

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory Bulletin

Editor Tony Rush

2 February 1988

JAPANESE SUPERCONDUCTIVITY EXPERT AT RAL

Professor Shoji Tanaka, Tokyo University, who has been appointed to head a new International Research Laboratory for Superconductivity Technology now under construction in Tokyo, visited the UK in December to discuss collaborative research into the new high temperature superconductors.

Here he is shown visiting the ISIS neutron facility at the Laboratory where Professor Alan Leadbetter, head of the facility, is describing the important structural studies on these materials which are being done on ISIS.

Japanese scientists already have some access to ISIS through an agreement in which Japan is contributing more than £1M for the construction of a new neutron spectrometer.



Alan Leadbetter describes the measurement of the atomic arrangement in the new superconductors to Prof Tanaka

Third AHVRR Data Users Meeting

The RAL Space Science Department hosted the Third International Meeting of AVHRR (Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer) Data-users which

was attended by over one hundred and thirty scientists from twelve countries. The meeting was also attended by representatives of three

important international agencies, namely NOAA (the US meteorological agency that is responsible for providing AVHRR); ESA, the European Space Agency; and EUMETSAT, the Organisation responsible for providing European meteorological satellites.

AVHRR is a highly successful operational meteorological satellite instrument that is not only responsible for many of the cloud images we see on the TV weather forecasts, but is also used for a wide range of scientific applications. These include the measurement of Sea-Surface Temperature, and of various land parameters such as vegetation indices.

The crowded three-day programme included over 50 presented papers, and a stimulating lunch-time poster session. The meeting was sponsored by the British National Space Centre, the UK Meteorological Office, The Remote Sensing Society, and ESA, with local organisation by David Croom and Ruth Jeans of RAL Space Science Department.

David Llewellyn-Jones



Participants enjoying the lunchtime poster session, l to r John Harries, Paul McClain, Roger Saunders, John Morgan, Luigi Fusco and David Llewellyn-Jones

Christmas Theory Meeting

The UK theory community had their annual meeting at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in December 1987.

Lectures were given by Helmut Satz (Bielefeld) on Quark-gluon plasma, Alan Chodos (Yale) on a possible new phase of QED, Subir Sarkar (RAL) on Physics from SN1987A, Mike Green (QMC) on Superstrings, Steve Shenker (Chicago) on Conformal Field Theory, Mike Gunn (RAL) on Warm Superconductors, Ian Aitchison (Oxford) on Skyrmions, Olivier Pene (Orsay) on Weak Matrix Elements from the Lattice, Andrzej Buras (MPI Munich) on the $\delta\alpha_s = 1$ rule, CP violation and B-B mixing.



Mike Green and "Superstrings"

Astrophysics Events

These seminars are held at 2pm on Wednesdays in R61 Conference Room.

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|-------------|--|
| 3 February | "The Great Attractor",
Dr Malcolm Currie
(RAL). |
| 18 February | "Observations of strato-
spheric constituents at
McMurdo, Antarctica"
Dr Susan Soloman(Boulder) |



A smiling Roy Tolcher looks on as Director Paul Williams brandishes a winning ticket -

Farewell Joyce



Gordon presents Joyce with a bouquet

Joyce Lubbock's retirement was marked in true Reprographic style by three presentation speeches. Brian Jones, Peter Hicks and Gordon Scott all spoke of her courteous, helpful and "unflappable" manner in dealing with intricate machinery and a variety of customer's requirements. Her calmness and willingness to learn new techniques had made her an asset to the section and a replacement would be very hard to find.

Her retirement presents from her friends and colleagues included a piece of Coalport pottery and a vase accompanied by a Ray Roberts card.

Joyce, in reply, said that she had been very happy working in the section and was sorry to be leaving.

Film Badge Notice

It is Period 2 stripe YELLOW

Please ensure you are wearing the current dosimeter and return all old ones to Jenny Coates, R12.

RecSoc Christmas Draw

The Rec Soc Lounge Bar was filled to capacity on Tuesday 22 December for the (now) Annual Christmas Draw.

The maximum 2000 tickets had all been sold allowing 40 prizes to be on "offer". The major prizes went to Mark Wheeler (portable TV set) and Clare Waddley ("Ghetto Blaster"). Les Davies, Steve Hancock and Peter Craske were responsible for organising the Draw and for carrying off a prize each!!

DAP at RAL

A Distributed Array Processor (DAP) from Active Memory Technology Limited was delivered to the Laboratory on Friday 11 December. It is a special type of computer with a large number of processing units each connected to its neighbours in a rectangular grid of 32 by 32 (ie., 1024) processors. It is hosted by a SUN3 computer and provides a powerful "number-crunching" computer system for interactive use.

The two main areas in which it will be used are image processing and highly-interactive modelling of engineering systems.



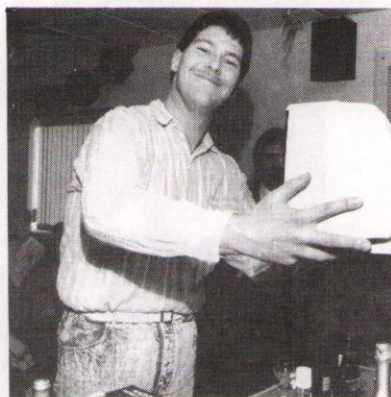
While Alan Bryden (foreground) checks DAP settings Andy Jackson checks the output on the Sun screen



The next lecture will take place on Thursday 11 February in R22 Lecture Theatre at 3.15pm

DYNAMICS OF DINOSAURS AND OTHER
EXTINCT GIANTS

by
PROF R MCNIELL ALEXANDER
Leeds University



- and Mark Wheeler, with a bigger smile, walks off with first prize