

Empore™

Solid Phase Extraction Disks

C8 (Octyl) and C18 (Octadecyl)

General Information

Empore™ Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) Disks provide an efficient alternative to liquid/liquid extraction for sample preparation. A proprietary process is used to entrap adsorbent particles into a matrix of inert PTFE to create a mechanically stable sorbent disk. The disks can be used for purification and concentration of analytes from aqueous samples.

Empore SPE disks provide a sample prep solution for large volume aqueous samples. The disk format provides a large surface area for sorbent/sample contact. Fast flow rates and high throughput may be realized with use of an Empore solid phase extraction disk.

Product Information

Bonded silica sorbents are commonly used for the solid phase extraction of analytes from complex sample matrices. Functional groups, such as octadecyl (C18) and octyl (C8) can be bonded to the silica surface to provide nonpolar interactions. Each of these sorbents exhibits unique properties of retention and selectivity for a particular analyte. The choice of which sorbent is best for a particular method will be influenced by the percent recovery of analyte from the sample matrix and the cleanliness of the resulting chromatography.

C8 and C18 bonded silica sorbents combine good retention capacity with high recoveries. These bonded silicas are endcapped to minimize polar interactions. Empore™ C8 and C18 Solid Phase Extraction Disks are recommended for moderately nonpolar and strongly nonpolar analyte extractions, respectively. The versatile Empore™ C18 and C8 products are effective for extracting semi-volatile and nonvolatile organic compounds.

Suggested Product Applications

Sorbent	Suggested Applications	Product Number	
		47 mm	90 mm
C8 Bonded Silica	EPA Method 549.1 Diquat and Paraquat	2214	2314
	EPA Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 506 Phthalate & Adipate Esters • 508.1 Chlorinated Pesticides, Herbicides and Organohalides • 525.2 Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds 		
C18 Bonded Silica	• 550.1 Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons	2215	2315
	• 608 ATP 3M0222 Organochlorine Pesticides and PCBs		
	• 1613B Dioxins and Furans		
	• Other EPA Methods		



High Density (HD) Empore™ Membrane (10-12 µm particle size)

Extraction Method with C8 or C18 Disk

Step A: Sample Preparation

- Microbiological growth can be retarded by lowering sample pH to 2.
- Filter Aid 400 and/or prefiltration may be helpful if the sample contains excessive suspended solids.

Step B: Extraction Disk Conditioning

Disk conditioning is critical for a successful extraction. Conditioning provides a good interface between the sorbent and the sample matrix. **Failure to condition the extraction disks properly will result in erratic and low recoveries.**

1. Center the extraction disk on the base of the filtration apparatus and clamp the reservoir on top of the disk.*
2. Wash the disk with 10 mL of elution solvent.
3. Apply vacuum to dry the disk.
4. Add 10 mL methanol to the disk. Apply vacuum and pull approximately 1 mL through the disk. Vent the vacuum and allow the disk to soak for 30 seconds.
5. Apply vacuum and draw methanol through the disk leaving a small amount of methanol on surface.
6. Add 50 mL of reagent grade water to the reservoir, apply vacuum and draw the water through the disk until the water surface just covers the disk surface.

If disk should become dry while conditioning with methanol or water, repeat steps 4 through 6.

* Place a vial in the vacuum apparatus to collect and dispose of wash and conditioning solvents. Remove vial prior to sample extraction.

Step C: Sample Extraction

- Pour the sample into the reservoir and apply vacuum to draw through the disk. Flow rate is dependent on vacuum setting and solids content of the sample. However, recoveries are not affected by flow rate.
- After sample extraction is complete, remove residual water from the disk by applying vacuum to dry the disk for approximately 5-20 minutes.

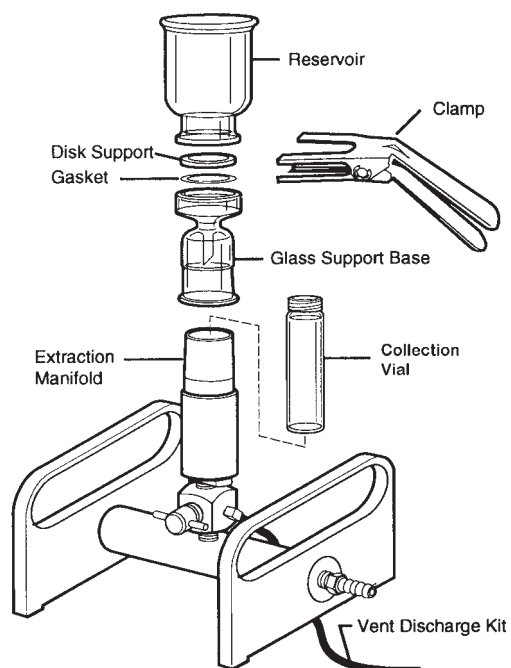
Step D: Sample Elution

Two elutions with 10 mL solvent are recommended.

- Place tip of filter base into the collection vessel (see diagram).
- Add 10 mL elution solvent to sample container, carefully rinsing the sides. Transfer solvent from sample container to reservoir with a pipet, washing the walls of the reservoir in the process.
- Apply vacuum and draw approximately 1 mL elution solvent through the disk. Vent the vacuum and allow the disk to soak for 30 seconds before reapplying vacuum to dry the disk.
- Repeat this process with a second aliquot of eluting solvent.

Note: When using solvents or other chemicals, be sure to read and follow the manufacturer's precautions and directions for use.

Disk Manifold System Setup



Volume Guidelines

The small bed mass of sorbent in the Empore™ membrane allows for the use of smaller solvent volumes compared with traditional SPE products. A general guide to solvent volumes for a disk SPE method using reversed phase sorbents (C18 and C8) is listed in the table below.

Each assay will need some further optimization in terms of selecting the best elution solvent (commonly methylene chloride, ethyl acetate, methanol or acetonitrile).

EPA Methods will require specific reagents; please refer to those methods when using the Empore Disks for agency reporting.

Volume Guidelines: Reversed Phase (C18 and C8)

Step	Solvent	47 mm disk	90 mm disk
Condition	Methanol	10-15 mL	20-30 mL
Optional:	Reagent water	10-50 mL	20-100 mL
Aqueous	Sample Solution	100-1000 mL	500-2000 mL
Elute	Organic	10-15 mL	20-30 mL

Note: Suggested solvent volumes will vary according to the disk diameter, the amount of filter aid material, the analyte, the analyte's affinity for the chosen sorbent, and the strength of the eluting solvent. A general guide for solvent volumes is to completely cover the disk and bed of filter aid, such that 2-3 mm of solvent is above the top surface.

Product Characteristics

Composition	90% or greater sorbent particle 10% or less PTFE
Thickness	0.50 mm ± 0.05 mm
SPE Flow Rate	< 10 min/L DI H ₂ O @ 25°C @ 20 inHg (47 mm disk)
Particle Size	12 µm (nominal)
Solvents	Compatible with all organic solvents
pH Range	Stable between 2 and 12 under normal use conditions

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