

VIRGO Steering Committee

Date: 11/06/2014

Connected people:

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Fulvio Ricci | Spokeperson | P |
| Jean-Yves Vinet | Former Spokeperson | P |
| Matyas Vasuth | RMKI Budapest | P |
| Gijs Nelemans | Radboud University | P |
| Andrea Viceré | Firenze-Urbino | P |
| Helios Vocca | University of Perugia | P |
| Carlo Bradaschia | Outreach Coordinator | P |
| Patrice Hello | LAL-Orsay | P |
| Pia Astone | Data Analysis Coordinator | P |
| Federico Ferrini | EGO Director | P |
| Eric Chassande-Mottin | APC-Paris | P |
| Gianpietro Cagnoli | LMA-Lyon | P |
| Gianluca Guidi | Urbino | P |
| Gianluca Gemme | Genova | P |
| Giovanni Losurdo | Advanced Virgo Project Leader | P |
| Ettore Majorana | Roma La Sapienza | P |
| Franco Frasconi | Pisa | P |
| Frédérique Marion | Universite de Savoie/ LAPP | P |
| Matteo Lorenzini | Roma Tor Vergata | P |
| Marica Branchesi | Urbino | P |
| Catherine Nary Man | OCA-Nice | P |
| Benoit Mours | LAPP | P |
| Pierre Francois Cohadon | LKB | P |
| Jo Van de Brand | Nikhef | P |
| Giovanni Prodi | Padova/Trento | P |
| Gergely Debreczeni | Wigner | P |
| Andrzej Krolak | IMPAN Warsaw | A |

Agenda:

- 1) Communications
- 2) EGO director communications
- 3) Data Analysis status, c.1) update on the EM follow-up program
- 4) DA coordinator renewal (discussion)
- 5) Physics groups coordination renewal (discussion)
- 6) AdV Status
- 7) Kick-off of the squeezing WG: organization issues, scientific goal and milestones
- 8) Computing status
- 9) VEB status
- 10) Outreach program update
- 11) AOB

1. Communications

Fulvio Ricci introduced two issues: the first one concerned the appointment of the Virgo Detection Committee members that will be postponed to the next committee. He remarked the fact that

there were too many names that have to be reduced. The second point was about the VIRGO-LIGO Meeting. They proposed to anticipate the talk on the status of the detectors and of the , labs and infrastructures one week before the meeting, and to post these presentations on the web site of the meeting. We will experiment this solution the first time in occasion of the LVC Stanford meeting.

2. EGO director communications

The Director told that a few sub-system managers asked for support from EGO personnel during the installation and commissioning phases. He declared to be willing to try to satisfy within the possibilities all the requests and invited the project management to collect all the requests; the project office will manage the organization for an efficient and satisfactory use of the resources.

Then he stated that he is concluding the preparation of the documents for the Council; the next meeting will be focused on the status of the project and on the financial aspects. The final version of the budget 2015 will be presented in November.

3. Data Analysis status

Pia Astone recalled that the most important thing is the organization of milestones tables (scientific research plans), including FTE needs for the data analysis.

Marica Branchesi presented her slides about **Update on the EM follow-up program** and several participants revealed their concern about the protocol for making pre-approvals for non-GW-transients (in the tentative agenda of the first telecon). She replied it only deals with extreme cases, not with standard ones. Fulvio Ricci said that we have to pay much attention on this issue.

4. DA coordinator renewal

Fulvio Ricci stated the importance of this role, as it is crucial in the communication with American partners. Frédérique Marion and Chris van den Broeck were the two candidates for the renewal but few minutes before the start of the meeting Frederique stepped down, in order to get an unanimous consensus on the name of the new DA coordinator.

Fulvio Ricci expressed his appreciation to the Frederique's decision.

Moreover, he stressed that in the new organization of Virgo the DA coordinator has to focus his activity more on the production of Physics results because now while the technical problems related to the implementation of the software are more in the hands of Computing coordinator. Essentially the DA role should become more similar to that of the HEP Physics coordinator.

The participants agreed on the appointment of Chris van den Broeck as new DA coordinator for the next two years .

5. Physics groups coordination renewal (discussion)

Fulvio Ricci listed the new Physics groups coordinators appointed for the next two years:

- **Florent Robinet for the Detector Characterization group** (born from the union of the **VDQ and Noise** groups). Next time Robinet will have to present a summary of the documents defining better the frame in which the group will operate.
- **Eric Chassande-Mottin for the BURST group**
- **Gianluca Guidi for the CBC group**
- **Andrzej Krolak confirmed as coordinator of the Pulsar group**
- **Tania Regimbau for the Stochastic group**

6. AdV Status

Giovanni Losurdo presented his slides, containing recent information and news about Advanced Virgo. The IMC cavity is aligned, ready to start locking; there is just one problem concerning several luminous spots on the mirror and they have to investigate and understand their origin. Regarding the mirror, coating of beam splitter is completed and now they have an excellent surface figure. As for the management, the planning will be completed by mid July.

As for the LAL fellowship, the first PhD was approved but we decided to postpone the decision about the second one. MoU renewal is taking time, while AdV man power table will be ready by early July. Then Giovanni suggested extending for 1-2 weeks the deadline of SS contributions.

He added that LIGO fully locked on the 30th of May for 1hr.

7. Kick-off of the squeezing WG: organization issues, scientific goal and milestones

Concerning the discussion about S-WG group during the workshop at the Virgo Week, Fulvio Ricci stated that the main point is the integration of this activity inside the collaboration. He said that this working group should produce a first technical design study (TDR) of the bench for squeezing the e.m. vacuum to be coupled to Advanced Virgo.

The TDR release is a milestone and the corresponding deadline is December 2014.

The kick-off implies to set a dedicated mailing list and call for the first meeting.

At present the meeting will be chaired by the spokesperson; in the nearest future the VSC will appoint the Adv- squeez WG coordinator (S-WG chair).

The WG will include just VIRGO partners.

Concerning the funding we have already a small amount of money coming from INFN(CSN2) and the Italian Ministry of Research. We hope that French can have the same possibility in France.

8. Computing status

Gergely Debreczeni presented his slides about the update of the ongoing issues. He confirmed that tutorials on detection are scheduled.

Fulvio Ricci stepped in telling that it is dangerous to adapt the software to the hardware available, referring to the LIGO action about improving the cost efficiency. About using new computing resources through private companies such as Amazon or Google, he told that this option could create problems of confidentiality and privacy and our funding agencies probably would not agree.

Federico Ferrini confirmed that he thinks EGO Council probably would not accept to pay.

Pia Astone recalled that other experiments are using already computing resources from Amazon.

In the end Fulvio Ricci pushed for more collaboration from the Virgo members and wished a strong contribution in expertise for computing.

9. VEB status

Gianluca Gemme presented his slides and underlined the fact that, for what concerns GWADW presentations, just one person sent the slides before the Conference. So, we decided to set a rule: **if someone gives a talk without presenting the slides before he/she will not be supported anymore by EGO for the participation to the conference.**

Then we appointed Alessandro Bertolini as VESB member to replace Ettore Majorana.

10. Outreach program update

Carlo Bradaschia presented a summary document about the outreach and dissemination activities and spoke about the past and future events, underlying the fact that European Commission gives an increasingly large importance to this kind of activities in the calls.

11. A.O.B.

The next VSC will be held the 25th of June.