

# The High Energy X-Ray Probe (HEX-P): Probing the power of accreting compact objects

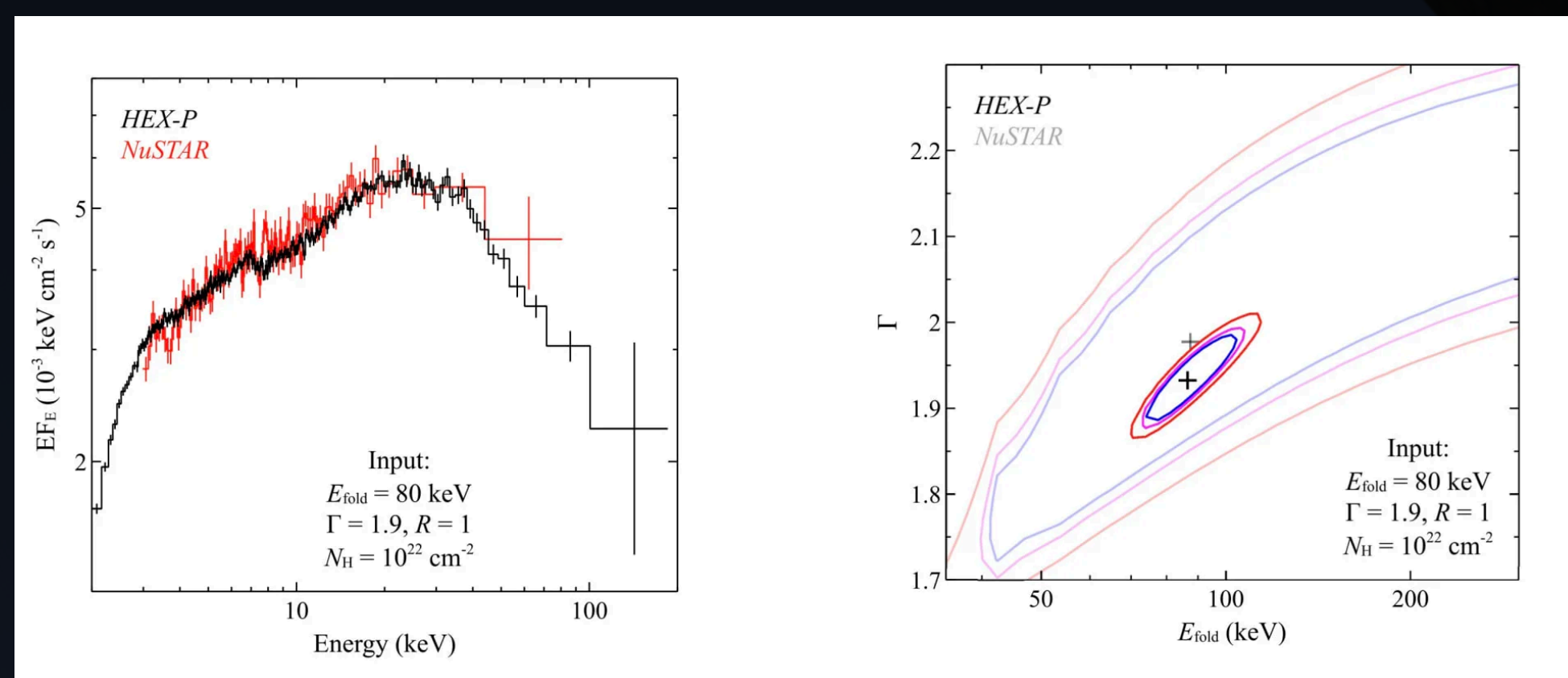
Javier García<sup>1</sup>, Dominic Walton<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Wilkins<sup>3</sup>, Laura Brenneman<sup>4</sup>, John Tomsick<sup>5</sup>, Riley Connors<sup>6</sup>, Renee Ludlam<sup>7</sup>, Katja Pottschmidt<sup>8</sup>, Matteo Bachetti<sup>9</sup>, Matthew Middleton<sup>10</sup>, Suvi Gezari<sup>11</sup>, Thomas Wevers<sup>12</sup>, Lea Marcotulli<sup>13</sup>, Marco Ajello<sup>14</sup>, Guglielmo Mastroserio<sup>9</sup>, Adam Ingram<sup>15</sup>, & The HEX-P Team

