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On-line supercritical fluid extraction/ supercritical fluid chromatography: A novel approach to the cleaning validation for pharmaceutical manufacturing

HPLC 2015 PSA-SFC-14

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Introduction

The cleaning validation is necessary to establish the quality and safety of pharmaceutical drug products. In the cleaning validation protocols, the direct sampling is performed with swabs, which are sticks with textiles at one side. The sample on the swab after the swabbing on the surface of equipment is analyzed with TOC analyzer and HPLC. Recently, HPLC has been more preferable because of the growing need for the individual analysis of products. Before the HPLC analysis, manual processes such as a sample extraction and a sample condensation are required. Such manual processes may affect to the quality of results. Thus, we evaluated the application of a novel on-line supercritical fluid extraction/chromatography system for the cleaning validation.

Experimental

Materials and Reagents

A commercially available detergent containing alkylbenzene sulfonates was diluted with methanol and used as a standard sample. For the test of sample extraction, the sample was dropped onto a swab (ITW Texwipe, USA).

System

Nexera UC system (Shimadzu corporation, Japan) was used for both the screening of the method using supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) (Figure 1A) and the supercritical fluid sample extraction (SFE) followed by SFC directly (SFE/SFC) (Figure 1B). The schematic diagram for static and dynamic extraction of supercritical fluid extraction unit was shown in Figure 1C.

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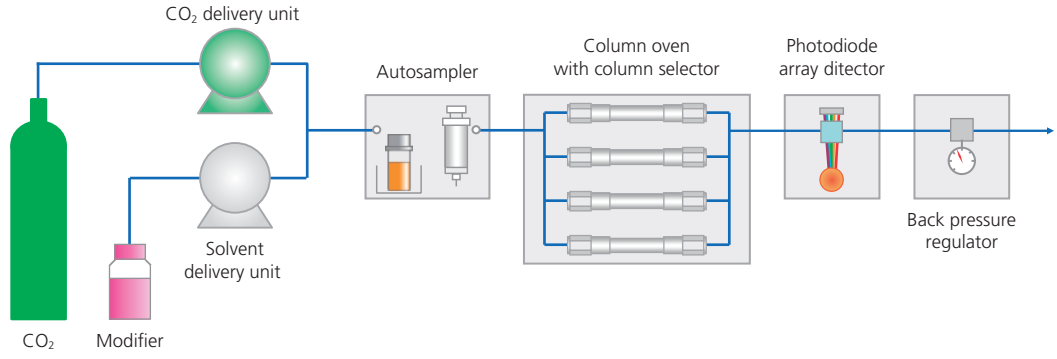
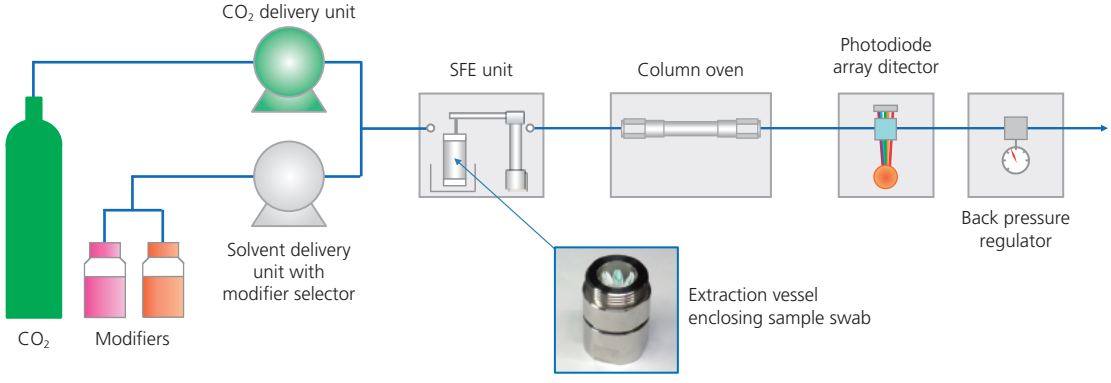
A: Supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) system for analytical method development



