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A Review of: CAPILLARY GAS ADSORPTION CHROMATOGRAPHY

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CAPILLARY GAS ADSORPTION CHROMATOGRAPHY, V. G. Berezkin, J. de Zeeuw, Huthig GmbH, Heidelberg, Germany, 1996, 320 pages.

The Chromatographic Methods Series by Huthig has proven to be a successful and useful one. The published books deal with the selected topic effectively and simply, without any complications. We, at this Journal, have reviewed quite a few of these books and the reviewers have liked them and praised them. The present volume, *Capillary Gas Adsorption Chromatography*, by Berezkin and de Zeeuw, is no different. Capillary gas chromatography is probably the most widely used separation technique. This book deals with all aspects of GC.

The book is divided into seven chapters and a conclusion. It is well illustrated with 164 figures and 32 tables. The authors state, in the Preface, that they followed the proverb "A picture is worth a thousand words." But, they did not tell how many words a table is worth.

The first chapter is an introduction which discusses the advantages and limitations of gas-solid chromatography, which continues into the second chapter. Chapter 3 deals with the fundamentals of gas solid chromatography. The discussion in this chapter is very good and straightforward. Adsorbents (carbon, silica gel, alumina, molecular sieves, . . .) are discussed in Chapter 4, and modified adsorbents (chemically and dynamically) are discussed in Chapter 5. Preparation of adsorbent layer open tubular columns is discussed in detail in Chapter 6. Chapters 4-6 are very useful for those who want to prepare their own columns; they are helpful in optimizing the separation. Chapter 7 deals with applications and discusses the use of carrier gas, pre-columns, particle traps, separation of gases, hydrocarbons, polar volatiles, halogenated hydrocarbons and others.

Overall, the book is well written and definitely well illustrated. It is recommended to all those interested in using GC.

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Reviewed by

Haleem J. Issaq, Ph.D.

Editor, The Book Corner

ADVANCES IN CHROMATOGRAPHY, Volume 37, P. R. Brown, E. Grushka, eds., Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, 1997, 462 pages. \$195.00.

The explosive growth of chromatography and capillary electrophoresis has made it difficult for any individual to maintain a coherent view of progress in the field. Individual investigators trying to stay abreast of advances must rely on authoritative surveys, rather than attempt to read the avalanche of original research papers.

Volume 37 of this continuing series, which presents current, critical reviews of important developments in separation science, is an excellent example. The current volume is made up of eight sections, each comprising a critical and useful review of the topic.

The subject matter, as in past volumes, is widely different, from assessment of peak purity, to carbon packed materials for HPLC to SFC-GC applications, to CE of proteins and analysis of derivatized peptides by HPLC and CE (see Table of Contents below).

Each chapter in the book includes a brief and informative introduction, followed by discussion of the selected topic. It is worth noting here that each chapter in Volume 37 is written by experts in their areas, which makes this volume a useful one, interesting reading, and a good reference. As usual, this volume is no different from the other 36 volumes in this series: it is well edited and free of typographical and scientific errors. The book is recommended to all those using separation science to achieve their analytical chemistry objectives.