

FOREWORD

In 1993 a decade has passed since an outstanding scientist astronomer Vladimir Platonovich Tsessevich died. And we, his disciples and collaborators on the development of astronomy in Odessa, decided to organize a Conference in his memory. To his and many well-known scientist of the former Soviet Union were invited, those with whom we not only didn't lose touch but also kept close links as our Head of Astronomical Chair and the Director of Astronomical Observatory at the Odessa State University after I. I. Mechnikov, the founder of "Izvestija Astronomicheskoi Observatorii", a corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukraine, Professor V. P. Tsessevich had bequeathed us.

The present conference of 1993 happened to be both memorial and traditional. Within the last score of years this is already the third scientific conference of variable stars'investigators to have been held in Odessa. The two preceding took place in 1980 and 1987, the first being held on the initiative of V. P. Tsessevich. In 1984, in a year after V. P. Tsessevich death, the all-Union Conference of young scientists was held in his memory. The 1987 Conference was very representative and also in memory of an outstanding scholar V. P. Tsessevich who had studied nature of more than 500 variable stars of various types and described his findings in more than 600 scientific notices and papers.

The Scientific Conference "Modern problems of astrophysics" was held from 13 through 18 September 1993 under the aegis of the Astronomical Observatory of Odessa State University, Odessa Astronomical Society, Ukrainian Astronomical Association, International Astronomical Society in Moscow. 153 scientists from 6 countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States as well as astronomers from Canada, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, UK, USA contributed to the conference. The conference work was carried out at the morning plenary sessions and at the afternoon 4 section sittings. There worked the following sections: on physical variables, close binary stars, their atmospheres, variability of radio-sources and on the instrumental base of the observatory.

All in all 15 review research reports and 109 section informations were carried out. In many reports, the contribution made by V. P. Tsessevich to the investigation of variability in stars of various types was accentuated as well as his worthy lecturer's tenure and organizer's work on creating the Odessa Variable Star Investigators' School, his inexhaustible enthusiasm in popularizing astronomical knowledge by virtue of lectures and books. All 93 reports and informations delivered at the Conference and sent by authors for press have been published in original wording in the present volume subdivided into two parts. The contributions are published in the alphabetical order of the authors within sections, with an exception for short notes which are located into blank spaces. The Editor expresses gratitude to all the authors for the materials sent and hopes for further fruitful cooperation.