

Solar System and Exoplanets

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Introduction

- In the last decade, X-ray studies of our solar system have been greatly advanced with XMM-Newton, Chandra and Suzaku
- The knowledge of our solar system is applicable to a variety of astrophysical themes such as charge exchange, particle acceleration and exoplanets
- Rapidly growing X-ray studies of exoplanets allow us to study planetary atmosphere and star-planet interaction
- Connected to the themes of ESA's cosmic vision "How does the Solar System work ?" and "What are the conditions for planet formation and the emergence of life ?"





















Bhardwaj+07, Dennerl+10, Ezoe+11

X-ray production mechanisms

• Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Moon, Io, Europa, Ganymede, Asteroids, Io Plasma Torus, Comets, Heliosphere, ...



- Elastic and K-shell fluorescent scattering of solar X-rays
- Crevens+05



• Charge exchange (CX) e.g., $H + O^{7+} \rightarrow H^+ + O^{6+} + hv$

solar wind or magnetospheric ions

- Electron bremsstrahlung
- Electron/Ion collisions with line emission
- Electron inverse Compton scattering

Remote X-ray observations are being established as new diagnostics of planetary atmospheres and magnetospheres

Typical angular size vs X-ray flux



X-rays from Jupiter

First detection with Einstein
 → aurora by heavy ion precipitation & charge exchange ?

Metzger+83 Horanyi+88 Waite+88

 High angular resolution imaging & spectroscopy by Chandra and XMM
 → two components = aurora and disk (low & middle latitude)



Gladstone+02



Branduardi-Raymont+07

Jupiter's aurora

- Chandra detection of X-ray pulsation with a ~45 min period faster than the rotational period 10 hrs but similar to QP radio bursts
 Not detected in subsequent observations
- Broad OVII and OVIII components (+/- 5000 km/s) in XMM RGS spectrum corresponding to MeV/amu oxygen ions
 <-> electric field potential along magnetic field lines
 Cravens+03 Bunce+04





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Open questions

- Do solar wind conditions affect X-ray \bullet auroral emission?
 - Correlation with solar wind radial \bullet velocity?
- 45 min pulsation ? Why so rare ?
- What is the origin of ions? solar wind or magnetospheric or both
 - Larger velocity shear at the • boundary of magnetosphere can cause particle injection?
 - XMM EPIC and Suzaku detected \bullet low energy line(s) : CVI (0.37 keV) or SXI, SXII (0.32, 0.34 keV) ?

0.0016 0.0014



Kimura+ JGR submitted

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A way forward to Athena

Athena X-IFU will reveal :

 (1) ion species, (2) velocity distributions of ions, (3) energy distribution of electrons and (4) their time variabilities



esa

JUICE (2030 orbit insertion) In-situ particle measurements ⇔ Global X-ray imaging spectroscopy



Athena will settle the long debate on the origin of ions and will test theories of particle transportation and acceleration in the Jupiter's m-sphere

Galilean satellites, the IPT, radiation belts

- X-rays from Io and Europa : energetic ion impact on the surfaces → fluorescent lines ?
- The Io Plasma Torus :
 Soft continuum + OVII line
- Diffuse X-rays from radiation belts : Inverse Compton scattering by tens MeV electrons ? → PL







Chandra ACIS 86 ks Elsner+06

Athena can characterize their spectra and time variabilities

Saturn

Ness+04a,b Bhardwaj+05a,b

- Disk and polar X-rays show similar coronal spectra unlike Jupiter
- Good correlation b/w X-ray and solar 10.7 cm flux
 → scattering of solar X-rays
- Saturn's Ring : fluorescent scattering of solar X-rays on H₂O icy ring

Chandra ACIS, 37 ks, 36 ks



0.24-2 keV



Athena will push search for X-ray aurorae and understanding of X-rays from the ring to much greater depth



0.49-0.62 keV

X-rays from Mars

Dennerl+06a, b Ishikawa+11

• Disk by scattering of solar X-rays in its upper atmosphere and halo by CX in its exosphere





b

~ 500 km/s

Athena will allow us to study chemical composition of ions and neutrals in the Martian exosphere and its atmospheric escape

New X-ray sources?

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Exoplanets

- X-ray emission at young stages of a star will influence physical and chemical evolution of planetary atmospheres

 - Star planet interaction → magnetic interplay
 - Flare, stellar wind → atmospheric escape





picture credit: NASA







Athena can search for X-ray transits during planetary orbits, confirm starplanet interaction and search for spectral signatures

ASTRO-H Coming Soon

- ASTRO-H is the 6th Japanese X-ray astronomy satellite scheduled to be launched in 2016
- Now the spacecraft is on the vibration test
- Jupiter is a candidate for performance verification targets
 - AH Hisaki JUNO campaign is planned







Ezoe+15

Summary

- Athena investigations of solar system and exoplanets will give us ever deeper insights in the complex working of planetary atmospheres and magnetospheres
- These studies will also provide a necessary step to understanding the details of CX and particle accelerations, and to applying them to wider contexts of Athena main science
- Including solar system and exoplanets as targets for Athena will add a new dimension to the mission's science and a dimension that is in itself one of the themes of ESA's cosmic vision
- The authors are grateful to SOC and LOC for giving this opportunity and to SW team members for good discussions