

Rick E. Cooley, Team Leader
Measurement Technology
Eli Lilly and Company

Utilizing PAT to Monitor and Control Bulk Biotech Processes

University of Michigan
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Answers That Matter.

Presentation Preview

1. What is and isn't PAT?
2. Implementing PAT in Manufacturing: *What does it take?*
3. Characteristics of bulk, biotech API processes
4. Why PAT?
5. Review of PAT technologies utilized
6. PAT application examples

PAT Isn't.....



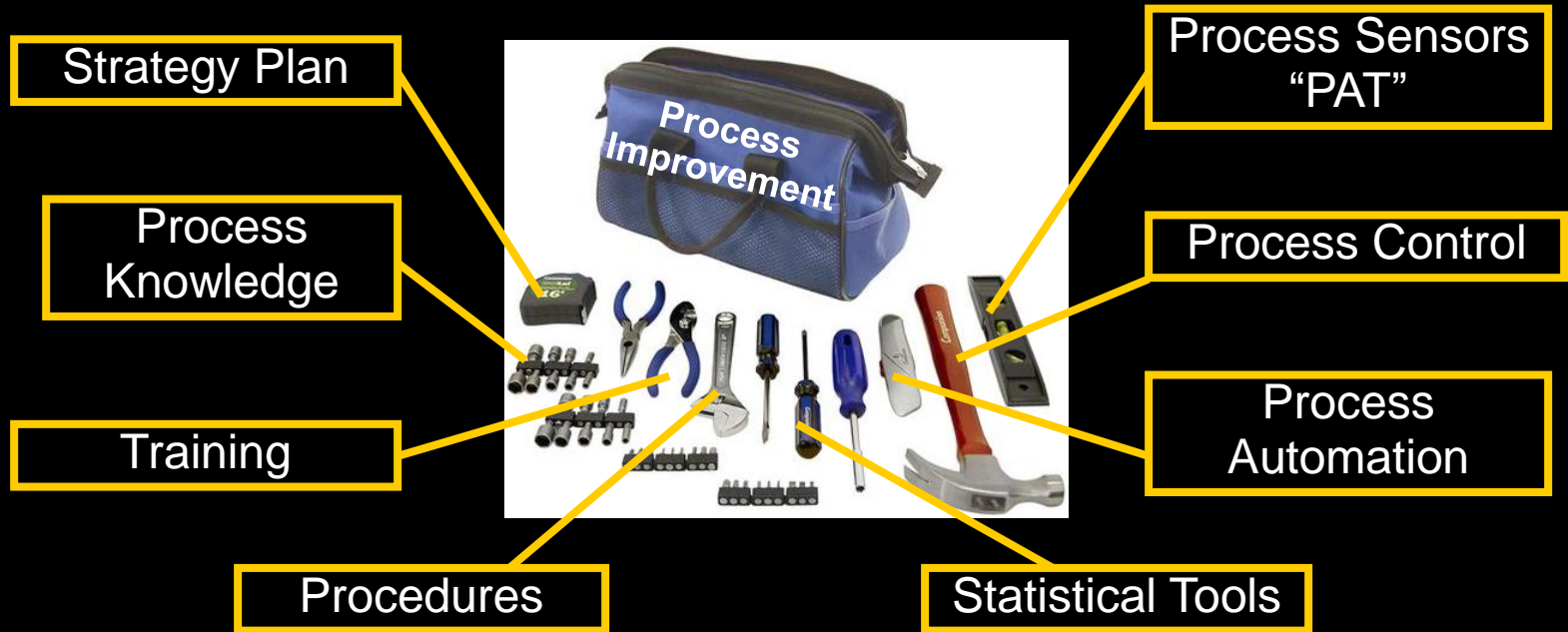
PAT isn't the universal tool to fix all processes problems



PAT isn't a new idea

- Used extensively in the chemical industry since WW II

PAT Is Only One Tool In The Process Improvement “Tool Box”



PAT Implementation in Manufacturing

Expertise required in multiple areas:

- Process Engineer, Tech Service Chemist, Process Analytical Chemist, Process Control Engineer, Instrument Engineer, Metrologist

Successful applications utilize a team approach:

- *Process Quality Measurement Systems: An Integrated Approach To A Successful Program In Analytical Instrumentation*, Stephen M. Jacobs & Satish M. Mehta, Am. Lab., 12/87, 15-22.

Oversight of PAT after installation by a specialized, dedicated PAT support group

- The key to our long term success in applying PAT in manufacturing

PAT Implementation Philosophy

Keep it simple

- Utilize the simplest technology that fulfills its intended use

Analyzers should automatically perform routine checks

- Calibration
- System suitability checks
- Verification of proper sample system operations
- Monitor other analyzer critical operations

Bioprocess Characteristics

Feedstocks are more difficult to control:

- Complexity and variability tends to be higher than chemical synthesis

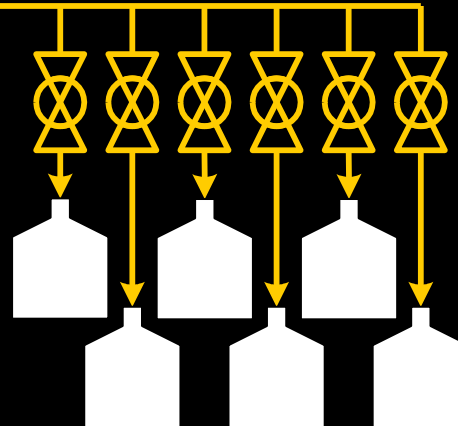
High resolution analytical techniques required for QC

- HPLC, CZE, mass spectroscopy are common tools

Chromatography is a common unit operation

- Process variability closely related to eluent variability
- Typically involves a large number of manual manipulations

Typical Process Scale Chromatography



Why PAT? Our Major Driver:

Increase operating efficiency

- Cycle time reduction
 - Days cut from process cycle time by eliminating off-line analysis
- Close coupling of batch steps to produce semi-continuous operations
- Enable use of larger scale processing equipment
 - Elimination of fraction collection enabled larger scale purification columns
- Greater utilization of production equipment
 - Reduction of cycle time minimizes equipment down time
- Minimize storage space required for WIP

Why PAT? Other Benefits Realized

Reduce the possibility of processing errors

- Eliminate manual handling of fractions and samples

Reduce the opportunities for product contamination

- Eliminate open fraction containers
 - Product streams never leaving process piping

Minimize variability using on-line measurements

- Enable feedback control of critical process parameters
- Enable automatic sequencing of process

PAT's Utilized in Our Biotech Processes

Spectroscopy

- Optical: UV, VIS, NIR, turbidity, suspended solids, refractive index
- Mass spec

Chromatography

- HPLC
- GC (at-line)

Electrochemical

- pH, DO₂, ORP, conductivity

Wet chemistry

- Continuous flow and flow injection analysis

Optical Sensor Applications

Over 120 sensors utilized in multiple applications:

- Automatic collection of product eluting from chromatography columns
- Feedback control of elution gradients containing organic solvents
- Monitor/control of centrifuges
- Monitor/control of filtration unit ops

Optical Sensor Characteristics

Fixed wavelength

- No moving parts
- Stable
- High energy throughput (wide linear range)

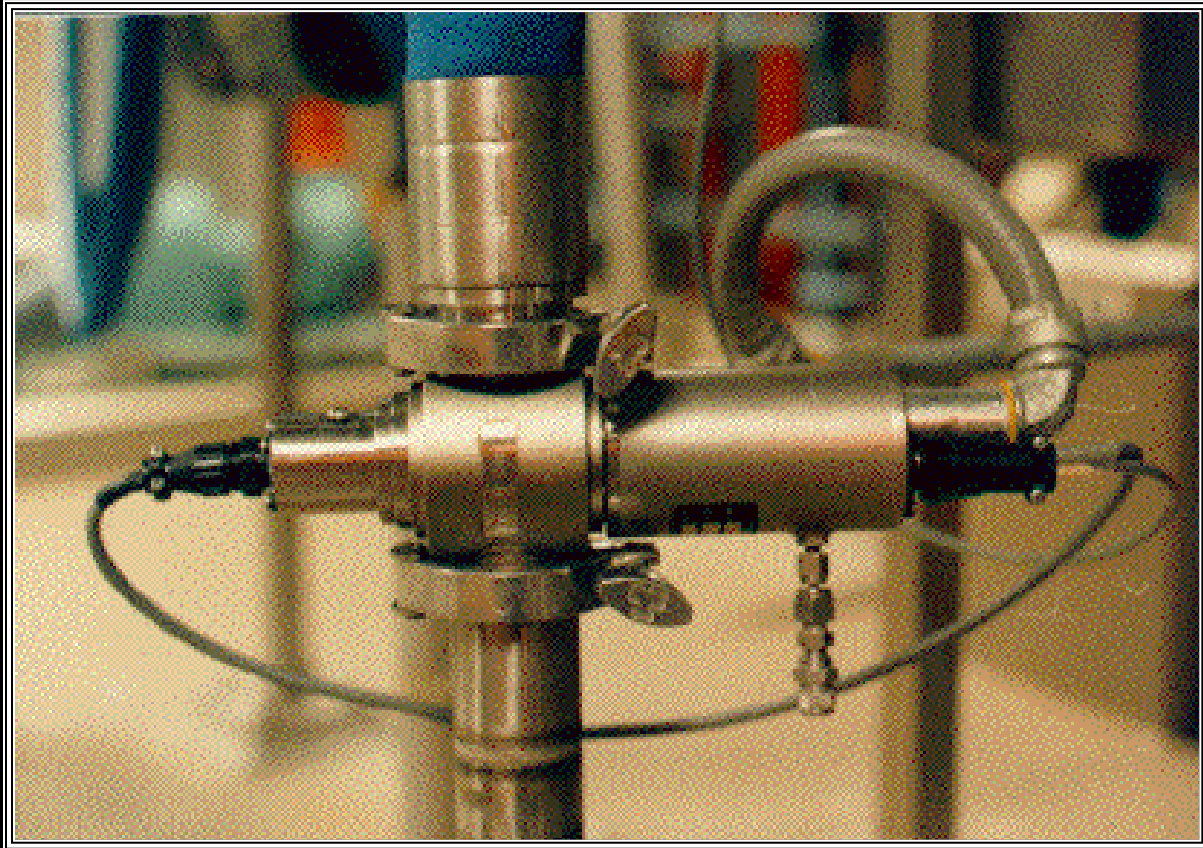
Simple, NIST traceable calibration

- Pathlength adjusted using “feeler gauge”
- Optical response adjusted using ND filter
- Interference filter characterized in lab

