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Conceptualizing Analytical Chemistry and High-Performance Liquid Chromatography

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Abstract

Analytical chemistry, as a discipline, encompasses a wide array of techniques and methodologies aimed at the qualitative and quantitative analysis of chemical compounds in various samples. High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), a cornerstone of modern analytical chemistry, offers unparalleled capabilities in separating, identifying, and quantifying complex mixtures with high precision and sensitivity. This abstract presents an overview of the conceptual framework of analytical chemistry, with a specific focus on the principles and applications of high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). Analytical chemistry serves as the foundation for understanding the composition, structure, and properties of substances, thus facilitating crucial insights into diverse fields such as pharmaceuticals, environmental monitoring, food safety, and forensic analysis.

Keywords: HPLC, analytical, chemistry, separating, pharmaceuticals

Introduction

High-performance liquid chromatography, also known as High-pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC), is a type of column chromatography that is often used in biology and research to sort, identify, and measure the active substances. A fixed phase is made up of packing material that is contained in a column. The mobile phase(s) are moved through the column by a pump, and the retention times of the molecules are shown by a detector. How long something stays in solution depends on how the stationary phase, the chemicals being studied, and the solvent(s) work together. The sample to be analysed is added to the stream of mobile phase in a small amount, and it moves more slowly because of certain chemical or physical interactions with the fixed phase. How much of a delay there is varies on the type of analyte and the make-up of both the fixed and mobile phases. It is called the holding time when a certain sample elutes, which means it comes out of the end of the column. Solvents are usually mixtures of water and chemical liquids that can mix, with methanol and acetonitrile being the most common. It has been separated to change the make-up of the mobile phase during the analysis. This is called gradient elution. The gradient divides the mixes of analytes based on how well the analytes stick to the current mobile phase. Based on the type of stationary phase and sample, the solvents, chemicals, and gradient needs to be chosen.

Analytical Chemistry

In analytical chemistry, the goal is to separate, identify, and figure out the relative amounts of different parts in a sample. In analytical chemistry, "quality" means how accurate and consistent the results are. Other factors that can be used to judge quality include cost, speed, and information. It is necessary to test pharmaceutical products and their materials to make sure they are safe and effective throughout their shelf life. This calls for the use of a good analysis method. Analytical techniques are very important for keeping the quality of substances high and are essential parts of Q.A. and Q.C. Analytical chemists are in charge of making sure that the data is reliable, useful, accurate, interception, and specific. Pharmaceutical research generally includes the steps needed to find out what drugs and chemicals are, how strong they are, how good they are, and how pure they are. The job of qualitative analysis is to figure out what elements, ions, or chemicals are in the sample. On the other hand, quantitative analysis is used to find out how much of one or more components are in a sample.

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Classification of Analytical methods

The different types of research can be roughly put into two groups: classical methods and instrumental methods: -

Classical methods**Volumetric Methods**

These are based on finding the right amount of a known-strength fluid to begin a chemical reaction with the material being studied.

Gravimetric Method:

In this way of testing, the assay results are usually found by finding the weight of a substance in the sample or the weight of a different substance that was made from the sample. The result is then calculated based on this equal weight.

Instrumental Methods

To figure out a substance's chemical make-up, these ways are based on measuring some physical feature of it with a tool. There are a lot of different ways to analyse an analyte, but they all depend on how the analyte interacts with energy. You can use electro analytical methods like Electrogravimetry, Conductometry, Coulometry, Potentiometry, Voltametry, and others. You can also use spectro analytical methods like UV-Visible spectrometry, Infrared spectroscopy, Atom absorption spectroscopy, turbidometry, nephelometry, and others. Finally, you can use chromatographic methods like High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), High performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC), Gas chromatography (GC), and others. A suitable way of research is chosen based on the form and type of the drug, either alone or in combination. There are a few important things that you should think about when choosing the right way of study.

- What kind of information is being looked for.
- Size of the sample that is provided and the amount of the substance that needs to be found.
- The goal for which you need analytical data.

