ionopticks

SERIES 5

Aurora Series® User Guide

UHPLC packed emitter columns

IonOpticks accessories featured in these guidelines:

IonOpticks XT Nanospray Flex Adapter (XTFLXAD01)
IonOpticks XS Installation Toolkit (XSITK01)
IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01)
HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02)
HeatSync™ Column Heater (HSCOLHTR01)
HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing (HS5CMH01)
HeatSync™ Regulator (HS5CMREG01)
HeatSync™ Column Heater Extension Cable (EXTCABLE03)
IonOpticks 30 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM01)
IonOpticks 55 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM02)
IonOpticks 50 cm High-voltage Cable (HVCABLE01)
IonOpticks 30 cm Earth Cable (HVCABLE02)

Recommended guidelines for optimal setup and operation of Aurora Series columns:

75 µm nano flow range

Aurora Frontier® 60x75	AUR5-60075C18 AUR5-60075C18-CSI AUR5-60075C18-XT
Aurora Ultimate® 25x75	AUR5-25075C18 AUR5-25075C18-CSI AUR5-25075C18-XT AUR5-25075C18-XS
Aurora Elite® 15x75	AUR5-15075C18 AUR5-15075C18-CSI AUR5-15075C18-XT AUR5-15075C18-XS
Aurora Rapid® 8x75	AUR5-8075C18 AUR5-8075C18-CSI AUR5-8075C18-XT
Aurora Rapid® 5x75	AUR5-5075C18 AUR5-5075C18-CSI

150 µm capillary flow range

Aurora Ultimate® 25x150	AUR5-250150C18 AUR5-250150C18-CSI AUR5-250150C18-XT AUR5-250150C18-XS
Aurora Elite® 15x150	AUR5-150150C18 AUR5-150150C18-CSI AUR5-150150C18-XT AUR5-150150C18-XS
Aurora Rapid® 8x150	AUR5-80150C18 AUR5-80150C18-CSI AUR5-8075C18-XT
Aurora Rapid® 5x150	AUR5-50150C18 AUR5-50150C18-CSI

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Disclaimer

The use of “we” “us” or “our” in this User Guide are references to IonOpticks Pty Ltd ACN 621 674 459. The information in this User Guide including (without limitation) the recommendations, safety guidelines and product warnings with respect to the use of our products are to be read strictly subject to our terms and conditions which can be located at www.ionopticks.com and the limitations and exclusions of our liability found within those terms. Products should not be used if they appear damaged. We accept no liability for any loss or damage howsoever or wherever arising (including death and/or personal injury) which results from or is connected with the failure by the customer to use our products strictly in accordance with the directions in this User Guide.

Regulatory Compliance

IonOpticks evaluates its products to ensure full compliance with applicable North American and European regulations. IonOpticks columns, used in conjunction with the HeatSync™ Column Heater (HSCOLHTR01), IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01), HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02) and other accessories, are intended for use in the basic electromagnetic environment as defined in IEC 61326-1. For detailed information on emission level and permissible performance under the electromagnetic immunity conditions, please contact IonOpticks.

IonOpticks products are compliant with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) directive. All heating hardware and supplementary equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at their own expense. Changes or modifications to these products not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment.

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- Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 and PRSO-V2)

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- Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 and PRSO-V2)

Using Aurora Series® XT range with:
- IonOpticks XT Nanospray Flex Adapter (XTFLXAD01)
- HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02)
- HeatSync™ Rapid Housing Kit (HS5RHK01)
- IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01)

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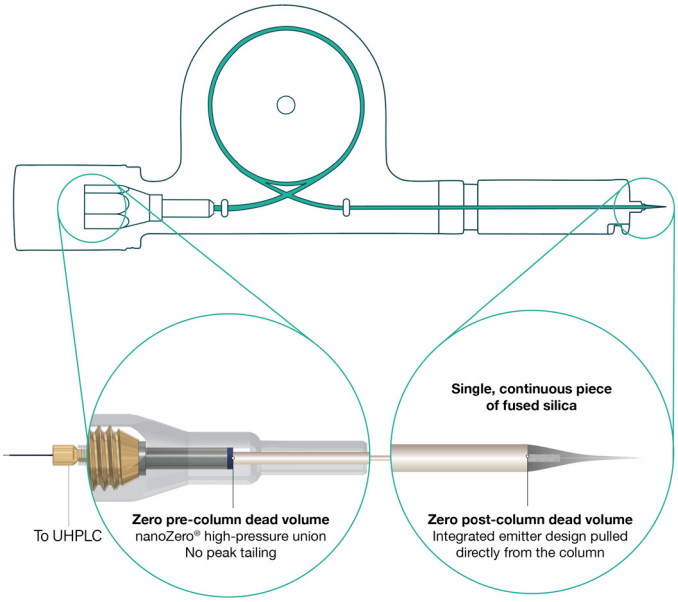
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Proven performance.
Built to go further.

Aurora Series® 5 columns are differentiated by two key technological advances: our new CoreJet™ integrated emitter, which enables maximum mobile phase velocity with no post-column dead volume and more consistent backpressure throughout the run; and an enhanced nanoZero®, providing user-friendly 'plug and play' connections with true zero pre-column dead volume and further improved spray stability.

Together, these maximise chromatographic efficiency and hold performance steady across thousands of injections — the most significant reliability upgrade to Aurora Series® yet, with no change to the depth, sensitivity, and column-to-column reproducibility Aurora Series® is known for.



Product features

CoreJet™ integrated emitter technology
The culmination of over nine years of development in precision emitter manufacturing, CoreJet™ is built into every Aurora Series® 5 column. Zero post-column dead volume, more consistent backpressure run after run, and improved longevity — more injections per column, and better return on every column you run.

Enhanced nanoZero® fitting
Pre-fitted with nanoZero® to provide a zero-dead-volume female union between a nanoViper™ finger tight fitting (or equivalent) and the Aurora Series® column, the nanoZero® fitting incorporates a 10-32 internal thread for easy installation. Designed to withstand ultra-high-performance LC (UHPLC) backpressures of >1700 bar, nanoZero® is electrically conductive to allow a voltage connection to the entrance of the column.

Confidence in your data, every day
Consistent performance across thousands of injections protects your method's reproducibility at scale — so the data you get on your first injection looks like the data you get on your last. Class-leading performance, made routine rather than reserved for special occasions.

Performance guarantee

Our columns are subjected to rigorous quality control procedures under the direct oversight of our Senior Scientists. Any item deemed not to meet our high-performance standards due to a manufacturing or shipping-related defect will be replaced at no charge. If you have any concerns, please contact our Support Team via the Help Centre. Our terms and conditions are provided with every quotation, but our priority is ensuring customers receive a quality product every time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any feedback or concerns.

Compatibility

IonOpticks columns are differentiated by two key technological advances: a unique packed emitter design that enables maximum mobile phase velocity with no post-column dead volume; and our own nanoZero® technology that provides user friendly 'plug and play' connections with true zero pre-column dead volume.

Together, these features combine to maximise chromatographic efficiency and dramatically enhance performance, providing a best in class solution for peptide and metabolite LC-MS separations.

Mass spectrometer ion sources

Thermo Scientific	Bruker	SCIEX	Newomics
EASY-Spray	CaptiveSpray	OptiFlow Turbo V	UniESI
Nanospray Flex	CaptiveSpray 2	OptiFlow Pro	DuoESI
	CaptiveSpray Ultra		
	CaptiveSpray Ultra 2		

UHPLC

Thermo Scientific	Bruker	Evosep	Waters
UltiMate series	nanoElute	Evosep One	M-Class
EASY-nLC 1000/1200	nanoElute 2	Evosep Eno	nanoAcquity
Vanquish Neo	proteoElute		

Column heaters

IonOpticks	Bruker	Sonation
HeatSync™ Column Heater	Column Toaster Gen 1	Sonation Column Oven PRSO-V1
	Column Toaster Gen 2	Sonation Column Oven PRSO-V2

Fittings

+ Thermo Scientific nanoViper™
+ Waters ZenFit™

Product specifications

Column format	Analytical column
Column type	Reversed-phase
For use with	UHPLC
Inner Diameter	75 µm / 150 µm
Pore size	120 Å
Pressure	>1700 bar
Temp. limits	60°C
Particle size	1.7 µm
pH stability	1–8
Stationary phase	C18

For more information, visit our Help Centre

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Preparing column heating apparatus

4.0 | HSCOLHTR01
IOHEATCON1
HSHEATCON02
HS5CMH01
HS5CMREG01
EXTCABLE03

Setting up the HeatSync™ Controller with HeatSync™ Column Heater



HSHEATCON02 & HSCOLHTR01

1



Turn on HeatSync™ Controller via the power switch on the back.

2



Plug in the HeatSync™ Column Heater into Channel 1 or 2.

3



If using a HeatSync™ Regulator, plug the column heater into the Regulator and then the Regulator into the Controller. A visual confirmation should temporarily display to confirm successful connection. The channel 1 icon should now appear on screen. The same will apply if using channel 2.

4

If using an extension cable, plug the column heater into the extension cable and then the extension cable into the HeatSync™ Controller.

Note: Only a single extension cable can be used with the HeatSync™ Column Heater. The use of multiple extension cables may cause a failure in the operation of the heater and could damage the Heater and Controller.

5.1



Once the cable is plugged in, the screen should illuminate with the current heater temperature.

5.2



Orange lights indicate heating while teal lights signal that the column heater is stable at the desired temperature.

Note: The actual column temperature may take 10-15 minutes to stabilise after the device shows it has reached the set temperature.

6



If desired, plug in a second column heater into the free channel and wait for the display to update.

7



Press the channel button to enter temperature selection mode, indicated by flashing white lights.

8



Use the rotary dial to select the desired temperature from 30 to 60 degrees C.

9



Press the channel button again to confirm temperature, or allow the selection mode to time out (30 seconds), indicated by a change to coloured lights showing the status of the controller.

10

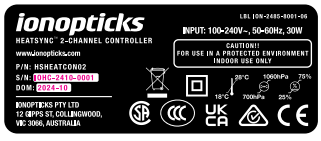
Repeat steps 7-9 as needed to change and set the temperature on the desired channel

11



Wait for the HeatSync™ Controller to stabilise and turn teal.
The HeatSync™ Controller is now setup and ready for use.

For a more in-depth guide including troubleshooting, please see the user manual for the HeatSync™ Controller.



Our product is compliant across multiple territories, as signified by the compliance markings on the product label.

