

A T H E N A



Exploring the hot and energetic Universe  
with ESA's Athena mission

Xavier Barcons, Instituto de Física de Cantabria (CSIC-UC), E

ATHENA+

# Instituto de Física de Cantabria (CSIC-UC)

Santander

Joint research institute CSIC- U Cantabria  
Basic research & instrument development

100 people

Research lines:

- Cosmology
- Galaxies and AGN
- Particle Physics
- Complex Systems
- Meteorology & Climate change
- Computing & e-Science



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## IFCA – Galaxies and AGN

**Permanent staff:**

A Alonso-Herrero, X. Barcons, F.J. Carrera,  
M.T. Ceballos, A. Fernández-Soto, J.I.  
González-Serrano

**Postdocs:** A. Hernán, S. Mateos, A. Ruiz

**Engineers:** B. Cobo

**PhD Students:** A. Kahn-Ali, I. Ordovás, J.  
García

Galaxy & AGN co-evolution

AGN structure, torus, evolution

Radiogalaxies

X-ray/optical/IR extragalactic surveys

SW for X-ray & optical instruments

Projects/missions:

- XMM-Newton

- GTC/Osiris

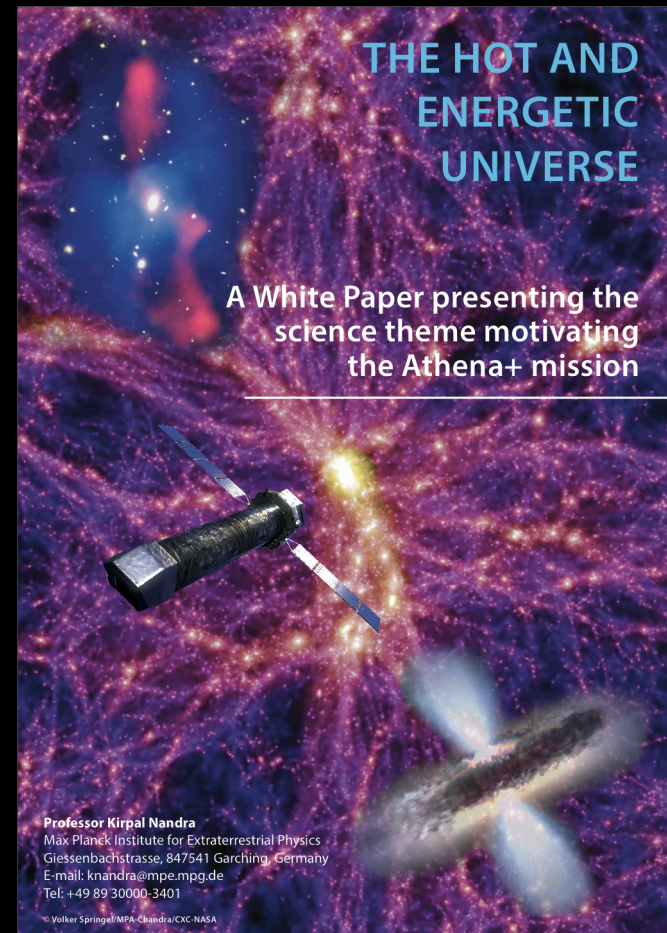
- JWST/MIRI

- XEUS/IXO/Athena & X-IFU

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# The Hot and Energetic Universe

- **The Hot Universe:** How does the ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?
  - >50% of the baryons today are in a hot ( $>10^6$  K) phase
  - there are as many hot ( $> 10^7$  K) baryons in clusters as in stars over the entire Universe
- **The Energetic Universe:** How do black holes grow and influence the Universe?
  - Building a SMBH releases  $30 \times$  the binding energy of a galaxy
  - 15% of the energy output in the Universe is in X-rays

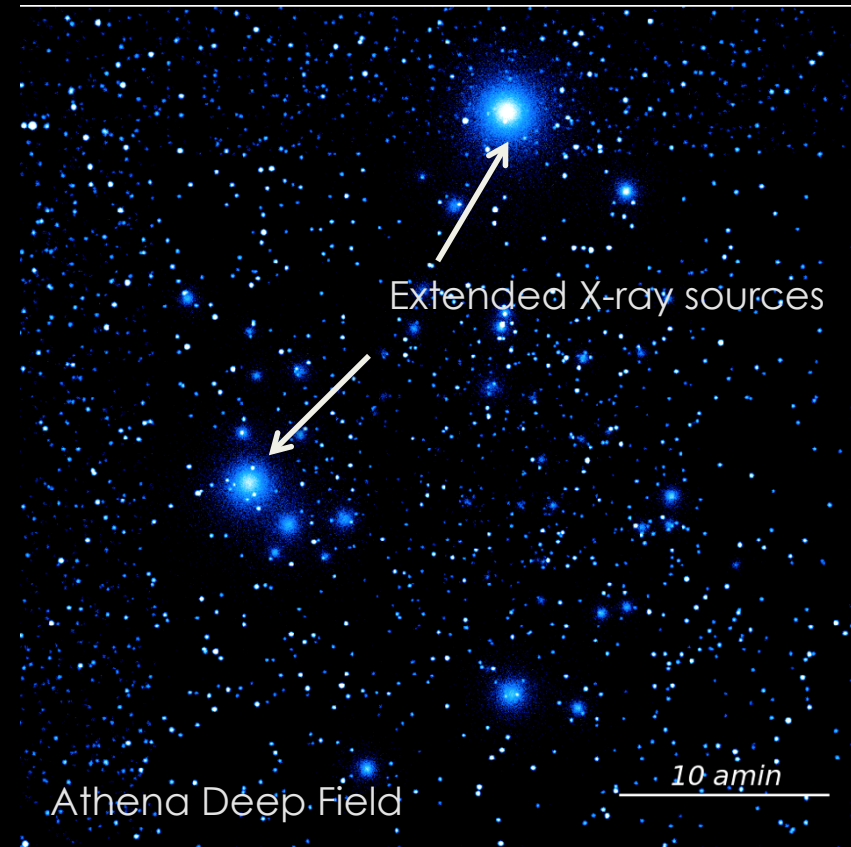
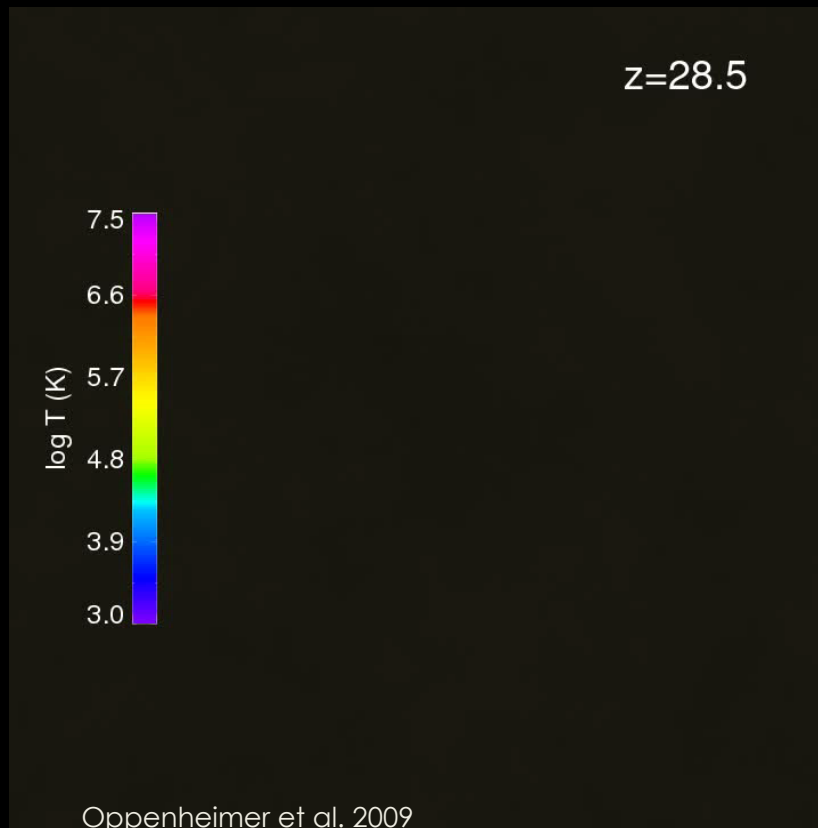


The science theme of Athena

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# How does ordinary matter assemble into the large scale structures we see today?

See G.W. Pratt's presentation on intracluster medium



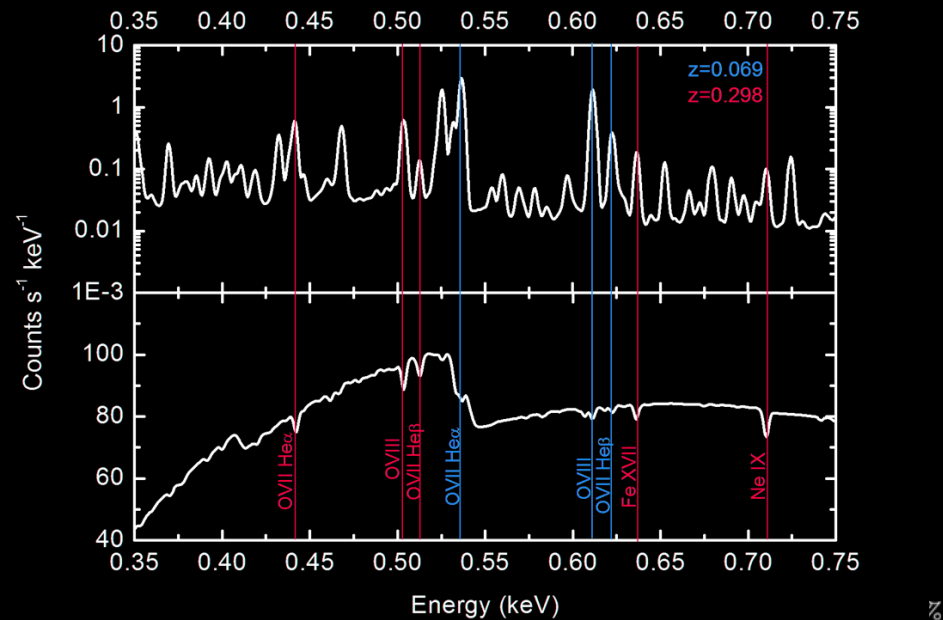
Pointecouteau, Reiprich et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2319

How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

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# The Warm-Hot intergalactic medium (WHIM)

Where are the missing baryons in the local Universe? What is the underlying mechanism determining the distribution of the hot phase of the cosmic web?

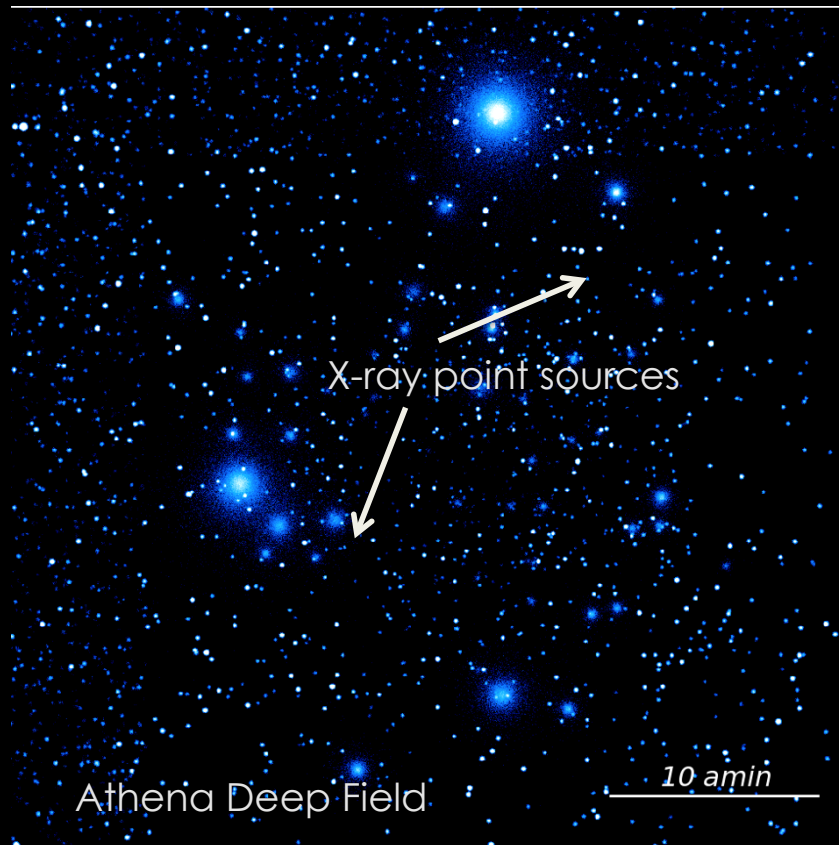


Kaastra, Finoguenov et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2324

How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

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# How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

