

A 3D rendering of the GRINTA satellite in space. The satellite has a central body with two large, rectangular solar panel arrays extended outwards. It is positioned above the Earth's horizon, with a bright star or sun in the upper left and another bright star in the upper right. The Earth's surface is visible as a blue and white curved horizon.

# GRINTA

an explorer of the multimessenger and transient sky

Lorenzo Natalucci

on behalf of the GRINTA Consortium

AXRO conference 2023, Prague 4-8 December 2023

# The Consortium

17 European research laboratories, 47 researchers, 8 countries



EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN



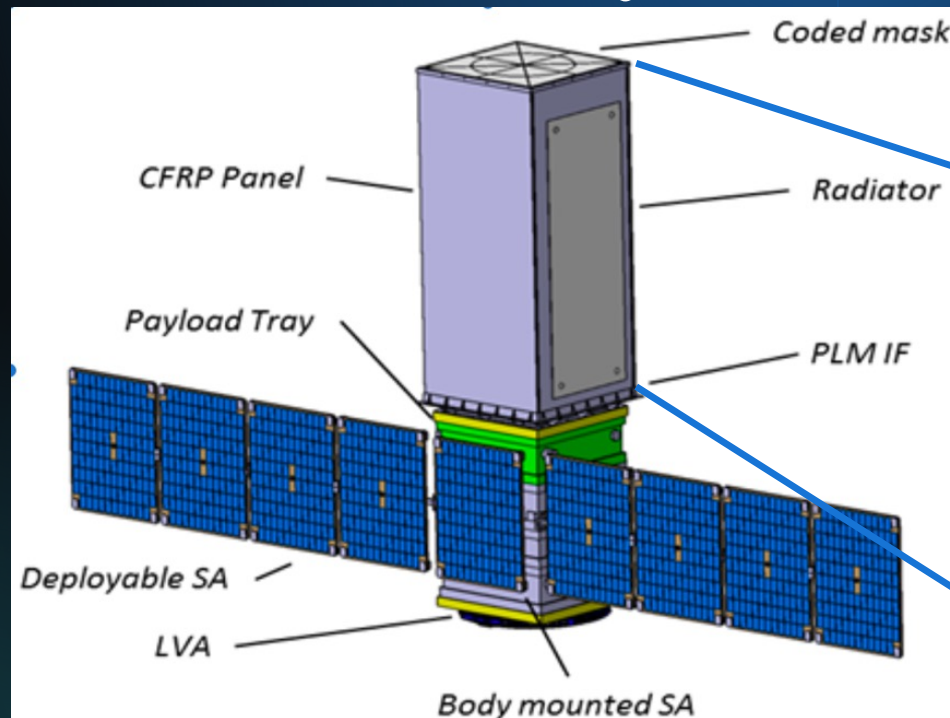


# Mission concept summary

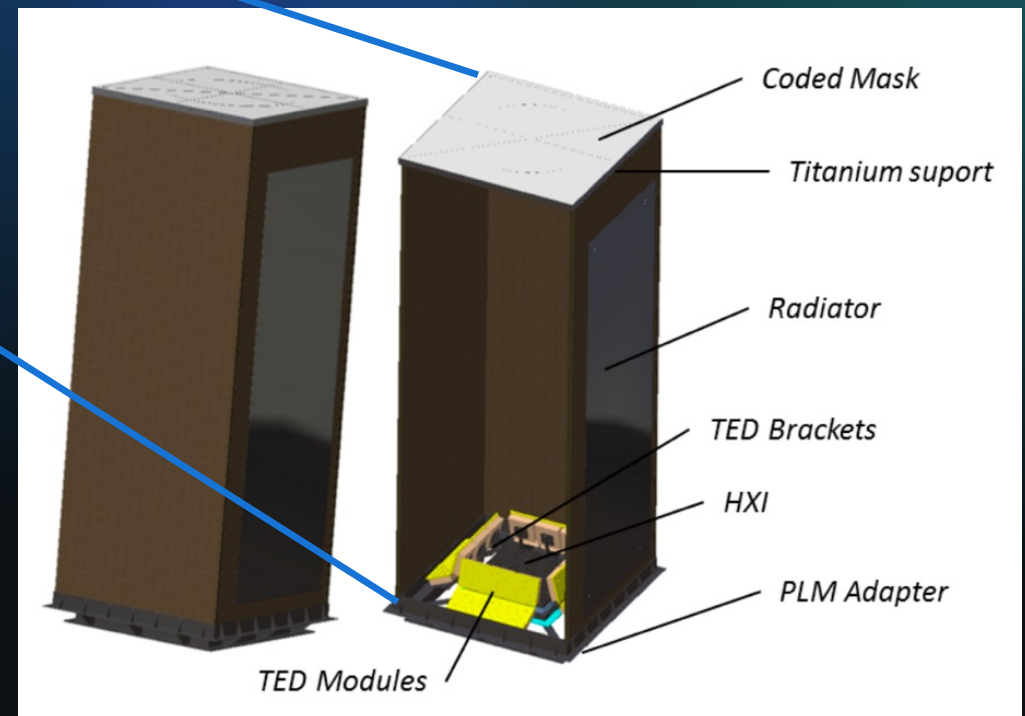
- Main goals: GRB & multimessenger, Surveys
- Launch: >~mid 2030's
- Orbit: LEO equatorial (<5deg)
- Rapid repointing, light S/C
- GRB detection:  
Coverage ~8 sr FoV (0.02-10 MeV)
- Followup:  
Coverage 400deg<sup>2</sup> FoV (5-200 keV)
- #GRBs: ~570/yr (of which ~90 SGRBs/yr)
- Localization:  
<10 deg @90% confidence at first detection,  
30" after followup



