

Book Review

PHOTOGRAMMETRIE. Band 1, Geometrische Informationen aus Photographien und Laserscanneraufnahmen. (Photogrammetry, Vol. 1, Geometric Information from Images and Laser Scanner Data)

By Karl Kraus, 2003, 7th edition. Walter de Gruyter editions. 230x154 mm. 516 pages. Price €42.95, paperback. ISBN 3-11-017708-0. Reviewed by Prof. Andreas Georgopoulos, National Technical University, Athens

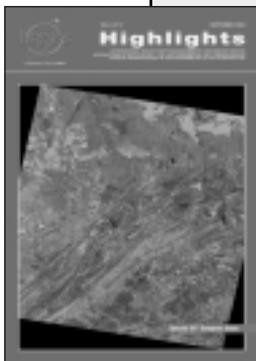
This is the seventh edition of the first volume of the book since 1982, when it was first published. Today the full book consists of three volumes, the second one dealing with specialised issues of photogrammetric algorithms and the third one with information systems and geo-information technology. The publication of the seventh, fully revised, edition of the first volume is definitely a very important event. During the past twenty years Professor Karl Kraus has published two textbooks on Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. They have been translated into several languages, proving in this way the lack of a modern textbook which they remedied.

It is a fact that the evolution of photogrammetry in our days has pushed our discipline into totally new scientific fields and research areas, which were previously not mature enough to be included in a textbook. Professor K. Kraus is the first author to attempt this innovation and the first one to keep up with the evolution of technology; and he is very successful.

The content of Volume I has been totally revised and widened for this seventh edition, in order to include topics such as digital imagery issues, satellite positioning and inertial systems, digital cameras, digital photogrammetric workstations, automation and laser scanning.

The structure of the present book includes eight main chapters, which cover all the topics from basic mathematical notions to highly advanced topics of automation in photogrammetry. It is nice to have as a separate sub-chapter the subject of relative orientation, which was not the case in the previous editions. The chapter on image acquisition is fully revised to include clear presentation of the digital aspect, either of direct image capture, or that of scanning. Further important innovations are the sections on 3D modeling and visualisation and laser scanning. The latter includes both airborne and terrestrial applications. There is, however, little or no improvement in the appearance of the text and figures, which maintain the initial style, thus making the freshman's approach to the book tedious.

The nine year gap between this and the previous edition has brought enormous change to the practice of our discipline. This change is precisely and vividly imaged in this book with the highly accurate metric camera of the pen of Prof. K. Kraus. It is the reviewer's opinion that this book should find a place on all photogrammetric shelves and that the English speaking community should anxiously wait for its translation.



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