

## SAGITTARIUS: A Space Gravitational Wave Experiment

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**ABSTRACT:** The SAGITTARIUS mission consists of six microsattellites in 600,000 KIn Earth orbit, two satellites at each of the vertices of an equilateral triangle. The satellites are drag-free at the  $10^{-15} \text{ m s}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$  level and track each other with lasers with 10pm phase accuracy. The geometry of the orbits allows two independent Michelson interferometers to be setup with arm lengths of  $10^9 \text{ m}$ . With the resultant  $10^{-20} \text{ Hz}^{-1/2}$  strain sensitivity, SAGITTARIUS will see gravitational waves from known binary stars, from a presumed population of compact binaries in the Galaxy, and from massive black hole events (creation, hierarchical merging, or coalescence in galaxy mergers) at redshifts greater than  $z = 3$ .