

Memorandum of Understanding for Follow-up Observations via AMON

March 10, 2016

This MoU is intended for follow-up observatories involved in follow-up programs that use the Astrophysical Multimessenger Observatory Network (AMON) as the communication conduit. A triggering observatory will provide alerts to AMON which will then transmit them to the follow-up observatory via a private GCN channel. The data may be transmitted in any format supported by GCN, with preference for the VOEvent [1] standard. The follow-up observatory will then perform follow-up of these alerts, with counterpart notifications sent to the triggering observatory via the same private GCN channel. Follow-up images will be processed by the group of scientists leading the analysis. The aim of the program is to detect multimessenger emission from transient sources, such as SNe or GRBs, and the specific goal of the cooperation between the observatories is a joint search with a joint publication of its results.

Under this MoU, each observatory agrees to hold confidentially the data received from any other observatory, and agrees it shall be used only for improving analysis of its own data and not for any other purpose, nor disclosed to any other party. Each observatory retains the right to publish independently without using any other observatory's data.

AMON will hold confidentially all data that are exchanged under this MoU. At the mutual agreement and discretion of the collaborations working together on a particular analysis, AMON can be instructed to issue alerts to some or all of the participating AMON observatories [2] that have signed the AMON MoU [3], or to broadcast the alerts publicly, in order to enable enhanced multimessenger follow-up observations.

References

- [1] Sarah Emery Bunn, Roy Williams, Rob Seaman, *Hotwiring the Transient Universe*. 2010.
- [2] <http://amon.gravity.psu.edu/participants.shtml>.
- [3] http://amon.gravity.psu.edu/mou_may2015.shtml.

Approvals

This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force until the parties mutually agree to either modify or terminate it.

The following persons are authorized by their Institutions to approve the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

For:

LCOGT



Dr. Todd Boroson
President & Director, LCOGT

3/10/2016
Date

AMON

Douglas
Cowen

Dr. Doug Cowen
AMON Exec. Board Chair

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