

How to calculate key data in HPLC - INTERNAL ONLY

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Sample Formulae for Chromatography

Efficiency (Theoretical Plates):

$$N = 5.54 (t_R / w_{1/2})^2$$

5.54 is a constant when using the "Half Height" method. t_R is the retention time of the peak and $w_{1/2}$ is the width at half height.

Capacity Factor (k'):

$$k' = (t_R - t_0) / t_0$$

t_0 = (the volume of the mobile phase inside the column) / (Flow Rate)

t_R = Band Retention Time

Selectivity (Alpha Value):

$$\alpha = k_2 / k_1$$

Peak Asymmetry:

$$A_s = B/A \text{ (at 10\% peak height)}$$

B = At 10% peak height, the width of a line from the slope to a perpendicular line drawn from the peak's height to the baseline @ 10% height. B is the tailing end of the chromatogram.

A = At 10% peak height, the width of a line from the slope to a perpendicular line drawn from the peak's height to the baseline @ 10% height. A is the fronting part of the chromatogram.

Resolution:

$$R_s = (1/4)(\alpha - 1)(N)^{1/2}[k/(1+k)]$$

k = the average of two peaks.

