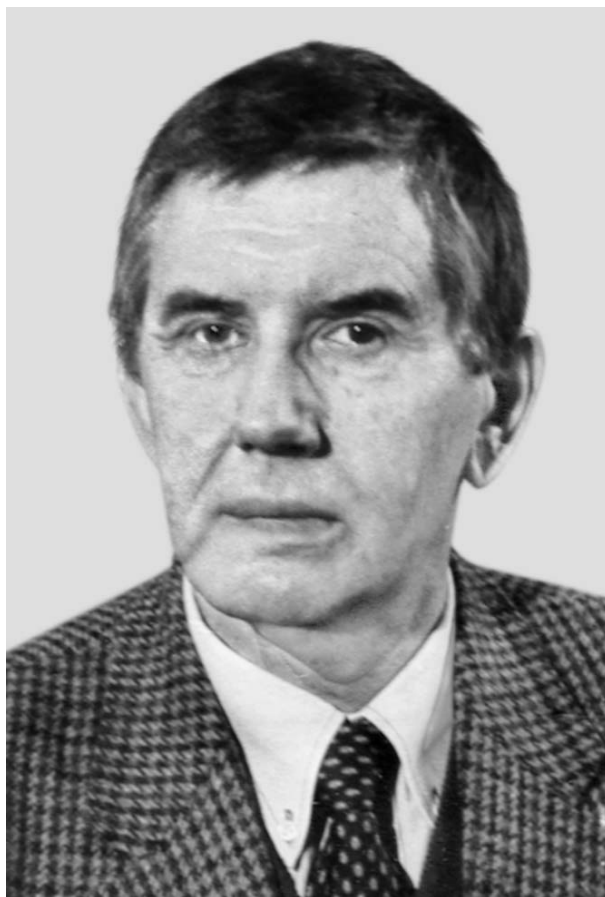

OBITUARY

Vadim Mikhailovich Frolov
December 12, 1931–December 16, 2006

DOI: 10.1134/S0965544107030139



Vadim Mikhailovich Frolov, the head of the laboratory at the Topchiev Institute of Petrochemical Synthesis, a professor, a doctor of science in chemistry, and a prominent scientist in the area of catalysis, polymer chemistry, and petroleum chemistry, died on December 16, 2006, after suffering for a long time from a serious illness.

Vadim Frolov was known as the author of numerous (more than 250) scientific papers, reviews, and patents, recognized widely by the scientific community in this country and abroad. His works made a considerable contribution to the development of catalytic olefin and diene polymerization processes, as well as the catalytic hydrogenation of unsaturated hydrocarbons and their derivatives. A characteristic feature of the high-quality research was the comprehensive, exhaustive approach

to the investigation of the mechanism of the processes and the nature of active sites, and the wide use of up-to-date analytic instrumentation and data processing techniques.

Between 1964–1975, Frolov performed extensive research into the processes of stereoselective polymerization of dienes in the presence of ion-coordination and anionic systems. The detailed investigation of model reactions of catalytically active complexes, the study of the kinetics of polymerization, and the use of isotope techniques enabled him to advance fundamentally new ideas on the nature of active sites and the stepwise mechanism of a number of processes.

He proposed and developed a unique and promising approach to the creation of next-generation high-performance homogeneous and supported metal complex

catalysts for the hydrogenation of unsaturated organic compounds with a uniquely high activity and selectivity. The catalyst systems he designed are of great interest to many practically important processes, such as the hydrogenation of vegetable oils and fats, the manufacture of a number of valuable monomers, and hydrogenation of aromatic compounds or unsaturated polymers.

Along with his research activity, Frolov put a lot of effort into scientific management. For many years (1989–2000), he was being the deputy director of the Topchiev Institute for scientific affairs; the hard years of reforms and instability saw his heroic efforts in this position to retain skilled staff and to maintain the material and technical potential of the Institute to provide for the high level of research.

Frolov was a member of the Scientific Council on Catalysis (Russian Academy of Sciences), the examination council for the Higher Attestation Commission (Russian Ministry of Education), and a number of spe-

cialty councils for academic degrees. He played an important part in the work of the *Neftekhimiya* (Petroleum Chemistry) editorial board and was also a full member of the International Academy of Creative Endeavors.

Frolov was actively involved in research personnel-training activities and paid a great deal of attention to teaching the young. There are 2 doctors and 20 candidates of science among his pupils.

In his life, Vadim Frolov was a well-wishing, kind-hearted, and cheerful person who liked and was liked by friends and appreciated friendship. The memory of this remarkable scientist and person will remain forever in our hearts.

The versatile activity of Professor Frolov is well known. He is

On behalf of the editorial board,

O. P. Parenago