

FOREWORD

The present Proceedings contain the Invited papers, majority of the Contributed papers and the Posters, as accepted by the Scientific Organizing Committee of the XIII National Conference of Yugoslav Astronomers (the name "Yugoslavia" counted its last months of use at the time of the Conference). The contents are divided into five topical sections. The Contributed papers and the Posters were checked and evaluated prior to publication by referees appointed by the Scientific Organizing Committee, and only those recommended are included. Thanks to kindness of the Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade, these Proceedings appear in the series of Publications of the AOB.

It is the largest Proceedings of a National Conference of Yugoslav Astronomers so far, as judged either by the number papers, or that of pages, or of the authors.

It can be noticed that the number of Yugoslav astronomers interested in modern branches of astronomy has significantly increased. To illustrate the overall development of astronomy in Yugoslavia a list of M.Sc. and Ph.D. theses defended at the University of Belgrade between the previous and the present conferences is given. The contents of majority of these are presented either as contributed papers or as extended abstracts.

The number of foreign contributors (and even of foreign attendants) was larger than at any of the previous National Conferences of Yugoslav Astronomers. It is with great pleasure that we point out the significant participation of the scientists from Yugoslav diaspora.

The Scientific Organizing Committee express their gratitude to all participants for their efforts towards the success of the Conference. Also, the gratitude is due to sponsors of the Conference, namely the (then existing) Yugoslav Federal Secretariat for Science and Development, the Ministry of Science, Technology and Development of Serbia, the Mathematical Faculty of Belgrade, the Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade, the Ministry of Education and Sport of Serbia, the Students' Center in Belgrade, the Yugoslav Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Main Club of the Yugoslav Army, the Belgrade Bus Station, ECOFINANCE, SINEX, SELEKT, and VESTA companies from Belgrade.

Editors