

Recap: Topics under Chromatographic

- Principle of Chromatography
- Classification of Chromatographic Techniques
- Qualitative Analysis and Quantitative Analysis
- Gas Chromatography (GC) -Principles and Instrumentation
- **Liquid Chromatography (LC)** – Principles and Instrumentation
- Thin Layer Chromatography

Liquid Chromatography- Principles and Instrumentation

CEB 4032/CFB3032: ANALYTICAL
CHEMISTRY/ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTATION

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Chemical
Engineering

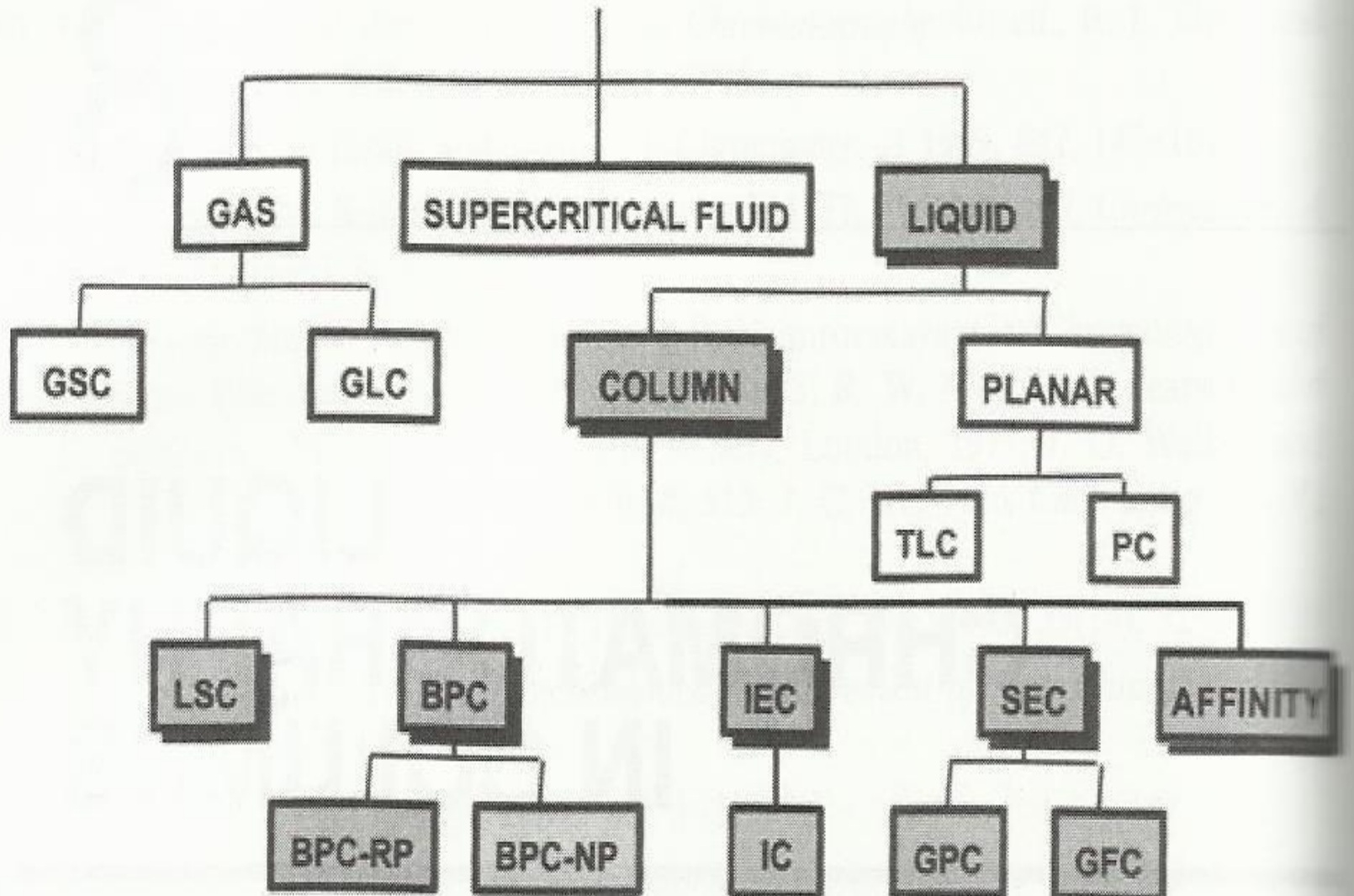
Inspiring Potential • Generating Futures

Introduction to Liquid Chromatography (LC)

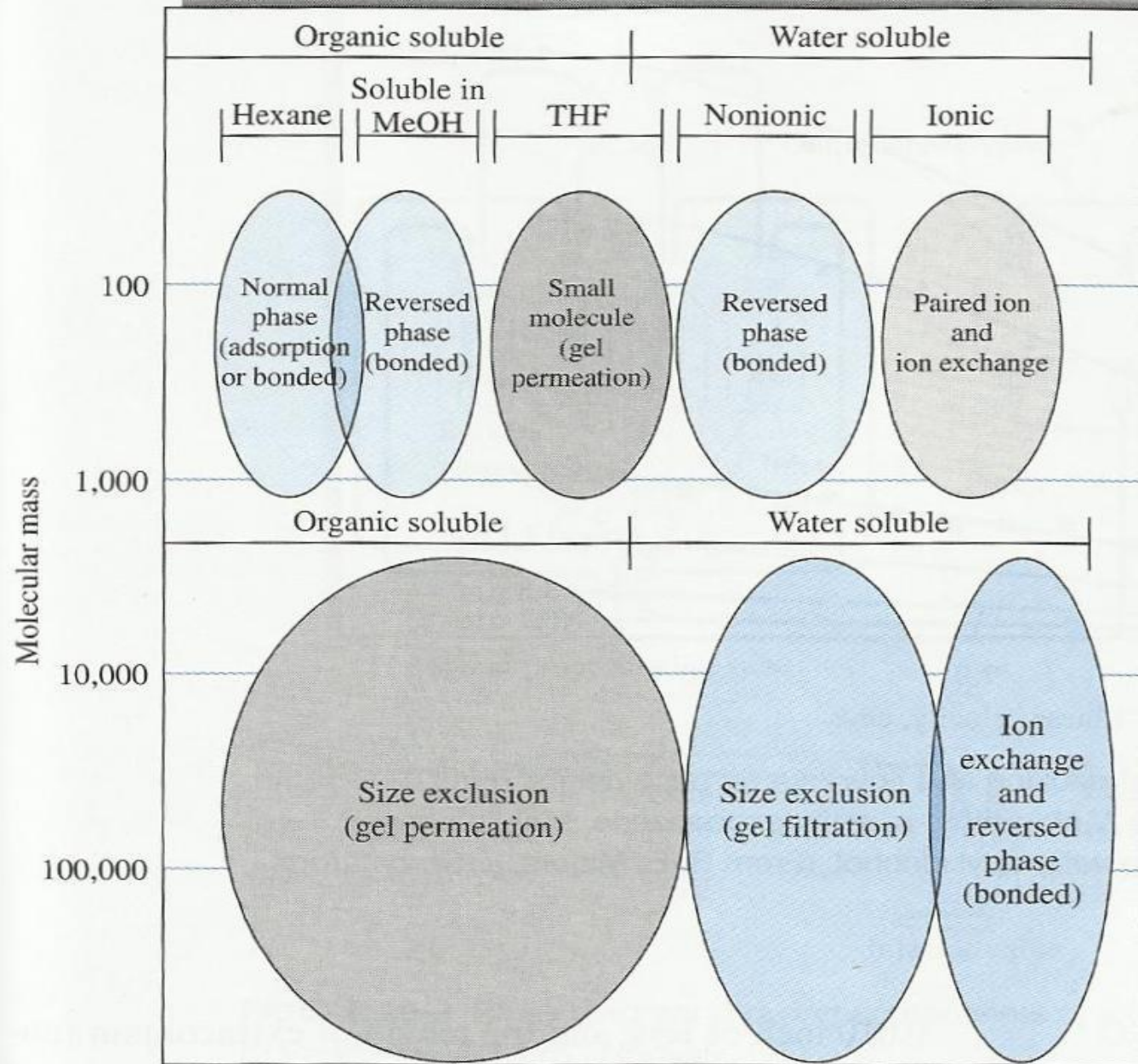
- LC → most widely used analytical technique for liquid separation.
- Compare to GC (mobile phase: **gas**), LC (mobile phase: **liquid**) is relatively important because **most compounds are not sufficiently volatile for GC**.
- Advantages include:
 - greater **sensitivity**
 - ready adaptability to accurate **quantitative determinations**
 - ease of automation
 - suitability for separating **nonvolatile species**

- Example samples: amino acids, proteins, nucleic acids, hydrocarbons, carbohydrates, drugs, pesticides, antibiotics, steroids and variety of inorganic substances.
- The varieties of liquid chromatographic include:
 - i. Partition
 - ii. Adsorption
 - iii. Ion exchange
 - iv. Size-exclusion
 - v. Affinity

Classification of Chromatography Techniques



Selection of LC modes → Methods can be chosen based on **solubility** and **molecular mass**



High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)

- In the early development of LC, **the increases in column efficiency could be achieved by decreasing the particle size of packings** → packings with particles diameter as small as 3-10 μm was developed.
- This technology require instruments **operating at high pressures**, which contrasted with the classic liquid chromatography.
- **Liquid chromatography (LC) → High Performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).**
- Classical LC has largely been replaced by much more powerful and analytically useful form of HPLC.

