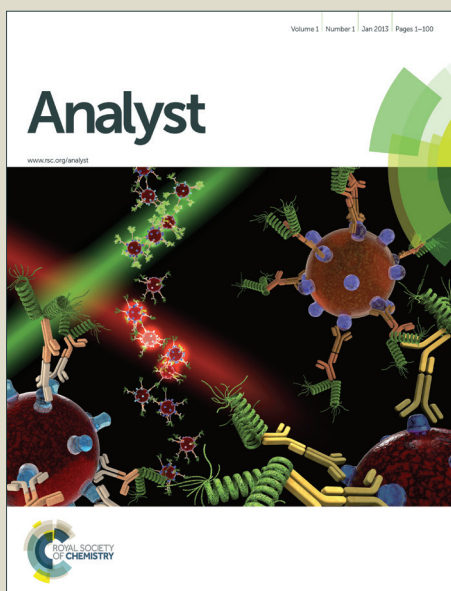


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3 **Alkaloids analysis using an off-line two-dimensional supercritical fluid**
4 **chromatography × ultra-high performance liquid chromatography**

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6
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30 Abstract

31 In this study, an off-line two-dimensional (2-D) supercritical fluid chromatography
32 (SFC) × ultra-high performance liquid chromatography (UHPLC) method with high
33 orthogonality was developed to analyze the practical amide alkaloids fraction from *P.*
34 *longum* L.. The effects of SFC parameters such as column, organic modifier,
35 temperature and back pressure on separation were systematically evaluated. Different
36 selectivity among columns (BEH, BEH 2-EP, XAmide and CSH FP) was observed.
37 Then, investigation on orthogonality of different columns and systems was performed
38 by geometric approach with a set of amide alkaloid samples. The orthogonality
39 between CSH FP column and BEH column reached to 50.79%, which was much
40 higher than the other columns. While the orthogonality between SFC and UHPLC
41 based on XAmide column and HSS T3 column reached to 69.84%, which was the
42 highest of all combinations. At last, the practical amide alkaloids fraction was
43 analyzed on the off-line two-dimensional (2-D) chromatography SFC × UHPLC
44 system. In total, at least 340 peaks were detected by this method. Rapid separation on
45 these two dimensions and easy post treatment of SFC facilitated this 2-D system for
46 the separation of complex samples.

47 **Key words:** supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC); ultra-high performance liquid
48 chromatography (UHPLC); two-dimension; amide alkaloids; *Piper Longum* L.

49 1. Introduction

50 During the last periods, high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and
51 ultra-high performance liquid chromatography (UHPLC) had been widely used for the
52 rapid analysis of complex samples to some extent¹. Compared with HPLC and
53 UHPLC, the application of supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) is not so widely,
54 but it is also a powerful strategy for the analysis of complex samples. It is known that
55 supercritical fluid (SF) has the properties between those of gas and liquid. Thus, SFC
56 had lower mass transfer resistance between stationary phase and mobile phase
57 compared with HPLC. Meanwhile, SFC facilitates lower pressure drop at relatively
58 high flow rate. Moreover, the mobile phase in SFC has a solvating power like that in
59 HPLC. Thus, high resolution and high speed separations could also be achieved under

1
2
3 60 SFC mode^{2,3}.

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5 61 As it is well known, in SFC, stationary phase⁴, organic modifier, backpressure and
6
7 62 temperature modifications induce great effects on the retention. The effects of flow
8
9 63 rate or column length on retention time changes were also interesting to some extent
10
11 64 and samples can be analyzed in only a few minutes or even seconds with appropriate
12
13 65 column dimensions and flow rates⁵. The analytical range of SFC was broadened
14
15 66 because various types of columns could be used. Non-polar^{6,7}, polar ionizable
16
17 67 compounds^{6,8} and even peptides⁹ have been analyzed by SFC. Though supercritical
18
19 68 CO₂ has high solvation ability, it is not enough for some polar analytes. Luckily, its
20
21 69 polarity and solvation ability can be changed by adding a polar organic modifier such
22
23 70 as methanol, ethanol, isopropanol and so on. In addition, close to the critical point, the
24
25 71 densities and solvating power of SF can change sharply with a slight change in
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27 72 pressure. Thus, separation can be achieved by regulating the pressure of SFC.

28
29 73 Nowadays, 2-D chromatography technique is becoming an effective method to
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31 74 separate complex samples, such as polymers, metabolites, proteins and natural
32
33 75 products¹⁰⁻¹⁴. Orthogonal separation based on different separation mechanisms could
34
35 76 improve separation selectivity and peak capacity¹⁵⁻¹⁷. Sandra et al.¹⁸ developed an
36
37 77 automated off-line SFC×SFC system using octadecyl silicagel (ODS) and
38
39 78 silver-loaded stationary phases in the first and second dimensions, respectively. The
40
41 79 first dimension effluent was captured, concentrated and re-injected on the secondary
42
43 80 column in a completely automated manner. In previous research, retention behavior of
44
45 81 up to 46 solutes of varying molecular properties have been studied under
46
47 82 reversed-phase liquid chromatography (RPLC), SFC, gas-liquid chromatography
48
49 83 (GLC), and micellar electrokinetic capillary chromatography (MECC) modes,
50
51 84 respectively. The orthogonality of different 2-D systems combined with these
52
53 85 modes were evaluated by the 2-D chromatographic plots of their ranged-scaled
54
55 86 retention data¹⁹. Thanks to the different separation mechanism between SFC and
56
57 87 RPLC, the complementary separation could be obtained, demonstrating that 2-D
58
59 88 chromatography based on these two modes will be a promising method for the
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61 89 analysis of complex components.

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4 90 In this study, the goal was to explore the application of SFC system in separation of
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6 91 amide alkaloids from *Piper* species. Most of earlier works on *Piper* species suggested
7
8 92 that the major bioactive constituents were amide alkaloids²⁰⁻²². However, the
9
10 93 structures of amide alkaloids in *P. longum* L. are so similar that resulting in a similar
11
12 94 retention behavior on single column. Furthermore, some alkaloids with the same
13
14 95 molecular weight complicate MS identification. Therefore, new 2-D chromatography
15
16 96 methods should be developed to separate amide alkaloids from *Piper Longum* L.,
17
18 97 which is beneficial for further characterization and bioactive research. Firstly, the
19
20 98 effects of column selectivity, organic modifiers, temperature and back pressure on
21
22 99 SFC separation were investigated. Then, orthogonality of different stationary phases
23
24 100 and systems were evaluated using selected 25 amide alkaloid compounds. Based on
25
26 101 the evaluation results, an off-line 2-D SFC × UHPLC method was developed to
27
28 102 separate alkaloids fraction of plant origin.

