

[IT01] Current Status and Scientific Programs of AKARI (ASTRO-F)

Hyung Mok Lee¹ and AKARI Team
¹*SEOUL National University*

AKARI (formerly ASTRO-F) was launched successfully on February 22, 2006, and is now currently preparing for the upcoming scientific observations. The main purpose of AKARI is to carry out all sky survey in mid- to far-infrared wavelengths. The survey depth and the angular resolution far exceed those of IRAS which carried out first all sky survey in infrared in 1983. In addition to all sky survey, AKARI will carry out a number of scientific programs including Large Area Surveys (LAS), Mission Programs (MP) and Open Time (OT) Programs. The LAS includes the all sky survey, North Ecliptic Pole (NEP) Survey, and Large Magellanic Cloud Survey (LMC). NEP and LMC surveys take advantages of high visibilities of the regions around North and South Ecliptic Poles. MPs are coordinated programs of specific subjects ranging from Solar System Objects to Cosmic Far Infrared Background Radiation. OT is an observing program open to Japanese, European and Korean astronomical communities. Korean astronomers are involved in several MPs and OTs. In this talk, I will concentrate on scientific programs that involve Korean astronomers and their activities prior to the AKARI observations to maximize the scientific return.
