Modification of 7-filter synoptic program toward quiet phase of the solar cycle.

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1. Introduction

As we are proceeding to the quiet phase of the solar cycle, XRT's synoptic program is requiring longer exposures. The current longest exposure time for the thin-Be filter (in regular synoptic program) is 16 sec, but we will soon need moving to 32 sec as we did in 2008-2009.

Use of the longer exposures will probably cause no problem for the regular synoptic program, as we only take 10+ images with relatively thinner filters. However, for the 7-filter synoptics, the current sequence barely fits in the usual pointing period for XRT synoptics (10 minutes), and no room for increasing exposures.

The main reason why 7-filter synoptics takes such long time is that we take double sets (double long/short pairs) of thick-filter images to reduce the chance of imperfect images due to telemetry loss, etc.

2. What I propose.

There are more than one way to solve this problem, but I would like to propose the following scheme:

- 1) Reduce the number of sets of thicker filter images taken in a single 7-filter synoptic program (from twice to once).
- Increase the frequency of running 7-filter synoptic program, from once a week to twice, for secure acquisition of thick-filter images.

I gave priority to keep the 7-filter synoptics taking less than 10 min, so that the CO can replace the regular synoptics with 7-filters anytime.

The current 7-filter synoptic sequence (XOB#1B15):

Starts 3 min after the pointing change and takes 6:35 to complete (spare time 25 sec or less). Taking thicker filter images only once will make extra ~90 sec to accommodate increased exposures.

XOB #1B15	: Synoptic 7 Filt	er w/ Al-mesh(2	24/256/	2897),	Al-poly	(45/512/4	1096), 1	Γhin-l	Be(181/2048/11571) - Thio	k-Be(6	5536), A	I-poly+Ti-p
Term		Pointing (x, y)					Comment					
01/17 18:15:30 - 01/17 18:22						synoptic, shifted 12.5 min						
PROG= 18	1-time(s)											
Subr= 1	1 1-time(s)	2.0sec										
- Seq	n= 5 1-tim	ne(s) 2.0s	ec									
	Open/Ti-poly	Open/thick-Al	close	Safe	Dark	500ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
	Open/Ti-poly	Open/thick-Al	close	Safe	Dark	500ms	Obs	4x4	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
	Open/Ti-poly	Open/thick-Al	close	Safe	Dark	500ms	Obs	8x8	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
	Open/Ti-poly	Open/thick-Al	close	Safe	Dark	500ms	Obs	1x1	2048x512 (1024, 1024)	DPCM	0 0	2.0sec
_	Open/Ti-poly	Open/thick-Al	close	Safe	Dark	500ms	Obs	1x1	512x2048 (1024, 1024)	DPCM	0 0	2.0sec
Seq	n= 1 1-tim	ne(s) 2.0s	ec									
	Open/Al-mesh	Open/Al-mesh	close	Safe	Norm	24ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
	Open/Al-mesh	Open/Al-mesh	close	Safe	Norm	250ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
_	Open/Al-mesh	Open/Al-mesh	close	Safe	Norm	2.83s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
⊢ Seq	n=99 1-tim	ne(s) 2.0s	ec									
	Al-poly/Open	Al-poly/Open	close	Safe	Norm	44ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
	Al-poly/Open	Al-poly/Open	close	Safe	Norm	500ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
_	Al-poly/Open	Al-poly/thick-Al	close	Safe	Norm	4.00s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
- Seq	n= 67 1-tim	ne(s) 2.0s	ec									
F	thin-Be/Open	thin-Be/Open	close	Safe	Norm	177ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
	thin-Be/Open	thin-Be/Open	close	Safe	Norm	2.00s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
_	thin-Be/Open	thin-Be/Open	close	Safe	Norm	11.3s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
│	n= 54 1-tim	ne(s) 4.0s	ec									
F.	Open/G-band	Open/G-band	open	Safe	Norm	3ms	Obs	1x1	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=90	0 0	2.0sec
	Open/G-band	Open/G-band	close	Safe	Norm	3ms	Obs	1x1	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=95	0 0	2.0sec
└ Subr= 2	2 1-tippe (s)	2.0sec							, , ,			
⊢ Seq	n= 46 (2-tim	ne(s) 2.0s	ec									
			close	Safe	Norm	64.0s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
Seq		ne(s) 2.0s							, , ,			
⊢.		Al-poly/thick-Al	close	Safe	Norm	500ms	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
		Al-poly/thick-Al							2048x2048 (1024, 1024)			2.0sec
└ Seq	n= 71 (2-tim								(1121, 1321)			
F		med-Al/Open	close	Safe	Norm	4.00s	Obs	2x2	2048x2048 (1024, 1024)	Q=98	0 0	2.0sec
L		med-Al/Open							2048x2048 (1024, 1024)			
	Default Filter	Thicker Filter	VLS		image	Exp.	CCD		ROI: size (center)			fer Interval