103 2. Experiment

104 2.1 Reagents and materials

105 Methanol (MeOH), ethanol (EtOH), isopropanol (IPA) and acetonitrile (ACN) of
106
107 HPLC grade were purchased from J&K (Beijing, China). The water used in this study
108
109 was purified with a Milli-Q water purification system (Millipore, Bedford, MA, USA).
110
111 Liquid CO₂ (food grade) was purchased from Zhenxin Gaisi (Shanghai, China)

112
113 *P. Longum* L. was purchased from Anguo Herb Market, Hebei province
114
115 (China). The herb was authenticated by the Institute of Medication, Xiyuan Hospital of
116
117 China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

118 2.2 Sample preparation

119
120 The amide alkaloids fraction and twenty-five compounds (shown in Table 1)
121
122 investigated in this study were prepared by our lab²³. The pKa, log P, H-bond donor
123
124 and acceptor values of these compounds were shown in support information. All
125
126 samples were stored at -20 °C before used.

127 2.3 Instruments and columns

128
129 The Waters Acquity UPC²™ system (which stands for Acquity Ultra Performance
130
131 Convergence Chromatography) was equipped with a binary manager, an autosampler

1
2
3 120 manager-FL, a column manager, a PDA detector and a convergence with an automatic
4
5 121 backpressure regulator (ABPR).
6

7 122 The RPLC analysis was performed on a Waters ACQUITY UHPLC[®] H-Class
8
9 123 system including a quaternary solvent manager, a sample manager-FTN, a column
10
11 124 manager and a PDA detector.

12 125 Data acquisition and processing of UPC² and UHPLC were conducted using
13
14 126 Waters Empower 3 software.

15
16 127 The columns used in SFC were as follows: Acquity UPC²™ CSH Fluoro-Phenyl
17
18 128 (50 × 2.1 mm i.d., 1.7 μm), Acquity UPC²™ BEH 2-EP (50 × 2.1 mm i.d., 1.7 μm),
19
20 129 Acquity UPC²™ BEH (50 × 2.1 mm i.d., 1.7 μm) were purchased from Waters
21
22 130 (Milford, MA, USA), abbreviated as CSH FP, BEH 2-EP, BEH in this paper,
23
24 131 respectively. XAmide column (150×4.6 mm i.d., 5 μm) was purchased from Acchrom
25
26 132 (Beijing, China).

27
28 133 The column used in H-Class was Acquity UHPLC HSS T3 (100 × 2.1 mm i.d.,
29
30 134 1.8μm, Waters, USA), abbreviated as HSS T3.

31 135 **2.4 Chromatographic conditions**

32 136 **2.4.1 Evaluation of retention and selectivity of four columns under SFC** 33 34 35 137 **conditions**

36
37 138 A mixture of eight amide alkaloids compounds (No.1-8 shown in Table 1) were
38
39 139 dissolved in a mixture of n-hexane/isopropanol (7:3, v/v) with different
40
41 140 concentrations. The linear velocity was adjusted the same and the CO₂/MeOH
42
43 141 gradient conditions were adjusted to the same gradient steepness irrespective of the
44
45 142 column dimension. For CSH FP, BEH 2-EP and BEH columns, the gradient condition
46
47 143 was 1-5% MeOH in CO₂ from 0-10 min, the flow rate was 0.8 mL min⁻¹, the injection
48
49 144 volume was 1 μL. For XAmide column, the gradient condition of 1-7% MeOH in
50
51 145 CO₂ from 0-30 min were used, the flow rate was 3.8 mL min⁻¹ and the injection
52
53 146 volume was 5 μL. The column temperature and the ABPR were set at 40 °C and 1800
54
55 147 psi, respectively. The UV detection wavelength was 254 nm.

56 148 **2.4.2 Evaluation of the effect of organic modifiers, temperature and** 57 58 149 **backpressure in SFC**

1
2
3
4 150 The XAmide column and the same mixture as described in section 2.4.1 were
5
6 151 assessed to evaluation of the effect of organic modifiers, temperature and
7
8 152 backpressure on amide alkaloid compounds' separation. The conditions were set as
9
10 153 follow: the isocratic condition was set at 4% MeOH in CO₂, the flow rate was 3.0 mL
11
12 154 min⁻¹; the injection volume was 5 μL. The organic modifiers investigated in this study
13
14 155 were MeOH, EtOH, IPA and ACN. The temperature was set at 35, 40, 45 and 50 °C
15
16 156 when the effect of temperature was investigated. The backpressure was set at 1600,
17
18 157 1800, 2000 and 2200 psi when the effect of backpressure was investigated.

18 158 **2.4.3 Evaluation of Orthogonality on different SFC × SFC systems and SFC ×** 19 20 159 **UHPLC systems**

21
22 160 The orthogonality among three SFC columns and one UHPLC column were
23
24 161 investigated by using twenty-five amide alkaloids compounds as probes (listed in
25
26 162 Table 1).

27
28 163 On SFC system, the gradient conditions were set from 1-5% MeOH in 10min for
29
30 164 CSH FP and BEH columns. The flow rate was 0.8 mL min⁻¹, the injection volume was
31
32 165 1 μL; 1-7% MeOH in 15 min for XAmide column, the flow rate was 3.0 mL min⁻¹.
33
34 166 The injection volume was 5 μL. The column temperature, backpressure and UV
35
36 167 detection wavelength were same as section 2.4.1.

37
38 168 On UHPLC system, the mobile phases were H₂O (A) and ACN (B). The gradient
39
40 169 condition was as follows: 0-10 min, A/B, 40/60-20/80; 10-20 min, A/B, 20/80-5/95;
41
42 170 20-30 min, A/B, 5/95. An HSS T3 column was used in this system. The flow rate,
43
44 171 injection volume, column temperature and UV detection wavelength were set at 0.2
45
46 172 mL min⁻¹, 2 μL, 25 °C and 254 nm, respectively.

