



Swift X-ray Telescope Status & Observations of the Afterglow of GRB 041223

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University Partners:

PSU

UL

OAB



13 January 2005, AAS meeting, San Diego



The Swift Observatory



- Launched: 20 November 2004
- XRT turned on: 23 November 2004
- XRT First Light: 11 December 2004

XRT First Light: Cas A

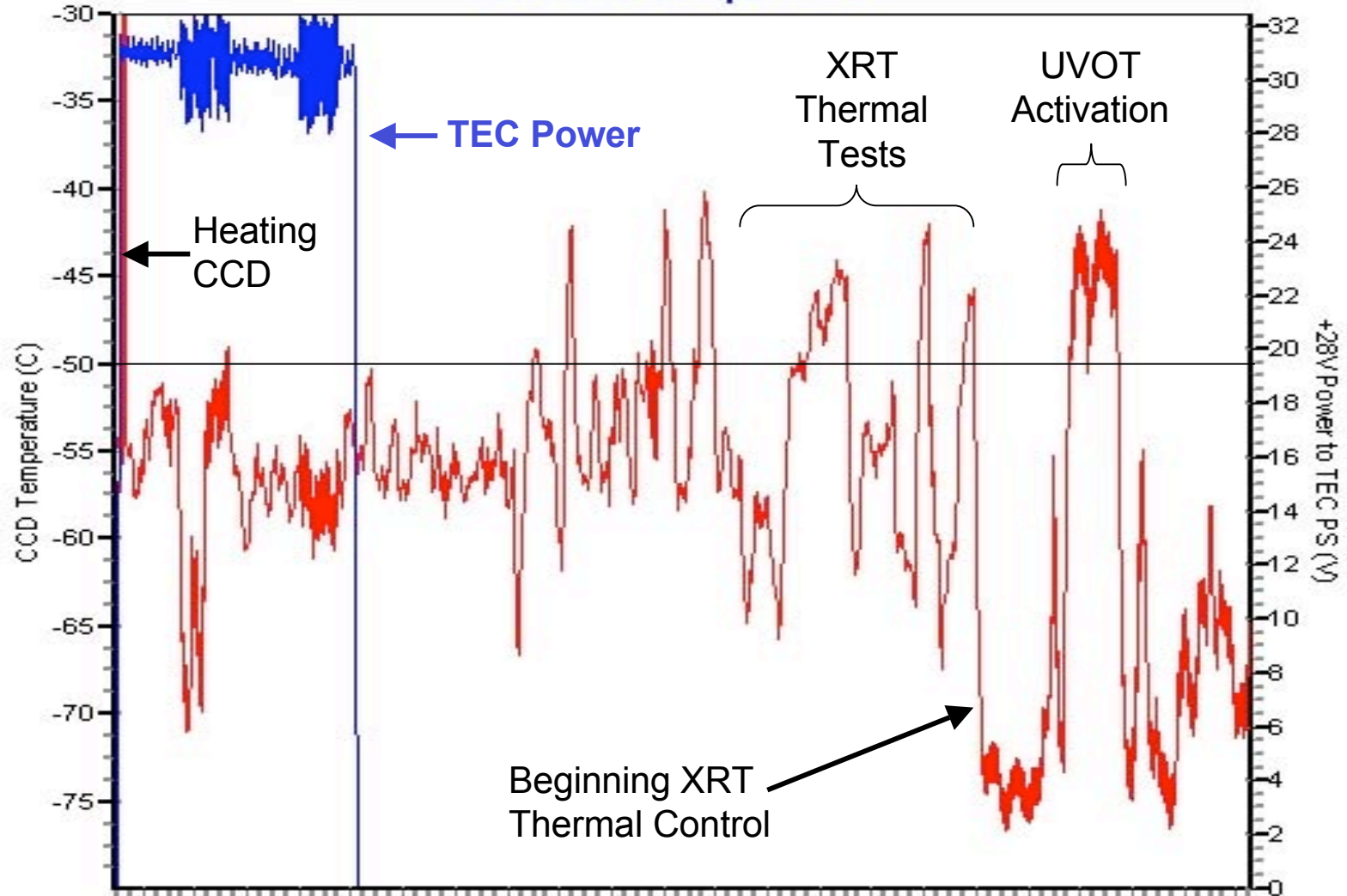


- First BAT Burst: 17 December 2004
- First XRT Afterglow: 23 December 2004





XRT CCD Temperature

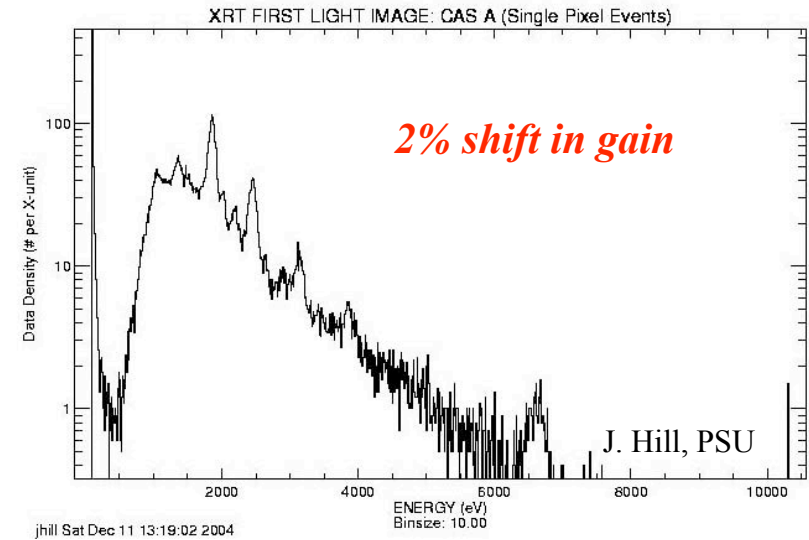
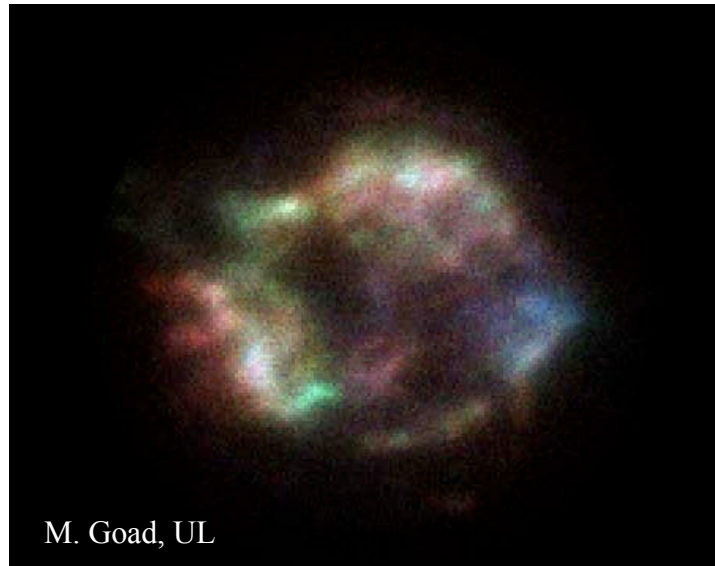




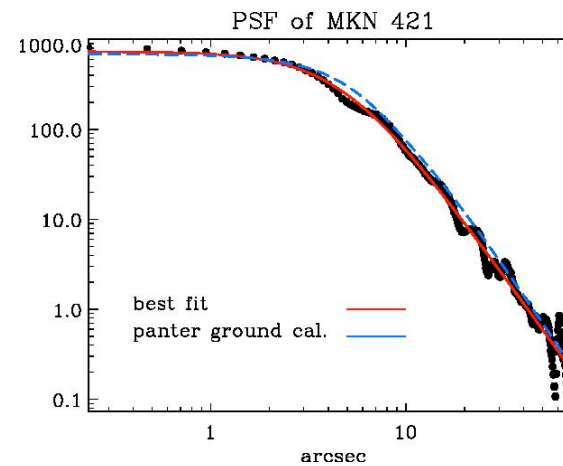
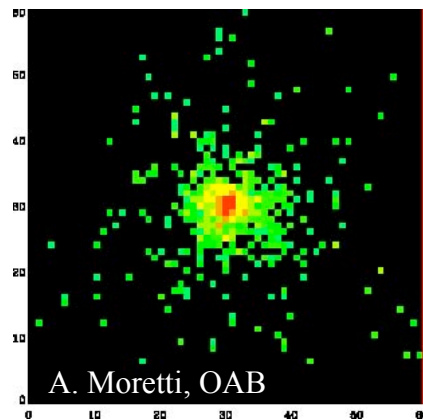
XRT First Light Observations



