

PhoENiX<u>Physics of Energetic and Non-thermal plasmas</u> in the X (= magnetic reconnection) region





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Science Goal

Understanding of particle acceleration during magnetic reconnection



- Science Objectives
- To identify *particle acceleration sites* <u>in reconnection-associated structures</u> in solar flares
- 2. To investigate *the timing of particle acceleration* <u>during reconnection-associated</u> <u>phenomena</u> in solar flares
- To characterize the properties of accelerated particle populations in solar flares

Energy of electrons

Accelerated particles are deviated from equilibrium.





m⁻² s⁻¹

10³

10⁰

The energy of accelerated particles achieves up to 10²⁰ eV. Accelerated particles are ubiquitously detected in the universe.







How are particles accelerated? It is not fully understood.



Super Nova Remnant (long time acceleration)



Gamma-ray Burst (<mark>short time</mark> acceleration)



Balbo+ 2011

1st order Fermi-acceleration Statistical acceleration How are particles accelerated in very short time?

Magnetic reconnection is a key.





Balbo+ 2011

September 2010

How are particles accelerated in very short time?

Credits: eCUIP and ISDC

October 2010

Magnetic Reconnection

MR is fundamental plasma process and ubiquitously occurs in the universe.













 $R_{e} = 1.54$



Significance of solar flare study

[Plasma physics]

Natural laboratory of plasma

- Magnetic reconnection
- Particle acceleration

[Unique observation target]

The closest star

 Solar phenomenon can be observed with wide field of view and with spatial and temporal resolutions

[Impacts on the Earth and social environments]

The mother of the Earth

- Evolution of life (cosmic rays)
- Space weather

[As a star]

Reference of other astrophysical objects





2011-09-12 05:34:16 UT

Magnetic Reconnection Picture in Solar Flare

has been established by both observation and theory.





Magnetic reconnection & Particle acceleration in solar flare



1. A solar flare is an efficient accelerator.





Particle Acceleration is one of the long-standing major puzzles in solar physics





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Science Objectives of PhoENiX mission

- 1. Identify particle acceleration sites in solar flares [where]
- 2. Investigate temporal evolution of particle acceleration [when]
- 3. Characterize properties of accelerated particles [how]



planned to be realized in Solar Cycle 26 (2030')

Required measurements to trace the accelerated particles in MHD-scale solar flare system

(Update from past or existing observations)



Above-the-looptop & footpoint sources













Observational Approach for Scientific Objectives





Why X-rays and Gamma-rays? – comparison with <u>spectroscopy</u> in other wavelengths









Specification of the PhoENiX instruments

observational capability	Requirement	Rationale	
	Requirements for observing sol	ar flares (common requirements for observations in all energy bands)	
FOV	> 360×360 arcsec ²	The entire flare area must fit in the field of view.	
Observation time	> 10 minutes	At least, to observe from pre-flare to the peak of flare.	
Temporal resolition	< 10 sec per spectrum < 1 sec per light curve	For the spectrum, it is specified by the Alfvén time; For the light curve, it is specified by the propagation time of accelerated electrons.	
Requirements for investigati	ng the plasma structure produced	d by flare systems and the electron population during acceleration: Soft X-ray imaging spectroscopy	
Energy coverage	0.5 keV – 10 keV	To obtain the temperature of the plasma structure (thermal spectrum) and information about the electrons under acceleration (spectrum deviating from the thermal distribution).	
Energy resolution	< 0.2 keV (FWHM)	To distinguish the emission line group and the continuum component	
Spatial resolution	< 2 arcsec (FWHM)	Since the structures produced by magnetic reconnection contain scale-free ones, we set the requirements for spatial resolution as follows: For large scale flares (~10 ⁵ km ~ 140"), plasma structures should be identified by resolving each Zone. For small flares (~10 ⁴ km ~ 14"), at least the flare region can be resolved into Zones 1 to 4.	
Dynamic range	> 104	To observe all the Zones even when the flare loops increase in intensity	
hoton number per spectrum	> 1600 photons	To suppress the measurement error of temperature and density to 10% or less	
Requireme	nts for detecting accelerated elec	tron populations and tracking their propagation: Hard X-ray imaging spectroscopy	
Energy coverage	5 keV – 30 keV	To obtain information on accelerated electrons (power spectrum deviating from thermal distribution)	
Energy resolution	< 1 keV (FWHM)	To detect components with different acceleration states (broken power law spectrum)	
Positioning accuracy	< 2 arcsec	It is crucial to determine the position of the accelerating electrons in the spatially resolved plasma structure (candidate acceleration source). The accuracy of this determination should be the same as	
Spatial resolution	< 4 arcsec (FWHM)	spatial resolution required to investigate the plasma structure. To achieve this accuracy, the spatial resolution should be twice as high as that required to the positioning accuracy.	
Dynamic range	> 10 ³	To observe all the Zones even when the foot point of loop increase in intensity	
Photon number per spectrum	> 3200 photons	To suppress the measurement error of the total number of accelerated electrons to a factor of 2 or less	
Requirements for	investigating the anisotropy of ac	ccelerated electron motion and the maximum energy: Soft gamma-ray spectropolarimetry	
Energy coverage	20 keV – 300 keV, a few MeV	To obtain information on electrons accelerated to higher energies	
Energy resolution	< 10 % (FWHM)	To detect components with different acceleration states (broken power law spectrum)	
Lower limit of detectable polarization	< 10 % in >M5 class flares	To evaluate the anisotropy of the accelerated electron motion. Note that due to the measurement method, the energy range of the polarization measurement is 60 keV - 300 keV.	
Photon number per spectrum	> 500 photons	To achieve the above polarization measurement accuracy	

