

An Unshrouded View of our Lively Galactic Bulge

Erik Kuulkers
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With the following players:

Søren Brandt, Jérôme Chenevez, Thierry Courvoisier,
Albert Domingo, Ken Ebisawa, Peter Kretschmar,
Craig Markwardt, Nami Mowlavi, Tim Oosterbroek,
Astrid Orr, Ada Paizis, Daniel Rísquez,
Celia Sanchez-Fernandez, Simon Shaw & Rudy Wijnands

Erik Kuulkers
(ISOC @ ESAC/ESA, Spain)

Talk layout

- INTEGRAL
- Galactic Bulge
- Monitoring Program (with focus on hard X-rays)
- Some Results
- To-do list
- Public availability



Integral (International Gamma-Ray Laboratory)

IBIS - The gamma-ray Imager:

15 keV-10 MeV (ISGRI/PICsIT)

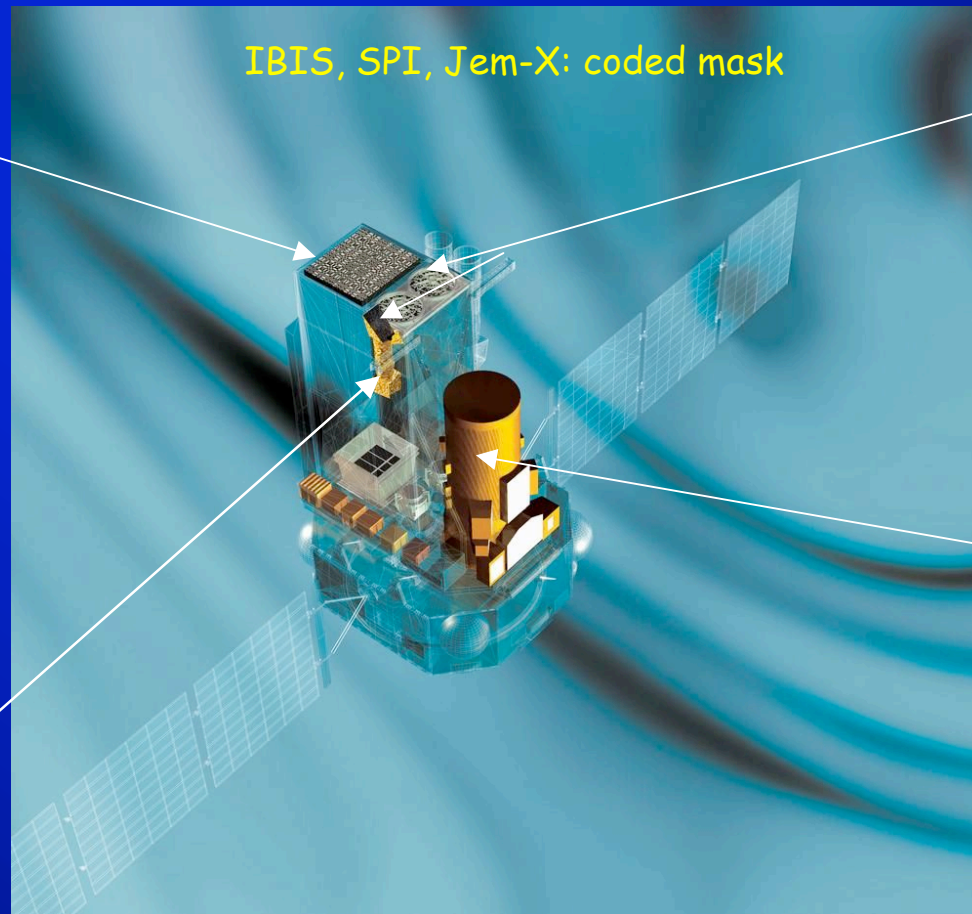
12' FWHM imaging

<30" source location

OMC - Optical Monitor Camera:

500-600 nm

IBIS, SPI, Jem-X: coded mask



Jem-X - The Joint European X-ray Monitor:

3-35 keV

SPI - The gamma-ray Spectrometer:

20 keV - 8 MeV

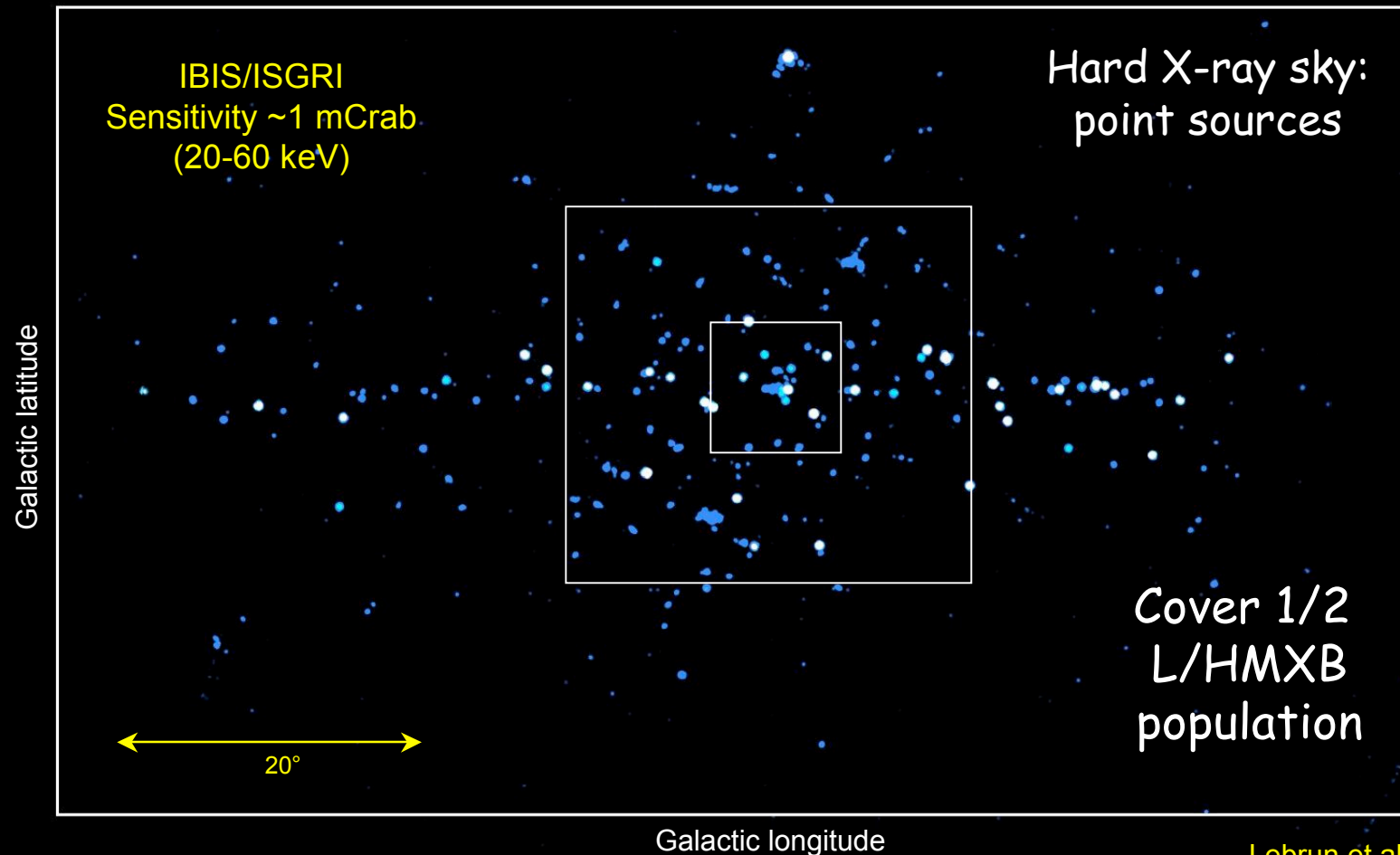
E/DE ~ 500

1.3° source location

See A&A Letters special issue 411 (2003)

Hard X-ray sky

INTEGRAL



See A&A Letters special issue 411 (2003)

Lebrun et al. 2004
Nature 428, 293

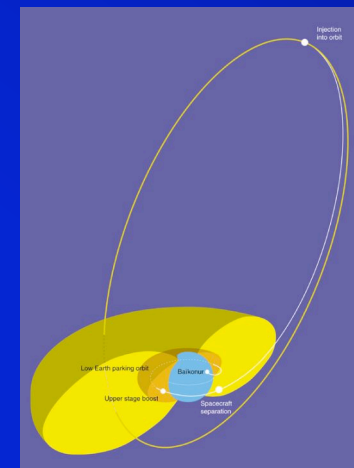
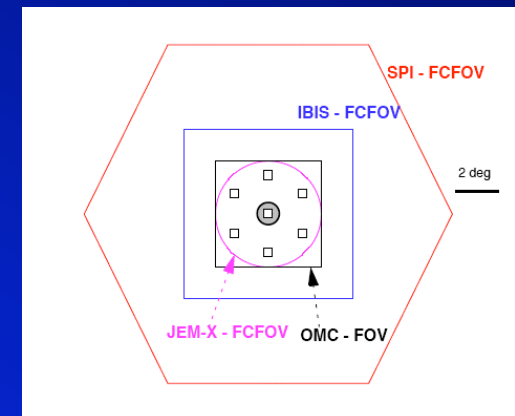
The high-E bulge ZOO

- Low-mass X-ray binaries:
 - persistent with ns (e.g., GX 5-1, GX 3+1)
 - X-ray bursters (e.g., GS 1826-24, GX 354-0)
 - X-ray pulsars (GX 1+4, 2S 1822-371)
 - transient with ns (e.g., MXB 1730-335)
 - persistent with bh (e.g., 1E 1740.7-2942)
 - transient with bh (e.g., GRO J1655-40)
- High-mass X-ray binaries:
 - X-ray pulsars (e.g., OAO 1657-415)
 - highly absorbed IGRs (e.g., IGR J17252-3616)
 - e.g., 4U 1700-377
- SGRs (e.g., SGR 1806-20)
- Cataclysmic variables (e.g., V2400 Oph)
- AGN (e.g., PKS 1830-211)

About
1/2 the
population of
L/HMXBs
in the Galactic
bulge!

Monitoring Program

- Every INTEGRAL orbit (~3 days)
 - 7 exposures of 1800 sec;
hexagonal dither pattern
(source: 1 on-axis, 6 off-axis, 2° apart)
 - Data available for analysis after ~2 hrs
 - Results publicly available within a day:
<http://isdc.unige.ch/Science/BULGE/>
 - 2 visibility windows per year (2 months each)
-
- Objective: source variability & transient activity on time scales of days-weeks-months at soft and hard X-ray energies
 - All sources in one go!
 - Any news \Rightarrow Atel



Monitoring Program - 2

- Results are made publicly available as follows on <http://isdc.unige.ch/Science/BULGE>:
 - Jem-X: 3-10 & 10-25 keV light curves + images
 - IBIS/ISGRI: 20-60 keV & 60-150 keV light curves + images
 - Permanent monitoring of ~80 sources
- IBIS/ISGRI & Jem-X sensitivities:
typically 10-20 mCrab per hexagonal dither; depends on:
 - source position (in fully or partially coded FOV)
 - background (systematics, solar activity)
 - nr of exposures (some are lost)
 - energy (instrument response)
- Started in Feb 2005; results on 1st 3 seasons: Kuulkers et al. 2007

