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Part III – Improving Throughput Through the Use of Elevated Column Temperature

- Review potential approaches to improving the speed of HPLC
- Review the concepts of Ultra-Fast High Temperature Liquid Chromatography (UFHTLC)
- Examine current hardware used to provide elevated temperature in HPLC
- Introduce the Metalox™ Model 200-C high temperature column heater



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Potential Approaches to Improving Throughput in HPLC

| Approach | Advantage | Disadvantage |
|------------------------|--|--|
| Shorter Columns | Works with most equipment, stationary phases | Low plate count and resolution |
| Monolithic Columns | Low backpressure | Narrow-bore columns are not available |
| Ultra-High Pressure LC | High plate counts with small particles | Specialized equipment needed, losses in N at high velocity |
| High Temperature LC | Low backpressure, high efficiency | Requires adequate heating, stable phases |

High temperature LC is the only approach that allows a significant fraction of the column plate count to be retained as the column linear velocity is increased to values that allow significantly faster HPLC



From a Recent Email Advertisement from a Leading Manufacturer...

***"Forget 60 minute separations...Think short columns
and 5 minute separations..."***

- Reduce run times by up to 90%
- **No loss in resolution**
- Fast and easy methods transfer
- Shorten development time
- Increase throughput

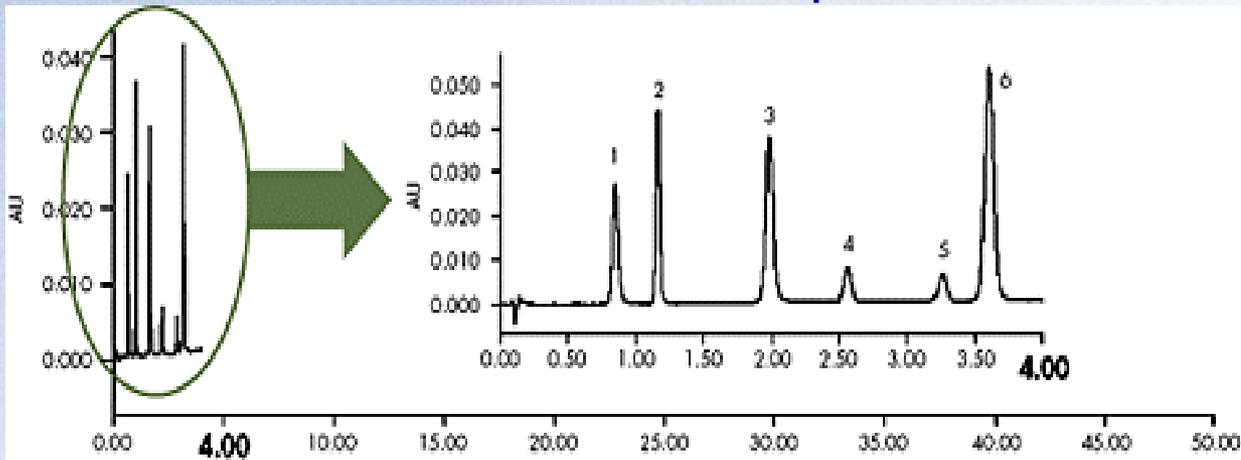




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Since $N \propto L$, Resolution Must Be Lost When the Column Length is Reduced

$$R_s = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{4} \frac{k'}{k'+1} \frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha}$$



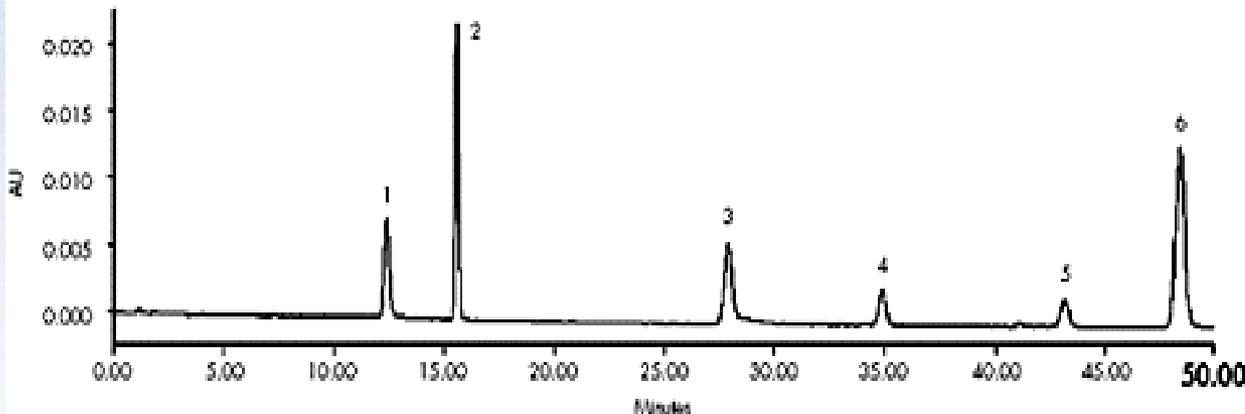
Conditions

Column: Xterra® MS C₁₈ IS

20 mm x 4.6 mm i.d., 3.5 μm

Flow rate: 3.0 ml/min.

Mobile phase: Ternary gradient



Column: Xterra® MS C₁₈ IS

150 mm x 4.6 mm i.d., 5 μm

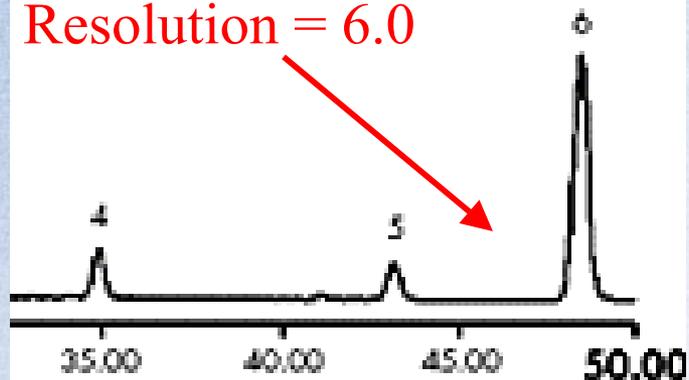
Flow rate: 1.4 ml/min.

Mobile phase: Ternary gradient



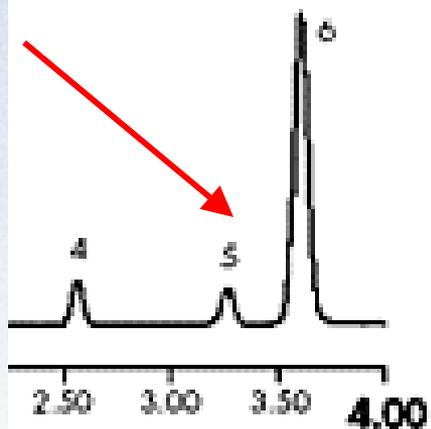
Resolution is NOT Preserved !!

Resolution = 6.0



| | Peak Number | |
|------------------------------|---------------|------|
| | 5 | 6 |
| Retention Time (min.) | 43.1 | 48.4 |
| Peak Width ($w_{1/2}$ min.) | 0.46 | 0.46 |
| Retention Factor (k') | 33.5 | 37.7 |
| Selectivity (α) | 1.12 | |
| Plate Number (N) | 50,000 | |

Resolution = 2.8



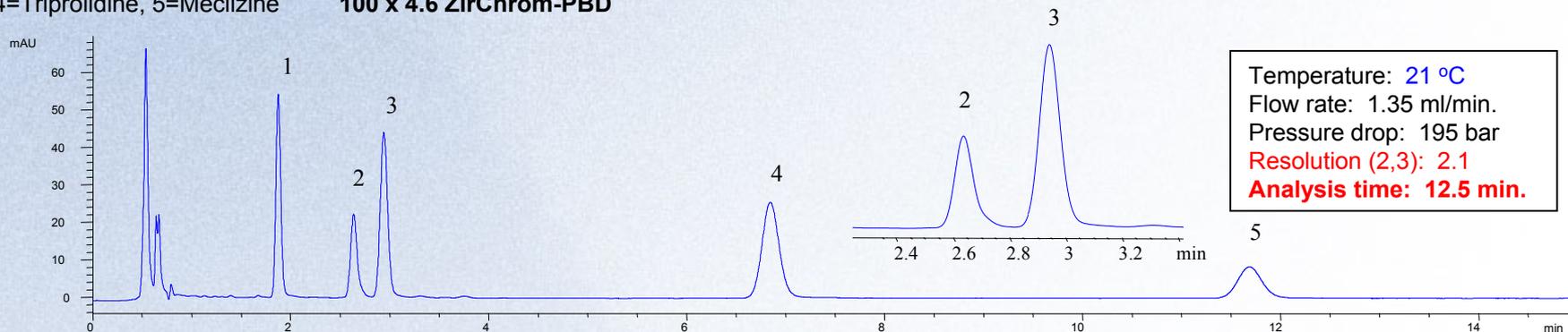
| | Peak Number | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| | 5 | 6 |
| Retention Time (min.) | 3.26 | 3.62 |
| Peak Width ($w_{1/2}$ min.) | 0.066 | 0.094 |
| Retention Factor (k') | 31.6 | 35.2 |
| Selectivity (α) | 1.12 | |
| Plate Number (N) | 13,500 | |



