

# Technical Commission 3AF- SIGMA2



**3AF/ SIGMA2**

**Webinar 3: UAP observables (July 2, 2025, 2-6 PM Paris Time)**

<https://www.3af.fr/fr/groupe/sigma2-phenomenes-aerospaciaux-non-identifies-43>



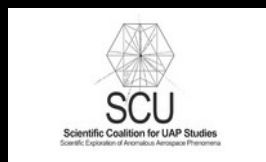
Webinar organized by 3AF SIGMA2 in partnership with

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*[www.3af.fr](http://www.3af.fr)*

*3AF SIGMA2 would like to thank its partners and 3AF staff who participated to the preparation of this webinar, all the speakers (3AF, Gallileo, VASCO...) who contributed to the program by their skills and work to highlight the UAP observables Without forgetting the presentation of Valensole 65 movie by Dominique Filhol*

[www.3af.fr](http://www.3af.fr)



*In memoriam of our 3AF SIGMA2 colleague and fellow Philippe Pacaud*

## 3AF/ SIGMA2 Webinar 3

## UAP observables



UAP are real phenomena with remarkable observables:

Visible and Optical sightings are the most natural approach for UAP observation, by naked eye or with sensors, or simply with a smartphone, by pilots, by astronomers but also simply by ordinary people facing strange unknown phenomena.

Radar and EM sensors are also precious to measure the UAP kinematics (range, velocity, doppler shift), cross check information with optical and IR sensors, but also to characterize the UAP EM signatures. Beyond, it is also important to gather information on the induced effects from the interaction of the UAP with their surrounding medium (air, earth, vegetation, water ) or with the human being in close encounter. These data however are pretty scarce and more would be needed.

In order to organize discussion between experts on these physical observables, this webinar gathers contribution of top and credible international scientific and academic experts of physical approach of UAP. The event will occur as follow:

Pre recorded presentations followed by a round table with exchanges between the speakers.

2 themes :

- cases analysis
- observation

This webinar 3 was prepared with the support of all of you and members of 3AF Staff, SIGMA2.

Our common objective during this third 3AF Sigma2 webinar is to discuss various UAP observation cases and observables, and promote more exchanges between sensors networks, as well as extension of the networks and their missions.

# 3AF SIGMA2 webinar 3 - UAP observable

## Program overview

(July 2, 2025, 2-6 PM Paris Time)

### Paris & online



Opening Introduction SIGMA2 current work and global situation Presentation of the program of webinar 3	M. Luc DINI <i>SIGMA2 Chairman</i>	
14H20 - SESSION 1 : CASES ANALYSIS (presentations : 20' each)		
Stephenville Lights (2008)	M. Robert POWELL (Coauthor: M. Glen SCHULZE)	SCU
Jersey and Stephenville cases	Brig Gen (Ret.) Jean Marc ANDRÉ/ M. Philippe CHOPIN /M. Emmanuel PLICHON	3AF SIGMA2
A Review of the Measured Speeds and Accelerations of UAP / UFOs	Prof. Kevin KNUTH	Department of Physics, University at Albany (SUNY), Albany NY, USA
Haynesville case (Louisiana, 1966)	Dr. Jacques VALLÉE / M. Geoffrey MESTCHERSKY/ M. Luc DINI	Dr. J. VALLÉE: Documatica Research, LLC
15H55 Presentation of the Film “VALENSOLE 1965”, with Dominique FILHOL, Filmmaker		
16.10 SESSION 2: OBSERVATION (presentations : 20' each)		
Towards Developing a Foundation AI Model for UAP Characterization Using Data from a Commissioned Multi-sensor Platform	Dr. Laura DOMINE	GALILEO Project, Center for Astrophysics, Harvard University
FARFADET, A dedicated network for sprite detection and comprehensive atmospheric monitoring	M. Raymond PICCOLI	3AF SIGMA2 Lightning Research Laboratory (Director)
A status update (2025) on the VASCO and ExoProbe projects	Dr. Beatriz VILLAROEL	VASCO and ExoProbe projects
17H15 ROUNDTABLE/DISCUSSION		
Moderators: Luc DINI (Chairman 3AF SIGMA2) & Baptiste FRISCOURT (Sentinel Center - The Debrief correspondent)		
Closing remarks	Brig Gen (Ret.) Pierre BESCOND & M. Luc DINI	3AF SIGMA2

## Opening introduction

### SIGMA2 work and global situation

### Presentation of the program

## M. Luc DINI

Chairman of 3AF SIGMA2 Technical Commission (3AF)

3AF Fellow member (Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France)

Expert optics and optronics measurements

Member of GEIPAN college of experts



## Abstract

### Approach of UAP observables

The SIGMA 2 Commission is a technical Commission of the French 3AF (Association Aeronautics and Astronautics de France) dedicated to scientific investigation and technical analysis of reports of UAP cases using a multi-disciplinary methodology.