INTEGRAL vs. some others

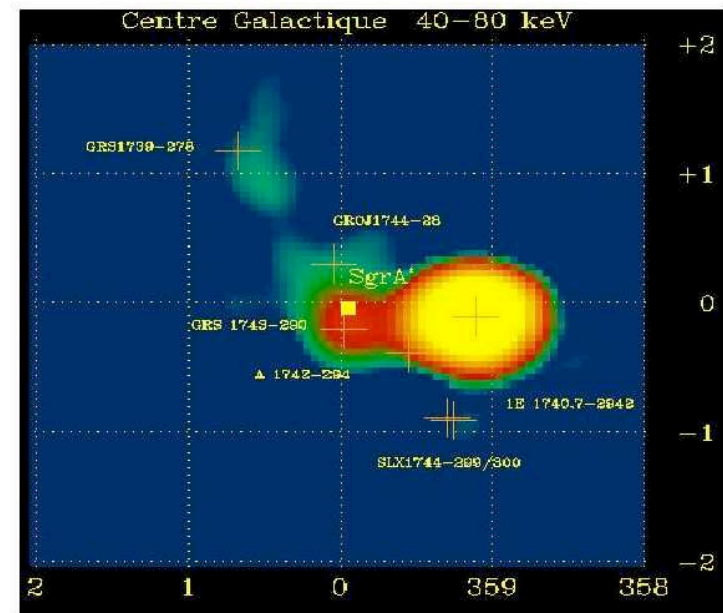
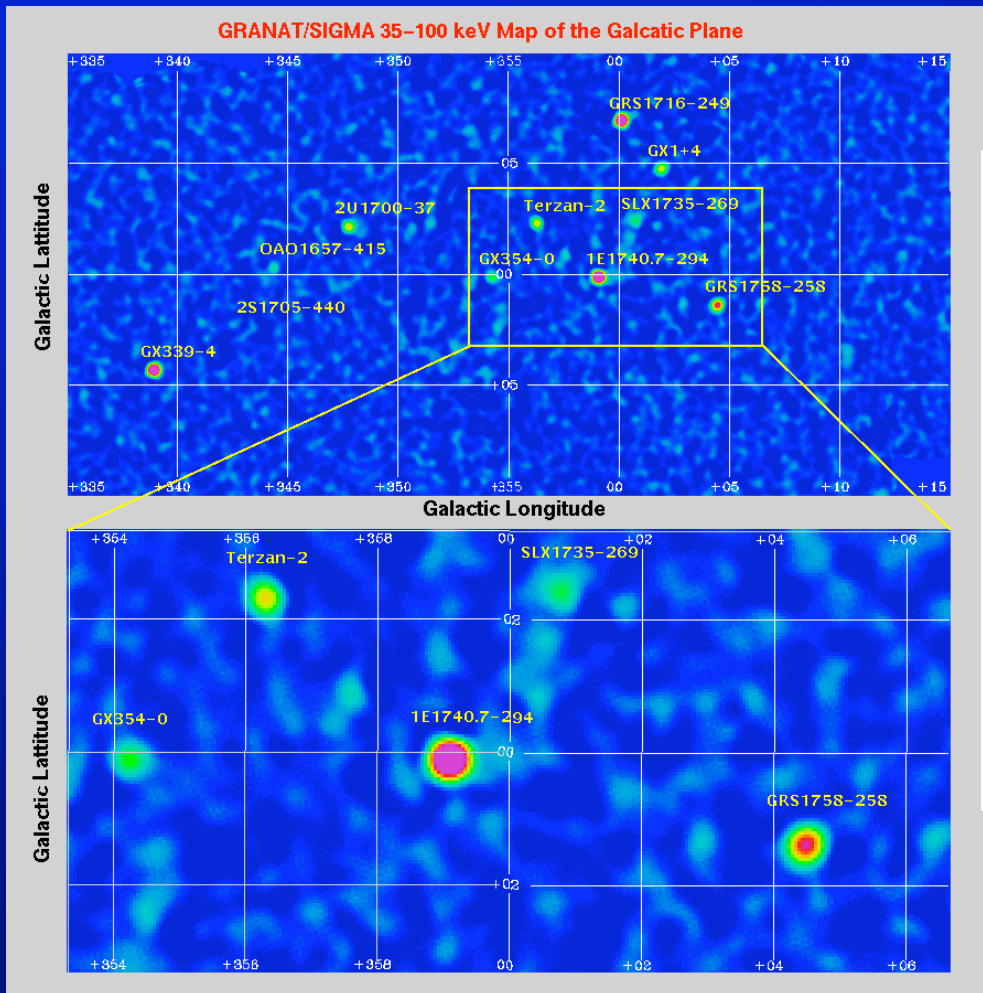
Similar dedicated campaigns:

- GRANAT/SIGMA (35-100 keV) - 1990-1998 - e.g. Churazov et al. 1994
- BeppoSAX/WFC (3-35 keV) - 1996-2000 - e.g. in 't Zand 2001
- RXTE/PCA (2-10 keV) - 1996-? - e.g. Swank & Markwardt 2001 (still on-going)

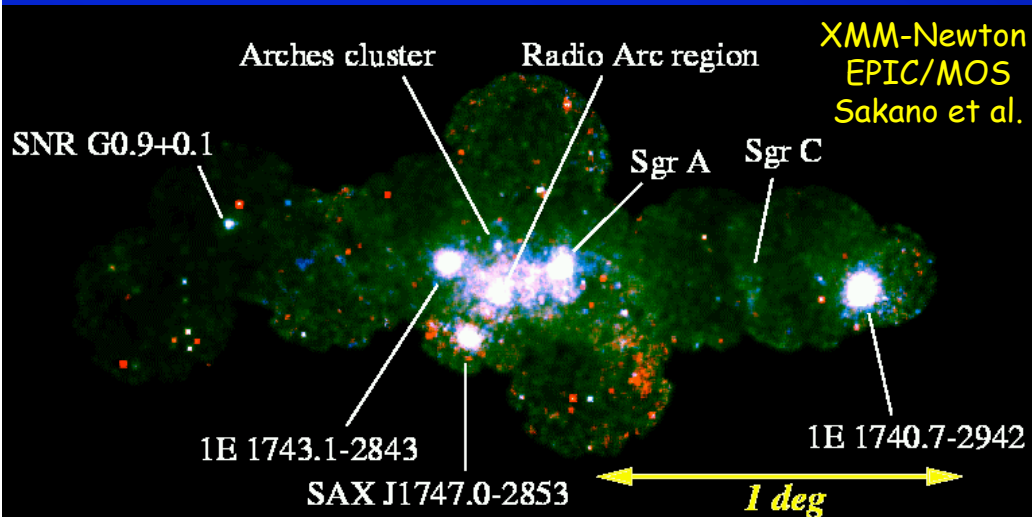
Similar long-term (hard) X-ray light curves:

- MIT/OSO-7 (15-40 keV) - 1971-1973 - e.g. Markert et al. 1979
- CGRO/BATSE (20-100 keV) - 1991-2000 - e.g. Harmon et al. 2004
- Swift/BAT (15-50 keV) - 2005-? - e.g. Krimm et al. 2006 (still ongoing)

The past: GRANAT/Sigma

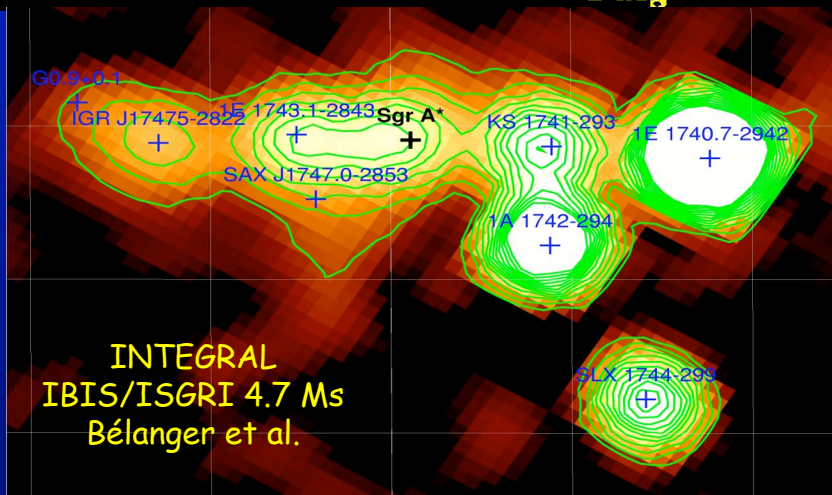


INTEGRAL vs. some others - 2

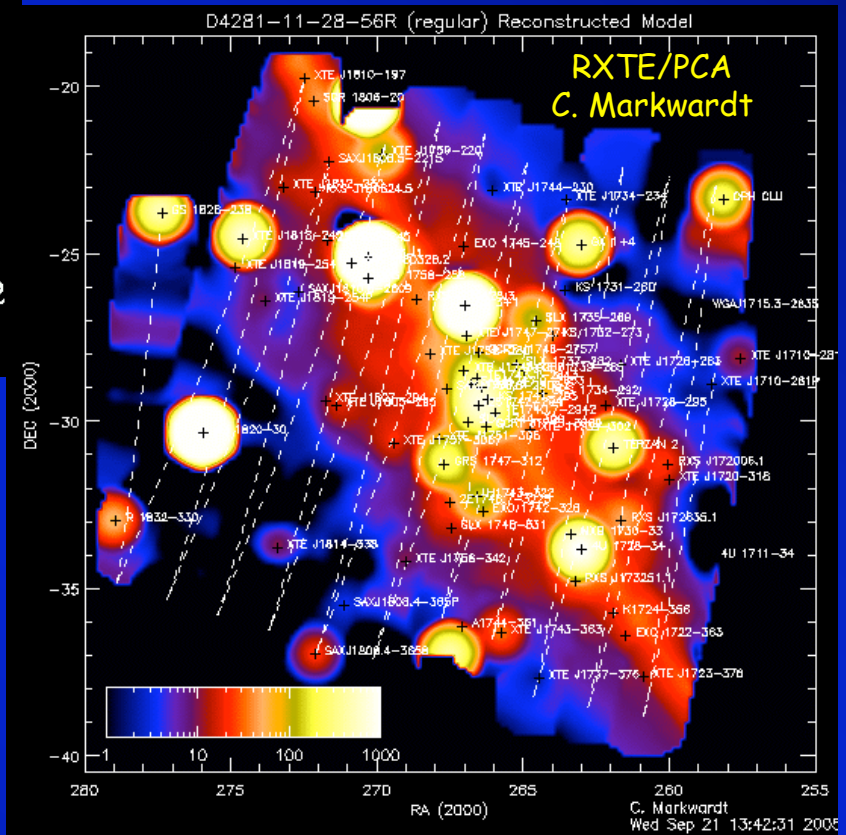


XMM-Newton
EPIC/MOS
Sakano et al.

XMM-Newton & Chandra:
GC exposures few months
(PI: Wijnands)



INTEGRAL: Bulge exposures every ~3 days
(PI: Kuulkers)



RXTE: Bulge scans every week
(PI: Markwardt)

INTEGRAL vs. some others - 3

IBIS/ISGRI:

- 15 keV - 1 MeV, PSF 12', FCFOV $8.3^\circ \times 8^\circ$, PCFOV $29^\circ \times 29^\circ$ (zero response)

`Comparable' instruments currently in operation:

Swift/BAT:

- 15-150 keV, PSF 22', FOV 2.0 sr (partially coded)
But no dedicated GB monitoring + bad resolution in GC

RXTE/HEXTE:

- 15-250 keV, 2° collimator:
Only GB scans + no imaging

Twinkle, twinkle, little star

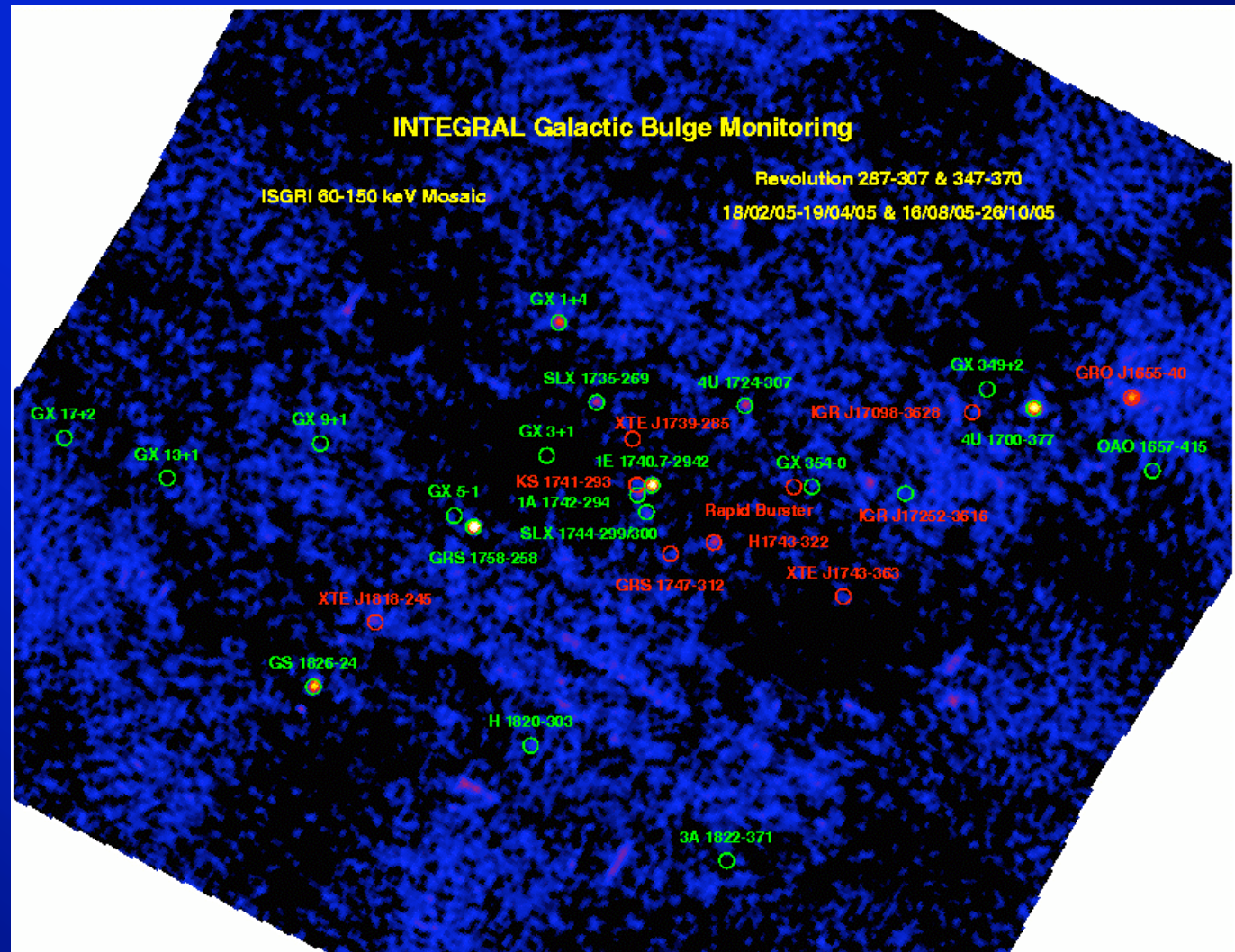
- X/ γ -ray sources are variable on time scales of millisecond to days (quasi-periodic oscillations, pulsations, [absorption] dips, eclipses, type I and type II X-ray bursts, orbital variations, flares) and weeks to years (orbital variations, outburst cycles, on/off states)
→ the region never looks exactly the same.
- Today: focus on the short (hour), medium (month) and long-term (year) variability in hard X-rays (20-60 keV and 60-150 keV).
When available, also discuss soft X-rays (2-10 keV)

