

Einstein Probe



Exploring the dynamic X-ray Universe

Nanda Rea

On behalf of the Einstein Probe collaboration (CAS, ESA, MPE and CNES)



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European Research Council

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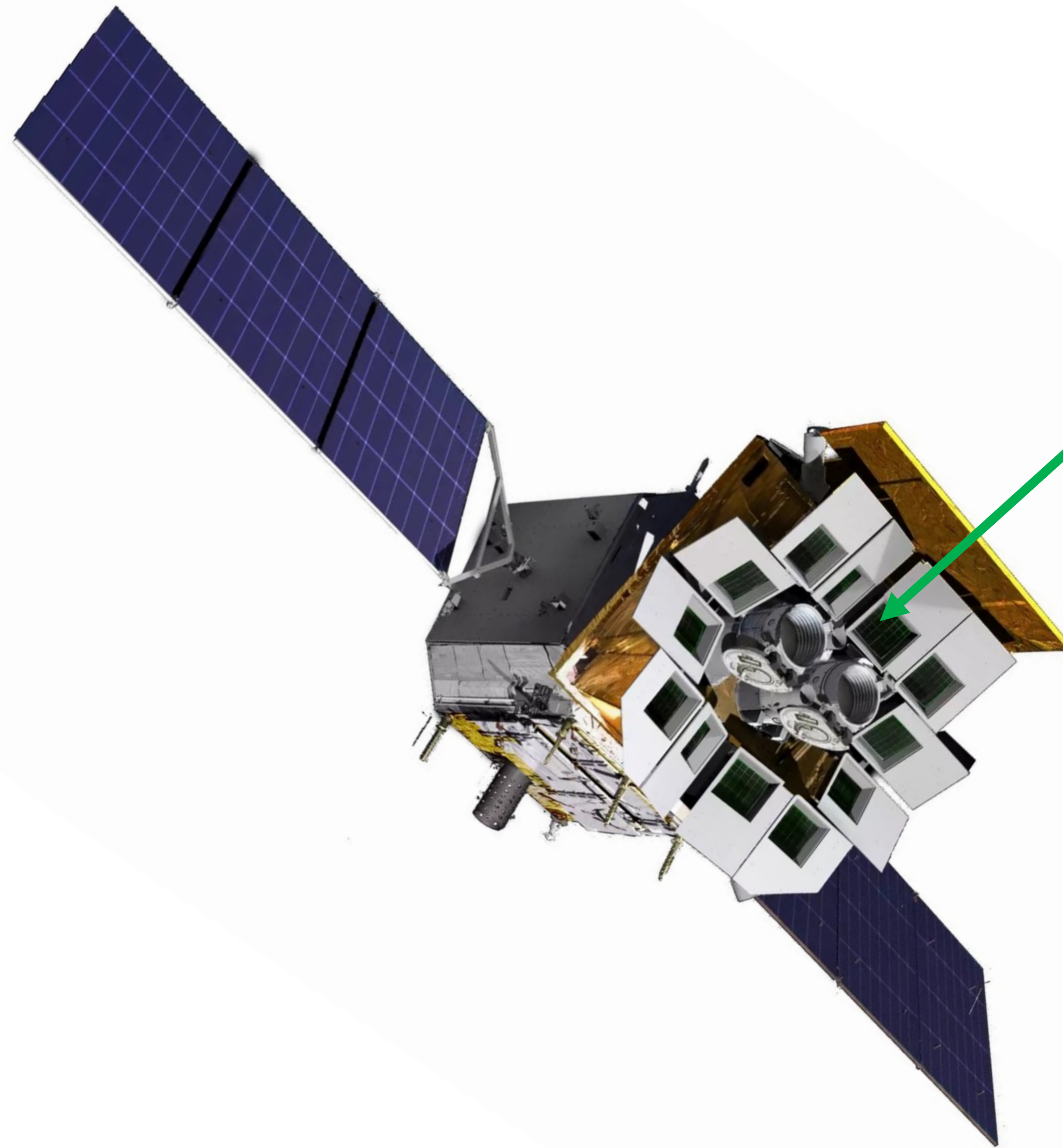
LAUNCH AND POST LAUNCH ACTIVITIES

- Launched: January 9, 2024
- Commissioning phase ongoing
- All working perfectly thus far
- March 2: FXT first-light obs
- March 7: all WXT modules on
- March 15: PV targets
- ~3 month of calibration
- June 2024: start of AO-1



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INSTRUMENTS



Wide-field X-ray telescope (WXT - 12 modules)

Lobster-eye MPO + CMOS

FoV: 3600 sq deg (1.1 sr)

