



DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF DERIVATIVE SPECTROSCOPIC METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUS DETERMINATION OF ATORVASTATIN AND RAMIPRIL IN COMBINED DOSAGE FORM

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ABSTRACT

A novel, simple, accurate, sensitive, reproducible, the economical spectroscopic method has been developed and validated for the determination of Atorvastatin and Ramipril in combined dosage form. First order derivative spectroscopy method is adopted to eliminate spectral interference. The method obeys Beer's Law in concentration range of 15-35 µg/ml for Atorvastatin and 7.5-17.5 µg/ml for Ramipril. The method was validated for linearity, range, accuracy, precision and specificity as per ICH guidelines. Zero crossing point for Atorvastatin and Ramipril was 223 nm and 296 nm respectively in methanol. The developed method as successfully used for the quantitative analysis of commercially available dosage form.

KEYWORDS: Atorvastatin, Ramipril, Derivative Spectroscopy, Zero crossing point, combined dosage form.



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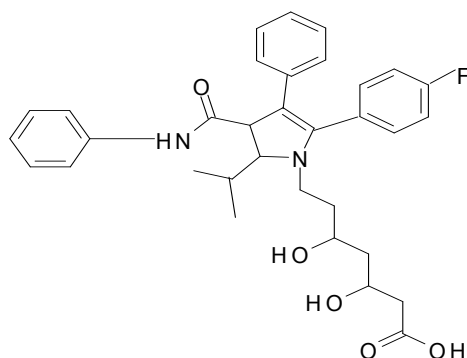
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INTRODUCTION

ATORVASTATIN

Atorvastatin is R-(R*,R*)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-b,d-dihydroxy-5-(1-methylethyl)-3-phenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-1H-pyrrole-1-heptanoic acid, calcium salt (2:1) trihydrate. Atorvastatin is a selective, competitive inhibitor of HMG-CoA reductase, the rate limiting enzyme that converts 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme

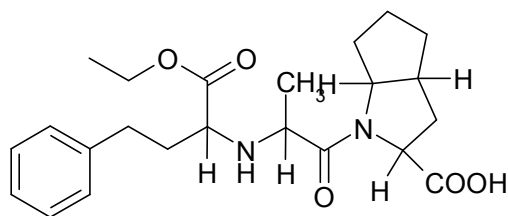
A to mevalonate, a precursor of sterols, including cholesterol. It is used to reduce LDL-cholesterol, apolipoprotein B, triglycerides and to increase HDL-cholesterol in treatment of hyperlipidemias ⁽¹⁾. Atorvastatin is a synthetic lipid-lowering agent which is about 100 times potent than the other drugs in its class and at lower costs than most of the others ⁽²⁾.



Atorvastatin

RAMIPRIL

1-[N-[1-Carboxy-3-phenylpropyl] alanyl] octahydrocyclopenta[b]pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid, 1-ethyl ester. Ramipril is an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor used to treat hypertension and congestive heart failure ⁽³⁾.



Ramipril

Literature survey revealed that several analytical methods such as spectrophotometry, spectrofluorimetry, High performance liquid chromatography, Raman spectroscopy, LCMS and LC-ESI-MS have been reported for the determination of either Atorvastatin ^(6-30,34-45) or Ramipril ⁽³¹⁻⁴⁵⁾ alone or in combination. The aim of the present work is to develop analytical method for combined fixed dose formulation of Atorvastatin with Ramipril which is novel to the

market. In this study, a simple, precise and convenient first derivative spectrophotometric method was developed and validated for its application in the simultaneous determination of Atorvastatin and Ramipril in their combined dosage forms. The method suggested was reported to have no interference of any common excipients. First derivative spectrophotometric method is fast and quick for the quality control release of the dosage form(4-5).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Atorvastatin (ATO) and Ramipril (RAM) were supplied by Torrent Research Center (Gandhinagar, India). Tablets of combined Atorvastatin 10mg and Ramipril 5 mg were purchased from the market. Methanol (HPLC Grade, Ranchem) used as solvent.

Instruments

JASCO V-550 UV/VIS spectrophotometer having quartz cell with 1cm path length was used for the spectroscopic analysis. Mettler Toledo AX balance used for weighing. Decon F5200b sonicator used for sonication of samples. Borosilicate volumetric flasks from Emil England used for the sample preparation.

Preparation of Standard Solutions

Stock solution of Atorvastatin: 27.25 mg of Atorvastatin calcium equivalent to about 25 mg of Atorvastatin was weighed accurately and transferred to 100 ml volumetric flask. 70 ml of methanol was added and sonicated to dissolve. The volume was made up to the mark with methanol (250 µg/ml of Atorvastatin).

