

Editorial

In the classification of any bibliography there are several rules that have to be respected. The first is, of course, to make not only any item within the data available but also related items easy to find. This means that the general classification scheme for the entries involved should be stable over a reasonable period of time. On the other hand it is also necessary to follow the advance in science. In separation techniques a breakthrough occurred during the eighties and within the next decade capillary electrophoresis established itself as an independent technique (involving as a matter of fact a number of related procedures of which capillary electrokinetic chromatography is probably the most widely used and the newly emerging electrochromatography). This development called for a change in our Bibliography Section. Starting from 1.1.1999 we are introducing a separate section called Capillary electrophoresis and electrokinetic chromatography. It may be argued that electrokinetic chromatography and also electrochromatography are techniques which according to their separation principle should fit better the section of liquid column chromatography. However, for practical reasons (as the equipment used is basically that for capillary electrophoresis) we have decided to involve these techniques into the newly generated section on Capillary electrophoresis and electrokinetic chromatography. Consequently starting from January 1st 1999 the Bibliography Section will have the following subsections:

- 1) Liquid chromatography (LC)
- 2) Gas chromatography (GC)
- 3) Planar chromatography (PC)
- 4) Gel electrophoresis (EL)
- 5) Capillary electrophoresis and electrokinetic chromatography (CE)

As seen from the detailed classification scheme attached at the end of this Editorial individual subsections (similarly as it has been in the past) differ in the technical part while the application part is the same for all subsections involved. Also in the technical part we kept the differences at minimum; in part because of keeping the system which has proven useful over the past twenty years, in part because of offering the possibility to switch easily between the different subsections when searching for a particular subject or theme.

Introduction of the Capillary Electrophoresis and Electrokinetic Chromatography (CE) subsection will be, of course, adequately reflected in the electronic version of the Bibliography Section when updated at the end of 1999.

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