
This is an up-to-date account of RR Lyrae stars. Although the contents is mainly observational, the necessary theoretical background is also provided.

The book is well planned and covers all important topics of the current RR Lyrae research such as the absolute magnitudes, the period shift effect and the Oosterhoff dichotomy, Fourier decomposition, spatial distribution and metallicities in the halo and bulge, high resolution spectral studies, secular period changes, the Blazhko effect and the double-mode RR Lyrae stars. Many topics are presented in their historical context. The globular cluster RR Lyrae stars and field variables are treated in parallel. In addition, a chapter is devoted to RR Lyrae stars in Local Group galaxies.

The book is clearly written, adequately illustrated and handsomely printed. It should be recommended to all observers and theorists interested in the RR Lyrae stars as such and also to those who use them as tools for deriving distances, probing stellar populations, etc.

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Proceedings of highly specialized meetings often make for confusing reading for the novice and quickly lose their currency. I am happy to say that this volume, the comptes rendus of a meeting held in August 1993, is not such a book. The subject, the multiwavelength variability of O and Wolf-Rayet stars, is covered comprehensively and prefaced by useful integrative reviews. They present a confrontation of theory and observation in a rapidly changing field, especially given new space and ground based data, and show a considerable advance since the 1991 volume on *Rapid Variability of OB Stars* (ESO 36) and the more wide-ranging 1992 volume on *Nonisotropic and Variable Outflows from Stars* (ASP 22). The articles span the range of the theoretical ideas well, if in no other way than by juxtaposition. The reader will find some real gems here. I especially note the review by Henriksen on