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## NEWS

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### “REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES” FOR STARS

It has taken astronomers just a few hours to fill the registration certificate where the size, weight, temperature and other parameters of Arcturus—a star from the Bootes constellation—are recorded.

Previously such work took about six months. This progress has been made due to a special deciphering set, created by scientists of the astronomical observatory of Odessa University.

“The new complex has united a powerful telescope, a measuring device and a mini-computer,” said Yu. Medvedev, Cand. Sc. (Phys.-Math.), chief of the

observatory. “At first, the light signals of far-off stars get through the telescope into the measuring device—the spectrophotometer. The latter transforms these signals into electric pulses and then sends them to the computer. Performing numerous mathematical operations, the computer yields exact data on the energy of the star, the chemical composition of the atmosphere, the temperature, gas pressure and dozens of other parameters,” the scientist noted. (*Soviet Features*, Vol. XXIII, No. 176, November 22, 1984).

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