

SFC – A Versatile Tool in the Analysis and Purification of Pharmaceutical Compounds

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Table of Content

1. Introduction: The Separations group
2. SFC - Technical Aspects
 - a) SFC instruments
 - b) CO₂ supply system
 - c) Technical improvements of commercial instruments
3. Case Studies
 - a) Chiral analytical SFC-MS
 - b) Stability study using SFC-MS
 - c) Preparative chiral SFC for high productivity
 - d) Preparative chiral SFC to avoid instabilities
 - e) Preparative chiral SFC with immobilized CSPs
 - f) Preparative purification of achiral reaction mixture
 - g) Preparative purification of natural product
 - h) Preparative purification of metabolites
4. Summary

INTRODUCTION

The Separations Group @ NIBR, Basel

Applied Separation Technologies in the Separations Group (SEP) within Discovery Chemistry

- Analytical
 - HPLC (MS/MS)
 - SFC (MS)
 - GC (MS/MS)
 - CE (MS)
- Preparative
 - HPLC (MS)
 - SFC
 - SMB

Typical Fields of Application in the Separations Group within Discovery Chemistry

- Chiral Separations
- Achiral Purification
 - Metabolite Purification
- Analysis of Complex Mixtures
- Purity Determinations
- Chemical Stability (Stress Test)

SFC - TECHNICAL ASPECTS

SFC Systems Used in This Work

Berger Analytical SFC

- Max flow rate CO₂: 10 ml/min
- Max flow rate modifier: 10 ml/min
- Max operating pressure: 400 bar
- No fraction collection



Thar Investigator SFC

- Max flow rate CO₂: 10 ml/min
- Max flow rate modifier: 10 ml/min
- Max operating pressure: 400 bar
- Semi-Prep fraction collection possible
- MS coupling with Micromass Platform II

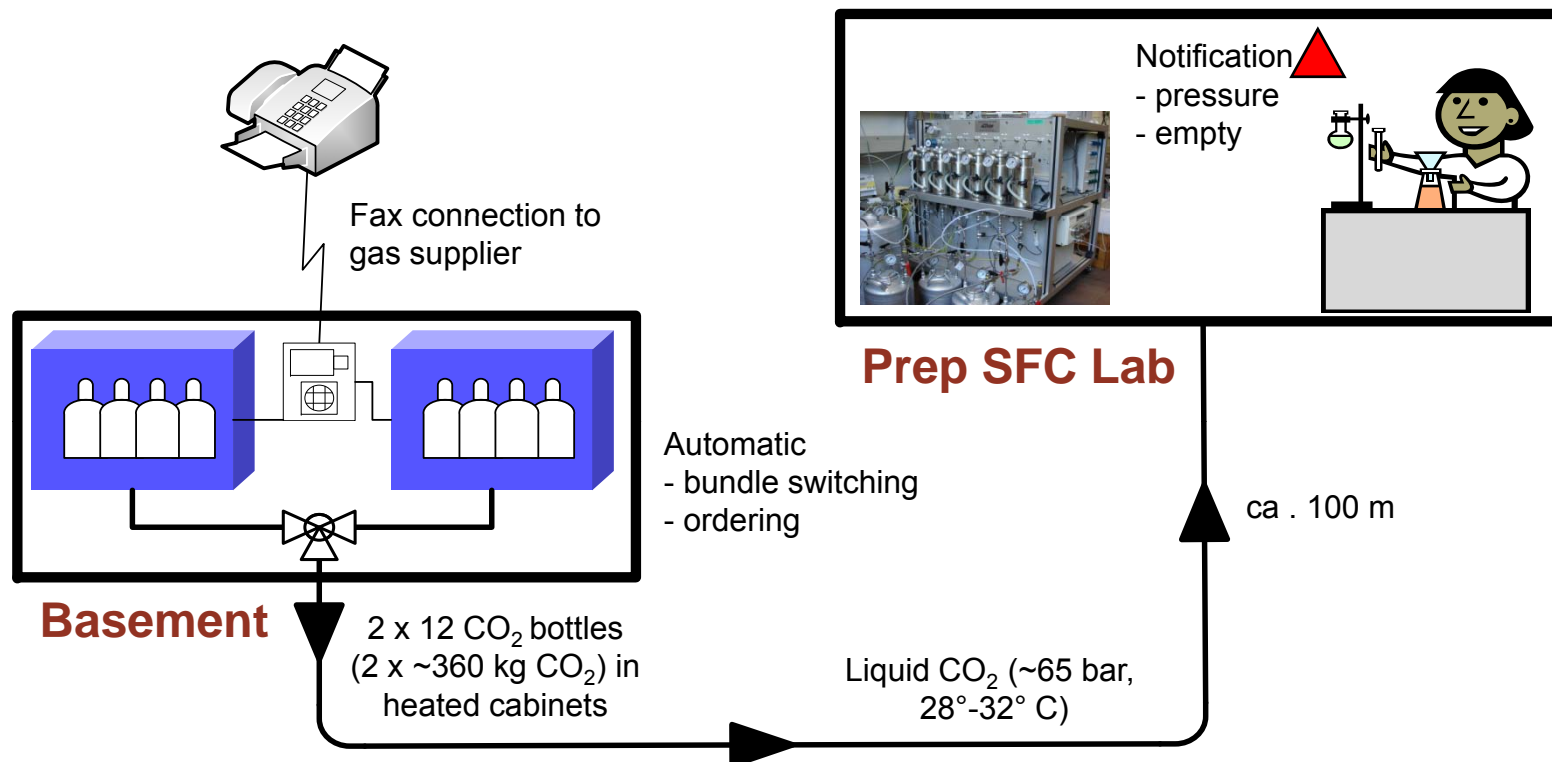


Thar Prep SFC-200

- Max flow rate CO₂: 200 g/min
- Max flow rate modifier: 50 ml/min
- Max operating pressure: 380 bar
- Fraction collection: 6 cyclones à 1 l
⇒ 1 for waste, 5 for fractions



CO₂ Delivery System for Prep SFC

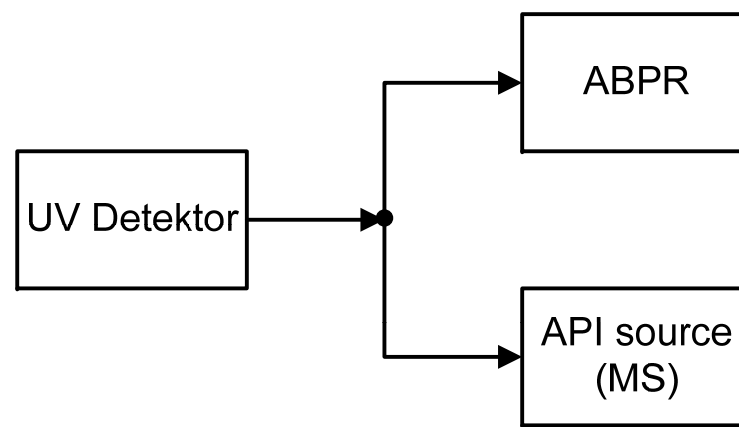


Contract with Gas Supplier:

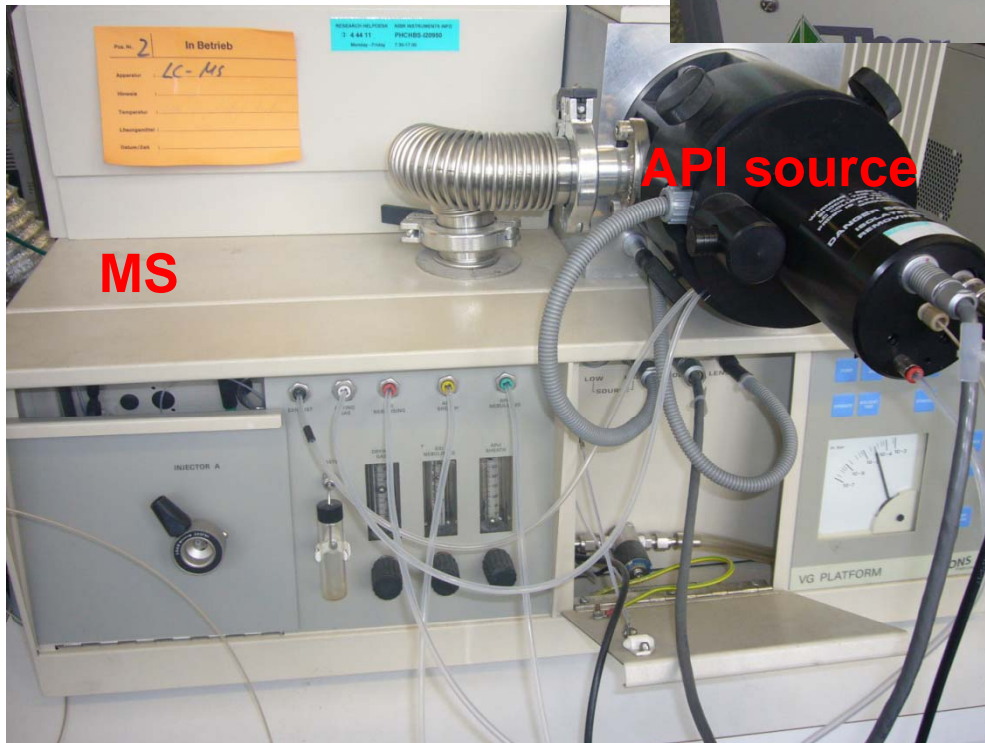
- Guaranteed disruption-free supply of at least 170 kg/day (118 g/min) of liquid CO₂, exception: long weekends
- Automatic ordering and installation of new bundles (no user action required)
- Always one full bundle as reserve for weekends and in winter
- Internet portal for CO₂ consumption and status
- CO₂ und O₂ sensors and alarms

SFC-MS Coupling

- Thar Investigator SFC coupled to Micromass Platform II mass spectrometer
- Two instrument control softwares (SuperChrome + MassLynx) running on two different PCs with contact closure
- Mainly APCI but also ESI mode employed
- First used with additional make-up flow for better ionization (2-propanol/H₂O/HCOOH 1000:10:2) but tests in APCI mode showed only slightly lower ionization efficiency without make-up flow
- MS only used in analytical mode (flow rate approximately 4 ml/min)
- Used in achiral work with mass scans as well as in chiral gradient screening with selected ion traces