Introduction–HPLC

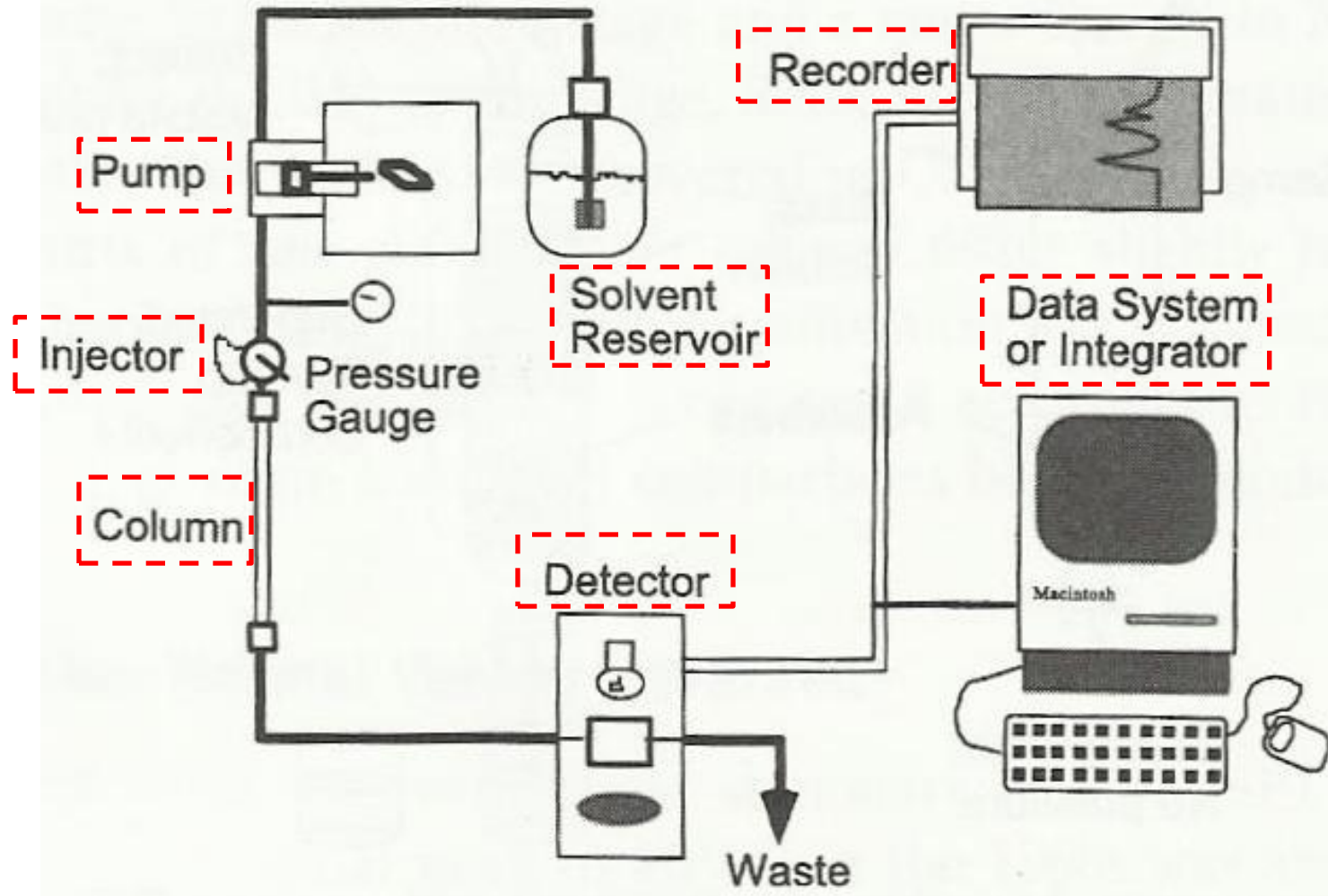
- Uses of **high pressure** to force solvent through **closed columns** containing **very fine particles** that **give high-resolution** separations.
- The **rate of distribution** of solutes between the **stationary and mobile phase** in LC is largely **diffusion controlled**.
- Diffusion in liquids is **100 times slower** than diffusion in gas.
- It is not generally feasible to use open tubular columns because the **diameter** of the solvent channel **is too great** to be traversed by a solute molecule in a short time → **packed column** is used.

Instrumentation: HPLC

- Consists of:

1. Solvent delivery system
2. Sample injection valve
3. High pressure column
4. Detector
5. Data system

Basic Components of HPLC

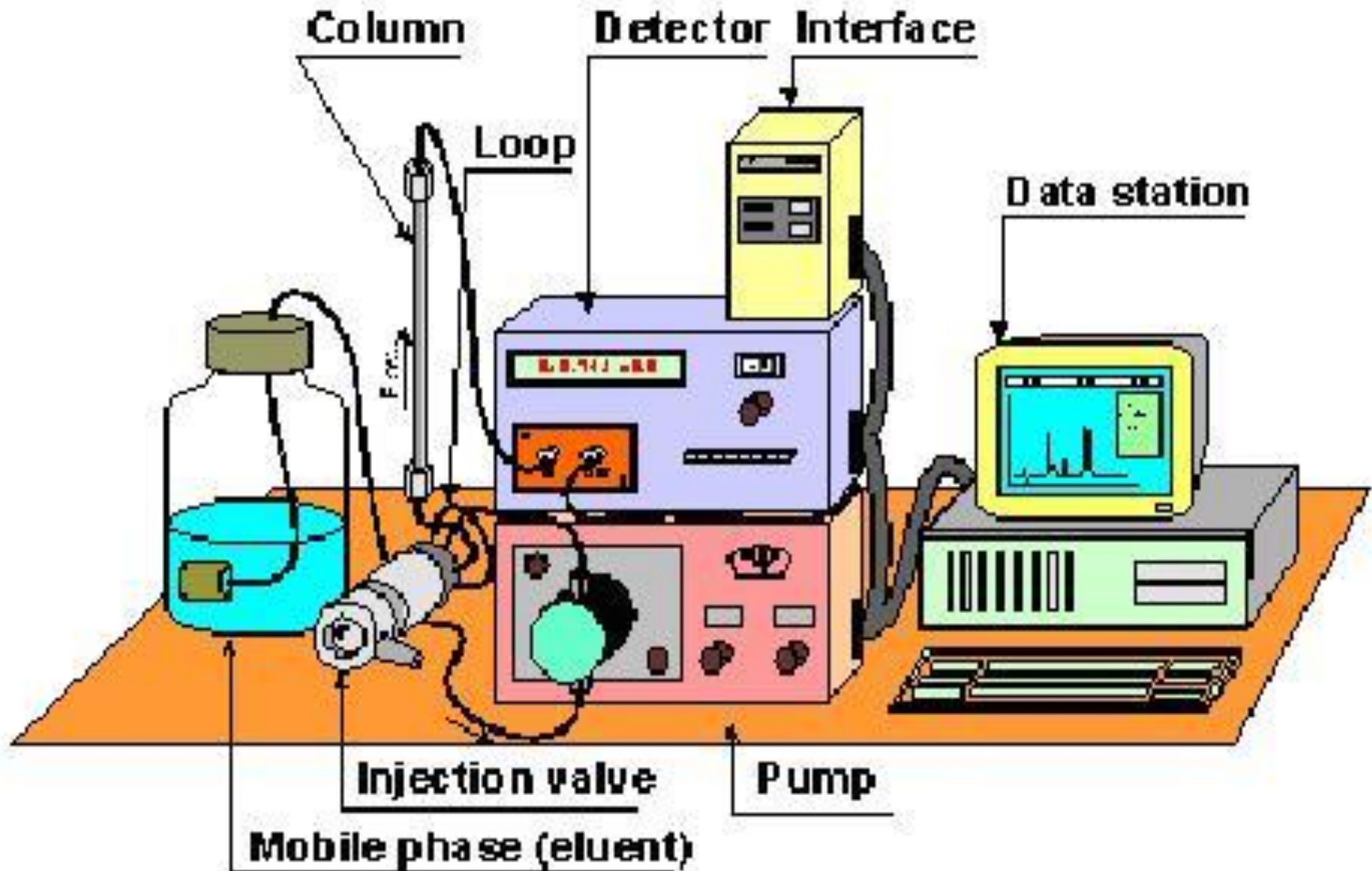


General Operation of HPLC:

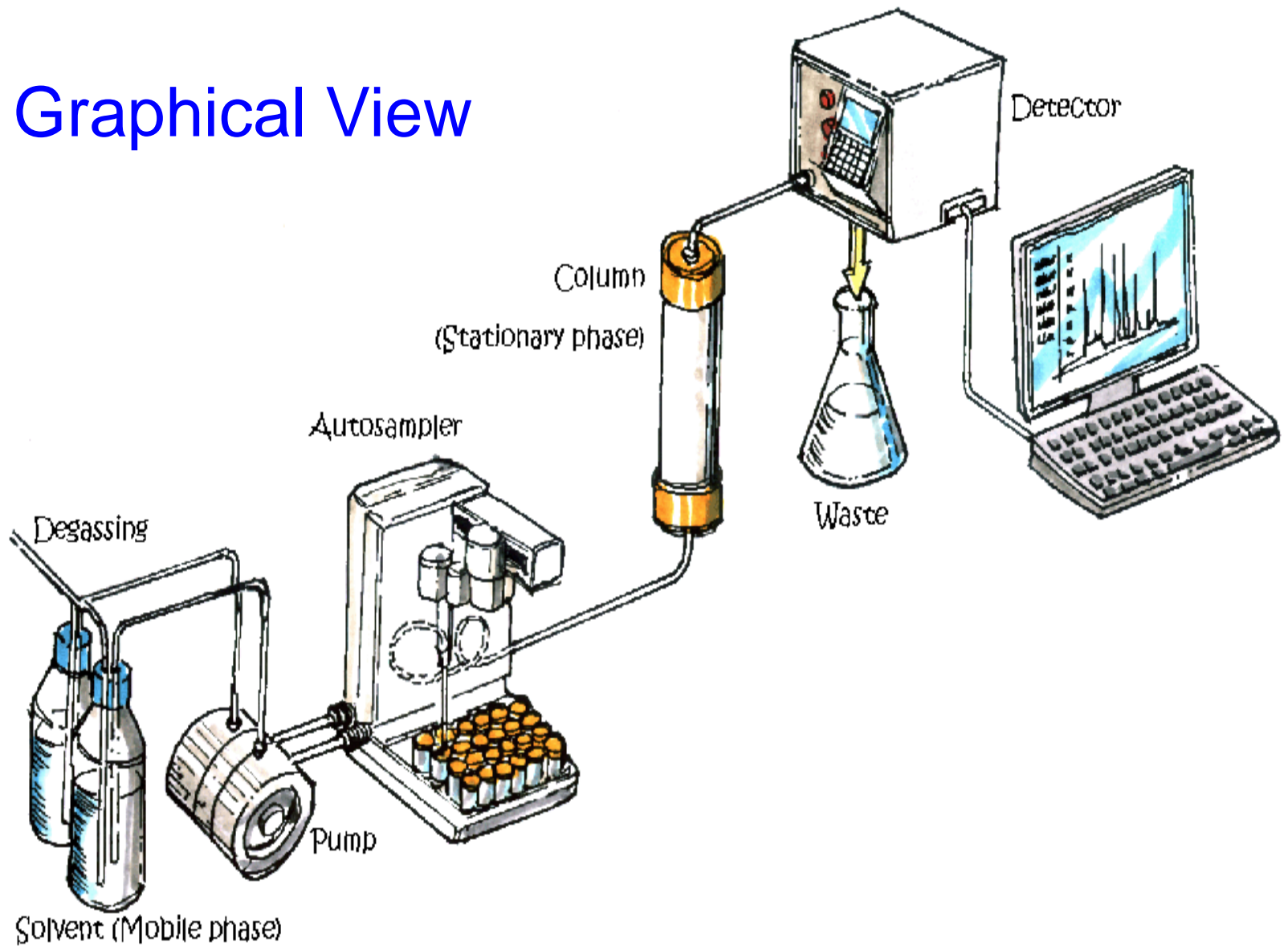
- A **reservoir** holds the solvent (**mobile phase system**).
- A **high-pressure pump** (**solvent delivery system**) is used to generate and to meter a specified flow rate of mobile phase, typically milliliters per minute.
- An **injector** (**sample injection or autosampler**) is able to introduce the sample into the continuously flowing mobile phase stream that **carries the sample** into the HPLC column.
- The **column** contains the **chromatographic packing material** needed to effect the separation → stationary phase.

