SILICA GEL AND SOLVENT COMPETE FOR SPOT

WHICH DOMINATES DEPENDS UPON:

- POLARITY OF SILICA GEL (CONSTANT AND HIGH)

- POLARITY OF DEVELOPMENT SOLVENT (CAN BE VARIED BY USING DIFFERENT SOLVENTS)

- POLARITY OF COMPOUNDS IN SPOT (VARIES DEPENDING UPON COMPOUNDS BEING SEPARATED)

IN PRACTICE, FOR A GIVEN SET OF COMPOUNDS TO BE SEPARATED, A SOLVENT OF CORRECT POLARITY IS CHOSEN BY TRIAL AND ERROR TO GIVE THE BEST MOVEMENT (SEPARATION) OF SPOTS.