Scientific monitoring of a Routine Calibration Plan source: RXJ1856.6-3754

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History

- From the calibration objectives of EPIC-BOC 2008: “RXJ1856 pn contamination monitoring should be done at ESAC using the cross-calibration archive. The goal is to have it implemented by mid-2008”
- Nathan Dickinson (Leicester University) spent 3 months at ESAC, primarily working with M.Stuhlinger
- Software infrastructure and codes later tuned and now maintained by M.Guainazzi
- They create a static web page with a summary of the results
Scope

• **What to do with that?**

• **My proposal**: we offer the XMM-Newton user a new service, which is complementary to the cross-calibration archive (XCAL).

• The basic content is the same as the XCAL: results of spectral fitting of interesting calibration sources with a standard model.

• The main difference is that the user is guided to correctly interpret the results through a detailed explanation of the astrophysical and calibration context (the XCAL is “just” a list of spectral results and summary plots).

• Ideally, a similar scheme could be applied to all the sources in the Routine Calibration Plan, and – if so …

• … it could become one of the main user’s source of information on the time-evolution of EPIC calibration.
Goals of this presentation

• Ask for your opinion on the overall concept
• If you like the idea, I will submit the current content of the web page to your comments
• Status of too premature for a public release before the User’s Group ...
• ... however, we could show the concept
• Of course, this infrastructure could be “also” used as a true “internal” calibration tool, i.e. as a test-bed for new calibration files, methods etc.
Variability?

RXJ1856.6–3754 – EPIC–pn
Black: kT<63 eV; Red: kT>63 keV integrated spectra