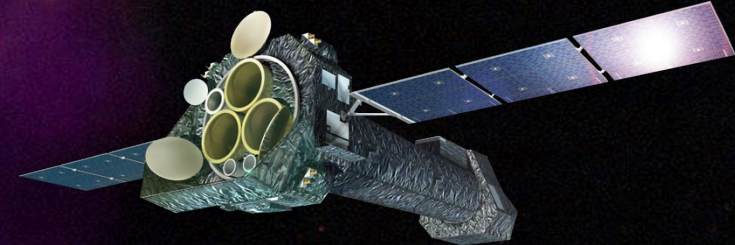


XMM-Newton Mission Status



Peter Kretschmar, Mission Manager
XUG Meeting #25
26 June 2024



Toala et al. (2022) XMM-Newton & VLT

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European Space Agency

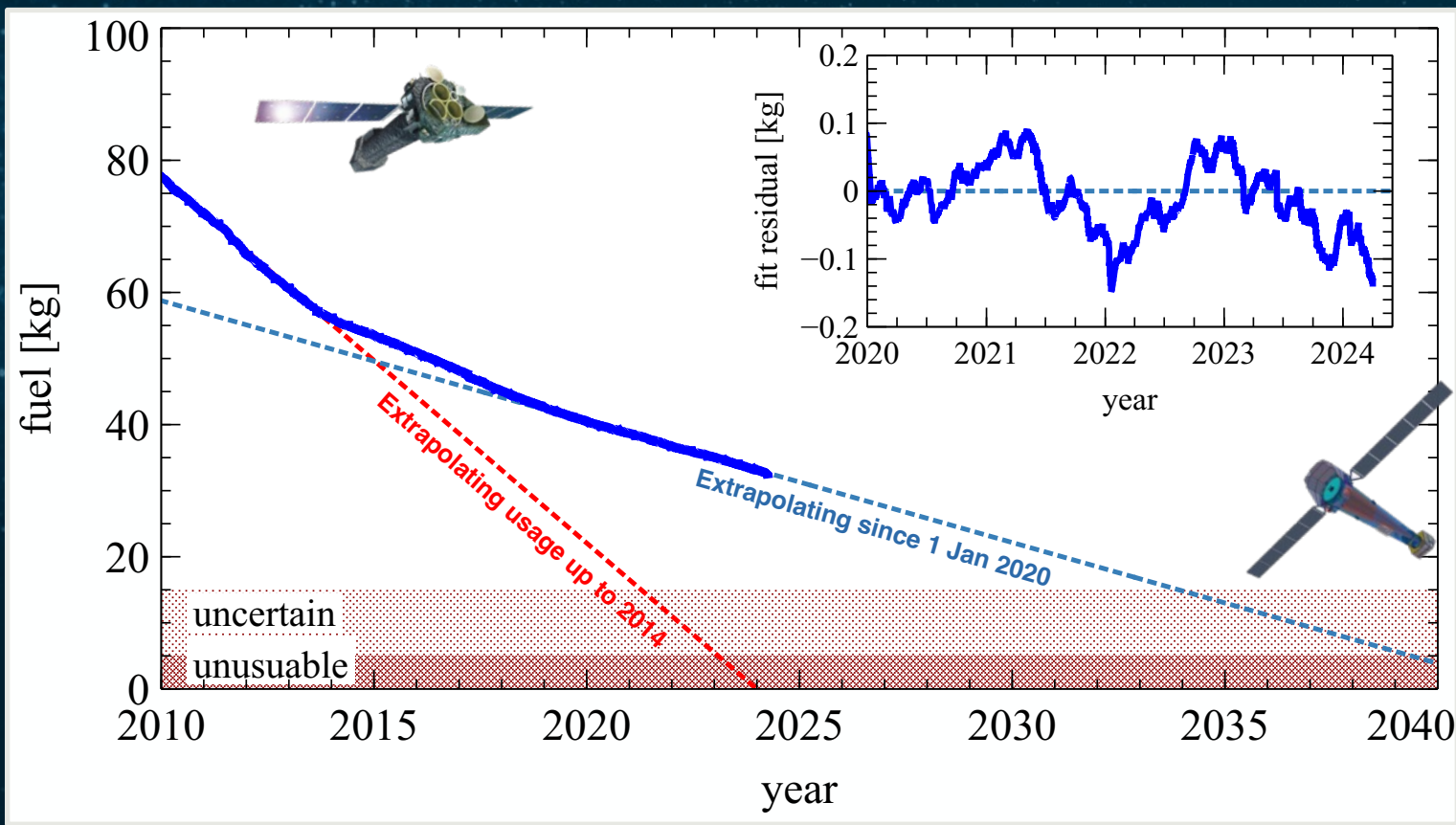
The spacecraft is in great shape but there are risks

