

SPECTROMETRY AND POLARIMETRY OF COMET 8P/TUTTLE. S. F. Velichko^{1,2}, F. P. Velichko¹, M. Kuznetsov². ¹Institute of Astronomy of Karazin Kharkiv National University, Svobody sq.4, 61077 Kharkiv, Ukraine, honorus@mail.ru. ²International Center for Astronomical, Medical and Ecological Research, Kyiv, Ukraine

Spectrometry and polarimetry of comet 8P/Tuttle were carried out with 2-m telescope of IC AMER (peak Terskol, Caucasus) and with 0.7-m telescope of Institute of Astronomy of Karazin Kharkiv National University, respectively.

Spectral observations were obtained on January 12, 2008 by using multi-mode cassegrain-echelle spectrograph in range of wavelengths from 3900Å to 5300Å with resolution $\lambda/\Delta\lambda=1500$. We have calculated production rates of C₃ and C₂ molecules and dust production in blue continuum of the comet. The comet dust production in near-nucleus region D=1854 km equals to $\log(A_{fp}(4450\text{Å}))=6,87$ cm. The production rates of carbon molecules are the following: $\log Q(C_3)= 28,56$ mol/s, $\log Q(C_2)= 28,58$ mol/s.

Polarimetric observations were obtained on January 9, 2008 by using one-channel photometer-polarimeter with wide-band red continuum filter WRC (7228/1140Å) [1]. The value of linear polarization equals to $P=8,2\pm 0,3\%$ under the comet phase angle $\alpha=66^\circ,8$. Diameter of observed coma region is about ten times more than for the spectrometry (D=17236 km). The obtained value of polarization degree is considerably less, than the observed one for dust-rich comets ($P\approx 20\%$, [2]).

Thus, the observed in near-nucleus region dust production A_{fp} characterizes the comet as a very dust-rich object. But the linear polarization of wide

region of coma is close to values of poor-dust comets. It means that the dust component of Tuttle's atmosphere concentrates into small near-nucleus region, mainly.

References: [1] Velichko S.F. et al., (2005) *Earth, Moon, and Planets* 97, 379-386. [2] Kiselev N.N. et al., (2005) *Earth, Moon, and Planets* 97, 365-378.