

Special issue on

**NUMERICAL DENSITY**

Jakub Bodziony and Kurt Wiencek, Editors

## FOREWORD

The particle density  $N_v$ , i.e. the average number of particles per unit volume of the material, is the basic parameter characterizing its structure. Basing on the knowledge of  $N_v$ , it is possible to calculate the average values of other global parameters of the structure per a single particle. For this reason,  $N_v$  occupies a special position among the parameters of the quantitative characteristics of the structure of materials.

The aim of this special issue of Acta Stereologica is the presentation of recent results concerning  $N_v$ . Unfortunately, the editors managed to obtain only one paper referring to the application of  $N_v$  in biology. The introductory article brings a short review of the methods of determining  $N_v$  with reference to convex particles and comments on their practical application in metallography.

The editors are grateful to Prof. M. Kališnik and Dr. M. Gaberšček for publication of this issue, and to all the authors and referees for their contributions. Special thanks are also due to Prof. B. Ralph for linguistic correction of most of the papers.

Jakub Bodziony and Kurt Wiencek