- ✓ All instruments in same general shape as last year. No major incidents.
- ✓ Successful fuel replenishment operations in 2020 & 2022, 2023 **and June 2024** (very smooth).
- ✓ Collision avoidance monitoring no issue until ~2027.
- ✓ New Safe Mode (no fuel usage) together with further on-board monitoring and safety actions for instruments is being developed. Tentative plan for upload and commissioning is February 2025.

Need to keep an eye on long-term degradation of some components:

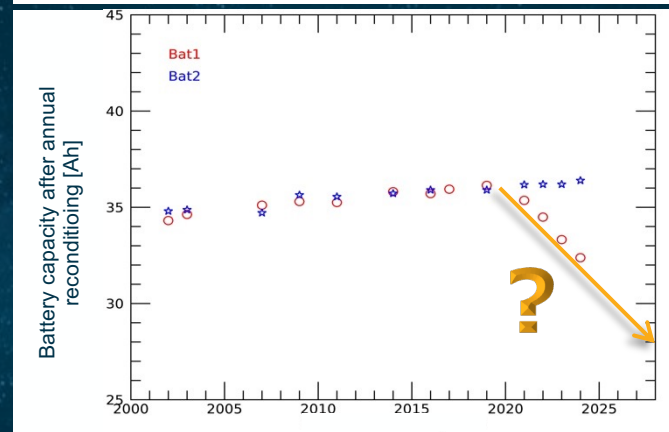
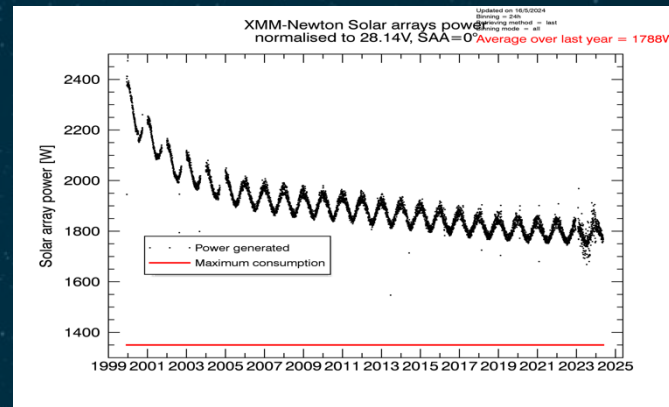
- Battery
 - Coarse Attitude Anomaly Detector
 - Opto couplers
- ➔ Evaluating risks aiming for science operations well into 2030s!

Fuel usage allows for lifetime clearly >2030



Solar power and batteries – great status, but ...

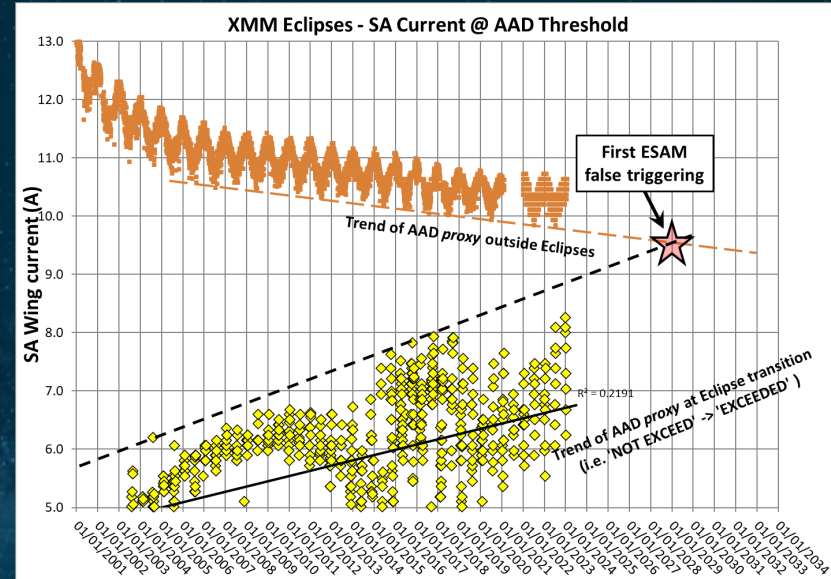
- ✓ Normal solar power generation, no unexpected degradation.
 - ✓ Batteries have healthy capacity: Almost 4 times maximum discharge observed in longest eclipse (9.5 Ah).
 - ✓ Optimized power usage in eclipse saves $\sim 15\%$.
Since 2021 reconditioning Battery 1 shows decreasing capacity.
- ➔ Assessment started on forecast for possible impact on eclipse operations, when a single battery would be marginal.
- Note: power usage in eclipse might be reduced.



