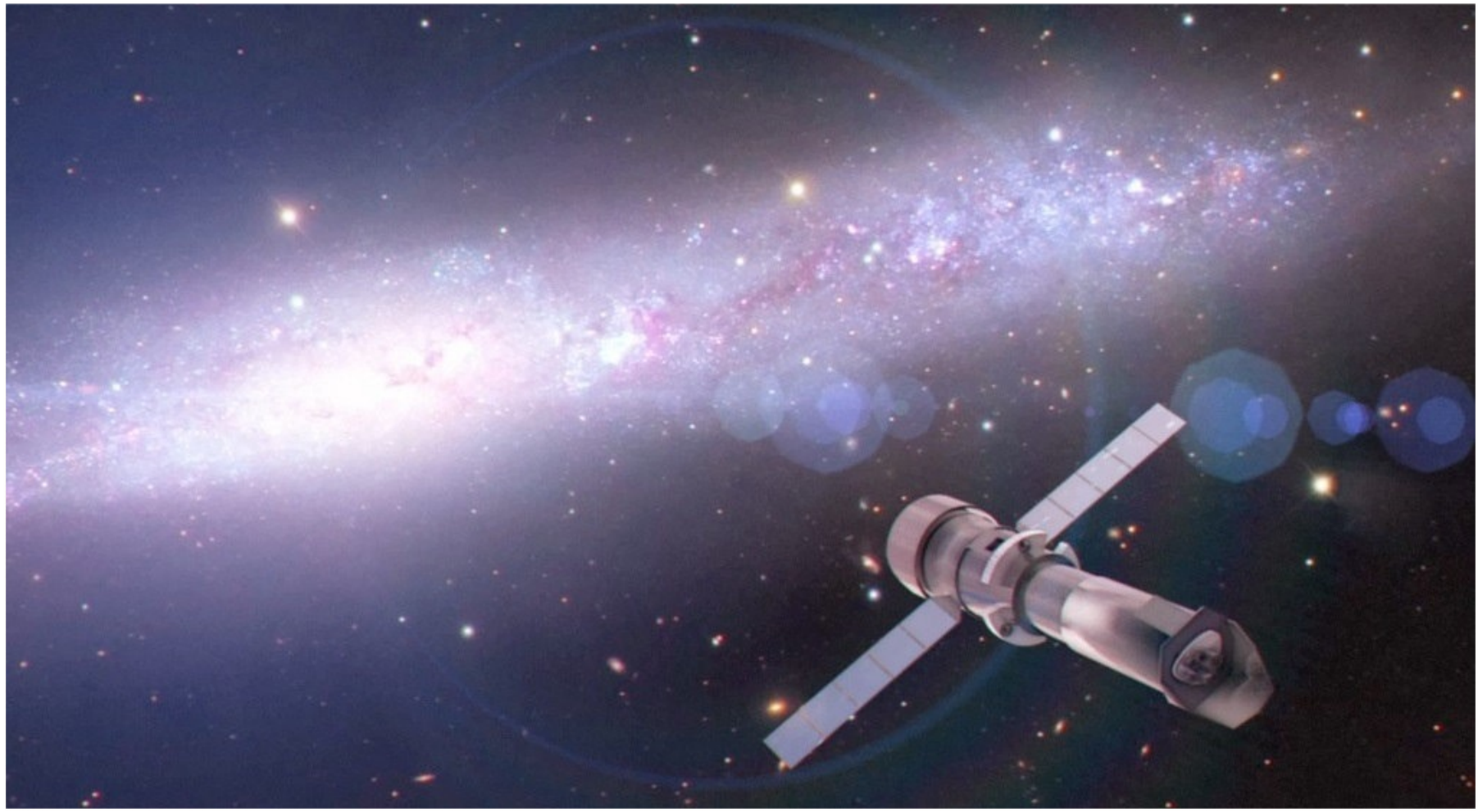
**Key issue:** Determine what is the nature of AGN feedback and whether it is key in galaxy evolution.

**Key measurement:** Determine for a large sample of AGN, the incidence, the nature and the energetics of AGN outflows out to  $z=4$  to test co-evolution scenarios postulating AGN winds for regulating star formation.



**Captions:** Simulated Athena 100 ks spectrum of an AGN at  $z=2$  and  $L_x(2-10\text{keV})=5 \times 10^{44} \text{ erg/s}$  with a highly ionized ( $\log \xi = 3.5$ ,  $N_H = 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , turbulent velocity 1000 km/s) ultra-fast ( $v=0.2c$ ) outflow. The absorption lines imprinted by ionized species enable to estimate the outflow velocity, column density and ultimately energy flux.





## **The Athena mission**

The Hot and Energetic Universe

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# Athena: A large X-ray mirror and two instruments

**L2 orbit Ariane V**  
Mass < 5100 kg  
Power 2500 W  
5 year mission

**X-ray Integral Field Unit:**  
 $\Delta E$ : 2.5 eV  
Field of View: 5 arcmin  
Operating temp: 50 mk

**Silicon Pore Optics:**  
2 m<sup>2</sup> at 1 keV  
5 arcsec HEW  
Focal length: 12 m  
Sensitivity:  $3 \cdot 10^{-17}$  erg cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

