

## Radionuclide determinations with:

- **PSresin** (separation and detection)
- **MASS** (automated separation)
- **WaterRadd** (on-line detector)

Tarancón, A.; Bagán, H.; García, J .F.

- **PSresin** (separation and detection)
- **MASS** (automated separation)
- **WaterRadd** (on-line detector)



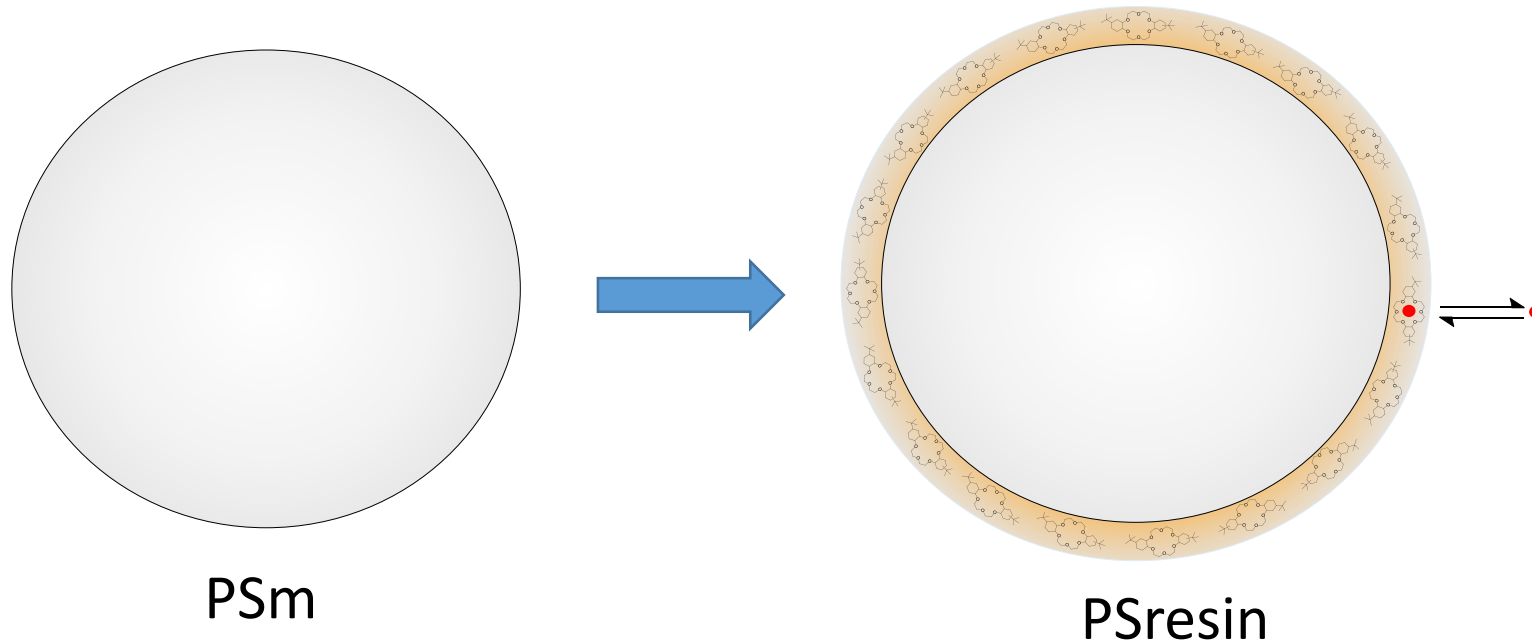
**Common purpose:**

- increase **laboratory capability** by reducing
  - . Reagents
  - . Waste
  - . man-power
  - . time
- **easier** and **friendly** radionuclide determinations

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## Plastic Scintillating resins (PSresin) – Extractive Scintillating resins

**PSresin** is a Plastic Scintillating microsphere (PSm) with a selective extractant



Detection provided by the PSm

Selectivity based on the extractant interaction

**Psresin** UNIFIES CHEMICAL SEPARATION + PREPARATION FOR MEASUREMENT STEPS

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

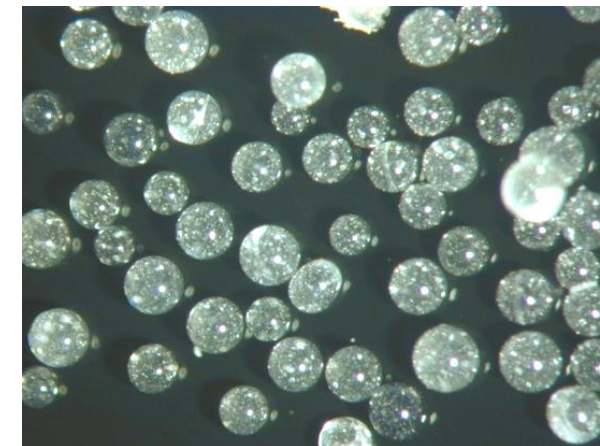
## Plastic Scintillating microspheres (PSm)

**PSm is a solid “scintillation cocktail”**

PSm solid platform to implement separation strategies

**Composition:** . Solvent: . Polystyrene, Polyvinyltoluene.  
. Scintillators: PPO, POPOP, , p-T, bis-MSB ....

**Format:** . Plastic scintillator microspheres (PSm) (10 – 300 µm)  
. Plastic scintillator foils (PSf) (50 – 100 µm)



## Detection capabilities.

. Sample solution



Beta

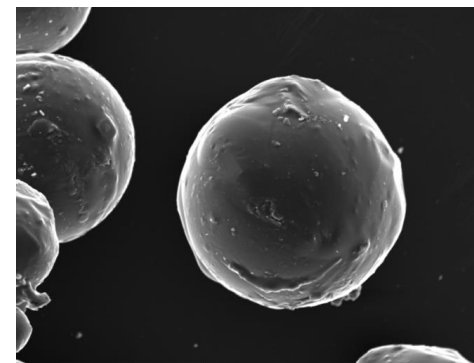
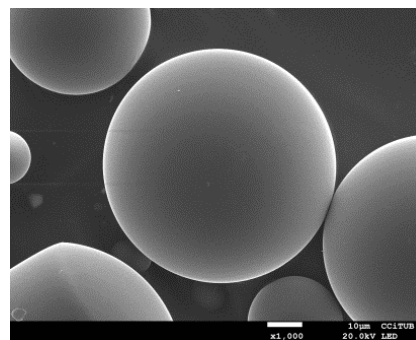
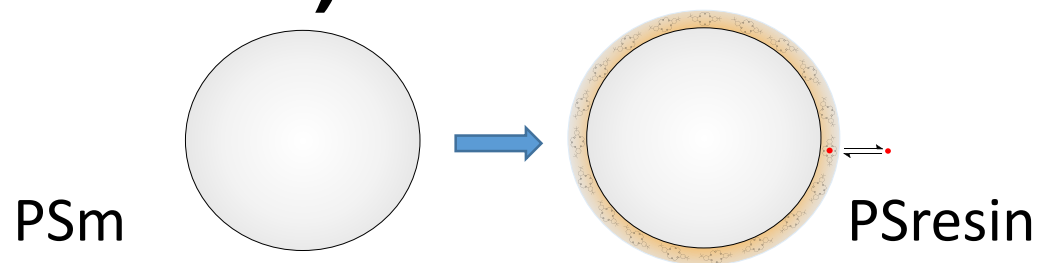
Particle size (µm)	<sup>3</sup> H (%)	<sup>14</sup> C (%)	<sup>90</sup> Sr/ <sup>90</sup> Y (%)
57	1,8	63	190

Alpha

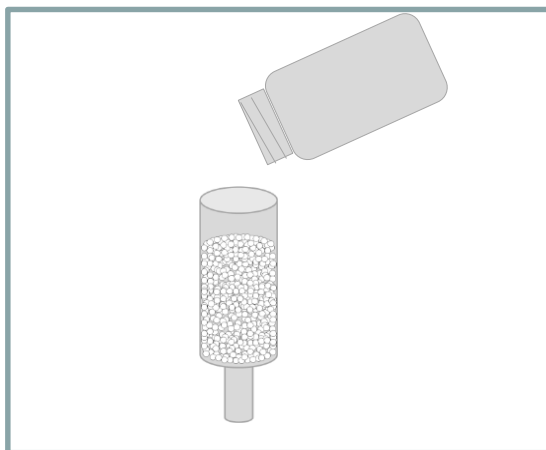
Particle size(µm)	<sup>241</sup> Am(%)	<sup>236</sup> U (%)
70 µm	96	75

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

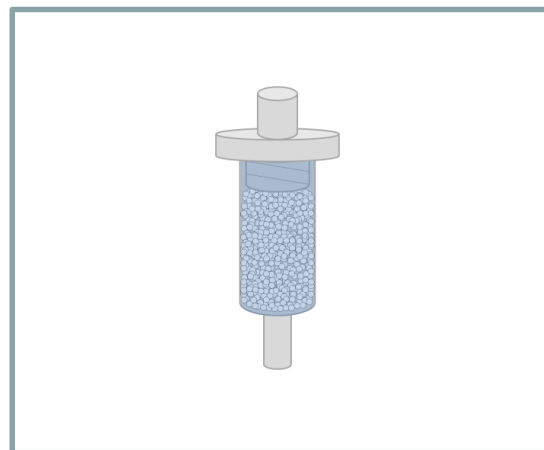
PSresin in practice



Cartridge preparation



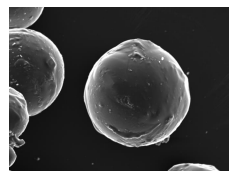
Add 1-1.5 g PSresin



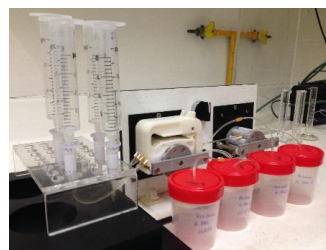
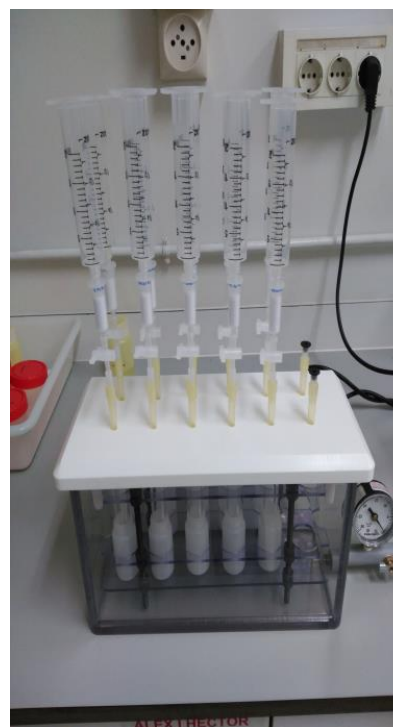
Package the column

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin in practice

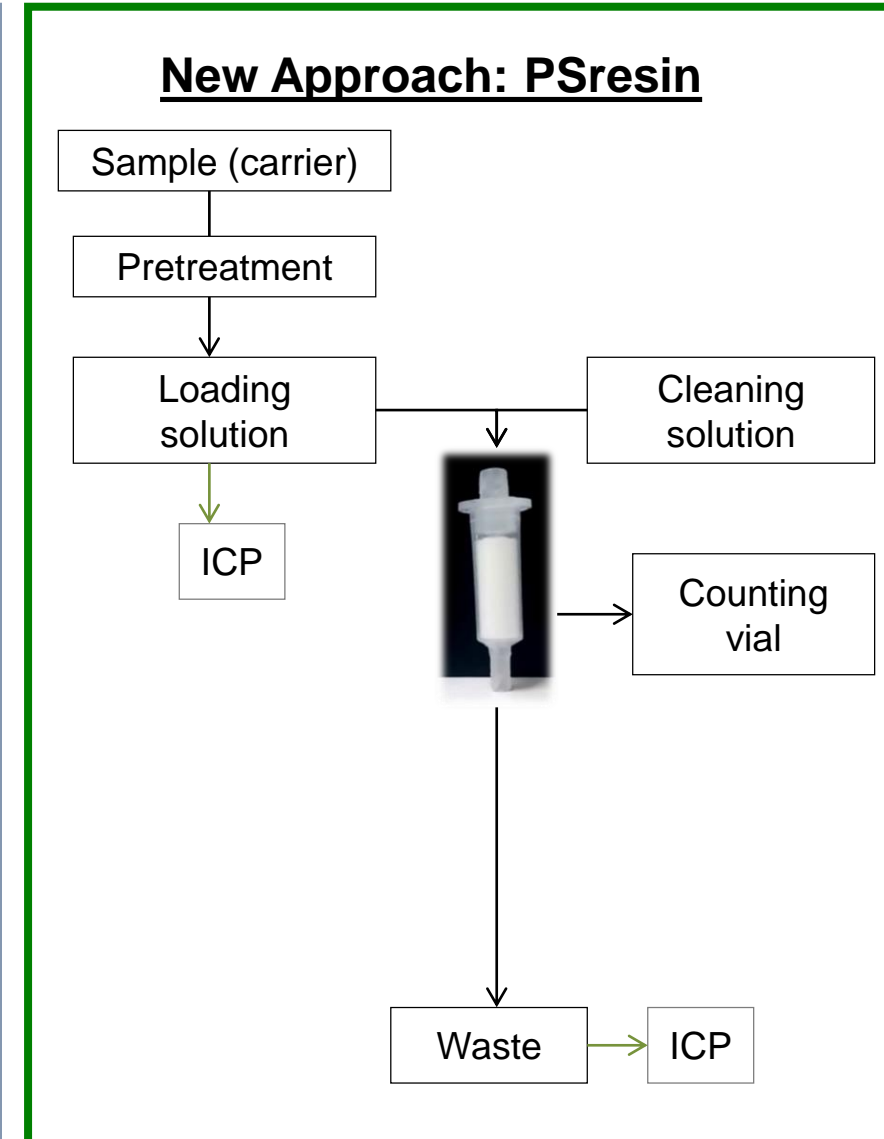
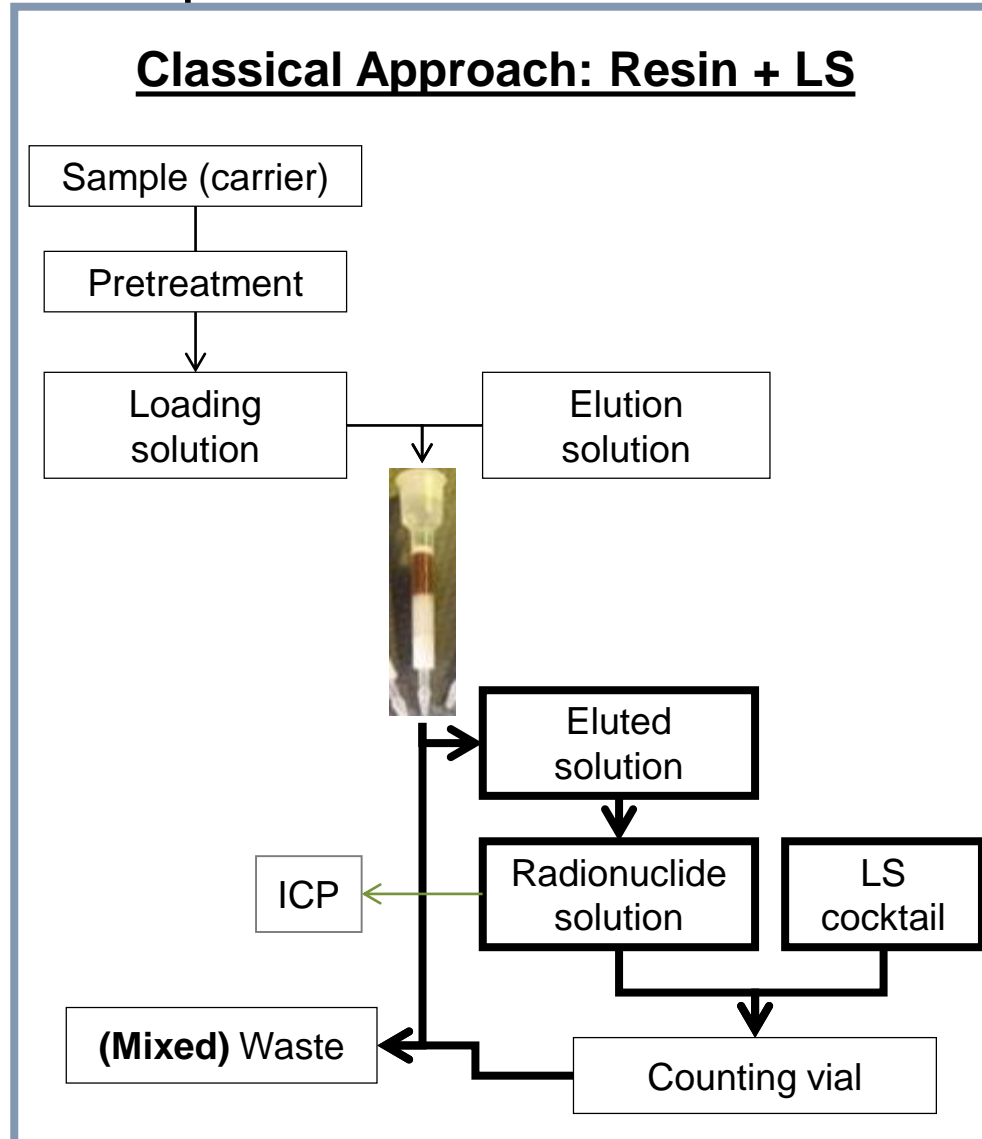