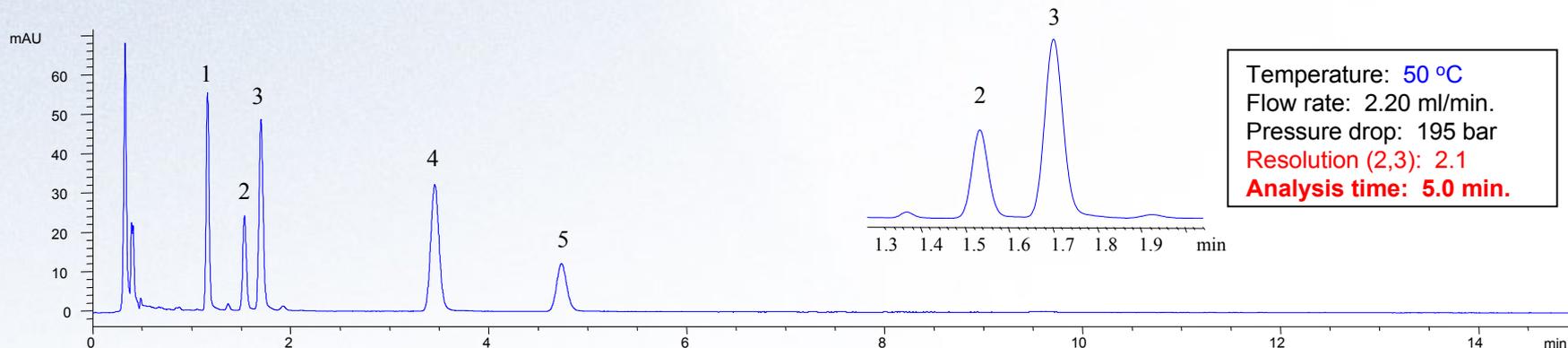
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Analysis Time May Be Reduced Without Loss of Resolution Through *Column Heating*

LC Conditions: Mobile Phase, 29/71 ACN/50mM Tetramethylammonium hydroxide, pH 12.2; Flow Rate, 1.35 mL/min.; Injection volume, 0.5 ul; 254 nm detection; Column Temperature, 21°C; Pressure drop = 195 bar; Solutes: 1=Doxylamine, 2=Methapyrilene, 3=Chlorpheniramine, 4=Triprolidine, 5=Meclizine **100 x 4.6 ZirChrom-PBD**



LC Conditions: Mobile Phase, 28/72 ACN/50mM Tetramethylammonium hydroxide, pH 12.2; Flow Rate, 2.20 mL/min.; Injection volume, 0.2 ul; 254 nm detection; Column Temperature, 50°C; Pressure drop = 195 bar; Solutes: 1=Doxylamine, 2=Methapyrilene, 3=Chlorpheniramine, 4=Triprolidine, 5=Meclizine **100 x 4.6 ZirChrom-PBD**

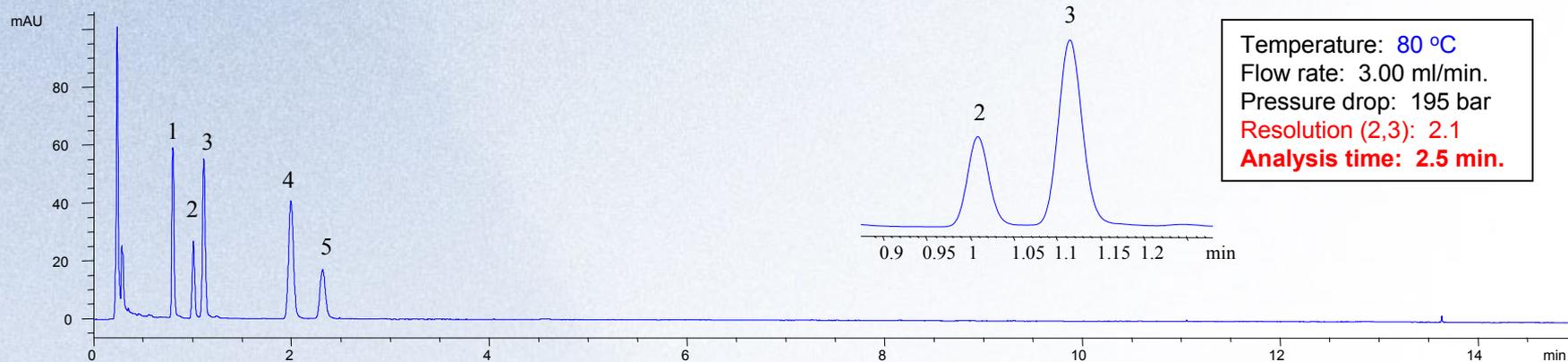




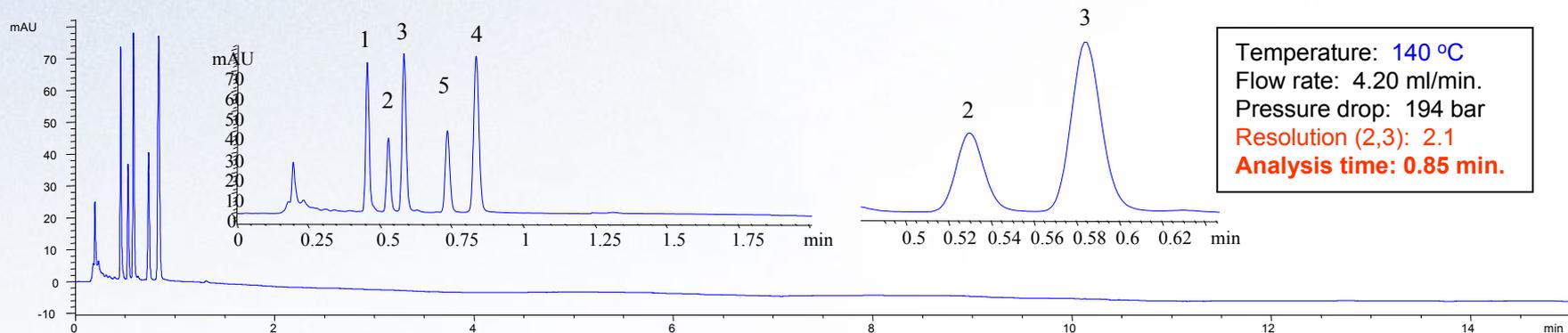
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Analysis Time May Be Reduced Without Loss of Resolution Through *Column Heating*

LC Conditions: Mobile Phase, 26.5/73.5 ACN/50mM Tetramethylammonium hydroxide, pH 12.2; Flow Rate, 3.00 mL/min.; Injection volume, 0.2 ul; 254 nm detection; Column Temperature, 80°C; Pressure drop = 195 bar; Solutes: 1=Doxylamine, 2=Methapyrilene, 3=Chlorpheniramine, 4=Triprolidine, 5=Meclizine **100 x 4.6 ZirChrom-PBD**



LC Conditions: Mobile Phase, 20.5/79.5 ACN/50mM Tetramethylammonium hydroxide, pH 12.2; Flow Rate, 4.20 mL/min.; Injection volume, 0.5 ul; 254 nm detection; Column Temperature, 140°C; Pressure drop = 194 bar; Solutes: 1=Doxylamine, 2=Methapyrilene, 3=Chlorpheniramine, 4=Triprolidine, 5=Meclizine **100 x 4.6 ZirChrom-PBD**





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The Importance of Analysis Time Reduction Through *Column Heating*

