

Exploring the transient sky with SVOM

Alexis Coleiro | APC - Université Paris Cité



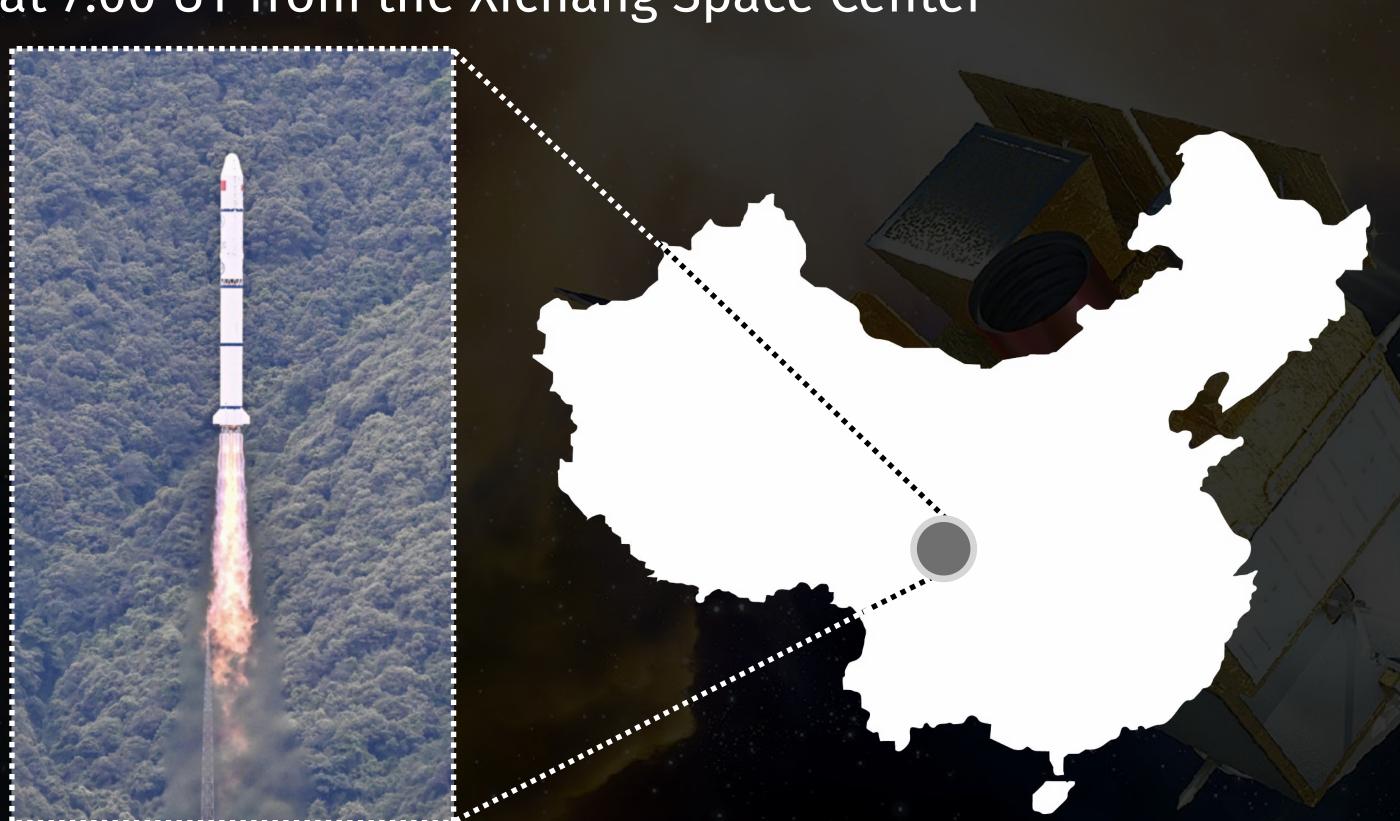
October 13 2025 | Assemblée Générale GdR Ondes Gravitationnelle

SVOM launch

China/France collaboration

Launched on June 22, 2024

at 7:00 UT from the Xichang Space Center



LEOP = Launch and Early Orbit Phase

O days 30 days 3.5 months 6 months

LEOP

Commissioning

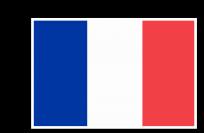
Verification 3+2 (+2) years

Scientific operations



The SVOM mission

ECLAIRS



« The trigger camera »

