X-RAY ASTRONOMY CALIBRATION AND TESTING FACILITY



Calibration Activities for Space Missions

Design and Development of new instrumentation

LEADERSHIP

- XACT facility is active since 1993
- First activity: responsibility for the calibration and testing of Chandra HRC UV/Ion shields
- Earned very early international visibility after discovering and tracing an UV leak in the Chandra HRC filters

XACT people have been and are the reference group for design, testing and calibration of filters and thermal shields of the greatest X-ray astronomy missions. Their competence and leadership in development an calibration of space astronomy instrumentation is widely recognized and appreciated by the scientific international community.

FILTER DESIGN DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING

CHARACTERIZATIONS

MODELING

X-ray transmission spectroscopy

Filter transmission (from far IR to X-rays)

X-ray transmission spatial uniformity

Photon shot noise (by raytracing)

IR/Vis/UV spectroscopy

Thermal FEM simulations **Mechanical FEM simulations**

Pin-hole/defect analysis

RF shielding effectiveness

Differential pressure displacement

Thermo-vacuum tests

PAST CALIBRATION ACTIVITIES FOR SPACE MISSIONS

- Chandra HRC (operational since Aug. 1999)
 Calibration of the UV/Ion shields
- Newton-XMM EPIC (operational since Dec. 1999)
 Calibration of the thin and medium filters
- HINODE XRT (operational since Sept. 2006)
 - Calibration of the focal plane filters
 Reflectivity measurements of flat mirror samples
- Chang'E-1 LOXIA (operational from October 2007 to March 2009)
 - Calibration of the detector Energy Resolution
 Calibration of the detector QE vs. energy and angle of incidence
- CORONAS-PHOTON SPHINX (operational since January 2009 to Aprile 2010)
 Calibration of detector Energy Resolution and pulse height linearity
 Calibration of the detector QE vs. energy and angle of incidence
- Simbol-X XRT: Telescope Thermal Shields
- LOFT LAD (ESA M3 candidate): optical blocking filter (80 mm x 120 mm)
- Telescope Thermal Shields

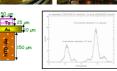
SPHINX on board CORONAS PHOTONS

HINODE XRT Filters

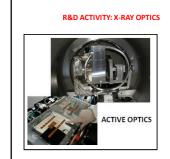
R&D ACTIVITY: X-RAY MICROCALORIMETERS

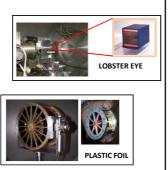


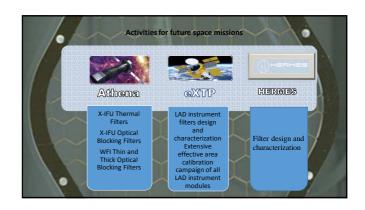












TRASVERSALITA` e INTERDISCIPLINARIETA`

- Attività trasversale a tutti i campi dell'astrofisica delle altre energie
- Partecipazione all'hardware delle missioni spaziali maggior accesso ai dati
- Interdisciplinarietà di competenze concretizzata in attività di terza missione Fotovoltaico ad alta efficienza con recupero termico Turbine idroeletriche per recupero di energia negli acquedotti Covid-19: sistema su pallone frenato per monitoraggio assembramenti
- XACT è inclusa nel progetto AHEAD





