

7th CAS-ESA-MPE collaboration workshop on Einstein Probe 20240424-26



FXT Status Update

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- > FXT on-orbit commission
- > FXT performance
- > Summary





FXT on-orbit commission

- ✓ January 10: Sunshade cover A/B was unlocked and unfolded at a small angle;
- ✓ January 11-24: FXT temperature controller controlled the temperature and completed the FXT baking process;
- ✓ January 25-26: pnCCD-A was powered on for the first time and underwent background and mode testing;
- ✓ February 5: pnCCD A/B were powered on and worked normally;
- ✓ February 22: Cover of FXT-A opened, observing M87;
- ✓ February 28: Cover of FXT-B opened, and both FXT units observed Crab simultaneously;
- ✓ March 5: pnCCD-A radiation source test;
- ✓ April 5: pnCCD-B radiation source test.



FXT thermal control: early in orbit





Early in orbit:

- The temperature of each component meets the storage temperature requirements.
- The actual measurement of thermal control is consistent with expectations and meets the requirements.



FXT thermal control: baking stage





FXT thermal control: observations



|屏蔽盒

7

 $\times 10^{2}$



制冷机性能满足要求



- The temperature stability meets the technical specifications: the temperature control target point of pnCCD-A is -95 ℃; pnCCD-B is -90.95 ℃, with fluctuations of ± 0.05 ℃ during long-term continuous operation.
- Stable output power of refrigeration unit: Refrigerator A has an output power of 16.5 ± 1W; Refrigerator B has an output power of 18.5 ± 1W with a significant cooling margin.



The two detector boxes are operating normally

- Both detector-boxes have undergone work mode testing and have completed preliminary in orbit
- > FXT-A: Full Frame, Partial-window, Timing and Power saving mode
- **FXT-B: Full Frame, Partial-window, Timing mode**
- Command reception and execution are normal
- Scientific and engineering data are normal
- The pnCCD detector is operating normally and its performance meets expectations





The electronic control box

- Function completion status:
- The communication between the electronic control box, satellite platform, and the internal 5 electronic units interfaces of the FXT payload is normal;
- > There is no loss or misalignment of scientific data;
- > The management strategy on the two detectors is normal.
- The management strategy for the filter wheel (monitoring bright earth and mirror reflection) is normal.

The electronic control box is operating normally.





Filter wheel

> Open

- Thin filter (80 nm Al+200 nm Pl)
- Medium filter (200 nm Al+400 nm Pl)
- Hole filter (hole; 80 nm Al+200 nm Pl)
- Closed (2mm-thick AI)
- Calibration (Fe-55)





- Sunshade mechanism successfully completed in orbit mission
- The filter wheel rotates according to the control strategy
 - Filter wheel A&B tested for all of the 6 positions/filters
 - Everything is running well
 - All remote measurement status monitoring is normal
- The motion mechanism controller is working properly



FXT commission

- ✓ March 5-19:
- ✓ NGC 2516: Coordinate Conversion Matrix
- ✓ Crab: Time System
- Omega Centauri: Coordinate Conversion Matrix
- ✓ 3C 273 and SRGA J144459.2-604207: Angular resolution; optimize the mirror temperature.
- ✓ Vela SNR and M87: Imaging quality, E-C calibration, effective area calibration.
- The performance meets the requirements, and detailed calibration analysis is needed in the future.



FXT-A on-orbit Fe-55 measurement

data and folded model





PSF measurements



3C273



FXT spectrum





- Partial-window mode and timing mode are newly developed modes compared to eROSITA
- > The parameters were optimized in-orbit
- The optimized discharge time is set to 200 microseconds
- Operate stably for observations







FXT observation of M87 and Crab



Feb. 22, FXT-A observation of M87

Feb. 28, FXT-A&B observation of Crab



- Medium filter, Full Frame mode, ~40000 s
- 139 sources detected by FXT-A, with 38 cataloged sources (1eRASS, 4XMM, 2RXS, 2SXPS)
- 134 sources by FXT-B, with 44 cataloged sources







Searching for X-ray transients

Source name	Count rate (cts/s)	remarks
EPF_J063443.5+314436	0.080	Counterpart: QSO, z=0.24
EPF_J043532.7-114627	0.10	AGN
EPF_J033546.2+490408	0.10	AGN
EPF_J060543.7+231308	0.10	Star flare



Follow-up observation

Source name	Obs. time	remarks	
EPW20240306aa	2024-03-08 09:30:01 2024-03-08 12:35:47	Star flare	
EPW20240222aa	2024-03-13 00:10:01 2024-03-13 01:46:43	TDE candidate	
EPW20240309aa	2024-03-16 02:00:01 2024-03-16 03:42:41	X-ray binary	
EP240315a	2024-03-17 14:10:01 2024-03-17 16:34:28	After glow of γ -ray burst $z = 4.9$	
	2024-03-18 16:00:01 2024-03-18 19:52:30		
EPW20240320aa	2024-03-21 20:00:01 2024-03-21 21:09:53	Star CME (coronal mass ejection)	



Test & calibration status

	Test item	Requirements	Test results
1	FXT power on	Normal	normal
2	Unlock, unfold the sunshade cover	Normal	All successful
3	Refrigerator temperature control	PNCCD temperature control to target temperature \pm 0.5 °C (-95 °C \leq target temperature \leq -85 °C)	Temperature stability ≤ 0.5 °C
4	Detector working	Full frame, Partial-window and Timing mode	Working modes are all normal
5	mode	Three working states: normal, offset calibration, and SAA	Working states are all normal
6		Energy range: 0.5 keV~8 keV	0.3 keV~10 keV
7	X-ray imaging	Effective area: $\geq 100 \text{ cm}^2@1.25 \text{ keV}$, on axis	Roughly consistent with ground calibration ~300 cm ² @1.25 keV (Further detailed calibration is needed)
8	3	Angular resolution: $\leq 2'$ HPD	A: 23.7"; B: 20.1"; on axis, 20°C

	item	requirement	Test result	
1.	Source location accuracy	< 20"(90% C.L.), J2000	< 10" (90% C.L.) J2000 (still optimizing)	2.2



3. Summary

- > The FXT instrument is operating normally in orbit
- FXT has good in-orbit performance and meets the requirements
- The particle induced background is very low for FXT
- Preliminary scientific results have been made
- > Detailed calibration will be conducted in the next step

Thanks!