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**A review of: “Instrumental HPTLC, by W. Bertsch, S. Hara, R. E. Kaiser, and A. Zlatkis, editors, H. Verlag, Heidelberg, West Germany, 1980, 390 pp., cloth bound.”**

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BOOK REVIEW

Instrumental HPTLC, by W. Bertsch, S. Hara, R. E. Kaiser, and A. Zlatkis, editors, H. Verlag, Heidelberg, West Germany, 1980, 390 pp., cloth bound.

This timely volume might be considered a continuation of "HPTLC", Volume 9 of The Journal of Chromatography Library, published by Elsevier in 1977 and edited by A. Zlatkis and R. E. Kaiser. Some of the authors are in both books. The present book is the proceedings of The First International Symposium on Instrumentalized HPTLC, held in Bad Durkheim, West Germany. It is admirable that the book appeared in the same year that the symposium was held, May 18-21, 1980.

It appears that the future of TLC lies in the high performance route. The book emphasizes the important role that the instrumented aspects of quantitation will continue to have.

All involved in TLC or analytical methodology should be aware of the methods described. Steroids, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, polycyclic aromatics, antibiotics and selenium are separated and quantitated in methods which are described in detail. The methods given tend to bear out the contention of the editors that HPTLC can often be the method of choice in that it can outperform HPLC and GC.

A considerable discussion is given to new methodologies such as continuous multiple development, sample application,

automation, and reverse phase HPTLC. An excellent discussion is given for the use of radial HPTLC.

Probably the most important technique in the use of TLC and HPTLC is sample application. Without proper sample application, optimized resolution is not attained. These factors are dwelt upon throughout the discussion. There appears to be some indication that the trend is toward a "streak" or linear type of application. The volume brings the reader up to date in what is happening in what is probably the fastest growing field in chromatography---HPTLC.

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