

Reading: Chapter 6, Sect. 6.4; Chapter 14 + assignment posted on Astro 150 Canvas
Homework: questions on special reading - submit before recitations on Wednesday
Exam 1: Wednesday, September 16 in recitation: review materials posted soon on Canvas




Last time: **The Telescope (and where to put it)**

- ultimate goal - every photon. The telescope as light bucket.
- size matters - bigger = more photons and better resolution
- different configurations for different purposes

Today: **What to do with those photons**

- instrumentation - squeezing info out of all photons
- getting around (or above) the atmosphere is critical
- astronomy from space provides access to all wavelengths

What do we do with the image?

- Look at it (with an eyepiece)!
- **Imaging** 
 - brightness as a function of position
- **Photometry** 
 - accurate measurement of brightness
- **Spectroscopy** 
 - brightness as a function of wavelength

Imaging

accurate measure of brightness as a function of position

- **Photographic Plate (so... 20th century...)**

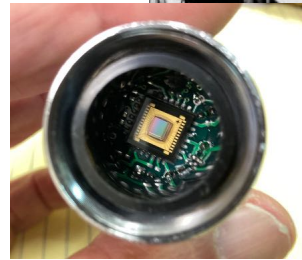
- covers large areas
- permanent image (> 100 years!)
- **but:**
 - very inefficient ($\ll 10\%$)
 - small "dynamic range"
 - "nonlinear" sensitivity - they get tired! Photographic Plate (so... 20th century...)

Edwin Hubble at the
Palomar Schmidt

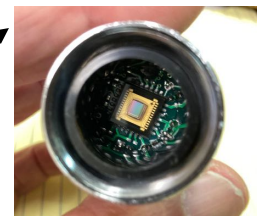


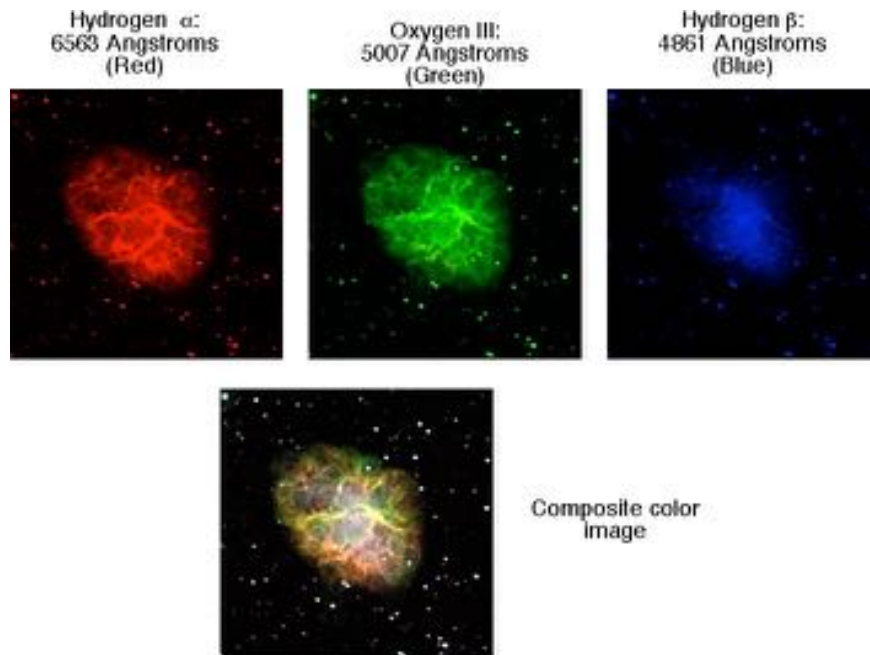
- **Charge Coupled Devices (CCDs)**

- array of tiny photodetectors on a single chip
- read out directly into computer
- efficiency approaches 100 %
- large dynamic range
- linear sensitivity
- **but:**
 - small area of sky coverage
 - need lots of devices - lots of memory and computer horsepower



