

Heliophysics Decadal Survey 2022 Position Papers

The need for reference-able and peer reviewed position papers

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Synopsis

- 1. Decadal survey position papers can be a broader community resource if made easily searchable.**
- 2. Cite-able, peer reviewed position papers will further enhance the community support and strategic discussion for the future of our field.**
- 3. We recommend that future decadal surveys and other governing documents which have position papers contributing to them partner with at least one journal to produce a special issue where the white papers can be peer reviewed and made as a reference for future work.**

1 Introduction

Space Physics community members are putting substantial efforts and ideas into position papers, in preparation for the U.S. Heliophysics Decadal Survey process; an analysis of the current state of the field and where future research, mission programs, and funding should focus. Furthermore, Space Physics community members in Europe and the U.S. have recently put substantial efforts and ideas into position papers for Vision 2050 and Heliophysics 2050. There are also other ideas in the community about the needs and focus of future Space Physics research efforts, whether they were submitted to other road mapping activities, or have yet to find the appropriate home.

With this in mind, we have created a Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences Research Topic 'The Future of Space Physics 2022', to provide a format for a reference-able, peer reviewed, archived, accessible collection of these ideas from around the world. We wish to make these ideas available to the national academies decadal survey committees, the broader research community and a wider audience, by developing this collection. The collection will publish high-quality papers on key topics across the field of Space Physics, aiming to highlight recent advances in the field, whilst emphasizing important directions and new possibilities for future inquiries.

2 Future decadal surveys

We recommend that all future decadal surveys partner or work with the community to ensure that there is a special issue which will accept and provide peer reviews for position papers. This will provide both greater transparency for community involvement with the decadal process, but also allow the community to see how successful we were at reaching the goals and aspirations provided from the past decade. We see this as an opportunity for the community to also take the current position papers and build upon them, referencing the start of the idea, the progress made towards them during the previous decade, identify what road blocks may have come up, and provide more nuanced and better referenced recommendations for the future decadal surveys.

3 Recommendations

We recommend that future decadal surveys and other governing documents which have position papers contributing to them partner with at least one journal to produce a special issue where those papers can be peer reviewed and made as a reference for future work.

4 Acknowledgements

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