Dear Editor,

We are submitting to you a manuscript entitled “**Room temperature cloud point extraction: an application to preconcentration and spectrophotometric determination of Copper(II)”** authored by **Denys Snigur, Alexander Chebotarev, Vitaliy Dubovyi, Dmytro Barbalat and Anastasiia Klochkova (Odessa I.I. Mechnikov University, Ukraine)**. The contents of this manuscript have not been copyrighted or published previously and are not now under consideration for publication elsewhere.

The CPE method and its advantages are well known, but the need for additional influences (heating, ultrasound irradiation) makes it sufficiently long (generally more than 30 min). In this work the novel and rapid room temperature CPE (RT-CPE) procedure was proposed. RT-CPE was induced by the formation of benzoic acid in the reaction of ammonium benzoate and sulfuric acid. This prevents the formation of hydrogen bonds between nonionic surfactant and water molecules and promotes rapid formation (<1 min) of the surfactant-rich phase.

The proposed approach to the RT-CPE procedure was combined with spectrophotometry to determine Cu(II). Under the optimal conditions (absorption band maximum was 540 nm, concentration 1.5×10-4 mol L-1 ofDHMPhB, 1.0 % (v/v) of Triton X-100, 2.0 mL of 7.5×10-1 mol L-1 ammonium benzoate, and 1.0 mL of 0.5 mol L-1 sulfuric acid solution for obtaining benzoic-benzoate buffer solution with pH 4.5 and initiation immediate surfactant rich phase formation) the calibration plot for spectrophotometric determination of copper(II) was linear in the range of copper(II) concentration 0.02 – 0.95 µg mL−1. The limit of detection was calculated 0.006 µg mL−1. The water samples were analyzed according to suggested procedure with satisfactory results.

We would be grateful if you could consider the manuscript for publication in Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.

**List of Potential Reviewers**

1) Prof. **Yaroslav R. Bazeľ**, Department of Analytical Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia.

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Sincerely yours

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