PSresin



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin in practice



**Save....**

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications

- **Determination of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  in aqueous/urine samples**
- Determination of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in radiotracer samples
- **Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in milk samples in emergency situations**
- Determination of  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  in water
- Determination of  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  in Bronze sculptures



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  in aqueous/urine samples**

PSresin: **UB - PSm** of 60  $\mu\text{m}$

Vial-column format: **2 mL SPE cartridge**

Separation device: **vacuum box**

Carrier: **1 mg of Re**

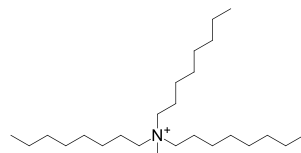
**Extractant:** Aliquat 336

Conditioning: 2 mL HCl 0.1M

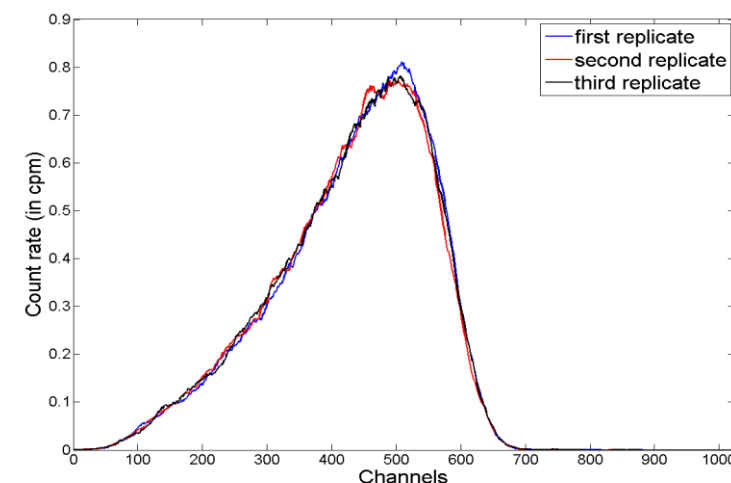
Sample: 10 mL in HCl 0.1M

Cleaning: 2 mL water 4 times

**Breakthrough volume** > 200 mL



Recovery of Rhenium (by ICP-OES)	> 98.8 %
Recovery of $^{99}\text{Tc}$ (by LS):	> 98.8 %
$^{99}\text{Tc}$ Detection Efficiency (%):	89.5(0.6)
Background (cpm):	1.09
Quenching Parameter (SQP(E)):	787(7)



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin** applications: Determination of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  in **WATER** samples

**Extractant:** Aliquat 336

Spike sample to achieve HCl 0.1M

Cleaning: Water

Sample	Activity (dpm mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Activity Calc (dpm mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Error (%)
Sea Water	24,3	23,0	-5,3
Sea Water	24,3	25,1	3,3
Sea Water	24,2	22,8	-6,2

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  in URINE samples**

**Extractant:** Aliquat 336

**Sample:** 100 mL of urine

**Pretreatment:**

- Add 10 mL of 65%  $\text{HNO}_3$  and evaporate to dryness
- Dissolved in 5 mL of 65%  $\text{HNO}_3$
- Evaporated to dryness
- Heat at 550 C in a muffle oven for 30 min.
- Dissolved in 3mL of  $\text{HNO}_3$
- Treated with 100 mL of D.D. water
- Add 5 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and heated to 90 C for 1 h

Cleaning: Water

- **MDA (100 mL, 24h):**  $0.036 \text{ Bq L}^{-1}$

Sample	Activity (dpm mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Activity Calc (dpm mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Error (%)
Urine	0,43	0.44	2,4
Urine	0,46	0,42	-6.5

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## PSresin + MASS. Determination of $^{99}\text{Tc}$ in WATER samples - Automatic vs. Manual:

### MASS:

Similar to manual process.

- . Modular
- . Vacuum chamber
- . No valves (easy maintenance)

### Procedure

1. Conditioning: 2 mL HCl 0.1M
2. Sample loading: 10 mL
3. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cleaning: 2 mL HF 0.1M/HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.1M
4. 4<sup>th</sup> cleaning : 2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O

### Calibration

10mL containing 240 dpm of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$ , 1 mg of Re in HCl 0.1M



	Manual [%]	Automatic [%]
Background (cpm)	1.28	1.06
Yield	Quantitative (>98.8%)	Quantitative (>99.8%)
SQP(E)	802(8)	795(5)
Detection efficiency [%]	85.3(1.3)	88.2(1.3)

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

**PSresin + MASS. Determination of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$  in WATER samples - Automatic vs. Manual:**

River water sample	Activity [Bq/Kg]	Activity measured [Bq/Kg]		Deviation [%]	
		Manual	Automated	Manual	Automated
1 <sup>st</sup> replicate	18.2	16.9	18.6	-7.3	2.1
2 <sup>nd</sup> replicate	16.8	17.0	16.8	1.2	0.1
3 <sup>rd</sup> replicate	18.0	18.3	17.7	1.7	-1.5
Mean				-1.5(5.1)	0.2(1.8)

Sea water sample	Activity [Bq/Kg]	Activity measured [Bq/Kg]		Deviation [%]	
		Manual	Automated	Manual	Automated
1 <sup>st</sup> replicate	17.5	17.4	17.6	-0.8	0.6
2 <sup>nd</sup> replicate	17.4	17.2	18.1	-1.2	4.0
3 <sup>rd</sup> replicate	18.9	18.0	17.7	-5.0	-6.4
Mean				-2.4 (2.3)	-0.6 (5.3)

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{14}\text{C}$ in OIL RESERVOIR radiotracer

Oil reservoir radiotracer:  $\text{S}^{14}\text{CN}^-$   
 Secondary recovery  
 Study of oil reservoir dynamics

### Pre-treatment:

Filter  
 Concentration & purification with ionic exchange column  
 Elute with  $\text{NaClO}_4$  6 M



**Extractant:** Aliquat 336

Separation conditions: water

- **Recovery:** 100 %
- **Detection efficiency:** 54(1)%
- **MDA (100 mL, 5h):**  $0.084 \text{ Bq L}^{-1}$

Sample	Conductivity ( $\text{mS cm}^{-1}$ )	TOC ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ )	Activity ( $\text{Bq L}^{-1}$ )	
			PS resin	IFE
1	$52.1 \pm 0.1$	$13.6 \pm 0.3$	$2.89 \pm 0.14$	$2.98 \pm 0.09$
2	$51.5 \pm 0.2$	$18.4 \pm 0.3$	$2.01 \pm 0.04$	$2.21 \pm 0.06$
3	$50.8 \pm 0.2$	$22.4 \pm 0.7$	$1.00 \pm 0.09$	$1.02 \pm 0.07$
4	$51.3 \pm 0.1$	$39.2 \pm 0.6$	$1.42 \pm 0.02$	$1.36 \pm 0.05$
5	$51.5 \pm 0.2$	$18.4 \pm 0.7$	$2.66 \pm 0.08$	$2.76 \pm 0.08$

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

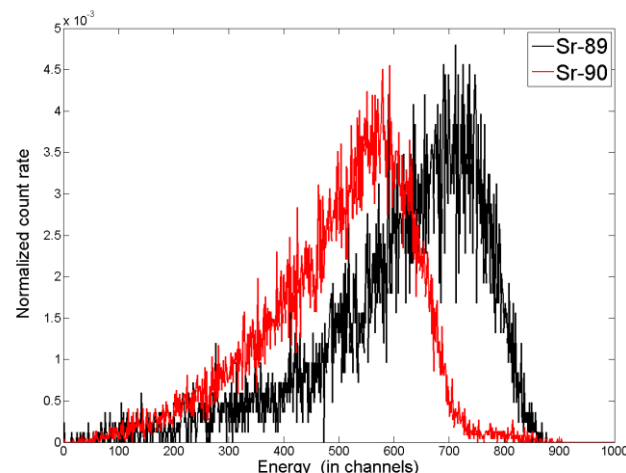
**PSresin applications:** Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.

