

LSC Policy about members belonging to other GW collaborations
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Gravitational wave astronomy benefits from the close collaboration among a global network of GW detectors both in establishing confidence of detection and in maximizing scientific gain from such detections. Hence the LSC wishes to establish and sustain data sharing agreements with all existing GW experimental collaborations whose instruments can provide data of comparable sensitivity to those operated by the LSC. The LSC wishes to hasten the increased scientific return of the global network, and to this end will work with other collaborations to advance the design, installation, and commissioning of other detectors in the network.

One aegis for promoting this program may include LSC members who also belong to other experimental GW collaborations. However, such multiple membership also carries with it the potential for conflict of interest. The LSC expects its members to carry out fully their commitments to the construction, commissioning, operations, and data analysis of the LSC's GW detectors. The collaboration would not be best served if key members become involved with other detectors, simply because this takes time away from accomplishing the goals of the collaboration.

Therefore, we define in this document policies on the relationship between the LSC and other GW experiments and on the rights and responsibilities of simultaneous membership in the LSC and other GW collaborations (multiple citizenship). These rights and responsibilities will depend on the degree of cooperation that exists between the LSC and the other collaboration, and the LSC will classify other GW collaborations clearly (see below) in order to avoid misunderstandings and ambiguities.

All LSC members have rights to the data from the LIGO and GEO600 detectors, as well as to data from collaborations with which the LSC has data-sharing agreements. Furthermore, all LSC members have rights to hear and participate in the discussion of preliminary results from data analysis or instrumental working groups, and to see paper drafts derived from activities of the Collaboration before they are submitted to publication or to a public digital archive.

The collaboration recognizes the importance of proper attribution; persons who make discoveries are deserving of recognition for their creativity. Specifically, it is important that the originator be recognized and that there be no false attribution of discovery, either through omission or commission, when someone else discusses the discovery. This protection is especially important for the younger members of the collaboration.

All LSC members must abide by the guidelines included below concerning the protection of our ideas and results. Moreover, those LSC members who are also members of other GW collaborations should strictly follow these guidelines in their interactions with the other collaborations:

- An unpublished idea learned from discussions with other LSC members must not be shared with those not in the LSC, or designated as a collaborator organization for that domain of research, without explicit permission from the LSC member (or members) who conceived the idea.
- When composing talks, papers and workshop presentations, LSC members should make every effort explicitly to attribute technical contributions, significant ideas, calculations, measurements, and plans to those groups and people from which they originate. This is standard practice in the scientific community. Members with multiple citizenship should be especially careful to avoid making presentations with unattributed content.

Classification of other GW collaborations:

Other GW experimental collaborations **with operating or funded detectors having sensitive overlapping frequency bands with LSC detectors** are to be designated by the LSC Council as data-sharing, data non-sharing, or potentially data-sharing collaborations. The designation depends on whether agreements exist with the LSC and on the degree to which the observational goals of the external collaboration overlap with those of the LSC. The default designation is potential-data sharing collaborations.

- In deciding whether or not another GW collaboration should be regarded as a data-sharing collaborator, the LSC Council should take into account the existence of a data sharing agreement between the LSC and the other collaboration and take into account the existence of administrative mechanisms to ensure protection of the intellectual property rights of LSC members.
- In deciding whether or not another GW collaboration is a data non-sharing or potential data-sharing collaboration, the LSC Council should consider the spectral band of that experiment's detectable signals, the sensitivity of the instruments, the time scale for that experiment's scientific data taking, and the level of cooperation expected from that collaboration's management.

Other GW experimental collaborations **with detectors that do not have sensitive overlapping frequency bands with LSC detectors and other collaborations studying different areas of physics** are by default not subject to dual-membership restrictions. All LSC members who are also members of such collaborations must of course respect the guidelines on disclosure and attribution given above and the applicable rules on activity given below.

Multiple citizenship guidelines and rules:

An LSC member may be simultaneously a member of another collaboration unless that collaboration is designated by the LSC Council to be a data non-sharing collaboration.

To avoid any possibility of conflict of interest, anyone with multiple citizenship in a potentially data-sharing collaboration may not accept a position in the leadership of *either* collaboration at the LSC-equivalent level of spokesperson, executive committee, analysis group leader, instrument science working group leader, or other positions that can create conflicts of interest. LSC members who take on any kind of leadership position in potentially competing projects should first consult with the spokesperson as to the appropriateness of such position. In particular, membership in the LSC Council (and equivalent positions in other collaborations) is allowed, and leadership roles in space-based detectors are permitted. If any leadership position is taken by an LSC member, it must be explicitly mentioned in their MOU.

LSC members who are also members of any another GW collaboration must disclose their status in their annual LSC MOU text. There must be enough detail to allow the MOU reviewers to understand any significant potential for conflicts of interest. The MOU must explain how the extra-LSC activities undertaken are consistent with this LSC citizenship policy. In particular, LSC members must ensure that their extra-LSC activities do not prevent them from fulfilling their commitment to the LSC as indicated in their MOU, including the percentage of their research time that they have committed to the LSC. Moreover, LSC members must give priority to the LSC if scheduling conflicts arise between their LSC and extra-LSC commitments.