

SECOND CIRCULAR

XXV Trobades Científiques de la Mediterrània XXV Mediterranean Scientific Meetings Gaia: the Galaxy in a petabyte

Maó, Menorca (Spain)
30th September - 2rd October, 2009

Presentation

This year, the *Societat Catalana de Física* (SCF-IEC) proposed to the *Institut de Ciències del Cosmos* of the *Universitat de Barcelona* (ICC-UB) and the *Institut d'Estudis Espacials de Catalunya* (IEEC) to organize the "XXV Trobades Científiques de la Mediterrània" under the title "**Gaia: the Galaxy in a petabyte**". The meeting aims establishing and reinforcing the relations among astronomers working in fields where Gaia data will be fundamental for the future research. Three years before launch, it is now the right time to begin to carefully prepare the scientific exploitation and to create the collaborations and networks necessary to address the main objectives of Gaia in the best conditions.

Main goals of the meeting are: 1) To transmit to the Spanish Astronomical Community the experience of the groups involved in Gaia mission preparation; 2) to identify common interests on present and future research lines; 3) to create working groups and networks to prepare for the huge task of Gaia scientific exploitation and 4) to analyse the synergies with present and future surveys from ground and space.

Scientific program

The Scientific program is already in the web. Thursday sessions will be devoted to present the status of the Gaia mission preparation, the data results and expected accuracies. A review on the surveys to be available on the next decade, focussing on those clearly complementary to the Gaia data, will be presented by Dr. F. Comerón (ESO, Garching). Some talks devoted to each one of the main Gaia research lines will be given. In them a compendium of the on-going research activities of the Spanish Community in each topic will be presented by a coordinator, who will contact relevant people in the area. Participants wishing to present their research lines should contact the coordinator. First inputs on future research lines, interests, needs, should be given in the talk.

Friday morning presentations will be on Gaia Scientific Data Management and Catalogue, and will include a review on VO and relevant statistical techniques. The present Gaia simulator can be understood as a tool to prepare for scientific exploitation: its content, capabilities and some examples will complete the morning sessions.

Afternoon session will be split in two parts. First part is devoted to two parallel sessions dedicated to open discussion on “Stellar Physics” and “The Galaxy and the Local Group” respectively, while the second one it’s a plenary meeting which goal is to build up collaborations and to define next steps.

Conference website

<http://www.ieec.cat/mediterrania2009>

Proceedings

No publication is expected. Oral contributions and posters, in pdf format, will be requested during the conference and uploaded to the meeting webpage.

Scientific Organizing Committee

Local Scientific Committee: Xavier Luri (ICC-UB, IEEC), Ignasi Ribas (IEEC, CSIC) and Jordi Torra (ICC-UB, IEEC)

Advisory Scientific Committee: Emilio Alfaro (SEA, IAA), Minia Manteiga (UdC), Francisco Garzón (IAC), Carme Jordi (ICC-UB, IEEC), David Martínez Delgado (IAC), Carme Gallart (IAC), Francesca Figueras (ICC-UB, IEEC), David Barrado Navascues (LAEX), Rene Duffard (IAA)

Registration

Registration deadline: 4th September, 2009

The registration fee is free for the PhD students (a letter of presentation from the advisor is needed), 100€-150 € for senior scientist before and after deadline respectively, and 50€ for the accompanying persons. Social diner, excursion and coffee breaks are included in the fees. Depending on the available final funding, lodging and meals grants will be available for students and recent postdocs.

Venue

The workshop will take place from Wednesday 30th September to Friday 2nd October 2009 at the "Institut Menorquí d'Estudis", Camí des Castell 28, Maó (Menorca).

Travel information

Menorca Island is the Northern island of the Balearic Islands and can be easily reached from the most important European cities. In order to get the best prices please contact the travel agency Viatges MAGON (Maó) for both airplane tickets and lodging at the e-mail empresas1@vmagon.es indicating you are participating at the “XXV Trobades Científiques de la Mediterrània”.