

# A Brief Review on Separation Techniques: Chromatography Techniques

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## **Abstract:**

Chromatography is a system that helps distinct, purify, and recognize mixture components for both quantitative as well as qualitative study [1]. Proteins can be separated and purified depends on their dimensions, shape, net charge, aquaphobic structures on the outermost layer, and binding capability with the immobile phase. The exchange of ions, superficial adsorption, separation, and size exclusion are examples of molecular property and interaction-based separation techniques. Stationary bed chromatography procedures, such as paper chromatography technique, Column Chromatography technique as well as Thin Layer Chromatography technique. Column chromatography technique serves as one of the most common protein purification methods. This review comprises an insight the separation techniques such as Column Chromatography technique, Gas Chromatography technique, Paper Chromatography technique, Thin Layer Chromatography technique, Hydrophobic Interaction Chromatography technique (HIC), used for separation of biomolecules.

**Keywords:** Thin Layer Chromatography, Gas Chromatography, Pseudo Affinity Chromatography, Column Chromatography, Separation Techniques.

## **Introduction:**

Chromatography works by put on molecules to a surface or solid and using a moveable phase to separate them. The separation procedure depends on molecular features such as partition, adsorption, and molecular weight differences [1-3]. Certain components from the combination endure in the immobile phase also transport gradually in the chromatographical arrangement, although others quickly cross the moveable phase besides proceed the system [4].

Chromatography is based on the following components.

- **Stationary phase:**

The stationary part of the process consists of a "solid" phase, composed of a thin film of liquid deposited on the outermost layer of a solid substrate.

- **Mobile Phase:**

The mobile phase comprises of a "liquid" otherwise "gaseous constituent."

The relationship between both mobile too stationary stages, in addition to the compounds in the mixture, is critical for Splitting molecules. Chromatography efficiently distinguishes and indicates small Molecular structures like as carbohydrates, The amino acids, as well as fatty acids [1]. Ion-exchange chromatography, or the use of affinity chromatography technique, is extra effective at extracting macromolecules such

nucleic acids and protein. The technique of paper chromatography is employed to differentiate protein molecules and research protein molecules production, whereas gas liquid chromatography technique is exploited to separate alcohol, lipids, esters, and Amino sequences also examines enzymatic interactions. Molecular-sieve chromatography can be utilized to precisely estimate Protein Cellular Weights. Agarose-gel chromatography technique is utilized for purifying RNA as well, proteins, DNA, and viruses [1,5]. In chromatography, which a phase that remains stationary A fluid or solid state that is applied to the outer layer of a different solid phase. The mobile phase that moves through the stationary phase might be whether liquids or gaseous. If the phase that is mobile is liquid, the method used is commonly referred to be called liquid chromatography technique (LC), and if it is gases, it is described as gas chromatography technique (GC). Gas chromatography technique is a method for distinguishing gases, liquids that are uncertain, and solids. Liquid chromatography technique is often used meant for both thermally Unstable and stable chemicals [6].

Chromatography, an analytical method, seeks to achieve a sufficient separation in a tolerable timeframe. To do this, many chromatographic procedures have been developed. Chromatography is classified into several categories, spanning the column, ion exchange, thin-layer, gas, paper, gel permeation chromatography technique, high-pressure liquid chromatography technique, as well as affinity chromatography technique [7].

Types of chromatography techniques:

- Gel-permeation (molecular sieve) chromatography
- Affinity chromatography
- Dye-ligand chromatography
- Paper chromatography
- Thin-layer chromatography
- Gas chromatography
- Column chromatography
- Ion-exchange chromatography
- Hydrophobic interaction chromatography
- High-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC)
- Pseudo affinity chromatography

### **Paper Chromatography Techniques:**

Paper chromatography technique uses a water-saturated layer of cellulose as the support material. This approach used A thin filtering paper as the provision, with water droplets settling in its minute opening serving as the stationary "liquid phase." The mobile phase is a liquid introduced in a growing chamber. Paper chromatography is considered "liquid-liquid" chromatography [8].

