Forced Degradation as an Integral Part of HPLC Stability-Indicating Method Development

Muhammad Jehangir
Novamed Pharmaceuticals, Pakistan

Forced degradation or accelerated degradation may be a method whereby the natural degradation rate of a product or material is redoubled by the application of an extra stress.

Forced degradation studies are generally opted to identify reactions which occur to degrade the processed product typically conducted before final formulation; forced degradation uses external stresses to speedily screen material stabilities.

Longer term storage tests are typically wanted to measure similar properties once final formulations square measure concerned thanks to the demanding office laws. These tests square measure usually costlier (because of the time involved) than forced degradation that is thus used for fast choice and elimination tests.

These are mostly commonly used stresses, which include pH (acid/base):

1. Chemical processes are often typically catalysed by the presence of acids and bases. The exposure of materials to those will thus accelerate degradation reactions.

2. Temperature: In accordance to physicist dynamics, increasing temperature will increase the speed of any degradation method. Temperature is commonly utilized in conjunction with different stresses to extend reaction rates.

3. Oxidation, Concentration and Light:

   High-performance liquid action (HPLC often addressed as high pressure liquid chromatography) is a technique in analytical chemistry used to separate, identify, and quantify every part in a very mixture. It depends on pumps to pass a pressurised liquid solvent containing the sample mixture through a column full of a solid sorbent. Every part within the sample interacts slightly otherwise with the sorbent, inflicting totally different flow rates for the various parts and resulting in the separation of the parts as they effuse of the column.

   HPLC has been used for producing (e.g., throughout the assembly method of pharmaceutical and biological products), legal (e.g., investigation performance sweetening medicine in urine), analysis (e.g., separating the parts of complex biological sample, or of comparable artificial chemicals from each other), and medical (e.g., investigating vitamin D levels in blood serum) functions.

   Chromatography are often delineated as a mass transfer method involving adsorption. HPLC depends on pumps to pass a pressurised liquid and a sample mixture through a column full of adsorbent, resulting in the separation of the sample parts. The active part of the column, the adsorbent, is often a granular material made from solid particles (e.g., silica, polymers, etc.), 2–50 μm in size. The parts of the sample mixture are separated from one another because of their totally different degrees of interaction with the adsorbent particles. The pressurised liquid is often a combination of solvents (e.g., water, acetonitrile and/or methanol) and is observed as a “mobile phase”. Its composition and temperature play a serious role within the separation method by influencing the interactions going down between sample parts and adsorbent. These interactions are physical in nature, like hydrophobic (dispersive), dipole–dipole and ionic, most frequently a mix.

   HPLC is distinguished from ancient (“low pressure”) liquid action as a result of operational pressures are considerably higher (50–350 bar), whereas normal liquid action usually depends on the force of gravity to pass the mobile part through the column. Because of the tiny sample quantity separated in analytical HPLC, typical column dimensions square measure 2.1–4.6 millimetre diameter, and 30–250 millimetre length. Additionally HPLC columns are created with smaller adsorbent particles (2–50 μm in average particle size). This provides HPLC superior physical phenomenon (the ability to differentiate between compounds) once separating mixtures, that makes it a preferred natural process technique.

   High performance liquid chromatography (High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)) is an integral analytical tool in assessing drug product stability. HPLC methods should be able to separate, detect, and quantify the various drug-related degradants that can form on storage or manufacturing, plus detect and quantify any drug-related impurities that may be introduced during synthesis. Forced degradation studies (chemical and physical stress testing) of new chemical entities and drug products are essential to help develop and demonstrate the specificity of such stability-indicating methods. In addition to demonstrating specificity, forced degradation studies can be used to determine the degradation pathways and degradation products of the APIs that could form during storage, and facilitate formulation development, manufacturing, and packaging. Procedures for the preparation of specific degradation products needed for method validation often emerge from these studies. For marketing applications, current FDA and ICH guidance recommends inclusion of the results, including chromatograms of stressed samples, demonstration of the stability-indicating nature of the analytical procedures, and the degradation pathways of the API in solid state, solution, and drug product. The chemical structures of significant degradation products and the associated procedures for their isolation and/or characterization are also expected to be included in the filing. The experimental protocol for performing forced degradation studies will depend on the active ingredients and formulation involved because the chemistry of each compound is different. In general, a target of approximately 10% degradation of the API during forced degradation, or exposure to energy in slight excess of what is typically used in accelerated storage is recommended. In this way, the “worst-case” degradation products can be studied. The following will provide some suggestions for performing forced degradation studies based upon available guidance from the ICH and FDA.