

# Application News

Liquid Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer LCMS-8060NX

## Determination of various PFAS in drinking water using on-line SPE coupled to LC-MS/MS

Anja Grüning  
Shimadzu Europa GmbH

### User Benefits

- ◆ Single vendor solution for UHPLC and MS system
- ◆ Quantification of 44 PFAS in ng/L range using an on-line SPE approach
- ◆ All PFAS requested by the EU directive 2020/2184<sup>[1]</sup> on the quality of water intended for human consumption are covered

### ■ Introduction

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) refer to a class of more than 4000 individual chemicals that have been widely used since the 1950s, e.g. as fire retardants, food packaging materials or non-stick coatings. These compounds offer heat-resistant, and oil- and water-repellant properties as well as chemical and thermal stability, resistance to UV light and weathering. Due to their anthropogenic origin, PFAS cannot be degraded, and hence they accumulate and can now be detected ubiquitously in the environment. Since drinking water is considered to be an important source of human PFAS intake, testing drinking water for PFAS levels has been essential for several years now.

This Application News demonstrates the determination of all PFAS requested in the EU directive 2020/2184<sup>[1]</sup> on the quality of water intended for human consumption in an appropriate concentration range. Furthermore, the analysis includes 24 additional PFAS and 22 internal standard using the same method based on an on-line SPE approach which omits additional sample preparation steps.

Since PFAS can be present in reagents, glassware, pipettes, tubing, degassers and other parts from the LC-MS/MS instrument, the use of a solvent delay column is necessary. Small C18 columns are placed between mixer and autosampler respectively between mixer and valve to delay possible PFAS contaminations and separate them from sample-derived PFAS.

To minimize adsorption of (especially long chain) PFAS to the surface LabTotal Vials (P/N 227-34001-01) with PP-caps, with aluminium septa (P/N 961-10030-31) were used.



Figure 1 LCMS-8060NX coupled to a Nexera™ X3 system

### ■ Materials and Methods

Fast, sensitive and robust LC-MS/MS systems provide the basis for routine analysis in drinking water laboratories. For the described application, a Shimadzu LCMS-8060NX triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer coupled with a Nexera X3 UHPLC system was used (Figure 1, Figure 3).

44 PFAS standards and one IS-mixture (ISO 21675-LSS) were purchased (Wellington Laboratories / neochema). Stock solutions of these PFAS were diluted with methanol and combined to a single standard mixture with a final a concentration of 1ng/µL for each compound. Further dilutions of this mixture were produced and spiked into Evian water to prepare calibration samples in drinking water in the concentration range from 0.5 ng/L to 100 ng/L. Bottled Evian water was chosen as dinking water matrix as no noticeable PFAS could be detected in the blank. All samples (except blanks) were spiked with IS to a final concentration of 20 ng/L.

No further sample preparation is required. 1 mL of sample is injected directly on a SPE-trap column.

Analysis was performed within 15 minutes using MRM acquisition with at least two transitions for each compound (except PFBA, PFMPA, PFMBA, HPFHpA where only one transition is available). Analytical conditions are listed in Table 1. The optimized MRM transitions are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1 Analytical conditions

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Mass Spectrometer   | : LCMS-8060NX                                     |
| Ionization          | : Electrospray Ionization (ESI), negative         |
| Interface Voltage   | : -1 kV   |
| Focus Voltage       | : -2 kV   |
| Heating Gas         | : 15 L/min  |
| DL Temp.            | : 150 °C  |
| Interface Temp.     | : 300 °C  |
| Nebulizing Gas      | : 3 L/min   |
| Drying Gas          | : 3 L/min   |
| Heat Block          | : 400 °C  |
| Dwell-/Pause-time   | : 4 (3 for IS) / 1 msec                           |
| CID                 | : 270 kPa   |
| UHPLC               | : Nexera X3                                       |
| Pump A (Analytical) | : 2 mM ammonium acetate in H <sub>2</sub> O       |
| Pump B (Analytical) | : 10 mM ammonium acetate in Methanol              |
| Pump C (Trap)       | : H <sub>2</sub> O + modifier (sample loading)    |
| Pump D (Trap)       | : Methanol (washing of SPE and delay column)      |
| Analytical column   | : Shim-pack™ Scepter 1.9 µm, C18-120, 2.1 x 50 mm |
| Delay column        | : Shim-pack™ GIST HP 3 µm, C18-AQ, 3 x 30 mm      |
| Trap column         | : EVOLUTE® Express ABN on-line SPE cartridge      |
| Injection Volume    | : 1000 µL   |
| Cooler temperature  | : 15 °C   |
| Column Oven         | : 50 °C   |

