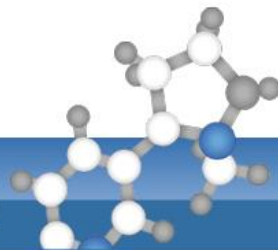




European Commission

# EURL-SRM



EU Reference Laboratories for Residues of Pesticides

Single Residue Methods

# Selective analysis of Bromide via LC-MS/MS and comparison with a traditional GC-based method



<http://www.forstercontainer.ch/>



**DANGER**



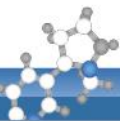
**THIS UNIT IS UNDER FUMIGATION WITH (fumigant name) APPLIED ON**  
(Bezeichnung des Schädlingsbekämpfungsmittels)

( **date** ) (Datum und Zeitpunkt eintragen)  
 ( **time** )

**DO NOT ENTER**

[https://www.containerhandbuch.de/chb\\_e/stra/index.html?/chb\\_e/stra/stra\\_03\\_08\\_00.html](https://www.containerhandbuch.de/chb_e/stra/index.html?/chb_e/stra/stra_03_08_00.html)

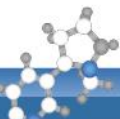
**Eric Eichhorn**  
**Anne Benkenstein**  
**Cristin Wildgrube**  
**Andrea Karst**  
**Diana Kolberg**  
**Ellen Scherbaum**  
**Michelangelo Anastassiades**



# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, *Science*, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, *Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser.*, 1967

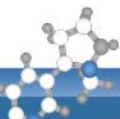


# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967

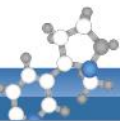


# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]
  - formerly used as soil & post-harvest fumigant
  - nowadays: sterilizing agent in container shipment

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967

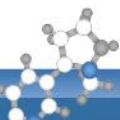


# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]
  - formerly used as soil & post-harvest fumigant  
nowadays: sterilizing agent in container shipment
  - high toxicity towards a wide-range of organisms (nervous system)

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967

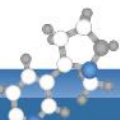


# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]
  - formerly used as soil & post-harvest fumigant  
nowadays: sterilizing agent in container shipment
  - high toxicity towards a wide-range of organisms (nervous system)
  - damages ozone layer & enhances the Greenhouse Effect

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967

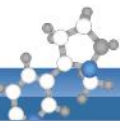


# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]
  - formerly used as soil & post-harvest fumigant  
nowadays: sterilizing agent in container shipment
  - high toxicity towards a wide-range of organisms (nervous system)
  - damages ozone layer & enhances the Greenhouse Effect
  - 2008/753/EC: non-approval of Methyl bromide

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967



# 1. Why putting the analytical focus on Bromide?

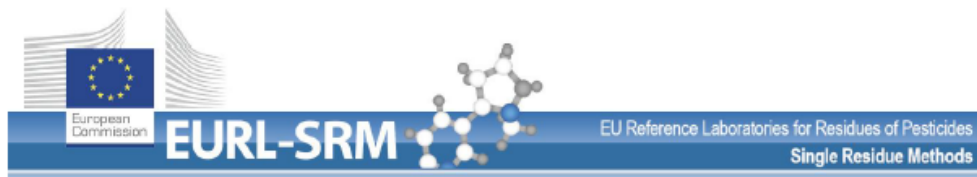
- Bromide is the main metabolite of **Methyl bromide** [1, 2]
  - formerly used as soil & post-harvest fumigant  
nowadays: sterilizing agent in container shipment
  - high toxicity towards a wide-range of organisms (nervous system)
  - damages ozone layer & enhances the Greenhouse Effect
  - 2008/753/EC: non-approval of Methyl bromide
  - Maximum Residue Levels (**MRL's**) as **Bromide**, Reg. (EC) No. 149/2008  
and Reg. (EC) No. 839/2008:  
**5 ppm** (berries) – **400 ppm** (spices)

[1] Heywood, B. J., Pesticide residues in total diet samples: bromine content, Science, 152 (5727): 1406, 1966

[2] Food and Agricultural Organisation, Evaluation of some Pesticide Residues in Food: Methyl Bromide, Report of a Joint Meeting of the FAO Working Party and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues, Wld HLth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1967



