

CHROMATOGRAPHIC BEHAVIOR AND LIPOPHILICITY OF s-TRIAZINE DERIVATIVES ON SILICA GEL IMPREGNATED WITH PARAFFIN OIL

Lidija R. Jevrić, Gordana B. Koprivica, Nevena M. Mišljenović, Bratislav Ž. Jovanović

The chromatographic behavior of four group of s-triazine derivatives (14 compounds) has been studied by TLC on silica gel impregnated with paraffin oil. Retention mechanism has been determined using the following mobile phases: water-acetone, water-acetonitrile, water-dioxane, water-tetrahydrofuran, water-methanol and water-ethanol, by changing the volume fraction of modifier in the mobile phase. On impregnated silica gel, a reversed-phase chromatographic process occurs. Good correlation was obtained between the retention constants, R_M^0 (determined by linear extrapolation), and slope, S , of chromatographic equations. There was also satisfactory correlation between these retention constants and $\log P$ values calculated using different theoretical methods. The study showed that the retention constants can be used as a measure of lipophilicity of investigated compounds.

KEYWORDS: s-Triazine derivatives, RP-TLC, impregnated silica gel, multiple linear regression analysis, lipophilicity

INTRODUCTION

Considerable attention has been paid to the analysis of chemical in the s-triazine group, due to their widespread use in agricultural chemistry and their subsequent degradation in biological systems (1, 2). For initial chemical screening of the activity of newly synthesized compounds it is recommended first to determine their lipophilicity, an important physico-chemical property in relation to biological activity. Lipophilicity is difficult to quantitate, but the most widely accepted measure of lipophilicity is the octanol-water partition coefficient, defined as the ratio of the concentrations of the solute in the two phases of a saturated 1-octanol-water system. Measurement of the octanol-water partition coefficient is achieved by an alternative method, reversed-phase liquid chromatography (3). Reversed-phase thin-layer chromatography (RP TLC) has been found to offer a rapid method for the analysis of a large number of s-triazine type compounds. Certain relationships between the structure of s-triazine compounds and their mobility on silica gel impregnated with paraffin oil have recently been demonstrated (4). The reten-

Dr Lidija R. Jevrić, assist. prof., lydija@uns.ac.rs, Gordana B. Koprivica, B.Sc., gordana@uns.ac.rs, Nevena M. Mišljenović, B.Sc., nevenam@uns.ac.rs, Faculty of Technology, Bulevar Cara Lazara 1, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia, Bratislav Ž. Jovanović, prof., bataj@tmf.bg.ac.rs, Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade, Karnegijeva 4, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

tion behavior of compounds in various chromatographic systems is believed to be different by nature, i.e. the different physico-chemical properties of an analyte can influence its retention. Most recently, much effort has been done with the major aim of finding a mathematical model relating the retention of a given analyte to physico-chemical and structural parameters (descriptors) of test molecules. These correlations are known as quantitative structure-retention relationships (QSRR) (5-7). Besides practical application in optimization strategies, QSRR studies can significantly contribute to getting some insight into the molecular mechanism of separation. The QSRR equations describing R_M^0 determined for different mobile phase organic component in terms of logarithms of *n*-octanol-water partition coefficients were derived. The partition coefficients ($A\log P$, $I\log P$, $C\log P$, $\log P_{Kowin}$, $X\log P$, $ACD\log P$) were calculated by using different software packages. The purpose of the work described in this paper was, therefore, to select the $\log P$ data and TLC system that best characterize octanol/water partitioning, and thus the lipophilicity of the investigated molecules.

EXPERIMENTAL

Fourteen derivatives of s-triazine (Table 1) were investigated. The compounds were synthesized in the laboratory of the Department of Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade (8, 9). Standard solutions (1 mg cm⁻³) were prepared in methanol, acetone, or chloroform. Samples were spotted on the plates by means of a micro-pipette.

TLC was performed on 20 × 20 cm glass plates precoated with impregnate silica gel. The thin-layer of impregnate silica gel was prepared by suspending 25 g silica gel 60 GF₂₅₄ (Merck) in 100 ml diethyl ether containing 2.5 % paraffin oil. To ease the visualization, fluorescent indicator F₂₅₄ (Merck) was incorporated into the layers (10).