UV-Absorption Spectrophotometry, High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), and High-Performance Thin Layer Chromatography (HPTLC) are the most common laboratory methods used in medicinal research these days.

TYPES OF HPLC

Different types of HPLC depend on the phase method that is used. The following types of HPLC are often used for analysis:

Normal phase chromatography

This method, which is also called Normal phase HPLC (NP-HPLC), sorts analytes by their polarity. A polar stationary phase and a non-polar mobile phase are used in NP-HPLC. The polar stationary phase interacts with the polar molecule and holds on to it. Adsorption strengths go up as the polarity of the analyte goes up, and the release time goes up because the polar analyte interacts with the polar stationary phase.

Reversed phase chromatography

Phase switch HPLC, also known as RP-HPLC or RPC, has a stationary phase that is not polar and a mobile phase that is water-based and somewhat polar. RPC works by using

hydrophobic interactions, which happen when a polar eluent, a relatively non-polar substance, and a non-polar stationary phase push against each other. The amount of contact surface area around the non-polar part of the analyte molecule that forms a bond with the ligand in the water-based eluent determines how well it sticks to the stationary phase.

Size exclusion chromatography

The main way that size exclusion chromatography (SEC), which is also known as gel permeation chromatography or gel filtration chromatography, sorts particles is by size. It can also be used to figure out the tertiary and quaternary structures of amino acids and proteins. This method is often used to find the molecular weight of polysaccharides.

Ion exchange chromatography

We can keep things in Ion exchange chromatography because liquid ions are drawn to charged spots on the stationary phase. There are no ions with the same charge. Much of the time, this type of chromatography is used to clean water, separate proteins and carbohydrates and oligosaccharides, and do ligand exchange chromatography and ion-exchange chromatography of proteins.

Bio-affinity chromatography

Separation based on how proteins interact with ligands in a specific way that can be undone. Ligands are permanently connected to a rigid base on a bio-affinity matrix. This keeps proteins in place by interacting with the column-bound ligands. There are two ways to get proteins off of a bio affinity column:

- Biospecific elution: adding a free ligand to the elution solution that competes with a ligand that is attached to the column.
- Non-specific elution: a change in pH, salt, or other factors that make it harder for the protein to bind with the column-bound substrate.

It is possible for bio affinity chromatography to achieve very high levels of purification in a single step (10-1000 times).

Parameters

For a correct study of a compound, there are some factors that are used as standards for that substance. There is a good chance that the result will be very different if the conditions change. Internal width, particle size, hole size, and pump pressure are the factors that are used most often. The factors can be changed for each substance based on its chemical make-up and nature.

Internal diameter

The internal diameter (ID) of an HPLC column is a key factor that affects both the sensitivity and the amount of material that can be put onto it. Larger columns are usually used in industrial settings, like when a drug product needs to be cleaned up before it can be used. While low ID columns are more sensitive and use less liquid, they have less filling capacity.

Particle size

In most standard HPLC tests, the stationary phase is connected to the outside of very small beads-shaped silica

particles. Smaller particles usually have more surface area and are better at separating, but the pressure needed for the best linear velocity goes up by the opposite of the square of the particle diameter.

Pore size

A lot of fixed stages are porous to give them more surface area. Small pores have more surface area, but bigger pores have better dynamics, especially for bigger analytes. The size of the pores determines how well the chemical molecules can get inside the particle and connect with the inside surface. It is very important to do this because the particle's outer surface is about 1000 times smaller than its inner surface. Most of the surface chemical contact takes place on the inner particle surface.

Pump pressure

Pumps can handle different amounts of pressure, but how well they work is judged by how consistently and reliably they can produce a flow rate. These days' HPLC systems are better because they can handle much higher pressures. This means that particles in the columns can be much smaller (<2 micro meters).