- A detector is needed to **detect** the **separated compound bands** as they **elute** from the HPLC column.
- The **mobile phase exits** the detector and can be sent to waste.

Graphical View



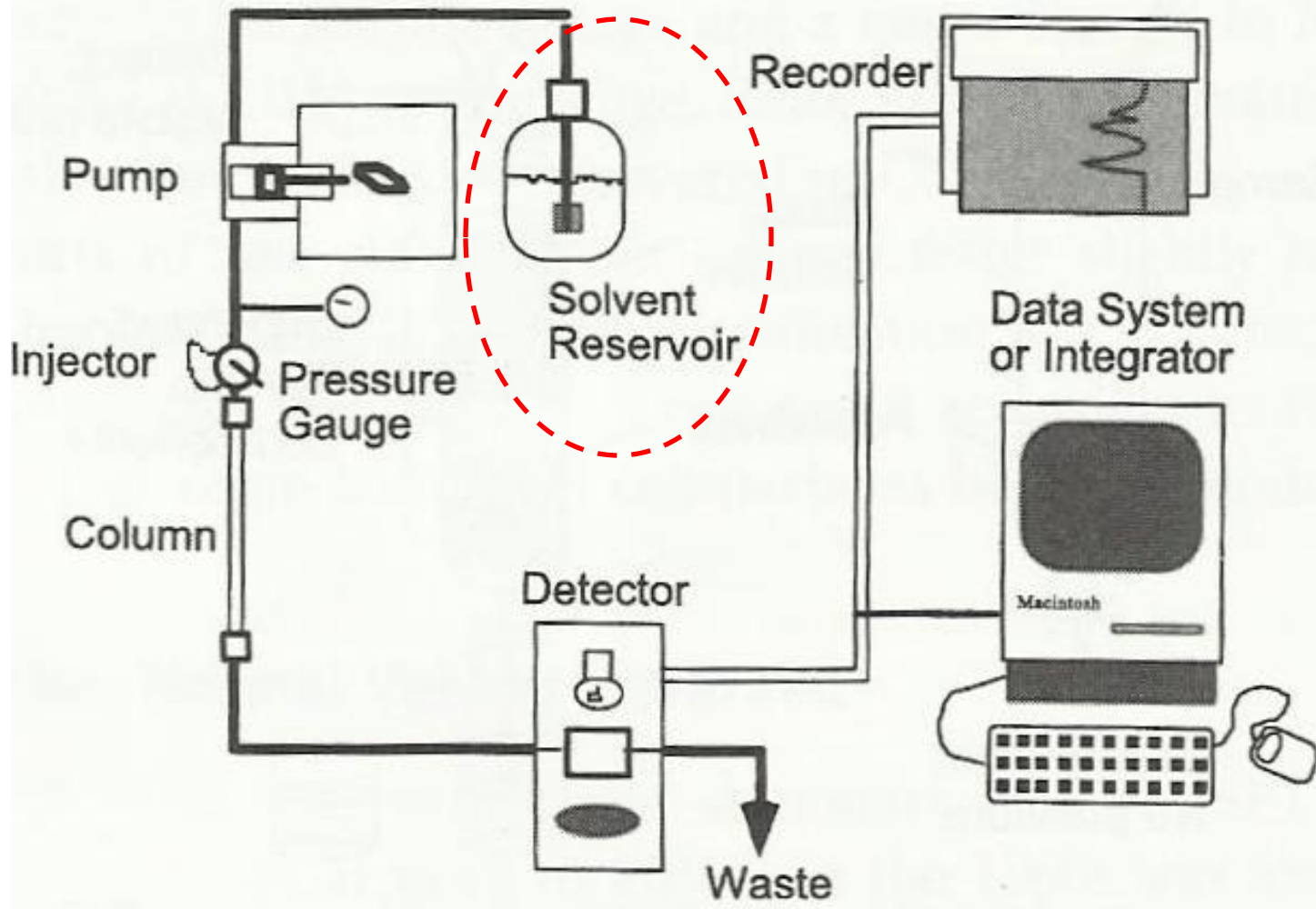
Graphical View



Modern HPLC



Solvent Delivery (Mobile Phase) System

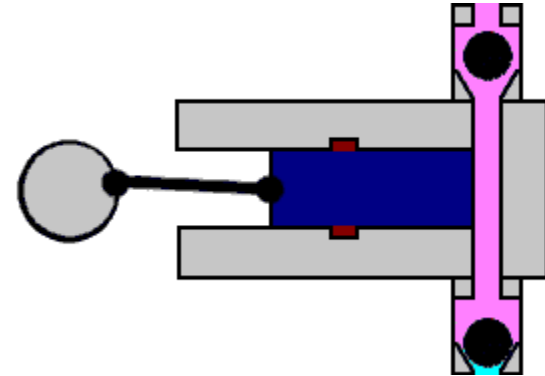
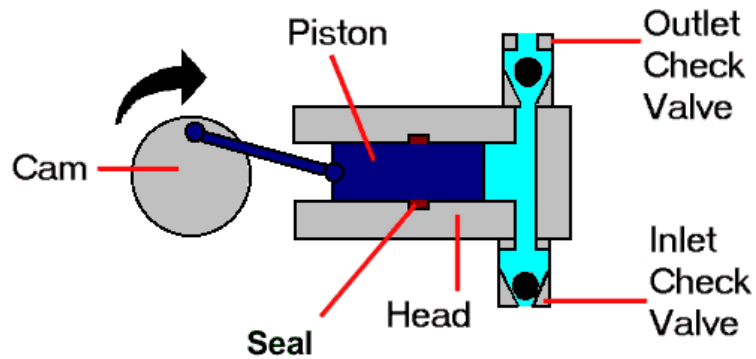


Solvent Delivery (Mobile Phase) System

- Contains a **pump** to provide the **high pressure** required.
- The **solvent reservoirs** can be filled with a range of solvents of different polarities.
- The solvents must be **pure** and be **degassed** to avoid formation of gas bubbles for **proper check valve function** when enter piston chamber.

- Typical flowrate → 1-2 ml/min.
- Solvent used for HPLC should be of “HPLC” grade → extends the pump life by preventing scoring and **reduces contamination of plugging** of the column.
- The most commonly used pump for HPLC is the **reciprocating pump** → has small cylindrical piston chamber that is **alternately filled with mobile phase and emptied via movement** of the piston.
- Advantages: **small internal volume, capable of high output pressure, constant flow rates, independent of solvent viscosity** or column backpressure.