Stock solution of Ramipril

25 mg of Ramipril was weighed accurately and transferred to 200ml volumetric flask. 150 ml of methanol was added and sonicated to dissolve. The volume was made up to the mark with methanol (125 µg/ml of Ramipril).

Determination of Absorption Maxima

Solutions of both drugs were prepared in methanol having concentration of 25 µg/ml for ATO and 12.5 µg/ml for RAM. The mixed solution of both drugs in same concentration was also prepared. First of all the three solutions were scanned between 200-400 nm by keeping methanol as a blank to determine the wavelength of maximum absorption for both drugs.

Derivative Spectroscopy

The Spectra in Fig.1 and Fig.2 reveal that no method was possible in zero order. Derivative spectroscopic method was tried as an option for the simultaneous determination of both. The zero order spectra of both drugs (Fig.1 & Fig.2) were converted to first derivative spectra (Fig.3 & Fig.4) and overlapped to find out the zero crossover of both drugs. The ZCO for ATO 223 nm and 296 nm and for RAM

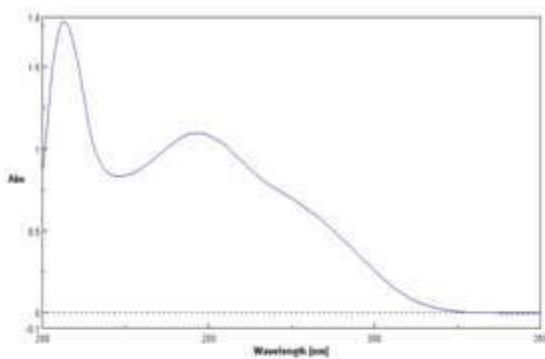


Figure 1: Zero order spectrum of ATO

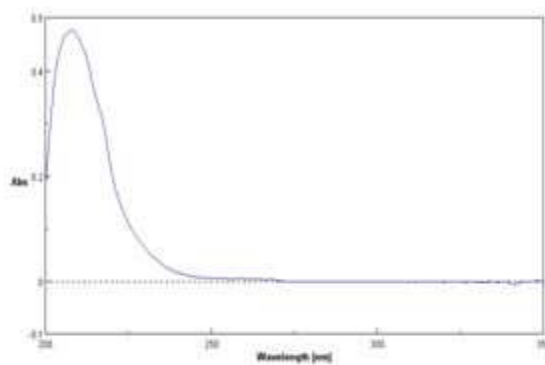


Figure 2: Zero order spectrum of RAM

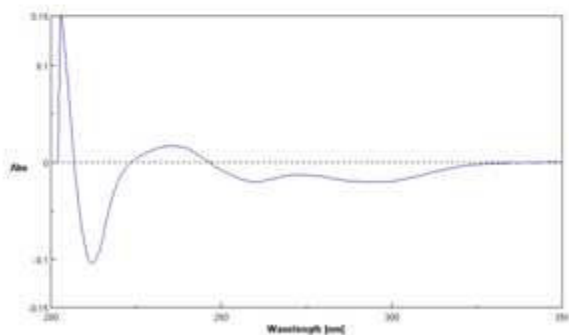


Figure 3: First order spectrum of ATO

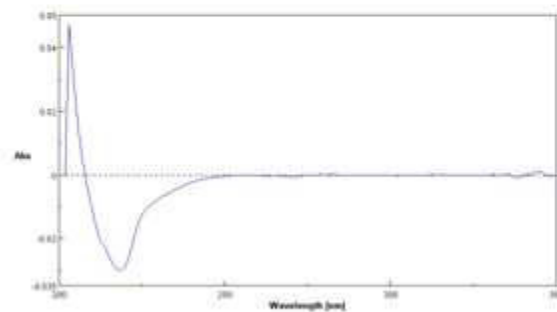


Figure 4: First order spectrum of RAM

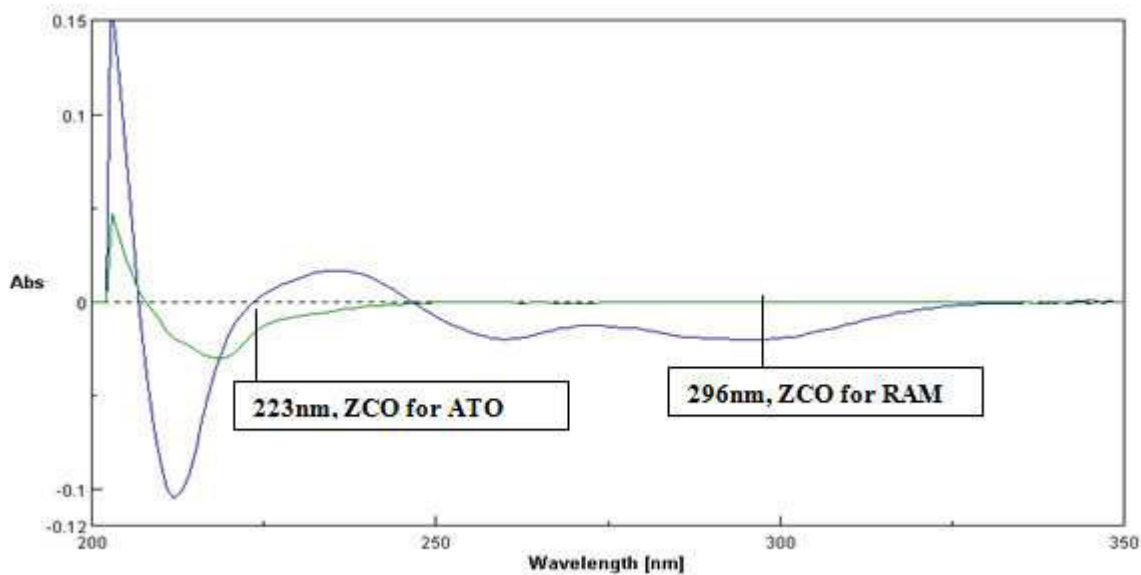


Figure 5
Overlaid first derivative spectra of ATO and RAM

Zero cross over (ZCO) point was defined as a particular wavelength at which one component has a response (positive or negative) while the response of other drug is zero. At ZCO we can measure the response of one component while the response of other remains zero, but for simultaneous determination of both drugs there must be two ZCOs at which one can be quantified while the response of the other would remain zero. In this case when two first derivative responses were overlapped following ZCO points were selected as shown in fig.5. The ZCO of both drugs were evaluated