**Extractant:** 4,4'(5')-di-t butylcyclohexane 18-crown-6 1M Octanol

**Sample:** 100 mL milk

Detection efficiency



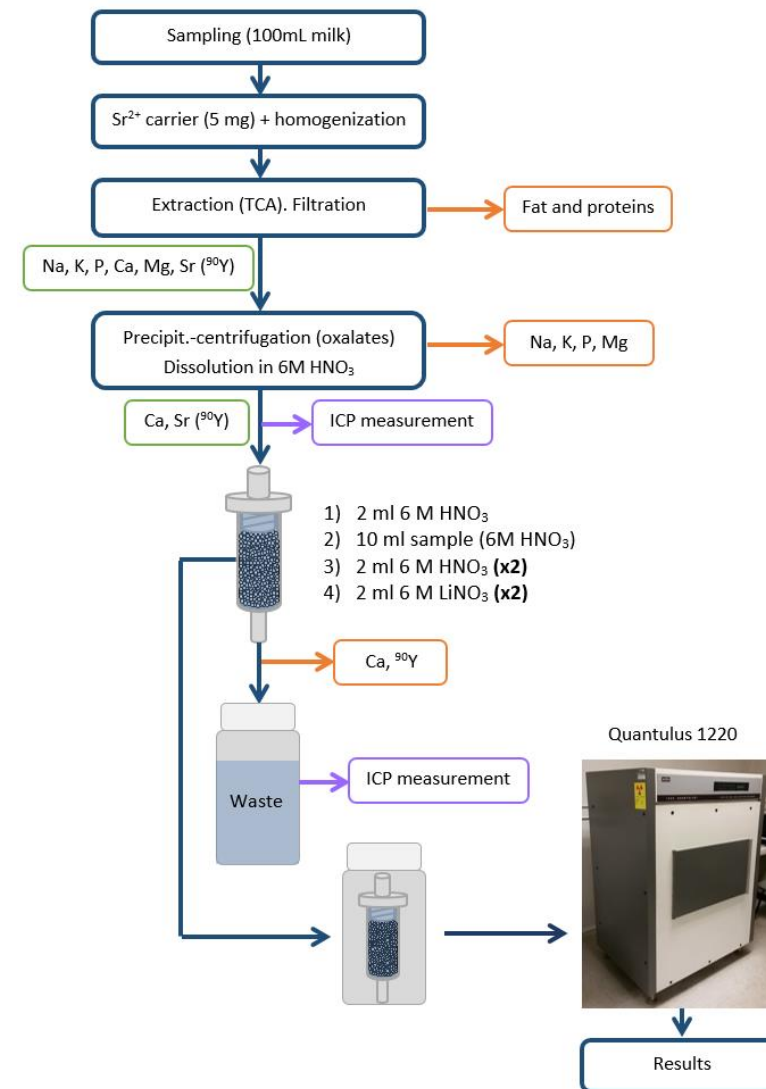
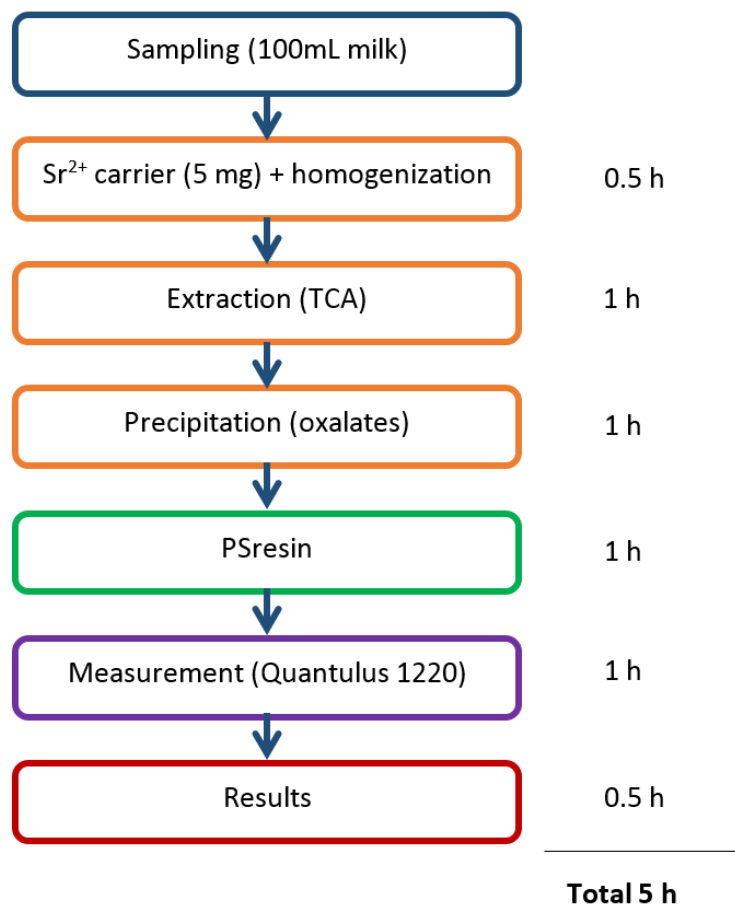
	$^{90}\text{Sr}$	$^{89}\text{Sr}$
<b>Stable Sr) (mg)</b>	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
<b>Average SQP(E)</b>	789(8)	791(4)
<b>Average Efficiency) (%)</b>	82(7)	89(4)

$^{90}\text{Sr}+^{89}\text{Sr}$  Average Efficiency (%): 86(6)

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.





# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications:** Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.

**Sample:** 100 mL milk (Cow, Sheep, Goat, Semi-skimmed, Skimmed, Powder, Pasteurized)

**Pre-treatment:**

. TCA, Oxalates, redissolution in  $\text{HNO}_3$  6 M.

**Cleaning:**  $\text{HNO}_3$  6 M and  $\text{LiNO}_3$  6 M

Carrier: 5 mg  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$

Type of milk	Pre-treatment Recovery (%)	Column Recovery (%)	Total Recovery (%)
<b>Total samples</b>	93 (4) (4%)	70(4) (6%)	<b>65 (5) (7%)</b>

Type of milk	Pre-treatment recovery (%)	PS resin retention (%)	Total recovery (%)	Activity $^{90}\text{Sr}+^{89}\text{Sr}$ (Bq/kg dry mass)	Relative bias $^{90}\text{Sr}+^{89}\text{Sr}$ (%)
IAEA-473 milk powder	88.6	79.6	70.5	207.6 (198.0*)	<b>-3.5 (0.4*)</b>
IAEA-473 milk powder	93.1	78.7	73.3	204.6 (195.7*)	<b>-4.7 (-0.8*)</b>
IAEA-473 milk powder	92.1	76.7	70.6	203.3 (194.4*)	<b>-5.2 (-1.4*)</b>

**MDA (100 mL, 1h):** 0.36 Bq L<sup>-1</sup>

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

Type of milk	Ratio $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$	Relative bias ( $^{89}\text{Sr} + ^{90}\text{Sr}$ ) (%)
Cow/whole/UHT	0:1	-2.2 (1.9*)
Cow/whole/UHT	1:0	6.6 (3.0*)
Cow/whole/UHT	1:1	-1.9
Cow/semi-skimmed/UHT	1:1	4.5
Cow/skimmed/UHT	1:1	6.1
Cow/whole/powder	1:1	1.7
Cow/whole/pasteurized	1:1	2.6
Goat/whole/raw	1:1	-1.9
Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	1:1	7.0
Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	1:1	5.2

Type of milk	Ratio $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$	Relative bias ( $^{89}\text{Sr} + ^{90}\text{Sr}$ ) (%)
Cow/whole/UHT	2:1	1.6
Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	2:1	20.2
Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	2:1	6.5
Cow/whole/UHT	10:1	-4.1
Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	10:1	-3.9
Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	10:1	-4.1

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$  in milk in emergency situations**

**Objective: reduction of total analysis time.**

Procedure	Sample (L)	$\text{Sr}^{2+}$ carrier (mg)	Recovery % (SD)	Measurement	Relative Bias $^{90}\text{Sr}$ % (SD)	MDA ( $\text{Bq L}^{-1}$ )	Time (h)
Brun et al., 2002	0.5	10	63 (7)	Gas Flow Proportional Count.	-2 (5)	0.09	14 - 15
Maxwell et al., 2009	0.1	4.19	75 (17)	Gas Flow Proportional Count.	1 (6)	0.5	7 – 8
Kabai et al., 2011	0.1	10	94 (7)	LSC	-	0.8	7 – 8
IAEA, 2013	0.25	10	70 – 75	LSC	<15%	2 - 5	7 – 8
Sáez-Muñoz et al, 2018	0.1	5	65 (5)	Plastic Scintillation Counting	4 (1)	0.34	5

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{210}\text{Pb}$ in WATER

**Extractant:** 4,4'(5')-di-t butylcyclohexane 18-crown-6 1M Octanol

**Separation conditions:**  $\text{HNO}_3$  2M

- **Recovery:** 91(3) %
- **Detection efficiency:** 44(3)%
- **MDA (10 mL, 1h):** 2.8 Bq L<sup>-1</sup>

