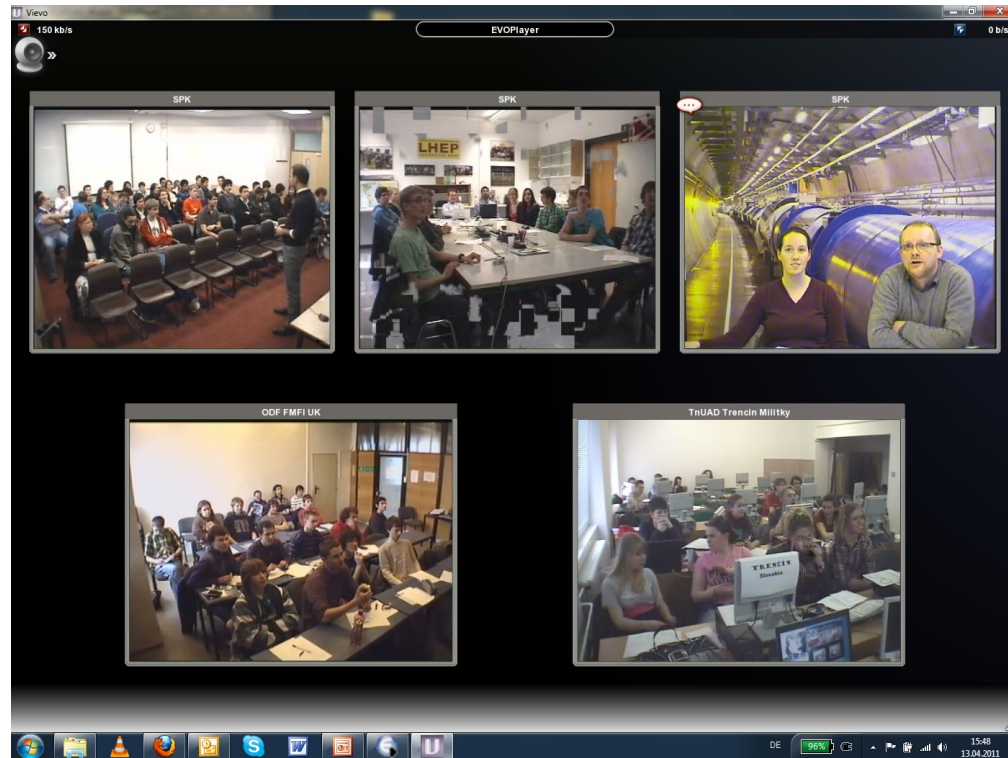


Video Conference – Success, desaster, or somewhere in between?





Video Conference

- 23 international video conferences with CERN
- 15 moderators (see: www.physicsmasterclasses.org/index.php?cat=schedule)
- 4 days with two sessions in parallel
- 2 rooms: teachers' lab and CMS center
- max. 6 institutes
- Duration 60 minutes

Feedback from Moderators

- Technical difficulties account for 80 % of all problems (EVO, institutes connecting late, google docs, uploading plots, ...)
- Limit number of institutes to 4, max. 5 (more days or more sessions in parallel; should be no problem to find more moderators)
- Measurements: worked very well, students „got it“, but preparation of presentations was too complicated
- Timeline in general is fine, but often delay due to technical problems
- Reduce the material to be discussed (not too many topics)
- Need thorough introduction, clear idea of what is expected
- Trial video conference, collection of FAQs for preparation,...



Feedback from Institutes (I)

- The quality of the videoconference was **excellent**: much better than the previous years. It was difficult for the students to follow the **very detailed discussion** of the results.
- The video meeting **went well** but **keeping the focus** of the students for more than an hour (after such a long day) is very difficult.
- They **enjoyed particularly** the videoconference and the opportunity to meet other students and ask questions.
- The video-conference **went smoothly**, the results of all participants were amazingly good, **moderators were very good** and the technical quality almost **excellent**. The only minus was the **length** (almost until 6 pm) - some students complained about it.



Feedback from Institutes (II)

- ...decided to proceed to the **quiz locally**. We connected to evo, we followed the discussion and two pupils posed questions to the moderators. By that time, I felt that they were starting to feel tired.
- Students **like the international touch** and the „Olympic games“ atmosphere.
- ...two sets of data and the resulting picture was **too difficult** for the students, resulting in a confused picture. A second problem came from the **too large amount of information** that the moderators tried to convey in the short time slot available, resulting in an extra difficulty for young students **not used to fluent English** and scientific discussions. The technical quality of the videoconference was average, due to a connected site **injecting too high noise and echo level**.





Conclusions

- Most institutes are well prepared and have good EVO connection - but one „troublemaker“ can ruin the whole event
 - Kick out bad performers? Encourage them to leave the video linkup or stop transmitting video? Who – moderators?
- Length: 90 min: too long, 30 – 60 min okay
 - Moderators need strict timeline
 - Clear out the video conference?
 - Do the quiz locally?
- Only one measurement in a single videoconference
- Q&A in general is enjoyed
 - Answers / discussions no too detailed
 - Institutes should encourage students to pose all kind of questions, not only scientific ones
- International touch / meeting other students is appreciated
 - Could it be enhanced? More exchange between institutes?