



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Research Journal of Pure and Applied Chemistry
Manuscript Number:	2014_IRJPAC_11921
Title of the Manuscript:	Separation of Palmitic and Palmitoleic Acid using Transition Metal Salts: Part 2

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
None of the comments raised earlier under compulsory revision has been incorporated in the manuscript. Authors have also accepted that this is very preliminary work. In my opinion this work in present form is not suitable for publication in any reputed journal. Authors are suggested to work more for inclusion of the suggested points and resubmit the manuscript. <u>This manuscript is not recommended for publication in this journal</u>	We respectfully disagree with the reviewer. We are appending below the responses we made under the compulsory revisions section (highlighted in yellow). 1) This experiment was aimed at checking the extent to which ZnSO₄ is capable of separating C16:0 from a solution containing a mixture of both C16:0 and C16:1 FAs. The aim was to remove the saturated fatty acid from the mixture making the original solution more concentrated with the unsaturated fatty acid. Experiments thus far proved that 90% of C16:1 FA remained in the original solution. Although far from commercial feasibility, we feel that these findings are significant and paves way for a technology that can be further optimized. 2) – 4). These are all very valid and important suggestions. We would like to point out that the experiments that we conducted thus far are very fundamental in nature and were geared toward understanding how these chemical moieties interact. Future experiments are planned to evaluate the effect of select metal ions on two or more fatty acids in different ratios. In fact, our long-term goal is to attempt develop this technology for high-value FA separation from natural oils. We also disagree with reviewer in his statement that the work is preliminary in nature. We feel that the reviewer misinterpreted the phrase “fundamental in nature”. This work is fundamental in nature (dealing with basic science) but not preliminary. This work obviously needs to be further developed before being applied to real-world situations.

Note: Modification was done in this document ONLY to hide some comments, which are against the SDI peer review guidelines.