

## FOREWORD

The “2007 ICTP Summer College on Plasma Physics” was held at the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, during the period 30 July to 24 August 2007. The summer college was organized by S. M. Mahajan, P. K. Shukla, R. Bingham, L. Stenflo and Z. Yoshida. The College on Plasma Physics is a permanent feature of ICTP.

The purpose of the summer college was to provide training for young scientists from all over the world, mainly from third world countries, and to give them the opportunity to interact with the senior scientists in an informal manner. The first part of the summer college consisted of classroom teaching and seminars in preparation for the fourth week, when a plasma physics workshop was held with a large number of talks by invited speakers and experts. The summer college was attended by approximately one hundred and twenty participants from the developing countries and industrial nations.

The main focus of the scientific program was on magnetic confinement fusion and tokamak physics, intense laser-plasma interactions and plasma-based particle acceleration, turbulence, dusty plasmas, and quantum plasmas. A selected number of papers in these areas appears in this book.

The editors express their sincere gratitude to the ICTP director Professor K R Sreenivasan and Professors S. M. Mahajan, R. Bingham and Z. Yoshida for their wholehearted support to the 2007 Summer College on Plasma Physics. We would also like to thank the staff at the ICTP for their excellent support and help during the activity. In addition, the organizers thank the speakers and attendees for their contributions which have resulted in the success of the Summer College. Specifically, we appreciate the speakers for delivering excellent lectures and talks, and for supplying well-prepared manuscripts for publication in the present book.

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