

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Title: nano-Liquid Chromatography for Experiment 1 and Experiment 2

SOP#: WU-SOP-LC2-02

Version #: 1

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Purpose

This document describes the configuration, benchmarks and gradient methods for nano-liquid chromatography (nano-LC) using an EASY nanoLC™ 1000 (<https://tools.thermofisher.com/content/sfs/manuals/Man-60053-97227-EASY-nLC-1000-User-Man6005397227-C-EN.pdf>) coupled to an Active Background Ion Reduction Device (ABIRD, ESI Source Solutions) that is interfaced to a triple quadrupole-Orbitrap (ThermoFisher, Q-Exactive™). The system is used to acquire scheduled full scan MS2 spectra (PRM) for the high-purity synthetic H/L peptide admixture given in WU-SOP-EXP1-02 (V3) in a complex matrix (tryptic digest of a pooled tumor lysate).

Scope

The procedures encompass the setup of a single column nano-LC for generating the MS data for Experiments 1 and 2 as, described in the CPTAC document, “Assay development guidelines”. The configuration, optimization and benchmarking of the mass spectrometer are described in WU-SOP-MS3-01 and WU-SOP-MS4-01.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of person(s) performing this procedure to be familiar with laboratory safety procedures. The interpretation of results must be done by a person trained in the procedure and familiar with such interpretation.

Equipment

- EASY-nLC™ 1000 (Thermo Scientific, LC120).
- Active Background Ion Reduction Device-ABIRD (ESI Source Solutions, Woburn Ma)

Materials

- EASY-Spray Column: 75 μm x 50 cm PepMap™ RSLC C18, 2 μm , 100 Å (Thermo Scientific, ES803)
- Injection loop: 20 μL PEEKsil™, 100 μm (Thermo Scientific, LC472)

Reagents

- Mobile Phase A. Water containing 0.1% Formic Acid (Honeywell Burdick & Jackson, cat# LC452-2.5, 2.5L)
- Mobile Phase B. Acetonitrile containing 0.1% Formic Acid (Honeywell Burdick & Jackson, cat# LC441-2.5, 2.5 L).
- Pierce Retention Time Calibration Mixture, Thermo Scientific (88321)
- Pierce HeLa Protein Digest Standard, Thermo Scientific (88328)

Solutions

- Pour the vendor mixed solvents from the 2.5 L glass bottle to 250 mL glass media bottles.
- Fill the 25 mL reservoir on the LC pump from the 250 mL glass media bottles.
 - Pump-A, mobile phase A: 0.1% FA in water
 - Pump-B, mobile phase B: 0.1% FA in AcN
- Loading pump-S, mobile phase A: 0.1% FA in H₂O
- All solvents that go on the instrument are sonicated for 5 minutes to degas with the cap loosened. All reservoirs are rinsed 3 times before refilling with the appropriate mobile phase.

Procedure

1. Instrument Configuration
 - a. The flow path for the EASY-nLC system that is used to execute Experiments 1 and 2 is shown in Diagram I. The Thermo Scientific EASY-nLC system is configured in the configuration file in the Xcalibur® software. Methods for the autosampler and LC are written in each method file. For further details, see user manual. The method used to analyze samples (e.g. calibrants or standard peptide H/L admixtures) is controlled by event sequence and gradient as shown in the following Tables.

Table I. Autosampler Method for PRM Sample Run:

Step	Operation	Value	Parameter	Speed	Pressure	Description
1	Sample Pickup	2.5 μ L	Injector Load	1 μ L/min		Pull up sample into loop
2	Wait					Until column pre-equilibration is finished
3	Sample Load	7 μ L	Injector Inject		800 bar	Loading sample onto column
4	Wait					Wait until gradient starts
5	Autosampler wash	100 μ L				
6	END					