Some results

- Simultaneous monitoring of various compact binaries, i.e., low-mass and high-mass X-ray binaries containing either a neutron star or black hole at low energies ... and high energies:

60-150 keV

- 3 seasons



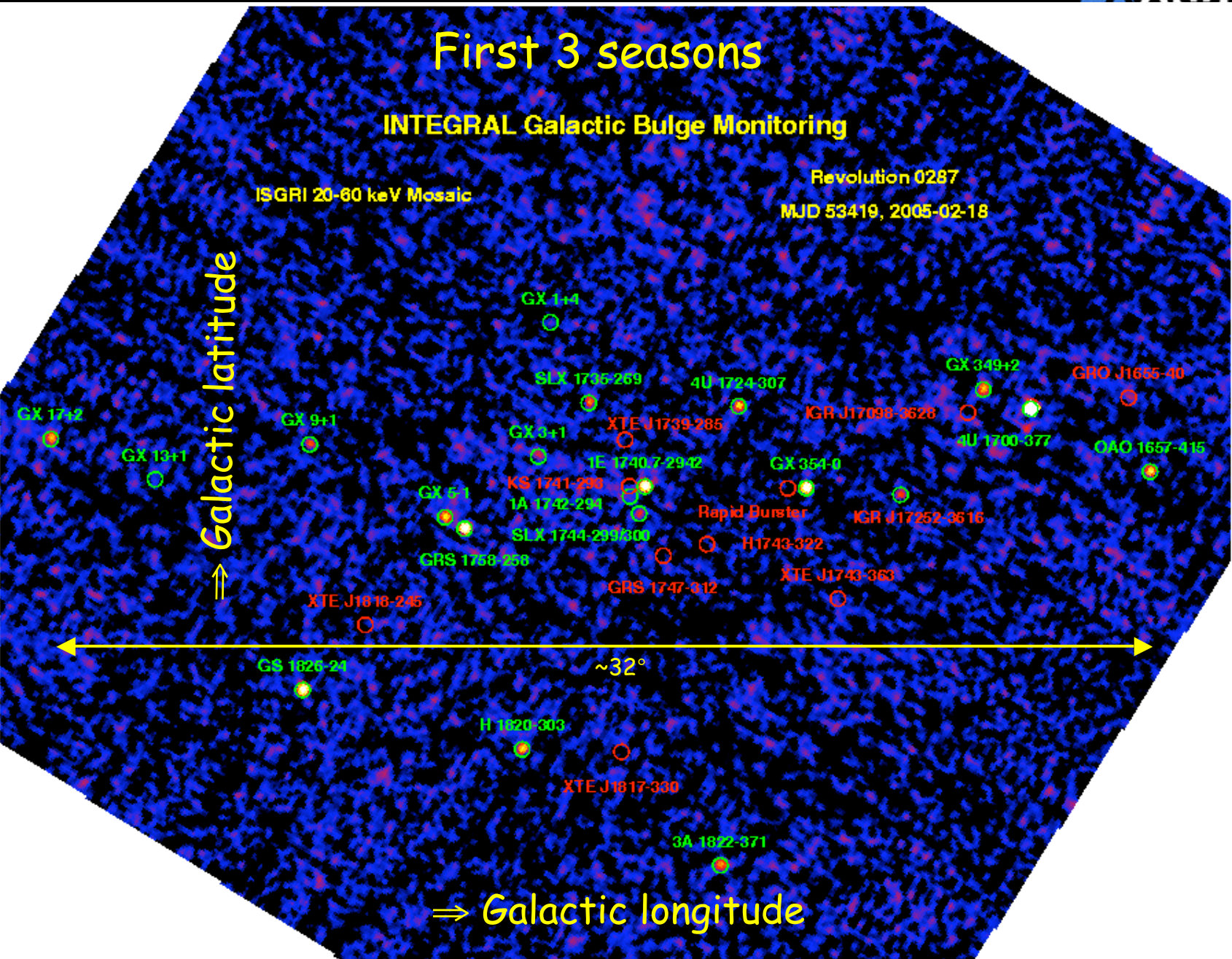
First 3 seasons

INTEGRAL Galactic Bulge Monitoring

ISGRI 20-60 keV Mosaic

Revolution 0287
MJD 53419, 2005-02-18

Galactic latitude

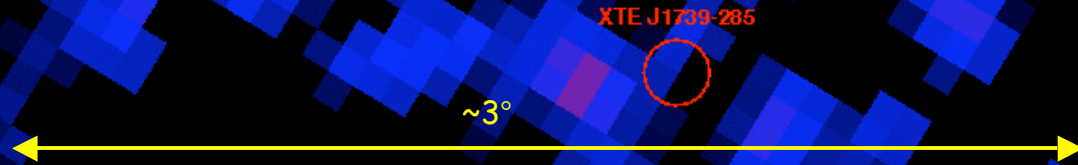


~32°

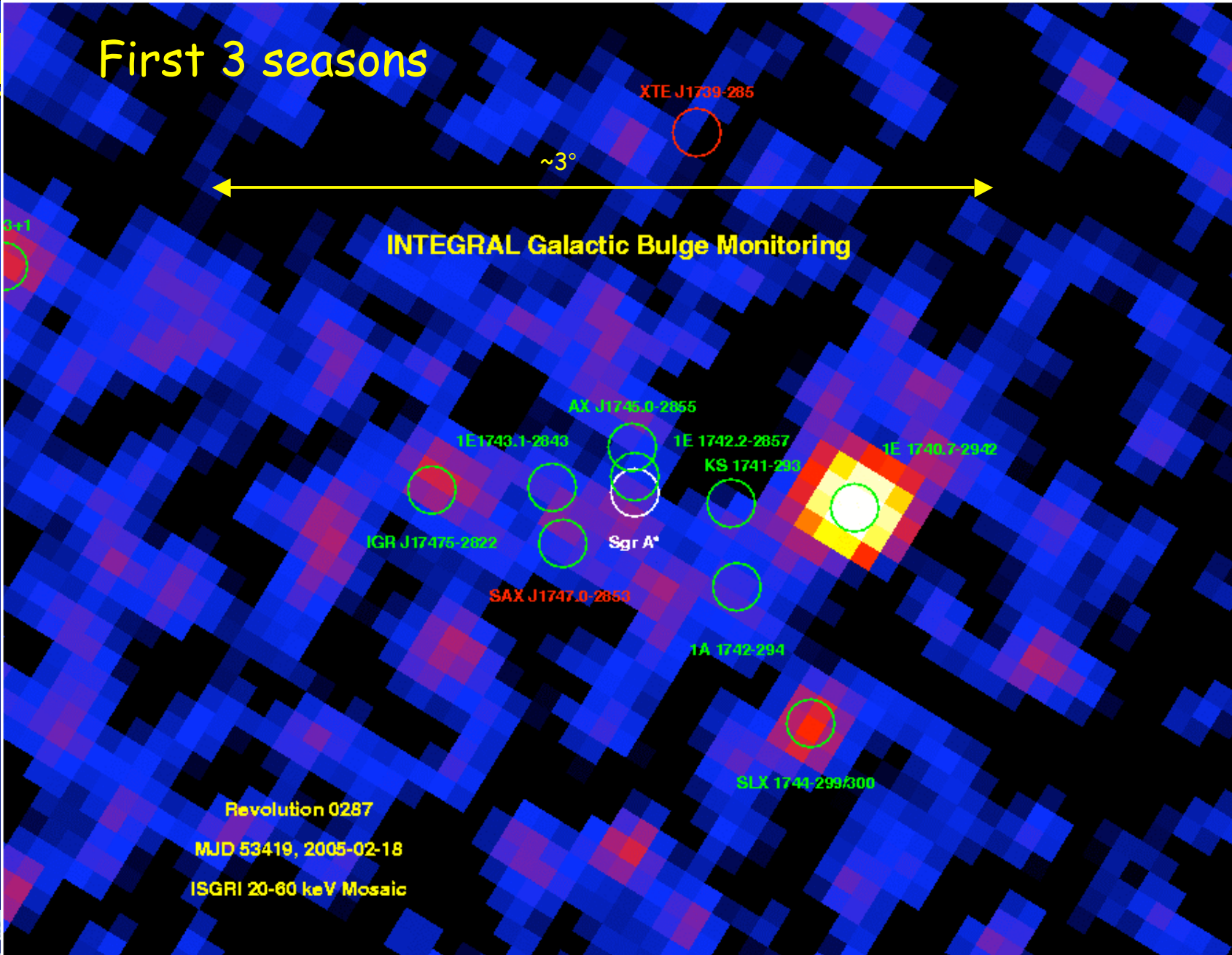
Galactic longitude



First 3 seasons



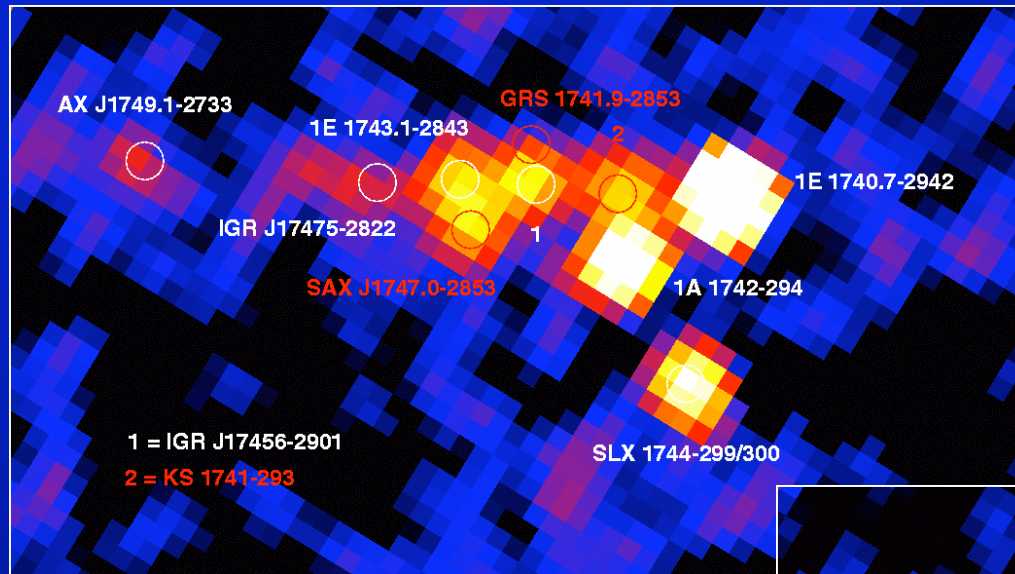
INTEGRAL Galactic Bulge Monitoring



Revolution 0287
 MJD 53419, 2005-02-18
 ISGRI 20-60 keV Mosaic



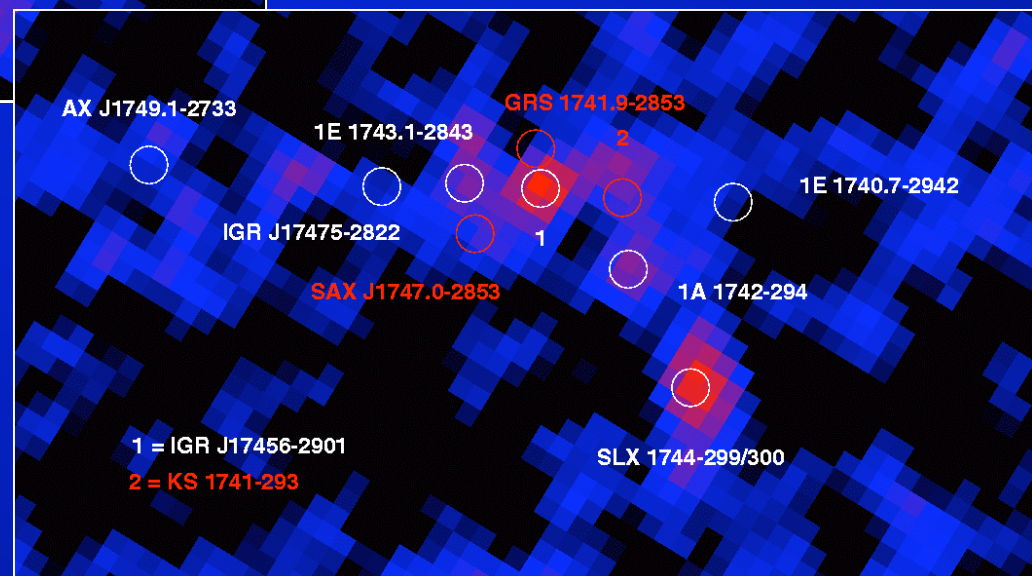
The GC region playing hide and seek



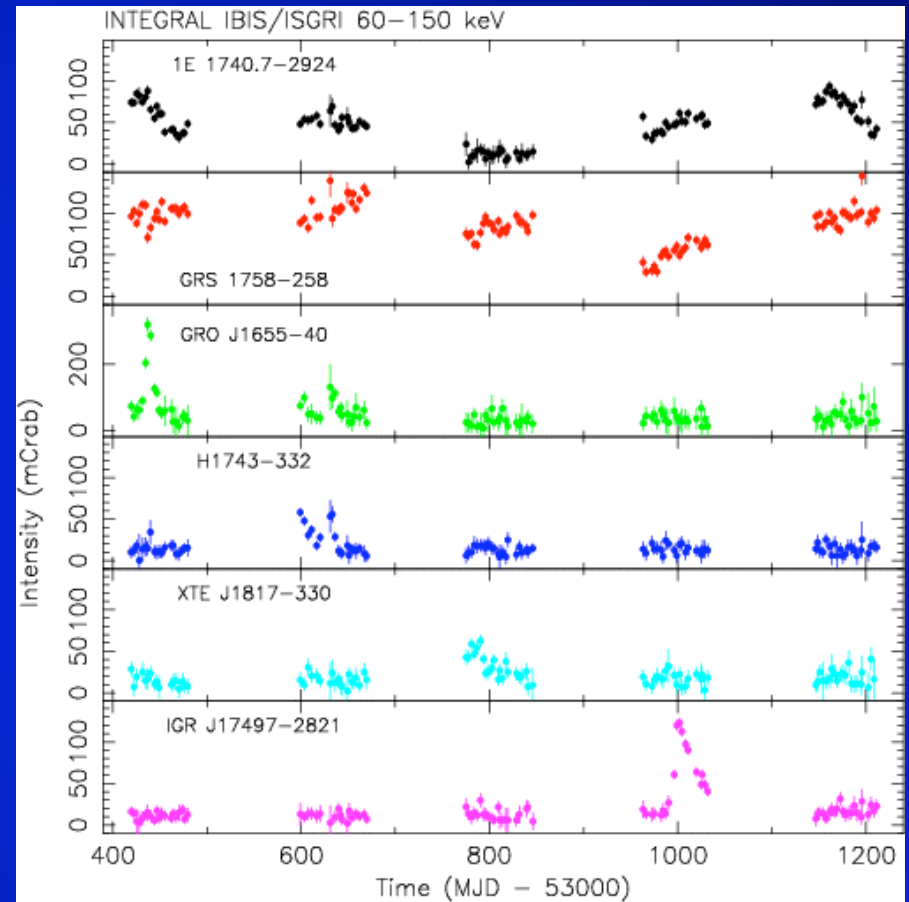
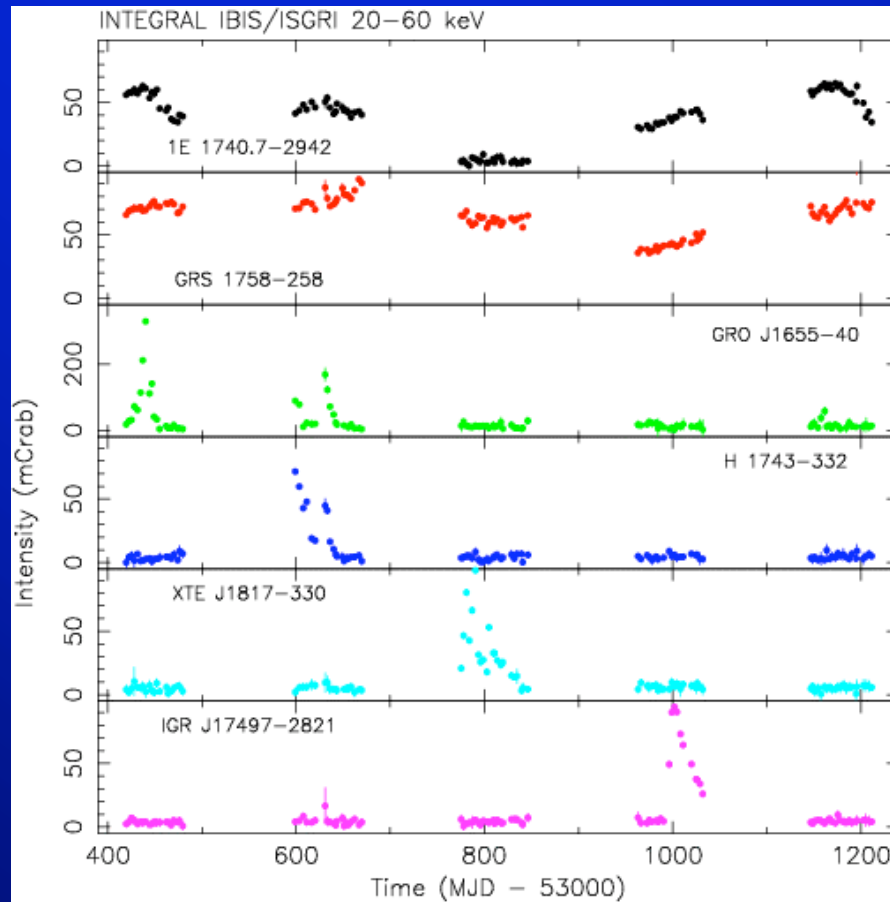
April 2006
69 ksec

3 seasons
727 ksec

Same scale;
no magic...



