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A Review of: HANDBOOK OF CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS APPLICATIONS

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THE BOOK CORNER

HANDBOOK OF CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS APPLICATIONS, H. Shintani, J. Polonsky, eds., Blackie Academic & Professional Publishers. This book can also be ordered from Chapman & Hall, 115 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003, 1997, 737 pp., \$229.95.

Capillary Electrophoresis was first introduced by Hjerten in 1967 and popularized in 1981 by Jorgenson. The first commercial HPCE instrument was introduced in 1988. Since then, many companies have introduced CE instruments, and one can safely say that we are now looking at third generation instruments. CE has grown tremendously in the last ten years. There are at least 15 books, 2 handbooks, and 2 application books (including Handbook of CE Applications) other than those published by instrument companies. There are over 1000 published research papers. In short, CE is fully accepted as a high resolution microseparation technique which has been applied in every field of research, and for different types of ions and molecules, small organic to large biomolecules.

The present book, "Handbook of CE Applications," is a welcome addition to the analyst's library. It is well written, comprehensive, and up to date. The Handbook is divided into seven main parts, in addition to the Introduction, Chapter 1, and Appendices.

Part One is Equipment Systems (Chapters 2-11); Part Two is Biochemistry Applications (Chapters 12-21); Part Three is Pharmaceutical Science Applications (Chapters 22-27); Part Four is Bioscience Applications (Chapters 28-33); Part Five is Ion Analysis Applications (Chapters 34-37); Part Six is Food Analysis Applications (Chapters 38-40); Part Seven is Environmental Science Applications (Chapters 41-43).

The Handbook is written by many authors. The organization of all chapters is similar (a credit to the editors), almost each has an introduction and a table summarizing the experimental conditions, along with the references.

This is a nice arrangement which makes it easy for the analyst to follow and reproduce the experiment without having to read the original article. I found the book to be both comprehensive and useful. I also found some omissions, for example, in Table 7.1 on LIF detection, there is no mention of the KrF UV laser which has been used in many CE applications. As mentioned earlier, the book is recommended to analytical chemists in diversified fields.

Table of Contents

Introduction, K. Kitagishi (1)

Part One: Equipment Systems

1. **Sample Injection**, K. Kitagishi (17)
2. **Quantitative Analysis, Precision and Reproducibility**, K. Kitagishi (25).
3. **Precision and Quantitation in Capillary Electrophoresis**, G.A. Ross (41).
4. **Column Technology**, K. Kitagishi (56).
5. **Electrolyte Systems**, K. Kitagishi (71).
6. **Detection**, K. Kitagishi (84).
7. **Recent Advances in Fluorescence Detection Technology**, M. Saito and Y. Kurosu (104).
8. **Other Systems**, K. Kitagishi (118).
9. **Advanced Systems**, K. Kitagishi (122).
10. **Automated Fraction Collection in Capillary Electrophoresis**, R. Grimm (128).
11. **Comparison with Other Analytical Methods**, K. Kitagishi (137).

Part Two: Biochemistry Applications

12. **Amino Acids**, L. J. Brunner (149).

13. **Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate (SDS)-non-gel Molecular Sieving Capillary Electrophoresis for Proteins**, Y. Kurosu and M. Saito (158).
14. **Protein Analysis by Capillary Electrophoresis**, F.-T. A. Chen and R. A. Evangelista (173).
15. **Analysis of Erythropoietin by Capillary Electrophoresis**, F.-T. A. Chen (198).
16. **Assay of Enzymes by Capillary Electrophoresis**, F.-T. A. Chen and R. A. Evangelista (207).
17. **Capillary Electrophoresis-Based Immunoassays**, R. A. Evangelista and F.-T. A. Chen (219).
18. **Analysis of Antibodies by Capillary Electrophoresis**, T. Pritchett (240).
19. **Analysis of Peptide Hormones and Model Peptides by Capillary Electrophoresis**, J. C. Osborne (255).
20. **Affinity Analysis by Capillary Electrophoresis**, J. E. Wiktorowicz (270).
21. **Analysis of Nucleic Acids by Capillary Electrophoresis**, K. Kitagishi (283).

Part Three: Pharmaceutical Science Applications

22. **Analysis of Pharmaceuticals by Capillary Electrophoresis**, T. J. O'Shea (301).
23. **Analysis of Medicinal Plants: Comparison of Capillary Electrophoresis with High Performance Liquid Chromatography**, P. G. Pietta (324).
24. **Quantitative Applications of the Resolution of Enantiomers by Capillary Electrophoresis**, K. D. Altria (334).
25. **Applications of Chiral Capillary Electrophoresis (Cyclodextrin-Capillary Zone Electrophoresis; CD-CZE)**, A. Aumatell (345).

26. **Separation of Enantiomeric Compounds by Micelle-Mediated Capillary Electrokinetic Chromatography**, M. E. Swartz, J. R. Mazzeo and E. R. Grover (366).

27. **Therapeutic Drug Monitoring by Capillary Electrophoresis**, Z. K. Shihabi (386).

Part Four: Bioscience Applications

28. **Biomedical Applications and Biological Systems**, P. L. Weber (411).

29. **Analysis of Selected Common Clinical Tests by Capillary Electrophoresis**, Z. K. Shihabi (425).

30. **Gene Analysis and Nucleic Acid Sequencing**, H.-M. Wenz and J. E. Wiktorowicz (449).

31. **Gene Mutation and DNA Sequencing**, K. Kitagishi (466).

32. **Analysis of Body Fluids: Urine, Blood, Saliva and Tears**, L. A. Colon (486).

33. **Toxins Associated Mainly with Uremia and Cancer**, H. Shintani (499).

Part Five: Ion Analysis Applications

34. **Capillary Electrophoresis of Metal Complexes**, W. Buchberger (509).

35. **Metal Chelation**, F. B. Erim (517).

36. **Inorganic Ions**, W. Buchberger (531).

37. **Organic Acids and Organic Ions**, F. S. Stover (550).

Part Six: Food Analysis Applications

38. **Food Analysis by Capillary Electrophoresis**, P. F. Cancalon (583).

39. **Capillary Zone Electrophoresis Analysis of Additives in Food Samples**, R. Schuster (607).

40. Analysis of Underivatized Carbohydrates by Capillary Electrophoresis and Electro-chemical Detection, R. P. Baldwin (617).

Part Seven: Environmental Science Applications

41. Hydrocarbons, E. Dabek-Zlotorzynska (629).

42. Environmental Pollutants, E. Dabek-Zlotorzynska (639).

43. Analysis of Synthetic Polymers by Capillary Electrophoretic Techniques, J. A. Bullock (657).

Appendix A: Commercially Available Instrumentation for Capillary Electrophoresis (673)

Appendix A1: Overview of Commercial Instruments, T. Wehr and M. Zhu (673).

Appendix A2: The CAPI Series of Instruments, K. Kitagishi (686).

Appendix B: Troubleshooting, K. Kitagishi (691).

Appendix C: Commercially Available Buffer Reagents, H. Shintani (695).

Reviewed by
Haleem J. Issaq, Ph.D.
The Book Corner Editor