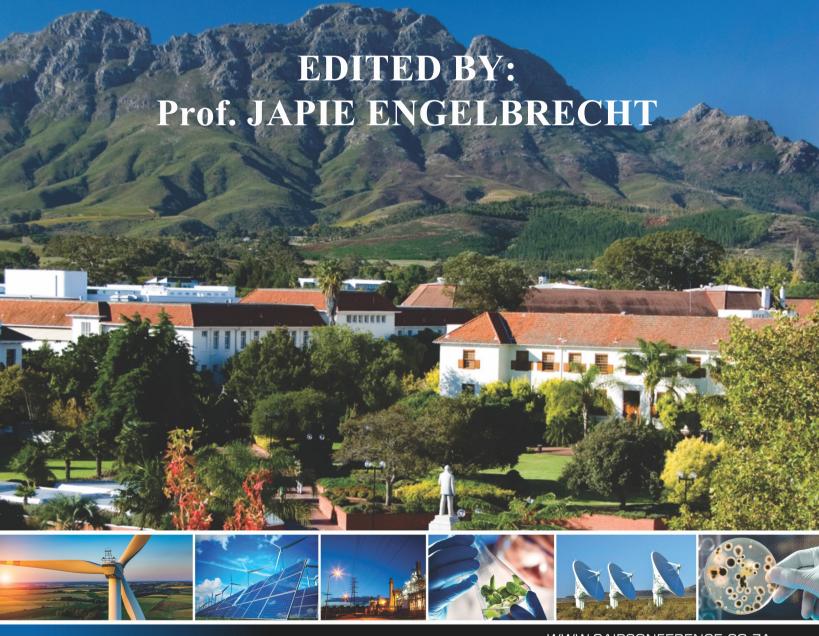
## PROCEEDINGS OF SAIP2017

# 62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS



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PROCEEDINGS EDITOR: Prof. Japie Engelbrecht

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### **SAIP2017**

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Edited By Prof. Japie Engelbrecht

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Conference Chairs and Committees	
Message from the Editor  List of Reviewers	<b>xii</b>
FULL RESEARCH PAPERS	
Division A - Division for Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials	
Investigation of Thermoelectric Properties of CH <sub>3</sub> NH <sub>3</sub> PbI <sub>3</sub> : Density	
Functional Theory and Boltzmann Transport Calculations	2
I O Abdallah, D P Joubert and M S H Suleiman	
First-principles investigation of lattice thermal conductivity and	
structural stability of CH <sub>3</sub> NH <sub>3</sub> PbI <sub>3</sub>	8
I O Abdallah, D P Joubert and M S H Suleiman	
The role of the pre-exponential factor in the segregation profiles of	
Cu(111)-SnSb and Cu(100)-SnSb ternary alloys	14
JKO Asante and WD Roos	
Quasiparticle band structure and optical properties of alpha-MnO <sub>2</sub> : a	
beyond density functional theory investigation.	19
M Chepkoech, D P Joubert and G O Amolo	
Intermediate valence behavior in the new ternary	
compound $Yb_{13}Pd_{40}Sn_{31}$	25
R F Djoumessi, A M Strydom, F Gastaldo, I Curlik; M Reiffers and M Giovannini	
Mechanical milling effect on the structural and magnetic properties	
of sintered La <sub>0.67</sub> Sr <sub>0.33</sub> MnO <sub>3</sub>	30
I P Ezekiel, T Moyo and S Dlamini	
Predicting the Mo substitution and vacancy-complex induced electrical	
defect levels in Ge	36
E Igumbor, O Olaniyan, R E Mapasha, H T Danga and W E Meyer	

