

# LSC Publication Policy Update

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- LIGO Publication Policy guides collaboration on issues of authorship rights, protocols and guidelines for reviews of:
  - » Papers
    - Archival journal articles
    - Conference proceedings
  - » Talks
    - Invited talks
    - Contributed talks
    - Seminars
- Last revision April 2004
  - » Mostly concerned review ‘triggers’, procedures for review
    - This part is working pretty well

# Authorship rights

- Current policy differentiates between “observation/astrophysics” papers and “methods/technical” paper
  - » Type I: “Observation/astrophysics” papers – full LSC author list
  - » Type II: “Methods/technical” papers – limited author list
- This is too “coarse grained”
  - » Are there type II papers that should legitimately use the full LSC author lists?
    - Or, is there a bright line between type I and II papers?
- How many authors are too many for type II papers? Should there be a threshold for using the LSC author list?
  - » 10%, 20%, 25% of LSC membership?

# Are there type II papers that should legitimately use the full LSC author lists?

- Gray area – papers that use data from LSC instruments but are not, strictly speaking, ‘astrophysical/observational’ papers from science runs
  - » Examples (in varying shades of gray):
    - Papers using some non-astrophysical instrumental channel of the LIGO/GEO detectors
    - Data analysis methods papers using playground data of the LIGO/GEO detectors to develop and certify a pipeline
      - Before the corresponding science run data has been published
      - After .....
    - papers using instrument data taken outside a science run
      - e.g, HEPI
  - » Currently, all of our type I papers come from science runs
    - In the future, will this be true?
      - GEO will run 24/7 at some point
      - LIGO may be able to do this (at least with one detector) in the future

# Proposed Changes (trial balloon)

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- i) Type II papers using data from science runs for which at least *one* type I publication is in print may use a limited author list.
  - » Any prior papers from that science run should be referenced when appropriate.
- ii) Type II papers using data taken during periods other than LSC science runs may use a limited author list.
  - » Only non-astrophysics papers

# How many authors are too many for type II papers?

- Technical papers may have a large number of authors.
  - » Multiple WGs
  - » WGs with large numbers of members
- At what point does the author list get so large that the paper can reasonably said to represent the work of the entire LSC?
- Converse: Would people feel comfortable being authors on papers that are outside their expertise?
  - » e.g., numerical relativists on a paper purely covering suspension development (and visa versa)

# Proposed Changes (trial balloon)

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- The author list drawn up by corresponding author is circulated to all WG members
  - » Members contact the corresponding author if they consider their name to be inappropriate for the author list *or*, more importantly, to have been missed in the preliminary listing.
  - » Final list generated and recirculated for a final check before submission to the LSC for review.
- Should the author list exceed 25% of the LSC membership, then *the paper can reasonably be said to represent the entire LSC in that it significantly advances data analysis or advanced detector development.* In this case, all current eligible LSC members will be listed as authors.

# Other issues

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- Current: one year rule
  - » New members will be added to the author list one year after arrival.
  - » Members that leave the collaboration will have authorship rights for one year after their departure date.
  - » Applies to individuals and groups
- No mention of FTE accounting in current policy:
  - » e.g., 1 person working 20% on LIGO needs 5 years to get authorship rights
- Accounting policy should be incorporated into publication policy
- Other issues?
  - » Standard policy for external authors?
  - » ????

# Input Solicited

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- Publication Committee
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