

GC/MS Analysis of Aromatics in Gasoline using ASTM D5769

Set-up, Optimization, and Automated Reporting

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GC/MS Analysis of Aromatics in Gasoline using ASTM D5769

ASTM D5769 Scope

- Measures benzene (0.1 to 4 vol%), toluene (1 to 13 vol%) and total aromatics (10 to 42 vol%) in finished motor gasolines
- Primary EPA regulatory method for reporting total aromatics
 - Alternative fluorescent indicator adsorption (FIA) method, D1319, no longer viable due to dye unavailability
 - D5769 now the only EPA approved method for total aromatics

Challenges for running D5769

- More complex instrumentation
- Must meet specific performance tests before running samples
 - Linearity, sensitivity, spectral fidelity, chromatographic resolution, QC check
 - Linearity specifications are particularly challenging and can lead to QC check failures
- More complex data analysis
- More costly to purchase and operate compared to D1319 FIA

GC/MS Analysis of Aromatics in Gasoline using ASTM D5769

- New Agilent 8860 GC bundle with 5977 Series MSD
 - Less expensive than similar 8890/5977 system
 - 5977 MSD with Stainless Steel source reduces costs
 - 8860 GC high performance design for routine yet critical applications
 - Compatible with hydrogen carrier gas for lower operational costs
- Presentation Outline
 - Instrument configuration and operating conditions
 - Optimizing calibration linearity
 - Pre-analysis performance checks
 - Sample analysis performance
 - Conversion to hydrogen carrier gas
 - Method for faster analysis time

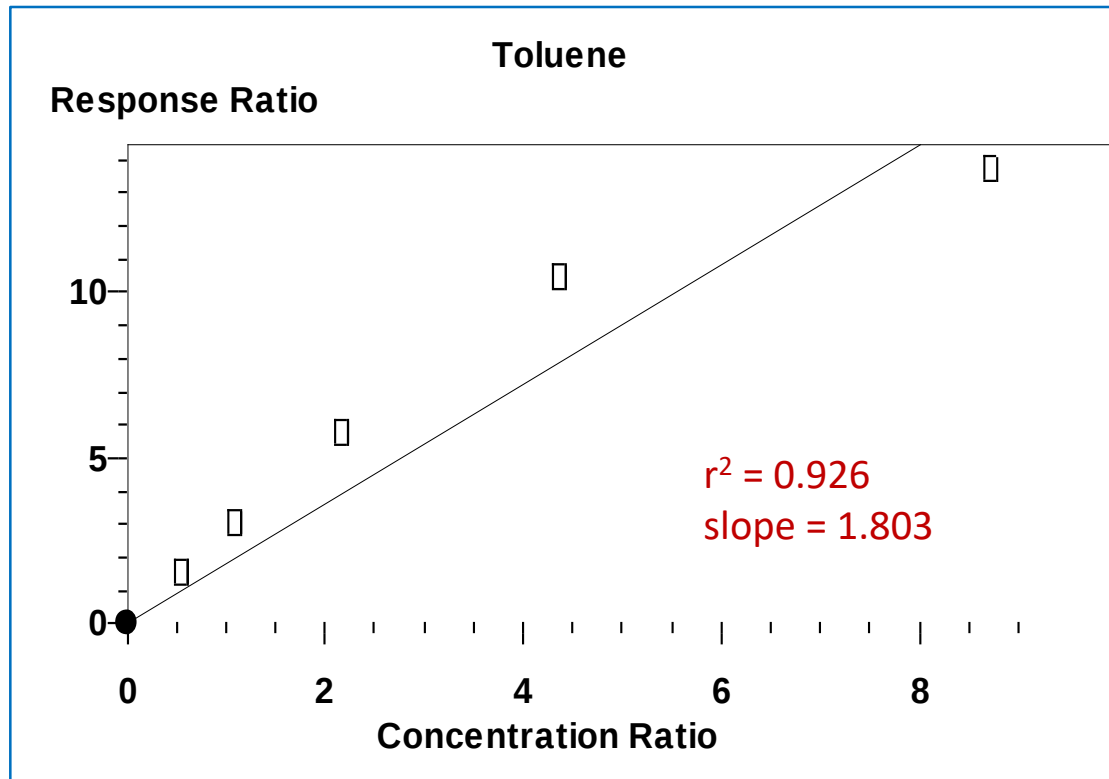


D5769 Operating Conditions for Agilent 8860/5977 GC/MS System

	GC Column 1	GC Column 2
ALS		
Syringe:	5 uL	5 uL
Injection volume:	0.1 uL	0.1 uL
Wash solvent:	isooctane	isooctane
Inlet		
Carrier gas:	helium	helium
Mode:	split, 250:1	split, 700:1
Temperature:	250 °C	250 °C
Liner:	Split (5190-2295)	Split (5190-2295)
Column		
Type:	DB-1, 60 m x 0.25 mm ID x 1.00 um	DB-1, 20 m x 0.18 mm ID x 0.4 um
Flow rate:	1.8 mL/min. constant flow (35 cm/s)	0.46 mL/min. constant flow (30 cm/s)
Initial temperature:	60 °C	35 °C
Initial hold time:	0 min.	1 min.
Ramp rate 1:	3 °C/min.	25 °C/min.
Temperature 1:	120 °C	210 °C
Hold time 1:	0 min.	1 min.
Ramp rate 2:	10 °C/min.	
Temperature 2:	250 °C	
Hold time 2:	2 min.	
Total run time:	35 min.	9 min.

	GC Column 1	GC Column 2
GC/MS Interface		
Type:	direct	direct
Temperature:	280 °C	250 °C
5977 MSD		
Ionization voltage:	70 eV	70 eV
Source temperature:	230 °C	230 °C
Quad temperature:	150 °C	150 °C
Scan range:	45 - 300	70 - 170
Scan rate:	3 scans/s	11 scans/s

D5769 - Optimizing Calibration Linearity



ASTM Calibration requirements

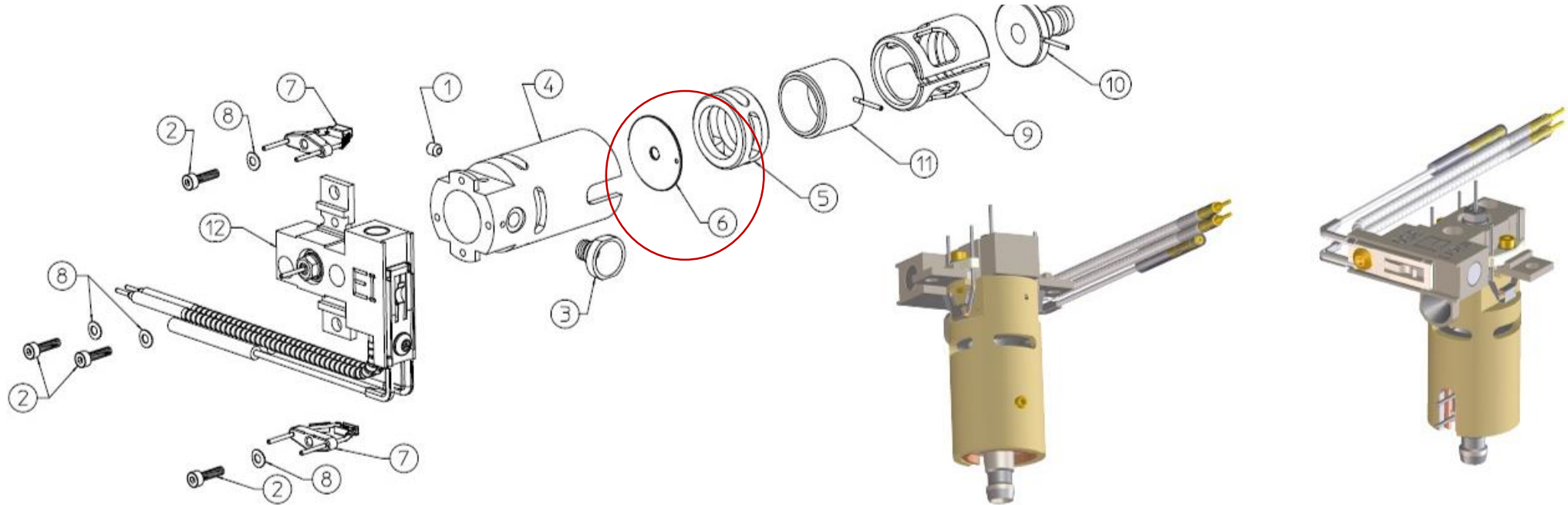
- Linear regression fit
- y-axis forced through 0
- Correlation (r^2) should be at least 0.99
- Non-linearity usually seen with toluene
 - highest calibration range: 0.5 to 20 vol%

Optimizing instrument and method conditions to obtain linear response

- Tools to use for linear response
 - Source hardware optimization
 - Injection size
 - Inlet split ratio

Optimizing Calibration Linearity with the Agilent 5977 Stainless Steel Source

Simple change of source component improves D5769 linearity



- Standard source has a 3 mm ID drawout plate (component #6)
 - Optimized for sensitivity
- Replace with optional 9 mm ID drawout plate (part # G3440-20022)
 - Improves linear response for higher concentration components
 - No response problems for lower level standards

Optimizing Calibration Linearity with the Agilent 5977 Stainless Steel Source

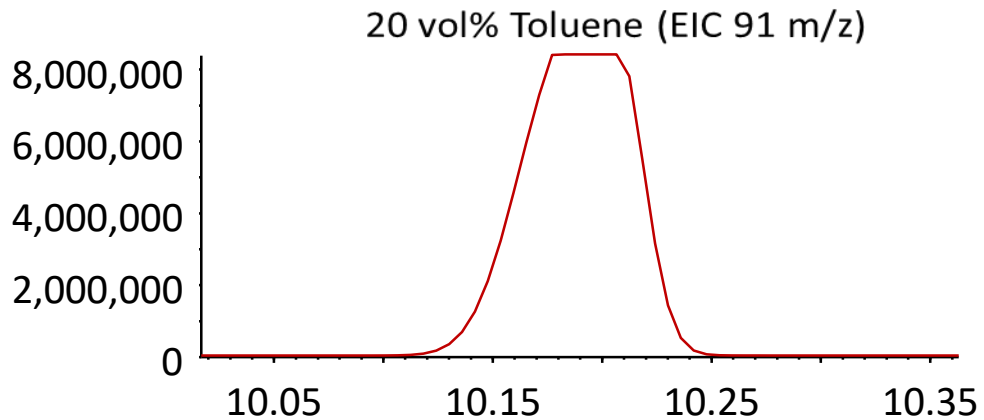
Simple change of source component improves D5769 linearity

Linearity check

- Run the highest concentration standard
- Extract Ion Chromatogram (EIC) with the quant ion
- Flat peak top indicates detector signal overload
- Maximum abundance should be below 5×10^6

