Journal of Astronomical Telescopes, Instruments, and Systems

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Inorbit performance of the Hard X-ray Telescope (HXT) on board the Hitomi (ASTRO-H) satellite

Hironori Matsumoto,^{a,*} Hisamitsu Awaki,^b Manabu Ishida,^c Akihiro Furuzawa,^d Shigeo Yamauchi,^e Yoshitomo Maeda,^c Ikuyuki Mitsuishi,^f Yoshito Haba,^g Takayuki Hayashi,^{f,h} Ryo lizuka,^c Kazunori Ishibashi,^f Masayuki Itoh,ⁱ Hideyo Kunieda,^f Takuya Miyazawa,^j Hideyuki Mori,^h Takashi Okajima,^h Satoshi Sugita,^k Keisuke Tamura,^f and Yuzuru Tawara^f

^aOsaka University, Graduate School of Science, Department of Earth and Space Science, Toyonaka, Osaka, Japan

^bEhime University, Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Matsuyama, Japan

^cJapan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, Department of Space Astronomy and Astrophysics, Sagamihara, Japan

^dFujita Health University, School of Medicine, Toyoake, Japan

^eNara Women's University, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Nara, Japan

¹Nagoya University, Division of Particle and Astrophysical Science, Graduate School of Science, Nagoya, Japan

⁹Aichi University of Education, Department of Science Education, Kariya, Japan

^hNASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, X-ray Astrophysics Laboratory, Greenbelt, Maryland, United States

Kobe University, Graduate School of Human Development and Environment, Kobe, Japan

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa, Japan

^kTokyo Institute of Technology, School of Science, Department of Physics, Tokyo, Japan

Abstract. Hitomi (ASTRO-H) carries two Hard X-ray Telescopes (HXTs), which can focus x-rays up to 80 keV. Combined with the hard x-ray imagers (HXIs) that detect the focused x-rays, imaging spectroscopy in the highenergy band from 5 to 80 keV is made possible. We studied characteristics of HXTs after the launch, such as the encircled energy function (EEF) and the effective area using the data of a Crab observation. The half power diameters (HPDs) in the 5- to 80-keV band evaluated from the EEFs are 1.59 arcmin for HXT-1 and 1.65 arcmin for HXT-2. Those are consistent with the HPDs measured with ground experiments when uncertainties are taken into account. We can conclude that there is no significant change in the characteristics of the HXTs before and after the launch. The off-axis angle of the aim point from the optical axis is evaluated to be <0.5 arcmin for both HXT-1 and HXT-2. The best-fit parameters for the Crab spectrum obtained with the HXT-HXI system are consistent with the canonical values. © *The Authors. Published by SPIE under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License. Distribution or reproduction of this work in whole or in part requires full attribution of the original publication, including its DOI.* [DOI: 10.1117/1. JATIS.4.1.011212]

Keywords: x-ray telescope; hard x-rays; multilayer supermirror. Paper 17075SS received Sep. 20, 2017; accepted for publication Jan. 22, 2018; published online Feb. 28, 2018.

1 Introduction

Hitomi (ASTRO-H),¹ developed based on an international collaboration led by ISAS/JAXA in Japan, was launched on February 17, 2016. Hitomi carries two types of x-ray telescopes; one is the Soft X-ray Telescope (SXT),² which focuses x-rays below 10 keV, and the other is the Hard X-ray Telescope (HXT),³ which can focus x-rays up to 80 keV. The HXT adopts a conical approximation to the Wolter-I optics design with a focal length of 12 m. Thin foils of aluminum with a thickness of 0.2 mm and a height of 200 mm are used as reflector substrates. The radius of the innermost reflector is 60 mm, and that of the outermost reflector is 225 mm. The surface of the foils is covered with a multilayer of platinum and carbon to reflect hard x-rays by Bragg reflection. The total number of nesting shells is 213, and the aperture is divided into three segments along the azimuthal direction. Since the HXT utilizes two-stage reflection, the total number of reflectors is $213 \times 3 \times 2 = 1278$. There are 14 kinds of multilayers that are applied to the HXT,

and the details of the design are described in Awaki et al.³ and Tamura et al.⁴ There are two HXTs on board Hitomi, and they are called HXT-1 and HXT-2. The hard x-ray imager (HXI)⁵ is placed at the focal point of each HXT, and HXI-1 and HXI-2 are combined with HXT-1 and HXT-2, respectively. Basic parameters of the HXT are summarized in Table 1.

