

“Why Did That Happen?”

Golnar Javadi
Applications Engineer
LC Columns and Consumables Technical Support
March 31, 2021



"Why Did That Happen?"

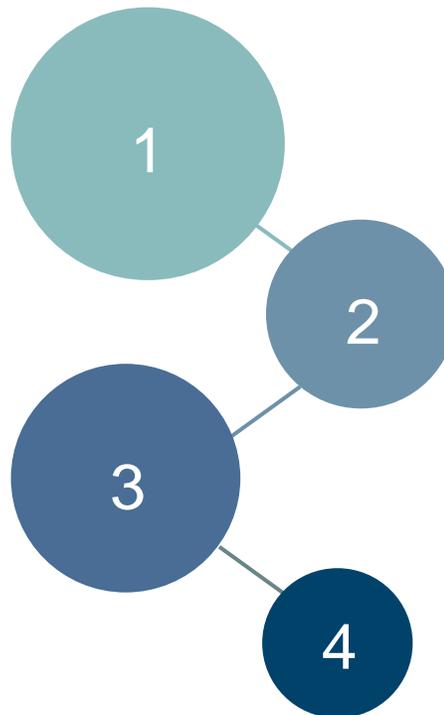
Common chromatography problems

Changes in System Pressure

- High pressure
- Low pressure
- Pressure fluctuations

Changes in Separation

- Changing retention time
- Ghost peaks and carry over



Changes in Peak Shape

- Tailing
- Broadening
- Fronting
- Peak splitting and doubling

Changes in Detection

- Noisy baseline
- Reduced intensity or sensitivity

Part 1: Changes in System Pressure

Changes in System Pressure

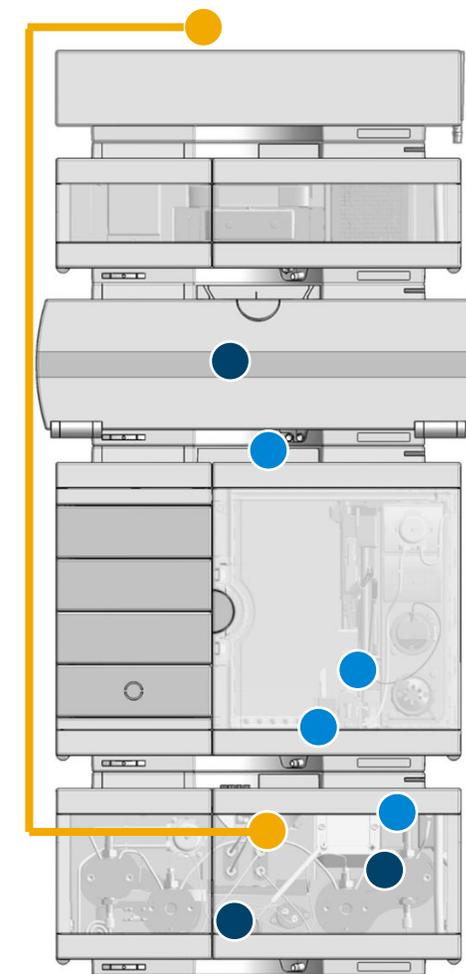
Increased pressure / overpressure and blockages

	Potential Cause	Recommended Action
●	Clogging of inline filter frit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the culprit by logical elimination process and replace affected part.• Use HPLC grade solvents, filtered sample and buffers solution• Prevent microbial growth in aqueous solvent bottle
●	Plugging of capillaries, needle and needle seat	
●	Partially clogged guard or column inlet frit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace the guard• Back flush the column, if recommended• Check for correct mobile phase• Check solvent reservoir and tubing connections• Use filtered sample

Important to know



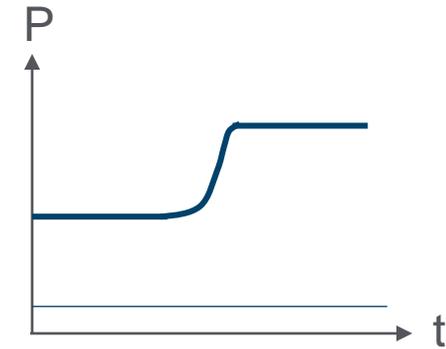
Clogged filters and plugged flow paths always have a root cause. After identifying the problem, you should check for the root cause and eliminate it where possible.



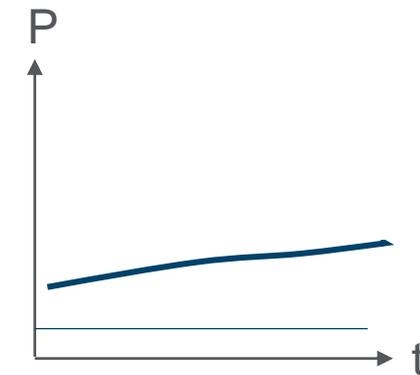
Changes in System Pressure

Increased pressure / overpressure and blockages

Characteristics	
Parts affected	Blockages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capillaries, needle, and needle seat• Detector flow cells Clogging: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filter frits (inline filter, column, purge valve)
Characteristic	●
Possible root cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Debris from mechanically worn parts (needle seat material, rotor seal at injection valve)• Coring of vial septa material
Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start by disconnecting the capillary at the column inlet• Install test setup with restriction capillary• Continue disconnecting capillaries, one-by-one, moving back toward the pump
Instant action / first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Backflush affected part• Replace part
Preventive measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace wear parts in time; apply proper preventive maintenance schedules• Use high-quality septa• Install inline filters/replace frit



Blockages: Sudden pressure increase



Clogging: Gradual pressure increase over time

Changes in System Pressure

How to prevent clogging

Solvent Filtration

Compatible filter membranes

Part Number	Membrane Type
5191-4336	PTFE filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.45 µm; 100/pack
5191-4339	PTFE filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.20 µm; 100/pack
5191-4338	Nylon filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.45 µm; 100/pack
5191-4341	Nylon filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.20 µm; 100/pack
5191-4337	Regenerated Cellulose filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.45 µm; 100/pack
5191-4340	Regenerated Cellulose filter membrane, 47 mm diameter, 0.20 µm; 100/pack

Operational manual: [5994-1507EN](#)

Technical Overview: [5994-1504EN](#)



5191-6776

Changes in System Pressure

How to prevent clogging

Prevent Microbial Growth in Solvent Bottle

- Use high-purity solvents
- Use freshly made HPLC grade solvent and filtered buffer
- Use appropriate solvent bottle caps (Agilent InfinityLab Stay Safe caps)
- Replace solvent inlet filter as needed
- Always discard “old” mobile phase
- Do not add fresh mobile phase to old
- Use an amber solvent bottle for aqueous mobile phase
- If possible, add 5% organic to water to reduce microbial growth, or add a few mg/L sodium azide



InfinityLab Stay Safe Caps

Main Features

Venting valve for mobile phase

Charcoal filter for waste container

Time strip

Advantages

Eliminates harmful solvent vapors

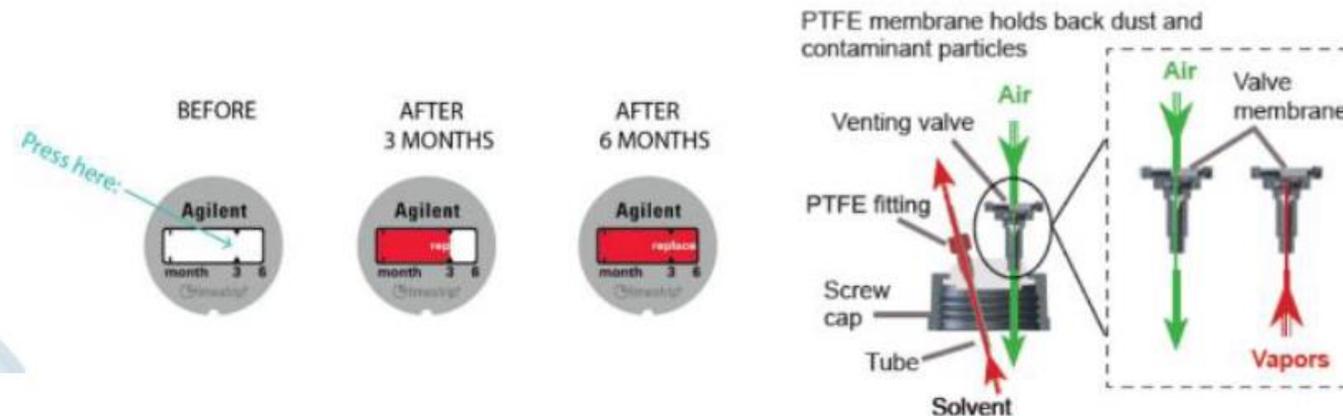
Keeps solvent concentration constant

Keeps constant pressure in bottle

Prevents twisted tubing

Allows easy solvent refill

Allows easy tightening



Changes in System Pressure

How to prevent clogging

Inline Filters

InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter

Ultimate ease of use

- **Finger-tight, tool-free** replacement of filter disc
- **Click & Seal:** a click sound tells you when the filter is tight up to 1300 bar, no risk of over-tightening or under-tightening

Robustness for low operational cost

Robust filter housing that enables **over 100 replacements** of filter discs without any damage

Extend column lifetime

Pressure increase caused by particles is quickly and easily eliminated by replacing the filter disk without damaging your valuable columns

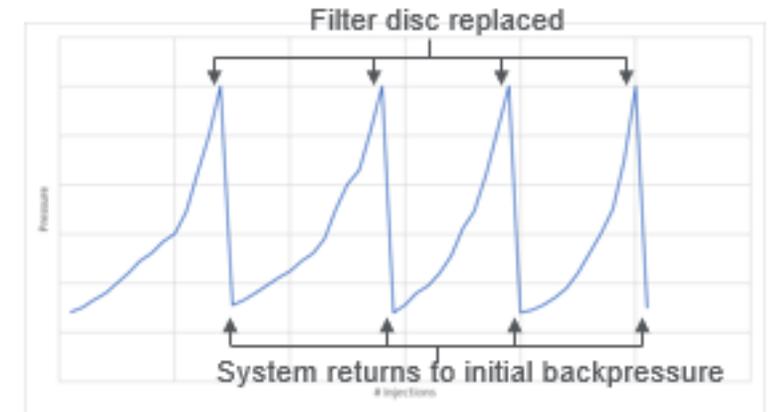
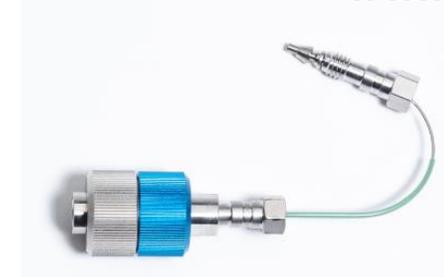
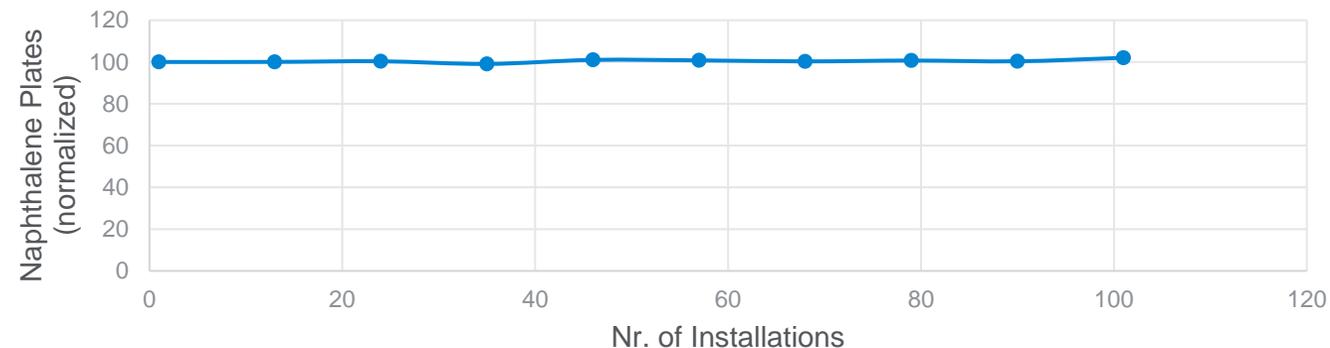