47 173 **2.4.4 2-D chromatography analysis of practical amide alkaloids fraction from** 48 49 174 ***Piper Longum* L.**

50
51 175 In the 2-D chromatography separation, the XAmide column was employed in the
52
53 176 first dimension SFC system. The corresponding mobile phase A was CO₂ and mobile
54
55 177 phase B was MeOH. The linear gradient elution condition was as follows: 0-8 min,
56
57 178 A/B, 98/2; 8-13 min, 98/2-97/3; 13-15min, 97/3-92/8; 15-20 min, 92/8. The flow rate
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59 179 was 3.0 mL min⁻¹. The column temperature and the ABPR were set at 40 °C and 1800
60

1
2
3 180 psi, respectively. The UV detection wavelength was 254 nm. About 125 mg crude
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5 181 alkaloids fraction were dissolved in 1 mL n-hexane/isopropanol (7:3, v/v). The
6
7 182 injection volume was 5 μ L. The fractions were split into two parts. One part flowed
8
9 183 into the detector while the other part was collected. Fractions were collected manually
10
11 184 from 2 to 18 min at 0.5 min interval, and they were denoted as Fraction 1 to Fraction
12
13 185 32 orderly. All fractions were dried with nitrogen and re-dissolved in H₂O/ACN (3:7,
14
15 186 v/v). The samples were stored at 4 °C until use.

16
17 187 The HSS T3 column was used as the second dimension RPLC column. The
18
19 188 mobile phases were H₂O (A) and ACN (B). The elution condition in this dimension
20
21 189 was as follows: 0-10 min, A/B, 40/60-20/80; 10-20 min, A/B, 20/80-5/95; 20-30 min,
22
23 190 A/B, 5/95. The flow rate was 0.2 mL min⁻¹. 5 μ L of each fraction collected from the
24
25 191 first dimension was injected into the second dimension, respectively.

192 2.5 Data analysis

26
27
28 193 Orthogonality was evaluated according to a reported method²⁴. The retention times
29
30 194 of 25 compounds on each column in single-dimension chromatography setup were
31
32 195 normalized according to Eq. (1),

$$196 \quad t_R^{i(normal)} = \frac{t_R^i - t_R^{\min}}{t_R^{\max} - t_R^{\min}} \quad (1)$$

33
34
35
36
37 197 in which t_R^{\max} and t_R^{\min} represented the retention times for the peaks showing greatest
38
39 198 and least retention among all the second dimension runs, respectively. The retention
40
41 199 times t_R^i were converted to normalized $t_R^{i(normal)}$ values that range from 0 to 1. Then
42
43 200 the normalized retention data were plotted into a 2-D separation space which was
44
45 201 divided into 5×5 bins. The orthogonality O% was calculated according to Eq. (2),

$$46 \quad O\% = \frac{\sum bins - \sqrt{P_{\max}}}{0.63P_{\max}} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

47
48 202 in which $\sum bins$ was the number of bins containing data points in the 2-D plot. P_{\max}
49
50 203 was the sum of all bins, which represented the total peak capacity in this evaluation
51
52 204 system.
53
54 205

55 206 3. Result and discussion

207 **3.1 Effect of column's selectivity in SFC**

208 In order to investigate the effect of column's selectivity on the retention behavior
209 of amide alkaloids under SFC conditions, four different columns including three SFC
210 columns and one hydrophilic interaction liquid chromatography (HILIC) column were
211 employed. The results were shown in Fig. 1. For the purpose of preserving the
212 gradient steepness irrespective of the column dimension, the linear velocity was
213 converted into the same and the gradient conditions were adjusted. Thus, the retention
214 and selectivity can be directly compared on these chromatograms. At first, the peak
215 shapes were acceptable for eight amide alkaloids on all columns in SFC. In term of
216 retention time, the XAmide column was longer than the others.

217 In term of selectivity, both stationary phases and solute's structure played important
218 roles for the separation. The elution order was very similar on BEH, BEH 2-EP and
219 XAmide columns while that was great difference on CSH FP column (Fig. 1).
220 Compared with other columns, compounds 4 and 5 were eluted before other
221 compounds and the retention of compound 6 was stronger than compounds 7 and 8 on
222 CHS FP column. Although the same elution order was observed between BEH and
223 BEH 2-EP, the resolution was some different (Fig. 1 B and C). Compounds 4 and 5
224 which cannot be separated on BEH were effectively separated on BEH 2-EP.
225 Compounds 7 and 8 that were co-eluted on BEH 2-EP were effectively resolved on
226 BEH. Compounds 1 and 2, as well as compounds 4 and 5 (as shown in Table 1), were
227 all similar combinations except the difference of length of the carbon chain. However,
228 only compounds 1 and 2 with piperidine ring could be separated effectively on these
229 four columns at the same time. Difference in the selectivity of these columns
230 indicated their potential application in the design of 2-D system for complex samples'
231 separation.

232 **3.2 Effect of organic modifier, temperature and backpressure in SFC**

233 Comparing with the other three SFC column (CSH FP, BEH, BEH 2-EP), the
234 XAmide column was usually used on HILIC mode^{25,26}. In this study, the XAmide
235 column was used for the separation of amide alkaloids under SFC conditions and
236 good result was obtained. It can be speculated that HILIC stationary can also be used

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3 237 on SFC in addition to traditional SFC columns. Thus, the effect of organic modifier,
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5 238 temperature and backpressure in SFC system was investigated on XAmide column.
6
7 239 As shown in Fig. 2, the selectivity was not apparent changed as the polarity of organic
8
9 240 modifiers increased, while the retention time of eight compounds were greatly
10
11 241 decreased. It illustrated that the elution mode of amide alkaloids was similar to
12
13 242 normal-phase liquid chromatography (NPLC) on XAmide column under SFC
14
15 243 conditions. Both the best resolution and the relative weakest retention were observed
16
17 244 when using MeOH as organic modifier²⁷.

18
19 245 Furthermore, the retention time was increased with the increase of temperature
20
21 246 (shown in Fig. 3) or the reduction of backpressure (shown in Fig. 4). As temperature
22
23 247 increased or backpressure decreased, the density of CO₂ was decreased, leading to the
24
25 248 elution capacity diminished. As shown in Fig. 3 and 4, the resolution of compounds 1
26
27 249 and 2, as well as compounds 4 and 5 was increased when temperature increased or
28
29 250 backpressure decreased. On the contrary, the resolution of compounds 7 and 8 was
30
31 251 decreased with the increase of temperature or the reduction of backpressure.
32
33 252 Compared with compounds 1, 2, 4, and 5, only compounds 7 and 8 had pepper ring
34
35 253 structures (as shown in Table 1). Thus, the effect of temperature and backpressure on
36
37 254 selectivity might be different for amide alkaloids with pepper ring from others.

