

Preface

Volume XXIIA of IAU Transactions contains the Reports on Astronomy by the Presidents of Commissions. These triennial Reports highlight the main progress in astronomical research during the period July 1990-June 1993. They concentrate on topics considered to be most important by each Commission and thus differ from exhaustive reviews or abstracts.

As the topics of IAU Commissions widely cover the various fields of astronomy, the Reports should be a useful tool for researchers wishing to gain an overview of a certain area, not necessarily their own, and should be helpful for subsequent, specific searches of the literature.

The Reports on Astronomy are compiled mostly by Presidents of Commissions or by Secretaries or Organizing Committee members of Commissions with material supplied by a team of Commission members, and thus varied in style. I am most thankful to all of those involved, for the efforts made into the preparation of these Reports.

I hope this volume will prove useful to the Astronomical Community and look forward for your comments as to improve them in the future.

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