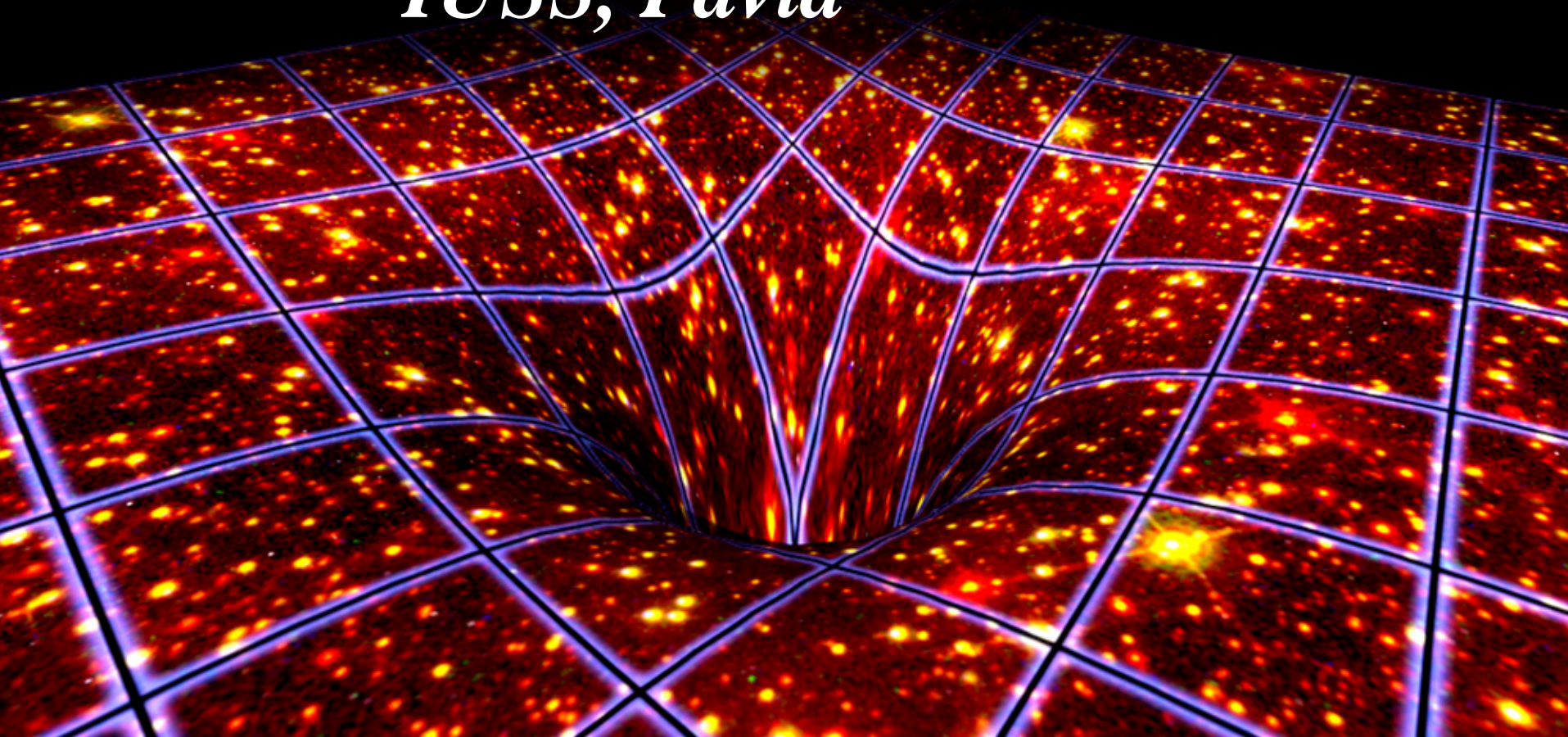


# Physics in space

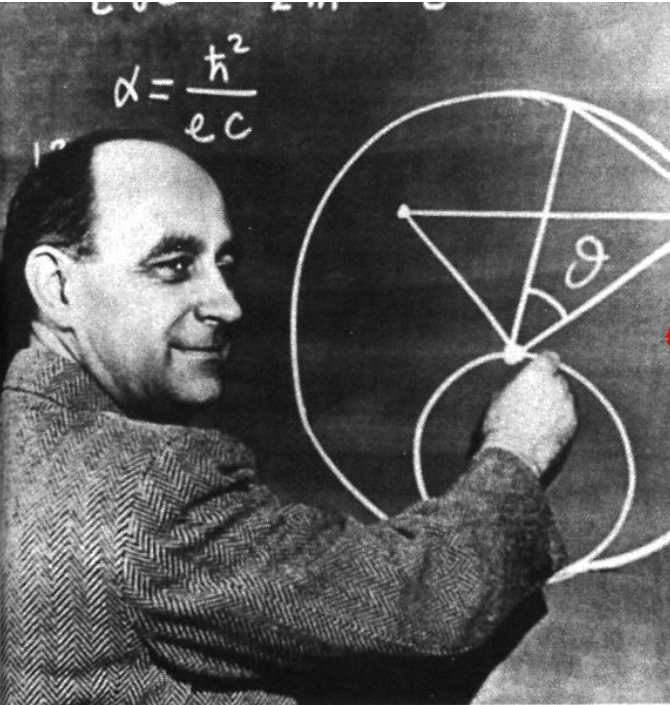
*Giovanni F. Bignami*

*IUSS, Pavia*

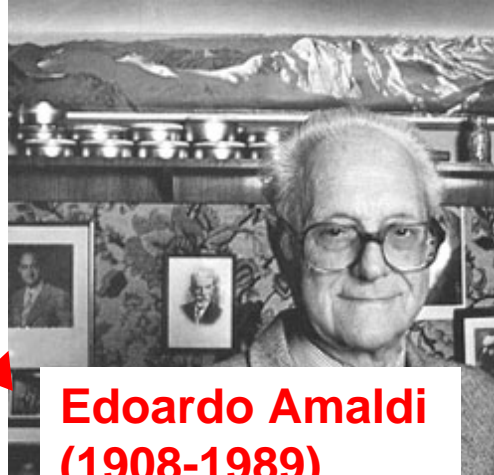




# Cultural Heritage



**Enrico Fermi (1901-1954)**



**Edoardo Amaldi (1908-1989)**



**Bruno Rossi (1904-1993)**



**Beppo Occhialini (1907-1993)**



**Riccardo Giacconi**

**CERN 1954**

**ESRO 1962**

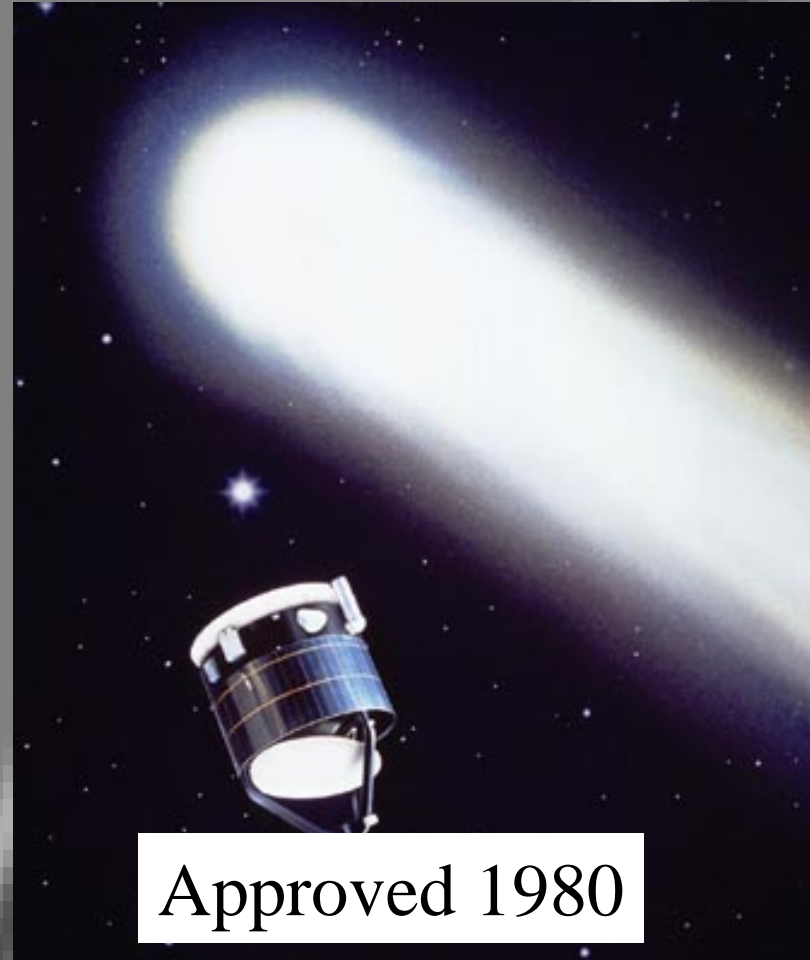
**ESA 1975**

**Chair SPC 78-81**

**Chair SSAC 81-83**



Approved 1983



Approved 1980

**1983: started Horizon 2000  
long term ESA planning  
exercise with a survey  
committee**

**20 years later...:**



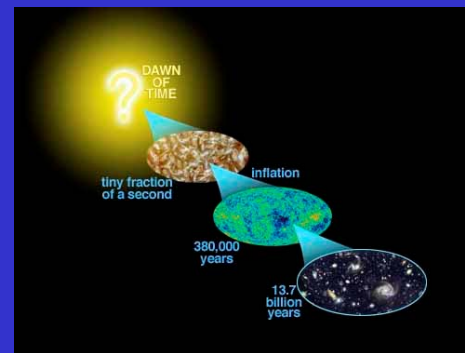
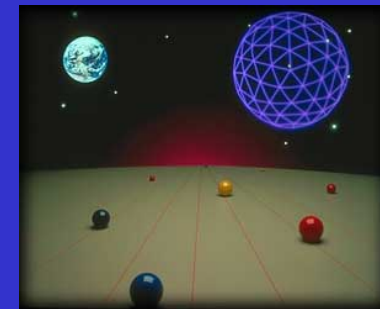
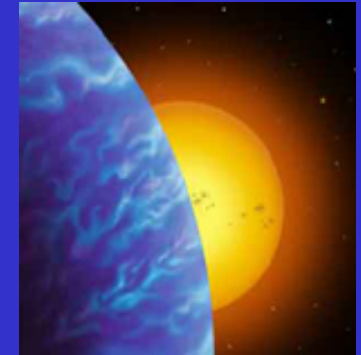
**Space Science for Europe**



*Cosmic Vision*  
**2015-2025**

# Grand themes

1. What are the conditions for life and planetary formation?
2. How does the Solar System work?
3. What are the fundamental laws of the Universe?
4. How did the Universe originate and what is it made of?