Analysis of the structure, particle morphology and photoluminescent
properties of green emitting BaB <sub>8</sub> O <sub>13</sub> :Ce <sup>3+</sup> phosphor
M A Lephoto, K G Tshabalala, S J Motloung and O M Ntwaeaborwa
First-principles stability study of olivine NaMPO <sub>4</sub> (M: Mn, Fe,Co)
N L Lethole, H R Chauke and P E Ngoepe
Optimisation of inorganic-organic photoactive hybrid thin films
S S Magubane, T F G Muller, C J Oliphant and C J Arendse
Structural and thermodynamic properties of Zr-Nb-Co compound
M M Malebati, P E Ngoepe and H R Chauke
The structural and sensing properties of cobalt and indium doped zinc
oxide nanopowders synthesised through high energy ball milling technique
M F Manamela, T E Mosuang and B W Mwakikunga
Mechanical properties and temperature dependence of B <sub>19</sub> Ti <sub>50-x</sub> Zr <sub>x</sub> Pt <sub>50</sub>
shape memory alloys
M P Mashamaite, H R Chauke and P E Ngoepe
Bias enhanced nucleation and growth for improving the optomechanical
properties of diamond-like carbon films
W M Mbiombi, B A Mathe, D Wamwangi, R Erasmus and D G Billing
Atomistic simulation of the structure and elastic properties of
pentlandite structure (Ir <sub>9</sub> S <sub>8</sub> )
M A Mehlape, D Tanzwani and P E Ngoepe
Computational modelling study of the Ti <sub>50</sub> Pt <sub>50-x</sub> Cu <sub>x</sub> shape memory
alloys
R Modiba, H Chikwanda and P E Ngoepe
The effect of thiol collectors on nickel-rich (110) pentlandite surface using
density functional theory
P P Mkhonto, H R Chauke and P E Ngoepe
Gas-Sensing Properties of TiO <sub>2</sub> Nanoparticles Double Doped with Ag and
Cu
O O Nubi and T E Mosuang

Investigation of the magnetic ground state of PrRu <sub>2</sub> Ga <sub>8</sub> compound
M O Ogunbunmi and A M Strydom
Numerical simulation of structural, electronic and optical properties
of vanadium diselenide (VSe <sub>2</sub> )
E Rugut, D Joubert and G Jones
Elastic properties of chalcogenide based phase change memories by
surface Brillouin scattering
D Wamwangi, B Mathe, M Baloi, D G Billing, C Persch, M Salinga and M Wuttig
Thermoelectic properties of Sm <sub>3</sub> Rh <sub>4</sub> Ge <sub>13</sub>
S P Xhakaza, B M Sondezi and A M Strydom
Division B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics
Measurements of natural radioactivity in soil using an array of cerium
doped lanthanum bromide scintillator detectors
M Bashir, R T Newman and P Jones
Investigating the diffusion of Xe implanted into glassy carbon
$M\ Y\ A$ Ismail, $J\ B$ Malherbe, $O\ S$ Odutemowo, $T\ T$ Hlatshwayo, $E\ G$ Njoroge and $E$ Wendler
Calculation of the energy produced from radiative capture in SAFARI-1 140
L Jurbandam, O M Zamonsky
The impact of an extended Inner Detector tracker on the W+-W+-jj
measurement in pp collisions at the High-Luminosity LHC with the
upgraded ATLAS detector
C Lee, R van Tonder and S Yacoob
High-fidelity modelling of the ETRR-2 research reactor
M Mashau, S A Groenewald and F A van Heerden
Assessing the impact of rock phosphate storage on uranium and thorium
concentration in soil samples from Richards Bay using neutron activation
analysis
F B Masok, P L Masiteng, R D Mavunda, P P Maleka and H Winkler

