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Book Review

Biological/biomedical applications of liquid chromatography III, edited by G.L. Hawk, Marcel Dekker, New York, Basel, 1981, XV + 420 pp., price Sfr. 148.00, ISBN 0-8247-1297-8.

The third volume of the above monograph represents a collection of 22 papers which were presented at the 3rd Liquid Chromatography Symposium held in Boston, MA, U.S.A., October 11 and 12, 1979. The arrangement of this volume is analogous to the arrangement of the first two volumes [for review see *J. Chromatogr.*, 181 (1980) 516 and 183 (1980) 260]. The papers present predominantly original results from the area of biomedical research and clinical chemistry, and several papers are devoted to drug monitoring. The difference of this volume to the previous ones reflects the fact that the symposium naturally mirrored the trends in biomedical applications in 1979. Therefore, most papers (about one third) were devoted to amino acids, peptides, proteins and enzymes. Other papers are orientated to the analysis of catecholamines and their metabolites, nucleic acids and their components, carbohydrates and prostaglandins. From the area of drug analysis reports are included on the monitoring of disopyramide, anticonvulsants and a gastric secretory agent ICI 125,211. From the methodical point of view, attention has been paid to radial compression separation systems and to pre- and post-column derivatization.

It is obvious that the editor paid considerable attention to preparing the manuscripts for publication. It is not clear, however, why he has not arranged individual papers according to the categories of compounds separated. Quotation of references is not uniform in this volume. It is worth mentioning that, for example, in the paper of Waterfield and Scrace there are a number of errors in the references. For example, the authors quoted three papers that should have been published in the present volume, but it is impossible to find any one of these. The book is completed by a Glossary (which has been transferred from the preceding volume) and a Subject Index.

It can be concluded that the book will be useful mainly for people involved in basic biomedical research. It is expected that it will be welcomed especially by those who took part in this meeting. With regard to the wide scatter of themes involved it is questionable whether the book will be bought by the readers interested in one or two papers in their area of interest.