TDEs, QPEs and other eXotica



Erin Kara ekara@mit.edu

25 June 2023 Hong Kong Roger's Black Hole Bonanza

TDEs, QPEs and other eXotica



Kishalay De MIT Einstein Fellow



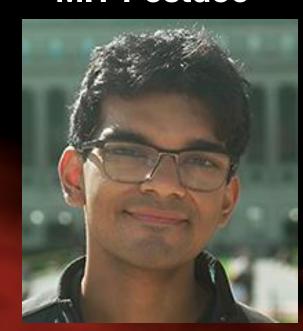
Christos Panagiotou MIT Postdoc



Megan Masterson 3rd Yr PhD Student



Riccardo Arcodia Einstein Fellow, MIT



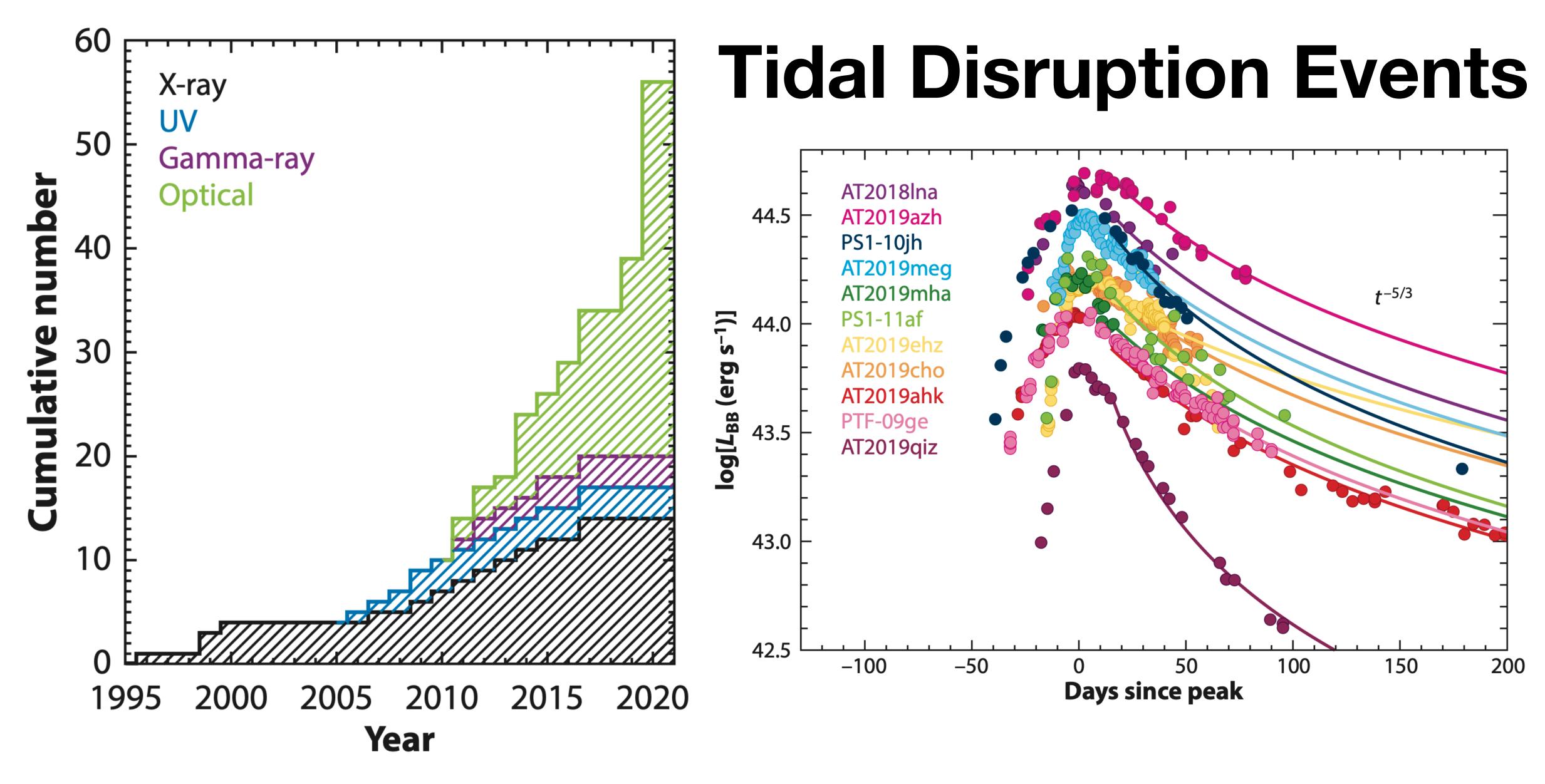
Joheen Chakraborty
1st Year Grad Student



Jingyi Wang, 5th Year PhD

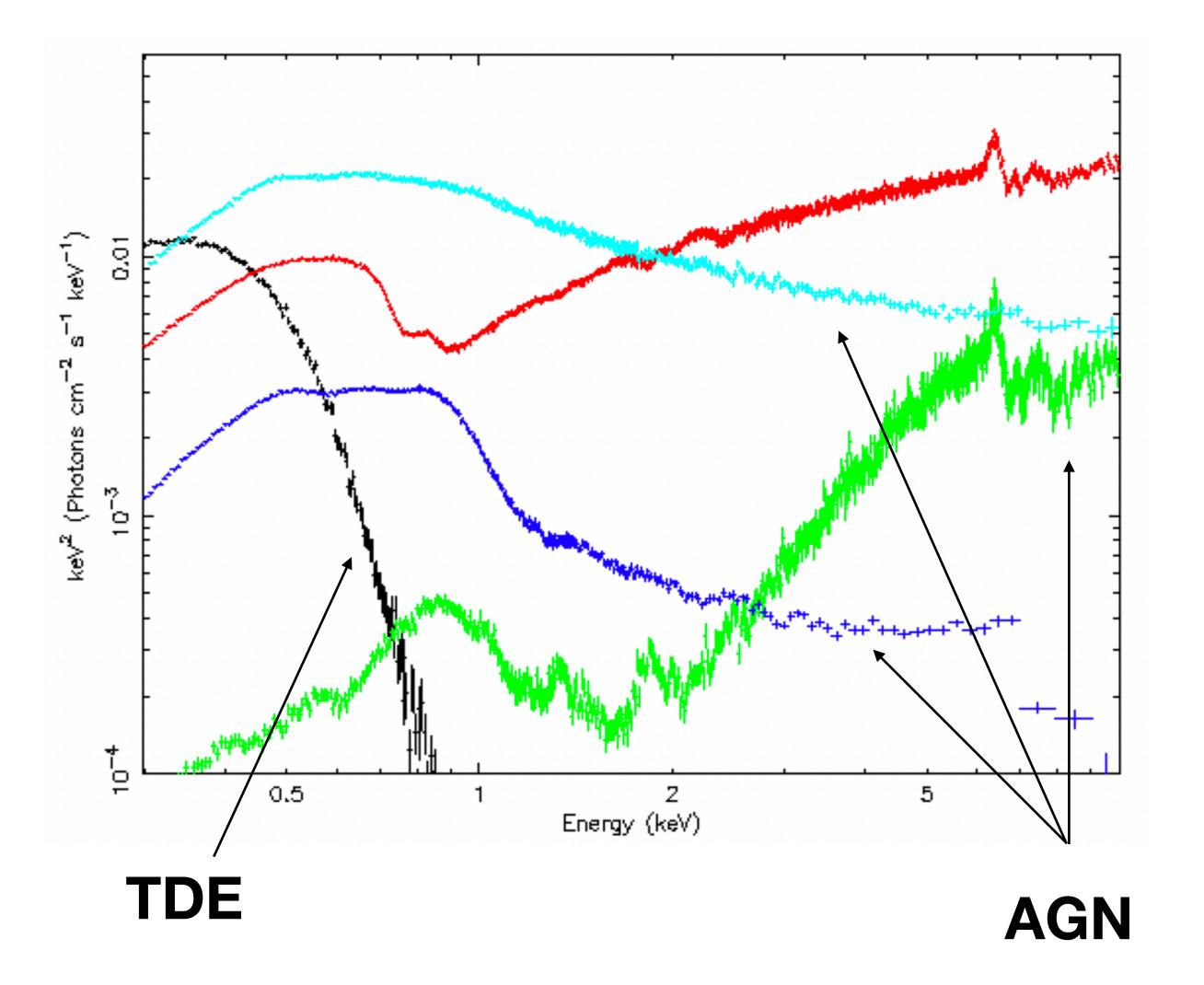


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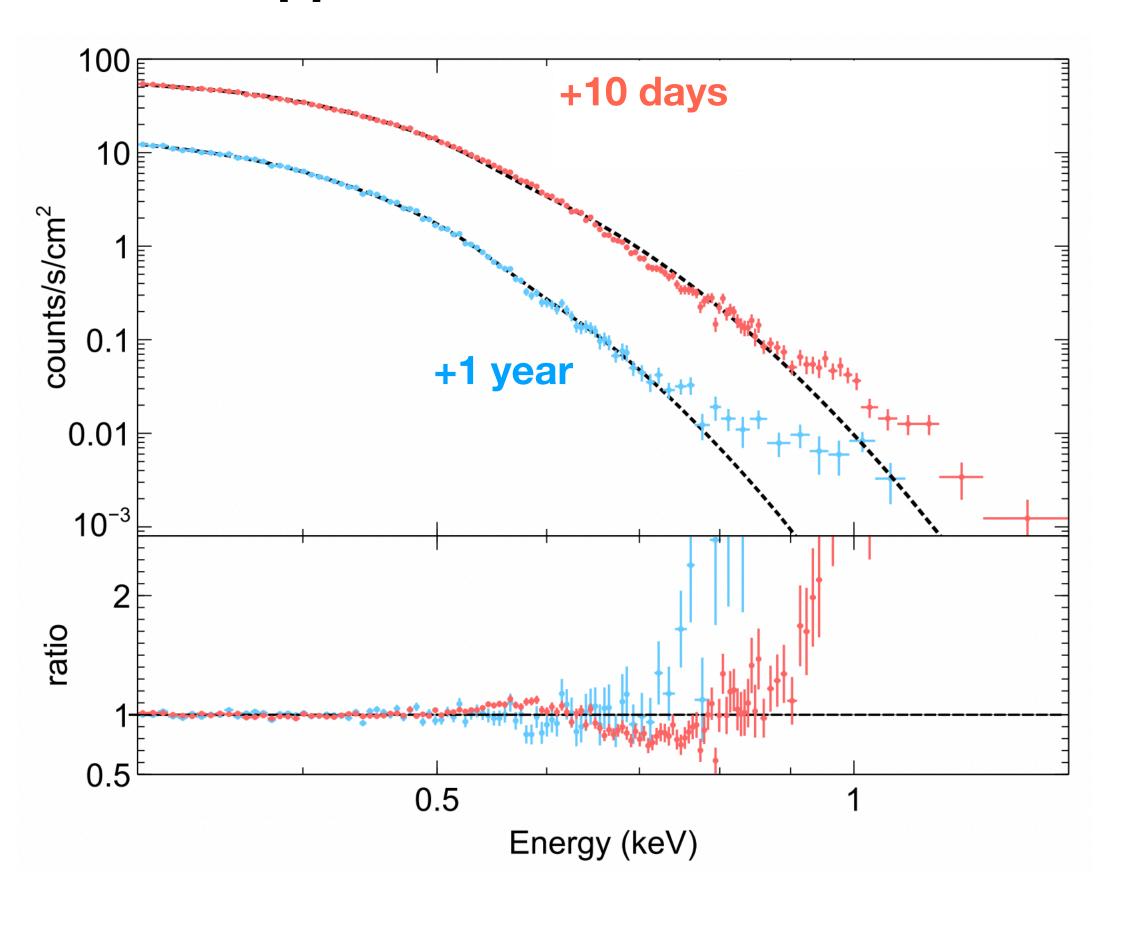


X-ray Properties (spectra)

