

two of them 4 kilometers long and the third one 2 kilometers long, aimed at the simultaneous detection of gravitational waves in the frequency range 40-6000 Hz. LIGO Observatories are located in Hanford, Washington and in Livingston Parish, Louisiana (USA) and began observations in the year 2002. The LIGO Laboratory is funded through a Cooperative Agreement between the National Science Foundation and Caltech, with the portion of the LIGO Laboratory at MIT funded through a subcontract from Caltech.

- B. The LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC) is organized as a separate entity from the LIGO Laboratory. It includes scientists from the LIGO Laboratory, and those from collaborating institutions, and has its own governance and leadership (which includes the LSC Spokesperson as a member of the LIGO Directorate). The Collaboration ensures equal scientific opportunity for individual participants and institutions. It organizes the research, publications, and all other scientific activities. The Collaboration reports to the LIGO Directorate for final approval of its research program, technical work, observational physics publications, and talks announcing new observations and physics results. This will be done through regular reports to the Directorate and its Program Advisory Committee. The organization of the LSC and its governance are defined in its Charter.
3. As a member group of the LSC, the ACIGA Group will participate in the governance of the LSC and in setting its policies and procedures, as defined in the LSC charter. Similarly, it agrees to abide by the policies and procedures adopted by the LSC and posted on its website (<http://www.ligo.org/policies.html>), concerning publication, data access, software standards, and so on.
 4. Membership in more than one collaboration active in the same area of research may present complications. Members of the LSC contemplating joining other gravitational wave collaborations or participating in data analysis efforts with collaborations outside a framework established by the LSC should inform and consult with LSC and the LIGO Laboratory to ensure that no conflicts of interest exist.
 5. The LSC is the primary advocate of interferometric gravitational wave research in the U.S. To function effectively in this role, it needs to be informed in advance about major new initiatives. The ACIGA Group agrees to inform the LSC of any major new proposals related to LIGO to be submitted to the NSF, and to consult with the LSC concerning the best approach to support the overall LIGO program. The final decision about the scope of any such proposal shall remain the prerogative of the ACIGA Group.
 6. LSC Service Functions - Participation in the LSC brings with it responsibility for service functions to support the overall effort in achieving high detector sensitivity and high data quality. In particular, each LSC group is expected to assist in the staffing of scientific monitoring shifts during organized data runs. The staffing of these shifts is notable for both its importance and the travel burden it places on