

XIIIth International Conference on Small-Angle Scattering

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The XIIIth International Conference on Small-Angle Scattering (SAS2006 Kyoto) took place in Kyoto, Japan, on 9–13 July 2006, at the Kyoto International Conference Hall. The Organizing Committee is honoured to have hosted SAS2006 Kyoto. It goes without saying that the key to success of this conference lies with the participants, over 500 of whom came from over 30 countries, to report small-angle scattering-based research of extremely high quality. We, the organizers, very much enjoyed hearing the theme of ‘small-angle scattering’ being thundered across the conference rooms of the Kyoto International Conference Hall, like the beautiful, exciting reverberations from the roll of a Japanese ‘Wadaiko’ drum at the banquet. We were especially pleased to have had the opportunity to bring speakers and participants, from contrasting fields in the physical sciences, materials sciences and biological sciences, together in the same conference rooms to discuss their work, with small-angle scattering as the important, unifying key word. Hopefully we would like to share a common impression with you, that the small-angle scattering field is gaining greater significance in science and technology and in its contributions to the culture of this century.

As listed in Table 1, it is our great pleasure to report that 548 participants (see Fig. 1) from 33 countries and five continents attended this conference, including 262 participants from Japan and 60 participants from various countries in Asia and Australia excluding Japan. We had 538 presentations including 125 oral presentations and 413 poster presentations, the number of which exceeds that of the previous SAS2002 Venice meeting by about 150. We are happy to report that SAS2006 Kyoto could continue the trend of fast and persistent growth in the number of presentations during the last seven SAS conferences starting in 1984 (see Fig. 2), as pointed out by Professor A. Craievich in the Proceedings of the SAS2002 Venice meeting.

Since this is the first SAS conference held in the Asia and Oceania region, we encouraged 12 Asian researchers from seven countries to attend this conference, with financial support from the Japan Society for Promotion of Science. We supported 18 young researchers from 14 countries with grants from the International Union of Crystallography (IUCr) and the Kyoto University Foundation.

The scientific program of the conference contained seven plenary lectures on hot topics covering various scientific fields, 19 general sessions, five special sessions and posters. The general and special sessions were run in parallel throughout the event. The general sessions included the following topics: polymers; instrumentation and methods; biological solution scattering; colloids, surfactants and lipids; alloys and ceramics;

Table 1

Number of participants (in parentheses) from various countries at SAS2006 Kyoto.

Japan (262)	USA (51)	Germany (44)	France (36)
Korea (28)	UK (22)	Taiwan (15)	Australia (8)
Russia (8)	Austria (6)	Denmark (6)	Hungary (6)
Italy (6)	Brazil (5)	Czech Rep. (4)	P. R. China (4)
Switzerland (4)	Netherlands (4)	Finland (3)	India (3)
Norway (3)	Poland (3)	Belgium (2)	Israel (2)
Spain (2)	Sweden (2)	Canada (2)	Slovenia (2)
Indonesia (1)	Philippines (1)	Portugal (1)	South Africa (1)
Ukraine (1)			



Figure 1
SAS2006 participants during a break from the meeting.

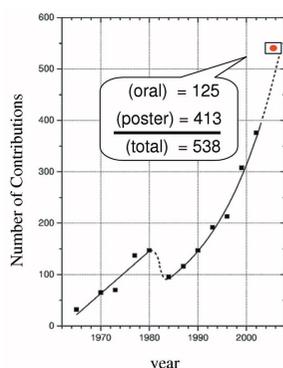
magnetic materials and superconductors; noncrystalline materials; surfaces and interfaces; grazing-incidence small-angle scattering; theory and modeling; and fibre diffraction. The special sessions covered topical research of an inter-

disciplinary nature on (1) dynamics and kinetics, (2) hierarchical structures studied over a wide range of scattering vectors, (3) new methods concerning contrast variations *etc.*, and (4) open-nonequilibrium systems under various external

fields. In some special sessions we intended to emphasize an application of a combined small-angle scattering method, which utilizes various small-angle scattering methods in ‘concert’, *e.g.* small-angle scattering and ultra-small-angle scattering of X-ray and neutron and small-angle scattering of light, to given systems in order to systematically explore their mesoscopic scale structures and dynamics.