Its team of experts includes professionals in aviation, engineering, physics, air defense, IR and radar detection, ball lightning, propulsion, and psychology.





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## 3AF SIGMA2 webinar 3

### Session 1 : Cases analysis



Name	Affiliation	Subject
<b>M. Robert POWELL</b>	Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) SCU Founding Board member	<b>Stephenville Lights: A Comprehensive Radar and Witness Report Study Regarding the events of January 8, 2008</b> (Co-authored with M. Glen SCHULZE)
<b>Brigadier General (Ret.) Jean-Marc ANDRÉ</b>	3AF SIGMA2	<b>Radar data and data cross-referencing in UAP case analyses</b>
<b>M. Emmanuel PLICHON</b>	3AF SIGMA2	
<b>M. Philippe CHOPIN</b>	3AF SIGMA2	
<b>Prof. Kevin KNUTH</b>	SCU, University at Albany; UAPx	<b>Review of the Measured Speeds and Accelerations of UAP / UFOs</b>
<b>Dr. Jacques VALLÉE</b>	Documatica Research, LLC	<b>Haynesville case (Louisiana, 1966)</b>
<b>M. Geoffrey MESTCHERSKY</b>	3AF SIGMA2	
<b>M. Luc DINI</b>	3AF SIGMA2 (Chairman)	

**M. Robert POWELL**  
**Founding Board member of the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies**  
**(SCU)**



**Coauthor: M. Glen SCHULZE**  
**IEEE Professional Engineering Society**

### Abstract

## **Stephenville Lights: A Comprehensive Radar and Witness Report Study Regarding the events of January 8, 2008**

This report presents the results of a lengthy and detailed analysis made into the sightings of an unidentified flying object between 6:00pm and 9:30pm on January 8, 2008, in the Dublin-Stephenville area of north Texas, Radar data from five different Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) radar sites as well as witness testimony was reviewed in an attempt to correlate radar data and witness testimony.



## Abstract

### Radar data and data cross-referencing in UAP case analyses

The study of UAP has long suffered from the lack of information elements needed to establish conclusions or even just hypotheses. The emergence of optical data collection and recording techniques (in the visual and infrared), as well as radar detections, has led to significant advances by using data cross-referencing methods.

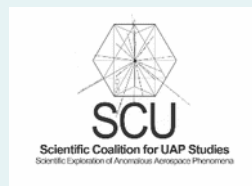
The report first recalls the cases of the Chilean Cougar and the DHC8 of Aguadilla that have benefited from these advancements and for which interesting results have been achieved.

Then it addresses the cases of Jersey and Stephenville where no image data is available ; on the other hand, the radar data is abundant and of good quality : the research to try to highlight an aerial activity or just clues related to UAPs has led to the development and/or improvement of radar data analysis methods.

## Abstract

### Review of the Measured Speeds and Accelerations of UAP / UFOs

There have now been several prominent UAP / UFO cases in which the speeds and accelerations of UAP have been reliably estimated. These are the Bethune case (1951), the Minot Air Force Base Case (1968), the JAL 1628 encounter over Alaska (1986), and the more recent Nimitz Encounter (2004). In this talk, we will review these cases and the estimates of the speeds and accelerations of the UAP involved. In all of these cases, the speeds and accelerations are not only surprisingly large, but they are so anomalous that they cannot possibly be explained by observational errors. These speed and acceleration estimates are good numbers to know (memorize) because they clearly indicate that these objects are not only often moving at spacecraft speeds, but that the accelerations if maintained for several hours would result in very high relativistic speeds suggesting that some of these craft would not only be capable of interstellar travel, but that they would be excellent interstellar craft! Last, we will be reminded that the fact that UAP / UFOs move at spacecraft speeds has been known by aerospace experts since at least 1954 (for a little more than 70 years).



