

2.3. Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (AAS) & Chromatography

OUTLINE:

- Introduction
- Working principle of AAS
- Basic component of AAS
- Application of AAS
- Definition of Chromatography
- Components of Chromatography
- Application of Chromatography
- Types of Chromatography

INTRODUCTION

Objectives:

- By the end of the session students will explain:
 - working principle & application of AAS
 - Application and type of chromatography

CONT'D...

- **Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy** is a very common technique for detecting metals and metalloids in sample.
- It is very reliable and simple to use.
- It can analyze over **62 elements**.
- It also measures the **concentration of metals** in the sample.

Cont'd...

ACTIVITY -1

- What is the work principle of atomic absorption spectroscopy?

3min.

□ WORKING PRINCIPLE OF AAS:

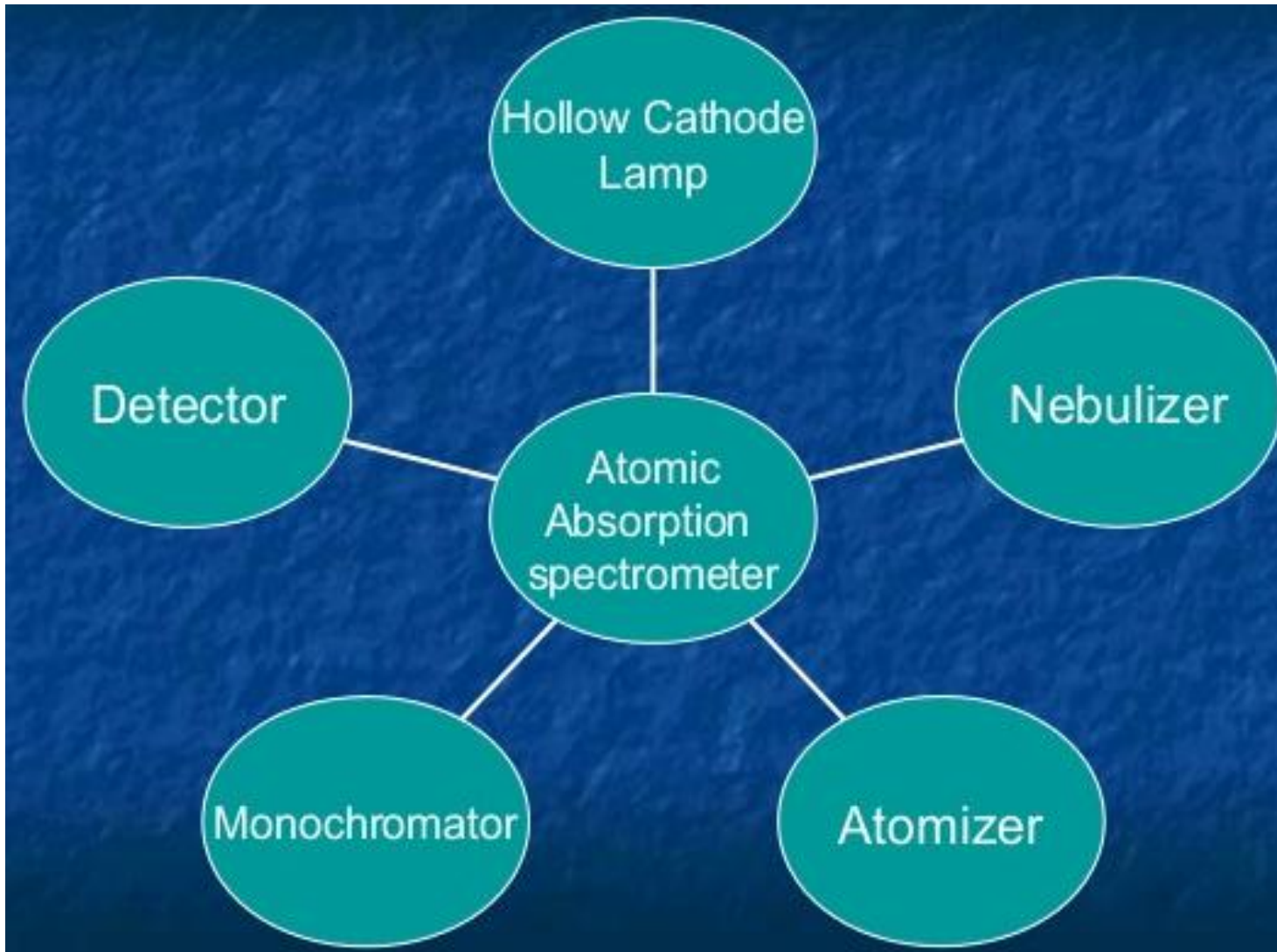
- The techniques basically the principle that **free atoms(gas) generated in an atomizer** can absorb radiation at **specific frequency**.
- Atomic absorption spectroscopy quantifies the absorption of ground state atoms in the gaseous state.
- The **atoms absorb ultraviolet** or visible light and make transitions to higher electronic energy levels.
- The **Analyte concentration** is determined from the amount of absorption.

