



Special Issue Reprint

Laser-Driven Accelerators, Radiations, and Their Applications

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Particle accelerators and radiation based on radio-frequency (RF) cavities have significantly contributed to the advancement of science and technology in the most recent century. However, the rising costs and scales for building cutting-edge accelerators act as barriers to accessing these particle and radiation sources. Since the introduction of chirped pulse amplification technology in the 1990s, short-pulse, high-power lasers have enabled the realization of laser-driven accelerations and radiation sources. Laser-driven accelerators and radiation sources could be a viable alternative to providing compact and cost-effective particle and photon sources. An accelerating field in a plasma, driven by intense laser pulses, is typically several orders of magnitude greater than that of RF accelerators, while controlling the plasma media and intense laser pulses is highly demanding. Therefore, numerous efforts have been directed toward developing laser-driven high-quality particle beams and radiation sources with the goal of paving the way for these novel sources to be used in a variety of applications. This Special Issue covers the latest developments in laser-based ion and electron accelerators; laser-plasma radiation sources; advanced targetry and diagnostic systems for laser-driven particle accelerators; particle beam transport solutions for multidisciplinary applications; ionizing radiation dose map determination; and new approaches to laser-plasma nuclear fusion using high-intensity, short laser pulses.



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