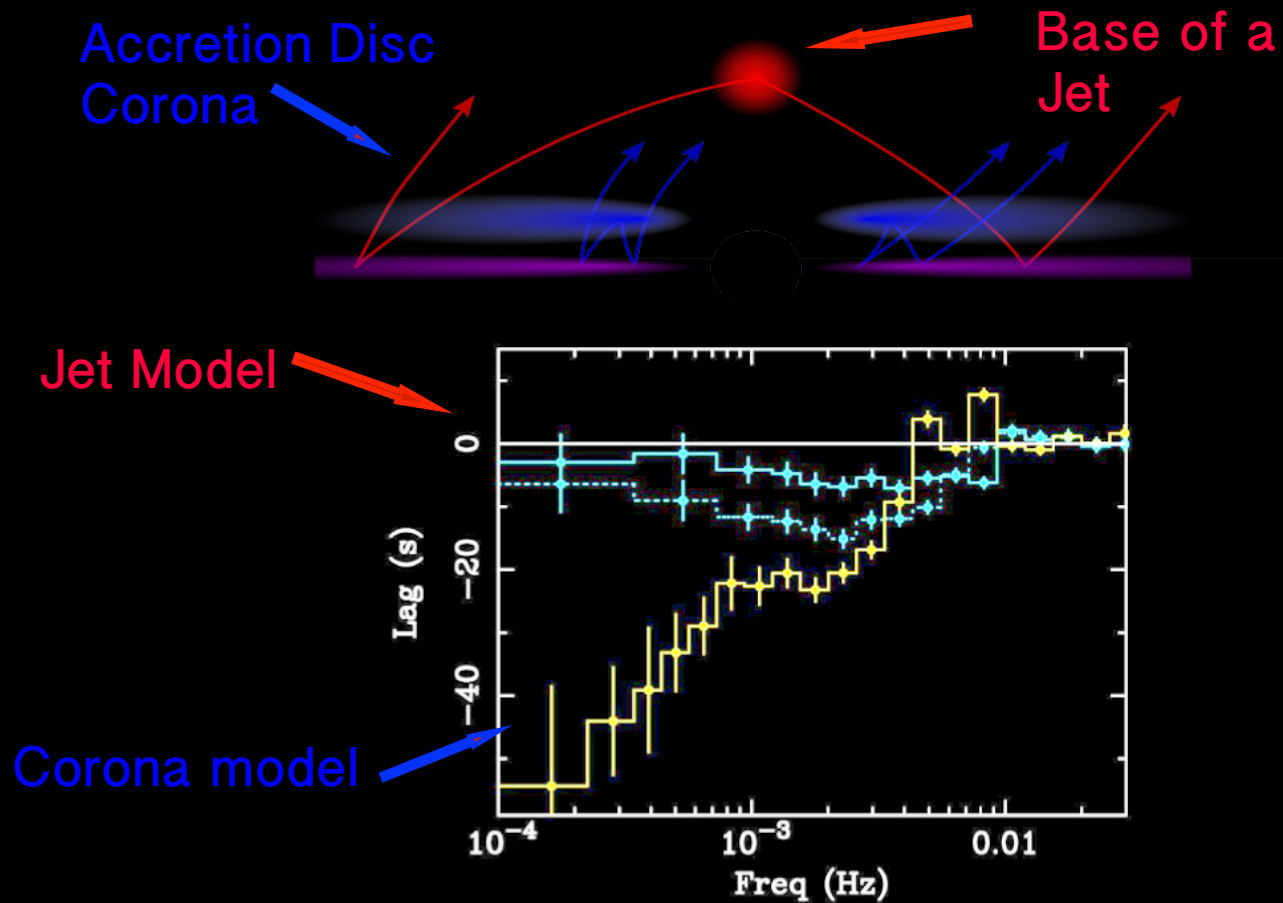


See next talk by Silvia Mateos

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# Mapping black holes near the event horizon

How does matter flow onto black holes?



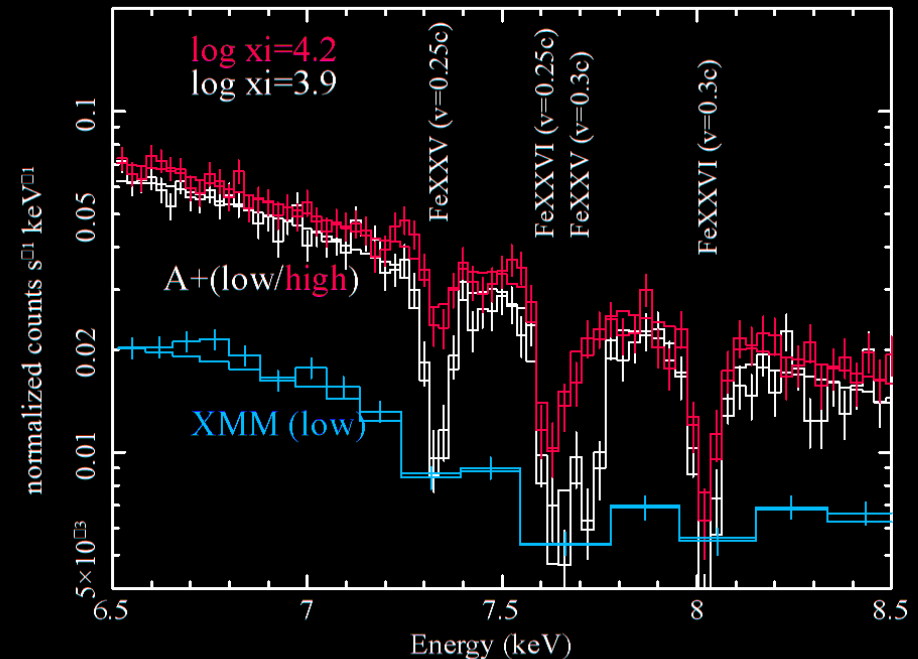
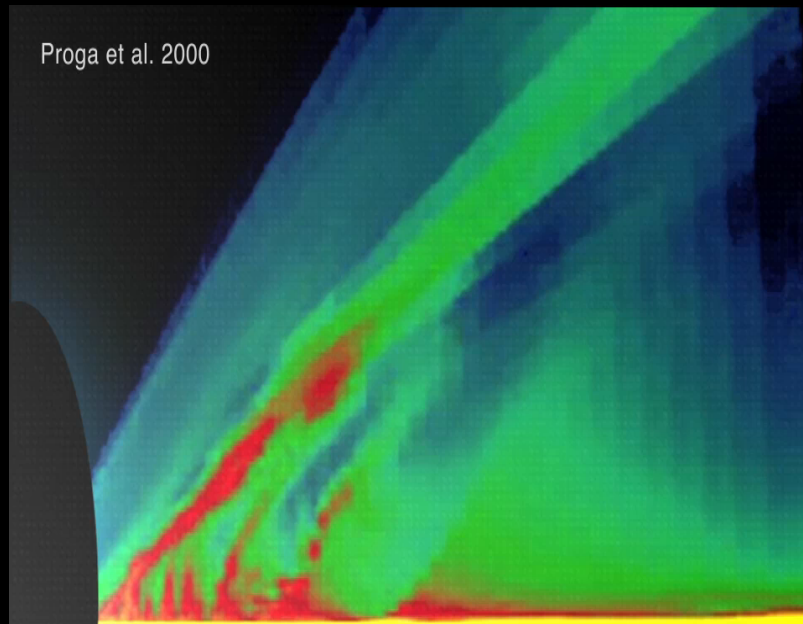
How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?



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# Cosmic feedback: the origin of black hole winds

How do black holes launch winds and outflows?  
How much energy do they carry out to larger scales?



Cappi, Done et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2330  
Dovciak, Matt et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2331

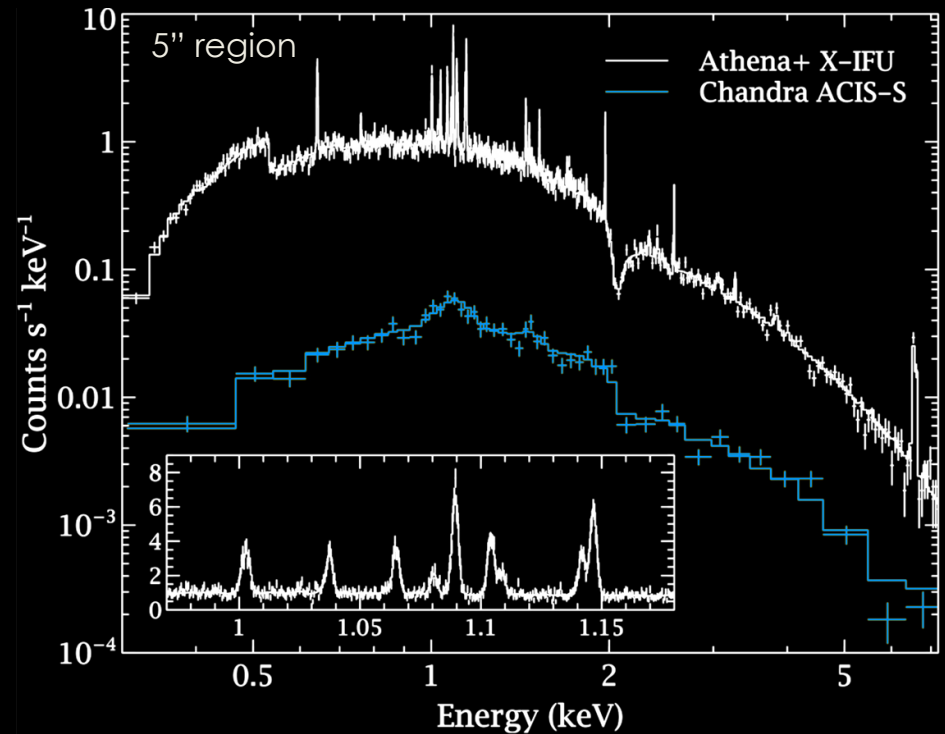
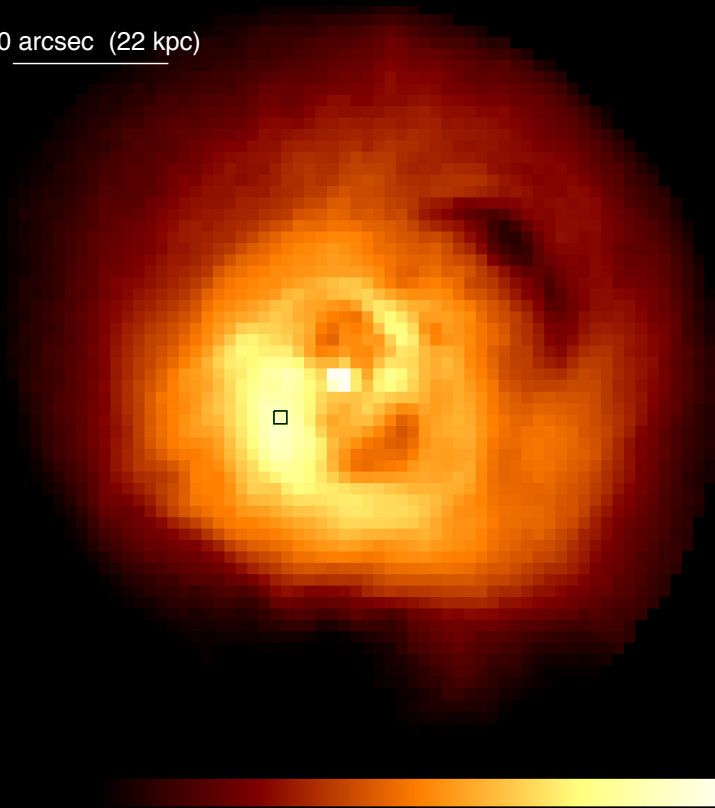
How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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# Cosmic feedback: the impact on galaxy cluster scales

How do jets from Active Galactic Nuclei dissipate their mechanical energy in the hot intracluster medium, and how does this regulate gas cooling and black hole fuelling?

60 arcsec (22 kpc)



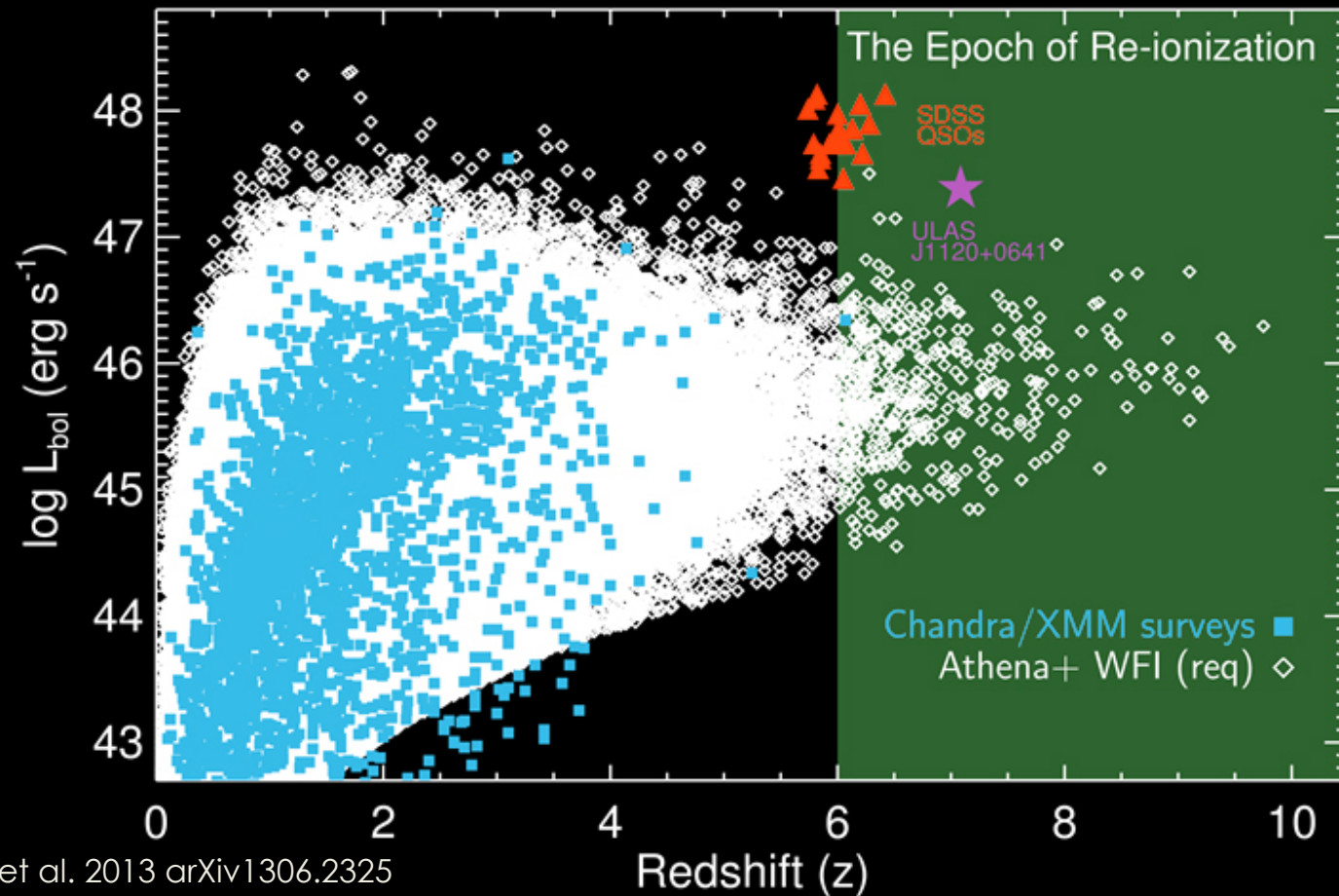
Croston, Sanders et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2323

How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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# Black hole growth in the early Universe

What was the growth history of black holes in the epoch of reionization?



