

# Polyacrylate Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction of 2,6-Dichlorobenzamide in Water followed by Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry

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SBSE Technical Meeting, Paris, January 26- 27, 2015

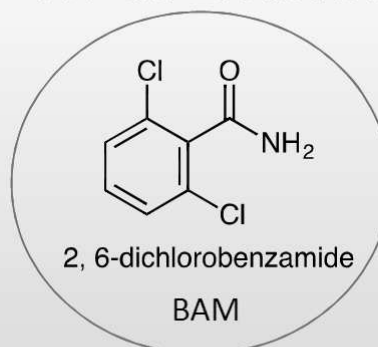


- The study was carried out on the basis of a collaboration with SRA-Italia and a Water Company in North Italy
- The Water Company was involved in the environmental monitoring of sites presenting former contamination from dichlobenil, using 2,6-Dichlorobenzamide (BAM) as a tracer of this herbicide
- They required us to develop a fast and simple method for BAM

...from soil ...



... to water



- 2,6-Dichlorobenzamide (BAM), a metabolite of the herbicide dichlobenil is a prominent ground water contaminant in Europe
- Dichlobenil was banned in Europe in 2008, nevertheless because of its slow release from soil, its main metabolite BAM is still frequently detected in ground water reservoirs
- BAM is a highly polar molecule with a good water solubility

## Why this method?

- Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction (SBSE) is a suitable technique for pre-concentration of trace water contaminants
- Polar twistors are now available for polar compounds (low  $\log K_{ow}$ )
- LC-MS/MS analysis offers high sensitivity and specificity

- Analysis of BAM in water has been reported using only SPE (*Auersperger, et al. 2005; Jensen, et al. 2009*): to propose an innovative method

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## Our previous experiences with SBSE : emerging pollutants



Rapid and selective determination of UV filters in seawater by liquid chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry combined with stir bar sorptive extraction

Kieu T.N. Nguyen, Carlo Scapolla, Marina Di Carro, Emanuele Magi\*

Department of Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry, University of Genoa, Via Dodecaneso 31, 16146 Genoa, Italy

Chromatographia (2012) 75:973–982  
DOI 10.1007/s10337-012-2202-z

ORIGINAL

### Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction and LC–MS/MS for Trace Analysis of UV Filters in Different Water Matrices

Emanuele Magi • Marina Di Carro •  
Carlo Scapolla • Kieu T. N. Nguyen

UV filters are non-polar or moderately polar molecules

SBSE Techn

Analytical  
Methods

RSC Publishing

PAPER

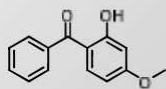
Emerging pollutants in aquatic environments: monitoring of UV filters in urban wastewater treatment plants

On 20th April 2013, 9:00 AM

Emanuele Magi,\* Carlo Scapolla, Marina Di Carro, Paola Bhatti and Kieu T.N. Nguyen

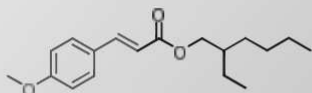
## SBSE & LC-MS: determination of UV filters in water

BP-3



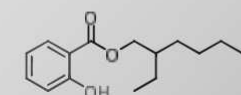
logK<sub>ow</sub>  
3.39

EHMC



5.80

EHS

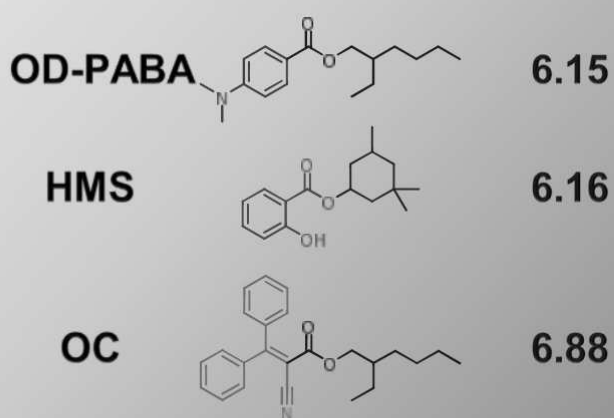


5.97

• R<sup>2</sup> calibration curves : > 0.997

• RSD% within day : < 9%

inter day : < 11%



- Analyte Recovery : close to 85%, except BP-3 (64%)
- Matrix effect: negligible
- LODs : 0.9 – 3.3 ng/L , except HMS, EHS (94, 114)

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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/trac](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/trac)



Review

## New coatings for stir-bar sorptive extraction of polar emerging organic contaminants

Núria Gilart, Rosa Maria Marcé, Francesc Borrull\*, Núria Fontanals

Departament de Química Analítica i Química Orgànica, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Campus Sescelades Marcel·lí Domingo, s/n, 43007 Tarragona, Spain

*"...there has been growing interest in developing more polar in-house coatings for SBSE and, therefore, extend the applicability of this sorptive extraction technique..."*

*"...very recently, SBSE stir bars with polar coatings were marketed by Gerstel..."*

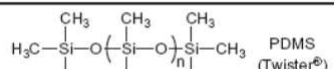
## Two commercial new coatings: Acrylate and EG Silicone

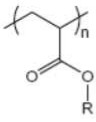



- both Twisters are PDMS-based phases
- enhancement of polarity is due to hydroxyl (PEG) and ester groups (PA)

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## Structures and applications of commercial new coatings


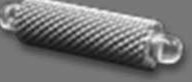
**Table 1**  
Structures and application of novel commercially available coatings for stir-bar sorptive extraction (SBSE)

