

DANILO J. ZULEVIĆ
(1937-1998)



Danilo J. Zulević

On July 14, 1998, barely two weeks since he retired, suddenly passed away M.Sc. Danilo J. Zulević, a longtime fellow of the Belgrade Observatory former editor in chief of Bull. Obs. Astron. Belgrade (Nos. 132-133 in 1982-1983).

He was born on August 29, 1937 in Ivangrad (Montenegro) where he completed his primary and secondary education. From 1959 to 1963 he studied Astronomy at the Faculty of Sciences of the Belgrade University.

From 1961 throughout until his retirement he was engaged at the Belgrade Observatory in the Double Star Group.

From November 1969 he sojourned for a year at the Pulkovo Observatory for accomplishing his specialist training. In 1974 he successfully defended his master's thesis at the Faculty of Sciences entitled: "A contribution to the statistical investigation of the effects of the components's mass-ratio on the dynamical orbital elements (P , a) of visual double stars".

The field of the research activity of Zulević was Stellar Astronomy, the object of his special interest being double and multiple systems. For thirty years he was an ardent observer of the double and multiple stars with the Zeiss refractor 65/1065 cm of the Belgrade Observatory. His observations were performed with the filar micrometer. His observing programme comprised mainly close pairs as well as those with the known orbital elements. He published his results in the Bull. Obs. Astron. Belgrade.

There are 16 series of his measurements, containing 4028 micrometric measurements. To these measurements is to be added a series of photographic measurements of double stars carried out during his sojourn at the Pulkovo Observatory.

Of particular importance is his work on deriving the orbital elements of visual double stars. The "Information Circular of the IAU, Commission 26" published 58 systems of the orbital elements of 53 binaries, authored by Zulević. The orbital elements of this same kind with preliminary analysis have been published in Bull. Obs. Astron. Belgrade too. One finds in them 6 orbital elements not published in the Circulars.

In the course of his visual observations he discovered a new double star: BD +33 3323 (1.16 arc-sec).

M.Sc. Danilo J. Zulević willingly accepted numerous social commitments as well as those connected with the management bodies of the Belgrade Observatory. For a time he filled the function of the Observatory's deputy director.

Georgije M. Popović