HPLC Connections— **Fittings and Flow Path**



Mark Powell Columns and Supplies Technical Support September 22, 2021



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HPLC Connections—Fittings and Flow Path

HPLC Connections

Some of the most frequently asked questions we see are about HPLC capillaries and fittings. There are so many choices, how do you choose what is best for your instrument and your analysis? Problems with LC connections are often mistaken for column issues and can be a source of frustration and downtime. In this webinar we will discuss your instrument's flow path and cover:

- Standard LC system capillaries
- Fitting types and valve connections
- System volume and dispersion
- Application-specific capillaries, for Bio-inert and PFAS
- Troubleshooting clogs



Stainless Steel vs. Polymeric Fittings

Stainless steel

- Agilent uses Swagelok type fittings with front and back ferrules
- Also available with longer lengths

PEEK (< 400 bar system pressure)

- Connections are changed frequently
- Connecting columns
- Pressure is less critical
- Fits on SS or PEEK tubing

Polyketone

- Easy, hand tightened column connection
- Used up to 600 bar (p/n: 5042-8957)
- Best on SS tubing









Column Connections







Swagelok

- Two-piece ferrule
- Used on Agilent LCs
- Short nut
- Also available with long nut

Parker

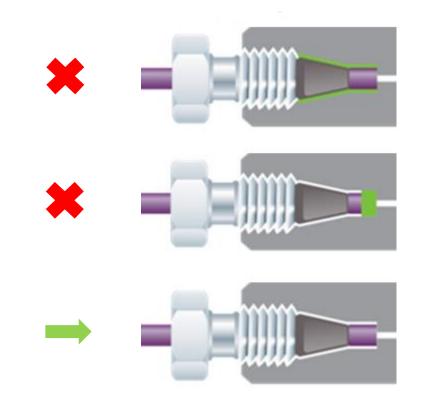
- One-piece ferrule
- Short nut
- Very similar to Swagelok
- Agilent GPC columns
- Waters Acquity systems