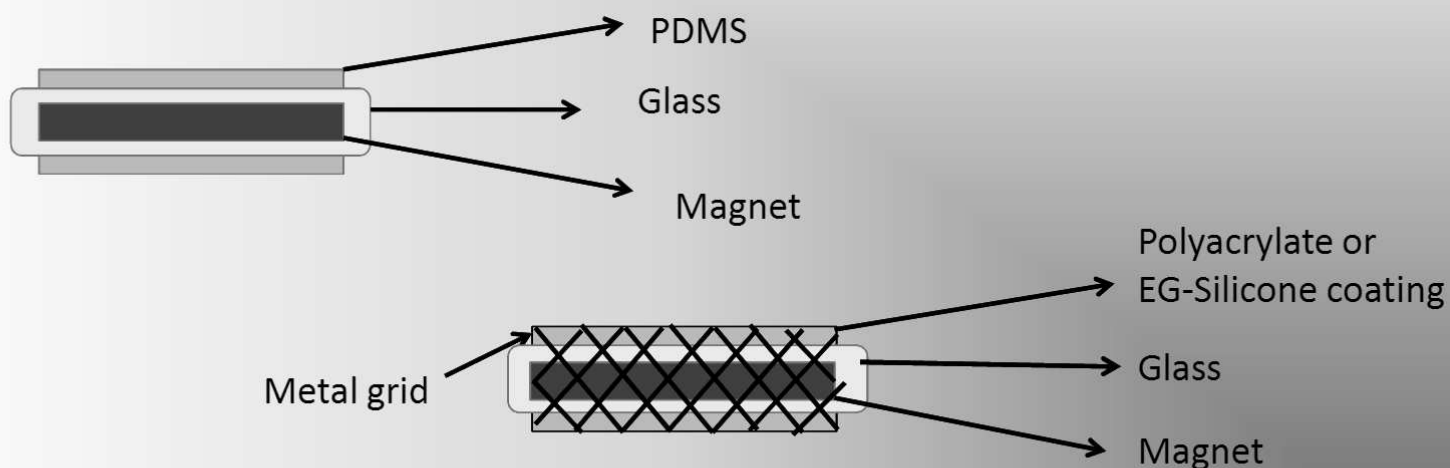
Coating Phase*	Structure	Analyte	Matrix	Sampling Mode	Desorption	Analysis	Ref.
PDMS (Twister*)	 <p>PDMS (Twister®)</p>		Food and	Immersion/			

PA (Acrylate Twister <sup>®</sup> )		PA and PDMS-based (Acrylate Twister <sup>®</sup> )	VOCs	Food and cosmetic	Immersion/HS	TD	GC-MS	[18]
PEG (EG Silicone Twister <sup>®</sup> )		PEG and PDMS-based (EG Silicone Twister <sup>®</sup> )	PPCPs	Wastewater	Immersion	LD	LC-MS/MS	[19]
PDMS (Twister <sup>®</sup> )		PA and PDMS-based (Acrylate Twister <sup>®</sup> )	Bisphenols	PCPs	Immersion	TD	GC-MS	[20]
PA (Acrylate Twister <sup>®</sup> )		PA and PDMS-based (Acrylate Twister <sup>®</sup> )	Benzothiazole	Untreated wastewater	Immersion	TD	GC-MS	[17]

GC-MS, Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry; HS, Headspace; LD, Liquid desorption; LC-MS/MS, Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry; PA, Polyacrylate; PCP, Personal-care product; PEG, Poly(ethylene)glycol; PPCP, Pharmaceuticals and personal-care product; TD, Thermal desorption; VOC, Volatile organic compound  
<sup>®</sup>Commercial name in brackets

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GERSTEL	PDMS Twister	EG Silicone Twister
		
Phase	Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS)	PDMS / Ethylene glycol (EG) - copolymer on an inert metal grid for mechanical stabilization
Enrichment	For apolar compounds $\log(K_{ow}) > 4$	For apolar compounds and polar compounds presenting low $\log(K_{ow}) < 4$ and form H-bonding



Gerstel and SRA Italia provided some  
polyacrylate and ethylene glycol-silicone  
Twisters to test

(10 mm long, 0.5 mm phase thickness)



**BAM has a  $\log K_{o/w} = 0.77$**



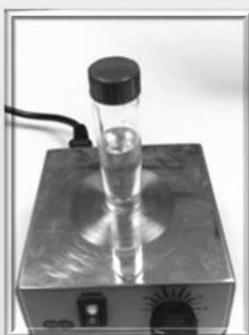
A polar phase is required to extract BAM from water

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## Twister conditioning and extraction



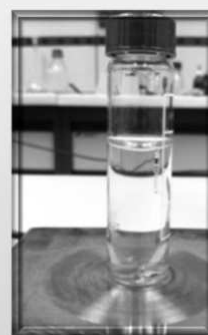
Polar Twister



Stir in solvent



Wipe out



Stir in water sample



... and now ?

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# SBSE: TD and LD, two ways to recover the analytes

## Thermal desorption



GC-MS

TDU-CIS

### Advantages:

- Fully automated
- Solvent free
- High sensitivity

### Shortcomings:

- One-shot
- GC only

## Liquid desorption (*back-extraction*)



GC-MS

HPLC-MS

### Advantages:

- Replicates
- GC, LC and ...
- Cheap

### Shortcomings:

- manual step
- time

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## Instruments & conditions



HPLC Agilent 1200 SL

ZORBAX Agilent Technologies



XDB-C<sub>18</sub> : 50x4.6mm 1.8µm



MS Agilent 6430 QQQ

Injection: 10 µL  
Flow: 0.4 mL/min  
Temperature : 30 °C

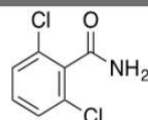
Mobile phase: A = 5 mM ammonium acetate buffer, pH 2.4; B = Acetonitrile  
 Isocratic elution: 50% A - 50% B

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## MS experimental conditions

- Ionization: ESI+
- MS/MS acquisition mode: MRM

**Table 1** Physical properties, structure, analytical relevant data of BAM and optimized LC-ESI-MS conditions

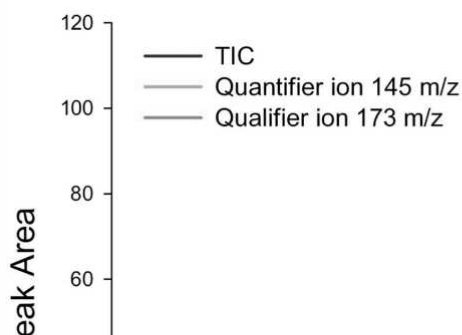
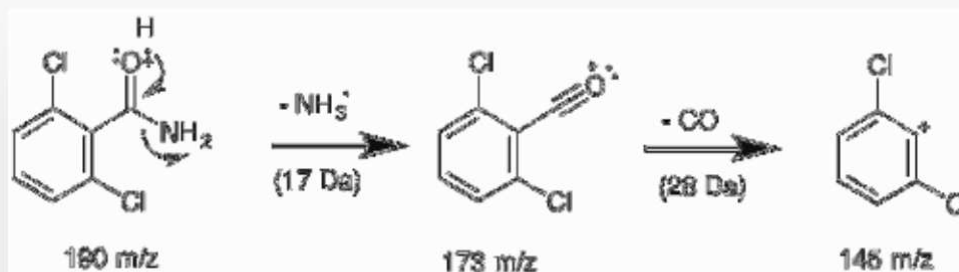
Name	Abbreviation	Empirical formula	Mw (g/mol)	Structure	Log K <sub>o/w</sub>		
2,6-Dichlorobenzamide	BAM	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NOCl <sub>2</sub>	190.03		0.77		
MS parameters							
RT <sup>a</sup> (min)	IM <sup>b</sup>	[M+H] <sup>+</sup>	PI <sup>c</sup>	DT <sup>d</sup>	FV <sup>e</sup>	CE <sup>f</sup>	CAV <sup>g</sup>
1.72	Positive	190	173, 145	500	135	30	7

