



ELSEVIER

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Preface

There are three areas in which the methodology of protein analysis is developing. While two dimensional gel electrophoresis is undergoing a rather slowed down development regarding mainly the nature of the gels used and the computerized evaluation of peptide maps, capillary electrophoresis attempts to play a dignified counterpart to liquid column chromatography; the basic problems of capillary electrophoresis, however, are non specific sorptions to bare capillary walls which still, to a certain extent, persist in spite of all efforts of wall shielding. Capillary electrophoresis is gaining in popularity particularly because the result of the analysis is a curve and not a spot, and because of easy hyphenation to e.g. MS devices. In chromatography the main stream of research encounters new sorbents, derivatization and better understanding of the behavior of protein molecules during the separation process. And, of course, then there is the application field, which is

vast and hardly more than selected examples can be presented in a volume of reasonable size.

This volume can, in a way, be seen as a continuation of what has been published in the series of a couple of years ago [see separation of Biopolymers and Supramolecular Structures, Z. Deyl and M.T.W Hearn (editors), Spec. Vol. Chromotogr. (Biomed. Appl.) 418 (1987)].

Nobody is perfect and even while attempting the highest level of perfectness we are sure mistakes that escaped our attention occur in this volume. We apologise in advance. Moreover, we would appreciate all hints or comments from our readers that would improve the Special Volume of J. Chromatogr. B during the coming years.

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