



## What is the difference between weak and strong cation exchange for Ion Exchange columns – FAQ

An HPLC stationary phase is considered a weak cation exchanger when it has a functional group such as a carboxylic acid which proton does not come off (ionize) until around pH 4 or so.

Columns with sulfonic acid groups for example, are considered strong cation exchangers because they are essentially un-protonated (ionized) at any reasonable mobile phase pH for HPLC.



Printed from the Chrom Resource Center

**MicroSolv Technology Corporation**

9158 Industrial Blvd. NE, Leland, NC 28451

tel. (732) 380-8900, fax (910) 769-9435

Email: [customers@mtc-usa.com](mailto:customers@mtc-usa.com)

Website: [www.mtc-usa.com](http://www.mtc-usa.com)

Date: 04-05-2024