at various concentration levels of each drug. Wavelengths selected for quantitation were 296 nm for ATO (ZCO for RAM) and 223 nm for RAM (ZCO for ATO). The selection of ZCO was evaluated by preparing various solutions containing different concentrations of each component. The derivative response of each drug at ZCO point was derived and plotted against respective concentration. The regression equation and correlation coefficients were derived from this data. They suggest no

interference of one drug at ZCO point of other drug at all concentration levels (Table 1). Series E was selected as a calibration tool for the UV spectrophotometer. The standard preparation was selected at concentration level of 25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ for ATO and 12.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ for RAM.

Validation

Method was validated according to ICH Guidelines. According to ICH Guidelines for the assay method was validated with respect to linearity, range, precision, accuracy, and specificity.

Linearity

Linearity of concentration versus first derivative response was plotted in various series (A-E). The stock solutions were diluted in the following concentration range, and data were evaluated by regression analysis. Data suggested no interference of one drug at ZCO point of other drug at all concentration levels. Data related to regression analysis are tabulated in table 1.

Table 1
Data related to various calibration curves for ATO and RAM.

Series	Concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)		Regression Equation	Correlation coefficient
	ATO	RAM		
A	15-35	0	$y = 0.0008x + 0.002$ (ATO)	0.9999
B	0	7.5-17.5	$y = 0.0013x + 0.0048$ (RAM)	0.9994
C	15-35	12.5	$y = 0.0008x + 0.0001$ (ATO)	0.9999
D	25	7.5-17.5	$y = 0.0014x + 0.0039$ (RAM)	0.9999
E	15-35	7.5-17.5	$y = 0.0008x - 0.0005$ (ATO)	0.9992
			$y = 0.0017x - 0.0001$ (RAM)	0.9993

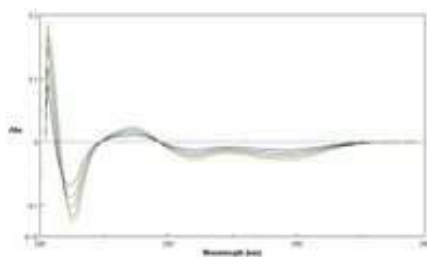


Figure 6: Series - A (ATO)

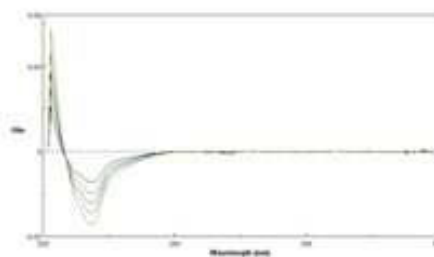


Figure 7: Series - B (RAM)

