

100 years of photon

***38 years of Gamma Ray Bursts
and perspectives for future***

**GRB's are the most powerfull
sources of photons in the Universe
from radio waves to TeV**

Grzegorz Wrochna

Soltan Institute for Nuclear Studies, Warsaw / Świerk

**1963 – Treaty banning nuclear
weapon tests in space**

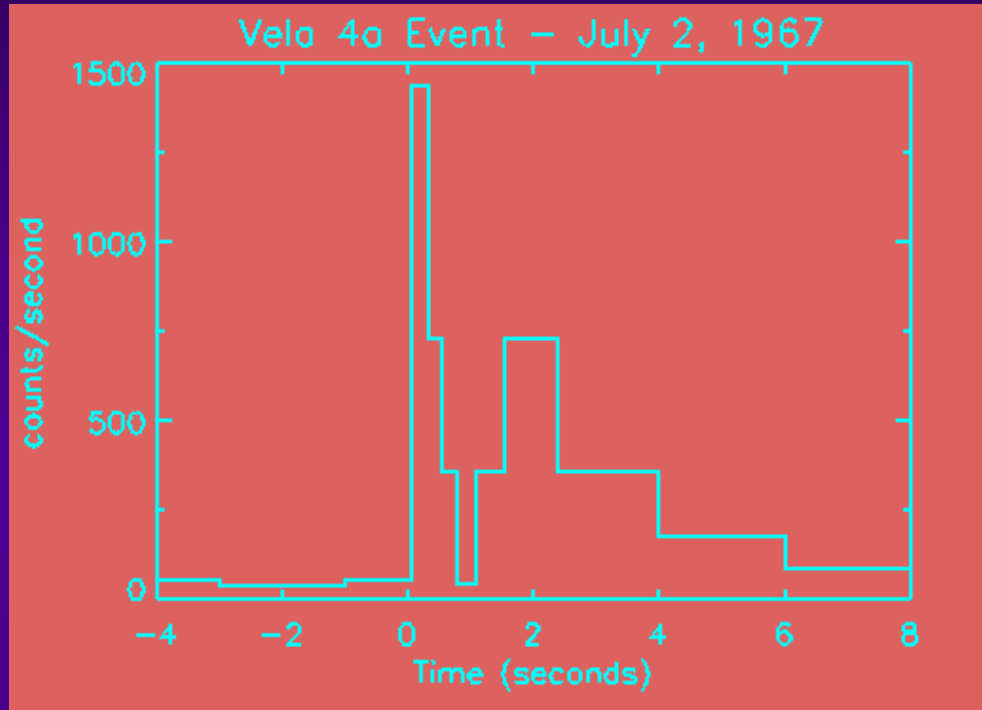
Military satellites VELA launched

- equipped with γ -ray detectors
- orbit $R=100\,000$ km, period=4.5 days
- could detect nuclear explosion
at the other side of the Moon

**1958 – USA plan nuclear tests
at the other side of the Moon**
(uncovered in 2000)



2.6.1967 – VELA register γ burst



- Ray Klebesadel & Roy Olson from Los Alamos National Laboratory compare printouts from VELA 4A i 4B
- They find a burst seen by both satellites
USSR broken the treaty?
- Pulse shape different from nuclear one
no information about direction and distance

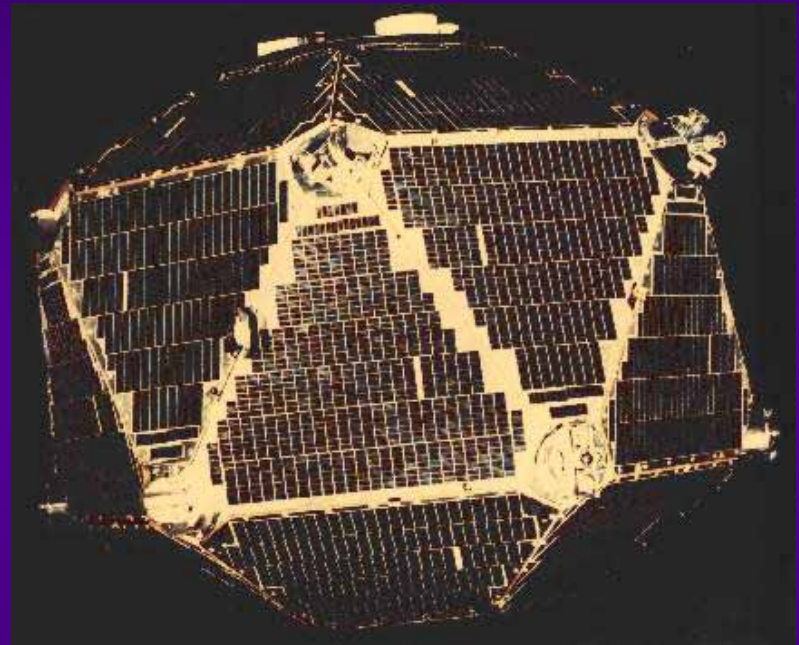
1969 – Launch of VELA 5 i 6

- time resolution 1/64 s
- direction ($\sim 5^\circ$) & distance estimate

1969-73 – 16 γ bursts
detected

1973 – publication

- distance > 1 mln km
- directions exclude Sun and planets
- distribution \sim isotropic
- journalists suspect nuclear war between E.T.'s
- astronomers got excited



The first hypothesis

1974 – Ruderman's review quotes dozens of theories

Where?

Solar System, Galaxy, Universe?

What?

main sequence stars, white dwarfs, black holes,
neutron stars, planets, comets, dust grains,
white holes, cosmic strings, wormholes, etc.

How?

energy: gravitational, thermonuclear, magnetic,
kinetic (rotational)

Comet falling on neutron stars

Diversity of pulse shapes well explained by diversity of shapes and sizes of comets.

Neutron stars are inside galactic disk.

How to get isotropic distribution?

Possible, if we see only nearby neutron stars.

Having the number of neutron stars

(from pulsar observations and supernovae)

and the number of comets (from the Solar System)

one can calculate frequency of GRB.

Assuming typical comet and neutron star sizes one can calculate released energy.

Comparing to the observed energy one can estimate the distance: 10-1000 l.y.

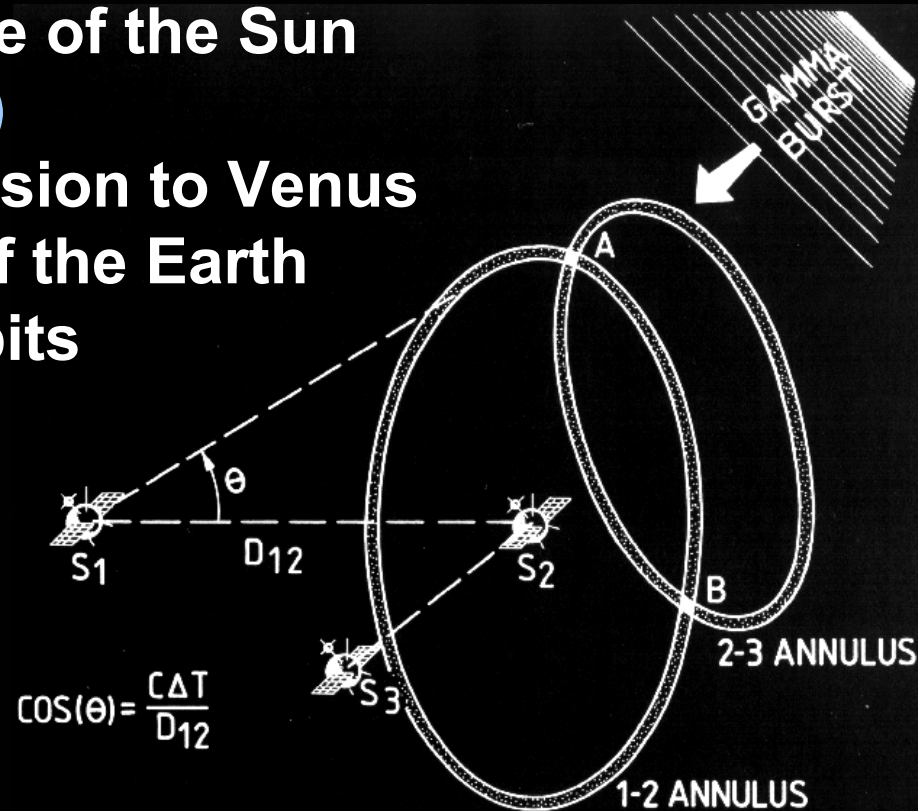
10 l.y. ~ distance to closest neutron stars

1000 l.y. ~ thickness of the galactic disk

Inter-Planetary Network (IPN)

1978 – several spacecraft far from the Earth equipped with gamma detectors

- **Prognoz 7** (USSR) – satellite of the Earth
- **Helios 2** (Germany) – satellite of the Sun
- **Pioneer Venus Orbiter** (USA)
- **Wenera 11 i 12** (USSR) – mission to Venus
- **Kosmos** (USSR) – satellite of the Earth
- **Vela 5 i 6** (USA) – distant orbits around the Earth



K.Hurley – Berkeley

<http://www.ssl.berkeley.edu/ipn3/>

THE "TRIANGULATION" METHOD

Burst in the Large Magellanic Cloud

**5.3.1979 – exceptionally strong burst detected by IPN
followed by damped oscillations with 8 s period**

**Direction from Large Magellanic Cloud
(nearby galaxy, 160 000 l.y. from Earth)**

Position coincides with supernova remnant

Gigantic energy excludes hypothesis of comet

**Position at SN remnant and 8 s oscillations
suggests a neutron star (pulsar)**

**Hypothesis of gigantic magnetic storm at neutron star
with huge magnetic field explains well the observed burst**

Spectral lines

Spectrum of GRB 79 03 05 has peaks ~800 i 400 keV
in agreement with annihilation $e^+e^- \rightarrow 1 \text{ or } 2 \gamma$
(1022 or 511 keV minus energy to escape neutron star)

1979-81 – dozens of γ burst spectra registered by
Japan. sat. Ginga and Russian group of Evgeni Mazets
exhibit „hollows” (absorption lines) ~30-60 keV

Interpreted as cyclotron frequencies of electrons
in magnetic fields of neutron stars.

Obtained values $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{12}$ gauss, typical for neutron stars

Argument for galactic origin of GRB, because larger
distances would imply much higher fields.

Archive optical observations

1981 – Bradley Schaefer (MIT) examined old sky images

- he found an optical flash on 1928.11.17
in the place of GRB 1978.11.19

1984 – another search

- GRB 1979.11.05 = optical flash in 1901
- GRB 1979.01.13 = optical flash in 1944

- ⇒ average frequency of flashes of an object = 1.1/year
- ⇒ it must live >50 years ⇒ >50 explosions
- ⇒ explosions not fatal ⇒ energies not too high
- ⇒ yet another confirmation of short distances

Compactness problem

Short burst duration (0.01-100s) suggests compact source (~1000 km) – light must go through the source

High luminosity and large distance imply high energy released.

Compact source implies high energy density

⇒ photons interact and produce e^+e^- pairs

⇒ spectrum should not contain γ with $E > 511\text{keV}$

Such photons are observed ⇒ sources are close to us

False trail – two loopholes in the arguments:

- if the object expands, only part of it could be seen
- photons able to produce e^+e^- must have higher energy (Lorentz boost)

Conclusion: bursts might be distant, if γ 's are created at the wave front of fast moving wave

Distance and intensity distributions

Assuming isotropic distribution of sources,
the number of sources N inside a sphere with radius R :

$$N \sim R^3$$

Observed intensity $L \sim 1/R^2$

Hence, the number of observed sources
($L > L_0$, where L_0 – apparatus sensitivity)

$$N \sim L_0^{-3/2}$$

1982 – data shows deviation from $L_0^{-3/2}$ formula:
deficit of weak bursts

- contradiction with galactic origin
- argument for cosmological distances
⇒ perhaps less bursts in early Universe

Status in 1990

>95% astronomers: galactic origin

Ed Fenimore, Martin Rees, Donald Lamb, ...

- GRB in Magellanic Cloud in place of old SN
- spectral lines
- small energy enough to explain
- optical flashes found at old photo-plates
- compactness problem ($\gamma > 1\text{MeV} \Rightarrow e^+e^-$)

<5% astronomers: extragalactic origin

Bohdan Paczyński, ...

- deficit of weak bursts
- isotropic distribution

Today we know that all the arguments were irrelevant or false ...

False trails

- **Isotropic distribution**

possible if GRB's are in the galactic halo

- **Spectral lines**

probably deconvolution effect (inversion of matrix with elements having large errors)

measured puls = γ energy \times detector response

- **Repeatable optical flashes**

1989 – reanalysis of the images by Anna Żytkow:

„we should treat with great caution the suggestion, that the GRB are necessarily accompanied by optical flashes”

- **Deficit of weak bursts**

detectors sensitive to maximum, not to total energy

\Rightarrow missing detection of long but low pulses

- **Burts in Magellanic Cloud 1979.03.05 at SN remnant**

turned out to belong to a different class of γ bursts called Soft Gamma Repeaters (SGR)

(Attention! SN's strike back 1998.04.25

SGR's strike back 2004.12.27)

Soft Gamma Repeaters (SGR)

1986 – γ burst observed in place of the GRB 1979.01.07

- >100 bursts of this object found in old data in 1979-84
- most of them in 1983.11, some in groups, some single

Soon, more SGR discovered

- all in our Galaxy
- all at SN remnants ~10 000 years old
- X-ray oscillations found with ~8s period

Puzzle solved in 1998

- in 3 years, the period of SGR 1806-20 decreases by 0.008s
- reason – magnetic field calculated to be 10^{11} T !
- magnetar – neutron star with magnetic field of $\sim 10^{11}$ T
- fast rotation cause flattening and strong radiation
- energy loss slows down rotation
and the star becomes more spherical
- shell breaking – „star quakes” cause gigantic magnetic storms observed as gamma burts

The Great Debate bis

1920.04.26 – The Great Debate
about distances in the Universe

What are nebulas?

Galaxies or objects in our Galaxy?

Harlow Shapley – Heber Curtis



Rees

Paczyński

Lamb

1995.04.22 – The Great Debate 2
GRB are in our Galaxy
or in distant Universe?

Don Lamb – Bohdan Paczyński
Lead by: Martin Rees

Burst And Transient Source Experiment

1973 – Gerald Fishman heard the talk on VELA results and started to work on new γ detectors

1975 – 2 balloon flights of 12h: **only solar γ**

1980, 82 – flights 19+48h: **1 GRB / 40 expected**

1978 – BATSE planned for GRO satellite in 1985

1991 – in orbit!

- ◆ **cost 12M\$**

- ◆ **+ 400 manyear**

- ◆ **18 years preparation**

- ◆ **6 years delay**



BATSE / GRO

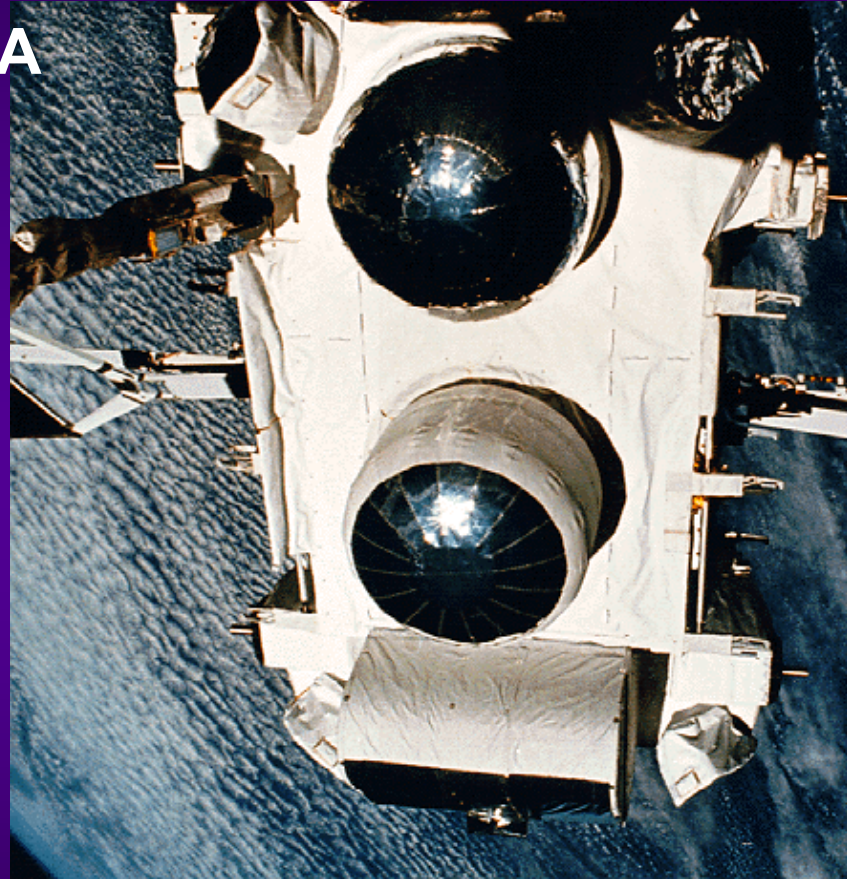
Designed to record data on tape and transmit while flying over USA

In 1992, tape recorders broken

NASA built telemetric stations in Africa and Australia

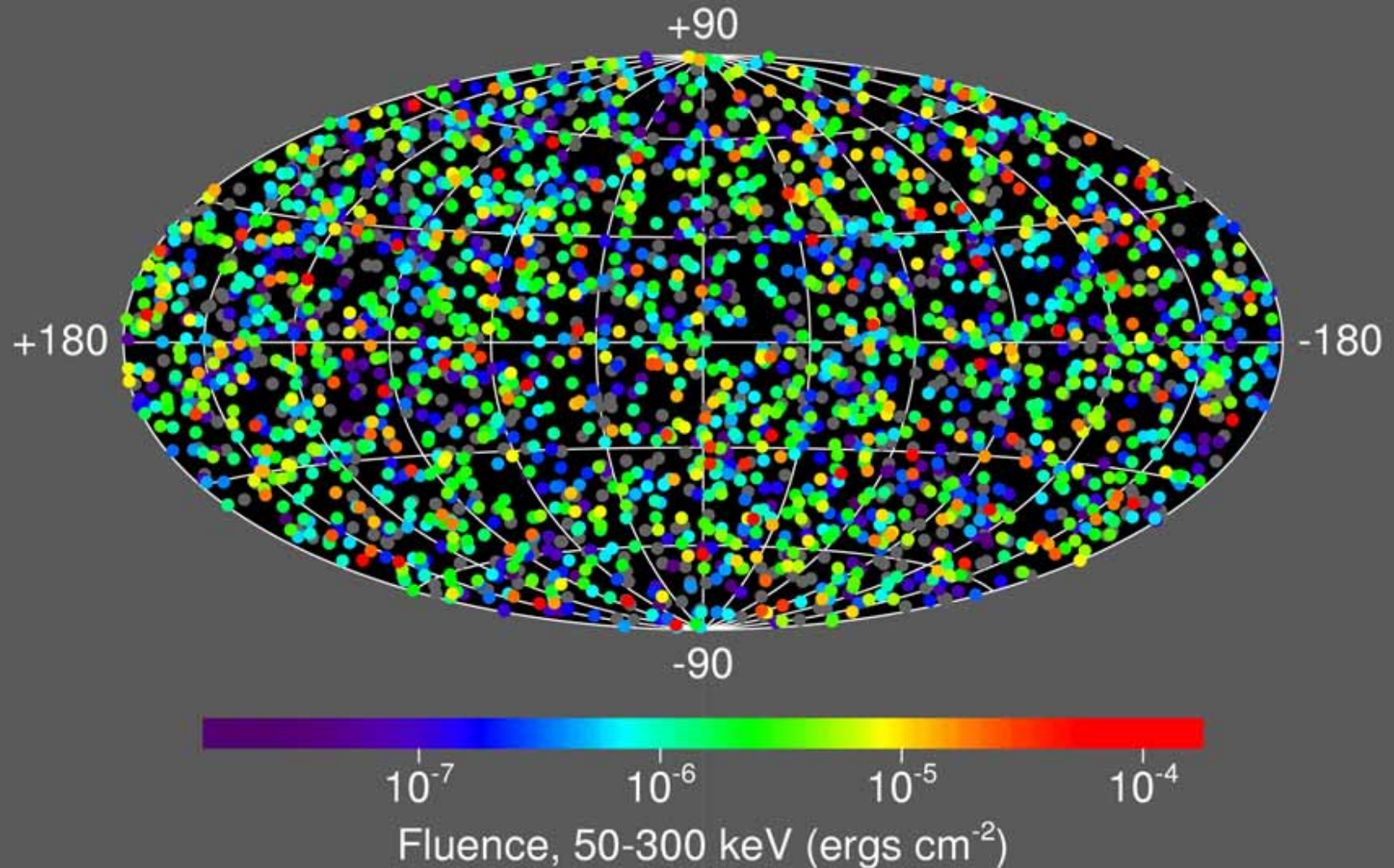
Thanks to direct transmission ground based telescopes could immediately follow the bursts

