

# **Speciation of mercury**

by

*Ragnar Bye*

**University of Oslo**

## Abstract

The lecture starts with a brief introduction to earlier methods for determination of traces of mercury. Important changes occurred in the late sixties with respect to the methods both for total mercury and for organic mercury. The development of these methods, that are fundamental of the methods of today, will be discussed.

Furthermore, the author will draw attention to and discuss the importance of the presence of organic- (methyl-) mercury in organisms, particularly in fish. In this context the author will present some views that might be debatable.