**Wide Field Imager:**  
 $\Delta E$ : 125 eV  
Field of View: 40 arcmin  
High countrate capability

Willingale et al, 2013  
arXiv1308.6785

Barret et al., 2013 arXiv:1308.6784

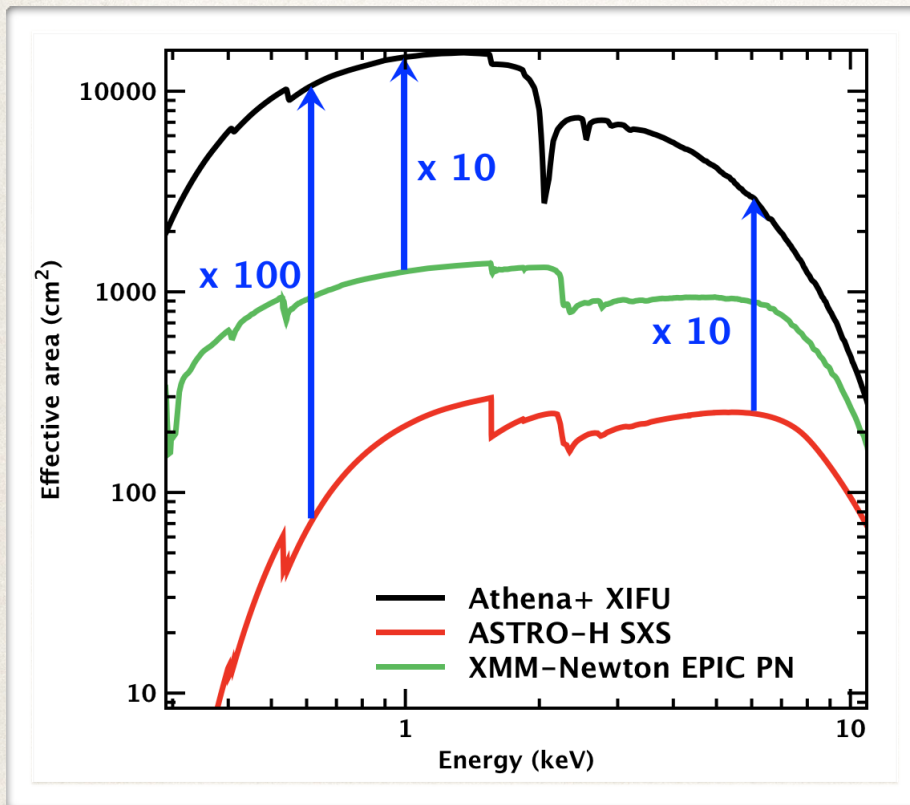
TOO Response 4 hours (goal 2 hours) for 50% of time

Rau et al. 2013 arXiv1307.1709

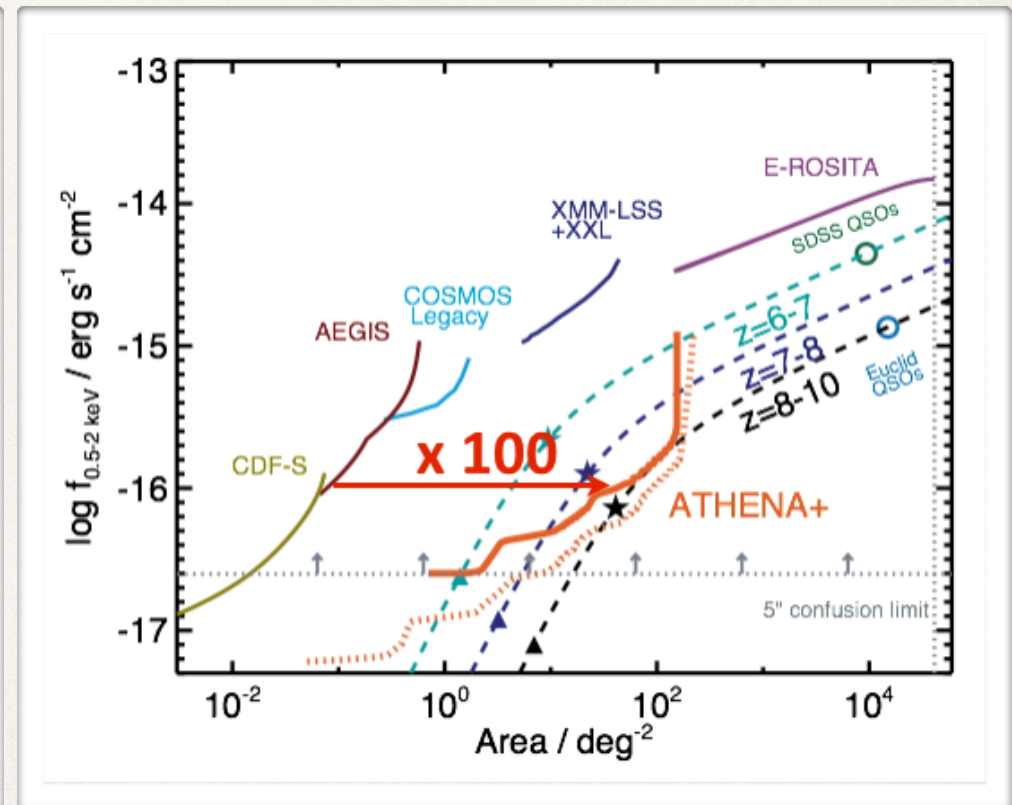


# Comparison with previous X-ray missions

- Huge improvement in effective area and survey capabilities, providing Athena unprecedented capabilities as an observatory



