

Memorandum of Understanding
between
Australian Consortium for Interferometric Gravitational Astronomy
(ACIGA)
and the
Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO) Project
June 1, 1995

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish and define a collaborative relationship between the Australian Consortium for Interferometric Gravitational Astronomy (ACIGA) and the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO) Project. Both parties to this agreement share the goals of observing gravitational radiation and subsequently using gravitational radiation as an astrophysical probe. This agreement is intended to further these joint goals.

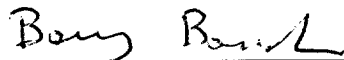
1. The Australian Consortium for Interferometric Gravitational Astronomy (ACIGA) is aimed at contributing to the field of gravitational-wave astrophysics by undertaking research on interferometric systems of detection which will be of benefit to the international community and working toward constructing a long baseline interferometer detector in Australia (AIGO) to complement detectors under construction in the US and Europe. The Consortium is composed of research groups at the University of Western Australia, The University of Adelaide, Monash University, the National Measurement Laboratory CSIRO and the Australian National University. It also has formed industrial partnerships with AWA Defence Industries, Vipac Engineers and Scientists and Dynavac Engineering. The Consortium is funded by the Australian Research Council and its management rests with an Executive Committee based at the Australian National University.
2. The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) Project is aimed at opening the field of gravitational-wave astrophysics through the direct detection of gravitational waves. LIGO detectors will use laser interferometry to measure the distortions of the space between free masses induced by passing gravitational waves. The design, construction, and operation of LIGO is being carried out by scientists, engineers, and staff at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Caltech has prime responsibility for the project under the terms of a Cooperative Agreement¹ with the National Science Foundation (NSF). LIGO will become a national facility for gravitational-wave research, providing opportunities for the broader scientific community to participate in detector development, observations and data analysis. LIGO welcomes the

1. Cooperative Agreement No. PHY-9210038 between the National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550 and the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, dated May 1992.

participation of outside scientists at any of these levels. LIGO is being constructed in a phased approach beginning with one three-interferometer detector system and evolving to a nine-interferometer configuration to enable simultaneous use by several gravitational-wave observation systems.

3. In entering into this Memorandum of Understanding, the LIGO Project will carry out its responsibilities following the requirements of the Cooperative Agreement¹.
4. The LIGO Project is responsible for obtaining NSF approval of all collaborative Memoranda of Understanding with international partners, or involving NSF costs exceeding \$100,000. All Memoranda of Understanding will be provided to NSF for their information.
5. Each party to this agreement continues to be responsible for all support of its staff including travel costs associated with the activities under this agreement. Exceptional support of travel by the other institution may be allowed for travel requested by that institution.
6. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force until the parties mutually agree to terminate it. Periodic Attachments will be used to define specific activities to be carried out under this MOU, including task descriptions, schedules, funding arrangements and intellectual property rights.


Approved:



Barry Barish
LIGO Principal Investigator

6/21/95

Date



John Sandeman
ACIGA Principal Investigator

6/19/95

Date