

| Abstract ID & Poster Board # | Presenter (Affiliation)                                      | Title   | Student award level | Accepted track                                      |
|------------------------------|--|---|---------------------|---|
| 18                           | Japie Engelbrecht (Nelson Mandela University)                | An anomaly in a formula to calculate the refractive index of $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{(1-x)}\text{As}$  | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 24                           | Jean Jules Mboukam (Tshwane University of Technology)        | Structural and electrical transformations of Ag-implanted polyethylene terephthalate (PET) induced by swift heavy ion irradiation   | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 28                           | Iynet Allan (University of Nairobi)                          | First-Principles Study of $\text{ZrCo}_2\text{Y}/\text{ZrCoY}$ ( $\text{Y}=\text{Sb, Bi, As}$ ) Interface for Thermoelectric Applications   | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 29                           | Edwine Ntobe Matlou (University of Limpopo)                  | Potential Manganese Oxide ( $\text{MnXOY}$ ) Catalysts for Oxygen Reduction Reaction (ORR)  | Honours             | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 37                           | Mamogo Masenya (iThemba LABS)                                | Stopping Force Measurements of $^{12}\text{C}$ , $^{28}\text{Si}$ , and $^{59}\text{Co}$ Ions in Platinum Foils using Time-of-Flight Spectrometry   | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 40                           | Bradley Nemutudi (University of Limpopo)                     | Interactions of s-triazine, xanthate and dithiocarbamate collectors on platarsite (100) surface at different pH conditions: A DFT-D3 study  | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 42                           | Ivyn Ndhlovu (University of Limpopo)                         | Investigate the bulk and surfaces properties of $\text{PtAs}_2$ , $\text{PtSb}_2$ and $\text{PtBi}_2$ PGMs using the Ab-Initio Molecular Dynamics (AIMD) with Machine Learned Force Fields (MLFF) technique       | MSc                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 44                           | Sibusiso Nqayi (University of Johannesburg)                  | Application of Crystal Field Theory in Understanding Magnetic Transitions: Correlating Structural, Chemical, and Magnetic Properties in $\text{Sm}_2\text{MnB}'\text{O}_6$ ( $\text{B}' = \text{Mn, Ce and Ru}$ ) | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 53                           | Bridget Mokgabudi (University of Limpopo)                    | Effects of Tin ( $\text{Sn}$ ) doping on the layered $\text{LiMnO}_2$ cathode material for Lithium-ion batteries  | Honours             | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 56                           | Mubarak Yagoub (University of Johannesburg)                  | Up-conversion and thermometric performance of $\text{CaF}_2:\text{Tb}^{3+}, \text{Yb}^{3+}$ material  | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 66                           | Azile Same (University of Fort Hare)                         | Ab initio study of Structural, energetic, electronic, and mechanical properties of $\text{Pmmn-V}_2\text{O}_5$ and $\text{Pnma-V}_2\text{O}_5$ polymorphs through Density Functional Theory Analysis              | MSc                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 77                           | Christy Graced   | Adsorption behavior of ternary $\text{Fe}_1\text{-XYXAl}$ alloy with $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{O}_2$  | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 97                           | Tshepo Ronaldo Maaka (University of Limpopo)                 | Investigation of the $(\text{Pt,Pd})\text{BiTe}$ and $(\text{Pt,Pd})\text{Te}_2$ bulk and surface stability at 300K using AIMD-MLFF   | MSc                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 100                          | Pabalelo Malatjie (University Of Limpopo)                    | $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ Surface Studies and Adsorption of $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_2$ Nanocluster   | Honours             | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 108                          | Precious Makhubela (University of Limpopo)                   | Analysing Core-Shell Compatibility During the Cycling Process Using Molecular Dynamics Simulations  | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 111                          | Mallasaitiwa Mphahlele                                       | Investigating the effects of Nickel and Phosphorus on the properties of copper using a first-principles approach.   | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 118                          | Mphamela Enos Baloyi (University of Limpopo)                 | The effect of Ce and Gd on the magnetic and mechanical properties of $\text{Nd}_2\text{Fe}_{14}\text{B}$ permanent magnets  | None                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 123                          | Macheba Matakane (Sefako Makgatho Health Science University) | Hydrothermal Synthesis of $\text{ZnO-TiO}_2$ : $\text{Yb}^{3+}/\text{Ho}^{3+}$ Phosphor Heterostructures for Up-conversion Luminescence Applications.   | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 133                          | Oswald Roberts   | Insights into the Structural, Thermodynamic, Electronic, and Mechanical Properties of $\text{CaMn}_2\text{O}_4$ Polymorphs via Density Functional Theory Analysis   | PhD                 | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |

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| 137                                | Sanele Dlamini (University of Mpumalanga)                         | Structural and Magnetic Properties of $\text{Ni}_{0.5}\text{Mo}_{0.5}\text{Al}_{0.1}\text{Fe}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ (M = Zn, Mn, Mg) Ferrites  | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 141                                | Luwty Swanepoel   | Investigation of Poly(2,5)-benzimidazole (ABPBI)-Carbon Nanotube Composites for LEO Applications: An Integrated Computational and Experimental Study  | Honours                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 145                                | Pankaj Mohanty (University of Johannesburg)                       | Synthesis and characterization of $\text{Gd}_2\text{CoTO}_6$ (T = Mn, Fe)   | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 148                                | Khomotso Maenetja (University of Limpopo)                         | First-Principles Study of Nb/Mn Doping on $\text{LiNiO}_2$ (101) Surface And It's Interaction With Ethylene Carbonate   | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 151                                | Kagiso Mashishi (University of Limpopo)                           | Theoretical Insights into Mooihoekite: A DFT-D Investigation of the bulk properties.  | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 154                                | Caroline Ratlhagane   | Annealing-Driven Structural and Optical Properties in $\text{BaAl}_2\text{O}_4/\text{MgAl}_2\text{O}_4:\text{Tb}^{3+}$ Mixed-Phase Nanophosphors Prepared by Citrate Sol-Gel Method                               | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 155                                | Mmeshi Jassicon Hiine   | First-Principles Study of Mn-Doped $\text{LiNiO}_2$ (101) Surface and Its Interaction with Ethylene Carbonate Electrolyte   | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 160                                | Malili Matshaba   | Surface Properties of Nickel and Silver Metals  | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 162                                | Mongezi Sean Mthimkulu  | Optimisation-Deposition and Conversion of Lead Halide Thin Films to 2D Metal Halide Perovskite Thin Films via Low-Pressure CVD  | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 167                                | Machaba Leanyatsa Abraham Letswalo (University of Johannesburg)   | Study on the impact of $\text{Pr}^{3+}$ , $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ , and $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ions on luminescence properties of $\text{BaB}_8\text{O}_{13}:\text{Gd}^{3+}$ for potential applications in phototherapy.       | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 171                                | Amanda Sefage (University of Johannesburg)                        | Luminescence Study on the Impact of Alkaline Earth Metal Ions on $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4:\text{Ce}^{3+}$ Phosphors for Colour Display Applications.   | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 180                                | Eldas Maesela (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)    | Polyethylene glycol stabilized rGO/AuNP nanocomposites: Enhanced stability for sensing and biomedical applications.   | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 188                                | Segoarihle Ntobeng (University of Limpopo)                        | Computational insights into the bulk and surface properties of cobaltite: A combined DFT-D+U and atomistic simulation study   | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 202                                | Chewe Fwalo (University of Pretoria)                              | Probing the catalytic effects of beta-12 borophene cathode on various lithium and sodium oxide discharge products: A first-principles study   | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 203                                | Brian Lutendo Munyai (Sefako makgatho health sciences university) | Annealing time-dependent Structural, morphological, and optical properties of $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ -doped $\text{BaAl}_2\text{O}_4/\text{MgAl}_2\text{O}_4$ mixed phases nanophosphors synthesized via sol-gel method | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 211                                | Samkelo Bixa  | $\text{ZnMn}_2\text{O}_4$ -Based Anode Materials for Advanced Li-ion Batteries: A Study on the Impact of Co, Ni, and Cu partially substitution on Electrochemical Performance.                                    | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 215                                | Ncembu Onke Ngubelanga (University of Zululand)                   | Structural and Optical properties of rare-earth doped Magnesium ferrites  | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 223                                | Leago Heaven Pitsa (University of Limpopo)                        | First-Principles Study of Anion-Doped $\text{LiTi}_2(\text{PO}_4)_3$ Solid Electrolytes.  | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 224                                | Bonginkosi Richard Zikhali (University of Zululand)               | Investigation of the radiation shielding properties of borosilicate glass configurations with varying concentration of $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ , $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ , and $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$            | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |

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|------------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|
| 232                                | Thato Manyama (University of Limpopo)                   | Exploring the bulk and surface structures of ZnS, FeS <sub>2</sub> and PbS minerals using AIMD-MLFF technique.  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 233                                | Peace Mkhonto (University of Limpopo)                   | Interaction of modified heterocyclic collectors with chalcopyrite mineral surface   | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 235                                | Sikho Maxhayi (University of Fort Hare)                 | Ab Initio Studies of Structural, Thermodynamic, Magnetic, and Mechanical Properties of Mn-Ir Alloys   | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 239                                | Redrisse Djoumessi Fobasso (University of Johannesburg) | Thermodynamic Properties of (Pr,Gd)OsGa <sub>4</sub> Intermetallic Compounds  | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 241                                | Redrisse Djoumessi Fobasso (University of Johannesburg) | Perovskites in the Quantum Age: Bridging Materials Science and Technologies   | None                   | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 248                                | Andile Mazibuko (University of Limpopo)                 | Modelling the thermodynamic properties of TiCl <sub>3</sub> medium  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 249                                | Njabulo Sithole (University of Limpopo)                 | Optimising Buckingham interatomic potentials for use in molecular dynamics using DFT total energies Na-doped Li-rich Li <sub>1.2</sub> Mn <sub>0.8</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Cathode Simulation        | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 255                                | Khulekani Manqele                                       | Effect of hydrogen in the migration of Sr implanted into SiC  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 267                                | Thabiso Mathews (University of Pretoria)                | Surface Modified Glassy Carbon for Improved Fibronectin Protein Adsorption and Bioactivity in Bone Implants   | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 270                                | Bridgette Kabekwa                                       | AB-INITIO study of structural, elastic, electronic and optical properties of ABX <sub>3</sub> based perovskites for solar cell application  | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 271                                | Lucas Melato (Wits University)                          | Atmosphere-Dependent Annealing of ZnO Nanoparticles: Implications for Photodetector Performance and Electrochemical Response  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 272                                | Arnold Mutubuki (Nelson Mandela University)             | Structural and optical properties of natural single crystalline TiO <sub>2</sub>  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 274                                | Tshegofatso Mashabela (University of Pretoria)          | Growth Kinetics and Structural Evolution of Apatite Coatings on Titanium Alloy in Simulated Body Fluid.   | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 275                                | Emmanuel Diutlwetse Magasi (University of Johannesburg) | Investigating the Correlation between Magnetic and Photoluminescent Properties of Fe <sup>3+</sup> doped ZnAl <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> : A Multifunctional Material for Emerging Applications. | MSc                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 280                                | Samson Singo (University of Limpopo)                    | Examining the structural, mechanical and electronic properties of Si-C composite for next-generation anode material   | Honours                | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 281                                | Barnard Molala (University of Limpopo)                  | Ab initio density functional theory of Fe <sub>5</sub> Ni <sub>4</sub> S <sub>8</sub> (P4 <sub>2</sub> /nmc) (311) and (111) surfaces : Computational study                                       | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 286                                | Ntokozo Cebekhulu                                       | Investigation of samarium-doped hematite nanostructure prepared by hydrothermal method: characterization and application  | PhD                    | Track A - Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials |
| 11                                 | Mbulelo Dondolo   | Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Calculating Health Effects Associated with a Potential Nuclear Accident in the Vicinity of a Nuclear Facility   | PhD                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics   |
