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BOOK REVIEW

"OPTIMIZATION IN HPLC", R. E. Kaiser & E. Oelrich; Dr. Alfred Huthig Verlag, Heidelberg, 1981, 278 pp., US\$33.00.

This volume is recommended for chromatographers who want to apply HPLC more effectively to the solution of analytical problems. The first part deals with optimization, treated as a balance between three factors:

- analysis time
- sample loading
- sep'n efficiency and validity.

The treatment is excellent, covering such topics as separation efficiency, evaluation of experimental data, the practical meaning of variance, dead time and volume, H/u curves, optimization of materials using HPTLC, the transfer function for TLC-to-LC, mechanical optimization, and more.

Part two, although interesting and useful, doesn't seem to belong in this monograph. It deals with a specific device, "the separation cassette system," and reads like an instruction/applications manual for the device. Its features and benefits and methods of application are described in fine detail. It's unfortunate that the authors decided to occupy 86 pages (more than 30% of the total) of this otherwise excellent monograph in this manner. It almost seems as though it was done because there was no other place to publish this "instruction manual." For many readers, however, the remaining 70% will probably be worth the price of the entire volume.

JG