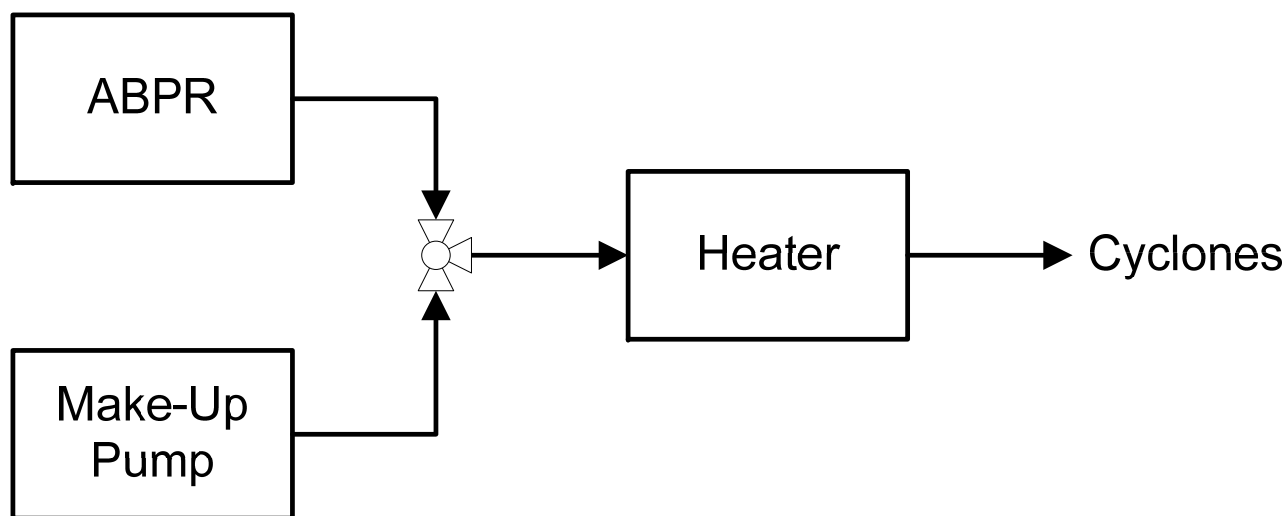


SFC-MS Coupling

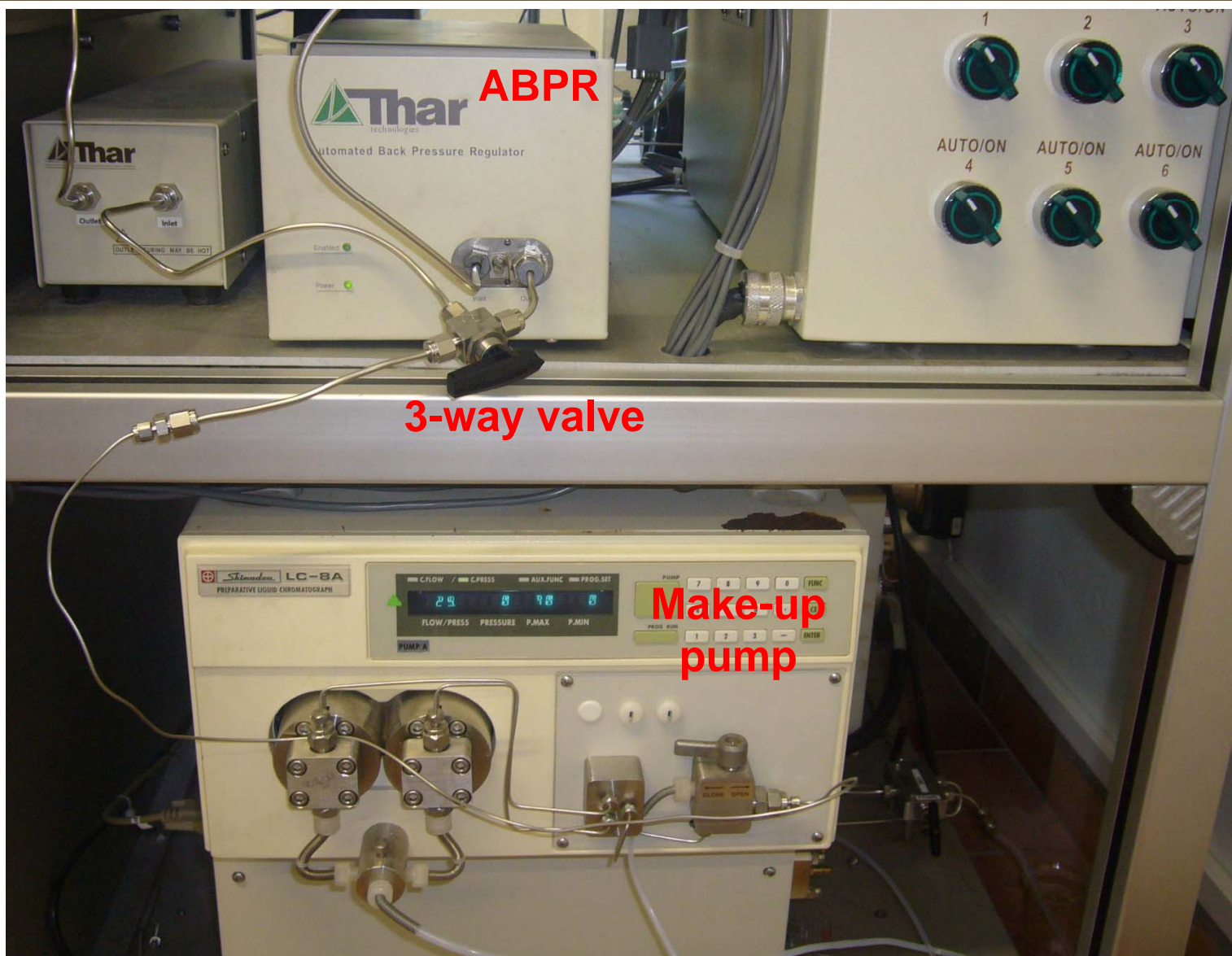


Make-Up Pump for Low Modifier Percentage

- Shimadzu Prep HPLC pump connected with a three way valve between ABPR and heater of Thar SFC-200
- Only used if modifier percentage <10% and solubility in mobile phase low
- Typical additional flow rate of 10-15 ml/min
- No restrictions on solvent used
- Tests have demonstrated improved purity of fractions for closely eluting peaks when using this setup
- Make-up pump on/off controlled by SFC-200 (overnight runs!)

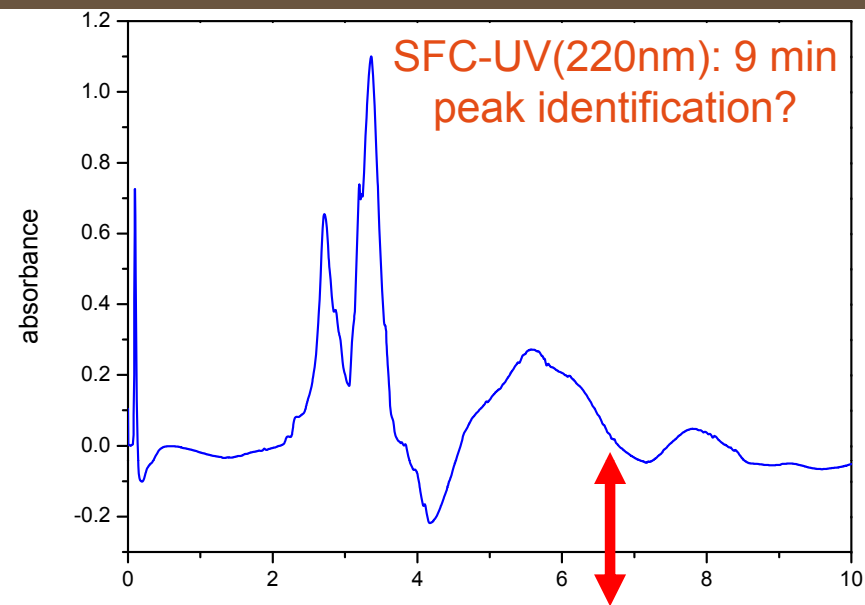
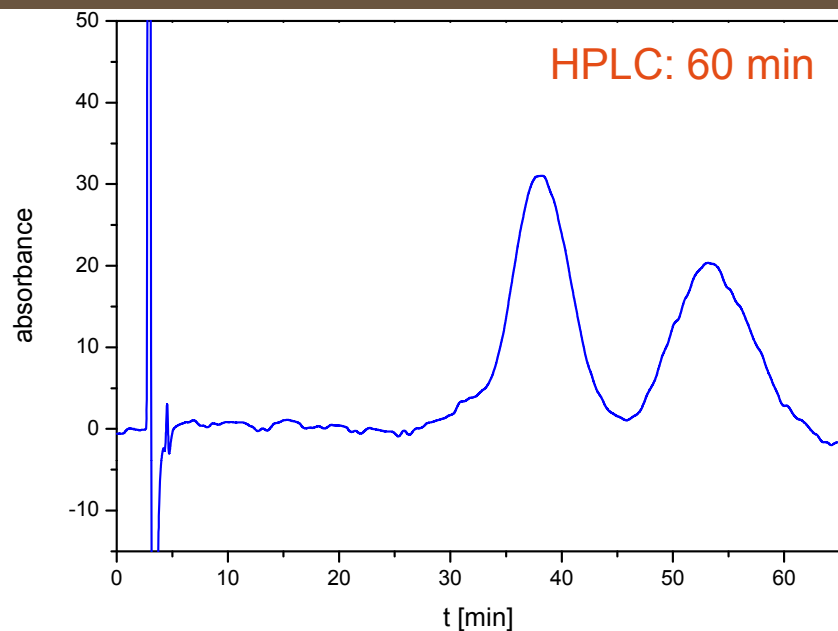


Make-Up Pump for Low Modifier Percentage

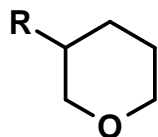


CASE STUDIES

Chiral Resolution of Renin Inhibitor

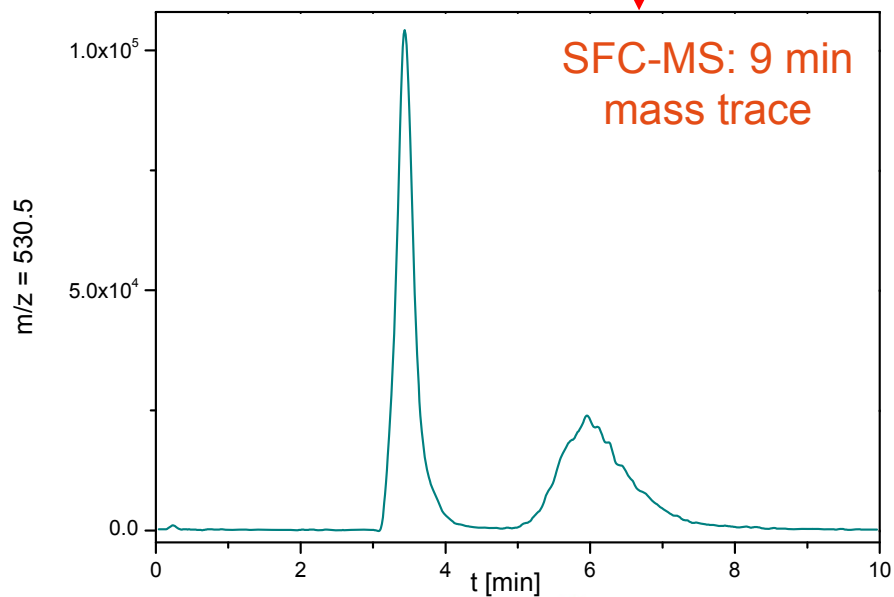


- Request for chiral resolution of 280 mg of renin inhibitor
- Method development in HPLC resulted in 60 min run time
⇒ try SFC

