

POP LC<sup>®</sup>

Phase Optimized Liquid  
Chromatography

***The New Way  
to Speed Up H P L C***

*Yuri Kalambet, Yuri Kozmin, Klaus Bischoff, Stefan Lamotte, Rainer Brindle*

# Outline

- Motivation
- Method Development in HPLC
- Phase **OPT**imized **L**iquid **C**hromatography (**POPLC**<sup>®</sup>)
- The **POPLC**<sup>®</sup> Optimizer Software
- Examples
- Summary

# RP-HPLC

## Situation

- more than 800 RP packings are commercially available today
- How to find the right packing for my separation?

# Properties of RP Packings

- **Hydrophobicity**
- **Silanophilic Activity**
- **Molecular Planarity Recognition (“Shape Selectivity”)**
- **Polar Selectivity**
- **Metal Content**

# Selectivity in RP HPLC

- **all modern classical bonded RP packings are looking the same in terms of selectivity**
- **the stationary phases are optimized to solve as much applications as possible and are suited for about 80% of all applications today**
- **new stationary phases with other selectivities are needed to solve the remaining separation problems**

# Method Development in HPLC

## Procedure

- **rough choice of the column (C18, polar embedded C18, Phenyl, etc.)**
- **Optimization of the mobile phase (pH, solvent strength, if necessary gradient, type of organic solvent, buffer)**
- **Optimization of temperature**

# What is POPLC®?

**P**hase **O**ptimized **L**iquid **C**hromatography®

**P**ersonal

**P**erformance

# Why POPLC®?

- POPLC® leads to the **ultimate best column** for each separation

**Benefit:** no longer „Trial & Error“

- In many cases no gradient elution is required

**Benefit:** possible use of all detectors (Conductivity, RI, Electrochemical Detector), constant Ionization in LC/MS, easy method transfer

- **modular POPLink® - column system** decreases follow up costs

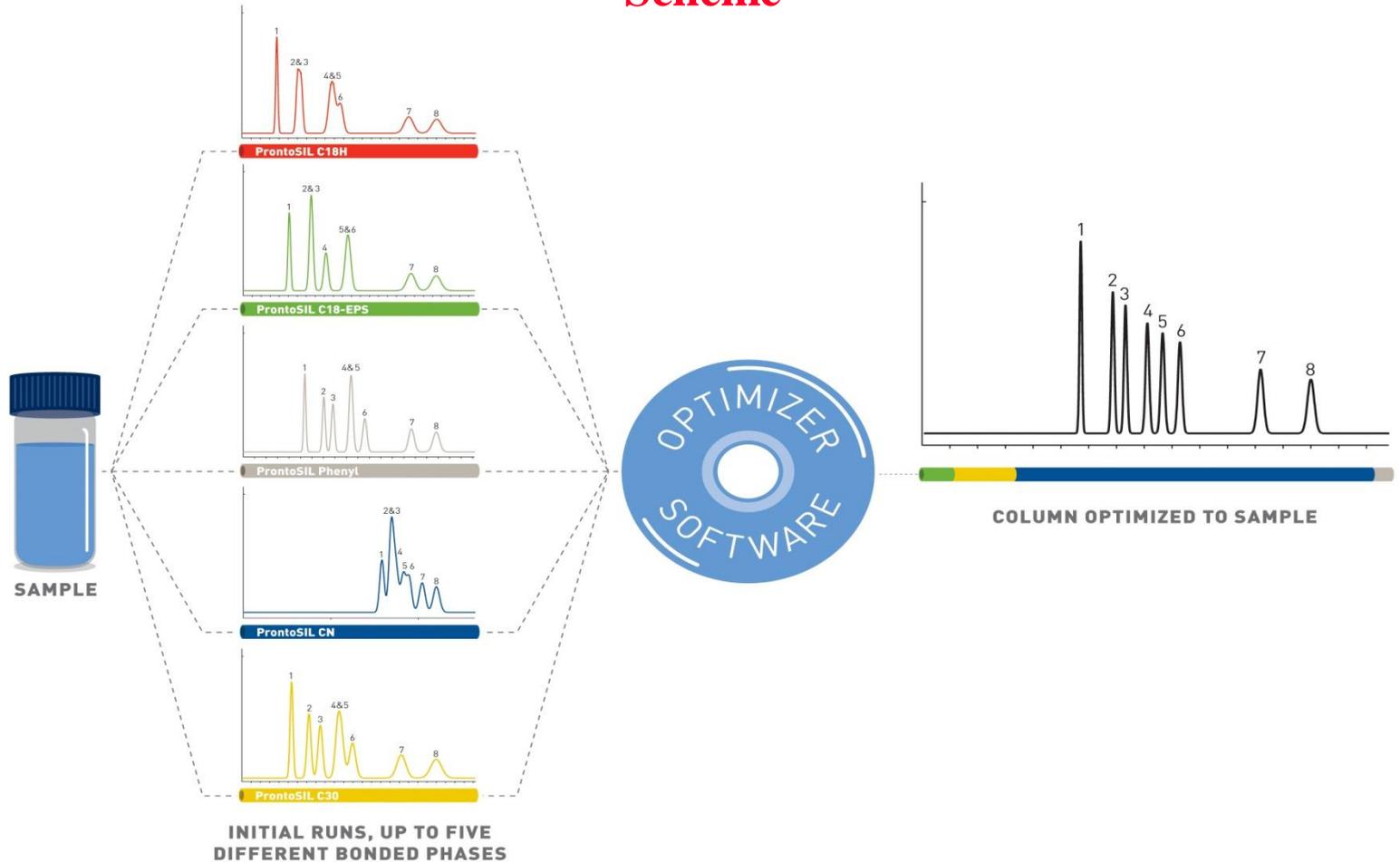
**Benefit:** economical and ecological

- POPLC® Optimizer **Software** is an excellent tool for Optimization, understanding and documentation of HPLC separations

**Benefit:** adaptation of separation task is easy

# Method Development in POPLC®

## Scheme



# Method Development in POPLC®

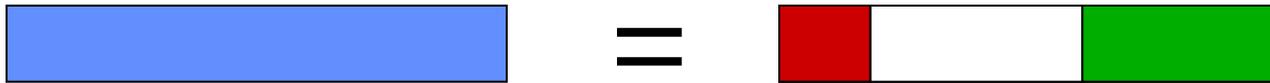
## Procedure

- **rough choice of mobile phase (% organic, type, pH)**
- **one base measurement on each of n (often 3 to 5) different stationary phases**
- **Determination (optimization) of the ideal stationary phase via computer software**

# Simple Principal of POPLC®

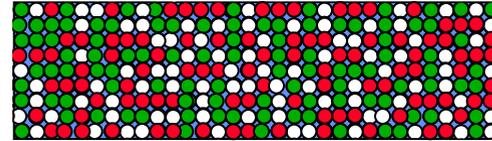
**“Retention times are additive !!!”**

$$t_{R_{total}} = t_{R_A} + t_{R_B} + t_{R_C}$$



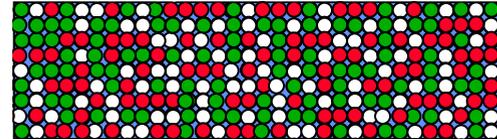
# Possibilities of Realization for POPLC<sup>®</sup>