## Overview:

HEX-P is a probe-class mission concept that will combine high spatial resolution X-ray imaging (<10 arcsec FWHM) and broad spectral coverage (0.1-150 keV) with an effective area far superior to current facilities (including XMM-Newton and NuSTAR), to enable revolutionary new insights into a variety of important astrophysical problems. Given their copious emissions in the X-ray band, accreting compact objects are some of the primary targets of HEX-P. We present a broad range of new exciting science that will be accessed by exploiting the superior capabilities of HEX-P's design. This includes studies of spin distributions for supermassive and stellar-mass black holes (including ultraluminous X-ray sources); accreting neutron stars, their magnetic fields and equations of state; characterization of tidal disruption events in X-rays; broadband spectroscopy of blazars; and spectral-timing analysis in general. More information on HEX-P, including the full team list, is available at <https://hexp.org>.

## Physics of the X-ray Corona

Accurate constraints on coronal properties (temperature & optical depth) for relatively faint sources



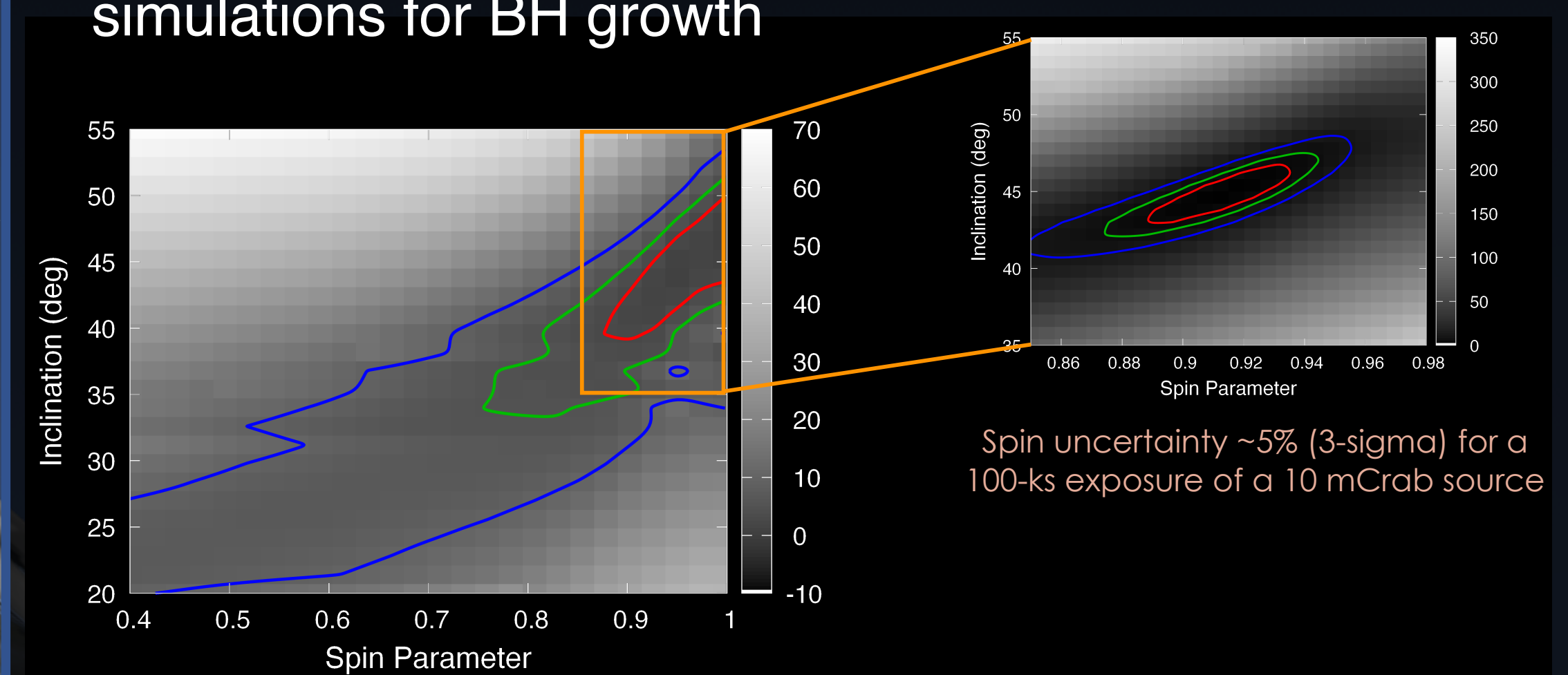
See poster 108.01 by D. Wilkins

Broad-band spectroscopy combined with a large effective area and low background provides an excellent tool to probe accretion onto compact objects



## Black Hole Spin Measurements

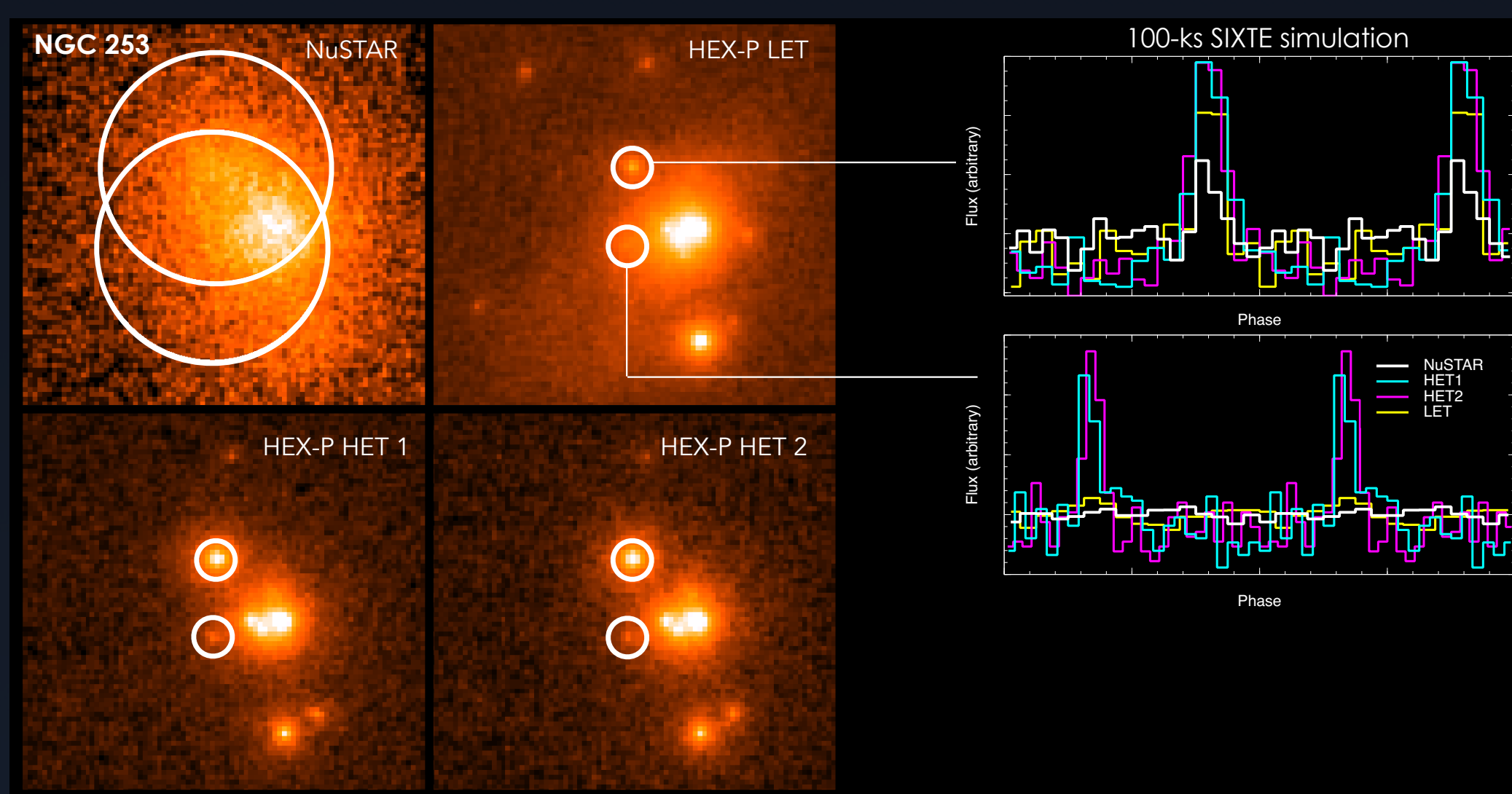
HEX-P will measure the spin of SMBHs at unprecedented precision. A statistically significant distribution of spins will constrain cosmological simulations for BH growth



