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# **Multi-mode Separations Using Zirconia-based Stationary Phases**

**EAS 2009**

**Dan Nowlan<sup>1</sup>, Bingwen Yan<sup>1</sup>, Clayton V. McNeff<sup>1</sup>, R.A. Henry<sup>2</sup>**

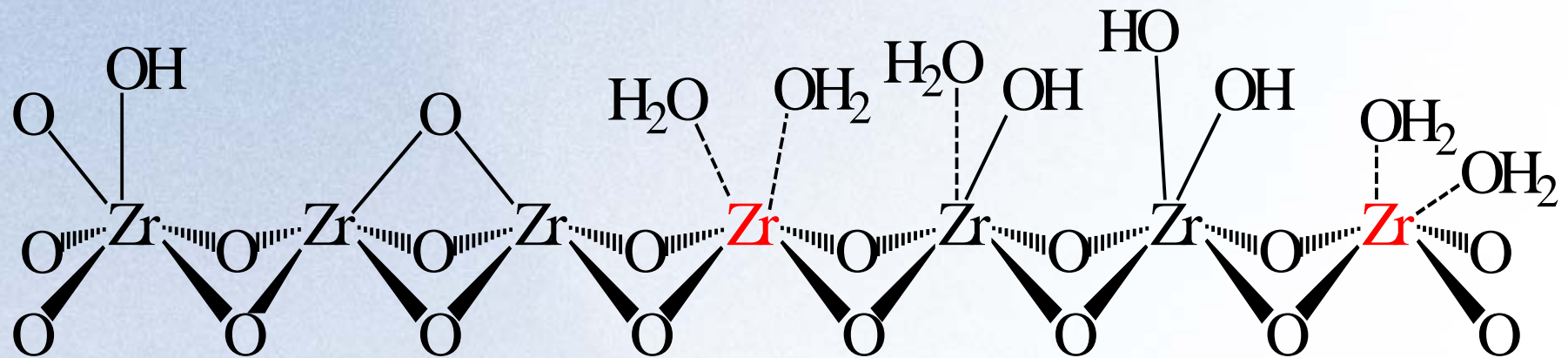
**<sup>1</sup> ZirChrom Separations, Inc. 617 Pierce St., Anoka, MN 55303**

**<sup>2</sup> Independent Consultant, 983 Greenbriar Drive, State College, PA 16801**

**Specialists in High Efficiency, **Ultra-Stable** Phases for HPLC**



# Surface Chemistry of Zirconia



Zirconia chemistry is dominated by Lewis acid-base reactions




**Other Lewis base examples:  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{RCO}_2^-$ , Catechol**



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# Interaction Strength of Lewis Bases with Zirconia<sup>3</sup>

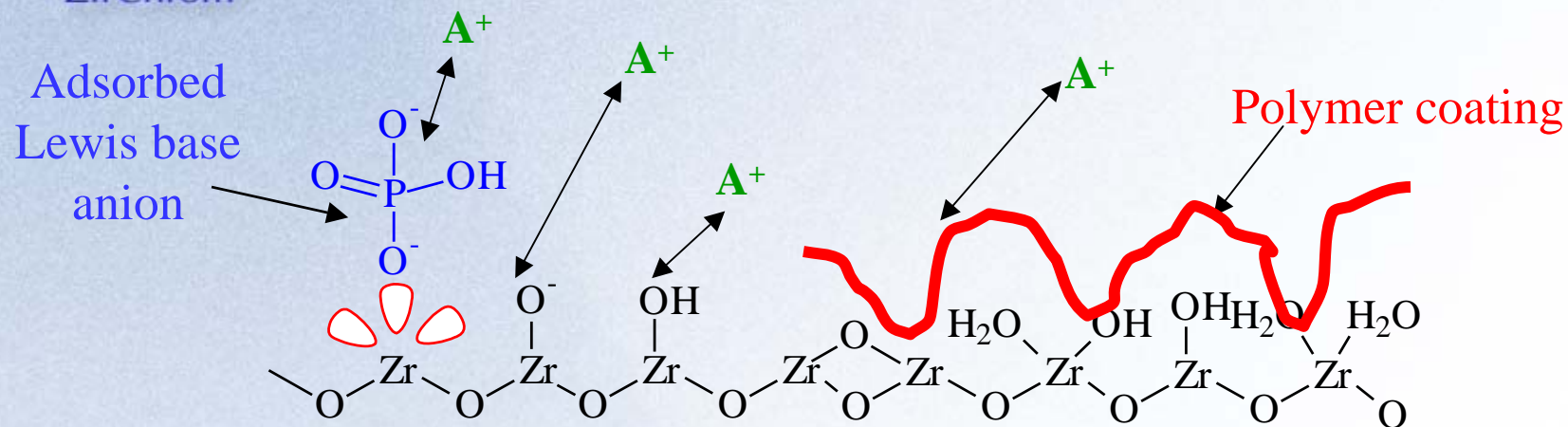
Interaction Strength	Lewis Base (L)
<b>Strongest</b>	Hydroxide
	Phosphate
	Fluoride
	Citrate
	Sulfate
	Acetate
	Formate
	Nitrate
	Chloride
	Water
	<b>Weakest</b>

**Small Lewis bases with high electron density and low polarizability interact more strongly with Zr atoms.**

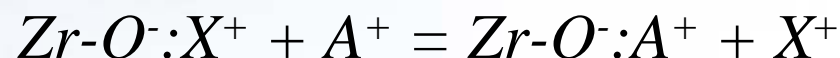
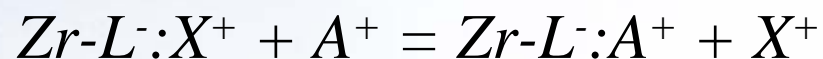
<sup>3</sup> J.A. Blackwell and P.W. Carr, "Development of an Eluotropic Series for the Chromatography of Lewis Bases on Zirconium Oxide," Anal. Chem. 64, 863-73 (1992).



