

# The Universe in X-rays:

## Overview of HW#1

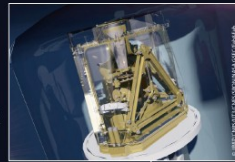
**ATHENA** – **A**dvanced **T**elescope for **H**igh **E**Nergy **A**strophysics, **2037???**

### Fundamental questions - ATHENA mission

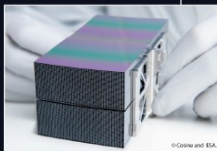
#### The Athena X-ray observatory

Ariane 6  
L1 orbit  
4 years nominal mission  
+ possible extensions  
ToO response  $\leq 4$  hrs

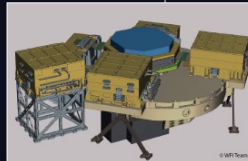
X-ray Integral Field Unit:  
 $\Delta E$ : 2.5 eV  
Field of view: 5 arcmin  
Operating temperature: 50 mK



Silicon Pore Optics:  
1.4 m<sup>2</sup> at 1 keV  
5 arcsec HEW  
Focal length: 12 m  
Sensitivity:  $3 \cdot 10^{-17}$  erg cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>



Wide Field Imager:  
 $\Delta E$ :  $< 80$  eV at 1keV  
Field of view: 40 arcmin  
Small/Fast detector for bright sources



- How does the large scale structure in the Universe form and evolve?
- How do black hole grow and help shape the Universe?
- How and when are the chemical elements formed?

Athena is an observatory with  $\sim 500$  projects/year:

- Stars, exoplanets, pulsars, neutron stars, gravitational wave events, galaxies
- Unprecedented discovery space



# Missing information: resolutions, sensitivity, science goals

## AGILE: X-ray and gamma ray astronomical satellite

**Sarthak Choudhary**

PhD Student  
AstroCeNT  
CAMK PAN

## Introduction

- Operated by Italian Space Agency
- Launched: 23 April, 2007
- Energy range:
  - Gamma ray (30 MeV- 50 GeV)
  - hard X-ray (18-60 keV)
- Fast gamma-ray alert monitoring system
- independent pipelines :
  - Fast pipeline: generates alert within 0.5–1 hour from the time of the last GRID event acquired in orbit.
  - Slow pipeline: more accurate but the alerts are generated 3–3.5 hours after last GRID event acquired in orbit.



AGILE satellite model  
Ref: Wikimedia commons

## Instruments

**Instrument name:** Gamma Ray Imaging Detector (GRID):

Energy range: 30 MeV- 50 GeV

**Instrument name:** SuperAGILE

It's a coded mask imaging X-ray telescope.

Energy range: 18-60 keV

Detector type: Silicon strip detector

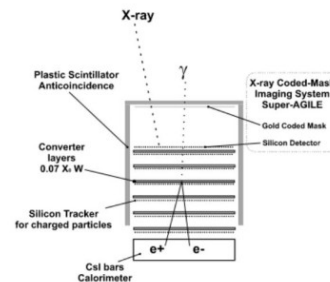


Fig. 1. Description and working principle of the AGILE instrument.

Ref: Astronomy & Astrophysics, 558, A37

## References

- <https://agile.asdc.asi.it/>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AGILE\\_\(satellite\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AGILE_(satellite))
- The AGILE silicon tracker: testbeam results of the prototype silicon detector, 2002NIMPA.490..146B [doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002\(02\)01062-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0168-9002(02)01062-8)

# To improve: time resolution, energy resolution, science goals, hard to read figure's text.

## ASTROSAT - India's First Multi-Wavelength Astronomy Satellite

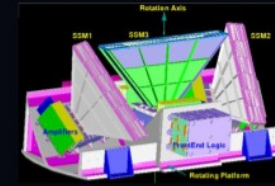


1. Large Area X-ray Proportional Counter (LAXPC)
2. Soft X-ray Telescope (SXT)
3. Cadmium-Zinc-Telluride Imager (CZTI)
4. Scanning Sky Monitor (SSM)
5. Ultra Violet Imaging Telescope (UVIT)

### Science instruments of interest for the observers of X-ray sky

i) SXT ii) CZTI iii) LAXPC

Picture credits: Astronomical Society of India



### Scanning Sky Monitor

- 3 position sensitive proportional counters
- Energy range: 2-10 KeV
- FOV: 10 deg x 90 deg
- Sensitivity: 30 mCrab at 5 min integration
- Angular Resolution: ~ 10 arc min

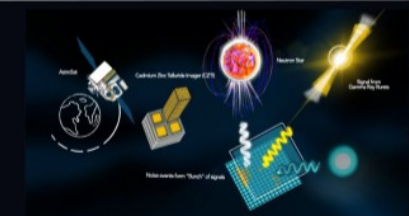


### Large Area X-ray Proportional Counters

- Made for X-ray timing and low-res spectral studies
- Energy range: 3-80 KeV
- FOV: 1 deg x 1 deg
- Sensitivity: 0.1 mCrab at 10<sup>4</sup> sec integration
- Angular Resolution: ~ 10 arc min

### Soft X-ray imaging Telescope

- Main goal: X-Ray Imaging
- Energy range: 0.3-8 KeV
- FOV: 41.3 deg x 41.3 deg
- 4.13 arc sec per pixel
- Sensitivity: 10  $\mu$ Crab
- Position accuracy: 30 arc sec



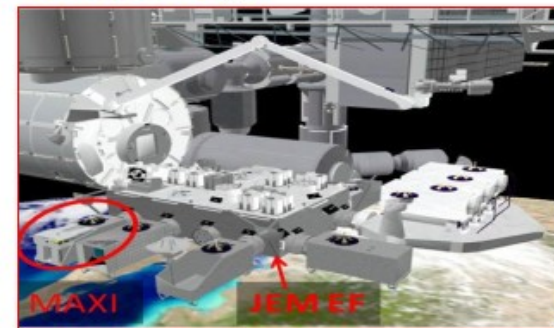
### Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager

- Hard X-ray Imager
- Energy range: 10-150 KeV
- FOV: 6° x 6° (<100 KeV); 17° x 17° (>100 KeV)
- Sensitivity: 30 mCrab at 5 min integration
- Angular Resolution: ~ 8 arc min (<100 KeV)

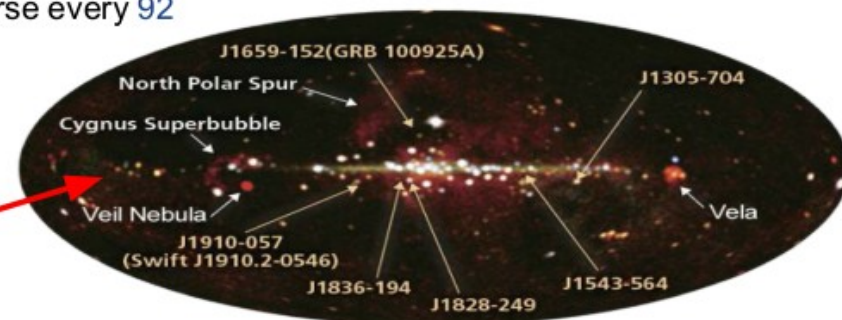
To improve:  
time resolution,  
energy resolution,  
angular resolution,  
science goals.

## “MAXI” or Monitor of All-Sky X-ray Image

- Installed on the *International Space station* (ISS) as part of *Japanese Experiment Module Exposed Facility* (JEM-EF or Kibo-EF)
- Energy range of observation: 0.5 - 30 KeV
- Operational from August, 2009 - Present
- Observes the X-ray universe every 92 minutes



All sky X-ray map by MAXI with four year-exposure showing several individual sources and other x-ray soft structures



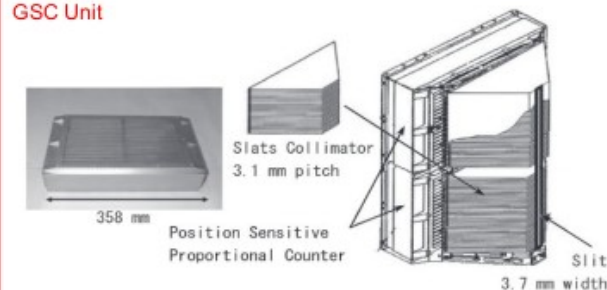
## Detectors

Image source: MATSUOKA et al 2009

### Gas Slit Cameras (GSC)

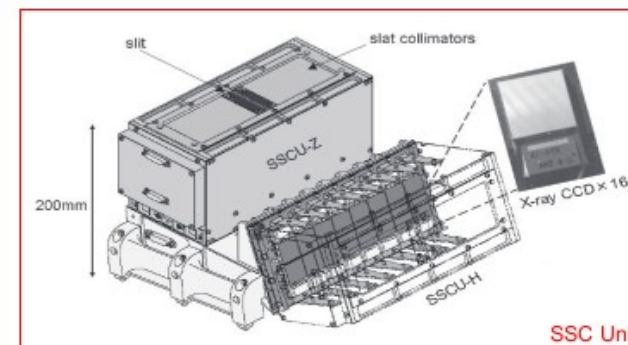
- 1-D position-sensitive gas PC with  $10\mu\text{m}$  carbon anode wires + slit & slit collimators
- Xenon at 1.4 atmospheres with 1% CO<sub>2</sub>
- Overall 12 such counters with a total effective area  $5350\text{ cm}^2$
- Operates in 2-30 KeV range

GSC Unit



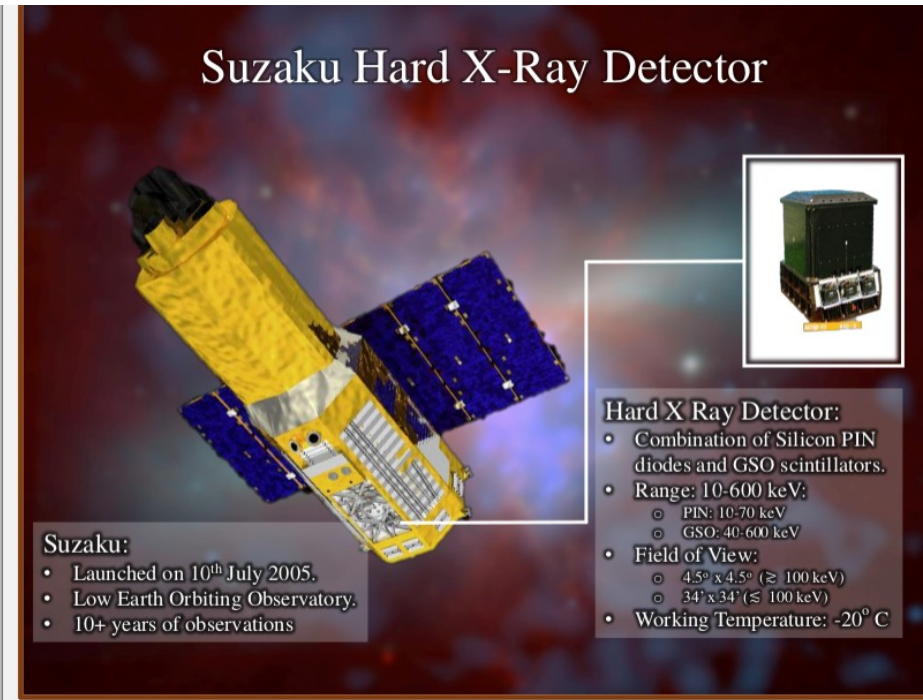
### Solid State Slit Camera (SSC)

- Total 32 Peltier-cooled X-ray sensitive CCD chips + slit and slit collimators
- The pixel size is  $24 \times 24\ \mu\text{m}$ , and there are total of  $1024 \times 1024$  pixels.
- Total effective area  $\sim 200\text{ cm}^2$
- Operates in 0.5-15 keV range



SSC Unit

# To improve: resolutions, sensitivity, detectors never worked together.



## Suzaku-Mission HXD:

- Suzaku (aka Astro-E2) is recovery mission for lost Astro-E mission.
- The HXD installed in Suzaku is similar to Astro-E mission with minor developments in sensors and analogue electronics.
- The HXD is a non imaging **High resolution X-Ray Spectrometer**.
- The HXD was one of the most sensitive instrument (with low background) of that time with a wide observing range.
- Main Aim:
  - **Active Galactic Nuclei Spectra**
  - **Cataclysmic Variables**
  - **Probe Strong Gravity** etc..
- An example of **HXD X-Ray Spectrum** is shown in Figure 1 of the galaxy **Centaurus-A**.

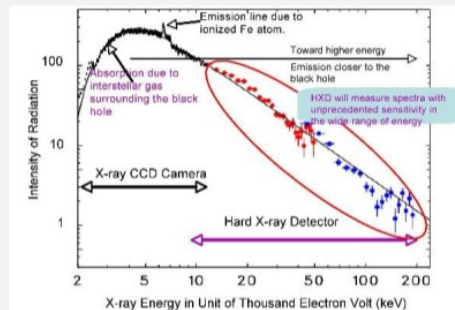


Figure 1: X-Ray Spectrum of Centaurus A. The red points represent the results observed by the Silicon PIN diode while the blue dots represent the GSO crystal observations.

## References:

- Tadayuki Takahashi, *et al.* . Hard X-Ray Detector (HXD) on Board Suzaku. Publications of the Astronomical Society of Japan, 59(sp1):S35–S51, 01 2007.
- [http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/presentation/Download/2005\\_Einstein\\_Takahashi.pdf](http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/presentation/Download/2005_Einstein_Takahashi.pdf)
- [http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/presentation/Download/suzaku\\_2006\\_aas\\_stellar.pdf](http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/presentation/Download/suzaku_2006_aas_stellar.pdf)

## Images Credits:

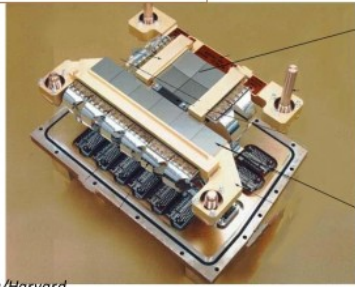
- Background Image: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/83/M82\\_Chandra\\_HST\\_Spitzer.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/83/M82_Chandra_HST_Spitzer.jpg)
- Suzaku: [https://www.isas.jaxa.jp/en/missions/files/suzaku\\_main.jpg](https://www.isas.jaxa.jp/en/missions/files/suzaku_main.jpg)
- HXD: <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/gallery/instruments/hxd.html>
- Figure 1: <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/gallery/science/hxd1st.html>

# To improve: resolutions, sensitivity, put in the context of the whole mission.

## CHANDRA Advanced CCD Imaging Spectrometer (ACIS)

Each chip  
1024 × 1024 pixels  
8' × 8' FOV

Maximum six CCD can be ON at a time  
Different configurations possible



*Credits: Chandra/Harvard*

4 Imaging Chips

Front Illuminated  
Total FOV: 16' X 16'

6 Spectroscopic  
chips

Can be used with gratings

4 Front Illuminated  
2 Black Illuminated

Maximum read-out-rate per channel ~ 100 kpix/sec  
Detector operating temperature -90 to -120°C

## Science with ACIS

- Better Sensitivity than previous X-ray missions
- Detailed study of black holes, Supernovae and Dark Matter
- Spectroscopic CCD array with gratings give highest resolutions for detailed study of motions through Doppler line shifts in supernova remnants, X-ray binaries
- Allows detailed study of jets

To improve:  
mark where  
is the IBIS,  
less text.

