Discussion Meeting on Statistical Mechanics of Threshold Activated Systems

The Institute of Mathematical Sciences
C.I.T. Campus, Taramani, Chennai 600 113
March 24–26, 2003

The last few decades have seen rising interest in the study of many physical processes – all of which have in common the feature of their dynamics being activated when a system variable exceeds a threshold. Examples are sandpile models, granular flow, excitable media, fracture or breakdown, neural networks, Barkhausen noise, market models, etc. Many of these systems, though by no means all, exhibit several common features such as non-equilibrium critical behavior, burst-like relaxation, avalanches with power-law statistics, etc. The object of the meeting is to bring together active researchers working on these different systems to achieve an understanding of the general principles underlying threshold activated dynamics which gives rise to the common observed features as well as the crucial differences among the various systems.

Speakers

- **Garani Ananthakrishna** — IISc, Bangalore
- **V. Balakrishnan** — IIT, Chennai
- **Mustansir Barma** — TIFR, Mumbai
- **Shobo Bhattacharya** — TIFR, Mumbai
- **Bikas K. Chakrabarti** — SINP, Kolkata
- **Deepak Dhar** — TIFR, Mumbai
- **Alex Hansen** — Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Norway
- **Jun-ichi Inoue** — Hokkaido University, Japan
- **Kimmo Kaski** — Helsinki University of Technology, Finland
- **Janos Kertesz** — Technical University of Budapest, Hungary
- **S. S. Manna** — SNBNCBS, Kolkata
- **K. P. N. Murthy** — IGCAR, Kalpakkam
- **Rahul Pandit** — IISc, Bangalore
- **Prabodh Shukla** — NEHU, Shillong
- **Sudeshna Sinha** — IMSc, Chennai
- **Dietrich Stauffer** — University of Cologne, Germany

Organizers: **Purusattam Ray** and **Sitabhra Sinha**, IMSc, Chennai
Please contact the organizers or see **http://www.imsc.res.in** for further information.

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