B: On-line Supercritical fluid extraction/chromatography (SFE/SFC) system



C: Static and Dynamic extraction

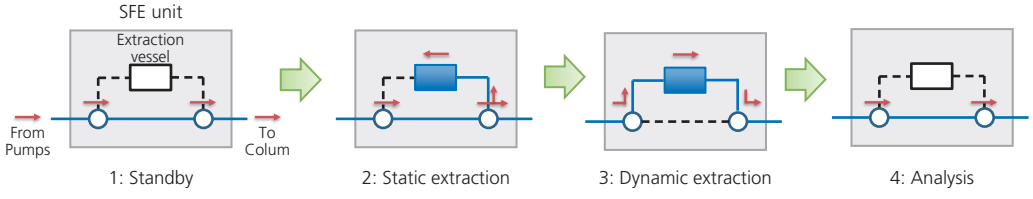


Figure 1. Flow diagrams of Nexera UC systems

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Analytical conditions

Table 1 SFC Analytical conditions

Column	: Shim-pack UCX series columns (250 mm L. x 4.6 mm I.D., 5 µm) (i) UCX-RP (ODS with polar group), (ii) UCX-GIS (ODS), (iii) UCX-SIL, (iv) UCX-DIOL
Mobile Phase	: A: CO_2; B: Methanol
Time program	: Shown in the figure
Flow Rate	: 3.0 mL/min
Column Temp.	: 40 °C
Back pressure	: 15 MPa
Wavelength	: 220 nm
Injection Vol.	: Shown in figure

Table 2 On-line SFE/SFC Analytical conditions

Sample Preparatation	
A total of 10 to 500 µg standard samples in methanol were dropped onto a total of three swabs. The swabs were enclosed into an extraction vessel and set to the SFC unit.	
Static extraction	
Extraction time	: 3 min
Mobile phase	: A: CO_2; B: 0.1% (w/v) ammonium formate in methanol
B conc.	: 10%
Flow rate	: 3.0 mL/min
Back pressure	: 15 MPa
Dynamic extraction	
Extraction time	: 3 min
Mobile phase	: A: CO_2; B: Methanol
B Conc.	: 10%
Flow rate	: 3.0 mL/min
Back pressure	: 15 MPa
SFC	
Column	: Shim-pack UCX-SIL (250 mm L. x 4.6 mm I.D., 5 µm)
Mobile Phase	: A: CO_2; B: Methanol
Time program	: 10%B (0-2 min), 10-60%B (2-7 min), 60%B (7-9 min), 10%B (9-13 min)
Flow Rate	: 3.0 mL/min
Column Temp.	: 40 °C
Back pressure	: 15 MPa
Wavelength	: 220 nm

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Results

Analytical method development

The analytical method for SFC was developed by screening four columns and gradient conditions. The UCX-SIL column showed the excellent peak shape (Figure 2) and was used for further analysis.