## ■ Results

Calibration curves were calculated using weighted (1/conc) linear regression. The linearity ranges from 0.5 ng/L (resp. 1 or 2.5 ng/L) – 100 ng/L (50 ng/L for PFNS) with an R<sup>2</sup> of at least 0.99 for all PFAS. The lowest calibration point (0.5 ng/mL) can be determined in 77.3% of all PFAS (Table 2). Exemplary calibration curves and respective MRM-chromatograms at 1 ng/L are shown in Figure 2.

Two control samples at 5 ng/l and 25 ng/L were analyzed in three-fold to measure analytical reproducibility. The percentage relative standard deviation was typically lower than 20% (for >95% of the determined compounds resp. QC)s from these measurements (Table 3).

Table 2 MRM transitions and calibration information

| Acronym         | Compound name                                       | RT     | Type   | Quantifier    | Qualifier     | ISTD          | Calibration range | Unit | R <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------|---|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------|----------------|
| 10:2 FTS        | 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorododecane sulfonic acid         | 9.64   | Target | 627.00>607.00 | 627.00>80.90  | PFDoDA-IS     | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9953         |
| 11Cl-PF30UdS    | 11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid | 9.471  | Target | 630.90>451.05 | 630.90>82.95  | PFDoDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9958         |
| 3,7-DMPFOA      | 3,7-dimethylperfluorooctanoic acid                  | 8.796  | Target | 469.00>269.00 | 469.00>219.05 | PFNA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9975         |
| 4:2 FTS         | 1H, 1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorohexane sulfonic acid        | 6.806  | Target | 327.10>307.00 | 327.10>80.95  | PFHxA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9995         |
| 6:2 FTS         | 1H, 1H, 2H, 2H-perfluoroctane sulfonic acid         | 8.112  | Target | 427.10>407.00 | 427.10>80.90  | 6:2 FTS-IS    | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9994         |
| 6:2 FTS-IS      |   | 8.113  | ISTD   | 428.90>408.90 | 428.90>80.95  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| 8:2 diPAP       | 8:2 Fluorotelomer phosphate diester                 | 10.597 | Target | 989.10>543.15 | 989.10>96.95  | 8:2 diPAP-IS  | 2.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9914         |
| 8:2 diPAP-IS    |   | 10.596 | ISTD   | 992.80>96.85  | 992.80>544.90 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| 8:2 FTS         | 1H, 1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorodecane sulfonic acid        | 8.996  | Target | 527.10>507.00 | 527.10>80.90  | 8:2 FTS-IS    | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9989         |
| 8:2 FTS-IS      |   | 8.993  | ISTD   | 529.00>508.95 | 529.00>80.95  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| 9Cl-PF30ONS     | 9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanone-1-sulfonic acid    | 8.826  | Target | 530.90>351.10 | 530.90>82.90  | PFOS-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9984         |
| DONA            | 4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic Acid                 | 7.68   | Target | 377.10>251.00 | 377.10>84.95  | PFHpA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9967         |
| FOUEA:8:2 FTUCA | 2H-perfluoro-2-decanoic acid                        | 8.736  | Target | 457.10>393.20 | 457.10>343.05 | FOUEA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9980         |
| FOUEA-IS        | 2H,2H,3H,3H-perfluoroundecanoic acid                | 8.735  | ISTD   | 459.00>394.05 | 459.00>344.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| H4PFUNA         |   | 9.133  | Target | 491.10>367.20 | 491.10>387.05 | PFOS-IS       | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9980         |
| HPFHxP          | 7H-perfluorheptanoic acid                           | 6.545  | Target | 345.10>281.00 | -----         | PFHxP-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9982         |
| N-Et-FOSA       | N-Ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamide                   | 10.167 | Target | 526.00>169.05 | 526.00>219.05 | N-Et-FOSA-IS  | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9995         |
| N-Et-FOSAA      | N-Ethylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid        | 9.345  | Target | 584.00>419.00 | 584.00>526.00 | N-Et-FOSAA-IS | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9974         |
| N-Et-FOSAA-IS   |   | 9.339  | ISTD   | 589.00>419.10 | 589.00>530.90 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| N-Et-FOSA-IS    |   | 10.163 | ISTD   | 531.10>169.00 | 531.10>219.20 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| NFDHA           | Nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid                  | 6.75   | Target | 201.00>84.95  | 295.10>201.00 | PFHxA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9980         |
| N-Me-FOSA       | N-Methylperfluorooctanesulfonamide                  | 9.976  | Target | 511.90>169.00 | 511.90>219.05 | N-Me-FOSA-IS  | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9956         |
| N-Me-FOSAA      | N-Methylperfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid       | 9.176  | Target | 569.90>418.95 | 569.90>512.15 | N-Me-FOSAA-IS | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9973         |
| N-Me-FOSAA-IS   |   | 9.168  | ISTD   | 572.90>419.10 | 572.90>515.10 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| N-Me-FOSA-IS    |   | 9.968  | ISTD   | 515.00>169.00 | 515.00>219.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PEESA           | Perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid              | 6.538  | Target | 315.00>135.00 | 315.00>82.90  | PFHxA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9941         |
| PFBA*           | Perfluorobutanoic acid                              | 4.759  | Target | 213.00>169.00 | -----         | PFBA-IS       | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9993         |
| PFBA-IS         |   | 4.754  | ISTD   | 216.90>172.00 | -----         | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFBS*           | Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid                       | 6.142  | Target | 299.00>79.90  | 299.00>98.90  | PFBS-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9996         |