Palomar Plate vs. consumer CCD

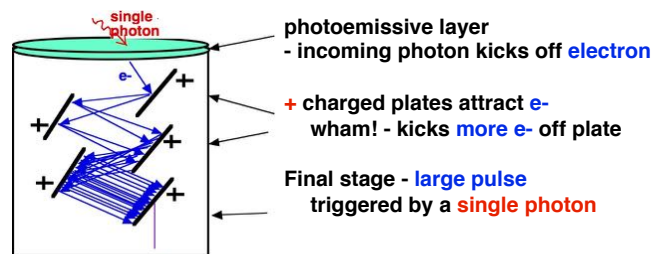




Photometry

accurate measure of brightness (as a function of time, color, . . .)

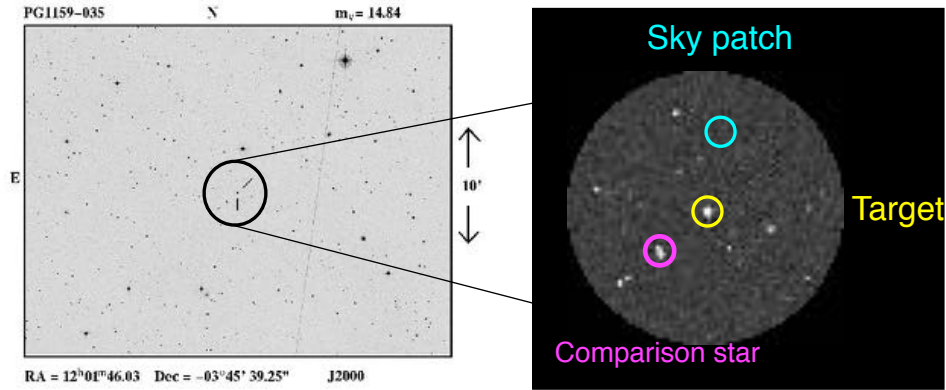
- **Photomultiplier (old school...)**
 - electronic tube to amplify weak signals
 - COUNTS PHOTONS! -



- precise, fast, but inefficient (<30%)

- **CCDs**

Aperture photometry (multiple PMTs or 1 CCD)

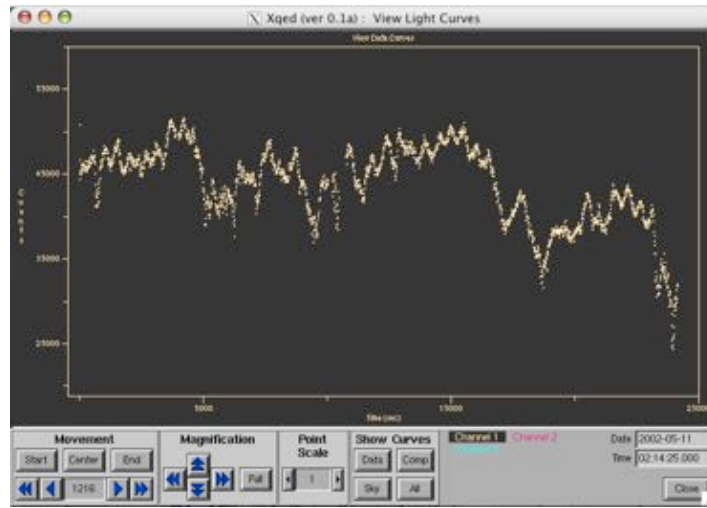


CCD Frame
(10 s duty cycle!)

