

Polarimetry of GRB prompt emission with POLAR and POLAR-2

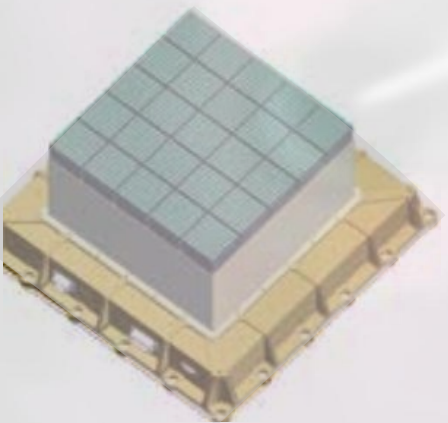
Hancheng Li (李汉成) on behalf of
POLAR & POLAR-2 collaborations

Later Time

Early Time

Very Early Time

14/12/2023, Texas in Shanghai

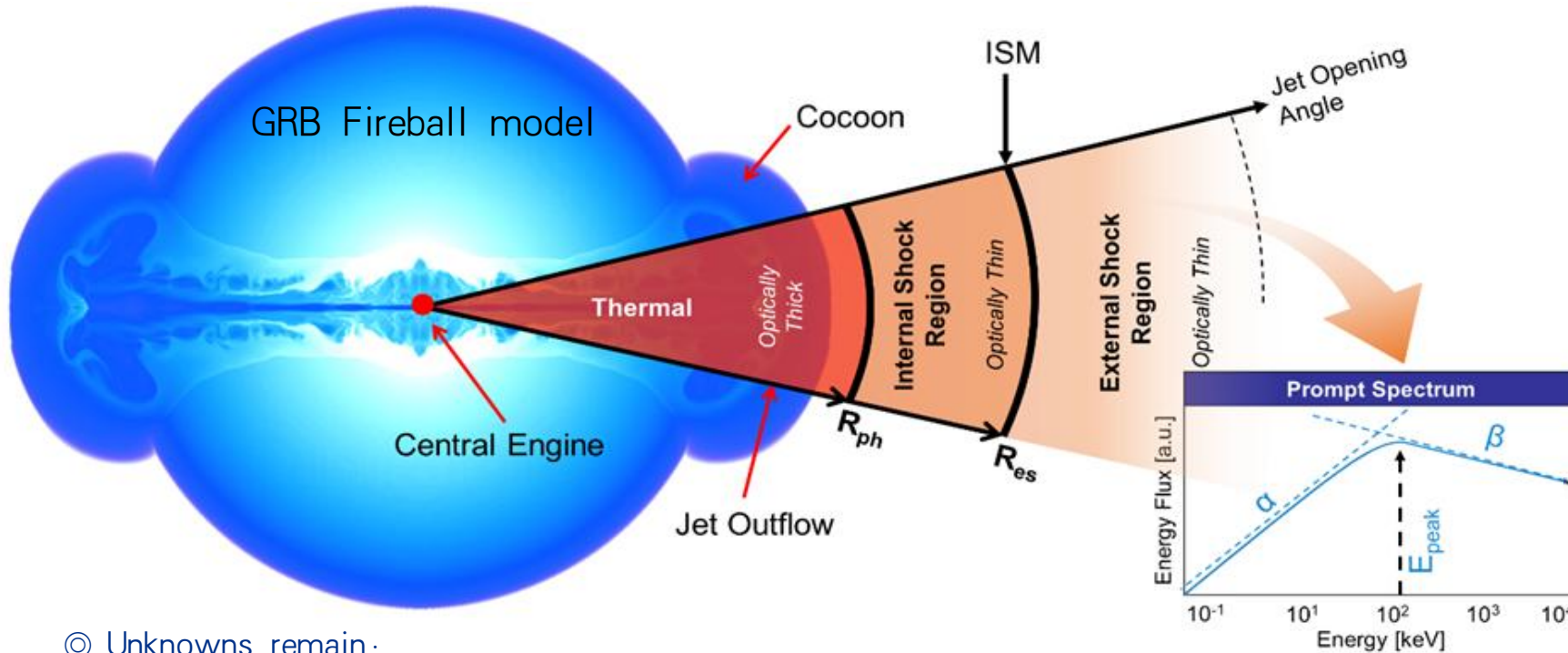


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1. Why polarimetry for GRB
2. High-energy polarimetry
3. GRB polarimetry with POLAR
4. GRB polarimetry with POLAR-2
5. Summary and outlook



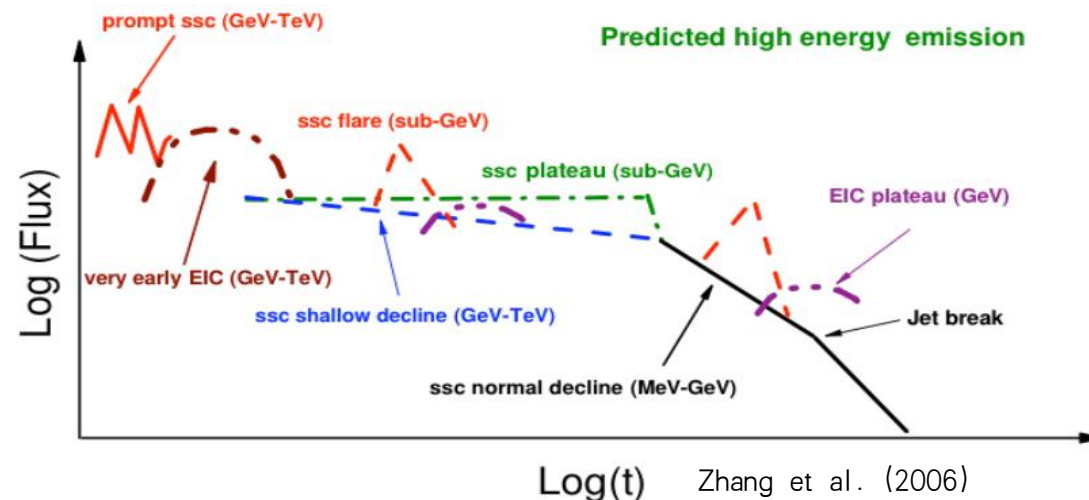
1. Why polarimetry for GRB



© Unknowns remain:

- composition of source: e^\pm ? $e-p$?
- emission mechanism: dominant process v.s. time
- geometry of source:
jet structure ? magnetic field ?
-

© Polarization → a new probe



© Prompt

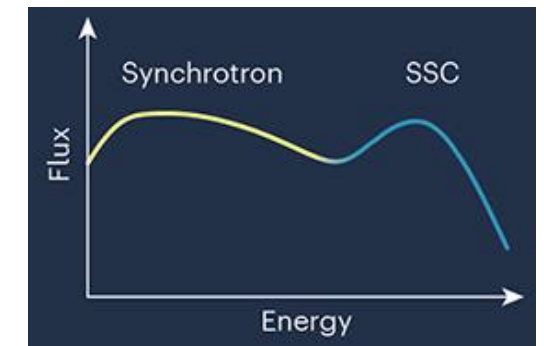
- empirical Band function ([Band et al. 1993](#))

$F(E)$

$$= A \begin{cases} \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ keV}} \right)^\alpha e^{-\frac{E}{E_0}}, & E \leq (\alpha - \beta)E_0, \\ \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ keV}} \right)^\beta e^{(\beta - \alpha) \left(\frac{(\alpha - \beta)E_0}{100 \text{ keV}} \right)^{\alpha - \beta}}, & E > (\alpha - \beta)E_0, \end{cases}$$

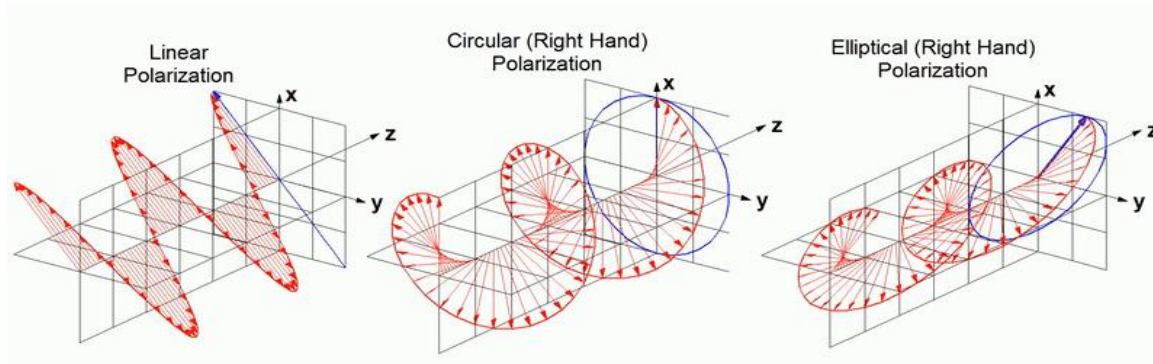
© Multi-wavelength SED:

- synchrotron (mainly electron);
- inverse-Compton: SSC (synchrotron self-Compton) and/or EIC (external inverse-Compton)



[Nature 575, 448–449 \(2019\)](#)

2. High-energy polarimetry: what and how

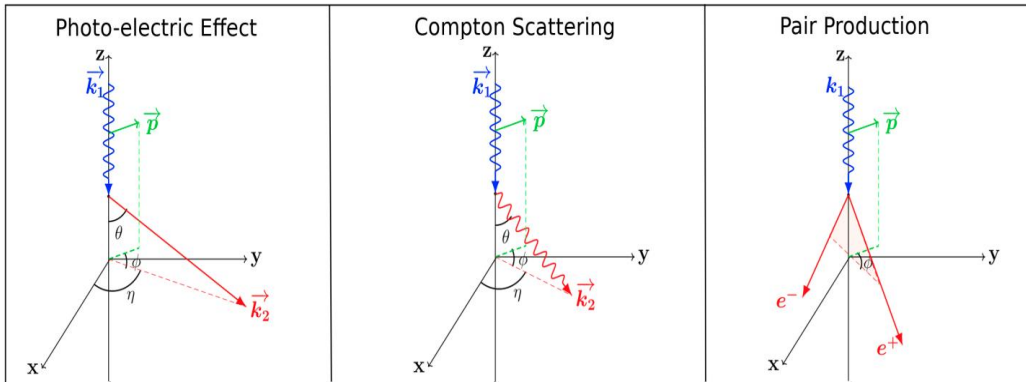


$$E_x = E_{0x} \cos(\omega t - kz + \varphi_x)$$

$$E_y = E_{0y} \cos(\omega t - kz + \varphi_y)$$

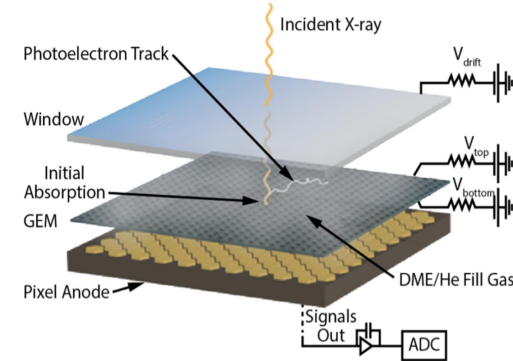
$$\left(\frac{E_x}{E_{0x}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{E_y}{E_{0y}}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{E_x}{E_{0x}}\right)\left(\frac{E_y}{E_{0y}}\right)\cos\varphi = \sin^2\varphi$$

© Linear polarization (when $\varphi = n\pi$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}_0^+$)

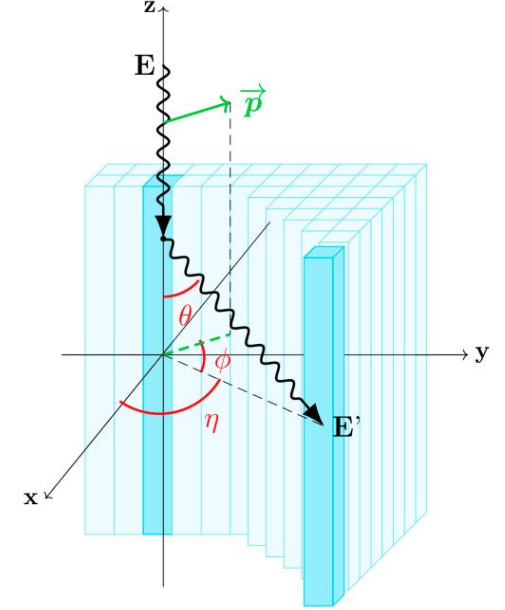


$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto \cos^2\phi \quad \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_0^2}{2} \frac{E'^2}{E^2} \left(\frac{E'}{E} + \frac{E}{E'} - 2\sin^2\theta \cos^2\phi \right) \quad d\sigma/d\Omega \propto 1 + A(\cos 2\phi)$$

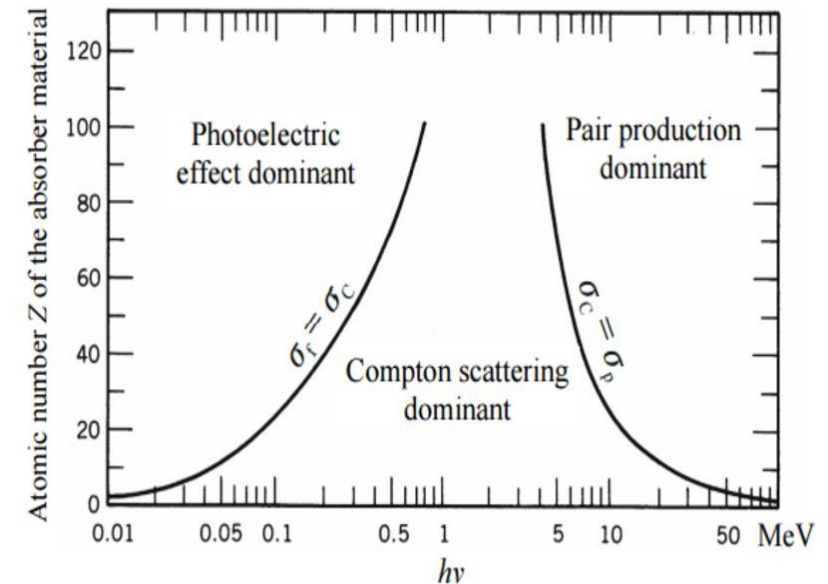
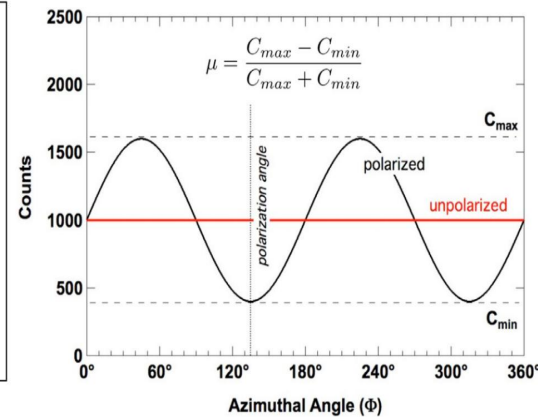
[10.3390/galaxies9040082](https://doi.org/10.3390/galaxies9040082)



X-ray (2–10 keV)
Photo-electric in a gas chamber
@ IXPE collab.



Gamma-ray (50–500 keV)
Compton scattering in plastics
@ POLAR collab



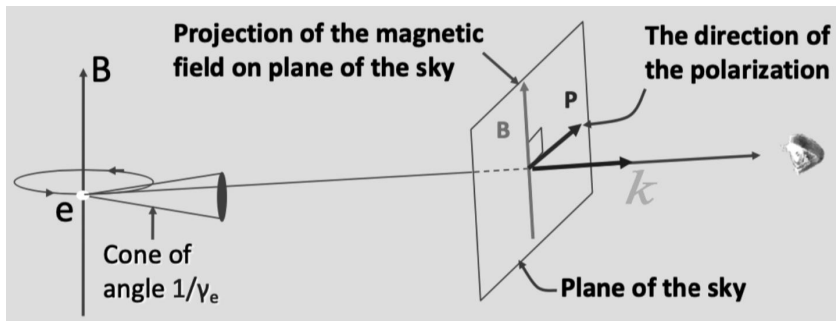
Glenn F. Knoll 2015



2. High-energy polarimetry: link to physical process

© Synchrotron polarization

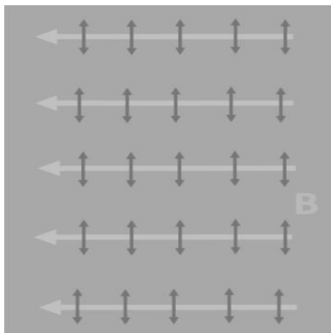
- resulted \mathbf{e} is $\perp \mathbf{B}$ projected on sky for a distant observer



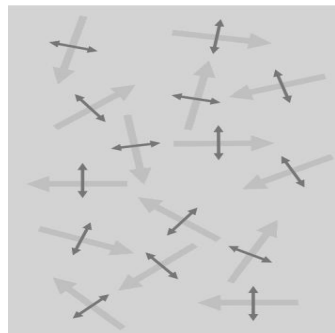
- [Rybicki & Lightman 1979](#):

- a power-law spectrum of electrons $N_e(\gamma) \propto \gamma^{-p}$
- produce a power-law EM spectrum $F_\nu \propto \nu^{-\alpha}$ $\alpha = (p - 1)/2$
- maximal polarization (ordered B) $\Pi_{\text{powerlaw}} = \frac{p + 1}{p + 7/3} = \frac{\alpha + 1}{\alpha + 5/3}$

$p : 1.5 \sim 5.0 \rightarrow \Pi : 65\% \sim 80\%$



Ordered B

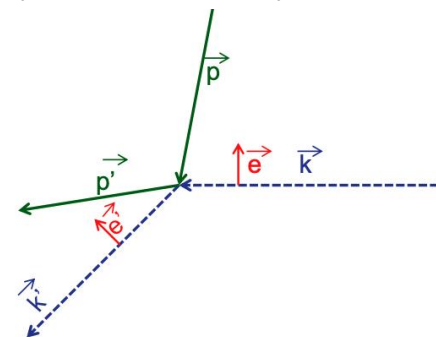


Tangled B

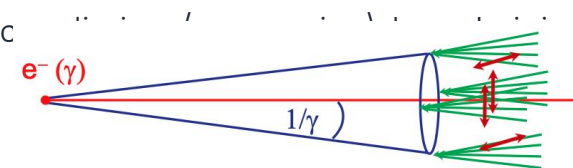
Probed by IXPE obs on Vela PWN, Xie et al., 2023

© Compton polarization

- $\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_0^2}{4} \left(\frac{\epsilon'}{\epsilon} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon'} + \frac{\epsilon'}{\epsilon} - 2 + 4 [\vec{e} \cdot \vec{e}']^2 \right)$
- in a Thomson regime: $\epsilon' \approx \epsilon \Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = 0$ (at $\vec{e} \cdot \vec{e}' = 0$)
- resulted \mathbf{e}' is preferred in the plane that \perp original \mathbf{e}



- an anisotropic radiation by non-relativistic electrons:
 - will introduce a polarization that is \perp the bulk original \mathbf{e}
- axisymmetric ... c electrons:

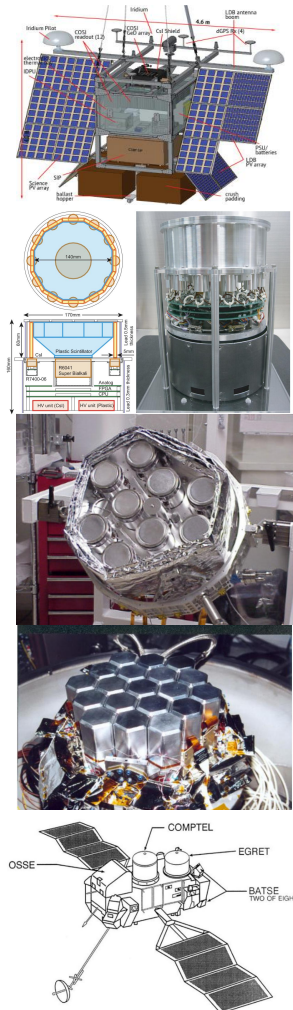


- unpolarized external seeds (EC) \rightarrow unpolarized output
- polarized seeds (SSC) \rightarrow reduced polarization
- $\sim 1/2$ of the target (synchrotron) photon polarization



2. High-energy polarimetry: early measurements on GRBs

- Early measurements performed by **non-dedicated** instruments;
- A wide range of PD distribution, covering **0–100 %** ;
- All suffer from **large systematics** and/or **poor statistics**. (M. McConnell et al., 2017)



GRB	Instrument/SAT	PD(%)	E-range(keV)	Remarks
160530A	COSI	< 46%	200-5000	Low statistics
110721A	GAP/IKAROS	84^{+16}_{-28}	70-300	Constant Pol. Angle
110301A	GAP/IKAROS	70 ± 22	70-300	Constant Pol. Angle
100826A	GAP/IKAROS	27 ± 11	70-300	Multi-peaks, PA changes by $\sim 90^\circ$
021206	RHESSI	80 ± 20 ; 41^{+57}_{-44}	150-2000	Large systematic uncertainty
140206A	IBIS/INTEGRAL	>28	200-400	Large systematic uncertainty
061122	IBIS/INTEGRAL	>33;	250-800;	
041219A	IBIS/INTEGRAL	<4;	200-800;	
	IBIS/INTEGRAL	43 ± 25 ;	200-800;	
	SPI/INTEGRAL	98 ± 33	100-350	
960924	BATSE/CGRO	>50	20-1000	Large systematic uncertainty
930131	BATSE/CGRO	>35	20-1000	

3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: the mission

© Collaboration

- China/IHEP, Swiss/UniGE&PSI, Poland/NCBJ

© Development period (~10 years)

- 2005–2010, concept and prototype
- 2011–2013, qualification model
- 2013–2016, flight mode

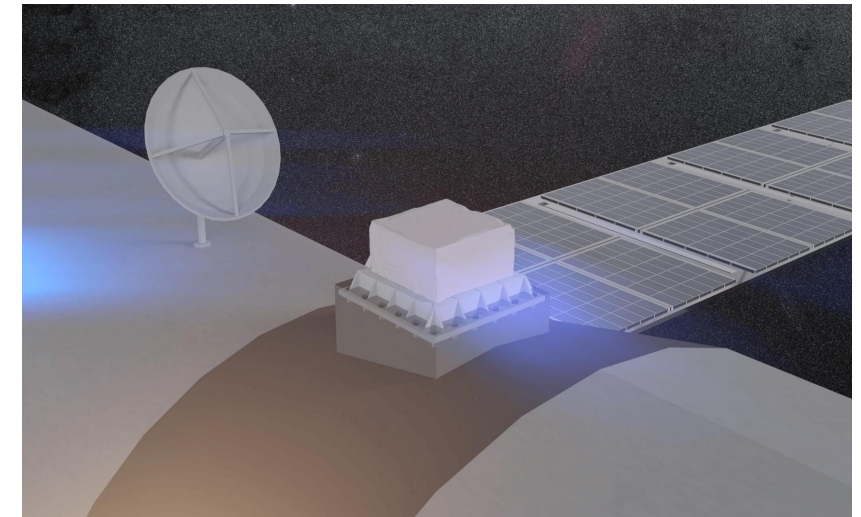
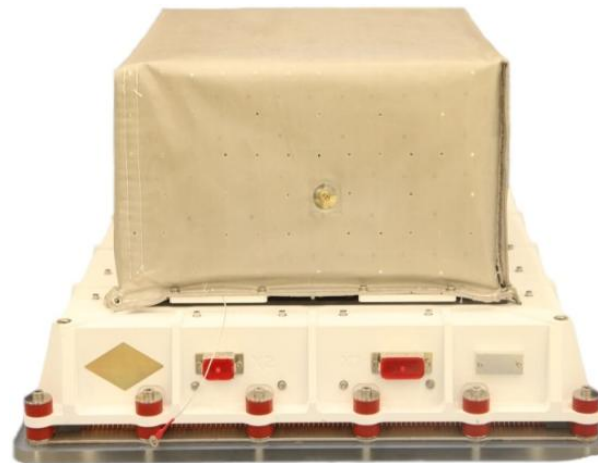
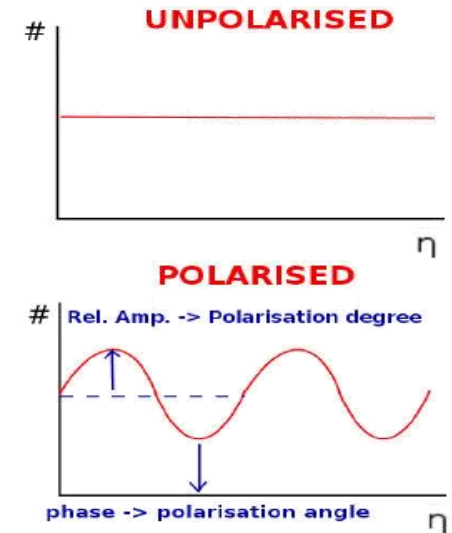
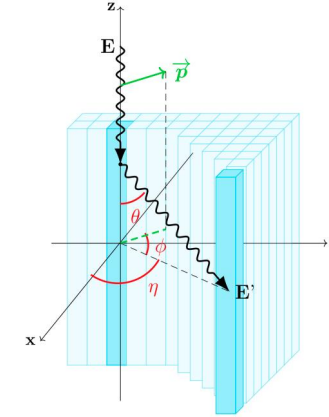
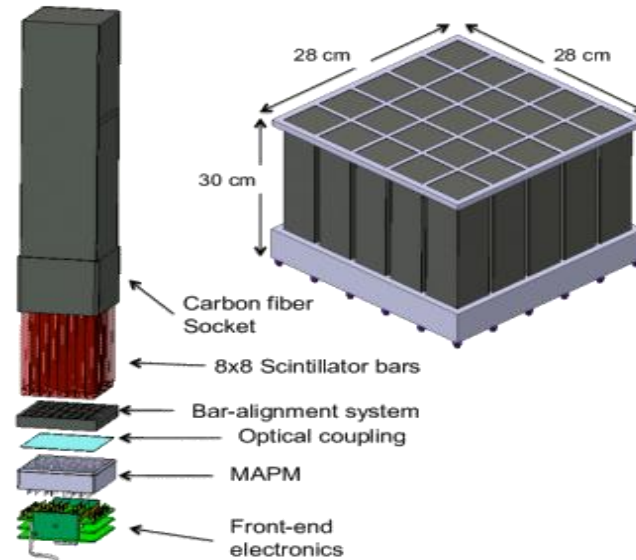
© Detector characteristics

- Plastic scintillator array (8*8 x 5*5)
- MA–PMT; E band 50–500 keV
- Eff. area $\sim 300 \text{ cm}^2$, FoV $\sim 2\pi \text{ sr}$

© Launch and operation

- Tiangong-2 space lab
- Launched on 15/09/2016
- Scanning sky with the lab's orbit
- 6 months of observation (HV failure)

$$\frac{d\sigma_C}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_e^2}{2} \varepsilon^2 \left\{ \varepsilon + \varepsilon^{-1} - \sin^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta \cos \left[2 \left(\eta + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right] \right\}$$





3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: on-ground/in-orbit calibrations

Calibration means validation!

