August 12 – 15, 2002 International String Theory Conference at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China

The International String Theory Conference was successfully held on August 12 – 15, 2002 at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou China, was suggested and organized by Prof. S. - T. Yau (Harvard University), the director of the center of Mathematical Sciences at Zhejiang University. About 100 participants from all over the world attended the conference. Among them, there were two winners of Fields Medal Prize: S. - T. Yau and E. Witten (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University), and a number of distinguished professors, academicians of sciences, and outstanding scientists from worldwide first rank universities and institutes.

Ideas from string theory have comprised one of the mainstreams of the developments in mathematics since the late 1980s. The conference aimed to provide an opportunity to promote the developments of research in string theory and mathematical aspects in string theory, and is intended to create a friendly, free environment to communicate the latest developments of string theory and its related fields.

The chair of scientific committee is Prof. Shing-tung Yau, and the chair of organizing committee is Prof. Shu-xing Chen. Eleven plenary speakers gave one-hour lectures. They addressed the latest developments and frontiers in string theory, proposed various interesting, challenging questions for future research. Speakers and titles of their lectures are:

Prof. E. Witten (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University): Easing into QFT; Prof. S. Hawking (University of Cambridge): M-Theory and Cosmology; Prof. D. Gross (Institute of Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara): Perspectives on String Theory; Prof. A. Strominger (Jefferson Physical laboratory, Harvard University): Spacelike Branes; Prof. C. Nappi (Joseph Henry Laboratories, Princeton University): Strings and Non-communicativity; Prof. P. Candelas (Mathematical Institute, Oxford University): Rational Points of Calabi-Yau Manifolds; Prof. E. D’Hoker (Department of Physics and Astronomy, UCLA): Two-loop Superstring; Prof. D. Phong (Department of Mathematics, Columbia University): Supersymmetric Gauge Theories, Symplectic Forms, and Integrable Models; Prof. S. Ferrara (CERT, Switzerland): Spontaneously Broken Supergravity in String and M-Theory; Prof. T. Eguchi (Department of Physics, University of Tokyo): CFT Analysis of Manifolds of Special Holonomy; Prof. G. Gibbons (Center for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge): Some Recent Work on G-2 and Spin(7) Metrics in M-Theory.

In three 45-minute sections on Algebraic aspects of string theory, Geometric aspects of string theory and Duality, eleven invited lecturers presented their recent research results and works.

The conference attracted not only mathematicians, scholars from many countries and regions in the world, but also many graduates of Zhejiang University and other universities. There is no doubt that the conference will strongly influence many young scholars and graduate students and will motivate their interest in string theory. The conference is resumed on August 17 – 19 at the Institute of Theoretical Physics in Beijing.

Report by Dai Jia-ling
Information for Authors

Aim: The *Journal of Zhejiang University SCIENCE* is edited by an international board of distinguished Chinese and foreign scientists, and is aimed to present the latest developments and achievements in scientific research in China and overseas to the world's scientific circles, specially to stimulate and promote academic exchange between Chinese scientists and between them and their foreign counterparts everywhere.

Scope: The Journal has comprehensive coverage of scientific fields, provides a forum for high-quality research communications, and addresses all aspects of original experimental information based on theory and their applications in *science and engineering, biotechnology and life sciences*. The Journal welcomes contributions from all who wish to report on new developments in scientific researches within the scope outlined above.

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Text: The text should contain an Introduction that puts the paper into perspective for the reader, and should also contain Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion sections. Each equation in the article should be spaced one line apart from the text and be numbered in the order with Arabic numerals placed on the right-hand margin; each figure, including a,b,c etc. of each figure, must present the caption.

Acknowledgements: Individuals or units other than authors who were of direct help in the work should be acknowledged by a brief statement following the text.

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