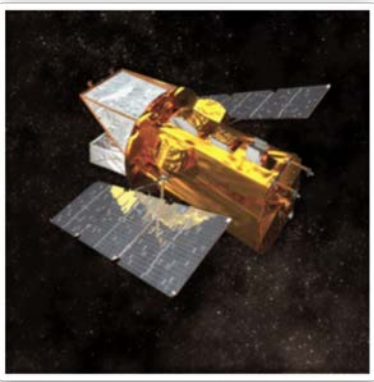


Swift Bats 1000 ... Gamma-ray Bursts



Oct. 27, 2015: Swift detects its 1000th gamma-ray burst, GRB 151027B, a type associated with the explosive death of a massive star and the birth of a new black hole. It's light had been traveling to us for more than 12 billion years, placing it among the most distant Swift has seen.

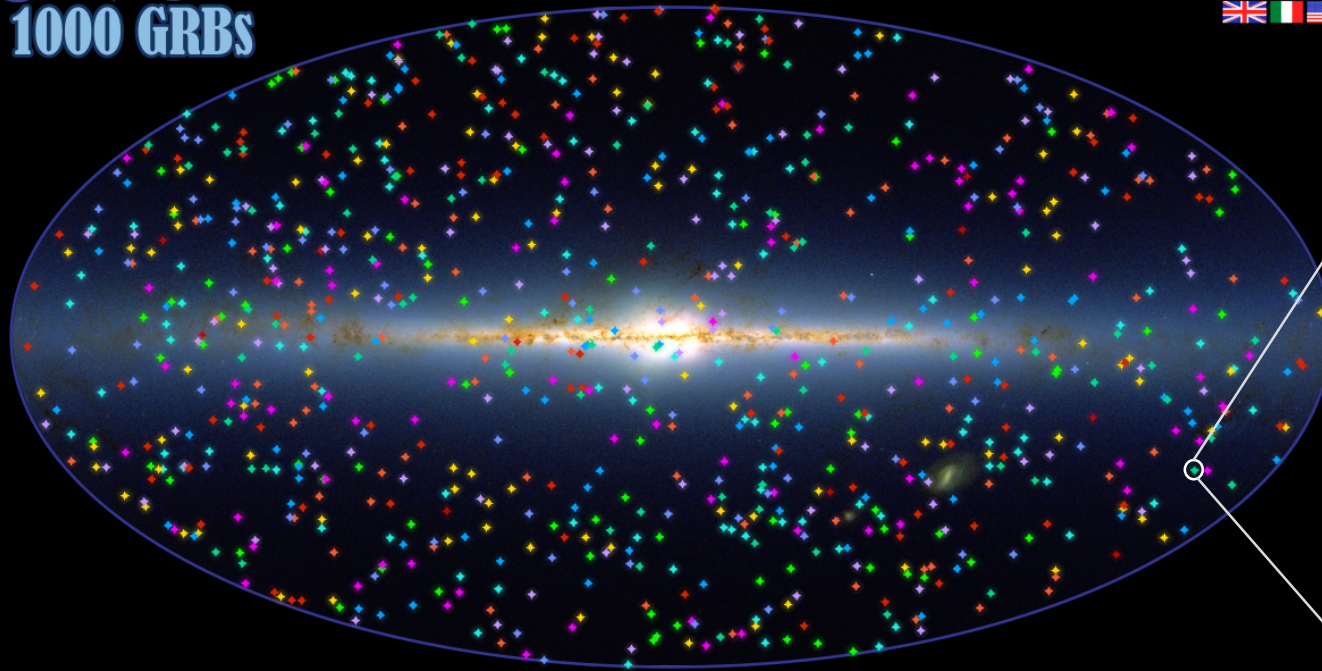


Artist's rendering of a GRB

Swift
1000 GRBs



Launched in 2004, Swift ushered in a **new era** of GRB science. The mission's gamma-ray, X-ray, UV and optical coverage, plus rapid scheduling, remains a unique and powerful combo.



GRB 151027B from Swift's XRT



These features allow Swift to investigate diverse phenomena, from stars ripped apart by black holes (in 2011 and 2014) ... the initial X-ray pulses from nascent supernovae ... a new supernova remnant in our galaxy ... outbursts and flares from stars and magnetars ... and rare nearby GRBs.

2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015