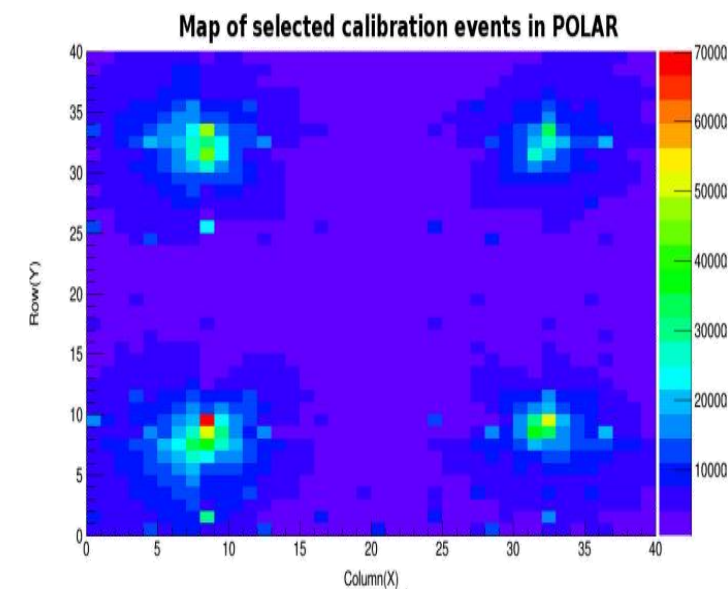
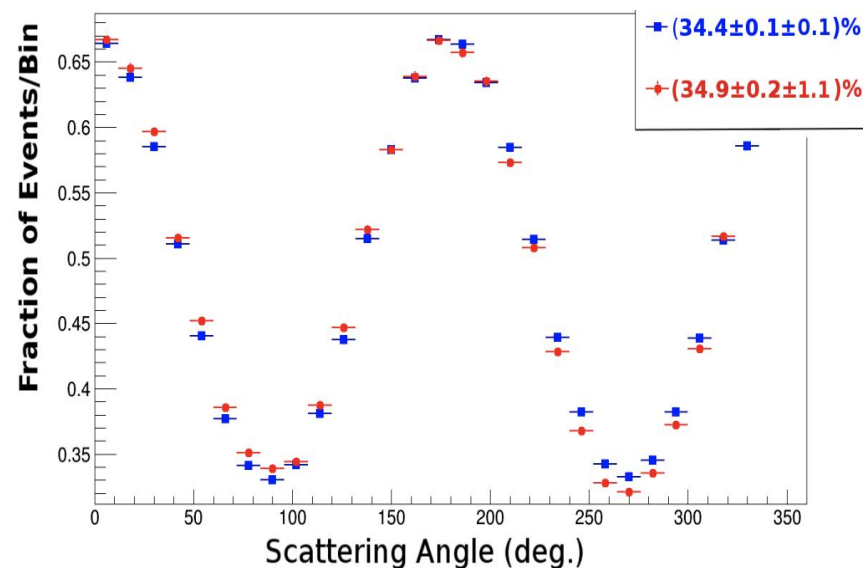
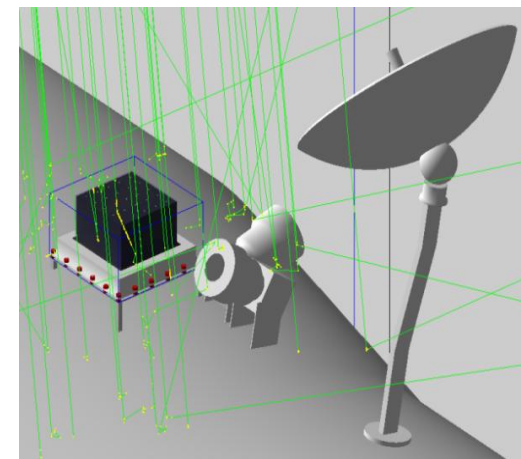
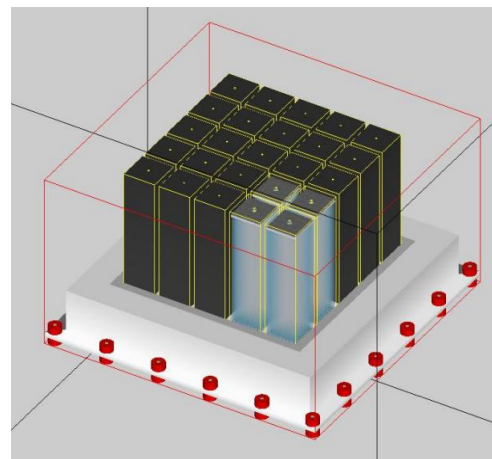
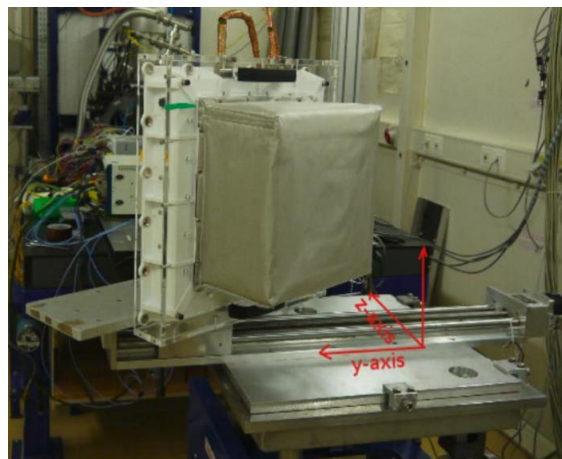
- To verify the methodology
- To evaluate systematic effect

On ground: ESRF beam test

- Polarized (PD 100%, PA H/V)
- Energy (60, 80, 110, 140 keV)
- Incident angle (0° , 30° , 60°)
- Geant-4 simulation verification (Kole M., et al, 2017)

In orbit:

- ^{22}Na sources: (100 Bq) x 4
Multi-parameter calibration
- Geant-4 simulation verification (Li, Z. H., et al, 2018)
- Crab pulsar

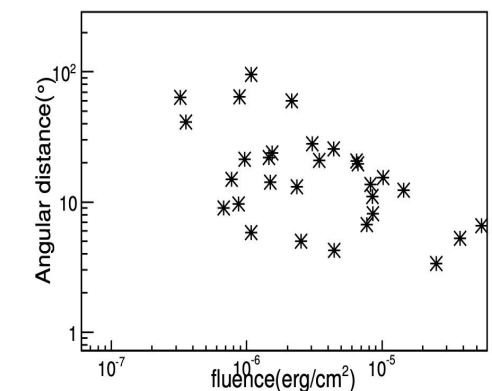
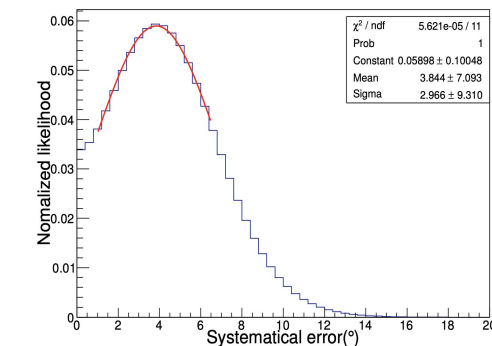
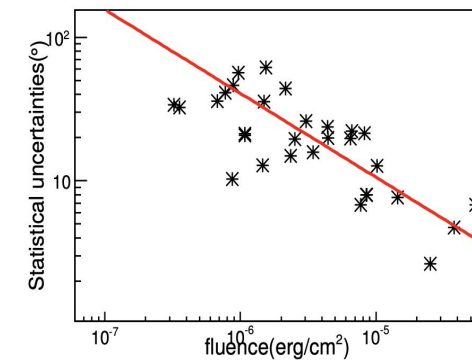
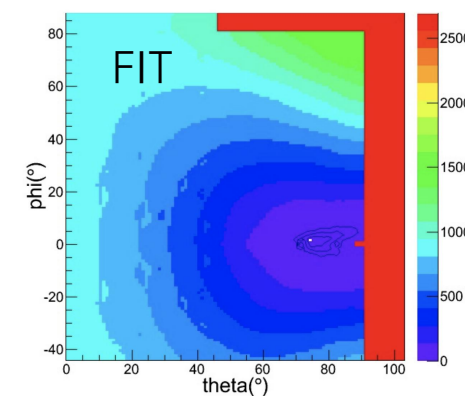
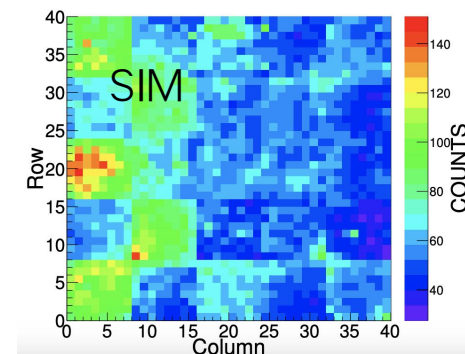
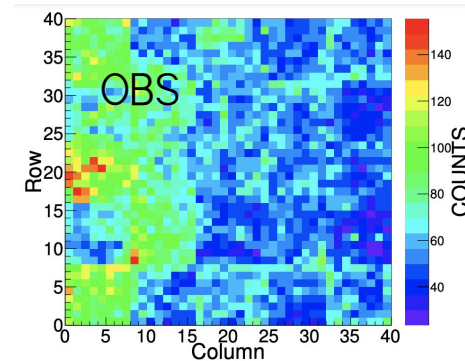
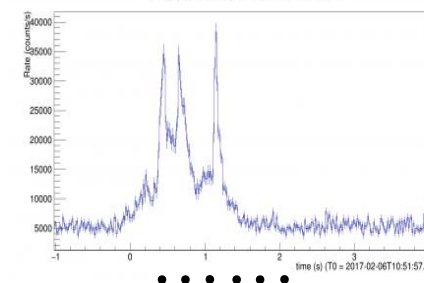
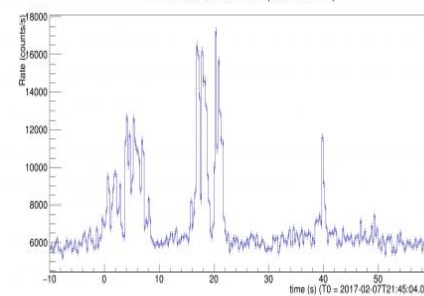
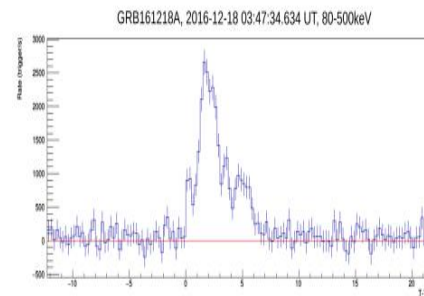
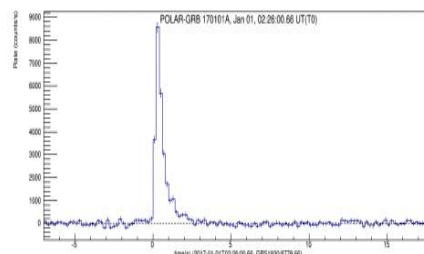


3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: GRB detections

Wang et al., 2021

55 joint detections Xiong et al., 2017

Number	GRB Name	Trigger time (UTC)	Joint observation
1	GRB 160924A	2016-09-24T06:04:09.040	Fermi/GBM, SPI-ACS
2	GRB 160928A	2016-09-28T19:48:05.000	Fermi/GBM, SPI-ACS, KW
3	GRB 161009651	2016-10-09T15:38:07.190	Fermi/GBM
4	GRB 161011217	2016-10-11T05:13:44.420	KW
5	GRB 161012989	2016-10-12T23:45:11.380	KW
6	GRB 161013948	2016-10-13T22:44:40.100	Fermi/GBM
7	GRB 161120401	2016-11-20T09:38:33.520	SPI-ACS
8	GRB 161129A	2016-11-29T07:11:40.000	Swift/BAT, Fermi/GBM, AstroSAT
9	GRB 161203A	2016-12-03T18:41:07.750	KW, SPI-ACS, CALET/CGBM, AstroSAT
10	GRB 161205A	2016-12-05T13:27:18.000	Fermi/GBM
11	GRB 161207A	2016-12-07T20:42:55.000	Fermi/GBM, CALET/CGBM
12	GRB 161207B	2016-12-07T05:22:44.000	Fermi/GBM
13	GRB 161210A	2016-12-10T12:33:54.000	Fermi/GBM
14	GRB 161212A	2016-12-12T15:38:59.000	Fermi/GBM
15	GRB 161213A	2016-12-13T07:05:02.000	Fermi/GBM, SPI-ACS
16	GRB 161217B	2016-12-17T03:03:44.000	Fermi/GBM
17	GRB 161217C	2016-12-17T03:53:15.000	KW
18	GRB 161218A	2016-12-18T03:47:34.634	Swift/BAT
19	GRB 161218B	2016-12-18T08:32:41.341	Fermi/GBM
20	GRB 161219B	2016-12-19T18:48:39.000	Swift/BAT
21	GRB 161228A	2016-12-28T09:43:24.000	Fermi/GBM
22	GRB 161228B	2016-12-28T13:15:40.000	Fermi/GBM, SPI-ACS
23	GRB 161228C	2016-12-28T00:46:20.000	Fermi/GBM
24	GRB 161229A	2016-12-29T21:03:49.000	Fermi/GBM
25	GRB 161230A	2016-12-30T12:16:07.000	Fermi/GBM
26	GRB 170101A	2017-01-01T02:26:00.660	Swift/BAT
27	GRB 170101B	2017-01-01T02:47:18.270	Fermi/GBM
28	GRB 170102A	2017-01-02T02:51:18.000	KW
29	GRB 170105A	2017-01-05T06:14:07.000	SPI-ACS, KW
30	GRB 170109A	2017-01-09T03:17:35.000	Fermi/GBM
31	GRB 170112B	2017-01-12T23:16:09.000	Fermi/GBM
32	GRB 170114A	2017-01-14T22:01:10.000	Fermi/GBM
33	GRB 170114B	2017-01-14T19:59:12.000	Fermi/GBM, KW
34	GRB 170120A	2017-01-20T11:18:30.000	Fermi/GBM
35	GRB 170121A	2017-01-21T01:36:55.200	Fermi/GBM
36	GRB 170124A	2017-01-24T20:58:06.000	Fermi/GBM, KW, CALET/CGBM
37	GRB 170127C	2017-01-27T01:35:49.000	Fermi/GBM, Fermi/LAT, AGILE, AstroSAT
38	GRB 170130A	2017-01-30T07:14:45.000	Fermi/GBM
39	GRB 170131A	2017-01-31T23:14:59.000	Fermi/GBM, Swift, KW
40	GRB 170202B	2017-02-02T07:19:54.000	KW
41	GRB 170206A	2017-02-06T10:51:57.700	Fermi/GBM, Fermi/LAT, SPI-ACS
42	GRB 170206C	2017-02-06T11:40:10.000	SPI-ACS
43	GRB 170207A	2017-02-07T21:45:04.000	Fermi/GBM, IPN, KW
44	GRB 170208C	2017-02-08T13:16:33.000	Fermi/GBM, SPI-ACS
45	GRB 170210A	2017-02-10T02:47:37.000	Fermi/GBM, IPN, KW
46	GRB 170219A	2017-02-19T00:03:07.000	Fermi/GBM, CALET/CGBM, SPI-ACS, KW, IPN
47	GRB 170220A	2017-02-20T18:48:01.000	KW
48	GRB 170228B	2017-02-28T18:32:56.000	Fermi/GBM
49	GRB 170305A	2017-03-05T06:09:06.800	Fermi/GBM, KW, SPI-ACS, Swift/BAT
50	GRB 170306B	2017-03-06T14:07:20.000	Fermi/GBM, Fermi/LAT, SPI-ACS
51	GRB 170309A	2017-03-09T12:26:42.000	CALET/CGBM
52	GRB 170315A	2017-03-15T13:57:53.000	Fermi/GBM
53	GRB 170317A	2017-03-17T09:45:56.000	Swift/BAT
54	GRB 170320A	2017-03-20T03:42:39.000	SPI-ACS, KW
55	GRB 170325B	2017-03-25T21:50:01.000	KW

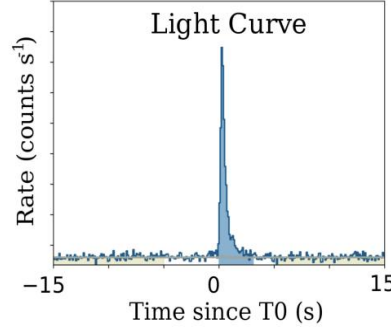




3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: analysis approach

Localization

Spectral Parameters			
K	α	E_{peak}	β



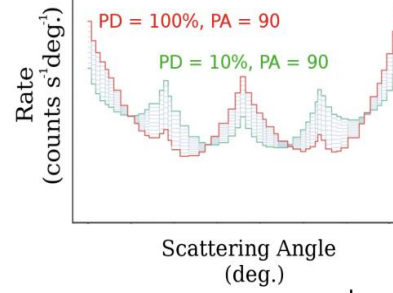
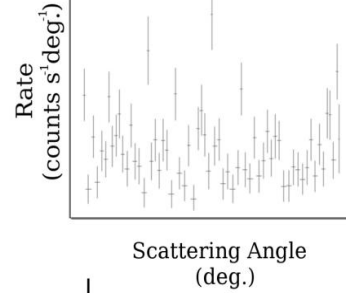
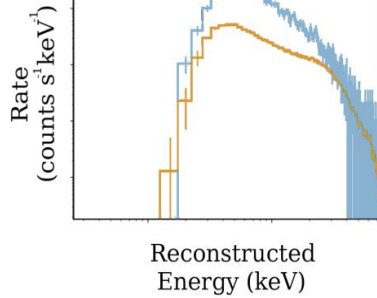
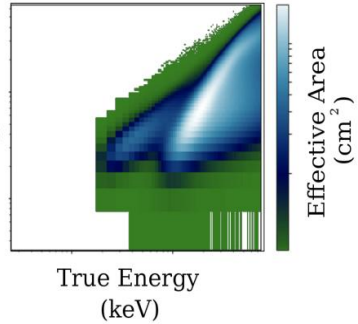
Polarization Parameters	
PD	PA

Spectral Response

Spectral Events

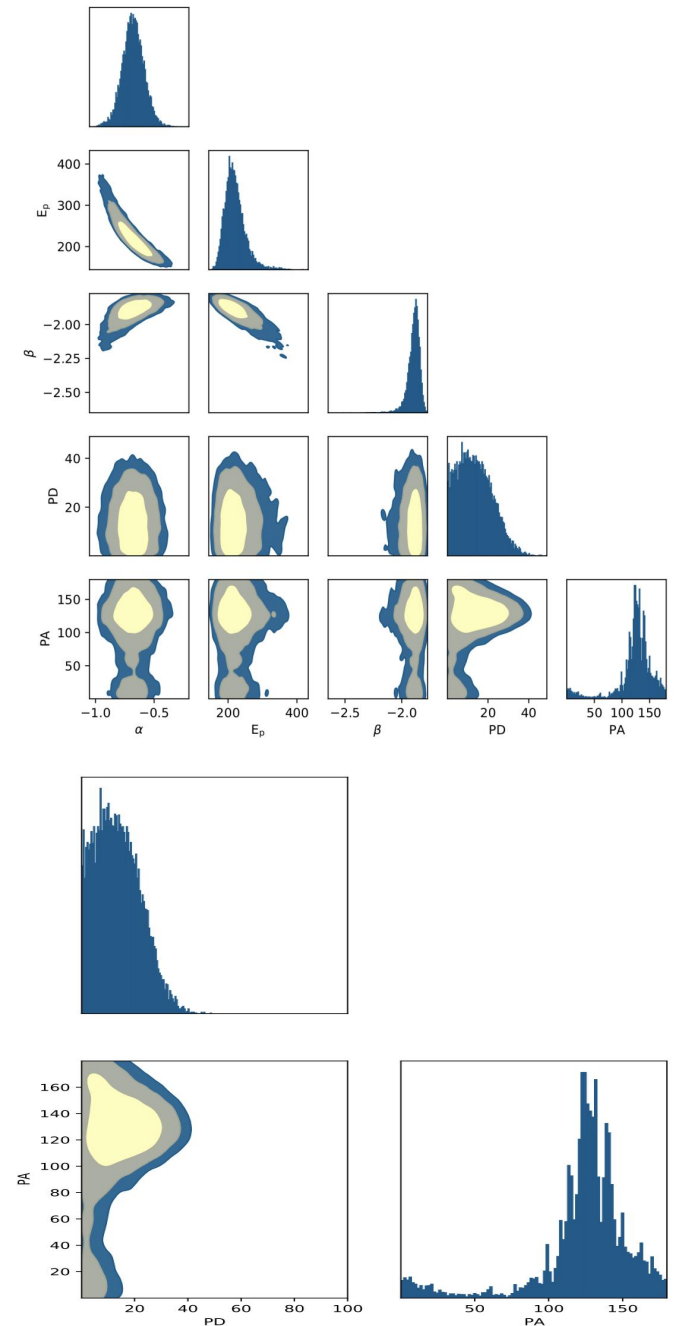
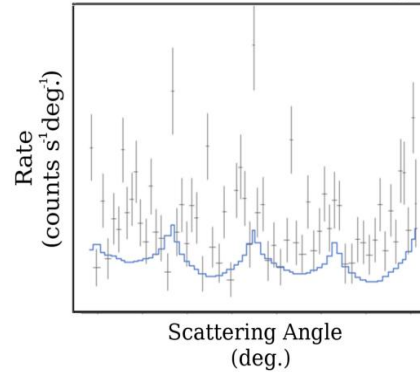
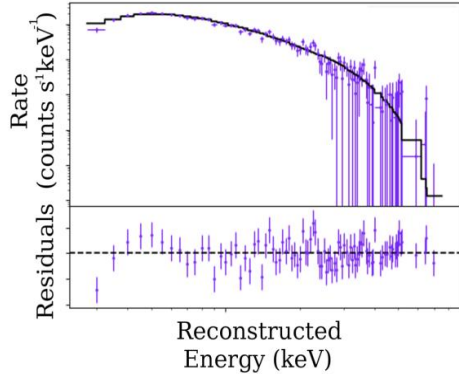
Polarization Events

Polarization Response



Modelled + Measured Spectrum

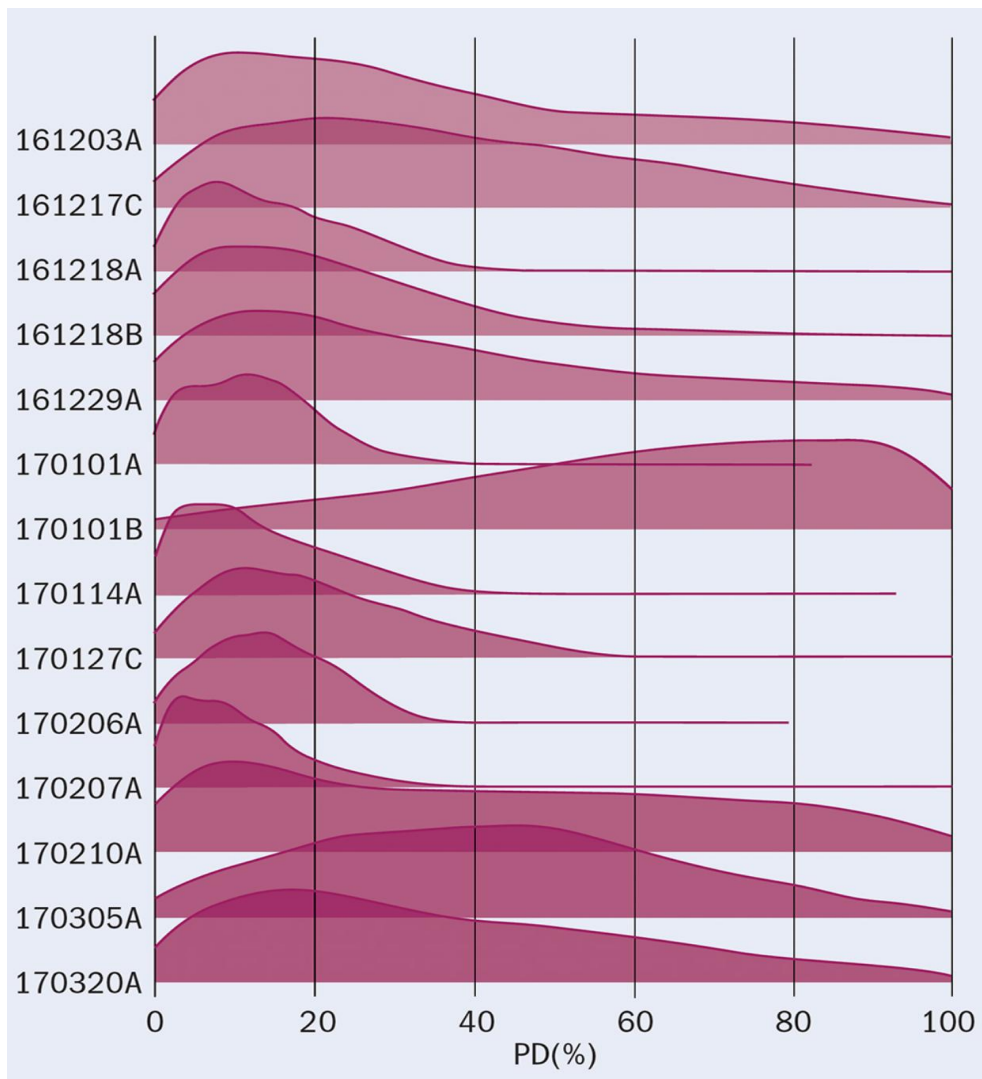
Modelled + Measured Scat. Angle Dist.



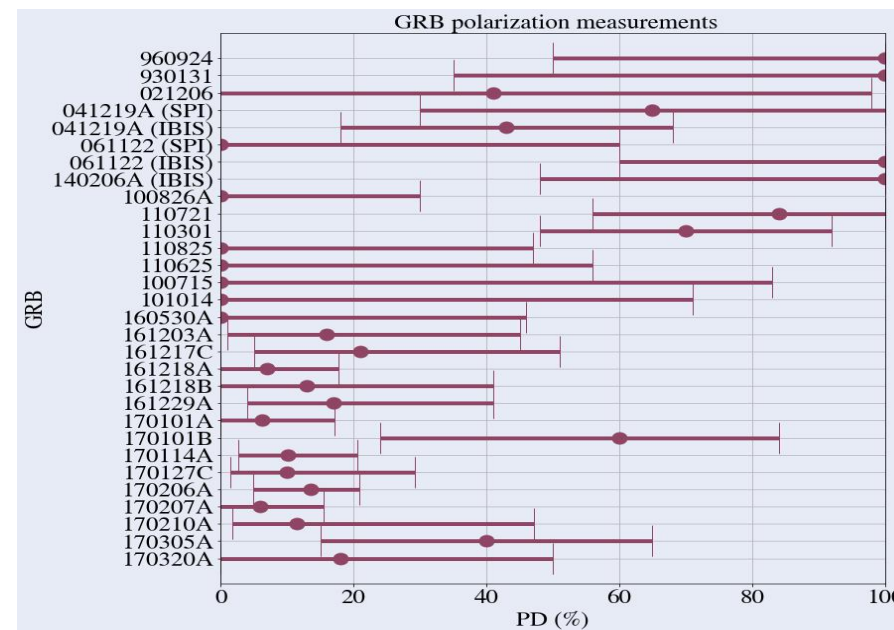
Kole et al., 2020



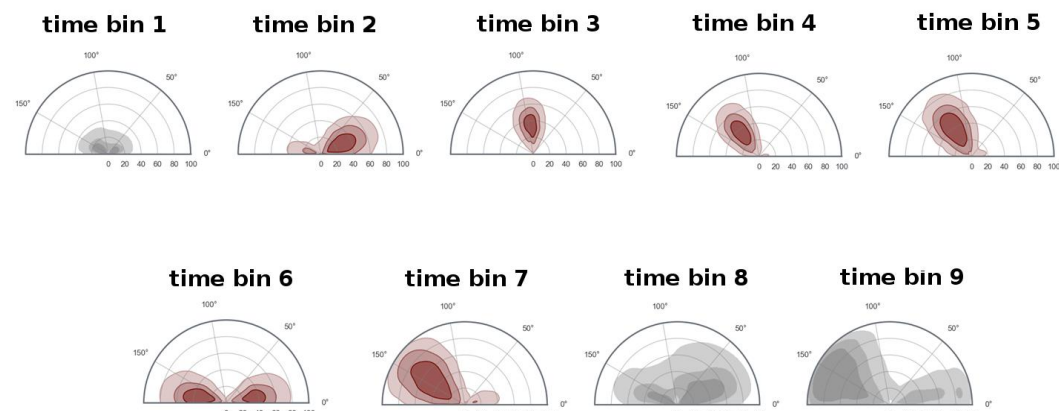
3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: time integrated/resolved results



Kole et al., 2020, 14 GRBs, best fitted mostly at $\sim 10\%$



Measured PD distributions



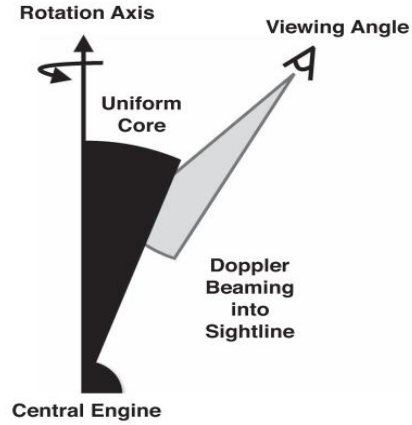
Zhang et al., 2019, Burgess et al. 2019

GRB 170114A \rightarrow a hit of PA evolution

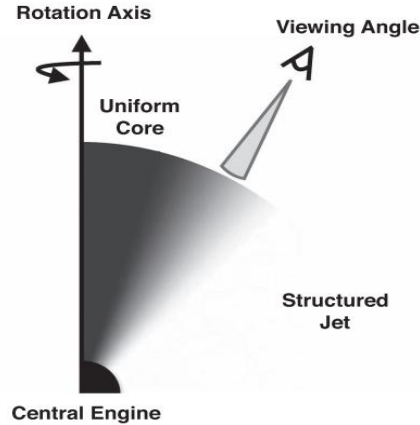


3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: comparing with models

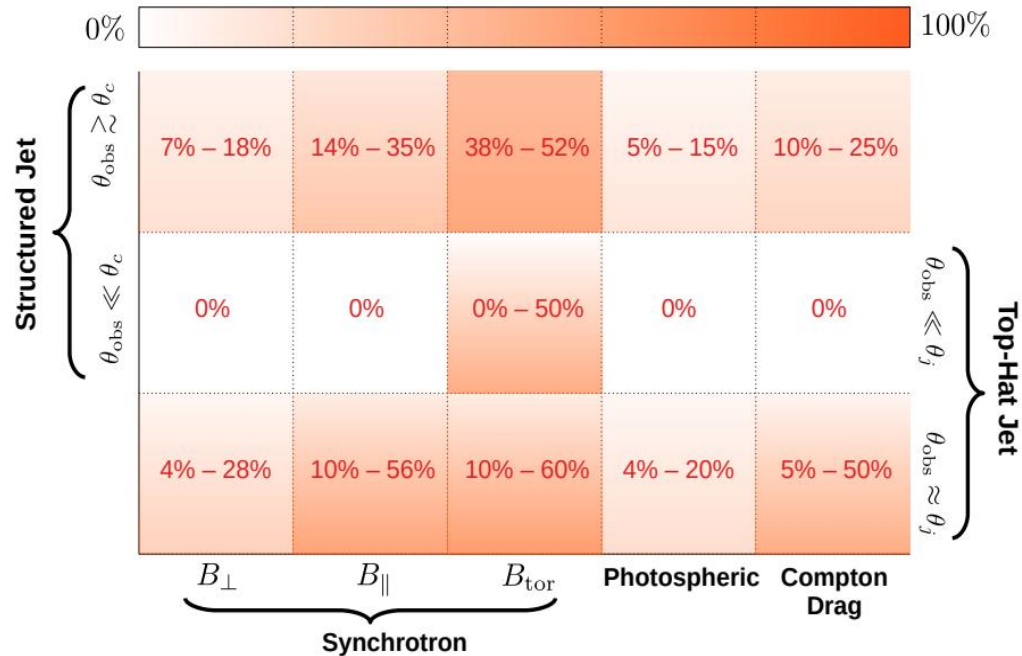
Scenario i: Uniform Top-hat Jet



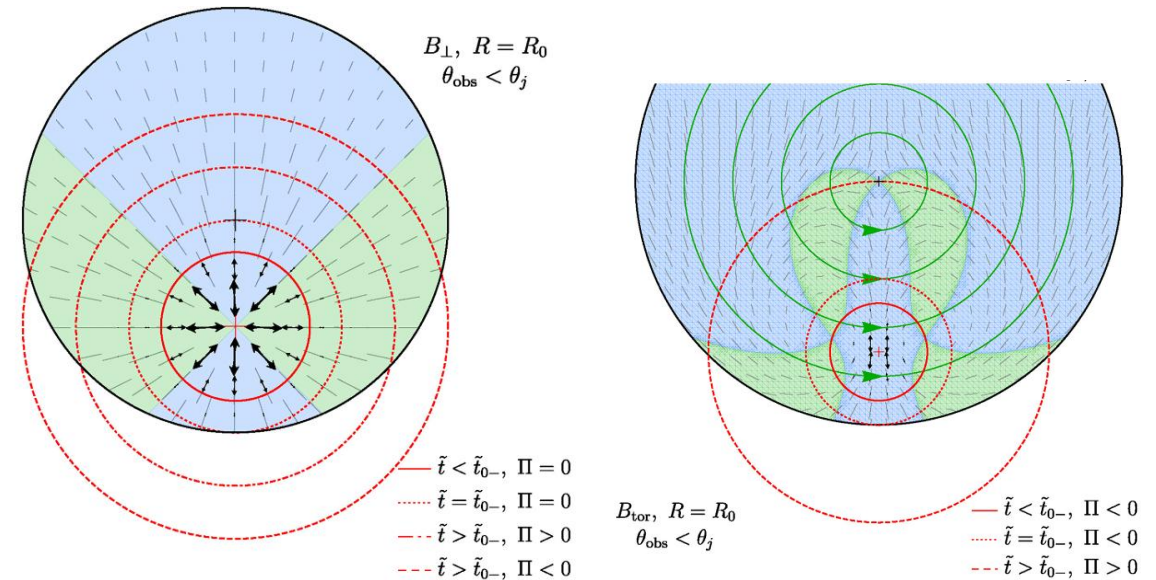
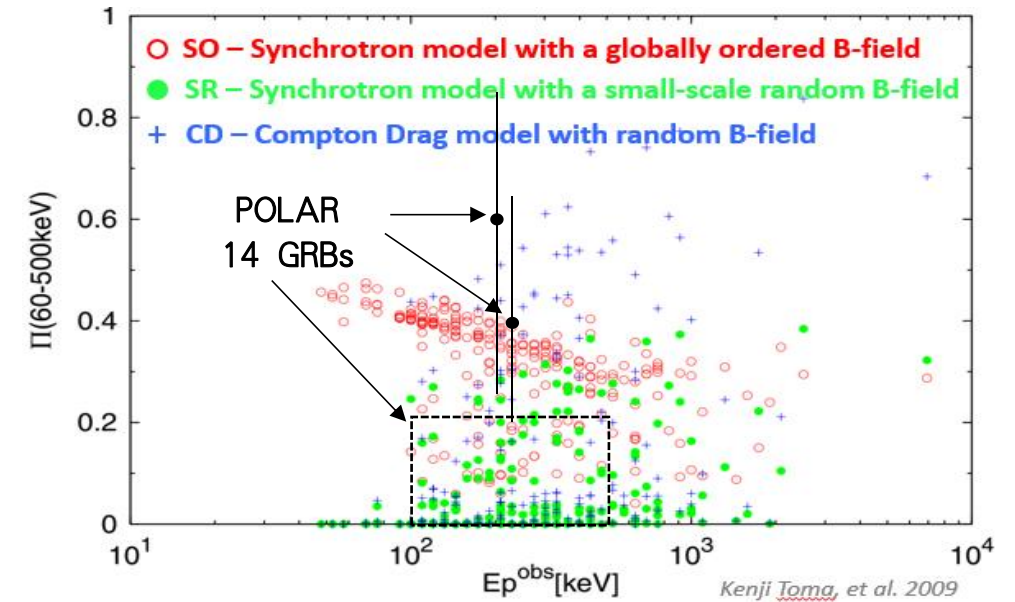
Scenario ii: Structured Jet