Effective area curve



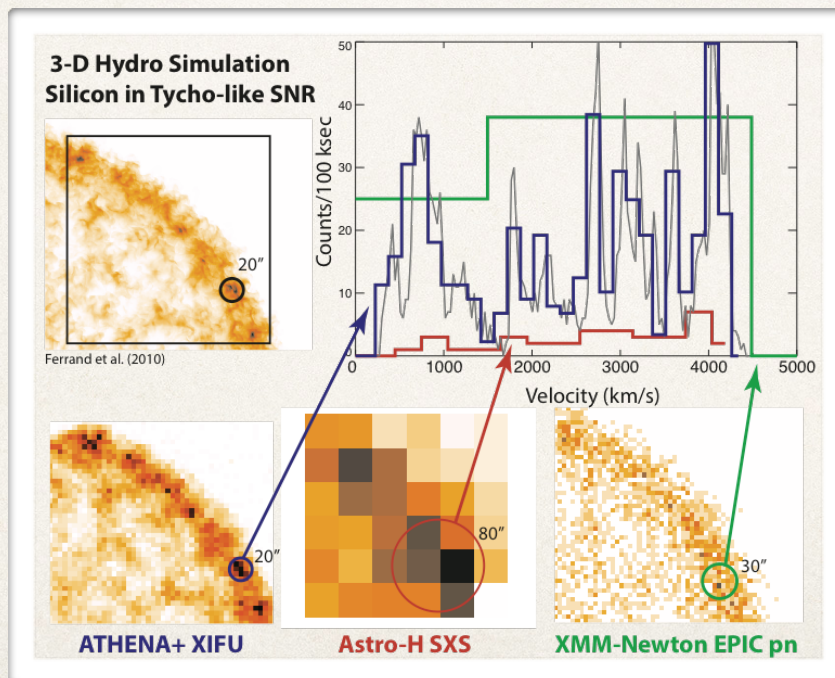
Survey sensitivity curves



# A multi-purpose observatory: An example

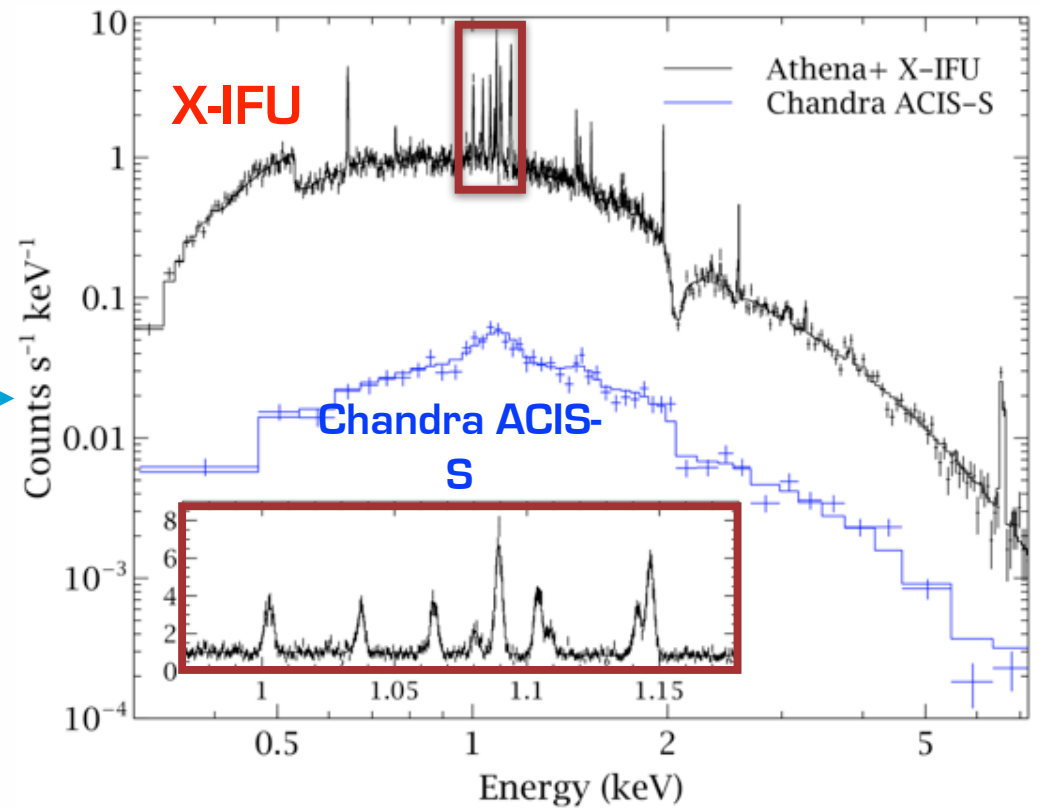
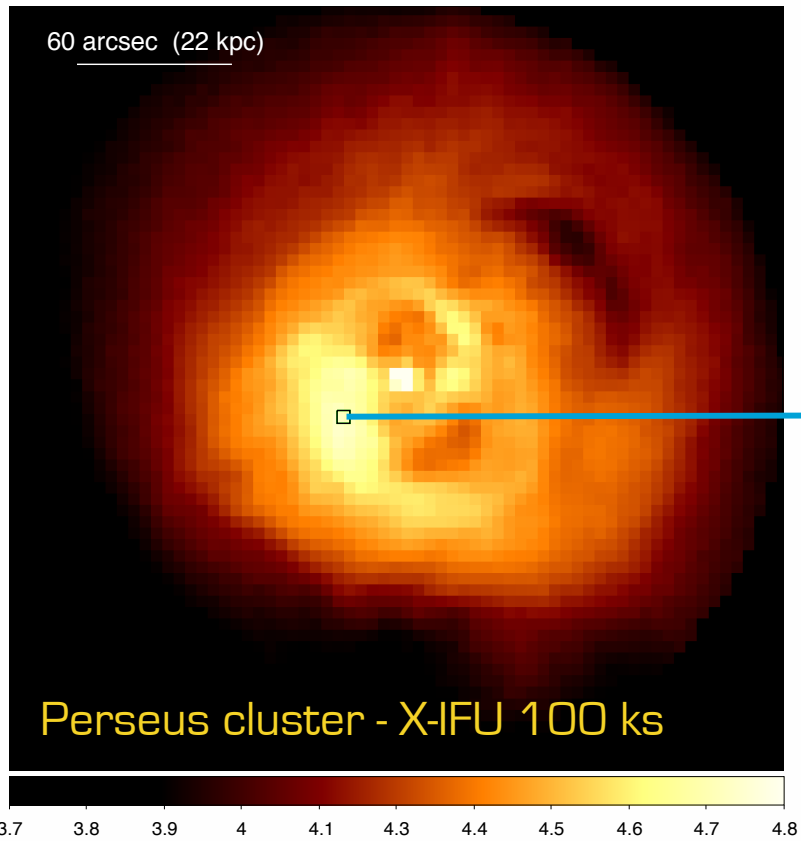
**Key issue:** Understanding the physics of core collapse and type Ia supernova remnants, quantifying the level of asymmetry in the explosion mechanism, the production of heavy elements, and their impact on the galactic environment.

**Key measurement:** First detailed 3D mapping of the hot ejected material in the line of sight (velocity, temperature, ionization state and composition) to determine the full geometry and properties of the different layers of shocked ejecta.



**Captions:** Athena+ X-IFU, ASTRO-H, and XMM-Newton images and silicon velocity profiles based on a 3D hydrodynamic simulation of Tycho's supernova remnant (Ferrand et al. 2012, 2010). Only Athena+ X-IFU has sufficient spectral and angular resolution, and sensitivity to isolate the highlighted knot and retrieve the velocity information that will reveal the 3D dynamics of the supernova remnant, providing constraints on the explosion mechanism through the measurements of asymmetries.