# The S/C and payload module



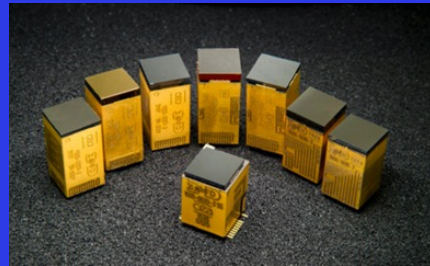
S/C study based on TAS-I Nimbus S/C



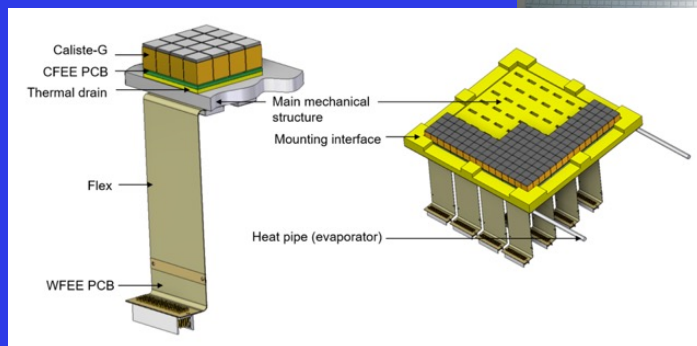
# The GRINTA payload

## Hard X-ray Imager (HXI)

- Coded mask instrument (400 deg<sup>2</sup> FoV)
- Detection units based on Caliste modules (CdTe Schottky, already flight proven)
- Focal plane assembly has 16x16 modules, 900cm<sup>2</sup> detection area. Imaging pixel size = 1 mm.

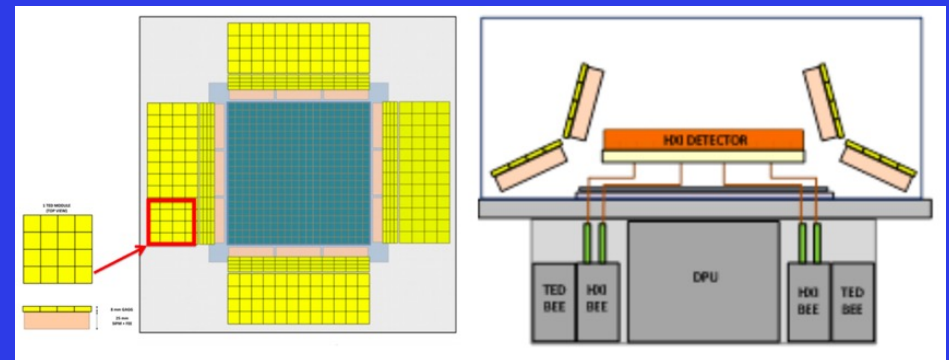


A set of Caliste modules. A version of them has been launched on Solar-Orbiter(TRL-9)



## Transient Event detector (TED)

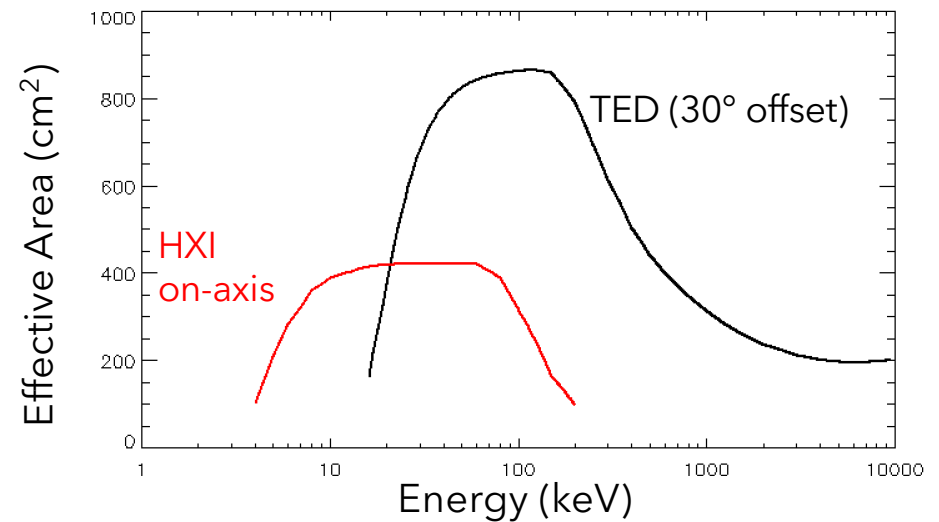
- 24 modules, each of 100cm<sup>2</sup> geometric area
- They are used on board to detect GRBs and other transients and send alerts to the DPU
- They also act as active AC system for the HXI detector plane
- Technology already flight proven, mainly on small-sats (e.g. GECAM, GRID, ...)





