

The COSI gamma-ray telescope: Data management challenges

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IVOA June 2025 Interoperability Meeting June 3, 2025

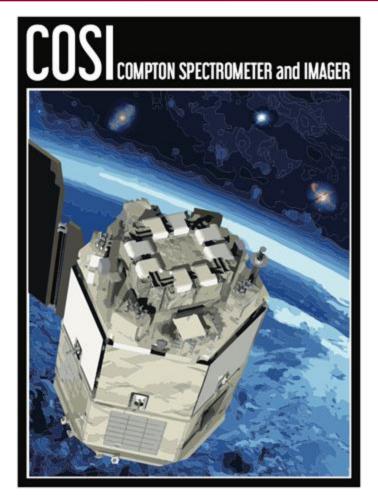


COSI overview



□ COSI is:

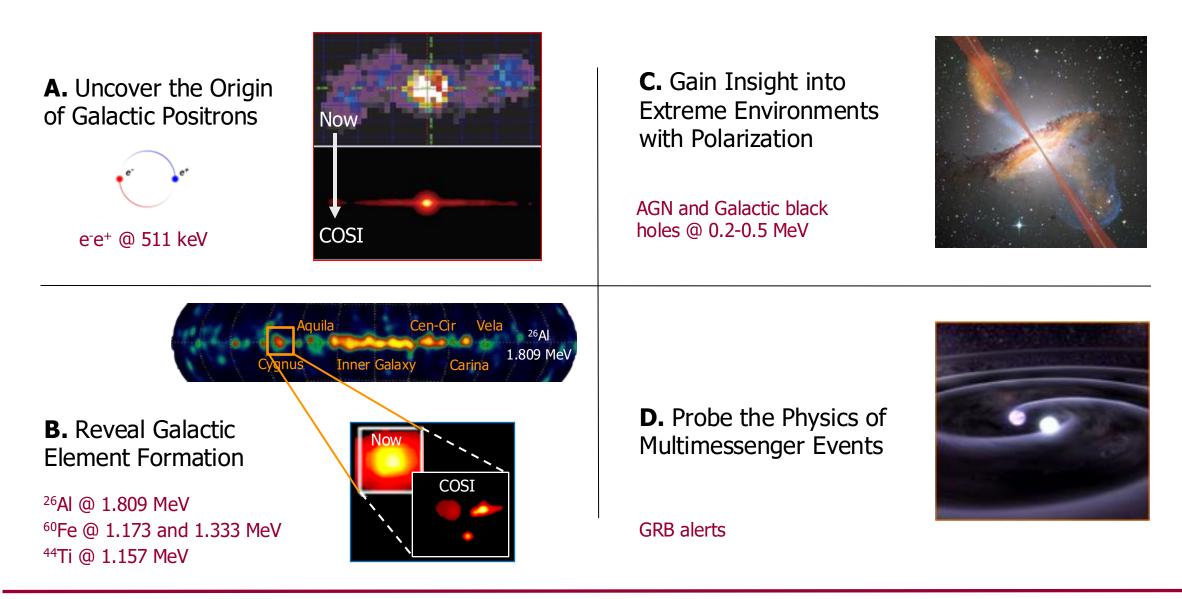
- a NASA Small Explorer satellite with a planned launch in 2027
- a Compton telescope for observing gamma-rays in the 0.2-5 MeV energy range
- Optimized for studies of nuclear and annihilation emission lines across the Milky Way Galaxy
- Uses germanium detectors cooled to cryogenic temperatures to provide *excellent energy resolution*
- □ Instantaneous field of view is *>25%-sky* and covers the whole sky every day



