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Astronomical & Astrophysical Transactions

The Journal of the Eurasian Astronomical Society

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713453505>

Preface

A. D. Chernin

Online Publication Date: 01 October 1999

To cite this Article: Chernin, A. D. (1999) 'Preface', *Astronomical & Astrophysical Transactions*, 18:2, 319

To link to this article: DOI: 10.1080/10556799908229768

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10556799908229768>

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Variable Stars and Star Complexes

Efremov Conference

PREFACE

This issue of the journal contains papers presented at the seminar ‘Variable Stars and Star Complexes’ held at the Sternberg Astronomical Institute (Moscow University) on May 27, 1997. The topics of the seminar correspond to the two main fields of scientific interest of Prof. Yuri Nikolaevich EFREMOV, and the seminar was dedicated to his 60th birthday. In each of the two fields, Yu. N. Efremov contributed as a pioneer. Thus, he was the first to establish the period–age relation for Cepheids. Based upon large amount of observational material, he introduced the concept of star complexes as fundamental building blocks of disk galaxies.

Besides important studies in these and other fields of astronomy, we also know Yu. N. Efremov for being an effective leader of a united team of scientists continuing the best traditions of Galactic astronomy in Moscow and attracting young talented people. He is a brilliant writer of popular science and a well-known fighter against pseudo-science.

The editorial board of the journal and the participants of the seminar are glad to have this opportunity to wish Prof. Yu. N. Efremov excellent health and new scientific achievements.

A. D. Chernin
The editor of the issue