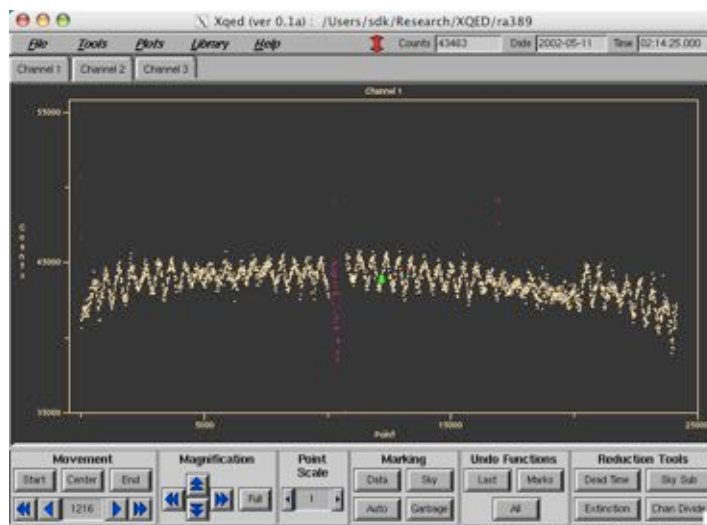
the raw data - 3 channel photometry



sky background subtracted from target

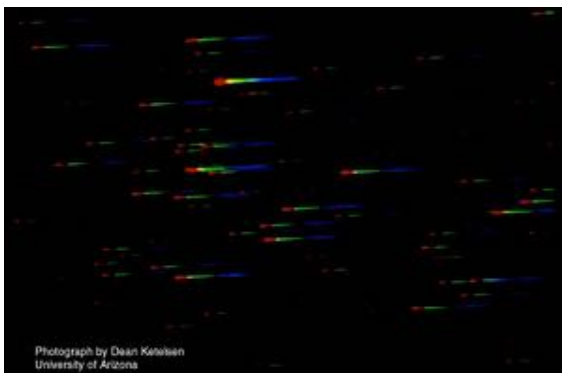
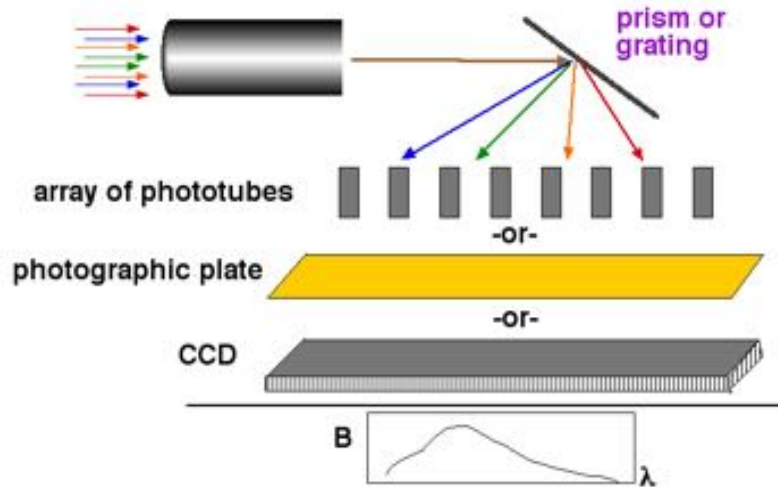


target divided by comparison

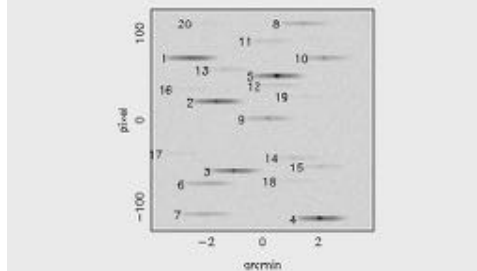


Spectroscopy

measurement of brightness as a function of wavelength



Several galaxies with different equivalent widths and apparent magnitudes are simulated in a 1 hour exposure in the Schmidt telescope of Llano del Hato (CIDA, Venezuela)

