

## Meeting Report

# Second Russian Winter School on Chemometrics (WSC-2), Feb. 28–March 06, Barnaul and Belokuriha, Altai, Russia

The Second Russian Winter School on Chemometrics (WSC-2) took place Feb. 28–March 06 in Barnaul and Belokuriha, Altai. As its predecessor the second school was conducted in the context of the DRUSHBAMETRICS (DM) program. The objective of DM is to contribute to starting up chemometrics in Russia, establishing a framework for international chemometrics interaction, presenting and discussing new possible fields of Multivariate Data Analysis (MDA) applications.

The program of WSC-2 consisted of two stages: Two days of basic chemometrics courses at Barnaul State University and 4 days of advanced invited lectures and short communications in Belokuriha, a health spa resort city in the foothill of the Altai mountains, 250 south of Novosibirsk. A total of 42 attendees took part in the first stage (conducted *in Russian*), with the following program: (1) Introduction to MDA and PCA (O. Rodionova), (2) Bilinear regression methods (O. Rodionova), (3) Introduction to non-linear regression (A. Pomerantsev), (4) Multivariate data analysis in practice: industrial applications (K. Esbensen). Attendees also had occasion to work on computers and to try the UNSCRAMBLER software for bilinear modeling and the FITTER Add-Ins for non-linear regression. Central parts of prof. Esbensen's textbook: 'Multivariate Data Analysis—an Introduction' have been translated into Russian by Sergei

Kucheryavski & Oxana Rodionova. The Russian book was used for this stage—apparently with local satisfaction. There are plans for a translation of further parts for the next winter school.

For stage two there were 20+ participants from 5 countries and different places of Russia. The program consisted of lectures by invited speakers and short contributions from the attendees (in English). Each talk was followed by ample time for questions and detailed discussions.

Invited lecturers included: (1) Pentti Minkkinen (Lappeenranta University, Lappeenranta, Finland) with talks on Practical applications of sampling theory and Environmental applications of chemometrics (2) Kim Esbensen (Aalborg University, Esbjerg, Denmark) with three talks on: Relationships between sampling, analysis and chemometrics, Proper validation and the AMT-technique (3) Vladimir Palyulin (Lomonosov State University, Moscow, Russia) with a talk on QSAR/QSPR methodology: past, present and future (4) Alexei Pomerantsev (Institute of Chemical Physics, RCS, Moscow, Russia) Successive Bayesian estimation for linear and non-linear modeling (5) Oxana Rodionova (Institute of Chemical Physics, RCS, Moscow, Russia) Simple Interval Calculation (SIC)—theory and applications (6) Oleg Startsev (Altai State University, Barnaul,



**Figure 1.** WSC-2 organisers (from left): Alexei Pomerantsev & Oxana Rodionova (RCS), Kim H. Esbensen, Sergei Kucheryavski, Altai State University.



**Figure 2.** WSC-2 organisers (from left): Oleg Startsev, ASU & Oxana Rodionova (RCS).

Russia) Feasibility of chemometric methods application for composite material science.

Short communications and contributions by the participants: Emese Vago (Budapest, Hungary), Denis Filistovich (Barnaul, Russia) Katya Pomerantseva (Moscow, Russia) Sergei Kucheryavski (Barnaul, Russia), Natalia Petrova (Yakutsk, Russia), Andrey Bogomolov (Moscow, Russia), Christopher Marks (Charlottesville VA, USA) Elena Shabanova (Irkutsk, Russia)

WSC-2 showed a healthy, continuously growing interest in Chemometrics in Russia and the fruitfulness of the DRUSHBAMETRICS program: It is especially noteworthy that almost all young(er) participants in Stage 2 contributed with formal presentations and were very active in the scientific (as well as the social) program. The organizers are satisfied with the results of locating WCS-2 to this distal part of Siberia even though the long distances precluded large attendances both from within other regions of Russia as well as from abroad. WCS-2 was mainly a testimony to the very active status of the group led by Oleg Startsev at Altai

State University, Barnaul, which now must be counted as a second center of Russian chemometrics.

The Third Winter School in Chemometrics (WSC-3) is planned for February 2004 in PushGory village, near Pskov, 300 km south of St. Petersburg. The organizers here plan for a significant foreign attendance in addition to a major Russian turnout, at which it is also hoped to involve many of the St. Petersburg chemometricians.

Further information and info on chemometrics in Russia [http : //rscs.chph.ras.ru/drushba.htm](http://rscs.chph.ras.ru/drushba.htm)

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