

Pre-definition of some General Astrophysics Survey(s)

This is a place to discuss consideration associated with pre-definition (within the next year) of 1-2 General Astrophysics Surveys for TBD days/weeks to be executed in the first year of the mission.

The expectation is, if we proceed, that this time will be allocated via an open community process with a white paper call, followed by a panel selection /consolidation.

Takeaway from previous discussions

- **Avoid tying up significant time in the early mission**
- **Open to science topic**
- **Should benefit from being defined early/soon, this does not mean that the observations need to happen early in the mission**
- **Should be defined via open community process (i.e. white papers/workshops rather than competitive proposals)**
 - Resulting survey is community owned (i.e. no PI)
 - Desirable to have broad science reach
- **Avoid overly time consuming/involved process**
 - i.e. define science motivation first, then focus on specifics of survey
- **Note:**

–This is not the only thing we will do, also space for other general astrophysics surveys defined closer to launch, core community surveys will be ongoing

Proposal

- **Survey/lightweight white paper process to solicit science motivation to predefine up to one month of observations for one survey to be executed within the first two years of the mission**
 - Avoids community putting lots of work into detailed survey design
 - Can be done quickly, so won't overlap with ROSES call (best to engage the community in one Roman thing at a time)
 - Allows for a substantive survey, but does not commit to a large amount of early observation time
 - Leaves most of the general astrophysics survey time to be assigned closer to launch (and after the core community surveys are defined)
 - Science topic/justification is open (i.e. this does not have to be a deep field)

Notes in discussion on March 17:

- Dmitri: how are the white papers assessed? Julie: SOC/SSC implementation will think on this.
- Rachel: useful to tell people in the call for white papers how the assessment metrics will work.
- Julie: white papers should focus on science case.
- Jessica: Make clear that white paper will influence (1) whether an early survey call will be issued, (2) which scientific areas/surveys are allowed /encouraged/supported.
 - Dominic's thought: (1) part of the SOC/SSC implementation to think on this. (2) any argument *against* fully open for science area?
- Megan: be clear on what questions the white paper process answers, and ask those questions in the call.
- Jessie: predefinition explicit on why not waiting for first GO call.
- John: critical to define *why* predefinition is needed. Synergies with things that are done pre-launch. Otherwise they're just the first GO call.
- George: protecting time for GO.
- Jessica: first broad white papers, then deeper dive into the strongest candidates. But is the deeper dive then restricted?
- Megan: avoid suggestion that a Deep Field is foreordained additional survey (taking away GO opportunities)