IBIS/ISGRI light curves - BHC

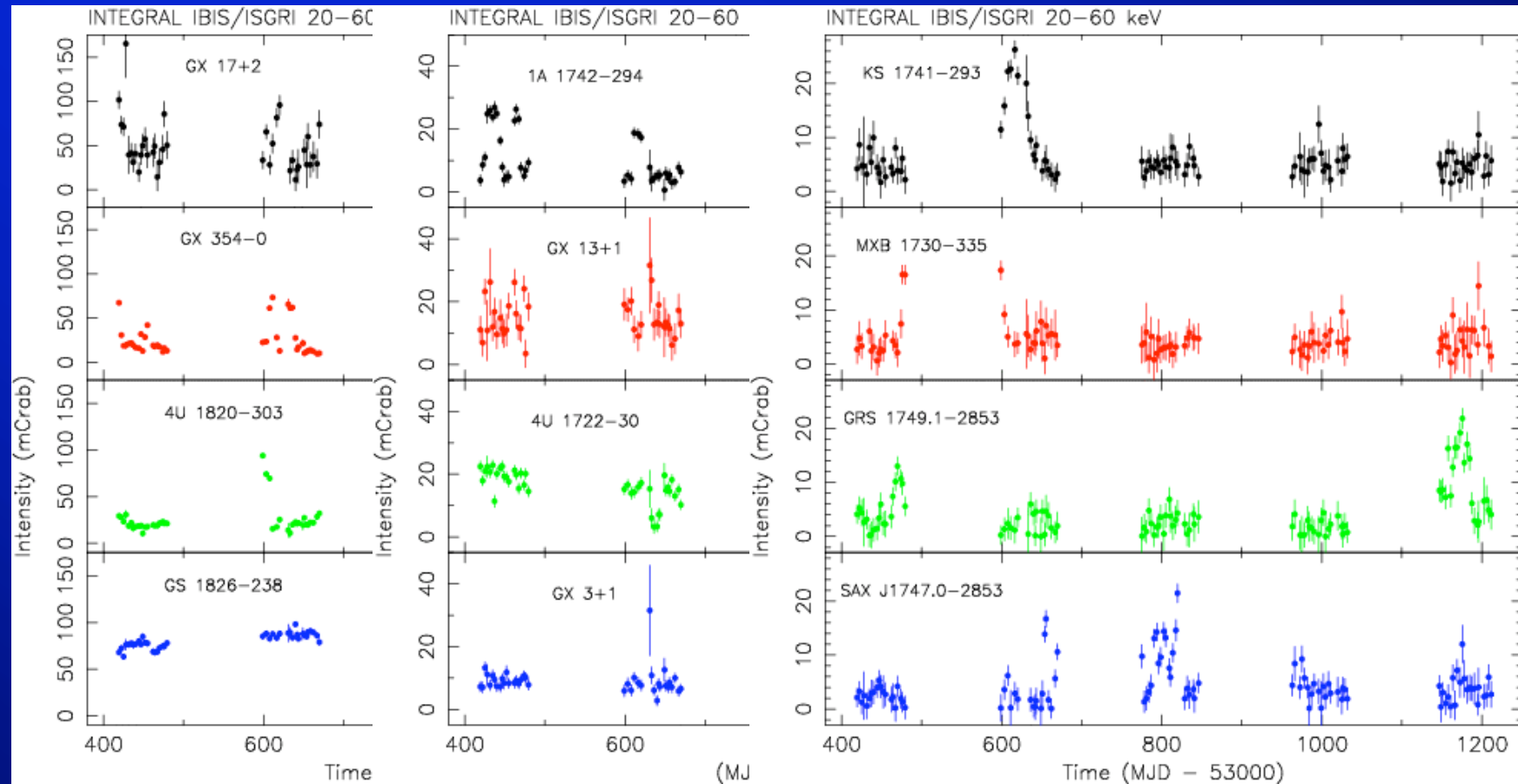


20-60 keV

5 seasons

60-150 keV

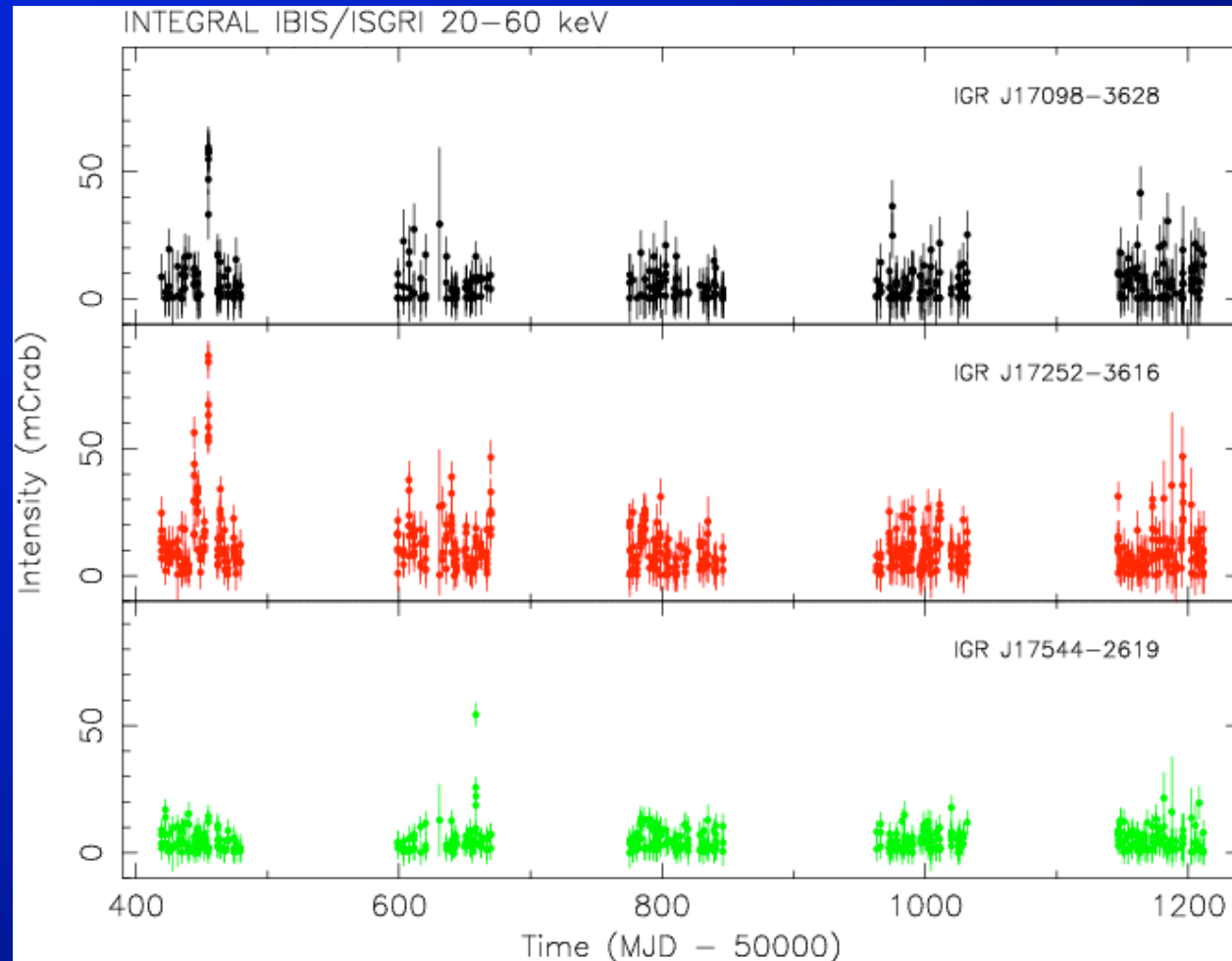
IBIS/ISGRI light curves - XRB



5 seasons

20-60 keV

IBIS/ISGRI light curves - IGRs



20-60 keV

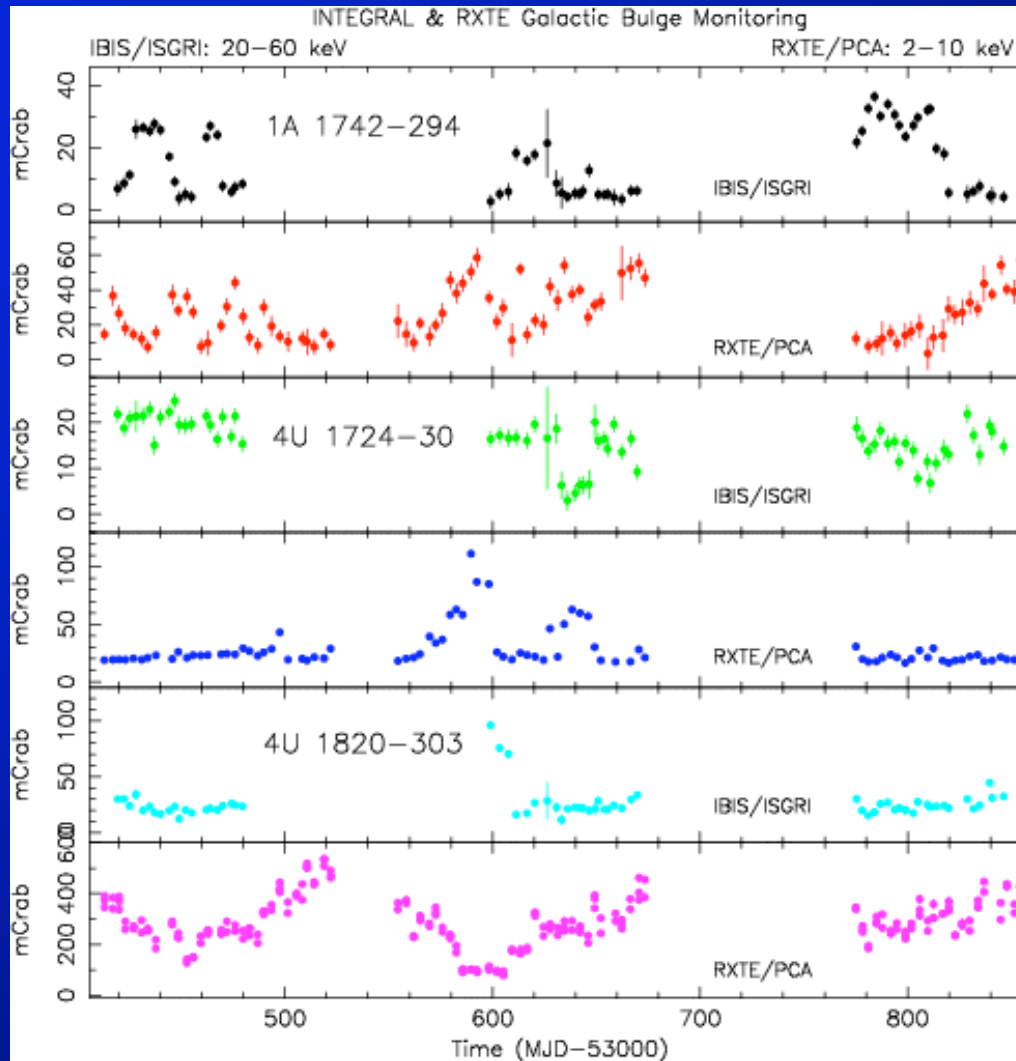
5 seasons

Hard X-ray vs. soft X-ray light curves

IBIS/ISGRI:
20-60 keV

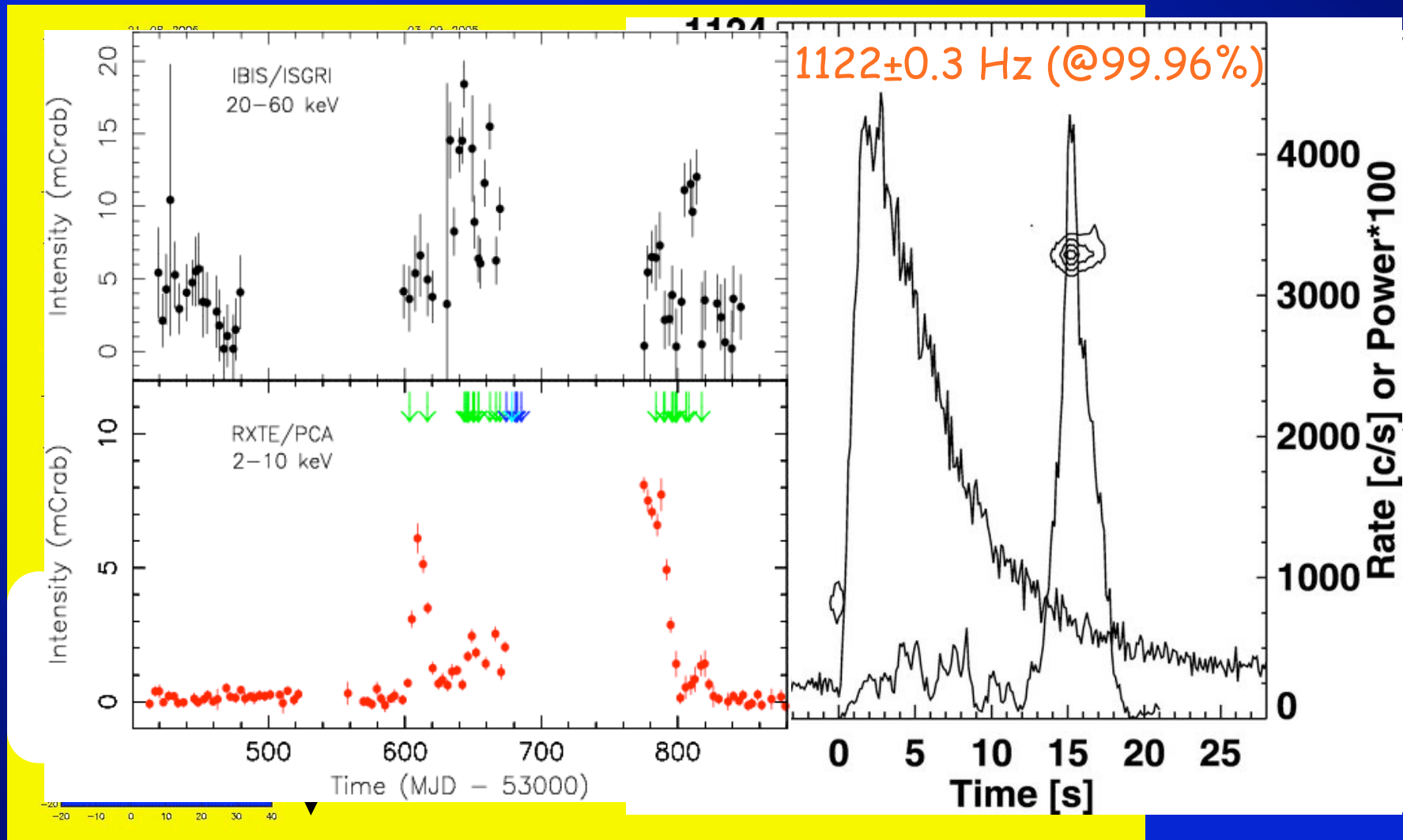
RXTE/PCA:
2-10 keV

3 seasons



Anti-
correlation

XTE J1739-285 (new XRB)

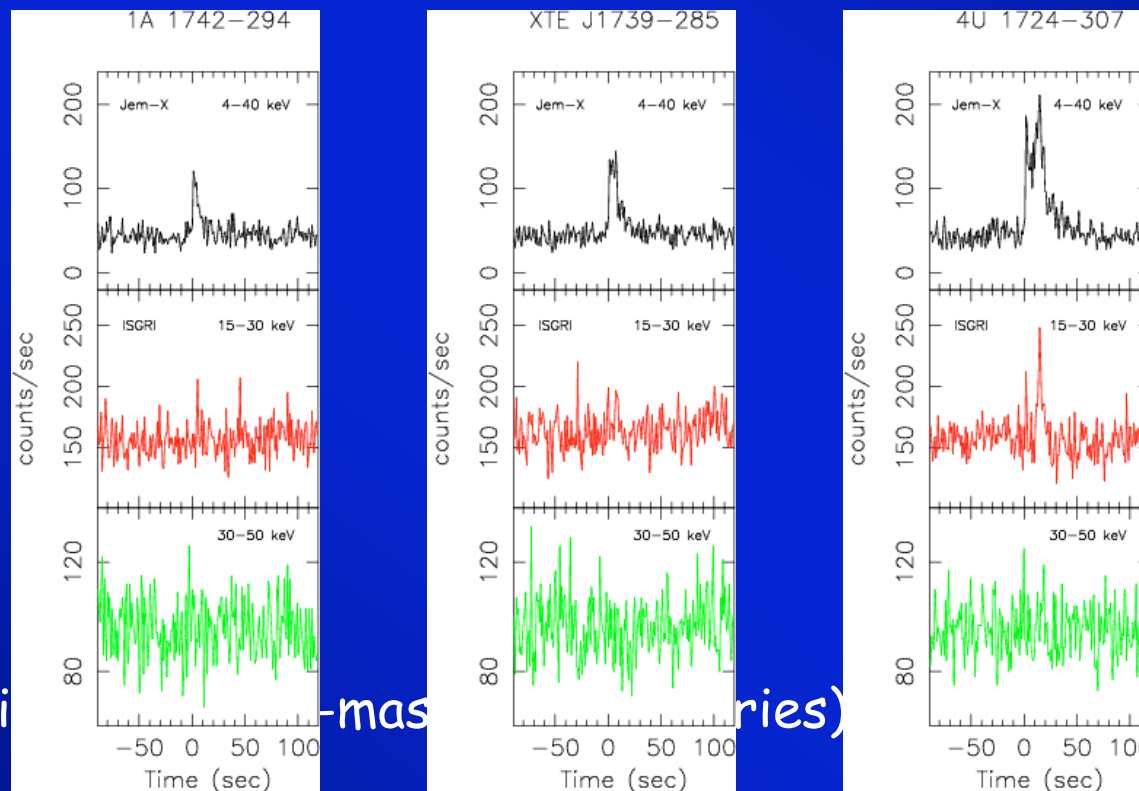


Executive Summary (Kuulkers et al. 2007)

- Per visibility season we detect ~ 30 sources at 20-60 keV; 1/3 of these also at 60-150 keV (transient/persistent black-hole candidate sources, X-ray bursters, high-mass X-ray binaries; see also Bazzano et al. 2006)
- On average per visibility season :
 - 1 active bright ($> \sim 100$ mCrab, 20-60 keV) black-hole candidate X-ray transient