38 255 **3.3 Evaluation of the orthogonality of SFC × SFC system and SFC × UHPLC** 39 256 **system**

40
41 257 According to the result described in section 3.1, there was good retention and
42
43 258 separation for amide alkaloids on SFC system. Because of the different selectivity
44
45 259 among various stationary phases, as well as different separating mechanism between
46
47 260 SFC and UHPLC, good orthogonality could be obtained both on SFC ×SFC system
48
49 261 and SFC × UHPLC system. In this research, the geometric approach developed by
50
51 262 Gilar et al.²⁸ was used to evaluate the orthogonality between different 2-D
52
53 263 chromatography systems. A series of amide alkaloids purified from *Piper Longum* L.
54
55 264 was selected as test compounds for orthogonality evaluation (listed in Table 1).
56
57 265 Structures of these compounds were similar and some of them were isomers. Hence,
58
59 266 some of the test compounds were not fully resolved in uni-dimensional separation.
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4 267 The BEH, CSH FP and XAmide columns, operated under SFC conditions, were used
5
6 268 to develop 2-D SFC \times SFC systems. A RPLC column, HSS T3, was chosen to
7
8 269 generate the basic set of retention time data under UHPLC conditions. Three 2-D SFC
9
10 270 \times UHPLC systems were developed using HSS T3 column and three SFC columns.
11
12 271 The normalized retention time plots for six different 2-D systems were shown in Fig.
13
14 272 5.

15
16 273 On SFC \times SFC system, the orthogonality between CSH FP column and the other
17
18 274 two columns was relatively high, which reached to 50.79% (Fig. 5 B) and 44.44%
19
20 275 (Fig. 5 A). It may relate to the different functional groups between CSH FP column
21
22 276 and the other two columns. The orthogonality of BEH and XAmide was 25.39%,
23
24 277 which suggested the separation selectivity was similar between them.

25
26 278 On SFC \times UHPLC system, it was exciting to find that the orthogonality between
27
28 279 XAmide and HSS T3 was as high as 69.84%, which was much higher than the other
29
30 280 combinations. It can be easily explained by the different separation mechanism of
31
32 281 SFC and UHPLC. It could be seen that many co-eluted compounds in one dimension
33
34 282 could be well-separated by the orthogonal methods. Taking XAmide \times HSS T3
35
36 283 system (Fig. 5 F) as an example, the data points in the dashed lines a and b, which
37
38 284 represented the normalized retention times of the six solutes in the XAmide \times HSS T3
39
40 285 systems. Compounds 18, 15, 5 and 20 (line a) could not be separated on the XAmide
41
42 286 column, but good resolution can be obtained on the HSS T3 column. The case was
43
44 287 just reverse for the compounds 18, 10 and 1 (line b). Supposing a sample contains
45
46 288 these seven compounds, good separation of them could not be achieved with any
47
48 289 column system in one dimension separation, but this problem could be resolved by the
49
50 290 combination of these two complementary column systems. In addition, some of the
51
52 291 positional isomers could also be well separated under two-dimensional system in this
53
54 292 research. For example, compounds 15 and 16 could not be separated on HSS T3
55
56 293 column, but good resolution could be obtained on XAmide column.

54 294 **3.4 Off-line 2-D chromatography separation of the amide alkaloids fraction** 55 56 295 **from *Piper Longum* L.**

57
58 296 It was well known that the orthogonality was dependent not only on the separation
59
60

1
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3 297 mechanism, but also on the properties of the compounds and the separation
4
5 298 conditions²⁹. More validation in practical analysis needed to be investigated. Thus, an
6
7 299 off-line 2-D SFC × UHPLC system was attempted to be developed for the analysis of
8
9 300 practical samples based on the previous experiments in this research. At first,
10
11 301 one-dimensional SFC and UHPLC analysis of amide alkaloids fraction obtained from
12
13 302 *Piper Longum* L. were done on XAmide and HSS T3 column, respectively. As shown
14
15 303 in Fig. 6 A and B, selectivity of the sample on these two columns were significant
16
17 304 different, which suggested that good orthogonality for the separation of amide
18
19 305 alkaloids could be obtained on these two dimensions. Therefore, it was promising for
20
21 306 the construction of an off-line 2-D chromatography system based on SFC and UHPLC.
22
23 307 Here, the XAmide column under SFC conditions was used on the first dimension. The
24
25 308 post treatment of fractions eluted from the SFC could be easily evaporated, which
26
27 309 benefit for the re-dissolving of the second dimension. The HSS T3 column under
28
29 310 UHPLC conditions was used on the second dimension in order to obtained better
30
31 311 separation.

31
32 Here, the 2-D chromatography analysis showed excellent separation results and
33
34 313 good orthogonality. Taking Fraction 20 (eluting from 11.5 to 12 min in Fig. 6 A) as
35
36 314 an example, re-analysis of it on the XAmide column revealed a simple composition
37
38 315 which was only one main peak with a purity of more than 90% (Fig. 7 A). However,
39
40 316 after the separation in the second dimension on HSS T3, more than 13 peaks
41
42 317 dispersed throughout the chromatogram and more information could be got (Fig. 7 B).
43
44 318 On the other word, the low-abundance alkaloids that were always covered up by the
45
46 319 major component in a uni-dimensional separation could be identified by the 2-D
47
48 320 chromatography system.

49
50 321 In order to illustrate the orthogonality of this SFC × UHPLC system, A
51
52 322 three-dimensional chromatogram was also constructed (Fig. 8), which could not only
53
54 323 indicate good orthogonality on this two dimensions, but also could show the high
55
56 324 resolving power of this system. After deleted the same retention in the adjacent
57
58 325 fractions, at least 340 peaks could be separated by the 2-D chromatography, while less
59
60 326 than 50 peaks (Fig. 6B) could be separated by one-dimensional liquid

1
2
3 327 chromatography.