Waters

- Longer nut
- Used on Alliance systems
- Non-Acquity columns



Potential Issues with Fittings



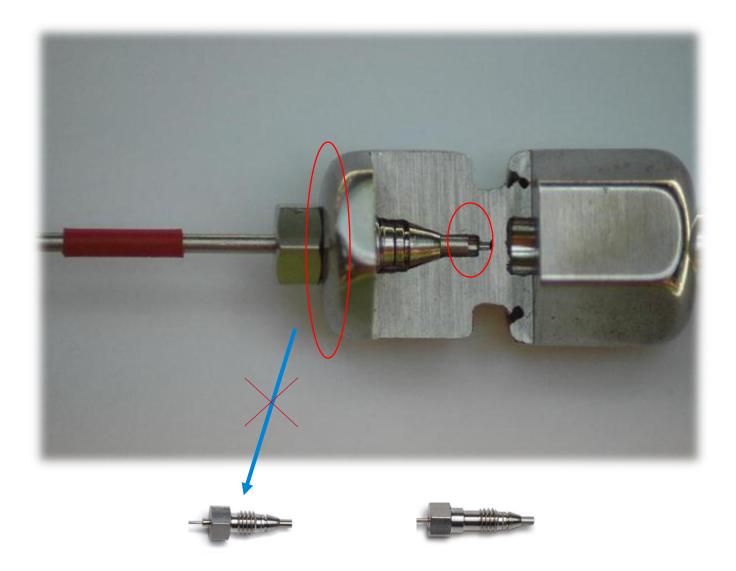
Leak

• Peak shape problem

• No dead volume

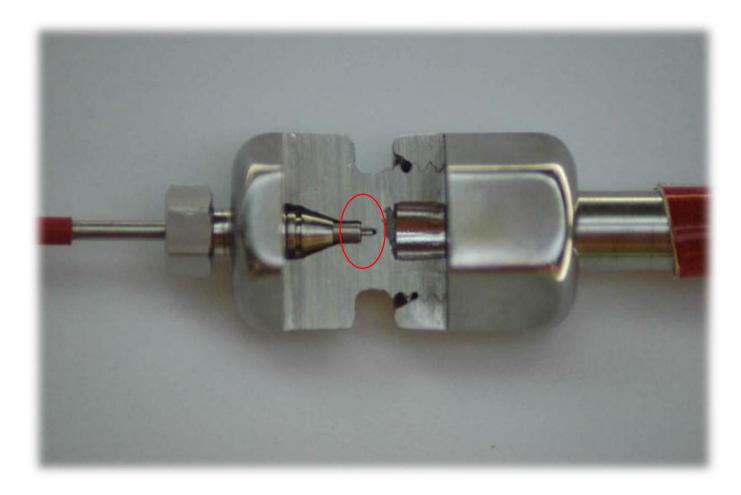


Fitting Mismatch



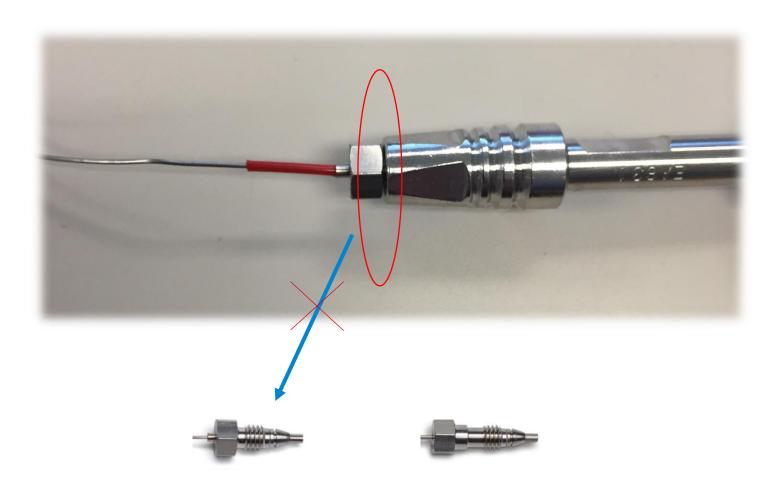


Proper Fit



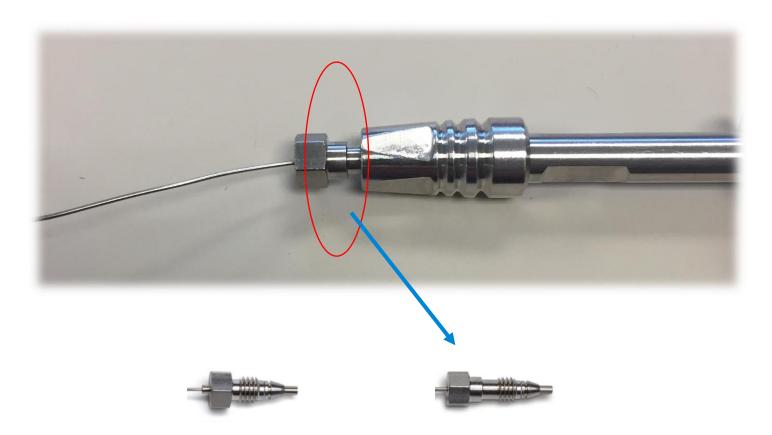


Fitting Mismatch



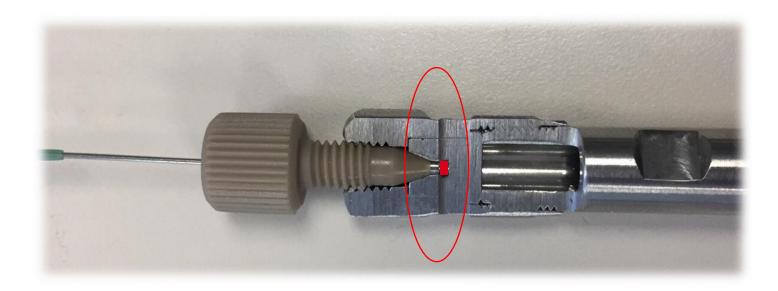


Proper Fit



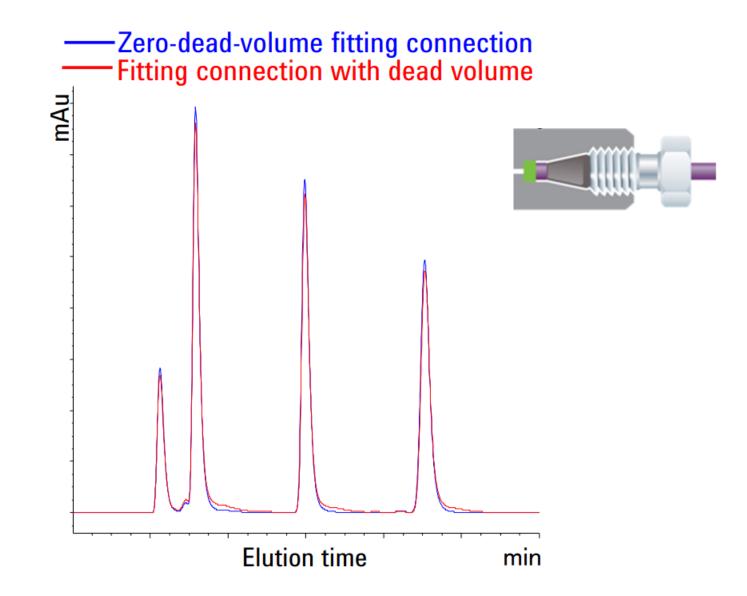


Polymeric Fittings



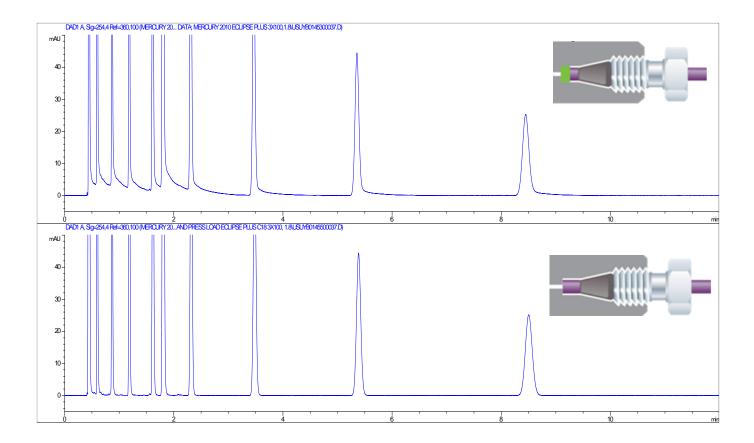


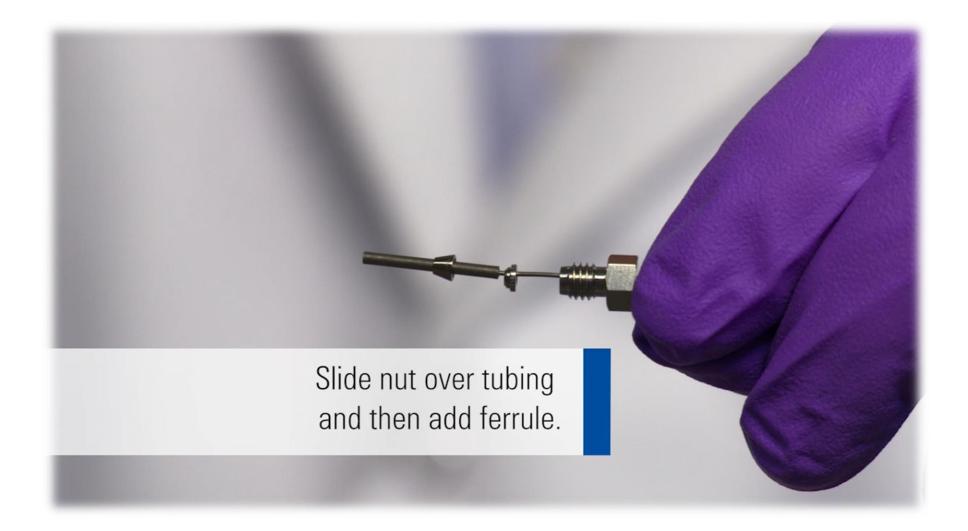
Peak Shape



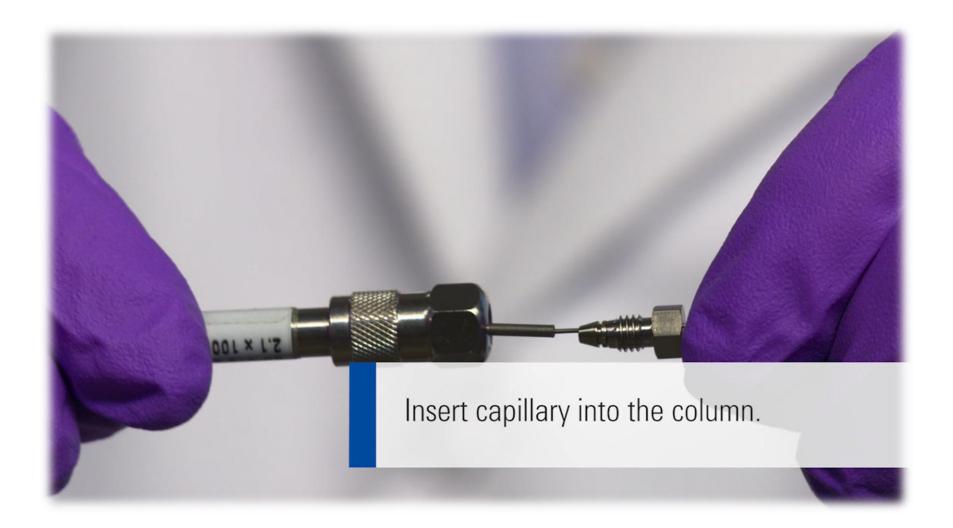


Peak Shape

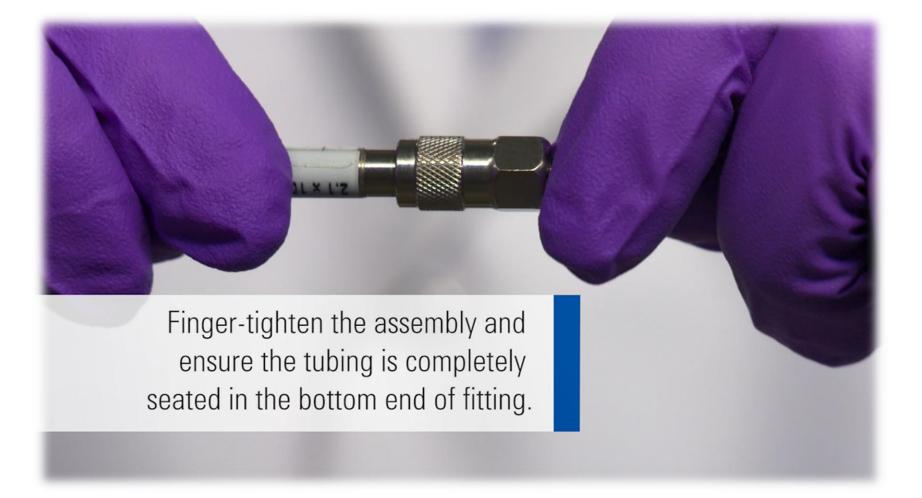




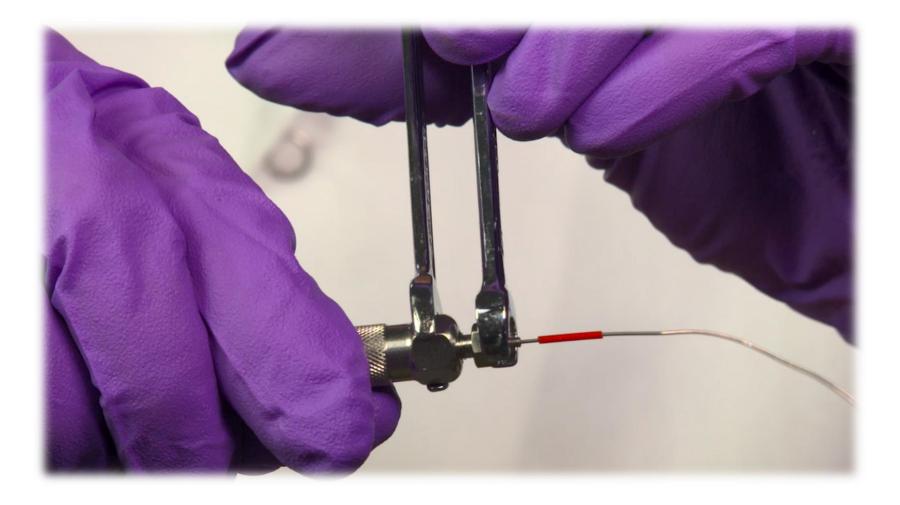






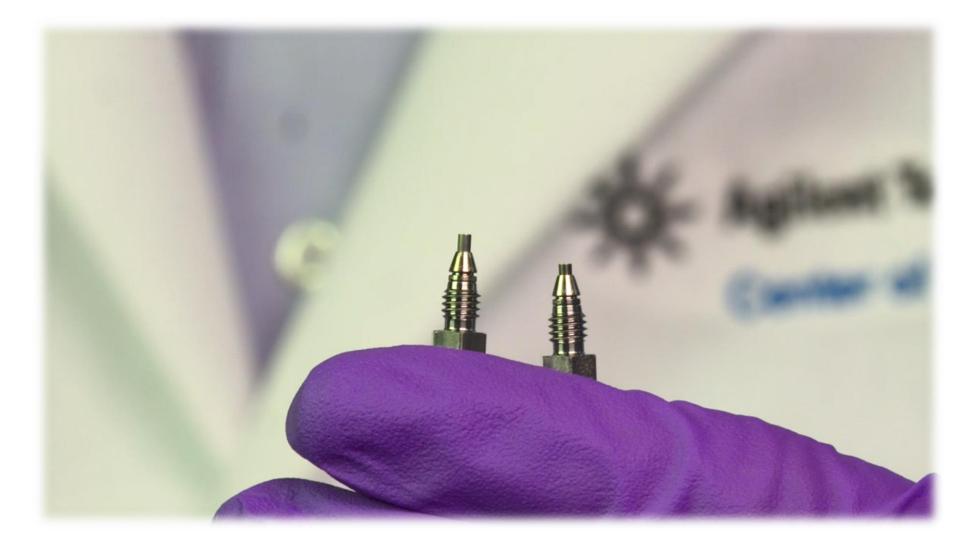






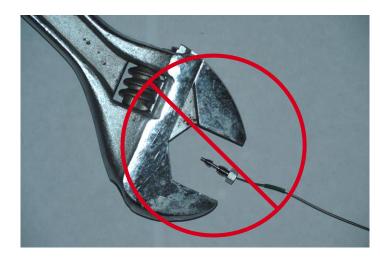


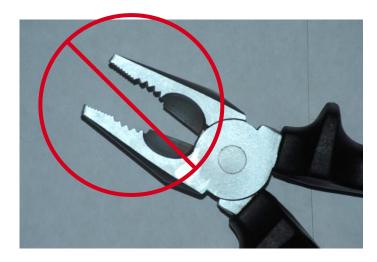
Inspect the Position of the Ferrule













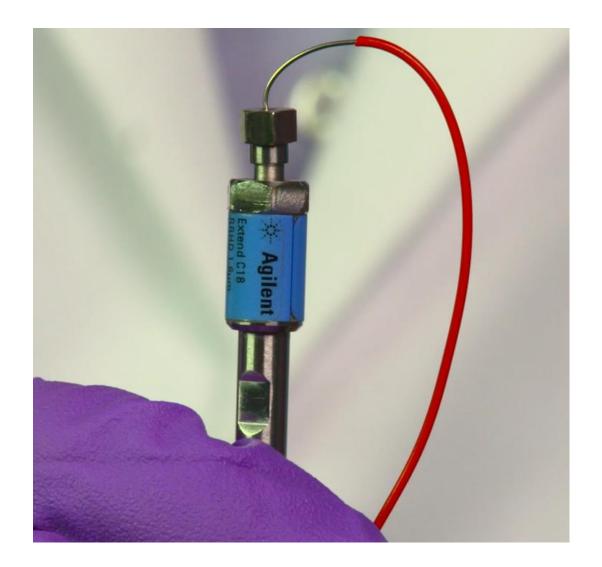


Tightening Fittings into a Column





Overtightened Fittings







InfinityLab Quick Connect and Quick Turn Fittings





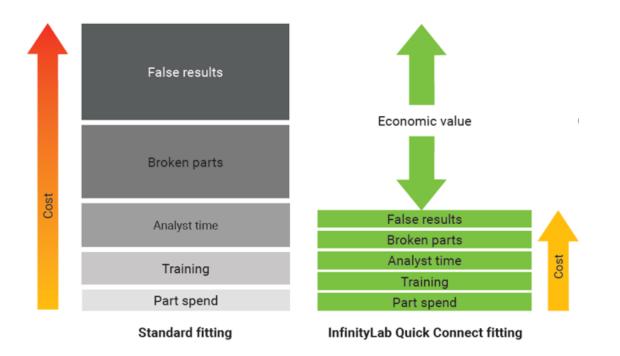
	Quick Connect fitting	Quick Turn fitting
Connects to	Columns (or inline filters)	Column, Various receiving ports with 10-32 port geometry
Maximum pressure	1300 bar (finger-tight, by turning the lever)	to 400 bar (finger-tight, user dependent) 1300 bar (with mounting tool, 5043-0915) Bio-inert mounting tool, 5043-0915
Features	 Spring-loaded function for dead volume free connections (special capillaries) Replaceable ferrule and capillary Capillaries in various lengths and diameters are available 	 Spring-loaded function for dead volume free connections Replaceable ferrule and capillary Capillaries in various lengths and diameters are available