[10.3847/2041-8213/aa920c](https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/aa920c)



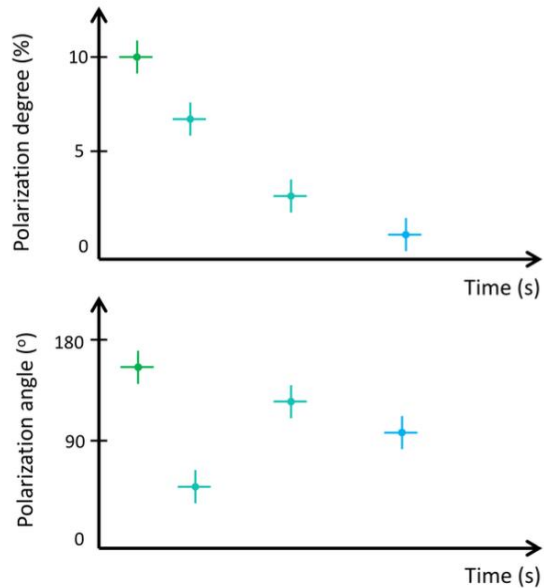
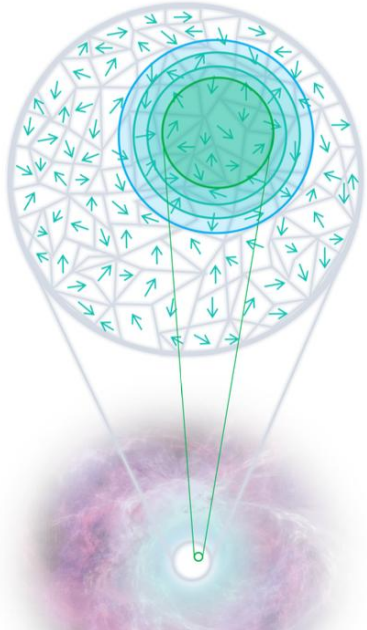
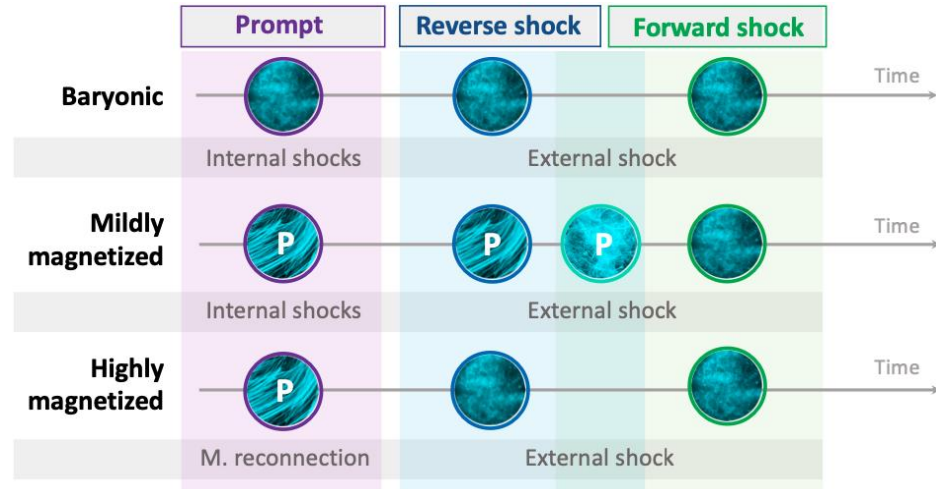
[10.3390/galaxies9040082](https://doi.org/10.3390/galaxies9040082)



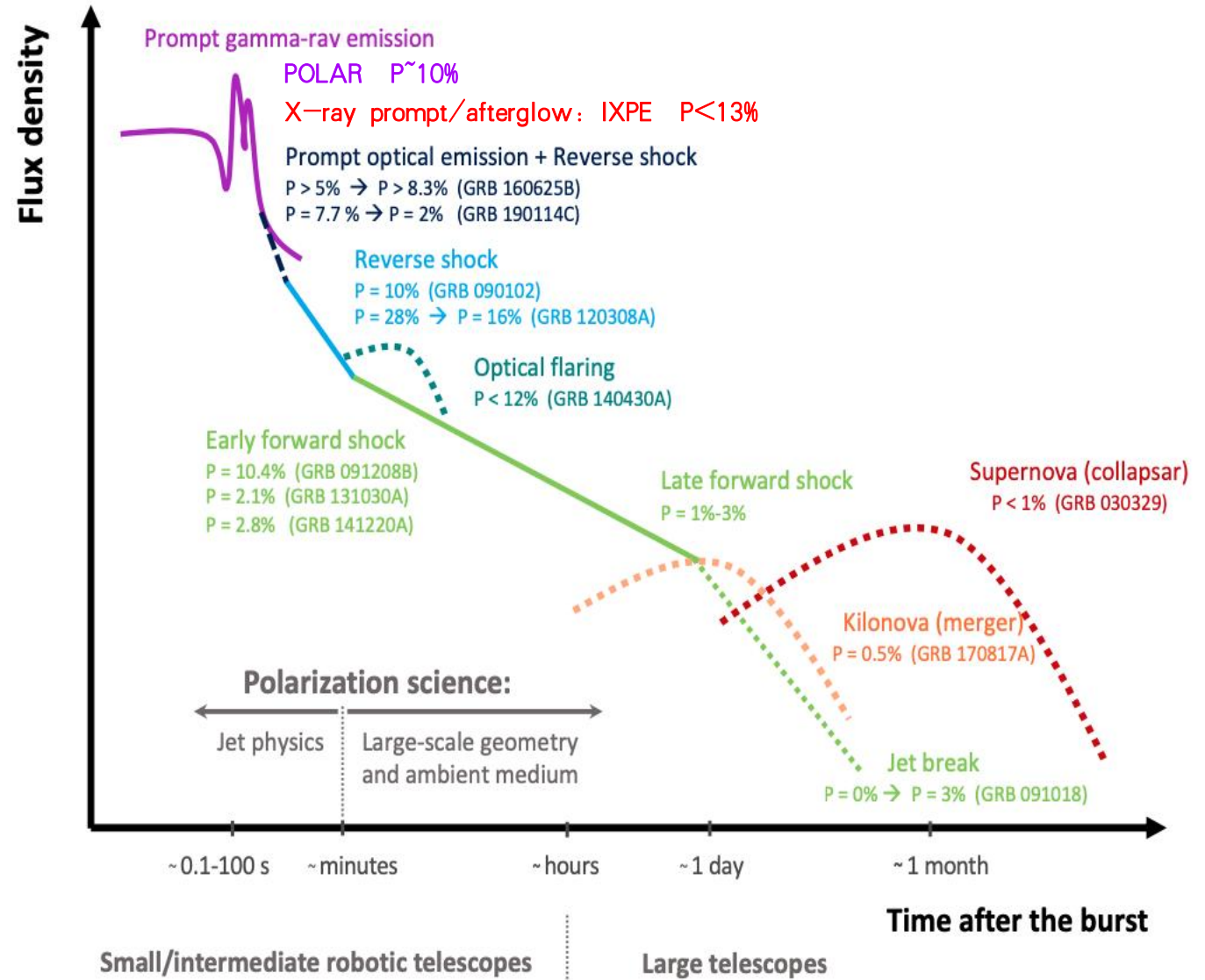
Top-Hat Jet, Gill, R. & Granot, J., 2001 only allow 90° changes



3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: multi-wavelength results



Non-symmetric: patchy-shell





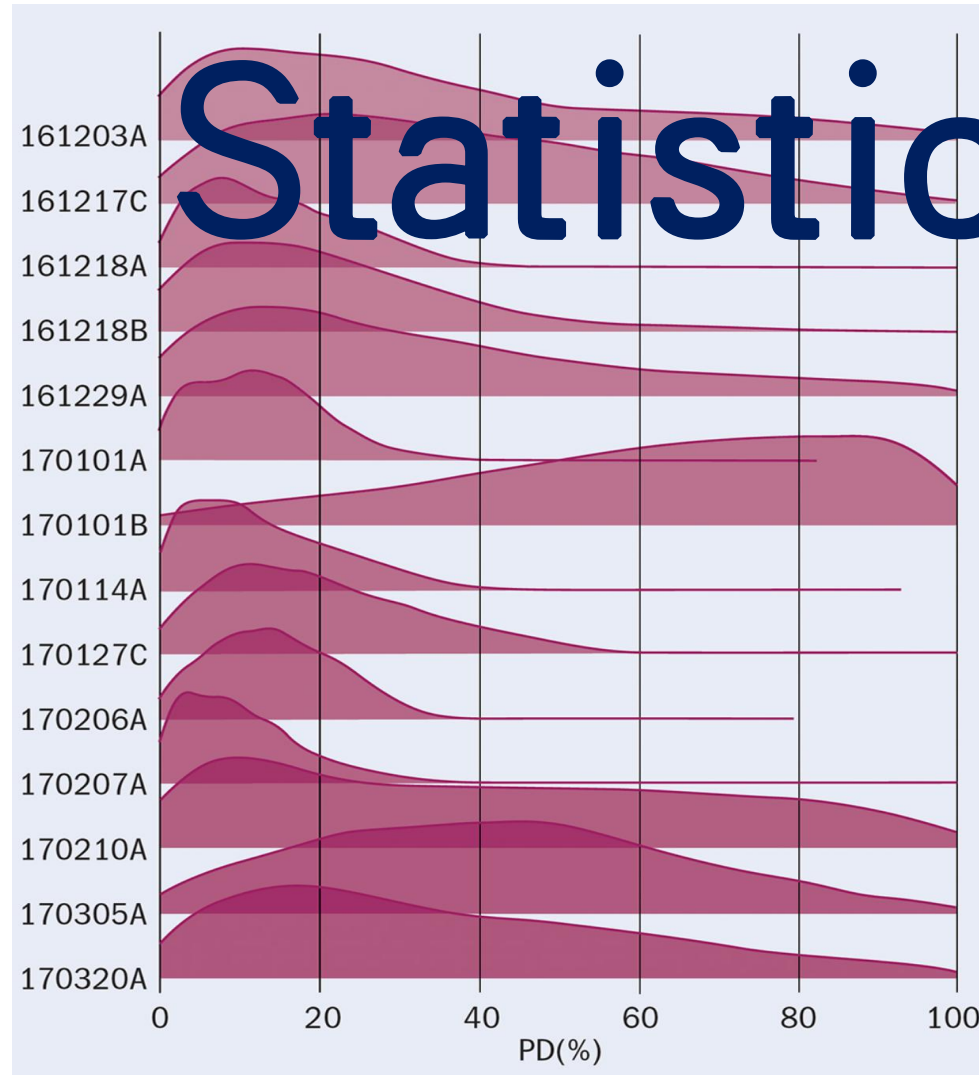
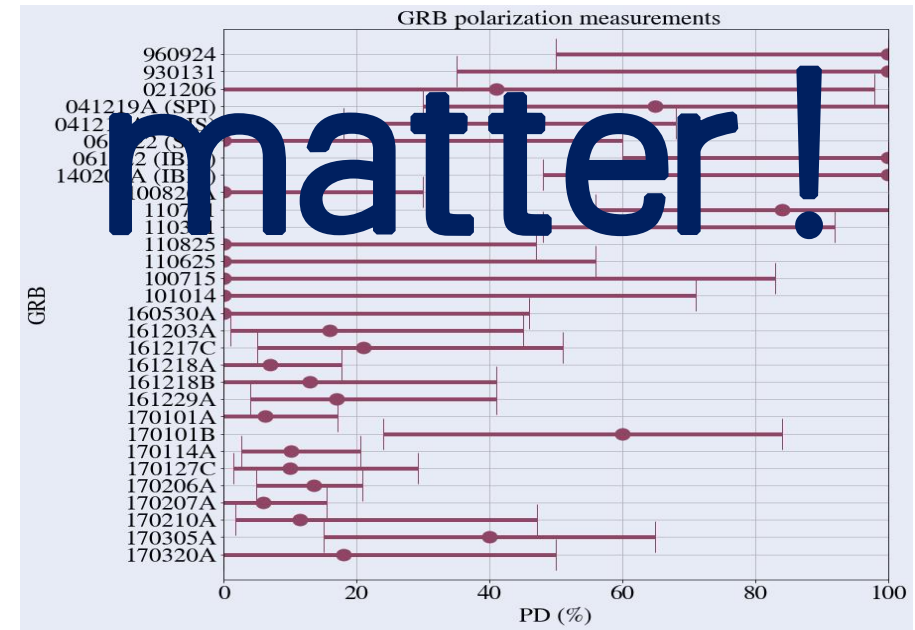
3. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR: time integrated/resolved results

Methodology established

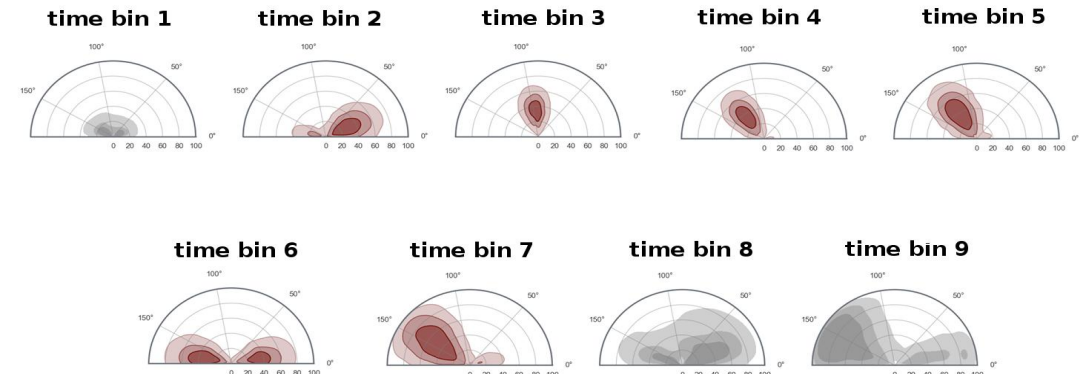
Systematics understood

Statistics

matter!



Measured PD distributions



Kole et al., 2020, 14 GRBs, best fitted mostly at $\sim 10\%$

Zhang et al., 2019, Burgess et al. 2019

GRB 170114A \rightarrow a hit of PA evolution



4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2

- The successor of POLAR with some upgrades
- Officially selected by CSS through UN/OOSA in 2019, aims to launch

Announcement of selection Jun./2019



United Nations/China Cooperation on the Utilization of the China Space Station (CSS)

联合国/中国围绕中国空间站应用开展合作

Selected Experiment Projects to be executed on board the CSS for the 1st Cycle

Announced on the occasion of the 62nd Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

12 June 2019 Vienna, Austria

第一轮合作入选项目

2019年6月12日在奥地利维也纳举行的第62届和平利用外空委员会大会期间发布

I. Fully accepted experiment projects:

完全入选项目

No.1: POLAR-2: Gamma-Ray Burst Polarimetry on the China Space Station

Building on the previous investigation on China's TG-2 space lab, this project aims to answer the most important open questions in astrophysics regarding the nature of Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs) by using the most promising investigation approach of polarization measurements allowing to observe even the weakest gamma-ray transients, such as those connected to gravitational waves.

It is an experiment project in astronomy in space. It was applied and will be implemented by four institutions from four countries, which are: The University of Geneva from Switzerland, the National Center for Nuclear Research of Poland, the Max Plank Institute for Extra-terrestrial Physics of Germany, and the Institute of High Energy Physics of Chinese Academy of Sciences.

第1个项目: POLAR-2: 中国空间站上的伽玛暴偏振探测仪



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE
FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

Xin Wu



中国科学院高能物理研究所
Institute of High Energy Physics
Chinese Academy of Sciences

Shuang-Nan Zhang



NATIONAL
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NEWS • 17 JUNE 2019

China reveals scientific experiments for its next space station

Other winners include a detector called POLAR-2, a more powerful follow-up to a sensor launched on Tiangong-2 to study the polarization of energetic γ -ray bursts from distant cosmic phenomena. POLAR-2, which will be built by an international collaboration, could even allow astronomers to observe the weak radiation associated with sources of gravitational waves.



4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2

◎ Bigger

- 100 polarimeter modules

◎ More than bigger

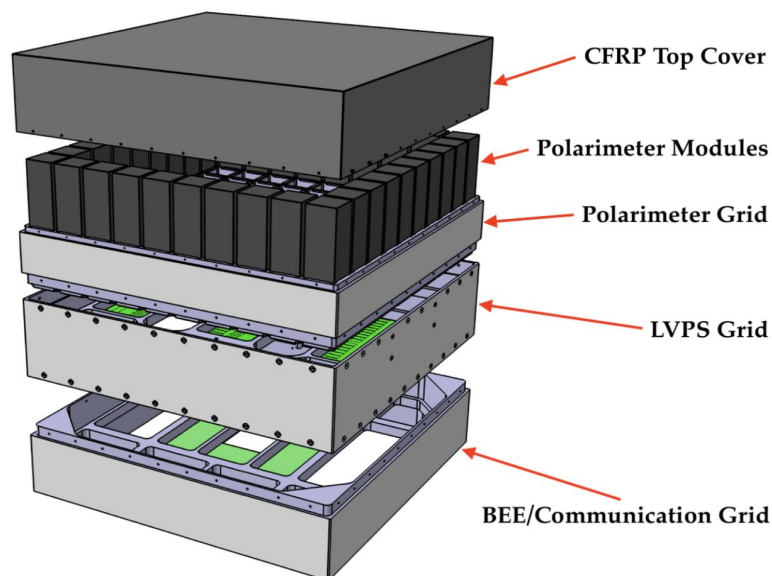
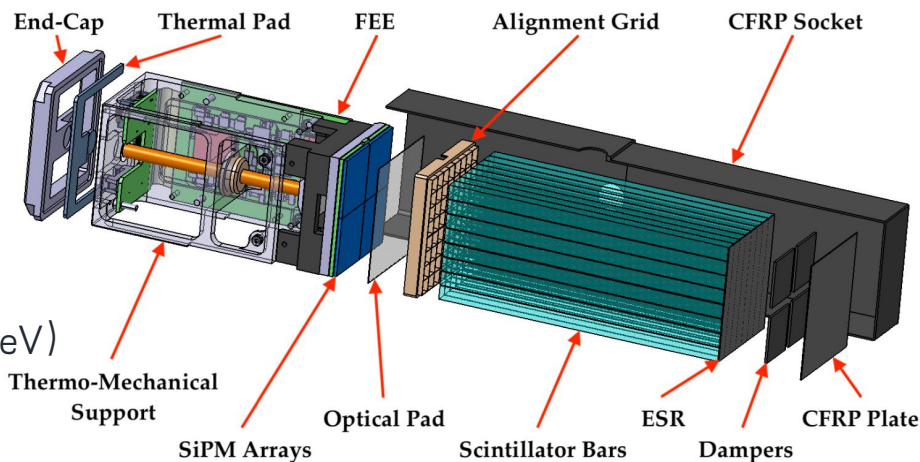
- Optimized bar length (less BKG)
- Bar + Vikuiti (LY 0.3 to 1.3 p.e./keV)
- Optical pad (CT 15% to 2.5%)
- SiPM: lower threshold (<10 keV)
- Cooling & annealing (against degradation)

◎ Effective Area (ARF)

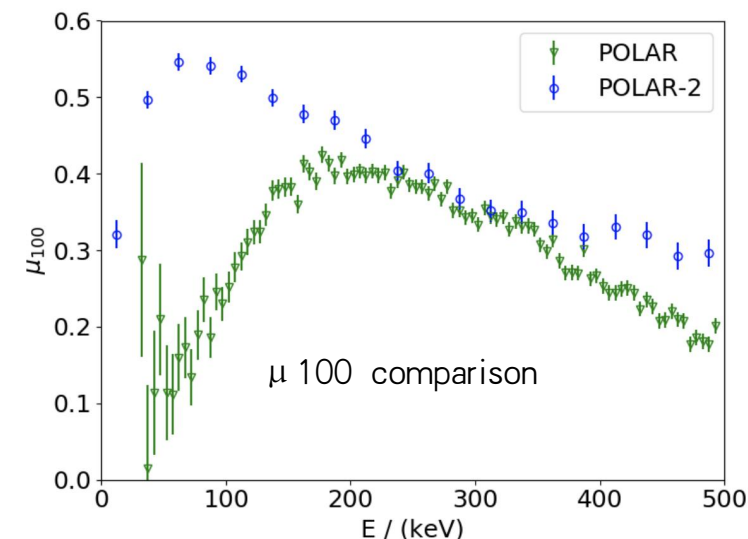
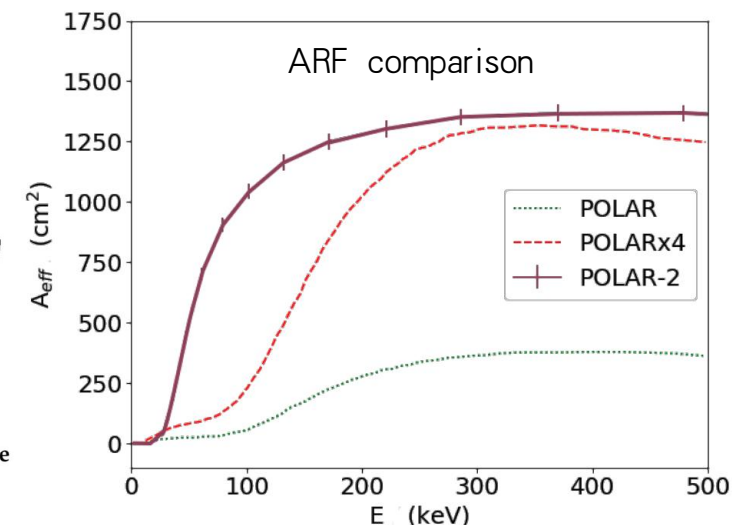
- ARF $\sim 1300 \text{ cm}^2$
(300 for POLAR)

◎ Modulation factor (μ_{100})

- $\mu_{100} > 50\%$ for 40–150 keV
(<30% for POLAR)

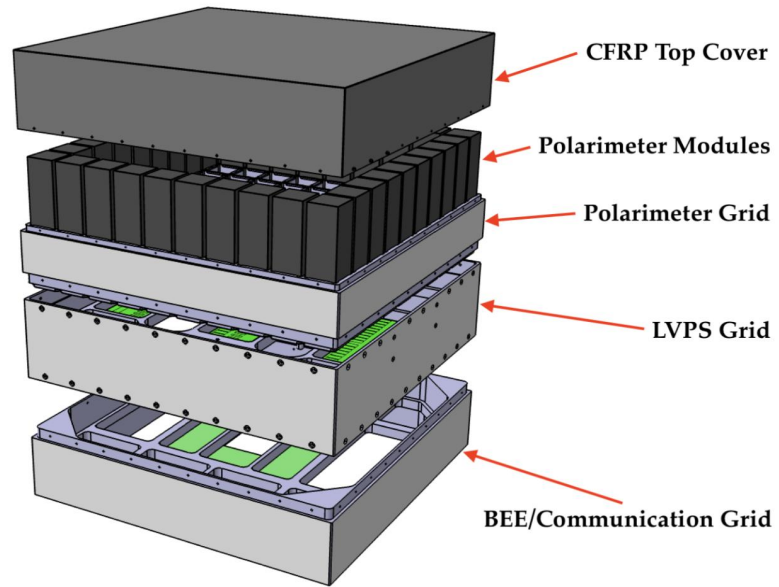


100 polarimeter modules (4 times of POLAR)

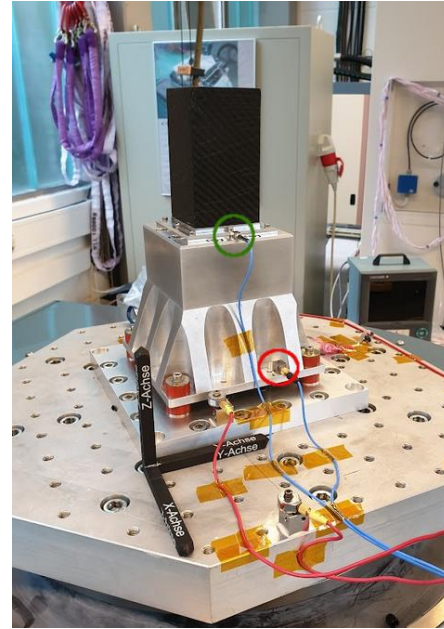




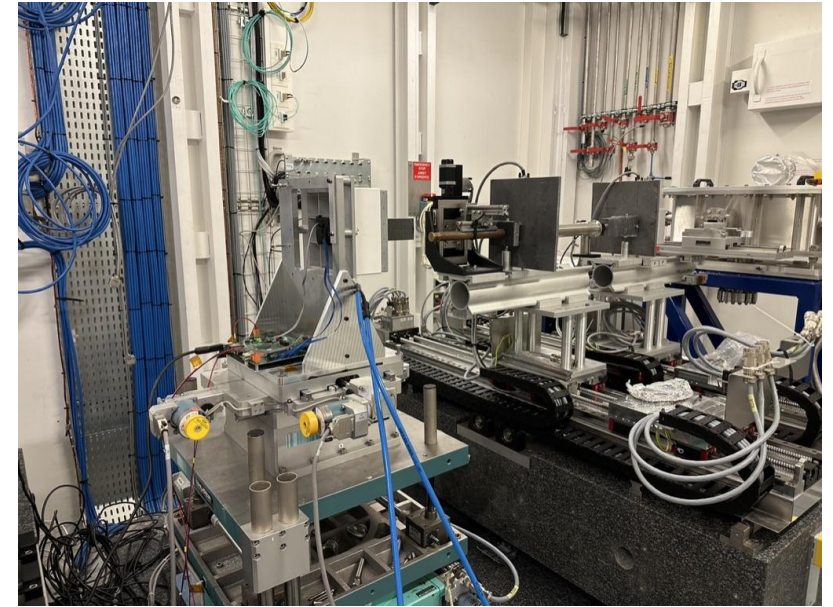
4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2



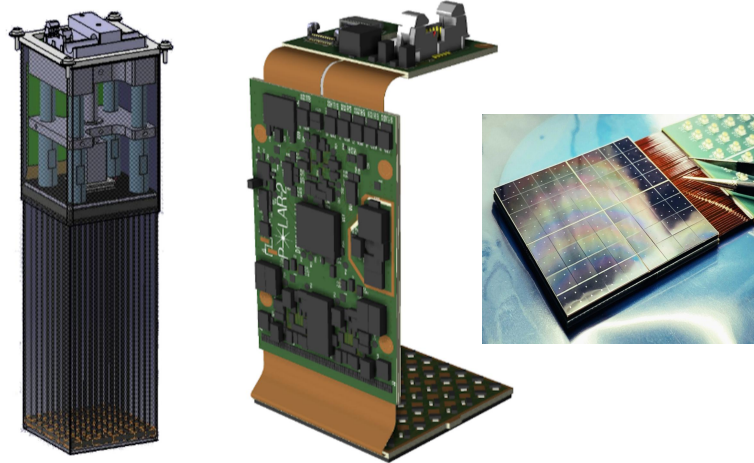
100 polarimeter modules (4 times of POLAR)



