



# X-ray Source Populations of Local Group Galaxies

## Prospects for eROSITA



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(MPE)**

- **Introduction**
- **Transients in M 31**
- **The remarkable HMXB population of the SMC**

# What can we learn from observations of local group galaxies?

- Different types of galaxies
- Sources at “same” distance; similar, low foreground absorption  
accurate luminosity
- Learn more about the source populations in the Milky Way
- Understanding of unresolved emission from distant galaxies
- X-ray source classes
  - **X-ray binaries (XRBs)**
    - **Low and High Mass XRBs**  
An exceptionally large population of HMXBs in the SMC  
Time variability - bright transients
  - **Supersoft X-ray sources**
    - **Classical SSSs**  
Established as class in the Magellanic Clouds
    - **Optical novae**  
The major class of supersoft X-ray sources in M31  
Supersoft states last from weeks to years
  - **Supernova remnants**  
Resolved with eROSITA in SMC and LMC (typical size 2-3 arcmin)
  - **Nuclear sources (M33)**
  - **Ultraluminous X-ray sources (ULXs)**
  - **Diffuse emission in disk and halo**

# The Andromeda Galaxy M 31

H. Stiele 2010 PhD Thesis

Stiele et al. 2011, A&A 534, A55

More than 1900 sources

Classification and identification:

Hardness ratio and time variability

Correlation with catalogues from  
other wavelength

**M 31**

XMM-Newton

EPIC Colour

30 arcmin

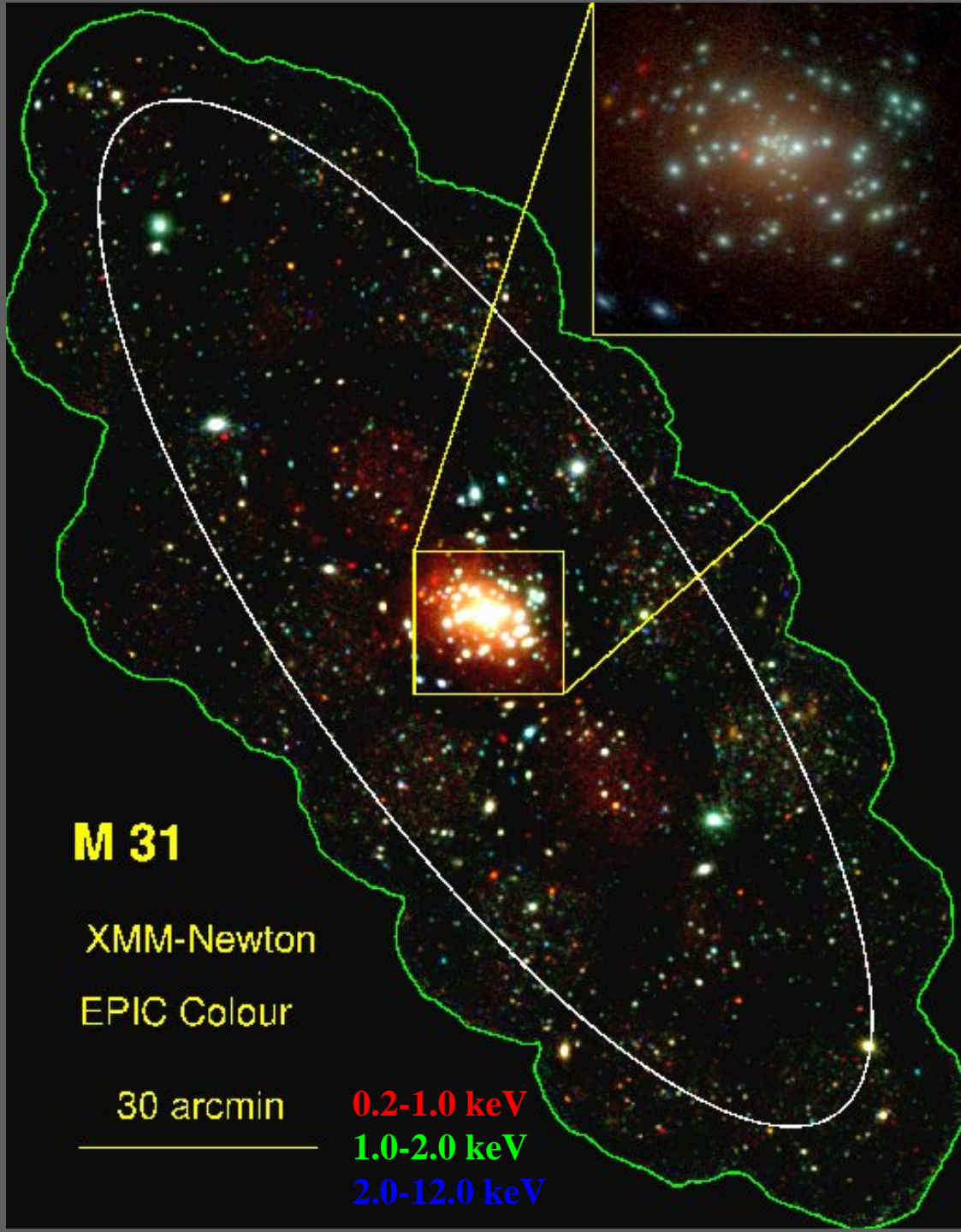
0.2-1.0 keV

1.0-2.0 keV

2.0-12.0 keV

Sb spiral galaxy

Distance ~800 kpc



# Spectral classification using hardness ratios

$$HR_i = (B_{i+1} - B_i) / (B_{i+1} + B_i)$$

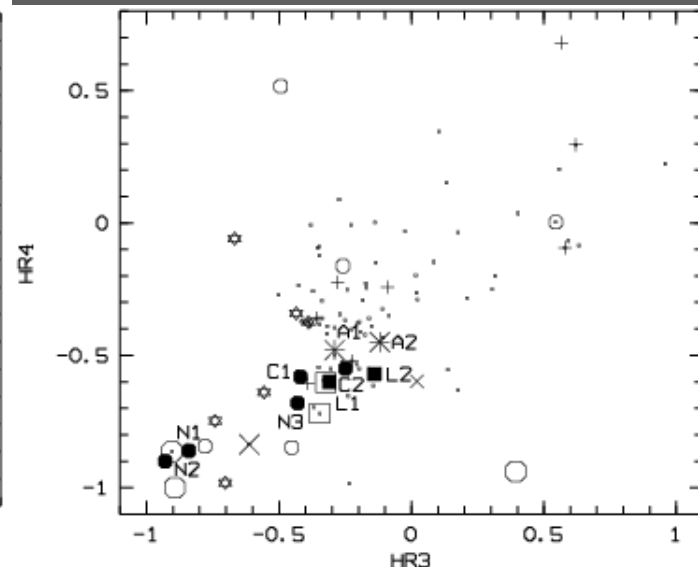
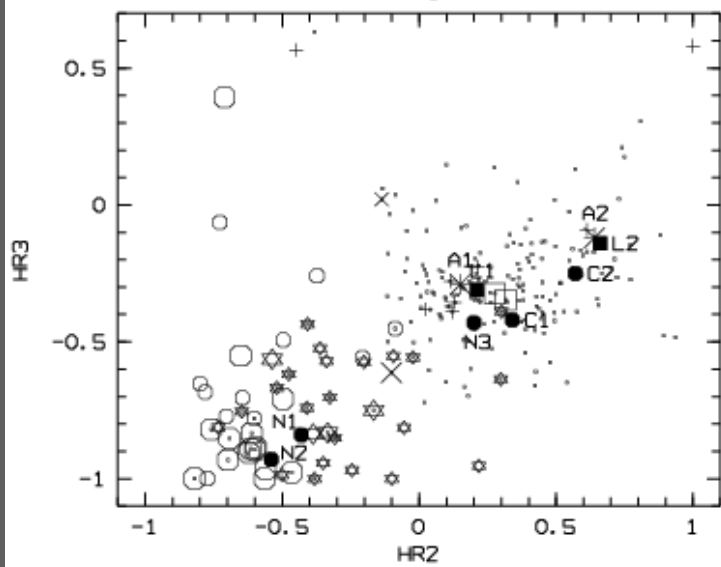
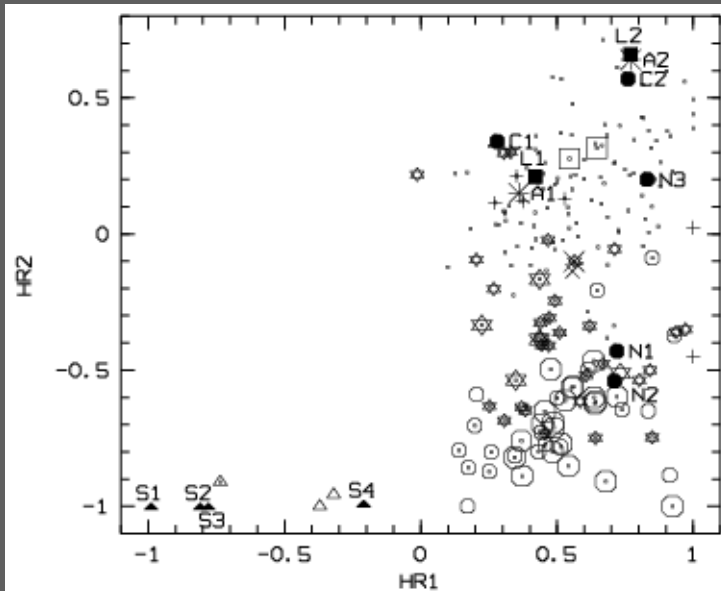
B1: 0.2-0.5 keV