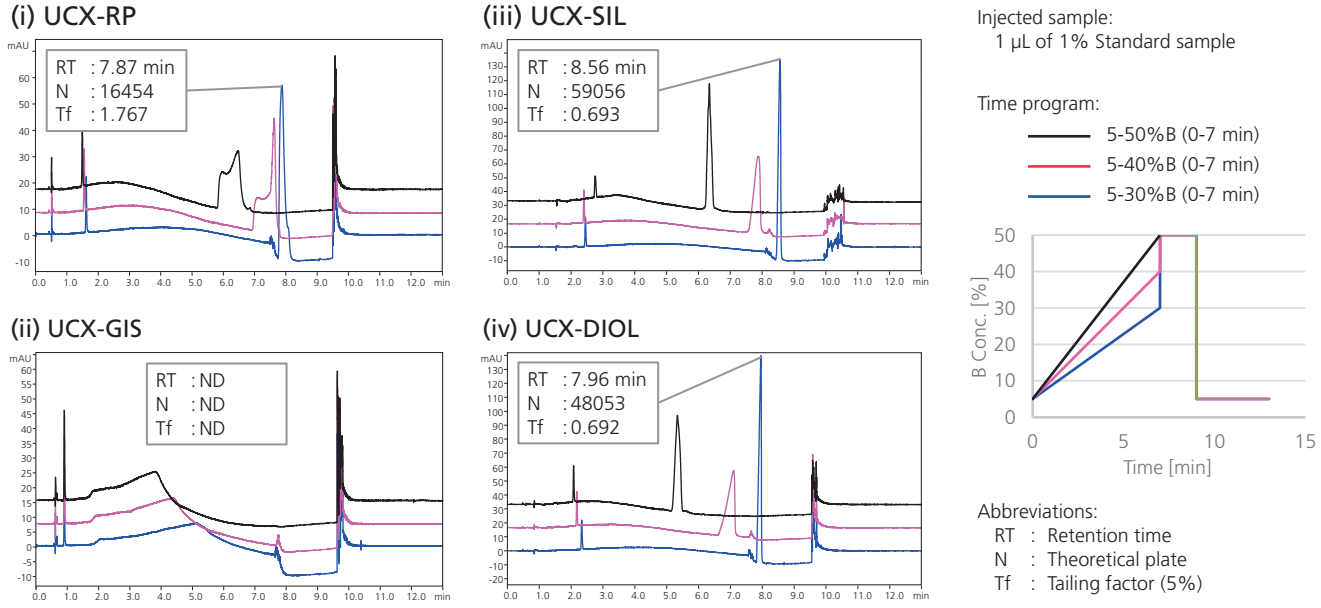
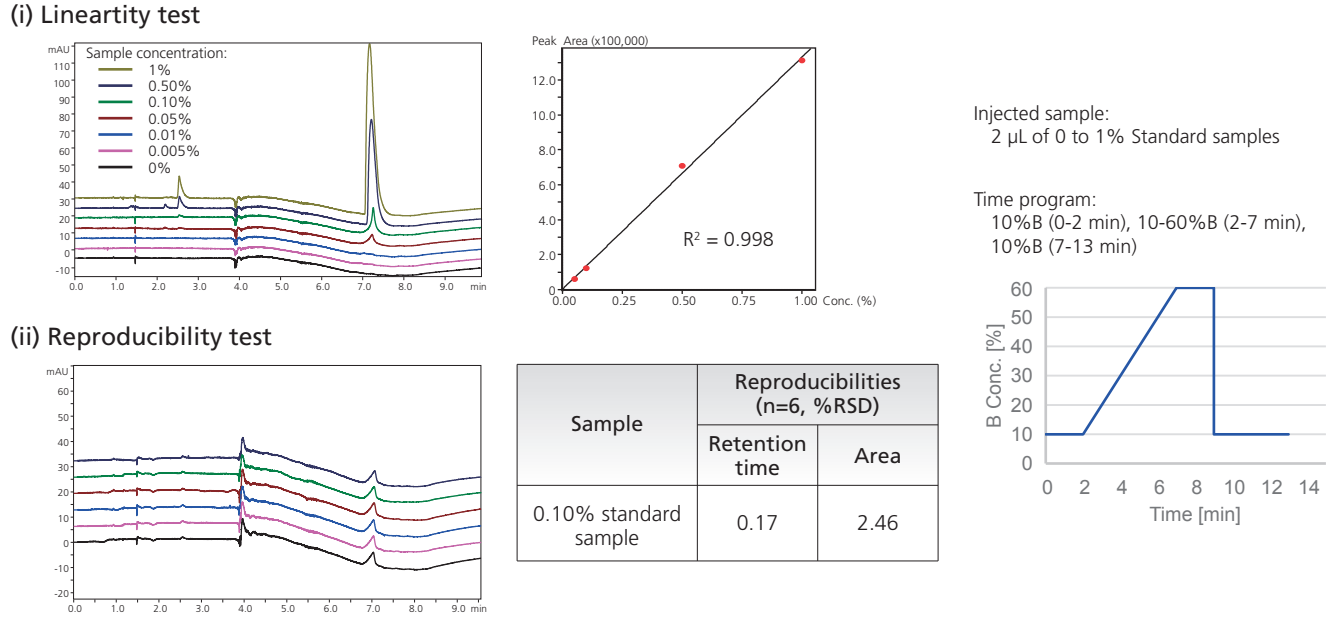


Figure 2. Comparizon of columns for SFC analysis of standard detergent sample

The time program was developed in consideration of on-line SFE/SFC (data not shown). The optimized time program and the result of performance evaluations were shown in Figure 3.



Sample	Reproducibilities (n=6, %RSD)	
	Retention time	Area
0.10% standard sample	0.17	2.46

