

Analysis of pesticide residues using various GC/MS systems

Radim Štěpán

*Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection
Authority
Prague, Czech Republic*



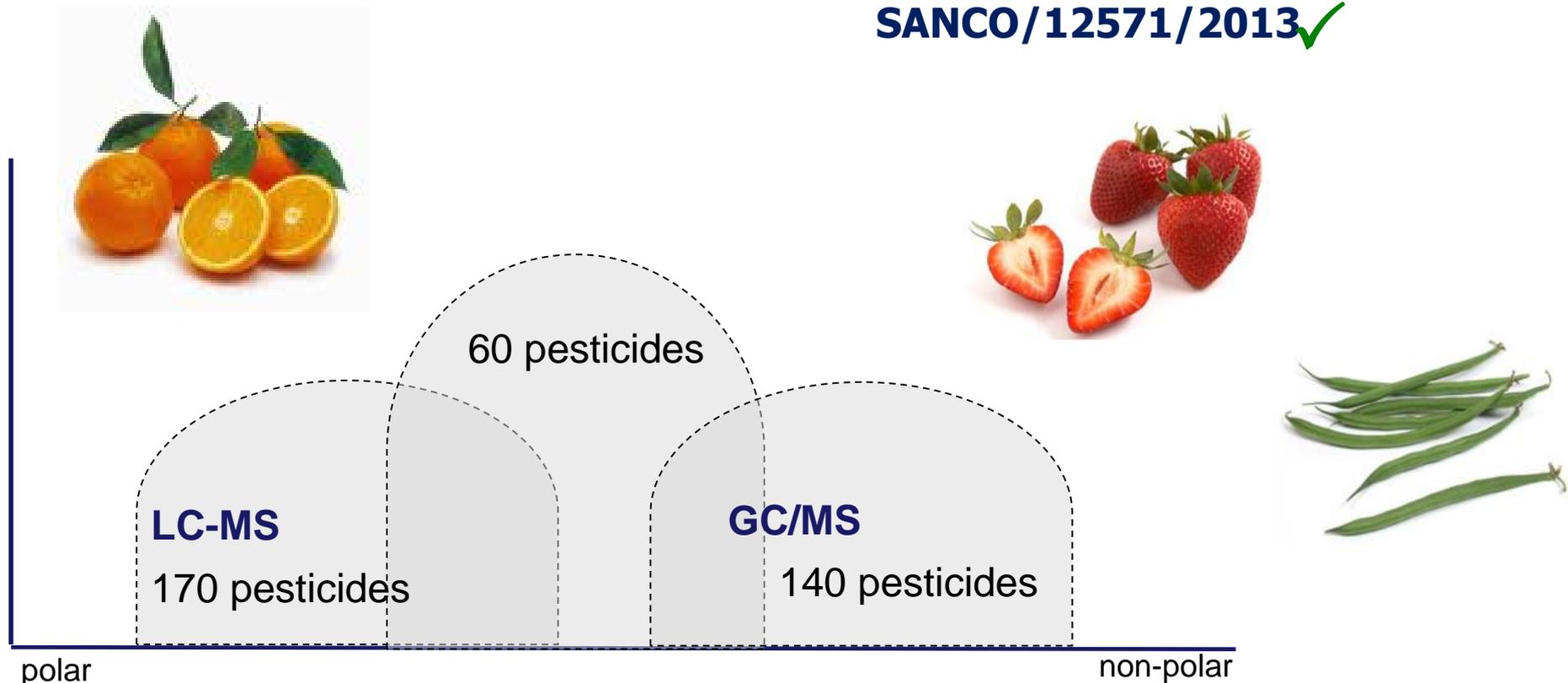
OUTLINE

- ⇒ **Multiresidue method: target approach**
- ⇒ **Multiresidue method: GC part**
- ⇒ **„Problematic“ pesticides: Example #1 Dinocap**
- ⇒ **„Problematic“ pesticides: Example #2 Iprodione**
- ⇒ **Conclusions**

