

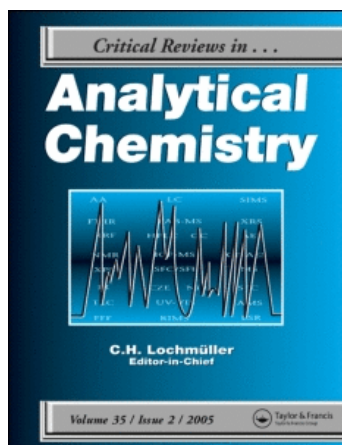
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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers

I still hear that the face of Analytical Chemistry is changing. In the sense that the “baby boomers” are retiring and the discipline is in new hands, there is some truth to that as there is in all myths. The core of the discipline of chemical measurement science is still discovering how the best chemistry and the best physics can be used to not just identify but to quantitate chemical species. What is fascinating to some of us is that the range of analyte size remains atoms to atomic aggregates or molecules. Success with single atoms was achieved decades ago and then there are the synthetic and the bio-polymeric forms that contain orders more atoms.

Where will the focus be in analytical sciences for the next decade? One needs more than a crystal ball. The very first gas chromatographic experiments reported in the USA at a Gordon Conference were greeted with “ho-hum, that’s done” at the time. They were followed by a quarter century of research and tens of thousands of reports and hundreds of advances. The very first electrophoresis experiments were conducted in open tubes only to be discovered three-quarters of a century later and called “capillary electrophoresis”. Will nano-structures offer a wide variety of challenges and fundamental changes in measurement approaches? Will ionic fluids change not the principle as much as the way many assays are done?

This journal would consider articles that risked predicting future directions and even statements of which areas of measurement have reached the limit of necessary research. That does not imply that research done using developed techniques will not be important. Chemical microscopy is a developed area but much important work depends on it.

Feel free to write with suggestions and feel even freer to write and volunteer to write a challenging article!

Sincerely,

C. H. Lochmüller

Editor-in-Chief

