



**Mississippi State University  
Center for Computational Sciences  
Annual Report FY2013**



**CCS**

## Director's Note

The Center for Computational Sciences (CCS) at Mississippi State University is a College of Arts and Sciences center with a mission to foster interdisciplinary research in both the fundamental understanding of and application of all natural sciences. In particular, to model and develop integrated computational crosscutting tools that allows a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach to problem solving.

The major research activities/initiatives of CCS include: (1) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site in Applied Mathematics and Biostatistics; (2) a Center for Autonomic Computing; (3) Modeling Materials for Sustainable Energy; (4) An NSF funded project on high-Tc superconductivity phenomena in layered organic and inorganic materials; (5) DOE funded project on rare-earth-free nanostructure permanent magnets; and (6) Image processing in bio-inspired materials design. Major events/proposals already planned in the near future include: (a) Ninth Mississippi State - Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham Conference on Differential Equations and Computational Simulations; and (b) An NSF Proposal for Materials Research Science and Engineering Centers (MRSEC).



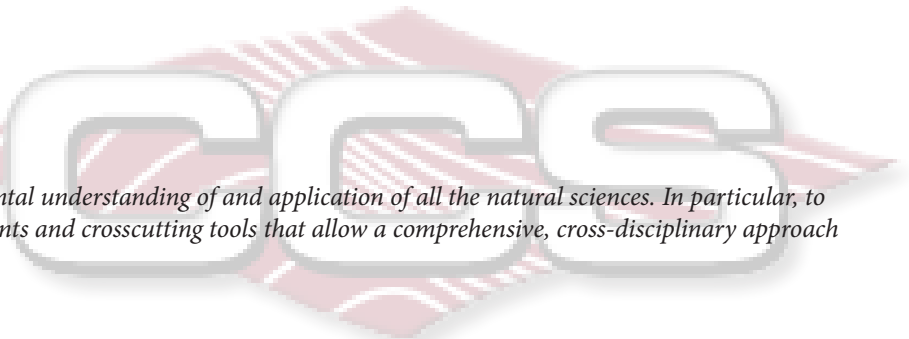
This report will provide synopsis of these activities/initiatives, the list of CCS Personnel, the recent awards and recognitions, and research publications. Also included in the report are the details on funding activity. Overall, this year has been a successful year for CCS. We look forward to building on this platform, to achieve greater excellence in coming years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seong-Gon Kim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Seong-Gon Kim  
Director, Center for Computational Sciences  
Professor  
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Mississippi State University

## Mission

*To foster interdisciplinary research in both the fundamental understanding of and application of all the natural sciences. In particular, to model and develop integrated computational environments and crosscutting tools that allow a comprehensive, cross-disciplinary approach to problem-solving.*