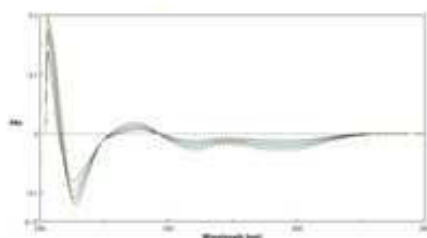


Figure 8: Series-C (Linearity of ATO, where RAM is constant)

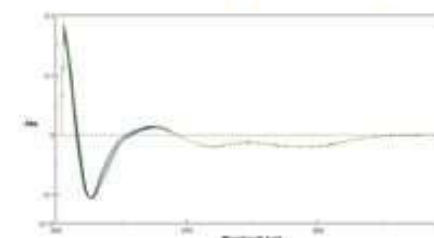


Figure 9: Series-D (Linearity of RAM, where ATO is constant)

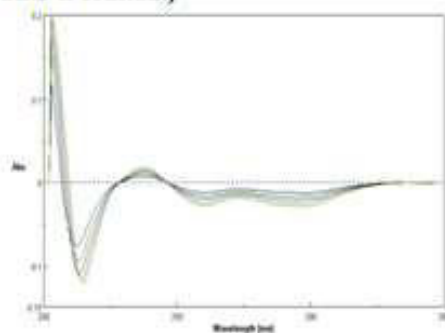


Figure 10: Series-E (Linearity of ATO and RAM)

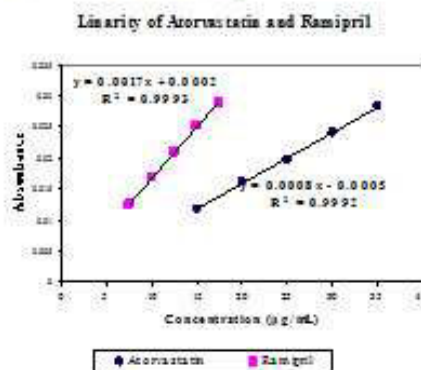


Figure 11: Linearity graph of ATO and RAM

The regression analysis of various series suggested that the FDS response was linear for both components in various concentration ranges. Fig.11 indicates the linearity graph of series E suggesting, R^2 of 0.9992 for ATO and 0.9993 for RAM.

Precision

The precision of an analytical procedure expresses the closeness of agreement between a series of measurements obtained from

multiple sampling of same homogeneous sample under the prescribed conditions. System precision is a measure of the method variability that can be expected for a given analyst performing the analysis.

System Precision

System precision was evaluated by analyzing the series E for three times. All the data were compared and % relative standard deviations were calculated.

Table 2
System precision data for ATO and RAM (n=3)

NEB (µg/ml)	Mean Absorbance for ATO	%RSD	SAM (µg/ml)	Mean Absorbance for RAM	%RSD
15	0.01199	0.50	7.5	0.01275	1.93
20	0.01609	0.28	10	0.01665	1.68
25	0.01983	0.13	12.5	0.02108	0.22
30	0.02410	0.37	15	0.02497	1.06
35	0.02849	0.25	17.5	0.02926	1.18

Method Precision

It was evaluated by analyzing the sample of same batch for six times. Data suggests high degree of method precision.

Table 3
Method precision data for ATO and RAM

No.	ATO	RAM
1	100.3	100.5
2	100.8	100.9
3	100.1	100.5
4	99.7	99.6
5	101.1	101.0
6	100.1	100.2
Mean	100.4	100.5
%RSD	0.51	0.49

Intermediate Precision

It was evaluated by analyzing the sample of by different analyst, on different day and using different instruments.

Table 4
Intermediate precision data for ATO and RAM

Analyst Change		
	%Assay	
	ATO	RAM
Analyst-I	99.6	100.5
Analyst-II	100.3	100.1
Mean	100.0	100.3
%RSD	0.50	0.28
Day Change		
	%Assay	
	ATO	RAM
Day-I	99.8	100.0
Day-II	98.9	100.6
Mean	99.4	100.3
%RSD	0.64	0.42
System Change		
	%Assay	
	ATO	RAM
System-I	99.6	100.9
System-II	98.4	100.2
Mean	99.0	100.6
%RSD	0.86	0.49

Specificity

Specificity of the method was evaluated by checking the interference of placebo. Placebo weight in the particular tablet was derived, by subtracting the weight of drugs from the average weight of the tablet and treated as per the procedure followed for the test sample. No absorbance observed at the wavelength for ATO and RAM.

Accuracy

To ensure the reliability and accuracy of method, the recovery studies were carried out by adding known quantity of drug with sample preparation. Accuracy of the method was determined at 3 different concentration levels of each component by standard addition method.