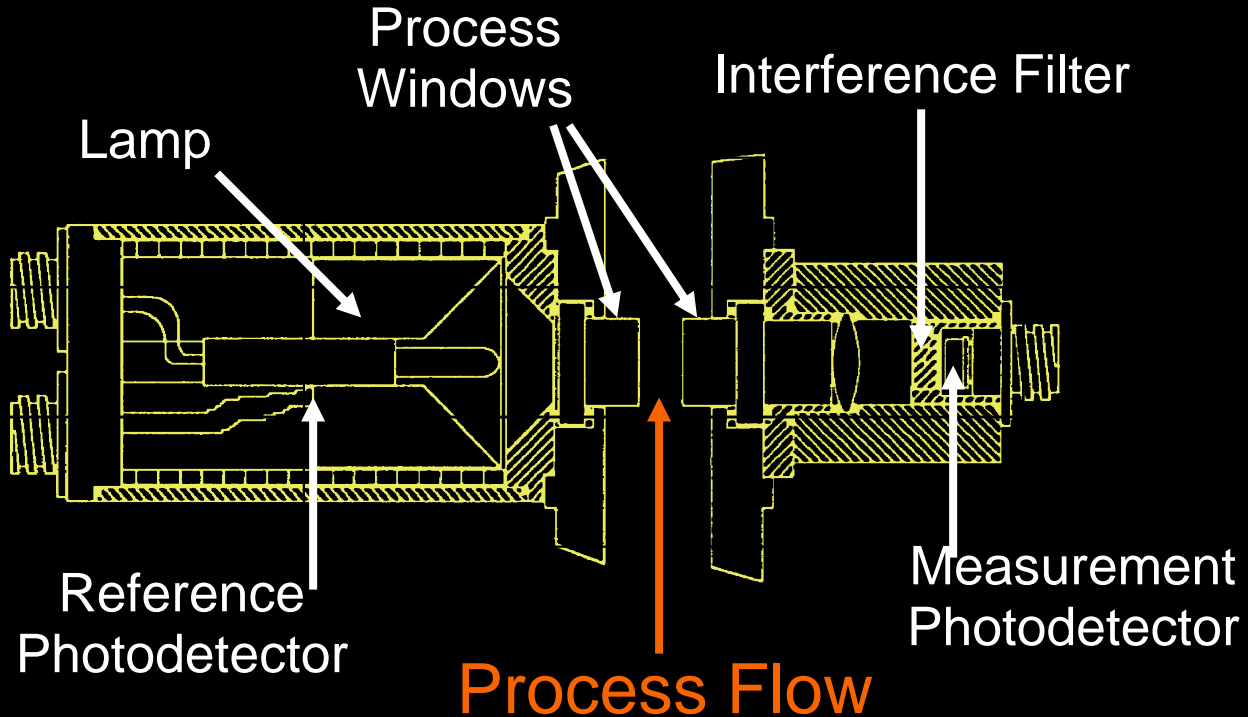
Low cost

- Less than \$10K/point

Typical Installed UV Sensor



Cut Away View of Wedgewood UV Sensor



On-Line HPLC at Lilly

Over 30 systems installed world-wide since 1981

Utilized in applications requiring high selectivity

- Automatic mainstream collection from purification columns
- Automatic quenching of enzymatic reactions

Custom (in-house built) and commercial systems utilized

- Transitioning to commercially available analyzers
 - Dionex DX800

Lilly and Dionex DX800 On-Line HPLCs

Lilly

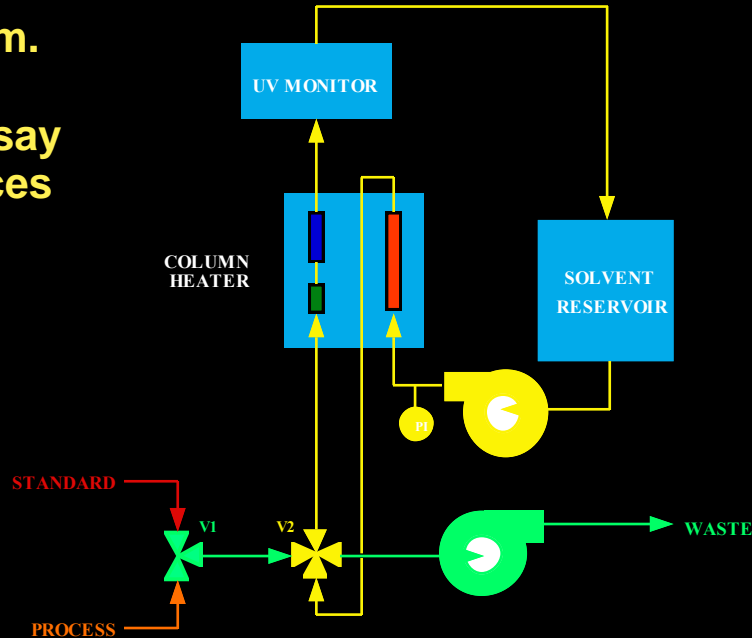


Dionex



Lilly On-Line HPLC Flow Diagram

* Note closed system.
Recycling mobile phase increases assay precision and reduces maintenance

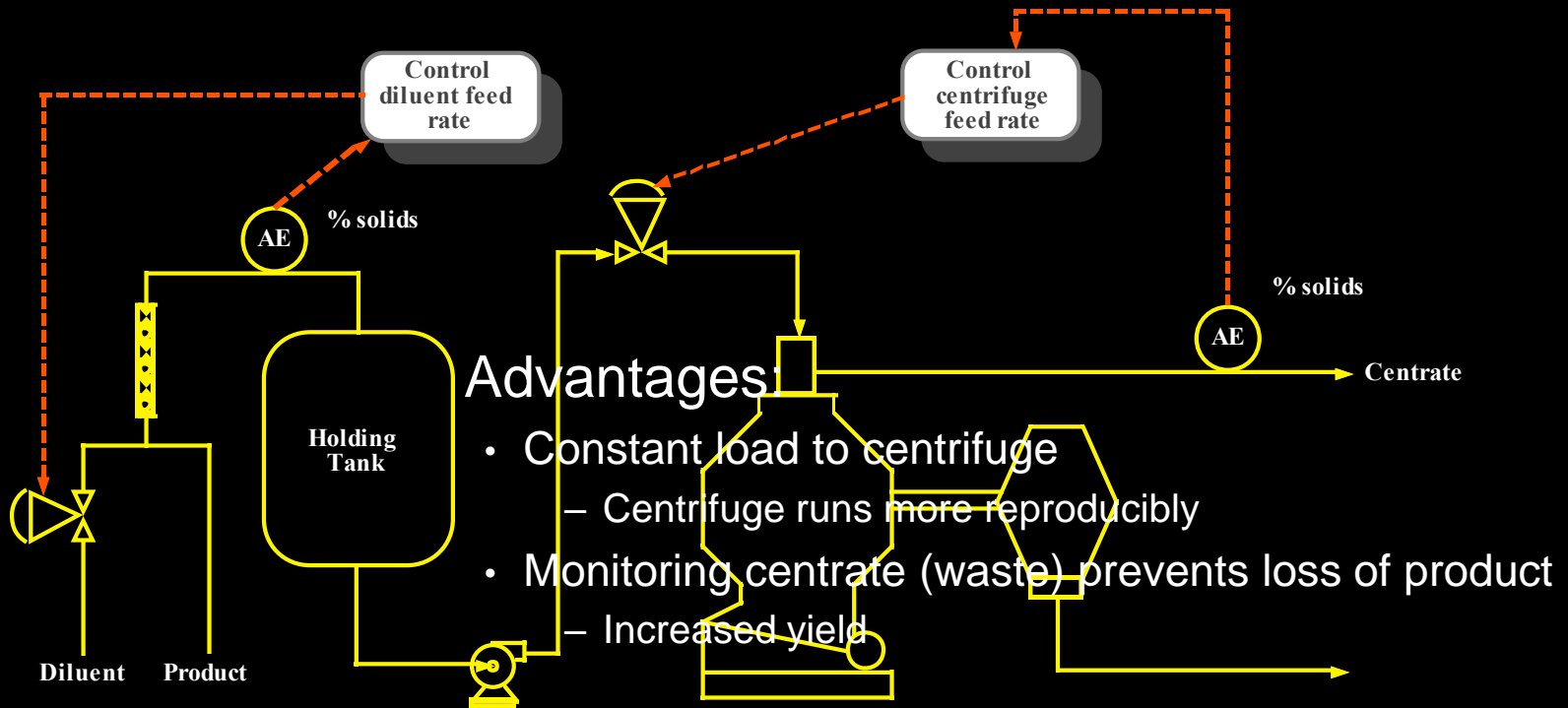


R. E. Cooley and C. E. Stevenson, Process Control and Quality, 2, 1 (1992) 43-53.

PAT Examples

1. Control of feed concentration to a centrifuge
2. Control of gradient generation for chromatography columns
3. Control of tangential flow filtration
4. Automation of gel permeation chromatography operation
5. Determination of the end point of an enzymatic reaction
6. “Close Coupling” of 2 batch ion exchange chromatography steps

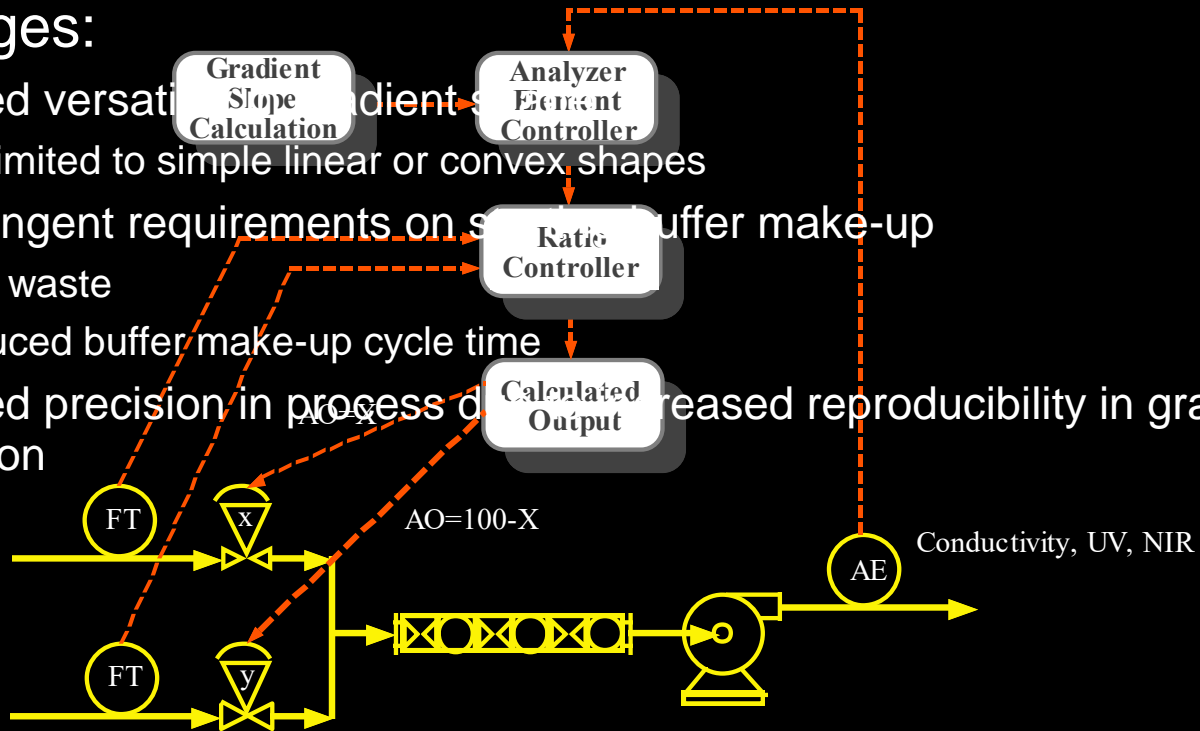
Example #1: Centrifuge Monitoring and Control