Target analysis of pesticide residues: multiresidue method

⇒ **QuEChERS[#] method: 360 pesticides** in each sample (**without PSA clean-up**)
one extraction procedure for GC-MS and LC-MS measurement ✓

SANCO/12571/2013 ✓



[#] EN 15662:2008 Foods of plant origin - Determination of pesticide residues using GC-MS and/or LC-MS/MS following acetonitrile extraction/partitioning and clean-up by dispersive SPE - QuEChERS-method

Target analysis of pesticide residues

⇒ Sample measurement: **GC part**



**GCxGC-TOF
with PTV injection**



**GC-MS/MS
with PTV injection**



Target analysis of pesticide residues

1. PTV-GCxGC-TOF

LECO Pegasus 4D equipped with:

- consumable-free (CFM) modulator
- no need of liquid nitrogen



Injection technique - PTV	PTV operated in a solvent vent mode injection volume 10 ul , vent time 40 sec, vent flow 20 ml/min, temp. 40 C
Columns (GCxGC)	1 st dimension DB-5 MS (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 um) 2 nd dimension BPX-50 (2 m x 0.1 mm x 0.1 um)
Modulator	modulation period: 5 sec
TOF-MS	EI ionization, acquisition rate: 50 spectra/sec , mass range 50-550

Target analysis of pesticide residues

2. PTV-GC-MS/MS

Varian CP-3800 GC/1200L MS:



Injection technique - PTV	PTV operated in a solvent vent mode injection volume 10 μl , temperature programme: 45 °C (1 min, CO ₂ cooled), 200 °C/min to 280 °C Split ratio: On 50:1 (1 min), Off (2.3 min), On 100:1 (10 min), On 20:1 (to the end of GC run)
------------------------------	--

Column	VF-5-MS capillary column (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 μ m)
--------	--

MS parameters	EI ionization, ion source temperature: 200 °C, transfer line temperature: 290 °C, collision gas (argon, 2 mTorr)
---------------	--

Example 1: DINOCAP

⇒ Contact Fungicide and Acaricide

⇒ DINITROPHENOL group

⇒ Molecular formula: $C_{18}H_{24}N_2O_6$

⇒ Molecular weight: 364

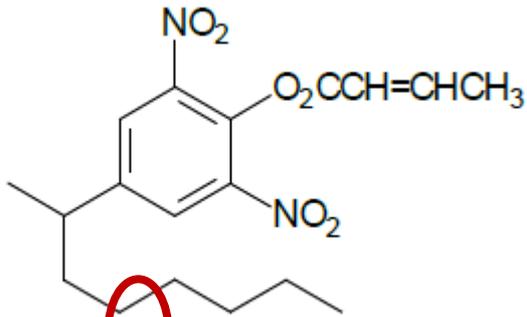
⇒ Present in EUPT-SM06

(EUPT for screening methods, green pepper, February 2014)
only 37% Labs identified dinocap in the sample

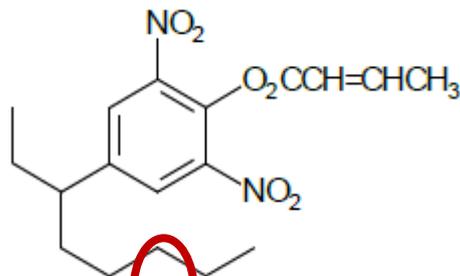
⇒ MRL definition: Sum of dinocap isomers and their corresponding phenols expressed as dinocap

Example 1: DINOCAP

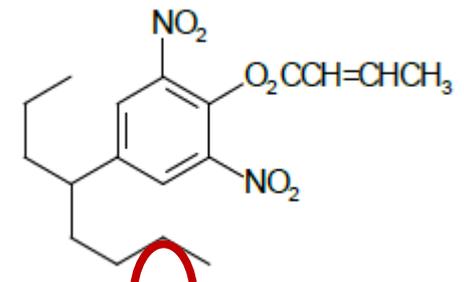
Mixture of isomers



Dinocap-4-(1-Methyl Heptyl)

