

## **THANK YOU, ALEXEI GRIGORIEVICH!**

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The first time I got in contact with the name Alexei Grigorievich Ivakhnenko was at the end of my study at Humboldt University Berlin in 1992. I did a literature search on "self-organising modelling". The result was a very long list of articles, conference papers, books, most of them in Russian language, only few of them in English or German. But there was an important observation. The librarian who had supported me in my search, pointed me to the fact that one name very frequently appeared as an author: that of A.G. Ivakhnenko. She said to me by all her experience, this is a strong indication that this man is a key person in this field. At the latest in this moment it was clear to me that I had found what I was looking for, and which direction I want to take.

Later, in the late 1990s, I had the chance to meet Alexei Grigorievich personally during his short stays in Berlin. We had nice, inspiring and fruitful conversations and exchange of ideas on cybernetics, self-organisation, modelling, GMDH, and the situation of life in the Ukraine and in Germany. We also talked about our software tool KnowledgeMiner and what he thought which features it should have added to sharpen the concept of inductive modelling. To me, it always was very impressive to see and experience his passion and clear and innovative thinking in our discussions.

Even though I not have worked with Alexei Grigorievich, directly, his extraordinary scientific work has essentially influenced and inspired my own work in this area. It was always a pleasure for me to help promote his brilliant ideas and to help to utilize the beauty and strength of the Inductive Modelling concepts in useful real-world applications.

Thank you, Alexei Grigorievich!