## Abstract

### **Haynesville case (Louisiana, 1966)**

An observation of an exceptional energy source, recorded as ‘unidentified’ by the US Air Force and in the 1969 final report of the University of Colorado (“Condon”) study of UAPs, has been re-examined by a Franco-American scientific team.

The observation took place on the evening of December 30, 1966, on an isolated highway traversing a forest near Haynesville, Louisiana. Early in 1967 the main witness, a professor of atomic physics named Louie A. Galloway, reported the case to Project Blue Book of the USAF. Pro-active investigation by one of the authors (JV) brought it to the attention of Professor Edward Condon, himself a noted atomist who had worked under Project Manhattan. Dr. Condon and his team had just begun an official re-examination of UFO (UAP) phenomena .

The case, which centered on a well-defined luminous object at ground level, led to energy estimates from 500 to 1400 MW, in the range of a small modern nuclear power plant. Significantly, it was one of a number of cases carried as ‘Unidentified’ in Dr. Condon’s final report to the National Academy of Sciences in 1969.

Subsequent to that report, civilian investigators returned to the area with the primary witness, located the exact place of observation and gathered new data, notably about the nature of burns evidenced on the trees, which had not been available to Dr. Condon and his assistants. The burn analysis was obtained at laboratories of the French Atomic Energy Commission in Saclay, France.

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## 3AF SIGMA2 webinar 3

### Session 2 : Observation



Name	Affiliation	Subject
<b>Dr. Laura DOMINE</b>	SCU & GALILEO Project	<b>Towards Developing a Foundation AI Model for UAP Characterization Using Data from a Commissioned Multi-sensor Platform</b>
<b>M. Raymond PICCOLI</b>	3AF Sigma2 Member of the GEIPAN College of Experts Director of “Laboratoire de Recherche sur la Foudre” (Lightning Research Laboratory)	<b>FARFADET, A versatile observation network for transient Storm and atmospheric phenomena</b>
<b>Dr. Beatriz VILLAROEL</b>	Limina / Society for UAP studies ; Astronomer ; Nordic fellow, Nordic Institute for Theoretical Physics, Sweden; Director of Vasco Team	<b>A status update (2025) on the VASCO and ExoProbe projects</b>



## Abstract

### Towards Developing a Foundation AI Model for UAP Characterization Using Data from a Commissioned Multi-sensor Platform

To date there is little publicly available scientific data on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) whose properties and kinematics purportedly reside outside the performance envelope of known phenomena. To address this deficiency, the Galileo Project is designing, building, and commissioning a multi-modal ground-based observatory to continuously monitor the sky and conduct a rigorous long-term aerial census of all aerial phenomena, including natural and human-made. I will discuss the calibration and commissioning process of a key instrument, an all-sky infrared camera array using eight uncooled long-wave infrared ( $7.5\ \mu\text{m}$  -  $13.5\ \mu\text{m}$ ) FLIR Boson 640 cameras. After five months of field operation, we used a likelihood-based statistical method to evaluate a toy outlier search parameterized by the sinuosity of the  $\sim 500,000$  2-D reconstructed trajectories, which flags about 16% of trajectories as outliers. This likelihood-based method to evaluate significance is applicable to all of our future outlier search methodologies. In parallel with instrumentation commissioning efforts, we are also developing a foundation model (FM) for multi-modal, high-dimensional data. We pre-train it with self-supervised, contrastive learning techniques on several months of real-world, unlabeled commissioning data, and fine-tune it for generalized class discovery: to identify known classes, and to automatically identify new classes of objects in unlabeled data. It opens the door to an autonomous aerial census where categorization does not need to rely on our prior expectations.

**M. Raymond PICCOLI**  
**3AF SIGMA2**  
Member of the GEIPAN College of Experts  
Director of “Laboratoire de Recherche sur la Foudre”  
(Lightning Research Laboratory)



## Resume

### **FARFADET, A dedicated network for sprite detection and comprehensive atmospheric monitoring**

The FARFADET network, dedicated to sprite detection and atmospheric monitoring, has significantly evolved over the past year. With thirteen stations now operational, the deployment of the new Mark 2 standard enhances the system's capabilities. Each station is equipped with advanced optical sensors optimized for both transient luminous events such as sprites, and the broad detection of atmospheric and aerospace phenomena, day and night. This technological upgrade strengthens FARFADET's ability to contribute to the global effort to better understand atmospheric anomalies and unconventional events.