## 2. Extraction of Bromide: QuPPe method



### Quick Method for the Analysis of numerous Highly Polar Pesticides in Foods of Plant Origin via LC-MS/MS involving Simultaneous Extraction with Methanol (QuPPe-Method)

- **Version 9.1** (May 2016, Document History, see page 65)

Authors: M. Anastassiades; D. I. Kolberg; A. Benkenstein; E. Eichhorn; S. Zechmann;  
D. Mack; C. Wildgrube; I. Sigalov; D. Dörk; A. Barth

#### **Weigh sample homogenate in 50 mL centrifuge tube**

Fresh fruits and vegetables (with high content of water): 10 g ± 0.1 g,  
Previously dehydrated dry fruit 13.5 g ± 0.1 g (containing 5 g sample),  
Cereals and dried pulses (dried commodities): 5 g ± 0.05 g



#### **Adjust water content of sample to 10 mL**

e.g. Rye Flour: add 10 g water; Potato: add 2 g of water



#### **Add 10 mL MeOH containing 1 % formic acid**



#### **LC-MS/MS analysis**



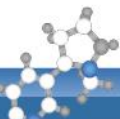
European  
Commission

EURL-SRM

EU Reference Laboratories for Residues of Pesticides

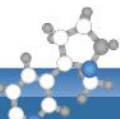
Single Residue Methods

# 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide



### 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$



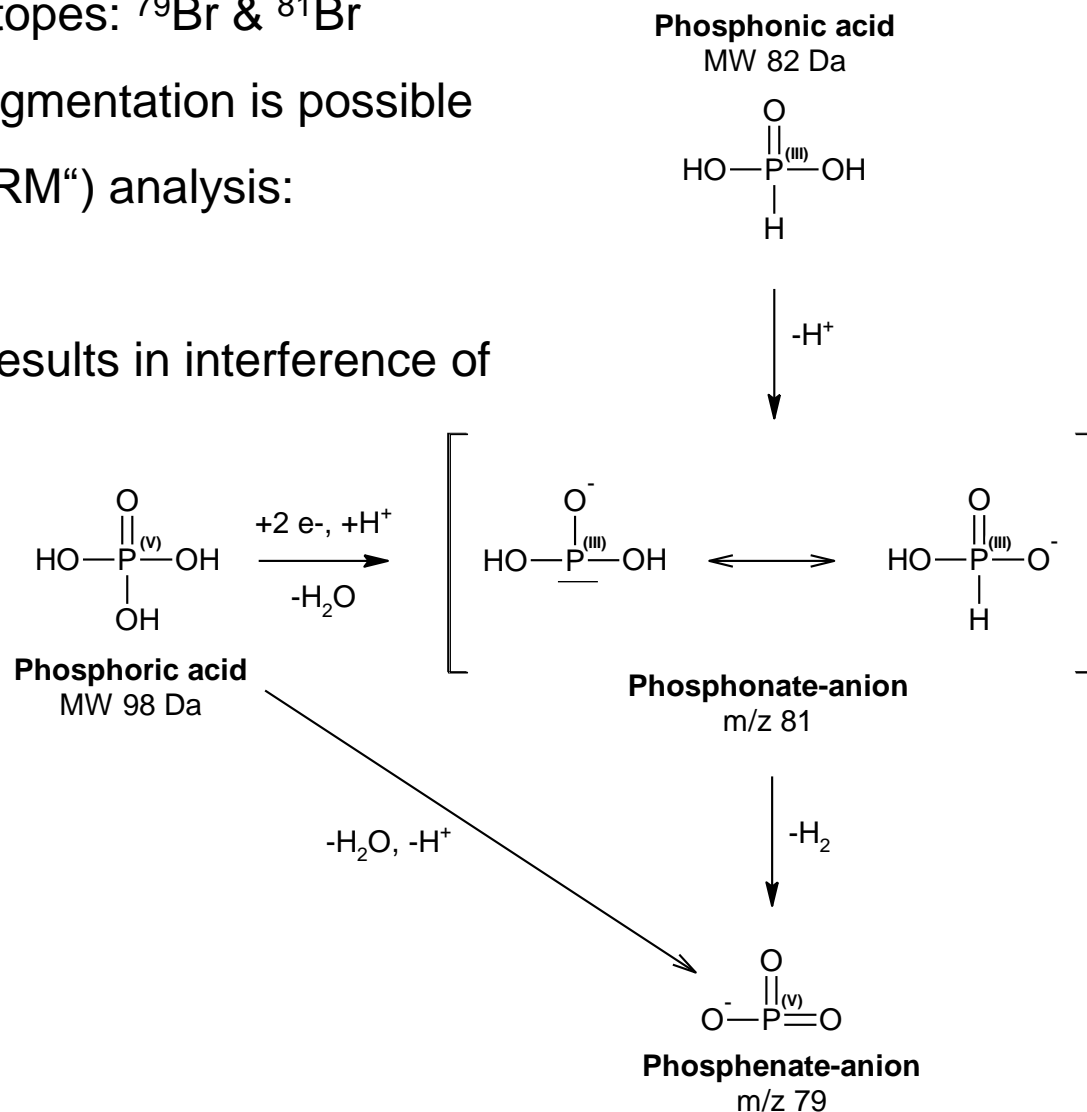
### 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$
  - being an element, no MS/MS fragmentation is possible
- „parent/parent“ (= „pseudo-MRM“) analysis:

m/z 79/79 and m/z 81/81

### 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$
- being an element, no MS/MS fragmentation is possible  
 → „parent/parent“ (= „pseudo-MRM“) analysis:  
 m/z 79/79 and m/z 81/81
- non-selective MS/MS analysis results in interference of both mass traces:

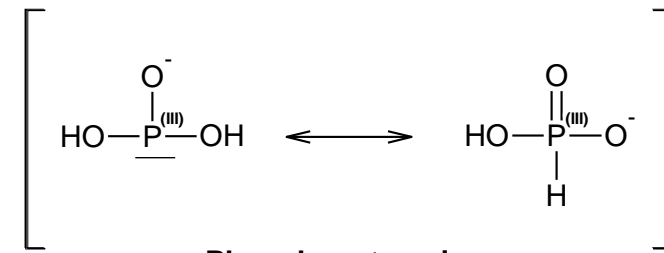
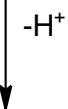
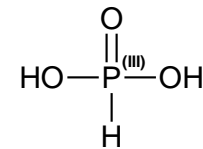


S. Walse, W. Hall, M. Bruggeman, B. Beckham, J. Muhareb & T. Jones; Quantifying residues of phosphonic acid for tree nut export to European Union; submitted as reporting requirement for USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops grant; 2015

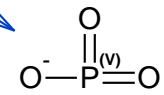
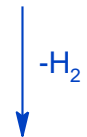
# 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$
- being an element, no MS/MS fragmentation is possible  
→ „parent/parent“ (= „pseudo-MRM“) analysis:  
m/z 79/79 and m/z 81/81
- non-selective MS/MS analysis results in interference of both mass traces:

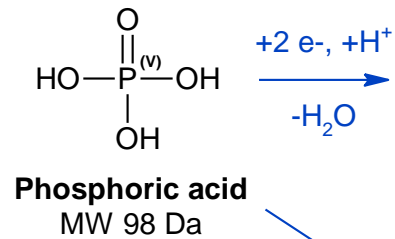
**Phosphonic acid**  
MW 82 Da



**Phosphonate-anion**  
m/z 81



**Phosphenate-anion**  
m/z 79



**in-source fragmentation**

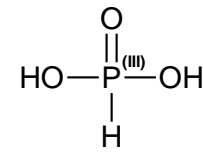


S. Walse, W. Hall, M. Bruggeman, B. Beckham, J. Muhareb & T. Jones; Quantifying residues of phosphonic acid for tree nut export to European Union; submitted as reporting requirement for USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops grant; 2015