Cas A:
(13 ks)



Mkn 421:

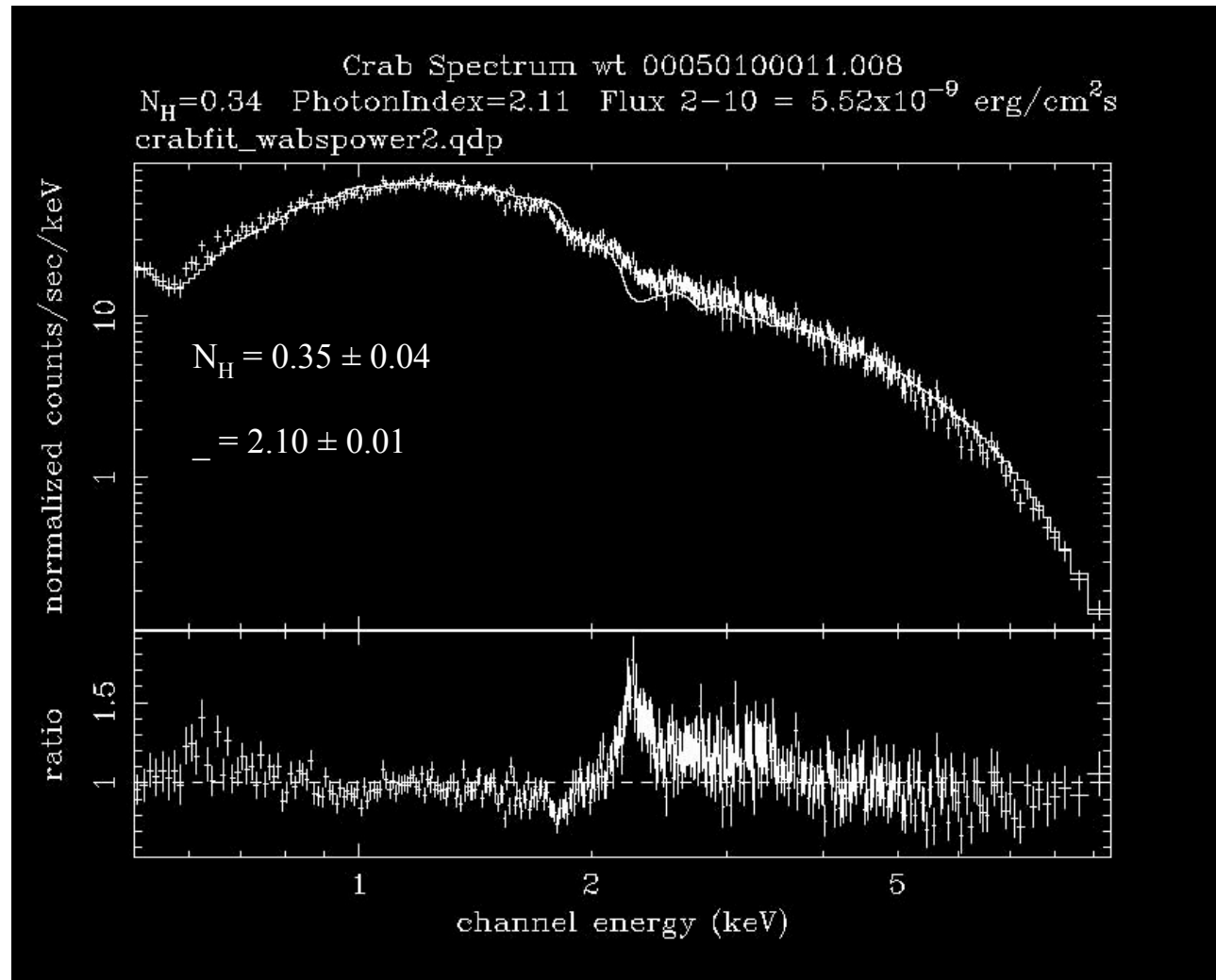


Focus is perfect!!