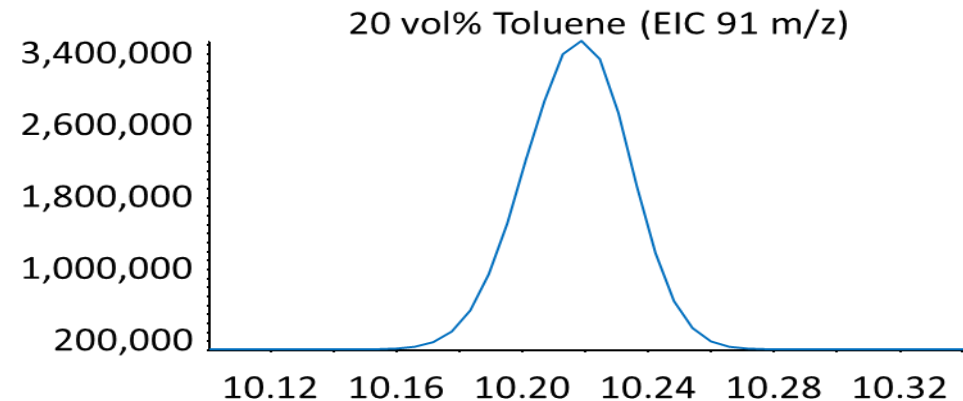
Instrument Conditions

- Standard 3 mm draw out plate
- 0.1 uL injection
- 250:1 split ratio

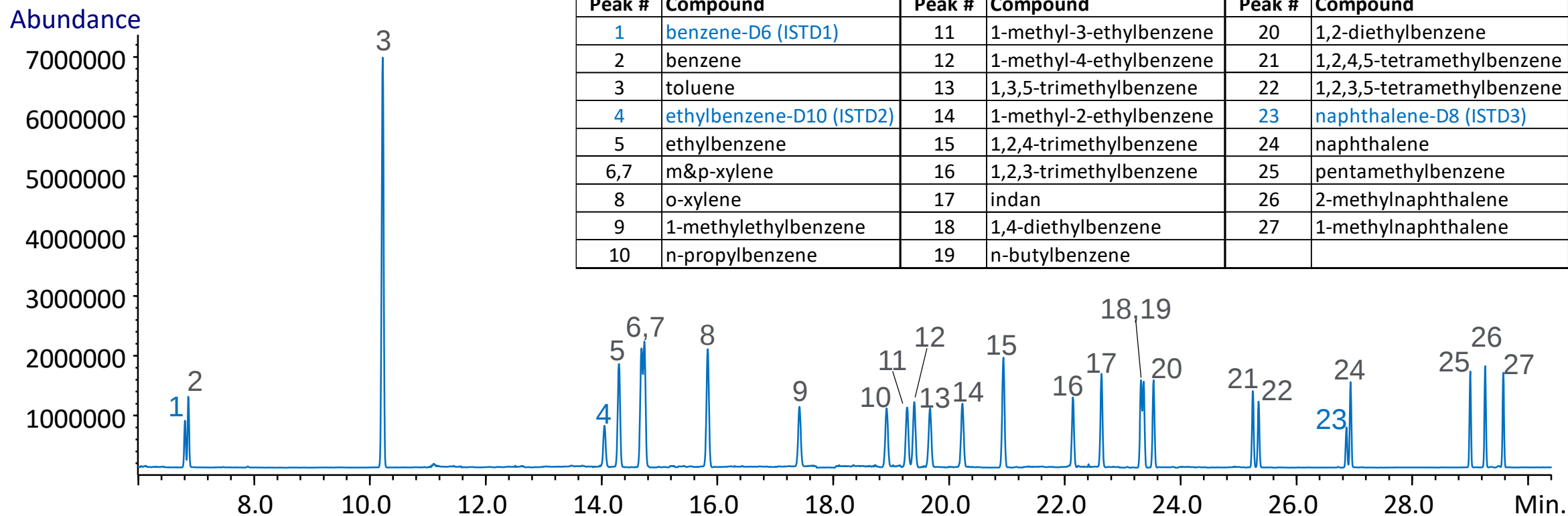


Instrument Conditions

- 9 mm draw out plate
- 0.1 uL injection
- 350:1 split ratio

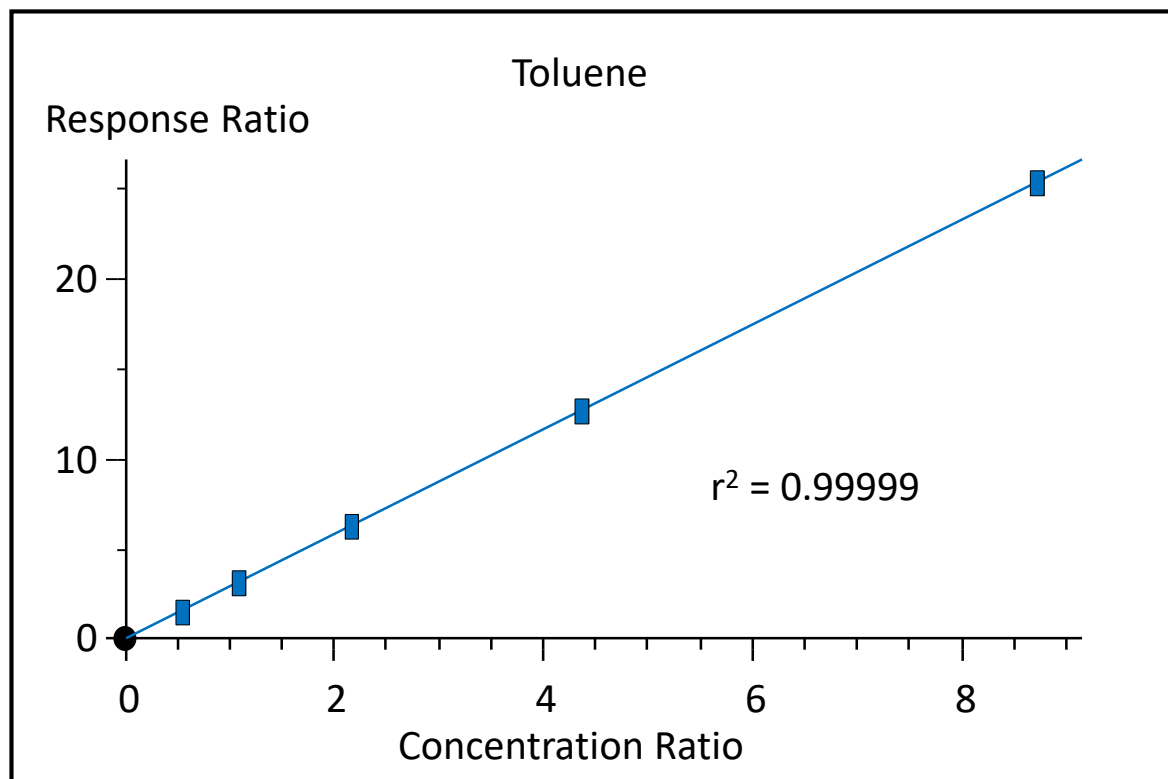


D5769 Calibration Compounds Using Column 1



- Three deuterated internal standards indicated in blue text
- m-Xylene and p-xylene isomers are combined as one compound
- 1,4-diethylbenzene and n-butyl benzene were sufficiently resolved on column 1
 - Method allows combining as a single compound

Simple Source Optimization Provides Required Calibration Linearity



Exceeds ASTM requirement of $r^2 \geq 0.99$ for all compounds

Aromatics Analysis Correlation Coefficient Results

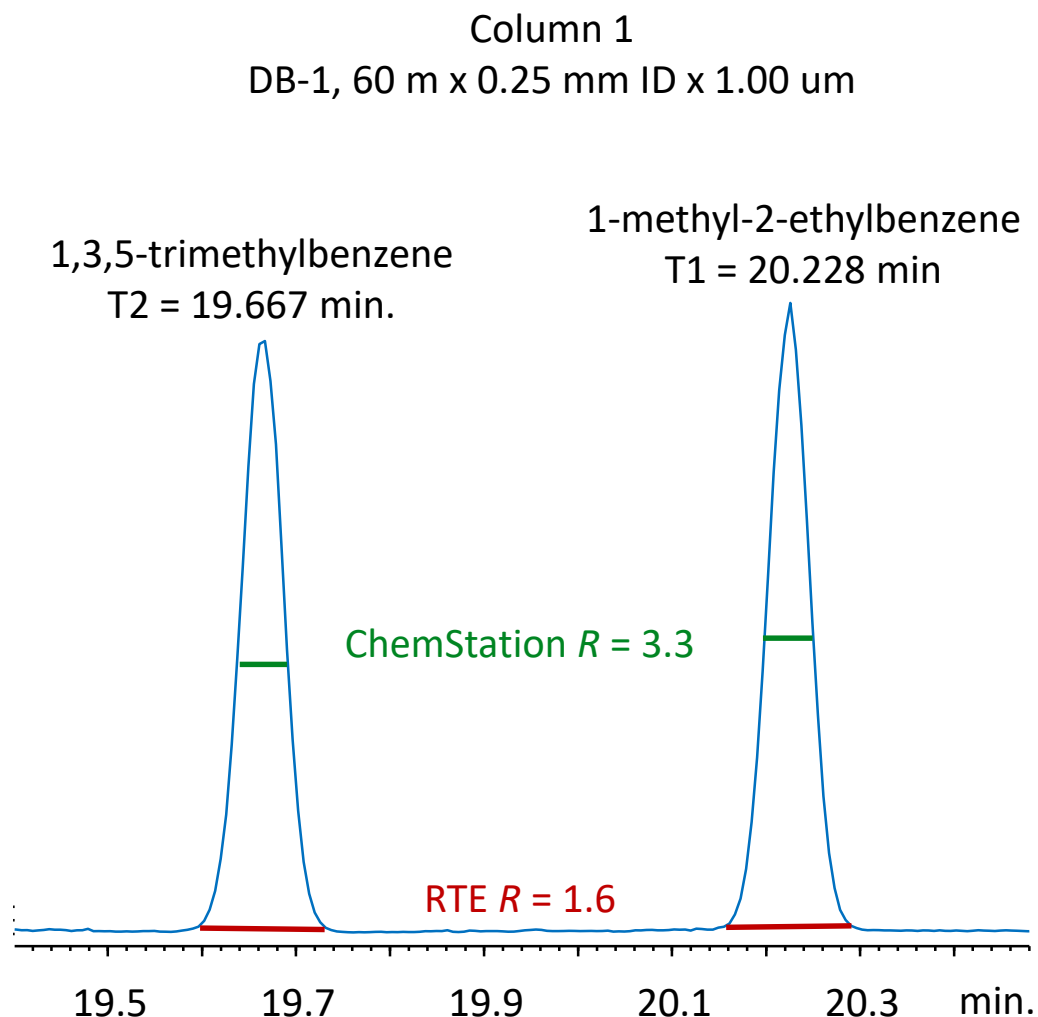
Method : D5769_sstEI_Col1_He_DA.M
Calibration : Aromatics in Gasoline

Cal Files A1 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col1_190828\D5769_Std_01.D
A2 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col1_190828\D5769_Std_02.D
A3 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col1_190828\D5769_Std_03.D
A4 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col1_190828\D5769_Std_04.D
A5 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col1_190828\D5769_Std_05.D

Compound	Corr Coeff(r^2)	Y-Intercept Test
benzene	0.99992	0.00
Toluene	0.99999	0.00
ethylbenzene	0.99990	0.00
m&p xylene	0.99996	0.00
o-xylene	0.99999	0.00
1-methylethylbenzene	0.99986	0.00
n-propylbenzene	0.99997	0.00
1-methyl-3-ethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
1-methyl-4-ethylbenzene	0.99993	0.00
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
1-methyl-2-ethylbenzene	0.99993	0.00
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2,3-trimethylbenzene	0.99994	0.00
indan	0.99999	0.00
alkyl indans	0.99999	0.00
1,4-diethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
n-butylbenzene	0.99940	0.00
1,2-diethylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99993	0.00
1,2,3,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99997	0.00
naphthalene	0.99991	0.00
pentamethylbenzene	0.99954	0.00
2-methylnaphthalene	0.99988	0.00
1-methylnaphthalene	0.99996	0.00
C10 benzenes	0.99999	0.00
C11 benzenes	0.99999	0.00
C12 benzenes	0.99999	0.00

D5769 Column 1 Resolution Test

Choosing the correct integrator



ASTM Resolution Calculation

- Test mix containing 3 mass % of:
 - 1-methyl-2-ethylbenzene and 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene
- Resolution must be 2.0 or greater

ASTM D5769 Resolution Equation

$$R = \frac{2(RT1 - RT2)}{1.699(PW2_{0.5} - PW1_{0.5})}$$

Two data system integrator choices:

- Chemstation: reports peak width at half height ($PW_{0.5}$)
- RTE: reports peak width at baseline
- **TIP:** use the Chemstation Integrator for resolution test

Temporarily Select Integrator

☒ ChemStation Integrator

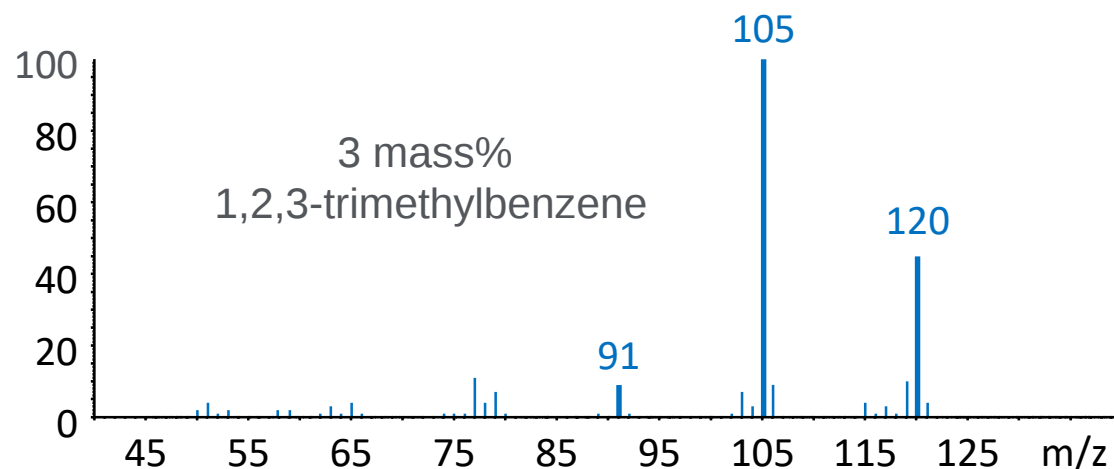
☐ RTE Integrator

OK Cancel

D5769 Pre-Analysis Performance Checks

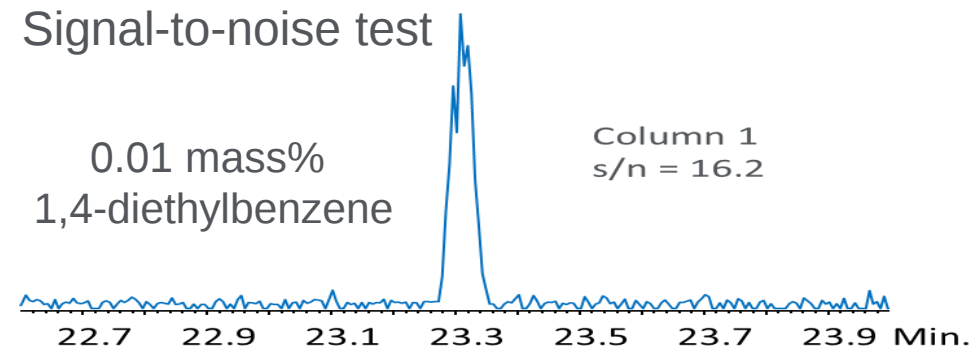
Fragmentation Pattern, Signal-to-Noise Tests and QC Check