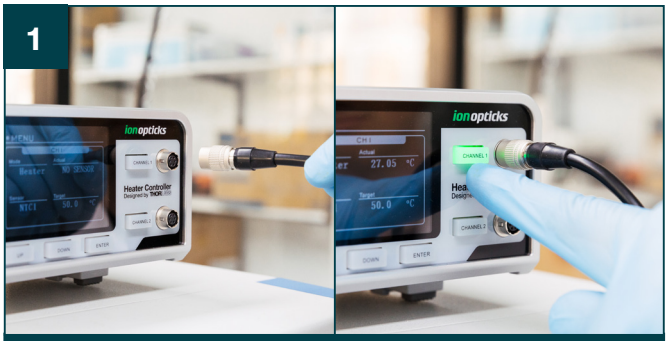
Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Setting up the IonOpticks Heater Controller with HeatSync™ Column Heater



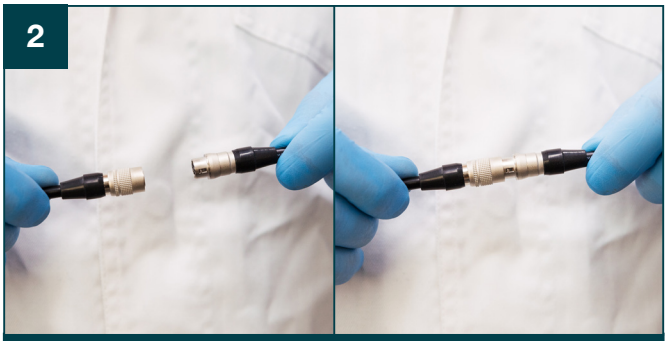
IOHEATCON1 & HSCOLHTR01

1



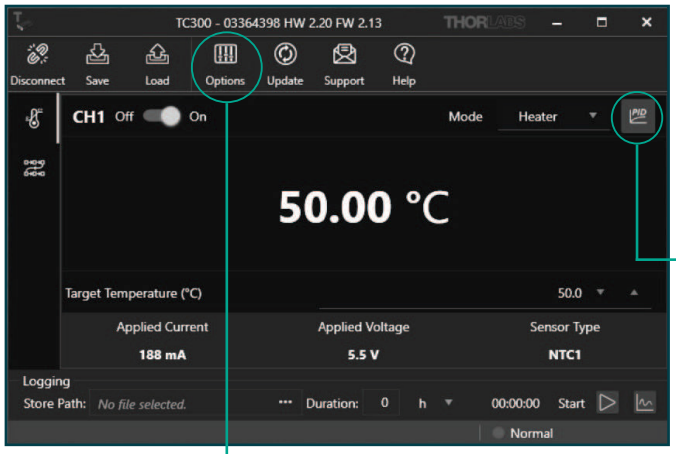
Plug heater cable into Channel 1 of the IonOpticks Heater Controller

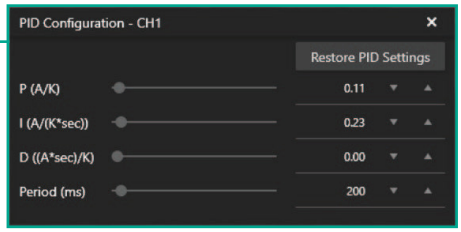
2



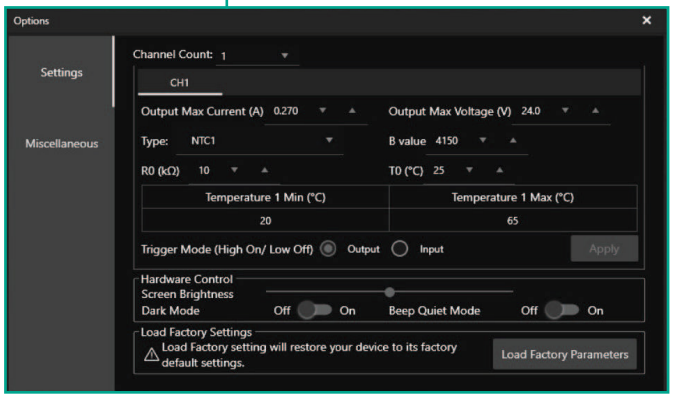
If using a HeatSync™ Column Heater Extension Cable (EXTCABLE03):

3 Using the USB cable and software supplied on unit, ensure settings on the IonOpticks Heater Controller match these found here:





Ensure PID settings matches the shown configuration.

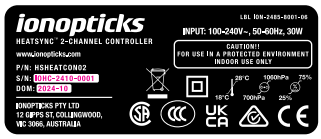


2.2 Plug extension cable into Channel 1 of the IonOpticks Heater Controller. Plug cable of the HeatSync™ Column Heater into he receiving port of the extension cable.

Note: Only a single extension cable can be used with the HeatSync™ Column Heater. The use of multiple extension cables may cause a failure in the operation of the heater and could damage the Heater and Controller.

4 Use the 'Adjust' dial to set the desired temperature. We recommend using a temperature between 40-60°C. The maximum recommended temperature is 60°C.

The IonOpticks Heater Controller is now set up and ready for use.



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Fitting Aurora Series® columns to Bruker CaptiveSpray ion source

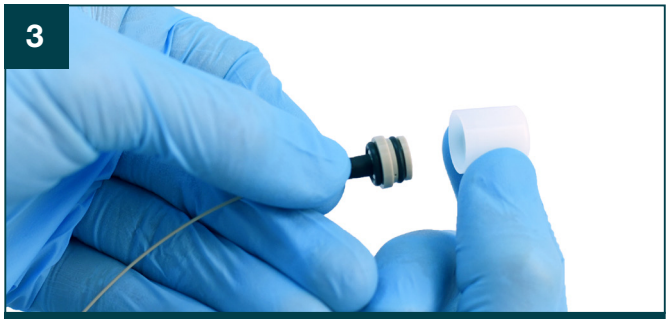
5.1 | **Using Aurora Series CSI range with:**
Bruker Column Toaster 1st Generation
Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 and PRSO-V2)

Installing Aurora Series® CSI Housing on Bruker CaptiveSpray ion source

1 Unscrew the CSI probe from the CSI housing.

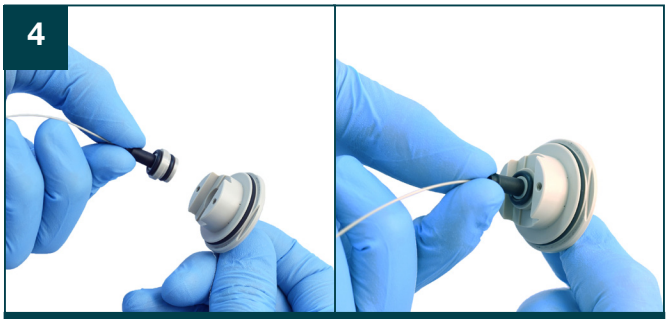
2 Disassemble the rear metal housing of CSI probe insert (2 screws).

3



Carefully remove the CSI protective cap

4



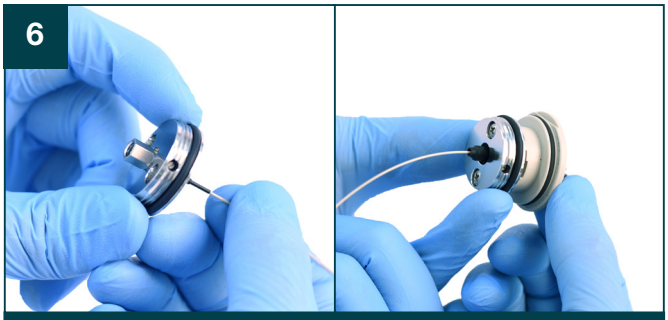
Insert Aurora Series CSI fitting into the CSI probe. Use a twisting motion to prevent pinching of the rubber seal.

5



Remove the shipping plug from the nanoZero® union.

6



Feed the Aurora Series CSI column through the rear metal housing and reassmble the CSI probe (2 screws).

Ensuring rubber seal is in place between the metal housing and the Aurora Series CSI fitting.

7



Feed the Aurora Series CSI column through the CSI probe housing and screw the CSI probe insert into the housing.

8



The CSI housing is now ready to connect to the CaptiveSpray ion source.

Installing Aurora Series® CSI columns on Bruker CaptiveSpray ion source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Using Bruker Column Toaster 1st Generation

9



Retract the Column Toaster from the CaptiveSpray source.

10



Insert the CSI housing into the source, pressing with a small amount of pressure, and tighten the screw until finger-tight.

11



Using a gloved finger, block the air inlet and monitor the fore pressure. The fore vacuum needs to drop below 3e-01 mbar within 10 seconds to be considered usable.

(If not sealed, try refitting before replacing rubber seals)

12



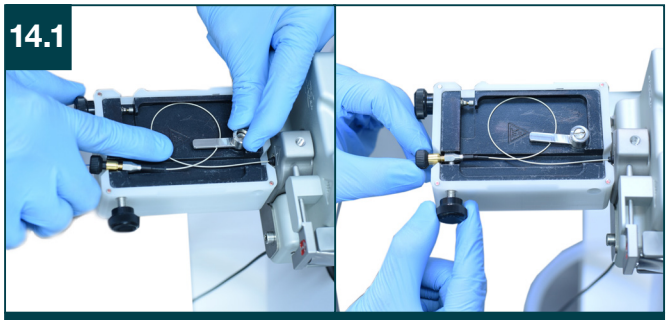
Move the Column Toaster in front of the CaptiveSpray source.

13



Holding the nanoZero® fitting with a spanner, tighten the nanoViper™ fitting finger tight until you reach a firm stop.

14.1

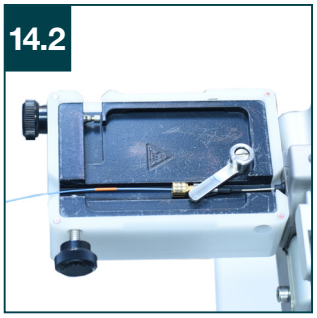


For Aurora Frontier, Aurora Ultimate and Aurora Elite columns:

Curl the column inside the heating plate and hold in position by placing under the holding arm.

Tighten the earth screw onto the nanoZero® to ensure that the nanoZero® is grounded and held in position.

14.2

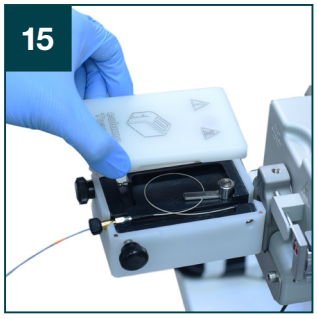


For Aurora Rapid 5 cm and 8 cm columns, place column directly into the heater recess. Hold in position by placing the grounding arm onto the nanoZero®. This requires a replacement metal grounding arm (Available from IonOpticks) to allow an earth connection with the nanoZero®.



