

AMMRL – For all Varian-Agilent users – Announcing the release of OpenVnmrJ1.1A

Yesterday, September 12<sup>th</sup> the VOSSG group announced the release of its first version of OpenVnmrJ on the GitHub web site at <https://github.com/OpenVnmrJ>. Also go to a second site <http://openvnmrj.org> for further information about the project. This announcement first appeared at the SMASH conference in San Diego yesterday.

As we all know, in October 2014 Agilent Technologies, owner of the NMR division of the former Varian Inc, exited the NMR business. At that time many users expressed concern that VnmrJ4.2A, the operation software of Varian/Agilent instruments, would be lost for further development.

Shortly after, a group of users and Agilent employees got together to advocate the release of VnmrJ source code as open-source software so as to preserve it for future development. Agilent generously agreed to the release and the University of Oregon agreed to accept title to the open-source code. The attached press release accompanying this announcement was released by the UO yesterday and describes the agreement between Agilent, the University of Oregon and VOSSG.

The VOSSG group has been led principally by Dan Iverson, with Agilent's support and has transformed VnmrJ4.2A into OpenVnmrJ1.1A. Tim Burrows, with the help of Eric Paulson and some of us in VOSSG, has constructed a home for OpenVnmrJ on the GitHub web site. The code on GitHub has a combination of Apache and GPL licenses. It can be used freely under these licenses for almost any academic or commercial purpose.

The GitHub website contains two disk images, one for Agilent direct-drive NMR instruments such as VNMRS and DD2 and the other for Mercury and INOVA instruments. These disks can be downloaded and installed on the appropriate Varian and Agilent NMR Systems or they can be used for offline processing. The GitHub website also contains source code, which will be used for future bug fixes and development. At present, OpenVnmrJ1.1A has equivalent function with Agilent VnmrJ4.2A with the 110 patch and a few extra bug fixes. OpenVnmrJ runs on the same RHEL 6.3 used by VnmrJ and also runs on CENTOS 6.8.

With the first release of OpenVnmrJ in place we anticipate significant new opportunities to create continuing software releases for Varian-Agilent NMR Systems. Of course what we do will depend upon user interest and resources to make and release changes.

### **OpenVnmrJ will be supported through a new users group, IVAN**

Yesterday, simultaneously with the announcement of OpenVnmrJ1.1A a group of users, VOSSG members and former Varian-Agilent employees announced the creation of a new users group, IVAN, International Varian-Agilent NMR. IVAN has a commercial sponsor, MR Resources, which is willing to fund future IVAN meetings for Varian-Agilent users. It is anticipated that VOSSG will

continue to maintain OpenVnmrJ in association with IVAN. We can only guess what can happen when we users all get together.

More information about IVAN will be in a second announcement to AMMRL.

Posted by Dave Rice for the VOSSG group.

A selection of other VOSSG members include: Tim Burrow, Craig Butts, Dan Iverson, Gareth Morris, Eric Paulson, Alan Rath, John Ryan, Dan Steele and Michael Strain