

The next generation of X-ray sensitive space-based observatories and their potential for blazar variability studies

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Summary

Blazars are clearly variable in all spectral bands, and their variability places additional constraints on their structure and emission processes. This presentation covers the current results and future opportunities regarding variability of blazars as measured in the X-ray band. In particular, it highlights recent results from observations with the Asca, RXTE, XMM, and Suzaku satellites, and discusses the potential for studies of X-ray variability (including observational constraints, and anticipated results) from broad-band studies in the GLAST era. It also discusses the future missions - such as NuSTAR, NeXT, and Con-X - that are likely to provide new insight on blazar structure, especially via the new data resulting from sensitive time-resolved observations in the hard X-ray band.

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