# Retention of Basic Analytes on ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-PBD and ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-PS



- PBD, PS Coating — **Reversed-Phase (RP)** Moieties
- Lewis Base Anions — **Ion-Exchange (IEX)** Sites



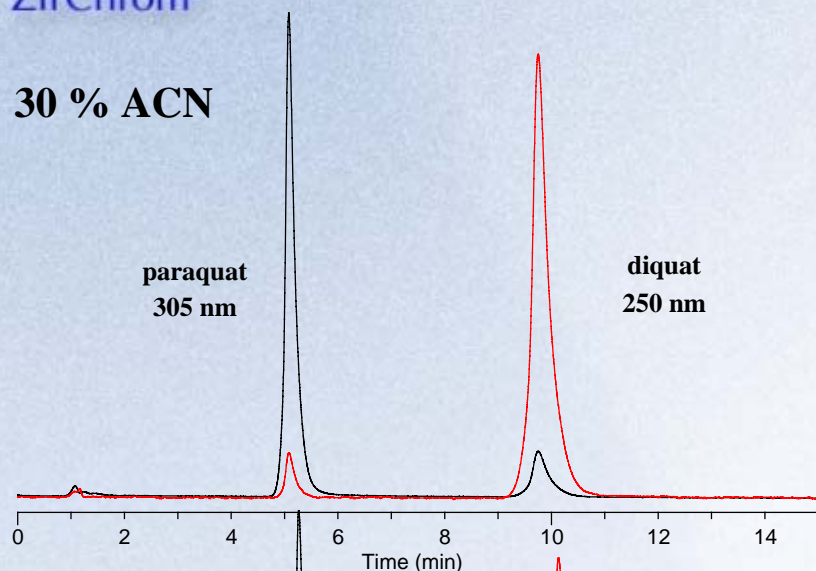
A<sup>+</sup>: analyte cation, X<sup>+</sup>: counterion, L<sup>-</sup>: adsorbed Lewis base anion.



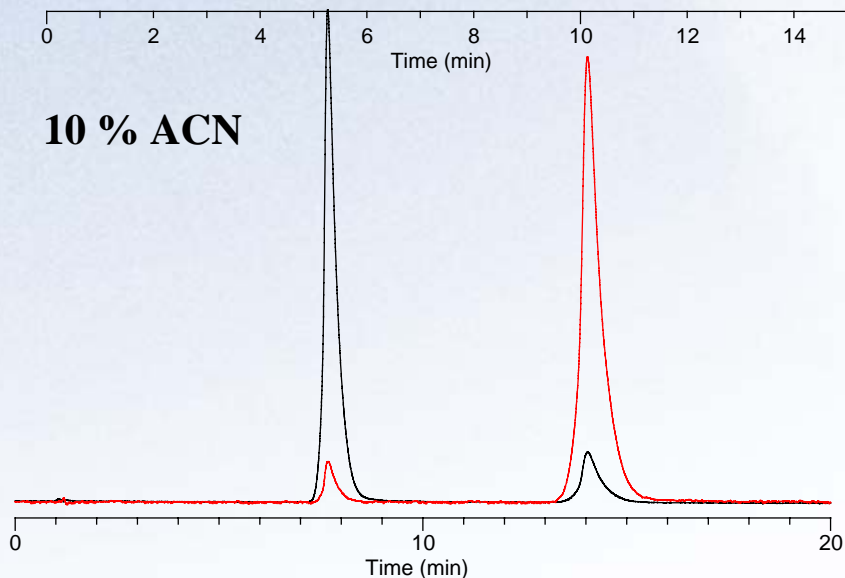
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# Effect of Reversed Phase Character on the Separation of Quaternary Amines<sup>4</sup>

30 % ACN



10 % ACN



**Column:** Discovery® Zr-PS, 150cm x 2.1mm ID, 3µ particles  
**Mobile Phase 1:50:** 20 : 30, (20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 100 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub>, pH 7.0 w/ NH<sub>4</sub>OH) : Water : Acetonitrile  
**Mobile Phase 2:50:** 40 : 10, (20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 100 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>3</sub>, pH 7.0 w/ NH<sub>4</sub>OH) : Water : Acetonitrile  
**Flow:** 0.3 mL/min  
**Temp:** 50° C  
**Det:** UV at 250nm & 305nm  
**Inj:** 1 µL  
**Sample:** diquat & paraquat in water; 100 mg/L ea.

- At 30% ACN, the polymer coating adds very little to retention or selectivity for these ionic compounds.
- When nonionic compounds are present, changes in organic solvent strength will have a greater impact and can be used for optimizing resolution.

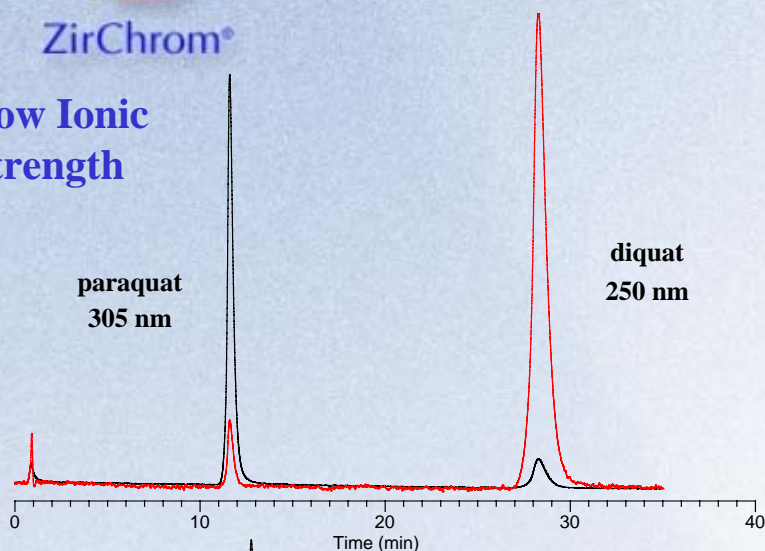
<sup>4</sup> Data used by permission of Supelco