| PFBS-IS         |   | 6.139  | ISTD   | 301.90>79.80  | 301.90>98.80  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFDA*           | Perfluorodecanoic acid                              | 8.994  | Target | 513.00>469.00 | 513.00>219.05 | PFDA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9975         |
| PFDA-IS         |   | 8.997  | ISTD   | 519.00>473.90 | 519.00>219.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFDoA / PFDoDA* | Perfluorododecanoic acid                            | 9.624  | Target | 613.00>568.95 | 613.00>169.10 | PFDoDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9981         |
| PFDoDA-IS       |   | 9.619  | ISTD   | 614.90>570.10 | 614.90>269.10 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFDoS / PFDoDS* | Perfluorododecane sulfonic acid                     | 9.853  | Target | 699.00>98.90  | 699.00>79.90  | PFDoDA-IS     | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9908         |
| PFDS*           | Perfluorodecane sulfonic acid                       | 9.312  | Target | 598.80>79.95  | 598.80>98.85  | PFDoDA-IS     | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9995         |
| PFHxA*          | Perfluoroheptanoic acid                             | 7.59   | Target | 363.10>319.00 | 363.10>169.00 | PFHxA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9979         |
| PFHxA-IS        |   | 7.591  | ISTD   | 367.00>322.10 | 367.00>169.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFHxP*          | Perfluoroheptane sulfonic acid                      | 8.167  | Target | 448.90>79.90  | 448.90>98.90  | PFHxS-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9981         |
| PFHxA*          | Perfluorohexanoic acid                              | 6.886  | Target | 313.10>269.00 | 313.10>119.00 | PFHxA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9988         |
| PFHxA-IS        |   | 6.883  | ISTD   | 317.90>273.00 | 317.90>120.10 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFHxDA          | Perfluorohexadecanoic acid                          | 10.455 | Target | 813.00>769.90 | 813.00>169.00 | PFHxDA-IS     | 2.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9943         |
| PFHxDA-IS       |   | 10.454 | ISTD   | 814.90>769.90 | 814.90>369.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFHxS*          | Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid                       | 7.637  | Target | 398.90>79.95  | 398.90>98.90  | PFHxS-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9985         |
| PFHxS-IS        |   | 7.636  | ISTD   | 402.00>79.90  | 402.00>98.80  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFMBA           | Perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid                    | 6.265  | Target | 279.10>84.95  | -----         | PPPeA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9987         |
| PFMPA           | Perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid                   | 5.209  | Target | 228.90>84.95  | -----         | PFBA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9995         |
| PFNA*           | Perfluorononanoic acid                              | 8.606  | Target | 463.00>418.95 | 463.00>219.00 | PFNA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9996         |
| PFNA-IS         |   | 8.605  | ISTD   | 471.90>427.00 | 471.90>223.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFNS*           | Perfluorononane sulfonic acid                       | 8.984  | Target | 549.10>79.90  | 549.10>98.90  | PFUnDA-IS     | 0.5 - 50          | ng_L | 0.9947         |
| PFOA*           | Perfluorooctanoic acid                              | 8.144  | Target | 413.20>369.00 | 413.20>169.05 | PFOA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9967         |
| PFOA-IS         |   | 8.142  | ISTD   | 421.00>376.10 | 421.00>172.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFOcDA / PFODA  | Perfluorooctadecanoic acid                          | 10.75  | Target | 913.00>868.95 | 913.00>169.00 | PFHxDA-IS     | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9965         |
| PFOS*           | Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid                       | 8.606  | Target | 498.90>79.90  | 498.90>98.90  | PFOS-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9981         |
| PFOSA / FOSA    | perfluorooctane sulfonamide                         | 9.313  | Target | 497.90>77.90  | 497.90>478.15 | FOSA-IS       | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9974         |
| PFOSA-IS        |   | 9.312  | ISTD   | 505.90>78.00  | 505.90>172.00 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFOS-IS         |   | 8.603  | ISTD   | 506.90>79.90  | 506.90>98.80  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PPPeA / PPFA*   | Perfluoropentanoic acid                             | 5.94   | Target | 263.10>219.00 | 263.10>69.10  | PPPeA-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9991         |
| PPPeA-IS        |   | 5.946  | ISTD   | 267.90>223.00 | 267.90>69.10  | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PPPeS / PPFS*   | Perfluoropentane sulfonic acid                      | 6.992  | Target | 349.20>79.95  | 349.20>98.95  | PFHxS-IS      | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9978         |
| PFTeDA          | Perfluorotetradecanoic acid                         | 10.096 | Target | 713.00>669.05 | 713.00>169.05 | PFTeDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9967         |
| PFTeDA-IS       |   | 10.102 | ISTD   | 714.90>670.00 | 714.90>368.90 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFTrDA*         | Perfluorotridecanoic acid                           | 9.878  | Target | 663.00>619.00 | 663.00>169.00 | PFDoDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9988         |
| PFTrDS*         | Perfluorotridecane sulfonic acid                    | 10.067 | Target | 749.00>99.10  | 749.00>79.90  | PFDoDA-IS     | 1 - 100           | ng_L | 0.9915         |
| PFUnDA*         | Perfluoroundecanoic acid                            | 9.332  | Target | 563.00>518.95 | 563.00>269.05 | PFUnDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9947         |
| PFUnDA-IS       |   | 9.333  | ISTD   | 570.00>524.90 | 570.00>268.90 | -----         | -----             | ng_L | -----          |
| PFUnS / PFUnDS* | Perfluoroundecane sulfonic acid                     | 9.601  | Target | 649.00>79.95  | 649.00>98.95  | PFDoDA-IS     | 0.5 - 100         | ng_L | 0.9962         |

\* PFAS requested in EU directive 2020/2184<sup>[1]</sup> on the quality of water intended for human consumption

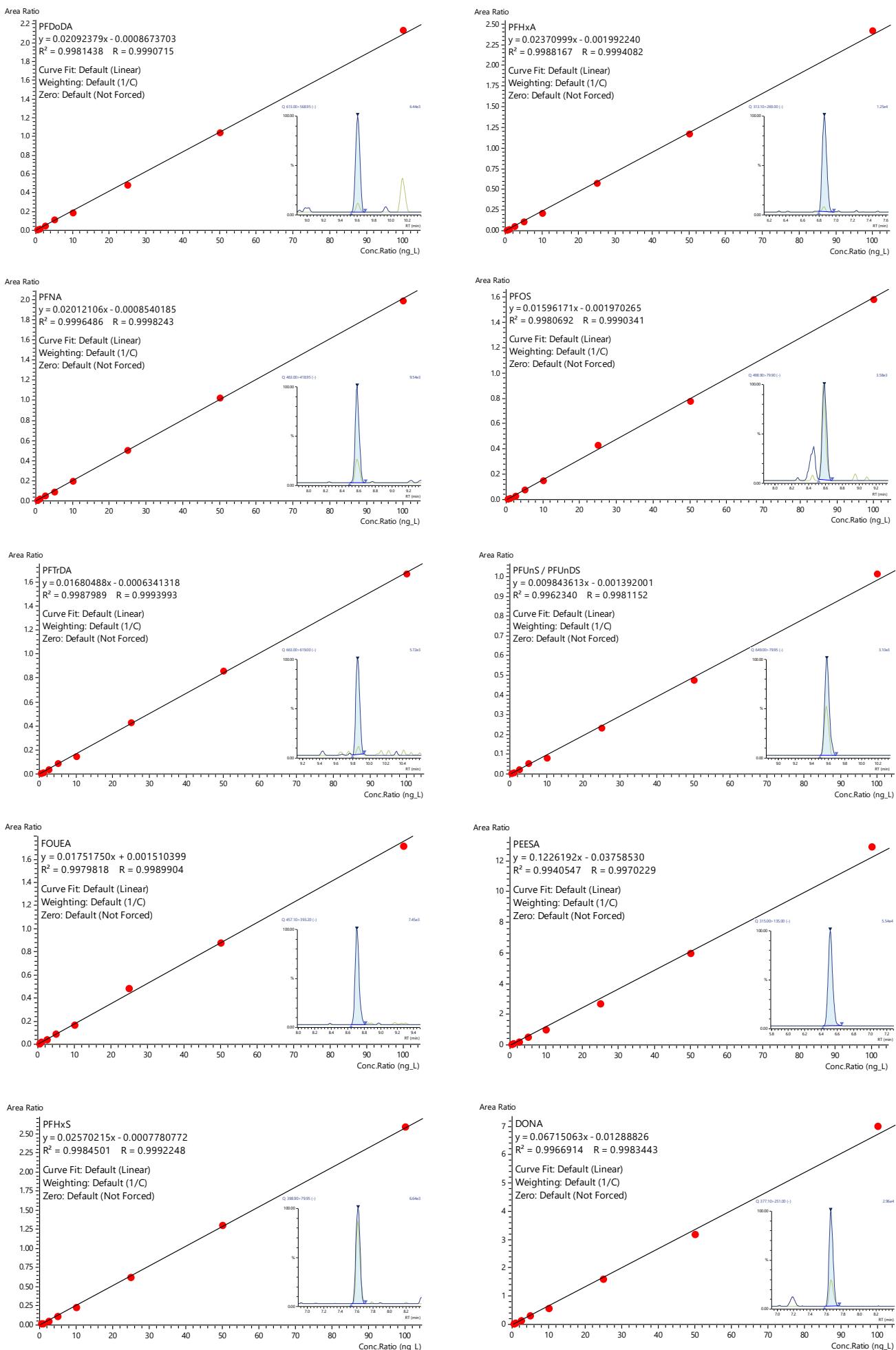


Figure 2 Exemplary calibration curves ranging from 0.5– 100 ng/L and a typical chromatogram at 1 ng/L level

Table 3 Reproducibility of QC samples

| 10:2 FTS |          | 11Cl-PF30UDS |          | 3.7-DMPFOA |          | 4:2 FTS |          | 6:2 FTS |          | 8:2 diPAP |          | 8:2 FTS |          | 9Cl-PF3ONS |          | DONA    |          | FOSA    |          | FOUEA  |  |
|----------|----------|--------------|----------|------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|--------|--|
| QC low   | QC low   | QC low       | QC low   | QC low     | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low    | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low     | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low |  |
| 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L       | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L     | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L    | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L     | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L |  |
| Conc.    | Accuracy | Conc.        | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy |        |  |
| QC L1    | 5.31     | 106.23       | 5.19     | 103.81     | 4.77     | 95.3    | 4.72     | 94.32   | 4.98     | 99.55     | 3.61     | 72.1    | 6.9      | 137.93     | 4.98     | 99.55   | 4.67     | 93.36   | 4.6      | 91.96  |  |
| QC L2    | 5.46     | 109.24       | 4.62     | 92.33      | 4.08     | 81.59   | 4.73     | 94.56   | 4.75     | 95.07     | 4.45     | 89.06   | 5.43     | 108.58     | 4.29     | 85.86   | 4.78     | 95.53   | 4.78     | 95.55  |  |
| QC L3    | 5.04     | 100.72       | 4.11     | 82.14      | 4.37     | 87.5    | 4.57     | 91.48   | 5.55     | 110.98    | 4.71     | 94.15   | 5.53     | 110.58     | 4.29     | 85.79   | 4.48     | 89.52   | 4.68     | 93.59  |  |
| Mean     | 105.39   |              | 92.76    |            | 88.13    |         | 93.46    |         | 101.87   |           | 85.1     |         | 119.03   |            | 90.4     |         | 92.81    |         | 93.7     |        |  |
| SD       | 4.32     |              | 10.84    |            | 6.88     |         | 1.71     |         | 8.21     |           | 11.54    |         | 16.4     |            | 7.92     |         | 3.04     |         | 1.79     |        |  |
| %RSD     | 4.1      |              | 11.68    |            | 7.8      |         | 1.83     |         | 8.06     |           | 13.56    |         | 13.78    |            | 8.77     |         | 3.28     |         | 1.92     |        |  |
| QC high  | QC high  | QC high      | QC high  | QC high    | QC high  | QC high | QC high  | QC high | QC high  | QC high   | QC high  | QC high | QC high  | QC high    | QC high  | QC high | QC high  | QC high | QC high  |        |  |
| 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L      | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L    | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L   | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L    | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  |        |  |
| Conc.    | Accuracy | Conc.        | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy |        |  |
| QC H1    | 26.11    | 104.45       | 21.67    | 86.68      | 19.91    | 79.63   | 25.11    | 100.44  | 26.79    | 107.17    | 26.08    | 104.3   | 25.13    | 100.54     | 24.43    | 97.71   | 23.23    | 92.92   | 25.59    | 102.35 |  |
| QC H2    | 28.41    | 113.64       | 24.83    | 99.33      | 21.29    | 85.16   | 24.93    | 99.71   | 26.17    | 104.69    | 20.85    | 83.42   | 26.86    | 107.44     | 24.36    | 97.43   | 24.12    | 96.49   | 25.52    | 102.09 |  |
| QC H3    | 21.79    | 87.16        | 20.43    | 81.71      | 21.28    | 85.11   | 25.78    | 103.1   | 25.34    | 101.36    | 19.04    | 76.15   | 28.41    | 113.63     | 21.26    | 85.05   | 25.08    | 100.31  | 23.74    | 94.97  |  |
| Mean     | 101.75   |              | 89.24    |            | 83.3     |         | 101.09   |         | 104.4    |           | 87.96    |         | 107.2    |            | 93.4     |         | 96.57    |         | 99.8     |        |  |
| SD       | 13.45    |              | 9.09     |            | 3.18     |         | 1.78     |         | 2.92     |           | 14.61    |         | 6.55     |            | 7.23     |         | 3.7      |         | 4.19     |        |  |
| %RSD     | 13.22    |              | 10.18    |            | 3.82     |         | 1.76     |         | 2.79     |           | 16.61    |         | 6.11     |            | 7.74     |         | 3.83     |         | 4.2      |        |  |