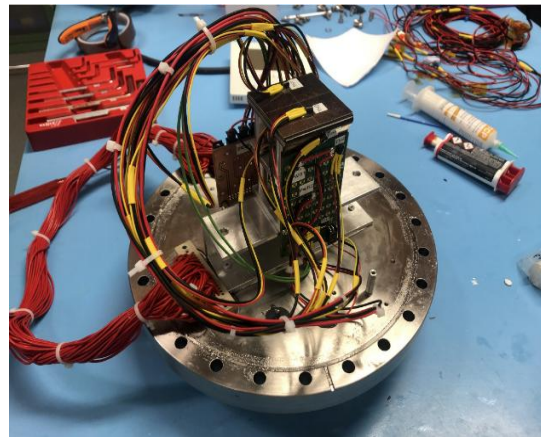
Vibration test



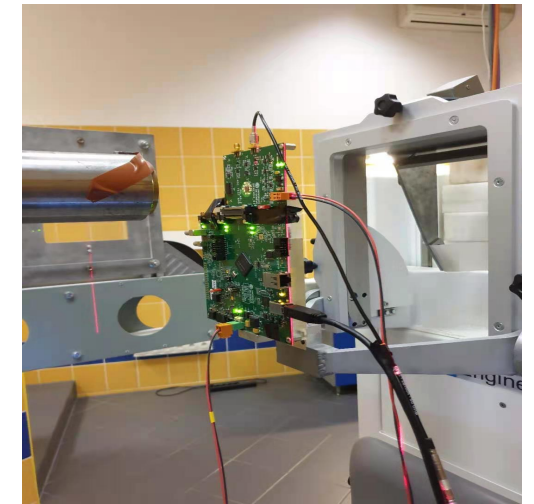
ESRF polarized source calibration



Compact SiPM readout unit



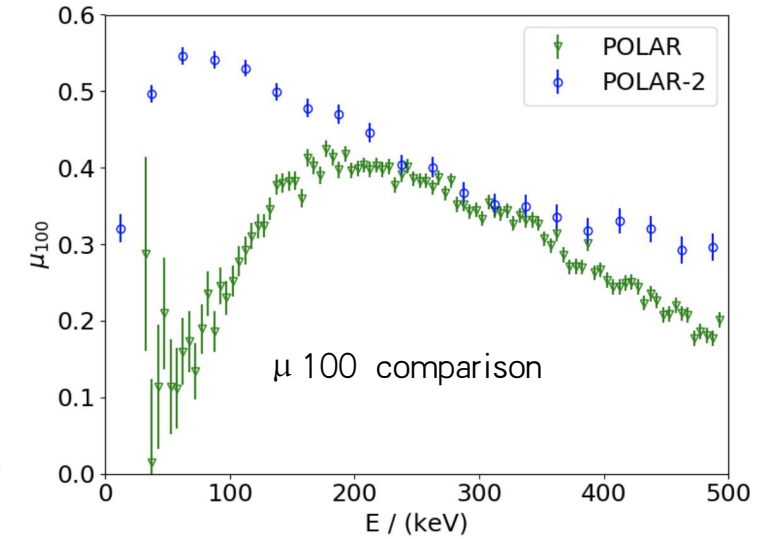
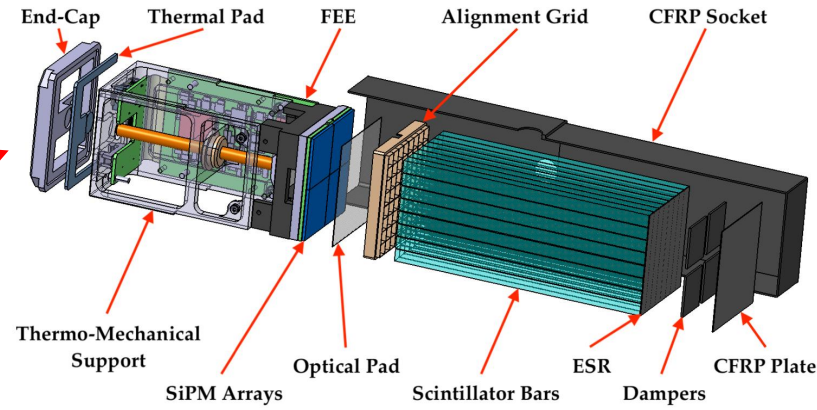
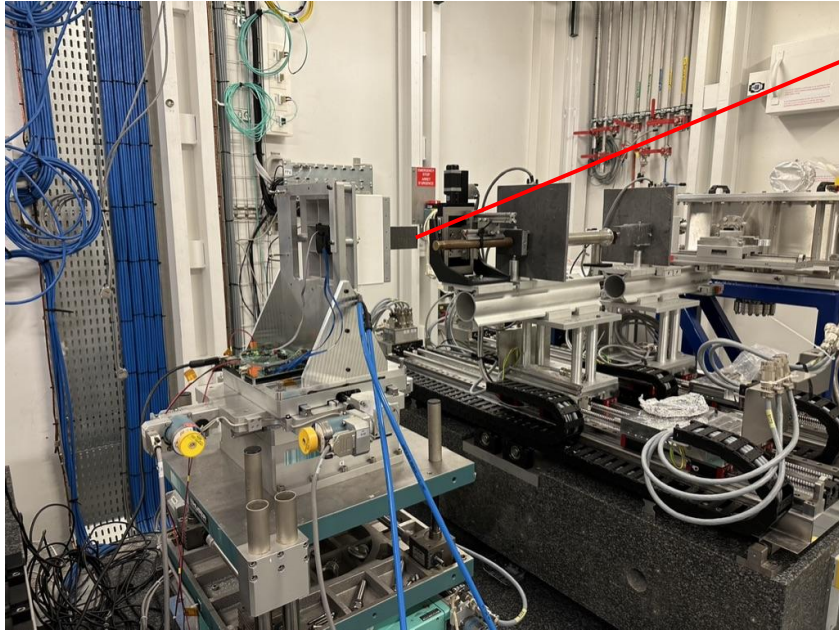
Thermal-Vacuum test



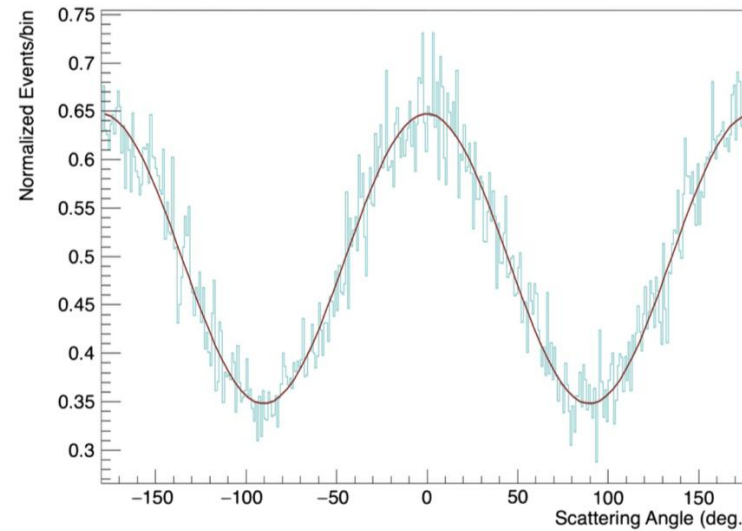
Proton irradiation



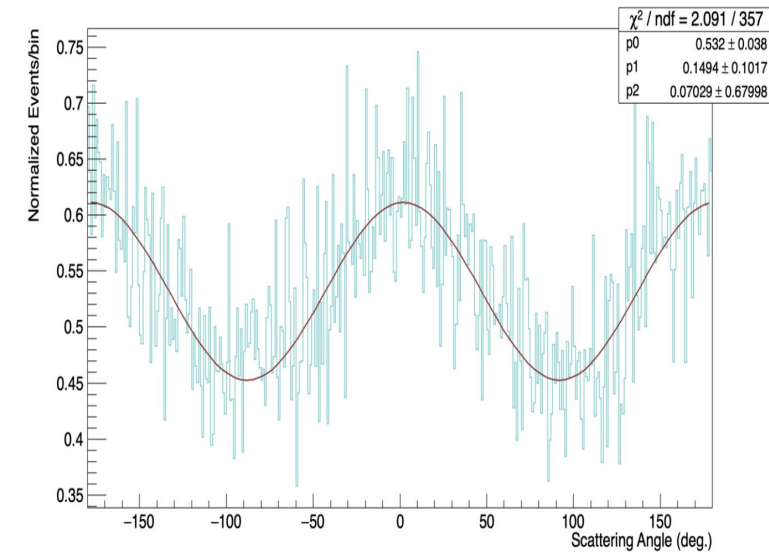
4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2



ESRF polarized source calibration
Single module!



$$\mu_{100} = 30\% \text{ @ } 100 \text{ keV}$$



$$\mu_{100} = 15\% \text{ @ } 40 \text{ keV}$$

4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2: performances

Sensitivity improvement

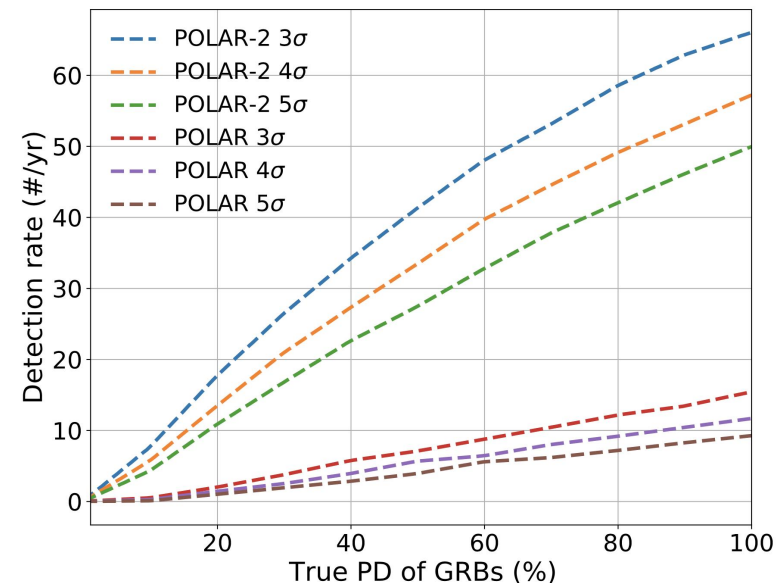
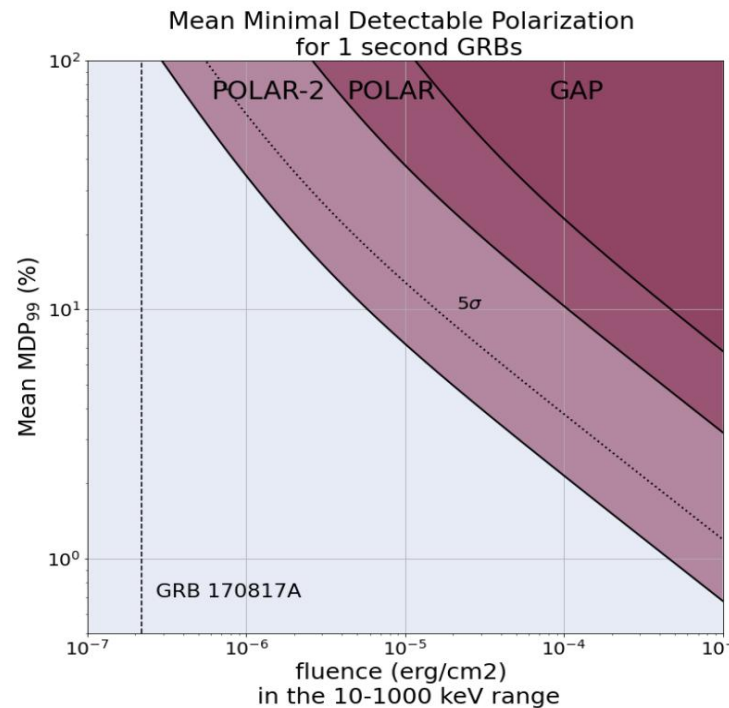
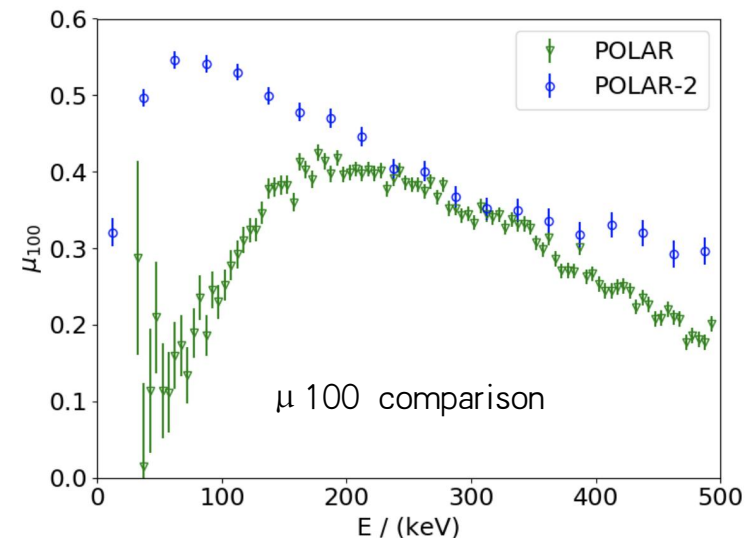
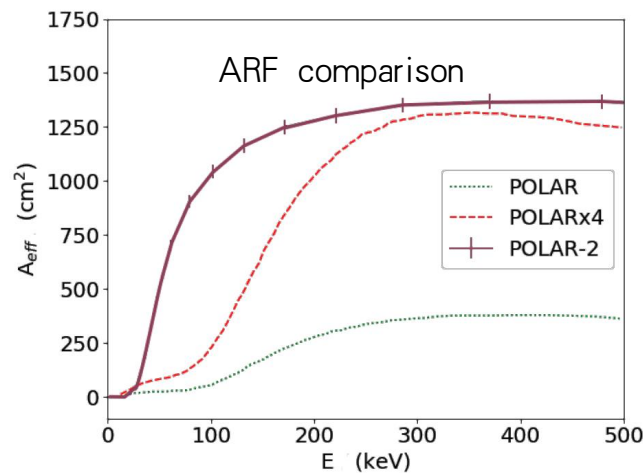
- 4 times larger ARF
- Optimized bar length (less BKG)
- SiPM: lower threshold (< 10 keV)
- 10 times more sensitive

Performance anticipation

- Eff. area $\sim 1300 \text{ cm}^2$
- For a GRB with fluence 10^{-5} erg/cm^2 ,
 5σ measurement when $\text{PD}_{\text{true}} \sim 10\%$

Significant measurements (#/yr)

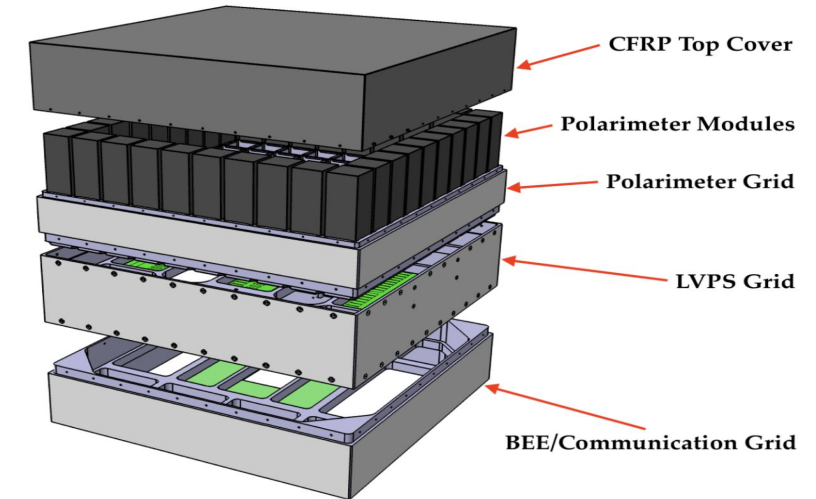
- If $\text{PD}_{\text{true}} \sim 10\%$, #10 (3σ), #5 (5σ)
- If $\text{PD}_{\text{true}} \sim 20\%$, #20 (3σ), #10 (5σ)





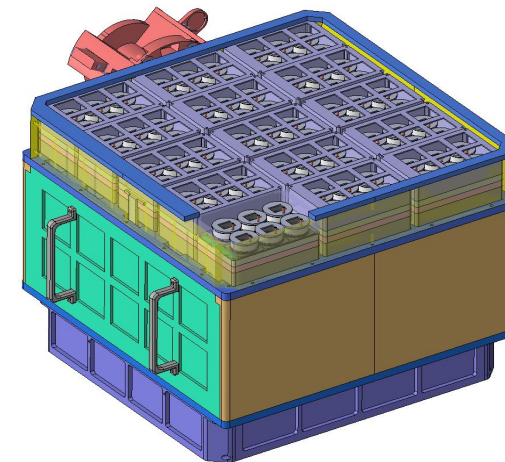
4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2: enhanced by two more payloads

- High-energy Polarization Detector: **HPD**
 - $\sim 30\text{--}800$ keV for gamma-ray **polarimetry**
 - 100 modules, 6400 plastic scintillator bars
 - Effective area: $\sim 2000\text{cm}^2$, $> 1200\text{cm}^2$ for Pol.
 - FoV: $\sim 50\%$ sky
 - Collaborations: UNIGE/IHEP/MPE/NCBJ
- Status of HPD: **approved and design finalized**

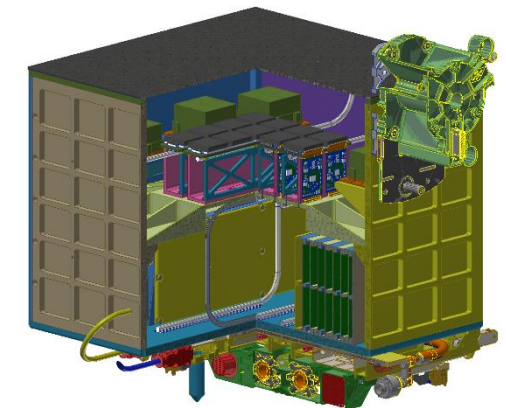


HPD

- Low-energy Polarization Detector: **LPD**, GXU
 - $\sim 2\text{--}10$ keV for X-ray **polarimetry**
- Broad energy-band Spectrum Detector: **BSD**, IHEP/CAS, China
 - $\sim 10\text{--}2000$ keV for **spectroscopy**
 - Accurate GRB **localization**: $< 1^\circ$
- Status of LPD & BSD: **under review for approval**



LPD

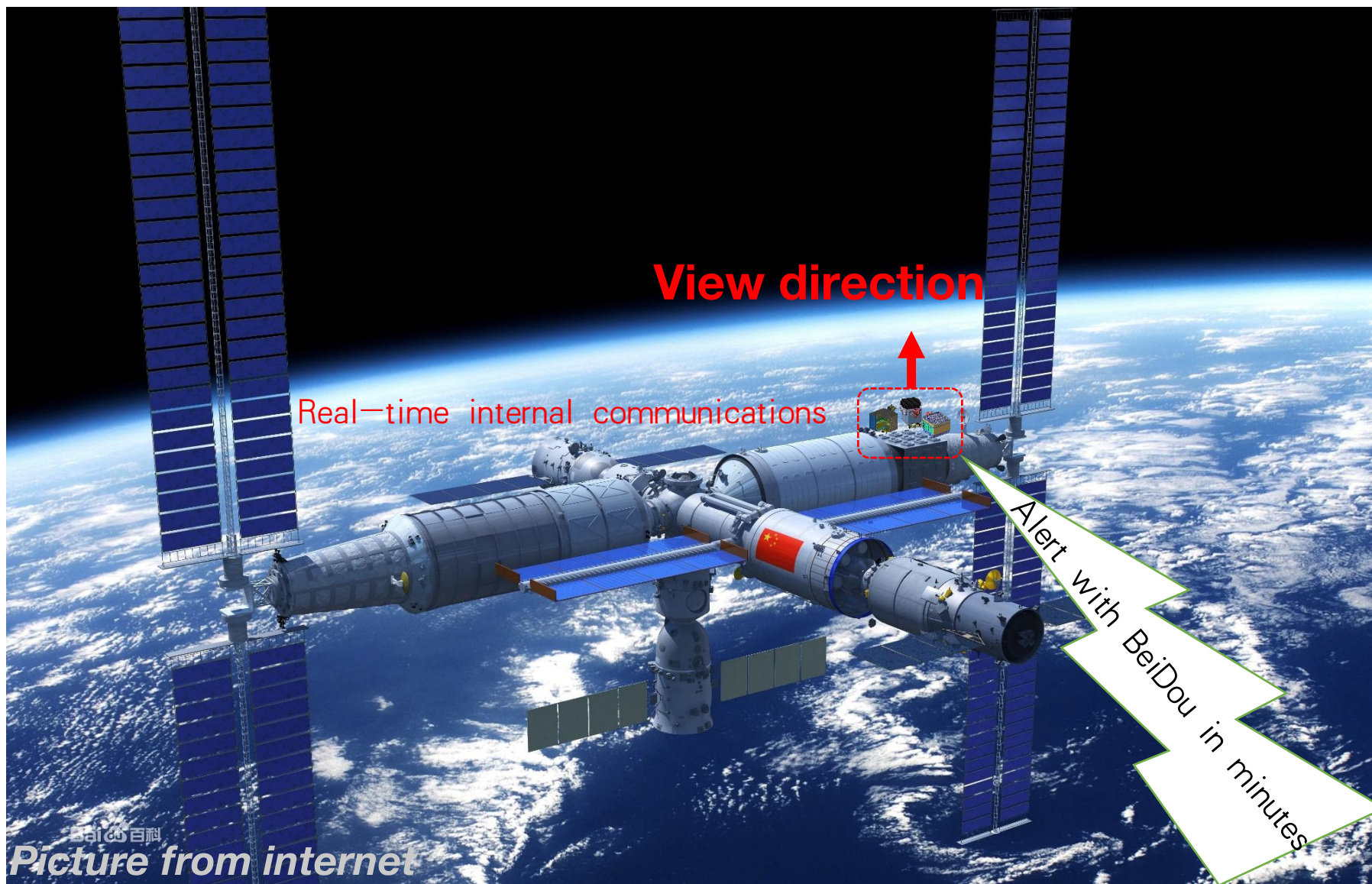


BSD



4. GRB Polarimetry with POLAR-2: synergies among the three

- Joint detection and alert (follow-ups): HPD ($>2\pi$ sr), LPD ($\sim\pi$), BSD($\sim1.3\pi$)





5. Summary and outlook

◎ Polarimetry helps understanding GRBs

- Probing magnetic field configuration
- Diagnosing radiation mechanism
- Determining emission geometry

◎ POLAR (2016–2017)

- GRBs: moderate PD (~10%) + hint of PA evolution
- Currently are still not able to discriminate plenty of models (limited by statistics)
- Future orientation: time-/energy-resolved polarimetry & large sample studies

◎ POLAR-2 (2026–20XX)

- 4 times bigger and 10 times more sensitive than POLAR
- HPD, LPD, BSD joint detections: fixed spectral & location dependences; energy-resolved by default
- Will enlarge the sample of GRB polarimetry with better precision (some >5 sigma)
- Alert system hopefully triggers multi-wavelength/-messenger campaigns

Stay tuned!
Thanks for your attention.

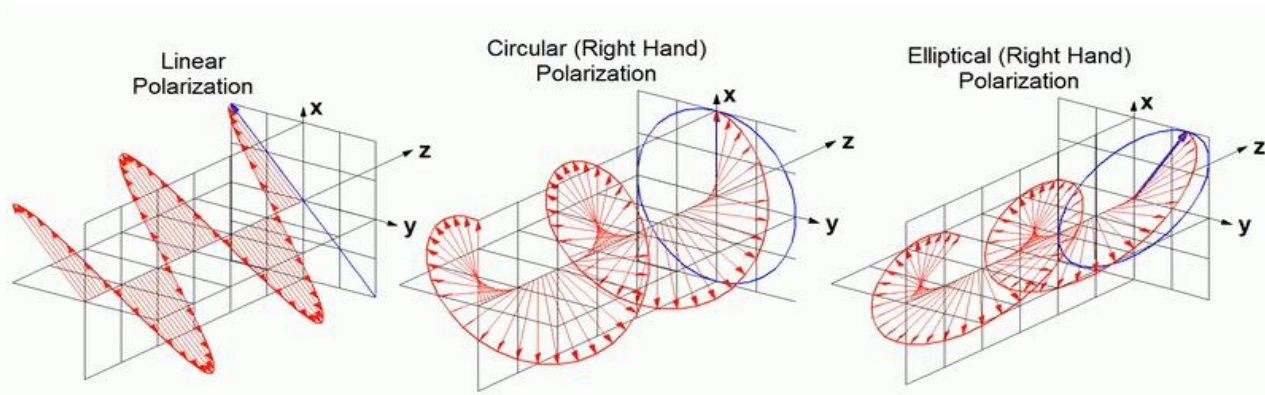
Later Time

Early Time

Backup slides



1. Polarimetry and POLAR: first principles

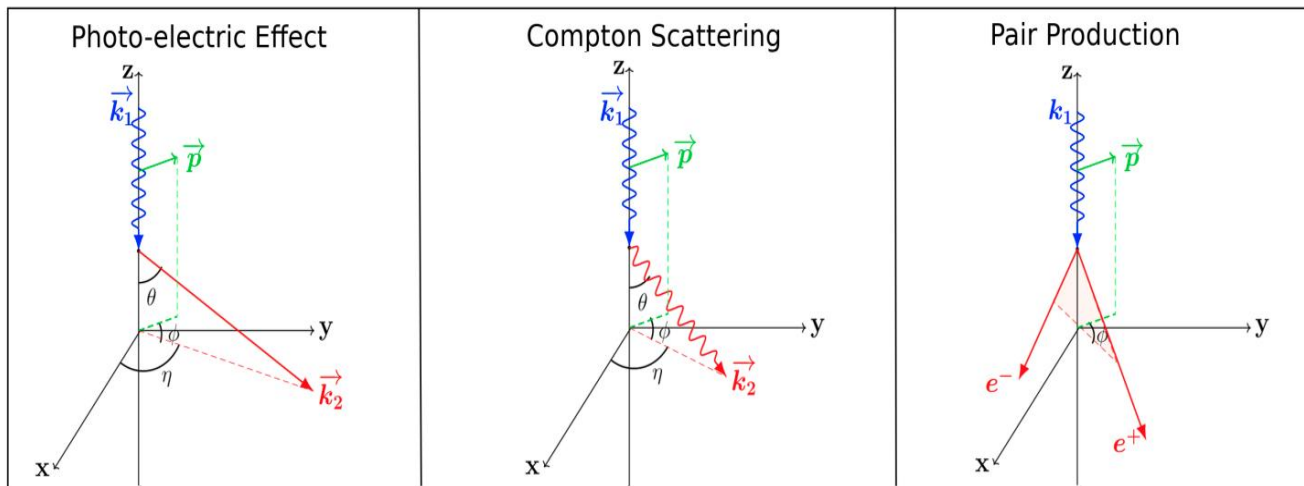
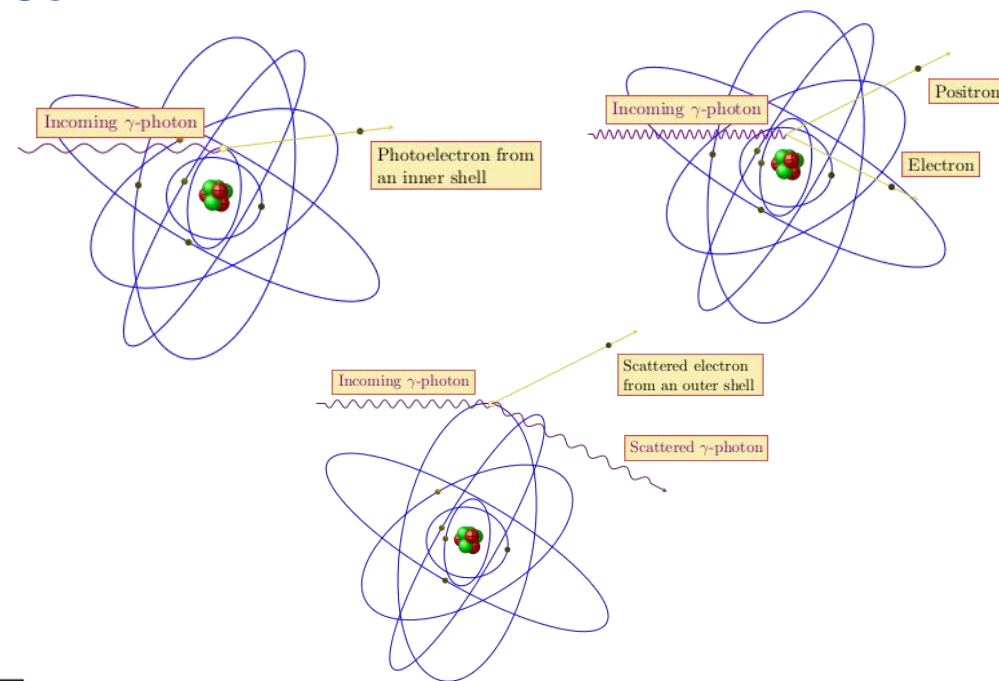


$$E_x = E_{0x} \cos(\omega t - kz + \varphi_x)$$

$$E_y = E_{0y} \cos(\omega t - kz + \varphi_y)$$

$$\left(\frac{E_x}{E_{0x}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{E_y}{E_{0y}}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{E_x}{E_{0x}}\right)\left(\frac{E_y}{E_{0y}}\right)\cos\varphi = \sin^2\varphi$$

© Linear polarization (when $\varphi = n\pi$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}_0^+$)

