Special Issue

Analysis of Geological Samples by Spectrochemical Techniques

Message from the Guest Editor

Nowadays, spectroscopy is the main tool to obtain new data on elemental, isotopic, and mineralogic composition of rocks, soils, sediments. Most developed spectroscopic techniques are used in this research—X-ray fluorescence, atomic emission and mass spectrometry with inductively coupled plasma, Isotope Dilution MS, Laser Ablation followed by emission spectroscopy of the ignited laser plasma, hyphenated LA-ICP-MS technique. Some techniques can be used for direct analysis of solid samples. Direct analysis is of course the most preferable technique for avoiding the stage of a solid sample digestion. But extremely low concentrations of noble metals and REEs cannot be determined directly because of the inadequate sensitivity of the direct techniques. LA-ICP-MS is the powerful technique for the analysis of the element inclusions in the minerals. For determination of trace and clarke concentrations of NMs and REEs the most sensitive technique—ICP-MS- with the preliminary sample digestion and in some cases preconcentration is most commonly used. We hope that researchers shall find this volume a valuable editorial tool for the publication of their results.

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As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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