## The X-ray Integral Field Unit

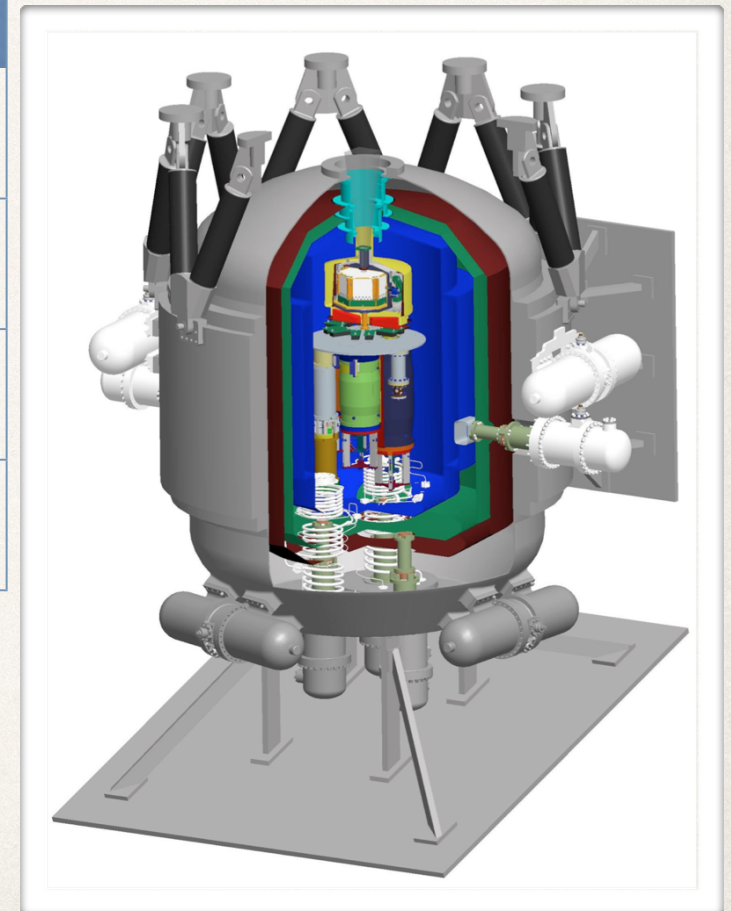
A very exciting challenge to be taken up by France (CNES, IRAP, CEA, IAS, LAM, ...)



# The X-ray Integral Field Unit (X-IFU)

Parameter	Value	Comment
Field of view	5 arcmin (diameter)	3480 Transition Edge Sensors
Spectral resolution	2.5 eV	(250 x 250 $\mu\text{m}$ TES cooled at 50 mK)
Energy range	0.3-12 keV	Bi/Au absorbers
Time resolution	10 $\mu\text{s}$	Digital pulse selection

Parameter	Value
Focal plane assembly mass	6 kg
Mass/power of electronics	180 kg/300 W
Cooling chain mass	320 kg
Overall mass and power	514 kg/1.2 kW



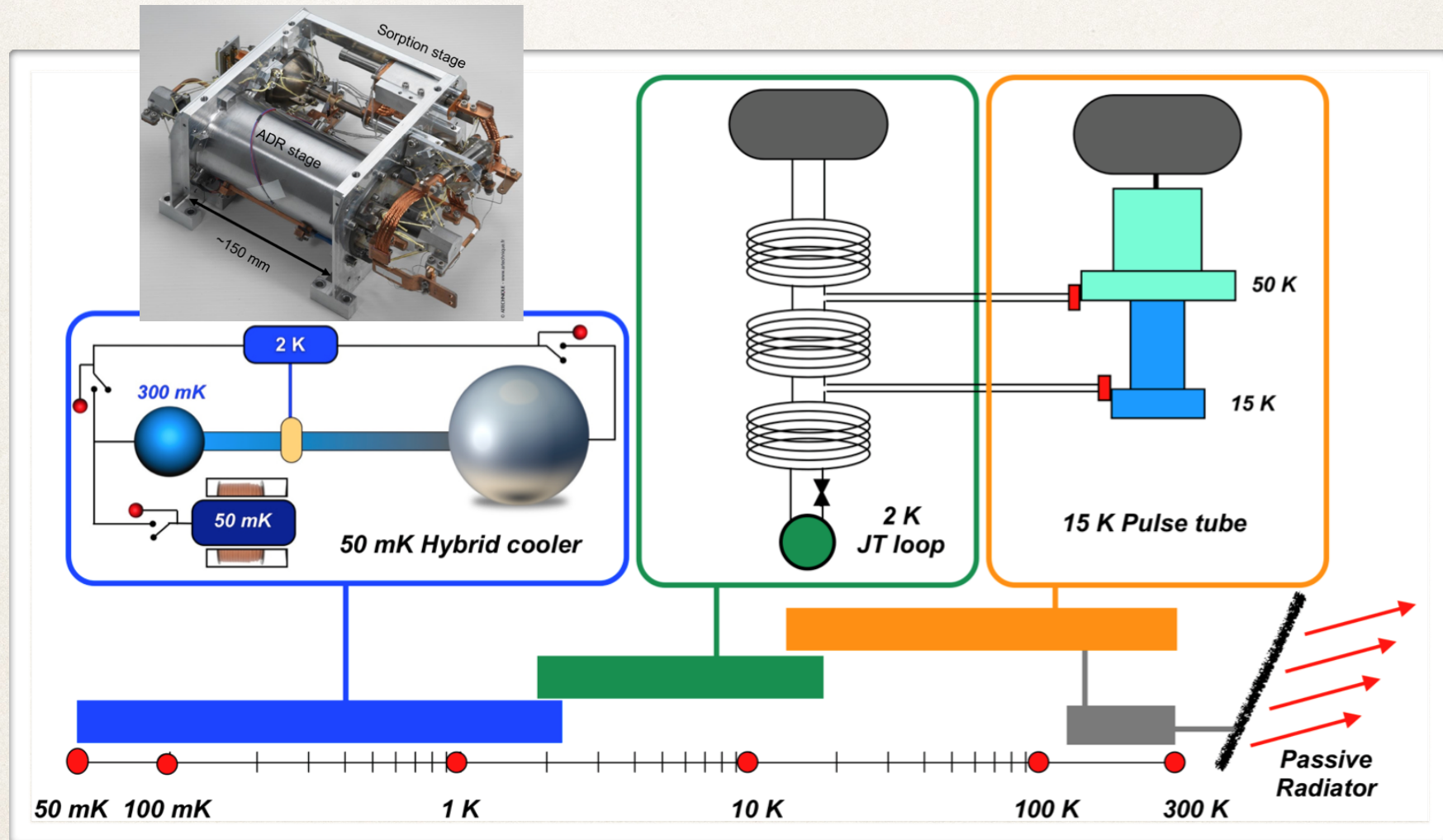


# The X-IFU organisation

Role	Name(s)
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Co-PIs	J.W. den Herder (SRON, NL) L. Piro (INAF, IT)
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X-IFU Head of Nation Committee	<b>D. Barret (Chair, FR)</b> , J.W. den Herder (NL), L. Piro (IT), M. Mas-Hesse (ES), M. Page (UK), S. Paltani (CH), G. Rauw (BE), J. Wilms (DE)
IRAP project manager	<b>L. Ravera</b>
Instrument scientist	<b>F. Pajot</b>
End-to-end performance	<b>Ph. Peille</b>
Electronics responsible	<b>E. Pointecouteau</b>
Ground segment responsible	<b>N. Webb</b>
Project management & Prime	<b>CNES</b>
System team	<b>CNES + X-IFU consortium partners</b>