## Abstract

### A status update (2025) on the VASCO and ExoProbe projects

In 2021, the VASCO project identified multiple transient events on historical astronomical plates predating the launch of Sputnik 1 — events that remain unexplained within conventional astrophysics. Notably, some of these anomalies show intriguing correlations in time with major historical UFO cases. This has strengthened our interest in systematically searching for similar phenomena in other datasets, including modern sky surveys, despite the growing challenge of satellite contamination. In this presentation, I will provide an update on both the VASCO and ExoProbe projects, highlight new results in the search for unexplained transients, and discuss their possible relevance to the broader UFO/UAP question.



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## 3AF SIGMA2 webinar 3 ROUNDTABLE



**Moderators :**

**M. Luc DINI (3AF Sigma2 Chairman  
& Baptiste FRISCOURT (Sentinel Center, The Debrief Correspondant**

Brigadier General (French Space & Air Force, ret.) Jean-Marc ANDRÉ	3AF SIGMA2
Brigadier General (Armt, ret.) Pierre BESCOND	3AF SIGMA2
Dr. Laura DOMINE	GALILEO Project, Center for Astrophysics, Harvard University
M. Dominique FILHOL	Filmmaker « Valensole 1965 »
Prof. Kevin KNUTH	Department of Physics, University at Albany (SUNY), Albany NY, USA
M. Geoffrey MESTCHERSKY	3AF SIGMA2
M. Raymond PICCOLI	3AF SIGMA2
D. Beatriz VILLAROEL	Astronomer at the Nordic Institute for Theoretical Physics - VASCO project Director

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**Abstract**

**Resume**

**Brigadier General (French Air and Space Force, Ret.)**  
**Jean-Marc ANDRÉ**



**Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**

Expert in Air defense and member of the GEIPAN college of experts. Member of the 3AF SIGMA2 commission.

Graduated as an engineer from the French Air Force Academy (1970). Fighter pilot officer, commanded combat units and an air defense detection and control center. Participated in the development of military space programs (GRAVES, HELIOS) as head of the space division of the Air Force General Staff. Served also as Deputy Director of Protection and Safeguarding at the Space Centre in French Guiana (1995–1997). Has worked as upstream research officer in the Think tank of a defense industrial group. Worked on directed energy projects.



Association Aéronautique  
et Astronautique de France

## Brigadier General (Armament, Ret.) Pierre BESCOND



### Resume

**Brigadier General (Armament, Ret.)  
Pierre BESCOND**

**Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**



Space expert and senior consultant in space, export, quality, defence & security, member of the IAA (International Academy for Astronautics), member of the Board of 3AF (Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France), auditor of IHEDN (Institut des Hautes Etudes de Défense Nationale, French institute for Defence and Security), member of COMETA which produced the 1999 UAP report. Former engineer at DGA (French Defense Procurement Executive) and at CNES (French National Space Agency) where he held various directorates positions, former member of the Council of ESA (the European Space Agency), and former advisor on space, defence and security issues for the French Minister in charge of Space. Former Chairman of the GEIPAN Steering Committee.



**COMETA**



## Resume

### **M. Philippe CHOPIN**

#### **Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**



Member of 3AF Technical Commission SIGMA2 on UAP study.

Member of Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF).

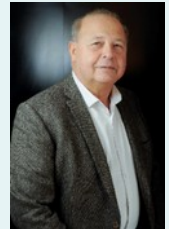
Master's degree in Computing (1990), skilled in Military Air Operations, Air C4I, Radar Detection, Big Data, Data Analytics, AI, Cyberdefense (Operational Anomaly Detection) and advanced 3D Data Visualization

**Abstract**

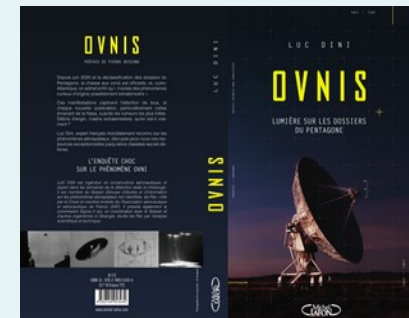
**Resume**

**M. Luc DINI**

**Chairman of 3AF Technical Commission SIGMA2 on UAP study**  
**Fellow member of Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF)**



Graduated engineer in aeronautics (ISAE-ENSICA 1984), skilled in missiles, space, high atmosphere radiation, IR and visible phenomenology, air defense, IR and radar detection, hyperfrequency. Former military engineer, he had worked on the high atmosphere radiation physics. Former auditor of IHEDN (Institute of High Studies of National Defense- National Armament and Economy of Defense National Session N°44 2007-2008) and of Economic Intelligence Session of IHEDN (2017). Member of the GEIPAN college of experts.