Fragmentation pattern test



Ion (m/z)	Relative Intensity	
	D5769 Specification	Experimental Column 1
120	30 - 60	40
105	100	100
91	7 - 15	9

Signal-to-noise test



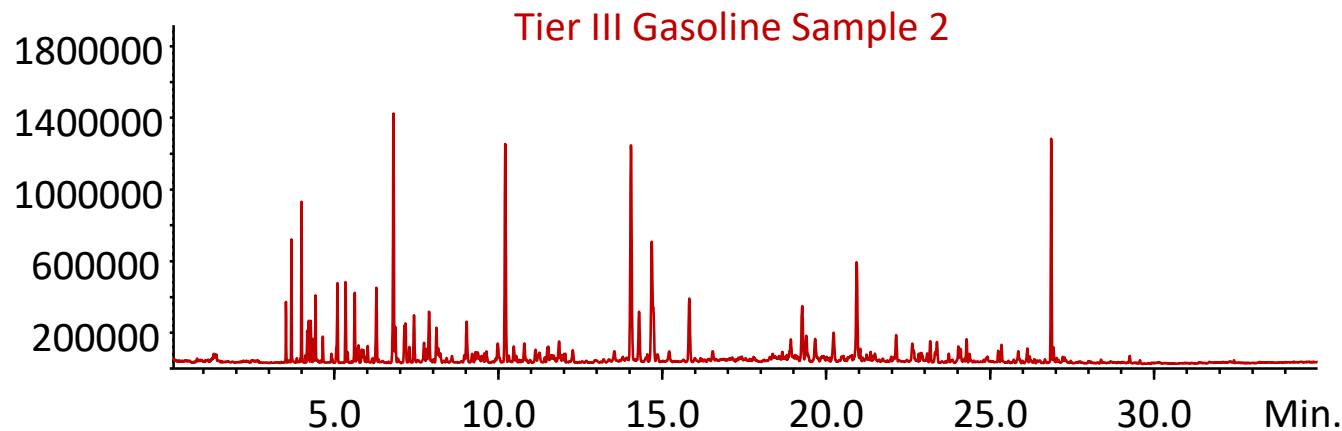
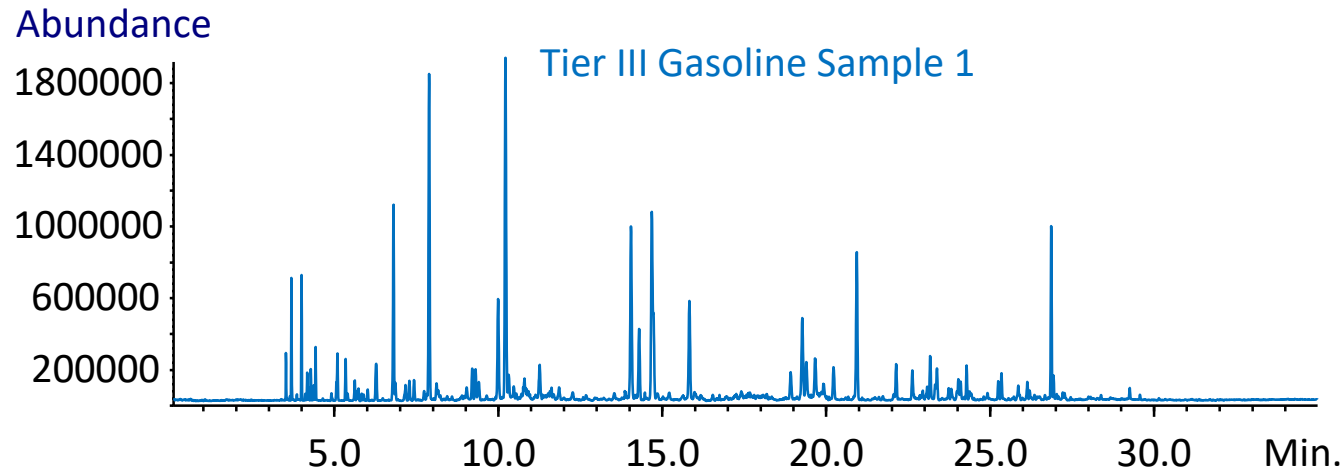
Meets ASTM D5769 of > 5:1 S/N

Pre-run QC check

Component	mass %		% difference
	Reference	Experimental	
benzene	0.99	0.95	4.04%
toluene	8.93	9.14	2.35%
m-xylene	2.98	3.03	1.68%
o-xylene	2.98	3.05	2.35%
ethylbenzene	2.98	3.00	0.67%
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	2.98	3.07	3.02%
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	1.99	2.08	4.52%
naphthalene	1.00	0.97	3.00%

**Meets requirement of +/- 5%
(+/- 10% for 1,2,4,5-TMB and naphthalene)**

D5769 – Performance Running Gasoline Samples



- Two samples of Tier III Reformulated Gasoline
 - Sample 1 is a “premium” gasoline with ethanol
 - Sample 2 is a “regular” gasoline with ethanol
- Each sample was used in a proficiency testing study
 - 61 laboratories used D5769 to report total aromatics (vol%) for each sample
- Ten replicates of each sample were prepared
 - One injection of each replicate was made on Agilent 8860/5977 GC/MS system

Performance Running Gasoline Samples Using 8860/5977 GC/MS with Column 1 Conditions

All results agree with the reported consensus values

	Tier III Gasoline Sample 1 - Volume Percent												
	Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4	Rep 5	Rep 6	Rep 7	Rep 8	Rep 9	Rep 10	Average	Stddev	RSD
benzene	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.0042	1.82%
toluene	3.98	3.84	3.95	4.00	3.91	3.91	3.88	3.75	3.84	3.78	3.88	0.0824	2.12%
total aromatics	19.9	19.3	19.9	20.0	19.5	19.9	19.5	19.4	19.8	19.5	19.7	0.2555	1.30%

Consensus value (total aromatics): 20.15 vol% (+- 1.78 vol%)

	Tier III Gasoline Sample 2 - Volume Percent												
	Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4	Rep 5	Rep 6	Rep 7	Rep 8	Rep 9	Rep 10	Average	Stddev	RSD
benzene	0.47	0.46	0.48	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.0070	1.48%
toluene	3.23	3.20	3.30	3.24	3.31	3.32	3.21	3.25	3.27	3.29	3.26	0.0424	1.30%
total aromatics	14.2	14.0	14.5	14.3	14.5	15.1	14.2	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	0.2889	2.01%

Consensus value (total aromatics): 14.82 vol% (+- 1.41 vol%)

D5769 - Conversion to Hydrogen Carrier Gas

Method Translation Software eases transition to alternative carrier gases

D5769 Column 1 conversion to hydrogen carrier gas

- Method Translation Software simplifies transition to alternative carrier gases
- Enter “Original Method Parameters” for helium carrier gas
- Select “Speed Gain” of “1.000”
 - peak order maintained, minimal RT changes
- Change carrier gas to H₂ for “Calculated Method Parameters”
- Hydrogen linear velocity remains 35 cm/s to comply with ASTM D5769 operating parameters

Before running samples:

- Equilibration overnight with H₂ flow and filament 2 on
- Retune MSD
- Perform all D5769 performance checks
- Recalibrate

Method Translator

Speed gain: 1.0000

Translate

Best Efficiency

Last file imported:

Original Method Parameters

Gas: He

Calculated Method Parameters

Gas: H2

Parameter	Original Method Parameters	Calculated Method Parameters
Length (m)	60 m	60 m
Inner Diameter (µm)	250 µm	250 µm
Film Thickness (µm)	1.00 µm	1.00 µm
Phase Ratio	61.751	61.751
Inlet Pressure (gauge)	29.659 psi	5.4246 psi
Outlet Flow (mL/min)	1.8267 mL/min	0.82863 mL/min
Average Velocity (cm/s)	35 cm/sec	35 cm/sec
Outlet Pressure (abs)	0 psi	0 psi
Holdup Time	2.8571 min	2.8571 min
Outlet Velocity (cm/s)	Infinity cm/sec	Infinity cm/sec

Outlet Velocity (cm/s)

Infinity cm/sec

Infinity cm/sec

Isothermal

Ramps

2

#	Ramp Rate (°C/min)	Final Temp (°C)	Final Time (min)
Init		60	0
1	3	120	0
2	10	250	2

Total Run Time: 35.00 min

#	Ramp Rate (°C/min)	Final Temp (°C)	Final Time (min)
Init		60	0
1	3	120	0
2	10	250	2

Total Run Time: 35.00 min

D5769 with H₂ Carrier Gas

All Checks and QC Passed

Pre-run QC Check Within +/- 5 mass %

Component	mass %		% difference
	Reference	Experimental	
benzene	0.99	0.97	2.02%
toluene	8.93	9.14	2.35%
m-xylene	2.98	3.02	1.34%
o-xylene	2.98	3.02	1.34%
ethylbenzene	2.98	2.99	0.34%
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	2.98	3.02	1.34%
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	1.99	1.91	4.02%
naphthalene	1.00	0.96	4.00%

D5769 Test	ASTM Specification	H ₂ Carrier Gas Result
Resolution	≥ 2	5.5
Signal-to-Noise	≥ 5	8.9
Peak Fragmentation		
91 m/z (rel abundance)	7 - 15	9
105 m/z (rel. abundance)	100	100
120 m/z (rel. abundance)	30 - 60	44

Aromatics Analysis Correlation Coefficient Results

Method : D5769_sstEI_Col1_H2_DA.M
Calibration : Aromatics in Gasoline

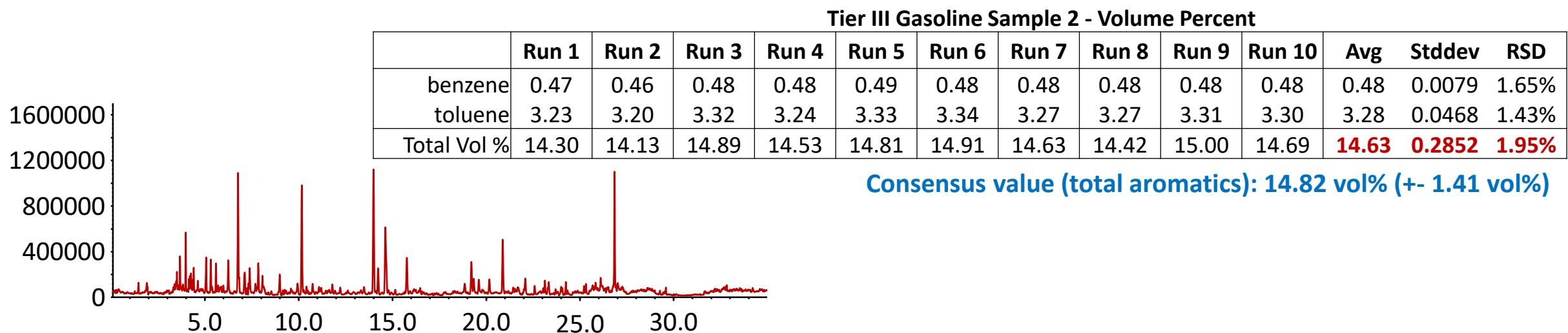
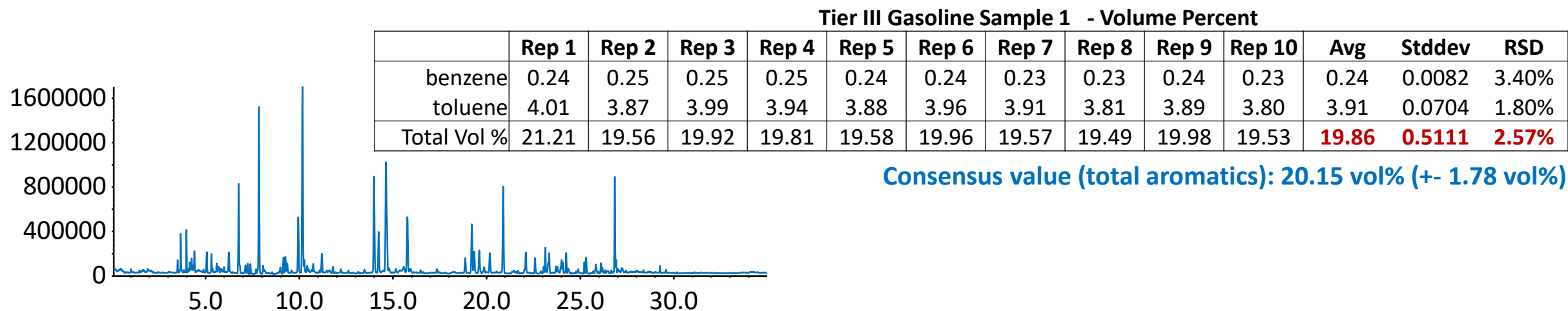
Cal Files A1 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_col1_H2_190905\D5769_Std_01.D
A2 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_col1_H2_190905\D5769_Std_02.D
A3 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_col1_H2_190905\D5769_Std_03.D
A4 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_col1_H2_190905\D5769_Std_04.D
A5 : C:\gcms\1\data\D5769_sstEI_col1_H2_190905\D5769_Std_05.D