HPLC pump

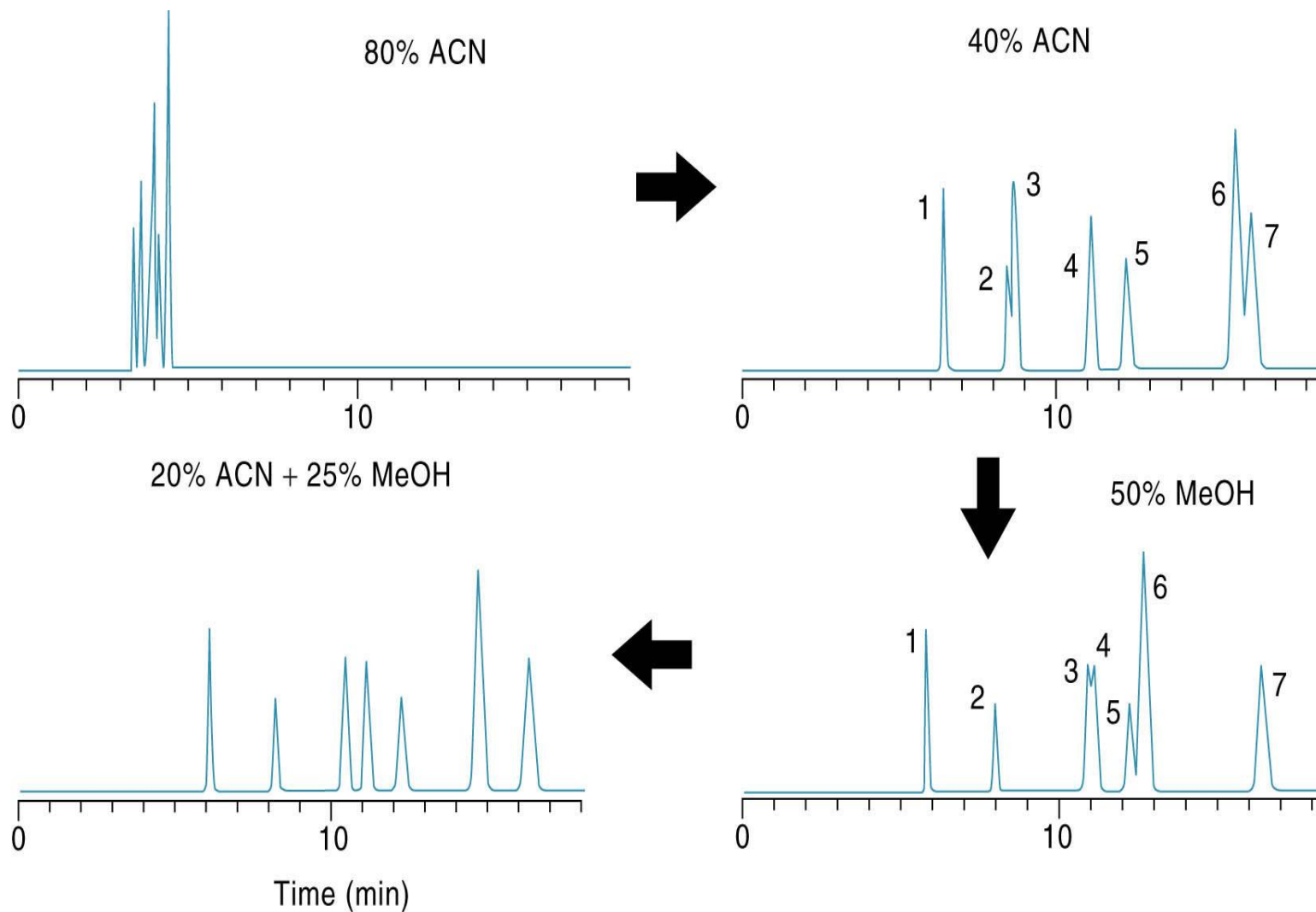




Solvent Reservoir

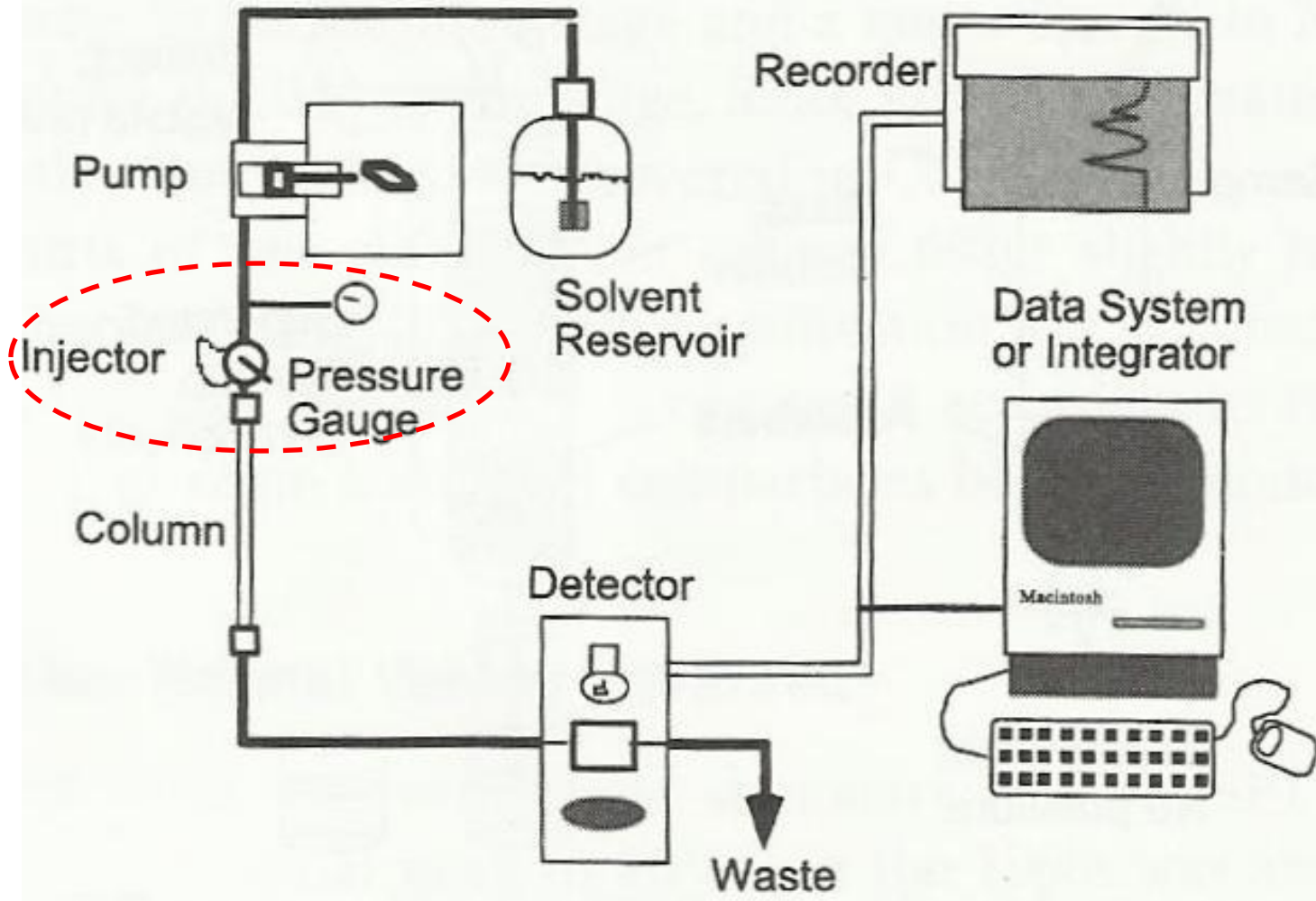
Solvent Selection

- **Pure solvent** will not provide sufficient separation of a range of compounds, and a **blend of two or more solvents is used**.
- Example: 2 solvents \rightarrow A and B (strong).
- If we have incomplete separation, a **change in %B from 35 to 40 or 45%** will often result in **better resolution**.

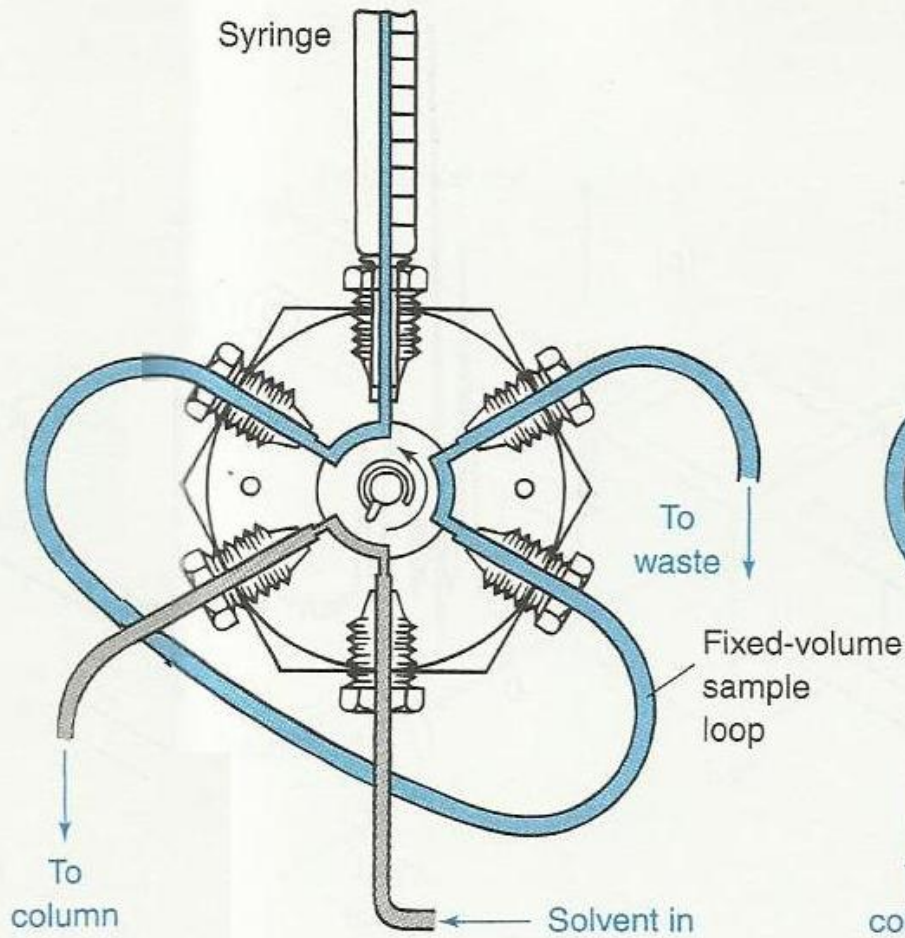


Hypothetical series of method development experiments,
beginning with **strong mobile phase of 80% acetonitrile-water.**

