

Introduction

This issue is devoted to the Thirteenth International Conference on Quantum Electronics (Laser and Electro-Optics) 1985 (CLEO 85) held in May 1985 in Baltimore. This included a celebration of twenty five years of lasers with five special lectures by Nobel Laureates who pioneered the laser. In all there were approximately 5000 participants at the conference. One of the sixteen sections was devoted to Laser Fusion and Laser-Produced Plasmas, and the Chairman of the Program Committee for this section, Dr. Alexander Glass, President and Executive Officer of KMS Fusion, in cooperation with the Organizing Committee of CLEO 85, very kindly accepted our invitation to collect together some of the more significant papers for publication in **LASER AND PARTICLE BEAMS**.

These papers represent the main thrust and new developments in the field. The collection contains the first publication in a refereed journal of the results on the krypton fluoride lasers in the large Los Alamos project. Another highlight is the Japanese GEKKO XII laser with details of the work which a few weeks later resulted in the breakthrough of 1.2×10^{12} DT fusion neutrons with 8 kJ laser pulses, subsequently reported in October 1985 at the Monterey conference **LASER INTERACTION AND RELATED PLASMA PHENOMENA**. The other papers are typical of the very high level of the CLEO conferences with their well known restrictions on acceptance of papers.

I thank Dr. Alex Glass and the CLEO conference for the decision to favour this journal for publication of these contributions and especially Dr. Glass for his kind endeavours in collecting the manuscripts.

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