

PREFACE

On the 21st of October 1992 the Governing Body of the Complutense University of Madrid created a new Research Institute named Instituto Pluridisciplinar, to pursue basic and applied research in the fields of Brain Mapping, Fluids and Theoretical Physics, NMR Spectroscopy and, Molecular Beams and Laser Spectroscopy, with emphasis placed on interdisciplinary research.

To commemorate this event in the field of Molecular Beams and Laser Spectroscopy a Workshop on “New Trends in Laser Spectroscopy” was organized and held in June 1997. The aim was to gather well known specialists to discuss the most relevant advances in the field, and also provide a stimulating opportunity for the young Spanish Scientific Community. The meeting was a great success and it was agreed that the scientific papers presented should be made available in a more permanent form. We have therefore gathered together most of the main contributions in this volume.

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