

Notes

A method for the preparation of a permanent record of thin-layer chromatoplates

An accurate and permanent record may be obtained from the powdery surface of the STAHL thin-layer chromatoplate by the use of some of the common letter copying machines in current use today. This addition to the thin-layer chromatography technique has proved quite satisfactory and eliminates free hand sketches or other time-consuming or destructive methods of recording the locations of the spots on the chromatoplates. We place the developed chromatoplate on the negative paper and expose it in the photocopier (diffuse transfer process*). A negative and a positive print are obtained which show all the detail visible on the developed chromatoplate. In some cases where the developing agent would have an adverse effect on the silver halide negative, a sheet of cellophane placed between the chromatoplate and the negative will give good results. Short exposure times give the most contrast. Care must be used in placing the chromatoplate so that the thin layer is undisturbed. With care more than one print can easily be obtained from the same chromatoplate. In some cases the negative will be of better quality than the positive, and can be used, but it is the negative-image of the chromatoplate. Details such as solvent front and ultraviolet fluorescing spots can more accurately be placed on the photocopy. The calculation of the R_F values for each component may be recorded directly on the print.

*The Hastings Foundation,
The Charles Cook Hastings Home,
Altadena, Calif. (U.S.A.)*

HORACE R. GETZ
D. DAVID LAWSON

Received June 5th, 1961

* Photorapid, manufactured by Bürogeräte AG, Zürich, Switzerland, Pronto model with Gevacopy paper GS, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inches.

Recording thin-layer chromatographic data

With the advent of the useful technique of thin-layer chromatography (TLC), this laboratory became faced with the problem of recording the results of TL chromatograms. Clearly this can be done in terms of R_F value, but for technique development