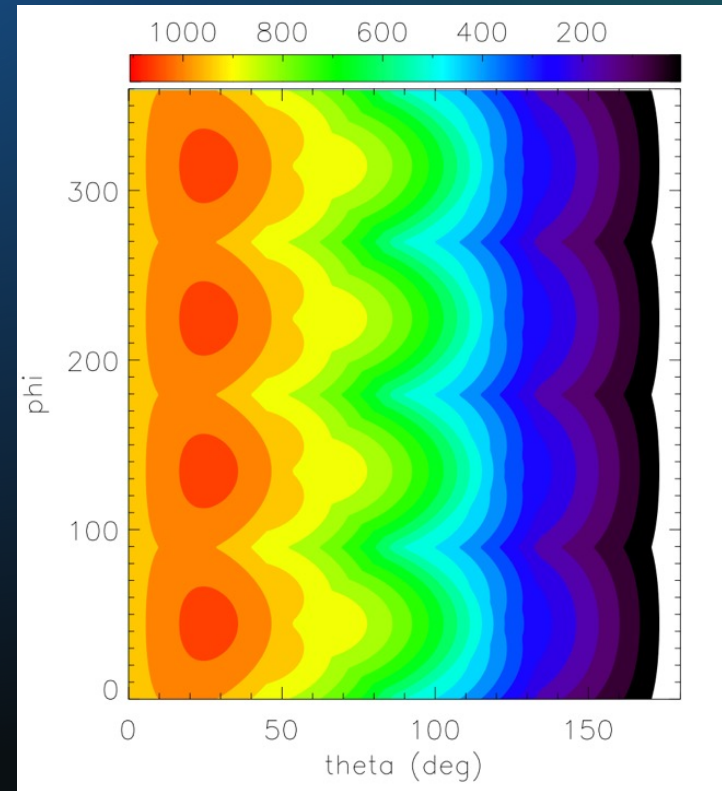
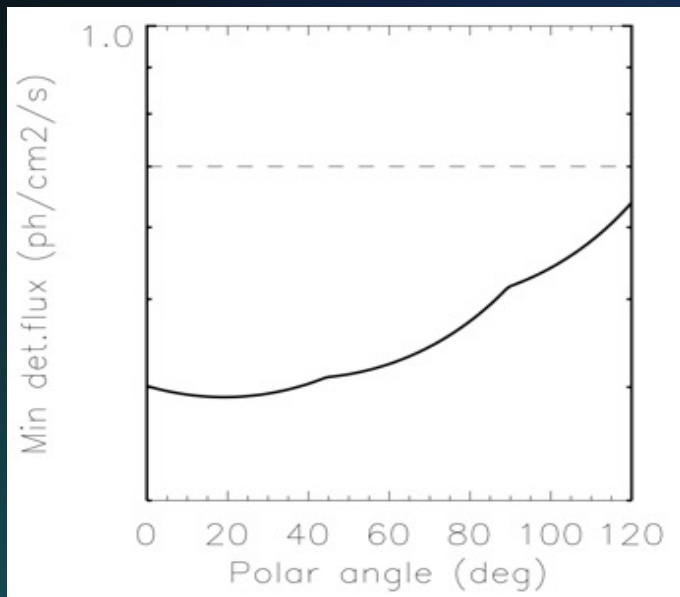
# GRINTA performance summary

Characteristics	HXI Performances	TED Performances								
Energy Range	5–200 keV	20 keV –10 MeV								
Spectral Resolution (FWHM)	1 keV @ 60 keV	~25% @60 keV ~10% @500 keV								
Field of View	29°x29° Total FoV	~ 8 sr								
Angular Resolution	3.8'	N/A								
Source location accuracy (10σ)	30''	5°								
Sensitivity (5sigma, 10 <sup>4</sup> s)	<table><tr><td>Energy range</td><td>ph/cm<sup>2</sup>/s</td></tr><tr><td>5 – 50 keV</td><td>6 × 10<sup>−4</sup></td></tr><tr><td>50 – 200 keV</td><td>3 × 10<sup>−3</sup></td></tr><tr><td>5 – 200 keV</td><td>3.5 × 10<sup>−3</sup></td></tr></table>	Energy range	ph/cm <sup>2</sup> /s	5 – 50 keV	6 × 10 <sup>−4</sup>	50 – 200 keV	3 × 10 <sup>−3</sup>	5 – 200 keV	3.5 × 10 <sup>−3</sup>	< 0.5 ph/cm <sup>2</sup> /s in 50–300 keV
Energy range	ph/cm <sup>2</sup> /s									
5 – 50 keV	6 × 10 <sup>−4</sup>									
50 – 200 keV	3 × 10 <sup>−3</sup>									
5 – 200 keV	3.5 × 10 <sup>−3</sup>									



