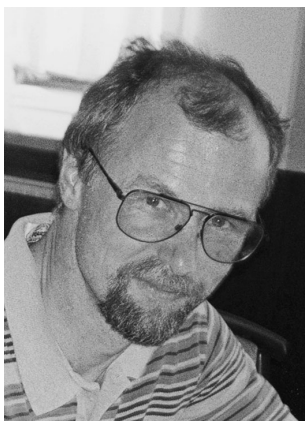


IN MEMORIAM

**Dr. Marko Razinger
(1947-1996)**

Dr. Marko Razinger was born in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in 1947. After graduating in chemistry from the Department of Chemistry, University of Ljubljana, in 1972, he joined the research group of Professor Hadži at the National Institute of Chemistry in Ljubljana. In 1981 he successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis »*Graph Theoretical Descriptors of Chemical Structures*«. He started his scientific research in the field of gas chromatography and was particularly involved in computer automation of molecular chromatographic data. Later, Dr. Razinger joined the group for the application of computers in chemistry at the National Institute of Chemistry. After the group was transformed to the Laboratory

of Chemometrics in 1991, he became the senior scientific and research fellow of Laboratory. In 1986 he was appointed assistant lecturer in the Department of Chemistry, University of Ljubljana, and in 1992 he was promoted to the position of senior research fellow at the University.

Throughout his career, the scientific endeavour of Dr. Marko Razinger was focused on the development and application of mathematical and computational methods to real chemical problems. Back in 1974, when on-line data acquisition was completely new to Slovenian chemists audience, he began automation and on-line handling of chromatographic data with the use of PDP-8e computer, which was the best available equipment at that time. During 1977-1980, in a team effort with his co-workers, he set up many computer oriented applications on the PDP-11m. With extreme ability to explore his chemistry and computer knowledge and with his proverbial eye for details, which is of primary importance to make the things work, he was the driving force for developing several mullet-spectroscopy oriented computer-supported systems, like KISIK, COSMOSS, ANALIZA, INES, and finally CARBON[®].

His undisputed favourite was mathematical chemistry, more precisely: the application of discrete mathematics to problems related to chemical structure. He spent one year (1980) with Professor Jacques E. Dubois at the 'Institut de Topologie et de Dynamique des Systemes', Université Paris VII. Since then, most of his publications were devoted to problems concerning

correct mathematical representations of chemical structures. In the 1989-90 period, he spent 16 months as Visiting Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. His research interest was directed not only to pure topology aspects of molecular structure, but he also made contributions to 3-D representations of molecules. This was the area of research in which he collaborated with several leading authorities in the field: with Randić, Balaban, Dubois, Trinajstić, Hosoya, and others. He maintained extensive correspondence with the Nobel laureate Professor Vlado Prelog concerning unresolved problems of chemical nomenclature.

For many years, Dr. Razinger was principal investigator of basic interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research project on the application of discrete mathematics in chemistry. The results of his work, which involved mathematics, chemistry and computational methods, are collected in 45 publications, three book chapters, and finally a contribution in a monograph (together with Prof. Randić) that has just been published. Dr. Marko Razinger was appreciated and his work was praised and admired in the international scientific community. This has been reflected in citations of his work. For example, his paper on the selectivity of topological indices for alkanes has been cited more than 60 times.

As a friend, scientist and co-worker, as an extremely well educated gentleman, he was always among us with his deeds, with his warm words and advice, and most of all with his dedicated work. His work was like his character: extraordinary in all respects and at the same time quite without even a shadow of self-promotion. For many years he was technical editor of *Acta Chimica Slovenica*, and contributed visibly to the transformation of *Acta Chimica Slovenica* from a local to an international journal. He died on July 31, 1996, but, through his thoughts and ideas which he shared with all of us for twenty years, he will not be forgotten.

Jure Zupan