

Preface

The workshop “Perspectives in Radiative Transfer and Interferometry” took place from 14–16 May 2007 in the Château de Pizay, France. It was initiated by the Radiative Transfer Working Group of the Interferometry Network within OPTICON which is funded by the European Union.

This Radiative Transfer Working Group was created with the goal to promote connection and coordination between different European Institutes and Teams which are working in the fields of radiative transfer and long-baseline interferometry. One of the main action items identified during two meetings of this working group in December 2004 (Nice) and June 2006 (Paris) was to organize this workshop during which problems in the field of radiative transfer should be identified which are expected to become important within the next 5 years due to the recent development in optical and infrared long-baseline interferometry: What current astrophysical questions will become accessible? What new astrophysical questions will arise? To what level of development radiative transfer solvers will have to be taken to answer these?

During the 3-day workshop centered on round table discussions, experts in radiative transfer and interferometry discussed the above topics for various fields of astrophysical research: Stellar atmospheres, the gas and dust in the circumstellar environment of young and evolved stars, and AGN tori. In these proceedings the summary of the discussions is presented.

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