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Cherenkov Telescope Array: overview and Galactic science program

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The Cherenkov Telescope Array is the next generation ground-based gamma-ray observatory designed to detect photons in the 0.02 to 300 TeV energy range. With a sensitivity improvement of one order of magnitude over currently operating facilities, coupled with significantly better angular resolution, the array will be used to address many open questions in gamma-ray and cosmic-ray astrophysics. In addition, CTA will explore the ultrahigh energy ($E > 50$ TeV) window with great sensitivity for the first time.

This talk will provide an overview of CTA and will review the scientific motivation for CTA, with a focus on the key science projects that relate to the study of Galactic sources of very high-energy emission and to the long-standing question on the origin of cosmic rays.

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