

Low mass X-ray binaries: an overview with INTEGRAL

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The study of low-mass X-ray binaries has benefited in the last decade from hard X-ray missions with increasing sensitivities. The INTEGRAL mission, with its high sensitivity and angular resolution, is well suited to study the population of X-ray binaries in the hard X-rays. In particular, the ISGRI imager on board of INTEGRAL, with a field of view of 30 degrees, ensures a constant and regular monitoring of the sources in the less frequently studied domain above 20 keV.

In this contribution, we review the hard X-ray properties of low-mass X-ray binaries derived from all public data accumulated during the first two years of the mission. Our sample comprises binaries hosting black holes and neutron stars (persistent and transients) and is studied in a coherent way, minimising the biases due to instrumental/software differences.