	Composite Scintillators - A new type of radiation hard scintillator
	J E Mdhluli, Yu I Davydov, V Baranov, S Mthembu, R Erasmus, H Jivan, B Mellado, E Sideras-Haddad, A Boyarintsev, T Nepokupnaya, Y Onufriyev and I Vasiliev
	Geometrical validation of New Small Wheel simulation software
	C Mwewa, V Cairo, A Dell'Acqua, A Hamilton, V Martinez and S Yacoob
	Reconstruction of missing energy in events with two photons at the
	ATLAS detector in Large Hadron Collider
	K G Tomiwa, X Ruan, S Liao and B Mellado
	Performance of various event generators in describing multijet final states
	at the LHC
	S von Buddenbrock
	Production of the Madala boson in association with top quarks
	S von Buddenbrock
D	Division C - Photonics
	Cell death induced by combination of Phthalocyanine photosensitizer and
	Doxorubicin on MCF-7 breast carcinoma cells
	E C Aniogo, B P George and H Abrahamse
	Photobiomodulation activates the JAK/STAT signalling pathway in
	diabetic wounded cells in vitro
	S W Jere, H Abrahamse and N N Houreld
	Characterization of the spectral irradiance lamps at NMISA 204
	M Mkabela, P Du Toit, R Sieberhagen and W Meyer
	Analysis and Performance of a closed loop external cavity diode laser
	control system
	V Opeolu, K Govender, A Wyngaard, O Nemraoui, G De Jager and J Scarrott
	Experimental study of the weak field Zeeman spectra of <sup>85</sup> Rb and <sup>87</sup> Rb 216
	A Wyngaard, G De Jager, C Steenkamp and K Govender
D	Division D1 - Astrophysics
	Structure formation with causal bulk viscosity
	G Acquaviva, A John and A Pénin

Exploring the potential of the dark matter candidate from the Madala	
hypothesis with multi-frequency indirect detection	28
G Beck and S Colafrancesco	
Spectral analysis of Fermi-LAT gamma-ray bursts with known redshift	
and their potential use as cosmological standard candles	34
FF Dirirsa, S Razzaque and F Piron	
Optimization of galaxy identification algorithms in large Hi surveys	40
T Gqaza, R C Kraan-Korteweg, B Frank, M Ramatsoku, T H Jarrett, E Elson and A C Schroeder	
Reverberation mapping of a $z \sim 0.375$ active galactic nucleus	46
M S Hlabathe, E Romero-Colmenero, S M Crawford and LCO AGN Key collaboration	
Modelling the hardening of gamma-ray spectra by extragalactic	
background light	52
A M Kudoda and A Faltenbacher	
Probing quantum gravity through strong gravitational lensing	57
S Marongwe and M Mafu	
Quasi-Newtonian scalar-tensor cosmologies	63
H Sami and A Abebe	
Division D2 - Space Science	
Ensemble Estimation of Network Parameters: A Tool to Improve the Real-	
time Estimation of GICs in the South African Power Network	70
M J Heyns, S I Lotz, P J Cilliers and C T Gaunt	
Division E - Education	
Influence of guided inquiry on first-year students' attitudes to laboratory	
activities and performance in physics	77
V M Baloyi, W E Meyer, E Gaigher and M A Graham	
Students' explanation of motion in real-life context	83
P Molefe and M N Khwanda	
First year university physics students' understanding of units and	
measurements	89

	First year university physics students' perceptions of teaching methods 294
	S Ramaila and L Reddy
	Soweto Science Centre as a flagship community engagement initiative
	S Ramaila and L Reddy
	How do undergraduate students respond to early research?
	B M Sondezi
C	Division F - Applied Physics
	Simulation of Ground Level Spectral Solar Irradiance in Rwanda using
	LibRadtran
	M C Cyulinyana and H Winkler
	A new D-T neutron facility at UCT
	T Hutton and A Buffler
	Testing the scattering distribution of a photon in a turbid medium using
	Monte Carlo simulations
	T Mabhengu, M C Cyulinyana and H Winkler
	Computational comparison of a novel cavity absorber for parabolic trough
	solar concentrators
	K Mohamad and P Ferrer
	Numerical modelling of control rod calibrations and fuel depletion at the
	OPAL research reactor
	R Mudau, D Botes and F A Van Heerden
	The proposed improvements of the hydrometer calibration system using
	Cuckow's method at NMISA
	B Ndlovu, R T Mautjana and D J Mabena
	The MinPET diamond discovery technique
	T Nemakhavhani, D Unwuchola, R C Andrew, M N H Cook, S H Connell, S E
	Ballestrero, U Uggerhoj, S Pape Moller, P Aggerholm, N Hertel and J A Swartz
	Calculation of direct and di use solar irradiance components using a Slob
	Algorithm model in Gauteng conditions
	L C Nethwadzi and H Winkler