<sup>a</sup>Retention time; <sup>b</sup>Ionization mode; <sup>c</sup>Product ions; <sup>d</sup>Dwell time (ms); <sup>e</sup>Fragmentor voltage; <sup>f</sup>Collision energy; <sup>g</sup>Cell acceleration voltage

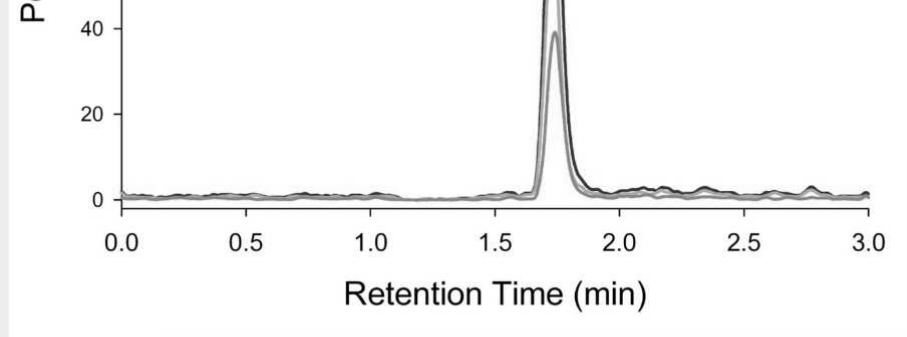
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Parent ion

Fragments

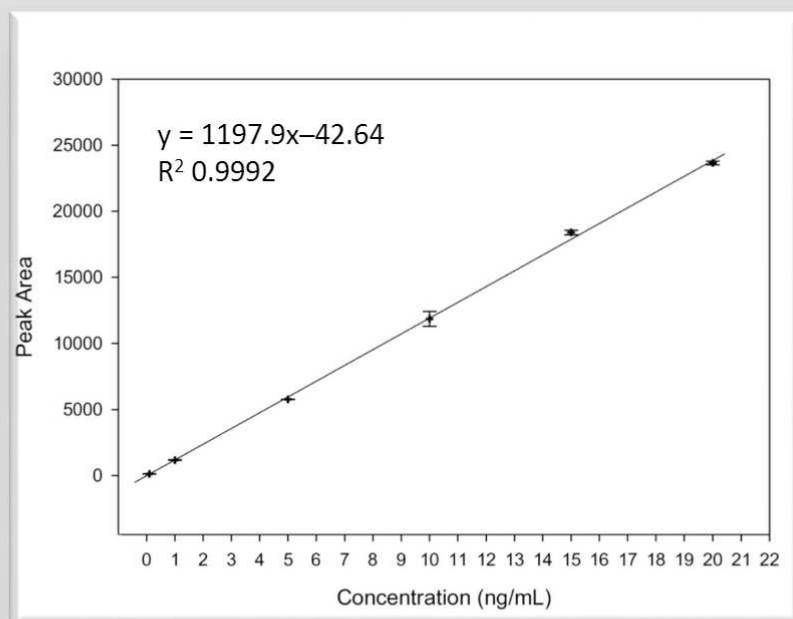
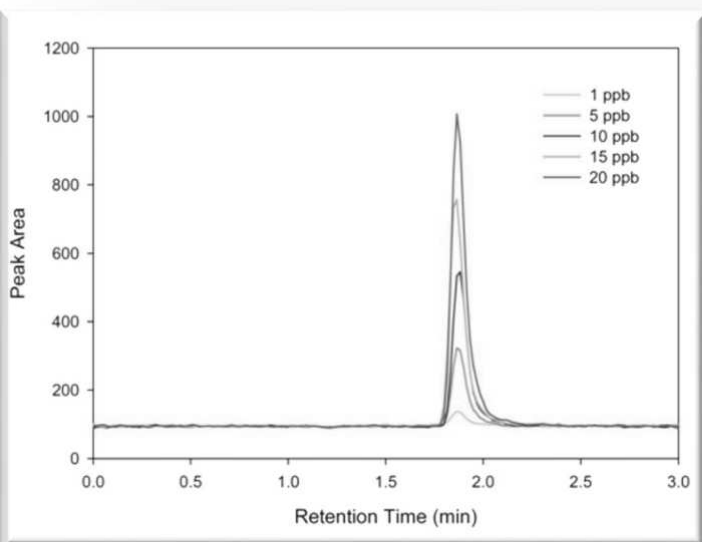






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## MS: quantitative analysis



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## SBSE-LD: main parameters to be optimized

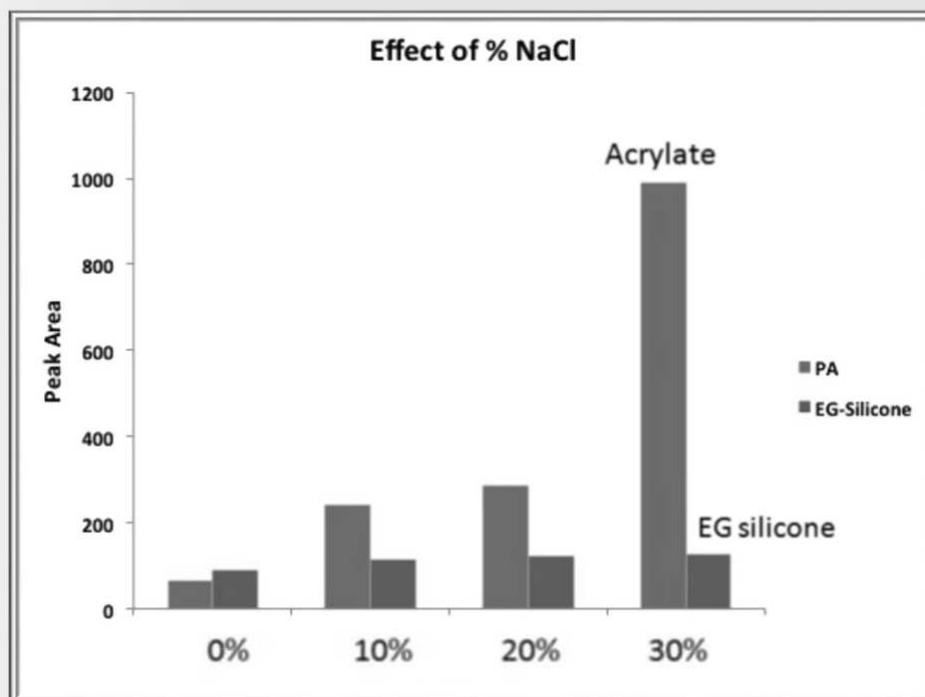
- ionic strength (and pH)
- stirring speed and time