# CCS Personnel



Director: Seong-Gon Kim, Professor, Physics and Astronomy

Associate Director: Hyeona Lim, Associate Professor, Mathematics and Statistics

## Biological Sciences

Christopher Brooks, *Associate Professor*

Vincent Klink, *Assistant Professor*

Lisa Wallace, *Associate Professor*

## Chemistry

Steven Gwaltney, *Associate Professor*

## Computer Science and Engineering

Ioana Banicescu, *Professor*

Song Zhang, *Associate Professor*

## Electrical & Computer Engineering

Sherif Abdelwahed, *Assistant Professor*

Yaroslav Koshka, *Professor*

## Industrial and Systems Engineering

Hugh Medal, *Assistant Professor*

## Mathematics and Statistics

Seongjai Kim, *Associate Professor*

Hyeona Lim, *Associate Professor*

Suzanne Shontz, *Assistant Professor*

Jonathan Woody, *Assistant Professor*

Xingzhou Yang, *Assistant Professor*

Shantia Yarahmadian, *Assistant Professor*

## Physics and Astronomy

Anatoli Afanasjev, *Professor*

Matthew J. Berg, *Assistant Professor*

Torsten Clay, *Associate Professor*

Dipankar Dutta, *Associate Professor*

Seong-Gon Kim, *Professor*

Mark Novotny, *Professor and Department Head*

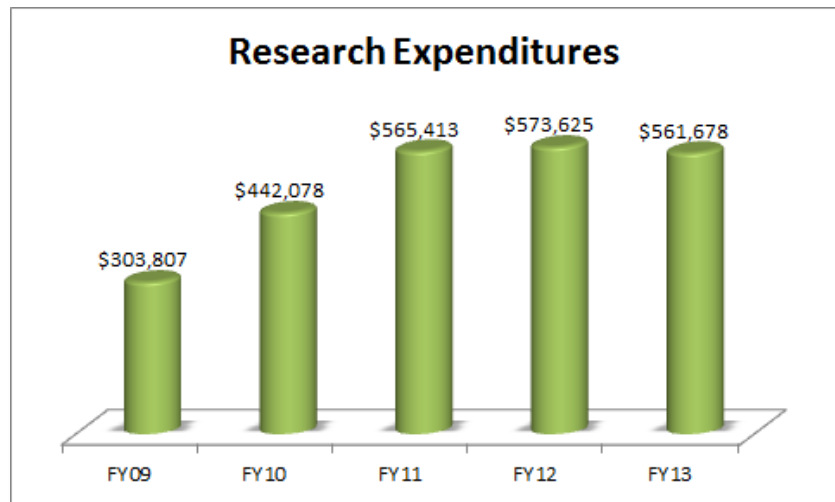
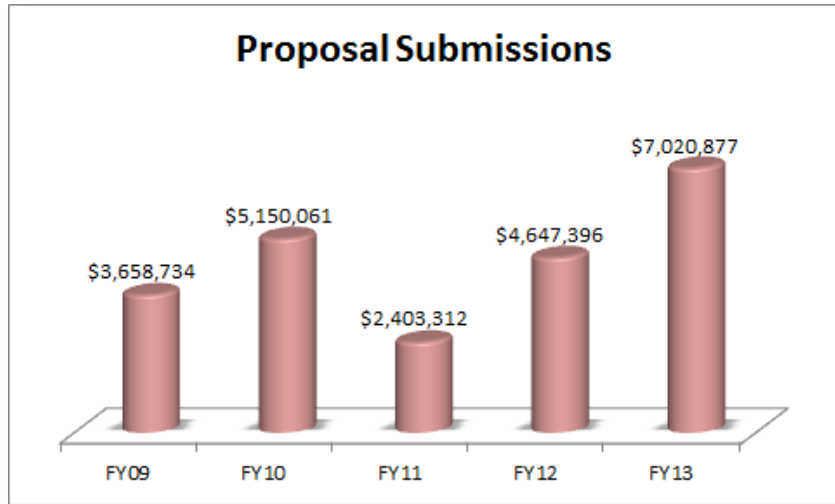
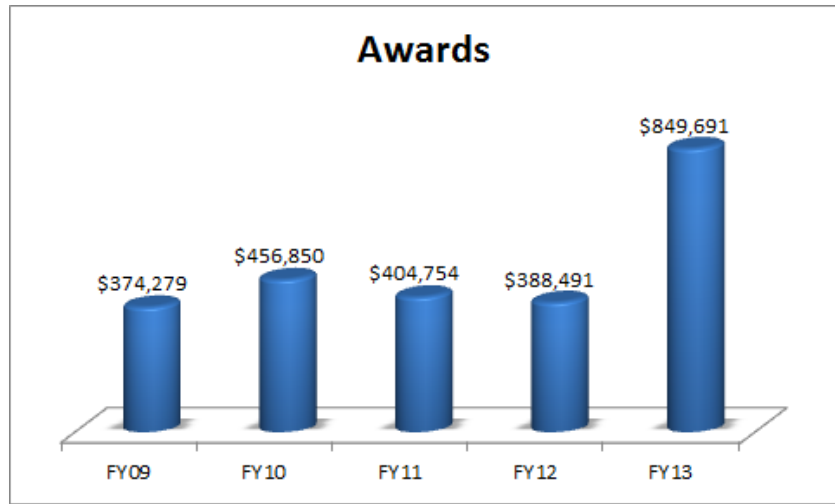
Gautam Rupak, *Assistant Professor*