Instruments and Key technologies of PhoENiX

The basic developments of these technologies have been completed.

~3.0m



<u>High-precision X-ray mirror</u> Resolution: < 2 arcsec Low scatter: 10⁻⁴ @ 20 arcsec



High-speed soft X-ray camera Back-illuminated CMOS sensor

Soft Gamma-ray SpectroPolarimeter

(20 keV ~ > 300 keV (> 1 MeV))

Si/CdTe Compton camera with active shield Polarization measurement: > 60 keV

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Hard X-ray Imaging Spectrometer (5 keV ~ 30 keV)



Large effective area X-ray mirror Resolution: < 4 arcsec (FWHM)



High-sensitivity hard X-ray camera Fine-pitch CdTe detector



FOXSI-3 Soft X-ray data 250 FPS data (4 ms continuous exposure)



X FOXSI-3 phoenix data QL integrated image : 0.00000 photons time profile, photons 50 20 80 100 120 time [sec] image (like pointillism) 65 photons spe<u>ct</u>rum Pre-collimator X-ray mirrors CMOS sensor Pre-filter photons 1.0Camera Box 0. 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 0 energy [eV] E min [eV] : 0 , E max [eV] : 5000 FOXSI-3 instrument lerror loplot view scan 🗐 stop close integ



Data analysis software



Data analysis software (GUI tool) for FOXSI-3

- 1. Selection of area, timing and energy range
- 2. Adjustment of binning for space, time and energy
- 3. Spectral fitting with Xspec

This version is developed with IDL, which is widely used in solar physics community.



FOXSI-4 sounding rocket project : It's time to observe a flare!!



First sounding rocket to observe a solar flare

Science objectives:

- 1. Determine how much particle acceleration occurs in the gradual phase of a flare
- 2. Produce images and spectra of flare footpoints from thermal to non-thermal energies
- 3. Determine where non-thermal sources and heated plasma are located in a given coronal configuration
- 4. Measure the spatial distribution of superhot sources in a flare
- 5. Identify locations of energetic electrons in an erupting CME
- Method: Focusing imaging spectroscopy in X-rays (update of FOXSI-3 observation)

OVERALL GRADE (mark panel overall score with "X")

	Excellent	E/V G	Very Good	VG/ G	Good	G/F	Fair	F/P	Poor
'X': Overall grade.	x								



	July, 2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Schedule	Proposal was accepted by NASA	Design & Development	Fabrication & Test	Integration & Test	Launch!!

FOXSI-4 sounding rocket project

Goal (cf. FOXSI-3)



High-precision electroformed X-ray mirror









Updated CMOS (for soft X-rays) & CdTe (for hard X-rays) detectors

CMOS detector (cf. FOXSI-3) 25 um depletion layer thickness (← 4 um) for

- Higher sensitivity to high-energy X-rays
- Higher robustness against X-rays



CdTe detector (cf. FOXSI-3)

- Position resolution (~30 µm ← 60 um)
- High Count Rate (~5 k events / s / detector





Sub-strip resolution (Furukawa et al., 2020)

Development of key technologies – Soft X-ray mirror, Soft Gamma-ray spectropolarimeter



High precision soft X-ray glass-polished mirror





< 2" FWHM < 4" FWHM (Hinode/XRT) (previous page)



BGO design as

- Active shield for polarimetry
- <u>Detector</u> to evaluate maximum energy (for above MeV detection)

Si/CdTe Compton camera with active shield



Design for PhoENiX: 1CC



Science Objectives of PhoENiX mission

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planned to be realized in Solar Cycle 26 (2030')



Strategy of numerical approach





• MHD calculation ($\sim 10^7 - 10^{10}$ cm) + test particle

- Determine global energy release process
- Provide the magnetic field and velocity field structures (boundary conditions of particle calculations)
 - e.g., Shocks, Magnetic mirror

Particle calculation (~ 10^o - 10² cm)

- e.g., Scattering processes via the wave-particle interaction, etc.
- →For example, pick up local regions and study acceleration
 & trapping processes using kinetic models (e.g., PIC)
- Comparison between numerical simulation and observation
 - via emission model
 - Energy spectrum ⇔ Photon spectrum
 - Electron anisotropy ⇔ Polarization, etc.