# Cooling chain with ADR as a baseline

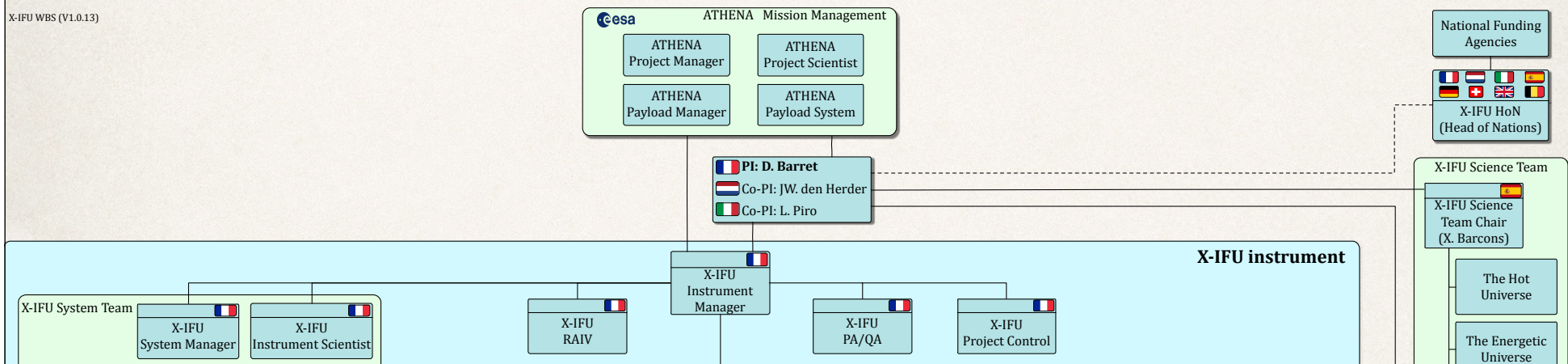




# The X-IFU European consortium

- The European consortium for the X-IFU has been set-up and is being ready to answer the AO call for instrument consortia

X-IFU WBS (v1.0.13)





# Conclusions

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- The Hot and Energetic Universe science theme was selected by ESA for its L2 mission.
  - ✓ Very strong support from the broad astronomical community, behind the X-ray community
- This science theme could be implemented by an observatory like Athena
  - ✓ Athena provides the necessary angular resolution, spectral resolution, throughput, detection sensitivity, and survey grasp needed to revolutionize our understanding of the Hot and Energetic Universe
- Athena will open up a vast discovery space leading to completely new areas of scientific investigation
  - ✓ The implementation of Athena for launch in 2028 will establish European leadership in high energy astrophysics for the foreseeable future.
- France played a key role in the theme selection and is now ideally placed to have a leadership in the main element of payload of the next large astronomy mission
  - ✓ I hope you will join us in building the great instrument that is the X-ray Integral Field Unit



# Acknowledgments

**The Athena+ Co-ordination Group:** Xavier Barcons (ES), Didier Barret (FR), Andy Fabian (UK), Jan-Willem den Herder (NL), Kirpal Nandra (DE), Luigi Piro (IT), Mike Watson (UK)