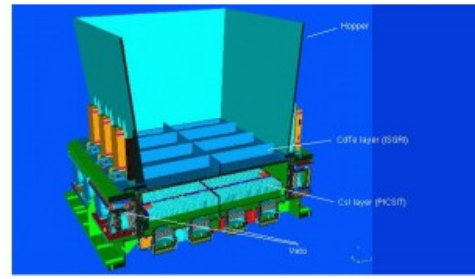
## INTEGRAL IBIS

### IBIS: IMAGER ON BOARD THE INTEGRAL SATELLITE

**Principal Investigator:**  
Pietro Ubertini, INAF/IASF-Rome Italy

**Co-Principal Investigators:**  
Philippe Laurent, CEA-Saclay, France  
Guido DiCocco, INAF/IASF-Bologna, Italy

**with collaborating scientific institutes in Italy**  
(INAF/IASF-Rome, INAF/IASF-Bologna,  
INAF/IASF-Palermo), France (CEA Saclay),  
Norway (U Bergen), Germany (U Tübingen),  
Spain (U Valencia), USA (NASA/MSFC  
Huntsville), Poland (Space Research Centre,  
Warsaw), UK (U Southampton).



The scientific goals of INTEGRAL are addressed through the use of high resolution spectroscopy with fine imaging and accurate positioning of celestial sources in the gamma-ray domain.

Some of the topics addressed by Integral are:

**Compact Objects:** White Dwarfs, Neutron Stars, Black Hole Candidates, High Energy Transients

**Extragalactic Astronomy:** Galaxies, Clusters, AGN, Seyferts, Blazars, Cosmic Diffuse Background

**Nucleosynthesis Studies:** Hydrostatic Nucleosynthesis (AGB, WR Stars), Explosive Nucleosynthesis (Supernovae, Novae)

**The Galactic Centre:** Sgr A\*, diffuse emission, monitoring the Galactic Centre and Bulge

**Gamma-Ray Bursts:** Alerts, GRB properties

**Classification and Identification of High Energy Sources:** Source Catalogues, Identifying Gamma-Ray Objects

**PLUS:** Unexpected Discoveries (Obscured sources, Supergiant Fast X-ray Transients, hard tails from magnetars)

### OVERVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC CAPABILITIES OF IBIS

Energy range	15 keV - 10 MeV
Detector area	2600 cm <sup>2</sup> (CdTe - Cadmium Telluride) 3000 cm <sup>2</sup> (CsI - Caesium Iodide)
Spectral energy resolution (FWHM)	8% @ 100 keV 10% @ 1 MeV
Field of view	8.3° x 8.0° (fully coded) 29.1° x 29.4° (down to zero response)
Angular resolution	12' FWHM
Point source location accuracy (90% error radius)	30" @ 100 keV (50σ source) 3' @ 100 keV (5σ source) 5-10' @ 1 MeV (5σ source)
Continuum sensitivity*	2.85e-6 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> keV) [3σ in 10e5 s, @ 100 keV, ΔE = E/2] 1.6e-6 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> keV) [3σ in 10e5 s, @ 1 MeV, ΔE = E/2]
Line sensitivity*	1.9e-5 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> 3σ in 10e6 s, @ 100 keV) 3.8e10-4 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> 3σ in 10e6 s, @ 1 MeV)
Timing accuracy	61 μs - 1 hr
Typical source location	30" @ 100 keV (50 sigma source) 3' @ 100 keV (5 sigma source)
Resources (following EID-A allocation):	
Mass	677 kg (+ 96 kg for tube inside PLM)
Power (sun/eclipse)	240/0 W
Data rate (solar maximum)	59.8 kbps
Date rate (solar minimum)	56.8 kbp

\* The sensitivities are based on in-flight background measurements.

To improve:  
time and  
angular resolution,  
clear science goal.

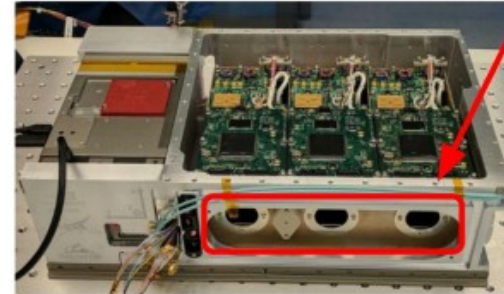
**Scientific goal:** survey the distribution of hot gas in the Milky Way and constrain the mass and geometry of the Galactic **halo**.

- A small satellite launched and operated by University of Iowa as part of ISS supply mission
- The observing strategy was to divide the sky into 334 positions and acquire a minimum of 8000 detector-seconds for each position.
- Operating from October 15, 2018, up to September 29, 2020, effectively **doubling the mission life time**.

a non-focusing instrument, comprised of **three independent silicon drift detectors**

- Energy range : 0.4–7.0 keV
- Field of view : 10 deg diameter
- Energy Resolution : ~85 eV at 677 eV and ~137 eV at 5895 eV.

## HaloSat



HaloSat - without its top cover



HaloSat and ISS

## HaloSat

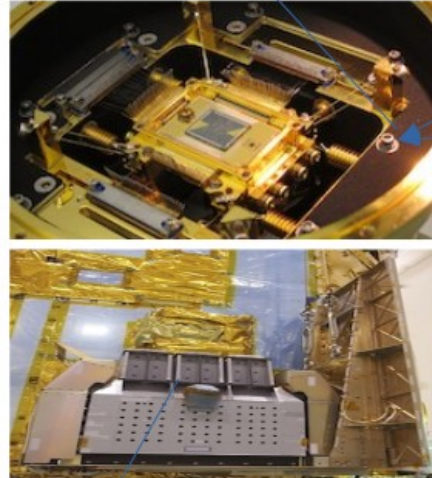


HaloSat in space - artistic vision



To improve:  
time and  
angular resolution  
not for all  
instruments,  
but I agree it was  
hard,  
clear science goal  
in the form of  
questions.

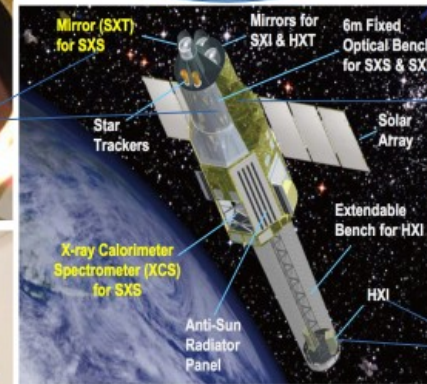
Soft X-ray Spectrometer (SXS):  
2 components (X-ray telescope, SXT-a  
lightweight mirror and X-ray calorimeter, XCS).  
XCS is a 6x6 array, has non-dispersive 7 eV  
resolution in the 0.3-10 keV bandpass with  
FOV of 3°.



Soft Gamma-ray Detector (SGD): a  
non-focusing hard X-ray detector with a  
50-600 keV energy range and  
sensitivity at 100 keV, about 10 times  
better than the Suzaku HXD

# HITOMI

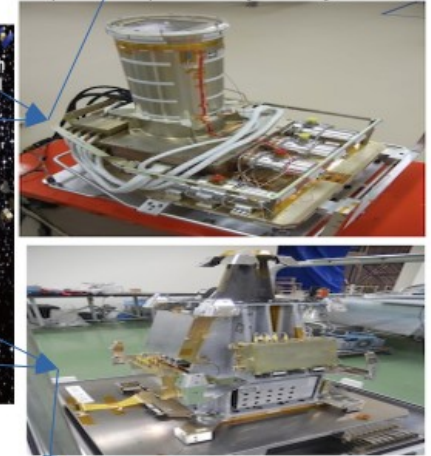
By  
Christian Eze  
CAMK PAN



- JAXA H-IIA
- Low earth orbit
- Energy range: 0.3-600keV
- 4 instruments: SXS, SXI, HXI, SGD
- Launched on Feb. 17, 2016
- Lost contact with earth on March 27, 2016

Image credit: [https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/hitomi/gallery/insr\\_gallery.html](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/hitomi/gallery/insr_gallery.html)

Soft X-ray Imager (SXI):  
- a 6-m focal length imaging mirror with a diameter  
of about 45cm and a CCD camera with next  
generation Hamamatsu CCD chips. It also has a  
cooler, an improved quantum efficiency and an  
optimized response for higher energies.



Hard X-ray Imager (HXI): 2 identical mirror-detector  
pairs (an 5-80 keV energy range). The detector is a  
hybrid double sided silicon strip (DSSD) CdTe pixel  
array. 9 arcmin x 9 arcmin FOV, spectral resolution of  
1 keV at 60 keV, and timing accuracy of < 10msec;  
operated at 20Å±5C.

## Hitomi mission objectives

### A. Study of the structure of the universe

How do black hole develop, and how do they impact the surroundings ?

How are galaxy clusters created and how do they evolve ?

When were heavy elements in the universe created , and how much ?

### B. Study of the physics in extreme conditions

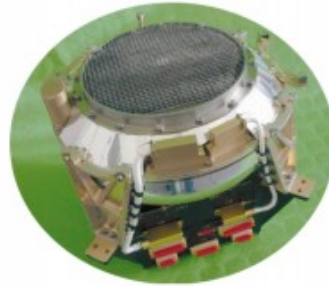
What physical phenomena are occurring in extreme conditions with high  
density and strong magnetic fields?

Is space time really distorted near black holes?

Where and how are cosmic rays created?

To improve:  
science goal.

# JEM-X



Complete JEM-X unit  
(image: *JEM-X: The X-ray monitor aboard INTEGRAL*, N. Lund et al.)

**INTEGRAL** is dedicated to the detailed studies of celestial objects in the gamma ray region. The primary role of **JEM-X** on **INTEGRAL** is to **extend the energy range** covered by the gamma-ray instruments from their thresholds of 20 to 30 keV downward to about **3 keV**.

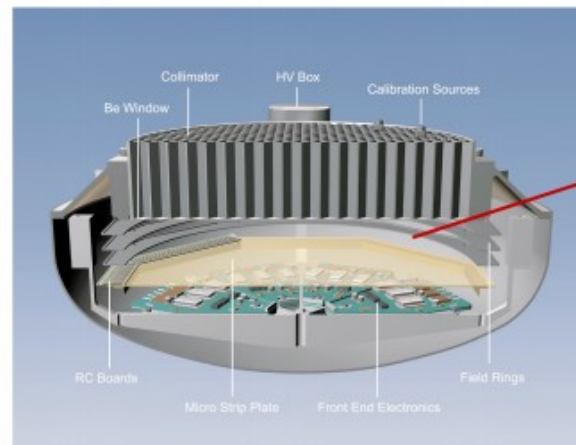
**JEM-X (Joint European X-Ray Monitor)** is a coded aperture instrument consisting of two identical, coaligned telescopes. The baseline photon detection system consists of two high pressure **imaging microstrip gas chambers** (90% Xenon + 10% Methane, 1.5 bar). Each detector unit views the sky through its **coded aperture mask** located at a distance of 3.2 m above the detection plane. The **collimators** limit the Field-of-View (FOV) and act as a supports for the thin beryllium windows against the internal pressure of the detectors . Data acquisition is carried out by **readout chains** (RC Boards).

sources

<https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/integral/integralgof.html>

N. Lund et al 1998 Phys. Scr. 1998 39 Physica Scripta *JEM-X: Joint European X-Ray Monitor*

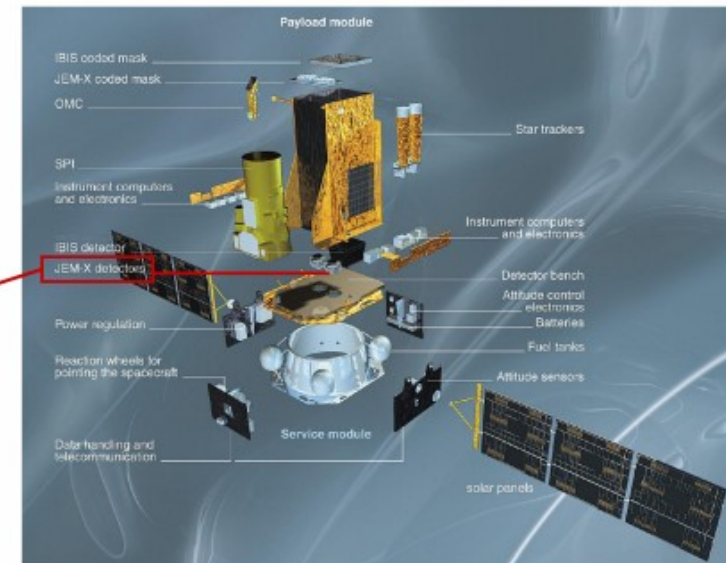
N. Lund et al *A&A* Volume 411, Number 1, November III 2003 *JEM-X: The X-ray monitor aboard INTEGRAL*



Cut-away drawing of the JEM-X detector (image: *JEM-X: The X-ray monitor aboard INTEGRAL*, N. Lund et al.)

## Main characteristics and performance parameters

Timeframe	Launched in October of 2002 and still working.
Energy range	3 - 35 keV
Energy resolution	1.3 keV @ 10 keV $\frac{\Delta E}{E} = 0.40 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{E[\text{keV}]} + \frac{1}{60} \right)^{1/2}$
Angular resolution	3 arcminute
Field of view (diameter)	4.8° fully coded FOV
Continuum sensitivity (3 $\sigma$ in 10 <sup>5</sup> s, @ 6 keV)	1.2 x E-4 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> keV)
Line sensitivity (3 $\sigma$ in 10 <sup>5</sup> s, @ 6 keV)	1.6 x E-4 ph/(s cm <sup>2</sup> )
Timing accuracy (3 $\sigma$ )	122 $\mu$ s
Source location (15 $\sigma$ isolated source)	< 1' (90% confidence)
Mask diameter	535 mm
Detector diameter	250 mm
Mask-detector distance	3 401 mm



The INTEGRAL spacecraft (image credit: INTEGRAL consortium).

To improve: image of the miss science goal very general, time and angular resolution.

Points done well: CCD and MPE :)

# eROSITA

CLEA SUNNY  
ASTROCENT

## eROSITA Detectors

- eROSITA (Extended Roentgen Survey with an Imaging Telescope Array) is the core instrument on the Spectrum-Roentgen-Gamma (SRG) mission.
- Its scientific goal is the exploration of the X-ray Universe in the energy band from about 0.3 keV upto 10 keV with excellent energy, time and spatial resolution and large effective telescope area.
- The eROSITA telescope consists of seven identical Wolter-1 mirror modules. Each module contains 54 nested mirror shells in order to meet the required sensitivity.
- A novel detector system has been developed by Max Planck Institute of Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE) on the basis of the successful XMM-Newton pnCCD technology.
- For the detection of the single X-ray photons with high resolution, adequate frame transfer pnCCDs and the associated front-end electronics have been developed.
- The back-illuminated, 450  $\mu\text{m}$  thick and fully depleted pnCCDs with a 3 cm  $\times$  3 cm large image area have been produced in the course of further development of the XMM-Newton X-ray pnCCDs.

## eROSITA Detectors

- The eROSITA chip is tailored to the requirement of the project such as the number of pixels, pixel size, the optional blocking filter, and a frame store section.
- All eROSITA pnCCDs were tested at chip-level including spectroscopic performance with a Fe-55 source by means of a unique so-called cold chuck probe station. Based on these results, seven best CCDs are selected for the eROSITA focal plane cameras.
- An analogue signal processor with 128 parallel channels has been developed for readout of the pnCCD signals. This ASIC permits fast and low-noise signal filtering.
- Even at the low X-ray energy of 280 eV, a spectrum of Gaussian shape with a FWHM of 52 eV is measured.
- A flight-like eROSITA camera has been assembled after successful development and the verification of the CCD and its signal processor chip.

To improve:

one full slide “lost” for  
science goal,

time resolution,

LOGOs important !

