

Expansion of Analyte Metabolites Using Online SPE-GC/MS System with Solid-phase Derivatization

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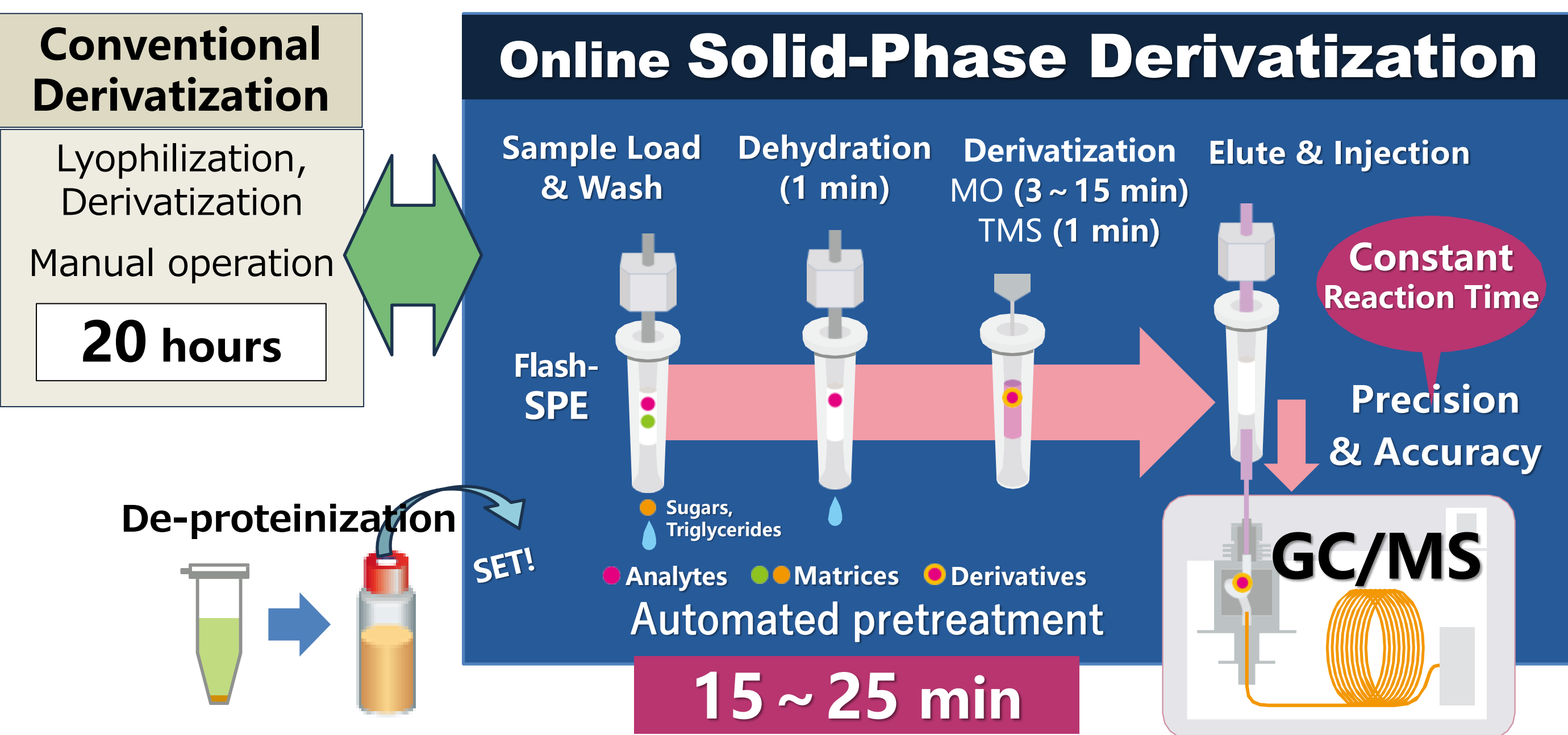
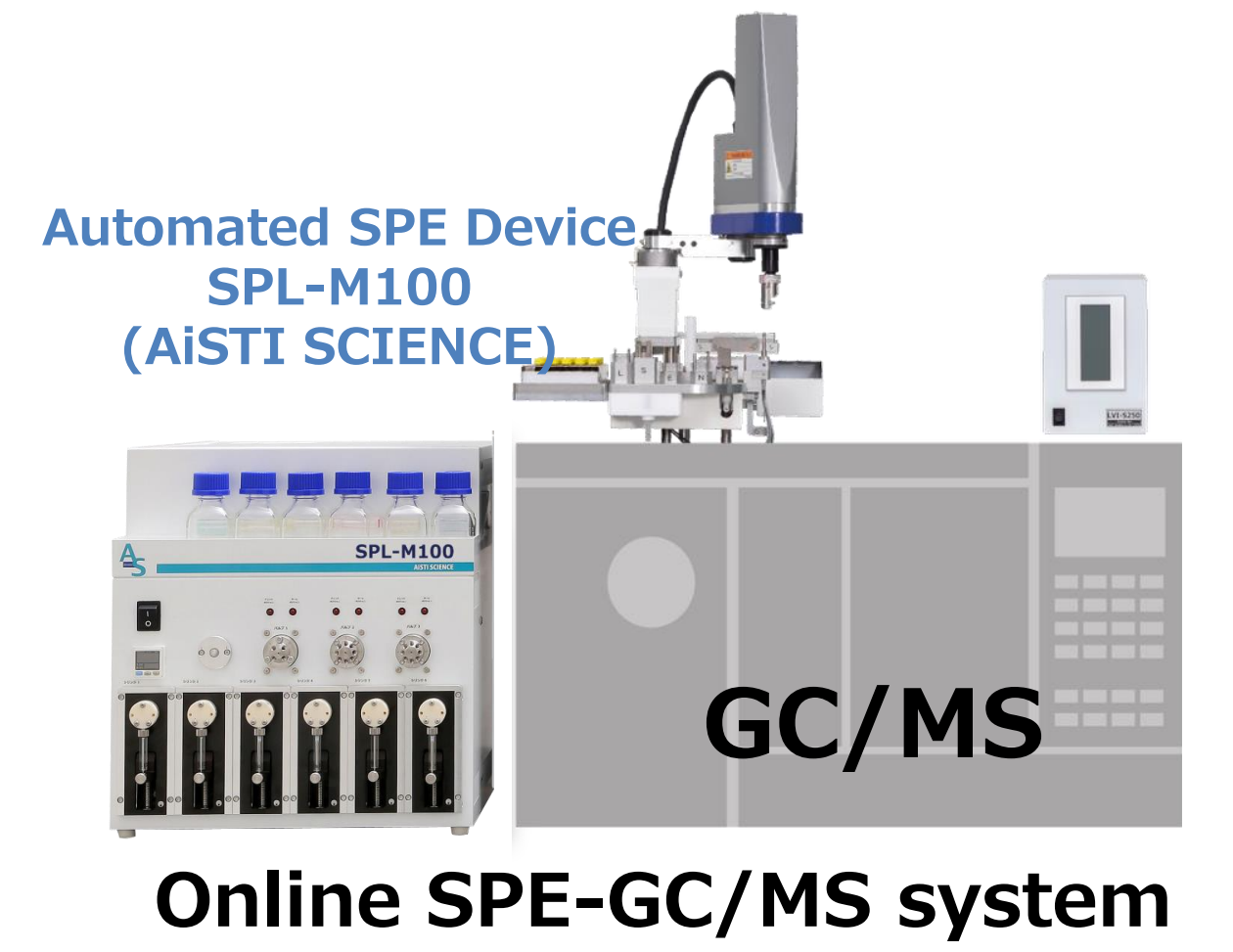
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Abstract

