

Why do some HPLC methods use low pH buffers to separate acidic compounds – FAQ

By suppressing their ionization at low pH, acids will be more like neutral compounds and will retain on Reversed Phase HPLC columns much the same way that neutral compounds will. The same is true for using bases with basic compounds.

Another benefit of running on Type A and Type B silica at low pH is that the silanol activity is reduced. This should sharpen your peaks.

