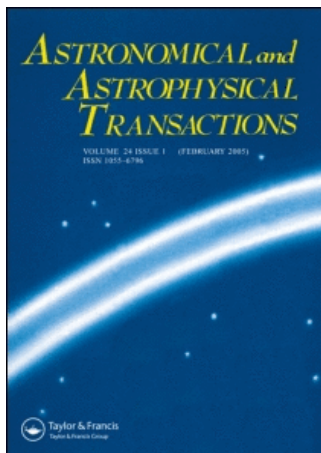


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Preface: "physics of neutron stars"

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PREFACE: "PHYSICS OF NEUTRON STARS"

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(17 July 1992)

The Workshop on physics of neutron stars was held in St. Petersburg, March 16–18, 1992. It was organized by the Department of Theoretical Astrophysics of the Ioffe Institute of Physics and Technology of the Russian Academy of Sciences (the Organizing Committee: D. A. Varshalovich, A. D. Kaminker and D. G. Yakovlev).

This is the second meeting of this kind in this country. The first Seminar on physics of neutron stars was organized in 1988 in Leningrad by the same Department of Theoretical Astrophysics of the Ioffe Institute (see *Astron. Zh.*, v. 65, 1333, 1988 for a brief review).

The present workshop brought together about 50 participants from 13 institutions of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Zelenchuk (Special Astrophysical Observatory). Practically all aspects of neutron star physics were discussed, theoretical and observational ones. The main attention was paid to the theory and theoretical interpretation of observational data. There were about 30 talks, including 7 reviews.

We are very grateful to those authors who presented their contributions. We hope that this collection of papers reflects, to some extent, all main directions of investigations in neutron star physics that were presented at the Workshop and that are being carried out in this country. Perhaps these contributions reflect also an exciting and creative atmosphere which, from our point of view, was typical of the Workshop in spite of economical difficulties experienced by science in this country nowadays. Hopefully, they will not prevent the development of scientific research, and the meetings on neutron star physics will be organized regularly, and at a much broader scale.

We are thankful to the administration of the Ioffe Institute for the help in organizing the Workshop. Unfortunately, owing to unstable economical situation, the Workshop was organized in a very short period of time. The Organizing Committee would like to apologize to those colleagues who were not informed in time.