

# News from EURL AO

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Stuttgart, 30 September 2015

# News from EURL AO

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## Content of the Presentation

- Cleanup (LC-analysis)
- Screening with accurate mass instruments coupled with LC
- Method for less polar pesticides

# Cleanup (LC Pesticides)

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- Since early summer 2015 Agilent offers a cleanup test kit for fatty matrices (EMR Kit)
- Agilent chemicals replace the typical QuEChERS-ingredients
  - EMR dSPE (composition ?) instead of buffer and salts (4 g MgSO<sub>4</sub>; 1 g NaCl; 0,5 g Na<sub>2</sub>Hcitrate x 6 H<sub>2</sub>O; 1 g Na<sub>3</sub>citrate x 2 H<sub>2</sub>O)
  - EMR polish (mixture of MgSO<sub>4</sub> and 1 g NaCl) for drying the solvent

## Comparision:

- Cleanup according QuEChERS AO
- Cleanup according QuEChERS with Agilent EMR kit

# Cleanup: Proof applying thin layer chromatography

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- Stationary phase: silica gel, 60 µm
- Mobile phase: petroleum ether / diethyl ether/ acetic acid  
(85/15/1.5; v/v/v)
- Spraying reagent: 10% phosphomolybdic acid in ethanol
- Heating: 2 min @ 150 °C

Shown by Fanny Hildmann at EPRW 2014 in Dublin

German Official Method according § 64 LFGB; No. L 13.00-27/2 Appendix A

# Thin-layer chromatography

Solution front line

cholesterol esters

triglycerides

free fatty acids  
free cholesterol

phospholipids

Start line

Q      Agi  
kidney    kidney

Q      Agi  
liver    liver

Q: QuEChERS  
Agi: QuEChERS with  
„Agilent“ sorbents

# Cleanup: what about the Pesticides

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- Cleanup according QuEChERS AO
  - Cleanup according QuEChERS with Agilent EMR kit
  - Cleanup according SweEt (slightly modified by EURL AO)
- 
- Spiking @ 0.010 mg/kg with 142 pesticides  
(calibration standard mix for qqq-analysis)
- 
- Results (Screening with LC-q-ToF):
- QuEChERS AO: 136 pesticides detected (95.8 %)
  - QuEChERS EMR kit: 136 pesticides detected (95.8 %)
  - SweEt mod. EURL AO: 135 pesticides detected (95.1 %)

▪ **Training of NRLs**  
for Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin an  
Commodities with High Fat Content



EUROPEAN UNION REFERENCE LABORATORY

PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOOD OF ANIMAL  
ORIGIN & COMMODITIES WITH HIGH FAT CONTENT

**28 - 29 September 2015, Freiburg,  
Germany**



- **Ralf Lippold**
- **Björn Hardebusch**
- **Tanja Radykewicz**
- **Benjamin Dambacher**
- **Karin Malisch**
- **Rainer Malisch**

**Fabian Bäuerle**  
**Carolin Haule**  
**Maria Schmitt**  
**Katrin Thomas**

# Cleanup

QuEChERS for Food of Animal Origin	
<b>Sample amount</b>	5 g matrix of interest (liquid whole egg, cow's milk, cheese, meat, honey.....)
<b>Extraction</b>	<p>50 mL centrifuge tube</p> <p>Addition of internal standard: add 100 µl ISTD to both and spike one tube with 200 µl spiking solution, wait 10 min</p> <p>Addition of 10 mL water, shake or vortex (10 min)</p> <p>Addition of 10 mL ACN, shake or vortex (10 min)</p> <p><math>4.0 \pm 0.2</math> g MgSO<sub>4</sub> + <math>1.0 \pm 0.05</math> g NaCl + 1.5 g Citrate salts (0,5 g Na<sub>2</sub>H-citrate x 6 H<sub>2</sub>O , 1.0 g Na<sub>3</sub>-citrate x 2 H<sub>2</sub>O)</p> <p>Shake vigorously for 10 min</p> <p>Centrifuge for 5 min at 2500 g (4000 rpm)</p>
<b>Clean-up</b>	<p>15 mL centrifuge tube filled with : 900 mg MgSO<sub>4</sub> + 150 mg PSA</p> <p>Add 6 mL supernatant</p> <p>Shake for 10 min</p> <p>Centrifuge for 5 min at 2500 g (4000 rpm)</p>
<b>Preparation before analysis</b>	Transfer 2 times 1 mL into LC-vials
<b>Analysis</b>	LC-MS/MS + LC-MS-TOF

# Cleanup

QuEChERS for Food of Animal Origin (Agilent chemicals)	
<b>Sample amount</b>	5 g matrix of interest (liquid whole egg, cow's milk, cheese, meat, honey.....)
<b>Extraction</b>	<p>50 mL centrifuge tube</p> <p>Addition of internal standard: add 100 µl ISTD to both and spike one tube with 200 µl spiking solution, wait 10 min</p> <p>Addition of 10 mL water, shake or vortex (10 min)</p> <p>Addition of 10 mL ACN, shake or vortex (10 min)</p> <p>Transfer 8 mL of ACN supernatant into the 15 mL dSPE EMR-lipid centrifuge tube</p> <p>Shake vigorously for 10 min</p> <p>Centrifuge for 5 min at 2500 g (4000 rpm)</p>
<b>Clean-up</b>	<p>Transfer supernatant into 15 mL centrifuge tube filled with:</p> <p>Final polish EMR-lipid (Magnesium sulfate, sodium chloride)</p> <p>Shake for 10 min</p> <p>Centrifuge for 5 min at 2500 g (4000 rpm)</p>
<b>Preparation before analysis</b>	Transfer 2 times 1 mL into LC-vials
<b>Analysis</b>	LC-MS/MS + LC-MS-TOF

# Cleanup

SweEt for Food of Animal Origin	
<b>Sample amount</b>	5 g matrix of interest (liquid whole egg, cow's milk, cheese, meat, honey.....)
<b>Extraction</b>	50 mL centrifuge tube  Addition of internal standard: add 100 µl ISTD to both and spike one tube with 200 µl spiking solution, wait 10 min  Addition of 10 mL water, shake or vortex (10 min) - <b>(not for milk)</b>  Addition of 10 mL ethyl acetate  Shake vigorously for 10 min  $5.0 \pm 0.2$ g Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.2 g C <sub>18</sub> + 0.2 g PSA  Shake vigorously for 10 min  Centrifuge for 5 min at 2500 g (4000 rpm)
<b>Preparation before analysis</b>	Transfer 2 times 1 mL into LC-vials
<b>Analysis</b>	LC-MS/MS + LC-MS-TOF

# Cleanup – Challenges in life training

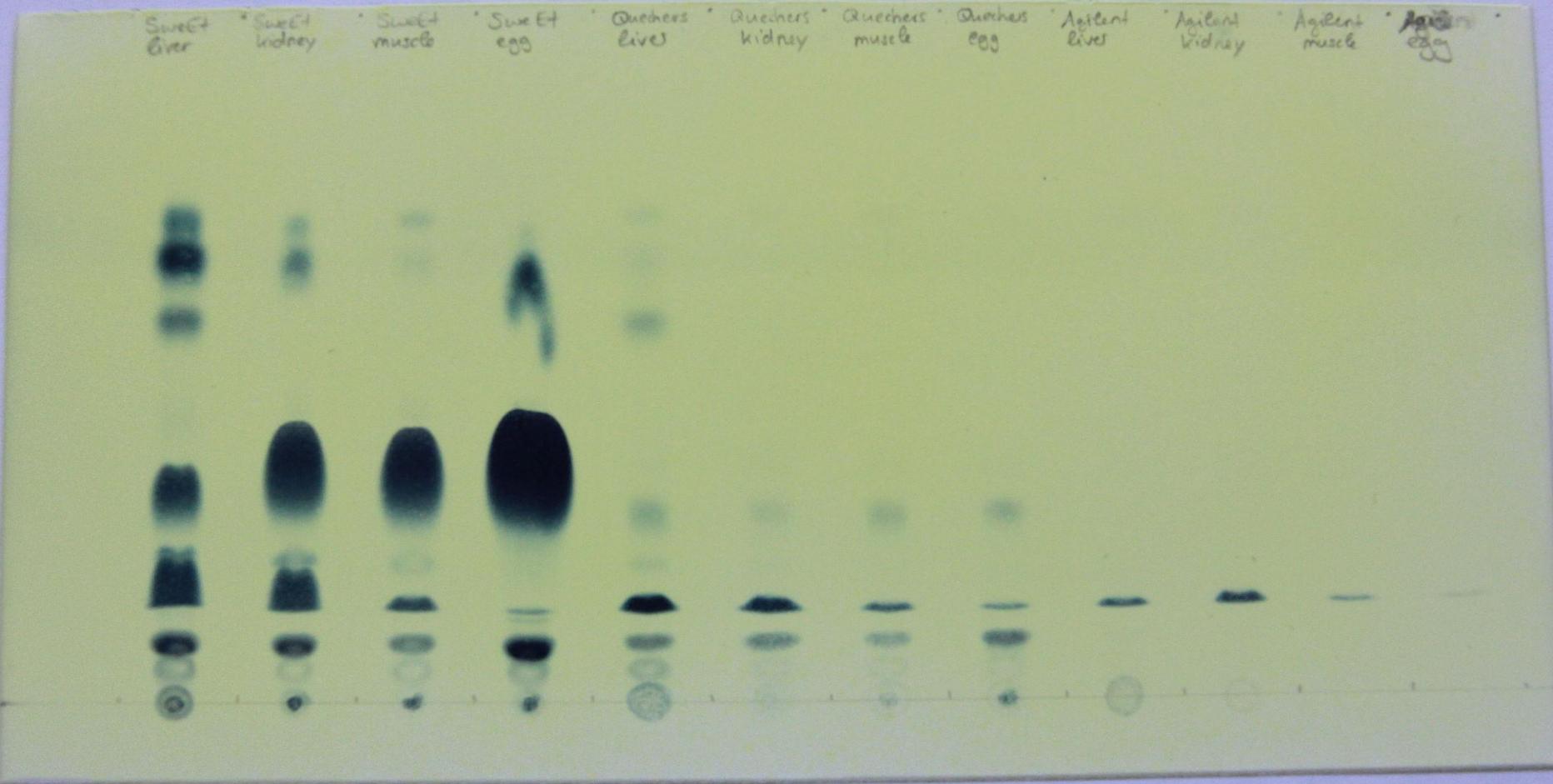
**ToF-results not available at the time beeing**