# TED sky monitoring

Source Type	Detections/Year
Short GRBs	90
Long GRBs	480
Magnetars	60
Galactic Transients	90



Exposed area as a function of polar angle

TED sensitivity compared to Fermi/GBM

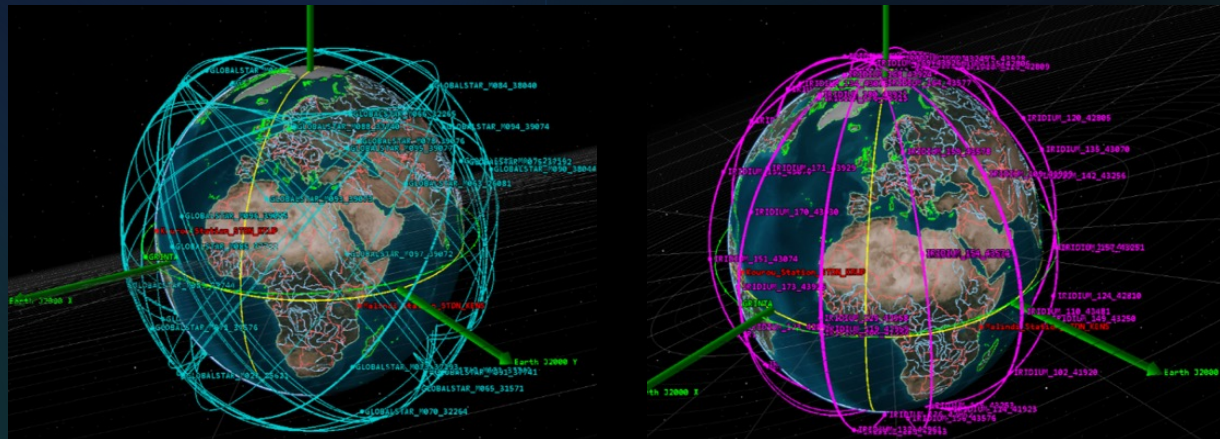
# GRINTA in a nutshell

<b>Key Science Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the physics of mergers responsible for emission of gravitational waves</li> <li>• Probe the nature of jets and structure in gamma-ray bursts</li> <li>• Understand the physical processes driving the high energy transient phenomena and clarify their relationship with multi-messenger sources</li> <li>• Understand the physics of compact objects and characterize their populations (surveys)</li> </ul>
<b>Payloads</b>	<p><b>Two instruments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transient Event Detector (TED), 0.02 — 10 MeV, FOV <math>\leftarrow</math> 8 sr</li> <li>• Hard X-ray Imager (HXI), 5 - 200 keV, FOV <math>\leftarrow</math> 100sq.deg fully coded, 400sq.deg FWHM, source location accuracy <math>\leftarrow</math> 30"</li> </ul>
<b>Mission Profile</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vega-C, Low Earth orbit, <math>&lt; 5^\circ</math> inclination</li> <li>• Duration: 2-year (nominal) + 3 years (extended)</li> <li>• Communication links: equatorial GS, optional intersatellite relay link (e.g. Globalstar, Iridium)</li> <li>• Optional cubesat (GIFTS) co-orbiting for all-sky coverage (not baselined - to be assessed in Phase 0)</li> </ul>
<b>Spacecraft</b>	<p><b>Study based on TAS-I NIMBUS platform:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-axis stabilized</li> <li>• Rapid repointing, slew time : <math>50^\circ/\text{min}</math></li> <li>• Power : 490 W</li> <li>• Dry Mass : 289 kg</li> <li>• S-band/X-band (Malindi, Kourou)</li> </ul>
<b>Cost to ESA</b>	ROM estimate marginally within ESA CaC, could be substantially reduced if S/C is already space qualified at the time of mission adoption