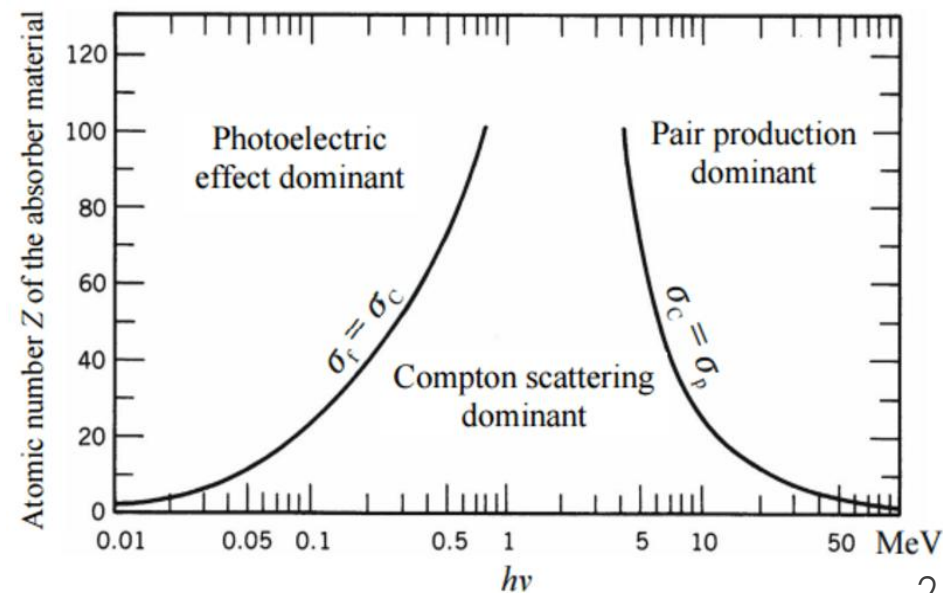


$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \propto \cos^2\phi$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{r_0^2}{2} \frac{E'^2}{E^2} \left(\frac{E'}{E} + \frac{E}{E'} - 2\sin^2\theta \cos^2\phi \right)$$

$$d\sigma/d\Omega \propto 1 + A(\cos 2\phi)$$

[10.3390/galaxies9040082](https://doi.org/10.3390/galaxies9040082)



1. Polarimetry and POLAR: measuring techniques

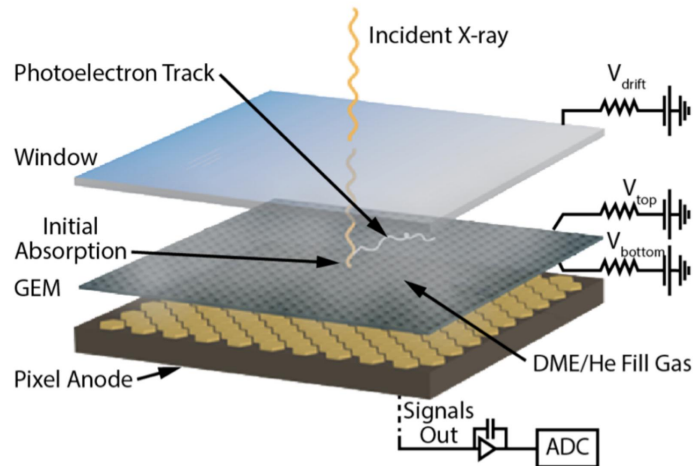
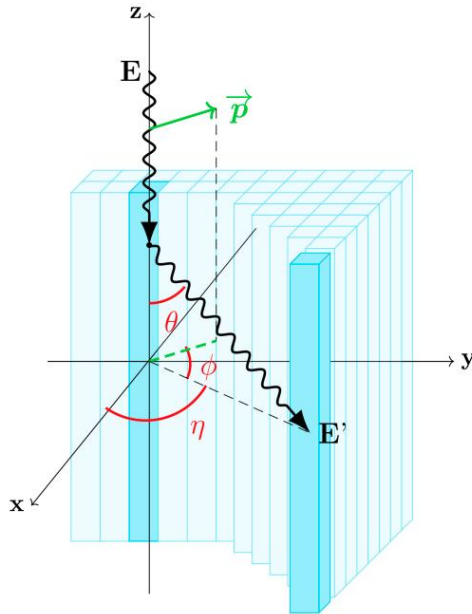


Photo-electric in a gas chamber



Compton scattering in plastics

Stokes parameters:

$$S_0 = I = \langle E_x^2 + E_y^2 \rangle,$$

$$S_1 = Q = \langle E_x^2 - E_y^2 \rangle,$$

$$S_2 = U = \langle 2E_x E_y \cos \delta \rangle,$$

$$S_3 = V = \langle 2E_x E_y \sin \delta \rangle$$

$$Q = \cos 2\psi$$

$$U = \sin 2\psi$$

$$I = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}$$

$$p_1 = \frac{\sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}}{I} \quad \tan 2\psi = \frac{U}{Q}$$

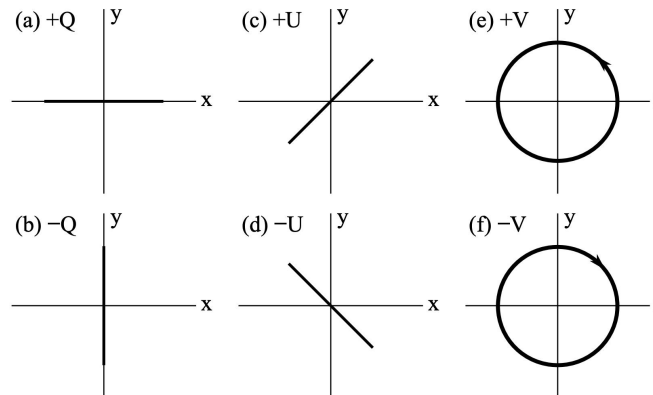


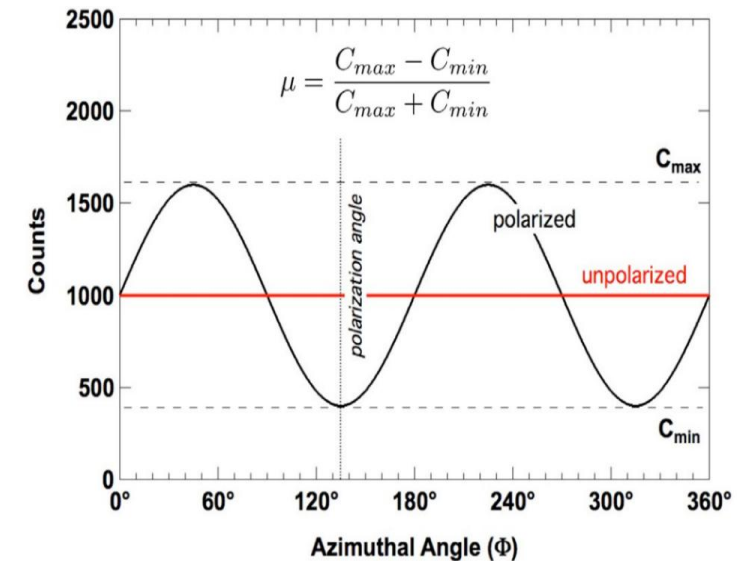
Figure 1: Polarization for different values of the Stokes parameters.
(a) $Q > 0, U = 0, V = 0$; (b) $Q < 0, U = 0, V = 0$; (c) $U > 0, Q = 0, V = 0$; (d) $U < 0, Q = 0, V = 0$; (e) $V > 0, Q = 0, U = 0$; (f) $V < 0, Q = 0, U = 0$.

[Kislat et al. 2015](#)

Fitting modulation curves:

$$C(\eta, \Phi) = A \times \cos \left[2 \left(\eta - \Phi + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right] + B.$$

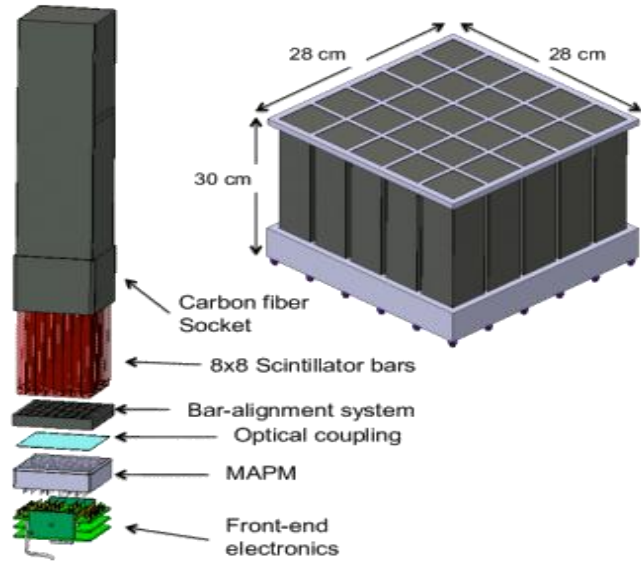
$$\mu = \frac{A}{B} = \frac{C_{\max} - C_{\min}}{C_{\max} + C_{\min}}, \quad \Pi = \frac{\mu}{\mu_{100}}.$$



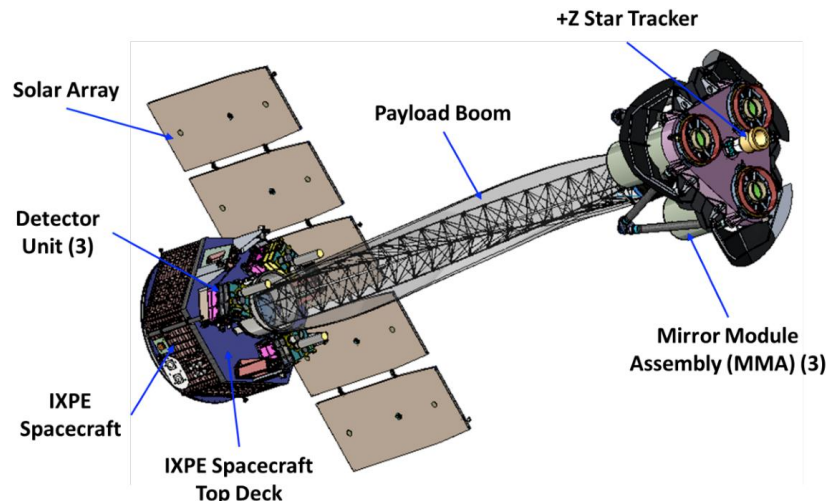
[e.g. Li et al. 2022](#)



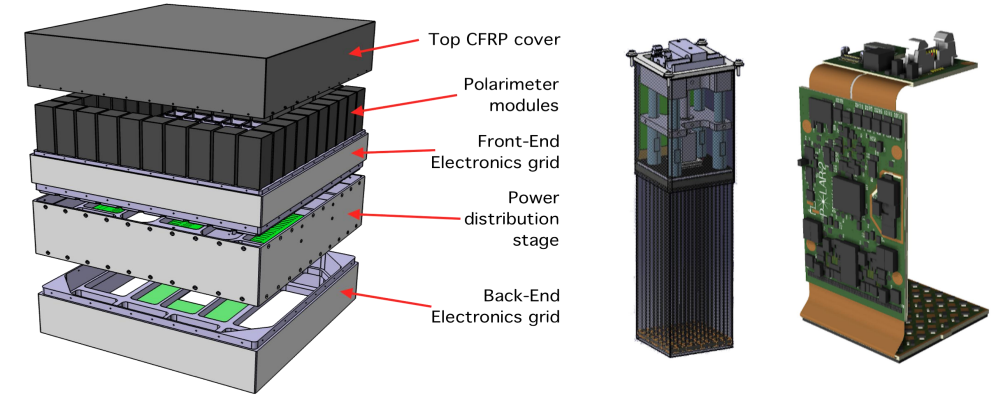
1. Polarimetry and POLAR: state-of-art polarimeters



POLAR (50–500 keV, GRB/Pulsar) 2016 – 2017



IXPE (2–10 keV, multi-class) 2021 – now



POLAR-2 (10–800 keV, GRB/Pulsar/SFL) 2025 – 2026



eXTP (2–10 keV multi-class) 2027 – 20XX



1. Polarimetry and POLAR: collaboration and the mission

Collaboration

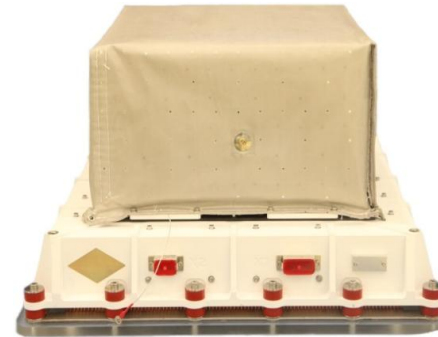
- China (IHEP)
- Switzerland (UNIGE, PSI, ISDC)
- Poland (NCBJ)

Development phases

- 2005–2010, concept and prototype
- 2011–2013, qualification model
- 2013–2016, flight model

Launch and operation

- Tiangong-2 space lab
- Launched on 15/09/2016
- Pointing to the sky always
- Scanning / periodic orbit
- Six months of observation (HV failure)



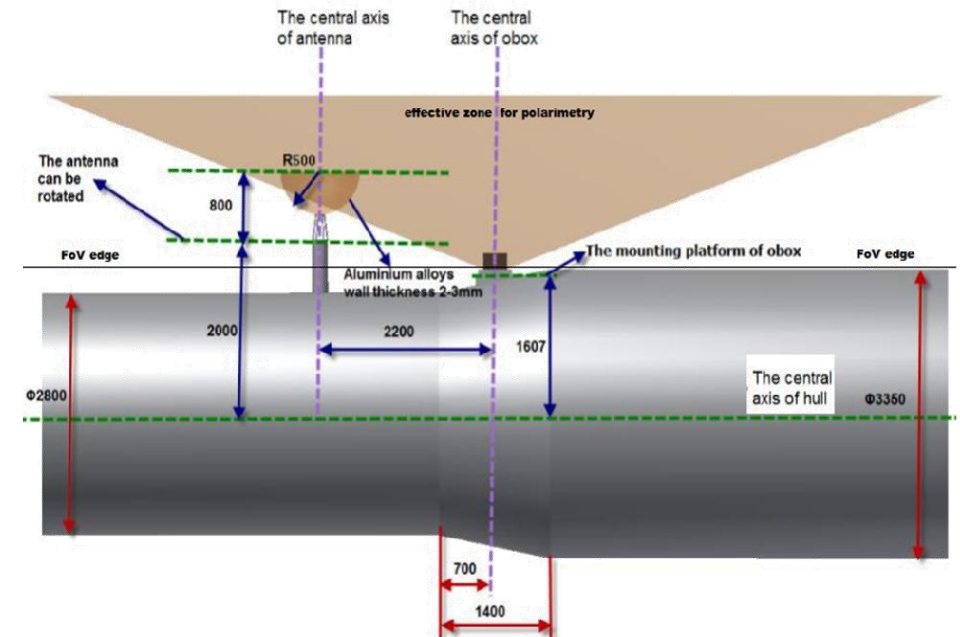
OBOX
Sensitive detector



IBOX
Electronics & interfaces



Credit: South China Morning Post

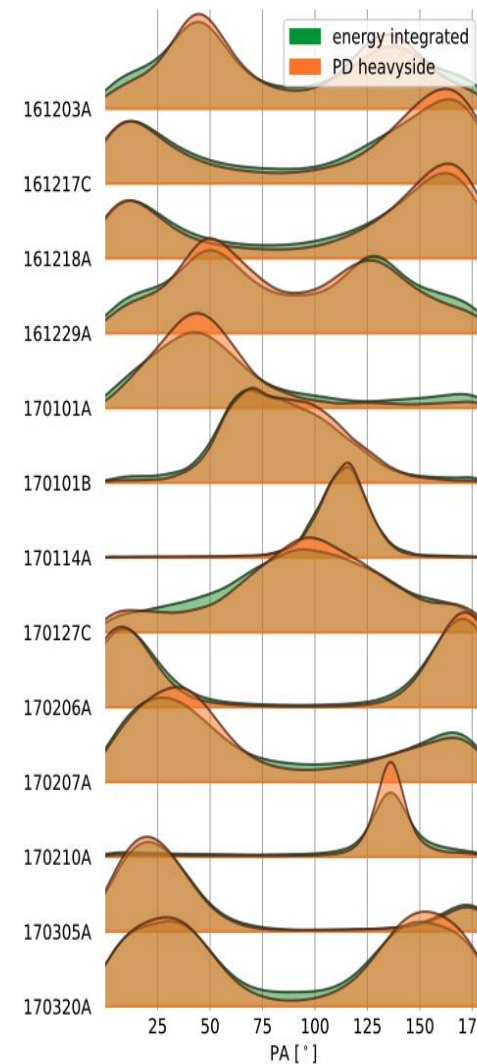
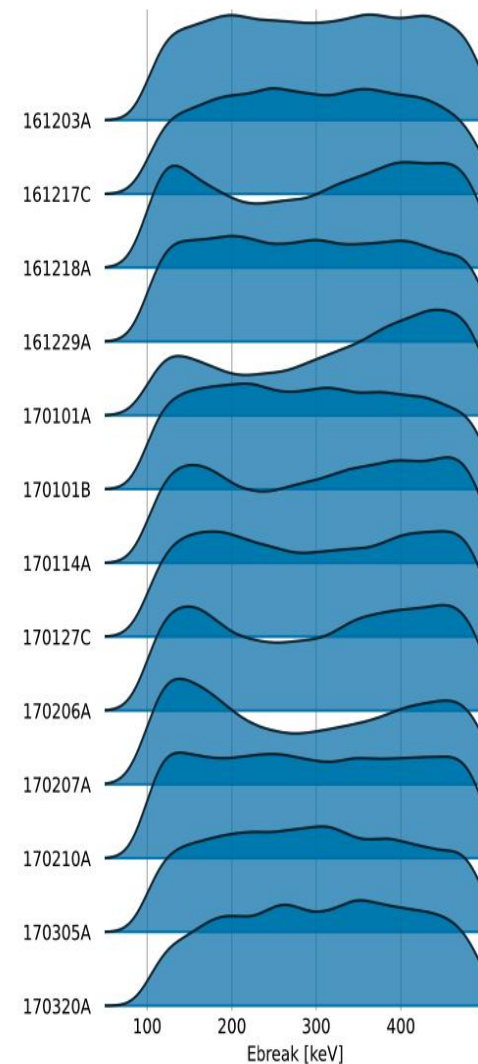
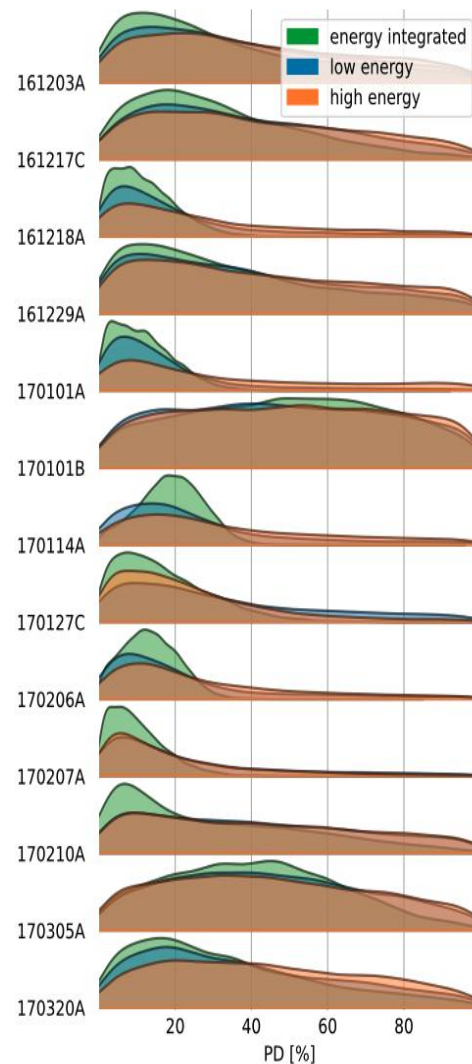
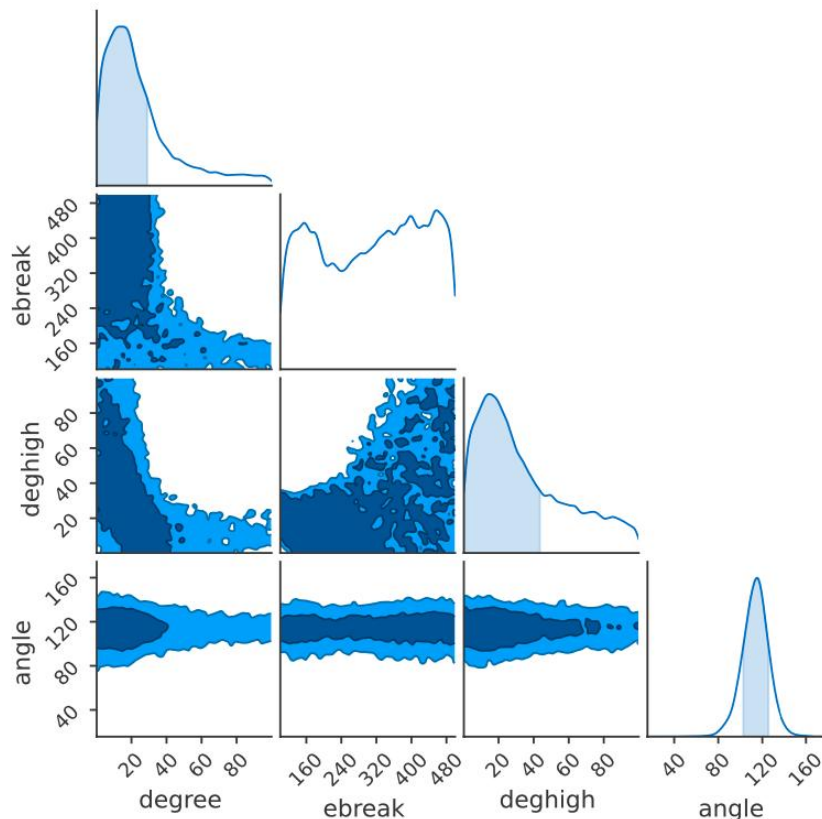




1. GRB observations with POLAR: energy-resolved results

$$PD = \begin{cases} PD_{low} & \text{if } E < E_{break} \\ PD_{high} & \text{if } E > E_{break} \end{cases}$$

$PA = cst.$



Two energy bins, dynamic E_{break}

Ongoing with other E-dependent models

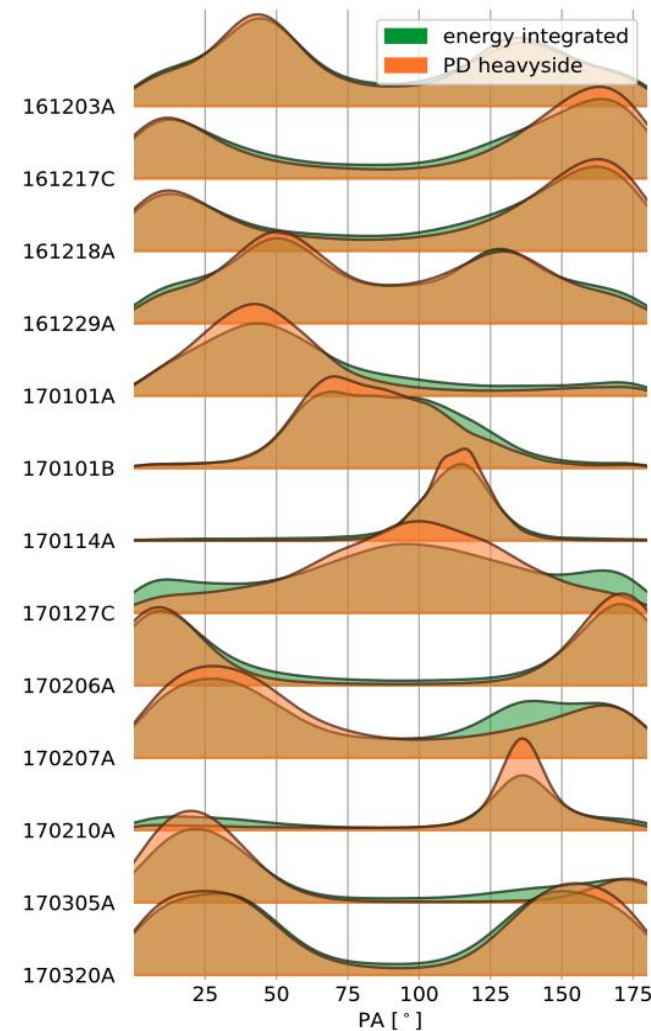
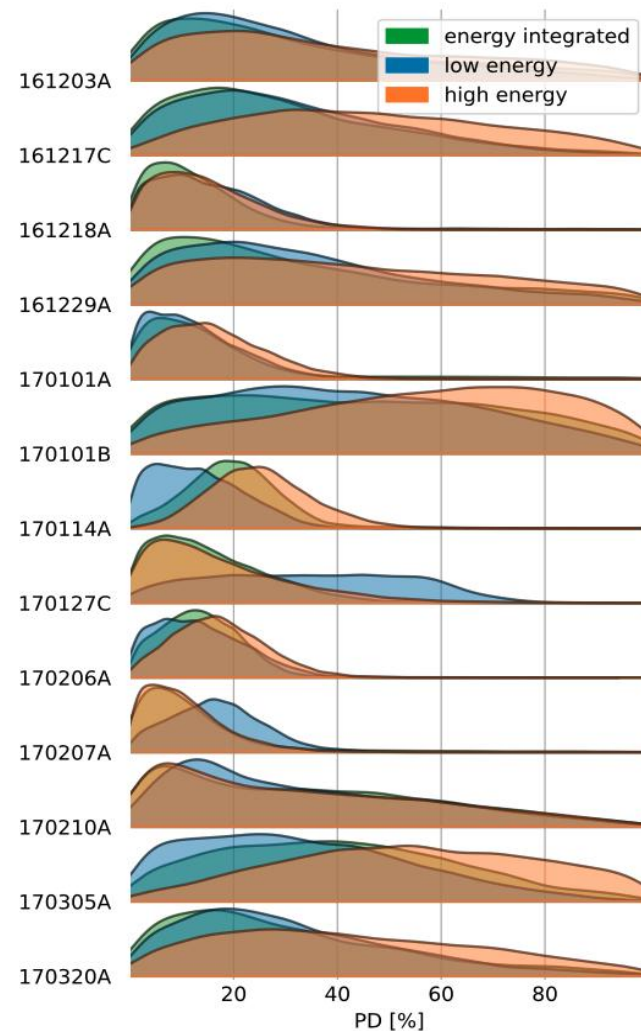
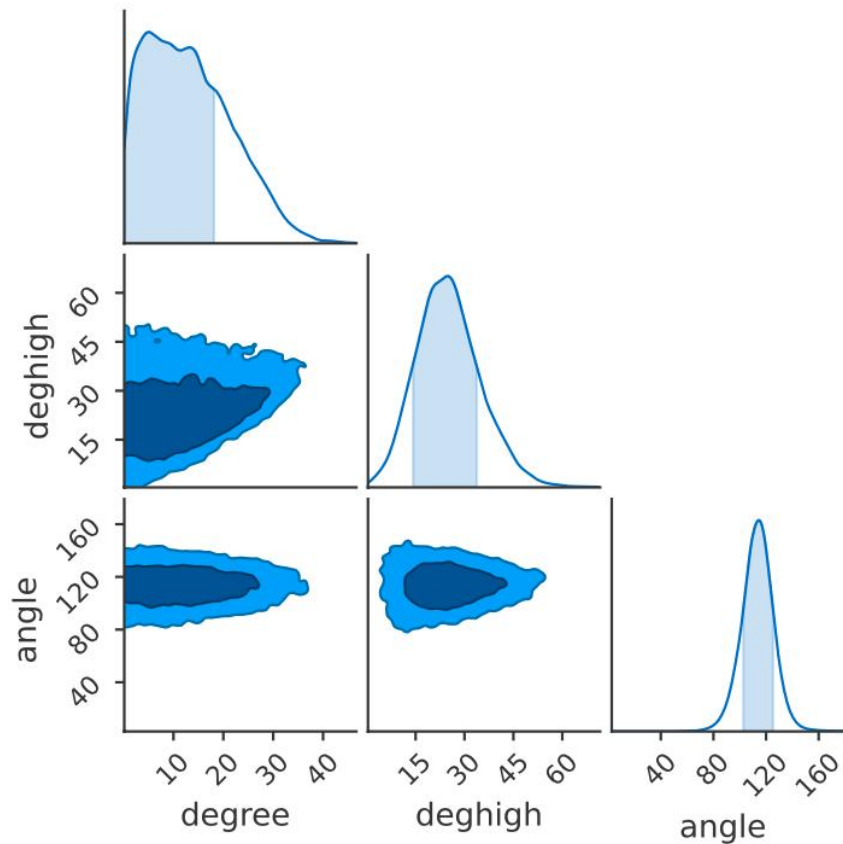
No significant energy dependence, need better statistics



