



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) David T. Vu	Project Number S0424
Project Title Can Paper Chromatography be Used to Identify Different Species of Plants?	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals The objective is to determine if plant pigments were distinctive for each species.</p> <p>Methods/Materials Leaves of different plants were obtained. Residue from leaves was applied onto strips of chromatography paper by placing the leaf on top of the strip of paper and rolling a coin back and forth on top of the leaf. This step was repeated around ten times for each leaf. Once the strips were prepared, chromatographs were run with a solvent containing 9 parts ether to 1 part acetone. The test ran for 30 minutes on the shorter strips and up to an hour and a half on the longer strips.</p> <p>Results The results on the same kind of leaves did not remain constant. Multiple test were performed and the pigments did not deposit at the same spot.</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion Using chromatography to recognize plant pigments is not possible. The test produced differnt results every time the same leaf was run.</p>	
Summary Statement Using paper chromatography on plant leaves to see if a recognizable pattern would appear every time.	
Help Received Mr. Jones gave me the name of the speices of plants that I used.	