TDEs usually have no corona at early times



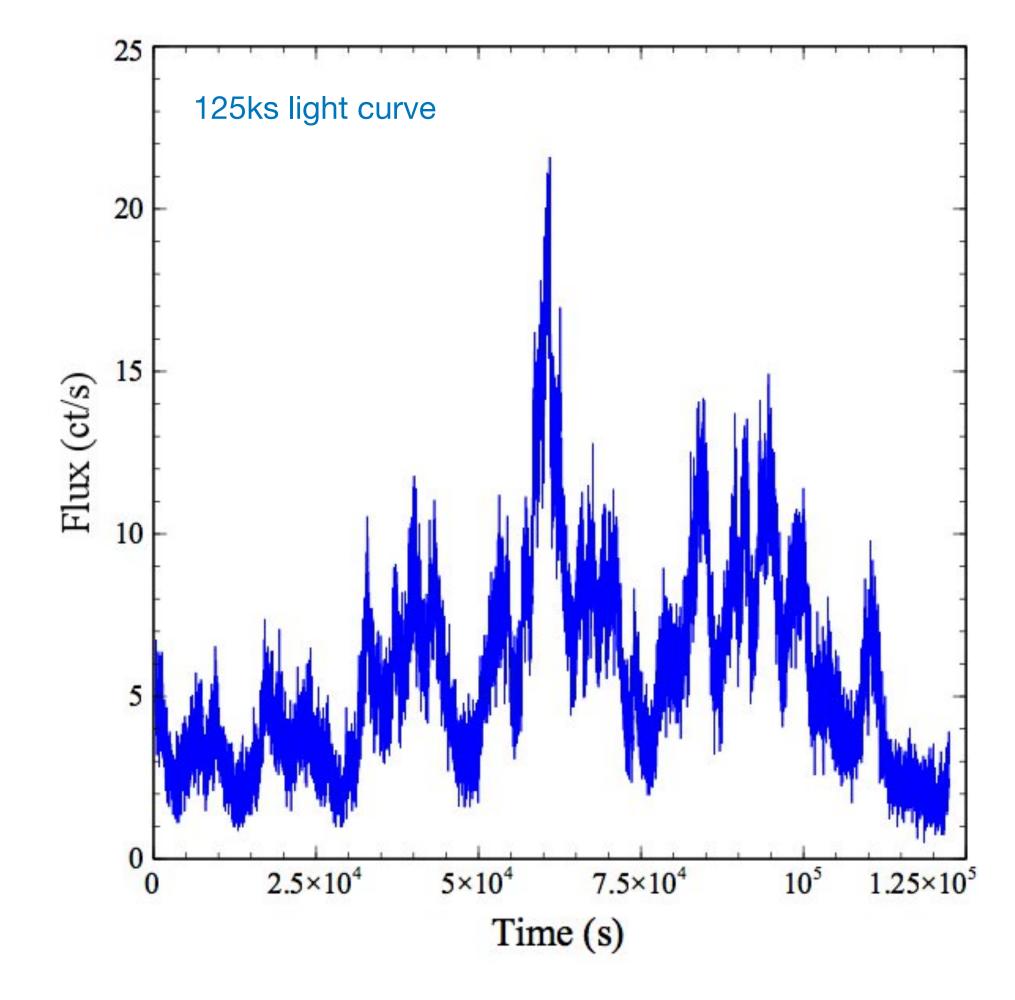
Appears to form at late times

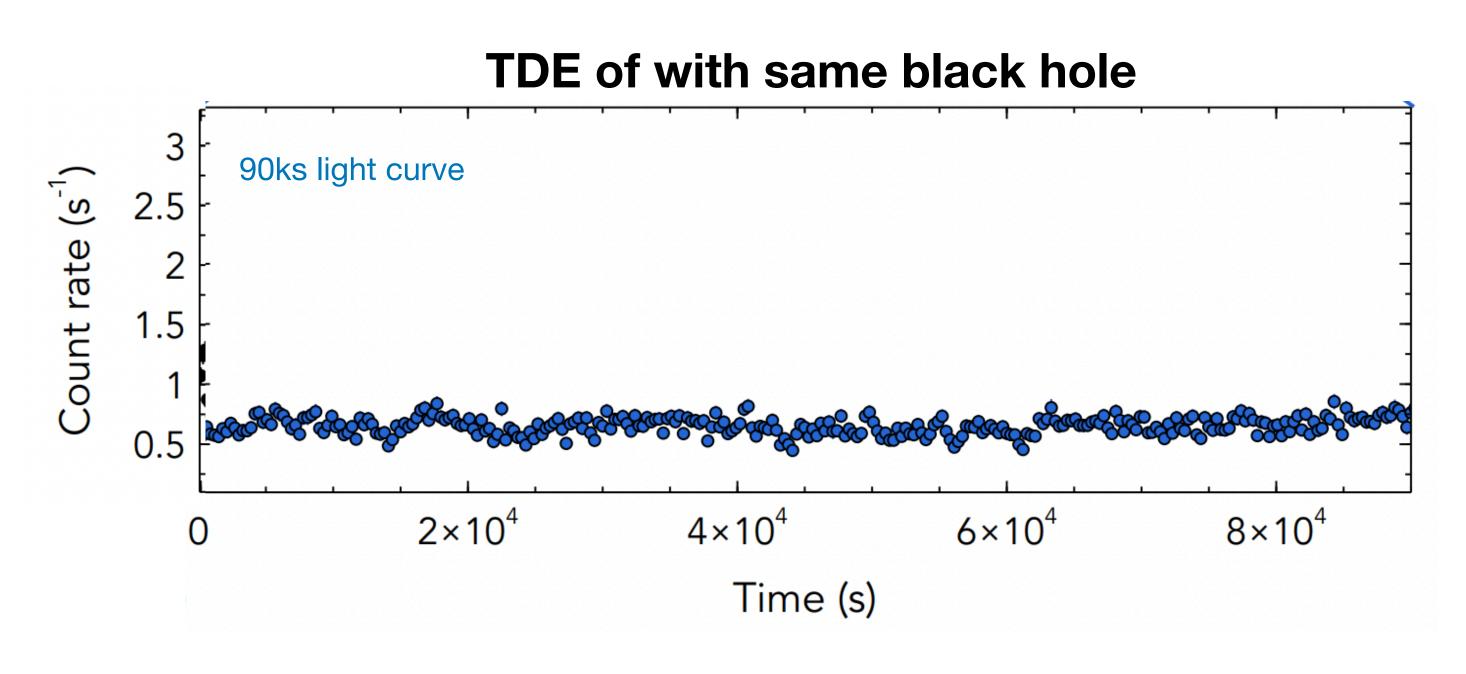


Kara et al., 2018 See also Jonker et al., 2021

X-ray Properties (variability)

Stochastic AGN Variability in 1e6 Msun BH





TDE rates & implications

observed rate ~ 3 × 10–5 / galaxy / yr ZTF: Yao+23

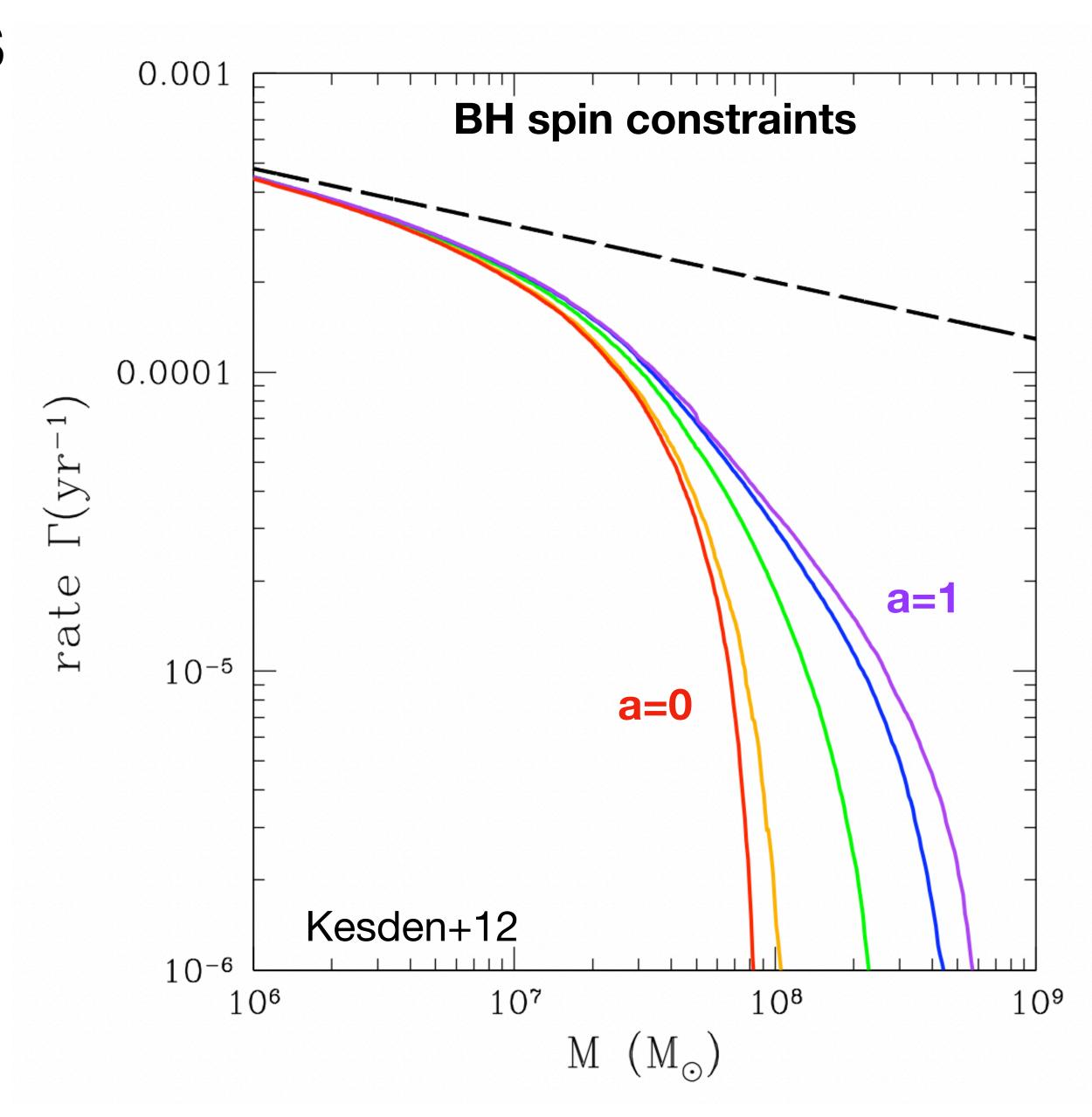
theoretical rate ~ a few 10-4 / galaxy / year Stone+20, Pfister+20

But caveats due to, e.g.:

Age of stellar population

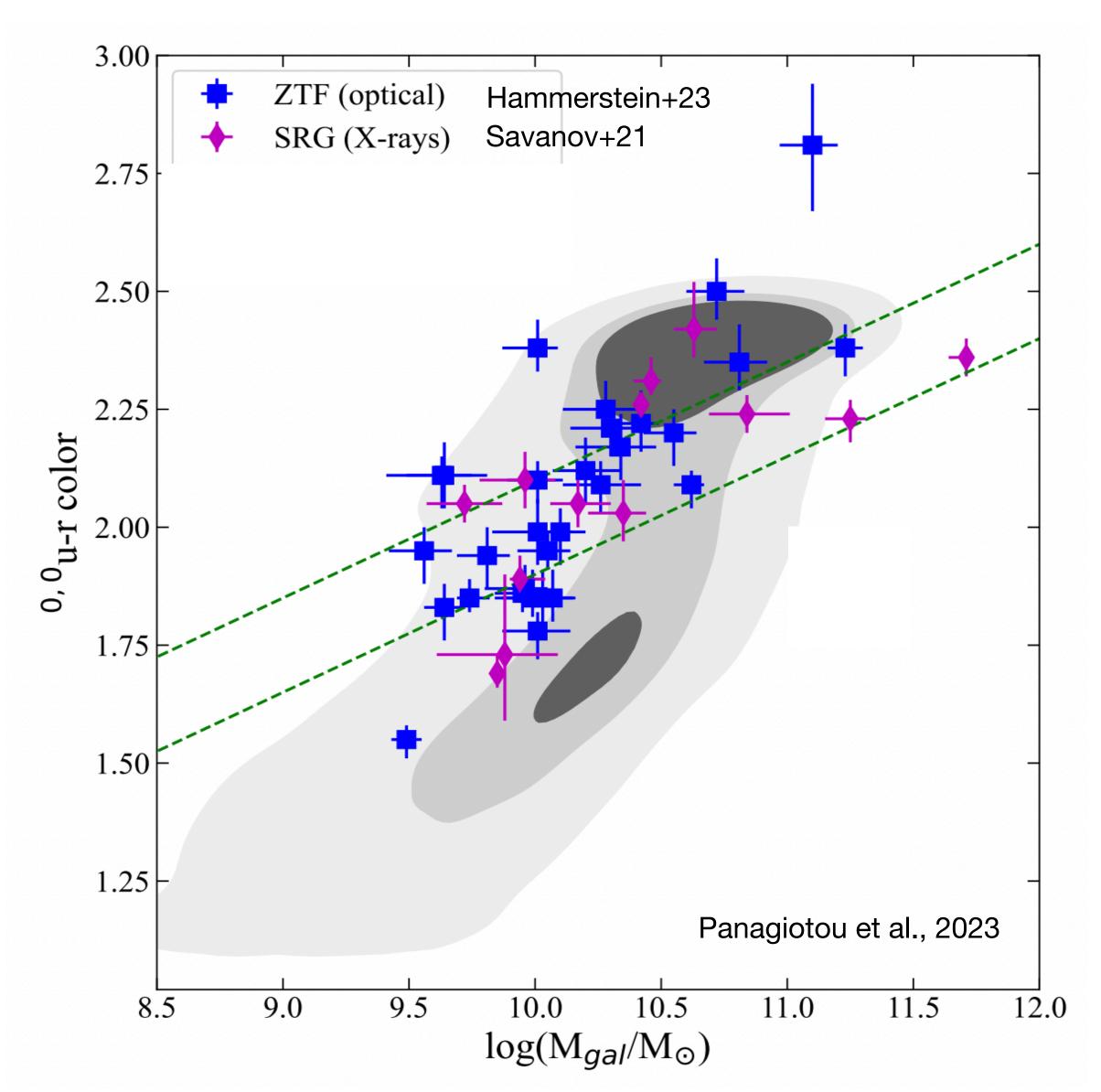
(Huang & Lu 2022)

Delayed disk formation (Wong, Pfister, Dai 2022)



TDE Host Galaxies:

Preference for rare class of E+A galaxies



Arcavi+14, French+17

Physical?

(French+20; Hammerstein+21)

Selection effects?

