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The Book Corner

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THE BOOK CORNER

CAPILLARY ZONE ELECTROPHORESIS, F. Foret, L. Krivankova and P. Bocek
VCH Weinheim, Germany, 1993, xiv + 346 pages DM 228.00. ISBN: 3-527-30019-8

Capillary zone electrophoresis (CZE) is a powerful analytical technique which recently gained popularity among other separation modalities. It had proven its efficiency in separation and analysis of small ions and molecules and also macromolecules such as proteins, nucleic acid, viruses and cells among others. The book consists of 10 chapters which ends with a list of references upto 1992.

Topics covered include:

- Fundamental concepts and theoretical principles
- Phenomena accompanying electrophoresis
- Practice of capillary electrophoresis
- Instrumentation - principles, components and how to operate it
- Applications

The book is well illustrated as it contains 201 figures and 32 tables. The chapters are clearly presented in a concise format.

The book is recommended for graduate students, analytical chemists in both pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries as well as academic professionals.

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GAS CHROMATOGRAPHIC ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS - PRINCIPLES, TECHNIQUES, INSTRUMENTATION, by Fabrizio Bruner, VCH Publishers, Weinheim, Germany, 1993, xii + 233 pp., DM 98.00; ISBN: 3-527-28042-1

This book is a welcome addition to the scientific literature, as it is one of the few books available on the applications of gas chromatography to environmental analysis specifically.

The volume consists of five chapters with good illustrations and figures. Each chapter ends with a list of references up to 1992.

The author discusses, in Chapters 1 and 2, the general principles and instrumentation required for gas chromatographic environmental analysis. Chapter 3 is dedicated to mass spectrometry and its usefulness and significance in environmental organic analysis. While Chapter 4 is devoted to the chromatographic analysis of volatile air and water pollutants such as hydrocarbons, sulfur gases, halocarbons, among others. Finally, Chapter 5 deals with sample preparation and analysis of organic micropollutants from complex matrices.

Dr. Bruner discusses, in detail, the techniques required for sample preparation, since he states that "it is useless to exploit even the most sophisticated apparatus when the injected sample does not represent the original one."

This book is highly recommended for analytical chemists in both industrial, academic contexts who are involved in research, in environmental analysis and also graduate students. It is also an excellent reference for governmental research centres, chemical companies.

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DIODE ARRAY DETECTION IN HPLC, edited by L. Huber & S. A. George, *Chromatographic Science Series*, J. Cazes Editor, Volume 62, Marcel Dekker, Inc. New York, Basel, Hongkong, 1993, vii + 400 pp., \$150.00; ISBN: 042474947-4

This book represents Volume 62 in the *Chromatographic Science Series* published by Marcel Dekker. The book is well presented and discusses the principles and techniques of diode array detection and its application in high performance liquid chromatography. The advantages of diode array detection over conventional absorbance detectors are also well presented. Diode array detection offers high selectivity and sensitivity as it is coupled by modern software which can evaluate and process a large amount of data, provided in a very short time. The most significant improvements made in optics of the diode array detector is also discussed.

The book is written by eight contributors, who are experienced in this technique. It also is well illustrated, as it contains 239 figures, 22 tables, and each chapter ends with references; however, the most recent references are cited in 1990.

The volume consists of 14 chapters, classified into four parts, with the following topics:

I. Theory and Design:

- * Historical Developments
- * Modern Developments

II. Advantages of Diode Array Detectors to Chromatographers:

- * Diode Array Detection Advantages for the Chromatographer
- * Spectral Matching and Peak Purity
- * Chemometrics and Photodiode Array Detection

III. Applications of Diode Array Detectors:

- * The Use of Diode Array Detectors in the Pharmaceutical Industry
- * Clinical Applications
- * Toxicological Applications
- * Applications in the Analysis of Amino Acids, Peptides and Proteins
- * Food and Beverages
- * Environmental Applications
- * Chemical, Petrochemical, and Polymer Applications

IV. Guidelines on how to optimize Sensitivity, Selectivity, Automation:

- * Optimization of Diode Array Detection, and
- * Using Diode Array Detectors for Automated Routine Analysis.

This book is highly recommended to analytical, pharmaceutical and environmental chemists and also for biochemists, and graduate students.

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