Sample	Activity (dpm/mL)	Activity Calc (dpm/mL)	Deviation (%)
Ebro river	10,1	10,8	-7,0
	10,1	11,0	-9,2
	10,1	9,8	3,6
Subterranean water	10,9	11,7	-7,0
	11,4	11,4	0,2
	11,4	11,8	-4,1
Congost river	11,0	11,4	-4,2
	10,4	10,7	-3,3
	11,4	11,3	0,7

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

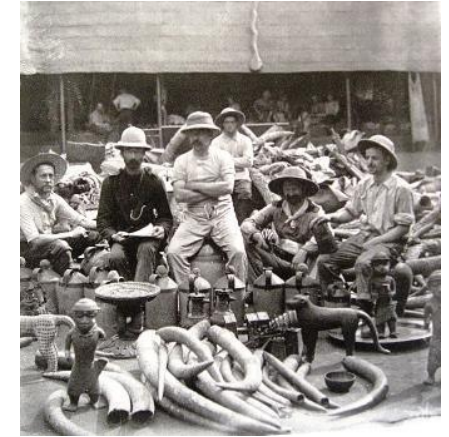
**Benin Kingdom** Nigeria since 1440 –

English Punitive expedition – 1897

4000 artistic objects (sculptures) from Palace in Museums and collections

Problem to contribute to solve:

- restitution of cultural heritage objects
- discriminate fake objects in the market



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

Artistic objects - Bronze/Brass sculptures (**Cu, Sn, Zn, Pb major**)

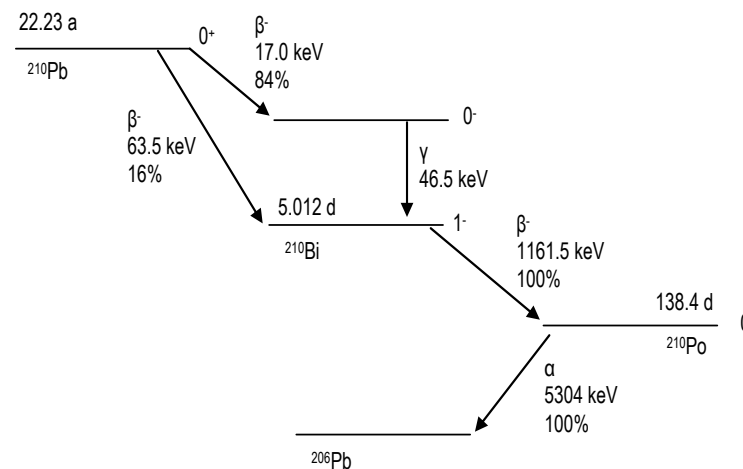
Pb: 1 – 12%

$^{210}\text{Pb}$  beta emitter.

Secular equilibrium:  $^{210}\text{Bi}$ : 35 d  $^{210}\text{Po}$ : 2 y

## Hypothesis:

- Initial  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  activity of Benin Palace sculptures – material origin
- Maximum  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  residual activity of Benin Palace sculptures.
- **Act (sculpture) > Act (maximum residual) → modern or different origin**



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

**Analytical Feasibility.**

. Bronze dissolution:  $\text{HF} + \text{HNO}_3$  (heat)

. **Matrix interferences** .

Medium  $\text{HNO}_3$  2M

Element	Retention (%)
Pb	$75 \pm 2$
Cu	$1 \pm 2$
Sn	$1 \pm 2$
Zn	$1 \pm 1$



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

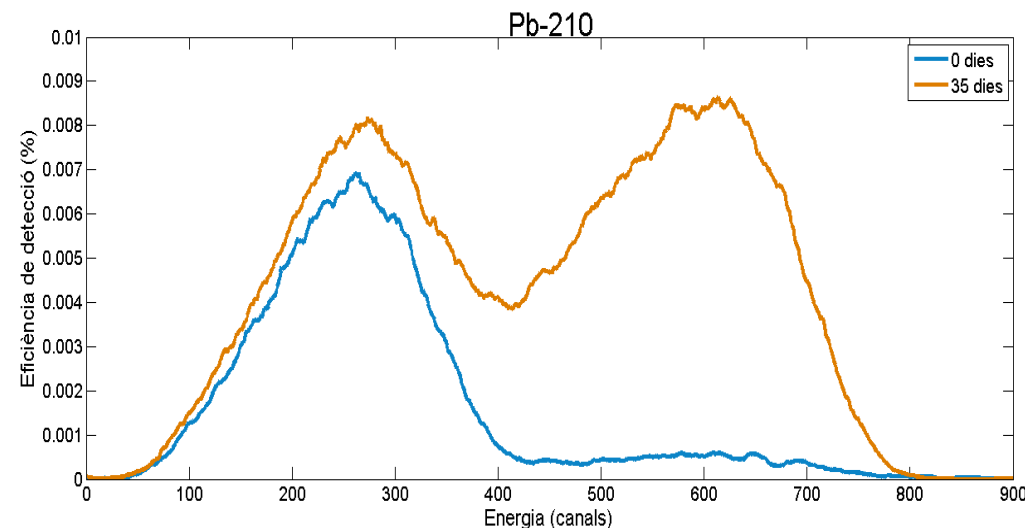
**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

**Analytical Feasibility.**

**. Radiometric detection**



	Detection Eff (%)
t 0 days ( $^{210}\text{Pb}$ )	$47 \pm 3$
t 35 days ( $^{210}\text{Pb}/^{210}\text{Bi}$ )	$134 \pm 4$





# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

**Analytical Feasibility.**

**Worst scenario**

**Composition Pb:** 1 % (1-12%)

**Activity Pb:** 10 dpm/g<sub>Pb</sub> (10 – 110 dpm/g)

	$^{210}\text{Pb}$	$^{210}\text{Pb} / ^{210}\text{Bi}$	$^{210}\text{Pb} / ^{210}\text{Bi} / ^{210}\text{Po}$
Parameters	time 0 days	time 35 days	time 2 years
Detection EFF (%)	46,5 %	136 %	222,35 %
200 min	9,49 g	3,23 g	1,98 g
1 g	11,6 days	1,4 days	12,7 hours
<b>0,5 g</b>	46,5 days	<b>5,5 days</b>	2 days



Parameters	20 dpm/g <sub>Pb</sub> i 1 %	10 dpm/g <sub>Pb</sub> i 4 %
200 min	1,62 g	0,81 g
1,4 days	0,5 g	0,25 g
<b>5,5 days</b>	<b>0,25 g</b>	<b>0,12 g</b>

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Discrimination of **BRONZE SCULPTURES** based on  $^{210}\text{Pb}$ .

**Objective:** minimum amount of sample.

**Determination of maximum  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  residual activity**\_(in progress).

**.Collaboration Museum Five Continents (Munich)**

- . Two sets:
  - Original Benin Sculptures
  - Non Original Benin Sculptures



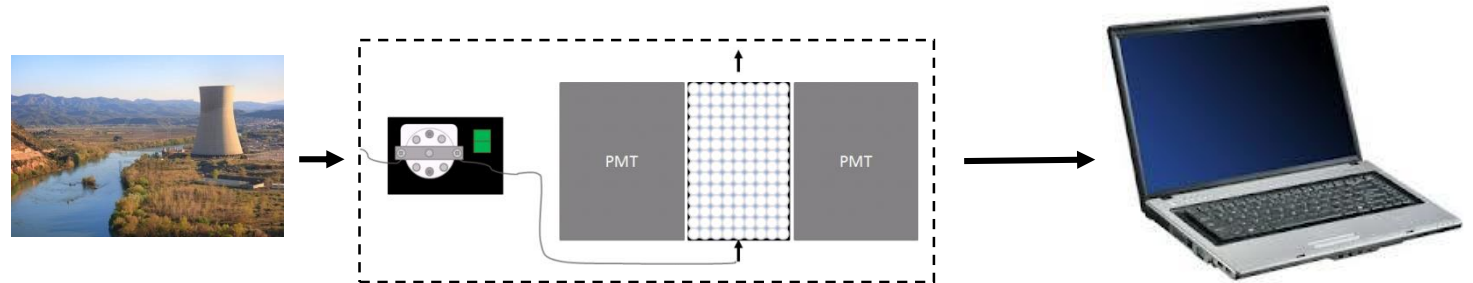
- . **Data:**
  - Elemental composition (major and minor).
  - Stable Pb isotopes composition
  - $^{210}\text{Pb}$  activity

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

Continuous and on-line alpha and beta determination in aqueous samples

No reagents  
No waste

## How it works?

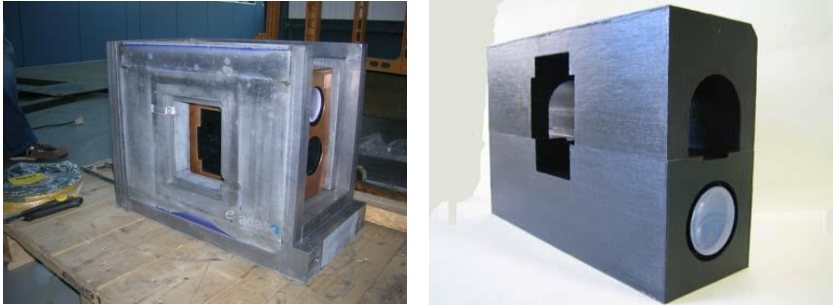


- Sample pass continuously through the counting cell
- Counting cell filled with PSm
- Signals are detected by PMT
- Hydraulic system for sample and reagents pumping
- Active and passive shielding.
- Remotely controlled by computer (5 ' measurements).

