

# The effect in the X-ray light-curves and spectra of Radiative Winds in thermonuclear X-ray bursts

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# Type I X-ray Bursts

- Explosive nuclear burning of accreted H/He on a neutron star surface.
- Sudden rise and long exponential decay  
(S. Guichandut et al. 2023)
- Elements synthesized. **Should remain trapped on the star's surface?**

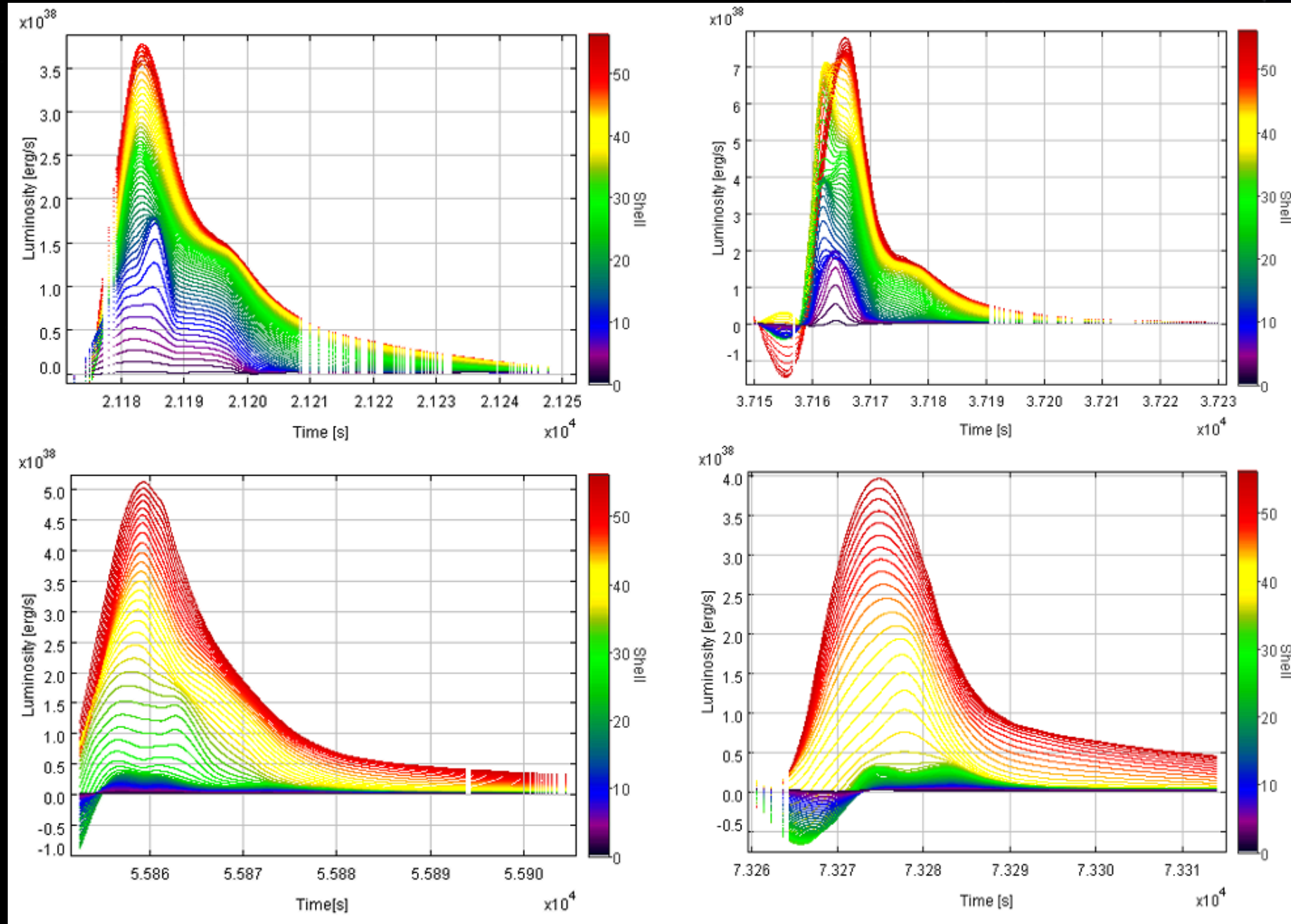
# Stellar winds

- Outward pressure (from gas, magnetic fields or radiation).
- Mass ejected  $\propto$  mass NS
- Extreme radiation drives **optically thick winds**, expelling material and heavily modifying the observed X-ray emission.

# Bridging models



## XRB hydrodynamic models



XRB	$\tau_{rec}(hours)$	$\tau_{burst}(s)$	$T_{peak}(10^9 K)$	$L_{peak}(10^5 L_{\odot})$	$\alpha$
XRB-1	5.9	75.8	1.06	0.97	60
XRB-2	4.9	55.4	1.26	2.1	34
XRB-3	6.4	62.3	1.15	1.7	40
XRB-4	5.1	75.5	1.12	1.2	36

$$M_{NS} = 1.4 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{NS} = 13.1 \text{ km}$$

$$\text{Accretion rate: } 1.75 \times 10^{-9} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

$$\text{Metallicity: } Z = 0.02$$

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### HYDRODYNAMIC MODELS OF TYPE I X-RAY BURSTS: METALLICITY EFFECTS

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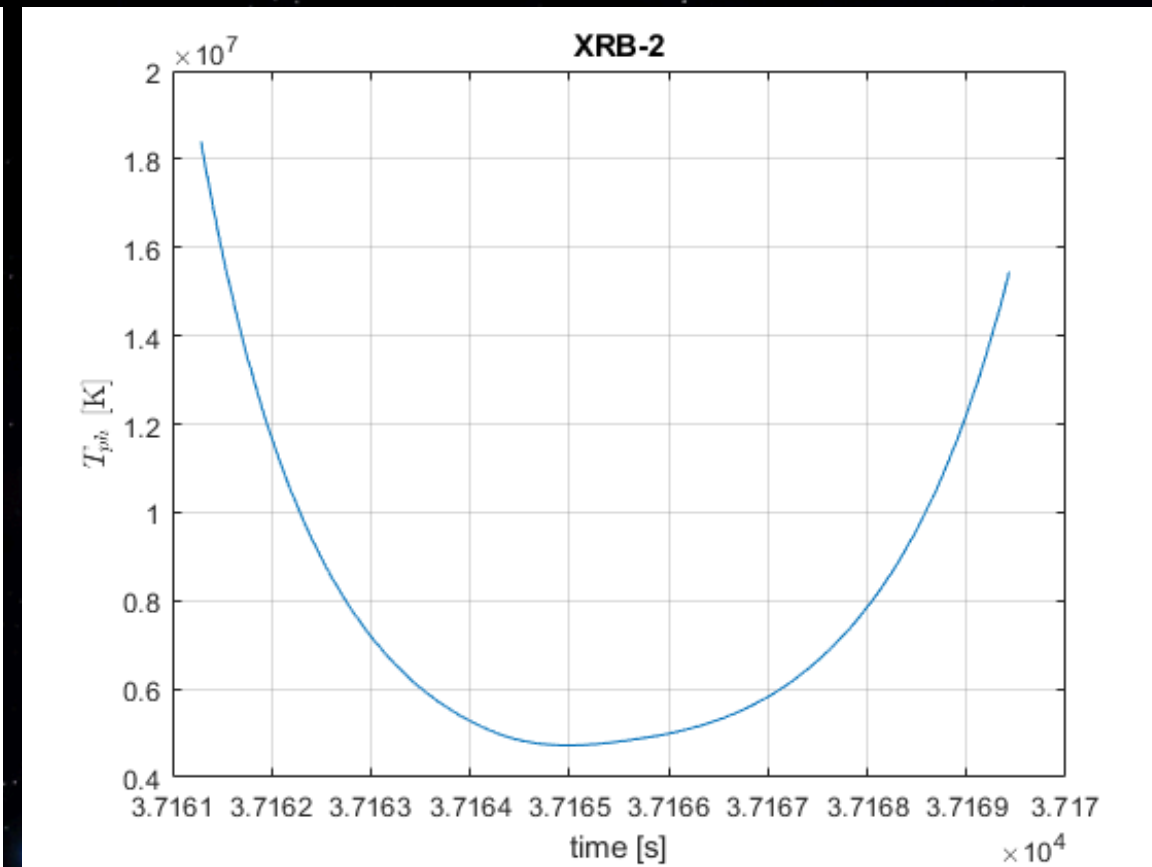
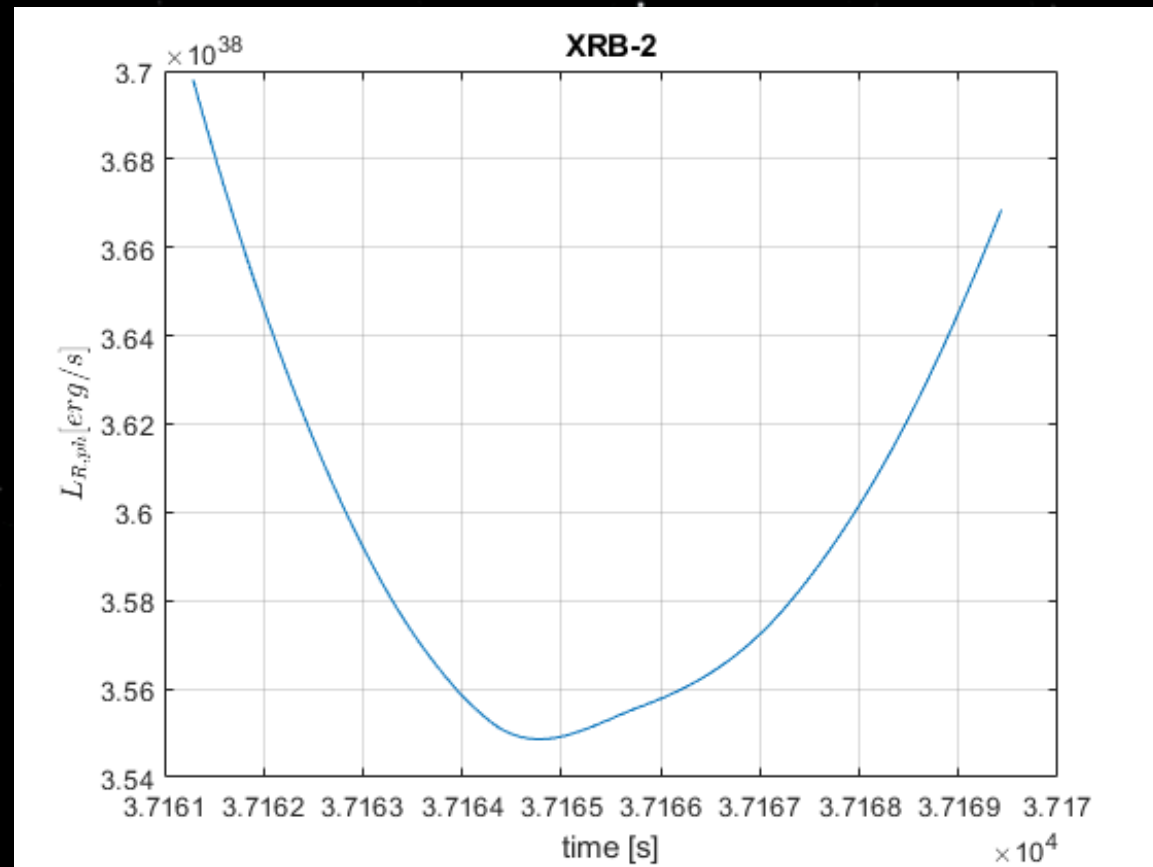
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# Bridging models

