

# Authors

## Prof. Dr. Viktor K. Abalakin (St. Petersburg, Russia)

Viktor K. Abalakin ist am 27. August 1930 in Odessa, Ukraine, geboren. 1953 hat er die I. I. Metschnikoff-Staatsuniversität Odessa im Fach *Astronomie* absolviert; 1953 bis 1955 hat er am Institut für Geophysik der UdSSR Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Moskau gearbeitet; 1955 bis 1957 arbeitete Abalakin am Institut für Theoretische Astronomie der UdSSR AW zu Leningrad; 1957 bis 1961 ist er ein Aspirant an der I. I. Metschnikoff-Staatsuniversität Odessa im Fach *Himmelsmechanik* gewesen; 1961 bis 1964 arbeitete Abalakin an der Universitäts-Sternwarte Odessa und an der Abteilung *Astronomie* der I. I. Metschnikoff-Staatsuniversität Odessa; 1964 bis 1985 ist Abalakin der Leiter der Ephemeridenabteilung des Instituts für Theoretische Astronomie der UdSSR AW gewesen; 1983 bis 2000 bekleidete Abalakin den Direktorposten an der Hauptsternwarte der UdSSR (Russischen) AW zu Pulkowo.

Zur Zeit (seit dem Jahre 2000) ist er ein Berater der Russischen Akademie der Wissenschaften an der Hauptsternwarte Pulkowo der RAS sowie der Leiter des Sektors für Geodynamik daselbst. 1961 war er für seine Dissertation *Über periodische Bewegungen von Sternen in ellipsoidalen Sternensystemen* zum Kandidaten der physikalischen und mathematischen Wissenschaften promoviert; 1978 wurde ihm ein akademischer Grad des Doktors der physikalischen und mathematischen Wissenschaften für seine Dissertation *Über Methoden für Berechnung der astronomischen Ephemeriden für extraterrestrische Beobachtungen* zuerkannt; 1982 wurde Abalakin sowie seinen anderen Kollegen der UdSSR Staatspreis für die kollektive Arbeit *Eine einheitliche Relativitätstheorie der Bewegung von großen Planeten des Sonnensystems* verliehen. Seine wissenschaftlichen Interessen liegen im Bereich der Himmelsmechanik, der Stelldynamik, der Geosowie Selenodynamik und der Astronomiegeschichte.

Mehr als 250 Monographien und Artikel sind von Abalakin veröffentlicht worden. Zu seinen wissenschaftlichen Veröffentlichungen zählen u. a. *Das n-Körperproblem in Himmelsmechanik und Kosmogonie* (die Übersetzung aus dem Russischen eines von H. F. Chilmly verfassten Buches (die Mitverfasser E. P. Aksjonow, W. G. Djomin, E. A. Grebenikow, J. A. Rjabow, 1972), *Theory of Artificial Earth Satellites Motion* (1974), einige weitere russische Bücher (1979), (1982), (2005), (die Mitverfasser I. I. Krasnorylow und J. W. Plachow, 1996).

Viktor K. Abalakin ist ein Mitglied der Internationalen Astronomischen Gesellschaft (seit 1967) und der Astronomischen Gesellschaft (seit 1970), ein korrespondierendes Mitglied der Russischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (seit 1987), ein Mitglied der International Academy of Ecology, Man and Nature Protection Sciences (seit 1997), ein Ehrenmitglied der Akademie für Kosmonautik (seit 1998) und der Russischen Akademie der Naturwissenschaften (seit 2006). Abalakin ist ein Ehrenbürger von Tucson, Staat von Ari-

zona, die VSA. Der Kleinplanet 2722 Abalakin ist nach ihm benannt worden.

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## Dr. Shylaja B. S. (Bangalore, India)

Dr. B S Shylaja obtained Masters (Physics) from Bangalore University, India. Later she obtained Ph D in astrophysics observing binaries with Wolf – Rayet components. The other fields of her interests are novae and cataclysmic variables, chemically peculiar stars, comets and asteroids. Of late, she has been interested in history of astronomy. Her publications include study of stone inscriptions, temples and development of astronomy in the colonial period in India. She has authored several books as part of her work at the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium in Bangalore, where she is actively engaged in teaching undergraduates and popularising astronomy along with research. The book *Eclipse – the Celestial Shadow Play* co authored with H. R. Madhusudana has an extensive coverage of the historical and cultural aspects.

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Dr. Lajos G. Balázs is Director of the Konkoly Observatory, in Budapest. His main research field is the stellar astrophysics, but he also is interested in the role that Miklós

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Dr. Christophe Benoist obtained his Ph.D. in physics in 1997 at the University of Paris X, France. After a postdoctoral position at the European Southern Observatory (Garching bei München, Germany), he has been Associate Professor at the Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur since 2000.

His main interests are two-folded: astrophysics and history of science. In astrophysics he is involved in projects related to cosmology and large scale structures of the Universe. In history of science he is studying the development of astronomy in the Ottoman Empire and more generally the astronomical developments made in the Islamic world and their relationships with European astronomy.

