THE SUN AND SUN-LIKE STARS

Gothard Astrophysical Observatory
Loránd Eötvös University

WORKSHOP ON

THE SUN AND SUN–LIKE STARS

9–11 AUGUST 1999
SZOMBATHELY, HUNGARY

PROCEEDINGS

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Preface

The international workshop "The Sun and Sun-like stars" organised by Gothard Astrophysical Observatory took place 9-11 August 1999 in Szombathely, Hungary. The primary motivation to initiate this meeting was, that our observatory is located in the totality strip of the last total solar eclipse of the millennium on 11 August 1999. The workshop was also dedicated to the memory of Eugene von Gothard, the founder of the observatory, who died 90 years earlier.

Before this eclipse, the umbral shadow of the Moon last swept across Hungary in 1842 and next time it will come only in 2081. During the partial eclipse on 16 May 1882 Eugene von Gothard took a series of photographs of the Sun obscured by the Moon. His observatory was located far from the great scientific centres of that time, but his work in the field of astrophotography and the instrumentation made Gothard's name known throughout Europe.

The program of the workshop began on 8 August in the garden of the observatory. The participants unveiled two statues: statue of Eugene von Gothard (1857-1909) made by István Tóth and a statue by Elisabeth Ledersberger-Lehoczky named "Atrelios" was dedicated to this solar eclipse.

The workshop was officially opened the next morning by Dr. Emil Prugberger, Vice Mayor of Szombathely, who welcomed 33 participants from 8 countries.

During the course of two-day meeting 14 oral papers and numerous posters were presented on solar and stellar activity. The workshop discussed the important problems of coronal heating both from theoretical and observational points of view, the magnetic evolution and plasma dynamics of solar active regions, the relationship between magnetic loops of different temperatures, flare and CME activity, and the fine structure and modellisation of filaments. There were talks on solar-stellar analogies, modelling the Sun as a star, and the radiophysics of the solar corona.

The workshop was closed with a summary talk by K.D. Leka.

Each day ended with social programs and discussions focused on the problems of the stellar and solar activity.

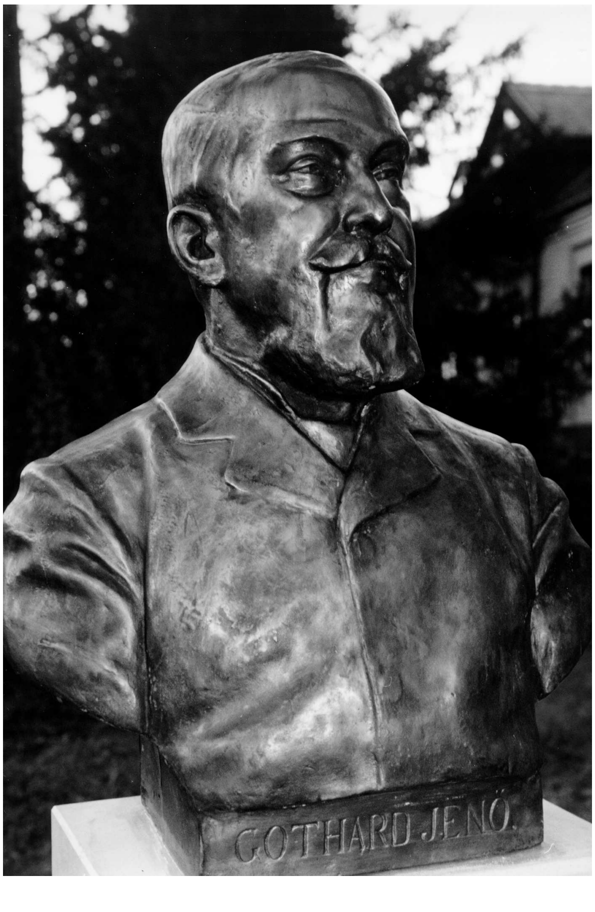
Altough the early morning on 11 August was quite worrying for all of us because of the bad weather over Europe, the conditions changed very rapidly, and at the beginning of the partial phase we had good chances to observe the full eclipse. Unfortunately, the phase of the totality was slightly disturbed by a thin layer of clouds in Szombathely, but the sight will certainly remain an indelible and wonderful memory for all of our guests - astronomers, diplomats accredited to Hungary, local authorities - and many others.

We would like to thank Lídia van Driel-Gesztelyi, Katalin Oláh and Brigitte Schmieder for their help in organizing and running the workshop.

We are very grateful for the generous financial support received from the Ministry of Education, Loránd Eötvös University, the National Committee for Technological Development, Council of Szombathely, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Council of County Vas, and Gothard Astrophysical Observatory Foundation.

Finally, we would like to thank all the workshop participants for the stimulating atmosphere they fostered during the workshop and their contributions to the proceedings.

The Editors



Statue of Eugene von Gothard and "Atrelios"

Table of contents

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