Plate Counts over 100x installations of filter discs into one filter housing



InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter

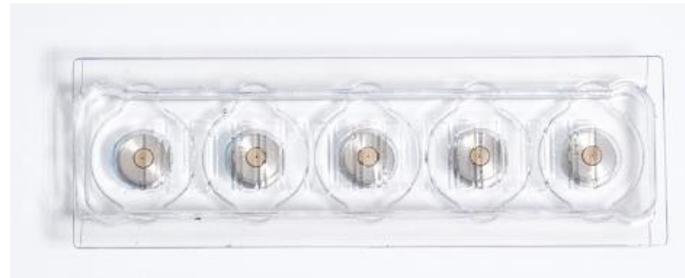
High efficiency, easy to use filter discs

- **A variety of dimensions and porosities** – filter discs are available in 2.1 mm and 4.6 mm inner diameters with different pore sizes. The filter housing is compatible with all types of filter discs.
- **Touchless packaging to avoid potential contamination** – with the special designed packaging you're able to insert the filter disc into filter housing without touching it to avoid potential contamination
- **In-situ replacement** of filter disc – no need to disconnect the inline filter from the system
- **Smart alert** to remind users of replacing the filter discs – **coming soon**

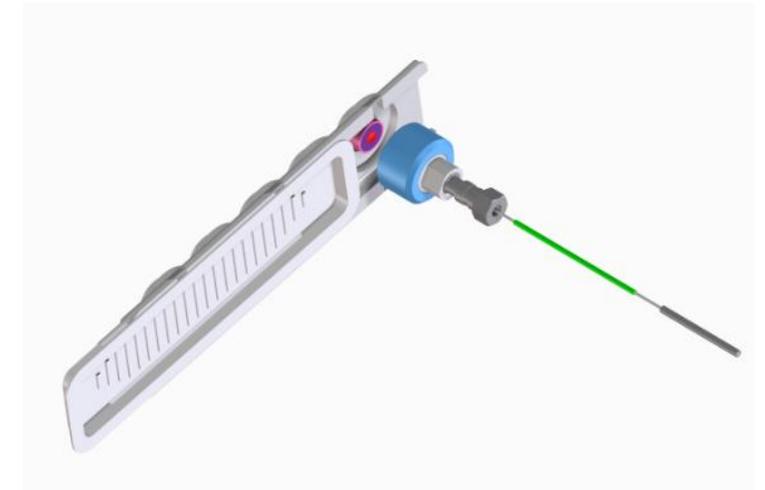


2.1 mm	2.1 mm	4.6 mm	4.6 mm	4.6 mm
0.2 µm	0.5 µm	0.2 µm	0.5 µm	2.0 µm

Different dimensions and porosities of filter discs



Filter discs in touchless packaging



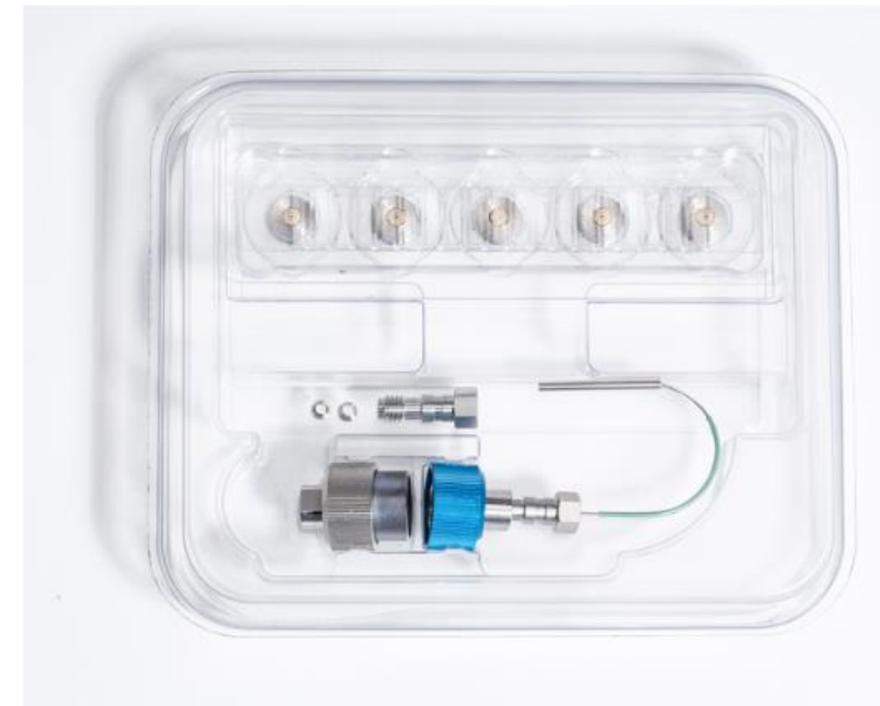
Insertion of filter disc into filter housing without touching

- [Video](#)
- [Flyer: 5994-3028EN](#)
- [Installation instructions: 5994-2779EN](#)

InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter

Inline Filter Assemblies	
InfinityLab Quick Change inline filter assembly for UHPLC (incl. 5 filter discs 2.1 mm id, 0.2 µm porosity), with 90 mm flexible capillary*	5067-1603
InfinityLab Quick Change inline filter assembly for HPLC (incl. 5 filter discs 4.6 mm id, 0.5 µm porosity), with 90 mm flexible capillary*	5067-1602
Filter discs	
Filter discs 2.1 mm id, 0.2 µm porosity, 5/pk, in touchless packaging	5067-1610
Filter discs 2.1 mm id, 0.5 µm porosity, 5/pk, in touchless packaging	5067-1611
Filter discs 4.6 mm ID, 0.2 µm porosity, 5/pk, in touchless packaging	5067-1612
Filter discs 4.6 mm id, 0.5 µm porosity, 5/pk, in touchless packaging	5067-1613
Filter discs 4.6 mm id, 2.0 µm porosity, 5/pk, in touchless packaging	5067-1614
Replacement capillaries	
Capillary stainless steel 0.12 mm id, 90 mm length, extralong fittings (2/pk), preswaged on one end, non-swaged on the other end, for inline filter for UHPLC	5023-3344
Capillary stainless steel 0.17 mm id, 90 mm length, extralong fittings (2/pk), preswaged on one end, non-swaged on the other end, for inline filter for HPLC	5023-3343

*Another version with rigid capillary for installation directly in front of column is due to be released soon



InfinityLab Quick Change inline filter assembly (a packaging insert with user instructions is also included)



Changes in System Pressure

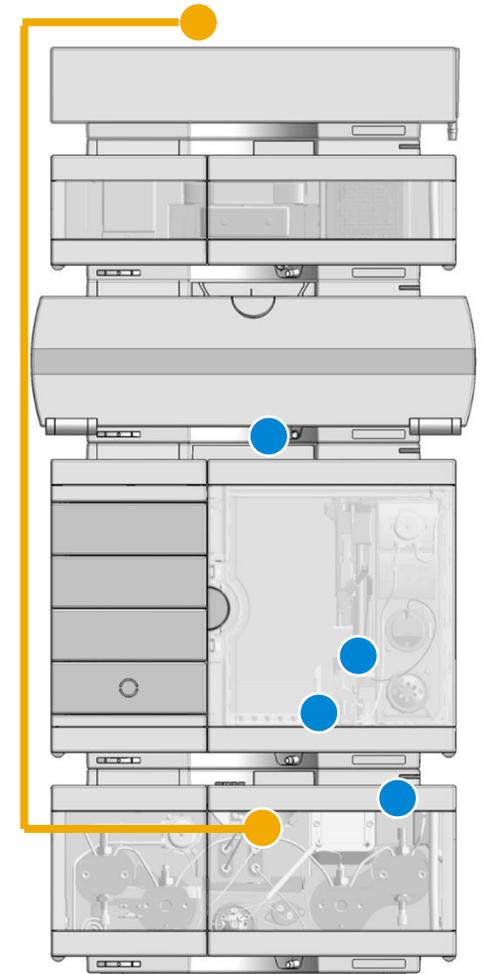
Low pressure

Potential Cause	Recommended Action
● Leak in high-pressure flow path	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual inspection of flow path• Instrument diagnostic tests
● Wrong mobile phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check for correct mobile phase• Solvent reservoir and tube connection

Important to know



With its advanced diagnostic and maintenance capabilities, **Agilent Lab Advisor SW** helps you to keep your Agilent analytical instruments in top condition. Agilent Lab Advisor is independent of the chromatography software you are using.

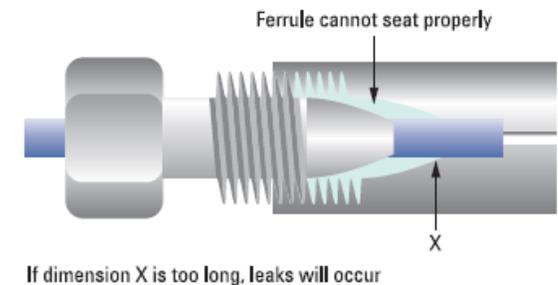
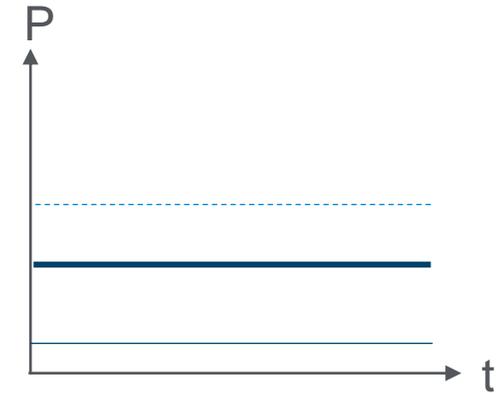


Changes in System Pressure

Low pressure – Leaks

Characteristics

Parts affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially all parts in the flow path High potential at frequently operated fitting connections (such as the column inlet) and parts with high mechanical stress (rotor seal, needle, and needle seat)
Characteristic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower pressure Potentially impacting retention times and peak shape
Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drops of solvent or residue of salt System diagnostic tests
Possible root Cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loose or bad fitting connections Cracked capillaries Worn needle and needle seat
Instant action / first aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace affected parts Renew or redo fitting connection
Preventive measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use proper fitting connections Replace fittings and wear parts in time