 - 3 active weaker ($< \sim 25$ mCrab, 20-60 keV) neutron star X-ray transients
 - 1 fast X-ray transient (up to ~ 100 mCrab, 20-60 keV)
- Most of the time: clear anti-correlation can be seen between the soft and hard X-ray emission in some of the X-ray bursters:
 - hard X-ray flares or outbursts (\sim weeks) accompanied by soft X-ray drops
 - hard X-ray drops can be accompanied by soft X-ray flares/outbursts

To-do list

- Light curves/variability (down to min/sec); e.g. type I X-ray bursts, superbursts --> Martin Willitsch (pre-graduate student at ESAC)



Jem-X
4-40 keV

IBIS/ISGRI
15-30 keV

IBIS/ISGRI
30-50 keV

• Pulse timing

-mas

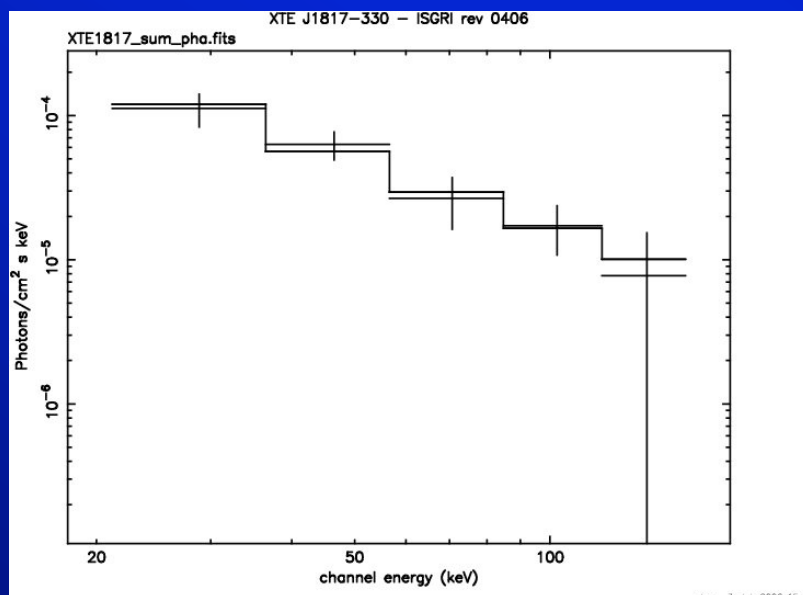
ries)

dent next week

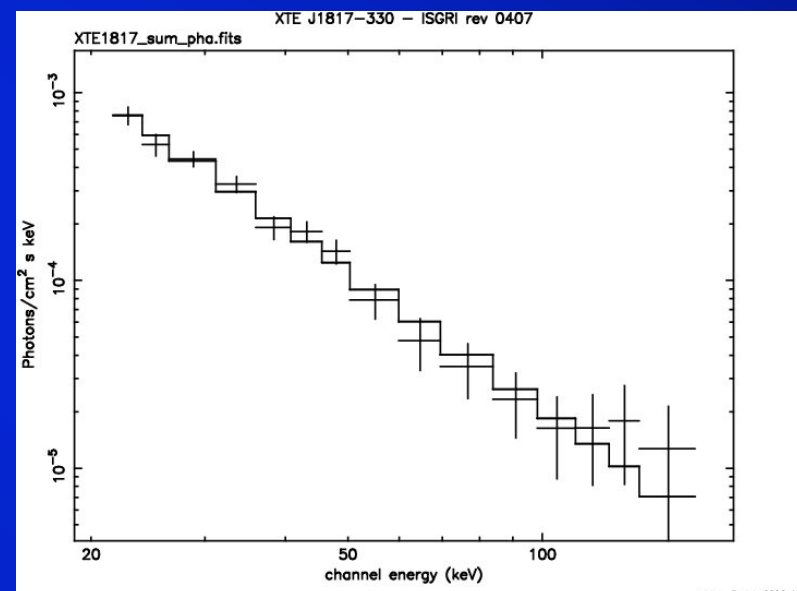
To-do list - 2

- Spectra, for all sources, each Hex observation + simple modeling
--> Laura Barragan (pre-graduate student at ESAC)