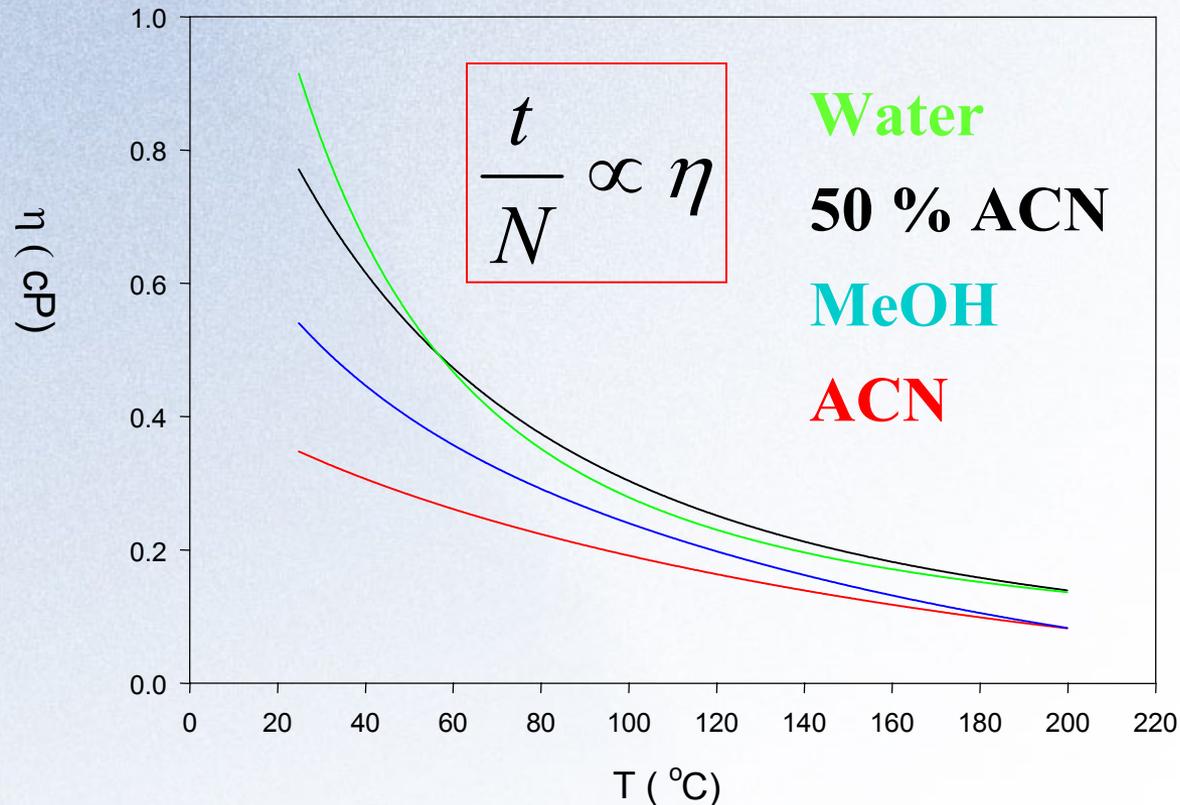
| Temperature (degrees C) | Cost per Analysis* | Throughput per Instrument* |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 21 | \$2.66 | 1 X |
| 50 | \$1.87 | 2.1 X |
| 80 | \$1.50 | 3.3 X |
| 140 | \$1.32 | 5.2 X |

* Based on Quantitative Value Assessment Tool - <http://www.zirchrom.com/documents/value.xls>



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Estimated Effect of Temperature on Viscosity*

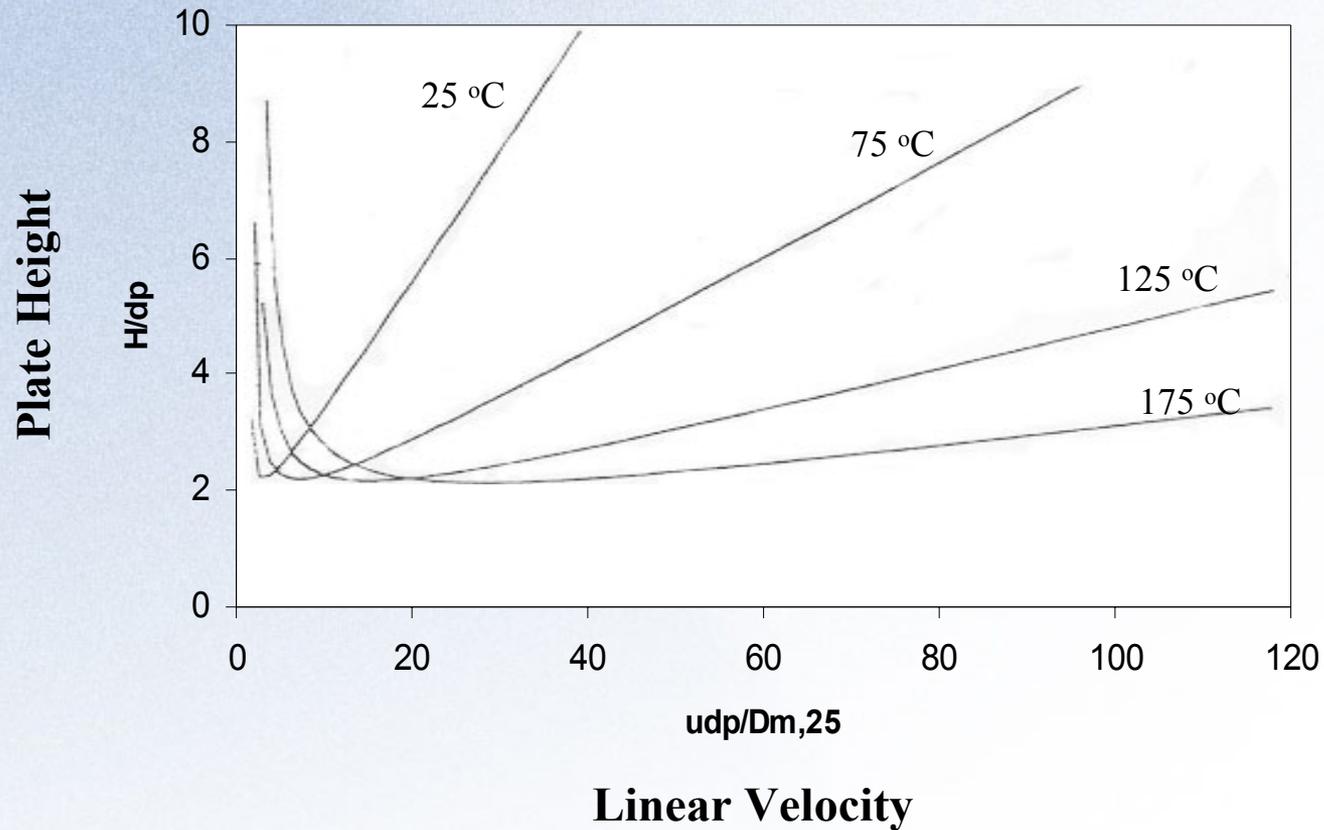


*H. Chen and Cs. Horvath, "Rapid Separation of Proteins by RP-HPLC at Elevated Temperatures," *Anal. Methods Instrum.*, **1**, 213-222 (1993).