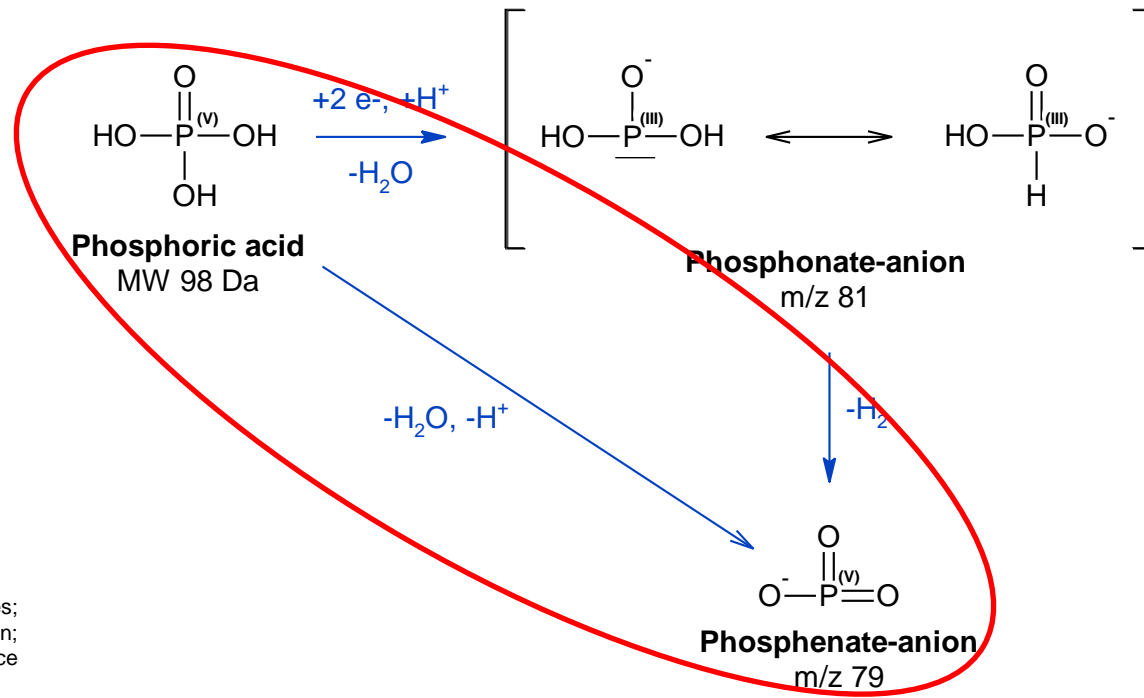
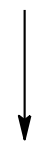
# 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$
- being an element, no MS/MS fragmentation is possible  
 → „parent/parent“ (= „pseudo-MRM“) analysis:  
 m/z 79/79 and m/z 81/81
- non-selective MS/MS analysis results in interference of both mass traces:

**Phosphonic acid**  
MW 82 Da

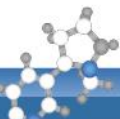


-H<sup>+</sup>



*most critical pathway*

in-source fragmentation



### 3. Facts regarding the MS/MS analysis of Bromide

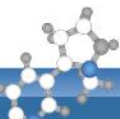
- two naturally occurring stable isotopes:  $^{79}\text{Br}$  &  $^{81}\text{Br}$
- being an element, no MS/MS fragmentation is possible

→ „parent/parent“ (= „pseudo-MRM“) analysis:

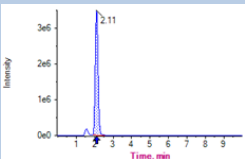
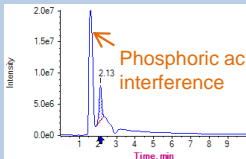
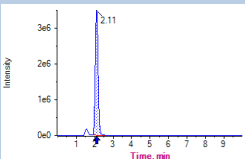
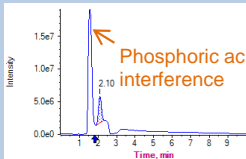
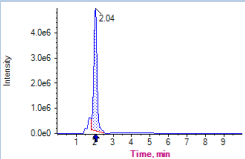
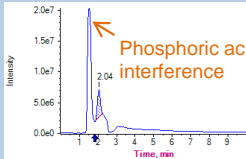
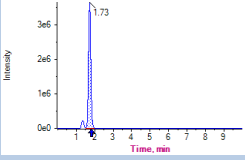
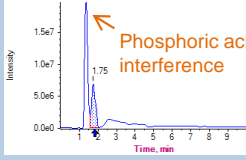
$m/z$  79/79 and  $m/z$  81/81

