

Supplementary material

**Preparative separation of structural isomeric pentacyclic triterpene oleanolic acid and ursolic acid from natural products by pH-zone-refining countercurrent chromatography**

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Table 1 Partition coefficient of oleanolic acid and ursolic acid in the investigated two-phase solvent systems for pH-refining-zone countercurrent chromatography

Solvent systems		Partition coefficient ( <i>K</i> )		
			OA	UA
<i>n</i> -hexane:ethyl acetate:methanol:water	5:5:2:8	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	4.964	4.853
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	168.484	146.25
	6:4:2:8	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	3.036	3.357
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	28.824	267.457
	10:0:2:8	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.593	0.913
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	126.384	179.171
	7:3:3:7	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	1.540	1.530
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	159.302	165.035
	9:1:3:7	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.380	0.324
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	139.021	147.409
	10:0:3:7	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.127	0.187
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	100.778	120.866
	4:6:4:6	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.415	0.403
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	76.750	75.420
	5:5:4:6	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.407	0.479
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	73.495	74.978
6:4:4:6	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.3101	0.324	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	76.514	82.086	
7:3:4:6	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.276	0.303	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	66.477	84.286	
1:0:1	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	2.96	3.301	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	125.046	182.047	
4:1:5	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	2.125	2.167	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	242.701	129.449	
methyl <i>tert</i> -butyl ether-tetrahydrofuran-water	2:2:3	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.369	0.3214
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	114.656	174.573
6:3:8	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	2.577	2.461	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	34.545	55.271	
4:1:5	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.422	0.395	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	225.88	312.046	
methyl <i>tert</i> -butyl ether-acetonitrile-water	2:2:3	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.844	0.7398
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	34.067	31.839
6:3:8	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.3387	0.3045	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	16.9217	26.8043	
4:3:2	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.2599	0.282	
	<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	141.94	146.25	
chloroform-methanol-water	4:3.5:2	<i>K<sub>base</sub></i>	0.175	0.183
		<i>K<sub>acid</sub></i>	101.381	72.303

	13:7:4	$K_{base}$	0.361	0.359
		$K_{acid}$	129.465	109.561
	10:8:4	$K_{base}$	0.4393	0.4613
		$K_{acid}$	29.923	28.4028
	2:2:1	$K_{base}$	0.107	0.113
		$K_{acid}$	41.031	51.573
chloroform-methanol- <i>n</i> - butanol-water	4:3:0.5:2	$K_{base}$	1.72	1.624
		$K_{acid}$	30.301	31.296
<i>n</i> -hexane- dichloromethane- methanol-water	7:3:4:6	$K_{base}$	0.035	0.04
		$K_{acid}$	7.637	6.725
	7:3:3:7	$K_{base}$	0.0669	0.06716
		$K_{acid}$	19.803	18.5536
	7:3:2:8	$K_{base}$	0.0726	0.0938
		$K_{acid}$	35.4918	47.841
	6:4:2:8	$K_{base}$	0.1536	0.1703
		$K_{acid}$	40.375	41.5388

Note:  $K_{acid}$  was determined with the biphasic solvent system added with 10 mmol/L of trifluoroacetic acid in the organic phase, and  $K_{base}$  was determined with the biphasic solvent system added with 10 mmol/L of ammonia (with 25%-28% NH<sub>3</sub>) in the aqueous phase.

Table 2 Partition coefficient of oleanolic acid and ursolic acid in the investigated two-phase solvent systems for conventional countercurrent chromatography

Solvent systems	$K_{OA}$	$K_{UA}$	$\alpha$
<i>n</i> -hexane-dichloromethane-methanol-1% acetic acid water(v/v, 9:1:6:4)	3.782	4.174	1.103
<i>n</i> -hexane-dichloromethane-methanol-1% acetic acid water (v/v, 9:1:7:3)	1.560	1.644	1.054
<i>n</i> -hexane-dichloromethane-methanol-1% acetic acid water (v/v, 7:3:7:3)	2.698	2.007	1.215
<i>n</i> -hexane-dichloromethane-methanol-1% acetic acid water (v/v, 8:2:7:3)	2.164	2.007	1.078
<i>n</i> -hexane-dichloromethane-methanol-1% acetic acid water(v/v, 7:3:8:2)	0.830	0.727	1.133
<i>n</i> -hexane-ethyl acetate-methanol-1% acetic acid water(v/v, 7:3:6:4)	1.812	1.933	1.067
<i>n</i> -hexane-ethyl acetate-methanol-1% acetic acid water(v/v, 7:3:5:5)	2.066	2.233	1.081
<i>n</i> -hexane-ethyl acetate-methanol-1% acetic acid water(v/v, 7:3:4:6)	2.509	2.775	1.106