(Roth+21)

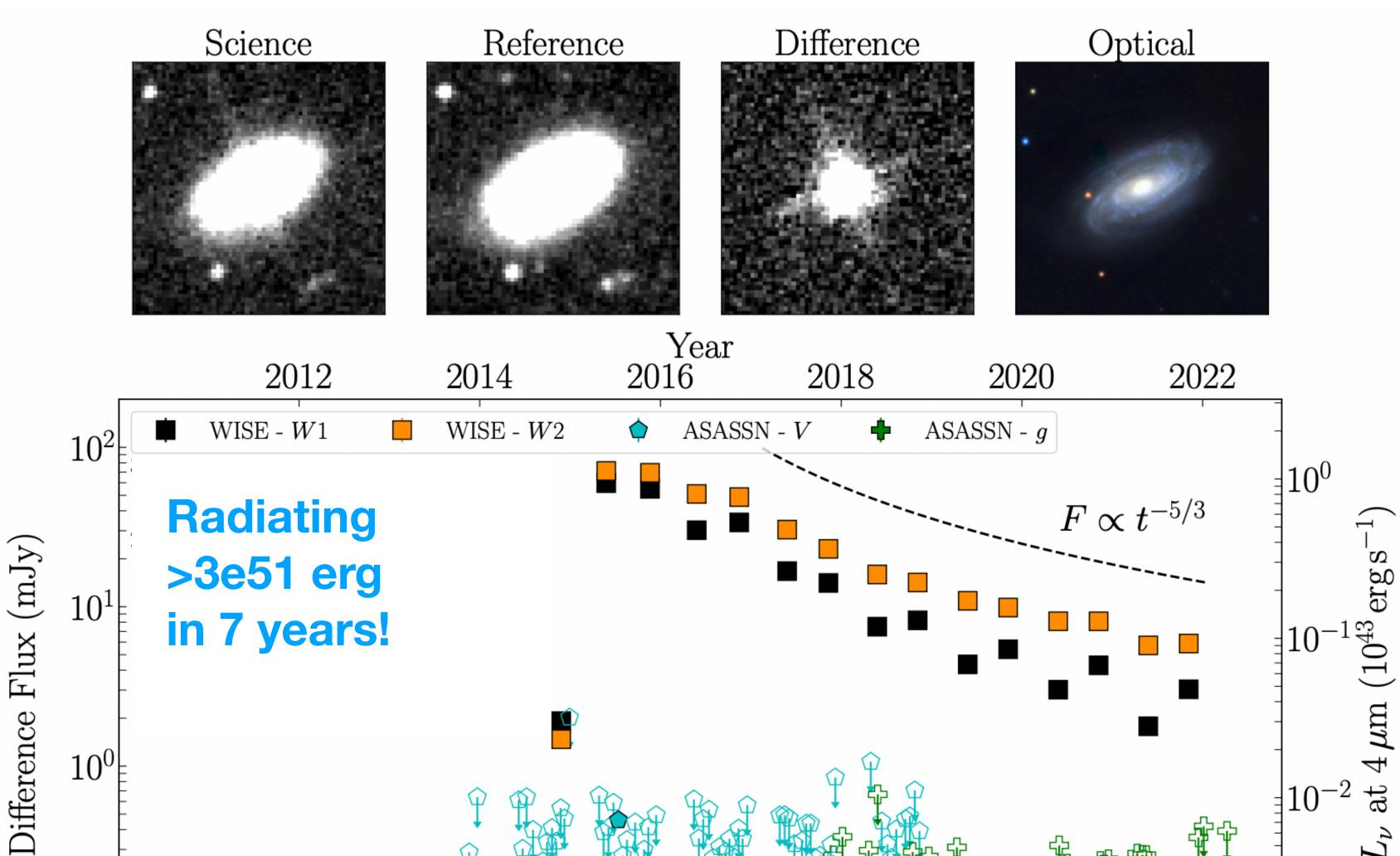


Kishalay De MIT Einstein Fellow

 10^{0}

56000

The nearest TDE to date at 42 Mpc



58000

MJD

57000

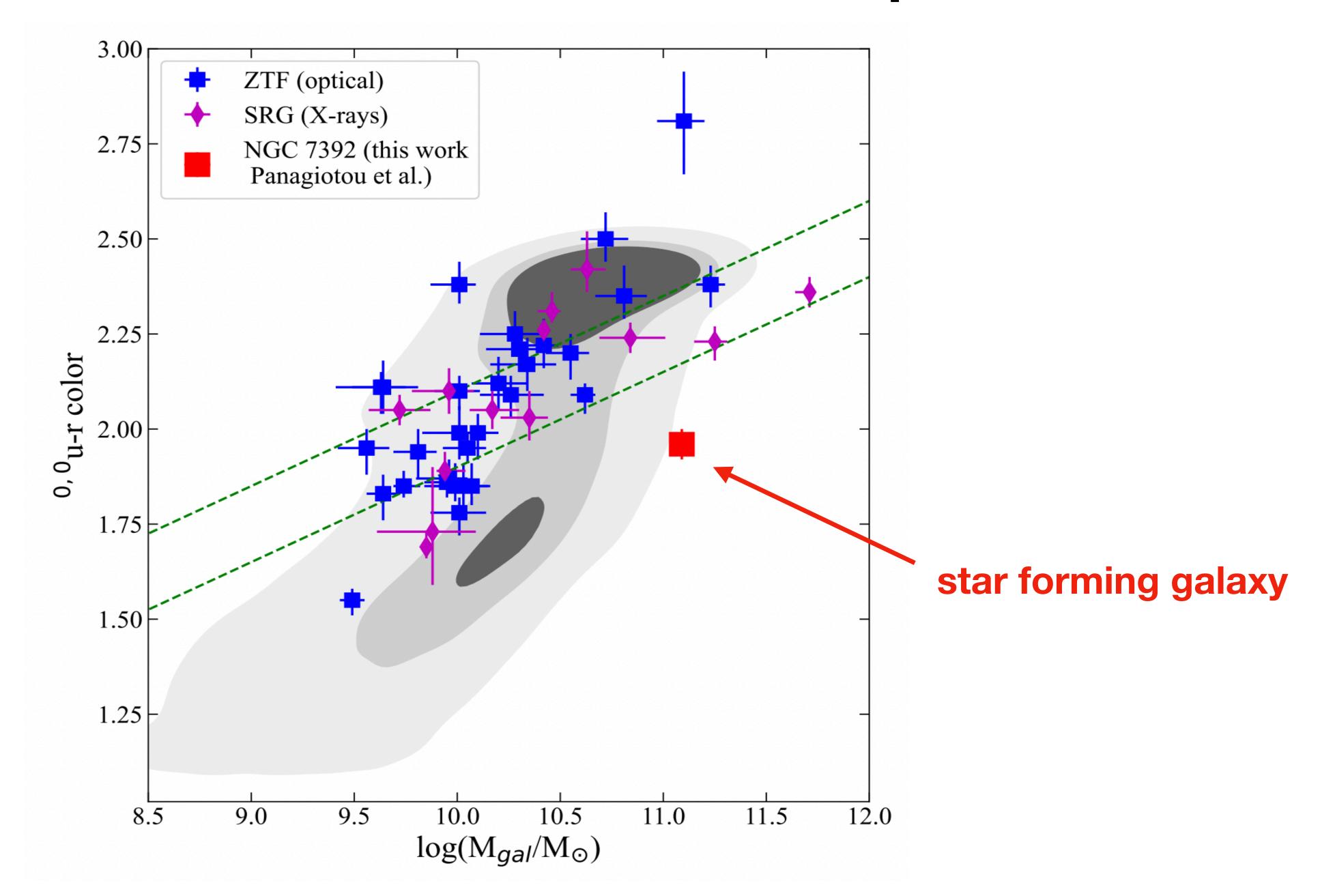


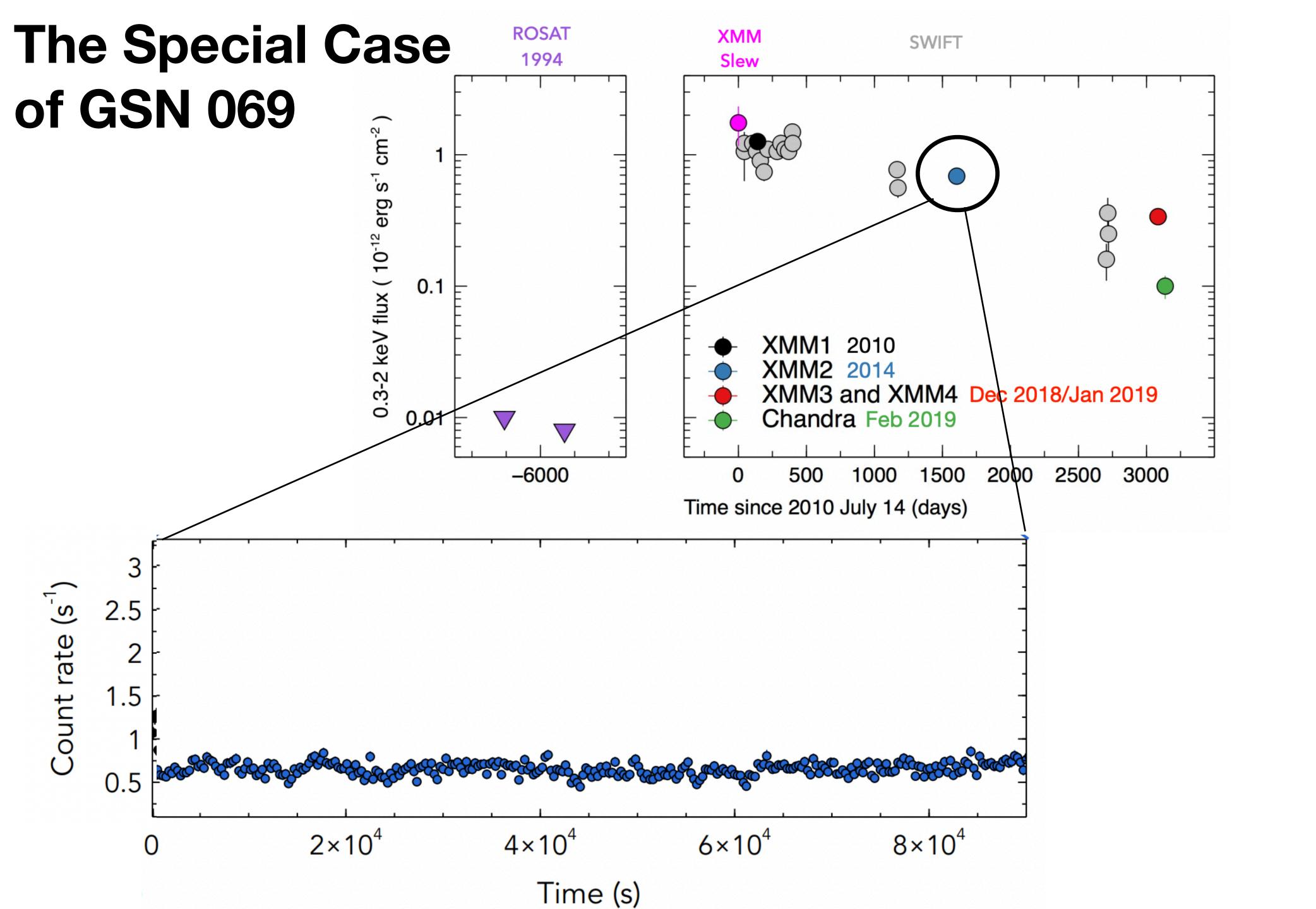
Christos Panagiotou MIT Postdoc

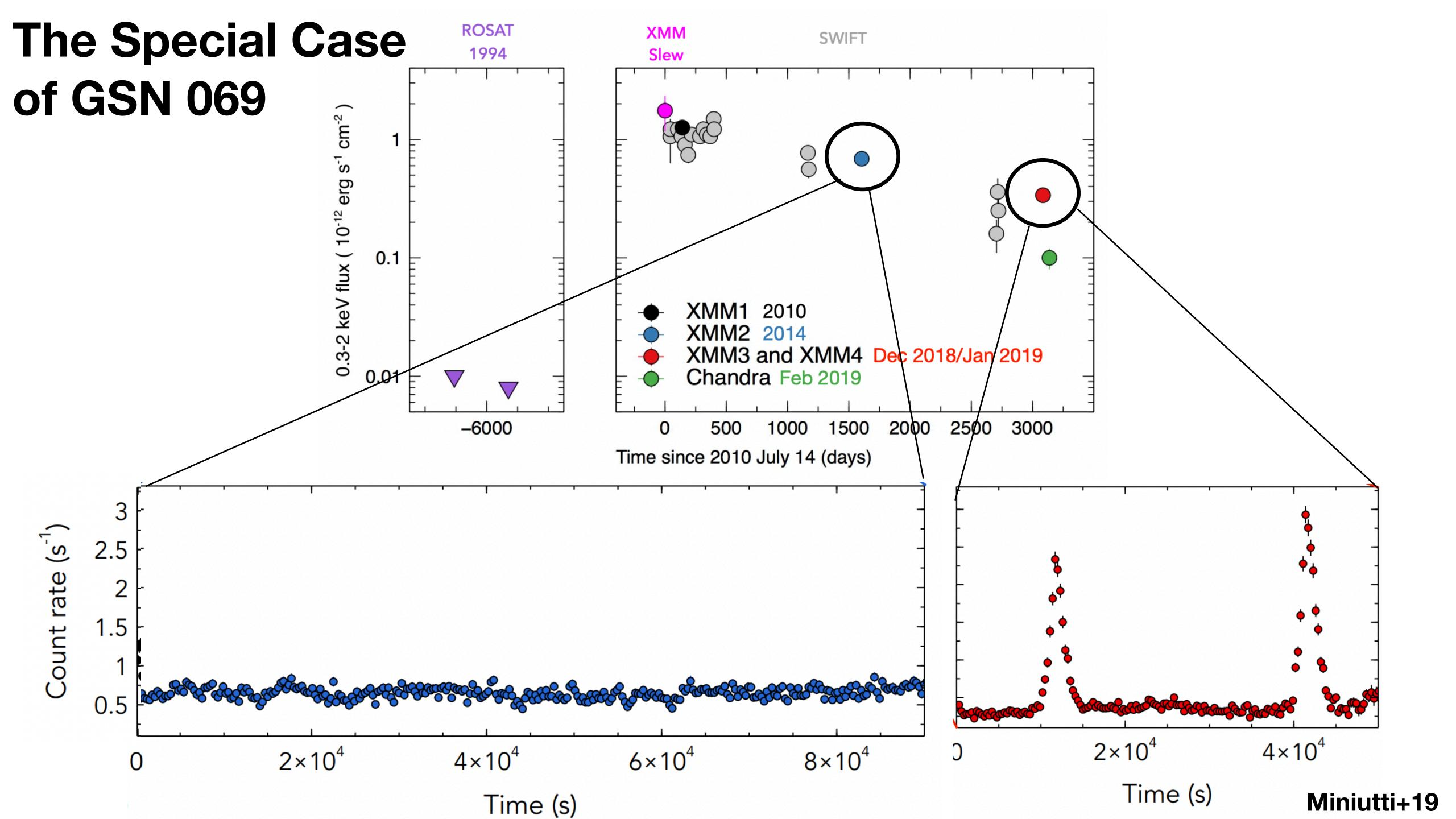
 $\frac{1}{2}10^{-3}$

59000