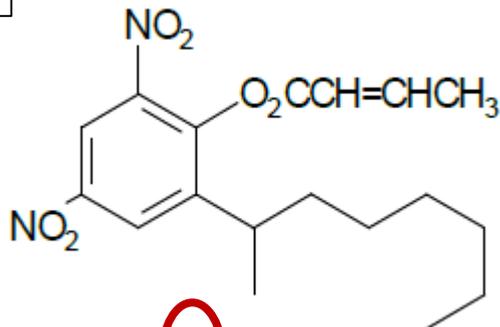


Dinocap-4-(1-Ethyl Hexyl)

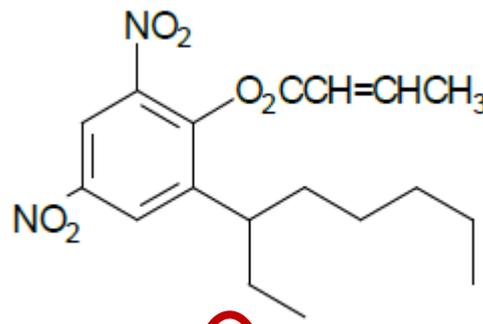


Dinocap-4-(1-Propyl Pentyl)

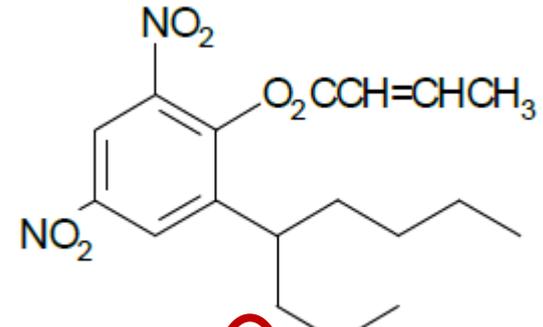
2
1



Dinocap-6-(1-Methyl Heptyl)



Dinocap-6-(1-Ethyl Hexyl)



Dinocap-6-(1-Propyl Pentyl)

Example 1: DINOCAP

PTV-GC-MS/MS

⇒ Difficult identification due to poor intensity of product ions

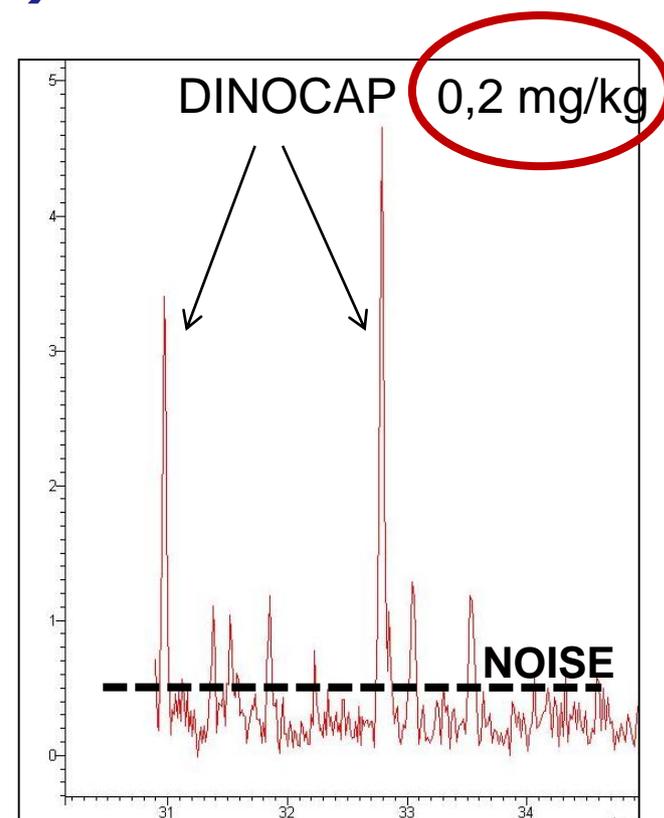
⇒ Ion selected for fragmentation (most intensive) : 69

