

Vol. 60, No. 4

ISSN 0432-7136

BULLETIN DU GROUPEMENT

d'informations mutuelles

AMPERE

SE CONNAÎTRE, S'ENTENDRE, D'ENTR'AIDER

October - December 2011

No. 245

Office: ETH Zürich, Laboratory of Physical Chemistry
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If you would like to become a member of the AMPERE Group, you can register online under: **www.ampere.ethz.ch**

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Publisher: Gunnar Jeschke, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Editorial

Dear AMPERE colleagues,
please receive my best wishes for a peaceful and happy new year 2012.

This year's EUROMAR congress will be held in Dublin, Ireland from July 1st to 5th. A preliminary programme is already available at <http://euromar2012.org/program/> and registration will open on January 16th. You are all cordially invited to attend this meeting, which continues the longstanding tradition of AMPERE congresses. A list of plenary speakers and the key dates can be found on p. 2.

The Raymond Andrew Prize 2012 for an outstanding Ph.D. thesis in the field of magnetic resonance will be awarded during the EUROMAR meeting. For the Call for Nominations, see p. 3.

Janez Dolinšek shares with us his memories to Robert Blinc, past president of Groupement AMPERE, see p. 4.

On November 24th 2011, the Department of Physics of Leipzig University honoured another past AMPERE president, Artur Lösche, with a special colloquium on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

This issue also contains a report on the International Symposium and Summer School in Saint Petersburg "Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Condensed Matter" by V. I. Chizhik. The NMRCM 2012 will take place shortly after the EUROMAR conference.



Gunnar Jeschke
Secretary General of Groupement AMPERE

EUROMAR 2012, Dublin (Ireland) 1-5 July

Penary Speakers:

Malcolm Levitt

University of Southampton, UK

Robert Tycko

National Institutes of Health, USA

Anne Lesage

University of Lyon, France

Thomas Prisner

University of Frankfurt, Germany

Jeremy Nicholson

Imperial College London, UK

Jörg Wrachtrup

University of Stuttgart, Germany

Kevin Brindle

University of Cambridge, UK

Paul Callaghan

Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Martin Blackledge

Université Joseph Fourier, France

Harald Schwalbe

University of Frankfurt, Germany

Sabine Van Doorslaer

University of Antwerp, Belgium

Michele Vendruscolo

University of Cambridge, UK

Key dates:

Call for Abstracts Opens 16th January 2012

Conference Registration Opens 16th January 2012

Student Grant Deadline 1st March 2012

Early Bird Registration Closes 2nd April 2012

Abstract for Oral Presentation Deadline 1st May 2012

Abstracts for Poster Presentation Deadline 1st May 2012

Raymond Andrew Prize 2012 – Call for nominations

Call for Nominations for the Raymond Andrew Prize for an outstanding PhD thesis in the field of magnetic resonance:

For the Raymond Andrew Prize 2012 the AMPERE Prize Committee is seeking your help in searching for qualified candidates who completed their dissertation during the period of 2010/2011.

The prize will be presented during the EUROMAR in Dublin (Ireland) from 1th to 5th July 2012.

You are kindly invited to submit nominations by e-mail to **andrewprize@nmr.phys.chem.ethz.ch**

Suggestions must be received by **15th February 2012** and should include the following documents:

- Nomination letter
- Curriculum vitae
- List of publications and presentations at conferences
- PhD thesis in PDF

The thesis should be written in English.

In exceptional cases, the thesis may also be submitted in triplicate as a hardcopy to the AMPERE Secretariat. Submissions that arrive too late will automatically be transferred to the next year. The prize committee will reconsider excellent contributions for two years in a row.

For a list of past Andrew Prize winners see:
http://www.ampere.ethz.ch/andrew_prize.htm

Sincerely yours,
Gunnar Jeschke



Professor Robert Blinc – In Memoriam

On September 26, 2011, Professor Robert Blinc passed away.

Robert Blinc was born on October 31, 1933, in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He graduated in 1958 and completed PhD in 1959 in physics at the University of Ljubljana. His doctoral research on proton tunneling in ferroelectrics with short hydrogen bonds was supervised by Professor Dušan Hadži. After a postdoctoral year spent in the group of Professor John Waugh at M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass., Robert Blinc was appointed as a professor of physics at the University of Ljubljana at a time when there was scarce research in the field of condensed matter physics in Slovenia. With his far-sighted mind, Robert Blinc initiated the NMR laboratory at the Jožef Stefan Institute in Ljubljana. He immediately realized the enormous potential of NMR methods in the research of structure, dynamics, and phase transitions in solids. In the subsequent years he made significant contributions in applying magnetic resonance to the research of ice, ferroelectric materials, liquid crystals, incommensurate dielectrics, pseudospin glasses, relaxor ferroelectrics, fullerenes, and fullerene nanomagnets. His work led to the detailed understanding of the microscopic nature and properties of those materials. To mention only a few of his achievements:

Robert Blinc and coworkers elucidated the isotopic effect in ferroelectric crystals, developed the tunneling model of hydrogen bonded ferroelectrics (known as the Blinc–de Gennes model), predicted the phason Goldstone mode in helicoidal ferroelectric liquid crystals and the first theory of un-wound ferroelectric liquid crystals, discovered the relaxation mechanism via nematic order fluctuations in liquid crystals (the Pincus–Blinc model), detected solitons and phasons in incommensurate systems using NMR, determined the Edwards–Anderson order parameter in proton and deuteron glasses, developed the random bond–random field Ising model of proton and deuteron glasses (the Pirc–Tadić–Blinc model), developed the spherical random bond–random field model of relaxors, revealed the nature of ferromagnetism in organic ferromagnet TDAE–C₆₀ and discovered the origin of giant electromechanical effect in PMN–PZT relaxors via the existence of critical end point. He also pioneered the application of NMR to the non-destructive oil-content measurements in plant seeds, the hardening-rate determination of cements and concrete by NMR relaxometry and the TNT explosive detection by nitrogen NQR, where he is the holder of three patents. In the early stage of the double resonance technique, he succeeded in obtaining the first nitrogen NMR spectra in nucleic acids and peptides. The bibliography of Robert Blinc is very rich, containing more than 700 original research papers in international scientific journals. Among these, he has published three papers in *Nature* (1958, 1966, 2006), two in *Science* (both in 1996) and 47 in *Physical Review Letters*. His publications were cited more than 14.000–times in SCI. One of the most important achievements of Professor Robert Blinc, which attracted considerable attention in the broad scientific community, is the book *Soft Modes in Ferroelectrics and Antiferroelectrics* (North Holland, 1974), written together with Boštjan Žekš. The book was translated into Russian (1975) and Chinese (1982) and belongs to the 600 most-cited scientific books in the world. Another of his books, written together with Igor Muševič and Boštjan Žekš, *The Physics of Ferroelectric and Antiferroelectric Liquid Crystals*, was published in 2000 by World Scientific. His last book *Advanced Ferroelectricity* (Oxford Science Publications) appeared in August 2011, shortly before he passed away.

Being a professor of physics at the University of Ljubljana, Robert Blinc was the supervisor of 67 diploma works and 35 PhD theses in the field of condensed matter physics and NMR spectroscopy. He was the founder and the head of the Condensed Matter Physics Department at the Jožef Stefan Institute for 47 years and a member (and vice-president in the years 1980–1999) of the Academy of Science and Arts of Slovenia. Robert Blinc maintained a wide range of contacts with scientists worldwide.

To mention only a few of them, he was a visiting professor at the University of Washington in Seattle; ETH Zurich, Switzerland; Federal University of Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Brazil; University of Vienna in Austria; University of Utah in Salt Lake City; Kent State University in Ohio, Argonne National Laboratory, and several others.

In the years 1990–1996 he was the president of the Groupement AMPERE, and the president of the European Steering Committee on Ferroelectricity (1986–1999). He was a member of seven foreign Academies of Sciences and has received numerous national and international scientific prizes.

As the head of the Condensed Matter Physics Department at the Jožef Stefan Institute, Robert Blinc promoted, in addition to NMR, other experimental techniques: ESR, dielectric measurements, optical spectroscopy and atomic force microscopy. He took active part in solving theoretical problems related to the systems under study. He can therefore be recognized as the founder and tireless promoter of the condensed matter physics research in Slovenia.

We, his former students and coworkers, owe him a debt of gratitude for his enthusiasm and dedication to the phenomena of solid-state physics and magnetic resonance spectroscopy. He will remain in our memories.

Prof. Dr. Janez Dolinšek
AMPERE Vicepresident
J. Stefan Institute, University of Ljubljana
Jamova 39, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Report on the International Symposium and Summer School
in Saint Petersburg

“Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Condensed Matter” NMRCM 2011

8th Meeting: “NMR in Life Sciences”

The Department of Quantum Magnetic Phenomena of the Saint-Petersburg University continues a series of annual International Symposia and Summer Schools in Saint Petersburg “Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Condensed Matter” (an AMPERE event). The 8th Meeting under the subtitle “NMR in Life Sciences” was opened on Monday, June 27, and was closed on Friday, July 01, 2011. The goal of the Meeting was to provide a platform to scientists and students for the use of all aspects of nuclear magnetic resonance methods and techniques as well as computational and theoretical approaches for the investigations in the area of Life Sciences.

The Meeting was attended by 121 participants from 12 countries: Belarus, Belgium, England, France, Germany, India, Italy, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine.

There were 13 lectures, presented by following speakers:

V.A. Chertkov, Moscow, Russia
V.I. Chizhik, Saint Petersburg, Russia
S.V. Dvinskikh, Stockholm, Sweden
K. Flisinski, Dortmund, Germany
J. Fraissard, Paris, France
H. Haranczyk, (Cracow, Poland)
O. B. Lapina, Novosibirsk, Russia
K.V. Ramanathan, Bangalore, India
T.N. Smekalova, (Saint Petersburg, Russia)
P.M. Tolstoy, Berlin, Germany
V. V. Volkov, Moscow, Russia
K. Zick, Rheinstetten, Germany

Moreover, there were 14 contributed talks (20') and 59 poster presentations. The organizers published the Book of Abstracts.