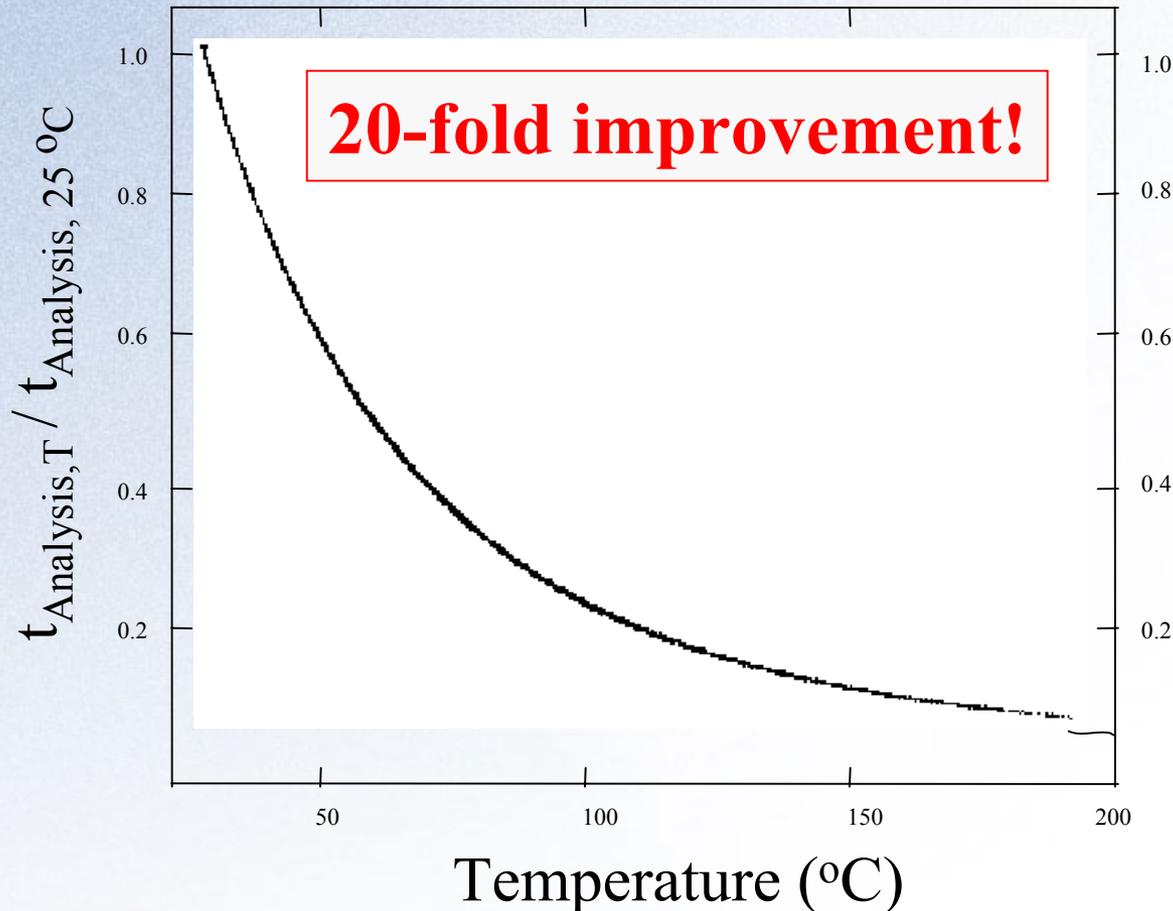
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Theoretical Effect of Temperature on Efficiency





Theoretical Effect of Temperature on Analysis Time at Constant Pressure, Plate Count and Retention Factor*



*R. D. Antia and Cs. Horvath, *J. Chromatogr.*, **435**, 1-15 (1988).



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Three Obstacles to Routine Use of High Temperature HPLC

Traditional Obstacles:

Here and Now:

Silica-based phases: NOT THERMALLY STABLE



Zirconia-based Phases are THERMALLY STABLE

Temperature mismatch broadening



Temperature Mismatch Broadening Has Been Solved – Metalox 200-C

Questions about thermal stability of small organic molecules?



A large majority of small organic molecules are stable on the timescale of ultra-fast separations



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High Temperature HPLC and the End User

Column temperature and the hardware and software that control it are one of the least understood facets of the HPLC technique

And why is that
???

Because utilizing temperature offers little or no advantage to most suppliers of columns and instrumentation.

The benefits of temperature are most appreciated by those interested in controlling the **cost of analysis!**



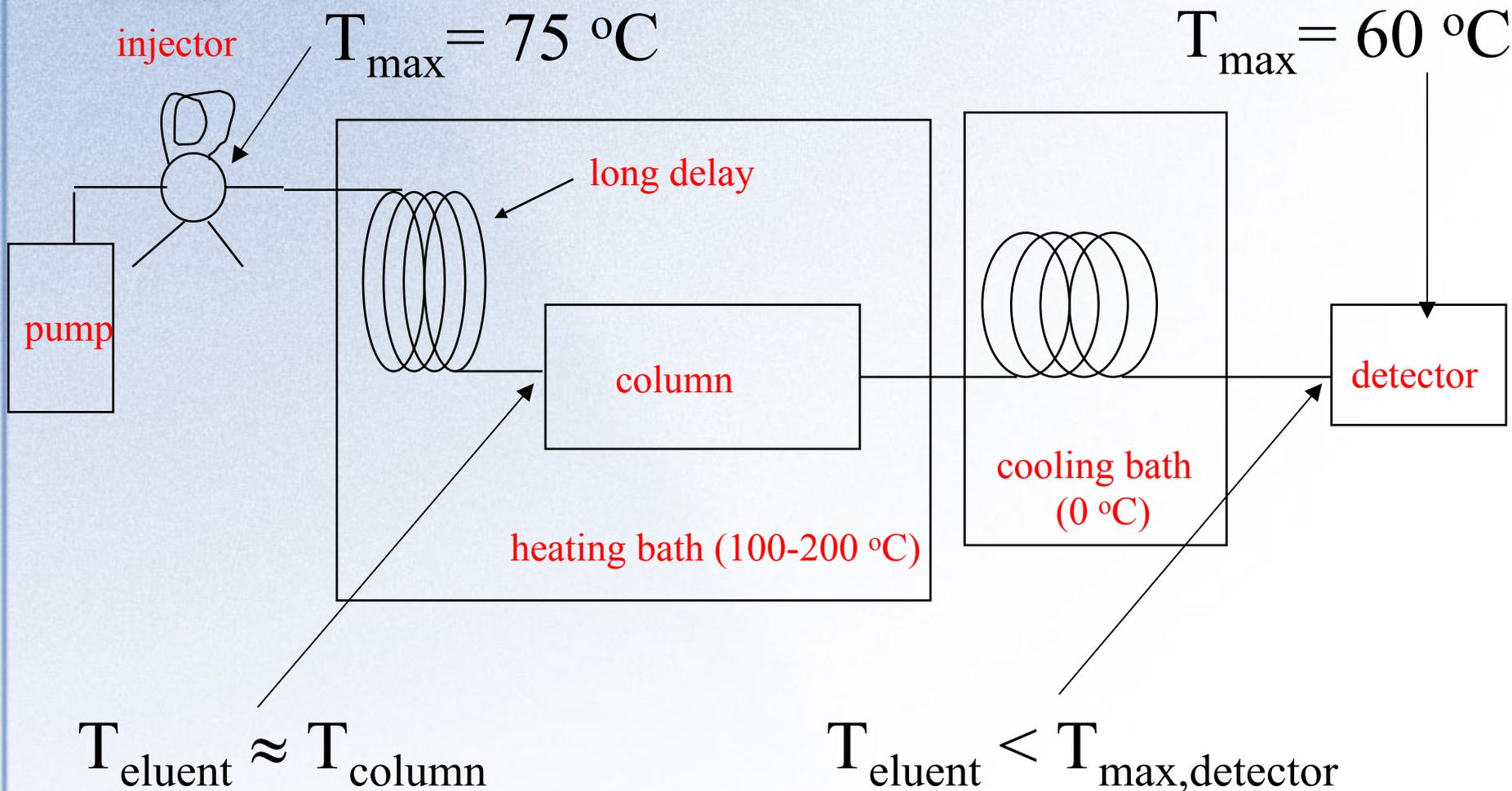
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“A poorly engineered column heater can ruin superb chromatography.”



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A PRIMITIVE High Temperature Liquid Chromatography System

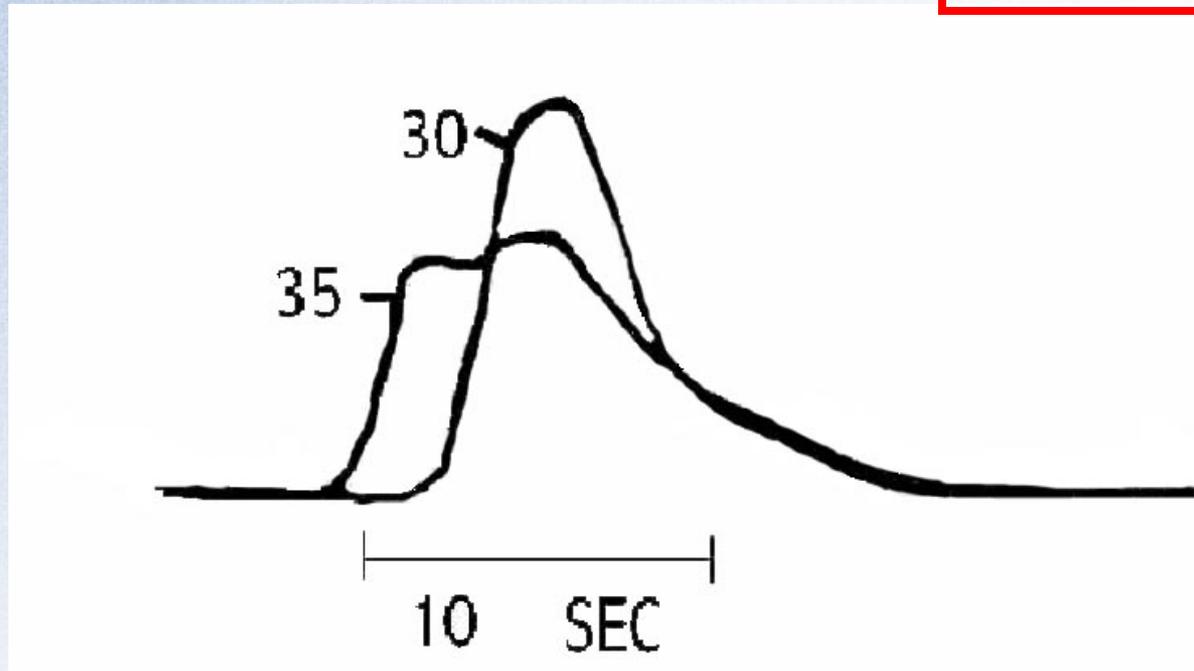




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Peak Shapes Observed for Various Mobile-Phase Feed Temperatures*

$$\sigma_{obs}^2 = \sigma_{column}^2 + \sigma_{extra-column}^2 + \sigma_{thermal-mismatch}^2$$