⇒ MS/MS Transitions: 69/41, 69/57

⇒ LOQ: 0,1 mg/kg

⇒ EU MRL: 0,05 mg/kg
for most of products

⇒ Chromatographic interferences



Example 1: DINOCAP

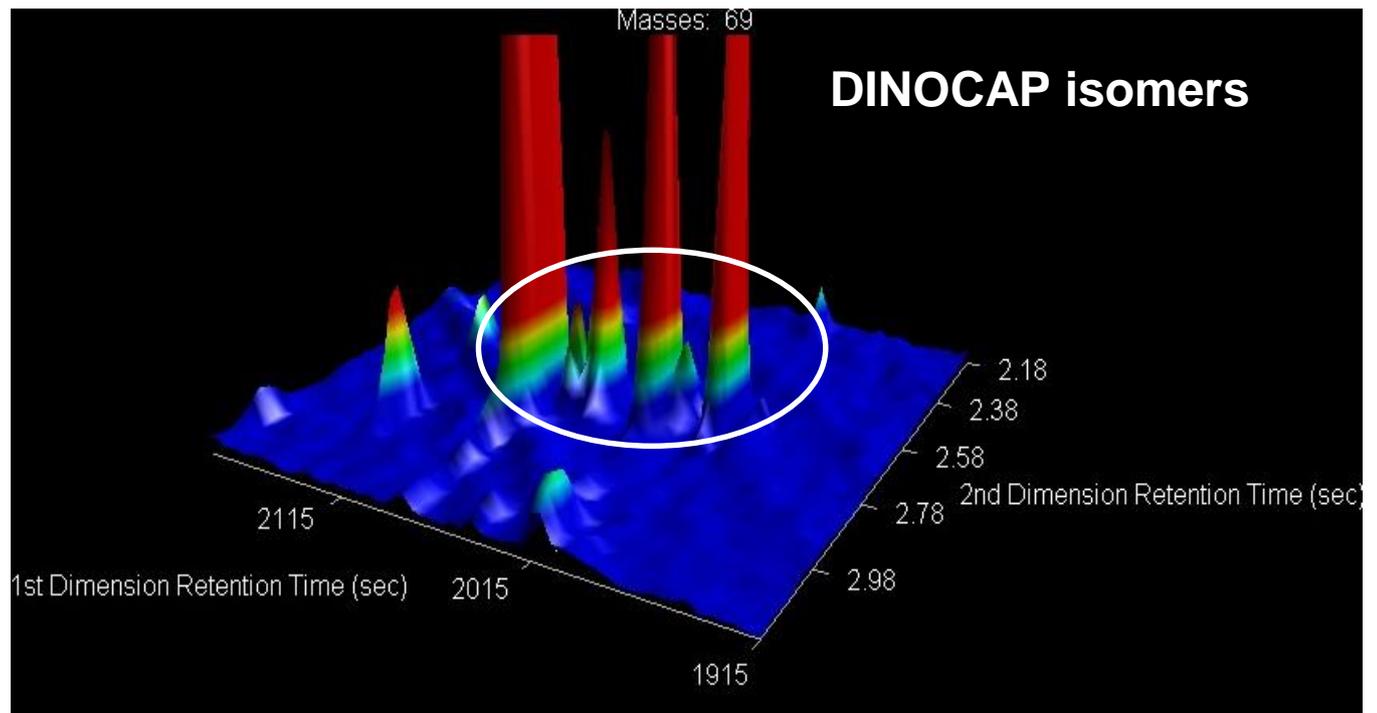
PTV-GCxGC-TOF MS

⇒ Improved chromatographic separation (all isomers are separated)

