

# DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS APPROACH IN ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY- A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

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**ABSTRACT:** The review is a compilation of application of Design of Experiments (DOE) approach to characterize different pharmaceutical dosage forms, natural products as well as biological samples by diversified analytical techniques including Ultraviolet- Visible (UV- Vis) spectroscopy, High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), LC- MS/MS etc. Emphasis is also given to novel extraction techniques employed for sample preparation in bio-analysis. The merits of chemometric approach over trial and error approach have been clearly stressed. Application of multivariate approach including Screening designs and response surface designs in analyzing different pharmaceutical dosage forms have been summarized in the review. This could form a source to systematically analyze novel pharmaceuticals and extract chemical constituents from natural sources including microbes by evaluating the effect of different factors at different levels (Flow rate, mobile phase composition, solvent) on the response (Absorbance, Assay percentage, extraction yield) and optimize the developed method.

**Key Words:** Chemometrics, Design of Experiments, Factor, Level, Multivariate approach, Pharmaceuticals.

## Introduction STATISTICS

**Statistics** is a branch of mathematics dealing with data collection, organization, analysis, interpretation and presentation. In applying statistics to, for example, a scientific, industrial, or social problem, it is conventional to begin with a statistical population or a statistical model process to be studied.

## ROLE OF STATISTICS IN PHARMACEUTICAL DEVELOPMENT

Statistical methods are increasingly applied to accelerate the characterization and optimization of new drugs created via numerous unit operations well known to the chemical engineering discipline. In the implementation of design of experiment techniques, the increased incorporation of latent variable methods in process and material characterization, and the adoption of Bayesian methodology for process risk assessment.

These new approaches to regulation, compliance, and quality were embodied in a series of guidelines issued to the industry by the FDA and The International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH). The ICH is a unique project that brings together the regulatory authorities of Europe, Japan, and the United States.[1]

## CHEMOMETRICS

**Chemometrics** is the chemical discipline that uses mathematical and statistical methods to improve the understanding of chemical information and to correlate quality parameters or physical properties or select optimal measurement procedures and experiments to analytical instrument data. The concept of quality by design (QbD) has been recently adopted in the pharmaceutical industry involves many quality and statistical tools and methods (e.g., statistical designs of experiments, multivariate statistics, Six Sigma methodologies, and statistical quality control). Data analysis is done by considering multivariables at a time rather than conventional One- Variable at a Time (OVAT) approach. It ensures building of quality into product rather than establishing quality product.

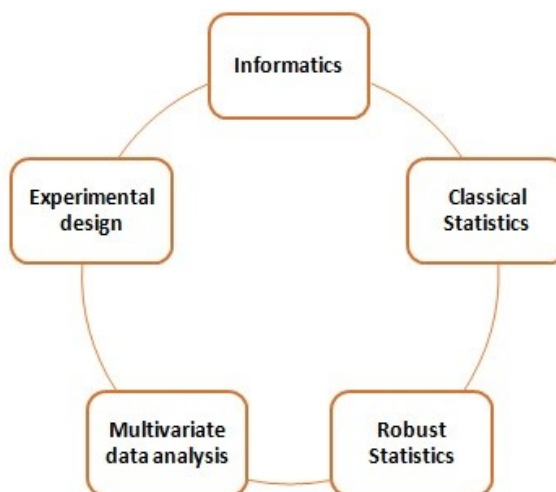
## OBJECTIVES OF USING CHEMOMETRICS IN PHARMACEUTICAL DEVELOPMENT

- To improve the understanding of chemical information and to correlate quality parameters or physical properties or select optimal measurement procedures and experiments to analytical instrument data.

- Chemometric techniques are particularly heavily used in analytical chemistry and metabolomics, and the development of improved chemometric methods of analysis also continues to advance the state of the art in analytical instrumentation and methodology.

## TYPES OF CHEMOMETRICS

- ❖ Informatics
- ❖ Classical Statistics
- ❖ Robust Statistics
- ❖ Multivariate data analysis
- ❖ Experimental design



### Classical statistics

Classical Statistical Model Selection is to determine which variables are important in a regression model (equivalently a linear model) for the dependent response variable  $y$ , in terms of the auxiliary variables  $x$  in the model. However, the Classical Statistical Model Selection rules can also be used for problems of paradigm shift.

### Robust statistics

Robust statistics that aim to construct models and estimates describing well data majority. Moreover, construction of robust models allows identifying outlying observations.

