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GWitchHunters - A new citizen science project for Gravitational Wave Science

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Gravitational waves have opened an entirely new window on the Universe, paving the way to a new era of multimessenger observations. Ground-based detectors such as Advanced LIGO, Advanced Virgo and KAGRA, are extremely sophisticated instruments, with the formidable task of measuring spacetime deformations smaller than 10^-18 meters, as those produced by gravitational wave sources like the coalescence of black holes and neutron stars. This citizen science project, developed within REINFORCE (a "Science With And For Society" project funded under the EU's H2020 program), aims at improving our knowledge of the noise sources in the detectors, with the ultimate goal of making them more sensitive. We will present the GwitchHunters project, its development on Zooniverse and the key tasks that will engage citizen scientists in this new endeavour at the frontier between participated science and the study of the Universe.

Orateur: Prof. RAZZANO, Massimiliano (University of Pisa and INFN-Pisa)

Classification de Session: Citizen Science Showcase