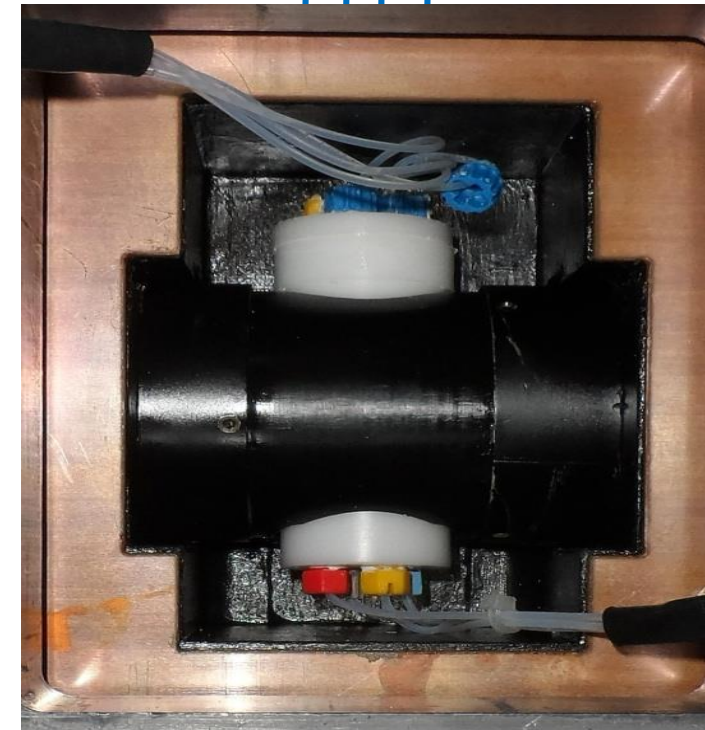
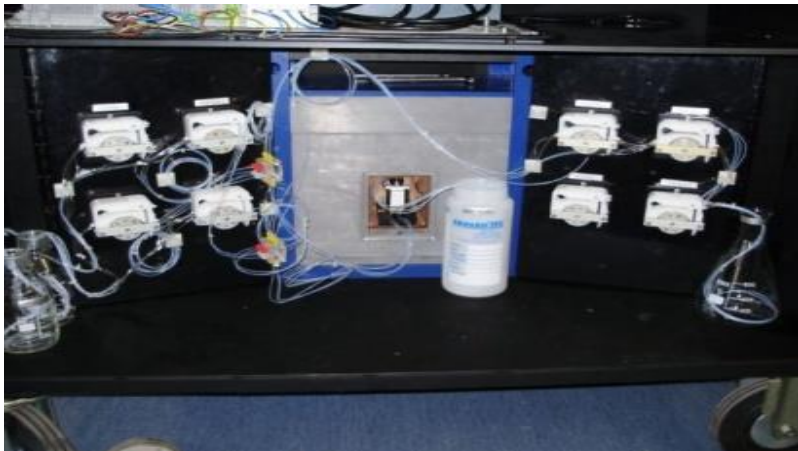


# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

Active and passive shielding



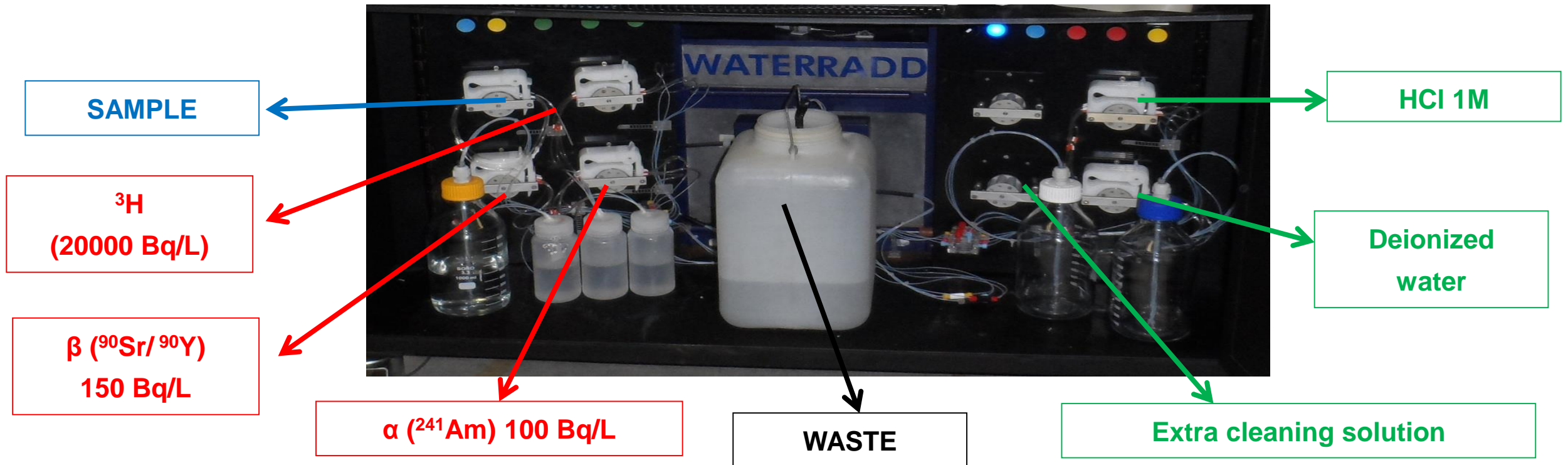
Detection Cell: filled with PSmicrospheres



- Made of polystyrene
- Volume approximately of 10 mL
- Filled with 20 gr. of PSm
- Coupled to a pair of PMT
- Water goes from the bottom to top of the cell
- Flow rate: from 3 to 5 mL/min

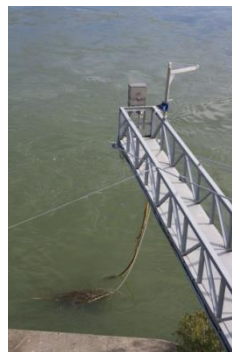


# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)



# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

Continuous monitoring monitoring of Ebro River



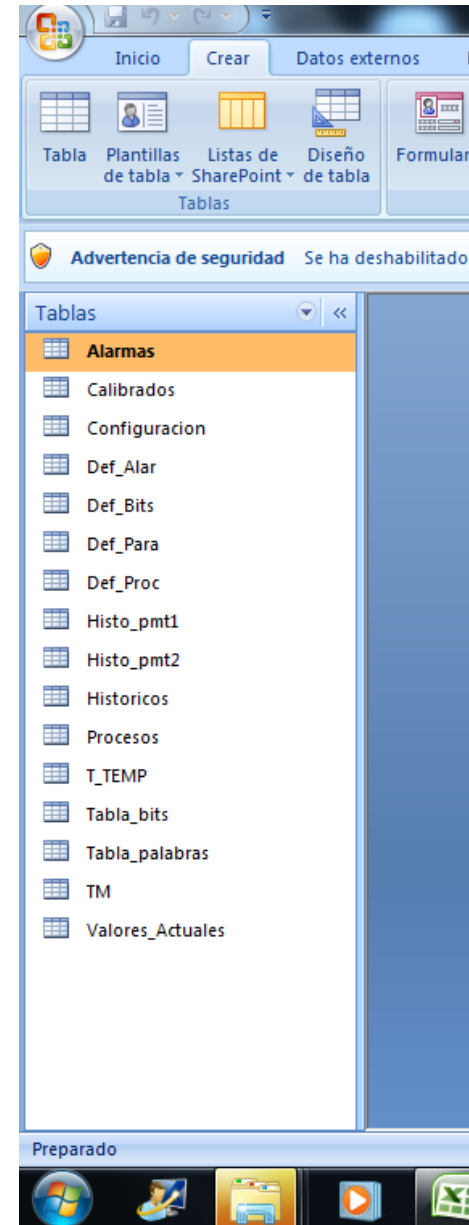
ADASA Sistemas

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

## WATER-RADD: reporting results

- Data is sent to the remote position with a predefined frequency
- Data is stored in an ACCESS database