⇒ More than 10x increased signal-to-noise ratio

⇒ LOQ: 0,008 mg/kg

⇒ EU MRL:
0,05 mg/kg
for most of products

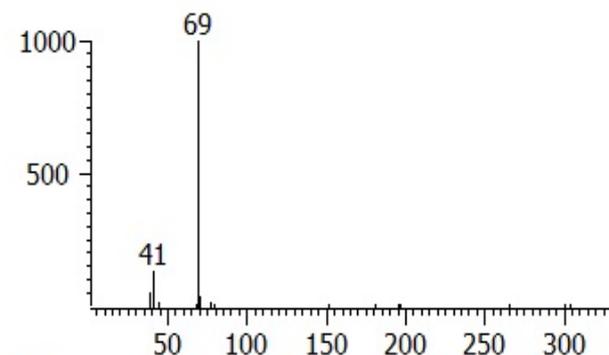


Example 1: DINOCAP

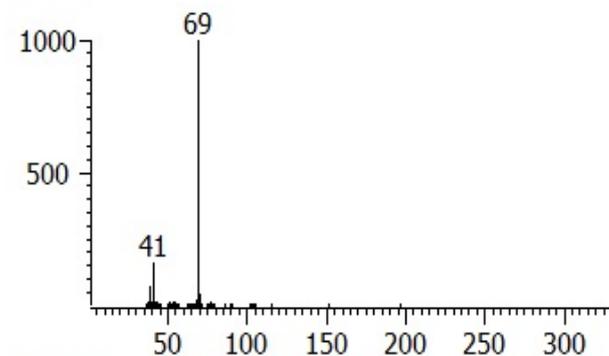
PTV-GCxGC-TOF MS

- ⇒ Improved chromatographic separation
- ⇒ More than 10x increased signal-to noise ratio
- ⇒ LOQ: 0,008 mg/kg
- ⇒ Identification based on Spectral Match (>700), ret.time and presence of dinocap isomers

Peak True - sample "STD 0.02:1", peak 357, at 2055 , 2.720 sec , sec



Reference Spectrum - Reference "RS 070909 B", Analyte "Dinocap-III"