LC conditions: Mobile phase, 50/50 ACN/water; Flow rate, 5 ml/min.; Temperature, 30 °C with column water jacket; Column, 80 mm x 6.2 mm i.d. 3 µm Zorbax ODS; Solute, nitrobenzene.

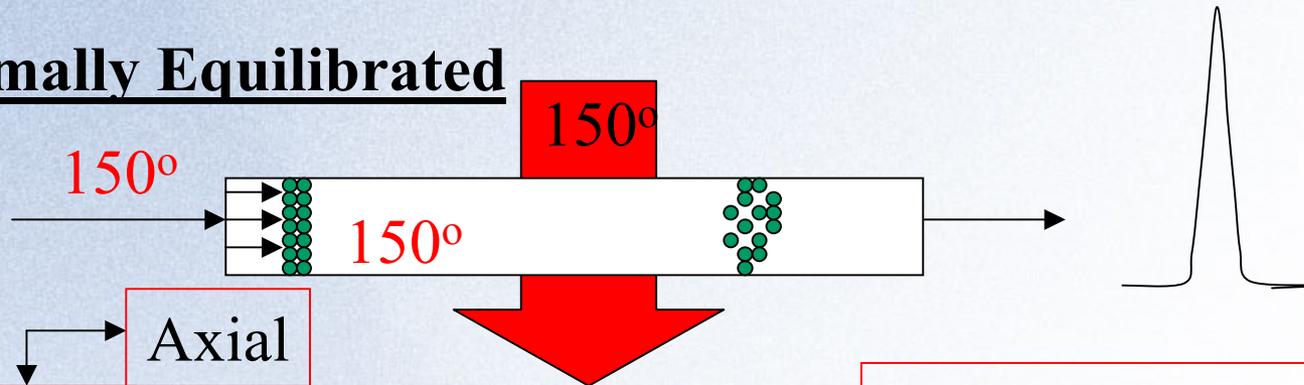
*H. Poppe and J.C. Kraak, *J. Chromatogr.*, **282**, 399-412 (1983).



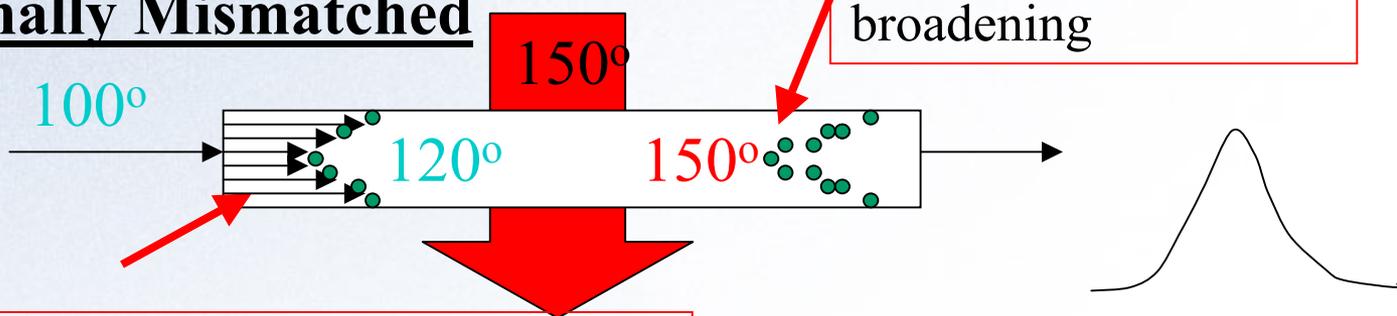
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The Effect of Incomplete Thermal Equilibration

