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BOOK REVIEW

STERIC EXCLUSION LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY
OF POLYMERS

J. Janča, Editor

Marcel Dekker, New York, 1984;
hardbound, 329 pages, \$55.00

Steric Exclusion Chromatography (SEC) in the last 25 years has become one of the most important methods of determining molecular weights of polymers, as well as of (preparative) separation of polymers according to molecular weight and/or shape. This work is mainly concerned with SEC of polymers via the High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) approach. Its 7 chapters treat: 1, Principles of Steric Exclusion Liquid Chromatography by J. Janča; 2, Calibration of Separation Systems; 3, Correction for Axial Dispersion; 4, Effect of Experimental Conditions; 5, Use for Polymer Analysis; 6, Automatic Data Treatment; 7, Precision and Accuracy of Results. The origins of SEC and its underlying theories is especially aptly described by Dr. Janča in Chapter 1. Many examples are given in all chapters. It is only for the preparative and analytical separation of biopolymers (which was, incidentally the first application of SEC and which still is much used for that purpose) that the reader may best look elsewhere (in addition to the general literature on protein purification and separation, see "HPLC Analysis of Biological Compounds" by W.S. Hancock and J.T. Sparrow, reviewed below). This volume is highly recommended for all polymer chemists and chemical engineers.

Carel J. van Oss