Changes in System Pressure

Low pressure – Leaks and the importance of proper fittings

InfinityLab Quick Connect and Quick Turn fittings

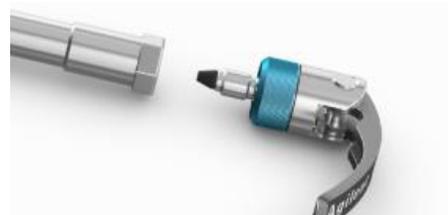
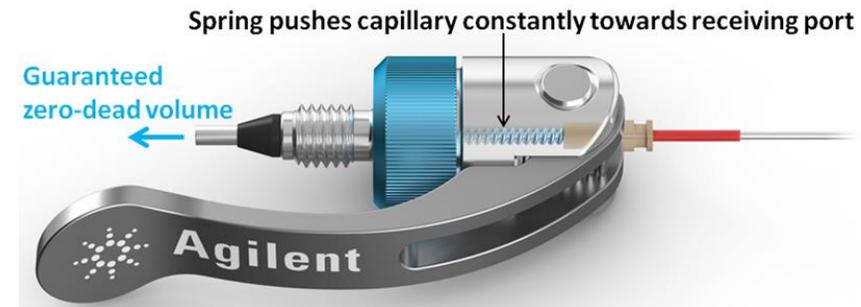
- Spring loaded design
- Easy; no tools needed!
- Works for all column types
- Reusable
- Consistent ZDV connection

Quick Connect fitting

- Finger tight up to 1300 bar
- Hand tighten the nut, then depress the lever

Quick Turn fitting

- Finger tight up to 400 bar
- Up to 800 bar with mounting tool
- Up to 1300 bar with a wrench
- Compact design, fits everywhere



Changes in System Pressure

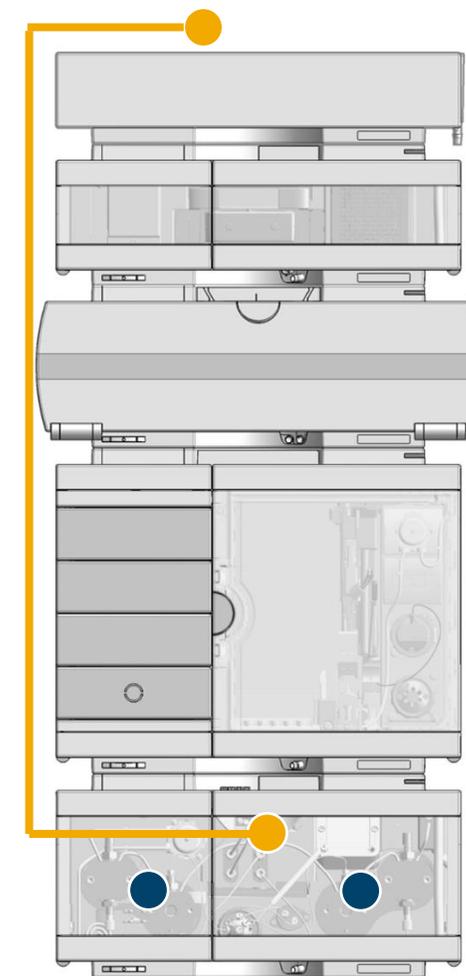
Pressure fluctuations

Potential Cause	Recommended Action
● Air in the system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prime and flush instrument• Check for sufficient solvent supply• Check for correct plumbing (SSV/MCGV)• Check for correct degassing
● Malfunctions at pump head	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perform pump head diagnostic tests• Replace defective parts• Implement proper maintenance schedule
● Cavitation effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check for flow restrictions (solvent bottle to pump head inlet)• Clean or replace parts• Verify that solvent supply is positioned above pump inlet

Important to know



Pressure fluctuations typically also will impact the UV-signal due to refractive index effects.

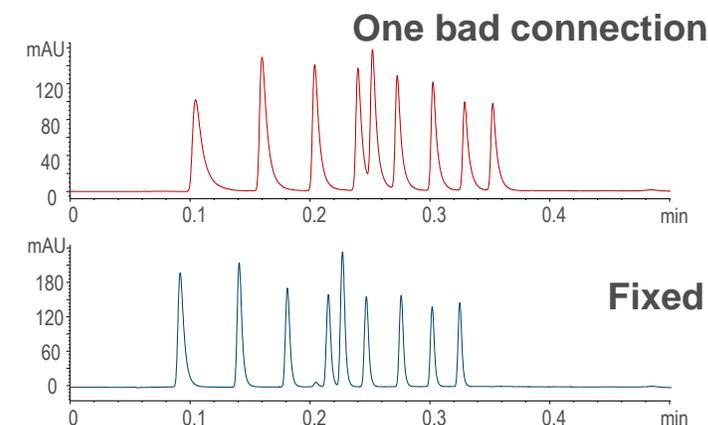
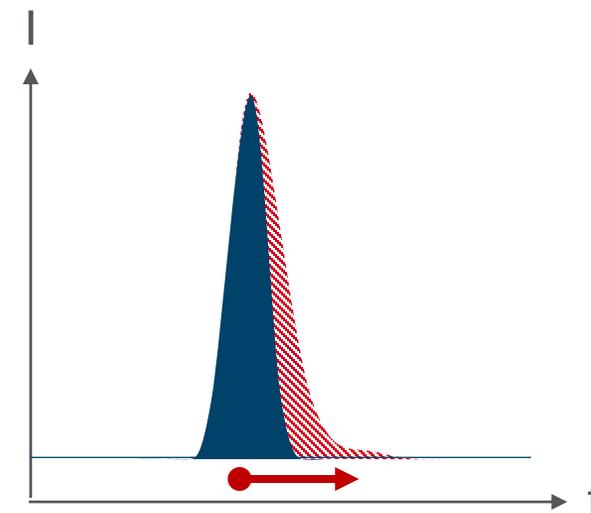


Part 2: Changes in Peak Shape

Changes in Peak Shape

Peak tailing

If applicable to some peaks	Recommended action
Secondary interactions- could be due to improper pH of the mobile phase, column stationary phase, or contaminations from sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change pH • Change stationary phase • Clean the column • Sample cleanup
Small peak eluting on tail of larger peak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change selectivity (column, mobile phase). • Switch to methods with higher resolution (UHPLC, 2D-LC)
If applicable to all peaks	Recommended action
Poor tubing connections; high dispersion volume/mixing chamber at connection sites; partially clogged column inlet frit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize number of connections • Check connections / fitting condition and proper seat of fittings • Use fittings with spring-load function • Back flush the column (if recommended)
Silica based – column degradation at high pH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use specialty, polymeric, or sterically protected column
Silica based – interactions of basic analytes with stationary phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use correct pH mobile phase or add appropriate base (for example, TEA)



About Columns

Stationary phase selection guide

Starting Recommendation

Poroshell 120 EC-C18

Change selectivity slightly	Change selectivity significantly	For many early eluters	No retention at 98+% Aqueous in RP	Acidic solvents (pH < 2)	Basic solvents (pH >6)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell Phenyl-Hexyl Polaris C18-A Poroshell EC-C8 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell Bonus-RP Poroshell PFP Pursuit XRs Diphenyl 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell SB-Aq Poroshell PFP Poroshell HILIC-Z 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell HILIC-Z Poroshell PFP Poroshell HILIC-OH5 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell SB-C18 Poroshell SB-Aq PLRP-S Poroshell SB-C8 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Poroshell HPH-C18 PLRP-S Poroshell CS-C18

Starter Kit (covers 95% of analyses)

Poroshell EC-C18 Poroshell HILIC-Z Poroshell PFP

Recommended Solvent A (Weak)

- 0.1% formic acid (pH ~2.7)
- 10 mmol ammonium acetate (adj. pH 5)
- 0.1% ammonium hydroxide (pH ~10)
- 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (pH ~1.5, ~~MS~~)
- 150 mmol sodium phosphate (adj. pH 3, ~~MS~~)

Solvent B (Strong)

- Acetonitrile
- Methanol
- Isopropanol
- THF
- Acetone

USP L1

- Poroshell 120 EC-C18
- Polaris C18-A
- Polaris C18-Ether
- Pursuit XRs C18

USP L7

- Poroshell 120 EC-C8
- Polaris C8-A

USP L8

- Polaris NH2
- ZORBAX NH2

USP L3

- Poroshell 120 HILIC
- ZORBAX Rx-Sil
- Pursuit XRs Si

USP L11

- Poroshell Phe-Hex
- Pursuit XRs Diphenyl

Sugars (RI or ELSD)

- Poroshell HILIC-Z
- Hi-Plex H
- Hi-Plex Ca
- Polaris NH2

Normal Phase

- Poroshell HILIC
- Poroshell EC-CN
- Polaris NH2

Chiral

- Poroshell Chiral-V
- Poroshell Chiral-T
- Poroshell Chiral-CD
- Poroshell Chiral-CF

InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Column Specifications

Poster: [5991-9013EN](#)

More Chemistries, More Choices For Solving Your Toughest Separation Challenges

The InfinityLab Poroshell 120 family has grown to include 3 particle sizes and 19 chemistries, so you can efficiently separate the widest variety of compounds.



Agilent

InfinityLab Poroshell 120	Chemistry	Particle Sizes	Pore Size	Temperature Limit	pH Range	Endcapped	Carbon Load	Surface Area	USP Designation	Benefits and Applications
EC-C18		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	10%	130 m ² /g	L1	General purpose Excellent peak shape and efficiency for acids, bases, and neutrals
EC-C8		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	5%	130 m ² /g	L7	General purpose Lower retention of hydrophobic analytes vs. C18
SB-C18		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	90 °C	1.0-8.0	No	9%	130 m ² /g	L1	Low pH Excellent stability and peak shape in highly acidic conditions
SB-C8		2.7 µm	120 Å	80 °C	1.0-8.0	No	5.9%	130 m ² /g	L7	Low pH Excellent stability at low pH Lower retention of hydrophobic analytes vs. C18
HPH-C18		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	100 Å	60 °C	2.0-11.0	Yes	Proprietary	95 m ² /g	L1	High pH capable Robust performance and long lifetimes High pH capability designed for longest lifetime, especially under high pH conditions Similar selectivity compared to EC-C18
HPH-C8		2.7 µm, 4 µm	100 Å	60 °C	2.0-11.0	Yes	Proprietary	95 m ² /g	L7	High pH capable Robust performance and long lifetimes Lower retention of hydrophobic analytes vs. C18
CS-C18		2.7 µm	100 Å	90 °C	1.0-11.0	Yes	Proprietary	95 m ² /g	L1	Alternate selectivity Improved peak shape and sample capacity for basic compounds with low ionic strength mobile phases High pH capable
Bonus-RP		2.7 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	9.5%	130 m ² /g	L60	Alternate selectivity to C18 Unique selectivity due to a polar embedded group, stable in 100% aqueous
PPP		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	5.1%	130 m ² /g	L43	Alternate selectivity Excellent peak shapes for polar and nonpolar analytes Unique selectivity for aromatic and halogenated compounds
Phenyl-Hexyl		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	9%	130 m ² /g	L11	Alternate selectivity with aromatic groups Highly nonpolar bonded phase takes advantage of pi-pi interactions
SB-Aq		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	80 °C	1.0-8.0	No	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	L96	Alternate selectivity Excellent peak shape and retention of polar compounds using reversed-phase LC Exceptional stability under high-aqueous conditions, including 100% water
EC-CN		2.7 µm	120 Å	60 °C	2.0-8.0	Yes	3.5%	130 m ² /g	L10	Alternate selectivity Use in reversed phase for alternate selectivity of polar and mid-polar compounds Use in normal phase for excellent selectivity of polar and nonpolar analytes
HILIC-Z		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	100 Å	80 °C	2.0-12.0	No	Proprietary	95 m ² /g	L114	Polar analytes Excellent retention of highly polar or charged compounds by HILIC Rugged performance at high pH or high temperature
HILIC		1.9 µm, 2.7 µm, 4 µm	120 Å	60 °C	1.0-8.0	No	NA	130 m ² /g	L3	Polar analytes Excellent retention of polar compounds by HILIC
HILIC-OHS		2.7 µm	120 Å	45 °C	1.0-7.0	Proprietary	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	L86	Polar analytes Fluorinated bonded phase offers alternate selectivity to other HILIC phases
Chiral-V		2.7 µm	120 Å	45 °C	2.5-7.0	Proprietary	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	L88	Chiral separations Amines, proteins, and complex basic and neutral compounds Reversed phase, polar ionic normal phase, or polar organic modes
Chiral-T		2.7 µm	120 Å	45 °C	2.5-7.0	Proprietary	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	L43	Chiral separations Beta blockers, hydroxyl acids, amino acids, peptides, benzodiazepines, and hydantoin Reversed phase, polar ionic normal phase, or polar organic modes
Chiral-CD		2.7 µm	120 Å	45 °C	3.0-7.0	Proprietary	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	L45	Chiral separations Stimulants, fungicides, and protected amino acids Reversed phase or polar organic modes
Chiral-CF		2.7 µm	120 Å	45 °C	3.0-7.0	Proprietary	Proprietary	130 m ² /g	NA	Chiral separations Primary amines Polar organic or normal phase modes

© 2019 Agilent Technologies, Inc.