Wetted material	PEEK (ferrule)	PEEK (ferrule)



Reduce Costs Significantly With Quick Connect and Quick Turn Fittings

- Up to 200 uses compared to only three for traditional fittings
- Less time spent connecting fittings
- Fewer damaged columns
- Reliable chromatographic performance







InfinityLab Quick Connect Fittings

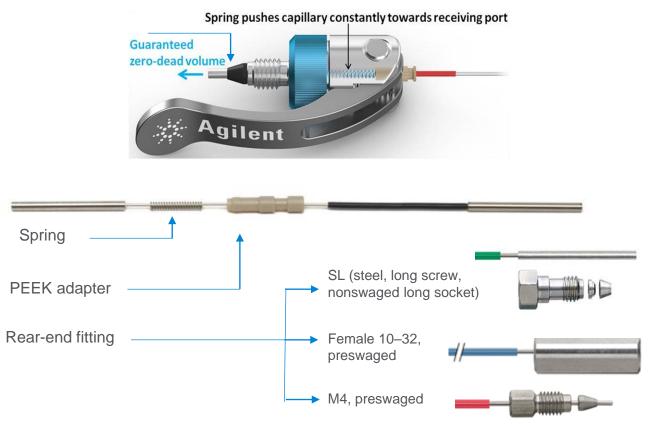
It is important that Quick Connect fittings are only used with capillaries specially designed for them.

Quick Connect assembly

 Quick Connect fitting with premounted Quick Connect capillary

Quick Connect capillary

- Available in various combinations (length, id, rear-end fitting)
- Also available as a bio-inert (PEEK/SST) capillary





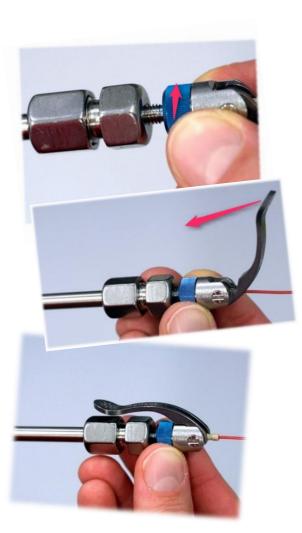
Quick Connect Fitting

How to use

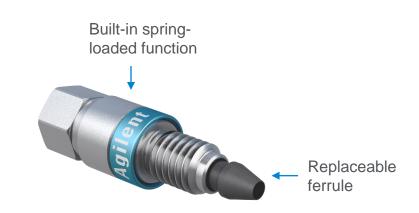
1. Screw the fitting (blue wheel) with the lever in the 'open' position onto the column.

2. Stop when you can feel the **first resistance** and then close the lever.

3. Finished – in seconds.



Quick Turn Fitting Component overview





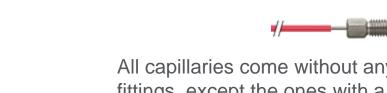
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Bio-inert mounting tool, 5043-0915
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Quick Turn fitting capillary

• Available in various lengths and inside diameters

All capillaries come without any fittings, except the ones with a single preswaged M4 fitting for the opposite end.

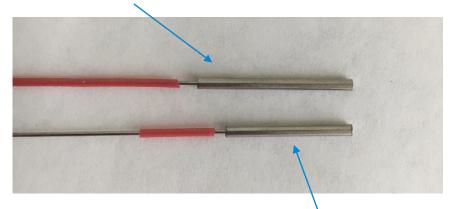
'Long socket' at both ends





Long Socket Capillaries

Long socket for Quick Turn/Quick Connect



Standard capillary

Agilent flexible stainless-steel tubing has a sleeve or "socket" on the ends to bring the od up to the standard 1/16 inch.



