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LC that takes your
productivity to
new heights

The collective power
of chromatography



HPLC-Charged Aerosol Detection

Surfactants and emulsifiers applications notebook

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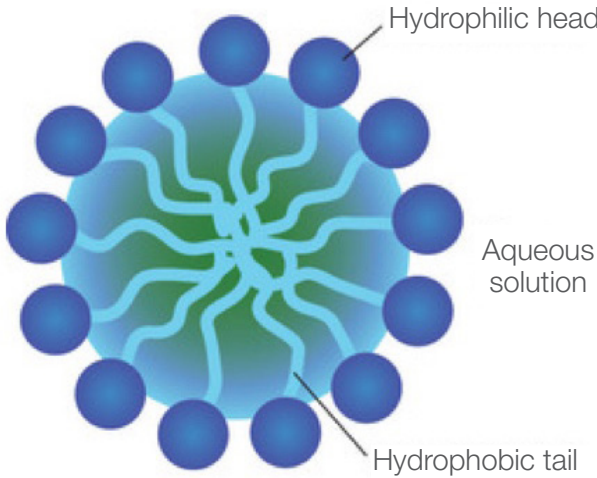
Surfactants and emulsifiers are common compounds found in everyday products, and laboratories need effective ways to develop and analyze them. This notebook offers a summary of applications and helpful information to show how liquid chromatography can be used to meet the needs of scientists working with such compounds.

Surfactants

Surfactants (surface active agents) are compounds that contain a hydrophilic and a hydrophobic segment. When added to water or solvents, a surfactant reduces the surface tension between two immiscible solvents, a gas and a liquid, or a liquid and a solid. Surfactants have widespread uses as detergents or as cleaning, wetting, scouring, dispersing (dispersants), emulsifying, foaming, and anti-foaming agents.

Emulsifiers

[Emulsifiers](#) are used to maintain a uniform suspension of immiscible materials. These compounds are typically surfactants and can be designed for use in specific applications and products in both the food and pharmaceutical industries.



Schematic of a micelle, which is formed by aggregation of surfactant molecules.



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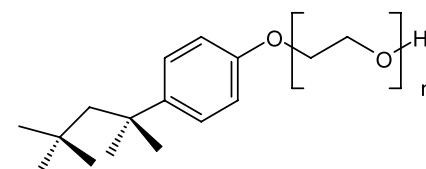
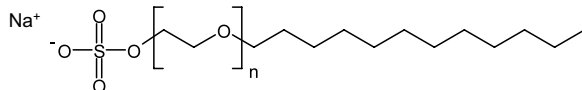
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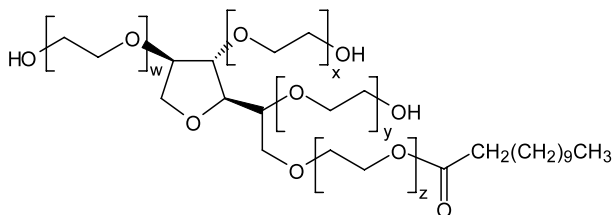
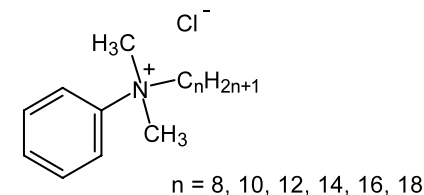
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Anionic surfactant:
Sodium laureth sulfate

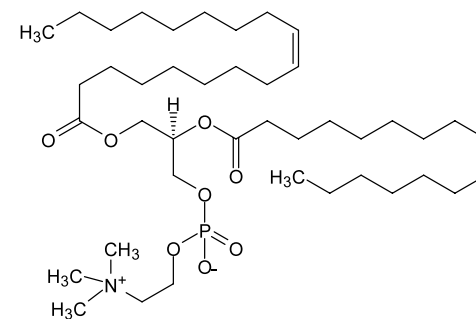


Nonionic surfactant: Triton® X-100

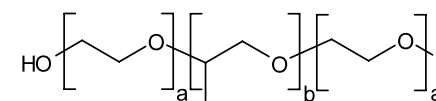
Cationic surfactant:
Benzalkonium chloride



Nonionic surfactant: Polysorbate 20



Zwitterionic surfactant: Phosphatidylcholine



Nonionic surfactant: Poloxamer

Surfactants are a diverse group of chemicals whose structures vary widely but typically contain an oil-soluble hydrophobic chain and a water-soluble hydrophilic group. Surfactants can be categorized by their structure and include both nonionic and ionic (anionic, cationic, and zwitterionic) classes.

Nonionic surfactants have covalently bonded oxygen-containing hydrophilic groups connected to hydrophobic parent structures and include:

- Alkylphenol ethoxylates (e.g., nonoxynols; Triton® X-100)
- Fatty acid esters of sorbitol, e.g., [Spans](#) (sorbitan monolaurate); Tweens (Tween 20, 40, 60, or 80)
- Terminally blocked ethoxylates (e.g., [poloxamers](#))

Anionic surfactants* contain an anionic functional group, e.g., ammonium lauryl sulfate, sodium lauryl sulfate (also called sodium dodecyl sulfate or SDS), and [sodium laureth sulfate \(SLES\)](#).

Cationic surfactants* contain a cationic functional group, e.g., cetrimonium bromide (CTAB), cetylpyridinium chloride (CPC), and benzalkonium chloride (BAC).

Zwitterionic (amphoteric) surfactants have both cationic and anionic centers attached to the same molecule, e.g., phospholipids, such as phosphatidylserine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidylcholine, and sphingomyelins.

* All ionic surfactants are associated with a counter-ion that can be either monatomic (inorganic anions, such as chloride, bromide, iodide; and inorganic cations, such as alkali metal, alkaline earth metal, transition metal) or polyatomic (organic anions, such as tosyls, trifluoromethane-sulfonates, methyl sulfate; and organic cations, such as ammonium, pyridinium, triethanolamine).



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Analysis of surfactants can be challenging. Not only do surfactants include a wide variety of compounds differing in their chemical structure, a specific surfactant may also be a heterogeneous mixture of numerous subspecies (e.g., Tweens) or a homologous series (often referred to as congeners).

Liquid chromatographic (LC) approaches are used to separate surfactants on the basis of ionization, chain length, chain branching, or positional isomer distribution. LC methods can be used to characterize the profile of congeners and heterogeneous mixtures. This is important, for example, when studying lot-to-lot variability, which is of particular interest in the biopharmaceutical industry.

Conversely, when trying to quantitate total amounts of surfactants, the chromatographic conditions are changed so that all the subspecies elute as a single peak. This both simplifies determination and improves limits of detection.

The preferred detection method for surfactants with chromophores is ultraviolet (UV) absorbance. However, many surfactants are weak chromophores and thus cannot be detected by UV absorbance. Mass spectrometry (MS) is often used for trace analysis and for peak identification, but is limited to only compounds that can form gas phase ions. Charged aerosol detection is universal and overcomes the limitations of both UV absorbance and MS approaches making it suitable for both exploratory work and routine analysis of surfactants.



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Surfactants are used by many different industries. Selection is usually determined by special properties such as biodegradability, dermatological compatibility, effectiveness and efficiency, toxicity, or regulatory clearance for use in foods

Industrial/Environmental

- Anti-caking and dust-control agents for fertilizers
- Herbicide and pesticide formulations
- Dispersants (for oil slicks)
- [Emulsions](#), paints, and adhesives
- Fire extinguisher additives
- Flotation agents for purification of ore
- Fracking fluids
- Gasoline and oil additives
- Inks and de-inking agents
- Oil and gas pipeline additives
- Paint, adhesive, and sealant additives
- Road construction additives

Personal Care/Household

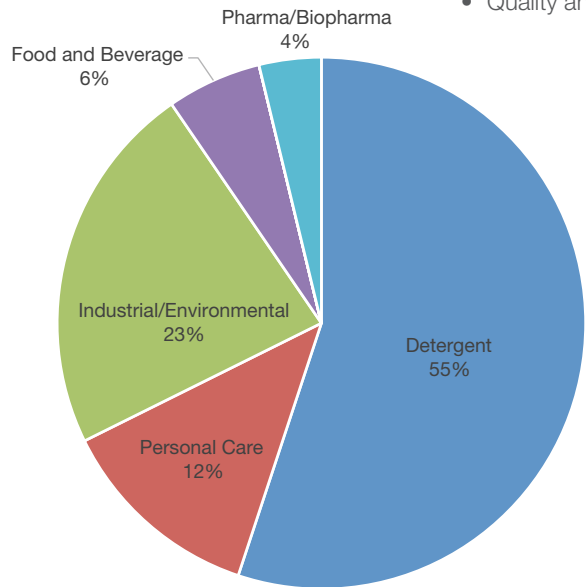
- Cosmetics
- [Detergents](#), laundry products, fabric softeners, soaps
- Hair conditioners
- [Shampoos](#)
- [Shower gels](#)
- [Soaps](#)
- Toothpastes

Biopharma/Pharma

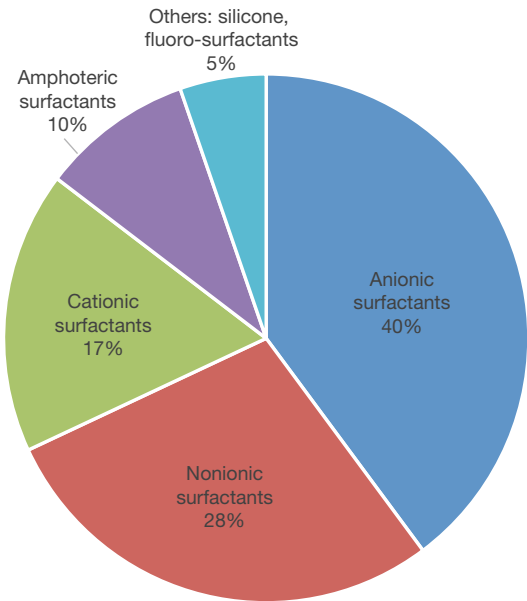
- Modulating solubility of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs)
- Influencing bioavailability of APIs
- Improving the stability of APIs in dosage forms
- Modulating immunogenic responses of APIs
- Covalent modification of peptides and proteins
- Preventing aggregation or dissociation
- Helping APIs maintain preferred polymorphic forms
- Creating [emulsions](#) including creams, ointments, liniments, pastes, films, and liquids
- Maintaining the pH and/or osmolality of liquid formulations
- Acting as antioxidants, [emulsifying agents](#), aerosol propellants, tablet binders, and disintegrants
- Acting as the primary API of laxatives, anti-gas agents, and spermicides

Food and Beverages

- Antimicrobials
- [Defoaming agents](#)
- [Emulsifiers](#)
- [Foaming agents](#)
- Food processing
- Mouth feel
- Quality and freshness maintenance



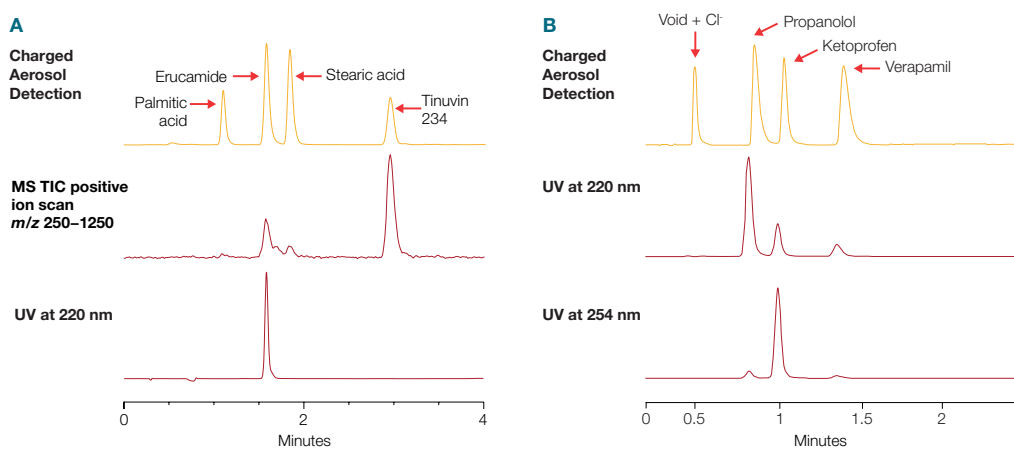
Market distribution by application (est. for 2022)



Market distribution by surfactant type (est. for 2022)



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The CAD can measure all analytes in the two samples shown above. Other detectors are more limited in scope. For example, MS requires that analytes form gas phase ions (A) while response by a UV detector depends upon the nature of the chromophore (A and B).



The analyte detection challenge

No single detection method delivers ideal results for LC analysis. Often, one analyte responds more strongly to one form of detection method than another, or it may not respond at all. What is most desired is the ability to detect a wide range of analytes (universal detection) with a response that enables accurate quantitation. Charged aerosol detection is a reliable technology that will change the way you view every sample. The Charged Aerosol Detector (CAD)

can detect all non-volatile, and many semi-volatile analytes, with uniform response. Charged aerosol detection has the flexibility and performance for analytical R&D, as well as the simplicity and reproducibility needed for QA/QC in manufacturing. In addition to the determination of surfactants and emulsifiers, CAD can be used for the analysis of pharmaceuticals (large and small molecule), biomolecules, food and beverages, specialty chemicals, and polymers.

Learn more: [Discover what you're missing – Charged Aerosol Detector brochure](#)



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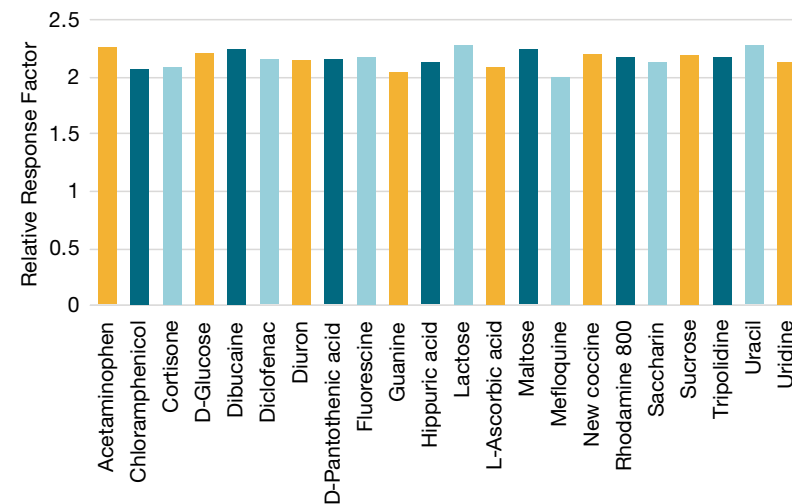
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Uniform response with charged
aerosol detection

- Detector response is independent of analyte structure for all non-volatile compounds
- Excellent sensitivity coupled with wide dynamic range for unrivaled performance
- Single calibrant for quantification of multiple analytes when individual standards are not available
- Measure a surfactant as a single peak for maximum sensitivity, or profile its subspecies when determining lot-to-lot variability and for material characterization.