- sample volume
- liquid desorption solvent
- LD method (stirring or sonication) and time

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## SBSE-LD: ionic strength effect

- Both the polar PA and EG silicone Twisters tested, spiking a water sample (analyte-free) with 1 ng mL<sup>-1</sup> of BAM.
- Four concentration levels of NaCl (0, 10, 20 and 30% w/v), other variables constant (sample volume 5 mL, stirring speed 500 rpm, and stirring time 4 h)



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## SBSE-LD: main parameters to be optimized

EG silicone was abandoned (*extraction of BAM* < 15%) :

a thorough optimization of the extraction method was carried out using polyacrylate Twister

- ionic strength (and pH)
- stirring speed and time
- sample volume
- liquid desorption solvent
- LD method (stirring or sonication) and time

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## Liquid desorption

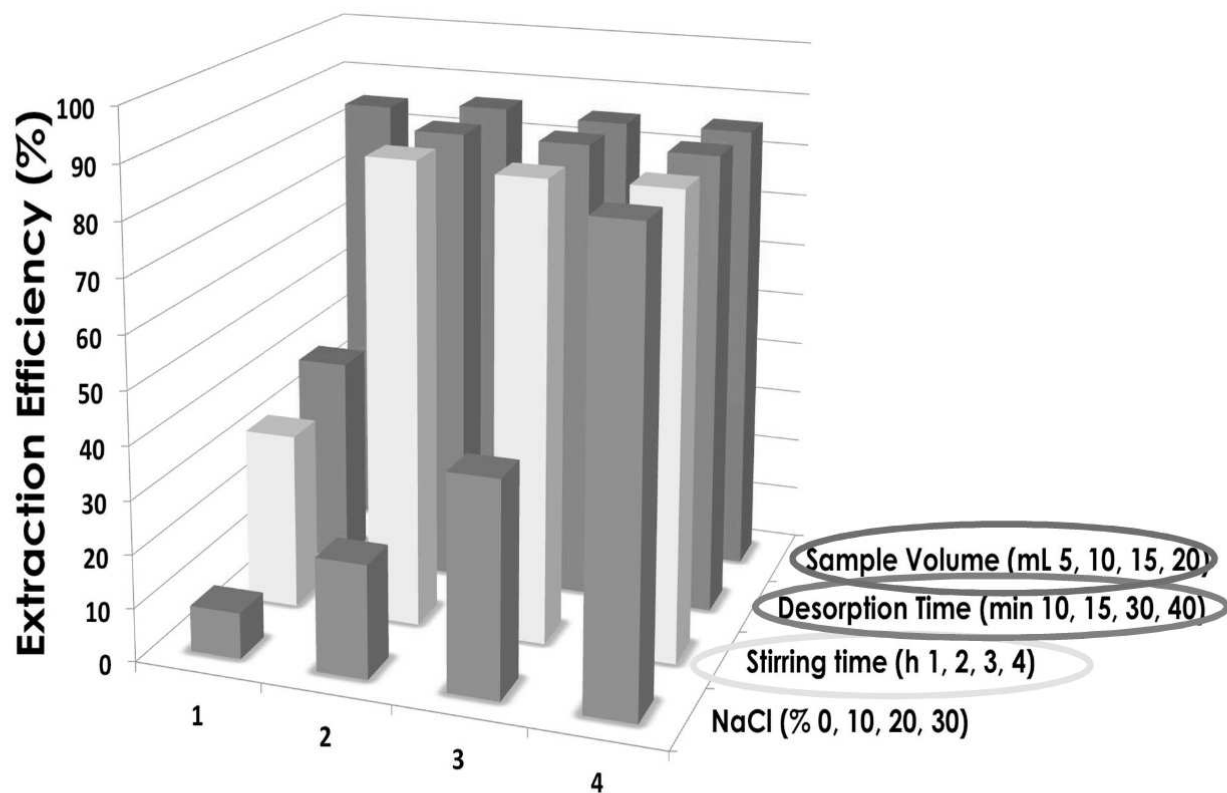


- Literature data suggested that LD by ultra sonication accelerates analyte desorption from the stir bar (\*)
- In our experiments, stirring was extended up to 4 hours but provided a back-extraction efficiency close to 20%, so it was discarded
- LD was then performed by sonication

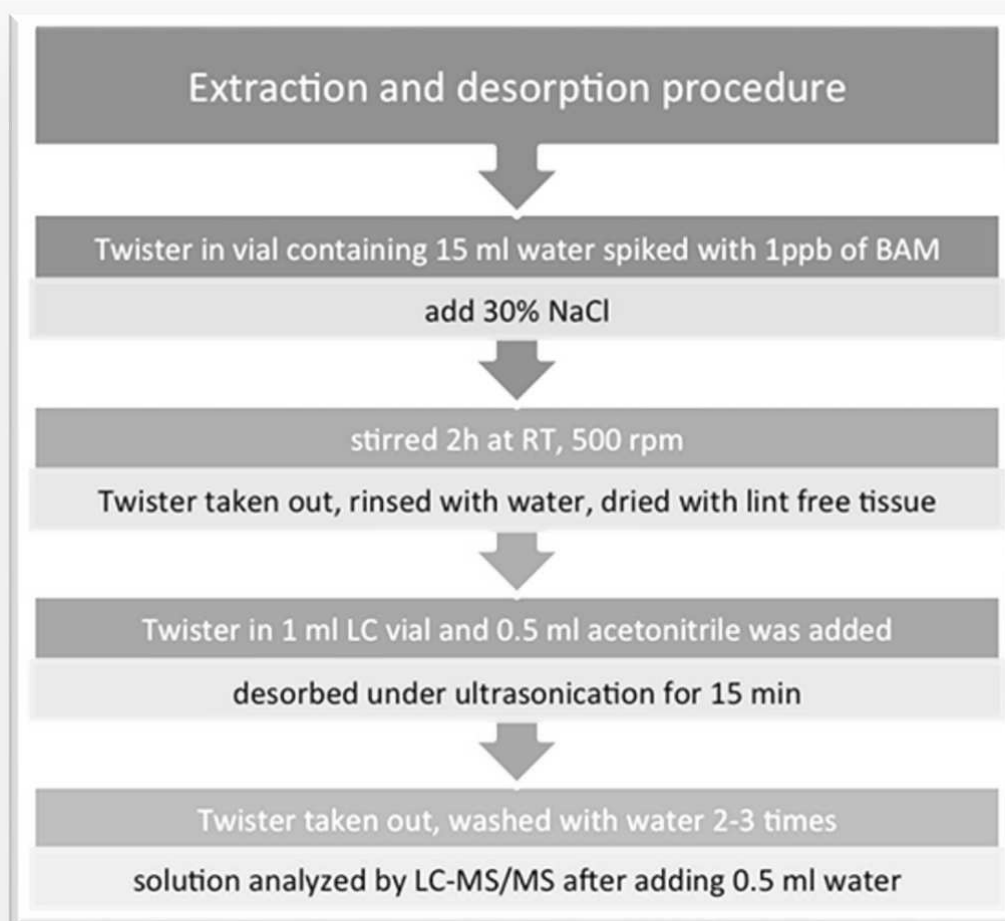
(\*) GIORDANO A., FERNANDEZ-FRANZON M., RUIZ M.J., FONT G., and PICO Y., Pesticide residue determination in surface waters by stir bar sorptive extraction and liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry, *Anal. Bioanal. Chem.*, 2009, 393, 1733-1743.

