

## Introduction

A workshop on 'The Early Universe' was held at Mount Stromlo Observatory, near Canberra, in June 1989. The discussion topics included a wide range of theoretical and observational aspects of the astrophysics of the early universe, from the origin of primordial fluctuations to the properties of high redshift galaxies. This issue of the *Australian Journal of Physics* presents most of the formal papers given by astrophysicists from the USSR and Australia at this workshop.

Four papers are missing. They include the review by R. D. Ekers (High Redshift, Steep Spectrum Radio Sources), and contributions by K. Kellermann (Limits to Small Scale Fluctuations in the Cosmic Background Radiation and the Population of Microjansky Radio Sources), Y. N. Parijskij (Search for Small Scale Anisotropy of 3 K Emission in the USSR—Past, Present and Future Experiments), and P. Shaver (Studies of High Redshift Structure using Quasar Absorption Lines).

The workshop was held under the auspices of the USSR–Australia Science and Technology Agreement. Y. N. Parijskij and K. C. Freeman were the national coordinators, and J. Einasto, B. J. Robinson and D. Jauncey made major contributions to the organisation. The hospitality of Mount Stromlo and Siding Spring Observatories (Australian National University) and the Australian Academy of Science is gratefully acknowledged. We are also very grateful to the *Australian Journal of Physics*, and to its editor R. P. Robertson, for making it possible to publish the proceedings of this workshop.

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Mount Stromlo and  
Siding Spring Observatories