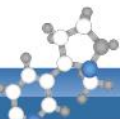
- non-selective MS/MS analysis results in interference of both mass traces
  - strategies to decrease these interferences:
    - improve chromatographic separation
    - reduce matrix effects
    - more selective measurement (e. g. Differential Mobility Mass Spectrometry)
- } dilution (e. g. 50-fold)





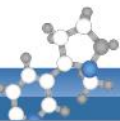
# 4. Improving the selectivity of the MS/MS measurement by modifying the Collision Energy (CE)

QuPPE extract of	m/z 81/81		m/z 79/79	
	CE -5 V		CE -5 V	
cucumber				
	<i>containing 1.7 ppm Bromide, approx. 300 ppm Phosphoric acid &amp; 2.0 ppm Phosphonic acid</i>			
mint leaves				
	<i>containing 1.1 ppm Bromide, approx. 370 ppm Phosphoric acid; Phosphonic acid n. d.</i>			
fennel				
	<i>containing 2.2 ppm Bromide, approx. 400 ppm Phosphoric acid &amp; 5.4 ppm Phosphonic acid</i>			
sweet corn				
	<i>containing 1.1 ppm Bromide, approx. 350 ppm Phosphoric acid; Phosphonic acid n. d.</i>			



# 4. Improving the selectivity of the MS/MS measurement by modifying the Collision Energy (CE)

QuPpe extract of	m/z 81/81		m/z 79/79	
	CE -5 V	CE -60 V	CE -5 V	CE -70 V
cucumber				
	<i>containing 1.7 ppm Bromide, approx. 300 ppm Phosphoric acid &amp; 2.0 ppm Phosphonic acid</i>			
mint leaves				
	<i>containing 1.1 ppm Bromide, approx. 370 ppm Phosphoric acid; Phosphonic acid n. d.</i>			
fennel				
	<i>containing 2.2 ppm Bromide, approx. 400 ppm Phosphoric acid &amp; 5.4 ppm Phosphonic acid</i>			
sweet corn				
	<i>containing 1.1 ppm Bromide, approx. 350 ppm Phosphoric acid; Phosphonic acid n. d.</i>			



## 5. Comparison with a traditional GC-based method



### Bromine Containing Fumigants Determined as Total Inorganic Bromide

#### **Weigh sample homogenate in 100 mL Erlenmeyer flask**

Fresh fruits and vegetables (with high content of water):  $5 \text{ g} \pm 0.05 \text{ g}$ ,  
Cereals and dried pulses (dried commodities):  $5 \text{ g} \pm 0.05 \text{ g}$



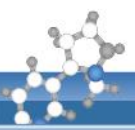
**Add 5 mL Propylene oxide solution (4 % in water, w/v) and  
1 mL Sulphuric acid (3 mol/L) solution**