Upcoming SMEX mission operating in the energy range between NuSTAR and Fermi/LAT

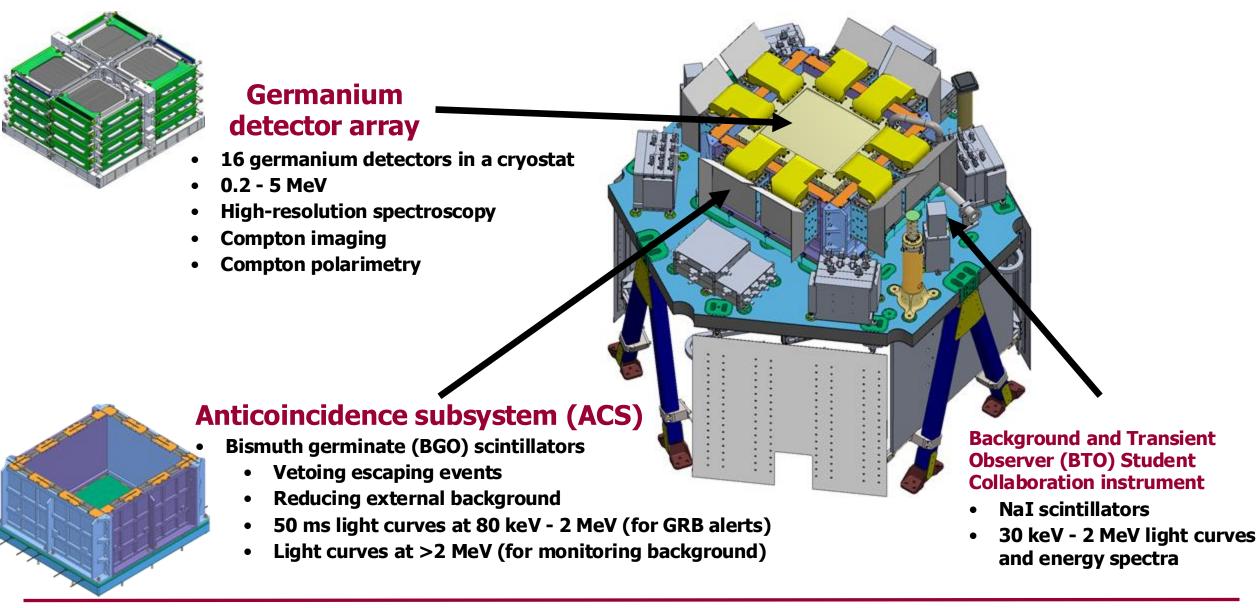
Key Science Goals





COSI payload design and instrument concept

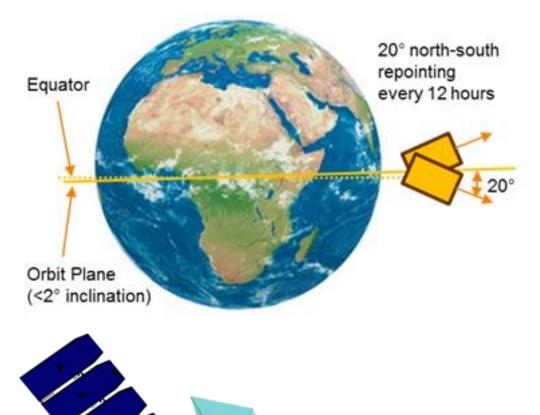






□Survey mode

- North/South zenith offset alternating every 12 hours
- Combined with large field of view gives daily all-sky coverage
- □Constant Zenith Angle (CZA) mode
 - Targets of Opportunity for up to 15 days, commanded within 2 days



COSI's >25%-sky field of view

COSI's Science Products



□ All-sky emission line images

- 5 gamma-ray lines, and
 5 continuum energy bands
- Bkg-subtracted, exposure corrected
- Spectral model

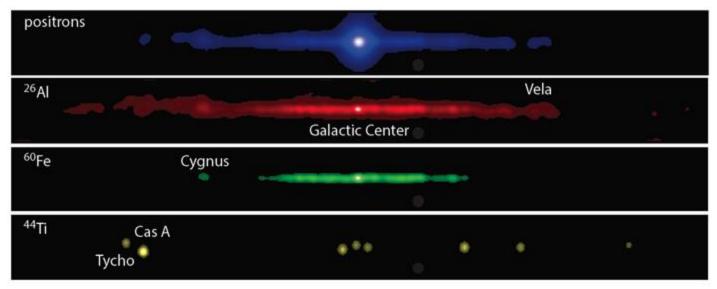
Gamma-ray bursts and transients

- Light curves (50 ms bins) and event data from BGO and BTO
- Spectra, image and gamma-ray polarization from GeD data
- Reported through GCN

□ Source studies in an underexplored energy band

- Extragalactic and Galactic persistent/flaring sources
- Spectra, light curves, images, gamma-ray polarization