B2: 0.5-1.0 keV

B3: 1.0-2.0 keV

B4: 2.0-4.5 keV

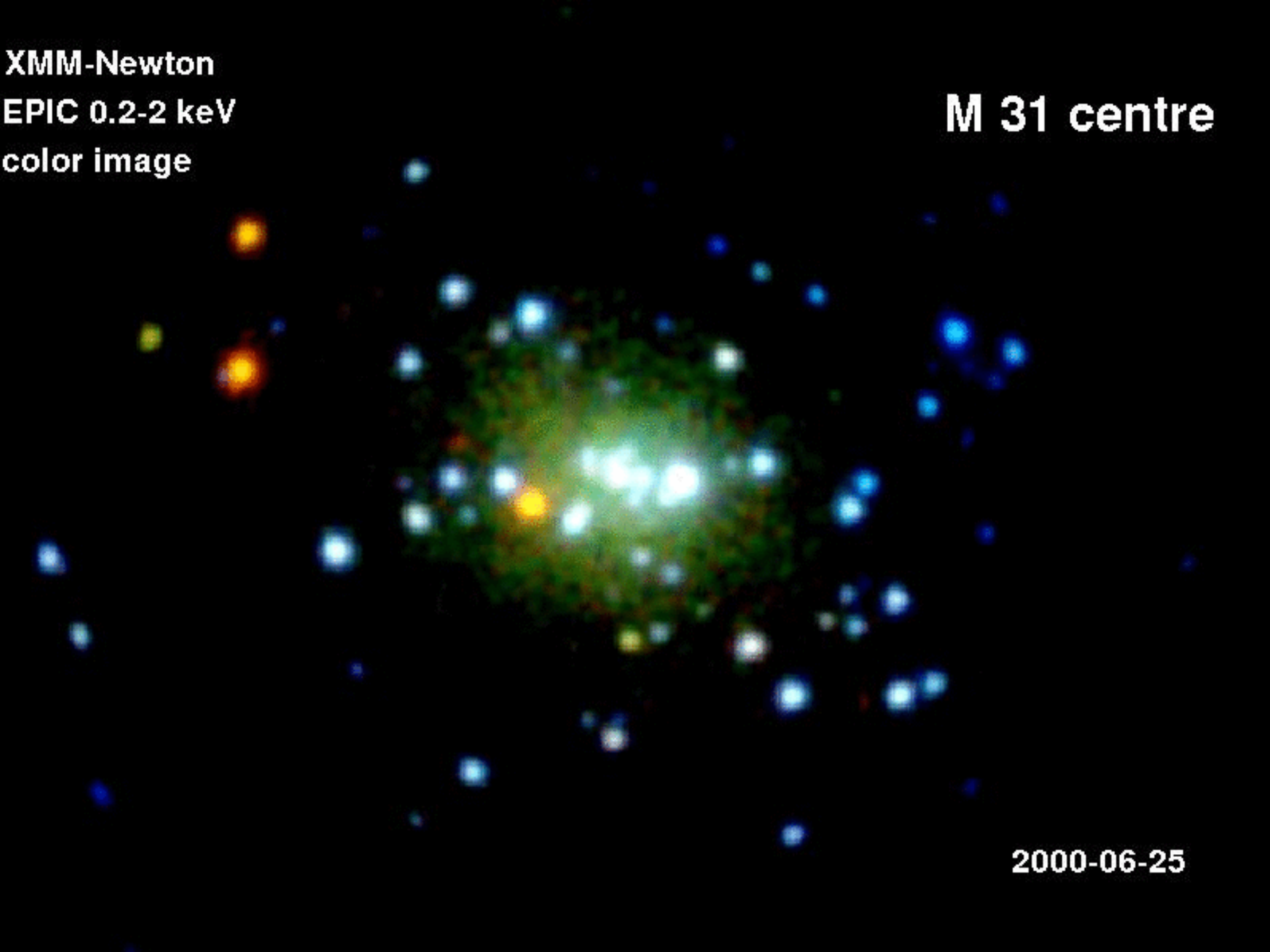
B5: 4.5-12 keV



- ★ fg-star
- + AGN
- ▲ SSS
- ⊙ SNR
- XRB

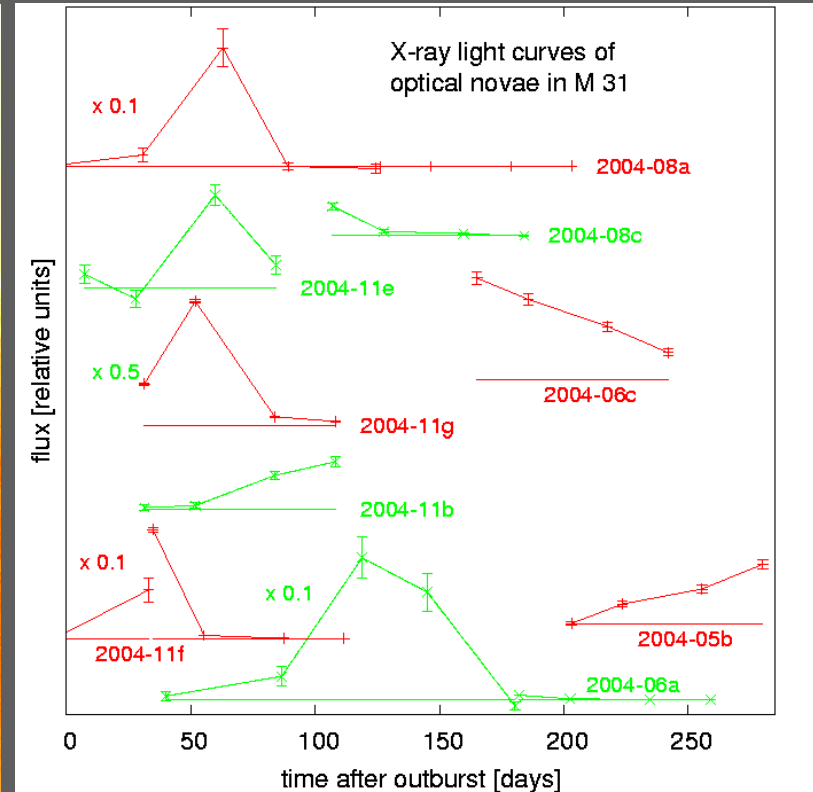
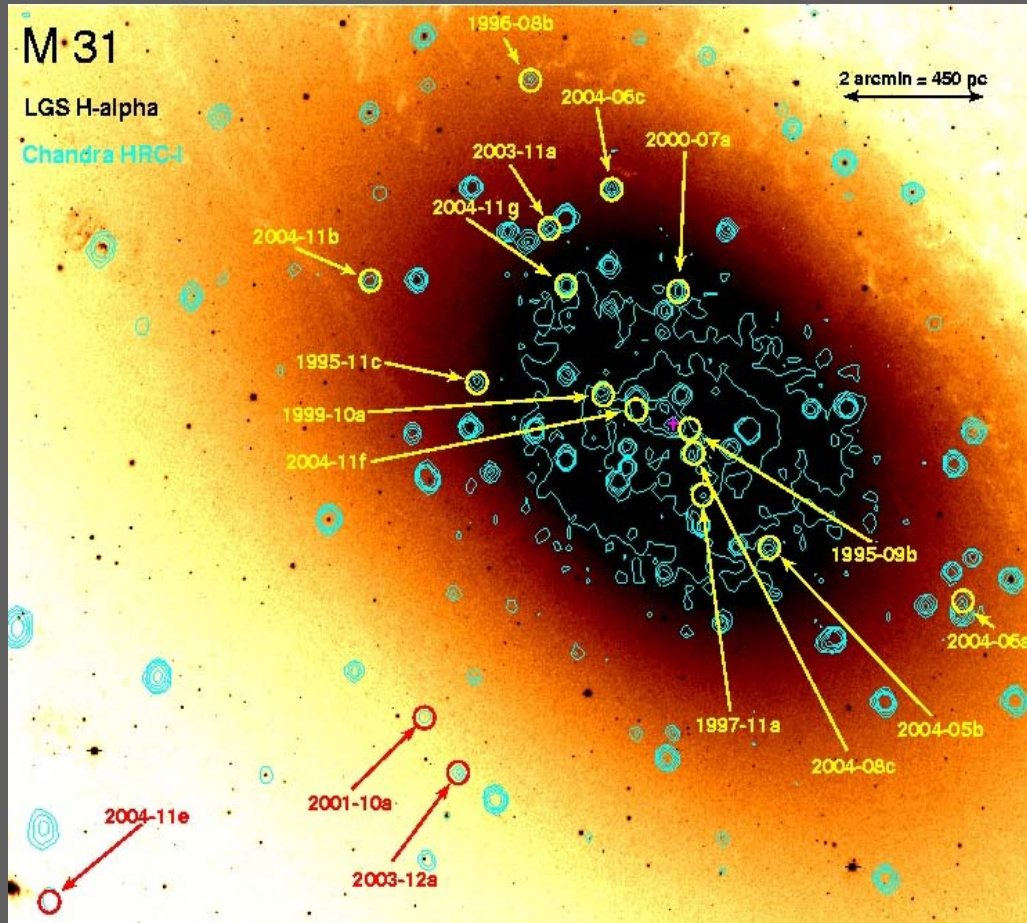
XMM-Newton  
EPIC 0.2-2 keV  
color image

M 31 centre



2000-06-25

# XMM-Newton/Chandra M31 nova detections before 2006



## Nova SSS light curves (<250 d)

- Optical novae: major class of supersoft X-ray sources in M 31
- More than 30% of optical novae show SSS state

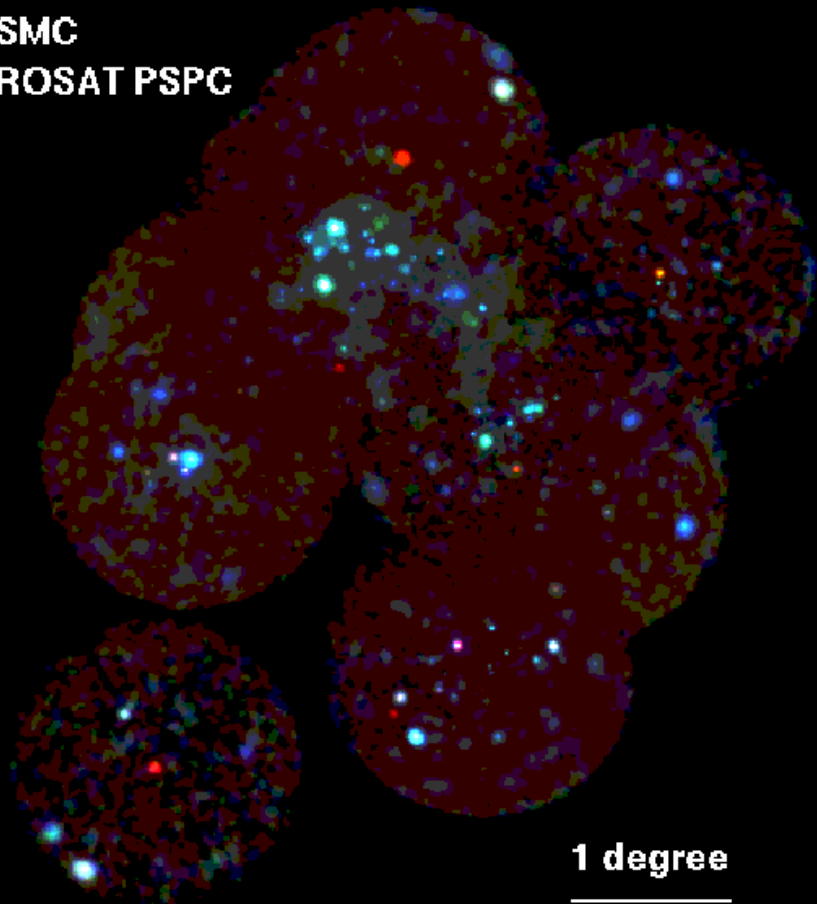
Pietsch et al. 2005, A&A 442, 879; Pietsch et al. 2007, A&A 465, 375

