



CONFERENCE AND SCHOOL ON Modelling Elastic Manifolds from Soft Condensed Matter to Biomolecules

School: 24 - 25 July 2006
Conference: 26 - 29 July 2006
Miramare, Trieste, Italy

Conference:

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics is organizing a Conference on "Modelling Elastic Manifolds, from Soft Condensed Matter to Biomolecules" to be held at the ICTP, Trieste from 26-29 July, 2006.

Recent experimental and theoretical advancements have highlighted the common physical mechanisms underlying the elastic properties of manifolds in a variety of scientific contexts. This has, in turn, stimulated the development of suitable concepts and models providing general frameworks for characterizing elastic manifolds appearing in different branches of science.

The aim of the activity is to provide a state-of-the-art perspective on the phenomenology and modelling of elastic manifolds in soft-condensed matter and biophysical contexts. In particular, the main topics that will be addressed include: stretching, elasticity and entangling of biopolymers, vulcanization, manifolds in random media, vortex glasses.

Most of the talks delivered at the Conference will be upon invitation. A limited number of talk slots will be reserved for contributed talks selected from among the applications.

School:

The Conference will be preceded by a two-day School, serving as an introduction to the field of elastic manifold. The participation will be reserved to graduate students and young researchers. A limited number of grants to participate in the School and the Conference will be available.

The topics of the School will include: Statistical physics of biopolymers, glassy phases of disordered elastic media, optimization methods for the protein folding problem, introduction to glass physics.

PARTICIPATION

The Conference will be open to scientists from all countries which are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA. As it will be conducted in English, participants should have an adequate working knowledge of this language.

The School will be open to graduate students and post-docs from all countries which are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA. The participants of the School should also participate in the Conference.

Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries, through a programme of training activities within a framework of international cooperation, a limited number of students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by the home institution. Every effort should be made by candidates to secure support for their fare (or at least half-fare). However, limited funds are available for some participants who are nationals of, and/or working in, a developing country, and who are not more than 45 years old. Such support is available only for those who attend the entire activity. Kindly specify on the application form if you are applying for the Conference or both the School and the Conference. There is no registration fee.

The **Application Form** is available on the ICTP WWW server: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1762> (which will be constantly updated) or from the activity Secretariat. It should be completed and returned before **28 February 2006** to:

Conference and School on Modelling Elastic Manifolds
(smr 1762) (c/o Ms. Suzie Radosic)
the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
Strada Costiera 11, 34014 Trieste, Italy.

or

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INVITED SPEAKERS (Conference)

Ivet Bahar (Pittsburgh USA)
Victoria Bekeris (Buenos Aires ARGENTINA)
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Somen Bhattacharjee (Bhubaneswar INDIA)
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Daniel Dominguez (Bariloche ARGENTINA)
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Remi Monasson (Paris FRANCE)
Thomas Nattermann (Köln GERMANY)
Enzo Orlandini (Padova ITALY)
Henri Orland (Saclay FRANCE)
Yitzhak Rabin (Bar-Ilan ISRAEL)
Heiko Rieger (Saarbrücken, GERMANY)
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Julia Yeomans (Oxford UK) *
Annette Zippelius (Göttingen GERMANY)

*To be confirmed

INVITED LECTURERS (School)

Burak Erman (Bogazici TURKEY)
Thierry Giamarchi (Geneve SWITZERLAND)
Tomas Grigera (La Plata ARGENTINA)
Henri Orland (Saclay FRANCE)

APPLICATION DEADLINE
28 February 2006