**Strike of the  
Agilent LC-MS-q-ToF**

**On Sunday,  
Jan Elias Hardebusch  
arrived in Freiburg**

# Cleanup: Results achieved during the training 28./29. September 2015



# Screening

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## Content of the Presentation

- Cleanup (LC-analysis)
- Screening with accurate mass instruments coupled with LC
- Method for less polar pesticides

# Screening

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- Typical Instruments on the market
  - ToF or q-ToF coupled to LC or GC
  - Orbitrap or q-Orbitrap coupled to LC or GC

# Screening

## Application of accurate mass MS in Pesticide Residue Analysis

1. Qualitative Screening by using cut of limits  
(e.g. the Screening Detection Limit – SDL or the Detection Capability (CCB) - 2002/657/EC)
2. Complementary technique to classical detectors
  - Increase of available information for detected pesticides
3. Search for analytes of special interest  
(e.g. “find by formular”)
4. Search for “real unknown” by the using databases
5. Evaluation of the sample background

# Screening

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## Application of accurate mass MS in Pesticide Residue Analysis

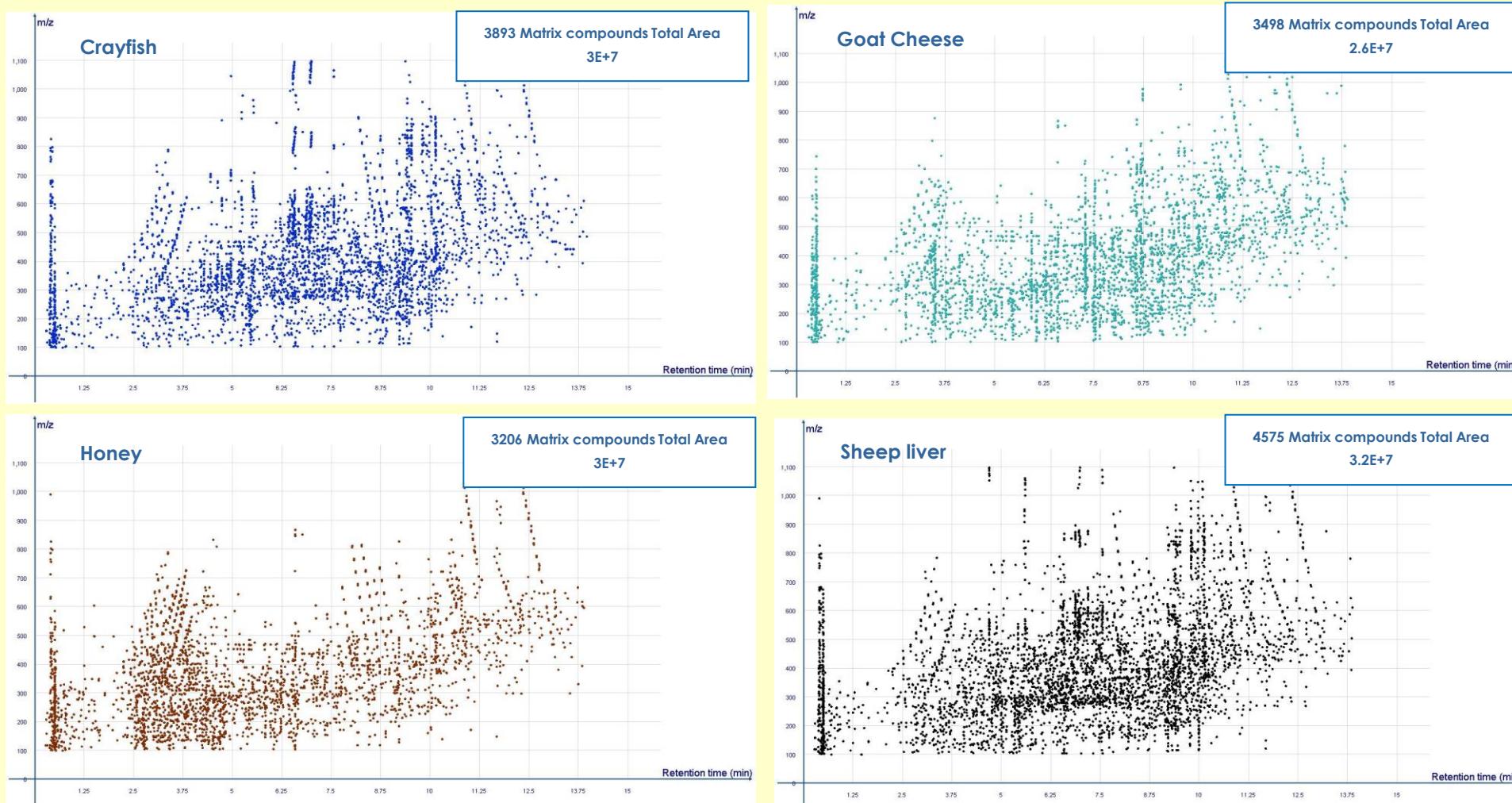
1. Qualitative Screening @ SDL
2. Complementary technique to classical detectors
3. Search for analytes of special interest
4. Search for “real unknown” by the using databases

Reporting possible in case of applying validated methods  
(requirement of ISO 17025!)

- Results of applications 3 and 4 are typical for internal use, only

# News from EURLAO

## 5. Evaluation of the sample background, e.g. by MFE



# Screening

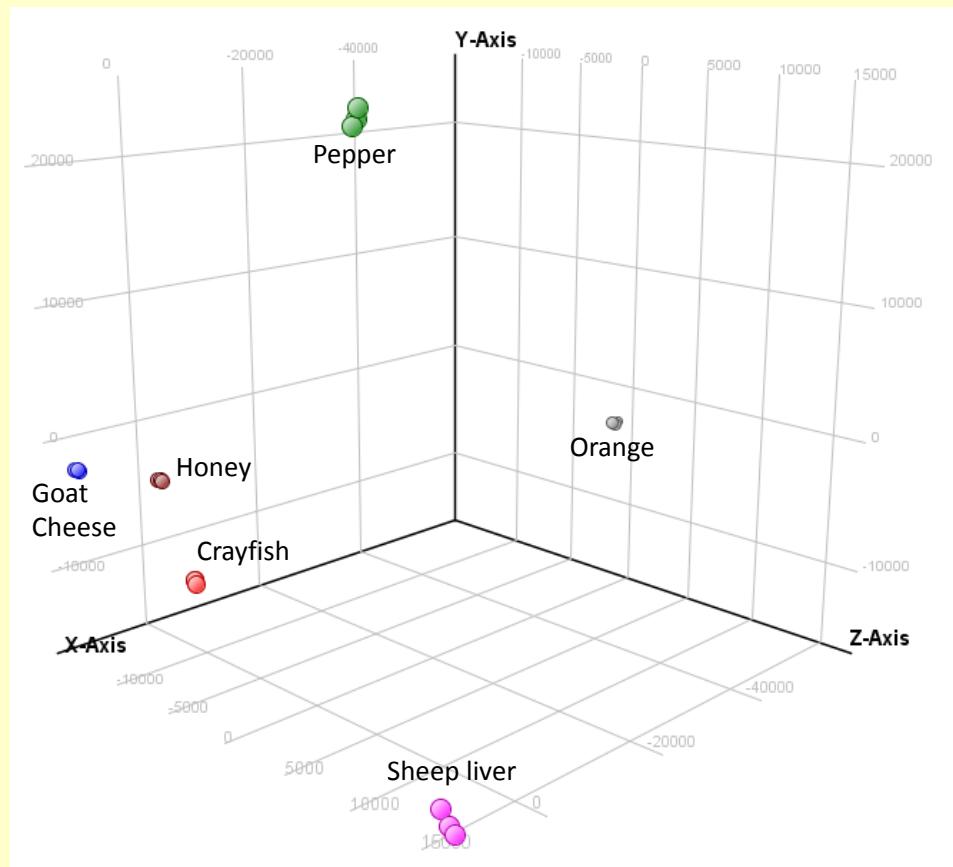
## 5. Evaluation of the sample background

### Principle Component Analysis (PCA)

- Information about similar background
- LC-QQQ: Pool of matrices for calibration possible?

Co-Project together with EURL FV (Almeria, Spain)

Thanks to Amadeo R Fernandez Alba and Ana Lozano



# Screening in Pesticides Residue Analysis

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## Decision Qualitative Screening <-> Confirmatory Method

- **Qualitative Screening**
  - Pesticides never found or few findings in Europe
  - Detection @ 0.01 mg/kg ( $\beta \leq 5\%$ )
  - *Detection below MRL-level (not for MACCP)*
- **Confirmatory Method**
  - Pesticides frequently or sometimes found
  - Pesticides with unsatisfying SDL

# Screening: LC-MS-Q-TOF Conditions

- HPLC Methode 1290 Series
- Simple method for „all“ analyts
- Injection volume 2 - 5 µl
- Column Zorbax Eclipse Plus C-18 HD, 150 x 2.1mm, 1.8 µm
- Gradient: solvent A = 5 mM NH<sub>4</sub>Formiate; solvent B = ACN

Time (min)	% B	Flow (ml)
0	5	0.3
1	5	0.3
30	95	0.3
32.5	95	0.3
33	5	0.3

- Q-TOF Method
  - MSScan (sensitive scan) in 4 GHz-Modus
  - Targeted MSMS (identification)
- Data base research  
(optimized for pesticides with RT)



# Workflow Screening

## EXAMPLE: EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN OF A VALIDATION STUDY (Eggs)

### Sample Treatment

- 241 analytes were spiked at 4 different levels

### 20 Blank matrices

- 10 different samples of hen's eggs

### "5 spiking levels"

- 0 mg/kg / 0.005 mg/kg / 0.010 mg/kg / 0.020 mg/kg / 0.040 mg/kg

### Number of analyses

- In total 100 analyses  
(2 replicates of each sample analysed at 5 concentration levels)

