

PREFACE

The Baltic Astronomy Meeting entitled “The Structure and Chemical Evolution of the Galaxy” was held in Vilnius on September 14–17, 1993, celebrating the 240th anniversary of the Astronomical Observatory of the Vilnius University. Thirty astronomers from Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Sweden participated in the meeting. Scientific sessions of the meeting were held at the Old Campus of the Vilnius University, the Vilnius Planetarium and the Molėtai Observatory.

Two kinds of papers were presented at the meeting: review papers and contributed papers. A number of contributed papers were given as posters. In this issue of “Baltic Astronomy” we present papers contributed to the meeting. In those cases when the authors failed to send us full texts of their papers in due time, we give only the abstracts of the contributions. The papers are presented in alphabetical order after the first author, except for the historical review of the Vilnius University Observatory.

The Baltic Astronomy Meeting was organized by the Vilnius University, the Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy, the Institute of Physics and the Vilnius Pedagogical University. We are grateful to all these institutions for support. We express our appreciation to the ITPA Planetarium for the possibility to use for scientific sessions their conference hall and other premises. Our thanks are due to all participants of the meeting, to session chairmen and to members of the Local Organizing Committee, whose joint efforts ensured the success of the meeting. Our thanks are also extended to the staff members of the Astronomical Observatory of the Vilnius University as well as to the staff members of the Molėtai Observatory who helped us in various stages of organizing the meeting.

Vilnius, September 1993

V. Straižys, J. Sūdžius

Scientific Organizing Committee: V. Straižys (Chairman, Vilnius), A. Ardeberg (Lund), Ju. Frantsman (Riga), G. Gahm (Stockholm), Z. Rudzikas (Vilnius), A. Sapar (Tartu), J. Sūdžius (Vilnius).

Local Organizing Committee: J. Sūdžius (Chairman), A. Ažusienis, S. Bartasiūtė, V. Bobinas, R. Drazdys, R. Kalytis, J. Sperauskas.