4
5 328 In summary, this 2-D SFC × UHPLC system based on XAmide and HSS T3 had
6
7 329 the following advantages: firstly, high orthogonality could be obtained between two
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9 330 dimensions thanks to their different separation mechanism, which could lead to higher
10
11 331 resolving ability and simple operation during experiments; secondly, both of these
12
13 332 two dimensions could separate amide alkaloids fraction with high-speed and
14
15 333 high-efficiency and the post treatment of the first dimension was easy. Thus, it could
16
17 334 obtain amide alkaloids as many as possible if this method enlarged to preparation
18
19 335 scale using corresponding preparative SFC and preparative HPLC. Finally, many
20
21 336 low-abundance compounds were detected in this system, which was greatly benefit to
22
23 337 in-depth understanding the composition of *P. longum* L..

24 338 **4. Conclusions**

25
26 339 In this research, an off-line 2-D SFC × UHPLC method with high orthogonality
27
28 340 was developed to analyze the practical amide alkaloids fraction from *P. longum* L..
29
30 341 Separation of amide alkaloids was systematically investigated on SFC. The main
31
32 342 conclusions were as follows:

- 33
34 343 (1) The effects of column's selectivity, as well as organic modifier, temperature and
35
36 344 back pressure on separation of amide alkaloids were systematically evaluated.
37
38 345 Different separation selectivity were exhibited among different columns, which
39
40 346 provided the potential probability to build a 2-D chromatography method. When
41
42 347 using MeOH as the organic modifier, the retention times of amide alkaloids were
43
44 348 weaker than the others but the resolution was the highest. In addition, the retention
45
46 349 time was increased with the increasing of temperature or the reduction of
47
48 350 backpressure. It may relate that the elution capacity of supercritical CO₂ was
49
50 351 influenced by the density of CO₂ which was significantly affected by the
51
52 352 temperature and backpressure.
- 53 353 (2) Orthogonality evaluation with 25 amide alkaloids compounds were performed on
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55 354 different 2-D chromatography systems. The orthogonality between CSH FP and
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57 355 BEH reached to 50.79%, which was much higher than the other SFC × SFC
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59 356 systems. Thanks to the different separation mechanism of SFC and UHPLC, the
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3 357 orthogonality between XAmide and HSS T3 was as high as 69.84%, which was
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5 358 the highest of all combinations.
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7 359 (3) An off-line 2-D chromatography system based on SFC and UHPLC using
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9 360 XAmide and HSS T3 was developed to separate alkaloids fraction effectively due
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11 361 to their high orthogonality and fast analysis speed. It could not only separate the
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13 362 non-separated peaks in one-dimensional separation, but also could detect more
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15 363 low abundant components covered up by the major component in a
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17 364 uni-dimensional separation. The development of this 2-D chromatography system
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19 365 would be an effective tool for the separation of complex samples.
20

21 366 **Acknowledgements**

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23
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25
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13 **FIGURE CAPTION**

14 Table 1 Structure characterization of isolated compounds from *Piper Longum* L.

15 Fig. 1. Selectivity of different stationary phases for 8 amide alkaloids. Experimental
16 conditions were described in section 2.4.1.

17 Fig. 2. Separation of 8 amide alkaloids in different organic modifiers. Experimental
18 conditions were described in section 2.4.2.

19 Fig. 3. Separation of 8 amide alkaloids in different temperature. Experimental
20 conditions were described in section 2.4.2.

21 Fig. 4. Separation of 8 amide alkaloids in different backpressure. Conditions were the
22 same as section 2.4.2.

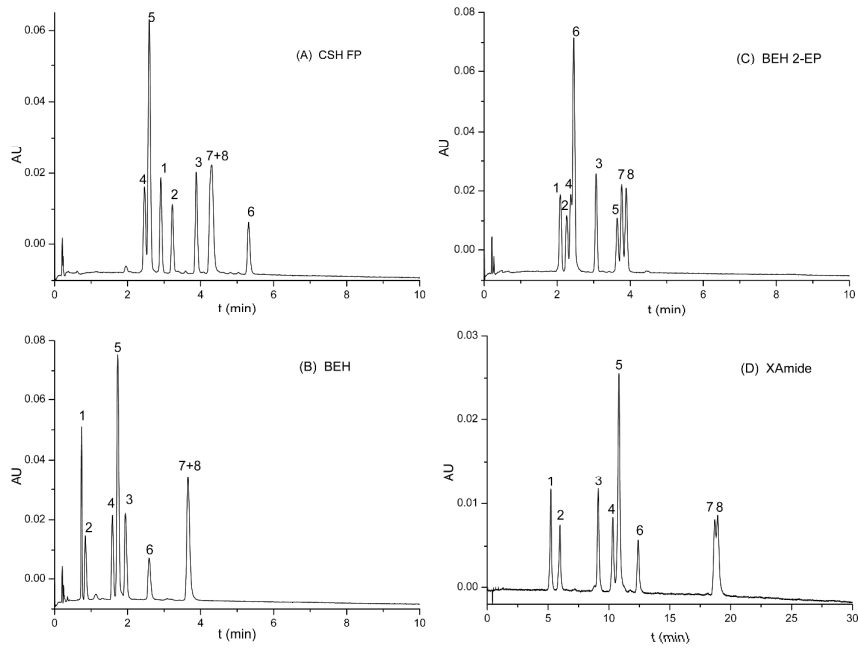
23 Fig. 5. Normalized retention time plots for SFC × SFC systems of “CHS FP × BEH”
24 (A), “CSH FP × XAmide” (B), “BEH × XAmide” (C), and SFC × UHPLC systems of
25 “CSH FP × HSS T3” (D), “BEH × HSS T3” (E) and “XAmide × HSS T3” (F).
26 Compounds numbers were listed as in Table 1. Experimental conditions were
27 described in section 2.4.3.