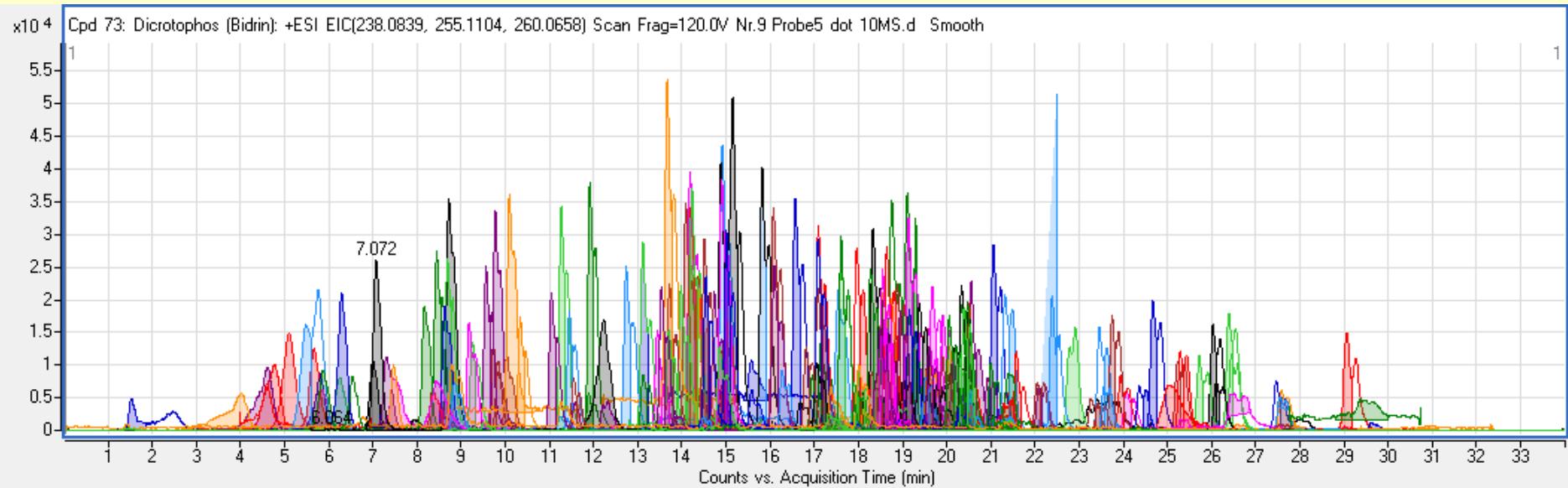
### QuEChERS clean up

### LC-MS-ToF (ESI pos, only)

### Evaluation against own database



# Workflow Screening

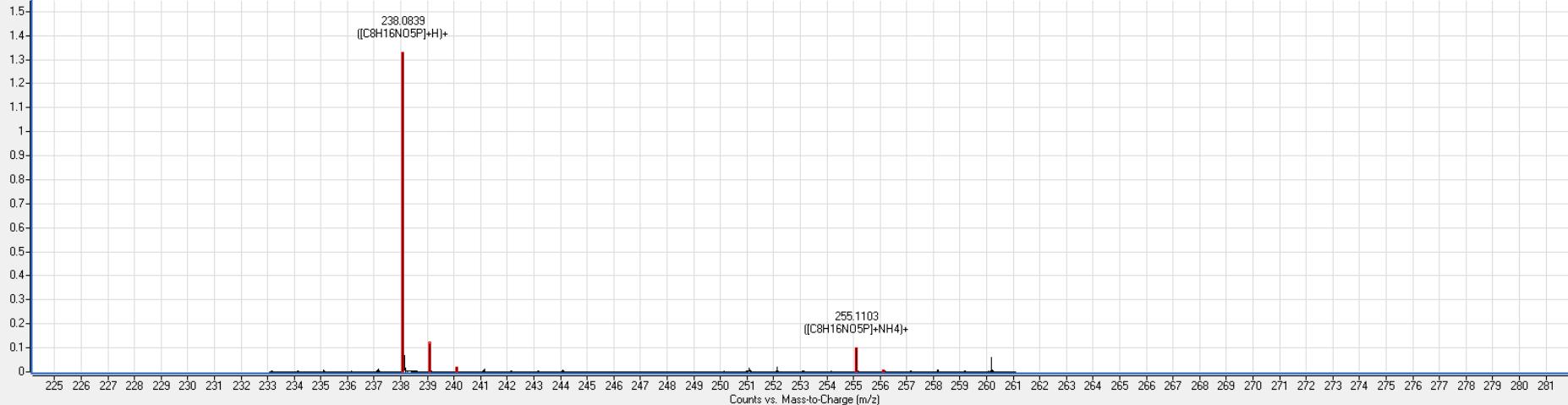


# Workflow Screening

x10<sup>4</sup> Cpd 73: Dicrotophos (Bidrin): +ESI EIC(238.0839, 255.1104, 260.0658) Scan Frag=120.0V Nr.9 Probe5 dot 10MS.d Smooth



x10<sup>4</sup> Cpd 73: Dicrotophos (Bidrin): +ESI Scan (6.934-7.288 min, 65 Scans) Frag=120.0V Nr.9 Probe5 dot 10MS.d Subtract



# Results of the Screening Validation Study (Egg)

Results with LC-q-ToF ( $\beta$ -error  $\leq 5\%$ )

Spiked Concentration [mg/kg]	0.005	0.010	0.020	0.040
Number of pesticides detected (Screening Detection Limit - SDL)	180	194	202	203
Ratio of pesticides identified at the spiked concentration	74.7%	80.5%	83.8%	84.2%

Results with LC-q-Orbitrap ( $\beta$ -error  $\leq 5\%$ , analysis performed by Thermo)

Spiked Concentration [mg/kg]	0.005	0.010	0.020	0.040
Number of pesticides confirmed (Screening Detection Limit - SDL)	157	171	182	189
Ratio of pesticides identified at the spiked concentration	67%	72%	77%	80%

Details will be presented for egg and honey at RAFA (Prague)

# Screening

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## Evaluation of retention times

### Retention time (egg study)

Total number of RTs: 15718	Reproducebility conditions	Repeatabiltiy conditions
# +/- 0.1 min	14869	94,6%
# +/- 0.2 min	809	5,1%
# outlier	40	<< 0,1 %

### Retention time (honey study)

Total number of RTs: 26832	Reproducebility conditions	Repeatabiltiy conditions
# +/- 0.1 min	25434	94,8%
# +/- 0.2 min	775	2,9%
# outlier	623	<< 0,1 %

# Less Polar Pesticides

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## Content of the Presentation

- Cleanup (LC-analysis)
- Screening with accurate mass instruments coupled with LC
- Method for less polar pesticides

# Extraction for less polar pesticides at CVUA Freiburg

Sample preparation example

Mix 5 g (10% fat) of sample with sodium sulfate (~50 g)

Soxtherm extraction with light petroleum

Filtrate, evaporate to dryness

Re-dissolve in ethylacetate/cyclohexane

Take an aliquot of 5 mL for clean-up (containing ~0.5 g fat)

→ clean-up



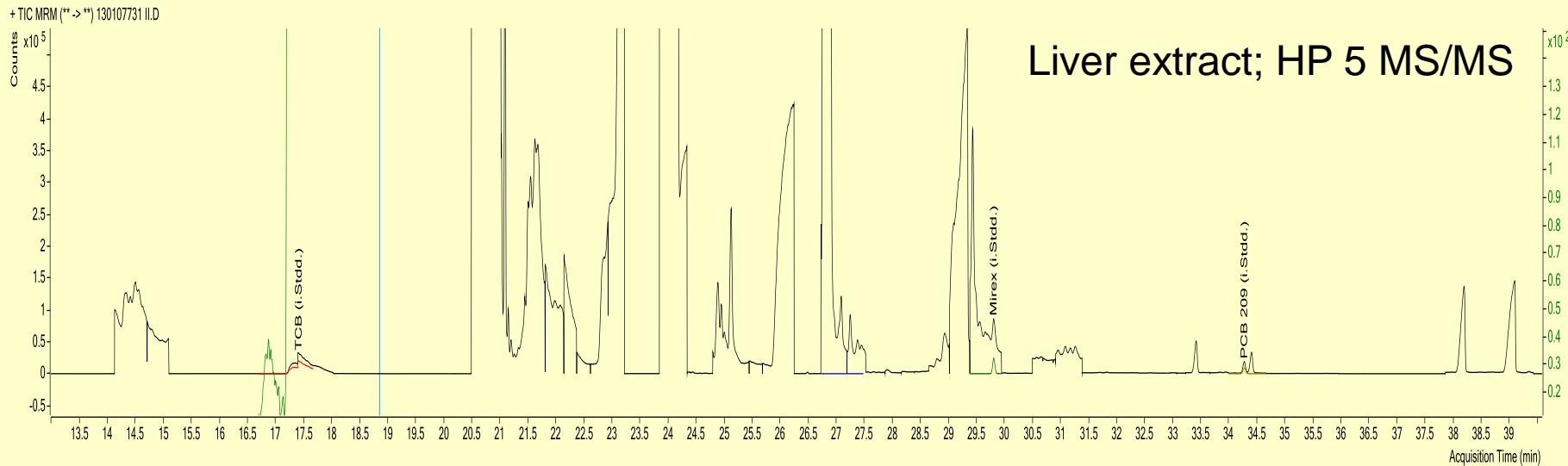
# Clean-up for GC-Analysis

- Clean up**
- Addition of internal Standards**  
2,4,5-TCB Mirex, Triphenylphosphat,  
PCB 209
- GPC (Bio Beads S-X3)**
- small silica gel column  
(1.5 % water)**
- Fraction 2**  
Toluene
- Fraction 3**  
Toluene /  
Acetone  
95 + 5
- Final volume 0.5 ml**
- Ready for GC-analysis**  
all according EN 1528



# GC-Analysis after Clean up according EN 1528

More often problems analysing liver



# Advantages- and Disadvantages of Method (EN 1528)

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- Method established with high experiences
  - Final extracts suitable for Gas-Chromatography combined with all GC-detection systems
  - For MS-Measurement only few maintenance effort necessary (1-2 times a year), few liner changes
- 
- 6-7 different solvents are used during the analysis procedure
  - High solvent volume (~500 mL per analysis), recycling at CVUA
  - Time consuming steps (2-3 working days per batch), esp. extraction step
  - High costs for glassware and man power
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- How to increase the efficiency (saving time and money)?
  - How to increase the cleanup (liver!)

