Mission Status - Extension Status

- Using the lower costs afforded by the combined operations, in November 2007, the SPC approved an extension of operations from 16 December 2010 to 31 December 2012 with usual performance review after 2 years.
- There is now a single SPC reporting line for Integral and Newton.

Future Mission Extensions

- In 2007 the Science Programme Review Team (SPRT) reviewed all aspects of the management of the Science Programme making a number of recommendations including:
  - Achieve a 60/40 split in development activities and "complementary" costs - mission operations, overheads etc.
  - Mission extensions should be considered competitively within a pre-allocated budget.
- Proposals for how this could be implemented have been discussed at the 2008 June special SPC “jamboree” meeting in Aix en Provence.
- Currently missions extensions are considered on a case-by-case basis usually with a 2+2 year rolling horizon.

Future Mission Extensions

- Proposal is to create a consolidated operations plan which takes into account missions already in operations, those in development and study as well as planned mission extensions. There will be a dedicated budgetary envelope which will be within the SPRT target for 60/40 budget partitioning. Steps:
  - Review all missions that need extensions in the next 2 years to assess the scientific performance and priorities.
  - The SSAC (via the Working Groups, perhaps with external advice) would set priorities to guide the SPC and the operations plan would be constructed within the above constraints.
- It is planned to start this new approach at the 2008 Nov SPC meeting.

Future Mission Extensions

- In 2008 Nov mission extension requests for HST, SOHO, Cassini/Huygens, Cluster & Double Star, MEX and VEX will be needed.
- Integral and Newton should have been included as well as we would normally have requested the next extension at the November 2009 SPC - within the 2 year envelope from November 2008.
- However, with the last 2.75 yr Newton extension, we don’t need the next extension approval until November 2010 to maintain 2 year horizon (although this loses the 1 SPC "margin” that we normally apply).
- This is good! Given the current situation in the Science Programme.
- Will need to present science and technical cases to advisory structure and SPC in 3rd Q 2008 to allow 2011-2012 operations to proceed. IUG endorsement will be very useful here.