Barbara and Uwe Eichhoff (Germany) instituted a prize (300+200 Euro) for the best poster reports of students, post-graduated students or young scientists without Ph.D. under 35. The prizes and proper diploma were awarded by the Organizing Committee to Piotr Nowak (Cracow, Poland) and Maria I. Lomovska (Saint Petersburg, Russia).

NMRCM 2011 took place at the Petrodvorets Campus of Saint Petersburg State University. Petrodvorets (the satellite-town of Saint Petersburg) is famous for its parks with fountains and palaces. The social program consisted of two excursions (in Petrodvorets and Saint Petersburg), a welcome-party, and a conference dinner.

The information, including abstracts and photographs on the NMRCM 2011 is available at:

<http://nmr.phys.spbu.ru/>

The NMRCM 2011 was supported by
Saint-Petersburg University
Russian Foundation for Basic Research
"Dynasty" Foundation (Russia)

The next 9th Meeting "NMR in heterogeneous systems" will be: 9-13 July, 2012, the Petrodvorets Campus of Saint Petersburg State University.



Saint Petersburg State University
Department of Quantum Magnetic Phenomena

International Symposium and Summer School in Saint Petersburg

“Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Condensed Matter”

9th Meeting “NMR in Heterogeneous Systems”

St. Petersburg, Petrodvorets, Russia
9 - 13 July 2012



First Announcement

Organising Institution
Saint Petersburg State University

Organising Institution: Saint Petersburg State University
<http://nmr.phys.spbu.ru/nmrccm> | nmrccm@nmr.phys.spbu.ru

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Invitation

Saint Petersburg State University continues the Annual International Symposium and Summer School „**Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Condensed Matter**” (**NMRCM**). The ninth meeting under the subtitle „**NMR in Heterogeneous Systems**” will be opened on Monday, July 9, 2012 and will be closed on Friday, July 13, 2012.

The goal of the meeting is to provide a platform to scientists and students for the use of all aspects of nuclear magnetic resonance methods and techniques as well as computational and theoretical approaches for the investigation of structure, dynamics and other properties of heterogeneous systems. The Organising Committee kindly invites you and your colleagues to Saint Petersburg to participate in the International Symposium and Summer School **NMRCM 2012**.

Location

NMRCM 2012 will take place at the Petrodvorets Campus of Saint Petersburg University. Petrodvorets is a charming town, former summer residence of Russian Tsars, a place famous for its parks, palaces and fountains. Petrodvorets is located at the South Coast of the Gulf of Finland at a distance of 30 km from the centre of St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg is the cultural capital of Russia, world-famous for its architecture, monuments, museums, and art galleries as well as for its theatres and concert halls.

Main topics

The ninth meeting NMRCM 2012 will cover all aspects of nuclear magnetic resonance in heterogeneous systems.

Some of the important topics are:

- Nanomaterials
- Porous media
- Macromolecules in liquids
- Liquid crystals (thermotropic and lyotropic)
- Micellar systems
- Solid solutions
- Magnetic materials
- NMR imaging
- Computer simulations
- Applications

Scientists and students from all countries are invited to make plenary lectures, oral reports and poster presentations.

Organising Committee founds a prize for the outstanding poster report, made by a student, post-graduated student, or young scientist without Ph.D. under 35.

The official language of the Symposium and School is English.

The Book of Abstracts will be published and distributed to each participant of NMRCM 2012 on arrival.

Preliminary registration form

On-line registration is opened on the Web-server of NMRCM 2012 at:
<http://nmr.phys.spbu.ru/nmrcm/user/register>

Registration fee

Active participants — 300 €, students — 150 €.

Members of the Groupement AMPERE have a discount of 25 €.

Accompanying persons — 150 €.

The fee includes organisation costs, NMRCM 2012 materials, visa support and registration, welcome-party, and coffee breaks.

Number of participants is limited to 150 persons.

Important dates 2012

29 February	Deadline for Preregistration Form
1 March	Second Announcement and Call for Papers
27 April	Deadline for the receiving of Abstracts and visa applications
4 May	Letter of Acceptance
31 May	Deadline for the receiving of registration fee
11 June	Third Announcement
18 June	Programme
8 June	Arrival

Organizing Committee (Saint Petersburg State University)

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URL: <http://nmr.phys.spbu.ru/nmrcm>

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The AMPERE BUREAU includes the executive officers (which take the responsibility and the representation of the Groupement between the meeting of the committee), the honorary members of the Bureau and the organizers of forthcoming meetings.

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Future conferences Ampere events

2012

MRFOOD 2012	Wageningen, The Netherlands	June 27-29 2012
EUROMAR 2012	Dublin, Ireland	July 1-5 2012
NMRCM 2012	St.Petersburg, Petrodvorets, Russia	July 9-13 2012
MRPM11	Guildford, Surrey United Kingdom	September 9-13 2012

Other events

38 th Annual Conference of the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies	Grand Sierra Resort, NV, USA	June 27-29 2012
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