- discovered ~1 GRB daily
- GRB position: 4-10°
- ~3000 GRB observed

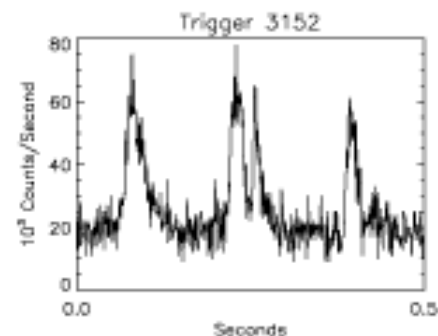
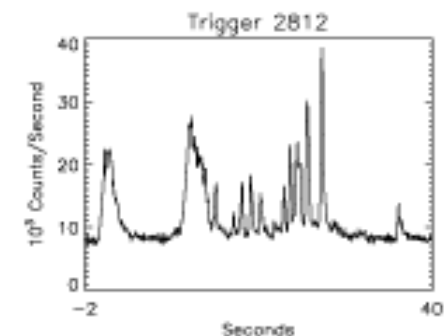
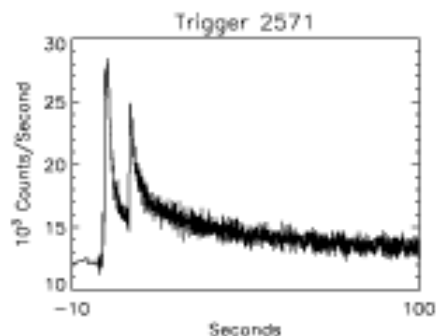
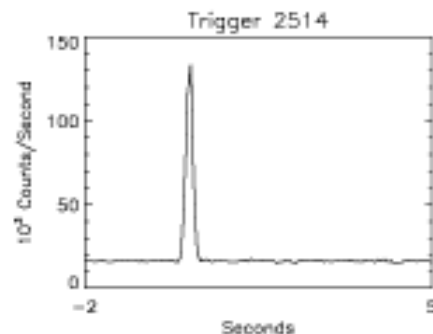
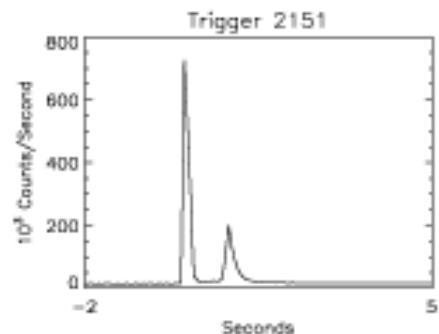
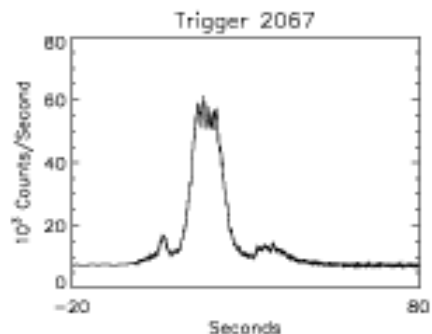
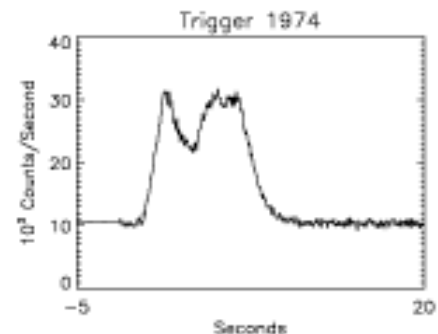
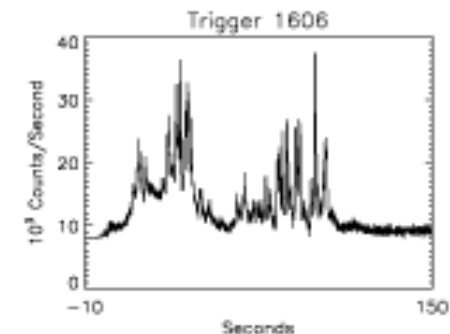
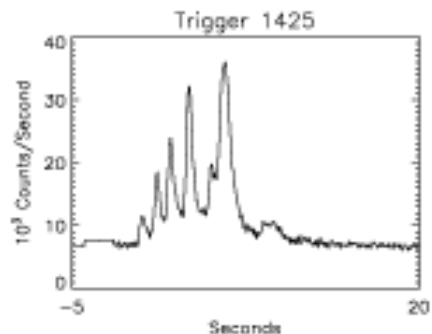
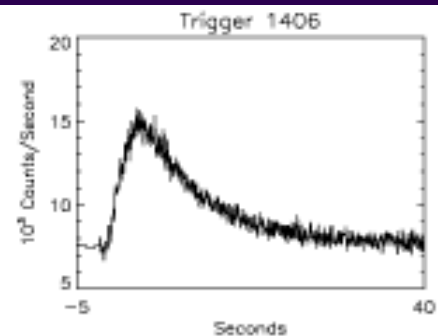
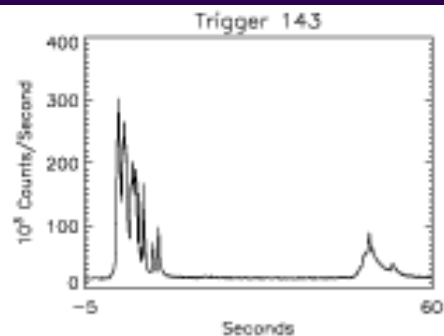
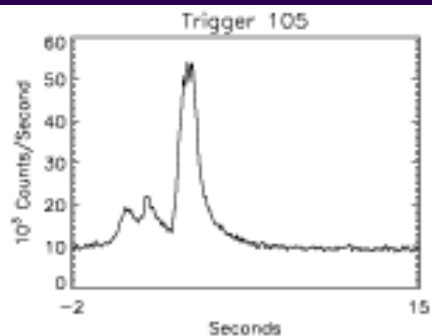


2000 – GRO was burned (for political reasons?) in spite of perfect state of the apparatus and against scientists ☹

2704 BATSE Gamma-Ray Bursts



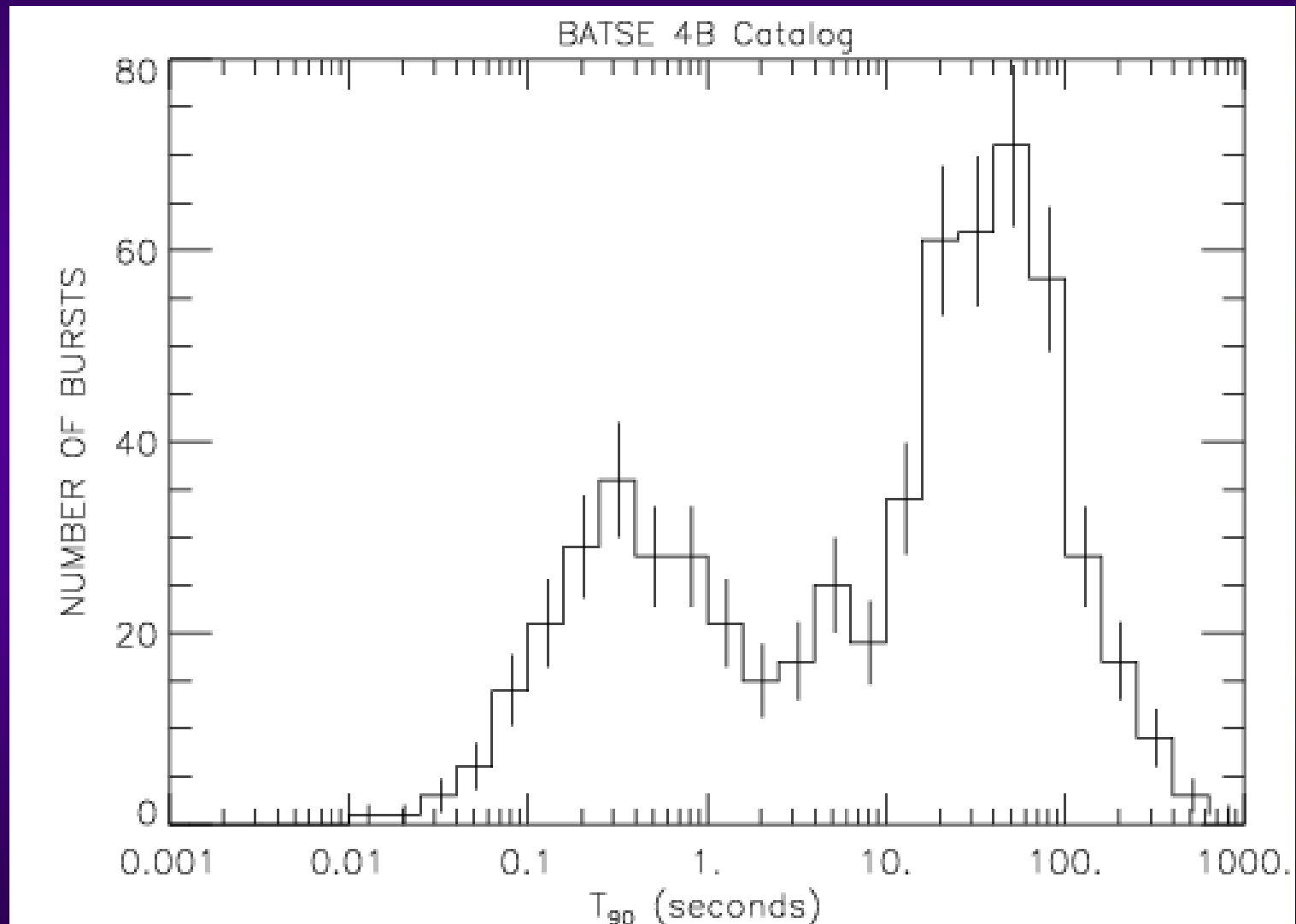
Isotropic distribution in galactic coordinates



**Different
shapes**

**Time:
0.01-100s**

„Short” and „long” bursts



BeppoSAX

Italian-Dutch satellite launched in 1996

- wide field (40°) X-ray camera
- precise (resolution $3'$) X-ray camera
- γ -ray monitor



- 1980 – project begins
- 1986 – planned launch
- 1996 – in orbit!
- 10 years delay
- planned cost 28 M\$
- actual cost:
 - 200 M\$ satellite
 - 150 M\$ launch
 - + telemetric stations

Run for the flash

1996.04.30 – BeppoSax in orbit

1996.07.20 – the first GRB seen in X-rays

1996 ... – many GRB, nothing in X (camera = 2% sky)

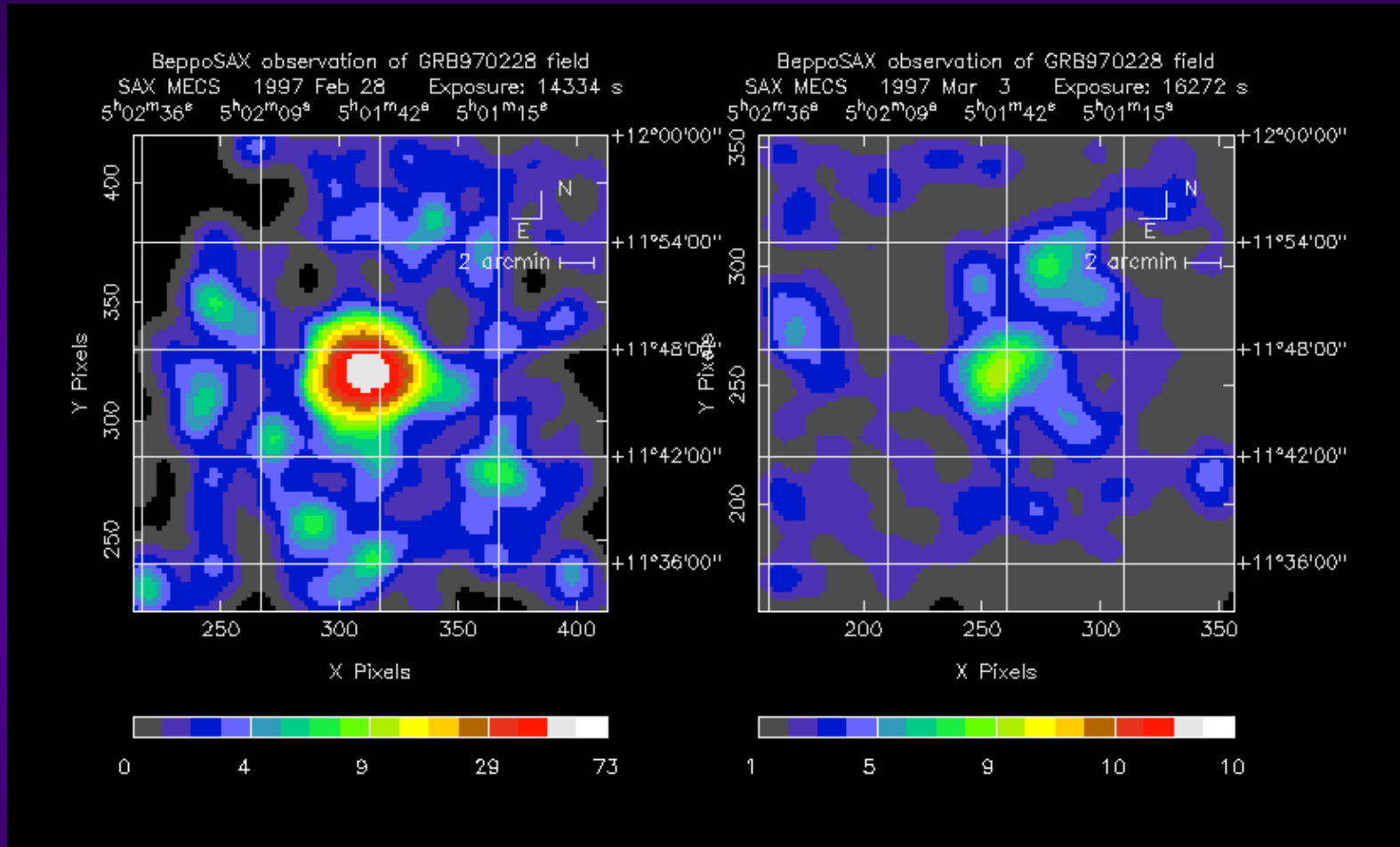
1997.01.11 – GRB + X-ray source

- ◆ VLA radiotelescope: fading radio source
- ◆ KECK telescope (10 m): galaxy
- ◆ articles submitted to Nature
- ◆ just before printing, the results turned out to be false

1997.02.28 – strong GRB + X

- ◆ Dutch team discovers optical afterglow
 - 7 weeks later the paper published in Nature
- ◆ Italian paper on GRB+X published 2 months later,
 - because the English required a lot of corrections

