Liquid Chromatography (LC)

The basic liquid chromatography process consists of partition of the sample molecules between two phases. While the molecules in the sample are in the mobile phase they travel down the column and when they are associated with the stationary phase they interact to differing degrees due to their differences in adsorption, partitioning or size. This allows the components in the sample to be separated.

A simple liquid chromatography set up uses a column, solvent and a stationary phase on a fritted base. The sample is introduced into the top of the column followed by more solvent. The sample then passes through the stationary phase. The compounds are separated by collecting the effluent from the column at regular time intervals.