## The Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer



- Three identical grazing incidence telescopes (4 m focal length)
- X-ray-polarization-sensitive detector
  - Gas Pixel Detector
  - Position-dependent and energy-dependent polarization maps
  - 12.9 arcmin square FOV
  - Angular resolution  $\leq 25$  arcsec
  - Energy resolution (FWHM) 0.57 keV @ 2 keV ( $\propto \sqrt{E}$ )
  - Energy range 2-8 KeV
- Pointing mode
- X-ray polarimetry
- Polarimetric images
- Simultaneous spectral, spatial, and temporal measurements
- 9/12/2021 – 2024

Equatorial orbit at 600 km altitude



## Objectives

- Emission mechanisms and geometry of AGNs
- Magnetars
- Pulsars
- How particles are accelerated in pulsar wind nebula

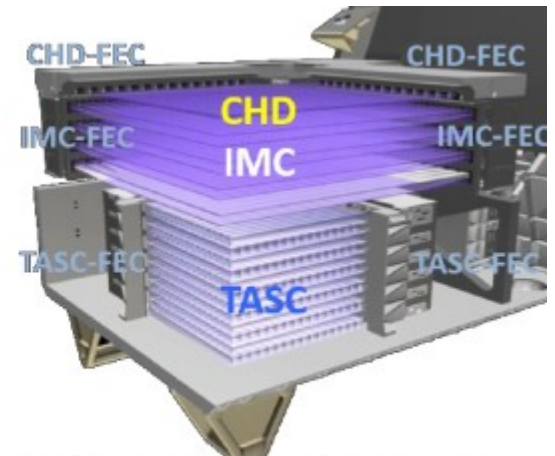
To improve: all resolutions, looks like slide from net.

## CALET in a nutshell

- Mission has started in 2015 and it is still ongoing.
- It is part of the International Space Station.
- With an energy range between 7 keV and 1 TeV is aimed to study high-energy photons and cosmic ray particle detection.

### Soft Gamma-ray Monitor (SGM)

- Bismuth germanate scintillation detector sensitive at energies from 100 keV to 20 MeV
- 102 mm diameter → 8 sr field of view

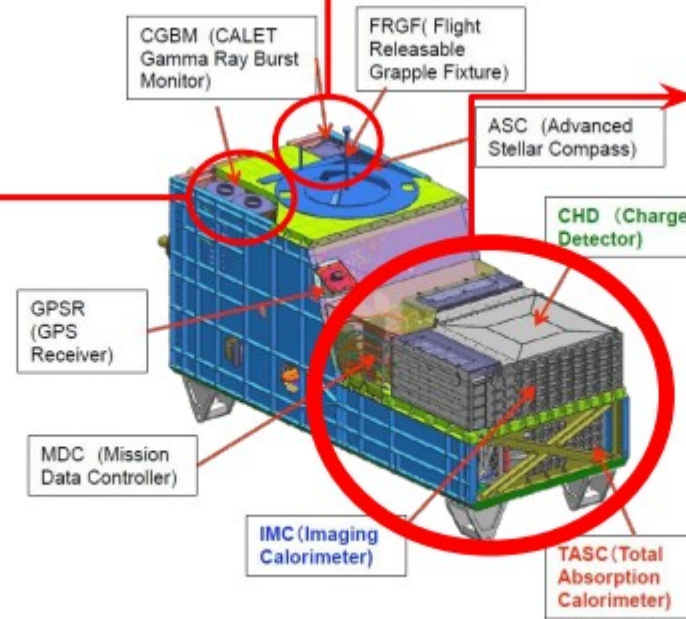


**The CALET Calorimeter (CCAL)**  
Measures the cosmic-ray total electron spectrum from 1 GEV up to the TeV region. Build of:

- Charge Detector (CHD) – plastic scintillator hodoscope for absolute charge measurement (between 1 and ~40 Z)
- IMaging Calorimeter (IMC) – sampling calorimeter
- Total AbSorption Calorimeter (TASC) – lead tungstate hodoscope.

### Hard X-ray Monitor (HXR)

- Two identical units of lanthanum bromide scintillation detector sensitive at energies from 7 to 1000 keV
- 61 mm diameter → 3 sr field of view



To improve:  
time resolution,  
angular resolution,  
looks like slide  
from net.

# NICER

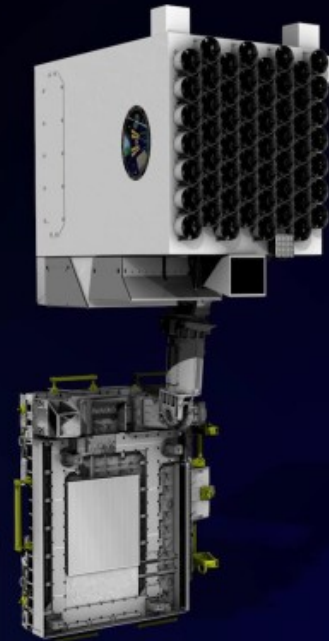
Neutron star Interior Composition Explorer



## What is inside a neutron star?



- Large effective area:  $\sim 1900 \text{ cm}^2$  at 1.5 keV
- Broad Bandpass:  $0.2 < E < 12.0 \text{ keV}$
- Absolute timing precision of  $< 300 \text{ ns}$
- Moderate spectral Resolution:  $6 < E/\Delta E < 80$  from 0.5 keV to 8 keV
- Restricted field of view:  $30 \text{ arcmin}^2$



NICER provides high-precision measurements of the structure, dynamics, and energetics of neutron stars (NSs) through observations in "soft" X-rays. NICER seeks to:

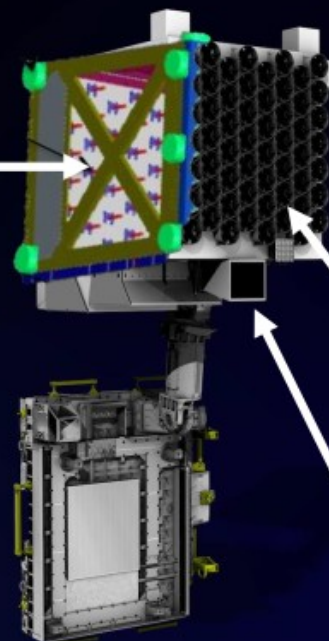
- Make **mass** and **radius** determinations by measuring fast X-ray brightness variations. Which allows constraining the **equation of state**.
- Explore the **maximum spin rate** of neutron stars and establish the **spin stability** of millisecond-period pulsars.
- Characterize **outbursts** and **spin variations** from dynamic phenomena associated with NSs.
- Define the **physical properties of the solid crusts of NSs**, by measuring temperatures and detecting natural vibration frequencies in star-quakes.
- Determine **X-ray radiation patterns and spectra**, especially in relation to emissions in other wavelength bands such as radio and gamma-ray, to test models of radiation.

# NICER

Neutron star Interior Composition Explorer

## The Focal Plane Modules (FPM)

Each XRC concentrates X-rays onto the 2mm aperture of one of 56 Focal Plane Modules (FPM) at the XTI backplane. Each FPM consists of an Amptek SDD with a preamplifier enclosed into a metal housing that is bolted to the XTI backplane. The active area of each FPM is restricted to a 2mm aperture to minimize diffuse-sky background and source confusion, while also improving the timing performance of the SDD



## The X-ray Timing Instrument (XTI)

The XTI is an aligned collection of 56 X-ray "concentrator" optics (XRC). Each XRC collects X-rays over a region of the sky of  $\sim 30 \text{ arcmin}^2$  and focuses them onto a small silicon drift detectors (SDD). Together, this assemblage provides a high signal-to-noise-ratio photon-counting capability within the 0.2 – 12 keV X-ray band, well matched to the typical spectra of NSs as well as a broad collection of other astrophysical sources.

## The X-ray Concentrators (XRC)

Each of the X-ray Concentrators (XRCs) consists of 24 nested parabolic gold-coated thin foil mirrors. After bouncing off the XRC mirrors, the X-rays are concentrated onto the 2mm aperture of a Focal Plane Module at the instrument backplane.

Star-tracker-based pointing system allows the XTI to point to and track celestial targets over nearly a full hemisphere

To improve:  
time resolution,  
angular resolution,  
indicate the position

## Chandra LETG

**LETG - the Low Energy Transmission Grating provides:**

- the highest spectral resolving power ( $E/\Delta E > 1000$ ) on Chandra at low energies: 0.07-0.15 keV
- moderate resolving power ( $E/\Delta E \sim 20\lambda$ ) at higher energies: 0.25-4.13 keV

### Scientific Objectives

The LETG is most commonly used for studies of bright point sources. The prime candidates for study in the Galaxy are **stellar coronae, white dwarf atmospheres, X-ray binaries, and cataclysmic variables**. Extragalactic sources include relatively bright **active galactic nuclei** and cooling flows in **clusters of galaxies**.

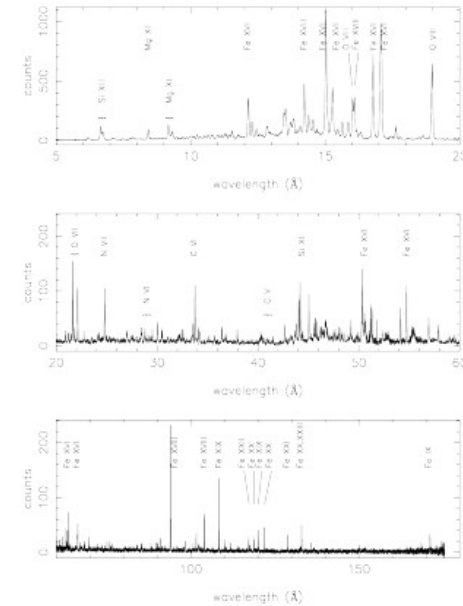
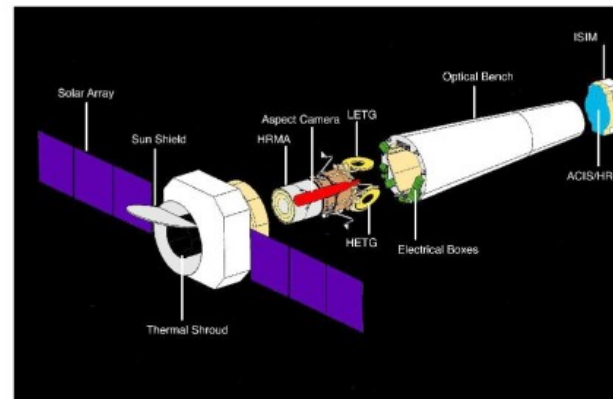


Fig. Extracted LETGS spectrum of Capella (Brinkman et al. 2000, ApJ, 530, L111).

Source: <https://cxc.harvard.edu/cal/Letg/>; <https://cxc.harvard.edu/proposer/POG/html/chap9.html>

## Chandra LETG



### Instruments of LETG:

The primary detector designed for use with the Chandra LETG is High Resolution Camera spectroscopic array **HRC-S**.

The spectroscopic array of the Chandra CCD Imaging Spectrometer **ACIS-S** can be used as well, though with lower quantum efficiency below  $\sim 0.6$  keV and a smaller detectable wavelength range.

- **LETG/HRC-S** wavelength range: 1.2- 175 Å, energy range: 0.070-10.0 keV
- **LETG/ACIS-S** wavelength range: 1.2-60 Å, energy range: 0.2-10.0 keV

Source: <https://cxc.harvard.edu/cal/Letg/>; <https://cxc.harvard.edu/proposer/POG/html/chap9.html> and <https://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao/workshop/oct08/talks/huenemoerder.pdf>

To improve:  
energy resolution – hard  
for energetic photons,  
indicate the position of  
the detector.

## FERMI Gamma-Ray Telescope **G**amma-ray **B**urst Monitor (**G****B****M**)

**Large Area Telescope (LAT)**  
Filter out cosmic rays to detect gamma-rays

- Pair-production instrument
- Energy Range: 20 MeV to >300 GeV
- Field of View: 2.4 steradians
- Single photon angular resolution: <math><1^\circ</math> at 1 GeV
- Timing accuracy: 1 microsecond

**Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope**

- Launched on 11 June, 2008
- 28° inclined orbit at 535 km altitude
- Two instruments: LAT and GBM
- Every orbit takes 96 minutes and it scans the entire gamma-ray sky every two orbits
- Typically operates in the survey mode

**Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM)**  
Low-energy Detectors (NaI, 12 detectors)

- NaI detectors for X-rays from 8keV to gamma-rays up to 1MeV
- GBM uses it to detect burst locations

High-energy Detectors (BGO, 2 detectors)

- Bismuth Germanium Oxide
- From 150 keV to about 40 MeV

**Gamma-ray Burst Monitor (GBM)**

- NaI and BGO Scintillators
- Energy Range: 6 keV to 40 MeV
- Field of View: 9.5 steradians
- Gamma-ray burst localisation: typical  $3^\circ$
- Timing accuracy: 2 microseconds

### Science Cases

- Gamma-ray Burst Events
- Solar Flares
- Gamma-ray Millisecond Pulsars (The first observation)
- Novae
- Synergy with LIGO and VIRGO for Gws
- Active Galaxies
- Supernova Remnants (SNRs)
- Cosmic-ray Sources (e.g. shock waves in a SNR)
- Galactic Center
- Fermi Bubbles



To improve:  
 energy resolution,  
 taken from net,  
 already summary,  
 Nutshell is a plan for  
 future mission.



### ROentgen SATellite (ROSAT) - general

- X-ray telescope
- Launched in 1990
- Collaboration between Germany, United States and United Kingdom
- Initially planned for 18 months, **lasted 8.5 years**
- Largest mirror with diameter of 83cm, focal length: 2.4m
- Angular resolution: <math><5''</math>
- Sensitivity range 0.1-2.4 keV
- Satellite carried also 0.06-0.2 keV telescope
- Detectors:
  - Position Sensitive Proportional Counters (x2)
  - High Resolution Imager (HRI)
  - Wide-field camera (observing in extreme ultraviolet range)

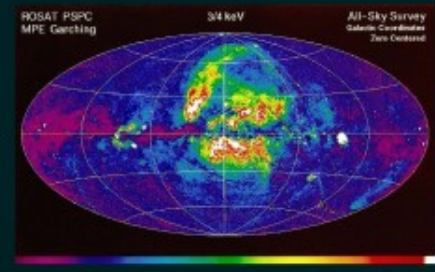
The aim was to perform first-time full sky observations in X-rays



### ROentgen SATellite (ROSAT) - science

ROSAT mission lead to discovery of ~125 000 X-ray sources (25 times more than all previous X-ray satellites)

- Most of mission time: observing selected targets
- Diffuse galactic X-ray emission was mapped with <math><1'</math> resolution
- Observation of outflow from starbursts galaxies
- Helped to better understand mechanism of X-ray emission and the role of gas and stars in galaxies and intergalactic medium
- Investigating evolution of galaxy clusters even at  $z>2$