First afterglows

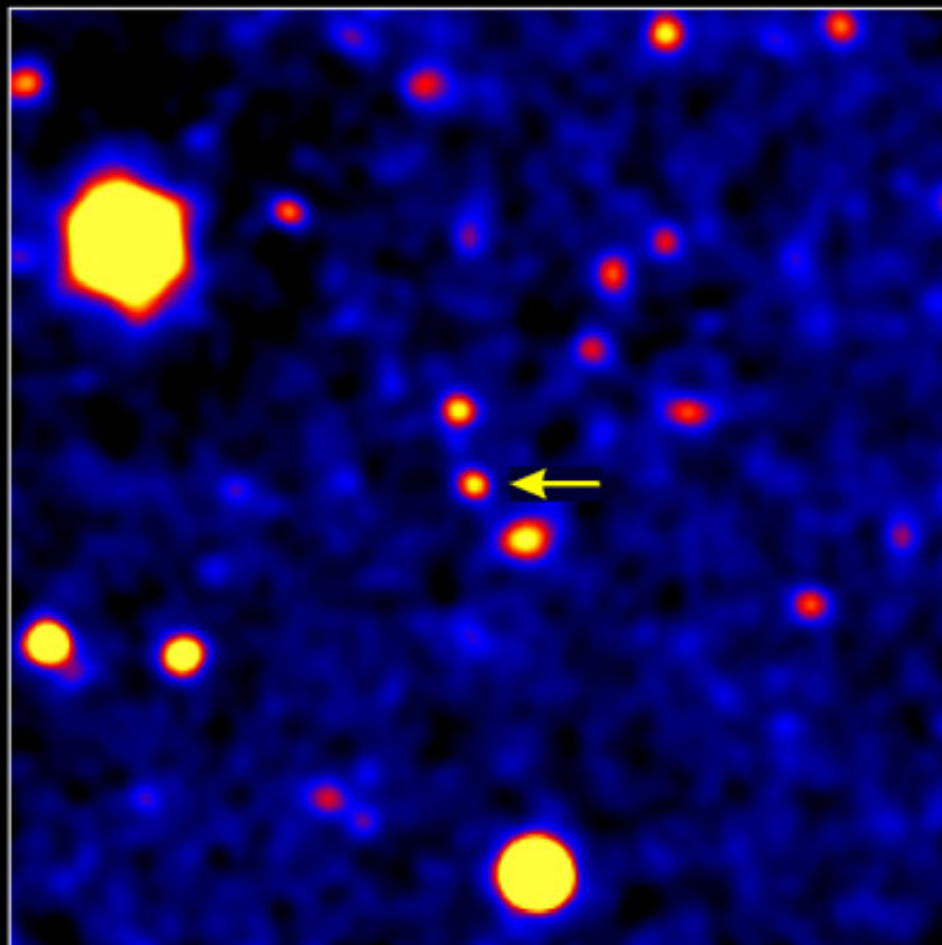


1997.02.28 – GRB observed in X-rays

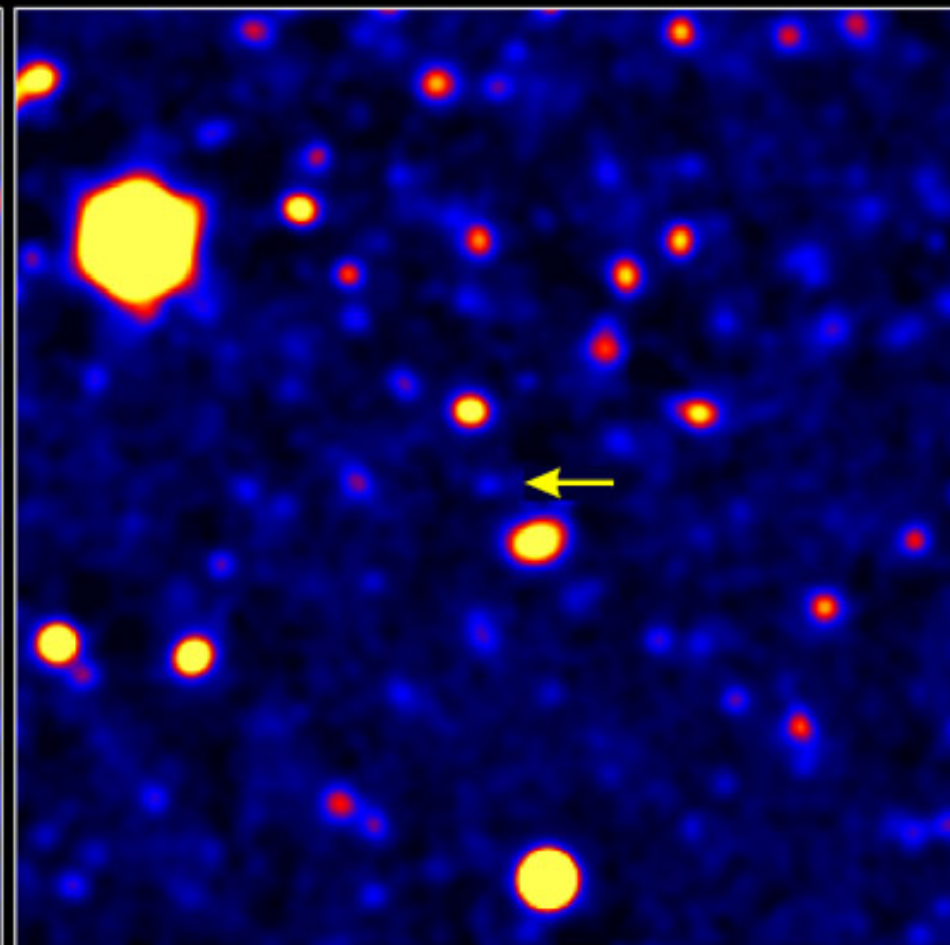
21 h later – optical observation

William Herschel Telescope, 4.2m, La Palma

Gamma Ray Burst 971214 • W. M. Keck Observatory



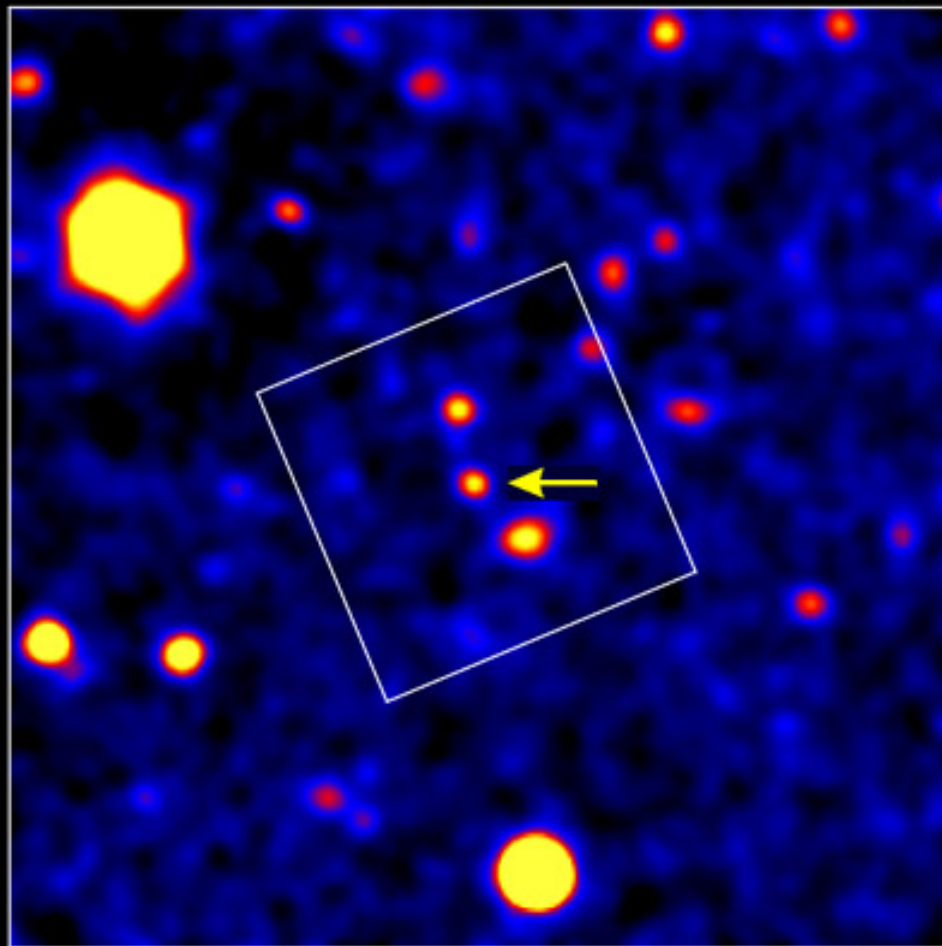
December 1997



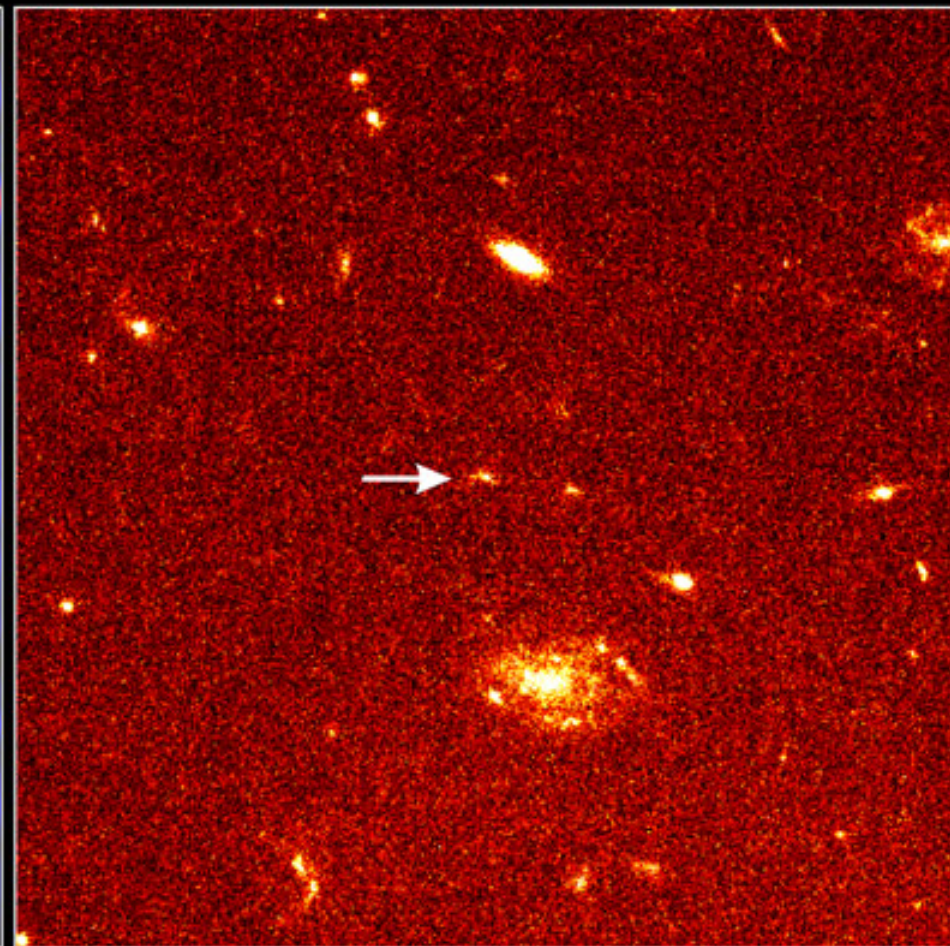
February 1998

PRC98-17b • May 7, 1998 • ST ScI OPO
S. G. Djorgovski and S. R. Kulkarni (Caltech),
the Caltech GRB Team and W. M. Keck Observatory

Gamma Ray Burst 971214



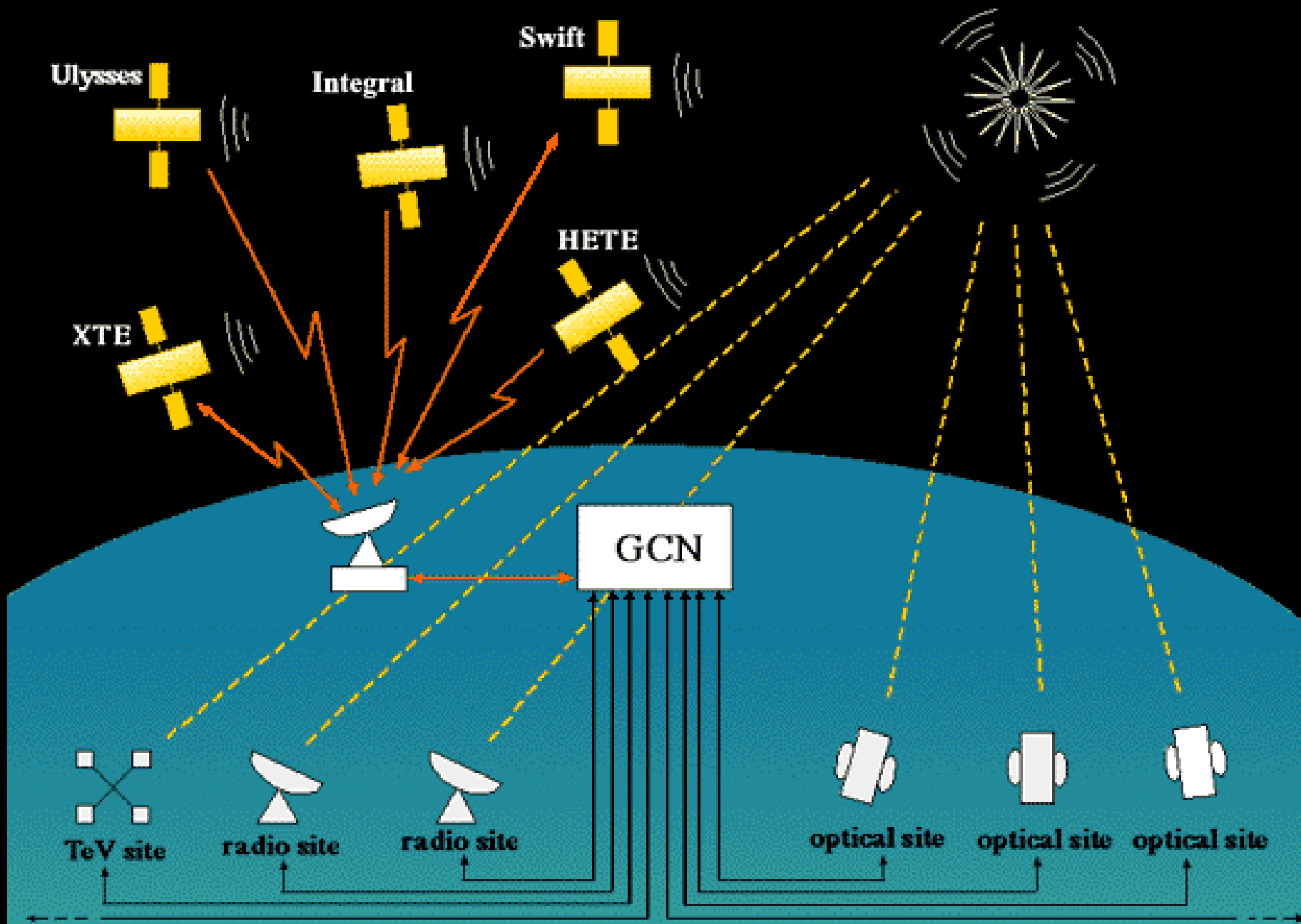
Keck • December 1997



HST/STIS • February 1998

PRC98-17c • May 7, 1998 • ST ScI OPO
S. G. Djorgovski and S. R. Kulkarni (Caltech), the Caltech GRB Team,
W. M. Keck Observatory and NASA

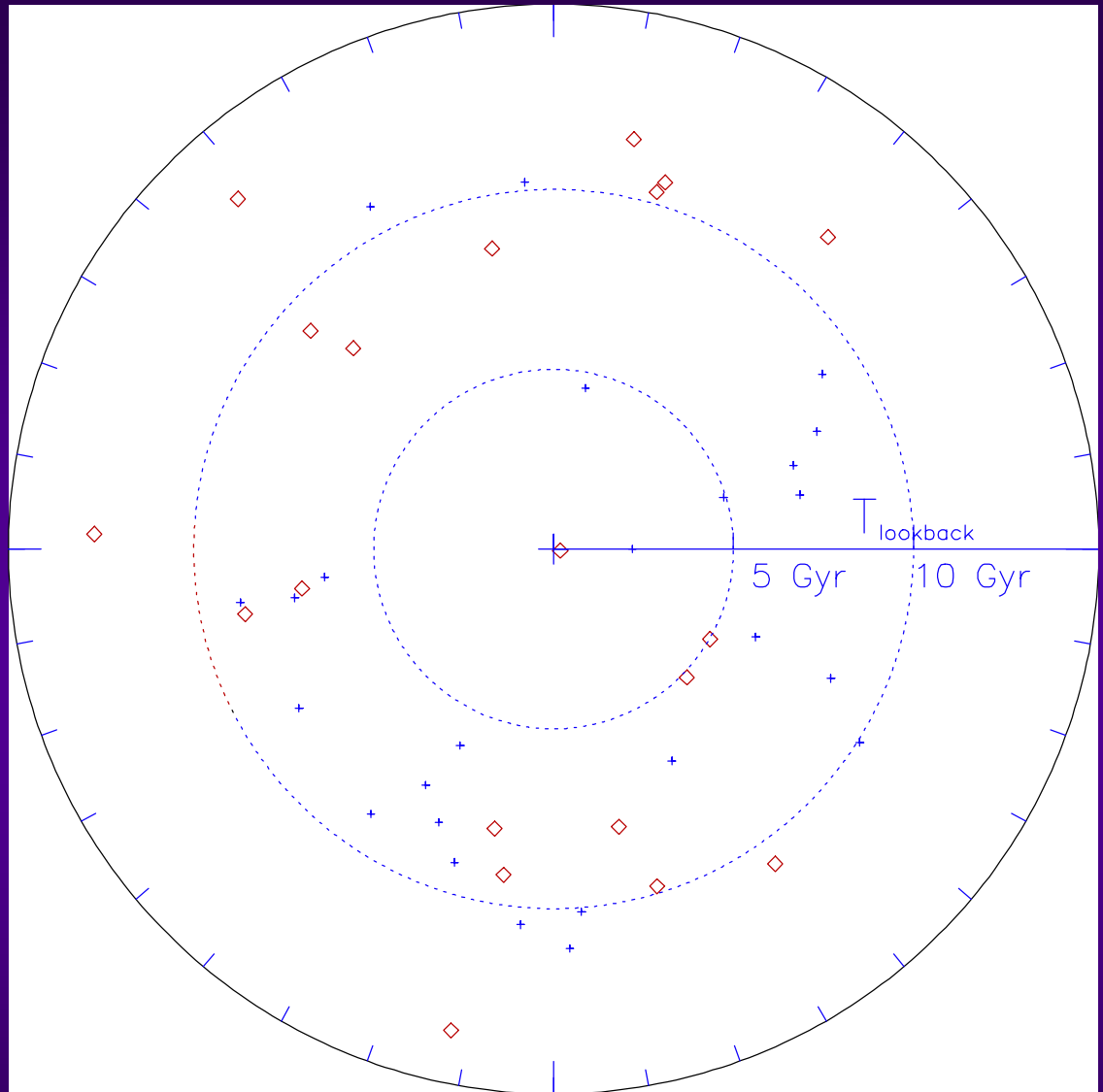
GRB Coordinate Network (GCN)



Distances

up to $z=4.5$
 $\Rightarrow 13 \cdot 10^9$ light years

could be used
to probe Universe
farther than SN

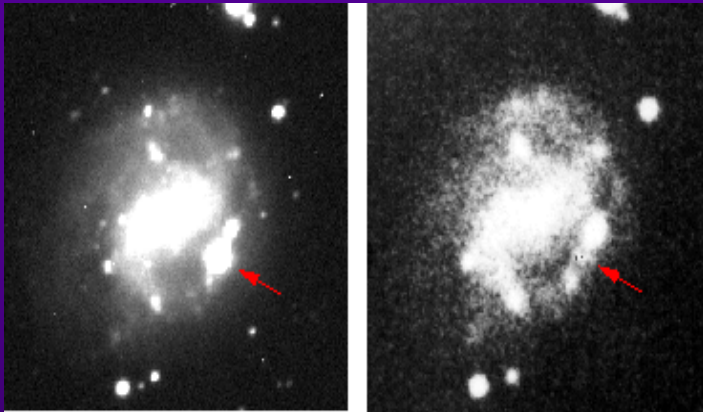


GRB's projected on galactic plane
visible Universe radius $\approx 14G$ light years

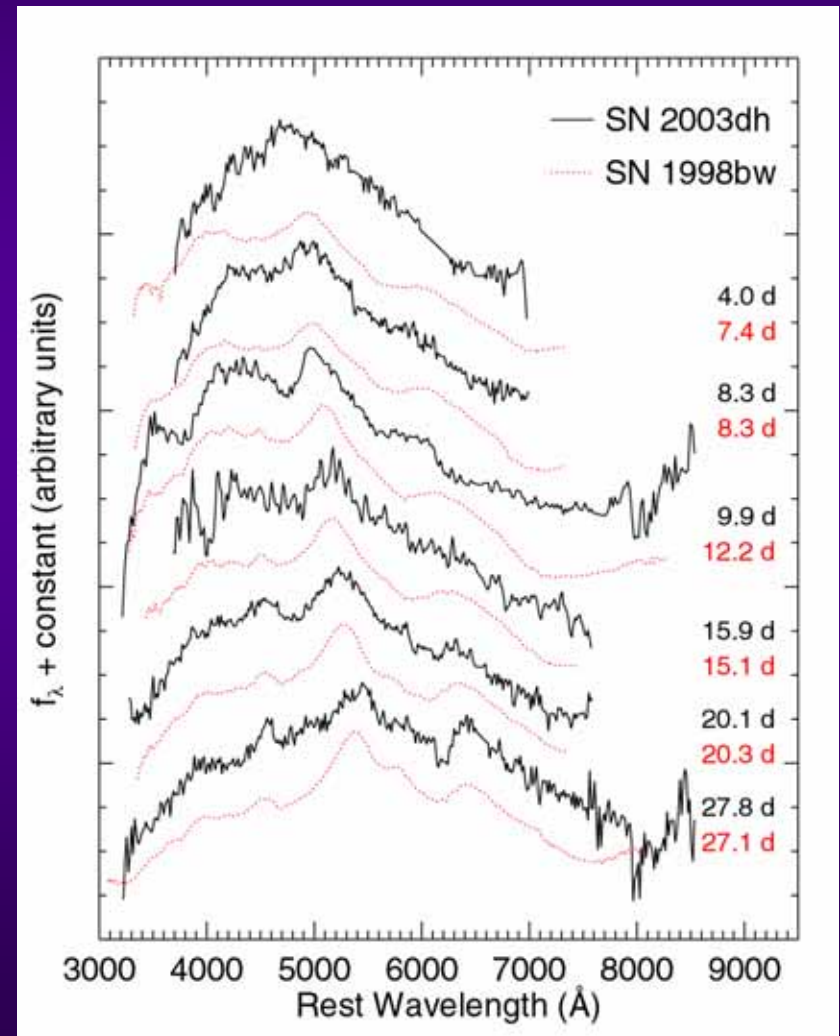
Supernova SN1998bw

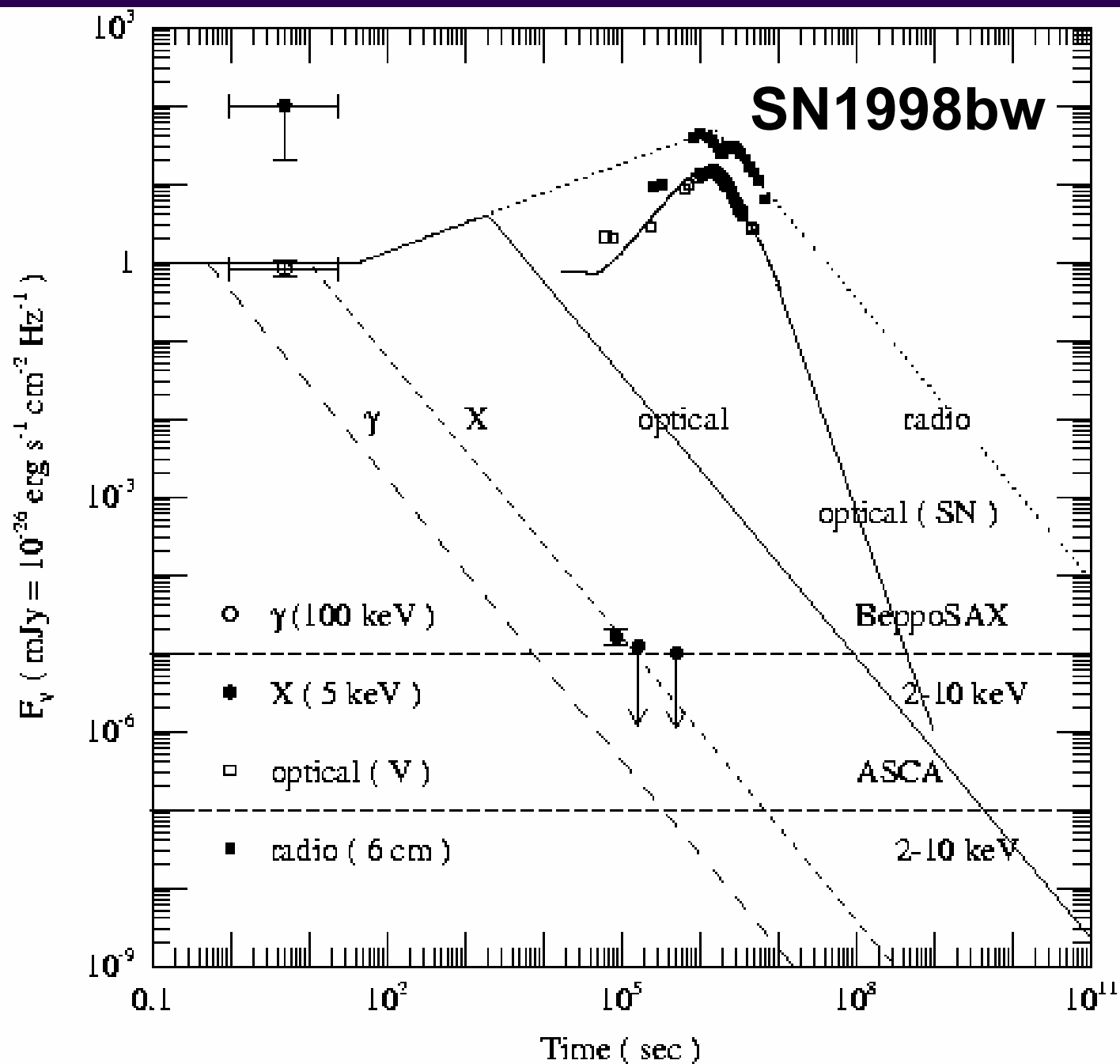
1998.04.25 – GRB discovered by BeppoSAX

- very bright afterglow – 14^m
(all so far $>20^m$)
- SN-like spectrum
- max. after 2 weeks

