Contribution ID: 20 Type: not specified

Development and manufacturing of the eXTP/WFM X-ray instrument engineering model

Thursday 27 November 2025 10:40 (20 minutes)

The original eXTP (enhanced X-ray Timing and Polarimetry) space mission - a project of CAS (Chinese Academy of Sciences) - had a large involvement of Europe until it was de-scoped to a "China-only" mission in 2024. Its scientific payload included the WFM (Wide Field Monitor), an instrument led by Europe with M.Hernanz as PI, that reached phase B2, after successfully undergoing the I-SRR (Instrument System Requirements Review) in mid-2023.

The WFM for eXTP is a wide field X-ray monitor instrument in the 2-50 keV energy range. It has an unprecedented combination of large field of view and imaging, with a very good spectral resolution, down to 2 keV. In view of the current situation, a reduced WFM can be considered as the payload of future ESA missions or even missions of other agencies, like ISRO in India.

We will present the work led by ICE-CSIC regarding the WFM, with a special focus on the development of an engineering model, in collaboration with industrial partners in Spain (Sener and Tecnalia), and funded by the Plan Complementario ASTROHEP.

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Session Classification: Plenary Session