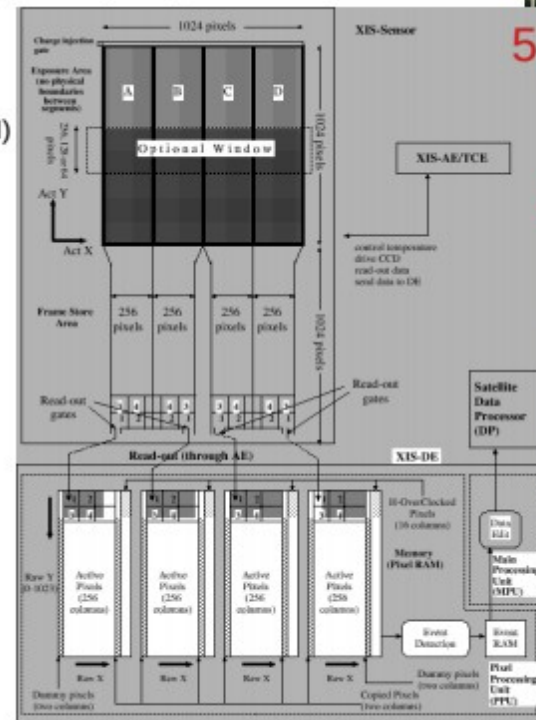
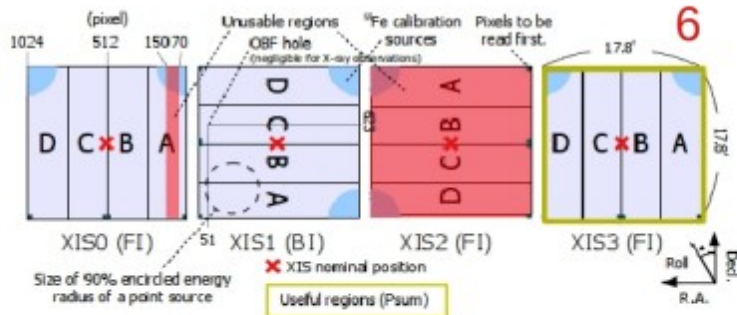
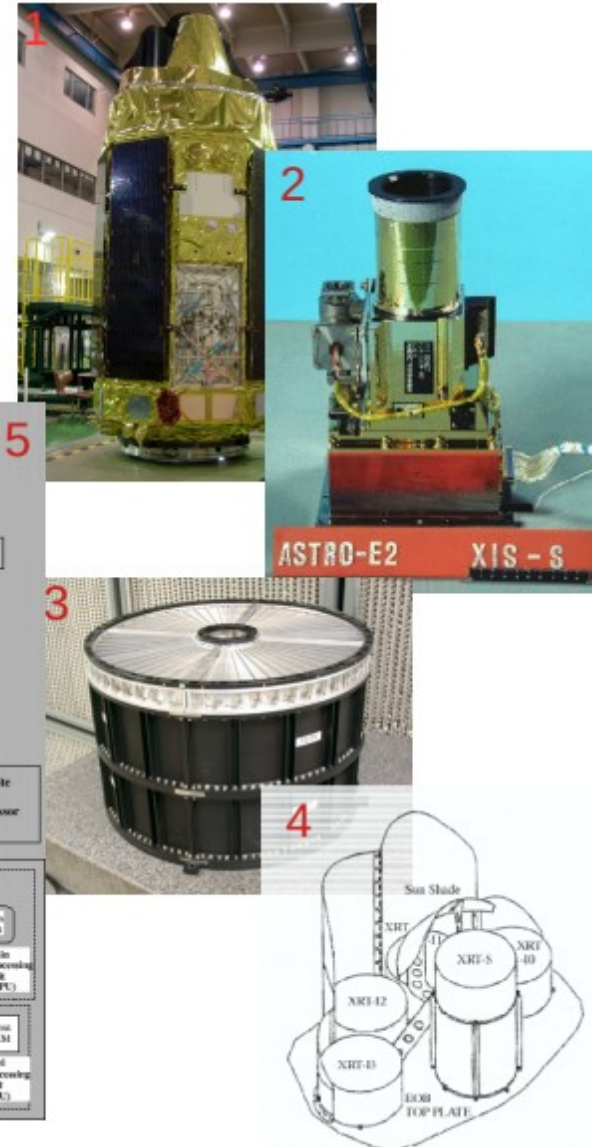


Equal-area projection of ROSAT sky map in 0.5-0.9 keV

# To improve: all resolutions, looks like slide from net, science goals?

## Suzaku XIS (X-Ray Imaging Spectrometer)

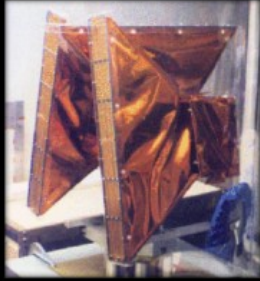
- Instrument launched on Suzaku X-ray astronomy satellite (Astro-E2) (Fig. 1) developed jointly by JAXA and NASA and launched on 10.07.2005.
- Suzaku XIS weight 48.7kg, power consumption 67 W, bus voltage 50 V.
- Instrument is combined of four Si-based X-ray charge coupled device (CCD) cameras (one sensor on Fig. 2).
- In the x-ray sensor photons are converted to electricity via photoelectric absorption, the energy of photon is measured as amount of charge produced.
- Each XIS have its own, independent X-Ray telescope (XRT) (Fig. 3), mirror diameter 399mm, focal length 4.75m, weight 19.5kg. This gives four XRT in total used by XIS, layout of telescopes on Suzaku satellite could be found on (Fig. 4), XRT-I0, XRT-I1, XRT-I2, and XRT-I3 are telescopes for XIS instrument. Imaging area is exposed to the sky for observations, while frame storage area is shielded.
- Each CCD camera has single CCD chip with 1024px x 1024px resolution (Fig. 5), and capability to cover 18 arc' x 18 arc' of its frontal view.
- XIS operates in photon-counting mode, and each incoming photon energy, position and event time are reconstructed.
- Energy band of XIS instrument is in 0.2 – 12.0 keV range.
- XIS1 is back illuminated (BI) while XIS0, XIS2, and XIS3 are front illuminated (FI) chips (Fig. 6). Each chip is divided into four segments (A, B, C, D), to make readout more efficient (each segment has separate readout node (Fig. 5)).
- For calibration purpose each XIS unit was equipped with three  $^{56}\text{Fe}$ , with half life of 2.73 yr. Sources emits strong lines at 5.9 keV and 6.5 keV.



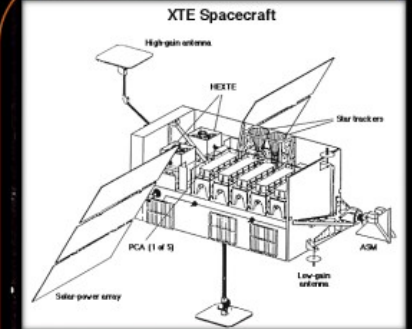
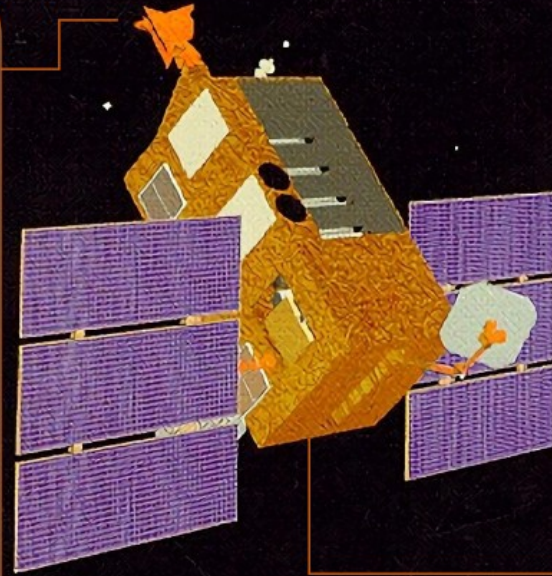
- Libs:
- [http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/doc/suzaku\\_td/node10.html](http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/doc/suzaku_td/node10.html)
  - [http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/doc/suzaku\\_td/node9.html](http://www.astro.isas.jaxa.jp/suzaku/doc/suzaku_td/node9.html)
  - [https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/about/xis\\_inst.html](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/about/xis_inst.html)
  - [https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/about/xrt\\_inst.html](https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/about/xrt_inst.html)
  - <https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/suzaku/analysis/abc/node9.html>

To improve:  
looks like slide  
from net,  
it is perfect,  
only arrow  
can be added.

## RXTE-ASM: Rossi X-ray Timing Explorer – All Sky Monitor



- Energy range: 2 - 10 keV
- Time resolution: 80% of the sky every 90 minutes
- Spatial resolution: 3' x 15'
- Number of shadow cameras: 3, each with 6° x 90° FOV
- Collecting area: 90 cm<sup>2</sup>
- Detector: Xenon proportional counter, position-sensitive
- Sensitivity: 30 mCrab



- Lifetime : 30 December 1995 to 05 January 2012  
Energy Range : 2 - 250 keV  
Payload :
- Proportional Counter Array (PCA)
  - High Energy X-ray Timing Experiment (HEXTE)
  - All-Sky Monitor (ASM)

## Science goals

- Very large collecting area and all-sky monitoring of bright sources
- Discovery of kilohertz QPO's
- Discovery of spin periods in LMXRB
- Detection of X-ray afterglows from Gamma Ray Bursts
- Extensive observations of the soft state transition of Cyg X-1
- Observations of the Bursting Pulsar over a broad range of luminosities, providing stringent test of accretion theories.

To improve:  
where is  
HEXTE,  
angular and  
energy  
resolutions,  
HEXTE photo.

# RXTE



RXTE - Rossi X-ray Timing Explorer was a NASA X-ray telescope operating from December 1995 to January 2012.

RXTE was equipped with a All Sky Monitor (ASM) and 2 main instruments the Proportional Counter Array (PCA) and the High Energy X-ray Timing Experiment (HEXTE).

More details about HEXTE are given in the next slide.

---

## RXTE HEXTE

- Energy rate: 15-250 keV.
- Time sampling: 8 microseconds
- Field of view: 1° FWHM
- Detectors: 8 sodium-iodide crystal that are gathered into two clusters, each containing 4 detectors.
- Sensitivity: 360 count/second per HEXTE cluster (1 Crab Nebula intensity).
- Background: 50 count/second per HEXTE cluster

To improve:

completed,  
maybe from net,  
but has  
everything  
what is  
important,  
angular  
resolution.

## RXTE PCA: Rossi X-ray Timing Experiment Proportional Counter Array

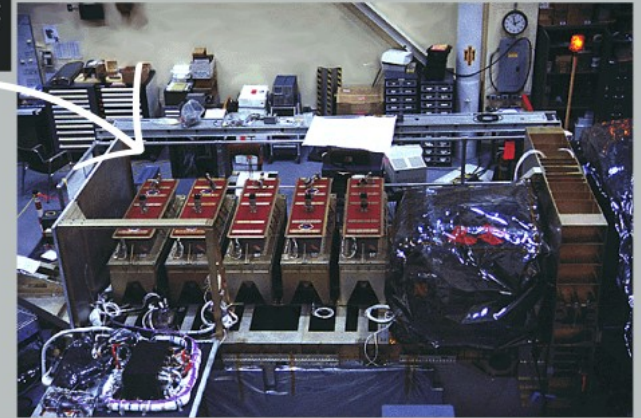
Launched  
30  
December  
1995

3 different  
instruments



One of the  
instruments:  
PCE

5 proportional counters



### Properties

- Energy range: 2 - 60 keV
- Energy resolution: <18% at 6 keV
- Time resolution: 1 microsec
- Collecting area: 6500 cm<sup>2</sup>
- Sensitivity: 0.1 mCrab
- Background: 90 mCrab

### Mission

- Study galactic and extragalactic X-ray sources
- Detect faint transients in regions where the All-sky monitor is not reliable
- Result: discovered many new millisecond X-ray pulsars

To improve:

time resolution,  
two detectors,  
the second  
**XTEND or XTREND?**  
should have at least  
angular resolution,  
since it is imager.

## X-Ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM)

Sudhagar Suyamprakasam : CAMK - PAN

### Objective:

To investigate celestial X-ray objects in the Universe with high-throughput imaging and high-resolution spectroscopy.

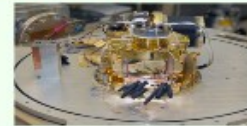
### X-ray telescope info:

- XRISM Formerly known as XARM.
- Collaboration & Participaion: JAXA, NASA & ESA.
- Mission instruments:
  - Resolve: Soft X-ray micro calorimeter
  - Xtend: Wide-field soft X-ray imager
- Design life: 3 years
- Number of mirror assemblies: 2
  - Over 3200 individual mirror segments.
  - Each mirror assembly is about 45 cm.
  - Resolution of just over 1'
- Launch Details:
  - Expected launch: 2023
  - Launch vehicle: JAXA HII-A rocket
  - Launch place: Japan's Tanegashima Space Center.



XRISM.  
Credit: JAXA/NEC

### Resolve Specifications:



XRISM Calorimeter  
Credit: Larry Gilbert/NASA

- Micro Calorimeter Array: 6 x 6 pixel
- Each pixel size: 30"
- Energy Resolution: 5-7 eV
- Energy Band: 0.3 to 12 keV
- Field of View: 3' x 3'
- Angular Resolution: 1.7' (HPD)

### Xtrend Specifications:

- Number of CCD Array: 4
- Energy Band: 0.4 to 13 keV
- Field of View: 38' x 38'



One quadrant of X-ray mirror  
Credit: Taylor Mickal/NASA

### Scientific goal categories:

- Structure formation of the Universe and evolution of clusters of galaxies.
- Circulation history of baryonic matter in the Universe.
- Transport and circulation of energy in the Universe.
- New science with unprecedented high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy.

To improve:

PSF gives angular resolution - OK,

energy resolution.

Second slide is not needed.

# Swift X-Ray Telescope

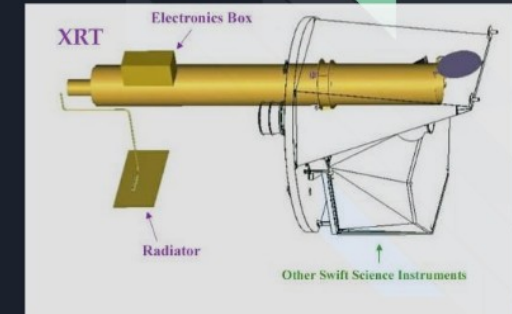
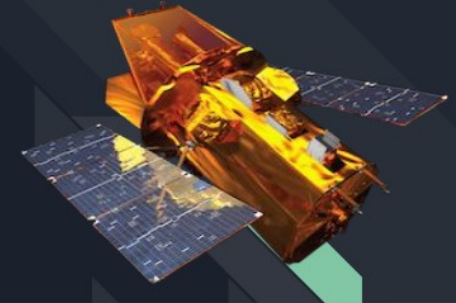
The XRT acquires images and obtains spectra of GRB afterglows.

Its primary function is to provide an accurate position (5 arcsec) to the BAT.

It sends this position to the Gamma-ray Co-ordinate Network for ground-based follow-up observations.

## Telescope Description:

Telescope	JET-X Wolter I
Focal Length	3.5 m
Effective Area	110 cm <sup>2</sup> @ 1.5 keV
Telescope PSF	18 arcsec HPD @ 1.5 keV
Detector	EEV CCD-22, 600 x 600 pixels
Detector Operation	Imaging, Timing, and Photon-counting
Detection Element	40 x 40 micron pixels
Pixel Scale	2.36 arcsec/pixel
Energy Range	0.2-10 keV
Sensitivity	8 x 10 <sup>-14</sup> erg cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> in 10 <sup>4</sup> seconds



## Modes of XRT:

### a. Image Mode:

XRT has two integration times in imaging modes (depending on brightness of the target):

- I. 0.1 second exposure
- II. 2.5 second exposure

### b. Photodiode Mode:

It is the highest timing resolution (10 μs) to detect rapid changes in the light-curve and high-resolution spectroscopy.