Thermally Equilibrated



Thermally Mismatched

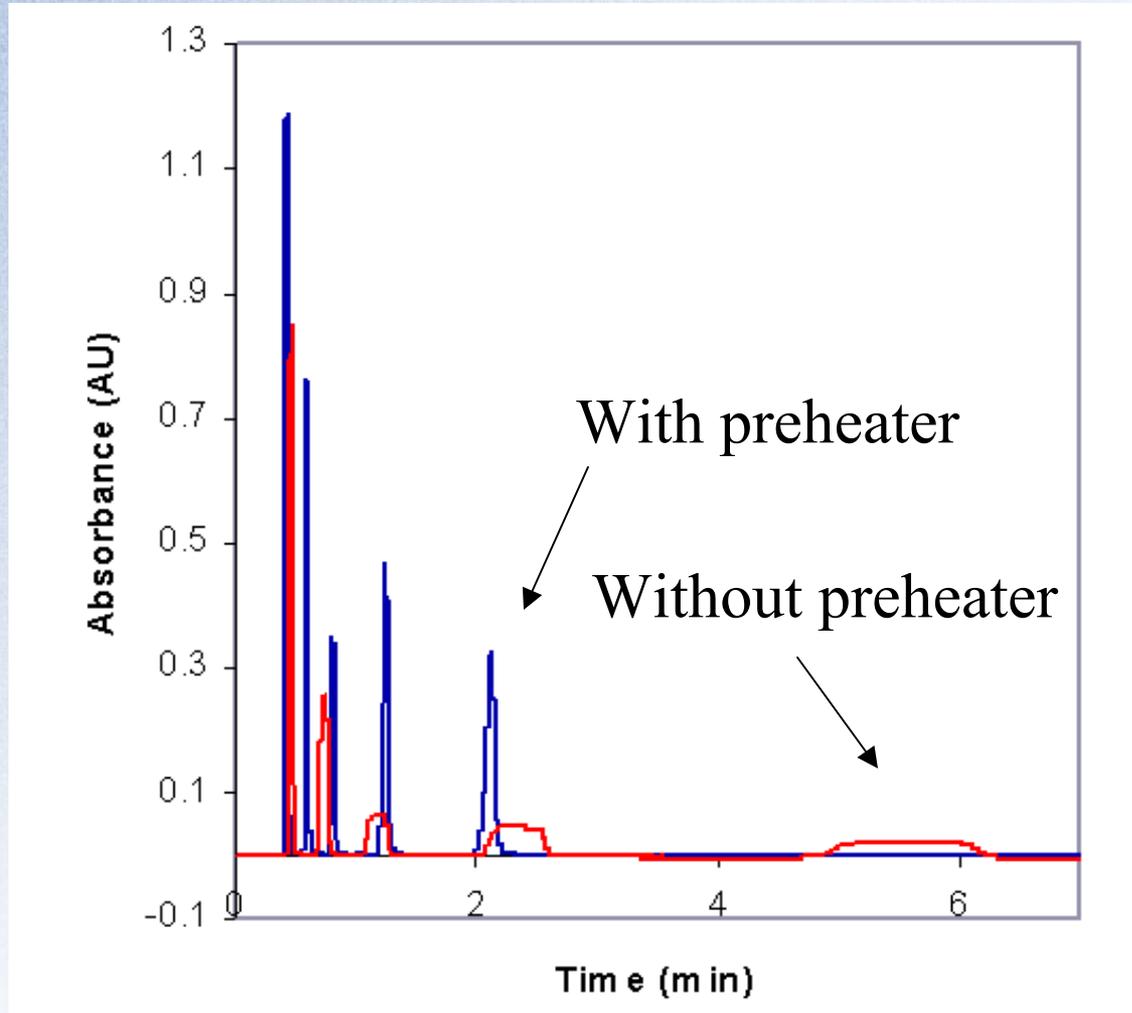


Cooler in the center:
Lower viscosity and higher retention



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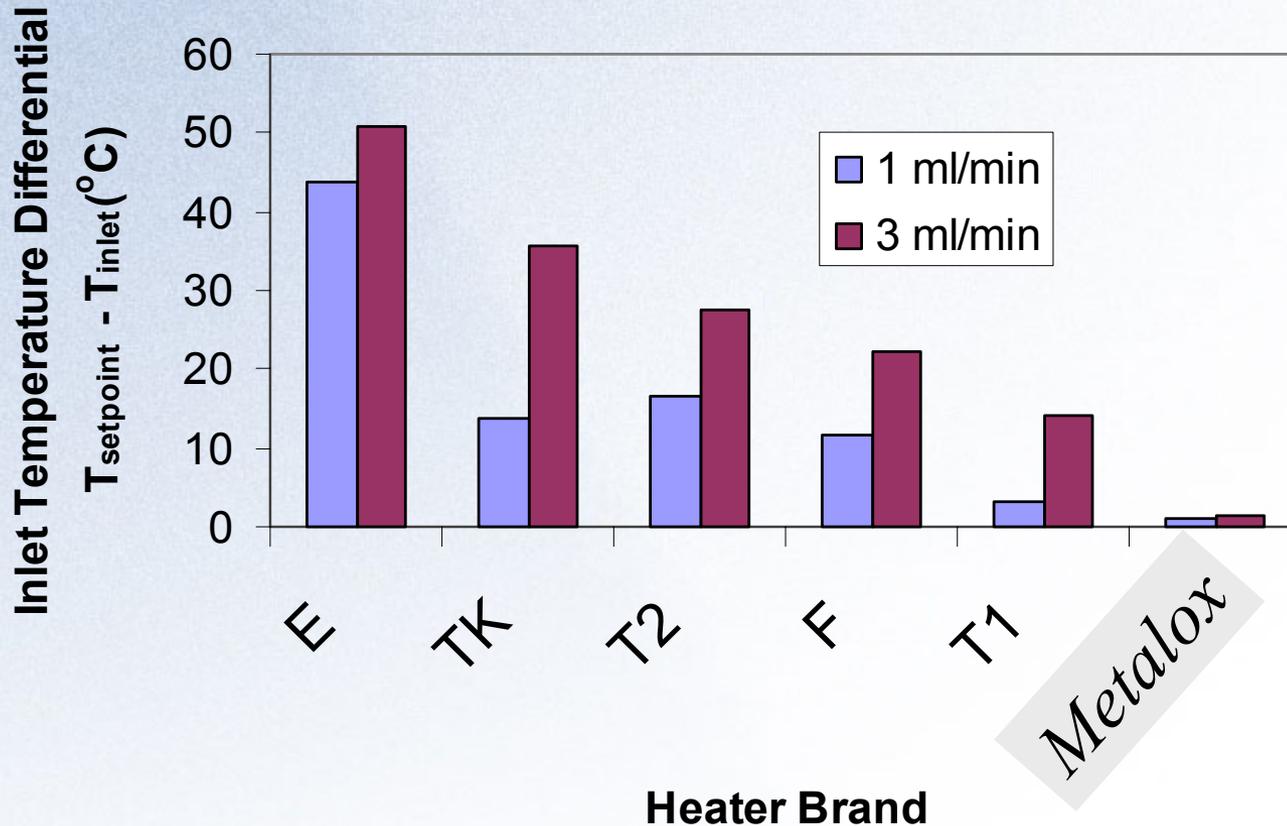
Thermal Mismatch Broadens Peaks



Conditions: Mobile phase, 50/50 ACN/water; Setpoint temperature, 165 °C, Flow rate, 3 ml/min.; Heater, F with 1.68 m preheater tubing; 100 mm x 4.6 mm i.d. ZirChrom®-PBD; Solutes, alkylphenones.



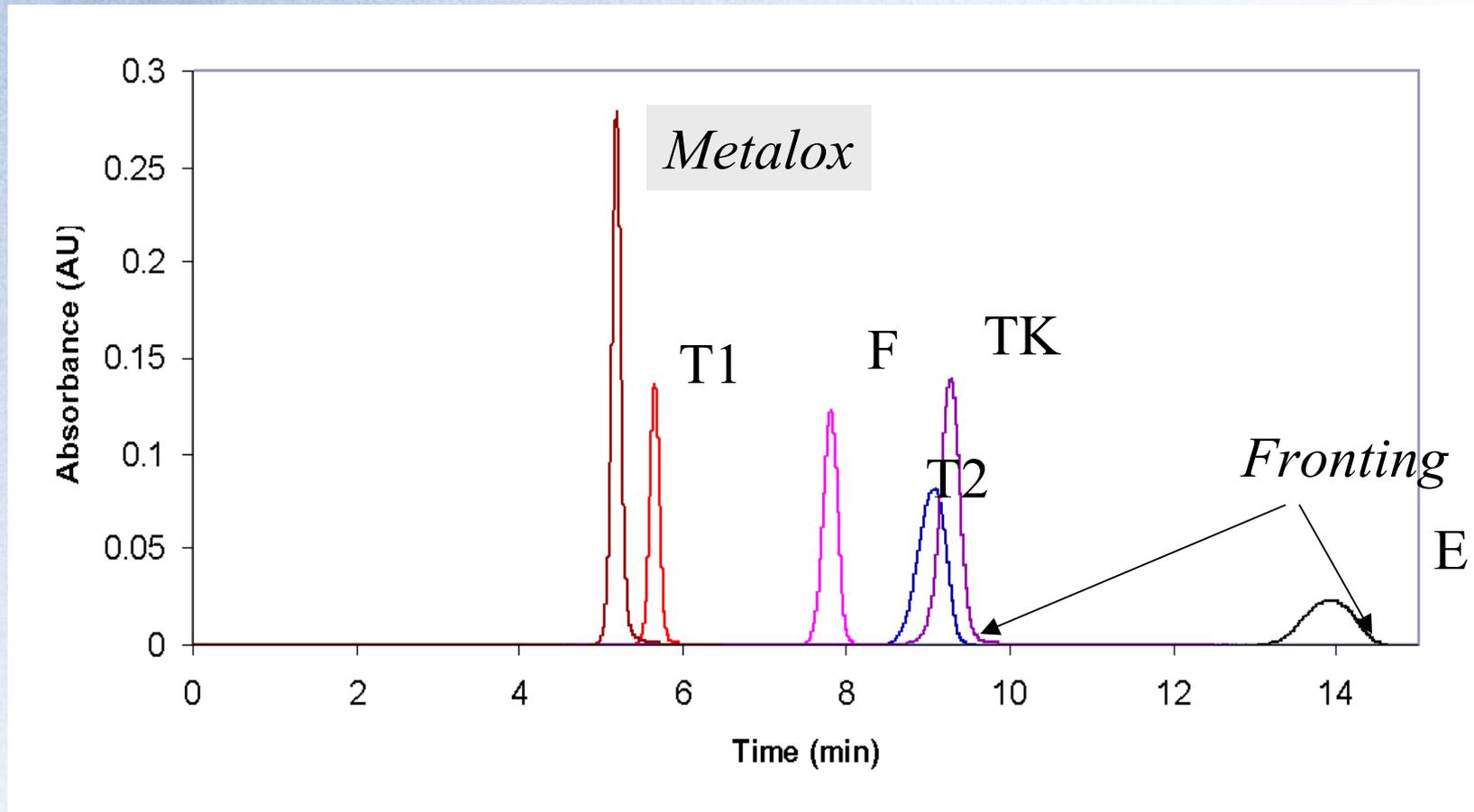
Comparison of Inlet Temperature Differential for Various Heater Brands





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Effect of Heater Manufacturer on Retention and Peak Shape



Conditions: Mobile phase, 50/50 ACN/water; Setpoint temperature, 85 °C; Flow rate, 3.0 ml/min.; Column 100 mm x 4.6 mm I.d. ZirChrom®-PBD; Solute, tetradecaphenone.