**The Athena+ Working Groups:** Christophe Adami (FR), **James Aird (UK)**, Jose Manuel Afonso (PT), Dave Alexander (UK), Costanza Argiroffi (IT), Monique Arnaud (FR), Jean-Luc Atteia (F), Marc Audard (CH), Carles Badenes (US), Jean Ballet (FR), Lucia Ballo (IT), Aya Bamba (JP), Anil Bhardwaj (IN), Elic Stefano Battistelli (IT), Werner Becker (DE), Michaël De Becker (BE), Ehud Behar (IL), Stefano Bianchi (IT), Veronica Biffi (IT), Laura Birzan (NL), Fabrizio Bocchino (IT), Slavko Bogdanov (US), Laurence Boirin (FR), Thomas Boller (DE), Stefano Borgani (IT), Katharina Borm (DE), Hervé Bourdin (IT), Richard Bower (UK), Valentina Braitto (IT), Enzo Branchini (IT), **Graziella Branduardi-Raymont (UK)**, Joel Bregman (USA), Laura Brennehan (USA), Murray Brightman (DE), Marcus Brügggen (DE), Johannes Buchner (DE), Esra Bulbul (USA), Marcella Brusa (IT), Michal Bursa (CZ), Alessandro Caccianiga (IT), Ed Cackett (USA), Sergio Campana (IT), Nico Cappelluti (IT), **Massimo Cappi (IT)**, **Francisco Carrera (ES)**, Maite Ceballos (ES), Finn Christensen (DK), You-Hua Chu (US), Eugene Churazov (DE), Nicolas Clerc (DE), Stephane Corbel (F), Amalia Corral (GR), **Andrea Comastri (IT)**, **Elisa Costantini (NL)**, **Judith Croston (UK)**, Mauro Dadina (IT), Antonino D'Alì (IT), **Anne Decourchelle (FR)**, Roberto Della Ceca (IT), Konrad Dennerl (DE), Klaus Dolag (DE), **Chris Done (UK)**, **Michal Dovciak (CZ)**, Jeremy Drake (US), Dominique Eckert (S), Alastair Edge (UK), **Stefano Etori (IT)**, Yuichiro Ezoe (JP), Eric Feigelson (US), Rob Fender (UK), Chiara Feruglio (FR), **Alexis Finoguenov (FI)**, Fabrizio Fiore (IT), Massimiliano Galeazzi (IT), Sarah Gallagher (CA), Poshak Gandhi (UK), Massimo Gaspari (IT), Fabio Gastaldello (IT), **Antonis Georgakakis (DE)**, Ioannis Georgantopoulos (GR), Marat Gilfanov (DE), Myriam Gitti (IT), Randy Gladstone (USA), Rene Goosmann (FR), Eric Gosset (BE), Nicolas Grosso (FR), Manul Guedel (AT), Martin Guerrero (ES), Frank Haberl (DE), Martin Hardcastle (UK), Sebastian Heinz (US), Almudena Alonso Herrero (ES), Anthony Hervé (FR), Mats Holmstrom (SE), Kazushi Iwasawa (ES), **Peter Jonker (NL)**, **Jelle Kaastra (NL)**, Erin Kara (UK), Vladimir Karas (CZ), Joel Kastner (US), Andrew King (UK), Daria Kosenko (FR), Dimita Koutroumpa (FR), Ralph Kraft (US), Ingo Kreykenbohm (D), Rosine Lallement (FR), J. Lee (US), Marianne Lemoine-Goumard (FR), Andrew Lobban (UK), Giuseppe Lodato (IT), Lorenzo Lovisari (DE), Ian McCarthy (UK), Brian McNamara (CA), Antonio Maggio (IT), Roberto Maiolino (UK), Barbara De Marco (DE), Silvia Mateos (ES), **Giorgio Matt (IT)**, Ben Maughan (UK), Pasquale Mazzotta (IT), Mariano Mendez (NL), Andrea Merloni (DE), Giuseppina Micela (IT), Marco Miceli (IT), Robert Mignani (IT), Jon Miller (US), Giovanni Miniutti (ES), Silvano Molendi (IT), Rodolfo Montez (ES), Alberto Moretti (IT), **Christian Motch (FR)**, Yaël Nazé (BE), Jukka Nevalainen (FI), Fabrizio Nicastro (IT), Paul Nulsen (US), Takaya Ohashi (JP), **Paul O'Brien (UK)**, Julian Osborne (UK), Lida Oskiova (DE), Florian Pacaud (DE), Frederik Paerels (US), Mat Page (UK), Iossif Papadakis (GR), Giovanni Pareschi (IT), Robert Petre (US), Pierre-Olivier Petrucci (FR), Enrico Piconcelli (IT), Ignazio Pillitteri (IT), C. Pinto (UK), Jelle de Plaa (NL), **Etienne Pointecouteau (FR)**, Trevor Ponman (UK), Gabriele Ponti (DE), Delphine Porquet (FR), Ken Pounds (UK), **Gabriel Pratt (FR)**, Peter Predehl (DE), Daniel Proga (US), Dimitrios Psallis (US), David Rafferty (NL), Miriam Ramos-Ceja (DE), Piero Ranalli (IT), Elena Rasia (US), Arne Rau (DE), **Gregor Rauw (BE)**, Nanda Rea (IT), Andy Read (UK), James Reeves (UK), **Thomas Reiprich (DE)**, Matthieu Renaud (FR), Chris Reynolds (US), Guido Risaliti (IT), Jerome Rodriguez (FR), Paola Rodriguez Hidalgo (CA), Mauro Roncarelli (IT), David Rosario (DE), Mariachiara Rossetti (IT), Agata Roszanska (PL), Emmanouil Rovilos (UK), Ruben Salvatera (IT), Mara Salvato (DE), Tiziana Di Salvo (IT), **Jeremy Sanders (DE)**, Jorge Sanz-Forcada (ES), Kevin Schawinski (CH), Joop Schaye (NL), **Salvatore Sciorlino (IT)**, Paola Severgnini (I), Francesco Shankar (FR), Stuart Sim (IE), Christian Schmid (DE), Randall Smith (US), Andrew Steiner (US), Beate Stelzer (IT), Gordon Stewart (UK), Tod Strohmayer (US), Lothar Strüder (DE), Ming Sun (US), Yoh Takei (JP), Andreas Tiengo (IT), Francesco Tombesi (US), Ginevra Trinchieri (IT), Asif ud-Doula (US), Eugenio Ursino (NL), Lynne Valencic (US), Eros Vanzella (IT), Simon Vaughan (UK), Cristian Vignali (IT), Jacco Vink (NL), Fabio Vito (IT), Marta Volonteri (FR), Daniel Wang (US), Natalie Webb (FR), Richard Willingale (UK), **Joern Wilms (DE)**, Michael Wise (NL), Diana Worrall (UK), Andrew Young (UK), Luca Zampieri (IT), Jean in 't Zand (NL), Andreas Zezas (GR), Yuying Zhang (DE), Irina Zhuravleva (US)

**Bold Face** Denotes Working Group Chairs

## Athena+ Coordination Group:

K. Nandra, D. Barret, X. Barcons, J.-W. den Herder, A. Fabian, L. Piro, M. Watson

## Athena+ Working Groups

(~250 people)

## Athena+ supporters

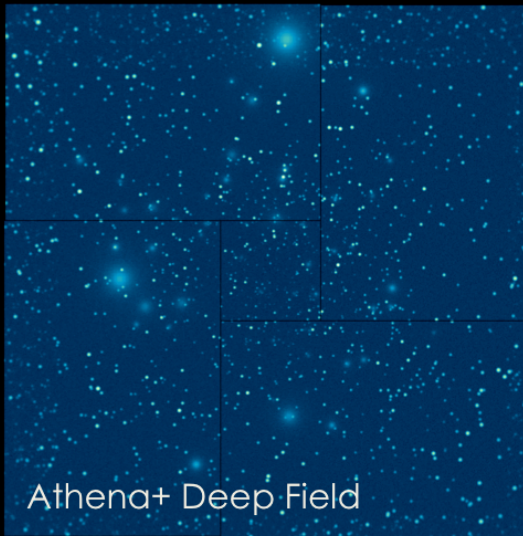
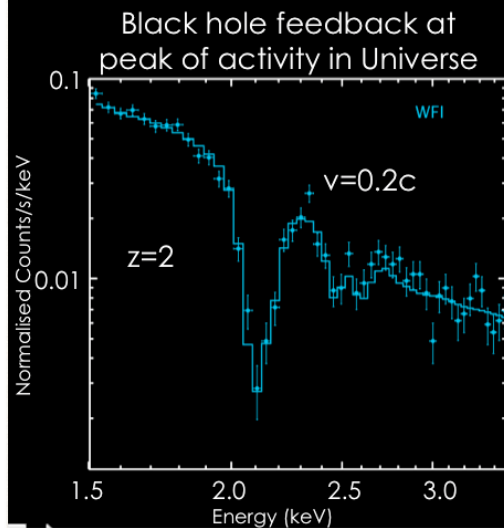
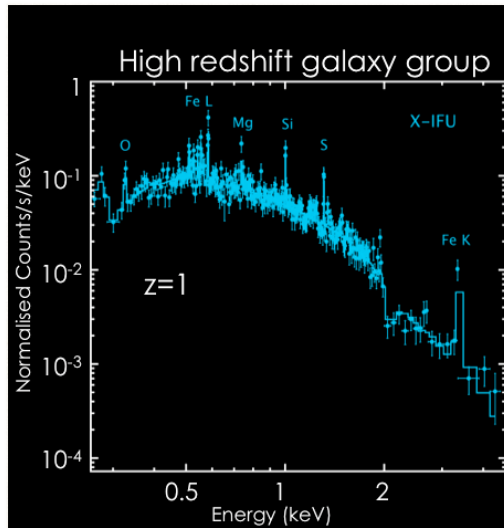
(~ 1200 astronomers)