Aird, Comastri et al. 2013 arXiv1306.2325

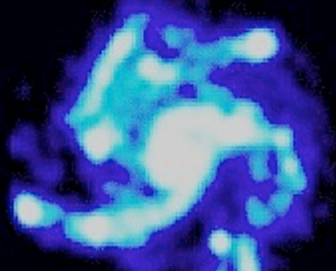
How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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# Cosmic feedback: black hole and galaxy co-evolution

How much black hole accretion occurs in the most obscured environments?  
How does this relate to the evolution of the host galaxy?

Disk instability

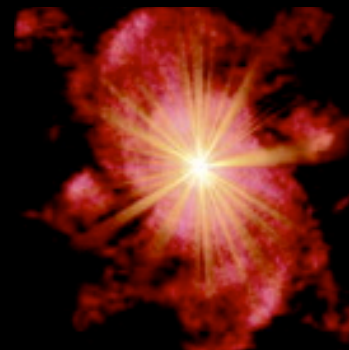


Ceverino et al. 2010

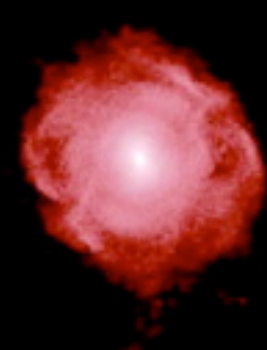
Obscured BH growth



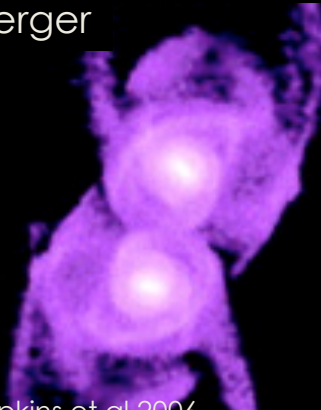
Feedback phase



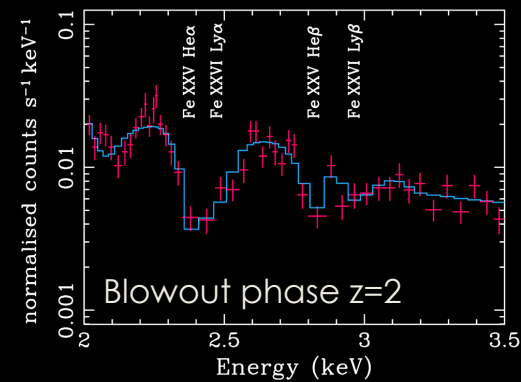
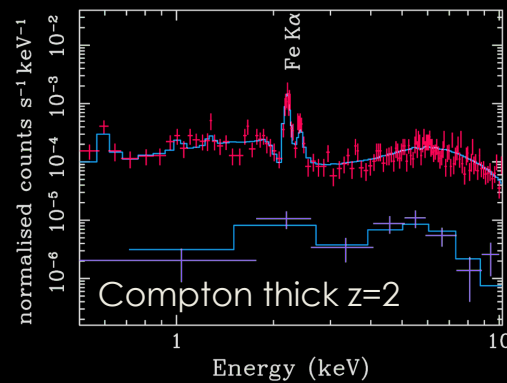
Quiescent remnant



Merger



Hopkins et al. 2006



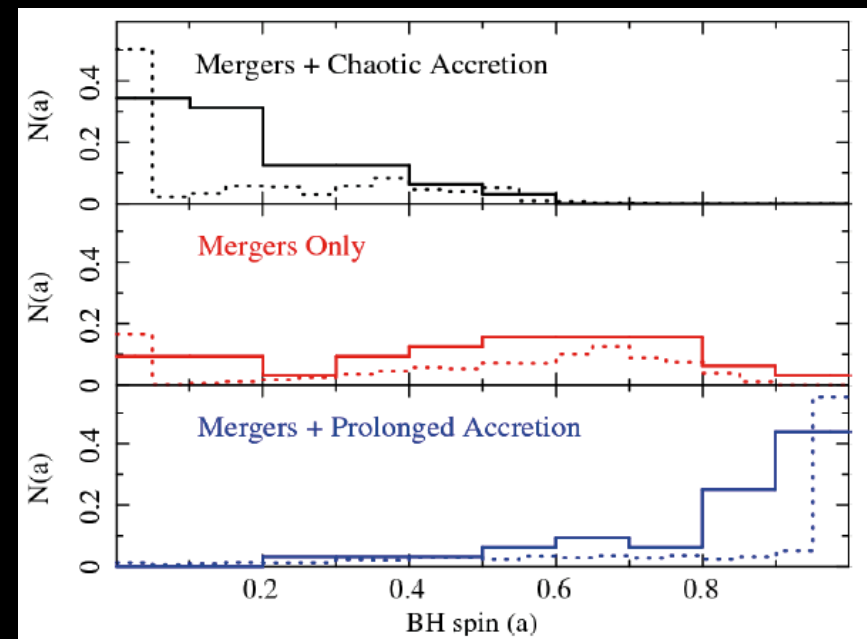
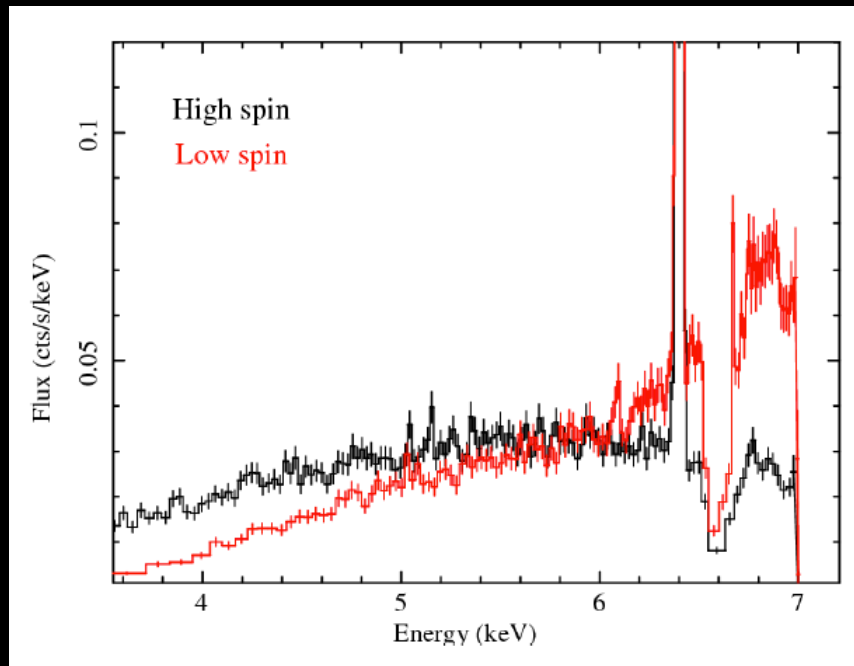
Georgakakis, Carrera et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2328

How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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## SMBH growth: mergers or accretion?

Mergers and chaotic accretion spin down SMBB, while smooth accretion spins them up



How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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Fast reaction to transient sources: GRBs and other

# ATHENA The Athena Science Requirements

Parameter	value	enables (driving science goals)
Effective area at 1 keV	2 m <sup>2</sup>	Early groups, cluster entropy and metal evolution, WHIM, high redshift AGN, census AGN, first generation of stars
Effective area at 6 keV	0.25 m <sup>2</sup>	Cluster energetics (gas bulk motions and turbulence), AGN winds & outflows, SMBH & GBH spins
PSF HEW (< 8 keV)	5'' on axis, 10'' off axis	High z AGN, census of AGN, early groups, AGN feedback on cluster scales
X-IFU spectral resolution	2.5 eV	WHIM, cluster hot gas energetics and AGN feedback on cluster scales, energetics of AGN outflows at z~1-4
X-IFU FoV	5' radius	Metal production & dispersal, cluster energetics, WHIM
X-IFU background	< 5 10 <sup>-3</sup> counts/s/cm <sup>2</sup> /keV (75%)	Cluster energetics & AGN feedback on cluster scales, metal production & dispersal
WFI spectral resolution	150 eV	GBH spin, reverberation mapping
WFI FoV	40' x 40'	High-z AGN, census AGN, early groups, cluster entropy evolution, jet-induced cluster ripples
WFI count rate	80% at 1 Crab	GBH spin, reverberation mapping, accretion physics
WFI background	< 5 10 <sup>-3</sup> counts/s/cm <sup>2</sup> /keV (75%)	Cluster entropy, cluster feedback, census AGN at z~1-4
Recons. astrometric error	1'' (3s)	High z AGNs
GRB trigger efficiency	40%	WHIM
ToO reaction time	< 4 hours	WHIM, first generation of stars

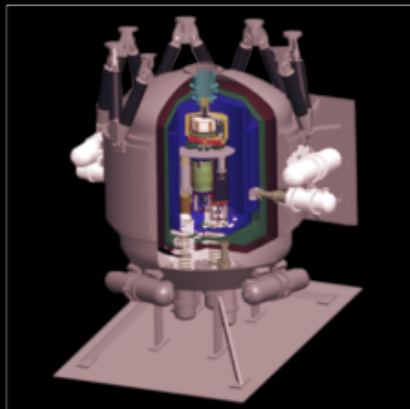
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# The Athena Observatory

Willingale et al, 2013  
arXiv1308.6785

## L2 orbit Ariane V

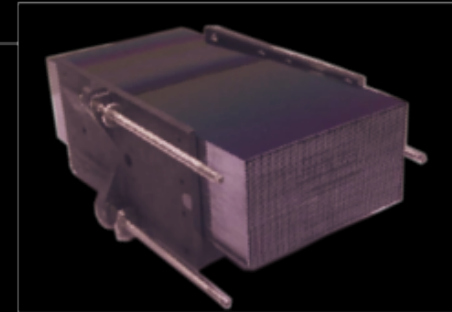
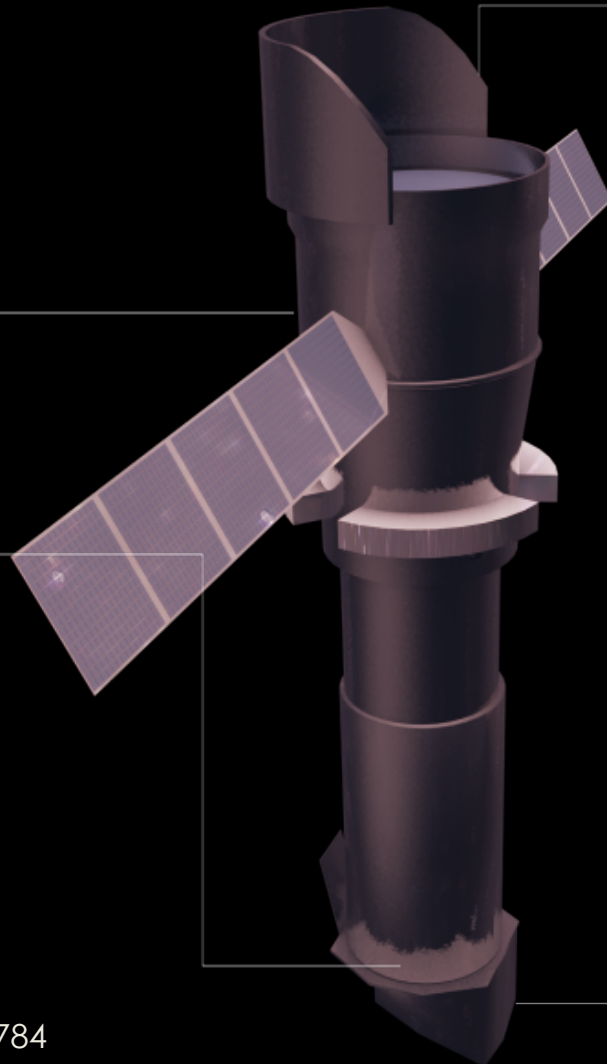
Mass < 5100 kg  
Power 2500 W  
5+ year mission



## X-ray Integral Field Unit (X-IFU):

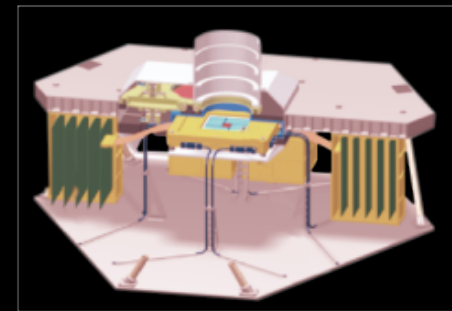
$\Delta E$ : 2.5 eV  
Field of View: 5 arcmin  
Operating temp: 50 mK

