



SIR – NIR Spectrometers for studying the lunar Mineralogy

A. Nathues, U. Mall, H.U. Keller, A. Dannenberg

Max-Planck-Institut für Sonnensystemforschung, Max-Planck-Str. 2, 37191
Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany

nathues@linmpi.mpg.de / Fax: +49-5556-979-139 / Phone: +49-5556-979-433

mall@linmpi.mpg.de / Fax: +49-5556-979-139 / Phone: +49-5556-979-152

keller@linmpi.mpg.de / Fax: +49-5556-979-141 / Phone: +49-5556-979-419

dannenberg@linmpi.mpg.de / Fax: +49-5556-979-6359 / Phone: +49-5556-979-359

SIR and SIR-2 are highly compact grating, near-infrared spectrometers, which cover the wavelength range between 0.9 and 2.4 μm with a spectral resolution of $\Delta\lambda_{\text{pixel}} = 6$ nm. SIR is operating onboard the European mission SMART-1, while SIR-2 will be flown on India's Chandrayaan-1 mission to be launched in 2007. The main scientific goal of both spectrometers is to determine the Moon's mineralogical surface composition by means of reflectance spectra.

SIR is mainly a technology demonstration for a new series of instruments. It has recently obtained several lunar near- and far side scans. We report on the first results. SIR-2 will benefit from this heritage and it is expected that SIR-2 will deliver even more detailed information about the lunar surface composition than SIR due to its enhanced design and a set of improved mission characteristics, e.g., shorter cruise time, longer science phase, and a lower 100 km circular lunar orbit.