

# GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY

- Sample injected
- vaporises as it is injected (at least some higher than bp of sample)
- carried along by inert gas. (mobile phase)
- Column is usually inert solid support with liquid adsorbed onto it.
- A sample goes through column at different rates.
- different types of detector:
  - non selective: detects all except carrier gas
  - selective: detects range of compounds with common properties
  - specific: specific compound.

## Type: flame ionisation detector

- gases leave column and mixed with H<sub>2</sub> and air and burnt.
  - compounds burnt in flame produce ions + electrons.
  - Using a large electric potential applied to tip of burner and collector electrode above flame. The current produced is measured.
- Pros: robust, easy to use + can measure mass displayed on monitor.
- Cons: destroys sample, does not measure concentration.

## HPLC High performance Liquid Chromatography.

- ~~solvent~~ <sup>solvent</sup> (pushed through by high pressure (up to 400 atm)).
- column packing material very small! (large surface area) - better separation.
- two types Normal phase HPLC
  - tiny silica particles with non polar solvent.
  - polar stick in column longer than non polar molecules.

### Reversed phase HPLC: more common.

- modified silica to make it non polar. (they stick long chain hydrocarbons) (8-18 C)
- polar solvent such as water + methanol used.
- there will be strong attraction between polar molecules + solvent therefore spend less time in column (quick!)

retention time: time taken to travel through column, from injection to max peak height!

need careful control of conditions!  
to measure

retention times depend on - pressure used, nature of stationary phase (material + size) composition of solvent, temp of column.

- detected by UV absorption - more absorbed, greater conc. Solvent also absorbs UV but in different parts!

## Column chromatography

- solid phase (alumina or CaCO<sub>3</sub>)
- put sample added to top.
- solvent added.
- separation!!
- Michael Tswett (1902)
- separated pigments.