Preliminary Crab spectral fit



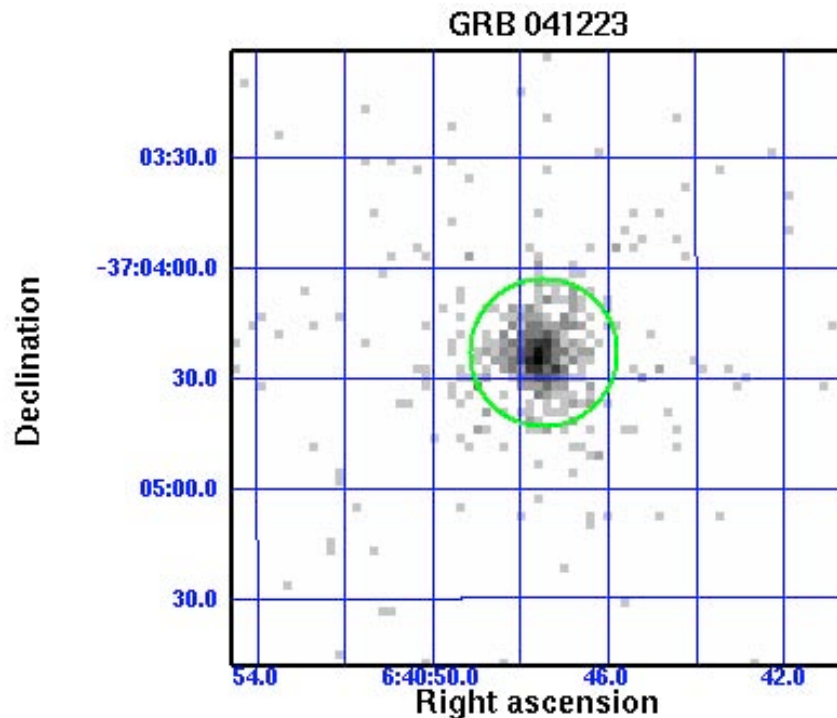
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GRB 041223



- Discovered by BAT at 14:06:18 on 23 December 2004
- XRT was in midst of thermal tests, taking data in PC mode
- Slewed to GRB 4.6 hrs after burst as ToO
- Observed on 3 consecutive orbits for total of about one hour on-target



XRT position:

RA(J2000) = 06:40:47.5

Dec (J2000) = -37:04:22.5

SWIFT J064047.5-370423

Offset from BAT position:

50 arcseconds

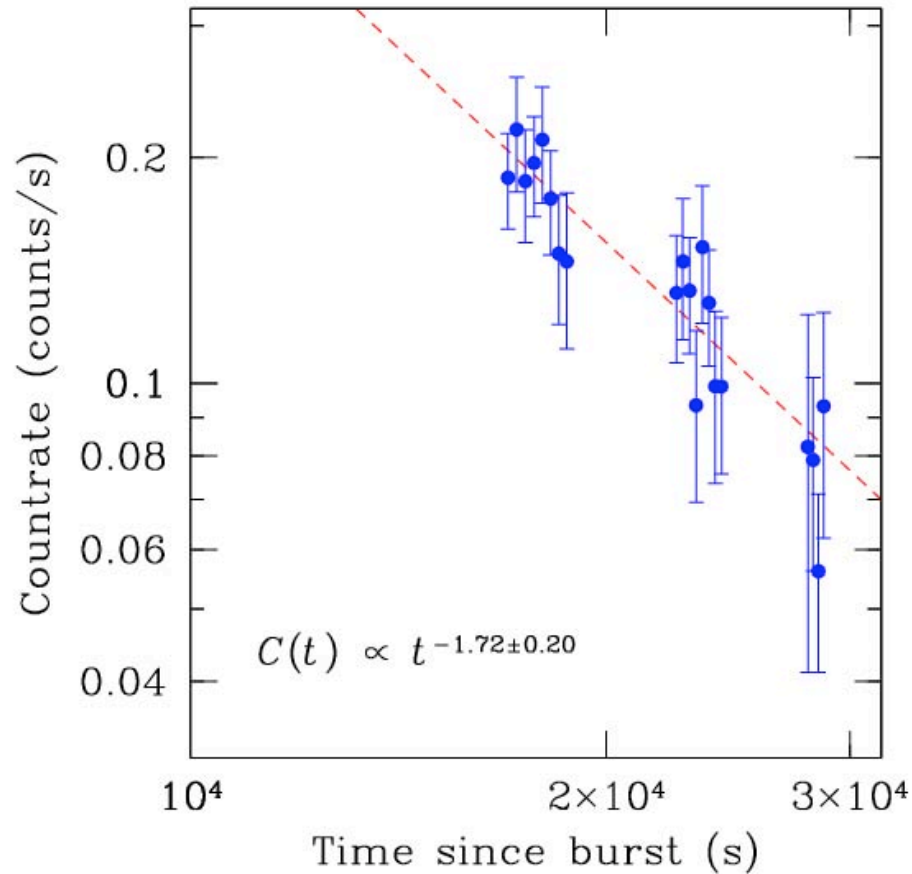
Offset from optical transient:

2.1 arcseconds





Lightcurve



X-ray source was uncatalogued.

X-ray source faded rapidly.

Data extracted with *ximage* from 20" radius circle. Background extracted from 47" radius circle.

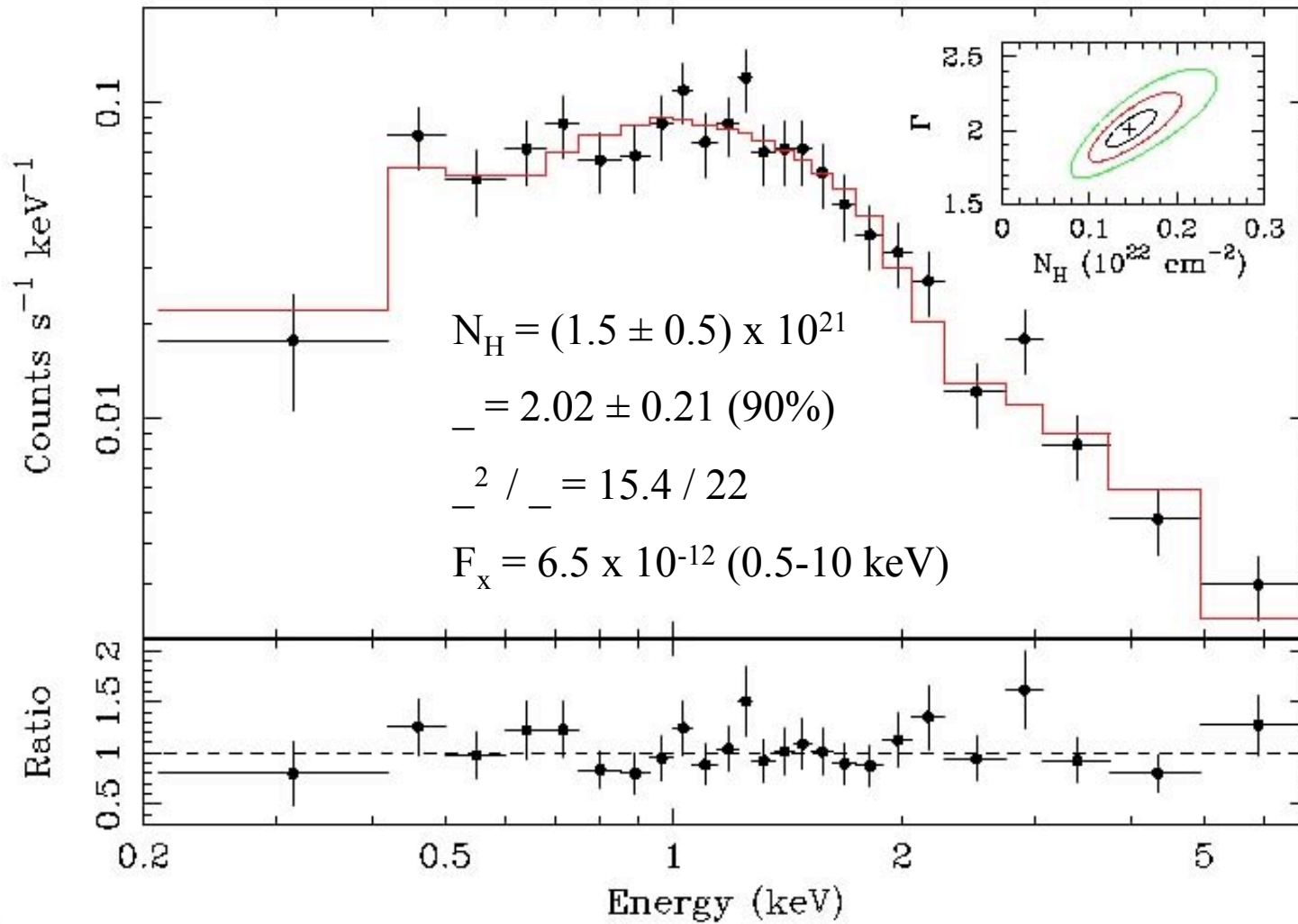
Only used times when pointing was stable and background was low.