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## SBSE-LD: optimization of PA



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# Repeatability

(*n* = 5)

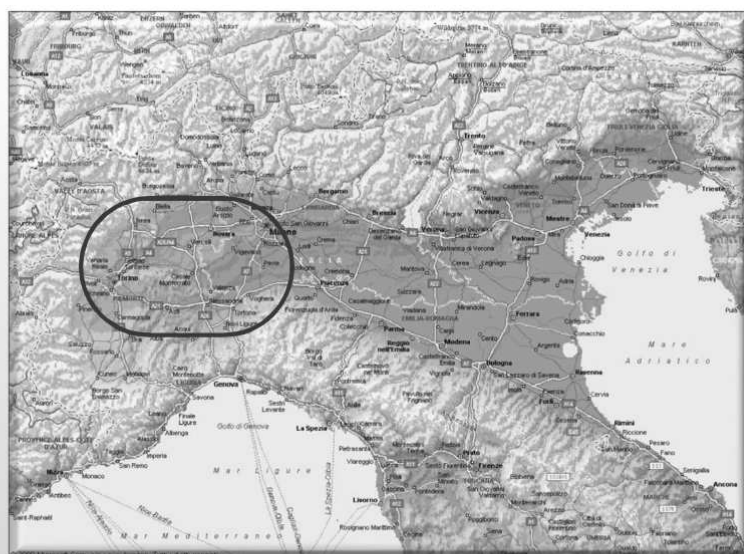
BAM conc. ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ )	RSD (%)	
	Intra-day	Inter-day
0.1	1.5	5.6
1	2.6	7.1
5	3.3	9.7
10	1.9	9.6
15	1.3	9.6
20	0.9	2.7

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## Figures of merit

BAM	SBSE-LD LC-MS/MS
Recovery	86 %
Preconcentration factor	15:1
LOD	$2.0 \text{ ng L}^{-1}$
LOQ	$6.6 \text{ ng L}^{-1}$
RSD intra day	< 5 %
inter day	< 10 %
Linear range	$0.1 - 20 \text{ } \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$

## Groundwater samples



Water samples	BAM conc. (µg L <sup>-1</sup> )	RSD (%)
1	0.161	4.0
2	0.282	6.1
3	0.103	13.8
4	0.168	4.3
5	0.070	2.5

## Preliminary tests to extend method to other polar pesticides

Nine pesticides chosen from a priority list of the most widespread pesticides in Northern Italy:

metolachlor, penconazol, alachlor, linuron, prometryn, terbutylazine, propazine, ametryn, atrazine

Range of logK<sub>ow</sub> of selected pesticides: **2.6 – 4.7**

Quantitative analysis was performed by LC–MS/MS using the method previously developed in our lab (\*)

method previously developed in our lab ( )

Both polyacrylate and ethylene glycol-silicone twisters were tested ... but



(\*) Bono L., Magi E., "Fast and Selective Determination of Pesticides in Water by Automated on-Line Solid Phase Extraction Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry", Analytical Letters, 2013, 46, 1467-1476  
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## Preliminary tests to extend method to other polar pesticides

Similar optimization of EG-silicone Twister to that previously described for BAM

In optimized conditions (*stirring speed 500 rpm, time 2 h, sample volume 20 mL, ultrasonic desorption 30 min with methanol*):

- Extraction efficiency in the range 50 - 80%
- Linearity in the range 5-250 ng L<sup>-1</sup> , R<sup>2</sup> 0.993-0.998
- LOD 1.6-25.5 ng L<sup>-1</sup>, LOQ 5.2-43.7 ng L<sup>-1</sup>
- Inter-day RSD below 10%

Although preliminary, results indicate that EG-silicone can be successfully employed for trace level determination of polar pesticides (logK<sub>o/w</sub> 2.6 - 4.7 ) in water

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## Pesticides detected in groundwater samples

Real Samples	Concentration in µg L <sup>-1</sup>					
	MET	PEN	ALA	TER	ATR	RSD%
1	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	-

2	0.049	0.052	0.056	<LOD	<LOD	4.4-8.1
3	0.033	0.040	<LOD	0.059	0.075	3.8-11.2
4	0.032	0.033	<LOD	0.053	0.092	4.5-9.8
5	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	0.061	5.7

MET: metolachlor, PEN: penconazol, ALA: alachlor, TER: terbutylazine, ATR: atrazine

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G Model  
PBA-9778; No. of Pages 7

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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jpba](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jpba)



New Methods

## Innovative sampling and extraction methods for the determination of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in water

Shivani Tanwar, Marina Di Carro, Emanuele Magi\*

Department of Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry, University of Genoa, Via Dodecaneso 31, 16146 Genoa, Italy

Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis xxx (2014) xxx–xxx

3

**Table 1**  
Analyte structures and LC–ESI–MS/MS conditions in MRM mode. Negative ionization and cell acceleration voltage – 7 were used for all analytes).

Analyte	Structure	Log $K_{ow}$	RT <sup>a</sup> (min)	Precursor ion	Product ion		DT <sup>b</sup>	FV <sup>c</sup>	CE <sup>d</sup>
					Quantifier	Qualifier			
ASA		1.19	1.2	179	137	–	80	70	0
KET		3.12	1.8	253	209	197	70	70	2
NAP		3.18	1.9	229	185	169	100	79	5
DIC		4.51	3.1	294	250	214	100	80	5
IBU		3.97	3.5	205	161	159	100	75	2
MEF		5.12	4.6	240	196	192	100	91	5

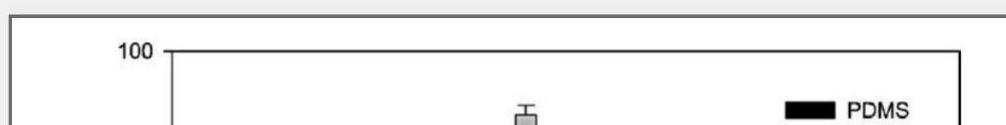
<sup>a</sup> Retention time.

