

## Hyphenated LC-ICP-MS Arsenic speciation in water



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#### **Introduction – Speciation Why and How?**



## Why Speciation Rather than Total Concentration of Metals?

- Almost all elements form species, with the different forms having different bioavailability, toxicity and mobility
- Cr<sup>III</sup> vs Cr<sup>VI</sup>; Inorganic As vs Organic As; Humic complexes ...

Some species are specifically used for their toxic (or chemical) properties

- Organotin (OT) Species
  - marine anti-fouling paint; polymer stabilisers; fungicides ...
- Brominated flame retardants (BFR's)
  - Eg PBDE's poly-brominated diphenyl ethers (chemically similar to PCB's)
- Organo-phosphorus (OP) Species
  - pesticides; nerve agents
- Whether natural or man-made, these species can find their way into the environment, food chain etc. If the compounds contain an inorganic component, it can be used to provide specific detection of the molecule
- ICP-MS provides a simple, selective, rapid, sensitive and accurate detector for many of these species, via measurement of the inorganic element



## **Some Speciation Landmarks**

"Fish arsenic" (Chapman 1926)
 "...a different (and non-toxic) compound than As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>"

> Minamata, Japan (1950s) MeHg<sup>+</sup> emissions from industry  $\rightarrow$  fish  $\rightarrow$  man

➢ Arcachon Bay, France (1980s) TBT from antifouling agents → oysters





EU Thematic network "speciation 21" (1997-2000) Participants from research, industry and authorities

EVISA (European Virtual Institute for Speciation Analysis)(2003) Information and technology transfer in the framework of speciation



See more info at the EVISA homepage: www.speciation.net

Courtesy of Jens Sloth, DTU



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#### **ICP-MS Interfacing Options**





#### **Key Analytical Requirements**

- •Accuracy toxic compounds in critical environmental, food pharma and clinical samples
  - Some analytes may suffer from spectral interferences removed using collision/reaction cell technology
- •Sensitivity toxic effects may occur at low concentrations
- •Stability for long-term unattended sequencing
- •Reproducibility
  - Elemental response is independent of compound means unknown compounds can be quantified by reference to known compound
  - Consistent elemental response for different sample matrices
- •Specificity reliable quantification regardless of matrix
- •Selectivity certainty of MS on-mass detection
- •Wide elemental coverage and dynamic range



### Firstly, What is ICP-MS?

#### An inorganic (elemental) analysis technique

ICP - Inductively Coupled Plasma

- high temperature ion source
- decomposes, atomizes and ionizes the sample



#### MS - Mass Spectrometer

- Uses quadrupole mass analyzer
- Mass range from 7 to 250 amu (Li to U...)
  - separates all elements in rapid sequential scan
  - isotopic information available
- Measures ions, using dual mode detector
  - ppt to ppm levels

ICP-MS combines the detection limits of Graphite Furnace AA and the sample throughput of ICP-OES



#### Agilent's History of Innovation in ICP-MS – 1987 to 2009

- 1987 PMS 100 introduced First computer-controlled ICP-MS
- 1988 PMS 200 introduced Second generation ICP-MS with off-axis Qpole lens
- 1989 1st ETV accessory for semicon analysis by ICP-MS
- 1990 PMS 2000 introduced Omega off-axis lens. Lowest random background ICP-MS
- 1992 ShieldTorch interface developed Ar interferences virtually eliminated in cool plasma, enabling ppt analysis of K, Ca, Fe by ICP-MS
- **1994 4500 Series introduced** World's first benchtop system. Hyperbolic profile quad, motorized torch XYZ, cool plasma
- 1998 First real time ICP-MS chromatographic software PlasmaChrom. T-mode reaction interface introduced
- 1999 4500 Series 100, 200 & 300 introduced: 1st applications-specific ICP-MS.
- **2000 Agilent 7500 Series introduced** 7500a, 7500i and 7500s the next generation in ICP-MS instrumentation. 9 orders detector range
- 2001 Agilent 7500c launched 1<sup>st</sup> generation ORS for high matrix samples.
- 2002 New digital generators and LAN control introduced. First commercial GC-ICP-MS interface.
- 2003 Agilent 7500cs launched 2<sup>nd</sup> generation ORS for high purity semicon samples.
- 2004 Agilent 7500ce launched 2<sup>nd</sup> generation ORS for high matrix samples.
- 2005 Low flow cell gas MFC's for Xe NH<sub>3</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, etc added to 7500ce/cs.
- 2006 Agilent acquires 100% of Agilent/Yokogawa joint venture
- 2007 Agilent 7500cx introduced: He only mode ICP-MS
- 2008 High Matrix Interface developed enables 2% TDS samples to be run by ICP-MS
- **2009 Agilent 7700 Series introduced** replaces 7500 Series. MassHunter Software introduced common platform with other Agilent MS. ISIS-DS Discrete sampling system, for ultra high throughput analysis









