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## BAF\_Protocol\_015\_ 3-NPH derivatization of short chain fatty acid

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**Protocol status:** Working

**We use this protocol and it's working**

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### Abstract

Short Chain Fatty Acid derivitization before MS analysis.

## Materials

1. 3-Nitrophenylhydrazine hydrochloride (3-NPH) --> Sigma N21804-5G
2. Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) --> Sigma PHR1117-1g
3. *N*-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-*N*-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (ED) --> Sigma E1769- 5g
4. Pyridine --> Sigma 270970 - 100 mL
5. Valeric acid --> Sigma 75054-1mL
6. Isovaleric acid --> Sigma 78651- 1mL
7. Hexanoic acid (caproic acid) --> Sigma 21529 - 1mL
8. 4-Methylvaleric acid (Isocaproic acid) --> Sigma 277827 - 1mL
9. Butyric acid --> Sigma 19215 - 5 mL
10. Isobutyric acid --> Sigma 46935-U - 500mg
11. Lactic acid --> Sigma L6661 - 100 mL
12. Acetic acid --> Sigma 338826 - 25 mL
13. Column: Waters ACQUITY UHPLC BEH C18 1.7  $\mu$ m, 2.1 x 150 mm - 186002353
14. Thermo Optima 0.1% FA (formic acid) in water - LS118-4
15. Thermo Optima Methanol - A456-212
16. Thermo Autosampler vials 0.25 mL – 14-823-136
17. Thermo Orange caps – 14-823-380
18. Fisherbrand Standard Pipette Tips (200  $\mu$ L - Yellow) – 2707502
19. Thermo Orbitrap ID-X - FETD1-10001
20. Thermo Vanquish Duo UHPLC



## Samples

- 1 Refer to BAF\_Protocol\_008 Metabolomics: Soluble Metabolite Extraction for soluble metabolite extraction of a sample of interest and dry the extracted metabolites.

## Derivatization reagents: prepare all fresh

- 2 Reagent powder storage: EDC is stored at -20C, all others are at room temperature. Prepare working solutions on small glass bottles.
- 3 **250 nM 3-NPH solution** as derivatization agent in 50% methanol:  
--> dissolve 47.4 mg of 3-NPH in 1 mL of 50% methanol
- 4 **2 mg/mL BHT** in 100% methanol:  
--> dissolve 2 mg in 1 mL methanol.
- 5 **150 mM EDC** (stored at -20C) in 100% methanol:  
--> dissolve 28.75 mg in 1 mL methanol.
- 6 **7,5% pyridine** in 75% methanol.  
--> add 750 uL in 9.25 mL of 75% methanol.

## Standards and standard curve









- 7 Prepare a stock solution of each standard at 10 mg/mL in 75% MeOH. Use the stock solution to generate a 1000 ug/mL
- 8 Prepare standard curve:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Workings olution (u g/mL)	Workings olution vol (uL)	Diluent vol (uL)	Final Con c. (ug/mL)	ng/mL	Dilution le vel
1000	1000	0	1000	1E6	
100	100	900	100	100,000	L1
10	100	900	10	10,000	L2



	A	B	C	D	E	F
	1	100	900	1	1000	L3
	0.1	100	900	0.1	100	L4
	0.01	100	900	0.01	10	L5
	0.001	100	900	0.001	1	L6

## Derivatization reaction

- 9 Solubilize metabolite extracts in  100  $\mu\text{L}$  of 75% methanol  
Add  50  $\mu\text{L}$  of each into a clean new Eppendorf tube
- 10 Add  50  $\mu\text{L}$  of each standard curve level into a clean new Eppendorf tube
- 11 To each sample or standard add:  
 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of 150 mM EDC,  
 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of 7,5% pyridine,  
Incubate in thermomixer at 30 °C
- 12 To quench the reaction, add  50  $\mu\text{L}$  of BHT
- 13 Dilute with  250  $\mu\text{L}$  of water making a total of volume of  500  $\mu\text{L}$  and to achieve 40% methanol at final sample.
- 14 Samples are ready to be analyzed by LC-MS/MS. Use 40% methanol as blank runs.

## LC-MS/MS parameters - Vanquish UPLC

- 15 Column: Acquity UPLC BEH C-18 1.7  $\mu\text{m}$  2.1 x 150 mm (Waters)  
Solvent A: 0.1% FA in water  
Solvent B: 0.1% FA in 90% methanol  
Flow = 0.250 ml/min.  
Gradient:

0-1 min 50%B; 1-5 min 70% B; 5-8 min 98% B; 8-13 98% B; 13-13.1 min 15%B.

## Mass spectrometer parameters - Orbitrap ID-X

### 16 Full scan parameter

MS1 Res = 120,000

Range = 67-1000

RF Lens = 60

AGC = 25%

Max IT (ms)= 50

Polarity = Negative

### PRM parameters:

CE=30

Res: 50,000

Isolation window: 1.5

AGC: 50

MaxIT (ms): 86

Polarity = Negative

Targeted masses:

Molecule Name	Molecule Formula	Precursor Adduct	Precursor m/z (detected exact mass)	Precursor charge	CE
Iso/valeric acid	C5H10O2	[M-H]	236.0726	-1	30
Iso/caproic acid	C6H12O2	[M-H]	250.0864	-1	30
Propionic acid	C3H6O2	[M-H]	208.0452	-1	30
Lactic acid	C5H10O2	[M-H]	224.0379	-1	30
Iso/butyric acid	C4H8O2	[M-H]	222.0589	-1	30
Acetate	C2H4O2	[M-H]	194.0312	-1	30

Analyze data using Skyline.



## Protocol references

Han J, Gagnon S, Eckle T, Borchers CH. Metabolomic analysis of key central carbon metabolism carboxylic acids as their 3-nitrophenylhydrazones by UPLC/ESI-MS. Electrophoresis. 2013 Oct;34(19):2891-900. doi: 10.1002/elps.201200601. Epub 2013 Jul 8. PMID: 23580203; PMCID: PMC4033578.