Wide-field X and γ rays telescope

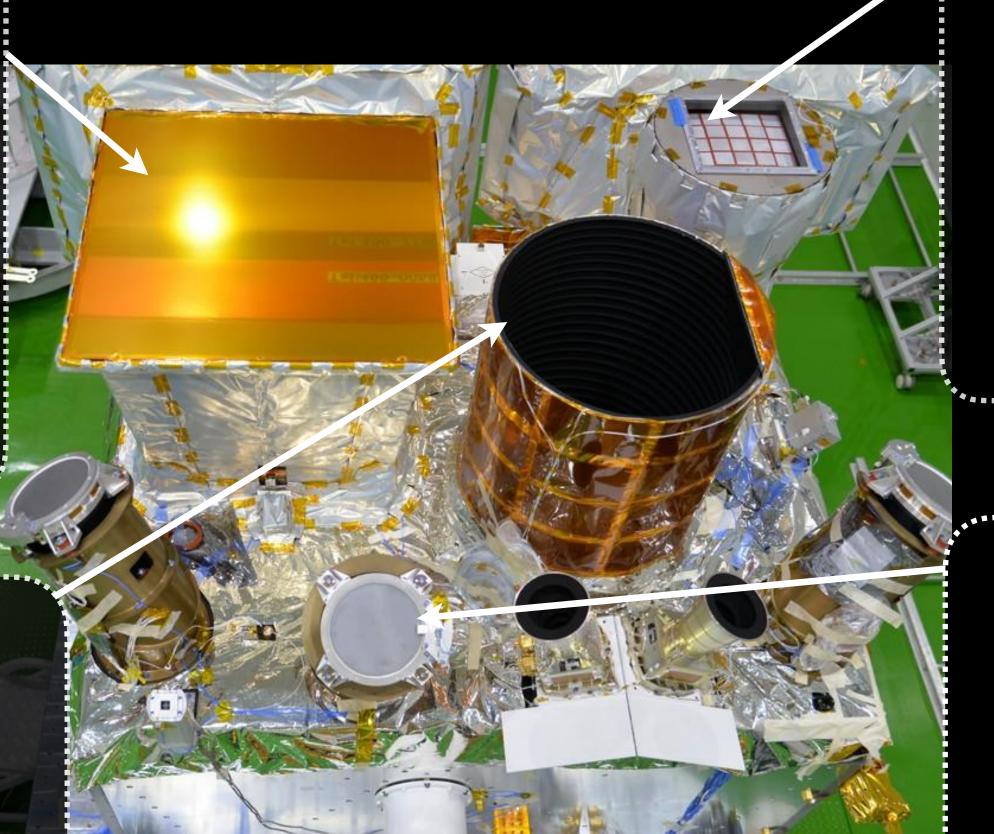
4—150 keV

Loc. accuracy: < 12 arcmin

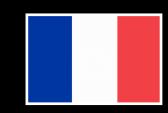
The Visible Telescope



Narrow-field visible telescope Loc accuracy: < 1 arcsec



MXT







Microchannel X-ray telescope

Narrow-field X-ray telescope 0.3—10 keV Loc accuracy: < 1 arcmin

GRM



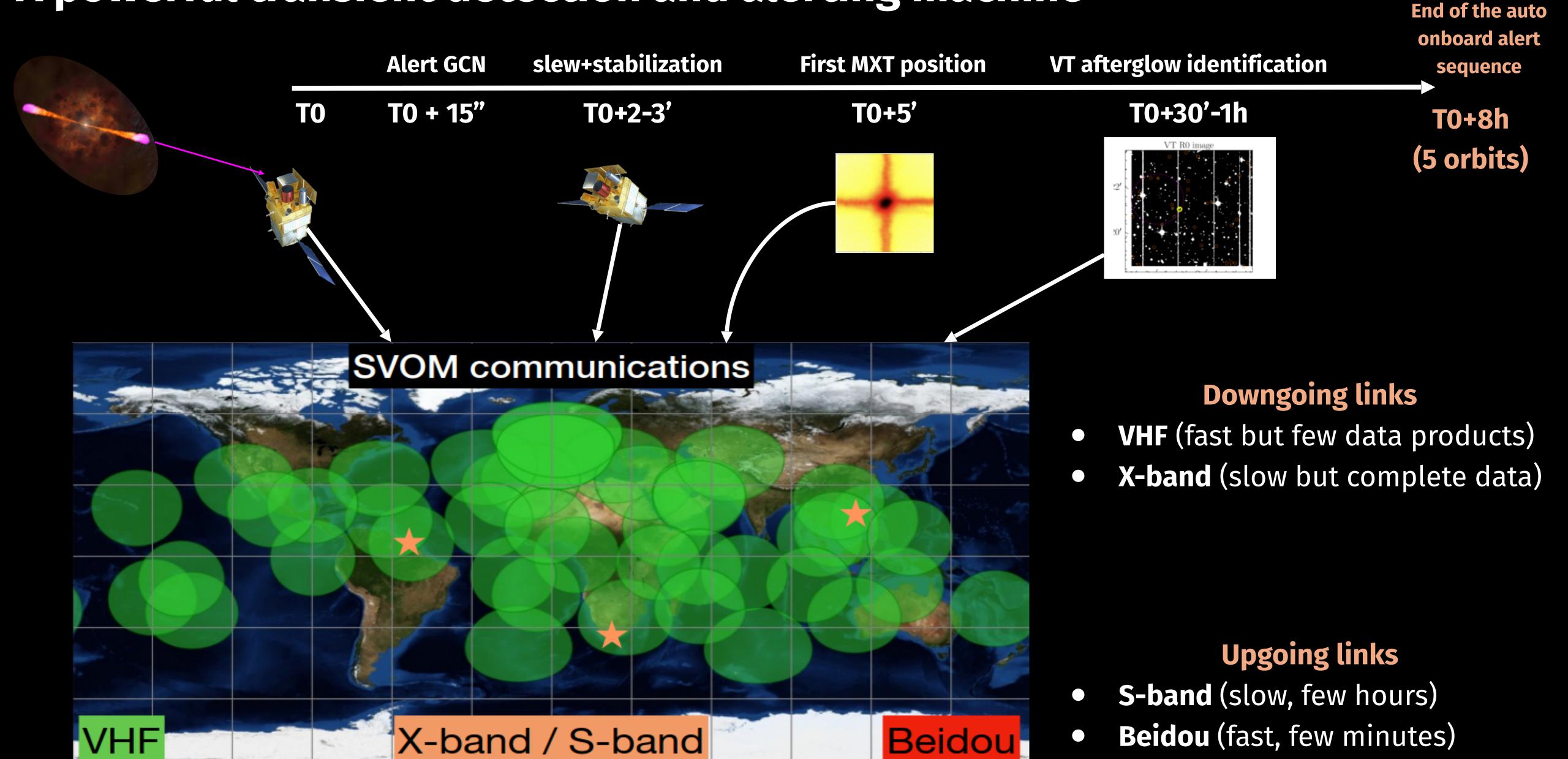
Gamma-ray Burst Monitor

X and γ rays detectors

15 keV — 5 MeV

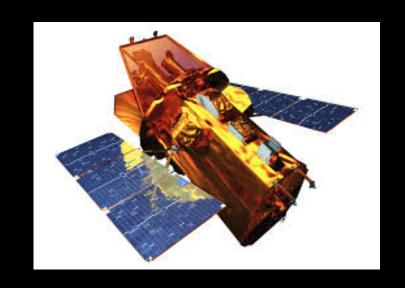
Loc accuracy: < 5°

A powerful transient detection and alerting machine



Space and ground-based telescope synergies

Great synergies with Einstein Probe and Swift teams





Automatic ToO
request to
EP-FXT
(since April 2025)
and
Swift-XRT
(since Feb. 2025)

A dedicated ground-based follow-up segment

from 25 cm to the 8m class telescopes



Official Partners

Associate Partners

Purchase of time (LCOGT time coming 2025B)

Close collaboration

SVOM Scientific programs

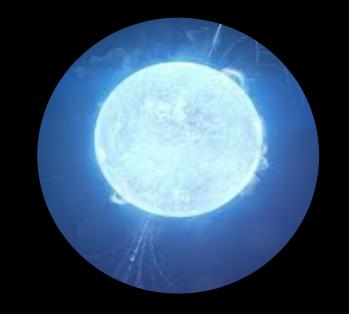


The SVOM Core program reserved to SVOM Co-Is

Gamma-ray bursts

The General & ToO programs

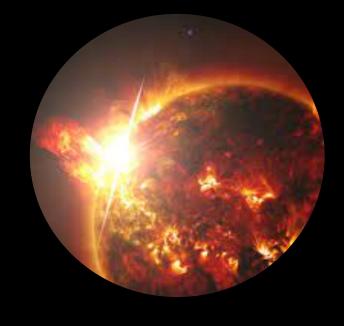
GP obs (known sources): Observation proposals awarded by a TAC (internal call for 2026). ToO obs (not anticipated flaring sources): requests to be submitted to the SVOM PIs (through the mission scientists)