#### Agilent 7700x ICP-MS System



#### **LC-ICP-MS Examples**

- •Arsenic speciation
- •Organo-tin speciation
- •Other, more unusual LC-ICP-MS applications



### **LC-ICP-MS Examples**

#### Arsenic speciation

•Organo-tin speciation

•Other, more unusual LC-ICP-MS applications



## **Effect of Chronic Exposure to As**

Long-term exposure to As through drinking water causes:

- Changes in skin pigmentation and thickening (Arsenical keratosis; latency 10 Y)
- Cancer of the skin, lungs, urinary tract and kidney (cancer is a late phenomenon and usually takes 20 years to develop )
- Severe disease of blood vessels leading to gangrene (e.g. Black Foot Disease in Taiwan)
- Finally may lead to death from internal cancers and multi-organ failure



#### **Arsenic Speciation with LC-ICP-MS**

Complete isocratic separation of AsB & CI from inorganic As, using a new column



\*Adjusted to pH 11 to separate AsB. Ionic strength of mobile phase shortens elution of As V 10ug/L each As species



#### **Principle of He Mode and KED\***



\*KED = Kinetic Energy Discrimination



#### **Polyatomic Interferences in Complex Matrices**

Some manufacturers claim that ICP-MS has only a few interferences, and that reaction gases can be used to remove them.

That's true in a simple sample, but in a complex sample there are many interferences, and no reaction gas can remove all of them

But He mode on the 7700 can!!