# Possible alternatives?

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## QuEChERS - SweEt

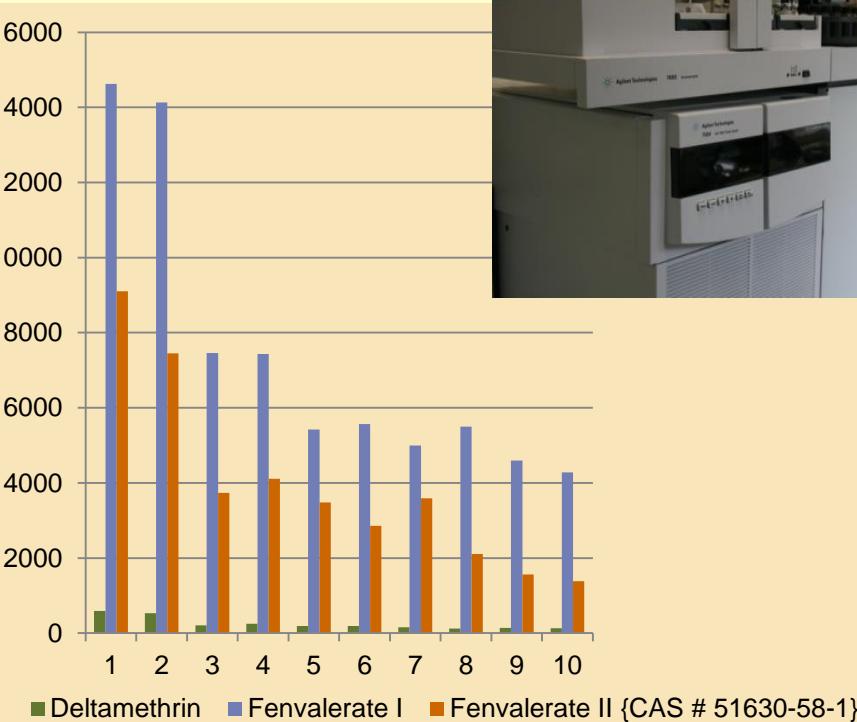
- Co-extracted fat may lead to problems in GC analysis (especially SweEt)
- Low recovery rates for non-polar analytes (QuEChERS)

# Reproducibility: GC-MSMS of QuEChERS extracts

Matrix: cream (frozen extract)

10 Injections

Injection	Deltamethrin	Fenvalerate I	Fenvalerate II
1	595	14625	9101
2	534	14129	7450
3	208	7461	3736
4	250	7432	4113
5	191	5426	3479
6	192	5564	2858
7	156	4994	3588
8	127	5500	2107
9	138	4596	1566
10	132	4283	1382
Mean	252	7401	3938
standard-deviation	169	3826	2496
cv [%]	67.2%	51.7%	63.4%



Loss of sensitivity – no reproducibility with „dirty“ extracts.

Data obtained from test measurements on Agilent GC-MSMS

# Modification of existing method for pesticide residues

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## Extraction procedure, modified

- Mixture of ethylacetate and cyclohexane used for extraction
  - Combination with existing EN 1528 – clean-up approach
  - The extract should be ready to use for GPC clean-up
  - **No additional dilution or evaporation steps after extraction**

# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin

5 g sample

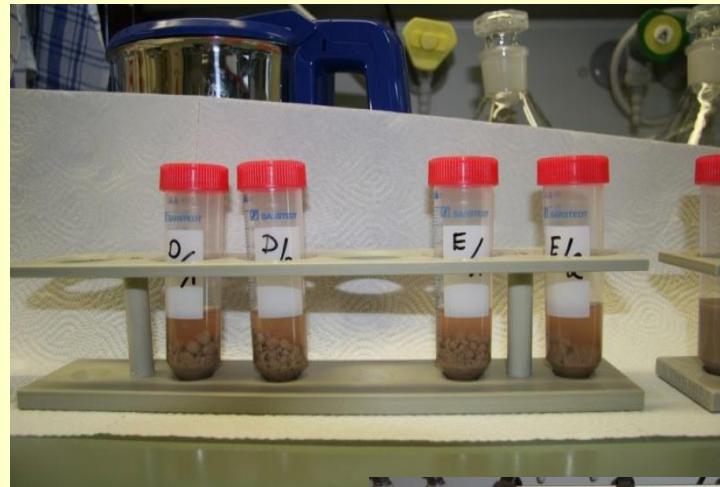
↓ + Internal Standards  
➤ wait 10 min

+ 5 ml water  
+ citrate  
buffer salts

↓ ➤ Shake 10 sec

+ 10 ml  
ethylacetate/  
cyclohexane  
(1+1/v+v)

↓ ➤ Shake 10 min



# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin

+ 10 g Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>  
+ 0.2 g PSA

↓ ➤ Shake 10 min

Centrifuge  
(2500 g)



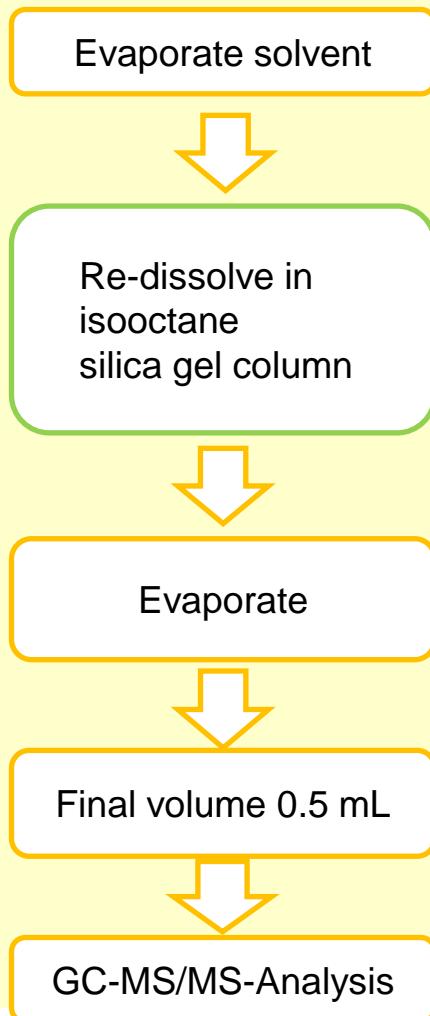
Take 5 ml extract



GPC-cleanup



# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin



# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin

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## Extraction procedure, modified

- Mixture of ethylacetate and cyclohexane used for extraction
  - Combination with existing EN 1528 – clean-up approach
  - The extract is ready to use for GPC clean-up
  - No additional dilution - evaporation step after extraction
- Extraction efficient regarding extraction and time  
**(Time reduced to 1.5 - 2 working days per batch)**
- Cleanup like in original method -> no improvement

# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin

- Z-sep+ was used during the extraction procedure resulting in cleaner extracts (visual control)
- For later tests the z-sep+ was layered over the silica gel after the GPC (it worked!)
- Finally, z-sep+ is used after the GPC



Extracts of liver

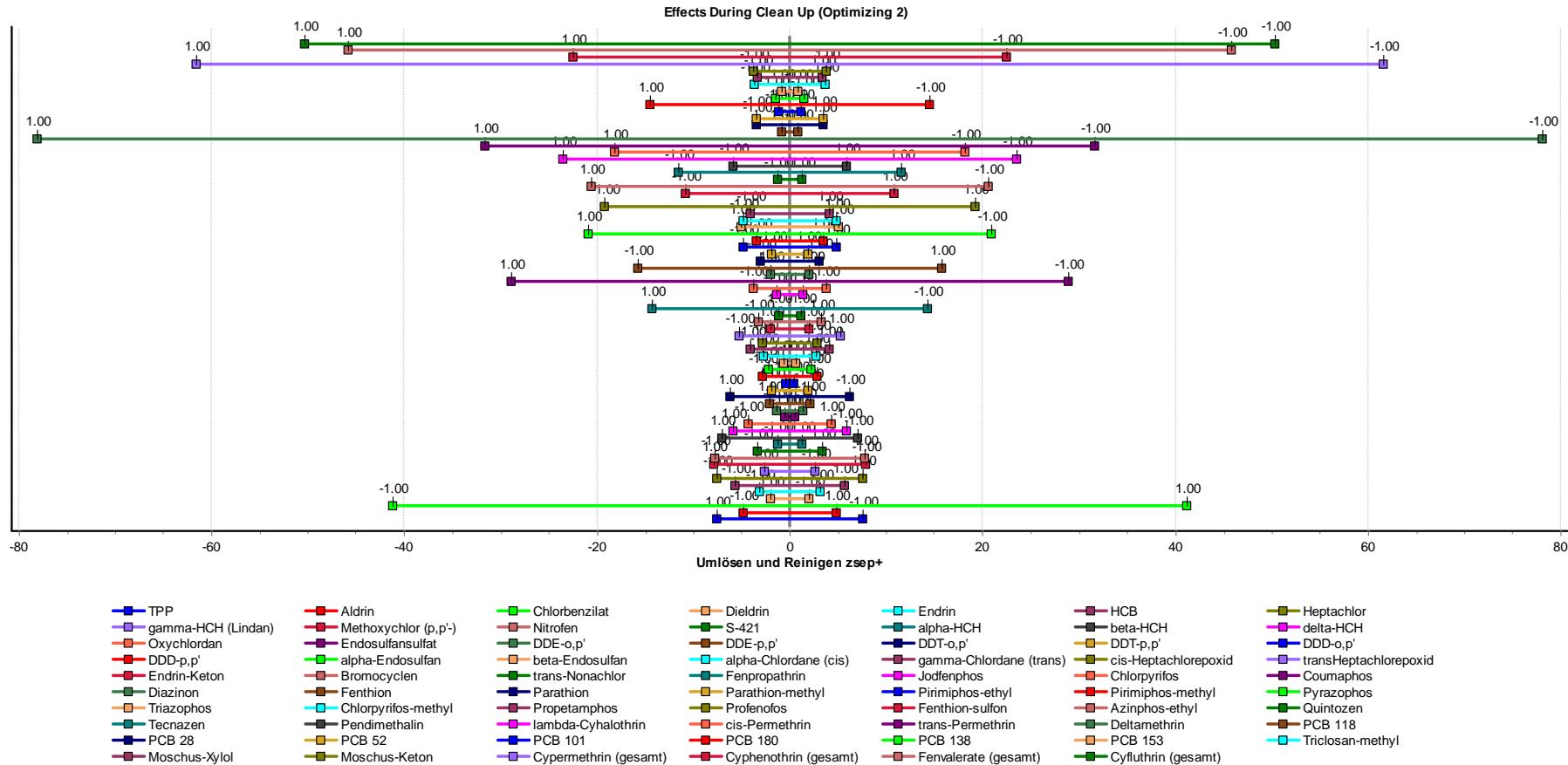
# Less Polar Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin

During routine analysis cases with dirty liver extracts occurred

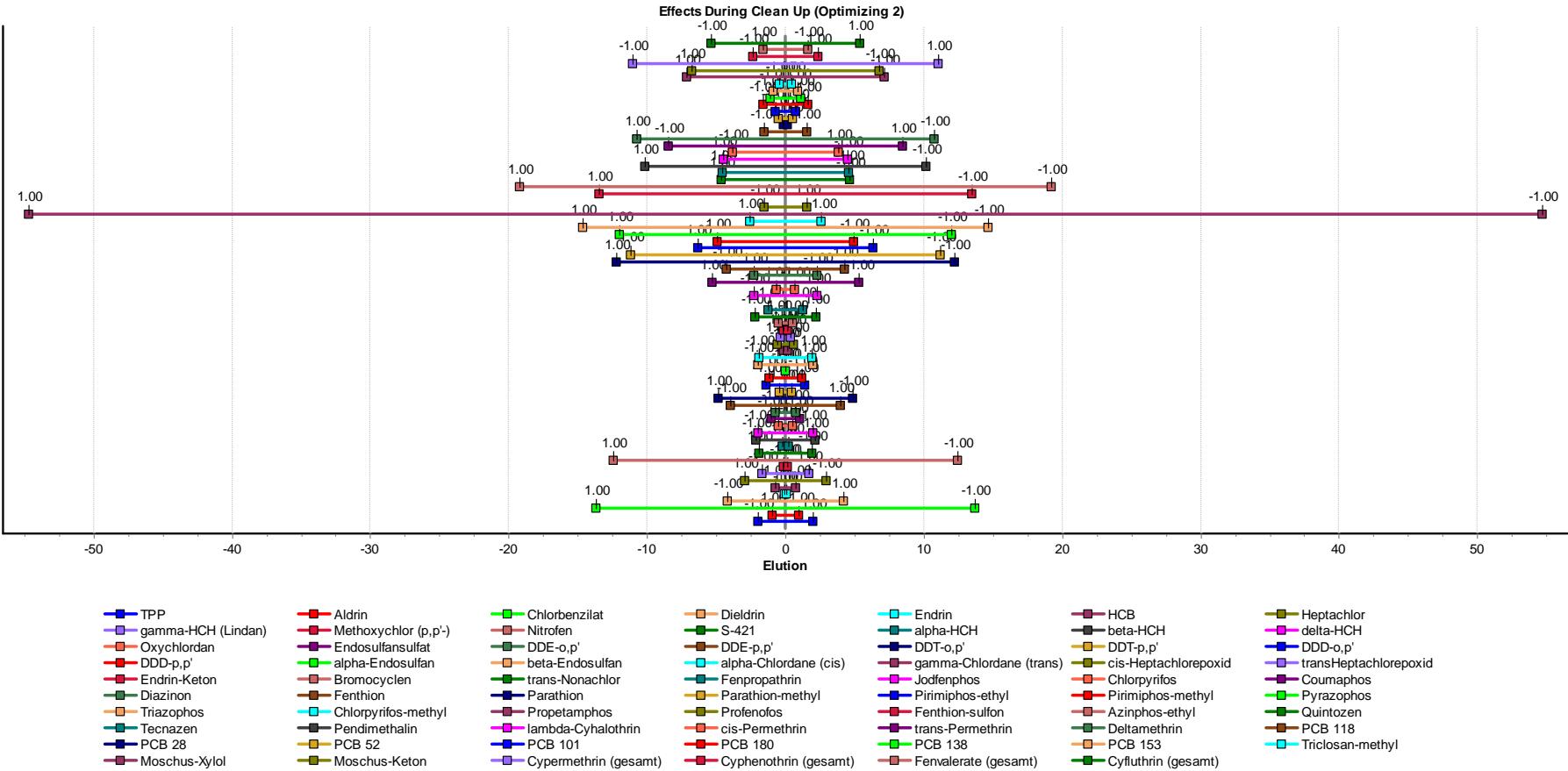
- Working sequential for checking reasons can be very time consuming
- Designed experiment for checking effects

Run	Matrix	PSA/Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	Elution from Mini Silica Column	Solvent (zirconium coated materials)	Exchange
1	+1 (liver)	+1 (yes)	+1 (3 after 2)	+1 (yes, acetonitril)	
2	+1 (liver)	+1 (yes)	+1 (3 after 2)	-1 (no)	
3	+1 (liver)	-1 (no)	-1 (3 direct)	+1 (yes, acetonitril)	
4	+1 (liver)	-1 (no)	-1 (3 direct)	-1 (no)	
5	-1 (egg)	+1 (yes)	-1 (3 direct)	+1 (yes, acetonitril)	
6	-1 (egg)	+1 (yes)	-1 (3 direct)	-1 (no)	
7	-1 (egg)	-1 (no)	+1 (3 after 2)	+1 (yes, acetonitril)	
8	-1 (egg)	-1 (no)	+1 (3 after 2)	-1 (no)	

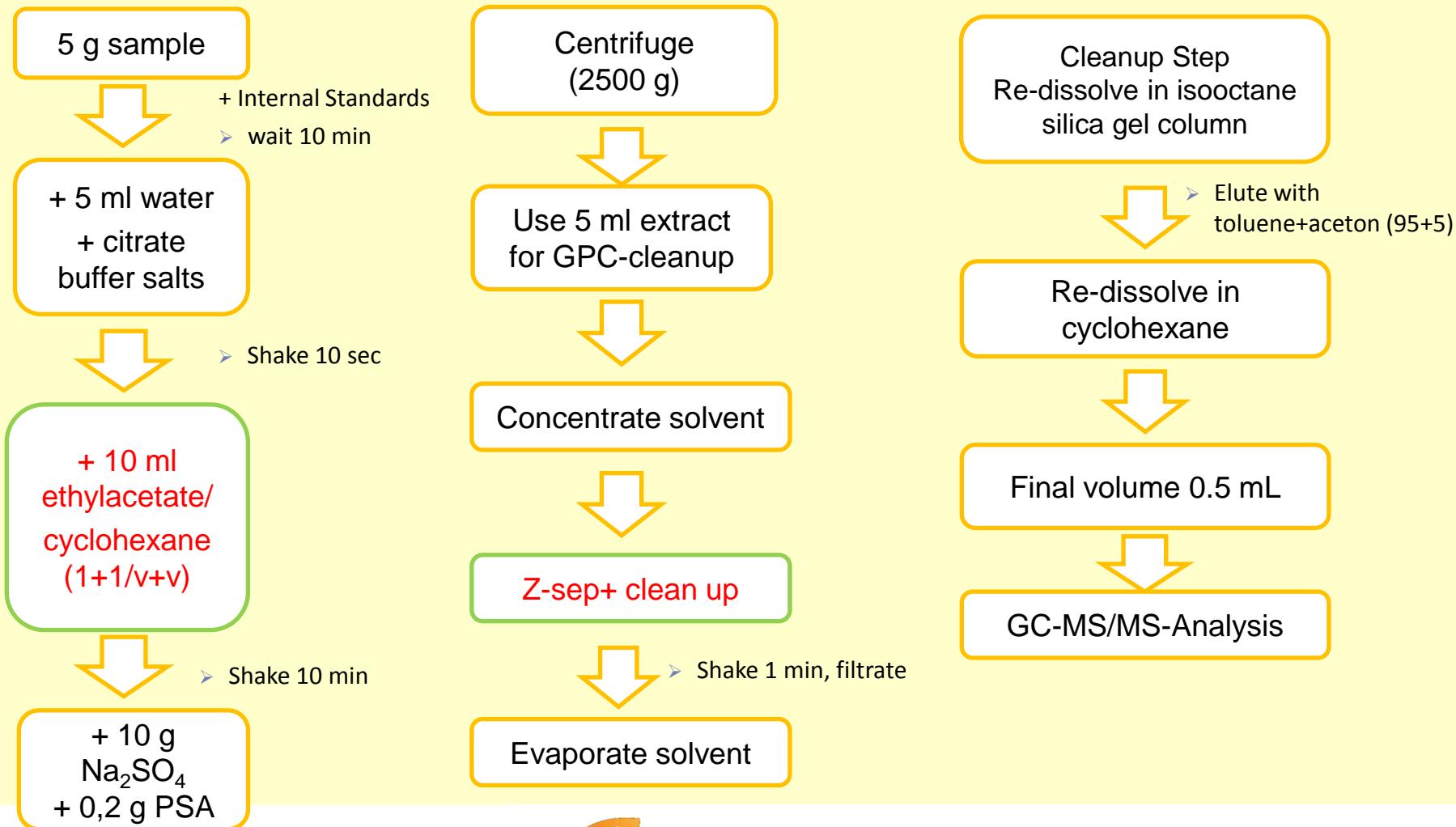
# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin - final modifications