The CAD shows uniform response (<5% RSD variation) among all non-volatile analytes (0.5 µg; flow injection analysis).

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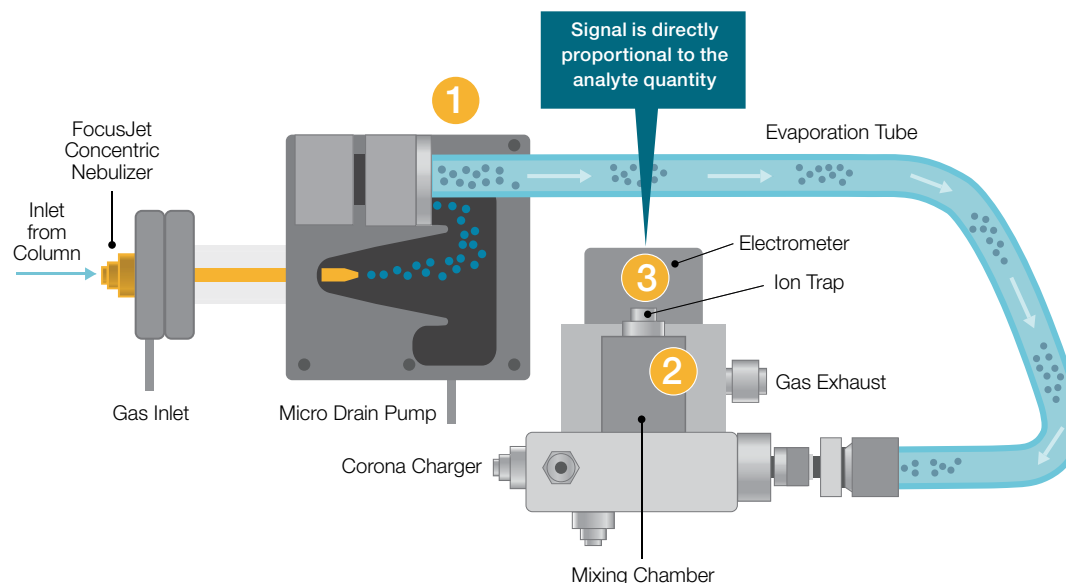
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Schematic of CAD technology

Three simple steps to charged aerosol detection

1. Nebulization

Charged aerosol detection begins by nebulizing the column eluent into droplets, which are subsequently dried into particles. The particle size increases with the amount of analyte.

2. Charging

In the mixing chamber, a stream of ionized nitrogen gas collides with the analyte particles. The charge is then transferred to the particles—the larger the particle, the greater the charge.

3. Detection

The charged particles are transferred to a collector where the aggregate charge is measured by a highly sensitive electrometer. This generates a signal directly proportional to the mass of analyte present.

Learn more: [Charged Aerosol Detection Technology](#)

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Laboratories need state-of-the art instrumentation to competently analyze surfactants with charged aerosol detection.

Thermo Scientific™ UHPLC systems combined with Thermo Scientific™ Charged Aerosol Detectors (CAD), with advanced column technologies, and with proven analytical methods provide you precise automation and advanced data handling to help you:

- Characterize many classes of surfactants and emulsifiers
- Analyze compounds in a broad range of samples
- Profile or quantify samples

Thermo Scientific™ Vanquish™ Charged Aerosol Detectors and Thermo Scientific™ Corona™ Veo™ Charged Aerosol Detectors provide:

- Simple, intuitive operation
- Wide linear and dynamic range
- Sub-nanogram sensitivity
- Method flexibility covering micro-flow HPLC and UHPLC applications with a single nebulizer
- Adjustable evaporation temperature to optimize signal-to-noise ratio

Learn more: [Discover what you're missing – Charged Aerosol Detector brochure](#)

CAD – Modules



Vanquish Charged Aerosol Detector



Corona Veo Charged Aerosol Detector

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General purpose and specialty columns



Quality columns you can rely on for quality results

The separation and identification of surfactants and emulsifiers can be challenging due both to the diversity of surfactants and complexity of the sample matrix.

We offers quality columns with ideal selectivity in a variety of particle sizes and designs to meet all separation needs, including improved resolution, enhanced sensitivity, faster analysis, and consistent performance.

For surfactant analysis using high-sensitivity detection, the column of choice is the Thermo Scientific™ Acclaim™ Surfactant Plus for LC. Acclaim provides improved performance, versatility, and throughput for surfactant analysis with:

- Advanced surface chemistry that provides both reversed-phase and anion-exchange retention mechanisms

- Ideal selectivity for simultaneous separation of anionic, nonionic, cationic, and zwitterionic surfactants
- Excellent resolution between strongly hydrophilic compounds
- Resistance to dewetting under highly aqueous mobile phase conditions
- Exceptionally low bleed for use with charged aerosol detectors and mass spectrometers.



For more information: [Thermo Scientific Acclaim Surfactant Plus LC Columns](#)

For a complete selection of HPLC and UHPLC columns: [HPLC and UHPLC Columns](#)

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Profiling Laureth Sulfate

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm

Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C

Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile

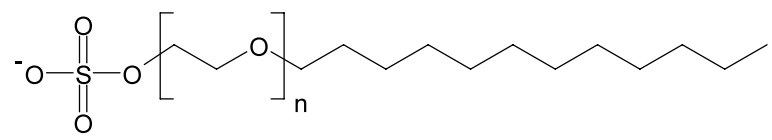
Mobile phase B: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2

Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min

Gradient: See table

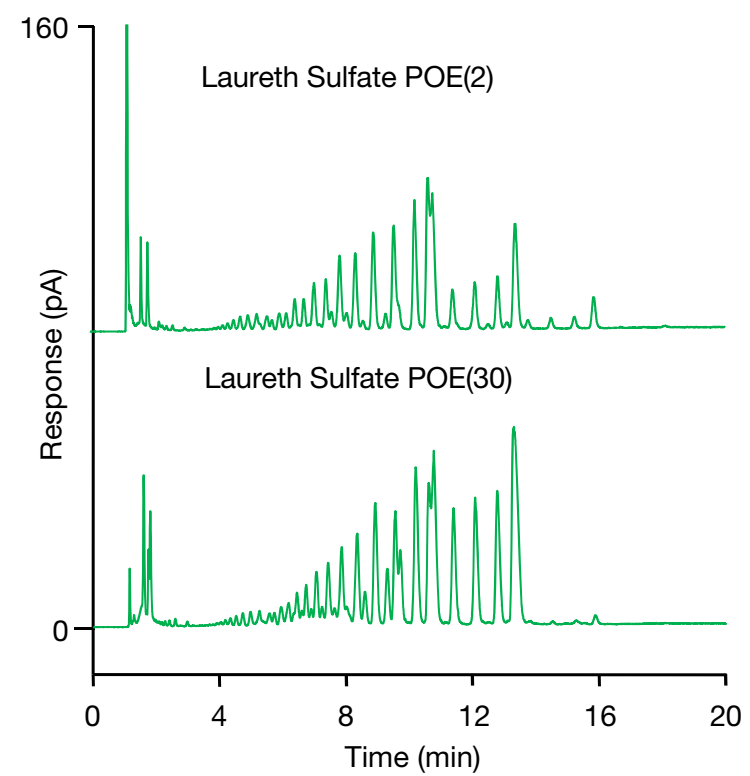
Injection volume: 2 μ L

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector



Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	45	55
0	45	55
15	75	25
20	75	25

Anionic surfactants



Profiling of Laureth Sulfate POE(2) and POE(30) (10 mg/mL each)

For more information: [HPLC-CAD method for laureth sulfates](#)

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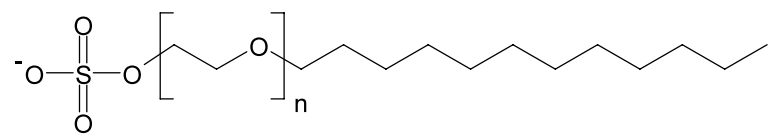
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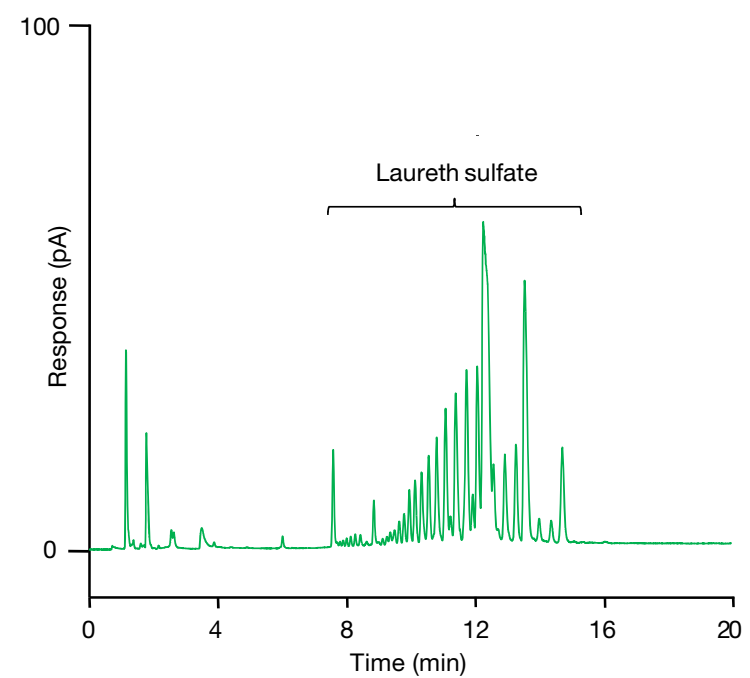
Anionic surfactants

Sodium Laureth Sulfate (SLES) in shampoo

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μm, 3.0 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 °C
Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase B: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2 μL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector



Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	25	75
0	25	75
10	80	20
20	80	20



Analysis of shampoo sample (40x dilution and filtered)

For more information: [HPLC-CAD for analysis of lauryl ether sulfates in shampoo](#)



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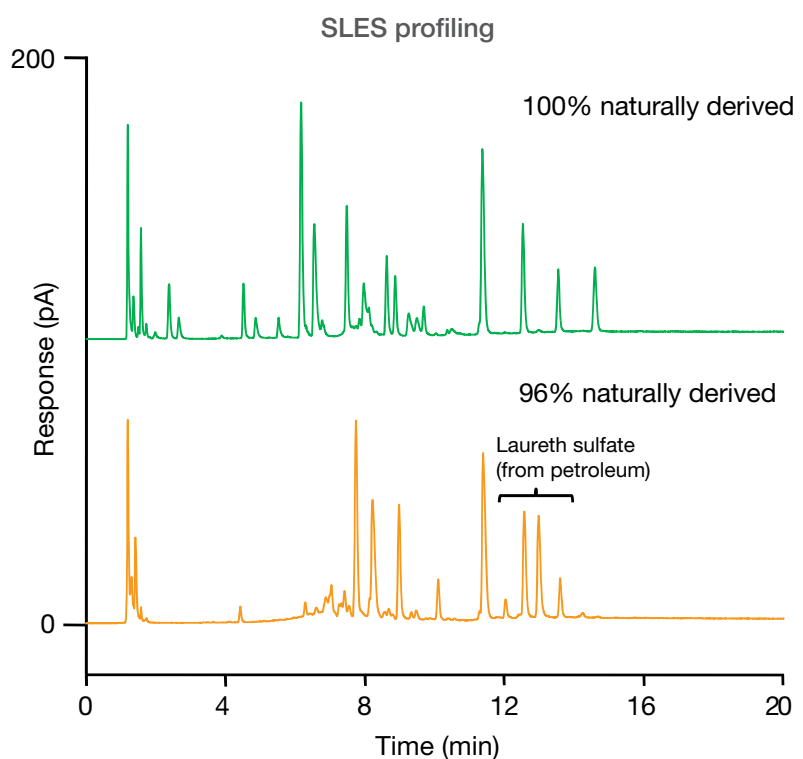
Anionic surfactants

SLES in laundry detergent

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase B: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Method development

Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	25	75
0	25	75
10	80	20
20	80	20



Profiling surfactants in laundry detergents

For more information: [Analysis of two laundry detergents](#)





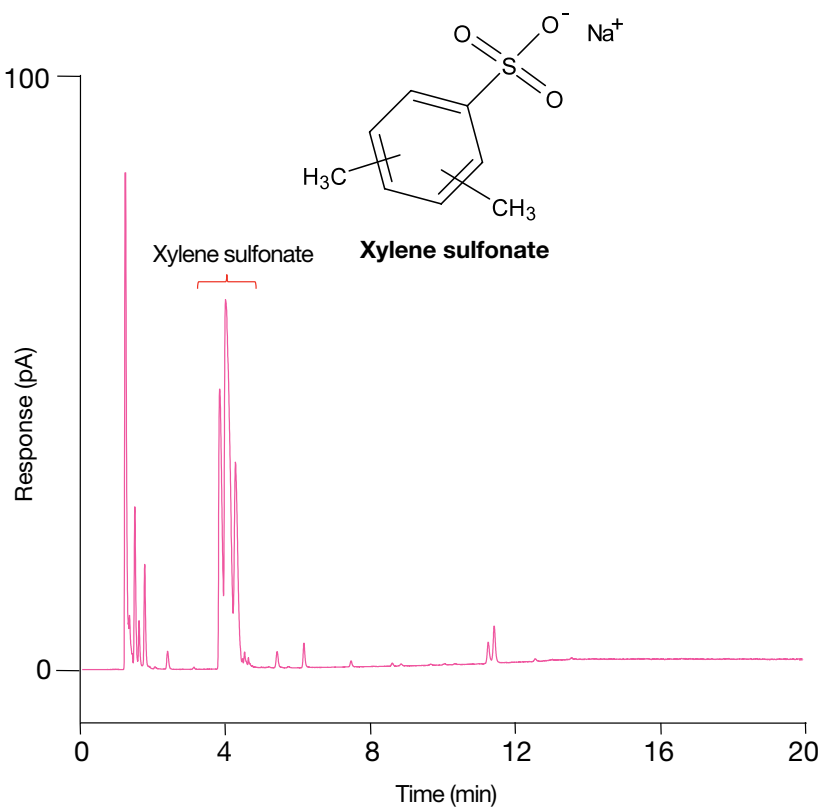
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Xylene sulfonate in foaming liquid hand soap

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μm, 3.0 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 °C
Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase B: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 1 μL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	25	75
0	25	75
10	80	20
20	80	20

While various surfactants are used in liquid hand soaps, xylene sulfonate, a [highly hydrophilic hydrotrope](#), is the main component in a high-foaming liquid hand soap.



