IGRAV status report

International Gravitational-wave Outreach Group

18th IPPOG Meeting CERN 28-30 November, 2019

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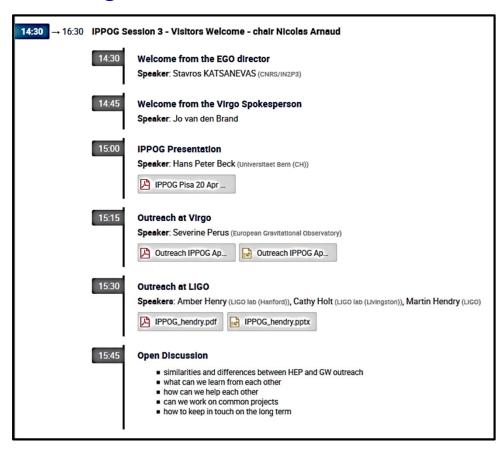






Start of the project

- Spring 2018: 15th IPPOG meeting in Pisa
 - A full day at the European Gravitational Observatory (EGO) in Cascina
 - → Host site of the Virgo experiment
- Joint session with representatives from LIGO, Virgo and EGO
 - Direct detection of gravitational waves
 - Multimessenger astronomy
- Threefold goal
 - Get to know each other
 - Exchange about outreach
 - Same goals
 - Different culture
 - Different resources
 - Learn from IPPOG
 - History, construction over years
 - What worked / why
 - Advices / difficulties / workarounds



Start of the project

- Outcome very positive for both communities
 - → GW community should develop its own flavor of IPPOG

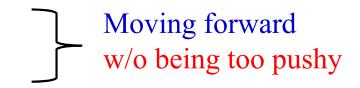


- No reference place like CERN
- A wide range of experiments
 - Searching for different types of gravitational waves
 - Using different detection methods
 - At various stages of maturity / sensitivity
 - Of different sizes
- First detections attracted the attention of media and general audience worldwide
 - ◆ GW170817: a true gift from Nature
 - → At the same time: still consolidating / developing ground-based detectors
 - Network
 - Open public alerts
 - Sensitivity / duty cycle / upgrades
 - Timely publications before data become public
 - etc.



One year of brainstorming

- Where and when to meet?
 - July 13th 2019: the day after the end of the Amaldi 13 conference in Valencia (SP)
 - ◆ Amaldi conferences organized every second year: 'equivalent' of ICHEP/EPS
 - ◆ General relativity theory conference in parallel this year GR22
 - ◆ Free registration, part of the regular Amaldi13/GR22 registration form
- How often?
 - Twice a year: one remote meeting, one in person at a major conference
- List of experiments / agencies / bodies to contact
 - LIGO-Virgo driving the early stages of the project
 - → Want to reach out / go beyond

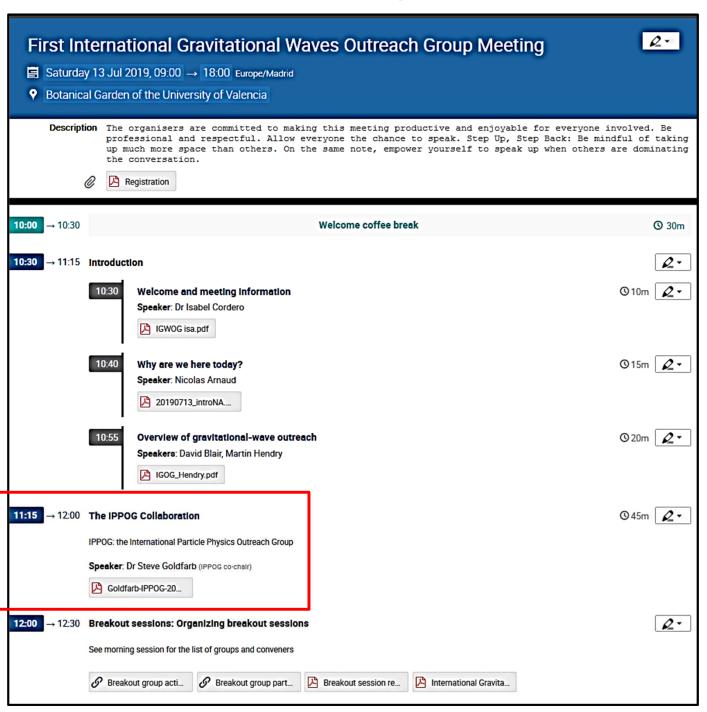


- Meeting agenda
 - Motivation
 - Working groups: what structure for this new body? How to bring it to life?
 - Projects able to federate people from different origins
- Name and acronym...
- → Monthly meetings from early 2019 onwards attendance: 5-10 people

