

FOREWORD

This volume of "Odessa Astronomical Publications" contains the contributions that have been presented by the participants of International conference Interacting Binary Stars. Mentioned conference is dedicated to the memory of Prof Vladimir Platonovich Tsessevich, who was the supervisor of professional astronomy in Odessa from 1944 to his death in 1983. Among a variety of his scientific interests, "Interacting Binary Stars" took one of the most important directions. Before the Second World War, he had computed extended tables for determination of the parameters of eclipsing binary stars. During his active life, he had observed hundreds of binary stars of various types, with a special interest to classical eclipsing systems, as well as to cataclysmic variables. Nowadays, this scientific direction is one among main activities of the staff of the Department of Astronomy and Astronomical Observatory of the Odessa National University.

The international conference Interacting Binary Stars was held in Odessa (August 18-22, 2003) and appeared to be a very fruitful one. The topics included "Accretion onto gravimagnetic rotators" (polars, synchronizing polars, intermediate polars, systems with neutron stars); "Accretion and Positive vs Negative Superhumps in Dwarf Novae vs Nova-like cataclysmic stars"; "Symbiotic, WR, double-degenerate, pre-cataclysmic and X-ray binaries"; "Classical" eclipsing binaries; "Physical variability of components from seconds to decades" (with a special attention to white dwarfs, Delta Scuti, semi-regular and Mira-type pulsators, flare and Nova events, solar-type activity); "Multiple stellar systems and extrasolar planets"; "Advanced Methods for Observations and Mathematic Modeling"; "Inter-Longitude Astronomy Projects"; "Interacting Binary Stars and Astronomical Education" and "New variable stars from the Hipparcos and other large surveys".

At the conference had been presented 19 plenary lectures, 37 oral and poster reports and 10 review lectures. Altogether, 82 scientists from Ukraine, Russia, Belorussia, Chechia, Germany and Iran had presented their contributions.

At the concluding session all the participants made an unanimous resolution to regularly organize such conferences in the future with a period of 4 years and in between to organize such special sessions of all astrophysical conferences in Odessa. The next conference "Interacting Binary Stars" has been scheduled for 2007 in Odessa and will be devoted to the 100-th Anniversary of the birthday of Prof. V.P.Tsessevich (1907-1983).

The conference was combined with the Summer International school of young astronomers Astronomy and beyond: Astrophysics, Cosmology and Astrobiology. The conference and the Summer school were organized by astronomers of the Department of Astronomy and Astronomical Observatory of Odessa National University, Radioastronomical Observatory URAN-4 of Radioastronomical Institute of Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, and members of Odessa Astronomical Society under the support from Ukrainian Astronomical Association (Kiev) and Euro-Asian Astronomical Society (Moscow). The participants expressed their thanks to the chairman of the Organizing Committee Prof. Ivan L.Andronov, scientific secretary of the conference Lidia L.Chinarova, secretary Seda M.Melikiants and other members of LOC.

The published in this volume papers are systematized in the alphabetic order using the name of the first co-author. These contributions presented at the conference, can be found at <http://oap16.pochta.ru>.

Editorial Board expresses a hope that all the materials presented at the conference Interacting Binary Stars will be interesting for the specialists.

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