Barret et al., 2013 arXiv:1308.6784



## Silicon Pore Optics:

2 m<sup>2</sup> at 1 keV  
5 arcsec HEW  
Focal length: 12 m  
Sensitivity:  $3 \cdot 10^{-17}$  erg cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>



## Wide Field Imager (WFI):

$\Delta E$ : 125 eV  
Field of View: 40 arcmin  
High countrate capability

Rau et al. 2013 arXiv1307.1709



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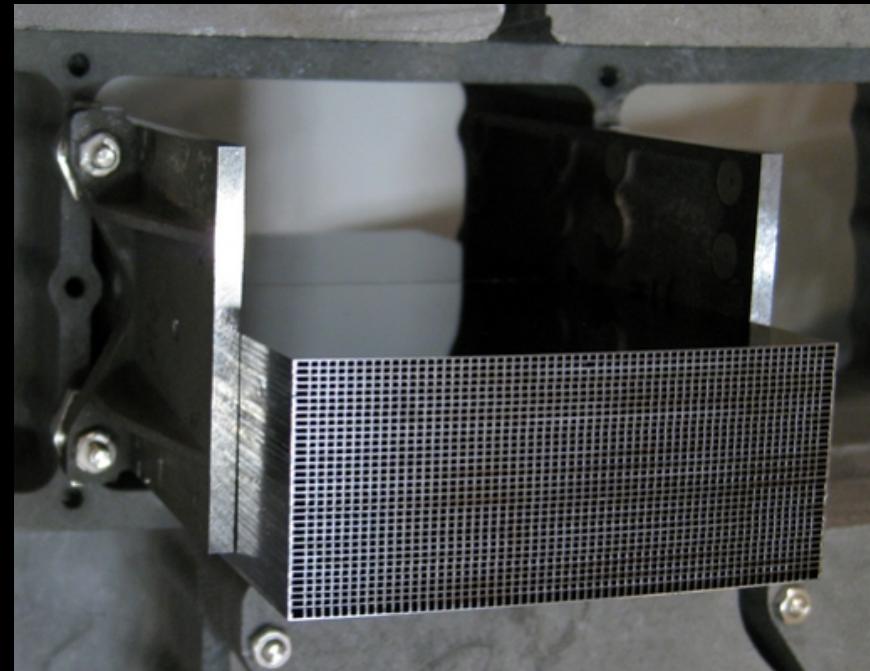
## The Athena optics

Development of light-weight optics for X-ray astronomy

Grazing incidence optics, Wolter-I type (paraboloid-hyperboloid), largely with conical approximation

Substrate for reflecting surface is based on "commercial" Si wafers, but with small pores and short reflecting layers

Vigorous development programme at ESA and industry. Demonstration modules produced (TRL~4)



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# The Athena Wide Field Imager (WFI)

*The most sensitive images of the X-ray Universe*

PI: K. Nandra (MPE)

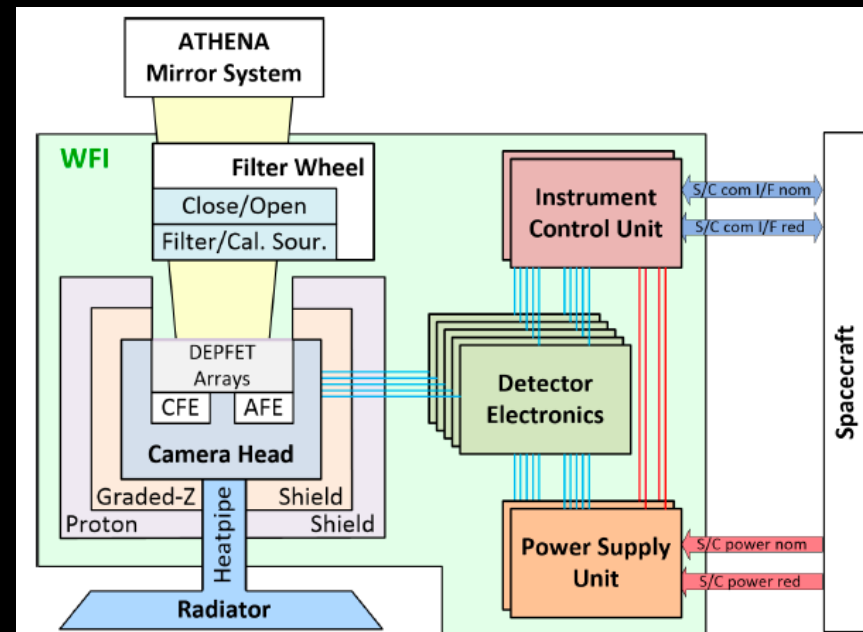
Based on Si detectors, using Active Pixel Sensors based on DEPFETs.

Key performances;:

- 120-150 eV spectral resolution,
- 3" pixel size (PSF oversample)
- Field of view: 40'x40'
- Readout speed up to ~30 MHz

European consortium led by MPE

Optimized for sensitive and wide imaging and intermediate resolution spectroscopy, up to very bright sources



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# The Athena X-ray Integral Field Unit (X-IFU)

*the 3D view of the Hot and Energetic Universe*

PI: D. Barret (CNRS/IRAP). co-Pis: J.W. den Herder (SRON), L. Piro (INAF).

Science Team Chair: X. Barcons

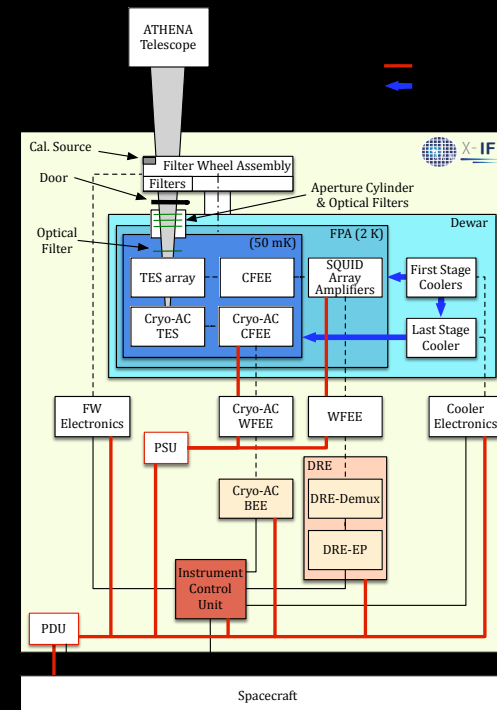
Cryogenic imaging spectrometer, based on Transition Edge Sensors, operated at 50 mK featuring an active cryogenic background rejection subsystem

European consortium led by CNES/IRAP-F, with SRON-NL, INAF-IT and other partners

Spectral resolution 2.5 eV, FoV 5' diameter

Will be able to:

- Measure cluster gas bulk velocities and turbulence down to 20 km/s
- Detect weak unresolved lines from WHIM filaments (3mÅ), GRB afterglows, etc.
- Use emission lines (eg OVII triplet) to perform plasma diagnostics in a variety of astrophysical environments

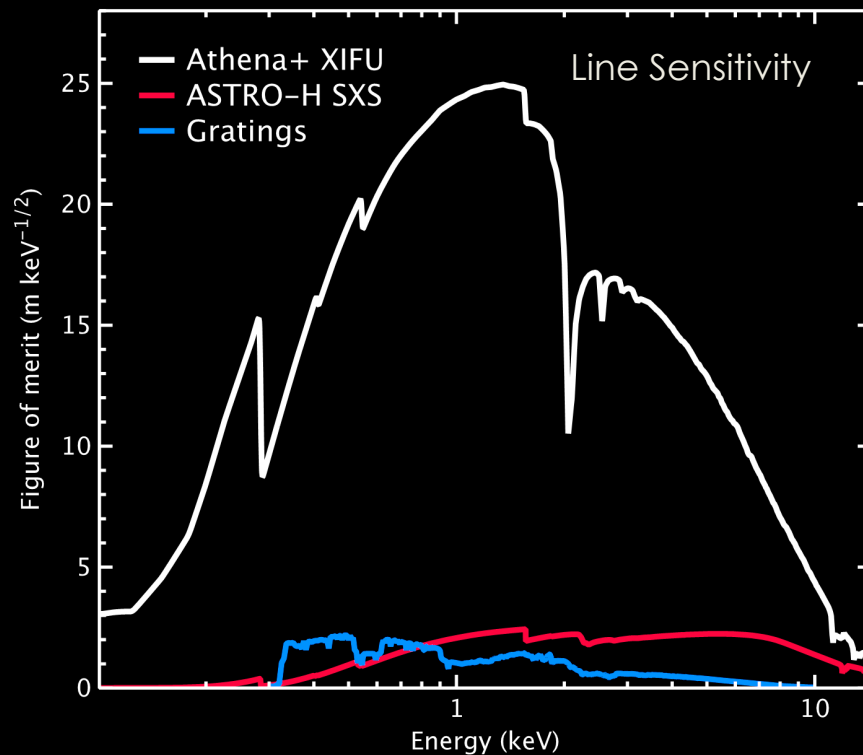


Barret et al 2013

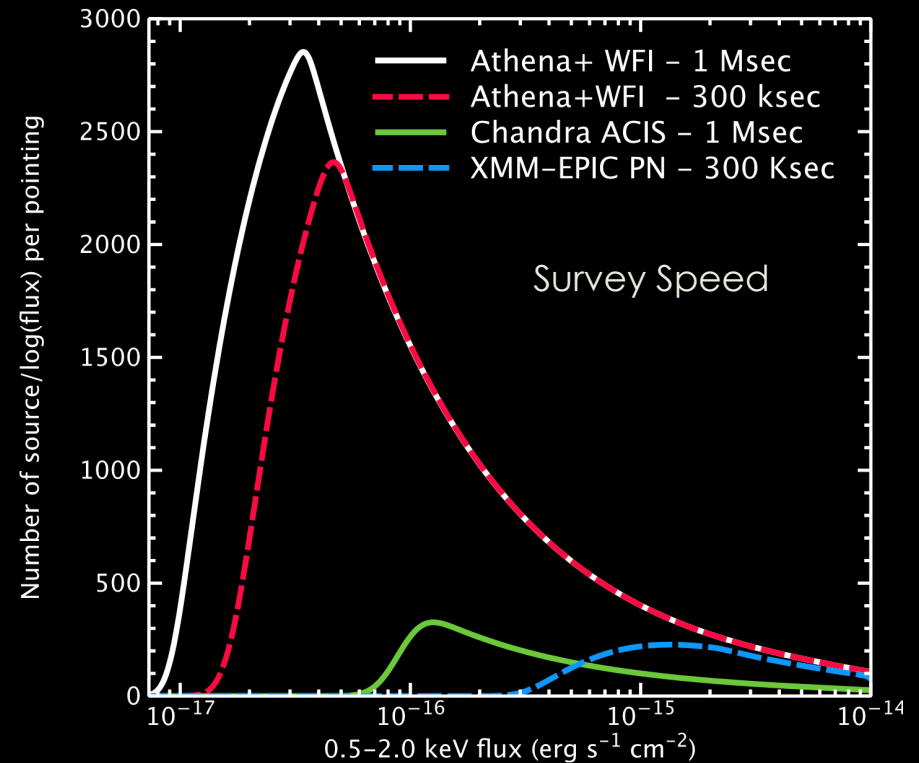
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# A Deep Universe X-ray Observatory

Athena+ has vastly improved capabilities compared to current or planned facilities, and will provide **transformational** science on virtually all areas of astrophysics



X-ray spectroscopy at the peak of the activity of the Universe

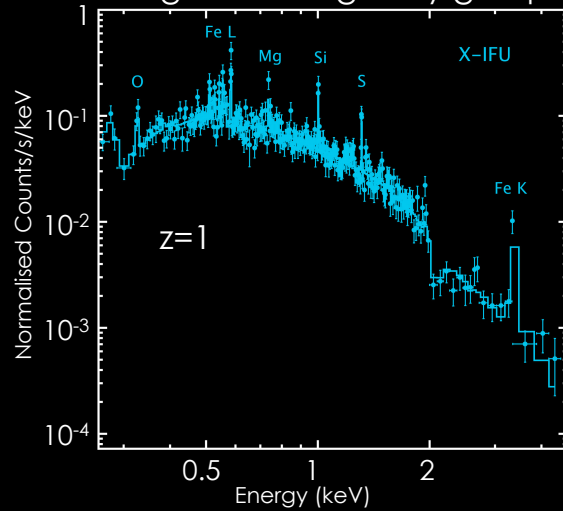


Deep survey capability into the dark ages and epoch of reionization

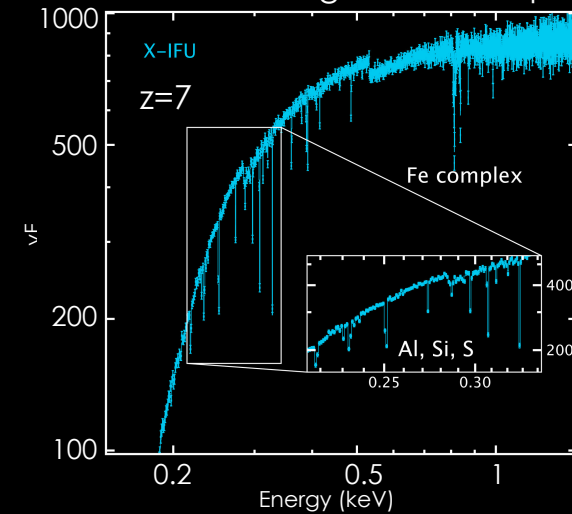
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# Athena: Exploring the Hot and Energetic Universe

