

## **Preface**

Since the previous symposiums held in Hong Kong (1992, 2000), Beijing (1994), Hiroshima (1996), Seoul (1998), Sydney (2002) were so successful and fruitful, AEPA has now become a major biannual event in the field of engineering plasticity. The Seventh Asia-Pacific Symposium on Engineering Plasticity and Its applications (AEPA2004) held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at Shanghai Jiaotong University, P.R.China, provides a free forum for exchanging the new ideas, communicating the research information and presenting the latest advances to the researchers and the engineers in this field.

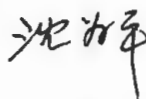
This proceedings contains 192 papers selected from more than 300 submissions, covering a wide range of topics including damage and failure, constitutive modeling, rate-dependent and time-dependent behaviors, micromechanics, fatigue evaluation, numerical simulation technique, advanced materials, forming and machining, superplasticity, and structural stability. Each paper was subjected to a critical review by the experts in the relevant area.

The organizing committee wishes to sincerely thank the referees and the international scientific committee for their careful review on the papers. The help from the AEPA international steering committee, which is very important in making AEPA2004 a success, is greatly appreciated. Thanks are also due to all the keynote lecturers, authors, and participants for their support.

The symposium was sponsored by the National Nature Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 10410301062), and Shanghai Jiaotong University.

Lastly, on behalf of the organizing committee of AEPA2004, I warmly welcome all participants to Shanghai, and wish them a rewarding symposium and an enjoyable stay in Shanghai.

W.P.Shen



Chairman

AEPA2004 organizing committee

