



VSC Minutes

Date 27/09/2002
VIR-MOM-CAS-1000-196
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Purpose: **VSC meeting**

Meeting date: **September 27th 2002**

Location: **Roma**

Minute by: Matteo Barsuglia

| Participants | Lab. | Participants | Lab. | Add. distribution | Lab. |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Bradaschia | INFN PI | Vetrano | INFN FI/UR | | |
| Brillet | OCA | | | | |
| Cavalier | LAL | | | | |
| Davier | LAL | | | | |
| De Rosa | INFN NA | Absent: | IPN Lyon | | |
| Enard | EGO | | | | |
| Giazotto | INFN PI | | | | |
| Giordano | INFN LNF | | | | |
| Man | OCA | | | | |
| Mours | LAPP | | | | |
| Punturo | INFN PG | | | | |
| Reita | ENSPCI | | | | |

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1. Appointment of the VSC secretary and meeting convener

Decision: Matteo Barsuglia is appointed as new VSC secretary. VSC

Decision: Giovanni Losurdo is appointed as meeting convener. VSC

Flavio Vetrano will ask him about his availability and inform VSC by mail.

2. Appointment of the Coalescing binaries coordinator

Milano has no time to continue his work as coordinator of the coalescing binaries group. He proposes R. De Rosa as new coordinator. Cavalier

No objections by the data analysis coordinator from technical point of view.

- The candidatures for data analysis coordinators should be discussed by Vetrano people working on data analysis.

- Even if De Rosa is appreciated, Fi-Ur group proposes Vicere'.

- Vicere' accepts to be candidate.

For Perugia group Vicere' fulfills all the conditions needed to a coordinator (competence, time to devote to this work and coordination skill). Punturo

Pisa group agrees on Vicere'. Bradaschia

For Roma group, De Rosa is good for his competencies and collaborative spirit. No reasons to look for another coordinator. Ricci

Napoli group proposed De Rosa as coordinator, even if the work of Vicere' is appreciated. De Rosa

De Rosa and Vicere' are good candidates. Mours

After discussion with ESPCI group, Vicere' is proposed as coordinator. Reita

- The discussion is difficult for the presence of De rosa, as one of the candidates. Davier

- For LAL group De Rosa and Viceré are good candidates. We have to pay attention to the fact that Napoli group risks to be too much disengaged from Virgo.

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- I agree with Davier that the presence of De Rosa makes the discussion Man difficult.

- I refuse to express opinions in those conditions.

Vicere' and De Rosa are both good candidates.

Giordano

- I summarize: the majority of the committee agrees on Vicere'.

Giazotto

- I think Vicere' is a good candidate, also for his knowledge on computing.

If there is no objections, I propose to appoint Vicere' as new coalescing binaries coordinator.

(no objections)

Decision: Andrea Vicere' is appointed as coalescing binaries VSC coordinator

3. Appointment of the stochastic background coordinator

- Position of Regimbaud as stochastic background coordinator is felt Cavalier strange for many groups of Virgo, because now she is not in Virgo.

- Babusci is the most involved person in the stochastic background work, but he told me that is not available as coordinator. He is too much involved in the automatic alignment activity.

- Cella is the nearest person in Virgo to this activity. No other people are working on this subject, this is worrying.

Cella is a good candidate for OCA group.

Brillet

In order to detect the stochastic background we need 2 detectors. It seems that the overlap LIGO/VIRGO is not good. We then need a coincidence LIGO with a resonant bar. Ricci

Babusci is a good choice because is working on Virgo and on a resonant bar experiment.

Let me ask him again and postpone the decision to the next VSC.

I agree to postpone the decision.

Mours

I agree also to postpone the decision.

Giazotto

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Decision: The appointment of the stochastic background coordinator VSC is postponed to the next VSC.

4. Remarks on data Analysis

- We should try to work in a more effective way. We should try to take decisions on standard software and computing. We should try to write software packages and checking them with simulated data. I didn't see it at last data analysis meeting. Bradaschia

- The main problem is related to the coalescing binaries. Cavalier

- Vicere' has started to compare different codes. He has contacted people, but he had only 1 answer.

