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Astronomical Data Analysis Software & Systems XIII 2003 CDS, Observatoire Astronomique de Strasbourg, France.

To Whom It May Concern

I want to describe briefly the studying and working activities of the student Francesco Lazzarotto, who is attending his second year of the PhD course in "Computer Science and Control Theory" at the Tor Vergata University of Rome. He is doing a PhD thesis to study how to realize an adavanced informative system to handle the SuperAGILE experiment data stream. He thoroughly examined matters as "Object Oriented libraries for scientific applications", "Techniques to handle large amounts of data" and "DBMS techniques for experimental data". He is also engaged on the study of advanced Computer Science techniques, with aim to improve Knowledge Extraction from the experimental data archives.

He is actually working, with very good results, on developing the software of SuperAGILE experiment, the X-ray monitor of AGILE, an italian mini-satellite devoted to Gamma-Ray Astronomy. Notwithstanding the small dimensions and limited costs AGILE is a complex mission, with very ambitious capabilities in term of imaging and timing, that is expected to download scientific data with a rate 50kb/s for 3 years. SuperAGILE, based on coded mask techniques and micro-strip silicon detectors, is very challenging from many aspects of data filtering, processing and archiving. I hope you will find interesting the attached abstract he extracted from his work.

Unfortunately the budget of his PHD course is very limited and he cannot benefit of a full grant to cover all the expenses of participation. I hope you may give him a Financial Aid, for the Hotel and for the Registration Fee, so that he can attend your conference that will result very instructive to him, for the high level of scientific contents of the contributes both in the innovation value of the arguments presented and in the wideness of different aspects of the Data Analysis your meeting faces.

Best Regards

Dr. Enrico Costa Head, High Energy Astrophysics Division IASF-CNR Roma.

Rome July 16 2003