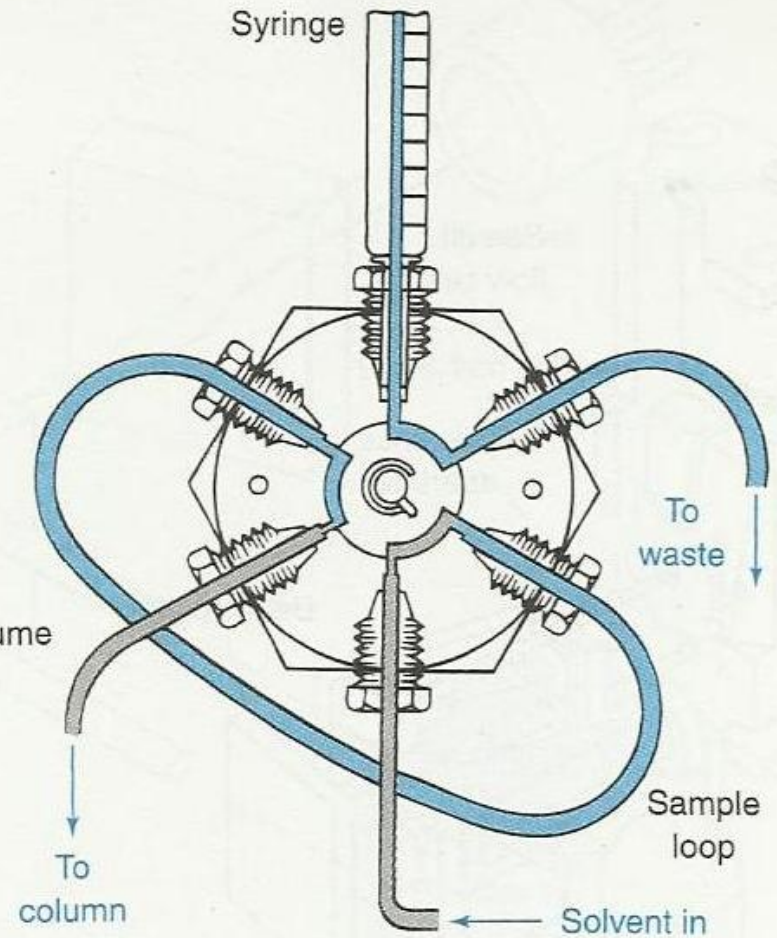
Sample Injection System



Sample Injection System

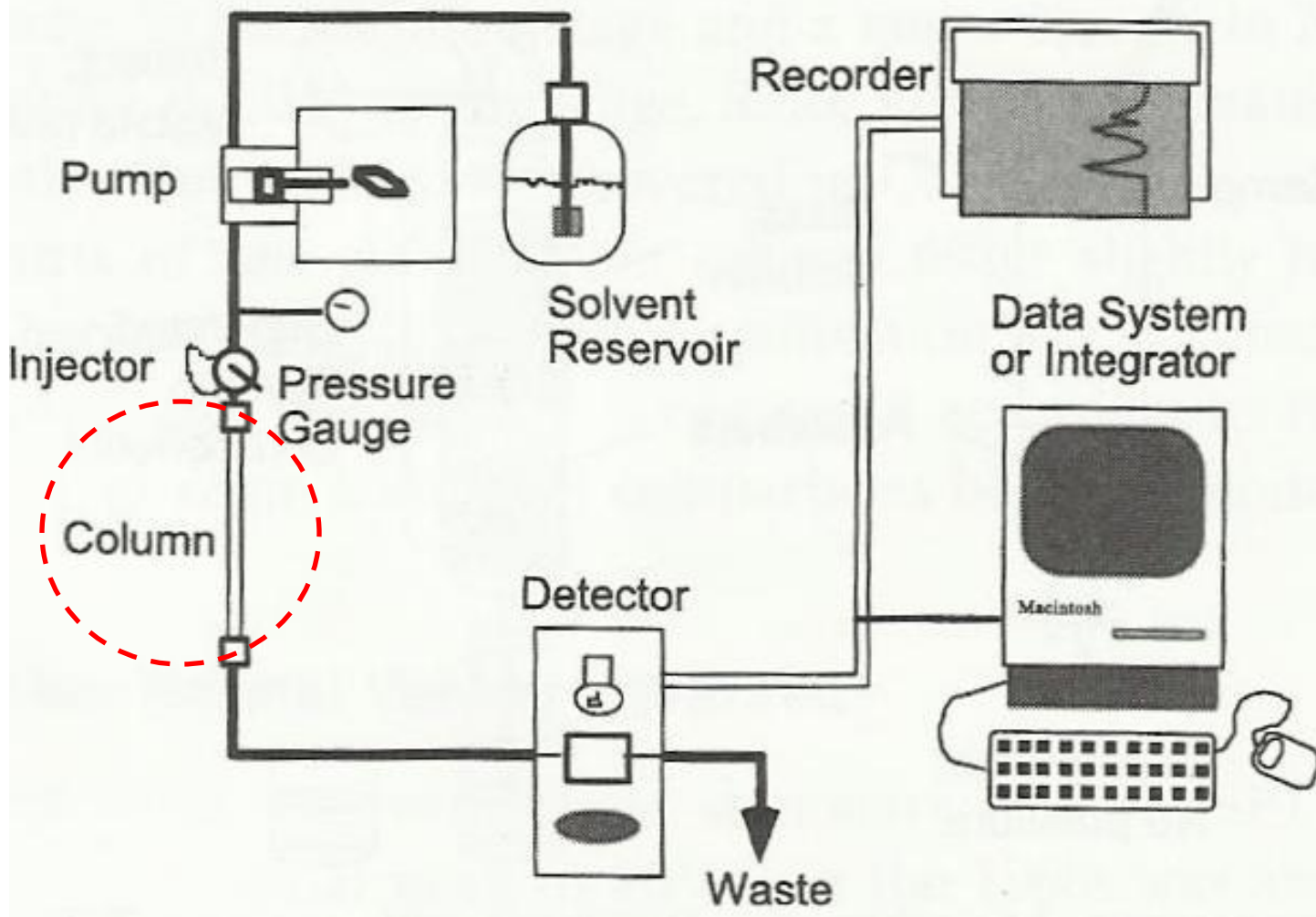


Load position



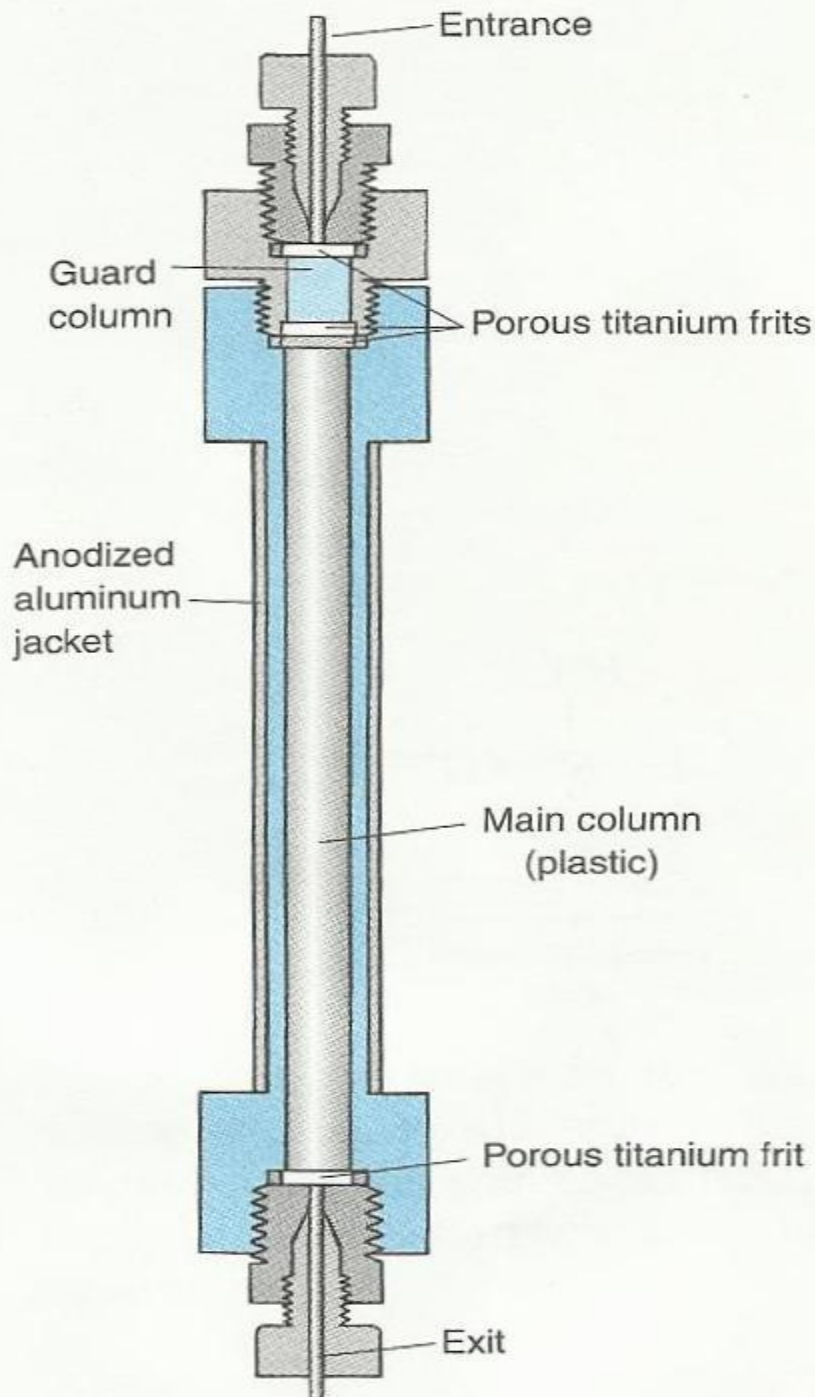
Inject position

Column



Columns

- Usually constructed from **stainless steel** or plastic columns that **are 5-30 cm in length**, with inner **diameter of 1-5 mm**.
- **Expensive** and **easily degraded** by **dust or particles** in the sample or solvent.
- The entrance to the main column is protected by a **short guard column** containing **same stationary phase** as the main column.
- **Fine particles** and **strongly absorbed solutes** are retained in the guard column which is periodically replaced.

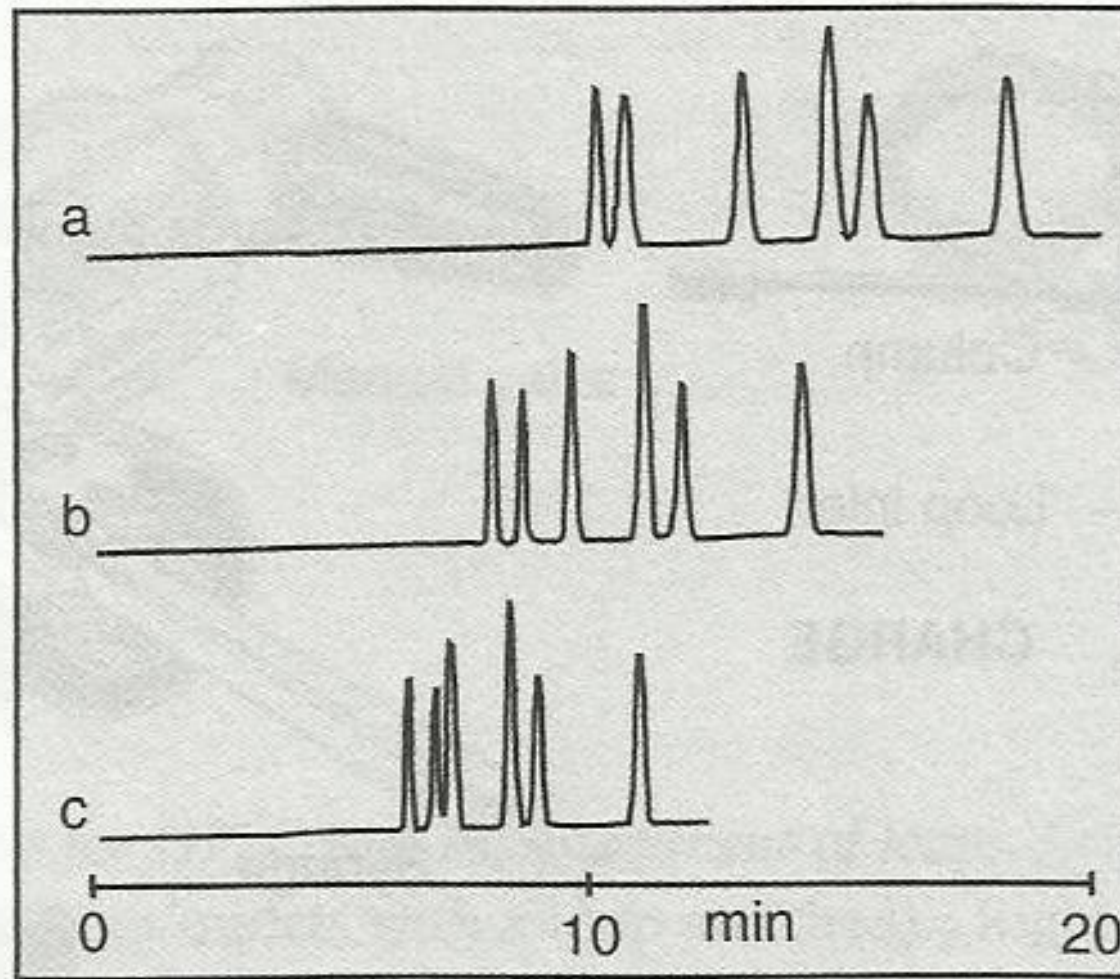


HPLC column with
replaceable guard column
to collect irreversibly
adsorbed impurities.

Titanium frits distribute the
liquid evenly over the
diameter of the column.

Effect of Column Temperature

- Heating a column → decreases the viscosity of the solvent → reducing the required pressure or permitting faster flow.
- Increased temperature
 - decreases retention times by speeding the diffusion of solutes.
 - poor resolution, degrade the stationary phase and decrease column lifetime.

