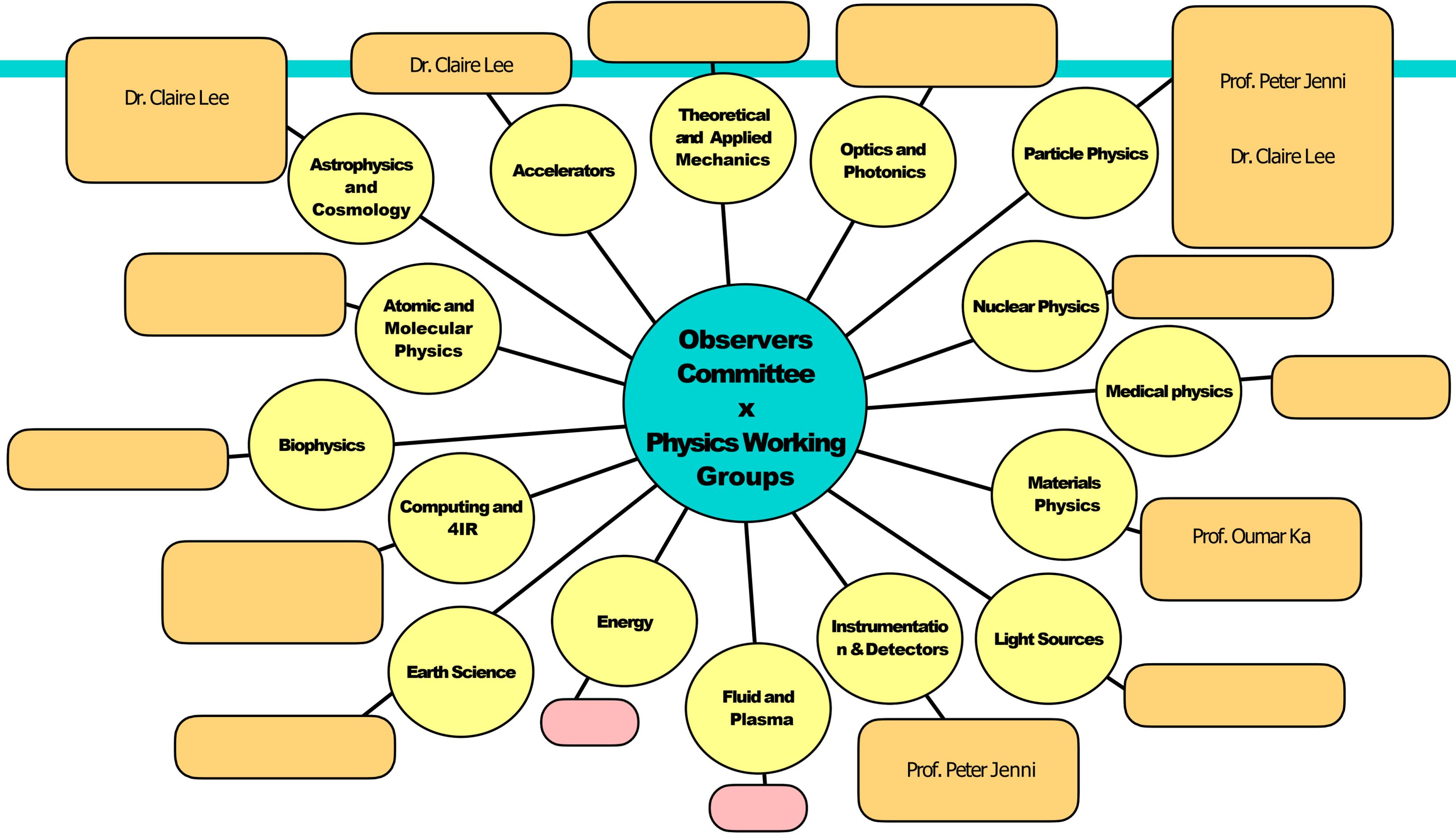

Observers' feedback

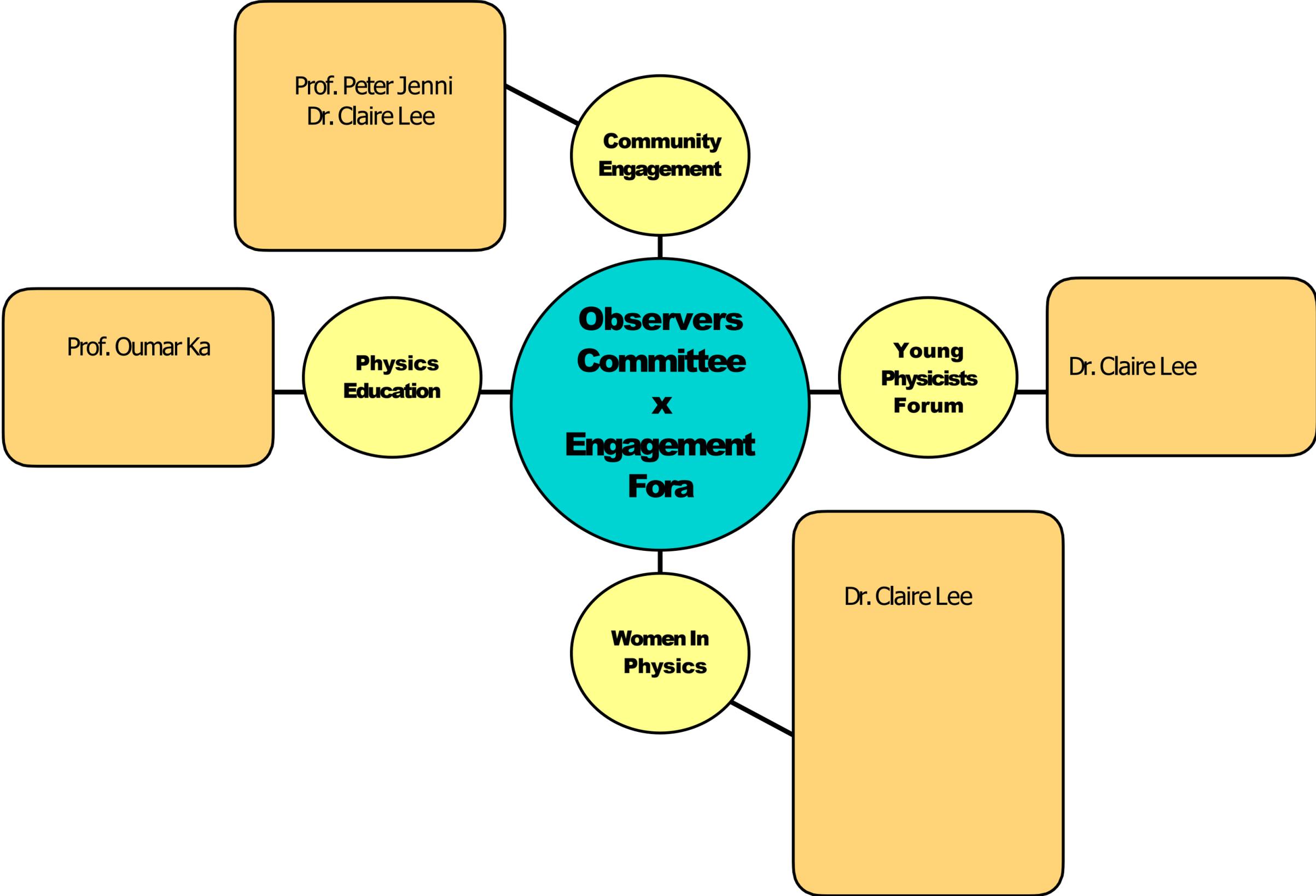
Oumar Ka, Peter Jenni, and Claire lee

THE COMMITTEE

- **An intermediate body providing an additional link between the working groups and fora, and the Steering Committee.**
- **Members of this committee are people with experience in long term planning but also an outstanding involvement with projects in and with Africa.**
- **Members participate in WG discussions, they help to review papers, attend meetings and participate in the editing of the reports together with the WGs they are assigned to follow.**







Needs

First stage : to help the working groups get running efficiently and smoothly.

Next stage : to help review LOIs and White Papers, and with the editing of the Group Reports.

During that stage, the Observers Committee is expected to bring its know-how to the project through the reviewing of the different documents that have been produced by the Working Groups for the final report.

OBSERVATIONS

The interaction between the Observers Committee and the WGs was reduced to a minimum.

Main reason : lack of visibility in the importance of an Observers Committee in such a major initiative.

In some specific cases, especially in the beginning of the ASFAP process, members of the Observer Committee facilitated initial contacts between the WG convenors and senior colleagues in their respective communities (the most tangible benefit from the scheme, as at least perceived by individual Observers).

The Observers did not interact formally among themselves.

As a result :

- no common actions were developed**
- no internal motivation generated**

The Observer Committee actions remained with the initiatives of its individual members, both with respect to their assigned WGs as well as with the Steering Committee.

CONCLUSION

The concept of inviting independent Observers with a broad background in science strategies is a very interesting approach but its effectiveness remained rather short of the initial expectations.

It has to be rethought for future strategy plans.

Nevertheless, some overall positive contributions can be underlined thanks to the commitment of individual Observers.

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Reference

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1039315/contributions/4365534/attachments/2282501/3878422/African%20Strategy%20Town%200Hall%20-%20Observers%20Committee%20Talk%20-%20CA%20Lee%20v2.pdf>