

Space qualification of key gamma-ray detector technologies for e-ASTROGAM & AMEGO

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Gamma-ray astrophysics in the MeV range



- The MeV gamma-ray range is the domain of nuclear spectroscopy and is crucial for multi-messenger astronomy (see GW170817)
- Many objects have their **peak emissivity** in this range (GRBs, blazars, pulsars...)
- But worst covered part of the electromagnetic spectrum so far: a few tens of steady sources detected in 0.2 30 MeV versus 5000+ sources in *Fermi* LAT 4FGL

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Measurement principle



- Tracker Double sided Si strip detectors (DSSDs) for excellent spectral resolution and fine 3-D position resolution
- Calorimeter High-Z material for an efficient absorption of the scattered photons ⇒ CsI(TI) scintillators readout by Si Drift Diodes (e-ASTROGAM) or SiPM (AMEGO) + CZT semiconductor bars in the Low Energy Calorimeter of AMEGO
- Anticoincidence detector to veto charged-particle induced background ⇒ plastic scintillators readout by Si photomultipliers

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e-ASTROGAM & AMEGO

Highly ranked by ESA: "progress is very likely on the major science topics of (a) processes associated with extreme physical conditions [...]; (b) the effects of high-energy particles on galaxies and galaxy evolution; and (c) the varieties of stellar nucleosynthesis at the ends of stellar lifetimes"

- o e-ASTROGAM Instrument
- **Tracker**: 56 layers of 4 times (4 towers) 5×5 DSSDs of 500 μm thickness and 240 μm pitch
- **Calorimeter**: 33 856 CsI(Tl) bars of 5×5×80 mm³ coupled at both ends to Silicon Drift Detectors
- Anti-coincidence detector: segmented plastic scintillators coupled to SiPM by optical fibers
- **Orbit** Equatorial (inclination i < 2.5°) low-Earth orbit (altitude in the range 550 600 km)
- Observation modes (i) zenith-pointing skyscanning mode, (ii) nearly inertial pointing, (iii) fast repointing

e-ASTROGAM mission proposed in 2016 for ESA's M5

ALL-SKY MEDIUM ENERGY GAMMA-RAY OBSERVATORY

• AMEGO Instrument

- **Tracker**: 60 layers of 4 times (4 towers) 4×4 DSSDs, 500 μm thickness, 500 μm pitch
- Low-Energy Calorimeter: 3040 CZT bars of 5×5×80 mm³ with a virtual Frisch-grid readout
- **High-energy Calorimeter**: 624 CsI(Tl) bars (26×6 layers per tower) of 1.5×1.5×38 cm³ arranged hodoscopically coupled to SiPMs
- Anti-coincidence detector: 5 panels of 134×87×1.5 cm³ plastic scintillators coupled to SiPM by wavelength shifting optical fibers
- **Orbit** 600 km 6° inclined circular orbit
- **Observation modes** (i) optimized skyscanning mode, (ii) inertial target pointing

AMEGO designed for a NASA Probe mission (McEnery et al. 2019; Astro2020 Decadal Survey)

All-Sky-ASTROGAM





- Proposed in 2019 as ESA's "Fast" mission to be launched in 2028 with the ARIEL M4 Mission to an L2 orbit
- All-Sky Gamma-ray Monitor (0.1 MeV 500 MeV) with good localisation capabilities (e.g. 30 arcmin at 300 MeV) and excellent sensitivity to polarisation in the MeV domain
- Gamma-ray Imager (e-ASTROGAM technology, 80 kg) attached to a deployable boom
 - \Rightarrow continuous coverage of the whole sky
 - ⇒ reduction of the instrument background (L2 orbit)
- One of the last 3 competing missions, but finally not selected



AC system

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All-Sky-ASTROGAM and Gamma-Ray Bursts

2.0

1.5

Normalized Flux

6

INTEGRAL/IBIS - GRB 140206A (z = 2.74)

 $P = 2.2 \times 10^{-1}$

07:16:10-07:18:30 U.T.

- **Unprecedented gamma-ray polarimetry** ٠ for several tens of GRBs per year ⇒ **GRB jet physical properties** (B-field), energy dissipation sites, radiation mechanisms... ⇒ Test of Lorentz Invariance Violation (using vacuum birefringence)
- **Broad-band spectroscopy** with a single • instrument



AMEGO & e-ASTROGAM perspectives

- AMEGO-X: smaller version of AMEGO for submission to the upcoming MidEx call in 2021, focusing on continuum flux sensitivity for multimessenger astrophysics (degraded narrow-line sensitivity - COSI and polarization capabilities - LEAP)
 - ⇒ Tracker: 40 layers of DSSDs (60 in AMEGO)
 - ⇒ No Low-Energy CZT Calorimeter
 - ⇒ High-Energy Calorimeter: 4 layers of CsI(Tl) (6 in AMEGO)



- European/Russian collaboration for e-ASTROGAM (project builds on the success)
 - of the partnership set up for the INTEGRAL mission)
 - ⇒ Russia: launch (Proton rocket)
 - ⇒ Russia: satellite platform (NPO Lavochkin) similar to that of the SRG mission (payload mass: 1 210 kg; launch mass: 2 712 kg)
 - ⇒ ESA + loffe Institute & IKI: development of the gamma-ray telescope
 - ⇒ European & Russian scientists: science program and data analysis



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AMEGO Compton prototype





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COMCUBE: Compton Telescope CubeSat Prototype

- In-orbit demonstration of a game-changing GRB polarimeter based on e-ASTROGAM/AMEGO technologies
- <u>AHEAD2020/WP11.2</u>: 1U prototype to be tested in a balloon flight (HEMERA)



R&Ds relevant to COMCUBE development



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COMCUBE as a GRB polarimeter

- 6U spacecraft (like BurstCube)
- Mass of active material: 2.2 kg (CeBr₃ 2.08 kg, DSSD 130 g)
- Number of electronic channels: CeBr₃ 768 (64x12), DSSD 512 (8x32x2)
- Photoelectric effective area: ${\sim}200~cm^2$ at ${\sim}100~keV$ similar to that of CAMELOT
- GRB detection rate of CAMELOT (Werner et al. 2018): ~300 GRBs per year with 9 satellites (all-sky coverage)
- <u>Polarization measurements</u>: assuming 4 (16) satellites in orbit:
 - ~10 (30) GRBs/yr detected with MDP₉₉<40%





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