The HXTs were characterized with ground experiments mainly done at the beam line BL20B2 of the synchrotron facility SPring-8.⁶ To analyze an x-ray spectrum of a celestial object obtained with the HXT-HXI system, an ancillary response file (ARF) that describes the specifics of the response of the HXT, such as an effective area for the object and a redistribution matrix file (RMF) that describes the response of the HXI, are needed. The ARF is calculated by a raytrace program' based on the results of the ground experiments. If the characteristics of the HXTs change after the launch, the changes have to be incorporated into the ARF calculation. For example, if the shape of the thin foils changes due to the release of gravitational stress in orbit, the angular resolution and the effective area may change. Although Hitomi experienced an attitude control anomaly and was lost a month after the launch, the HXT-HXI system was able to observe several objects in the first month. In

^{*}Address all correspondence to: Hironori Matsumoto, E-mail: matumoto@ess. sci.osaka-u.ac.jp

Table 1	Basic	parameters	of	the	HXT.
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Number of telescopes	2 (HXT-1 and HXT-2)
Focal length	12 m
Substrate	Aluminum
Substrate thickness	0.2 mm
Substrate height	200 mm
Coated multilayer	platinum and carbon
Number of nesting shells	213
Radius of innermost reflector	60 mm
Radius of outermost reflector	225 mm
Geometrical area	968 cm ² /telescope

this paper, we studied the inorbit performance of the HXTs using data from a Crab observation and compared the results with those obtained from the ground experiments to see if any change occurred in the characteristics of the HXTs after the launch. Uncertainties are given at the 1σ confidence level unless otherwise stated in this work.

2 Operation

After the launch of Hitomi¹ on February 17, 2016, HXI-1⁵ began to operate from March 12, 2016, when Hitomi targeted the highmass x-ray binary IGR J16318-4848. The target was, however, outside the field of view of the HXI-1. The HXI-2 was turned on on March 14 during the course of maneuver from IGR J16318-4848 to the neutron star RX J1856.5-3754, which is one of the x-ray dim isolated neutron stars with strong magnetic fields.⁸ The neutron star is known to exhibit predominantly soft x-rays below 2 keV⁹ and was observed for the calibration of the SXT,² Soft X-ray Spectrometer (SXS),¹⁰ and SXI¹¹ in the soft energy band. The x-rays from RX J1856.5-3754 were too soft to be detected with the HXT-HXI system. Hitomi observed the pulsar wind nebula G 21.5-0.9 after RX J1856.5-3754 on March 19, 2016. Hard x-rays from this object were the first light for the HXT-HXI system. Then Hitomi observed RX J1856.5-3754 again on March 22, 2016, and the Crab nebula was observed on March 25, 2016. The exposure time of the Crab observation was about 8 ks. The Crab nebula was the second object that the HXT-HXI system detected hard x-ray photons at its aim point.

Thus, G 21.5-0.9 and the Crab nebula can be used to address the inflight performance of the HXT. The hard x-ray emission from G 21.5-0.9 is dominated by the pulsar wind nebula and is spatially extended.¹² Thus, G 21.5-0.9 is not an ideal target for characterizing the performance of the HXT. The hard x-ray emission of the Crab nebula is also known to be spatially extended. However, the pulsation from the Crab pulsar was successfully detected with the HXI,⁵ whereas the pulsations from G 21.5-0.9 were not detected.¹² Using the pulse information of the Crab pulsar, we can construct x-ray images of the pulsar point source as described below, and those images can be used to address the performance of the HXT. Thus, we concentrate on the Crab data in this paper. The observation log of the Crab nebula is summarized in Table 2.

