
LISA Pathfinder, LISA and space-borne gravitational wave astronomy

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The talk reports on the international effort to develop the space-borne gravitational wave observatory known as LISA. In particular it will review the science case for such an observatory, the results from its precursor LISA Pathfinder, which has been successfully flown by the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2015-17, and finally the status of its development within an international collaboration led by ESA, and including several of ESA member states and NASA.

Short Bio:

Stefano Vitale is a Professor of Physics at the University of Trento, and a research associate of INFN and ASI. He has been the co-Principal Investigator of the Gravitational



Wave Detector AURIGA of INFN, and the Principal Investigator of ESA's LISA Pathfinder. He has served since the beginning on the LISA International Science Team. He has served as the Chair of ESA's Fundamental Physics Advisory Group, as a member of ESA's Space Science Advisory Committee and as a member of the European Space Science Committee. He is currently a member of the Gravitational Wave International Committee of IUPAP, and a member of the board of the Gravity division of the European Physical society. He is also currently the Chair of the Science Programme Committee, the board of ESA's

science program.