Exceeds ASTM requirement of $r^2 \geq 0.99$ for all compounds

Compound	Corr Coeff(r^2)	Y-Intercept Test
benzene	0.99991	0.00
Toluene	0.99996	0.00
ethylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
m&p xylene	1.00000	0.00
o-xylene	0.99999	0.00
1-methylethylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
n-propylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
1-methyl-3-ethylbenzene	0.99999	0.00
1-methyl-4-ethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
1-methyl-2-ethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	0.99997	0.00
1,2,3-trimethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
indan	0.99998	0.00
alkyl indans	0.99998	0.00
1,4-diethylbenzene	0.99974	0.00
n-butylbenzene	0.99949	0.00
1,2-diethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2,3,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99994	0.00
naphthalene	0.99997	0.00
pentamethylbenzene	0.99995	0.00
2-methylnaphthalene	0.99975	0.00
1-methylnaphthalene	0.99990	0.00
C10 benzenes	0.99998	0.00
C11 benzenes	0.99998	0.00
C12 benzenes	0.99998	0.00

D5769 Tier III Gasoline Sample Results with H₂ Carrier Gas

All results agree with He results and the reported consensus values



D5769 – Faster Analysis Time

	GC Column 1	GC Column 2
ALS		
Syringe:	5 uL	5 uL
Injection volume:	0.1 uL	0.1 uL
Wash solvent:	isooctane	isooctane
Inlet		
Carrier gas:	helium	helium
Mode:	split, 350:1	split, 700:1
Temperature:	250 °C	250 °C
Liner:	Split (5190-2295)	Split (5190-2295)
Column		
Type:	DB-1, 60 m x 0.25 mm ID x 1.00 um	DB-1, 20 m x 0.18 mm ID x 0.4 um
Flow rate:	1.8 mL/min. constant flow (35 cm/s)	0.46 mL/min. constant flow (30 cm/s)
Initial temperature:	60 °C	35 °C
Initial hold time:	0 min.	1 min.
Ramp rate 1:	3 °C/min.	25 °C/min.
Temperature 1:	120 °C	210 °C
Hold time 1:	0 min.	1 min.
Ramp rate 2:	10 °C/min.	
Temperature 2:	250 °C	
Hold time 2:	2 min.	
Total run time:	35 min.	9 min.

	GC Column 1	GC Column 2
GC/MS Interface		
Type:	direct	direct
Temperature:	280 °C	250 °C
5977 MSD		
Ionization voltage:	70 eV	70 eV
Source temperature:	230 °C	230 °C
Quad temperature:	150 °C	150 °C
Scan range:	45 - 300	70 - 170
Scan rate:	3 scans/s	11 scans/s

ASTM D5769 Configuration and Operating Parameter for Faster Analysis Time

- Shorter, narrower column: 20 m x 0.18 mm ID x 0.4 um
- Avoids column overload with higher split ratio
- Faster oven program
- MSD conditions optimized for narrower chromatographic peaks
 - Faster scan rate

Run time reduced from 35 minutes to 9 minutes

D5769 Fast Analysis Method

Performance Checks and QC Passed

Pre-run QC Check Within +/- 5%

Component	mass %		% difference
	Reference	Experimental	
benzene	0.99	0.96	3.03%
toluene	8.93	8.88	0.56%
m-xylene	2.98	2.91	2.35%
o-xylene	2.98	2.92	2.01%
ethylbenzene	2.98	2.90	2.68%
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	2.98	2.94	1.34%
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	1.99	2.08	4.52%
naphthalene	1.00	0.95	5.00%

D5769 Test	ASTM Specification	Fast Method Result
Resolution	≥ 2	2.9
Signal-to-Noise	≥ 5	6
Peak Fragmentation		
91 m/z (rel abundance)	7 - 15	9
105 m/z (rel. abundance)	100	100
120 m/z (rel. abundance)	30 - 60	46

Aromatics Analysis Correlation Coefficient Results

Method : D5769_sstEI_Col13_DA.M
Calibration : Aromatics in Gasoline

Cal Files A1 : D:\MassHunter\GCMS\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col13_190821\D5769_Std_01.D
A2 : D:\MassHunter\GCMS\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col13_190821\D5769_Std_02.D
A3 : D:\MassHunter\GCMS\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col13_190821\D5769_Std_03.D
A4 : D:\MassHunter\GCMS\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col13_190821\D5769_Std_04.D
A5 : D:\MassHunter\GCMS\1\data\D5769_sstEI_Col13_190821\D5769_Std_05.D

Exceeds ASTM requirement of $r^2 \geq 0.99$ for all compounds

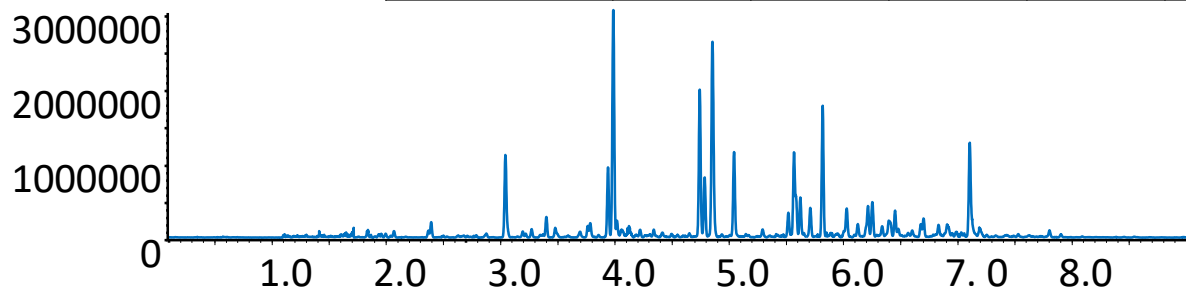
Compound	Corr Coeff(r^2)	Y-Intercept Test
benzene	0.99993	0.00
Toluene	1.00000	0.00
ethylbenzene	0.99989	0.00
m&p xylene	0.99996	0.00
o-xylene	0.99994	0.00
1-methylethylbenzene	0.99977	0.00
n-propylbenzene	0.99982	0.00
1-methyl-3-ethylbenzene	0.99962	0.00
1-methyl-4-ethylbenzene	0.99984	0.00
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.99993	0.00
1-methyl-2-ethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2,3-trimethylbenzene	0.99995	0.00
indan	0.99994	0.00
alkyl indans	0.99994	0.00
1,4-diethylbenzene & n-butylbenzene	0.99998	0.00
1,2-diethylbenzene	0.99995	0.00
1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
1,2,3,5-tetramethylbenzene	0.99996	0.00
naphthalene	0.99997	0.00
pentamethylbenzene	0.99993	0.00
2-methylnaphthalene	0.99996	0.00
1-methylnaphthalene	0.99997	0.00
C10 benzenes	0.99995	0.00
C11 benzenes	0.99995	0.00
C12 benzenes	0.99995	0.00

Fast D5769 Tier III Gasoline Sample Results

All results agree with Column 1 method and are within the reported consensus values

Tier III Gasoline Sample 1 - Volume Percent

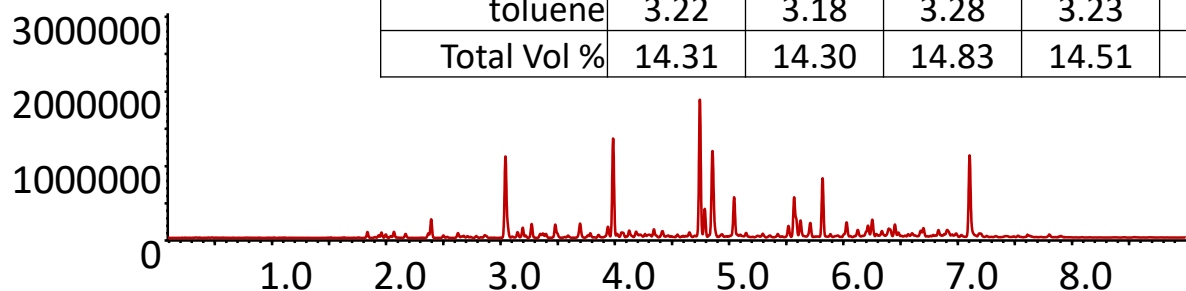
	Rep 1	Rep 2	Rep 3	Rep 4	Rep 5	Rep 6	Rep 7	Rep 8	Rep 9	Rep 10	Avg	SD	RSD
benzene	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.0057	2.28%
toluene	4.02	3.89	4.01	3.98	3.92	3.98	3.91	3.90	4.01	3.86	3.95	0.0583	1.48%
Total Vol %	20.39	19.65	20.33	20.05	19.78	20.21	19.92	19.81	20.31	19.72	20.02	0.2774	1.39%



Consensus value (total aromatics): 20.15 vol% (+- 1.78 vol%)

Tier III Gasoline Sample 2 - Volume Percent

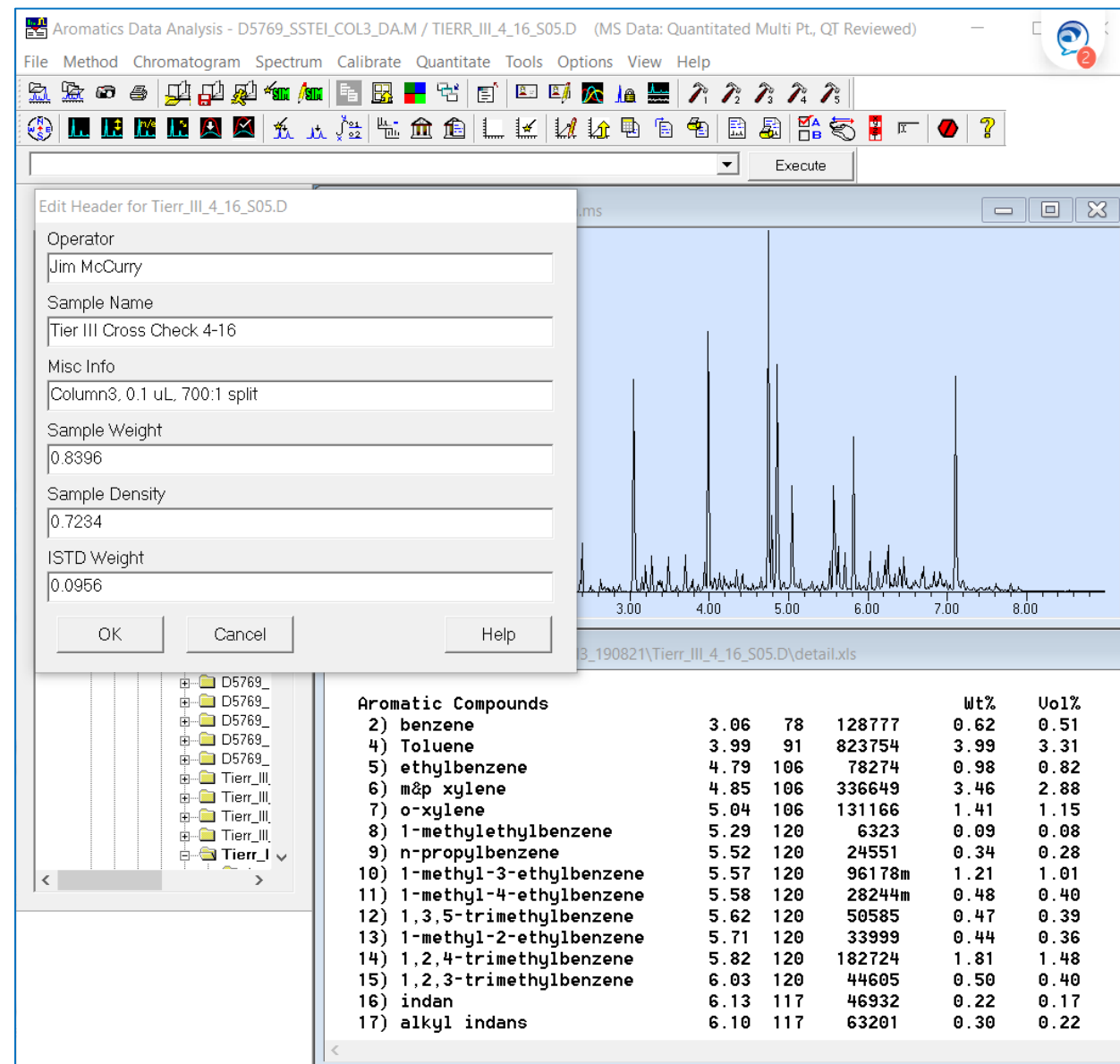
	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	Run 4	Run 5	Run 6	Run 7	Run 8	Run 9	Run 10	Avg	SD	RSD
benzene	0.49	0.49	0.51	0.49	0.51	0.51	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.52	0.50	0.0106	2.11%
toluene	3.22	3.18	3.28	3.23	3.31	3.31	3.23	3.25	3.31	3.37	3.27	0.0569	1.74%
Total Vol %	14.31	14.30	14.83	14.51	14.85	14.92	14.46	14.61	14.87	15.20	14.69	0.2941	2.00%



Consensus value (total aromatics): 14.82 vol% (+- 1.41 vol%)

Aromatics in Gasoline Software Solution

- Special Mass Hunter Configuration designed for D5769
- Sequencer provides sample input fields specific to D5769 calculation
 - Sample weight
 - Sample density
 - ISTD weight
- MS Chemstation macros automates report calculation and format to report
 - Individual aromatic amounts
 - Total aromatic contents
 - Both in mass percent and volume percent