Magnetar Giant flares



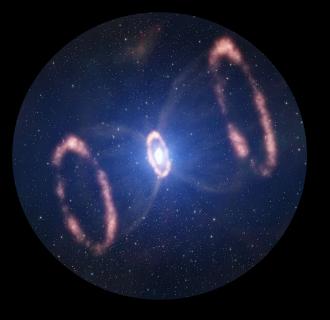
CVs, x-ray binaries



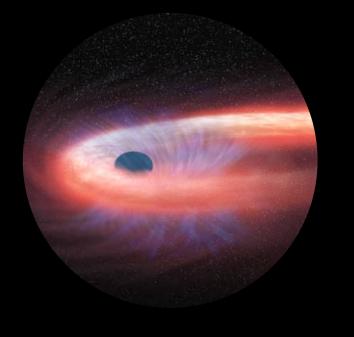
Flaring stars



AGNs/Blazars



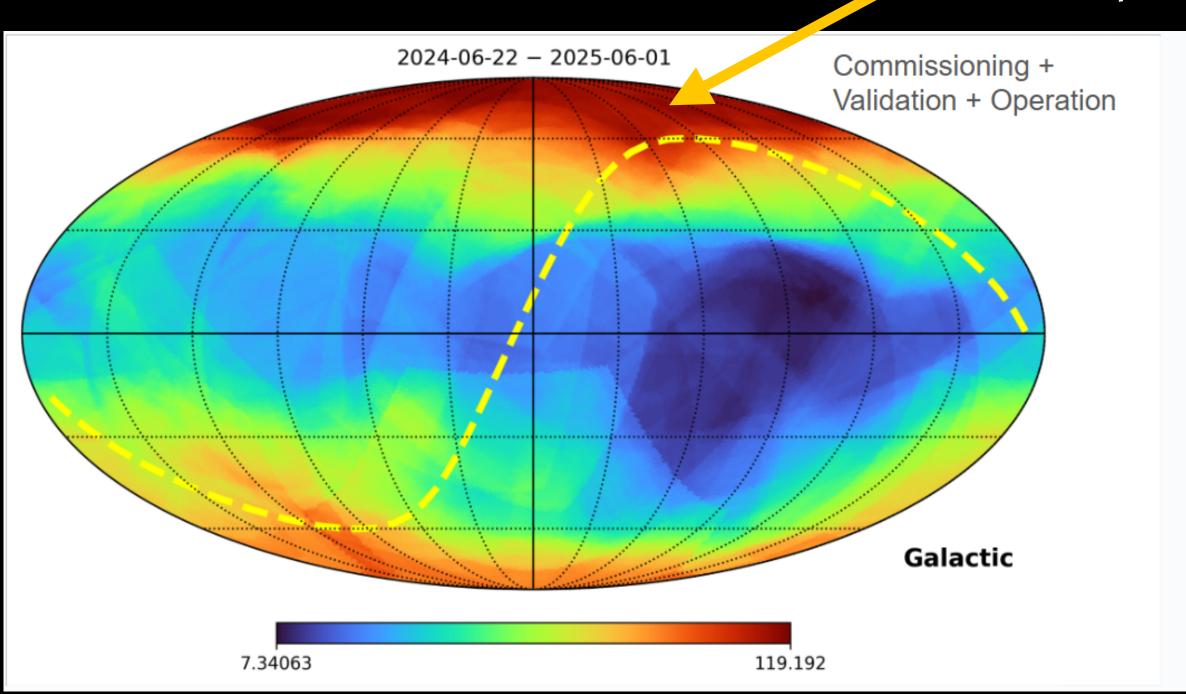
Supernovae

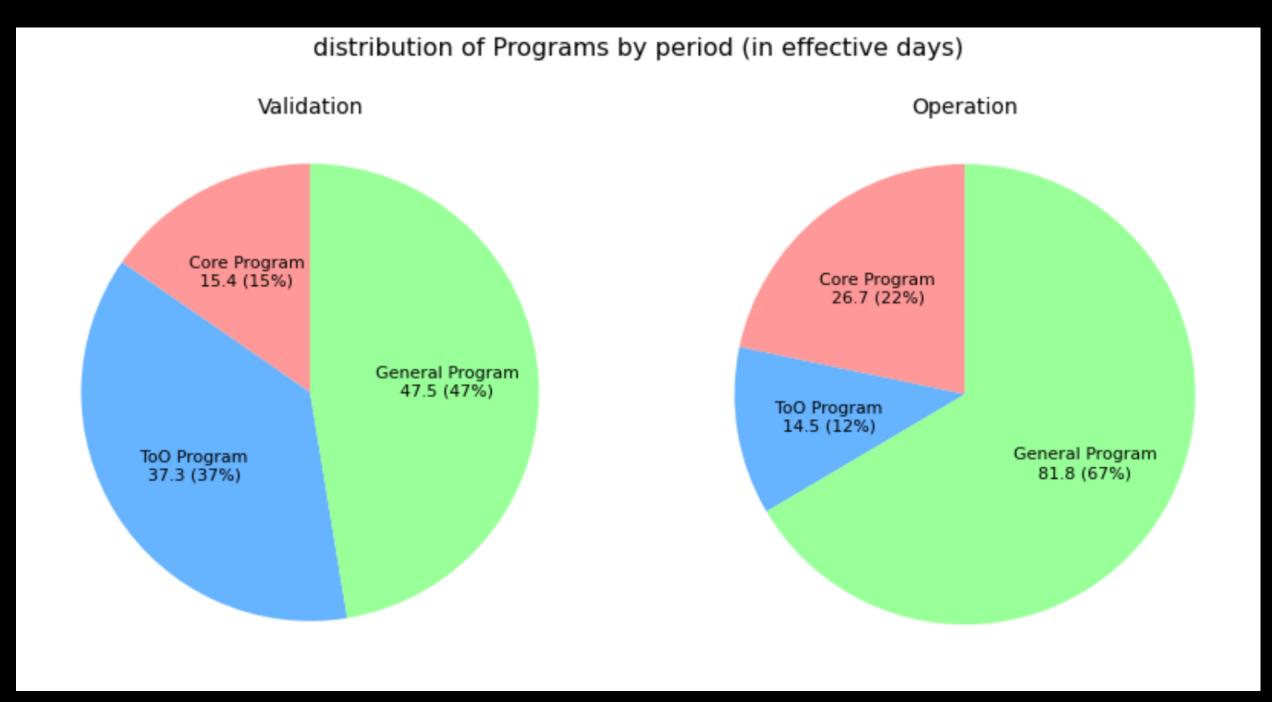


TDE, FRB, etc.

A year of SVOM observations

Long exposure around the Galactic poles to maximize GRB detection: avoidance of the Galactic plane + anti solar pointing strategy



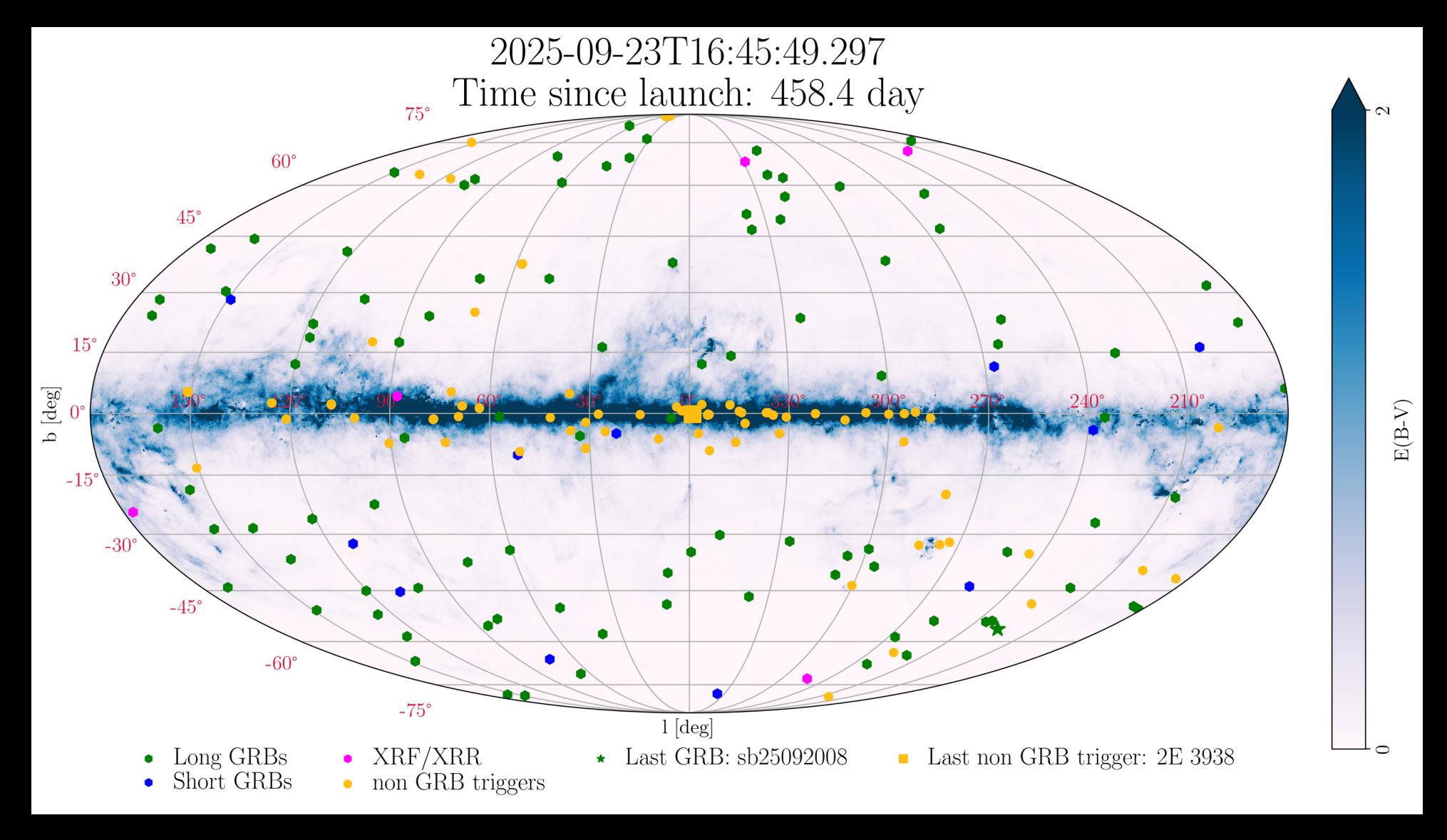


Commissioning: 22/06/2024 - 01/10/2024

Validation: 10/01/2024 - 15/01/2025

Scientific exploitation: since 15/01/2025

A year of SVOM observations



Gamma-ray Burst general statistics (on 1 October 2025)