# A Science Vision for European Astronomy

**Astronet**

*What is the origin and  
evolution of stars and planets?*

*How do galaxies form and evolve?*

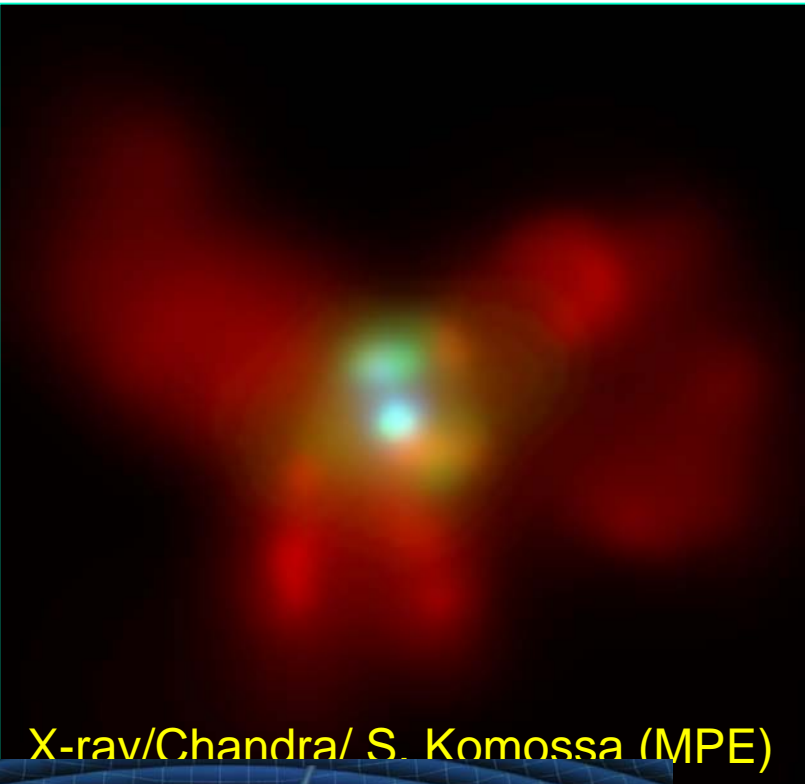
*Do we understand the  
extremes of the Universe?*

*How do we fit in?*

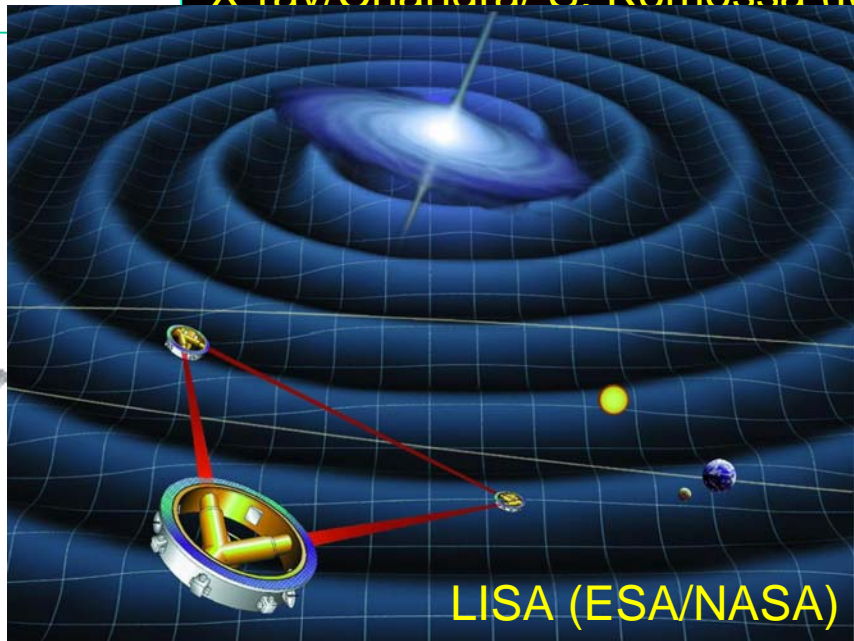
# The physics of gravitation at work



NGC 6240  
Optical/ESO 2.2m



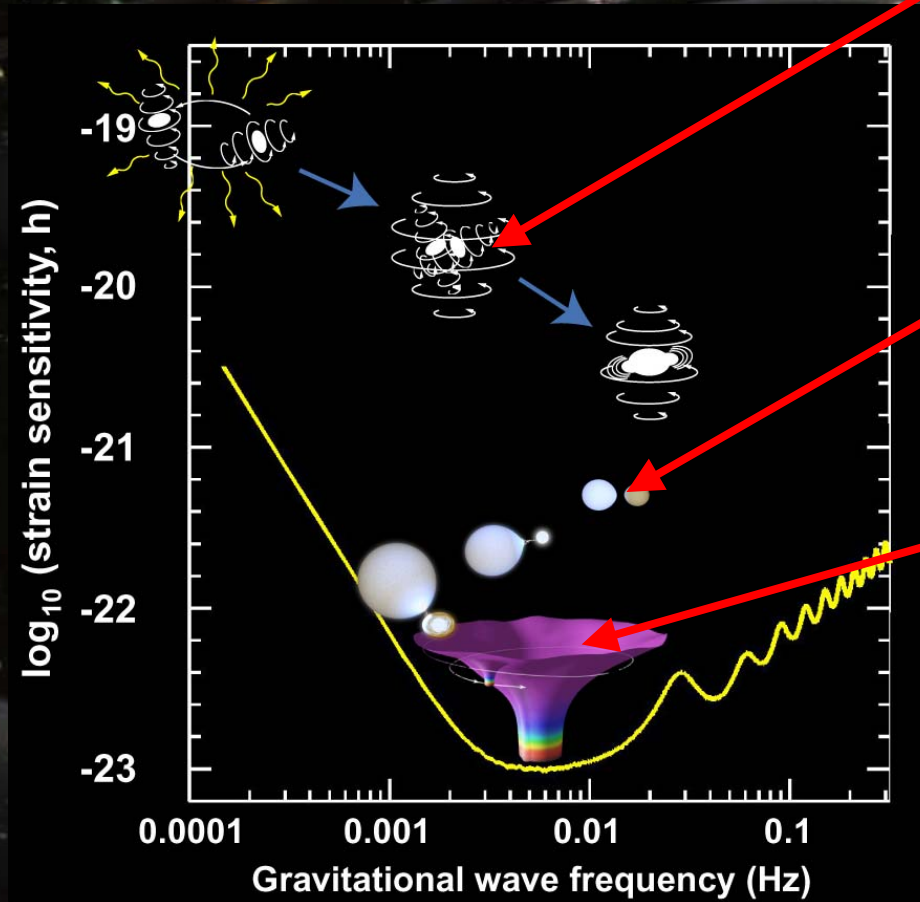
X-ray/Chandra/ S. Komossa (MPE)



LISA (ESA/NASA)



# LISA: A Universe Full of Strong GW Sources



Massive Black Hole Binary (BHB)  
inspiral and merger

Ultra-compact binaries

Extreme Mass Ratio Inspirals (EMRI)

Cosmic backgrounds,  
superstring bursts?

# nature



**THE K/T IMPACT**  
Baptistina asteroids  
in the frame

**BIOMETRICS**  
The questions you  
meant to ask

**TSUNAMIS**  
Tracking risk off the  
Myanmar coast

## THE RIDDLE OF INERTIA

How Earth's rotation  
reshapes space and time

**NATUREJOBS**  
Hydrogen  
technology





**LARES**



**LAGEOS 1, 2**

Particle Astrophysics:  
Matter,  
Antimatter,  
Dark Matter  
Strange Matter....

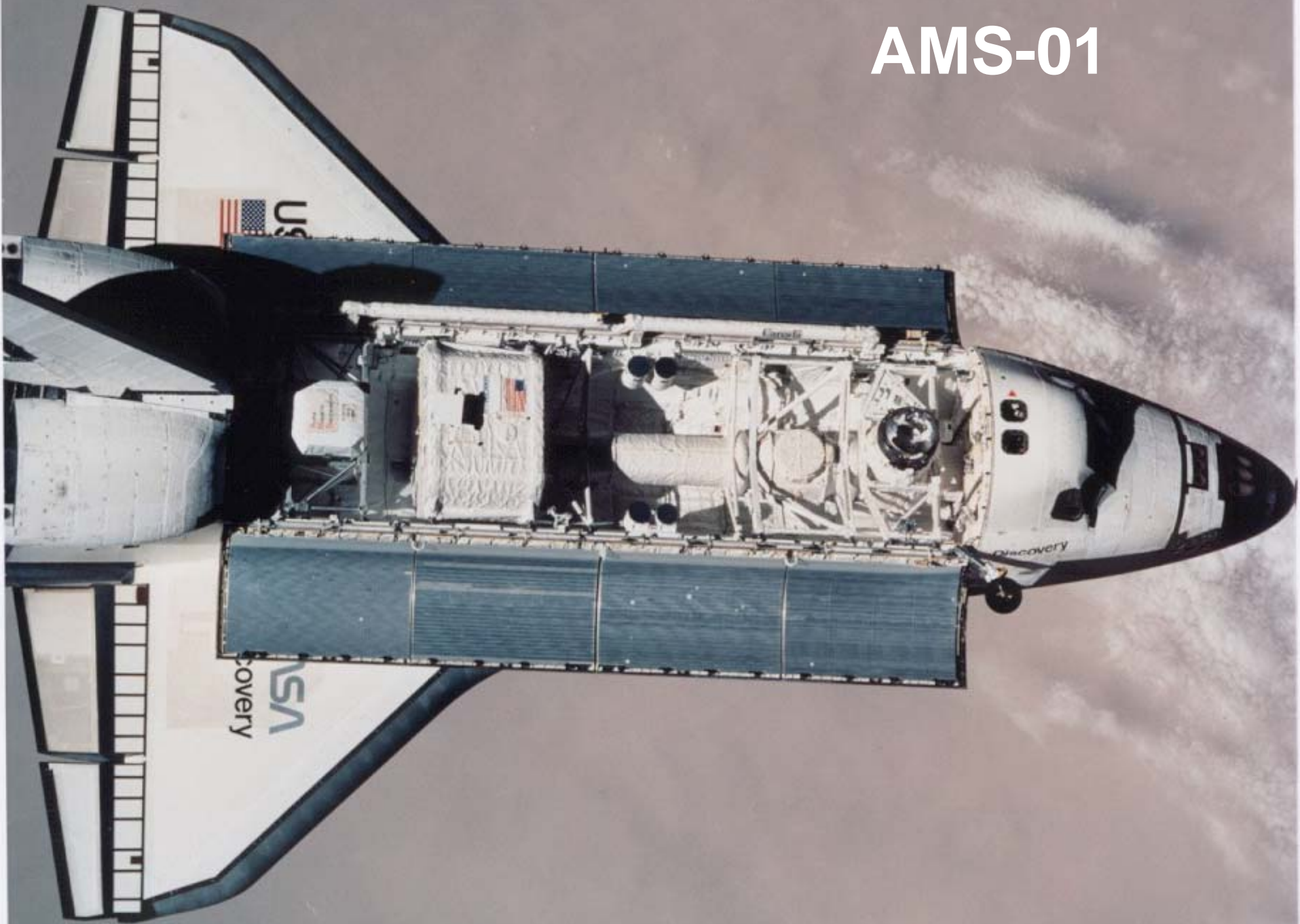




a **P**ayload for **A**ntimatter **M**atter **E**xploration  
and **L**ight-nuclei **A**strophysics