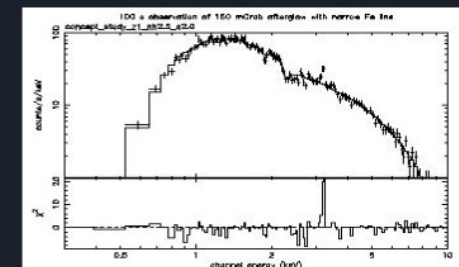
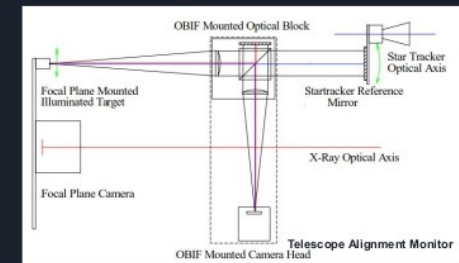
### c. Photon-Counting Mode:

It provides 2-dimensional imaging, high spectral resolution and low timing resolution (2.5 s) for fluxes.

### d. Telescope Alignment Correction:

To get the pointing accuracy of 5 arcsec Star Trackers are mounted on the forward telescope tube.

Telescope Alignment Monitor Assembly measures the movement of XRT.



## References:

1. [https://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/about\\_swift/xrt\\_desc.html](https://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/about_swift/xrt_desc.html)
2. [https://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/observatories/learning/swift/multimedia/spacecraft\\_art\\_gallery.html](https://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/observatories/learning/swift/multimedia/spacecraft_art_gallery.html)
3. DOI = [10.1117/12.618026](https://doi.org/10.1117/12.618026)

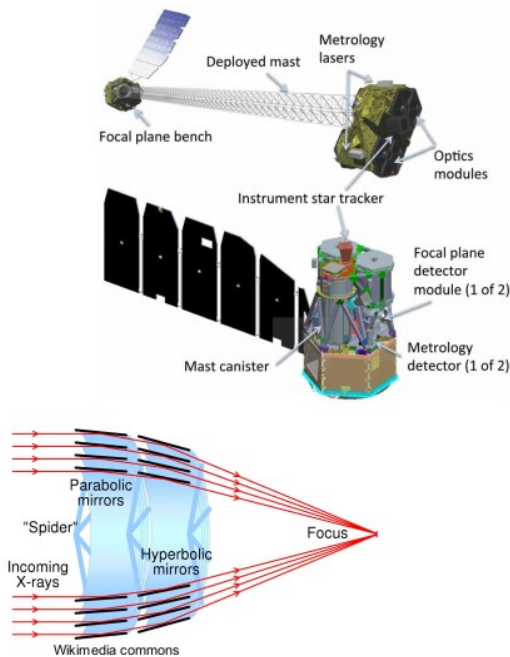
# Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (Harrison et al. 2013)

To improve:

nice and complete  
all resolutions are  
listed,

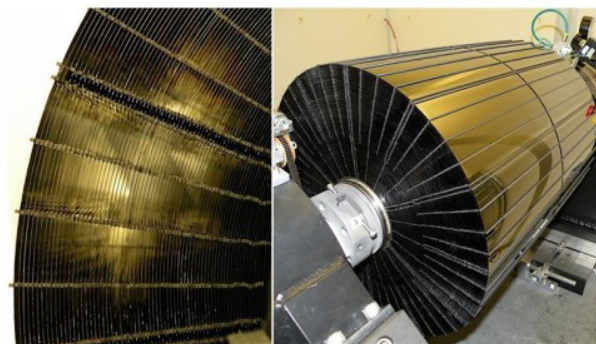
all images are  
presented.

Presentation: Tathagata Saha



Optics:

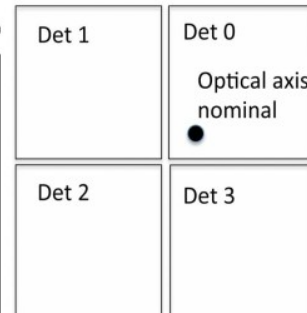
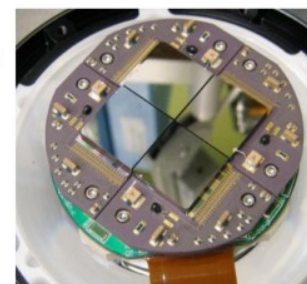
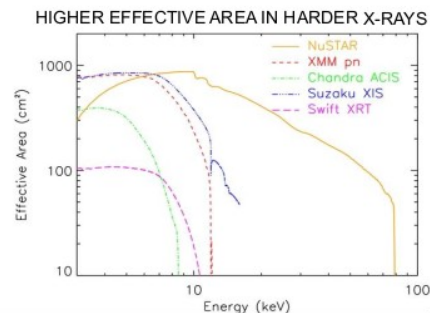
- Wolter-1 configuration
- Optics arranged on the top the mast
- Focal length ~ 10m
- 133 shells



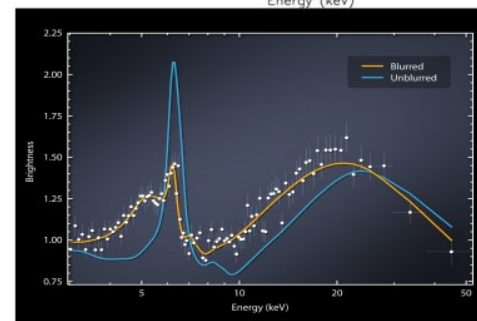
NASA/JPL

## DETECTOR: The Focal Plane Modules (FPM)- Harrison et al. 2013

- CZT detectors: CdZnTe high cross section at 10-100 keV (than Si) and **higher quantum efficiency**.
- 2 FPM detectors
- Spatial resolution: 18" (Chandra - 0.5" for comparison)
- Energy resolution: 0.4 keV at 6 keV, 0.9 keV at 60 keV (FWHM)
- Time resolution ( $\sigma_{t,event}$ ) = 2 microseconds accuracy for registering event time.
- Energy range: ~3-78 keV
- Science Goals:
  - Accretion physics : ULXs and Black hole binaries
  - Accretion physics AGNs: Compton Reflection and C-thick AGNs
  - Magnetars
  - Galaxy clusters
  - Solar physics



One of the detector modules



Compton Reflection: Caltech/NASA JPL



# To improve:

# nice and completed, but what and where is SPI?

- Launched 17<sup>th</sup> October 2002
- Gamma-ray spectrometer

Detectors:

- 19 hexagonal Germanium detectors
  - Operate at 85 K
  - 500 cm<sup>2</sup> area
- 
- Hexagonal mask 1.7 m above detection plane
  - 2 veto systems-one surrounding the instrument and one between mask and detectors
  - Main veto system made of BGO scintillator crystal, secondary veto (below mask) is a plastic scintillator

FoV:

- 14 degrees x 14 degrees (when fully coded)
- 32 degrees x 32 degrees (no coding)

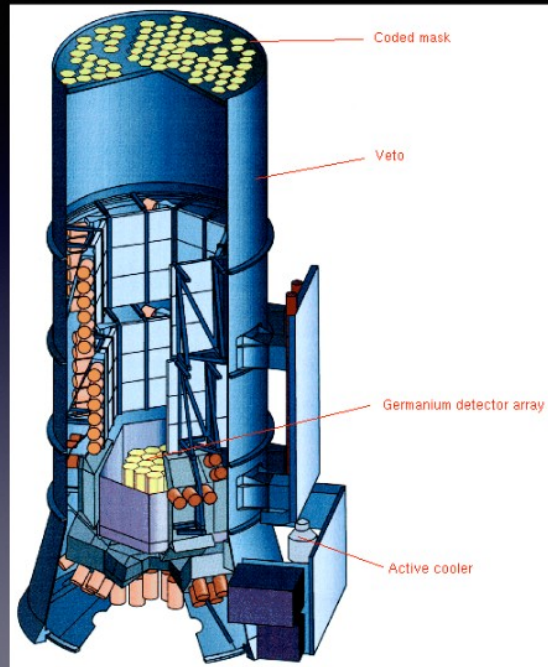


INTEGRAL SPI

- Energy range=18 keV - 8 MeV

- $\frac{E}{\Delta E} \sim 450$  per detector
- Resolution of 2.2 keV at 3.3 MeV

- Angular resolution = 2.5 degrees
- Pointing accuracy < 1.3 degrees for point sources



- Science missions:
- Compact objects
  - Extragalactic astronomy
  - Nucleosynthesis
  - Galactic centre studies
  - Gamma Ray bursts (GRBs)
  - Catalogues of X-ray/gamma-ray sources

Website:

<https://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/integral>

To improve:

some text is not visible, where in the context of the whole mission?

## Chandra High Energy Transmission Grating (HETG)

- HETG is placed behind the Chandra mirrors.
- HETG consists of 336 gold grating facets as shown in the figure.
- The HETG gratings are designed to cover an energy range of 0.4 to 10 keV.
- The inner two rings are high-energy grating, HEG, facets, and the outer two rings are medium-energy grating, MEG, facets.
- The HETG intercepts the X-rays reflected from the mirrors, changing their direction by amounts that depend sensitively on the X-ray energy.
- One of the focal plane detectors records the location of the diffracted X-rays, enabling a precise determination of their energies.
- The HETG has been used to measure Doppler velocities of orbiting systems, even as low as 50 km/s, and plasma outflow velocities from a few hundred to 10's of thousands of km/s.

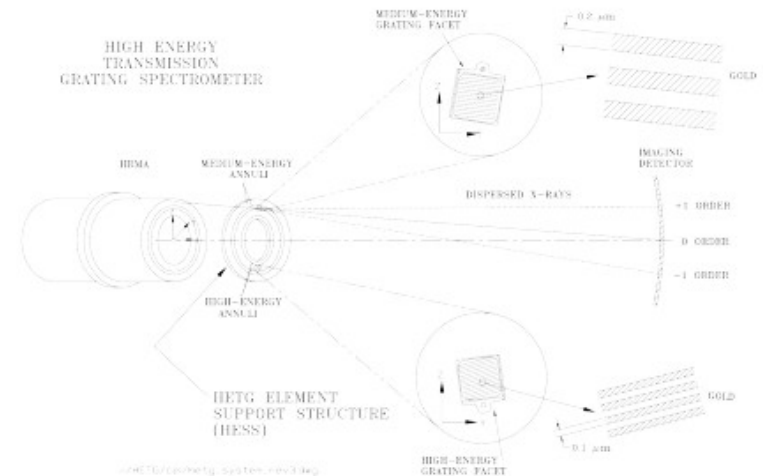


Image credit: [https://space.mit.edu/HETG/HETG\\_8bit.gif](https://space.mit.edu/HETG/HETG_8bit.gif)

HETGS Range:	0.4–10.0 keV, 31–1.2 Å
HEG Range:	0.8–10.0 keV, 15–1.2 Å
MEG Range:	0.4–5.0 keV, 31–2.5 Å
Effective Area (see Figures 8.7 & 8.8):	7 cm <sup>2</sup> @ 0.5 keV
( MEG+HEG first orders, with ACIS-S)	59 cm <sup>2</sup> @ 1.0 keV
	200 cm <sup>2</sup> @ 1.5 keV
	28 cm <sup>2</sup> @ 6.5 keV
Resolving Power (R=E/ΔE)	
HEG:	1070–65 (1000 @ 1 keV, 12.4 Å)
MEG:	970–80 (660 @ 0.826 keV, 15 Å)
Resolution:	
ΔE:	0.4–77 eV FWHM
Δλ, HEG:	0.012 Å FWHM
Δλ, MEG:	0.023 Å FWHM
Absolute Wavelength Accuracy: (w.z. "theory")	
HEG:	±0.006 Å
MEG:	±0.011 Å
Relative Wavelength Accuracy: (within and between obs.)	
HEG:	±0.0010 Å
MEG:	±0.0020 Å
HEG angle on ACIS-S:	-3.235° ±0.01°
MEG angle on ACIS-S:	4.725° ±0.01°
HETGS Rowland spacing	8632.65 mm (flight installed)
Wavelength Scale:	
HEG:	0.0055090 Å / ACIS pixel
MEG:	0.0112200 Å / ACIS pixel
HETG Properties:	
Diffraction Efficiency: (single-side, first order)	2.5% @ 0.5 keV (MEG)
	19% @ 1.5 keV (MEG & HEG)
	9% @ 6.5 keV (HEG)
HETG Zeroth-order Efficiency:	4.5% @ 0.5 keV
	8% @ 1.5 keV
	60% @ 6.5 keV
Grating Facet Average Parameters	
HEG and MEG bar material:	Gold
HEG / MEG period:	2000.81 Å, / 4001.93 Å
HEG / MEG Bar thickness:	5100 Å, / 3050 Å
HEG / MEG Bar width:	1200 Å, / 2080 Å
HEG / MEG support:	9800 Å, / 5500 Å polysilide

Table: HETG Parameters

Credit: <https://cxc.harvard.edu/cal/Hetg/>



A schematic layout of the High Energy Transmission Grating Spectrometer. (The HETG provides spectral separation through diffraction.)

(Image credit: <https://cxc.harvard.edu/proposer/POG/html/images/hetgslayout.png>)

# To improve: two slides less, numbers needed, observational results instead of observational goals.



## XMM-NEWTON

Iftikhar Ahmad

3rd year Ph.D. student



## XMM-NEWTON

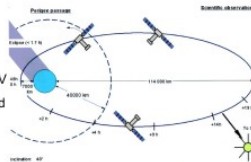
- The Multi-Mirror Mission (XMM-Newton) was launched in 1999.
- The large collecting area and ability to make long uninterrupted exposures provide highly sensitive observations.
- Since Earth's atmosphere blocks out all X-rays, only a telescope in space can detect and study celestial X-ray sources.
- The XMM-Newton mission is helping scientists to solve a number of cosmic mysteries, ranging from the enigmatic black holes to the origins of the Universe itself.

### Characteristics of XMM-Newton

- Simultaneous operation of all scientific instruments
- High sensitivity
- Good angular resolution
- High spectral resolution
- Simultaneous optical/UV observations
- Long, continuous visibility of the target

### Objectives

- Investigate spectra of cosmic X-ray sources
- Perform sensitive medium-resolution spectroscopy
- Broad band imaging spectroscopy from 150 eV to 15 keV
- Simultaneous sensitive coverage of the wavelength band 1700 to 6500 Å

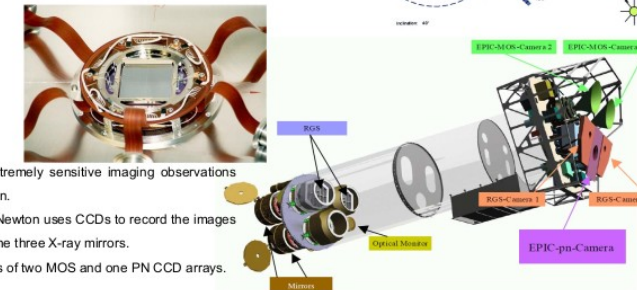


### Scientific Instruments

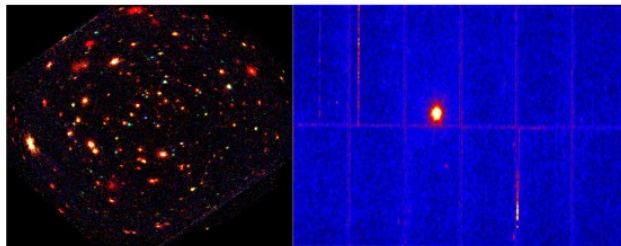
- European Photon Imaging Camera (EPIC)
- Reflection Grating Spectrometer (RGS)
- Optical Monitor (OM)

### EPIC

- EPIC cameras offer the possibility to perform extremely sensitive imaging observations over the telescope's field of view (FOV) of 30 arcmin.
- EPIC focal plane imaging spectrometers on XMM-Newton uses CCDs to record the images and spectra of celestial X-ray sources focused by the three X-ray mirrors.
- EPIC observes in the 0.2-12 keV band and consists of two MOS and one PN CCD arrays.

