

Acad. Mikhail Marov

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Acad. Mikhail Marov began work in Korolëv's bureau in 1958, and joined the Keldysh Institute of Applied Mathematics in 1962, where he is today the head of the Department of Planetary Physics and Aeronomy. His work has focused on the hydrodynamics of planetary atmospheres, and he has supervised missions and experiments on probes to the Moon, Mars and Venus. He developed the first thermodynamic models of the Venusian atmosphere, beginning with the analysis of Venera-4's results. On Venera-9, his nephelometry experiments provided the first structural map of the cloud layers, and the analysis of cloud-particle properties from multi-angle scattering. He developed a model of the Martian atmosphere based on the first direct measurements by Mars-6 in 1973, and he analysed the rarified gas dynamics of Halley's comet from data gathered in the Vega mission. Acad. Marov is one of the great communicators of the Soviet space program, authoring hundreds of papers and numerous books on the physics of planets.