

Terms of Reference U.S. LISA Study Team

Tasks of the U.S. LISA ST

The U.S. Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA) Study Team (LISA ST) is established as a task group supported by NASA. The specific tasks of the LISA ST are:

1. Develop and articulate a compelling science case supporting the NASA participation in the ESA-led LISA mission for the 2020 Decadal Survey. The LISA ST will develop a science rationale and justification for a NASA contribution to LISA;
2. Provide the U.S. community with information on U.S. participation in LISA including activities involving the U.S. role in LISA science and technology, and provide NASA with U.S. community input regarding the U.S. role on LISA;
3. Provide communication between the U.S. science community and the European LISA Consortium; and
4. Support NASA's LISA Study Office by providing analysis on scientific and technical issues, as requested.

Organization and Functions

- i) The LISA ST will be responsive to the requests of the Director, Astrophysics Division, via the LISA Program Scientist, and the LISA Study Office, via the LISA Study Scientist.
- ii) The LISA ST will hold 4 meetings per year. The initial meeting of the LISA ST will occur on a schedule determined by the Chair(s) in consultation with NASA Headquarters (HQ) and the Study Office. The LISA ST can also have teleconferences on a regular or ad-hoc basis, as needed. Meetings will be called by the LISA ST Chair(s), and the agendas will be set by the Chair(s) in consultation with HQ and the Study Office to ensure that planned activities are aligned with programmatic needs and expectations.
- iii) At the discretion of the Chair(s), the LISA ST may organize itself in subgroups with specific tasks and draw from the larger astrophysics community for additional support.
- iii) All meetings of the LISA ST are open to nonmembers as observers, subject to export control restrictions.
- iv) Ex-officio observers, including from partner Agencies appointed with NASA HQ concurrence, are allowed to attend LISA ST meetings, subject to export control restrictions.
- v) All reports and other output of the LISA ST studies will be made publicly available, subject to export control restrictions.
- vi) Financial support for travel only will be provided by NASA to the LISA ST members through the Study Office.
- vii) The LISA ST will be in operation at NASA's discretion. It is anticipated that the LISA ST will operate until at least mission adoption, with opportunities for member rotation throughout this time.

Points of Contact

The NASA points of contact for the LISA Study Team are:

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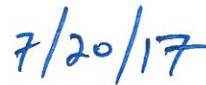
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Approved:



Paul Hertz
Director, Astrophysics Division
Science Mission Directorate



Date