

# Some thoughts and reflections on my Vici proposal

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# My track record

- **Vidi (2002)**
- **Vici (2006)**
- **Vidi committee member (2007)**

# My proposal

- **Title proposal: photonic packet switching**
- **Technische wetenschappen**
  - scientific part
  - utilisation section
- **I explain my approach but others might have different opinions!**

# Ingredients for success

- **Original idea**
  - disruptive
  - focus on important contributions, not on details
- **Track record (cv)**
- **Well written (readable) proposal**

# Vici selection procedure

- **Pre-proposal**
  - Need to convince (non-expert) committee members
- **Extended proposal**
  - Need to convince peers
- **Interview**
  - Need to convince (non-expert) committee members

# Pre-proposal

- **Perhaps the most important part !**
- **Need to convince a non-expert committee (go/no-go decision)**
- **Explain the original idea**
  - Why is it original ?
  - Why is it disruptive ?
  - What will be the impact
  - What is the (international) context ?
  - How does it fit in my past scientific contributions
  - No technical details

# Pre-proposal (Cont'd)

- **Explain your track record**
  - publications
  - presentations
  - impact of work
  - grants
  - International collaborations
  - Why you
- **Has to be very short (misused utilisation)**
- **Make the proposal readable (is judged by non-experts)**
- **A good summary is essential**

# Utilisation

- **Technische wetenschappen**
- **Trade-off**
  - long term “off the roadmap” research
  - short term industrial roadmaps
- **Described potential impact**
- **Identified (and contacted) potential users**
  - national and international users
  - users reviewed the proposal
  - no financial support by users
- **Did not add letters of recommendation**
  - checked that users were willing to add letters
  - do support letters really strengthen your case?

# Extended proposal

- **To be judged by peers**
- **Did not alter cv/utilisation/summary too much**
- **Gave a more detailed description of work-packages**
  - but not too many details
- **Focused on potential novelty/impact/context**
- **Template, but added 2 items**
  - local embedding (group)
  - International context
- **Kept proposal readable**
  - sectioning
  - intermezzo's, text boxes
- **Explained what Vici proposal adds to Vidi**

# Interview

- **Kept presentation short and focussed**
  - focused on novelty, impact
  - why questions?
  - why you ?
- **Questioning**
  - reviewer comments
  - prepared some answers (the obvious questions)
  - weak and strong points
- **Checked background of committee members**
- **Show drive/ambition/enthusiasm**

**I hope that this is helpful for you**

success with your proposal!