Energy: 0.5-5 keV

Eff. Area: $\sim 3\text{cm}^2$ @ 1keV

FWHM: 5'

Position accuracy: $< 1'$

Einstein Probe

INSTRUMENTS

Focus X-ray Telescope (FXT - 2 modules)

Wolter-1 type CCD

FoV: 38'

Energy: 0.3-10 keV

Eff. Area: 2x300cm² @1keV

FWHM: 30"

Position accuracy: <10"

Wide-field X-ray telescope (WXT - 12 modules)

Lobster-eye MPO + CMOS

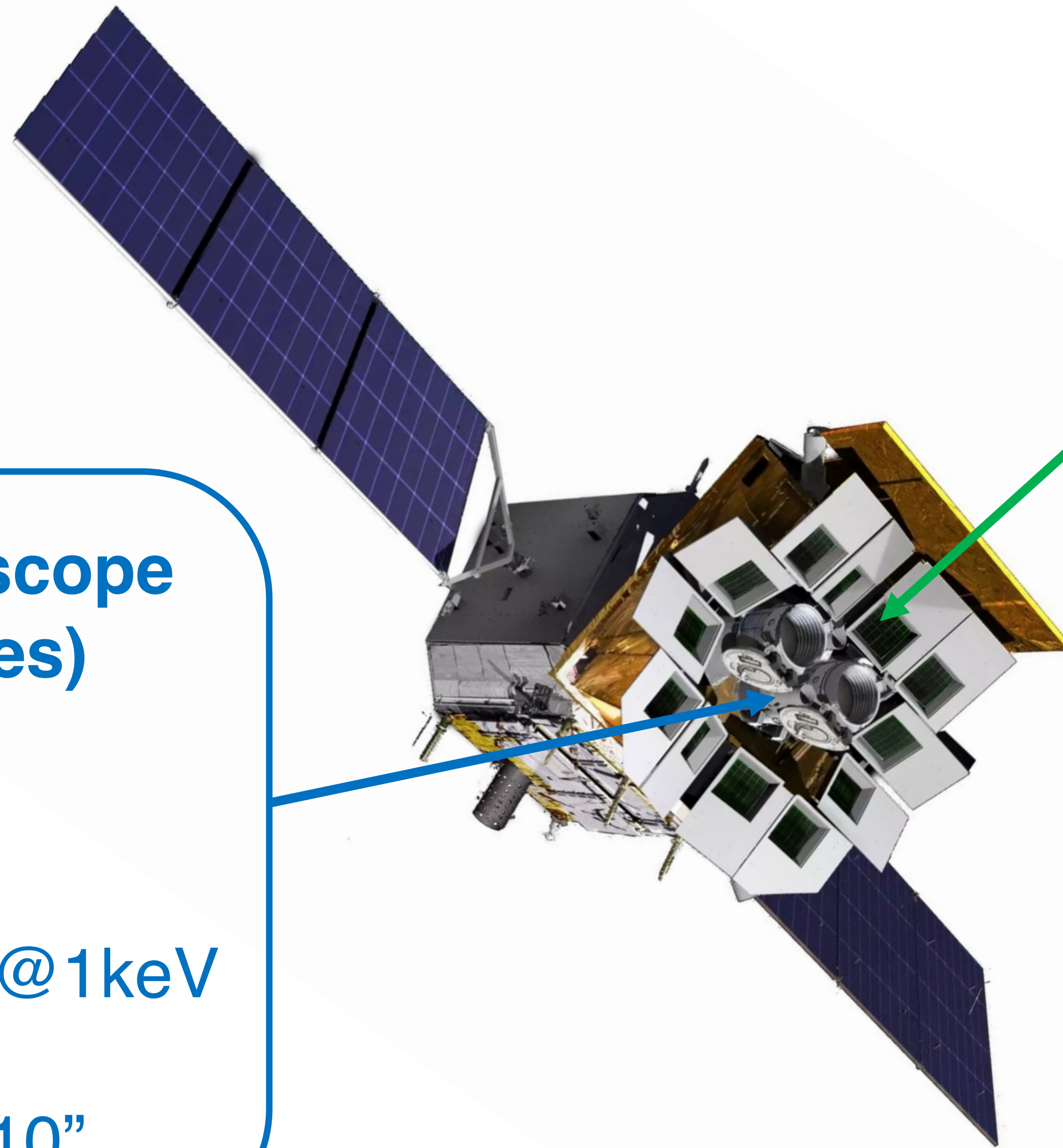
FoV: 3600 sq deg (1.1 sr)

