

The State of X-ray Astronomy

XRSIG co-chairs: R. Kraft (SAO) & J. Tomsick (Berkeley)

- Chandra, XMM-Newton, and NuSTAR continue to work well and produce lots of exciting science results!
- The Lynx mission concept study (study leads: A. Vikhlinin & F. Ozel) is well advanced and would represent a paradigm-changing capability in ability to understand the high redshift Universe and formation of structure
- X-ray Astrophysics Recovery Mission (XARM) under development
- US scientists are playing an important role in the development of the Athena XIFU and WFI instruments
- Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (PI: M. Weisskopf) SMEX funded to flight
- ARCUS (PI: R. Smith) – a proposed MIDEX concept to perform high resolution, high throughput X-ray spectroscopy selected for phase A study.
- Three Probe concepts selected for mission design studies – AXIS (PI: R. Mushotsky), Strobe-X (PI: P. Ray), and TAP (PI: J. Camp)

Recent and Future XRSIG events

- XRSIG meeting at Sun Valley, ID HEAD/AAS meeting – Aug 2017
 - Active discussion of Probe concepts – AXIS, Strobe-X, and TAP
 - We saw the eclipse! Fantastic!
- XRSIG participation in the Multi-messenger Study Analysis Group
- XRSIG meeting at 231st AAS meeting
- Next meeting will probably be at the Mar, 2018 HEAD meeting entitled ‘High Energy Astrophysics in the 2020s and Beyond’ – agenda TBD
- Apr 2018 APS meeting