You will need:
For Aurora Rapid 5 cm columns:
30 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM01)
For Aurora Rapid 8 cm columns:
55 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM02)

15



Place lid on the Column Toaster.

16



Install filter in the CaptiveSpray source air inlet.

The column is now installed in the Column Toaster and ready for operation.

Removal of CSI columns from your system

1. Remove the lid of the Column Toaster and remove the column from underneath the hold arm.
2. While holding the column gently unscrew the earth screw to release the column.
3. Retract the heater back and to the side to access the CSI Housing
4. Unscrew the housing and remove from the source.
5. Repeat CSI housing installation steps in reverse and carefully place the protective cap back onto the CSI fitting. Press firmly to ensure that the cap is held securely.
6. Screw the shipping plug into the nanoZero® union. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30 ul of methanol in the nanoZero® before installing the shipping plug.

Installing Aurora Series® CSI columns on Bruker CaptiveSpray ion source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Using Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 & PRSO-V2)

9



Retract the Column Toaster from the CaptiveSpray source.

10



Insert the CSI housing into the source, pressing with a small amount of pressure, and tighten the screw until finger-tight.

11



Using a gloved finger, block the air inlet and monitor the fore pressure. The fore vacuum needs to drop below 3e-01 mbar within 10 seconds to be considered usable. (If not sealed, try refitting before replacing rubber seals)

12



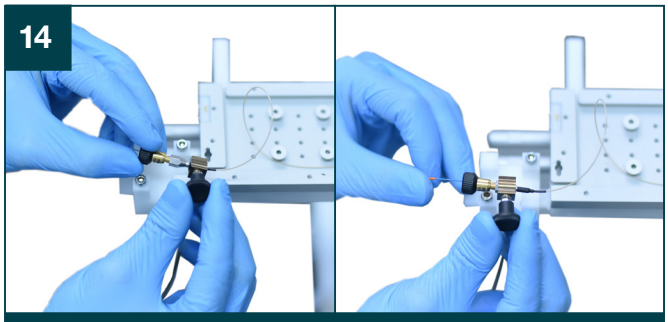
Move the Column Toaster in front of the CaptiveSpray source.

13



Holding the nanoZero® fitting with a spanner, tighten the nanoViper™ fitting finger tight until you reach a firm stop.

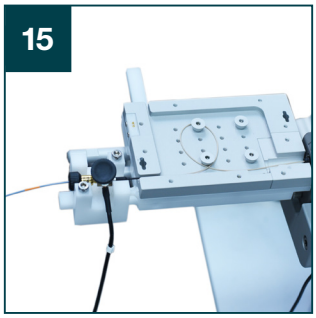
14



EARTHING

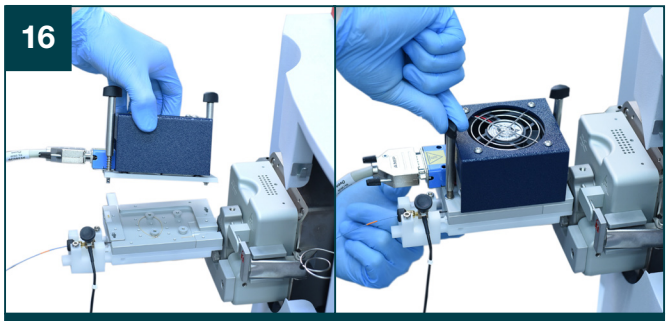
Place the earth cable clip over the thin section of the nanoZero® and slide over the hexagonal section to make a firm connection. If the clip feels loose, remove the clip, pinch in the clip arms and repeat the process.

15



Curl the column inside the column recess, and place the nanoZero® union and earth clip into the plastic holder.

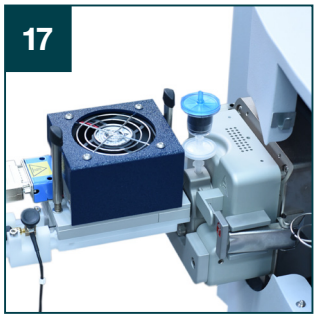
16



CLOSING THE OVEN

Place the heating plate onto the column recess and secure in position using the press pins. **Be careful to void pinching the column during this process.**

17



Install filter in the CaptiveSpray source air inlet.

The column is now installed in the Column Toaster and ready for operation.

Removal of CSI columns from your system

1. Release the press pins and remove the heating plate from the column recess.
2. Carefully uncoil the column from the heating recess and remove the earth cable clip.
3. Retract the heater back and to the side to access the CSI Housing
4. Unscrew the housing and remove from the source
5. Repeat CSI housing installation steps in reverse and carefully place the protective cap back onto the CSI fitting. Press firmly to ensure that the cap is held securely.
6. Screw the shipping plug into the nanoZero® union. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30 ul of methanol in the nanoZero® before installing the shipping plug.

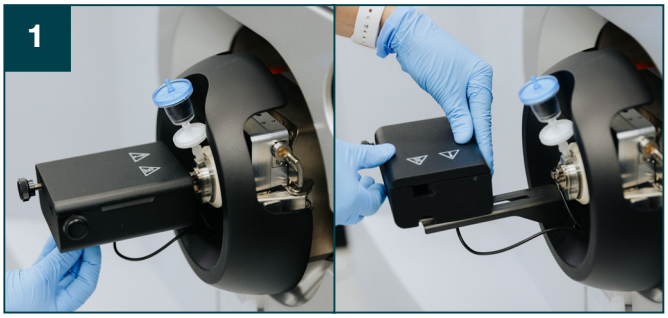
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Fitting Aurora Series® columns to CaptiveSpray 2, CaptiveSpray Ultra, CaptiveSpray Ultra 2 ion sources

5.2 | **Using Aurora Series CSI range with:**
Bruker Column Toaster 2nd Generation

Installing Aurora Series® CSI columns on CaptiveSpray 2, CaptiveSpray Ultra and CaptiveSpray Ultra 2 ion sources

Using Bruker Column Toaster 2nd Generation



Loosen the thumb screw underneath the Column Toaster and slide it back to access the emitter lock.



Remove the filter from the CaptiveSpray source air inlet.



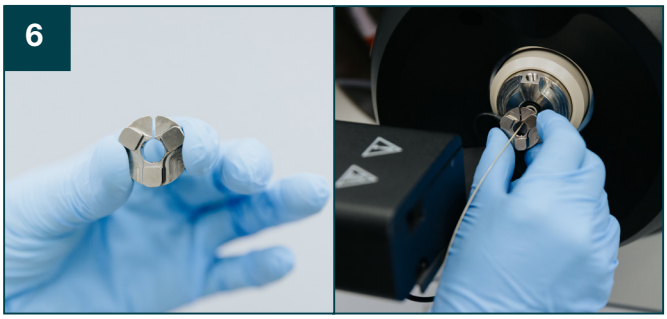
Unscrew the emitter lock anti-clockwise.



Carefully remove the CSI Protective cap.



Carefully insert the CSI fitting into the CaptiveSpray source in a single motion (do not twist)



Using the emitter lock, insert the column through the gap and tighten the emitter lock clockwise to a stop.



Using a gloved finger, block the air inlet and monitor the fore pressure. The fore vacuum needs to drop to below 3e-01 mbar within 10 seconds to be considered usable.



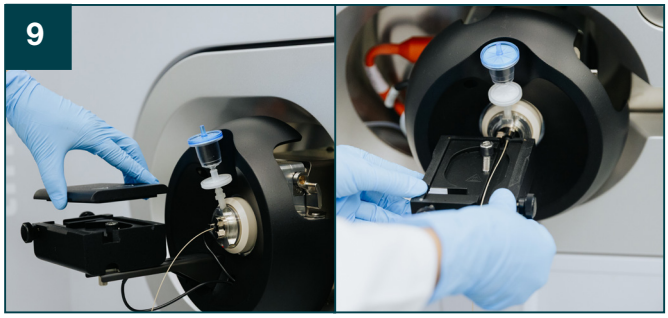
Install filter into the CaptiveSpray source air inlet.

Installing Aurora Series® CSI columns on CaptiveSpray 2, CaptiveSpray Ultra and CaptiveSpray Ultra 2 ion sources

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Using Bruker Column Toaster 2nd Generation

9



Remove the lid of the Column Toaster and slide it in front of the CaptiveSpray source while placing the column through the recess of the heater

10



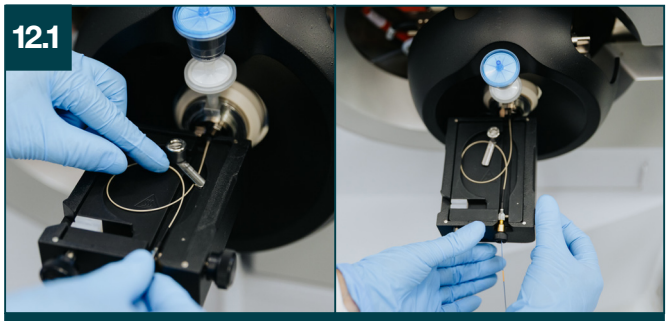
Remove the shipping plug from the nanoZero® union

11



Holding the nanoZero® fitting with a spanner, tighten the nanoViper™ fitting finger tight until you reach a firm stop

12.1



For Aurora Frontier, Aurora Ultimate and Aurora Elite columns:

Curl the column inside the heating plate and hold in position by placing under the holding arm.

Tighten the earth screw onto the nanoZero® to ensure that the nanoZero® is grounded and held in position.

12.2



For Aurora Rapid 5 cm and 8 cm columns, the standard column holding arm must be replaced with a metal grounding arm (available from IonOpticks) to form the earth connection. Once the arm is replaced, place the column directly into the heater recess, then secure it in position using the grounding arm on the nanoZero®.



You will need:
For Aurora Rapid 5 cm columns:
30 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM01)
For Aurora Rapid 8 cm columns:
55 mm Grounding Arm (GNDARM02)

13



Place the lid on Column Toaster.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

Removal of CSI columns from your system

1. Remove the lid of the Column Toaster and remove the column from underneath the hold arm.
2. While holding the column gently unscrew the earth screw to release the column.
3. Retract the heater back and to the side to access the emitter lock.
4. Unscrew the emitter lock until completely loose and remove it.
5. Hold the CSI fitting firmly and pull it towards you in a straight motion.
6. Carefully place the protective cap back onto the CSI fitting and press firmly to ensure that the cap is held securely.
7. Screw the shipping plug into the nanozero. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30 ul of methanol in the nanozero before installing the shipping plug.

