III Brazilian Meeting on Simulational Physics

Foreword

This special issue includes the Proceedings of the III Brazilian Meeting on Simulational Physics, which was held in the city of Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil, from 13th to 15th of August, 2003. The First Brazilian Meeting on Simulational Physics was held in 1997, and the Second Meeting two years later. This is the first time that a collection of the main contributed works, as well as the invited talks, is being published by the Brazilian Journal of Physics.

International meetings have played an important role in the development of physics in our region. In 2000 we celebrated in Belo Horizonte the 100th year of the birth of Ernst Ising with the Ising Centennial Colloquium. Ouro Preto also hosted the International Conference on Computational Physics and Cellular Automata in 1989. These meetings, as well as those devoted to simulational physics, were successful, and displayed the strength of the scientific community. In particular, the IIBMSP gathered together around 50 researchers from all over the world for a pleasant and productive period. The talks and posters highlighted recent advances in applications, algorithms, and implementations of computer simulation methods for the study of condensed matter systems. We are sure that this series is becoming an important venue for people working on simulational physics, to exchange ideas and discuss the state of art of this always expanding field.

We are very glad to have this special issue ready and most grateful to Professor Silvio Salinas, the editor of the Brazilian Journal of Physics, for making possible its publication. We also wish to acknowledge Américo Tristão Bernardes and Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto for kind hospitality, FAPEMIG, UFMG and UFOP for financial support, and all the authors for their well written contributions.

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Guest editors