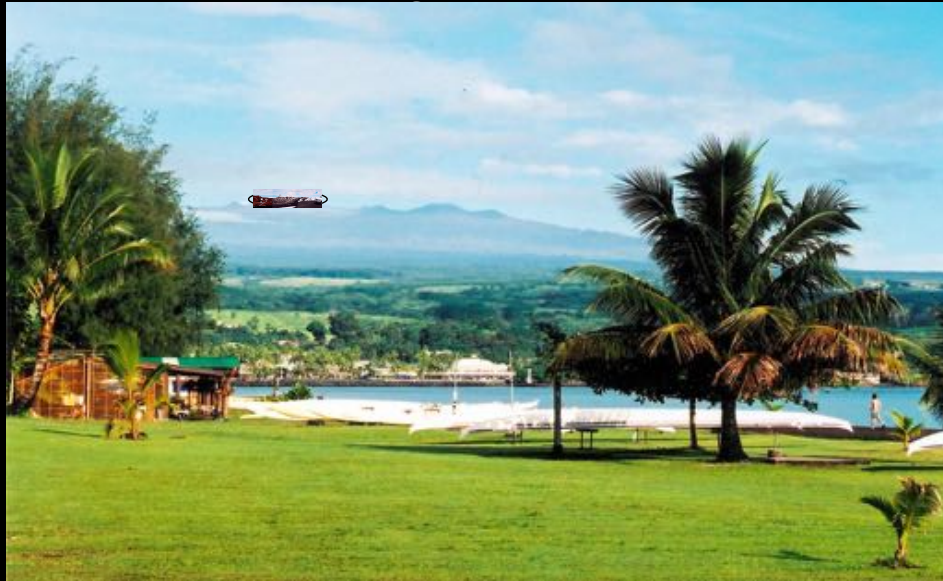


Telescope Performance

- **Optical Accuracy**
 - required surface accuracy to a **fraction of a wavelength**
 - **optical** telescope - 1/10,000,000 inch
 - **radio** telescope - 1mm
- **Mechanical Accuracy**
 - pointing (and hold) to resolution limit
(i.e. $\ll 1$ **arc second** for optical telescopes)
- **Environment**
 - minimize **light pollution**
 - stable atmosphere ('**good seeing**')
 - go up, up up!
 - aircraft
 - balloons / sounding rockets
 - space

Atmospheric Seeing (scintillation)





Astro 150 Fall 2020: Lecture 7 page16

- **Ground-based**

- **Advantages**

- relatively inexpensive per unit aperture
 - unlimited size of optics and instruments
 - “easy” access for upgrades / repairs / novel uses

- **Disadvantages**

- limited coverage of electromagnetic spectrum
 - atmospheric “seeing” - blurring by atmosphere
 - useful at most half the time: weather, sunlight, moonlight

- **Space-based**

- **Advantages**

- access to the entire electromagnetic spectrum
 - free from atmospheric distortion
 - continuous observation without interruption from Sun, Moon, weather

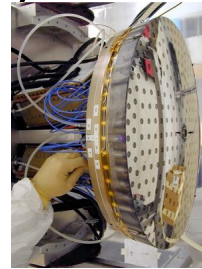
- **Disadvantages**

- extremely expensive to develop, deploy, and operate
 - limited lifetime, expensive or impossible to upgrade or repair
 - limited aperture and data delivery rate

Ground
vs.
Space

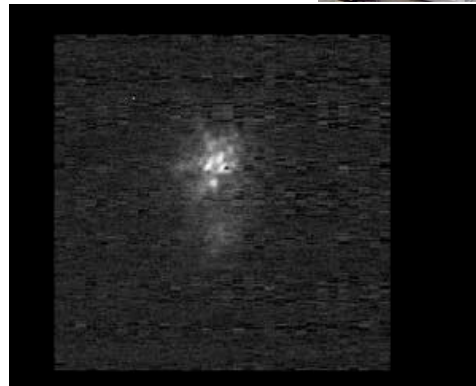
Adaptive Optics (AO)

- remove blurring effects of atmosphere
- sense changing atmosphere & compensate by 'reverse blurring' image with deformable mirror
- technique developed by ISU Alum Robert Fugate



Keck laser guide star

VLT



Astronomy from Space

• The Hubble Space Telescope: 1990 - 2020+?