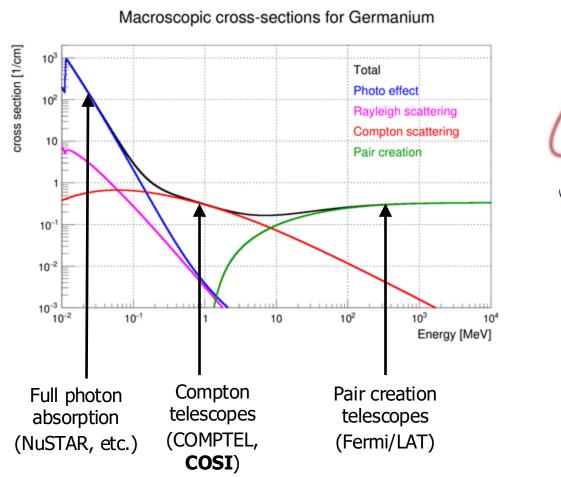
Simulated COSI images of "The Radioactive Milky Way"

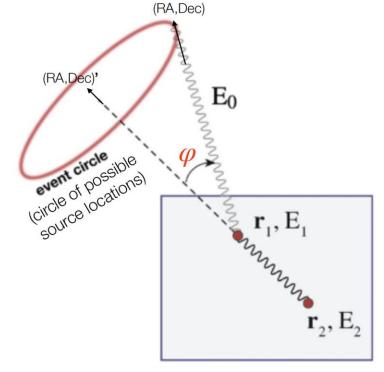


COSI will host all data at HEASARC in FITS format

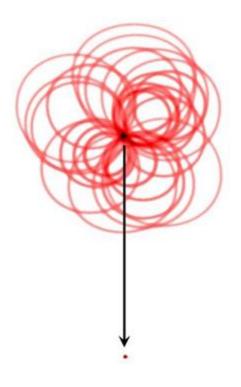
Why use a Compton telescope to study the MeV bandpass?







- Multiple interactions in the instrument
- $\Box \ \mathsf{E}_{\gamma} = \mathsf{E}_1 + \mathsf{E}_2 + \dots$
- The gamma-ray origin is restricted to the "event circle"

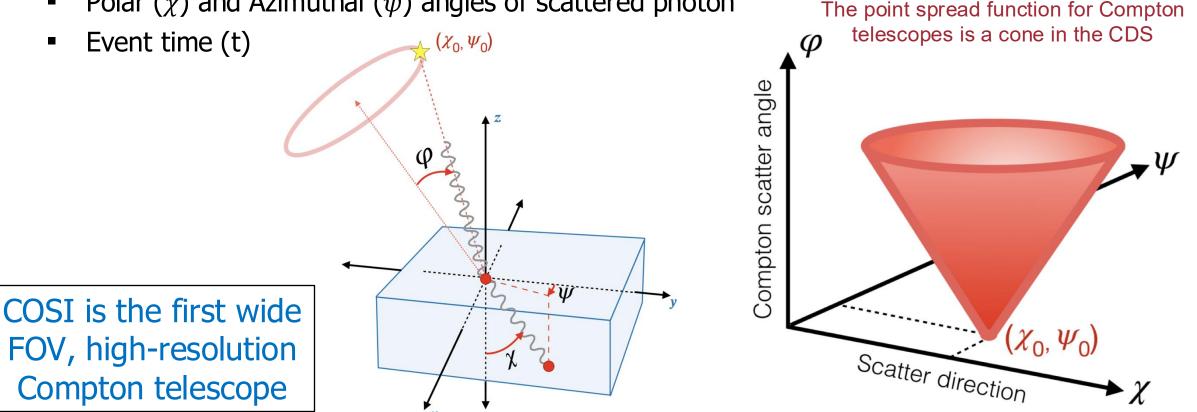


Iterative deconvolution techniques produce images



Each event measured by COSI is described by a minimum of 5 parameters:

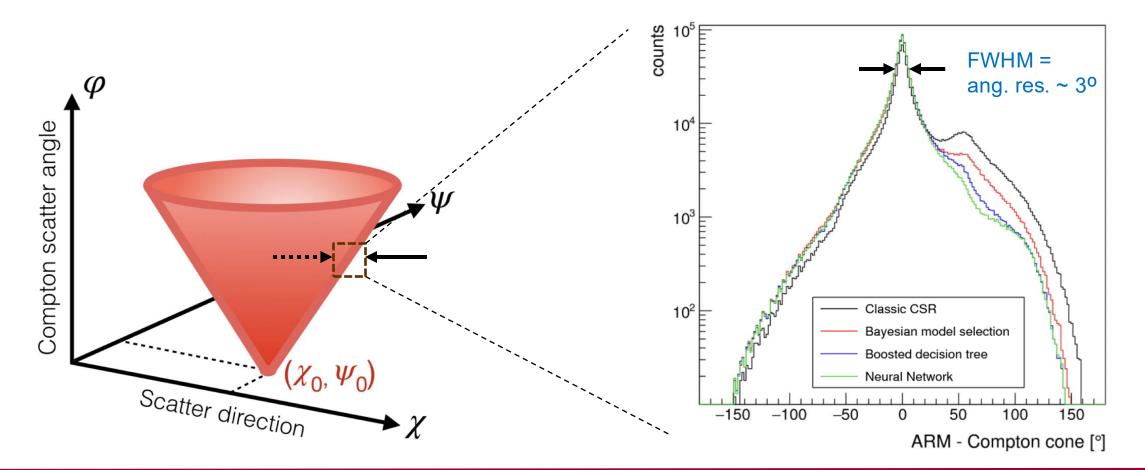
- Measured energy (E)
- Compton scattering angle (ϕ) of first interaction
- Polar (χ) and Azimuthal (ψ) angles of scattered photon



Compton Telescope Point Spread Function



- ID projection of the width of the cone is the ARM distribution, where the FWHM is the common definition of the angular resolution of a Compton telescope
- □ The ARM distribution shows significant tailing from poorly reconstructed events

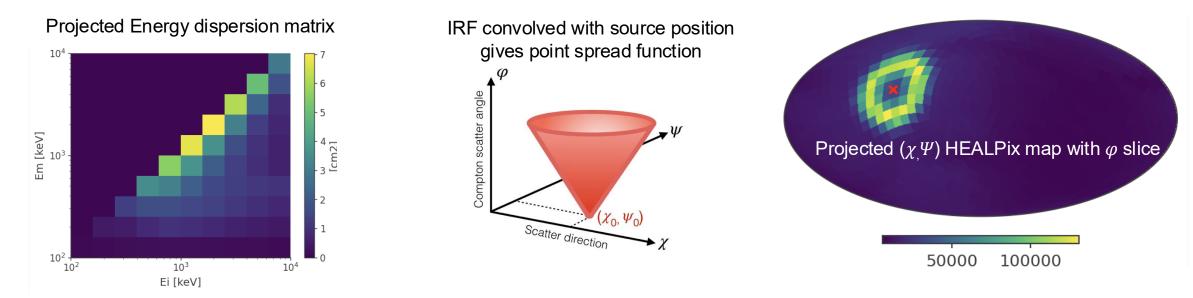


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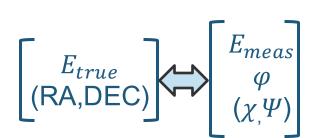
The Instrument Response Function and Forward folding

□ Instrument response function

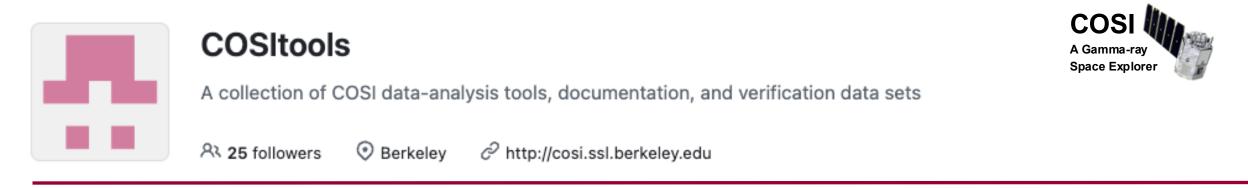
- 7D matrix containing the effective area at given energy for given direction
- effective area, energy dispersion, directional response, and polarization response are all coupled



Poisson likelihood-based forward folding analysis







□ Currently developing high-level python analysis tool **cosipy**

handle instrument response, bin and manipulate data, forward-folding analysis, and modeling fitting

Dependencies:

- □ Astropy
- □ Astromodels to build models for likelihood analysis
- □ 3ML plug-in for model fitting
- □ HDF5 format for data and response files
- □ mheapy for multi-resolution HEALPix images and maps

□ Planning for compatibility with Gamma-ray Data Tools (GDT)

