



Project Organization

CHARA Point of view

- CHARA is a PI led Collaboration, and a relatively small group, and there is no formal management structure other than the fact that Doug and I will “manage” it.
- Similarly, our relationship with participating members of the consortium have also been, and remain, fairly informal.
- Both of these things will have to change to some degree as the user base of the Array, and the nature of our collaborations, broadens.
- To what degree, and what form, any new management structure will take is TBD, though in the past one of our strengths has been our flexibility and we would like that flexibility to remain.



- How the project is funded, and by whom, will play a role in how the project is managed.
- Space in the beam combining lab is at a premium. Any new beam combiner will probably require us to remove an older one. The addition of more optical tables is problematic.
- Complexity of operation is becoming an issue – especially with AO. Ideally CHARA operators should be able to run all the instruments.
- Will new staff be required to support a new instrument? If so how will that position be funded?



- Any new instrument developments need to keep the MSIP program in mind. Exclusive use of an instrument will not be appropriate. New large instruments will have to be considered as facility instruments.
- There will need to be a new model for instrument development time – PI led experiments may have to include observing time in their budgets, or find some other way to offset the resources required to bring new and complex instruments on line.
- Scheduling must remain flexible. A queue based scheduling system may need to be developed. Targets of opportunity must still be possible.