Profiling surfactants in foaming hand soap

For more information: [Analysis of liquid hand soap](#)



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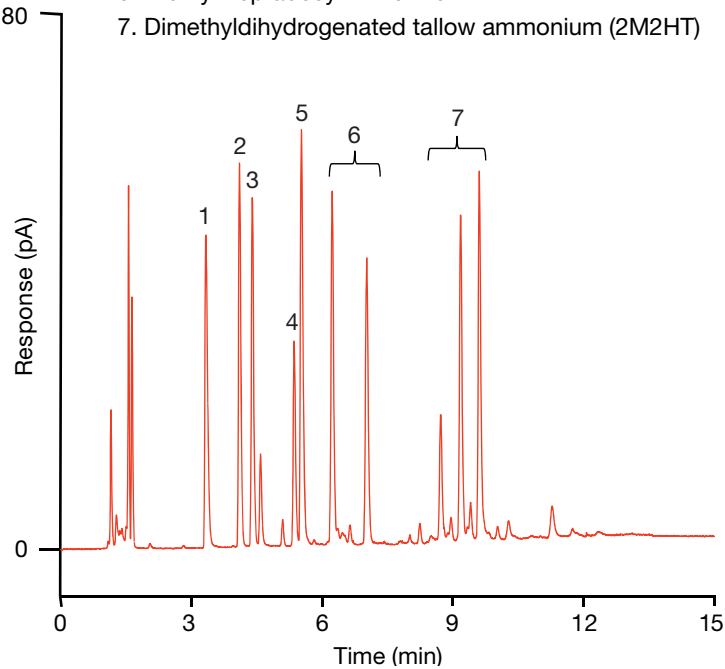


Profiling different cationic surfactants

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 5 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	65	35
0	65	35
8	15	85
15	15	85

- Peaks: (200–400 μ g/mL each)
- 1. Lauryl pyridinium
 - 2. Lauryldimethylbenzyl ammonium
 - 3. Octylphenoxyethoxyethyl-dimethylbenzyl ammonium
 - 4. Cetyltrimethylammonium
 - 5. Cetylpyridinium
 - 6. Diethyl heptadecyl imizolinium
 - 7. Dimethyldihydrogenated tallow ammonium (2M2HT)



High selectivity screening of different cationic surfactants

For more information: [Analysis of cationic surfactants](#)



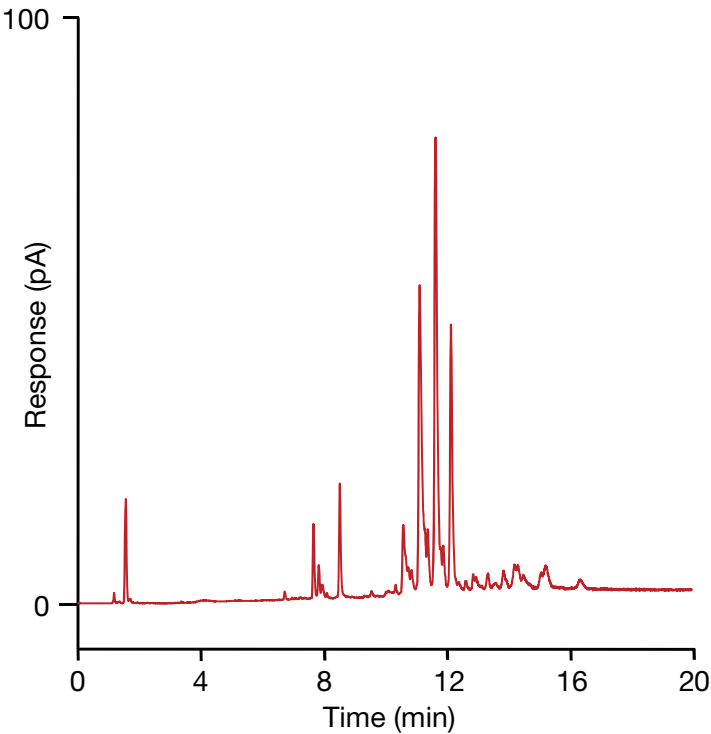
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Fabric softener

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.0
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 1 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-10	70	30
0	70	30
10	15	85
20	15	85



Profiling cationic surfactants in fabric softener

For more information: [Analysis of fabric softner](#)



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Profiling different quaternary amines

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 2.1 \times 150 mmColumn temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C

Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2/Isopropanol (95:5 v/v)

Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile/Isopropanol (95:5 v/v)

Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min

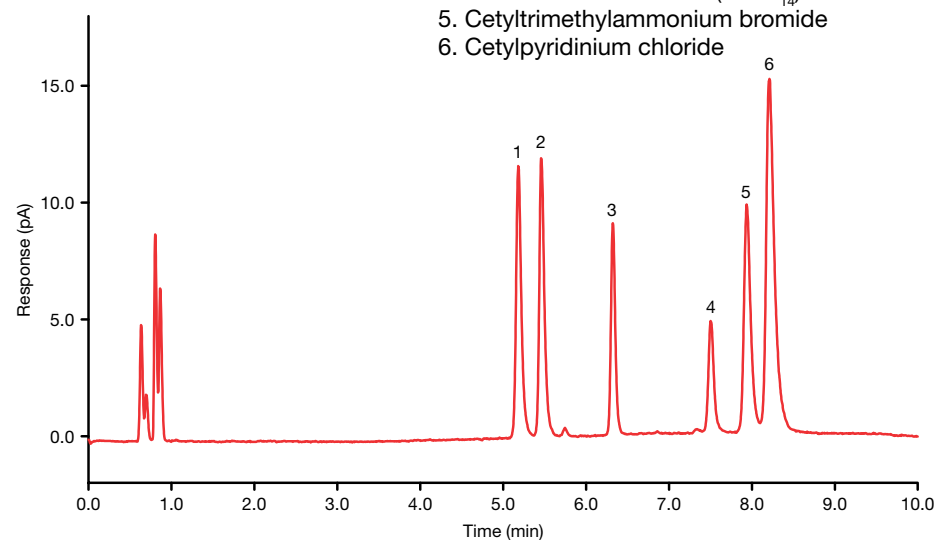
Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 2 μ L

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
0	80	20
0.5	80	20
4	60	40
7	80	20
10	80	20

- Peaks: 1. Dodecyltrimethylammonium bromide
 2. Dodecylpyridinium chloride
 3. Banzalkonium chloride ($n = C_{12}$)
 4. Benzalkonium chloride ($n = C_{14}$)
 5. Cetyltrimethylammonium bromide
 6. Cetylpyridinium chloride



Highly selective separation of a range of quaternary amines

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Quaternary amines – rapid analysis

HPLC column: Accucore Vanquish C18 column, 1.5 μ m, 2.1 \times 100 mm (P/N 17101-102130)

Column temperature: 40 $^{\circ}$ C

Mobile phase A: 0.1% aq Glacial Acetic Acid

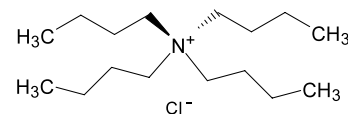
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile

Flow rate: See table

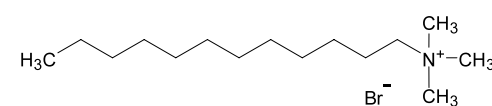
Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 2 μ L

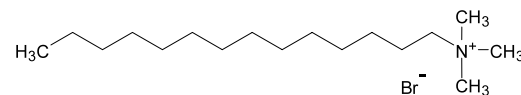
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector



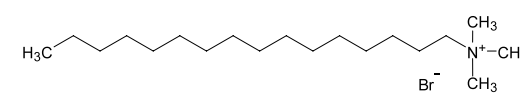
Tetrabutylammonium chloride



Dodecyltrimethylammonium (DTA) bromide

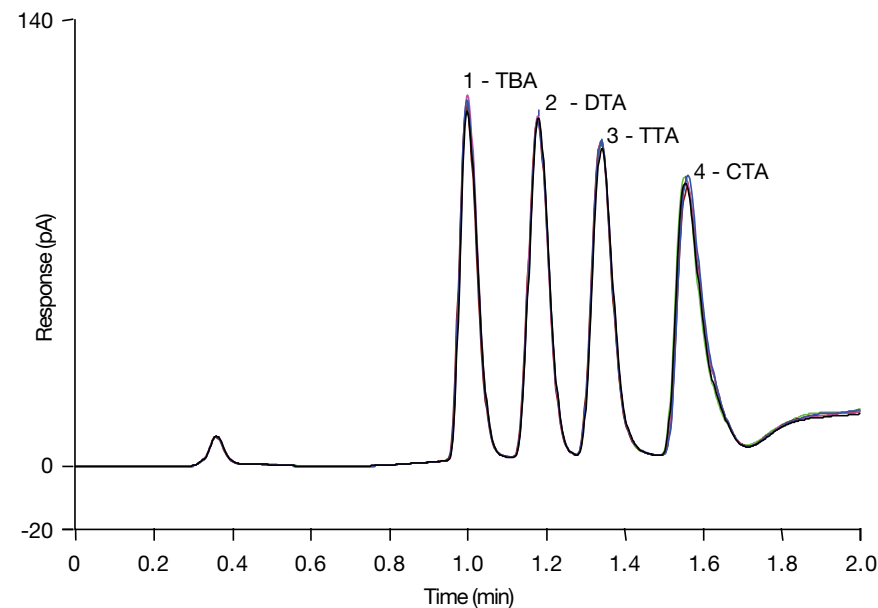


Tetradecyltrimethylammonium (TTA) bromide



Hexadecyltrimethylammonium (CTA) bromide

Time (min)	Flow rate (mL/min)	%A	%B
-1.5	0.50	90	10
0	0.60	90	10
0.2	0.50	30	70
0.8	0.47	25	75
0.9	0.45	0	100
1.0	0.45	0	100
1.2	0.5	90	10
2.0	0.5	90	10



Rapid analysis of four cationic surfactants (n=5)

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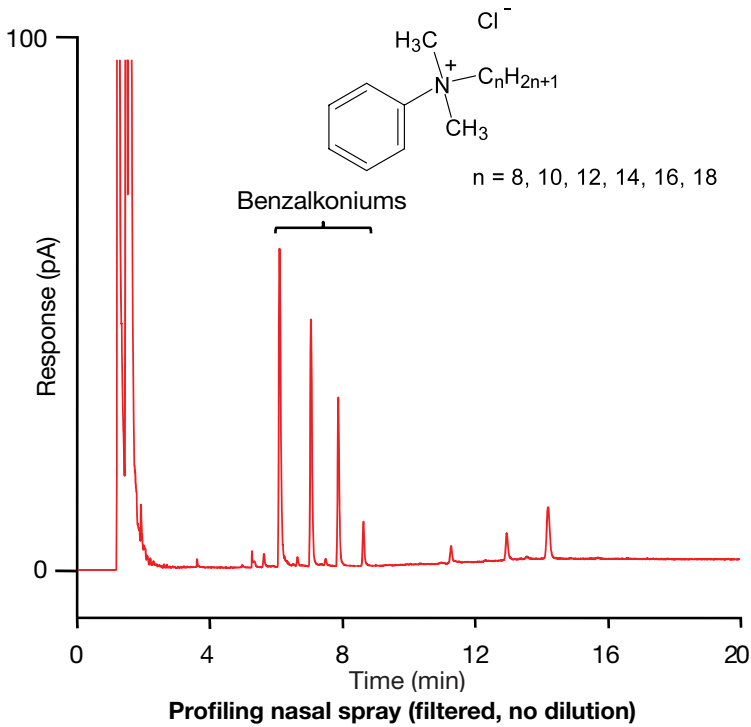
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Quaternary amines in nasal spray

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 5 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-10	75	25
0	75	25
10	20	80
20	20	80



For more information: [Analysis of benzalkonium in nasal spray](#)

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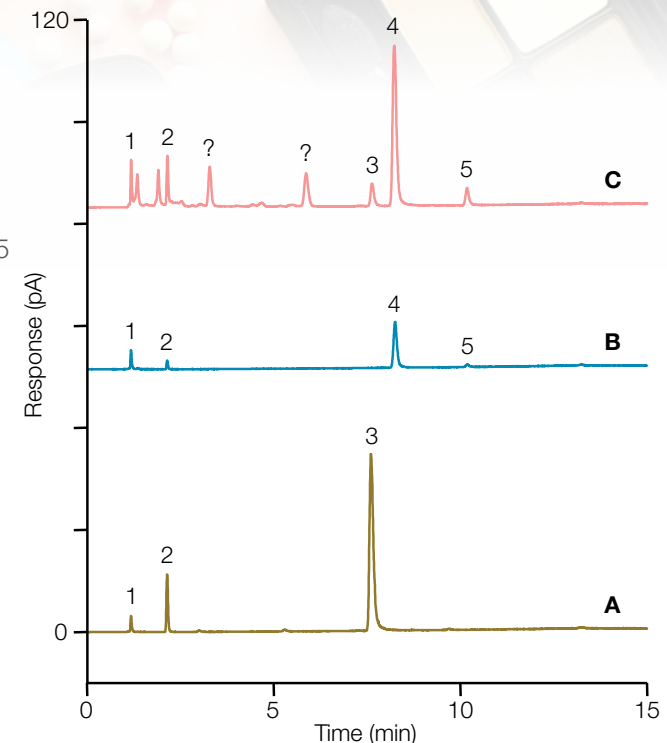


Cationic surfactants

Quaternary amines in cosmetics

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: Methanol
Mobile phase B: Water
Mobile phase C: 6.35 g/L Ammonium Formate, 6.00 g/L Formic Acid; pH 3.5
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	%C
-8	50	25	25
0	50	25	25
10	50	25	25
15	75	0	25
15	95	0	5
17	95	0	5