## Stellar wind model



- Stationary, radiation-driven winds.
- Very small changes in luminosity  $\sim 3.6 \times 10^{38}$  erg/s.
- Minimum at peak of photospheric expansion.

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Astronomy  
&  
Astrophysics

### Simulations of stellar winds from X-ray bursts

#### Characterization of solutions and observable variables

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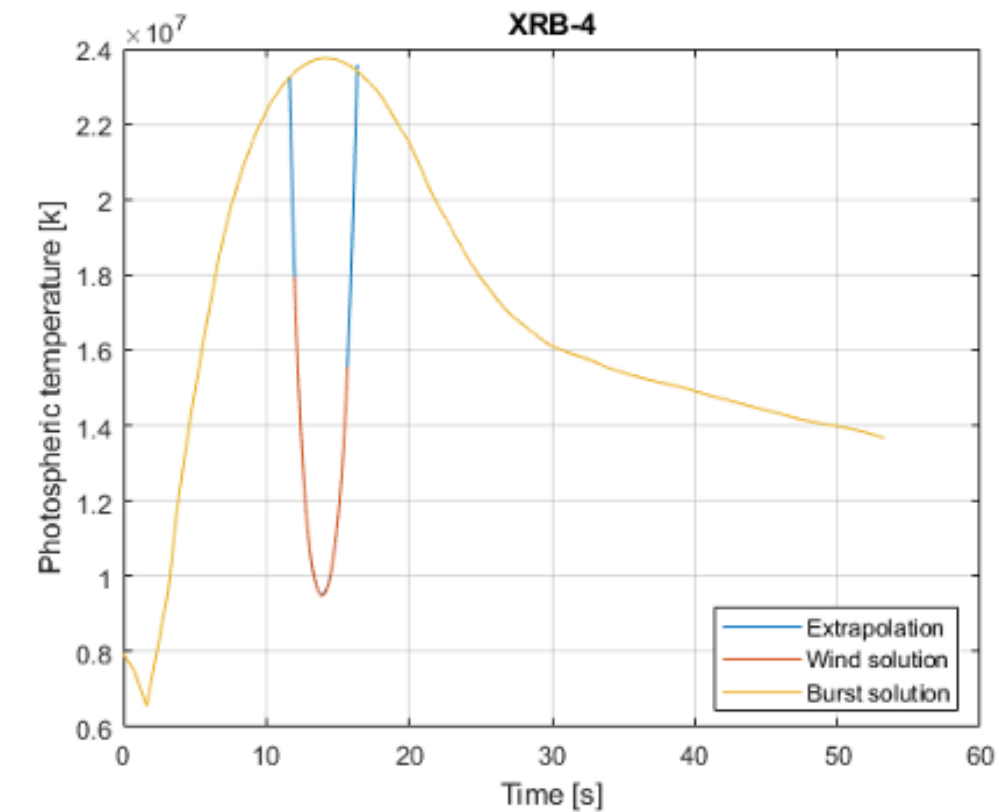
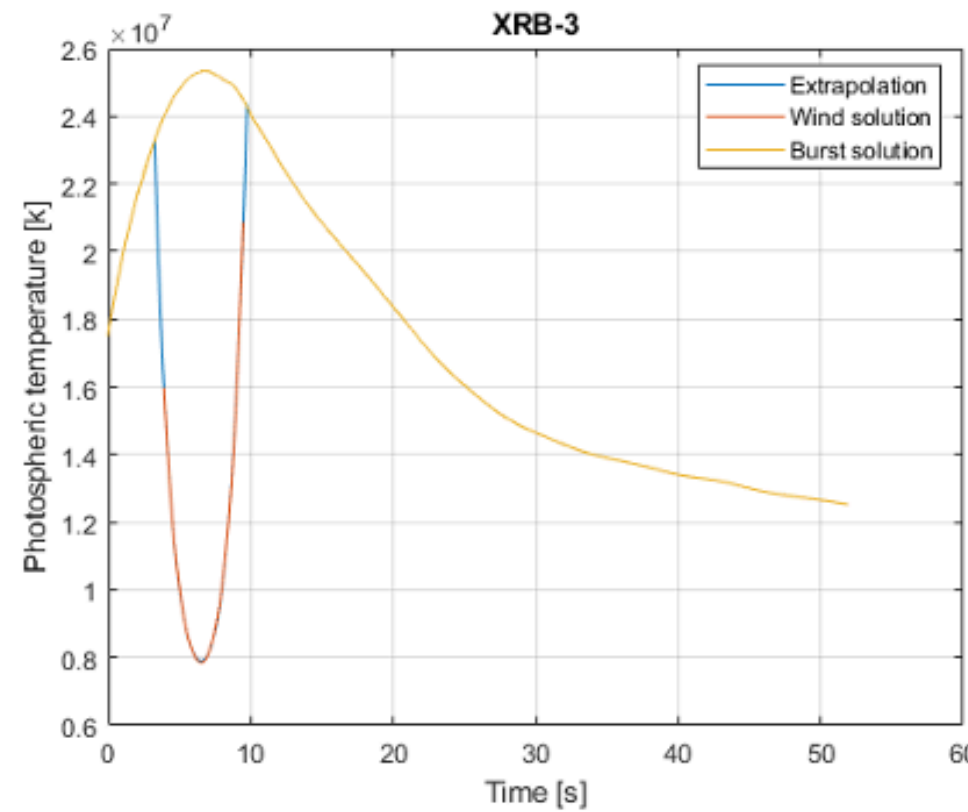
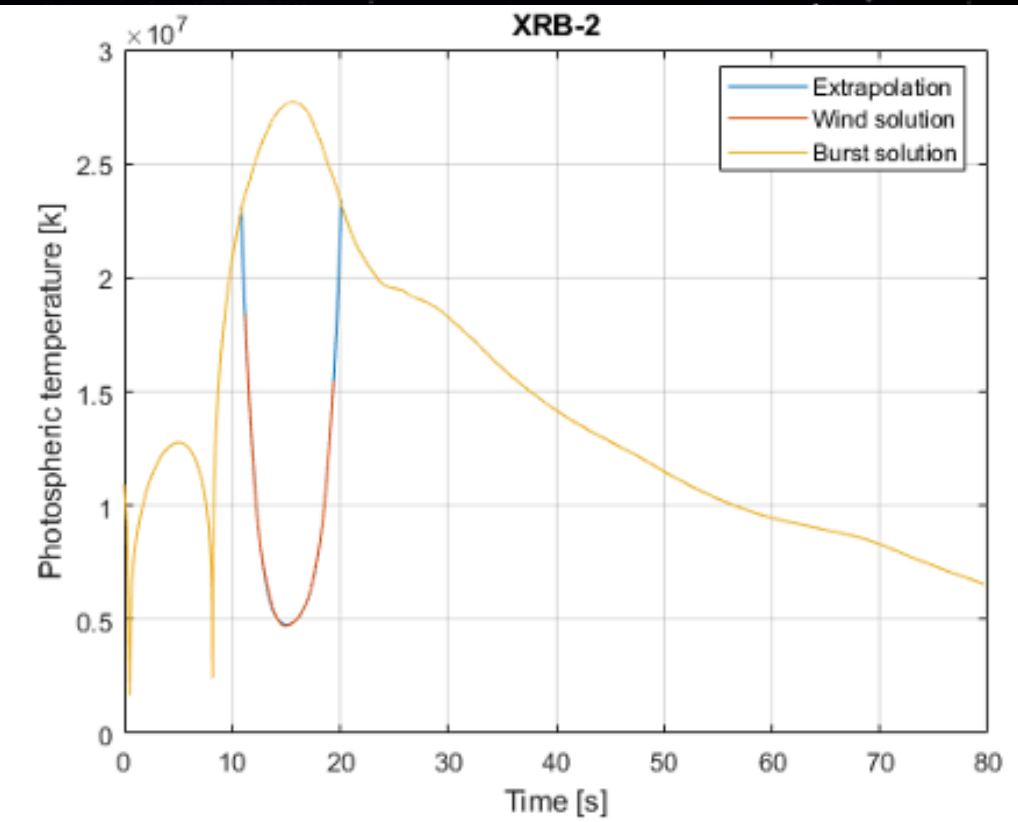
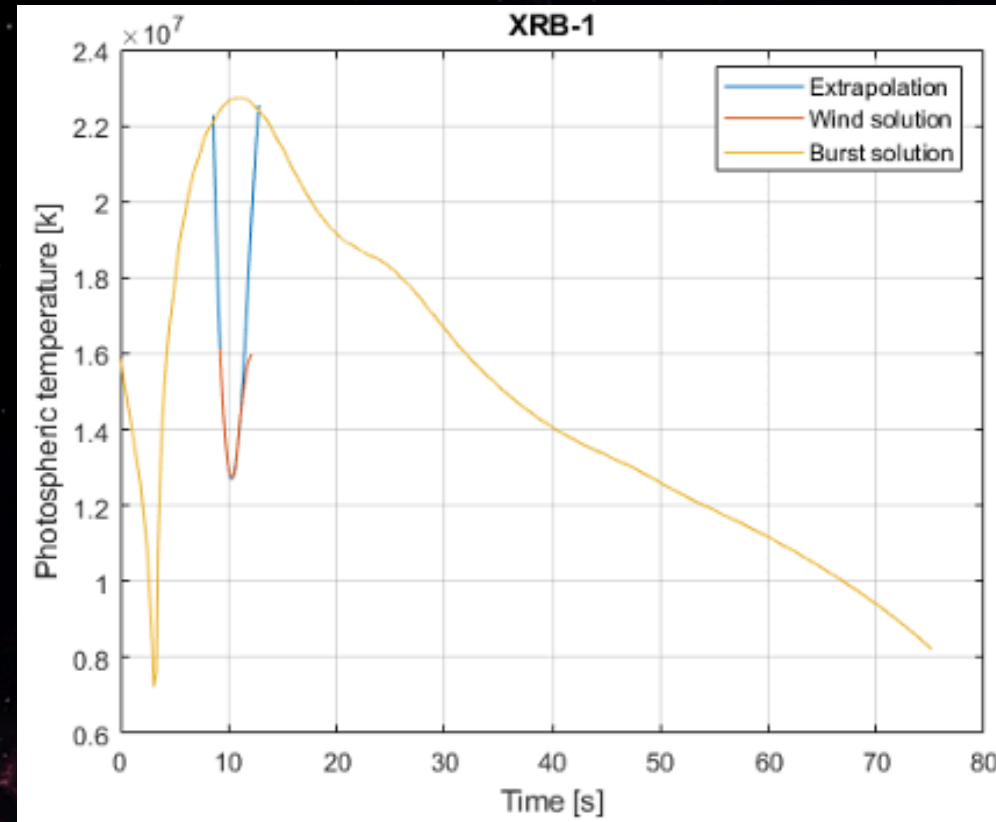
<sup>2</sup> Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya, c/Gran Capità 2-4, Ed. Nexus-201, 08034 Barcelona, Spain