Example 2: IPRODIONE

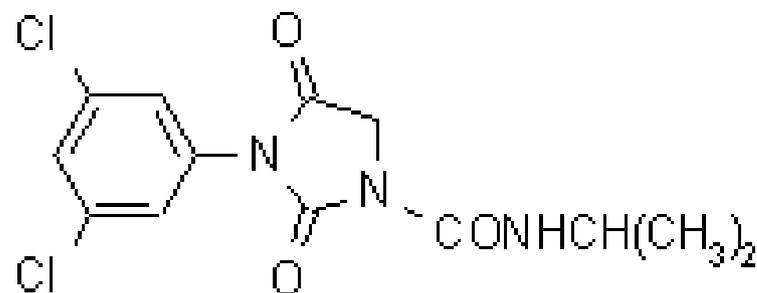
⇒ Fungicide

⇒ Group of dicarboximide compounds

⇒ Molecular formula: **C₁₃H₁₃Cl₂N₃O₃**

⇒ Molecular weight: 330

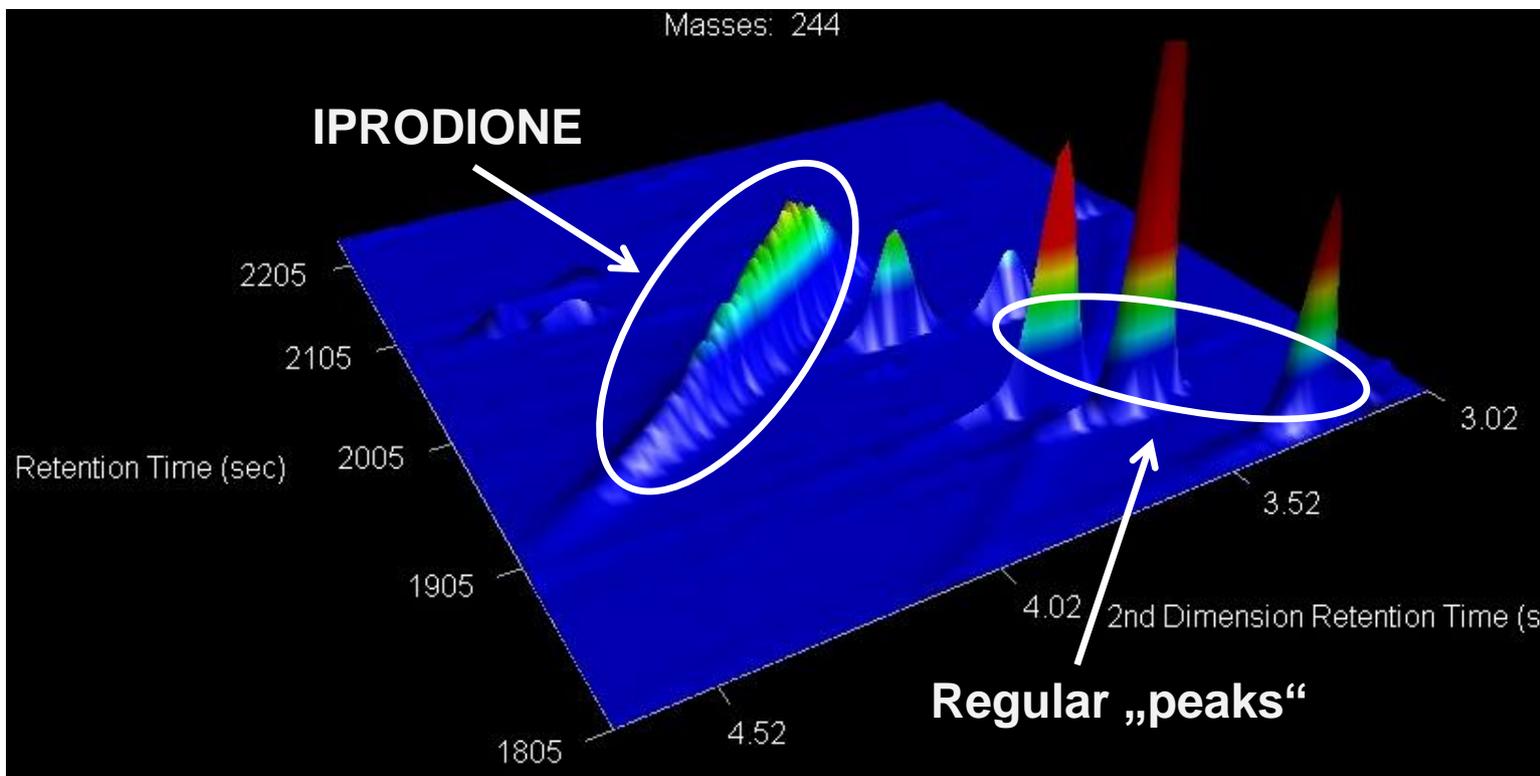
⇒ MRL definition: Iprodione



Example 2: IPRODIONE

PTV-GCxGC-TOF MS

⇒ Chromatographic problems due to higher retention of iprodione



Example 2: IPRODIONE

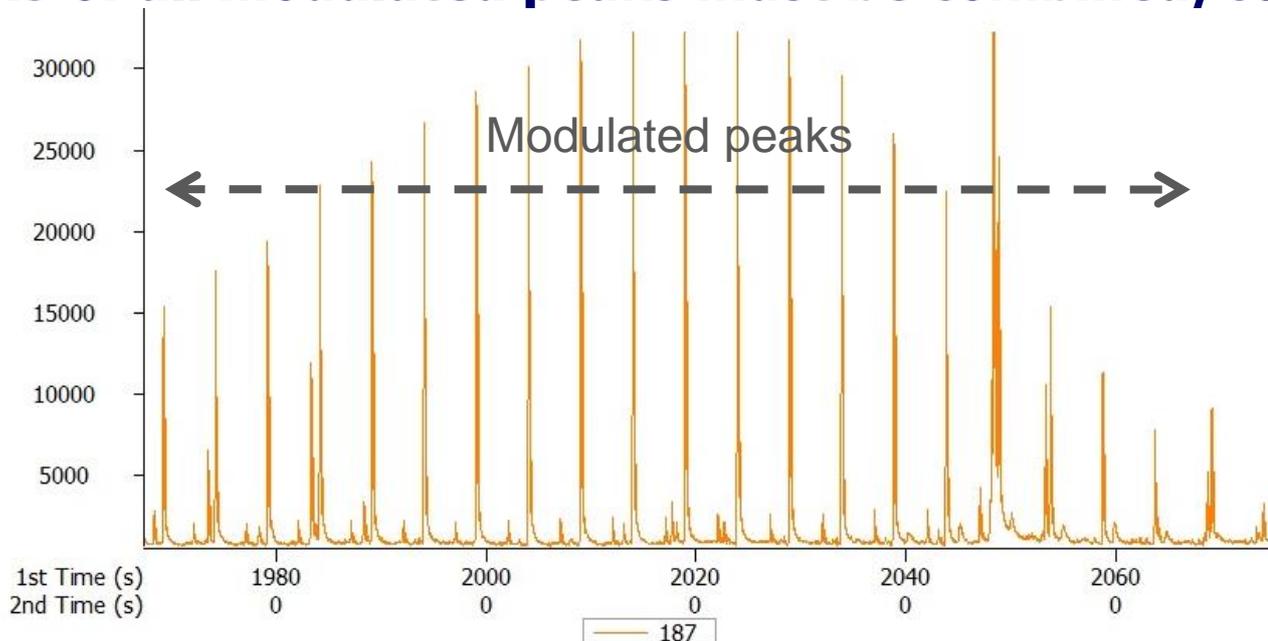