Removing the Capillary

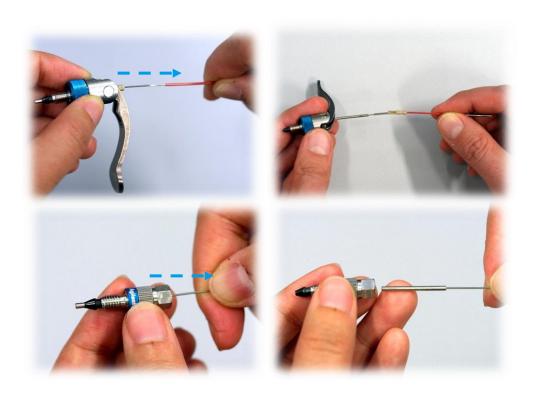
For the Quick Connect fitting:

- 1. Open the lever
- 2. Pull the capillary from the fitting

For the Quick Turn fitting:

1. Pull the capillary from the fitting

The only part fixing the capillary to the fitting is the brown PEEK adapter. It should be relatively easy to remove the capillary. However, if stronger force is required to remove the capillary, the ferrule is potentially deformed.





Removing the Ferrule

Removing the ferrule requires the same procedure in both Quick Connect and Quick Turn fittings.

- 1. Uninstall the capillary first and use pliers to twist off the ferrule.
- 2. Check the fitting for any remaining material and remove it, if necessary, with tweezers before installing the new ferrule.





Installing the Capillary

Quick Connect fitting



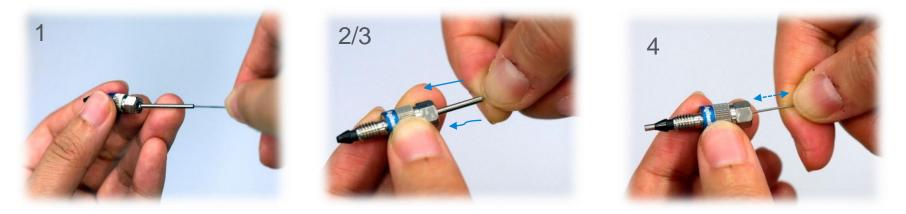
Insert the Quick Connect capillary into the rear of the Quick Connect fitting. The lever must be in the open position. Push until the PEEK adapter engages into the bolt holding the lever. Carefully pull on the capillary to verify it is correctly installed. The PEEK adapter keeps the capillary attached to the fitting, and you can feel the springloaded function.



Installing the Capillary

Quick Turn fitting

- 1. Insert the capillary into the rear of the Quick Turn fitting.
- 2. During this procedure, the capillary needs to be pushed through the internal clamp ring, which can require a certain amount of force. Careful twisting of both parts against each other can also help to push the capillary through.
- 3. Continue to push the capillary until the front end is visible (approximately 1 cm without ferrule, 3 mm with ferrule.)
- 4. Carefully pull on the capillary to verify that the spring-loaded function is engaged.



Both procedures for installing the capillary have been shown with the ferrule still installed. However, difficulties can occur during this procedure if the ferrule is squeezed. Check the ferrule for issues first, and replace if necessary.

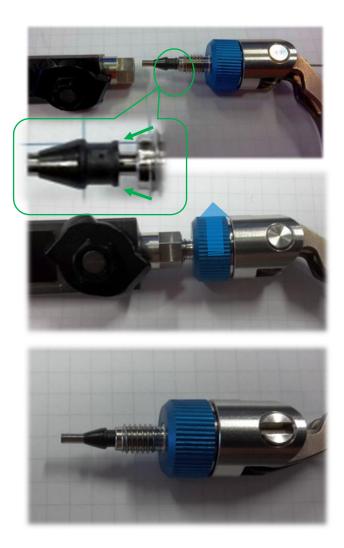


Installing the Ferrule

This procedure is applicable for both Quick Connect and Quick Turn fittings.

A capillary needs to be installed before installing the ferrule (part number 5043-0924).

- 1. Slide the ferrule over the tip of the capillary
- 2. Screw the fitting into a port until it is just fingertight (column, union, heat exchanger)





Connecting Capillaries for LC Modules



Solvent cabinet

Degasser

Pump

Autosampler

Column compartment

Detector

Classic Infinity

Solvent cabinet

Detector

Column compartment

Autosampler

Pump/degasser



Infinity II



Dispersion Reduces HPLC Performance

What is dispersion?

• It is the original sample concentration being diluted as it is carried through the system plumbing (extra-column volume)

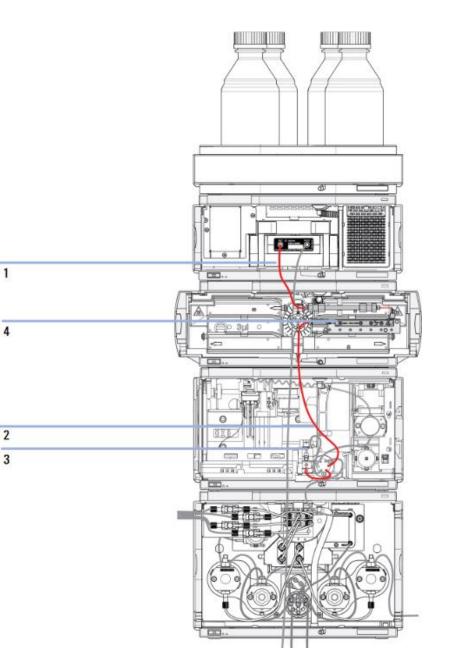
What increases dispersion?

- Connecting tubing that is too long
- Connecting tubing that is too large in diameter
- Connections that have gaps and form small mixing chambers

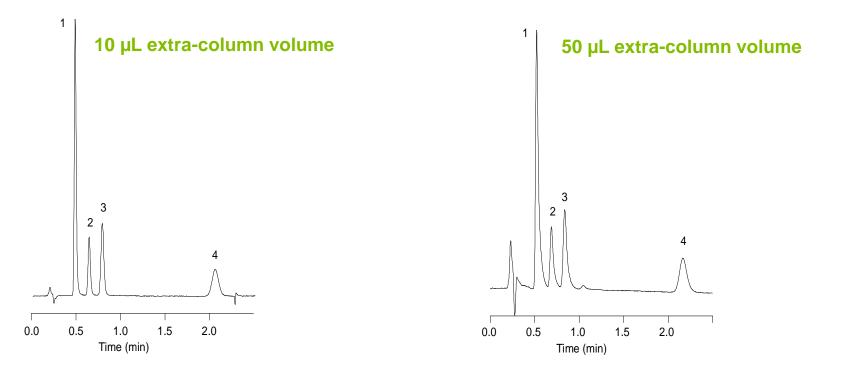


Extra-Column Volume

- Flow cell
- Heat exchanger
- Switching valve
- Needle seat
- Connecting capillaries



Extra-Column Volume



Column: StableBond SB-C18, 4.6 x 30 mm, 3.5 μmMobile phase: 85% H₂O with 0.1% TFA: 15% ACNFlow rate: 1.0 mL/minTemperature: 35 °CSample: 1. Phenylalanine2. 5-benzyl-3,6-dioxo-2-piperazine acetic acid3. Asp-Phe4. Aspartame



Aris-Taylor Equation Peak dispersion in cylindrical tubing

$$\sigma^2_{v,ext} = \frac{\pi \ d^4 \ L_{cap}{}^{u}_{cap}}{96 D_m}$$

- $\sigma^2_{\rm v,ext}$ is the volume variance
 - d is the tubing diameter
 - L is the tubing length
- u is the linear velocity of the liquid
- D_m is the molecular diffusion coefficient



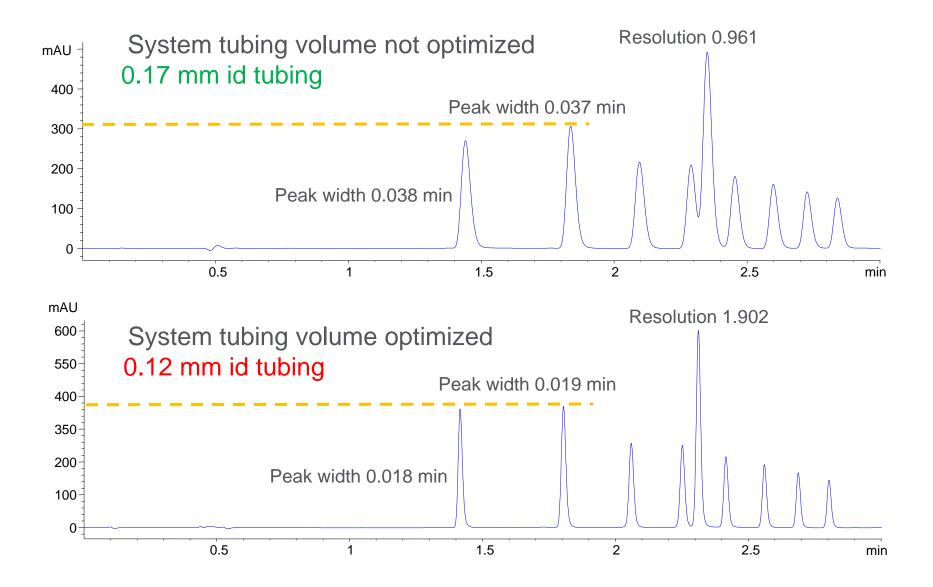
Tubing Volume

Tubing Length	10 mm	50 mm	100 mm	150 mm
Tubing id	Volume	Volume	Volume	Volume
0.17 mm (green)	0.227 µL	1.1 μL	2.27 μL	3.3 µL
0.12 mm (red)	0.113 µL	0.55 μL	1.13 μL	1.65 µL