- In Virgo is very hard to push people to collaborate.

I am writing a "Data Analysis Plan", where goals, milestones and deadlines are contained. It will be ready soon.

Recommendation: group leaders have to push the groups to collaborate on data analysis. **Giazotto**

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5. Remarks on computing resources

- We need to discuss the computing resources. At this moment we are not able to justify our requests in front of INFN. Vetrano

- Fulvio Ricci followed personally the problem of GRID project and related computing resources; if you all agree I ask him to report on this topics.

At this moment we have 2 problems: Grid and the computing resources. Ricci

- Grid:

The project had big propulsion at the beginning but now is advancing more slowly.

- Computing:

The present situation is considered confused by INFN.

Ruggeri (the director of Bologna computing center) asked to have a MOU between Virgo groups about the utilization of the Bologna computing resources.

Before this MOU he will not ask for computing resources at Bologna.

The budgeted INFN for Virgo computing will be zero for 2003 if no MOU is written.

There is no exact planning for Virgo. Then there are no reasons to ask money today for computing. Enard

We have to ask money now. We will have data soon.

Particle Physics projects will ask resources soon for their analysis. Davier

In EGO we have money for on-line analysis. Enard

Guy Wormser had prepared a draft of MOU between CCIN2P3 and Virgo. Davier

I propose that Ricci and Mours will write a document. Giazotto

Standard MOU + needs (2003+ trends for the future).

Decision: Ricci and Mours will prepare this document about needs on computing. The data analysis coordinator will be involved also. This document will be discussed at the next VSC VSC

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6. Next VSC

In order to prepare correctly the Virgo Council (November 18th 2002), the next VSC is fixed for October 31st 2002 at 10h30

7. APPEC

Find attached documents:

- proposal for a gravitational wave network
- proposal for a joint research project on thermal noise reduction

In documents similar there is a 'contact person' for each laboratory, Ricci instead only five people.

Politically speaking is very important to participate to those projects, Enard even if the level of founding is low.

- I asked to Danzmann to have a meeting between people coming from gravitational wave projects and discuss about the European GW Giazotto community, and also about EURO project.
- But it seems very difficult to organize such a meeting. Involved people (as Danzmann) are very busy.
- We should insist asking meetings and contacts with GEO people.
- We have to wait for the return of Flaminio (who in now in London at APEC meeting), and understand the next steps at the next VSC.

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8. MOU EGO-laboratories

See attached document: ‘Memorandum of understanding between EGO consortium and the INFN Pisa section. Draft 1, 20 July 2002’

- EGO council asked to EGO to have a MOU between EGO and each laboratory. I started to write a draft (see attached document) Enard
- Institutions would like to be guaranteed if a given laboratory decide to leave Virgo. In this case the corresponding institution (INFN or CNRS) should find another laboratory to fill the responsibilities of the leaving laboratory.
- I underline the fact that the MOU between EGO and the Virgo collaboration has no standing in law. It is only a kind of ‘gentlemen’s agreement’.
- A MOU between EGO and a laboratory is between 2 legal subjects.

I focus the attention of the VSC on article 3 (Evolution of the equipment). Does it mean that Virgo has to ask EGO for a modification of the apparatus? Giazotto

On the EGO/Virgo draft MOU is written: Bradaschia

“6.1 EGO/Virgo relations

..... The Virgo Collaboration must retain its full scientific control over the instrument, its upgrades and the realisation of the science program, while EGO provides the necessary support for the site and the running of the common facilities used by the external groups.”

I Explain the decision path for this topic: someone asks for a modification. The request is discussed at VSC. EGO answer yes or no about money availability for the modification. If positive, money is given for the modification. Enard

This document has no sense if there is not a preliminary MOU between Virgo and EGO about scientific policy. Vetrano

I would like to focus the attention of VSC on article 6 (participation to scientific operation). Davier

I would like also to focus the attention of VSC on article 6. Ricci

- This document should be only a technical document (for example about “safety”). Mours

- The scientific operation should be matter of Virgo collaboration.

