

# Technology Investment

## Future Innovations in Gamma-ray Science

**Chairs:** Michelle Hui, Chris Fryer,  
Paolo Coppi, Milena Crnogorčević,  
Tiffany Lewis, **Marcos Santander**,  
Zorawar Wadiasingh

**FIG SAG Virtual Meeting # 3**  
Thur 23 May, 1-2:30pm ET

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction to FIG SAG
- Denis Bernard, Polarimetry with pair production
- Jaspreet Randhawa, Recent advances in Time Projection Chambers and implications for space-based gamma-ray detection
- Andreas Zoglauer – Machine learning in the calibration/reconstruction/analysis pipeline of the next generation of gamma-ray telescopes
- Peter Bloser – Diamond Scattering Detectors



*Please note that the general meeting is recorded.*

# Welcome & Introduction to FIG SAG



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the FIG SAG website. It includes the NASA logo and links for Home, PhysPAG, Science Interest Groups, Science Analysis Groups, Mission Studies, and Resources. Below the navigation is a banner for 'Physics of the Cosmos' with the subtitle 'Exploring fundamental questions regarding the physical forces of the universe'. Three buttons are visible: 'FIG SAG Home', 'SAG Leadership', and 'SAG Events'. The main heading is 'Future Innovations in Gamma Rays (FIG SAG)'. A list item is circled in purple: 'Future Innovations in Gamma Rays Science Analysis Group Terms of Reference, Draft [PDF]'.

NASA Home PhysPAG Science Interest Groups Science Analysis Groups Mission Studies Resources

**Physics of the Cosmos**  
Exploring fundamental questions regarding the physical forces of the universe

FIG SAG Home SAG Leadership SAG Events

**Future Innovations in Gamma Rays  
(FIG SAG)**

- Future Innovations in Gamma Rays Science Analysis Group Terms of Reference, Draft [PDF]

<https://pcos.gsfc.nasa.gov/sags/figsag.php>



# FIG SAG Terms of Reference

1. Gamma-ray Science Priorities: Identify opportunities uniquely afforded by gamma-ray observations.
2. Gamma-ray Mission Capabilities: Which science objectives are only done or best done by space-based gamma-ray missions, considering the current missions in extended operation and funded missions in development.
3. Technology Investment: What new technologies/methodologies exist and what is needed to achieve the science priorities.
4. Theory and Analysis Needs: What advances do we need to make in theory and analysis to achieve the science priorities.
5. Synergies with Other Programs: How do these goals tie to the broader astrophysics and physics community. What are the timelines to align with current priorities in multi-messenger astronomy.



# Scheduled Meetings

May 23 (now)      Technology Investment



Feb 29      Done: Gamma-ray Science Priorities

March 22      Done: Theory/Modeling/Analysis/Fundamental Physics Needs

June 24 – 28      [FIG SAG Workshop at Michigan Tech](#)

TBD      Gamma-ray Mission Capabilities

TBD      Synergies with Other Programs and Agencies

TBD      Broadening the Gamma-ray Science to the Whole Astrophysics community



# What are we doing?

- Build consensus around the science case, methods, and technologies needed to strategically advance gamma-ray missions over the next 2-3 decades.
- Define gamma-ray science in terms of intrinsic value rather than relation to other subfields.
- Simplify and streamline our ask for policymakers and the public
- Today we're focusing on the technology needed to advance gamma-ray science.



# Deliverables:

- The overall deliverable from this SAG is a report to APAC. We want to provide the science case, including a Science Traceability Matrix to outline what the science needs in order to continue and grow into the future.

1	2	3	4	5
Science Goals	Science Objectives	Scientific Measurement Requirements		Instrument Requirements
		Observables	Physical Parameters	

# Technical Performance and Technologies



- From slack poll on driving technical requirement for your favorite science topic:
  1. Angular resolution (e.g. distinguish diffuse background and large-scale structures)
  2. Polarization (e.g. hadronic vs leptonic, sources of CR, AGN corona emission etc.)
  3. Timing resolution (e.g. rapid variability and short-lived transients)
  4. Energy resolution (e.g. nuclear lines for heavy element origins)
    - Multi-mission analysis and cross-calibration
- Outlined from the previous gamma-ray report *Recommended Priorities for NASA's Gamma Ray Astronomy Program 1996-2010*
  - Imaging Techniques
  - Detector Technologies
  - Computational Capabilities





# Discussion Guidelines

- Be mindful of time and interruptions.
- Be mindful of your positionality.
- Be a respectful listener.
- Commit to learning, not debating.
- Recognize that intent  $\neq$  impact.

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# Continuing the Conversation

- Latest developments and new ideas in technique, technologies in detector and computational.
  - Several more talks coming at the MTU workshop in June.
  - Inputs and future presentations are welcomed for report writing.
- What new experiments from other fields, e.g. nuclear and particle physics, where we can leverage technology needed for space-based gamma-ray observations?
- What is missing from this conversation?



# Upcoming Events

- [FIG SAG in-person workshop](#)
  - Michigan Tech, 24 – 28 June 2024
- In the meantime, keep the conversation going on slack and make sure you're signed up for the listserv for updates.

<https://pcos.gsfc.nasa.gov/sags/figsag/figsag-email-list.php>