# Bridging models

- Not well-defined photosphere in XRB models.
- Assumption: Photospheric luminosity  $\approx$  luminosity in last layer of XRB ( $3.52 \times 10^{38}$  erg/s)

$$\tau^* = 8/3$$

$$y = m * r_{ph} + n \quad \Rightarrow \quad r_{ph} = (\ln(8/3) - n) / m$$



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## OPTICALLY THICK WINDS IN NOVA OUTBURSTS

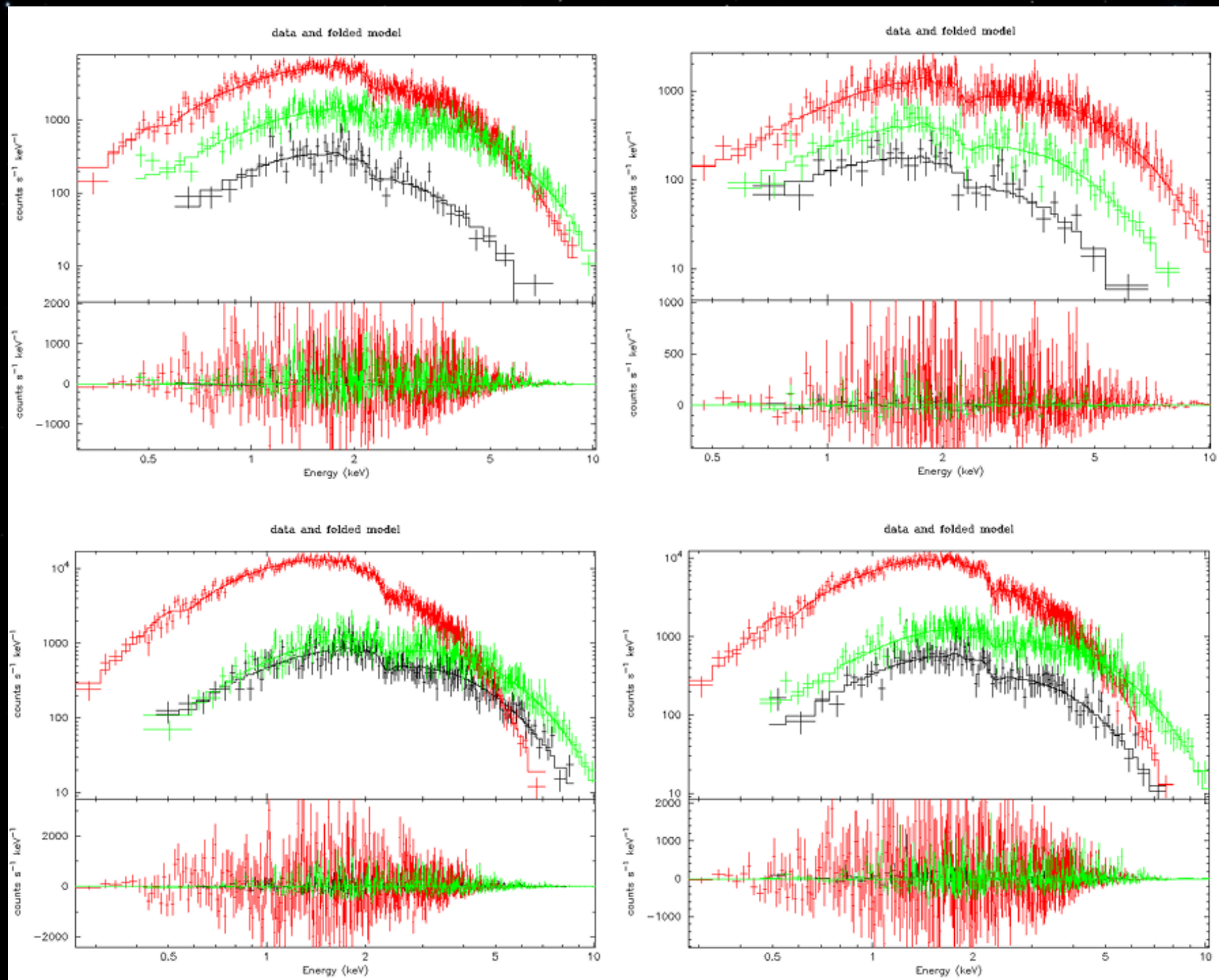
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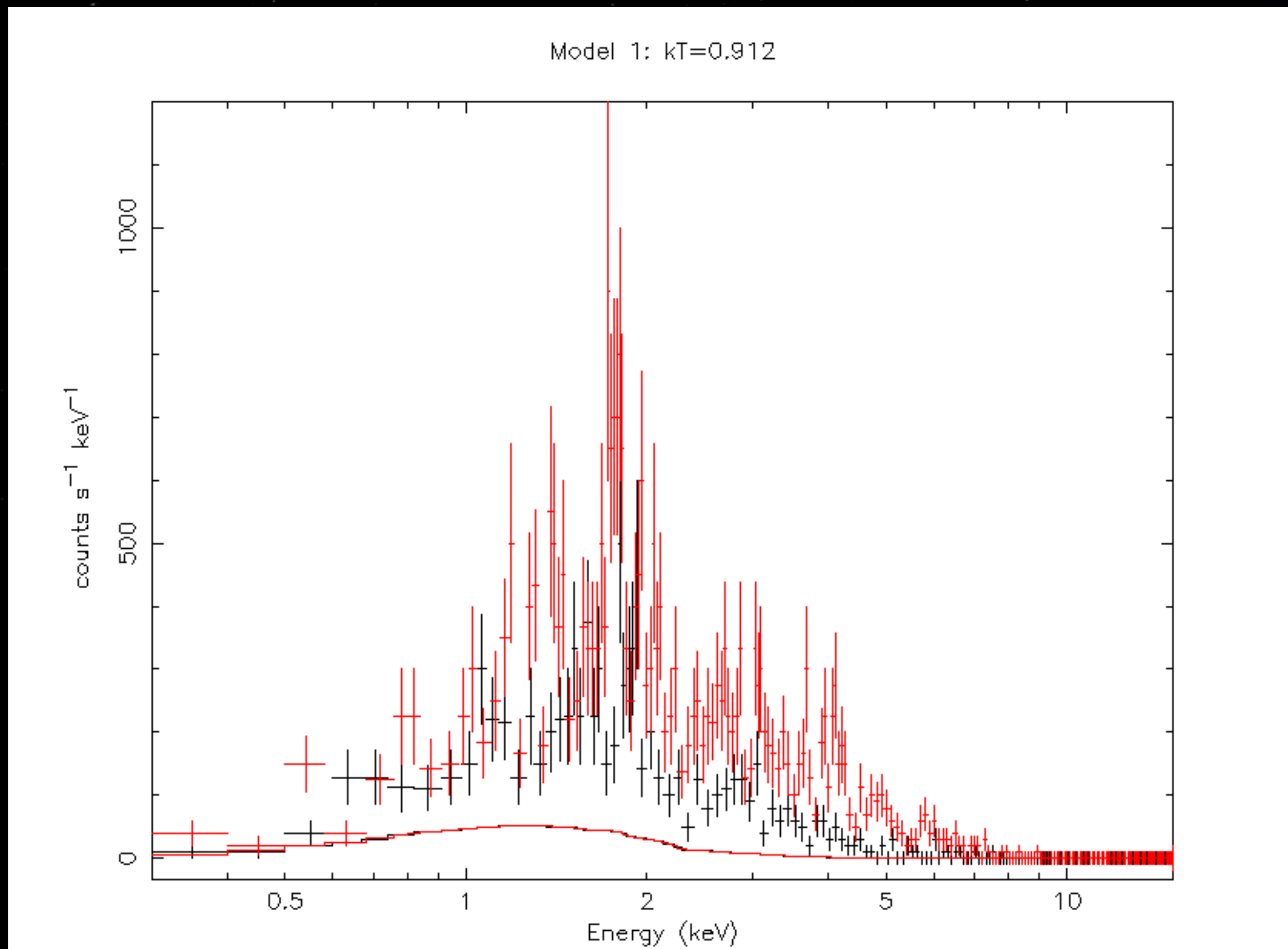
# Simulating X-ray spectra