Stability Testing and Stress Testing (Forced Degradation Studies)

Studies of forced deterioration are an important part of developing critical methods. The drug breakdown pathway (dta) created from these works shows how drugs break down. This information can be used to choose the best way to formulate and store the product. Then, these things are managed to keep the drug or drug mixture stable, which can lead to a longer shelf life or better effectiveness. Stress testing is the process of checking the stability of drug substances or drug products in situations that are very different from rapid stability tests. The purpose of these tests is to find out how stable the drug material is on its own. The International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) guideline Q1A (R2) says that drug substances should be tested for stability under different stress conditions, such as hydrolysis, oxidation, photolysis, and thermal degradation. This is to make sure that the analytical methods used to test stability samples are the best ones for showing stability. In ICH rule Q1B, the normal settings for checking photo stability are laid out. These tests make it possible to measure drugs and the byproducts of their breakdown and interactions very accurately. Separate study of drugs takes a long time, costs a lot of money, and slows down both production and batch release. In the lab, simultaneous determination will probably lessen these effects.

Forced degradation studies

The most important thing for the safety and effectiveness of the drug is that the active chemical part stays stable. The FDA and ICH Guidance stress how important it is to look at stability testing data to figure out how good a drug substance and drug product are. This lets us know how the drug product will naturally act over time in these low-stress situations. This kind of research also helps us figure out how things break down. Given what we know from this study, we can suggest good keeping settings and a way to pack the items. This also helps figure out how long the food will last. Conditions that are more harsh than those that speed up the breakdown of drugs and drug substances are used for forced degradation. The breakdown products that are made can be studied to find out how stable the molecule is and to improve or check the analysis method. Even though forced deterioration studies are required by law and are scientifically necessary during drug development, they are not required for an official stability programme.

Studies of forced decay help make degradants that are very stable. To make the stability showing method, samples made by forcing decay can be used. A way for showing stability can be used to look at examples of rapid and long-term stability.

Limits for Degradation in FDS

Pharmaceutical experts have had many conversations about the question of how much decline is enough. It is thought that chromatographic methods work as long as 5 to 30 percent of the drug substances break down. Some scientists who study drugs think that 10% breakdown is the best level for testing small drug molecules, for which 90% of the label claim is usually an acceptable level of stability. A drug substance solution spiked with a mix of known breakdown products can be used to both test and improve an analysis method.

Strategy for Selection of Degradation Conditions

The point of a forced degradation study is to see how well the method can split the main peak from the expected list of degradants. This study makes samples that can be used to make a way for showing stability. The stress conditions should match how the object breaks down under normal conditions for making, storing, and using it, which are different for each case. A general set of factors for breaking down drug substances and drug products. For forced degradation studies, the stress factors that must be present at the very least are acid and base hydrolysis, heat degradation, photolysis, oxidation, and freeze–thaw cycles and shear. Table 1 shows some of the most common forced deterioration studies.

Table 1: Commonly used condition for forced degradation study

Degradation type	Experimental conditions	Storage conditions	Sampling time (days)
	0.1 M NaOH	40 °C, 60 °C	1,3,5
	Acid control (no API)	40 °C, 60 °C	1,3,5
Degradation type	Experimental conditions	Storage conditions	Sampling time (days)
	Base control (no API)	X °C, 60 °C	1,3,5
	pH: 2,4,6,8	40 °C, 60 °C	1,3,5
	3% H ₂ O ₂	25 °C, 60 °C	1,3,5
	Peroxide control	25 °C, 60 °C	1,3,5

Oxidation	Azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN)	40	°C, 60 °C		1,3,5
	AIBN control	40	°C, 60 °C		1,3,5
	Light 1× ICH		NA		1,3,5
Photolytic	Light 3× ICH		NA		1,3,5
	Light control		NA		1,3,5
	Heat chamber	60	°C		1,3,5
	Heat chamber	60	°C/75% RH		1,3,5
Thermal	Heat chamber	80	°C		1,3,5
	Heat chamber	80	°C/75% RH		1,3,5
	Heat control		Room temp.		1,3,5