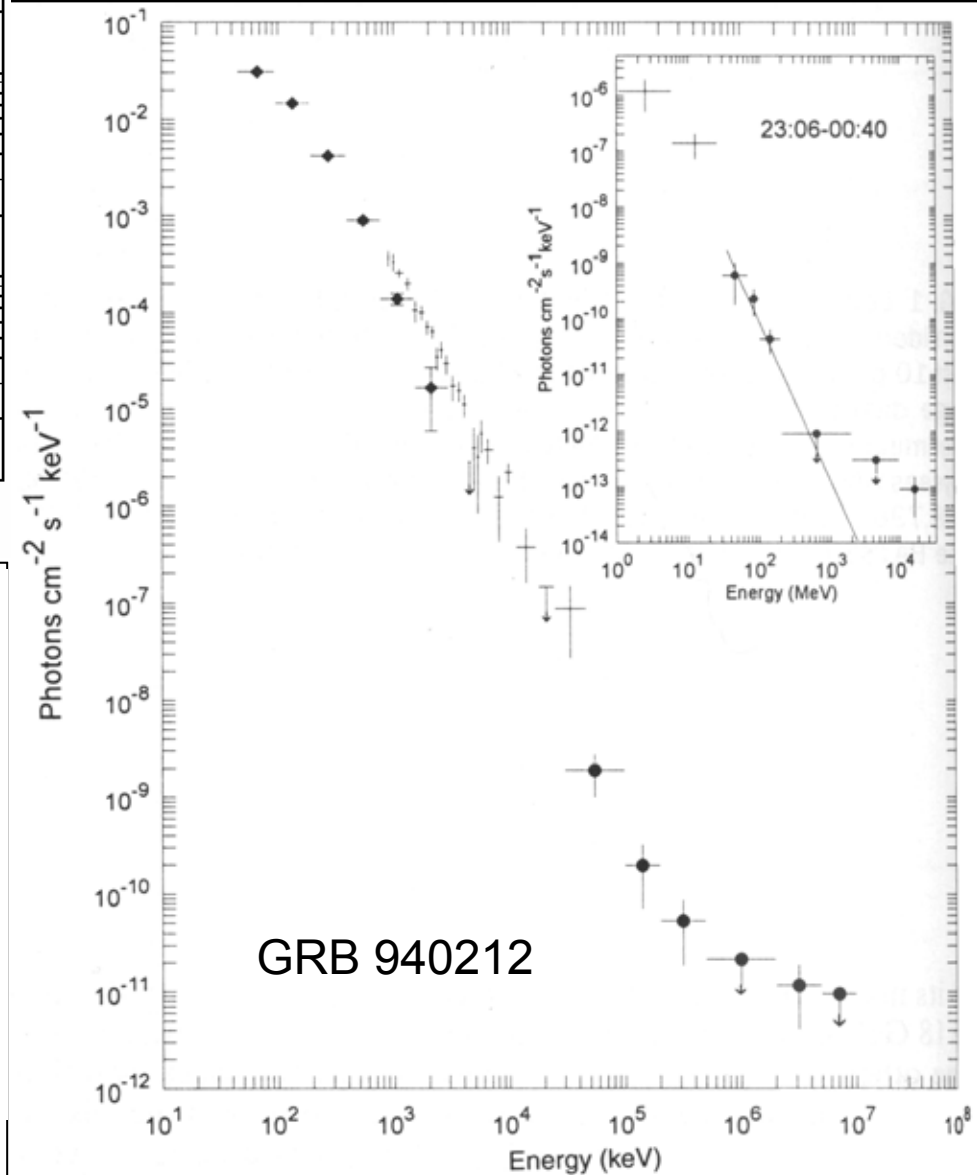
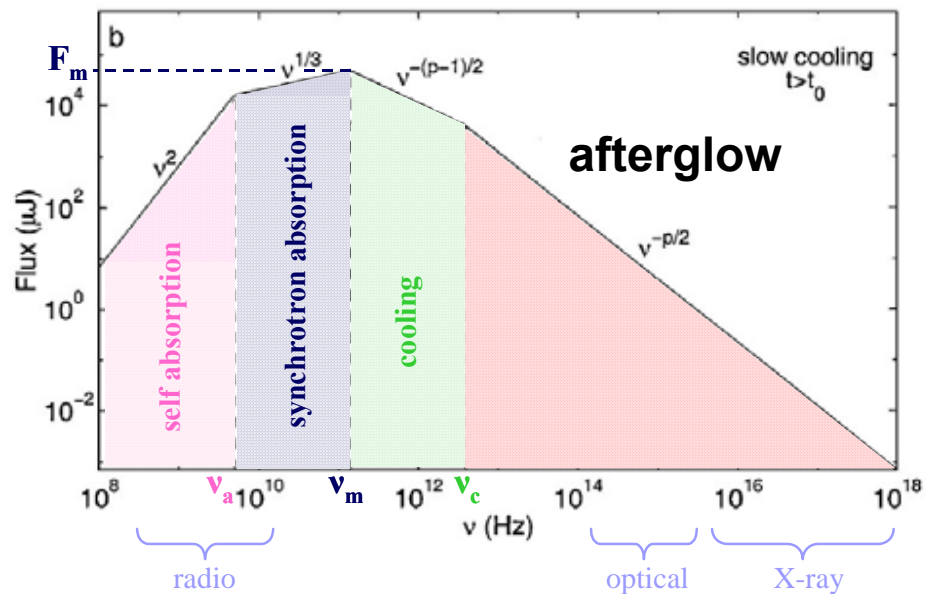
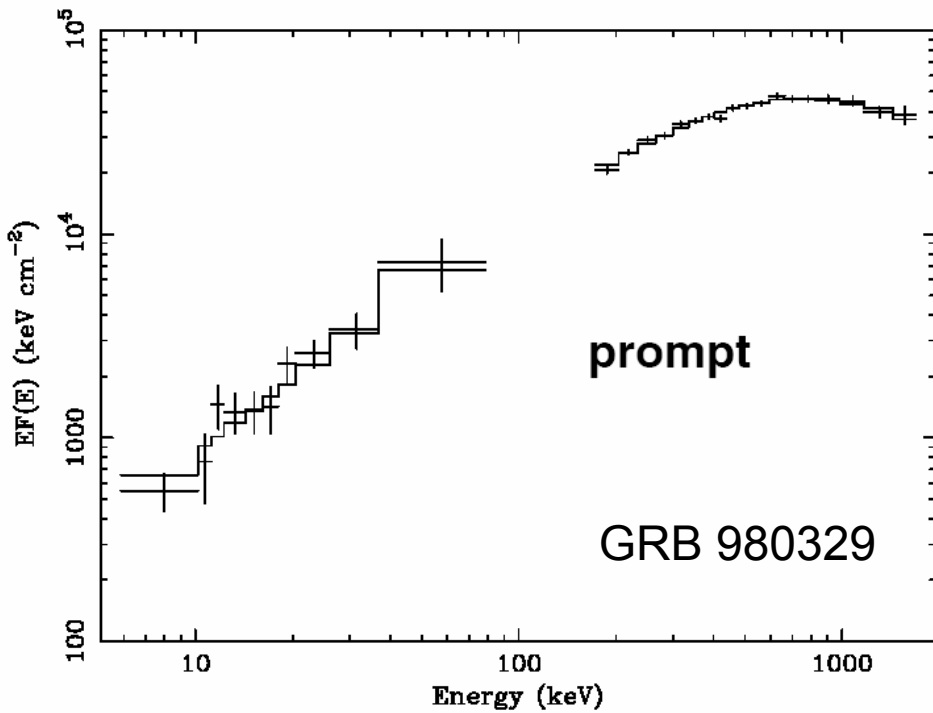


Several GRB-SN pairs
found so far





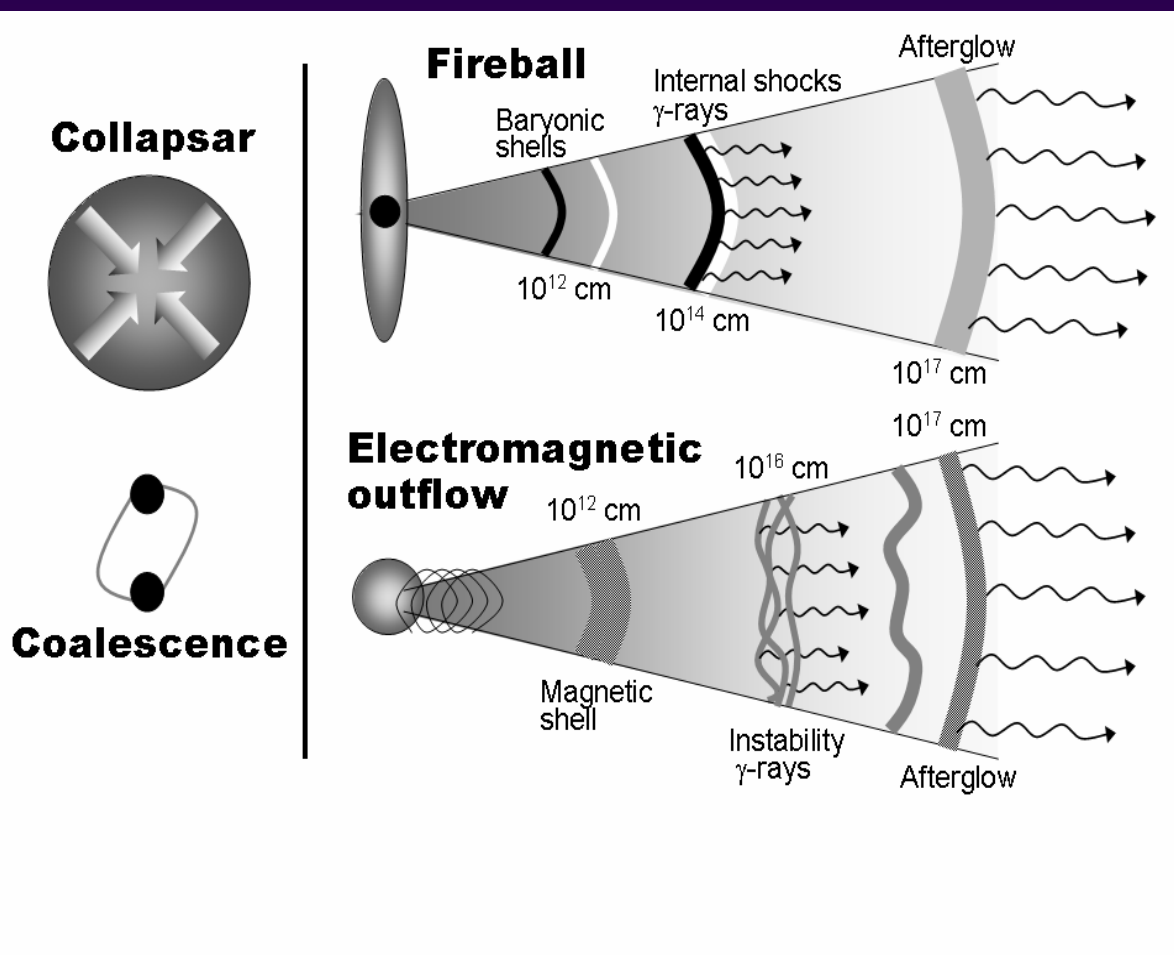
GRB spectrum



Central engines

Collapsar (hypernova)
big, rotating star
collapsing to
neutron star and/or
black hole
(long bursts?)

Coalescence (merger)
of two neutron stars
or NS and BH
(short bursts?)



Engine \rightarrow energy transport \rightarrow conversion to γ -rays \rightarrow afterglow

↓
Collapsar
Coalescence

↓
Baryonic
Magnetic

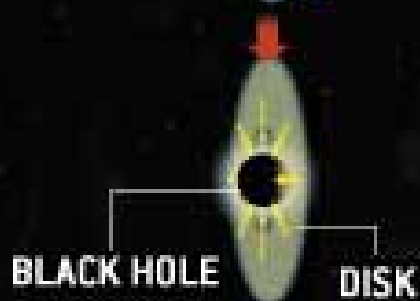
↓
Internal Shocks
Magnetic instability

↓
External Shock

MERGER SCENARIO



FORMATION OF A GAMMA-RAY BURST could begin either with the merger of two neutron stars or with the collapse of a massive star. Both these events create a black hole with a disk of material around it. The hole-disk system, in turn, pumps out a jet of material at close to the speed of light. Shock waves within this material give off radiation.



CENTRAL ENGINE

MASSIVE STAR



HYPERNOVA SCENARIO

JUAN VELASCO

FASTER BLOB

SLOWER BLOB

BLOBS COLLIDE
(internal shock wave)

GAMMA RAYS

JET COLLIDES WITH
AMBIENT MEDIUM
(external shock wave)

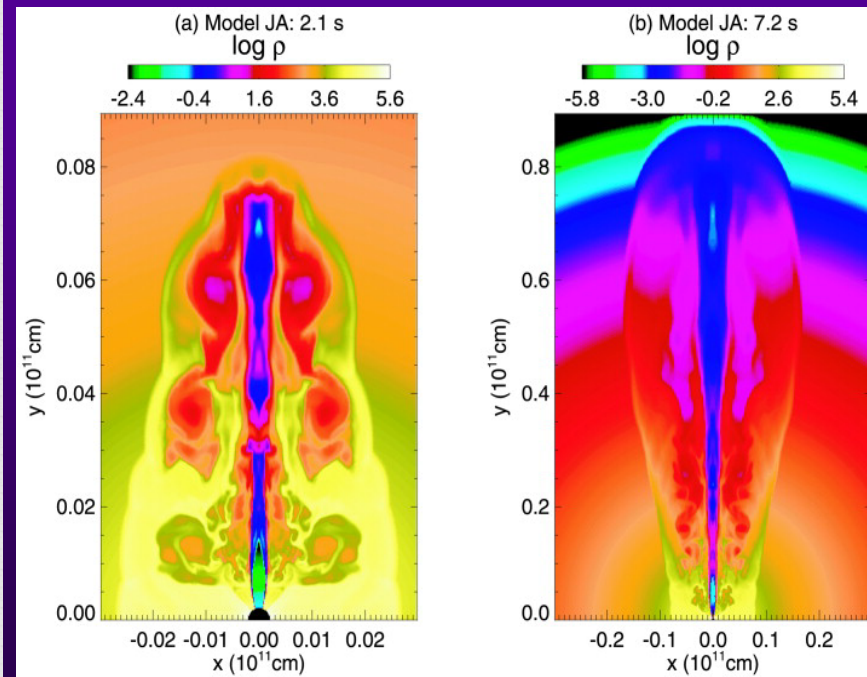
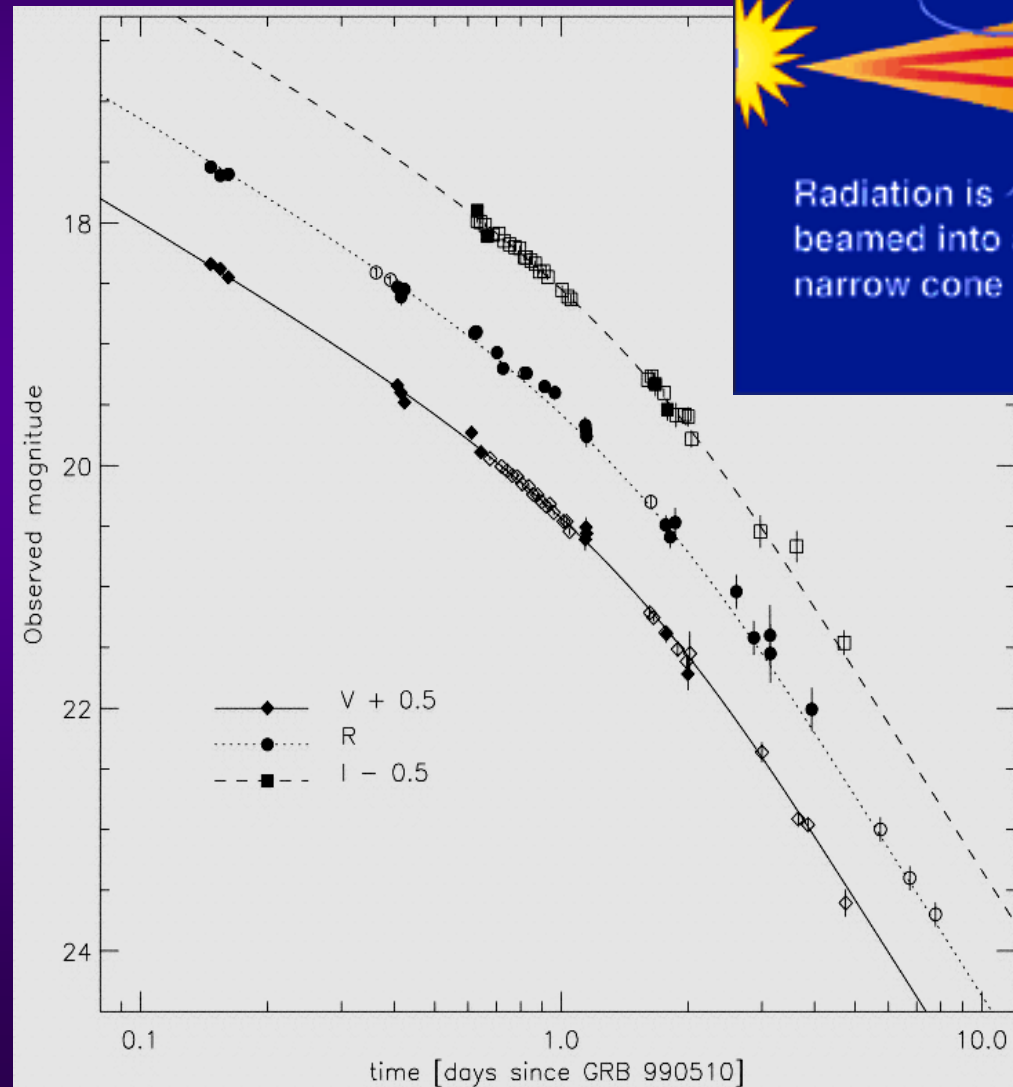
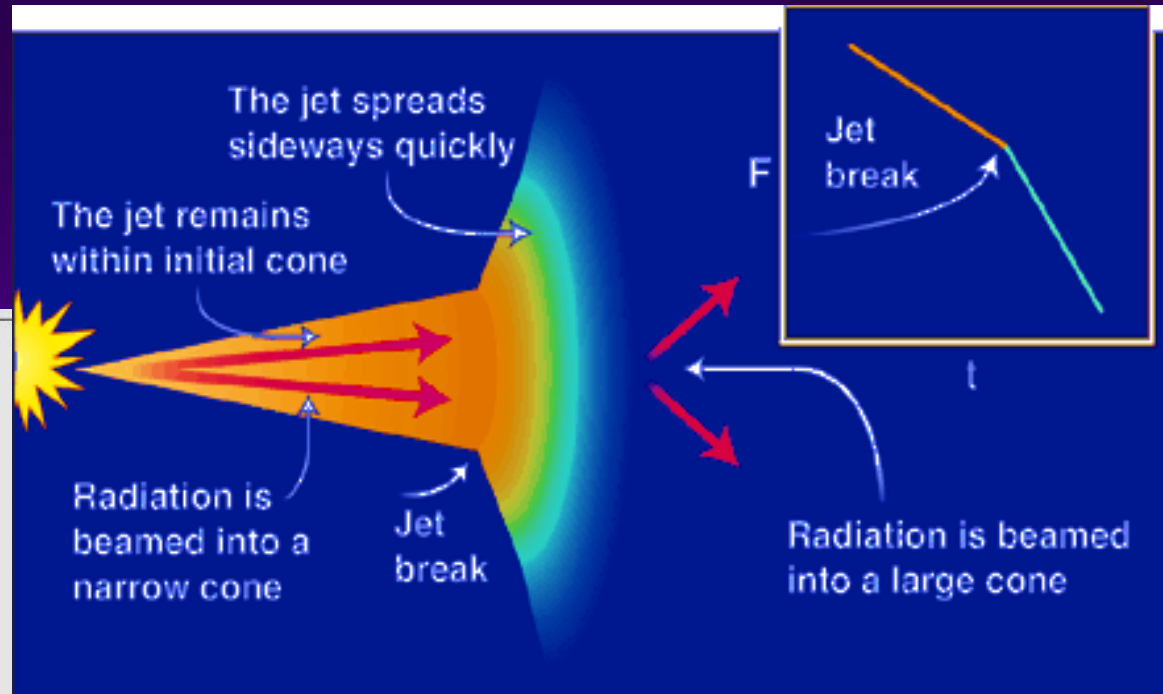
X-RAYS,
VISIBLE
LIGHT,
RADIO
WAVES

PREBURST

GAMMA-RAY EMISSION

AFTERGLOW

Jets



Rejected proposals

1974 – Paul Boynton proposed to search for GRB optical counterparts with vidicon

NSF: „failed to show that they would, in fact, observe anything”

1983 – MIT: **Explosive Transient Camera**

(16 cameras = 43% sky, d=25mm)