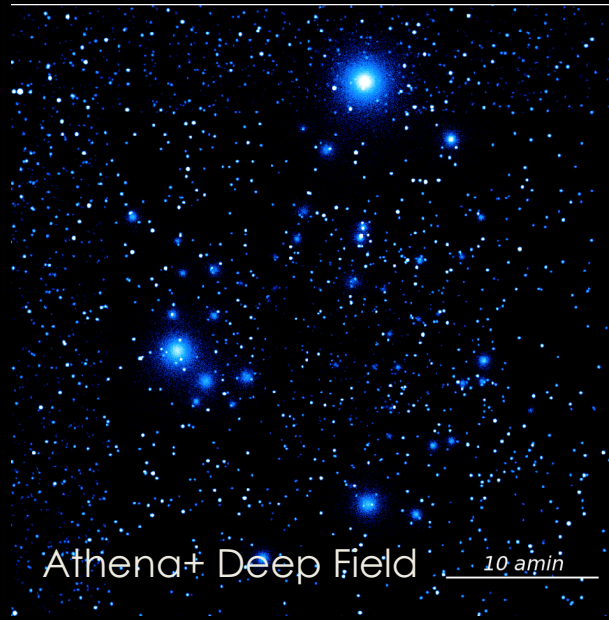
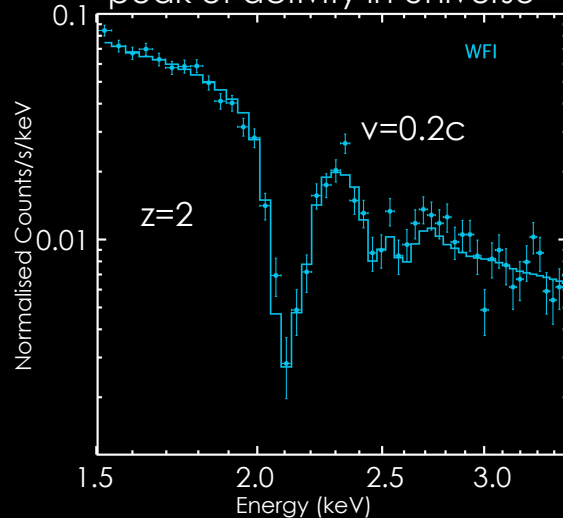
High redshift galaxy group



Primordial stellar populations  
via GRB afterglow follow up

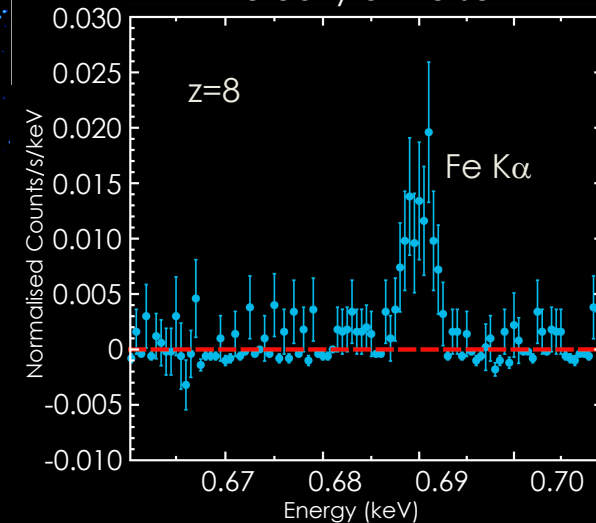


Black hole feedback at  
peak of activity in Universe



Nandra, Barret, Barcons, Fabian,  
den Herder, Piro, Watson et al.  
2013 arXiv 1306.2307

Obscured black hole in  
the early Universe



# A T H E N A

## **Athena mission: Where do we stand?**

- ESA SPC selected the Hot and Energetic Universe as the theme for L2 in Nov 2013
- ESA SPC selected the Athena mission in June 2014:

Design to cost 1 Bn€ + affordable payload + international partners (20%)

- An Athena Science Study Team was appointed by ESA in July 2014: Lumb (Chair), Nandra (Lead & WFI), Barcons, Barret (X-IFU), Decourchelle, den Herder, Fabian, Matsumoto (JAXA), Piro, Smith (NASA), Willingale.

- Phase 0 executed from August to December 2014, including CDF study

CDF study showed Athena to be feasible

Programmatically would need significant international contribution

A mission with an X-ray telescope fitting within a standard A5 adaptor would fit well within programmatic cost boundaries (but ~30% reduction in eff area)

- Phase A (ITT in preparation)

KO in July 2015

Phase A1 (~1 year) will study in full 2 missions: as proposed and CDF

Mission baseline selection (MCR) in May 2016

Phase A2 will consolidate concept

- SRR (end of Phase B1) by Q3 2019
- Mission adoption by ESA SPC expected by Feb 2020
- Launch in 2028

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# Athena in context in the ~2030 European landscape



Athena is a crucial part of the suite of large observatories needed to reach the science objectives of astronomy in the coming decades

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## The last one

Athena is a major European enterprise: a large X-ray observatory in the late 2020s.

Main science driver is to understand how massive black holes shape the Universe, from their immediate environment to galaxies and clusters.

But its transformational capabilities will reach all corners of Astronomy, from Solar System to Cosmology.

Both CSIC and CNRS have a very active role in Athena. Opportunities for further collaboration do indeed exist.



# ATHENA

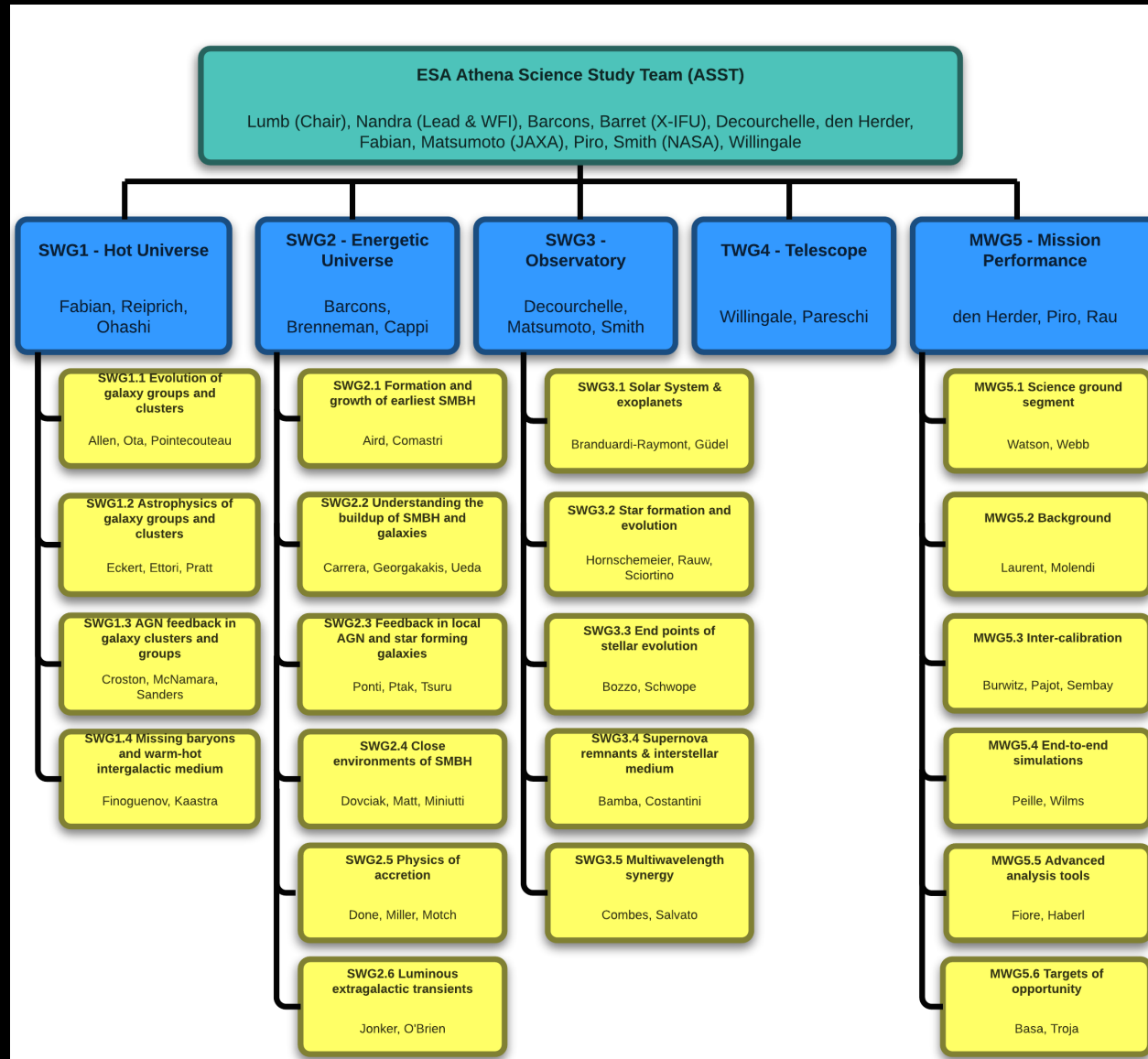
## Athena mission schedule

Task Name	2015				2016				2017				2018				2019					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	
<b>ESA Phase A</b>	[Grey bar from Q1 2015 to Q4 2017]																					
Phase A ITT & AO	[Blue bar]																					
Phase A1		[Blue bar]																				
Mission Baseline selection																						
Phase A2						[Blue bar]																
Mission PRR																						
<b>ESA Phase B1</b>													[Grey bar from Q1 2018 to Q4 2019]									
Phase B1 ITT & AO													[Purple bar]									
Phase B1													[Purple bar]									
Mission SRR																						
<b>ESA Mission Adoption</b>																						

- AO for science instruments: July 2016; Selection: Nov 2016
- Phase A: 2015-2017
- Phase B1: 2017-2019
- SPC adoption: Feb 2020
- Phase B2/C/D Kick-Off: Nov 2020
- Launch 2028

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# Athena community organisation



# ATHENA

## Athena science conference ESAC (Spain), 8-10 Sep 2015

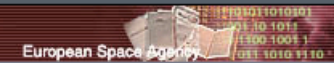
Research & Science Home

ESA Public Web Site

Sci-Tech Portal



Research Science Portal



Astrophysics Missions

Planetary Exploration Missions

Solar Terrestrial Science Missions

Fundamental Physics Missions

Science Faculty

26-March-2015 22:08:53

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## Exploring the Hot and Energetic Universe: The first scientific conference dedicated to the Athena X-ray observatory



8-10  
September  
2015

ESA/ESAC

Madrid, Spain



[Home](#) | [Organising Committee](#) | [Programme](#) | [Venue](#) | [Accommodation](#) | [Contact](#)

## Conference Venue

The conference will be held at the **European Space Astronomy Centre (ESAC)** located at Villafranca del Castillo, Madrid, Spain.

In order to get to ESAC, we recommend using the shuttle bus from the pre-booked hotel (see [Accommodation](#)). For independent travel by public transport, taxi, or car from Madrid airport or from the city centre to ESAC, see our descriptions [How to get to ESAC](#) or [Visit ESAC](#).

## Madrid

A T H E N A

# Acknowledgements

## Athena Science Study Team:

D. Lumb (ESA), K. Nandra (DE), D. Barret (FR), X. Barcons (ES), A. Decourchelle (FR), J.-W. den Herder (NL), A.C. Fabian (UK), H. Matsumoto (JP), L. Piro (IT), R. Smith (USA), R. Willingale (UK)

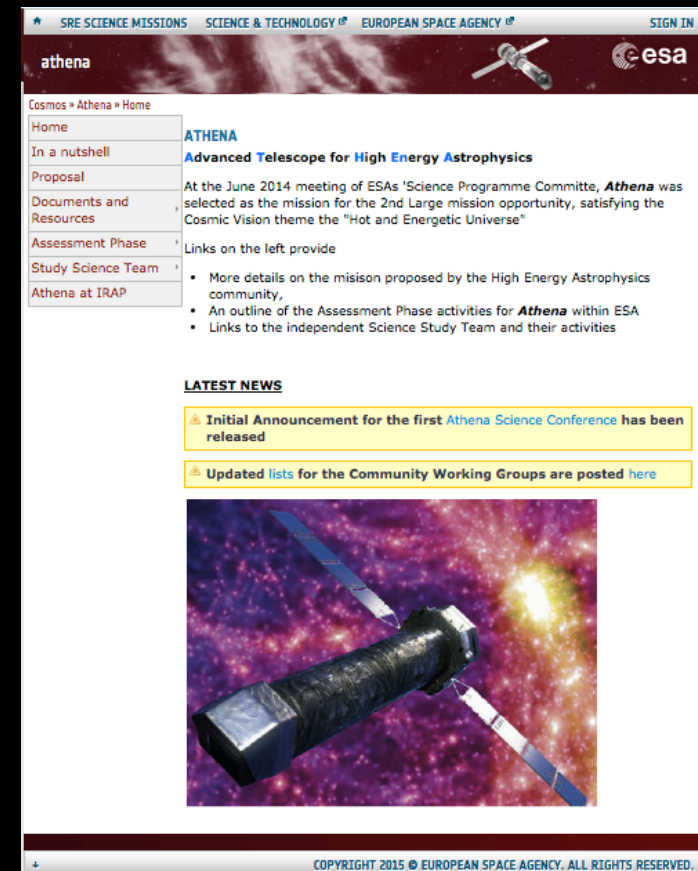
## Athena Working Groups & Topical Panels

(~50 chairs and ~600 members)

### More information:

<http://the-athena-x-ray-observatory.eu/>

<http://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/athena>



The screenshot shows the Athena mission website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'SRE SCIENCE MISSIONS', 'SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY', and 'EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY'. The main header features the 'athena' logo and the ESA logo. Below the header, there is a sidebar menu with links: 'Home', 'In a nutshell', 'Proposal', 'Documents and Resources', 'Assessment Phase', 'Study Science Team', and 'Athena at IRAP'. The main content area is titled 'ATHENA' and describes it as an 'Advanced Telescope for High Energy Astrophysics'. It mentions that Athena was selected as the mission for the 2nd Large mission opportunity, satisfying the Cosmic Vision theme 'Hot and Energetic Universe'. A list of links on the left provides more details on the mission, an outline of the Assessment Phase activities, and links to the independent Science Study Team. Below this, there is a 'LATEST NEWS' section with two items: 'Initial Announcement for the first Athena Science Conference has been released' and 'Updated lists for the Community Working Groups are posted here'. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: 'COPYRIGHT 2015 © EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.'