Henze et al. 2010, A&A 523, A89; Henze et al. 2011, A&A 533, A52

# X-ray surveys of the Small Magellanic Cloud

- Einstein IPC  
70 discrete X-ray sources (*Wang et al. 1991, Wang & Wu 1992*)
- ROSAT PSPC and HRI  
517 sources (PSPC), 121 sources (HRI, 46 additional)  
(*Haberl et al. 2000, Sasaki et al. 2000*)  
Diffuse emission  $10^6$ - $10^7$  K (*Sasaki et al. 2002*)

**SMC**  
**ROSAT PSPC**

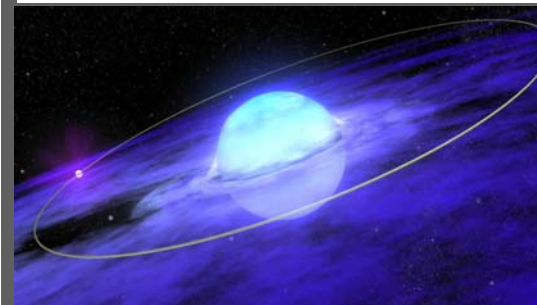
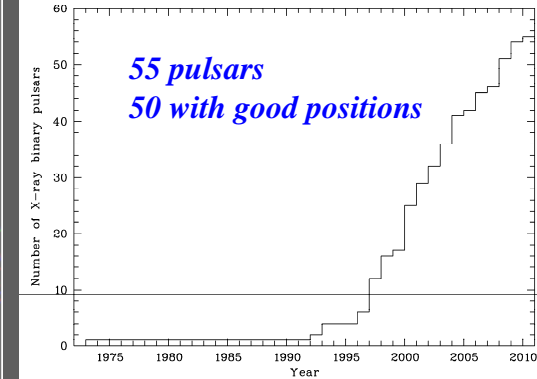
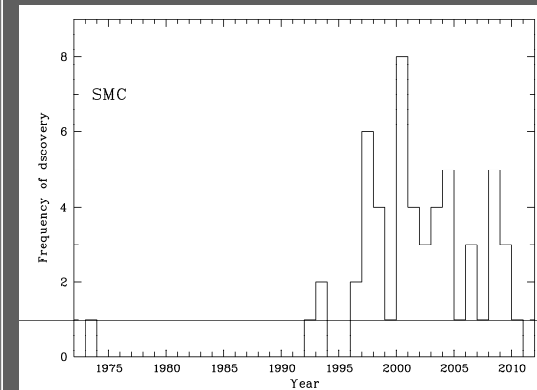
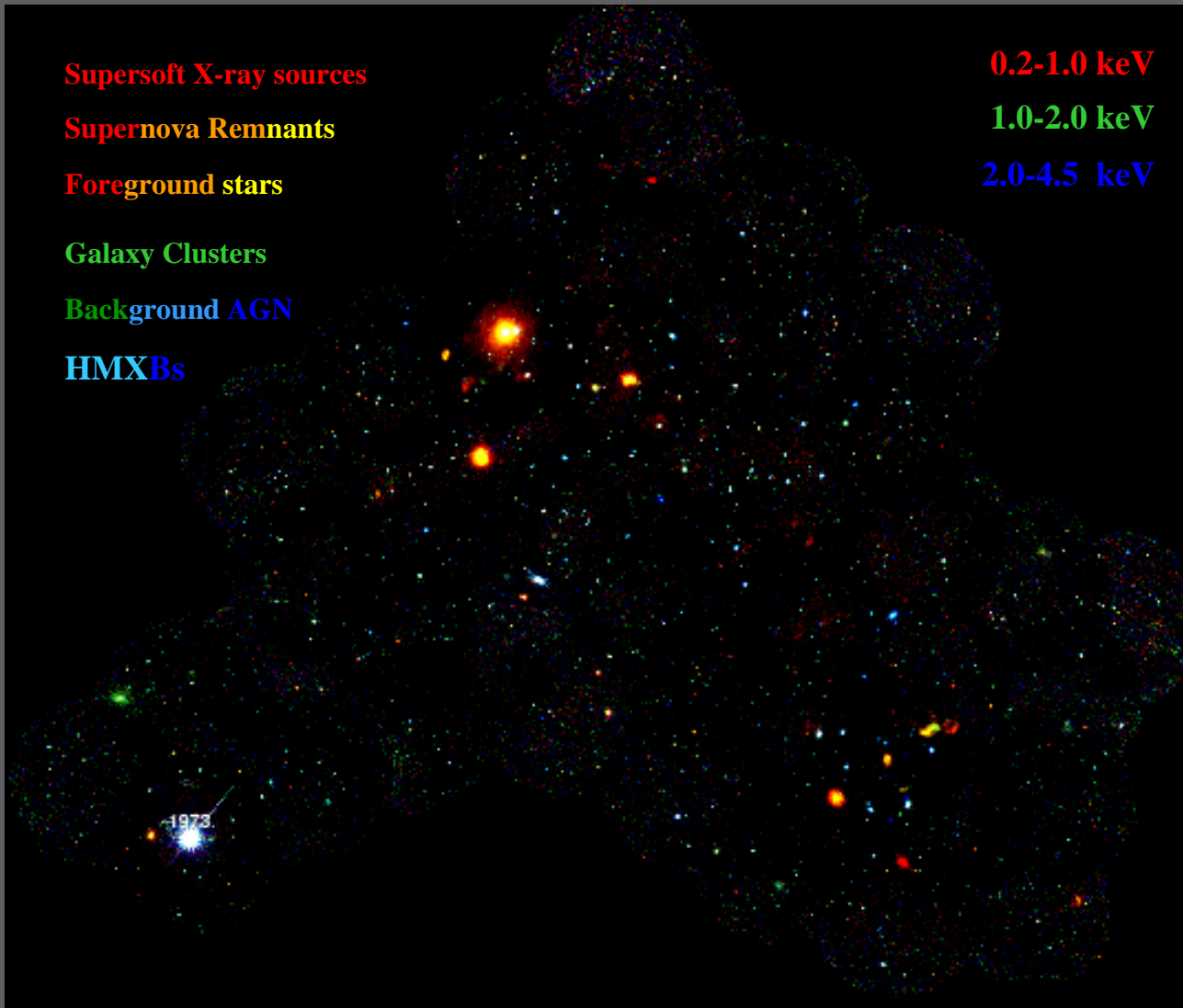


Mosaic of ROSAT pointed observations  
large field of view (1 degree radius)  
6x6 degree field (~18 square degrees)  
0.1-2.4 keV band  
moderate energy resolution