## Special thanks to the review team:

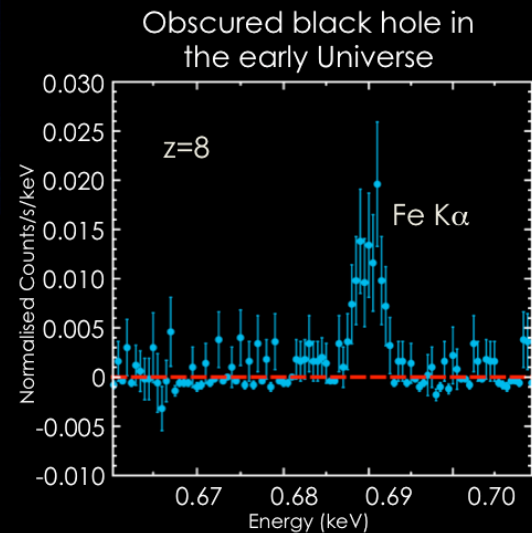
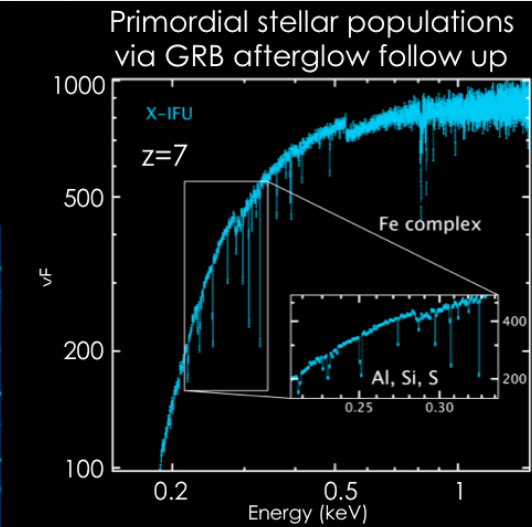
M. Arnaud, J. Bregman, F. Combes, R. Kennicutt, R. Maiolino, R. Mushotzky, T. Ohashi, K. Pounds, C. Reynolds, H. Röttgering, M. Rowan-Robinson, C. Turon, G. Zamorani



# Thank you to you for your support !



Nandra, Barret, Barcons, Fabian,  
den Herder, Piro, Watson et al.  
2013 arXiv 1306.2307





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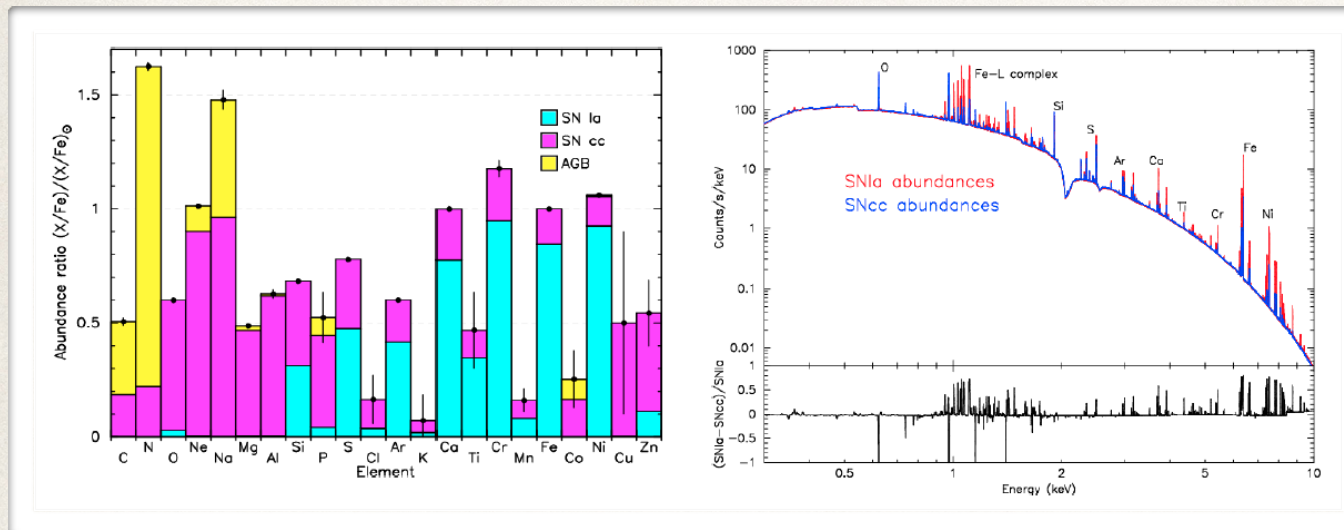
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# Cluster astrophysics: chemical enrichment

**Key issue:** Determine when the largest baryon reservoirs in galaxy clusters were chemically enriched and by which processes. Constrain the cluster IMF and the SN 1a explosion mechanisms.

