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The Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE) and new directions for the future

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The Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer is a NASA-ASI Small Explorer (SMEX) mission launched on 9th December 2021. It is equipped with three telescopes consisting on three light X-ray mirrors and three Detector Units at their focus. They host the polarization sensitive detectors designed, developed, tested and calibrated by the INAF and INFN teams. At the present time IXPE measured polarization resolved in energy, angle and time from dozens of X-ray sources, from almost all the classes, opening a new window in the X-ray sky. In this talk I will describe the mission, the detectors and report on the main astrophysical results obtained so far. Further I will describe possible future steps for X-ray polarimetry for the next upcoming or proposed missions.

Eligibility for "Best presentation for young researcher" prize

No

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