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A review of: "BIOAFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY"

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BOOK REVIEW

BIOAFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY

J. Turková

Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1993; hardbound, XVIII + 796 pages, \$282.75

This work is the second, completely revised edition of what I assume to be the 1978 edition, then entitled AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY, which I reviewed in *Separ. Purif. Meth.* 7, 135 (1978). The fifteen chapters treat: 1. Introduction; 2. The principle, history and use of bioaffinity chromatography; 3. Choice of affinity ligands (affinants); 4. General considerations on affinant-sorbent bonding; 5. Solid matrix supports; 6. Survey of the most common coupling procedures; 7. Characterization of supports and immobilized affinity ligands; 8. General considerations on sorption, elution and non-specific binding; 9. Bioaffinity chromatography in the isolation, determination or removal of biologically active substances; 10. Immobilization of enzymes by biospecific adsorption to immobilized monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies; 11. Study of the modification, mechanism of action and structure; 12. Solid-phase immunoassay and enzyme-linked lectin assay; 13. Several examples of the application of biospecific adsorption in medicine; 14. Application of bioaffinity chromatography to the quantitative evaluation of specific complexes; 15. Theory of bioaffinity chromatography. Continuing her practice of 1978, Dr. Turková gave extensive tables of examples and uses of low pressure, high pressure and large-scale bioaffinity chromatography, comprising 270 pages (Chapter 9), including almost 2,000 references, a list of commercial names (with explanations) of the solid supports mentioned in the tables, and addresses of the relevant manufacturers. The number of references to these tables has almost doubled since the first edition. (The tables would, however, be made vastly more useful if for each utilization, the binding and eluting buffers could be mentioned).

This work, like its predecessor, is an extremely useful and eminently usable handbook on a still fast-growing branch of chromatography. Its references appear up to date to the middle 1980's, with a few more from the late 1980's and an occasional one from 1990. As before, this work is recommended to academic and industrial users of bioaffinity chromatography: biochemists, molecular biologists, separation scientists and engineers, cellular biologists, immunologists, etc., who can afford the steep price. This edition is almost four times as costly as the first one, which I already thought to be too

expensive in 1978: books of this type seem to have undergone twice the inflation of most other commodities in the last fifteen years.

Carel J. van Oss