Attitude Anomaly Detector slowly degrading

- ⚠️ Radiation damage degrading detector's solar efficiency \Rightarrow signal can fall below threshold \Rightarrow false ESAM trigger.
- ⚠️ Happened in SOHO, same unit for XMM-Newton.
- ⚠️ Extrapolation of proxy data from eclipses \Rightarrow Might happen first time in 2029.
 - \Rightarrow Possibly disable detector from safe mode criteria early in 2028 (~ 1 year margin)
 - \Rightarrow Might be substituted by Inertial Measurement Units, but not an easy option.

Details in ESA-XMM-OPS-TN-0014



- Contactless information transmitted, used to control heater and reaction wheels
- ⚠ Age due to radiation ⇒ Risk of wheel speed information corrupted and possibly heater problems.
- ⚠ Analysis in 2015
 - ⇒ Should work until 2028+
 - ⇒ Being investigated again with more radiation data & better models. Outcome open.
 - ⇒ Speed corruption first at very high speeds, avoided by XMM-Newton ⇒ may not immediately affect operations.
 - ⇒ Discussion with SOHO about possible tests with their wheels & OptoCouplers

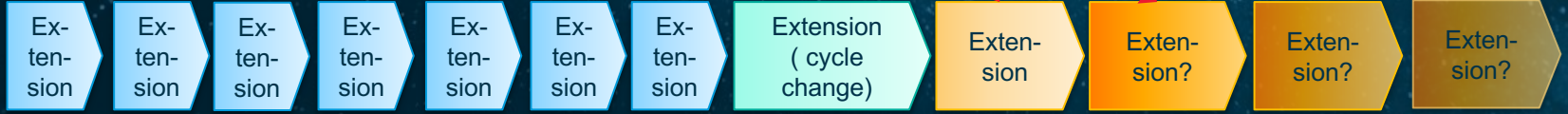
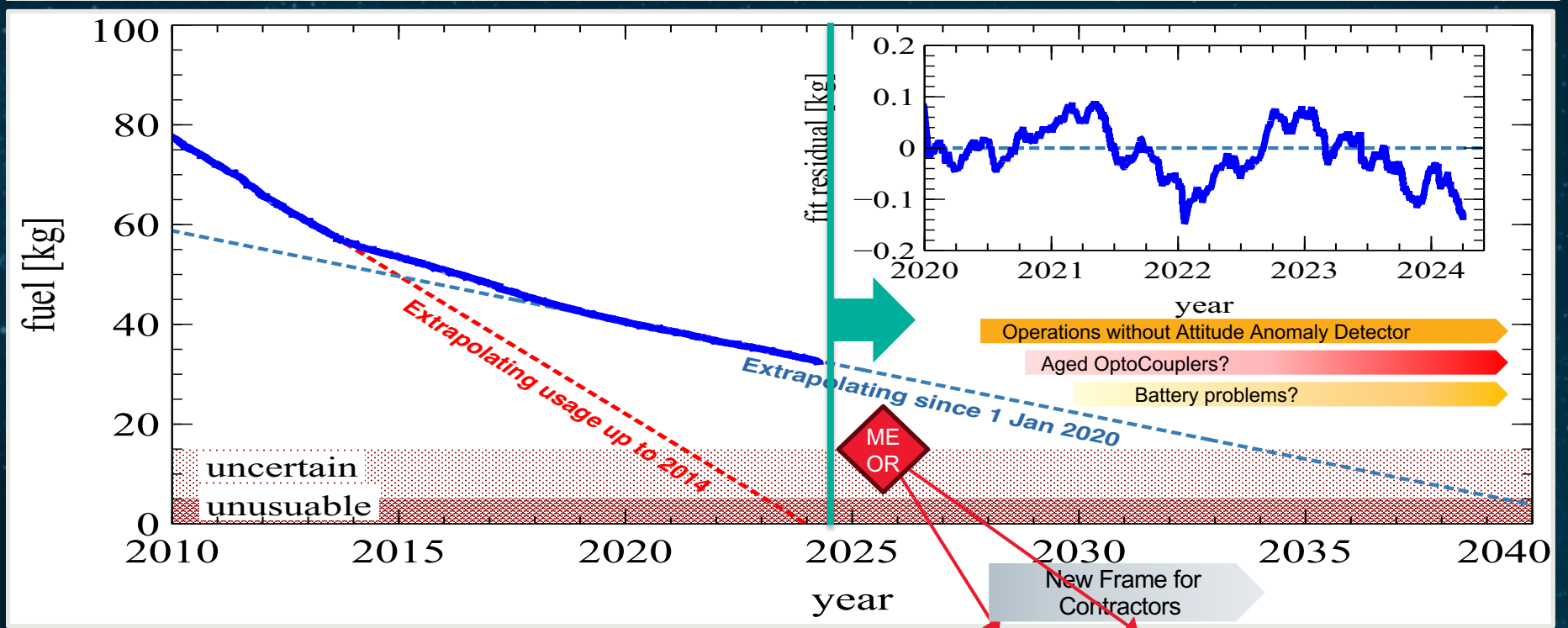
Summary table at T=Tops=25degC

