Illustration of Merging Binary Neutron stars.

in December 2003, Swift will detect the flash of high-energy explosions called Gamma Ray Bursts (GRBs). Due for launch, Swift is a NASA satellite designed to study colossal cosmic rays are produced, how GRBs change with time, how they fall into different A
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Astronomers hope that Swift will help uncover many characteristics of GRBs,

• the Ultraviolet/Optical Telescope, which detects lower energy light from the burst and its afterglow
• the X-ray Telescope, which observes high-energy X-ray photons from a distant GRB and "swiftly" spin
• the Burst Alert Telescope, which initially detects the GRB

coordinates will also be sent to astronomers on the ground for follow-up observations.

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The Swift Education and Public Outreach (E/PO) program is an effort to teach the public about the Swift satellite and the science it will generate. Particular focus is given to formal education, T

E/PO Website: http://swift.sonoma.edu/  

Excerpt from "The Invisible Universe" by Philip Plait. The book tells the story of how SWIFT will observe gamma ray bursts. After they are detected, Swift will observe the burst and its afterglow. This information will then be sent to the scientific community for further study.

- The Swift mission is a joint effort between NASA and the European Space Agency. It was launched in 2004 with the goal of detecting gamma ray bursts.
- Swift has detected thousands of bursts since its launch, providing valuable data for astronomers to study.
- The Swift Observatory is located in the state of Arizona, USA.
- Swift is named after the Swift Pulsar, a fast-spinning neutron star.
- Swift is equipped with three telescopes: the Ultraviolet/Optical Telescope (UVOT), the X-ray Telescope (XRT), and the Burst Alert Telescope (BAT).
- Swift is the first satellite to observe gamma ray bursts and their afterglows simultaneously.


eyes & website

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