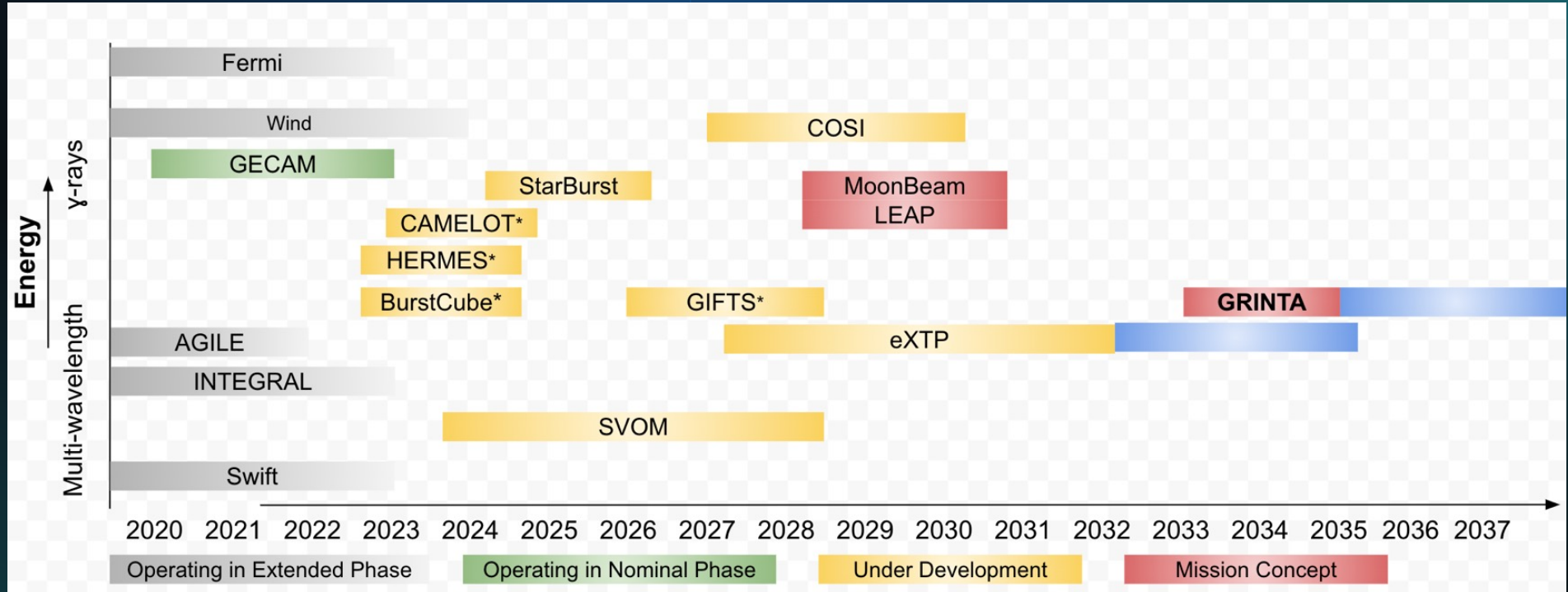


# GRINTA Operational Concept

- Basic operational modes:
  - (a) Safe mode (b) Survey (c) Follow-up
- Fast slew towards the target ( $50^\circ$  in  $< 60''$ )
- Follow-up triggered by TED localisation of an event or by external (ground or satellite) alert
- Re-orientable solar panels
- S/C communication via both GS and satellite constellations (necessary to reduce delays down to  $\sim$ min timescale)