CONT'D...

- **Concentration measurements** are usually determined from a working curve after calibrating the instrument with standards of known concentration.
- Atomic absorption is a very common technique for detecting metals in environmental samples.

Cont'd...

BASIC COMPONENTS OF AAS ARE:



AAS:

Cont'd...



Cont'd...

ACTIVITY -2

- What are the function of five basic components of AAS?

6min.

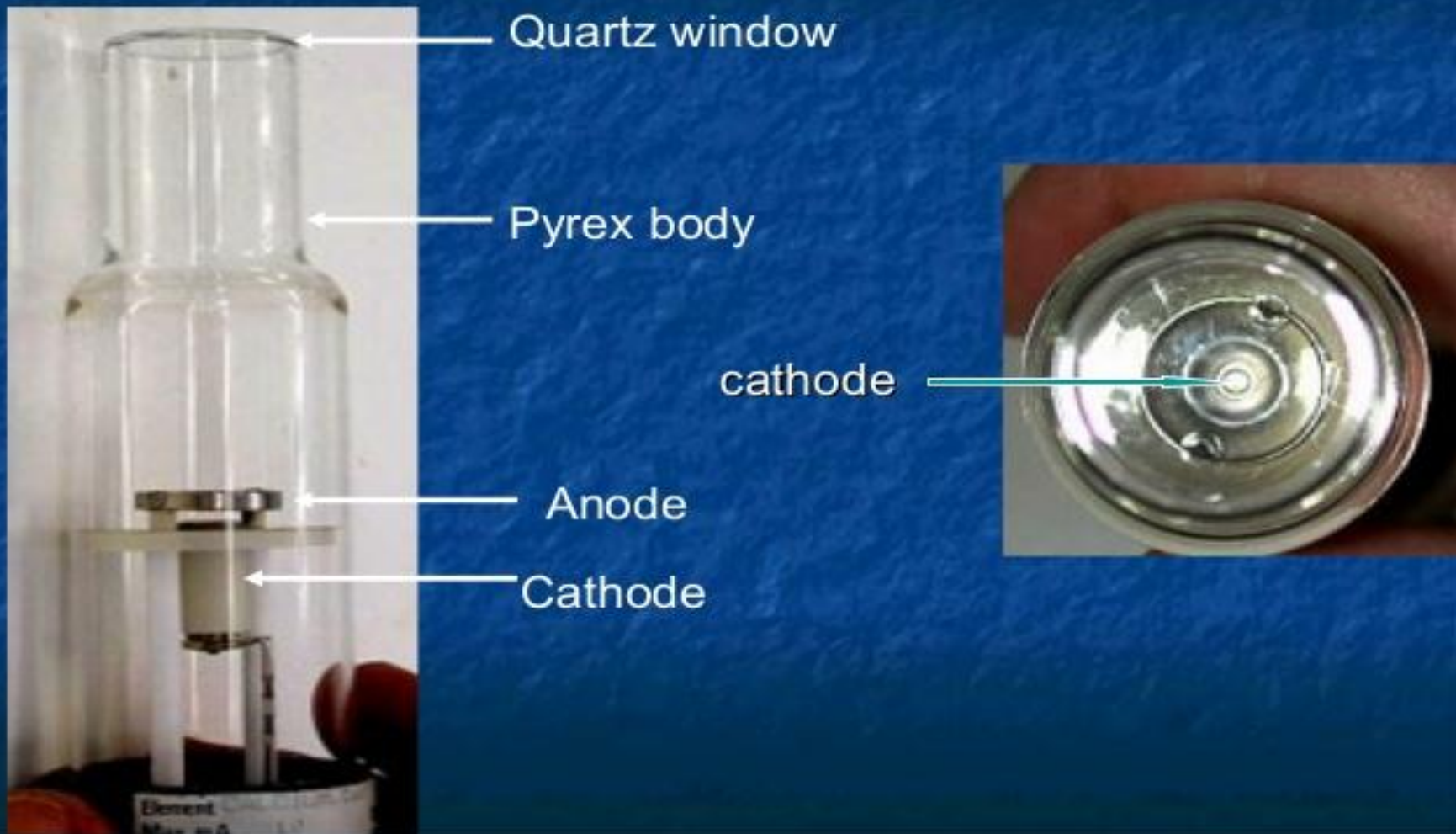
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□ BASIC COMPONENTS OF AAS ARE :

