

Physics in Congo and in Central Africa's Universities : Problems, Needs, hopes and Solutions

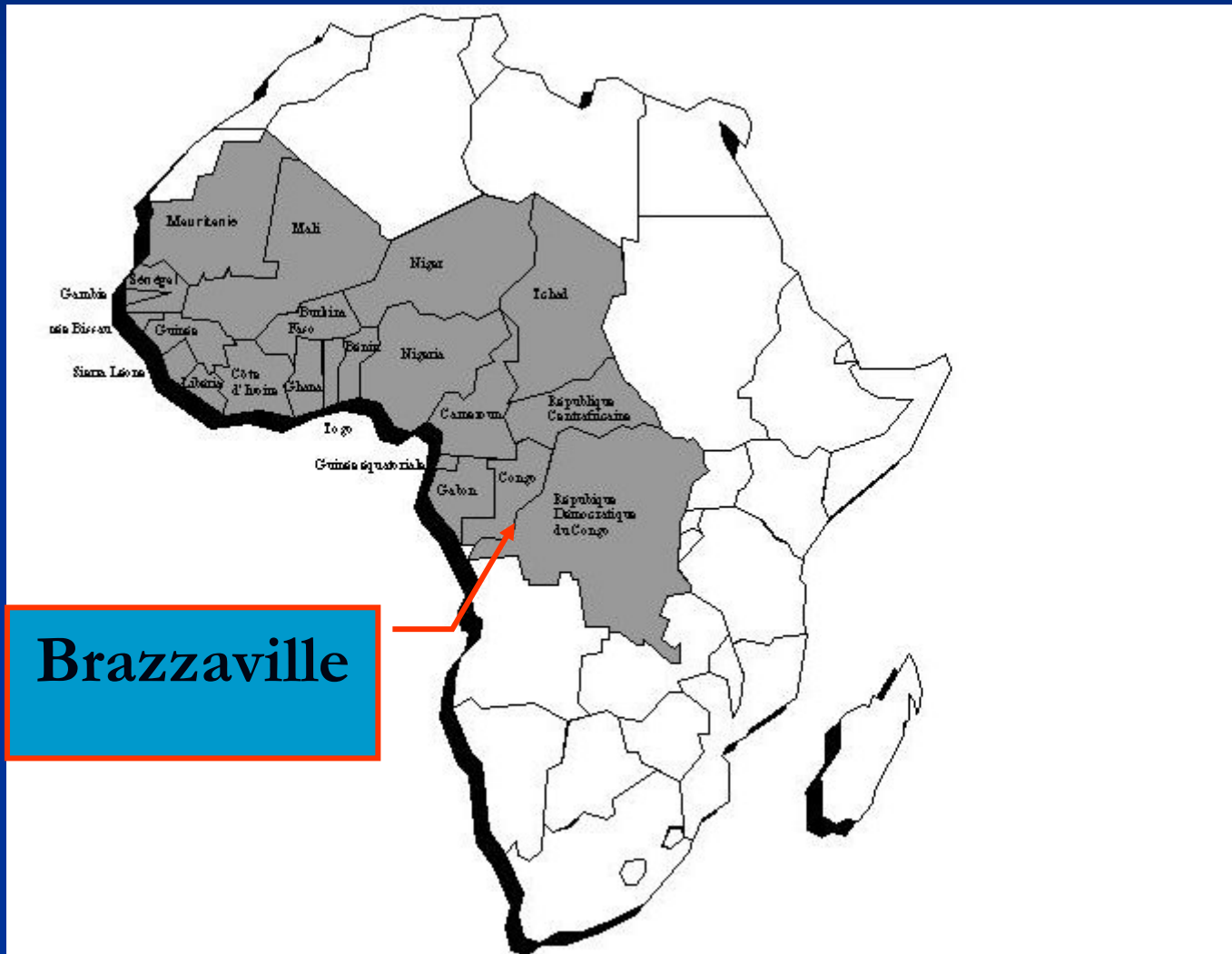
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Outline

- The Marien NGouabi University in Central Africa
- Physics at the Marien Ngouabi University
- Physics in Central Africa

Marien Ngouabi University in Central Africa



Marien Ngouabi University in Central Africa

- 13,000 Students
- 5 Faculties (Human and Arts, Sciences, Economics, Law, Medicine)
- 3 Institutes (Sport, Management and Business, Agriculture)
- 3 Colleges (Engineering, Education, Administration)



Physics at the University

- 14 Permanent staff, with only 5 Professors
- Graduate (3 years) ; Master 1 (4 years) ;
PhD- “Doctorate” (8 years)
- Research Activities particularly done in
Atmospheric Physics (well-known
activities in the eighties with NASA and a
French Lab in Toulouse) and in
Condensed Matter and Material Sciences

Physics at the University: Problems

- Lack of infrastructures completely destroyed during civil wars (1997-1999)
- **very poor Internet connection**
- Insignificant salary scale compared with other sectors
- **Very weak Public Assistance and no Budget for Research Activities**
- Lack of Computers and Lab Equipments

