It is not possible to decide exactly how comprehensive the literature coverage is since the journals are not listed but it is safe to assume that it is at least as wide as that of Chemical Abstracts. There is no statement as to what selection procedures, if any, were applied although the Preface states that... "an attempt was made to cover the literature on the instrumentation, methodology, applications and advances in gas chromatography".

The important question is: does the book provide information not available elsewhere or in a form more convenient than hitherto? The answer to the first part is no, but the answer to the second is more difficult to decide without undertaking a rather time-consuming comparison. It will depend largely on the library facilities available to the researcher. For example, he may have access to computerised literature search facilities which would certainly cover the period covered by this volume. Further, in computerised searches, selective parameters may be used to define particular areas of interest, and cross-referencing is also frequently available. Naturally, literature searches are expensive but they may be more convenient than using volumes such as the one reviewed here.

This book will be very useful to workers not much involved in GC and wishing to make occasional use of the techniques, but probably less useful to workers heavily engaged in the field.

R. Stock

Gel Chromatography, Theory, Methodology, Applications

By T. Kremmer and L. Boross, translated by M. Gabor. Wiley-Interscience, Chichester, 1979.

This is the revised version of an original Hungarian work by the same authors. The English text is clearly a translation, although a very good one which has produced an eminently readable book. It follows a fairly standard method of presentation. After a short historical introduction there are 87 pages of fundamentals and theory, 72 on methods and techniques and 90 on applications.

The latest literature references appear to be dated 1977, but a certain amount of commercial information is taken from manufacturers' literature of an earlier date and one wonders whether any of it is now out of date. The book does show indirectly how greatly the development of gel chromatography, like that of other methods in recent years, has depended on the initiative of the suppliers of materials and the manufacturers of equipment. There is not much 'do-it-yourself' about the techniques described in this book.

Nevertheless, this is to be commended as a practical manual in which a good deal of useful information is given about manipulative methods (such as the method of packing columns) in addition to the choice of mobile and stationary phases. As is usual, the section on applications is more or less a literature survey without detailed discussion, but the section on fundamentals and theory is well set out and very easy to follow. The book can, therefore, be recommended as an authoritative review of the theory and methodology of gel chromatography, and as a relatively brief survey of its applications. The only adverse comment might be a purely physical one, in that the reviewer's copy did not seem to be very well constructed and the volume, if well used, might have a rather short shelf-life.

C. B. F. Rix

Erratum

Caused by an error of the copy editor, the four arrows in the structural formula concerning the absolute configuration of the D-isovaline residue in Fig. 4 in the article of H. Brückner, G. Jung et al. in *Chromatographia* **13**, 203 (1980), have the wrong direction. The formula should correctly be read as follows: