



eXtremelFV® for sample prep prior to the analysis of cannabinoids by HPLC-UV

Introduction

Analysis of cannabinoids in marijuana flower, hemp and finished goods is becoming increasingly important as many states are legalizing it for medicinal and recreational purposes. Dosing methods include smoking/vaporizing and edibles but cannabis is still a Schedule 1 illegal drug and therefore have no FDA testing guidelines. This study evaluates streamlining the sample preparation aspect for HPLC-UV analysis of a panel of cannbinoids. The following analytes were used:

Cannabinol (CBN)

Cannabidivarinic acid (CBDVA)

Cannabinolic acid (CBNA)

Cannabidivarin (CBDV)

 $\Delta 9$ -Tetrahydrocannabinol ($\Delta 9$ -THC)

Cannabidiolic acid (CBDA)

Δ8-Tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ8-THC)

Cannabigerolic acid (CBGA)

Cannabicyclol (CBL)

Cannabigerol (CBG)

Cannabichromene (CBC)

Cannabidiol (CBD)

Tetrahydrocannabinolic acid A (THCA-A)

Tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV)

Cannabichromenic acid (CBCA)

Tetrahydrocannabivarinic acid (THCVA)

Equipment

HPLC: Shimadzu Prominance

UV/VIS: 228nm

Column: Raptor ARC, 150 mm x 4.6 mm ID

Column Temperature: 30 °C **Flow Rate:** 1.5mL/min

Mobile Phase:

A: 25%: Water, 5 mM ammonium formate, 0.1% Formic Acid

B: 75%: Acetonitrile, 0.1% Formic Acid

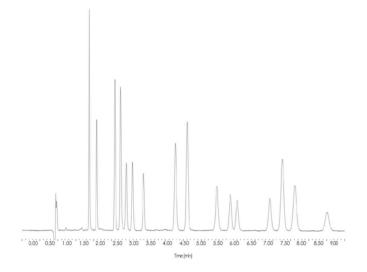
Sample Preparation

- \bullet Place 200µL of sample into the outer shell of the eXtremelFV $^{\! @}, \, 0.2 \mu m$ PVDF
- Add 200µL of 25:75 (Water:Methanol)
- Partially depress the plunger
- Vortex the sample
- Depress the plunger completely

Results

16 cannabinoids are baseline resolved using the eXtremelFV $^{\otimes}$ for sample prep and a isocratic HPLC method.

Peaks #	Analyte	Time (min)
1	Cannabidivarinic acid (CBDVA)	1.877
2	Cannabidivarin (CBDV)	2.86
3	Cannabidiolic acid (CBDA)	2.592
4	Cannabigerolic acid (CBGA)	2.75
5	Cannabigerol (CBG)	2.912
6	Cannabidiol (CBD)	3.48
7	Tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV)	3.391
8	Tetrahydrocannabivarinic acid (THCVA)	4.279
9	Cannabinol (CBN)	4.609
10	Cannabinolic acid (CBNA)	5.437
11	Δ9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ9-THC)	5.815
12	Δ8-Tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ8-THC)	6.2
13	Cannabicyclol (CBL)	6.916
14	Cannabichromene (CBC)	7.263
15	Tetrahydrocannabinolic acid A (THCA-A)	7.612
16	Cannabichromenic acid (CBCA)	8.51



Conclusion

The HPLC method fully resolves 16 major and minor cannabinoids. Simple quick sample prep using the eXtremelFV® allows for the baseline separation of the analytes ensuring positive identification and accurate quantitation of the cannabinoids. With <10 seconds per sample and a fast 9-minute analysis, all compounds were resolved making this method suitable for high-throughput cannabis testing labs. \bigcirc