Table 5
Accuracy data for ATO and RAM

Parameter		Accuracy		
Drug		ATO		
No.	Level of Recovery	Amount of Drug Added ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Amount of Drug Found ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	%Recovery
1.	Sample Preparation (80%)	20.05	19.95	99.5
2.	Sample Preparation (100%)	25.01	24.58	98.3
3.	Sample Preparation (120%)	30.09	29.88	99.3
Drug		RAM		
No.	Level of Recovery	Amount of Drug Added ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Amount of Drug Found ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	%Recovery
1.	Sample Preparation (80%)	10.03	9.90	98.7
2.	Sample Preparation (100%)	12.59	12.53	99.6
3.	Sample Preparation (120%)	14.74	14.84	100.7

Assay**Preparation of Standard Solutions**

Stock solution of Atorvastatin: 27.25 mg of Atorvastatin calcium equivalent to about 25 ATO was weighed accurately and transferred to 100ml volumetric flask. 70 ml of methanol was added and sonicated to dissolve. The volume was made up to the mark with methanol (250 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of ATO).

Stock solution of Ramipril: 25 mg of Ramipril was weighed accurately and transferred to 200ml volumetric flask. 150 ml of methanol was added and sonicated to dissolve. The volume was made up to the mark with methanol (125 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of RAM).

Working standard solution: 5 ml of each stock solution were transferred in 50 ml volumetric

flask and volume made to 50 ml with methanol (25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of ATO and 12.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of RAM).

Preparation of Sample Solution

Twenty tablets of the combined dosage form were weighed and average weight was calculated. Five tablets (equivalent to 50.0 mg of ATO and 25 mg of RAM respectively) were weighed and transferred in to 200 ml volumetric flask, 150 ml of methanol was added and sonicated for 60 minutes. After cooling, the volume was made up to the mark with methanol and 10 ml was filtered through 0.45 μ Millipore filter. 5ml of filtrate was diluted to 50ml with methanol to get the final concentration of 25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of ATO and 12.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of RAM. This solution was used to get the first derivative test spectra.

Calculation for Assay

$$\% \text{ Assay (Atorvastatin)} = \frac{(\text{Test Absorbance} \times \text{Standard Concentration} \times \text{Assay of Standard})}{(\text{Standard Absorbance} \times \text{Sample Concentration})}$$

$$\% \text{ Assay (Ramipril)} = \frac{(\text{Test Absorbance} \times \text{Standard Concentration} \times \text{Assay of Standard})}{(\text{Standard Absorbance} \times \text{Sample Concentration})}$$

Convert standard concentration equivalent to Atorvastatin using equivalency.

Equivalency: 1155.36mg of Atorvastatin Calcium \approx 1115.27mg of Atorvastatin

Where absorbance of Atorvastatin at 296 nm, and Ramipril at 223 nm, in test and standard preparation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this study a simple, precise, accurate and convenient first derivative spectroscopic method was developed and validated for its application in the simultaneous determination of ATO and RAM in their combined dosage form. In first order derivative spectroscopy, wavelengths selected for quantitation were 296 nm for ATO (ZCO for RAM) and 223 nm for RAM (ZCO for ATO). Both drugs follow linearity with the concentration range (ATO: 15-35 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, RAM: 7.5-17.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) with R^2 value of 0.9992 for ATO and 0.9993 for RAM (Table 1). The percentage RSD was found the range of 0.13-0.50 for ATO and 0.22-1.93 for RAM in system precision

(Table 2). The percentage RSD was found 0.51 for ATO and 0.49 for RAM in method precision (Table 3). The percentage RSD was found the range of 0.50-0.86 for ATO and 0.28-0.49 for RAM in intermediate precision (Table 4). The mean % recovery found to be 99.0% for ATO and 99.7% for RAM (Table 5). Method is specific as placebo gave no interference with the determination of both drugs. The mean % assay was found to be 100.0% for ATO and 100.3% for RAM. The overall results of various validation parameters were summarized in table 6.

Table 6
RESULT

Parameter	Atorvastatin	Ramipril
Wavelength	296 nm	223 nm
Zero crossing point	223 nm	296 nm
Range ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	15-35	7.5-17.5
Linearity (R^2)	0.9992	0.9993
Precision (% RSD)		
1) System precision	0.13-0.50	0.22-1.93
2) Method precision	0.51	0.49
3) Intermediate precision	0.50-0.86	0.28-0.49
Accuracy (% Recovery)	99.0	99.7

CONCLUSION

The developed method is novel, simple, accurate, sensitive, reproducible, economical which would be used for the determination of Atorvastatin and Ramipril in combined dosage form.

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