XTE J1817-330



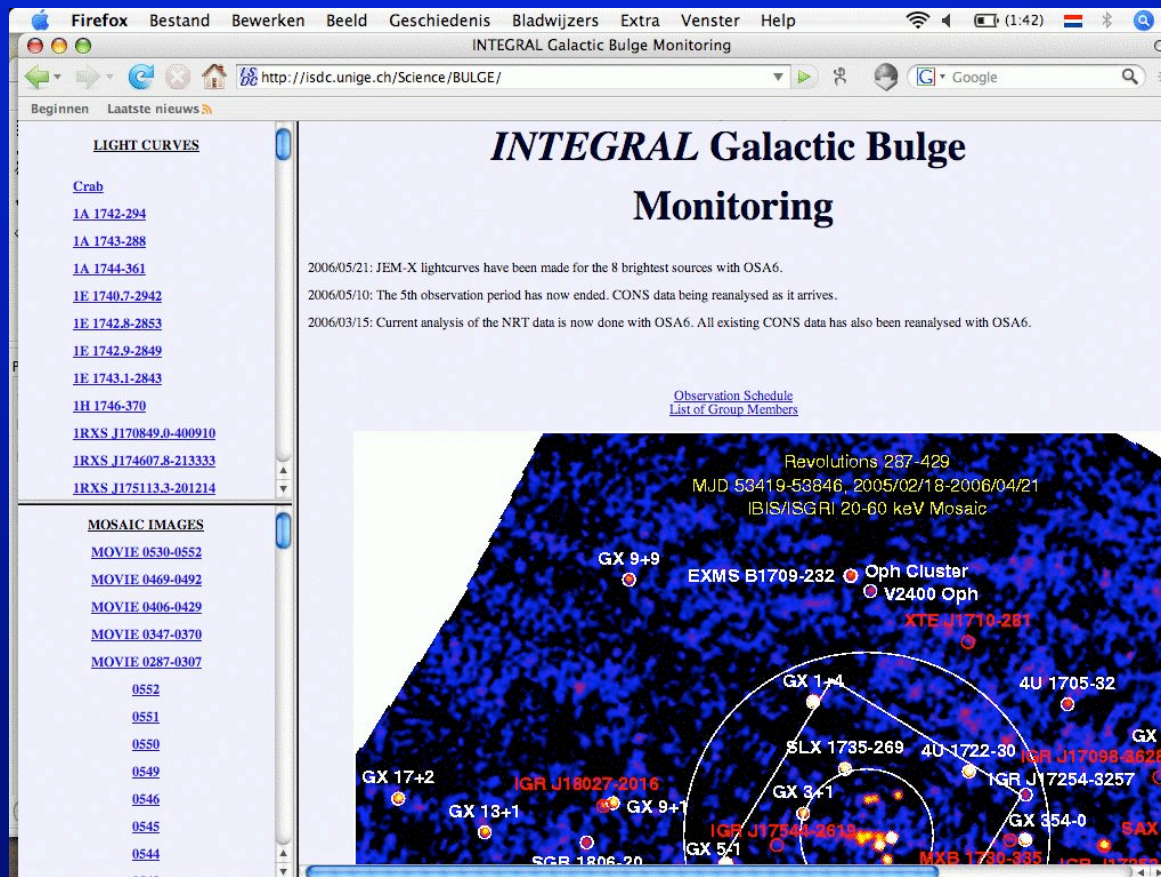
Rev 406; $\Gamma \sim 1.5$
9 feb 2006



Rev 407; $\Gamma \sim 2.4$
11 feb 2006

Watch this space

- Galactic bulge monitoring program to be continued



<http://isdc.unige.ch/Science/BULGE>

or e-mail us at:

gb-group@isdcmail.unige.ch

Bob's quest

What one thing would you like the nuclear theorists to take away from your talk ?



Bugger...



Take away

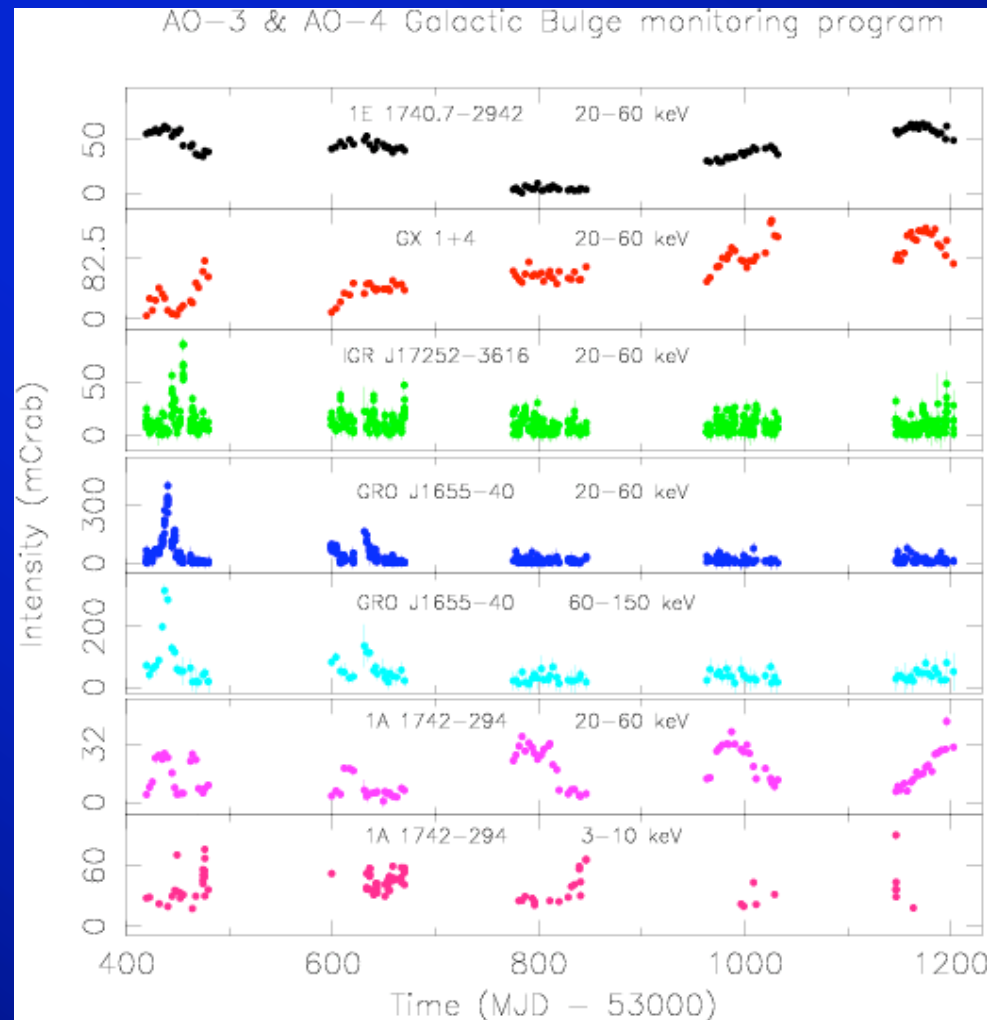
Google: 'Top Ten Myths About Evolution'

1. *Humans evolved from monkeys*
 2. *It's Only A Theory*
 3. *If nobody saw it, we can't be sure it happened*
- etc...

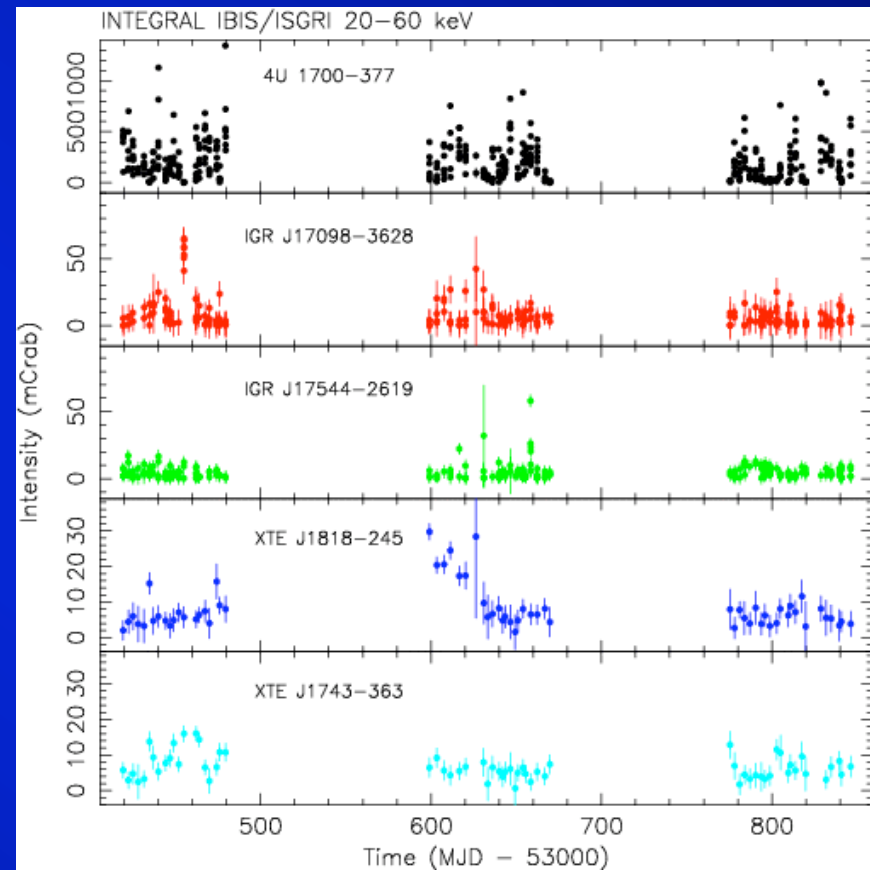
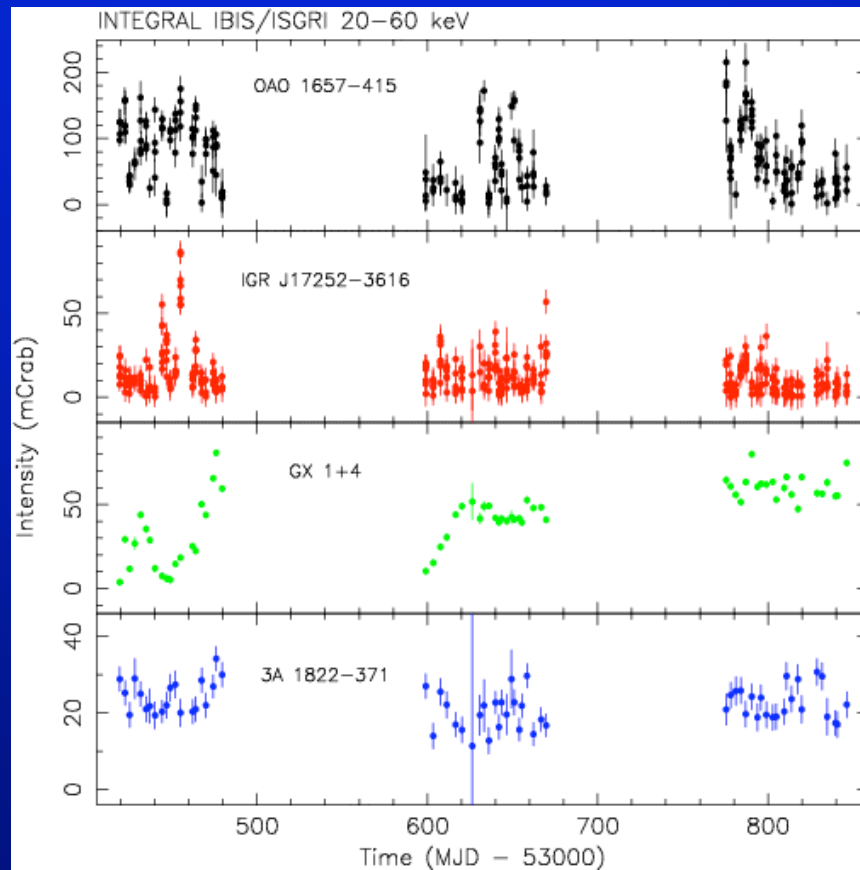


The high-energy sky changes from time to time.