Rapidly Moving Telescope, d=180mm

rejected by NSF, descoped version in 1991

software not able to deal with huge background

1993 – Scott Barthelmy (NASA) creates

Batse **C**oor**D**inate **N**etwork

and proposes project **GTOTE** – rejected by NASA

~1989 – Lawrence Livermore NL works on camera

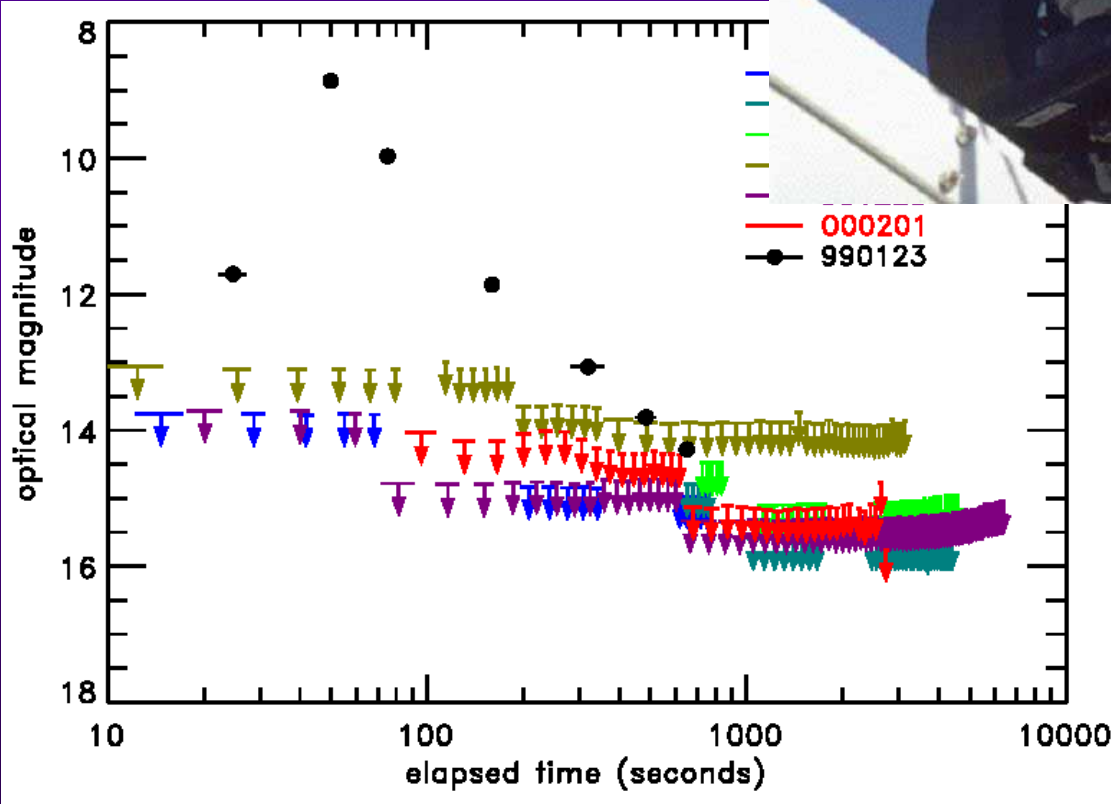
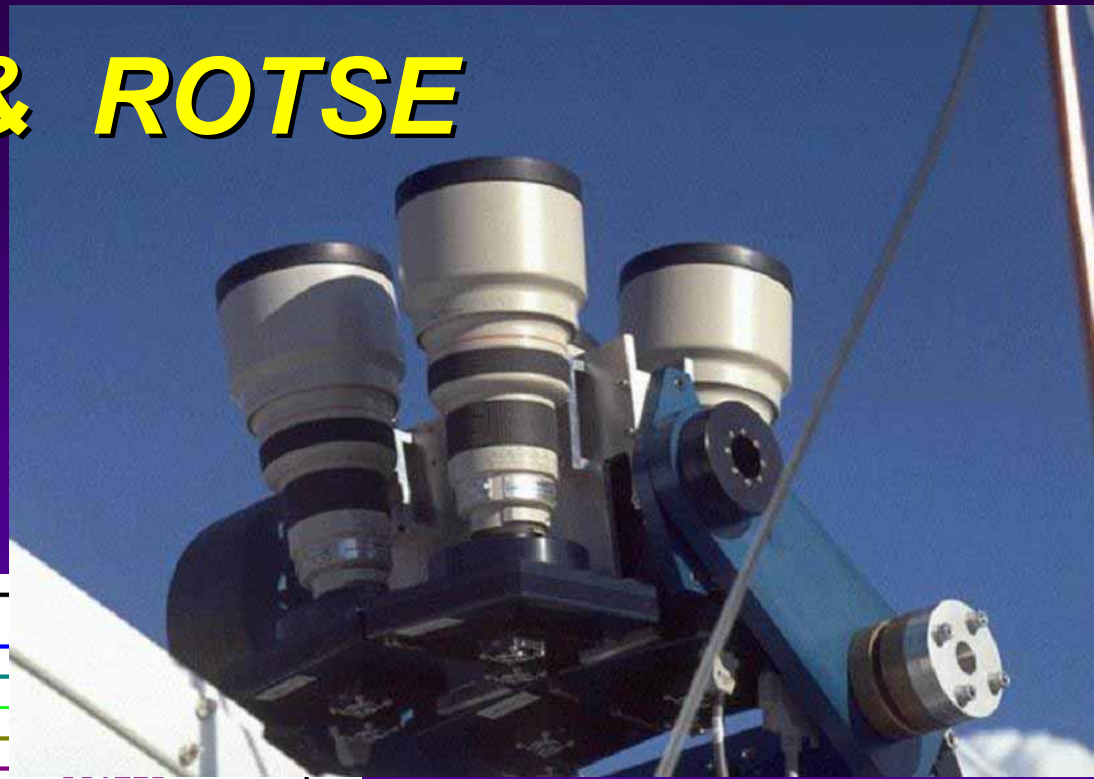
for „Star Wars” defence system. **Project terminated.**

Salomon judgement ?

- 1992 – Carl Akerlof, particle physicist (e.g. MACHO) goes to LLNL
- Someone told him about „Star Wars” camera
- The camera became the GROCSE detector
nothing interesting has been observed
- 1994-95 – proposal GROCSE-II rejected by NFS 4x
- 1996 – conflict in the team
camera divided between two groups
 - Livermore group builds LOTIS
 - Los Alamos group builds ROTSE
- 1999.01.23 – BATSE sends GRB alert
 - clouds over Livermore
 - clear skies over Los Alamos ...

BATSE & ROTSE

4 telephoto lenses
CANON d=10 cm
robotic mount
follows GCN alerts



Images 1999.01.23
20 s after BATSE alert

Optical flash 9^m !
could be seen by binocular!

The brightest so far

1983 – project begins
1994 – planned launch

Pegasus XL rocket has 2
crashes out of 5 launches
cost 14.5M\$, 17 years work
6 years delay



1996.11.04
HETE launched, but
trapped inside the
rocket & destroyed ☹

2000.10.09
Launch of HETE-2
field of view $50^{\circ} \times 50^{\circ}$

Sweat, blood and tears ...

VELA satellites observed nothing over **4 years**

New satellites & **6 year** work resulted in 16 GRB

Pre-BATSE after **7 years**: 1 GRB instead of 40

BATSE: **18 years** preparation, **6 years** delay

BeppoSAX: **16 years** preparation, **10 years** delay

The first optical afterglow: **1 year** after launch

Optical observations: **15 years** of rejecting grants

ETC+RMT: nothing, GROCSE: nothing, ...

ROTSE: **10 years** work, 1 flash 20s after GRB990123

HETE: **17 years** preparation, **6 years** delay

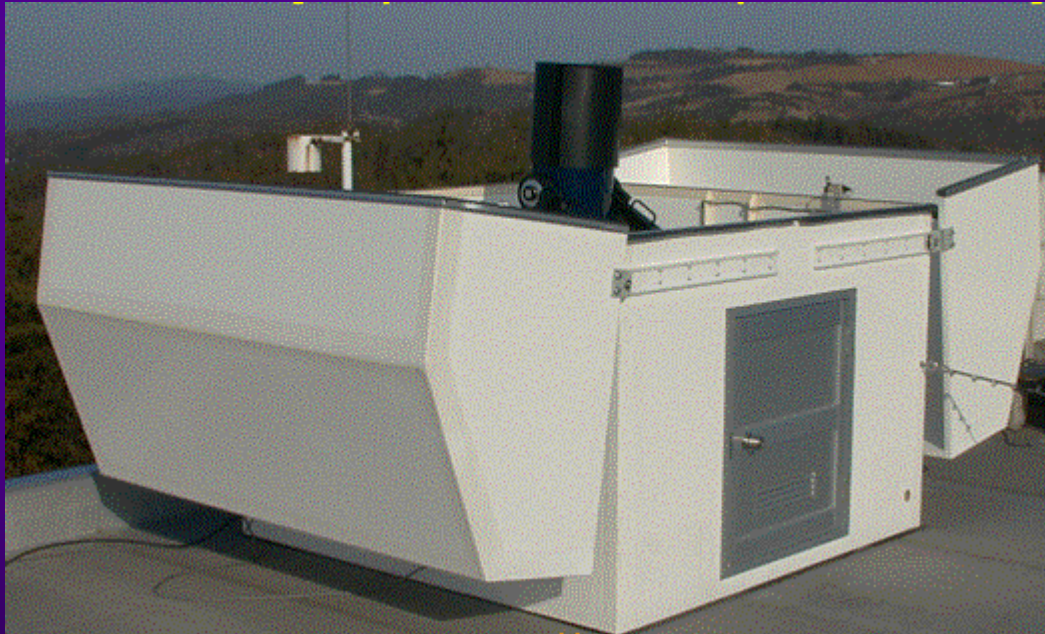
rocket crushes, first satellite destroyed

GRB 030329 = SN 2003 dh

Triggered by HETE

1 h 16 min after GRB: 13^m

1 h 15 min after GRB: 13^m

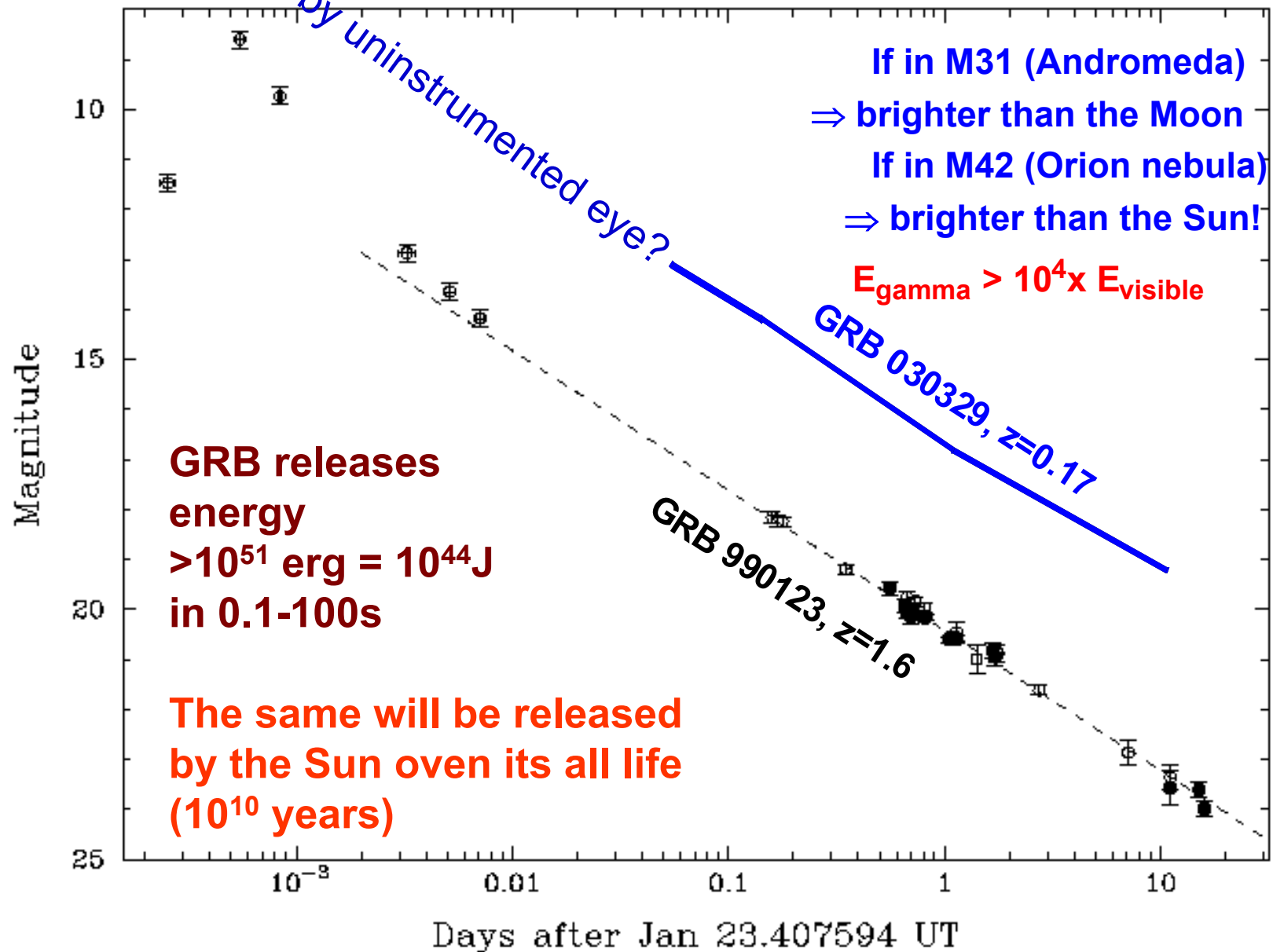


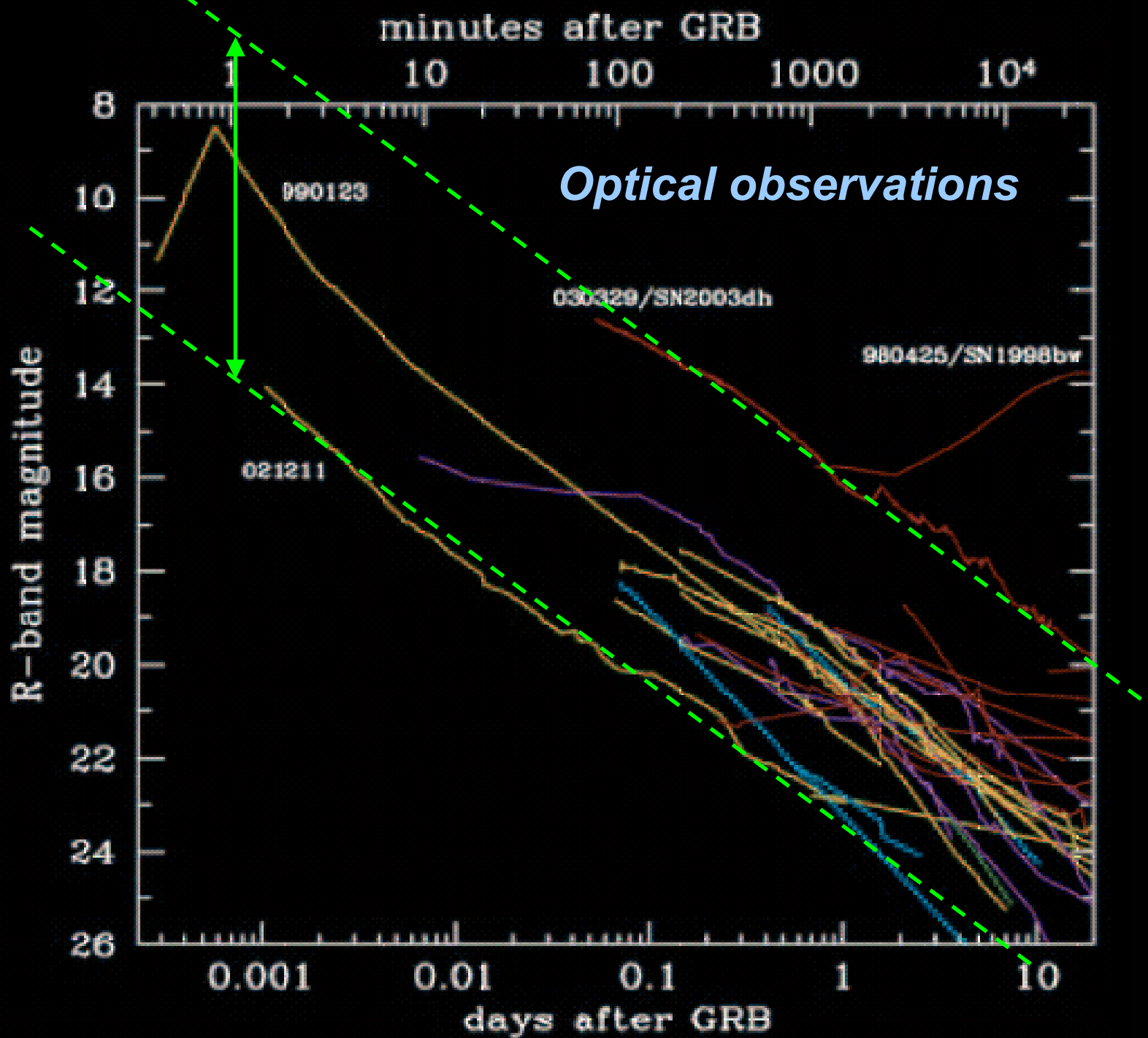
Riken, $d = 25$ cm

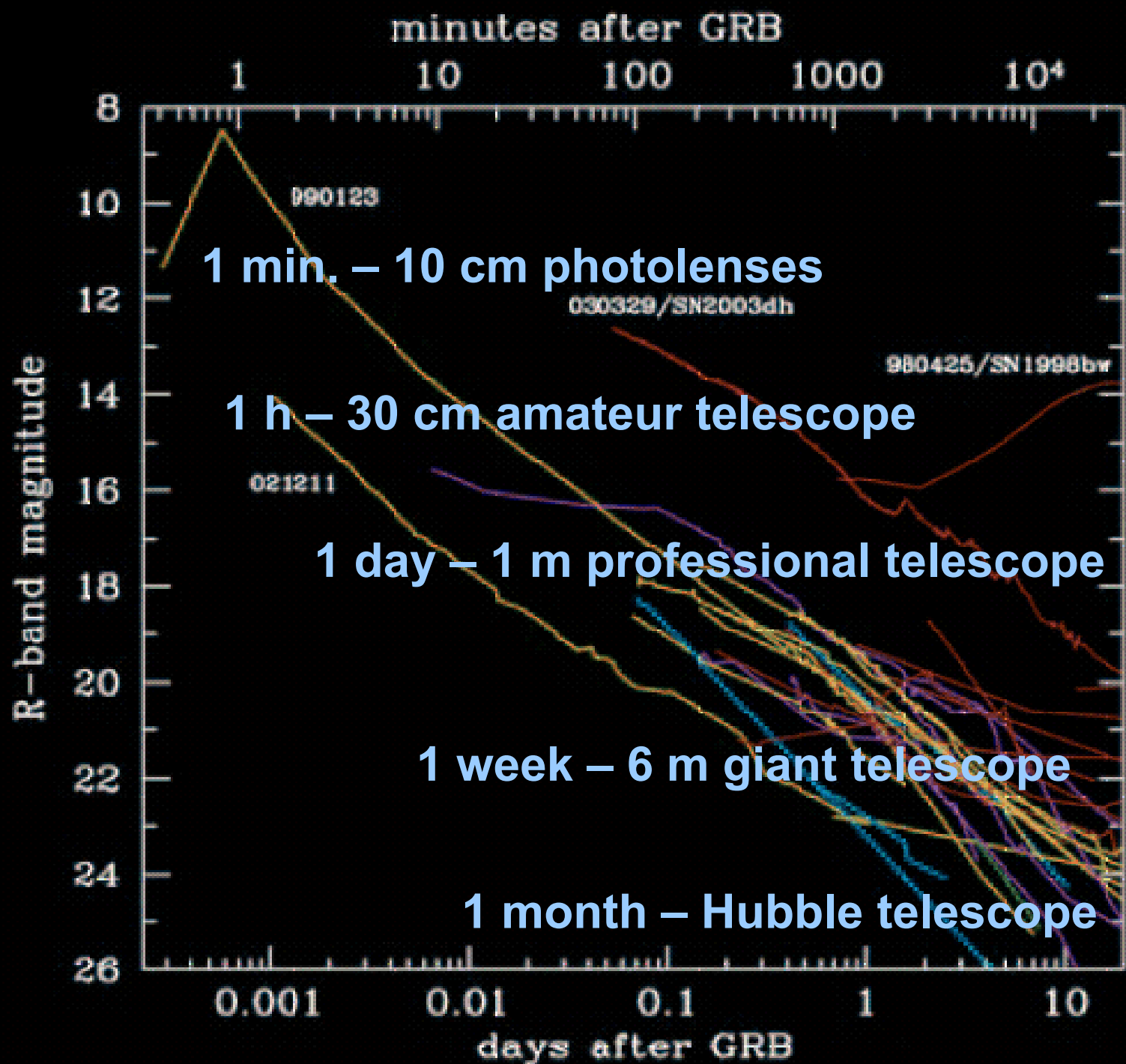


Kyoto, $d = 30$ cm

R-band lightcurve of GRB 990123







Gamma Ray Bursts - GRB

- ◆ Short (0.01-100s) γ -ray pulses
- ◆ From pointlike sources in the sky
- ◆ Brighter than the rest of the sky (in γ -rays)
- ◆ Energy 10^{51} erg ($=10^{10}$ years of Sun emission)
- ◆ Distance up to $z=4.5$ ($13 \cdot 10^9$ light years)
- ◆ Frequency 2-3 per day
- ◆ So far >3000 observed
including ~100 in visible light
distance measured for ~70
- ◆ Observed in radio waves, X-rays, γ ~GeV,TeV

GRB's today and tomorrow

Today:

- ◆ gamma emission well understood
- ◆ central engine(s) still uncertain

Tomorrow:

- ◆ coincidence with TeV photons, neutrinos, etc
- ◆ optical observations before and during GRB