Table 2	Observation	log	of the	Crab	nebula
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Sequence	Observation	Exposure (ks)	count rate
number	start (UT)		(cts s ⁻¹)
100044010	2016/3/25 12:37:19	8.01	397.9 (HXI-1), 403.0 (HXI-2)

3 Encircled Energy Function

We used the cleaned event data of the Crab nebula with the standard screening for the postpipeline data reduction.¹³ The sequence ID is 100044010, and the processing script version of the data is 01.01.003.003. The Barycentric correction was applied, where the target position was the Crab pulsar position of $(\alpha, \delta)_{J2000} = (83.6332208, 22.0144614)$.¹⁴ The image of HXI-1 using all cleaned data is shown in Fig. 1. The x-ray image consists of the Crab pulsar that is a point source and the nebula around the pulsar that is spatially extended. To study the encircled energy function (EEF) of HXTs, we need an x-ray image of a point source. An x-ray image of the Crab pulsar excluding the nebula emission was made as described below.

It is well known that the Crab pulsar exhibits x-ray pulsations with a period of 33 ms. The pulsations have a double peak structure. The larger pulse is called P1 and the smaller one is called P2.^{15,16} Since the HXI has a time resolution of 25.6 ms,⁵ the pulsations were successfully detected by the HXI, and x-ray images during the pulse P1 (phases 0.0 to 0.05 and 0.85 to 1.0) and during an off-pulse phase (phase 0.45 to 0.85; hereafter OFF1) were obtained. If we subtract the OFF1 image from the P1 image, we can obtain the x-ray image of the Crab pulsar. However, since the count rate is large, a dead time fraction has to be taken into account in the subtraction process. The method used for estimating the dead time fraction is described in the appendix.

After obtaining the dead time fraction of each pulse phase, x-ray images of the Crab pulsar were obtained by applying a dead time correction. For example, for the HXI-1, the exposure



Fig. 1 X-ray image of the Crab nebula in an energy band of 5 to 80 keV obtained with the HXI-1. The position of the Crab pulsar is shown with an arrow.

time of the OFF1 image was 3.441×10^3 s, and the real exposure time was 3.441×10^3 s $\times (1 - 0.2210) = 2.681 \times 10^3$ s. The exposure time of the P1 image was 1.7205×10^3 s, and the real exposure time was 1.7205×10^3 s $\times (1 - 0.2571) = 1.278 \times 10^3$ s. Then the Crab pulsar image of HXI-1 was obtained by (P1 image) - (OFF1 image) $\times (1.278 \times 10^3 \text{ s}/2.681 \times 10^3 \text{ s})$. The image of HXI-2 was obtained in the same manner. The x-ray images in the 5- to 80-keV band thus obtained are shown in Fig. 2.

The EEFs constructed from these images are shown in Fig. 3; in this case, the EEF is defined as the ratio of the number of photons detected within a circular region with a radius r to those within a circle with a radius of 4 arcmin. The center of the circular regions coincides with the position of the Crab pulsar. Since the field of view of HXI is 9 arcmin, the outermost radius of the EEF is limited to 4 arcmin. The average number of photons per pixel in the field of view but outside the circle of 4 arcmin radius was subtracted from the images as background. The EEFs obtained by the ground experiments done at SPring-8⁶ are also plotted in Fig. 3; while the EEFs in Mori et al.⁶ are normalized at 6.2 arcmin, the EEFs here are recalculated with the same procedure as that used for the Crab image and are normalized at 4 arcmin. The half power diameter (HPD) is defined as the diameter where the EEF equals to 0.5, and the HPDs are shown in Table 3. Considering the uncertainty

Table 3	Half	power	diameters.
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	HXT-1 (arcmin)	HXT-2 (arcmin)
Inorbit 5 to 80 keV	1.59	1.65
25 to 35 keV	1.59	1.77
Ground 20 keV	_	1.89
30 keV	1.77	1.84
40 keV	1.79	1.84
50 keV	1.64	1.73



Fig. 2 X-ray image of the Crab pulsar in the energy band of 5 to 80 keV obtained with (a) HXI-1 and (b) HXI-2.



Fig. 3 EEFs in the 5- to 80-keV band of (a) HXT-1 and (b) HXT-2 normalized at 4 arcmin are shown with red data points. EEFs obtained with ground experiments at 20 keV (purple and solid), 30 keV (green and dashed), 40 keV (orange and dotted), and 50 keV (blue and dash-dotted) are also plotted. Error bars on the data are given at the 1σ confidence level.



