

Final Technical Report

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Award Recipient

Regents of the University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

Project Title

High Energy Theory Workshops and Visitors at the Michigan Center for Theoretical
Physics FY16

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September 8, 2016

Period Covered

August 1, 2015 – July 31, 2016

Report: High energy Theory Workshops and Visitors at the Michigan Center for Theoretical Physics FY16

This award primarily supported the activity:

- Emergent Themes in String Theory, Ann Arbor, MI, September March 15-19, 2016

A small portion of the funding went to support the ongoing Young High Energy Theory Visitor Program (September 2015–May 2016).

The Michigan Center for Theoretical Physics (MCTP) hosted the 5-day workshop "Emergent themes in String Theory" this winter, March 15 - 19, 2016. on the University of Michigan campus. The primary local organizers were Henriette Elvang and Steve Naculich (on sabbatical from Bowdoin) with assistance from postdoctoral researchers Uri Kol, John Golden and Daniel Mayerson (all U of M). Brian Willett (KITP/UCSB) served as an external organizer.

We had 20 invited external speakers, of which 18 were junior researchers, either at the postdoc level or recently appointed assistant professors. This inclusion of junior researchers was a stated goal of the proposal. This made for a vibrant atmosphere with lots of interactions and discussions. For about half of the participants, this was their first visit to U-M. In a survey following the workshop, All respondents rated the quality of the scientific program in the highest two categories, "Excellent" or "Good". 43% of participants expected their interactions at the workshop to result in new projects, and another 43% answered "maybe" to this question.

The meeting covered a variety of topics, with 21 talks on subjects including entanglement entropy (e.g. Sully, Dong), scattering amplitudes (e.g., Trnka, Monteiro), developments in the AdS/CFT correspondence (e.g., Jafferis) and the conformal bootstrap (e.g., Simmons-Duffin).

Slides are available for many of the workshop's talks at

<https://sites.google.com/a/umich.edu/emergent-themes-workshop/workshop-itinerary>

The YHET visitor program invited weekly young visitors to the University of Michigan campus to present their work. The majority of the program was supported by University funds, with this award partially supporting the visits of two speakers.

Slides are available on line for talks provided by speakers for both workshops and the YHET visitor program on the MCTP website at:

<http://mctp.physics.lsa.mctp.edu>