1. **Hollow Cathode Lamp** are the most common radiation source or light source in AAS.
 - ✓ It contains a **tungsten anode** and a **hollow cylindrical cathode** made of the element to be determined.
 - ✓ These are sealed in a glass tube filled with an inert gas (neon or argon).
 - ✓ Each element has its **own unique lamp** which must be used for that analysis.

CONT'D...

Hollow Cathode Lamp:



Cont'd...

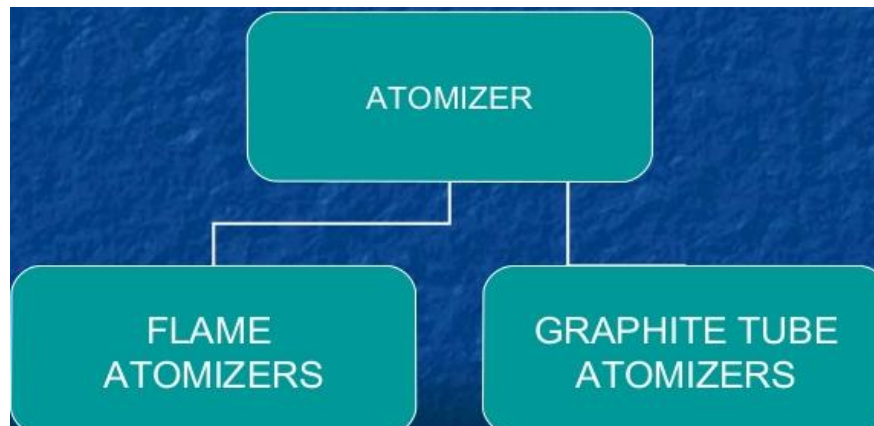
2. NEBULIZER:

- Suck up liquid samples at controlled rate.
- Create a fine aerosol spray for introduction into flame.
- Mix the aerosol and fuel and oxidant systematically for introduction into flame.

3.ATOMIZER:

Cont'd...

- **Elements** to be analyzed needs to be in atomic state.
- **Atomization** is separation of particles into individual molecules and breaking molecules into atoms.
- ✓ This is done by exposing the analyte to high temperatures in a **flame** or **graphite furnace**.