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**Backup slides**

## References

The Hot and Energetic Universe: A White Paper presenting the science theme motivating the Athena+ mission, Nandra, Barret, Barcons, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2307N

The Hot and Energetic Universe: The evolution of galaxy groups and clusters, Pointecouteau, Reiprich, Adami, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2319P

The Hot and Energetic Universe: The astrophysics of galaxy groups and clusters, Ettori, Pratt, de Plaa, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2322

The Hot and Energetic Universe: AGN feedback in galaxy clusters and groups, Croston, Sanders, Heinz, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2323

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The Hot and Energetic Universe: The formation and growth of the earliest supermassive black holes, Aird, Comastri, Brusa, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2325

The Hot and Energetic Universe: Understanding the build-up of supermassive black holes and galaxies at the heyday of the Universe, Georgakakis, Carrera, Lanzuisi, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2328

The Hot and Energetic Universe: Astrophysics of feedback in local AGN, Cappi, Done, Behar, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2330

The Hot and Energetic Universe: The close environments of supermassive black holes, Dovciak, Matt, Bianchi, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2331

The Hot and Energetic Universe: Solar system and exoplanets, Branduardi-Raymont, Sciortino, Dennerl, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2332

The Hot and Energetic Universe: Star formation and evolution, Sciortino, Rauw, Audard, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2333

The Hot and Energetic Universe: End points of stellar evolution, Motch, Wilms, Barret, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2334

The Hot and Energetic Universe: The astrophysics of supernova remnants and the interstellar medium, Decourchelle, Costantini, Badenes, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2335

The Hot and Energetic Universe: Luminous extragalactic transients, Jonker, O'Brien, Amati, et al., 2013arXiv1306.2336J

# ATHENA

## Thank you!



**ATHENA**  
THE ASTROPHYSICS OF THE  
HOT AND ENERGETIC  
UNIVERSE

Europe's next generation **X-RAY OBSERVATORY**

HOW DOES ORDINARY MATTER  
ASSEMBLE INTO THE LARGE SCALE  
STRUCTURES THAT WE SEE TODAY?

HOW DO BLACK HOLES GROW  
AND SHAPE THE UNIVERSE?

SCIENCE THEME   INSTRUMENTS   X-RAY OPTICS   MISSION CONCEPT

TEAMS  
RESOURCES  
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SUPPORTERS

**Athena is an X-ray observatory to be proposed as a large mission for the ESA science program.**

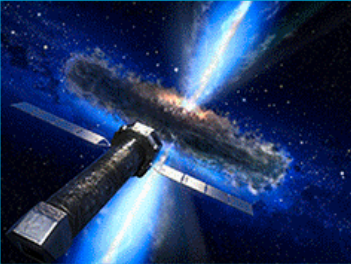
*Athena* will be conceived to answer some of the most pressing questions in Astrophysics for the late 2020s that can uniquely be addressed with X-ray observations.

*Athena* will transform our understanding of two major components of the Cosmos:

**The Hot Universe** : the bulk of visible matter in the Universe comprises hot gas which can only be accessed via space-based facilities operating in the X-ray band. Revealing this gas and relating its physical properties and evolution to the cosmological large-scale structure, and the cool components in galaxies and stars, is essential if we are to have a complete picture of our Universe.

**The Energetic Universe** : accretion onto black holes is one of the major astrophysical energy generation processes, and its influence via cosmic feedback is profound and widespread. X-ray observations provide unique information about the physics of black hole growth and the causes and effects of the subsequent energy output, as well as revealing where in the Universe black hole accretion is occurring and how it evolves to the highest redshifts.

Read more about the *Athena* science, by looking at [Publications](#).



[www.the-athena-x-ray-observatory.eu](http://www.the-athena-x-ray-observatory.eu)

A T H E N A

# The Hot and Energetic Universe

Dark Matter structure of the Universe

Springel et al. 2005



A T H E N A

## Finding the earliest galaxy groups

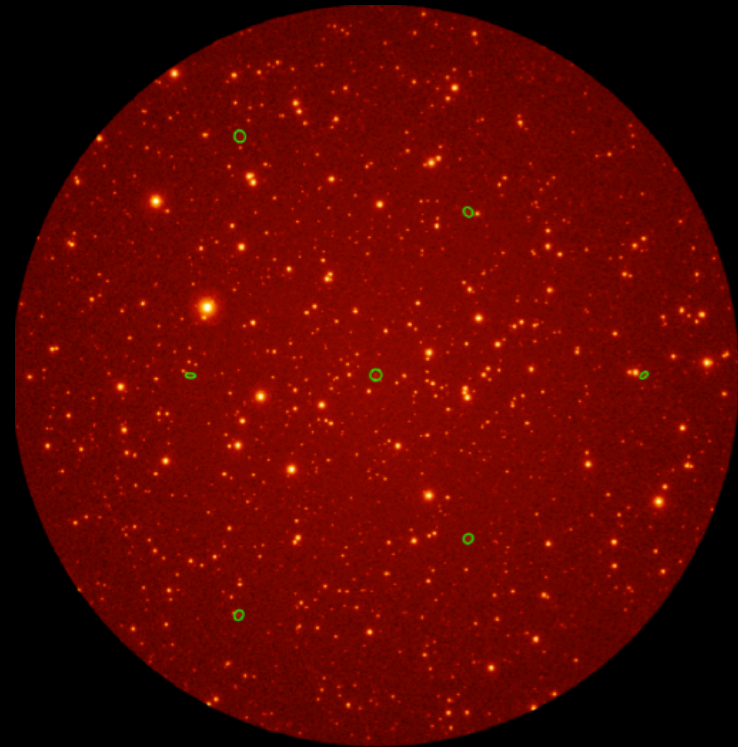
Testing astrophysical cosmology at the largest scales

As a way to constrain models of large-scale structure formation, find the first building blocks of the dark matter structure filled with hot gas.

Athena will be able to detect  $\sim 50$  groups with mass  $M_{500} > 5 \times 10^{13} M_{\text{sun}}$  at  $z > 2$  in 5 years of operation.

And measure  $T$  of  $\sim 50\%$  of them

And at least 5 such groups at  $z > 2.5$

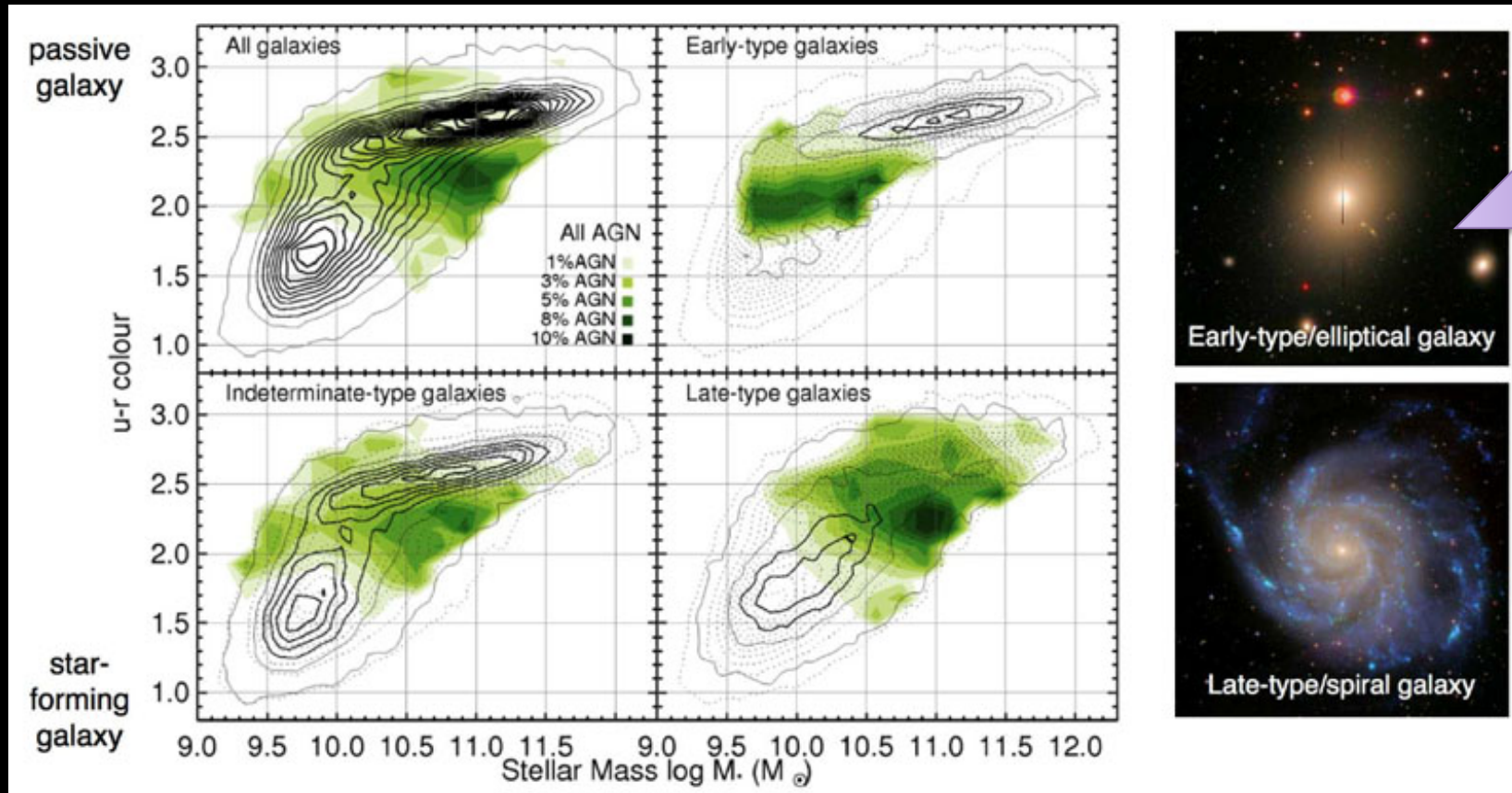


How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

ATHENA

# Galaxy downsizing

## Why do massive galaxies stop forming stars?



How do black holes grow and shape the Universe

A T H E N A

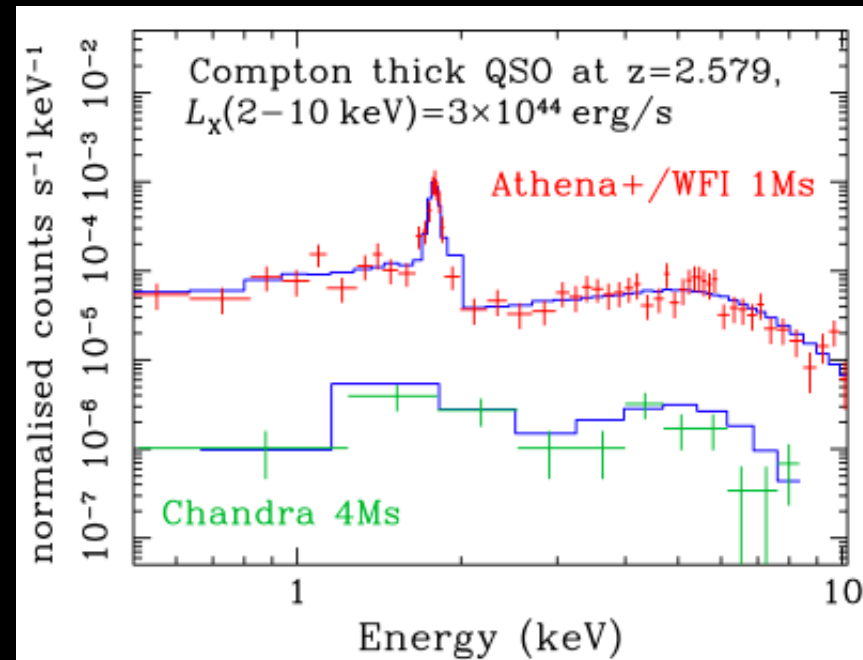
# Obscured growth of SMBH through cosmic time

What is the relation between obscured growth of SMBH through cosmic history and how does it relate to galaxy formation?

Most of the star formation and SMBH growth occur at  $z \sim 1-4$ . What is the relation between the two processes?

SMBH is expected to occur mostly in heavily obscured (even Compton-Thick) environments, totally inconspicuous to most wavelengths.

Only sensitive X-ray observations can provide an unbiased census of obscured accretion and link it to star formation, as evidenced at longer wavelengths.