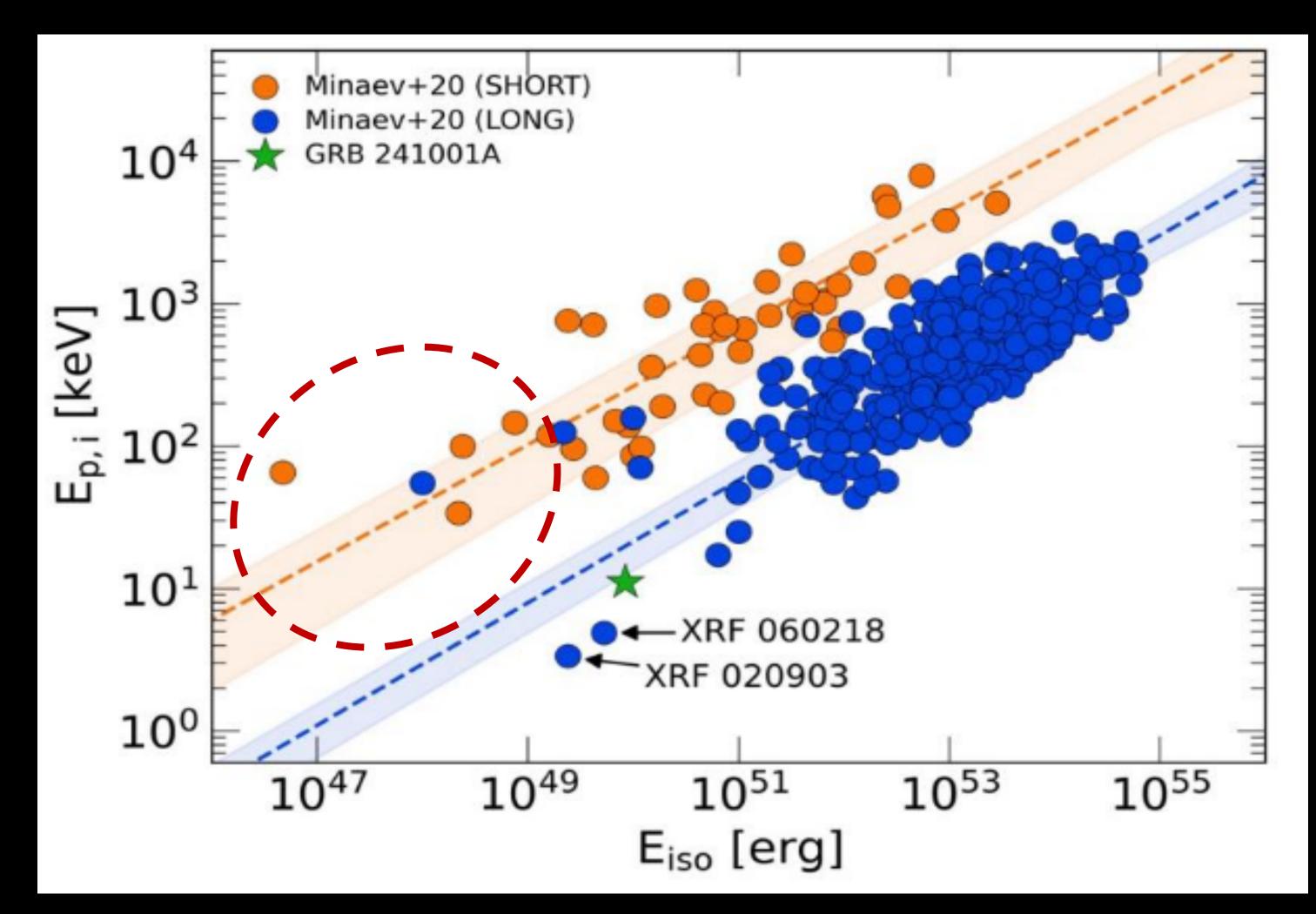
GRM detection	ECLAIRs detection	Total ECLAIRs+GRM	Joint detection by other missions	# redshift
144	62	169 129 Long (76%), 25 Short (15%), 15 XRF (9%)	115 (68%)	35 (21%) 40% of ECLAIRs detected bursts

ECLAIRs median localization	MXT median localization		Optical afterglows	Radio afterglows	z>4
~7'	~40 ′′	67	49	5	4/35 (12%)

Unveiling the poorly known XRR/XRF burst population

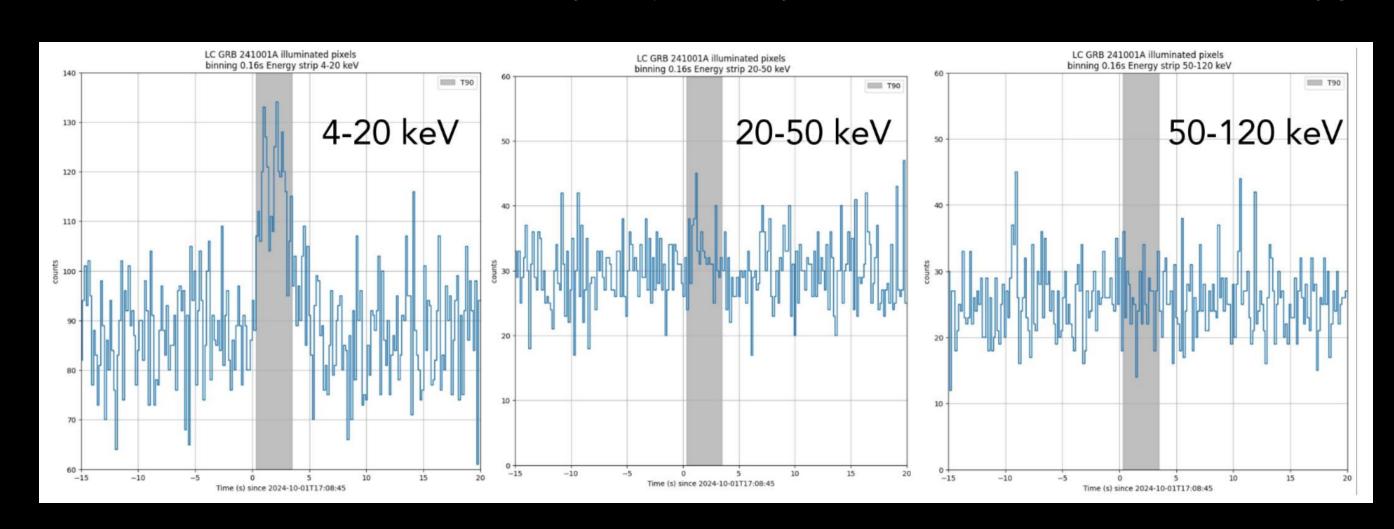
SVOM goal: bring a complete physical interpretation of the poorly known population of **very soft X-ray burts**

- connection with classical collapsar GRBs?
- Shock breakout emission?
- geometry effect → off-axis jet?
- Low Γ jets?
- High redshift effect?