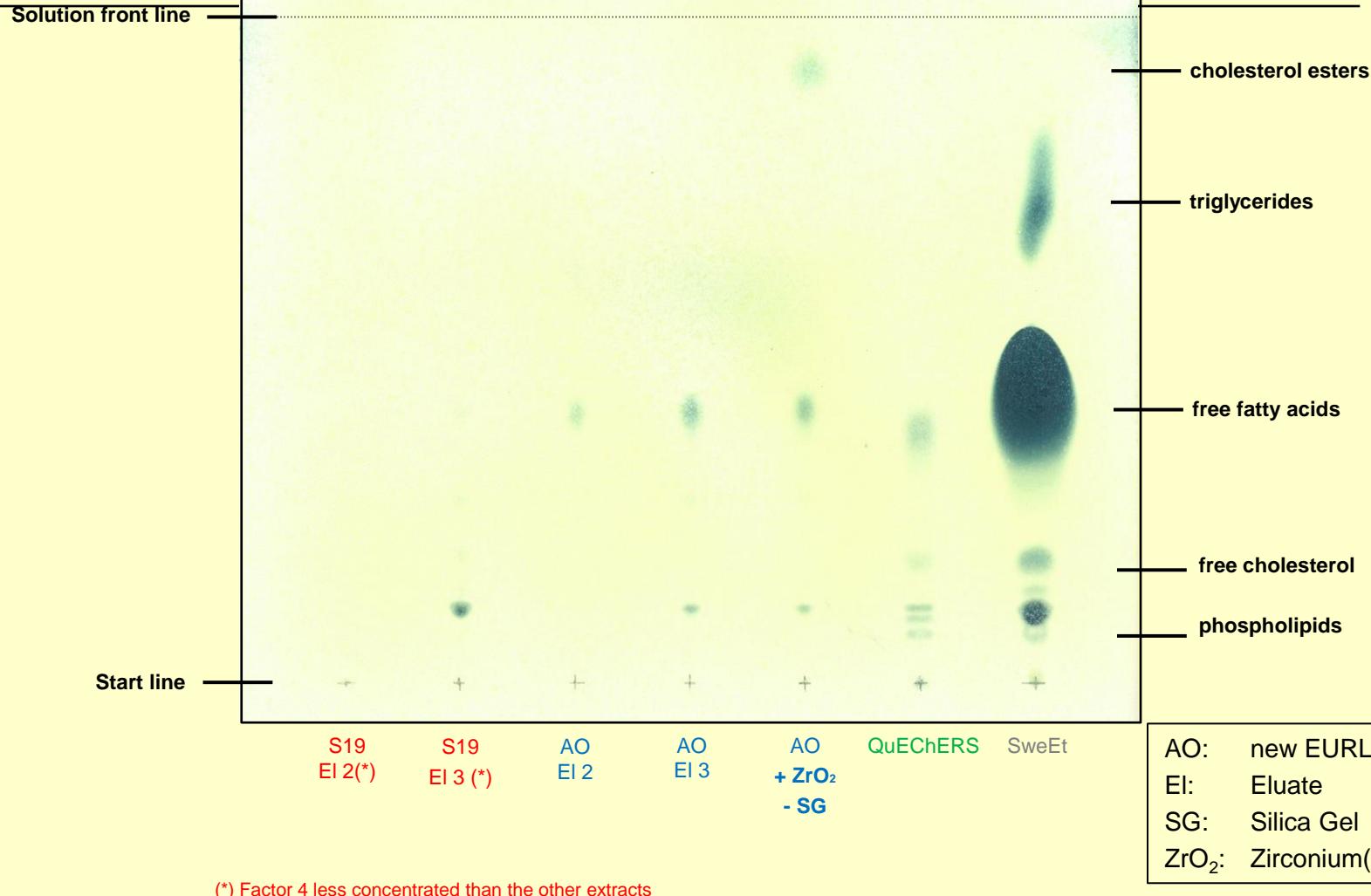
# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin - final modifications



# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin



# Thin-layer chromatography of extracts (egg) for the GC measurement

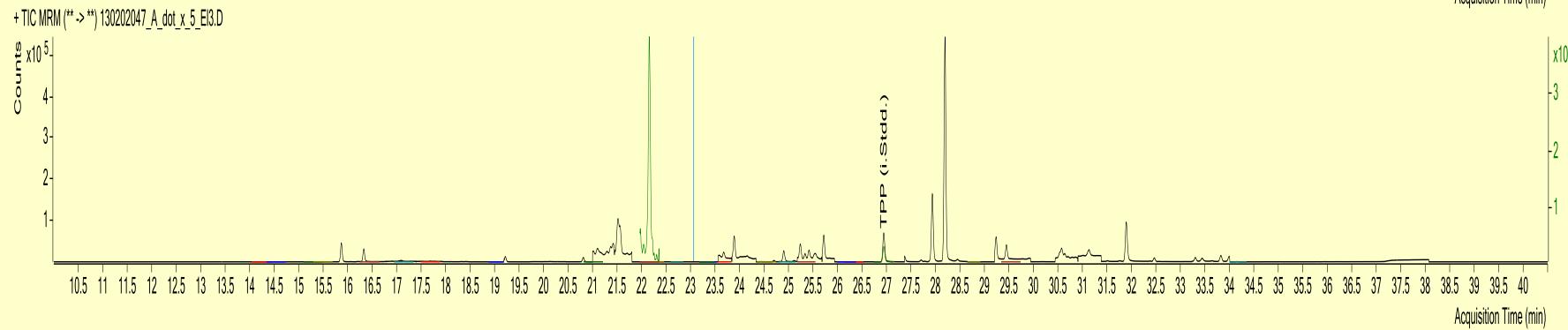
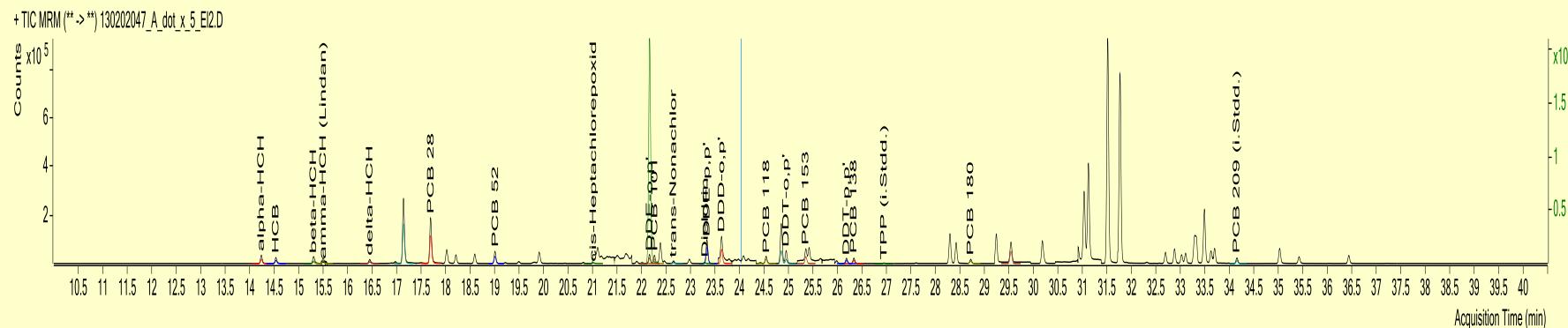


# Analysis of samples

- Use of matrix matched calibration  
(using extracted liver expected to be free of pesticide residues)
- Improvement by using procedural calibration  
(using blank matrix spiked before the first extraction step)
- Analysis performed using the Agilent 7890A with 7000B QQQ  
(„Pesticide Analyzer“)
- Backflush, installed

