

Cosmic Rays, Gamma-Ray Bursts and the Sociology of Astrophysics

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There has been considerable recent progress in the measurements of primary cosmic rays (electrons and nuclei), as well as in the detection of the gamma rays and the lower-energy “afterglow” associated with the binary neutron-star merger that was first seen by the gravitational wave detectors. I shall discuss these results and some of their interpretation(s). A fraction of the astrophysics community is peculiar, in a sociological sense. I shall briefly comment on that, en passant.