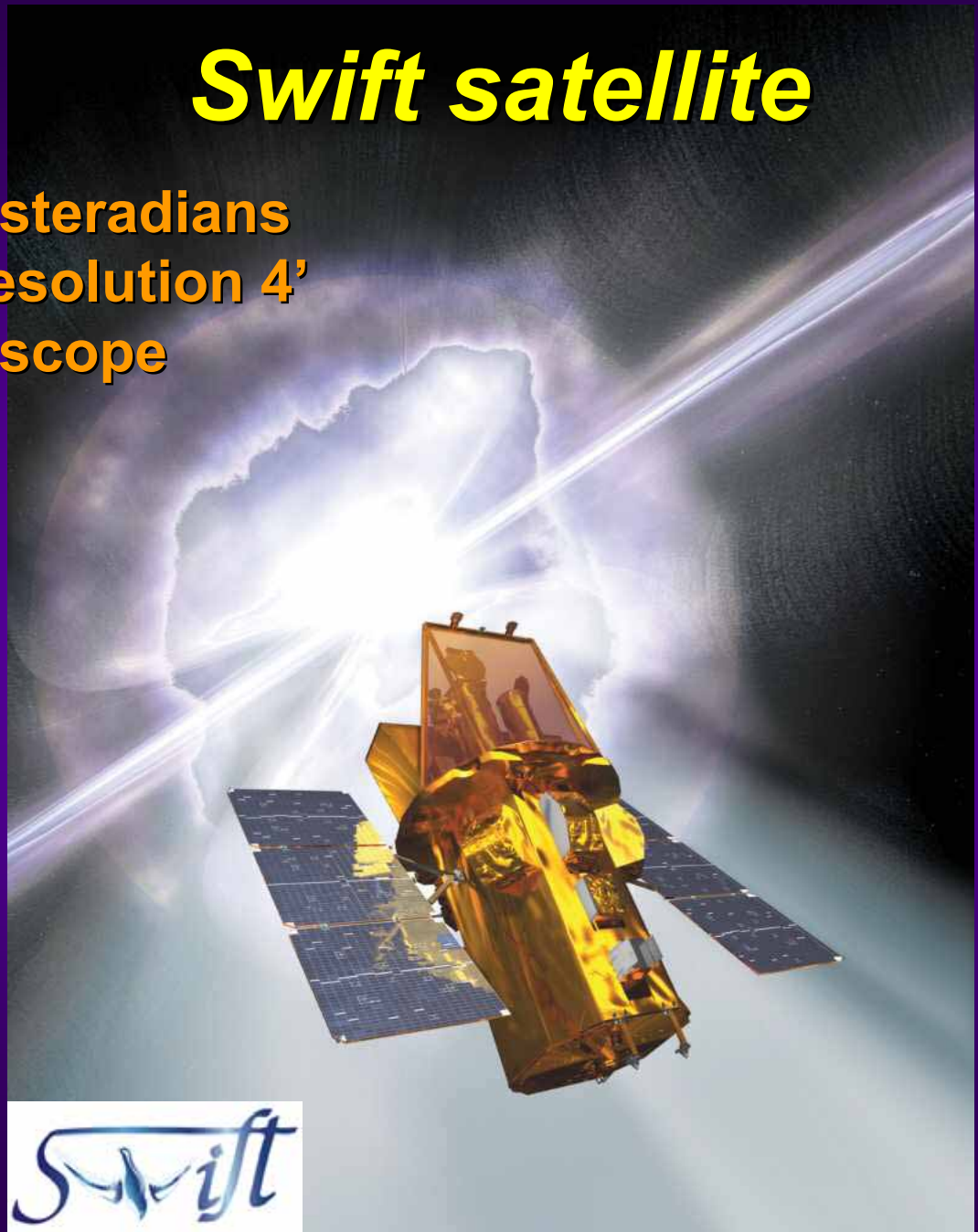
Launched Nov. 2004

3 instruments:

- **BAT** – γ -ray detector: 2 steradians
- **XRT** – X-ray detector: resolution 4'
- **UVOT** – optical+UV telescope



Swift satellite



Short GRB puzzle

So far, no optical counterpart of short ($<1\text{s}$) GRB has been found

2005.05.09 – GRB 050909B lasting 30ms

X-ray afterglow found

Possible host galaxy identified

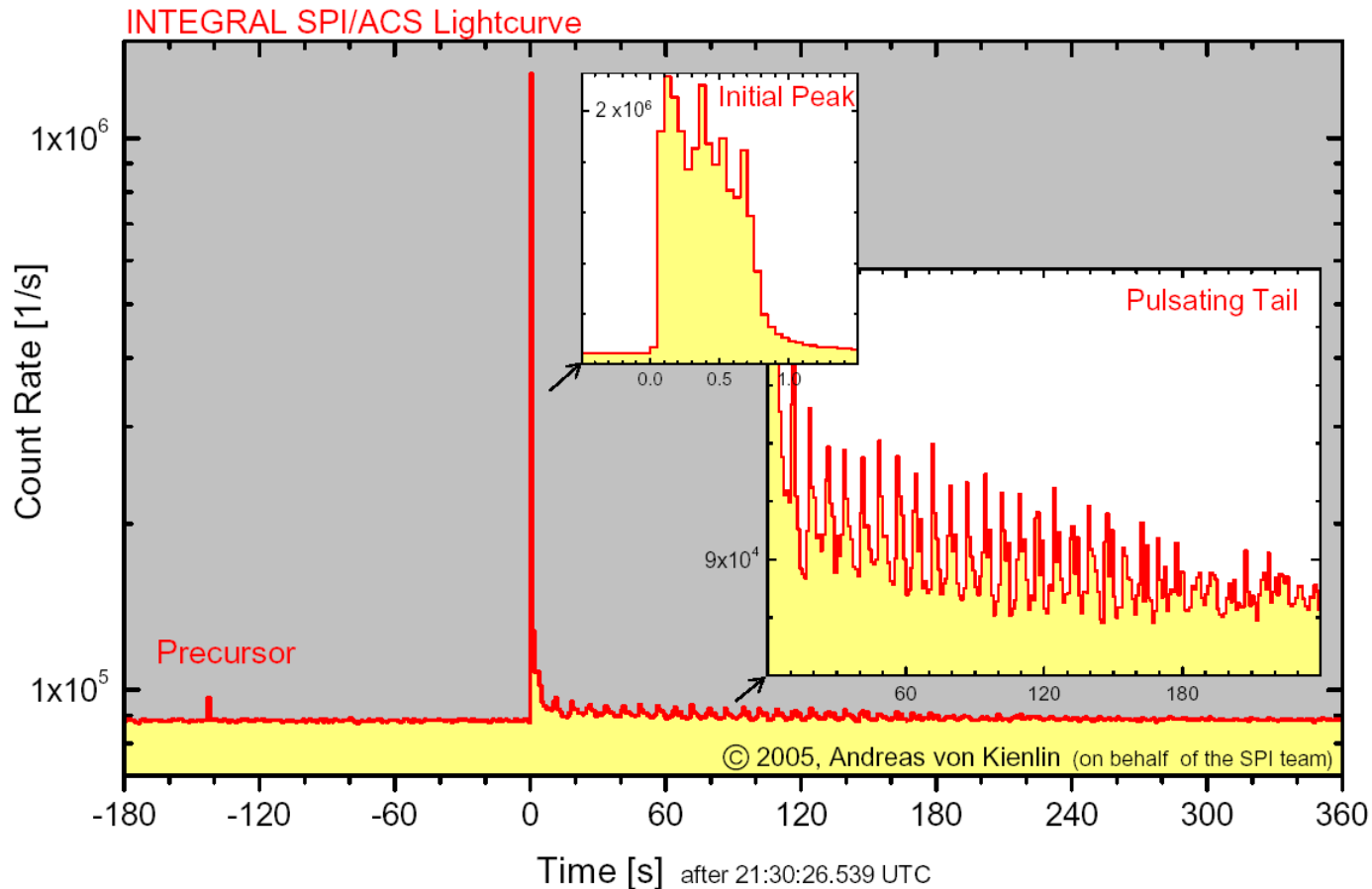
- Rumors in newspapers

The afterglow itself – not seen

Short GRB's remain invisible

Soft Gamma Repeater 1806-20

SGR 1806-20 Outburst on December 27, 2004



Gigantic outburst of SGR 1806

New hypothesis: short GRB are superbursts of distant SGR?
(weaker bursts are too faint to be observed)

GeV photons from GRB's

Cosmic spark chamber EGRET

GRB	Max γ energy	Emission time
910503	10 GeV	84 s
910601	0.3 GeV	200 s
930131	1.2 GeV	100 s
940217	18 GeV	1.5 h
940301	0.2 GeV	30 s



GRB 940217

Ulysses/BATSE observed GRB (25-150 keV) 180 s long

EGRET observed 18 photons (>40 MeV) over 1.5 h !

3 of them had energy > 2 GeV

Why hard photons are late?

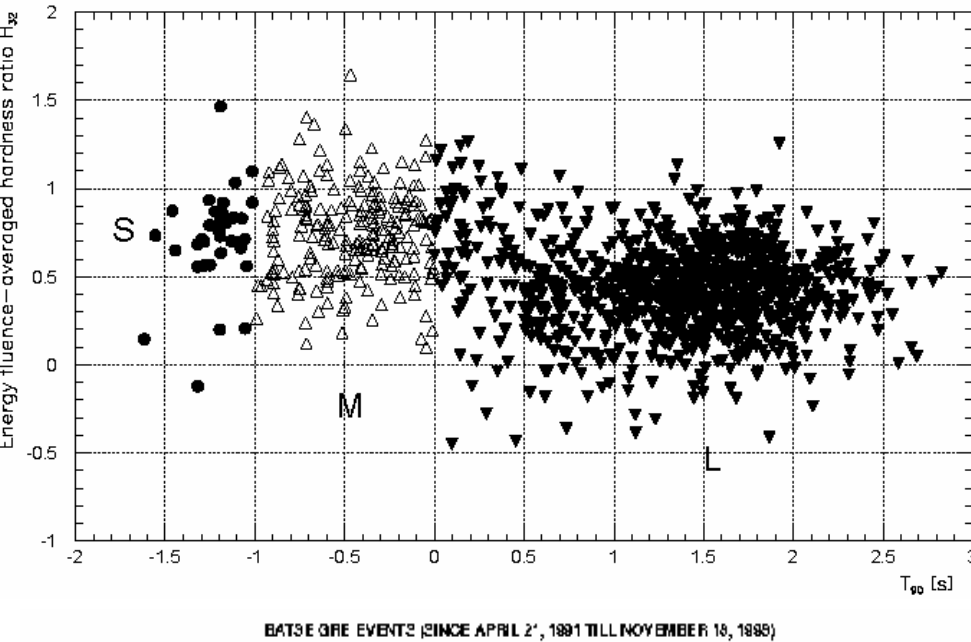
Different production mechanism?

Different speed?!

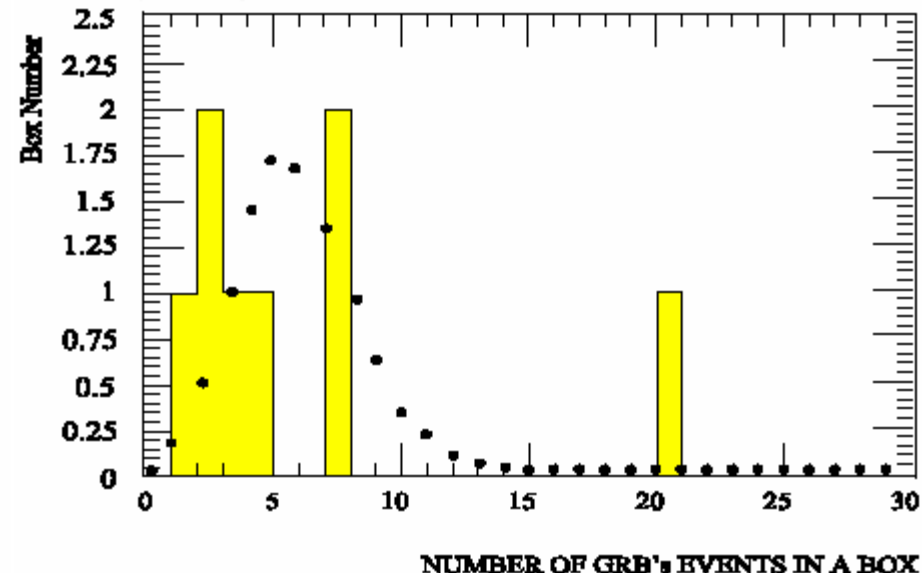
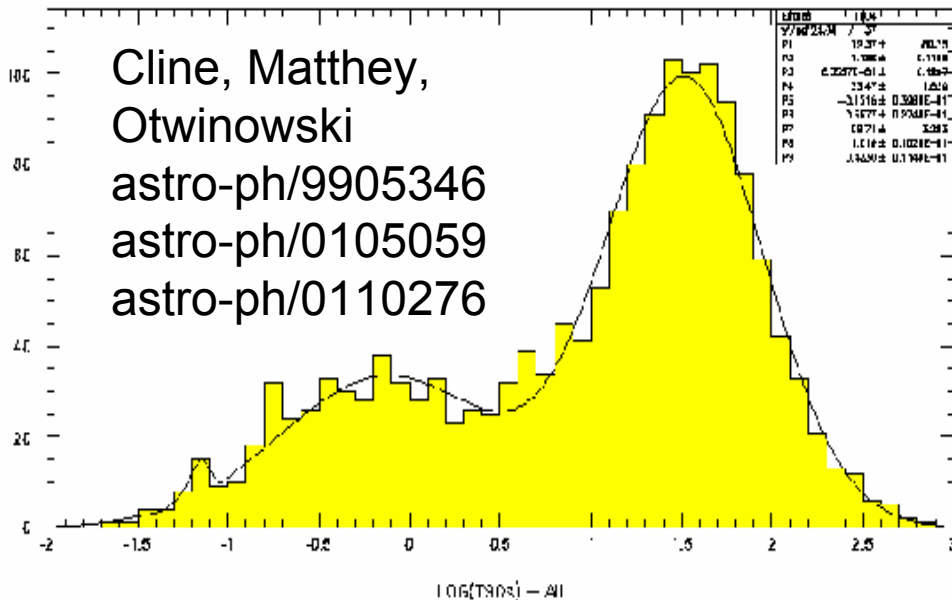
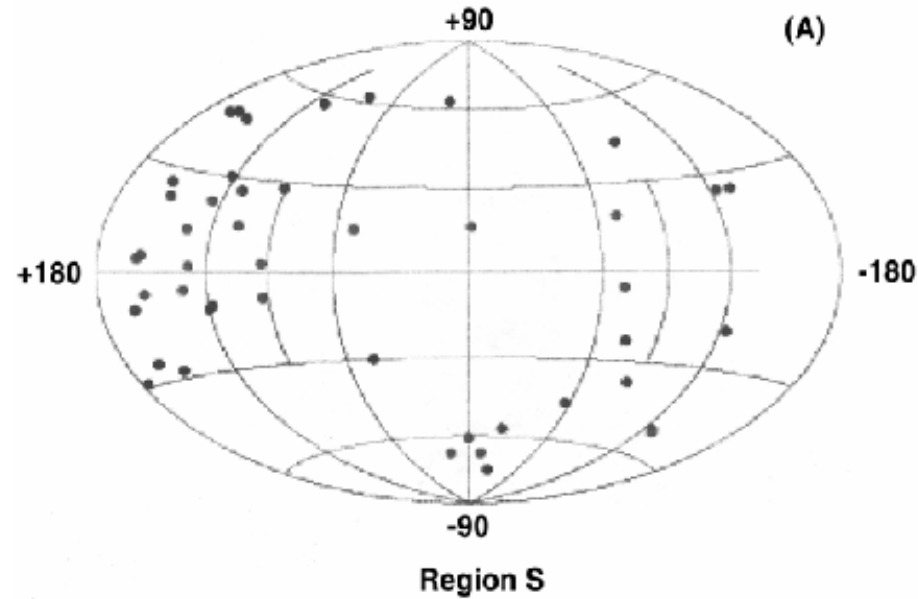
quantum gravity effects (J.Ellis et al., Nature 393, p.763)

extra spacial dimensions (K.S.Cheng, T.Harko, astro-ph/0407416)

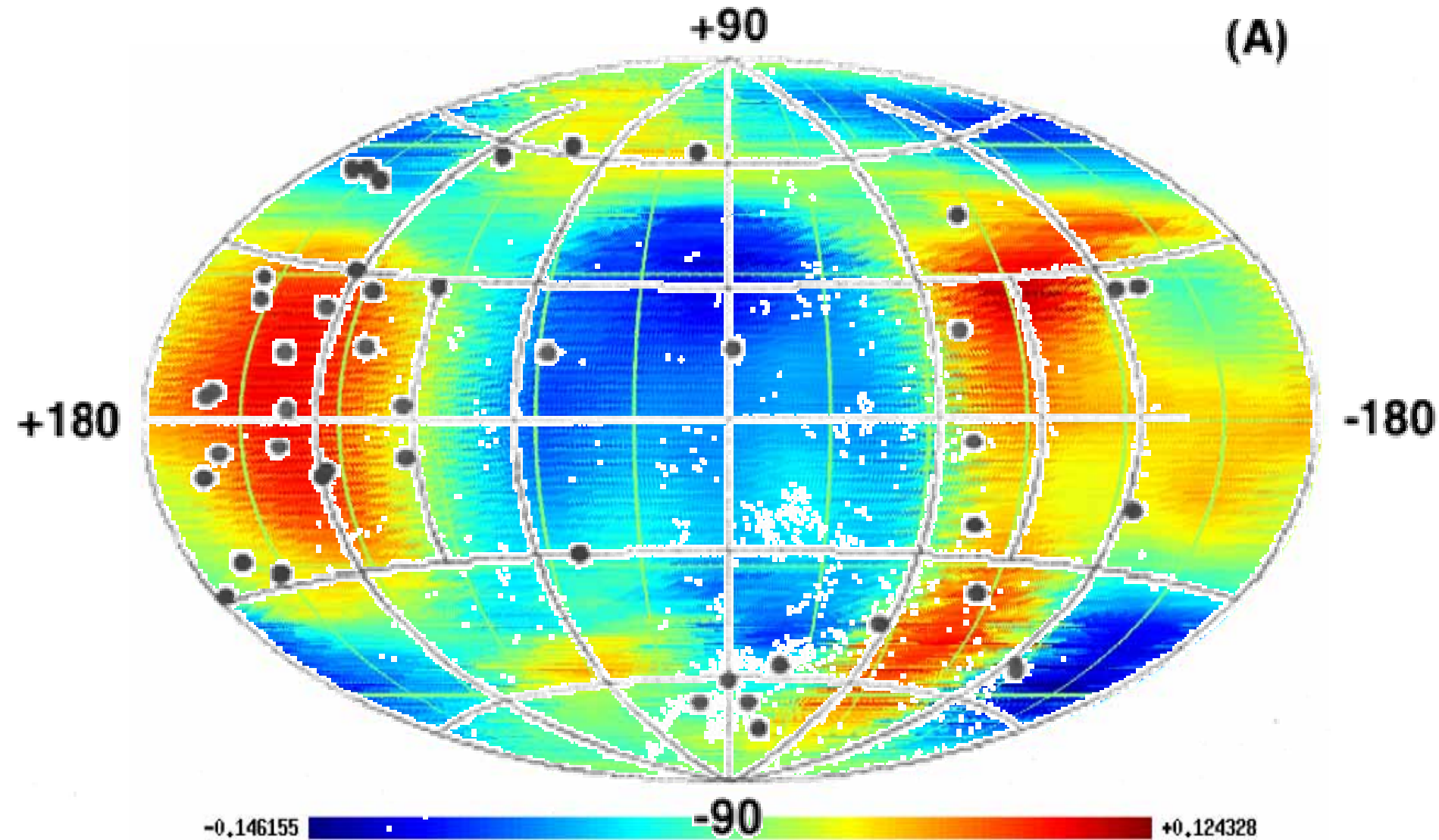
Anisotropy of very short ($<0.1s$) GRB?



