ON THE NECESSARY SELF-DEFENSE OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Comment on «Heliogeophysical and other natural processes, periods of their oscillations and predictions» by B.L. Berry and «Music of geospheres and practicality of statistical criteria» by E.A. Boyarsky and A.V. Desherevsky

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Abstract. Beautiful but ungrounded statements have a tendency to cause a considerable public resonance. When the great public expectations based on them are found out to be false the authority of a science suffers a considerable loss. Whenever possible to avoid such losses the scientific community should be especially critical in relation to ungrounded results capable to attract a considerable public attention. The publications of B.L.Berry appear to be an example of such works – insufficiently grounded, but with claims for the decision of many theoretically and practically important problems. The ideas stated in them are very beautiful but, unfortunately, their statistical significance have not yet approved.

Keywords: natural processes, periodicity, forecast, ungrounded statements, statistical significance.