Optimizing Connecting Tubing Volume for UHPLC Columns





1100/1200/1260 Series System

Connection	p/n	Description	
Solvent bottle to vacuum degasser	G1311-60003	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 $\mu m,$ (5041-2168)	Solvent cabinet
Degasser to pump	G1322-67300	Tubing kit degasser, 300 mm tubing, 4/pk	Vacuum
Pump to autosampler	G1312-87303	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 400 mm	degasser
Pump (purge valve) to waste	5062-2461	PTFE tube, 5000 mm	Pump
Autosampler to column compartment	G1313-87305 G1313-87304	Capillary, <mark>0.17 mm</mark> x 180 mm Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 180 mm	(Iso/Quat/Binary)
Thermostatted ALS to column compartment	01090-87309 01090-87610	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 380 mm Capillary, 0.12 mm x 280 mm	Auto- Sampler
Column compartment to column	G1316-87300 01090-87611	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 90 mm Capillary, 0.12 mm x 105 mm	Sampler
Column to VWD (std flow cell)	5062-8522	Inlet tubing assembly PEEK, 0.17 mm 600 mm	Sampler-
Column to DAD/MWD	G1315-87311 G1315-87312	Capillary, <mark>0.17 mm</mark> x 380 mm (S/S, ps/ns) Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 150 mm	Thermostat
VWD to waste	5062-8535	Waste accessory kit	Column-
DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m	Compartment

0.17 mm id capillaries	Standard setup	
0.12 mm id capillaries	Rapid Resolution LC setup	

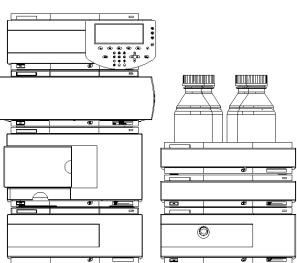
Solvent cabinet	Agilent Technologies
Vacuum degasser	
Pump (Iso/Quat/Binary)	
Auto- Sampler	
Sampler- Thermostat	
Column- Compartment	
UV-Detector (DAD/MWD/VWD)	



1100/1200/1260 Infinity Series System

Dual – stack configuration with cooled ALS

Connection	p/n	Description
Solvent bottle to vacuum degasser	G1311-60003	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 $\mu m,$ (5041-2168)
Degasser to pump	G1322-67300	Tubing kit degasser, 300 mm tubing, 4/pk
Pump to autosampler	G1312-87304	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 700 mm
Pump (purge valve) to waste	5062-2461	PTFE tube, 5000 mm
Thermostatted ALS to column compartment	01090-87309 01090-87610	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 380 mm Capillary, 0.12 mm x 280 mm
Column compartment to column	G1316-87300 01090-87611	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 90 mm Capillary, 0.12 mm x 105 mm
Column to VWD (std flow cell)	5062-8522	Inlet tubing assembly PEEK, 0.17 mm 600 mm
Column to DAD/MWD	G1315-87311 G1315-87312	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 380 mm Capillary, 0.12 mm x 150 mm
VWD to waste	5062-8535	Waste accessory kit
DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m

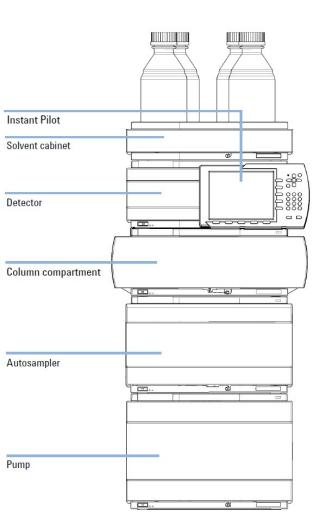


0.17 mm id capillariesStandard setup0.12 mm id capillariesRapid Resolution LC setup



1290 Infinity Series System

Connection	p/n	Description
Solvent bottle to pump	G7120-60007	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 μ m, (5041-2168)
Pump to autosampler	5067-4657	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 300 mm
Autosampler to column compartment	5067-4659	Capillary, 0.12 mm x 340 mm
Column compartment to column	5500-1188	Capillary, 0.12 mm x 105 mm (capillary comes without fittings, use Quick Turn Fittings or stainless steel fittings)
Column to DAD	5067-4660	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 280 mm
DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m



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1290 Infinity Series System

Dual – stack configuration with cooled ALS

Connection	p/n	Description
Solvent bottle to vacuum degasser	G7120-60007	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 µm, (5041-2168)
Pump to autosampler	5500-1217	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 900 mm
Autosampler to column compartment	5067-4659	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 340 mm
Column compartment to column (low dispersion heat exchanger double)	5500-1188	Capillary, 0.12 mm x 105 mm (capillary comes without fittings, use Quick Turn Fittings or stainless steel fittings)
Column to DAD	5067-4660	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 280 mm
DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m

1260/1290 Infinity II Series System

	Single stack with m	ultisampler an	Solvent cabinet		
	Connection	p/n	Description		
S	Solvent bottle to pump	G7120-60007	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 μm, (5041- 2168)	DAD	
SI	Pump to multisampler	5500-1246	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 500 mm (SI/SI, ps/ps)	Multi column thermostat	
	Multisampler to MCT	5500-1157	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 500 mm, (SI/SI, ps/ns)	(MCT)	
SL -	Heat exchanger to column	5067-5957	Quick Connect assembly 0.12 mm x 105 mm	Multisampler	
SX		5500-1173 5067-5965	Quick Connect capillary <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 105 mm Quick Connect fitting		
M4	Column to DAD	5500-1191 5067-5966	Quick Turn capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 280 mm (comes without fitting) Quick Turn fitting	0	
	DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m		

Pump (flex/high speed)

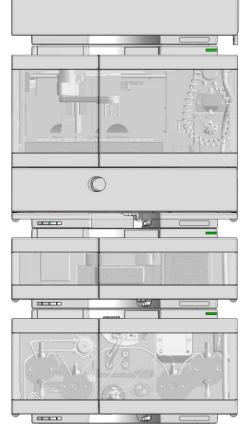


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1260 Infinity II Series System

Single stack with vialsampler and internal column compartment

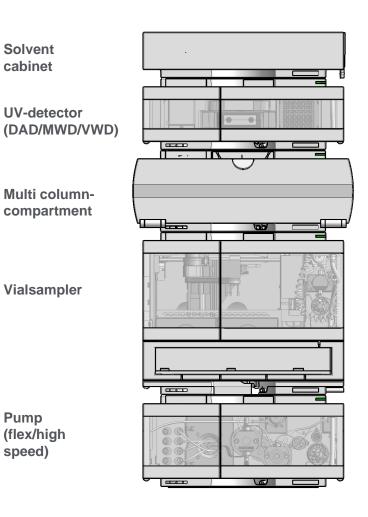
	Connection	p/n	Description	Solvent cabinet	
	Solvent bottle to pump	G7120-60007	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 µm, (5041-2168)	Vial-	
S	 Pump to vialsampler	5500-1217	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 900 mm (SI/SX, ps/ps)	sampler	
SI	 Sampler to 3 µL heat exchanger 6 µL heat exchanger	5500-1249 5500-1250	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 120 mm, (SL/SL, ps,ns) Capillary, <mark>0.17 mm</mark> x 120 mm (SL/SL, ps,ns)	Internal column- compartment (ICC)	
SL	Heat exchanger to column 3 µL heat exchanger	5500-1238	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 105 mm	UV-detector	
SX	 6 µL heat exchanger	5500-1240	(SL/SL, ps,ps) Capillary, 0.17 mm x 105 mm (SL/SL, ps,ps)	(DAD/MWD/VWD)	
M4	 Column to DAD	5500-1191	Quick Turn capillary, 0.12 mm x 280 mm (comes without fitting)	Pump (quat/binary)	
	DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m		