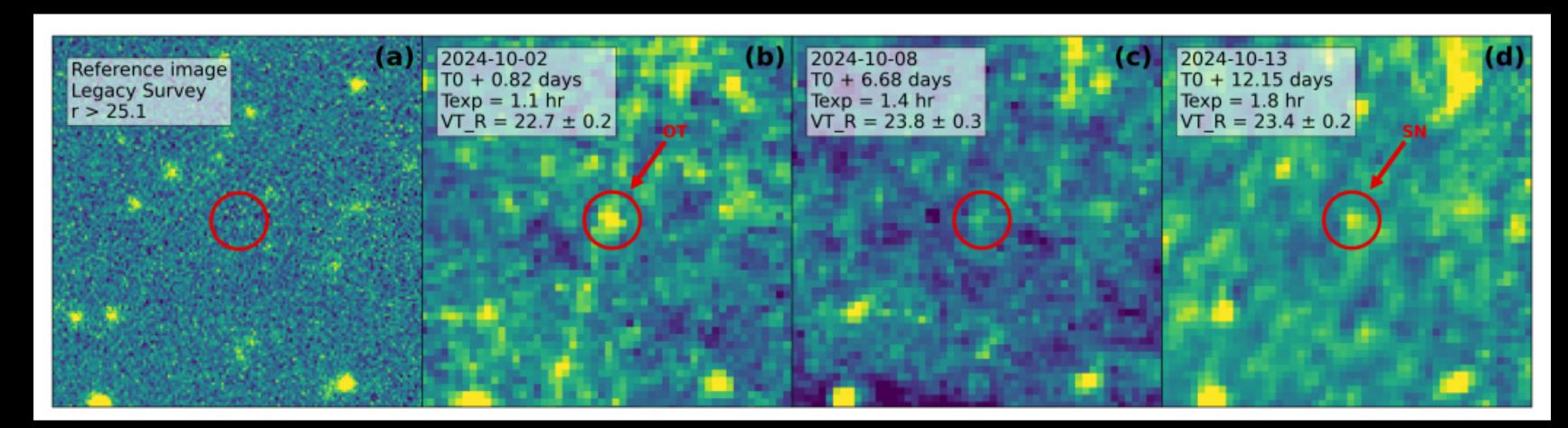
Unveiling the poorly known XRR/XRF burst population

GRB 241001A (SVOM): a very soft X-ray burst associated with a type Ic supernova (seen by JWST) - Schneider et al. (in prep)



ECLAIRs light curve in different energy bands

Credits: collaboration SVOM/IRAP, Marius Brunet

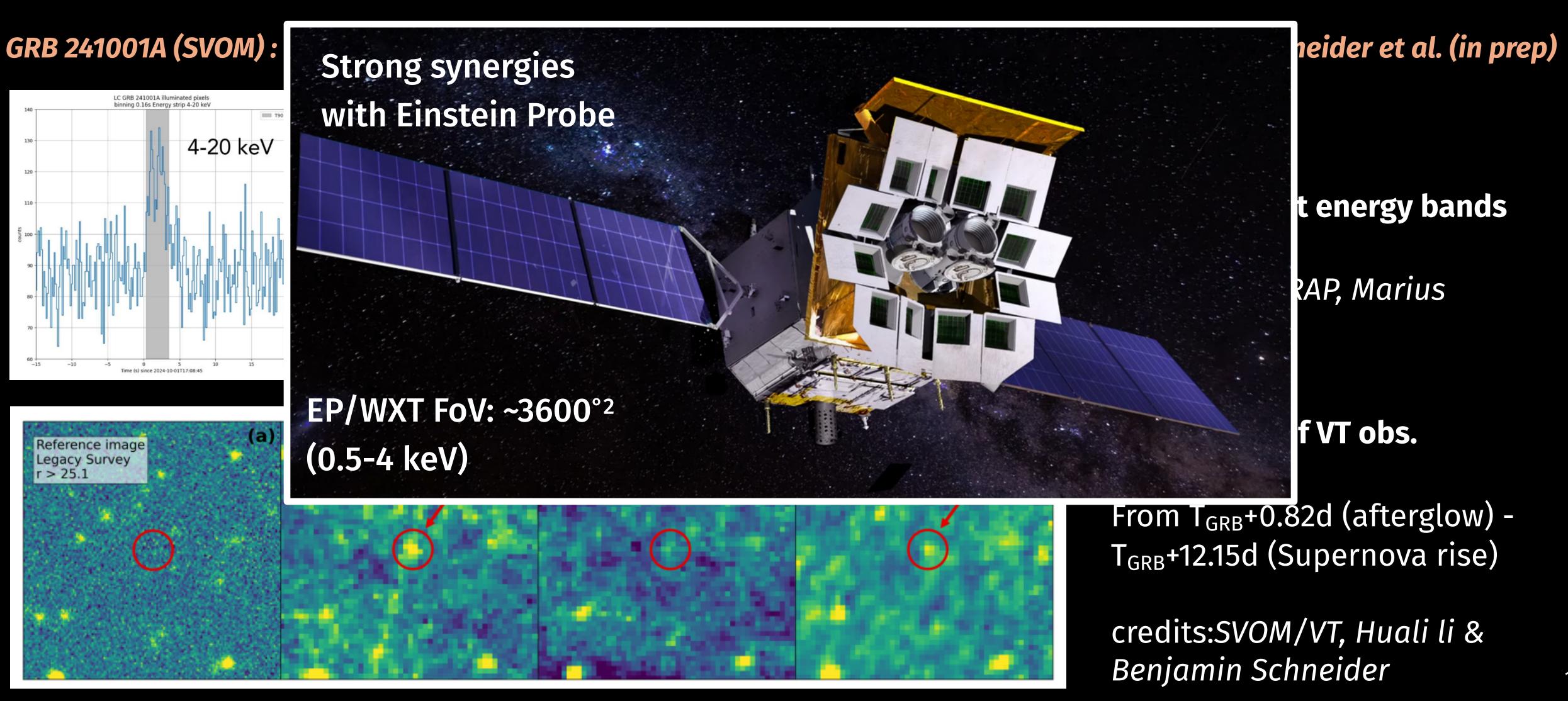


Time series of VT obs.

From T_{GRB}+0.82d (afterglow) - T_{GRB}+12.15d (Supernova rise)

Credits:SVOM/VT, Huali li & Benjamin Schneider

Unveiling the poorly known XRR/XRF burst population



Exploring the high-redshift GRB population

GRB 250314A at z~7.3! : 5th most distant burst, 3rd with a spectro measurement

12:56pm UTC — ECLAIRs sent the alert

40134. GRB 250314A: e-MERLIN observations

40012. GRB 250314A: ALMA detection

39954. GRB 250314A: VLA detection

39797. GRB 250314A: Keck/NIRC2 J-band upper limit

39779. GRB 250314A: ATCA radio upper limits

39761. GRB 250314A: REM optical/NIR upper limits

39746. GRB 250314A: SVOM/GRM analysis

39743. GRB 250314A: GTC z-band upper limit and updated photo-z ~ 7.27

39739. GRB 250314A: EP-FXT afterglow detection

39737. GRB 250314A: Swift/UVOT Upper Limits

39734. GRB 250314A: Swift XRT Detection

39732. GRB 250314A: VLT/X-shooter dropout, redshift z ~ 7.3

39729. SVOM/MXT upper limit on GRB 250314A

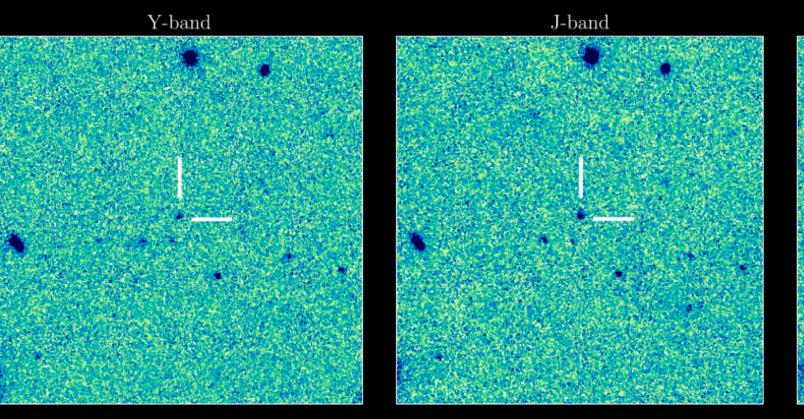
39728. GRB 250314A: SVOM/VT upper limit

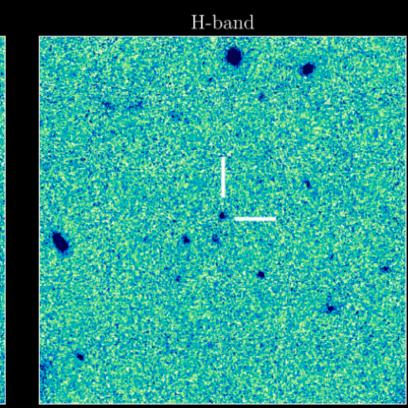
39727. GRB 250314A: NOT near-infrared candidate counterpart