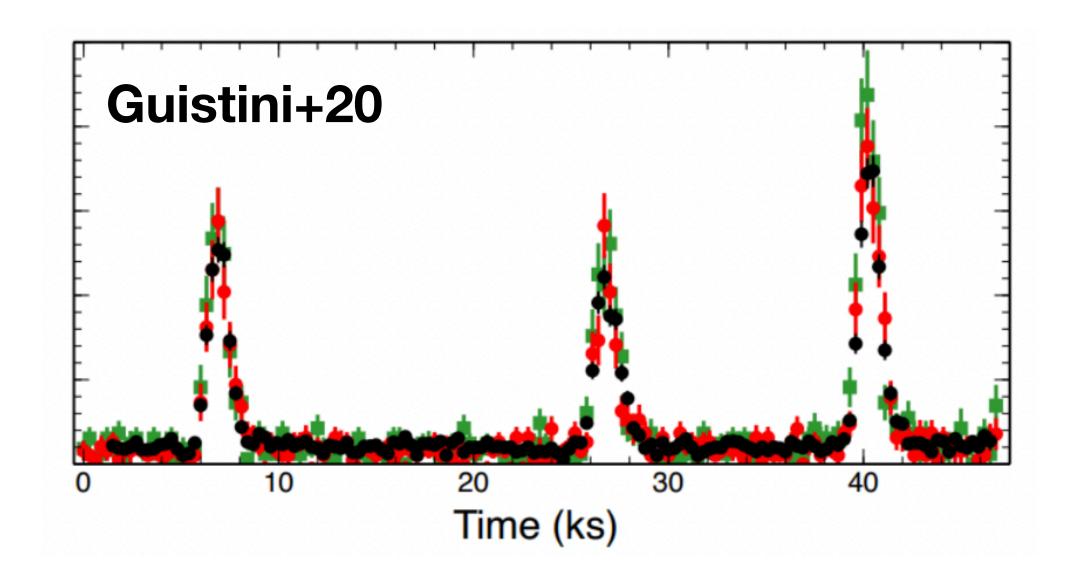
The nearest TDE to date at 42 Mpc

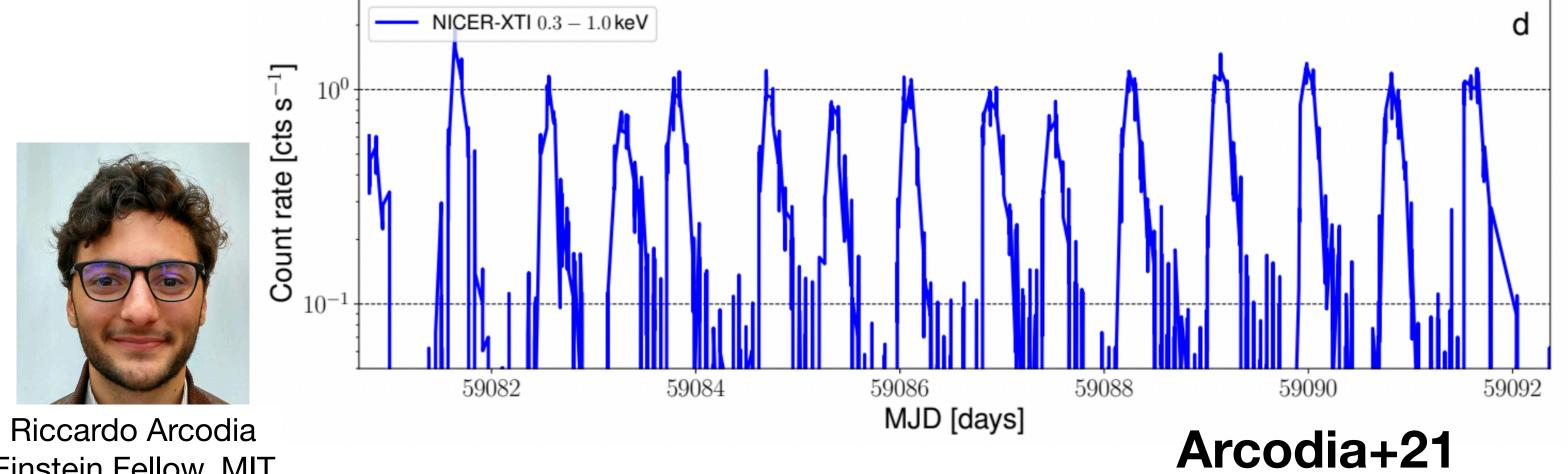






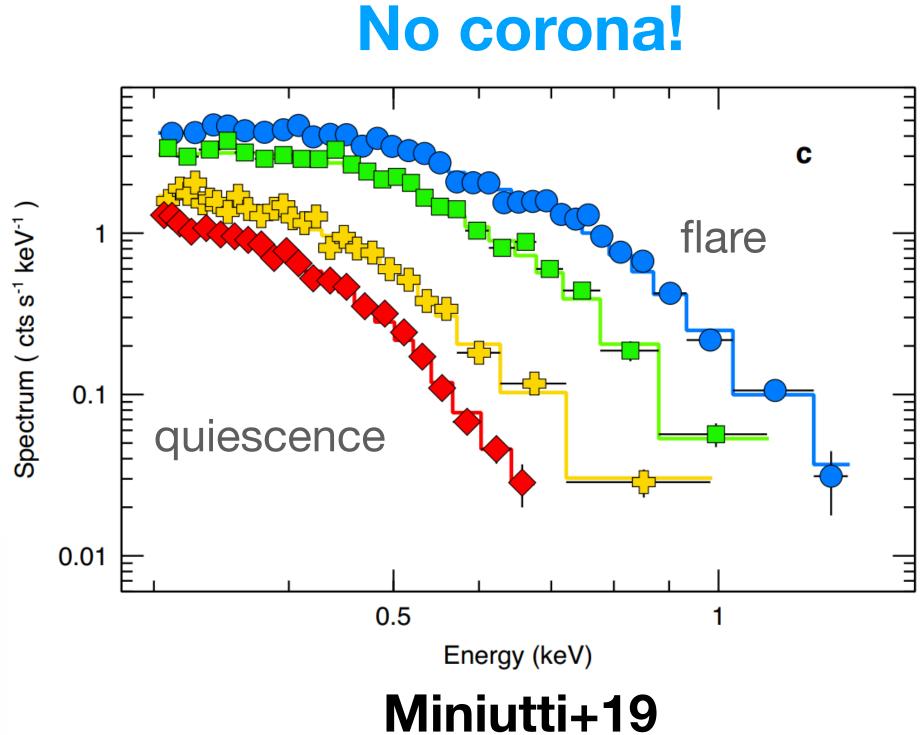
More QPEs in AGN!



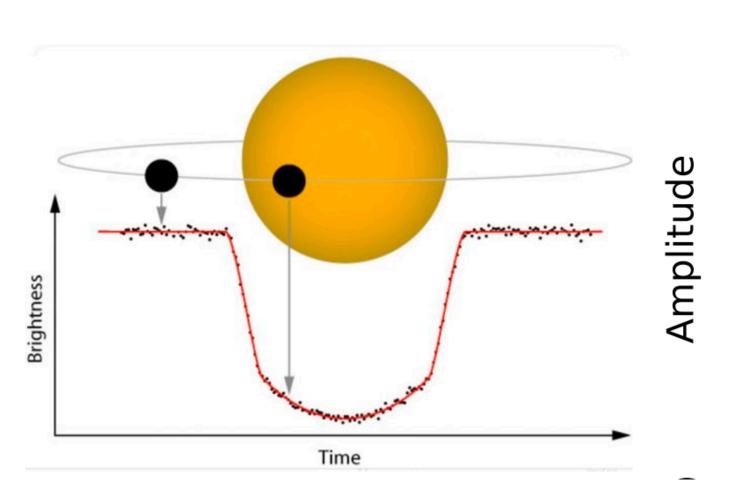


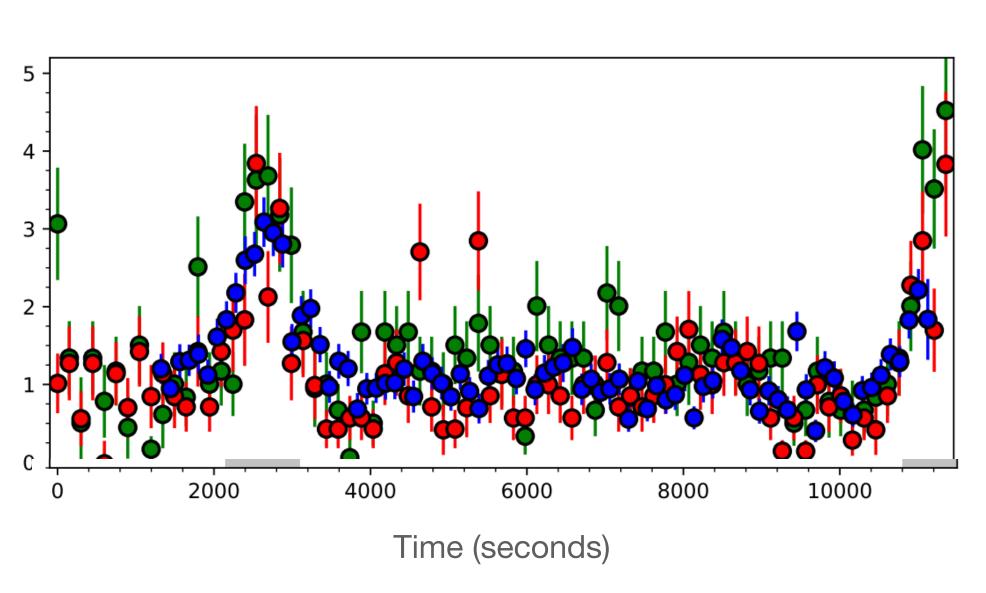
Einstein Fellow, MIT

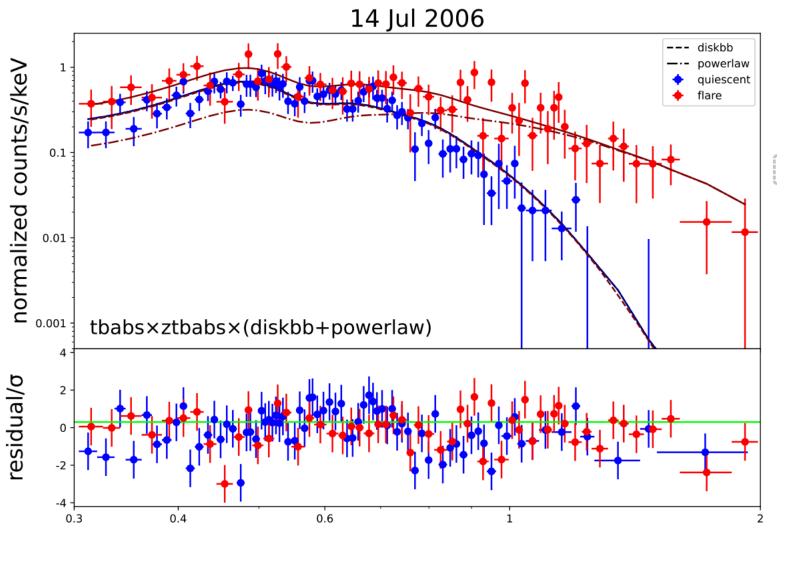
eRO-QPE1 - NICER light curve (19 Aug 2020)