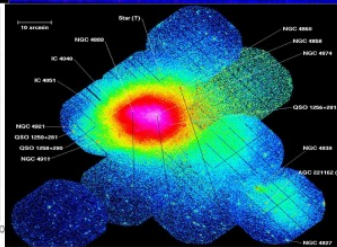
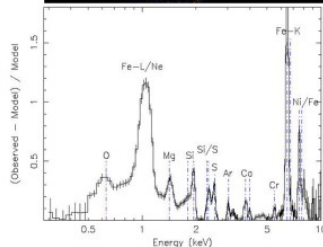


Combining the images from all EPIC cameras, the [Lockman Hole](#) provides the deepest ever X-ray survey of this region. The view gives a 'real colour' representation of all the sources, coded according to their X-ray hardness: red, green and blue correspond to the 0.5-2, 2-4.5 and 4.5-10 keV range, respectively. (see also: [astro-ph/0310804](#)).



Composite image of Swift J1818.0-1607, the youngest pulsar (magnetar) ever observed, as seen by the EPIC-pn camera on ESA's XMM-Newton. The image combines observations in the following energy bands: 2-4 keV (red), 4-7.5 keV (green) and 8.5-12 keV (blue). See P. Esposito et al. (2020)

The line spectrum of the cluster 2A0335+096, as observed with XMM-Newton EPIC (from [Werner et al 2006b](#))



XMM-Newton has again observed the Coma Cluster of galaxies, with far longer exposures. Certain regions were observed for 22.6 Ksecs instead of 3.4 Ksecs originally, and with a lower proton background. EPIC-pn image covers the 0.3 to 2.0 keV energy range and clearly discerns far more sources. The difference is striking particularly in the north/west (upper-right) corner. credit: [ESA/XMM-Newton](#)



Thank you

Part 2.

# **OBSERVATIONS**

## Lecture 5: Statistics of measurements

Do we measure the source or simply fluctuation in the **noise**:

- **instrumental noise**, spurious signals in the absence of any photons, (CCDs, PC, readout processes):
  - i) *statistical* in nature – i.e. due to randomly arriving cosmic rays
  - ii) *systematical* in nature – i.e. aging of detector
- **statistical fluctuations** - “noise” inherent randomness of certain types of events.

We measure the rate of arrival of photons in a limited time interval.

## Poisson distribution:

Consider source of constant luminosity (not pulsating), that produces, on average, 100 counts every second. 10 ms between each count.

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Average time of arrival is governed by fixed *probability* of an event occurring in some fixed interval of time.

A distribution of counts  $N(x)$  can be obtained from many measurements:  $N(105)$ ,  $N(95)$ ,  $N(87)$ ,  $N(101)$  ... in 1 s intervals.

$N$  – number of times

$x$  – a given value occurs.

## Poisson distribution:

For a random process such as photon arrival time, this distribution is well known theoretically as **Poisson distribution:**

$$P_x = \frac{m^x e^{-m}}{x!}$$

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$$P_x = \frac{m^x e^{-m}}{x!}$$

$m$  – average (mean) number of events over a large number of tries,

$x$  – integer number of events (counts).

if  $m=10.3$   $P(6 \text{ photons}) = 0.056$

if  $m=6$   $P(6 \text{ photons}) = 0.161$  but  $< 1$

**It is not particularly likely that one will detect the mean number.**

## Poisson distribution:

Is valid for discrete independent events that occur randomly (equal probability of occurrence per unit time) with a low probability of occurrence in a differential time interval  $dt$ .

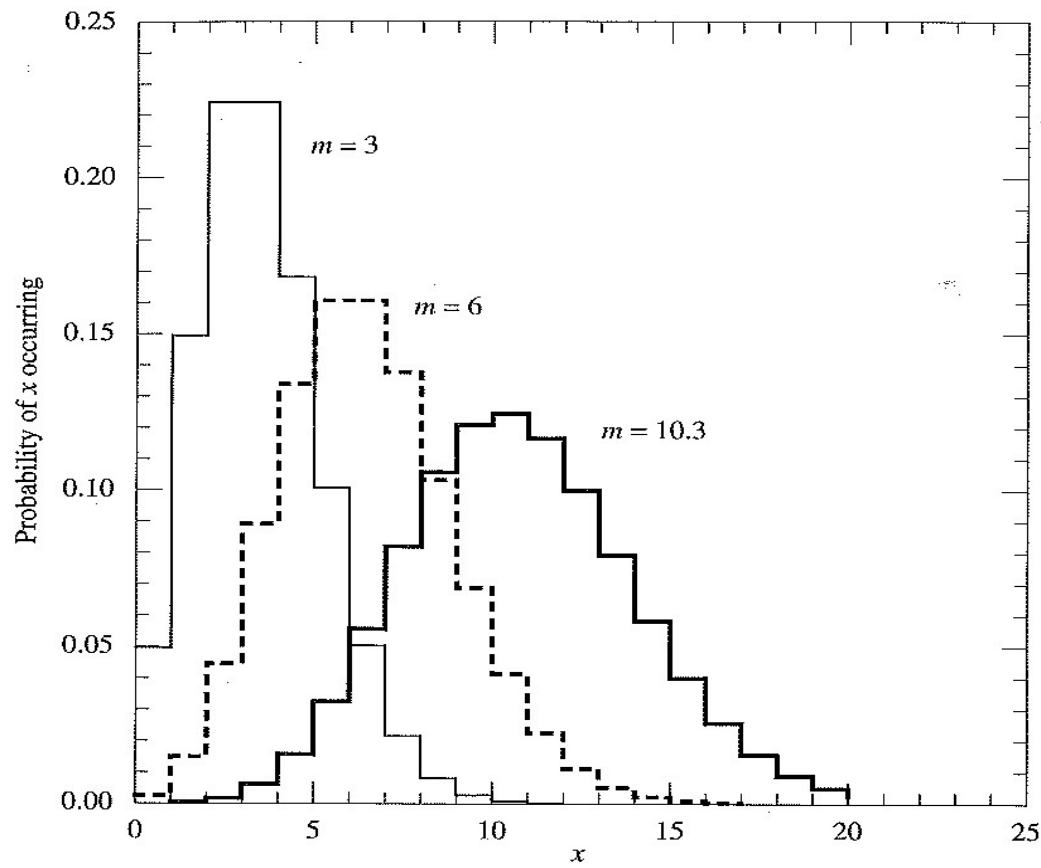


Figure 6.7. The Poisson distribution for small mean numbers,  $m = 3.0$ ,  $6.0$  and  $10.3$ . The ordinate gives the probability of the value  $x$  occurring, for the given mean value. Note the asymmetry of the histograms.

## Poisson distribution:

$$\sum_{x=0}^{x=\infty} P_x = 1$$

- *distribution i.s not symmetric,*
- *more symmetric for higher m.*

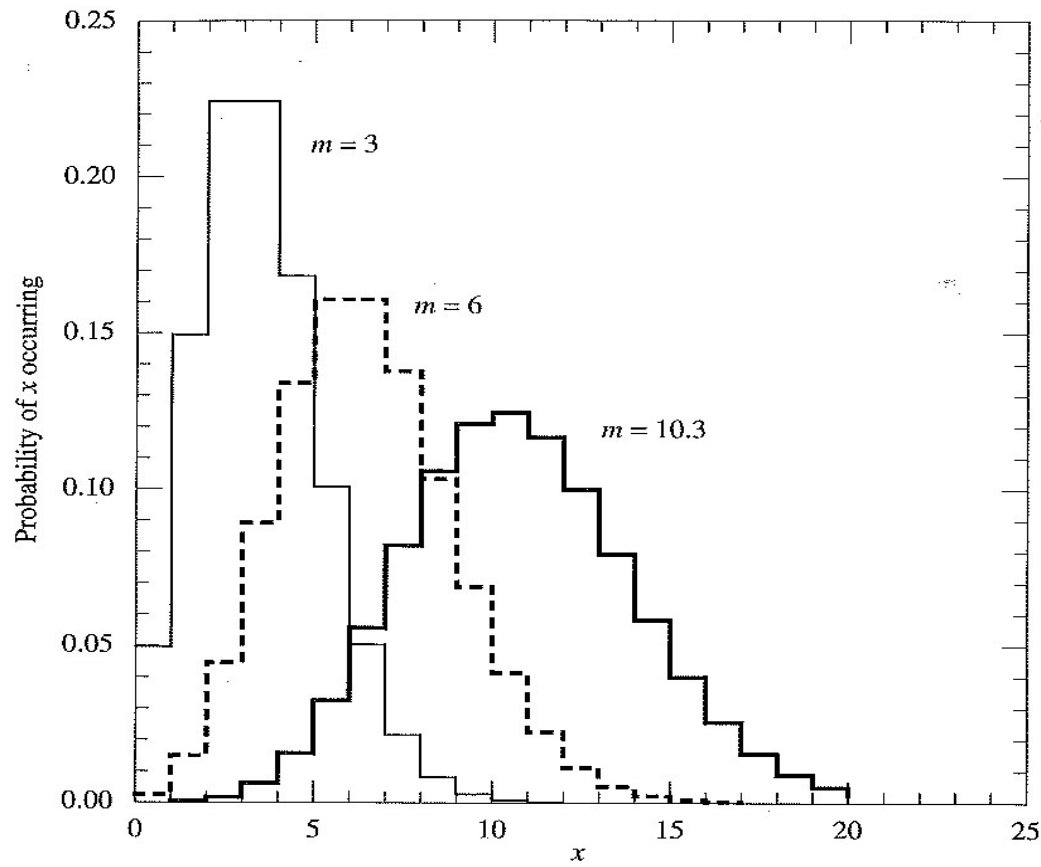


Figure 6.7. The Poisson distribution for small mean numbers,  $m = 3.0, 6.0$  and  $10.3$ . The ordinate gives the probability of the value  $x$  occurring, for the given mean value. Note the asymmetry of the histograms.

## Poisson distribution:

*-probability of obtaining non zero event is significant.*

Table 6.1. Sample values of Poisson function  $P_x$

$x:$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 <sup>a</sup>	8	9
$m = 1$	0.368	0.368	0.184	0.061	0.015	0.003	0.001	7E-5	9E-6	1E-6
$m = 2$	0.135	0.271	0.271	0.180	0.090	0.036	0.012	0.003	0.001	2E-4
$m = 3$	0.050	0.149	0.224	0.224	0.168	0.101	0.050	0.022	0.008	0.003
$m = 4^b$	0.018	0.073	0.147	0.195	0.195	0.156	0.104	0.060	0.030	0.013
$m = 6^c$	0.002	0.015	0.045	0.089	0.134	0.161	0.161	0.138	0.103	0.069
$m = 10^d$	5E-5	5E-4	0.002	0.008	0.019	0.038	0.063	0.090	0.113	0.125

<sup>a</sup> The notation 7E-5 indicates  $7 \times 10^{-5}$ .

<sup>b</sup> The values of  $P_x$  for  $m = 4$  at  $x = 10$  and  $11$  are  $0.005$  and  $0.002$  respectively.

<sup>c</sup> The values of  $P_x$  for  $m = 6$  at  $x = 10-14$  are  $0.041$ ,  $0.023$ ,  $0.011$ ,  $0.005$ ,  $0.002$ .

<sup>d</sup> The values of  $P_x$  for  $m = 10$  at  $x = 10-18$  are:  $0.125$ ,  $0.114$ ,  $0.095$ ,  $0.073$ ,  $0.052$ ,  $0.035$ ,  $0.022$ ,  $0.013$ ,  $0.007$ .

## Normal distribution, Gaussian:

Continuous and symmetrical distribution which gives the *differential probability*  $dP$  of finding the value  $x$  within the differential interval  $dx$ :

$$dP_x = \frac{1}{\sigma_w \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left[ \frac{-(x-m)^2}{2\sigma_w^2} \right] dx$$

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$m$  – the mean, which is the true value of the quantity being measured,

$\sigma_w$  - width, the standard deviation of the distribution.

Two parameters instead of one in Poisson distribution.



# Normal distribution, Gaussian:

Bell curve of probability, symmetric around  $m$ , can extend to negative values of  $x$ .

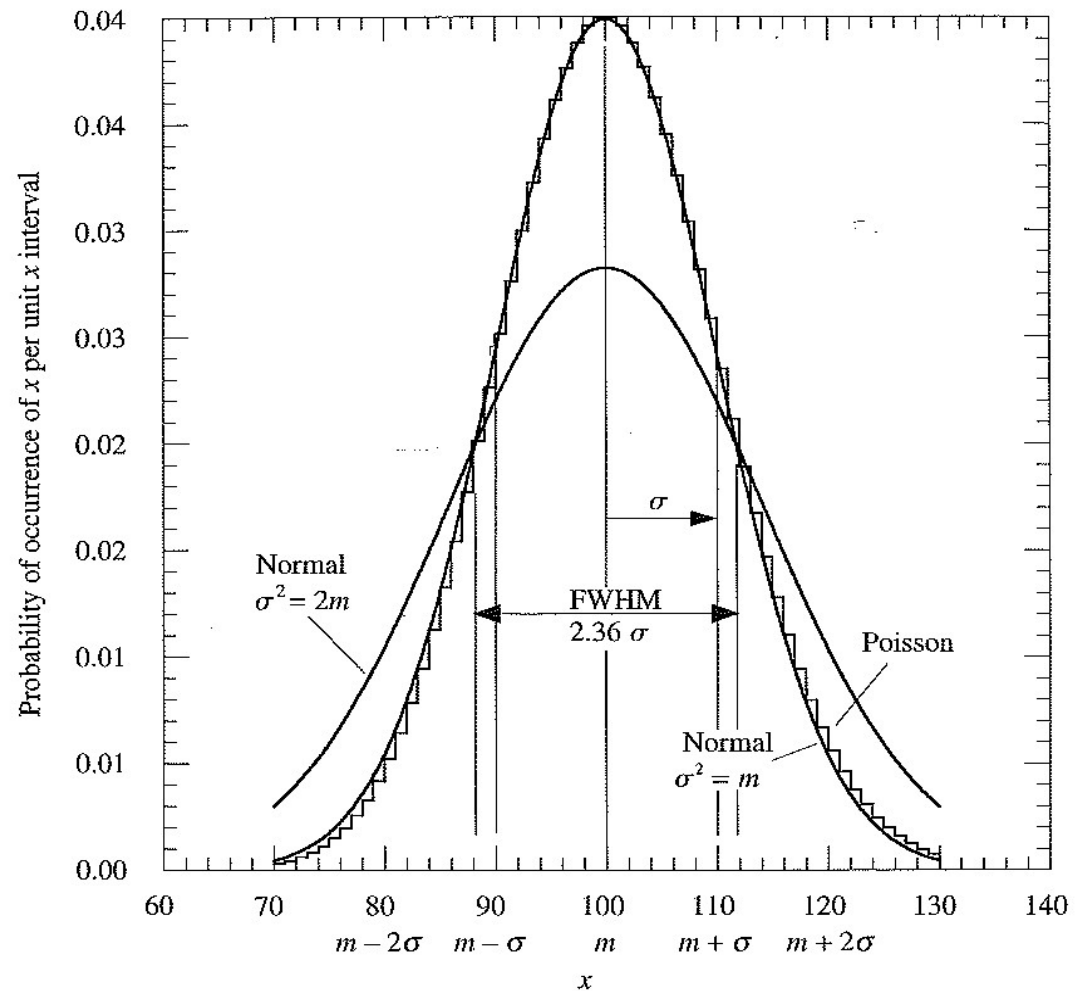


Figure 6.8. The Poisson (step curve) and normal distributions (smooth curves) for the mean value  $m = 100$ . The normal distribution is given for two values of the width parameter  $\sigma_w$  which is shown in the text to be equal to the standard deviation  $\sigma$ . The Poisson distribution approximates well the normal distribution if the latter has  $\sigma = \sqrt{m}$ . Note the slight asymmetry of the Poisson distribution relative to the normal distribution. The standard deviation and full width half maximum widths are shown for the higher normal peak; the two normal curves happen to cross at the FWHM point.