- Calibration data
- Configuration history
- Spectrum of the PMT1
- Spectrum of the PMT2
- Count and Timing
- Processes
- Temperature
- Count rates (in cps)



# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

## WATER-RADD: reporting results

Fecha_y_Hora	C_PMT1	C_PMT2	C_PMT3	C_PMT4	C_C12	C_C34	C_C1234	C_CB	C_CF	C_CA	T_TOTAL_AA	T_MUERTO_BB	T_MUERTO_CC
11-5-12 14:33	166340	74511	92483	101643	252	15739	150	102	71	70	29948	39	344
11-5-12 14:38	167064	75204	92883	104293	251	15696	149	102	73	72	29949	39	344
11-5-12 14:43	166809	75165	95329	101083	216	15678	118	98	64	63	29948	39	344
11-5-12 14:48	167334	75111	93863	102031	229	15863	128	101	72	71	29948	39	346
11-5-12 14:53	167940	75374	92869	101815	209	15671	113	96	72	71	29949	39	346
11-5-12 14:58	169102	75864	96362	101981	237	15507	143	94	63	62	29948	39	349
11-5-12 15:03	168876	75460	93416	105454	248	15727	142	106	72	68	29949	39	348
11-5-12 15:08	169038	75597	95732	107172	236	15806	142	94	56	56	29948	39	349
11-5-12 15:13	169773	75716	93541	102651	222	15847	122	100	66	64	29940	39	349
11-5-12 15:18	170132	76331	95078	104479	231	15994	136	95	69	69	29949	40	352
11-5-12 15:23	170638	76600	93611	102656	216	15676	117	99	69	66	29948	39	350
11-5-12 15:28	171326	76939	97655	106400	258	15667	162	96	72	71	29949	39	353
11-5-12 15:33	171651	76325	94870	103272	232	15806	126	106	72	70	29948	39	353
11-5-12 15:38	172648	76692	93920	102970	244	15477	140	104	70	70	29949	38	351
11-5-12 15:43	173543	76837	96001	105817	238	15810	127	111	78	77	29948	39	353
11-5-12 15:48	173219	78074	93898	102889	257	15619	134	123	85	80	29948	39	352
11-5-12 15:53	173335	77486	94004	103977	205	15590	116	89	69	69	29949	39	354
11-5-12 15:58	174072	77442	94395	103602	234	15751	127	107	75	75	29948	39	355
11-5-12 16:03	173856	77902	94691	103618	251	15703	129	122	76	76	29949	39	353
11-5-12 16:08	174938	77652	94945	104101	222	15703	132	90	57	0	29948	39	357
11-5-12 16:13	176005	78383	95243	104105	255	15736	143	112	77	77	29948	39	357
11-5-12 16:18	175752	78262	96014	104940	227	16084	135	92	63	63	29949	40	358
11-5-12 16:23	176688	78792	95169	104598	253	15776	155	98	60	59	29948	39	357
11-5-12 16:28	176782	78479	95660	104641	211	15820	119	92	70	70	29949	39	358
11-5-12 16:33	177334	78381	95890	104966	226	15490	121	105	77	74	29948	39	358
11-5-12 16:38	177983	78707	95841	106119	251	15733	142	109	82	82	29949	39	358
11-5-12 16:43	177360	79225	95766	104745	255	15705	141	114	89	88	29948	39	360

Measurement date

PMT counts

Coincidences

Counting and dead time



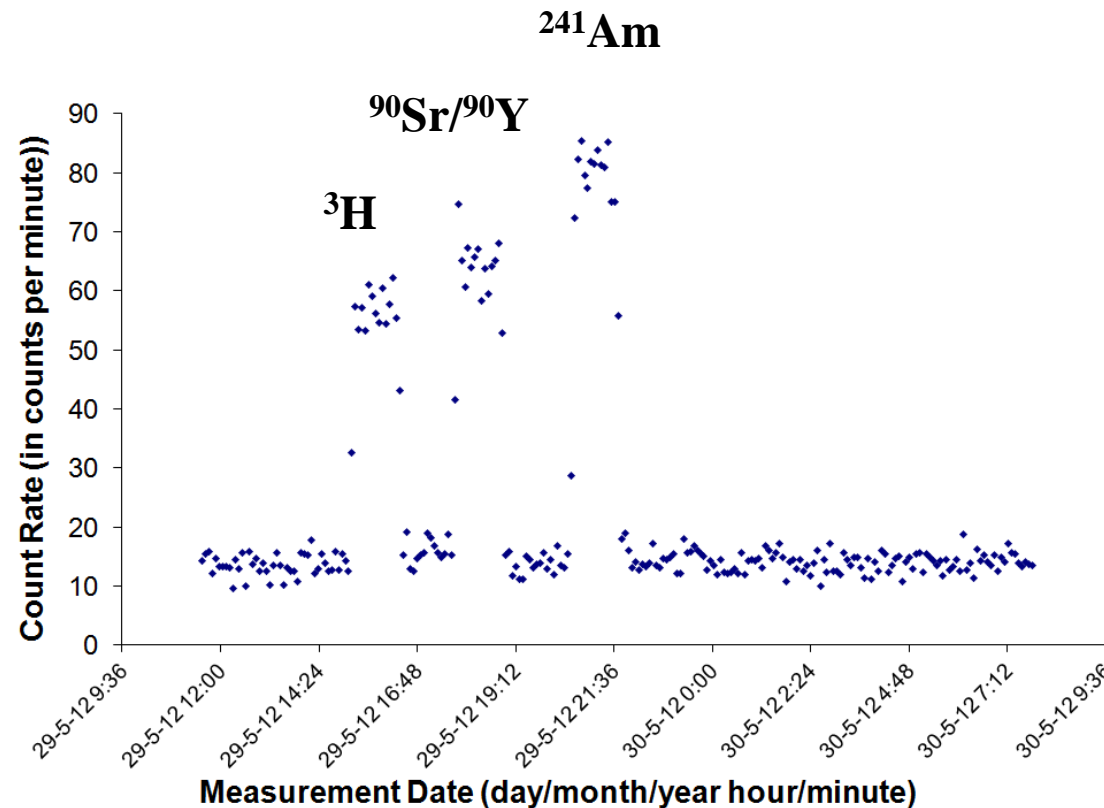
# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

## Calibration

- Background and  $^3\text{H}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  and  $^{241}\text{Am}$  standards was measured in each sequence.
- Three replicate sequences were measured
- Counting time: 60 min

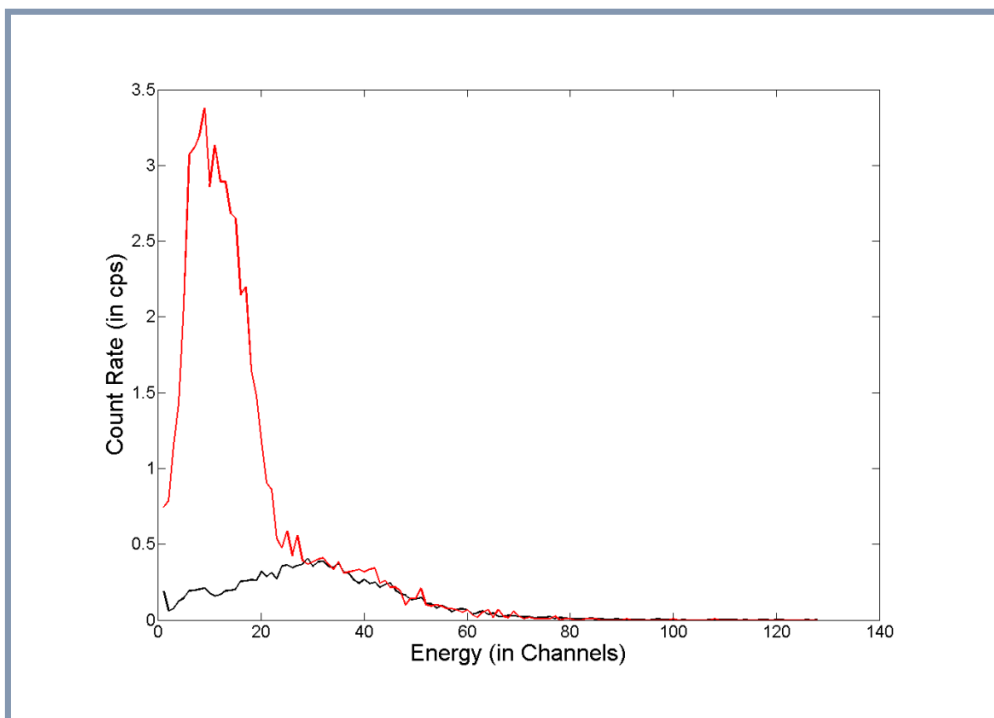
Background count rate (in cpm)

