

X-rays from Star Forming Regions

DATA ANALYSIS SESSION: RESULTS

Reports from students

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List of Data Sets

- ORION Nebula Cluster (Chandra; User1 and User2)
- ρ Ophiuchi core
 - Chandra (User3 and User4)
 - XMM-Newton (User9 and User10)
- NGC 6530 (Chandra; User5 and User6)
- σ Orionis field (XMM-Newton; User7 and User8)
- Taurus-Auriga Star Forming Region (XMM-Newton)
 - Field1 (User11 and User12)
 - Field2 (User14 and User15)
 - BP Tauri field (User16 and User18)





Recalling the Sequence of steps

Electronic signals of instrumentation on-board



Pre-processing on-board



Download to ground center (telemetry-limited)

From raw data to event files and quick-look science products



Event files at user destination



Constellation school (A lot of preparatory work!)

Science-driven data screening



Extraction of science products (images, time series, spectra)



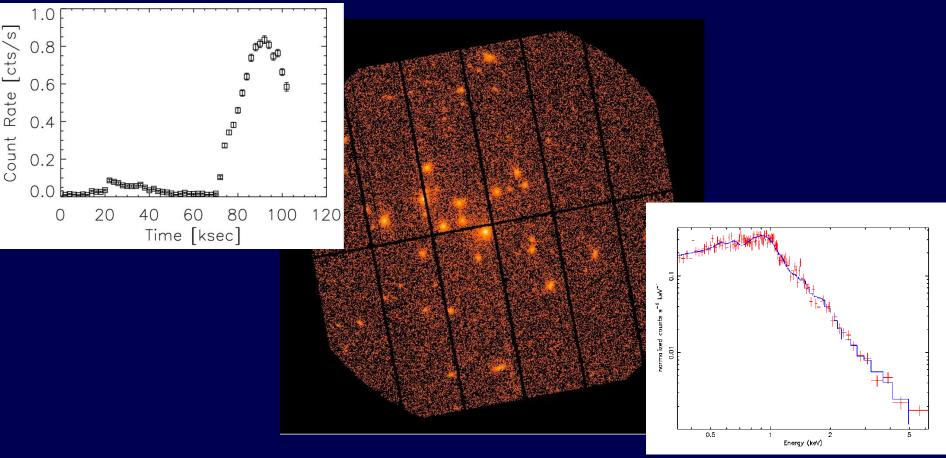
Analysis of science products





Recalling Science Products

 XMM-Newton European Photon Imaging Camera (EPIC) observation of a Star Forming Region with the pn CCD detector







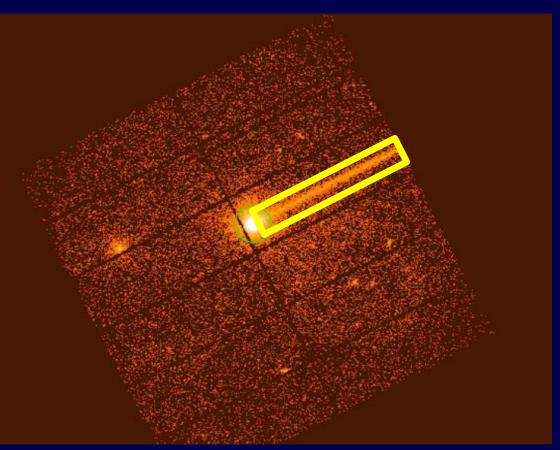
Possible issues to discuss

- Data screening/filtering
 - Chandra/ACIS vs. XMM-Newton/EPIC-pn images
- Detection of X-ray sources
 - Exposure and background maps
 - Crowdyness and source location issues
- Source Identification
- Extraction of source and background X-ray photons
- X-ray light curves (quiescent vs. flaring emission)
- X-ray spectra
 - Stellar vs. Extragalactic sources
 - Low- vs. High-absorption spectral signatures
 - Temperature diagnostics
 - Late-type stars vs. Early-type stars
 - · Quiescent vs. Flaring plasma
 - Abundance diagnostics





Recalling Out-of-Time (OoT) events



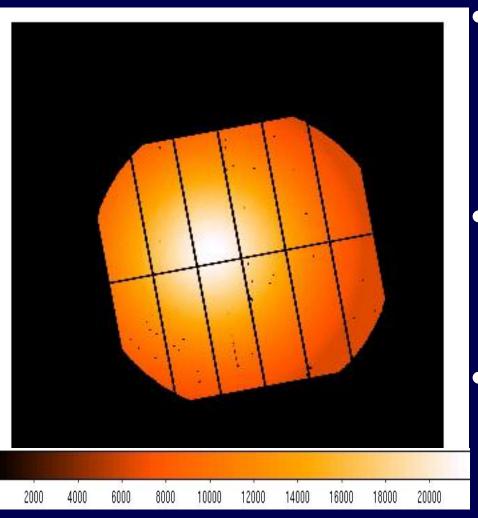
- OoT events: photons registered during CCD read-out
- OoT events create in images a strip of wrongly reconstructed event positions and broaden spectral features in RAWY (see CTE correction issues)
- Spurious sources can be found along this strip by the detection algorithm, requiring interactive screening "by hand"







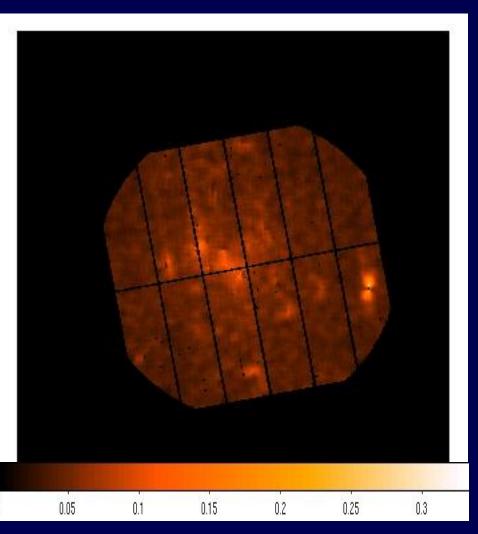
Recalling the Exposure Map



- Instrument sensitivity decreases from the aim point (optical axis) toward the edges of the field of view (vignetting effect)
- This effect is described as a decrease of the exposure time for increasing off-axis angle
- The exposure map also describes other obscuration effects in the field of view (e.g. CCD gaps)
- It is qualitatively similar to a "flat field" in optical images



Recalling the Background Map



- Background includes all sources of instrumental noise + diffuse sky emission (including a solar contribution) + photons in the PSF tails of actual X-ray sources in the field
- Required for source detection and S/N ratio
- Equivalent to dark+bias+sky frames in optical photometry