## 1. Mixing of Stationary Phases



# Possibilities of Realization for POPLC<sup>®</sup>

## 1. Mixing of Stationary Phases



## 2. Combination of Different Column Lengths

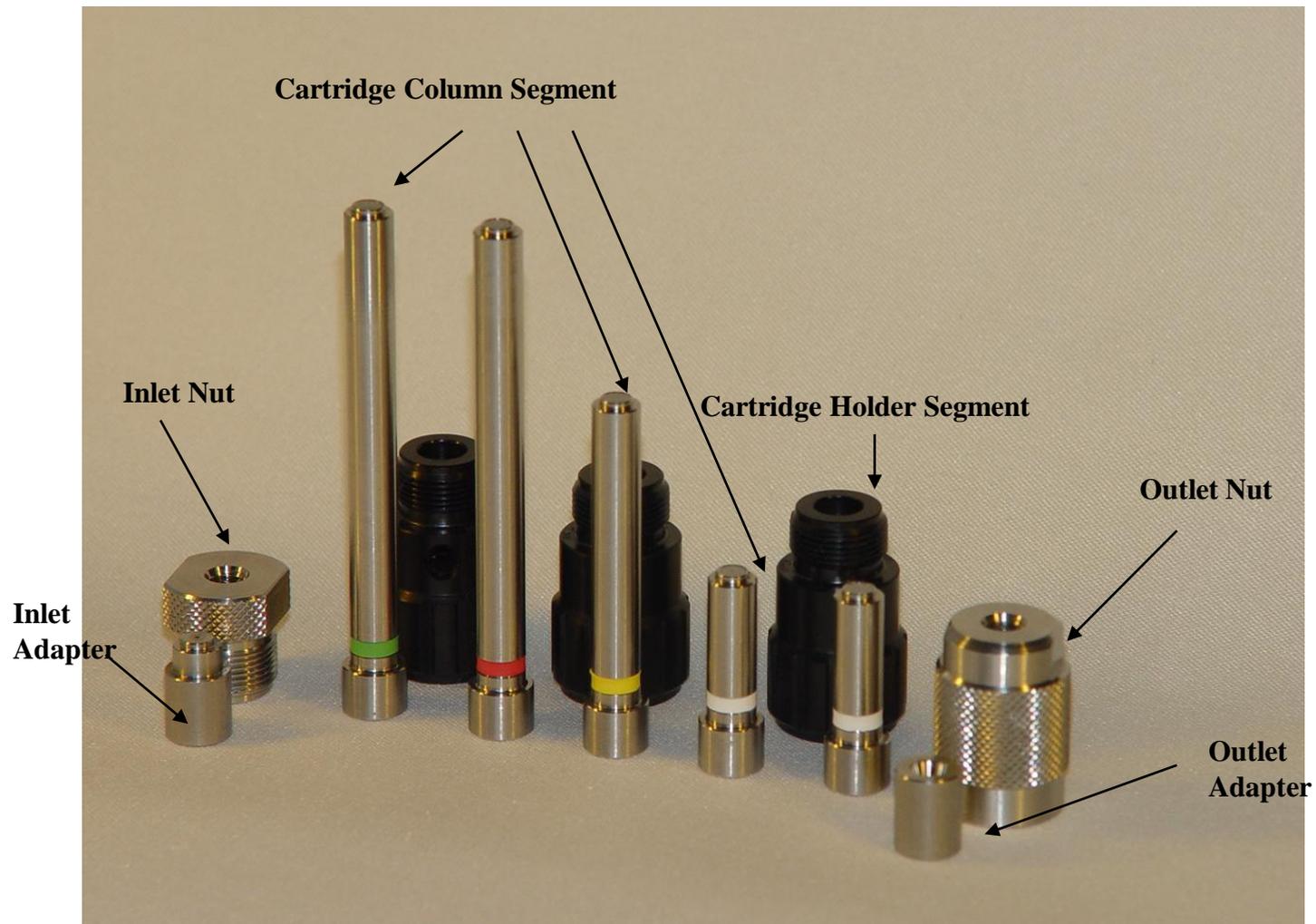


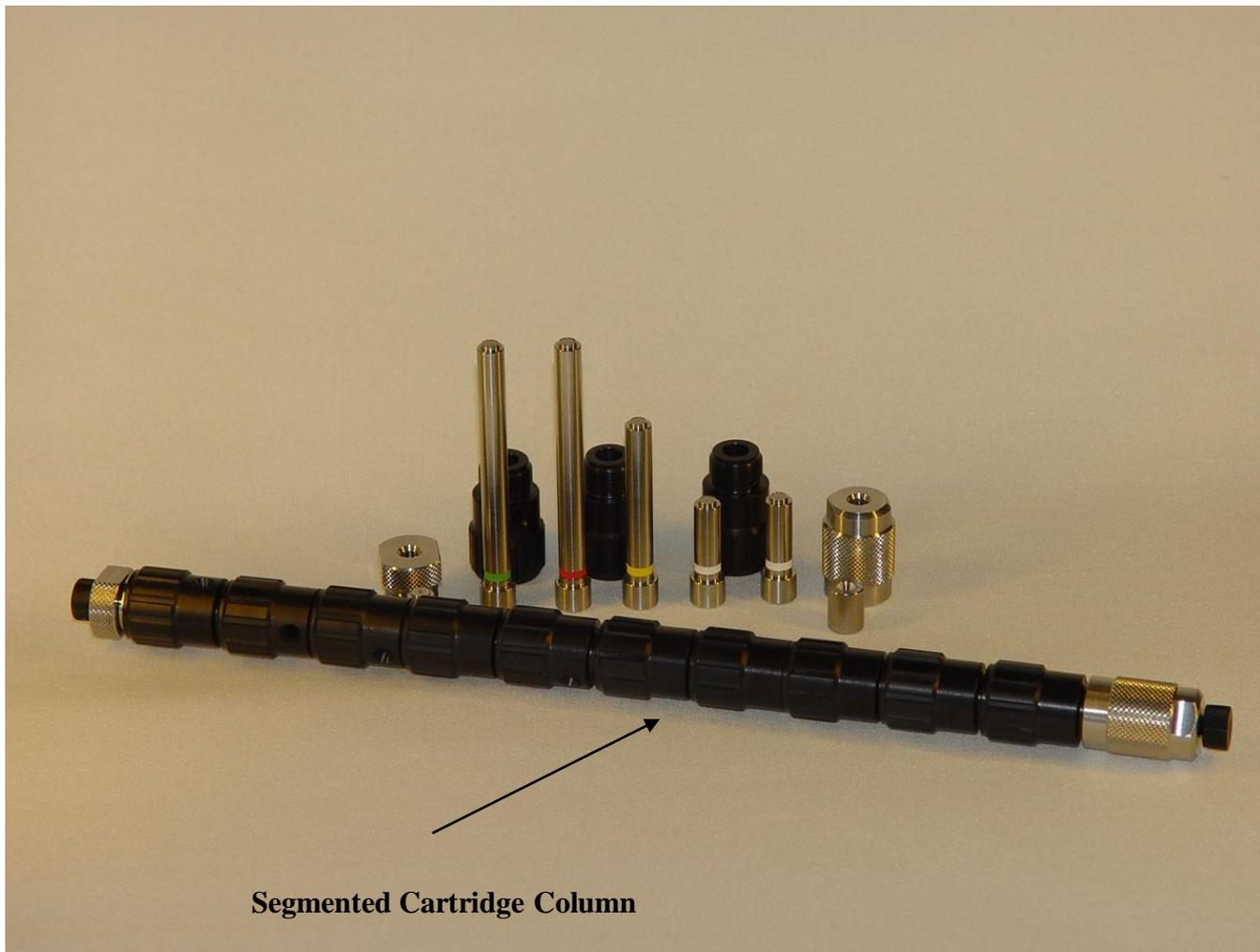
# Available Column Cartridges



**Dimensions: ID 3.0 mm**

**Lengths: 10, 20, 40, 60, 80 mm**





**Segmented Cartridge Column**

## Colour coded Column cartridges



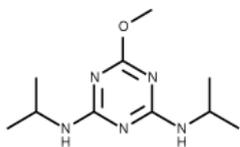
# Segmented Cartridge Column

**One Column Fits All**

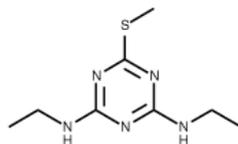


# Triazine Pesticides

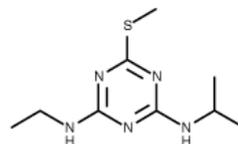
## Chemical structures



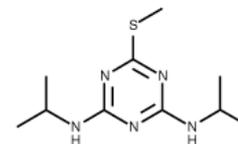
**(1) Prometon**



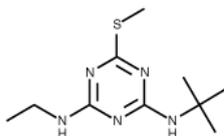
**(2) Simetryn**



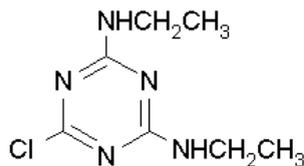
**(3) Ametryn**



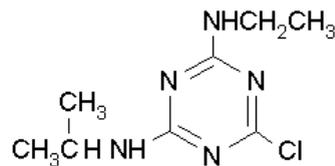
**(4) Prometryn**



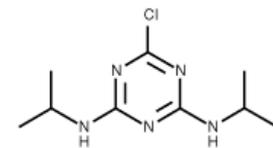
**(5) Terbutryn**



**(6) Simazin**



**(7) Atrazine**



**(8) Propazine**

# List of column segments

Segments

	Short Name	Phase Description	Number	Length, mm	
1	C18SH2	ProntoSIL-100-5-C18SH-2	25	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	C18EPS2	ProntoSIL-100-5-C18EPS-2	25	10	
3	Phenyl	ProntoSIL-100-5-Phenyl-2	25	10	
4	CN	ProntoSIL-100-5-CN-2	25	10	
5	C30	ProntoSIL-200-5-C30	25	10	

Components Properties

C18EPS | C18 | C30 | CN | Phenyl | Areas

ProntoSIL-100-5-C18 EPS-2

Basic Column

Length in mm:

Void time in min:

Individual

Plates per column:

Graph

	Components name	Ret. Time	Plates
1	Simazin	1.28	1400
2	Atrazin	1.89	1500
3	Simetryn	1.89	1600
4	Prometon	2.3	1600
5	Propazin	2.89	1600
6	Ametryn	2.93	1700
7	Prometryn	4.66	1700
8	Terbutryn	5.36	1800

Add

Insert

Delete

Row Copy

Row Paste

OK Cancel Apply Help

# Optimization parameters

**Parameters**

Upper Limits

Max. column length, mm:

Max. time, min:

Lower Limits

Selectivity:

Resolution:

System void time, min:

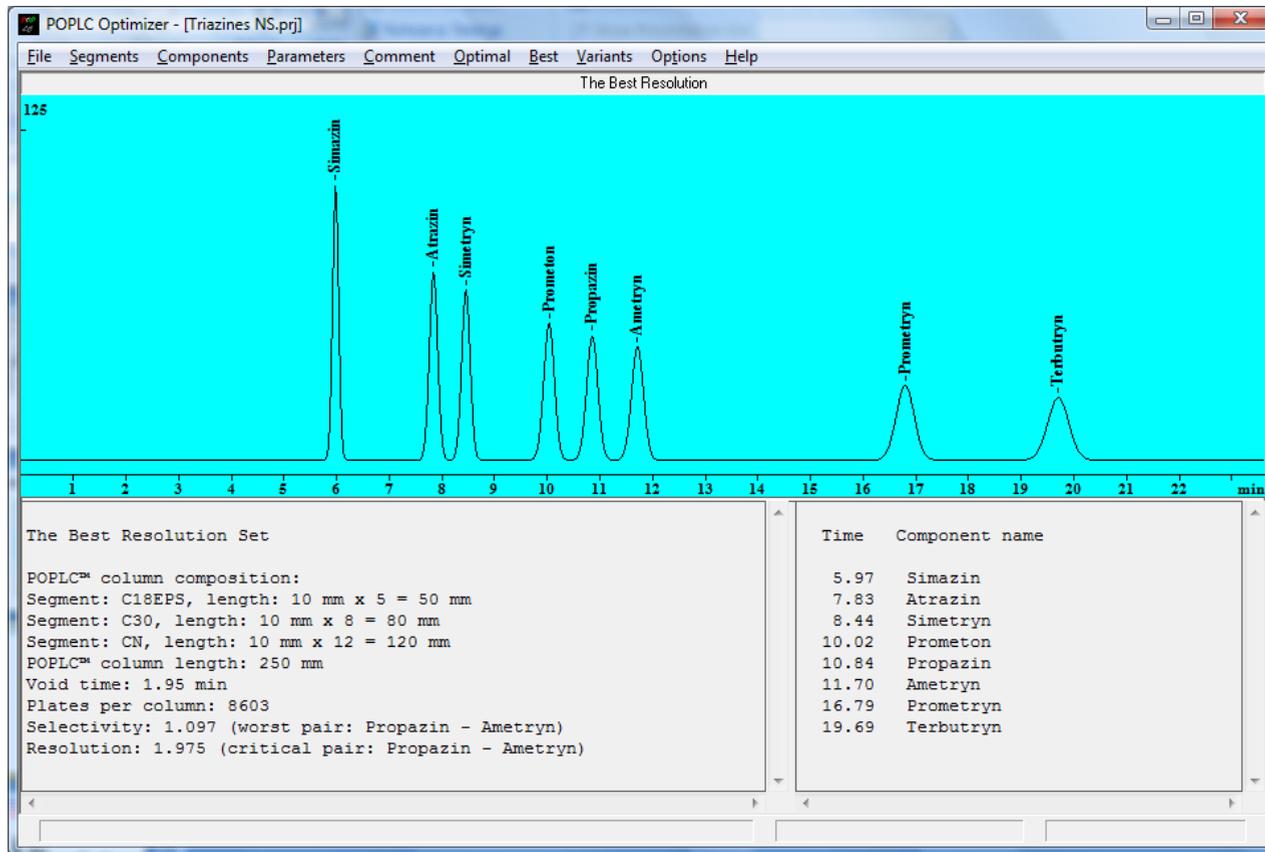
Peak broadening, min:

