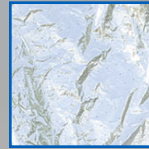


IMAGING X-RAY POLARIMETRY EXPLORER  
IXPE



Aluminized  
Mylar sample  
from the IXPE  
spacecraft

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## #IXPE FAST FACTS

- NASA's #IXPE mission is the first one dedicated to observing polarized X-rays from extreme objects, such as neutron stars and supermassive black holes
- The #IXPE observatory features three identical telescopes, each with a mirror module assembly and a polarization-sensitive detector unit
- To properly focus the X-rays, #IXPE's mirrors need to be 4 m (13 ft) away from the detectors
- This focal distance is achieved by #IXPE's "origami" boom, which folds into a compact canister about 0.3 m (12 in.) for launch and then extends during deployment
- Ball Aerospace incorporated the boom into its Ball Configurable Platform (BCP) spacecraft bus, which is a versatile, modular satellite
- #IXPE is a collaboration between NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, the Italian Space Agency and Ball Aerospace



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