BATSE GRB EVENTS (SINCE APRIL 21, 1991 TILL MAY 26, 2000)



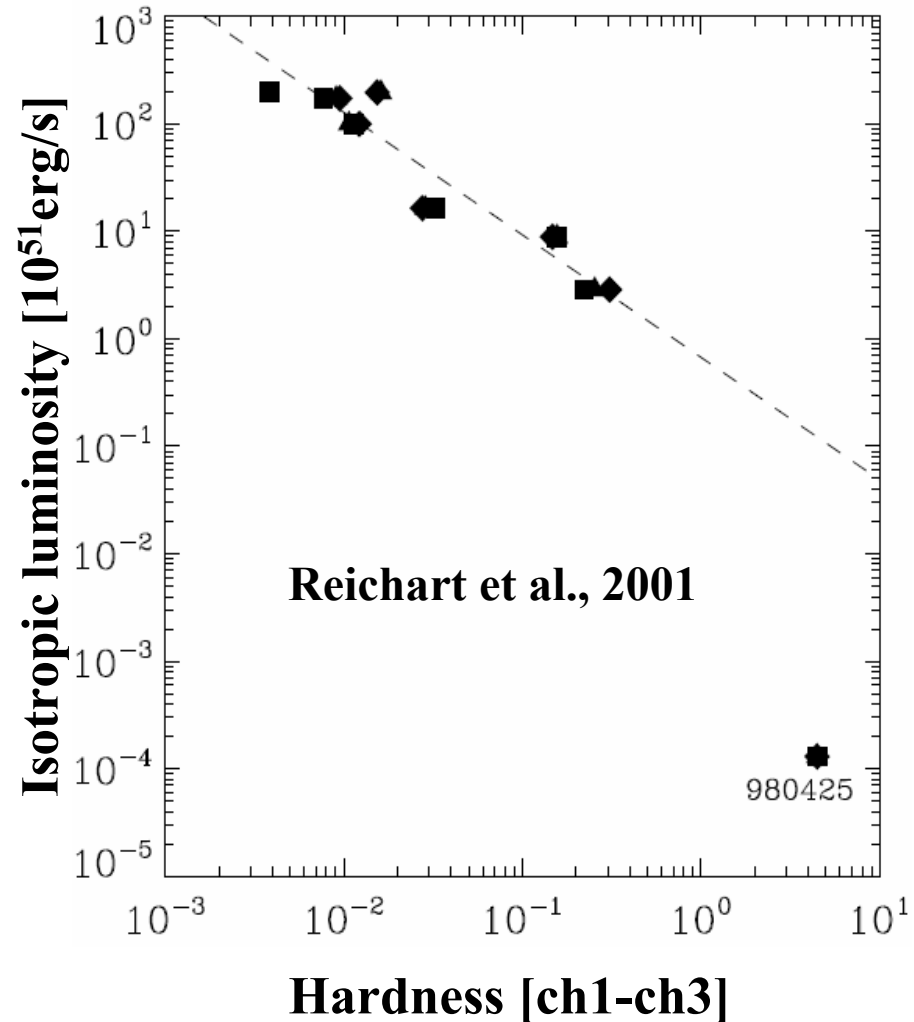
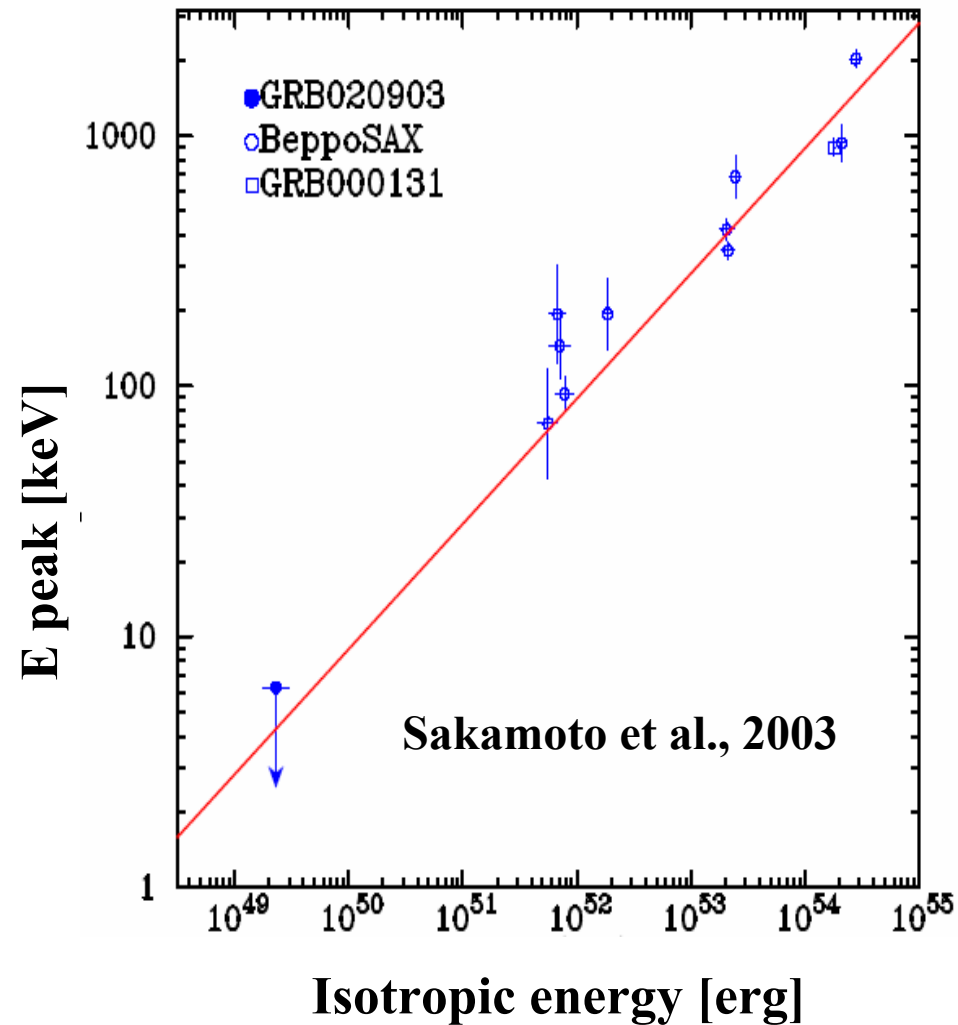
V. short GRB / CMB correlation?!



Colour map – CMB (WMAP) / GeV γ (EGRET) correlations

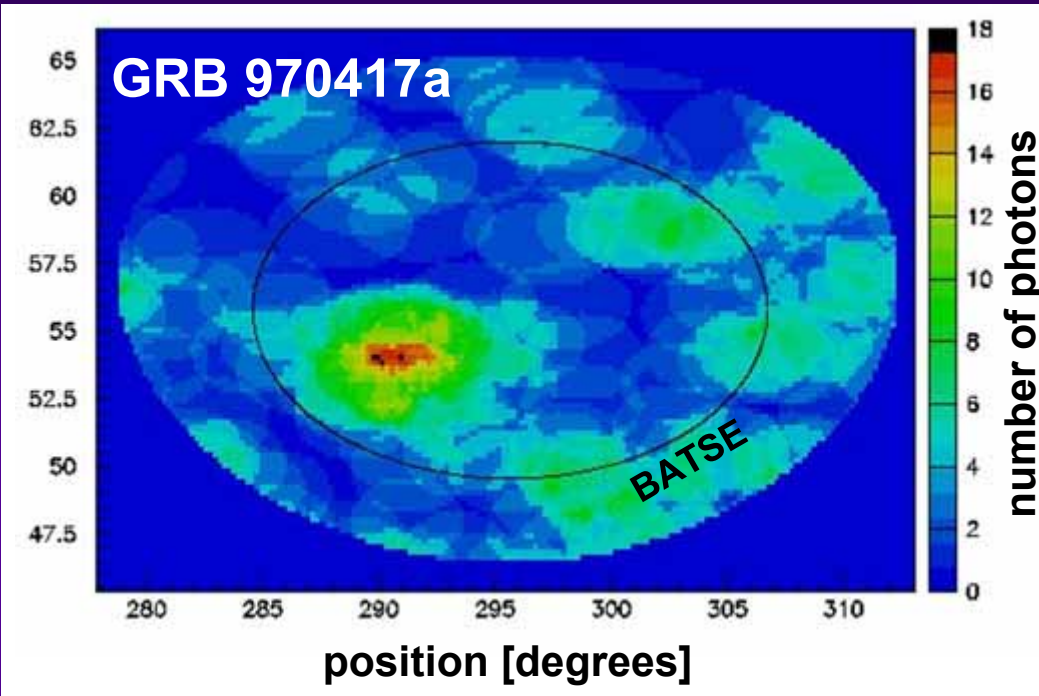
Wibig, Wolfendale, 2005

GRB as standard candles



Cepheides-like correlations might allow us to study the Universe much farther than Supernovae

TeV photons from GRB

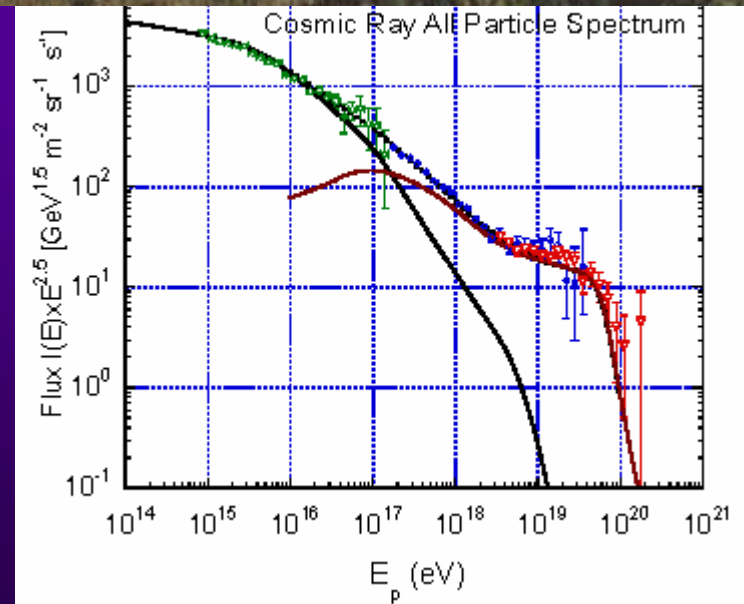


18 photons > 650 GeV during 8 s

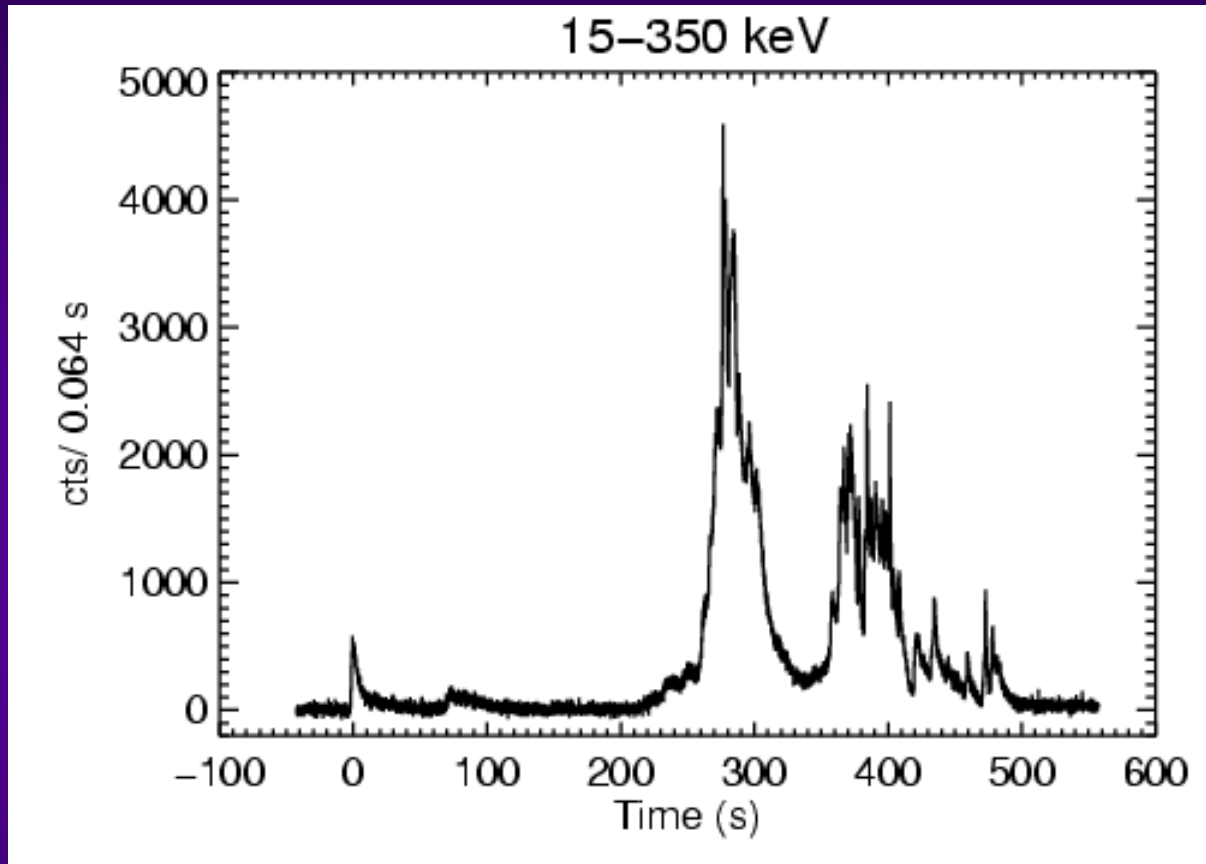
Models proposed with GRB
as cosmic ray sources.

E.g. astro-ph/0310667

points: KASKADE + HIRES I + HIRES II
curves: 1. galactic, 2. extragalactic

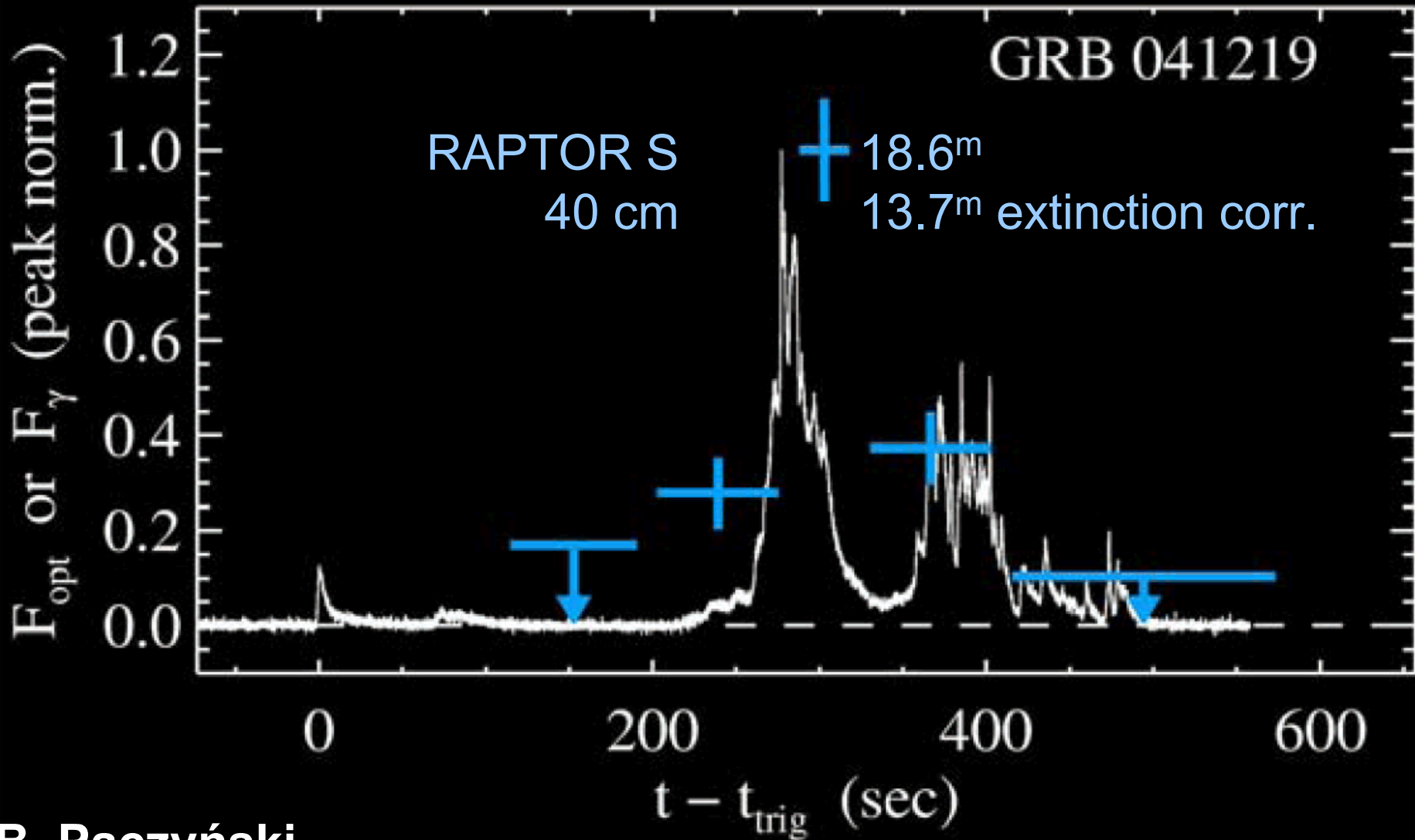


Swift GRB 2004.12.19



Precursor seen also in GRB 2005.01.24 and some others
B.Paczyński and P.Haensel (astro-ph/0502297)
interpret precursor as a collapse to a neutron star
and the main burst as creation of a quark star

Optical observation before GRB!



B. Paczyński

„Optical Flashes Preceding GRBs”, astro-ph/0108522

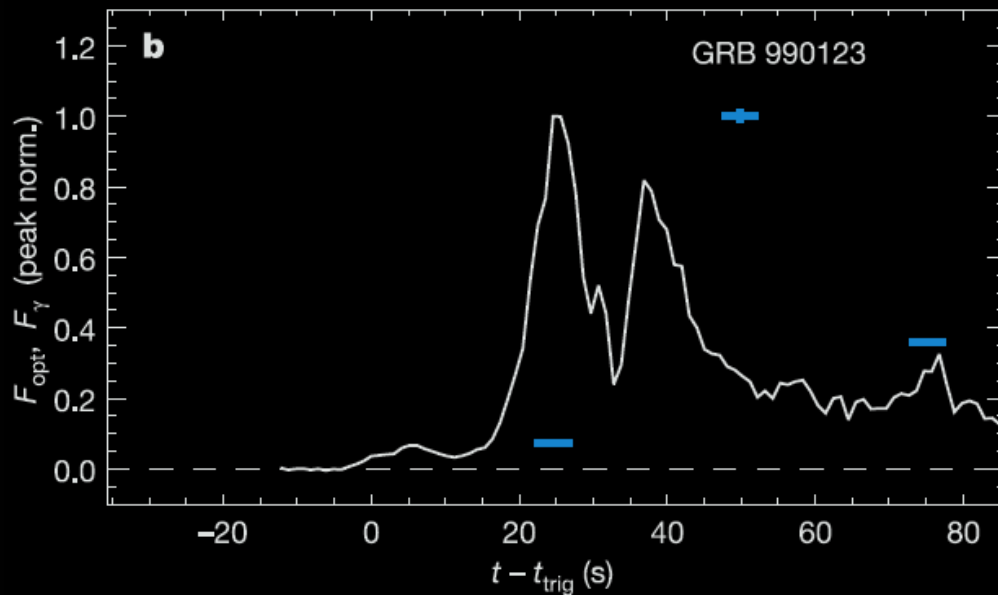
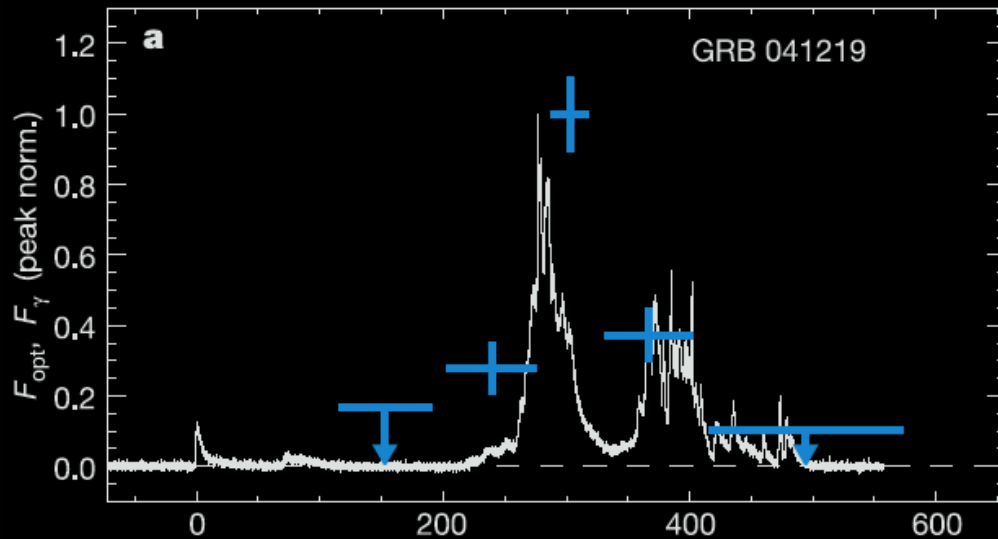
Prompt optical emission

Crucial to understand GRB central engine

Begins before, during or after GRB?

- 3 observed cases
- 3 different answers

More observations very much needed!



GRB 050820
optical peak 7 min. after GRB

General Rule for Bursts

H – arbitrary hypothesis about GRB

G₁, G₂ – gamma ray burts

$$\begin{array}{cc} \forall & \exists \\ H & G_1, G_2 \end{array} \quad G_1 \Rightarrow H, G_2 \Rightarrow \sim H$$

Examples:

- ◆ optical emission begins before / after GRB
- ◆ GRB out of / in the Galaxy (SGR / „normal” GRB)
- ◆ GRB with / without Supernova
- ◆ GRB = single, double, multi-pulses
- ◆ GRB with / without precursor

Catching prompt optical emission

No one knows where the next GRB will happen

Two approaches:

◆ wait for GRB alert and move there quickly

- robotic telescopes listening to GCN:
- BOOTES, (SUPER)LOTIS, MASTER, RAPTOR, REM, ROTSE, TAROT, ...