Variants list

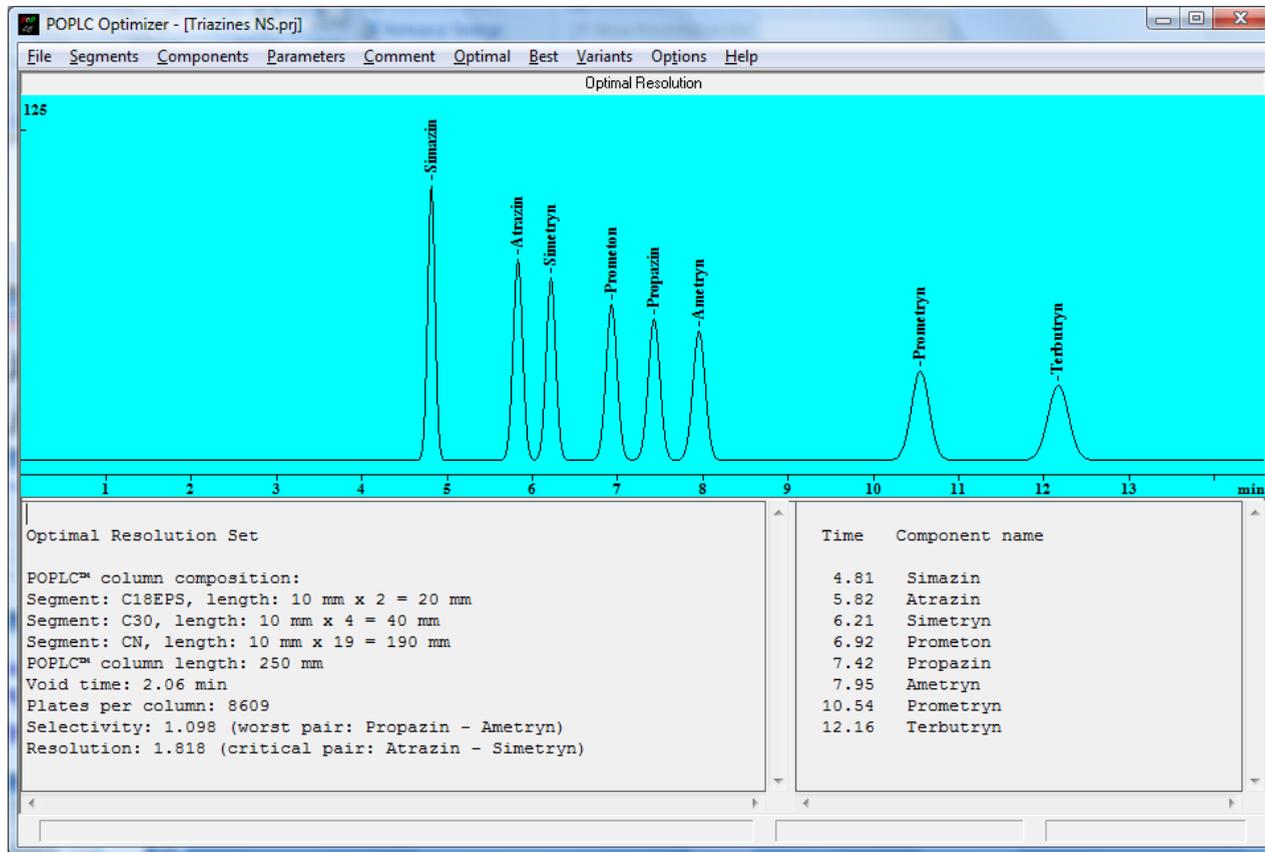
All variants

Matching variants

# Best variant



# Fastest (Optimal) variant



# Variants list

Number of possible segment combinations: 142505

The OPTIMAL variant number: 45495

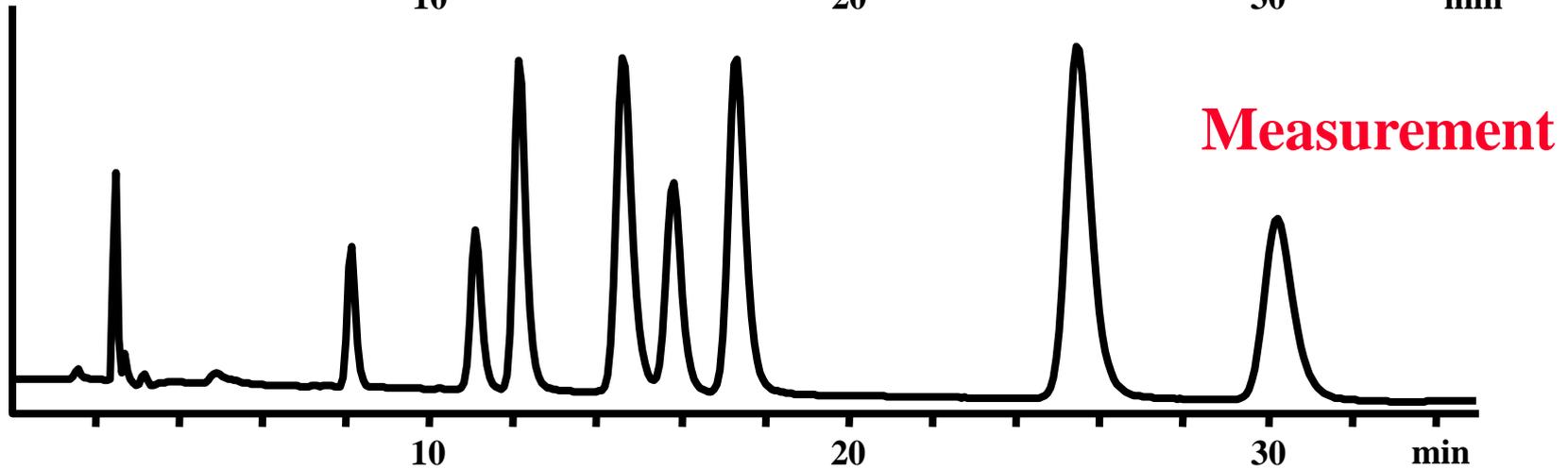
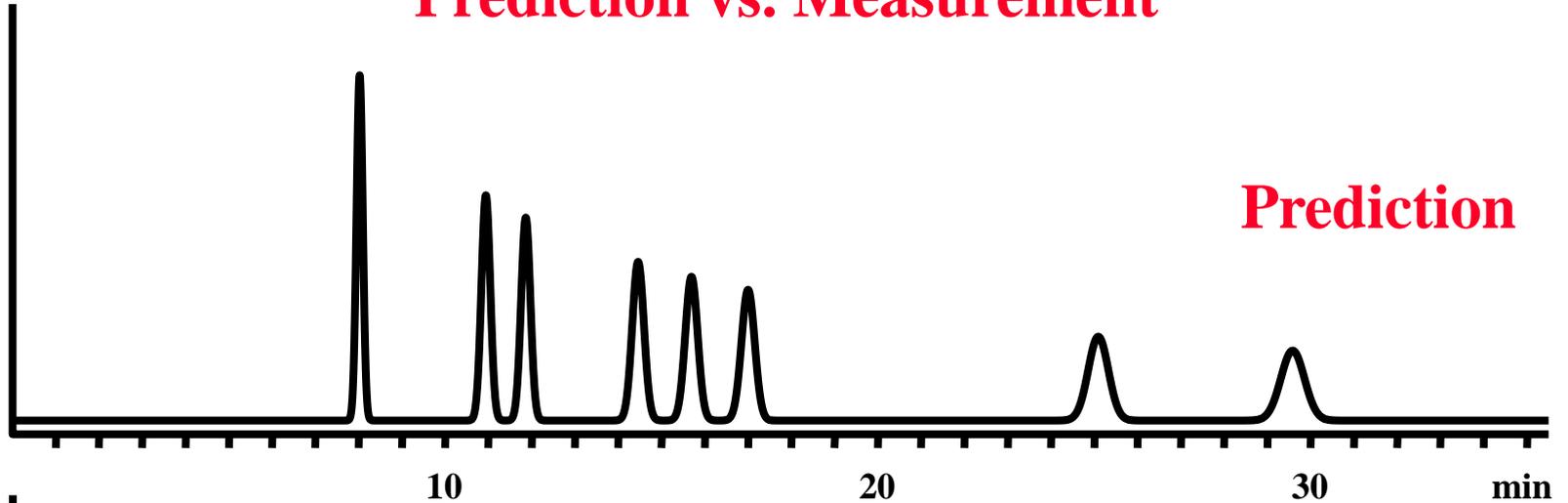
The BEST variant number: 90782

#	C18EPS	C18	C30	CN	Phenyl	Num...	Length	Min.Selec	Min.Resol	Max.Time
45488	2	0	4	16	2	24	240	1.083	1.585	13.43
45489	2	0	4	16	3	25	250	1.077	1.514	14.40
45490	2	0	4	17	0	23	230	1.099	1.765	11.72
45491	2	0	4	17	1	24	240	1.092	1.721	12.69
45492	2	0	4	17	2	25	250	1.084	1.637	13.66
45493	2	0	4	18	0	24	240	1.099	1.792	11.94
45494	2	0	4	18	1	25	250	1.093	1.776	12.91
45495	2	0	4	19	0	25	250	1.098	1.818	12.16
45496	2	0	5	0	0	7	70	1.060	0.622	8.35
45497	2	0	5	0	1	8	80	1.055	0.610	9.34

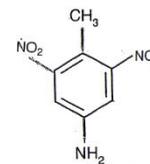
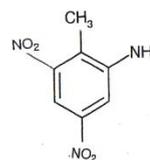
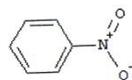
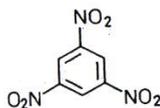
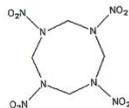
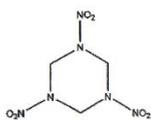
Close      Optimal      Best      Show variant

# Separation of Triazine Pestizides

## Prediction vs. Measurement



# Explosives according EPA 8330



1. Hexogen  
(RDX)

2. Octogen  
(HMX)

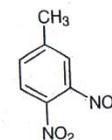
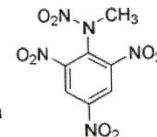
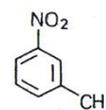
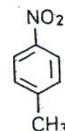
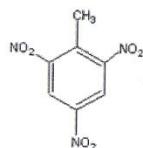
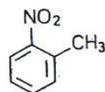
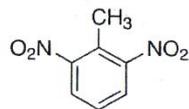
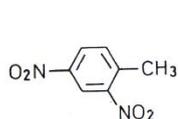
3. 1,3,5-  
TNB

4. 1,3-DNB

5. Nitro-  
benzen

8. 2-A-4,6-DNT

7. 4-A-2,6-DNT



10. 2,4-DNT

9. 2,6-DNT

11. 2-NT

6. 2,4,6-TNT

12. 4-NT

13. 3-NT

14. Tetryl

Components Properties

C18SH2 | C18EPS2 | Phenyl | CN | C30 | Areas

ProntoSIL-100-5-C18SH-2

Basic Column

Length in mm:

Void time in min:

Individual

Plates per column:

Graph

	Components name	Ret. Time
1	RDX	2.818
2	HMX	1.792
3	1,3,5-TNB	3.637
4	1,3-DNB	4.832
5	NB	5.579
6	2-A-4,6-DNT	6.901
7	4-A-2,6-DNT	6.475
8	2,4-DNT	7.616
9	2,6-DNT	7.296
10	2-NT	9.045
11	2,4,6-TNT	5.76
12	4-NT	9.749
13	3-NT	10.453
14	Tetrol	4.896