We have developed an online SPE-GC/MS system with solid-phase derivatization in which a solid-phase retaining metabolite is dehydrated with acetonitrile, impregnated the solid-phase with a derivatization reagent (MSTFA or MTBSTFA) to derivatize the metabolites, and injected directly into GC while eluting the derivatized metabolites (TMS or tBDMS). The system has made it possible to shorten (15-25 minutes) and automate pre-processing, which used to be a lengthy (20 hours) and manual process. In addition, the time between derivatization and injection is constant, enabling stable analysis even in multiple samples. This study aimed to expand the number of target metabolites and optimize the solid-phase derivatization method by their types using the online SPE-GC/MS.

Amino acids, amines, polyamines, nucleobases, nucleosides, catecholamines, polyvalent carboxylic acids, oxocarboxylic acids, hydroxycarboxylic acids, aromatic fatty acids, short-chain fatty acids, long-chain fatty acids, polyunsaturated fatty acids, steroids, bile acids, isoflavonoids, sugars, sugar acids, sugar phosphates, etc., were selected based on commonly reported metabolites and metabolic circuits. They were then measured with this system. The solid phases were **ion-exchange resins for ionic compounds with carboxyl and amino groups**, **HILIC for non-ionic hydrophilic compounds**, and **ODS for non-ionic hydrophobic compounds**. As a result, derivatization of 250 metabolites was confirmed. Those metabolites were grouped by type, good reproducibility was obtained by optimizing each process such as solid phase type, amount of derivatization reagent added, elution volume, and elution flow rate. Volatile components such as short-chain fatty acids were likely to be lost by freeze-drying in conventional methods, however, in this method, they were held in the solid phase and dehydrated so that they could be analyzed without loss. In addition, for metabolites such as sterols and isoflavonoids, high-sensitivity analysis was possible using the large-volume injection method.



Solid-Phase Derivatization