<sup>b</sup> Dwell time (ms).

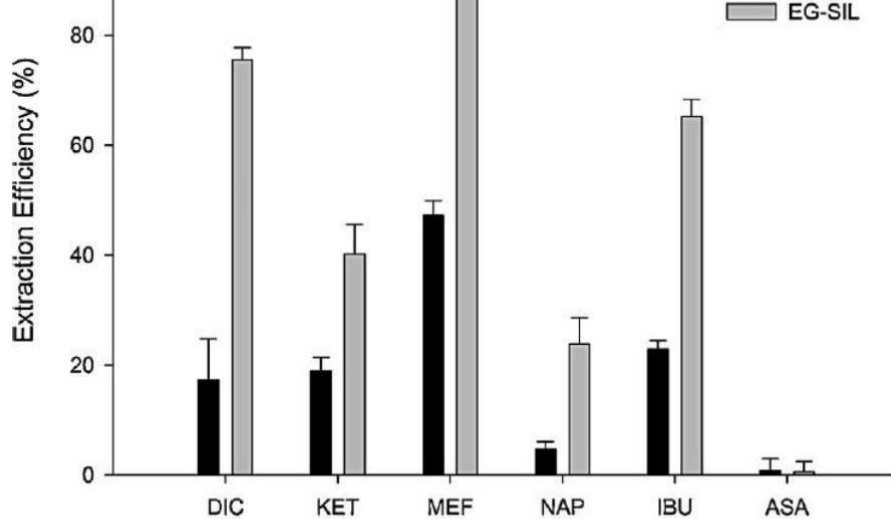
<sup>c</sup> Fragmentor voltage.

<sup>d</sup> Collision energy.

## Extraction efficiency of NSAIDs PDMS vs. EG-silicone







**Fig. 2.** Extraction efficiencies of NSAIDs obtained with EG-Silicone and PDMS (optimized methods).

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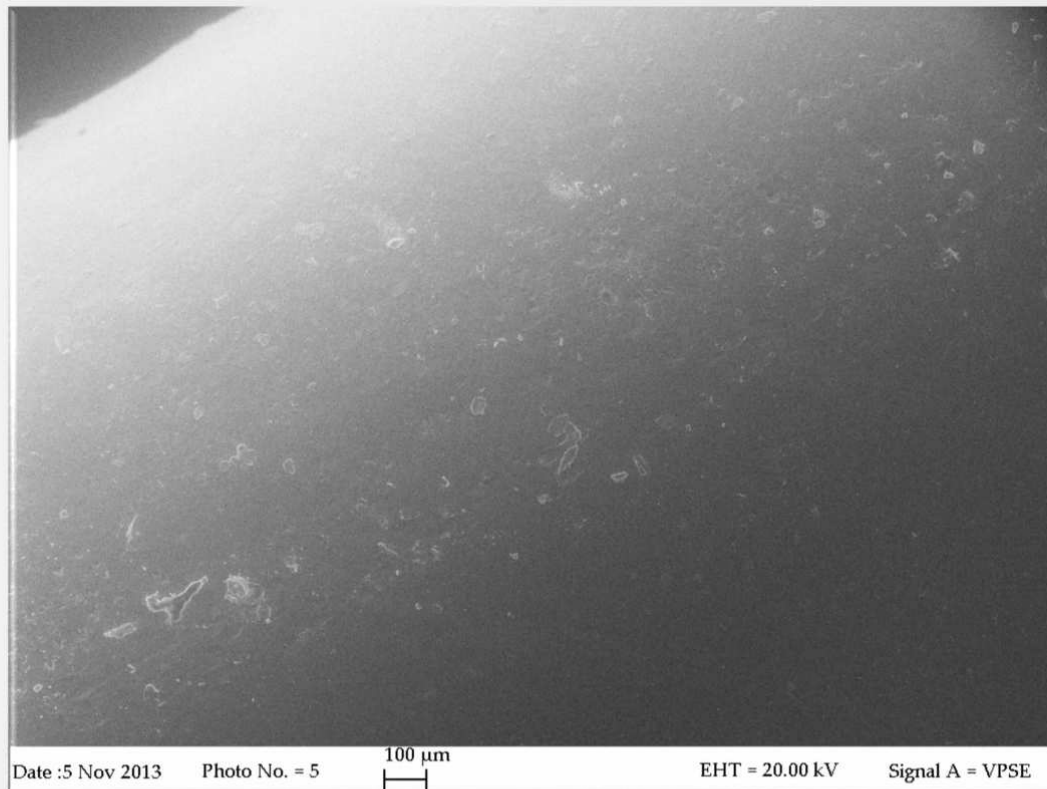
## Twister Robustness

- PDMS Twister lifetime is about 50 cycles (extraction & desorption)
- In our experiments, polar stir bars exhibited an average lifetime of about 25 cycles
- Probably the stirring is not as smooth as for PDMS, thus affecting negatively the robustness of polar stir bars

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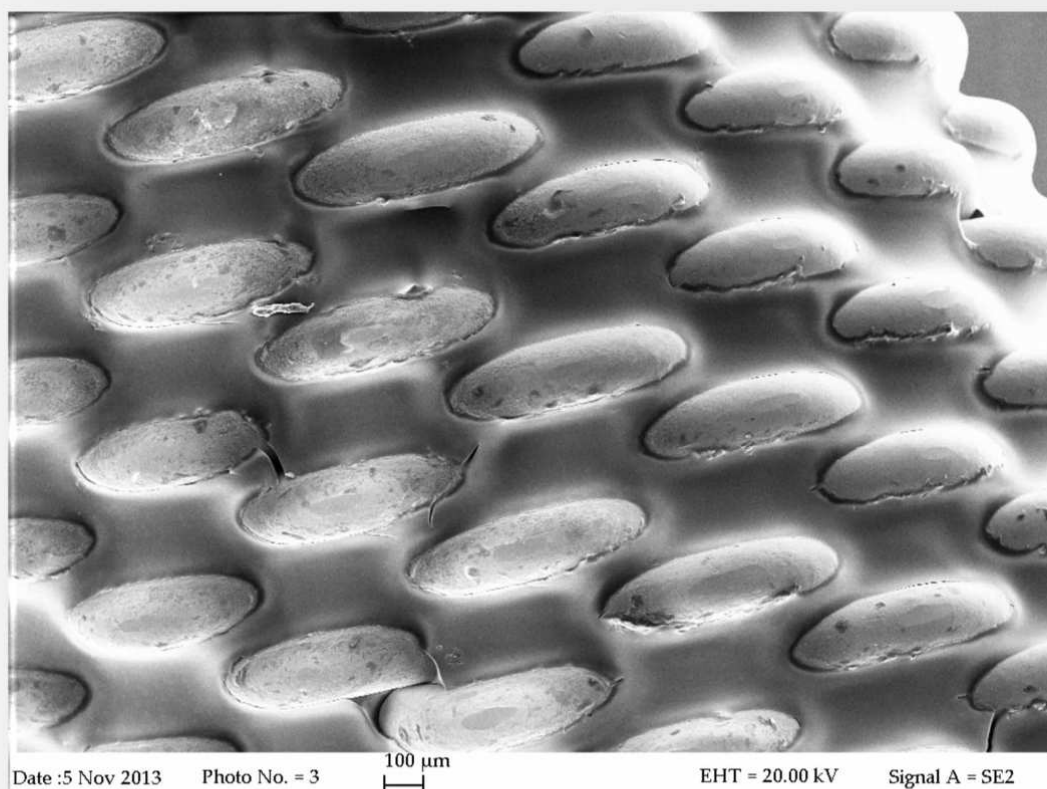
## Twister Robustness