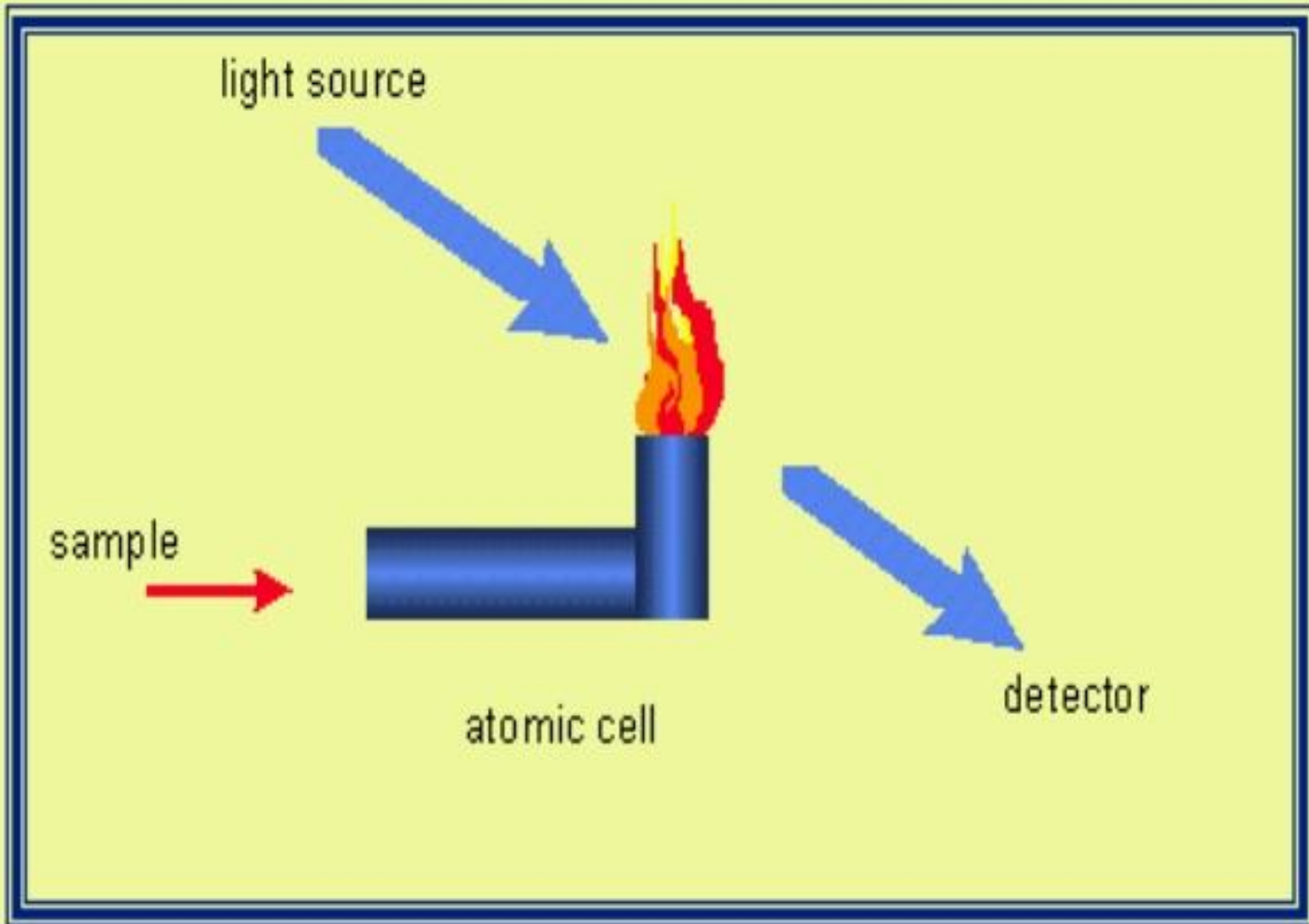


Cont'd...

□ FLAME ATOMIZER:

- ✓ To create flame, we need to mix an oxidant gas and a fuel gas.
- ✓ In most of the cases air –acetylene flame or nitrous oxide-acetylene flame is used.
- ✓ Liquid or dissolved samples are typically used with flame atomizer.

Cont'd...



Cont'd...

□ GRAPHITE TUBE ATOMIZER:

- Uses a graphite coated furnace to vaporize the sample.
- Samples are deposited in a small graphite coated tube which can then be heated to vaporize and atomize the analyte.
- The graphite tubes are heated using a high current power supply.

Cont'd...

4. MONOCHROMATOR:

- This is a very important part in an AA spectrometer. It is used to separate out all of the thousands of lines.
- A monochromator is used to select the specific wavelength of light which is absorbed by the sample, and to exclude other wavelengths.
- The selection of the specific light allows the determination of the selected element in the presence of others.

Cont'd...

