Atmospheric and Biological Environmental Monitoring
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Preface

The extent of harmful effects of pollution on atmospheric, terrestrial and aquatic environments can be translated into extreme temperature changes, dirty air, clean water shortages, and increased incidence of toxicity that harms every life on earth. Within a lifetime, our environment is changing drastically. Much of the information of environmental pollution impacts needs to be studied, from the mechanism of toxic nanoparticles on the molecular level to the detection of trace gases on the satellite perspective. It is therefore essential to develop advanced monitoring techniques, efficient process technologies and health impact assessment tools to fill the gaps in our scientific knowledge.

This edition of “Atmospheric and Biological Environmental Monitoring” is a handful of recent developments and techniques from environmental scientists in well-diversified fields. These collections of manuscripts are extracts from the recently concluded “7th International Symposium on Advanced Environmental Monitoring” organized by the ADvanced Environmental Monitoring and Research Center (ADEMRC), Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), Korea and held on February 25–28, 2008 in Honolulu, Hawaii. The three parts highlight important aspects of emerging environmental monitoring technologies: Atmospheric Environment, Contaminants Control Process, and Environmental Toxicity Assessment. Observational tools presented in the first part ranges from in-situ measurements to satellite remote sensing for atmospheric monitoring. Highlighted in the second part is the recently developed water quality monitoring system for lake stratification and membrane technologies for detection and removal of contaminants. Lastly, toxicity monitoring of endocrine disruptors and nanoparticles are highlighted in the third part with new discoveries.

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