Association Aéronautique  
et Astronautique de France

M. Dominique FILHOL



## Resume

### Film realisateur & Producer of documentaries

Ovnis : une affaire d'États

Le Bureau des Ovnis,

Valensole 1965





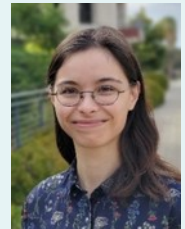
Association Aéronautique  
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Ms. Laura DOMINE

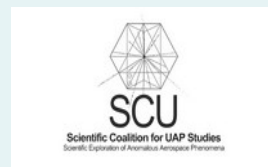


## Resume

**Dr. Laura DOMINE**

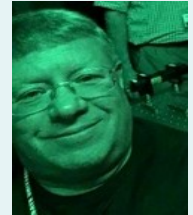


Laura is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Center for Astrophysics, Harvard University. She completed her Ph.D. in physics at Stanford in 2023, working at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on novel machine learning (ML) methods for liquid argon time projection chamber-based neutrino detectors such as ICARUS. In April 2023, she joined Harvard University and the Galileo Project to help design ML-based scalable experimental approaches to conducting scientific instrumentation-based surveys of UAP.

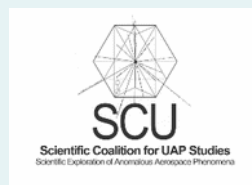
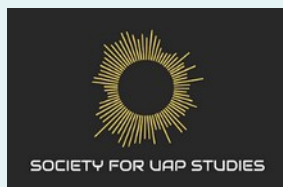


## Resume

**Prof. Kevin KNUTH**  
**Department of Physics, University at Albany (SUNY), Albany NY, USA**



Prof. Kevin Knuth is a Full Professor in the Department of Physics at the University at Albany. He is the lead scientist of UAPx, and is a member of the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) and the Society for UAP Studies (SUAPS). He is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal Entropy (MDPI), and a former NASA research scientist having worked for four years at NASA Ames Research Center in the Intelligent Systems Division. He has over 30 years of experience in designing machine learning systems for data analysis applied to the physical sciences. Knuth has published over 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications and has been invited to give over 100 presentations in 18 countries.



## Resume

### M. Geoffrey MESTCHERSKY

#### Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission

Member of 3AF technical commission SIGMA2 on UAP study. Geoffrey Mestchersky holds a Master Degree in geochemistry from Paris VI University (Pierre et Marie Curie). Specializing in field sampling, field instrumentation, and lab experimentation; he has started his career at CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique - French National Centre for Scientific Research) in Oceanography/applied Ocean Science. He is currently working in a French national research center.



## Resume

### **M. Baptiste FRISCOURT**

#### **The Debrief correspondent**



Born in 1986, this certified visual arts teacher started looking for reliable information on UAP in 2017 at the request of his students. Since then, he's been covering UAP research in France for The Debrief, in the Sentinel Center association and with the university Burgundy Europe. Trying to bridge scientific research with cultural effect, he is looking to connect all reliable sources on UAP research.





## Resume

### M. Raymond PICCOLI

**Director of “Laboratoire de Recherche sur la Foudre”**  
**Member of the GEIPAN college of experts**  
**Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**



Raymond Piccoli is director of the Lightning Research Laboratory. A specialist in storm phenomena for three decades, he is an expert in the very specific field of the effects of lightning at the point of impact. Field scientist very experienced in conducting research in the heart of thunderstorms, his main research topics relate to ball lightning, phenomena resulting from natural photo nuclear reactions produced by lightning, and unconventional phenomena related to lightning. Astronomer by training (participation in projects in the fields of the detection of small bodies in the Solar System, optical interferometry and submillimeter radio astronomy), president of the Scientific Committee of the International Symposium on Lightning, Thunderstorm and Atmospheric Phenomena (ISL-TAP), curator of the Museum of Storms and Lightning, he is also a senior international consultant-expert, a reserve Gendarmerie officer (RCDS), and a scientific advisor for several public and private organizations. Raymond is also since 15 years member of the GEIPAN college of experts and member of the SIGMA2 Commission.