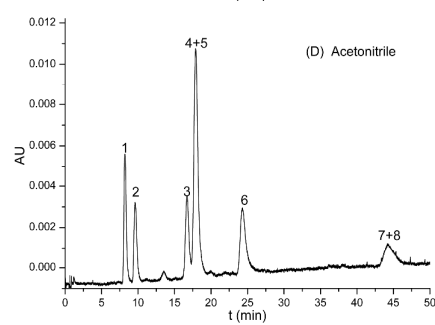
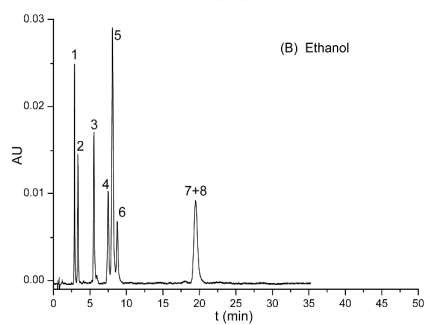
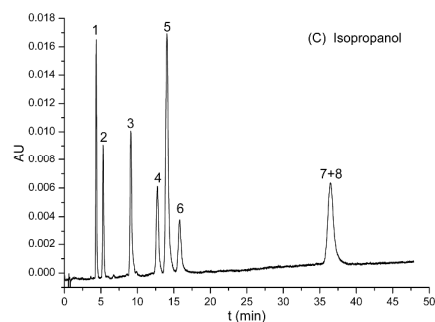
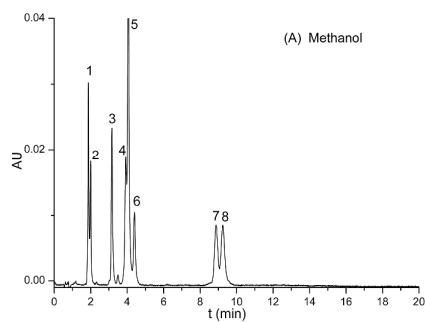
28 Fig. 6. SFC and UHPLC chromatogram of amide alkaloids fraction. (A) SFC,
29 XAmide column (150 mm × 4.6 mm i.d., 5 μm). (B) UHPLC, ACQUITY UHPLC
30 HSS T3 (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d., 1.7 μm). Experimental conditions were described in
31 section 2.4.4.

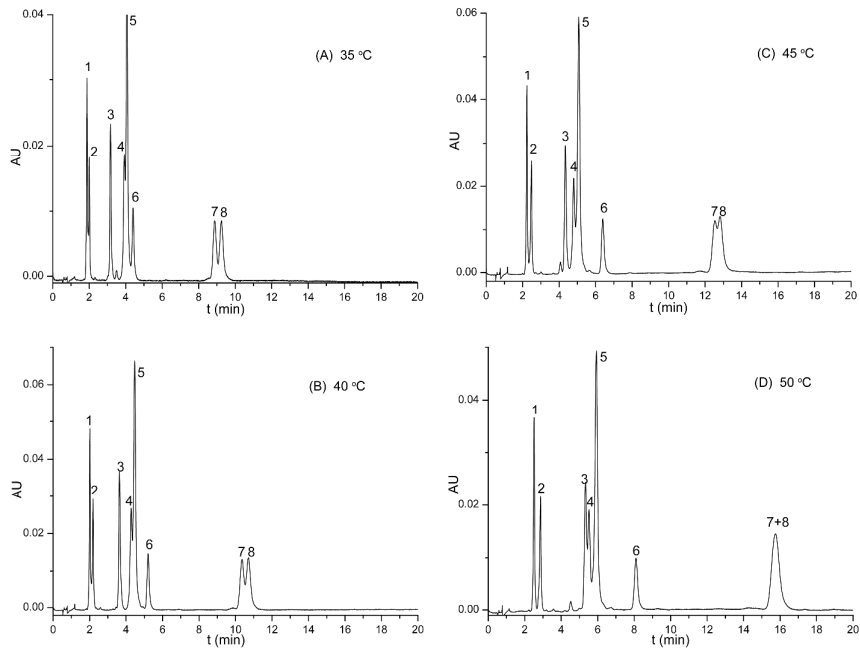
32 Fig. 7. SFC and UHPLC chromatogram of fraction 20. Experimental conditions were
33 described in section 2.4.4.

34 Fig. 8. Three-dimensional chromatogram of amide alkaloids fractions 1-32 obtained
35 from the first dimension analyzed on HSS T3 column.

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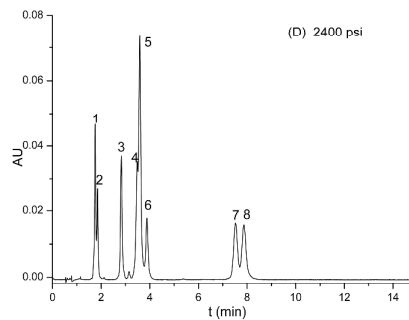
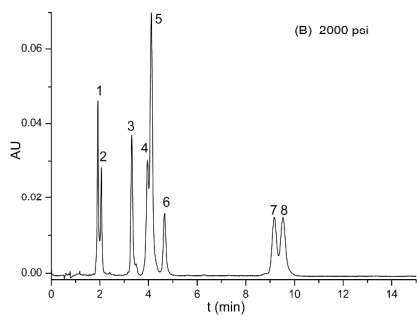
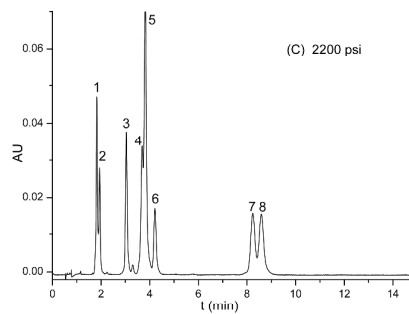
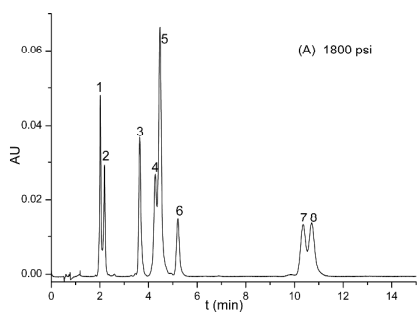