Note: HILIC-OHS, and all four Chiral phases have a pressure limit of 400 bar

What if my methods were developed on fully porous columns?

InfinityLab Poroshell chemistries are aligned with traditional ZORBAX chemistries—making it easy to transfer your methods from fully porous to superficially porous particle columns.

InfinityLab Poroshell Chemistry	Aligned Chemistry
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-C18	ZORBAX Eclipse Plus C18
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-C8	ZORBAX Eclipse Plus EC-C8
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Phenyl-Hexyl	ZORBAX Eclipse Plus Phenyl-Hexyl
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-C18	ZORBAX StableBond SB-C18
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-C8	ZORBAX StableBond SB-C8
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Bonus-RP	ZORBAX Bonus-RP
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-Aq	ZORBAX StableBond SB-Aq
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-CN	ZORBAX Eclipse XDB-CN
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 HILIC	ZORBAX HILIC Plus



Agilent InfinityLab is an optimized portfolio of LC instruments, columns, and supplies that work together seamlessly for maximum efficiency and performance—regardless of application area. More information at www.agilent.com/chem/infinitylab

For more information about InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Columns, go to www.agilent.com/chem/poroshell-120

ZORBAX Column Specifications

Poster: [5994-2212EN](#)

A proven and reliable portfolio of totally porous HPLC columns

The Agilent ZORBAX family offers all advantages of totally porous particle columns such as increased retention, loadability and resistance to sample solvents. Easily scale your methods all the way from UHPLC to preparative LC.



Agilent ZORBAX	Chemistry	Particle Sizes	Pore Size (Å)	Temperature Limit	pH Range	Endcapped	Carbon Load (%)	Surface Area	LSP Designation	Benefits and Applications
Eclipse Plus C18		1.8, 3.5, 5	95	60 °C	2-9	Double	9	160 m ² /g	L1	General purpose Starting point for LC method development
Eclipse Plus C8		1.8, 3.5, 5	95	60 °C	2-9	Double	7	160 m ² /g	L7	General purpose Lower retention of hydrophobic analytes vs. C18
Eclipse Plus Phenyl Hexyl		1.8, 3.5, 5	95	60 °C	2-8	Double	9	160 m ² /g	L11	Alternative selectivity for aromatic compounds Enhanced pi-pi interactions when using methanol
Eclipse Plus PAH		1.8, 3.5, 5	95	60 °C	2-9	Double	14	160 m ² /g	L1	Application-specific Designed for the separation of PAHs in LC
Eclipse XDB C18		1.8, 3.5, 5	80	60 °C	2-9	Double	10	180 m ² /g	L1	General purpose, higher carbon load Higher hydrophobicity with alternative selectivity for lipophilic analytes
Eclipse XDB C8		1.8 (888T) 3.5, 5, 7	80	60 °C	2-9	Double	7.6	180 m ² /g	L7	General purpose, higher carbon load Higher hydrophobicity with alternative selectivity for lipophilic analytes but reduced retention vs. XDB C18
Eclipse XDB Phenyl		3.5, 5	80	60 °C	2-9	Double	7.2	180 m ² /g	L11	Alternative selectivity for aromatic compounds Enhanced pi-pi interactions when using methanol
Eclipse XDB CN		3.5, 5	80	60 °C	2-9	Double	4.2	180 m ² /g	L10	Polar analytes in RP low bleed Excellent peak shape of polar and mid-polar compounds
StableBond C18		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	90 °C	0.8-8	No	10	180 m ² /g	L1	Low pH and high temperature Excellent stability and peak shape at highly acidic conditions
StableBond C8		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	80 °C	1-8	No	5.5	180 m ² /g	L7	Low pH and high temperature Lower retention of hydrophobic analytes vs. C18
StableBond C3		1.8, 3.5, 5	80	80 °C	1-8	No	4	180 m ² /g	L56	Low pH and high temperature Reduced retention of hydrophobic analytes
StableBond Aq		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	80 °C	1-8	No	Proprietary	180 m ² /g	L96	Polar analytes in RP Excellent peak shape and retention of polar compounds using reversed phase LC, stable at 100% aqueous mobile phases
StableBond Phenyl		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	80 °C	1-8	No	5.5	180 m ² /g	L11	Alternative selectivity for aromatic compounds Enhanced pi-pi interactions when using methanol
StableBond CN		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	80 °C	1-8	No	4	180 m ² /g	L10	Polar molecules at low pH or high temperature, low bleed Excellent peak shape of polar and mid-polar compounds
Extend C18		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	60 °C	2-11.5	Double	4	180 m ² /g	L1	High pH applications Robust performance and long lifetimes under high pH
Bonus RP		1.8, 3.5, 5, 7	80	60 °C	2-9	Triple	9.5	180 m ² /g	L60	Alternative selectivity to C18 Improved peak shape for basic compounds, stable in 100% aqueous conditions
HLIC Plus		1.8, 3.5	95	Only mobile phase limits apply	1-8	No	0	180 m ² /g	L3	Polar analytes in HLIC mode Excellent retention of polar compounds by HLIC
Rx C18		3.5, 5, 7	80	60 °C	2-8	No	12	180 m ² /g	L1	General purpose High carbon load for increased retention
Rx C8		3.5, 5	80	80 °C	1-8	No	5.5	180 m ² /g	L7	General purpose
Rx Si		1.8 (888T) 5, 7	80	Only mobile phase limits apply	0.8-8	No	0	180 m ² /g	L3	Polar compounds in HLIC, NP/LC and SFC mode Good starting point for method development

Which particle is best for my method?

	1.8 µm ZORBAX 888T: highest UHPLC performance Maximum pressure: 1200 bar Ideal for: 1200 Infinity II LC or 1260 Infinity II Prime LC
	1.8 ZORBAX 888T: ultra-fast chromatography at up to 600 bar Maximum pressure: 600 bar Ideal for: 1260 Infinity II LC
	3.5 µm ZORBAX 88: Higher resolution of HPLC methods Maximum pressure: 400 bar Update of traditional methods on general HPLC instruments
	5 µm ZORBAX: Proven and reliable for HPLC methods Maximum pressure: 400 bar Used for traditional methods on general HPLC instruments and in preparative LC

1 bar = 14.3 PSI

psi	1400	2000	4200	6800	7250	8700	10,150	11,600	13,050	14,500	15,950	17,400	18,850	20,300
bar	100	138	295	483	518	616	718	810	895	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400

What column ID and length should I choose?

Format	Comment
Column ID	4.6 mm for legacy methods 3.0 mm for lower solvent use than 4.6 mm 2.1 mm for lowest solvent use and MS applications
Column length	Shorter 30 to 100 mm for fastest separations Longer 150 to 250 mm for increased resolution

Interested in modernizing your LC methods?

InfinityLab Poroshell chemistries are aligned with traditional ZORBAX chemistries—making it easy to transfer your methods from fully porous to superficially porous particle columns.

ZORBAX Chemistry	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Chemistry
ZORBAX Eclipse Plus C18	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-C18
ZORBAX Eclipse Plus EC-C8	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-C8
ZORBAX Eclipse Plus Phenyl Hexyl	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Phenyl Hexyl
ZORBAX StableBond SB-C18	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-C18
ZORBAX StableBond SB-C8	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-C8
ZORBAX Bonus RP	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Bonus RP
ZORBAX StableBond SB-Aq	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 SB-Aq
ZORBAX Eclipse XDB-CN	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 EC-CN
ZORBAX HLIC Plus	InfinityLab Poroshell 120 HLIC



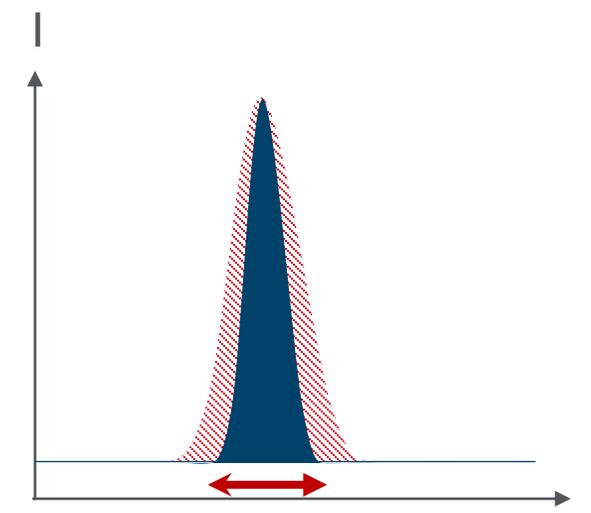
Agilent InfinityLab is an optimized portfolio of LC instruments, columns, and supplies that work together seamlessly for maximum efficiency and performance—regardless of application area. More information at www.agilent.com/chem/infinitylab

