

Half a century of condensed matter physics in Latin America: a personal perspective

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Condensed matter (or solid state) physics in Latin America has seen an impressive development during the last half century. From a relatively small and inexperienced community we have grown into a mature one which contributes, at a very competitive level, to the development of the field worldwide. For our region these have been difficult years, from the economic, social and political perspective. Nevertheless, the progress of condensed matter physics has been much larger than the wildest expectations we had five decades ago. Acceptedly, it shows a degree of development that varies strongly from one country of the region to another, but the average is more than satisfactory. I will review general trends and focus on some particular events, specially those in which for better or worse I participated in, and that have also marked me as a person and scientist.

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