39719. GRB 250314A: SVOM detection of a burst

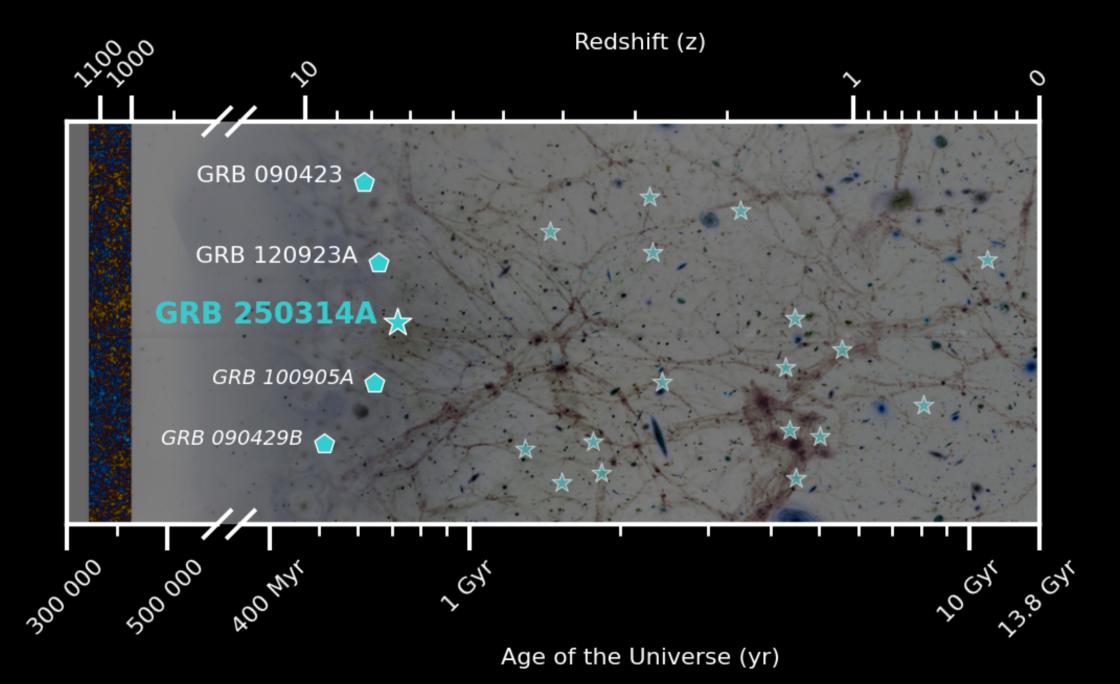
Multi-wavelength follow-up

VT optical afterglow





Redshift measurements at z = 7.27 (VLT/X-Shooter)

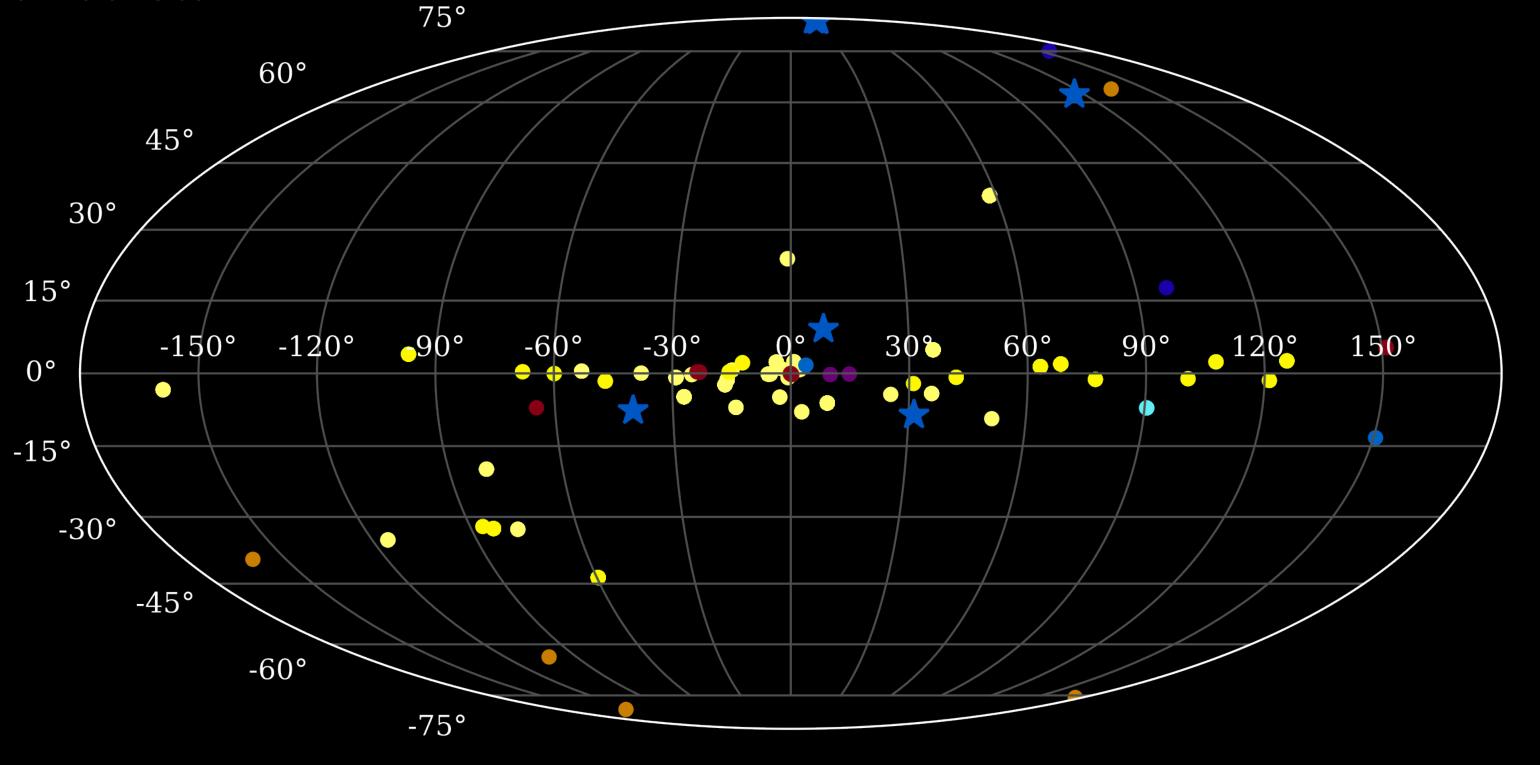


Non-GRBs triggers

354 non-GRB triggers (mostly galactic X-ray binaries) \rightarrow 24 ATels

- LMXB Type I thermonuclear bursts

- Blazar outbursts
- X-ray a outbursts
- Flaring stars
- Magnetar flares
- ULXs ?, TDEs ?, ...