Figure 3. Performance evaluations of SFC analytical method

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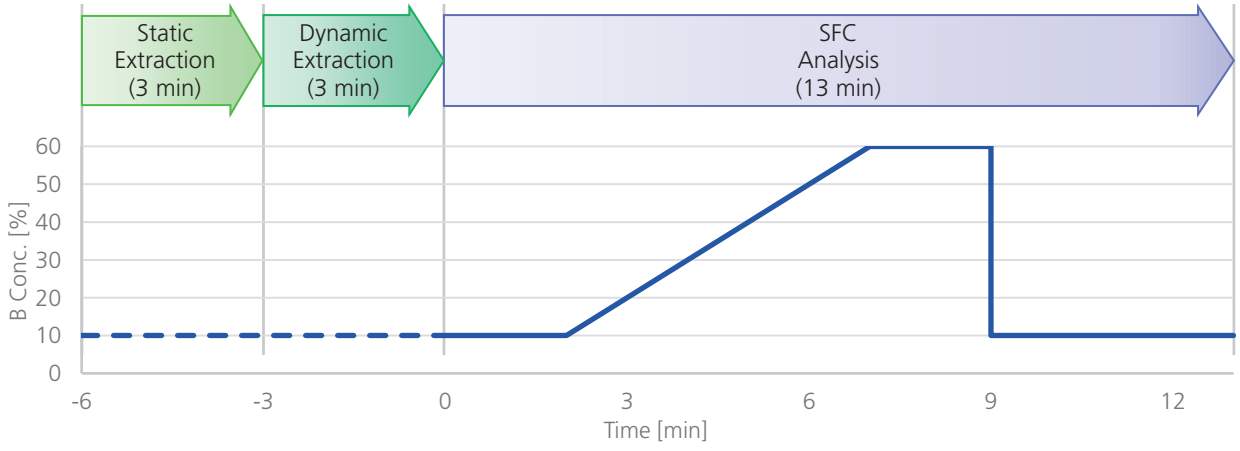
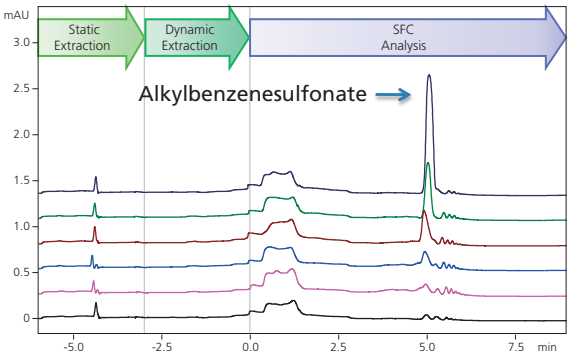
On-line SFE/SFC analysis of detergent in swab

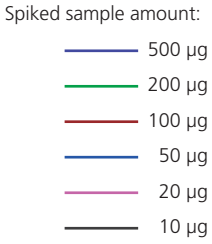
Based on the optimized SFC analytical condition, an on-line SFE/SFC analytical condition was developed and its performance was evaluated (Figure 4).

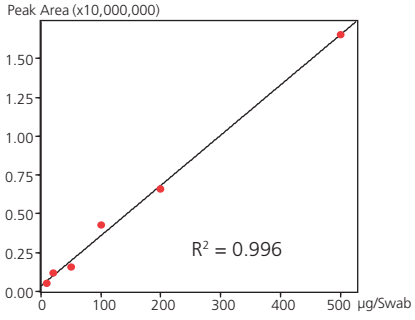
(i) Sequencial diagram of on-line SFE/SFC



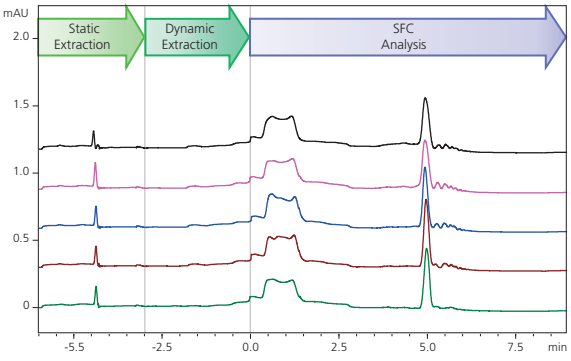
(ii) Linearity test







(iii) Reproducibility test



Sample	Reproducibilities (n=5, %RSD)	
	Retention time	Area
100 µg standard sample	0.19	5.76

Figure 4. On-line SFE/SFC analysis of standard detergent sample-spiked swabs

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Conclusion

The evaluation results showed that the on-line SFE/SFC can provide the reliable data for the cleaning validation for pharmaceutical manufacturing. The benefit of on-line SFE/SFC analysis is not only the data reliability but also convenience and safety by eliminating manual extraction process. It may streamline laboratory processes and improve productivity and safety of pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities.

Acknowledgement

The sample was provided by DAIICHI SANKYO COMPANY, LIMITED.

First Edition: June, 2015

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