Energy: 0.5-5 keV

Eff. Area: ~3cm² @1keV

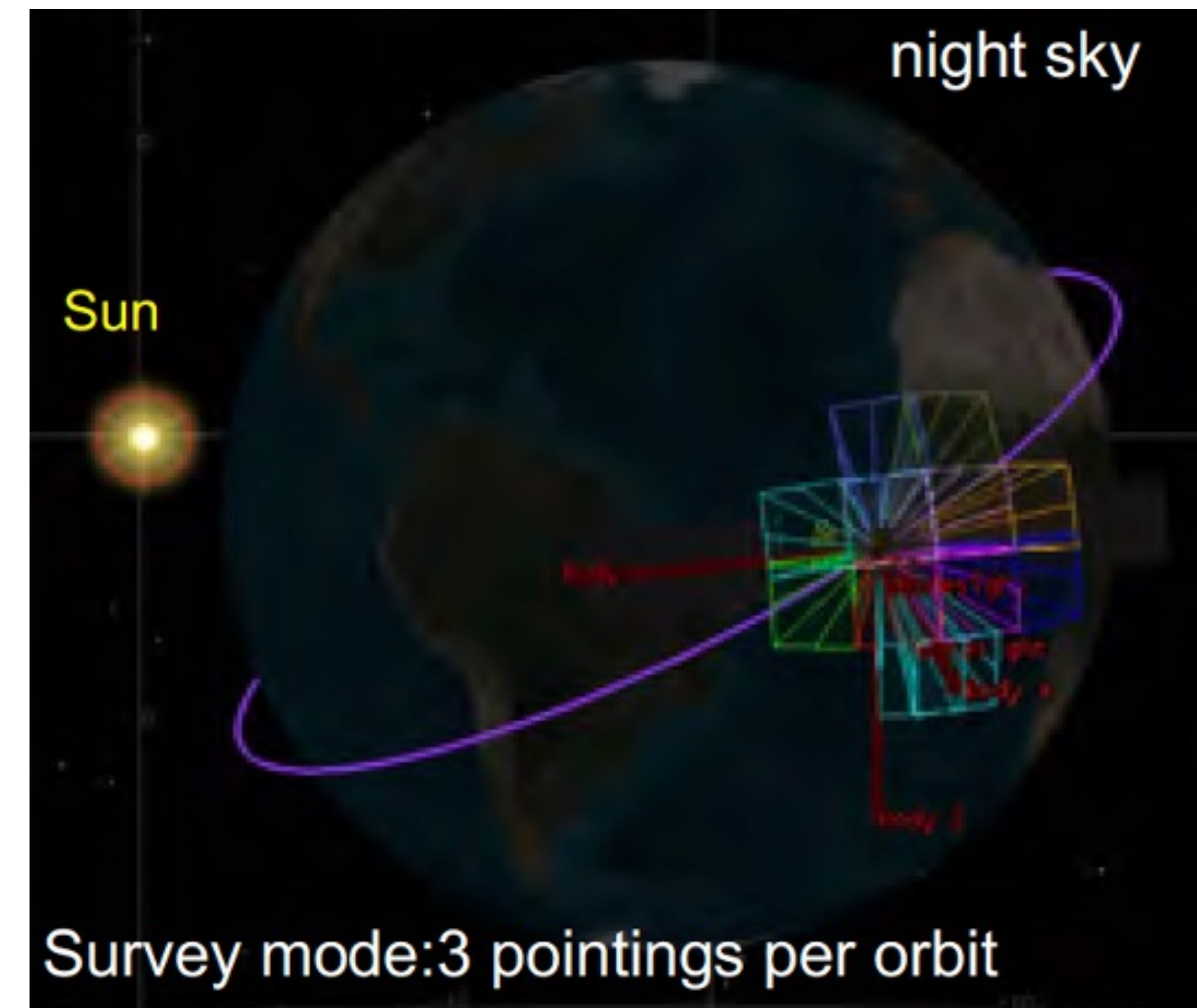
FWHM: 5'

Position accuracy: <1'



