

EDITOR'S PREFACE

The regular 3rd Interrepublic Symposium "Atmospheric and Oceanic Optics" was held in Tomsk in July 2 to 9, 1996. Unfortunately, insufficient funding made the organization of such a meeting difficult, but nevertheless the symposium was successful. 170 papers, including 11 invited papers were presented at the symposium. The committee work of the conference was the following:

Section 1. Absorption and scattering of optical waves in gaseous and condensed media (12 papers);

Section 2. Optical radiation propagation in randomly inhomogeneous media (19 papers);

Section 3. Image transfer and processing (11 papers);

Section 4. Nonlinear effects (10 papers);

Section 5. Radiation, clouds, aerosol, and greenhouse gases (37 papers);

Section 6. Optical, radiowave and acoustic methods of sounding of the atmosphere and the ocean (28 papers);

Section 7. Engineering and equipment for research into optics of the atmosphere and the ocean (36 papers);

Section 8. Ecological monitoring of air and water basins (16 papers).

During the symposium the two-stage competition of reports was conducted. As a result, the complex reports by the following authors won the first prize:

S.D. Tvorogov, G.A. Titov, T.B. Zhuravleva, E.I. Kas'yanov (IAO, Tomsk);

V.N. Marichev, S.I. Dolgii, V.V. Zuev, S.V. Smirnov, E.V. Sharabarin (IAO, Tomsk);

Yu.F. Arshinov, S.M. Bobrovnikov, I.B. Serikov, D.I. Shelefontyuk, V.K. Shumskii (IAO, Tomsk);

S.M. Sakerin, D.I. Kabanov, S.A. Turchinovich (IAO, Tomsk);

V.V. Barun (IP BAS, Minsk).

Yu.V. Mal'tseva, a young scientist from IAO, got the encouraging prize.

The same competition committee recommended the reports for the subsequent publication in the present topical issue. It is evident that again the same traditions of Russian science did not enable us to collect the papers of all the report list formulated by the committee. However, the presented issue consisting of 19 papers makes it possible to cover the subjects and the direction of the present-day studies of Russian scientists and our colleagues from the near foreign countries under the complex program "Atmospheric and Ocean Optics".

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