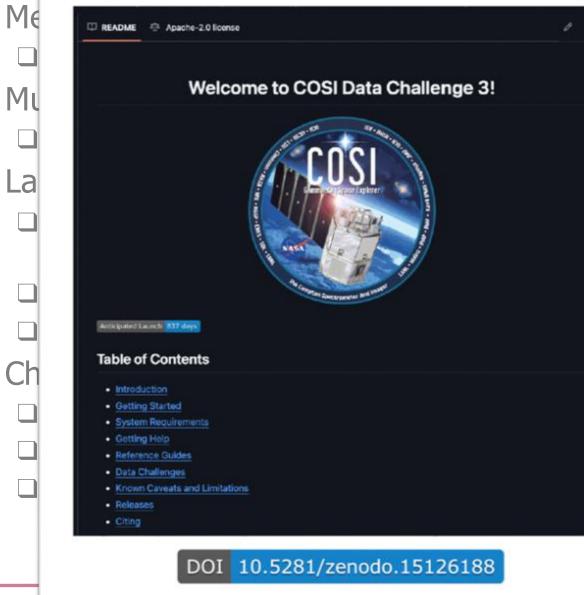
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COSI Data Challenges



https://github.com/cositools/cosi-data-challenges



- Publicly released April 2:
 - USA: HEAD and GR-SIG
 - Japan: Kouuren (X-ray/MeV astronomers) and Tennet (all astronomers)
 - Europe: ASTROGAM
- Published on zenodo giving citable DOI
- Data products: Simulated 45 unique ٠ sources, running 75 different source simulations in total (using multiple models), 12 background components.
- · Analysis tools: Coincides with updated alpha release of cosipy.



ware



- □ I didn't know about IVOA until last May when Francesa invited me to give this presentation!
- □ COSI will archive flight and calibration data at HEASARC
 - Currently working with HEASARC to define L1, L2, and L3 data formats
- □ Will use GCN for GRB/transient alerts, as is standard in HE Astro

Virtual Observatory and High Energy Astrophysics IVOA Note (2024-11-12) doesn't have representation from MeV missions

The COSI collaboration

University of California

John Tomsick (Principal Investigator, UCB) Steven Boggs (Deputy PI, UCSD) Andreas Zoglauer (Project Scientist, UCB)

Naval Research Laboratory Eric Wulf (Electronics and BGO shield lead)

Goddard Space Flight Center

Albert Shih (Cryostat Heat Removal Subsystem lead) Carolyn Kierans (Data pipeline co-lead)

Space Dynamics Laboratory

Northrop Grumman

Institutions of Co-Investigators and Collaborators

Clemson University Louisiana State University Los Alamos National Laboratory Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory IRAP, France INAF and ASI, Italy Kavli IPMU and Nagoya University, Japan JMU/Wuerzburg and JGU/Mainz, Germany



UC San Diego







GRUMMAN



NTHU, Taiwan University of Hertfordshire, UK Centre for Space Research, North-West University, South Africa Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron (DESY), Germany LAPTh-CNRS, France Marshall Space Flight Center Yale University Boston University Michigan Technical University IAA-CSIC, Spain Washington University, St. Louis Stanford University

Conclusions



COSI, launching in 2027, will be the first high-resolution Compton telescope

Currently working with HEASARC to define L1 and L2 data formats

Planning to coordinate with IVOA HE and Time Domain WGs going forward!





L1a – Raw data with interactions defined by triggered strip numbers, detector ID, timing, ADC:

[Time, Event Type, NumStripHits, Hit Type, Det ID, Side ID, Strip ID, DT, ADC, TAC]

□ L1b – Calibrated hits, with events defined by location (x,y,z) of interactions and energy deposits, in an ordered sequence:

[Time, Event Type, Event Classification, NumInter, Hit_X, Hit_Y, Hit_Z, Hit_x_err, Hit_y_err, Hit_z_err, Hit_E, Hit_E_err, Sequence, TestStat, RecoilDir, RecoilDir_err]

□ L2 – Filtered L1b data for science analysis

The COSI Analysis Pipeline - COSItools



Calibration:

 convert instrument parameters (ADC, timing) to physical parameters (energy and position)
 → Level 2: event lists

Reconstruction:

- determine sequence of interactions and calculate initial photon energy and direction
- → Level 3: photon lists

High-level Analysis:

- image reconstruction, spectral fitting, polarization
- → Level 4: science results!

