

# Abstracts

## ☞ Times of maxima and minima of mira variables in first half year 1986

(P. 42.)

In the first 6 months of the last year minima and maxima of 36 mira variables have been observed by PVH members. We organized the observations in a table, which is the continuation of the results published in Meteor 12. 1986.

## ☞ Total lunar eclipse, 17. 10. 1986.

(P. 22.)

Thanks to the good weather, many amateurs could observe this spectacular eclipse also in Hungary. The eclipse was fairly dark, it reached the second grade on the Danjon scale. During the totality the total luminosity of the Moon was  $-1^m$ . The penumbra was hot-red bronze colored, its edge was definitely sharp. We present some drawings on the lunar eclipse on the page 24.

## ☞ Meteors

(P. 26.)

In September and October 53 observers have been completed 364,8 hours of visual meteor observations, photographic observers photographed 9 meteors in 79,6 hours. The observers tried to follow the Giacobinids in October, but due to a mistake in the prediction only some members of the group were detectable. We could observe 22 Cassiopeids in 5,5 hours on 8/9 October. During the total lunar eclipse on 17. October a group of six members observed 42 meteors in 2 hours.

## ☞ On the estimation of the lifetime of meteor flashes

(P. 7.)

The authors deal with the accuracy of the estimation of the duration of meteor visibility. They asked an 8 members group to observe flashes induced in laboratory (artificial meteors). The durations of the flashes were known. Every group member had to observe 50 equally luminous artificial meteors, which lasted 0-1 second. It was found that the estimation of the length of the flashes is the less accurate in this interval. The authors try to apply a correction factor depending on the observer, which is supposed to decrease the systematic differences between the real and the observed lifetime. But this method seems to be doubtful, because the relative errors occurring in the estimations could be 100%, or even more.

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