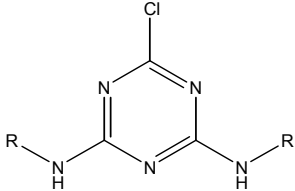
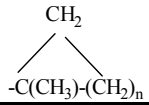
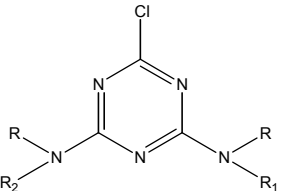
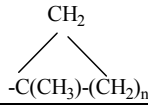
Impregnate silica gel layer was developed using the following mobile phases:

Aprotic solvents: Acetonitrile-water ($\phi=0.2-0.6$; v/v), Acetone-water ($\phi=0.5-0.8$; v/v), Tetrahydrofuran-water ($\phi=0.45-0.7$; v/v), Dioxane-water ($\phi=0.5-0.8$; v/v).

Protic solvents: Methanol-water ($\phi=0.5-0.8$; v/v), Ethanol-water ($\phi=0.5-0.8$; v/v).

The plates were developed to a distance of 15 cm by the ascending technique at room temperature without previous saturation of the chamber with mobile phase. Dark spots were observed under UV light ($\lambda=254$ nm). R_M values were calculated from $R_M = \log((1/R_f) - 1)$. All calculations were performed using the computer software Origin, Version 6.1. The partition coefficients $A\log P$, $I\log P$, $C\log P$, $\log P_{Kowin}$ and $X\log P$, were calculated for the compounds by applying different theoretical procedures (11, 12). $ACD\log P$ was calculated using commercial software and the other partition coefficients were obtained from the internet (13).

Table 1. Chemical structures of the s-triazines studied

					
Series I			Series II		
Compound	R		Compound	R n	
I.1	-CH(CH ₃)-C ₆ H ₅		II.1	3	
I.2	-CH(CH ₃)-C ₆ H ₄ -4-CH ₃		II.2	CH ₂ 4	
I.3	-CH(CH ₃)-C ₆ H ₄ -4-Cl		II.3	5	
I.4	-CH(CH ₃)-C ₆ H ₄ -4-Br				
Series III			Series IV		
					
Compound	R	R	R	Compound	R n
III.1	C ₆ H ₁₁	H	H	IV.1	3
III.2	C ₆ H ₁₁	CH ₃	CH ₃	IV.2	4
III.3	C ₆ H ₁₁	C ₆ H ₅	H	IV.3	5
III.4	C ₆ H ₁₁	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅		

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Determination of Retention Constants, R_M^0 , TLC Equations

When the R_M values calculated from R_f values (retention factor defined as the distance migrated by the sample from the origin compared with the distance migrated by the solvent front from the origin) were plotted against mobile phase composition for each compound there was a range in which a linear relationship was observed between the R_M values and organic modifier concentration in the mobile phase, which can be expressed by the equation $R_M = R_M^0 + S\phi$, indicative of the reversed-phase chromatography, where ϕ is the amount (%) of organic compounds in the mobile phase (14). The obtained slopes, S , and intercept values, R_M^0 , of TLC equation for each solute are presented in Table 2. The correlation coefficients of the TLC equations were satisfactory.

Table 2. Extrapolated R_M^0 values, slopes, S , and correlation coefficients, r , obtained on silica gel impregnated with paraffin oil