| 32                                 | Edward Nkadimeng (iThemba LABS)                         | Technology Innovation Platform at NRF-iThemba LABS  | None                   | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics   |
| 35                                 | Oluwakayode Oyedokun (North-West University)            | Fuzzy-based criterion for groundwater quality classification in some rural parts of North-West Province, South Africa   | None                   | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics   |
| 71                                 | Vuako Maluleke (University of Venda, iThemba LABS)      | Enhancing Gamma-Ray Spectrometry Through Convolutional Neural Networks and Kolmogorov-Arnold Networks   | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics   |

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| 125                                | Tshegofatso Bokhutlo (Botswana International University of Science and Technology) | Characterization of instrumental background in a (p, $\gamma$ ) reaction, studied at the iThemba LABS Tandatron facility  | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 127                                | Thabo Pilusa (University of the Witwatersrand)                                     | Burn-in Testing for Transformer-Coupled Buck Converters in the ATLAS Tile Calorimeter's Low Voltage Power Supplies  | PhD                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 179                                | Ernest Ejeh (iThemba LABS)   | Multiple Outer-Shell Ionization Induced by Heavy Ion Impact on Bi, Gd, and Y Targets.   | None                   | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 200                                | Nosihe Msabala (University of Zululand)  | Investigation of X-rays and Gamma-ray Shielding Properties of Heavy Metal Oxide Glass Materials   | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 213                                | Nidhi Tripathi   | Comparative Analysis of Deep Neural Networks and XGBoost for $\gamma\gamma + \tau$ Signal-Background Classification Using Monte Carlo Data at the LHC                                 | PhD                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 240                                | Karabo Tau (University of the Witwatersrand)                                       | Using Machine Learning algorithms in the search for dark photons with the ATLAS detector at the LHC.  | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 250                                | Vongani Chabalala (University of the Witwatersrand)                                | Quality Assurance for LVPS Bricks in the Phase-II Tile Calorimeter Upgrade.   | PhD                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 265                                | Gcobani Ntshobeni (University of Pretoria)   | The influence of helium (He) bubbles on the migration behavior of silver (Ag) and strontium (Sr) co-implanted into polycrystalline silicon carbide (SiC) during isochronal annealing. | PhD                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 430                                | Joshua Browne (University of Cape Town)  | Study of Parton Distribution Functions using the Muonic Decay Channel of Electroweak Bosons at ALICE  | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 450                                | Stephen Friday OLUKOTUN (North-West University)                                    | Nuclear Forensic Science: A Tool for Mitigating Environmental Impact and Risks Associated with Nuclear Wastes   | None                   | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 508                                | Gaurav Lall (University of the Witwatersrand)                                      | FLUKA Simulations of Gamma Irradiation Effects on Dynode Materials for the ATLAS TileCal  | None                   | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 521                                | Salmaan A Barday (University of Cape Town)   | Track Matching Using ML Techniques in the ALICE Muon Forward Tracker  | MSc                    | Track B - Nuclear, Particle and Radiation Physics |
| 46                                 | Sipho Chauke (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)                      | A comparison of two biosensing recognition elements using SPR for the detection of drug-resistant genes   | PhD                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 186                                | Christopher Rawlings (University of the Witwatersrand)                             | How to Build and Benchmark an Optical Neural Network Using Multimode Fibres   | MSc                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 308                                | Jacques Buys (Stellenbosch University)   | Computational framework for light-sheet fluorescence image processing.  | MSc                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 310                                | Vasili Cocotos (University of the Witwatersrand)                                   | Simulating the Sky: Digitizing Atmospheric Turbulence   | MSc                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 320                                | Cade Peters (Univeristy of the Witwatersrand)                                      | The behaviour of vectorial structured light through real-world atmospheric turbulence   | PhD                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 321                                | Hadrian Bezuidenhout (University of the Witwatersrand)                             | Matrix Optimisation with Light-speed Multiplication   | MSc                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 323                                | Pedro Dinis Ornelas (University of the Witwatersrand)                              | Protecting quantum information using topological armour   | PhD                    | Track C - Photonics                               |
