

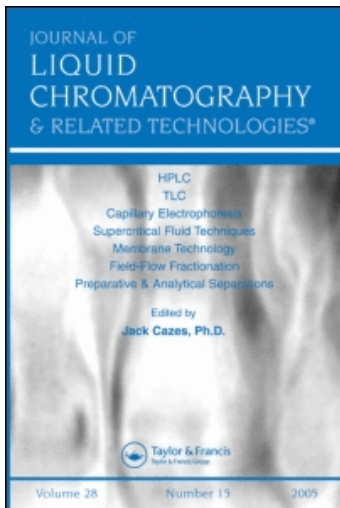
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### Introduction

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the fifth special issue on Countercurrent Chromatography (CCC) published in the Journal of Liquid Chromatography. There are two books published on this rapidly growing field of separation science. Despite the fact that there is a growing awareness of the advantages of CCC over other chromatographic methods, especially CCC applications to natural products and biopolymers, this method is not widely utilized because among other reasons, it lacks automation. In this issue, the readers will note the progress on automating CCC via personal computer. We hope to see, in the next few years, the implementation of automated technology in the design of CCC instrumentation.

This special issue is dedicated to my close friend, Professor Gabor Fedor with whose association, over 20 years ago, I became involved in the application of new analytical methods for elucidation of chemical structures and stereochemistry. In those days, separation of isomers and enantiomers was possible only by tedious and time-consuming classical methods. Professor Fedor and I initiated a research project on the application of emerging

spectroscopic and chromatographic methods which resulted in the publication of more than 20 papers that covered analytical methods for solving structural and stereochemical problems. My early association with Professor Fodor was truly a driving force for me to become involved in CCC. He is now 77 years young and is very active in research, especially in the application of analytical methods to organic chemistry. This special issue is a fitting tribute to Gabor Fodor for his outstanding contributions to such topics as CNS drugs (e.g., cocaine and atropine), vitamin C and cancer drugs. He is fondly remembered by those chemists working in natural products for his contributions to the separation of not only the biologically active constituents, but also the enantiomers and other isomers. On behalf of myself and the readers of this Journal, we wish Professor Fodor continued good health and will look forward to seeing many more of his contributions.

Bhushan Mandava

Editor

Countercurrent Chromatography