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Future space observatories for low energy gamma rays

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In recent years several space-based instruments have probed the sky in hard X rays (E~10–100 keV: NuSTAR, Swift, INTEGRAL) and in gamma rays (E~0.1-1000 GeV: Fermi-LAT, AGILE) with considerable scientific return. On the other hand, the challenging energy band between these regimes has remained mostly unexplored since COMPTEL on CGRO (1991-2000). I will review the proposals for future space-based MeV gamma-ray observatories and illustrate the scientific expectations that prompted these efforts.

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