For more information about ZORBAX columns, go to www.agilent.com/chem/ZORBAX

Changes in Peak Shape

Peak broadening

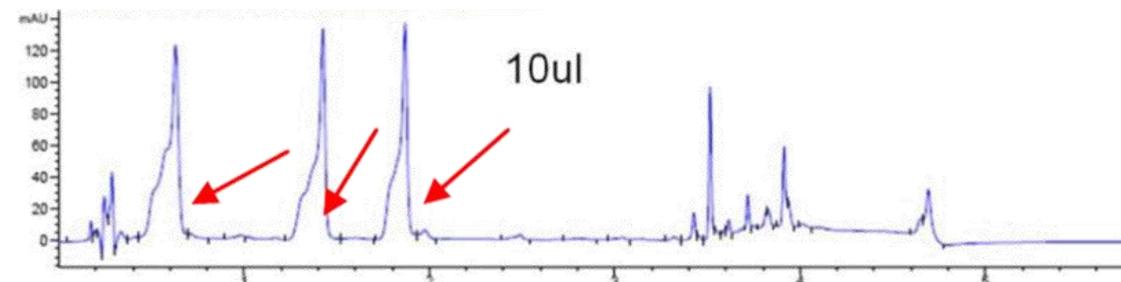
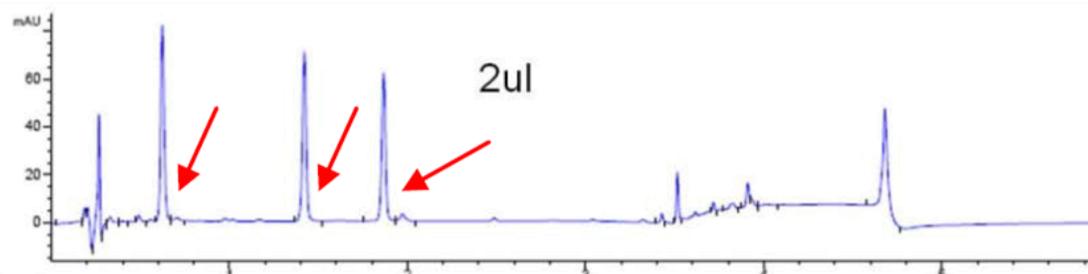
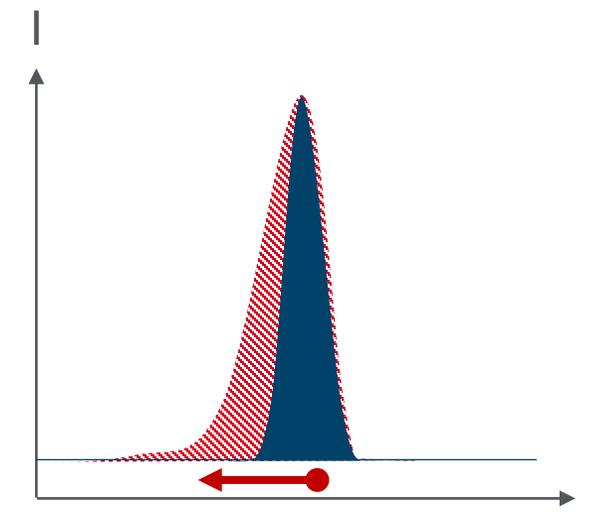
Potential Cause	Recommended Action
Injection volume too large	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Decrease injection volume
Long retention times	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use gradient elution or stronger mobile phase
Detector settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Check data collection rate:Adjust the detector setting and / or time constant to the fastest possible value without compromising signal-to-noise.
Viscosity of mobile phase too high	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase column temperature
Detector cell volume too large	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use smallest possible cell volume
Improper fittings / connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure that your fitting connections are made correct
Extra tubing volume on system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure that the tubing is narrow and as short as possible to avoid extra volume.
Sample solvent too strong	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduce diluent strength



Changes in Peak Shape

Peak fronting

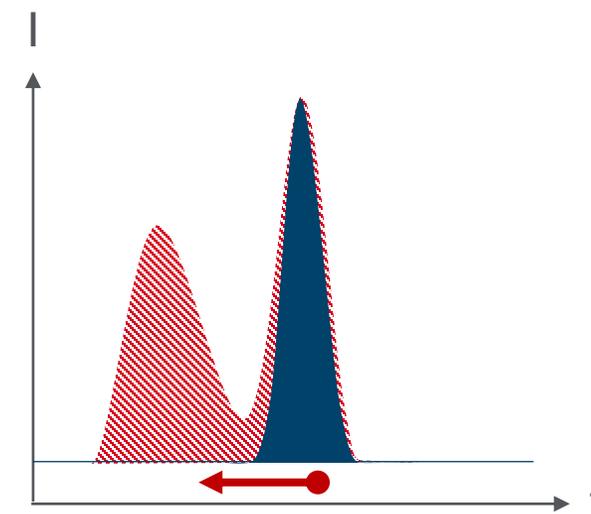
Potential Cause	Recommended Action
Channeling in column	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace column • Use guard columns
Column overload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use higher capacity column (increase length, diameter, or change to high-capacity material) • Decrease sample amount



Changes in Peak Shape

Peak splitting / doubling

Potential Cause	Recommended Action
Partially plugged column frit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backflush column (if applicable) • Use inline filter • Use guard column • Cleanup sample
Column void	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace column • Use guard column • Use less aggressive mobile phase conditions • Use a column with higher pH limit
Sample volume overload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use smaller injection volume
Sample solvent incompatibility with mobile phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use mobile phase or weaker miscible solvent as the sample solvent • If due to solubility/stability limitations you must use a stronger sample solvent, keep the injection volume small
Issues with injection valve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check injector valve parts • Replace worn parts

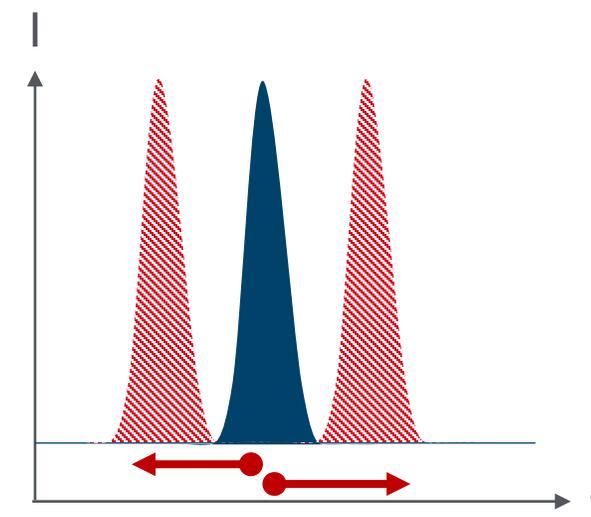


Part 3: Changes in Separation

Changes in Separation

Retention time changing

Potential Cause	Recommended Action
Inconsistent online mobile phase mixing	Ensure gradient system delivering constant composition Compare results with manual mobile phase preparation
Flow rate changing	Check 'Pressure fluctuation'
Column temperature varying	Thermostat column and ensure constant lab temperature
Equilibration time insufficient with gradient run or change in isocratic mobile phase	Flush with at least 10 column volumes after solvent change or gradient conclusion
Selective evaporation of mobile phase component	Use appropriate solvent bottle cap prepare fresh mobile phase
Buffer capacity insufficient	Use 20-50 mM concentration of buffer
Contamination buildup	Occasionally flush column with strong solvent to remove contaminants
First few injections – adsorption on active sites	Condition column by initial injection of concentrated sample
Column overloaded with sample	Decrease injection volume or concentration
Mobile phase composition changing	Follow 'best practices'

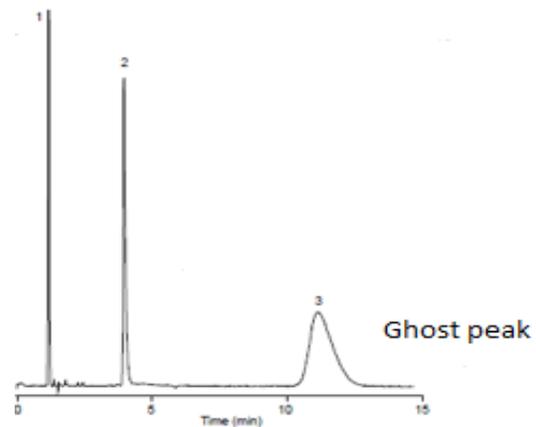
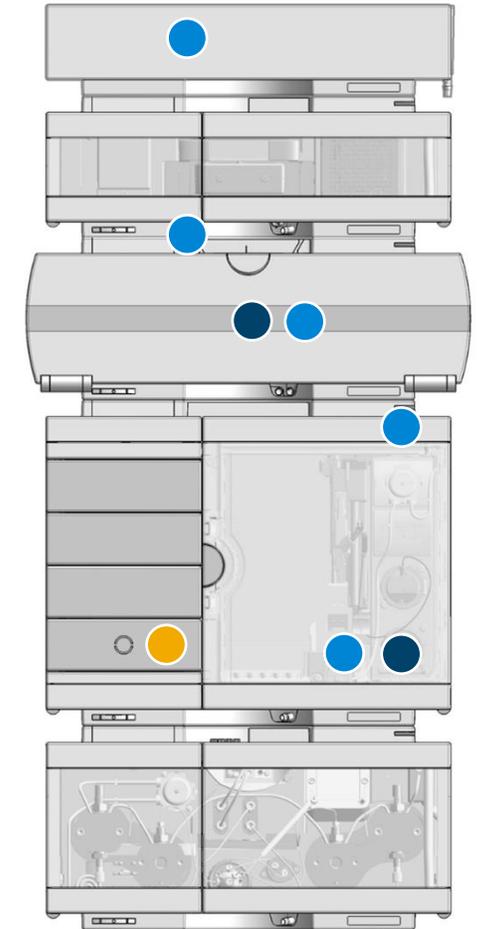


Changes in Separation

Ghost peaks, carry over

Potential Cause		Recommended Action
●	Peaks from previous injection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flush column to remove contaminants• Check with blank injection
●	Specific interaction with metal surfaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passivate instrument• Use InfinityLab Deactivator Additive• Use bio-inert LC instrument and column
●	Contamination or unknown interferences and impurities in sample, mobile phase solvents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proper sample cleanup• High purity solvents and additives

BIO
INERT

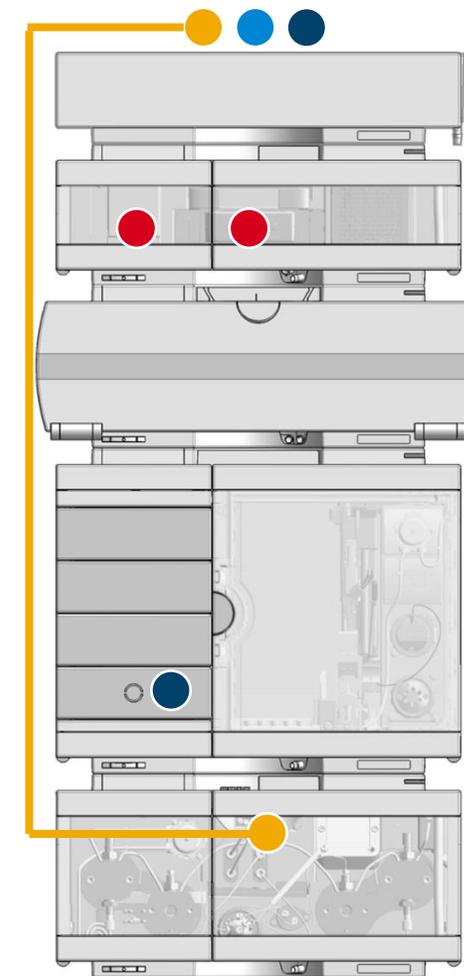


Part 4: Changes in Detection

Changes in Detection

Noisy baseline and reduced intensity

	Potential Cause	Recommended Action
●	Gas bubbles in mobile phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply degassing• Check degasser performance
●	Low difference between sample and mobile phase absorbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check absorbance values of sample vs. mobile phase
●	Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use degassed HPLC-grade solvents• Flush system• Clean up sample
●	Detector optics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perform intensity test• Check signal with flow cell removed if possible• Replace lamp
	Pressure instability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check 'Pressure fluctuation'



More on Sample Related Problems and What to Do About Them

Sample-related Problems – Physical Effects

- Sample solvent that is immiscible with mobile phase can cause early elution, peak distortion, low resolution, and precipitation of sample components due to low solubility in the mobile phase.
- Sample solvent that is stronger than the mobile phase can cause peak distortion, split/double peak, broad peaks, poor sensitivity, and shortening of retention time.
- Particulates in the sample can partially block the inlet frit of the column, guard, and inline filter causing split/double peaks and high pressure. We already talked about sample filtration in previous slides.