### **Thin Layer Chromatography technique:**

TLC is a chromatographical technique intended for unravelling assortments. M. Tswett exposed chromatography technique in 1906. TLC employs a piece of plastic, glass, or aluminium foil coated with a thin coating of an adsorptive substance, usually silica gel,  $Al_2O_3$  (aluminium oxide), or cellulose (a blot paper). The adsorptive coating is known as the stationary phase. Upon placing the specimen on the plate, the solvent as well as combination (also acknowledged as the moveable phase) is drawn up by capillary rise. Separation arises as diverse test sample climb at different rates on the TLC plate [9].

Thin-layer chromatography may be used for reaction monitoring, chemical identification, and purity determination. Composite separates take place when both the solute as well as mobile phases fight for binding sites on the phase that is stationary. For example, employing regular silicone gel to be the immobile phase might be considered polar. When dual chemicals diverge in polar nature, the more highly polar one interacts more strongly with silica, allowing it to eliminate the mobile phase from its binding positions [9].

A reduced amount of polarity of molecule advances awakes the plate, leading to a higher R<sub>f</sub> value. Switching the mobile phase towards a more polar solvent or mixture removes solutes from silica binding sites, allowing compounds on the TLC plate to travel developed up the plate. Using ethyl acetate and heptane as the portable phase with one another, adding additional ethyl acetate increases the value of R<sub>f</sub> of each chemical on the TLC plate. Switching the pole position of a portable phase seldom flips the order of molecules on the TLC plate [9].

### Principle of TLC:

TLC technique usages a thin glass plate layered in silica gel or Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (aluminium oxide) to be the solid phase. The phase that moves is a dissolving agent that corresponds to the properties of the combination's components. TLC operates by dispersing an element among a solid immobile phase (thin layer) over a plastic or glass surface and a liquid portable phase (releasing dissolving agent) that moves across it. A minor volume of a chemical or mix is deposited slightly overhead the bottom of the plate used for TLC [10].

The plate proceeds to develop in the developing chamber, which contains a thin pool of dissolving agent slightly underneath the level where the test sample was applied. The phenomenon of capillary rise pulls the solvent up among the constituent part on the surface of the plate, allowing every constituent to either stay solid or disintegrate and move up the plate. The physical characteristics of a material, such as its molecules arrangement also functional groups, affect whether it moves up or else down the plate. The solubility law "like dissolves like" is employed [10]. Compounds that share physical properties with the mobile phase tend to persist there longer. The moveable phase moves the more solvable compounds further up the plate of TLC. Molecules that are fewer soluble within the movable phase while exhibiting a higher attraction to molecules on the TLC plate will stay intact [10].

To identify drugs, the retention factor (R<sub>f</sub>) is used. R<sub>f</sub> is calculated using the following formula:

$$R_f = \frac{hx}{h_0}$$

where hx is the distance between the spotting line (where samples are applied in a straight line) and the centre of the substance spot, and h<sub>0</sub> is the development length (the distance between the spotting line along with the eluent front line, when the eluent approaches the topmost part of the chromatographic plate) [11].

### Gas Chromatography:

A.J.P. Martin and A.T. James are usually acknowledged for creating the gas chromatography in their 1952 study [12, 13]. The performance at a Biochemical Society meeting on October 20, 1950 sparked widespread interest, as did a talking at the Society of Chemical Industry consultation in Oxford in September 1952. The study separated volatile fatty acids using partition chromatography technique. The portable phase was nitrogen, whereas the immobile phase was silicon oil/stearic acid based on diatomaceous earth [13].

Martin and R.L.M. Syngé initially introduced liquid-phase partition chromatography in a 1941 publication [14], claiming that "Very sophisticated differentiation of volatile molecules should be conceivable within a column wherein a everlasting gas is forced to stream across gel impregnated by a non-volatile solvent...". This sentence was overlooked by other researchers.

