

# XBridge Prep Columns: Scalability and Loadability for Preparative Separations

---

Fang Xia, Jie Y. Cavanaugh, Diane M. Diehl

Waters Corporation



---

## Abstract

This application note details about the efficiency of XBridge Prep Columns.

## Benefits

BEH Technology, the second generation of patented organic–inorganic hybrid particle technology (HPT), is the new benchmark for HPLC columns. Waters XBridge Prep Columns reach a new level of maximum loadability and direct scalability.

---

## Introduction

XBridge Columns were designed to be the most pH-stable phases commercially available, while still providing maximum efficiency, peak shape, and robustness. For method development consideration, we offer C<sub>18</sub>, C<sub>8</sub>, phenyl and RP<sub>18</sub> chemistries, available 2.5, 3.5, and 5 µm particle sizes and dimensions from analytical to prep. XBridge Prep Columns are manufactured with the patent pending Optimum Bed Density (OBD) design, which helps us to achieve direct scale-up from analytical to preparative columns, with the same efficiency and excellent column lifetimes.

---

## Experimental

### Scalability

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Columns:          | XBridge C <sub>18</sub> 5 µm 4.6 x 100 mm; XBridge Prep C <sub>18</sub> 5 µm 19 x 100 mm |
| Mobile phase A:   | 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer at pH 10   |
| Mobile phase B:   | Acetonitrile/100 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer, pH 10 (90/10)                           |
| Flow rate:        | 1.06 mL/min (analytical); 18 mL/min (preparative)  |
| Gradient:         | 10-min linear from 5% to 95% B   |
| Injection volume: | 30 µL (analytical); 510 µL (preparative)   |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Sample: | Econazole and miconazole in DMSO (100 mg/mL each) |
|---------|---|

|             |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Instrument: | Waters AutoPurification System |
|-------------|--------------------------------|

## Loadability

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Columns: | XBridge Prep C <sub>18</sub> 5 µm 19 x 50 mm |
|----------|--|

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Mobile phase A: | 0.1% diethylamine in water |
|-----------------|----------------------------|

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mobile phase B: | 0.1% diethylamine in acetonitrile |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Flow rate: | 23.9 mL/min |
|------------|-------------|

|           |                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Gradient: | 8-min linear from 5% to 95% B |
|-----------|-------------------------------|

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Injection volume: | 660 µL |
|-------------------|--------|

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Sample: | Labetolol (50 mg/mL), quinine (50 mg/mL), diltiazem (50 mg/mL), verapamil (100 mg/mL) and amitriptyline (50 mg/mL) in DMSO |
|---------|--|

|             |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Instrument: | Waters AutoPurification System |
|-------------|--------------------------------|

---

## Results and Discussion

The retention and separation of two antifungal drugs on the analytical XBridge C<sub>18</sub> Column is shown in Figure 1A. Under the total load of 6 mg, we observe very symmetric peaks. The mass load was proportionally scaled-up and run on the preparative XBridge Prep C<sub>18</sub> Column, as shown in Figure 1B. Note the direct scale up, excellent peak shapes, and total mass load of 102 mg.

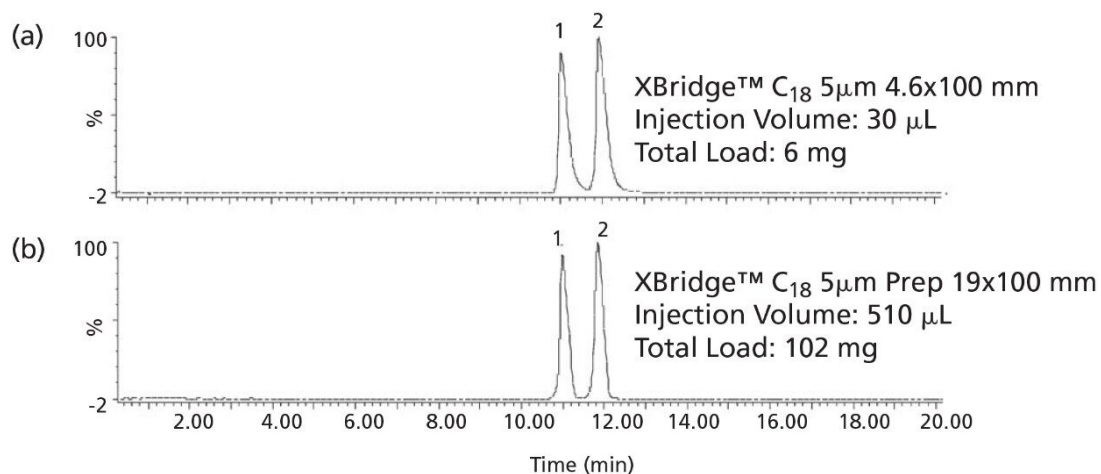


Figure 1. Scale-up of a critical pair of antifungal drugs from analytical to preparative XBridge columns. (A) XBridge C<sub>18</sub>, 5 μm 4.6 x 100 mm. (B) XBridge Prep C<sub>18</sub> 5 μm 19 x 100 mm. Analytes: (1) econazole, (2) miconazole.

The separation and loadability of five basic analytes on XBridge Prep C<sub>18</sub> Column under high pH mobile phase conditions is shown in Figure 2. We successfully loaded 198 mg of bases on a 19 x 50 mm column without sacrificing peak shape.

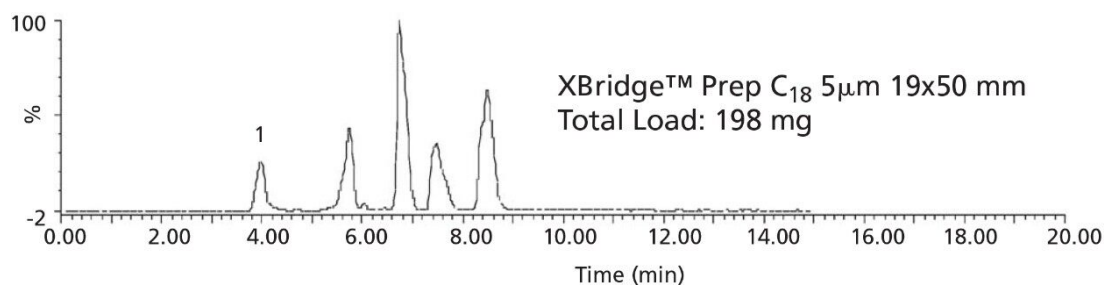


Figure 2. Separation of five basic drugs on XBridge Prep column in high-pH mobile phase. Analytes in order of elution: labetolol, quinine, diltiazem, verapamil and amitriptyline.

## Conclusion

XBridge Prep Columns provide highly efficient separations, direct scale-up, and maximum loadability, crucial for isolation of critical mixture components.

---

## Featured Products

AutoPurification System <<https://www.waters.com/10007147>>

WA43182, September 2005

© 2021 Waters Corporation. All Rights Reserved.