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I will focus the attention of VSC on article 8 (Travels). Vetrano

For 2003 all the missions for INFN will be paid directly by INFN, with the old rules. No allowance. We hope EGO will support people with an allowance.

Without this extra my technicians will disappear. Punturo

Starting from 2003 EGO will refund INFN and CNRS twice per years for mission costs. Enard

About article 6: we need some commitment from the laboratories to guarantee a presence on the site. Enard

EGO has first to provide operators. Mours

The commitment of the laboratories is to get experimental results. Ricci

I recall that this document is between EGO and laboratories. It is not between EGO and group leaders. Enard

I propose that two people will revise the document for the VSC. Giazotto

- A MOU between EGO and Virgo collaboration is enough. Giordano
- My director will never sign this document

I need a formal answer from VSC before to the next council. Enard

Recommendation: I would like to have the point of view of each VSC member about this subject for the next VSC. **Giazotto**

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9. EGO personnel

- The new EGO director will probably start his activity next week. Enard
He will be based in Cascina.
- I have the feeling that the new director is a positive choice. Giazotto
- What is the situation of the computing staff in Cascina? (question for Bradaschia Enard).
- 3 new people have been hired. A high level technician, a computing engineer and a software engineer (who will replace Jean Marie Teuler). Enard
 - Cortese will be the leader of the computing part (not of the software part).
- Who is the contact person for data analysis work? Cavalier
- Cortese for computing machines. The person who will replace Jean- Enard
Marie Teuler for software problems.
- Some experts have to think to the needs of the collaboration and ask Bradaschia
EGO.
- Computing is a service. Collaboration has to express its needs. Enard
- The data analysis coordinator should be participate at the requests. Davier
- I agree, the data analysis coordinator has to work with the computing group. Enard
- Mataguez's position is not clear. Enard
 - The problem is the quality of the job. He would like to make some more interesting job.
- We have to convince Mataguez to stay. Giazotto

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10. Modifications of different sub-systems discussed during the collaboration meeting, appointment of commissioning coordinator, next GWDAW

I'm worrying that the modifications presented at the detector meeting and at the VTMT are not discussed and approved by the VSC. Enard

We keep discovering new modifications of the suspensions, which are effectively approved before they are discussed. Why don't we use the "change request" procedure for the suspensions? Brillet

The modifications proposed have been discussed many times in many meetings. Giazotto

The meetings were not announced and there were no minutes. Brillet

People have studied the problem. The important thing is the work that has been done. Giazotto

Solutions proposed have to be announced and decided at VSC. Man

VSC members should be present at VTMT. I already asked that. Giazotto

I propose to restart weekly meetings. Mours

I agree. Giazotto

Decision: Weekly meetings restart under the responsibility of Carlo Bradaschia VSC

I make a summary of the modifications proposed: Giazotto

- Mode-cleaner mirror
- Local controls
- Marionetta arms
- Filter 7 monitoring
- The thermal stabilization of the towers.
- Local control upgrade (with additional mirror attached on the marionetta)

The marionetta arms will be changed at the next upgrade of Virgo. Not now. Ricci

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It is important to have a time estimate.

Enard

Action: As detector coordinator I will verify the planning

Bradaschia

In order to speed-up the planning, it is possible to bypass the mode-cleaner? Bradaschia

Yes, entering by the output mirror of mode-cleaner: this requires only the addition of two or three mirrors on the detector bench, and Regis Barillé is already in charge of preparing it. brillet

What happens in 6 months? We don't have a clear planning.

Enard

It is important that Virgo defines a realistic road map for the next couple of years in which one will indicate expected progress, possible observing and shutdowns periods for planned modifications. Even if such a road map would be highly speculative it would help us to clarify our ideas and priorities and would contribute in giving a positive impression of Virgo.

The emergency is the commissioning plan.

Brillet

Decision: at the next VSC we will appoint the commissioning VSC coordinator for the 3 km detector.

I recommend to have a more coherent presentations from Virgo at the next GWDAW

Ricci

Decision: The data analysis coordinator is in charge of collecting the Virgo presentations at the next GWDAW in order to have a more coherent contribution from Virgo. VSC