PTV-GCxGC-TOF MS

⇒ Chromatographic problems due to higher retention of iprodione

⇒ More than 15 modulated peaks of iprodione (for other pesticides usually 2-3 modulated peaks)



⇒ AREAS of all modulated peaks must be combined/counted up



Example 2: IPRODIONE

PTV-GCxGC-TOF MS

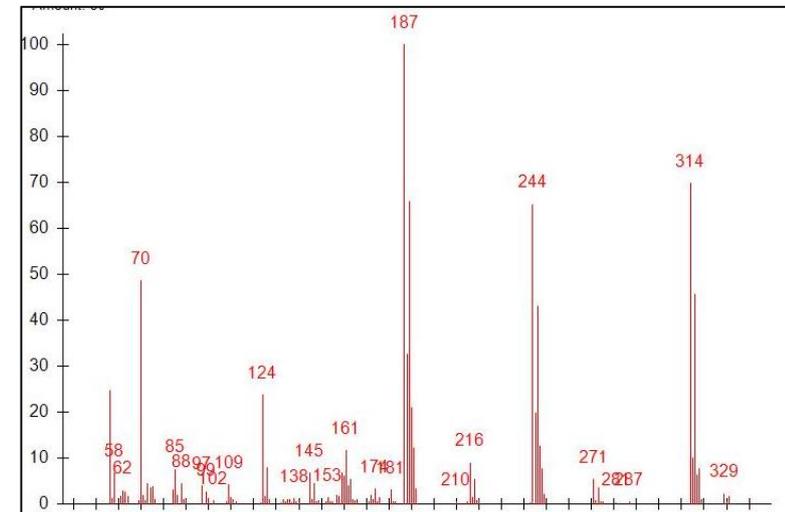
⇒ Chromatographic problems due to higher retention of iprodione