Numerical Approach in macro scale MHD for understanding of ambient plasma



MHD simulation of a solar flare (magnetic reconnection) Takasao et al. (2012) calculated by Kaneko 211A 05:08:00.630 630 57 A 05.07. **Possible acceleration sites** PhoENiX density temperature current 150 150 150 150 194A 05:08:02.140 93A 05:07:55.840 10" 100 100 100 100 08:03.620 :08:00.340 · Plasmol y (Mm) y (Mm) y (Mm) y (Mm) outflow 50 50 50 50 Α Observation at to 30 .5 0 0 0 Distance (Mm) 01 .3 thumbnail photoncounting .2 20 20 -20 20 -20 -20 -40 20 -20 0 40 -40 0 40 -40 0 40 0 40 -40 x (Mm) x (Mm) x (Mm) x (Mm) Chen et al. (2015) t = 270.0 sec 8.5 9.0 9.5 10.0 10.5 5.5 6.0 6.5 7.0 7.5 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 8.0 5.0 1.0 $\log_{10} (J [Fr cm^{-2} s^{-1}])$ log₁₀ (T [K]) log₁₀ (n [cm⁻³])

(GHz)



9 10 11 log₁₀(n [cm⁻³])

Numerical Approach <u>in macro scale</u>

MHD + GCA for understanding of particle acceleration





Numerical Approach Emission model for comparison

between observation and numerical simulation





calculated by Nagasawa

Solar corona model in ComptonSoft







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Interdisciplinary approach with strength and heritage of each research field



Space Physics

- Observation in interplanetary space (trace of plasmas from the sun)
- PIC simulation



- Laboratory plasma physics
 - Laboratory experiment of MR

Astrophysics

- X-ray & gamma-ray observations
- X-Ray Spectral Fitting Package (Xspec)
- X-ray emission model
- Key technologies

Common Physics

- Particle Acceleration
- Magnetic Reconnection

Solar Physics

- Solar observations
- MHD simulation
- Key technologies

SolFER (Solar Flare Energy Release) – NASA funded Drive Science Center





SolFER News		Conference	
	Decay of the Coronal Magnetic Field	SolFER DRIVE Science Center Online Science Meeting on Solar Flare Energy Release - May 24-26, 2021	
	SolFER Collaboration Awarded Time on Frontera Supercomputer to Model Solar Flares	CONFERENCE INDICO SITE	
	A New View into the Central Engine of a Large Solar Eruption		
SolFER Collaboration Awarded Time on Frontera Supercomputer to Model Solar Flares			

- **1. Fast Release Mechanisms**
- 2. Onset of Energy Release
- **3. Energization of Electrons**
- 4. Energization of lons
- 5. Particle Transport
- 6. Plasma Heating

PhoENiX can contribute to and collaborate with these topics.



Extra Science



Beyond the PhoENiX Scientific Objectives



Observation of astronomical objects



PhoENiX can observe the astronomical objects near the ecliptic plane (within 5 degree).







Balbo+ 2011

Carb Nebula

Scorpius X-1

Interdisciplinary approach



W773 Tau

AB Dor

R1 R CrA

10⁸

for the understanding of plasma physics beyond individual research field





The universe is filled with High Energy (Accelerated) Particles!!

> *"What is the origin of High Energy Particles?"*

- Energization of space plasmas
- Formation and evolution of life
- Influence on planetary environments

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The sun is unique in that:

- ✓ A natural laboratory of high energy plasmas
- ✓ Mother of life
- ✓ Impact on earth and social environments



https://indico.ipmu.jp/event/395/

Particle acceleration in solar flares and the plasma universe --Deciphering its features under magnetic reconnection

15-19 November 2021

Asia/Tokyo timezone

Overview

Call for Abstracts

Registration

Participant List

Kavli IPMU Code of Conduct

Contact

seminar@ipmu.jp

Dates and time:
Monday, 15 November - Fri, 19 November, 2021
22:00-3:00 JST* each day
(* 21:00-2:00 CST / 14:00-19:00 CET / 8:00-13:00 EST / 5:00-10:00 PST)

Venue:

The workshop will be held as a virtual, online-only event. A link will be sent out later to registered participants.

Registration and Abstract Submission:

Abstract submission deadline is October 19, 2021, 23:59 UT.

Registration is available through November 10, 2021.