

Welcome to NOLTA 2002

Welcome to Xi'an and welcome to NOLTA 2002.

This is the first time for NOLTA, the annual International Symposium on Nonlinear Theory and its Applications, to be held in China, Xi'an, the capital city of the Shann'xi Province with a long history and famous for its cultural attractions. Xi'an, called Chang'an in antiquity, is the biggest city in Northwest China. Since B.C 1134, Xi'an served as the capital of the thirteen dynasties including West Zhou (B.C 1134–B.C 711), Qin (B.C 221–B.C 206), West Han (B.C 202–8 A.D) and Tang (618 A.D–907 A.D) successively, and lasted a period of more than ten centuries. The famous Silk Road has its starting point at Xi'an. There are abundant culture legacies, scenic spots and historical sites in Xi'an, such as the world-famous underground Army of Terracotta Warriors of the first Qin Emperor, the thousand-year-old Big Wild Goose Pagoda and the best preserved and biggest ancient city wall in the world.

The theme of NOLTA 2002 is the significant advances on Nonlinear Theory and its Applications. This theme is intended to highlight new ideas and contributions related dynamical systems theory, biocybernetics, learning and memory, self-organization, neural nets, fractals, cellular automata, and related forms of chaos, bifurcations, nonlinear dynamics, and complexity theories to economics and the life sciences, and their applications. It is my hope that this symposium will provide a broadened and deepened technical interaction between the various researchers and practitioners, research institutions in nonlinear theory community. I also hope this conference will serve as an important forum for cross-disciplinary interaction.

I wish to express my gratitude to those persons and organizations that helped to make NOLTA 2002 possible, especially to the symposium committee members for their extraordinary work, to the members of the Technical Program Committee for their efforts and careful reviews.

I thank you all and hope that you have a pleasant stay in Xi'an.



Nanning Zheng

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General Co-Chair, NOLTA 2002