



Smoothed Particle Hydrodynamics rEsearch and engineeRing International Community

Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting

25th and 27th June, 2018

NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland

SC members present:

Ben Rogers (Univ. Manchester, UK, chair)
Alex Crespo (Universidade de Vigo, Spain, webmaster)
Renato Vacondio (Università di Parma, Italy, newsletter editor)
Nathan Quinlan (Nat. Univ. Ireland, Galway, Ireland)
Jean-Christophe Marongiu (Andritz Hydro, Switzerland)
Matthieu de Leffe (Nextflow Software, France)
David Le Touzé (École Centrale de Nantes, France)
Antonio Souto-Iglesias (Univ. Politecnica de Madrid, Spain)
Damien Violeau (EDF R&D, France)

Also present:

Pablo Loren-Aguilar (University of Exeter, UK)
Salvatore Marrone (CNR-INSEAN, Italy)
Pengnan Sun (Harbin Engineering University, China)
Angelo Tafuni (NYU)
Tom De Vuyst (Brunel University London, UK)
Fei Xu (Northwestern Polytechnic University, Xi'an, China)
Alexis Hérault (Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers, Paris, France and INGV, Catania, Italy)

Apologies:

Stefano Sibilla (Università di Pavia, Italy, secretary)
Andrea Colagrossi (CNR-INSEAN, Italy)
Thomas Rung (Technische Universität Hamburg-Harburg, Germany)
Rade Vignjevic (Brunel Univ., UK)
Xiangyu Hu (Technische Universität München, Germany)
Aman Zhang (Harbin Engineering University, China)

1. Galway 2018 SPHERIC Workshop (Nathan Quinlan)

Nathan Quinlan confirmed that attendance to full workshop is 118 persons, of which 41 are students. 31 persons attended the training day (23 attending afternoon session), with 4 people

attending the training day only. The Keynote lecture by the ERCOFTAC representative has been confirmed. There are 59 confirmed presentations despite a couple of withdrawals and no-shows. The budget is satisfactory and in line with expectations. There were no particular difficulties encountered during the organisation of the workshop.

The experience with using the Weezevent for the registration process and using Wordpress to handle paper submission on the website has been positive.

Ben Rogers will announce the change in meaning of the SPHERIC acronym at the workshop.

Ben Rogers will also ask Daniel Duque to present the updated SPH wiki page at the workshop and to request contributions from SPHERIC members.

2. Asia workshop 2019

Pengnan Sun proposed organising the next SPHERIC Asia in Harbin from 19-21 December 2019 with the following timeline:

- Website will be online by February 2019
- Abstract submission deadline will be in July
- Abstract confirmation in August
- Full paper submission deadline 15 October
- Registration deadline 15 November

The local organising committee has been established. The workshop will have a training day on day one.

The SC observed that the planned dates for the workshop were very close to Christmas holidays, and that this would probably severely limit the attendance from European delegates. It was therefore decided that a date towards the end of January (22nd) would be more appropriate. The other dates will be shifted accordingly once the final workshop dates are confirmed.

Pengnan Sun proposed to organise the workshop in a hotel to avoid long travel times between hotel and university. Pengnan Sun was confident that any cost implications can be covered locally. If this is the case the SC agreed that organising the workshop in a hotel was the best option.

3. SPHERIC –US

Angelo Tafuni proposed organising a SPHERIC-US workshop, analogous to the SPHERIC Asia workshop, with potential dates: spring 2020, autumn 2020 or spring 2021. Rather than organising this as a US specific event, the option of making this the regular SPHERIC workshop was raised.

Potential issues with attendance were discussed: Visa restrictions/complexities, doubts about the size of the US SPH community and the fact that T. Dalrymple tried to organise an SPH workshop in 2012 (although in a different format) but this did not attract enough attention.

4. Next SPHERIC Workshops

There was also doubt about the provisional locations of the SPHERIC workshop for 2020 (Lisbon, Ricardo Canelas) and 2021 (Stuttgart, Peter Eberhard). Ben Rogers confirmed with both Canelas and Eberhard that both these options were not feasible. Therefore the SC decided to hold the regular SPHERIC workshop for 2020 in New York. This workshop will be organised by Angelo Tafuni.

Alexis Héraud proposed Catania, Italy, as location for the 2021 workshop with preferably a slightly earlier date in the beginning of June (for reasons of availability of accommodation). The SC voted in favour of this proposal. The 2021 SPHERIC workshop will be held in Catania and organised by Alexis Héraud.

5. SHPERIC Workshop 2019 Exeter

Pablo Loren-Aguilar provided an update on the organisation of the 2019 workshop at the University of Exeter:

- The dates are confirmed for 24-27 June
- There will be guaranteed on-campus accommodation for up to 150 people
- Tentative cost for registration fees and accommodation are in the order of £400, this will be confirmed later
- Availability of lecture theatre and room for the training day has also been confirmed

The importance of confirming the keynote speakers was noted, and the following suggestions for potential keynote speakers were made:

- R. Fatehi
- M. Bate
- Winner of Monaghan prize

It was agreed that with the workshop being organised at Exeter, having a keynote lecture by someone from the astrophysics community would be desirable.

