

STRUCTURE AND EVOLUTION
OF THE GALAXY

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HELD IN ATHENS, SEPTEMBER 8-19, 1969

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PREFACE

The present volume contains papers presented during the Advanced Study Institute on the 'Structure and Evolution of the Galaxy' held under the auspices of the Science Committee, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Lagonissi near Athens, Greece between 8–19 September 1969.

Seventeen astronomers from eight countries acted as lecturers in the Institute, which was attended by sixty-three students from twelve countries. All the lectures given in the Institute were included in the volume with the exception of two lectures given by Professor P. van de Kamp on 'Stellar Parallaxes' and 'Objects of Very Low Mass', the manuscripts of which were not submitted in time in order to be considered for publication.

It is obviously impossible in a two-weeks course to cover the vast field of the Structure and Evolution of the Galaxy in all its aspects. Effort has been made, however, to give the students a general outline of the field. In addition to the lectures ample time was spent in discussions and personal contacts. In order to simplify the publication it was felt reasonable, however, not to include the discussions in the present volume.

It is a great pleasure for the Editor in his capacity as Scientific Director and Local Organizer of the Institute to thank all those who contributed to the success of the Institute. Especially he would like to express his sincere thanks to the following organizations and persons:

(a) To the members of the NATO Science Committee and the staff of the NATO Scientific Affairs Division, who approved the necessary funds and supported in many ways the organization of the Institute. Special thanks are due to the representative of the NATO Science Committee in the Institute Professor P. Bourgeois, who not only delivered during the Inaugural Ceremony of the Institute an invited lecture on the 'New Trends in the Activities of the NATO Science Committee' but also attended the lectures and took active part in the discussions.

(b) To the Greek Government and the Greek National Tourism Organization, which approved supplementary funds for the social events program of the Institute. Many thanks are also due to the Greek National Committee for Astronomy and especially to its President Professor J. Xanthakis for his support for the organization of the Institute.

(c) To the lecturers, who kindly accepted the invitation to teach in the Institute. In particular cordial thanks are due to Professor A. Blaauw for his helpful advice and suggestions during the preparation of the scientific program of the Institute.

(d) To the students for their active contribution to the discussions of the Institute.

Finally, the Editor wishes to express his gratitude to the officials and the staff of the D. Reidel Publishing Company for the excellent care they have taken in printing this book.

THE EDITOR

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