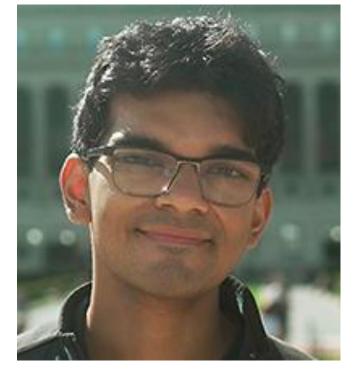
A blind search for QPEs in the archive





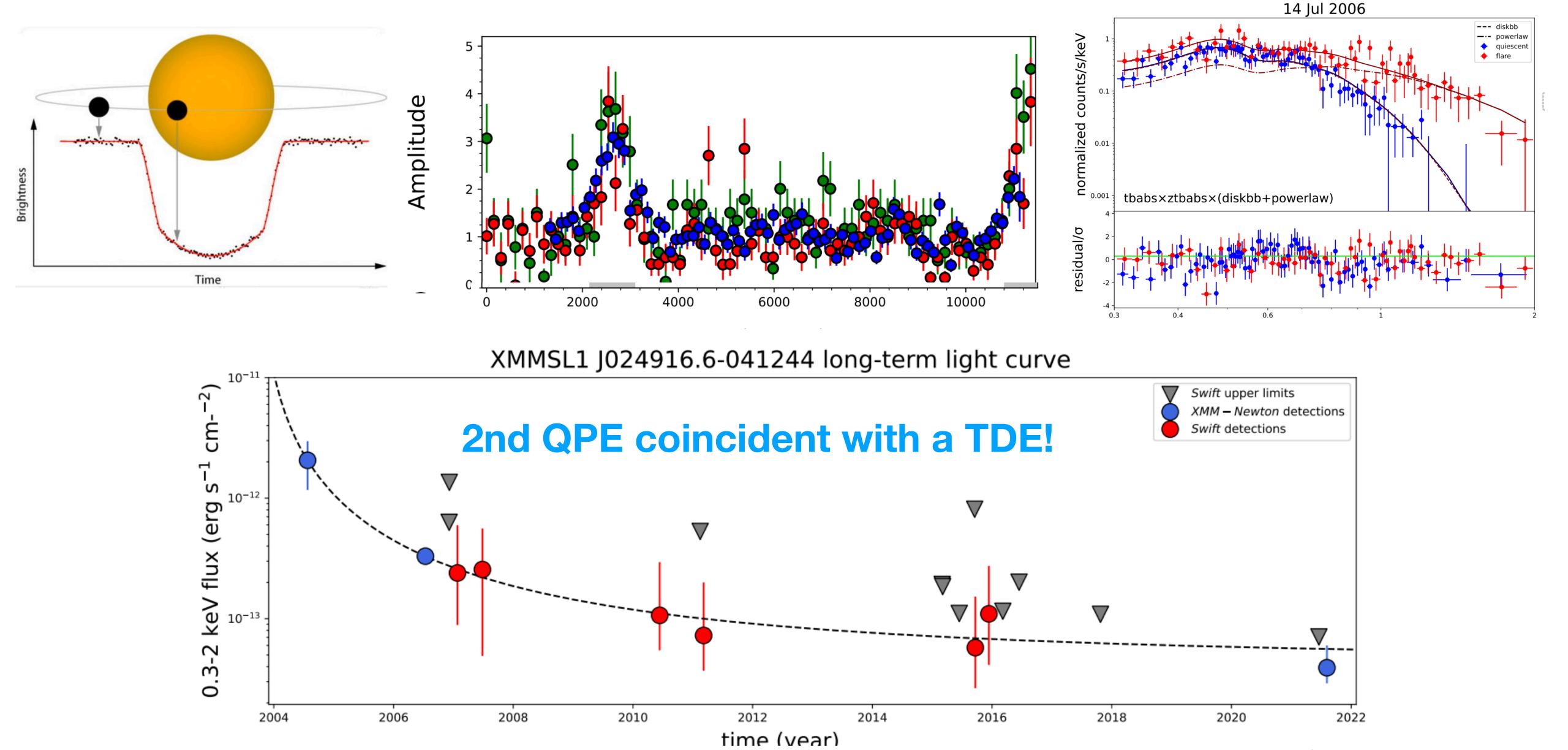


Energy (keV)

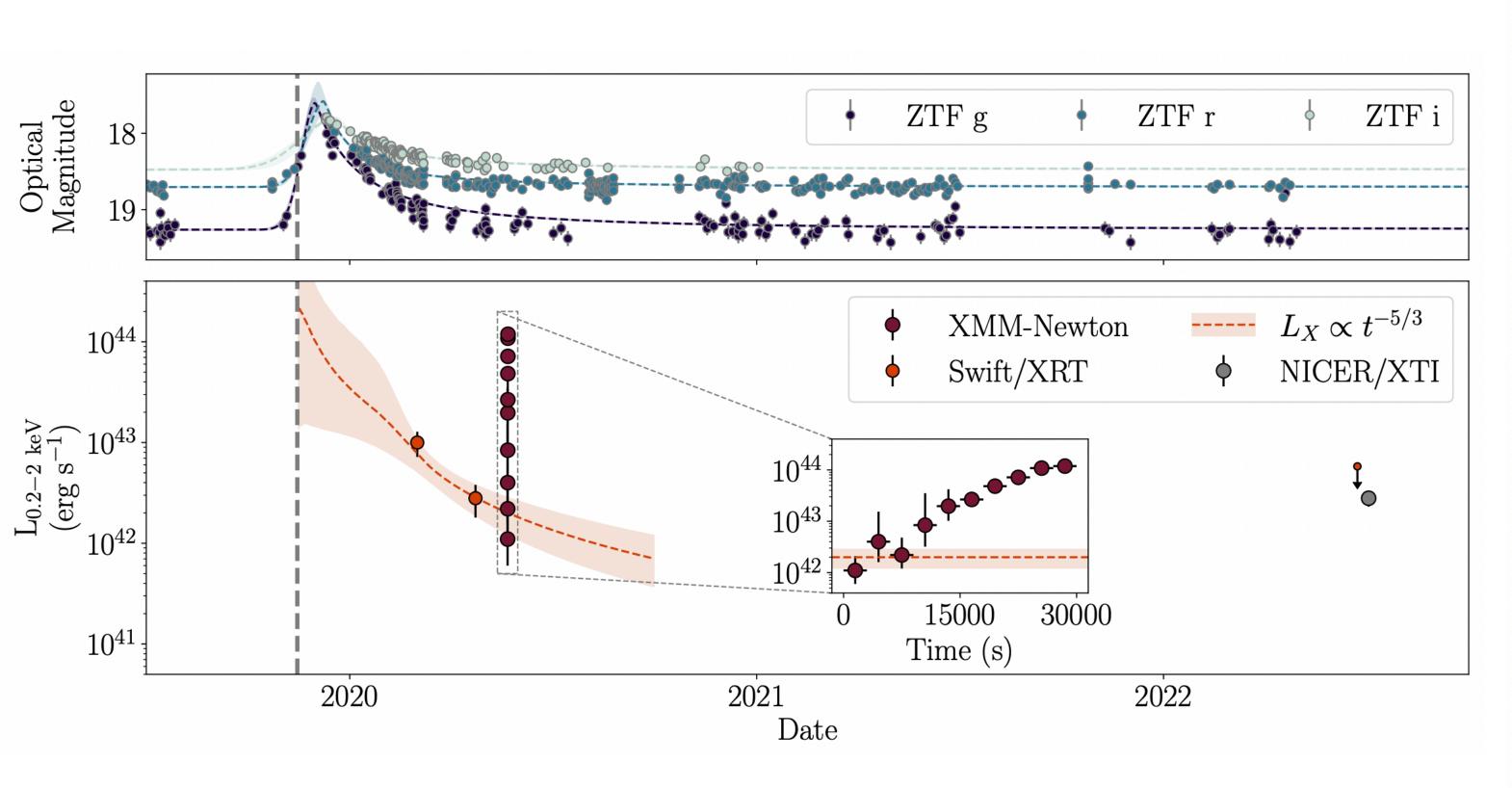


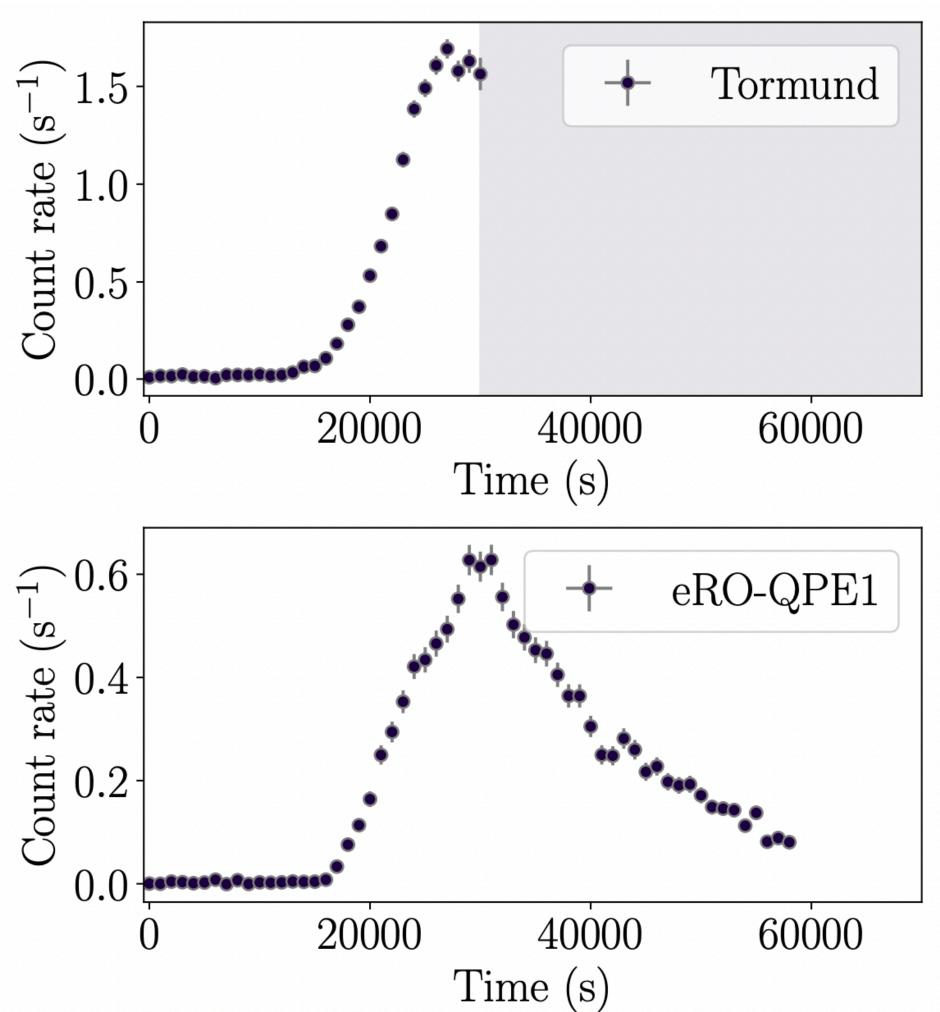
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A blind search for QPEs in the archive



