up more quickly than SPE. The latter technique for a trace analyte can require many experiments to optimize the conditions for maximum performance (e.g., [3]). In contrast, with satellite HPLC, simply adjusting the retention factor of the analyte on the column to a reasonable value (e.g., 5–10) can provide adequate sample cleanup, based on our experience to date. One parent HPLC system in combination with multiple satellite HPLC systems constitutes a cost- and time-effective way for a laboratory to broaden its HPLC capability for sample cleanup in trace analysis.

We are not advocating that satellite HPLC should replace SPE in general. Each has advantages, and sometimes it will be useful to combine them multidimensionally in a method.

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