

A good turnout for the CERN Accelerator School's 1988 General Accelerator Physics Course, held at Salamanca in Spain.

(Photo S. Turner)



from abroad, looking at the three major areas of TASC research – heavy ion reaction mechanisms, fundamental beta decay and nuclear structure at high spin, – discussions on the latter leading to a gamma ray spectrometer experiment immediately following the workshop.

ACCELERATORS Spanish steps

In September, the CERN Accelerator School (CAS) held its third General Accelerator Physics Course, the venue this time being Salamanca, the oldest university in Spain.

Spain, which rejoined CERN in 1982, now has a vigorous and steadily growing high energy physics community making substantial contributions to physics detector development and successfully involving Spanish industry. However the embryonic accelerator commu-

nity cannot yet generate an equivalent level of activity, and this important channel for introducing new high technology into industry has yet to be fully exploited.

However interest in accelerators and the concomitant spinoff technology is growing rapidly, as demonstrated by the decision of the Centre for Industrial Development to award ten scholarships for Spanish students attending the course. Hopefully this initial Spanish enthusiasm for accelerators will continue.

The intense lecture course, supplemented by seminars on accelerators and on industrial spinoff, was attended by over a hundred students, including for the first time participants from Iraq and Saudi Arabia. The School was organized by CAS in collaboration with the 'Comisión interministerial de Ciencia y Tecnología, the Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Mediambientales y Tecnológicas, the Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico e Industrial, and the University of Salamanca.

Industrial collaboration

The special November issue of the CERN Courier was given over to the increasing collaboration between particle physics and industry. Several contributions arrived too late for inclusion in that issue.

TRIUMF Medical applications

TRIUMF, Canada's national subatomic research laboratory in Vancouver, is based on a 520 MeV cyclotron providing 150 microamp proton beams. While most researchers are interested in pure particle and nuclear physics research, TRIUMF's Applied Programme Division has other objectives.

The Applied Programme has traditionally concentrated on medical areas. There is an active positron emission tomography (PET) programme; radioisotopes are produced both for PET and for use as tracers or standards; an intense beam of negative pions is used for cancer therapy; and a small commercial cyclotron (suitable for isotope production at hospitals) is being designed and built in conjunction with local industry.

Non-medical applications include neutron activation analysis of mineral samples by an industrial assaying company, and an electronics laboratory developing new kinds of gallium arsenide charge-coupled devices (eventually to be manufactured commercially).