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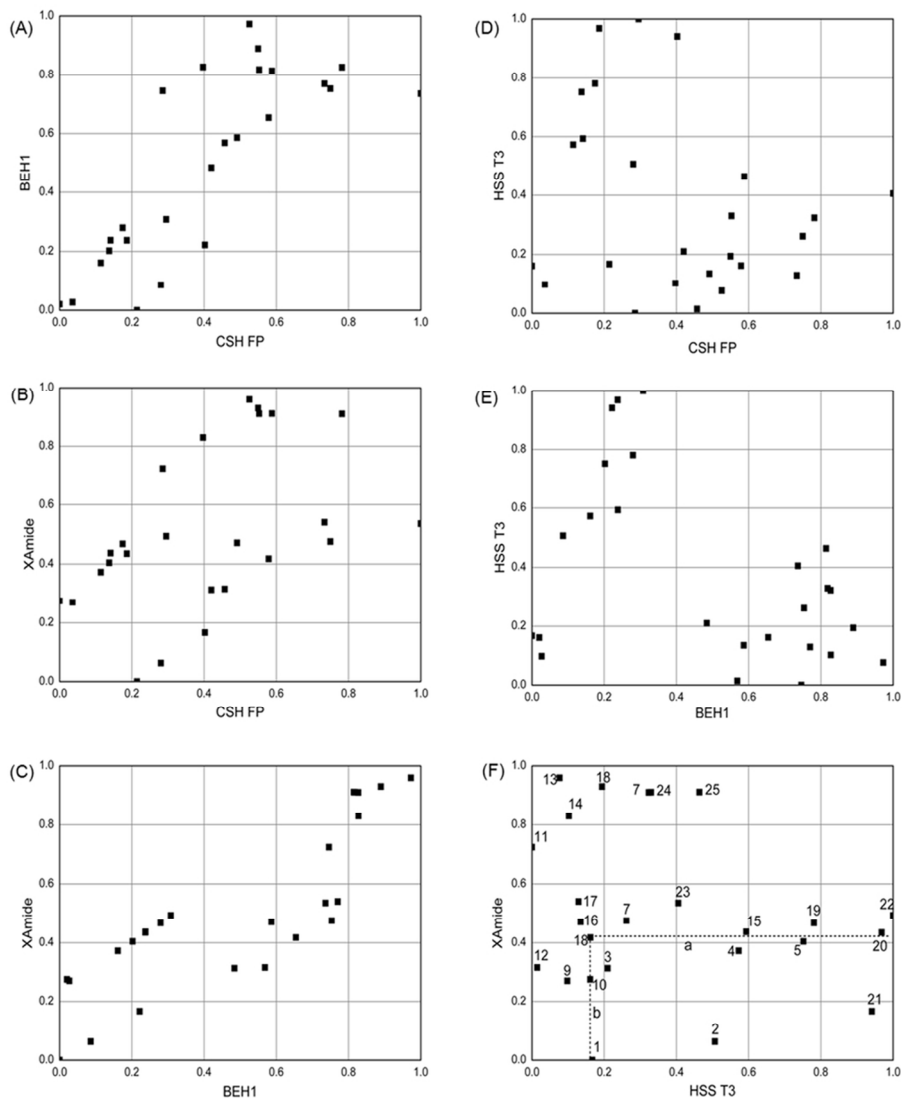


Fig. 5. Normalized retention time plots for SFC x SFC systems of "CHS FP x BEH" (A), "CSH FP x XAmide" (B), "BEH x XAmide" (C), and SFC x UHPLC systems of "CSH FP x HSS T3" (D), "BEH x HSS T3" (E) and "XAmide x HSS T3" (F). Compounds numbers were listed as in Table 1. Experimental conditions were described in section 2.4.3.
96x111mm (300 x 300 DPI)

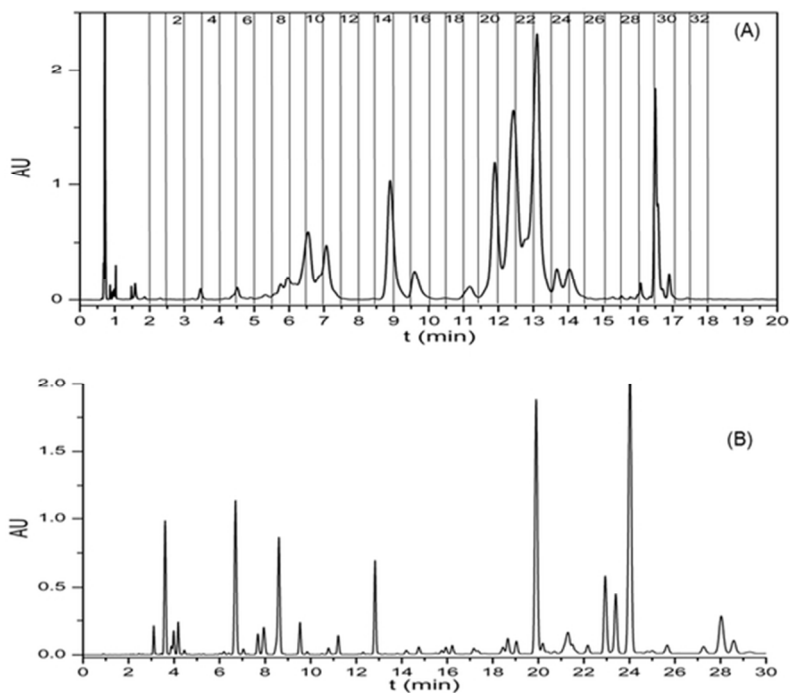
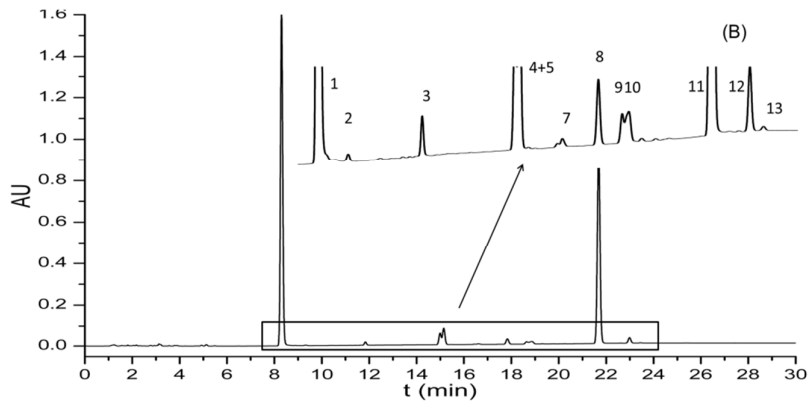
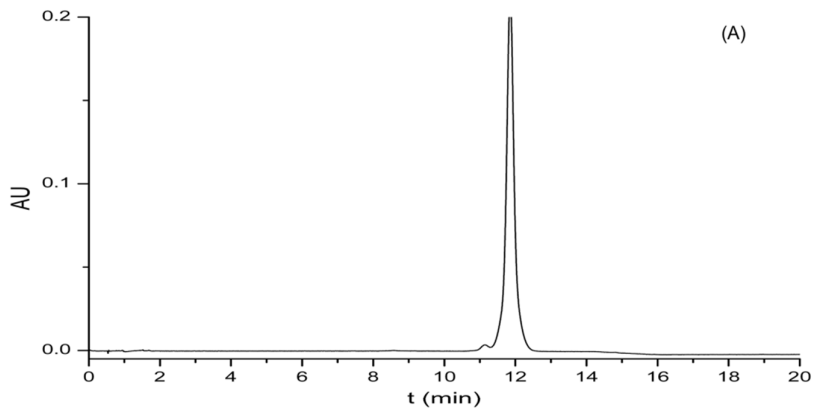