Association Aéronautique  
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## Dr. Stéphane PFISTER



### Resume

**Dr. Stéphane PFISTER**

**Political Scientist & Analyst**  
**Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**



Association Aéronautique  
et Astronautique de France



## Resume

**M. Emmanuel PLICHON**

**Member of 3AF SIGMA2 Commission**



Graduated engineer in Electronics (ENSEA 1981), Former engineer in hyper frequency, radar, Ground/Air Defense System at Thales Enterprise.  
Member of 3AF Technical Commission Sigma2 on UAP

## Resume

### M. Robert POWELL

#### Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU) Founding Board member

Robert Powell is a founding Board member of the Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies (SCU), a 300-member organization with a mission of bringing science to the investigation of UFOs. Robert has a BS in Chemistry, 28 years of experience in engineering management in the semiconductor industry, and four patents in nanotechnology.

Robert is one of two authors of the detailed radar/witness report on the “Stephenville Lights”, the SCU report “UAP: 2013 Aguadilla, Puerto Rico” and the primary author on, “A Forensic Analysis of Navy Carrier Strike Group Eleven’s Encounter with an Anomalous Aerial Vehicle”.

He is a secondary author of a paper published in the journal *Entropy* entitled, “Estimating Flight Characteristics of Anomalous Unidentified Aerial Vehicles” and “Isotope Ratios and Chemical Analysis of the 1957 Brazilian Ubatuba Fragment.” He is an author of three books with the latest: *UFOs: A Scientist Explains What We Know (And Don’t Know)*.

**M. Glen SCHULZE**  
**Co-author (with M. Robert POWELL)**



**Resume**

**M. Glen SCHULZE**

**Glen Schulze** was involved in radar analysis of the breakup of TWA flight 800, and is a Live Member of the IEEE Professional Engineering Society. He received his BSEE from Washington University in 1952. While in the U.S. Army he was assigned to White Sands Proving Grounds (WSPG). There, he participated in evaluating and improving a five antenna site Cooperative Chain Radar System for tracking high-performance long-range missile launches. His contribution to the WSPG radar system resulted in earning a letter of commendation from the Commanding General of the USA 4TH Army. In the 1960s, M. Schulze provided a major service to CIA/NSA in the successful recording of high-powered Russian radar signals arriving at the Caribbean Isling of Antigua after being reflected from the surface of the moon. In the 1970s Mr. Schulze was instrumental in the successful demonstrations of recording and reproducing radar antenna return signals at the FAA Atlantic City Labs for accident investigations which eventually led to the FAA incorporating the taper recording of all FAA radar antennas around the US.

## Resume

**Dr. Jacques F. VALLÉE**

**Documatica Research, LLC**



Born in France in 1939, Jacques studied mathematics at the Sorbonne, earned a Master's degree in astrophysics at the University of Lille and was recruited to the first French team that tracked artificial satellites at Paris Observatory. Moving to the US in 1962, he worked on NASA projects at the University of Texas in Austin (notably, the first computer-based map of Mars) before joining Northwestern University where he completed his PhD in AI in 1967.

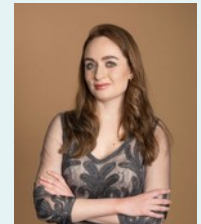
Jacques continued his computing career at SRI International and the Institute for the Future as one of the Principal Investigators on ARPANET (the early Internet) before co-founding a family of venture capital funds in Silicon Valley, specializing in IT and biotech investments. The funds, including a NASA venture project, financed 60 high-technology startups and led several “unicorns” to the public markets.

Dr. Vallée remains an active high-tech investor while serving on the scientific advisory board of the French Space Agency's group officially studying UFO reports. His books are widely translated. He was the model for the character played by François Truffaut in Close Encounters of the Third Kind. Jacques lives between San Francisco and Paris. He has two children.

## Resume

### Dr. Beatriz VILLAROEL

**Astronomer at the Nordic Institute for Theoretical Physics  
VASCO project Director**



Dr. Beatriz Villarroel, an astronomer, is a postdoctoral researcher at the Nordic Institute for Theoretical Physics (Nordita) in Stockholm. She finished her PhD.

in 2017, writing a thesis on the environments on supermassive black holes (active galactic nuclei). She is very interested in transient astronomy and its connection to Searches for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). She leads the VASCO and EXOPROBE project, where EXOPROBE takes off answering the questions that are beyond the methodology of VASCO.



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