Stability Indicating Method

A stability indicating method (SIM) is a research method that has been fine-tuned to separate the main drug peak from any possible breakdown products in the test sample. A advice paper from the FDA says that a stability-indicating method is a tested quantitative analysis process that can be used to find out how the stability of drug substances and drug products changes over time. A stable showing method is unique to the drug and measures the exact dose of the drug without any other factors getting in the way. Stress testing is done to show that the new method can accurately measure changes in the amount of drug material when there isn't much information about the possible breakdown product. A way for showing stability is useful for formulation scientists. RP-HPLC is a popular analysis tool for separating pollutants and measuring their amounts. It is usually used with a UV monitor.

Sample Generation

In order to make samples for SIM, the API is force degraded under conditions that are worse than rapid degradation conditions. It includes breaking down the drug in situations like hydrolysis, oxidation, photolysis, and heat, which we already talked about. Forced degradation of API is done in both solid and liquid forms to make degradation products that would probably form in real storing conditions. This sample is then used to make a SIM computer.

Method Development and Optimization

Before starting to develop the method, it is important to know the drug's physiochemical qualities, such as its pKa value, log P, solubility, and maximum absorption. This is because it forms the basis for developing the HPLC method. Usually, Log P is used to choose the pH of the mobile phase makeup. On the other hand, pKa of the sample is used to choose the pH of the mobile phase.

When the breakdown is happening in water, a reverse phase column is the best way to start separating the different parts of the sample. For the first steps of separation, different amounts of methanol, water, and acetonitrile can be used as the mobile phase.

The choice between methanol and acetonitrile for the organic phase is based on how well the analyte dissolves. To begin, an equal-volume mix of water and organic phase can be tried. If necessary, this can be changed as the tests go on to get a good split of peaks. If it's needed to get better peak spacing and peak symmetry, the last cushion can be added. To use the method with liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC–MS), the mobile phase buffer should work with MS. Trifluoroacetic acid and ammonium formate

are two examples. Because analytes react differently to changes in temperature, changes in column temperature can affect how selective the method is. For good consistency, the temperature should be between 30 and 40 °C. To get better clarity and separation, it is a good idea to extend the retention time and move the drug spot to the end of the chromatogram. However, the run time should be long enough for the whole column of adsorbents to separate. It is also suggested that a peak purity test be done to see how exact the method is. Photo diode array (PDA) devices work better for direct study of data because they make the spectral point more uniform. That being said, it doesn't work if the breakdown products have the same or a similar UV range as the drug. The method can be tweaked even more to resolve peaks that are very close to each other. To do this, the mobile phase ratio, flow rate, and input amount are changed.

Conclusion

The conceptualization of analytical chemistry and the utilization of high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) represent integral components of modern scientific inquiry and technological advancement. Through the systematic application of principles and methodologies inherent to analytical chemistry, researchers can elucidate the composition, structure, and properties of chemical substances across diverse fields and applications.

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) stands as a cornerstone technique within analytical chemistry, offering unparalleled capabilities in the separation, identification, and quantification of complex mixtures with exceptional precision and sensitivity. The robustness and versatility of HPLC systems, coupled with ongoing advancements in instrumentation, column chemistries, and detection methodologies, continue to propel the boundaries of analytical science forward.

Applications of HPLC span a multitude of industries and scientific disciplines, including pharmaceuticals, environmental monitoring, food safety, forensic analysis, clinical diagnostics, and academic research. The widespread adoption of HPLC reflects its indispensable role in addressing analytical challenges, ensuring product quality, safeguarding public health, and advancing scientific knowledge.

Furthermore, the conceptualization of analytical chemistry and the utilization of HPLC techniques underscore the interdisciplinary nature of modern scientific inquiry, fostering collaboration between chemists, biologists, physicists, engineers, and clinicians. Through interdisciplinary synergy, researchers can leverage the power of analytical chemistry and HPLC to tackle complex

scientific questions, innovate new technologies, and drive societal progress.

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