

#### THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

# Studying Gamma-Ray Bursts Using COSI

Eliza Neights (George Washington University) on behalf of the COSI science team



# COSI Collaboration







#### **University of California**

- John Tomsick (Principal Investigator, UCB)
- Steven Boggs (Deputy PI, UCSD)
- Andreas Zoglauer (Project Scientist, UCB)

#### **Naval Research Laboratory**

• Eric Wulf (Electronics & BGO shield lead)

#### **Goddard Space Flight Center**

- Albert Shih (CHRS lead)
- Carolyn Kierans (Data pipeline co-lead)

#### Northrop Grumman

#### **Institutions of Co-Investigators and Collaborators**

- Clemson University  $\bullet$
- Louisiana State University  $\bullet$
- Los Alamos National Laboratory  $\bullet$
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- IRAP, France
- INAF & ASI, Italy  $\bullet$
- Kavli IPMU & Nagoya University, Japan  $\bullet$
- JMU (Würzburg) & JGU (Mainz), Germany  $\bullet$

- NTHU, Taiwan •
- University of Hertfordshire, UK •
- •
- LAPTh-CNRS, France
- Yale University •
- Stanford University
- Washington University, St. Louis



Centre for Space Research, North-West University, South Africa

Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (DESY), Germany



## COSI's Science Goals



### Uncover the origin of Galactic positrons



### Reveal Galactic element formation



### Probe the physics of multimessenger events



### Gain insight into extreme environments with polarization

Tomsick et al. 2023





# COSI's Energy Range





## Compton Spectrometer & Imager (COSI)

- Soft gamma-ray (0.2-5 MeV) telescope
- 2-year prime mission with a planned launch in 2027
- Imaging, spectroscopy, & polarimetry
- Low-Earth orbit with ~0° inclination
- Daily full sky survey and large field-of-view (25% of sky)



Tomsick et al. 2023



## COSI Instrument



### COSI detectors

Detectors: 24 x 24 x 12 cm



## COSI Instrument



COSI detectors and shields

Detectors: 24 x 24 x 12 cm



# Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs)

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Faster shell

Low-energy

gamma rays

Slower shell

#### Black hole or magnetar engine

Magnetic reconnection

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Colliding shells emit low-energy gamma rays (internal shock wave)

### Internal shock

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# Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs)

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Low

Low-energy gamma rays

#### Black hole or magnetar engine

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#### Inverse Compton scattering

 $\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{A}$ 

Synchrotron

radiation

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# Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs)

#### Low-energy gamma rays

Black hole or magnetar engine

Prompt emission

~ms to minutes





# GRB Open Questions

What are the progenitors?

Are the magnetic fields ordered or random?

#### Black hole or magnetar engine

What is the jet geometry?

Where in the jet are gamma-rays emitted?

What are the emission mechanisms?



# GRB Open Questions

sGRB & gravitational wave coincident detections

What are the progenitors?

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# GRB Open Questions

What are the

progenitors?

Are the magnetic fields ordered or random?

#### Black hole or magnetar engine

What is the jet geometry?

### Spectra & polarization measurements

Where in the jet are gamma-rays emitted?

What are the emission mechanisms?





## COSI's Science Goals



### Now COSI

### Uncover the origin of Galactic positrons

### Reveal Galactic element formation

### Probe the physics of multimessenger events



Gain insight into extreme environments with polarization



## COSI's GRB Science Capabilities



- Short GRBs may have coincident gravitational wave detections
- COSI will provide <2.5° short GRB localizations within an hour Goal in 2 years: ≥10 short GRBs



- Gain insight into extreme environments with polarization Polarization measurements can be used to constrain GRB models COSI will measure prompt emission polarization of GRBs
- **Goal in 2 years:** >30 GRB polarization measurements

Probe the physics of multimessenger events



## COSI's GRB Science Capabilities



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Probe the physics of multimessenger events



## Short GRB-GW Coincidence

- GRB 170817A & GW170817 confirmed binary neutron star merger as sGRB progenitor
- Used time delay between gravitational waves and gammarays to probe physics of GRB jet and fundamental physics





## COSI's Short GRB Sensitivity & Alerts

- COSI's goal: detect ≥10\* sGRBs
  - ~0.2-1 joint GW detections
  - \*Detailed sGRB rate calculation is underway
- Alerting the community
  - Onboard trigger algorithm •
  - Data rapidly downlinked by TDRSS •
  - Localizations & classifications sent to community



## COSI's GRB Science Capabilities



- **Goal in 2 years:** ≥10 short GRBs



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Probe the physics of multimessenger events Short GRBs may have coincident gravitational wave detections COSI will provide <2.5° short GRB localizations within an hour</li>

Gain insight into extreme environments with polarization Polarization measurements can be used to constrain GRB models COSI will measure prompt emission polarization of GRBs **Goal in 2 years:** >30 GRB polarization measurements



## GRB Polarization

Polarization measurements will help to distinguish between GRB prompt emission models







## GRB Polarization





# **Constraining GRB Physics with COSI**

- COSI's goal: measure polarization of >30 GRBs
- Distinguish between synchrotron ulletwith an ordered magnetic field & Compton drag models
- Accurate estimation of COSI's ability to distinguish between models is underway







## Conclusion

- COS/ will be launching in 2027 and will provide imaging, spectral analysis, and polarimetry
- sGRB detections & rapid localizations
  - enable multimessenger astrophysics
  - multi-wavelength follow-up
- Spectra & polarization measurements will enhance our understanding of GRB physics





## Get Involved!

Data Challenge 2

- First release of high-level analysis tools (cosipy)
- Become familiar with cosipy and COSI data







Data Challenge 2

hub.com/cositools/ ttps:/ cosi-data-challenge-2