Classification of X-ray sources  
Spectral information (hardness ratios)  
X-ray to optical flux ratio  
Spatial extent  
Flux variability

Irregular dwarf galaxy  
Distance 60 kpc

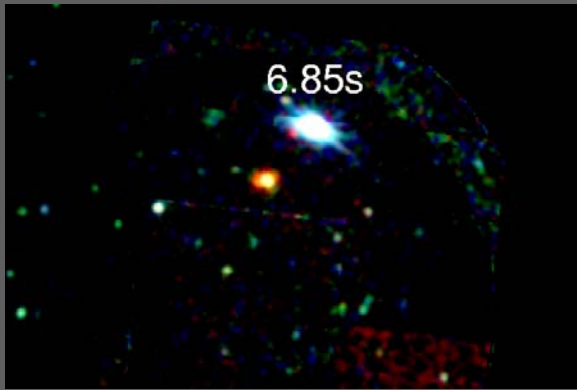
# An exceptionally large number of HMXBs in the SMC



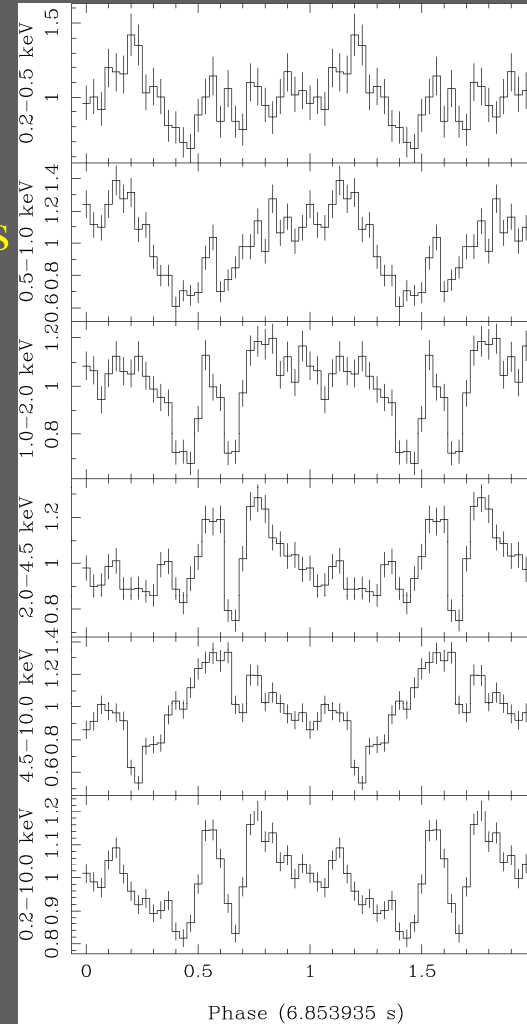
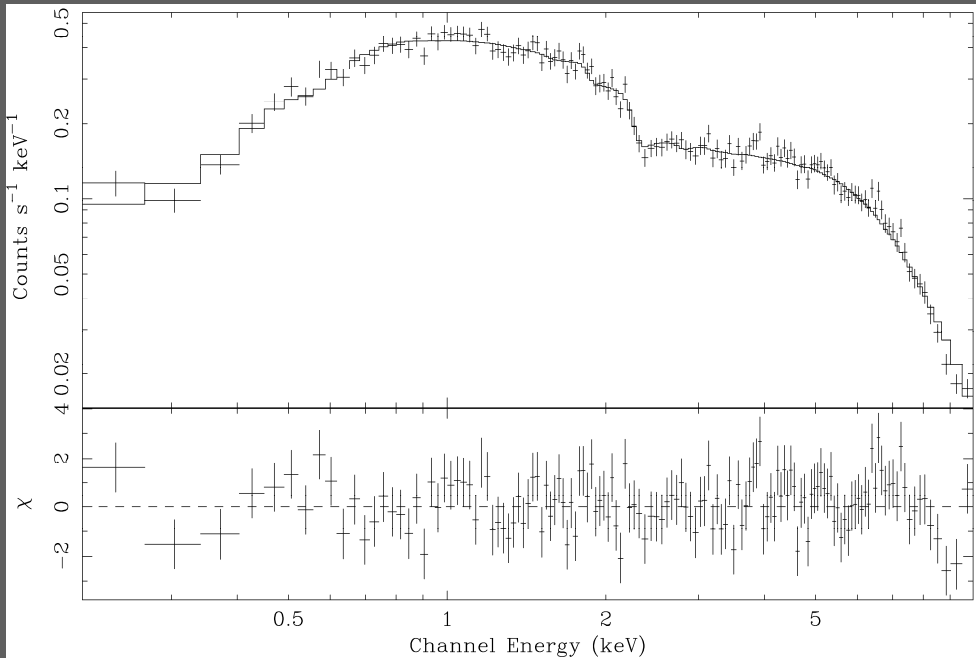
Many discoveries of X-ray transients with RXTE, ASCA, ROSAT, BeppoSAX  
Chandra and XMM-Newton can do spectral and timing analysis down to  $10^{34}$  erg/s



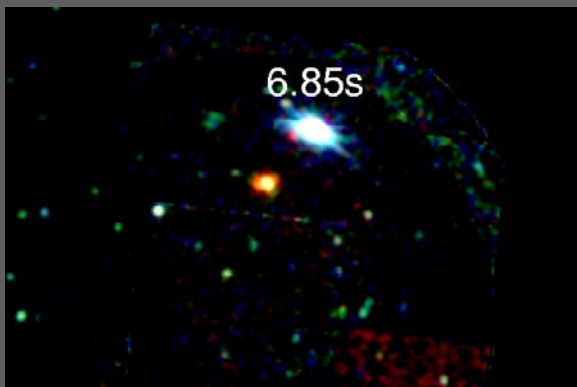
# The Be/X-ray binary pulsar XMMU J010253.1-724433



EPIC-pn:  
17.7 ks  
1.4 cts/s  
 $L_x = 1.7 \cdot 10^{37}$  erg/s  
(0.2-10 keV)