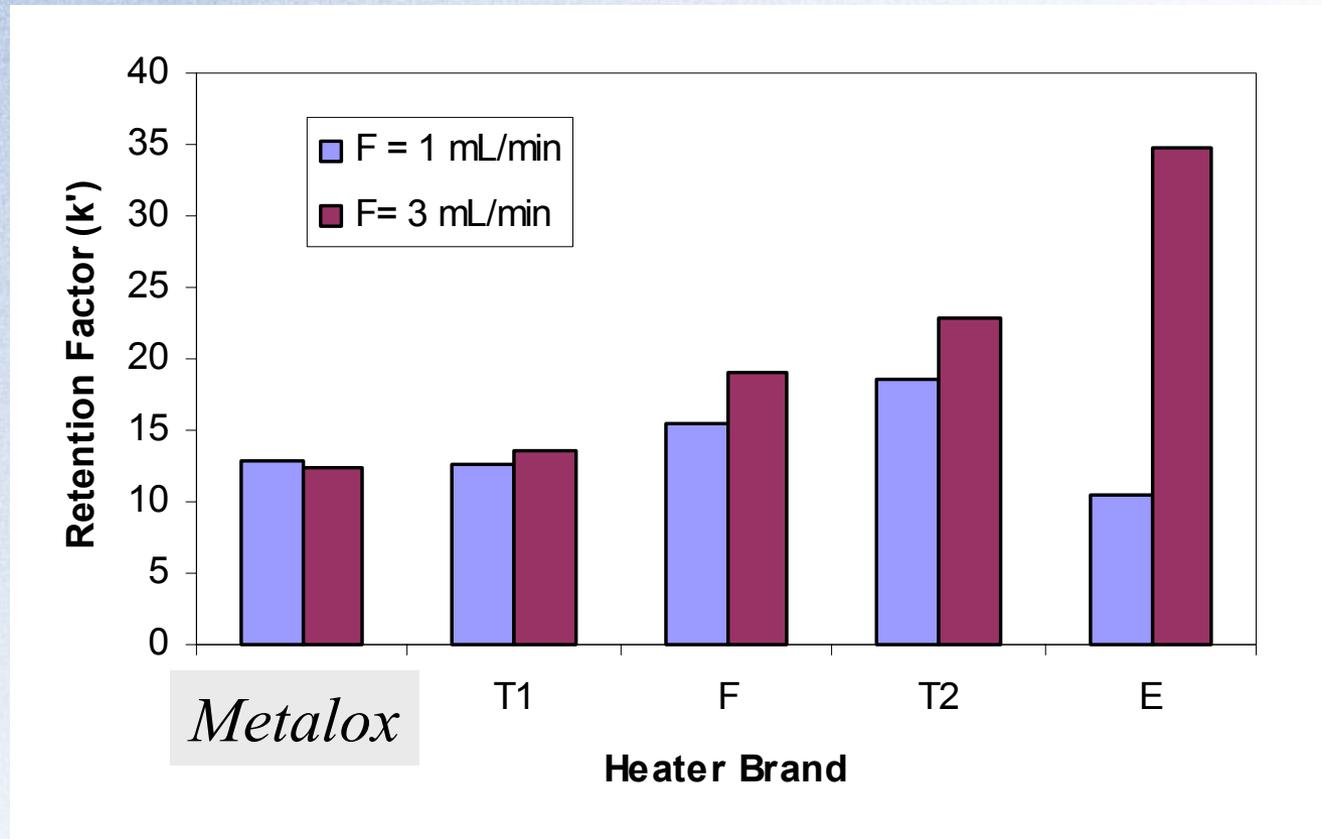
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Retention Factor is Independent of Flow Rate, Right?

$$k' = \frac{t_R - t_m}{t_m}$$



Wrong...if your heater does not work properly

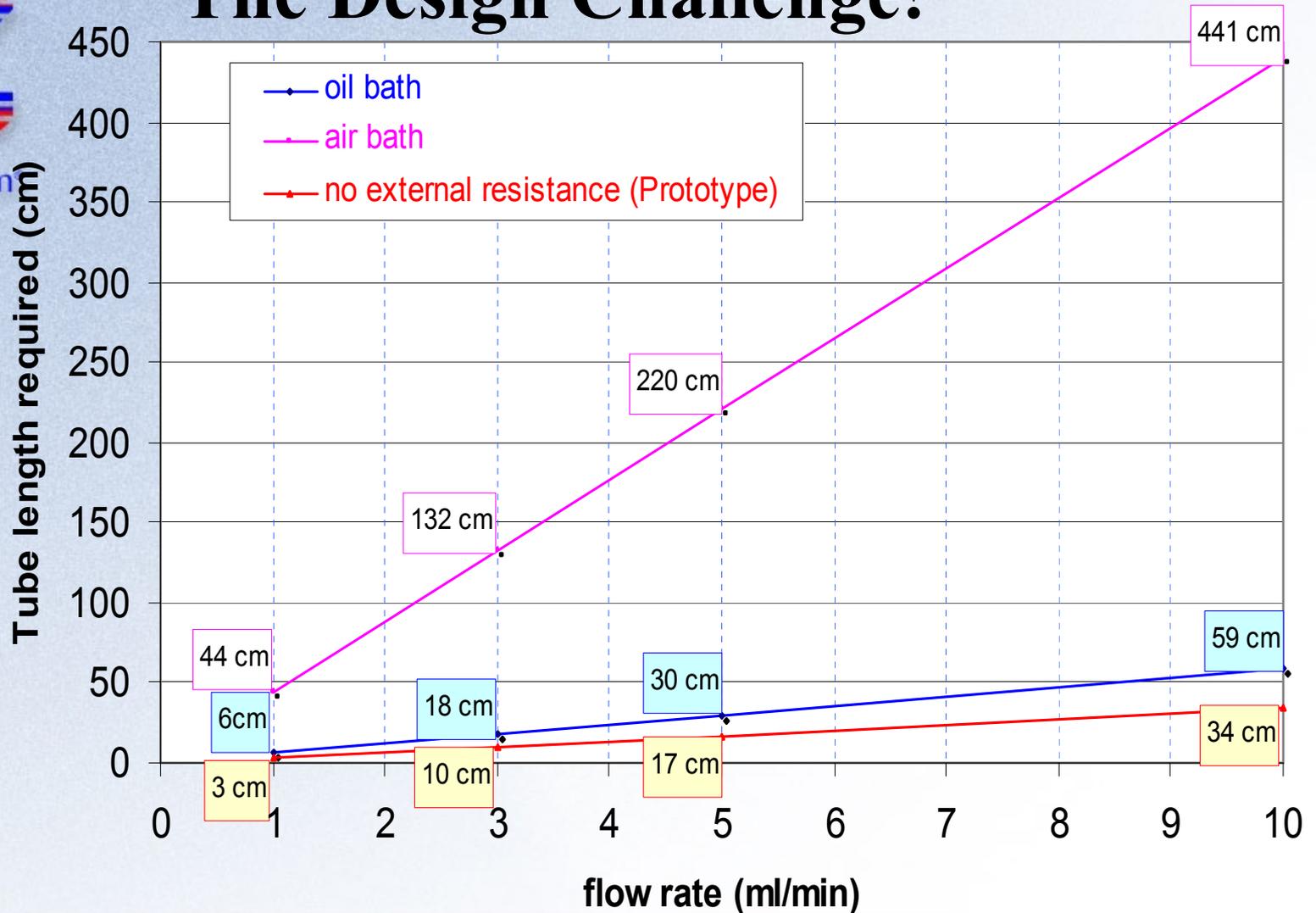


Conditions: Mobile phase, 50/50 ACN/water; Setpoint temperature, 85 °C; Flow rate, 3.0 ml/min.; Column 100 mm x 4.6 mm I.d. ZirChrom®-PBD; Solute, tetradecaphenone.



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The Design Challenge!



How do we get the eluent and column to high temperature and high velocity without intolerable extra-column band broadening?

B Yan, et al. *Anal. Chem.* 72, 1253-62 (2000).



