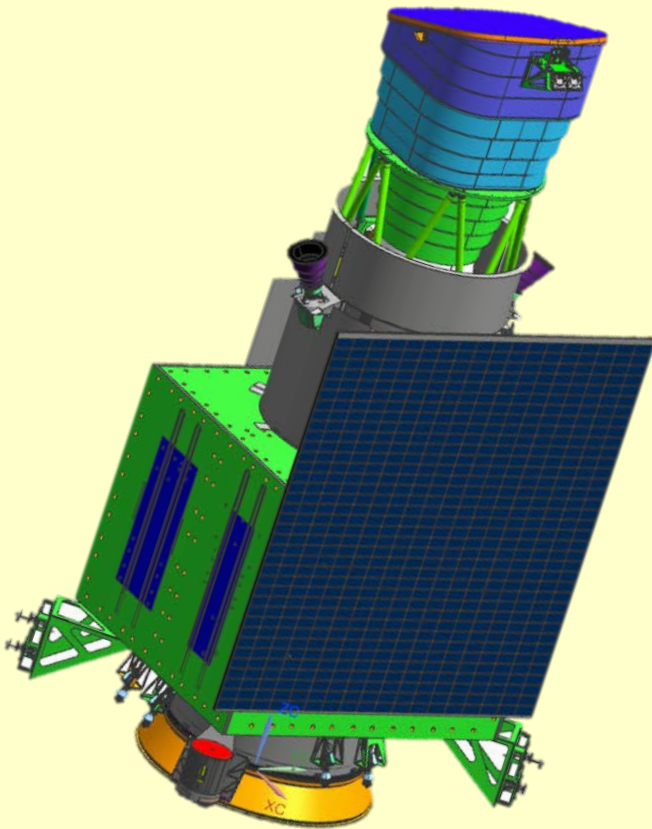


# ULTRASAT: A Wide-Field UV Space Telescope

## Revolutionize our understanding of the hot transient Universe



PI	E. Waxman (WIS)
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Camera PI	D. Berge (DESY)
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Payload Lead	S. Ben-Ami (WIS)
Technology Lead	O. Lapid (WIS)

**Funding  
partners**

ISA

WIS

DESY

NASA

**Industry  
partners**

IAI

Elop

Tower

Eli Waxman | Weizmann Institute of Science

# ULTRASAT's uniqueness

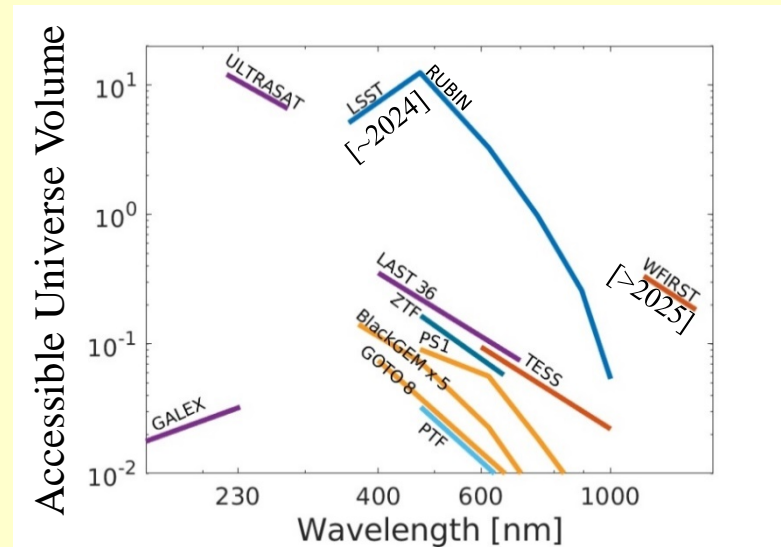
## Key Properties

- Very large, 200 deg<sup>2</sup>, field of view.
- High UV (220-280nm) sensitivity:  
 $1.5 \times 10^{-3}$  ph/cm<sup>2</sup> s (900s, 5 $\sigma$ )  
[m = 22.4].

## Key Capabilities

- Monitor an unprecedentedly large volume of the Universe.
- New window in wavelength (NUV) and in cadence (minutes - months).
- Real-time alerts to ground/space-based telescopes (GEO orbit), initiate world-wide follow-ups.
- ToO: Instantaneous >50% of the sky in <15 min for >3 hr.