- **Model:** TBabs×bbody
- **Norm:**  $K_{bb} = L_{39}/D_{10}^2$
- $D \approx 7$  kpc
- $Abs = 1.33 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  (4U 1820–30)
- Rising; **Peak**; **Decaying**

Model	kT [keV]	$\chi^2$	Bins	$\chi^2/N$
1	0.88264	71.76	66	1.087
	1.10238	493.98	483	1.023
	1.96279	341.14	359	0.950
2	1.02401	35.28	40	0.882
	2.05262	277.17	342	0.810
	1.45376	94.99	107	0.888
3	1.53698	174.38	200	0.872
	0.66798	400.00	418	0.957
	2.07232	291.86	319	0.915
4	1.17299	102.66	122	0.841
	0.80110	441.45	446	0.989
	1.96647	290.41	335	0.867

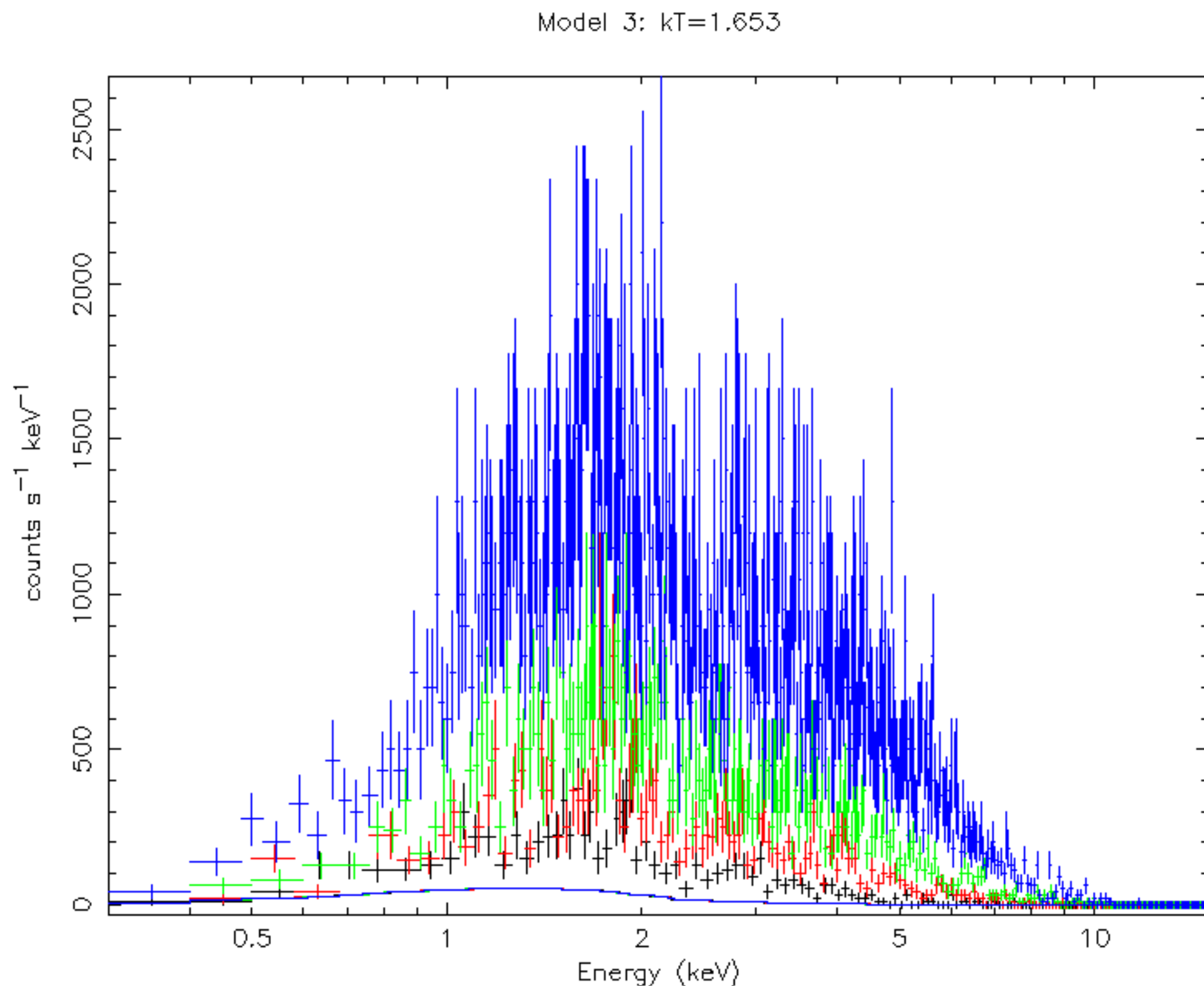
