

Decadal Survey, or What to do next in the US

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“Astronomy & Astrophysics in the 2020s”

- Every decade, process (& document) in the US for determining future priorities in telescopes, land-based and space-based
- We do not NEED to come into this process, or be ranked, but some positive mention in the text can be used going forward
 - “Transient and wide-field TeV gamma-ray measurements...”
 - Northern & Southern hemispheres, connection to CTA, importance to multi-messenger, build on successes, etc.
- Process:
 - Science white papers requested (finalize in Dec 18 – Jan 19)
 - National Research Council panel forms, holds public meetings for discussions
 - NRC panel can request additional science information and potentially hardware documentation, up through project execution plan drafts
 - Draft report is sent around for comment/correction
 - Final report sent to NSF & NASA, seen by Congressional Budget Office

What I think we should do

- From the existing white paper, extract short documents on (for example) Galactic, Extragalactic, Transient, & Multimessenger
- Find additional folks interested in signing on these new short white papers, including theorists
- Keep all of this absolutely detector agnostic
- Show up at the AAS & NRC discussions and present some SGSO info

- Consider an R&D proposal to NSF in December 2018
 - Which is crazy short notice, and would be hard to pull off
 - But this is a crazy NSF year, mid-scale & multi-messenger are up front
 - We're not close to being ready for the mid-scale process, but maybe a place-holder with some support for simulation convergence, detector co-operating, refine science case, build technical case, requirements, & desirements, build international collaboration, and generate strawman detector document