separation of the two sections on ion chromatography and ion-exchange chromatography is not meaningful, from either a theoretical or an instrumental point of view. Ion chromatography has developed significantly and the suppressor systems described here are only a few of the many configurations currently used. The instrumental aspects, particularly those of the detector and the atomization units, are very similar to those in atomic spectroscopy (and to some extent even in molecular spectroscopic methods). They should be more appropriately discussed in a unified way, that is, in a separate section. The instrumental (mainly electrochemical) methods for end-point detection in titrations are discussed separately instead of treating them together within the context of volumetric analysis. It is very questionable whether pyrolysis gas chromatography is appropriately presented under thermal methods. The detailed description of solvent extraction and special techniques such as Craig counter-current extractions (with figure) is inappropriate. Figures showing linear calibration plots of arbitrarily selected examples (e.g., Figs. 8.6, 8.7, 8.15) are simply superfluous.

In my opinion the authors have not been sufficiently bold in rejecting material of less importance in favor of more up-to-date and relevant aspects. The progress in sensor technology and the important field of biochemical (enzymatic) methods of analysis has not been taken into account at all. Subjects such as process control and continuous monitoring, structural analysis, and surface analysis are not treated adequately. Also the book does not emphasize the importance of the quality of analytical data, nor does it contain a critical discussion of interferences and limitations to which all analytical methods are susceptible to varying degrees. The overall analytical procedure, consisting of sampling, sample preparation, detection by the relevent instrument, and data evaluation is not adequately treated in Chapter 12. General strategies for analyzing liquids, solids, and gases, and for different types of analyses (e.g., for elements, ions, metals, organics, polymers, or biopolymers) are not given. Such information (concentrating not solely on the method itself but on suitability for actual analytical problems) would surely improve the motivation of readers for getting a sound understanding of the various methodologies.

In conclusion I must state that the new edition, despite the revision and updating, is not convincing in view of recent developments in analytical chemistry and its changing role in our industrialized world. For students it fails to convey the connection to real-life problems and links to related fields, and several better books are available. For the practising analyst requiring a concise overview of the principles and instrumentation, the book places too much emphasis on fundamentals, while failing to provide a qualified and critical judgement of the suitability of the different methods for specific analytical problems. At best it can only be recommended for university teachers and researchers to complete their collection of available books and possibly extract some valuable information.

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Medicinal Chemistry into the Millennium. Edited by *Malcolm M. Campbell* and *Ian S. Blagbrough*. Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge 2001. X + 398 pp., hardcover £ 69.50.—ISBN 0-85404-769-7

It is justifiable to ask why it has taken three years following a conference for the conference proceedings volume to appear. That question is not answered by the editors of the book *Medicinal Chemistry into the Millennium*. Their book is nothing else than a collection of papers presented at the European Federation of Medicinal Chemistry's symposium held in Edinburgh in September 1998.

The contributions have certainly been extensively edited before going to print, but does that justify the long delay? Hardly, especially in view of the fact that medicinal chemistry has moved on in three years, and the contents of the book no longer reflect the state of the art in many respects. Nevertheless, the reader who is seeking good reviews of a particular area of medicinal chemistry, and would also enjoy reading again an introduction to that area, should take a look at this volume edited by Malcolm Campbell and Ian Blagbrough of the University of Bath, UK, under the auspices of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

The scope of the contributions begins with new techniques for drug discovery, then ranges over all the most important classes of target molecules in pharmacological research, and ends with a chapter on the prediction of DMPK properties (drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics). The articles are of excellent quality, illustrated by figures that are in general effective and informative.

However, it is unlikely that anyone will read the book from beginning to end, as the papers, although certainly good, are very specialized. Readers who wish to know in detail about, for example, "Potent and Selective 5-HT6 Receptor Antagonists", or "Structure-based Design of Irreversible, Peptidomimetic Human Rhinovirus 3C Protease Inhibitors", will only be those who already have a special interest in these topics from a professional and/or scientific standpoint. Thus it is unfortunate that the volume does not have a subject index that would make it easier to find information on special topics.

To summarize, *Medicinal Chemistry into the Millennium* is a valuable book, but is unfortunately no longer quite up-to-date, and individuals will probably not find it worthwhile to buy it. On the other hand, it seems likely to be an essential addition to libraries devoted to pharmaceutical science.

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