Summary

- A new Agilent 8860/5977 GC/MS system bundle configured to run ASTM D5769
- Value price with high performance
- Simple MS source configuration provides linear response for higher concentration compounds
- High performance using published ASTM system configuration and operating parameter
- Operational costs reduced using hydrogen carrier gas
- Optional fast GC configuration completes analysis in 9 minutes
- Meets all ASTM performance measures
- Data acquisition and analysis software designed for D5769 Analysis
 - Mass Hunter Software Aromatics in Gasoline Mode

Considerations for Improving Analytical Productivity

Changing the approach to build on your success

Craig Marvin
Business and Product Marketing Manager
GC, MS and Sample Containment Supplies

January 2020



Challenges Facing Today's Analytical Laboratory

Expecting More from Less

Business Challenges

- Lower price per sample
- Increasing cost of operation

Resource Allocation

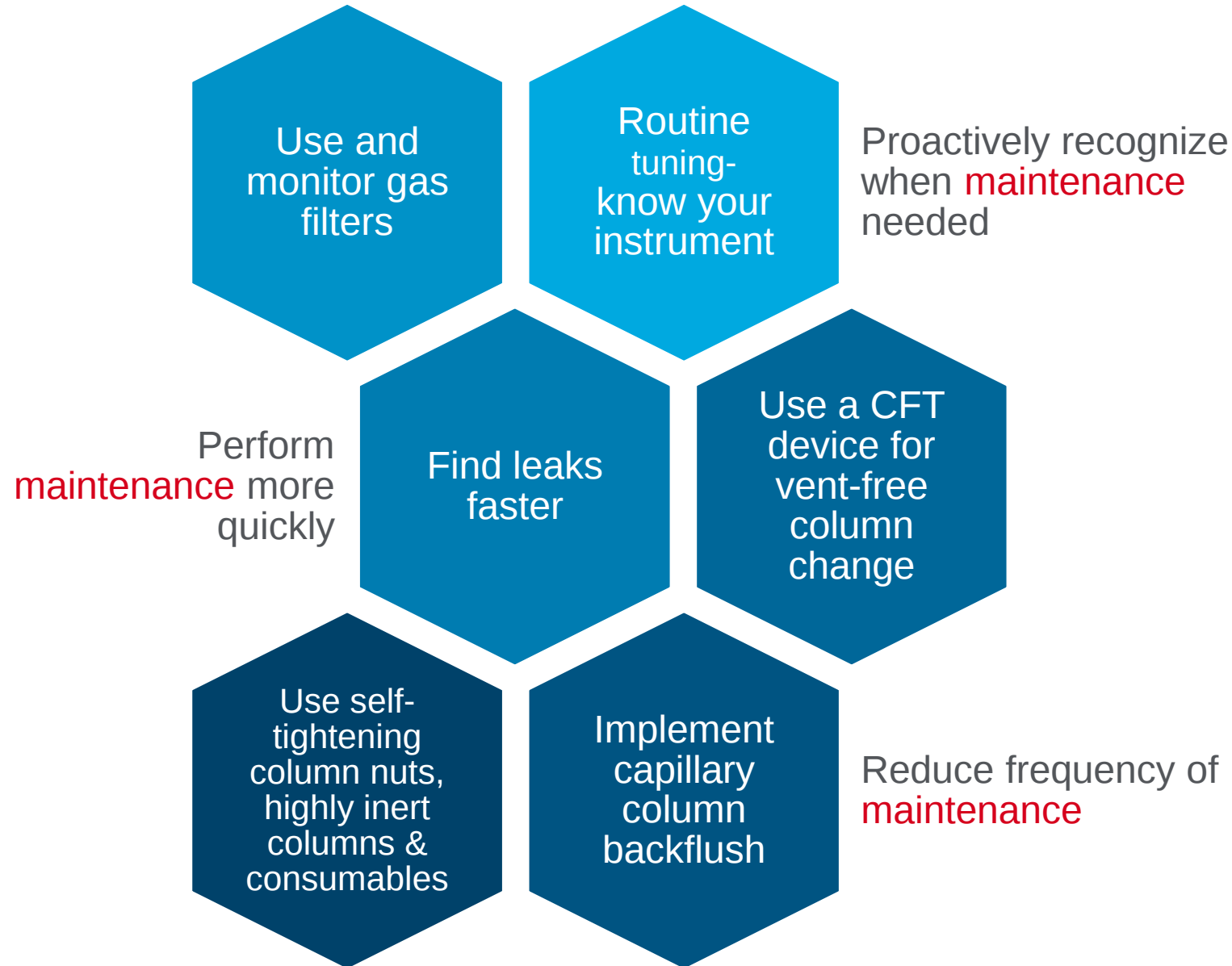
- Increasing cost of labor
- Personnel retention, loss of expertise

Optimizing Efficiency

- Eliminating non-value add activities
- Reducing reruns
- Reducing unscheduled down time



Strategies for improving sample throughput- it's all about **maintenance**



Recognize when it's time for maintenance

Use (and change) gas filters, and tune your MS often



Recognizing when you need maintenance

Oxygen in carrier gas is detrimental to GC

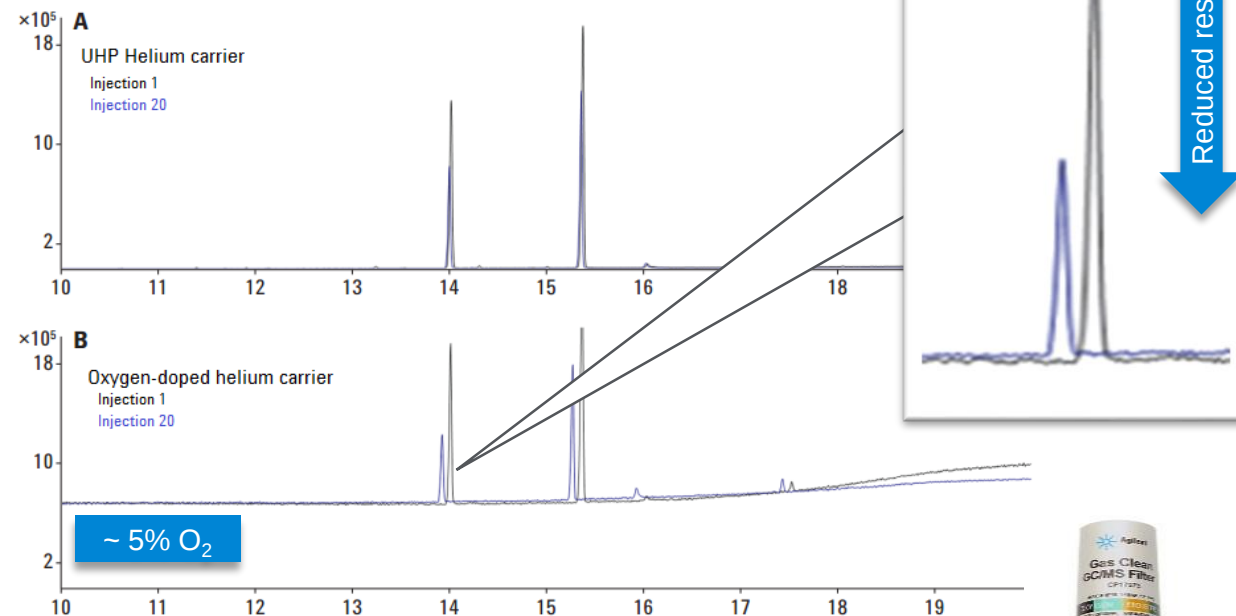
- Reduced response
- Elevated background
- Irreversible column damage
- Impaired electron multiplier function
- Premature filament, liner lifetime
- Excessive source maintenance

Use UHP carrier gases

- 99.9995% or greater

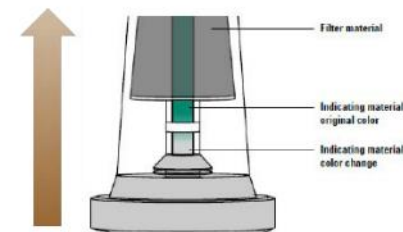
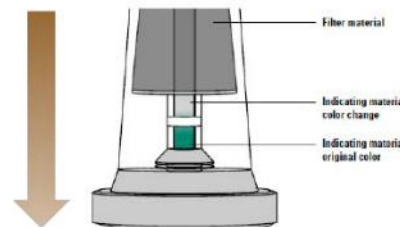
Use high quality, GC/MS gas filters

- GasClean gas filters remove oxygen and water
- Monitor gas filter indicators
 - Replace when needed
 - Correct any leaks present
- Monitor nitrogen percentage in tune files



Indicator changes color from the top down

If the indicating material changed color from the top down there is a leak upstream of the filter in your gas line, or your gas quality is poor. Check for leaks at the cylinder, regulator, and fittings, and check your gas quality.



Indicator changes color from the bottom up

If your filter's indicator changes color from the bottom up shortly after installation this indicates a leak downstream of the filter in your gas line. Check for leaks between the filter and your instrument.



Gas Quality and Filters

Using lower quality gases: Concerns about background removal



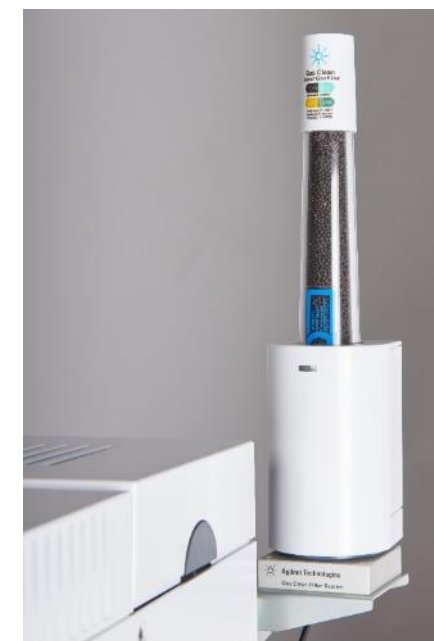
- Install the Universal trap vertically
- Extend the lifetime of your Gas Clean (indicating) filter AND (most importantly) your column!

Agilent Gas Clean Sensor for 8890 and 8860 GC

Automatically monitors the chemical indicators alerting operator via the LUI and software when a filter requires replacement.

Ships standard on all GC/MS Ready Systems

- Replacing the filters when at capacity protects GC column and analytical hardware.
- The sensitive indicators change color, alerting you that the filter needs to be replaced.



Tuning tip

Monitor tunes for signs of a dirty source

Tune ion peaks sharp and symmetric?

- 502 ion mass usually declines first
- Peak widths (Pk50) are usually ~ 0.6 amu

Consistent primary tune ion abundances?

- Atune, HES Atune: m/z 69 ~450,000 – 600,000
- Etune: m/z 219 ~450,000 – 600,000
- **Consistency** is key

Relative abundances within accepted values?

- 502 ion relative to m/z 69 > 3%
- **Consistency** is key

EM voltage consistent from last tune?

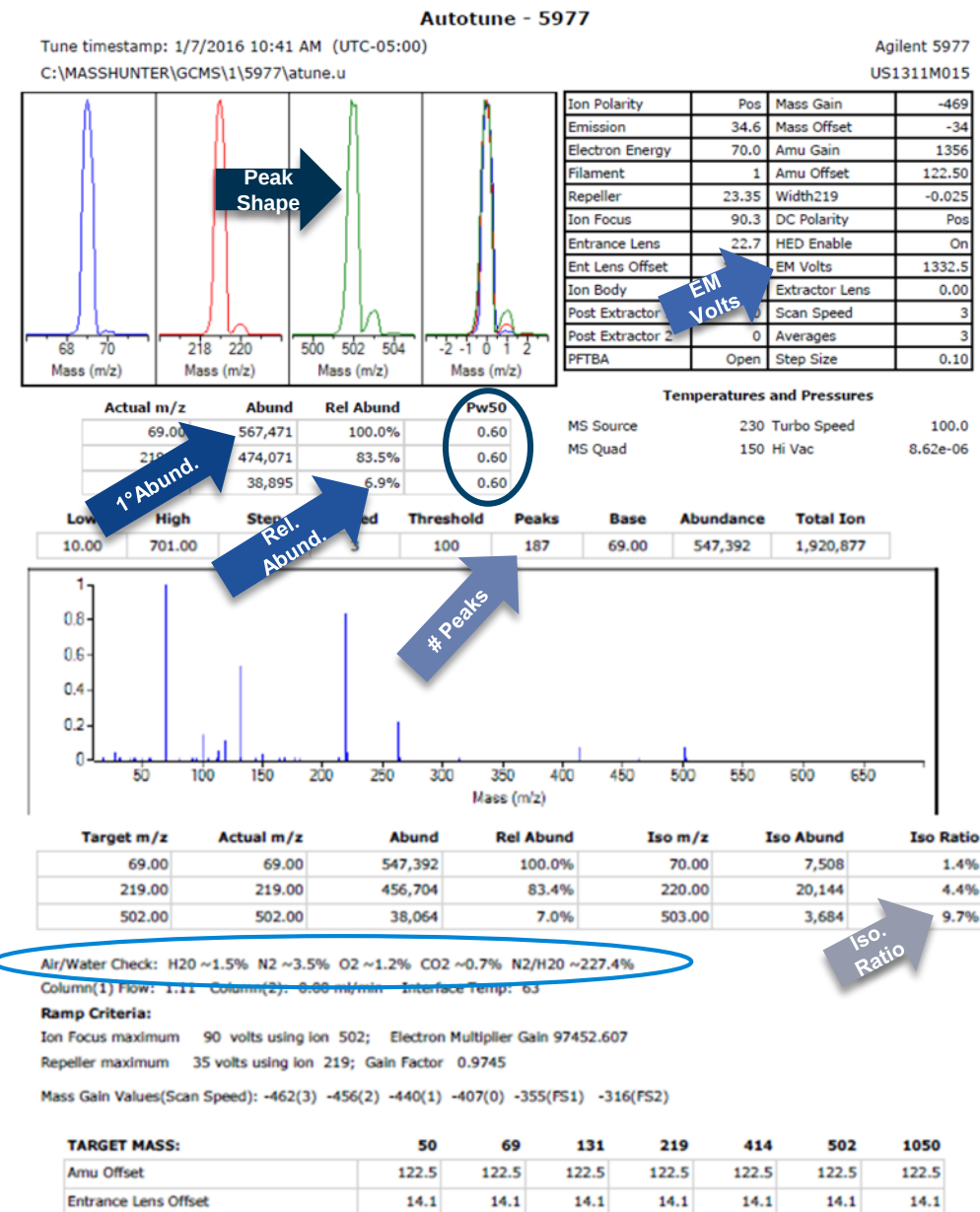
- As source grows dirtier, EM voltage increases
- Max voltage is 3000V
- **Consistency** is key

Is background free from excessive peaks?