OBSERVING MODES AND STRATEGY

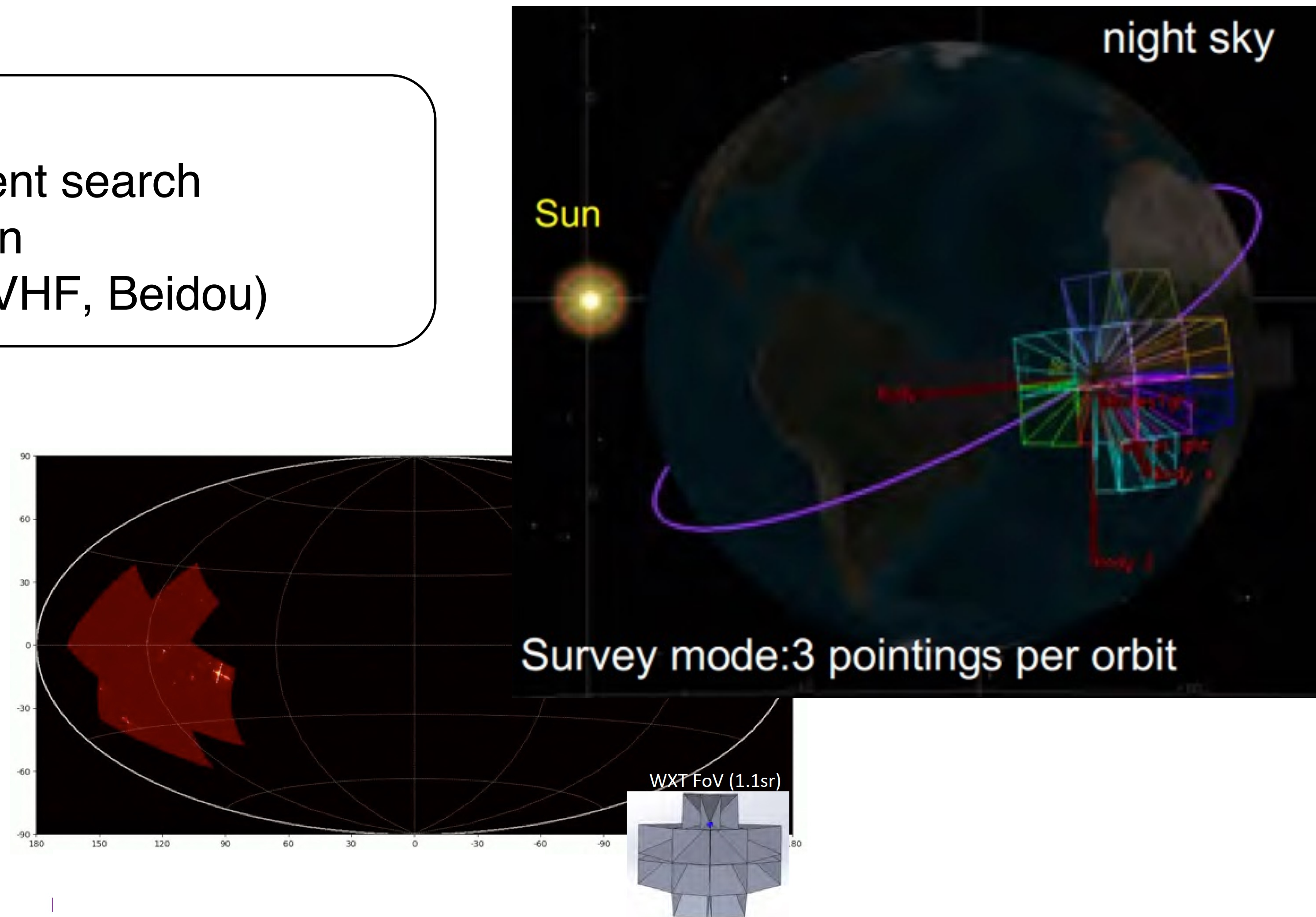
- Orbit: 570km (period ~ 97minutes)
- Onboard data processing and transient search
- Autonomous slew with FXT in 3-5 min
- Fast alert data downlink and uplink (VHF, Beidou)



