

Scientific Requirements for Next Generation Space Terahertz Astronomy Missions

Igor I. Zinchenko

*Institute of Applied Physics
Russian Academy of Sciences
Email: zin@appl.sci-nnov.ru*

After the success of *Herschel* and *Planck* new space missions with significantly improved characteristics for terahertz astronomy are planned, in particular *Spica* and *Millimetron*. Here we review topical scientific tasks for terahertz astronomy and corresponding requirements to the frequency coverage, angular resolution, spectral resolution and sensitivity of such missions. The tasks include galactic and extragalactic research, in particular star formation, galactic structure, astrochemistry, exoplanets, etc. Capabilities of different missions for performing these tasks are compared.