

Proceedings of the 4th European Conference on Neutron Scattering (Lund, Sweden, 25–29 June 2007)

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PREFACE

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Guest Editor

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Approximately 700 delegates came to the small university city of Lund in southern Sweden at the end of June 2007 to attend the 4th European Conference on Neutron Scattering. The majority of these participants are primarily interested in specific areas of condensed matter science and use neutron techniques as a powerful tool to study the structure and dynamic behaviour of materials. These range from liquids, superconductors, magnetic materials, polymers, colloids and biological molecules to engineering materials and archaeological artefacts. The diversity of scientific problems is reflected by the attendance of many laboratories with specializations in numerous different disciplines. The maturity of the technique is shown by the fact that neutron scattering is now applied widely in so many areas.

Most results from neutron scattering experiments are published as articles that primarily relate to a specific scientific discipline in the context of problem oriented research. The neutron scattering conference provided an opportunity to exchange ideas between different fields. It is hoped that this collection of papers, from the participants that submitted articles on applications of neutron scattering, will continue to promote the exchange of ideas for new studies, as was seen at the conference. The papers that describe instrumentation and advances in methods of neutron scattering will appear separately in *Measurement Science and Technology*.

Worldwide activity in developing new facilities for neutron scattering and the motivation for substantial projects, such as the new target station at the ISIS facility in the UK or the proposed European Spallation Source, comes from unique information obtained from working with neutrons. The results reported in the following papers show that there is substantial exciting work still to be performed as the community of users expands into new fields.

The participants, as well as the organizers, are extremely grateful to the numerous sponsors that helped to make the conference a resounding success. We are grateful to IOP Publishing for agreeing to publish these papers, and for their friendly service, and prompt and efficient organization of the refereeing and editorial process.