

## Preface

The idea that an issue devoted to fundamental and applied studies on *Vibrational Spectroscopy of Adsorbed Molecules and of Surface Species on Metal Oxides* could be a welcome addition to the existing literature came, to my knowledge, from Prof. Geoffrey C. Bond. Prof. Bond is one of the major experts in heterogeneous catalysis in the world. He himself makes extensive use of IR and Raman spectroscopy in his work. His suggestion seemed to me particularly interesting just because it came from someone who gave a very important impulse to the development of heterogeneous catalysis not only as a technology but also as a scientific discipline.

The first contribution to this issue was made by Prof. Israel Wachs who however suggested me as a possible editor for this issue. I gratefully accepted this task. The actual schedule for it was discussed with Israel Wachs and with Profs. Adriano Zecchina and Jean-Claude Lavalley. We think that it reasonably covers the most important applications of vibrational spectroscopy in the field of heterogeneous catalysis by metal oxides. We also wanted to cover Raman spectroscopy of adsorbed molecules. How-

ever, Raman spectroscopy is undergoing a fast development, so that we decided to discuss this area in the near future.

Due to the limited extent of this initiative, the number of persons involved was small. However, I would like to mention some of the eminent scientists working in the field of vibrational spectroscopy applied to oxide catalysts for contributing as referees or for useful advice. They are Prof. N. Sheppard (Norwich), Prof. H. Knözinger (München), Prof. H.J. Freund (Bochum), Dr. J.B. Peri (Cape Code), Prof. V. Lorenzelli (Genova), Prof. J.C. Volta (Villeurbanne), Prof. S. Coluccia (Torino), Prof. F. Boccuzzi (Torino), Prof. P. Quintard (Limoges), Prof. V. Rives (Salamanca), Prof. Otero Arean (Palma de Mallorca) and Dr. Basini (Milano).

We hope that the result of our work is useful, among others, for scientists that use vibrational spectroscopic techniques in heterogeneous catalysis and that this issue of *Catalysis Today* can be a textbook for young people like Ph.D. students.

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