

# EVALUATION OF HEAVY METALS CONTENT IN WATER BY ELECTROCHEMICAL SENSORS BASED ON AZULENES

Roxana MANDOC (POPESCU)<sup>1,2</sup>, Iuliana Moldoveanu<sup>3</sup>,  
Raluca-Ioana Stefan-van Staden<sup>3</sup>, Eleonora-Mihaela Ungureanu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*National Research and Development Institute for Industrial Ecology – Ramnicu Valcea Subsidiary, 1 Uzinei St., Romania, mandoc\_lui@yahoo.com*

<sup>2</sup>*Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science, Politehnica University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania,*

<sup>3</sup>*Laboratory of Electrochemistry and PATLAB Bucharest, National Institute of Research for Electrochemistry and Condensed Matter, Romania,*

New stochastic sensors were proposed for the screening of heavy metals in water samples. Heavy metals (e.g., Cd and Pb) are continuously accumulating into ecosystems mainly through industrial processes. They are nonbio-degradable species whose life-threatening hazards mostly depend on their chemical forms and exposure<sup>1</sup>. Therefore, their fast and reliable assay is essential.

Electroactive nanostructured materials from azulene derivative classes were synthesized and immobilized in graphite paste. Stochastic sensing - a new approach in electroanalysis, the only one that can perform both qualitative and quantitative analysis, was used<sup>2</sup>. The linear concentration range for heavy metals was established.

The main advantages of the proposed method are: fast assay of heavy metals in water samples, low cost per analysis, no sample preparation is required and high reliability of the assay.

## Acknowledgment

This work was supported by: Sectorial Operational Programme Human Resources Development (SOP HRD), financed from the European Social Fund and the Romanian Government under the contract number POSDRU/159/1.5/S/137390 (L.R. MANDOC (POPESCU)), and UEFISCDI projects 15/2011 and 236/2014 (E.-M. UNGUREANU).

## References

1. G. S. Shukla, R. L. Singhal, The present status of biological effects of toxic metals in the environment: lead, cadmium, and manganese, *Can. J. Physiol. Pharm.* 62 (1984) 1015-1031.
2. Raluca-Ioana Stefan-van Staden, Iuliana Moldoveanu, Jacobus Frederick van Staden, *Journal of Neuroscience Methods*, 229 (2014) 1–7.