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Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry

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Editorial

David M. Coleman; Patricia B. Coleman

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Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry

Volume 23/Issue 5

Editorial

This “general issue” focuses on several new and important emerging technologies. The diversity of these areas is extraordinary. The manuscripts also reflect an “international flavor” with the authors’ own scientific investigations carried out in Israel, Czechoslovakia, Japan, China, and the U.S., to mention a few.

Dr. I. B. (Joe) Brenner of the Geological Survey of Israel and Howard Taylor of the U.S. Geological Survey have teamed up to present a critical review of Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry for geoanalysis, geochemistry, and hydrology. In a subsequent manuscript, currently in preparation, the authors will elaborate on the critical issues of sample preparation and geo-applications. This is a rapidly emerging field and we appreciate their timely and thorough review.

Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging Microscopy (FLIM) is reviewed in detail by Dr. Xue Feng Wang. The first definitive studies in this area were done at Osaka University in Japan where Wang was a doctoral candidate. At that time one of this journal’s editors (DMC) was a Visiting Scholar at Osaka. This work has flourished at North Carolina where Wang is a post doctoral student in Professor Herman’s laboratory. FLIM is an important area which, as it matures, will likely find considerable utility as a biomedical probe.

Professor Kubáň has been a regular contributor to *Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry* where he has detailed a variety of aspects of flow injection analysis (FIA). In the first of this two-part manuscript, Dr. Kubáň discusses the underlying principles and instrumental techniques that rely on gas diffusion and/or permeation for separation and/or preconcentration in FIA. Analytical utility and applications will be explored in a subsequent manuscript which is currently in process.

Finally, Jeff Carey and Joe Caruso at Cincinnati have written an interesting and very useful review on the current state-of-the-art of electrothermal sample introduction techniques used in plasma source spectrometry (with both optical and mass spectrometric detection). They have taken much care in teaching the underlying concepts, as well as in providing thorough coverage of recent work in this area. Investigators will find their conclusions to be insightful . . . and useful.

As always, your comments, suggestions, and ideas are genuinely appreciated. Please feel free to contact any of the editors, or members of the Editorial Advisory Board.

David M. Coleman

Patricia B. Coleman

Editors-in-Chief