

Demonstrating Vion IMS QToF Linear Dynamic Range for Lipid Profiling

Adam King and Chris Hughes
 Waters Corporation, Milford, MA, USA



GOAL

To highlight the achievable dynamic range of the Vion IMS QToF Mass Spectrometer for lipid quantification in human plasma.

BACKGROUND

The term lipid covers a broad range of compounds which can be classed as "fatty acids", derivatives of fatty acids and biosynthetically related compounds derived from acetyl-CoA metabolism. These molecules play many important biological roles including e.g. acting as structural components of cell membranes, energy storage and intra and inter cell signaling.

Lipids can be segmented into categories or classes based upon their biochemical building blocks: fatty acids (FA), glycerolipids (GL), glycerophospholipids (GP), sphingolipids (SP), saccharolipids (SL), polyketides (PK), sterol lipids (ST), and prenol lipids (PR). These lipids differ in the hydrophobic nature of the molecule, the fatty acid chain length, degree of unsaturation and addition of polar groups such as phosphates.

LC-MS-based lipid profiling (lipidomics) has become a popular tool in biomedical

The demonstration of linear dynamic range of Vion IMS QToF for the UPLC-MS profiling of the plasma lipidome for biomedical research.

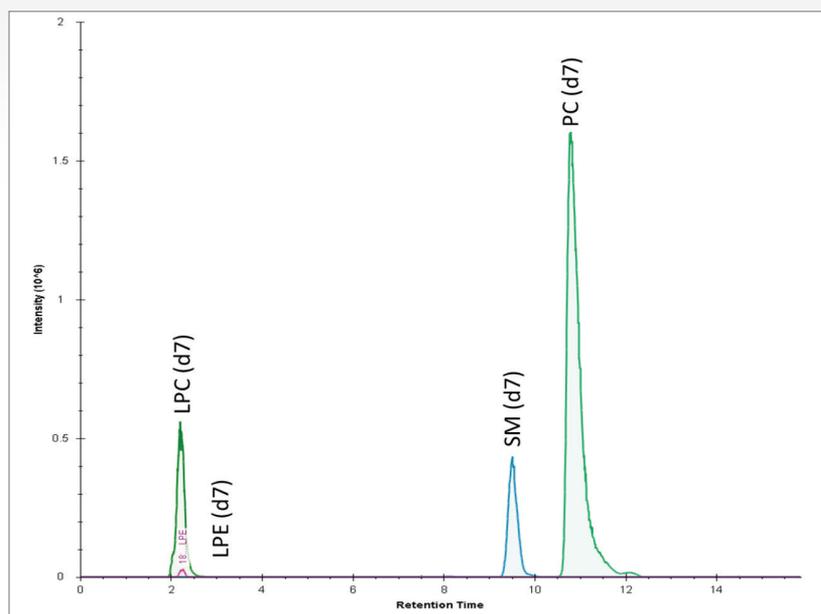


Figure 1. Extracted ion chromatogram of stable labelled isotope spiked into human plasma.

research to understand disease biology and health. Successful lipidomics requires the identification and quantification of lipid species in complex mixtures such as biological fluids, tissues, food stuffs and fats. To perform accurate quantification, the instrument measurements of any LC-MS system should show a linear response over the concentration range of the samples being measured. Here we demonstrate the linear dynamic range of the Vion™ IMS QToF Mass Spectrometer for the analysis of lipids in human plasma.

THE SOLUTION

The linear dynamic range of Vion IMS QToF was evaluated by the spiking of the Avanti SPLASH LipidoMix standard kit, containing 14 deuterated lipids from multiple lipid classes, into pooled human plasma at class specific

concentration ranges covering seven orders of magnitude. The plasma samples were prepared by protein precipitation lipid extraction with isopropanol. The resulting solutions were analyzed using reversed-phase chromatography on a 2.1 x 100 mm ACQUITY™ UPLC™ CSH C₁₈ Column (p/n [186005297](#)) over a 20 min. gradient. The mobile phases consisted of 10 mM ammonium formate and formic acid in 40:60 water: acetonitrile (mobile phase A) and 90:10 isopropanol: acetonitrile (mobile phase B). The column effluent was monitored using Vion IMS QToF in HDMS^E positive and negative ion mode using a collision energy ramp from 25–35 eV and a mass acquisition range of *m/z* 50–1000 with a scan time of 0.1s.

