XRISM Postdoctoral Researcher in Atomic Data and X-ray Spectroscopy

Applications are now being accepted for a Postdoctoral Associate, to work in the X-ray Astrophysics Laboratory at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in Greenbelt, MD. The position is funded through the University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) and the Center for Research and Exploration in Space Sciences & Technology II (CRESST II).

The X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM) is a joint Japan-U.S. mission that will launch in 2022 and will include a high resolution spectrometer with sensitivity in the 0.5-10 keV energy band. The Postdoctoral Associate will work with Dr. Tim Kallman and the XRISM team at GSFC to explore systematic effects associated with atomic physics, plasma models and spectral fitting on the fitting of high-resolution X-ray spectra. The work will involve exploring the dependence of plasma model results on atomic cross sections and rate coefficients for the prevalent categories of plasma models: collisional ionization equilibrium, photoionization equilibrium and non-equilibrium.

We invite researchers familiar with atomic physics, X-ray astrophysics, statistics and current computational techniques to apply. Candidates for this position should have earned a recent Ph.D. in Physics or Astronomy. The initial funding for this position will be for one year, with the possibility of extension for up to two more years depending on performance and funding availability.

The position will remain available until filled. Applications received by July 15, 2020 will receive best consideration. Restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic may require that the successful candidate work remotely, at least initially, which can be accommodated. Each applicant should send a Curriculum Vitae, list of publications, statement of research interests, and contact information for three references to:

Application materials should be submitted to:
XRISM Postdoc
CRESST/UMCP
Mail Code 660.8, NASA/GSFC
Greenbelt, MD 20771, or
Via e-mail to katherine.s.mckee@nasa.gov

Technical information concerning the research should be directed to Dr. Kallman (timothy.r.kallman@nasa.gov). For information on UMCP's Department of Astronomy and CRESST II, please contact Dr. Tracy Huard (thuard@astro.umd.edu).