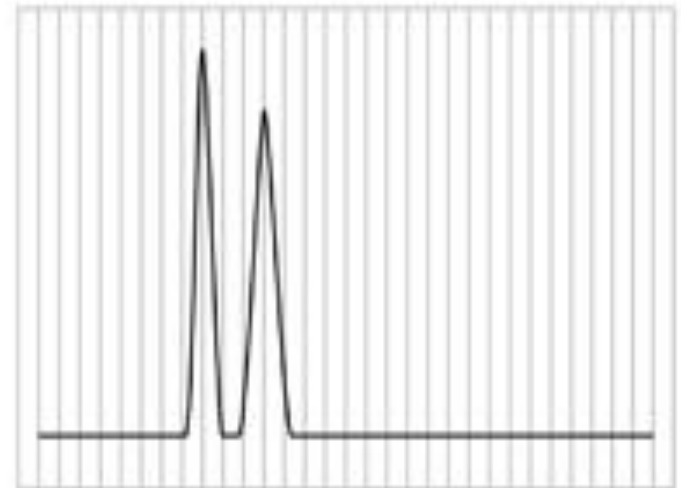
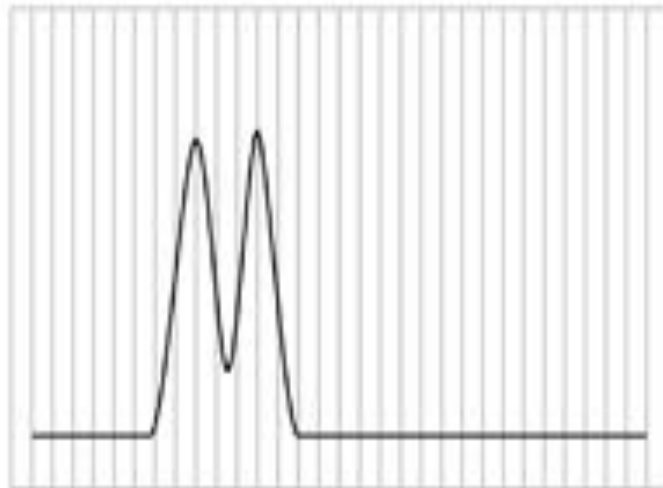


Effect of column temperature upon compound separation. Analysis of a compound mixture using the same mobile phase flow rate at three different temperatures **(a) 25 °C**, **(b) 35 °C**, **(c) 45 °C**

Effect of Particle Size in the Column Packing

- The efficiency of a packed column **increases as the size of the stationary-phase particles decreases.**
- Typical particle sizes → **3-10 μm**
- Small particles:
 - **better resolution**
 - provide more **uniform flow through the column** and reduce multiple diffusion path.
 - **less distance solute** diffuse in the mobile phase

Example:



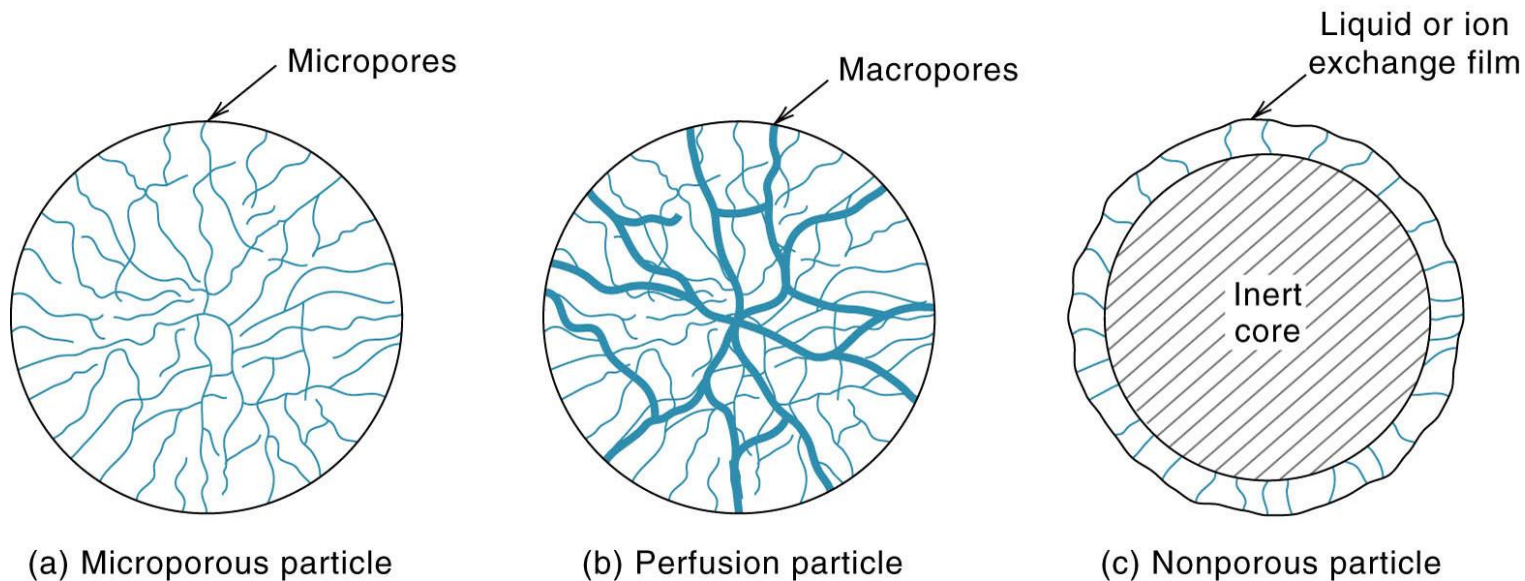
Greater separation efficiency
(better resolution)



Stationary Phase

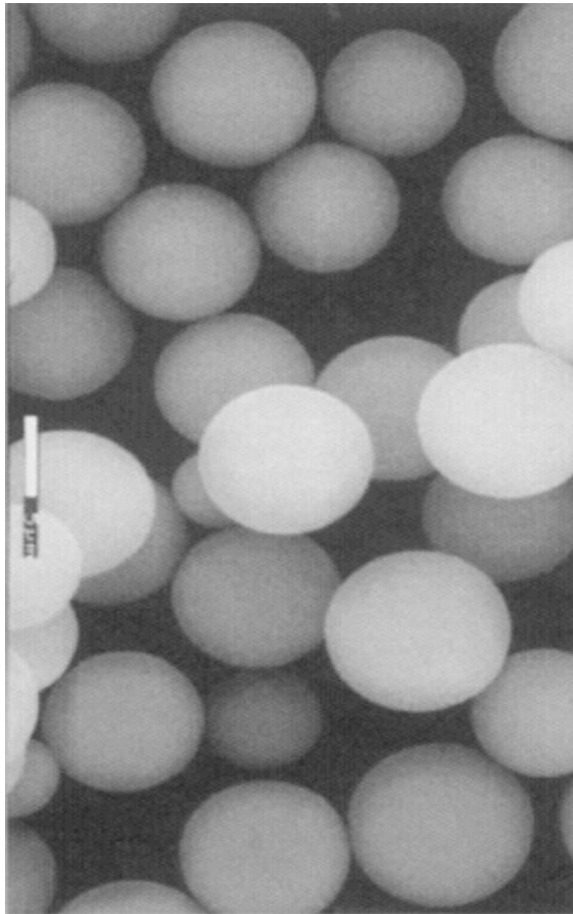
- **Spherical particles** have been developed that can be packed more homogeneously and provide **improved efficiency**.
- The particles are **high purity silica**, **5-10 μm** in diameter, pore sized **60-100 \AA** range.
- Most HPLC is performed in the **liquid-liquid (partition chromatography)** mode \rightarrow **liquid stationary phase** are either **coated on the particles** or **chemically bonded**.

Structural Types of Particles Used in HPLC



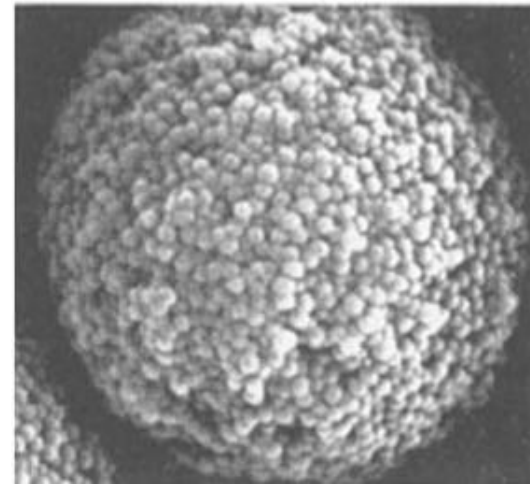
Microporous Particles

- The most common used particles are **microporous** or **diffusive particles permeable to solvent** and have **high surface area**.
- The use of **small particles** minimizes the diffusion pathlength.

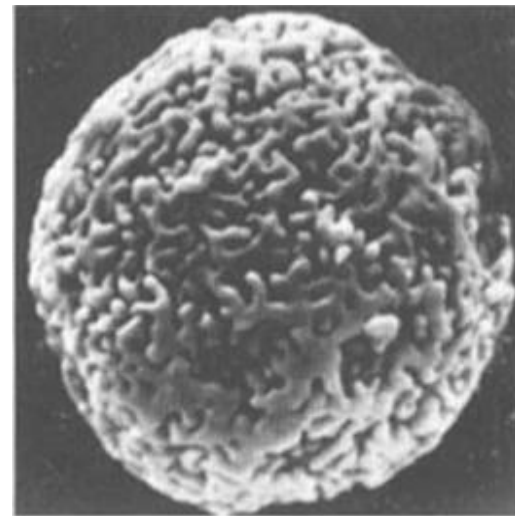


Spherical porous silica
particles, 10 mm, 800X
magnification.

Particles are fully porous with
100 Å pores.