QPE candidate in an optically-selected TDE



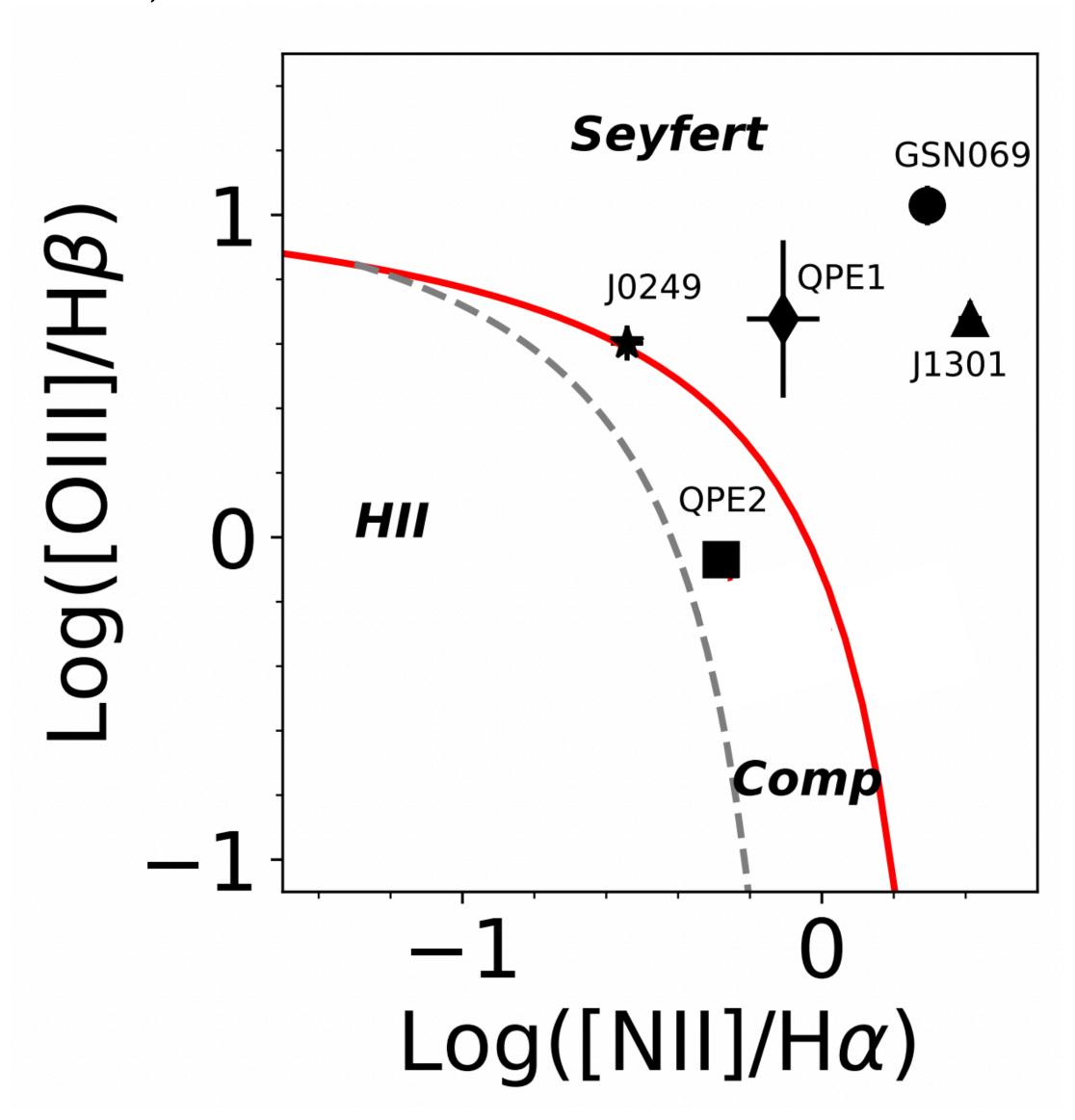


QPE Host Galaxies: similar to TDEs

Wevers et al., 2022

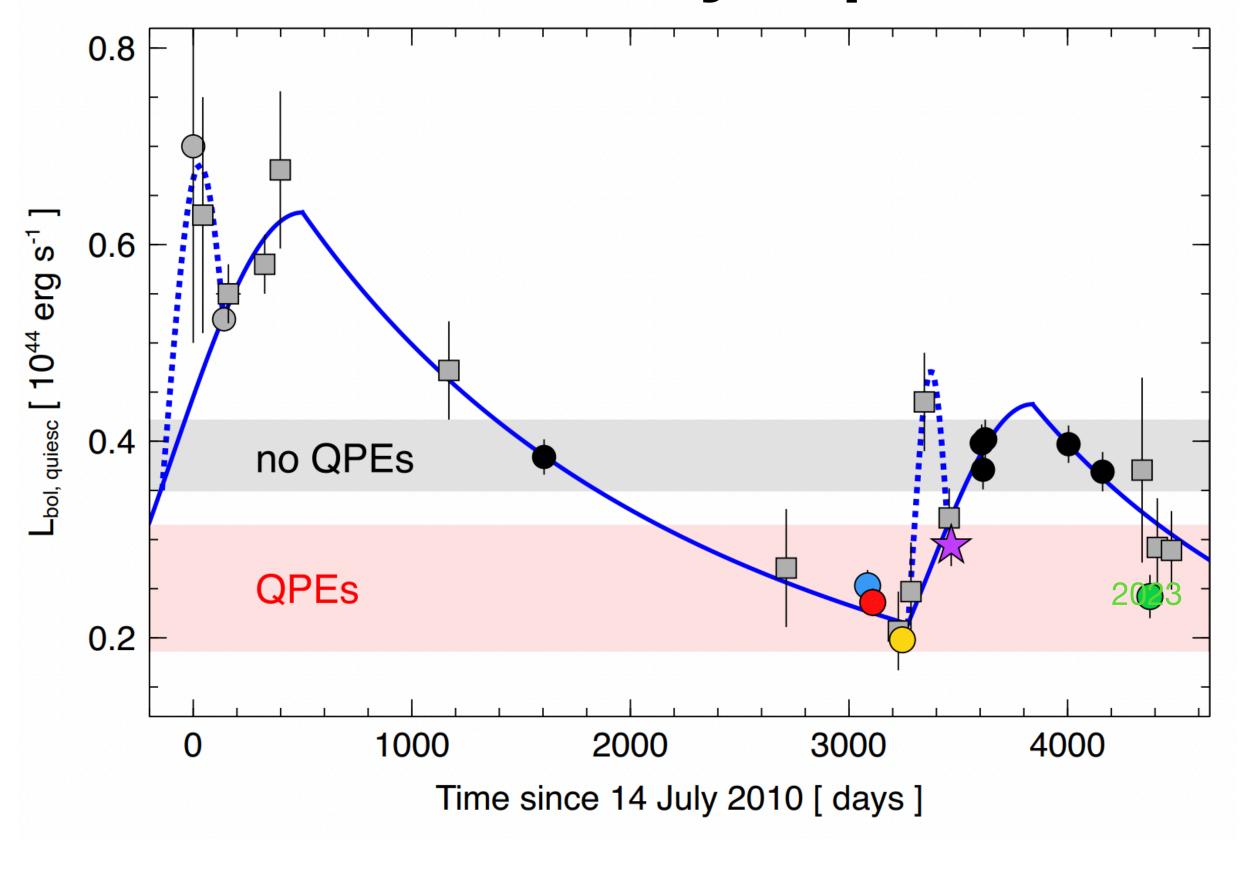
2/5 QPEs in E+A galaxies, too!
(But small number stats)

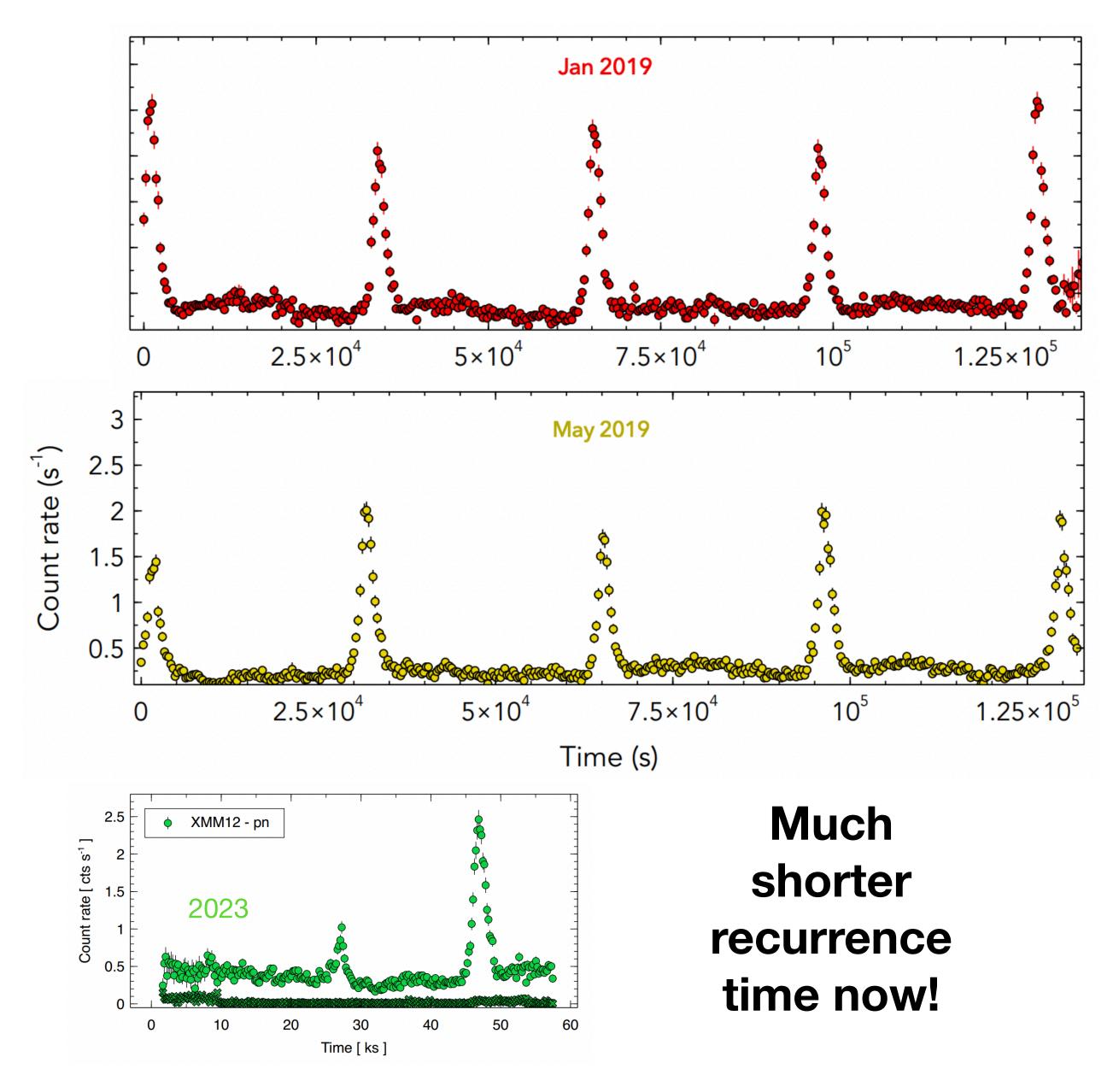
Unlike many TDEs:
AGN Narrow Emission Lines



Complexities

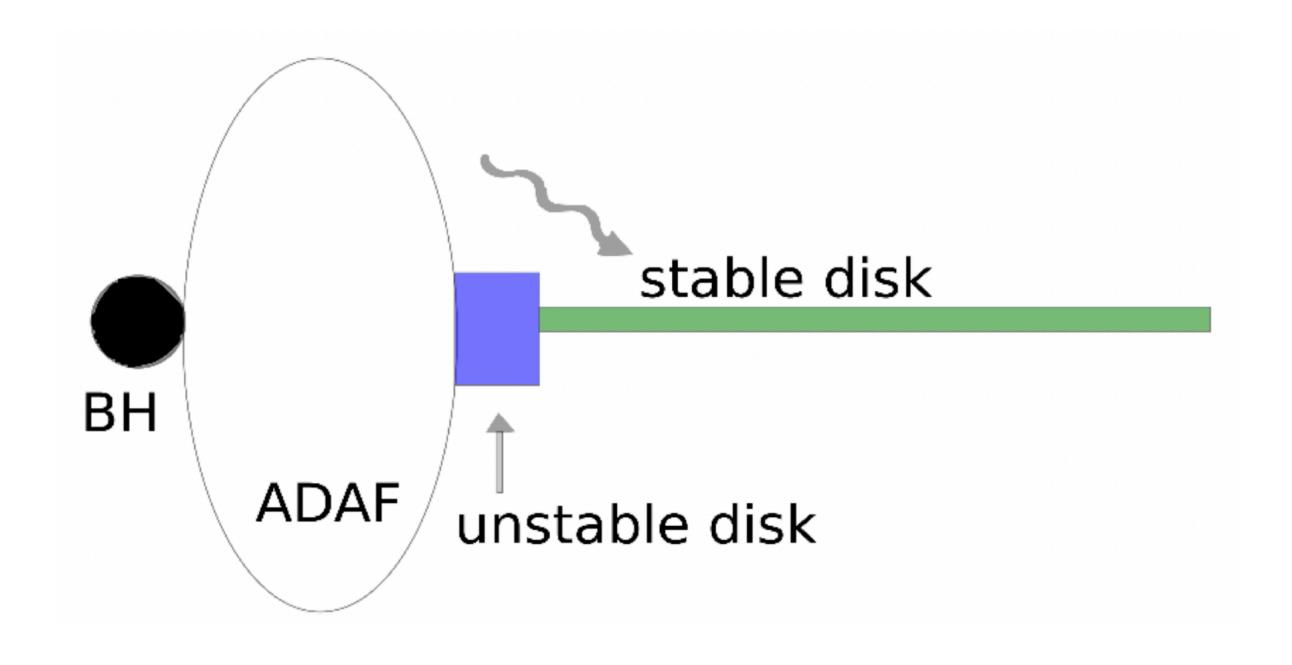
A Partial TDE and QPE luminosity dependence





