

Preface

The Japan Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis celebrated the 30th Anniversary Conference on Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis in Osaka, from 31 October to 2 November 1994. This Society has grown so uniquely that people involved in calorimetry and those engaged in thermal analysis take concerted action and play a complementary role, in striking contrast to the cases encountered in many other countries. Its membership is now about 900 and still increasing.

The conference was held in the Senri Life Science Center, a convention building located in the suburbs of Osaka. Since this convention center is to be used as the venue for ICCT-96 (14th IUPAC Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics), which will be held on 25–30 August 1996, the Anniversary Conference served as a rehearsal for ICCT-96. The conference was a great success with seven invited and 111 contributed papers. The number of participants was about 260 including 50 students. Five plenary lectures were presented respectively by Dr. P.A.G. O'Hare of NIST on fluorine-combustion calorimetry of inorganic chalcogenides, by Professor D. Patterson of McGill University on thermodynamics of non-electrolyte mixtures, by Professor Emeritus T. Haseda of Osaka University on dynamics and thermodynamics in non-crystalline homogeneous systems, by Professor H. Tanaka of Hiroshima University on kinetics of solid-state reactions studied by thermal analysis, and by Professor A. Inaba of Osaka University on thermodynamics of adsorbed monolayers. Professor I. Wadsö of Lund University and Dr. J. Málek of Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic were invited to present keynote lectures on isothermal microcalorimetry of biological materials and on crystallization kinetics of glasses on the basis of thermal analysis, respectively. Of 111 contributed papers, 81 were read at the oral session while the remaining 30 were discussed at the poster session.

In honour of the 30th Anniversary Conference the organizing committee planned to make a special issue consisting of a selection of papers presented at the conference. Elsevier Science agreed to dedicate an issue to this end. Professor M. Sorai of Osaka University, Dr. M. Todoki of Toray Research Center Inc., and Professor S. Murakami of Osaka City University were appointed as Guest Editors. This special issue involves five review articles written by the invited lecturers and 35 regular articles. The character of the Society is well reflected in the content, which covers a wide range of chemical thermodynamics approached either from a calorimetric or a thermal analysis viewpoint. Thanks to serious contributors, this special issue will serve as a good source of literature on current chemical thermodynamics.

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