Comp.	Acetone			Acetonitrile			Dioxane			Tetrahydrofuran			Methanol			Ethanol		
	R_M^0	S	r	R_M^0	S	r	R_M^0	S	r	R_M^0	S	r	R_M^0	S	r	R_M^0	S	r
I.1	1.892	-2.753	0.997	2.905	-5.405	0.985	2.888	-4.616	0.996	1.972	-2.436	0.997	2.143	-3.119	0.993	2.933	-4.648	0.997
I.2	2.332	-3.240	0.999	3.850	-6.97	0.993	2.729	-4.955	0.993	2.576	-3.332	0.990	2.602	-3.506	0.998	2.921	-4.224	0.997
I.3	2.589	-3.526	0.999	4.578	-8.307	0.985	2.491	-5.34	0.995	2.854	-3.753	0.998	2.704	-3.700	0.996	3.847	-5.652	0.993
I.4	2.418	-3.267	0.996	5.169	-9.324	0.984	3.658	-5.598	0.997	2.857	-3.721	0.992	3.056	-4.085	0.994	3.580	-5.252	0.992
II.1	2.878	-3.976	0.999	3.246	-5.953	0.946	3.624	-5.257	0.989	2.652	-3.385	0.994	2.930	-3.878	0.997	2.929	-4.116	0.998
II.2	3.218	-4.274	0.999	4.793	-8.495	0.969	3.840	-5.423	0.995	3.257	-4.14	0.992	3.185	-4.038	0.996	2.323	-3.226	0.995
II.3	3.750	-4.914	0.998	5.320	-9.222	0.976	4.363	-5.993	0.994	3.408	-4.311	0.996	3.672	-4.538	0.994	3.215	-4.277	0.991
III.1	2.626	-3.501	0.998	5.072	-7.764	0.993	3.454	-5.078	0.991	3.031	-3.948	0.998	3.391	-4.485	0.997	2.650	-3.768	0.997
III.2	3.364	-4.187	0.999	5.497	-8.370	0.987	4.368	-6.003	0.997	3.601	-4.682	0.995	3.888	-4.956	0.998	3.798	-4.637	0.995
III.3	3.154	-4.022	0.998	5.718	-8.650	0.983	4.219	-5.942	0.998	3.495	-4.549	0.997	3.978	-4.924	0.998	3.677	-4.973	0.991
III.4	3.946	-4.889	0.999	5.880	-8.393	0.987	5.268	-7.2	0.997	4.142	-5.425	0.990	4.454	-5.280	0.993	4.436	-5.725	0.995
IV.1	1.867	-2.601	0.999	2.334	-4.304	0.996	2.342	-3.763	0.994	2.367	-3.424	0.995	2.250	-3.424	0.996	1.635	-2.694	0.996
IV.2	2.013	-2.740	0.998	2.465	-4.415	0.996	2.392	-3.856	0.998	2.653	-4.821	0.998	2.625	-3.832	0.995	1.809	-2.851	0.996
IV.3	1.364	-2.102	0.999	2.257	-4.163	0.996	2.751	-4.219	0.994	3.500	-5.593	0.998	2.258	-3.42	0.997	2.091	-3.155	0.995

Correlation Between Retention Constants, R_M^0 , and Slope, S

A linear relationship was observed between the intercept, R_M^0 , and slope, S , for protic and aprotic solvents, as shown by the equations given in Table 3. The best correlation was obtained for acetone as mobile-phase modifier ($r = 0.994$). There is a good correlation between R_M^0 and S , which might reflect the suitability of the systems examined for estimating the lipophilicity of the compounds. The R_M^0 values, which are chromatographic data describing the partitioning between a non-polar stationary and a polar mobile phase, may therefore be appropriate for the assessment of lipophilicity.

Table 3. Equations for the relationships between the retention constants, R_M^0 , and slope, S .

Mobile phase	Equation	r	sd	n
Acetone-water	$R_M^0 = -0.572 - 1.121S$	0.994	0.101	14
Acetonitrile-water	$R_M^0 = -1.717 - 1.356S$	0.954	0.590	14
Dioxane-water	$R_M^0 = -1.895 - 0.965S$	0.920	0.392	14
Tetrahydrofuran-water	$R_M^0 = -0.231 - 1.231S$	0.985	0.140	14
Methanol-water	$R_M^0 = -1.278 - 1.911S$	0.987	0.110	14
Ethanol-water	$R_M^0 = -0.786 - 1.152S$	0.962	0.283	14

Based on the results obtained on silica gel impregnated paraffin oil, R_M^0 is directly dependent on the nature of mobile phase modifiers. In other words, the selectivity of separation of the tested substances are the result of specific interactions with the mobile phase.

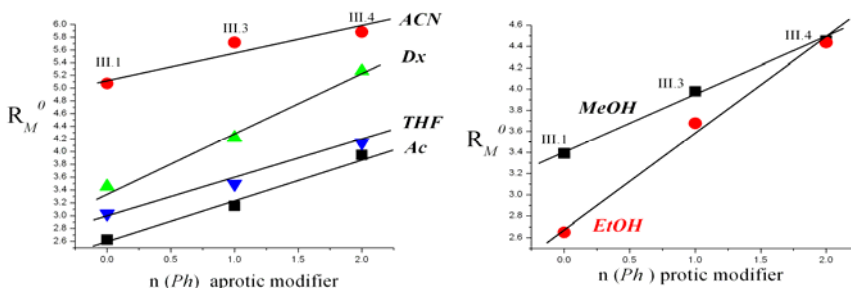


Figure 1. Relationship between the extrapolated retention constants, R_M^0 , and the number of phenyl groups compounds of *series III* derivatives s-triazine molecules

As can be seen from Figure 1, of structural parameters, the most pronounced effect on R_M^0 values has phenyl group. Namely, a linear relationship was observed between the R_M^0 values and the number of phenyl groups, $n(Ph)$, in the substituents at position 4 and 6 in the compounds of *series III* derivatives of s-triazine. A decrease in the polarity of the molecule (increase in the number of phenyl groups) resulted in the increased retention (Figure 1).