| H4PFUNA |          | HPFHpA  |          | PFDoS   |          | PFTrDS  |          | N-Et-FOSA |          | N-Et-FOSAA |          | NFDHA   |          | N-Me-FOSA |          | N-Me-FOSAA |          | PEESA   |          | PFBA  |  |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|---------|----------|-------|--|
| QC low  | QC low   | QC low    | QC low   | QC low     | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   | QC low    | QC low   | QC low     | QC low   | QC low  | QC low   |       |  |
| 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L    | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L     | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L    | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L     | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   |       |  |
| Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy |       |  |
| QC L1   | 5.21     | 104.23  | 5.23     | 104.52  | 4.56     | 91.14   | 4.17     | 83.31     | 4.86     | 97.25      | 4.22     | 84.31   | 4.63     | 92.68     | 4.56     | 91.22      | 4.83     | 96.64   | 4.29     | 85.71 |  |
| QC L2   | 4.82     | 96.45   | 5.33     | 106.7   | 4.07     | 81.3    | 5.92     | 118.41    | 4.54     | 90.86      | 4.8      | 95.96   | 4.67     | 93.32     | 5.25     | 104.93     | 5.27     | 105.45  | 4.42     | 88.45 |  |
| QC L3   | 5.57     | 111.42  | 4.92     | 98.37   | 4.22     | 84.33   | 3.88     | 77.54     | 4.24     | 84.87      | 3.62     | 72.41   | 4.29     | 85.78     | 5.1      | 102        | 6.04     | 120.77  | 4.36     | 87.23 |  |
| Mean    | 104.03   |         | 103.19   |         | 85.59    |         | 93.08    |           | 90.99    |            | 84.23    |         | 90.59    |           | 99.38    |            | 107.62   |         | 87.13    |       |  |
| SD      | 7.49     |         | 4.32     |         | 5.04     |         | 22.12    |           | 6.19     |            | 11.77    |         | 4.18     |           | 7.22     |            | 12.21    |         | 1.37     |       |  |
| %RSD    | 7.2      |         | 4.19     |         | 5.89     |         | 23.76    |           | 6.81     |            | 13.98    |         | 4.61     |           | 7.27     |            | 11.34    |         | 1.58     |       |  |
| QC high | QC high  | QC high   | QC high  | QC high    | QC high  | QC high | QC high  | QC high   | QC high  | QC high    | QC high  | QC high | QC high  |       |  |
| 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L   | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L    | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L   | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L    | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  |       |  |
| Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.     | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy | Conc.   | Accuracy |       |  |
| QC H1   | 27.56    | 110.24  | 26.32    | 105.26  | 21.13    | 84.52   | 20.06    | 80.26     | 24.91    | 99.63      | 24.67    | 98.68   | 24.04    | 96.16     | 24.63    | 98.53      | 27.48    | 109.94  | 21.6     | 86.41 |  |
| QC H2   | 25.61    | 102.43  | 26.94    | 107.75  | 24.8     | 99.19   | 19.47    | 77.89     | 26.51    | 106.05     | 21.96    | 87.86   | 23.64    | 94.57     | 25.58    | 102.32     | 24.1     | 96.39   | 22.57    | 90.27 |  |
| QC H3   | 24.41    | 97.65   | 27.49    | 109.97  | 21.95    | 71.82   | 21.95    | 87.78     | 23.24    | 92.94      | 27.96    | 111.84  | 24.43    | 97.73     | 21.9     | 87.58      | 24.8     | 99.21   | 21.9     | 94.37 |  |