Charge Transfer Ratio

Device	fuction	CTR BOL	CTR min	Degradation factors				Mission End-date CTR					
				TID	DDEF	Age	temp	2015	2021	2023	2028		
3C91	heater control	1.1	0.18	0.96	0.80	0.930	1	0.786					
				0.94	0.50	0.910	1						0.470
				0.93	0.50	0.905	1						0.463
				0.92	0.50	0.900	1						0.455
OP224 / 604	RWA Commutation & Speed	0.75	0.165	0.9	0.701	0.930	1	0.440					
				0.86	0.342	0.910	1						0.201
				0.82	0.341	0.905	1						0.190
				0.78	0.341	0.900	1						0.180

Table 2 : Summary of Opto Degradation factors

The future is not just about fuel



Not quite just another year in the Ground Segment ...



- Migration of the complete ESAC Datacentre 19–22 April: **All computers switched off, moved and restarted!**
- Long and detailed preparation, between SOC, SITU, Corporate IT, Facilities, ...
- ➔ Payed off by rather smooth migration in the end.

- Added complication by bomb alert in Darmstadt.
- ➔ **Full evacuation of ESOC on 18 April**, but called off after some hours.

Darmstadt: Vermeintlicher Bombenfund entpuppt sich als Rohrstück

Von Katja Heßberger - 18. April 2024

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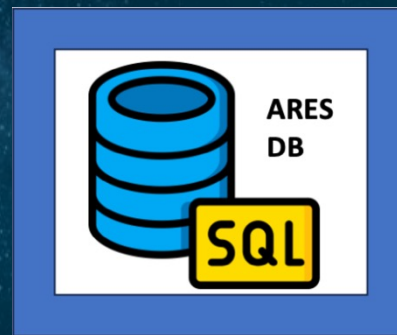
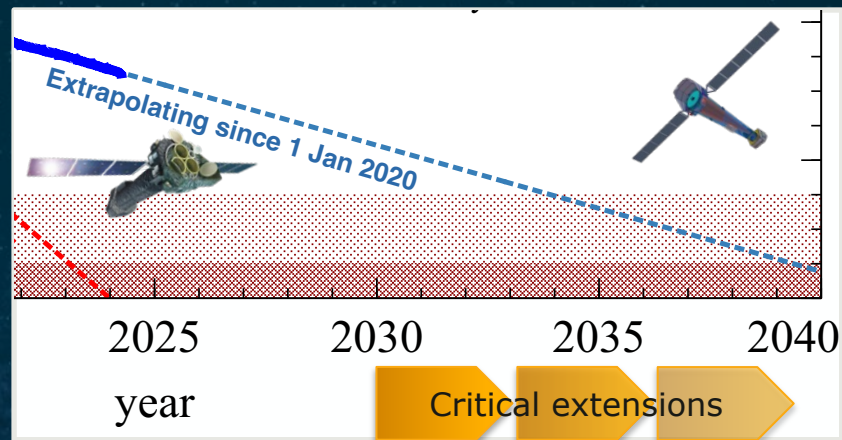
The people are a-changin' ...