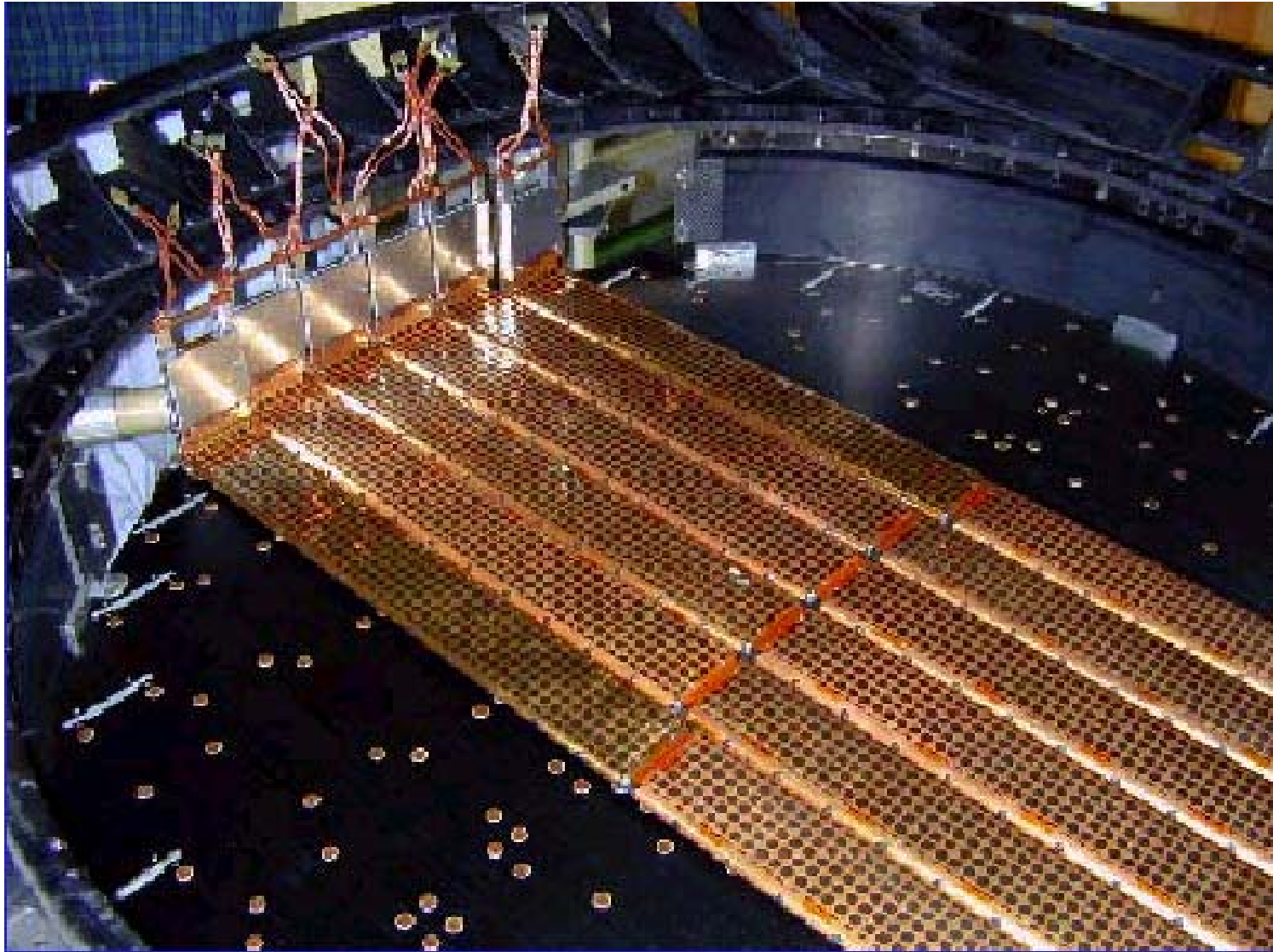


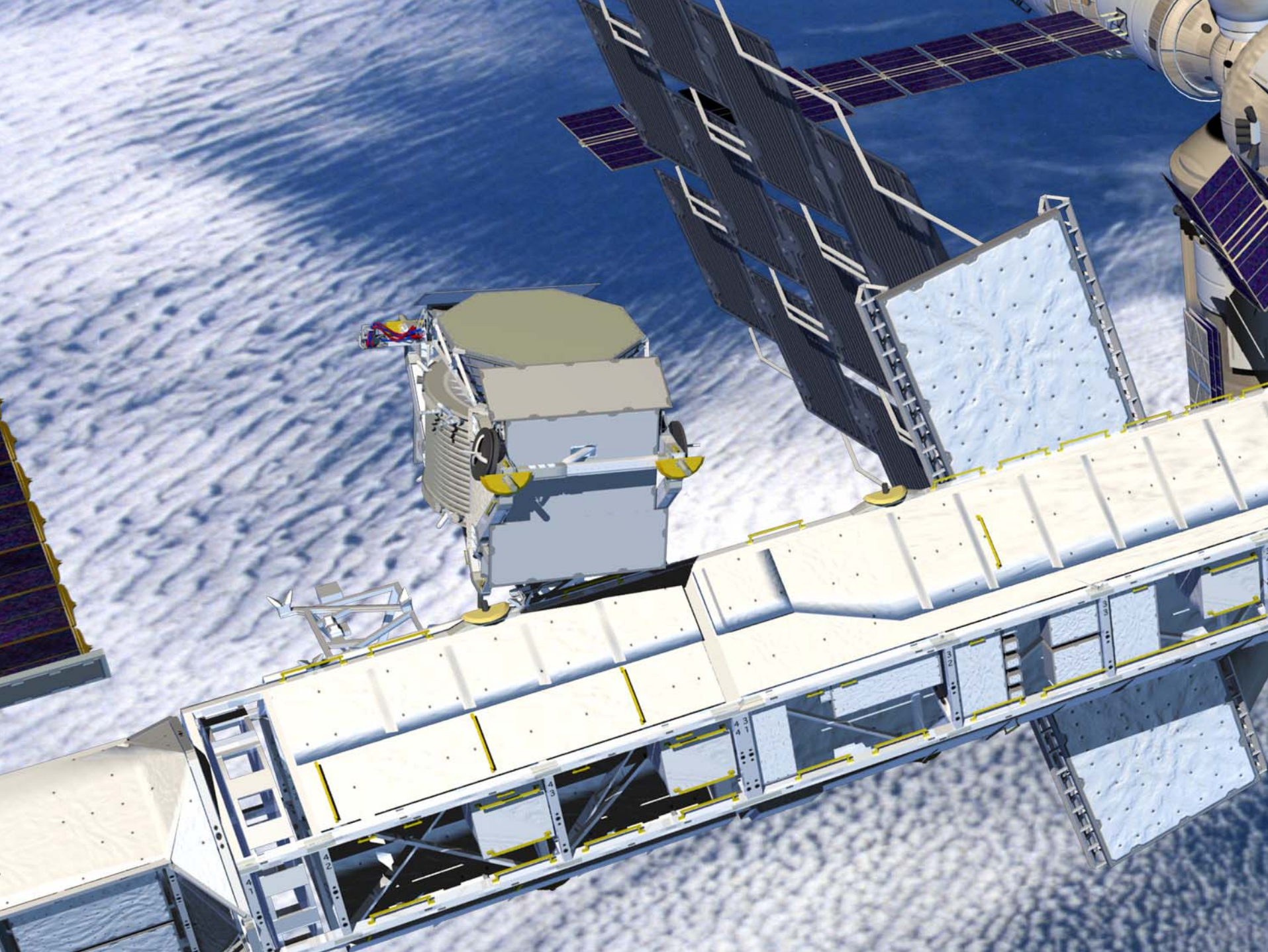
AMS-01





# AMS-01 Tracker Planes with Silicon Ladders Installed

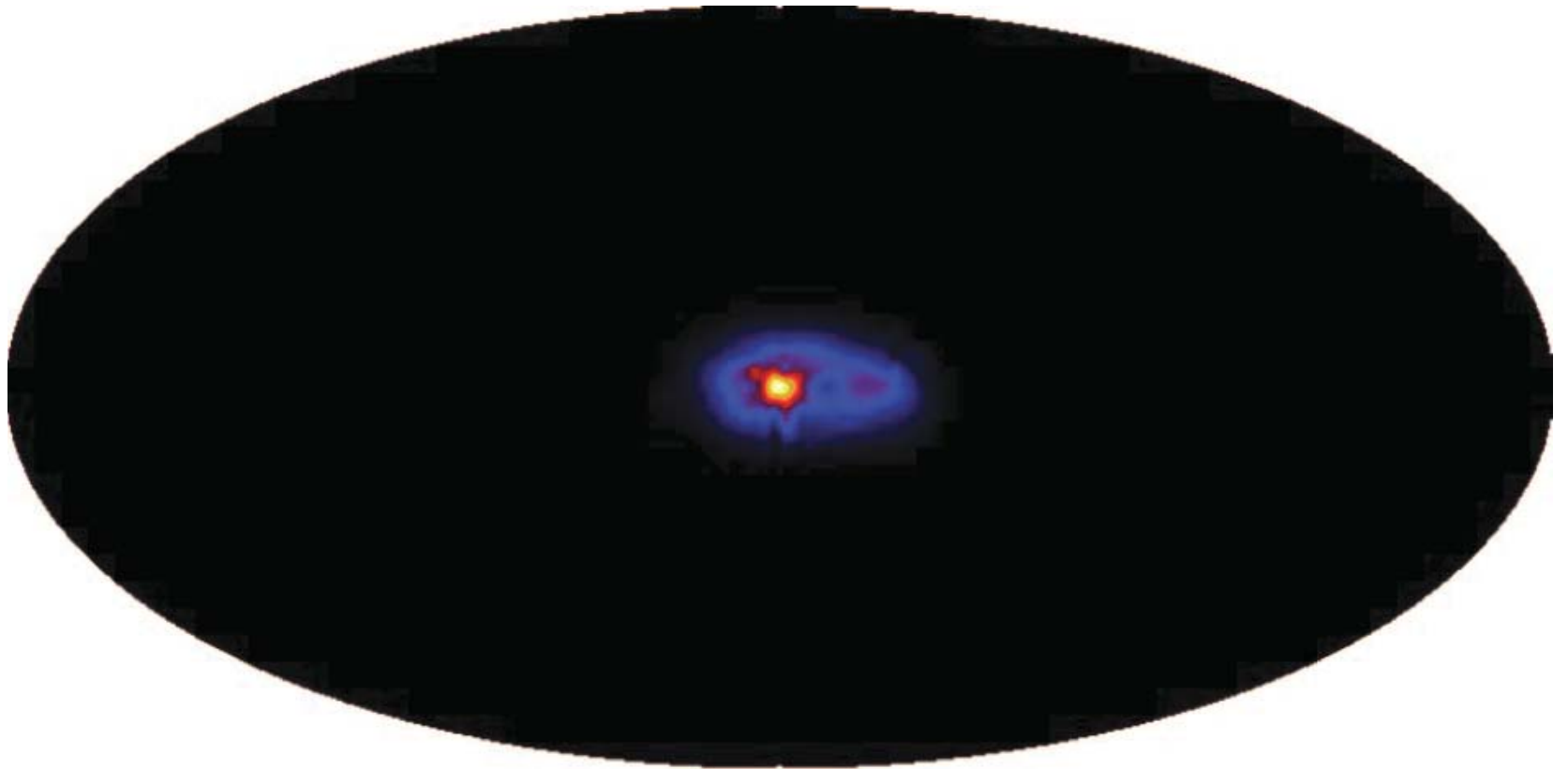




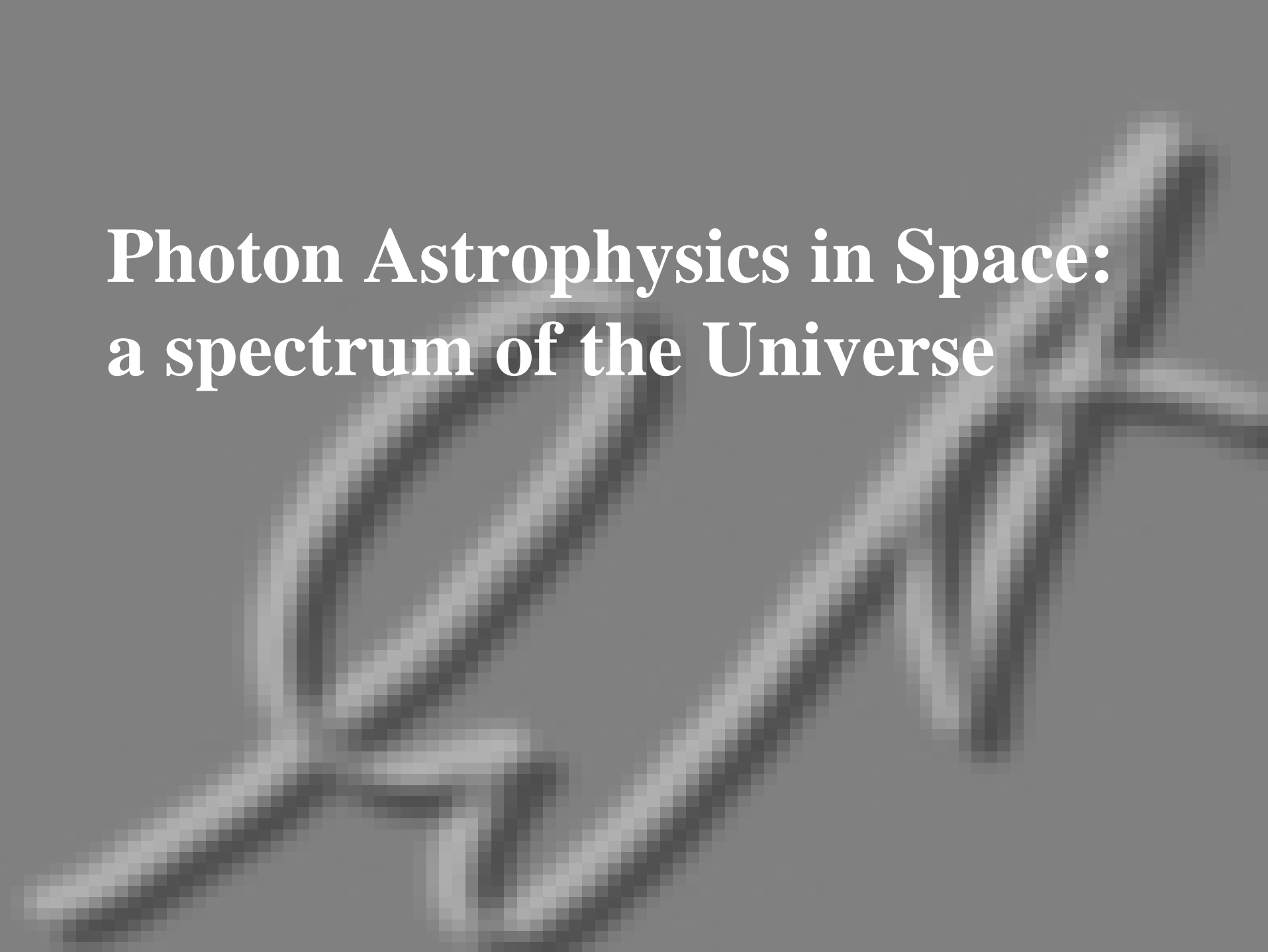


# An asymmetric distribution of positrons in the Galactic disk revealed by $\gamma$ -rays

Georg Weidenspointner<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Gerry Skinner<sup>1,4,5</sup>, Pierre Jean<sup>1</sup>, Jürgen Knödlseher<sup>1</sup>, Peter von Ballmoos<sup>1</sup>, Giovanni