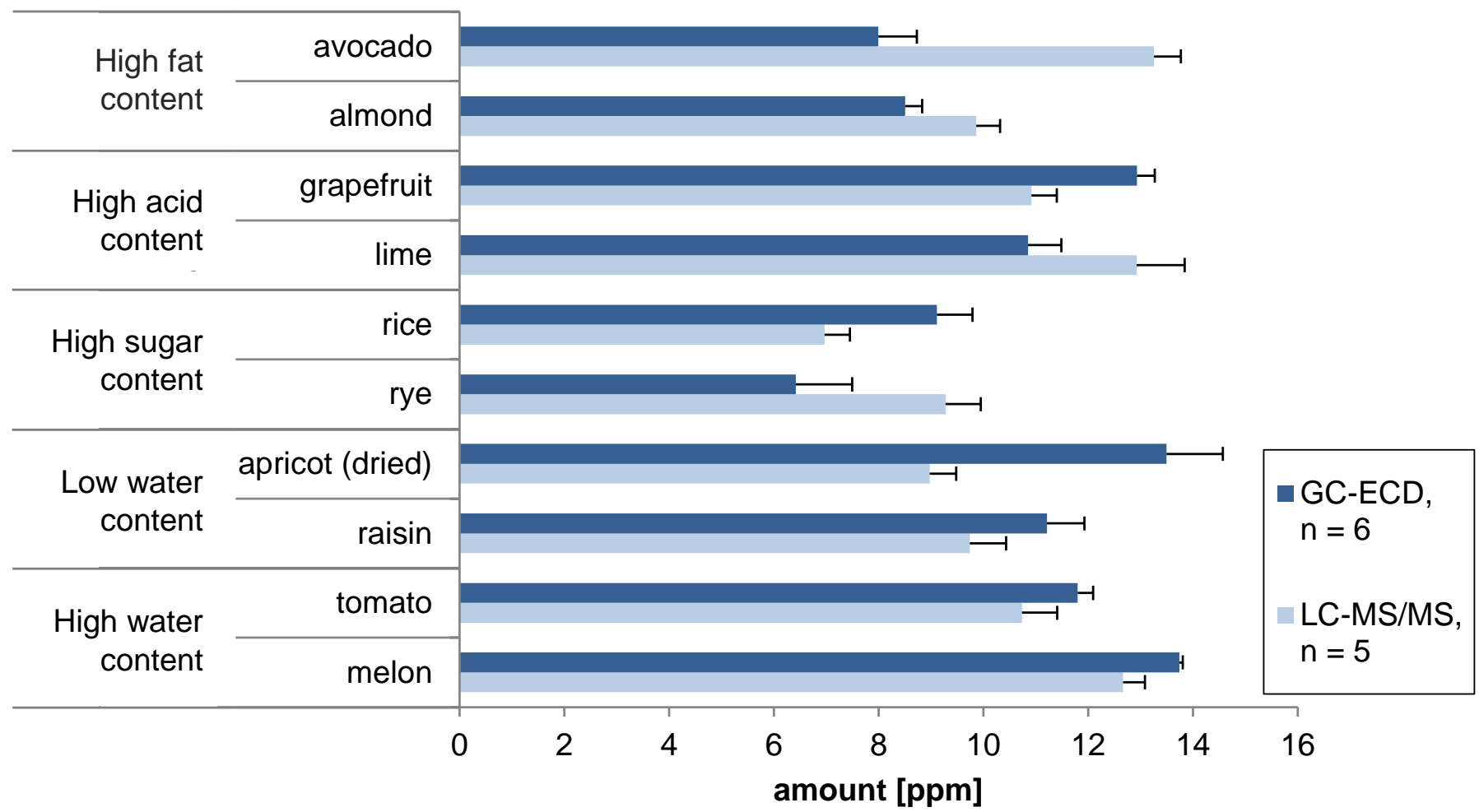
**Add 50 mL Ethyl acetate and 4 g Ammonium sulfate**



**GC-ECD analysis**



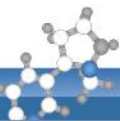
# 5. Comparison with a traditional GC-based method





European  
Commission

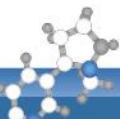
**EURL-SRM**



EU Reference Laboratories for Residues of Pesticides

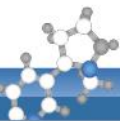
Single Residue Methods

## 6. Final Conclusion



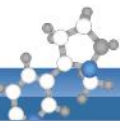
## 6. Final Conclusion

- **interferences** could be **largely decreased** using optimized collision energies



## 6. Final Conclusion

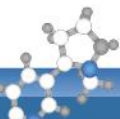
- **interferences** could be **largely decreased** using optimized collision energies
- **quick and simple determination of Bromide** compared to the traditional GC-method



## 6. Final Conclusion

- **interferences** could be **largely decreased** using optimized collision energies
- **quick and simple determination of Bromide** compared to the traditional GC-method
- determination can be **included in the QuPPE routine analysis** (M.1.4 PerChloPhos)





## 6. Final Conclusion

- **interferences** could be **largely decreased** using optimized collision energies
- **quick and simple determination of Bromide** compared to the traditional GC-method
- determination can be **included in the QuPPE routine analysis** (M.1.4 PerChloPhos)

Thank you for your attention!

Questions to [EURL-SRM@CVUAS.BWL.de](mailto:EURL-SRM@CVUAS.BWL.de)