Jinwu Ye, *Associate Professor*

## College of Veterinary Medicine, Basic Sciences

Henry X.-F. Wan, *Associate Professor*

# Research Activities

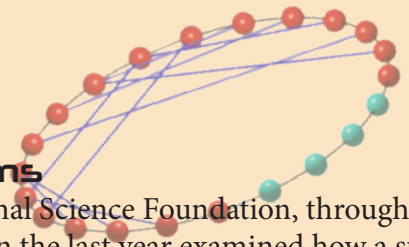




# Research Highlights

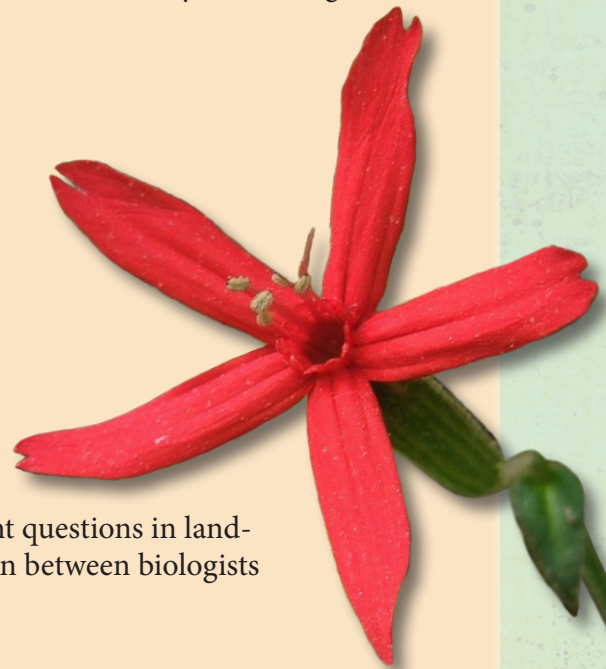
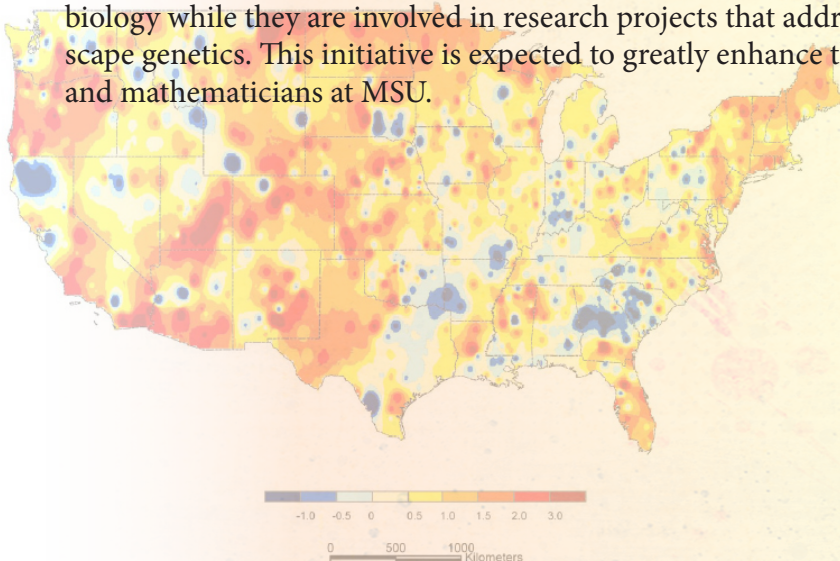
## Equilibration for Classical and Quantum Systems

The work described below is supported in part by a grant from the National Science Foundation, through the Division of Materials Research. Two papers by Prof. Novotny published in the last year examined how a subsystem of an isolated physical system approaches what can be regarded as thermal equilibrium. The work was performed with collaborations in Germany, The Netherlands, and Japan. One study was for classical models, ones where Newton's equations describe the time evolution of the system. The other was for quantum systems, where the time-dependent Schrödinger equation describes the time evolution of the system. The figures are from the study of a quantum system, published in Physical Review A. The study was very computationally intensive. For example, once curve in the article required 300,000 core hours on an IBM 16384 BG/P (Blue Gene P) using 1024 Gigabytes of memory. A general case was considered theoretically and definite predictions of how quantum entanglement changes with the size of the quantum bath were obtained. One example system studied in the paper is shown, namely a one-dimensional ring of quantum spins  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles, but with only a small number of spins measured (the four cyan sites in the figure). The bath, in the figure the eighteen red sites, also were on a ring, and could have small-world connections between sites (the blue bonds). One question related to the effects of randomness, with the prediction that any small amount of randomness would be sufficient for the system to go to the theoretically predicted value, which depends on the number of sites. For reasonable amounts of randomness this is the case as shown in the graph. However for small randomness extremely long times were required before the system approached the theoretically predicted value. In particular the red and blue curves for small randomness do relax to the theoretical value, but as shown only for very long times. The time development of all the eigenvalues of the quantum density also had a physical interpretation, and led to very interesting curves such as the one shown.