520 counts in 3504 seconds.



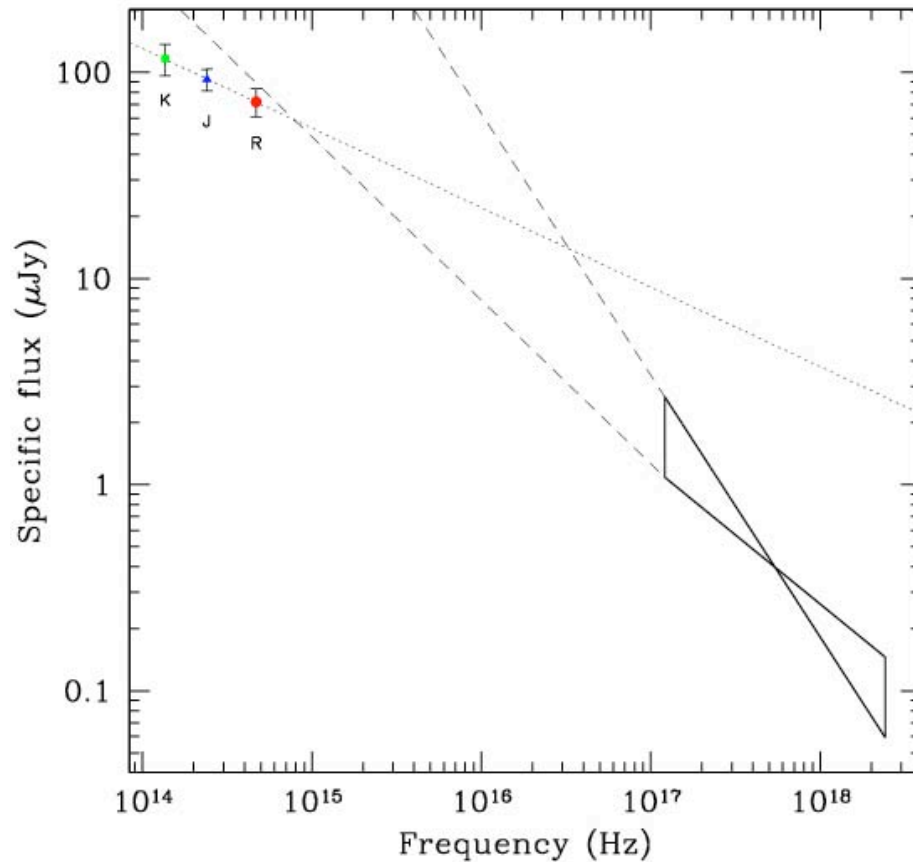


Spectrum





Broad-band SED



For $F_\nu(t) = t^{-\alpha}$ and $F_\nu(\infty) = \nu^{-\beta}$

Band	α	β	$t - t_0$
<i>J</i>	1.14 ± 0.08	0.40 ± 0.03	16 – 87
0.5-10 keV	1.72 ± 0.20	1.02 ± 0.07	4.6 – 7.9