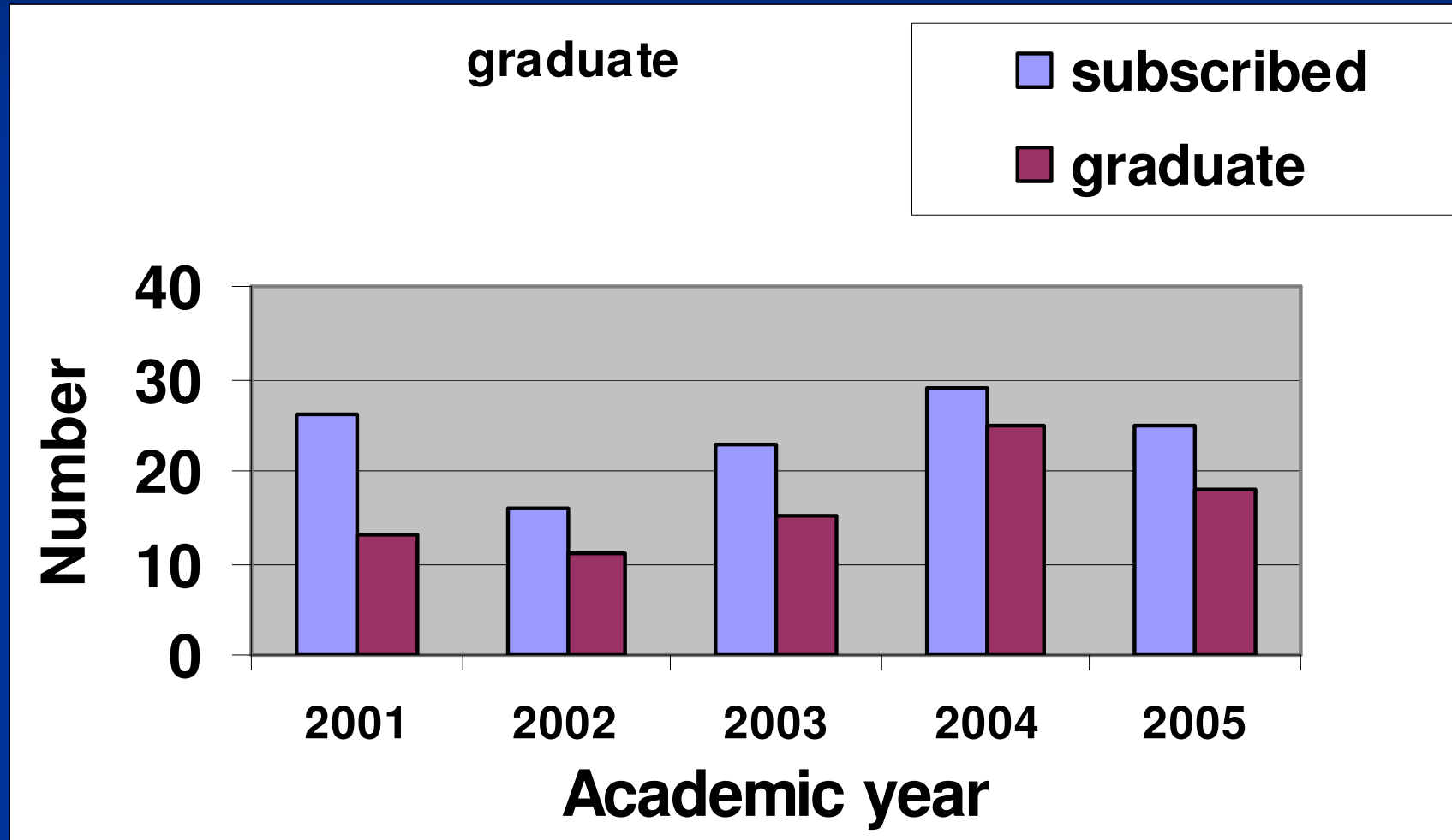
Physics at the University: INTERNET ROOM for 600 Lecturers !



Physics at the University: Library of Physics Department, mainly obtained with the help of the ICTP