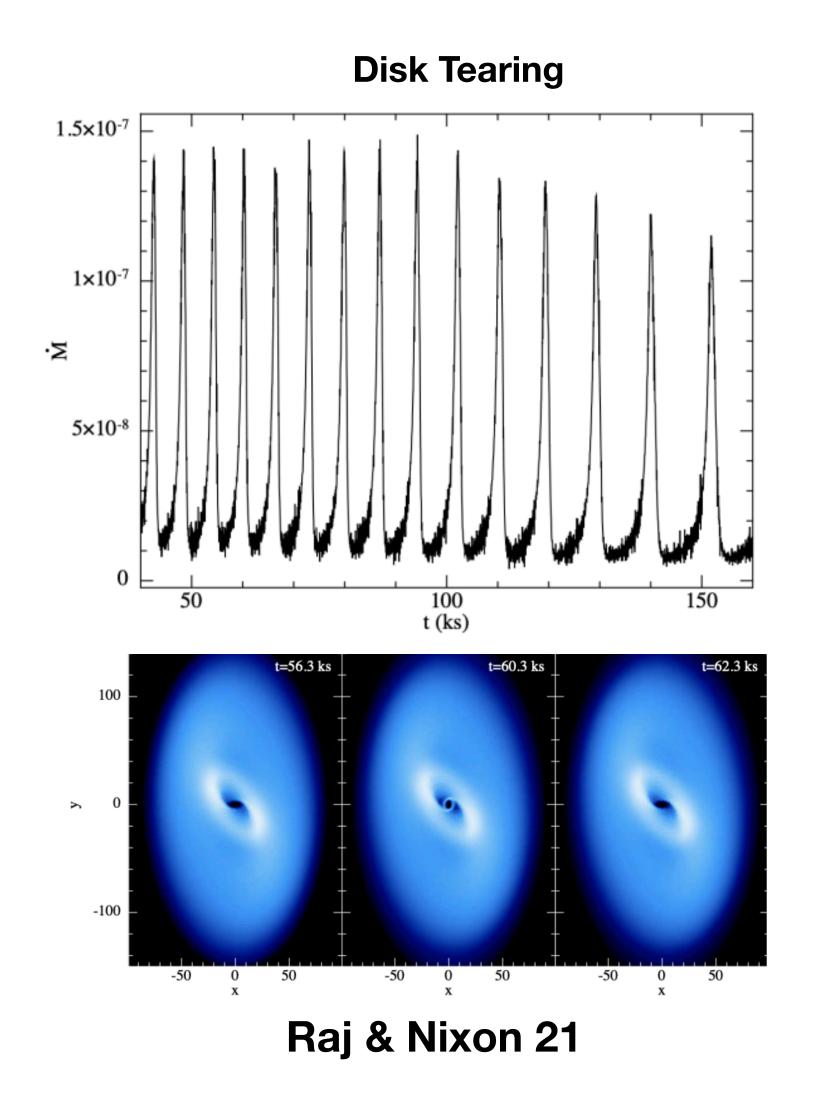
So what is it?

disk instability models



radiation-pressure dominated disk thermal-viscous instability

Sniegowska et al. 2020



Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. 402, 1614–1624 (2010)

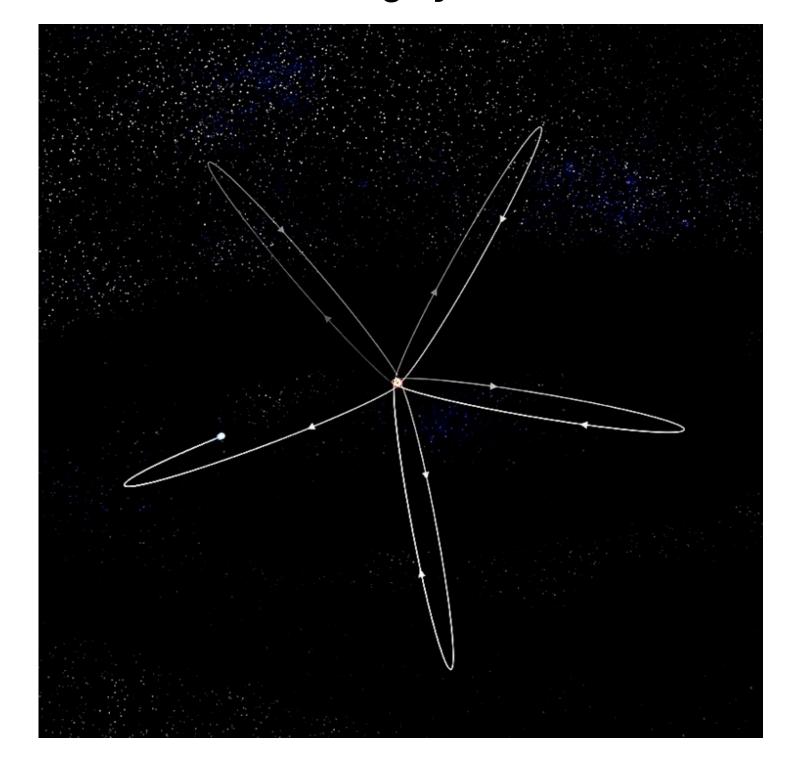
Orbital models

Quasi-periodic flares from star-accretion-disc collisions

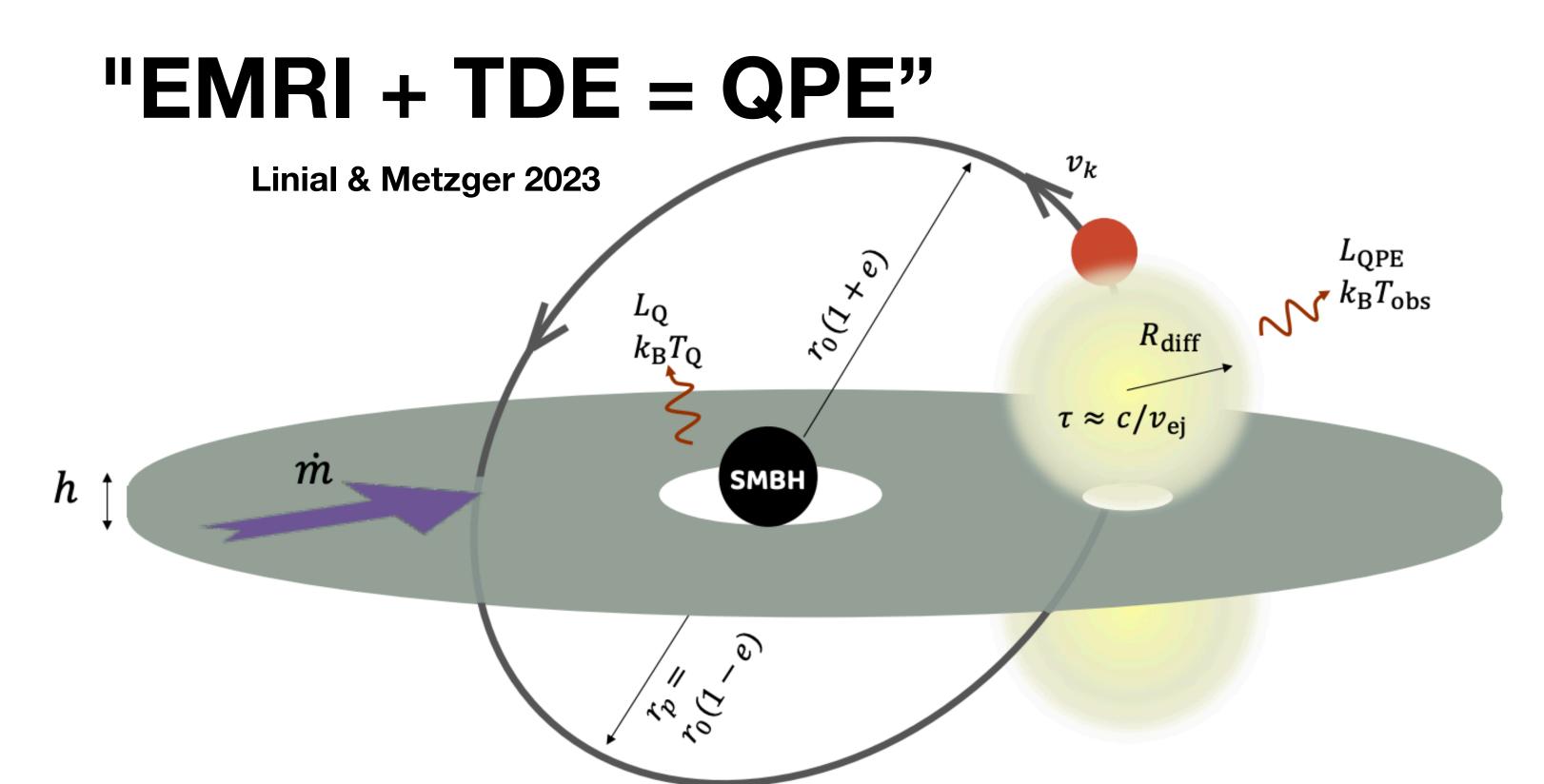
Lixin (Jane) Dai,* Steven V. Fuerst* and Roger Blandford*

Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology, Stanford University, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