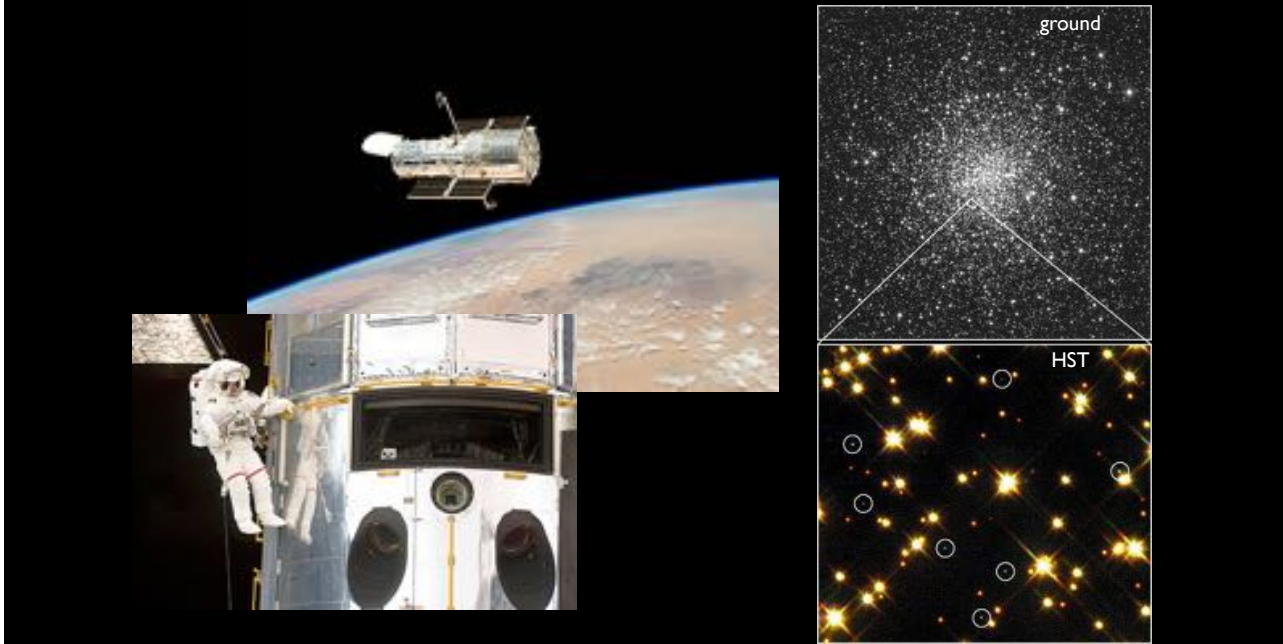
- 2.4 meter diameter reflector
- UV - Optical - IR sensitivity
- astronaut serviceable (4 servicing missions)
 - on-orbit repair / replacement of parts
 - installation of upgraded instruments
- current instruments
 - ACS: Advanced Camera for Surveys
 - NICMOS: Near IR Camera / Multi Object Spectrograph
 - COS: Cosmic Origins Spectrograph
 - WFC3: Wide Field Camera, v.3



• Other Active Space Telescopes

- Spitzer Space Telescope (Infrared) (2003 - 2009/19)
- Chandra X-Ray Telescope (X-ray) (1999 - 2020+)
- Fermi : Gamma Ray Telescope (2008 - 2020+)