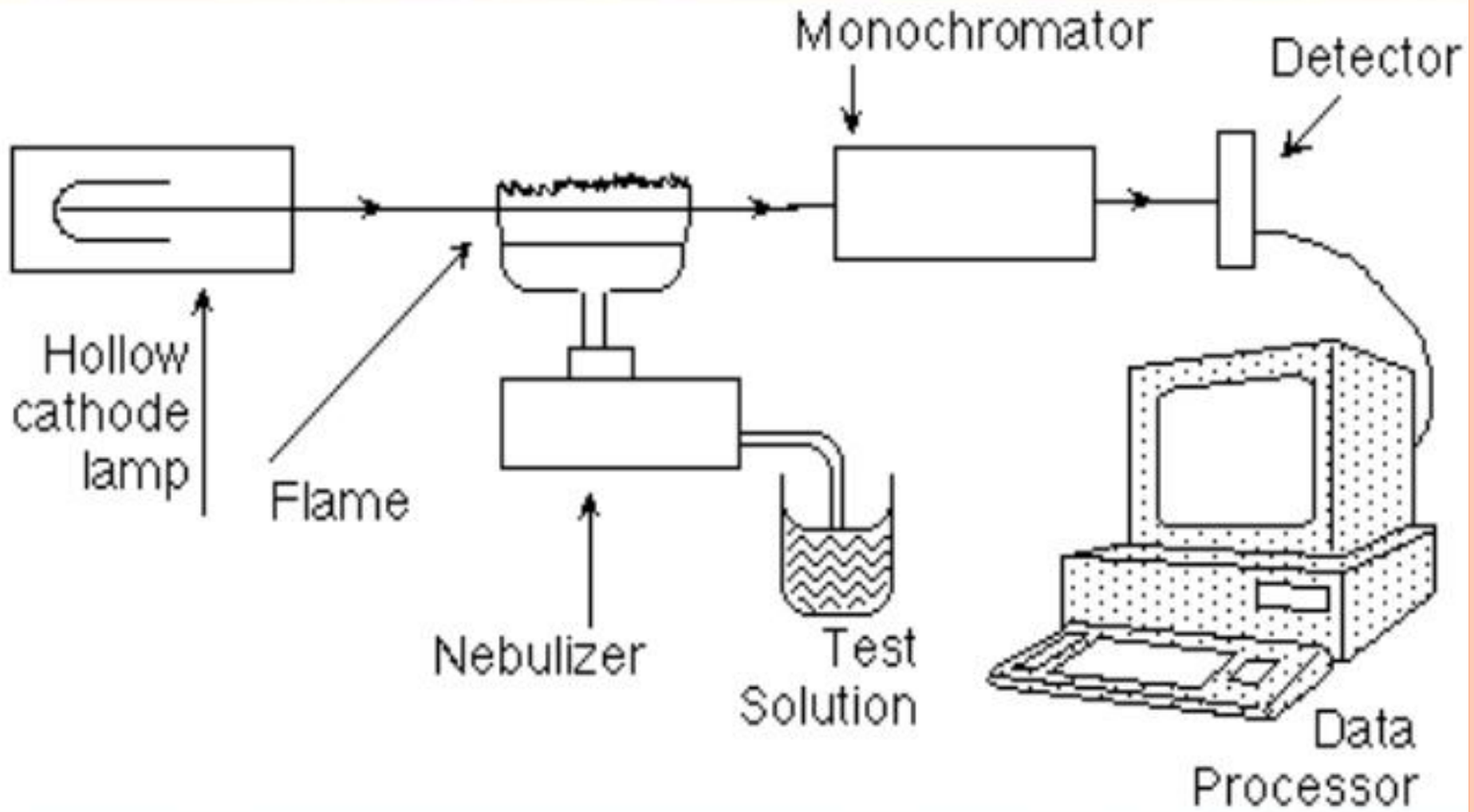
5. DETECTOR:

- The light selected by the monochromator is directed onto a detector that is typically a **photomultiplier tube**, whose function is to convert the **light signal** into an **electrical signal** proportional to the light intensity.
- The processing of electrical signal is fulfilled by a signal amplifier.
- The signal could be displayed for read out, or further fed into a data station for printout by the requested format.

□ CALIBRATION CURVE:

- A calibration curve is used to determine the unknown concentration of an element in a solution.
- The instrument is calibrated using several solutions of known concentrations.
- The absorbance of each known solution is measured and then a calibration curve of **concentration** vs **absorbance** is plotted.
- The sample solution is fed into the instrument, and the absorbance of the element in this solution is measured.
- The **unknown concentration** of the element is then calculated from the calibration curve.

Schematic diagram of AAS:



Cont'd...

ACTIVITY-3

- What are the application of AAS?

3min.

Cont'd...

□ APPLICATIONS OF AAS ARE:

- ❖ Determination of even small amounts of metals(lead, mercury,calcium,magnesium,etc) as follows:
- ✓ Environmental studies: drinking water, ocean water & soil
- ✓ Food industry
- ✓ Pharmacy industry.