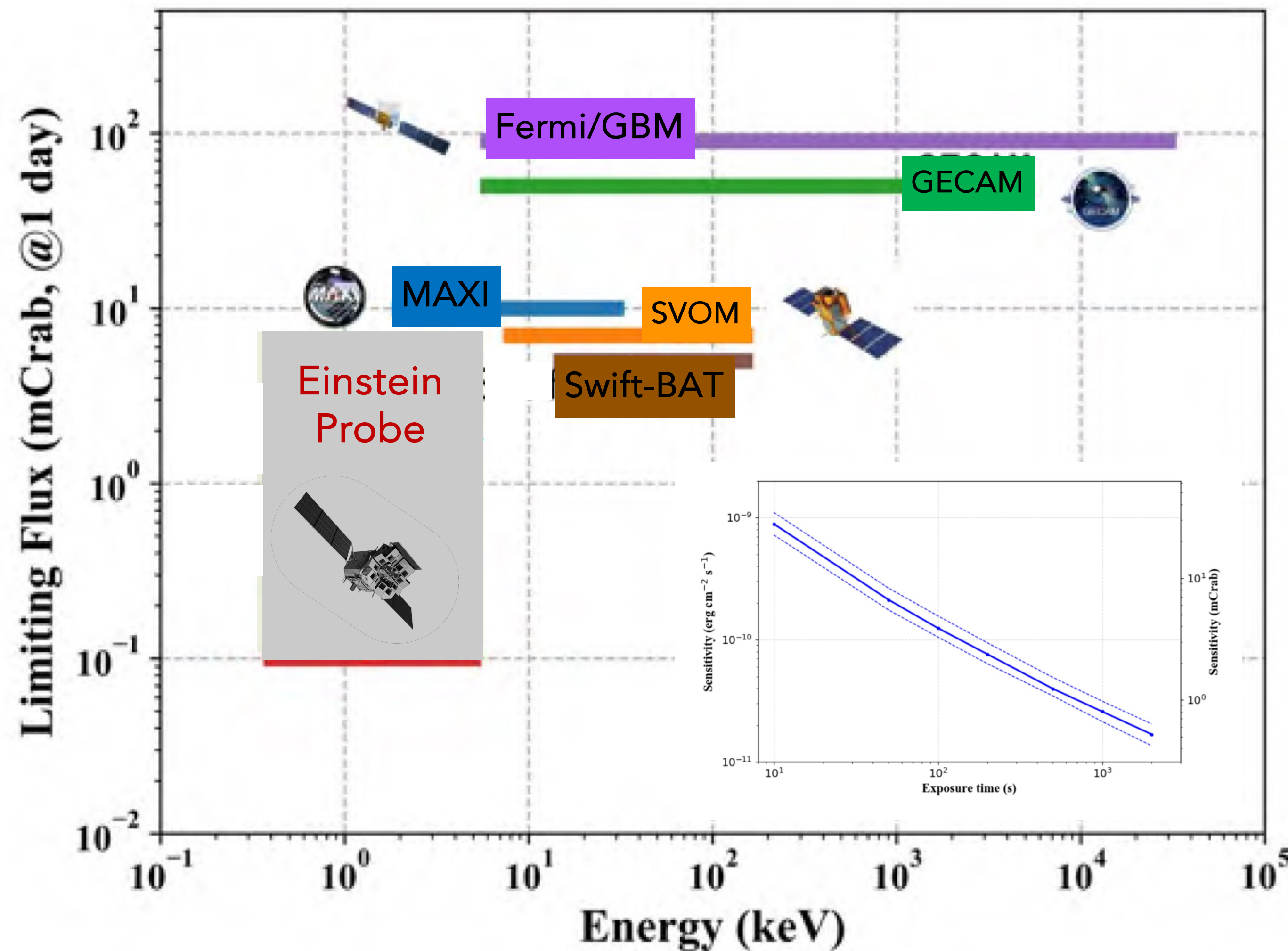
OBSERVING MODES AND STRATEGY

- Orbit: 570km (period \sim 97minutes)
- Onboard data processing and transient search
- Autonomous slew with FXT in 3-5 min
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- WXT Survey mode: 3 snapshots per orbit in the night-sky with 20min exposure
- All night-sky covered in 3 orbits.

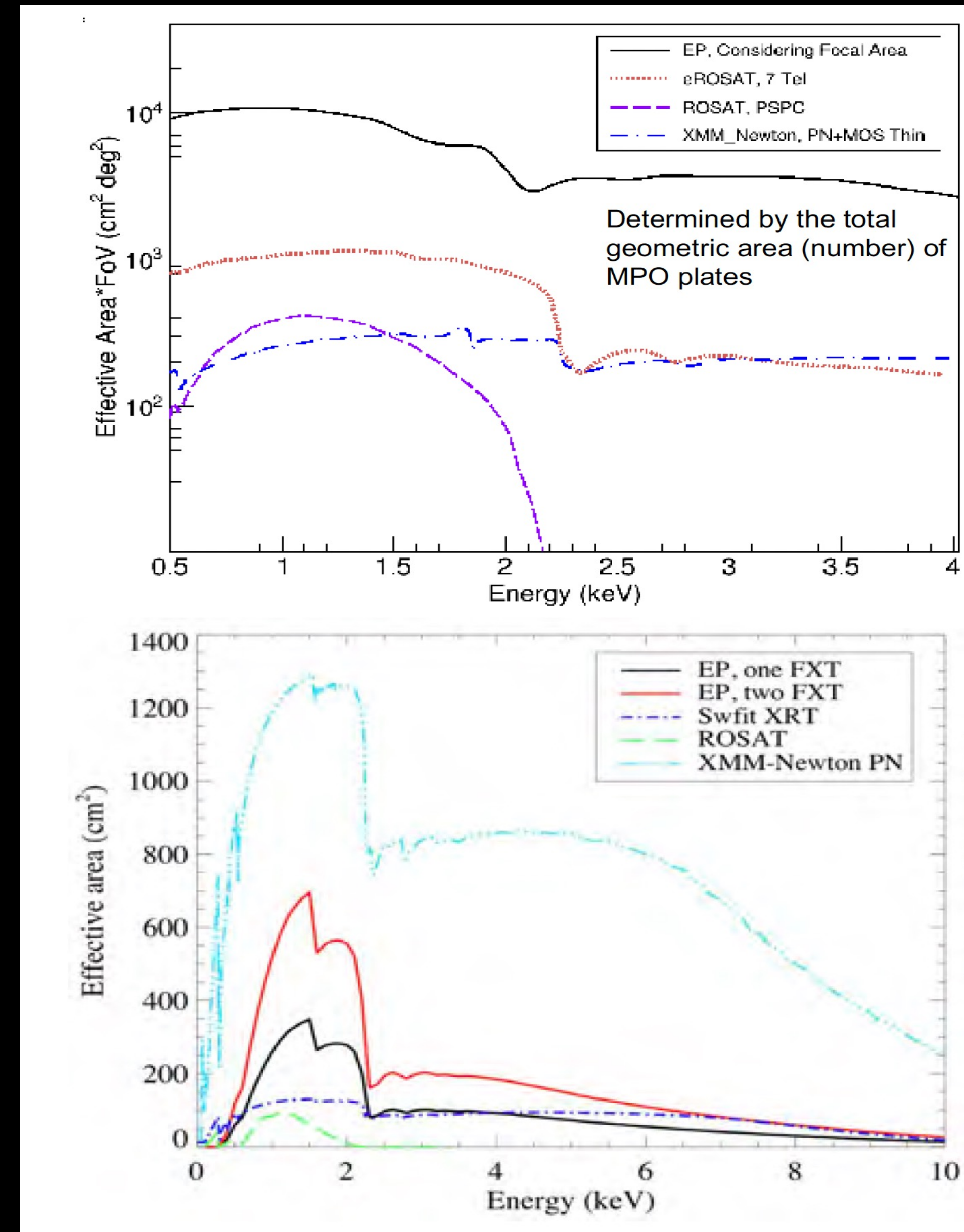
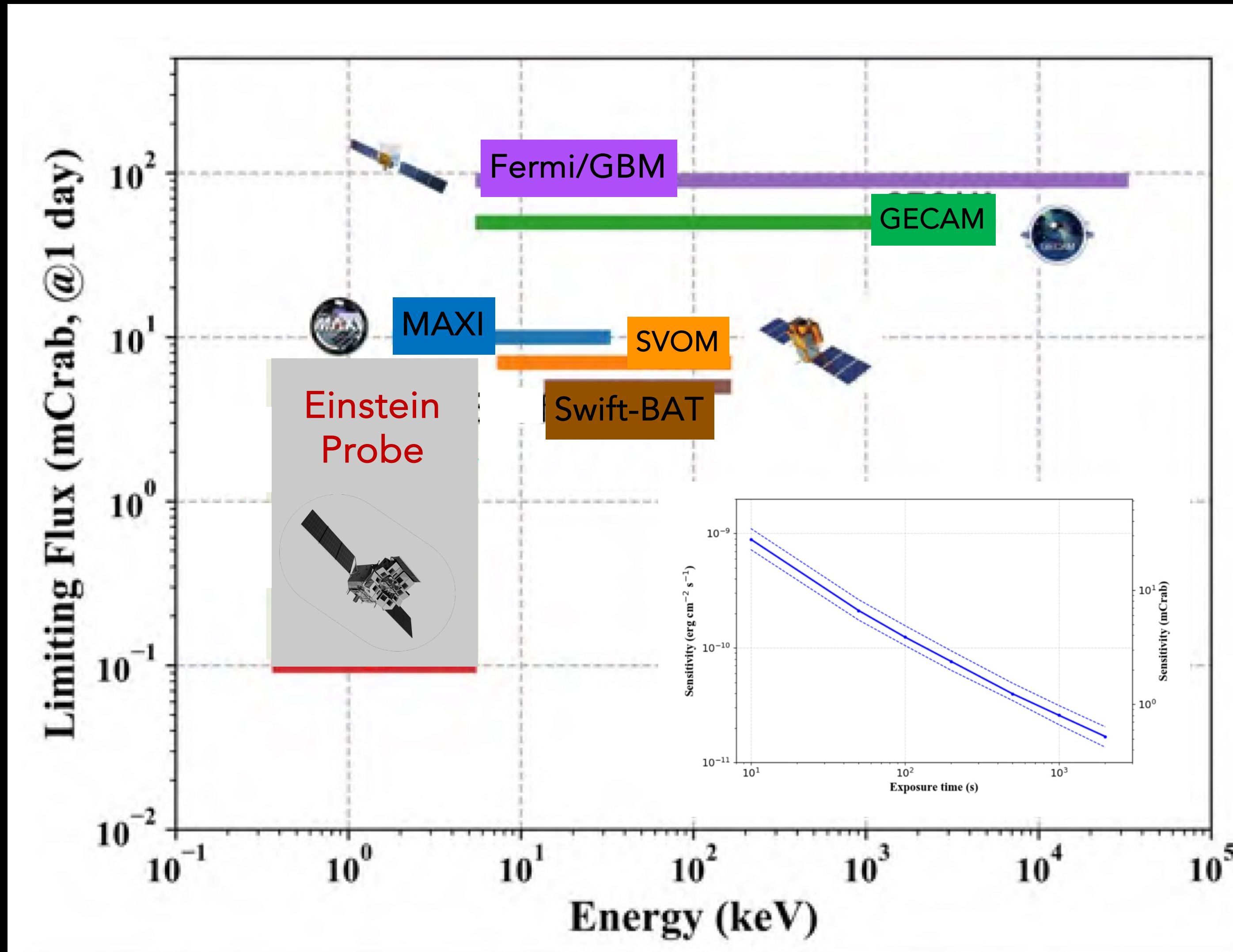