Bignami<sup>1,8</sup>, Roland Diehl<sup>2</sup>, Andrew W. Strong<sup>2</sup>, Bertrand Cordier<sup>6</sup>, Stéphane Schanne<sup>6</sup> & Christoph Winkler<sup>7</sup>

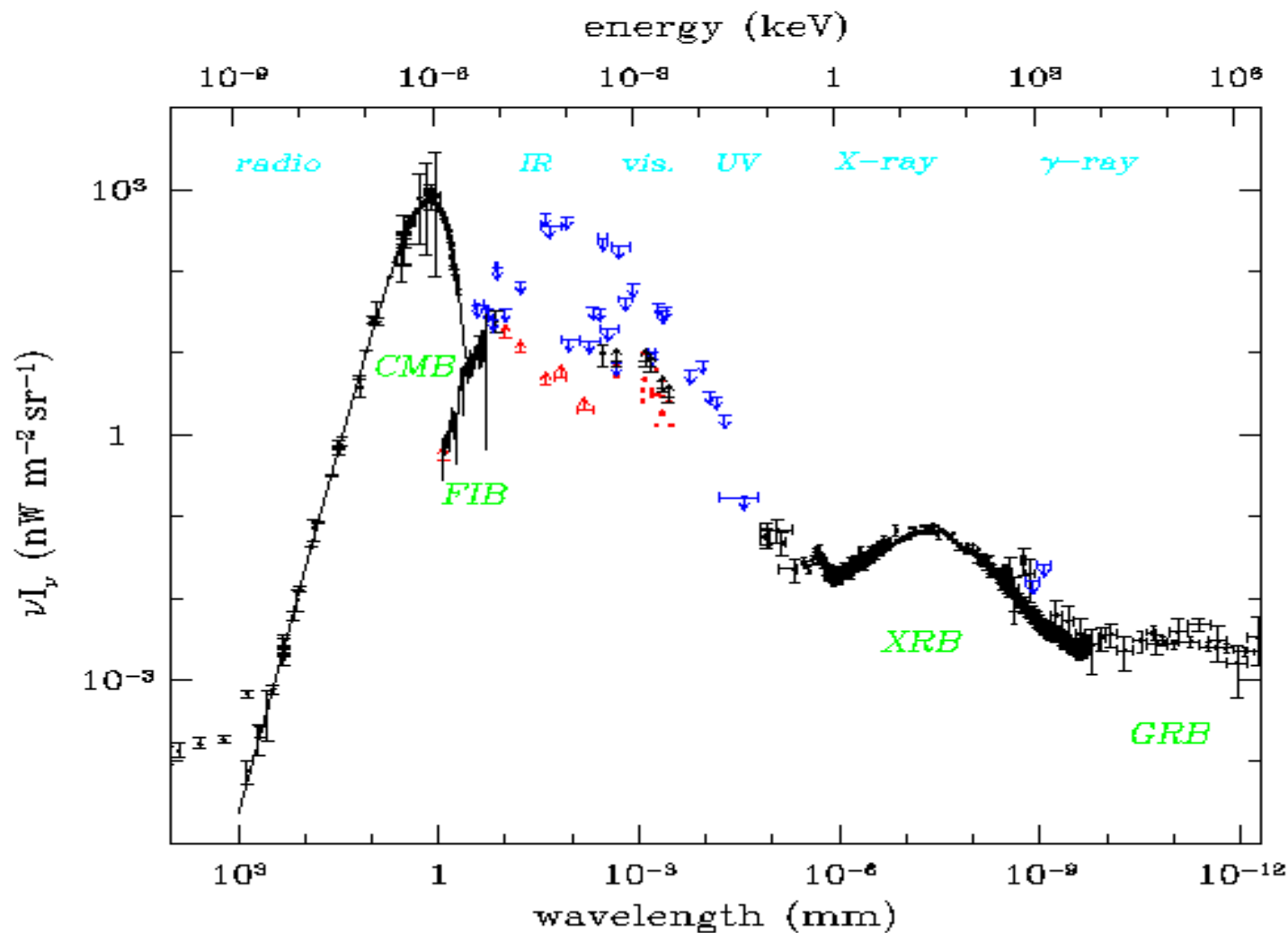




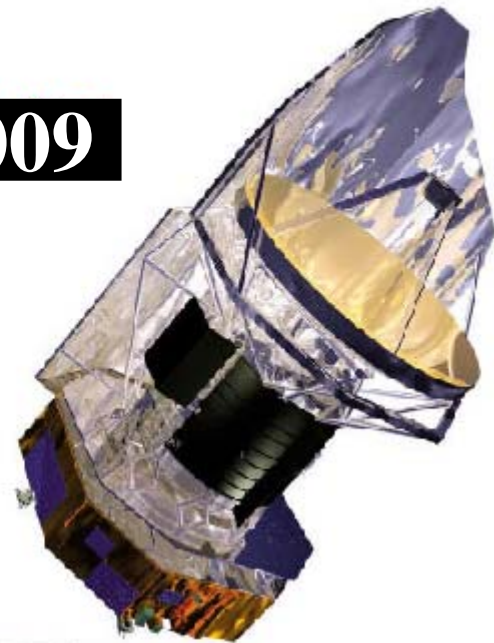
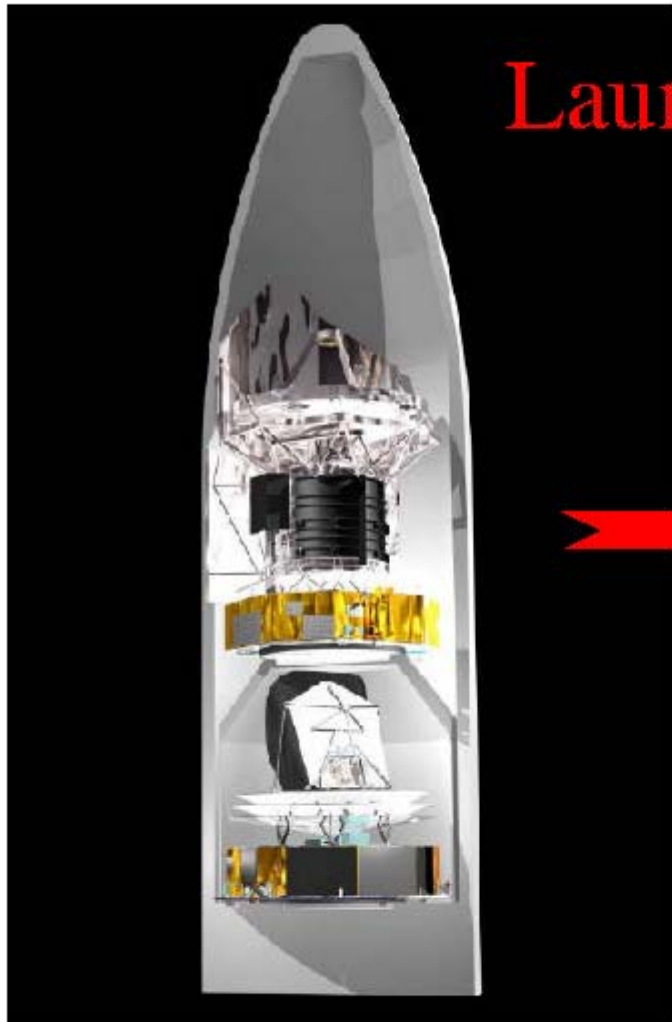


# Photon Astrophysics in Space: a spectrum of the Universe

# Cosmic background from radio to gamma rays



Launch in 2009

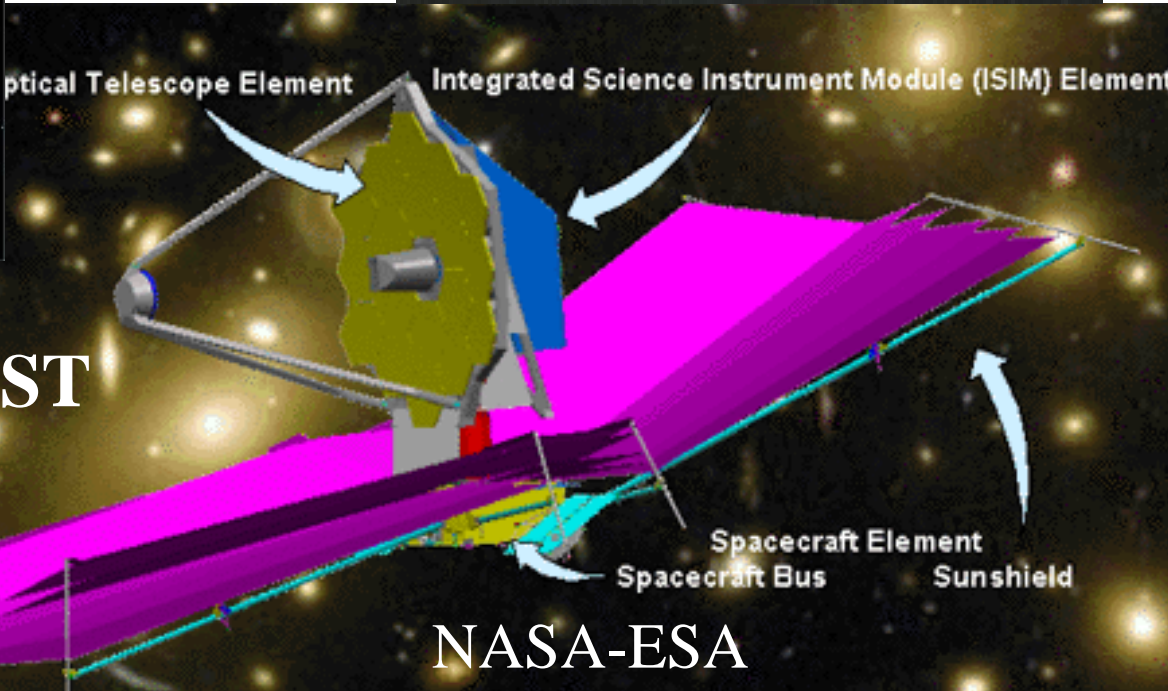
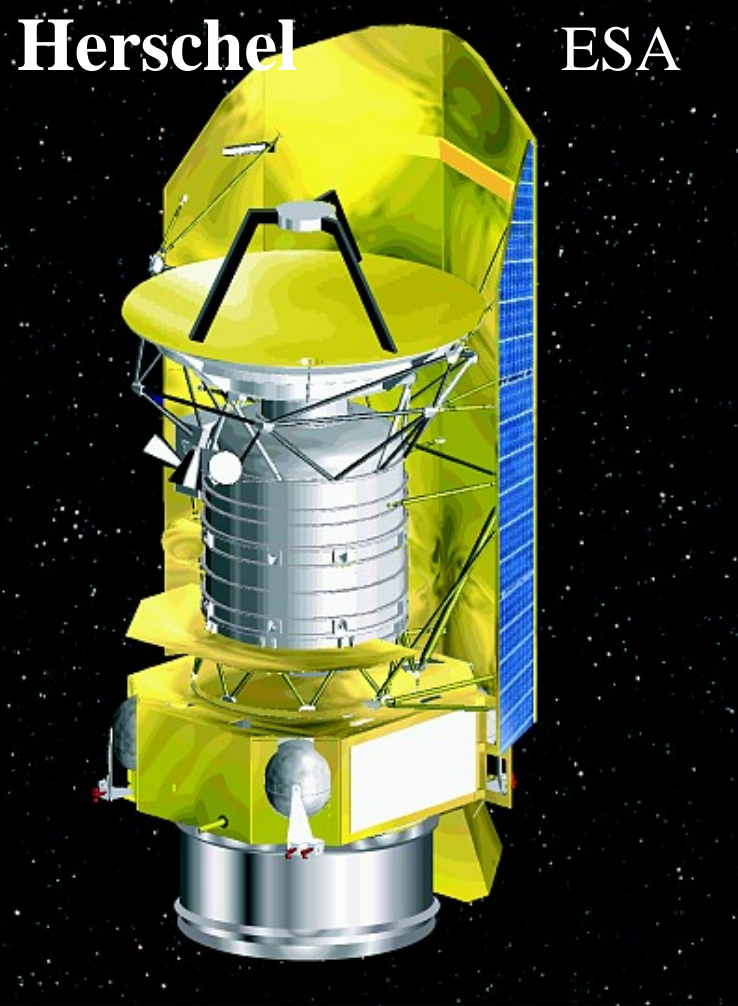


