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The Brazilian X-ray astronomy satellite mission MIRAX ()

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We present the ``Monitor e Imageador de Raios-X'' (Monitor and Imager of X-rays), a microsatellite mission under development in Brazil by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), in partnership with the University of California San Diego, the Space Research Organization Netherlands, the Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics of the University of Tuebingen and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. MIRAX is an X-ray astronomy mission with a unique capability to study transient sources and explosive phenomena associated with black holes and neutron stars in a ~ 1000 square degrees field-of-view in the central Galactic plane region. MIRAX's payload will have a set of two identical hard X-ray cameras (10--200 keV) and one soft X-ray camera (2--28 keV), all with angular resolution of the order of a few arcminutes. The MIRAX scientific objectives, baseline parameters and current status of development will be presented.

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