| 327                                | Sachleen Singh   | Nonlinear control of structured light   | PhD                    | Track C - Photonics                               |

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| 334                          | Neelan Gounden (University of the Witwatersrand)                                     | Deconstructing a high dimensional mug into 2 dimensional donuts   | PhD                 | Track C - Photonics      |
| 346                          | Moslem MahdaviFar (University of the Witwatersrand)                                  | 3D printed optics achieves broadband structured light   | None                | Track C - Photonics      |
| 366                          | Shuailing Wang (Tongji university)   | Enhancing the Robustness of Structured Light Communication via Skyrme Number in Complex Medium  | PhD                 | Track C - Photonics      |
| 384                          | Tatjana Kleine (University of the Witwatersrand)                                     | Engineering Exotic Hybrid States  | MSc                 | Track C - Photonics      |
| 392                          | Fazilah Nothlawala (University of the Witwatersrand)                                 | Grover's ghost: Quantum searches in a new light   | MSc                 | Track C - Photonics      |
| 424                          | Michael Mcoyi (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)                       | Label-free optical biosensing as an alternative for HIV-1 drug resistant mutation detection   | PhD                 | Track C - Photonics      |
| 572                          | Subith Kumar Purakkatteri Meethal  | Hilbert's Hotel paradox Using structured light  | None                | Track C - Photonics      |
| 573                          | Ram Kumar (University of the Witwatersrand)  | Spatially resolved spin angular momentum mediated by spin-orbit interaction in tightly focused spinless vector beams in optical tweezers                              | None                | Track C - Photonics      |
| 38                           | Joseph Omojola (North-West University)   | The impact of geomagnetic storms and solar proton events in May and October 2024 on South Africa's upper atmosphere, compared to the historical event of October 2003 | None                | Track D2 - Space Science |
| 47                           | Goratomang Ann Gaedie (North-West University/South African Astronomical Observatory) | Developing a critical component of a fiber cable for the Affordable Multiple Aperture Spectroscopy Explorer Prototype (AMASE-P)                                       | MSc                 | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 70                           | Christo Pretorius (North-West University)  | MHD simulations of Lambda Cephei like astrospheres  | Honours             | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 84                           | Muano Mbedzi   | Long-term Be disc structural study of Be X-ray binaries using MeerLICHT   | Honours             | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 169                          | Marcel van der Westhuizen (North-West University)                                    | Understanding Interacting Dark Energy from a Dynamical Systems Analysis Approach  | PhD                 | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 194                          | Obakeng Phiri  | The evolution of the 98 GHz ACT source population since $z = 4.5$   | MSc                 | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 254                          | Sello Motsoane   | Search for variable stars in Kepler database  | Honours             | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 263                          | Thando Kekana (University of Johannesburg)   | The Evolution of the Infrared–Radio Correlation with Redshift and Stellar Mass for galaxies in the MIGHTEE COSMOS field.  | PhD                 | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 295                          | Jaydon Durow   | Identification of Cosmic Filaments using the Simba-C simulation and DisPerSE Filament Finder  | Honours             | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 410                          | Raees Noorbhai (University of the Witwatersrand)                                     | The Evolution of the Dark Matter Paradigm   | None                | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 455                          | Javeria Makda (University of the Witwatersrand)                                      | Looking for axion decay around a black hole   | PhD                 | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 486                          | Phemelo Motloba (North-West University)  | Using different Vlsr 's to obtain better-pointing statistics and source confusion insights  | Honours             | Track D1 - Astrophysics  |
| 182                          | Amarachi Albert (University of Johannesburg, Laser Research Centre)                  | TGF- $\beta$ Pathway Modulation: A Key Mechanism of Photobiomodulation Induced Tenogenesis  | None                | Track C - Photonics      |