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The Book Corner

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THE BOOK CORNER

ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTATION HANDBOOK, Galen W. Ewing, Editor, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York and Basel, 1990. Price: \$195.00 (USA), \$234.00 (all other countries).

In his Introduction the editor states "one of the principal thrusts of this handbook is to assist persons new to the field in making an intelligent choice of instruments to purchase." The book, in my opinion, is more than just a guide to selecting an instrument, it is a guide to analytical chemists to decide which procedure should be used to solve an analytical problem. The handbook, unfortunately, does not list any instrumentation for TLC. Since capillary zone electrophoresis is new I did not expect to find any information about it, I was correct. Otherwise it is a good reference.

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INORGANIC CHEMICAL NOMENCLATURE: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES, B. Peter Block, Warren H. Powell and W. Conrad Fernelius, ACS Professional Reference Book, Washington, DC, 1990. Price: \$59.95 (cloth), \$39.95 (paper).

This useful book deals with the nomenclature of all substances except those that have a carbon as the central atom and contain carbon-to-carbon bonds. "Although the emphasis is on names of individual substances", states the authors, "names of other sorts are also important in inorganic chemistry. They include names for groups of elements, for types of reactions, for characteristic properties....etc." The book is well done and deserves to be in every library and laboratory. It is a good reference.

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HANDBOOK OF CHROMATOGRAPHY, Ram N. Gupta, Editor, Gunter Zweig and Joseph Sherma, Editors in Chief, *Drugs* (Volumes III-VI), CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida, 1989. Prices: Volume III: \$139.00 (USA), \$160.00 (all other countries); Volumes IV and VI: \$169.00 (USA), \$199.00 (all other countries); Volume V: \$159.00 (USA), \$185.00 (all other countries).

The four volumes deal with the separation of drugs from different mediums which are organized in easy to follow tables. At least one table is listed for each technique (GC, TLC, HPLC). The table lists chromatographic conditions including sample type or specimen, extraction, column size and type, oven temperature for GC, the carrier gas type, detector type, retention time, internal standard, derivatization if needed and references for each GC, TLC or HPLC procedure used. For HPLC and TLC the mobile phase is listed.

These volumes summarize an enormous amount of data and simplify the search for chromatographic methods in a handy table. The analyst can use the references listed to select the best procedure for his analytical problem. The extraction procedure from biological samples is listed in detail.

These volumes are helpful and should be in every laboratory where the analysis of drugs is needed.