Sample-related- Problems – Chemical Effects

- Chemical contamination/lipid buildup can cause secondary interaction and result in retention time variability, peak shape variability/tailing, selectivity changes, and (in some cases) increased backpressure.
- Lipids from the sample matrix can cause ion suppression with MS.
- Strong retention of interferences can result in ghost peaks and shouldering peaks in the following runs.
- With MS, salts can cause ion suppression.
- Interfering compounds from the sample matrix can coelute with target analytes and appear as split/shoulder peaks.

What You Can Do

Online Options for Sample Matrix Removal

InfinityLab Quick Change **inline filter**
Click & Seal. 2.1 mm and 4.6 mm id;
0.2 μm and 0.5 μm pore size filter;
max 1300 bar; touchless packaging



Agilent Fast **Guard**, 3/pk
RRHT, 600 bar
RRHD, 1300 bar
One piece pre-assembled, no cartridge or
holder



Agilent Online **SPE**, Bond Elut PLRP-S
2.1 x 12.5 mm cartridge, 3/pk, 5982-1270
4.6 x 12.5 mm cartridge, 3/pk, 5982-1271
Cartridge housing, 820999-901



Offline Options for Sample Matrix Removal

		← Instrument Separation and Detection Specificity ←			← Less Specific		
		→ Sample Preparation Specificity →		→ More Specific			
Sample Preparation Technique	Interference Removed	Filtration	Supported Liquid Extractions (SLE)	Protein Precipitation + Filtration	QuEChERS	Protein Precipitation + Filtration + Lipid Removal	Solid Phase Extraction
	Lipids	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Oligomeric surfactants	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Particulates	Yes	Some	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Pigments	No	Some	No	Yes	No	Yes
	Polar organic acids	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
	Proteins	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Salts	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
	Suggested Agilent product	Captiva syringe filters Captiva filter vials	Chem Elut S	Captiva ND	Bond Elut QuEChERS with d-EMR-Lipid and other dispersive	Captiva EMR-Lipid	Bond Elut Silica and Polymeric SPE

Sample Filtration

Captiva premium syringe filters

- Certified to be free of UV-detectable extractables on HPLC. PES and glass fiber also certified for LC/MS.
- Color-coded boxes for easy identification
- Comprehensive portfolio to meet all customers' needs

Premium Syringe Filters						
Membrane	Diameter/Pore Size					
	4 mm		15 mm		25 mm	(28 mm)
	0.2 µm	0.45 µm	0.2 µm	0.45 µm	0.2 µm	0.45 µm
PTFE	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Nylon			◆	◆	◆	◆
PES	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Regenerated cellulose	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Cellulose acetate					◆	◆
Glass microfiber			◆		◆	
Depth filters: glass/PTFE			◆	◆	◆	◆
Depth filters: glass/nylon			◆	◆	◆	◆



Captiva syringe filters guide [5991-1230EN](#)

Sample Filtration

Captiva filter vials

Description	Part No.
0.45 µm PTFE filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5933
0.20 µm PTFE filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5934
0.45 µm Nylon filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5935
0.20 µm Nylon filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5936
0.45 µm RC filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5939
0.20 µm RC filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5940
0.45 µm PES filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5941
0.20 µm PES filter vial, 100/pack	5191-5942
Vial closure tool	5191-5943



Easy as 1-2-3



1. Fill:



2. Cover:



3. Plunge:



www.agilent.com/chem/filtervials

Filter vials user guide: [5994-0814EN](#)

Sample Filtration – Targeted Filtration

Captiva EMR-Lipid

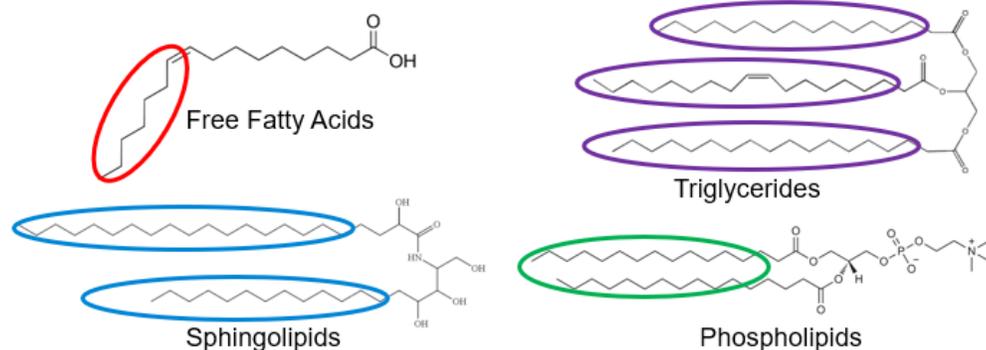
- One of the newest Agilent sample cleanup products with a 2-in-1 benefit of removing proteins and lipids.
- By removing lipids, it reduces ion suppression, increases analyte sensitivity, improves peak shape, and extends the lifetime of your analytical column.
- Simple pass-through, comes in 96-well plate and cartridge format
- Solvent-retention frit in 1 mL cartridge/96-well plate for in-well protein precipitation



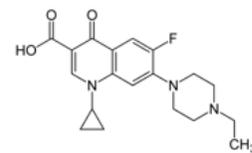
Captiva EMR-Lipid

Selective removal of lipids

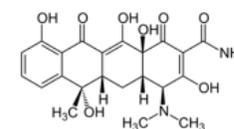
Removes lipids



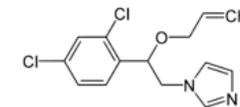
Does not remove target analytes



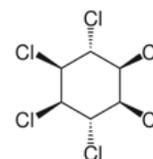
Fluoroquinolones



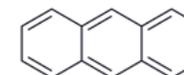
Tetracyclines



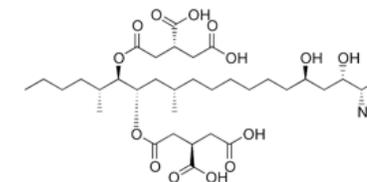
Imidazole pesticides



Organochlorine Pesticides



PAHs



Fumonisin B2

[Biological samples: Captiva EMR-Lipid method guide for 96 well-plate and 1 mL cartridge](#)

[Food samples: Captiva EMR-Lipid method guide for 3 mL and 6 mL cartridges](#)

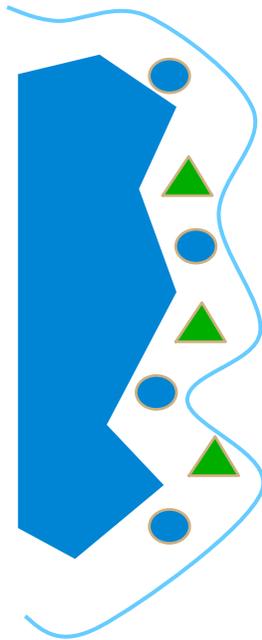
Supported Liquid Extraction (SLE)

Before extraction



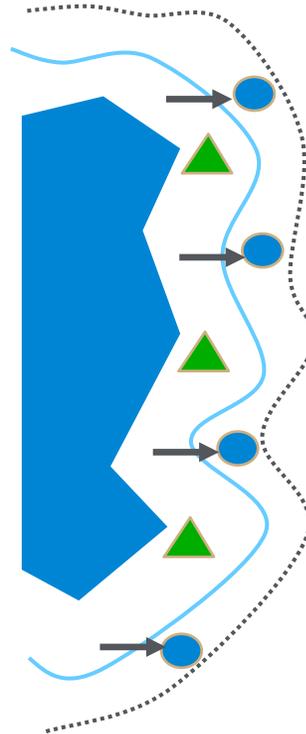
Dry sorbent

Apply Sample



Aqueous layer

Extract with organic solvent



Organic layer

- A thin layer of aqueous sample is formed on the surface of SLE sorbent.
- When the organic solvent passes through the SLE bed, analytes are extracted under the same principles as LLE.
- Increased contact area between the two phases allows efficient extraction without mixing.

Supported Liquid Extraction (SLE)

Chem Elut S

- Same extraction mechanism as in traditional liquid-liquid extraction (LLE)
- Cartridge and plate format, packed with proprietary synthetic sorbent– high surface area
- Simple method, gravity flow
- Smaller volume sample and solvent compared to LLE
- No emulsions



Cartridges for sample volumes 0.2 – 20 mL

Bulk Chem Elut S
1 kg and 4 kg

96-well plate for sample volumes 200 μ L and 400 μ L



Dispersive kit

Centrifuge tubes containing preweighed SPE sorbents

- C18: Removes residual fats and lipids
- PSA: 'Primary secondary amine' for removal of organic acids and sugars
- GCB: Graphitized carbon black, removes pigments
- EMR-Lipid: Removes unbranched hydrocarbon chains (lipids)

Dispersive SPE kits are available for different food types.

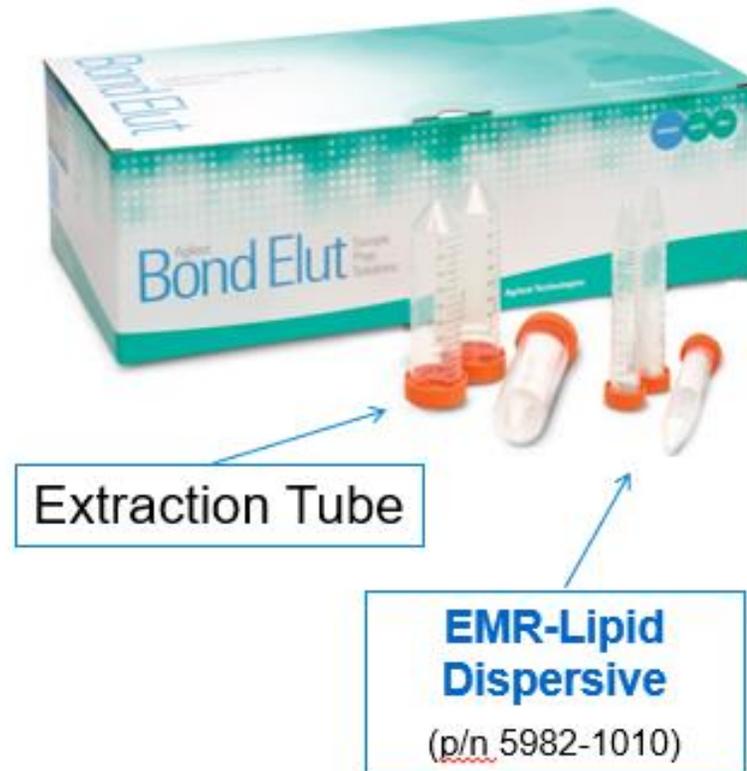
They are for both AOAC (US) method and EN (Europe).

QuEChERS is a nonselective technique and does not remove **all** the matrix, just enough.

Dispersive sorbents are also available as bulk material.