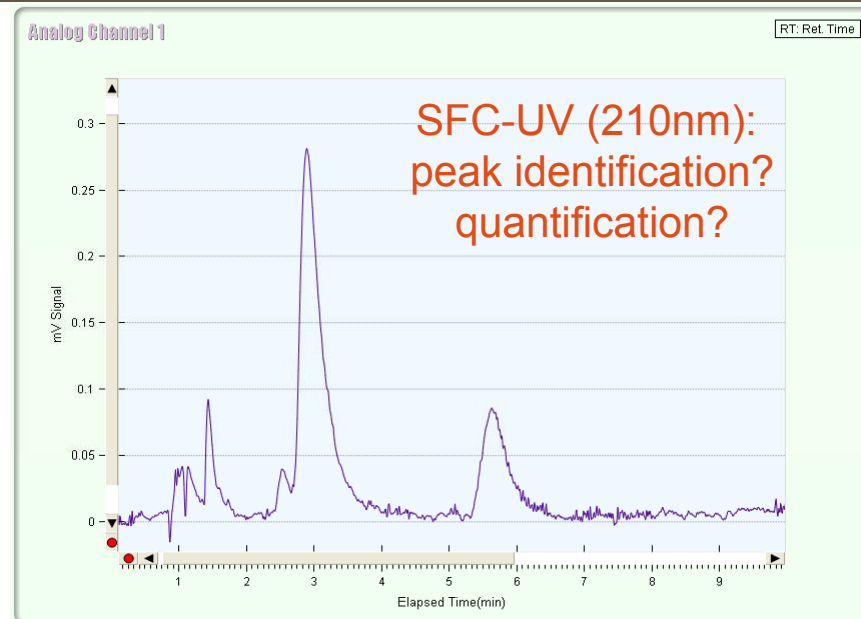
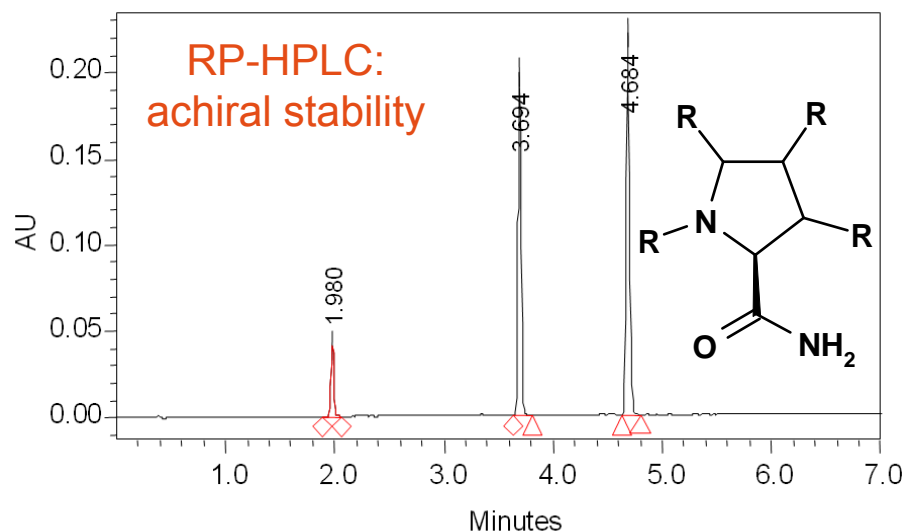


- Run time on SFC: 8 min
- Conditions: 3 ml/min CO₂, 20% EtOH, AD-H column, 4.6 x 150 mm

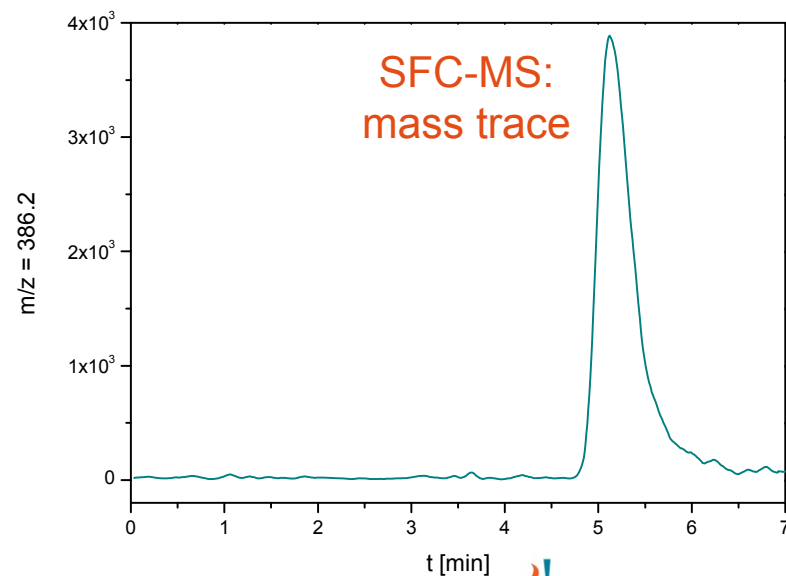
• **Improved peak identification by MS if sample concentration is low or no chromophore in molecule**



Stability Study Using SFC-MS

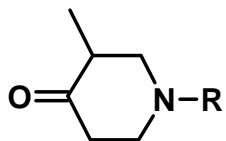


- Request for achiral and chiral stability of research compound
- Stability studies done in batch and solutions of different pH
- Achiral stability routinely done with UPLC(UV,MS)
- Chiral stability problematic on NP-HPLC(UV) because of coeluting peaks of degradants and limit of quantification
- No NP-HPLC-MS in our lab
- Best solution: SFC-MS (APCI+)
- This sample was stressed for one week at pH 7.4, 80°C
- Conditions: 4 ml/min CO₂, 40% EtOH, AD-H column, 4.6 x 250 mm
- **Improved quantification by MS also with chiral samples if sample concentration is low and sample is complex (degradants etc.)**

