



Preface

Planar Model System and Heterogeneous Catalysis

On behalf of his colleagues, former PhD students, postdoctoral and graduate students, junior and senior scientists who had the opportunity and enjoyed the scientific collaboration and the hard work with Professor Frigyes Solymosi during his distinguished career, we are pleased to dedicate this special issue of Catalysis Today to the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Professor Solymosi received a PhD in chemistry at the University of Szeged. In 1982 he was elected as a correspondent member and in 1990 as a full member of Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In 1992 he was elected as a member of Academia Europaea. At present he is professor emeritus at the University of Szeged, research professor of the Reaction Kinetics Laboratory of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, which had been directed by him for more than thirty years. In 1993, he received a Széchenyi Award which is one of the highest scientific state decorations in Hungary.

During the period between 1962 and 1964 he worked for the Cavendish Laboratory at the University of Cambridge and in 1971–1972 for the Fritz-Haber Institute in West-Berlin. He was a visiting Professor at the University of Liverpool (1981–1982, 1 year), at the University of Munich (1987–1988, 1 year, 1998, 3 months) and at Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris (1991 and 1992 two times 2 months). In 1988–1989 he was a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Texas at Austin.

He is (or was earlier) a member of the following international Committees and Editorial Boards: Journal of Catalysis, Surface Science, Catalysis Letters, Topics in Catalysis, Current Topics in Catalysis, Reaction Kinetics and Catalysis Letters, Council of the International Association of Catalysis Societies, Journal of Natural Gas Chemistry, Central European Science Journal, International Council of Reactivity of Solids. He was one of the co-chairmen of the 10th International Congress on Catalysis (Budapest 1992) and the chairman of the XIVth International Symposium on the Reactivity of Solids (Budapest 2000).

Prof. Solymosi is the author of more than 500 papers, most of them being published in different international journals. He gave more than 290 lectures abroad at various international conferences

and at universities or research institutes. The number of independent citations on his works is more than 7000, which is the highest among the Hungarian chemists. His Hirsch-index is 51. He is the author of the book: Structure and Stability of Salts of Halogen Oxyacids in the Solid Phase (John Wiley and Sons, 1977), and one of the co-authors of the book: Contact Catalysis (Elsevier Scientific Publishing Company, 1976).

Prof. Solymosi's main research fields throughout his entire career focused on heterogeneous catalysis, the characterization of solid surfaces, investigation of gas-surface interactions by various spectroscopic methods and the studying of surface intermediates formed during the catalytic processes.

We hope that this special edition of Catalysis Today shows him the appreciation for all his efforts over the years from those for whom he has been a helpful colleague, mentor, and a really good friend. His friends and colleagues wish him all the best for many years to come.

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