# PDMS Twister after 20-25 cycles



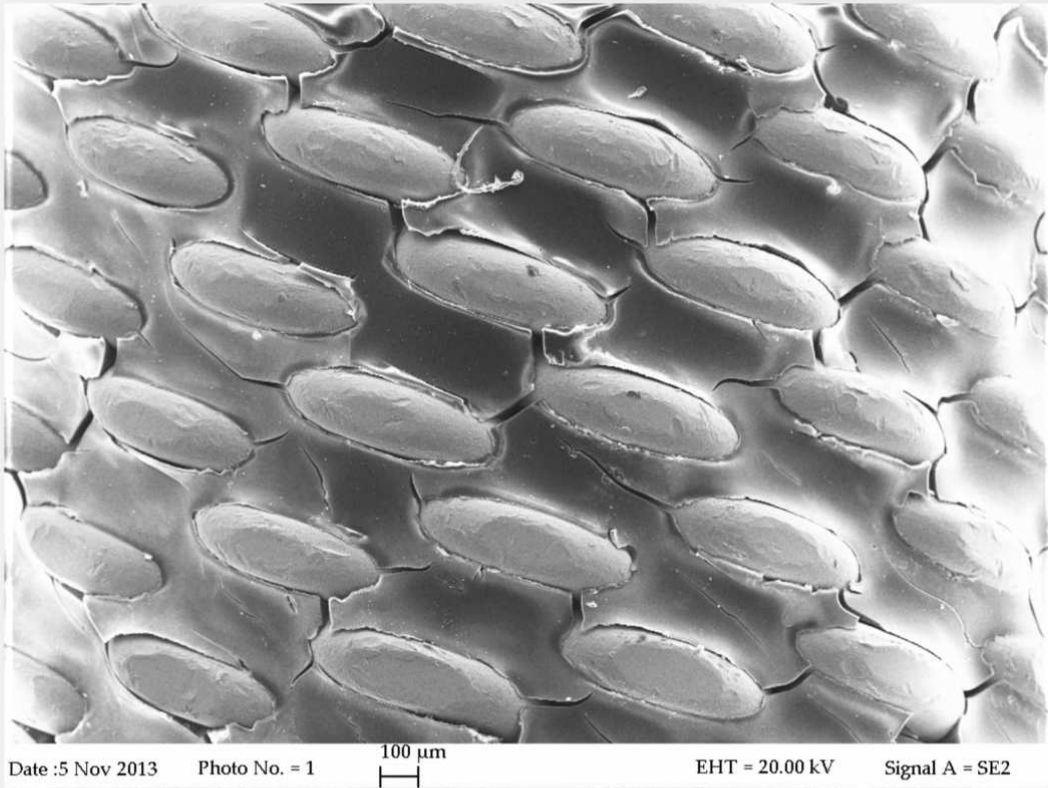
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# PA almost new



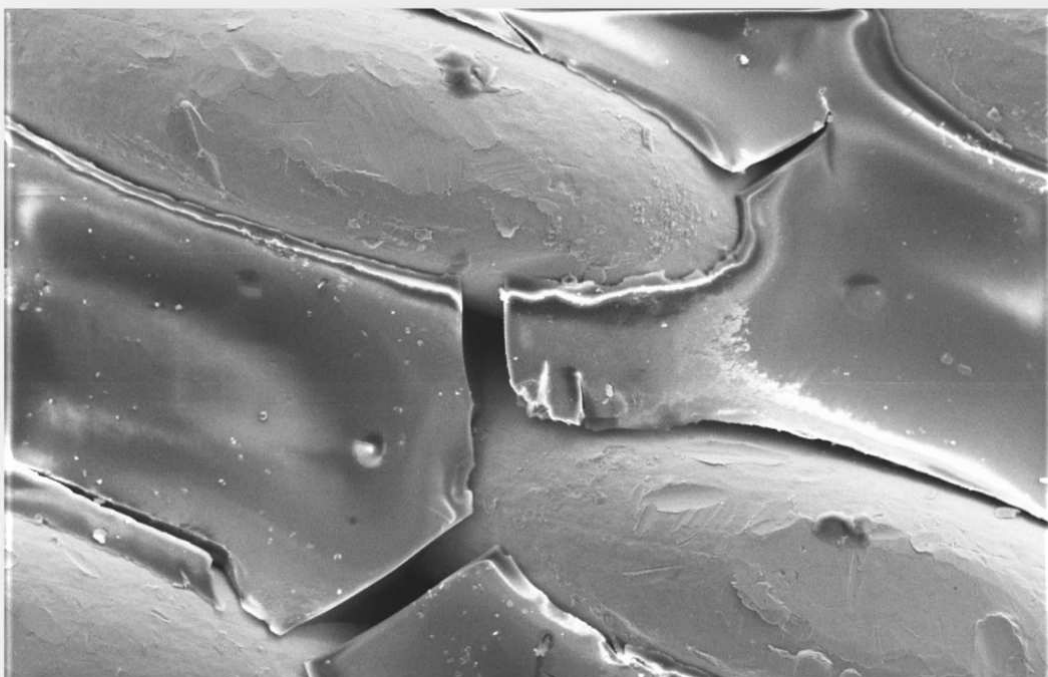
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## PA after 25 cycles