Note: Removal of the nanoViper from the nanoZero under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

ionopticks

Fitting Aurora Series® columns to Thermo Scientific Nanospray Flex ion source

5.3 | **Using Aurora Series range with:**
Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 and PRSO-V2)
Using Aurora Series XT range with:
IonOpticks XT Nanospray Flex Adapter (XTFLXAD01)
HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02)
HeatSync™ Rapid Housing Kit (HS5RHK01)
IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01)

Fitting Aurora Series® columns to Thermo Scientific Nanospray Flex ion source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

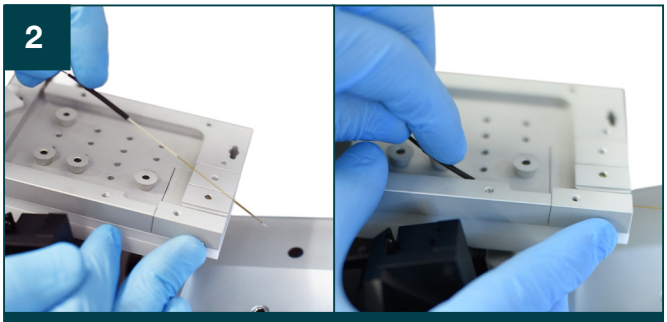
Using Sonation Column Oven (PRSO-V1 & PRSO-V2)

1



Holding the nanoZero® fitting with a spanner, tighten the nanoViper™ fitting finger tight until you reach a firm stop

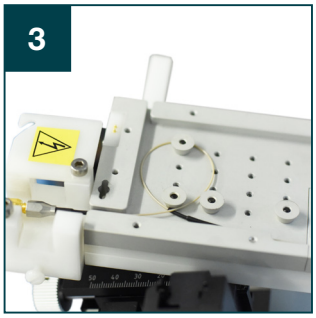
2



PREPARING THE COLUMN

Carefully slide protective sheath backwards towards the nanoZero® fitting to expose the emitter tip. Press the holding clamp on the heater open and place the column into the heater. The column emitter should extend 15-20mm beyond the heating plate.

3

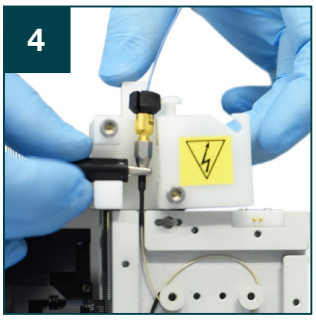


Curl the column inside the heating plate.



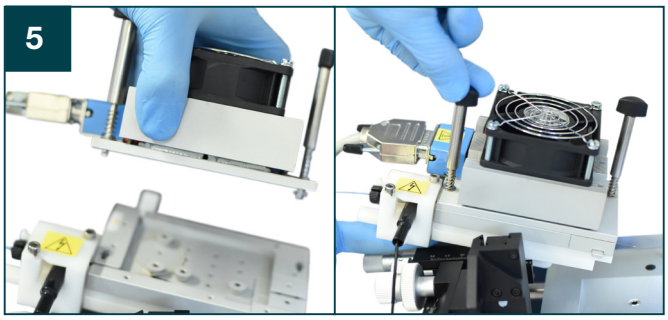
You will need:
1 x HVCABLE01
for connection of the source high-voltage to the nanoZero® fitting.

4



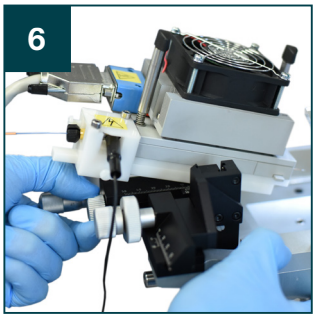
Connect the high-voltage cable (HVCABLE01) to the nanoZero as shown.

5



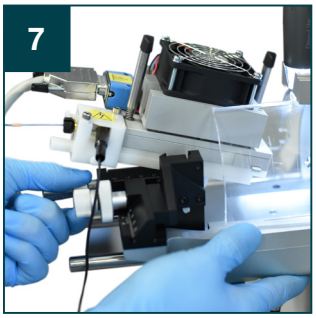
Place top plate on heater and secure in position using the press pins. Be careful to avoid pinching the column during this process.

6

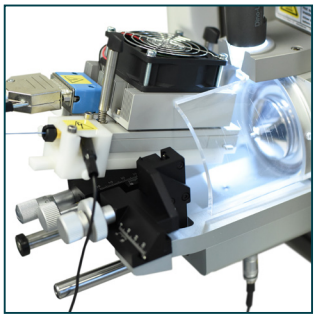


Ensure that the stage is fully retracted in the z-axis before moving the source towards the mass spectrometer.

7



Slide the source into position and adjust the x, y and z axis on the stage to ensure a good emitter position. The emitter should be 3-5mm from the ion transfer capillary.



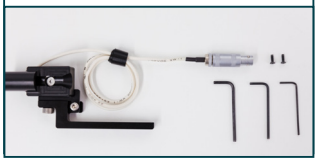
The column is now installed in the heater and ready for operation.

Installing the XT Nanospray Flex Adapter onto the Nanospray Flex source stage

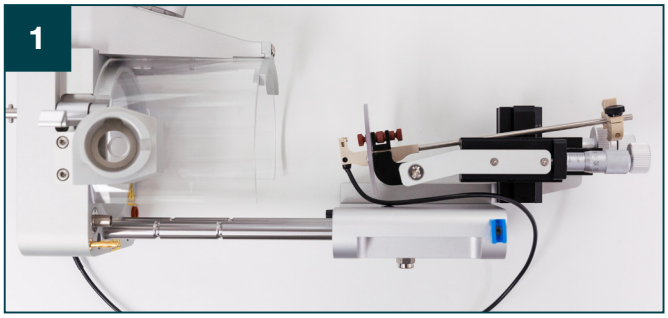
Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Tools Required

1. 1.5 mm hex key
2. 2 mm hex key
3. 3 mm hex key
4. 2 x Nanospray Flex Adapter (NSFA) screw
5. Nanospray Flex Adapter

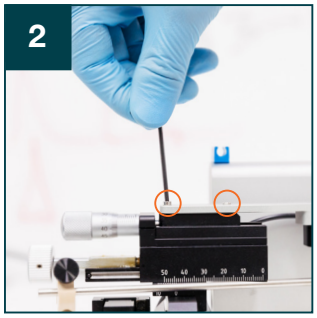


1



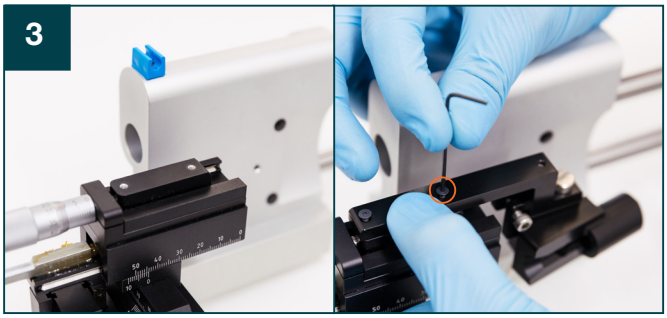
Place Nanospray Flex souce on its side, and slide the stage out.

2



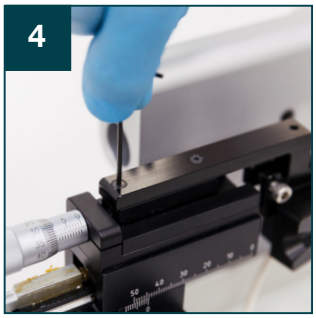
Using a 2 mm hex key, unscrew the two screws holding the mounting arm in place.

3



Using gravity to hold the screws in place, drop one NSFA screw into the central hole on the Nanospray Flex Adapter mounting arm. Align the screw with the corresponding position on the Nanospray Flex source and use a 1.5 mm hex key to tighten screw into place.

4



Secure the remaining NSFA screw in the second hole.

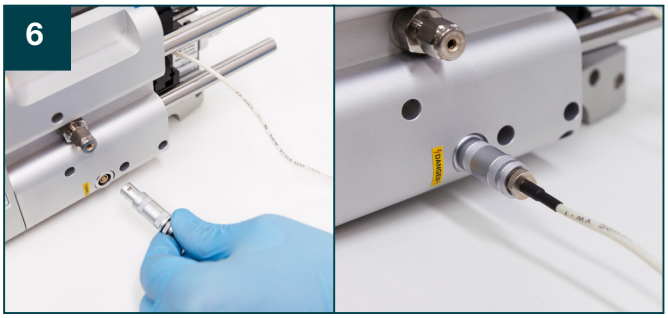
5



Ensure that the high-voltage cable is positioned at the rear of the source, between the two stage rails.

Note: The high-voltage cable should not pass between the source mount and the stage.

6



Connect the high-voltage cable to the source

7

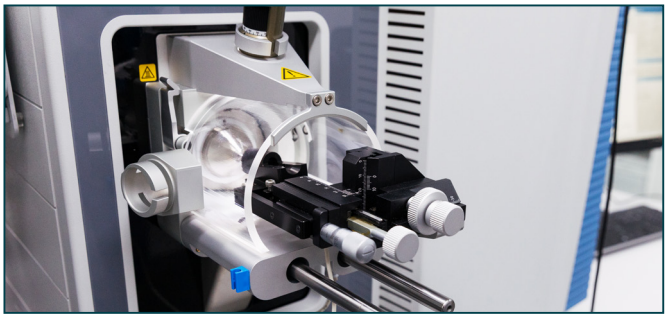


Adjust the angle of the column as desired using the angle adjustment screw, located beside the column mount, with a 3 mm hex key.

8



Slide the stage into the source mount, and attach the source to your mass spectrometer.

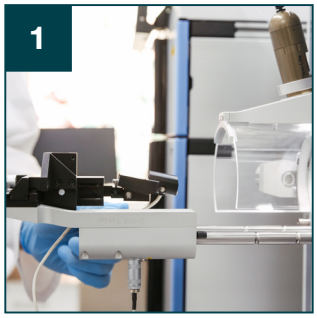


The adapter is now installed and ready for operation.

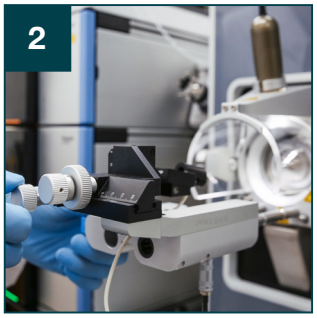
Installing Aurora Series® XT columns on Thermo Scientific Nanospray Flex ion source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

using the XT Nanospray Flex Adapter



Place the mass spectrometer in standby before sliding the stage out of the safety hood.