Add

Insert

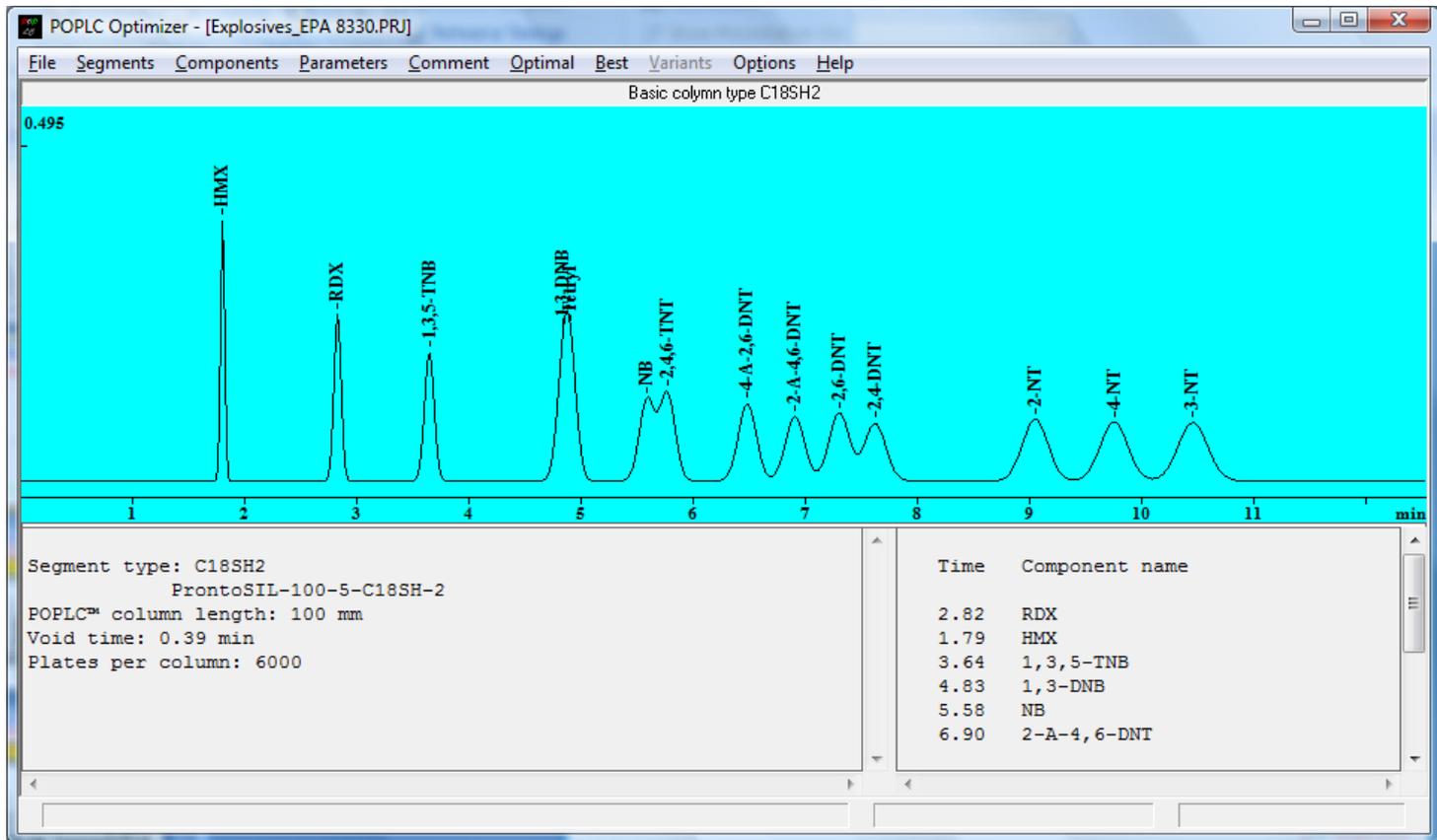
Delete

Row Copy

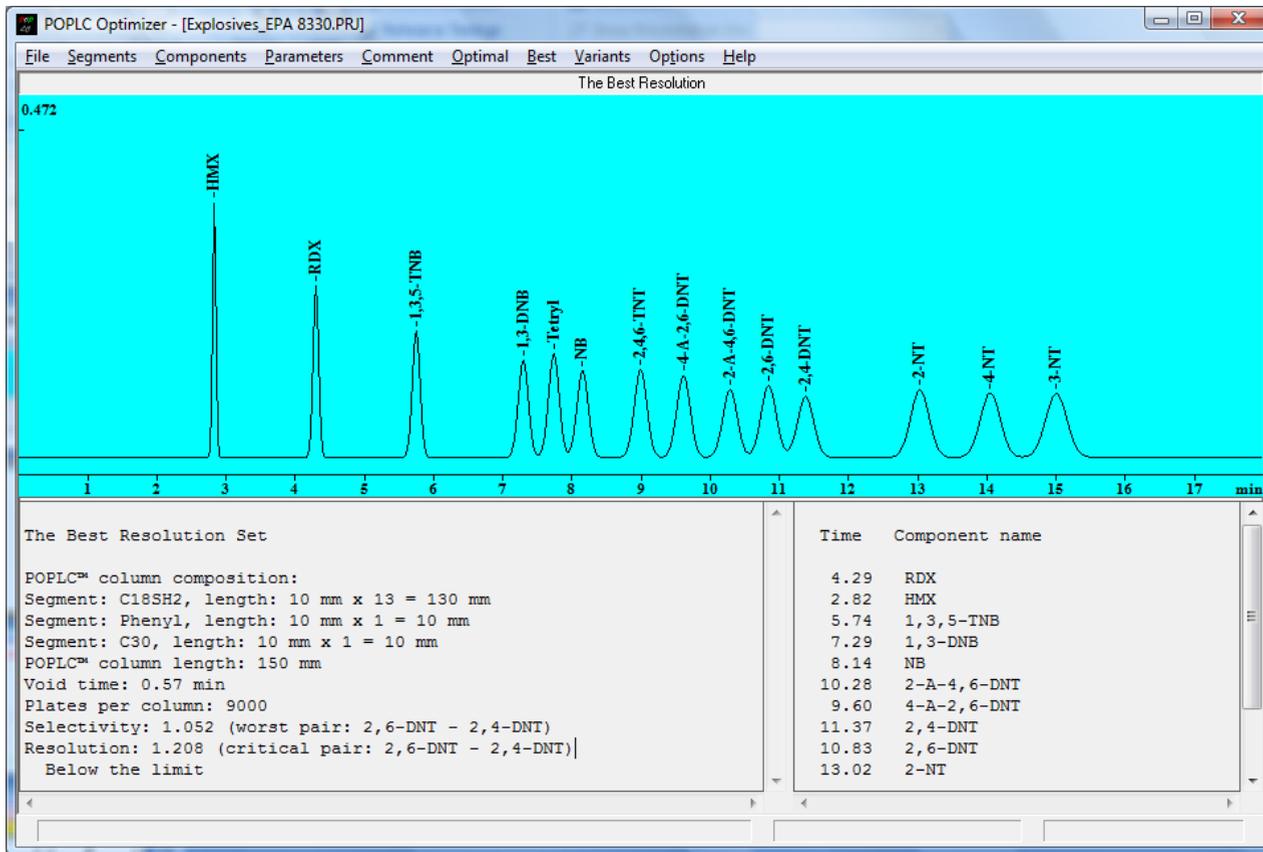
Row Paste

OK Cancel Apply Help

# Emulated test run



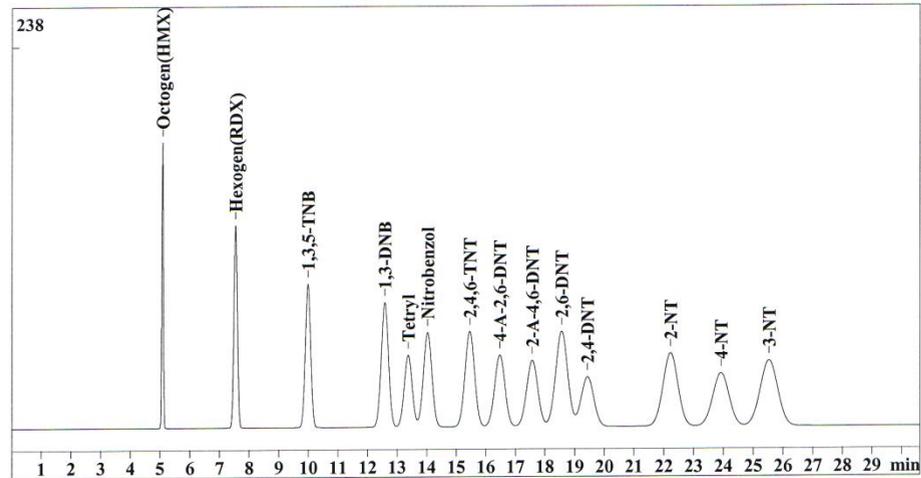
# Best resolution variant



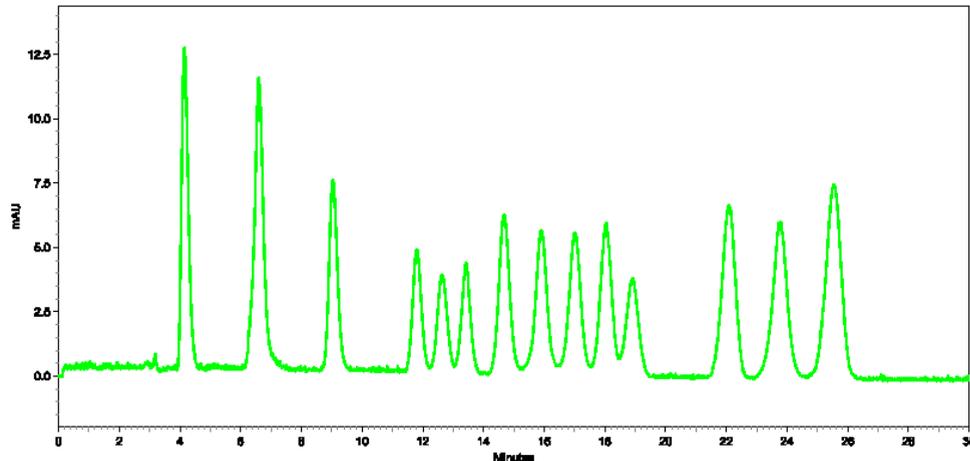
# Separation of Explosives according EPA 8330

## Prediction vs. Measurement

Prediction



Measurement

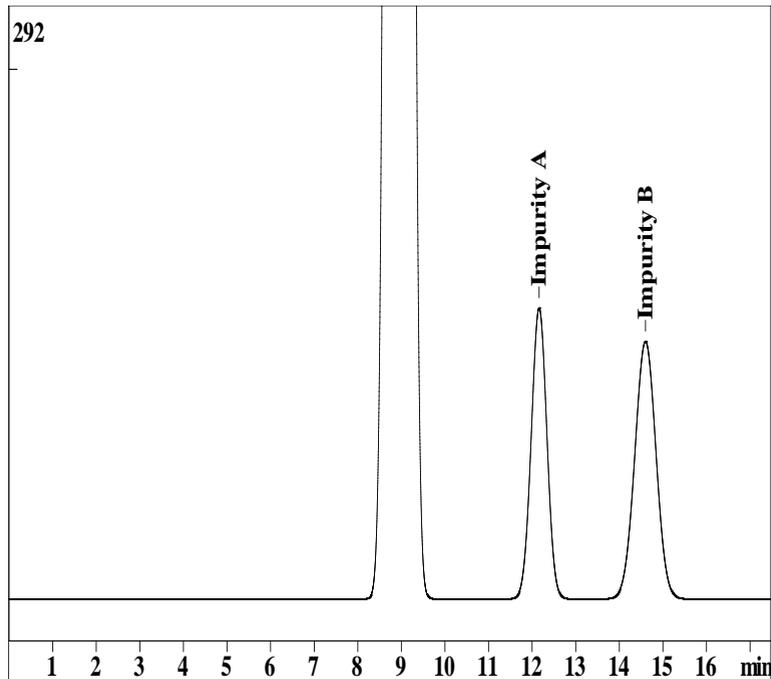


Prof. W. Engewald,  
Dr. F.-M. Matysik,  
U. Schuman,  
Uni Leipzig

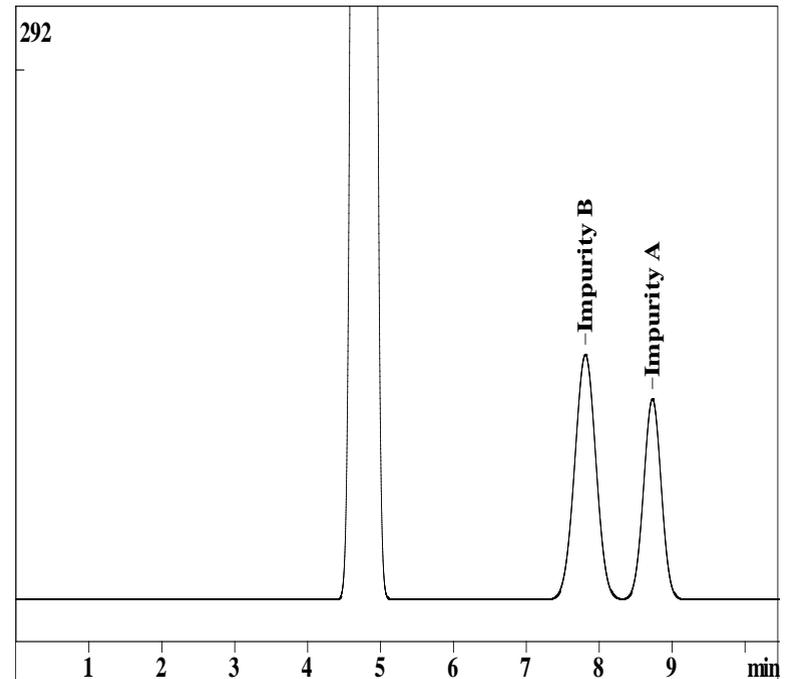
# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

## Basic Runs on Different Stationary Phases

**ProntoSIL 100-5 C18 SH 2**  
**80 x 3.0 mm**



**ProntoSIL 100-5 C18 EPS 2**  
**80 x 3.0 mm**

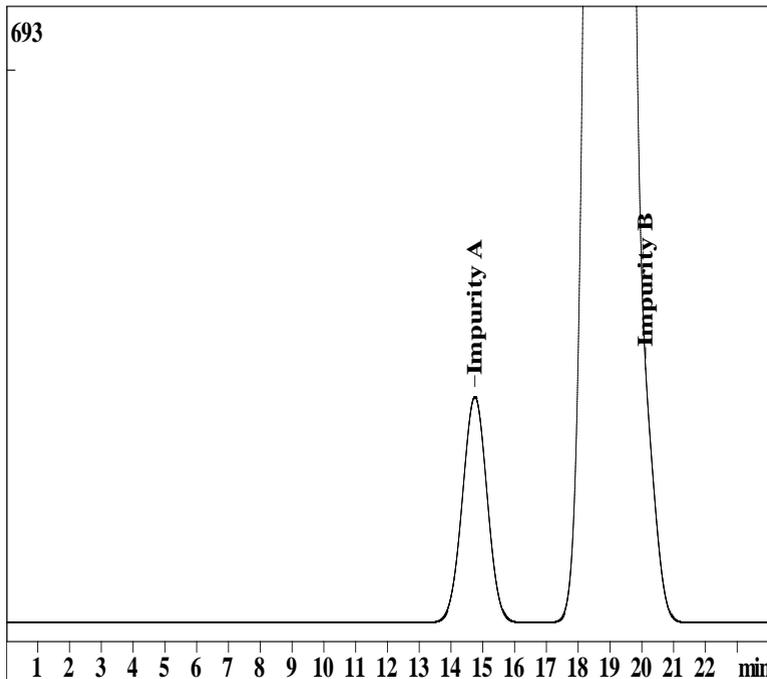


Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile/20 mM Phosphate Buffer pH 3 30:70 (v/v)  
Flow rate: 0,5 ml/min  
Detection: UV @ 270 nm

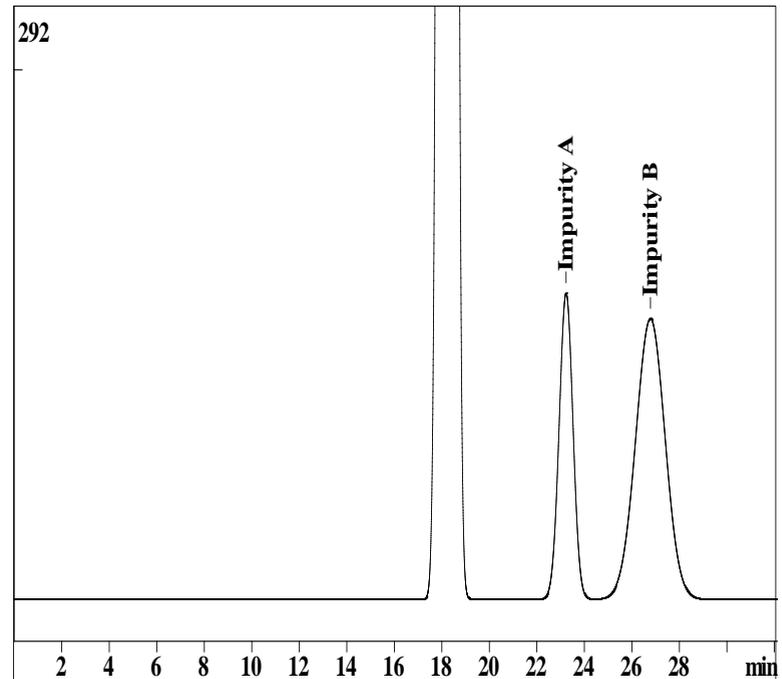
# POPLC® Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

