



VIR-MS: results from the calibration of the imaging spectrometer of the Dawn mission

E. Ammannito (1), A. Coradini (1), M.C. De Sanctis (2), G. Filacchione (2), A. Barbis (3), M. Dami (3), F. Capaccioni (2), M.T. Capria (2), G. Piccioni (2).

(1) Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica – IFSI, Rome, Italy, (2) Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica – IASF, Rome, Italy, (3) Galileo Avionica – Florence, Italy (eleonora.ammannito@rm.iasf.cnr.it / Fax: +39 06 4993 4182)

VIR-MS (Visual and Infrared Mapping Spectrometer) is the imaging spectrometer of the Dawn mission. It was constructed in Italy by a scientific-industrial (INAF Rome and Galileo Avionica – Florence) consortium financially supported by the Italian Space Agency.

VIR-MS is an high spatial resolution spectrometer (FOV of 64mrad, IFOV of 250 μ rad) in the 0.25-5 μ m range with an IFOV of 250 μ rad and a spectral sampling of about 2 nm in the visible range and 10 nm in the IR range.

The imaging spectrometers are key instruments in the study of both surfaces and atmospheres, they enable the acquisition of a spectrally resolved image of a two dimensional scene. The advantage of such technique is that all spectral data for a given point is collected at one time providing highly spatial and spectrally resolved images. However they need a detailed calibration campaign in order to characterize the response of the instrument to the stimulus from the target and consequently to prevent any possible mistakes in the scientific interpretation of the data.

We present the results of the calibration post processing held in the Galileo Avionica calibration facility in September 2005.