SENSITIVITY



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SENSITIVITY



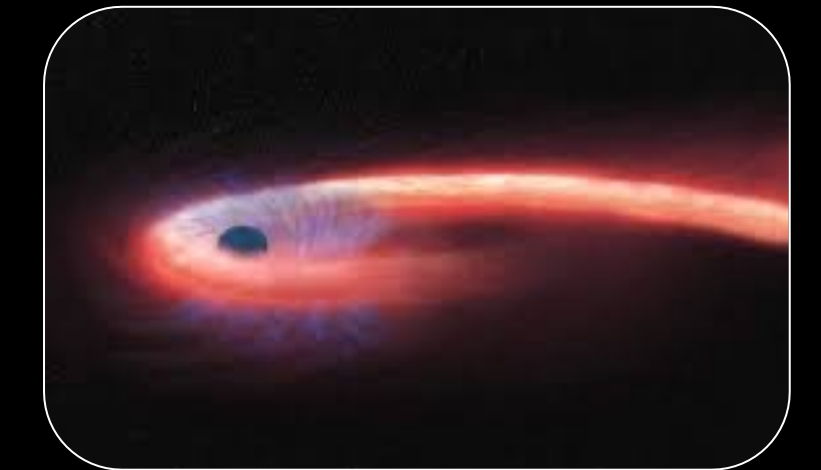
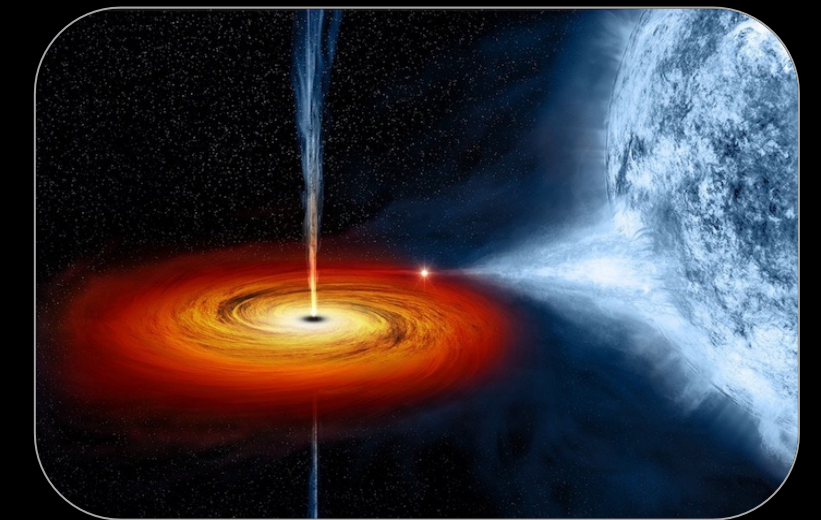
SCIENCE GOALS

Discover and characterize cosmic X-ray transients, particularly faint, distant and rare X-ray transients, in large numbers.

Discovery and monitor new outbursts from the Galactic and extra-Galactic population of neutron stars and black holes.

