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## Separation & Purification Reviews

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**A Review of: "Separation and Purification, E. S. Perry and A. Weissberger, Ed., Third Edition, Volume XII of TECHNIQUES OF CHEMISTRY, Wiley-Intencience, New York, 1978; hardbound, 438 pages, \$30.00"**

Carel J. Van Oss

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BOOK REVIEW

SEPARATION AND PURIFICATION

E.S. Perry and A. Weissberger, Ed.

Third Edition, Volume XII of TECHNIQUES OF CHEMISTRY,  
Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1978;  
hardbound, 438 pages, \$30.00

The new edition of this work comprises the following chapters: I, Purity: Concept and Reality by M. Zief and A.J. Barnard, Jr.; II, Solvent Selection for Separation Processes by L.R. Snyder; III, Liquid-Liquid Extraction by E.G. Scheibel; IV, Ion-Exchange Chromatography by P.R. Brown and A. Krstulovic; V, Affinity Chromatography by S.W. May; VI, Centrifuging by C.M. Ambler and F.W. Keith, Jr.; VII, Filtration as a Laboratory Tool by C.S. Oulman and E.R. Baumann.

Other separation and purification methods such as: Membranes in Separation, Electrophoresis, Crystallization and Recrystallization, Solvent Removal, Evaporation and Drying, Distillation, Gass Chromatography, Thin Layer Chromatography, Liquid Chromatography, Ion-Exchange Techniques, are, or will be, treated in separate volumes. We are thus left with a volume of seven selected topics on various aspects of separation and purification. Some of the chapters are much encompassing, but, or perhaps therefore, fairly superficial. One example is the chapter VI on Centrifuging. E.g., analytical ultracentrifuges are treated in less than five pages, which is far too little to be informative for novices and not very useful for experts, even in adjoining fields. Incidentally, the sedimentation coefficient or Svedberg is expressed in units

of  $10^{-13}$  sec, not  $10^{-13}$  cm/sec. The last chapter, on Filtration, is quite extensive and informative. In membrane filters the products of two firms are discussed in some detail; however the membranes of both firms are fairly similar and consist fundamentally of random gels or networks, although very precise "pore sizes" are given. It would be helpful for future editions if a third and quite different brand of membrane could also be included, i.e., the type of membrane that is pierced with myriads of precisely cylindrical pores and really homogeneous pore-sizes, made by means of collimated ionizing radiation and subsequent etching.

This volume is a welcome and up-to-date addition to the literature on separation and purification methods, and is warmly recommended to all chemists and chemical engineers.

Carel J. van Oss