sotope	Principal Interfering Species (mixed matrix)
<sup>45</sup> Sc	<sup>13</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> , <sup>12</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>44</sup> CaH, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>12</sup> CH, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>13</sup> C, <sup>33</sup> S <sup>12</sup> C
<sup>47</sup> Ti	<sup>31</sup> P <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>46</sup> CaH, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>12</sup> C, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>14</sup> NH, <sup>33</sup> S <sup>14</sup> N
<sup>49</sup> Ti	<sup>31</sup> P <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>48</sup> CaH, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>14</sup> N, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>12</sup> C, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>16</sup> OH, <sup>33</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O
<sup>50</sup> Ti	<sup>34</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>14</sup> NH, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>12</sup> CH
<sup>51</sup> V	<sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>14</sup> N, <sup>34</sup> S <sup>16</sup> OH
<sup>52</sup> Cr	<sup>36</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>12</sup> C, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>16</sup> OH, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>14</sup> NH, <sup>34</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O
<sup>53</sup> Cr	<sup>36</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> OH, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>13</sup> C, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>12</sup> CH
<sup>54</sup> Fe	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>14</sup> N, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>14</sup> N, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>31</sup> P
<sup>55</sup> Mn	<sup>37</sup> Cl <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>32</sup> S, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>31</sup> PH
<sup>56</sup> Fe	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> O
<sup>57</sup> Fe	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> OH, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> OH
<sup>58</sup> Ni	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>18</sup> O, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>35</sup> Cl
<sup>59</sup> Co	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>18</sup> OH, <sup>43</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>35</sup> ClH
<sup>50</sup> Ni	<sup>44</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>37</sup> Cl
<sup>51</sup> Ni	<sup>44</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> OH, <sup>38</sup> Ar <sup>23</sup> Na, <sup>23</sup> Na <sup>37</sup> ClH
<sup>53</sup> Cu	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>23</sup> Na, <sup>12</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O <sup>35</sup> Cl, <sup>12</sup> C <sup>14</sup> N <sup>37</sup> Cl, <sup>31</sup> P <sup>32</sup> S, <sup>31</sup> P <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub>
<sup>64</sup> Zn	<sup>32</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> , <sup>32</sup> S <sub>2</sub> , <sup>36</sup> Ar <sup>12</sup> C <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>38</sup> Ar <sup>12</sup> C <sup>14</sup> N, <sup>48</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> O
<sup>35</sup> Cu	<sup>32</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>32</sup> S <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>14</sup> N <sup>16</sup> O <sup>35</sup> CI, <sup>48</sup> Ca <sup>16</sup> OH
<sup>56</sup> Zn	<sup>34</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> , <sup>32</sup> S <sup>34</sup> S, <sup>33</sup> S <sub>2</sub> , <sup>48</sup> Ca <sup>18</sup> O
<sup>67</sup> Zn	<sup>32</sup> S <sup>34</sup> SH, <sup>33</sup> S <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>48</sup> Ca <sup>18</sup> OH, <sup>14</sup> N <sup>16</sup> O <sup>37</sup> Cl, <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>35</sup> Cl
<sup>58</sup> Zn	<sup>32</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O <sub>2</sub> , <sup>34</sup> S <sub>2</sub>
<sup>59</sup> Ga	<sup>32</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>34</sup> S <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>37</sup> Cl
<sup>70</sup> Zn	<sup>34</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O <sub>2</sub> , <sup>35</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub>
<sup>71</sup> Ga	<sup>34</sup> S <sup>18</sup> O <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> H, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>31</sup> P
<sup>72</sup> Ge	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>32</sup> S, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>37</sup> Cl, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub>
<sup>73</sup> Ge	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>32</sup> SH, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>33</sup> S, <sup>35</sup> Cl <sup>37</sup> ClH, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>16</sup> O <sub>2</sub> H
<sup>74</sup> Ge	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>34</sup> S, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub>
<sup>75</sup> As	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>34</sup> SH, <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>35</sup> Cl, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>35</sup> Cl, <sup>37</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> H
<sup>77</sup> Se	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>37</sup> Cl, <sup>40</sup> Ca <sup>37</sup> Cl
<sup>78</sup> Se	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>38</sup> Ar
<sup>30</sup> Se	<sup>40</sup> Ar <sub>2</sub> , <sup>40</sup> Ca <sub>2</sub> , <sup>40</sup> Ar <sup>40</sup> Ca, <sup>32</sup> S <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O, <sup>32</sup> S <sup>16</sup> O <sub>3</sub>



#### **Blank Acid Matrices and IPA in No Gas Mode**

#### Color of spectrum indicates which matrix gave each interfering peak



No Gas Mode



#### **Blank Acid Matrices and IPA in H<sub>2</sub> (Reaction) Mode**

#### Color of spectrum indicates which matrix gave each interfering peak





#### **Blank Acid Matrices and IPA in He Mode**

#### Color of spectrum indicates which matrix gave each interfering peak





#### Matrix Mix with Spike (10ppb) in He Mode

#### Consistent sensitivity and perfect template match for all **e**ments cps 10ppb Spike in 5% $HNO_3 + 5\%$ HCl + 1% $H_2SO_4 + 1\%$ IPA Matrix Consistent high sensitivity for all isotopes of all elements in He Mode 1.5 Good signal for all spike elements at 10ppb Spike. Perfect template fit for all elements – no residual interferences and no loss of analyte signal by reaction 0.5 Mass 65 50 60 45 55 70 75 80

He Mode



#### **Collision/Reaction Cell in He Mode** – Effective removal of ArCl for fast LC separation

1.0ppb As Mix in 0.3% NaCl. Ion-Pairing Chromatography with C18 column. Mobile Phase: 5mM TBAH / 3mM Malonic Acid @ pH 5.9



\*Chloride anion interferes with MMA, As(V) and total As measurement



#### **Chromatographic Data Analysis - Sequence**

- Chromatographic Data Analysis in Batch table view, including real-time update, calib display and outlier flags.