### **Principle of GC Technique:**

In gas-solid chromatographic technique, the solid surface-assimilative operates as the immobile phase, whereas separation happens via adsorption. In the process of gas-liquid chromatography, a thin layer of non-volatile liquid is attached to a solid substrate and separated by partitioning. Gas-liquid chromatographic technique is perhaps the utmost broadly used technology. To separate the sample, it is first converted to vapours and mixed with the gaseous mobile phase. Sample components with higher solubility in stationary phase travel slower, while those with lower solubility travel quicker. The elements are split according to their partitioned coefficient [15].

### **Instrumentation:**

In general, such as most chromatographs (GSC or GLC) include six main components:

#### **1. Sample Injector:**

A specimen port is obligatory for introducing samples to the column's head. A conventional micro syringe is utilized to transfer an amount of specimen through a rubber septum interested in the vaporization compartment. Maximum separations need just a minor percentage of a preliminary specimen volume, and any additional material is routed to left-over with a sample splitter. Industrial gas chromatographic technique utilises split also split less inoculations, substituting between filled and capillary columns. The vaporizing cavity is warmed to 50°C overhead the sample's lowermost temperature of boiling and mixed with a carrier gas to conveyance it into a column [15].

#### **2. Carrier gas:**

Gas chromatography requires the presence of a carrier gas. It must be inactive, dry, then oxygen-free. Helium, oxygen, argon, nitrogen in addition hydrogen gases is used as carrier gases, reliant on the anticipated concert and sensor type. the carrier gas is provided at tremendous pressure and passed to the device at a quick and regular frequency [15].

#### **3. Separation column:**

GC technique employs exposed cylindrical columns, capillary columns, or filled columns. Capillary columns are divided into dual categories: wall-coated open tubular (WCOT) and support-coated open tubular (SCOT). WCOT columns have a small film of immobile phase coating on their walls. In SCOT columns, the column walls are at first coated with a thin layer of surface-assimilative material, which comprises diatomaceous earth, a substance consisting of single-celled sea-plant frames. The surface-assimilative material is next treated with a liquid phase that is stationary. Although SCOT columns may maintain supplementary immobile phase than WCOT columns due to their greater sample volume, WCOT columns are still more efficient. The coating bonded silica open cylindrical column is a popular kind of capillary columns [15].

#### **4. Column Oven or Thermal Compartment:**

The regulator oven regulates column temperature, allowing for exact operations. The oven can be regulated in 2 traditions: isothermal and temperature programming. In thermostatic programming, the

column heat remains consistent throughout the separation procedure. The thermal programming way involves increasing the column heat constantly or gradually as the separation process advances [15].

**5. Detectors:**

GC detectors commonly comprise mass spectrometers (MS), thermal conductivity detector (TCD), electron-capturing detector (ECD), atom emission detector (AED), flame ionization detector (FID) the photoionization detector (PID), and chemical luminescence detectors. The detector located at the uppermost of the column measures the numeral of constituents of the mixture while they discharge into the carrier gas [15].

**6. Amplification and Recorder System:**

These constitute the final components of the GC instrument. These are designed for recording the signals generated from the detectors. Microelectronic circuits are used to process and amplify signals, resulting in a graphical representation of the sample's constituent peaks [15]. GCs use flow regulators and meters to ensure uniform pressure and flow rate for the carrier gas.

**Working of Gas Chromatography:**

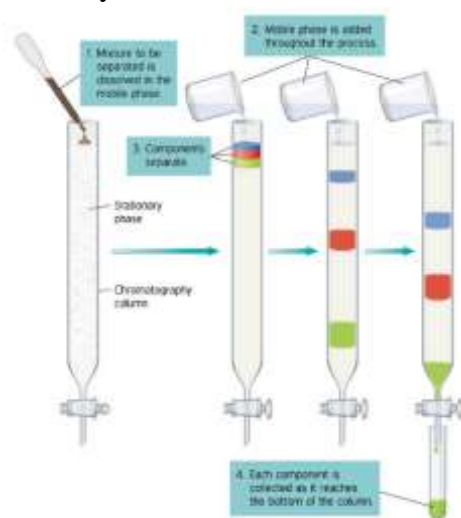
Gas chromatography (GC) involves inserting a vaporized sample into the column and moving it over with inactive gas to separate its components, which are recorded as peaks as they exit the column. Retention time refers to how distinct components of a sample discrete and elute at specific periods. Retention time is based on respectively component's arrival time [15].