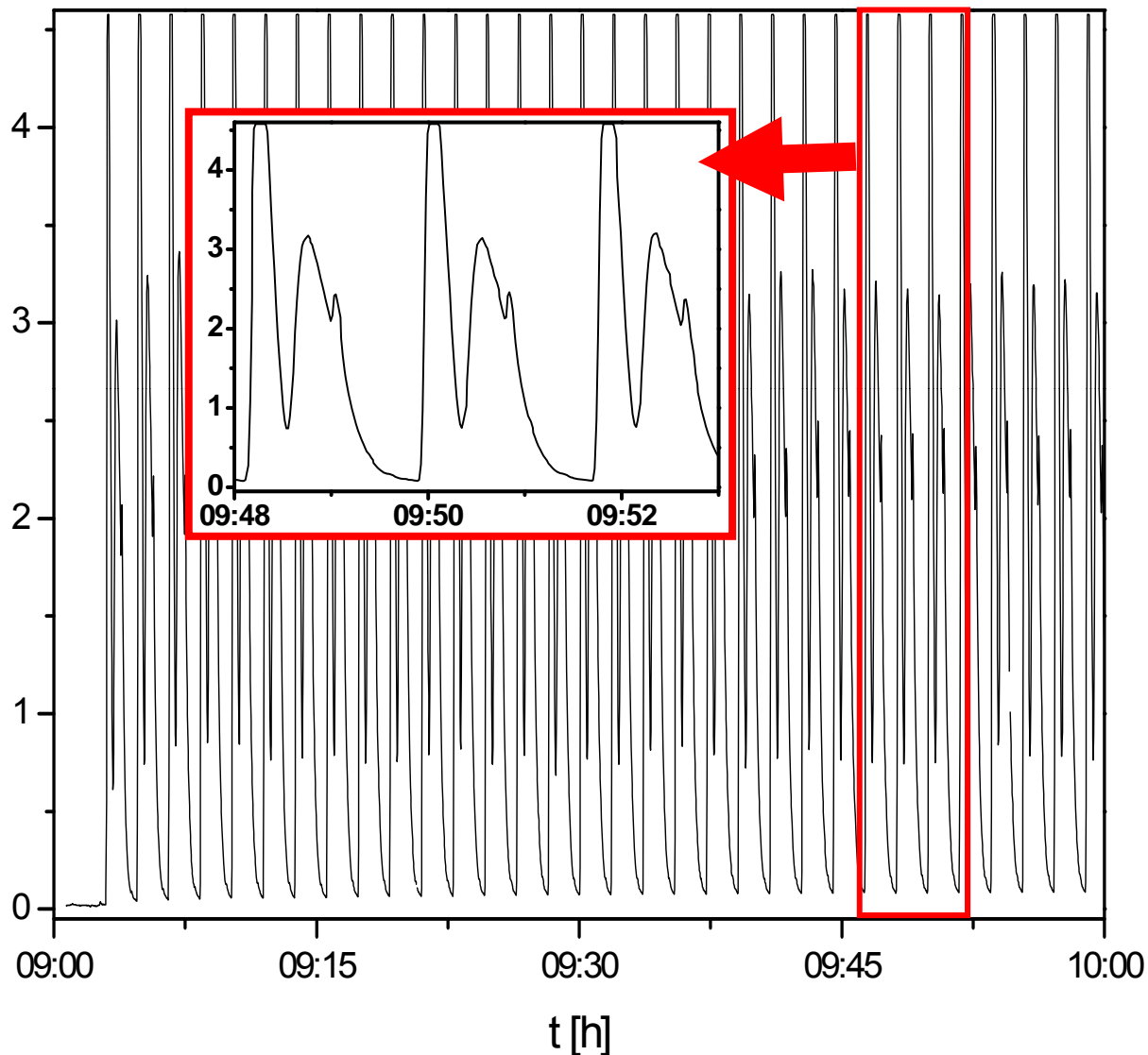


Chiral Resolution of Intermediate

Request for chiral resolution of
50 g of building block

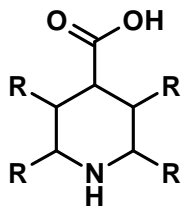


- Column: Chiralpak AD-H, 5 μm , 30 x 250 mm
- Mobile phase: CO_2/EtOH 95:5, 120 g/min
- **Cycle time: 1.8 min**
- **240 stacked injections** (à 208 mg) in 7 h 22 min
- **Productivity: 6.8 g/h \approx 2.33 kg/24h/kg CSP**
- Organic solvent consumption: 23 l EtOH in total
- 32 stacked injections shown
- P1: 23.1 g, ee = 99.0%;
P2: 22.0 g, ee = 98.8%

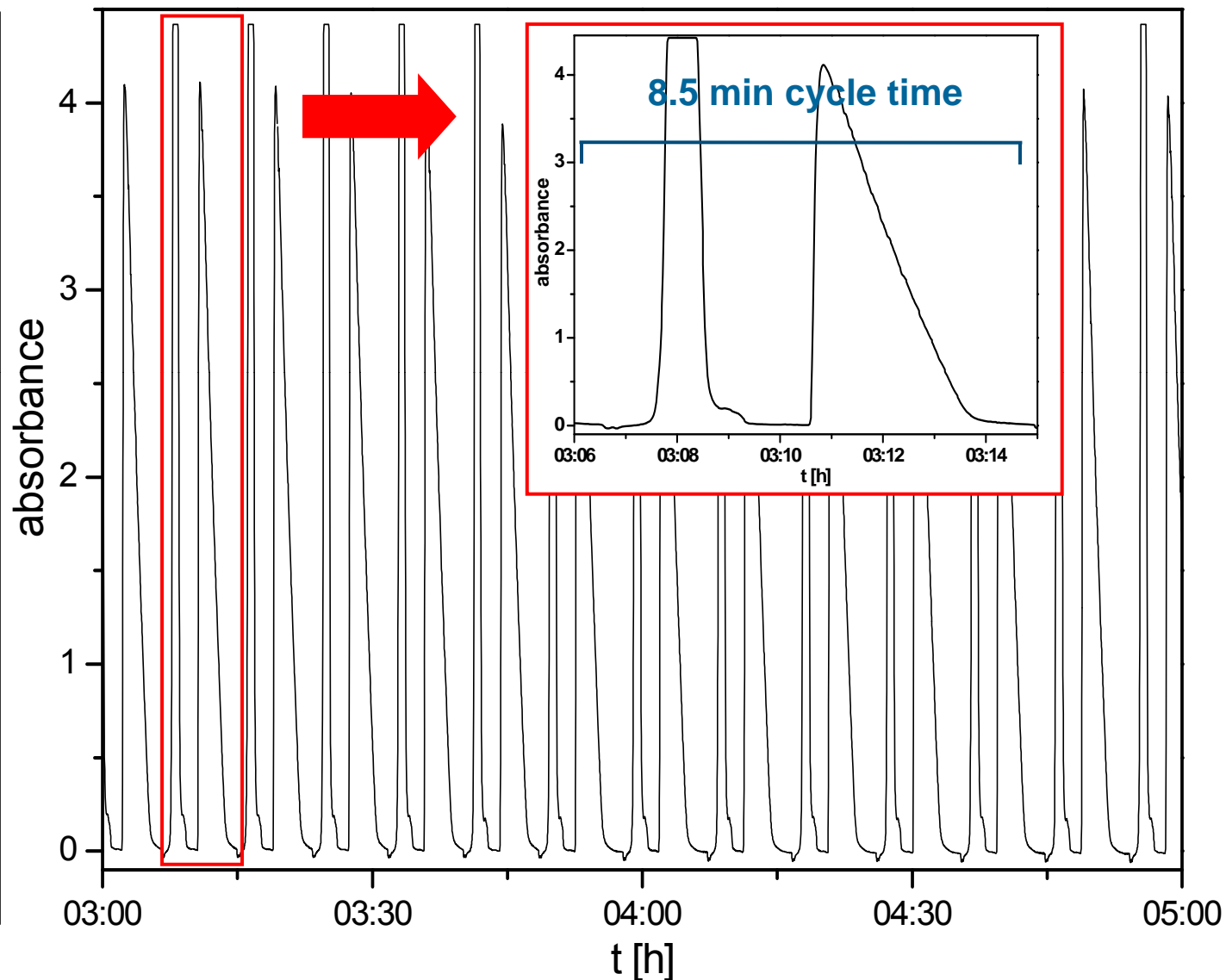


Chiral Separation of Instable Compound

- Request for chiral separation of 2.6 g rac. carboxylic acid

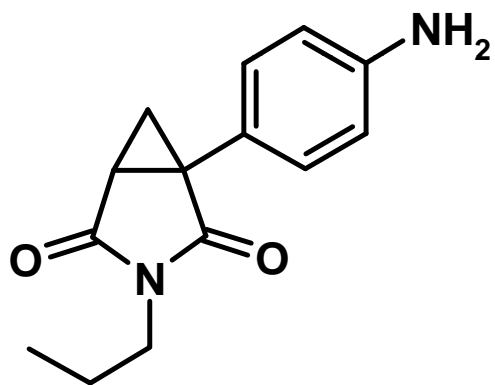


- Significant esterification with TFA/ethanol
- Acidity of supercrit. CO₂ enables prep. separation without acidic additives
- Column: Chiralpak AD-H, 5 μm, 30 x 250 mm
- Mobile phase: CO₂/methanol 70:30
- Cycle time of 8.5 min
- 25 stacked injections (à 104 mg racemate) in 3.5 hours
- P1: 1.18 g, ee > 99.9%
- P2: 1.21 g, ee > 99.9%

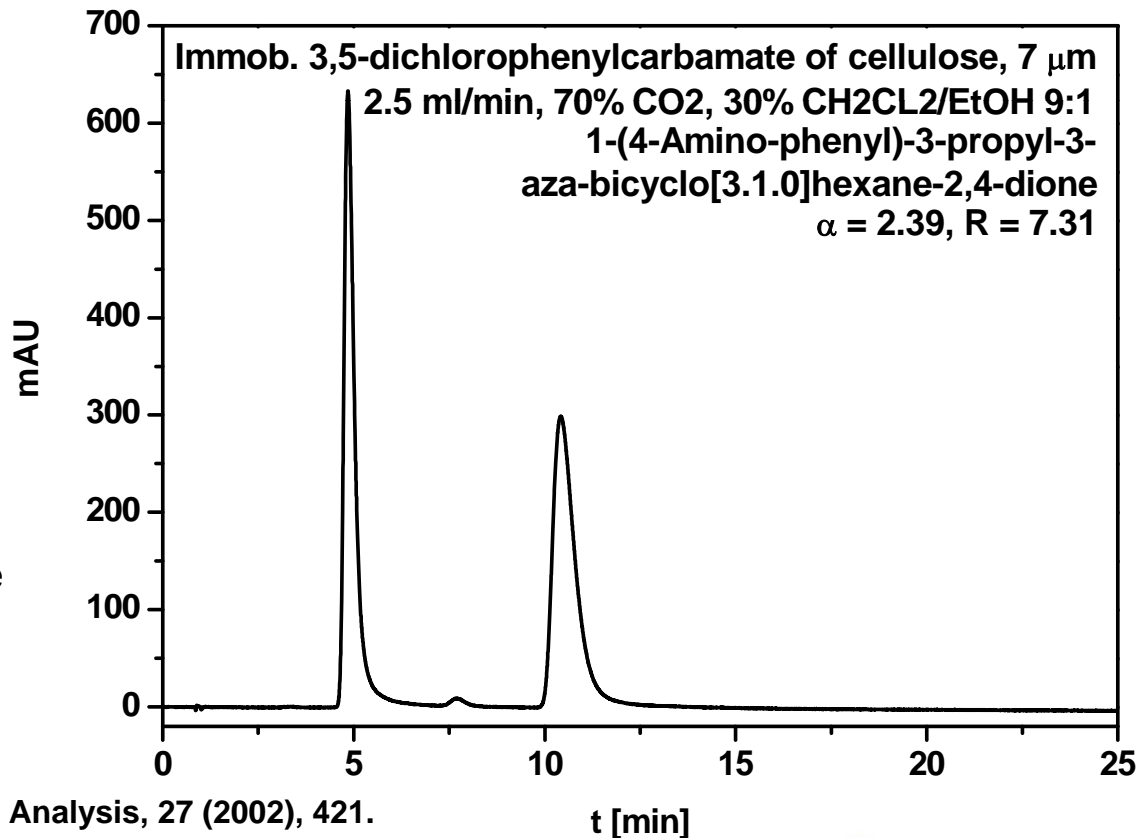


Preparative Separation of Aromatase Inhibitor

- Low solubility in classical mobile phase, high solubility in chlorinated solvents:
n-heptane/IPA 90:10 \Rightarrow 3 mg/ml CH_2Cl_2 \Rightarrow >40 mg/ml
TBME \Rightarrow 17 mg/ml $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}$ 9:1 \Rightarrow >40 mg/ml
THF \Rightarrow >40 mg/ml
- SFC separation on **immobilized halogenophenylcarbamates of cellulose**



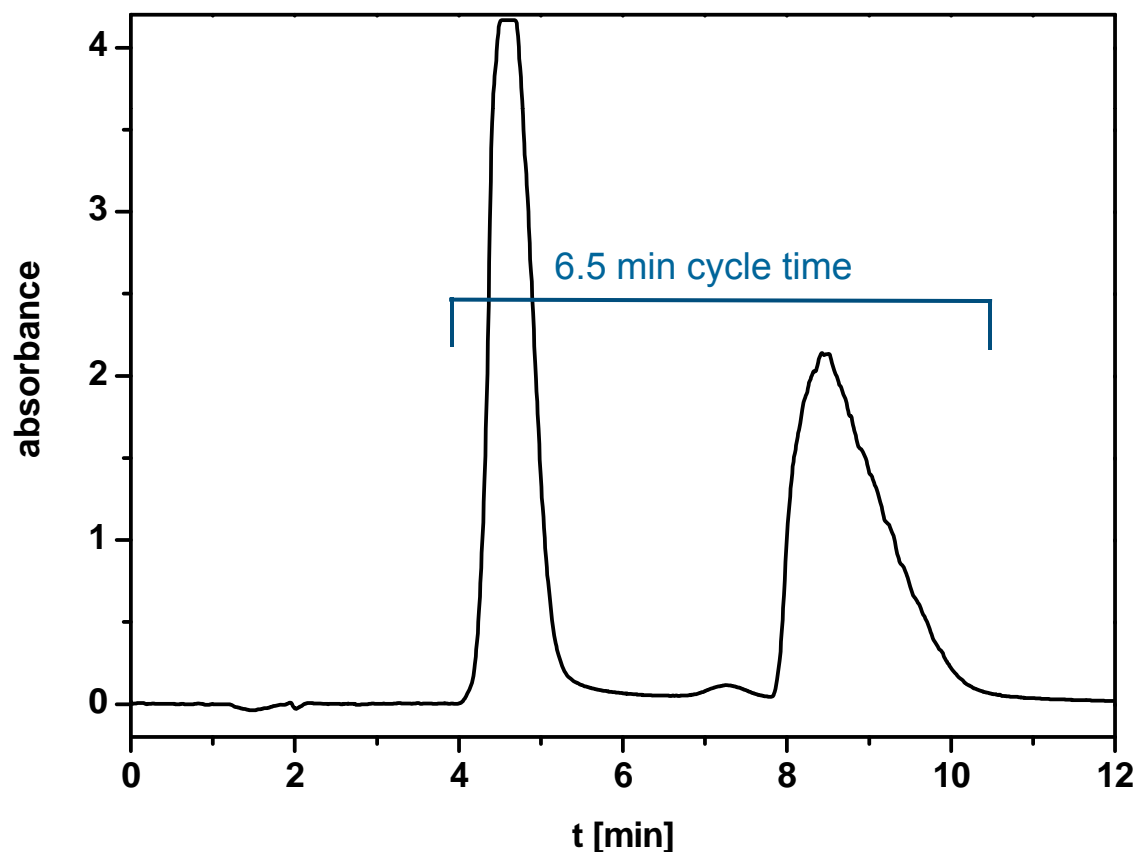
1-(4-Amino-phenyl)-3-propyl-
3-aza-bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,4-dione