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1	•		001SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 10:20:0	CalStd	1	STD 1ug/L	1.007	0.0	1.064	0.0	1.129	0.0	0.992	0.0	0.966	0.0	
2			002SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 10:34:0	CalStd	2	STD 5ug/L	5.016	0.0	5.127	0.0	5.165	0.0	5.123	0.0	5.157	0.0	
3			003SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 10:47:0	CalStd	3	STD 10ug/L	9.991	0.0	9.930	0.0	9.904	0.0	9.939	0.0	9.925	0.0	
4			004SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 11:01:0	Sample		1/10 NIES	6.143	0.0	3.023	0.0	0.182	0.0	0.192	0.0	0.003	0.0	
5	٣		005SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 11:14:0	Sample		1/10 NIES+5ug/L-1	11.059	0.0	7.897	0.0	4.995	0.0	5.268	0.0	5.203	0.0	
6			006SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 11:27:0	Sample		1/10 NIES+5ug/L-2	10.562	0.0	7.743	0.0	4.975	0.0	5.268	0.0	5.353	0.0	
7			007SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 11:41:0	Sample		1/10 NIES+5ug/L-3	10.979	0.0	7.780	0.0	4.912	0.0	5.111	0.0	5.280	0.0	
8			008SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 11:54:0	Sample		1/10 NIES+5ug/L-4	10.820	0.0	7.562	0.0	4.785	0.0	5.145	0.0	5.101	0.0	
9			009SMPL_Chrom_AS.D	12/06/2006 12:08:0	Sample		1/10 NIES+5ug/L-5	10.559	0.0	7.705	0.0	4.635	0.0	5.026	0.0	5.033	0.0	
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#### **Chromatographic Data Analysis – Signal/Noise**



Signal to Noise Calculation (per compound, per analyte or per sample)

Screen shows S/N for compound AB = S/N is shown above the selected peak.

Noise region can be selected for all compounds and all analyte masses, for all compounds of the selected mass, or just for the selected compound

#### **Calibrations for Different As Species**





#### **Arsenic Occurence**

High concentrations of arsenic has been found in samples from the marine environment.

Seawater	1 - 2	µg/L
Marine fish	0.2 - >100	mg/kg
Marine invertebrates	0.2 - >100	mg/kg
Marine algae	0.02 - 40	mg/kg
Freshwater fish	<0.01 - 2	mg/kg
Terrestrial biota	<0.2	mg/kg

All results on wet weight basis

Marine organisms can bioaccumulate arsenic by a factor of up to 100,000 compared with seawater!!!

Courtesy of Jens Sloth, DTU



#### **Arsenic compounds in the Marine Environment**



Courtesy of Jens Sloth, DTU Page 25

### **As Speciation - Toxicity**



Many As species exist – the inorganic As species are known to be toxic and most organic species are relatively harmless to humans.

The potential toxicity of some species, such as the huge variety of arsenosugars, has not yet been established.

Courtesy Ute Kohlmeyer GALAB, Germany

#### **LC-ICP-MS Determination of As Species**



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### **LC-ICP-MS Determination of As Species**

As species distribution varies dramatically in marine organisms. Non-toxic arsenobetaine is the main species found in marine animals (fish and shellfish), whereas toxic arsenate and arsenosugars are the main species in marine algae.



Courtesy Ute Kohlmeyer GALAB, Germany



#### Analysis of Total Inorganic As by Anion Exchange HPLC-ICPMS – Sample Prep

Microwave assisted alkaline hydrolysis

Subsample + 0.9M NaOH in 50% EtOH

Microwave treatment 20 min, 90°C

- I: Solubilisation of sample matrix
- II: Conversion of As(III) to As(V)



Determination of total inorganic arsenic as As(V) by anion-exchange HPLC-ICP-MS

> No conversion of other arsenic compounds to inorganic arsenic



#### Analysis of Inorganic As by Anion Exchange HPLC-ICPMS – Results



Time-->

Sloth and Julshamn 2008, J. Agri. Food Chem.