2.4. CHROMATOGRAPHY

❑ CHROMATOGRAPHY:

- It is a technique used to separate and identify the components of a mixture.
- Works by allowing the molecules present in the mixture to distribute themselves between a stationary and a mobile medium.
- Molecules that spend most of their time in the mobile phase are carried along faster.

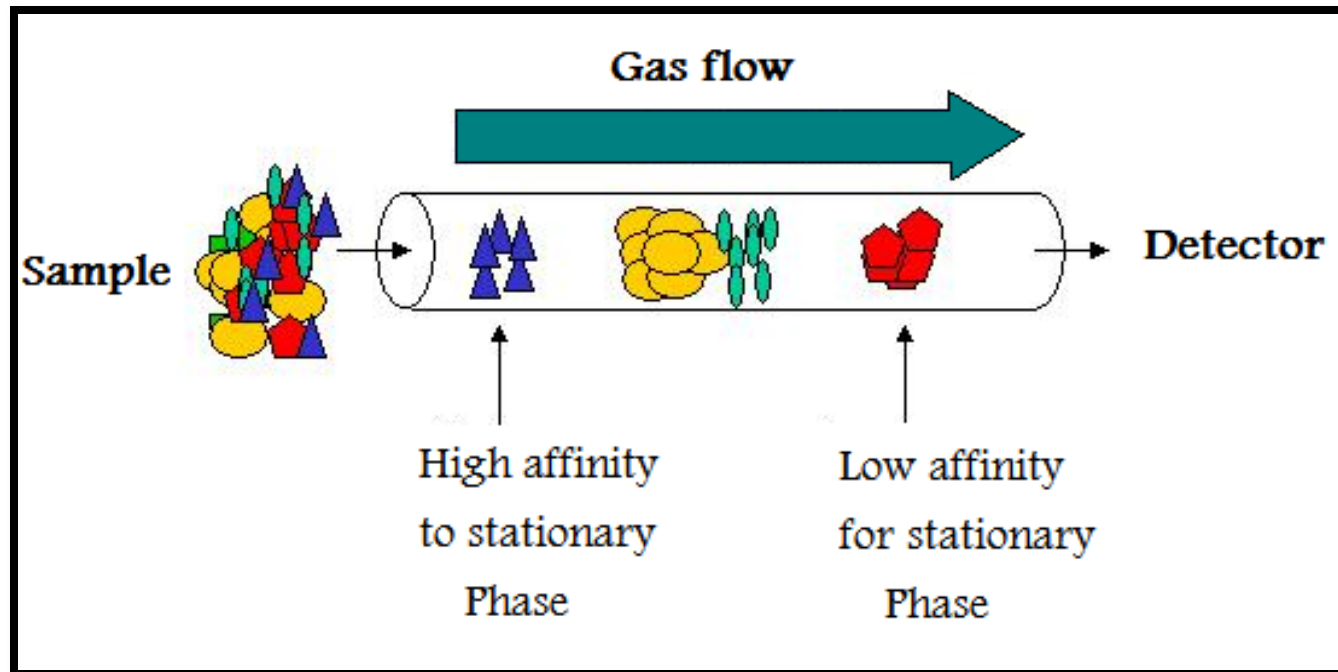
INTRODUCTORY PRINCIPLES

Chromatography is a combination of two words;

- * **Chromo** – Meaning color

- * **Graphy** – writing/representation of something on paper/

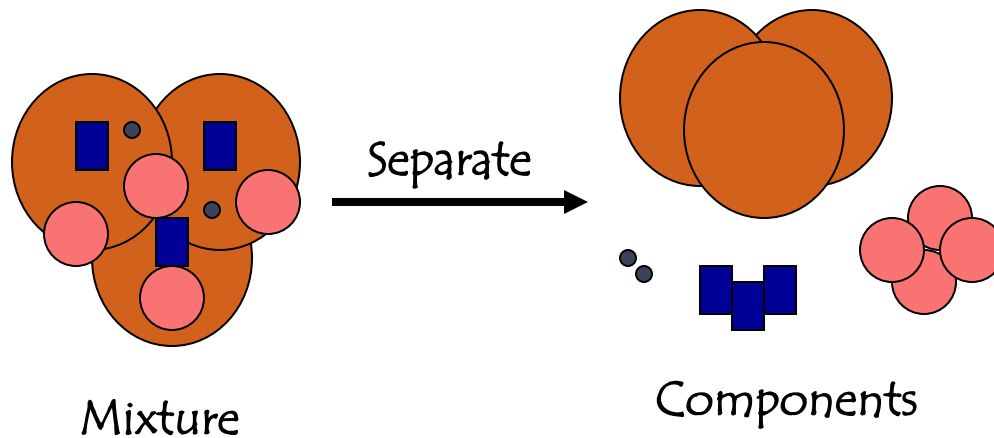
Principle: the samples are subjected to flow by **mobile liquid** onto or through the **stable stationary phase**.