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The Metalox™ 200-C System

- Mobile phase pre-heating heat exchanger
- Direct heating of mobile phase and pre-detector heat exchange cooling
- Active shield quasi-adiabatic column jacket
- Adjustable back pressure regulator
- A method development kit including three of the ultra-stable RPLC ZirChrom® phases (introductory offer)





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Design Goals for the Metalox™ Model 200-C

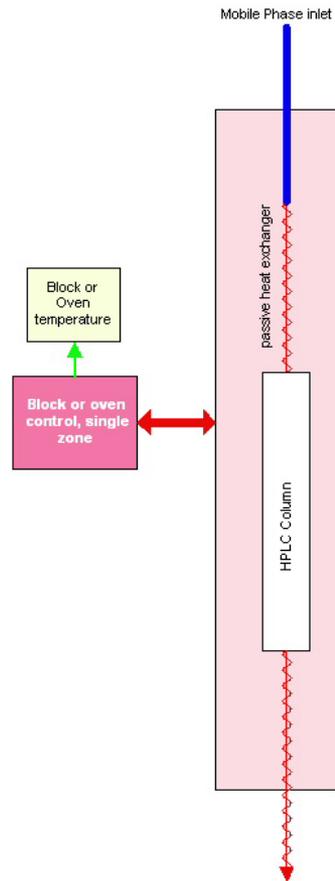
- Small footprint
- Stand alone operation
- Multiple operating positions
- Highly accurate column temperature
- No overheating of incoming mobile phase
- One preheater tube for all specified operating conditions
- Intended as a productivity tool for HPLC columns 15cm or less
- Easy access to parameters necessary for method or instrument validation



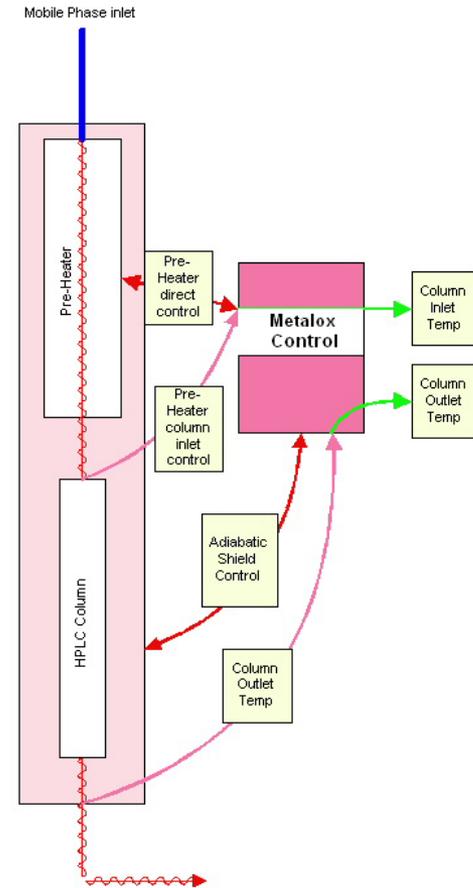
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Schematic Comparison of Conventional Column Heater vs. Metalox™ 200-C

Other HPLC Column Heating Systems

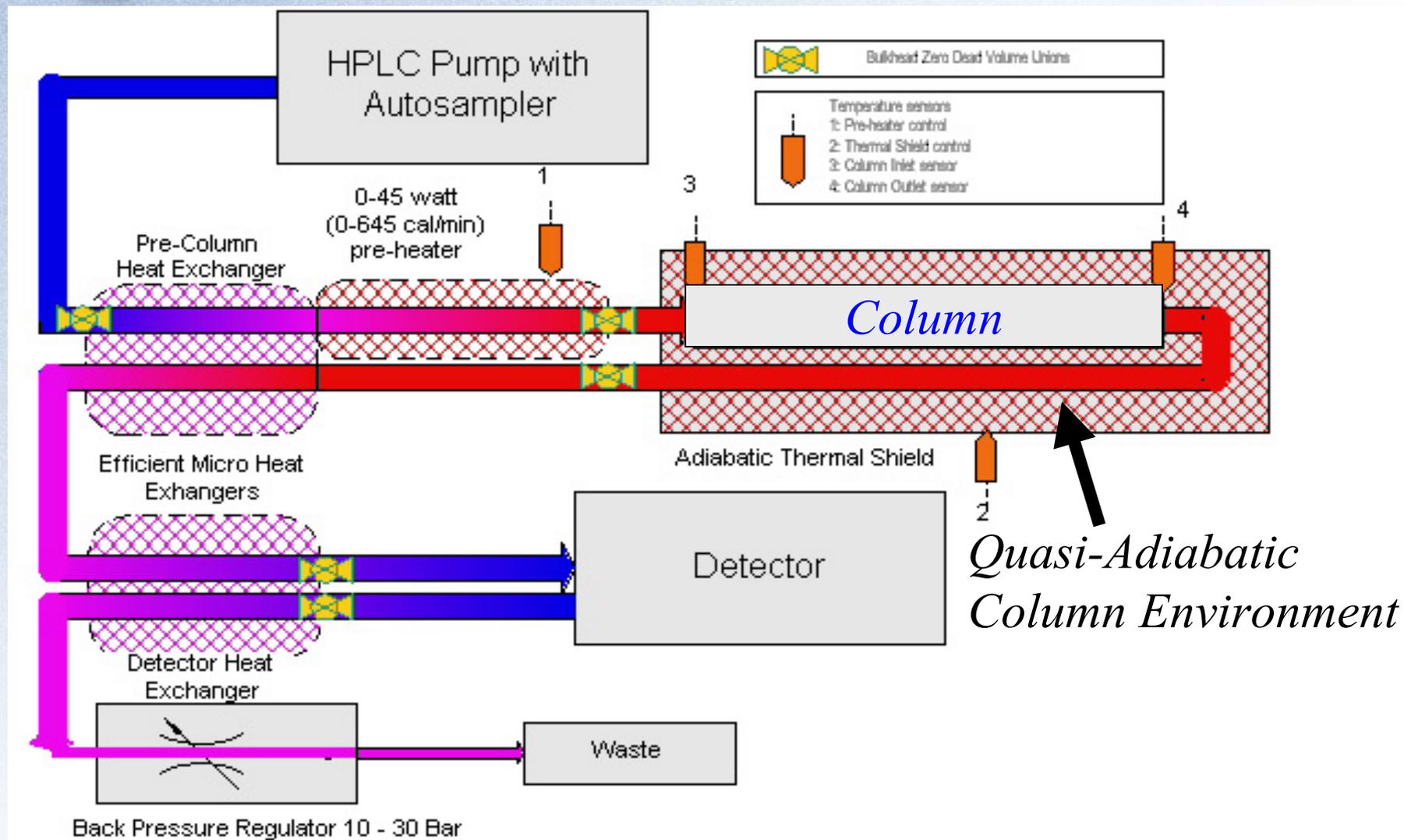


Metalox HPLC Column Heating System





Patented Heating System Metalox™ Model 200-C





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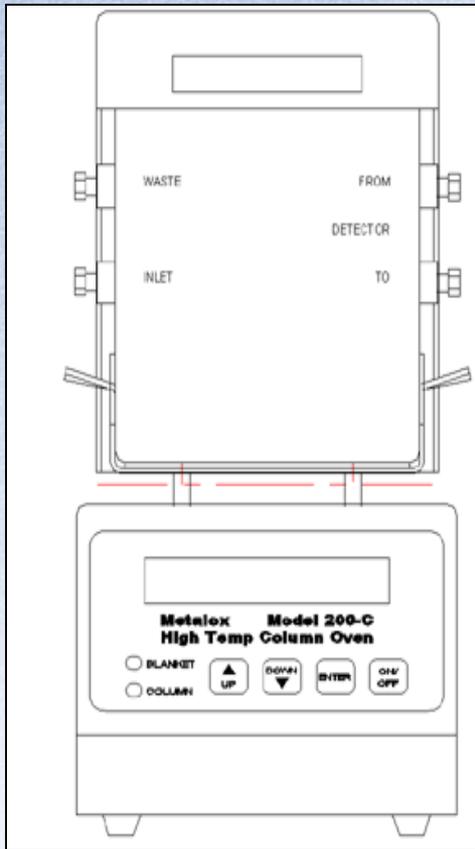
Comparison of Heat Exchangers

40 μ L





Metalox™ 200-C Specifications



◆ Operational Capabilities

- Max. Column Operating Temp: 200° C (6 ml/min with water)
- Min. Temperature: 7° C above ambient
- Max. Flow Rate: 6ml/min (200° C, water mobile phase)
- Max. Cal./s: 17.9
- Temperature Reproducibility: $\pm 0.5^{\circ}$ C
- Accuracy of Temp. Reading: $\pm 1\%$
- Display Resolution: 1° C

◆ Physical Specifications

- Weight: 15lbs
- Footprint: 6"x10"x16"
- Power Requirements: 115/230V 47-440 Hz
- Internal Transfer Volumes:
 - ◆ Pre-Column: 10.5 uL
 - ◆ Post-Column: 4.0 uL

Note: Metalox 200-C design and specifications are patented



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Summary

- High temperature HPLC is a practical means of achieving significant improvements in HPLC throughput
- ZirChrom offers four unique phases for high temperature RPLC that are thermally stable up to 150 °C (200 °C for carbon phases)
- The Metalox™ 200-C column heater is a state-of-the-art unit that allows monitoring of the actual HPLC column inlet and outlet temperatures up to 200 °C to ensure the most high performance and reproducible separations