



## Book Reviews

**Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry Techniques and Applications.** By A. L. Yervey, C. G. Edmonds, I. S. A. Lewis and M. L. Vestal, Plenum Press, New York, 1990. ix + 306 pp. ISBN 0-306-43186-6. Price: £65.00.

The major characteristics of the techniques in liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry (LC/MS) is the elimination of the prior chemical modification of the sample by derivatization which is necessary in gas chromatography/mass spectrometry systems (GC/MS). The LC/MS system may also be used for analysis of non-volatile, thermally labile and/or pre-charged molecules, which are not readily detectable by other methods.

The connection between LC and MS equipments can be made by coupling them directly, i.e. direct liquid introduction (DLI). The physical basis for operation of the DLI. Interfaces is a combination of thermal energy input and liquid flow rate. The authors list several types of physical configurations that have been used to effect DLI interfaces as well as selected references that describe important aspects of each approach operating principles.

The book includes discussions of mechanical transport devices, thermospray, particle beam and applications of LC/MS systems for nucleic acid constituents (nucleotides, acylcannitines and sulfates) as well as aminoacids, peptides and proteins.

This book forms part of the series 'Modern Analytical Chemistry' and provides a classified bibliography of the LC/MS literature through to May 1988. It is a useful reference work for researchers working in this field as well as to people just beginning to use the techniques.

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