Preface

Photopolarimetry in remote sensing

The NATO Advanced Study Institute (ASI) on “Photopolarimetry in Remote Sensing” was held on the outskirts of the city of Yalta, Ukraine, 20 September–3 October 2003. The meeting focused on recent advances in polarimetric methodologies used in remote sensing and optical characterization, including, but not limited to, remote sensing of the Earth and other Solar System objects, astrophysical applications, medical diagnostics, and environmental and military monitoring. The picturesque location, perfect weather, warm waters of the Black Sea, matchless Crimean wine, and the great enthusiasm of both the hosts and the participants all contributed to an extremely successful meeting. Following the ASI, some participants attended an accompanying workshop on “Remote Sensing Techniques and Instrumentation: International Cooperation” held in Kyiv, 4–10 October.

The ASI included invited key lectures, oral overview presentations, and poster sessions, whose contributions were compiled in a book of abstracts [1]. In addition, a compilation of archival contributions taken primarily from the key ASI lectures formed an edited volume published as part of the NATO Science

Participants of NATO ASI pose for a group photo in front of Sanatorium Druzhba.
Series [2]. To make the other research results reported at both the ASI and the Kyiv workshop broadly
available, high quality full-size papers were solicited for a feature journal issue. All papers submitted
in response to this solicitation have been subject to peer review and have been treated with the same
scientific scrutiny as any manuscripts submitted to JQSRT. The papers that were ultimately accepted have
formed this special issue. We hope that the readers will find this collection of papers both interesting and
useful in their own research.

We commend the authors for their efforts in preparing the fine papers included in this issue and the
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References