

Preface

Few-Body 19 (FB19), the Nineteenth International IUPAP Conference on Few-Body Problems in Physics, was held at the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms Universität Bonn, Germany from August 31 to September 5, 2009.

The first conference of this series took place in London in 1959 and subsequent meetings were held in Brela (1967), Birmingham (1969), Los Angeles (1972), Laval (1974), New Delhi (1976), Graz (1978), Eugene (1980), Karlsruhe (1983), Sendai (1986), Vancouver (1989), Adelaide (1992), Williamsburg (1994), Groningen (1997), Taipei (2000), Durham (2003) and Santos (2006).

The purpose of this series is to bring together scientists who are interested in results and methods pertaining to few-body systems in particle, atomic, nuclear and molecular physics.

Well over 250 participants from 30 countries around the world attended the conference. FB19 featured 25 invited plenary talks, 27 invited lead parallel session talks and 128 contributed talks, resulting in a total of 180 oral presentations. In addition there were more than 40 poster presentations in a separate poster session.

Exciting new results from experiment and theory were presented at the conference. On the experimental side, these included new results on universal properties of few-body systems of ultracold atoms, precise new data on few-nucleon scattering observables and recent progress in hadron spectroscopy. A large number of theoretical talks addressed new developments in few-body and many-body calculations. These included lattice calculations, effective field theories and the renormalization group, electroweak observables, exotic hadrons and nuclei, as well as astrophysical reactions.

The meeting clearly demonstrated that few-body physics is a vital and growing research area. This was especially highlighted by an overview talk of the exciting future physics program at FAIR with an eye on few-body aspects.

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The International Advisory Committee and the Scientific Programme Committee provided valuable advice that was crucial for the scientific success of FB19. We are indebted to many colleagues, in particular the students from the theory group of the Helmholtz-Institut, from the Universität Bonn who were involved in the organisation of the conference. In particular we thank Dr. Bernard Metsch and Simon Kreuzer for taking care of the logistics and computer support. Special thanks go to Mrs. Barbara Mosblech for her indispensable administrative and organisational assistance. Furthermore we gratefully acknowledge the hospitality and support by members of the Geographisches Institut of the Universität Bonn as the main conference site.

We look forward to seeing many familiar, and hopefully new faces as well, at FB20, to be held in 2012 in Fukuoka, Japan.

The Editors
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