Example #2: Gradient Monitoring and Control

Advantages:

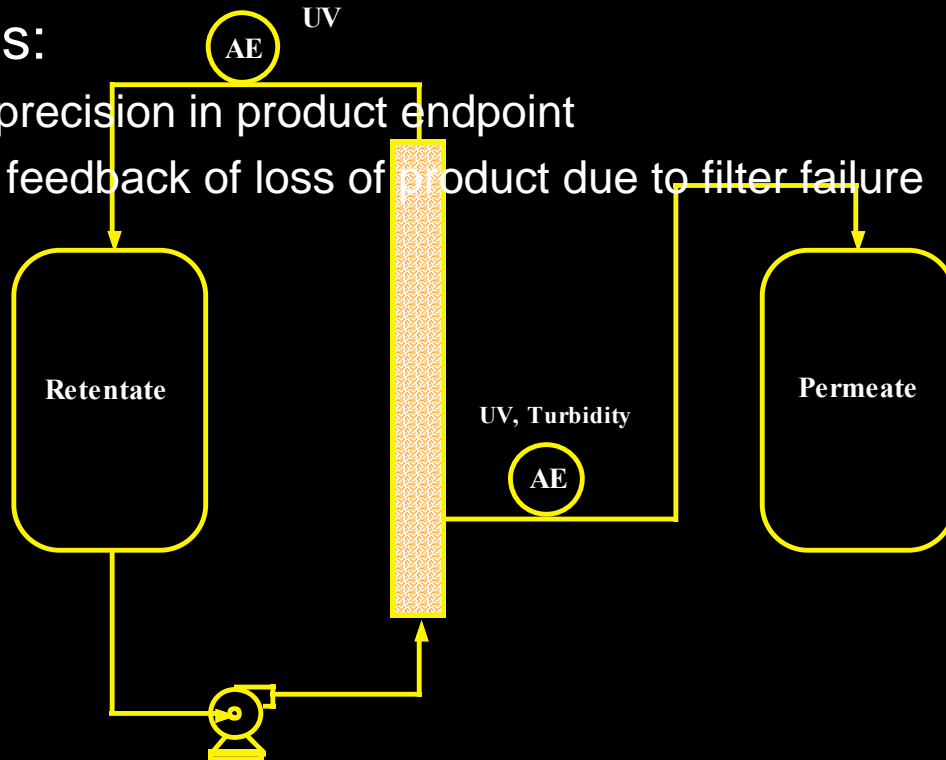
- Increased versatility in gradient generation
 - Not limited to simple linear or convex shapes
- Less stringent requirements on sensor buffer make-up
 - Less waste
 - Reduced buffer make-up cycle time
- Increased precision in process of gradient generation



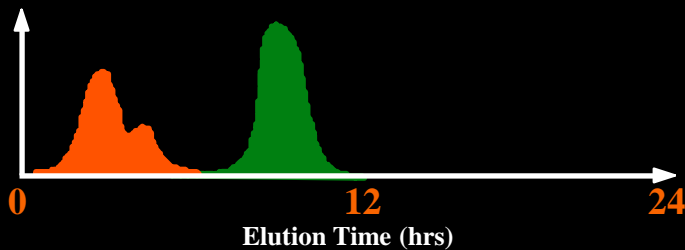
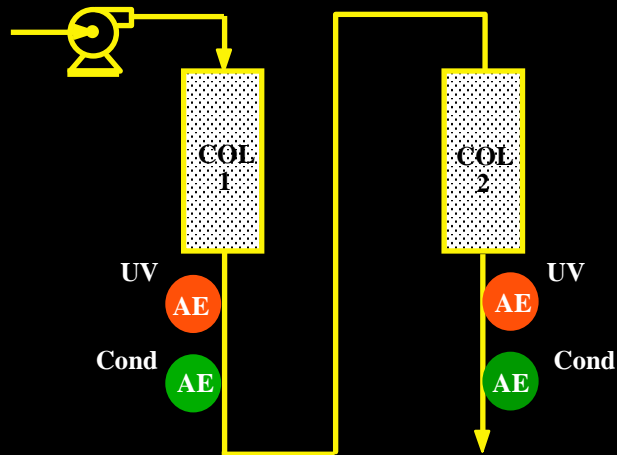
Example #3: Filtration Monitoring and Control

Advantages:

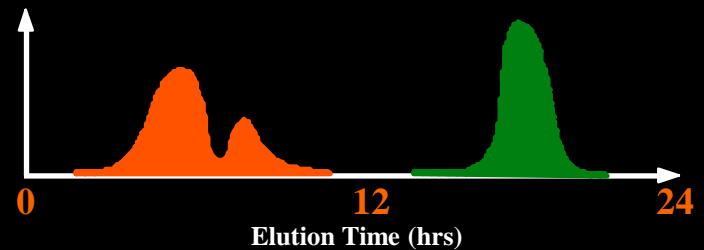
- Increased precision in product endpoint
- Immediate feedback of loss of product due to filter failure