PLANCK



esa  
ASTROPHYSICS





# High-Energy Astrophysics: an Italian Specialty

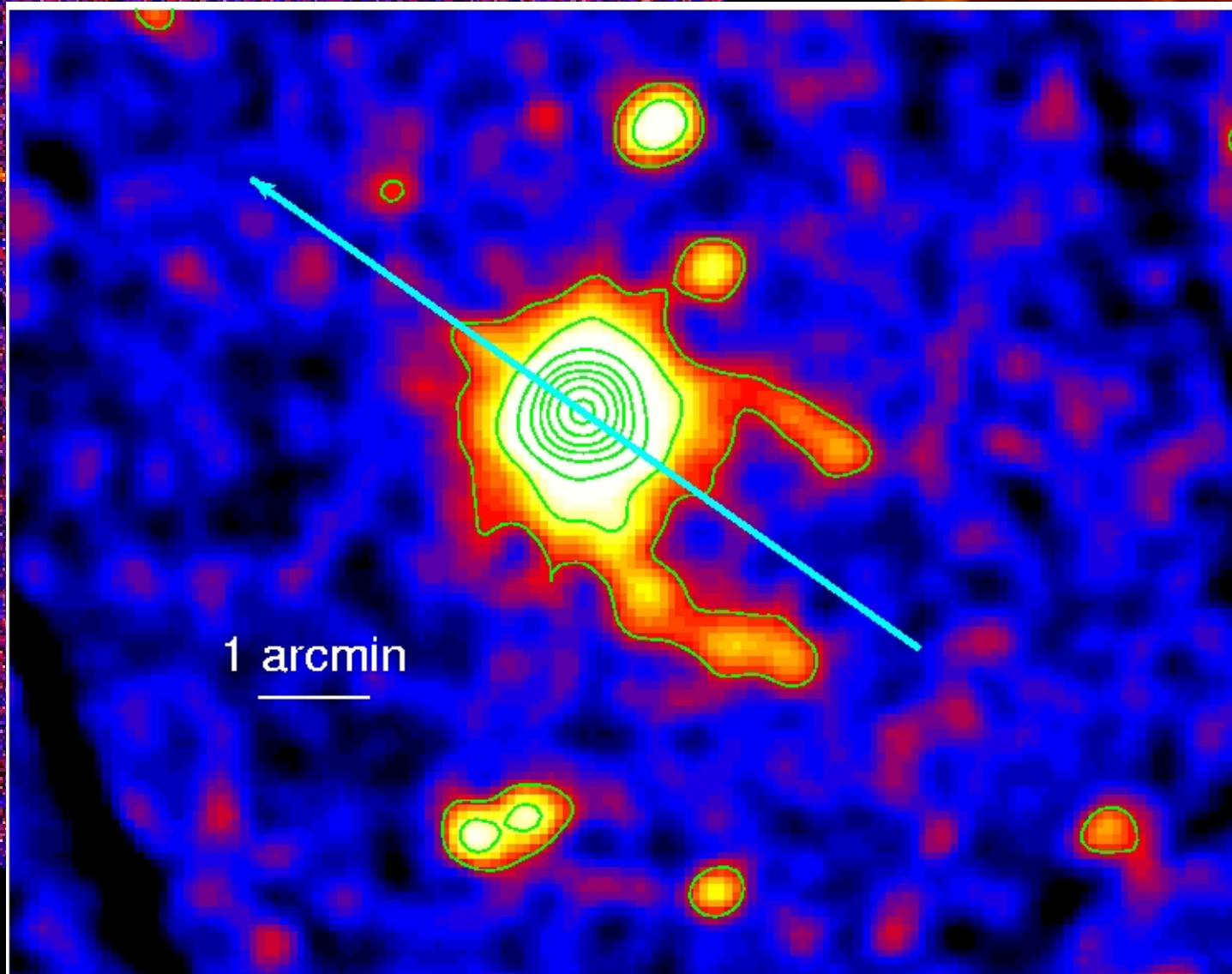
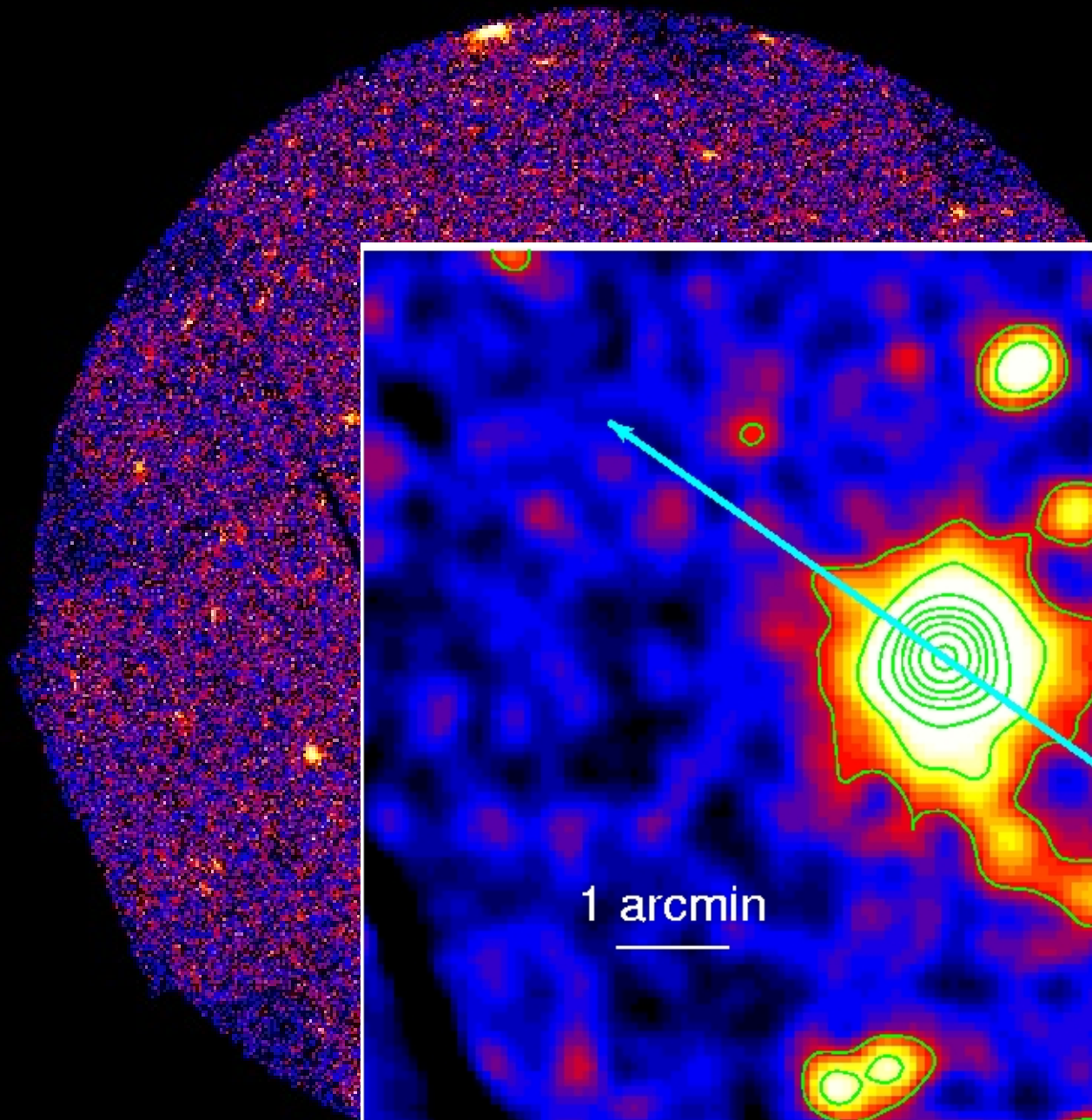






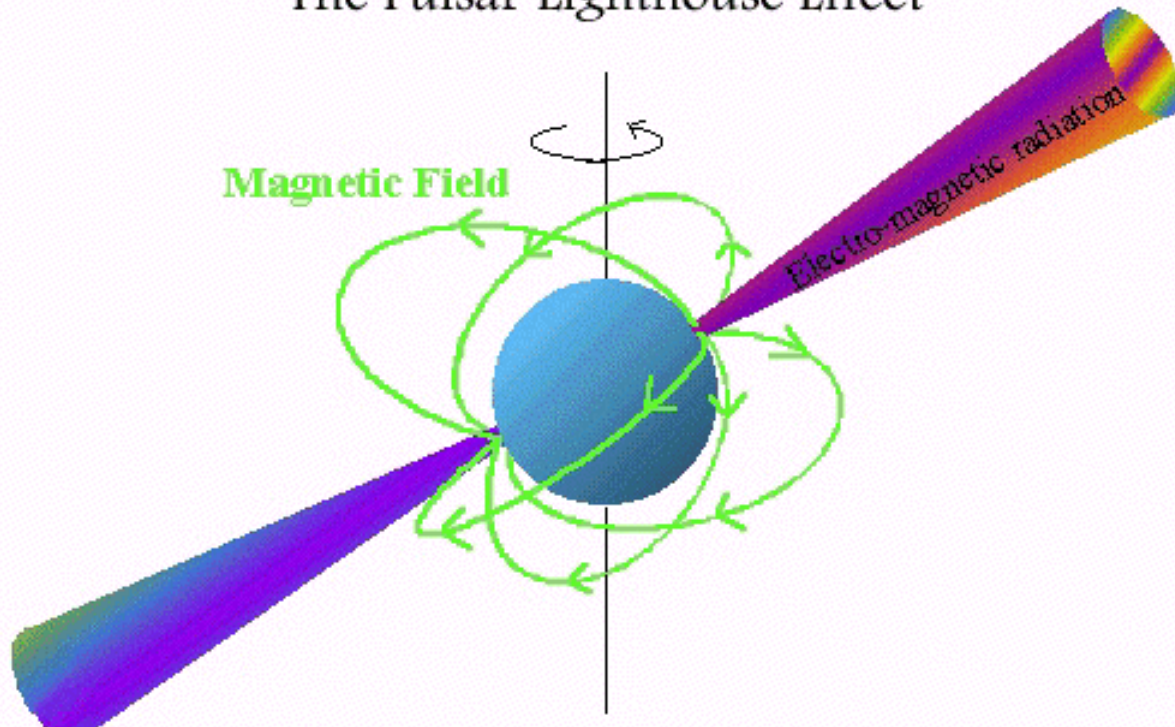
# Newton and Neutron Star Physics:

*Evidence for particle acceleration  
In situ magnetic field measurement*



**To produce keV photons in  $10^{-5}$  G B field  
one needs  $10^{14}$  eV electrons**

The Pulsar Lighthouse Effect



$$\Delta V_{\max} \sim \frac{\Omega^2 B_p R^3}{2c^2} \sim \frac{I\Omega\dot{\Omega}}{eN_0} \sim 2 \times 10^{14} \text{ V} ,$$



Science

PhysicsWorld

SEPTEMBER 2003

physicsweb.org

VOLUME 16 NO 9

5 September 2003

Science

Vol. 301

No. 5638

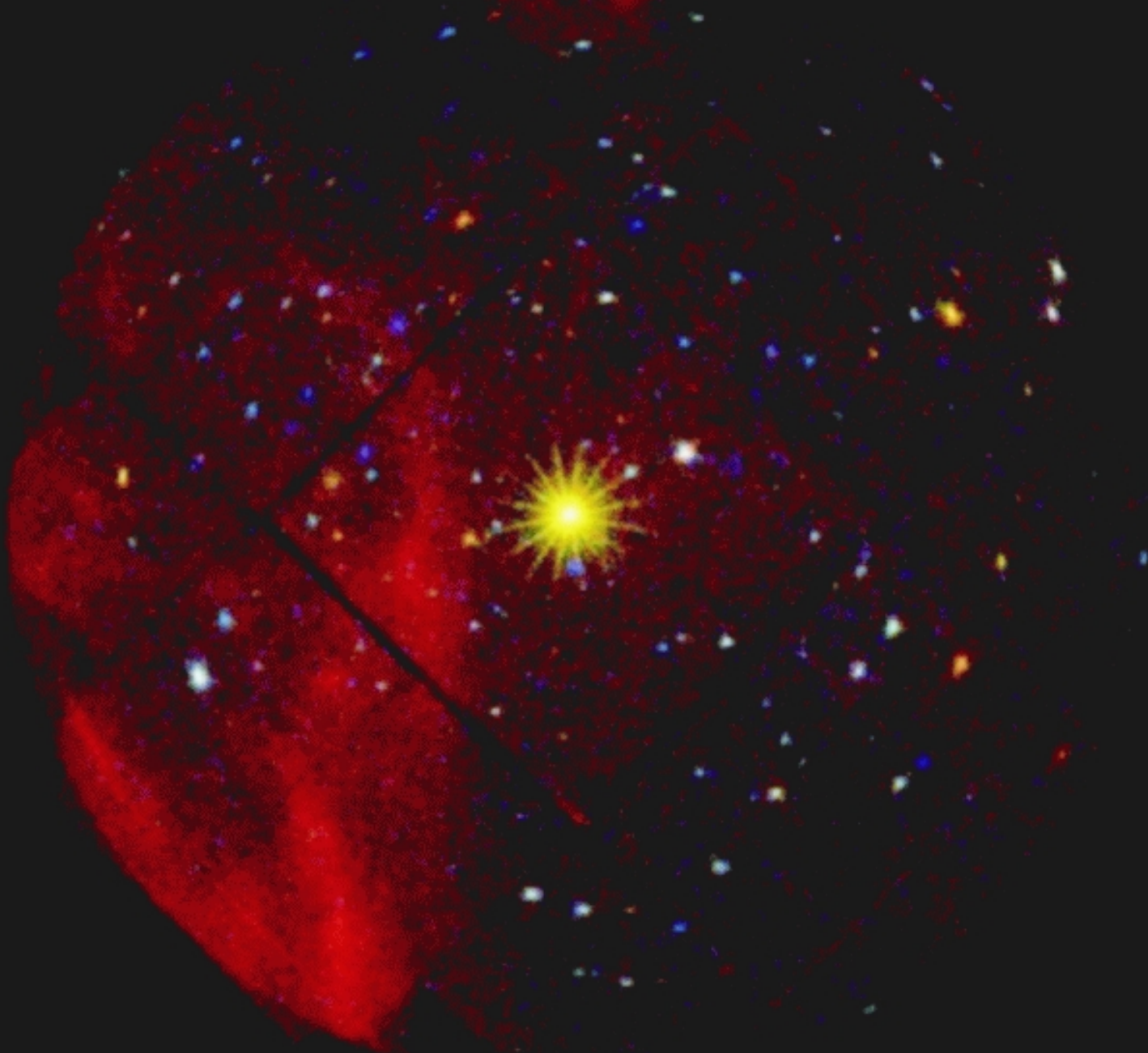
Pages 1273-1424

Now you see them  
Neutron stars reveal  
their secrets

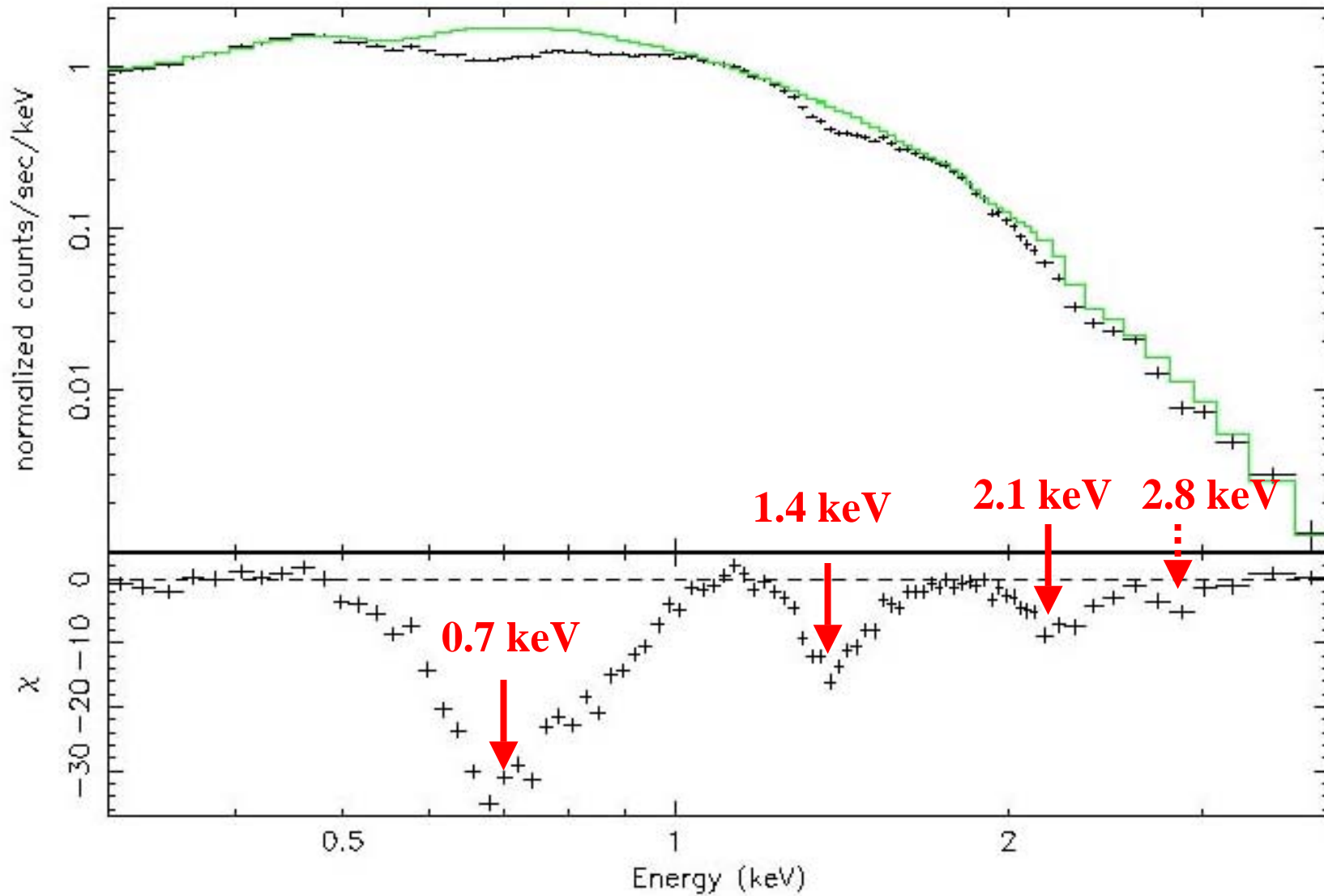
Geminga accelerates electrons up  
to  $E = 10^{14}$  eV



EPIC view of 1E1207.4-5209 : 260 ksec



# How to measure the Magnetic Field of a NS





**IF electron cyclotron:  $\langle B \rangle 8 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ G}$**

**IF proton  $\langle B \rangle 1.6 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ G}$**

**Now | we know  
It was born slow**

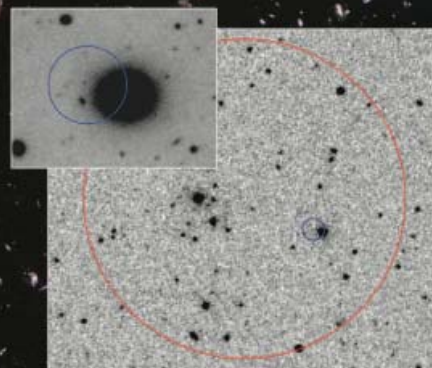




6 October 2005 | www.nature.com/nature | \$10

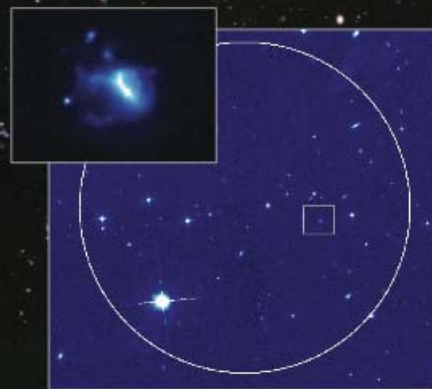
THE INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