Correlation of Retention Constants, R_M^0 and $\log P$

Lipophilic character often seems to be the most important physico-chemical parameter in determining the biological activity of chemical agents. Lipophilicity can be expressed in terms of many different descriptors ($\log P$, $\log k_w$, R_M , R_M^0), obtained experimentally or calculated. The experimental parameters most frequently used are the retention constants R_M^0 (RPTLC) and $\log k_w$ (RPHPLC), whereas the calculated quantity is $\log P$. The partition coefficient, $\log P$, of a given compound between a non-aqueous and an aqueous phase can be used as an expression of its lipophilic character (15).

Because the retention of a compound in reversed-phase chromatography is governed by hydrophobic interactions, linear relationships between the retention constant, R_M^0 , and $\log P$ could be expected (16).

The partition coefficients ($A\log P$, $I\log P$, $C\log P$, $\log P_{Kowin}$, $X\log P$, $ACD\log P$) of s-triazine derivatives are listed in Table 4.

Table 4. Partition coefficients calculated by different theoretical methods

Comp.	$A\log P$	$I\log P$	$C\log P$	$\log P_{Kowin}$	$X\log P$	$ACD\log P$
I.1	5.25	5.06	4.85	5.07	4.83	3.87
I.2	5.65	5.13	5.85	6.16	5.70	4.79
I.3	5.94	7.08	6.28	6.36	6.07	5.06
I.4	6.18	5.89	6.58	6.85	6.43	5.42
II.1	4.96	5.15	5.32	5.88	3.71	3.70
II.2	5.78	5.96	6.44	6.86	4.85	4.82
II.3	6.55	6.65	7.55	7.85	5.99	5.95
III.1	4.91	4.76	5.40	5.96	4.01	3.74
III.2	5.55	4.81	5.48	6.86	5.14	4.82
III.3	6.07	5.80	7.21	8.17	6.14	5.36
III.4	6.98	7.98	9.02	10.39	8.27	7.07
IV.1	3.83	3.63	3.12	3.81	2.37	2.85
IV.2	4.21	4.08	3.67	4.30	2.94	3.41
IV.3	4.64	4.48	4.23	4.79	3.51	3.98

Table 5. Correlation coefficients (r) for the correlation between R_M^0 and different $\log P$ values

R_M^0	$A\log P$	$I\log P$	$C\log P$	$\log P_{Kowin}$	$X\log P$	$ACD\log P$
Acetonitrile	0.835	0.705	0.858	0.877	0.795	0.804
Acetone	0.763	0.708	0.828	0.875	0.671	0.757
Dioxane	0.747	0.624	0.815	0.900	0.681	0.770
Tetrahydrofuran	0.570	0.533	0.648	0.756	0.532	0.707
Methanol	0.702	0.604	0.794	0.895	0.665	0.750
Ethanol	0.855	0.795	0.822	0.838	0.900	0.825

By comparing the calculated values to define the lipophilicity of the investigated molecules, it is evident that ethanol as a modifier gives the highest correlation (calculated average correlation coefficient is 0.839).

Retention Constants, R_M^0 for QSRR

The **QSRRs** are statistical models which quantify the relationship between the structure of a molecule and its chromatographic retention parameters in different kinds of chromatography. The application of QSRR allows the prediction of the retention of a new solute, identification of the most informative structural descriptors, elucidation of the molecular mechanisms of separation in a given chromatographic system, evaluation of complex physico-chemical properties of solutes and estimation of biological activities. The relationship between the retention and the structural characteristics of a molecule explains the effect of chemical structure on the retention behavior in a more accurate way (17).

The use of multiple linear regression (MLR) analysis for fourteen s-triazine derivatives led to statistically significant equations relating lipophilicity (estimated by R_M^0 values (dependent variable) to different theoretically calculated six types of log P namely $A\log P$, $C\log P$, $ACD\log P$, $\log P_{Kowin}$, $X\log P$ and $I\log P$ values for each compound (independent variable). The specifications for the best-selected MLR models are shown in Table 6 and Table 7.