Dispersive EMR-Lipid

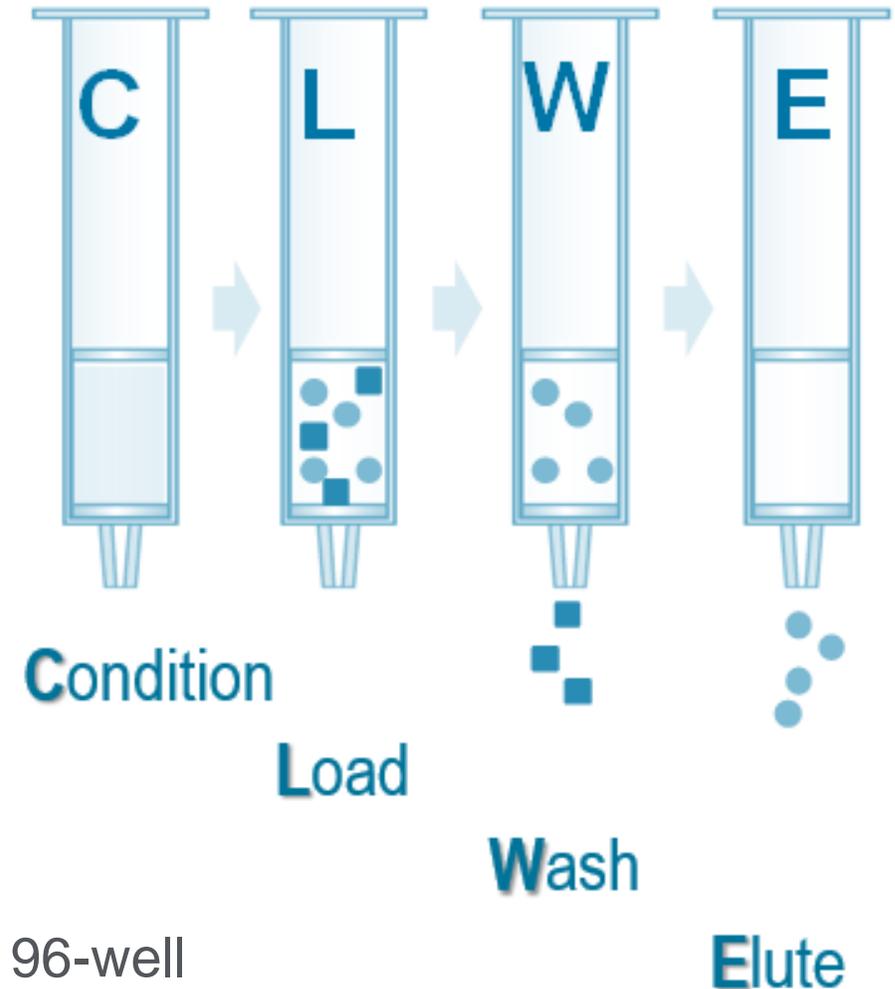
EMR-Lipid – What is it?



EMR-Lipid fits into current sample preparation workflows

Solid Phase Extraction (SPE)

- Capabilities
 - Very selective
 - Highly clean samples
 - Concentrated samples
 - Wide range of applicability
 - Automation friendly
- Types of SPE
 - Nonpolar (reversed phase) SPE
 - Polar (normal phase) SPE
 - Cation exchange SPE
 - Anion exchange SPE
 - Mixed mode SPE
 - Specialty SPE



Bond Elut: Silica or polymer based, cartridge, and 96-well plate format

Agilent SPE Offering

- Reliable SPE with a 30-year history
- Agilent offers the most comprehensive set of phases, sizes, and formats of any SPE provider (over 40 sorbent materials/phases available)
- Easy adoption of methods due to high number of publications and applications.
- Includes packed bed silica and polymeric phases, and monolithic silica phases.

OMIX monolithic silica tip SPE

OMIX C18
OMIX MP1
OMIX SCX

SPEC monolithic silica disk SPE

SPEC C2
SPEC C8
SPEC C18
SPEC C18AR
SPEC PH
SPEC NH2
SPEC CN
SPEC Si
SPEC PSA
SPEC SAX
SPEC SCX
SPEC MP1
SPEC MP3

Bond Elut Silica SPE

Bond Elut AccuCAT
Bond Elut NH₂
Bond Elut C1
Bond Elut C2
Bond Elut C8
Bond Elut C18
..... **40 phases**

Bond Elut polymer SPE Plexa

Bond Elut Plexa
Bond Elut Plexa PCX
Bond Elut Plexa PAX

SampliQ SPE

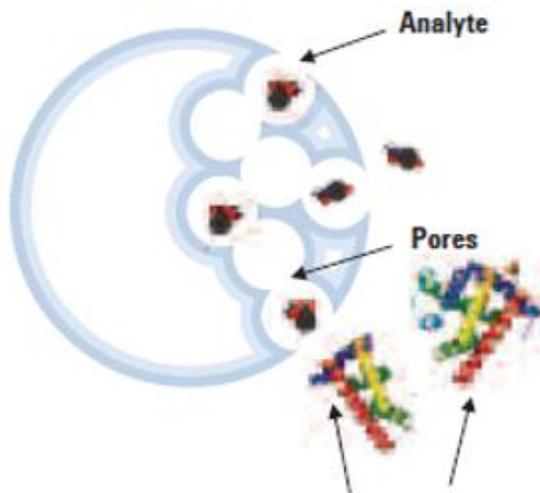
Multiple phases

- New generation of polymeric SPE
- Divinylbenzene-based polymeric sorbent with hydrophilic exterior, hydrophobic interior, and advanced polymeric architecture.
- Superior flow properties
- Great for extraction of a wide range of acidic, neutral, and basic analytes from different matrices
- Simple method
- Bond Elut Plexa, nonpolar
- Bond Elut Plexa PCX, mixed mode with strong cation exchange
- Bond Elut Plexa PAX, mixed mode with strong anion exchange
- Cartridge and 96-well plate format

Advanced polymer architecture improves extraction performance

LOAD:

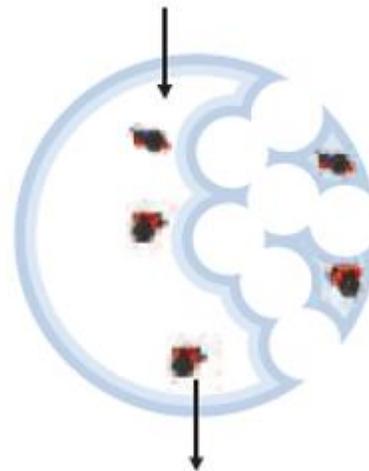
Water-rich, hydrophilic surface allows excellent phase transfer of analytes into the polymer core.



Large endogenous proteins do not bind to the surface of the polymer and cannot access pore structure.

WASH:

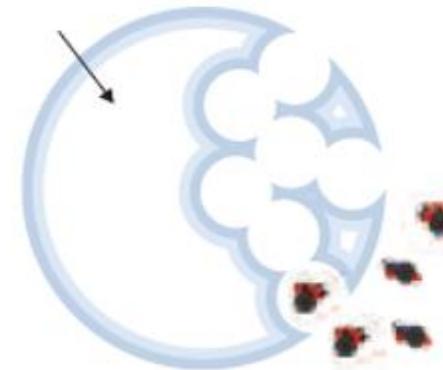
Analytes that have crossed the hydrophilic layers will remain tightly bound in the hydrophobic core.



Interferences wash away without leaching the analytes of interest.

ELUTE:

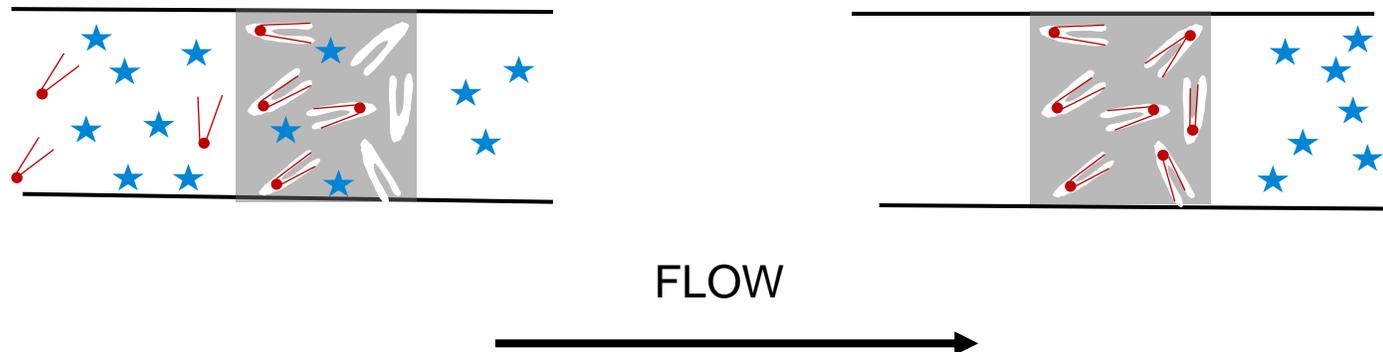
Specially engineered pore structure allows excellent mass transfer out of the polymer.



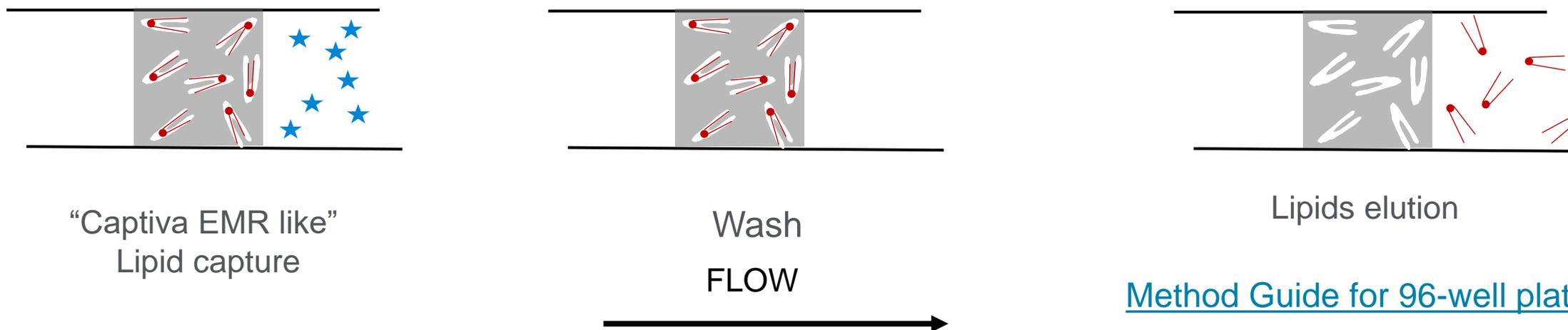
Clean extract with high recovery.