| Mean    | 103.44   |         | 107.66   |         | 85.18    |         | 81.98    |           | 99.54    |            | 99.46    |         | 96.15    |           | 96.15    |            | 101.85   |         | 89.38    |       |  |
| SD      | 6.36     |         | 2.35     |         | 13.7     |         | 5.17     |           | 6.56     |            | 12.01    |         | 1.58     |           | 7.66     |            | 7.15     |         | 2.64     |       |  |
| %RSD    | 6.14     |         | 2.19     |         | 16.08    |         | 6.3      |           | 6.59     |            | 12.08    |         | 1.64     |           | 7.96     |            | 7.02     |         | 2.95     |       |  |

| PFBS    |          | PFDA    |          | PFDoDA  |          | PFDS    |          | PFHpA   |          | PFHpS   |          | PFHxA   |          | PFHxD   |          | PFHxS   |          | PFMBA      |          | PFMPA  |  |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|------------|----------|--------|--|
| QC low  | QC low   | QC low     | QC low   | QC low |  |
| 5 ng/L  | 5 ng/L   | 5 ng/L     | 5 ng/L   |        |  |
| Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy |        |  |
| QC L1   | 4.71     | 94.2    | 5.26     | 105.22  | 5.01     | 100.29  | 5.01     | 100.1   | 4.91     | 98.21   | 5.13     | 102.62  | 4.81     | 96.29   | 3.13     | 62.53   | 4.65     | 92.93      | 4.7      | 94.09  |  |
| QC L2   | 4.97     | 99.45   | 5.72     | 114.45  | 4.93     | 98.7    | 6.32     | 126.32  | 4.66     | 93.28   | 4.99     | 97.73   | 4.7      | 94.03   | 4.78     | 95.55   | 4.86     | 92.39      | 4.92     | 98.41  |  |
| QC L3   | 4.6      | 92.07   | 5.29     | 105.88  | 4.1      | 81.9    | 6.85     | 137.01  | 4.5      | 89.93   | 5.02     | 100.39  | 4.45     | 89.06   | 3.06     | 61.24   | 4.81     | 96.17      | 4.97     | 99.3   |  |
| Mean    | 95.24    |         | 108.52   |         | 93.63    |         | 121.14   |         | 93.81    |         | 100.91   |         | 93.13    |         | 73.11    |         | 95.43    |            | 95.56    |        |  |
| SD      | 3.8      |         | 5.15     |         | 10.19    |         | 18.99    |         | 4.16     |         | 1.51     |         | 3.7      |         | 19.44    |         | 2.23     |            | 3.26     |        |  |
| %RSD    | 3.99     |         | 4.74     |         | 10.88    |         | 15.67    |         | 4.44     |         | 1.5      |         | 3.97     |         | 26.6     |         | 2.34     |            | 3.42     |        |  |
| QC high | QC high  | QC high    | QC high  |        |  |
| 25 ng/L | 25 ng/L  | 25 ng/L    | 25 ng/L  |        |  |
| Conc.   | Accuracy | Conc.      | Accuracy |        |  |
| QC H1   | 24.31    | 97.23   | 23.81    | 95.22   | 24.84    | 99.37   | 24.35    | 97.39   | 24.46    | 97.84   | 25.69    | 102.75  | 23.93    | 95.7    | 23.96    | 95.82   | 24.97    | 99.9       | 25.4     | 101.59 |  |
| QC H2   | 24.92    | 99.69   | 27.11    | 108.43  | 24.84    | 99.35   | 28.56    | 114.23  | 25.97    | 103.86  | 24.81    | 99.22   | 24.39    | 97.54   | 24.88    | 99.51   | 24.94    | 99.75      | 25.02    | 100.08 |  |
| QC H3   | 23.97    | 95.89   | 26.51    | 106.05  | 21.72    | 86.86   | 24.29    | 97.17   | 26.63    | 106.54  | 25.64    | 102.55  | 24.14    | 96.57   | 24.16    | 96.64   | 25.54    | 102.15</td |          |        |  |



