

Preface

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This volume reports recent advances in experimental and theoretical research performed in the field of Heavy Ion Collisions (HIC). The study of fragmentation and clustering phenomena is enriched by the development of sophisticated theoretical calculations, mostly belonging to the category of transport theories. This volume traces back its main ideas to the fortunate days in early 2000 year when the CHIMERA and INDRA collaborations decided to introduce the IWM series of HI Conferences, recently updated to IWM_EC to include clustering phenomena and their interlinks to the nuclear equation of state.

This workshop was successful as demonstrated by the number of participants exceeding 80 scientists, including a significant participation by students and postdocs. The number of oral presentations was 46 and about 12 posters were shown.

The topics presented in this proceeding are of relevant importance in both theoretical physics and experimental methods. The volume collects the response of a lively group of expert participants in a meeting oriented towards the achievement of new ideas. Also, It presents the status of art in our field, useful to undergraduate and PhD students. In the Preface of the IWM 2005 proceedings, the following was reported: “The ultimate reason for any scientific research is to understand the physical world, and its peculiar activity requires huge individual and collective efforts of thought and imagination as well as an efficient organisation of the research where the free communication of results shared among scientists is an essential tool”. To these statements greatly contributed M.F. Rivet, who at that time was one of the members of the IWM 2005 editorial board. After many years, we are convinced that those ideas serve as guidelines of our present activity.

We hope that the production of this volume is valuable and pleasant to the readers.