These relationships were analyzed and the best model was selected on the basis of various statistical parameters like correlation coefficient (r), and standard deviation (SD).

In the first phase of work, the multilinear relationships between the retention constant and two variable lipophilicity descriptors was examined.

Table 6. Statistical parameters for multilinear dependence between R_M^0 and two variables descriptors lipophilicity

Modifier	Descriptors		$R_M^0 = a \log P_1 + b \log P_2 + c$				
	$\log P_1$	$\log P_2$	a	b	c	r	SD
Acetone	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X\log P$	0.0993	0.648	-0.313	0.916	0.329
Dioxane	$A\log P$	$\log P_{Kow}$	0.312	0.813	-0.410	0.949	0.306
Methanol	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X\log P$	0.571	0.672	-0.357	0.953	0.234

From the data in Table 6, it is evident that the retention constant correlates best with $X\log P$ combined with $\log P_{Kowin}$ ($r = 0.953$) - modifier methanol and $\log P_{Kowin}$ with $A\log P$ ($r = 0.949$) - modifier dioxane.

The multilinear dependence of the retention constant, R_M^0 , and the three lipophilicity descriptors is shown in Table 7. The best correlation was observed for the combined $\log P_{Kow}$, $X\log P$ and $I\log P$ ($r = 0.964$)

Table 7. Statistical parameters for multilinear dependence between R_M^0 and three variables descriptors lipophilicity

Modifier	Descriptors			$R_M^0 = a \log P_1 + b \log P_2 + c \log P_3 + d$					
	$\log P_1$	$\log P_2$	$\log P_3$	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>SD</i>
Acetone	$A \log P$	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X \log P$	-1.969	0.811	0.524	-0.632	0.948	0.274
Dioxane	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X \log P$	$I A \log P$	0.731	0.853	-0.292	-0.231	0.957	0.294
Acetonitrile	$A \log P$	$\log P_{Kow}$	$ACD \log P$	-2.713	1.401	0.756	-1.203	0.901	0.659
Tetrahydrofuran	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X \log P$	$ACD \log P$	0.664	0.271	-0.609	0.791	0.904	0.280
Methanol	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X \log P$	$I A \log P$	0.948	0.708	-0.251	-0.208	0.964	0.216
Ethanol	$\log P_{Kow}$	$X \log P$	$C \log P$	0.625	0.408	0.537	-0.503	0.907	0.398

The analysis of these results indicates that the proposed models can correctly represent the relationship between the retention parameters of the investigated compounds on silica gel and different $\log P$ values calculated for various compound solely from the molecular structure. These models are suitable for prediction of the retention of structurally similar compounds under the same chromatographic conditions.

CONCLUSION

Experimentally obtained RP R_M^0 values depend on the nature of organic modifier in the mobile phase. A linear relationship between R_M^0 and slope, *S*, values was found for all mobile phases. Satisfactory linear correlation was obtained between the retention constants and $A \log P$, $C \log P$, $ACD \log P$, $\log P_{Kow}$, $X \log P$ and $I A \log P$. According to the correlation coefficients, R_M^0 is a useful property for evaluation of the relative lipophilicity of the examined compounds.

The correlations between the retention constants, R_M^0 , and selected lipophilicity parameter (different $\log P$ values) of the solutes were expressed by multiparametric equations of high statistical significance, indicate that these models can be used to predict the retention constants of these molecules.

REFERENCES

1. T. Kodoma, L. Ding, M. Yoshida and M. Yajima: Biodegradation of an s-triazine herbicide, simazine. *J. Mol. Catal., B Enzym.* **11** (2001) 1073-1078.
2. S. Navarro, N. Vela, M.J. Giménez and G. Navarro: Persistence of four s-triazine herbicides in river, sea and groundwater samples exposed to sunlight and darkness under laboratory conditions. *Sci. Total Environ.* **329** (2004) 87-97.
3. J. Takel and J. Kovačičova: Chromatographic methods in the determination of herbicide residues in crops, food and environmental samples. *J. Chromatogr. A.* **643** (1993) 291-303.
4. N. Perišić-Janjić and B. Jovanović: Reversed-Phase Thin-Layer Chromatographic behaviour of Some s-triazine derivatives. *J. Planar Chromatogr.* **16** (2003) 71-75.
5. N. Perišić-Janjić, T. Đaković-Sekulić, L. Jevrić and B. Jovanović: Study of Quantitative Structure-retention Relationships for s-triazine derivatives in different RP HPLC Systems. *J. Planar Chromatogr.* **18** (2005) 212-216.