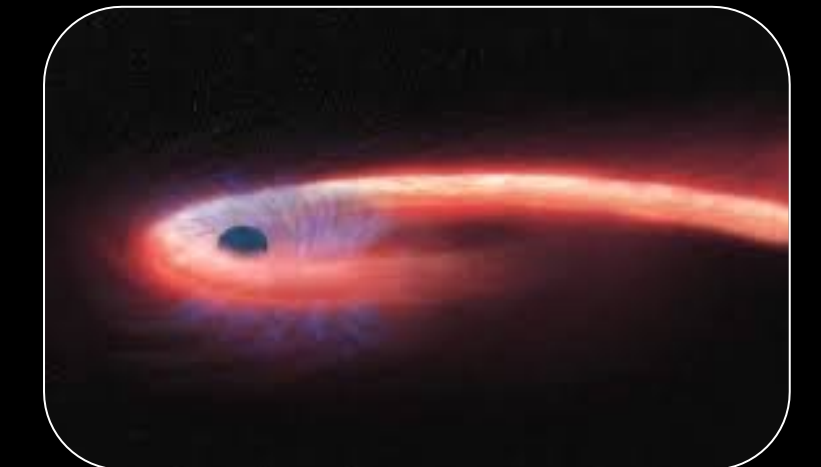
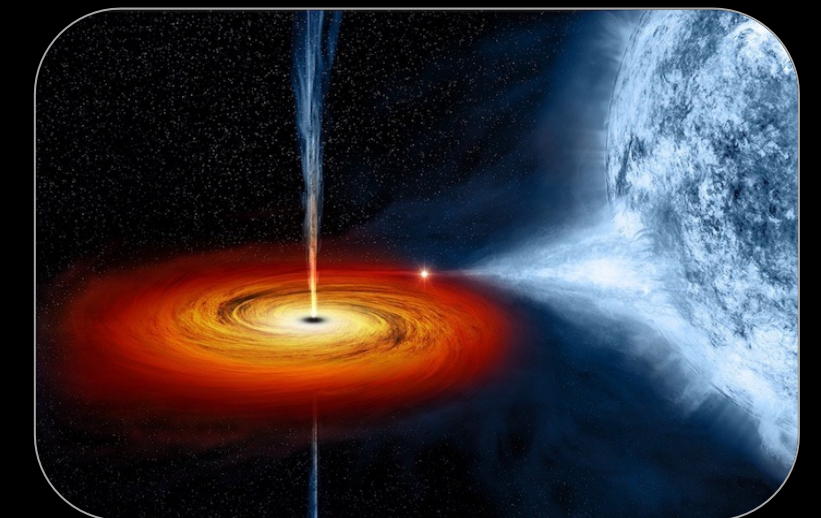
Discover otherwise quiescent black holes at almost all astrophysical mass scales during their transient flares.

Detect and localize the electromagnetic counterpart to gravitational wave and neutrino events in synergy with multi-messenger facilities.



SCIENCE GOALS

Type of transients	detections per year
Tidal disruption event (TDE)	~100
TDE with jet	10 – ?
Supernova shock breakout	50 (?)
Long GRB	~ 80
High-z GRB ($z > 6$)	a few ?
Short GRB	~ 10
Low-luminosity GRB	~ 10
Magnetar	~ a few
Stellar flares	several $\times 10^3$
AGN monitored daily/weekly	several tens/hundreds





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SCIENCE STRUCTURE

STP1: Tidal Disruption Events (TDEs) and Active Galactic Nuclei (AGNs).

Chair: Chichuan JIN **co-Chairs:** Lixin DAI, Arne RAU

STP2: Fast extragalactic transients (including gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) and non-GRB transients).

Chair: Xuefen WU **co-Chairs:** Peter JONKER

STP3: Multi-messenger astronomy (synergies with gravitational wave events and with neutrino events).

Chair: Bing ZHANG **co-Chairs:** Luigi PIRO, Yuan LIU

STP4: Compact stellar objects (compact objects including stellar mass black holes, neutron stars, and/or white dwarfs in our Galaxy or in nearby galaxies; ultra-luminous X-ray sources).

Chair: Nanda REA **co-Chairs:** Hua FENG, Lian TAO

STP5: Observatory Science (topics not included in the above panels, e.g., stellar flares, supernova remnants, diffuse emission, Solar System objects).

Chair: Jeremy SANDERS **co-Chairs:** Jungen WANG

SCIENCE STRUCTURE

Science Management Committee (SMC)

Weimin Yuan (PI, Chair)
Erik Kuulkers (ESA, Co-chair)
Kirpal Nandra (MPE, Co-chair)
Bertrand Cordier (CNES)
Zhou Fan (CAS)
Hua Feng (CAS)
Chichuan Jin (CAS)
Yuan Liu (CAS)
Paul O'Brien (ESA)
Arne Rau (MPE)
Nanda Rea (ESA)
Jeremy Sanders (MPE)
Xuefeng Wu (CAS)
Bing Zhang (CAS)
Shuang-Nan Zhang (CAS)

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More soon!