- Excessive peaks can indicate source contamination

Isotopic ratios within expected values?

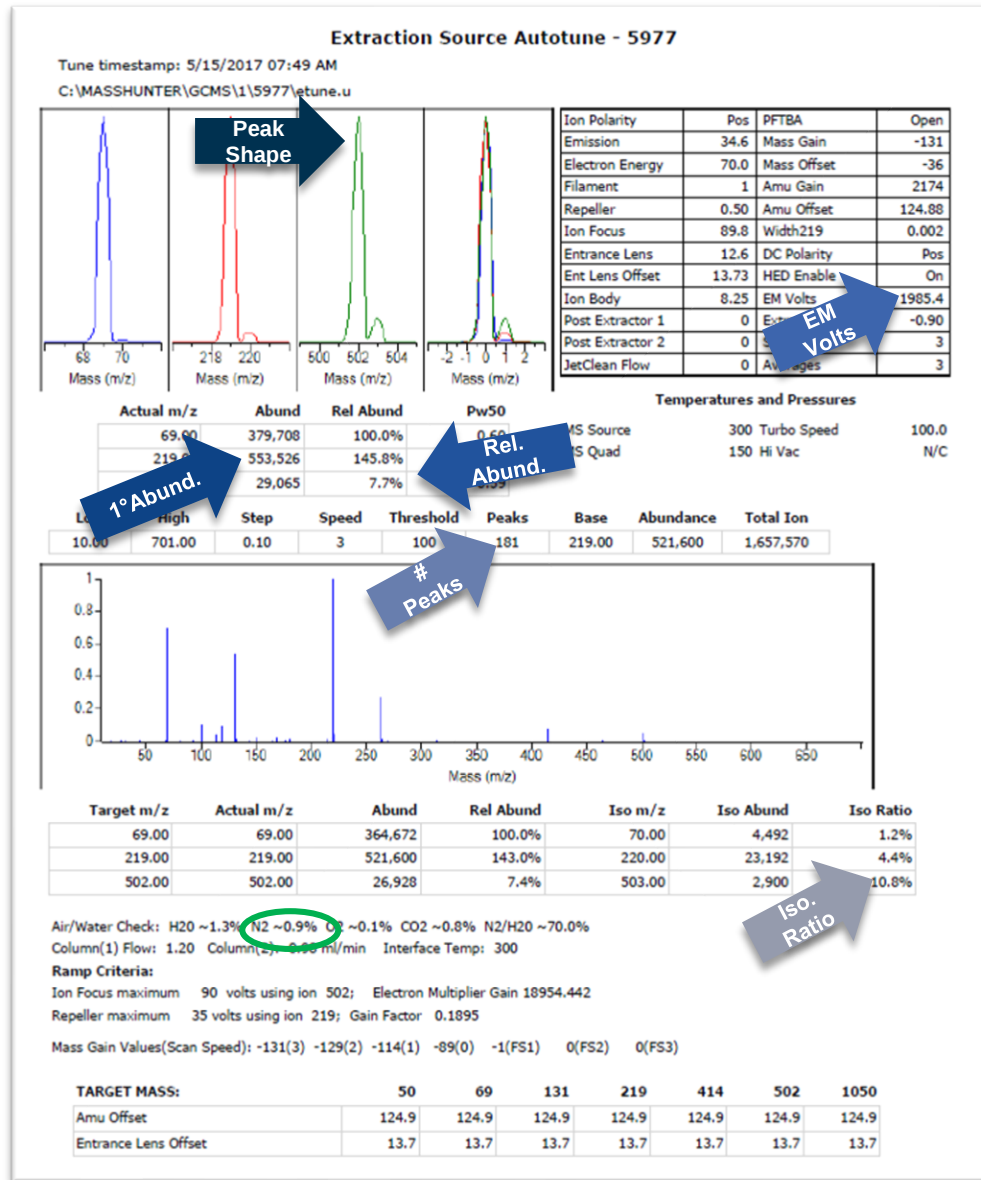
- 502 isotopic ratio ~ 10.1% (±20%)





Case study

Monitoring tune reports over time



5/15/17 Set up run for Alex's next 10 samples-
Observed extra particulate in samples before prep.
Tune results:

Peak shape: smooth and symmetric

Etune ion abundance: m/z 219, **553K**

Relative ion abundance: m/z 502, **7.7%**

EM voltage: 1985

Background peaks: **181**

Isotopic ratio: m/z 502, **10.8%**



Case study

Monitoring tune reports over time

5/16/17 Set up test run for method development.
Tune results:



Peak shape: 502 slightly jagged



Etune ion abundance: m/z 219, **79K**



Relative ion abundance: m/z 502, **3.6%**

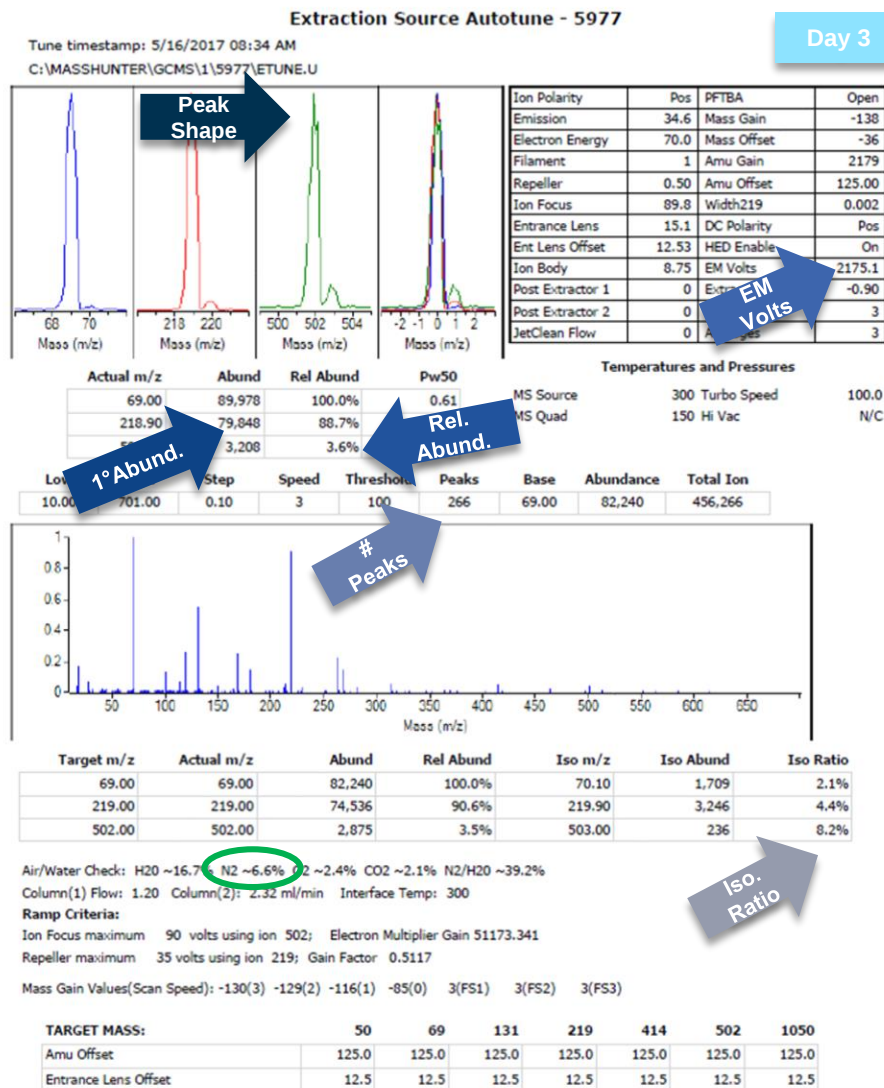
EM voltage: 2175

Background peaks: **266**

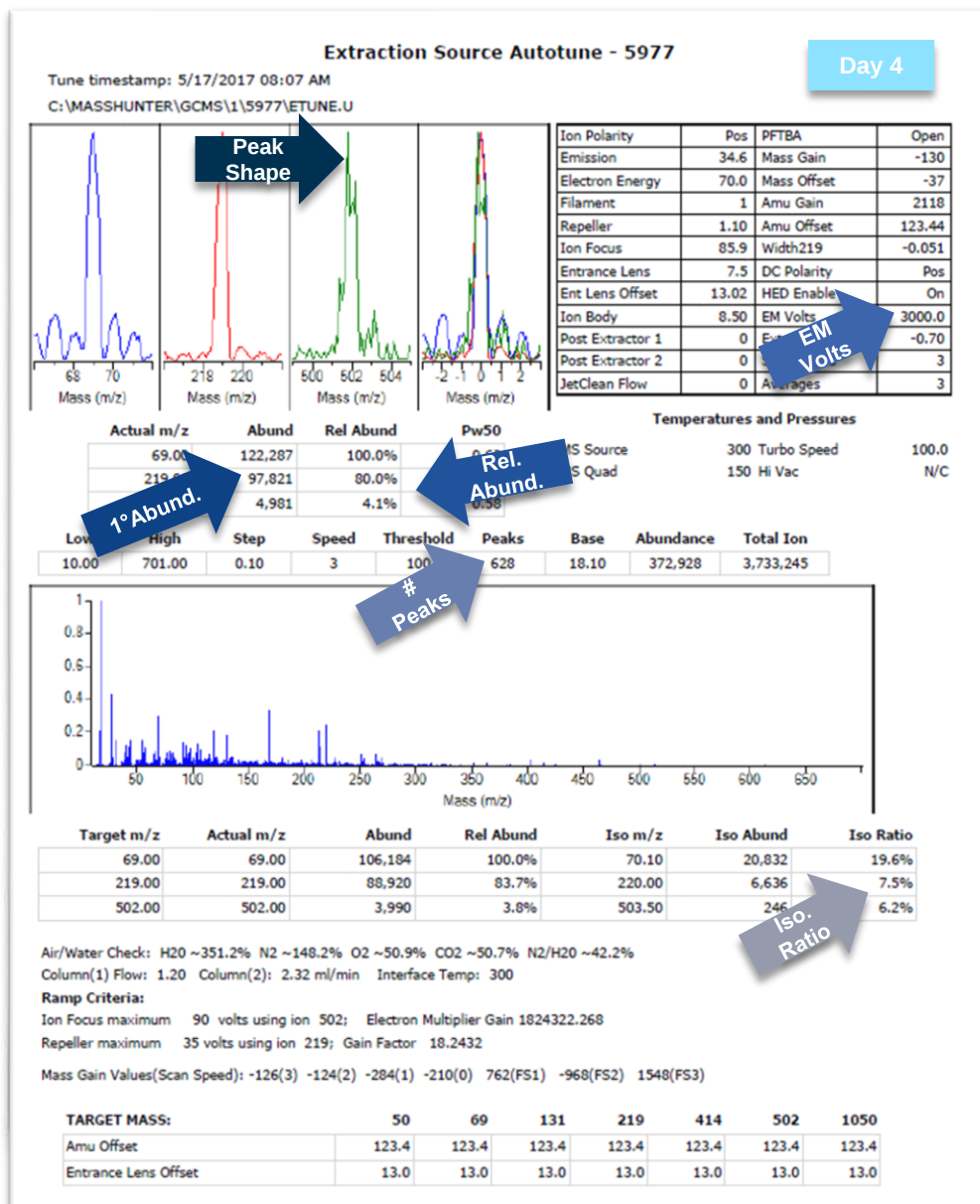


Isotopic ratio: m/z 502, **8.2%**

Monday's Tune
219 Abund.- 553K
Rel. Abund.- 7.7%
EM Volts- 1985
#Bkgrd.- 181
Iso Ratio- 10.8%



What could have happened



5/17/17 Received samples for rush turnaround.
Tune results:

Peak shape: really jagged

Etune ion abundance: m/z 219, 97K

Relative ion abundance: m/z 502, 4.1%

EM voltage: 3000

Background peaks: 628

Isotopic ratio: m/z 502, 6.2%

Tuesday's Tune
219 Abund.- 79K
Rel. Abund.- 3.6%
EM Volts- 2175
#Bkgrd.- 266
Iso Ratio- 8.2%

Improved Self-Tightening Column Nut

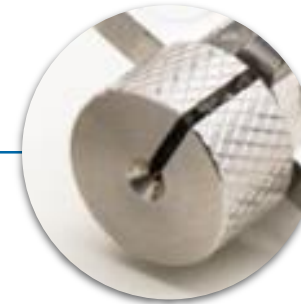
Enhancing ease of use for the analyst



Technology Innovation



Spring-driven piston to help maintain a consistently tight seal, regardless of use and temperature



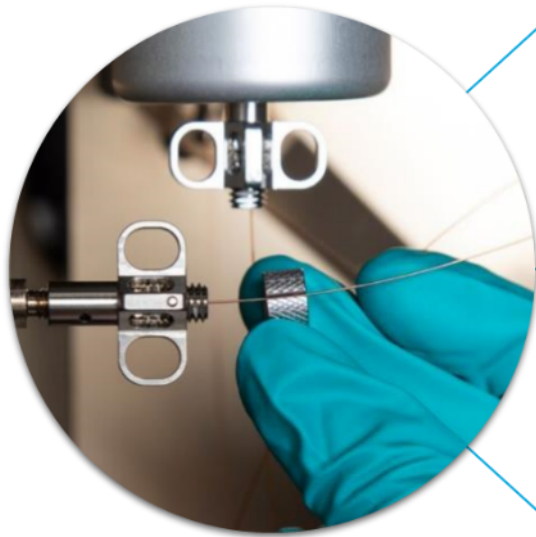
Sealing collar to help hold the column in place



Soft rubber to grip the column and prevent damage from over-tightening

Self-Tightening Column Nuts

No leaks, No downtime, No frustration



More Accurate Results

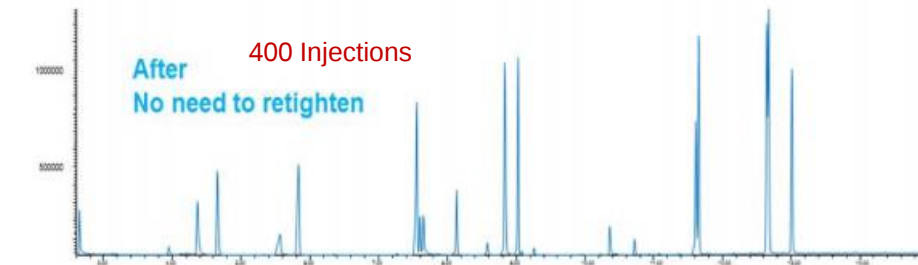
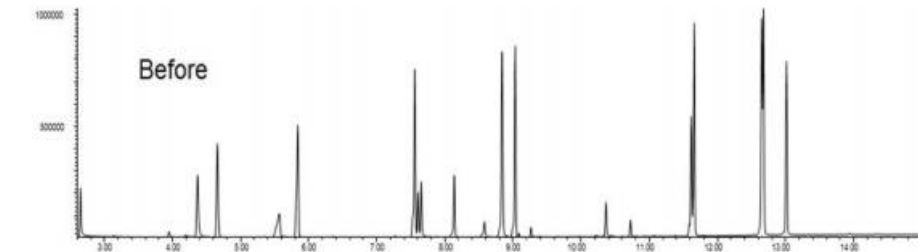
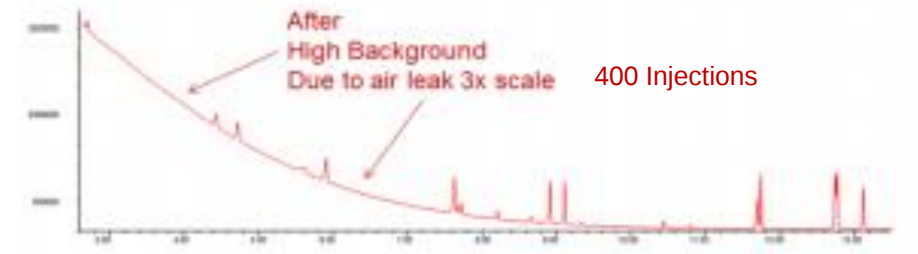
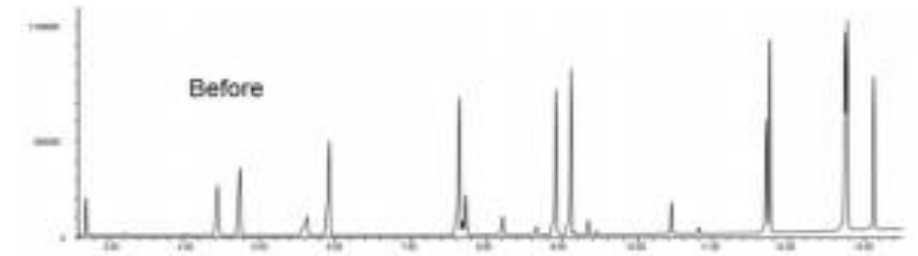
- Consistent column length
- Leak-free connection over 100s of cycles
- Unaffected by changes in temperature

Reduced Installation Time

- Eliminates need to open MS port
- Easy finger-tightening mechanism
- Reduced maintenance requirements

Cost Savings

- Fewer reruns due to leaks
- Longer lasting
- Reduced downtime



Hunting for leaks: the analyzer side plate

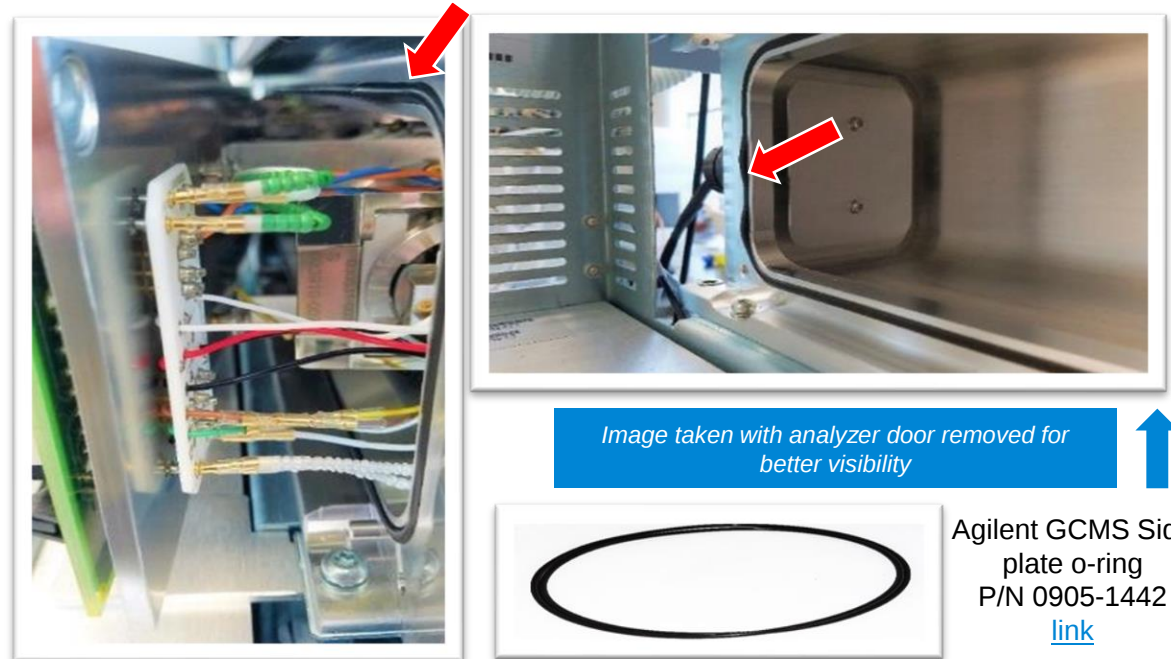
Ensure seal integrity at the side plate o-ring

Factors that disturb seal integrity

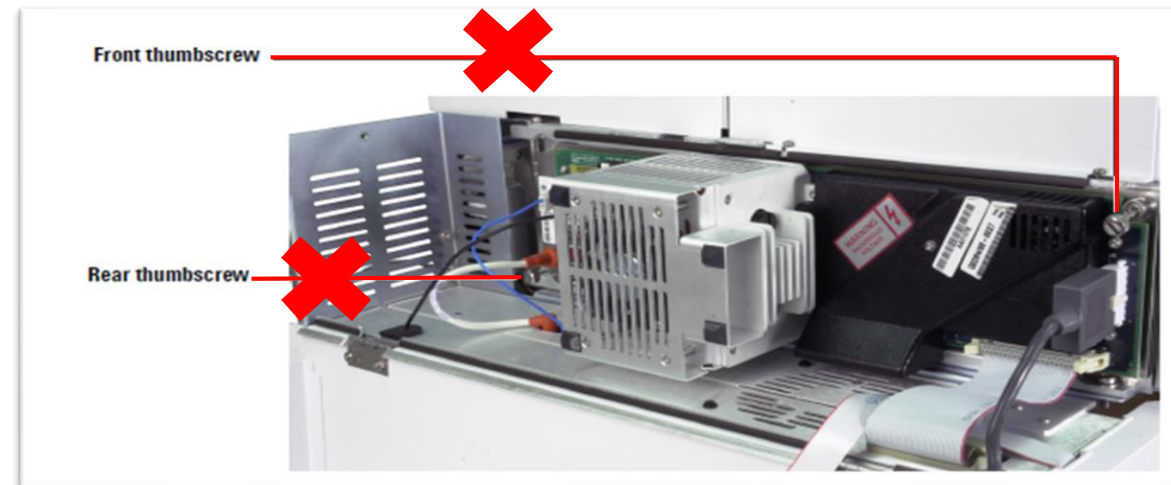
- Sticking/dislodging upon opening
- Aging and wear
- Physical obstructions: dust, lint, metal fines

How is it fixed and prevented?

- Using gloves, gently manipulate o-ring within groove to ensure uniform surface
- Visually inspect seal integrity prior to pump down
- Replace worn or damaged o-rings
- Wipe o-ring perimeter with lint-free tissue
- Stop using thumbscrews
 - Can create metal fines with excessive use
 - Only use during shipment/relocation



Agilent GCMS Side plate o-ring
P/N 0905-1442
[link](#)

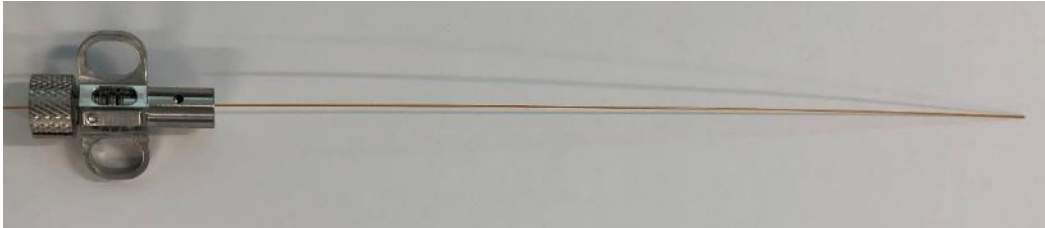
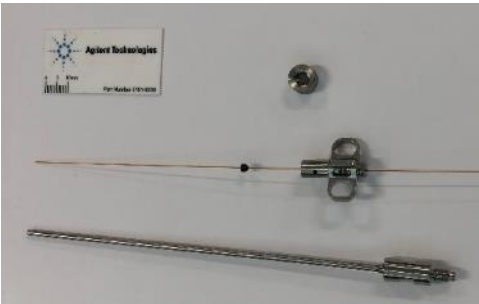