## Transient detection rates of leading surveys



# ULTRASAT: Key Science Goals

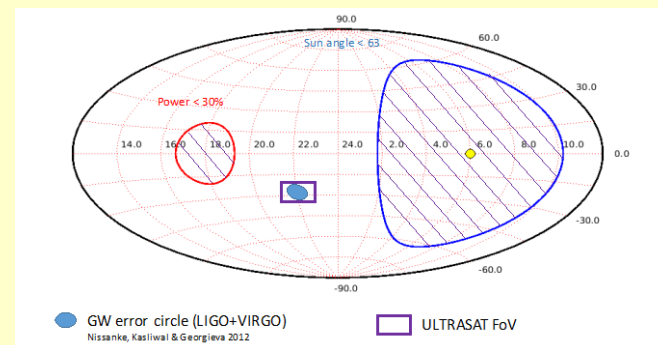
## EM counterparts to GW sources

- Fast localization of NS-NS/BH mergers:  
Rapid, <15min, access to >50% of sky,  
Cover GW error box in a single image.
- Localize mergers to their host galaxies.
- Provide UV light curves to measure ejecta properties.

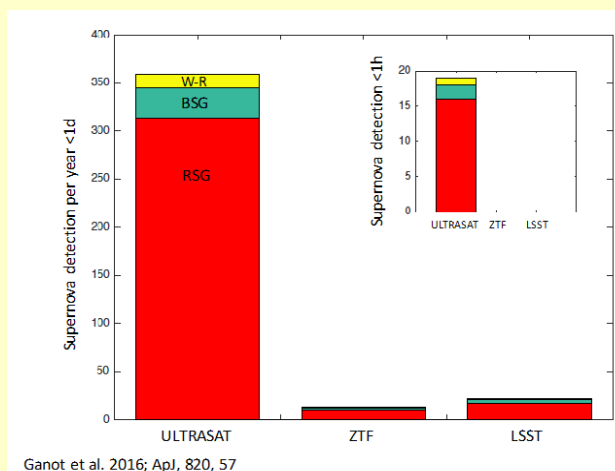
## Deaths of massive stars

- High quality early high cadence UV data,  
Rapid alerts for follow-ups,  
100's of SNe including rare types.
- Measure properties of supernova progenitors.
- Map progenitors to supernova types.
- Reveal pre-explosion evolution and mass loss.

## ULTRASAT's ToO access



## Rates of early detections of SNe



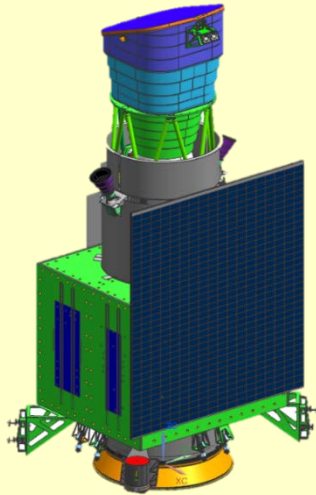
# ULTRASAT: A broad science impact

Source Type		# Events per 3 yr mission	Science Impact
Supernovae			
	Shock break-out and Early (shock cooling) of core collapse SNe	>40 >500	Understand the explosive death of massive stars
	Superluminous SNe	>250	Early evolution, shock cooling emission
	Type Ia SNe	>40	Discriminate between SD and DD progenitors
Compact Object Transients			
	Emission from Gravitational Wave events: NS-NS and NS-BH	~25	Constrain the physics of the sources of gravitational waves
	Cataclysmic variables	>25	Accretion and outburst physics
	Tidal disruption of stars by black holes	>250	Accretion physics, black hole demographics
Quasars and Active Galactic Nuclei			
	Continuous UV lightcurves	>7500	Accretion physics, BLR Reverberation mapping
Stars			
	M star flares	>4×10 <sup>5</sup>	Planet habitability, magnetospheres
	RR Lyrae	>1000	Pulsation physics
	Nonradial hot pulsators, e.g., α Cyg, δ Scuti, SX Phe, β Cep etc. types	>250	Asteroseismology
	Eclipsing binaries	>400	Chromosphere and eclipse mapping
Galaxies and Clusters			
	All Sky Survey – galaxies	>10 <sup>8</sup>	Galaxy Evolution, star formation rate

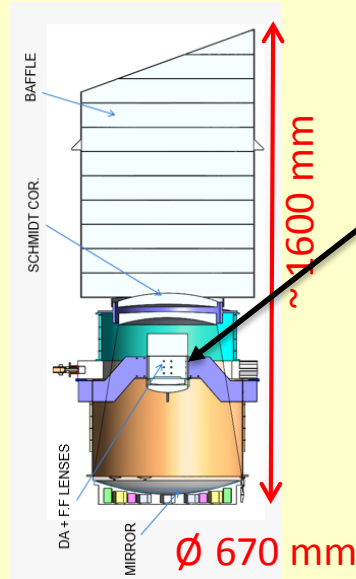
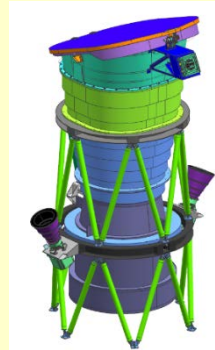
# ULTRASAT: Implementation & Collaboration

Management: Program Office @ WIS

Spacecraft: IAI



Telescope: Elop/Elbit



Focal Plane Array  
DESY/Helmholtz  
(Germany)

