

# Selectivity of stationary phases with alkyl, phenyl and pentafluorophenyl groups on core shell particle

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## Abstract

Brand columns packed with superficially porous particles have been available for some time. The superficially porous media or so called core-shell media offers significant improvements such as higher efficiency and lower pressure drop for existing HPLC operations without having to replace existing HPLC systems with UHPLC systems.

In this study, a 2.6  $\mu\text{m}$  core-shell silica with a non-porous core approximately 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter and a superficially porous layer of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  was used as a based material. Core-shell silicas bonded with C18, C28, phenylethyl and pentafluorophenyl (PFP) groups were evaluated for hydrogen bonding capacity, hydrophobicity, steric selectivity and both peak shape and retention of oxine as a metal chelating compound.

A core-shell C28 with long chain ligands was suitable for separation of both high polar compounds using 100% aqueous mobile phase and a fat-soluble compound to compare with a conventional C18, while a core shell PFP could separate 3 kinds of isomers of cresol completely although a C18 could not separate meta-cresol and para-cresol. Different selectivity by different stationary phases was confirmed on core shell silica particles as well as fully porous silica particles.

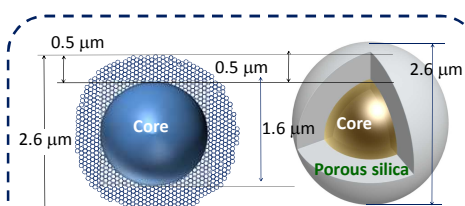


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of a core shell silica particle

Particle diameter: 2.6  $\mu\text{m}$ , Core diameter: 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ , Thickness of porous silica: 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , Pore volume: 0.30 mL/g, Specific surface area: 150  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ , Pore diameter: 9 nm, The ratio of porous silica volume: 77%

Table 1. Characteristics of SunShell

	Core shell silica			Bonded phase	
	Particle size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Pore diameter (nm)	Specific surface area ( $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ )	Carbon content (%)	Available pH range
SunShell C18	2.6	9	150	7	C18 1.5 - 10
SunShell C8	2.6	9	150	4.5	C8 1.5 - 9
SunShell PFP	2.6	9	150	4.5	Pentafluorophenyl 2 - 8
SunShell Phenyl	2.6	9	150	5	Phenylhexyl 1.5 - 9
SunShell P-AQUA	2.6	16	90	4	C28 2 - 8 <sup>a)</sup>
SunShell C18-WP	2.6	16	90	5	C18 1.5 - 10 <sup>a)</sup>
SunShell HFC18-16	2.6	16	90	2.5	C18 2 - 9
SunShell HFC18-30	2.6	30	40	1.3	C18 2 - 9
SunShell C8-30	2.6	30	40	1.2	C8 2 - 9
SunShell C4-30	2.6	30	40	0.9	C4 2 - 8

a) This value is evaluated under 100% aqueous condition because SunShell RP-AQUA has reproducible retention under 100% aqueous condition.

Figure 2. What is HFC18?

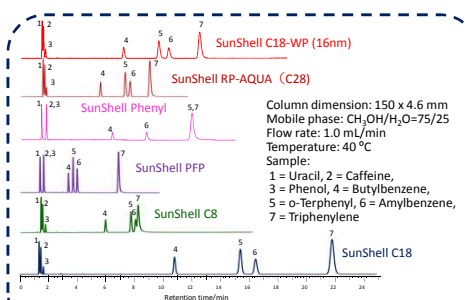
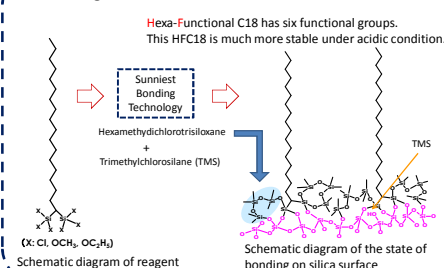


Figure 3. Comparison of separation of standard samples

Table 2. Comparison of selectivity

	Hydrogen bonding	Hydrophobicity	Steric selectivity
	(Caffeine/Phenol)	(Amylbenzene/Butylbenzene)	(Triphenylene/o-Terphenyl)
C18-WP	0.40	1.55	1.35
RP-AQUA	0.52	1.52	1.30
PhEenyl	1.00	1.58	1.01
PFP	1.00	1.31	2.38
C8	0.32	1.46	1.08
C18	0.39	1.60	1.46

