PREFACE

The 2nd Galileo–XuGuangqi meeting followed the 1st meeting of this series, held on October 2009 in Shanghai. The goal is to create once a year a forum for strategic exchanges between eastern and western science at the highest level dealing with Relativistic Astrophysics and related fundamental theoretical, experimental and observational fields. We plan to continue the format of this meeting addressing topics generally related to Relativistic Astrophysics and theoretical and observational topics. The aim is to enlarge the audience from the one strictly Chinese and Italian to one embracing European and western scientific interests and the Eastern ones. In this sense a broader participation from Korea and Taiwan has been encouraged, as well as a participation of scientists from Europe and the Americas.

The 2nd Galileo - Xu Guanqi represented a collaboration between the University of Nice — Sophie Antipolis, ICRA Net, University of Genova, University of Roma “La Sapienza”, APCTP, ENEA, Embassy of Italy in Seoul, Stockholm University, NAOC, INFN, Korean Astronomy and Space Science Institute, Cote d’Azur Observatory, Free University of Berlin, ICTP. The lectures took place at the splendid Hanbury Villa (<http://www.giardinihanbury.com>) on the border between Italy and France on the Riviera.

This 2nd Galileo–Xu Guangqi meeting was the occasion to establish the lectures of the IRAP PhD program sponsored by the European Community, starting from September 2010 at the University of Nice — Sophia Antipolis. Such a program sees the participation of the University of Nice–Sophia Antipolis, the University of Savoie, the University of Stockholm, the University of Berlin, the University of Ferrara, the University of Roma, ICRA Net, Observatoire de la Cote d’Azur, the Tartu Observatory, the Shanghai Astronomical Observatory, the Albert Einstein Institut, the Indian Centre for Space Physics and the Brazilian Centre for Physics Research. The ten selected international students, four from Europe and six from Asia and the Americas, participated in these lectures.

Pascal Chardonnet
 Li-Zhi Fang
 Remo Ruffini

Editors