## Landscape Genetics of Plant-Pollinator Interactions-Integrating Models and Data

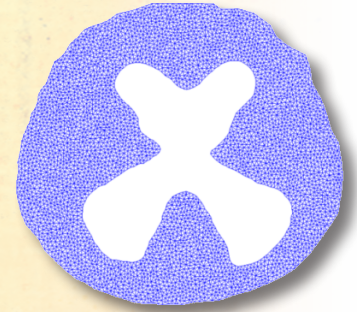
This project led by Prof. Christopher Brooks aims at providing three year research experiences for MSU undergraduate participants. Participants will be provided a comprehensive educational exposure to mathematical biology while they are involved in research projects that address important questions in landscape genetics. This initiative is expected to greatly enhance the interaction between biologists and mathematicians at MSU.





## Parallel Dynamic Meshing Techniques for Simulation-Assisted Medical Interventions

The overall goal of this NSF CAREER project led by Prof. Suzanne Shontz is to research and develop parallel dynamic meshing algorithms, theory, and software for use in the design of patient-specific medical interventions, such as improved prevention of pulmonary embolism and treatment of hydrocephalus. Pulmonary embolism is a blockage in one or more arteries of the lungs usually caused by a blood clot which has broken free from a deep vein, such as the inferior vena cava (IVC), and traveled to the lungs. Hydrocephalus is a neurological disease in which excess fluid accumulates in the brain, causing the ventricles of the brain to swell, and often causing brain damage. Current simulations of blood clot entrapment by IVC filters and evolution of the brain ventricles in hydrocephalus treatment are of low accuracy. In collaborations with researchers at Penn State, the University of Utah, the University of Waterloo, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Mississippi State, we are developing novel, parallel dynamic meshing algorithms to generate anatomically accurate patient-specific meshes which arise in such simulations. Our parallel dynamic meshing algorithms are used for mesh warping and mesh quality improvement problems that arise based on the patients and medical devices in these simulations. The algorithms will be encapsulated in the form of a parallel dynamic meshing toolkit for use in simulation-assisted medical interventions, as well as numerous other applications, and is being developed for use on a distributed-memory parallel architecture.



## Center for Autonomic Computing

Prof. Ioana Banicescu and Sherif Abdelwahed received an NSF planning grant and have submitted a full proposal to the NSF as well as for the Federal Initiatives Funding. The prospective activities of the Center for Autonomic Computing at Mississippi State University aim towards the development of model-driven frameworks, based on model-based or model-free approaches, for autonomic computing systems and applications.