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James Caplan (BS in physics, University of Chicago; PhD in astronomy, Northwestern University; docteur d'état, université de Provence) is an *astronome* at the Observatoire de Marseille (as it was called before 2000), now the *Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille*, a division of the OAMP (*Observatoire Astronomique de Marseille-Provence*). He works

in the Interstellar Medium group, where he has specialised in the use of Fabry-Perot interferometry for the study of H II regions. He is currently interested in the history of astronomical instruments, and is in charge of the heritage programme of the OAMP.

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After the University degree in Physics (thesis on History of Astronomy), she has spent one year at the Paris Observatory, working on the Carte du Ciel archives.

She is currently Coordinator of the INAF Museum Service and Chair of the IAU C41 Working Group on Archives.

She is author of several publications on 19<sup>th</sup> century History of Astronomy, especially concerning instruments and archives.

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Gloria Clifton is Head Curator of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, part of the National Maritime Museum, London. Her interest in instruments began in 1989 when, after completing a Ph. D., she became a Research Officer for three years at Imperial College, London, working under Professor Gerard L'Estrange Turner on the development the British scientific instrument making trades. The results of this research were published in 1995 by the National Maritime Museum as the *Directory of British Scientific Instrument Makers c. 1550-1851*, by which time she had moved to the Museum as Curator of Navigational Instruments. Since then she has also published, amongst other things, 'Globe making in the British Isles', in E. Dekker, *Globes at Greenwich. A Catalogue of the Globes and Armillary Spheres in the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich* (1999) and 'The London Mathematical Instrument Makers and the British Navy,

1700–1850’, in *Science and the French and British Navies, 1700–1850*, ed. Pieter van der Merwe (2003).

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Dr. Sofía A. Cora obtained her Ph. D. in Astronomy in 1999 at the Faculty of Astronomical and Geophysical Sciences (La Plata National University, Argentina). She had postdoctoral positions at the Faculty of Astronomical and Geophysical Sciences (1999–2001) and at the Max-Planck Institute for Astrophysics (Garching by Munich, Germany, 2001–2003). She has been a Research Scientist of the National Research Council (CONICET) since 2002. Her research work involves the study of galaxies and intergalactic medium in different environments, mainly based on the use of numerical techniques. She had several Assistanships at the Faculty of Astronomical and Geophysical Sciences since 1992. In 2007 she obtained a Professor position (Relativistic Astronomy).

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## Dr. Suzanne Débarbat (Paris, France)

SD’s carrier, that took place entirely at the Observatoire de Paris, began in 1953 when she joined the staff as a part time calculator, being at the same time a student in astronomy at La Sorbonne. From 1955, she was successively assistant, aide-astronome, astronome adjoint and astronome titulaire, which were at that time the four levels for such a carrier. She is *Docteur d’Etat* and she was, from 1985 to 1992, director of the research group *Systèmes de référence spatio-temporels* of the *Centre national de la recherche scientifique*, and of the *Département d’Astronomie fondamentale* of the *Observatoire de Paris*, now named *Systèmes de référence temps-espace* (SYRTE), of which she is an *Associé* since her retirement. From 1975, after being asked by historians of astronomy, she worked – and is still doing so – on the history of the Observatoire de Paris, its astronomers, their instruments, works, discoveries, . . .

After publishing papers and one book (with B. Guinot), in her field of research as an astronomer, she has written quite a number of articles in various magazines, dictionaries, encyclopedies, . . . and she has, still in preparation, three books concerning the *Observatoire de Paris*.

She is a member of the *Académie internationale d’histoire des sciences* and of the International Astronomical Union

(commission 41, History of astronomy of which she was president, 1991/1994).

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## Dr. Inga Elmqvist Söderlund (Stockholm, Sweden)

MA in Business administration and MA in the History of Art.

Curator at the Observatory museum in Stockholm since 1996. With previous experience from several museums and exhibitions in the Stockholm region. Specifically interested in the material culture of the history of astronomy and the intersection of the arts and sciences. At present concluding the PhD thesis Taking possession of astronomy: The role of frontispieces and illustrated title-pages in books on astronomy during the 17<sup>th</sup> century at Stockholm university.

Various publications on the history of the old observatory of Stockholm (in the printed series *Observatoriemuseets skriftserie*). One article available on the internet: <http://www.ep.liu.se/ecp/030/015/ecp0830015.pdf>.

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Dr. Vidar Enebakk obtained his Ph. D. in Science Studies at the Center for Technology, Innovation and Culture (University of Oslo) in 2005. He then had a postdoctoral position at the Forum for University History (University of Oslo) focusing on Samuel Lilley and the social history of science in

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Dr. Juan C. Forte received his Ph.D. in Astronomy from La Plata National University (Argentina) and spent his post-doc period at Kitt Peak National Observatory (USA). His research field is connected with old stellar systems and their cosmological context. He is currently Full Professor (Stellar Astronomy) at the Faculty of Astronomical and Geophysical Sciences (La Plata University), where he was Dean (1992–1995). He has been member of the National Research Council (CONICET) since 1977. Since 2004 he belongs to the National Academy for Sciences (Córdoba, Argentina).

