



VLADIMIR ISAAKOVICH MINKIN

Vladimir Isaakovich Minkin was born on March 4, 1935 in Rostov-on-Don, and in 1957 he graduated from the Chemical faculty of Rostov State University. In 1958 Vladimir Isaakovich started work at Rostov State University, where trod the long path from assistant to director of the Research Institute of Physical and Organic Chemistry and head of the Department of the chemistry of natural and high-molecular compounds at the Southern Federal University.

Vladimir Isaakovich Minkin is an Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, director of the Scientific-Research Institute of Physical and Organic Chemistry of the Southern Federal University, member of the Department of Chemistry and Materials Science of the Russian Academy of Sciences, vice-president of the Presidium of the Southern Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, head of the Department of chemistry of natural and high-molecular compounds of the Chemical faculty of the Southern Federal University, director of the Scientific-Education Center of the Southern Federal University, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Research Institute of Physical and Organic Chemistry and the Scientific Council on the Defense of Doctoral Theses, member of the editorial teams of seven academic Russian and five authoritative international journals, and member of the Council of organoelement chemistry and the Expert Council of the program of the Russian Academy of Sciences on "Theoretical and experimental study of the nature of the chemical bond and the mechanisms of the most important chemical reactions and processes". Vladimir Isaakovich Minkin heads the section of quantum chemistry at the Council of quantum kinetics and structure, is a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (Great Britain) and the World Association of Theoretical Organic Chemistry, and has a *honoris causa* doctor's degree of the Mediterranean University (France).

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V. I. Minkin is an outstanding scientist with a wide range of scientific interests and is one of the leaders in the field of theoretical physical organic chemistry. He has published more than 1000 scientific papers and 22 monographs and made the scientific discovery of acylotropy – the fast reversible migration of acyl groups between nucleophilic centers in organic molecules.

The scientific directions created and developed by Vladimir Isaakovich are diverse and are important for world chemical science. They include: elaboration of the problems of aromaticity, which has become one of the central regions of his researches; study of new types of fast sigmatropic tautomeric rearrangements (one result of the investigation of these dynamic processes was the discovery of the extremely rapid migrations of acyl groups between nucleophilic centers inside a molecule); the development of a rational strategy for the construction of new structural types of nonclassical organic and organoelement compounds; a significant contribution to the investigation of bistable molecular systems with reversible rearrangements controlled by light; the development of new methods for the synthesis of many new types of organotellurium compounds.

V. I. Minkin is a talented teacher and science manager, as demonstrated by the successful defense of more than 60 candidate's and doctor's theses achieved under his leadership and also by the successful work of a strong and authoritative school of chemists, which survived when national science was experiencing difficult times.

V. I. Minkin has presented courses of lectures as invited professor in a series of universities of Europe (Berlin, Regensburg, Marseilles, Glasgow, Catania), USA (Cornell University and the University of Florida), Canada (Kingston), and Central America (Havana).

The scientific services of V. I. Minkin have been marked by government awards (a medal and two orders) and a series of prizes including the State Prize of the USSR (1989), the International Alexander von Humboldt Prize (1999), the A. M. Butlerov (2000), L. A. Chugaev (2003), and A. N. Nesmeyanov (2009) Prizes of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and prizes from the Foundation for the Support of Russian Science under the nomination "Outstanding Scientists of the Russian Academy of Sciences" (2003, 2004).

The editorial staff of "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds" congratulate Vladimir Isaakovich, member of the Editorial board, on his birthday, wish him happiness, good health, and new creative successes and achievements, and hope to continue and strengthen our collaboration.