**CAC**

Center for Cloud and Autonomic Computing

Fall 2012 Semiannual Meeting

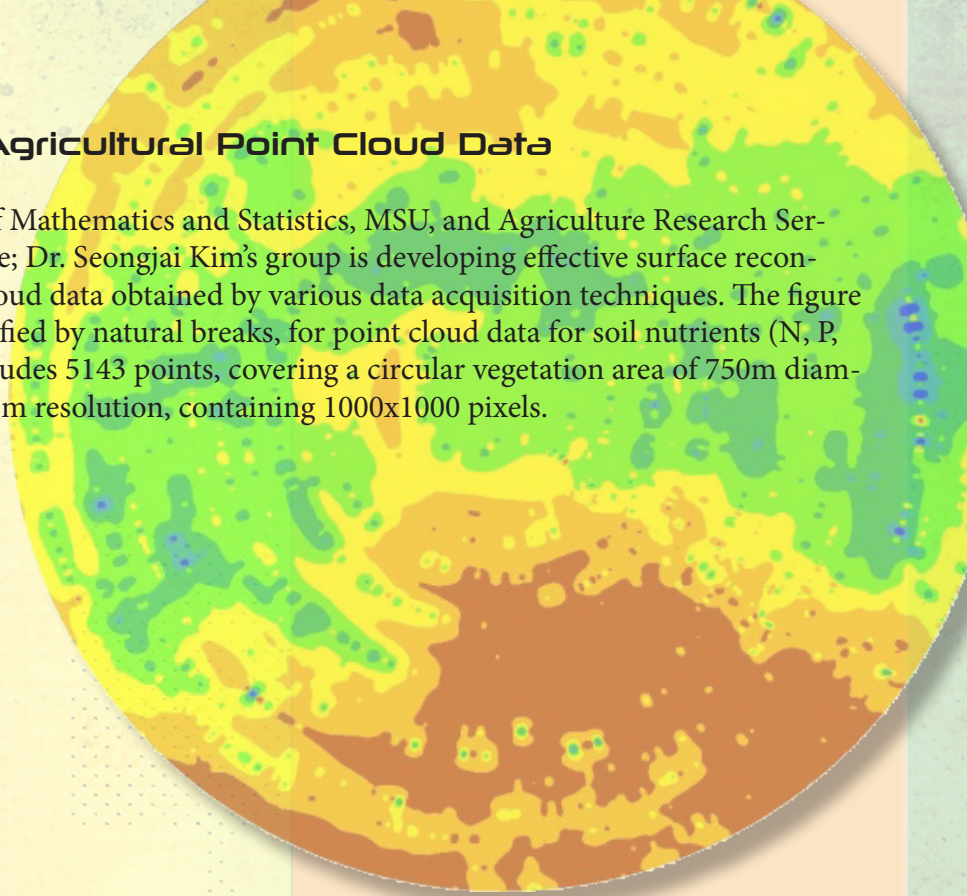
December 10 & 11, 2012

Mississippi State University



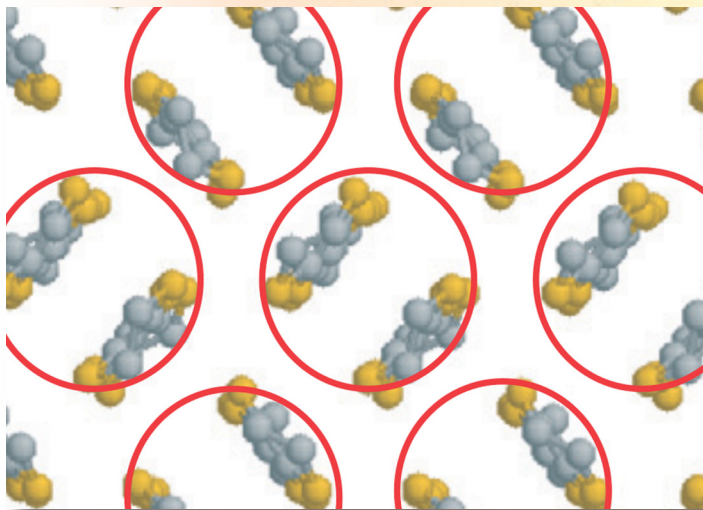
## Surface Reconstruction for Agricultural Point Cloud Data by Curvature Interpolation

As a joint project between the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, MSU, and Agriculture Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture; Dr. Seongjai Kim's group is developing effective surface reconstruction algorithms for agricultural point cloud data obtained by various data acquisition techniques. The figure below shows the reconstructed surface, classified by natural breaks, for point cloud data for soil nutrients (N, P, K), acquired in March 2013. The data set includes 5143 points, covering a circular vegetation area of 750m diameter in Mississippi Delta. The image is in 0.75m resolution, containing 1000x1000 pixels.



## Theory of Layered Organic and Inorganic Materials with Charge-spin Frustration

In a frustrated material the lattice arrangement prevents local energy constraints from being satisfied, leading to a large degeneracy of quantum states and highly unusual electronic properties. Most theoretical work to understand frustration has been carried out on quantum spin models where charge degrees of freedom have been frozen out. In this project led by Prof. Torsten Clay, CCS researchers are investigating materials with lattice frustration where instead charge as well as spin degrees of freedom remain important at low temperatures. One application is to the two-dimensional organic superconductors  $\kappa$ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ X. In these materials the occurrence of antiferromagnetism indicates that electron-electron interactions are significant. An effectively 1/2-filled frustrated Hubbard model is commonly used to describe these materials, where pairs of organic molecules are replaced by a single effective site. We have recently demonstrated however that superconductivity is not present in this model. We are currently performing calculations including electron-electron correlations on a full monomer model for this system. Our goal is to understand the origin of the antiferromagnetic state, whether a proposed quantum spin liquid (QSL) state can occur, and how these are related to superconductivity.