1260/1290 Infinity II Series System

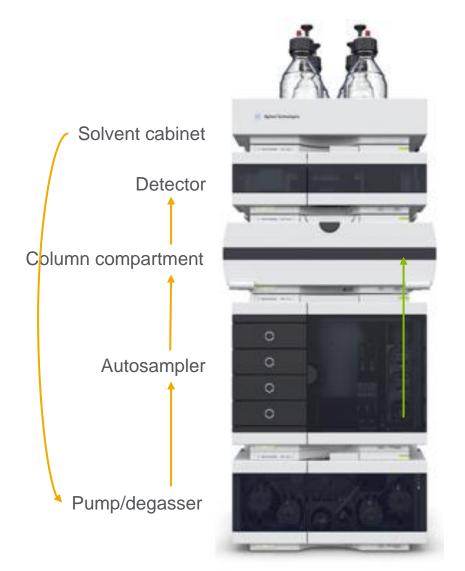
	Connection	p/n	Description
	Solvent bottle to pump	G7120-60007	Bottle head assembly for screw bottle (GL45), with glass filter 20 µm, (5041-2168)
S	Pump to vialsampler	5500-1245	Capillary, 0.17 mm x 400 mm (SI/SX, ps/ps)
SI	 Sampler to heat exchanger	5500-1157	Capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 500 mm, (SL/SL, ps,ns)
SL	 Heat exchanger to column	5067-5957	Quick Connect assembly 0.12 mm x 105 mm
SX		5500-1173 5067-5965	Quick Connect capillary <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 105 mm Quick Connect fitting
M4	 Column to DAD	5500-1191 5067-5966	Quick Turn capillary, <mark>0.12 mm</mark> x 280 mm (comes without fitting) InfinityLab Quick Turn fitting
	DAD to waste	5062-2462	PTFE tubing 0.7 mm id, 1.6 mm od, 5 m

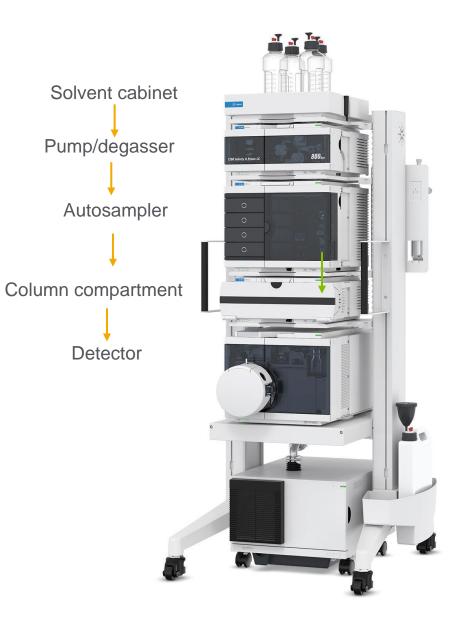
Single stack with vialsampler and multi column thermostat





InfinityLab Flex Benches





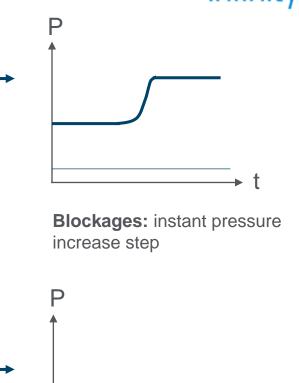


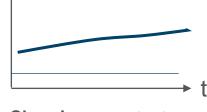
Blockages and Clogging



Characteristics

Parts affected	Blockages:
	Capillaries, needle, and needle seat
	Detector flow cells
	Clogging:
	Filter frits (inline filter, column filter)
Characteristic	
Identification	 Start by disconnecting the capillary at the column inlet Install test setup with restriction capillary Continue disconnecting capillaries, one-by-one, moving back toward the pump
Possible root cause	 Debris from mechanically worn parts (needle seat material, rotor seal at injection valve) Coring of vial septa material
Instant action/first aid	Backflush affected partReplace part
Preventive measures	 Replace wear parts in time; apply proper preventive maintenance schedules Use high quality septa Install inline filters

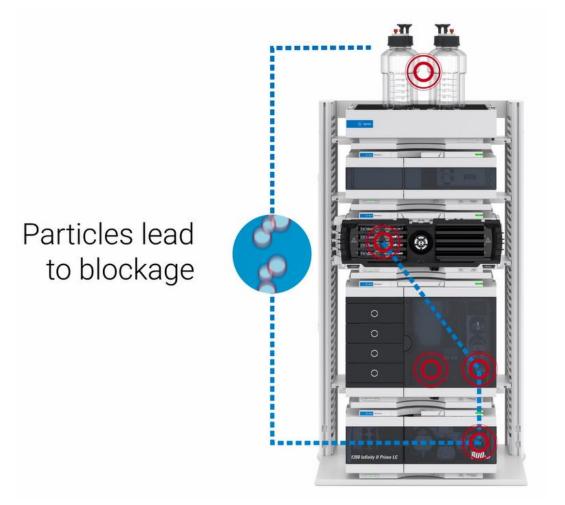


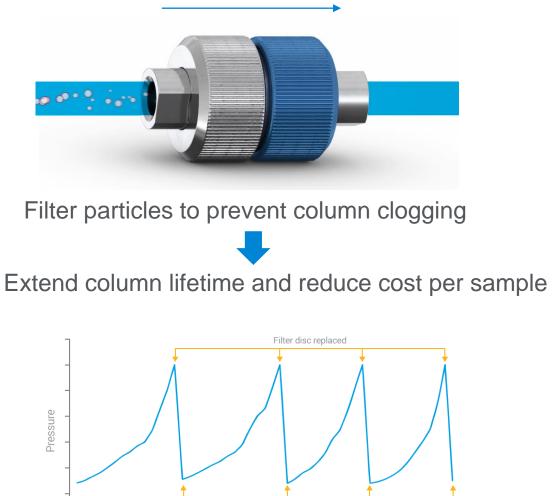


Clogging: constant pressure increase over time



Why Use an Inline Filter?





Accelerated lifetime test shows how inline filter removes particles

Number of Injections

System returns to initial backpressure



InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter





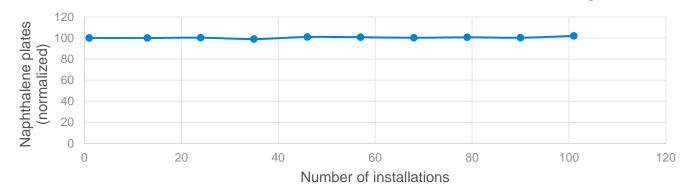
Ultimate ease-of-use

- Finger-tight, tool-free replacement of filter disc
- Click and seal: a click alerts users when the filter is tight up to 1300 bar, assuring no risk of over- or under-tightening

Robustness for low operational cost

Robust filter housing enables **over 100 replacements** of filter discs without any damage

Plate counts over x100 installations of filter discs into one filter housing





InfinityLab Quick Change Inline Filter – Filter Discs

High efficiency, easy-to-use filter discs

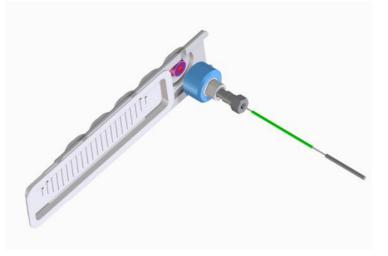
- Various dimensions and porosities filter discs are available in 2.1 mm and 4.6 mm inner diameters with different pore sizes. The filter housing is compatible with all types of filter discs.
- **Touchless packaging to avoid potential contamination** with specially designed packaging, you're able to insert the filter disc into the filter housing without touching it to avoid potential contamination.
- In-situ replacement of filter disc no need to disconnect the inline filter from the system
- Smart alert to remind users when filter discs need replacing (available from May 2021)