UHPLC-CAD analysis of: A) Arquad 16-29, 0.1% dilution in water; B) Variquat[®] PATC, 100 μ g/mL in water; C) Cosmetic Formulation, 10% dilution in water. 1. Sodium; 2. Chloride; 3. Hexadecyl trimethylammonium; 4. Hexadecylamidopropyl trimethylammonium; 5. Octadecylamidopropyl trimethylammonium



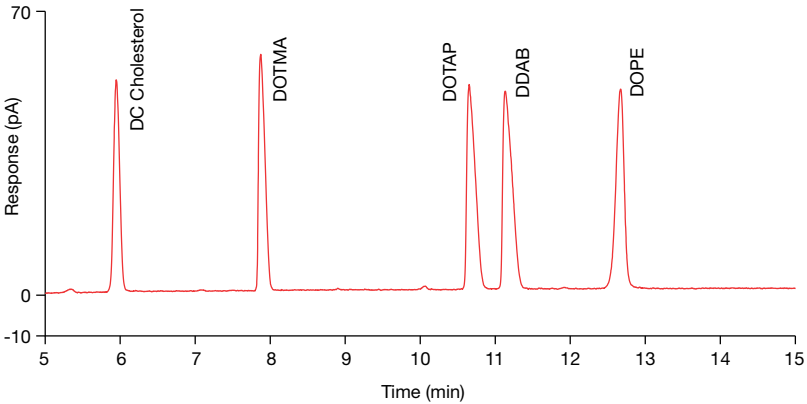
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Measurement of cationic lipid purity used as transfection agents for siRNA

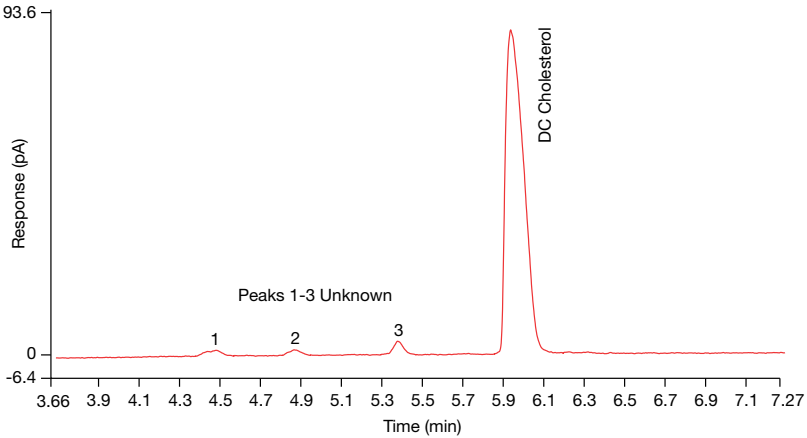
This HPLC-CAD method enables purity assessment and quantitation of several commonly used cationic lipids including, 3β-[N-(N',N'-dimethylaminoethane)-carbamoyl] cholesterol hydrochloride (DC-Chol), 1,2-dioleoyl-3-trimethylammonium-propane (chloride salt) (DOTAP), dimethyldioctadecylammonium bromide (DDAB), 1,2-di-O-octadecenyl-3-trimethylammonium propane (chloride salt) (DOTMA), and 1,2-dioleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine (DOPE).

HPLC column: C8, 2.7 μm, 4.6 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 45 °C
Mobile phase A: DI Water/Methanol/Trifluoroacetic Acid (600:400:1)
Mobile phase B: Ethanol/Tetrahydrofuran/Trifluoroacetic Acid (750:250:1)
Flow rate: 0.5 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2 μL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
0	55	45
20.0	30	70
20.1	55	45
25.0	55	45



Cationic lipids standards (2.5 μg on column)



DC-cholesterol standard was found to be 96.7% pure

For more information: [Purity of the liposomal biotherapeutic delivery compound](#)



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Zwitterionic surfactants

Lecithin (egg)

General method for the measurement of different phospholipids.

HPLC column: Thermo Scientific™ Hypersil™ silica, 5 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm

Column temperature: 50 $^{\circ}$ C

Mobile phase A: 0.5% Diethylamine Formate pH 3.0

Mobile phase B: Isopropanol

Mobile phase C: iso-Octane

Flow rate: See table

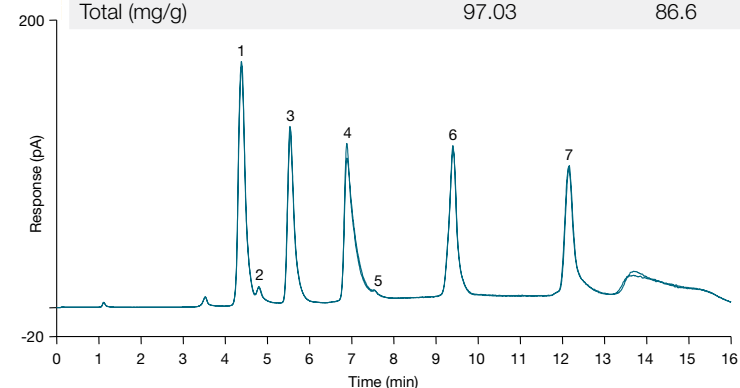
Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 2–10 μ L

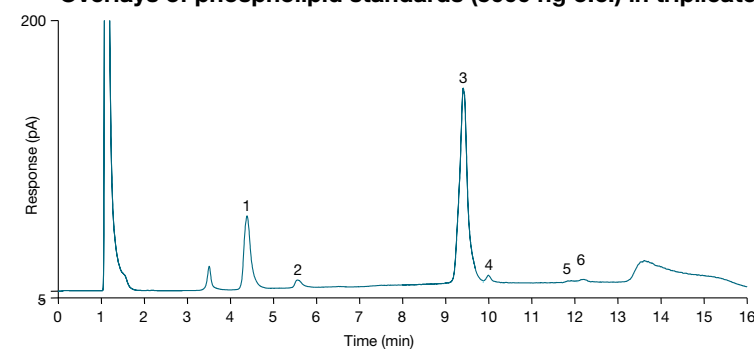
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	Flow rate (mL/min)	%A	%B	%C
-4.0	0.8	1	64	35
-0.5	0.8	1	64	35
-0.2	0.2	1	64	35
0.0	0.2	1	64	35
0.1	0.8	1	64	35
2.0	0.8	4	61	35
7.0	0.8	10	60	30
13	0.8	10	60	30
14	0.8	1	64	35

Phospholipid (PL)	Literature (PL-%)	Found (PL-%)
Phosphatidyl-Ethanolamine (PE)	19.86	18.9
Phosphatidyl-Inositol (PI)	1.73	2.22
Phosphatidyl-Serine (PS)	0.0	0.0
Phosphatidyl-Choline (PC)	75.40	75.6
LysoPhosphatidyl-Choline (LPC)	0.04	0.92
Total (mg/g)	97.03	86.6



Overlays of phospholipid standards (5000 ng o.c.) in triplicate



Analysis of egg yolk extract

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Lecithin (egg)

Methods for the measurement of triglycerides and phospholipids.

HPLC column: Acclaim C30, 5.0 μ m, 4.6 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 40 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase B: Isopropanol
Mobile phase C: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.0
Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min
Gradient: See tables
Injection volume: 2 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

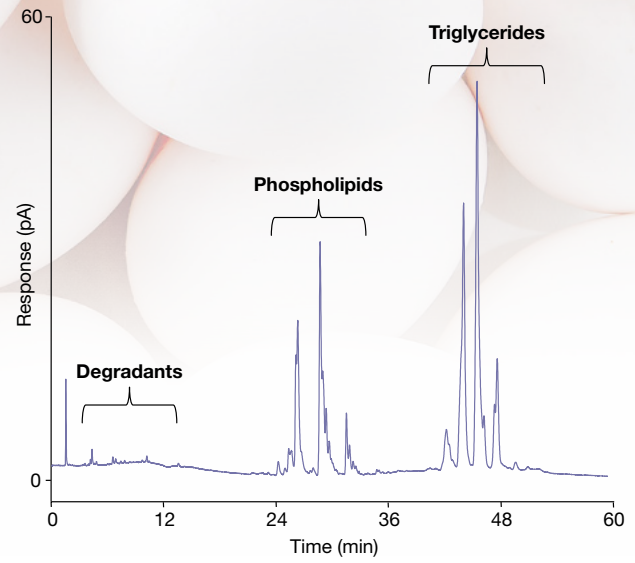
Gradient for upper figure

Time (min)	%A	%B	%C
-15	70	0	30
0	70	0	30
0.1	70	0	30
10	90	0	10
35	10	80	10
50	0	95	5
60	0	95	5

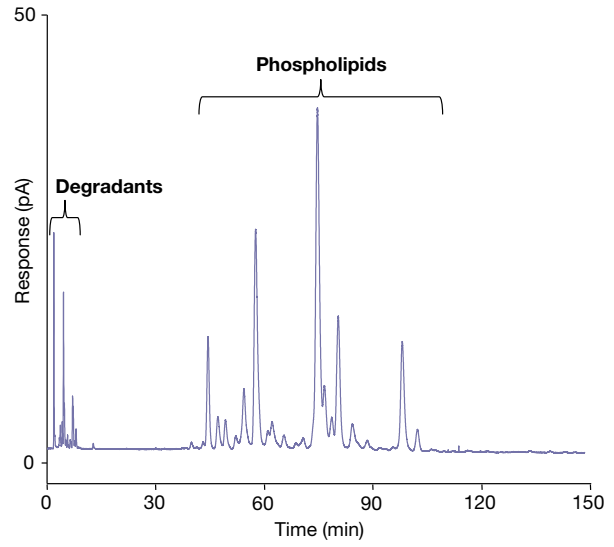
Gradient for lower figure

Time (min)	%A	%B	%C
-15	60	20	20
0	60	20	20
0.1	60	20	20
10	90	0	10
150	38	50	12
151	5	90	5
160	5	90	5

Zwitterionic surfactants



Analysis of phospholipids and triglycerides in egg lecithin – commercial grade (PL30S)



Profiling Phospholipids in Egg lecithin – Commercial Grade (PL100M)

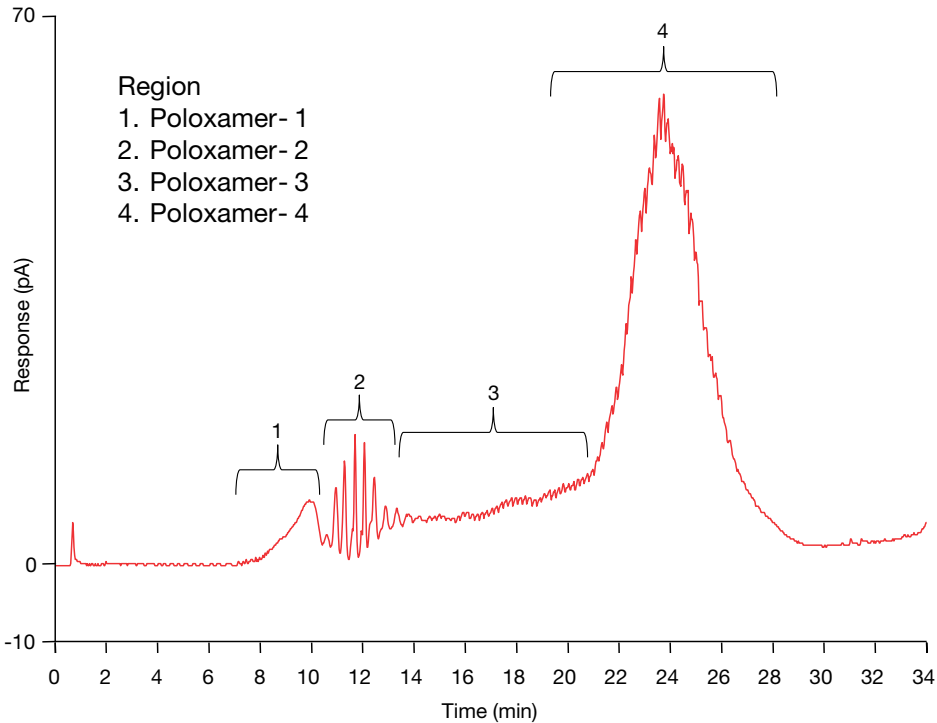
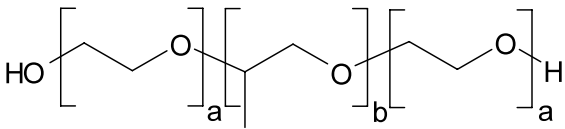


Poloxamers

HPLC column: Accucore Vanquish C18, 1.5 µm, 2.1 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 50 °C
Mobile phase A: Aqueous Acetonitrile 50% (v/v)
Mobile phase B: Tetrahydrofuran*
Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2 µL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-6	100	0
0	100	0
3	100	0
25	50	50
33	10	90
34	100	0

*BHT free



Characterization of poloxamer 407 (Pluronic F127)

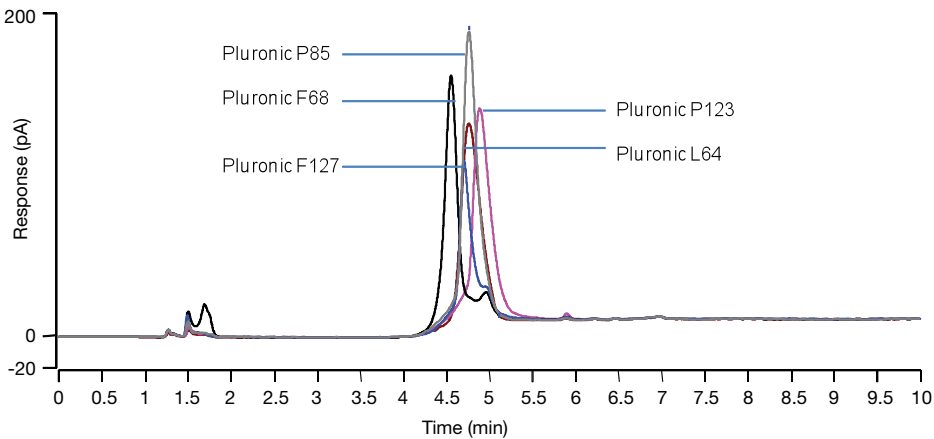
See Poster Note: [Characterization and Lot-to-Lot Variability of Complex Surfactants by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Charged Aerosol Detection](#)

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Poloxamers

HPLC column: Accucore Vanquish C18, 1.5 µm, 2.1 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 40 °C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Formate, pH 4.0
Mobile phase B: n-Propanol
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 40 µL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	Curve
-5	95	5	5
0	95	5	5
1	95	5	5
7	50	50	2
10	10	90	5
10	10	90	5



Analysis of different poloxamers. Each elutes as a single peak for more sensitive quantitation

See Poster Note: [Quantitation of Pluronic by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)

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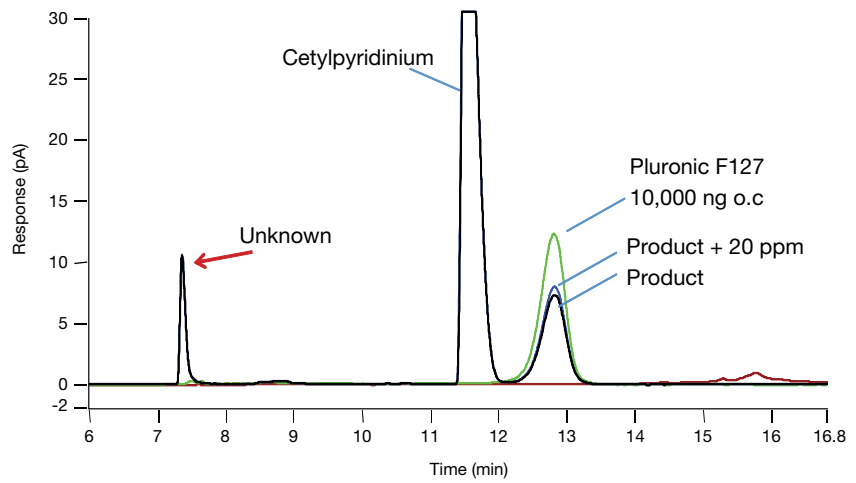


Nonionic surfactants

Poloxamer in mouthwash

HPLC column: Accucore Phenyl-1, 3 μ m, 2.1 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 50 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Formate, pH 4.0
Mobile phase B: n-Propanol/Acetone 1:1 (v/v)
Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 20 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	Curve
-5	95	5	5
0	95	5	5
1	95	5	5
7	50	50	2
10	10	90	5
10	10	90	5
19	10	90	5
19	95	5	5



HPLC chromatogram overlay of over-the-counter fluoride mouth rinse product, spiked and unspiked, and the poloxamer 407 standard at 10,000 ng o.c.