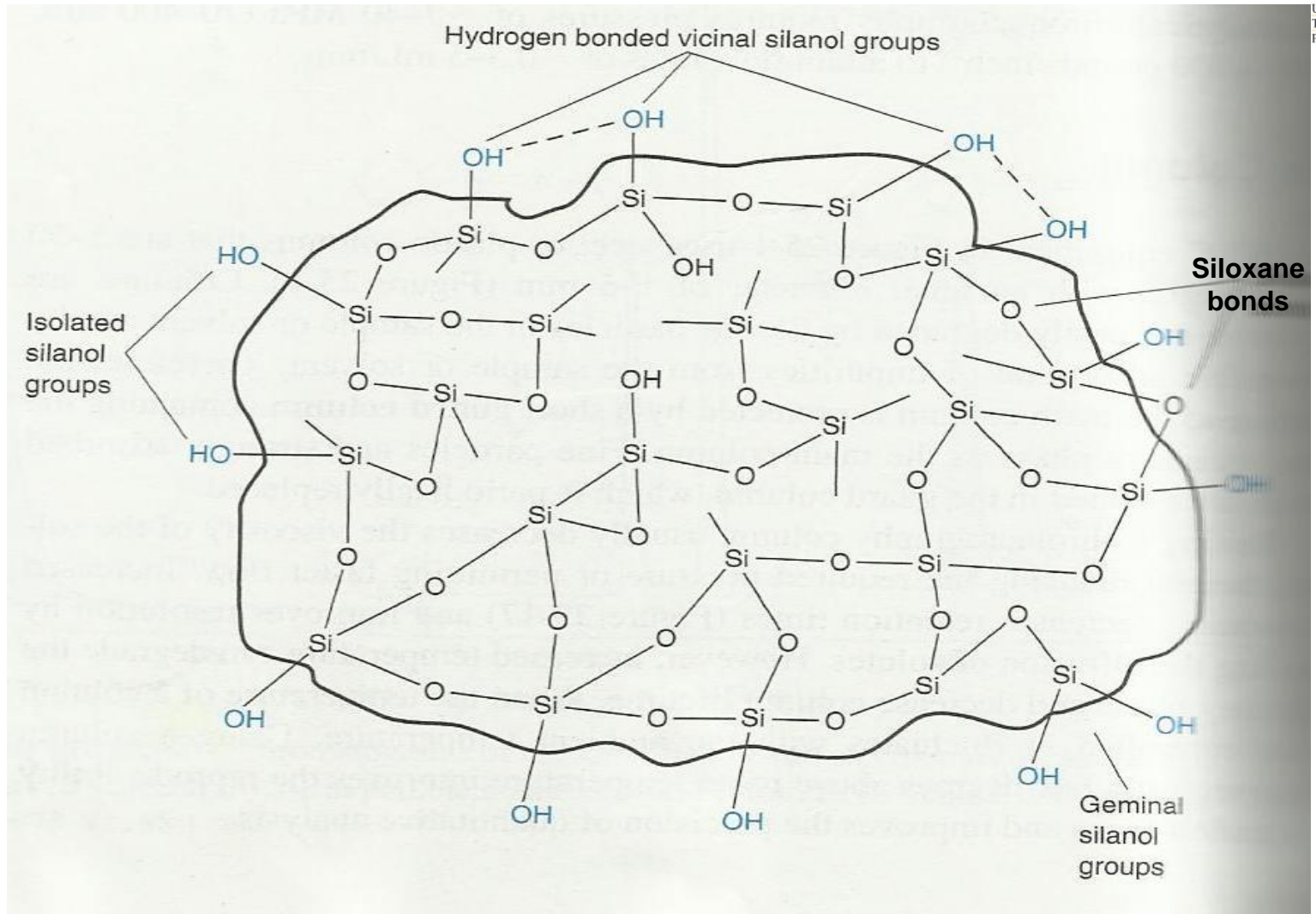


Zorbax porous silica microsphere
particle, 50% porosity, 100 Å pores.



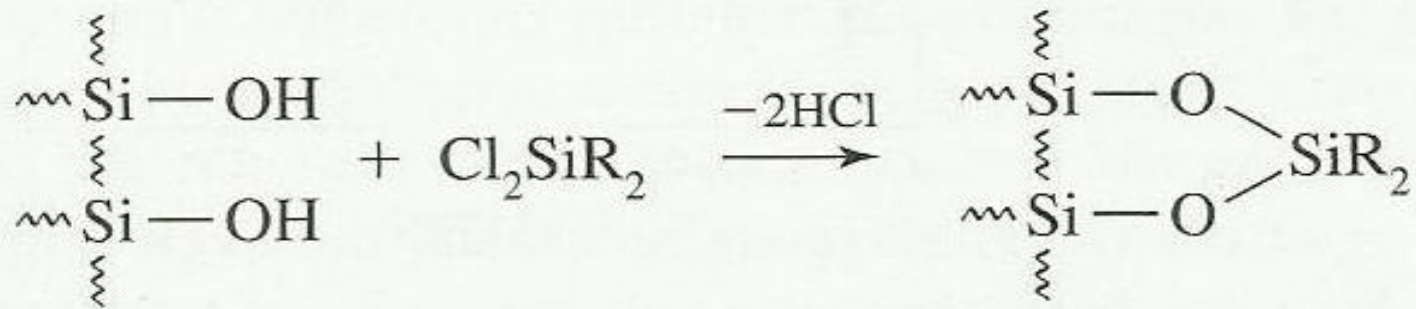
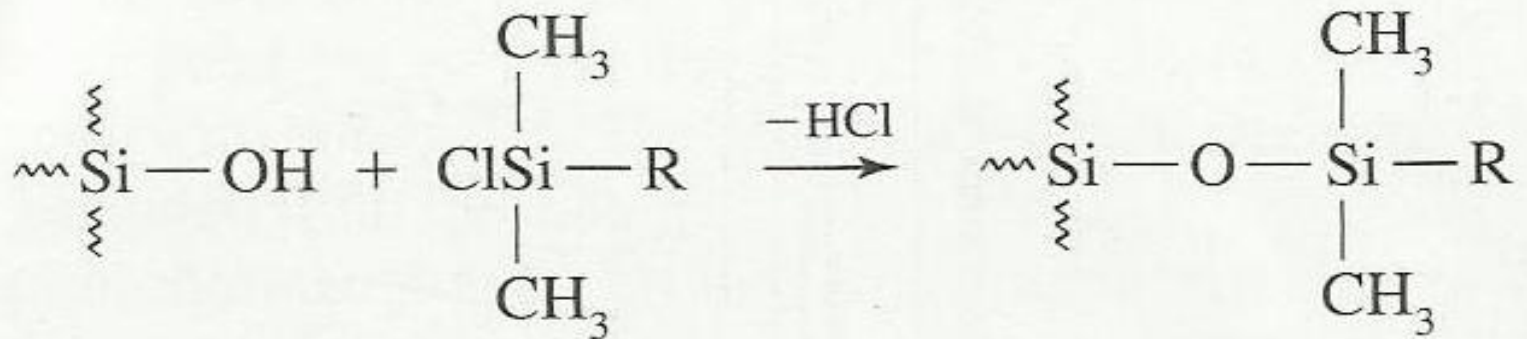
Xerogel silica particles
70% porosity, 100 Å pores.

Schematic Structure of Silica Particle

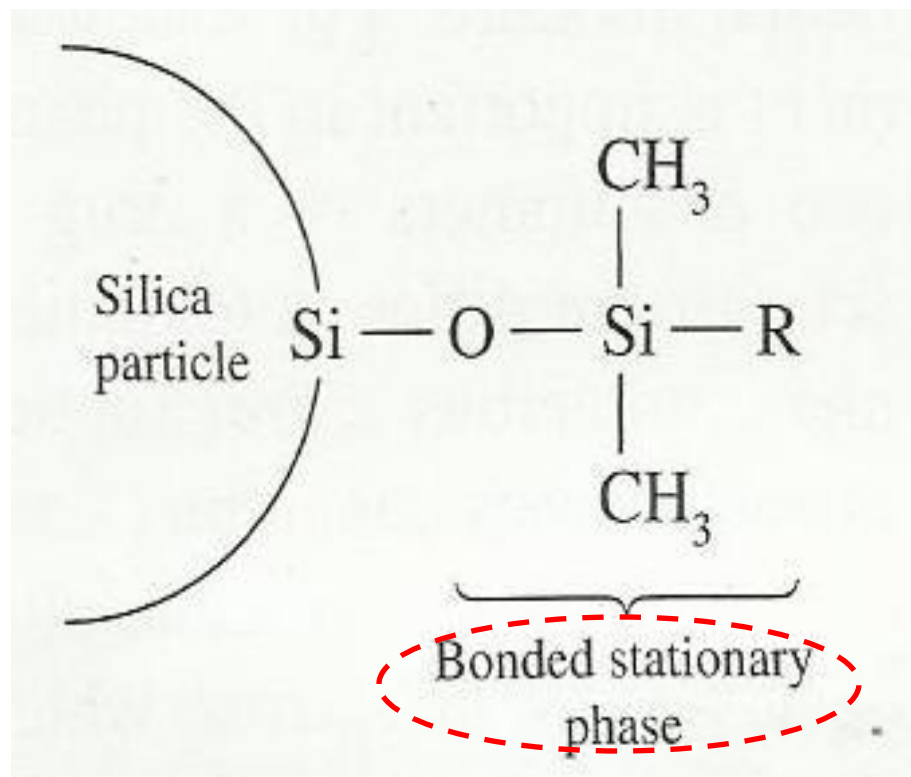


Surface area → up to 8 μmol of silanol group (Si-OH) per square meter.

- Silica particles **have surface silanol groups** – SiOH. These are used for **chemical bonding of stationary phases by silination reactions with chlorosilanes**:



Silica
surface



Common polar phases

$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_2$

Amino

$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_3\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$

Cyano

$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$

Diol

Common nonpolar phases

$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_{17}\text{CH}_3$

Octadecyl

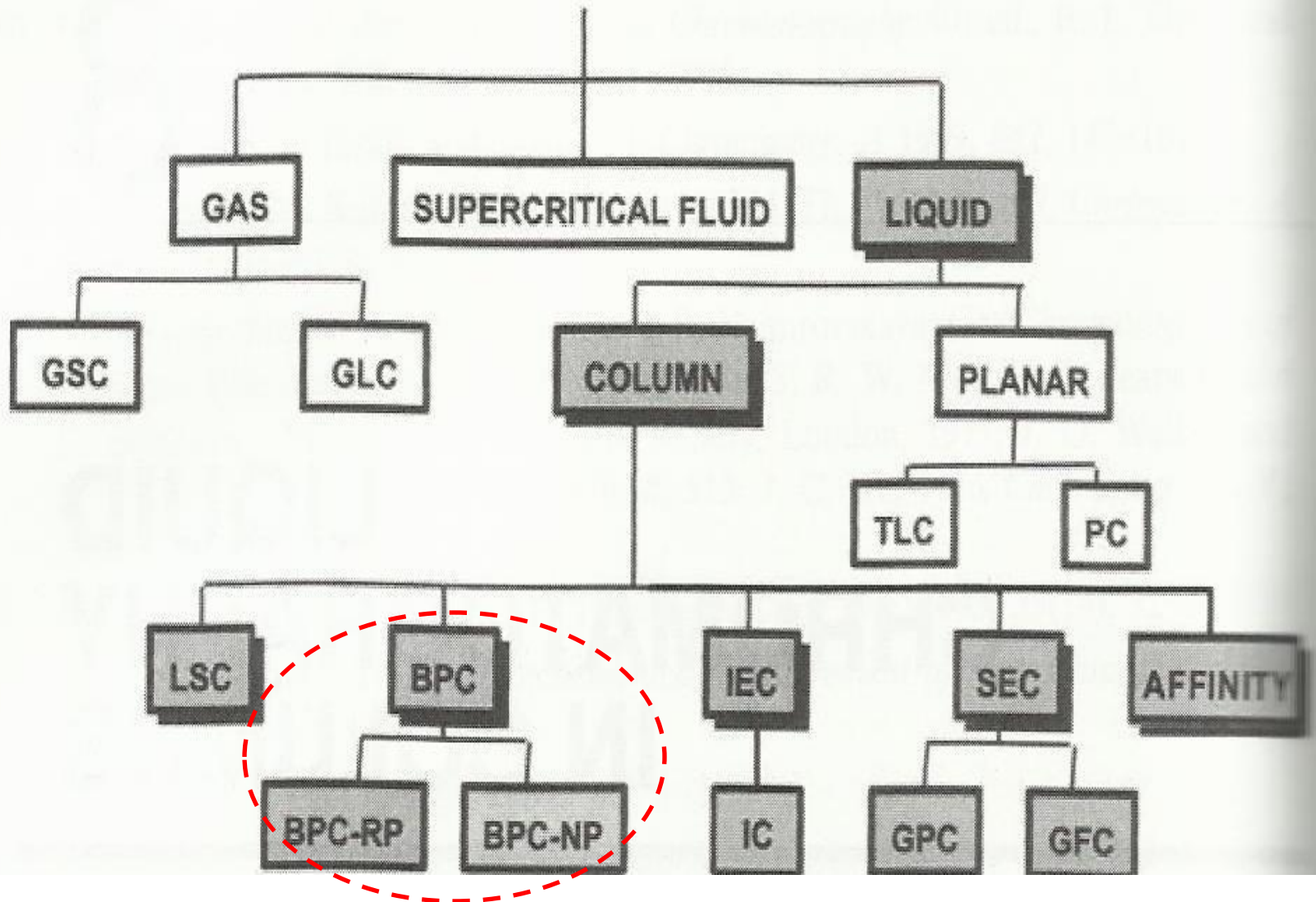
$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_7\text{CH}_3$