Retract the Z-axis control knob to prevent the emitter contacting the ion transfer tube when the column is inserted and the source stage slides into the operating position



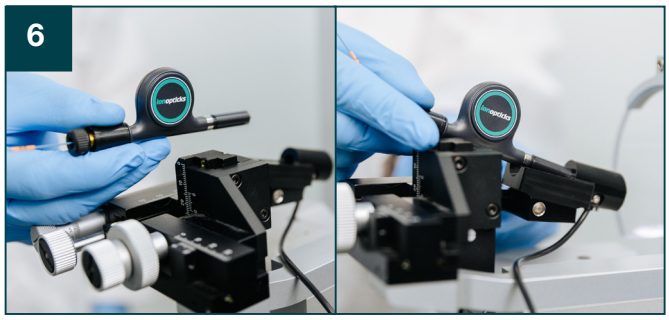
Remove the shipping plug from the XT column cassette.



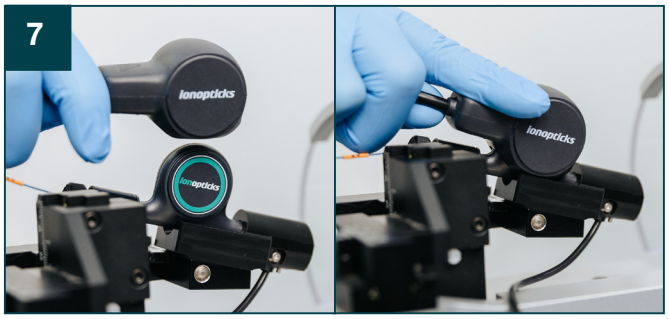
Holding the column cassette firmly, screw a nanoViper™ fitting finger tight into the nanoZero® until you reach a firm stop.



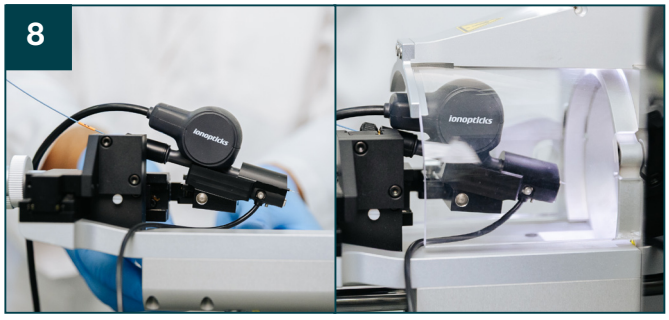
Remove protective cap.
Note: The emitter is not protected by a sheath and protrudes from the end of the cassette. To avoid damaging the emitter, do not twist the cap and ensure that the cap is removed in line with the cassette using a swift motion to completely separate the cap and the cassette.



Slide column cassette into the pre-installed Nanospray Flex Adapter along the column holder until it clicks into place.



Place the column heater onto the fin of the column cassette and press down firmly to ensure the heater is held in position.



Slide the stage into position and adjust the x,y, and z axis to ensure a good emitter position. The emitter should be around 3 mm from the ion transfer tube.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

Removal of XT columns from your system

1. If possible, do not remove the column from a UHPLC system before the column performance falls and the columns requires replacement, however, removal for instrument servicing and maintenance is sometimes required.
2. For removal, run 80% B for 5 minutes at operating flow rates.
3. Reduce flow to 0.002 µl/min for 10 minutes or until the back pressure has stabilised below 10 bar.
4. Set MS system into standby mode.
5. Slide Nanospray Flex stage out of the safety hood before gently removing the column cassette in a backwards motion from the Nanospray Flex Adapter along the column holder.
6. The nanoViper can now be removed from the nanoZero®.
7. Carefully place the protective cap back onto the cassette and press firmly to ensure that the cap is held securely.
8. Screw the shipping plug back into the nanoZero®. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30µl of methanol in the nanoZero® before installing the shipping plug.

Note: Removal of the nanoViper from the nanoZero under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

Note: If using FAIMS, the emitter distance to the orifice should be between 0.5 mm and 3 mm, with 0.5 mm being the most common position, to ensure a stable spray.

ionopticks

Fitting Aurora Series® columns Thermo Scientific EASY-Spray ion source

5.4 | **Using Aurora Series XT range with:**
EASY-Spray ion source ES081 and ES082
IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01)
HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02)
HeatSync™ Rapid Housing Kit (HS5RHK01)

Installing Aurora Series® XT columns on Thermo Scientific EASY-Spray ion source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

ES081 and ES082



Remove the shipping plug from the column cassette.



Holding the column cassette firmly, screw a nanoViper fitting finger tight into the nanoZero until you reach a firm stop.



Remove protective cap.

Note: The emitter is not protected by a sheath and protrudes from the end of the cassette. To avoid damaging the emitter, do not twist the cap and ensure that the cap is removed in line with the cassette using a swift motion to completely separate the cap and the cassette.



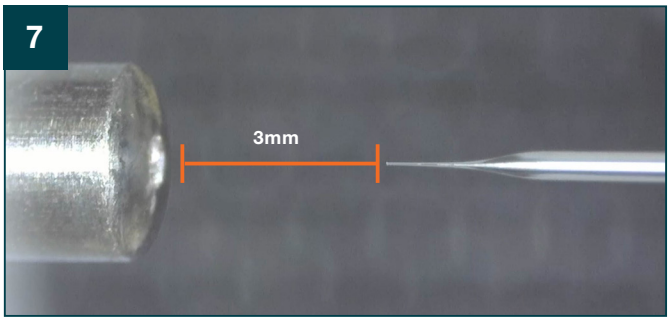
Ensure the Z-axis control knob has been set in the correct position using the Thermo Emitter Positioning Tool. If no tool is available, ensure that the control knob has been retracted to prevent the emitter contacting the ion transfer tube.



Slide column cassette into EASY-Spray source along the column holder until it clicks into place.



Place the column heater onto the fin of the column cassette and press down firmly to ensure that the heater is held in position.



Using the video feed from the source mounted camera, make fine adjustments to the z-axis emitter position as required. The emitter should be around 3 mm from the ion transfer tube. Please follow the instructions from the EASY-Spray Source.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

Note: If using FAIMS, the emitter distance to the orifice should be between 0.5 mm and 3 mm, with 0.5 mm being the most common position, to ensure a stable spray.

Removal of XT columns from your system

1. If possible, do not remove the column from a UHPLC system before the column performance falls and the columns requires replacement, however, removal for instrument servicing and maintenance is sometimes required.
2. For removal, run 80% B for 5 minutes at operating flow rates.
3. Reduce flow to 0.002 µl/min for 10 minutes or until the back pressure has stabilised below 10 bar.
4. Set MS system into standby mode.
5. Gently remove the XT cassette from the source. The nanoViper can now be removed from the nanoZero®.
6. Carefully place the protective cap back onto the cassette and press firmly to ensure that the cap is held securely.
7. Screw the shipping plug back into the nanoZero®. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30µl of methanol in the nanoZero® before installing the shipping plug.

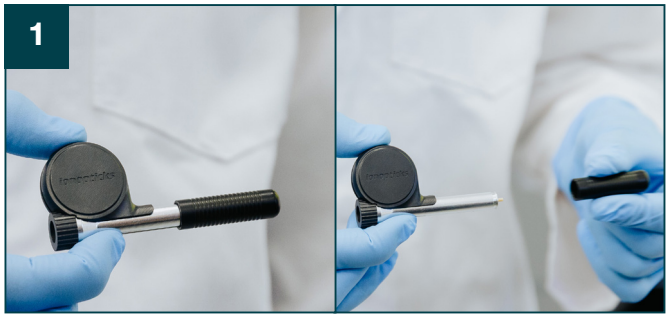
Important: Removal of the nanoViper from the nanoZero under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

Installing an Aurora Rapid® 5 cm column into the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Housing

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

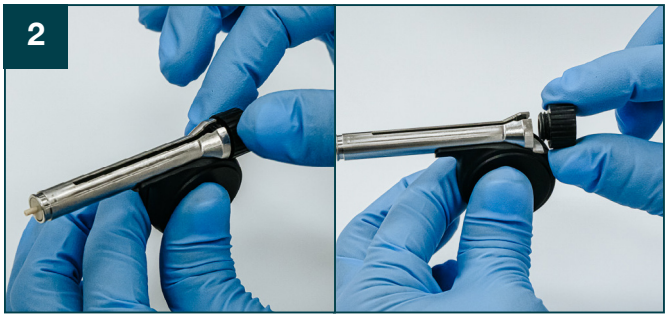
Using the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing with Thermo Scientific ion sources

1



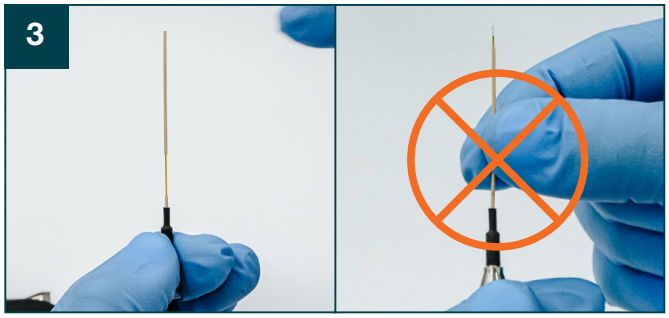
Remove cap from the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing.

2



Unscrew the restraining fitting at the end of the adapter.

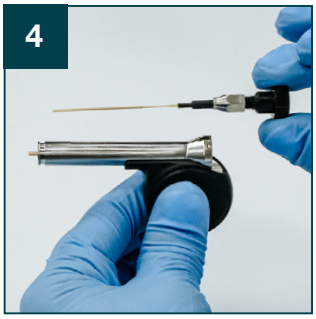
3



Take the Aurora 5 cm Rapid column and ensure that the beige protective sleeve is protecting the emitter.

