Cazes, J. (ed.): **Encyclopedia of Chromatography.** – Marcel Dekker, New York – Basel 2001. ISBN 0-8247-0511-4. 928 pp., USD 250.00.

The last century has seen monumental advances in the development of new analytical technologies and methodologies. Chromatography takes its place at the top of the list. Chromatographic methods have become the method of choice for the solution of analytical problems in all areas of application, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, environmental sciences, polymers, pathology, toxicology, and many more.

This Encyclopedia of Chromatography contains over 300 chapters and 1 000 drawings, equations, tables, and photographs on more then 900 pages written by over 180 international authorities from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Romania, Russia, Spain, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, UK, and USA. There are three groups of chapters in this book – on analytical methods, detection, and statistics of chromatography. A detailed subject index makes orientation in the book easy.

Analytical chapters describe methods for separation and quantification, *e.g.* thin-layer chromatography (TLC) of antibiotics, mycotoxins, plant toxins, saccharides, ceramides, lipids and lipophylic vitamins, high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) of amino acids, lipids, peptides, and pollutants in water, affinity chromatography of cells, adsorption chromatography, gas chromatography (GC) of amines, amides, amino acids, saccharides, steroids, and pesticides, capillary isotachophoresis, capillary isoelectric focusing of peptides, proteins, and antibodies, capillary electrophoresis of biopolymers, pharmaceuticals, saccharides, neuroproteins, and metalloproteins, capillary electrophoresis in nonaqueous media, field-flow fractionation and its application in biotechnology.

The second group of chapters deals with methods of component detection during chromatography, for example, absorbance detection in capillary electrophoresis, conductivity detection in capillary electrophoresis and HPLC, photodiode-array and fluorescence detection in HPLC, visualisation of TLC zones, electrochemical detection, *etc.*

The third block of chapters describes theory of chromatography and mathematical formulae for defining chromatographic systems, effects of conditions (pH, temperature, solvent system, length of column, *etc.*) to resolution of sample components, quantification of chromatography, and characterisation of solvents and chromatographic sorbents.

Generally, the book is an excellent source of recent information on the chromatography. Each chapter contains theoretical introduction and methodological part, and is accompanied by a list of references (together almost 2 600 citations). The book is well edited and produced and can be recommended to all scientists and students interested in chromatography.

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