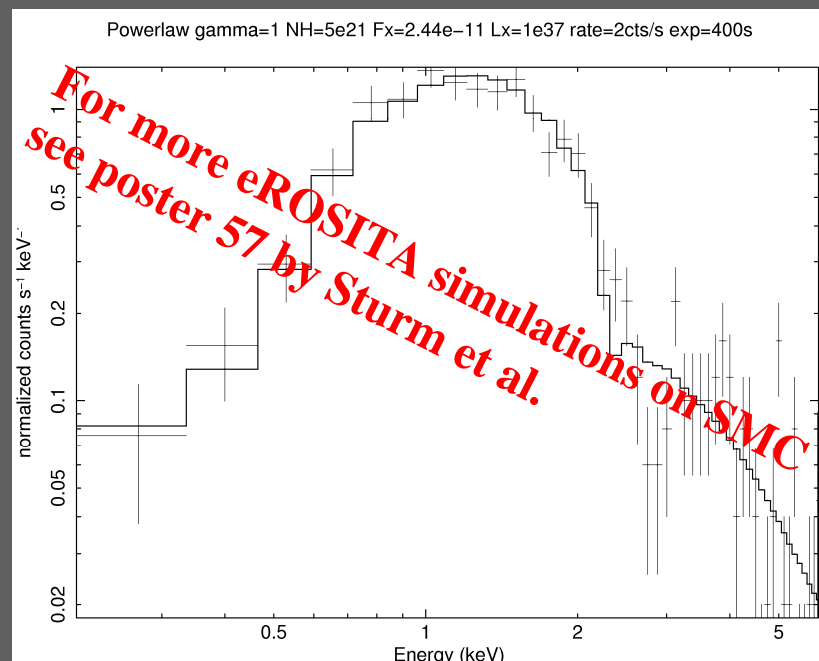
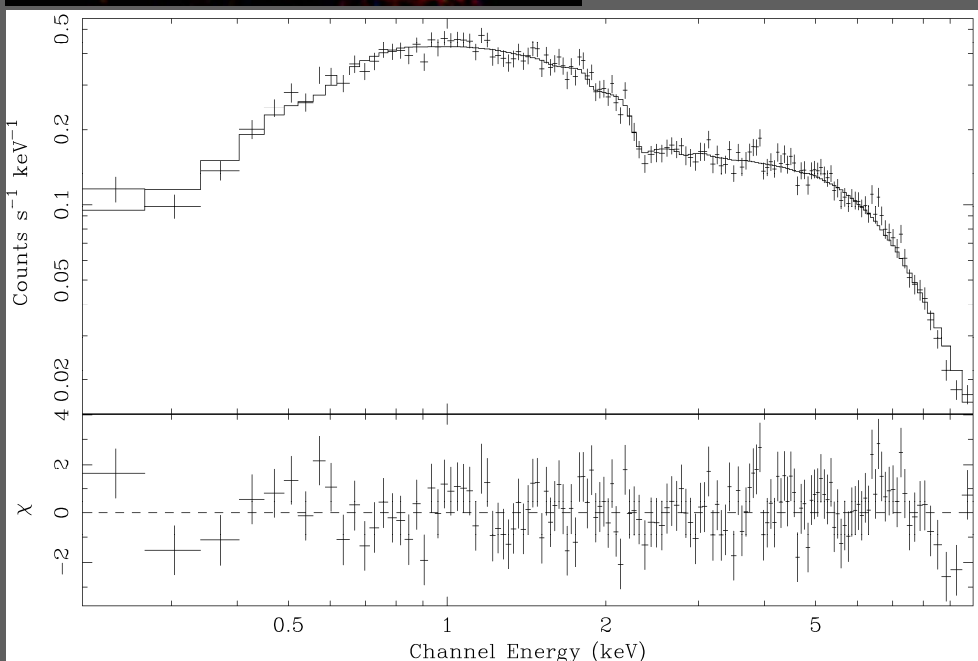


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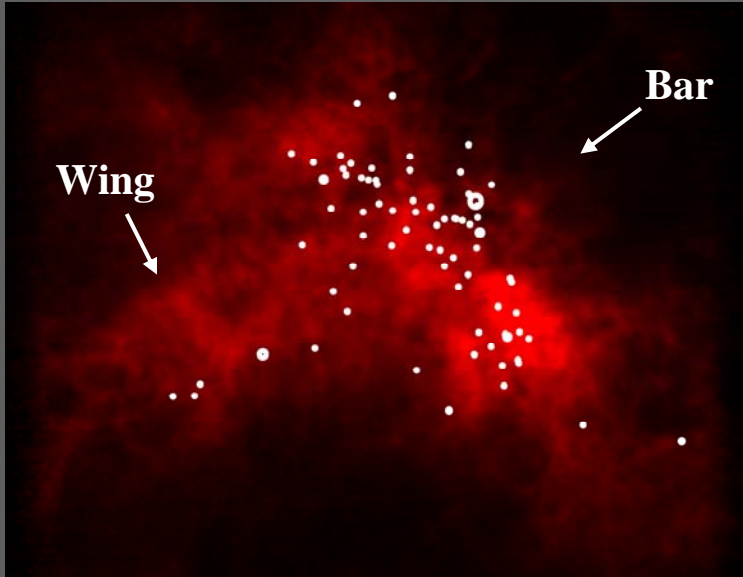


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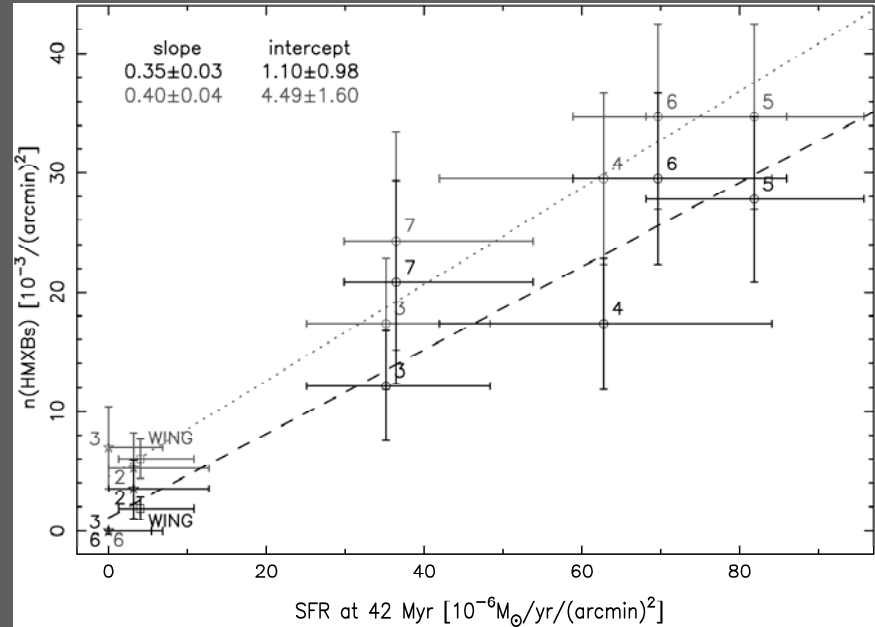
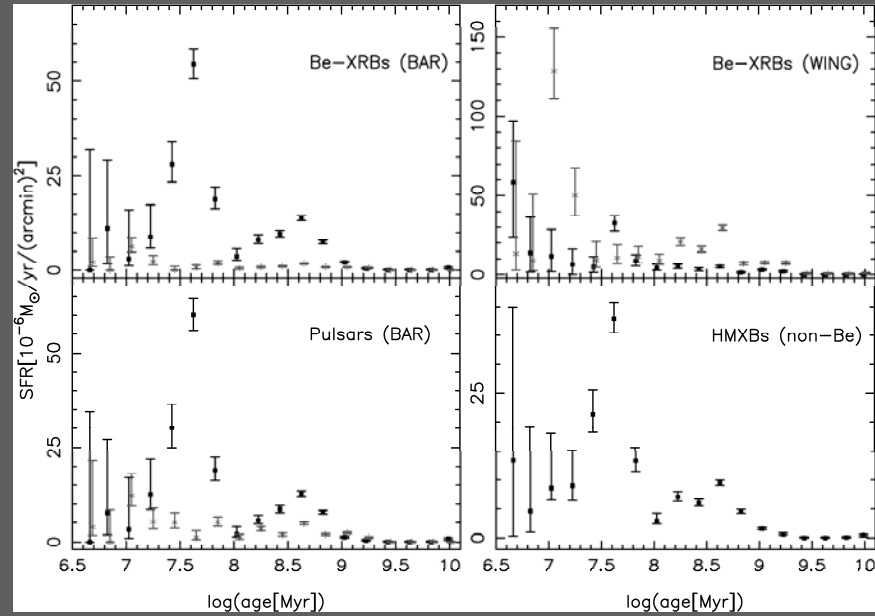
eROSITA half-year survey:  
400 s: spectrum with 800 cts  
photon index can be determined to  $\pm 0.2$



# HMXBs and Star Formation History



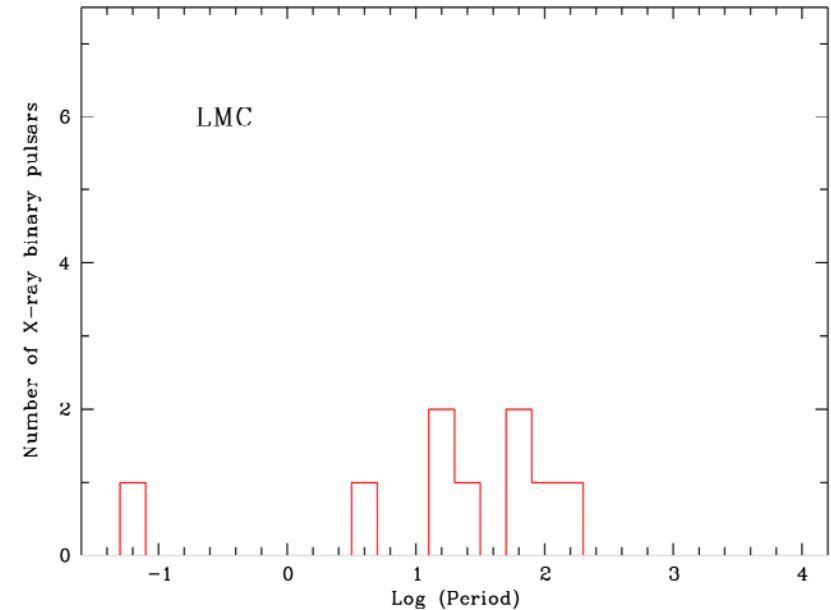
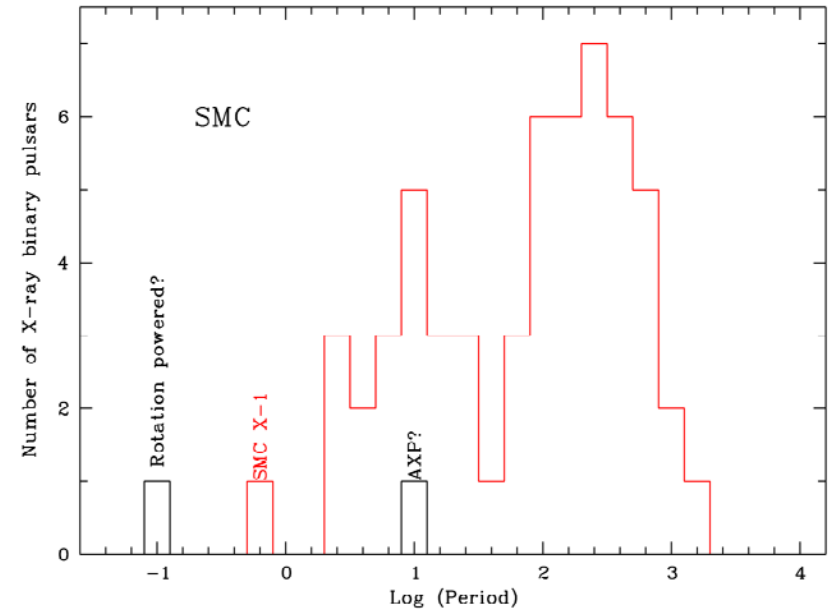
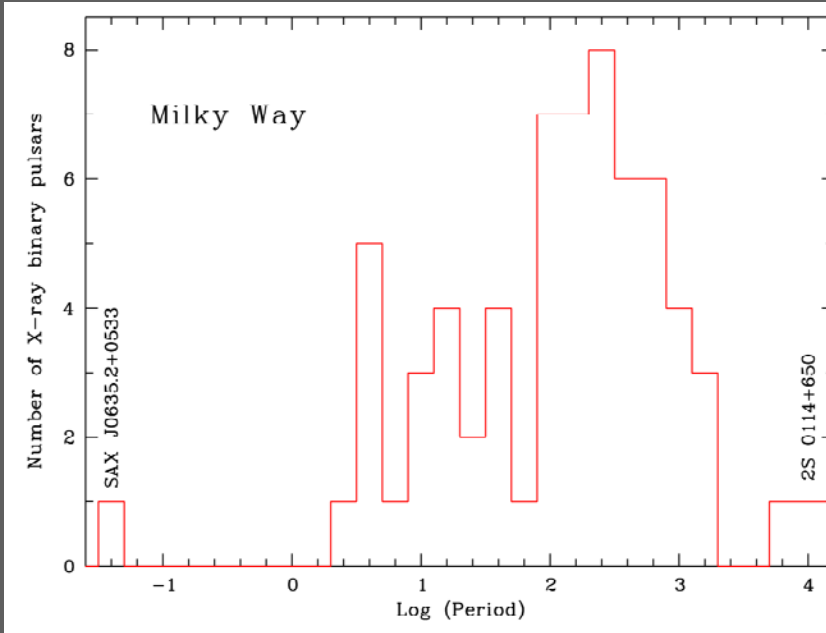
HI map Stanimirovic et al. (1999)



- HMXBs in regions with star formation bursts 25-60 Myrs ago
- number of HMXBs correlates with SFR at 42 Myr

