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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

This issue begins the 36th volume of *Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry* and my 12th year as Editor-in-Chief. Four decades have seen remarkable changes in focus in measurement science and certainly in chemical measurement science. I am writing this just before the New Year and thinking of how so much has happened in my own 40 years of post-PhD career.

I can remember when Sam Perone at Purdue published the first paper in which a lab computer interacted with an experiment in real time and made the decision as to what change to make. I remember the chase to prove polywater existed or did not exist. The very first high-precision gas chromatography was done in L. B. Roger's group. The first experiments in which pressure was actually a variable in liquid chromatography and not just a mechanical consequence of flow were reported in the late 1960s. The first reports of tunneling electron spectrometry were soon reduced to practice and by the 1980s had become undergraduate lab experiments. I can remember Paul Lauterbur describing his first experiments in magnetic resonance tomography and pictures of the chest cavity of a mouse.

The list is long and the number of cutting-edge experiments now reduced to routine practice is also a long list. *Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry* seeks articles with historical perspective but that perspective need not be 40 years. It can be 40 weeks in a rapidly developing area or a new direction in an older one. Long ago (it does not seem so long) and before chemometrics became a commonly used term, SIMPLEX Optimization became of analytical interest. This year the Journal will devote two issues to the topic of chemometrics from a variety of viewpoints—old and new.

C. H. Lochmüller

Editor-in-Chief