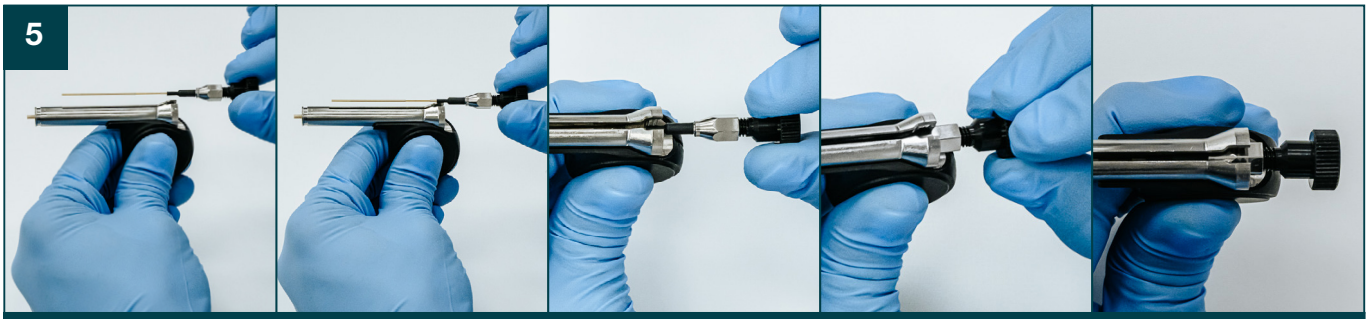
Do not retract the beige protective sleeve. Insertion of the column into the housing will retract the sleeve automatically.

4



Hold the column with the shipping plug attached, as shown in the image.

5

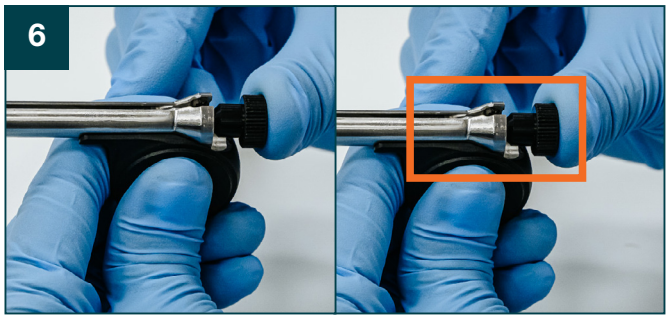


Slowly lower the column through the opening and slot. Once the column is in the slot and the end of the protective sleeve is aligned with the small hole at the end of the slot, push it forward. Ensure the NanoZero is positioned correctly — the horizontal edge should be centered within the opening, as shown in the image.

Installing an Aurora Rapid® 5 cm column into the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Housing (cont.)

Using the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing with Thermo Scientific ion sources

6



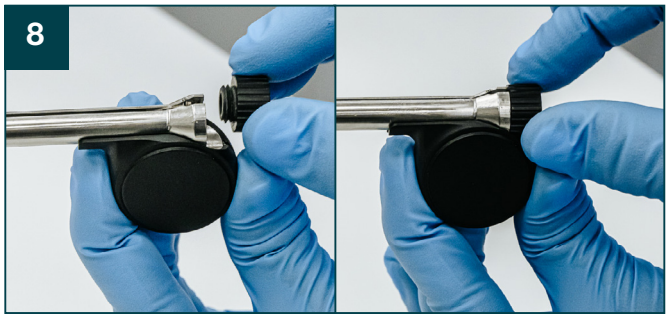
Push the column further forward while maintaining the correct position of the nanoZero®. The emitter will protrude through the adapter.

7



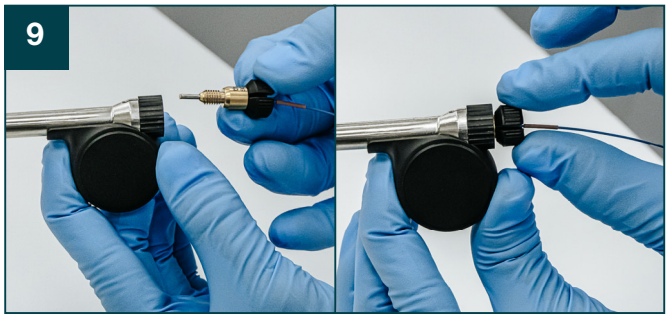
Remove the shipping plug from the column.

8



Screw the restraining fitting into the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing to secure the column.

9



Holding the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing firmly, screw a nanoViper™ fitting finger tight into the nanoZero® until you reach a firm stop.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

WARNING - RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK

Caution - Risk of Electric Shock: During operation, the HeatSync™ Rapid Column Housing becomes electrically live. Before applying voltage, always ensure the restraining fitting is correctly installed. Failure to install this component may expose the user to hazardous voltages and could result in serious injury.

Note: The black nanoViper knurled screw is supplied pre-installed on each nanoViper capillary and should remain fitted during installation.

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Using the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing with Thermo Scientific ion sources

If using the IonOpticks Heater Controller (IOHEATCON01)

1

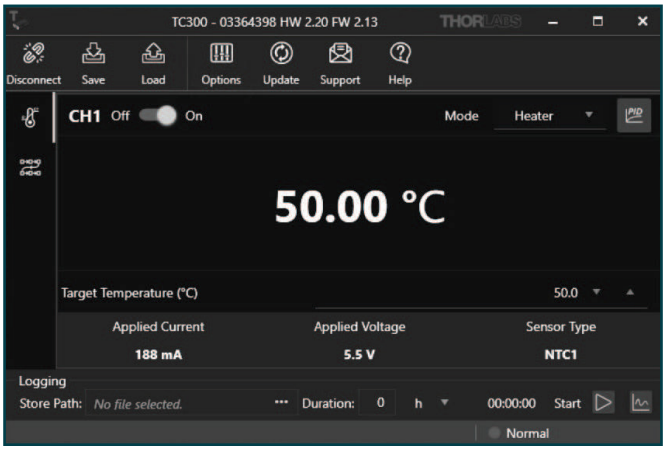


Plug the IonOpticks Heater cable into channel 1 of the Heater Controller unit and press the button

Temperature displayed on Heater Controller	Actual column temperature inside housing
40	30
48	35
55	40
62	45
70	50

2

Set IonOpticks Heater to desired temperature. Refer to the below temperature Δ table for applicable set points using the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing



If using the HeatSync™ Controller (HSHEATCON02)

3



Connect the HeatSync™ Regulator, supplied in the HeatSync™ Rapid Housing Kit, into channel 1 of the HeatSync™ Controller.

4



Plug the HeatSync™ Column Heater cable into the HeatSync™ Regulator. '01' will be displayed temporarily to confirm the successful connection of the regulator, if using channel 1. If using channel 2, '02' will be displayed.

If a visual confirmation, or the Channel 1 or 2 icon does not display, this may indicate that the HeatSync™ Regulator is not correctly connected.

To change the target column temperature, press the desired LED Channel button.

5



Use the rotary touch dial in a clockwise/counter-clockwise motion to set desired column temperature.

6



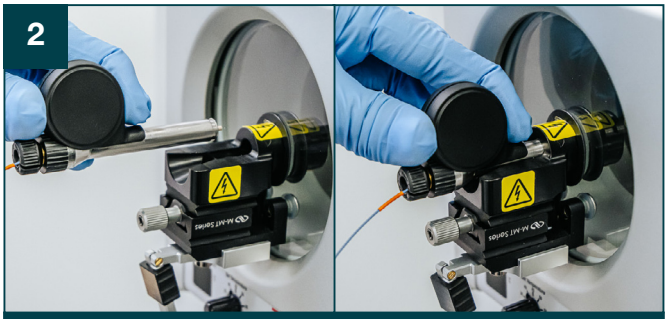
The device has two major colour schemes, represented by an illuminated ring around the rotary touch dial and applicable channel button. Orange will be illuminated when the temperature target is in progress. Teal/Green will be illuminated when the device has reached its temperature target successfully.

Installing the HeatSync™ Rapid 5cm Column Housing into a Thermo Scientific EASY-Spray ion source

Using the IonOpticks Nanospray Flex Adapater

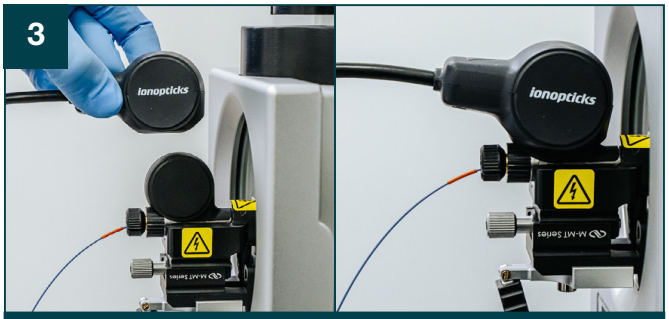
1 Ensure the Z-axis control knob has been set in the correct position using the Thermo Scientific Emitter Positioning Tool. If no tool is available, ensure that the control knob has been retracted to prevent the emitter contacting the ion transfer tube when the column is inserted.

2



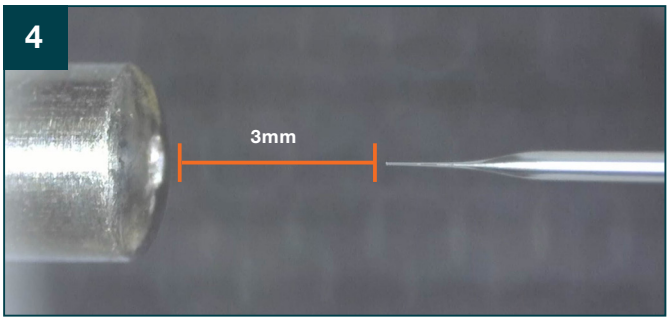
Slide the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing into the EASY-Spray source along the column holder until it clicks into place.

3



Place the HeatSync™ Column Heater onto the fin of the housing and press down firmly to ensure that the heater is held in position.

4



Using the video feed from the source mounted camera, make fine adjustments to the z-axis emitter position as required. The emitter should be around 3 mm from the ion transfer tube. Please follow the instructions from the EASY-Spray Source.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

WARNING

Caution - Risk of Electric Shock: During operation, the HeatSync™ Rapid Column Housing becomes electrically live. Before applying voltage, always ensure the restraining fitting is correctly installed. Failure to install this component may expose the user to hazardous voltages and could result in serious injury.

Note: The black nanoViper knurled screw is supplied pre-installed on each nanoViper capillary and should remain fitted during installation.

