



The present issue is dedicated to the memory of Professor Jerzy (Jurek) Prochorow (1938-2006). Professor Prochorow was a man of great intelligence and knowledge, who led an extremely active scientific life. In addition to carrying out much successful research work and translating many scientific books, he was the director of the Institute of Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences (1982–1992), and the editor-in-chief of the scientific journal *Acta Physica Polonica A* (1991–2006). The main subject of the research carried out by Prochorow and his group over the period of nearly 40 years was photophysics of intermolecular electron donor–acceptor complexes and other aromatic hydrocarbon systems. These compounds were studied with the aid of advanced spectroscopic and kinetic techniques in the gas and crystal phases, in solutions, low-temperature matrices, as well as in supersonic expansion. The purpose was to determine the pathways and rate constants of the formation and decay of electronically excited states and to use this knowledge to model the behaviour of these systems. The importance of the results and conclusions obtained has been confirmed by numerous citations in the scientific literature. The work of Professor Prochorow was completed on October 26th, 2006. But the research is continued and extended to new areas by his former students, collaborators, and friends. All of us appreciate the influence and inspiration we owe to Jurek Prochorow. He will be always remembered. . .