DEFINITION

- ❖ **Chromatography** is a physical separation method of separation in which the components of a mixture are separated by differences in their distribution between two phases,
- ❖ One of which is stationary (**stationary phase**)
- ❖ while the other (**mobile phase**) moves through it in a definite direction.
- ❖ The substances must interact with the stationary phase to be retained and separated by it.

CHROMATOGRAPHY



- Analyze
- ◇ Identify
- ◇ Purify
- ◇ Quantify

ACTIVITY-4

- **What are the components of chromatography?**

3min.

Components of Chromatography are:

- ❖ Mobile Phase – gas or liquid that carries the mixture of components through the stationary phase.
- ❖ Stationary Phase – the part of the apparatus that holds the components as they move through it, separating them. `
- ✓ The **stationary phase** may be a solid, or a liquid supported on a solid or gel.

Uses for Chromatography

Chromatography is used by scientists to:

- Analyze – examine a mixture, its components, and their relations to one another
- Identify – determine the identity of a mixture or components based on known components
- Purify – separate components in order to isolate one of interest for further study
- Quantify – determine the amount of the a mixture and/or the components present in the sample

Application for Chromatography

- ✓Pharmacy Company
- ✓Hospital
- ✓Law Enforcement
- ✓Environmental Agency
- ✓Food Manufacturing Plant

CHROMATOGRAPHY TERMS

Chromatogram:

It is the visual output of the chromatograph.

Chromatograph:

It is equipment that enables a sophisticated Separation.

Stationary phase (bounded phase):

It is a phase that is covalently bonded to the support particles or to the inside wall of the column tubing.

CHROMATOGRAPHY TERMS

Mobile phase:

It is the phase which moves in a definite direction.

Analyte (Sample):

It is the substance to be separated during chromatography.

Eluate:

It is the mobile phase leaving the column.

CHROMATOGRAPHY TERMS

Retention time:

It is the characteristic time it takes for a particular analyte to pass through the system (from the column inlet to the detector) under set conditions.

Eluent:

It is the solvent that will carry the analyte.

CHROMATOGRAPHY TERMS

Retardation factor (R):

Fraction of an analyte in the mobile phase of a chromatographic system.

$$R = \frac{\text{Quantity of substance in mobile phase}}{\text{Total quantity of substance in the system}}$$

ACTIVITY-5

- What are the types of chromatography?

4min.

TYPES OF CHROMATOGRAPHY

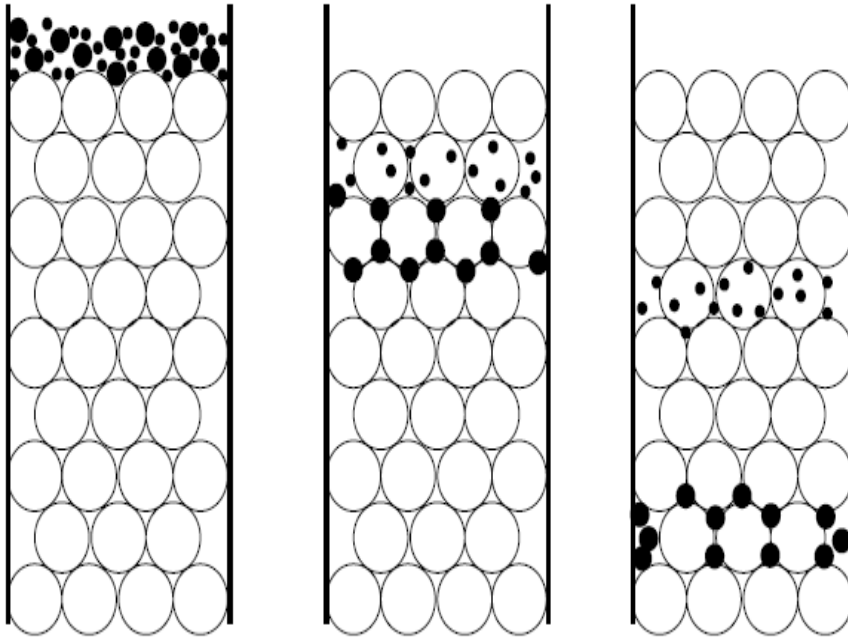
- Liquid Chromatography – separates liquid samples with a liquid solvent (mobile phase) and a column composed of solid beads (stationary phase)
- Gas Chromatography – separates vaporized samples with a carrier gas (mobile phase) and a column composed of a liquid or of solid beads (stationary phase)
- Paper Chromatography – separates dried liquid samples with a liquid solvent (mobile phase) and a paper strip (stationary phase)
- Thin-Layer Chromatography – separates dried liquid samples with a liquid solvent (mobile phase) and a glass plate covered with a thin layer of alumina or silica gel (stationary phase)