Antoniou et al. 2010

# Neutron star spin periods



**MW: 113 HMXBs + candidates**

**66 pulsars**

**SMC: 89 HMXBs + candidates**

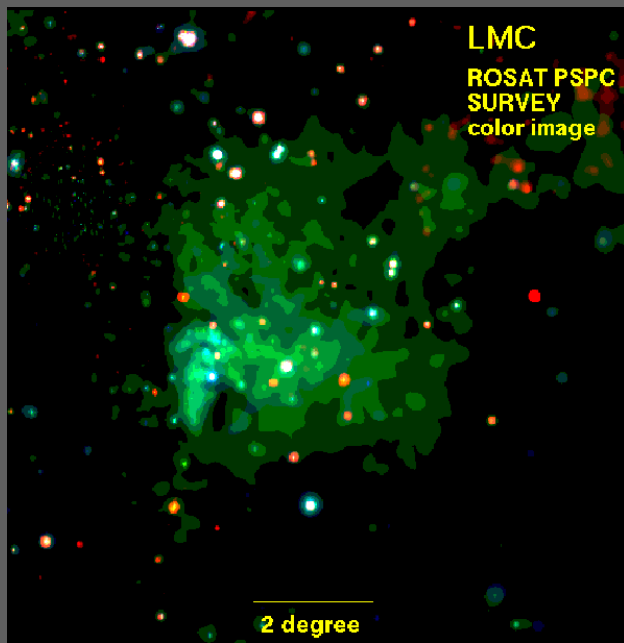
**55 pulsars**

**LMC: 25 HMXBs + candidates**

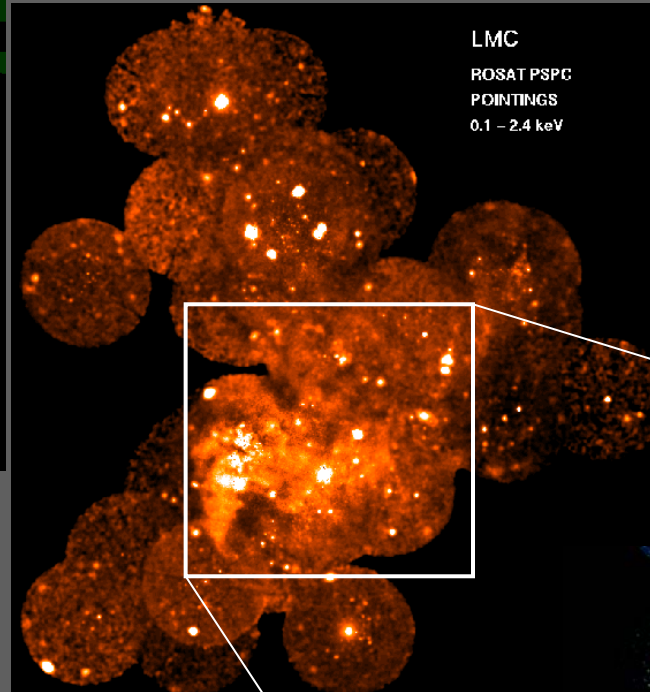
**9 pulsars**

- Peak between 100 s and 1000 s
- Bimodal structure in the spin distribution

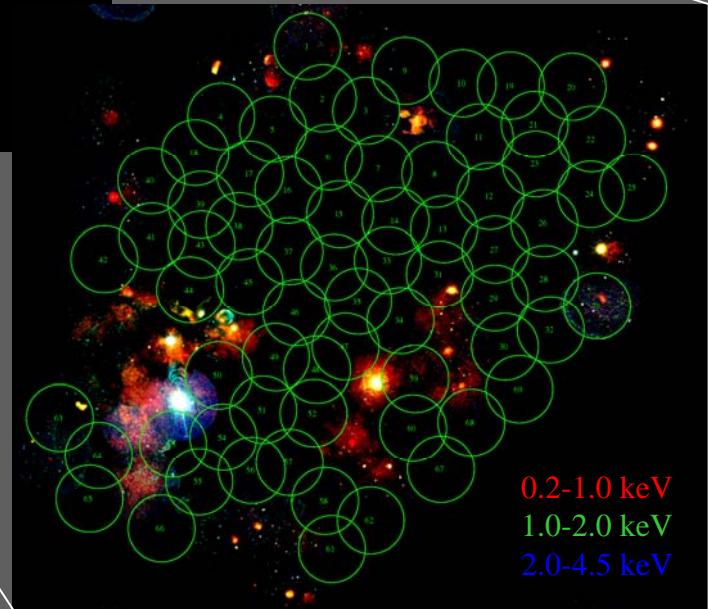
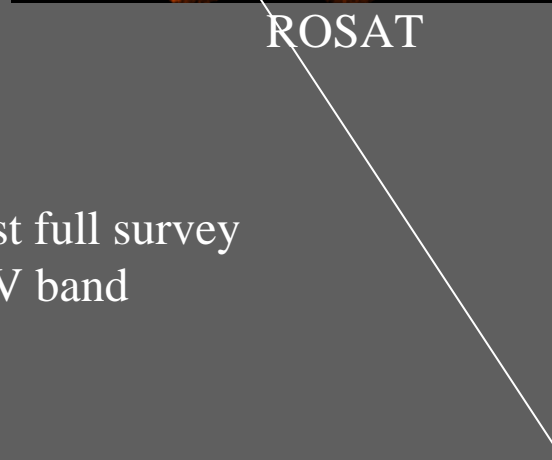
# The Large Magellanic Cloud



ROSAT



XMM-Newton



eROSITA will obtain the first full survey of the LMC in the 0.1-10 keV band

# eROSITA Survey Parameters

- Field of view  $1^\circ$  diameter
  - Scan speed longitude  $180^\circ$  in 180 days /  $1^\circ$  per day
  - Scan speed latitude 4-6 hour per scan / 6-4 scans per day  
i.e. 40-60s for central scan, in total 250s
  - 4 year scan mode  
=>  $8 \times 250 \text{ s} = 2000 \text{ s}$  typical total exposure
  - 1000 s sensitivity (from Cappeluti et al. 2010)  
5  $\sigma$  upper limit  $3 \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (0.5-2 keV)  
 $7 \times 10^{-13} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (2-10 keV)
- => in one day  $2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (0.5-2 keV)

## Sensitivity for Local Group Galaxies (0.5-2 keV)

|      |         |   |
|------|---------|---|
| LMC  | 50 kpc  | $6 \times 10^{34} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   |
| SMC  | 60 kpc  | $9 \times 10^{34} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   |
| M 31 | 780 kpc | $1.5 \times 10^{37} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ |
| M 33 | 795 kpc | $1.5 \times 10^{37} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ |

# Expected Source Numbers

Extrapolating from XMM surveys

| Limiting flux<br>$10^{-13}$ erg cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ | number of sources |          |          |          |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|  | M 31              |          | M 33     |          |
|  | $\Sigma$          | $\Sigma$ | $\Sigma$ | $\Sigma$ |
| >25  | 3                 | 3        | 1        | 1        |
| 16-25  | -                 | 3        | 1        | 2        |
| 10-16  | 8                 | 11       | 2        | 4        |
| 6.3-10   | 8                 | 19       | 1        | 5        |
| 4-6.3  | 12                | 31       | 2        | 7        |
| 2.5-4  | 17                | 48       | -        | 7        |
| 1.6-2.5  | 15                | 63       | 2        | 9        |

# Summary

Large samples of X-ray sources are available in Local Group galaxies

Observations of many systems simultaneously at similar distance / low foreground absorption

Statistical studies

Global properties

Population studies

example: HMXBs in SMC as tracer for recent SF

In regions with star formation bursts 25-60 Myrs ago

Number of HMXBs correlates with SFR at 42 Myr

MCs: Sensitivity  $\sim 10^{35}$  erg/s

New HMXBs in LMC, SMC and Magellanic Bridge

SSSs (outskirts in the older stellar population)

SNRs

M 31/33: Sensitivity  $\sim 10^{37}$  erg/s

hard X-ray transients

Classical novae