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National Aeronautics and Space Administration Cosmic Origins Program Office

Implementation Plance



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Astrophysics Implementation Plan

Astrophysics Division Science Mission Directorate NASA Headquarters

December 2012

"Astrophysics Implementation Plan has been prepared by the Astrophysics Division of NASA's Science Mission Directorate... to respond to the decadal survey recommendations within the current budgetary constraints."



Mission Concepts







Strategic Mission Concepts	Derived from Recommendation	Status of Studies	Candidate Plan(s) for Future Mission
WFIRST: Large Strategic Mission (DRM1)	Large 1st : WFIRST	Completed in 2012	Large mission for mid- decade
WFIRST: Probe-size Strategic Mission (DRM2)	Large 1st : WFIRST	Completed in 2012	Probe for mid-decade
Use of 2.4m telescope assets to advance science of WFIRST	Large 1st : WFIRST (Medium 1: New Worlds Technology)	Started in 2012	Large mission for mid- decade
Gravitational Wave missions to advance science of LISA	Large 3rd : LISA Technology	Completed in 2012	Large mission for next decade; international partnership
X-ray missions to advance the science of IXO	Large 4th: IXO Technology	Completed in 2012; under consideration for study in 2014	Probe for mid-decade; Large mission for next; international partnership
Exoplanet probes to advance the science of a planet characterization and imaging mission	Medium 1st : New Worlds Technology	Planned for 2013; SDT opportunity just announced	Probe for mid-decade; large mission for next decade
Cosmic Microwave Background Polarization Probe	Medium 2nd : Inflation Probe Technology	Study under consideration for study in 2015	Probe or large mission for next decade
Science + technology drivers for a UV/Visible mission	Small: (Definition of) a future UV- optical space capability	Started in 2012	Probe or large mission for next decade



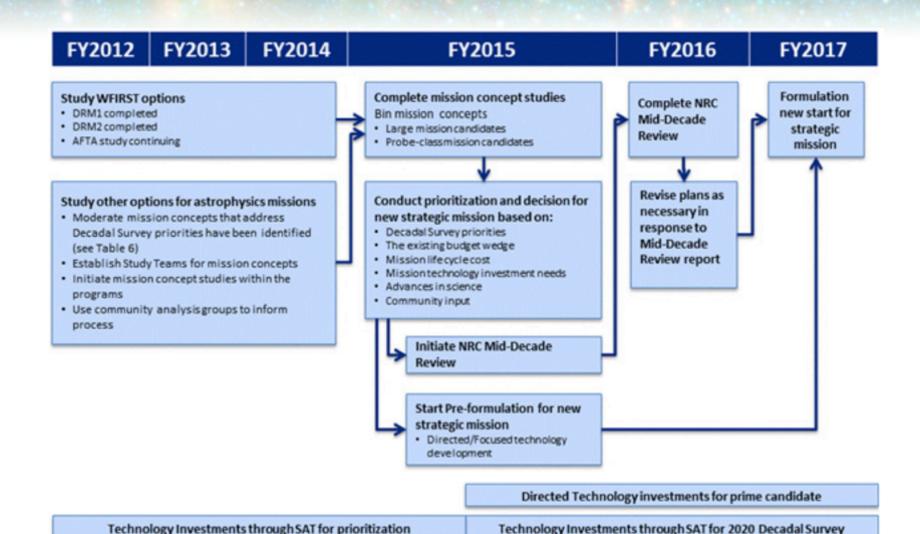
Forward



- Guided by other Decadal Survey prioritized recommendations, identify mission concepts that can be developed within a probe-class budget while addressing the science objectives of Decadal Survey prioritized recommendations.
- For the mission concepts thereby identified, develop a technology development plan so that the schedule and cost of maturing the technologies to TRL-6 [by] the three Astrophysics Division focused program offices.
- Map the technology funding requirements from the above exercise to the available funding in this decade.

Mission in 2017





Continuing advice from the Committee on Astronomy and Astrophysics on decadal survey implementation



UV Mission



- Identify the detailed science drivers for a future ultraviolet/visible space telescope that could considered in the 2020 decadal survey
- Then, identify the technology drivers necessary & invest
- RFI process (cf. Paul Scowen's summary) to determine science requirements
- Current plans are for second RFI to be released in FY 2013 to solicit mission concepts and mission enabling technologies. Second workshop will be held to identify notional mission concepts & technology requirements
- Mission trade studies envisioned to inform technology investment decisions during latter half of decade



Questions



• Is a mission/instrument RFI necessary?

Would it generate anything new?



Long-Term?



 Approaching time to leave previous decadal and work towards next decadal

- What technologies are needed to be ready?
- Which mission concepts must be prepared?



Linked Probes?



• One path: design around limited experiments, but make generally available

COR

Probe

Suite of

Experiments



Linked Probes?



• One path: design around limited experiments, but make generally available

Idea: set of reference investigations
 Tool to calculate performance
 Evaluate each investigation parametrically
 Build probes from good matches
 Develop each probe as separate study



Deliverables?



- SAG #1: Science objectives for a 4m-8m UV/Optical mission
- SAG #2: Technologies for a 4m-class monolithic telescope UV/Optical mission w/internal coronograph.
- SAG #3: Technologies for an 8m-class segmented telescope UV/Optical mission w/external occulter.
- SAG #4: Technologies for a future far-IR mission
- SAG #5: Science objectives & technology requirements for a series of Cosmic Origins Probes.



Whither SPICA?







- Participation envisioned by decadal survey unlikely
- How to fulfill science promise in its absence?