## Basic Runs on Different Stationary Phases

**ProntoSIL 100-5 Phenyl 2**  
**120 x 3.0 mm**



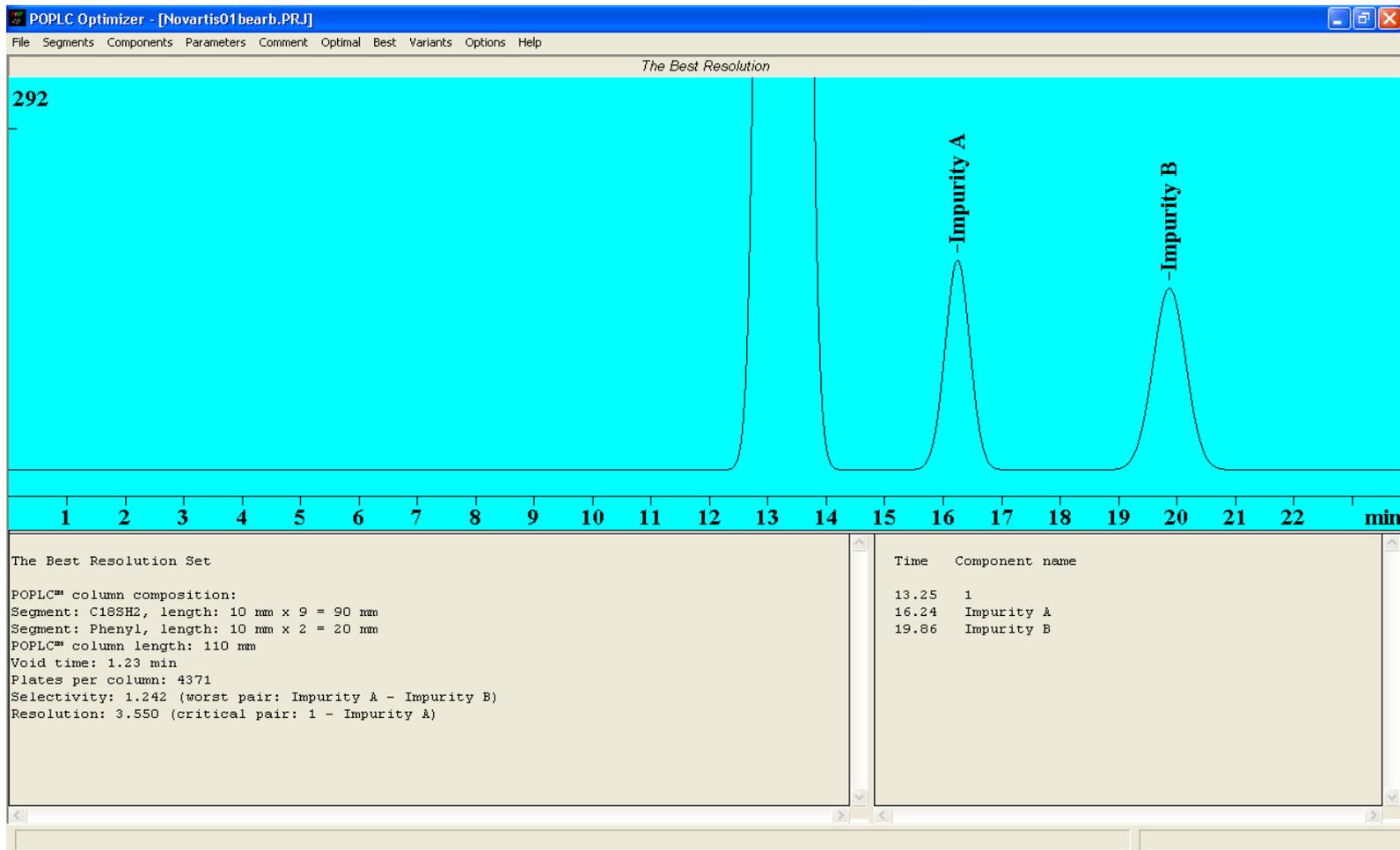
**ProntoSIL 100-5 CN 2**  
**240 x 3.0 mm**



Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile/20 mM Phosphate Buffer pH 3 30:70 (v/v)  
Flow rate: 0,5 ml/min  
Detection: UV @ 270 nm

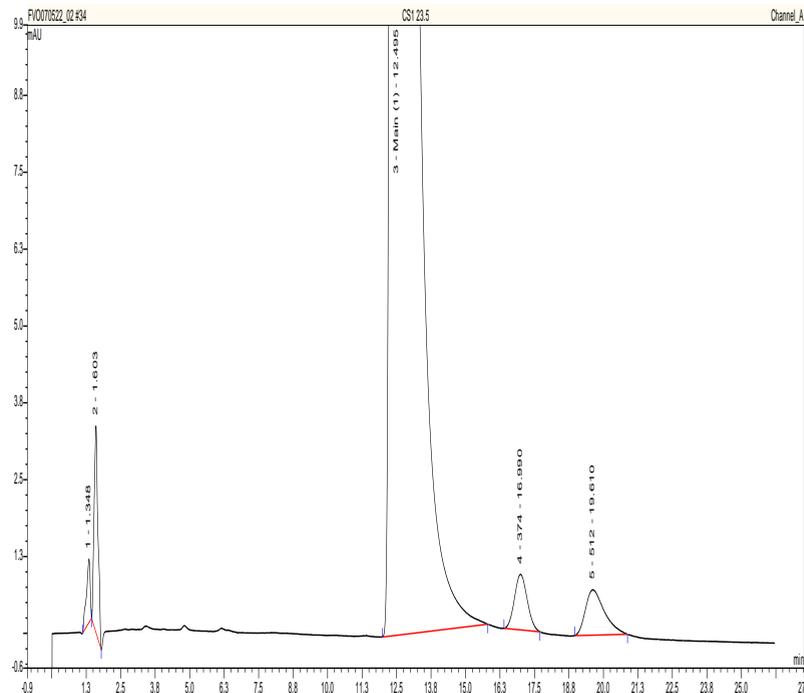
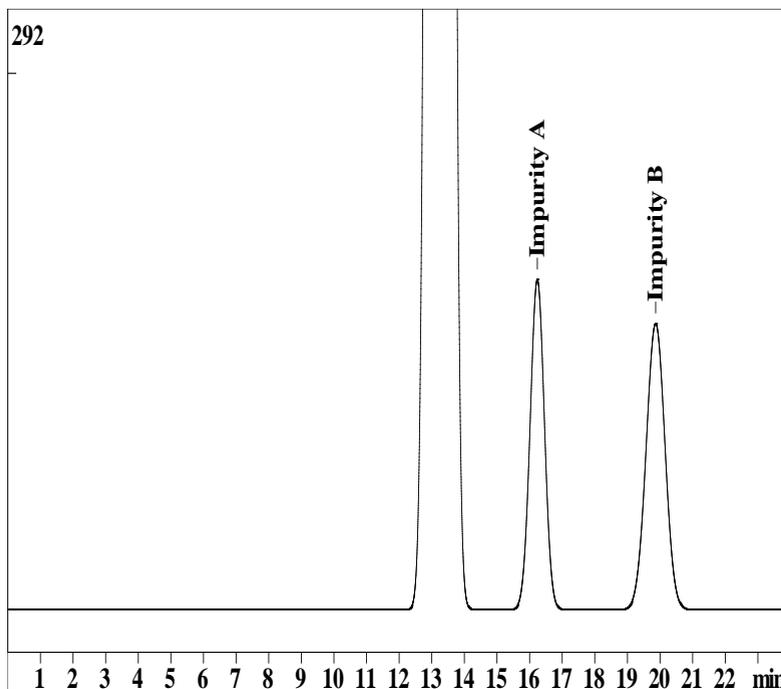
# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

## Best Separation within 20 Minutes



# POPLC® Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

**Best Separation within 20 Minutes**



Column: 90 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-C18 SH2 and 20 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-Phenyl 2  
Column Dimension: 110 x 3.0 mm  
Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile/20 mM Phosphate Buffer pH 3 35:65 (v/v)  
Flow rate: 0,5 ml/min  
Detection: UV @ 270 nm

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

**Best Separation within 20 Minutes**

## Results Table: Optimized Column

The Best Resolution Set

POPLC<sup>™</sup> column composition:

Segment: C18SH2, length: 10 mm x 9 = 90 mm

Segment: Phenyl, length: 10 mm x 2 = 20 mm

POPLC<sup>™</sup> column length: 110 mm

Void time: 1.23 min

Plates per column: 4371

Selectivity: 1.242 (worst pair: Impurity A - Impurity B)

Resolution: 3.550 (critical pair: 1 - Impurity A)

## Results Table: Measured Resolution

Resolution: 3.5 (critical pair: 1 - Impurity A)

## Results Table: Predicted Retention Times

Time	Component name
------	----------------

13.25	1
-------	---

16.24	Impurity A
-------	------------

19.86	Impurity B
-------	------------

## Results Table: Measured Retention Times

Time	Component name
------	----------------

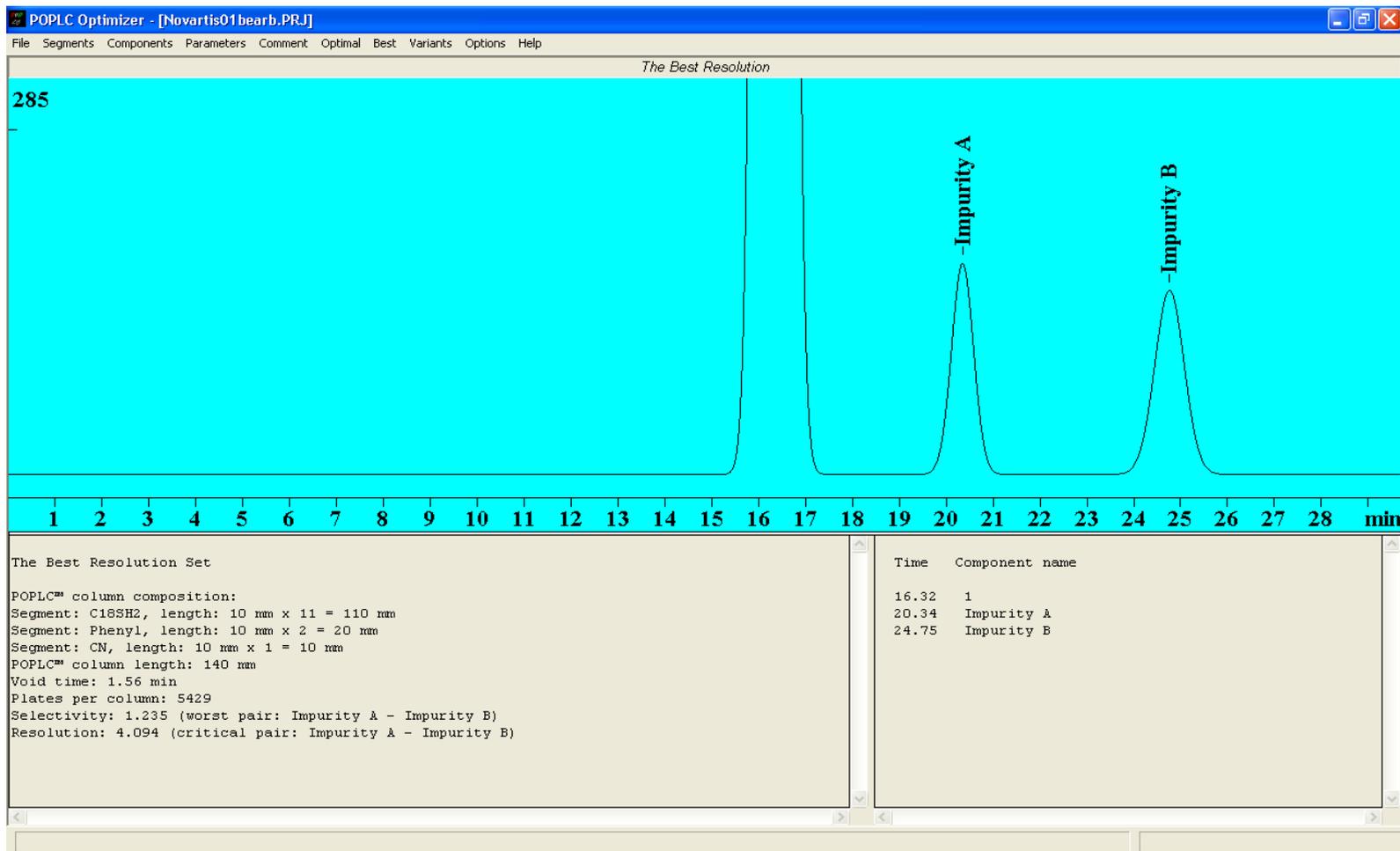
12.4	1
------	---

16.9	Impurity A
------	------------

19.6	Impurity B
------	------------

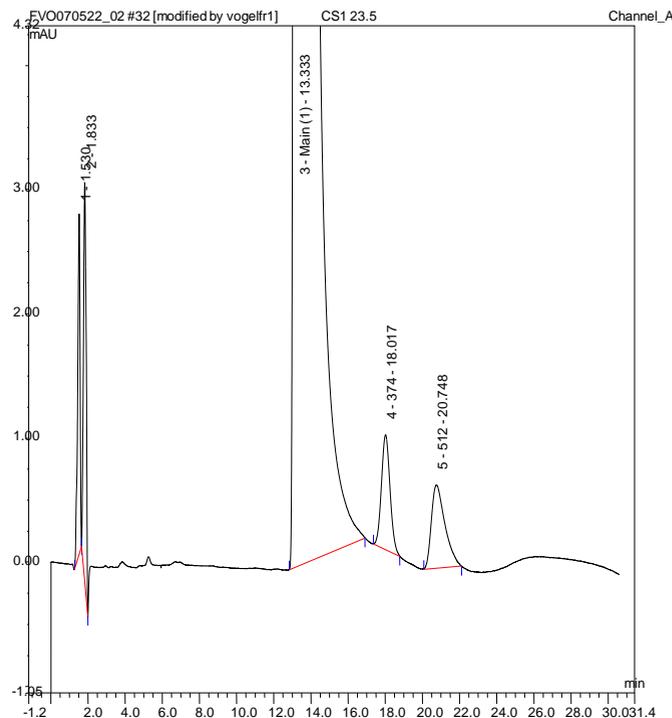
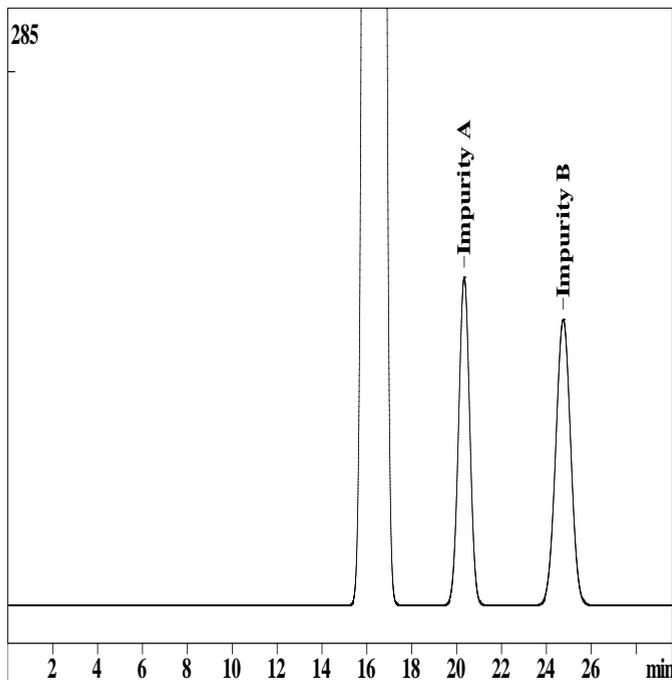
# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

