



Flow Injection Analysis-JAFIA-JFIA: Impacts to Global Communities and Societies

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Flow injection analysis (FIA) was first introduced as a simple means for serial assays in the last quarter of the 1900s.

The technique has been of much interest due to its versatility. With various degrees of complication (or, infact, simplicity), one can gain benefit in various ways. FIA use has spread out in different geographical parts of the globe, both in R&D for the technique and for routine (real) use. Cooperation among scientists having common interests in the technique has been established. FIA, then, contributes to advancing science and technology, including promoting development in science and technology in some communities where budgets are limited. FIA is useful for sample introduction for analyzers such as AAS. It is recognized also for on-line sample pretreatment. Apart from UV-VIS spectrophotometry, FIA and its later generation modifications (including sequential injection analysis (SIA) and bead injection analysis (BIA)) have been incorporated with various analytical techniques such as (near) IR, fluorescence, atomic absorption, atomic emission (flame, ICP), electrochemical (potentiometric, voltammetric and coulombmetric), chemiluminescence, titration, radiochemical, etc.

The techniques may serve the basis for miniaturization and for micro-total analysis systems.

Various degrees of automation involving such techniques offer applications in various fields such as environmental, process, agricultural and clinical analysis (for screening assay and determination).

From generation to generation, at present Professor Shoji Motomizu and Professor Tadao Sakai with younger generations, the Japanese Association for Flow Injection Analysis (JAFIA) members have created impacts on all such activities above, not only for the Japanese members but

also to the communities in other parts of the world. Though JAFIA, collaborations in a warm, healthy and friendly atmosphere have been observed. I, myself, have had direct experiences in this.

The Journal of Flow Injection Analysis (JFIA) has served not only as a means to communicate progress in fundamental academic aspects, but also activities of those dealing broadly with R&D as well as the users together.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate JAFIA and JFIA for continuous success, already the 21st anniversary.

Surely, JAFIA and JFIA will continue to serve the promotion of FIA and related techniques in academic advancement and impacts to global communities/societies.