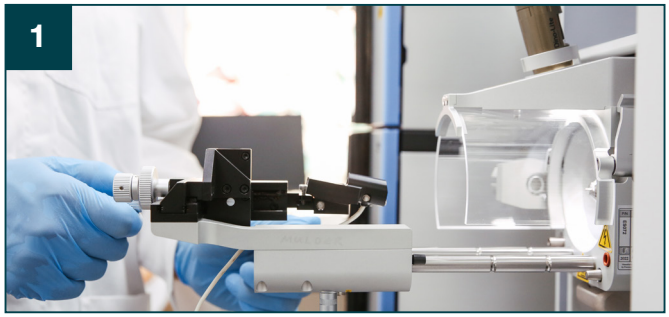
Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Installing the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing into the Nanospay Flex source

Scan to watch video on our Help Centre

Using the IonOpticks Nanospray Flex Adapater

1



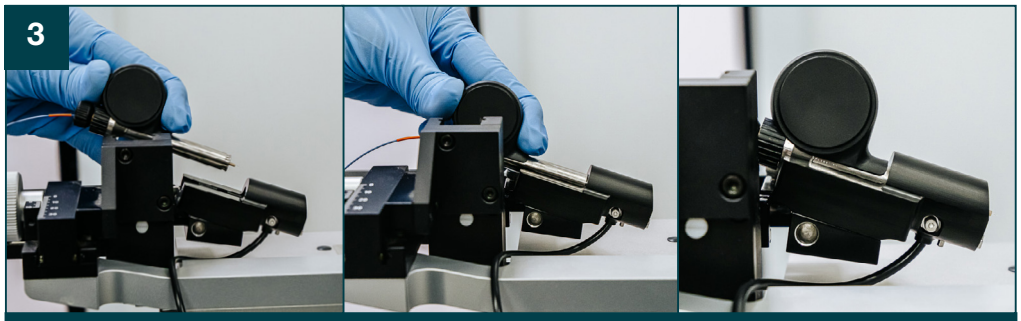
Place the mass spectrometer in standby before sliding the source stage out of the safety hood.

2



Retract the z-axis control knob to prevent the emitter contacting the ion transfer tube when the column is inserted and the source stage slides into the operating position.

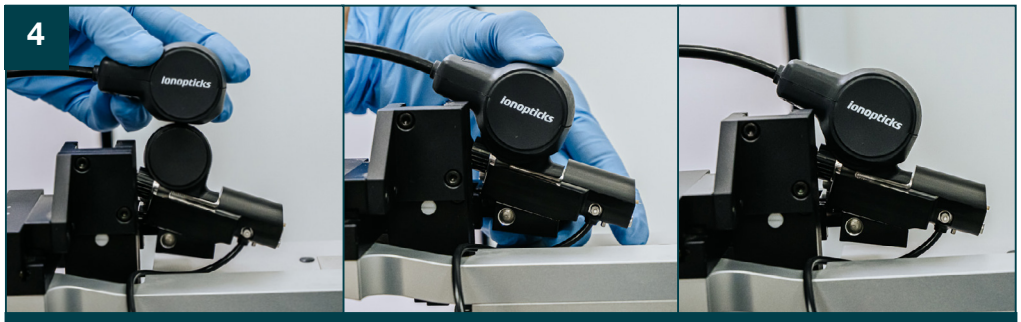
3



Slide the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing, with the pre-installed column, into the XT Nanospray Flex Adapter along the column holder until it clicks into place.

Reference the installation guide for the XT Nanospray Flex Adapter on page 18.

4

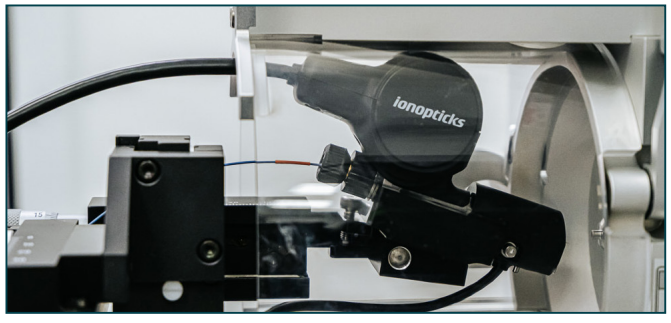


Place the HeatSync™ Column Heater onto the fin of the HeatSync Column Housing and press down firmly to ensure that the heater is held in position.

5



Slide the stage into position and adjust the x, y and z axis to ensure a good emitter position. The emitter should be around 3 mm from the ion transfer tube.



The column is now installed and ready for operation.

Removal of the column from HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing

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1 If possible, do not remove the column from a UHPLC system before the column performance falls and the column requires replacement. However, removal for instrument servicing and maintenance is sometimes required.

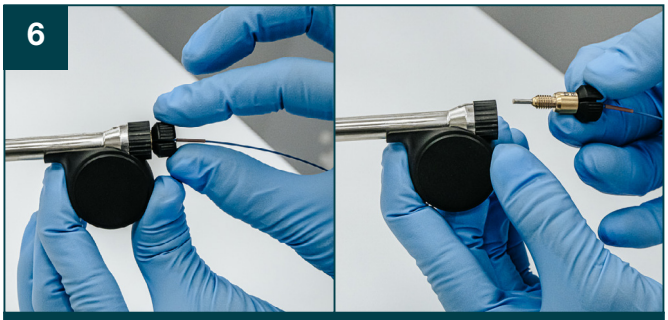
2 For the removal procedure, run 80% Buffer B for 5 minutes at operating flow rates.

3 Reduce flow to 0.002 µl/min for 10 minutes, or until the back pressure has stabilised below 10 bar.

4 Set the mass spectrometer system into standby mode.

5 Slide the HeatSync™ Rapid 5 cm Column Housing backwards from the source along the column holder (applicable for both EASY-Spray and Nanospray Flex ion sources).

6



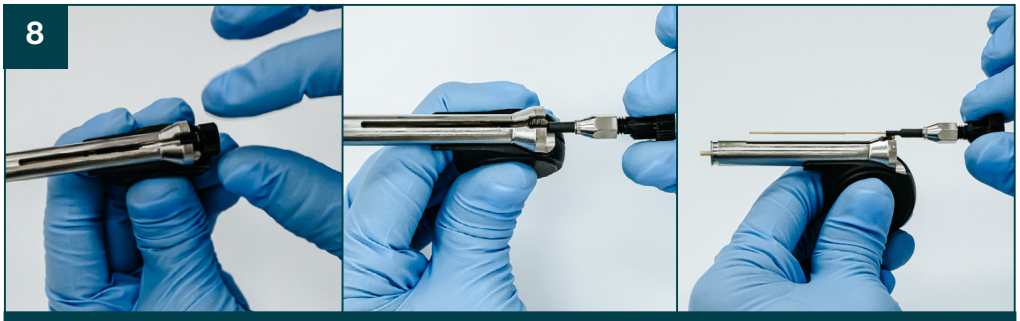
The nanoViper™ fitting can now be removed from the nanoZero® union.

7



Re-install shipping plug into the nanoZero® union.

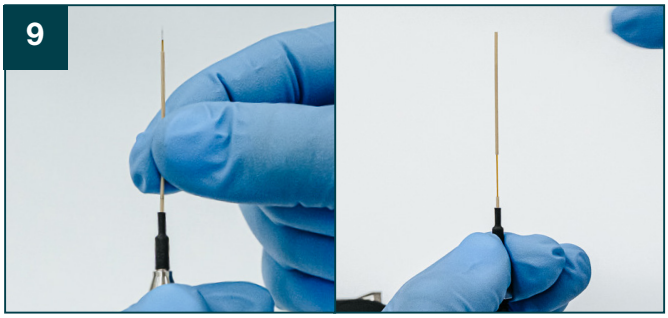
8



Hold the shipping plug and move it backward slightly.

Once the entire column is visible through the full length of the column opening, carefully lift the column up through the opening, ensuring close attention is paid to the emitter to avoid breakage.

9



Slide the protective sleeve back over the column to protect the emitter. For removal of the column for extended periods, we recommend placing 30 µl of methanol in the nanoZero® union before re-installing the shipping plug.

Note: Removal of the solvent line from the nanoZero® union under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

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Fitting Aurora Series® columns to SCIEX OptiFlow Turbo V, OptiFlow Pro ion sources

5.5 | **Using Aurora Series XS range with:**
IonOpticks XS Installation Toolkit (XSKIT01)
SCIEX OptiFlow nanoflow probe

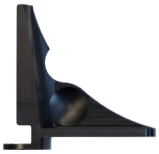
Installing Aurora Series® XS columns into SCIEX OptiFlow Turbo V and OptiFlow Pro ion source

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Installing the XS Adapter

Components Required

1. XS Adapter



2. XS Probe Adjustment Tool

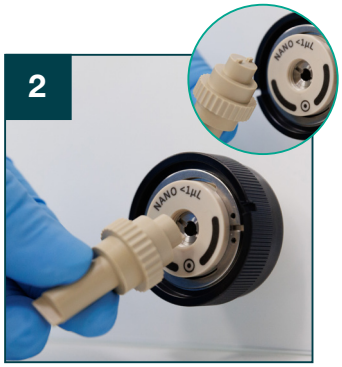


1



Insert the retraction end of the XS probe-adjustment tool into the nano probe, aligning the blade with the slot of the metal fitting inside. Turn the tool anticlockwise to reduce the depth of the metal fitting until 3 or 4 threads of PEEK are visible.

2



Flipping the XS probe-adjustment tool over, insert the depth-setting end of the tool into the nano probe, aligning the two projections with the slot of the metal fitting inside.

3



Rotate the probe-setting tool clockwise while pushing it gently towards the slotted metal fitting. Continue rotating the tool half a turn after the stepped feature of the tool makes full contact with the face of the probe.

4



Gently remove the tool from the probe.

5



Wearing clean powder-free gloves, grip the main cassette body to remove the XS column from its box.

Do not remove the beige sleeve over the emitter.

6



Turn the shipping plug counterclockwise to remove it.

7



Ensure the LC flow is set to zero then insert the solvent line fitting (ZenFit or nanoViper) into the nanoZero® union and rotate the finger grip on the solvent line fitting until a firm stop is reached.

8



Hold the column cassette fin in one hand and pinch the interface of the column and sleeve between a thumb and pointer finger to hold the sleeve in place (protecting the emitter tip).

9



Maintain grip on the interface between the sleeve and column, then guide the sleeve into the orifice of the nano probe installed on the source. Push the column with sleeve into the nano probe approximately 3 cm. Maintain the position of the column cassette, then retract the sleeve towards the cassette as far as possible.