## Best Separation within 25 Minutes



# POPLC® Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

**Best Separation within 25 Minutes**



Column: 110 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-C18 SH2 and 20 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-Phenyl 2  
and 10 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-CN 2

Column Dimension: 140 x 3.0 mm

Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile/20 mM Phosphate Buffer pH 3 35:65 (v/v)

Flow rate: 0,5 ml/min

Detection: UV @ 270 nm

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

**Best Separation within 25 Minutes**

## Results Table: Optimized Column

The Best Resolution Set

POPLC<sup>™</sup> column composition:

Segment: C18SH2, length: 10 mm x 11 = 110 mm

Segment: Phenyl, length: 10 mm x 2 = 20 mm

Segment: CN, length: 10 mm x 1 = 10 mm

POPLC<sup>™</sup> column length: 140 mm

Void time: 1.56 min

Plates per column: 5429

Selectivity: 1.235 (worst pair: Impurity A - Impurity B)

Resolution: 4.094 (critical pair: Impurity A - Impurity B)

## Results Table: Measured Resolution

Resolution: 4.1 (critical pair: 1 - Impurity A)

## Results Table: Predicted Retention Times

Time	Component name
------	----------------

16.32	1
-------	---

20.34	Impurity A
-------	------------

24.75	Impurity B
-------	------------

## Results Table: Measured Retention Times

Time	Component name
------	----------------

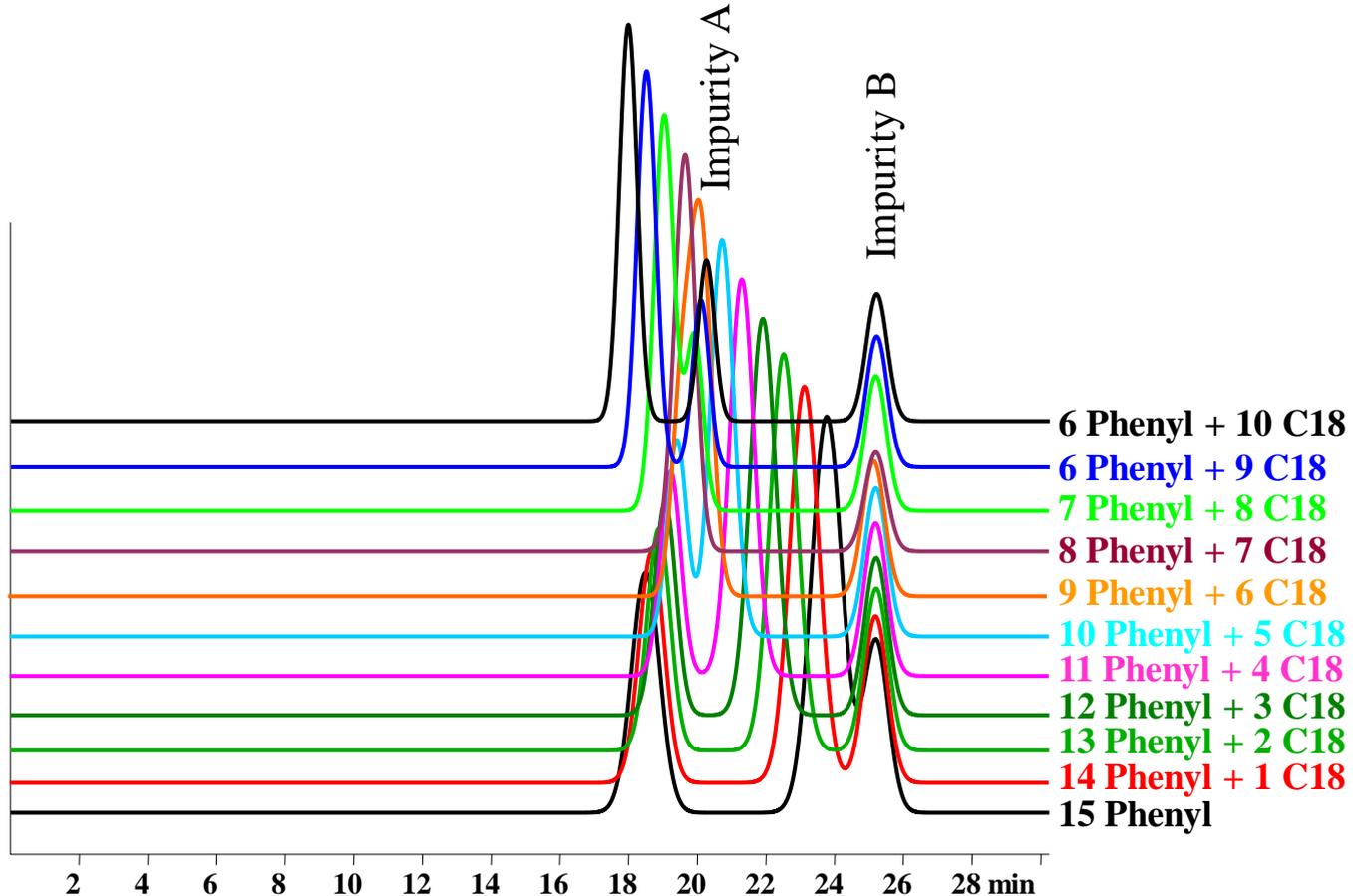
13.3	1
------	---

18.0	Impurity A
------	------------

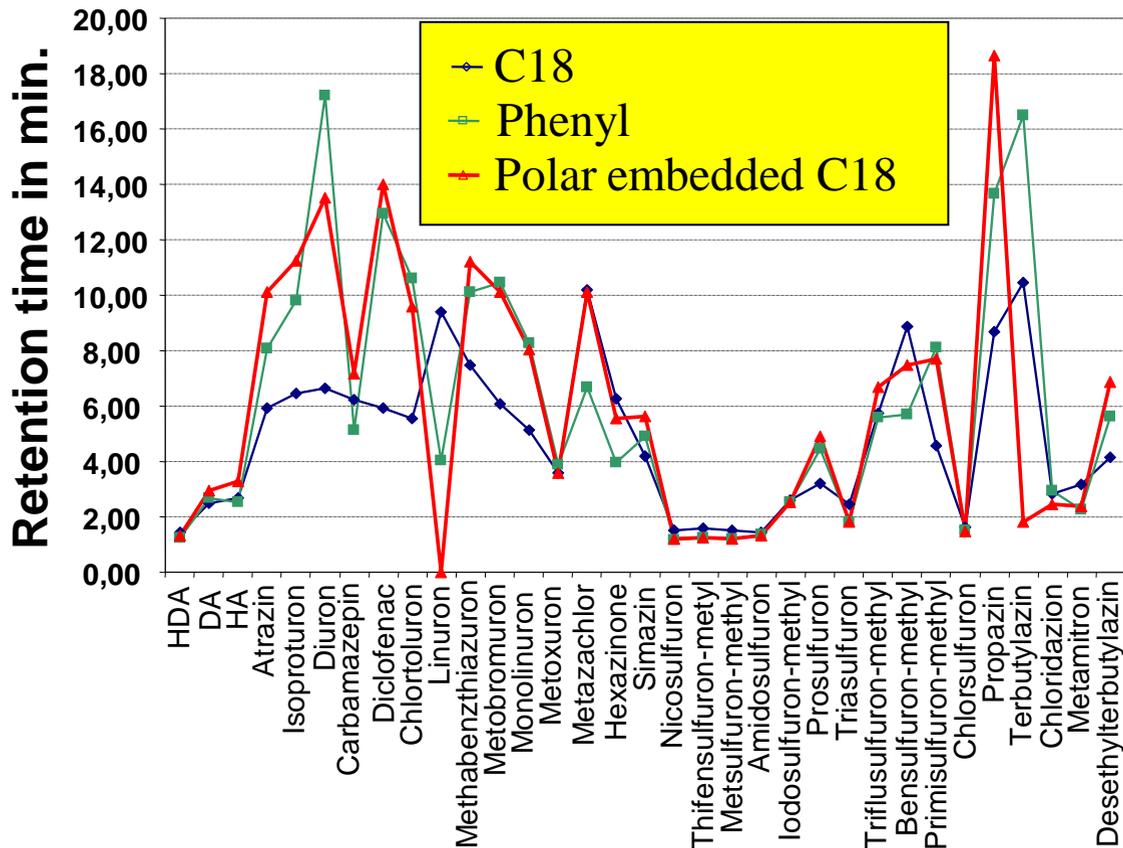
20.7	Impurity B
------	------------

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development In Pharmaceutical Industry

## Monitoring of the Retention Behavior



# Retention Behaviour of 33 Compounds in Municipal Waste Water on Different Stationary Phases





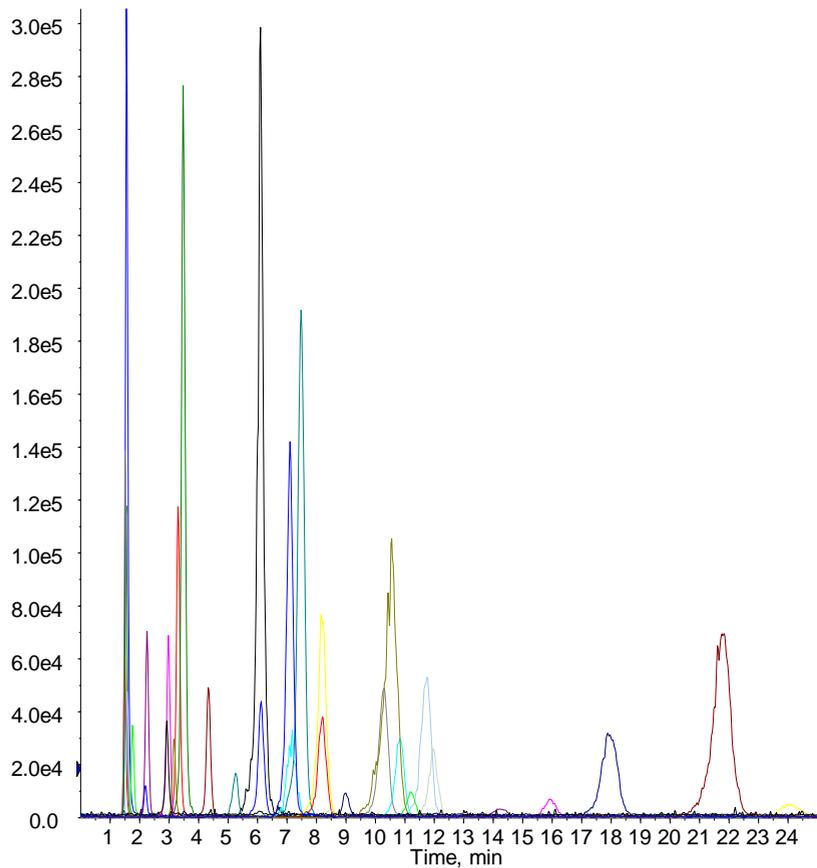
# Separation of 33 Compounds in LC/MS/MS