1. GRB observations with POLAR: energy-resolved results

$$PD = \begin{cases} PD_{low} & \text{if } E < 150 \text{ keV} \\ PD_{high} & \text{if } E > 150 \text{ keV} \end{cases}$$

$$PA = cst.$$

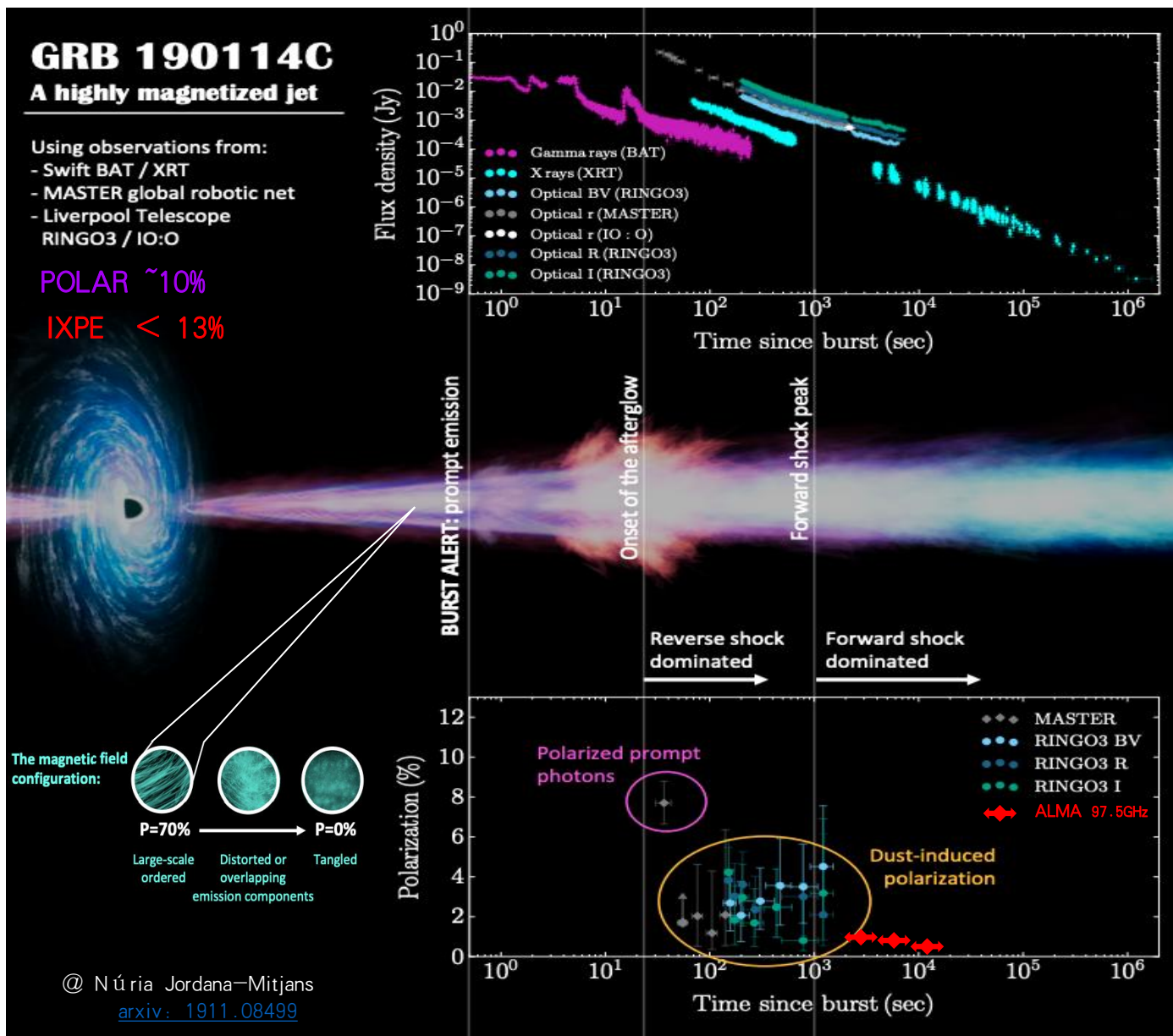


Two energy bins, E_{break} fixed at 150 keV
Ongoing with other E-dependent models

No significant energy dependence, need better statistics



2. GRB observations with POLAR

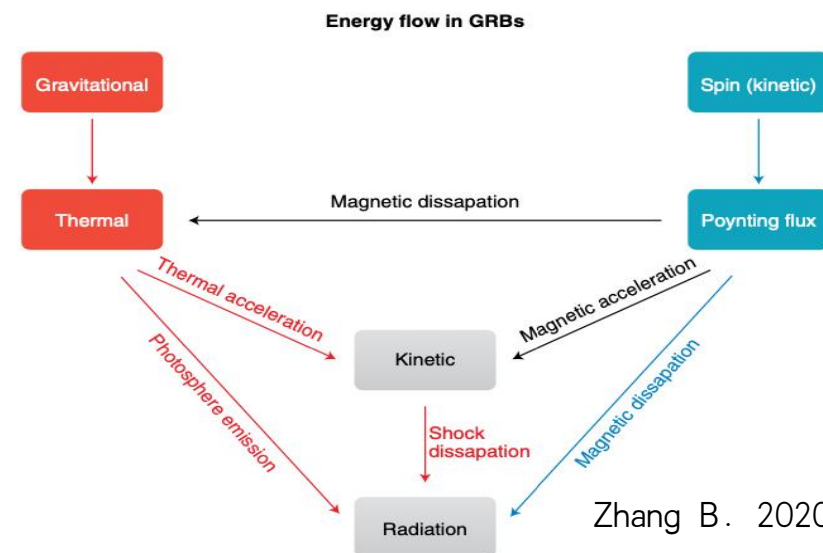


© GRB 190114C: optical polarization probe the magnetic field

- prompt PD $\sim 7.7\%$ \rightarrow large-scaled ordered magnetic field
- afterglow PD $\sim 2\%$ (PA not changing) in ambient medium
- radio (97.5Hz) afterglow PD decrease from 0.87% to 0.60%
- jet was launched highly magnetized, and advected to prompt phase, then distorted on timescales prior to reverse shock
- support magnetic dissipation mechanisms (e.g., reconnection)
- forward shock SSC is favored for explaining sub-TeV and low PD

© X/ γ ray polarimetry (multi-wavelength and time evolution)

- POLAR (50–500 keV): 14 GRBs PD $\sim 10\%$; a hint of PA evolution
- IXPE (2–8 keV): afterglow PD $< 13\%$ for GRB 221009A, which has 5000 VHE photons (up to 18 TeV) detected by LHAASO
- LC + SED + polarization (SSC frame) \rightarrow jet geometry and models

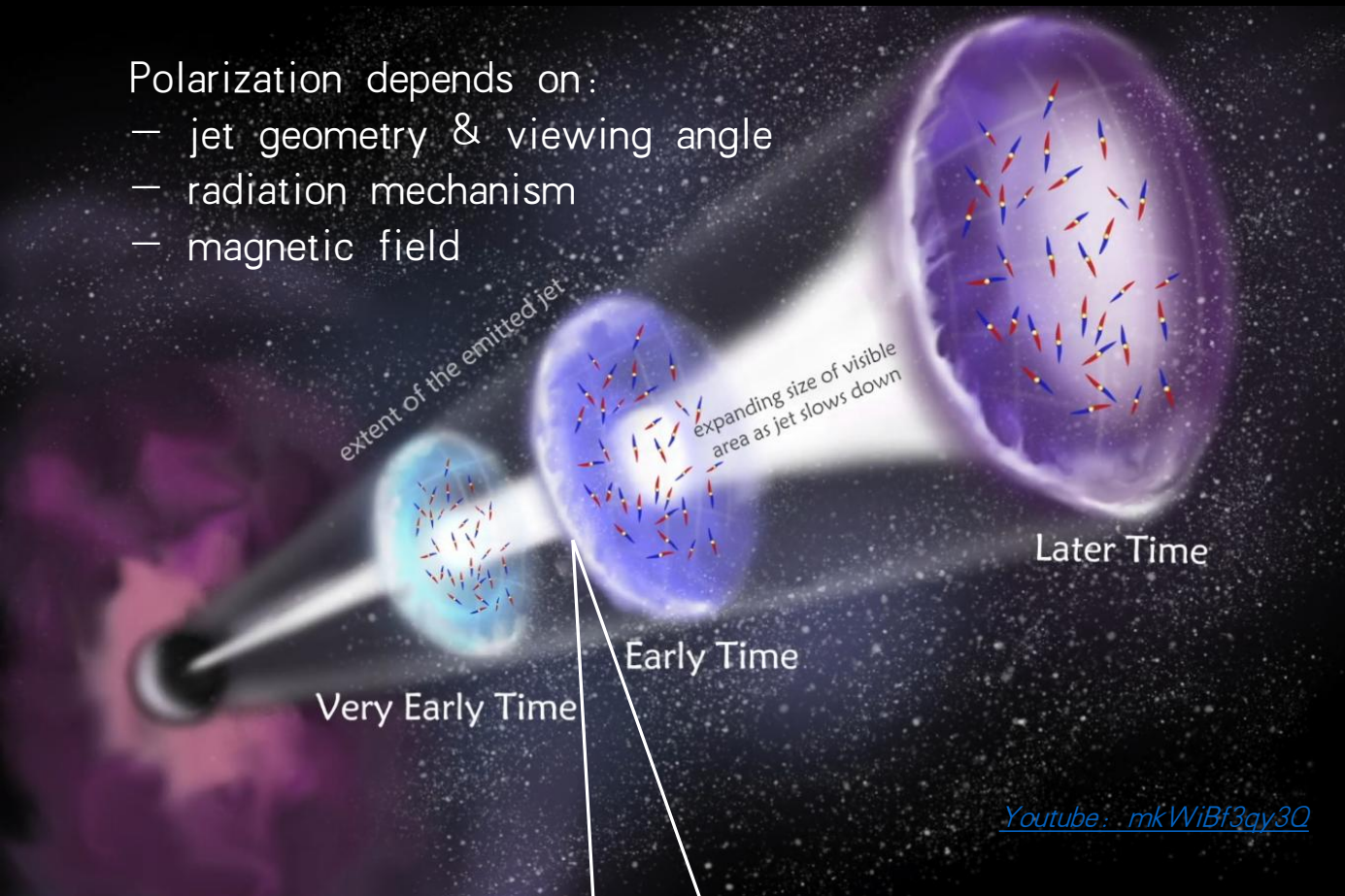




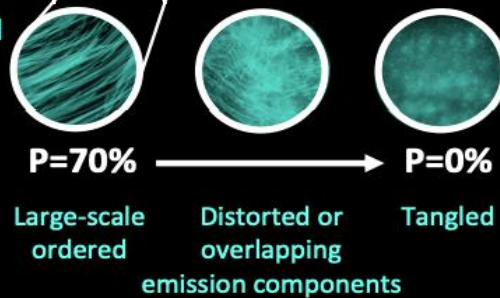
2. GRB observations with POLAR

Polarization depends on:

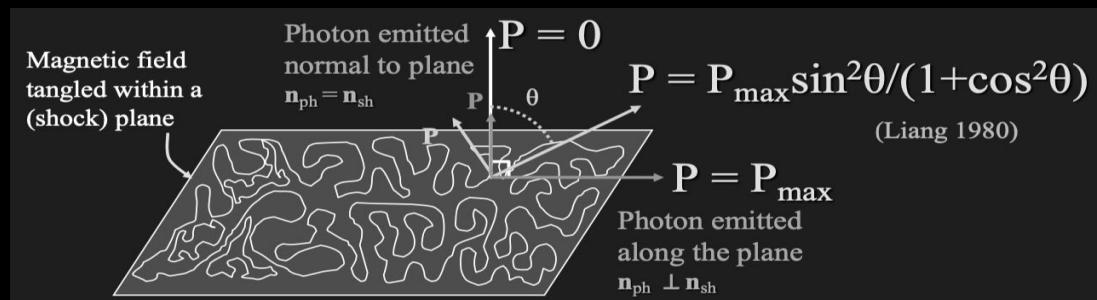
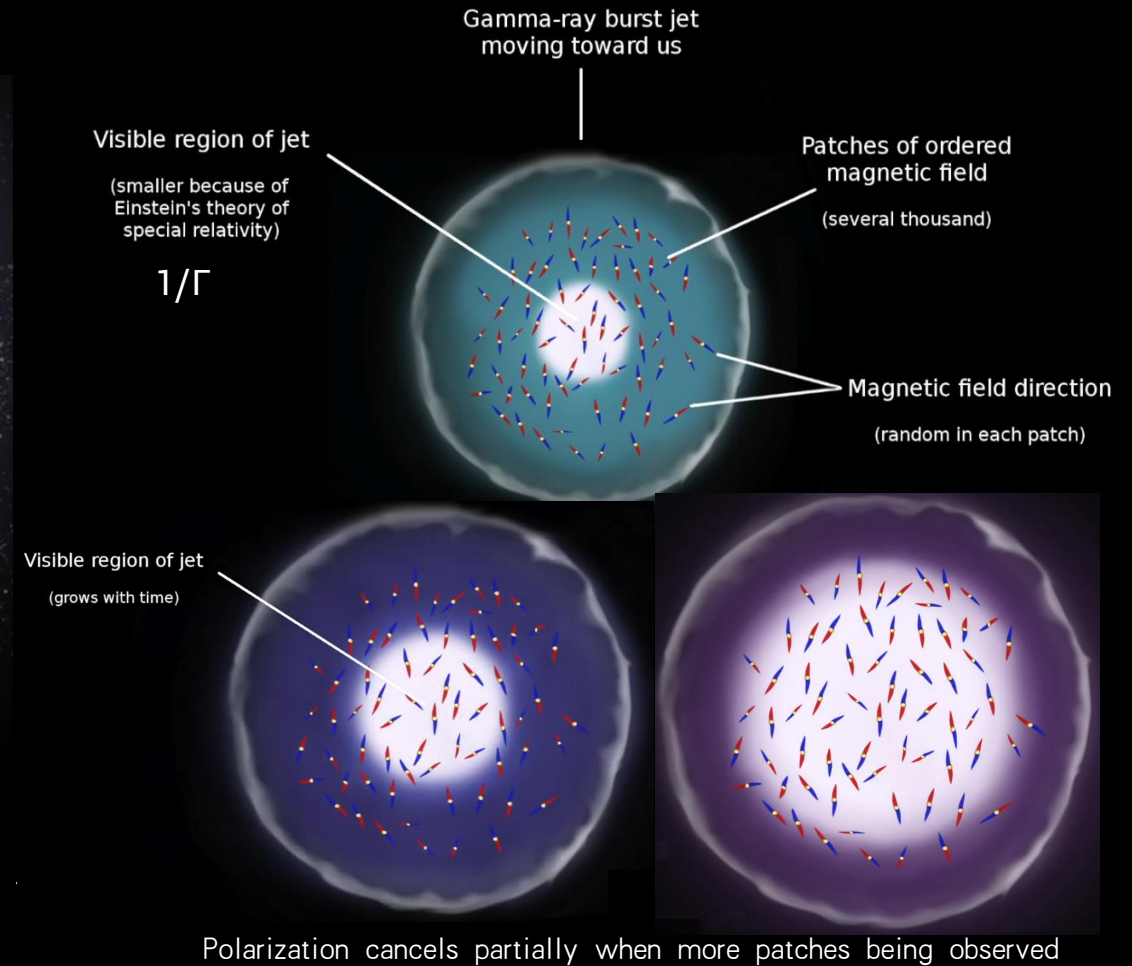
- jet geometry & viewing angle
- radiation mechanism
- magnetic field



The magnetic field configuration:

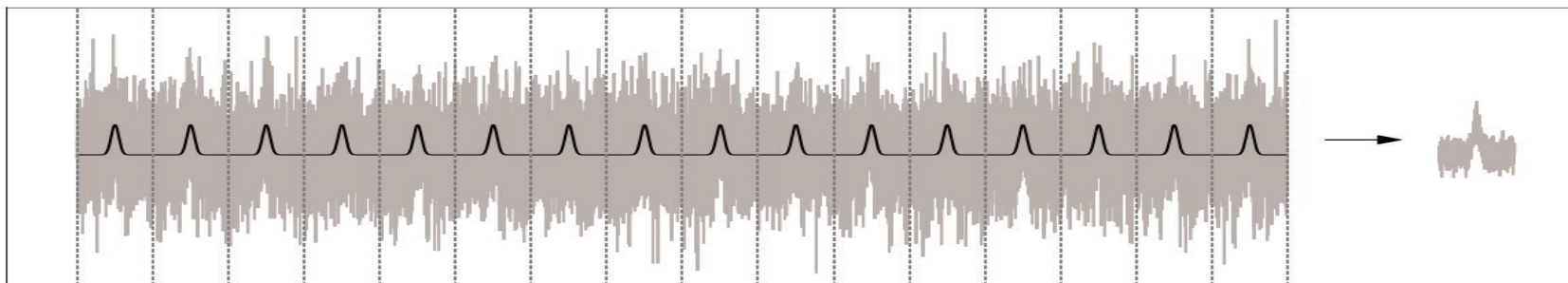
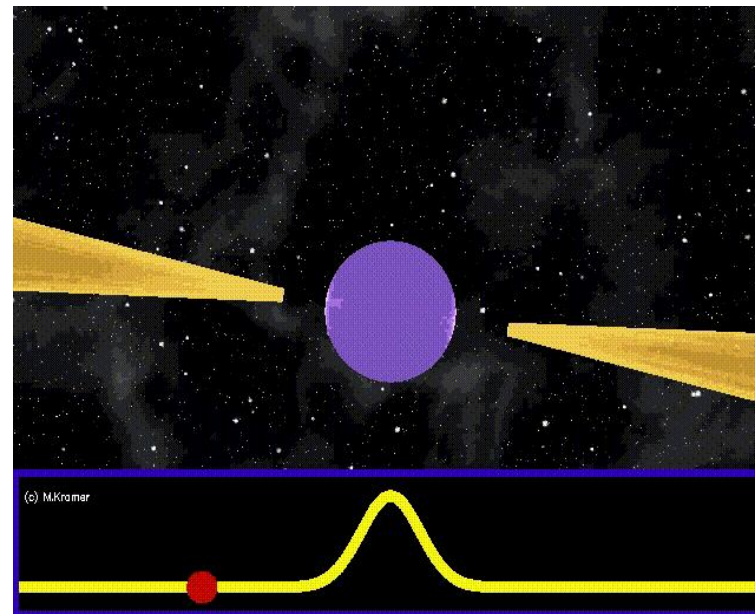
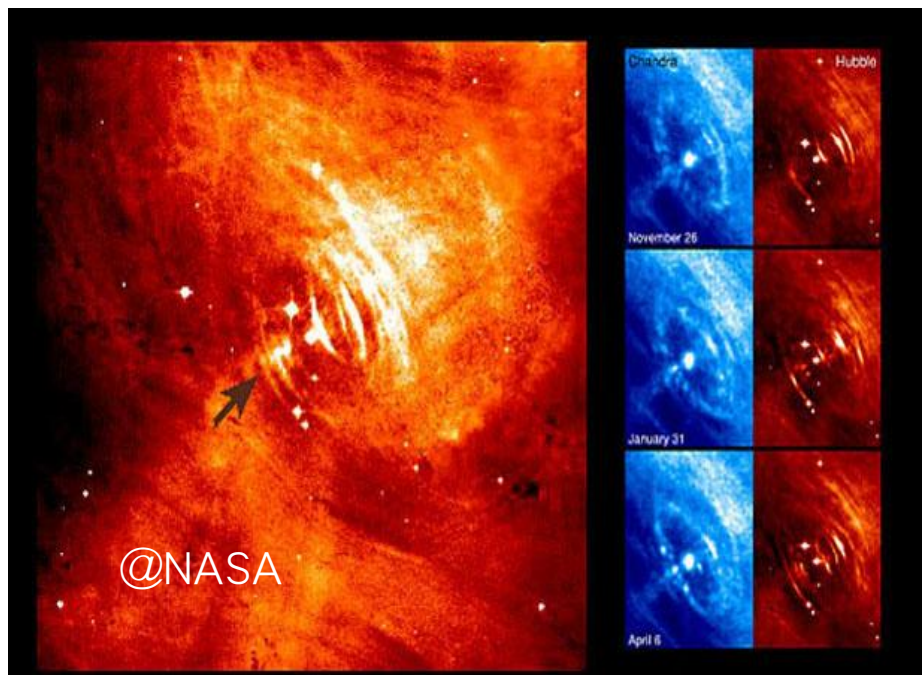


[Youtube: mkWiBf3qy3Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkWiBf3qy3Q)





3. Pulsar observations with POLAR: stacking the periodic signal

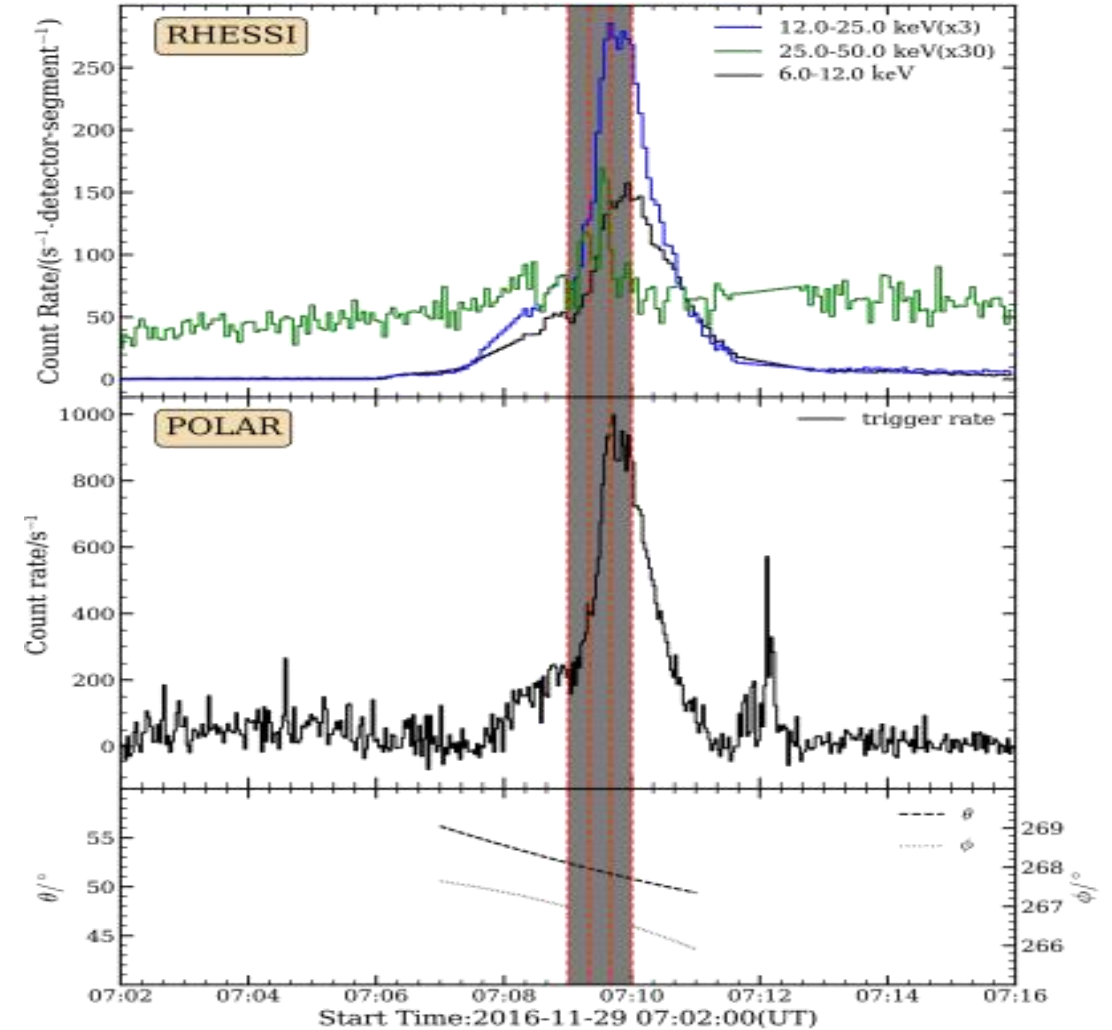




4. Other observations: solar flares

No.	编号	峰值时间 (UTC)	持续时间 (seconds)	总光子数 (counts)	入射角 (°) (θ, ϕ)	运行模式	备注
1	SFL161012498	2016-10-12T11:53:58	67	5561	(41, 228)	DM	-
2	SFL161128330	2016-11-28T07:59:55	135	8463	(71, 268)	DM	-
3	SFL161129299	2016-11-29T07:09:42	161	72038	(51, 267)	DM	-
4	SFL161130056	2016-11-30T01:19:21	229	77519	(86, 269)	DM	-
5	SFL161130645	2016-11-30T15:24:35	64	5644	(43, 267)	DM	-
6	SFL170209293	2017-02-09T07:01:43	120	23377	(56, 62)	SM	-
7	SFL170327764	2017-03-27T18:18:09	119	6447	(42, 258)	DM	单模块 触发
8	SFL170328139	2017-03-28T03:23:04	164	12601	(54, 259)	DM	-
9	SFL170328205	2017-03-28T04:54:06	375	10902	(55, 259)	DM	单模块 触发

A list of 9 solar flares

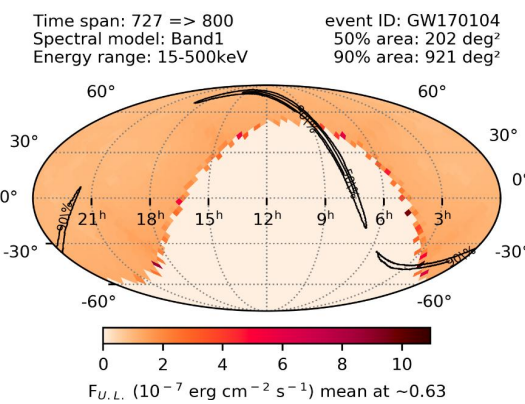
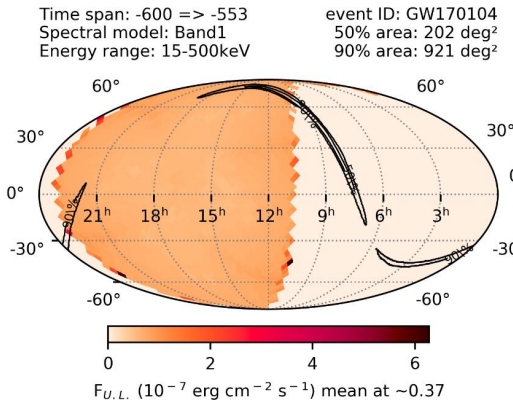
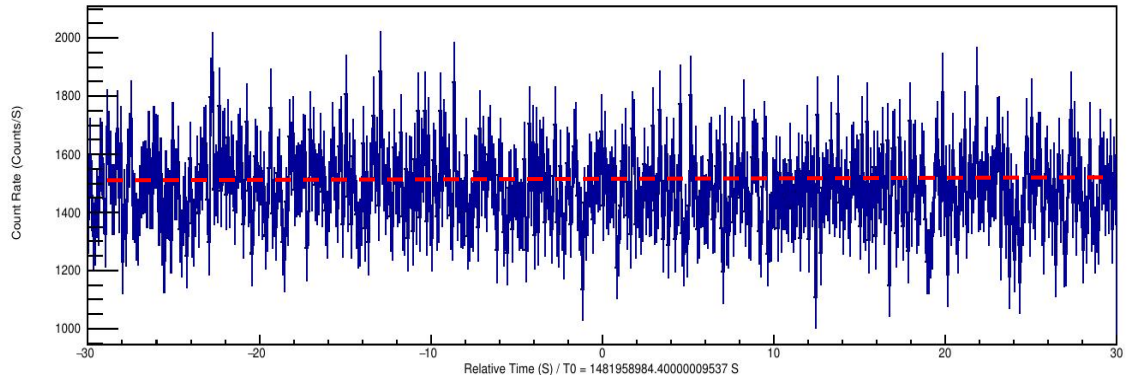
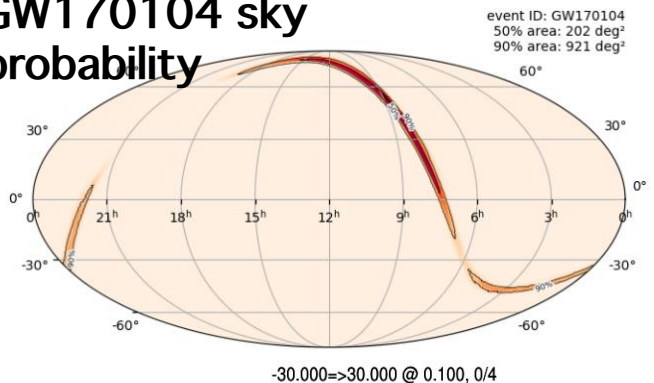


(Zhang, P., et al, 2020)



4. Other observations: GW follow-up observations

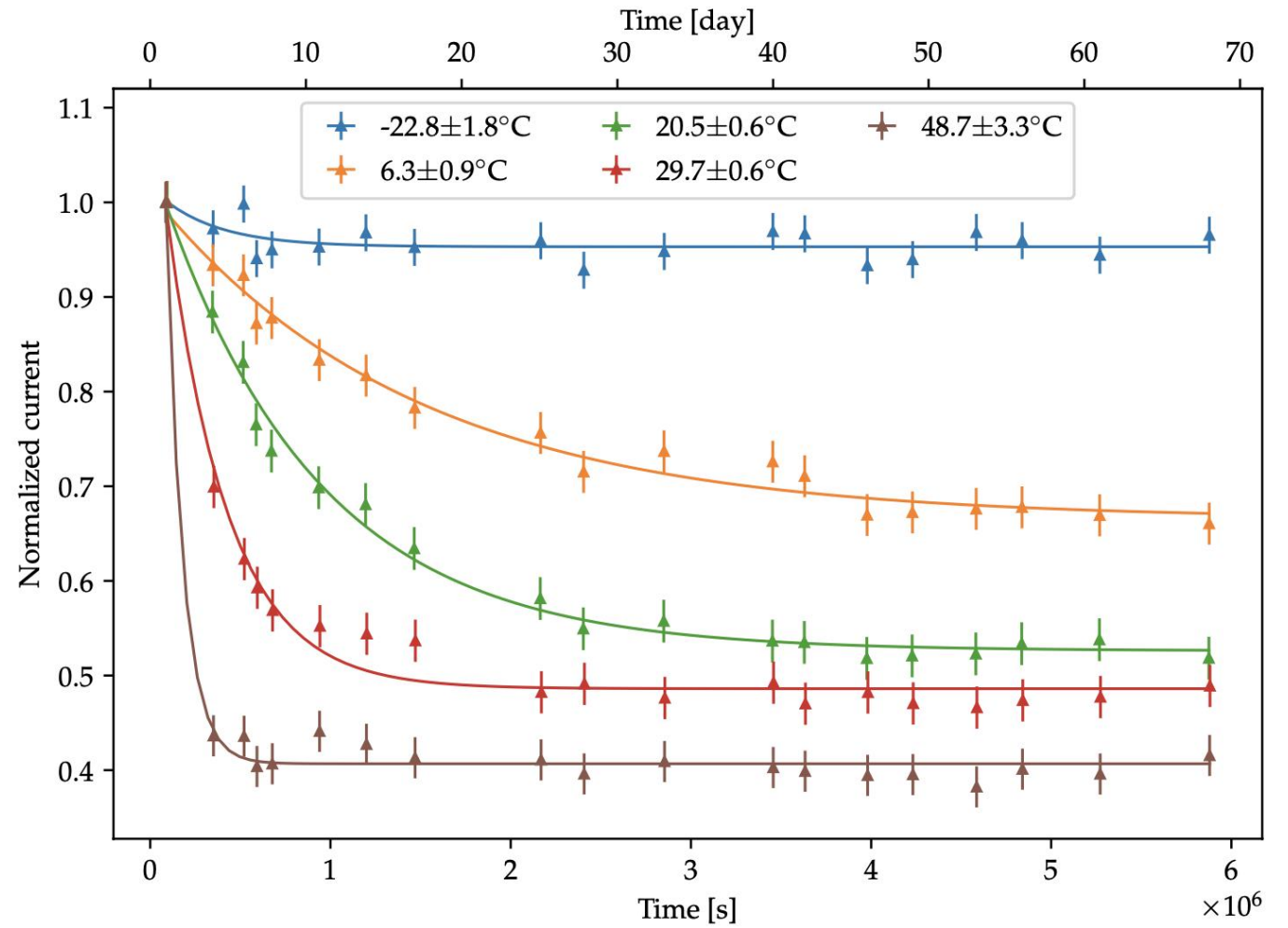
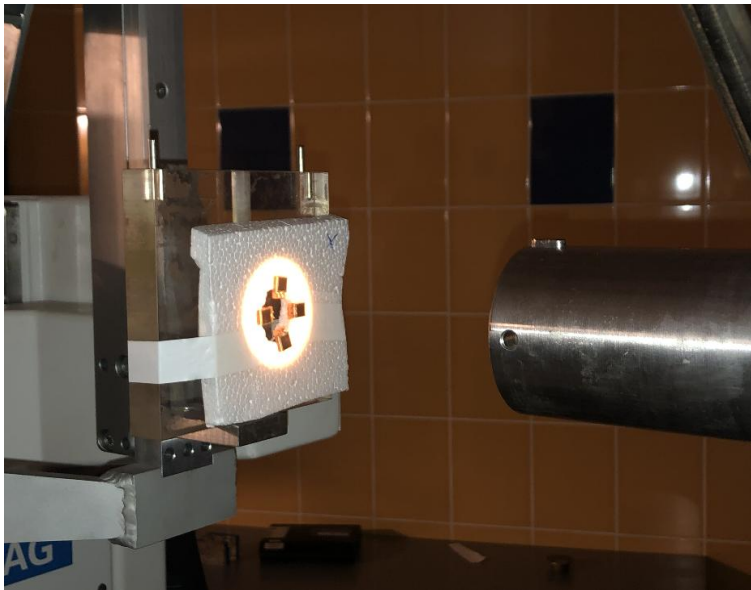
GW170104 sky probability