Different dimensions and porosities of filter discs



Filter discs in touchless packaging

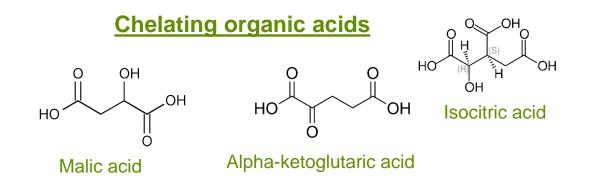


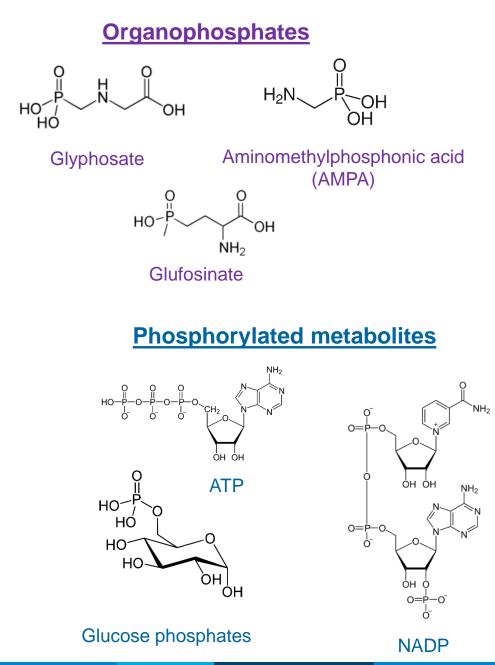
No-touch insertion of filter disc into filter housing



Passivation and Inert Hardware

- Steel has active sites that bind to certain classes of polar molecules
- Most active molecules:
 - Phosphorylated metabolites
 - Organophosphates and phosphonic acids
 - Di- and tricarboxylic acids and similar chelating acids
- Commonly seen in:
 - Pesticide analysis (glyphosate, AMPA, glufosinate)
 - Fermentation (citric acid cycle, organic acids)
 - Metabolomics (nucleotides, sugar phosphates, citric acid cycle)







Eliminating Sticking with Wash Step and Deactivator Additive

Example analysis conditions

Column: InfinityLab Poroshell 120 HILIC-Z, 2.1 x 50 mm (p/n: 689775-924)

Temperature = 30 °C

Injection volume = 1 µL

Flow rate = 0.25 mL/min

Mobile phase

A = 10 mM ammonium acetate in water at pH 9 + 5 μ M deactivator additive

B = 10% 100 mM ammonium acetate in water at pH 9 + 90% acetonitrile + 5 μ M deactivator additive

Total ionic strength – 10 mM for both mobile phases

Deactivator additive: 5191-3940

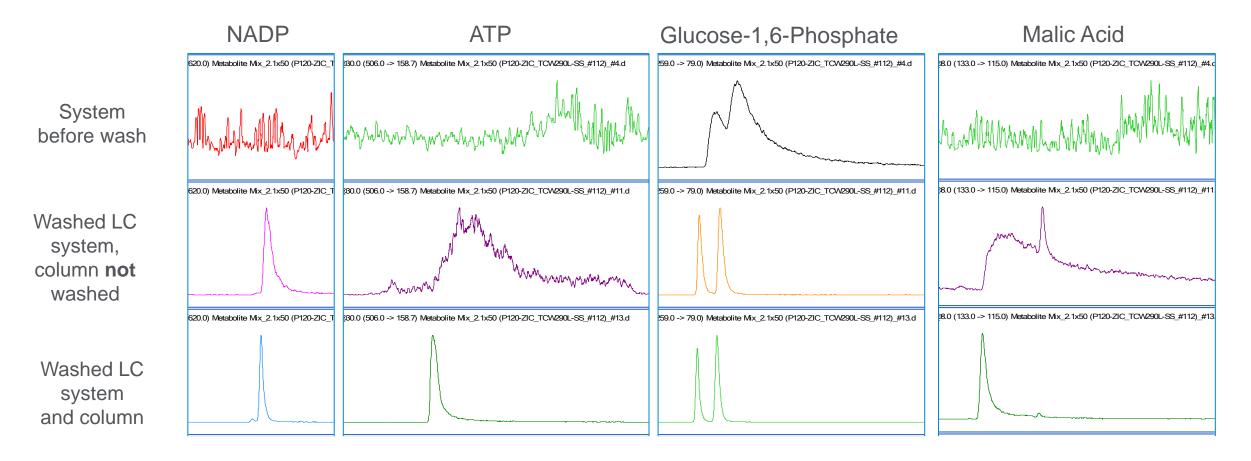
Time (min)	Percentage A	Percentage B
0	10	90
2	10	90
12	40	60
13	10	90
21	10	90

Wash procedure

- 1. LC disconnected from MS and going directly to waste
- 2. IPA at 5 mL/min for 5 min
- 3. Water at 5 mL/min for 5 min
 - Flow at 0.5 mL/min for 1 hour
- 4. 0.5% phosphoric acid in 90% acetonitrile/10% water at 5 mL/min for 5 min
 - Flow at 0.1 mL/min overnight (at a minimum)
- 5. Water at 5 mL/min for 5 min
 - Flow at 0.5 mL/min for 1 hour
- 6. Mobile phase at 5 mL/min for 5 min
 - Flow at 0.25 mL/min for 1 hour
- 7. Reconnect LC to MS and proceed with analysis
 - Flow at 0.25 mL/min for 20 to 30 min



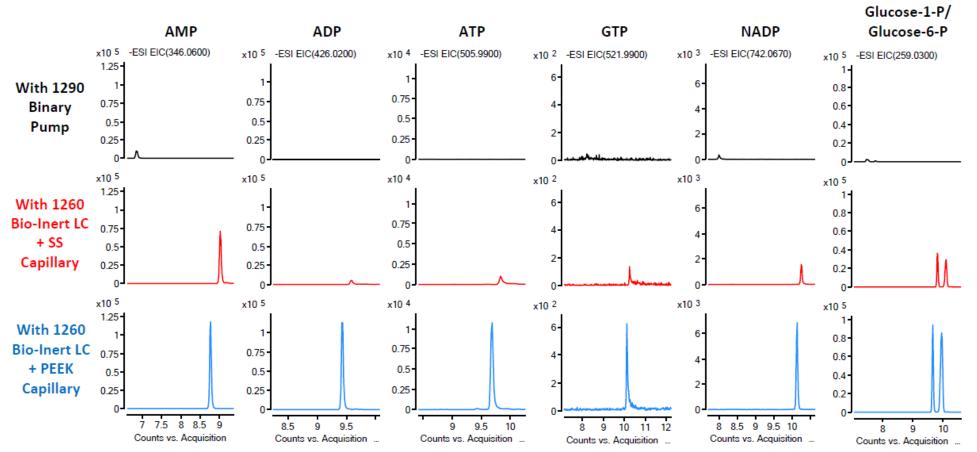
Improvements in Signal and Peak Shape





HILIC/MS Sensitivity with Bio-Inert LC

Nucleotide phosphates on a PEEK-lined Agilent InfinityLab Poroshell 120 HILIC-Z



The column used was Agilent InfinityLab Poroshell 120 HILIC-Z, 2.1 x 100 mm, 2.7 µm (PEEK-lined stainless steel); A: 10 mM ammonium formate, pH 6.8 in water, B: acetonitrile + 10 mM ammonium formate, pH 6.8, 95-30% B in 10 minutes, 0.25 mL/min, 0.2 µL injection (5 ng each on column), MS source: ESI, m/z 191.02, 346.06, 426.02, 505.99, 521.99, 742.067, 743.067, 259.03.



Bio-Inert Capillaries and Fittings

Stainless steel clad PEEK (PK/ST) capillaries union and kits

The novel design of the Agilent bio-inert PK/ST capillaries ensures a 100 % metal-free surface to avoid sample interaction, enhance resistance against corrosion, and minimize leaching of metal ions.

	Part Number	Description
	G5667-81000	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 105 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
-	G5667-81001	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 150 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
-	G5667-81002	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 200 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
-	G5667-81003	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 300 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
	G5667-81004	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 400 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
	G5667-81005	Stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 500 mm long, with two removable UHP-FF fittings
-	5500-1276	Quick Connect stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 280 mm long (for Quick Connect fitting)
	5500-1277	Quick Connect stainless steel clad PEEK capillary, 0.17 mm id, 500 mm long (for Quick Connect fitting)



Mounting tool for UHP-FF fitting and InfinityLab Quick Turn fitting (p/n 5043-0915)



InfinityLab Bio-inert Quick Connect column heat exchanger with fittings (p/n G7116-60009)

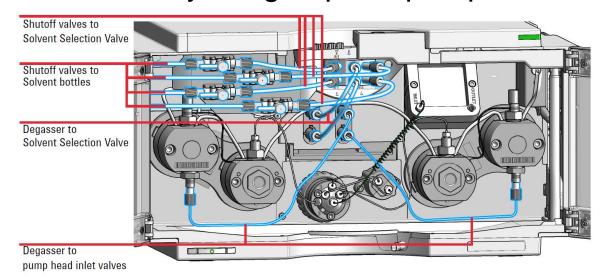
Fittings and union for PK/ST capillaries

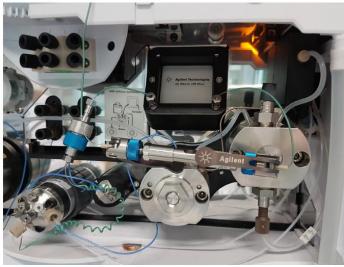
The default fitting for PK/ST capillaries is the UHP-FF fitting. For column connections, InfinityLab Quick Connect and Quick Turn fittings are recommended due to their spring-loaded design ensuring zero dead volume.

