WHAT'S GOING ON?

EQUILIBRIUM DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMPOUNDS IN THE SPOT BETWEEN THE SOLVENT AND THE PLATE

SOLUTE ADSORBED ON SILICA GEL ► SOLUTE DISSOLVED IN
■ DEVELOPMENT SOLVENT

A BALANCE OF THE INTERMOLECULAR FORCES DETERMINES THE POSITION OF THE EQUILIBRIUM

IN OTHER WORDS, WOULD THE SOLUTE PREFER TO BE STUCK ON THE PLATE OR DISSOLVED IN THE SOLVENT?