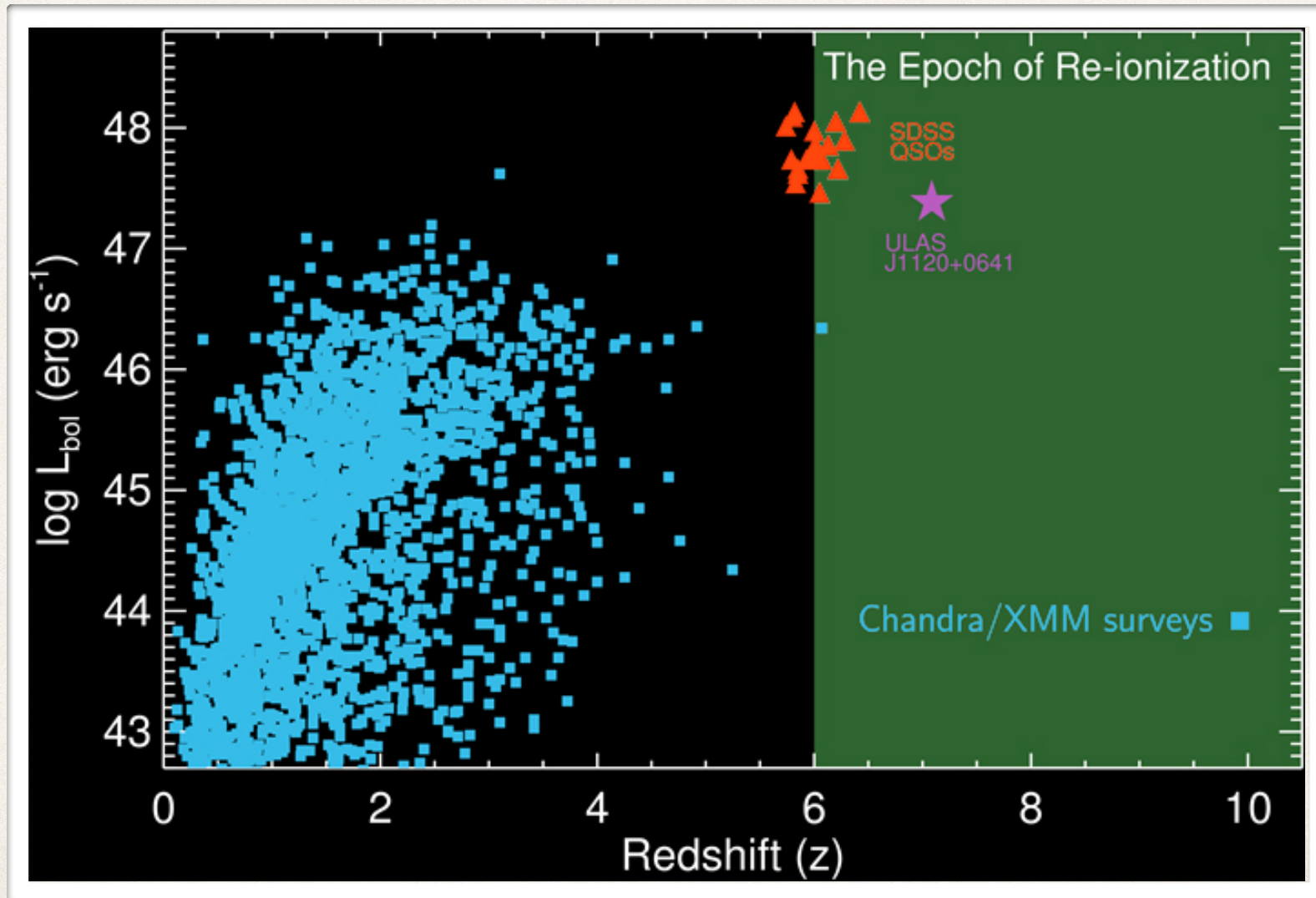
**Key measurement:** Measure abundances of heavy elements from O to Fe in clusters at different redshifts. Invert the abundances using yields of various SN types and AGB stars to constrain the IMF and SN1a explosion mechanism. Determine where metals are produced in nearby objects in nearby clusters.



**Captions:** Left) Abundance ratios predicted from different contributions of SN types and AGB stars. Right) X-ray spectrum of a typical 3 keV cluster at  $z=0.02$  showing the products of two different types of SN, 1a and CC.



# Pushing the frontiers

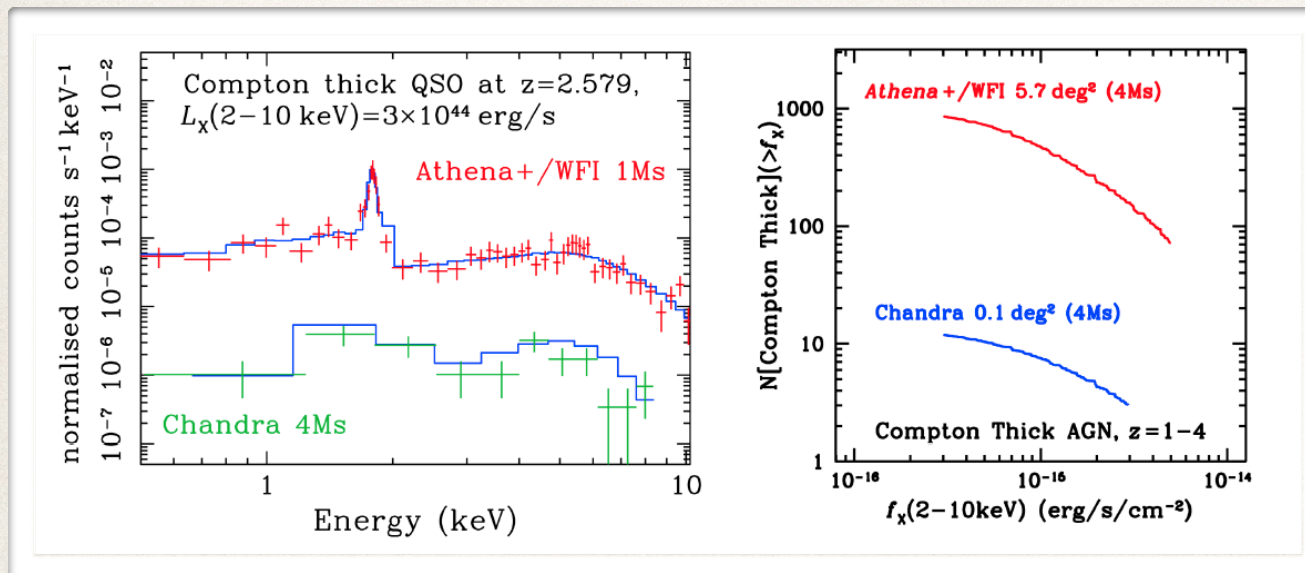




# Obscured accretion

**Key issue:** Find the physical conditions (fueling mode, outburst triggering mechanism) under which SMBH grew at the epoch when most of the accretion and star formation in the Universe occurred ( $z \sim 1-4$ )

**Key measurement:** Perform through wide field imaging a complete census of AGN out to  $z \sim 3$ , including those that reside inside a Compton-thick environment. Search for strong iron line dominated spectral as the signposts of heavily obscured AGN.



**Captions:** Right) Simulated Compton thick QSO spectrum in comparison with the Chandra one. Left) Log N/Log S curves for Athena and Chandra, showing that Athena will deliver 100 times more objects than achieved today.