Fig. 4 EEFs in the 25- to 35-keV band of (a) HXT-1 and (b) HXT-2 normalized at 4 arcmin are shown with red data points. EEFs obtained with ground experiments at 30 keV (green) is also plotted. Error bars on the data are given at the 1σ confidence level.

of the dead time fraction, the uncertainty on the inorbit HPDs is 0.1 arcmin. The HPDs from the ground experiments also have an uncertainty of 0.1 arcmin.⁶ The inorbit HPDs and those from the ground experiments in Table 3 are consistent with each other when the uncertainties are taken into consideration. Thus, the image quality in terms of the HPD does not show a significant change between ground and in-orbit measurements. Figure 3 suggests, however, that the inorbit EEFs may be systematically narrower than those from the ground experiments. The release of the gravitational stress may cause the slight contraction of the EEFs. We can conclude that the performance of HXTs did not change significantly before and after the launch of Hitomi. The requirement on the HPD is 1.7 arcmin at 30 keV³ using the EEF normalized at 6 arcmin, and the requirement using the EEF normalized at 4 arcmin corresponds to 1.6 arcmin. To see inorbit HPDs at 30 keV, we examined the EEFs in the 25- to 35-keV band, and they are shown in Fig. 4. The HPDs obtained from those EEFs are also included in Table 3. Thus, the HPD of HXT-1 in the 25- to 35-keV band satisfies the requirement. Although the HPD of HXT-2 is slightly larger than the requirement, it is consistent with the requirement within the uncertainties in the measurement.

4 Off-Axis Angle of the Aim Point from the HXT Optical Axis

The direction of the optical axis is defined as the direction of the telescope at which the effective area is maximized. It is required to observe an x-ray source with various offset angles to determine the direction of the optical axis. However, the Crab nebula was observed at the aim point of the HXI, and we have no offaxis observations. It is impossible to determine the direction of the optical axis precisely. However, we can estimate the off-axis angle of the aim point from the HXT optical axis by comparing the spectrum of the Crab nebula with model predictions calculated by the raytracing program⁷ with different off-axis angles.

The cleaned data of the Crab nebula of the processing script version 01.01.003.003 were used. We extracted the spectrum of the Crab nebula including all pulse phases from a circle with a radius of 4 arcmin centered at the position of the Crab pulsar. The dead-time fraction was estimated using the pseudoevents. As is described in the appendix, this method gives only a rough estimation of the dead-time fraction. However, this estimation is enough for the study in this section, since the deadtime fraction is considered to have no energy dependence and affects only the overall normalization of an x-ray spectrum. The background spectrum for each sensor was obtained from blank sky observations.

A power-law model modified by the photoelectric absorption of an equivalent hydrogen column density of $N_{\rm H} = 3 \times$ 10^{21} cm⁻²¹⁷ was fitted to the spectrum with various ARFs; the ARFs were created by assuming that the off-axis angle of the Crab pulsar from the optical axis is 0.0, 0.5, 1.0, and 2.0 arcmin, respectively. In the ARF calculation, auxiliary transmission files ah hx[12] auxtran 20140101v001.fits were used. Though the raytrace program is based on the results of the ground experiments, there are small differences (8% at most) between the effective area measured at the ground experiments and the area predicted by the raytrace simulation. The cause of the difference is not well understood, and the auxiliary transmission files compensate the differences using arbitrary scaling factors. The HXI-1 spectra with the best-fit models are shown in Fig. 5. The best-fit parameters and the χ^2 values are listed in Table 4. Note that the normalizations in this table are affected by the rough estimation of the dead-time fraction. It is clear that an off-axis angle of 1.0 arcmin or more cannot explain the spectrum at the high-energy side and the $\chi^2/d.o.f.$ value becomes large as the off-axis angle increases. This is because the vignetting function becomes narrower as photon energy increases.^{3,6} We can conclude that the off-axis angle of the aim point from the optical axis is < 0.5 arcmin.