UID	UTC-T ₀	T _{start} (s)	T _{end} (s)	Band1	Band2	Band3
170104	2017-01-04T10:11:58.6	-600	-553	3.7E-8	2.8E-8	2.1E-8
170104	2017-01-04T10:11:58.6	+727	+800	6.3E-8	4.7E-8	3.5E-8
161202	2016-12-02T03:53:44.9	-826	-816	7.3E-8	5.5E-8	4.1E-8
161202	2016-12-02T03:53:44.9	+555	+600	3.9E-8	2.9E-8	2.2E-8
161217	2016-12-17T07:16:24.4	-30	+30	7.3E-9	8.5E-9	1.1E-8
170208	2017-02-08T10:39:25.8	-712	-703	3.1E-8	3.6E-8	4.8E-8
170208	2017-02-08T10:39:25.8	+619	+700	1.5E-8	1.8E-8	2.4E-8
170219	2017-02-19T14:04:09.0	-30	+30	1.4E-8	1.7E-8	2.2E-8

instrument	particle	energy	$F_{U.L.}$ erg cm ⁻² s ⁻¹
Fermi/GBM	photon	10 ~ 1000 keV	5.2E-7 ~ 9.4E-7
Fermi/LAT	photon	0.11 GeV	0.2E-9 ~ 90E-9
INTEGRAL	photon	75 keV ~ 2 MeV	1.9E-7 ~ 1E-6
AGILE/MCAL	photon	50 MeV ~ 10 GeV	2.9E-8 ~ 1.1E-6
Antares	neutrino	3.2 TeV ~ 3.6 PeV 5% ~ 95% quantiles	1.2E+55 erg

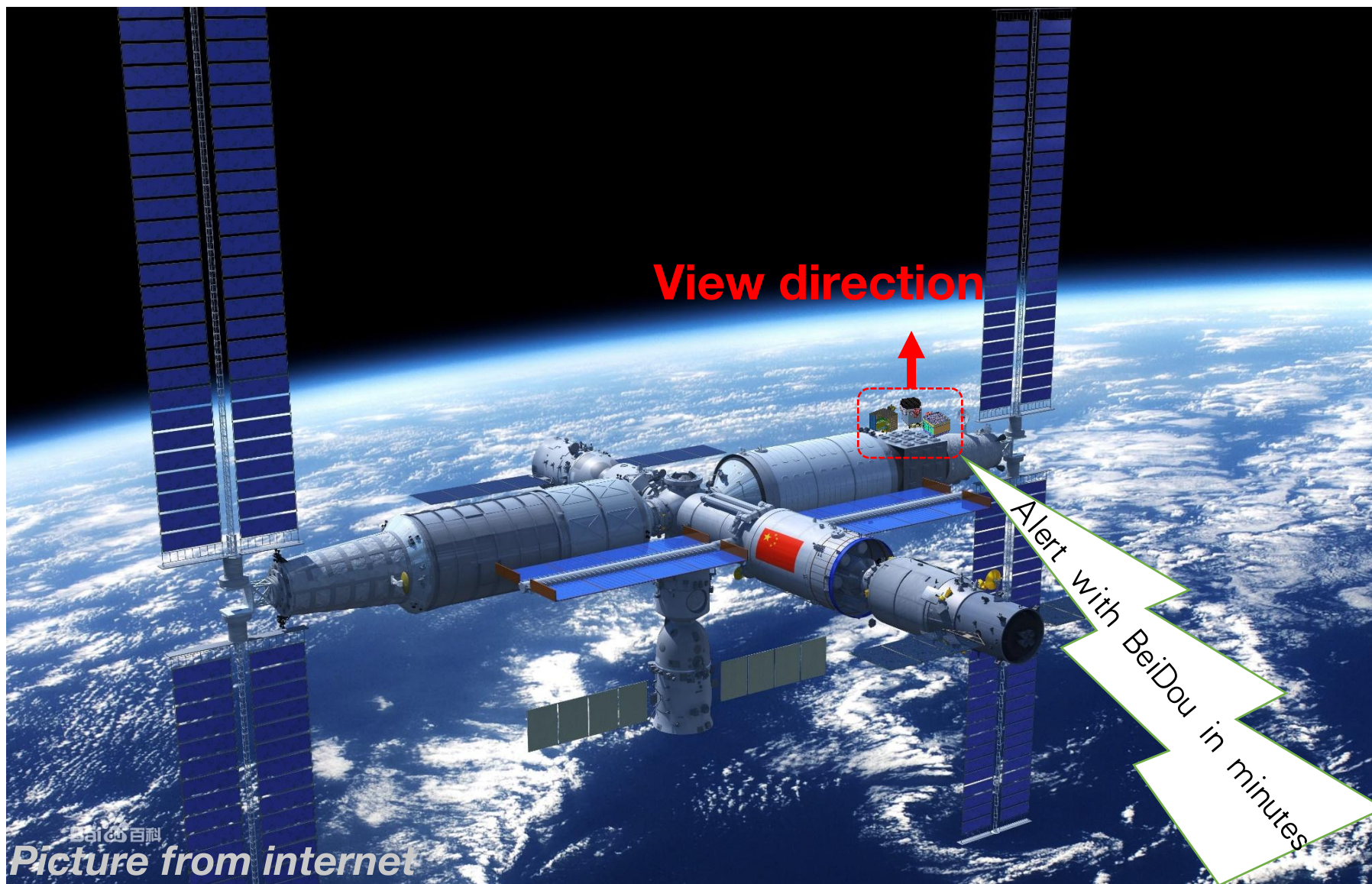
SiPM annealing





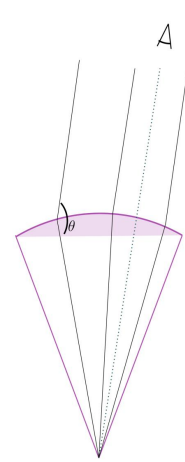
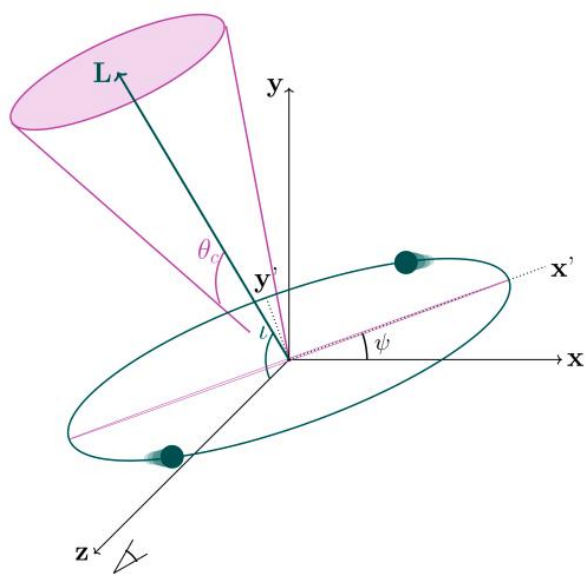
5. POLAR-2: performances (see Merlin`s talk)

- Joint detection and alert: HPD ($\sim 180^\circ \times 180^\circ$), LPD ($\sim 90^\circ \times 90^\circ$), BSD ($\sim 120^\circ \times 120^\circ$)





4. POLAR-2



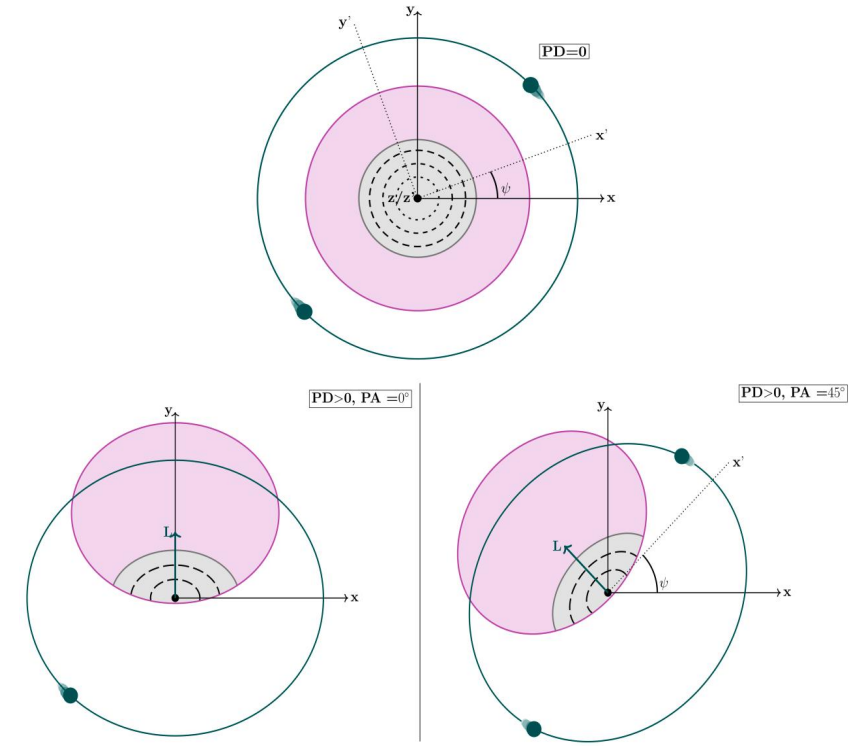
Photosphere model

Parameter	Description	Units	Prior range
m_1	detector-frame primary mass	M_\odot	$(0, +\infty)$
m_2	detector-frame secondary mass	M_\odot	$(0, m_1]$
d_L	luminosity distance	Gpc	$(0, +\infty)$
θ, ϕ	polar and azimuthal sky angles	rad	$[0, \pi], [0, 2\pi]$
ι	inclination angle w.r.t. orbital angular momentum	rad	$[0, \pi]$
ψ	polarization angle	rad	$[0, \pi]$
t_c	time of coalescence GMST	day	$[0, 1]$
Φ_c	phase at coalescence	rad	$[0, 2\pi]$
$\chi_{i,z}$	spin component of object $i = \{1, 2\}$ along axis z	–	$[-1, 1]$
Λ_i	adimensional tidal deformability of object $i = \{1, 2\}$	–	$[0, +\infty)$

Kole et al. 2022

PD=0%

PD>0%



Emission model predictions				
Model	PD ($\iota < \theta_c$)	PD ($\iota > \theta_c$)	PA ($\iota < \theta_c$)	PA ($\iota > \theta_c$)
Photosphere	0	Low ($< 20\%$)	–	ψ
Compton Drag	0	Medium ($< 40\%$)	–	ψ
Synch. Rand.	0	Medium ($< 40\%$)	–	$\psi + \pi/2$
Synch. Tor.	High ($\sim 50\%$)	0	$\psi + \pi/2$	–
Synch. $B_{ }$	0	High ($> 50\%$)	–	random

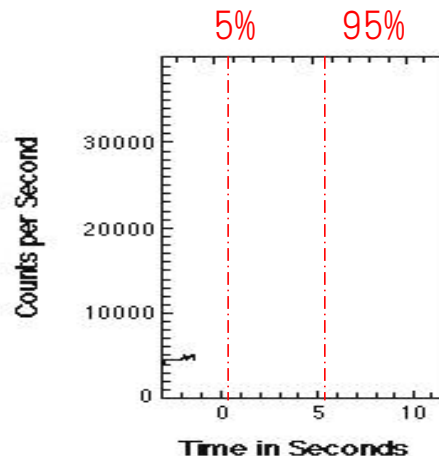
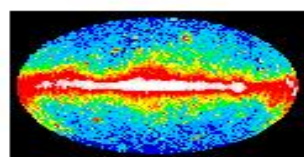
Number of GW detections							
Network	$\Theta \leq 20^\circ$	$\Theta \leq 33^\circ$	$\Delta\psi \leq 30^\circ$	$\Delta\iota \leq 30^\circ$	$\Theta \leq 20^\circ \ \& \ \Delta\psi \leq 30^\circ$	$\Theta \leq 33^\circ \ \& \ \Delta\psi \leq 30^\circ$	$\Theta \leq 33^\circ \ \& \ \Delta\iota \leq 30^\circ$
LVKI O5	2	7	3	5	0	0	0
LVKI Voyager	74	148	100	78	8	26	1
ET	1573	3774	1561	4007	26	63	54
ET+2CE	4680	12035	16973	21423	59	172	144



1. Polarization and GRB polarimetry: what are GRBs

© Light curve

- (One of) the most energetic explosions in the universe;
- Irregular light curves ;
- Asymmetric pulses;



© T90: sensitivity-dependent

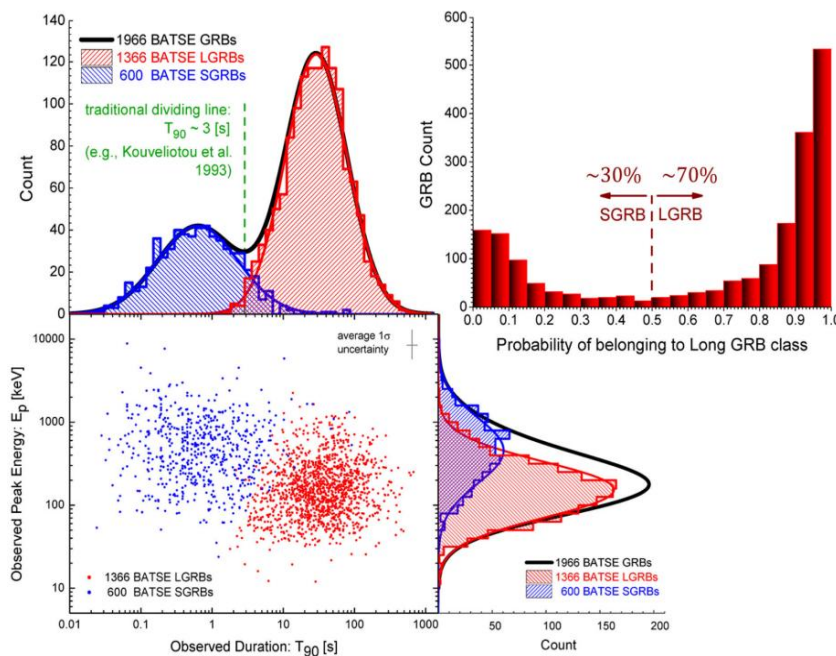
- Total fluence from 5% to 95 % ;
- Long/Short GRB dividing line: 3s ;
- Reference of Prompt/Afterglow ;

© Afterglow flux decay

- Power-law: $F(t) \propto t^\beta$;
- It has flares sometimes.

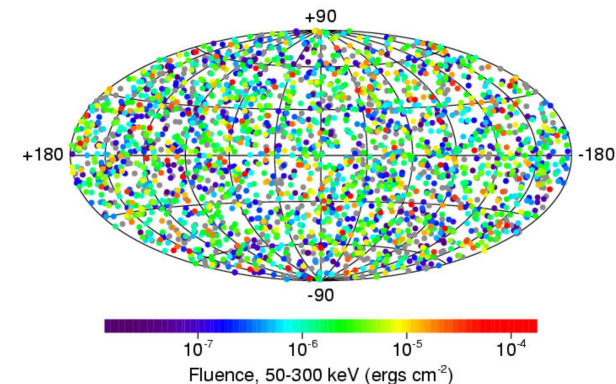
© Cosmic origin:

- BATSE catalog \rightarrow uniform distribution

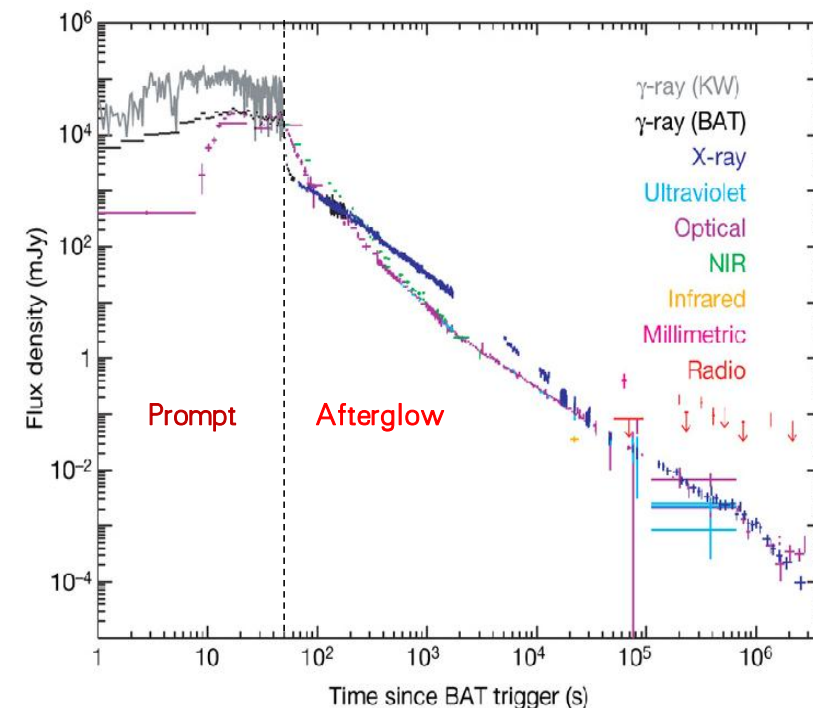


BATSE catalogue, A. Shahmoradi et al. (2015)

2704 BATSE Gamma-Ray Bursts



G. Fishman et al., BATSE, CGRO



Multiwavelength OBS, Racusin+(Nature 455)



1. Polarization and GRB polarimetry: what GRBs are

© GRB Origin

- Short GRB → NS–NS(NS–BH) ;
- Long GRB → Hypernova ;

© Emission origin

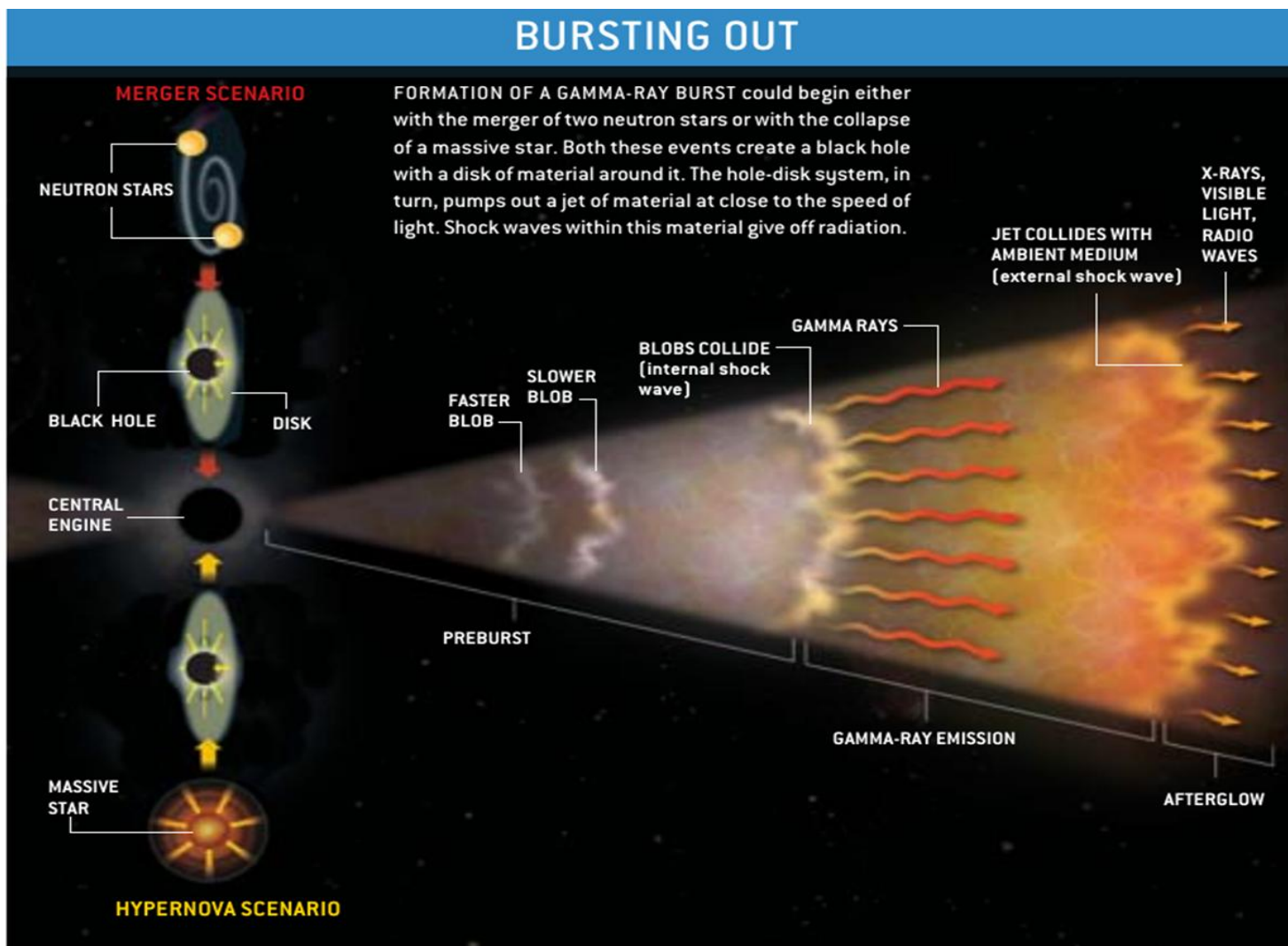
- Prompt → internal shock ;
- Afterglow → external shock ;

© Radiative processes

- Synchrotron (mainly electron);
- Inverse–Compton ;
- Photo–pion:

$$p\gamma \rightarrow (\Delta^+ \rightarrow) \begin{cases} n\pi^+ \rightarrow n\mu^+\nu_\mu \rightarrow ne^+\nu_e\bar{\nu}_\mu\nu_\mu, & \text{fraction } 1/3 \\ p\pi^0 \rightarrow p\gamma\gamma, & \text{fraction } 2/3. \end{cases}$$

JUAN VELASCO





2. Pulsar observations with POLAR: two pulsars detected

◎ Observation mode: single bar event

- Double Mode (DM): pre-scale (1%)
- Single Mode (SM): no pre-scale, >1 month

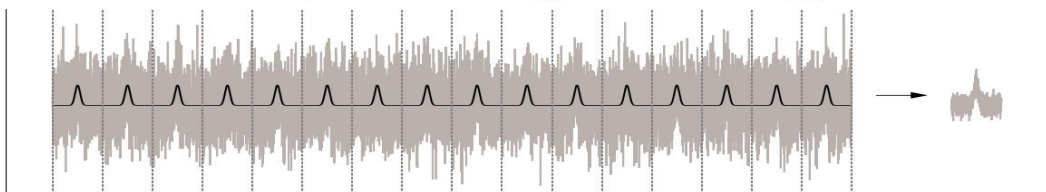
◎ Timing analysis

- Correction on time of arrival: SSB clock

$$T_{\text{SSB}} = T_{\text{obs}} + T_{\text{clk}} + \Delta_R + \Delta_S + \Delta_E + \Delta_P + \Delta_B + \dots,$$

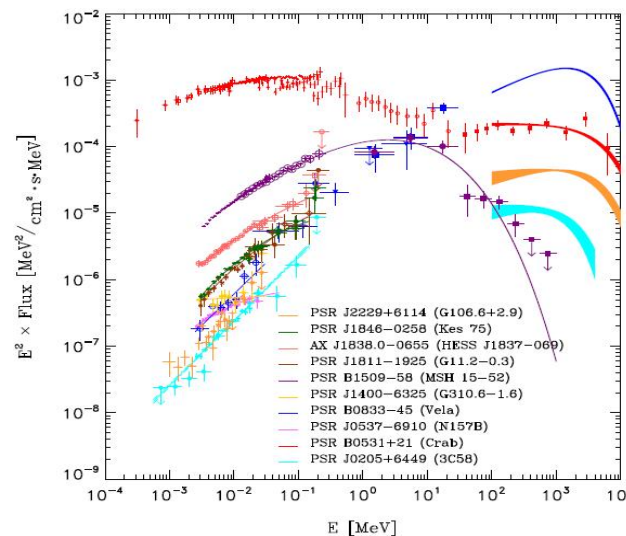
- Periodic parameters and phase folding

$$\phi_i = f_0(t_i - t_0) + \frac{1}{2}f_1(t_i - t_0)^2 + \frac{1}{6}f_2(t_i - t_0)^3 + \frac{1}{24}f_3(t_i - t_0)^4 + \dots,$$



◎ Confirmed Pulsars: to be continued

- Crab Pulsar
- PSR B1509-58



10.1051/0004-6361:20011256

Total pulse from 2016-09-22T10:54:53.405 to 2017-03-31T17:50:30.637

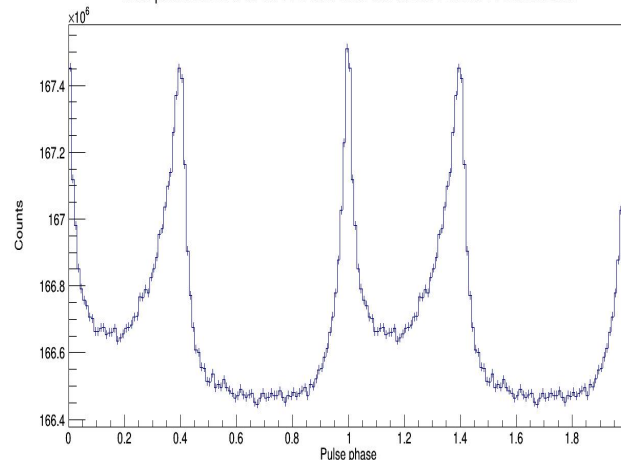
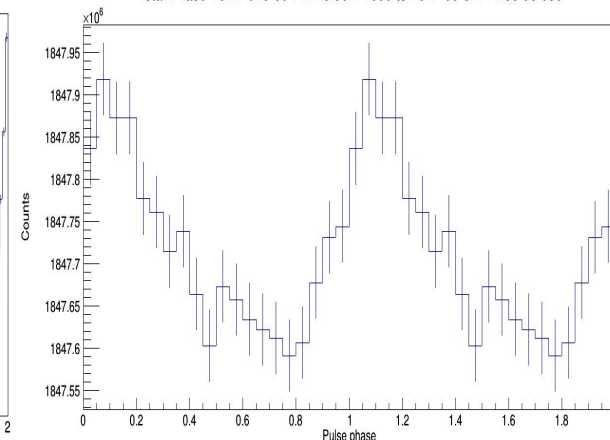


