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Introduction

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INTRODUCTION

For the first time the Journal of Liquid Chromatography publishes a special issue dealing with the subject "Optimization of Mobile Phase". Of course it is impossible to cover this topic in a single issue, therefore I have tried to invite authors contributing various theoretical and practical aspects. Unfortunately due to publication time constraints, a few experts who were invited to participate and agreed to do so were unable to have their work included.

This special issue includes twelve publications, from these, seven are dealing on theoretical aspects of mobile phase optimization in HPLC. The issue begins with a review by Straster, Billiet and De Galan on the automated peak recognition from photodiode array spectra in liquid chromatography. The paper of Bridge, Williams and Fell reports on an expert system approach to eluent optimization in RP liquid chromatography with multi-channel detection. The four following articles cover different approaches for mobile phase optimization.

In the section of practical papers Mant and Hodges present their work on a highly interesting subject, the optimization of peptide separation, followed by two articles on the HPLC separation of different naturally occurring compounds. The last two articles of the issue present some aspects of mobile phase optimization in planar chromatography.

I wish to thank the authors for sharing their analytical accomplishments and techniques through their contributions to this special issue. I also thank the Editor of Journal of Liquid Chromatography for the opportunity to serve as guest editor.

Szabolcs Nyiredy