2. EASY-nLC method for PRM sample run:
 - a. Flow rate (nL/min): 300
 - b. Temperature ($^{\circ}$ C): 50
 - c. Run Conditions:
 - i. Column pre-equilibration to initial conditions (20 μ L at 800bar)
 - ii. Load sample for 7 μ L at 700bar
 - iii. Prepare gradient

Table II. Timetable for Column Flow for PRM Sample Run Exp1 and 2

Time (min)	% Mobile phase A composition	% Mobile phase B composition
0	100	0
5	100	0
112	70	30
113	5	95
120	5	95

Table III. Autosampler Method for System Performance Run

Step	Operation	Value	Parameter	Speed	Pressure	Description
1	Sample Pickup	2 μ L	Injector Load	1 μ L/min		Pull up sample into loop
2	Wait					Until column pre-equilibration is finished
3	Sample Load	6 μ L	Injector Inject		800 bar	Loading sample onto column
4	Wait					Wait until gradient starts
5	Autosampler wash	100 μ L				
6	END					

3. EASY-nLC method for PRTC and HeLa digest runs:
- a. Flow rate (nL/min): 300
 - b. Temperature ($^{\circ}$ C): 50
 - c. Run Conditions:
 - i. Column pre-equilibration to initial conditions at 800bar.
 - ii. Load sample for 6 μ L at 800bar
 - iii. Prepare gradient

Table IV. Timetable for Column Flow for System Performance PRTC's

Time (Min)	% Mobile Phase A Composition	% Mobile Phase B Composition
0	100	0
2	100	0
32	70	30
33	5	95
36	5	95

Table V. Timetable for Column Flow for System Performance HeLa Digest

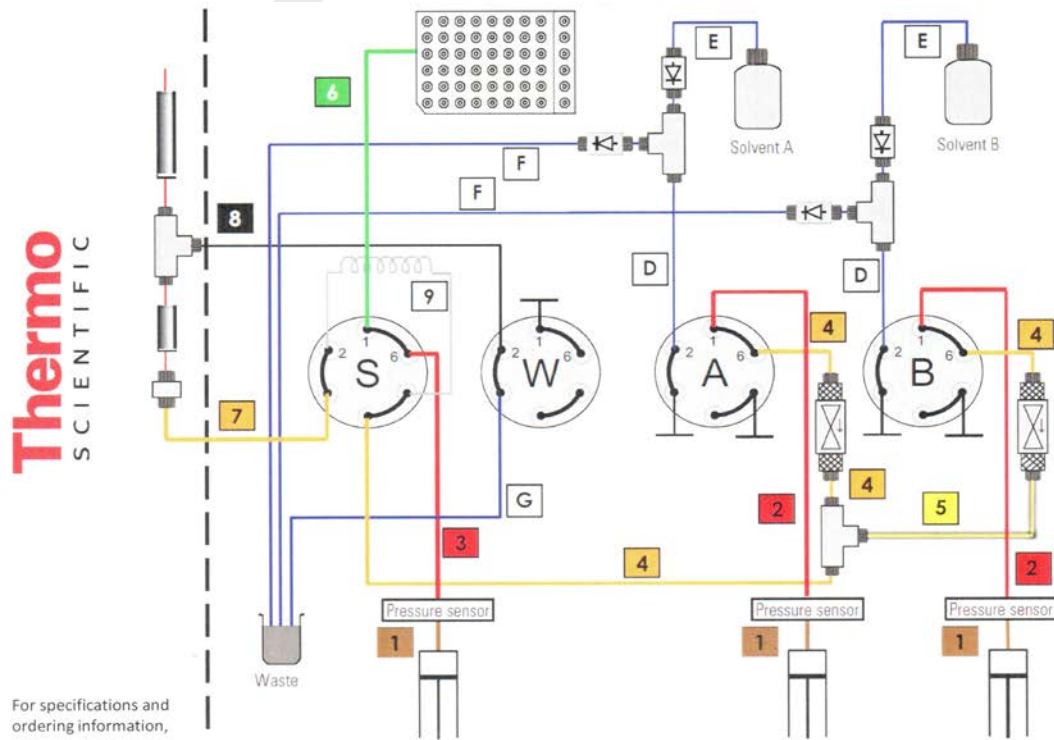
Time (min)	% Mobile phase A composition	% Mobile phase B composition
0	98	2
5	98	2
105	80	20
125	68	32
126	5	95
133	5	95

