

# FOREWORD

The present 14-th volume of the "Odessa Astronomical Publications" contains papers submitted by the participants of the international scientific conference "Variable Stars - 2001", after revising the reports and taking into account discussions. This conference is traditional and, since 1982, is organized in Odessa once per four years. This subsequential conference was held in Odessa from August 20 till August 25, 2001, and was devoted to the 130-th anniversary of the Astronomical observatory of the Odessa National University named after I.I.Mechnikov and to the memory of the director of the observatory in 1945-1983 years, the outstanding variable star researcher of the twentieth century, Professor Vladimir Platonovich Tsessevich (1907- 1983). The previous conference "Variable stars" was held in 1997 out of sequence and was devoted to the 90-th anniversary of the birthday of V.P.Tsessevich.

In the conference took part 116 participants from 16 countries of the world. 5 Plenary meetings and 9 sectional meetings in total were held, on which 143 reports were presented, from which 24 reports were plenary, 68 - sectional oral and 51 - poster presentations. During the conference, worked three basic sections and five joined sections. The themes of basic sections concerning the physics of binary, pulsating and eruptive stars. Joined sections worked on problems, close to the basic subjects: variable radiosources, microlensing, stellar magnetism and stellar atmospheres, and also on software and instrumental support and large astronomical data bases. The summer international astronomical school of the young scientists "Astronomy at the junction of sciences: Astrophysics, Astrochemistry, Astrobiology" was joined to conference.

The international scientific conference "Variable stars - 2001" was held with the financial help of the INTAS and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. It was organized by the Astronomical observatory and Department of Astronomy of the Odessa National University, Odessa radio-astronomical observatory of the Institute of a radio astronomy of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Odessa Astronomical Society with an effective support of the Ukrainian Astronomical Association (Kiev) and Euro-Asian Astronomical Society (Moscow). The large help in fixing the topics of the conference was rendered by the members of the Scientific Organizational Committee and especially the chairman Professor N.N.Samus', and also convenors of all basic and joined sections, for whom I express the sincere thanks.

The scientific papers, published in the present volume, are located on sections, declared at the conference, in the correspondence with subjects of conference, according to an alphabetic order (in each section) of the authors. Unfortunately, before the deadline, not all the lecturers have submitted their works, probably, by deciding them to process, or to submit to other journals. Therefore, the current 14-th volume of the "Odessa Astronomical Publications" contains only a part of scientific reports from that presented at the conference. Totally, in the volume are included 82 scientific papers by 133 authors. The electronic version of the papers are available via Internet at the WWW-address: <http://oap14.pochtamt.ru>). *The editorial board of the journal hopes, that the materials published in the present volume, will discover the interested reader.*

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