◆ look everywhere

- robotic telescopes with self-triggering watching ~all sky continuously:
- „ π of the Sky” – π steradians field of view, 2×16 cameras, 32×3000 images/night, 1 TB/night

„ π of the Sky” prototype



- 2 CCD cameras 2000×2000 pixels
- common field of view 33°×33°
- 32 cameras under construction

Las Campanas Observatory, Chile, from 7.2004



- robotic mount
- < 1 min. to any point
in the sky

<http://grb.fuw.edu.pl>

Search for cosmic flashes

„ π of the Sky” prototype at LCO, July 2004 – July 2005

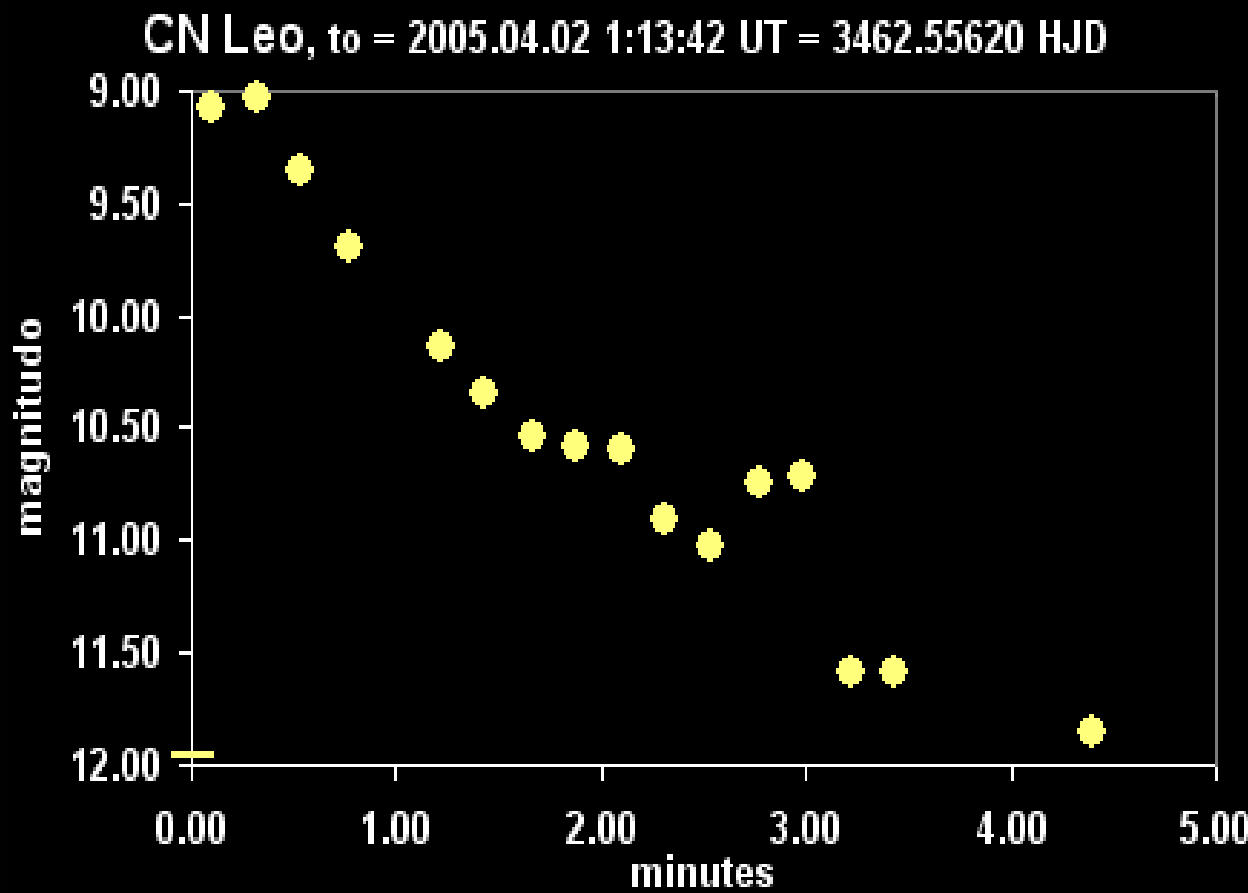
- ◆ no GRB optical counterpart observed so far

limits 11-12^m for 2 GRB before and during γ burst
several limits ~minutes after GRB

- ◆ several flashes observed

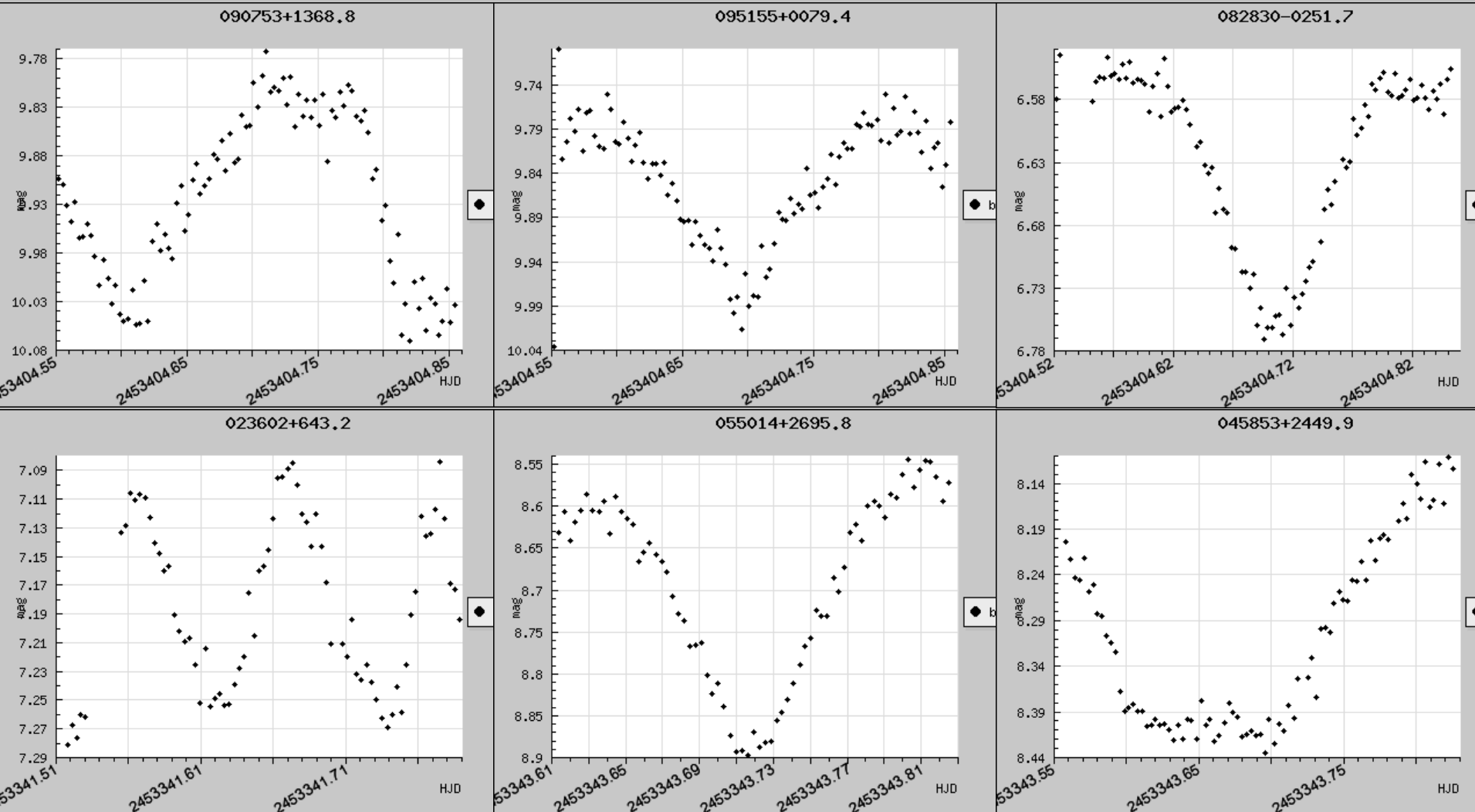
**neither confirmed
nor excluded
by others**

- ◆ 1 flash identified as CN Leo flare star outburst
**100× brighter
in <1s,
faded in 5 min**



„ π of the Sky” general goal: study objects varying on scales from seconds to months

Examples of night-life of stars - brightness vs time (one night)



„ π of the Sky” and education

The team:

- 0.5+0.5+0.2 senior physicists
- 0.7 postdoc
- many students

The project made by students & for students:

- they design hardware, write software, take shifts and analyse the data
- they are responsible for achievements & failures
- they write papers and go to conferences

How to get good students?

- see grb.fuw.edu.pl → *education*

Bringing science to schools

Less and less students choose to study physics

It is difficult to present modern science in school

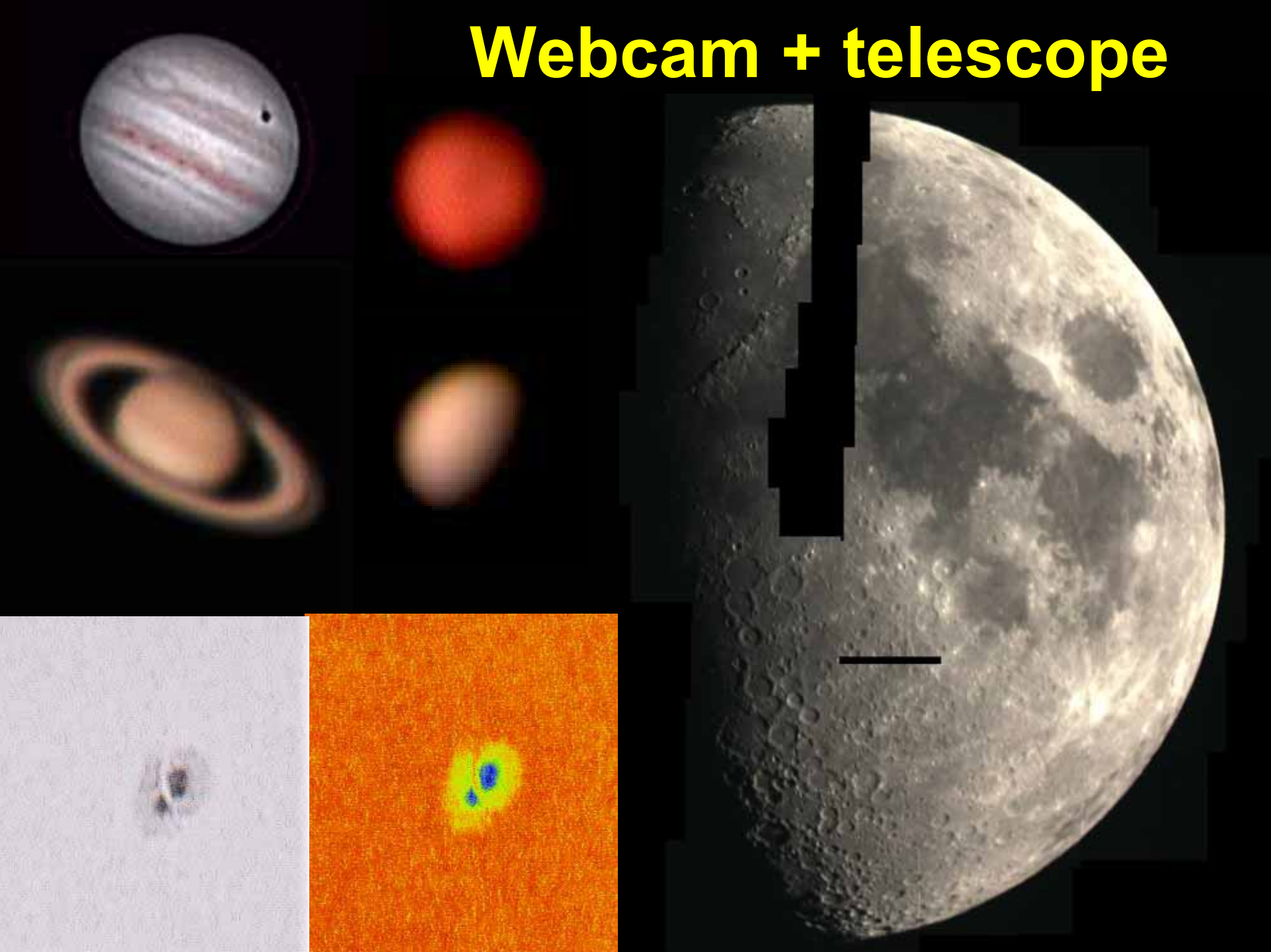
**Rapid technological developement increases the gap
between front-line science and school education**

Let us use modern technology to our advantage!

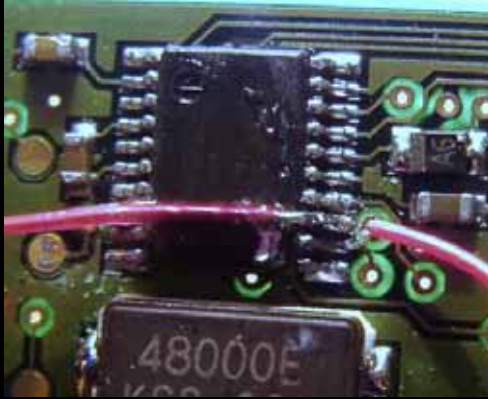
**e.g. CCD sensors which made revolution in astronomy
are now available in daily use devices**

**We propose to build digital school observatory
for 120 €**

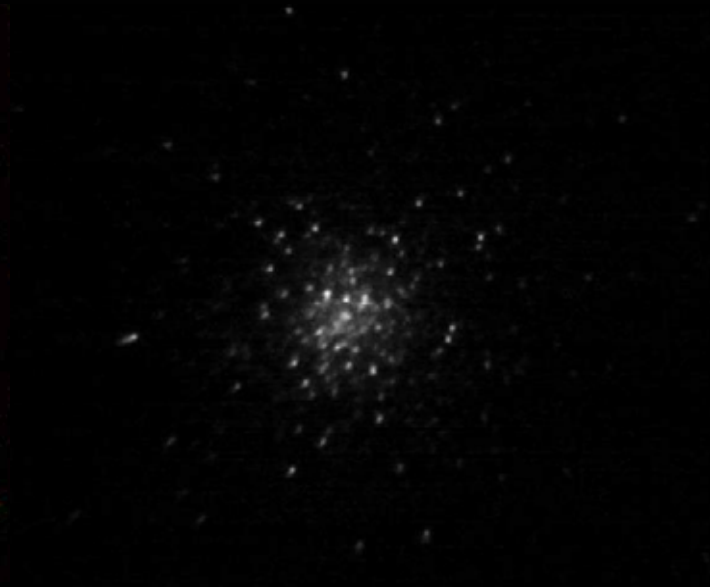
Webcam + telescope



Webcam long exposures (~20s)



M57



M31



M51

10s exposure at midnight

Image processing

dark frame

dark frame subtracted

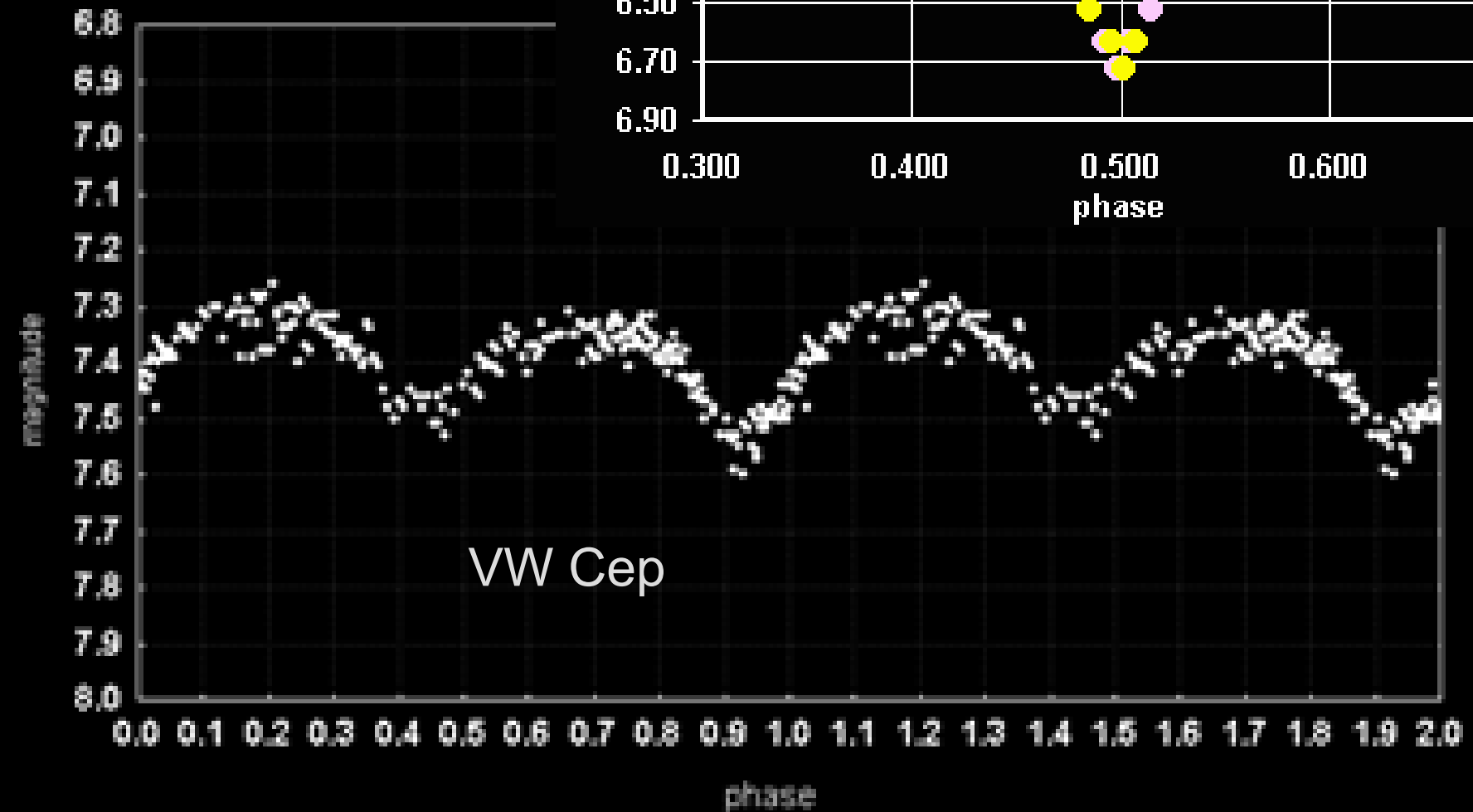
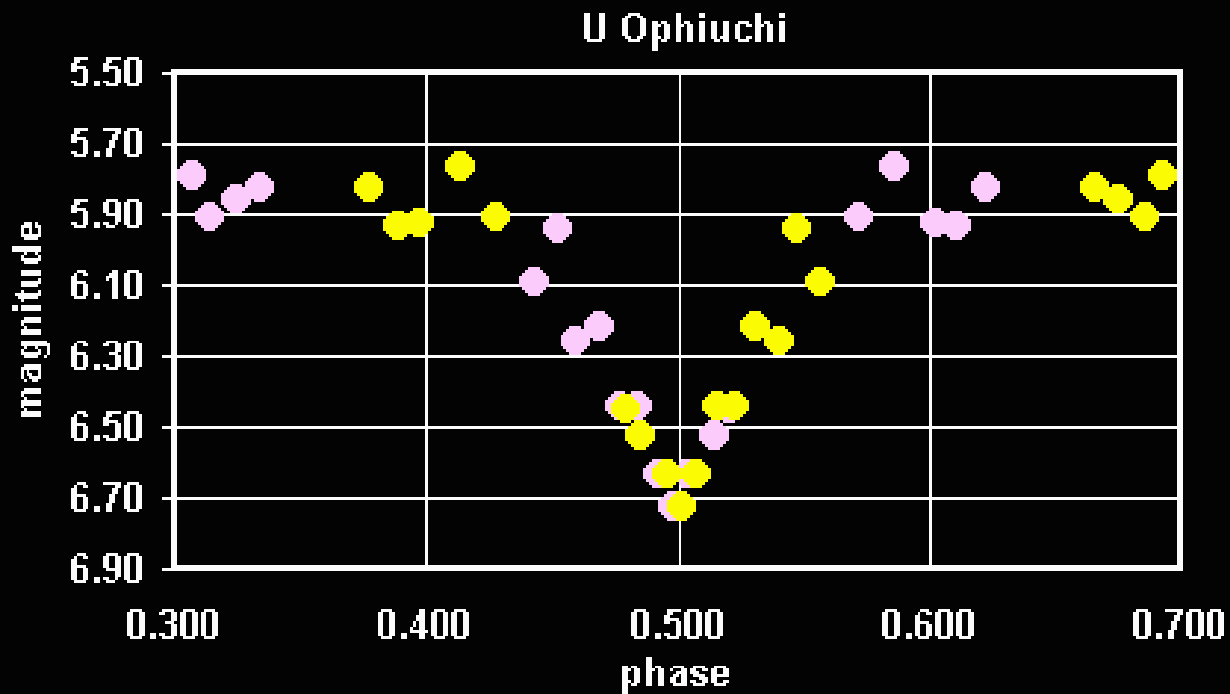
single
image

50 images
+ unsharp mask

Webcam + photo lenses $f=50\text{mm}$



Variable stars



Hands on Universe - Europe

EU grant ~800 k€

Polish section ~30 k€

◆ **lead by Lech Mankiewicz** (Center for Theoretical Physics, Warsaw)

160 digital school observatories

- ◆ **Philips ToU Cam PCVC 840K webcam (~80 €)**
- ◆ **Long exposures modification (~25 €)**
- ◆ **Zenith lenses $f=50\text{mm}$ (~10 €)**
- ◆ **Mechanical adapter (~10 €)**
- ◆ **Software (custom written) + courses for teachers**

You are welcome to join:

grb.fuw.edu.pl → education