# nature



## SHORT GAMMA-RAY BURSTS

The birth of a black hole seen in the stars



## INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

Genome sequence of the 1918 virus

## SEX PHEROMONES

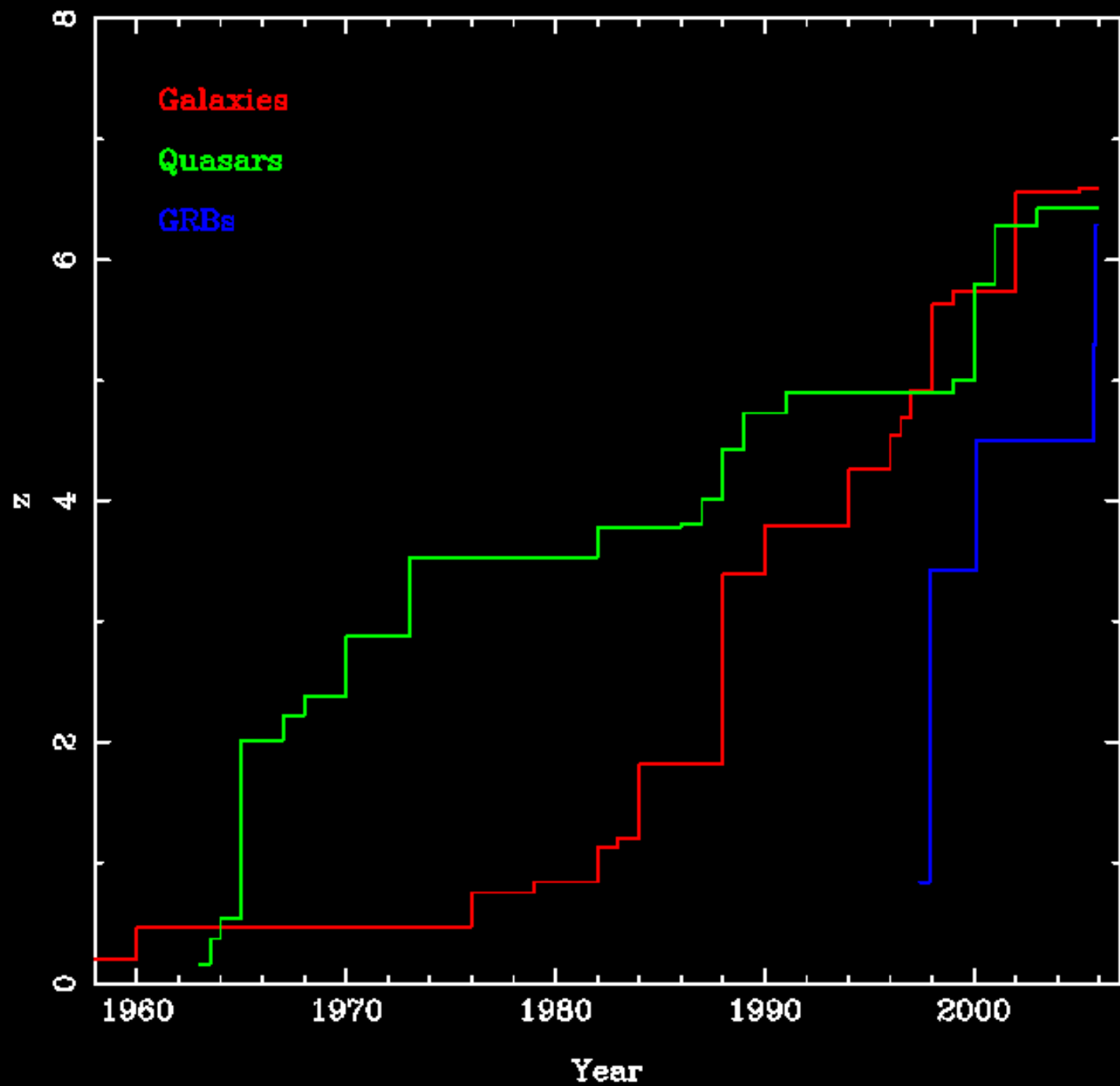
A glint in the eye

## EARTHQUAKES

Pulling the trigger

**NATUREJOBS**  
Project management





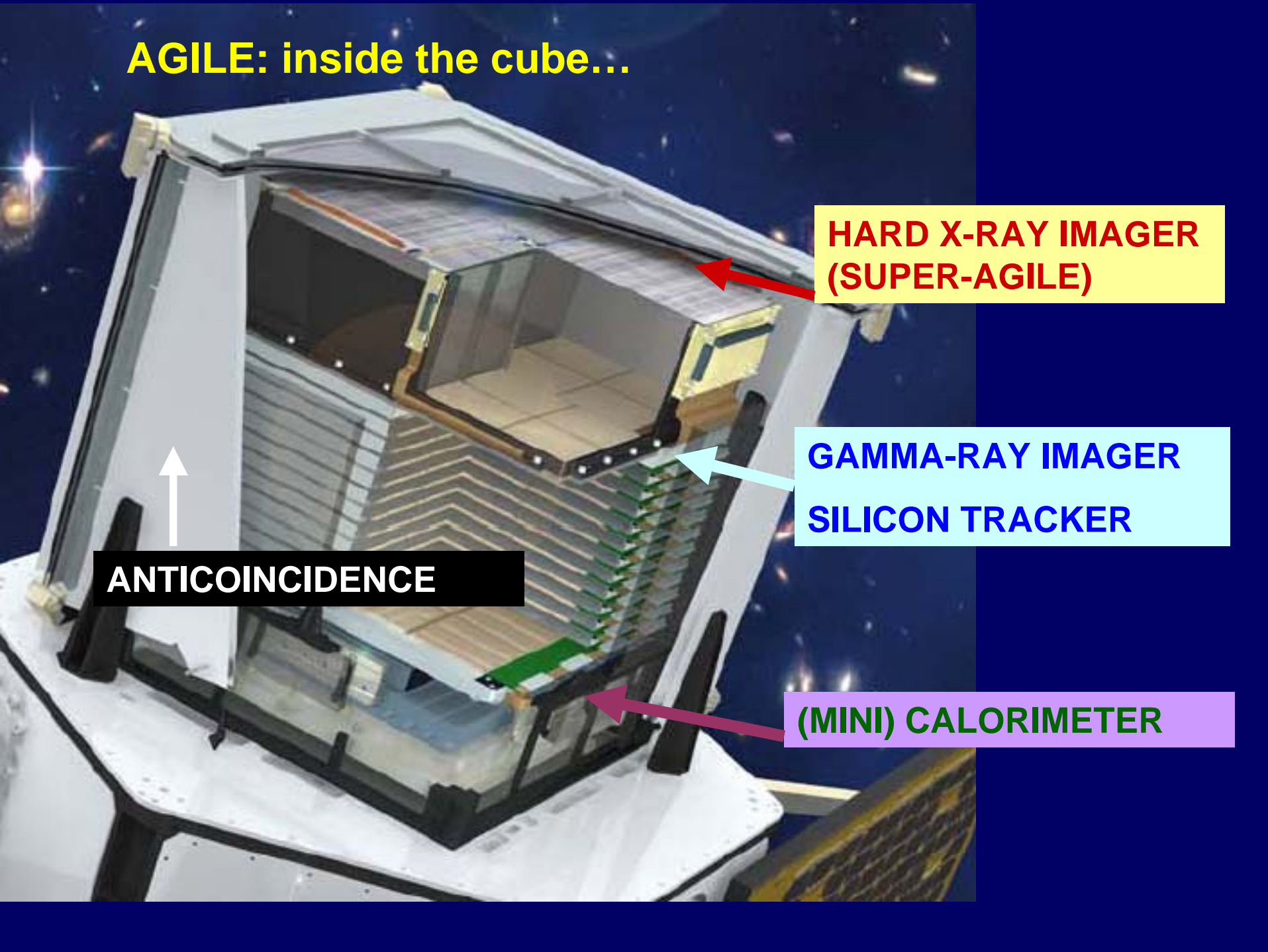




**The AGILE Payload: the most compact instrument for high-energy astrophysics**

It combines for the first time a **gamma-ray imager (30 MeV- 30 GeV)** with a **hard X-ray imager (18-60 keV)** with large FOVs (1-2.5 sr) and optimal angular resolution

# AGILE: inside the cube...



**HARD X-RAY IMAGER  
(SUPER-AGILE)**

**GAMMA-RAY IMAGER  
SILICON TRACKER**

**ANTICOINCIDENCE**

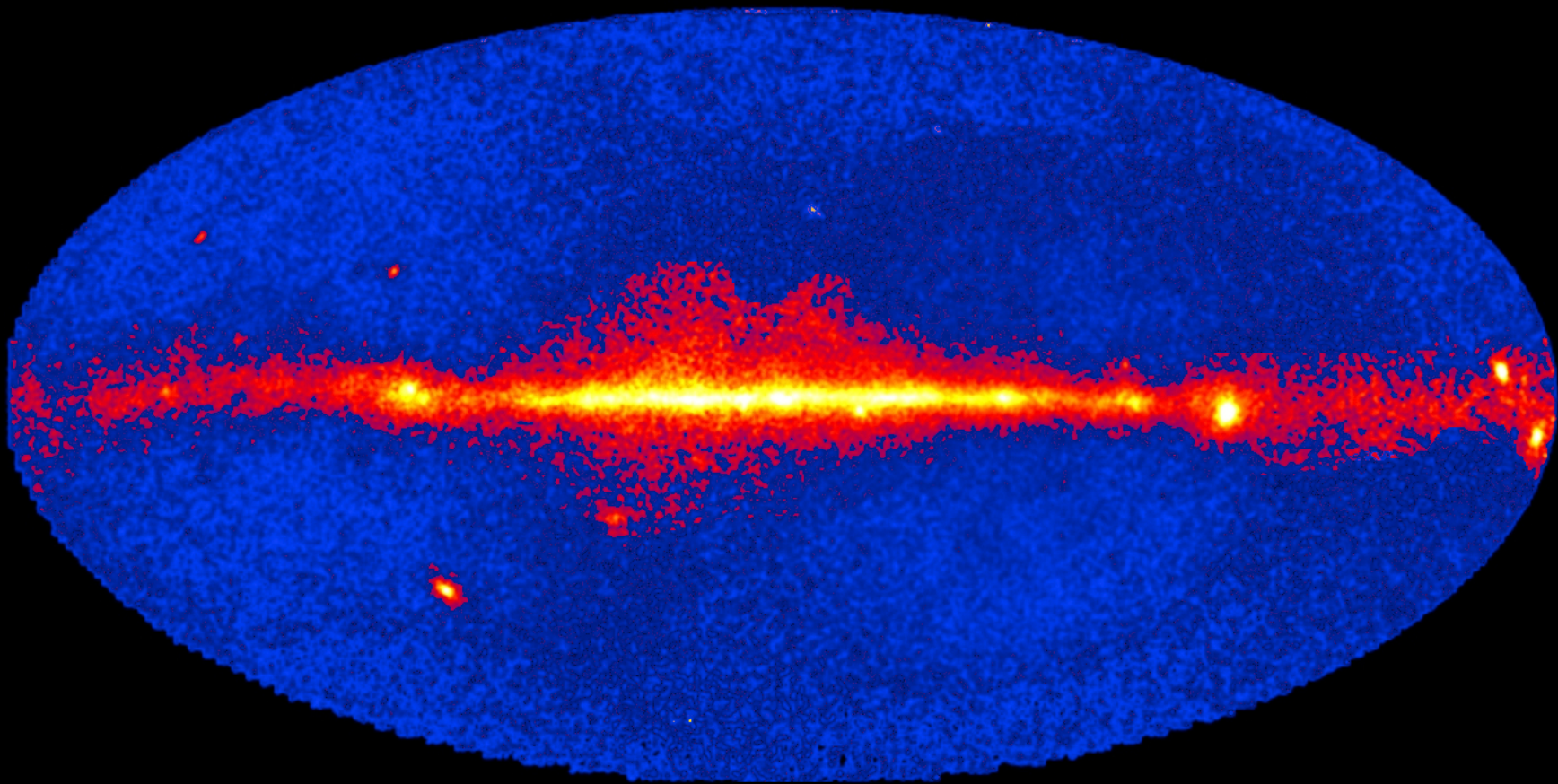
**(MINI) CALORIMETER**

## **AGILE's technical improvements:**

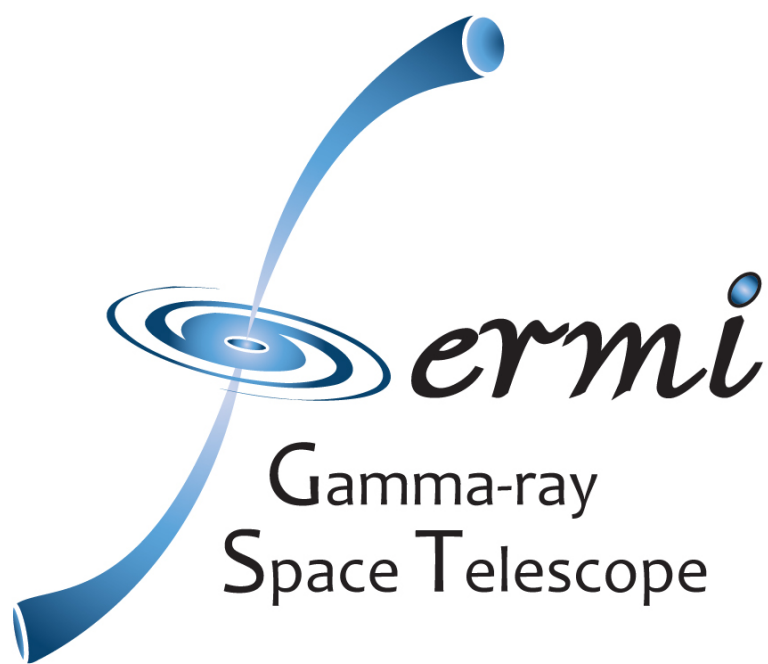
- **BIG FoV: 1/5 of the sky**
- **Good angular resolution**
- **Small dead time**
- **Simultaneous gamma and X observations**
- **Silicon detectors (Italy is a world leader)**
- **The BIG FoV (similar to that of a human eye) is an important asset**



