X-ray Science Interest Group

Kissimmee, Florida January 4, 2016

2015: Busy & Eventful

- With PhysPAG input, NASA decided to prepare 4 large mission concepts, including X-ray Surveyor, for presentation to 2020 decadal survey
- NASA selected 3 SMEX mission concepts, including 2 on X-ray polarimetry, for concept study
- ESA and NASA proceeded with Athena Science Study
- ISRO launched Astrosat

2016: Exciting and Pivotal

- Astro-H & NICER will launch, each with unprecedented capabilities
- NASA will select a SMEX for launch in ~2020, and accept proposals for a MIDEX for launch ~2023
- NASA will select Science & Technology Definition Teams to study large missions, including X-ray Surveyor (details at PAG plenary later today?)
- ESA will conclude Athena Phase A1 and issue an AO for Athena instruments

Agenda

Introduction

Astro-H Status & Prospects

NICER Status & Prospects

Athena Update

X-ray Surveyor Activities

PhysPAG statement on probes

Discussion: Probes & 2020 Decadal

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R. Petre

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All