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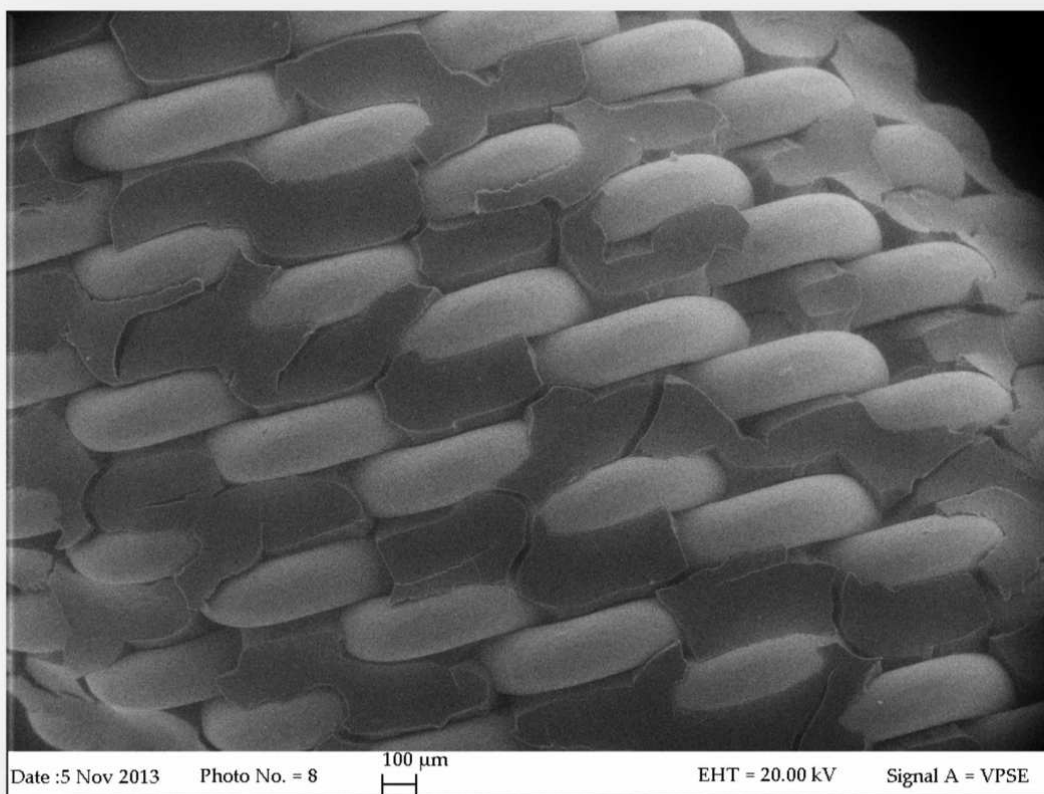
## PA after 25 cycles





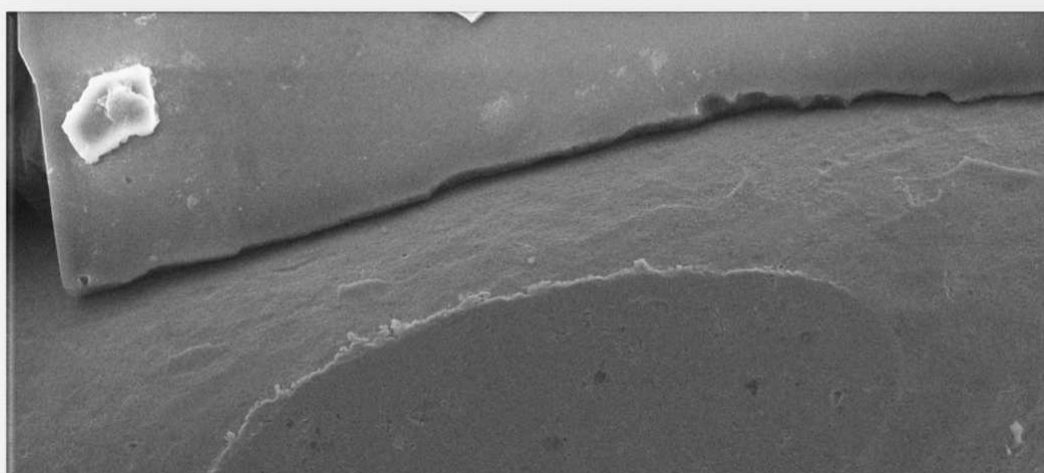
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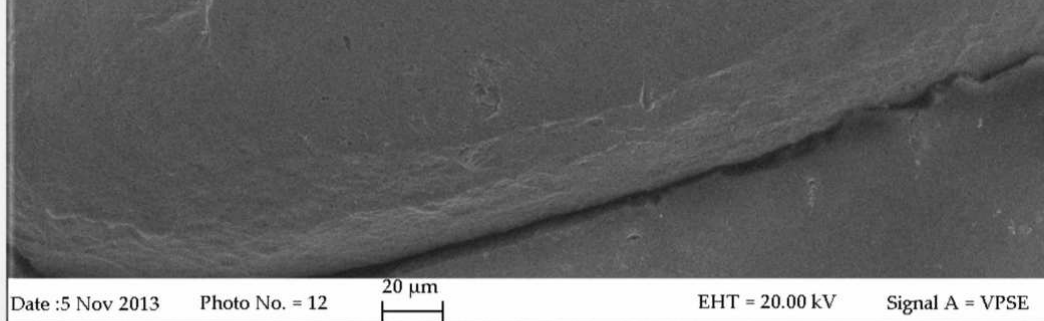
## EG Silicone after 20-25 cycles



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## EG Silicone after 20-25 cycles

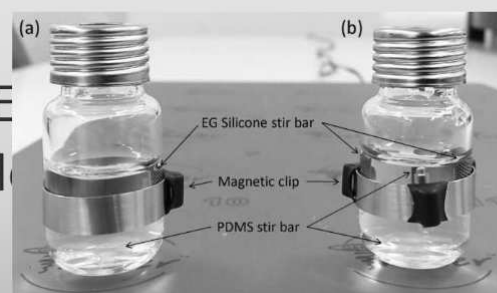




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## Twister Robustness

- Stirring is responsible for mechanical stress of coating, we don't know how much it compromise the extracting power of the Twister and its lifetime
- Ochiai, et al. 2013 (\*) reported for EG silicone stir bar a lifetime of 30 cycles using a "non-stirring" Twister
- Further studies are necessary for a better understanding and to enhance the robustness of polar Twister ... a challenging task for material scientists and manufacturers



(\*) Ochiai, N., K. Sasamoto, T. Ieda, F. David and P. Sandra. 2013. Multi-stir bar sorptive extraction for analysis of odor compounds in aqueous samples. *J. Chromatogr. A* 1315: 70-79.

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Shivani Tanwar, PhD



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