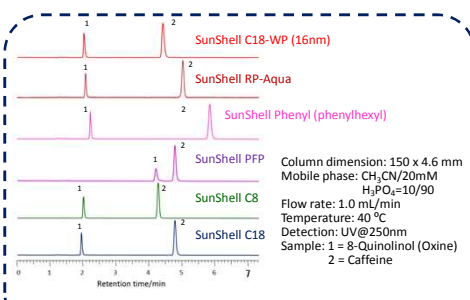


Figure 4. Comparison of oxine and caffeine

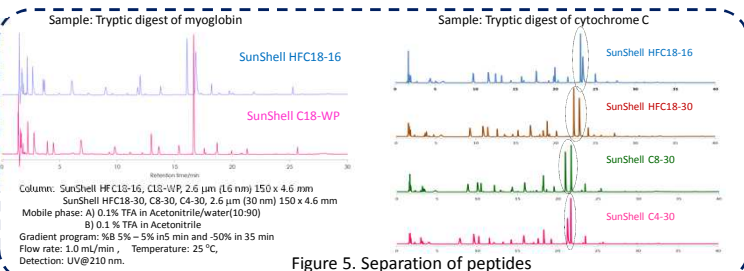


Figure 5. Separation of peptides

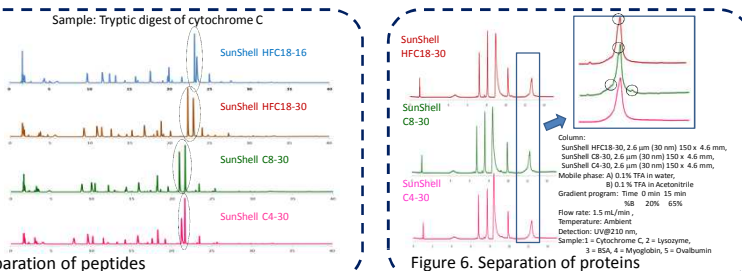


Figure 6. Separation of proteins

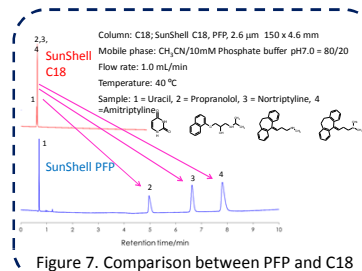


Figure 7. Comparison between PFP and C18

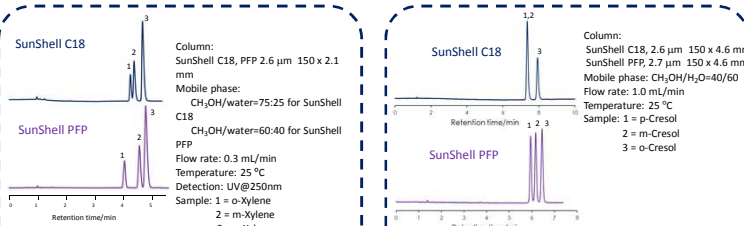


Figure 8. Comparison between PFP and C18 (3) Separation of isomer of xylene

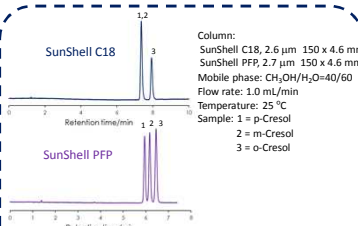


Figure 9. Comparison between PFP and C18 (4) Separation of isomer of cresol

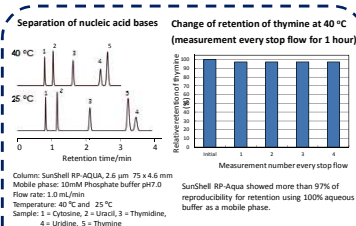


Figure 10. Reproducibility of retention under 100% aqueous condition

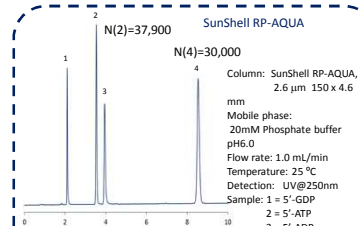


Figure 11. Separation of nucleotides

## Conclusion

- \*Hydrogen bonding, hydrophobicity and steric selectivity of alkyl groups, phenyl group and pentafluorophenyl group were evaluated.
- \*Pentafluorophenyl showed highest hydrogen bonding and highest steric selectivity and much different from C18 group. Pentafluorophenyl group showed much longer retention time for a polar compounds and could separate isomers better than C18 group.
- \*C28 group showed reproducible retention under 100% aqueous condition.