(68% confidence errors)

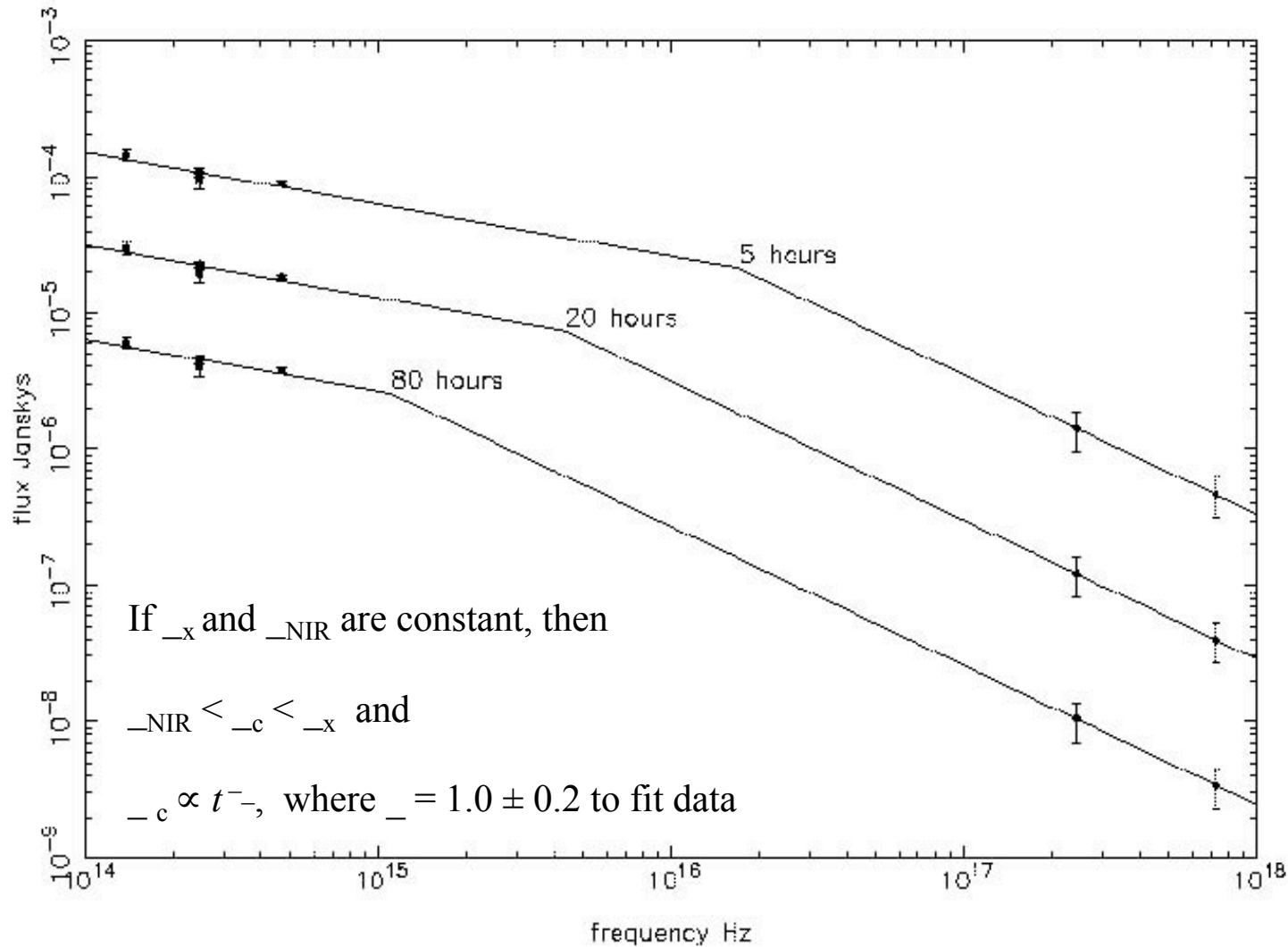
Spectral break suggests that cooling frequency lies between the X-ray and optical bands.