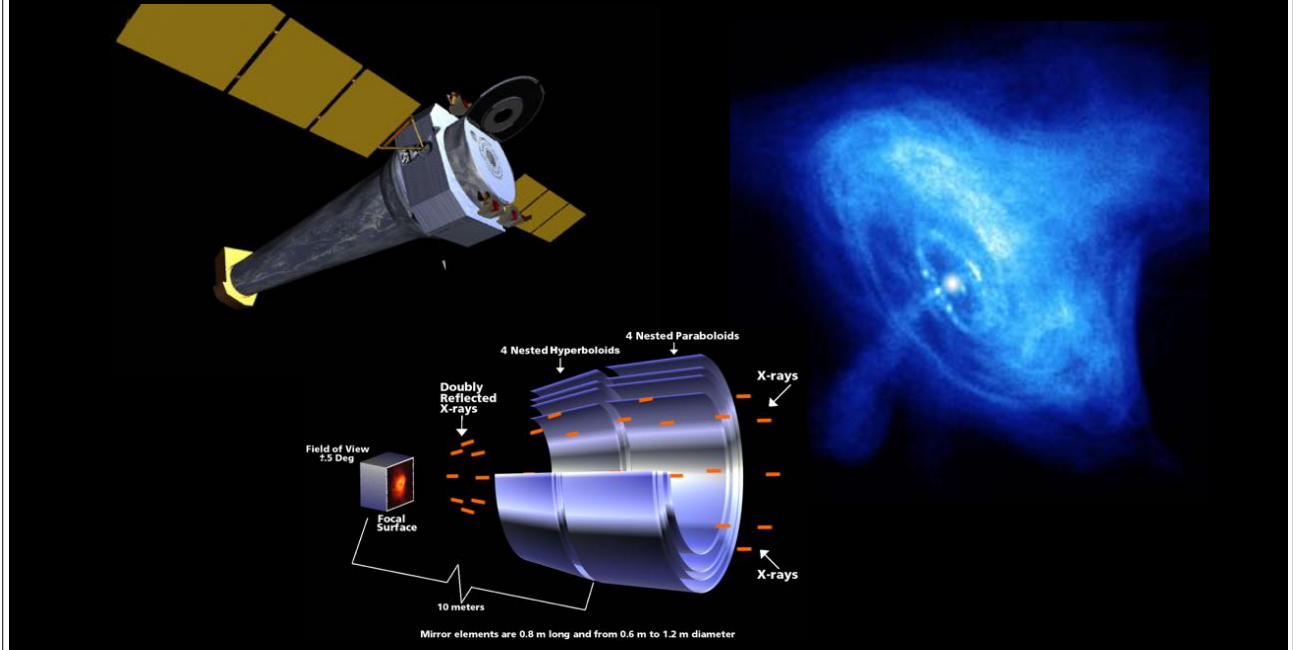
The Hubble Space Telescope



The Spitzer Space Telescope (IR)



The Chandra Space Telescope (X-ray)