## Prediction vs. Reality

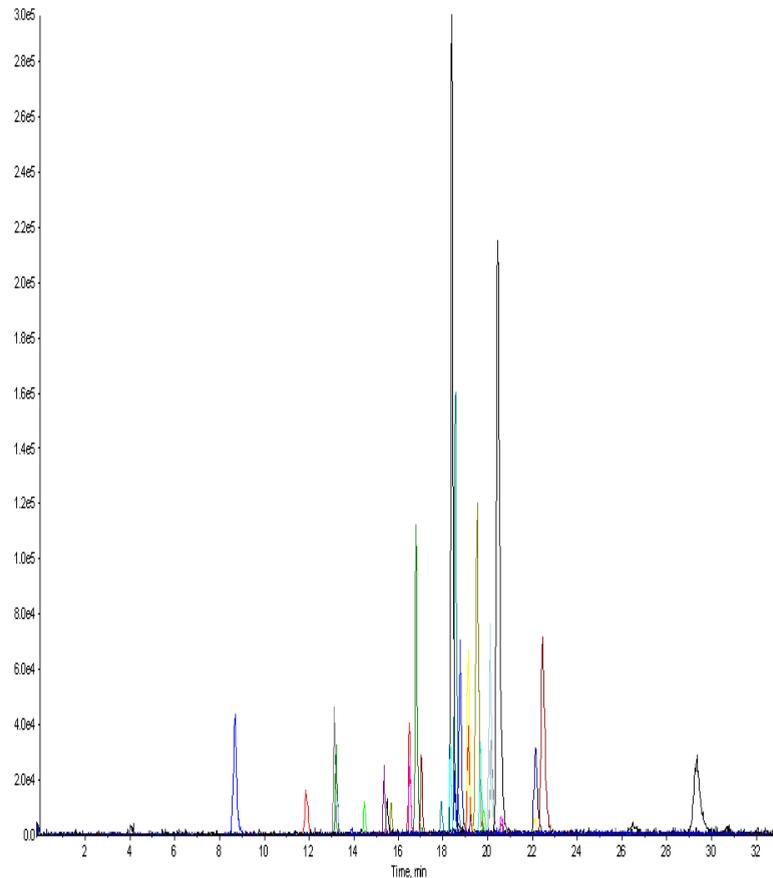
Analyte	Retention time predicted	Retention time measured	% Deviation
HDA	1,580	1,56	1,58
DA	3,37	3,29	2,37
HA	3,55	3,46	2,68
Atrazin	10,57	10,25	3,03
Isoproturon	12,09	11,65	3,64
Diuron	16,53	15,80	4,42
Carbamazepin	7,61	7,43	2,43
Diclofenac	14,97	14,10	5,81
Chlortoluron	11,22	10,75	4,19
Methabenzthiazuron	12,36	11,85	4,13
Metobromuron	11,58	11,10	4,15
Monolinuron	9,26	8,92	3,73
Metoxuron	4,43	4,30	3,05
Metazachlor	10,76	10,45	2,88
Hexazinone	6,15	6,05	1,71
Simazin	6,23	6,07	2,57
Nicosulfuron	1,5	1,49	1,00
Thifensulfuron-metyl	1,55	1,54	0,97
Metsulfuron-methyl	1,52	1,51	0,99
Amidosulfuron	1,62	1,58	2,47
Iodosulfuron-methyl	3,06	2,95	3,76
Prosulfuron	5,4	5,18	4,07
Triasulfuron	2,31	2,23	3,46
Triflusulfuron-methyl	7,41	7,10	4,25
Bensulfuron-methyl	8,52	8,11	4,87
Primisulfuron-methyl	8,87	8,40	5,30
Chlorsulfuron	1,8	1,76	2,50
Propazin	18,61	17,80	4,35
Chloridazon	3,21	3,17	1,25
Metamitron	2,95	2,91	1,53
Desethylterbutylazin	7,27	7,06	2,96

# Separation of 33 Compounds in LC/MS/MS

## Isocratic Separation



## Gradient Separation



# Isocratic POPLC<sup>®</sup> Separation

**Column:** 120 x 3.0 mm

ProntoSIL 120-5-C18 SH : ProntoSIL 120-5-C18 ace-EPS : ProntoSIL 120-5-Phenyl 1:3:2

**Flow Rate:** 0.6 ml/min

**Mobile Phase:**

50 % Eluent A: 5 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc

50 % Eluent B: MeOH + 5 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc

**Injection:** 10 µl

**Temperature:** 25°C

# Gradient HPLC Separation

**Column:** 250 x 4.6 mm Luna C18 (2)

**Mobile Phase:**

Eluent A: 5 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc

Eluent B: MeOH + 5 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc

**Flow Rate:** 0.6 ml/min

**Injection:** 10 µl

**Temperature:** 25°C

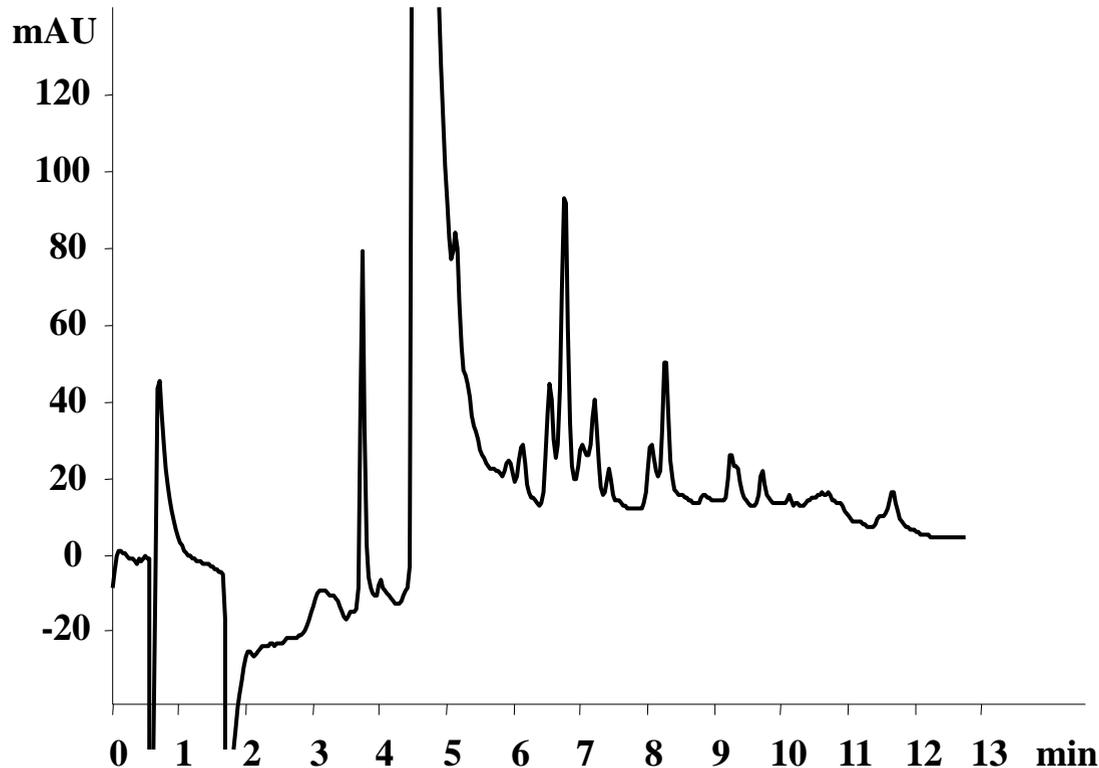
**Gradient:** 4 min: 35% B

12 min: 80% B

25 min: 80% B

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

„Scouting Gradient“



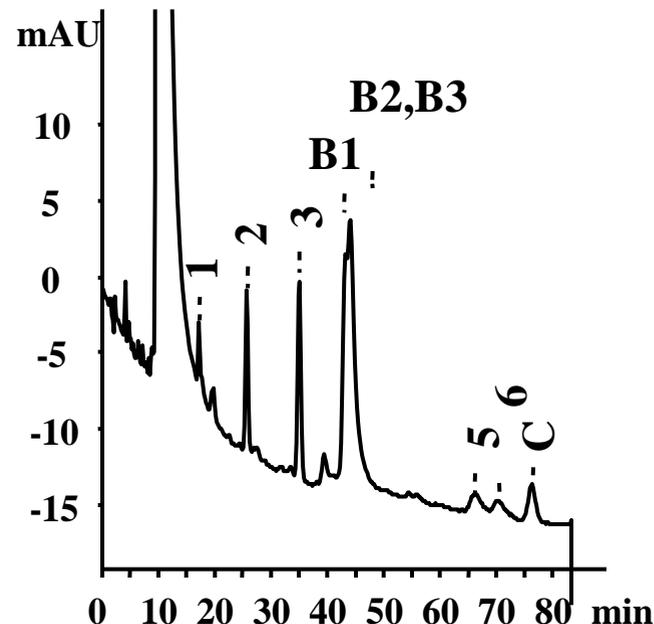
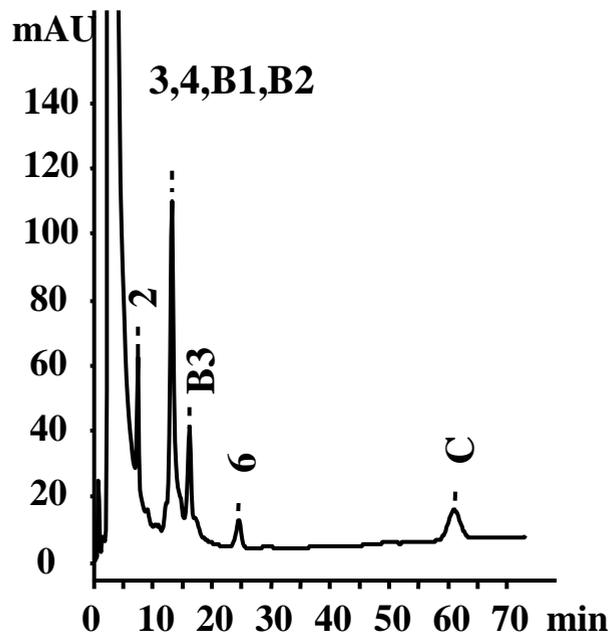
Column: POPLink<sup>®</sup> column segment ProntoSIL 100-5-C18 SH2, 40 x 3.0 mm  
Eluent: A: H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 1 ml/l in H<sub>2</sub>O; B: ACN; Gradient: 0 – 100% in 10 min.  
Flow rate: 0.5 ml/min; Detection: UV @ 210 nm

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Basic Runs on Different Stationary Phases

**ProntoSIL 100-5 C18 SH 2**  
**120 x 3.0 mm**

**ProntoSIL 100-5 C18 EPS 2**  
**250 x 3.0 mm**



Mobile Phase:

Acetonitrile/0.1% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 40:60 (v/v)

Flow rate:

0,5 ml/min

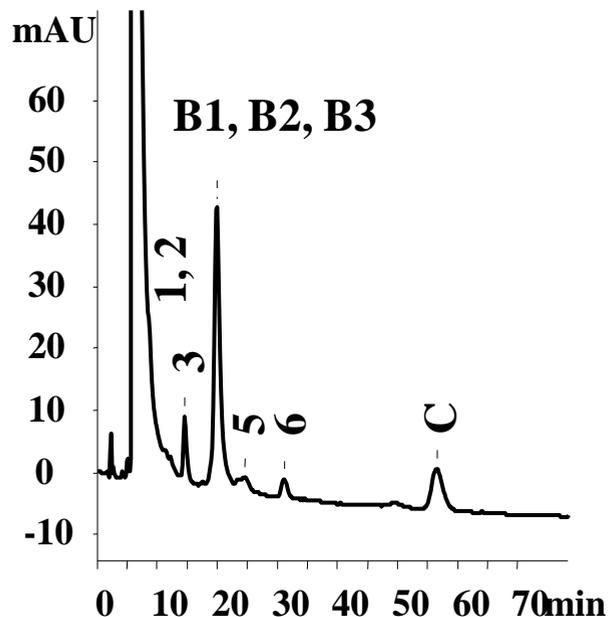
Detection:

UV @ 210 nm

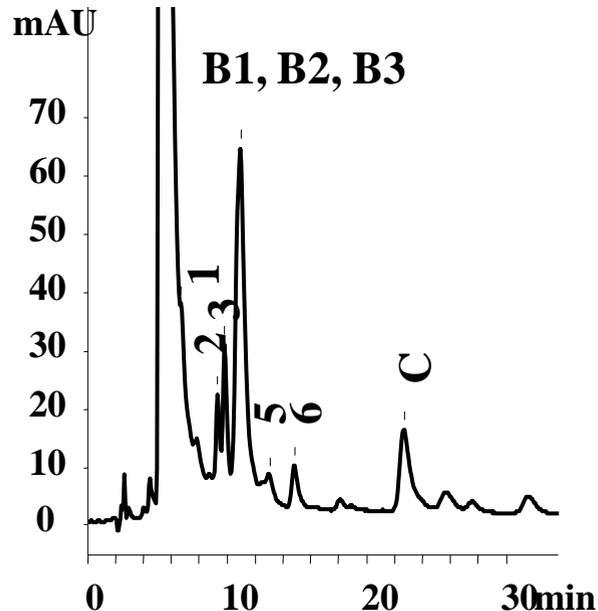
# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Basic Runs on Different Stationary Phases