Spin uncertainty ~5% (3-sigma) for a 100-ks exposure of a 10 mCrab source

## Detection of Pulsations

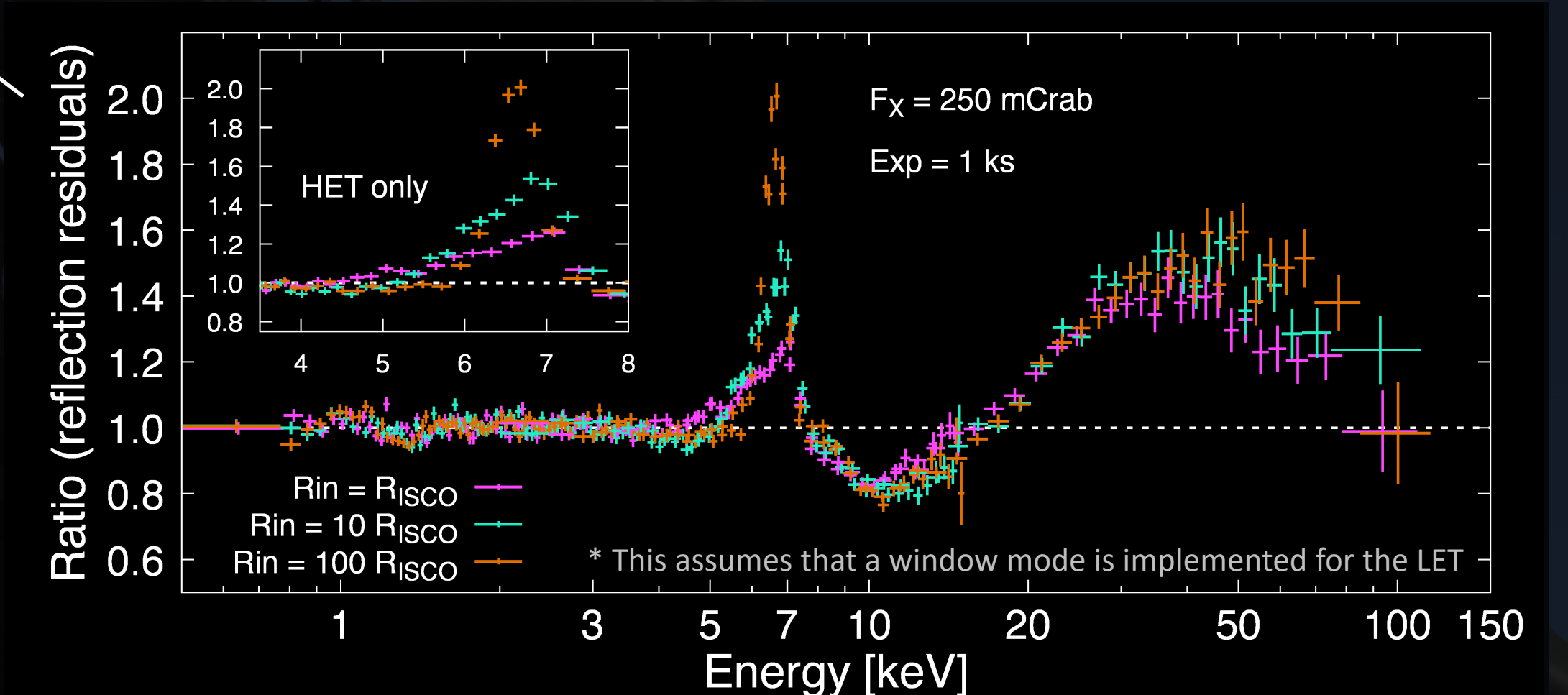
HEX-P will measure pulsations otherwise undetectable by NuSTAR, owing to its larger effective area and improved angular resolution (i.e., lower background)