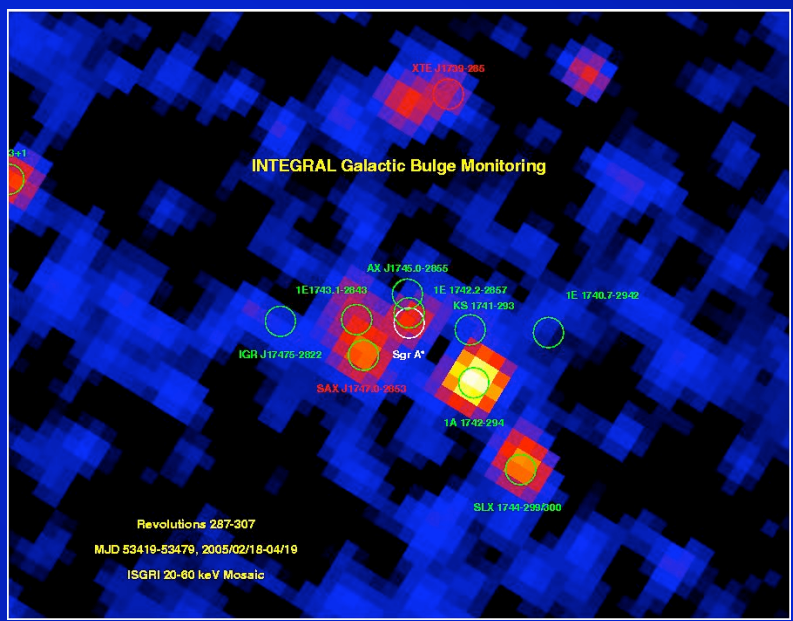
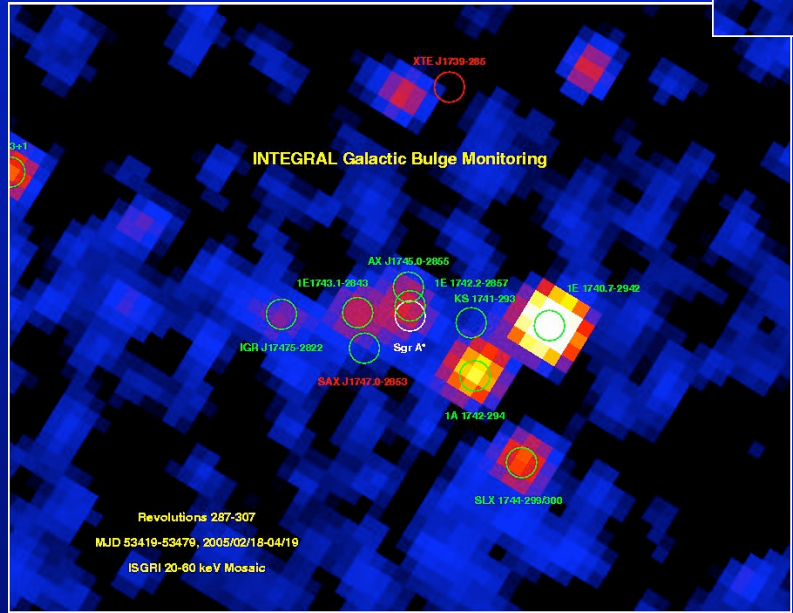
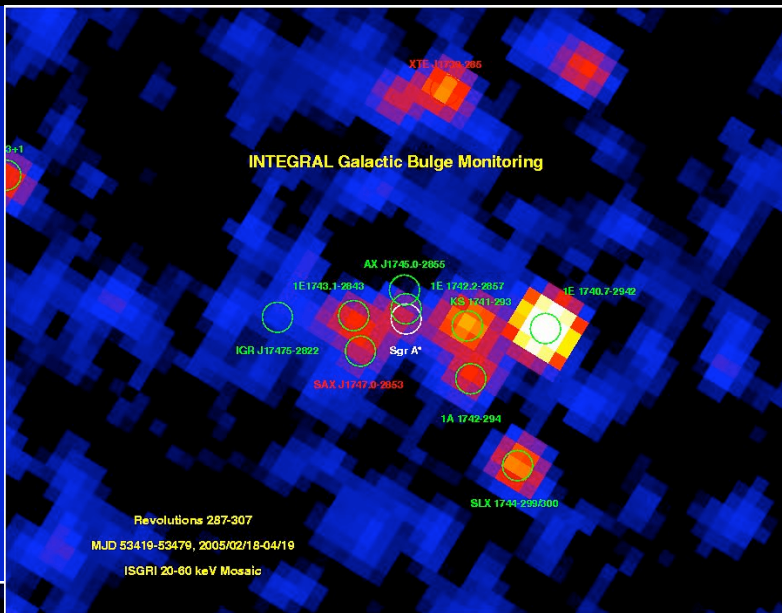
5 seasons



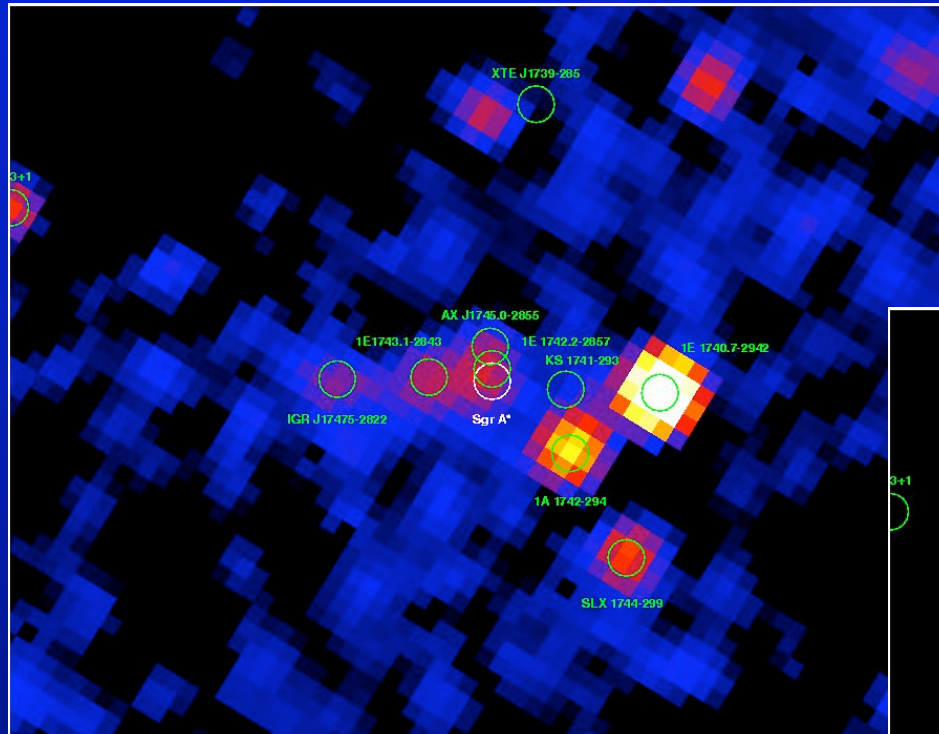
More IBIS/ISGRI light curves...



