Instrumental Panorama: Space











XMM-Newton (ESA): 1999 Dec 10



Chandra (NASA): 1999 Jul 23



NuSTAR (NASA): 2012 Jun 16

X-Ray Astronomy: The Present

Currently Active Missions:

- Chandra (USA),
- XMM-Newton (ESA),
- INTEGRAL (ESA),
- Swift (USA),
- AGILE (Italy),
- Fermi (USA),
- MAXI (Japan),
- ASTROSAT (India),
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We are living in the "golden age" of X-ray and Gamma-Ray Astronomy MAXI J1535-571



MAXI J1535-571





Studies of X-ray binaries require the simultaneous use of multiple observational and theoretical techniques.

MAXI J1535-571

Observational needs for black hole studies in the next 20 years:

- Stellar wind physics, disk winds: high E-resolution (gratings/calorimeter) X-ray spectroscopy [few eV; underutilized!]
- Accretion disk physics: polarization, timing, CCD-type E-res. spectroscopy [100 eV'ish]
- Nature of compact objects (e.g., spin): timing [µs, ms], spectroscopy [CCD sufficient]
- Population of compact objects: surveys
- Search and monitor transients: all sky (sr) monitors, large field of regard (= ∠(Sun, opt. axis))
- States, jet physics: Broad band coverage: 0.5–150 keV

Current Facilities



Approved Facilities



Taulou and a lot

NICER



Gendreau et al., 2012, Proc. SPIE 8443



Science aim: focused on neutron star EOS (lightcurve modeling) and navigation

- successfully installed on ISS science program has started
- Eff. area: ~ 2× XMM EPIC-pn (soft X-rays)
- CCD resolution (85 eV 1 keV, 137 eV 6 keV)
- time tagging: <300 ns absolute $\implies 25 \times$ better than RXTE-PCA, $100 \times XMM$
- 5' FoV, non-imaging
- very low background
- sensitivity: $3 \times 10^{-14} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in 5–10 keV, 5 σ in 10 ks

GO programm envisaged for year 2ff.: BH QPOs, HMXB spin evolution, accretion geometry,...

NICER





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See talks by Ron Remillard and Jack Steiner for more details. IC-pn (soft X-rays) 1 keV, 137 eV 6 keV) bsolute $\implies 25 \times$ 00 × XMM

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Primary science:

- cluster cosmology (100000 clusters),
- BH evolution (2×10^6 AGN)

Strategy:

- launch: Sept 2018
- All Sky Survey to 6×10^{-14} cgs
- Deep survey (~ $100 \square^{\circ}$) to 10^{-14} cgs
- 1° FoV, moderate angular resolution (30" avg.)
- large effective area (>2000 cm² at 1 keV)
- CCD-type spectral resolution (155 eV at Fe K)



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Survey grasp: $A_{eff} \times FOV$ 0.5–2 keV: ~30× ROSAT, 2–10 keV: ~100× HEAO/RXTE





Single eROSITA survey

X-ray binaries with eROSITA:

- survey mode: 4 years, sources seen on a 6 month cadence, during this time: every 4 h for ~1 d at survey equator
- pointed observations: 3 years pointed phase (w/GO program)





Single scan sensitivity (T. Dauser)

One eRASS scan sensitivity (T. Dauser)

Sensitivity during individual scans: O(0.1 mCrab)

- \implies better than MAXI,
- \implies comparable to *RXTE*-PCA slews

 $1 \text{ Crab: } 2-10 \text{ keV: } 2.05 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ (3.2 ph); } 0.3-2 \text{ keV: } 1.01 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ (5.5 ph)}$



Counts per single (!) telescope and per single visit as function of flux (T. Hain, MSc thesis) Bright sources (>0.1 mCrab) will allow spectroscopy and variability analysis in a single slew (~minute) shown counts are without source extraction, bg subtraction [i.e., as quick and dirty as it gets]



Strategy for variability detection during survey phase:

- 1. Directly after downlink: Near Real-Time Data Analysis (NRTA)
- 2. NRTA will produce SASS-compatible raw data
- 3. Special version of SASS will run on these new data
- 4. New bright sources and strong changes in source luminosity will be flagged
- 5. If phenomenon interesting: ATEL and/or special email lists





Weisskopf et al., 2016, SPIE 9905

X-ray Polarization: expected from synchrotron emitting sources, scattering (e.g., X-ray reflection)

First mission to study X-ray polarization: IXPE: launch 2020

- $A_{eff}\sim 750\,cm^2$ in 3–6 keV
- 25" spatial res., 12.9 □' FoV

Similar technology approach also chosen for European XIPE study (identical detectors); unlikely both will be funded



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100 ks generic X-ray binary; simulations for Hitomi

XARM: planned for Japanese fiscal year 2021, replacement for Hitomi: Microcalorimeter observations of X-ray binaries will be one of the core goals Design: Hitomi microcalorimeter and CCD



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enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry (eXTP):

- Spectroscopy Focusing Array: 0.9 m² at 1 keV
- Large Area Detector: 3.4 m² at 8 keV
- Polarimetry Focusing Array: 240 cm² at 6.4 keV
- Wide Field Monitor: 3 units (4 sr FoV)



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Athena Science Objectives

Black holes, compact objects and accretion physics

Cosmic Feedback

Large-scale structure of the Universe

eesa

Astrophysics of Hot Cosmic Plasmas

Athena — Advanced Telescope for High Energy Astrophysics





Objectives

Cosmic FeedbarATHENA:

arge-scale structure of the Universe

- ESA L2-Mission
- Launch: 2028, to L2
- Two instruments:
 - Wide Field Imager (PI: Kirpal Nandra, MPE, D): CCD-type instrument
 - X-ray Integral Field Unit (PI: D. Barret, IRAP, F): Transition edge sensor w/1.5 eV resolution
- Aim: detect missing hot baryons (absorption spectroscopy [O-lines])
 - Operated as observatory proposal driven!



Athena: 2 m² effective area

(note: cost reasons will very likely force area down to $\sim 1.4 \text{ m}^2$)

- 1 Crab = 80000 counts/s ⇒ challenging BUT: very high throughput reachable through defocusing compared (WFI: dedicated sensor; X-IFU: defocusing of mirror assembly)
- telemetry limits observations to 15 ks for a 100 mCrab source = 64 million events...; Be filter or and gray filtering will increase this to 100% coverage



Fe xxiv doublet: n, T (X-IFU, 1 ks, 1 Crab black hole)

Relativistic Fe K α line in Cyg X-1 (WFI, 10 ks, 250 mCrab)

Large-scale structure

of the Universe

8

X-ray binary science with ATHENA:

- high resolution absorption spectroscopy in binaries
- relativistic Fe K α lines
- variability at very short up to ms scales



T. Dauser

Athena WFi 5 × 5 mosaic of Andromeda (200 ks total) Basis: XMM mosaic (Ms exposure; no data available outside of the galaxy) X-ray population studies will be possible w/much less exposure time than today; should make monitoring possible...



August 2017: NASA selected 3 missions for phase A studies, including ARCUS. End of phase A: May 2018

- launch ~2023 into 4:1 lunar resonant orbit 100 ks observations w/o interruption
- Soft X-ray mission; complementary to Athena in bandpass $> 450 \text{ cm}^2$), resolution $\Delta E/E > 2500$
- some TOO capabilities 3 d turnaround time

Arcus



Smith et al., 2017, SPIE

Summary

Future missions will greatly extend current capabilities, many missions also focus on X-ray binaries

- Stellar wind physics, disk winds: high E-resolution X-ray spectroscopy XMM-Newton, Chandra, NuSTAR ⇒ XARM, Athena, [Arcus, eXTP]
- Accretion flow physics: polarization, timing, CCD-type E-res.: ASTROSAT, NICER \implies IXPE, [eXTP]
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But serious problems will arise:

- Search and monitor transients eXTP, SVOM might help
- Broad band coverage: 0.5–150 keV nothing on the horizon yet ⇒ unlikely to change until the 2030s

Effective Areas



Effective Areas