Sample	Theoretical amount (ng o.c., ppm)	Experimental amount found (ng o.c., ppm)	Spike recovery (%)
Fluoride mouth rinse product	—	5894, 294.7	—
Spiked + 10 ppm	6094, 304.7	6123, 306.2	114.5
Spiked + 20 ppm	6294, 314.7	6342, 317.1	112.0

Spike recovery results for poloxamer 407 in fluoride mouth rinse at two spike values.

See Poster Note: [Quantitation of Pluronic by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)



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Polyethylene glycol (PEG)

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 µm, 3.0 × 150 mm

Column temperature: 30 °C

Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.0

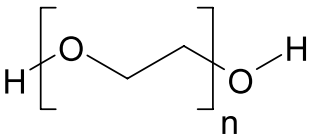
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile

Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min

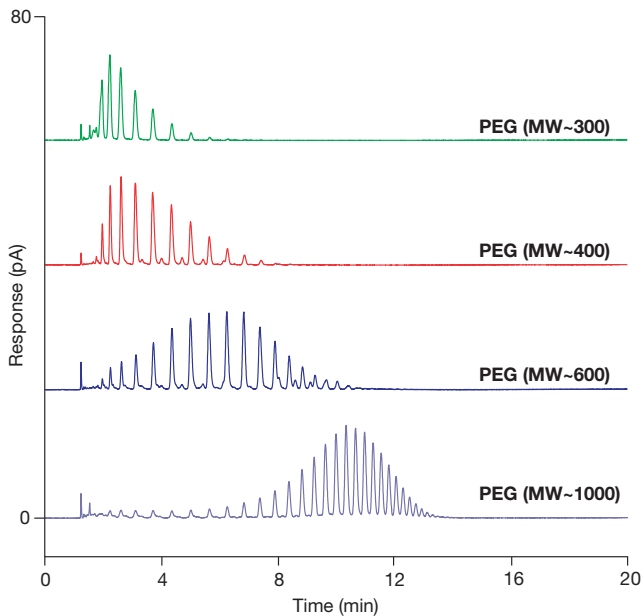
Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 5 µL

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector



Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	98	2
0	98	2
20	80	20



Characterization of different PEGs

Learn more: [HPLC charged aerosol detector analysis of polyethylene glycol \(PEG\)](#)



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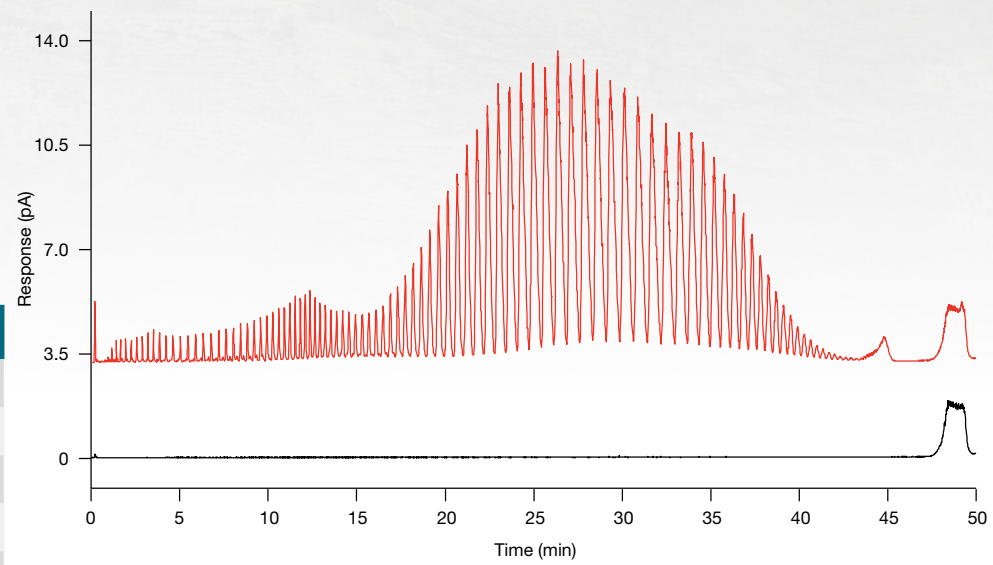


Nonionic surfactants

Polyethylene glycol – PEG 3000

HPLC column: UHPLC C18, 1.7 μ m, 2.1 \times 50 mm
Column temperature: 40 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: DI Water
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 20 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
0	94	6
1	88	12
3	83	17
12	74	26
17	72.5	27.5
25	71.5	28.5
32	70.5	29.5
43	67	33
47	50	50
48	20	80
49	20	80
50	94	6



Characterization of PEG 3000. Red - standard (29 μ g on column); black – distilled water blank

Learn more: [HPLC charged aerosol detector analysis of polyethylene glycol \(PEG-3000\)](#)



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PEGylation

HPLC column: Thermo Scientific™ MABPac™ RP, 4.0 μm, 3.0 × 100 mm

Column temperature: 60 °C, still air mode

Mobile phase A: 0.1% TFA in DI Water

Mobile phase B: 0.1% TFA in Acetonitrile

Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min

Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 1 μL

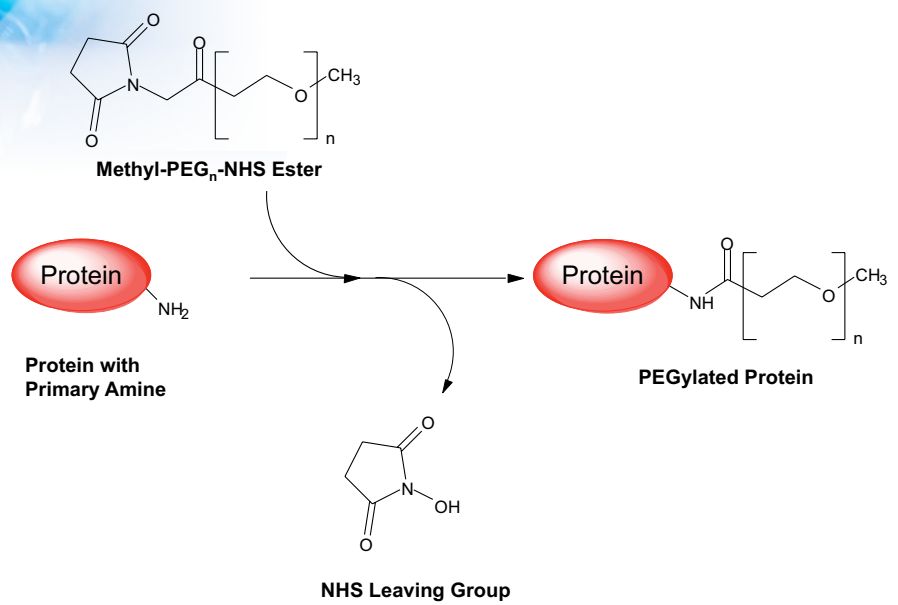
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-5	90	10
0	90	10
10	60	40
12	10	90
15	10	90

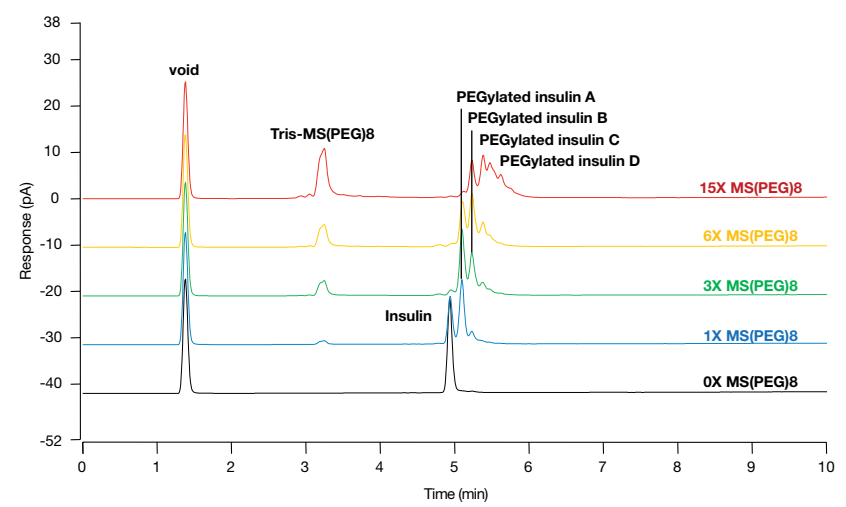
The HPLC-UV-CAD approach is able to quantify free PEG, partially PEGylated intermediates, and final PEGylated peptide/protein to optimize reaction conditions, assess the quality of final product, and study drug product stability.

See Poster Note: [Monitoring Peptide PEGylation by HPLC with Charged Aerosol Detection](#)

Nonionic surfactants



Reaction of The PEGylation Agent MS(PEG)8 with the primary amine of a peptide or protein



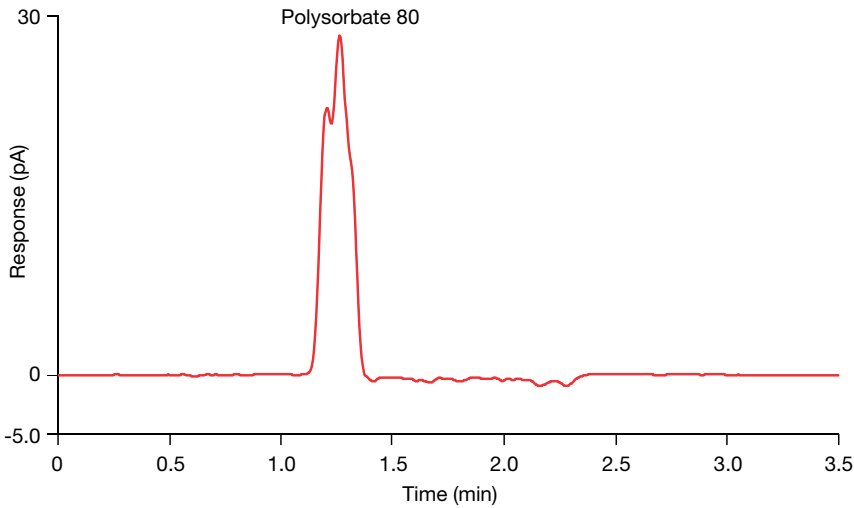
Insulin PEGylation reactions monitored by UHPLC-UV-CAD

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Polysorbates – quantification

HPLC column: Thermo Scientific™ Betasil™ C1, 5 μm, 3.0 × 100 mm
Column temperature: 30 °C, still air mode
Mobile phase A: Deionized water
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile/Methanol/Trifluoroacetic Acid (28/70/2)
Flow rate: See table
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 5 μL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	Flow Rate (mL/min)	%A	%B
0	1.00	100	0
0.5	1.00	100	0
0.7	1.35	0	100
0.8	1.50	0	100
1.5	1.50	0	100
1.7	1.00	100	0
3.5	1.00	100	0



Elution of polysorbate 80 standard as a single peak for more sensitive quantitation

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Polysorbates – Material Characterization

HPLC column: Acclaim 300 C18, 3 µm, 4.6 × 150 mm

Column temperature: 30 °C

Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile/Methanol/DI Water/Trifluoroacetic Acid (8/2/90/0.1)

Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile/Methanol/DI Water/Trifluoroacetic Acid (72/18/10/0.1)

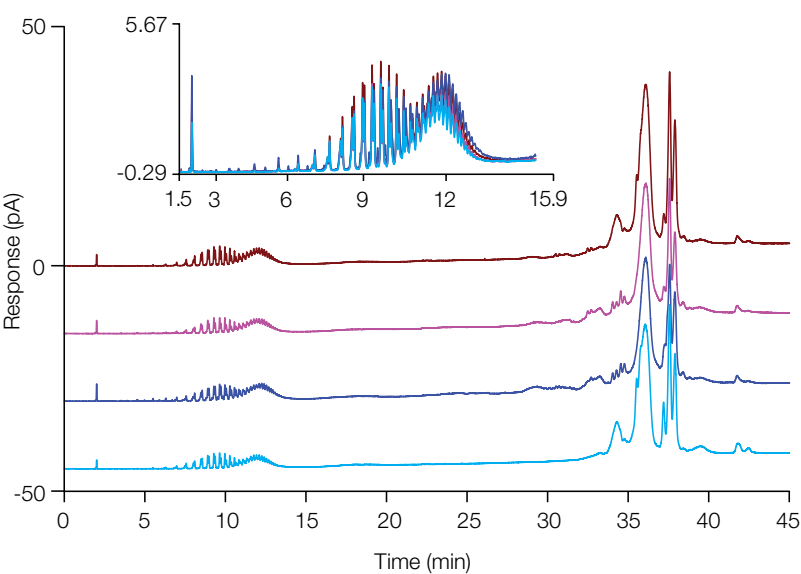
Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min

Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 2 µL

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
0	100	0
1	100	0
33	0	100
57	0	100
59	0	100
64	100	0



Determination of lot-to-lot variability. Stacked plot of four commercially available polysorbate 80 products. (Inset - low molecular weight components overlaid).