infrared

optical

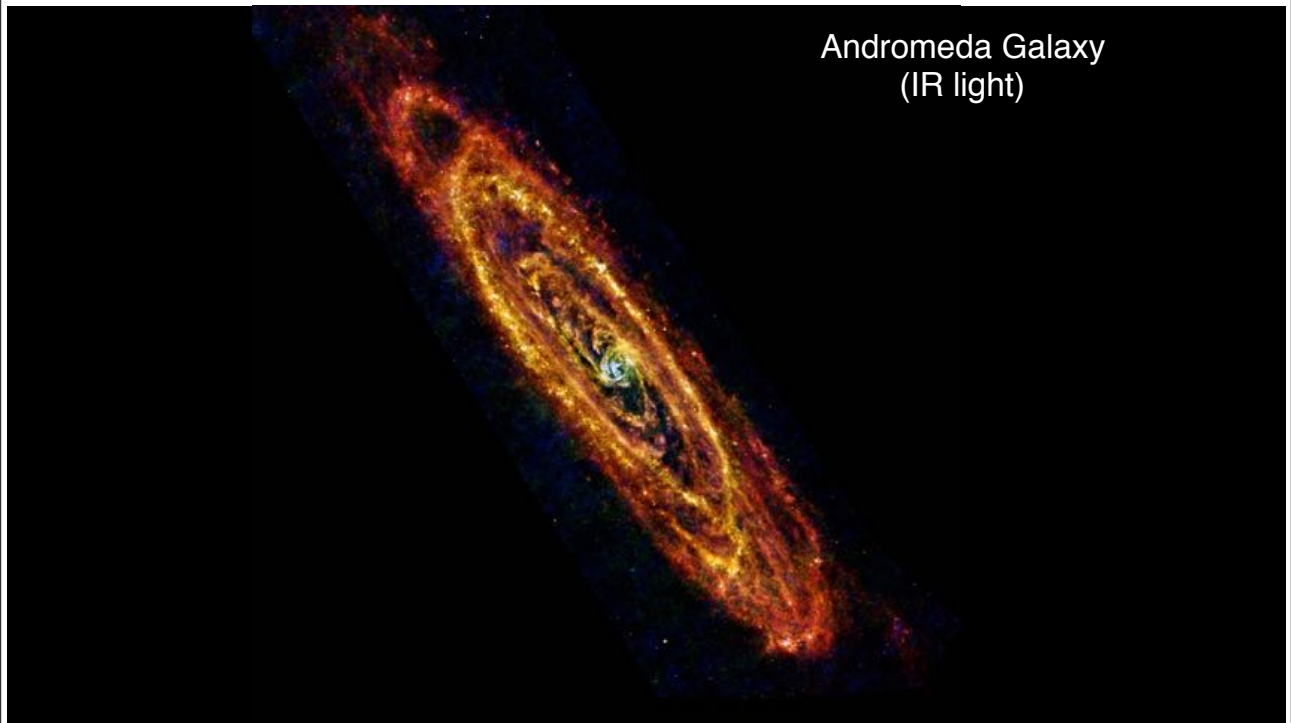
X-ray



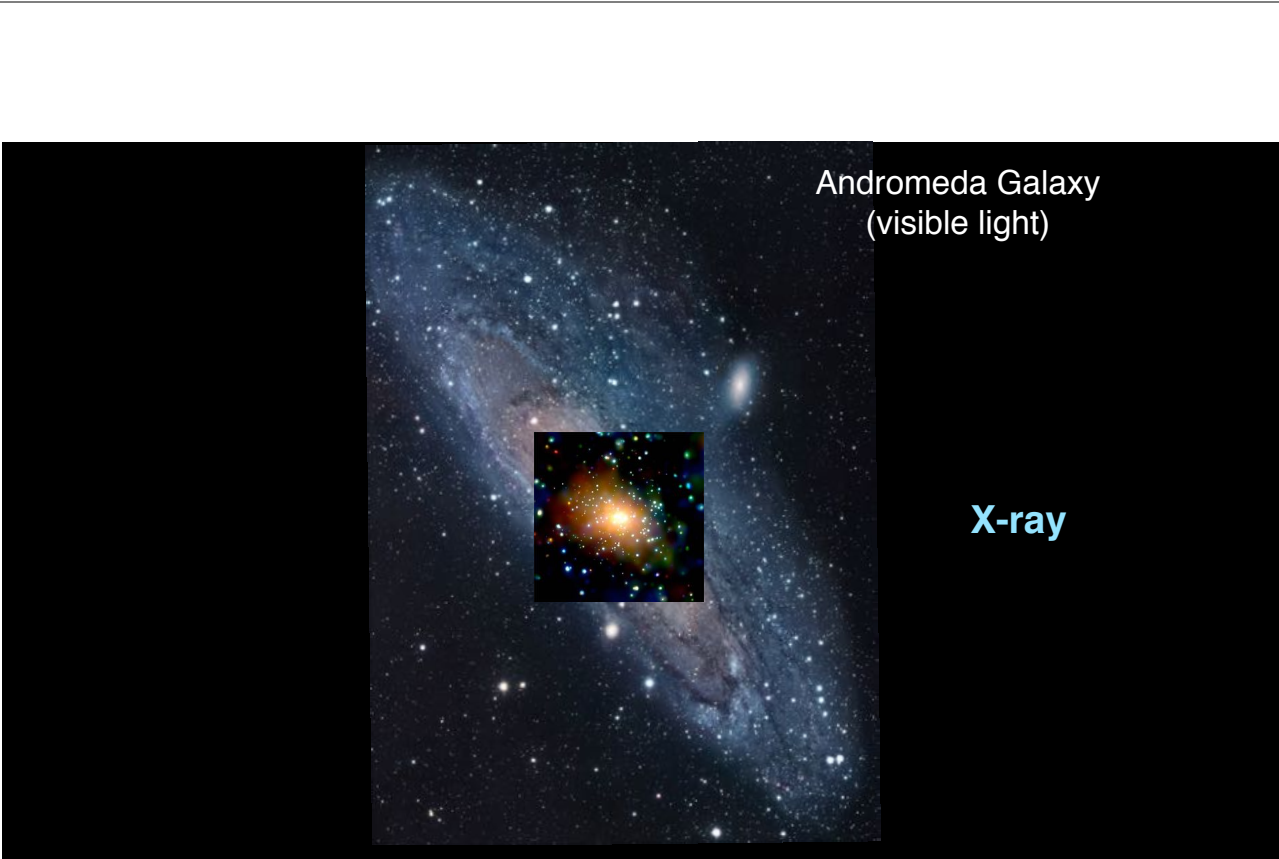
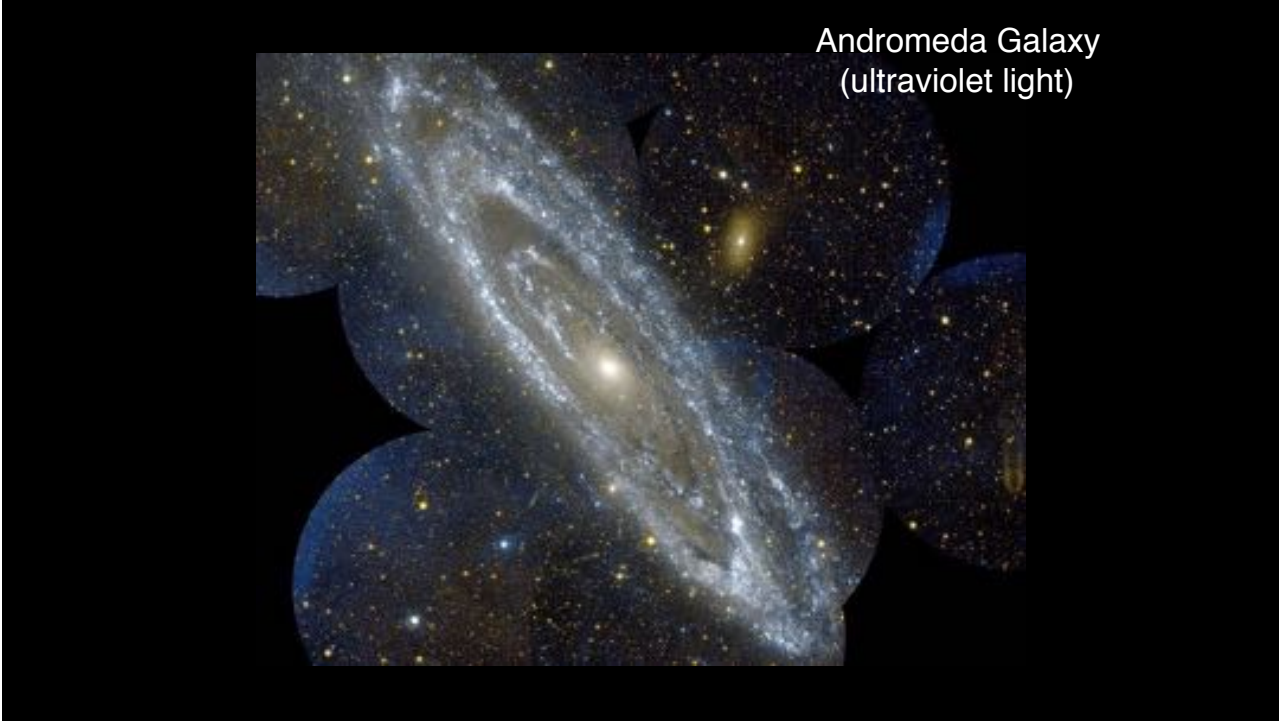
Spiral Galaxy M101 Spitzer Space Telescope • Hubble Space Telescope • Chandra X-Ray Observatory
NASA / JPL-Caltech / ESA / CXC / STScI ssc2009-03b



Andromeda Galaxy
(visible light)



Andromeda Galaxy
(IR light)



Next up - James Webb Space Telescope
scheduled launch: October 31, 2021



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