

A WIDE ANGLE CAMERA FOR BEPI COLOMBO. G.Cremonese, V.Achilli, C.Barbieri, A.Caporali, M.T.Capria, L.Colangeli, G.Forlani, S.Fornasier, M.Lazzarin, F.Marzari, L.Marinangeli, G.Naletto, P.Palumbo, R.Ragazzoni, G.Salemi, S.Verani

In the frame of the ESA Cornerstone Mission BepiColombo to planet Mercury, we are working on the concept for a Wide Angle Camera aiming to fulfill the main scientific goals set forth in the ESA document (ESA-SCI[2000]1) about surface morphology, mineralogy and exosphere.

A primary requirement is the complete coverage of the surface with a resolution of about 50 m in all three coordinates.

Relying on previous experience in advanced imaging systems, both in our Institutes and in consulting industries, novel technological solutions are investigated for optics, detectors and data acquisition and analysis.

A conceptual design of the WAC will be presented.