### **Summary – Arsenic in the Marine Environment**

High levels of arsenic in some marine samples

**Complex chemistry** 

Inorganic arsenic most toxic, but usually low in seafood

HPLC-ICPMS versatile tool for speciation analysis

No maximum allowable As levels in food currently defined in the EU

EFSA opionion on arsenic in food



Courtesy of Jens Sloth, DTU Page 31



## Arsenic Contamination of Ground Water in Bangladesh & West Bengal - India



Courtesy of Amjad Shraim, Uni Queensland







- Worst human mass-poisoning in history
- More than 80 millions of people are drinking water highly contaminated with As
- Tens of thousands are diagnosed with symptoms of As poisoning
- Arsenic in drinking water may result in 0.2 – 0.3 million deaths from cancer in Bangladesh alone
- Highest reported As concentrations in GW
   5 ppm
- More than 95% of arsenic is either arsenite or arsenate (inorganic forms = toxic)
- 1st cases: 1983 West Bengal

1993 Bangladesh



#### **LC-ICP-MS Method for Arsenic in Groundwater**

HPLC ICP-MS

Reversed-phase C18 (ODS-3, 150 x 4.6 mm, 3  $\mu$ m)

Conditions 5 mM TBAH + 3 mM malonic acid + 5% methanol Flow Rate 1.5 ml.min<sup>-1</sup> 50 °C 50 uL injection

Method's DL: 0.07 - 0.10 µg/L

Courtesy of Amjad Shraim, Uni Queensland



#### **LC-ICP-MS Method for Arsenic in Groundwater**



Courtesy of Amjad Shraim, Uni Queensland

### **Tube-Well Water Sample, Undiluted**



## **As Concentration in Groundwater**

No	As(III)	DMA(V)	MMA(V)	As(V)	Sum
1	93.5	0.7	0.5	32.0	125.9
2	19.1	0.1	0.1	9.9	29.1
3	257.2	ND	ND	76.2	333.4
4	6.8	0.2	0.2	7.7	15.4
5	501.7	0.1	0.1	24.5	526.3
6	418.4	ND	0.1	184.5	602.9
7	23.6	ND	ND	9.9	33.5
8	461.9	ND	ND	183.9	645.8
9	317.5	ND	2.1	184.5	504.1

Tube-well water samples from Murshidabad district - West Bengal All results in ug/L (ppb) in the well-water



# Thank You



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### **LC-ICP-MS Examples**

- •Arsenic speciation
- •Organo-tin speciation

#### •Other, more unusual LC-ICP-MS applications



## Determination of Complex Organo-As Species in Biological Systems

Small population of sheep on North Ronaldsay – outside enclosures  $\rightarrow$  no grass to eat, so have lived on seaweed for many generations. How is high As content of seaweed metabolised?



#### Hansen et al. J Anal At. Spectrom, 18, 474 Page 40

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#### Determination of Organo-As Species LC with ESI-MS & ICP-MS Detection (Split flow)



Single HPLC System with controlled split to provide sample flow to ESI-MS and ICP-MS. Simultaneous identification/quantification of As-containing compounds (ICP-MS) and structural information on all the organic compounds (ESI-MS)

Courtesy Jörg Feldmann et al, Aberdeen Univ.





#### **Separation and Identification of Organo-Arsenic Species**

Hansen et al. J Anal At. Spectrom, 18, 474 Page 42

#### **Confirmation of Organo-Arsenic Species in Sheep's Urine**



Species identity confirmed through the analysis of species specific standard spikes by ESI-MS – same retention time and same fragmentation pattern.

Species identified in sheep's urine include DMAA (Dimethylarsinoyl acetic acid), which is known as a natural product in shellfish, but has not previously been reported as a urinary arsenic metabolite.



# Thank You



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