Download Poster Note: Evaluation of Methods for the Characterization and Quantification of Polysorbates and Impurities along with other Surfactants and Emulsifiers used in the Food and Pharmaceutical Industries

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Polysorbates – Polysorbate 80 fatty acid analysis

HPLC column: Core-shell C18, 2.6 µm, 2.1 × 100 mm

Column temperature: 25 °C, still air mode

Mobile phase A: 0.05% (v/v) Formic Acid in DI Water

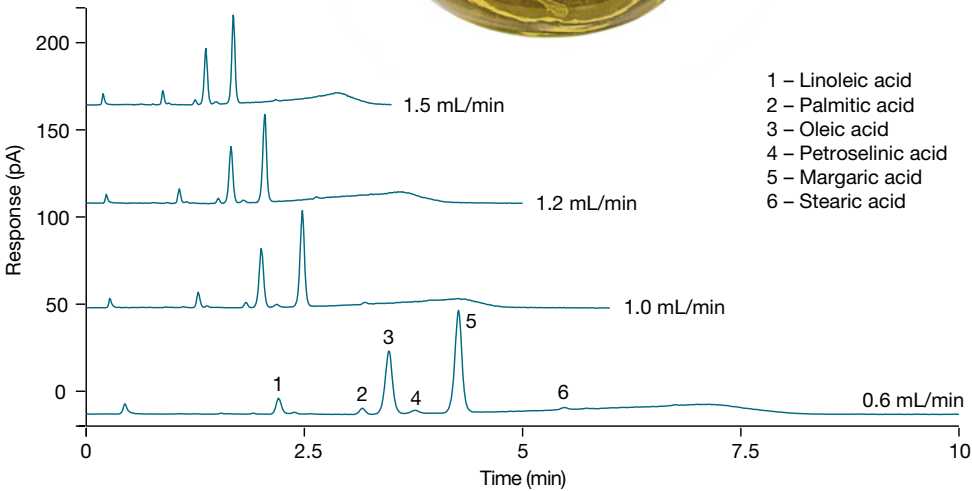
Mobile phase B: 0.05% (v/v) Formic Acid in Acetonitrile

Flow rate: 0.6–1.5 mL/min

Gradient: See table

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
0	25	75
0.8	25	75
2.5	15	85
3.0	15	85
3.5	25	75
4.5	25	75



We are grateful to Professor Dr. U. Holzgrabe (University of Würzburg) for providing this figure.

Chromatographic separation of different fatty acids found in polysorbate 80 hydrolysates using different flow rates. 1) linoleic acid; 2) palmitic acid; 3) oleic acid; 4) petroselinic acid; 5) margaric acid; and 6) stearic acid

See Poster Note: [Fatty Acid Analysis in Polysorbate 80 by UHPLC-CAD](#)

Refer to article: [Influence of charged aerosol detector instrument setting on the ultra-high-performance liquid chromatography analysis of fatty acids in polysorbate 80](#)



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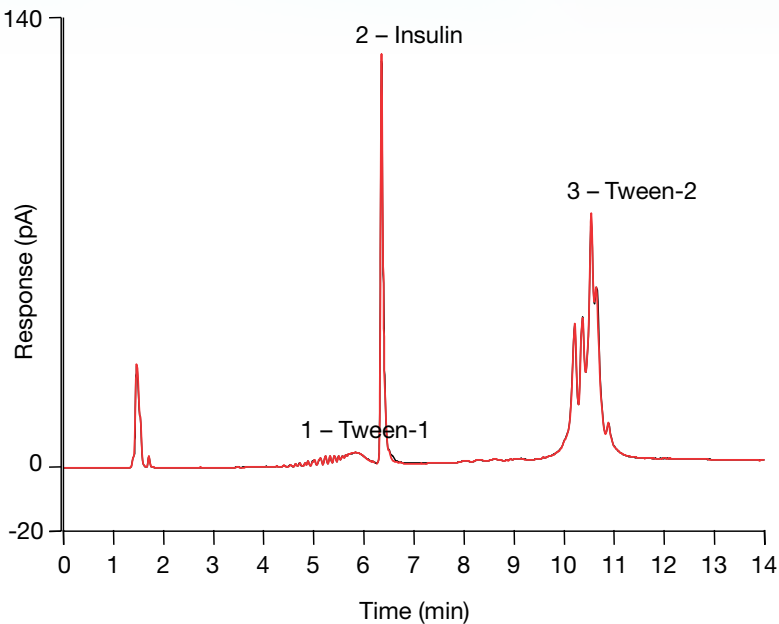


Polysorbates – Polysorbate 80 and insulin in a biopharmaceutical formulation

HPLC column: Accucore 150-C4, 2.6 µm, 3 × 100 mm
Column temperature: 50 °C
Mobile phase A: 0.1% TFA
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile, 0.1 v/v-% Trifluoroacetic Acid
Mobile phase C: n-Propanol/Tetrahydrofuran* (80:20)
Flow rate: 0.5 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 20 µL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	%C
-5	90	10	0
0	90	10	0
7	25	75	0
7.1	0	0	100
12	0	0	100
13	0	100	0
14	90	10	0

*BHT free



Simultaneous determination of peptide and surfactant in biopharmaceutical formulation

For more information: [HPLC-CAD analysis of polysorbate 80 and insulin in a biopharmaceutical formulation](#)



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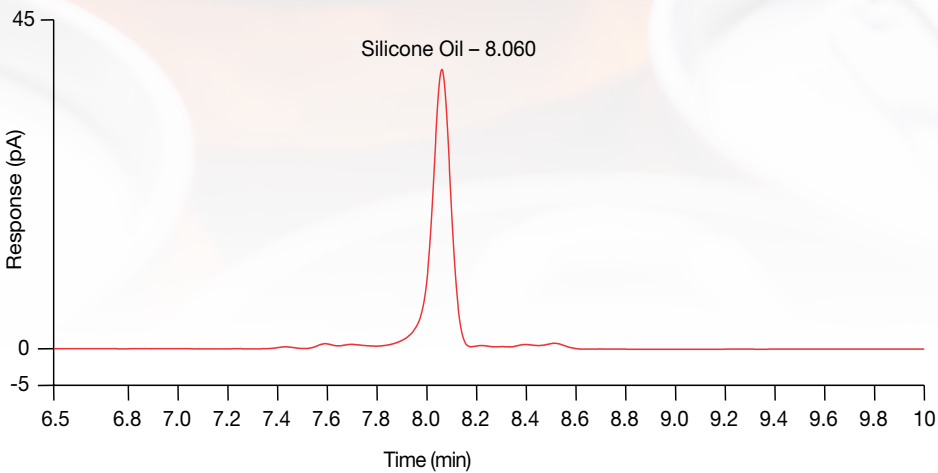
Peer review journal references

Silicones – quantitation

HPLC column: Accucore C18, 2.6 µm, 3.0 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 40 °C
Mobile phase A: 0.5% Formic Acid/Acetonitrile/Tetrahydrofuran* (35:35:30)
Mobile phase B: Tetrahydrofuran*
Flow rate: See table
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2–10 µL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	Flow Rate (mL/min)	%A	%B
-5.0	0.6	100	0
-0.2	0.6	100	0
-0.1	0.3	100	0
0.0	0.3	100	0
0.5	0.6	100	0
4.0	0.6	100	0
6.0	0.6	0	100
8.0	0.6	0	100
10.0	1.0	0	100
12.0	1.0	50	50
14.0	0.6	100	0

*BHT free



Elution of silicone standard as a single peak for more sensitive quantitation

See Poster Note: Analysis of Silicone Oils by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection



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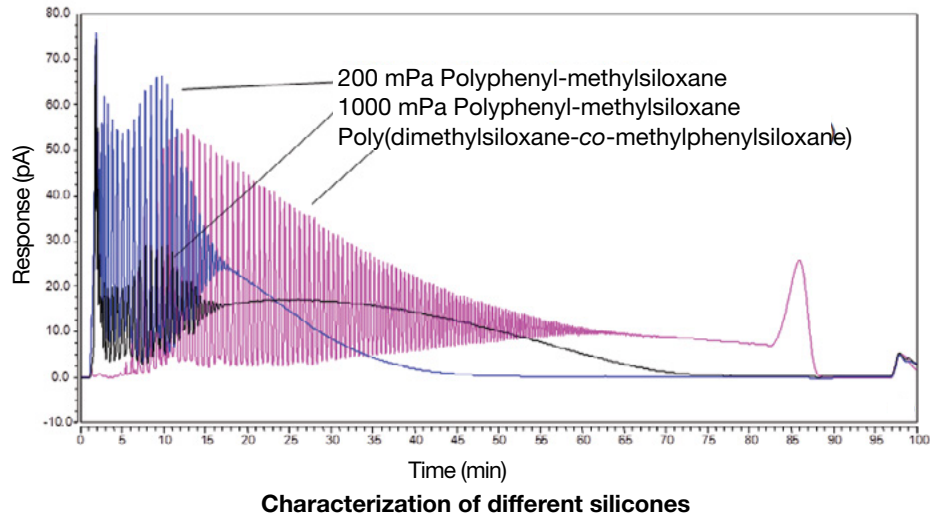
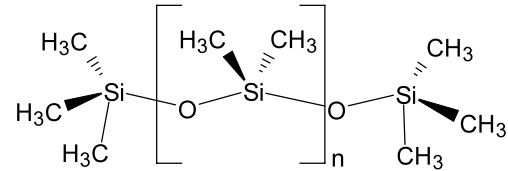


Silicones – profiling

HPLC column: Accucore C18, 2.6 μm, 3.0 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 40 °C
Mobile phase A: Methanol
Mobile phase B: n-Propanol
Flow rate: 0.5 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 2–10 μL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	Curve
-10	100	10	5
0	100	10	5
80	15	85	3
85	0	100	5
95	0	100	5
95	100	0	5
100	100	0	5

Nonionic surfactants



See Poster Note: [Analysis of Silicone Oils by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)



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SPAN – profiling

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 µm, 3.0 × 150 mm

Column temperature: 30 °C

Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.4

Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile/Methanol/Tetrahydrofuran/Acetic Acid (500:375:125:4)

Flow rate: 0.8 mL/min

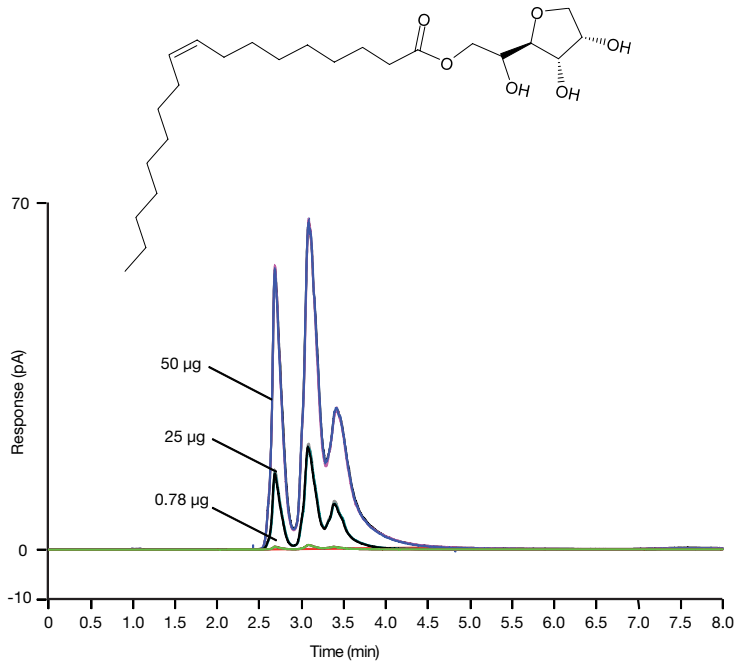
Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 10 µL

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	Compound	Span #	E#	FDA-listed (USA)*
-5	90	10	Sorbitan monolaurate	20	493	
0	90	10	Sorbitan monopalmitate	40	495	
5	10	90	Sorbitan monostearate	60	491	✓
8	5	95	Sorbitan tristearate	65	492	
8	90	10	Sorbitan monooleate	80	494	✓
			Sorbitan sesquioleate	83	—	
			Sorbitan trioleate	85	—	

Spans approved for use in foods and beverages
*Substances Added to Food (FDA)



Analysis of Span 80 standard (each level in triplicate)

For more information: [HPLC charged aerosol detector analysis of sorbitan monooleate \(Span 80\)](#)

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Triton X-100: quantitation

HPLC column: Betasil C1, 5 μ m, 3.0 \times 100 mm

Column temperature: 30 °C, still air mode

Mobile phase A: Deionized water

Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile/Methanol/Trifluoroacetic Acid
(28/70/2)

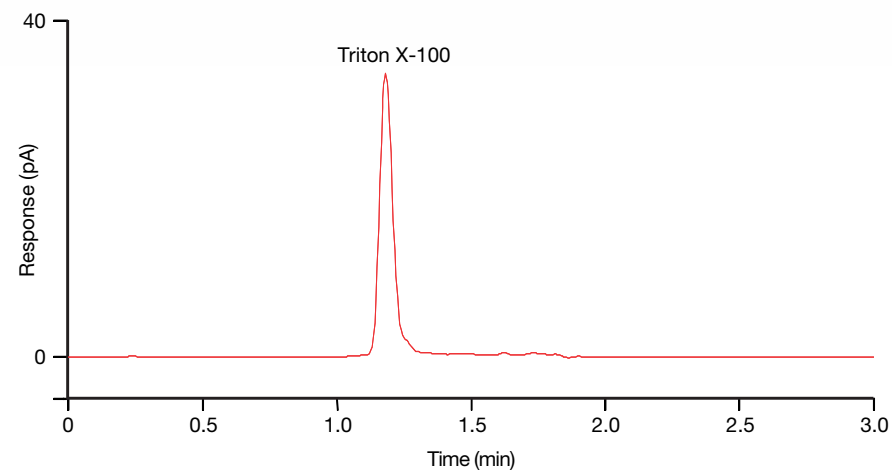
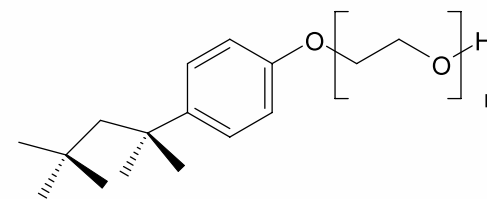
Flow rate: See table

Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 5 μ L

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	Flow Rate (mL/min)	%A	%B
0	1.00	100	0
0.5	1.00	100	0
0.7	1.35	0	100
0.8	1.50	0	100
1.5	1.50	0	100
1.7	1.00	100	0
3.5	1.00	100	0



Elution of Triton X-100 standard as a single peak for more sensitive quantitation

See Poster Note: [Application of Charged Aerosol HPLC Detection in Biopharmaceutical Analysis](#)

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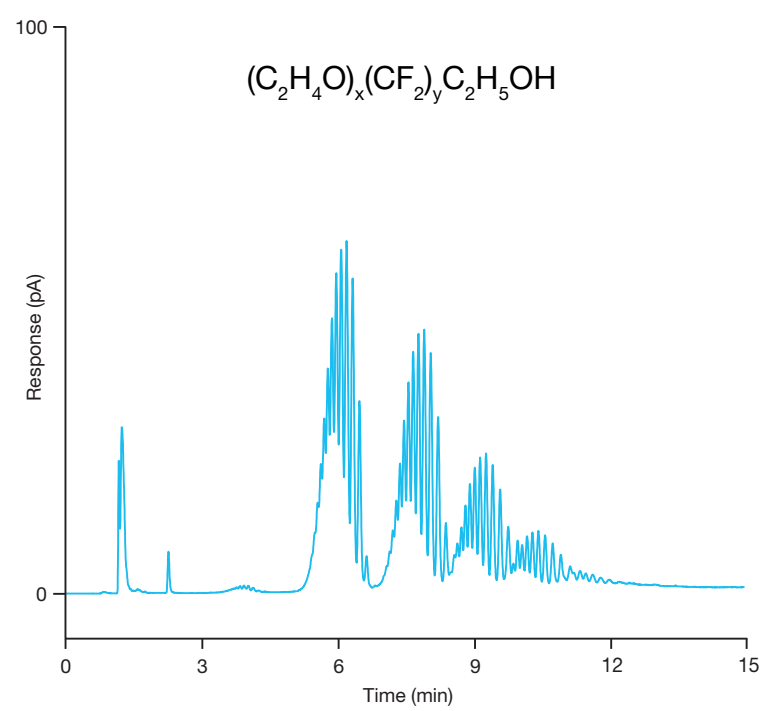
Nonionic surfactants



Zonyl® FSO Fluorosurfactant

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5.2
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 5 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	70	30
0	70	30
10	40	60
15	40	60



For more information: [Analysis of Zonyl FSO fluorosurfactant by HPLC-CAD](#)

Characterization of Zonyl FSO Fluorosurfactant



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The Acclaim Surfactant Plus column provides ideal selectivity for the simultaneous separation of anionic, nonionic, cationic, and amphoteric surfactants, whereas the C18 column fails to resolve them under the same or other conditions.

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm

Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C

Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile

Mobile phase B: 0.1 M Ammonium Acetate, pH 5

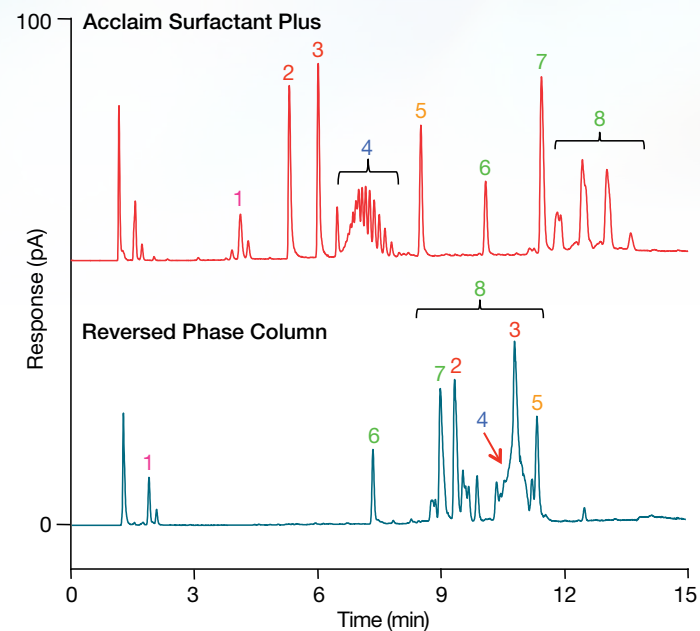
Flow rate: 0.60 mL/min

Gradient: See table

Injection volume: 5 μ L

Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-8	25	75
0	25	75
10	80	20
15	80	20



Peaks: (100–400 μ g/mL each)

1. Xylene sulfonate
2. Laurylpyridinium
3. Lauryldimethylbenzyl ammonium
4. Triton X-100
5. Cetyl betaine
6. Decyl sulfate
7. Dodecyl sulfate
8. Linear alkylbenzene sulfonate (LAS)



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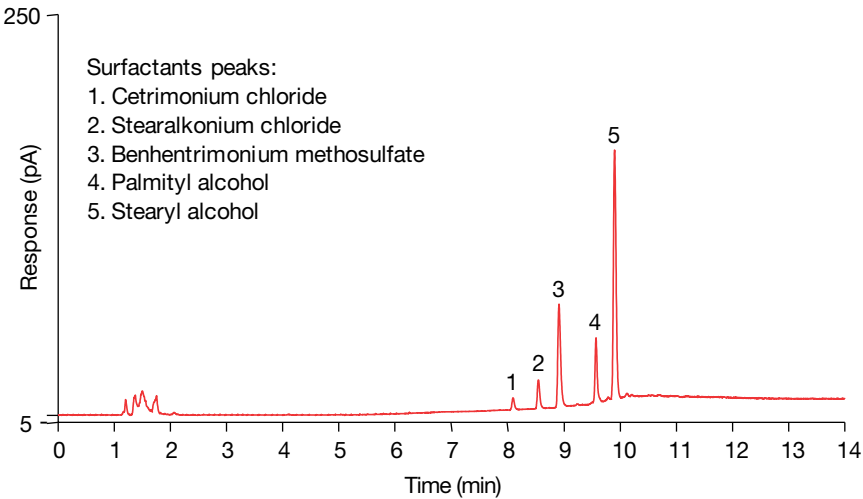
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HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 50 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5 in Acetonitrile/DI Water (1:1)
Mobile phase B: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5 in Acetonitrile/Methanol/DI Water (5:4:1)
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 5 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-5	95	5
0	95	5
1	95	5
7	50	50
10	10	90
10	10	90
14	10	90



Download the Poster Note: [Quantitation of Surfactants by High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)





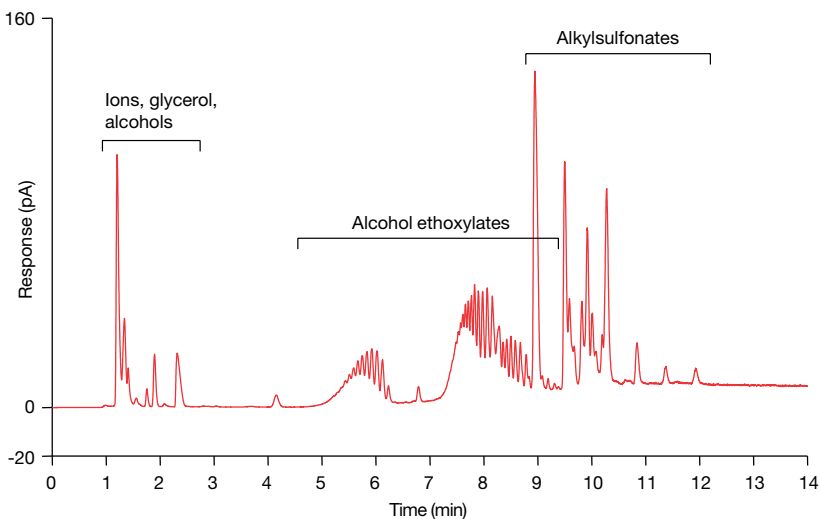
Multiple surfactants

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Laundry detergent

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3 μ m, 4.6 \times 250 mm
Column temperature: 30 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5 in DI Water/Acetonitrile (9:1)
Mobile phase B: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5 in Acetonitrile/Methanol/DI Water (4:5:1)
Flow Rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection Volume: 5.0 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B
-5	80	20
0	80	20
2	80	20
12	10	90
17	10	90



See Poster Note: [Direct Analysis of Surfactants using HPLC with Charged Aerosol Detection](#)



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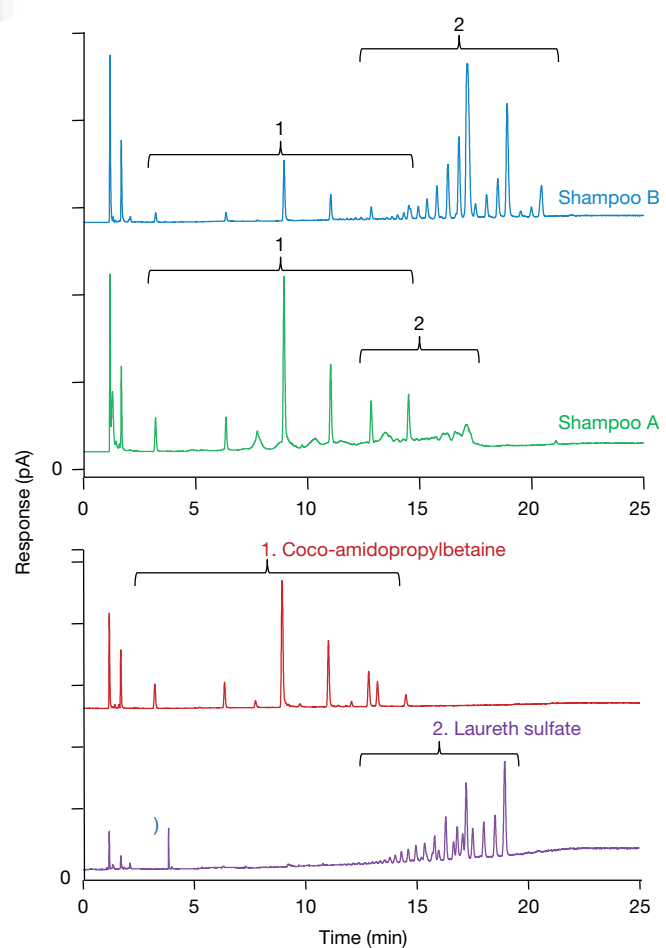


Multiple surfactants

Shampoo

HPLC column: Acclaim Surfactant Plus, 3.0 μ m, 3.0 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 25 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase B: 100 mM Ammonium Acetate, pH 5
Mobile phase C: DI Water
Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min
Gradient: See table
Injection volume: 1 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	%A	%B	%C
-7	20	50	30
0	20	50	30
18	80	20	0
25	80	20	0



For more information: [Improved analysis of laureth sulfate and coco-amidopropyl betaine in shampoos by HPLC-CAD](#)

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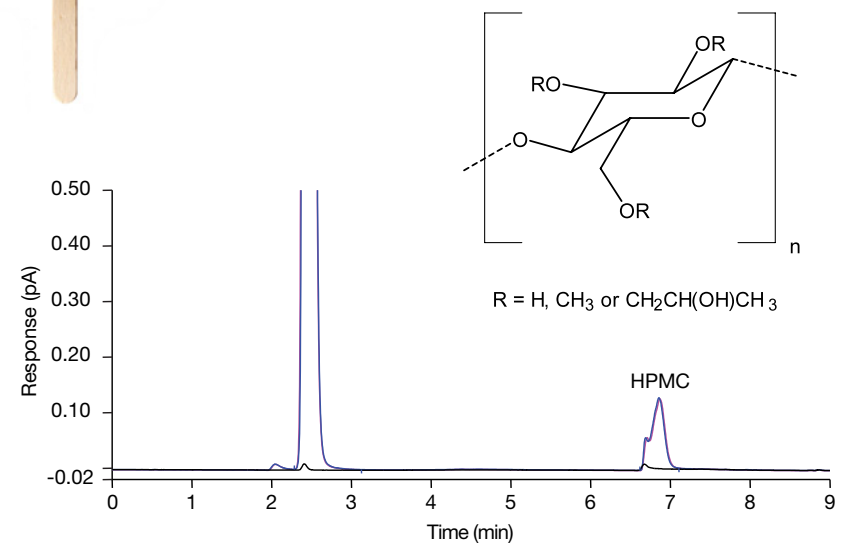


Emulsifier

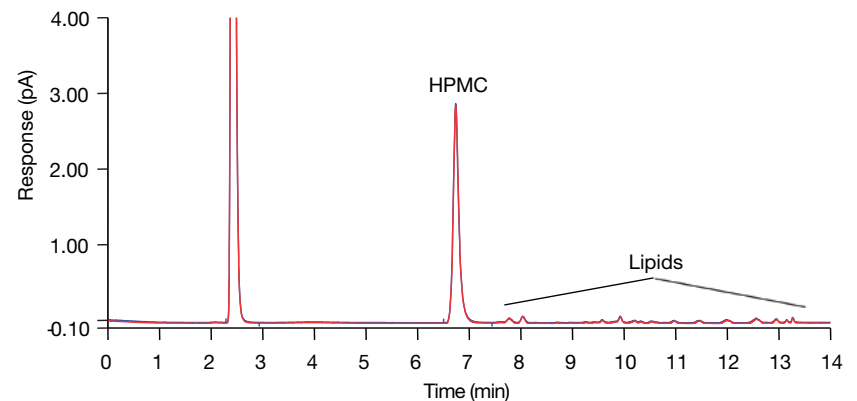
Hypromellose (HPMC)

HPLC column: Non-porous C18, 2.0 μ m, 4.6 \times 150 mm
Column temperature: 40 $^{\circ}$ C
Mobile phase A: Deionized Water
Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile
Mobile phase C: Isopropanol
Gradient: See poster note
Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min
Injection volume: 2–10 μ L
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Sample	HPMC found (mass-%)	Claimed Amount
Popsicle	0.05	<1%
Dairy Product	0.21	<1%