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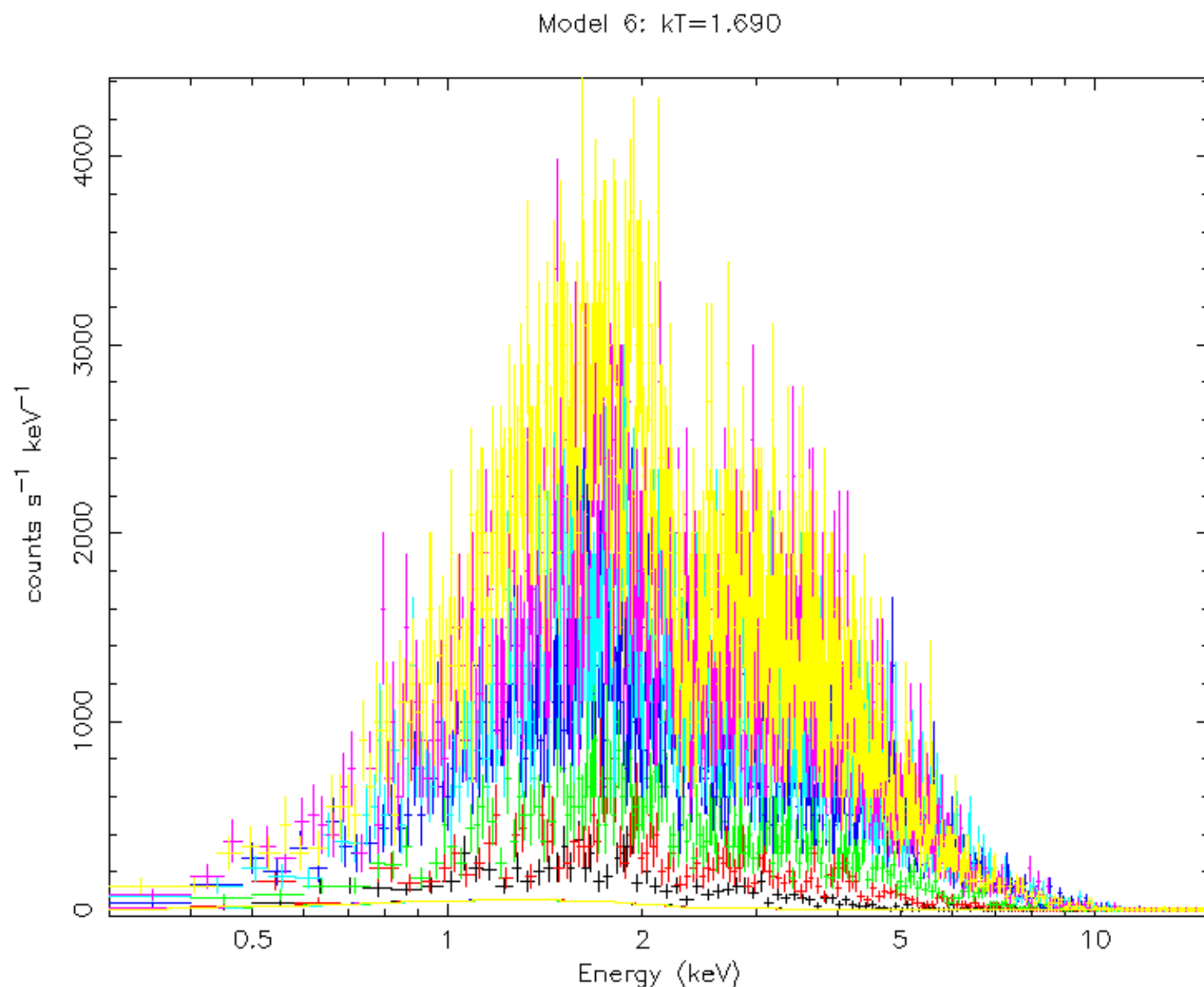
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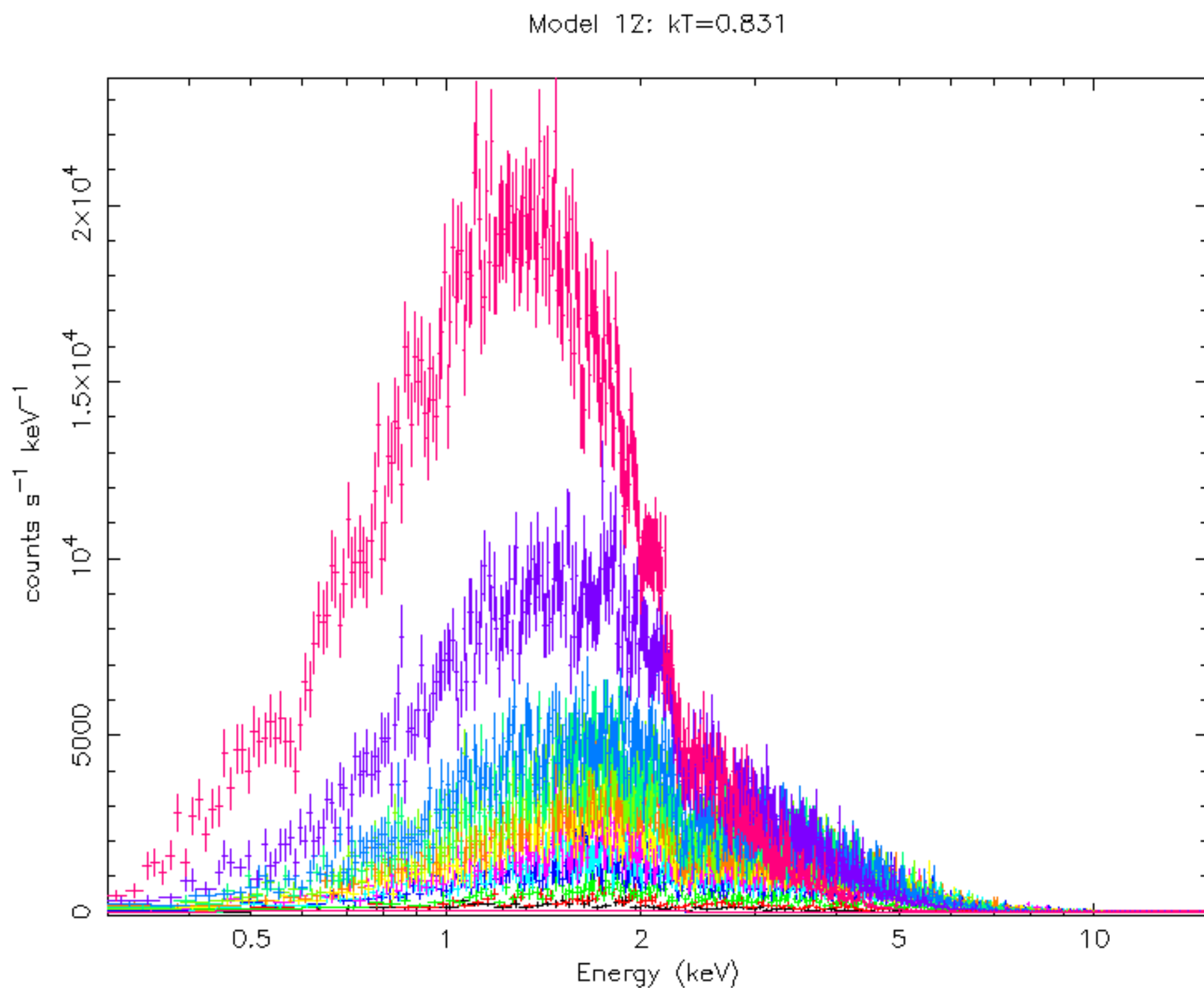
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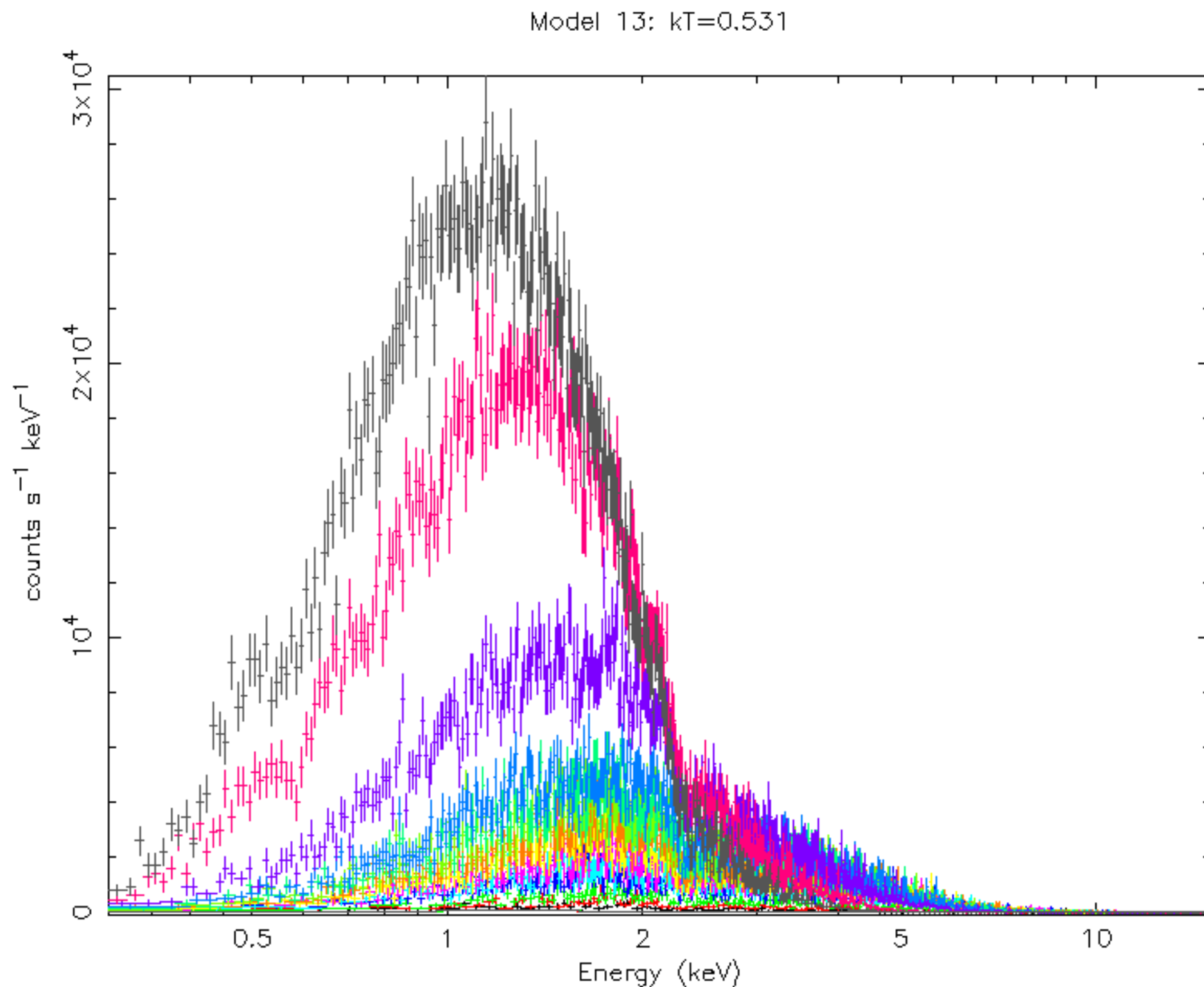
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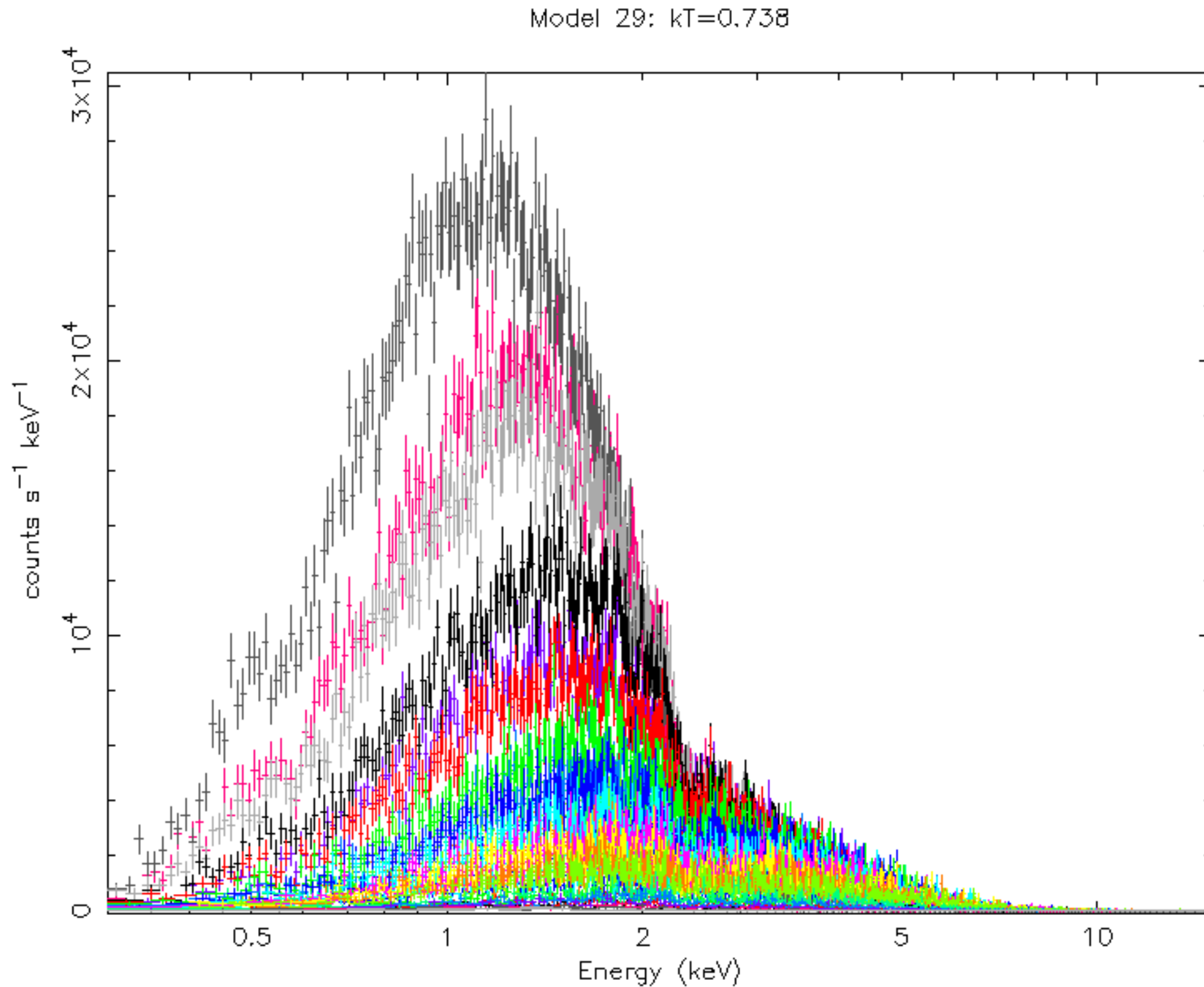
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- **Model:** TBabs×bbody
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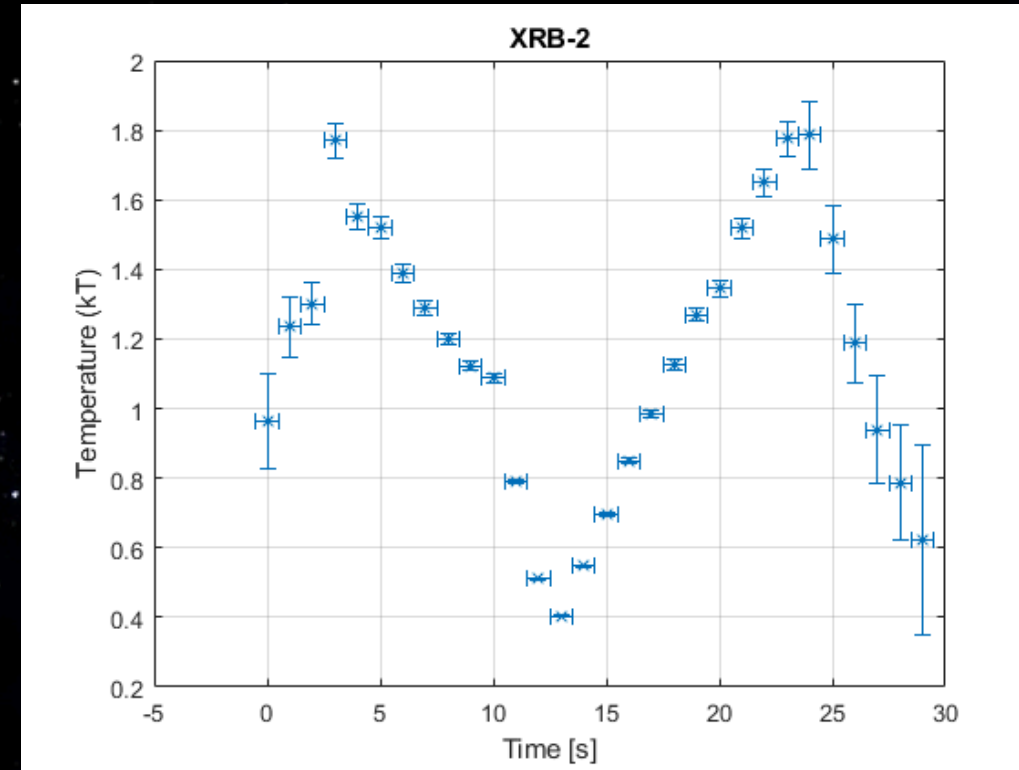
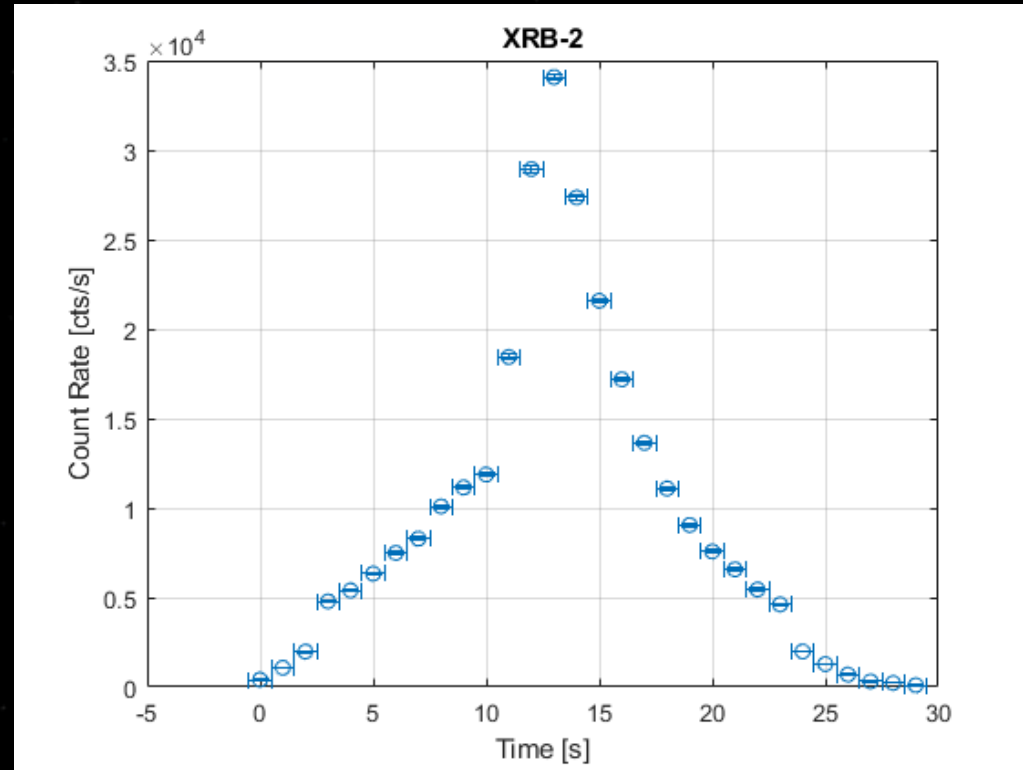
# Simulating X-ray spectra