Figure 3 Scheme of the Nexera on-line SPE LCMS-8060NX system

## ■ The Package

### Main Unit

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| LCMS-8060NX: | TQ Mass spectrometer   |
| Nexera X3:   | Liquid chromatograph<br>CBM-40<br>DGU-405<br>2x LC-40D X3<br>LC-40B X3<br>SIL-40C X3<br>CTO-40S<br>2x Reservoir Tray |
| Valve:       | FCV-0206H3   |
| Mixer:       | 2x Mir20 $\mu$ L   |
| Loop:        | 1 mL   |

### Accessory

|        |                  |
|--------|------------------|
| Valve: | FCV-0206H3       |
| Mixer: | 2x Mir20 $\mu$ L |
| Loop:  | 1 mL             |

### Main Consumables:

#### Shim-pack Scepter C18

(50 mm x 2.1 mm I.D., 1.9  $\mu$ m; P/N 227-31012-03)

#### Shim-pack GIST HP C18-AQ (2x)

(30 mm x 3.0 mm I.D., 3  $\mu$ m; P/N 227-30766-01)

#### EVOLUTE® Express ABN on-line SPE cartridge (Biotage)

(30 mm x 2.1 mm I.D.; P/N OSPE-620-32150)

#### Shimadzu LabTotal Vial for LC/LCMS (P/N 227-34001-01)

#### PP-caps, with aluminium septa

(P/N 961-10030-31, this part number is available in EU area only. If you are in another territory, please contact for your Shimadzu local office)

### Software and Libraries

#### LabSolutions LCMS

#### LabSolutions Insight

## ■ Conclusions

This application note describes an on-line SPE LC-MS/MS method to monitor 44 PFAS and 22 internal standards in drinking water. Using the LCMS-8060NX coupled with a Nexera UHPLC system equipped for on-line SPE a highly robust and sensitive method for routine PFAS analysis in drinking water which omits additional sample preparation steps is demonstrated.

## ■ References

1. DIRECTIVE (EU) 2020/2184 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 16 December 2020 on the quality of water intended for human consumption

Nexera and Shim-pack are trademarks of Shimadzu Corporation in Japan and/or other countries. EVOLUTE is the trade mark of Biotage AB in the USA and/or other countries.



Shimadzu Corporation  
[www.shimadzu.com/an/](http://www.shimadzu.com/an/)

SHIMADZU Europa GmbH,  
[www.shimadzu.eu](http://www.shimadzu.eu)

#### For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedure.

This publication may contain references to products that are not available in your country. Please contact us to check the availability of these products in your country.

The content of this publication shall not be reproduced, altered or sold for any commercial purpose without the written approval of Shimadzu.

See <http://www.shimadzu.com/about/trademarks/index.html> for details.

Third party trademarks and trade names may be used in this publication to refer to either the entities or their products/services, whether or not they are used with trademark symbol "TM" or "®".

The information contained herein is provided to you "as is" without warranty of any kind including without limitation warranties as to its accuracy or completeness. Shimadzu does not assume any responsibility or liability for any damage, whether direct or indirect, relating to the use of this publication. This publication is based upon the information available to Shimadzu on or before the date of publication, and subject to change without notice.