

Editorial

Thirteenth International Conference of Flow Injection Analysis

The 13th International Conference on Flow Injection Analysis and Related Techniques (ICFIA 2005) was held in Las Vegas, NV, USA, April 24–29, 2005, following the 12th ICFIA held in Mérida, Venezuela, December, 2003. The conference was held jointly with the Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis (JAFIA). There were 105 participants from 20 countries, representing five continents: Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, India, Ireland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States, and Venezuela.

There were 52 oral presentations covering a range of flow injection and related techniques, including novel instrumentation, software and database developments, and spectrophotometric, luminescence, atomic spectrometric, and electrochemical advances and applications to environmental, pharmaceutical, biological and biotech samples. Over six-dozen poster presentations covered the breadth of flow-based techniques, well illustrated by posters on automation, sequential injection analysis and chromatography, all-injection analysis, multipumping systems, microfluidic reactors, liquid waveguides, reaction interfaces, zone fluidics, on-line preconcentration, dialysis, derivatization and extraction, membrane separations, microwave-assisted reactions, multicomponent analyses, chemometrics, catalytic and kinetic methods, stopped-flow measurements, electrochemical and biosensor detection, and detection by dynamic interfacial pressure, surface plasmon resonance, FTIR, chemiluminescence, fluorescence, spectrophotometry, and atomic spectrometry. Applications to a variety of samples were reported,

such as pharmaceutical products, and environmental, fertilizer, food, gasoline, and biological samples.

The conference is known for its informality and relaxed atmosphere, which catalyzes close interactions among FIA practitioners from around the world. It has been held jointly with the JAFIA since 1995.

Exhibitor eDAQ Pty Ltd. (www.edaq.com) exhibited state-of-the-art data recording instruments, and FIALab Instruments, Inc. (www.flowinjection.com) showcased their flow and sequential injection analysis systems.

ICFIA 14, the next conference will be held Berlin, Germany, tentatively to be held at the Technische Universität Berlin in September, 2007, and it will be hosted by Wolfgang Frenzel and Jürgen Simon. Details may be obtained by contacting Frenzel at frenzel@itu101.ut.tu-berlin.de. A website will be available by the end of this year.

This Special Issue represents 37 peer reviewed papers submitted by conference attendees. They provide an excellent cross-section of research on instrumentation and a variety of applications of the flow-based techniques. A full report on the ICFIA 2005 meeting may be found in: *TrAc* 24 (2005) 560.

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