

Gravitational Wave Astrophysics: Opening the New Frontier

Presentation by Joan Centrella to be presented at the New Horizons in Time Domain Astronomy Conference

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A new era in time-domain astronomy will begin when the gravitational wave window onto the universe opens in ~ 5 years, as ground-based detectors make the first detections in the highfrequency regime. Since the universe is nearly transparent to gravitational waves, these signals carry direct information about their sources – such as masses, spins, luminosity distances, and orbital parameters – through dense, obscured regions across cosmic time. This talk will explore gravitational waves as cosmic messengers, highlighting key sources and opportunities for multimessenger astronomy across the gravitational wave spectrum.