How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

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# The Athena X-ray Integral Field Unit (X-IFU)

the 3D view of the Hot and Energetic Universe

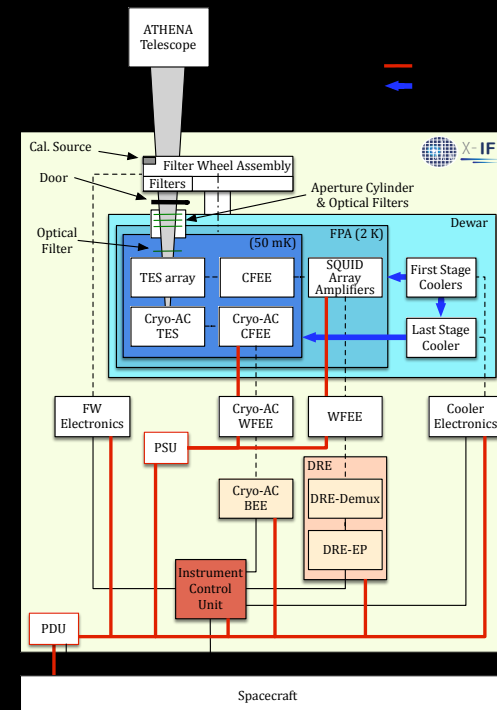
Cryogenic imaging spectrometer, based on Transition Edge Sensors, operated at 50 mK through a multi-stage cooling chain and featuring an active cryogenic background rejection subsystem

European consortium led by CNES/IRAP-F, with SRON-NL, INAF-IT and other partners

Spectral resolution 2.5 eV, FoV 5' diameter

Will be able to:

- Measure cluster gas bulk velocities and turbulence down to 20 km/s
- Detect weak unresolved lines from WHIM filaments (3mÅ), GRB afterglows, etc.
- Use emission lines (eg OVII triplet) to perform plasma diagnostics in a variety of astrophysical environments



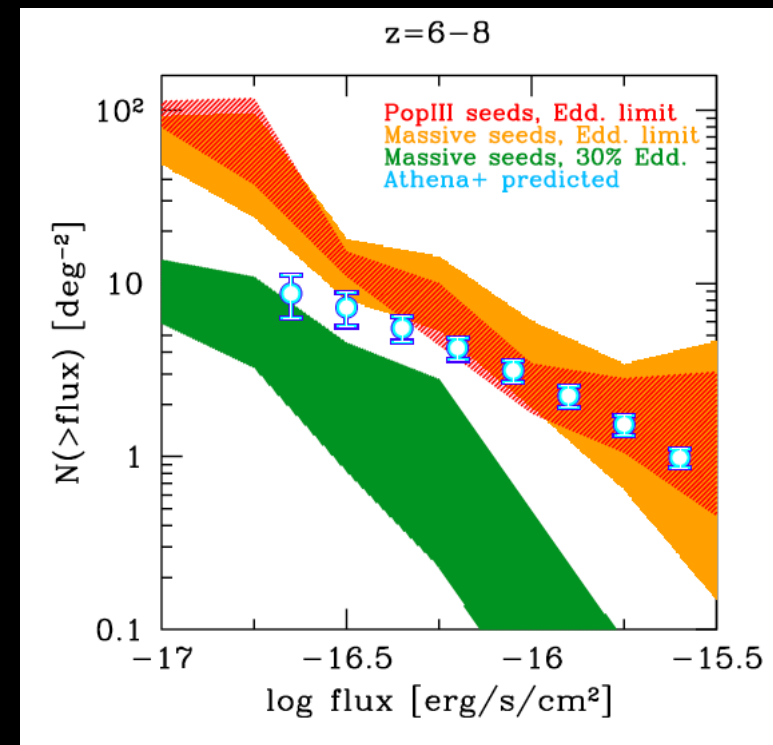
A T H E N A

## Early Super-Massive Black Holes

What were the seeds of the early SMBH? How did they grow in the early stages after cosmic re-ionisation?

Determine the nature of the seeds of high redshift ( $z > 6$ ) SMBH, which processes dominated their early growth, and the influence of accreting SMBH on the formation of galaxies in the early Universe.

Trace the first generation of stars to understand cosmic re-ionization, the formation of the first seed black holes, and the dissemination of the first metals in the Universe.



How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?

# A T H E N A

## Athena Payload: Where do we stand?

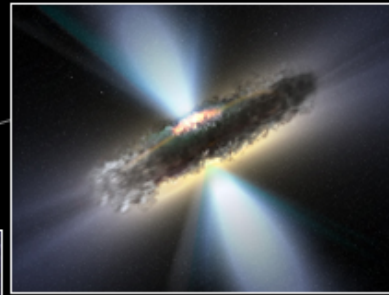
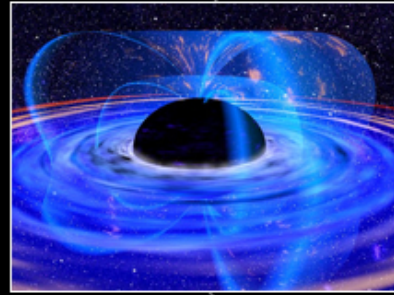
- X-ray telescope to be procured by ESA
  - Using Si-based High-Performance Optics developed in Europe
  - NASA/GSFC expressed interest (slumped glass)
- WFI proto-consortium formed, led by K. Nandra - MPE (D) with support from DLR
  - Participation of several ESA MS institutions
- X-IFU proto-consortium formed, led by D. Barret – IRAP (F) with support from CNES.
  - J.W. den Herder (SRON – FPA assembly) and L. Piro (INAF - CryoAC) co-PIs
  - Participation of several ESA MS institutions
  - Contribution from JAXA being firmed up (including shield coolers)
  - Contribution from NASA being defined (including front-end TES sensor array)

ATHENA

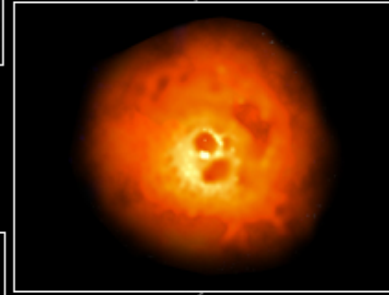
**ADDITIONAL SLIDES**

# ATHENA

How do black holes grow and influence the Universe?



How does ordinary matter assemble into the large scale structures we see today?



## The Hot and Energetic Universe





# ATHENA



How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

A T H E N A

## Athena: a powerful observatory

Planets

(interaction of solar wind with planet environment and comets)

Exoplanets

Stellar physics

Supernovae

(explosion mechanism, heavy element production)

Stellar endpoints

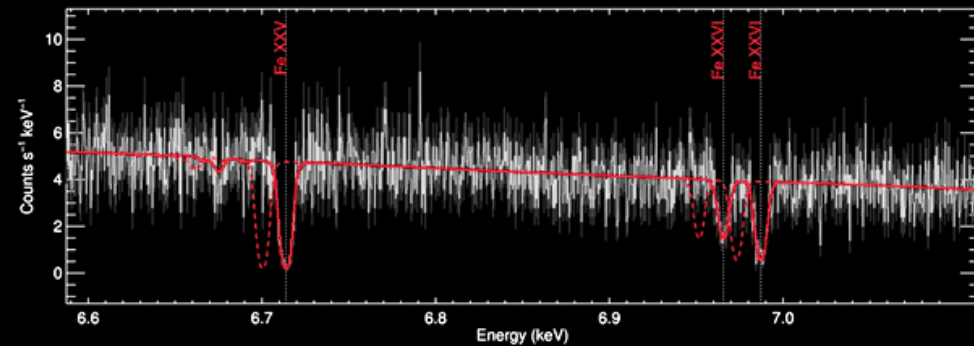
(physics of outflows and winds in X-ray binaries)

Sgr A\*

Interstellar dust and medium

High-energy transients

Outflow in X-ray binary, 10ks



Branduardi-Raymont, Sciortino, et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2332; Sciortino, Rauw et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2333;  
Motch, Wilms, et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2334; Decourchelle, Costantini et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2335

ATHENA

# Athena: a powerful observatory

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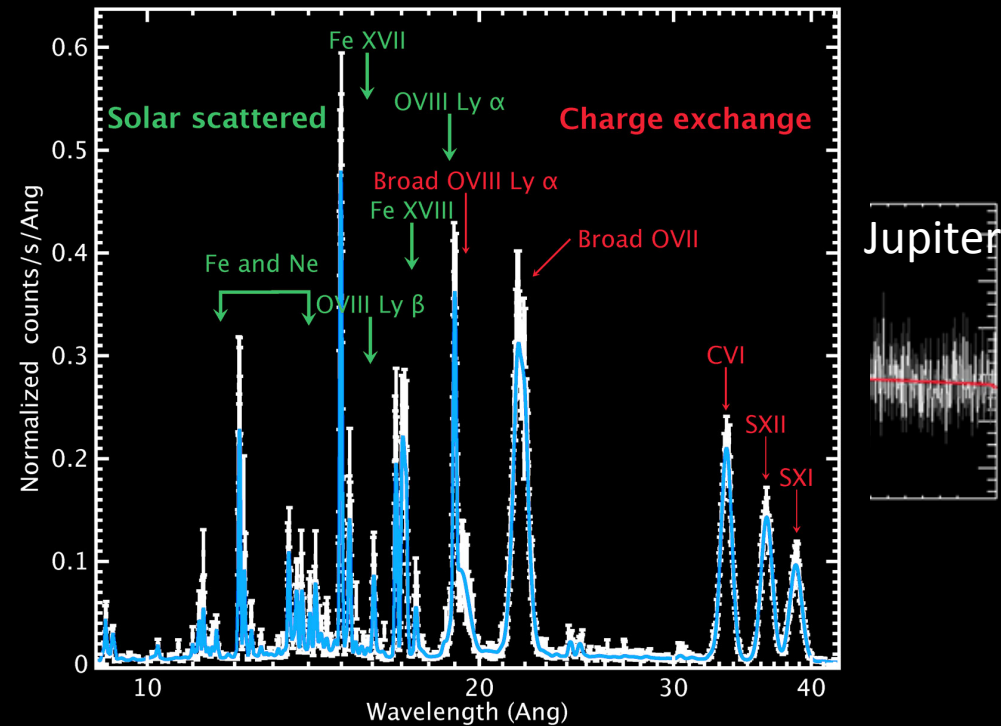
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Sgr A\*

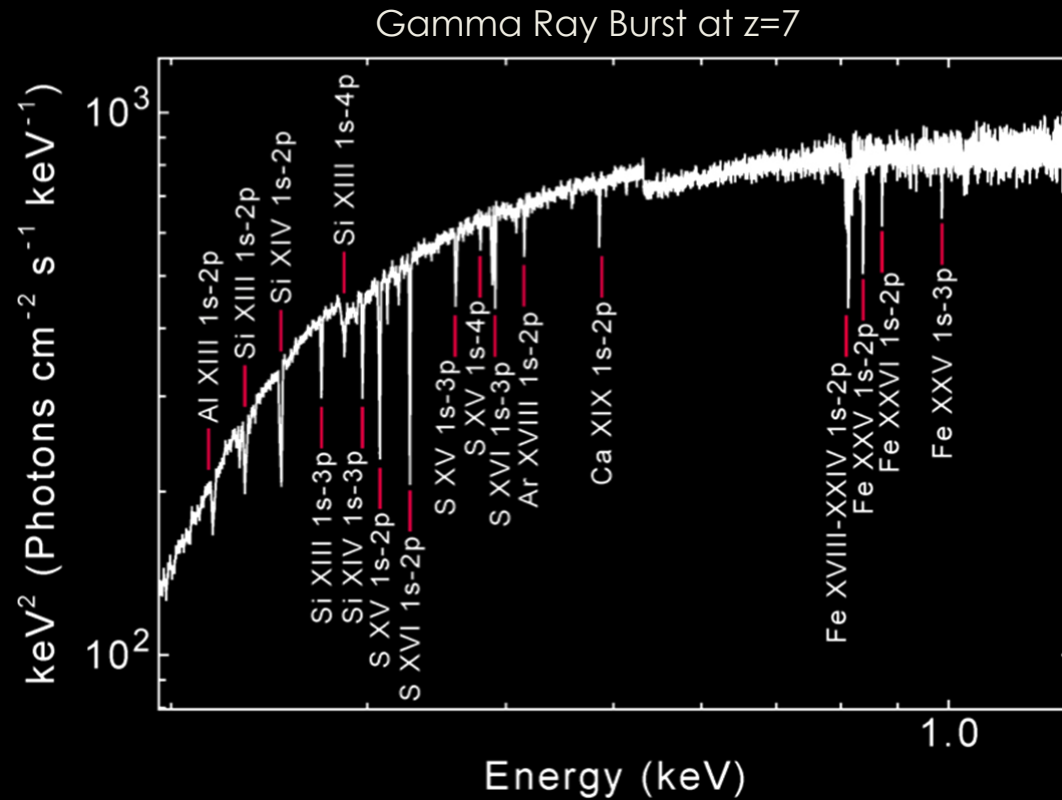
Interstellar dust and medium



Branduardi-Raymont, Sciortino, et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2332; Sciortino, Rauw et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2333;  
Motch, Wilms, et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2334; Decourchelle, Costantini et al., 2013 arXiv 1306.2335

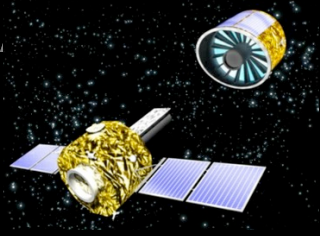
# The first stars and black holes

When did the first generation of stars explode to form the first seed black holes and disseminate the first metals in the Universe?



Jonker, O'Brien et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2336

How do black holes grow and shape the Universe?