# HE ( $>20$ keV) missions scenario



No hard X-ray missions with imaging capabilities like Swift and INTEGRAL



# Joint GW/EM signal detection for GRINTA

## Possible scenarios

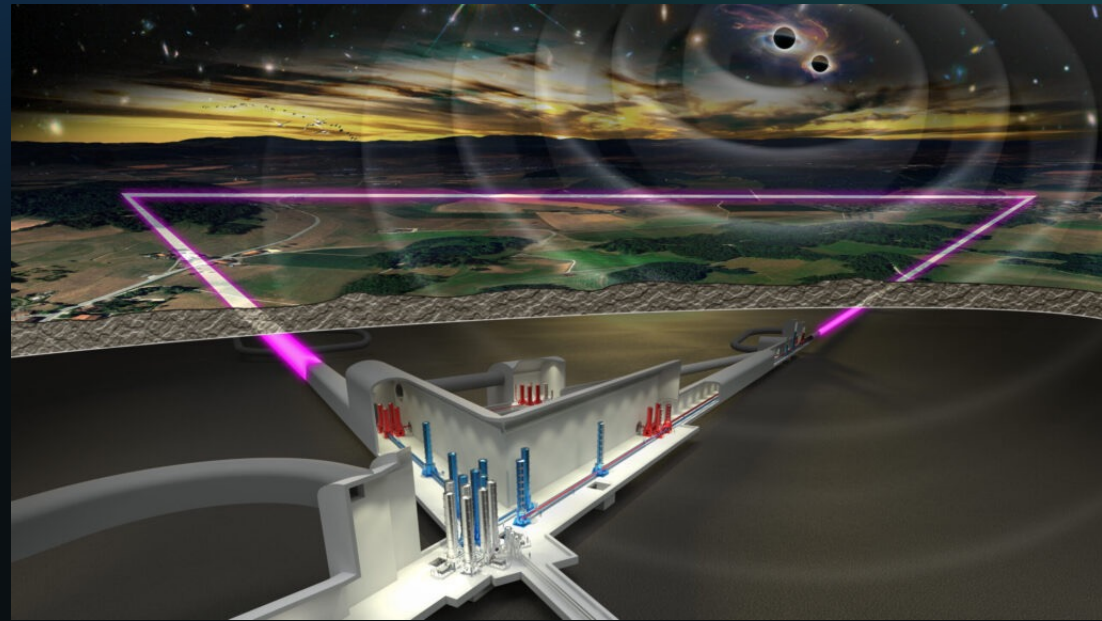
- **Post O5 (>2030)**

**3 LIGO Voyagers** (two in the current position of the LIGO antennas in Livingston and Handford, and the third one in India) + Virgo (O5 sensitivity) + Kagra (O5 sensitivity).

- **Einstein Telescope (ET)**

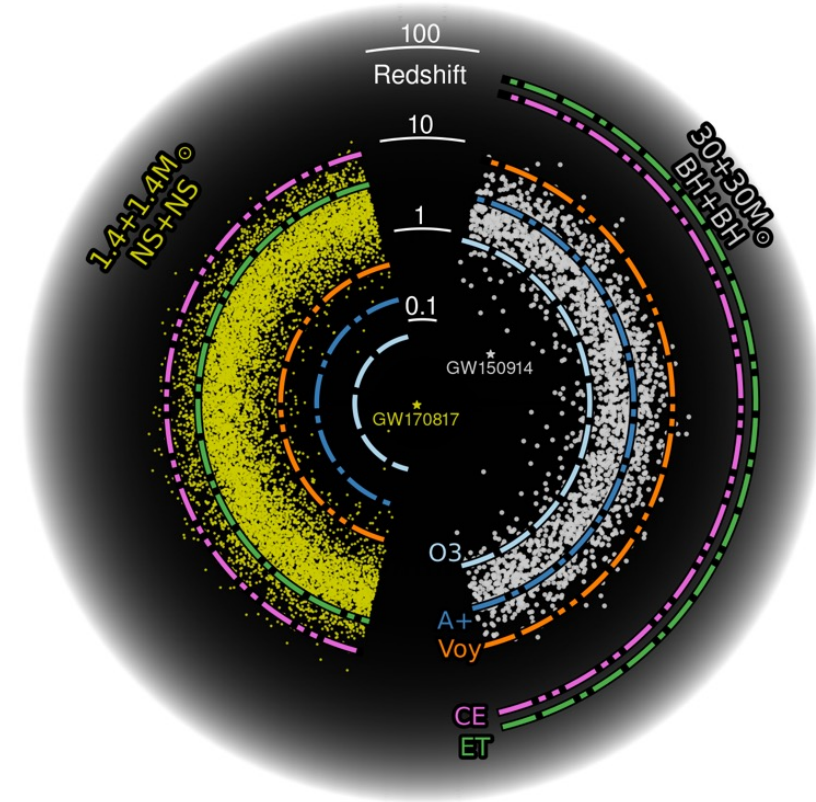
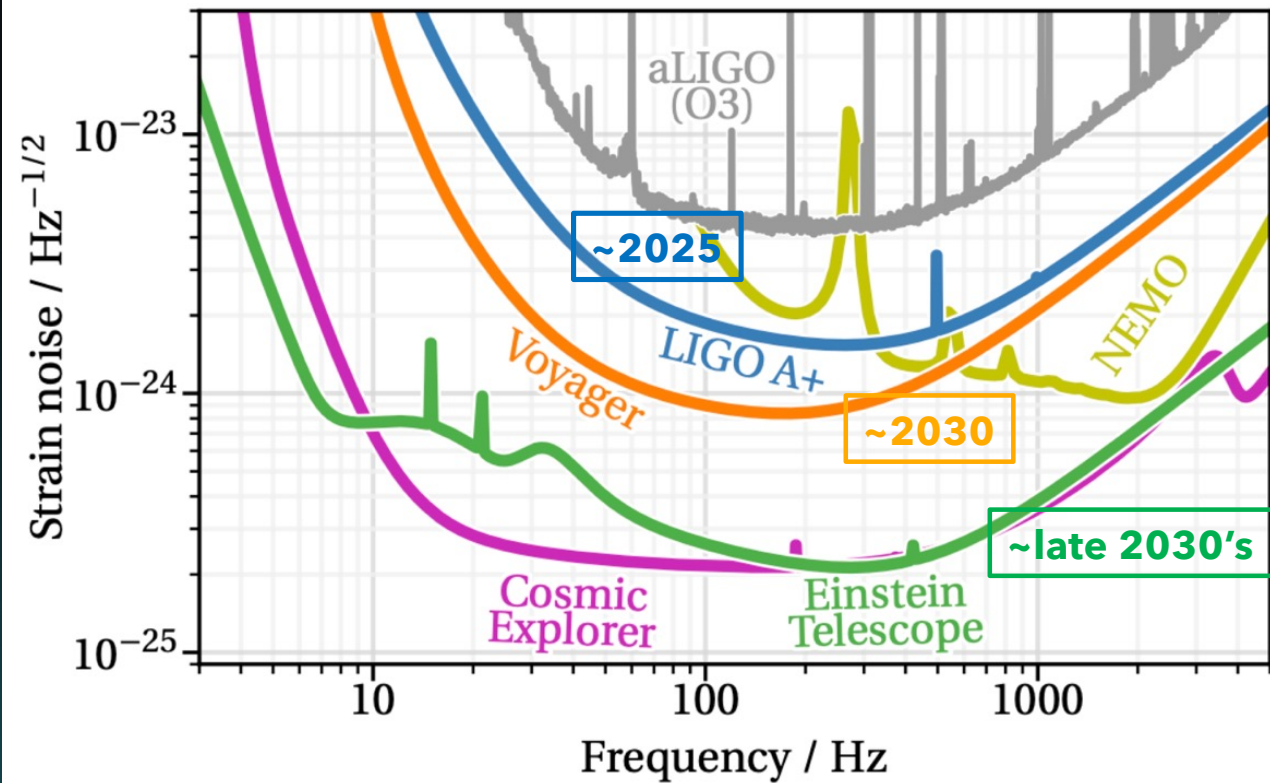
- **Einstein Telescope + Cosmic Explorer (CE)**