Part Number	Description
5067-5695	UHP-FF fitting, bio-inert
5067-5966	InfinityLab Quick Turn fitting*
5067-5965	InfinityLab Quick Connect fitting**—for column connections, only usable with Quick Connect capillaries and bio-inert Quick Connect column heat exchanger (G7116–60009)
5067-4741	Bio-inert union
5043-0915	Mounting tool for UHP-FF fitting and Quick Turn fitting
5043-0924	Front ferrule for Quick Connect and Quick Turn fitting



InfinityLab PFC-Free Kit 1290 Infinity II high-speed pump and multisampler



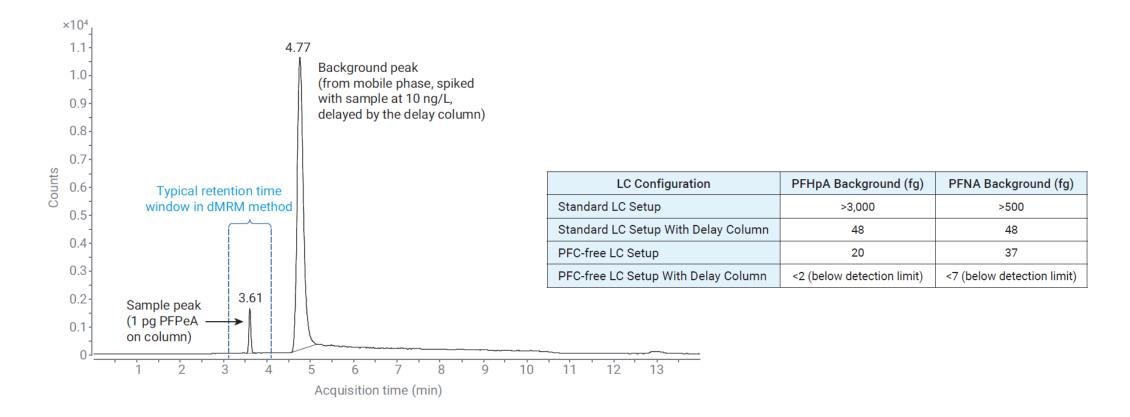






InfinityLab PFC-Free Kit

1290 Infinity II high-speed pump and multisampler





InfinityLab PFC-Free Kit Other Agilent LCs

Module	Recommendations	Trade-offs
gilent 1290 Infinity High Speed Pump	Convert the module as described for the 1290 Infinity II High Speed Pump in "PFC-Free HPLC conversion kit - Installation and Use Instruction"	None
(G4220A)	Optional (SN DEBB06078 and higher or SN DEBAA06133 and higher): Exchange black PTFE wash seals with yellow PE wash seals (0905-1718).	
jilent 1260 Infinity II/Infinity Binary Pumps	Use a PEEK adapter 1/4-28 to 10-32 (0100-2298) to connect solvent lines to active inlet valves.	
	Remove the PTFE filter from the manual purge valve.	
	Install a InfinityLab Quick Change inline filter (5067-1602) to the purge valve outlet.	Increased gradient delay volume, causing increased retention times. Limited pressure range.
(G7112B/G1312B) and older Binary Pumps	Install a delay column between the inline filter and the injection valve.	
	If present, exchange the black PTFE pump seals with yellow PE pump seals (0905-1420).	
	Optional: If present, exchange the black PTFE wash seals with yellow PE wash seals (0905-1718).	
gilent 1290 or 1260 Infinity II Multisampler rithout Multiwash Option or with Dual-Needle Iption (G7167B or G7167A)	Replace the FEP wash solvent line from the peristaltic pump to the wash port with longer PEEK tubing from the multiwash tubing kit (remove the bigger nut and stick the end of the PEEK tubing directly into the peristaltic pump tubing; secure with a compression spring (1460-2763), if available).	Potentially higher carryover.
	Replace the FEP wash solvent line connected to the peristaltic pump inlet with shorter PEEK tubing from the multiwash tubing kit (remove the steel screw and ferrule and stick the end of the PEEK tubing directly into the peristaltic pump tubing; secure with a compression spring (1460-2763), if available).	Limited pressure range (1260 Infinity II Multisamplers).
	Use a PP Union (5022-2155) to connect the bottle head assembly.	
Agilent 1260 Infinity II Multisampler with Multiwash Option	Convert the module as described for the 1290 Infinity II Multisampler with multiwash option in "PFC-Free HPLC conversion kit - Installation and Use Instruction".	Limited pressure range.
glient 1290/1260 Infinity II Vial Samplers G7129B/A)	Replace the FEP wash solvent line connected to the peristaltic pump inlet with shorter PEEK tubing from the multiwash tubing kit (remove the steel screw and ferrule and stick the end of the PEEK tubing directly into the peristaltic pump tubing; secure with a compression spring (1460-2763), if available).	Some background from the nonreplaceable FEP solvent line may occur.
	Use a PP Union (5022-2155) to connect the bottle head assembly.	Lower needle wash efficiency, and therefore
	The other FEP solvent line from the peristaltic pump to the needle wash well cannot be replaced with PEEK (too stiff).	potentially higher carryover, when using wash vials as alternative.
	Alternative: use wash vials to wash the needle.	
290 Infinity Autosampler (G4226A)	Replace the FEP wash solvent line connected to the peristaltic pump inlet with shorter PEEK tubing from the multiwash tubing kit (remove the steel screw and ferrule and stick the end of the PEEK tubing directly into the peristaltic pump tubing; secure with a compression spring (1460-2763), if available).	The FEP solvent line from the peristaltic pump to the wash port cannot be replaced easily; some PFAS background may occur.
	Use a PP Union (5022-2155) to connect the bottle head assembly.	Lower needle wash efficiency, and therefore potentially higher carryover, when using wash vials as alternative.
	Alternative: use wash vials to wash the needle.	
	DO NOT USE TEFZEL ROTOR SEALS	The FEP solvent line from the peristaltic pump to the wash port cannot be replaced easily;
Older Autosamplers	For wash solvent line replacement, see 1290 Infinity Autosampler (G4226A).	some PFAS background may occur.
(G1367E etc.)	Alternative: use wash vials to wash the needle.	Lower needle wash efficiency, and therefore potentially higher carryover, when using wash vials as alternative.



Reduce PFAS Background with the Agilent PFC-Free* HPLC Conversion Kit

An ideal solution for trace level PFAS analysis with LC/MS/MS

Authors

Introduction

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Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of persistent organic pollutants, widely found in the environment.¹ To protect people from exposure to these pollutants international, national, and regional agencies such as the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) provide methods for trace-level analysis of these compounds. For example, US EPA methods 533 and 537.1, as well as ISO method 21675 can be used for the analysis of drinking water with liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry (LC/MS/MS).

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) instruments in their standard configuration contain per- and polyfluorinated compounds (PFCs), including fluoropolymers such as PTFE, PFA, etc. These materials are used because of their chemical inertness, ensuring the compatibility of the LC instruments with a broad range of acids, bases, and organic solvents. However, during the production of PFC, per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFASs), such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), or replacement chemicals with similar properties are used as processing agents. Traces of these PFAS processing agents can remain in fluoropolymers. When running PFAS analysis at the ppb level and below, using LC/MS/MS instruments, the PFAS leaching from the LC instrument during operation can cause an increased background. This increased background can have a severe impact on meeting the required quantification and detection limits set by regional and national regulations. Therefore, it is up to the user to take the necessary steps to minimize the impact of the LC/MS system on the analytical results. Two recommendations from the US EPA are (1) to replace standard solvent lines with alternative ones made of PEEK and (2) to use a delay column, which can help to further reduce the background, especially if it is caused by the mobile phase.

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Resources on the Web

InfinityLab fittings on Agilent.com

InfinityLab LC Supplies catalog

Product catalog

Less Stress. More Reliable Connections

Product flyer

Agilent Bio-inert Capillaries and Fittings flyer

Product overview

Agilent InfinityLab UHPLC Fittings flyer

Technical overview





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