## Athena: the History




- 1996 XEUS, European concept for a large X-ray observatory, starts a long route in and out of ESA (often in cooperation with Japan)
- 1990s US develops Constellation-X concept for proposal to NASA (second highest priority in Decadal Survey 2000)
- 2007 XEUS Accepted for Study into the ESA Cosmic Vision programme (along with LISA and Tandem/Laplace)
- 2008 XEUS and Con-X merge into the International X-ray Observatory (IXO), an ESA/NASA/JAXA mission proposal
- Late 2010: US decadal 2010 sets IXO into picture (WFIRST, Explorers, LISA, IXO), but NASA funding issues kill IXO
- March 2011 ESA reformulates approach to Large Missions: they should be European only
- March through December 2011: Athena concept developed for L1 mission
- April 2012 ESA Selects JUICE for L1, launch due in 2022

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## Athena: the way forward

- 2013 ESA reformulates the way in which its Cosmic Vision L-class missions will be decided (Themes first, Missions later)
- Oct 2013: Senior Survey Committee and SPC recommend “The Hot and Energetic Universe” theme for L2 mission in 2028
- Jan 2014: Call for L2 mission proposals
- Apr 2014: Athena Mission Proposal Submitted (only proposal)
- **Late June 2014: L2 mission selection by ESA expected**
- 2014-2018: Technology development phase
- Early 2015: Instrument AO
- 2018-19 Adoption of Mission
- 2028 LAUNCH!



**ATHENA**  
THE **ADVANCED**  
**TELESCOPE FOR HIGH**  
**ENERGY ASTROPHYSICS**

A mission addressing  
*The Hot and Energetic Universe*  
science theme

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Mission proposal submitted on behalf of the Athena team  
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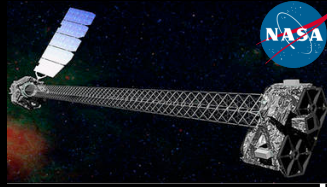
ATHENA +

# X-ray Observatory Timeline

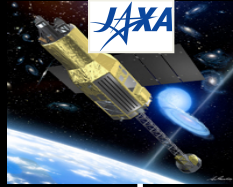
Chandra 1999



NuSTAR 2012



Astro-H 2015



2000

2005

2010

2015

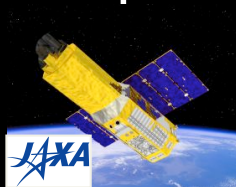
2020

2025

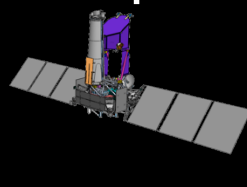
2030



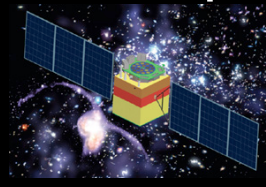
XMM-1999



Suzaku 2005



Spektr-RG 2015

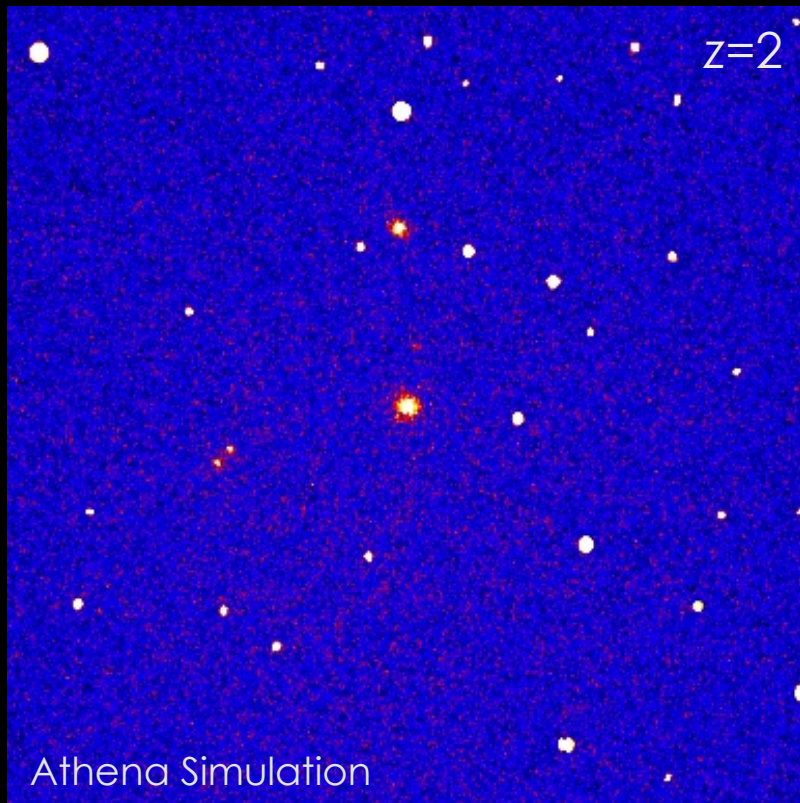


HXMT 2015/16

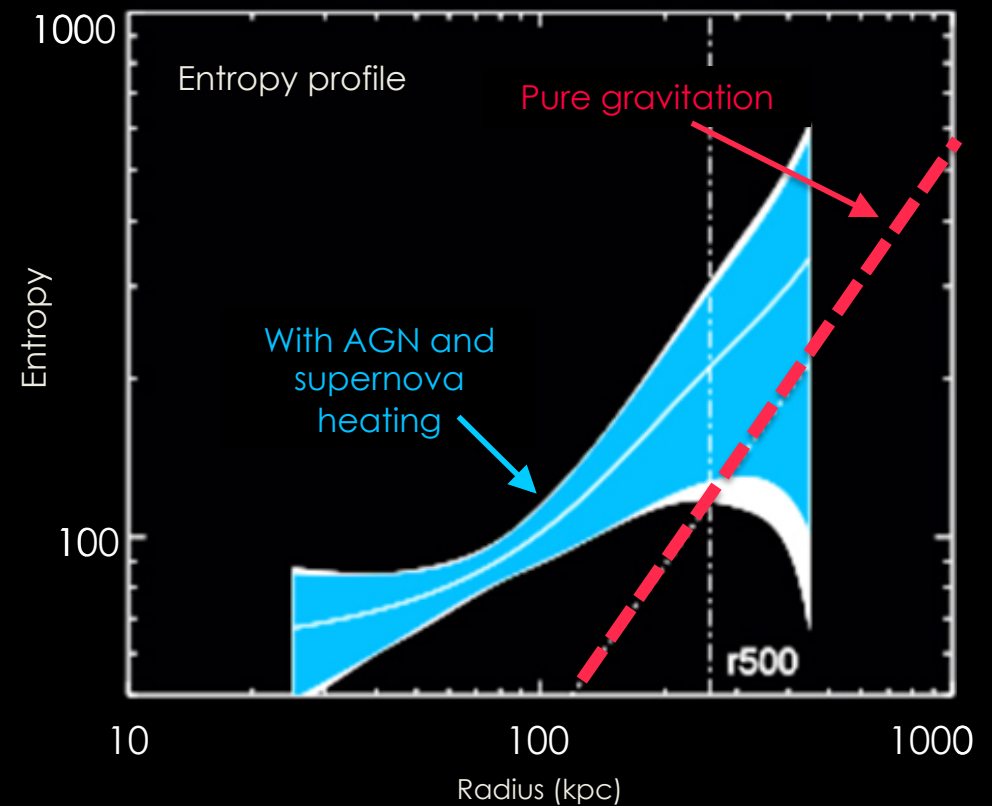
ATHENA

# The formation and evolution of clusters and groups of galaxies

How and when was the energy contained in the hot intra-cluster medium generated?



Pointecouteau, Reiprich et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2319



How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

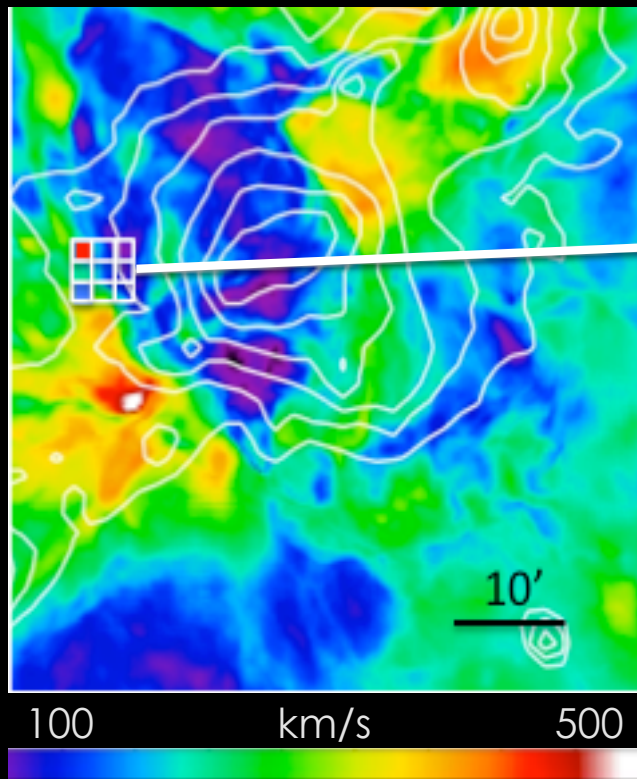


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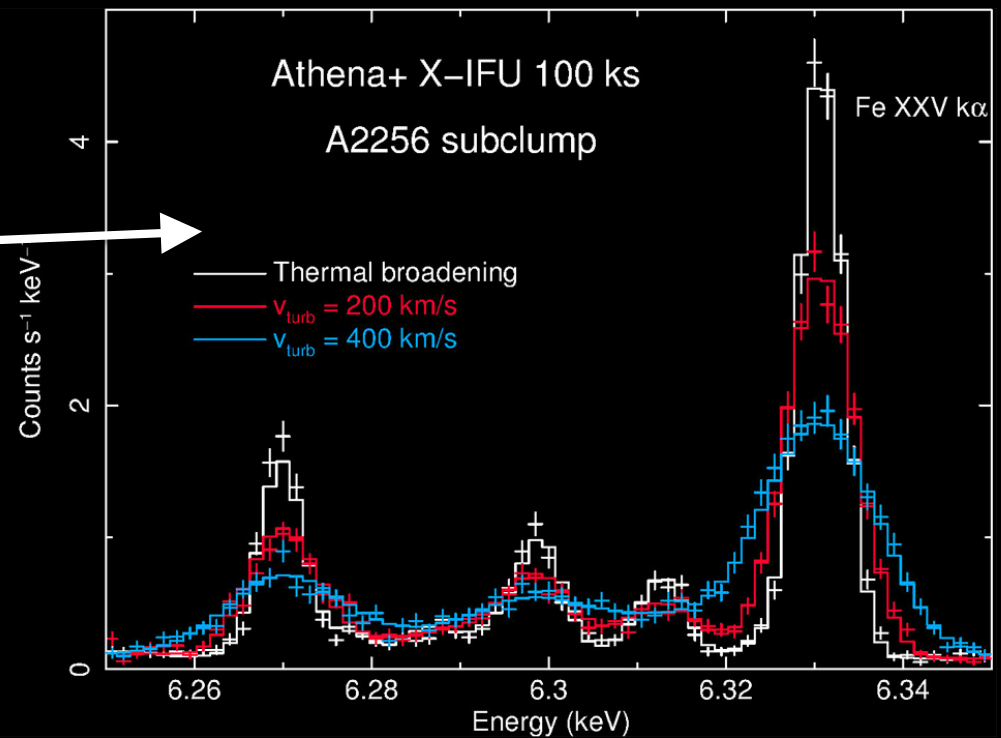
# The formation and evolution of clusters and groups of galaxies

How and when was the energy contained in the hot intra-cluster medium generated?

Simulated Velocity map



Ettori, Pratt, et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2322

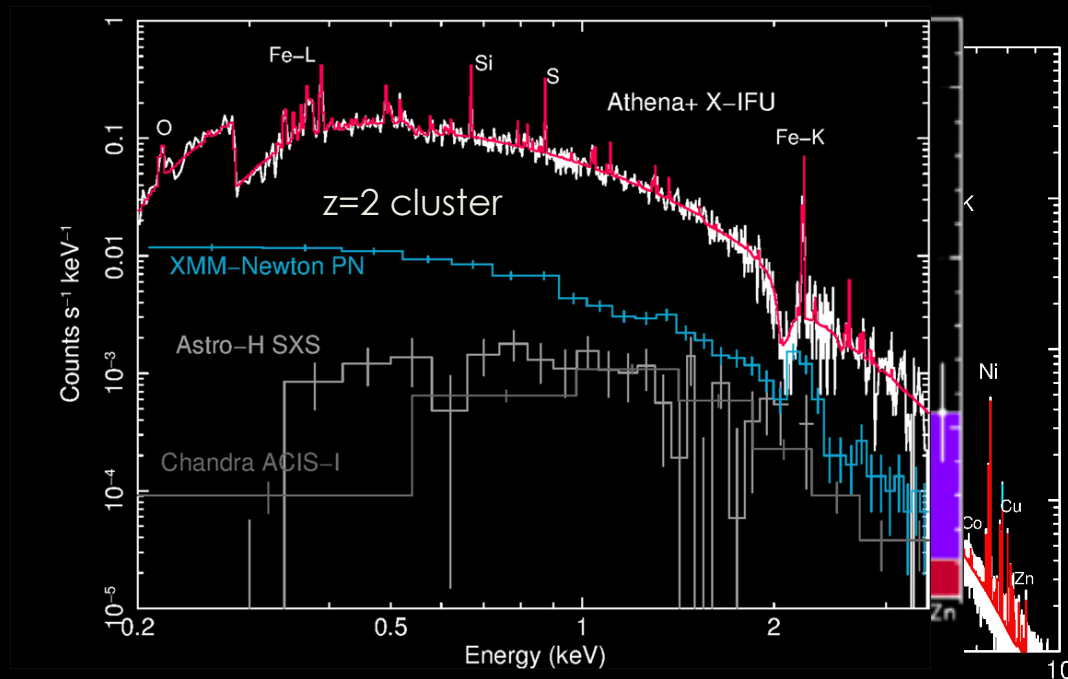


How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?

ATHENA

# The chemical evolution of hot baryons

When and how were the largest baryon reservoirs in galaxy clusters chemically enriched?



Ettori, Pratt, et al., 2013 arXiv1306.2322

How does ordinary matter assemble into the large-scale structures that we see today?