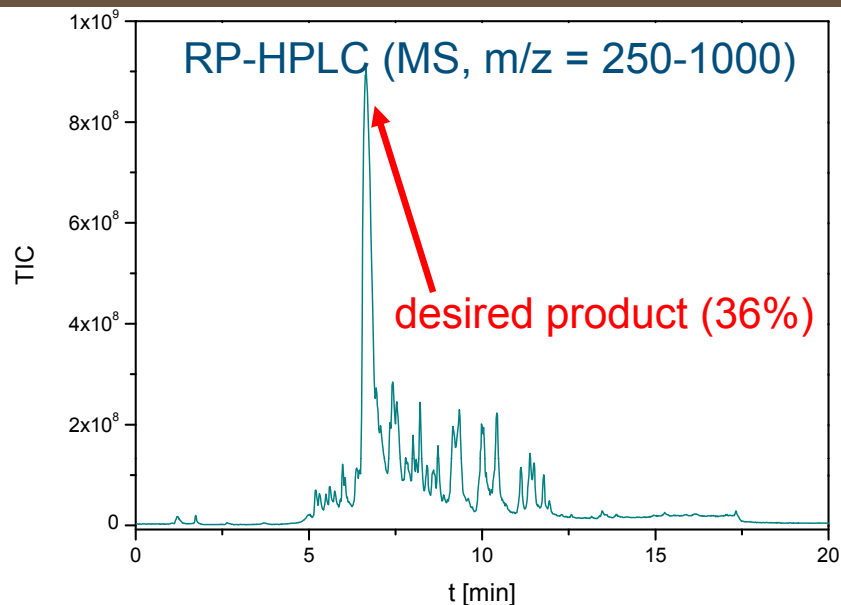
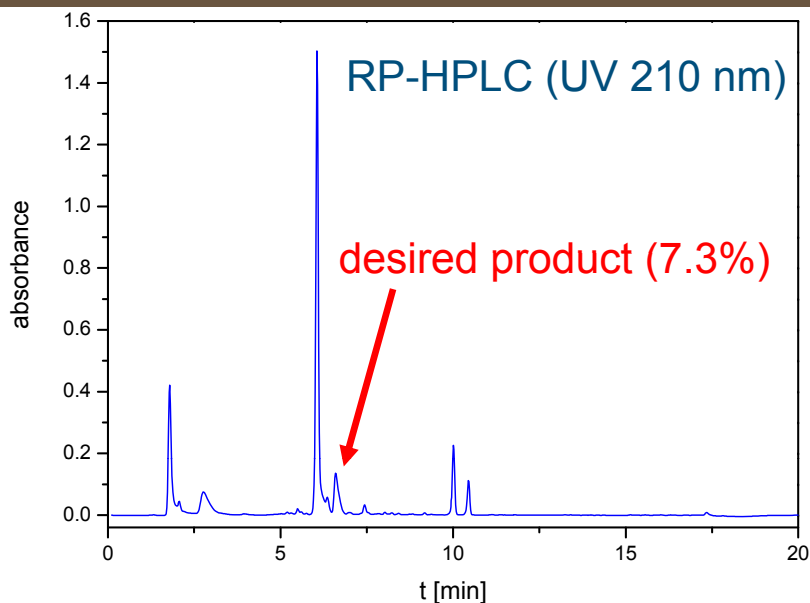
E. Francotte, D. Huynh; J. Pharm. & Biomed. Analysis, 27 (2002), 421.

Preparative Separation of Aromatase Inhibitor

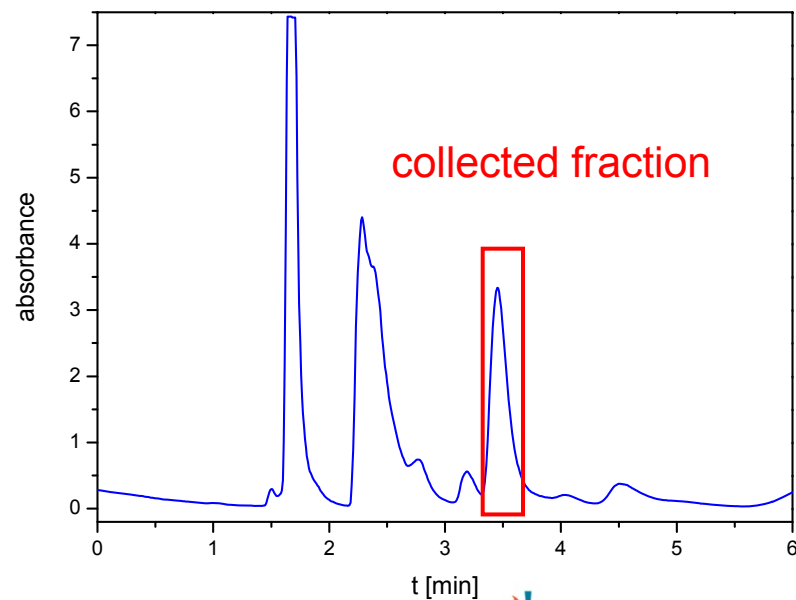
- Prep. SFC on immob. CSP, 21.2 x 250 mm (7 μ m)
- **High feed concentration in modifier solvents** ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{EtOH}$ 8:2) \Rightarrow 70 mg/ml
- **Column load: 140 mg**, 590 mg of compound resolved by SFC
- Flow: 50 g/min, 70% CO_2 , 30% modifier; 150 bar, 40°C
- Productivity: 0.477 kg/kg CSP/24 h



Achiral purification of reaction mixture



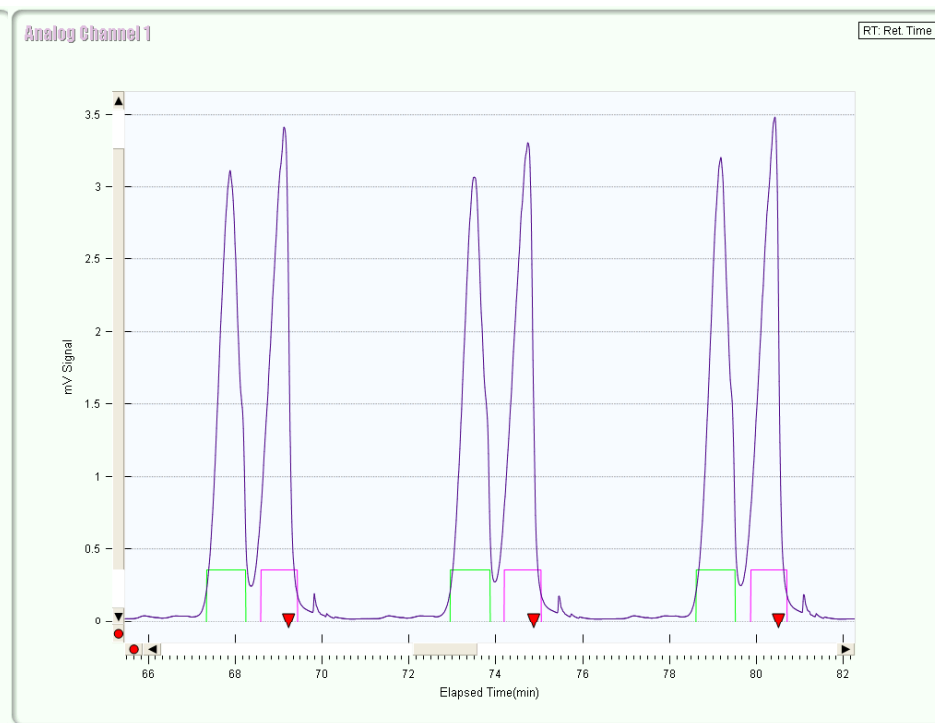
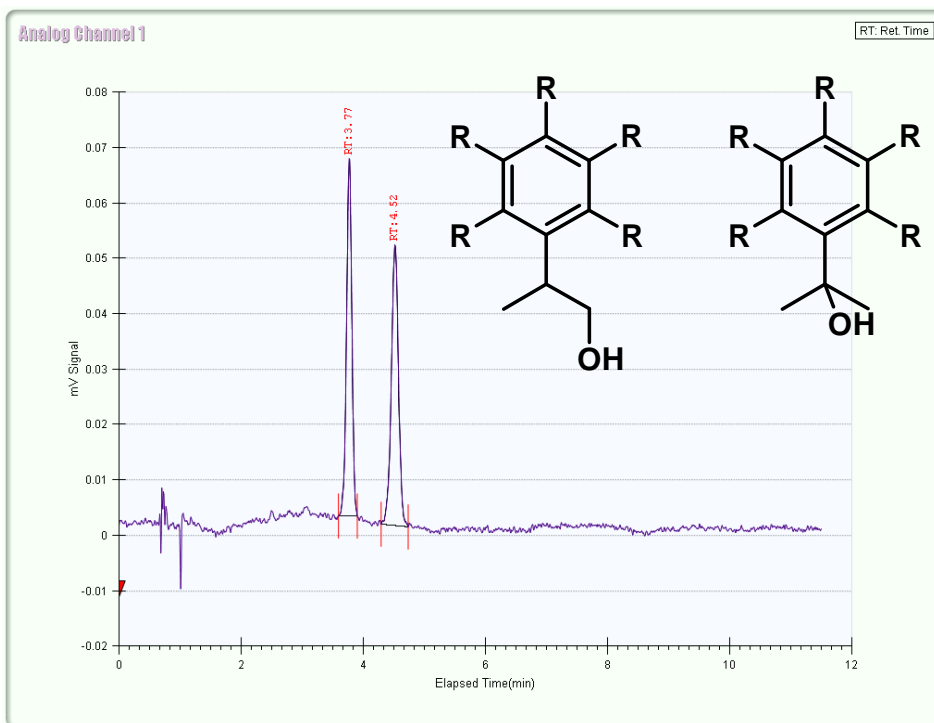
- Request for purification of 9.35 g of reaction mixture **containing only 7.4% (UV) of desired product**
- Column: Princeton 2-Ethylpyridine, 5 μ m, 30 x 250 mm
- Mobile phase: CO₂/MeOH 85:15, 120 g/min
- Cycle time: 6 min
- 200 stacked injections
- Purity (UV, 210 nm): 98%
- Recovery: 0.68 g (7.2%)



