



Friends of IXPE Forum

Mission and Data Processing

Status Updates

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☐ Data and processing status

- Nominal.
- Reprocessing of early IXPE observations has started. So far, Cas A and Cen X-3 (first two science targets from Jan 2022) have been re-released to HEASARC.
 - Retrieved data loss due to early mission operations limitations (primarily due to the prime mission requirement to make data public within two weeks of each observation)
 - Will continue to reprocess one target at a time. IXPE data processing requires the detector charge distribution map at the end of the previous observation. Observations done in the first ~6 months of the mission will take longer for data recovery, but the remaining targets should be faster.
- IXPE is observing a ToO MAXI J1750-327, a new black hole transient that rose to the 2nd brightest X-ray target in just a few days.

☐ FTOOLS update:

- New HEASoft (6.37) was released on 2026-08-16:
(see previous Friends of IXPE slides and the release notes for details)
 - **ixpefilemerge** (NEW): merging multi-segment or multi-component observations.
 - **ixpeflagbgd**: now work with CALDB; **ixpepolarization**: file handling updates; **ixpeproduct**: bug fixes.

☐ SAA zone update will be a 3-step process, IXPE has now finished the first two steps. At the very least we will adopt the approach that will gain 180 seconds of science time per orbit.

☐ **XSPEC version 13.0.0**

- Major updates with Bayesian inference and global optimization.
- New polarization-specific fitting statistics (chistokes which treats Q/U cross-covariance).
- New spectropolarimetric reflection models.
- Many more. See HEASoft release note and the new XSPEC manual for details:
https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/software/lheasoft/release_notes/RelNotes_6.37.0.html
<https://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/software/xspec/manual/XspecManual.html>

☐ **We plan to invite the XSPEC team members to future Friends of IXPE meetings.**