



FACULTY OF SCIENCE Institute for Astronomy und Astrophysics High Energy Astrophysics



### Grazing Angle Soft Proton Scattering Measurements for X-ray Optics

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#### Outline

- Introduction and Motivation
- Experimental Setup
- Implementation of Experimental Results in Geant4
- Summary

#### Introduction and Motivation Focusing X-Ray Optics



- Wolter Type I optics focus incoming X-rays via two reflections
- Reflections on combination of parabolic and hyperbolic mirrors
- Nested mirror shells enlarge effective area



Credit: NASA's Imagine the Universe



Credit: D. de Chambure, XMM Project (ESTEC)

But: (Soft) Protons are also focused – and the orbital focal plane soft proton flux exceeded expectations.

#### Introduction and Motivation

#### Soft Protons Effects on X-ray Detectors

- Soft proton energy range:
  - ~10 keV-10 MeV
- Two types of proton radiation effects concerning astronomical observations:
  - Contributions to background of observations (e.g. XMM-Newton EPIC background)
  - Degradation of the detector performance (e.g. front illuminated CCDs of *Chandra* ACIS instrument)



Soft protons have a stronger impact on X-ray instrumentation than energetic protons – experimental data is needed to verify simulation results.

modified

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## Experimental Setup Accelerator Facility in Tübingen







- 3 MV single-ended Van de Graaff accelerator:
  - Beam energy range: 400 keV–2.5 MeV
  - Beam current: 200 nA–40 μA
  - 6 beam lines
  - Several light ion types besides protons (e.g. helium)



#### Soft Proton Scattering Setup

- **Two pairs of slits** align the proton beam with the setup
- Pinhole aperture reduces incoming beam current and, therefore, the rates on detectors
- Degrader foil widens beam to measure incident proton flux via monitor detectors
- Collimator focuses part of the beam on target
- Target is mounted on a tiltable table to be able to change the incidence angle Ψ
- Scattering angle θ is defined by the position of the detector at the end of the beam line



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# Experimental Setup Scattering Target and Detectors

- eROSITA mirror shell:
  - Nickel substrate with 50 nm gold coating
  - 12 cm length, 6 cm width



- Silicon surface barrier detectors:
  - Used as monitor detectors and to detect scattered protons
  - Energy resolution between 10–20 keV
  - Typical count rates up to 2×10<sup>5</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> can be achieved
  - Low energy threshold 80–100 keV





Credit: Canberra Industries, Inc., modified

#### Experimental Setup Measurements

• Scattering efficiency:

$$\eta(\Psi, \Theta) = \frac{N_{\text{det}}(\Psi, \Theta)}{N_{\text{inc}}} \cdot \frac{1}{\Omega(\Theta)}$$

Most probable energy loss:

$$\Delta E(\Psi, \Theta) = \mu_{\text{Gauss,inc}} - \mu_{\text{Gauss,det}}(\Psi, \Theta)$$

 Parameters selected for efficiency and energy loss measurements:

Proton energies (keV)	Incidence angle $arPsi$ (deg)	Scattering angle $\Theta$ (deg)
250, 500, 1000	0.3 – 1.2	0.5 – 4.1



- Incidence angle  $\Psi$
- Scattering angle  $\Theta$
- Number of detected protons N<sub>det</sub>
- Number of incident protons N<sub>inc</sub>
- Solid angle of detector  $\Omega$



#### Scattering Efficiency for 500 keV Protons (1)



(Diebold et al., Exp. Ast., 2015)



#### Scattering Efficiency for 500 keV Protons (2)



(Diebold et al., Exp. Ast., 2015)



#### Scattering Efficiency for 500 keV Protons (3)



Measured scattering efficiencies have shown no significant dependency on incidence energy.

(Diebold et al., Exp. Ast., 2015)

# Experimental Setup Energy Loss Analysis





Most probable energy loss depends on the incidence energy, increases to larger scattering angles and is almost independent of the incidence angle.

(Diebold et al., Exp. Ast., 2015)

Implementation of Experimental Results in Geant4

#### G4GrazingAngleScattering Class



- Two models implemented: Analytical scattering descriptions by Firsov (1967) and Remizovich et al. (1980)
- Recent experimental results included as third "model" the Tübingen measurements
- Inherits from G4VDiscreteProcess: Trajectories will only be modified after current step



Implementation of Experimental Results in Geant4

### Usage

- Add process to user physics list in simulation
- Set suitable parameters:



Scattering model	Firsov, Remizovich or Tübingen measurements
Maximum incidence angle $\Psi_0$	Process will only scatter particles whose incidence angle is within this value
Mean angle $\chi$	Scattering in xz-Plane (for Firsov and Tübingen model), provided via a simple gaussian, ignored in case of Remizovich model
Standard deviation for $\chi$	Corresponding to mean angle $\chi$

#### Implementation of Experimental Results in Geant4 Status (1)





- Experimental results (dark blue) compared to Remizovich description around  $\chi = \pm 0.03^{\circ}$  (light violett) for  $E = 1000 \text{ keV}, \Psi_0 = 0.33^{\circ}$
- Same as on the left, but with  $E = 1000 \text{ keV}, \Psi_0 = 1.03^\circ$

(Guzman et al. 2017, submitted)

#### Implementation of Experimental Results in Geant4 Status (2)





• Scattering efficiency for Tübingen model simulated with G4GrazingAngleScattering (red) and experimental results (black) for  $E_0 = 1000$  keV,  $\Psi_0 =$ 1.03° around  $\chi = \pm 0.03°$ 



• Tübingen model simulated with G4GrazingAngleScattering (green) and Remizovich Function (red) for  $E_0 = 977$ keV,  $\Psi_0 = 1.03^\circ$ 

(Guzman et al. 2017, submitted)



#### **Ongoing Work**

- Experimental setup:
  - Two off axis detectors added to gather scattering data in azimuthal directions
  - Running scattering tests with different mirror samples, e.g. plane surface with aluminium coating, silicon pore optics (similar to the ones from ATHENA)



### **Ongoing Work**



- Simulation:
  - Refining processes with new measurement results: distribution information in azimuthal direction, measurements with different mirror samples
  - Goal: Simulate soft proton scattering effects (e.g. flux in focal plane and on detectors as well as surroundings) for whole observatory mirror geometry





- Scattering efficiencies and most probable energy loss for eROSITA mirror prototypes (gold coated nickel) for grazing incidence angles have been studied at the accelerator facility of the University of Tübingen.
- Measured scattering efficiencies are significantly higher than previously estimated efficiencies.
- Most probable energy loss depends on the incidence energy, increases to larger scattering angles and is almost independent of the incidence angle. Measured energy loss is significantly higher than previously estimated.
- Results have been implemented in a G4GrazingAngleScattering class together with analytical descriptions of Remizovich and Firsov to enable the usage of recent experimental data in simulations.

#### Thank you!