3 Seasons

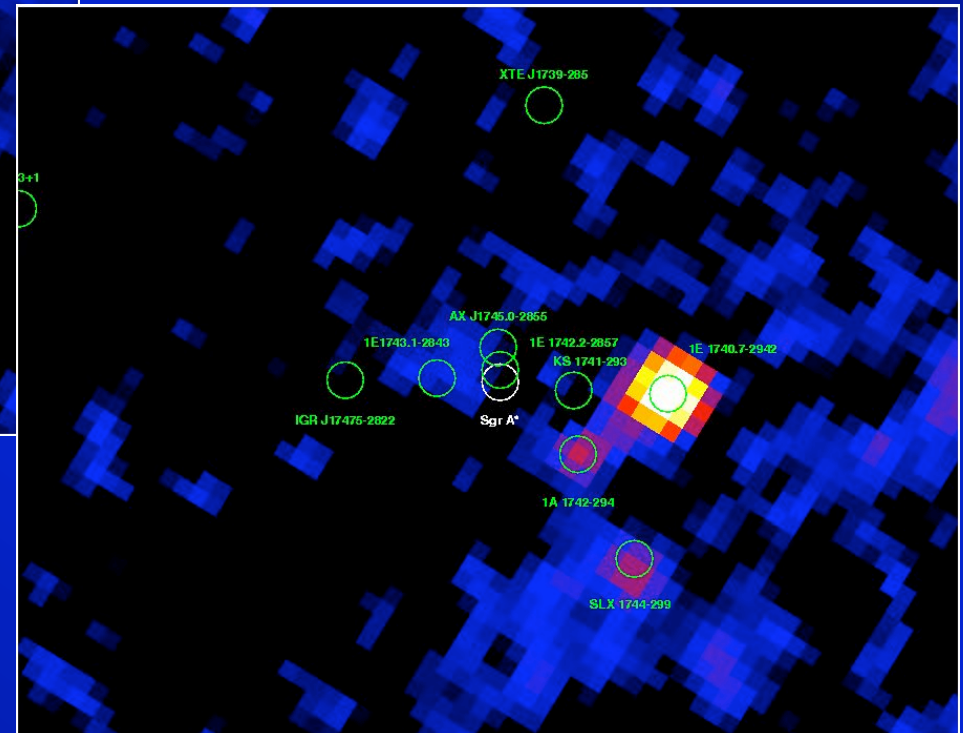


Zoom in on the GC



IBIS/ISGRI 20-60 keV

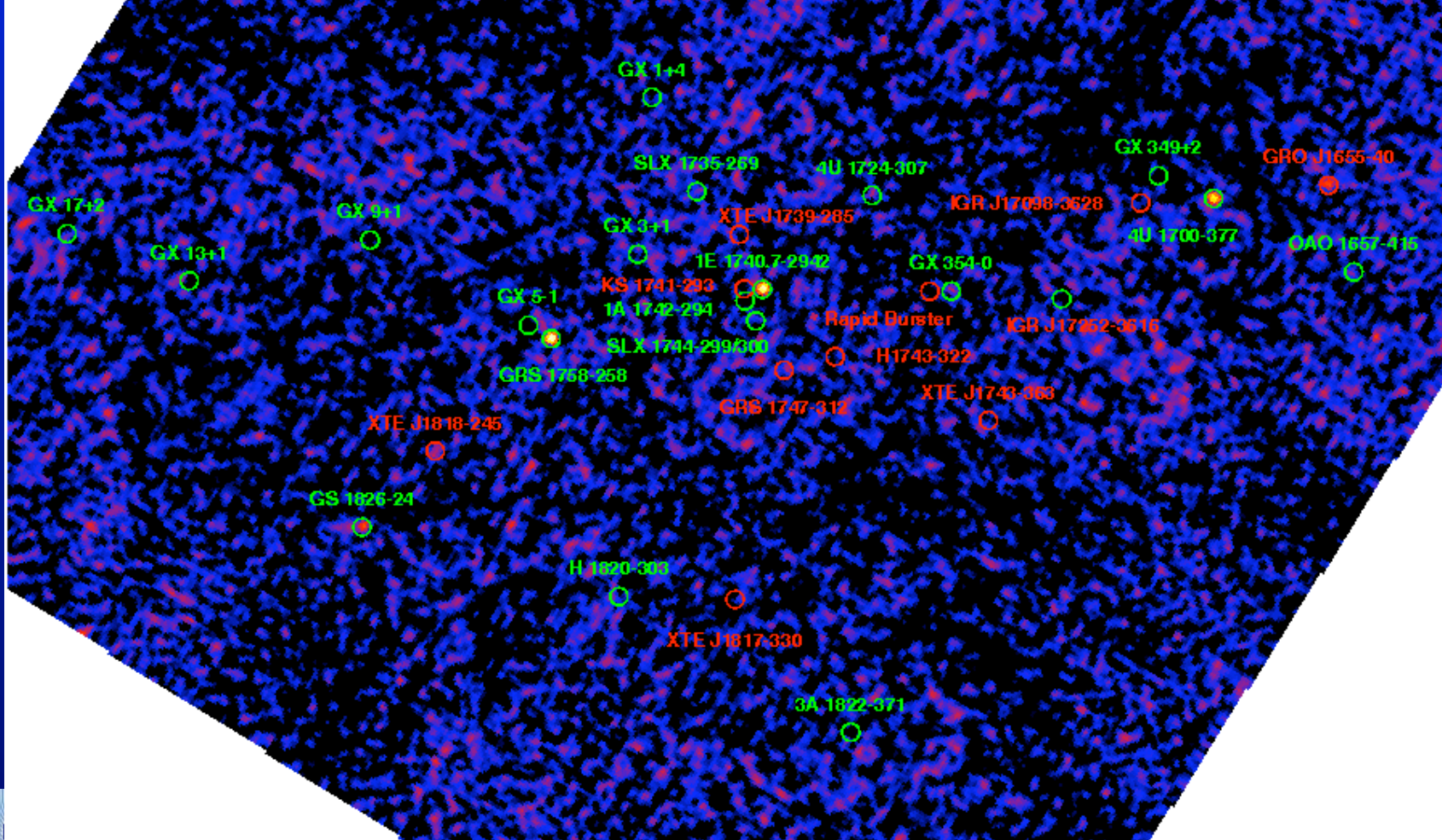
IBIS/ISGRI 60-150 keV



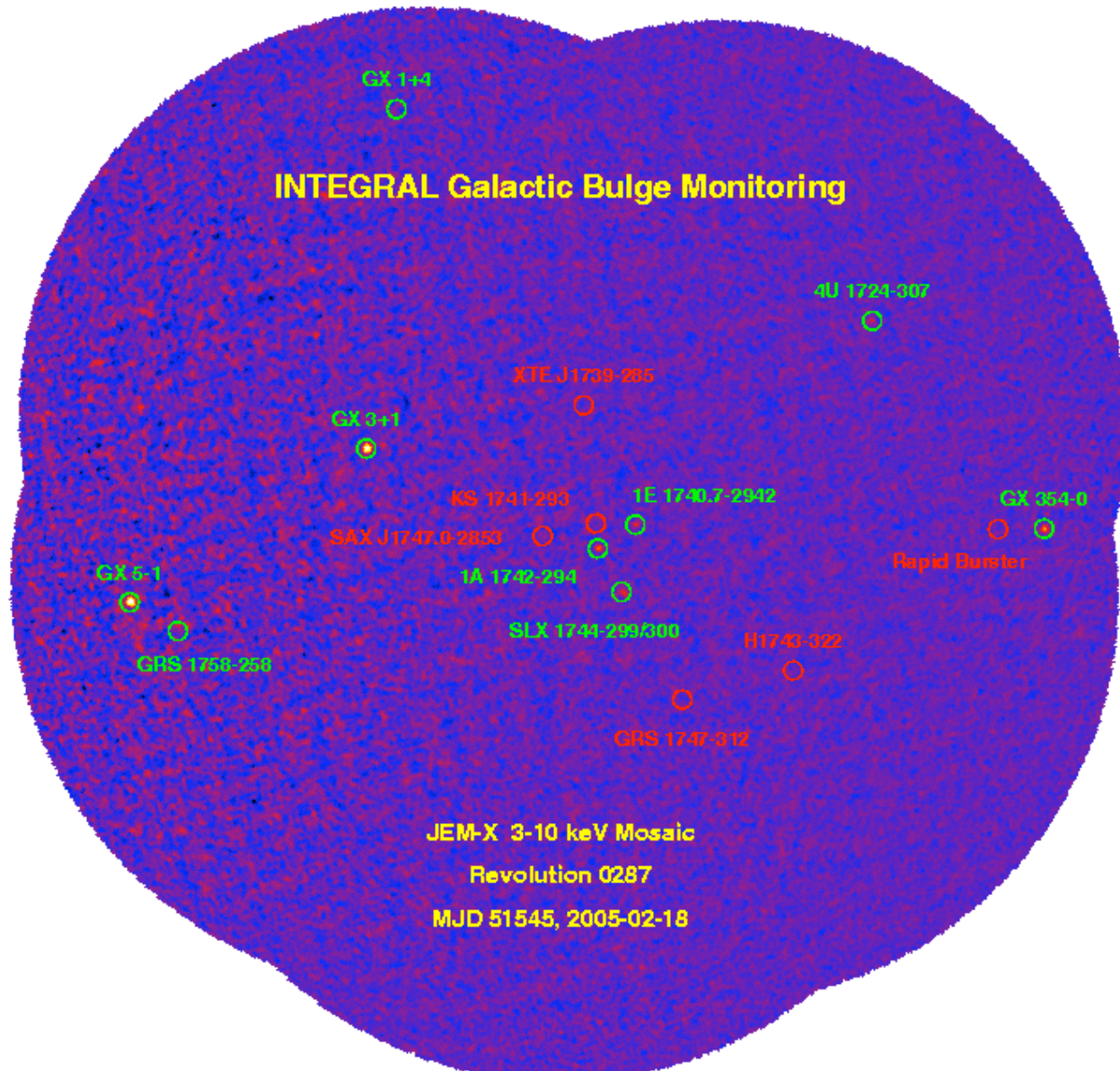
INTEGRAL Galactic Bulge Monitoring

ISGRI 60-150 keV Mosaic

Revolution 0287
MJD 53419, 2005-02-18

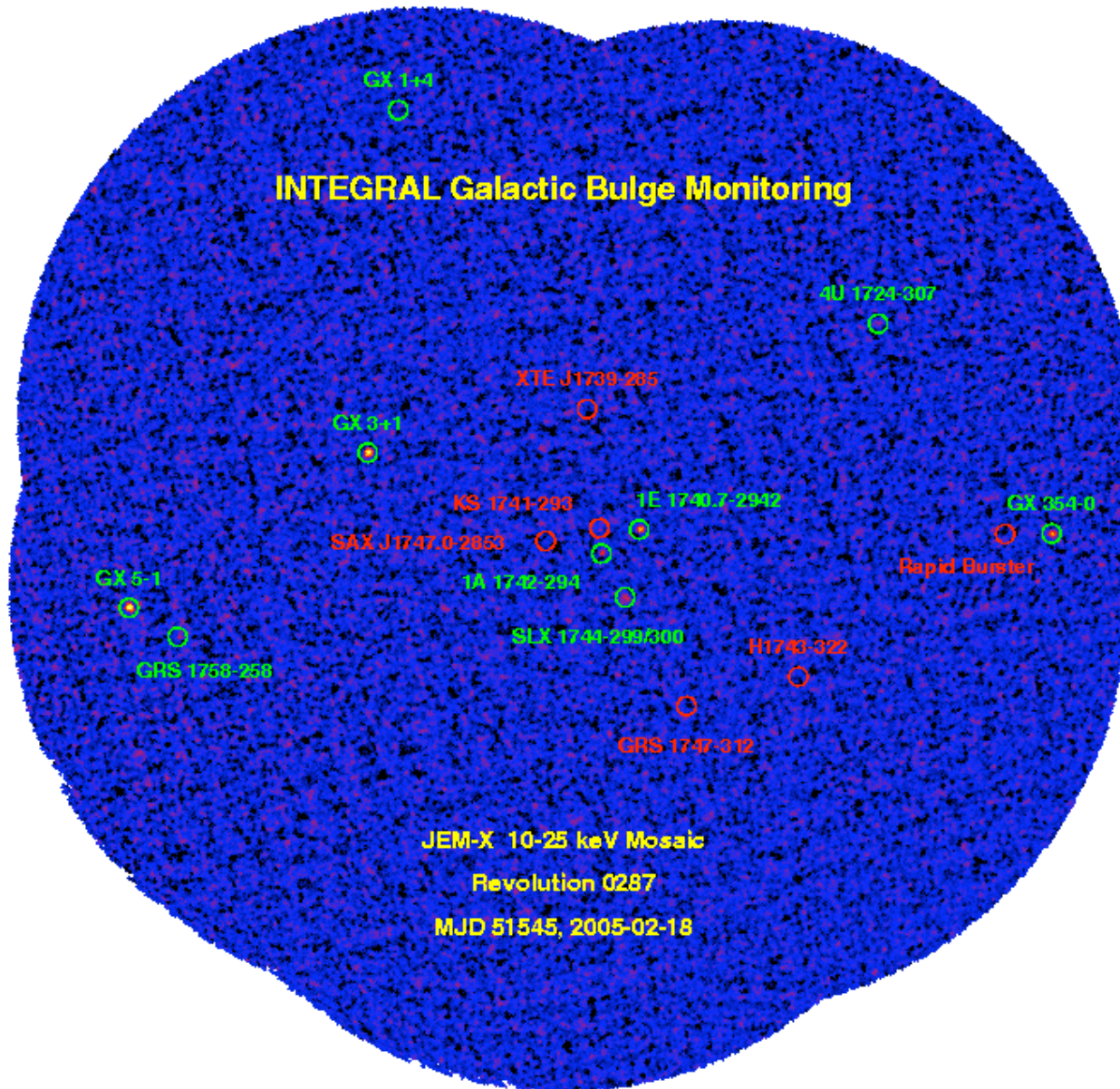


INTEGRAL Galactic Bulge Monitoring



JEM-X 3-10 keV Mosaic
 Revolution 0287
 MJD 51545, 2005-02-18

Jem-X
 3-10 keV;
 FOV 4.8°
 (per exposure)

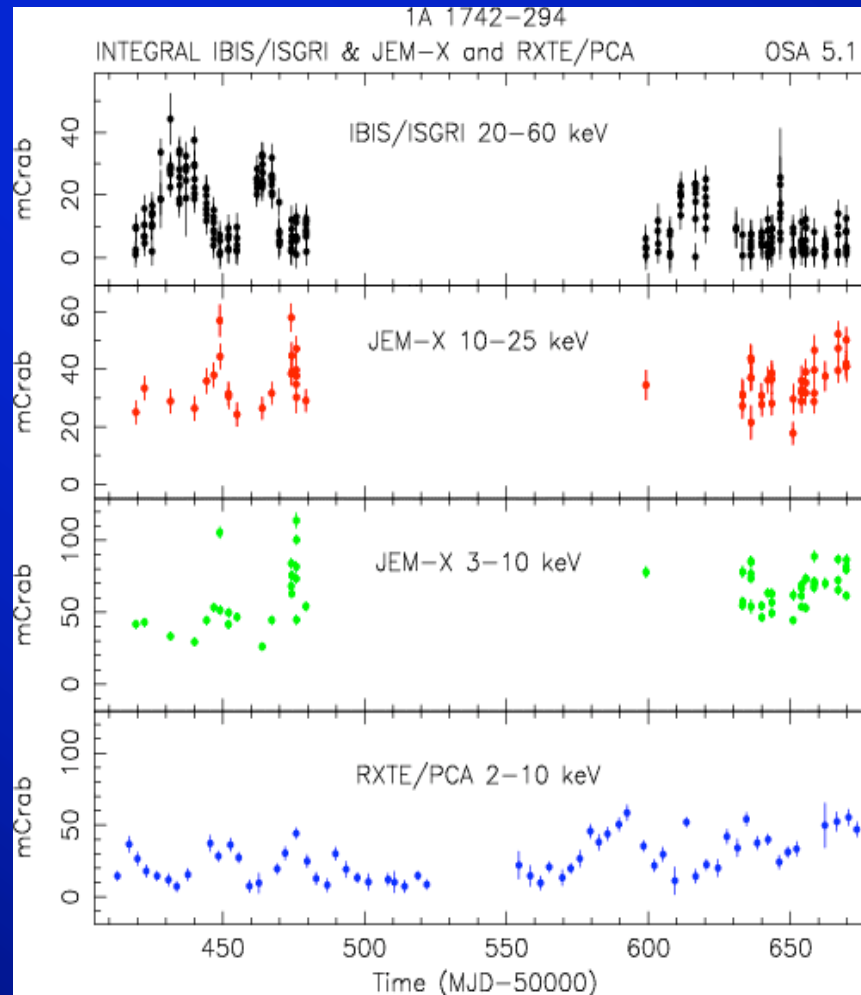


Jem-X
10-25 keV;
FOV 4.8°
(per exposure)

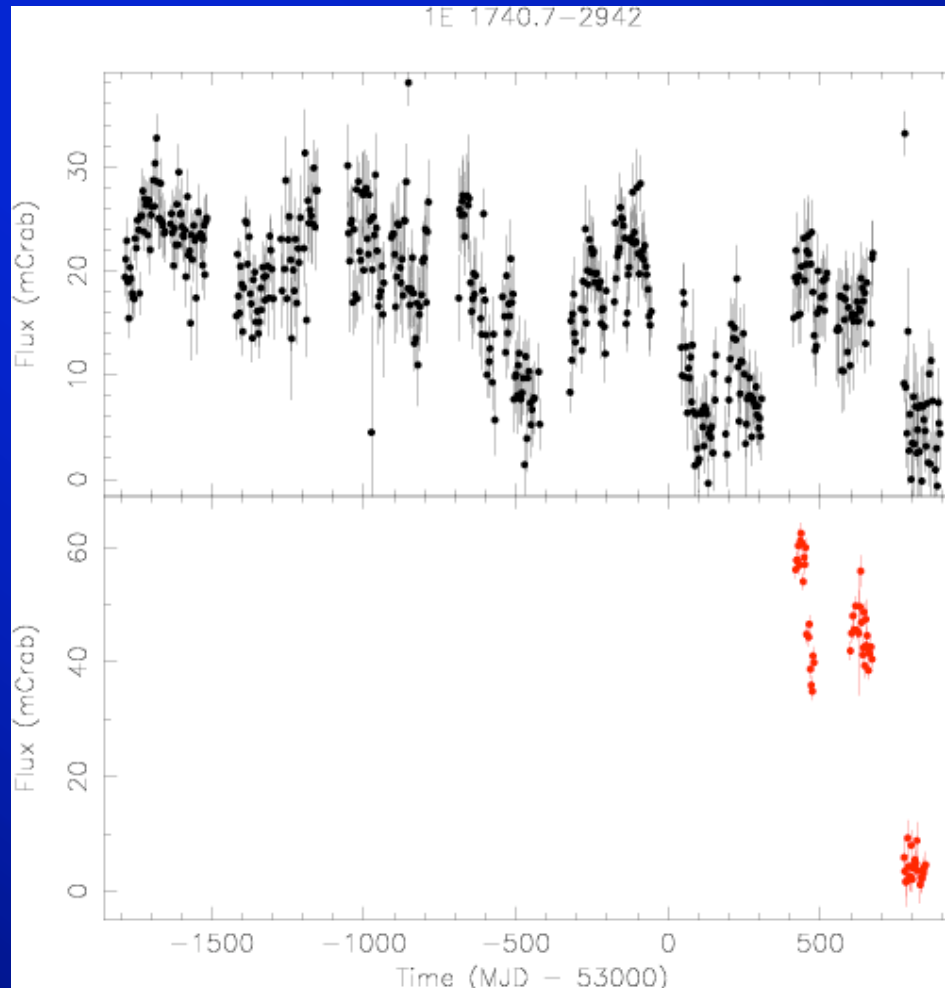
JEM-X 10-25 keV Mosaic
Revolution 0287
MJD 51545, 2005-02-18



IBIS/ISGRI + PCA/Jem-X light curves



1E 1740.7-2942 went off...



RXTE/PCA
2-10 keV

IBIS/ISGRI
20-60 keV

XTE J1817-330 (new BHC)