Example #4: Column Cycle Time Reduction

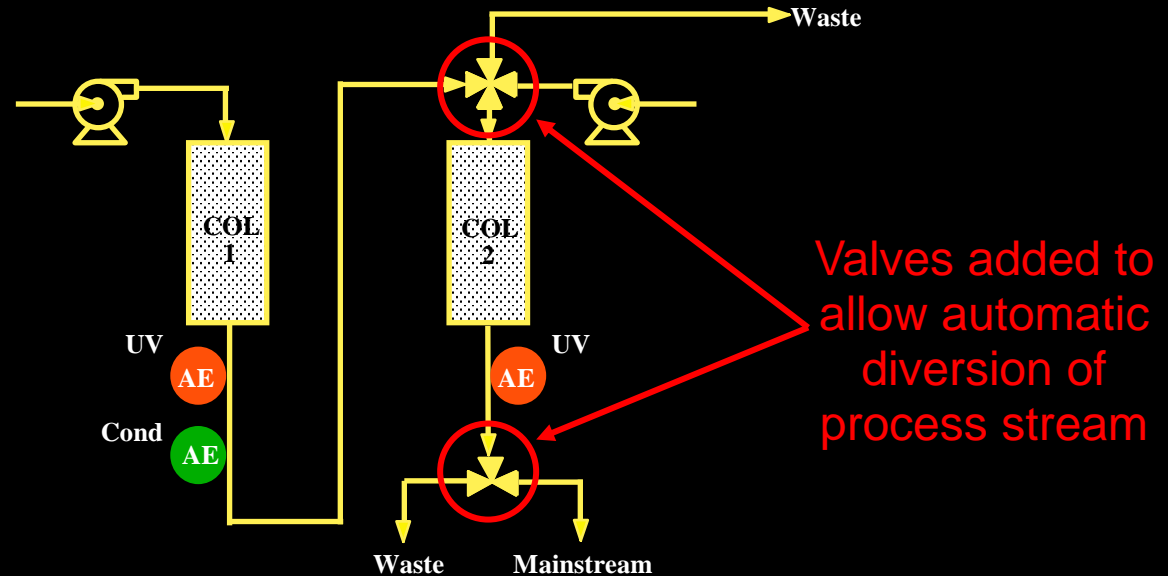


Column 1 Elution Profile

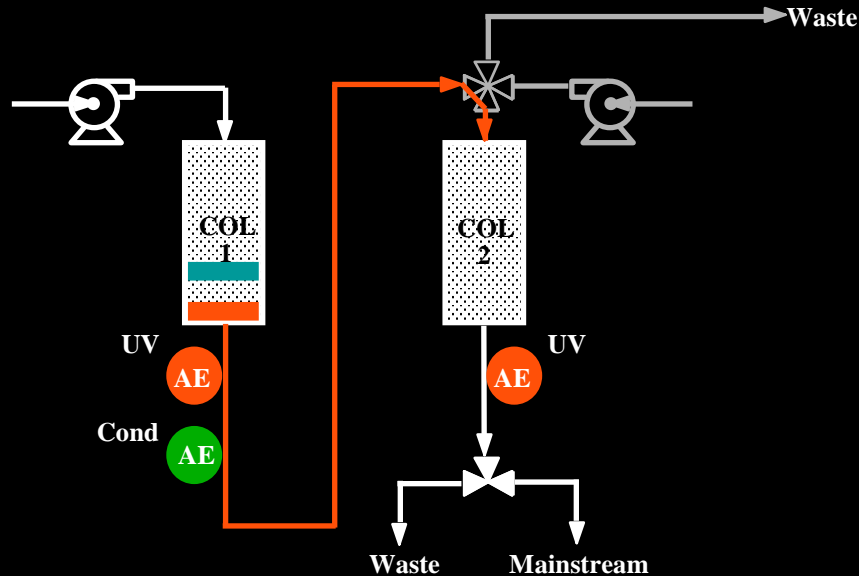


Column 2 Elution Profile

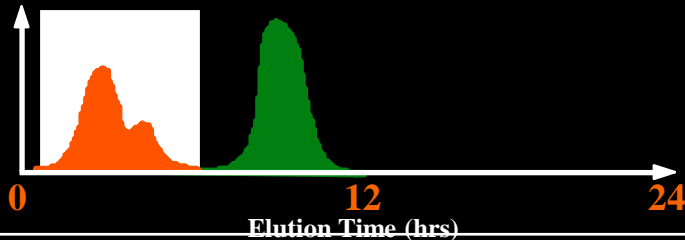
Modify For Parallel/Series Operation



Series Operation: Charge Protein Onto Column 2

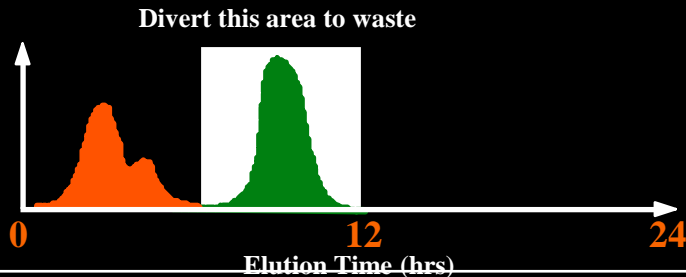
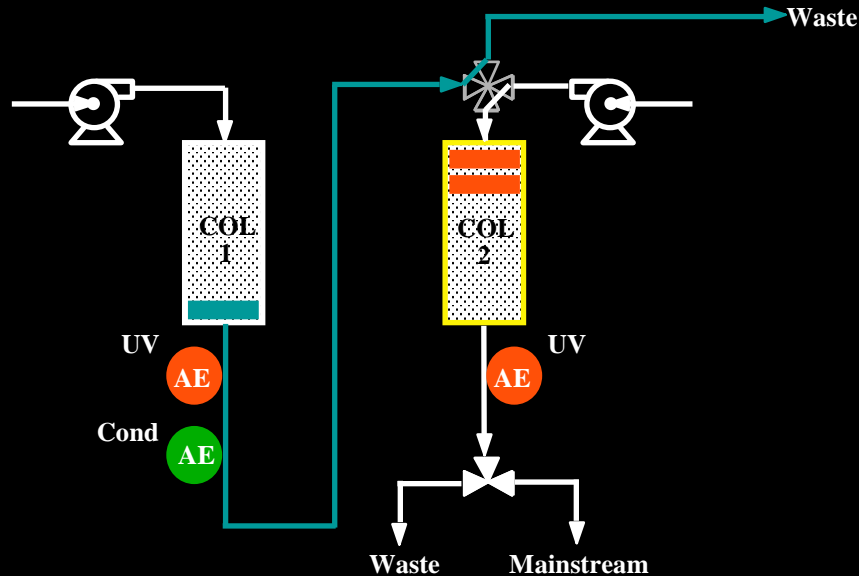


Charge this area to Column 2



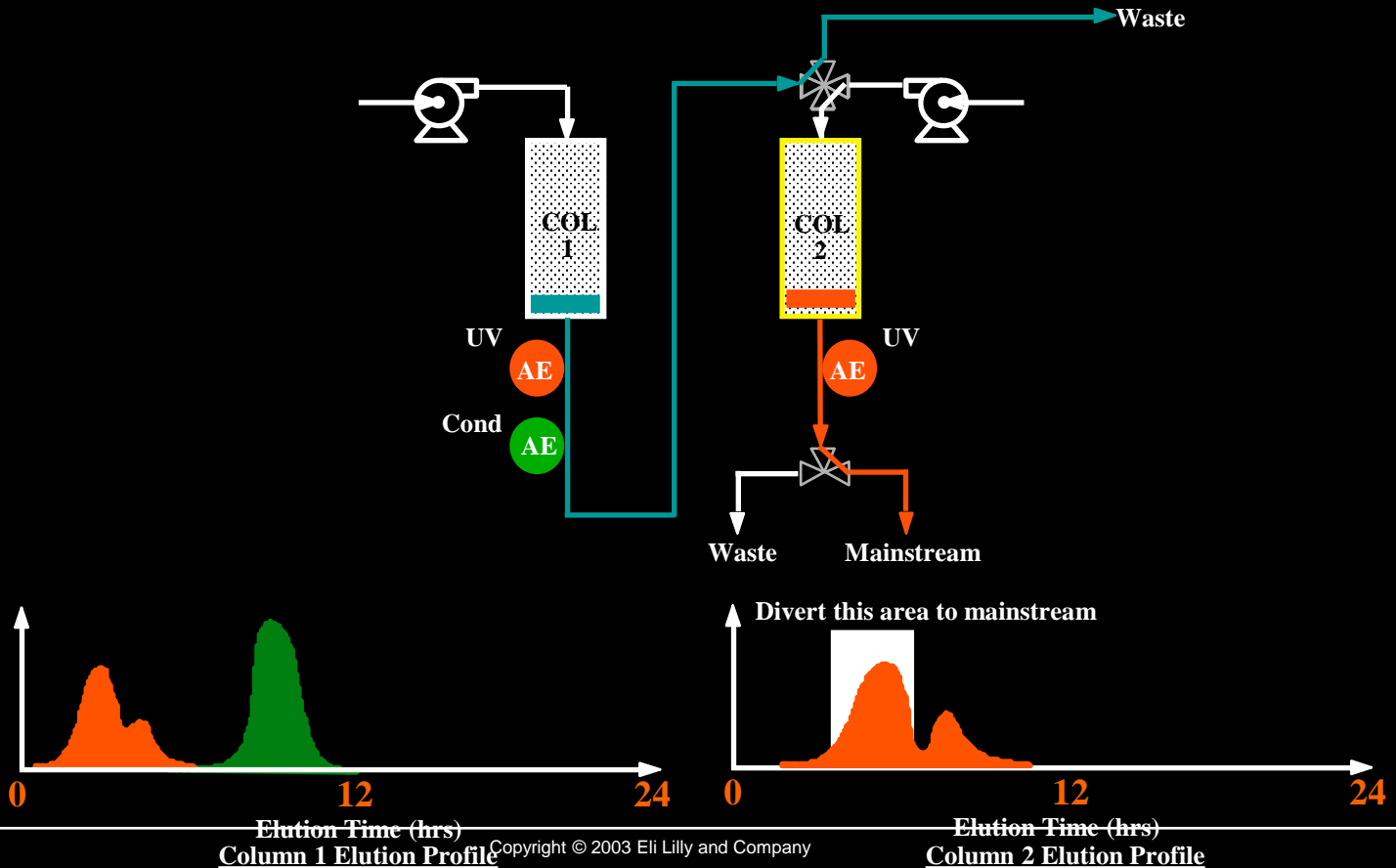
Column 1 Elution Profile

Parallel Operation: Divert Salt to Waste

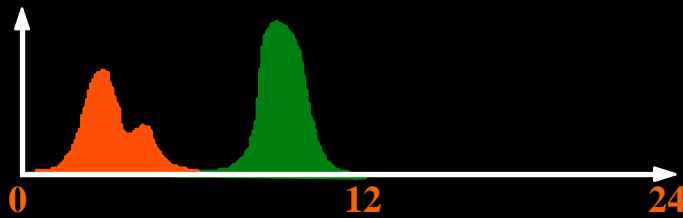
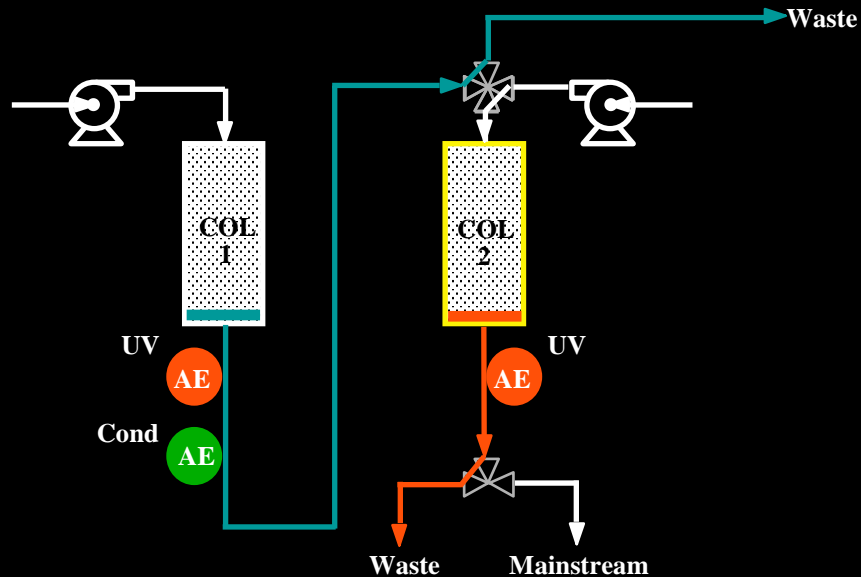


Column 1 Elution Profile

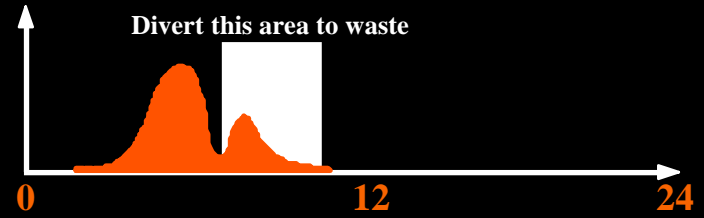
Parallel Operation: Collect Protein Product



Parallel Operation: Divert Impurity to Waste



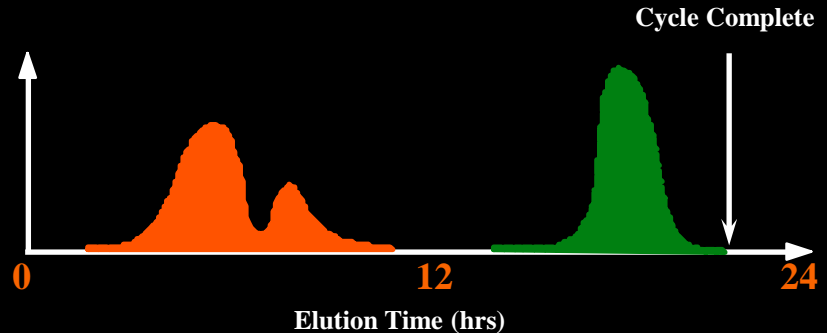
Elution Time (hrs)
Column 1 Elution Profile