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Ian Glass was born in Ireland in 1939 and received his B. A. degree from Trinity College, Dublin. He holds a PhD in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He has held posts at MIT, the California Institute of Technology, the Royal Greenwich Observatory and the South African Astronomical Observatory and has been a visitor at several other institutions.

His main field has been infrared astronomy and he has published over 200 papers in this field. More recently he has specialised in astronomical history. He is currently an Astronomical Research Associate at the South African Astronomical Observatory and an Adjunct Professor at James Cook University, Queensland, Australia.

He has written four books: *Victorian Telescope Makers: the Lives and Letters of Thomas and Howard Grubb*, IOPP, Bristol and Philadelphia, 1997; *Handbook of Infrared Astronomy*, CUP, Cambridge, 1999; *Revolutionaries of the Cosmos: the*

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Metallurgical engineer (1980), D.Sc. in materials engineering (2005), head of Museology Department at MAST; vice-director and professor of conservation at the Master's Course of Museology and Heritage (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro State and MAST) since 2006; areas of interest: conservation of science and technology heritage, metals conservation, science and technology exhibitions, thesaurus of science and technology collections.

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Matthias Hünsch studied physics and astronomy at Hamburg university and received his Ph.D. at Hamburg observatory

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## Prof. Dr. Ruth Keller-Kempas (Berlin, Germany)

is professor for the conservation and restoration of Industrial Heritage and Modern Materials at HTW, University of Applied Sciences, Berlin. She was trained as a paper conservator in Zurich, Bern and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna. She received a degree in History of Art and Chemistry at the Free University Berlin after having started her studies in Zurich. She had a position as paper conservator in Heidelberg at the Prinzhorn Collection (1979) before she started her own workshop in Berlin. Moving slowly from art conservation to modern materials and industrial heritage she had the position of the head of conservation of the Technical Museum in Berlin (1986) before getting the position at university.

Her main interest lies in the conservation of cultural heritage as important testimony of history just as much as in its authentic aesthetic. In that context new methods of conservation for modern materials and the archaeometry of modern times are her main interest in research. Together with other partners she is about to build up a database of reference materials developed mainly from 1860 to 1960.

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He obtained his M. Sc. Honours School in Physics in 1967 and Ph.D. in 1973, both from Panjab University, Chandigarh, where he began his career as a lecturer. He was a Professor at Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, in 1999, when he moved over to New Delhi to take charge as Director National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies, New Delhi. He has been a Jawaharlal Fellow, a Fulbright Visiting Lecturer, a Visiting Scholar at University of Cambridge Department of history and Philosophy of Science; and honorary professor of History of Science and Technology at National Institute of advanced Studies, Bangalore. He is the recipient of National Academy of Sciences India's Professor R. C. Gupta Endowment History of Science Lecture Award for the year 2006.

Professor Kochhar has published original research in a number of fields: history and sociology of science & technology; science and education policy; ancient Indian history; and modern astronomy and astrophysics. He is the author of *The Vedic People: Their History and Geography* (Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan 2000) and co-author of *Astronomy in India: A Perspective* (New Delhi: India National Science Academy). His work been well-cited by researchers; policy and opinion makers; as also by the on-line Wikipedia. He has lectured extensively in India and abroad. His views have been sought and published by magazines like *Science* and *Nature* as also by BBC Radio.

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Björn Kunzmann studied physics and astronomy at the Ludwig-Maximilian University Munich and Hamburg University. At Hamburg observatory he worked on hot stellar winds of the Zeta-Aurigae system HR 6902 and received his diploma in 1997.

He is an active amateur astronomer and mainly interested in variable stars and the history of astrophysics. He is member

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Since 1997 he is scientific staff member at the Regionales Rechenzentrum der Universität Hamburg. Job description: System administration Local Library System of Hamburg federal state.

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Trained as an astronomer, Françoise Le Guet Tully is interested in the institutional history of astronomy and in the history of scientific instruments since the late 1980s. With her colleague Jean Davoigneau at the French ministry of culture and with the support of French ministry of research she launched in the mid 1990s a documented and illustrated inventory of astronomical heritage in French provincial observatories. She participates in several outreach programmes related to astronomical heritage. At Nice she is responsible for the scientific archives and the collection of small instruments and she studies the history of the Bischoffsheim observatory.

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Reet Mägi graduated in History from the University of Tartu and later took a graduate degree in European Studies at the University's EuroCollege. She has been Director of the University of Tartu Museums since 2005 and Director of the University History Museum since 2004. Before that she worked 9 years in the Rector's Office. In 2002–2004 she served as Director of Administration of the University of Tartu. For a shorter time she has also worked at the Estonian Literary Museum.

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