Measurement of HPMC in a popsicle



Measurement of HPMC in a dairy product using extended gradient

See Poster Note: [Analysis of Emulsifiers in Foods by HPLC and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)





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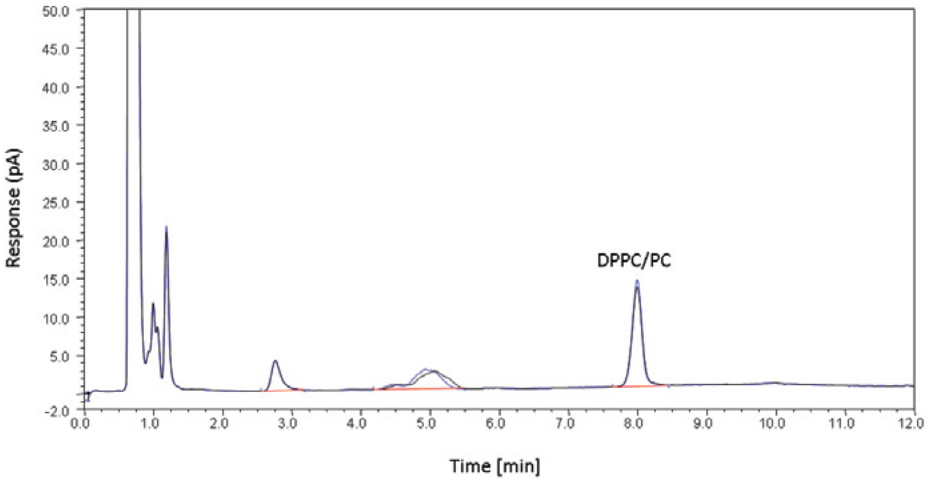
Lecithin

HPLC column: Hypersil silica, 5 µm, 3.0 × 150 mm
Column temperature: 50 °C
Mobile phase A: DI Water
Mobile phase B: Isopropanol
Mobile phase C: Iso-octane
Flow rate: See table
Gradient: See table
Injection Volume: 2–10 µL
Detection: Charged Aerosol Detector

Time (min)	Flow rate (mL/min)	%A	%B	%C
-2.0	1.5	2	63	35
-0.5	1.5	2	63	35
-0.2	0.2	2	63	35
0.0	0.2	2	63	35
0.2	1.5	7	58	35
7.0	1.5	11	54	35
11	1.5	11	54	35
12	1.5	2	63	35

This note presents a general method for the measurement of phosphatidylcholine (PC) as dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine (DPPC), in various matrices. Results match the American Oil Chemists’ official method (Ja 7c-07) for phospholipids.

Sample	Phosphotidyl-choline (mass-%)	Claim amount	% of target
Lecithin, laboratory grade	47.7	N/A	N/A
Granola bar	0.05	<2%	N/A
Krill oil	34.1	34.9	97.7



Analysis of lecithin in a granola bar extract

See Poster Note: [Analysis of Emulsifiers in Foods by HPLC and Corona Charged Aerosol Detection](#)



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Defoaming agent

A defoamer or an anti-foaming agent is a chemical additive that reduces and hinders the formation of foam. Commonly used agents are insoluble oils, polydimethylsiloxanes and other silicones, certain alcohols, stearates, and glycols. Anti-foaming agents have many practical uses: they are added to detergents to reduce foaming that might decrease the action of the detergent (e.g., dishwasher detergents have to be low foaming for the dishwasher to work properly); they are an ingredient in food (to curb effusion or effervescence in preparation or serving); or they are used in the cooking process (e.g., silicone oil is also added to cooking oil to prevent foaming in deep-frying). Defoamers are used in many industrial processes and products: paper, paint, industrial wastewater treatment, oil drilling, machine tool industry, oils, cutting tools, hydraulics, wood pulp, etc. Anti-foaming agents are also sold as over-the-counter medications (containing the drug simethicone) to relieve bloating.

Detergent

A detergent contains a surfactant (or a mixture of surfactants) used for its cleaning properties. For aqueous-based systems, detergents emulsify oils, hold dirt in suspension, and act as wetting agents. Unlike soap, they do not form a scum with salts from hard water. Most commonly, the term “detergent” refers specifically to laundry detergent or dish detergent, as opposed to hand soap or other types of cleaning agents. The formulations can be complex, reflecting the diverse demands of the application and the highly competitive consumer market.

Some detergents are designed to be used in oil-based systems where they hold insoluble foreign matter in suspension, e.g., in lubricating oils and dry-cleaning solvents. Detergents are used to prevent carburetor and fuel injector fouling.

Dispersant

A dispersant or a dispersing agent is either a non-surface active polymer or surfactant(s) added to a suspension to improve the separation of particles and to prevent settling or clumping. Dispersants maintain contaminants in suspension. Dispersants are used in many industries:

- They are added to automotive engine oils to prevent the accumulation of varnish like deposits on the cylinder walls, and to gasoline to prevent the buildup of gummy residues.
- They are used as an oil drilling aid to break up solids into fine particles, or liquids into droplets. As foam drilling fluids they are used to disperse foam bubbles into the air or gas.
- They can be used to dissipate oil slicks.
- They are used to prevent formation of biofouling or biofilms in industrial processes. It is also possible to disperse bacterial slime and increase the efficiency of biocides.

Emulsifier

An emulsifier (also known as an "emulgent") is a substance that stabilizes an emulsion. One class of emulsifier is the surfactants. The terms surfactant and emulsifier are often used interchangeably. However, this tends to be industry specific with food chemists preferring to use emulsifier while industrial chemists favor the use of the term surfactant. Depending upon their structure, emulsifiers can show differences in their solubility in water and oil. Emulsifiers that are more soluble in water (and conversely, less soluble in oil) will generally form oil-in-water emulsions (e.g., crema [foam] in espresso, mayonnaise and hollandaise sauces, homogenized milk, vinaigrette) while emulsifiers that are more soluble in oil will form water-in-oil emulsions (e.g., butter and margarine). Examples of food emulsifiers include egg yolk (in which the main emulsifying agent is lecithin) and soy lecithin.

Foaming agents

Some surfactants are foaming agents. When present in small amounts, they reduce the surface tension of a liquid thereby facilitating formation of a foam. These agents include sodium laureth sulfate (or sodium lauryl ether sulfate), sodium lauryl sulfate (or sodium dodecyl sulfate) and ammonium lauryl sulfate (ALS).



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Highly hydrophilic hydrotropes

A hydrotrope is a compound that solubilizes hydrophobic compounds in aqueous solutions. Examples include: sodium naphthalene sulfonate, xylene sulfonate, and sodium lauryl ether sulfate. Like surfactants, their structure consists of a hydrophilic part and a hydrophobic part, but the latter is generally too small to cause spontaneous self-aggregation. Highly hydrophilic hydrotropes enhance the solubility of other organics in water. Without them it would be impossible to incorporate sufficient quantities of surfactants, phosphates and solvents into detergent formulations.

Hypromellose

Hypromellose (E464) (hydroxypropyl methylcellulose [HPMC]), is a semisynthetic, inert polymer used as an emulsifier, thickening, and suspending agent. It has a wide variety of commercial uses. In foods, it is often used to thicken dairy products and help improve flavor characteristics. It is used as an alternative to animal gelatin. In the pharmaceutical industry it is used as an excipient, control release agent, binder, and in coatings. Other uses include in construction materials (tile adhesives, cement renders, paints, and coatings), cosmetics, detergents and cleaners, and ophthalmic applications (eye drops, contact lenses).

Laureth sulfate

Laureth sulfate (alkyl polyethoxy sulfate or lauryl ether sulfate), not to be confused with lauryl sulfate (sodium dodecyl sulfate), is a popular class of surfactants featuring good water solubility, high foam, and good cleaning properties. Sodium laureth sulfates (SLES) are used in many personal care products such as shampoo and hand soap. Different grades feature various mixtures of C12, C14, and C16 alkyl chains with varying degrees of ethoxylation.

Lecithin

Lecithin (E322) is a general term used to describe any group of yellow brownish fatty substances occurring in animal and plant tissues and composed of a number of lipids (primarily phospholipids, e.g., phosphatidylcholine [PC], phosphatidylethanolamine [PE], and phosphatidylinositol [PI]). The composition of lecithin depends on the source, e.g., soybean lecithin contains 33–35% soybean oil, 19–21% PC, 8–20% PE and 20–21% PI. Lecithin is sometimes used to describe extracts high in PC.

Lecithin is used commercially in foods requiring a natural emulsifier or lubricant. It is commonly used as an emulsifier in chocolate and spray oils to prevent sticking. It promotes the homogeneous mixing of ingredients and improves shelf life for some products (e.g., it keeps cocoa and cocoa butter in candy from separating). In emulsions and fat spreads, it stabilizes the product and improves the texture of spreads.

PEGylation

It is an increasingly common practice to modify biotherapeutic peptides, proteins, and small molecules by covalently attaching chemical groups designed to enhance properties such as bioavailability, potency, or stability. One example of this is the PEGylation reaction that attaches hydrophilic polyethylene glycol moieties tailored to increase the drug's aqueous solubility and circulating half life. Chemists developing extended-life biotherapeutics need to measure free PEG, partially PEGylated intermediates, and final PEGylated peptide/protein to optimize reaction conditions, assess the quality of final product, and study drug product stability.

Polyethylene glycol

Polyethylene glycol (INS1521) is a polyether compound – a polymer of ethylene glycol. A number of PEGs exist based on molecular weight and geometry. PEG has many uses. In the food industry PEG is used as an anti-foaming agent, carrier, emulsifier, glazing agent, and thickener. PEG is used in cosmetics (e.g., skin creams), personal lubricants, and toothpastes. Macrogol is the international nonproprietary name for PEG when it is used in medicine, e.g., as laxatives. Macrogols are also attached to biopharmaceutical drugs (PEGylation) to slow down their degradation, increase their duration of action, and reduce immunogenicity.



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Poloxamers

These are nonionic surfactants. They are nonionic triblock copolymers composed of a central hydrophobic chain of polyoxypropylene flanked by two hydrophilic chains of polyoxyethylene. Poloxamers are known by the trade names Kolliphor, Pluronic, and Synperonic. Poloxamers are commonly used in industrial applications, cosmetics, and pharmaceuticals that have been evaluated for drug delivery applications.

Polysorbates

Polysorbates are oily liquids derived from ethoxylated sorbitan (formed from sorbitol) esterified with fatty acids. The number following polysorbate refers to the type of fatty acid associated with the polyoxyethylene sorbitan part of the molecule. Monolaurate is indicated by 20, monopalmitate is indicated by 40, monostearate by 60 and monooleate by 80. Common brand names include Alkest®, Canarcel®, Scattics, and Tween®.

Polysorbates are nonionic surfactants and emulsifiers and are used in large quantities throughout the food, cosmetic, and pharmaceutical industries. For example, polysorbate 80 is used as an emulsifier in foods, particularly in ice cream making the product smoother and easier to handle, as well as increasing its resistance to melting. In biopharmaceuticals, it prevents surface adsorption and stabilizes proteins against stress-induced aggregation, such as agitation and shear.

Because polysorbates have a significant demand across industries they are often produced in large lots with varying limits of impurities (peroxides, carbonyls, and metals) reported. The characterization and quantification of polysorbates is difficult because these compounds are heterogeneous mixtures with no chromophore. As a result, physical tests and testing for impurities are typically used for release criteria. While this testing is sufficient for the manufacturers to release quality material, it may not be sufficient for the end user. Because polysorbates are used in final formulations, in-depth characterization and determination of lot-to-lot variability is critical to both the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries.

siRNA

Short segments of RNA, called small interfering RNA (siRNA), are being investigated as novel approaches to treat numerous conditions including cancer, AIDS, diabetes, age-related macular degeneration, and hepatitis. To effectively penetrate the cell membrane, the RNA complex can be encapsulated with transfection reagents such as cationic lipid liposomes. As clinical trials proceed to final stages, quality control measurements of the purity and quantity of these cationic lipid delivery agents will be required.

Silicones

Silicone oils are polymeric organosilicon compounds with diverse chemical structures and many practical uses. One silicone - Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) is used as an anti-foaming agent in cooking oil and in a number of processed foods, fast food items, and sodas. Silicones are used industrially as lubricants and hydraulic fluids, in dashpots, wet type transformers, diffusion pumps, and in oil-filled heaters. In consumer products PDMS, also called dimethicone, is used as an antifoaming agent.

Shampoo, shower gels and hair conditioners

Shampoo formulations use blends of surfactants to produce the desired qualities. Many contain lauryl sulfate and coco-amidopropylbetaine. Anionic lauryl sulfate surfactants feature good water solubility, high foam, and good cleaning properties; typically they are mixtures of C12, C14, and C16 alkyl chains with varying degrees of ethoxylation. Zwitterionic coco-amidopropylbetaine has moderate cleaning properties and low irritation to mucous membranes.

Hair conditioners primarily use cationic surfactants sometimes in combination with nonionic surfactants. The cationic surfactant is deposited onto the slightly negatively charged hair and acts as a lubricant.



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Spans

Sorbitan esters (also known as Spans) are nonionic surfactants that are derived from sorbitan – the precursor also used to produce polysorbates. A wide variety of Spans are commercially available .The number following a Span refers to the type of fatty acid associated with the sorbitan part of the molecule, e.g., Span 80 (sorbitan monooleate), Span 83 (sorbitan sesquioleate), and Span 85 (sorbitan trioleate).

Spans are used as emulsifying agents in the preparation of emulsions, creams and ointments for pharmaceutical, and cosmetic use. Spans are used as emulsifiers and stabilizers in food products. In the US, Span 60 and 80 are FDA-listed as food additives while in the EU the range is increased to include Span 20, 40, 60, 65, and 80.

Span is also an oil dispersant and is one of the components in Corexit® 9500 used to treat the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2013.

Wetting agents

Wetting agents are substances that reduce the surface tension of water to allow it to spread more easily. Many technological processes require control of liquid spreading over solid surfaces. By reducing the surface tension with surfactants, a non-wetting material can be made to become partially or completely wetting. Wetting is important in cleaning applications. For example, dish soap is a wetting agent.

Zonyl FSO fluorosurfactant

An ethoxylated nonionic fluorosurfactant that is sparingly water-soluble and gives extremely low aqueous surface tensions. As an additive to adhesives, paints, and coatings it provides superior weatherability, UV stability and resistance to soiling.



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