**AGILE**

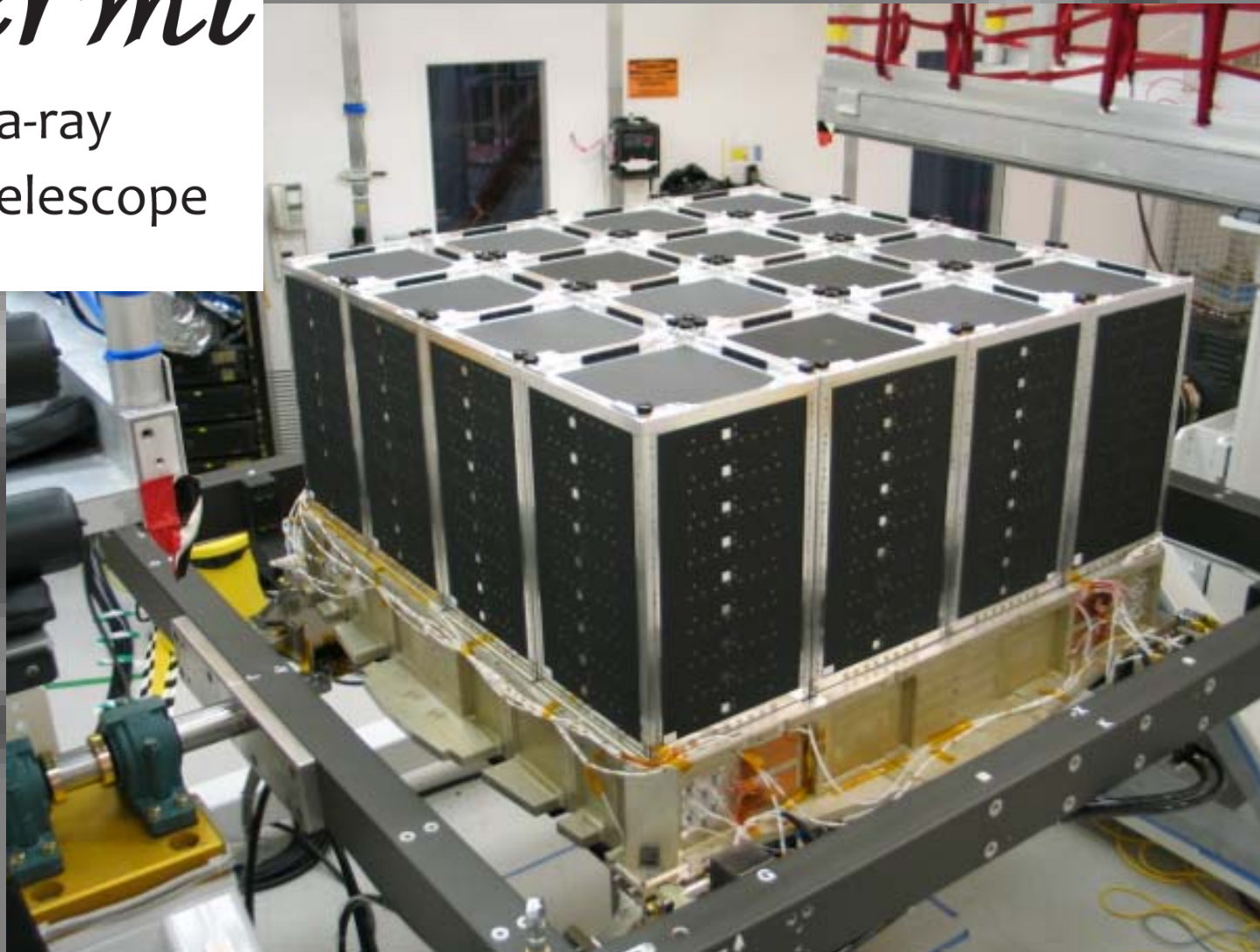


**1 year in orbit**



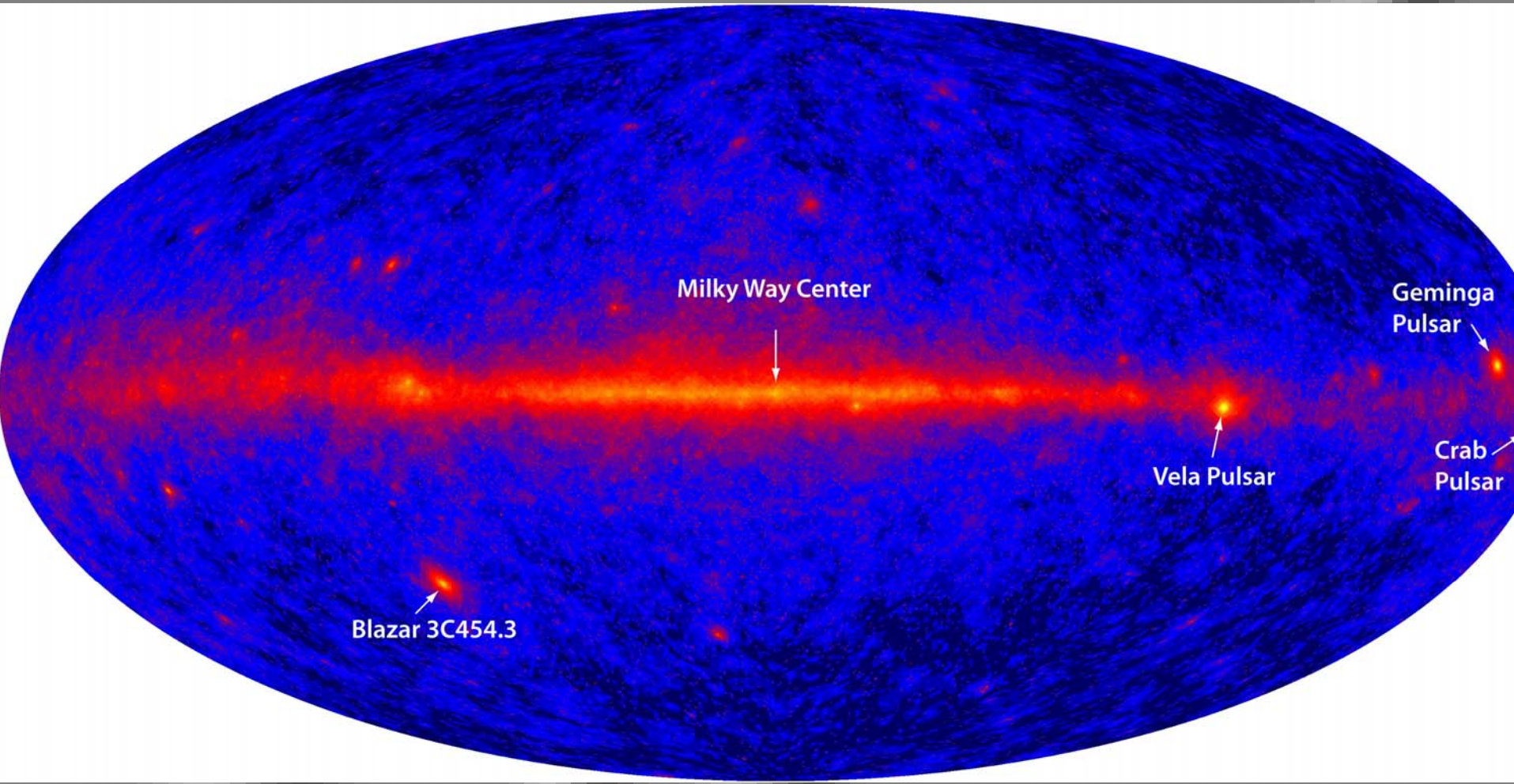
and its Italian contribution :

Launched  
June 11th



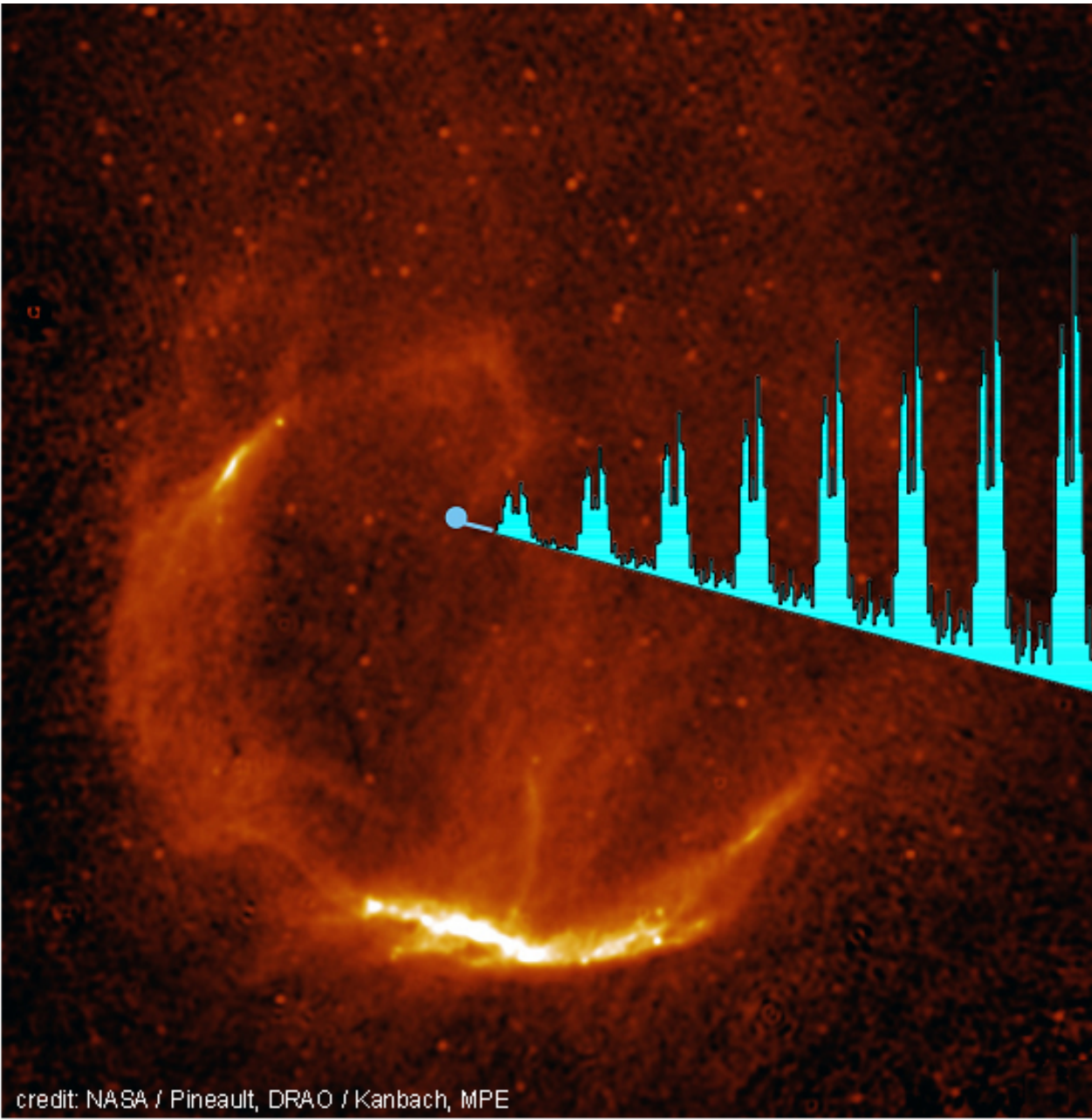


# First light (4 days!!)





# First result: another Geminga



**P = 316.86 ms**  
**P = 3.614 10<sup>-13</sup> s s<sup>-1</sup>**

**Science Express, 16 Oct. 2008**