GEL FILTRATION

- ✓ Gel filtration separates molecules according to the differences in size as they pass through the filtration medium packed in the column.
- ✓ It is well suited for biomolecules that are sensitive to pH, concentration and harsh environment.
- ✓ Parameters that affects gel filtration are, particle size, flow rate, packaging density, porosity of the particle and viscosity of the mobile phase.

CONT'D.....

Direction
of flow



Molecules larger than the largest pores of the swollen gel particles



Molecules small enough to penetrate gel particles



Gel particles

Gel permeation chromatography

MATERIALS REQUIRED ARE :

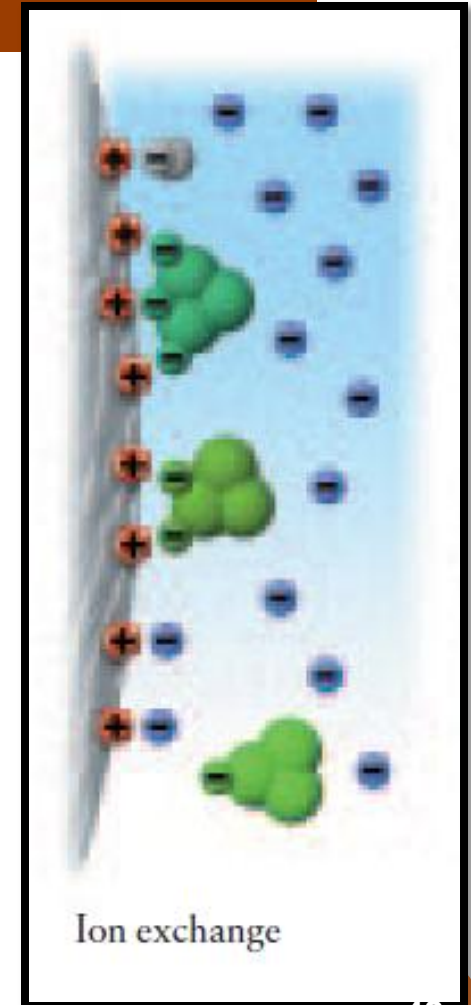
- ✓ Cross linked dextrans (sephadex)
- ✓ Agarose (sepharose)
- ✓ Polymer /Polyacrylamide/
- ✓ Porous glass gel.

APPLICATIONS

- ✓ Fractionation (purification of the desired protein using suitable gel)
- ✓ Molecular weight determination

ION EXCHANGE

- ✓ Ion exchange chromatography is used to **remove ions** of one type from a mixture and **replace** them by ions of another type.
- ✓ The basic principle is reversible competitive binding



ION EXCHANGERS

- Cation exchangers (negative ions – stationary)
- Anion exchangers (positive ions - stationary)
- Four types of polymers are commonly used. They are,
 - ✓ Synthetic hydrophobic polymer resins cross linked with divinyl benzene.
 - ✓ Naturally occurring as well as synthetic polymers (cellulose)
 - ✓ Synthetic hydrophilic polymers
 - ✓ Silica gel

AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY:

- Affinity chromatography includes bioaffinity, dye-ligand affinity and immobilized metal ion affinity techniques.
- It is based on the formation of the specific and reversible complexes between a pair of biomolecules.



Affinity

ACTIVITY-6

- Summarized the lesson

THANK YOU