Fig. 6. SFC and UHPLC chromatogram of amide alkaloids fraction. (A) SFC, XAmide column (150 mm × 4.6 mm i.d., 5 μm). (B) UHPLC, ACQUITY UHPLC HSS T3 (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d., 1.7 μm). Experimental conditions were described in section 2.4.4.

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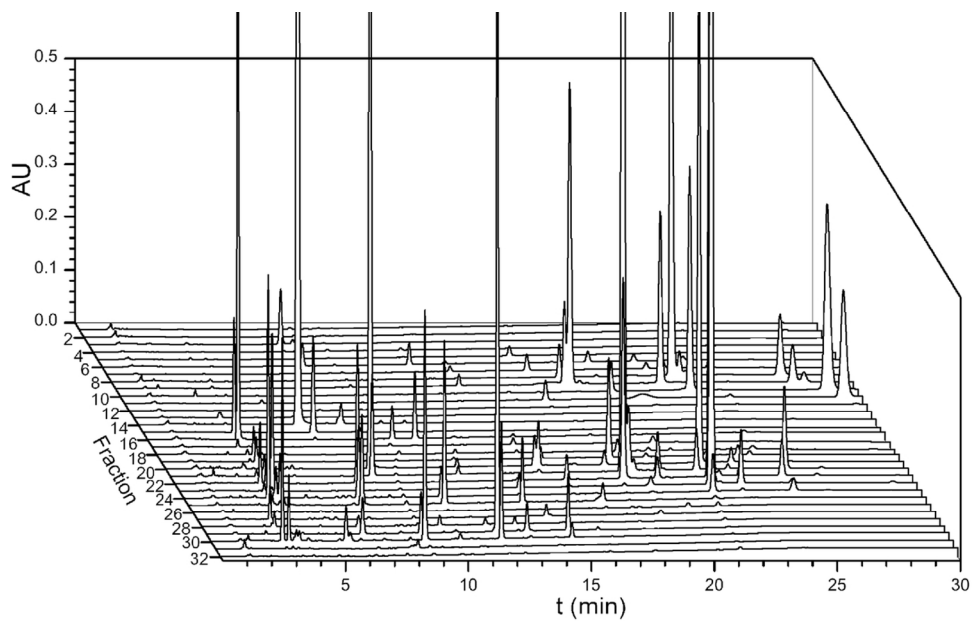
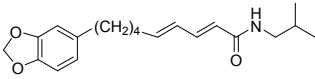
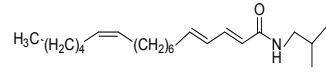
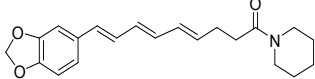
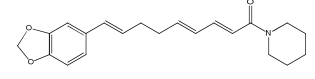
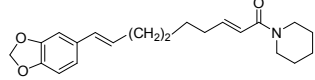
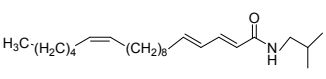
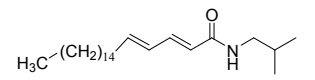
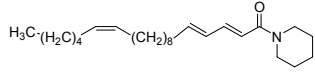
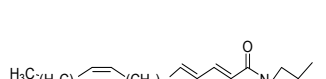


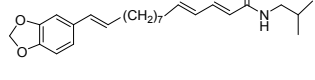


Fig. 8. Three-dimensional chromatogram of amide alkaloids fractions 1-32 obtained from the first dimension analyzed on HSS T3 column.
119x83mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Table 1 Structure characterization of isolated compounds from *Piper Longum* L.

| Compound | Name | Structure |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | N-[(2E,4E)-decadienyl]-piperidine. | |
| 2 | N-[(2E,4E)-tetradeca dienyl]piperidine | |
| 3 | (E)-9-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-1-(piperidin-1-yl)non-2-en-1-one | |
| 4 | N-isobutyl-2E,4E-hexadecadienamide | |
| 5 | N-isobutyl-2E,4E-octadecadienamide | |
| 6 | (2E,4E,10E)-N-11-(3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl)md ecatrienoylpiperidine | |
| 7 | Guineensine | |
| 8 | Retrofractamide B | |
| 9 | pellitorine | |
| 10 | N-isobutyl-2E,4E-undecadienamide | |
| 11 | dihydropiperlonguminine | |
| 12 | piperanine | |
| 13 | Retrofractamide A | |

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| 14 | Pipercollosine |  |
| 15 | (2E,4E,12Z)-N-Isobutyloctadeca-2,4,12-trienamide |  |
| 16 | 1-[9-(3',4'-methylenedioxyphenyl)-4E,6E,8E-nonatrienoyl]piperidine |  |
| 17 | dehydropiperonaline |  |
| 18 | Pipernonatine |  |
| 19 | (2E,4E,14Z)-N-Isobutyl eicosa-2,4,14-trienamide |  |
| 20 | N-isobutyl-2E,4E-decyldecadienamide |  |
| 21 | 1-[(2E,4E,14Z)-1-oxo-2,4,14-eicosatrienyl]-piperidine |  |
| 22 | (2E,4E,14Z)-N-Isobutyl docosa-2,4,14-trienamide |  |
| 23 | (2E,4E,12E)-13-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-6-yl)-1-(piperidin-1-yl)trideca-2,4,12-trien-1-one |  |
| 24 | (2E,4E,13E)-14-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-6-yl)-N-isobutyl tetradeca-2,4,13-trienamide |  |
| 25 | brachyamide B |  |

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