### Multivariate data analysis

Multivariate regression techniques involves two or more variables. Before embarking on an analysis involving large number of variables, it is significant to first examine if there are any underlying data structure or patterns that we can exploit to improve and sometimes simplify the analysis. A common approach will be to graphically visualize the data cloud that is limited to three variables. Often, a fourth dimension can be added by varying the type and size of symbols, but that is our limit for graphic visualization. For high-dimensional datasets, an alternative approach is to reduce the dimensionality of the data with minimum loss of important attributes, for example, data variance. Multivariate data analysis techniques allow us to accomplish these goals.[2]

## DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS

Design of Experiments is a statistical approach, termed as Chemometrics used for multivariate analysis. This concept is used to organize, conduct, interpret results of experiments in an efficient way, making sure that as much useful information is obtained by performing a small number of trials eliminating conventional trial and error approach where independent variables are varied by chance.

### Demerits of One- Variable at a Time Approach (OVAT)

- Does not lead to real optimum
- Isolated, unconnected experiments
- Ignores interactions
- Variability in response
- No mapping of experimental space

Goal of Experimental Designs in Pharmaceutical Technology

- To establish and determine the relationship between independent variables (factors) and dependent variables (response).
- To study the effects of multiple independent variables (factors) on response.
- Define levels of analyzed factors

Table 1 Important Terminology of Experimental Designs

Design Space	Multidimensional combination and interaction of input variables and process parameters of assured quality.
Factor domain	Variation domain with all the values between low and high level of factors (in coded variables).
Study domain	Region of experimental space where study is carried out.
Response Surface	Collection of all responses of points on the study domain.

Types of Experimental Designs

Based on the need of study, Experimental designs are classified as follows as shown in fig 1.

Screening Designs

Screening designs are used to identify the most influential factors that have effect on studied responses. A huge number of factors *f*, can be screened by varying on two levels in relatively small number of experiments.

$$N \geq f+1$$

N = No. of experimental runs

The total no. of experimental runs is given by the formula  $e^f$  where e is no. of levels

Response Surface Designs

The goal of applying Response Surface Methodology is to optimize the response (dissolution rate, assay %) by a response surface curve.[3]

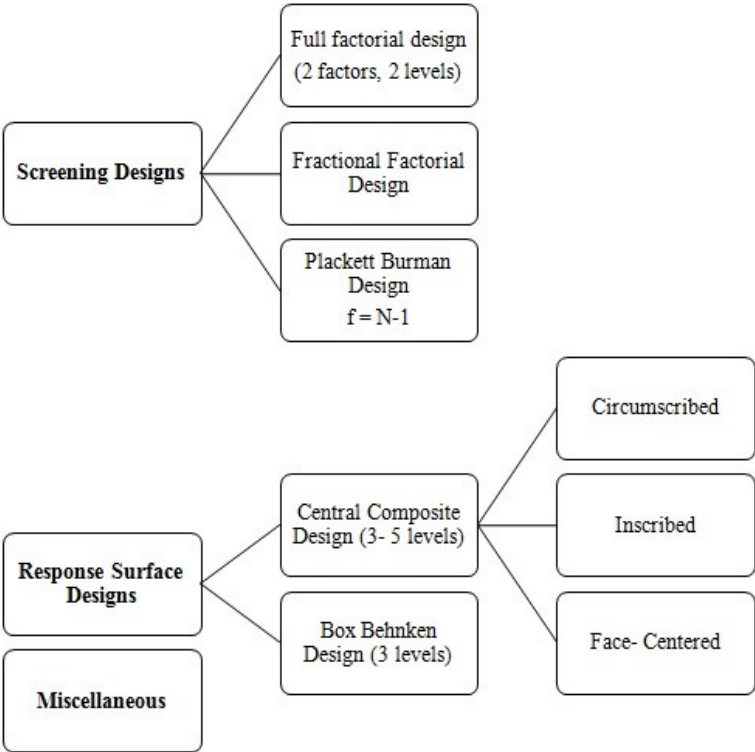


Fig 1.Classification of Experimental Designs[4]

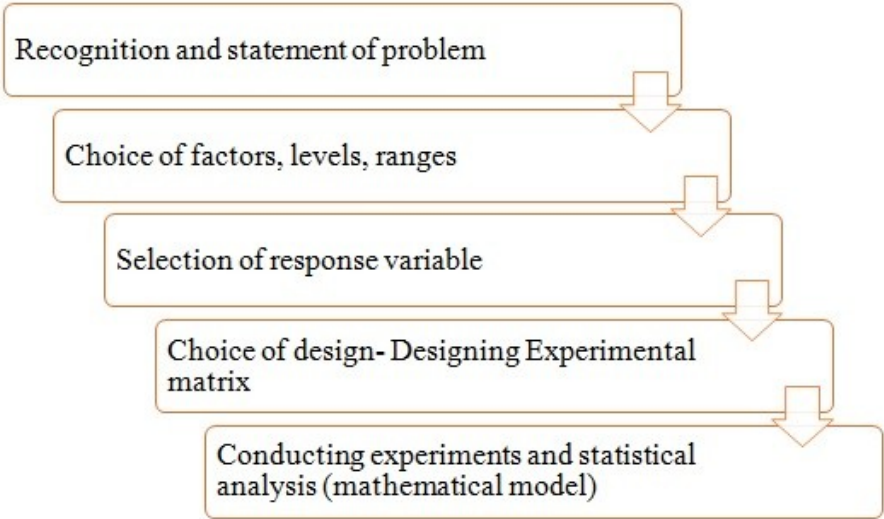


Fig 2. Steps involved in Experimental Design approach[5]