(VLT observations from MISTICI collaboration)





Broad-band SED





Conclusions



- NIR and X-ray data are consistent with the following scenario:
 - Jet has two components: narrow component that produces X-rays and broader component that produces optical
 - Jet break of narrow component occurs before X-ray observations
 - Produces self-consistent model with electron power-law index of about 1.9 – 2.0
- XRT is working well and producing excellent data in spite of higher operating temperature
 - Images are spectacular
 - Spectroscopy is better than Chandra at beginning of GTO phase
 - Spectroscopy expected to remain better than ASCA over life
 - High resolution timing available (up to 140 microseconds)





Co-Authors



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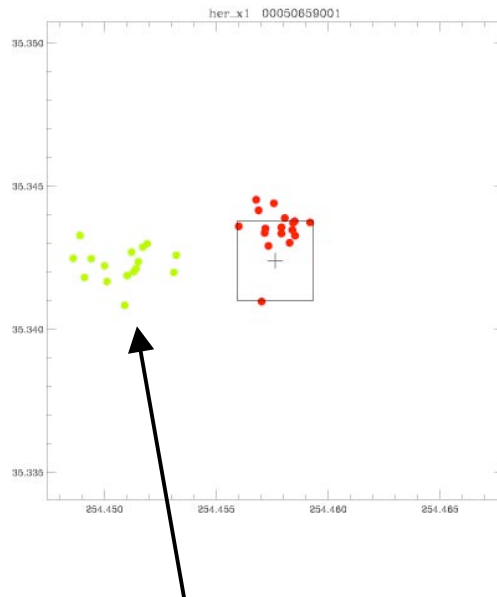




Centroiding

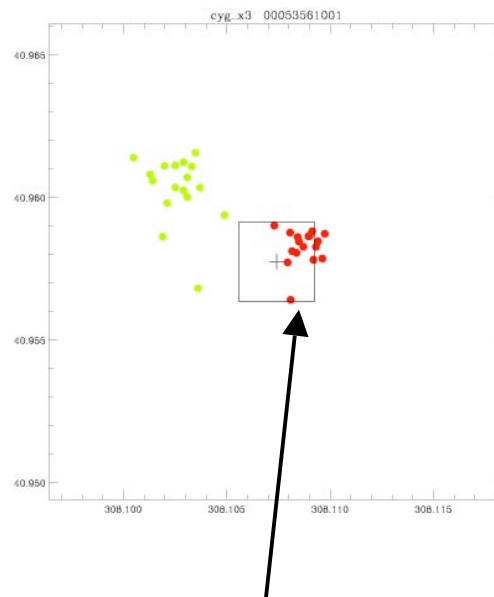


Her X-1



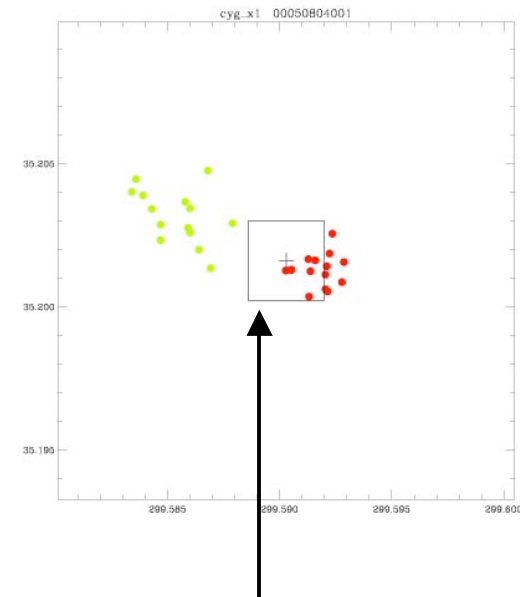
On-board calculation

Cyg X-3



Pipeline processing

Cyg X-1



10'' x 10'' box,
centered on source position