# Normal distribution, Gaussian:

Bell curve of probability, symmetric around  $m$ , can extend to negative values of  $x$ .

$(2\pi)^{-1/2}$  is chosen so that this distribution is also normalized:

$$\int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} dP_x = 1$$

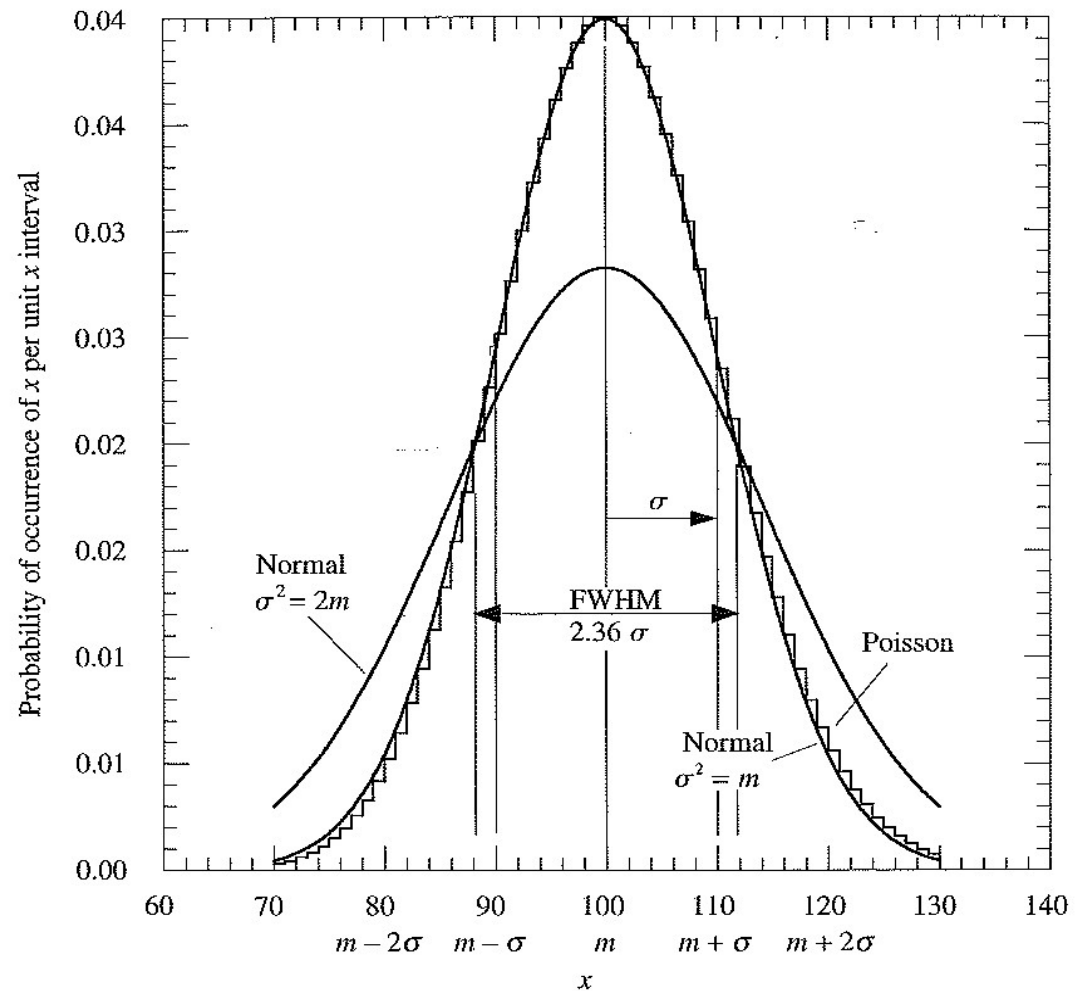


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# Normal distribution, Gaussian:

$\sigma_w$  - a characteristic width:

$$x = m \pm \sigma_w$$

the function has fallen to:

$$e^{-0.5} = 0.601$$

of its maximum value.

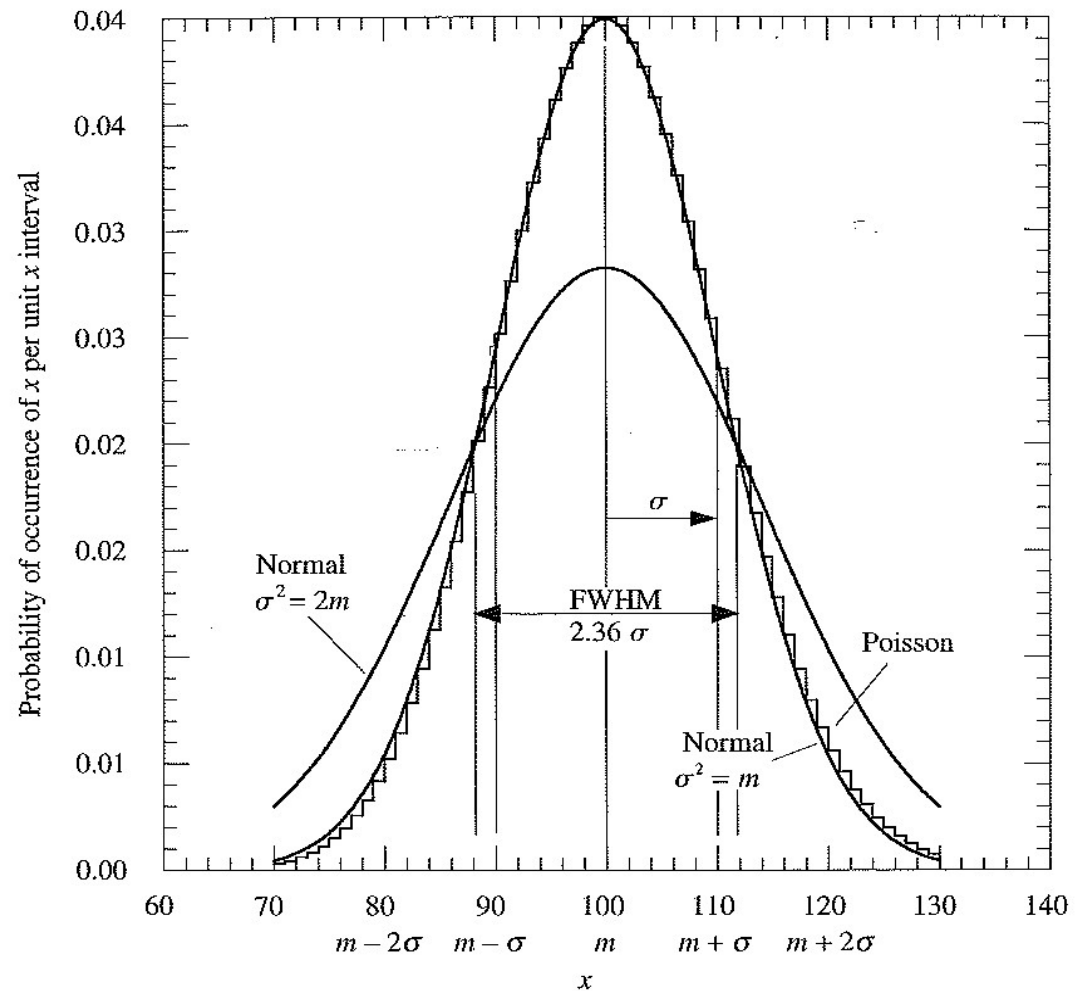


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For:

$$x - m = \sqrt{2} \sigma_w$$

$$e^{-1} = 0.37$$

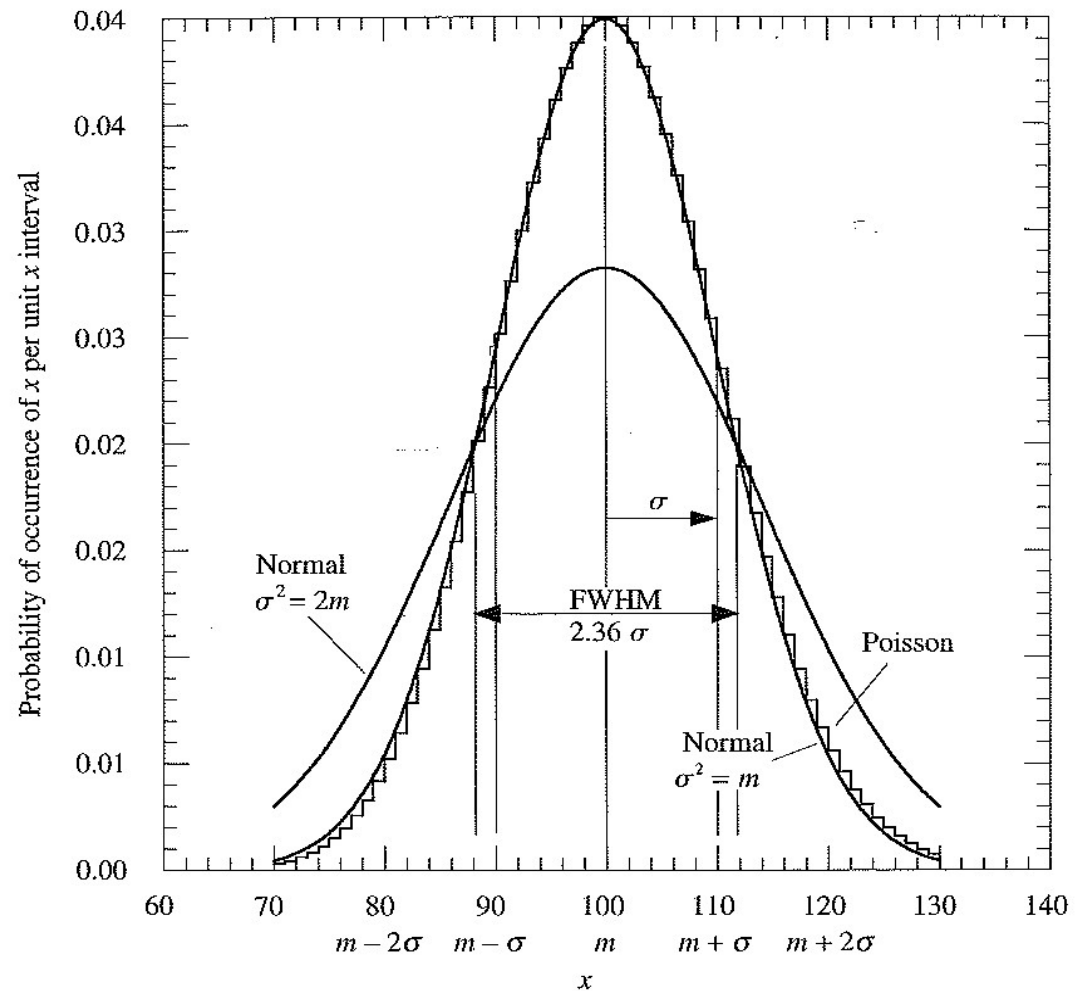


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# Normal distribution, Gaussian:

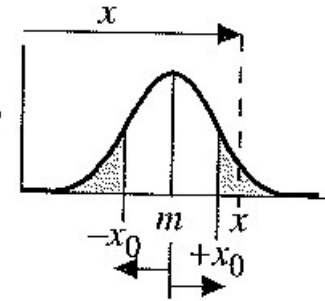
- 68% of the area falls in  $1 \sigma_w$

- 95.5 % falls in  $2 \sigma_w$

- 99.73 % falls in  $3 \sigma_w$

from integrating eq. of distribution.

Table 6.2. Normal distribution probabilities

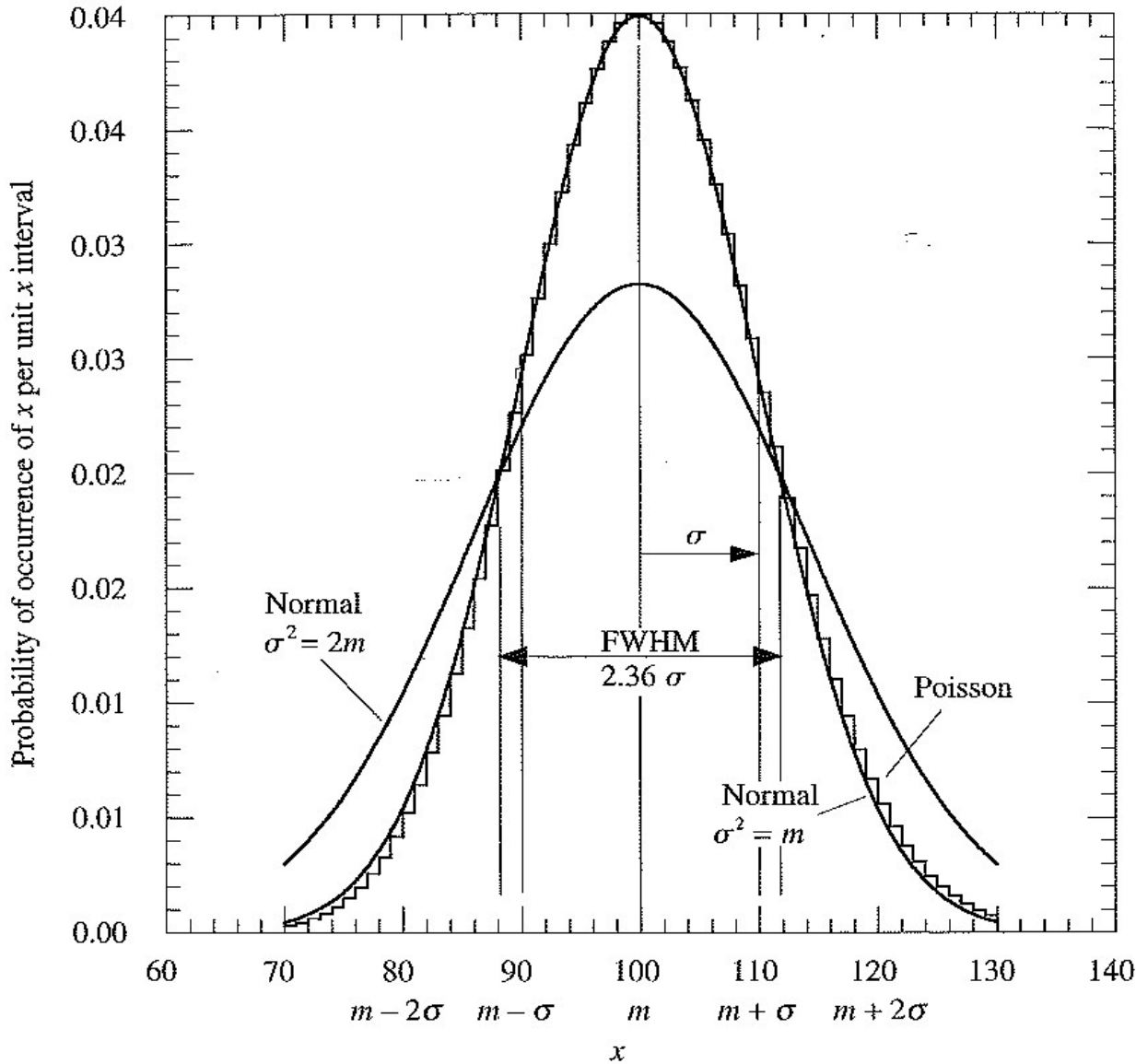


$\left(\frac{x_0}{\sigma}\right)^a$	Area (shaded) at $ x - m  > x_0^b$	$\left(\frac{x_0}{\sigma}\right)^a$	Area (shaded) at $ x - m  > x_0^b$
0	1.00	2.5	0.0124
0.5	0.617	3.0	0.00270
1.0	0.317	3.5	$4.65 \times 10^{-4}$
1.2	0.230	4.0	$6.34 \times 10^{-5}$
1.4	0.162	5.0	$5.73 \times 10^{-7}$
1.6	0.110	6.0	$2.0 \times 10^{-9}$
1.8	0.0719	7.0	$2.6 \times 10^{-12}$
2.0	0.0455		

<sup>a</sup> Ratio of deviation  $x_0$  to standard deviation  $\sigma$ . The standard deviation  $\sigma$  is equal to  $\sigma_w$ , the width parameter of the distribution.