Octyl

$\text{R} = (\text{CH}_2)_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$

Phenyl

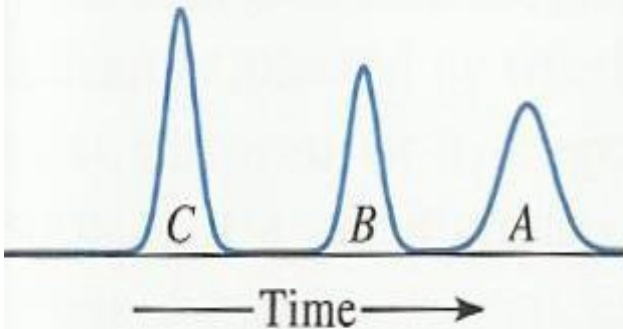
Classification of Liquid Chromatography Techniques



- Normal-phase chromatography
 - consists of polar stationary phase
 - more polar solvent has higher eluent strength.
- Polar phase for normal phase chromatography in increasing order of polarity include cyano, amino and dimethylamino.
- Reversed-phase chromatography
 - consists of nonpolar stationary phase
 - less polar solvent has higher eluent strength.
- The most common nonpolar bonded phases (for reverse-phase chromatography) are C18 and C8, with C18 the most popular, C8 is intermediate in hydrophobicity and C18 is very nonpolar.

(a)
Normal-phase chromatography

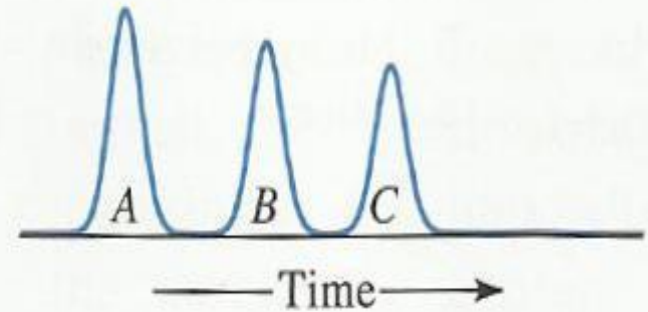
Low-polarity mobile phase



Solute polarities: $A > B > C$

(b)
Reversed-phase chromatography

High-polarity mobile phase



Relationship between **polarity and elution times** for **normal-phase** and **reversed phase chromatography**

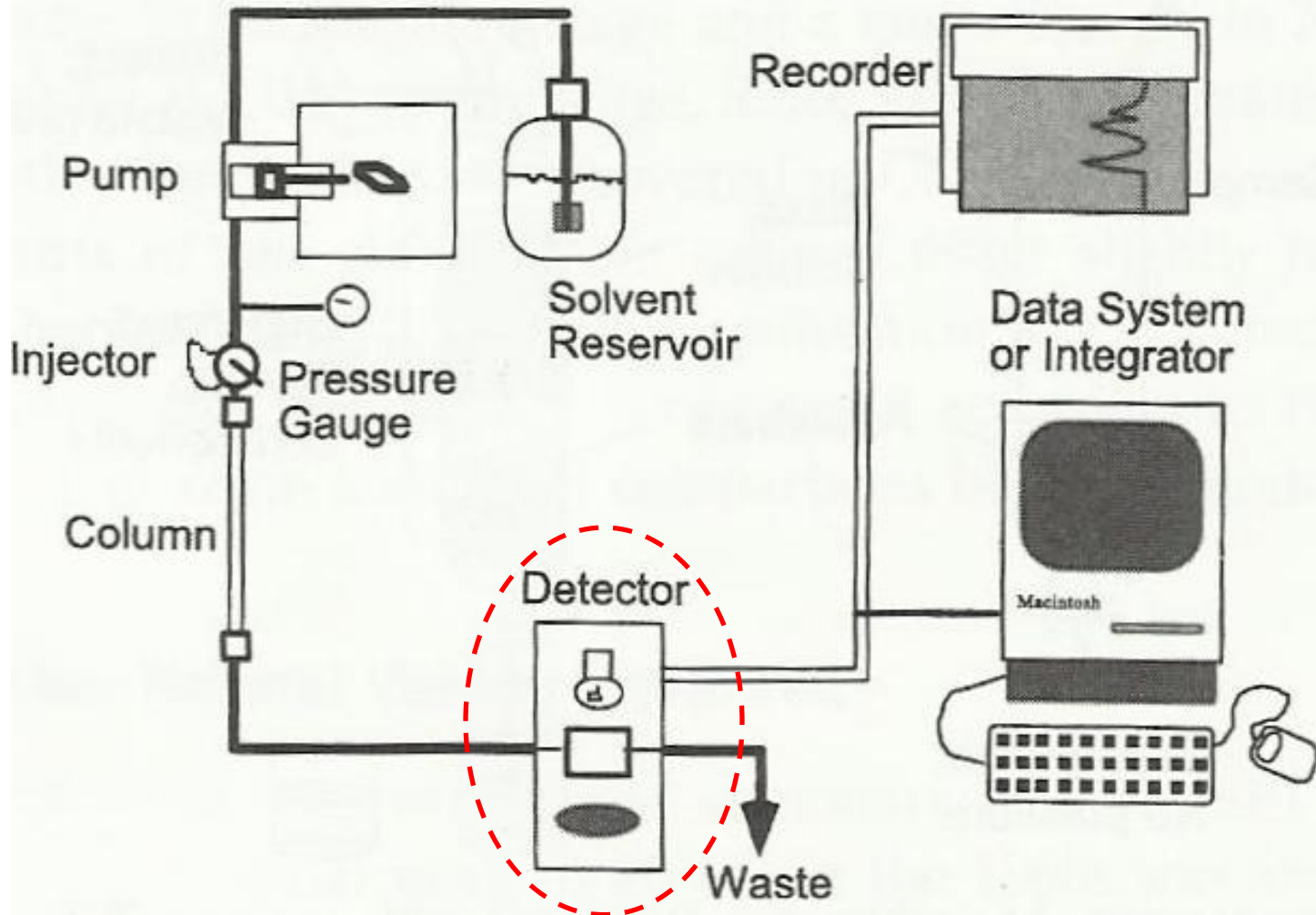
Perfusion Packing

- Packings are larger than the microporous $\sim 12\mu\text{m}$
- Used in **higher flowrate** and give **better efficiency** for **large molecules such as protein**.

Nonporous Packing

- Silica or resin \rightarrow much **smaller particle size**,
 $1.5 - 2.5 \mu\text{m}$.
- Useful for **separating complex peptide mixtures** and are used in ion chromatography.

Detector



Detectors

- Detectors with **high sensitivity** are required in HPLC.
- An ideal detector of any type is:
 - **sensitive to low concentrations** of every analyte.
 - does **not broaden the eluted peaks**.
 - **insensitive** to changes in temperature and solvent temperature.
- Widely used detectors are **refractometer detector and UV detector**.

Differential Refractometer Detector

- Universal detector → response to almost all solute
- Very sensitive to **temperature and pressure changes**.
- **Detection limit: 1-10 ppm** → not useful for trace analysis.
- Can not be used effectively with **gradient elution** due to a change in baseline → **impossible to match exactly the sample and the reference** while the solvent composition is changing.

Gradient elution: steady changes of mobile phase concentration during chromatography run

Ultraviolet Detector

- Most common detector, better sensitivity, 0.01 ppm
- Not temperature sensitive
- Relatively inexpensive
- Sensitive to a large number of organic compounds.
- Can be used with gradient elution.
- Can not be used with solvents that have significant absorption in the UV or with sample components that do not absorb in the UV.

Photodiode Array Detector

- **High quality detector** provide full-scale absorbance range.
- **Most sensitive scale**, an absorbance of 0.0005 would give a 100% signal.
- **Good for gradient elution** with non-absorbing solvents

Comparison of HPLC Detectors

Detector	Approximate limit of detection ^a (ng)	Useful with gradient?
Ultraviolet	0.1–1	Yes
Refractive index	100–1 000	No
Evaporative light-scattering	0.1–1	Yes
Electrochemical	0.01–1	No
Fluorescence	0.001–0.01	Yes
Conductivity	0.5–1	No
Mass spectrometry	0.1–1	Yes
Fourier transform infrared	1 000	Yes

HPLC Method Development

- Mode of HPLC → liquid-solid adsorption or **liquid-liquid partition (most commonly used)**.
- Liquid-liquid partition process → sensitive to small MW differences and so are preferred for the **separation of members of a homologous series** (alkane, alkene).
- Liquid-solid adsorption process → sensitive to steric effects and are preferred for the **separation of isomers having different steric configurations** (*cis*, *trans*).

- General rule:
 - i. highly polar materials are best separated using partition chromatography.
 - ii. very nonpolar materials are separated using adsorption chromatography.

- Steps in method development:
 1. determine goal
 2. select method of sample preparation
 3. choose detector
 4. column selection
 5. mobile phase/ solvent selection

END OF HPLC CHAPTER