See poster 116.38 by M. Bachetti

## Accretion Disk Truncation

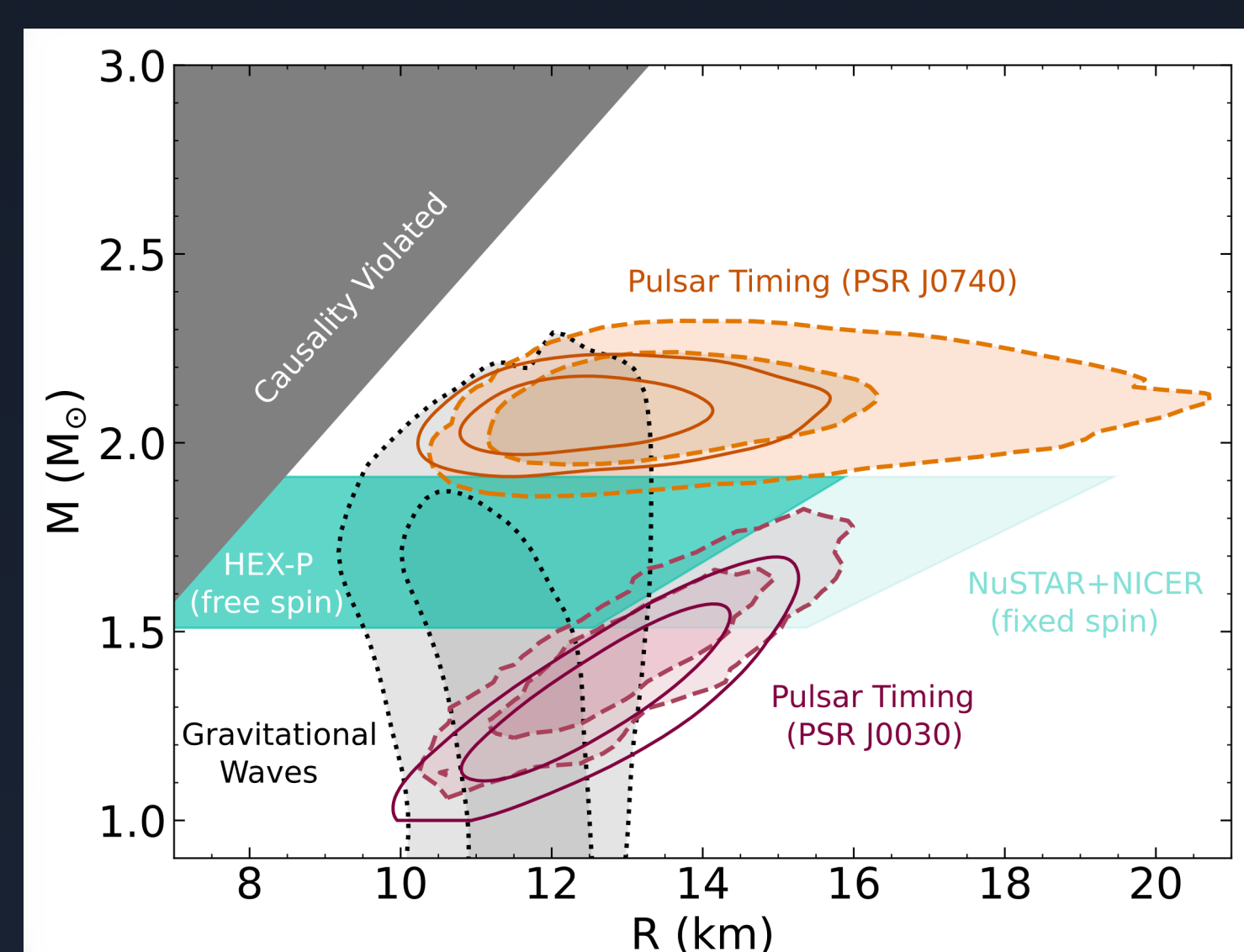
HEX-P will measure the inner-disk radius via reflection spectroscopy with relatively short exposures, probing its evolution throughout an outburst life-cycle



See poster 116.105 by R. Connors

## Neutron Stars Radius Constraints

HEX-P provides high S/N enough to independently constrain the inner disk radius and spin parameter, pushing down the upper limit on the NS radius by >2 km



See poster 116.39 by R. Ludlam

## Complete List of Posters in HEX-P's Accretion Pillar:

- \* AGN (108.01) — D. Wilkins
- \* SMBH Spins (100.41) — J. Piotrowska
- \* BHBs (116.105) — R. Connors
- \* Coronal Geometry (116.93) — N. Rodriguez
- \* Disk Tearing (116.92) — A. West
- \* Disk Truncation (108.02) — P. Draghis
- \* Neutron Stars (116.39) — R. Ludlam
- \* ULXs (116.38) — M. Bachetti
- \* Blazars (100.46) — L. Marcotulli
- \* TDEs (103.46) — S. Gezari
- \* Spectral-Timing (103.54) — G. Mastroserio

Do you have ideas for how HEX-P would revolutionize your science? Get in touch!

✉ hexp.future@gmail.com  
javier@caltech.edu

🌐 <https://hexp.org>

🐦 @HEXP\_Future  
@jaj\_garcia