Elution Time (hrs)
Column 2 Elution Profile

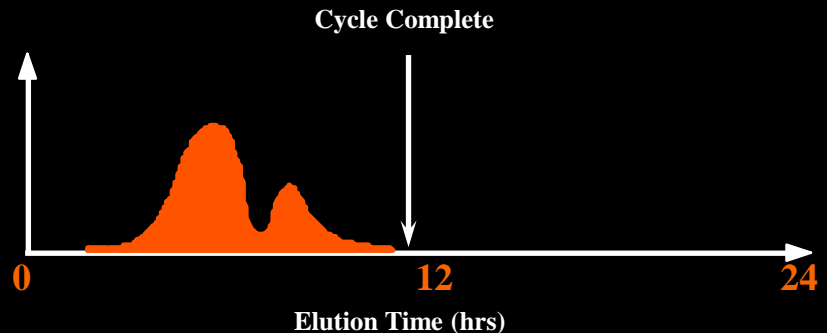
Overall Cycle Time Reduced by 50%

Before process
change enabled by
PAT



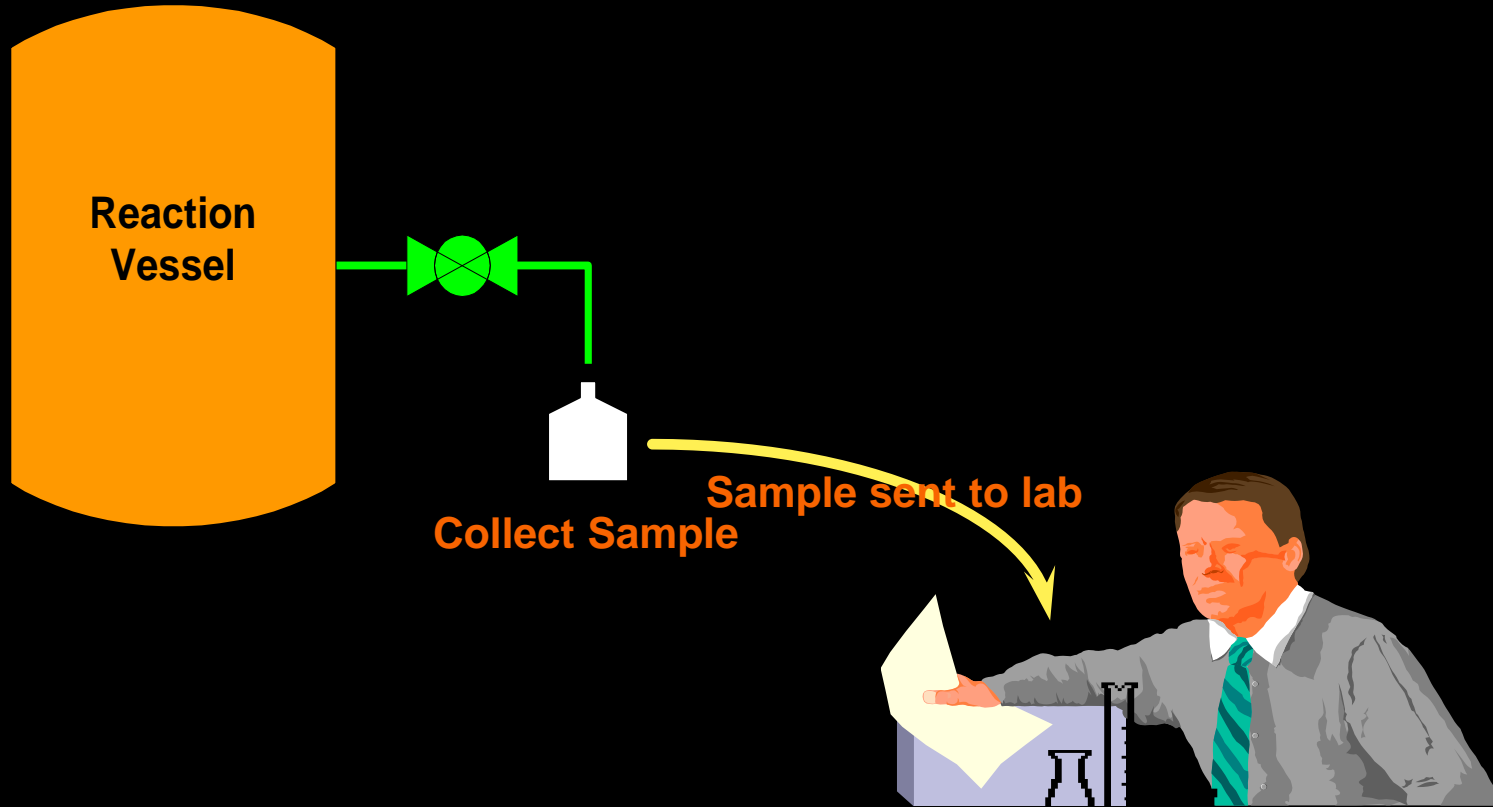
Column 2 Elution Profile

After process
change enabled by
PAT

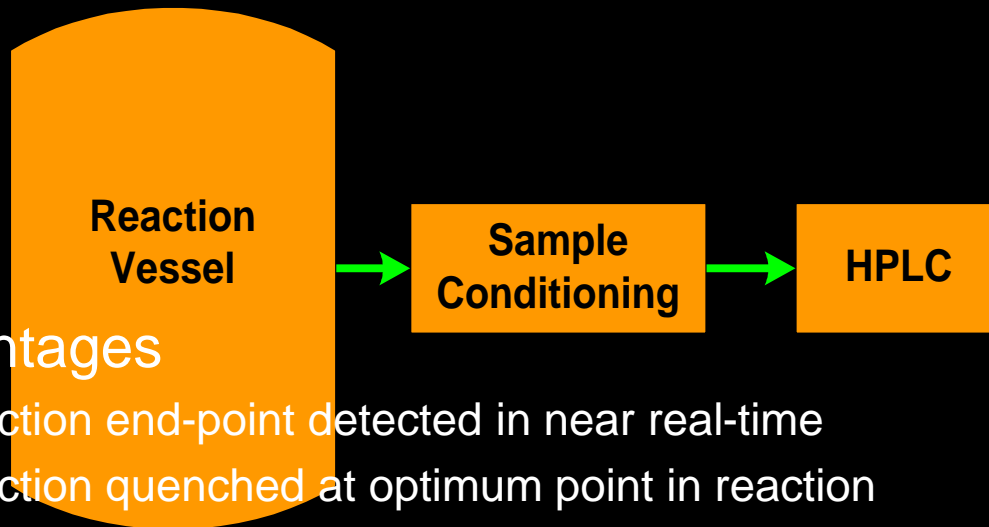


Column 2 Elution Profile

Example #5: Enzymatic Reaction End Point Detection



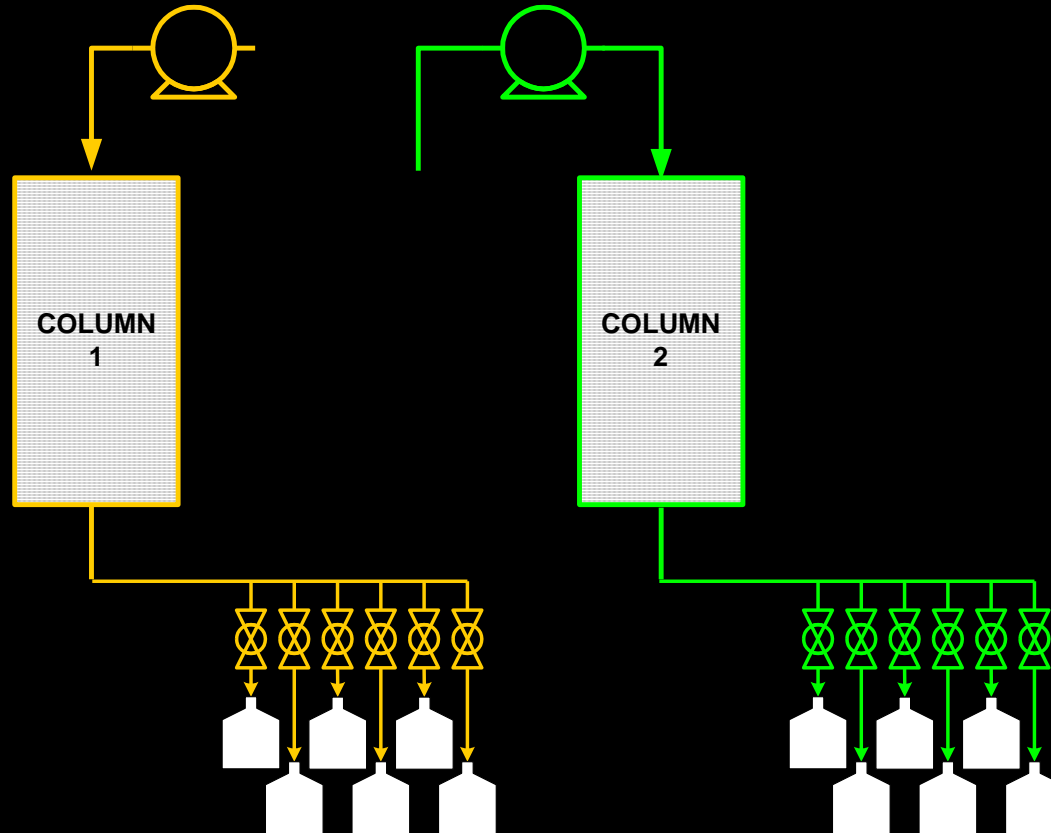
Example #5: Enzymatic Reaction End Point Detection



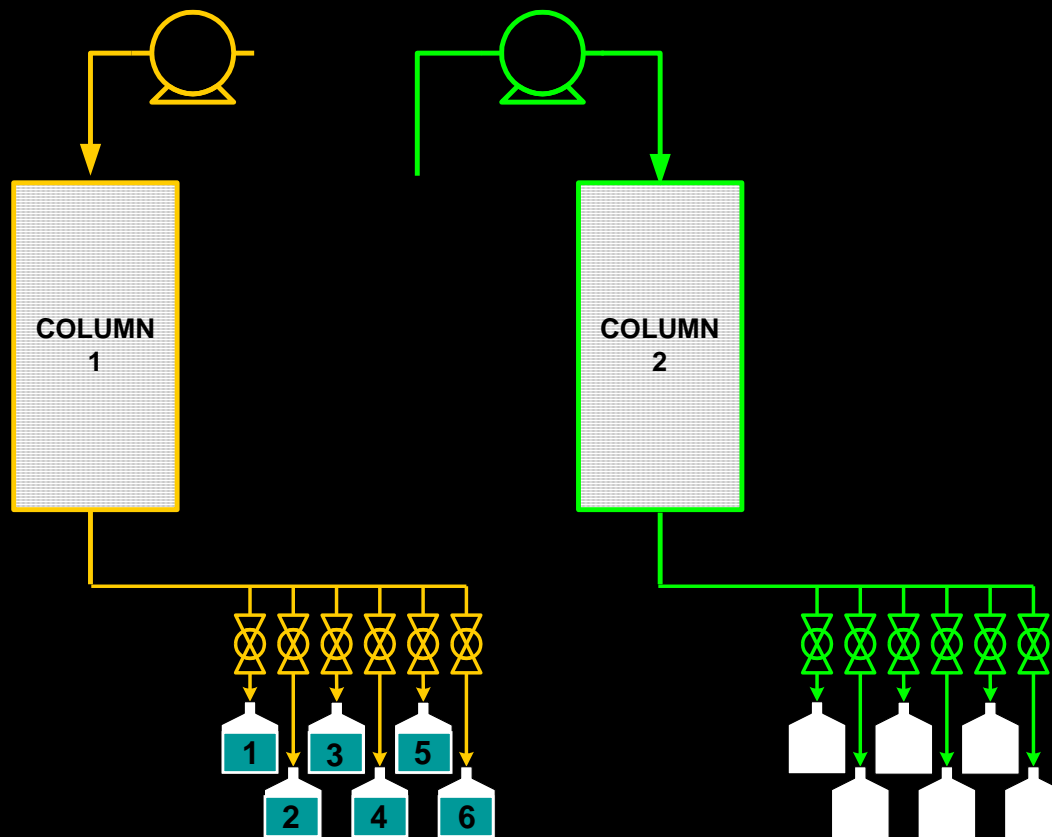
Advantages

- Reaction end-point detected in near real-time
- Reaction quenched at optimum point in reaction
 - Rel subs that need to be removed in later steps are reduced
- Yield increased

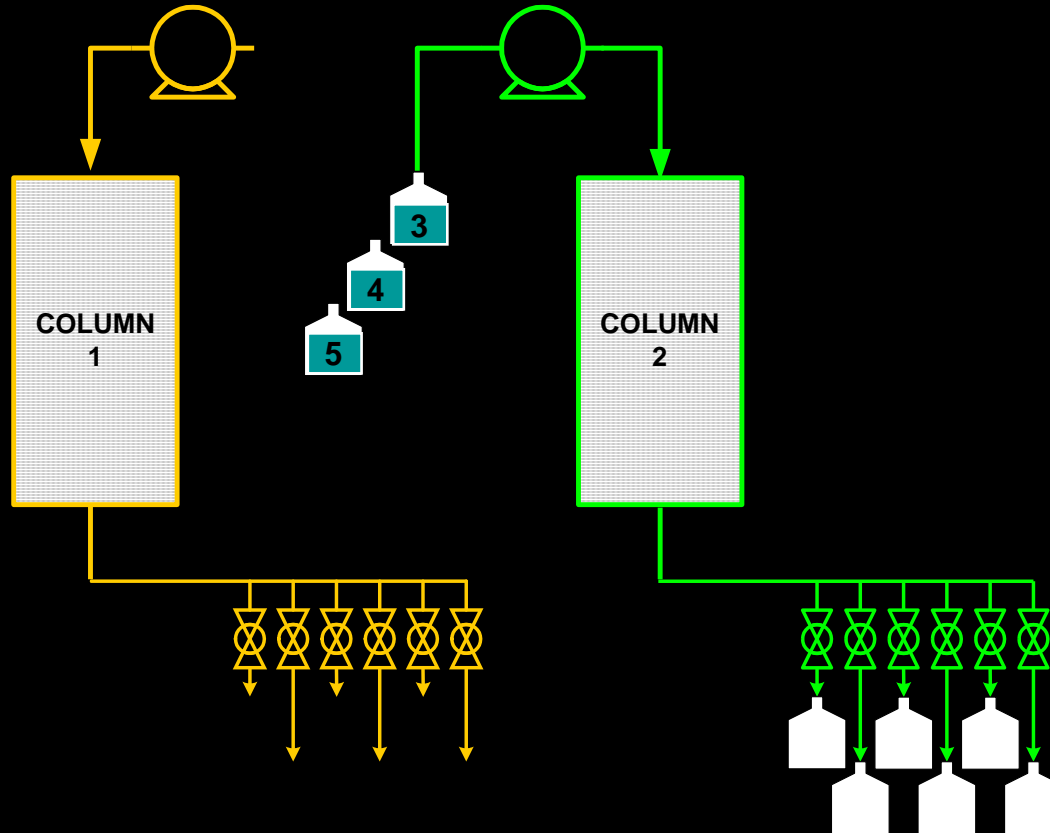
Example #6: “Close Coupling” of 2 Batch Operation



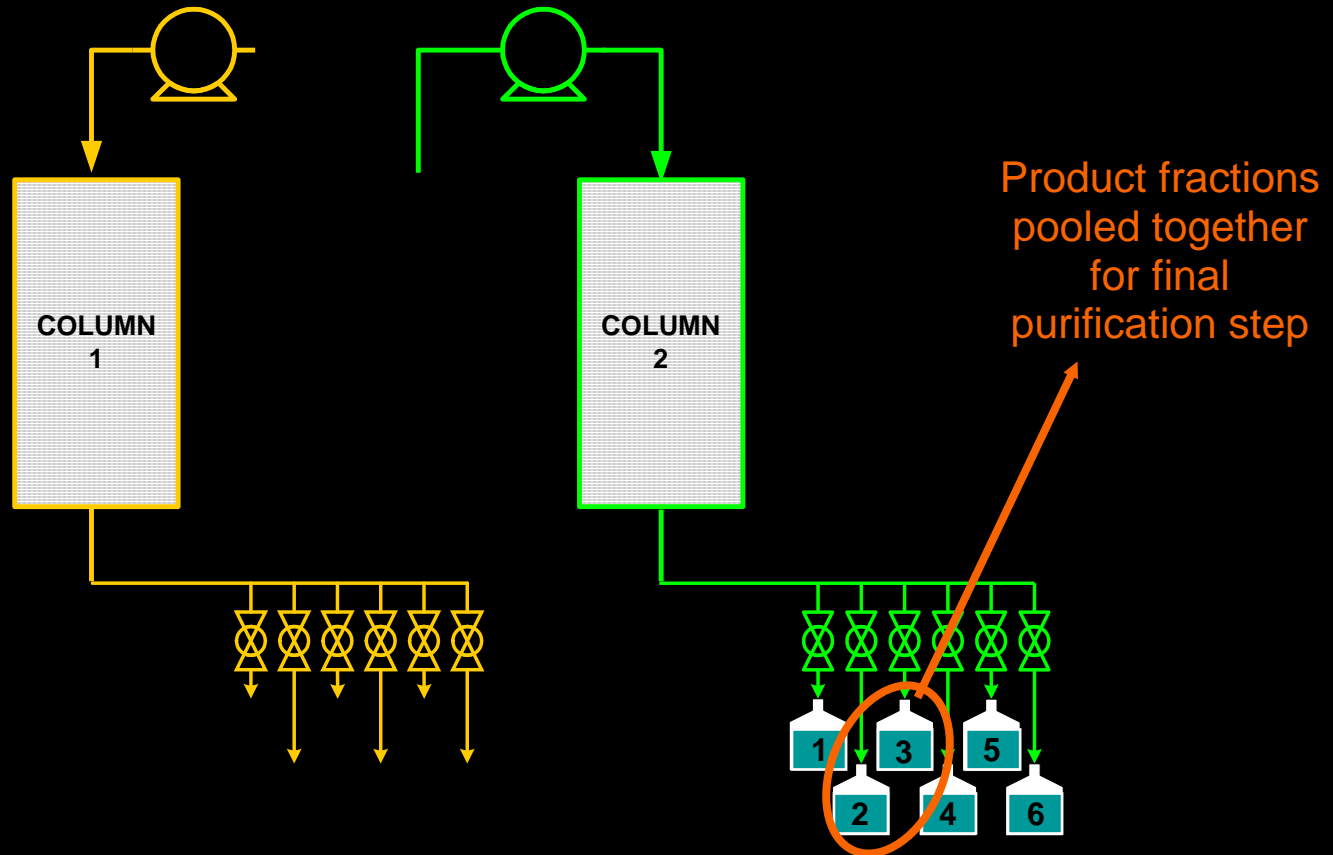
Example #6: Manual Operation Elute Column #1 While Collecting Fractions



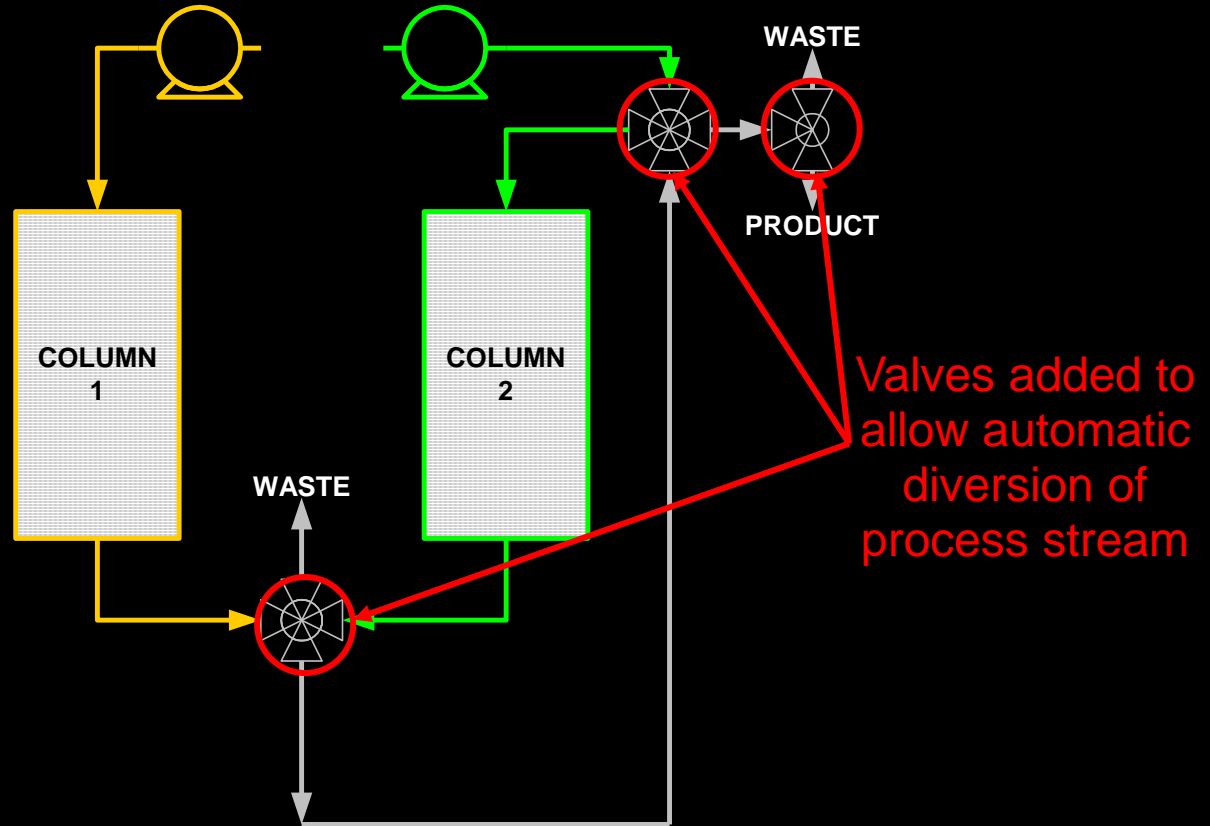
Example #6: Manual Operation Charge Fractions Onto Column #2