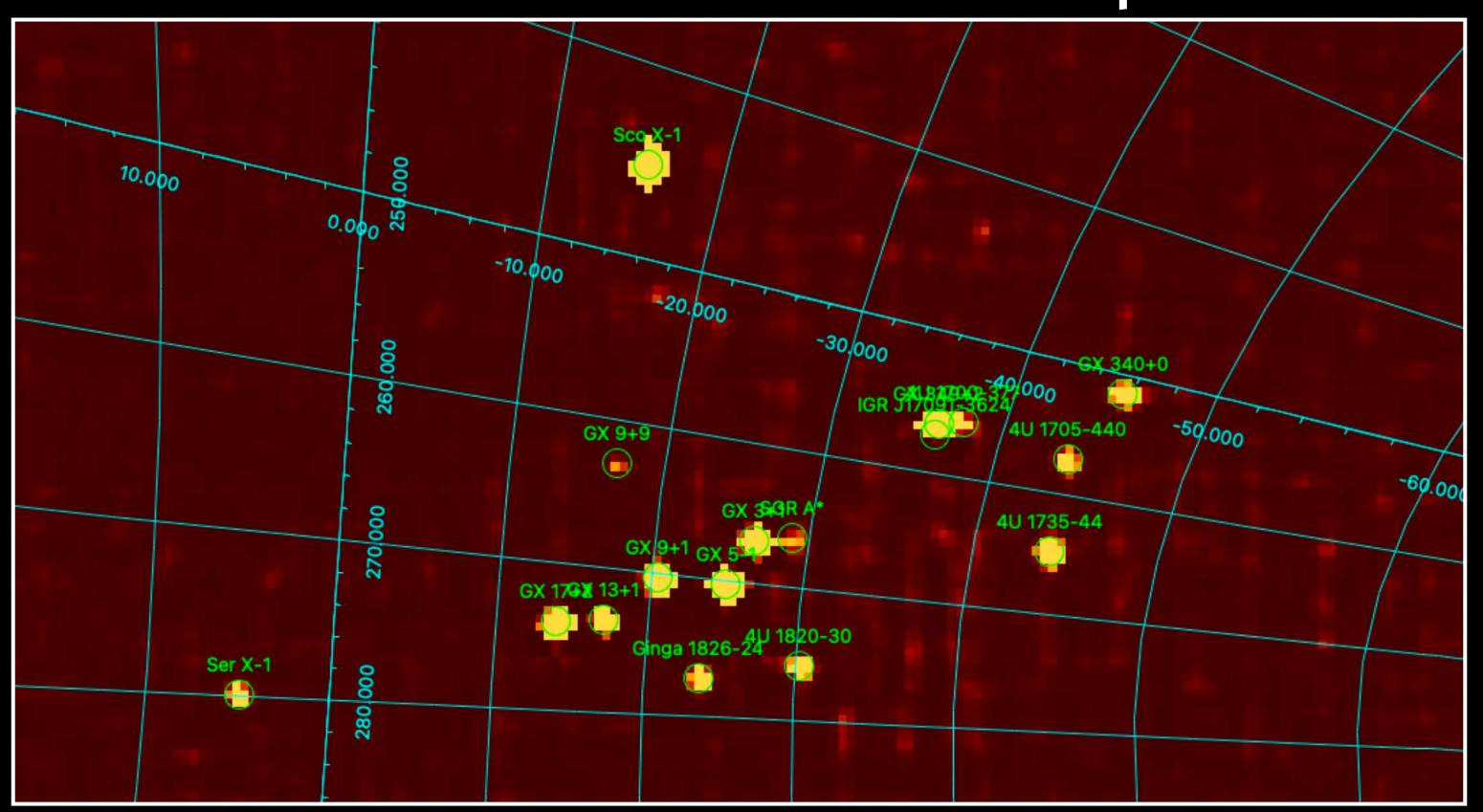
- LMXB
- HMXB
- Flaring star
- BXRB
- Magnetar
- AGN
- Galaxy cluster
- CV
- Unkwown
- Unidentified

Non-GRBs triggers

354 non-GRB triggers (mostly galactic X-ray binaries) \rightarrow 24 ATels

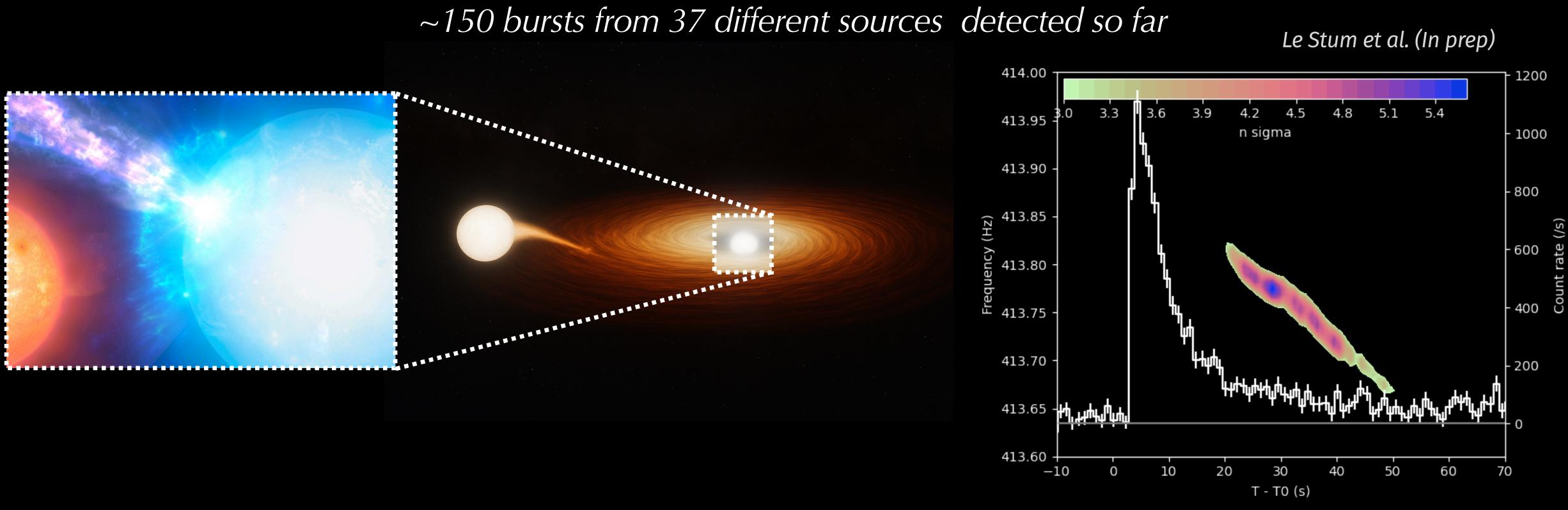
- LMXB Type I thermonuclear bursts
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- -X-ray a outbursts
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ECLAIRs 4-150 keV view of the Galactic plane



Observatory science

ECLAIRs: a Type I X-ray burst hunter!