MS Configuration

Facilitates MS Column Installation



Redesigned
MS Transfer Line
Self Tightening Nut



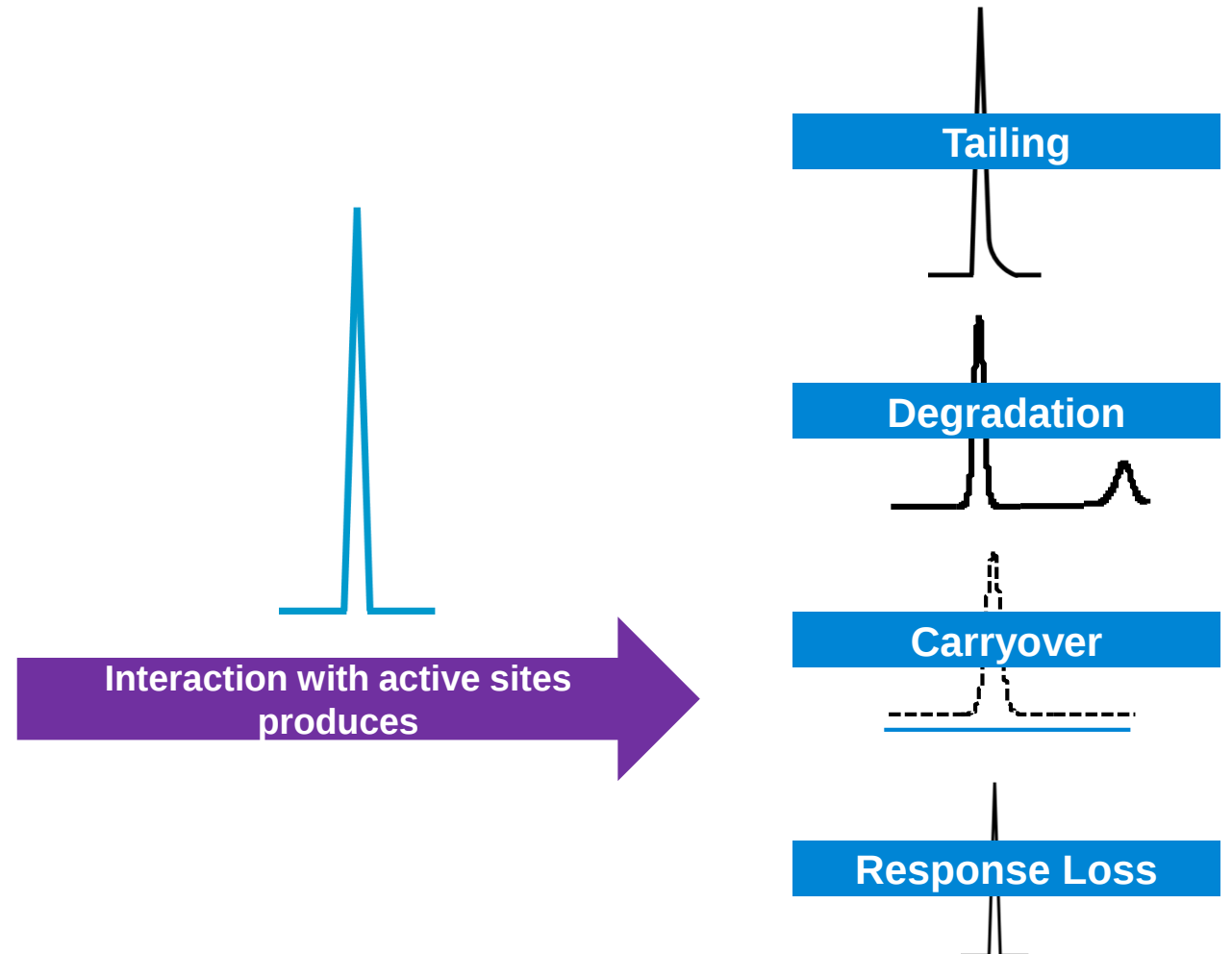
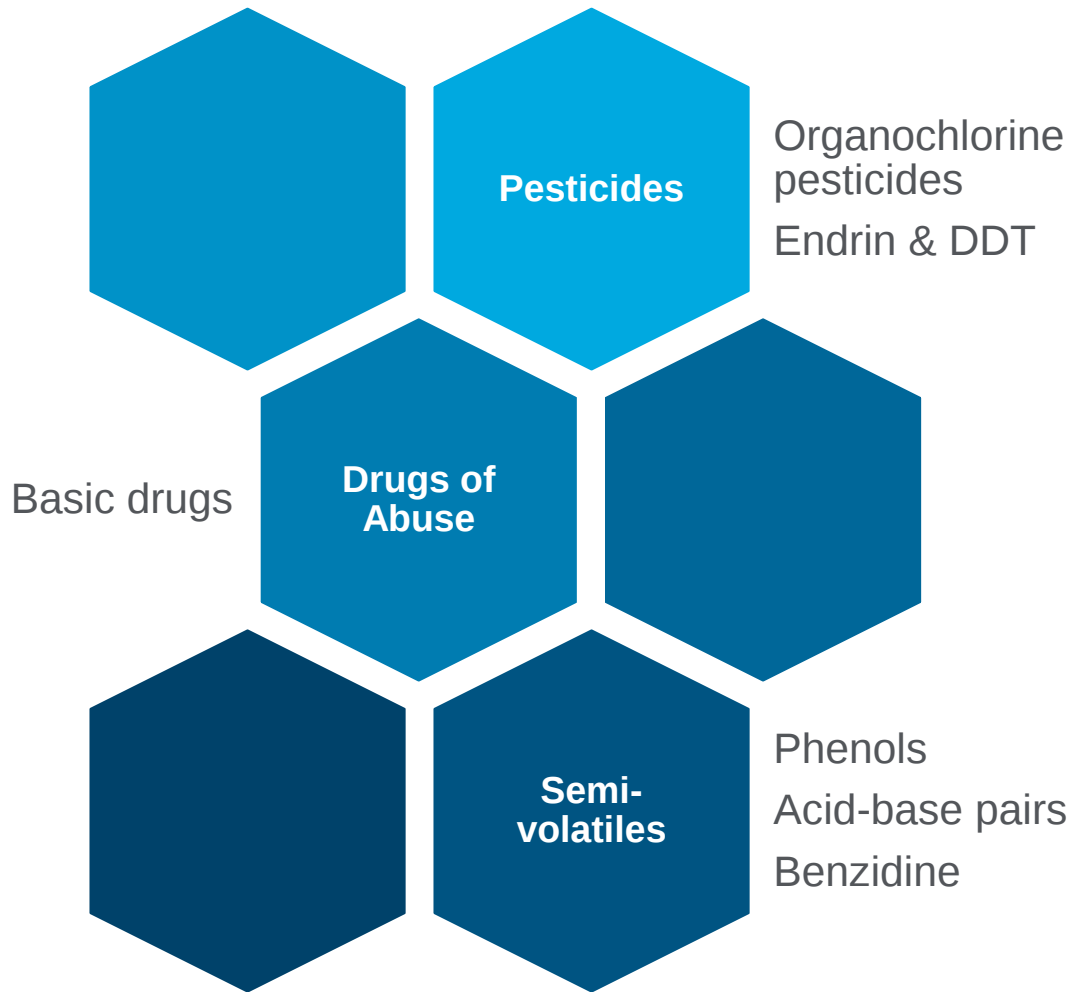
Glass-fritted Inlet Liners

More consistent results coupled with longer lifetimes

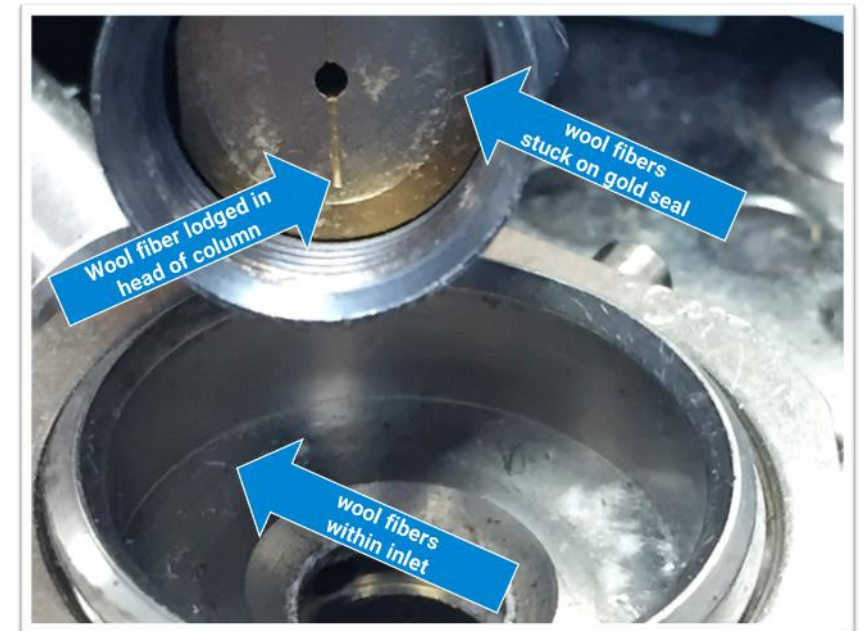


Why should we do this?

Dislodged glass wool fibers expose active sites that interact with sensitive analytes



Reported Issues with Glass Wool



Once dislodged, glass wool fibers migrate through the flow path

What's new? Glass wool alternative liners

Ultra Inert liners with sintered glass frits

Low frit single taper liner (new)

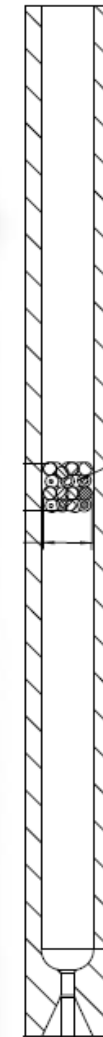
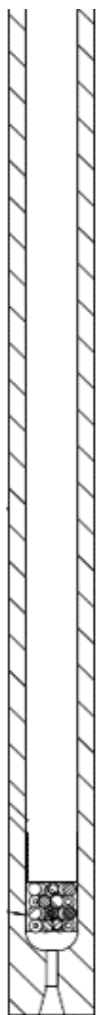
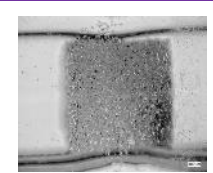
- Designed for dedicated splitless analyses
- Ideal for heavier MW compound analysis
- SVOCs, and OC/OP pesticides

- General purpose split/splitless liner
- Ideal for basic lighter MW compound analysis

- 2x Increase in Liner Lifetime

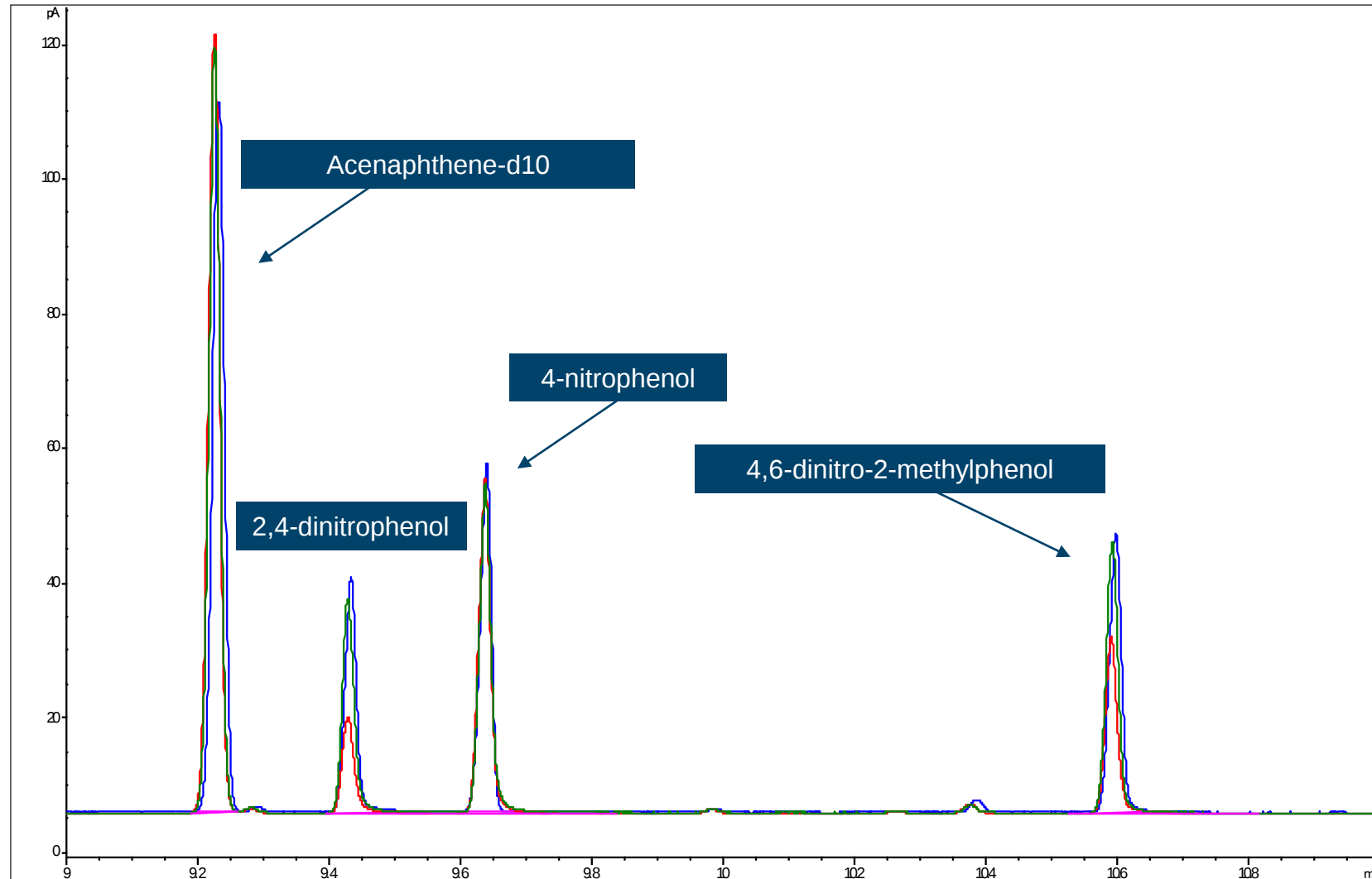
Mid frit single taper liner

Porous
glass frit



8270 Chromatogram Overlay- Phenols/Low Frit Liner

Low frit liner gives excellent response and peak shape for tricky analytes like phenols



Blue = initial injection
Red = after 100 matrix injections
Green = after liner replacement

5ppm, 1uL splitless injection
FID detector



Thank you for your attention!