- Felix Meeker-Fürst moved to staff position as Science Operations Scientist
 - ➡ Gabriele Matzeu joined support team.
- Guillaume Bélanger integrated after sabbatical as High-Energy Archive Scientist (XMM-Newton and INTEGRAL)
 - ➡ PK no longer Archive Scientist.
- Anthony Marston on final leave before retirement since March
 - ➡ John Hoar back as System Engineer (but part-time).
- Yvonne Eggers and Landry Amiard finishing 2nd year of YGT projects (YE: Superresolution for Bright XMM Sources; LA: Instrument Monitoring, ARES);
Esin Gübalhar started last September (SAS Datalabs).



Staying fit for many more years

- Need to ensure **technically and financially sustainable** operations for 10+ years more.
- Team **will** evolve further.
- IT environment **will** change.
- **Strong competition for resources** with other, especially newer missions.
- ➔ Rejuvenating systems, bringing all to **supported technology** and focusing on common systems shared across missions, where possible.
- ➔ Major effort for SOC and MOC, also in shared projects for various topics.



Rejuvenating systems & operations – MOC

- Hardware and operating systems brought up to date, while maintaining 24/7/365 operations.
- Mission Control System migration.
- Migration of radiation monitoring system to solution based on tool provided by SOC.
- Fuel replenishment automation, first elements in use
- Procedure for recovery without propellant, first manual, then semi-automated.

Regularly

Done

Underway

Underway

Underway

- Virtualization of RGS on-board software server.
- Further automation of operational tasks like instrument recovery after problems.
- Use of ARES system for instrument trend analysis and more.
- Change to new database system (DABYS) for operational database at MOC, adaption of interface processes at SOC.

Done

Continuing
& Improving

Underway

Underway

Rejuvenating systems & operations – SOC

- Hardware and operating systems brought up to date, while maintaining mostly continuous operations and upgrading software.
- Automation of raw data ingestion and quality checks.
- Updated proposal handling software for Phase I and Phase II.
- Move to use of Python for scripting and visualization in science analysis software and enabling analysis within Datalabs.
- Automated ingestion of delivered catalogues into XSA.
- New XSA frontend software.
- New Helpdesk.

Continuing

Mostly done

Done

Continuing

Mostly done

Currently on hold

Done

Further rejuvenation steps – SOC

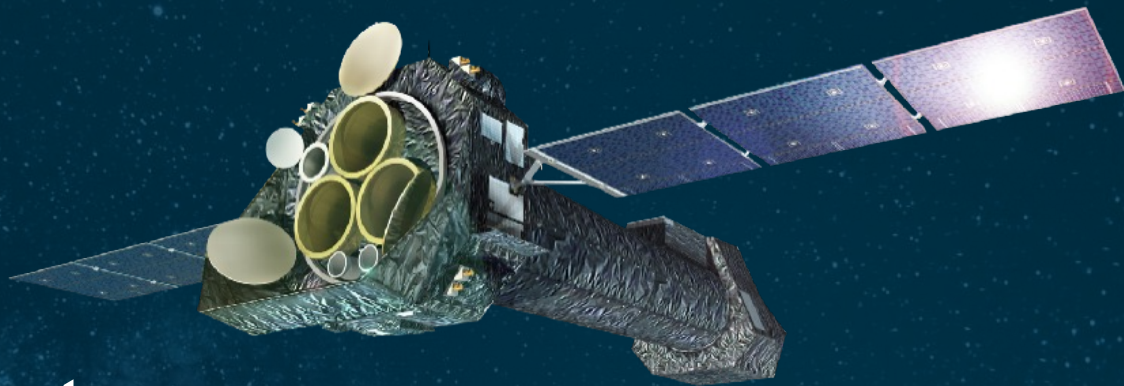
- New, improved systems to develop and build operational and science analysis software.
- Enhance interactive science analysis in Datalabs
- Investigation of Machine Learning or Artificial Intelligence Methods in operations.
- Enhancing pipeline products, considering legacy.

