

IN MEMORIAM
Prof. Dr. Angel Petkov Venedikov
Geophysical Institute and Central Laboratory on Geodesy,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences



Angel Venedikov was born in Sofia on July 5 1936. He got his university degree in Geodesy and was working since 1960 in the Geophysical Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. After a specialization on the Earth Tides in 1963 at the Geophysical Institute in Prague, he made a pioneer work in the field of the tidal analysis methods. As early as 1966 he developed at the Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB), in cooperation with Paul Melchior and Paul Pâquet, a new method and computer program for analysis of the Earth tides, which allowed for the first time the processing of data with gaps of arbitrary length, with a correct application of the Method of the Least Squares. This program VEN66 was used as a standard analysis method by ROB and the International Center for Earth Tides (ICET) during thirty years. It is only recently that this program has been definitely replaced by more performing methods such as new versions of his method, the VAV programs developed at the “Instituto de Astronomía y Geodesia (CSIC-UCM)” in Madrid, in collaboration with Ricardo Vieira and his group, or the ETERNA and BAYTAP-G software. He has been very active until his last moment and was still developing new applications of the VAV method to ocean tides analysis.

Another important orientation of his work was the study of anomalies in the records i.e. non-tidal signals, some of which can appear to be earthquake and volcano precursors. This work started in 1985 in Spain for the monitoring of the volcanic activity in the Canary Islands. It was developed also in Kiel, Germany (1989, German-Turkish Seismological Project), China (1987), Japan (1991), Potsdam (1996)....

In 1975 he organized the International Computing Laboratory for Earth Tides, which used to collect and process all tidal data of the Countries of Eastern Europe till 1989. He assumed different responsibilities in the Geophysical Institute and in the Academy of Sciences.

Angel Venedikov was corresponding member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and foreign corresponding member (Académico Correspondiente Extranjero) of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Spain (Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales). It has been invited Professor at the Universities of Uppsala (1973), Kiel (1989) and Vigo (1999). He has been visiting scientist in many Institutes or Universities, where he developed his personal research. Between 1965 and 2007 he was visiting nearly 20 times the International Centre for Earth Tides (ICET) at the Royal Observatory of Belgium in Brussels.

Angel Venedikov is author or co-author of some 130 publications, which have been cited more than 4,000 times in some 850 foreign publications.

Angel passed away on December 1st 2007 as result of heart attack.

Bernard Ducarme
ICET Director