**ProntoSIL 100-5 Phenyl 2**  
**250 x 3.0 mm**



**ProntoSIL 100-5 CN 2**  
**250 x 3.0 mm**



Mobile Phase:

Acetonitrile/0.1% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 40:60 (v/v)

Flow rate:

0,5 ml/min

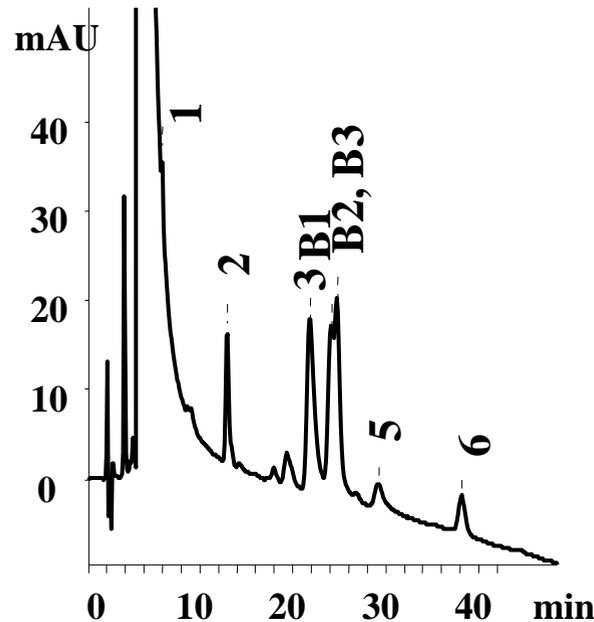
Detection:

UV @ 210 nm

# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Basic Runs on Different Stationary Phases

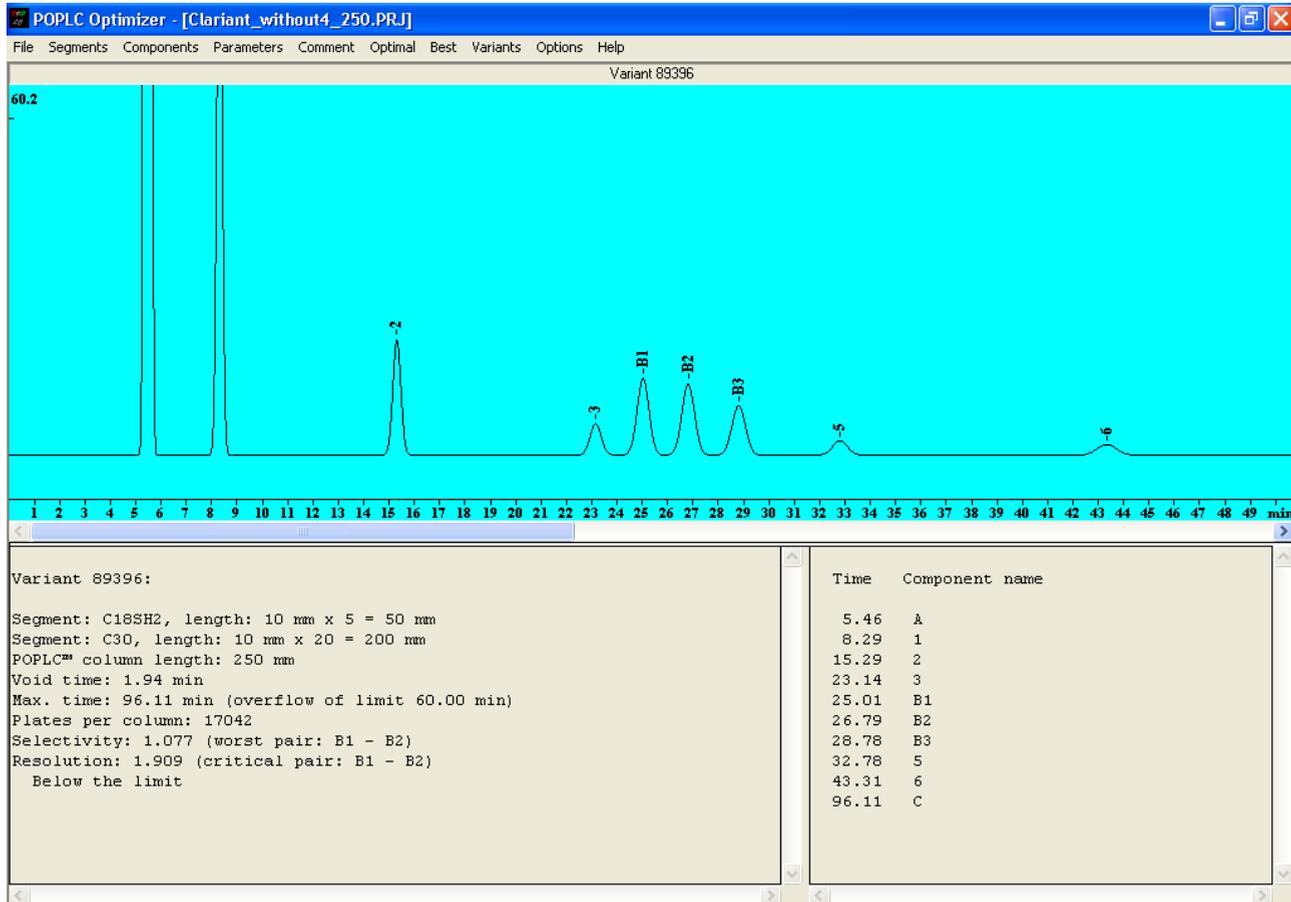
ProntoSIL 200-5 C30  
250 x 3.0 mm



Mobile Phase: Acetonitrile/0.1% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 40:60 (v/v)  
Flow rate: 0,5 ml/min  
Detection: UV @ 210 nm

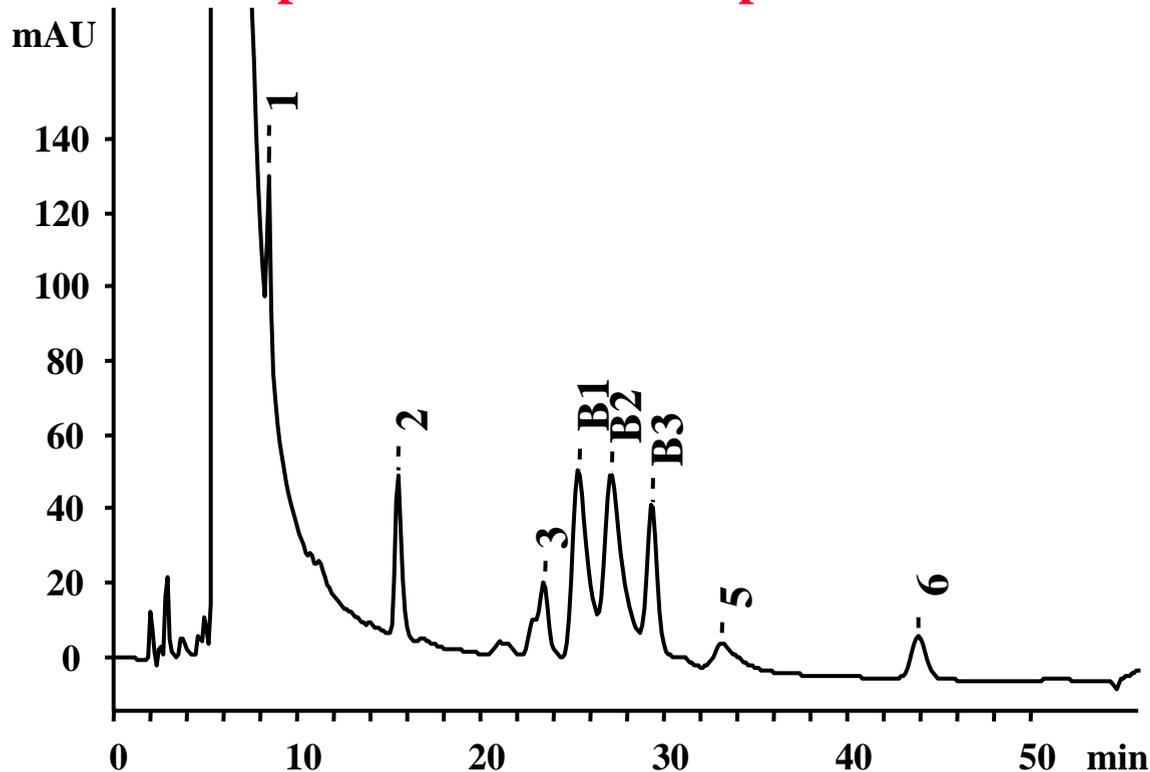
# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Prediction of POPLC<sup>®</sup> Optimizer Software



# POPLC<sup>®</sup> Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Optimized isocratic separation



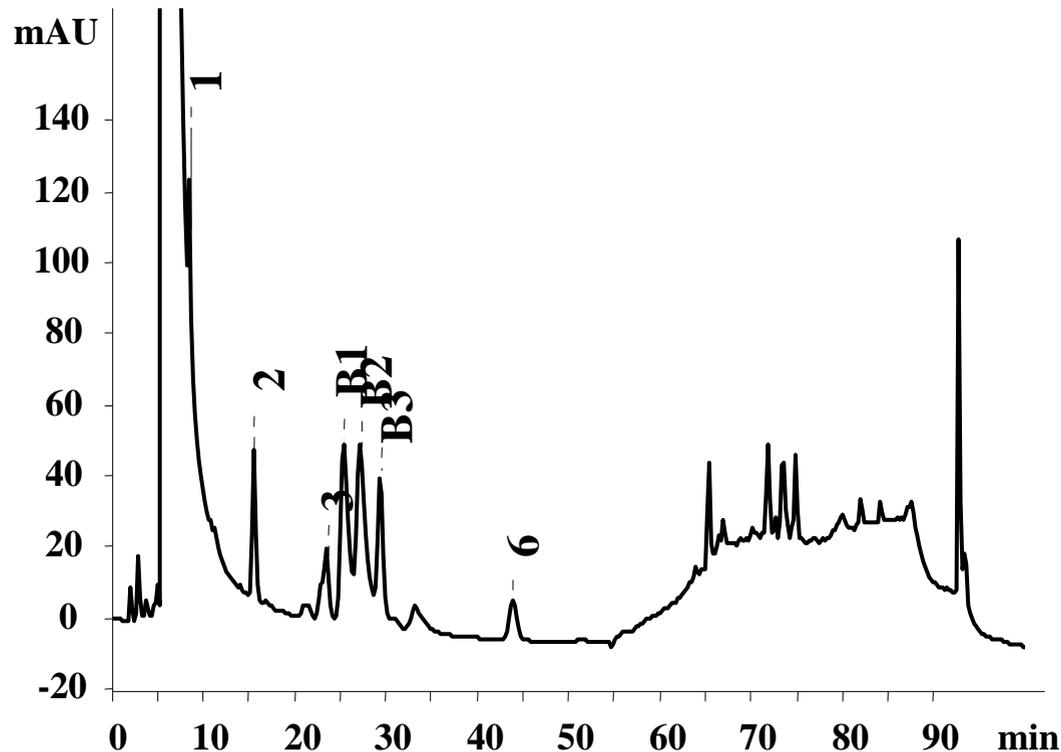
Column: 50 mm ProntoSIL 100-5-C18 SH 2 and  
200 mm ProntoSIL 200-5- C30

Eluent: A: H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> 1 ml/l in H<sub>2</sub>O; B: ACN; 40/60 (v/v)

Flow rate: 0.5 ml/min Detection: UV @ 210 nm

# POPLC® Method Development of a complex unknown mixture

## Optimized Gradient Elution



Column: ProntoSIL 100-5-C18 SH2 / ProntoSIL 200-5-C30 50:200, 250 x 3.0 mm  
Eluent: A: H3PO4 1 ml/l in H2O; B: ACN  
Gradient: 40% B 50 min.; 40% - 100% B in 85 min.  
Flow Rate: 0.5 ml/min Detection: UV @ 210 nm

# Advantages of POPLC®

- **in many cases no gradient elution required**
  - ☺ **constant detector background**
  - ☺ **less requirements for HPLC devices**
  - ☺ **no reequilibration required (faster analysis)**
  - ☺ **reusable mobile phase**
  - ☺ **detectors like RI, EC and conductivity are possible**
- **easy method development via software**
- **easy exchange of column parts (POPLink® column hardware)**
- **every HPLC column selectivity can be simulated**
- **This method can be applied in all areas of chromatography**  
**from micro to prep LC, in GC, TLC, SPE und Flash Chromatography**

# Summary

- **Selectivity is the most important tool in HPLC**
- **The column is the most important choice**
- **The optimization strategy is important**
- **POPLC<sup>®</sup> offers a simple possibility for future method development**

**We did not invent  
HPLC  
but we make it**

**POP**

**More information: <http://www.POPLC.de>**