5 Inflight Performance and Raytrace

After establishing the off-axis angle of the aim point from the optical axis, which is small, we can make the reasonable assumption that the Crab pulsar was observed at the on-axis position. Then, the power-law model was fitted to the spectra of the Crab nebula of HXI-1 and HXI-2 simultaneously (Fig. 6). In this analysis, the cleaned data of the Crab nebula of the processing script version 01.01.003.003 were reprocessed to be equivalent to those of 02.01.004.004. The dead-time correction described in the appendix was applied. The column density was fixed to $N_{\rm H} = 3 \times 10^{21}$ cm⁻². The photon indices for both sensors were set to a common value, whereas the normalizations for both sensors were varied separately. The best-fit χ^2 /d.o.f. is 738/679. The photon index is 2.122 ± 0.003, and the normalization, which is defined as the photon number flux at 1 keV, is 10.70 ± 0.07 for HXI-1 and 10.59 ± 0.07 for HXI-2, where the uncertainties are given at the 90% confidence



Fig. 5 HXT-1 spectrum of the Crab nebula in the 8- to 80-keV band is fitted by a power-law model using ARFs assuming the off-axis angle of the Crab pulsar from the optical axis is (a) 0.0 arcmin, (b) 0.5 arcmin, (c) 1.0 arcmin, and (d) 2.0 arcmin. The lower panels show the ratio between the data and the best-fit model. Error bars on the data are given at the 1σ confidence level.

	On-axis	0.5 arcmin	1.0 arcmin	2.0 arcmin
Off-axis angle for A	ARF of HXT	-1		
Photon index	$2.114\substack{+0.004\\-0.004}$	$2.111\substack{+0.004\\-0.004}$	$2.093^{+0.004}_{-0.004}$	2.045
Normalization	$10.39\substack{+0.09\\-0.09}$	$10.50\substack{+0.10\\-0.09}$	$10.52\substack{+0.10\\-0.09}$	10.97
Flux (2 to 10 keV)	2.27×10^{-8}	$2.30 imes 10^{-8}$	$2.36 imes 10^{-8}$	2.65×10^{-8}
χ^2 /d.o.f.	354/360	363/360	397/360	630/360
Off-axis angle for A	ARF of HXT	-2		
Photon index	$2.112\substack{+0.004\\-0.004}$	$2.111\substack{+0.003\\-0.004}$	$2.095\substack{+0.004\\-0.004}$	2.053
Normalization	$9.99\substack{+0.09\\-0.09}$	$10.12\substack{+0.09\\-0.09}$	$10.19\substack{+0.09\\-0.09}$	10.87
Flux (2 to 10 keV)	$2.18 imes 10^{-8}$	2.21×10^{-8}	$2.28 imes 10^{-8}$	2.59×10^{-8}
χ^2 /d.o.f.	402/365	416/365	459/365	825/365

 Table 4
 Spectrum fit of the Crab nebula with ARFs assuming various off-axis angles.

Note: Uncertainties are given at the 90% confidence level. Note: Flux values are given in $ergs^{-1} cm^{-2}$.

Note: Normalizations are defined as the photon number flux at 1 keV.



Fig. 6 Spectra of the Crab nebula in the 8- to 80-keV band of HXI-1 (black) and HXI-2 (red) together with the best-fit power-law model using the on-axis ARFs. The lower panels show the ratio between the data and the best-fit model. Error bars on the data are given at the 1σ confidence level.



Fig. 7 EEF of the Crab pulsar in the 5- to 80-keV band (black) is compared with those predicted by the raytrace program at 30 keV (red) and 50 keV (green) in the top panel: (a) HXT-1 and (b) HXT-2. Ratios between them are plotted with the dotted line in the bottom panel, while ratios of the EEFs obtained by the ground experiment to the raytrace EEFs are shown as the dashed line. Error bars on the data are given at the 1 σ confidence level.

level. These values are consistent with the "canonical" values of the photon index 2.10 ± 0.03 and the normalization 9.7 ± 1.0 in Toor and Seward.¹⁸ The difference of the normalizations of HXI-1 and HXI-2 is 1%. The unabsorbed energy flux in the 3- to 50-keV band calculated from the normalization is $3.59 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for HXI-1 and $3.55 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for HXI-1 and $3.55 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for HXI-2. These values are 5% larger than the flux of $3.37 \times 10^{-8} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ measured with NuSTAR.¹⁹

Figure 7 shows the EEF of the Crab pulsar in the 5- to 80 keV-band generated in Sec. 3 together with those predicted by the raytracing program. The bottom panel shows the ratio between them as dotted lines. The ratios between the EEFs from the ground experiments and from the raytrace calculations are also plotted as dashed lines. The deviation between the raytrace EEFs and the Crab EEF is <10% except for the central region within a radius 0.2 arcmin. We should note that if we extract an HXI spectrum from a circular region with a small radius, the effective area for the spectrum calculated using the raytrace program has a systematic uncertainty.

