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MYKOLA IVANOVYCH LEOVKA
(on his 70th birthday)



On May 15 this year, Mykola Ivanovych Leovka, a well-known Ukrainian scientist in the field of physico-chemistry of condensed matter, Dr. Sci. in physics and mathematics, Professor, and the Head of the laboratory of physical chemistry of dispersed minerals at the F.D. Ovcharenko Institute of Biocolloidal Chemistry of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) is 70 years of age.

Mykola Ivanovych was born in Kyiv. He finished the physico-mathematical school No. 145 in Kyiv and, in 1976, graduated with honors from the Faculty of Physics of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. In 1986, he defended his PhD thesis *The*

Structure of Aqueous Interfacial Layers in the specialty thermal physics and molecular physics, and, in 1995, his doctoral dissertation *The Distribution of Random Fields in Heterogeneous Systems* in the specialties molecular physics and physics of colloidal systems.

M.I. Leovka always combines theoretical and experimental studies performed at a high level in the domain of physics. His research interests concern the properties of soft condensed matter and the physics of colloids, the behavior of composites and adsorption systems, statistical and computational physics, and the application of pulsed electric fields to the treatment of plant tissues, including the electroporation of cell membranes, and the destruction of pathogenic bacteria. He carried out a number of important experimental studies of the properties of aqueous systems and liquid crystals using the NMR spectroscopy method. At the same time, he theoretically studied the structure of liquid systems at the interfaces and in the bulk of spatially confined systems. His work in computer simulation formed a basis for research dealing with a whole series of various composite systems filled with nanoparticles of various types.

M.I. Leovka is an author or co-author of more than 470 (329 according to Scopus) scientific publications in peer-reviewed editions, which are highly cited worldwide. Currently, according to Scopus, his h-index is 57. He is also an author or co-author of 12 books, such as *Spectroscopy of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance in Water in Heterogeneous Systems* (Naukova Dumka, 1988), *Simulation of Physical Systems* (Intelekt, 2011), *Processing of Foods and Biomass Feedstock's by Pulsed Electric Energy* (Springer, 2020), and others. In 2011, as a member of a research team, M.I. Leovka became a laureate of the State Prize of Ukraine in science and engi-

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neering. His awards and grants include the American Physical Society Award (1993), the ISSEP Foundation Grant (1998), the Grant of the Ministry of National Education (France, 1999–2001), and the Web of Science Award (2018). He actively participates in various international projects aimed at scientific cooperation and in the organization of scientific conferences, schools, seminars, and so forth. M.I. Lebovka is a member of several specialized scientific councils for the defense of doctoral dissertations; in particular, he is the Chair of the scientific council D26.209.01 for awarding the Dr.Sci. scientific degree at the F.D. Ovcharenko Institute of Biocolloidal Chemistry of the NASU.

Mykola Ivanovych is a member of the editorial boards of the following journals: *Condensed Matter Physics* (Lviv), *Chemistry, Physics and Technology of Surfaces* (Kyiv), *Polymer Journal* (Kyiv), *Research in Agricultural Engineering* (Prague, Czech Republic), and *Frontiers in Food Science and Technology* (Lausanne, Switzerland). He also actively participates as a member in the organizing committees of many international conferences, and was invited as a guest co-editor to internationally recognized journals, such as *Journal of Molecular Liquids* and *Food Engineering Reviews*.

For many years (1997–2022), M.I. Lebovka had been a representative of Ukraine in the Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles (AIPEA). Nowadays, he is a member of the Committee of the L'Oréal-UNESCO Awards for Women in Sci-

ence, a member of the Scientific Council of the National Research Foundation of Ukraine, a member of the Ukrainian Physical Society, and a member of the Scientific Council for Soft Matter Physics (Department of Physics and Astronomy of the NASU).

Professor M.I. Lebovka puts a lot of efforts into the educational activity and the training of young scientists. Since the 1990s, he has been lecturing at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute", and the National Aviation University, as well as the Université de Technologie de Compiègne and the Sorbonne University. His special courses cover such special topics as software tools for solving physical problems, simulation of physical and biological media, the physics of disordered media, the physics of fractal systems, and the nature of electroporation phenomena.

The colleagues and collaborators of Mykola Ivanovych Lebovka sincerely congratulate him on his birthday and wish him good health and inspiration for the successful implementation of new creative projects.

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