Ongoing, well advanced

*Ongoing, well advanced
YGT project*

*Preliminary studies done
YGT starting in fall*

Rediscussing ideas in fall



25 years of XMM-Newton – looking ahead



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~24.5 years ago

Half a year of intense activity to enable science



Launch

dec

OM first light

MOS first light

jan

EPIC first light

RGS first light

feb

Cal. & PV
phase start

mar

apr

may

First AO-1
observation

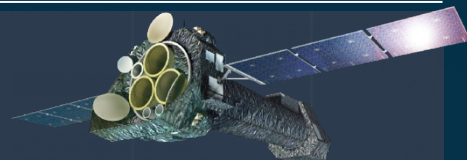
jun

2000



Less than a year ahead ...

'Natural' time range for events linked to 25 years of XMM-Newton science



25th launch anniversary

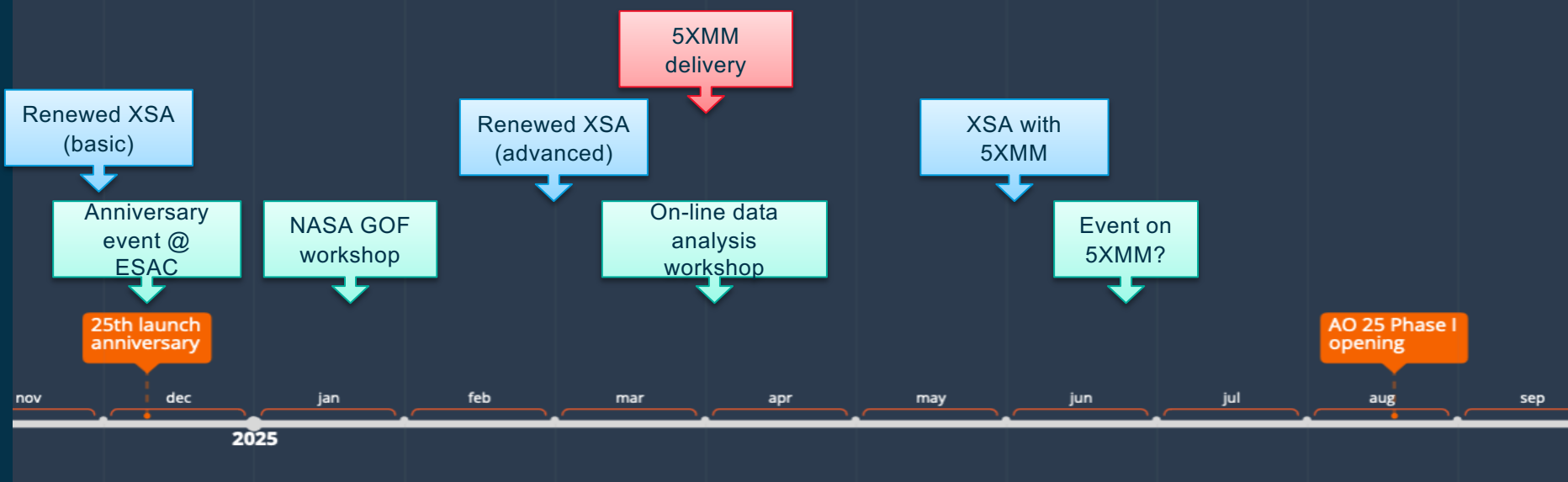
AO 25 Phase I opening



Filling the time



'Natural' time range for events linked to 25 years of XMM-Newton science



Filling the time – events

- Smaller event than for 20th anniversary – details TBD.
- Event for teams making XMM-Newton work for community: MOC, SOC, GOF, SSC, PI teams, ...
- Not focusing on past achievements but on future – at least 10 years ahead!

Anniversary event @ ESAC

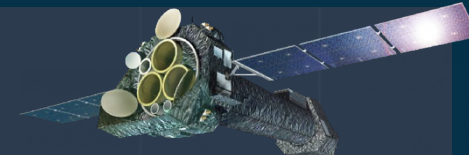
25th launch anniversary

- No details known yet.
- Will be coordinated.

NASA GOF workshop

- Showcase easy access to analysis via web
- Datalabs, Sciserver, more?
- Include other missions?
- Looking for volunteer tutors ...

On-line data analysis workshop



- So far just for consideration

Event on 5XMM?

AO 25 Phase I opening

nov dec jan feb mar apr may jun jul aug sep

2025