Innovative Lipid Products

Captiva EMR-Lipid – A pass through filtration



Bond Elut Lipid Extraction – An SPE like lipid isolation for lipidomics



[Method Guide for 96-well plate](#)
[Method Guide for 1 mL Cartridge](#)

Manifolds for Processing Cartridges and 96-Well Plates

Captiva vacuum collar



Positive Pressure Manifolds

SPS 24 vacuum manifold



Vac Elut 20 vacuum manifold



Vac Elut 12 vacuum manifold



96 well plate vacuum manifold



Summary

Useful Parts

Parts that address potential issues and help to ease your daily tasks

Part description	Information	Part number
InfinityLab Stay Safe Caps	Prevent solvent evaporation; changes in mobile phase concentration; solvent contamination	Various: www.agilent.com/chem/staysafecaps
InfinityLab Quick Connect and Quick Turn Fittings	Spring-load function for optimized dead volume reduction	Various: www.agilent.com/chem/InfinityLabFittings
InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filters	Capture particulates in mobile phase or sample; features click and seal, in-situ replacement, and touchless packaging	Various: www.agilent.com/chem/QuickChangeInlineFilter
Agilent Captiva Syringe Filters and Filter Vials	Solve issues like inlet clogging, increased backpressure, and retention time shift by filtering samples	Various: www.agilent.com/chem/filtration
InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Columns (see appendix)	High efficiency and high resolution; available in 18 chemistries; fitted with RFID tag	Various: www.agilent.com/chem/discoverporoshell



InfinityLab Stay Safe Cap for solvent bottle



InfinityLab Quick Connect Fitting



InfinityLab Quick Turn Fitting



InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter



Captiva Syringe Filter and Filter Vials



InfinityLab Poroshell 120 Columns With column RFID tag

Resources for Support

- LC troubleshooting poster ([5994-0709EN](#))
- Tech support www.agilent.com/chem/techsupport
- Resource page www.agilent.com/chem/agilentresources
 - Quick reference guides
 - Catalogs, column user guides
 - Online selection tools, how-to videos
 - Application workflows (such as cannabis, PFAS, and more)
- InfinityLab LC Supplies catalog ([5991-8031EN](#))
- LC handbook ([5990-7595EN](#))
- Best practices for using an Agilent LC system ([01200-90090](#))
- Your local FSE and specialists
- Agilent University www.agilent.com/crosslab/university
- YouTube – [Agilent Channel](#) (maintenance videos)
- Agilent service contracts



Chemistries and Supplies Applications Workflows

1. Cannabis Pesticide/Mycotoxin kit (LC + GC)
[P/n 5610-2050](#)
[P/n 5610-2051](#)
[P/n 5610-2052](#)
[P/n 5610-2053](#)
2. Cannabis potency kit (LC) - [p/n 5610-2036](#)
3. Cannabis Pesticide/Mycotoxin bundle (LC + GC) – [Pub no. 5994-1639EN](#)
4. Cannabis potency bundle (LC)- [Pub no. 5994-1639EN](#)
5. Cannabis – Residual Solvents bundle (GCMS)- [Pub no. 5994-1639EN](#)
6. Cannabis – Terpenes bundle (GCMS)- [Pub no. 5994-1639EN](#)
7. Cannabis – Heavy Metals bundle (ICP-MS)- [Pub no. 5994-1639EN](#)
8. USP467 bundle (GC/MS) – [Pub no. 5991-8659EN](#)
9. Multi-class, Multi-residue Veterinary Drug Analysis in Food Matrices (LCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2085EN](#)
10. Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) in Food bundle (GCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2016EN](#)
11. PAH in water bundle (GCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2060EN](#)
12. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) in Water (GC/MS) – [Pub no. 5994-0345EN](#)
13. Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOC) (GC/MS) – [Pub no. 5994-0932EN](#)
14. Nitrosamine in water bundle (GCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2184EN](#)
15. PFAS – EPA 533 (drinking water) (LCMS) - [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
16. PFAS – EPA 537 (drinking water) (LCMS) -[Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
17. PFAS – EPA 8327 (Ground, surface and wastewater) (LCMS) - [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
18. PFAS – ASTM D7979 (Sludge, Influent/Effluent and wastewater) (LCMS)- [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
19. PFAS - ISO 21675:2019 (Non filtrated waters) (LCMS) - [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
20. Analysis of legacy and emerging PFAS bundle (LCMS) - [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
21. PFAS – MRM database method (LC/TQ) - [Pub no. 5994-2357EN](#)
22. Rapid Analysis of Pesticides in Food Matrices (LCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2909EN](#)
23. Nitrosamine in pharmaceuticals (LCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2977EN](#)
24. Nitrosamine in pharmaceuticals (GCMS) – [Pub no. 5994-2979EN](#)

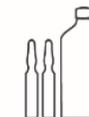
Where you will find them:

Agilent Resource Center : www.agilent.com/en/agilentresources

Agilent Community Page: <https://community.agilent.com/technical/consumables/w/wiki/3770/consumables-applications-and-workflows>



Sample preparation
and containment



Chemical
standards



Separation



Detection



Analysis

Contact Agilent Chemistries and Supplies Technical Support



1-800-227-9770 Option 3, Option 3:

Option 1 for GC and GC/MS columns and supplies

Option 2 for LC and LC/MS columns and supplies

Option 3 for sample preparation, filtration and QuEChERS

Option 4 for spectroscopy supplies

Option 5 for chemical standards

Option 6 for former Prozyme products

Available in the USA and Canada 8–5 all time zones

gc-column-support@agilent.com

lc-column-support@agilent.com

spp-support@agilent.com

spectro-supplies-support@agilent.com

chem-standards-support@agilent.com

advancebio.glycan@agilent.com

Web Chat: Product pages of agilent.com

Thank You!

Appendix

LC Troubleshooting Poster Available

Poster: [5994-0709EN](#)

LC Troubleshooting Guide

Your guide to solving common problems and staying productive

Places to Start

Solvents

- Use brown borosilicate bottles to avoid algae growth
- Prepare solvent volume to be used up within 1 to 2 days
- Use only HPLC-grade solvents filtered through 0.2 µm filters

Preparing and powering up the pump

- Inspect solvent bottles and inlet filters for damage or coloring
- Always use seal wash when installed and purge the pump
- Use the appropriate system conditioning method

Daily tasks

- Replace aqueous and organic mobile phases every second day
- Check seal wash solvent
- Flush the system with the composition of your application

Weekly tasks

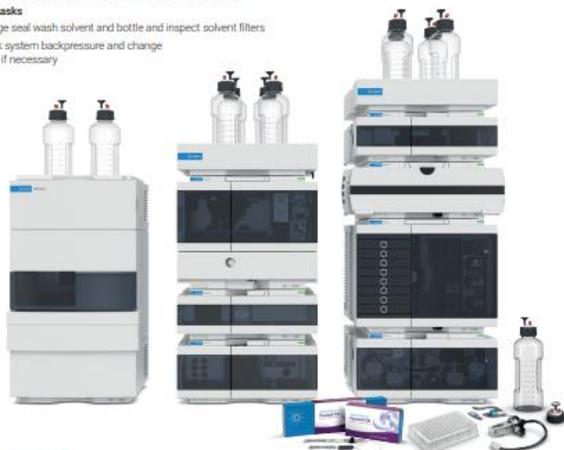
- Change seal wash solvent and bottle and inspect solvent filters
- Check system backpressure and change filters if necessary

Pump shutdown

- Flush all channels to remove salt deposits and particulate matter
- Flush the system with appropriate storage solvent and power down the system

Handling of acetonitrile

- If possible, use 5 to 10% of water in your mobile phase
- Be sure to avoid ACN evaporation
- Don't leave ACN on the system for more than 2 to 3 days
- Perform a periodic warm water wash (60 to 70 °C) if you face problems



Maintenance

Agilent Lab Advisor software helps you manage your Agilent LC instruments to achieve high-quality chromatographic results in the most efficient way by ensuring high instrument performance, productivity, and reliability. It is available free-of-charge.

- Diagnostic tests to evaluate performance
- Easier maintenance of all Agilent LC modules
- Comprehensive reports generated to ease communication with Agilent service

Retention Time Drift



Possible Cause	Solution
Inconsistent online mobile phase mixing	Ensure gradient system delivers constant composition; compare with manual preparation of mobile phase
Variation in column temperature	Thermostat or insulate column; ensure constant lab temperature
Insufficient equilibration time with gradient run or change in isocratic mobile phase	Make sure at least 10 column volumes pass through column after sample run
Selective evaporation of mobile phase component	Less rigorous helium sparging; keep solvent reservoirs covered; prepare fresh mobile phase
Contamination buildup	Occasionally flush column with strong solvent
Column overloaded with sample	Decrease injection volume or concentration

Pressure Fluctuation



Possible Cause	Solution
Leak in the system	Identify the channel and clean or replace check valve; replace pump seals
Buildup of particulates	Filter sample and mobile phase
Bubble in pump	Perform solvent degassing; sparge solvent with helium

Pressure Increase



Possible Cause	Solution
System blockage	Check flowpath (needle seat, capillaries, filter and frits)
Water/organic systems; buffer precipitation	Test buffer/organic mixtures to ensure compatibility

High Column Backpressure



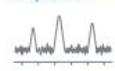
Possible Cause	Solution
Column blockage	Butter sample cleanups; use guard column
Mobile phase viscosity too high	Use lower viscosity solvents or higher temperature
Particle size too small	Use larger d_p packing
Plugged inlet frit	Replace column

Drifting Baseline



Possible Cause	Solution
Positive/negative direction; contaminant buildup/elution	Flush column; clean up sample; use pure solvents
Positive/negative; difference in refractive index of injection solvent	Use mobile phase for sample solvent
Temperature changes	Insulate and thermostat column and tubing

Noisy Baseline



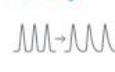
Possible Cause	Solution
Contamination	Use degassed HPLC-grade solvents; flush system; clean up sample
Detector problems	Check number of hours of UV lamp; replace UV lamp or flow cell

Ghost Peaks



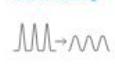
Possible Cause	Solution
Peaks from previous injection	Flush column to remove contaminants; check with blank injection
Contaminator; unknown interferences in samples; ion pair; diastereoisomers	Proper sample cleanup; Prepare sample in actual mobile phase to minimize disturbance
Contaminated mobile phase	Check your mobile phase
Bubbles in solvent	Check and degas your solvents

Peak Tailing



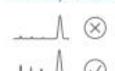
Possible Cause	Solution
Unwiped dead volumes	Minimize number of connections; ensure injector seal is tight; ensure fittings are properly seated
Column performance	Change mobile phase; replace column
Silica-based column degradation	Use specialty, polymeric, or sterically protected column
Silica-based; ionic interactions with stationary phase	Use stronger mobile phase or add appropriate base (e.g., TEA)

Peak Broadening



Possible Cause	Solution
Injection volume too large	Decrease injection volume or solvent strength of injection solvent; use gradient methods
Low sampling rate of data system	Increase data rate
Detector cell volume too large	Use smallest possible cell volume
Injection volume too large	Decrease injection volume

Sensitivity Problems



Possible Cause	Solution
Peaks are outside of sensitivity range of detector	Dilute/concentrate sample to bring into linear region
Sample-related losses during preparation	Use internal standard during sample preparation; optimize sample preparation method

Leaks



Possible Cause	Solution
White powder at fitting/ loose fitting	Tighten fittings; replace capillaries
System leak	Identify location checking leak sensors/sensors; check flow cell



InfinityLab Poroshell 120 columns are fitted with pre-installed and preprogrammed column RFID tags

1. **Usability** - Provides recommended column use parameters and column-specific details
2. **Traceability** - Always know the column history, when it was installed, number of injections and operational parameters
3. **Security** - Data is not compromised as columns are replaced according to schedule



Field	Example
Description	Poroshell EC-C18
Length [mm]	100
Diameter [mm]	4.6
Particle size [µm]	2.7
Maximum pressure [bar]	600
Number of injections	[counter]
Product number	695975-902T
Serial number	USABC12345
Batch number	B12345
Maximum temperature [°C]	60
Maximum measured temperature [°C]	[updated from instrument]
Minimum pH	2.0
Maximum pH	8.0
Void volume [mL]	1.00
First injection date	[updated from instrument]
Recent injection date	[updated from instrument]

