

**UNSTABLE CURRENT SYSTEMS AND
PLASMA INSTABILITIES IN ASTROPHYSICS**

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In the past decade rapid development has occurred in the fields of Astrophysics, Space Science, and Plasma Physics. The new generation of space observations has led to an increasing requirement for a thorough understanding of processes that occur in magnetized plasmas. The realization that essentially the same plasma processes must be understood for many problems related to astrophysical, space, and man-made plasmas has led to a greater need for interdisciplinary meetings involving experts from these diverse fields. This Symposium represents the first attempt within the International Astronomical Union to bring together scientists from these disciplines. Papers on topics as diverse as jets from the nuclei of active galaxies, solar flares, and planetary magnetospheres were presented and enthusiastically discussed by the Symposium participants. These papers and most of the subsequent discussions are reproduced in this volume. These Proceedings represent an important step in bringing together in a single volume papers representing recent progress in overlapping disciplines which until now have not interacted strongly.

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