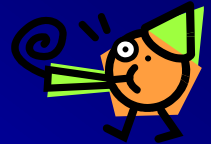


News from ESAC

Erik Kuulkers
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ESA/ESAC/ISOC

- INTEGRAL operations still running smoothly, no major problems
21-24 December 2010 - revolution 1000
- INTEGRAL mission extended: At their 130th meeting on 18/19 November 2010 ESA's Science Programme Committee approved the extension of INTEGRAL operations until 31 December 2012 + an indicative extension until 31 December 2014, subject to a mid-term review in 2012
- Rev 976 (Oct 10, 2010): Both JEM-X1 & 2 operating
- Rev 1010 (Jan 20, 2011): JEM-X1 & 2 default HV setting lowered by one step (10V): new nominal DV settings: J1 = 69 (dec) (690 V), J1 = 70 (dec) (700 V)
- Next SPI annealing: April/May?
- No change in current ISOC staff; but:
 - Young Graduate Trainee left in June 2010 (Delphine Anger)
 - Research Fellow left in October 2010 (Simone Migliari)
 - From 1.0 to 1.5 FTE on Archive



Upcoming call for AO-9



ISOC is preparing the next call for proposals requesting INTEGRAL observing time:

- 7 March 2011: Release of AO-9: call for observing time proposals.
 - 15 April 2011 (14:00 CET): Deadline for submission of observing time proposals.
 - June 2011: Meeting of the Time Allocation Committee.
 - 5 September 2011: Release of AO-9: call for data rights proposals.
 - 14 October 2011 (14:00 CET): Deadline for submission of data rights proposals.
 - November 2011: Meeting of the Time Allocation Committee:
 - 1 January 2012: Start of AO-9 cycle of observations
-
- AO-9 documentation finalized - inputs JEM-X team: thanks!



AO-9 (continued)

- Scientific categories for proposal submission and TAC modified:
 1. **Galactic** astronomy (point sources only, including stellar-mass collapsed objects, both binaries and isolated systems)
 2. **Extragalactic** astronomy (point sources [AGN, Blazars, Seyferts], clusters of galaxies, cosmic diffuse background and GRB)
 3. **Nucleosynthesis** (including diffuse continuum and line emissions).
- - Most proposals to be dedicated to KP (>1 Msec), rest standard (<1 Msec) & TOO observations (up to ~ 2.2 Msec reserved), all in 1st call. 25% of open time reserved for Russian proposals.
- Associated (data rights) proposals can be submitted (2nd call) for targets in the FOV of the KP & standard proposals, but NOT for TOO proposals.
- Multi-year proposal - PGT has been updated
- About 324 ksec (incl. overhead) reserved for public observations of the Cosmic Diffuse X-ray background (CXB) radiation via Earth occultation - May 2012 (+AO10 & AO11)
- PIMMS/WebPIMMS text for JEM-X updated (HEASARC)