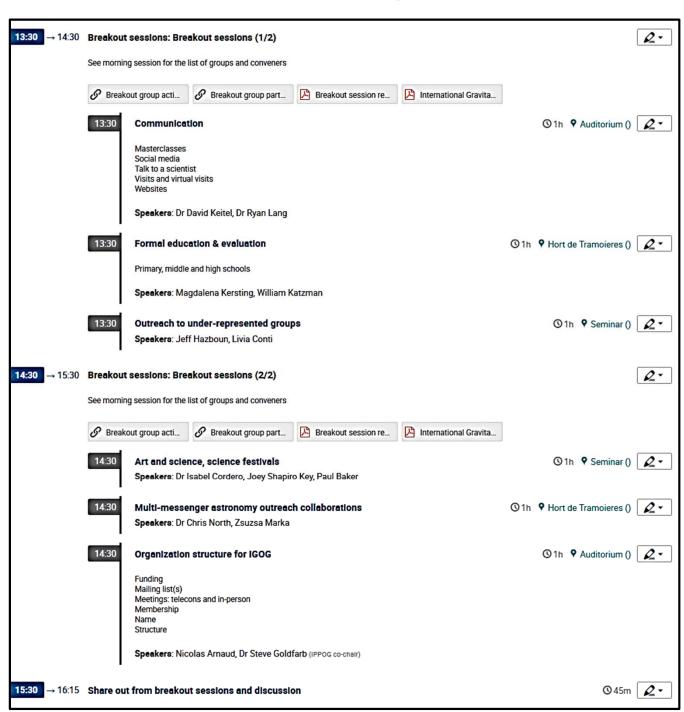
- Saturday July 13th 2019: the day after the end of the Amaldi 13 / GR 22 Conference
 - https://indico.ego-gw.it/event/29
- Much less participants than registrants
 - Registration maybe too easy through the main registration form
 - → But motivated group
 - Majority from LIGO-Virgo but other experiments represented as well



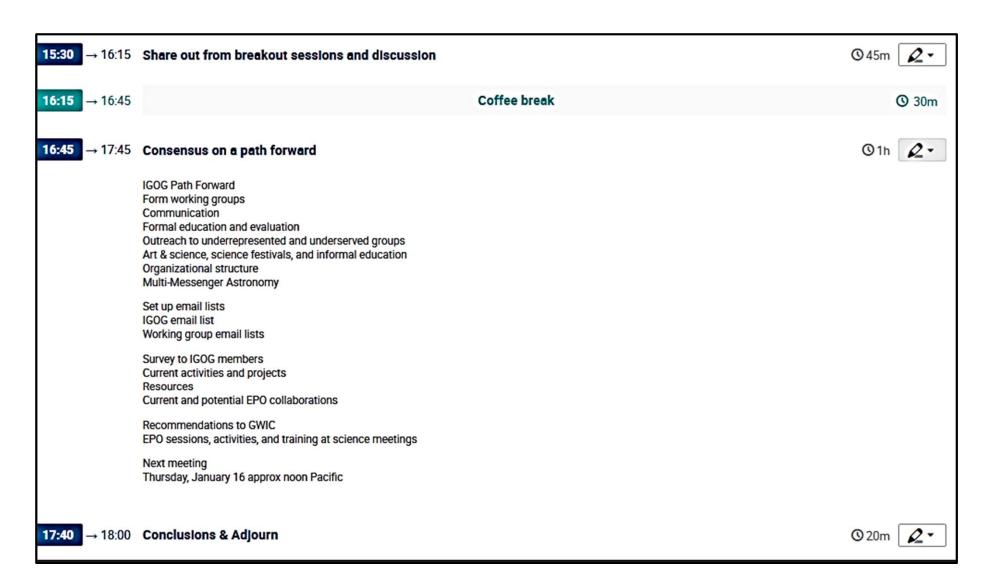
- Morning agenda
 - Setting the stage
 - Example of IPPOG
 - Preparatory work for the afternoon sessions



- Afternoon
 - 2 breakout sessions
 - Different sets of subgroubs
 - Summary of the group discussions



- Conclusion
 - Todo list for the coming year



Recent developments

- Convergence on name and acronym IGRAV: International Gravitational-wave Outreach Group
 - → Domain name bought
- Website igrav.org to be hosted at LIGO Livingston Observatory
 - Web tool development under discussion: likely an CMS
 - ◆ Then targeting a basic website as a start, providing the main info
 - Two mailing lists created: https://lists.igrav.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo
 - → Open to anyone
 - <u>igrav-announce</u>: 86 members
 - igrav-discuss: 66 members

Mission statement

The mission of IGRAV is to engage people throughout the world in exploring the exciting field of gravitation, and in particular gravitational-wave and multi-messenger astrophysics. IGRAV will accomplish this mission through the creation, sharing and dissemination of a variety of educational and outreach materials.

Recent developments

- Working groups and activities one or two conveners each
 - Communications
 - Formal Education & Evaluation
 - Outreach to Under-Represented and Under-Served Groups
 - Art and Science Collaborations
 - Science Festivals
 - Organizational Structure
- Calendar
 - Working group meetings in January
 Working group leads meeting in April

 Remote

 - Face-to-face meeting the day after the end of the LISA Symposium in Glasgow
 - Saturday July 25, 2020
- Structure hosting IGRAV
 - Natural choice: <u>The Gravitational Wave International Committee</u> (GWIC)
 - ◆ But not a legal entity we'll have a relationship with them though
 - Another possibility, currently being investigated: The International Society on General Relativity and Gravitation (ISGRG)

Outlook

- Quite some progress since the initial trigger, during the April'18 IPPOG meeting
- Structure taking shape
 - Name, acronym, mission statement, mailing lists, hopefully a website soon
- IGRAV does not exist yet
 - → Goal is to make it real by the July'20 F2F meeting in Glasgow
- Looking forward
 - for the first IGRAV deliverables
 - to working with IPPOG and other outreach groups

- Special thanks to
 - Isabel Cordero-Carrión: Virgo Valencia group, Virgo outreach group,
 main organizer of the Valencia kick-off meeting
 - Amber Strunk: LIGO-Hanford Observatory Education and Outreach Coordinator, kingpin of our regular IGRAV meetings