6 Summary

The x-ray image of the Crab pulsar point source for the HXT-HXI system was obtained by subtracting the Crab image during the off-pulse (OFF1) phase from that during the on-pulse (P1) phase. In the subtraction process, the dead time fraction was taken into account. The EEF normalized at a radius of 4 arcmin was constructed from the image. The HPD was estimated from the EEF, and the HPDs in the 5- to 80-keV band are 1.59 arcmin for HXT-1 and 1.65 arcmin for HXT-2. These HPDs are consistent with those obtained from the ground experiments within the uncertainty, and this suggests that there is no significant change in the characteristics of HXTs before and after the launch of Hitomi. We estimate that the off-axis angle of the aim point from the direction of the optical axis is <0.5 arcmin for both HXT-1 and HXT-2 as determined by the model fitting of the spectrum of the Crab nebula using ARFs assuming various off-axis angles. The best-fit parameters for the Crab spectrum are consistent with the canonical values of Toor and Seward.¹⁸ The deviation between the inorbit EEF and those calculated by the raytrace program is <10% except for the region with a radius smaller than 0.2 arcmin.

Appendix: Evaluation of the Dead Time Fractions

The HXI has pseudoevents that are randomly distributed with a mean frequency of 2 Hz. The number of pseudoevents gives an estimate of the exposure time after the dead-time loss. Since the total exposure time is 8 ks and then the exposure time of each pulse phase is only a few ks, however, the Poisson fluctuation of the pseudoevents dominates the uncertainty in the estimation of the dead time fraction of each pulse phase. For example, the dead-time fraction of HXI-1 during the pulse P1 phase was estimated to be 24.4% using the pseudoevents, whereas that during the off-pulse phase was to be 24.5%. Of course, the former should be larger than the latter, and this means that the uncertainty in the dead time fraction estimated by the pseudoevents was not small. Then, we used another method described below to estimate the dead time fractions.

First, we estimated a typical dead time of each event. We investigated the distribution of LIVETIME tagged to each event; the livetime of the event is the time interval between the end time of the processing of the previous trigger and the trigger of this event. The distribution should be proportional to $\exp(-nt)$, where t is the livetime and n is the "true" count rate, which is the rate that would be recorded if there were no dead time.²⁰ The distribution of the live time of all events suggests that *n* is 726 c s⁻¹ for HXI-1. The uncertainty of *n* at the 1σ confidence level is 0.1%. If a count rate *m* recorded after suffering the dead time loss is obtained, we can calculate the dead time per event τ by $\tau = (1/m) - (1/n)$.²⁰ All events are classified on board as a category H, M, or L, where the category H is a normal event, and the categories M and L are the events that coincide with a signal from the active shield counter. The number of events in each category can be found in the HK file as HXI [12]_USER_EVNT_SEL_CNT_[HML]. Using the HK information, the averaged total count rate during the Crab observation recorded with HXI-1 was estimated to be $m = 537 \text{ c s}^{-1}$. The uncertainty of m at the 1σ confidence level is 0.1%. Then, the typical dead time is $\tau =$ $(1/537) - (1/726) = 3.678 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sc}^{-1}.$

Next, we evaluated the recorded count rate of each pulse phase. However, the time resolution of the HK information is not sufficient for this purpose. Then, we evaluated count

