Project ICoSCIS:
Interregional Cooperation
at Scientific Computing in
Interdisciplinary Science

European Territorial Cooperation Progamme
Greece - Bulgaria 2007 - 2013
This Project is co-funded by the European Union (ERDF)
and National Funds of Greece and Bulgaria

European Territorial Cooperation Programme
Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013
INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

4th ICOSCIS MEETING

MINUTES

Project Name	"Interregional Cooperation at Scientific Computing in Interdisciplinary Science" (ICoSCIS)		
Programme	European Territorial Cooperation Programme "Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013"		
Date of Meeting	30.11.2012	Location:	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Physics Department, Thessaloniki, Greece

Date: 30/11/2012 (Friday)

The meeting was opened by Prof. Panos Argyrakis (project coordinator) with a general overview of the meetings agenda.

1. Current status and progress on the logistics of the project

The current status and progress on the logistics of the project was discussed in detail. Issues concerning the verification and the speed up of expenses (both paid out and verified) where discussed in detail. Specifically, concerning the need for verifications to reach the target of €25000 within 2012 was discussed in detail and the partners reached the conclusion that, should verifications be done in time from the proper authorities, this goal would be easily reached..

2. Hardware procurement status

The hardware procurement status was discussed in detail. AUTH has mentioned the results of its previous procurement and the hardware obtained by it. The short study related to the performance of the GPU computing elements and its comparison with its CPU computing analogue was presented and explained thoroughly by AUTH. Also, on the same subject, the Grid computing expert Paschalis Korosoglou, has shown to all parties the specifications and features

of the needed hardware. Two possible solutions were given, but after intense deliberations between all partners a final approach was reached. The selected solution meant for both clusters in either country a CPU computing cluster with an aim in computing power and a secondary one in memory. Paschalis Korosoglou also presented indicative prices for the equipment in question. A short discussion followed from SWU concerning the procedural and legal aspects of the procurement in the Bulgarian side. It was suggested and agreed by all partners that the procurement be split in several parts (i.e. a company offering the cluster should not be ruled out if it will not offer for example an air condition).

3. Justification of Budget related tasks

Michael Maragakis presented the suggestion of all partners for changes in the projects Justification of Budget (JoB) and Application Form (AF) files. More specifically, and to summarize: 1) AUTH has requested a transfer of money from Travel (no daily allowance, cheaper accommodation, etc), Overheads (Research Committee accepted a reduction in the Overheads), and Other (cheaper than ways of communication) categories to Staff Costs (more work needed to address higher interest expressed), 2) SWU has requested small changes in Staff Costs and Travel internally and reallocation of money within the Other category, 3) UoM has requested small changes in Staff Costs, and reallocation of money from Travel, and Other to External Expertise and Equipment, and 4) AUBG has requested small changes in Travel and Staff Costs. Also, these changes in the JoB were passed on to the AF, which was also presented.

4. Reports of student participations

Anton Stoilov, on behalf of SWU, has presented the results of the student participation registration process. More specifically, the registration had ended in the 30th of October and had proven very successful. 65 students and 43 staff have expressed their interest to participate in the courses. The overall number of 108 people is far greater than that expected. Out of the 108, i) 85 expressed their interest to participate in the programming courses, ii) 83 the complex science courses and iii) 67 the scientific programming ones. Due to the higher than expected numbers in

the C variants programming courses, it was decided to replace the three individual courses with one large course common for all, and three smaller ones, one for each particular variant (C, C++ and C#). This way, we will be able to provide a common background in greater detail (more hours in this course) and also present the peculiarities of each variant in a smaller course aimed for those interested in it, instead of having three distinct courses which are more or less the same for the better half of them.