Table 2 Sample Experimental Matrix for Circumscribed Central Composite Design

Experimental Run	Factor 1	Factor 2
Full Factorial Design	-1	+1
	+1	-1
	-1	-1
	+1	+1
Central point	0	0
Axial Design	-α	0
	0	-α
	+α	0
	0	+α

The parameters/ factors are in coded variables represented as -1,+1 etc. α values are the extreme values away the study domain.

After the choice of factors and design and experimental matrix is set, the experiments are run and the output is recorded. Using suitable software, the design is run and the data is analyzed mainly using pareto chart (Significance of each factor along with interaction at chosen p value) and response surface curve along with one way ANOVA. The linear/ quadratic models determine mathematically the influence of each factor change on the response change. Desirability charts are helpful to depict multiple responses.

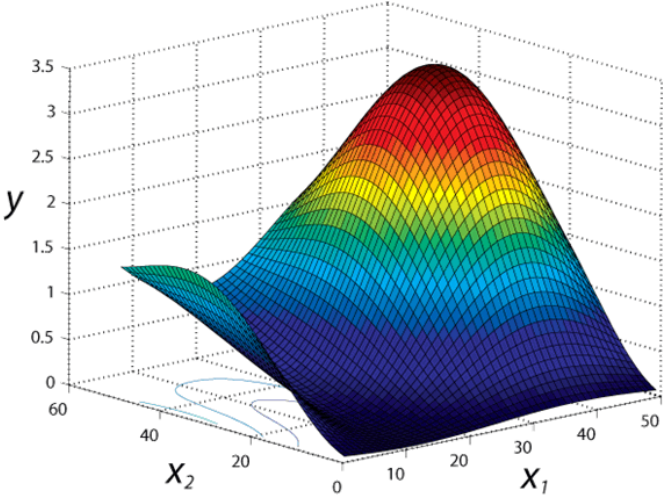


Fig 3. Sample Response curve with x1 and x2 factors and y response  
The red pixel depicts maximum response.

### Application of Experimental Design Approach to analyze pharmaceutical dosage forms by Liquid Chromatography

Analytical Technique	Analyte(s) of interest	Sample Preparation	Experimental Design	Independent Variables (factors)	Response	Reference
RP- HPLC	Moxifloxacin HCl and Ketorolac tromethamine	-	Face-centered Central Composite design	Methanol content in the mobile phase composition, Buffer pH and flow rate	Retention time, Tailing factor	6
HPLC- UV	Melamine from soil samples	Surfactant-enhanced hollow fiber liquid phase (SE-HF-LPME) microextraction	Screening- Fractional factorial design, Optimization- Central Composite design	Type of extraction solvent	Extraction yield	7
HPLC	Separation of amino acids	Precolumn derivatization with phenylisothiocyanate	Fractional Factorial and Central composite designs	triethylamine content of the aqueous buffer, pH of the aqueous buffer, separation temperature, methanol/acetone nitrile concentration ratio in the organic eluant, and mobile phase flow rate	Resolution of amino acids	8
HPLC	Stability of Eberconazole nitrate	-	QbD	Hydrolytic (acid, base, neutral), oxidative, thermal and photolytic stress	Stability	9
HILIC	Separation of four monophosphate nucleotides			Buffer concentration (ammonium acetate concentration), gradient time, and temperature	Different chromatographic parameters	10
RP- HPLC- UV	Separation of Curcumin in human plasma and food samples	Solid Phase Microextraction	Central Composite Design	Role of sorbent mass, volume of eluent and sonication	Extraction yield of sample by SPME	11