Table 5 Dead time frac	tion of different pulse phase	es.
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Phase	H + M + L	חדי	£	דח
Phase	(05.)	DT	1	
HXI-1 ($\tau = 3.678 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sc}^{-1}$)			
0.0 to 0.05, 0.85 to 1.0 (P1)	619.75	0.2279	0.0372	0.2571
0.05 to 0.2 (OFF2)	547.99	0.2015	0.0370	0.2315
0.2 to 0.45 (P2)	612.87	0.2254	0.0372	0.2547
0.45 to 0.85 (OFF1)	518.62	0.1908	0.0368	0.2210
Average	566.75	0.2085	0.0370	0.2382
HXI-2 ($\tau = 3.744 \times 10^{-4} \text{ sc}^{-1}$)			
0.0 to 0.05, 0.85 to 1.0 (P1)	662.78	0.2438	0.0332	0.2692
0.05 to 0.2 (OFF2)	588.25	0.2164	0.0329	0.2425
0.2 to 0.45 (P2)	654.21	0.2406	0.0332	0.2661
0.45 to 0.85 (OFF1)	557.68	0.2051	0.0328	0.2316
Average	607.42	0.2234	0.0330	0.2494

rates of the three categories separately and added them. The count rate of the category H can be estimated by just counting the event number in unfiltered event files. However, most of the events of the categories M and L are not included in the event files, since their priority is low and most of them are not kept in the onboard data recorder to save the capacity of the recorder. As for the count rates of the categories M and L, we assumed that they consist of two parts; one is a background constant component that can be measured during the Earth occultation, and the other part comes from events accidentally coincide with the shield events. We assumed that the latter is proportional to the count rate of the category H after subtracting its constant component during the Earth occultation. In summary, we assumed

$$M + L = a \times (H - H_0) + (M_0 + L_0), \tag{1}$$

where *a* is a constant, *H*, *M*, and *L* denote the count rate of each category, respectively, and the subscript 0 means that those are rates during the Earth occultation. $H_0 = 18.47 \text{ c s}^{-1}$ and $M_0 + L_0 = 15.19 \text{ c s}^{-1}$ were obtained for HXI-1 from the HK information. The averaged *H* and *M* + *L* during the Crab observation for HXI-1 were also obtained from the HK information, and $H = 536.3 \text{ c s}^{-1}$ and $M + L = 36.49 \text{ c s}^{-1}$. From these values, the constant *a* for HXI-1 was estimated to be 0.0409. Then, M + L of each pulse phase was estimated from *H* in each pulse phase, and we added them to obtain H + M + L.

Though a measure of the dead time fraction can be obtained by $DT' = (H + M + L) \times \tau$, one more correction has to be taken into account. Since LIVETIME is the time interval between H events, it does not reflect the fact that some of the H events accidentally coincide with the shield events and are classified as M or L. The real live time of these accidental M or L events is smaller than their LIVETIME. The accidental event rate corresponds to $a \times (H - H_0)$ in Eq. (1). The real dead-time fraction was estimated by $DT = 1 - (1 - DT') \times (1 - f)$, where f is defined

as the fraction of the accidental events and is calculated by $f = [a \times (H - H_0)]/(H + M + L)$. The final results are shown in Table 5. Typical uncertainties on *DT* at the 1 σ confidence level is 2%. The same procedure was applied for the HXI-2 data, and the results are also listed in Table 5. See the paper on the inflight performance of the HXI²¹ for more detailed information.

Acknowledgments

We appreciate all the people who contributed to the Hitomi project. We are especially grateful to people at Tamagawa Engineering, Ltd., especially Naoki Ishida, Hiroyuki Furuta, Akio Suzuki, and Yoshihiro Yamamoto, for their invaluable contribution to the production of the HXTs. We also thank Kaori Kamimura, Ayako Koduka, Yuriko Minoura, Yumi Mori, Keiko Negishi, Megumi Sasaki, and Yasuyo Takasaki for their support to the HXT production. We acknowledge the support from the JSPS/MEXT KAKENHI program. Their grant numbers are 15H02070, 15K13464, 24340039, 22340046, 23000004, and 19104003. Also we were supported from the JST-SENTAN Program 12103566. This research used many results of the experiments performed at the BL20B2 of SPring-8 with the approval of the Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute (JASRI) as PU2009A0088, "Development of a System for Characterization of Next-generation X-ray Telescopes for Future X-ray Astrophysics."

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 ${\rm Hironori\ Matsumoto}$ is a professor at Osaka University. He received his BS, MS, and PhD degrees in physics from Kyoto University in 1993, 1995, 1998, respectively. His research field is x-ray astronomy including developing instruments. He is a member of SPIE.

Biographies for the other authors are not available.