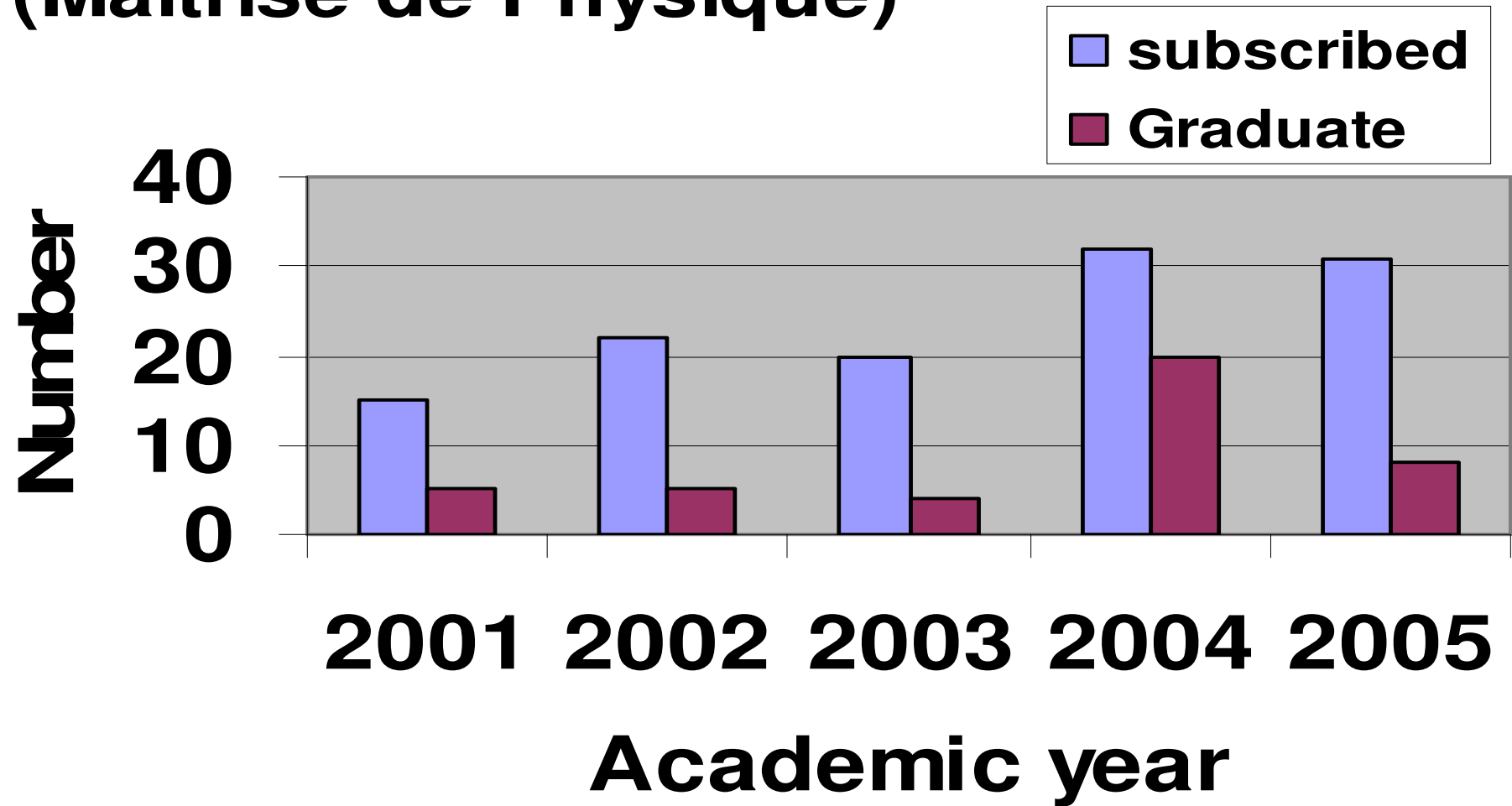


SOME STATISTICS



Some Statistics

Master 1 (Maitrise de Physique)



Needs

- Computer Center in the Department of physics
- Lab Equipments necessary for the experimental Research Programmes
- Books and subscription to scientific journals (hard copy and on line)

Solutions (1)

- **Funding for more Exchanges Programs** (Sandwich Program) with emerging and developed countries to reinforce the capacity building
- Creation of **Networks with Individual researchers of neighbor Universities in Central Africa**
- Creation of a **Center of Excellence in Physics** so as to find out an adequate environment to work (**Necessity of financial help**).

Solutions (2)

- Improvement of the Researcher's Status at these centers of Excellence or Networks in the goal to overcome the poverty that prevent him from contributing efficiently for his duty.
- Consequently, more realistic criteria by International Foundations to finance Research in developing countries

Hope

- **More Assistance from the international physics community through Exchange Programs**
- **More realistic Assistance from Foundations for financial help**

Physics in Central Africa Universities

- As same Problems as at Marien Ngouabi University
- Very weak connection between Universities

University	Country	Master Programs	Master Students	Ph. D. programs	Ph. D. Students
Yaounde I	<i>Cameroon</i>	8	50 in 2006	3	25 in 2005
Deschang	<i>Cameroon</i>	3	20 in 2006	Not yet	
Buea	<i>Cameroon</i>	1	?	Not yet	
NGaoundere	<i>Cameroon</i>	1	6	Not Yet	
Douala	<i>Cameroon</i>	02 [†]	40 in 2006	01	16
Marien NGouabi	<i>Congo</i>	2		1-2	Not yet
Masuku	<i>Gabon</i>	0			

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