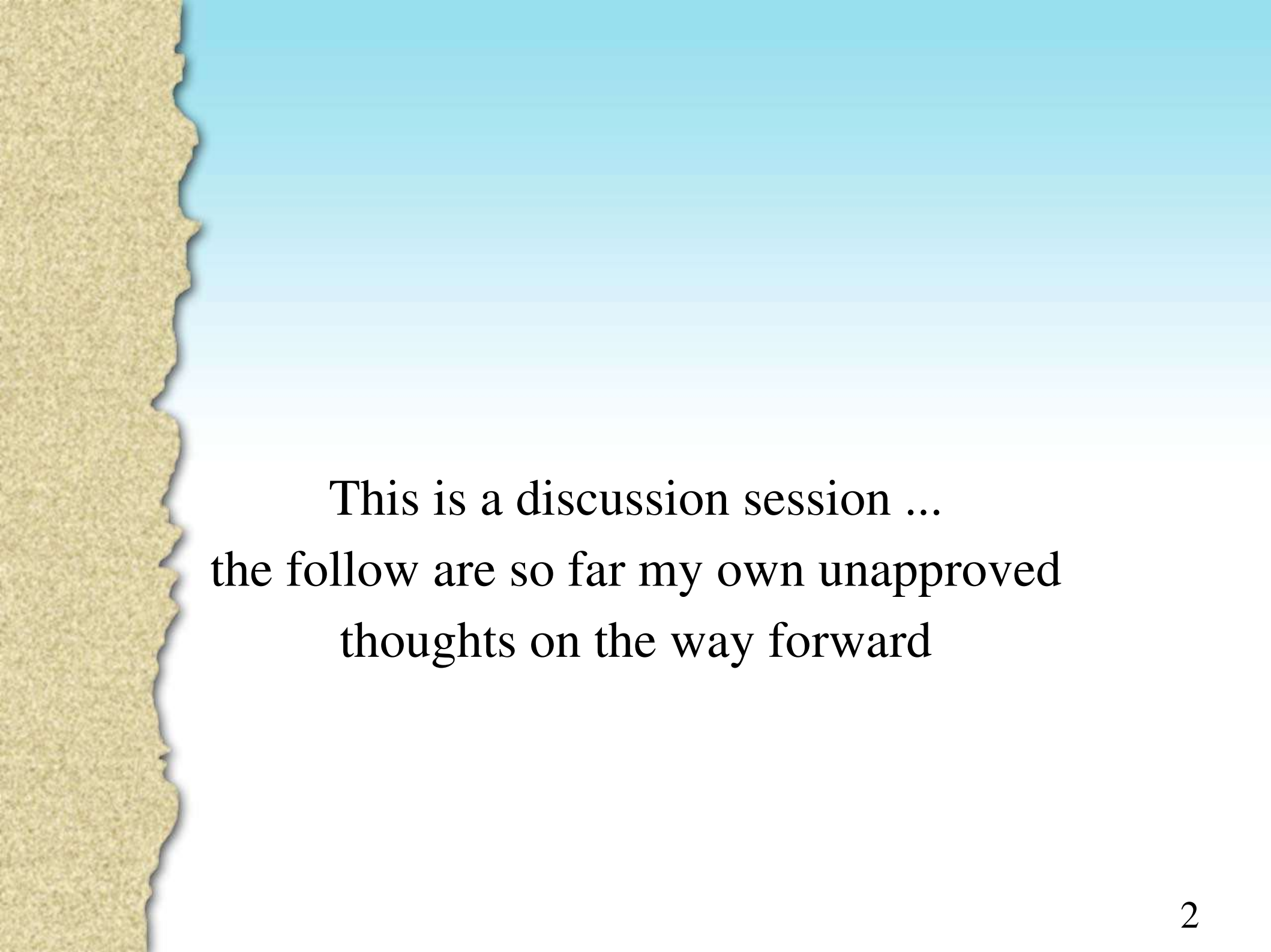# Working Directions

by H. Neal (SLAC/BaBar)

at the

Data Preservation and Long Term Analysis Workshop

28 January 2009

@ DESY

This is a discussion session ...
the follow are so far my own unapproved
thoughts on the way forward

The Goals

- establish the clear justification for Data Preservation & Long Term Analysis

- establish the means (and the feasibility of these means) by which this will be achieved

- give guidance to the past, present and future experiments

- a draft document by the next meeting @ SLAC

The justification

- the justification is clear but this needs to be supported with documented projections from the experiments and documented interest from the community at large concerning the worthiness of maintaining long term analysis capabilities

  - much of the material from this workshop is directly applicable

The means

- A Common Data Format/Common Data Definition

  - define for ee, ep and pp experiments and do a test case

- Profitting from advancements in the ROOT project

  - preserving knowledge of the structure of the data

  - PROOF

- Guidance in the early stages of experiments

  - documentation

  - keeping data format simple

- Storage media recommendations

  - what seems obvious (disk) may not be the best

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The means

- More and Improved Documentation

  - inforce correct documentation

  - verify that its sufficient

- Techniques like Virtualization that will allow us to preserve simulation and other essential tools needed for doing analyses + define input/output format for simulation

- A guide on review and approval of papers after the end of the collaboration

- Policy on forgotten data

- collaboration between experiments

doing the work

- one person or a group of persons should be assigned to each of the items in the ("means") list

- reports should be presented at the next DPLTA meeting

  - until then monitor progress through EVO virtual meetings

  - reports should provide costing profile and support means (if appropriate)

- specific clear conclusions will be put into a DPLTA report which will then be used by the experiments