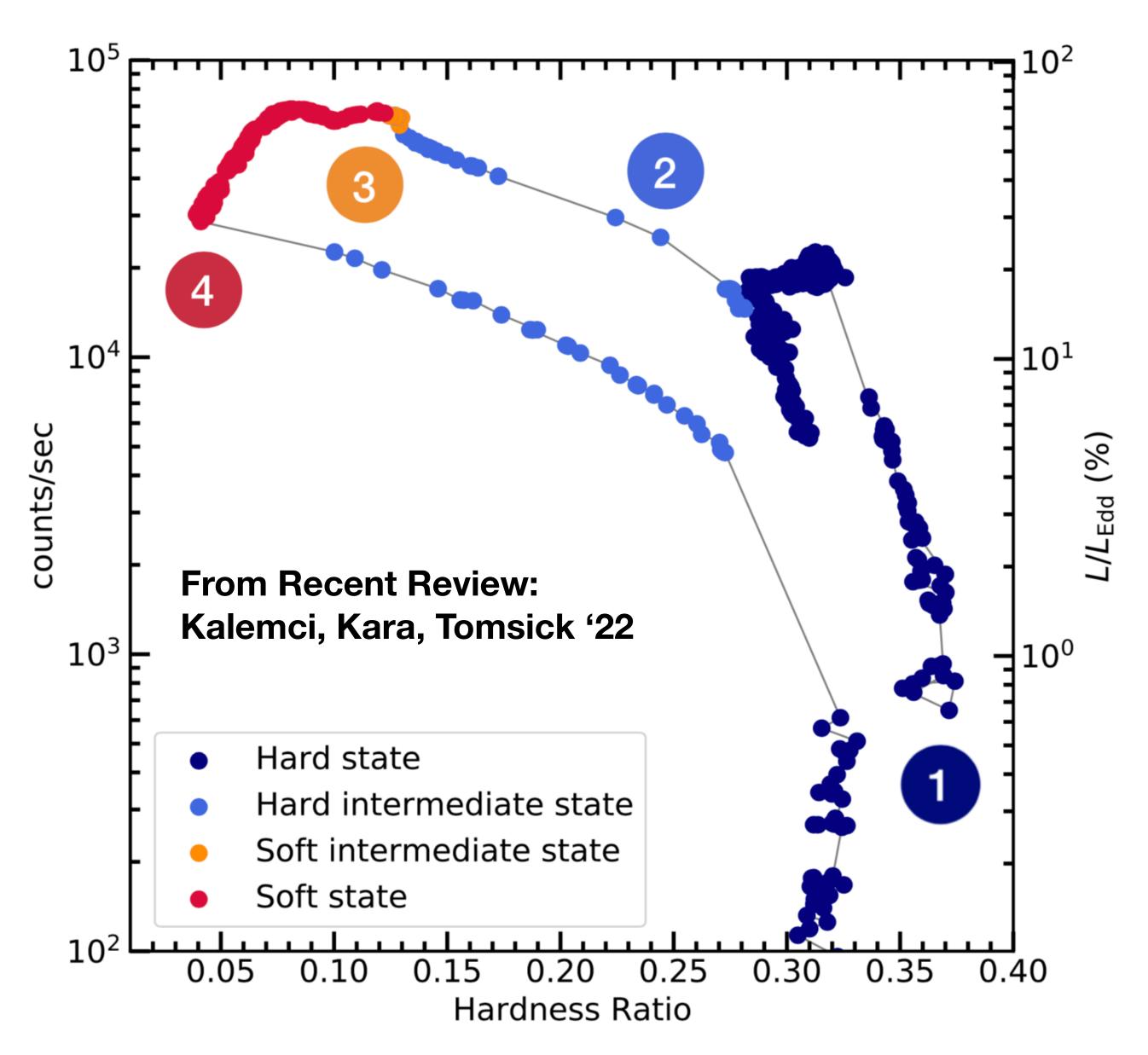
White Dwarf in highly eccentric orbit

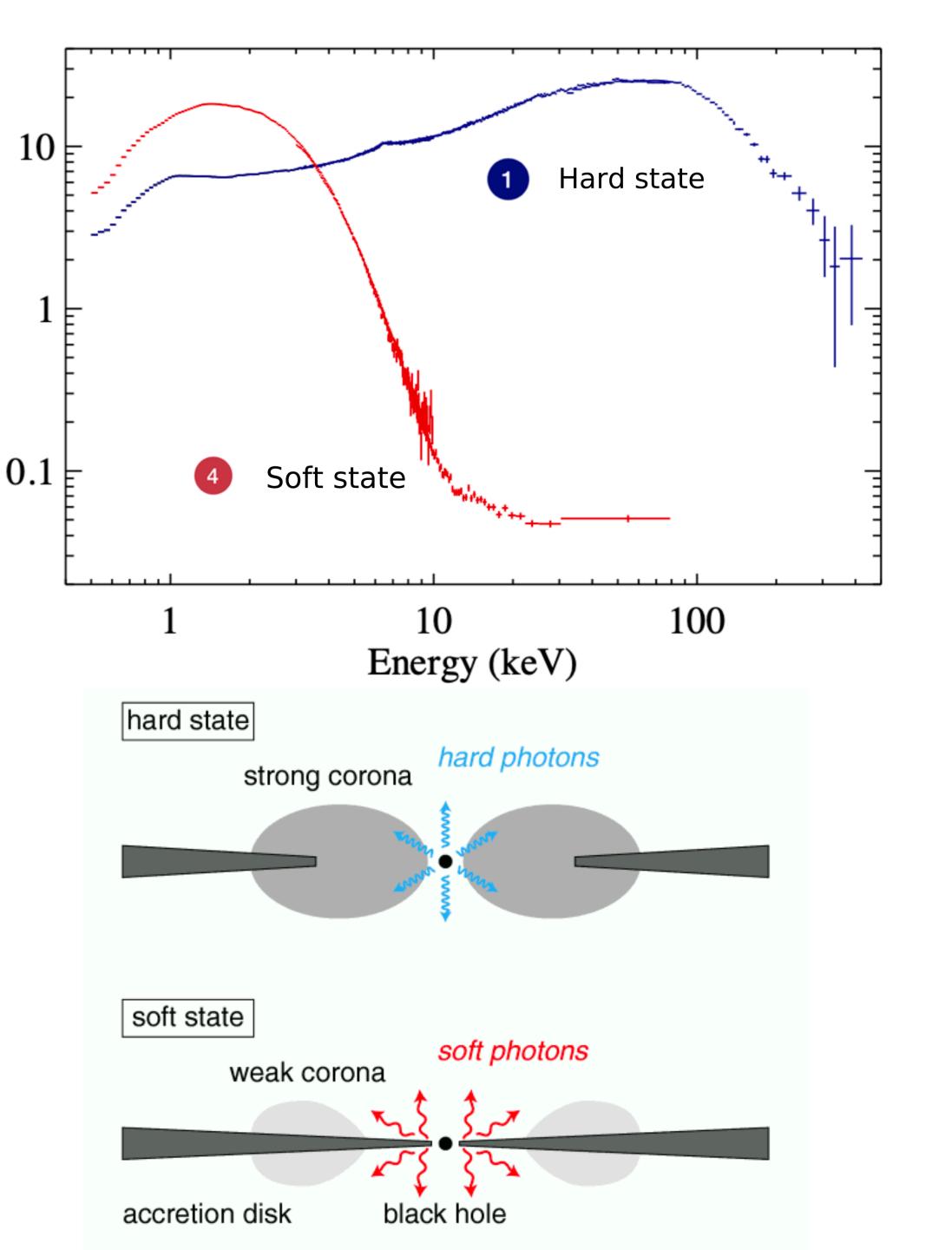


King 2020, 2023



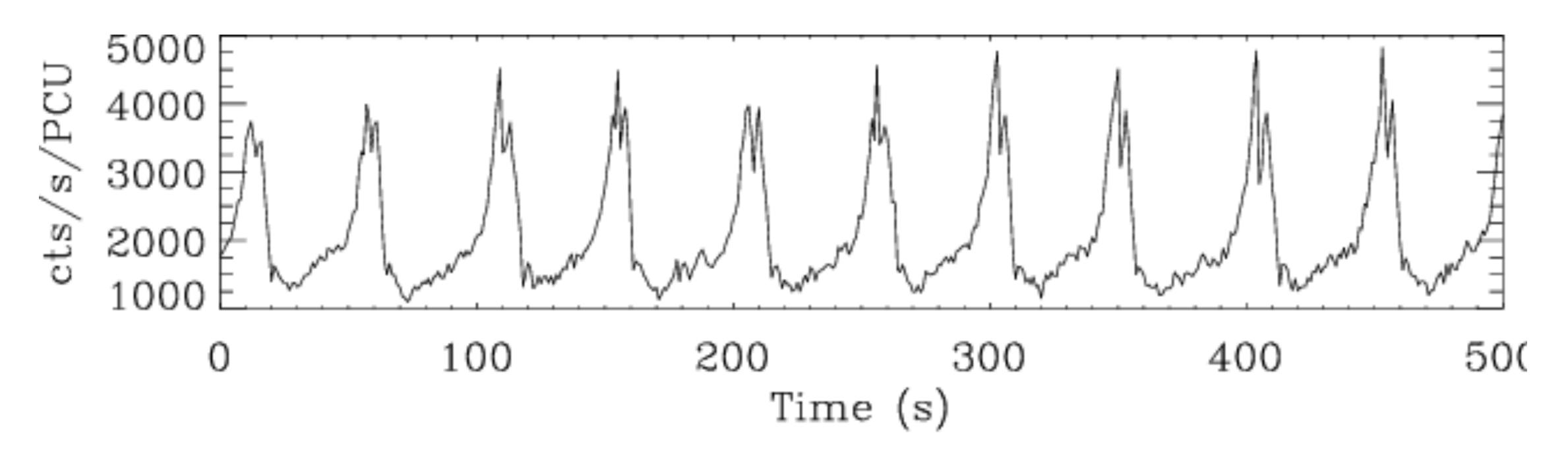
Black hole X-ray Binaries



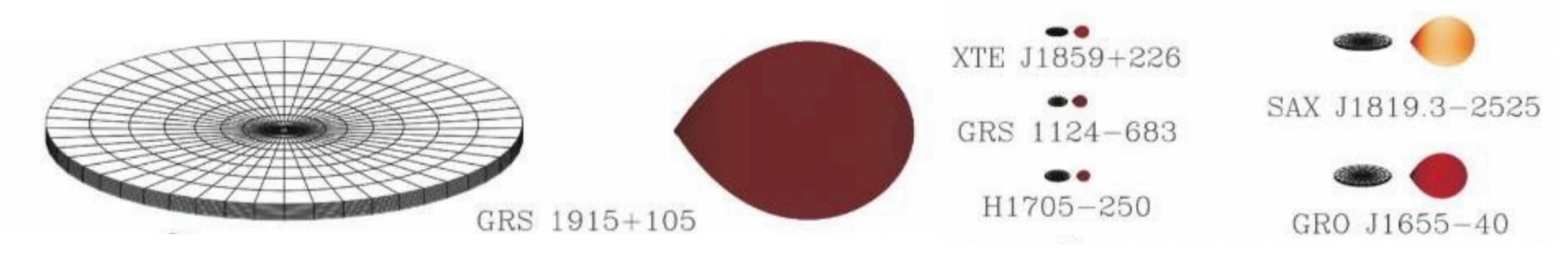


 $s^{-1} \text{ keV}^{-1}$

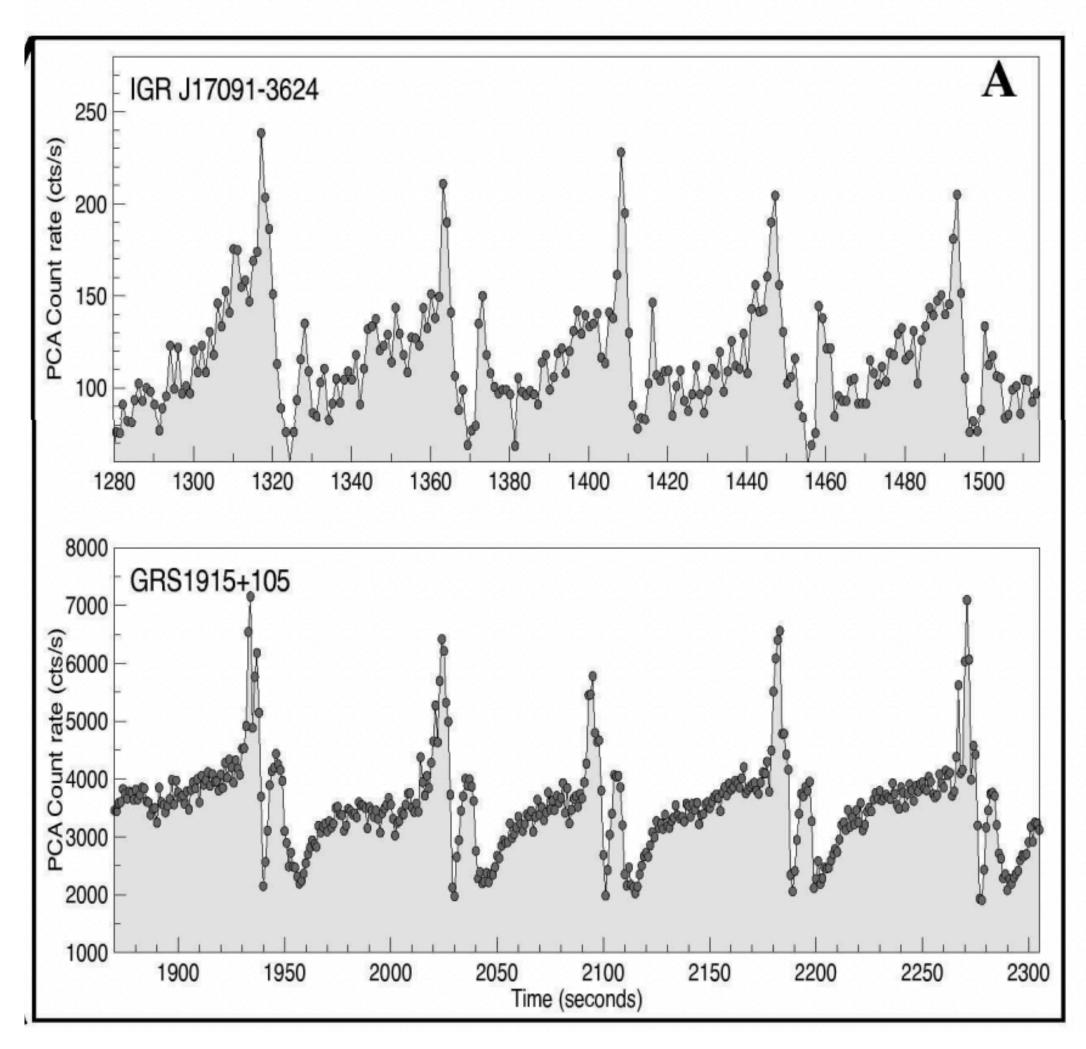
The Heartbeat Black Hole GRS 1915

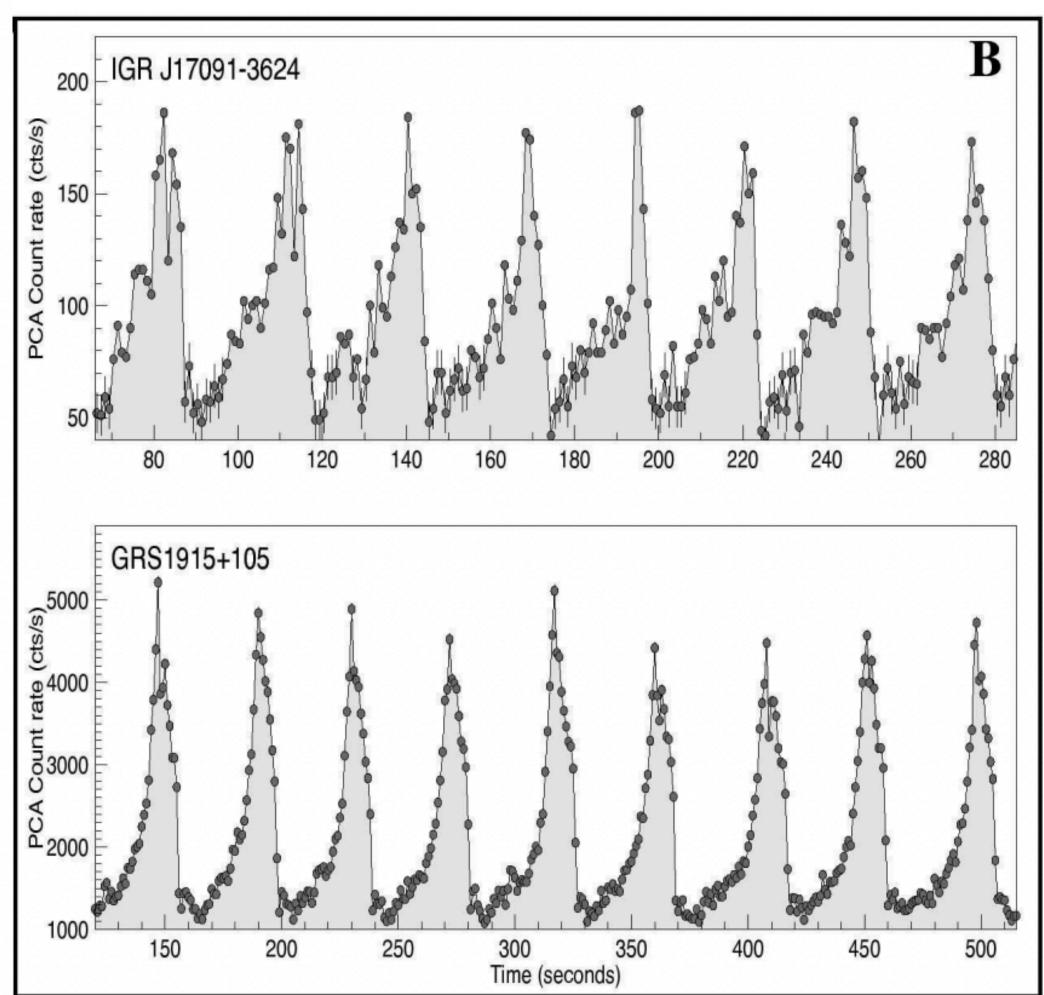


Super-Eddington BH in outburst for 20+ years



IGR J17091: The "little sister" of GRS 1915





Conclusion

As Roger says: Nature is more clever than we are.

TDE population is growing, and discoveries need to be multi-wavelength to unleash full potential

But still plenty of surprises, especially with QPEs.

Perhaps related to EMRIs, but don't yet forget about disk instabilities.

Much to learn from Galactic X-ray binaries.