<sup>b</sup> Probability of occurrence of deviation greater than  $\pm x_0$ .

## Normal and Poisson distribution:



For large values of  $m$ , the Poisson distribution approaches in shape the central part of the normal distribution if the width parameter is set to:

$$\sigma_w = m^{1/2}$$

*Normal distribution describes the arrival of random events for large  $m$ .*

## Variance and standard deviation:

The width of a *measured* distribution indicates the range of values obtained from a set of individual measurements of  $x$ . Formally *root-mean-square deviation*, i.e. *standard deviation*,  $\sigma$ , its square is called the *variance*:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} (x_i - m)^2$$

*definition of variance.*

$n$  – number of independent measurements,

$x_i$  – individual measurements,

$m$  – mean value can be only obtained with an infinite amount of data !!!

## Variance and standard deviation:

In practice the average value  $x_{av}$  of the  $n$  measured numbers may be the best approximation of  $m$  that is available:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} (x_i - x_{av})^2 \quad \textit{practical variance.}$$

Practical variance equals theoretical for large  $n$ .



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$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} (x_i - x_{av})^2 \quad \textit{practical variance.}$$

Practical variance equal theoretical for large  $n$ .

Variance can be evaluated for any given experimental distribution as Poisson or Normal.

## Variance and standard deviation:

Variance of theoretical Poisson distribution:

$n_j$  – occurrences of the same value  $x_j$ ,

It is useful to rewrite variance in terms of the probability used in theoretical expression: Summation will be over  $x$ , than the trial number  $j$ .

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{j=n} (x_j - m)^2 \frac{n_j}{n} = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} (x - m)^2 P_x, \quad \left( x_{av} = \sum_{j=1}^{j=n} \frac{x_j}{n} \right)$$

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Substituting the Poisson distribution:

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} \frac{(x - m)^2 m^x e^{-m}}{x!} = m,$$

$$\sigma_w = m^{1/2}$$

## Example:

If 100 photons are expected to arrive at pixel of a CCD during exposure of 1s, standard deviation for a single measurement is:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{100} = 10$$

We can expect fluctuations  $\pm 10$  or even  $\pm 30$  about the 100 count mean.

## Example:

If 100 photons are expected to arrive at pixel of a CCD during exposure of 1s, standard deviation for a single measurement is:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{100} = 10$$

We can expect fluctuations  $\pm 10$  or even  $\pm 30$  about the 100 count mean.

The uncertainty relative to the mean value is:

$$\sigma / m = 10 / 100 = 10 \%$$

It is “a 10% measurement”. If in 100 s, one expect 10000 counts:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{10000} = 100, \quad \sigma / m = 100 / 10000 = 1 \%$$

*More counts leads to higher absolute fluctuations and uncertainty, but fractional uncertainty is reduced. Longer means better rates.*

## Variance and standard deviation:

Variance of Normal distribution is obtained through substitution of sum into integral form:

$$\sigma^2 = \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} (x - m)^2 dP_x$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\sigma_w \sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} (x - m)^2 \exp \left[ \frac{-(x - m)^2}{2\sigma_w^2} \right]$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sigma_w^2$$

## Measurement significance:

For large number of events  $\sigma = m^{1/2}$

The probability of exceeding 3 sigma is 0.27%.

If the pixel of CCD is expected to record 100 photons during the exposure time thus  $\sigma = 10$ .

If we measure 130 photons, we may ask, is it bright source or fluctuation? This is 3 sigma detection, but still there is one chance in  $1/(0.0027)=370$  that this would happen from statistical fluctuations.

One measures of 5 sigma error in one of measurements. The probability of a statistical fluctuations in one given trial is  $6 \times 10^{-7}$ , but CCD has 4 million pixels, thus:

$$\textit{expectation value} = 6 \times 10^{-7} \times 4 \times 10^6 = 2.4$$

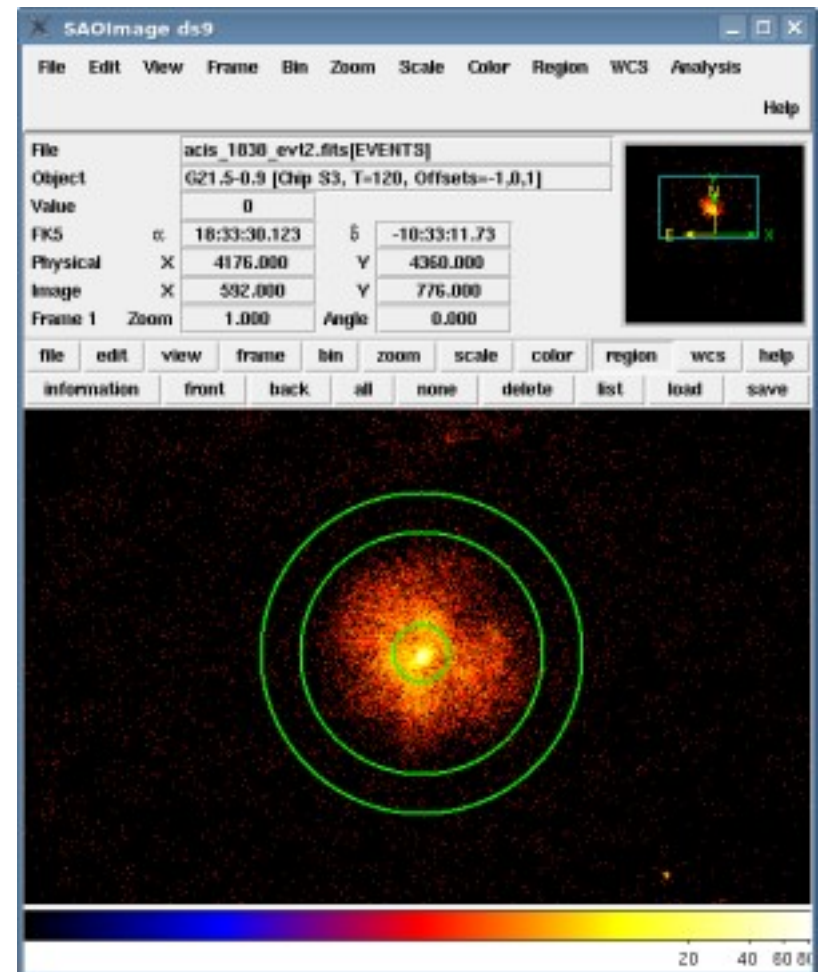
## Background:

- Counts due to cosmic rays particles – anticoincidence logic.
- Counts due to diffuse X-ray background.

Commonly, two measurements will be made:

- 1) one with astrophysical source in the field of view,
- 2) one with offset from the source to measure bkgr only.

If the detector/telescope produces a sky image, we can make both measurements in a single exposure.





## Propagation of errors:

After data are taken, one invariably manipulates them to obtain other quantities:

$$\frac{\text{accumulated number of counts}}{\text{accumulated time}} = \text{rate of photon arrival}$$

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$$\frac{\text{accumulated number of counts}}{\text{accumulated time}} = \text{rate of photon arrival}$$

Assume,  $x$  and  $y$  be a length, each accurate to 1mm:

$$z = x + y, \quad z = x - y$$

$$dz = dx + dy$$

$$|dz|_{max} = |dx|_{max} + |dy|_{max}$$

*Maximum error is thus a sum of the individual maximum errors.*

## Propagation of errors:

Assume,  $x$  and  $y$  be a length, each accurate to 1mm:

$$z = x * y, \quad z = x / y$$

*Fractional error is the sum of the individual fractional errors:*

*or:*

$$dz = x * dy + y * dx$$

$$\left| dz / z \right|_{max} = \left| dx / x \right|_{max} + \left| dy / y \right|_{max}$$

We assume to maximize the error. In fact the measurements of  $x$  and  $y$  would most likely be uncorrelated.

*Fractional errors are thus, on average, less than the maximum values found above.*

## Propagation of errors:

If  $x$  and  $y$  vary independently with normal distribution, characterized by standard deviation,  
*error of summation or subtraction:*

$$\sigma_z^2 = \sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2$$

$$x = y \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_z = \sqrt{2} \sigma_x$$

$$x > y \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_z \approx \sigma_x$$

*error in a product or quotient:*

$$\frac{\sigma_z^2}{z^2} = \frac{\sigma_x^2}{x^2} + \frac{\sigma_y^2}{y^2}$$

## Background subtraction:

$S$  – expected number of counts detected in  $\Delta t$  time interval,

$B$  – expected number of counts of bkgr in the same time interval.

ON Source –  $S+B$ ,

OFF Source –  $B$ .

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ON Source –  $S+B$ ,

OFF Source –  $B$ .

*Signal counts; equal exposures:*

$$S = (S + B) - B$$

*Two measurements are quite independent: different photons and different bkgr are involved. Thus the fluctuation will be uncorrelated:*

$$\sigma_s^2 = \sigma_{s+b}^2 + \sigma_b^2$$

## Background subtraction:

Two standard deviations obtained from the Poisson distribution:

$$\sigma_s^2 = S + B + B = S + 2B$$

$$\sigma_s \ll S \quad \Rightarrow \quad \textit{high quality of measurement ,}$$

$$S = 3 \sigma_s \quad \Rightarrow \quad 3 \sigma \quad \textit{result ,}$$

$$S < 3 \sigma_s \quad \Rightarrow \quad \textit{detection questionable.}$$

## Background subtraction:

*Significance equals number of standard deviations or S/N:*

$$\frac{S}{\sigma_s} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{S + 2B}} \quad \text{signal-to-noise ratio.}$$



## Background subtraction:

*Significance equals number of standard deviations or S/N:*

$$\frac{S}{\sigma_s} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{S + 2B}} \quad \text{signal-to-noise ratio.}$$

The intensity of the source is best represented by the source event rate  $r_s$  (counts/s). With equal on-source and off-source accumulated time  $\Delta t$ :

$$r_s = \frac{S}{\Delta t} \quad r_b = \frac{B}{\Delta t}$$

## Low and high background limits:

The low-background ( $B \ll S$ ) case gives:

$$\frac{S}{\sigma_s} \approx \frac{S}{\sqrt{S}} = \sqrt{S} = \sqrt{r_s \Delta t} \quad \text{bkgr negligible}$$

*Significance increases as the square root of the number of counts.*

To increase significance to 5 sigma – to increase duration time by a factor of  $(5/2)^2 = 6.25$  .

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*Significance increases as the square root of the number of counts.*

To increase significance to 5 sigma – to increase duration time by a factor of  $(5/2)^2 = 6.25$ .

The high-background ( $B \gg S$ ) case gives:

$$\frac{S}{\sigma_s} \approx \frac{S}{\sqrt{2B}} = \frac{r_s \Delta t}{\sqrt{2r_b \Delta t}} = \frac{r_s}{\sqrt{2r_b}} \sqrt{\Delta t} \quad \text{bkgr dominates.}$$

It takes a lot of observing time to increase significance.

## Low and high background limits:

Let us compare the S/N ratios of two hypothetical detectors, one *high-B* and the other of *low-B*.

*Comparison of two sensitivities:*

$$\left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \gg S} = \sqrt{\frac{r_s}{2r_b}} \left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \ll S}$$

Since  $r_s \ll r_b$ , the expression tells us that the significance is much less in the high-B case than for the low-B case for similar exposures.

## Bright and faint source observations:

Focusing instruments are low-B systems.

3 X-rays photons in one resolution element of the focal plane could be highly significant since bkgr so low.

If the expected bkgr in the element is only 0.1 counts, the probability of this bkgr giving rise to the 3 X-rays is:

$$P_x = \frac{m^x e^{-m}}{x!} = \frac{0.1^3 e^{-0.1}}{3!} = 1.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

*Focusing instruments – the best for faint sources.*

## Bright and faint source observations:

How does the significance of a detection in a given time depends on source intensity i.e., on the rate  $r_s$ .

*When  $S > B$  as in focusing instruments, the statistical noise arises from the source itself.*

*$S$  increases  $\Rightarrow$  Statistical noise increases*

*$\frac{S}{\sigma_s}$  increases slowly with  $\sqrt{r_s}$  ( $S/\sigma_s \approx \sqrt{r_s \Delta t}$  for low-B)*

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*$\frac{S}{\sigma_s}$  increases slowly with  $\sqrt{r_s}$  ( $S/\sigma_s \approx \sqrt{r_s \Delta t}$  for low-B)*

*When  $S < B$ :  $\frac{S}{\sigma_s}$  increases with  $r_s$  ( $S/\sigma_s \approx r_s / \sqrt{2r_b \cdot \sqrt{\Delta t}}$  for high-B)*

*source with twice intensity will be measured with twice the significance, statistical noise depends only on the bkgr rate.*

## Bright and faint source observations:

$$\left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \gg S} = \sqrt{\frac{r_s}{2r_b}} \left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \ll S}$$

*They can differ by:*

*-effective area*

*-different energies control.*

For example non-focusing high-B X-ray detector, PC & MC has large collecting area A, is sensitive up to 60 keV.

Focusing low-B reaches only about 8 keV.  $A_{\text{eff}} \ll A_{\text{coll}}$ .

For bright sources, a high-B large area system can yield a higher significance (S/N) in a given time that can a low-B system.

*The Rossi X-ray Timing Explorer (RXTE)  
low E and ang. resolution, great timing  
accuracy.*



## Bright and faint source observations:

$$\left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \gg S} = \sqrt{\frac{r_s}{2r_b}} \left(\frac{S}{\sigma_s}\right)_{B \ll S}$$

*They can differ by:*

*-effective area*

*-different energies control.*

$\frac{r_s}{r_b}$  *increases but still well  $\ll 1$*

The sensitivity of high-B detector moves toward the sensitivity of low-B detector.

*The advantage of the low-B detector decreases as the source brightens.*

When source becomes so bright in the high-B detector that it exceeds its high bkgr, the weak-bkgr limit applies to both detectors.

## Homework #5: Writing exercise (old style):

1 ) The magnitude of the charge pulse from proportional counter fluctuates in value from one incident X ray to another, even when the incident X rays all have the same energy,  $E$ , those obtained from iron 55 radioactive source.

- a) Consider the detection of 6.0 keV X-rays in an argon- filled PC. What is the standard deviation in the units of keV of these fluctuations if they arise mostly from Poisson fluctuations in a number of ion pairs created by the initial photo-electrons? Assume that there are no escape photons, and consider only the first generation of ion pairs, those created by the several initial photo-electrons with a combined energy of 6.0 keV. What is the fractional energy resolution defined as the FWHM of the response curve divided by the mean energy, at this X-ray energy?
- b) What are the fractional energy resolutions at energies 2 keV and 30 keV?

# NEXT LECTURE on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 2022

- Overview of HW#3 and #4

- **data to practice are:**

wi-fi password: a w sercu maj

We have **eduroam** as well