6. W.J. Lyman, W.F. Reehl and D.H. Rosenblatt: Handbook of Chemical Property Estimation Methods, McGraw-Hill, New York (1982).
7. A. Chiriac, D. Ciubotariu and Z. Simon: QSAR – Quantitative Relationships, Mirton Publishing House, Timișoara (1996).
8. G. Bončić-Caričić, Ž. Tadić and D. Jeremić: Electron impact mass spectrometry of some 2,4,6-substituted *s*-triazines. Effect of the ring size. Int. J. Mass. Spectrom. Ion. Phys. **47** (1983) 451-454.
9. G. Bončić-Caričić, B. Jovanović and D. Jeremić: Electron impact mass spectrometry of some 2,4,6-substituted *s*-triazines. Effect of α - and β -substitution. Int. J. Mass. Spectrom. Ion. Phys. **47** (1983) 455-458.
10. N. Perišić-Janjić, K. Popov-Pergal and B. Gordić: Normal- and reversed-phase thin-layer chromatography of some 3-(2'-furoyl)-5-X-2,4-dioxotetrahydro-1,3-thiazole derivatives. J. Planar Chromatogr. **12** (1999) 435-439.
11. C. Hansch and A.J. Leo: Substituent Constants for Correlation Analysis in Chemistry and Biology, John Wiley, New York 1979.
12. J. Chou and P.C. Jurs: Computer-Assisted Computation of Partition Coefficients from Molecular Structures Using Fragment Constants. J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci. **19** (1979) 172-178.
13. M. Kraszni, I. Bányaı and B. Noszál: Determination of Conformer-Specific Partition Coefficients in Octanol/Water Systems. J. Med. Chem. **46** (2003) 2241-2245.
14. K. Valko, R.S. Lloyd and L.G. Joseph: Retention in reversed-phase liquid chromatography as a function of mobile-phase composition. J. Chromatogr. A. **656** (1993) 501-520.
15. R. Kaliszan, P.R. Brown and E. Grushka: (Eds) Advances in Chromatography, Marcel Dekker, New York 1993.
16. R. Mannhold, G.I. Poda, C. Ostermann and I.V. Tetko: Calculation of molecular lipophilicity: state of the art and comparison of logP methods on more than 96.000 compounds. J. Pharm. Sci. **98** (2009) 861-893.
17. G. Romanelli, J. Autino and E. Castro: Application of Quantitative Structure-Retention Relationships (QSRR) to a Set of Organic Bromo and Nitrile Derivatives. Turk J. Chem. **26** (2002) 335-343.

ХРОМАТОГРАФСКО ПОНАШАЊЕ И ЛИПОФИЛНОСТ ϵ -ТРИАЗИНСКИХ ДЕРИВАТА НА ТАНКОМ СЛОЈУ СИЛИКА ГЕЛА ИМПРЕГНИРАНОГ ПАРАФИНСКИМ УЉЕМ

Лидија Р. Јеврић, Гордана Б. Копривица, Невена М. Мишљеновић, Братислав Ж. Јовановић

Испитано је хроматографско понашање четири групе новосинтетисаних деривата ϵ -триазина на танком слоју силика гела импрегнираног парафинским уљем. Ретенциони механизам је одређен употребом мобилних фаза: ацетон-вода, ацетонитрил-вода, диоксан-вода, тетрахидрофуран-вода, метанол-вода и етанол-вода, варирањем запреминског удела модификатора у покретној фази. На танком слоју сили-

ка гела импрегнираног парафинским уљем долази до обрнуто-фазног ретенционог механизма. Добре корелације су постигнуте између ретенционе константе, R_M^0 , (ретенција раствора у чистој води), и нагиба, S , хроматографске једначине. Такође су постигнуте задовољавајуће корелације између ретенционе константе и вредности $\log P$, израчунатих коришћењем различитих рачунарских програма. То указује да R_M^0 може бити алтернативни дескриптор у дефинисању липофилности испитиваних деривата с-триазина.

Received 23 September 2010
Accepted 25 October 2010