ET concept design



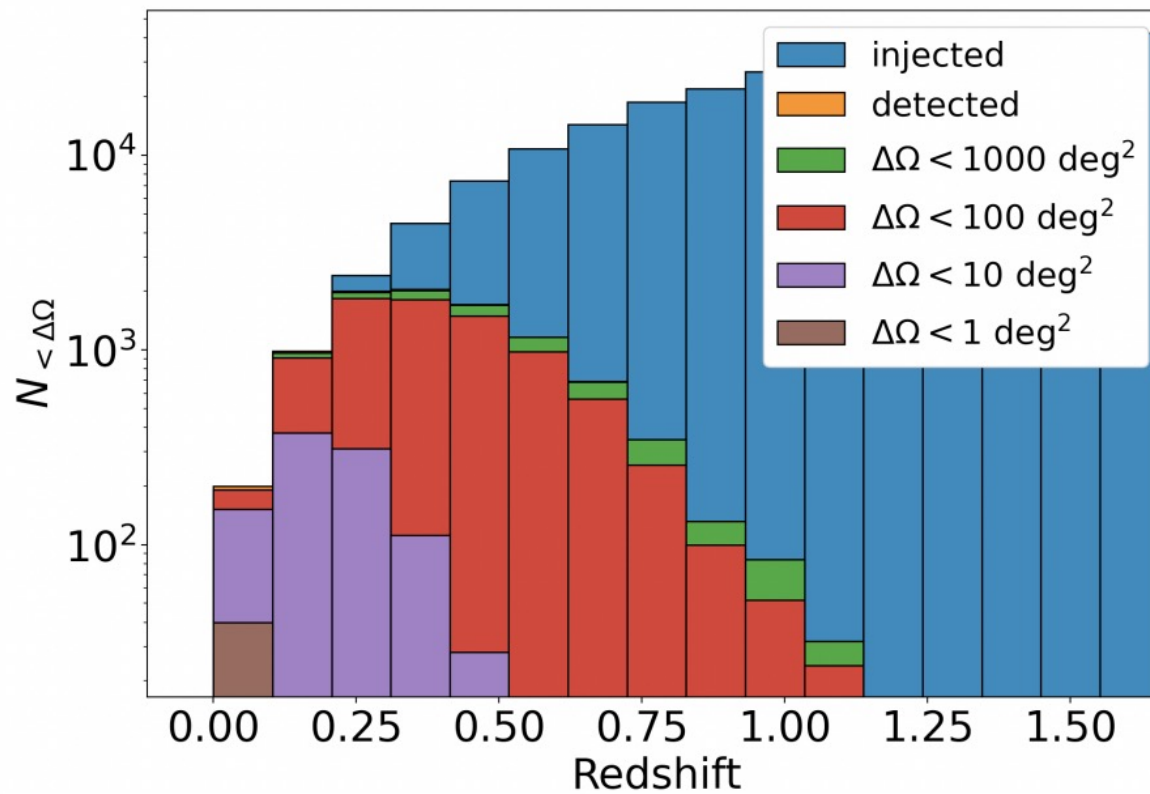


# Planned GW detectors



Credits: <https://cosmicexplorer.org/>

## Post-O5



Most GW detected events in the post-O5 scenario will have localization error  $< 100 \text{ deg}^2$  (ref. [Ronchini+22](#))

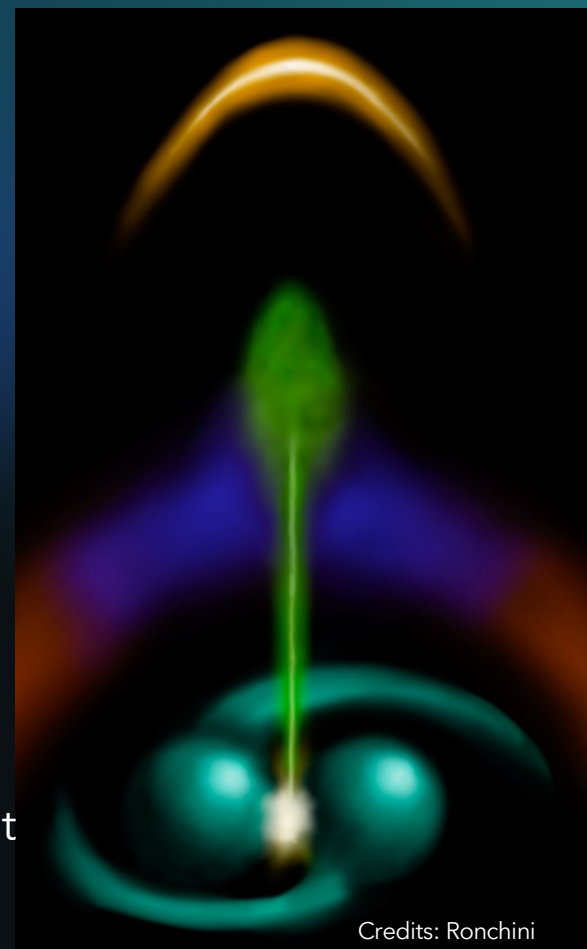
# GRINTA contribution to GRB science in the GWs era

## TED will detect about 90 short GRBs per year

- Almost half will be detected by HXI in  $\gamma$ /X-ray (down to 5 keV)
  - measure the source spectra probing the emission mechanisms
- HXI sub-arcmin sky-localization will drive the multi-wavelength follow-up by ground and identification of the host galaxy
  - complete picture of the relativistic jet and interaction with the environment

## GW/GRB: post O5, ~10 detection per year in survey mode and another tens by follow-up of GW signals

- Evaluate the fraction of BNS able to produce a jet
- Jet structure by detecting off-axis GRBs (pointing GWs)
- Detect X-ray signature to identify the nature of the merger remnant
- Understand the role of NS-BH mergers as short GRB progenitor
- With 2+3 years mission → cosmology with  $H_0$  at 1 percent level and test of modified gravity



Credits: Ronchini



# Synergy with other facilities

- Provide accurate locations of the events to follow-up with IR/optical/UV telescopes. Measurements of redshifts by IR/optical followup of SGRBs will have impact on cosmology ( $H_0$  measurements) and fundamental physics (e.g. theories of modified gravity)
- Followup with optical/UV to investigate the relative contribution of mergers and core-collapse SNa<sub>e</sub> to the r-process (connection to cosmic-ray science, origin of heavy elements).
- Investigation of alerts generated by radio, optical and VHE (e.g. SKA, Vera Rubin, CTA), including subthreshold searches. Events from GRBs, TDEs, FRBs,...
- Search for HE neutrino counterparts in the error regions of neutrino telescopes: IceCube Gen2, KM3NET...
- Perform joint studies of the hard X-ray and TeV emission (e.g. blazar flares) with GRINTA and CTA
- Follow-up and localization of many astrophysical transients
- Investigation of HE unidentified sources for thousands of objects (e.g. sources already detected by INTEGRAL, Swift, Fermi, eRosita, ...)

Localization is the key!

# Summary

- GRINTA is a natural evolution of the successful, currently operational missions: Fermi, INTEGRAL, Swift, with an innovative operational approach
- It represents an outstanding opportunity to complement the GW post-O5 and neutrino 2<sup>nd</sup> generation detectors with EM measurements in the 2030's.
- It will provide wide sky coverage in hard X-rays, currently the most effective choice for the detection and prompt localization of short GRBs from binary mergers at large distances
- The detection of tenths/hundreds of joint EM/GW events will provide breakthrough discoveries in fundamental physics, cosmology, relativistic jet formation and structure, gravity theories, etc.
- GRINTA will detect a very large sample (~500/year) of long GRBs to provide deeper insights into the progenitors, central engines and jet structures associated with massive stellar collapses.
- It will provide broad band coverage to study accretion and ejection phenomena in compact sources, covering an important gap in the decade
- It will work in synergy with other ground and space facilities, spanning from radio to UHE gamma-rays to study the most energetic phenomena