Sensor: Tower  
(Israel)

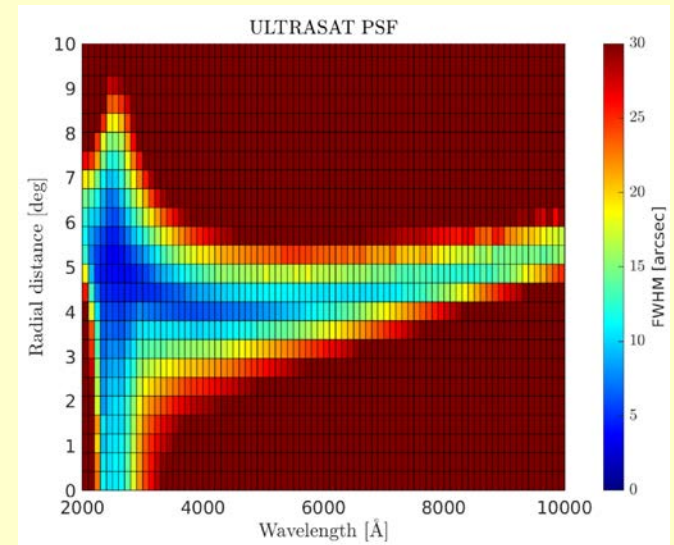
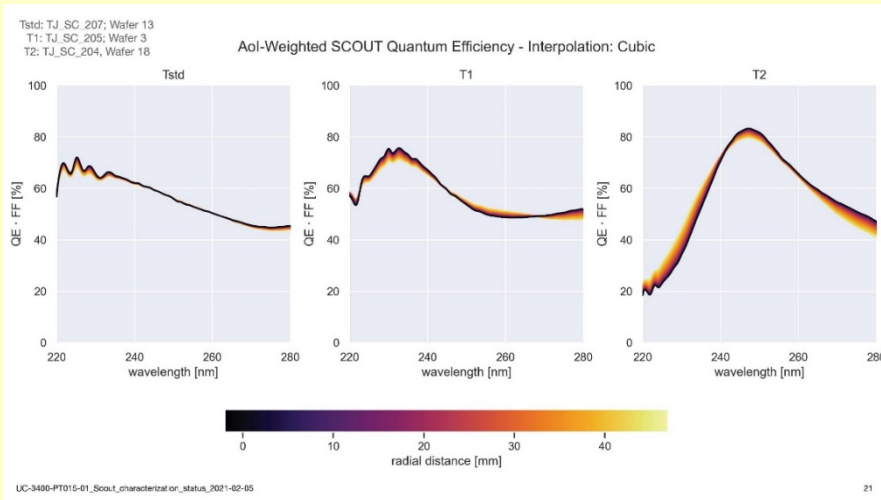
Hosted launch to GTO: NASA  
(MoU negotiations near final stage)

Launch Q1 2025  
>3.5 year science mission (6 year fuel)

Dimensions: 1.5 x 1.7 x 3.4 (m<sup>3</sup>)  
Power: 500 W  
Mass: 500 + 630 (Prop) kg

# ULTRASAT: Key technology challenges

- CMOS sensor - UV QE>60% (Tower).
- UV optics performance across a wide FOV (WIS/Elop).



# ULTRASAT: Status & Timeline

- The program is on track.
- Full teams have been assigned and are working.
- Major risks identified and managed:
  - Challenging time line,
  - Complex Interfaces,
  - Contamination prevention and control.
- Mission cost (including launch) approx. \$110M.

Mile Stone	ARO + Month	Time
Kick off	0 (23 September 2019)	“Q4” 2019
SRR	3	Q1 2020
SDR	6	Q2 2020
PDR	17	Q1 2021
CDR	27	Q4 2021/ Q1 2022
Supply of FPA ("camera")	42	Q1 2023
Supply of Telescope	52	Q4 2023
Satellite ready	52	Q3 2024
Launch	63 to 66	Q1 2025

# ULTRASAT: Science Collaboration

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- 13 Science Working Groups - WG members receive real time data access.  
Open to all (and already including most) Israeli astronomers.
  - NASA Launch contribution- MoU negotiations near final stage,  
Science return: US PIs (NASA funded) will join WG's,  
NASA project scientist: J. Rhoads.
  - DESY Camera contribution-  
Science return: 3 DESY PIs in WG's.
  - Rubin (LSST) collaboration- advanced negotiations.
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# ULTRASAT: Science impact

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- Revolutionize our view of the hot transient Universe:
    - Discovery volume 300 X GALEX,
    - Continuous min-mon cadence at 22.4mag in a new window (NUV),
    - Real-time alerts to ground/space-based telescopes.
  - A broad impact:  
GW sources, SNe, variable and flare stars, AGN, TDEs, compact objects, galaxies.
  - Groundbreaking science with an affordable satellite mission.
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