4. Cycle Time for system performance test and PRM sample run

System Performance Run PRTC's		System Performance Run Hela Digest	
Steps for PRM Run	Duration (Min)	Steps for System Performance Run	Duration (Min)
Re-equilibrate to initial conditions	57	Re-equilibrate to initial conditions	57
Sample Load on chip column	15	Sample Load on chip column	15
gradient (0%B to 30%B)	112	gradient (2%B to 30%B)	125
High AcN bump off (95%B)	8	High AcN bump off (95%B)	8
Total time (hours)	3.2	Total time (hours)	3.41

PRM Sample Run	Exp1 / Exp2
Steps for PRM Run	Duration (Min)
Re-equilibrate to initial conditions	57
Sample Load on chip column	15
gradient (0%B to 30%B)	112
High AcN bump off (95%B)	8
Total time (hours)	3.2

Diagram I: flow path



ID	Connections	Tubing	Part number
1	Pump outlet to pressure sensor inlet	Stainless steel, 250 µm ID, 150 mm length	LC512
2	Pressure sensor outlet to valve A or B	Stainless steel, 250 µm ID, 150 mm length	LC513
3	Pressure sensor outlet to valve S	Stainless steel, 250 µm ID, 150 mm length	LC514
4	Mixing Tee to valve S, Valve A to flow sensor A, Valve B to flow sensor B, Flow sensor A to mixing Tee	nanoViper, 20 µm ID, 350 mm length	LC522
5	Flow sensor B to mixing Tee	nanoViper, 10 µm ID, 180 mm length	LC543
6	Autosampler needle connected to port 1 of valve S	PEEKsil™, 150 µm ID, 550 mm length	LC302
7	Column Out tubing connected to port 3 of valve S	nanoViper, 20 µm ID, 550 mm length	LC560
8	Waste In line, venting Tee to port 2 of valve W	nanoViper, 75 µm ID, 550 mm length	LC562
9	Sample loop, 20 µL	nanoViper, 250 µm ID, 410 mm length	LC472
D	Port 2 of valve A to check valve A Port 2 of valve B to check valve B	Teflon™, 500 µm ID, 150 mm length	kit LC230
E	Tubing (2) from check valves to solvent bottles	Teflon, 500 µm ID, 390 mm length	kit LC230
F	Tubing (2) from check valves to waste beaker	Teflon, 500 µm ID, 390 mm length	kit LC230
G	Tubing from valve W to the waste beaker	Teflon, 500 µm ID, 330 mm length	LC263

For a layout diagram, please

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Referenced Documents

- WU-SOP-EXP1-02 (V3)-: “Preparation of Standard Peptide Samples for the Generation of Reverse Response Curves-Experiment 1”
- WU-SOP-MS3-01- “Optimizing Mass Spectrometer Performance for Experiments 1 and 2 on the Q-Exactive™ system”.
- WU-SOP-MS4-01 – “Mass Spectrometry Using Parallel Reaction Monitoring for Experiments 1 and 2”

Abbreviations

- AcN, acetonitrile
- FA, formic acid
- LC-MS, nano-LC interfaced to a high-resolution Quadrupole-Orbitrap mass spectrometer as described in WU-SOP-LC2-02 and WU-SOP-MS4-01
- H or heavy, stable isotopically labeled synthetic peptide
- L or light, natural abundance synthetic peptide
- Q.S., quantum satis
- PDX, patient-derived xenografts
- PRM, parallel reaction monitoring
- PRTC- Pierce Retention Time Calibration Mixture