Purification of Metabolites

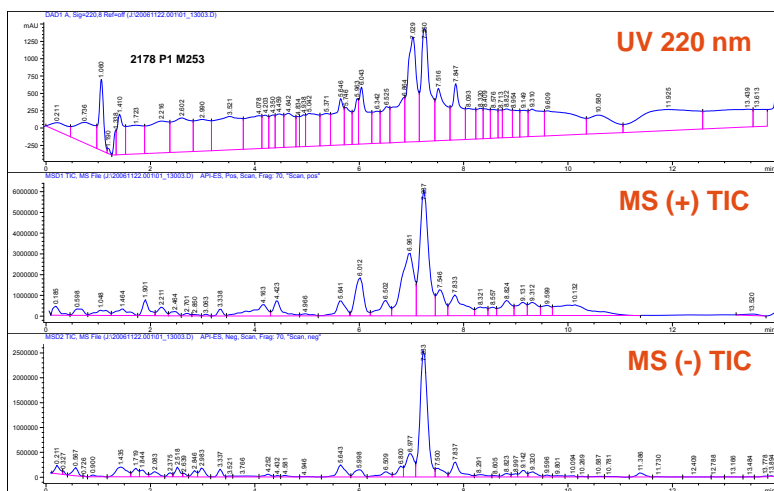
Purification of hydroxylated metabolites produced by microbial biotransformation

- First step: prep. RP-HPLC/MS but further purification necessary, very good selectivity on SFC
- Only small amounts, therefore preparative separation on 4.6 mm column
- Column: Princeton DEAP, 5 μm , 4.6 x 250 mm
- Mobile phase: CO_2/MeOH 90:10, 6 ml/min, cycle time: 5.7 min
- P1: 4 mg, P2: 5 mg, both 98.0% (UV), sent to NMR for structure elucidation
- NMR analyst enthusiastic about purity of NMR samples (removal of fatty acids and other impurities not easily detectable by HPLC-UV and HPLC-MS)

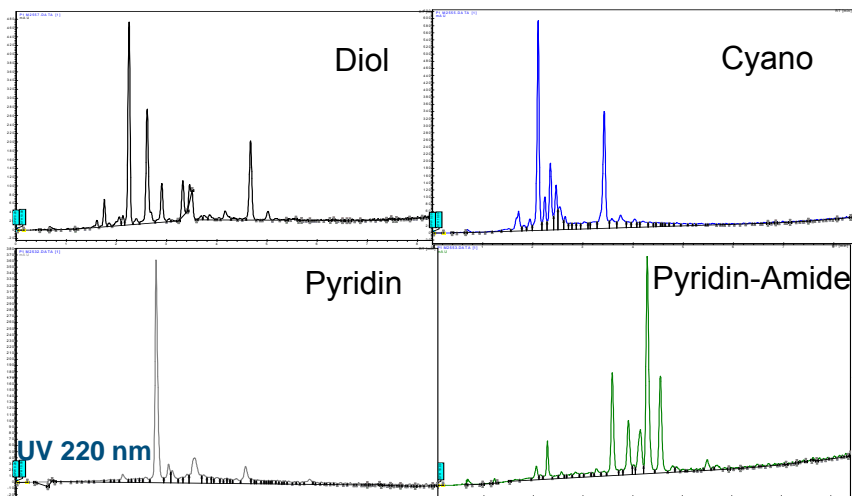


SFC Separation of Novel Ascosalitoxins

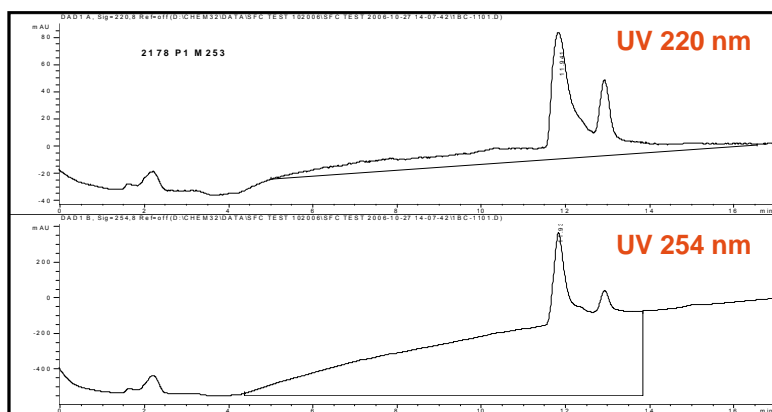
HPLC separation on reversed phase



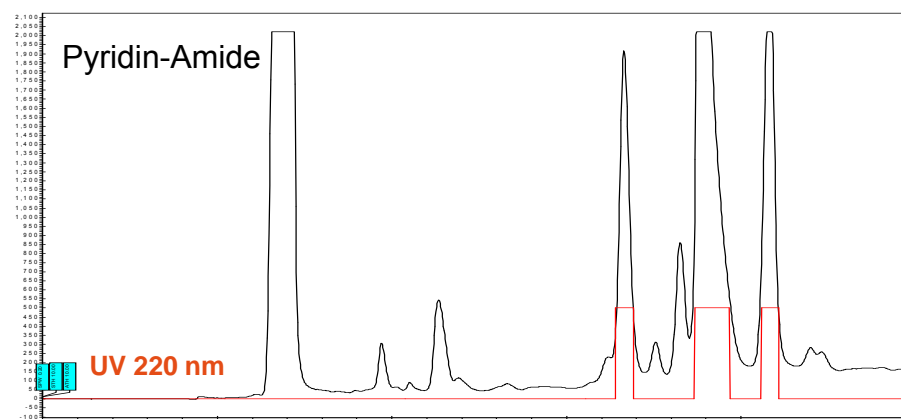
Analytical SFC separation



HPLC separation on normal phase



Preparative SFC separation



Summary

By showing

- how SFC is done at NIBR Basel
- how we have technically improved the commercially available instrumentation
- several examples encompassing chiral, achiral, analytical, and preparative SFC with different detection techniques and different types of compounds

it was demonstrated that SFC is indeed a versatile tool in the analysis and purification of pharmaceutical compounds.

Acknowledgement

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