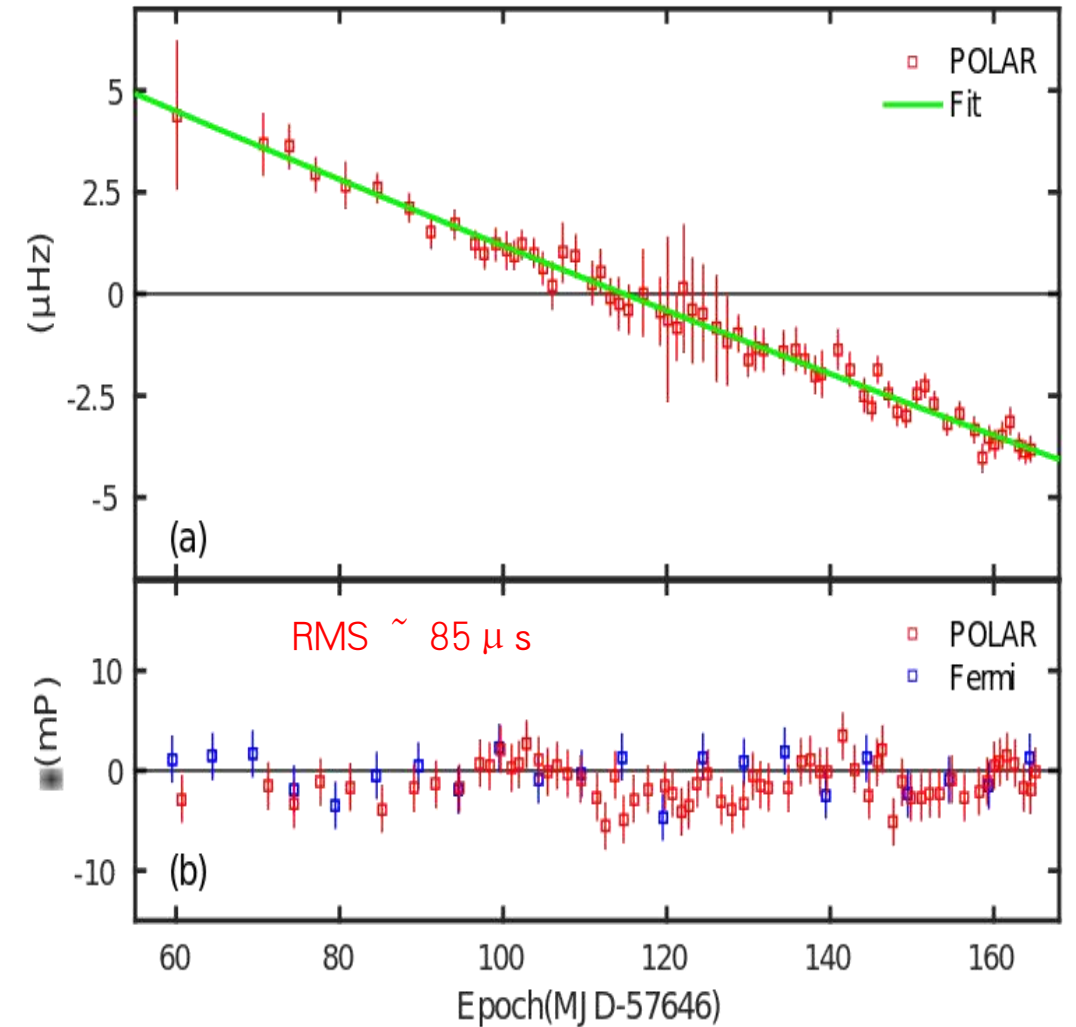
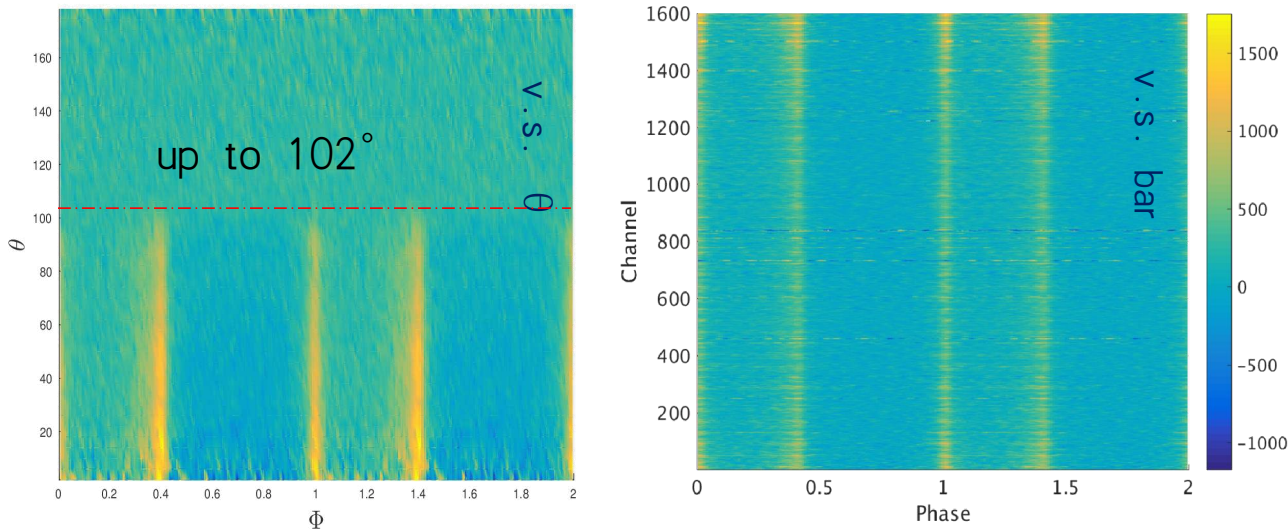
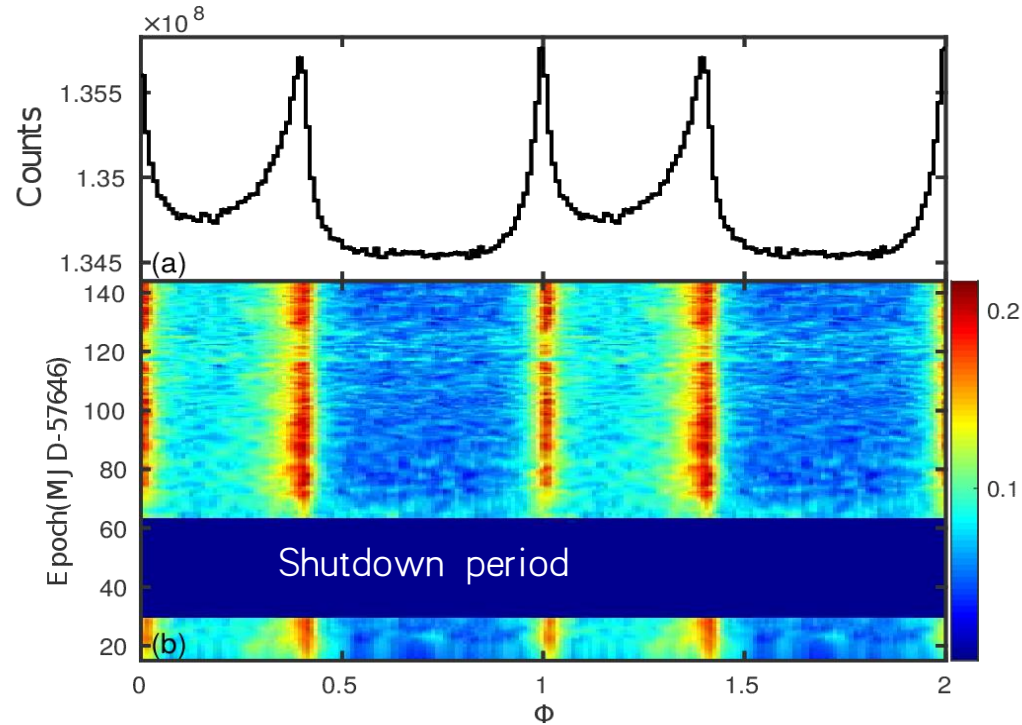
表 2.1 Crab 脉冲星和 B1509-58 的最佳自转参数

Parameters	Crab pulsar	B1509-58
t_0 (MJD)	57697.040344079745	55336.0
f_0 (Hz)	29.6484272934(4)	6.59709206418
f_1 (Hz s ⁻¹)	-3.689865(1)E-10	-6.6531338E-11
f_2 (Hz s ⁻²)	1.16(1)E-20	1.8948E-21
f_3 (Hz s ⁻³)	3.4(3)E-28	0.0

Total Phase from 2016-09-22T10:53:11.833 to 2017-03-31T17:55:30.036



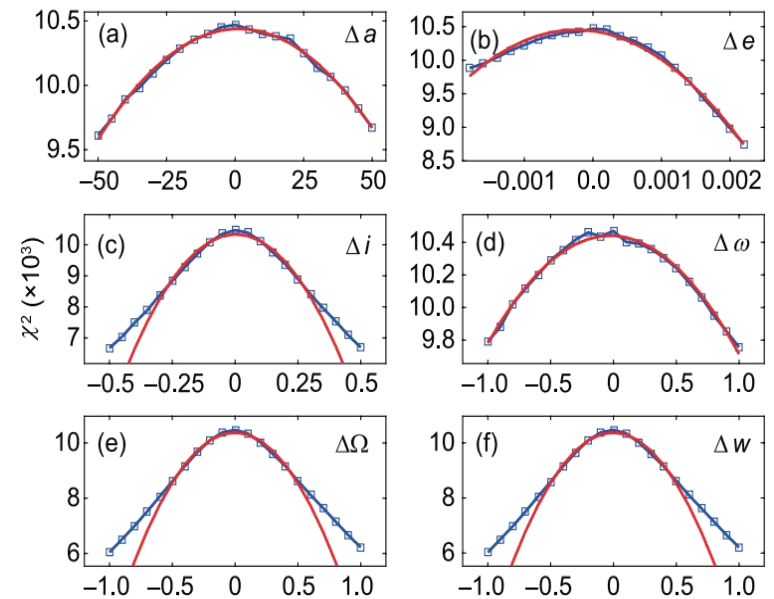
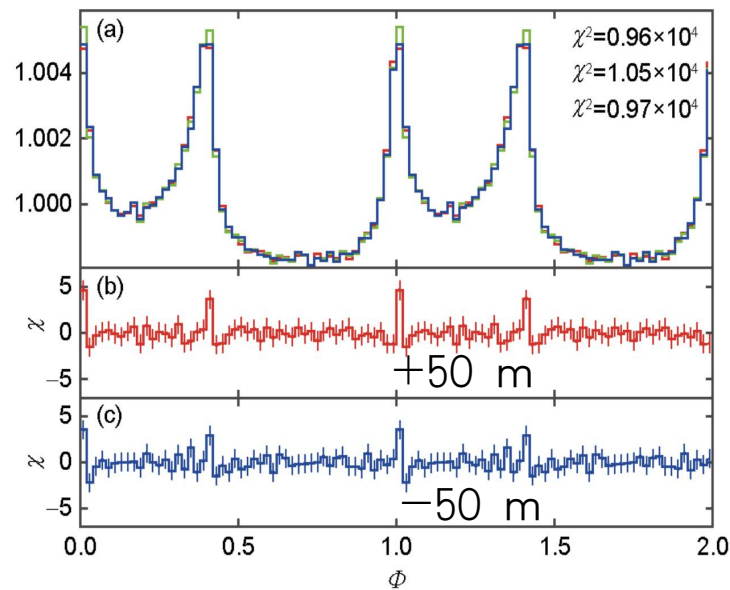
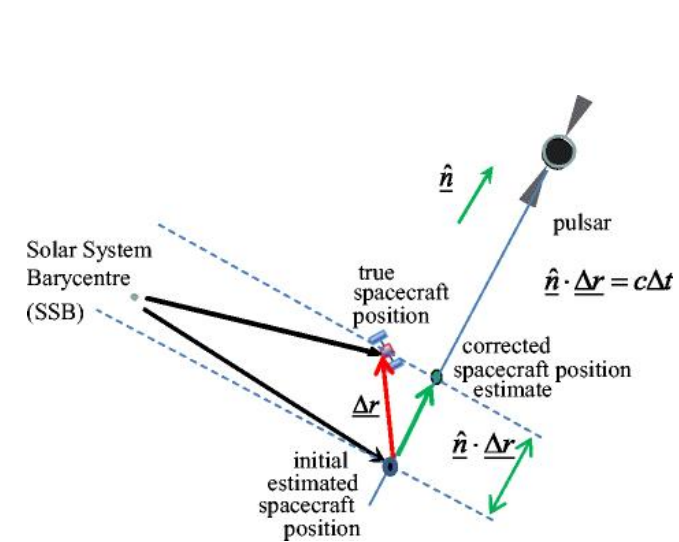
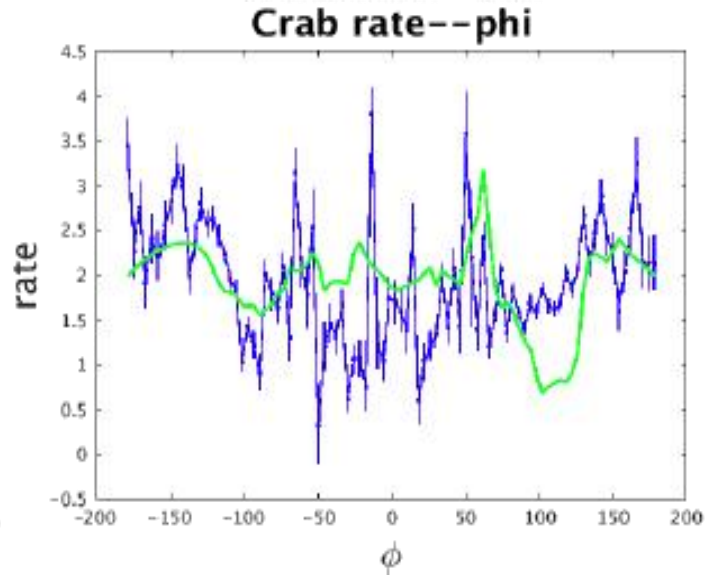
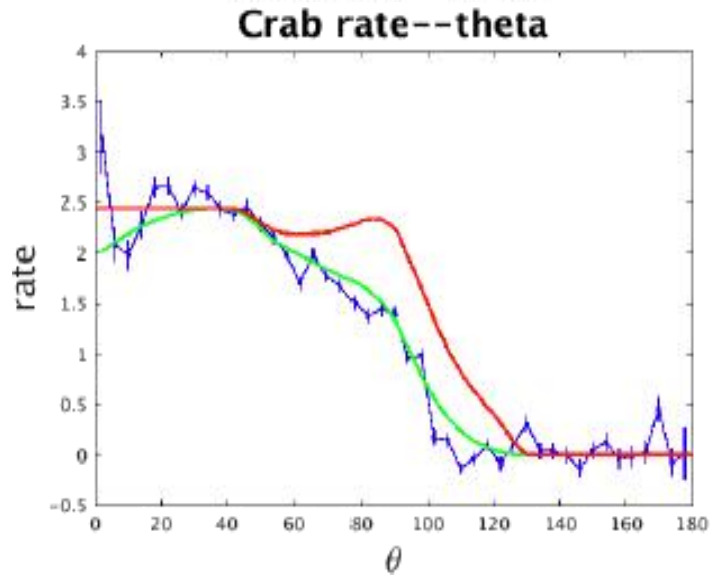
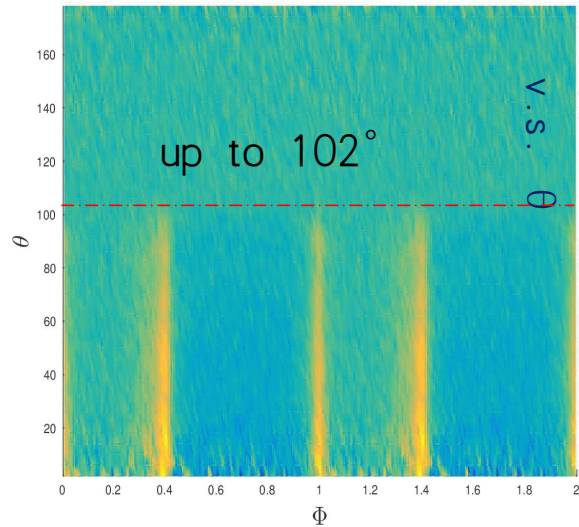
2. Pulsar observations with POLAR: Crab timing



Li et al., (2017), Zheng et al., 2017



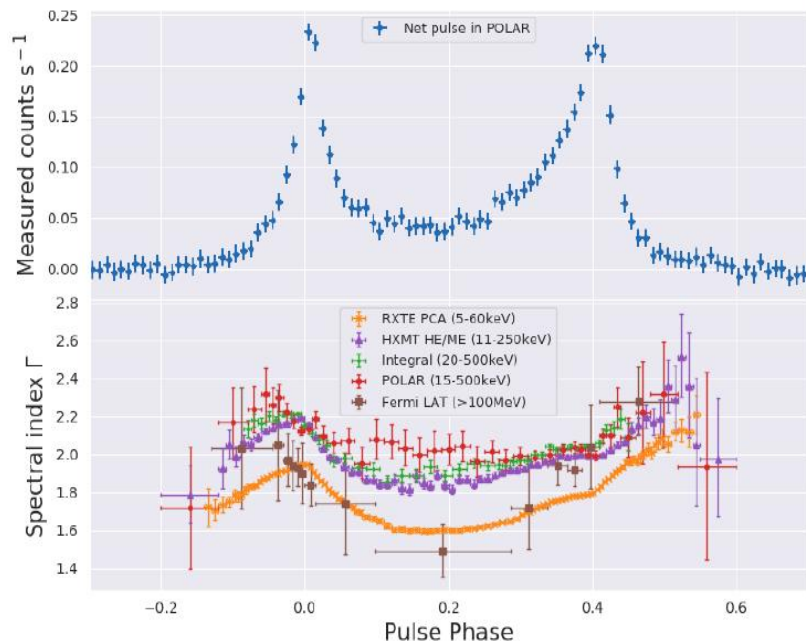
2. Pulsar observations with POLAR: Crab navigation (highlight)



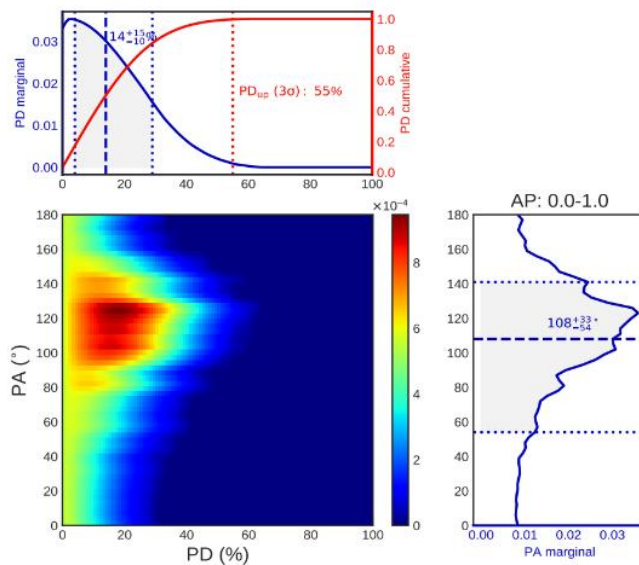
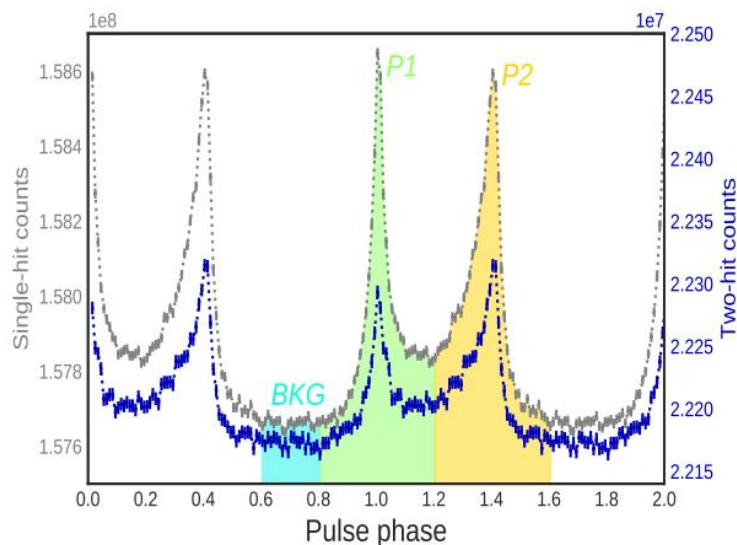
X (km)	11.5
Y (km)	13.1
Z (km)	9.1
V_x (km/s)	0.30
V_y (km/s)	0.31
V_z (km/s)	0.010



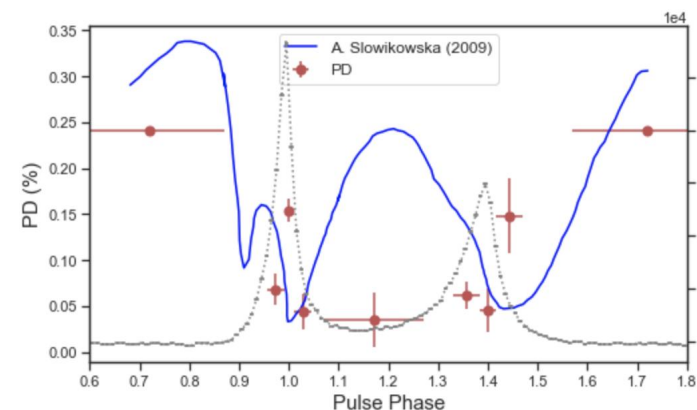
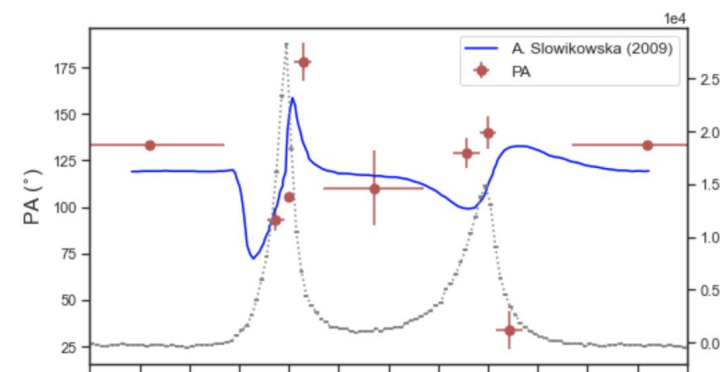
2. Pulsar observations with POLAR: Crab spectra & polarization



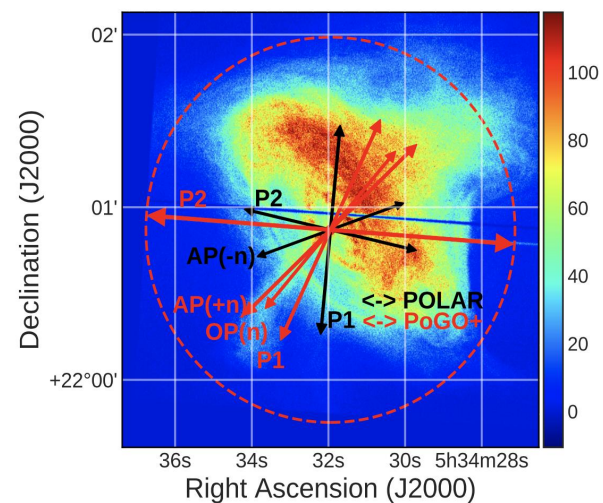
Li et al., 2019



Phase range	PA (°)	PD(%)	3σ PD _{up} (%)
AP (0.0-1.0)	108 ⁺³³ ₋₅₄	14 ⁺¹⁵ ₋₁₀	55
P1 (0.2-0.6)	174 ⁺³⁹ ₋₃₆	17 ⁺¹⁸ ₋₁₂	66
P2 (0.8-1.2)	78 ⁺³⁹ ₋₃₀	16 ⁺¹⁶ ₋₁₁	57



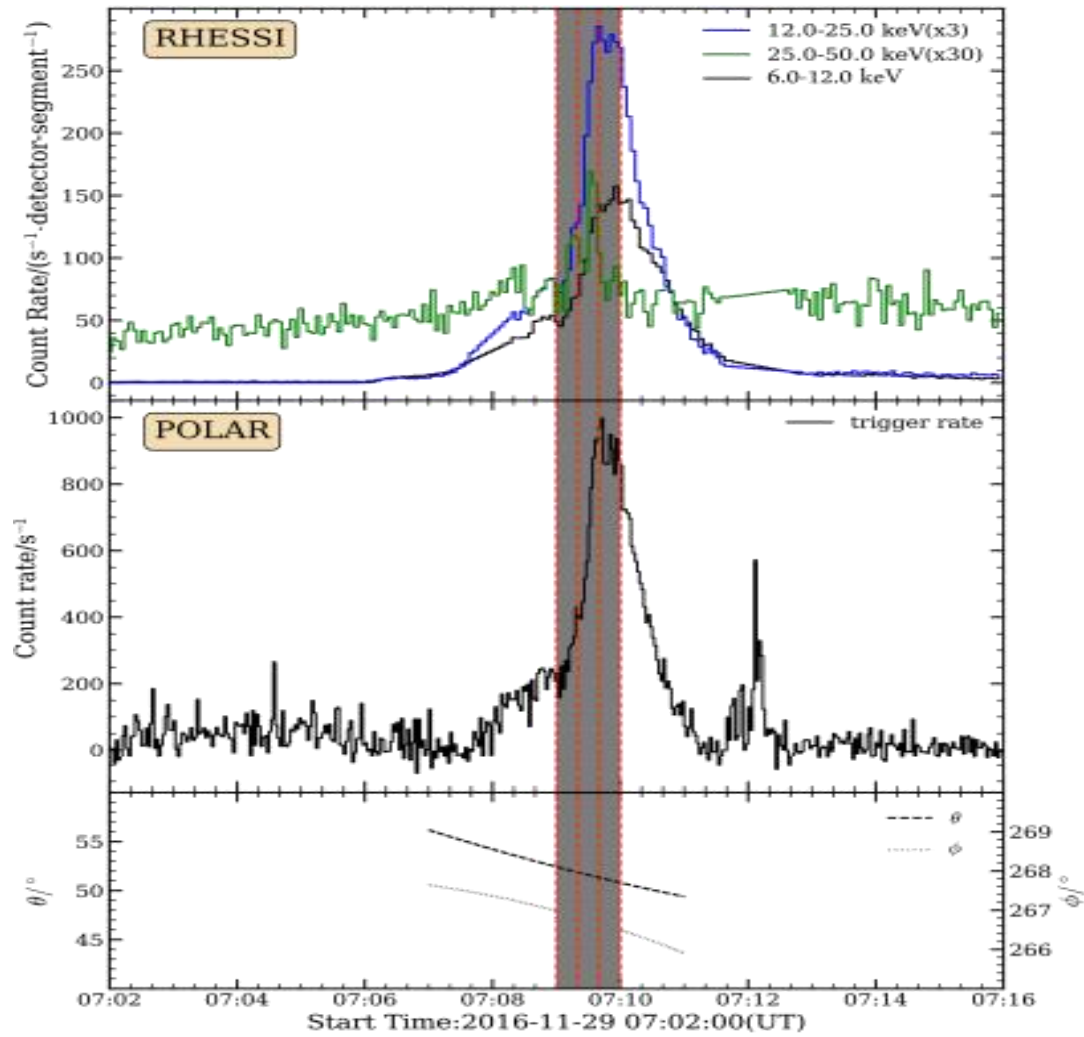
IXPE / OPTIMA results
Arxiv: 0901.4559, 2207.05573



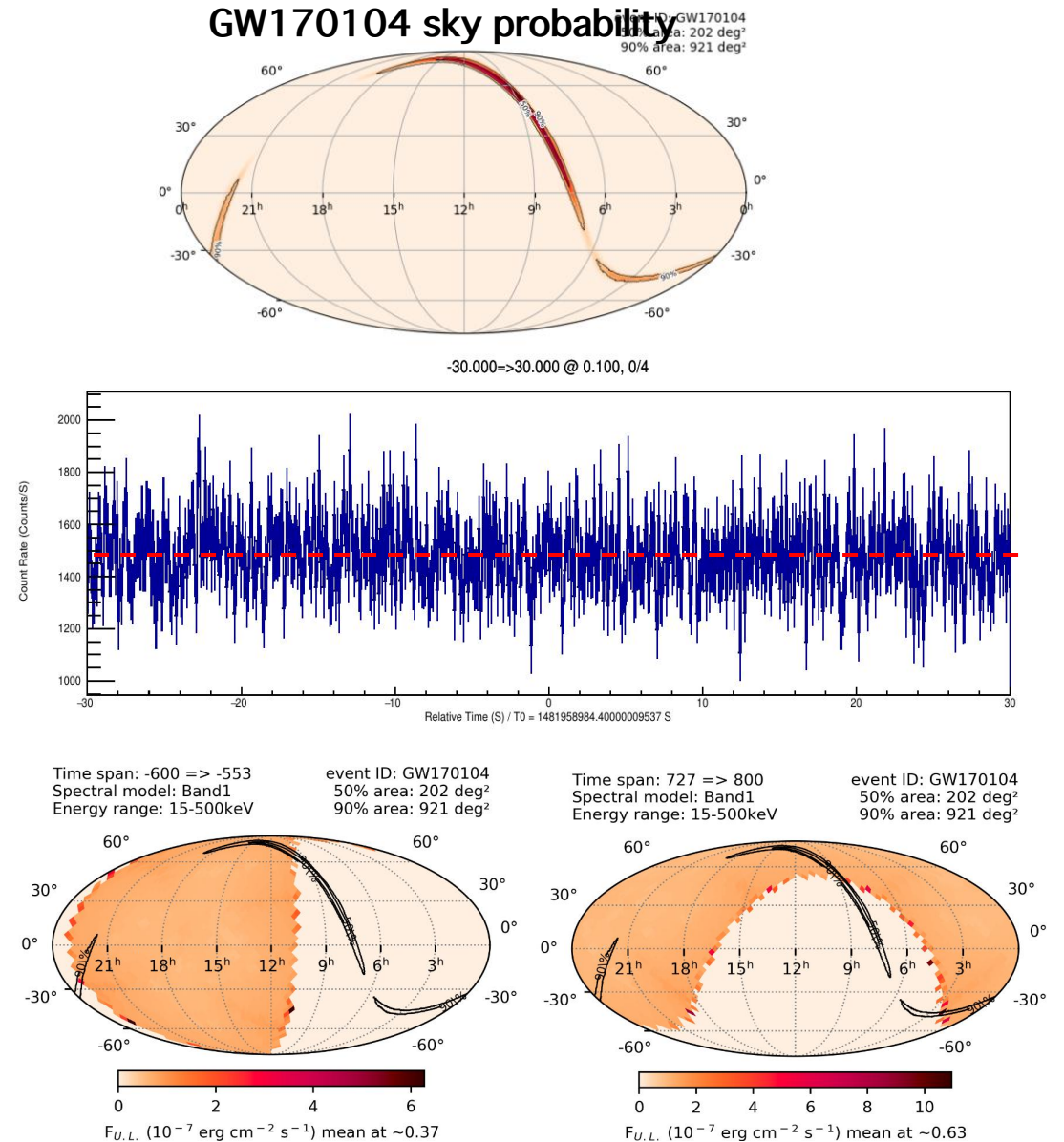
Li et al., 2022



3. Other observations: solar flares & GW follow-up



Zhang et al, 2020, 1 of the 9 events



Not yet published

Thanks for your attention.



POLAR collab. meeting in 2017



POLAR-2 collab. meeting in 2019