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THE BOOK CORNER

THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY, TECHNIQUES AND APPLICATIONS, Third Edition, Revised and Expanded, by B. Fried and J. Sherman, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, NY, 451 pages, 1994. Price: \$165.00.

This new edition of the book has been written to update and expand coverage of the topics in the second edition. It provides extensive coverage of qualitative and quantitative thin-layer chromatography (TLC) and high-performance TLC, and compares modern TLC with other separation methods, especially gas and column liquid chromatography.

The authors state that they have maintained the overall organization of the second edition, namely, a series of initial chapters on theory and practice, and a second section of chapters concerned with applications to important compound types. As in the previous two editions, practical, rather than theoretical, aspects of TLC have been stressed. Coverage of certain modern principles, techniques, and instrumentation (such as optimization of separations and densitometry, overpressurized and multiple development, and preparative layer chromatography) has been expanded.

This edition updates and extends references to the literature. The TLC literature is voluminous and references in this book are selective. Citations are mainly to the 1980-1993 literature.

The second part of this book is concerned with the applications of TLC to various classes of compounds. The third edition also provides extensive coverage of sample preparation.

Overall, the book is a good introduction to TLC. The discussion of multi-modal TLC and use of cyano and amino phases as multi-modal supports is inadequate, however. The section on biphasic layers is very weak and almost non-existent. Recent reviews were not included in this updated edition.

Table of Contents:

1. **Introduction and History**, (3).
2. **Mechanism and Theory**, (11)
3. **Sorbents, Layers, and Precoated Plates**, (25).

4. **Obtaining Material for TLC and Sample Preparation, (51).**
 5. **Application of Samples, (73).**
 6. **Solvent Systems, (87).**
 7. **Development Techniques, (101).**
 8. **Detection and Visualization, (133).**
 9. **Qualitative Evaluation and Documentation, (157).**
 10. **Quantification, (173).**
 11. **Reproducibility of Results, (201).**
 12. **Preparative Layer Chromatography, (209).**
 13. **Radiochemical Techniques, (221).**
 14. **Basic TLC Design and TLC of Organic Dyes, (237).**
 15. **Lipids, (245).**
 16. **Amino Acids, (287).**
 17. **Carbohydrates, (303).**
 18. **Natural Pigments, (321).**
 19. **Vitamins, (337).**
 20. **Nucleic Acid Derivatives, (361).**
 21. **Steroids and Terpenoids, (373).**
 22. **Pharmaceuticals, (391).**
 23. **Miscellaneous Applications, (405).**
- Directory of Manufacturers and Sources of Standards, Sample Preparation Supplies, and TLC Instruments, Plates, and Reagents, (421).**
- Glossary, (429).**