Following the tradition of the SAS1999 and SAS2002 meetings, the SAS2006 Organizing Committee and the IUCr Commission on Small-Angle Scattering decided to present a prize, in honour of Professor A. Guinier, for outstanding contributions in the field of small-angle scattering. Furthermore, they also decided to present three prizes for younger scientists (namely those having obtained their PhD degrees within the past six years) attending SAS2006. The scientific impact of the research

Historical Data of SAS Conference



	year	venue	country
I	1965	Syracuse	N.Y., U.S.A.
II	1970	Graz	Austria
III	1973	Grenoble	France
IV	1977	Gatlinburg	Tenn., U.S.A.
V	1980	Berlin	West Germany
VI	1983	Hamburg	West Germany
VII	1987	Prague	Czechoslovakia
VIII	1990	Leuven	Belgium
IX	1993	Saclay	France
X	1996	Campinas	Brazil
XI	1999	Upton	N.Y., U.S.A.
XII	2002	Venezia	Italy
XIII	2006	Kyoto	Japan

Figure 2
The datum of SAS2006 Kyoto (marked by the Japanese flag) added to the plot given by A. Craievich (see the Issue Foreword of the SAS2002 Proceedings).

on the field of small-angle scattering was considered to be the important criterion for this SAS Young Scientist Prize. H. Hasegawa, G. Kostorz, J. S. Pedersen, P. Thiyagarajan, I. Torriani and N. Yagi were selected as members of the jury for the A. Guinier Prize and the Young Scientist Prize. Although the period of nomination was rather short, the level of the candidates for the prizes was very high, which made the selection a formidable task. The jury finally decided to award the A. Guinier Prize to Professor Heinrich B. Stuhmann (GKSS Forschungszentrum Geesthacht, Germany). The SAS Young Scientist Prizes were awarded to Dr Shuji Akiyama (JST/PRESTO, RIKEN Harima Institute, Japan), Dr Byeongdu Lee (APS, Argonne, USA) and Dr Maxim Petoukhov (EMBL Hamburg, Germany). The Organizing Committee and the IUCr Commission on Small-Angle Scattering sincerely hope that these prizes will be continued to be bestowed at future conferences.

The location of the next conference (SAS2009) was decided by balloting in the business meeting. There were three candidate cities, two in Europe and one in USA. Presentations were made for each city describing the scientific background and attractiveness of the city using beautiful pictures. Since none of the three cities received an outright majority in the first ballot, a second ballot was conducted between the top two candidates. Finally, Oxford, which was represented by Professor Anthony Ryan and Dr Nick Terrill, was chosen as the location of the SAS2009 meeting.

The Organizing Committee established 'Poster Awards' as a first attempt in the SAS Conferences to encourage excellent students in the scientific field of small-angle scattering. Candidates were limited to students who made the student registration and presented posters by themselves. The referees were selected from Organizing Committee members and International Advisory Board members. Each of the 88 posters presented by students was evaluated by the judges.

Eleven students were awarded a certificate together with a memorial shield.

Manuscripts of the papers contained in this proceedings issue were submitted *via* the IUCr online manuscript submission system during the conference and within one month of the end of the conference. 170 manuscripts were submitted and reviewed by more than 300 scientists from a referee pool consisting of 430 researchers. The manuscripts were edited by five Guest Co-editors, Dr Andrew Allen, Professor Sow-Hsin Chen, Professor Gernot Kostorz, Professor Mitsuhiro Shibayama and Professor Heinrich Stuhmann. The organizers thank the Guest Co-editors for their tireless work in managing the review and in editing the 143 accepted contributions in this special online issue of the *Journal of Applied Crystallography*. Special thanks go to G. Kostorz, the Editor of the journal, and P. R. Strickland, the Managing Editor, for their patience and dedication.

The following three Satellite International Meetings were organized before and after the Conference in order to reinforce international scientific exchanges on small-angle scattering studies:

(1) Synchrotron Radiation in Polymer Science III, 5–8 July, SPring 8, Hyogo, Japan.

(2) Recent Studies and Development of Neutron Spin Echo Spectroscopy, NSE2006, 14–15 July, Kyodai-Kaikan, Kyoto, Japan.

(3) International Workshop of Yukawa Institute of Theoretical Physics, 'Structures and Dynamics in Soft-Matters: Beyond Self-Organization and Hierarchical Structures', 14–16 July, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan.

Finally, we would like to thank all the participants for their scientific contributions. Our heartfelt thanks are due to the International Advisory Board members, the institutional sponsors, and the industrial sponsors for helping us organize this conference. We hope to see you again at SAS2009 in Oxford.

preface

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