5. Dates, premises and material for the staff courses

A discussion on the actual dates was held. All parties agreed to hold the courses during weekends in the premises of SWU main campus. SWU suggested that the courses start on February, instead of the planned dates, due to the extensive holidays and examination periods in Bulgaria. Therefore, it was decided that the first series of courses will start on February and the second one will around October 2013. Also, the progress on the preparation of the courses was discussed and the result was that several of the courses have already been organized, as far as the teaching material is concerned,

6. Discussion on the description of courses given throughout the project

The task breakdown and the assignment of the duties were presented by Dr. Michael Maragakis (UoM). A general overview of the tasks was given and focus was mainly on the tasks of each partner until the next meeting. AUTH will prepare the study for the comparison of CPU versus GPU computing, SWU along with AUTH will then define the hardware requirements for the clusters. AUBG, which will be the first one to start teaching, will begin the actual content of the courses for programming.

7. Tasks Breakdown and assignment of duties

The task breakdown and the assignment of the duties were presented by Dr. Michael Maragakis (UoM). A general overview of the tasks was given and focus was mainly on the tasks of each partner until the next meeting. SWU with AUBG will decide on the location of the

courses (room and facilities) and the actual starting date of the courses will be set and sent to the trainees.

8. AOB

The date and place for the next meeting was set. The next meeting will be held in Thessaloniki and a tentative date was set at mid to late February.

Additionally, the composition of the Greek partners teams (non permanent personnel) was set. More specifically:

AUTH (LP) added the following personnel for the respective positions after a proper procurement process:

1 additional PhDs, with expertise in the theory of simulations of complex systems. He will be needed in the preparation of the courses, as well as the teaching process. The person selected was Despoina Sakellari.

2 PhD candidates, with a specialty in the theory of simulations of complex systems. They will be needed in the website of the project and they will be helping in the teaching process. The persons selected were Nikolaos Bastas and Paraskevas Giazitzidis.

2 people that will handle daily administration, prepare the deliverables of the project and gather educational material. They will also be needed in organizational matters (setup of meetings etc). The persons selected were Konstantina Chanioti and Sofia Tourakou.

1 person acting as technical personnel, software installation, running of computers. The person selected was Krastoudis Anastasios.

1 person with expertise in Grid Computing, will prepare and present lectures of computational aspects of the project. The person selected was Korosoglou Paschalis.

UoM (PP3) added the following personnel for the respective positions after a proper procurement process:

A postdoctoral researcher who will be needed to participate in the preparation of courses and teaching in complex science and specifically courses in complex science theory (General methods and techniques used in Complexity science, such as Monte Carlo, network theory, etc), Econophysics Complex systems, Copulas applications in Finance and Economics, and Dynamics and evolution of complex networks. He/She will also be involved in managerial issues of the project. The person selected was Michael Maragakis.

A PhD candidate who will be taking care of the preparatory and administrative issues concerning the courses and workshops. He/She will also participate in the teaching of Econophysics courses and assist in the administrative work connected with the project. The person selected was Christina Mikropoulou.

The Seminar was closed by Prof. Panos Argyrakis.

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4th Meeting for **ICoSCIS** project
Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria
Novemeber 30, 2012

Friday, November 30
Meeting Program

11:00 - 11:15: Arrival of participants
11:15 - 12:00: Current status and progress on the logistics of the project.
12:00 - 12:30: Hardware procurement status.
12:30 - 13:00: Justification of Budget related tasks.

13:00 - 14:00: Lunch break

14:00 - 14:30: Reports of student participations.
14:30 - 15:30: Dates, premises and material for the staff courses.
15:30 - 16:00: Discussion on the description of courses given throughout the project.
16:00 - 16:45: Tasks Breakdown and assignment of duties.
16:45 - 17:00: AOB (any other business)
17:00: End of Meeting

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List of Participants:

	Name	Organisation
1.	Peter Milanov	SWU
2.	Panos Argyrakis	AUTH
3.	Michael Maragakis	UoM
4.	Christina Mikropoulou	UoM
5.	Paraskevas Giazitzidis	AUTH
6.	Anton Stoilov	SWU
7.	Paschalis Korosoglou	AUTH
8.	Kyrtsou Catherine	UoM
9.	Nikolaos Bastas	AUTH

These minutes have been approved by all partners after sufficient deliberations and are signed by the Scientific Coordinator, Prof. Panos Argyrakis of AUTh.

P. Argyrakis,

Scientific Coordinator of project ICoSCIS