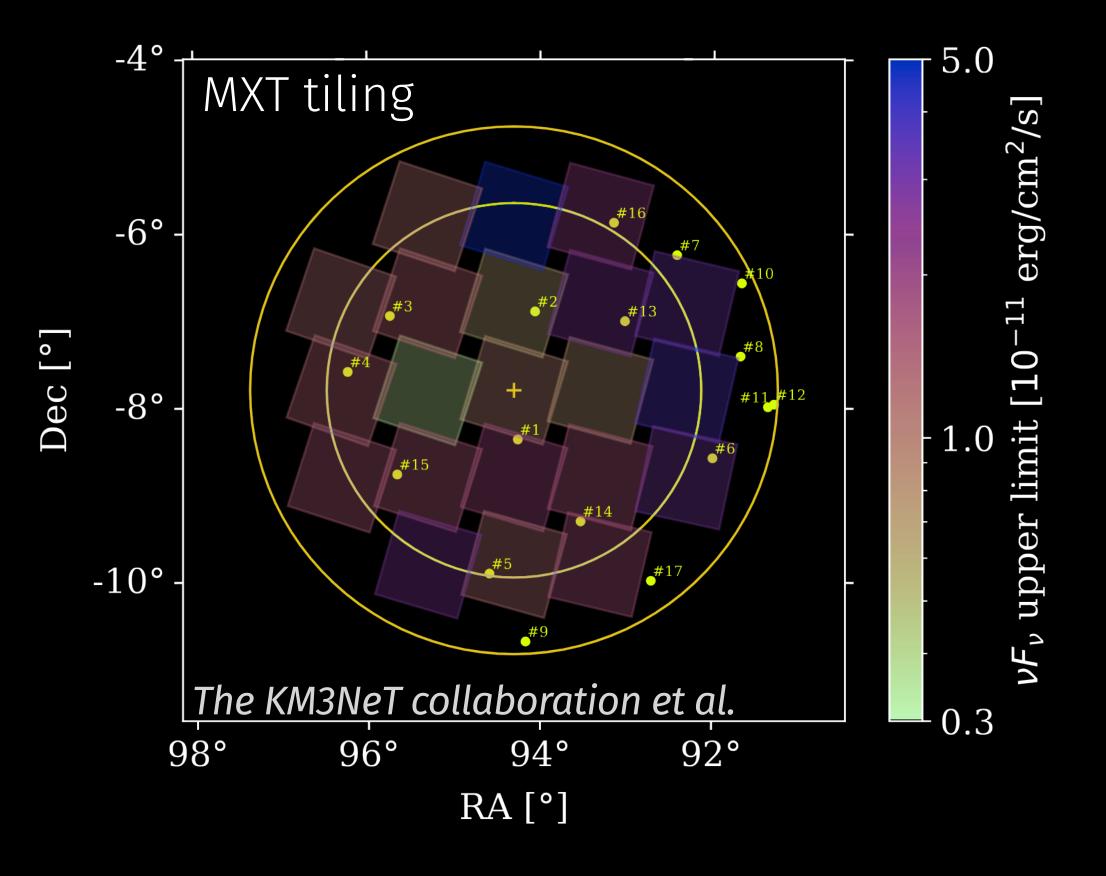


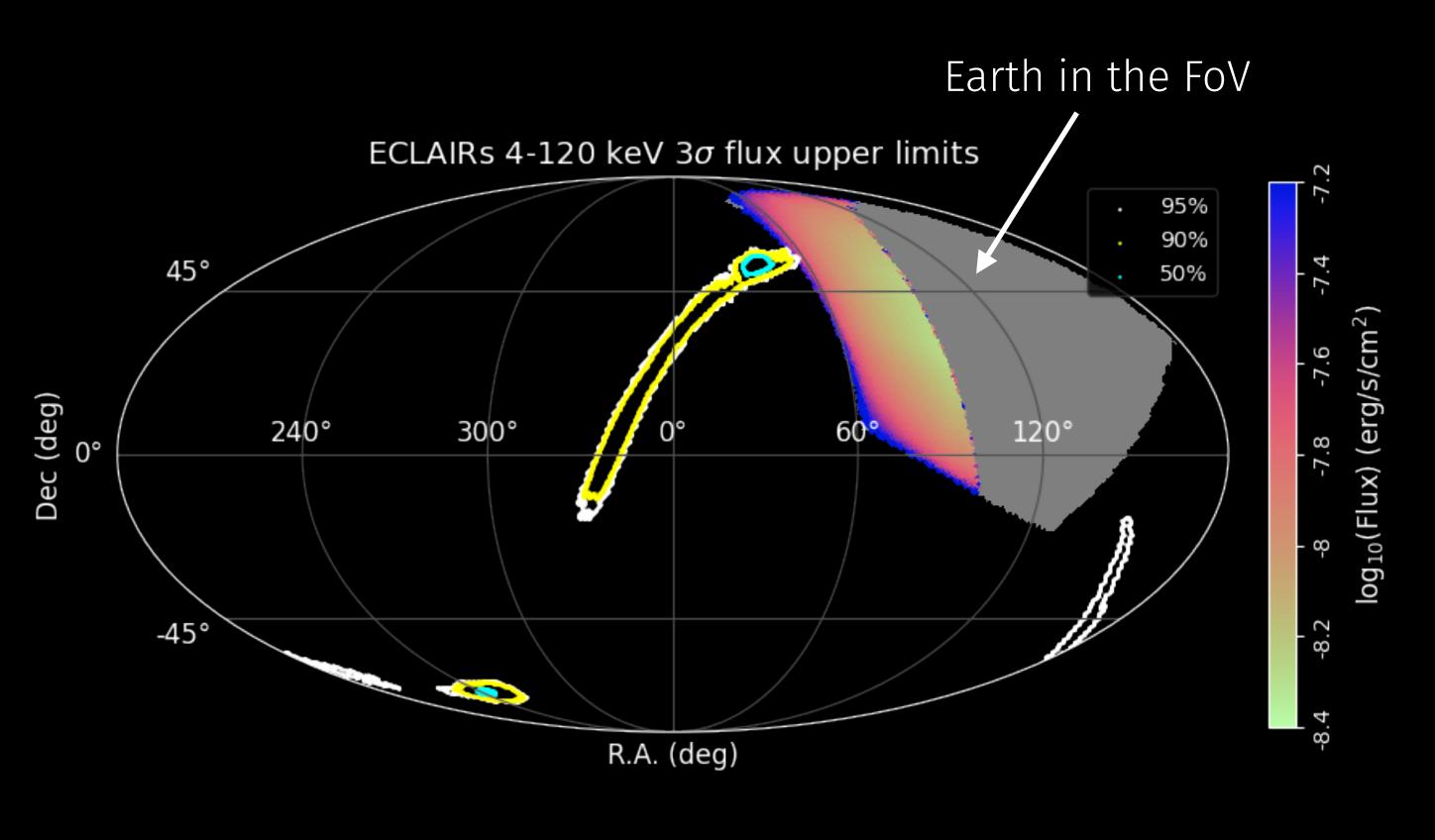
ECLAIRs detection of a type I burst of 4U 0614+014 on January 10 at 15:58:02 (UTC) - Cangemi et al. (2025)

- Detection of the neutron star pulsation at 413.69 Hz
- Decrease of the oscillation frequency observed during the burst (rare behavior).
- If orbital Doppler effect \rightarrow orbital period < 20 min (verification binary for LISA?)

Multi-messenger ToO program

- Follow-up of KM3Net UHE event KM-230213A / first SVOM ToO-MM to test the tiling strategy
- Search for a counterpart to S250206dm (NSBH/BNS event) no triggered ToO UL over 10 sec time window for E-2 spectrum
- Preliminary work to be improved





SVOM first results in a nutshell

SVOM 4 keV low energy threshold: a clear impact to better explore the

- Soft GRBs
- High-z GRB
- Type I thermonuclear X-ray bursts from X-ray binaries

A full spectral coverage of the burst's emission from 4 keV - 5 MeV

- Characterization of the soft γ -ray spectrum by ECLAIRs+GRM
- Detection non-GRB sources (jetted TDEs, ...)

• A large FoV (1°x1°) MXT x-ray telescope & a sensitive 40 cm VT telescope

- Several cases of well characterized events
- Already one high-z GRB identified
- Multi-wavelength follow-up of AGN and X-ray binary outbursts

General Program & ToO

- Pointed observations with yearly call for proposals
- Multi-messenger ToO programs

Already fruitful Collaboration with other missions and groups

- Efficient partnership with **Einstein Probe & Swift** to systematically catch X-ray and optical counterparts of respective triggers
- Collaboration with the **Stargate, NOT/GTC/GEMINI-GRB** optical/nIR spectroscopy of GRB afterglows/