RP- HPLC	Temozolomide (TMZ) in bulk sample and nanostructured lipid carriers		Box- Behnken design			12
HPLC- UV- MS	Losartan and valsartan in human plasma samples	Stir bar sorptive extraction (polydimethyl siloxane and polyacrylate) followed by Ultrasound assisted liquid desorption	Box- Behnken design		Extraction efficiency by stir bar	13
HPLC	Valsartan in nanoparticles		Full factorial design	Flow rate and wavelength, pH of buffer	Peak area, tailing factor and number of theoretical plates	14
HPLC- UV	Eprosartan from human plasma samples	Solid Phase Extraction	Screening- Fractional factorial design, Optimization- Central Composite Design		Corrected area, the separation of eprosartan chromatographic peak from plasma interferences peaks and the retention time of the analyte	15
HPLC- ECD	Captopril		Central Composite design	Mobile phase pH, molarity and concentration of acetonitrile	Retention time	16
HPLC-DAD	Orientin, Isoorientin, Vitexin, Isovitexin and Rutin flavonoids in the leaves of seventeen Passiflora species	Accelerated Solvent Extraction	Box- Behnken design	Extraction temperature, % Ethanol, Extraction cycles	Extraction yield	17
HPLC	Sesquiterpenes in Nardostachys Radix et Rhizoma	Reflux	Box- Behnken design		Extraction yield	18

RP- HPLC- UV	15 phenolic compounds and caffeine in green tea, oolong tea, black tea and mate	Heat flux extraction	Central Composite Design	Extraction time, extraction temperature, Ethanol concentration	Extraction yield	19
UV, HPLC- UV	ondansetron, dexamethasone and aprepitant in new organogel formulation		Partial Least Squares Regression model		Quantification	20
RP- HPLC	Separation of six alkaloids in Huanglian		QbD- Plackett Burman design to identify HPLC parameters, Box-Behnken design for optimization	Acetonitrile, concentration of sodium dodecyl sulfate, and concentration of potassium phosphate monobasic,		21
HPLC- UV	Levothyroxine in human urine and serum samples	Ultrasound assisted-dispersive solid liquid microextraction based on solidification of floating organic droplet	RSM	pH, volume of extraction solvent, amount of solid disperser, ionic strength and time of ultra-sonication	Extraction efficiency	22
UV- Visible spectroscopy	Polyphenols from different seeds including basil seed, red seed, Sesame seeds and ajwan seeds		RSM	Concentration and volume of methanol and NaOH solutions as well as the temperature and time of extraction	Phenolic extraction efficiency	23
HPLC- MS/MS	R- and S- ibuprofen (IBU) in human plasma	LLE, SPE	LLE- Full Factorial 32 design, SPE- D- Optimal Design		Assay%	24

UV	Degradation of tolifenamic acid(TA), a common anti-inflammatory drug used in both human and veterinary medicine		23 factorial design with added center point	H2O2 concentration , Tolifenamic acid concentration and experiment time	Tolifenamic acid degradation and H2O2 photolysis	25
HPLC	Wedelolactone from Wedelia calendulacea Less	Supercritical Fluid assisted Extraction	Taguchi experimental design	Operating pressure, temperature, modifier concentration and extraction time	Extraction yield	26
UV-spectrophotometry	Pregabalin content in bulk and in capsule dosage				Assay%	27
Pseudo-stationary phase micellar liquid chromatography	Simultaneous isocratic isolation of hydrochlorothiazide, triamterene and losartan potassium		Central Composite Design	Concentration of sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS), as well as volume percentages of ACN, DES, and ACA	Chromatographic behavior of drugs	28
RP-HPLC-PDA	Zileuton racemate in bulk and in tablet		Central Composite Design	Methanol content, flow rate, concentration of orthophosphoric acid	Assay%	29
Stability indicating HPLC	Luliconazole in bulk and cream formulation		Experimental design			30
HPLC	Voriconazole in pharmaceutical dosage form		Experimental design	Percentage of acetonitrile in mobile phase, flow rate and pH	Robustness	31



HPLC	UV filters determination using 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium hexafluorophosphate as extractant	In-syringe magnetic stirring assisted dispersive liquid-liquid microextraction	Multivariate optimization	Quantity of extraction and dispersive solvents, extraction and sedimentation time, ionic strength and pH	Extraction efficiency	32
			Partial least squares (PLS)			
HPLC	Metacrate in water samples	Dispersive liquid-liquid microextraction (DLLME)	Central Composite design	Volume of extraction solvent and disperser solvent, salt effect, sample volume, and extraction time in the DLLME	Extraction efficiency	33
HPLC- UV	Cyanidin chloride and pelargonidin chloride anthocyanins in cherry, sour cherry, pomegranate and barberry	Magnetic solid phase extraction	Central Composite design			34

## CONCLUSION

The systematic approach of analyzing drugs either as single or multicomponents in different pharmaceutical dosage forms by different analytical techniques using chemometrics will accelerate the research including extraction of different natural constituents. Quality, Cost and Time being three significant parameters could be effectively monitored to achieve optimum output (Assay, Extraction yield etc).

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