



Leading-edge Research Infrastructure Program
Large-scale Cryogenic Gravitational Wave Telescope Project

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KAGRA

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How to explain the name “KAGRA”

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This is an internal working note
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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose and Scope

This document explains how to explain the name “KAGRA” to English-speaking editors who may have a problem with the fact that it looks like an acronym.

1.2 References

Rev. Sci. Instrum. 87, 034501 (2016); doi: 10.1063/1.4942909

(<http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4942909>)

1.3 Version history

3/4/2016: -v1

2 Problem

Recently Fabian Peña-Arellano submitted a paper to Rev. Sci. Instrum. with the title “Characterization of the room temperature payload prototype for KAGRA”. The editor objected to this as a violation of the rule that acronyms are not allowed in titles, and demanded that it be expanded. Unfortunately, “KAGRA” is not in fact an acronym or other abbreviation for a longer phrase. When this was explained, the editor suggested, “Characterization of the room temperature payload prototype for the cryogenic interferometric gravitational wave detector KAGRA”, and so Fabian changed it accordingly.

However when the proofs were created, a different editor objected, and again wanted KAGRA to be expanded in the title, as well as explained at first use in both the abstract and the body text.

Unfortunately this is likely to be an on-going problem because it is beyond the comprehension of English editors that a word in ALL CAPS is not an acronym.

3 Resolution

The information presented to the editor included:

KAGRA is standardly written in all caps but is not an acronym and there is no standard long form that it can be expanded to. In Japanese it is named after the ritual dance form [Kagura](#), and in English it alludes to both Kamioka (the name of the site) and to gravitational waves.

The wording that was finally agreed on was as follows:

Title: “Characterization of the room temperature payload prototype for the cryogenic interferometric gravitational wave detector KAGRA”

Abstract: “KAGRA is a cryogenic interferometric gravitational wave detector currently under construction in the Kamioka mine in Japan. ...”

Body: “KAGRA (alluding to Kamioka and gravitational wave) is an interferometric gravitational wave detector currently under construction in the Kamioka mine in Japan. ...”

Hopefully this will be helpful to future KAGRA authors.