**Chromatographic Analysis:**

The peak numbers in a sample indicates the existence of components, while their retention times identify their identity. The region that lies under the crests governs the quantity of each component in the sample [16].

**Column Chromatography:**

In column chromatographic technique, the phase that remains stationary is compact, and the moveable phase is liquid. This column is formed by mingling silica alongside an appropriate dissolving agent and putting it within the glass column. There are 2 traditions to pack a column: either wet or dry. The dry approach involves packing the column with dried powder silica and then flushing with a solvent to wet and settle the silica. In the wet approach, a slurry of silica and solvent is produced and placed over the column employing a funnel up until steady [17].



**Fig. 1: Column Chromatography [18].**

Figure 1 shows the application procedure for column chromatography.

The mixture flows with the fluid phase through the stationary stage then separates depending on the adhesion of each component to silica. Consider a compound combination including three compounds: red, blue & green (Figure 1). The mixes were arranged in blue, red, and green polarity order. Blue is more polar than other compounds, making it less likely to migrate along the mobile phase. Green compounds travel first due to their lower polarity compared to the other two colours. The green specimen is obtained right at the column's end via a clean test tube. Following that, the red along with most polar blue chemicals are obtained in separate test tubes. The timing, volume, and polarity of the mobile phase determine whether specimens move through the stationary phase and accumulate at the device's output [19,20].

Column chromatography is a popular and efficient technique for purifying chemicals. Column chromatography can extract individual molecules from many products produced during synthetic processes for subsequent analysis. Column chromatography is a valuable tool for generating or isolating new compounds because it requires minimal knowledge of the compound's physical properties before purification [17]. Column chromatography is widely employed in the pharmaceutical industry for chemical purification throughout the early stages of medication development [21]. During the first stages, researchers typically create collections of compounds based on a principal compound too purify them using column chromatography [22].

#### **Pseudo Affinity Chromatography:**

Anthraquinone dyes and azodyes are effective ligands for various enzymes, including dehydrogenases, reductases, transferases, and kinases. The most common kind of this chromatographic technique involves immobilized metal affinity chromatography technique (IMAC) [1,23].

#### **Hydrophobic Interaction Chromatography technique (HIC):**

This scheme uses column-prepared adsorbent for ligand binding in a process called affinity chromatography technique. The HIC method is constructed on aquaphobic connections between side chains connected to the chromatographic matrix [1,24,25].

#### **Affinity Chromatography:**

This chromatography technology purifies enzymes, nucleic acids, antibodies as well as particular proteins, and hormones [26]. A ligand capable of making a complex with certain proteins (e.g., polyacrylamide, cellulose, dextran) fixes to the column filling material. Proteins that form a compound with the ligand are linked to the medium and remain in the column, whereas free proteins exit. Altering the pH or adding a saline solution changes the ionic strength of the column, causing the bound protein to depart (Figure 2. [27]).



**Fig. 2: Affinity Chromatography**

**Conclusion:**

At first, chromatographic techniques were working to distinct mixes based on colour, such as herbal pigments. Its range of applications has grown up meaningfully over time. Chromatography is recognized as a very sensitive and effective separation technology. Column chromatography is a helpful separation and determination procedure. Column chromatography (CC) is a protein separation technology that focuses on a specific aspect of proteins. Furthermore, these approaches ensure protein purity. HPLC is a superior technique for purifying proteins, nucleic acids, amino acids, and other hydrocarbons, antibiotics, and steroids, carbohydrates, medicines due to its high sensitivity, lightning-fast turnover rate, and ability to be used quantitatively.

Chromatography techniques are the separation techniques which are useful to separate, Classify, Identify compounds in Qualitative and Quantitative manner. The selection of type and suitable Mobile phase also the stationary phase depends on the type of the test sample to be want to be separated. These techniques are easy to understand also not complex to handle. And also used at small laboratory scale and large scale.

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