A typical extracted ion chromatogram obtained for the Avanti splash mix lipids LPC (d7), LPE (d7), SM (d7), and PC (d7) in plasma is shown in Figure 1.

The Vion IMS QToF showed a linear response of 3 orders of magnitude for the lipids standards spiked into plasma. A typical calibration obtained for 18:1 (d7) SM and 15:0 18:1 (d7) PC are shown in Figure 2. The data shows that the 18:1 (d7) SM gave a linear response over the range of 37.5–7500 ng/mL and the 15:0 18:1 (d7) PC gave a linear response over the range of 200–40000 ng/mL.

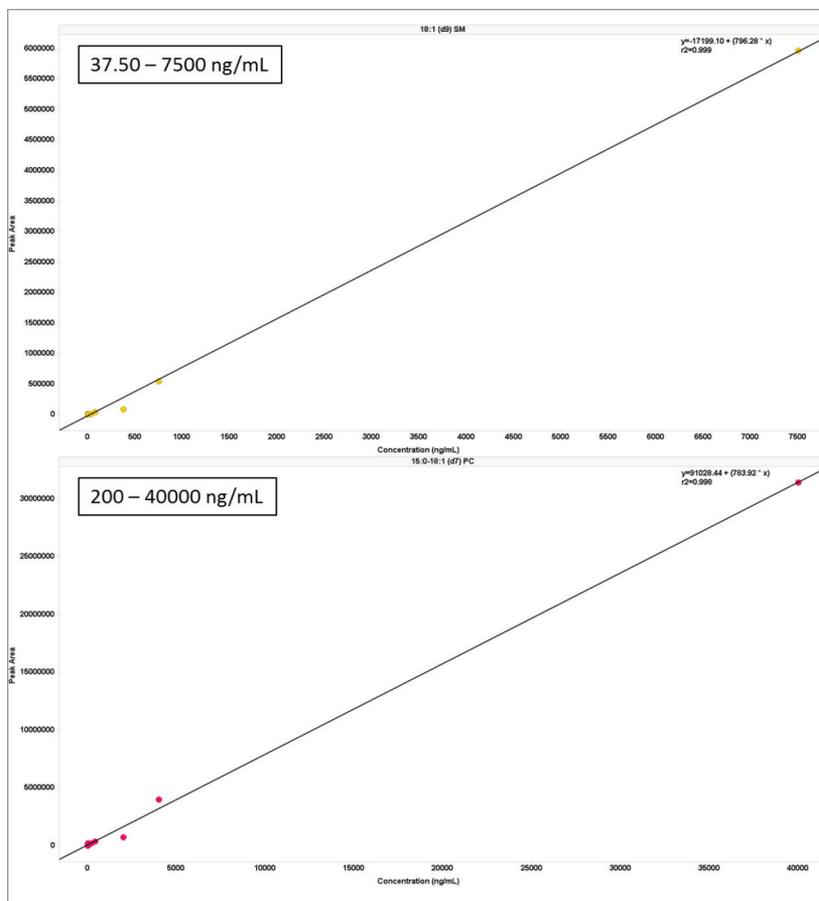


Figure 2. Example calibration curves for SM (d7) and PC (d7).

SUMMARY

Lipidomics is a rapidly expanding field of science for biomedical and food nutrition research. The analysis of lipids in biological fluids requires a system which is accurate as well as specific enabling the identification and quantification of these lipids at biologically relevant levels. The Vion IMS QToF delivers sensitivity with linear concentration response, and structural elucidation capabilities using ion mobility and accurate mass MS/MS.

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Waters Corporation
34 Maple Street
Milford, MA 01757 U.S.A.
T: 1 508 478 2000
F: 1 508 872 1990
www.waters.com