

## Preface

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\*Speaker.

The Fifteenth International Conference on Hadron Spectroscopy (Hadron2013) was held from November 4 to 8, 2013, in the Nara Prefectural New Public Hall, Nara, Japan. This series of biennial conferences started in College Park, Maryland, USA in 1985 and continued in: Tsukuba, Japan (1987); Ajaccio, France (1989); Maryland, USA (1991); Como, Italy (1993); Manchester, UK (1995); Upton, New York, USA (1997); Beijing, China (1999); Protvino, Russia (2001); Aschaffenburg, Germany (2003); Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2005); Frascati, Italy (2007); Tallahassee, Florida (2009); Munich, Germany (2011).

The fifteenth conference in Nara had more than 250 participants. Such a large participation demonstrated that hadron physics is one of the most attractive fields in fundamental science. Especially in this century, hadron physics have had revolutionary progress, stimulated by observation of many new hadronic states such as the XYZ and reported evidence of penta-quark states. Many experimental and theoretical studies have been made for hadron properties in nuclear medium to learn dynamics of QCD vacuum. Also, there have been much theoretical development both in phenomenology and in calculations from the first principle like lattice QCD. There are many facilities under operation and construction; for example, (Super)KEKB, LEP(2), J-PARC, BEPSC II, GSI/FAIR, JLab, RHIC etc. It is also noted that LHC experiments are producing a lot of interesting results in this field. In this conference, about 190 oral presentations were delivered to the plenary session, and five parallel sessions for heavy hadrons, light hadrons, hadron interactions, nucleon structure and hadrons in medium. About 20 presentations were also made in a poster session. Also 4 talks were given in a special session to the memory of Prof. Dmitry Igorevich Diakonov, who past away on December 26th 2012. Almost all the presentations have been written up for these proceedings. The full scientific program and presentation materials can be found at <http://hadron2013.kek.jp>.

We would like to thank the International Advisory Committee for their invaluable assistance in coordinating the scientific program and in helping to identifying many speakers. Thanks are also due to the Local Organizing Committee for tireless efforts for smooth running of the conference and very enjoyable social activities. This conference was co-hosted by researchers from KEK, Nagoya University, Nara Women's University, RCNP Osaka University and RIKEN Nishina Center, who are the core of the grant-in-aid program for innovative scientific research area "Elucidation of new hadrons with a variety of flavors". We would like to thank the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan (MEXT) for their support to our research under the program and also for support to host this conference.



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