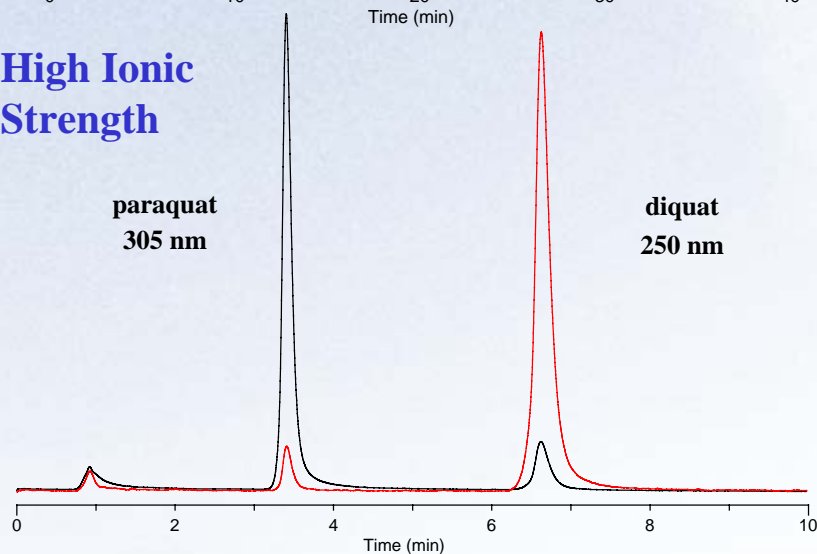
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# Effect of Ionic Strength on the Separation of Quaternary Amines<sup>4</sup>

Low Ionic Strength



High Ionic Strength



**Column:** Discovery® Zr-PS, 7.5cm x 2.1mm ID, 3 $\mu$  particles

**Mobile Phase1:** 50:50, (20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 40 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>2</sub>, pH 7.0 w/ NH<sub>4</sub>OH) : Acetonitrile

**Mobile Phase2:** 50:50, (20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 100 mM NH<sub>4</sub>HCO<sub>2</sub>, pH 7.0 w/ NH<sub>4</sub>OH) : Acetonitrile

**Flow:** 0.2 mL/min

**Temp:** as indicated

**Det:** UV at 250nm & 305nm

**Inj:** 1  $\mu$ L

**Sample:** diquat and paraquat in water; 50 mg/L ea.

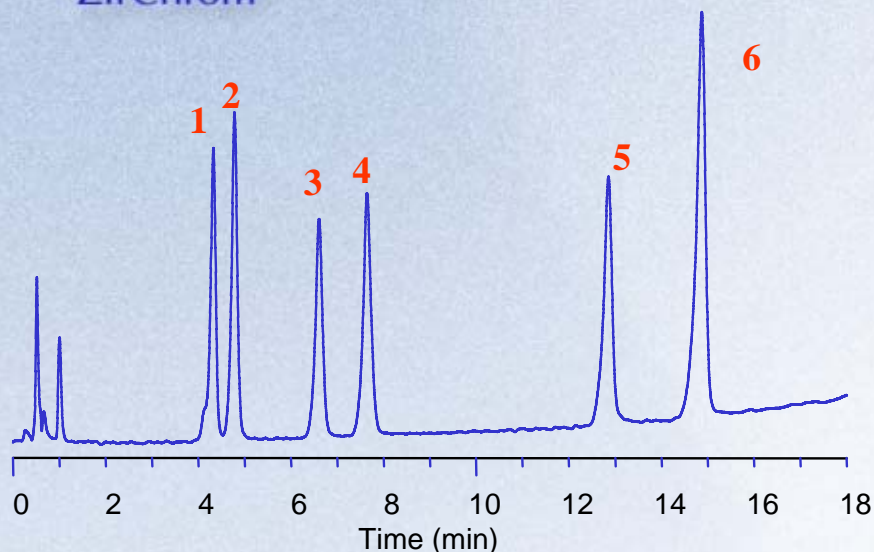
- **k values for diquat are 25-30 at low ionic strength in 50% ACN.**
- **k values for diquat decrease to about 5 at high ionic strength without changing %ACN.**
- **The classic method for reducing k in IE mode is to increase ionic strength, confirming IE mode.**

<sup>4</sup> Data used by permission of Supelco



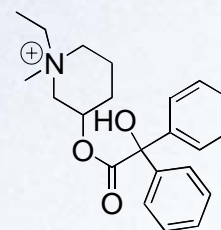
# Anticholinergics on Zr-PBD<sup>4</sup>

## Quaternary amines and related compounds

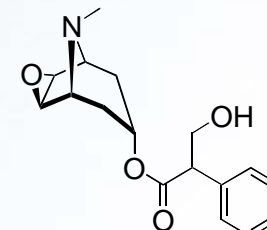


### LC Conditions

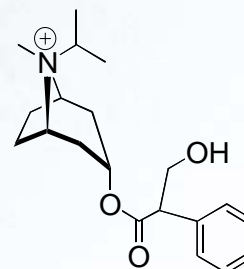
Discovery® Zr-PBD 100mm x 2.1mm i.d., 3 µm  
Mobile Phase A: 50:50 [20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, pH 7.0 w/ NH<sub>4</sub>OH]:water  
Mobile Phase B: 50:30:20 [20 mM H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, pH 7.0 w/  
NH<sub>4</sub>OH]:water:ACN  
Gradient 90:10 to 0:100 A:B over 18 minutes  
Temp = 80 °C, Flow = 0.3 mL/min, Inj vol = 2 µL,  
UV 225 nm, sample in ~60:40 Mobile phase A:MeOH



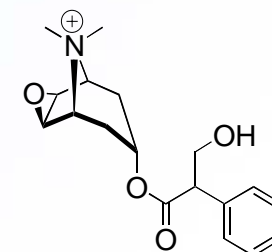
1, Pipenzolate (20 mg/L)



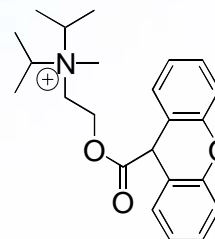
2, Scopolamine (100 mg/L)



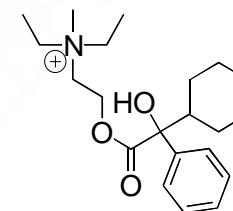
3, Ipratropium (100 mg/L)



4, Methscopolamine (100 mg/L)



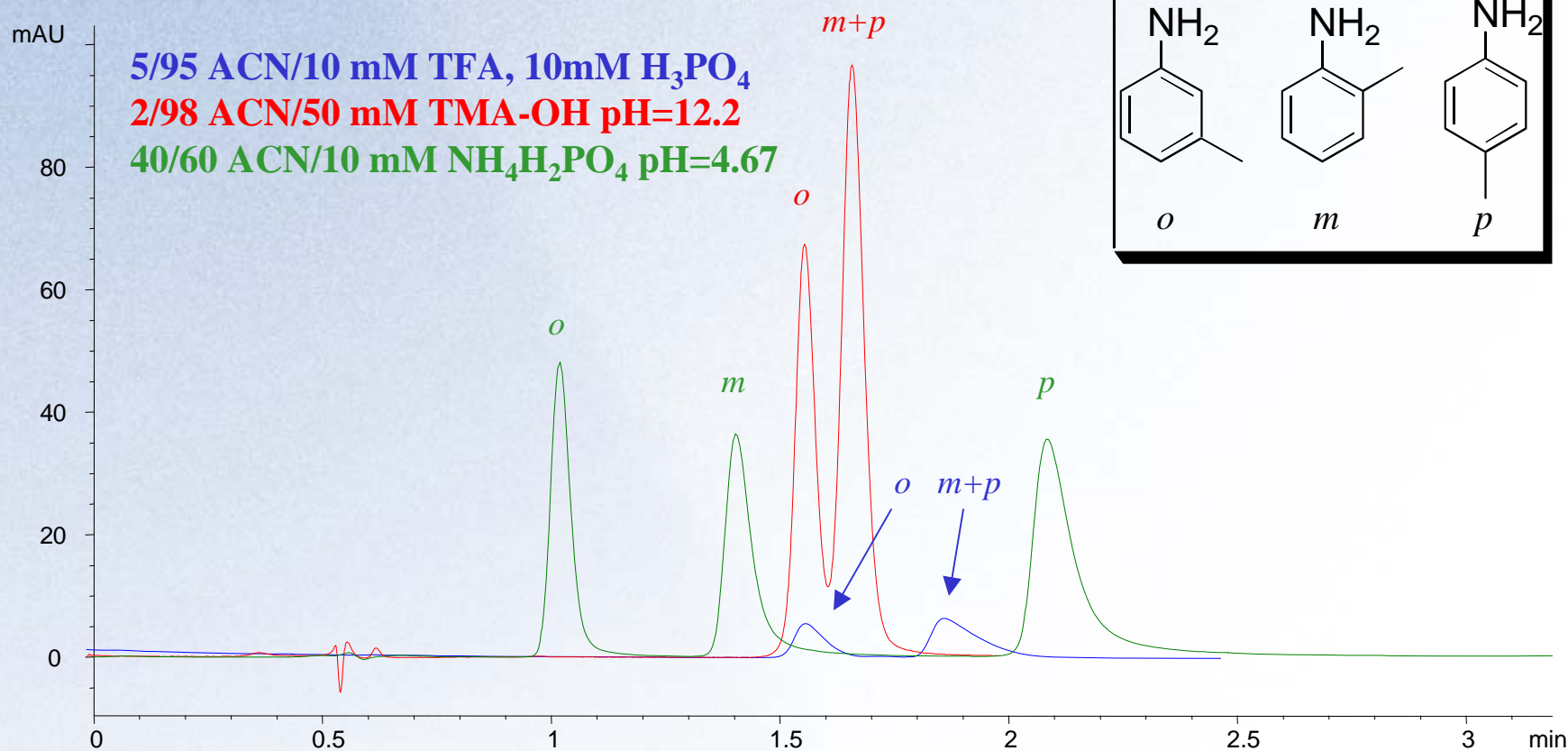
5, Propantheline (20 mg/L)



6, Oxyphenonium (100 mg/L)



# Toluidines Separation on 3 $\mu$ m Zr-PBD



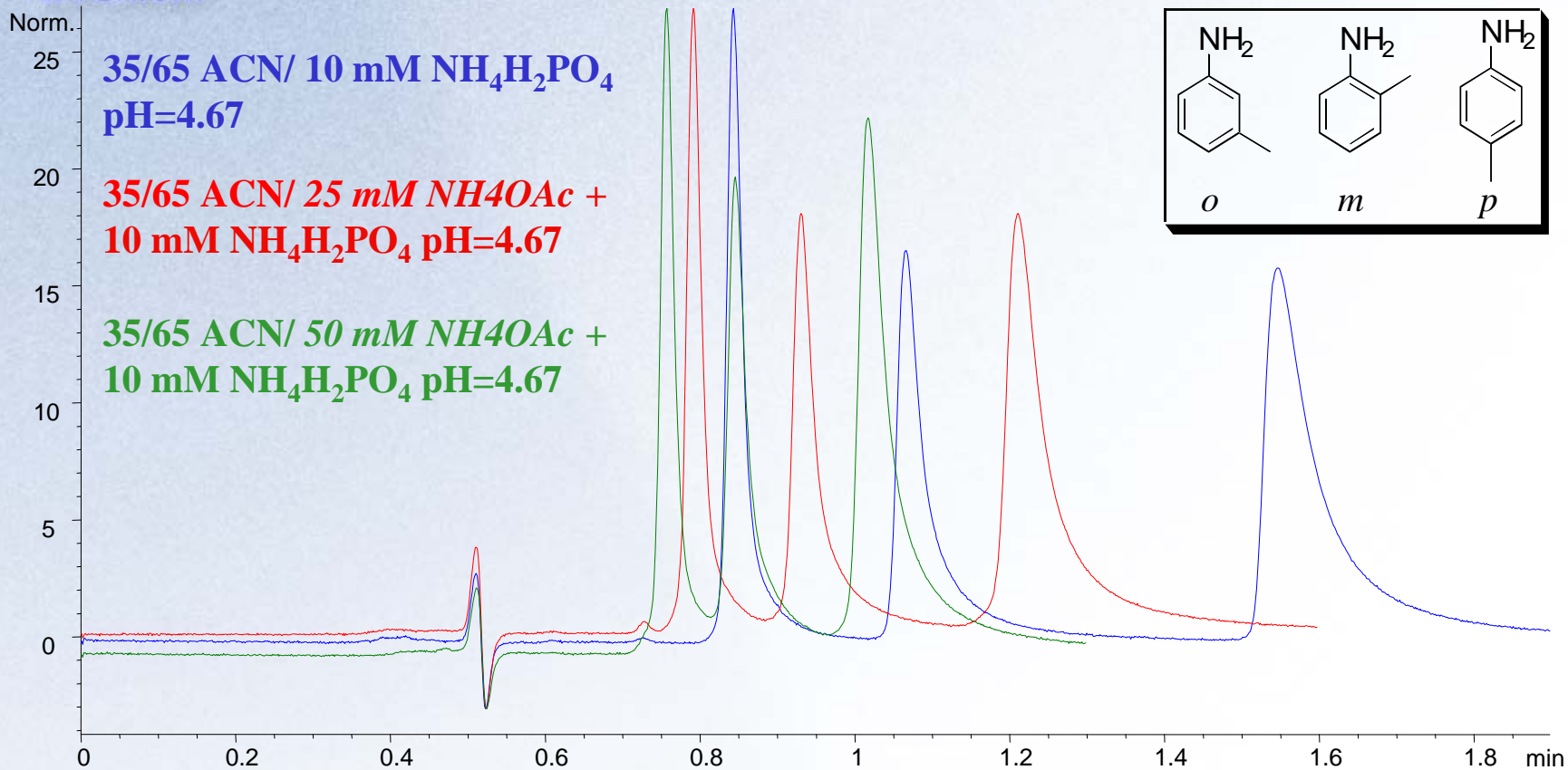
LC Conditions: Column: ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-PBD, 50 x 4.6 mm i.d., 3 $\mu$ m (part #: ZR03-0546); Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min; Temp: 25 °C; Injection Vol.: 2.0  $\mu$ L; Detection: UV at 254 nm





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# Toluidines Separation on **sub-2 $\mu$ m** PBD: Ionic Strength



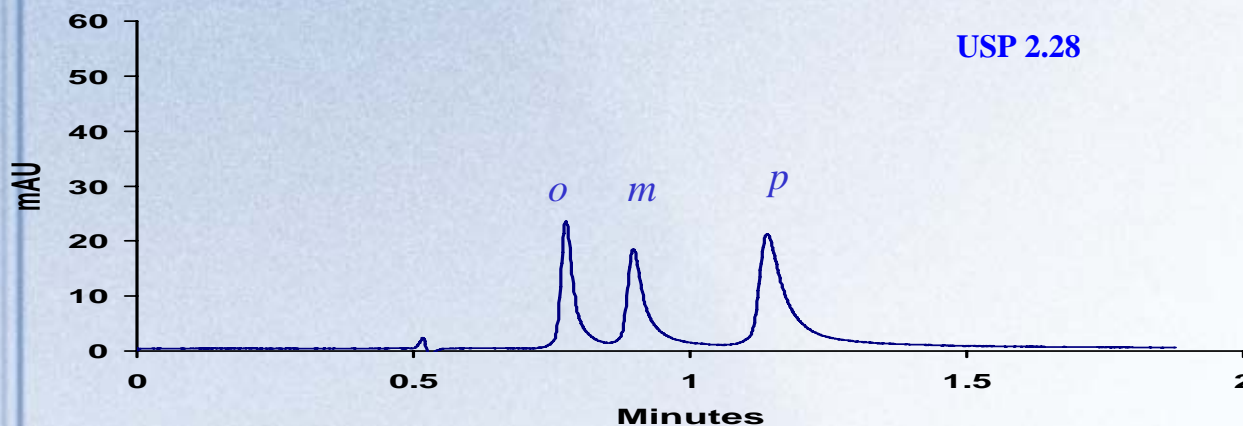
LC Conditions: Column: ZirChrom®-PBD, 50 x 4.6 mm i.d., sub-2 $\mu$ m (part #: ZR03-0546-1.9); Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min; Temp: 25 °C; Injection Vol.: 2.0  $\mu$ L; Detection: UV at 254 nm



# Toluidines Separation on **sub-2 $\mu$ m** Zr-PBD: Temperature

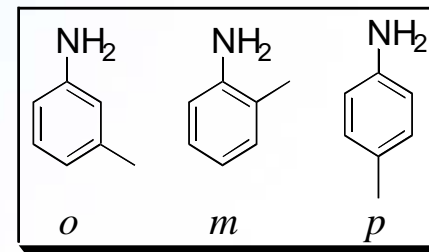
T=25 °C, 221 bar

USP 2.28



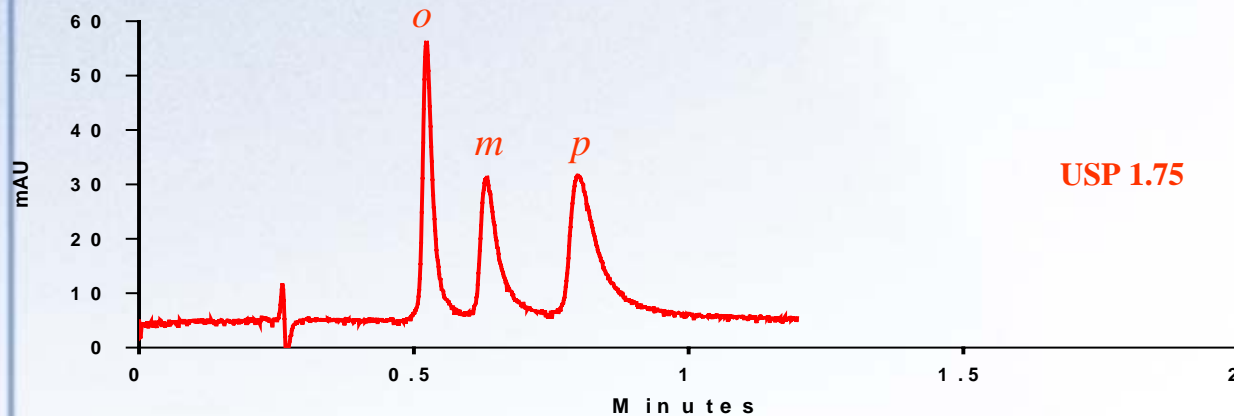
## LC Conditions:

35/65 ACN/ 25 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc +  
10 mM NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH=4.67  
F=1 mL/min, UV=254nm, T=25 °C  
50x4.6mm, 1.9  $\mu$ m, 2  $\mu$ L inj  
Part #: ZR03-0546-1.9



T=80 °C, 208 bar

USP 1.75

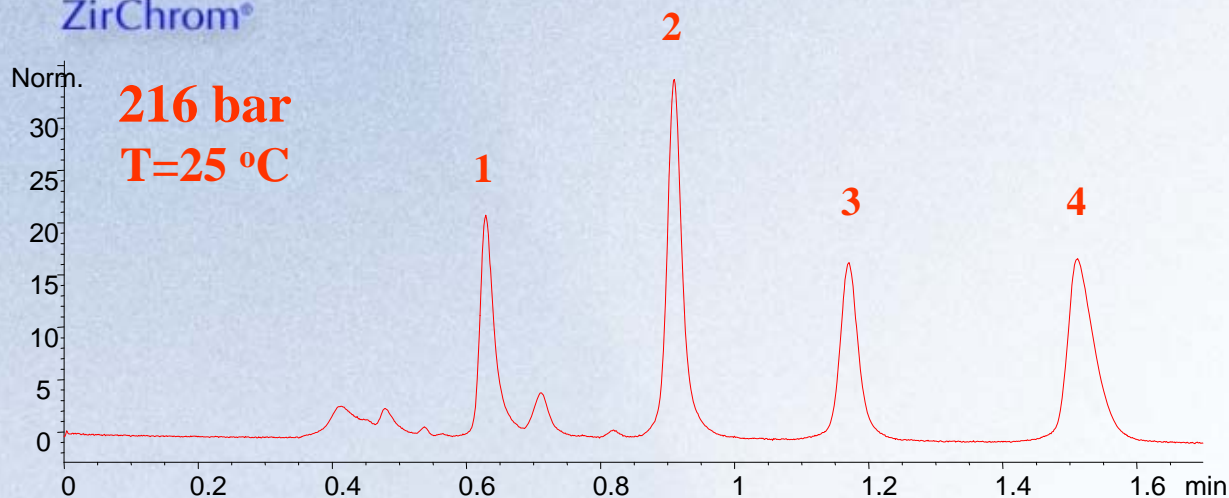


## LC Conditions:

10/90 ACN/ 25 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc +  
10 mM NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH=4.67  
F=2 mL/min, UV=254nm, T=80 °C  
50x4.6mm, 1.9  $\mu$ m, 7  $\mu$ L inj  
Part #: ZR03-0546-1.9

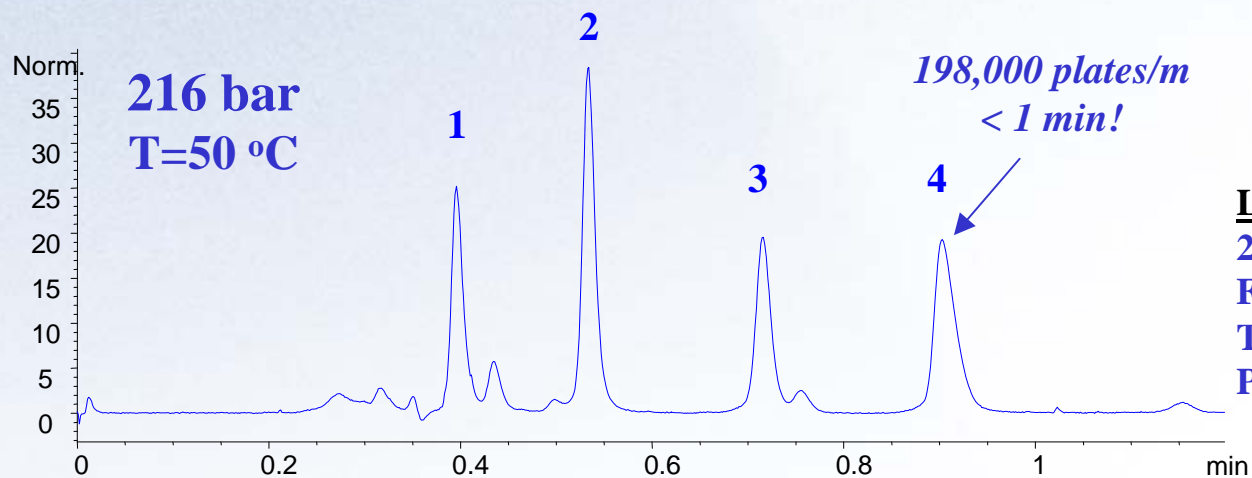
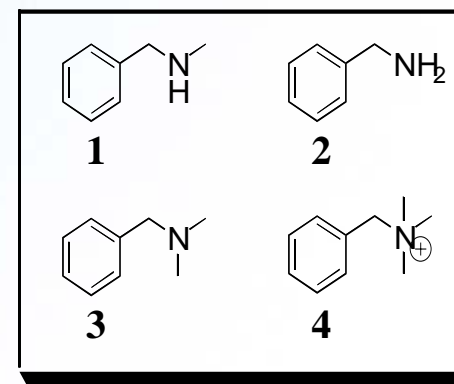


# Alkylbenzylamine Separation on sub-2 $\mu$ m Zr-PBD: 25 and 50 °C



### LC Conditions:

21/79 ACN/ 20 mM K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH=12  
F=1.0 mL/min, UV=254nm,  
T=25 °C, 50x4.6mm, 1.9  $\mu$ m, 3  $\mu$ L inj  
Part #: ZR03-0546-1.9

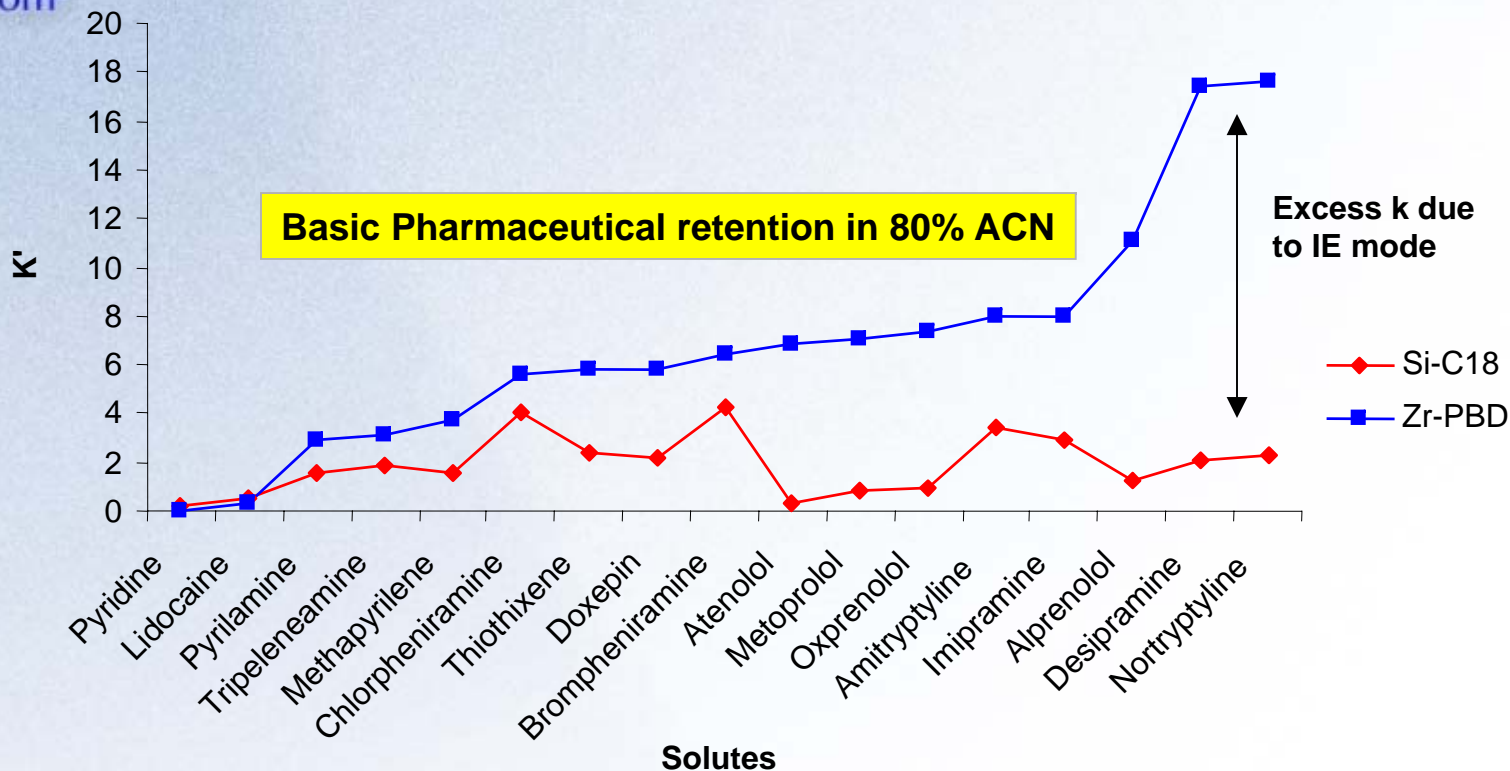


### LC Conditions:

21/79 ACN/ 20 mM K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH=12  
F=1.5 mL/min, UV=254nm,  
T=50 °C, 50x4.6mm, 1.9  $\mu$ m, 3  $\mu$ L inj  
Part #: ZR03-0546-1.9



