

mobile phase (in chromatography)

A fluid which percolates through or along the stationary bed, in a definite direction. It may be a liquid (*liquid chromatography*) or a gas (*gas chromatography*) or a supercritical fluid (*supercritical-fluid chromatography*). In gas chromatography the expression carrier gas may be used for the mobile phase. In elution chromatography the expression 'eluent' is also used for the mobile phase.

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