10



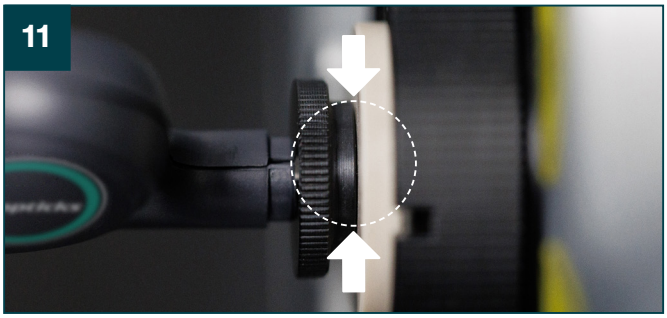
Push the column fully inside the probe until the thread of the black thumbwheel reaches the face of the nano probe. Hold the column cassette perpendicular to the probe, then rotate the black thumbwheel clockwise to screw it into the probe.

Installing Aurora Series® XS columns into SCIEX OptiFlow Turbo V and OptiFlow Pro ion source (cont.)

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Installing the XS Adapter

11



Tighten the thumbwheel securely. When a firm stop is reached, the black O-ring is no longer visible when viewed from the side.

12



Grip the XS Adapter via the concave feature on each side. Install it by placing it underneath the column cassette with the prongs facing upwards and touching the beige probe face. Hold the adaptor level and then slide it upwards until it clicks in place under the column.

13



Holding the IonOpticks heater level, place it onto the fin of the column cassette, positioned so that the centre point of the heater is perpendicular with the finger notch on the XS Adapter. Use the finger notch to pinch and apply pressure to the heater until it makes contact with the adapter.

The column is now installed and ready for operation.

Removal of an XS column from your system

If possible, do not remove the column from a UHPLC system before the column performance falls and the columns requires replacement, however, removal for instrument servicing and maintenance is sometimes required.

1. For the removal procedure, run 80% B for 5 minutes at operating flow rates.
2. Reduce flow to 0.002 µl/min for 10 minutes or until the back pressure has stabilised below 10 bar.
3. Set mass spectrometer system into standby mode.
4. Grip the XS adaptor via the concave features on each side.
5. Grip the projection at the rear of the heater where the cable attaches. Tilt the heater forwards to release.
6. Lift off the heater.
7. Grip the concave features on the adaptor.
8. Pull the adaptor straight down to release it from the XS column.
9. Rotate the thumbwheel counterclockwise to disengage it from the probe.
10. Pull the column straight out (perpendicularly) until the thumbwheel is approx. 3 cm from the front of the nano probe.
11. With the other hand, grip the sleeve and hold it close to the front of the nano probe.
12. Hold the sleeve in place and pull the column back until the thumbwheel is approx. 5 cm from the front of the nano probe.
13. Remove the column and sleeve from the probe.
14. Screw the shipping plug back into the nanoZero®. For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30µl of methanol in the nanoZero® before installing the shipping plug.
15. Place the column back in its box.

Note: Removal of the solvent line from the nanoZero under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

Operating Aurora Series® columns on Evosep One and Evosep Eno systems

Conditioning and equilibration

It is recommended to install the column and start isocratic flow at 200 nL/min. Once the solvent reaches the emitter, turn on the voltage from the mass spectrometer. Equilibrate your column by running two system and column washes, then switch back to isocratic flow until the backpressure stabilises. Once the backpressure is stable, run the first blank sample.

Column and emitter cleaning

Deposits on the emitter tip can often be resolved using a cleaning solvent (a blend of 25% acetonitrile, 25% methanol, 25% water, and 25% 2-propanol (IPA), plus 0.1% formic acid). This solution is safe to inject onto the column and should dissolve deposits on the emitter. To clean the emitter's exterior, carefully rinse the tip directly in a falcon tube containing the cleaning solution, taking care not to damage the emitter.

To inject the cleaning solution on an Evosep, run three standard blank injections, following the entire Evotip preparation protocol but loading 20 µL of the cleaning solvent described above as your "sample" for the standard blank. This is a variation of Evosep's standard carryover recommendation. After running the cleaning injection, follow with at least one blank sample before returning to queue.

A system and column wash can also be run on the Evosep to clear the flow path.

Evosep method compatibility

Aurora Series columns are compatible with Evosep methods. The table below outlines compatibility and the appropriate method for each column type.

Removal from your Evosep system

At the end of a standard method, the column is already at relatively high organic conditions. To preserve this state and avoid the column reverting to aqueous conditions:

- Let the run finish (optionally run a blank if additional flushing is desired).
- Immediately stop the instrument after the run completes.
- Turn off the spray voltage and prevent idle flow (e.g. close Hystar) before it starts. This keeps the column from shifting back to more aqueous conditions.
- Allow ~10–15 minutes for the column to depressurise slowly through the emitter.
- You can now disconnect the nanoViper and remove the column.

Note: Removal of the solvent line from the nanoZero under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

	Recommended: Whisper Zoom Methods				Compatible: Standard Methods					
	20 SPD	40 SPD	80 SPD	120 SPD	30 SPD	60 SPD	100 SPD	200 SPD	300 SPD	500 SPD
Aurora Frontier 60x75										
Aurora Ultimate 25x150										
Aurora Ultimate 25x75										
Aurora Elite 15x150					✓					
Aurora Elite 15x75	✓	✓								
Aurora Rapid 8x150						✓	✓			
Aurora Rapid 8x75										
Aurora Rapid 5x150								✓	✓	✓
Aurora Rapid 5x75			✓	✓						

Operation of Aurora Series® columns

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Recommended buffer compositions
Buffer A 99.9% MilliQ Water, 0.1% formic acid
Buffer B 99.9% Acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid

Column temperature
The recommended operating temperature for Aurora columns is 40-60 °C. The maximum operating temperature is 60 °C. Pre-heat the column heater before fitting the dry column, immediately prior to equilibration.

Column conditioning
Once the column is connected to your UHPLC system and is placed inside the source heater or housing, condition the column via direct control with 5 columns volumes at 80-85% B (99.9% ACN, 0.1%FA) and 5 columns volumes at 1% B, at your normal gradient flow rate. Voltage should be applied once the mobile phase reaches the emitter tip. It is recommended that at least one gradient is run without sample injection before assessment of column performance using standards.

Do not run UHPLC system column equilibration scripts during initial installation of Aurora columns. These scripts can cause irreversible column damage and will void the replacement policy.

Spray voltage
It is recommended to start with a spray voltage of 1500V, increasing as needed over time to maintain a stable spray. It is particularly useful to check the spray voltage at multiple points along the gradient to confirm stability throughout the entire run.

It is recommended that the spray voltage does not exceed 2500V. Exceeding a spray voltage of 2500V may result in damage to the emitter.

Sample loading
Samples should be loaded onto the column in 100% Buffer A. Samples loaded on to the column should be de-salted and should not contain any contaminants (salts, detergents, solid particles, etc). Loading contaminated samples onto the column may disrupt solvent flow or foul the emitter tip leading to a loss of performance.

Column re-equilibration
Before each run the column should be re-equilibrated using a minimum of 4 column volumes of 100% Buffer A.

Standby and idle conditions
To optimise column lifetime and performance, it is recommended that the instrument continues to run at the desired operating pressure and ideally continues to run blank samples using mobile phase gradients typical of normal operation. Spray voltages should be maintained during these operations.

Extended periods at isocratic flow can reduce column performance. In some cases, performance may be recovered by running a blank gradient without a sample injection.

Removal from a UHPLC
If possible, do not remove the column from a UHPLC system before the column performance falls and the column requires replacement. However, removal for instrument servicing and maintenance is sometimes required.

For the removal procedure run 80% B for 5 minutes at operating flow rates before reducing flow to 0.002 µl/min for 10 minutes or until the back pressure has stabilised below 10 bar. Set MS system into standby mode. The nanoViper can now be removed from the nanoZero®.

For removal of the column for extended periods of time we recommend placing 30µl of methanol in the nanoZero® and screwing in the plug supplied during transport.

Removal of the nanoViper from the nanoZero® under high back pressure conditions can damage the stationary phase bed and lead to blockages and poor chromatographic performance.

Column and emitter cleaning
Deposits on the emitter tip can often be resolved using a cleaning solvent (a blend of 25% acetonitrile, 25% methanol, 25% water, and 25% 2-propanol (IPA), plus 0.1% formic acid). This solution is safe to inject onto the column and should dissolve deposits on the emitter. To clean the emitter's exterior, carefully rinse the tip directly in a falcon tube containing the cleaning solution, taking care not to damage the emitter.

Recommended storage period
Each column has a recommended shelf life of 24 months from the date of manufacture, making them easy to purchase in bulk and keep on hand for future use.

Operating environmental conditions
The laboratory room temperature must be maintained between 15 and 27 °C (59 and 81 °F). The relative humidity of the operating environment must be between 20 and 80%, with no condensation. The operating environment of the equipment should be free of vibrations.

Application notes
Application and technical notes can be found in our Literature Room: **https://ionopticks.com/resource-hub/**

Visit our help centre at **https://helpcentre.ionopticks.com/portal/en/kb**, or for further assistance, visit our troubleshooting guide at **https://ionopticks.com/troubleshooting-guide/**.

Aurora Series® summary table

Column	Dimensions	Throughput	Recommend Gradients	Flow Rates	Volumes	Loading Capacity
Frontier 60x75	60cm x 75µm ID, 1.7µm C18	5-15 samples/day	90–180 mins	100-300 nL/min	2.65µL	1µg per hour of gradient
Ultimate 25x150	25cm x 150µm ID, 1.7µm C18	10–50 samples/day	30–120 mins	0.4-1.5 µL/min	4.40µL	3µg
Ultimate 25x75	25cm x 75µm ID, 1.7µm C18	10-40 samples/day	45–120 mins	100-400 nL/min	1.1µL	1µg
Elite 15x150	15cm x 150µm ID, 1.7µm C18	30-100 samples/day	10–45 mins	0.4-2.5 µL/min	2.65µL	2µg
Elite 15x75	15cm x 75µm ID, 1.7µm C18	30-60 samples/day	10–45 mins	100-600 nL/min	0.66µL	500ng
Rapid 8x150	8cm x 150µm ID, 1.7µm C18	50-100 samples/day	5–15 mins	0.4-3 µL/min	1.41µL	500ng
Rapid 8x75	8cm x 75µm ID, 1.7µm C18	50–100 samples/day	10–30 mins	100-1000 nL/min	0.35µL	100ng
Rapid 5x150	5cm x 150µm ID, 1.7µm C18	80-300 samples/day	5–15 mins	0.4-4 µL/min	0.88µL	200ng
Rapid 5x75	5cm x 75µm ID, 1.7µm C18	80-300 samples/day	5–15 mins	100-2,000 nL/min	0.22µL	50ng



Need Help?

ionopticks.com/troubleshooting-guide



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