# Retention Comparison: Si-C18 vs Zr-PBD

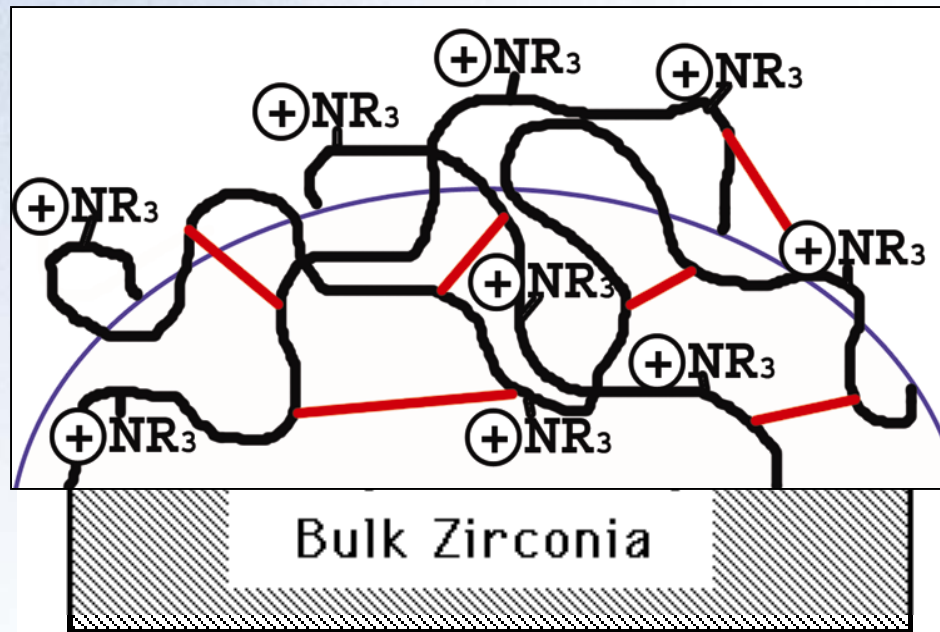


LC Conditions: Machine-mixed 80/20 ACN/10 mM ammonium acetate pH=6.7 without pH adjustment; Flow rate, 1.0 ml/min.; Injection volume 0.1 ul; Temperature, 35 °C; Detection at 254 nm; Columns, ZirChrom®-PBD, 50 x 4.6 mm i.d., 3µm (part #: ZR03-0546) Silica-C18 150 x 4.6 mm i.d., 3.5 µm.



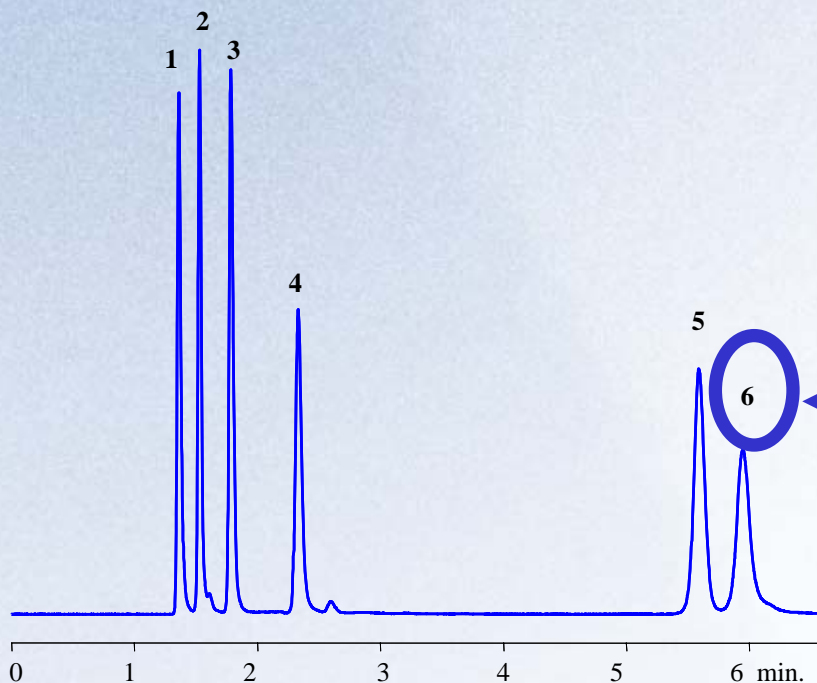
# Surface Chemistry and Retention Mechanisms of QPEI-Zirconia

- **Anion-exchange**
- **Hydrophobic interactions**
- **Lewis acid-base interactions**





# Water-Soluble Vitamin Analysis on ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-SAX



- 1 - Thiamine (Vit. B<sub>1</sub>)
- 2 - Pyridoxine (Vit. B<sub>6</sub>)
- 3 - Nicotinamide (form of Vit. B<sub>3</sub>)
- 4 - Riboflavin (Vit. B<sub>2</sub>)
- 5 - Nicotinic acid (form of Vit. B<sub>3</sub>)
- 6 - Ascorbic acid (Vit. C)

**Vitamin C is strongly retained  
on ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-SAX**

LC Conditions: Column: ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>-SAX, 150 x 4.6 mm i.d. (part number: ZR06-1546),  
Mobile Phase: 50 mM Ammonium dihydrogenphosphate, pH 4.5, Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min.  
Temperature: 30 °C, Injection Vol.: 5.0 µL, Detection: UV at 254 nm



## Summary and Conclusions

- Mixed-mode applications have become popular for difficult applications where compounds vary widely in chemical nature.
- Several ZirChrom<sup>®</sup> phases, including Zr-PBD, Zr-PS, Zr-MS and Zr-SAX, are ideal for mixed-mode applications and show unique selectivity.
- ZirChrom<sup>®</sup> phases are stable and reproducible over a wider range of pH and temperature than silica-based phases.



# Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank Supelco for permitting the use of data on quaternary amine compound.

Trademarks used include: ZirChrom<sup>®</sup>, Discovery<sup>®</sup>

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