What is GammaSAG?

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PhysPAG: GammaSAG session

PAG Potential

- What are technology needs?
- Strategic readiness for gamma support of PCOS science
  - Complementarity within the planned mission 'menu' (particularly for multiwavelength spectral and time domain studies)
  - Taking advantage of ready/near-ready technology
  - Eye on the future
- Communicating future directions and needs

Flashback to 2011

From April 2011 presentation at PhysPAG APS meeting

A Gamma-centric SAG

- Science analysis groups are organized within the program analysis group to perform specific analysis tasks
- May 2011 PhysPAG meeting started discussion of a gamma-ray SAG
- Gamma-ray SAG proposal discussed at PhysPAG meeting at AAS in Austin
- Proposed to and approved by NAC APS
- First official meeting today

GammaSAG Proposal

- Provide an assessment to NASA HQ and the PCOS program office of the current status and the current and future needs of the gamma-ray astrophysics community.
- Act as a focal point and forum for the gamma-ray community.
- Deliverables
  - White paper briefly surveying current state-of-the-art capabilities, major open science questions, reasonable possibilities for leaps in capabilities over the next 10-15 years, and possible science return corresponding to those capabilities. The paper would separately cover the techniques used in each gamma-ray band and both balloon and satellite platforms. A summary of ground-based very-high energy instruments will be included to set context.
  - List of technology development needs based on the white paper discussions with possible timelines.
  - Suggestions to help support the specific needs of this community: organizational, scientific, funding.

Goals for GammaSAG

The goal of the Gamma Ray Science Analysis Group (GammaSAG) is to provide quantitative metrics and assessments to NASA in regard to current and future needs of the gamma-ray astrophysics community. Specifically, the GammaSAG will

- Act as a focal point and forum for the gamma ray community.
- In 2012–2013, produce a white paper covering the techniques used in each gamma-ray band—Compton telescopes in medium energy and pair conversion telescopes in high energy—and both balloon and satellite platforms.
- Produce a list of technology development needs based on the white paper discussions, including a roadmap for those activities.
- Produce suggestions to help support the specific needs of this unique community: organizational, scientific, funding.

Goals for today

- Review status of current gamma-ray space/balloon efforts
- Discuss scope of the group and the white paper
- Consider goals for the white paper
- Compile list of existing resources to form background and context for future
- Discuss organization of the paper and forward plan

Organizational Info

- Membership is open to the community
- Web Page: http://pcos.gsfc.nasa.gov/sags/gammasag.php
- Mailing list sign-up on the web page
- Contact the chair with comments and questions
  - Liz Hays - elizabeth.a.hays at nasa.gov