It was agreed the SC members would, by the 27th of July, vote on which potential keynote speakers to contact. This will be done by a shared document to be made available by Pablo Loren-Aguilar.

Mathieu de Leffe proposed using SPH-Flow for the next training day in the Exeter workshop. This was agreed by the SC. Ben Rogers and Alex Crespo remarked it is best to have the software installed in a computer room prior to the training day, rather than getting attendees to install the software on their own machines on the day. Mathieu de Leffe and Pablo Loren-Aguilar will discuss the installation of the SPH-Flow software in a suitable room at Exeter.

Nathan Quinlan highlighted the importance of paying attention to withdrawal and no-shows.

Specific issues

1. SPHERIC Governance

It was reported that there has been no progress on the preparation of SPHERIC by-laws since last November. David Le Touzé questioned whether we required the by-laws, and stated that if they are adopted they must be clear on how to become a member of the SC. A discussion about the SC member election procedure followed. The SC agreed that the rate of change to the composition of the SC should be slow so as to maintain the committee's expertise and ensure continuity. It was also agreed that regardless of whether the by-laws are adopted, the procedure for joining, and leaving, the SC should be clearly defined.

It was agreed that the SPHERIC membership should be given the opportunity to provide input on the issue of adopting by-laws. Ben Rogers will take responsibility for consulting the membership. It was suggested to do this via an online poll with one vote per member institution. The SC also agreed that before the possible adoption of the by-laws that they should be checked by a lawyer, either at institutional level or a lawyer appointed by the SPHERIC SC.

2. Special Issues of Journals

CAF – David Le Touzé stated that there has been a 1-1.5 month delay in the review process due to a personnel change at Elsevier. However, all papers are now under review. A total of 30 papers have been received. David Le Touzé explained that this is a virtual special issue where papers are published in the journal as normal but with the addition of a tag to link them to the special issue. This means that some papers have been published already, and David Le Touzé estimates that by the end of September all papers of the special issue may be published. Once all papers are published this will be announced on the website and newsletter.

IJCFD – Nathan Quinlan has been contacted to organise a special issue on SPH with minimum 8 papers for this journal. Nathan Quinlan reported that the journal has a good editorial board, blind review process and an impact factor of 0.9, but the impact factor appears to be rising quickly. The exact topic for this special issue was discussed; one suggestion was a special issue on industrial applications. It was agreed that Nathan Quinlan would respond to the journal with a specific proposal.

3. J.J. Monaghan prize

The SC confirmed the points scoring system for the prize as:

- 1st choice 4 points
- 2nd choice 2 points
- 3rd choice 1 point

Voting will close at lunch time on Thursday 28th of July 2018.

The SC agreed that the J.J. Monaghan prize is awarded to all authors of the paper and that they should all receive a certificate. It was also agreed that certificates would be issued to all co-authors of Andrea Colagrossi (previous winner) as this had not been done at the time.

Nathan Quinlan reported that votes had been counted and that there was a clear winner. 50% of the attendees had cast their vote.

4. Spheric Logo

Renato Vacondio presented the range of logo designs. The designs were discussed, with some members questioning the addition of the circle around the logo, and others the need for a new logo. Renato Vacondio responded that the main reason was that it posed difficulties when printing using the new newsletter design. The SC decided that the logo would be redesigned, but that there would be no circle. Furthermore, the new design should keep close to the original design, except for the wave, which should be removed.

Regular Issues

1. Newsletter

Renato Vacondio reported on the next issue of the newsletter. The following contributions were identified:

- Contributions from the winner(s) of the Libersky prize. Renato Vacondio is to contact them by email.
- A report on the update of the SPH wiki page. Daniel Duque is to be contact for a contribution.
- A statement about the change of the meaning of the SPHERIC acronym to be provided by Ben Rogers.

2. Members list

Ben Rogers reported on the update of the SPHERIC members list. The current number of members is 75. Some members have joined, others have left or have been removed due to inactivity/unresponsiveness. The old system of a Microsoft Word Document being the list of SPHERIC members has now been replaced with an Excel spreadsheet that tracks the activity of members (attendance at workshops, contributions to newsletter, etc.). This will make the tracking of members' activity easier. Alex Crespo will update the list on the website.

3. Website

Alex Crespo reported he is unable to upload the SC committee meeting minutes for the Ourense, China and Rome meetings because no reduced version is available. Ben Rogers will check the meeting minutes for these three meetings and either send them to Alex Crespo for uploading or if they contain statements not for public release contact the relevant people to comment.

The change in meaning of the SPHERIC acronym will be done on the website the week starting 2/7/18.

Alex Crespo also reported that the 4th Grand Challenge was not well explained on the website. It was agreed that the SC would look into this.

4. Youtube Channel

Alex Crespo raised the fact that the SPHERIC Youtube channel has few followers, and asked for people to send videos which can be added to the playlist. The option of adding links to SPHERIC member's playlists was also discussed.

Antonio Souto-Iglesias reported that the SPH bibliography had been duplicated in Mendeley, transferring there the registers in Mendeley (Citeulike remains available), and asked for someone to take on maintenance of the Mendeley database as he has no experience using this platform. He said he would write an email to the Scientific Committee members looking for somebody to help him with this.

5. Next SC Meeting

The SC decided that the next SC Meeting would be held in Lisbon on the 25th of October.