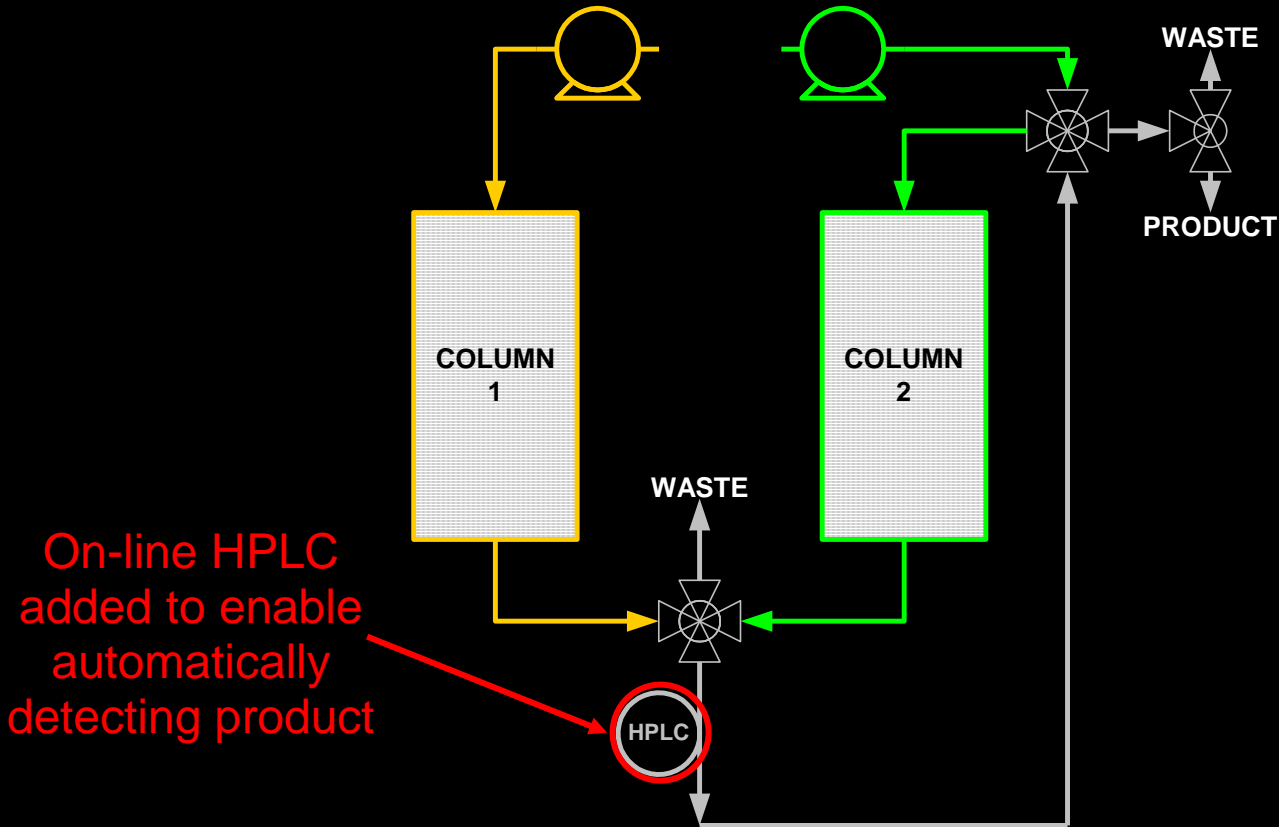
Example #6: Manual Operation Elute Column #2 While Collecting Fractions



Modify for Parallel/Series Operation

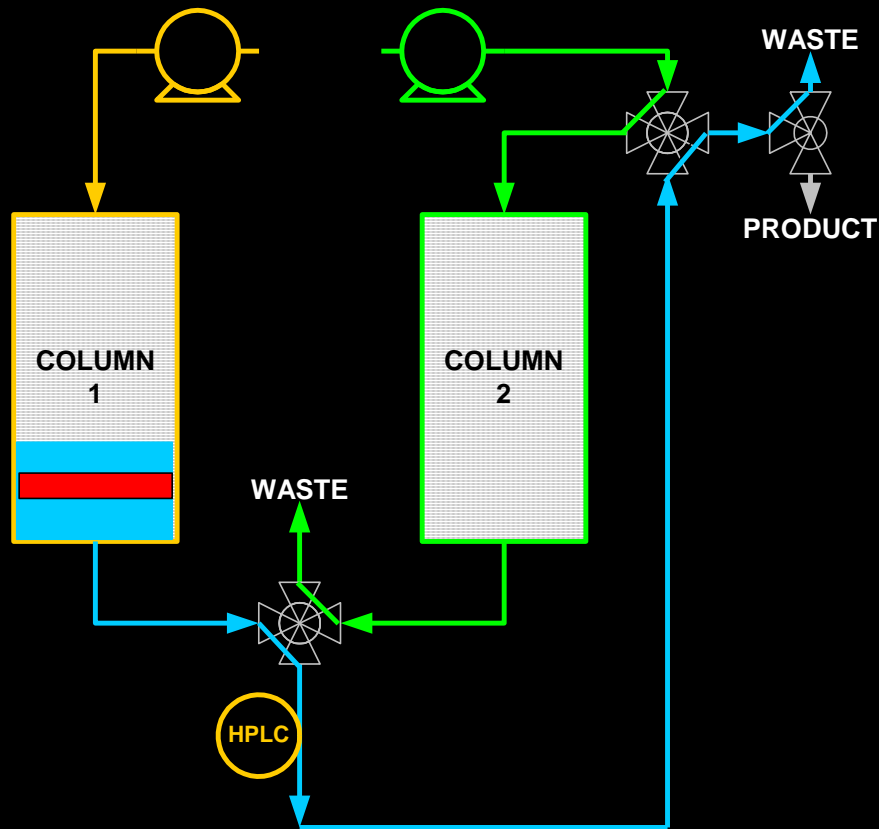


Add PAT To Enable Automation

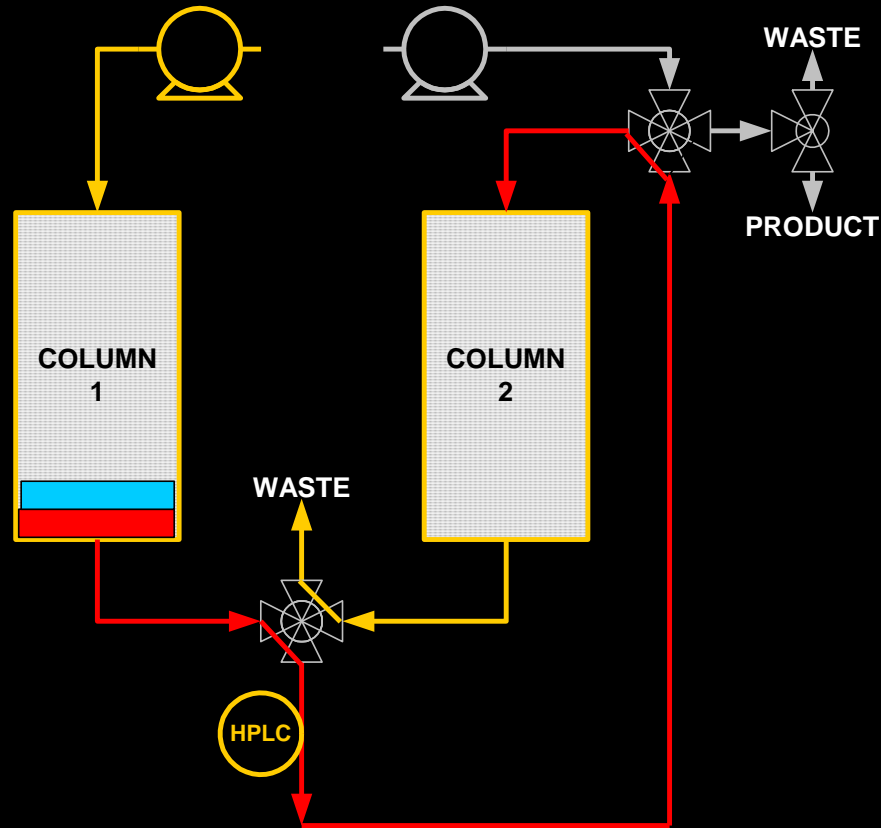


On-line HPLC
added to enable
automatically
detecting product

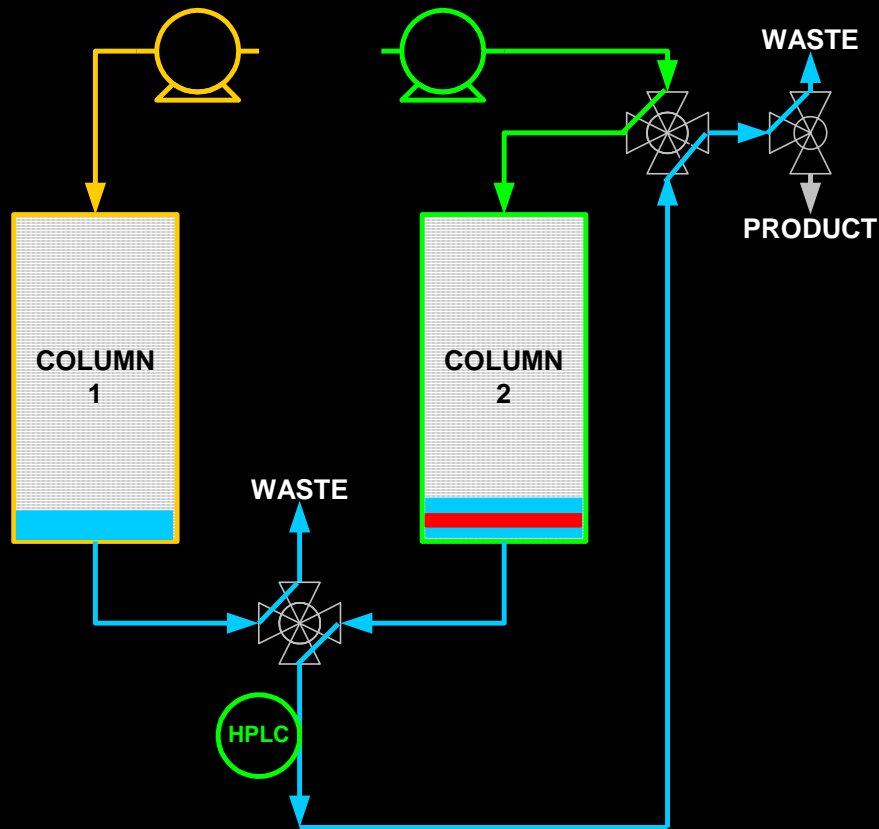
Parallel Operation: Elute Column 1 to Waste