⇒ More than 15 modulated peaks of iprodione (for other pesticides usually 2-3 modulated peaks)



⇒ Full mass spectra ✓

⇒ LOQ: 0,008 mg/kg, comply with EU MRLs ✓



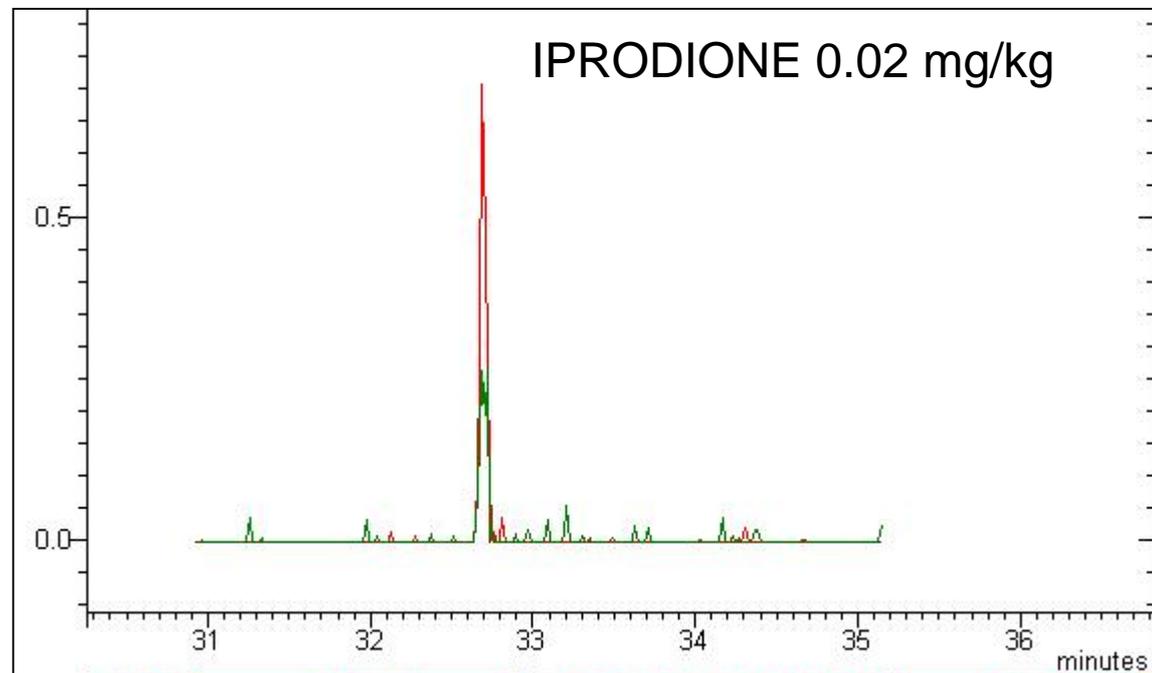
Example 2: IPRODIONE

PTV-GC-MS/MS

⇒ Ion selected for fragmentation: 314

⇒ MS/MS Transitions: 314/271, 314/245

⇒ LOQ: 0,008 mg/kg,
comply with EU MRLs ✓



Conclusions

PTV-GCxGC-TOF

- ⇒ Improved separation (most of pesticides)
- ⇒ Enhanced sensitivity
- ⇒ LOQs < 0,01 mg/kg
- ⇒ Non-target screening
- ⇒ Full Mass Spectra – Unique identification of compounds
- ⇒ Retrospective data analysis



Conclusions

PTV-GC-MS/MS

- ⇒ Better peak shape (for some compounds)
- ⇒ Easier data evaluation
- ⇒ LOQs < 0,01 mg/kg (for most of compounds)
- ⇒ Chromatographic interferences (for some matrices)



PTV-GCxGC-TOF ↔ **PTV-GC-MS/MS**

Complementary methods



**Thank you
for your
attention !**