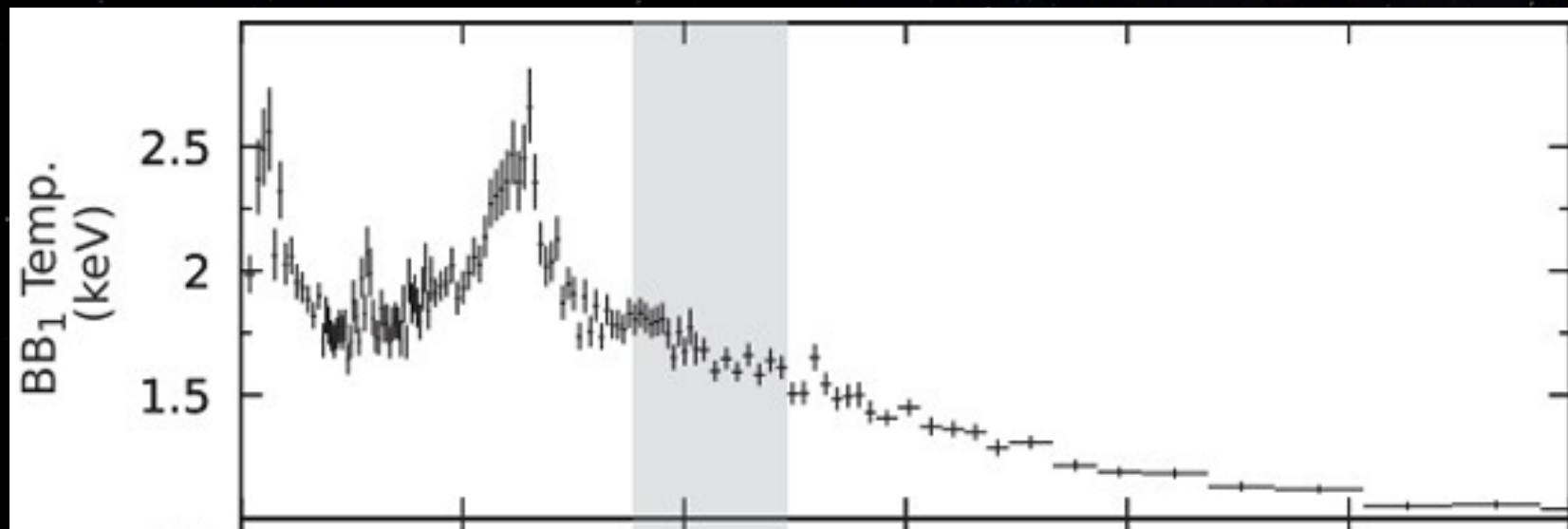
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# Simulating X-ray spectra



- Temperature decrease by a factor of 2.
- Consistent temperature evolution and decrease factor.



Peter Bult et al. Time-resolved spectroscopy of the X-ray burst using a double blackbody model.

