

## ***Herschel* out-of-field stray-light characterization**

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**Abstract** Out-of-field stray-light spots of the *Herschel* telescope optics relative to the PACS and SPIRE instrument apertures were modeled by ray tracing simulations with the Advanced Systems Analysis Program (ASAP, by Breault Research Organization) prior to launch. The predicted stray-light behaviour was verified by dedicated stray-light calibration observations in-flight. This resulted in a special feature of the *Herschel* Science Mission Planning Software, marking the sky positions of stray-light spots by the very bright infrared planetary sources Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and

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*Herschel* is an ESA space observatory with science instruments provided by European-led Principal Investigator consortia and with important participation from NASA.

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