

Preface

The fact that you are holding in your hands the Monograph issue on "Modern Trends in Strings, Cosmology and Particles" demonstrates:

- the viability of the Southeastern European Network in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics (SEENET-MTP),
- close cooperation of the Astronomical Observatory Belgrade and the Faculty of Science and Mathematics Nis,
- great support of the Ministry of Science and Technological Development of republic of Serbia in publishing such demanding, multilateral cooperation and publications,
- continuous support of the UNESCO-Bresce Venice and the ICTP Trieste, Italy in improving research and training in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics in the South East Europe.

Research in String Theory, Cosmology and Particle Physics are in the very center of modern High Energy Physics, moreover it is a focus in Theoretical and Mathematical Physics in general.

One of the most important activities of the Southeastern European Network in Mathematical and Theoretical Physics (SEENET-MTP), since its founding in 2003, has been connected with the reinforcement of research and cooperation in Theoretical Physics, in particular in High Energy Physics (HEP). In addition, a direction in which the Network understood to act has been to enhance the access of the graduated students and young researchers to the review papers showing results made by the researchers from the SEE countries and their partners from Europe, first of all.

The monograph we are providing now intends to contribute to the coverage of this hole, offering to the readership a volume of scientific papers tackling intricate topics in the above mentioned subfields of HEP, which in fact are so close connected as never in their past.

As it could be seen from the Contents, the contributions refer to some of the most important and most intriguing scientific topics in modern HEP and Cosmology: String (field) Theory, D-brane and its testing; Quantum Cosmology, Inflation and Gravitational lensing, beyond the standard particle model, supersymmetry and other. Due to the wide range of the topics, it was quite difficult to organize the papers in some very "defined" chapters. Even almost every contribution can be seen as an independent one we choose to nominate three subfields (Strings, Cosmology and Particles) even we aware that some other editors can be right in changing organization of the publication.

The very idea of such a publication arose even during the first Balkan workshop BW2003. Due to support of the Editor in Chief and Editorial board of the "Publications of Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade", financial support from Ministry of Science and Technological Development, Faculty of Science and Mathematics Nis, and the permanent partner in our activities UNESCO-BRESCE Venice and ICTP Trieste, Italy we are pleased to present this monograph now.

From a preliminary list of possible contributors to the monograph, we are in position to present about more than half of them. Word-processing has been based on authors' sample files and the editors have not done essential corrections. We would like to thank to the referees, mainly two for each paper for their valuable comments and assistance in improving the quality of the publication.

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