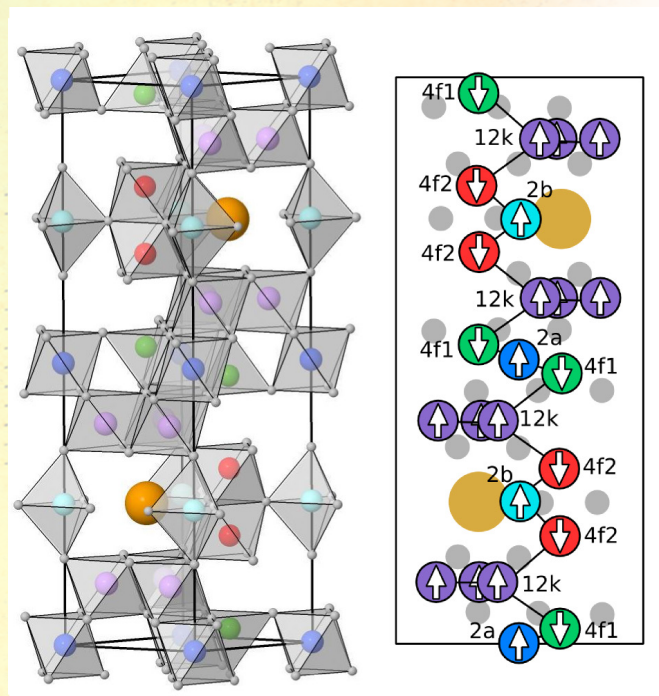


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## Computational Material Design of Rare Earth-free Magnetic Materials

The next generation of sustainable energy applications, such as electric vehicle motors and windmill generators, demand more powerful permanent magnets. Rare-earth (RE) magnets, such as Nd-Fe-B and Sm-Co, are the strongest permanent magnets commercially available today. Although these magnets exhibit the best performance two important obstacles must be overcome for continued full utilization of these permanent magnets in sustainable energy applications. One is the low operation temperature range of these RE-based permanent magnets, and the other is the limited supply and high and unstable price of the RE metals. CCS researchers led by Prof. Seong-Gon Kim of Department of Physics and Astronomy use ab-initio computational methods to identify suitable dopants and their optimum concentration to add to base RE-free permanent magnetic materials such as Ba/Sr-hexaferrites and MnBi magnets. This research is funded by the Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) of the Department of Energy (DOE) under the Rare Earth Alternatives for Critical Technologies (REACT) program.



## Education and Outreach

CCS hosted the NSF funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Program in Applied Mathematics and Biostatistics program led by Prof. Hyeona Lim. Several highly talented undergraduate students were selected and spent their summers on MSU campus and successfully finished research projects under the supervision of CCS faculty members. In order to disseminate new findings from our REU program, a one-day Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) workshop was also organized for Mississippi and a few other states' high school teachers in mathematical sciences.

The 9th Mississippi State-UAB Conference on Differential Equations and Computational Simulations was held on October 4-6, 2012 in McCool Hall, at MSU. With the NSF grant, graduate students and recent Ph.D.s supported for travel expenses. There were total 131 registered participants from 8 different countries. There were 10 plenary talks by the world-renowned researchers and there were also 64 contributed presentations by researchers in various disciplines working on differential equations and computational simulations.





# Publications

## Patents

M. J. Berg and G. Videen, "Methods and apparatus for contact-free holographic imaging of aerosol particles," (USPTO application filed March 2012, S/N: 13/423,825).

M. J. Berg, "Particle-assisted light concentration for solar photovoltaics," (USPTO provisional application filed November 2012, S/N: 61/796,112).

## Peer-reviewed Journals

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F. Jin, T. Neuhaus, K. Michielsen, S. Miyashita, M.A. Novotny, M.I. Katsnelson, and H. De Raedt, "Equilibration and Thermalization of Classical Systems," *Physical Review A*, volume 87, article 022117 [13 pages], (2013).

R. Ceolato, N. Riviere, M. J. Berg, B. Biscans, "Electromagnetic scattering from aggregates embedded in absorbing media," *Progress In Electromagnetics Scattering Research* (accept-ed, in press 2013).

R. Ceolato, M. J. Berg, N. Riviere, "Spectral and angular light-scattering from silica fractal aggregates," *J. Quant. Spectrosc. Radiat. Transfer* (accepted, in press 2013).

"Probing Flavor-Dependent EMC Ect with WBoson Production," W.-C. Chang, I. Cloet, D. Dutta and J.-C. Peng, *Phys. Lett. B* 720, 188 (2013).

"Color transparency: Past, present and future," D. Dutta, K. Hafidi, and M. Strikman, *Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys.*, 69,1 (2013).

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Dayal, S., Clay, R. T., & Mazumdar, S. (2012). Absence of Long-range Superconducting Correlations in the Frus-

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C. Varghese and M.A. Novotny, "Quantum Transport through Fully Connected Bethe Lattices," *Inter. J. Mod. Phys. C*, 23, (2012) 1240010 [10 pages] invited.

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