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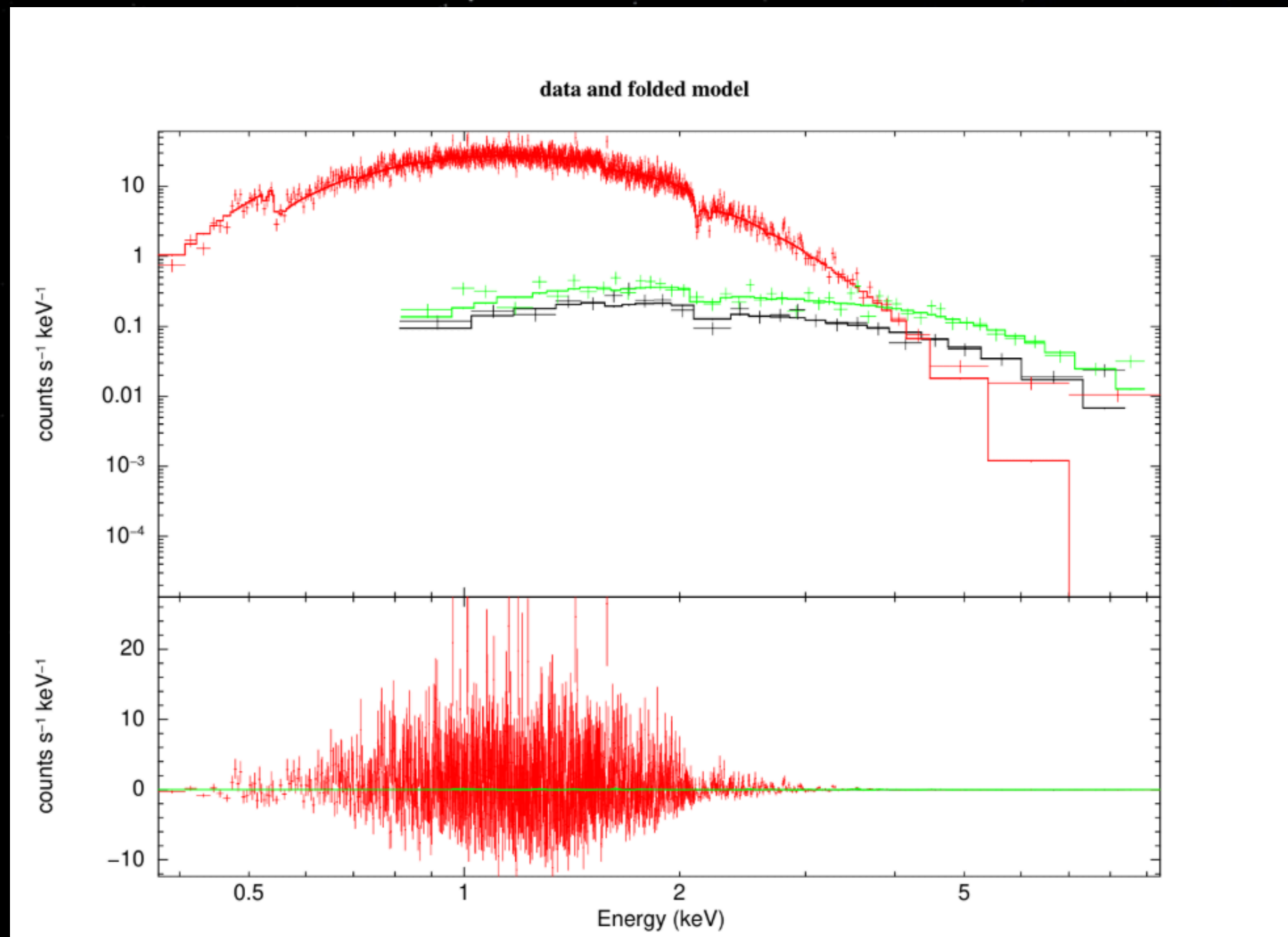
**A NICER Thermonuclear Burst from the Millisecond X-Ray Pulsar SAX J1808.4–3658**

Peter Bult<sup>1</sup>, Gaurava K. Jaisawal<sup>2</sup>, Tolga Güver<sup>3,4</sup>, Tod E. Strohmayer<sup>5</sup>, Diego Altamirano<sup>6</sup>, Zaven Arzoumanian<sup>1</sup>, David R. Ballantyne<sup>7</sup>, Deepto Chakrabarty<sup>8</sup>, Jérôme Chenevez<sup>2</sup>, Keith C. Gendreau<sup>1</sup>, Sebastien Guillot<sup>9,10</sup>, and Renee M. Ludlam<sup>11,12</sup>

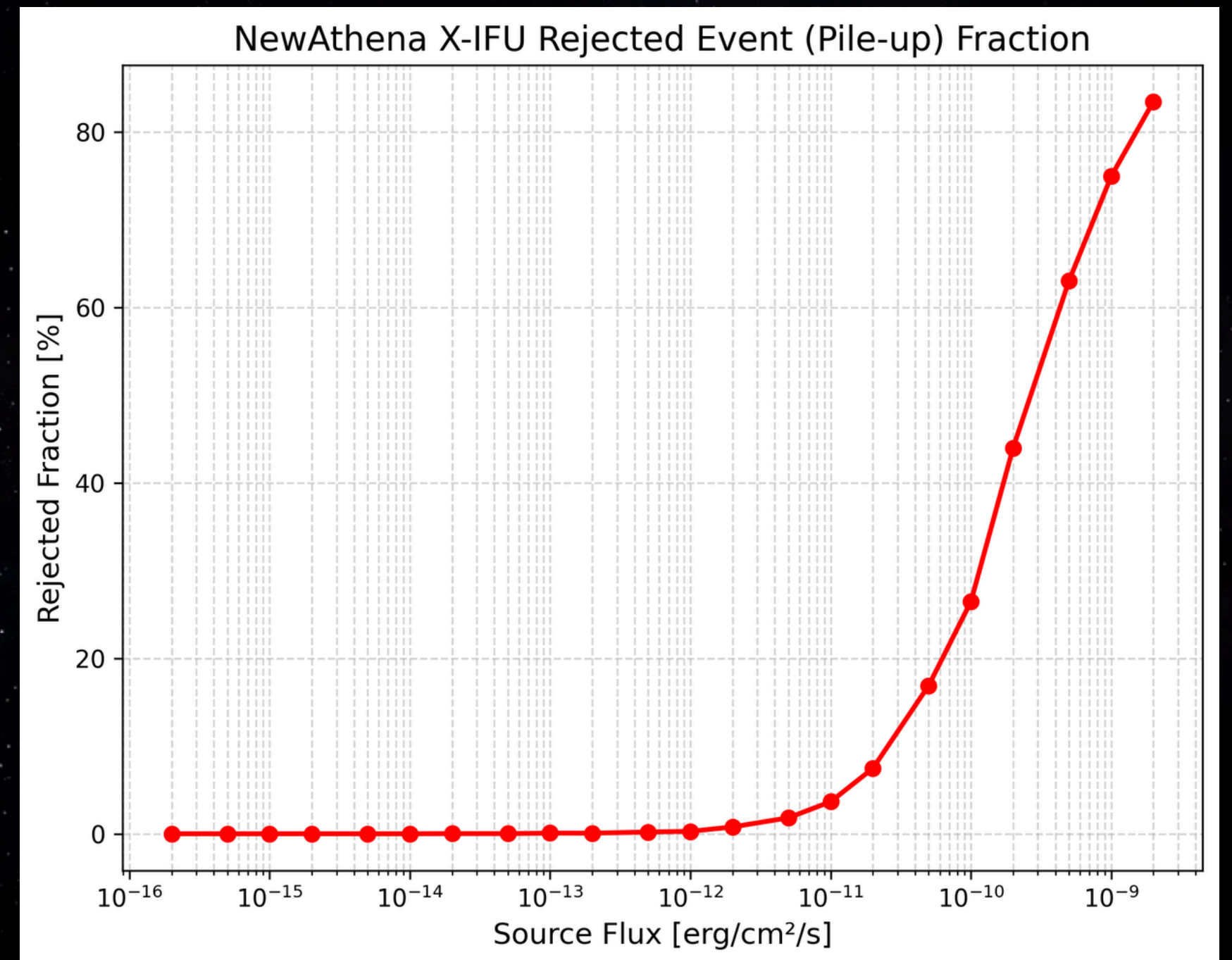
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<sup>7</sup> Center for Relativistic Astrophysics, School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, 837 State Street, Atlanta, GA 30332-0430, USA  
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# SIXTE simulations: Athena X-IFU

## Focused simulation - Optical filter



Distance set:  $D = 708$  kpc



## Focused simulation - Optical filter

Parameter	Phase 1 (rise)	Phase 2 (peak)	Phase 3 (tail)
<b>Physical input</b>			
$L$ ( $10^{38}$ erg/s)	0.62	3.60	2.00
$F$ ( $10^{-12}$ erg/cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	1.03	6.00	3.29
<b>Temperature: <math>kT</math> (keV)</b>			
Input	1.29	0.41	1.72
Output (fit)	$1.58 \pm 0.09$	$0.404 \pm 3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.95 \pm 0.09$
% Difference	+23%	-2%	+13%
<b>Normalization (<math>10^{-5}</math>)</b>			
Input	1.2	7.2	3.9
Output (fit)	$2.2 \pm 0.2$	$25.1 \pm 0.2$	$6.2 \pm 0.6$
% Difference	+83%	+249%	+59%
<b>Goodness of fit</b>			
Total $\chi^2$ /d.o.f. = 1298.6/1195 $\chi^2_\nu = 1.09$ (Prob = 0.019)			

Fitting models to the simulated spectra:

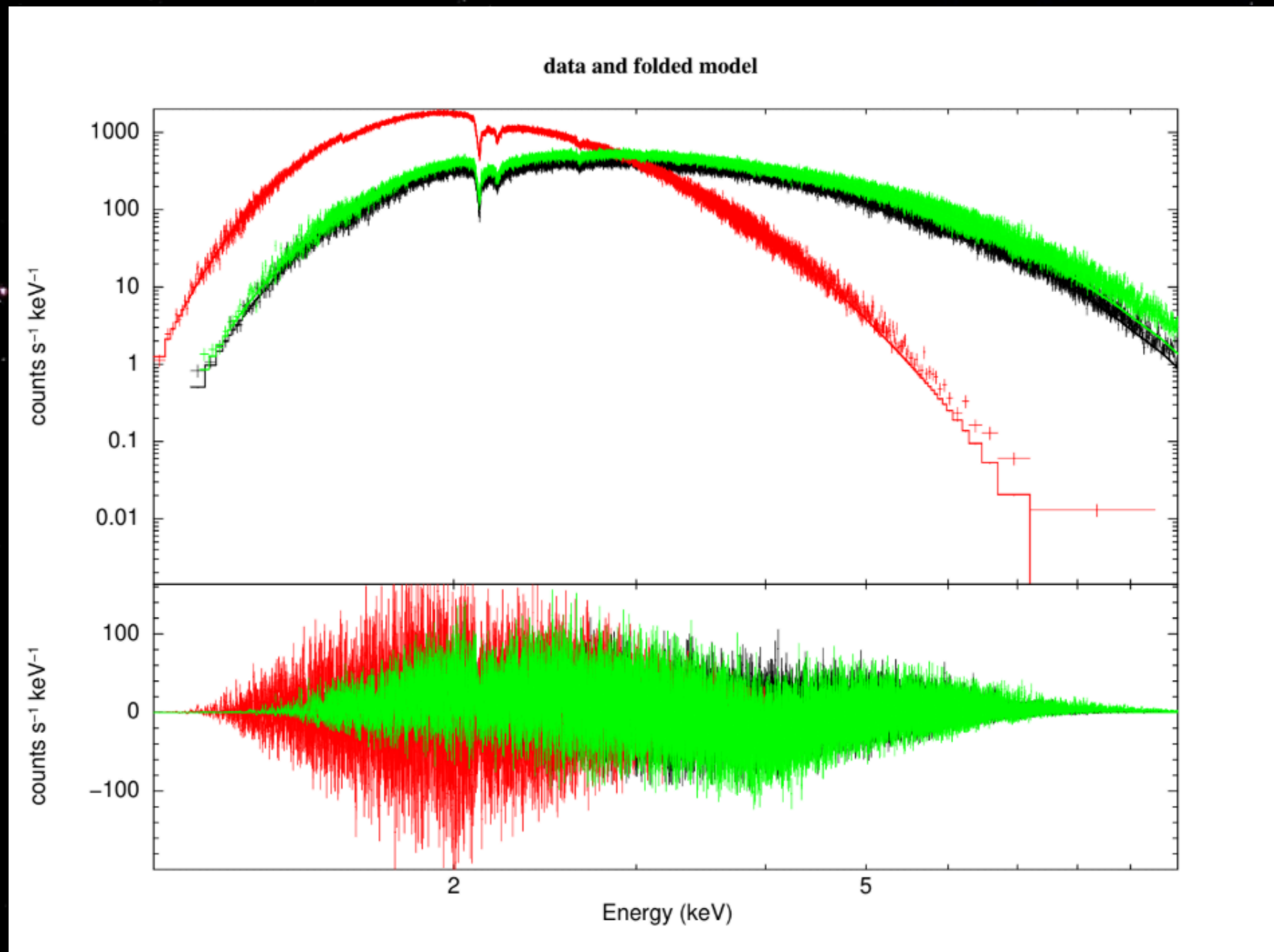
- Model: TBabs×bbody

Difficulty of galactic observations.

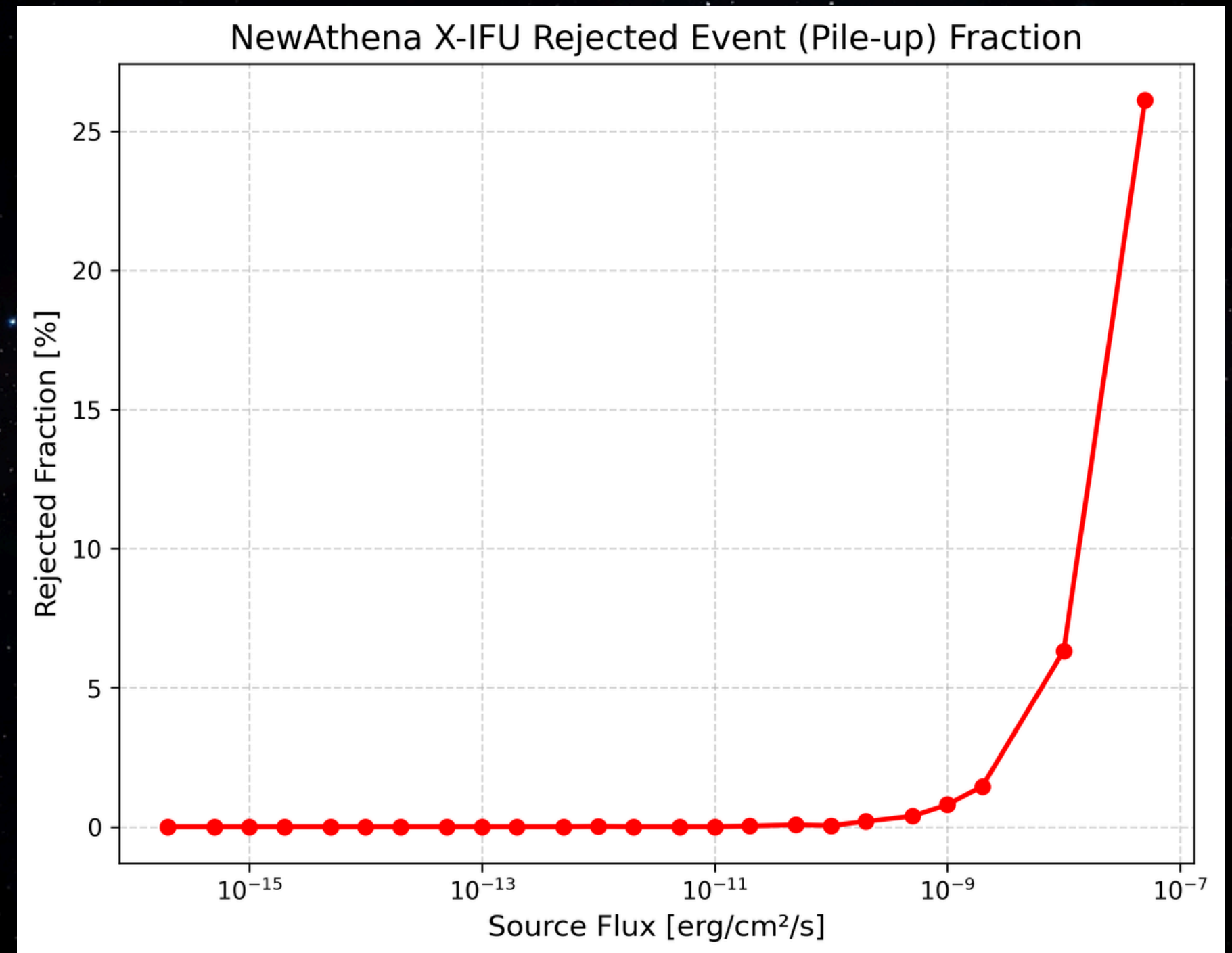
Can perform extragalactic observations (Andromeda).

# SIXTE simulations: Athena X-IFU

## Defocused simulation



Distance set:  $D = 7.46$  kpc



## Defocused simulation

Parameter	Phase 1 (Rise)	Phase 2 (Peak)	Phase 3 (Tail)
<b>Physical input</b>			
$L$ ( $10^{38}$ erg/s)	0.62	3.60	2.00
$F$ ( $10^{-8}$ erg/cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	0.93	5.40	2.96
<b>Temperature: <math>kT</math> (keV)</b>			
Input	1.29	0.41	1.72
Output (fit)	$1.143 \pm 1 \times 10^{-3}$	$0.3675 \pm 3 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.183 \pm 1 \times 10^{-3}$
% Difference	-12%	-10%	-31%
<b>Normalization (<math>10^{-2}</math>)</b>			
Input	11.1	64.7	35.4
Output (fit)	$6.14 \pm 0.01$	$18.24 \pm 0.08$	$8.00 \pm 0.01$
% Difference	-45%	-72%	-77%
<b>Goodness of fit</b>			
Total $\chi^2$ /d.o.f. = 32533.1/25844 $\chi^2_\nu = 1.26$ (Prob = $2.3 \times 10^{-163}$ )			

- Fitting models to the simulated spectra: TBabs×bbody
- Extraction: Filtered for surviving High-Resolution (GRADING==1) photons.
- Standard XSPEC pipeline uses a "canned" ARF (Ancillary Response File).

## Defocused simulation

Parameter	Phase 1 (Rise)	Phase 2 (Peak)	Phase 3 (Tail)
Physical input			
$L$ ( $10^{38}$ erg/s)	0.62	3.60	2.00
$F$ ( $10^{-8}$ erg/cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	0.93	5.40	2.96
Temperature: $kT$ (keV)			
Input	1.29	0.41	1.72
Output (fit)	$1.143 \pm 1 \times 10^{-3}$	$0.3675 \pm 3 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.183 \pm 1 \times 10^{-3}$
% Difference	-12%	-10%	-31%
Normalization ( $10^{-2}$ )			
Input	11.1	64.7	35.4
Output (fit)	$6.14 \pm 0.01$	$18.24 \pm 0.08$	$8.00 \pm 0.01$
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### The defocused observations of bright sources with *Athena*/X-IFU

E. S. Kammoun<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Barret<sup>1</sup>, P. Peille<sup>3</sup>, R. Willingale<sup>4</sup>, T. Dauser<sup>5</sup>, J. Wilms<sup>5</sup>,  
M. Guainazzi<sup>6</sup>, and J. M. Miller<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> INAF – Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri, Largo Enrico Fermi 5, 50125 Firenze, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES), 18 Avenue Edouard Belin, 31400 Toulouse Cedex 4, France




<sup>4</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Karl Remeis-Observatory and Erlangen Centre for Astroparticle Physics, Sternwartstr. 7, 96049 Bamberg, Germany

<sup>6</sup> ESA European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC), Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

<sup>7</sup> Department of Astronomy, University of Michigan, 1085 South University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

# Conclusions

- XRB and stellar wind models bridged and validated against real NICER observations. 
- Extension stellar wind model (avoid extrapolation). 
- Athena's defocused mirrors successfully protect the microcalorimeters from 2.25 Crab bursts. 
- Standard canned calibration completely fails, creating unphysical temperature inversions and massive residuals. Need of development of dynamic, pixel-by-pixel ARF reconstruction software. 