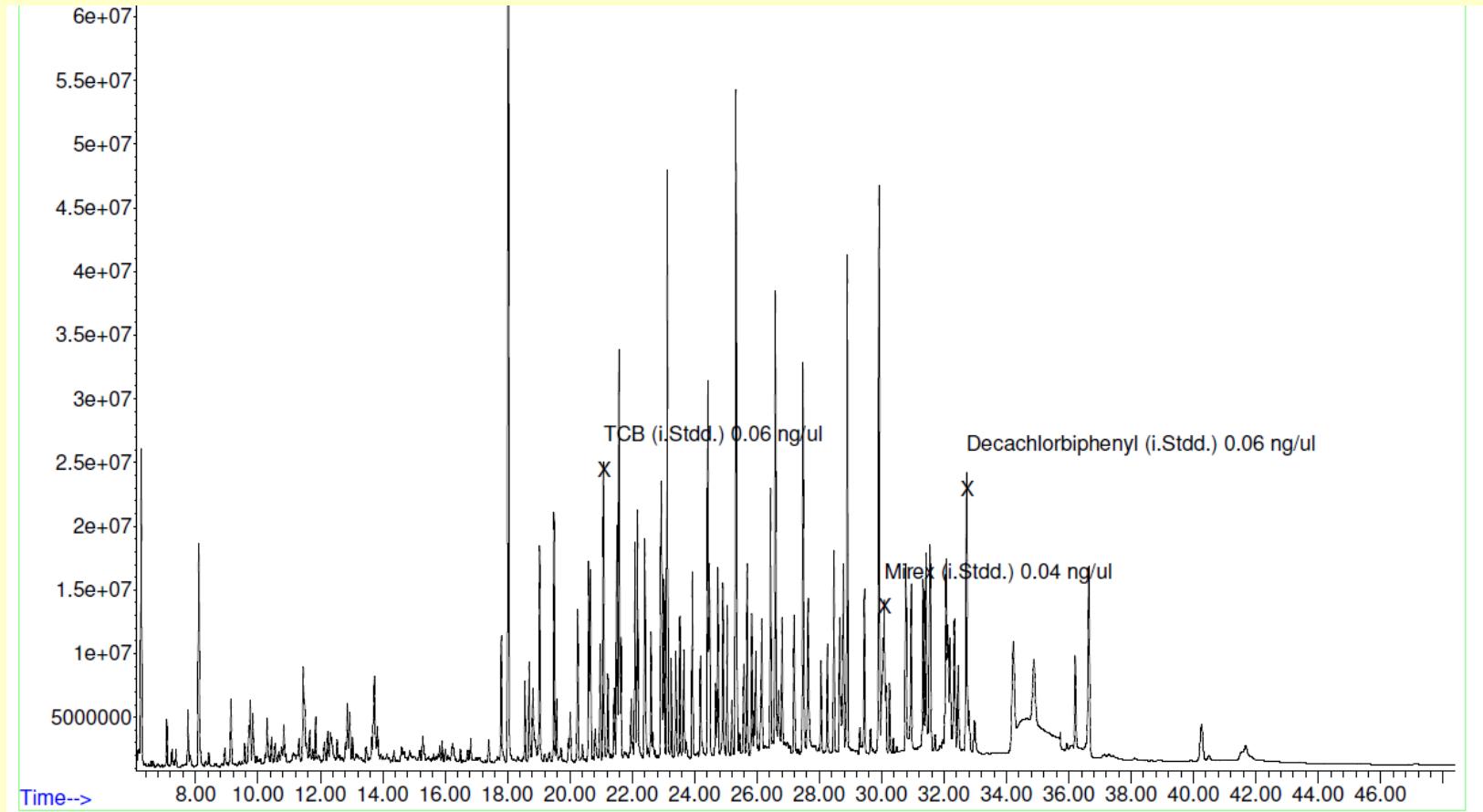


# TIC (MRM; extracts of liver after modifications)



TIC demonstrates the enhanced cleanup of the modified AO method

# ECD: extracts of egg



- ECD demonstrates the enhanced cleanup of the modified AO method

# Method Validation (liver and egg)

## 1. About 60 less polar pesticides and contaminants

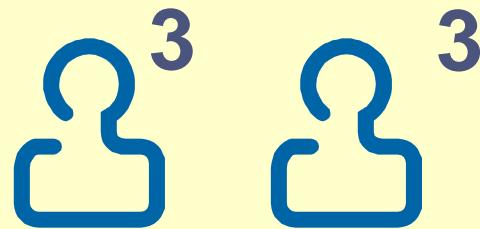
Hexachlorbenzol HCB HCH, alpha- HCH, beta- Lindan gamma-HCH HCH, delta- trans-Nonachlor DDE, op- DDE, pp- DDT, op- DDT, pp- DDD, op- DDD, pp- PCB 28 PCB 52 PCB 101 PCB 153 PCB 138 PCB 180 PCB 118	Aldrin Dieldrin Heptachlor Heptachlorepoxyd, cis- Heptachlorepoxyd, trans- Endosulfan, alpha- Endosulfan, beta- Endosulfan-sulfat Chlordan, alpha(cis)- Chlordan, gamma(trans)- Oxychlordan Bromocyclen; Bromodan S 421 Moschus-Xylool Moschus-Keton Endrin Delta-Ketoendrin Iodofenphos Methoxychlor Nitrofen	Triclosan-methyl Pendimethalin Tecnazene Quintozen Fenpropathrin Lambda-Cyhalothrin, Cyphenothonin cis-Permethrin trans-Permethrin Cyfluthrin, Cypermethrin, Fenvalerat und Esfenvalerat, Deltamethrin Chlorpyrifos-methyl Parathion-methyl Pirimiphos-methyl Chlorpyriphos(-ethyl) Parathion(-ethyl) Pirimiphos-ethyl Fenthion
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# Method Validation

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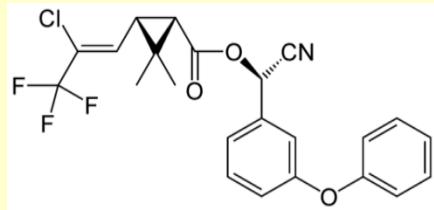
1. About 60 less polar pesticides and contaminants
2. 4 levels of spiking (plus blank liver)
3. **2 different staff for the cleanup procedures**
4. **Each staff with 3 replicates at 4 concentrations**

→ **6 replicates per level**



# Results Liver (0.1 – 8 µg/kg as LOD)

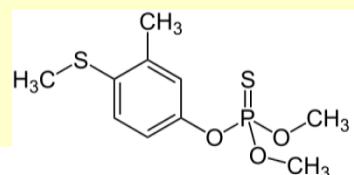
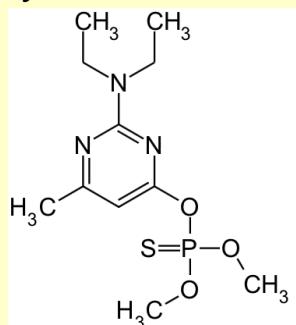
Lambda-Cyhalothrin



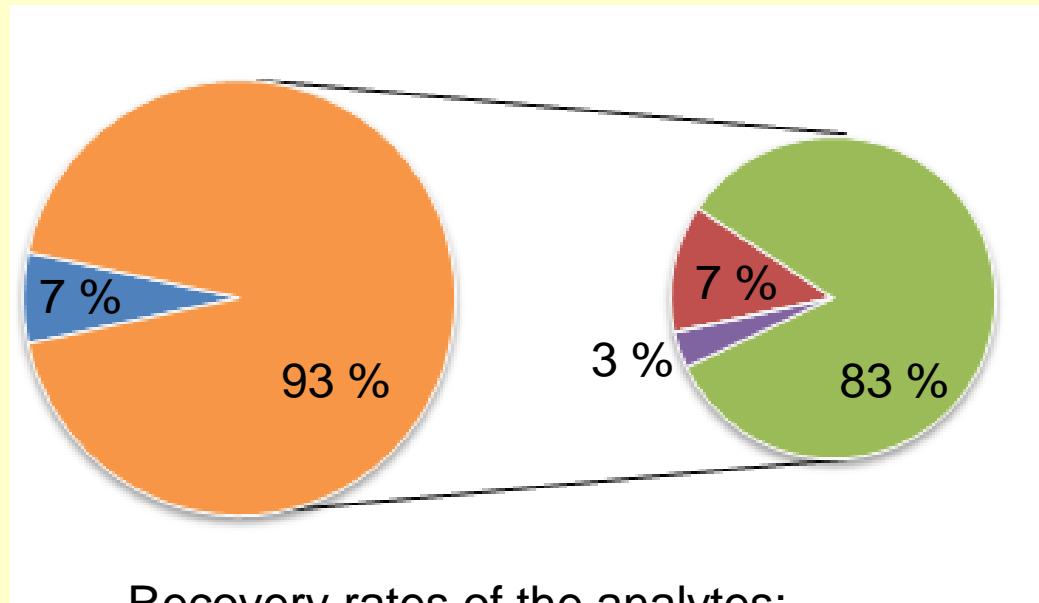
Pirimiphos-methyl

Pirimiphos-ethyl

Fenthion



Matrix matched calibration



Recovery rates of the analytes:



- 70 - 120 %
- < 70 %



- 100 ± 10 %
- 70 - 90 %
- 110 - 120 %

# Results Egg (0.1 – 10 µg/kg as LOD)

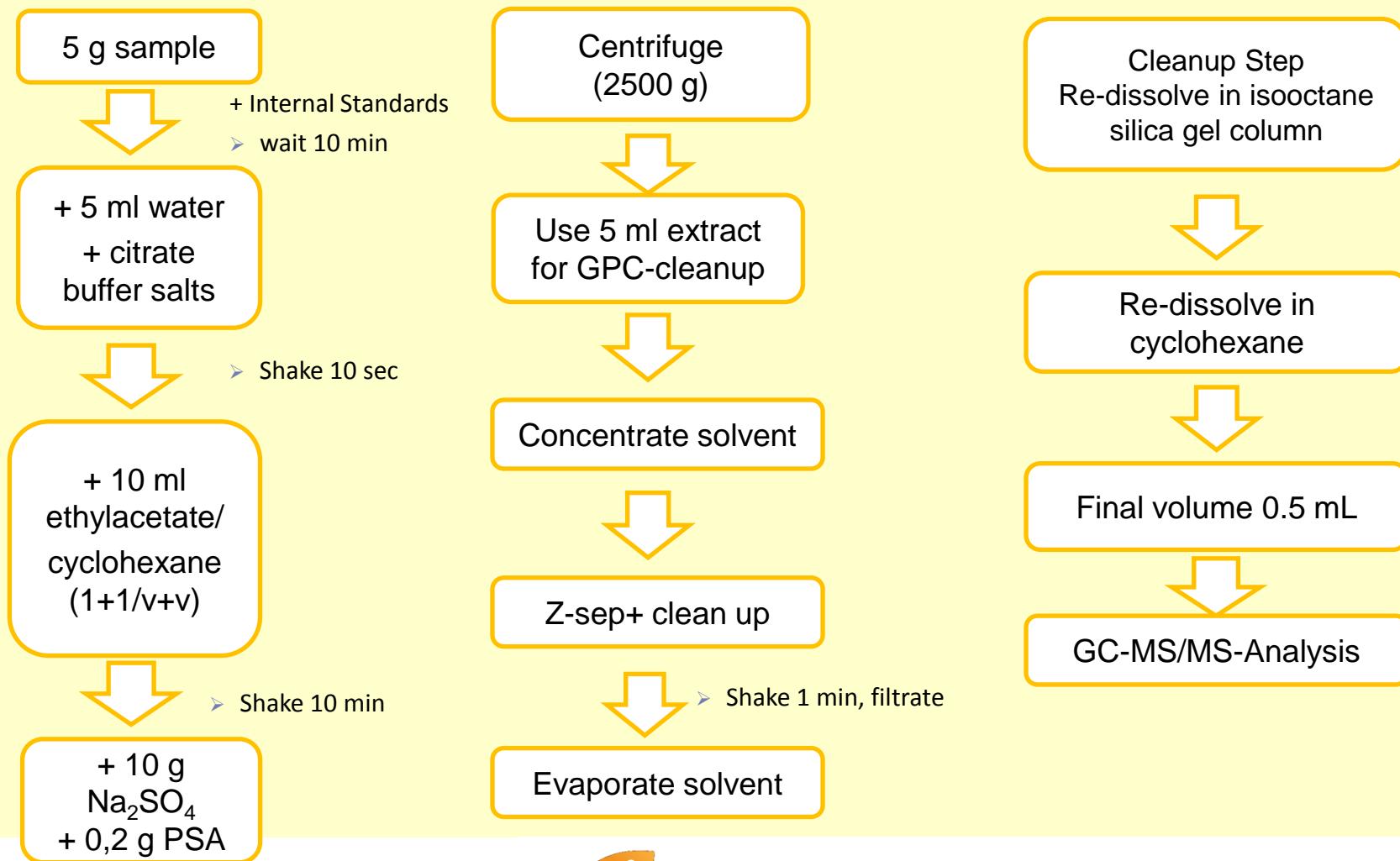
## Procedural Calibration

LOD [µg/kg]	Pesticides
0.1	DDE, op-, DDT, op-, DDT, pp-, Heptachlorepoxyd, trans-, Quintozan
0.2	Aldrin, Bromocyclen; Bromodan, Chlordan, alpha(cis)-, Chlordan, gamma(trans)-, op-DDD, pp-DDD, delta-Ketoendrin, Dieldrin, alpha-Endosulfan, beta-Endosulfan, Endosulfan sulfat, alpha-HCH, beta-HCH, delta-HCH, cis-Heptachlorepoxyd, Hexachlorbenzol, Lindan, Moschus-Xylol, Oxychlordan, PCB 101, PCB 118, PCB 138, PCB 180, PCB 28, PCB 52, Prallethrin, trans-Nonachlor
0.3 – 0.4	Heptachlor, Iodofenphos, pp-DDE, Endrin, Nitrofen, PCB 153, Pendimethalin, Triclosan-methyl, Fenthion-Sulfon
0.5 - 1.0	Azinphos-ethyl, Chlorpyrifos-methyl, Chlorpyriphos(-ethyl), Diazinon, Methidathion, Parathion(-ethyl), Parathion-methyl, Pirimiphos-ethyl, Pirimiphos-methyl, Profenos, Propetamphos, Pyrazophos, Triazophos, S 421, Fenthion, Piperonylbutoxid, Bifenthrin, Methoxychlor, Moschus-Keton, Fenpropathrin, Fenvalerat –Esfenvalerat (sum), Flucythrinate (2 isomeres)
> 1.0 – 5.0	Methothrin, Chlorbenzilat, Cyfluthrin (total), Cypermethrin (total), Tetramethrin, Cyhalothrin (total), Coumaphos, Allethrin, cis-Permethrin, trans-Permethrin, Cyphenothrin
> 5.0 – 10	Empenthrin, Resmethrin (total), tau-Fluvalinat (2 Isomeres), Pyrethrum Pyrethrine (sum), Deltamethrin*, Phenothrin

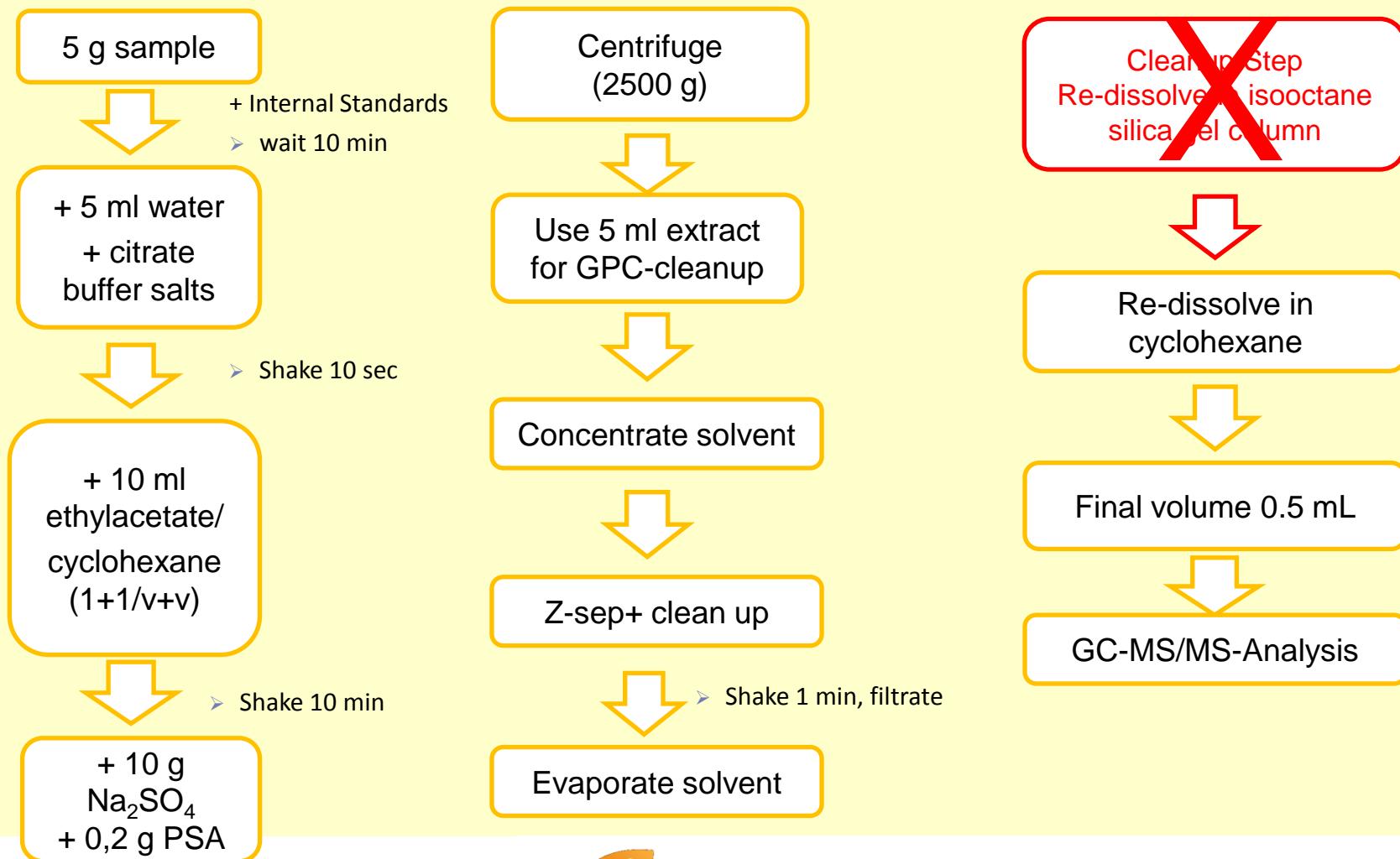
\*Includes Tralomethrin

▪ No final validation: Fenthion-ethyl, Kadethrin, Paraoxon-methyl, Tefluthrin,

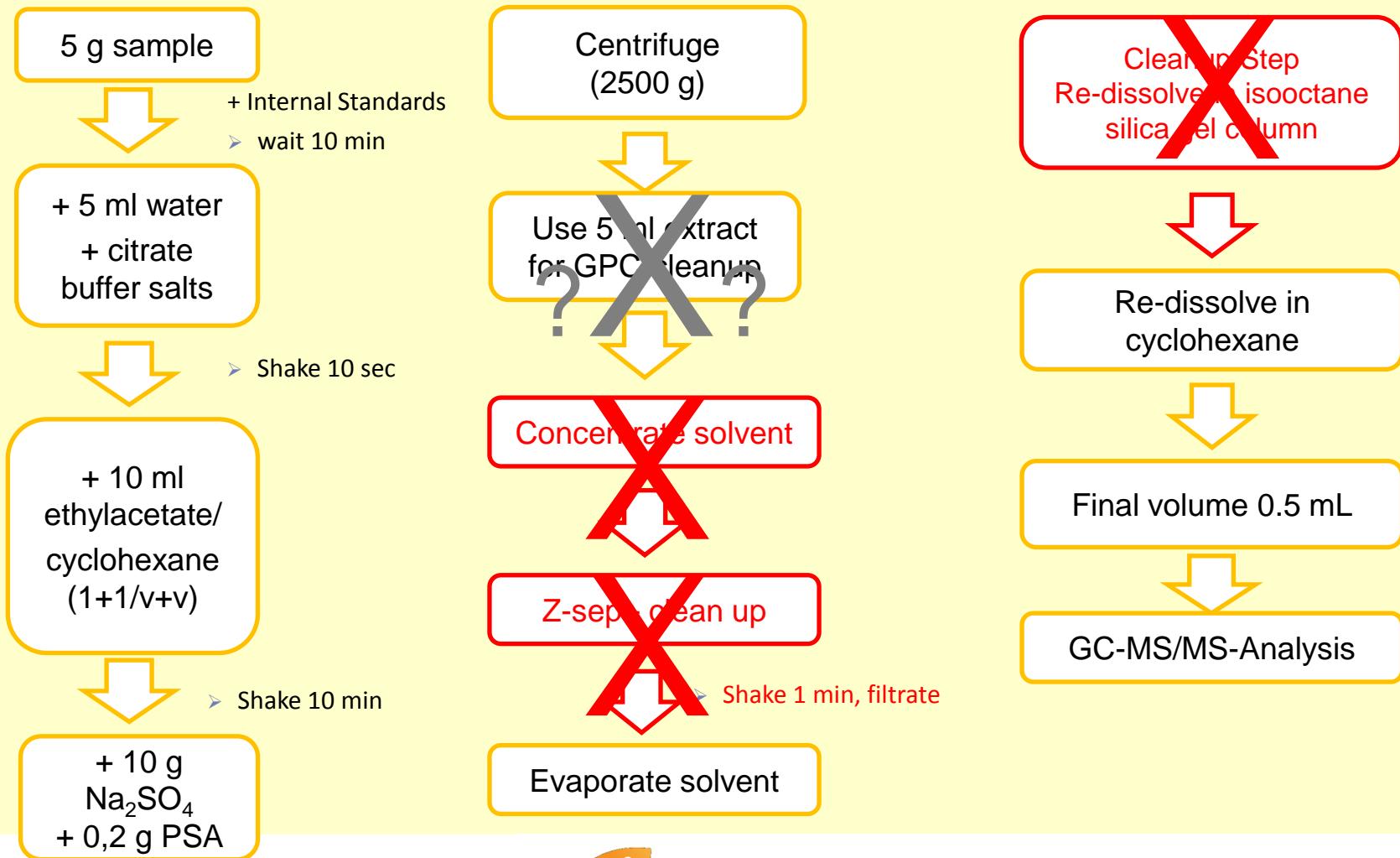
# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin: **LIVER**



# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin: Egg, Milk - Babyfood, Muscle



# Method for analysing less polar pesticide in food of animal origin: HONEY



Final

# Thank you for your attention!



GC-Liner after tests and the liver validation study