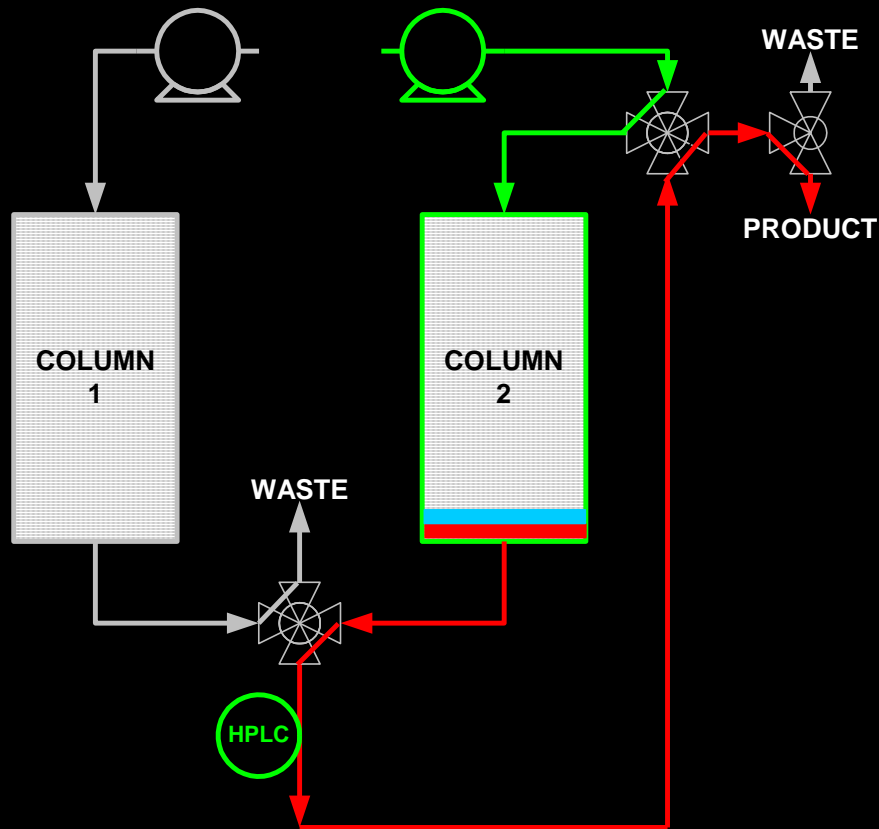
Series Operation: Charge Column 1 Heart Cut to Column 2



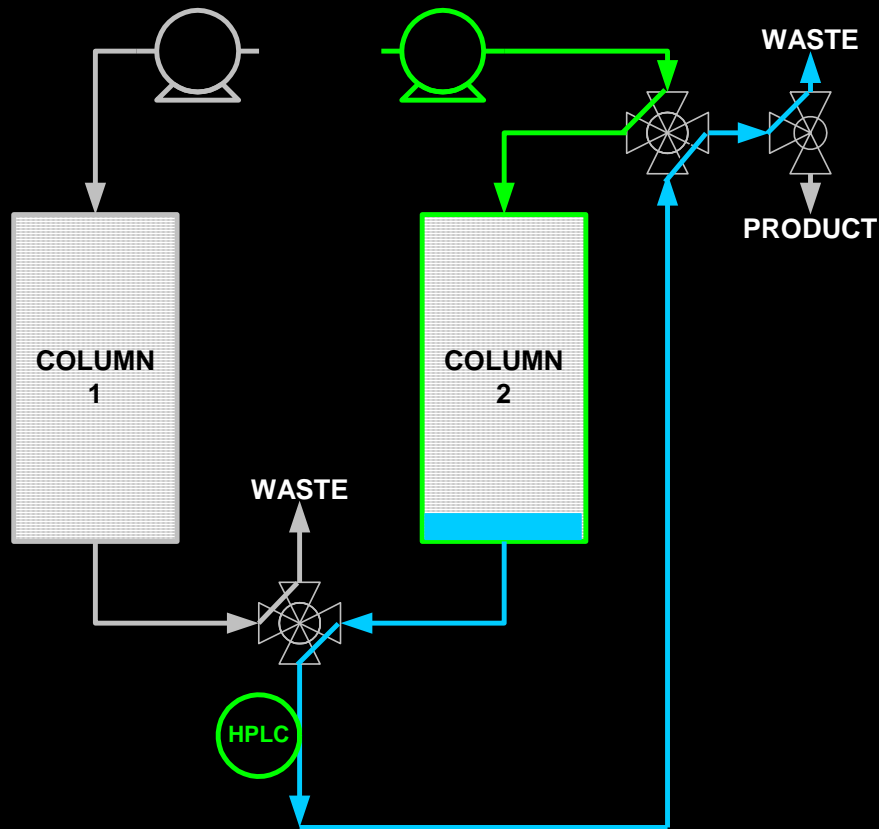
Parallel Operation: Elute Column 2 to Waste, Regen Column 1



Parallel Operation: Elute Column 2 to Product



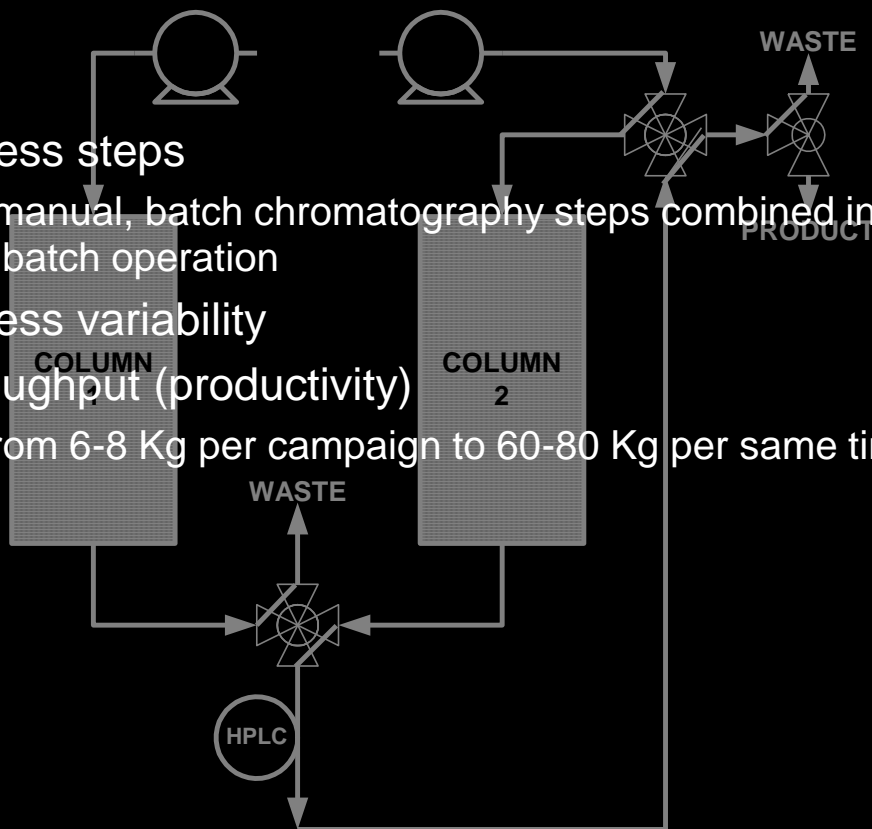
Parallel Operation: Regenerate Column 2



Overall Throughput Increased 10 Fold

Advantages:

- Reduced process steps
 - 2 separate manual, batch chromatography steps combined into single automated, batch operation
- Reduced process variability
- Increased throughput (productivity)
 - Increased from 6-8 Kg per campaign to 60-80 Kg per same time period



Summary

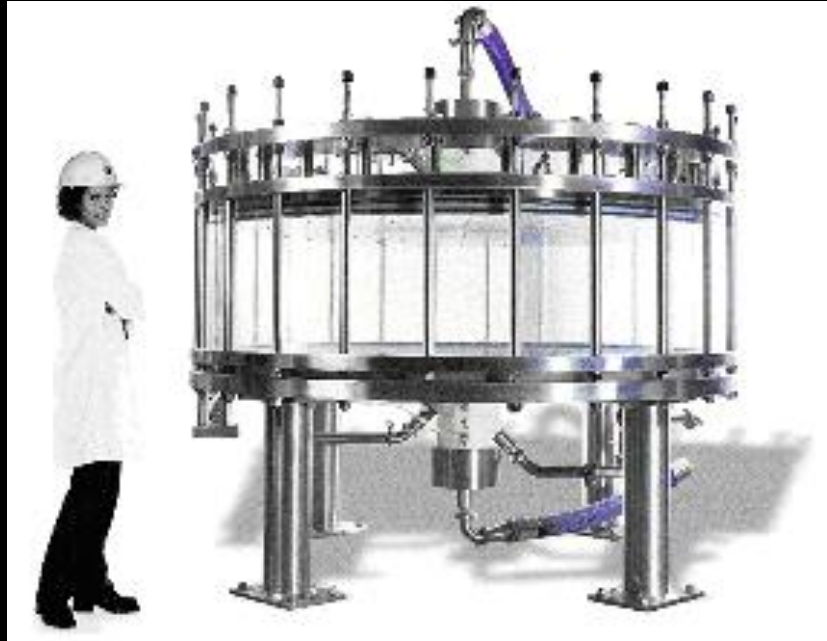
With *proper support*, we have found PAT to:

- Increase process efficiency
 - Example: cycle time reduced by 1/2
 - Example: throughput increased 10 fold
- Increase yields
 - Example: increase reaction yield by reducing rel subs
- Improve process control
- Enable new processing technologies
 - Example: Computerized, feedback controlled gradient generation
 - Example: Close coupling of batch operations

Enable New Technology: Process Scale Chromatography Post PAT



Pre-PAT Scale
100 - 400 liter



Post-PAT Scale
2000 liter

Acknowledgements

Amersham Biosciences for their process column photos

We have enjoyed over 20 years of successful PAT applications in our bulk biotech processes due to the contributions of many people. Unfortunately, there are too many to recognize in a single slide.

I particularly acknowledge the significant contributions of Charles E. Stevenson (retired) to many of the PAT applications described in this presentation and the dedicated support of our PAT installations by Jerry Shrake and Mearl Gibson.