An investigation of synchronisation techniques for a handheld QKD	
device	67
S Pillay, M Mariola and F Petruccione	
System control applications of low-power radio frequency devices	73
R M van Rensburg, B Mellado and C J Sandrock	
Division G - Theoretical and Computational Physics	
How quantum is bird migration: A review	80
B Adams, I Sinayskiy and F Petruccione	
Entanglement and gravity	85
J M Hartman, S H Connell, C Engelbrecht and F Petruccione	
Heavy flavor tagged photon bremsstrahlung from AdS/CFT	91
W A Horowitz	
Matrix logarithmic quantum wave equation	97
M Znojil and K G Zloshchastiev	

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#### Message From The Conference Chair

Dear SAIP 2017 delegate,

The physics department at Stellenbosch University would like to extend a hearty welcome to you, in the hope that the conference program will live up to your expectations. We trust that the academic program will be enlightening, and that the social program will be conducive to network-building and making good friends.

The Physics Department at Stellenbosch was founded in 1903 and has a proud tradition of contributing to the South African Institute of Physics and its activities. We have the pleasure of hosting the SAIP annual conference again as we have done successfully in the past. As a physics department we focus on theoretical physics, nuclear physics and photonics. We acknowledge the assistance and contribution of our collaborators from iThemba LABS, the CSIR National Laser Centre and the National Institute for Theoretical Physics to the activities of our department and, particularly, their support for this conference. We thank the plenary speakers who accepted the invitation and have travelled to address the 2017 Annual Conference of the SAIP, and we thank the various sponsors who have made their participation possible. In hosting this conference we embrace the opportunity to facilitate engagement of all the various disciplines in physics participating at the conference. We hope to serve the broader physics community to develop its identity as a professional institute, representing all physicists.

We trust that the workshops will have a positive effect on our younger researchers, and that the plenary presentations will broaden our horizons. Last, but not least, it is our wish that you also enjoy the social activities offered during the week and that you leave Stellenbosch inspired and refreshed.

Prof. EG Rohwer Head of Physics Department Chair of the LOC

#### Message from the Editor

It took me a while to consider the request by Prof Deena Naidoo to become the Editor of the SAIP 2017 Conference Proceedings. However, the more I thought about it, the more it made sense: I am retired, one person will deal with all aspects and will coordinate the process and so on. In my mind's eye I saw delivery of the Proceedings on the expected date, i.e. before the next conference. "After all" (I thought) what could go wrong?" (with apology to the insurance company advertisement on TV).

The production of a journal or a proceedings involves a large number of people: the editorial committee, authors submitting articles, two reviewers for each article and finally the editor. If any of the cogs in this "machine" fails, the whole process slows down and is being delayed. Non the less, the review process cannot be hurried along, as eventually the SAIP expects a Proceedings of a standard comparable to that of international journals. We therefore are hugely indebted to the Content Reviewers for their time and due diligence in the review process.

A total of 116 articles were received. Rejection of articles were due to not complying with the required layout, scientific value or not addressing the concerns and suggested corrections of the Reviewers. This was done with the goal of ensuring maintenance of a standard comparable to that of international journals.

I appeal to all students, supervisors and promoters to take much more care in future upon submission of articles to be considered for publication in the Conference Proceedings, to take a greater responsibility in ensuring that articles adhere to the required Layout, and to ensure that articles are proofread before submission to cut down on grammatical and typographical errors. All this will speed up the editorial process, and ensure that the Proceedings can be published timeously.

I wish to SINCERELY thank the following persons for their help and assistance:

- The Editorial Committee under the leadership of Prof Deena Naidoo
- Tebogo Mokhine, whose IT skills carried the day without him I would have thrown in the towel long ago!
- Mr Brian Masara, CEO of SAIP and John Basco Habarulema, Council member for SAIP Conference matters
- Division Chairs for identifying reviewers, especially those who stepping up to help at the end.
- All content reviewers who participated and who helped to keep the standard of accepted articles of a high standard.
- Dr. Roelf Botha for managing the proceedings compilation and online publishing.

Prof. Japie Engelbrecht

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Editor: SAIP 2017 Conference Proceedings

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