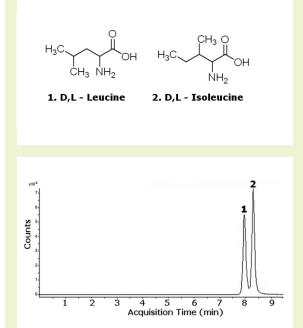


## Branched-chain amino acids (BCAAs)

## Leucine, Isoleucine



**Notes:** D,L - Leucine and D,L - Isoleucine are considered essential amino acids because human beings cannot survive unless these amino acids are present in the diet.

Chromatogram presented is adapted from: J.J.Pesek, M.T. Matyska, S. M. Fisher, T. R. Sana, Journal of Chromatography A, 1204 (2008) p50.

## **Method Conditions**

Column: Cogent Diamond Hydride™, 4µm, 100Å

Catalog No.: 70000-15P-2

Dimensions: 2.1 x 150 mm

Solvents: A: DI H<sub>2</sub>O/ 0.1% acetic acid B: Acetonitrile/ 0.1% acetic acid

Gradient:	time (min.)	%B
	0-2	85
	2-3	80
	3-5	80
	5-6	75
	6-7	75
	7-8	70
	8-9	70
	9-10	50
	10-11	50
	11-11.1	20
	11.1-14	20

Post Time: 5 min

Flow rate: 0.4 mL/min

Detection: ESI - pos - Agilent 6210 MSD TOF mass spectrometer

Sample: 100 ng/mL of each prepared in 50%A/ 50%B and diluted 1:10 before analysis

**Peaks:** 1. D,L - Leucine 132.1025 m/z (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 2. D,L - Isoleucine 132.1025 m/z (M+H)<sup>+</sup>

## Discussion

The chromatogram presented was done using a Cogent Diamond Hydride column and an ANP gradient. The addition of weak acetic acid to the mobile phase allows the small difference in the pK<sub>a</sub>s of the two compounds to be used to achieve the resolution for this pair of analytes which have identical m/z values. A few microliters of serum suffices to estimate the leucine and isoleucine present. The two branched-chain amino acids are separated and can be easily quantified. The method is especially applicable to the frequent monitoring of serum in treating patients with maple-syrup disease, and may also be used for rapid diagnosis of the disease in suspected infants.

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