



Preface

In honor of Professor Yury A. Zolotov on the occasion of his 80th birthday



The current issue of *Talanta* is dedicated to Professor Zolotov on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Contributed papers were invited from Russian colleagues and students, and international scientist colleagues. We thank all for their valuable contributions.

Yury Zolotov started his science career in 1955 after graduation from Moscow State University. Prof. Zolotov received his Cand. Sci. (PhD) degree in 1959 and Dr. Sci. in 1966, both from the Vernadsky Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry. He was elected as a full member (academician) of the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1987. Presently, he is a principal scientist in the Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry and head of the Analytical Chemistry Department and a half-time professor at Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Research fields of Yury Zolotov include liquid–liquid extraction, preconcentration of trace components, mostly using sorption methods, out-of-laboratory chemical analysis, particularly express methods as well as philosophy and history of analytical chemistry. Apart from his chemistry studies, Yury Zolotov is known among his colleagues for his literature talents.

Being a highly qualified researcher, Prof. Zolotov has always also been an enthusiast and pioneer in science and its real-life applications, e.g. developing non-laboratory chemical analysis, especially in preparation and application of simple test tools for the environmental samples analysis. Many test-methods have been developed in his lab. He was the first one to start ion chromatography and FIA studies in Russia back in 1979.

Prof. Zolotov has published several hundred scientific papers and many monographs, including *Ion Chromatography in Water Analysis* (Chichester, 1988), *Preconcentration of Trace Elements* (Amsterdam, 1990), *Macrocyclic Compounds in Analytical Chemistry* (New York, 1997), *Chemical Test Methods of Analysis* (Amsterdam, 2002), *Sorption Preconcentration of Microcomponents from Aqueous Solution: Application in Inorganic Analysis* (Moscow, 2007), *History and Methodology of Analytical Chemistry* (Moscow, 2007), *Out-of-Laboratory Chemical Analysis* (Moscow, 2010). He also has contributed much to the higher education process in Russia. For example, a textbook entitled *Fundamentals of Analytical Chemistry* in two volumes has gone through four editions under his editorship.

Prof. Zolotov is a key figure in Russian analytical chemistry. He held a post of a titular member of the analytical chemistry divisions of IUPAC and the Federation of European Chemical Societies (later EuChemMS) as well as a member of International Committee on Solvent Extraction Chemistry and Technology. Prof. Zolotov is a deputy head of the Division of Chemistry and Materials Science and an Advisor of the Academy Presidium in the Russian Academy of Sciences. He is chairman of the scientific council on analytical chemistry of the Academy and is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Analytical Chemistry*.

As a recognition of his excellent research, he received numerous awards: Carl Hanson medal from the International Committee on Solvent Extraction Chemistry and Technology, F. Emich award from the Austrian Society of Analytical Chemistry, Ishibasi Medal from the Japan Institute of Oceanography, J.E. Purkine Medal from Brno University, L. Gordon Talanta memorial award, Mendeleev Gold medal from the Russian Chemical Society, three Soviet and Russian State Prizes, Chugaev and Khlopin medals from the Russian Academy of Science. He is Dr. Honoris Causa of three universities, and foreign member of the Royal Society of Arts and Science in Göteborg (Sweden) and the Japan Society for Analytical Chemistry. Prof. Zolotov gave many plenary and keynote lectures at international and national conferences, is (or was) a member of editorial or advisory boards of many journals in analytical chemistry (including *Talanta*, *Analytica Chimica Acta*, and *The Analyst*). Professor Zolotov's contributions to *Talanta*, besides serving on the Editorial Advisory Board and contributing numerous articles over the years, includes serving as invited Special Editor of the Soviet Union Honor Issue (*Talanta* 34(1), January 1987, Current Analytical Chemistry in the USSR. Yu. A. Zolotov and S. B. Savvin, Guest Editors). Yury Zolotov was invited as a visiting professor in many countries.

However, no comment on the achievements and work of Prof. Zolotov would be complete without a word about his great organizational skills. Yury Zolotov has been an organizer of several international and many national conferences on analytical chemistry. Under Prof. Zolotov's leadership many important practical radiochemical and analytical tasks have been solved in Russia, e.g. in analytical control of high purity materials (State prize) or environmental samples (Lomonosov prize).

We all hope that his scientific and organizational activities continue still for a long period of time. Happy birthday and cordial wishes on the October 4th, 2012!

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