14.1(0.3)



# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

WATER-RADD:  $^3\text{H}$



Efficiency (in %)  
(assuming 10 mL of volume)

$0.378 \pm 0.08$

Optimum window

2-17

Detection Limit (1h)

486 Bq/L

Detection Limit (5h)

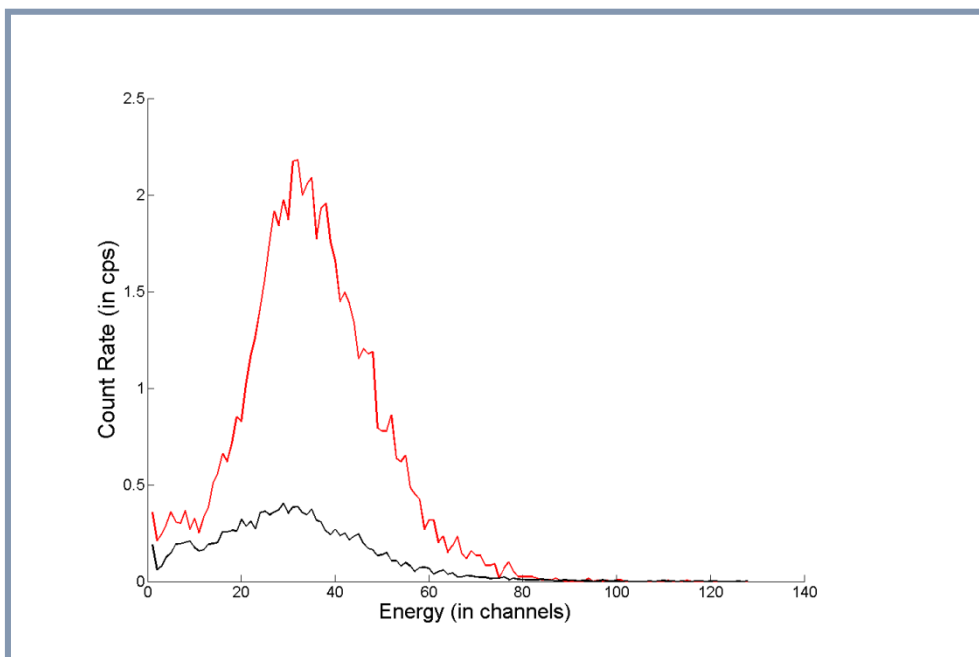
212 Bq/L

Detection Limit (24h)

96 Bq/L

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

WATER-RADD:  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$



Efficiency (in %)  
(assuming 10 mL. of volume  
, up to 200%)

$142 \pm 6$

Optimum window

16-78

Detection Limit (1h)

3.9 Bq/L

Detection Limit (5h)

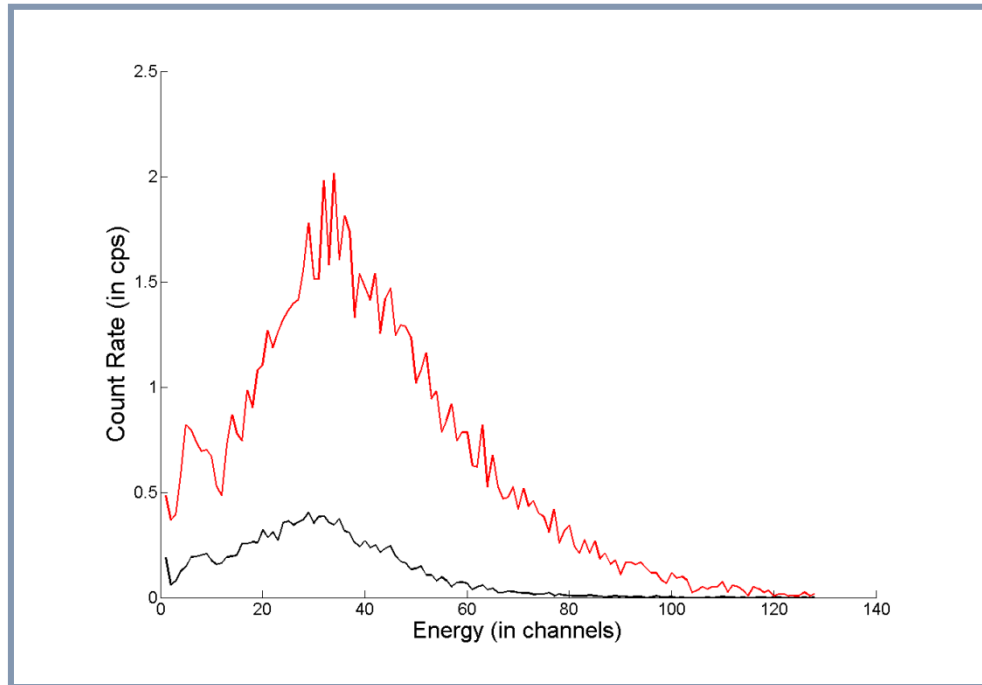
1.72 Bq/L

Detection Limit (24h)

0.78 Bq/L

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

WATER-RADD:  $^{241}\text{Am}$



Efficiency (in %)  
(assuming 10 mL. of volume)

$58.1 \pm 0.2$

Optimum window

2-128

Detection Limit (1h)

5.20 Bq/L

Detection Limit (5h)

2.30 Bq/L

Detection Limit (24h)

1.05 Bq/L

## Radionuclide determinations with:

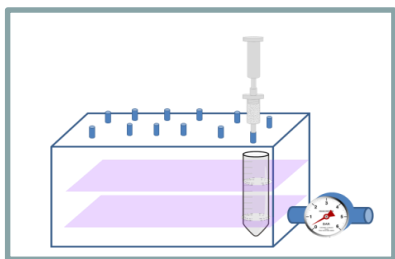
- **PSresin** (separation and detection)
- **MASS** (automated separation)
- **WaterRadd** (on-line detector)



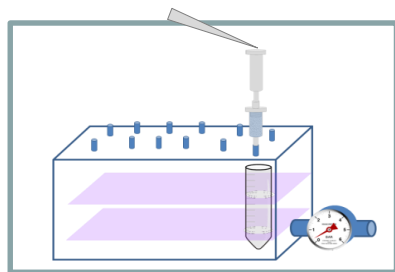
Tarancón, A.; Bagán, H.; García, J .F.

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

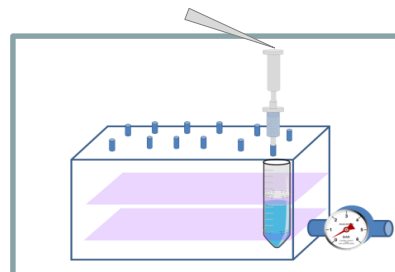
## PSresin in practice



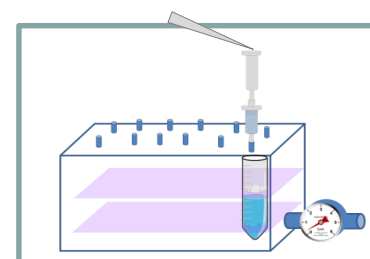
Connect to Chamber



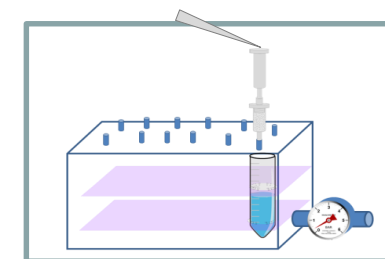
Condition the column 2-5 mL



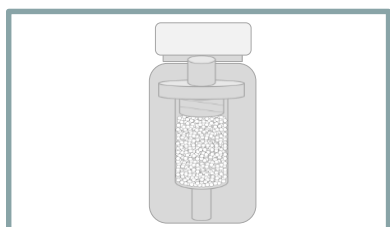
Add 10 -100 mL of sample (carrier)



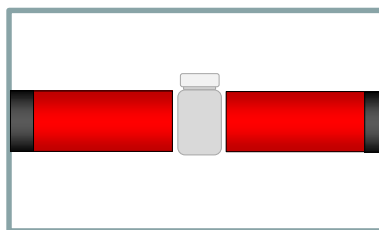
Rinse 4 times with 2-5 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O



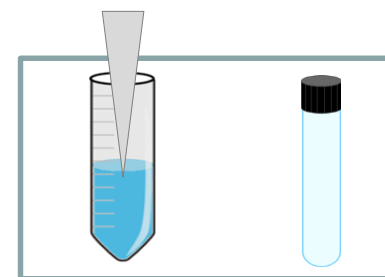
Empty the column



Disconnect the column and place it in a scintillation vial



Measurement of in a scintillation detector



Prepare the ICP tubes for yield calculations

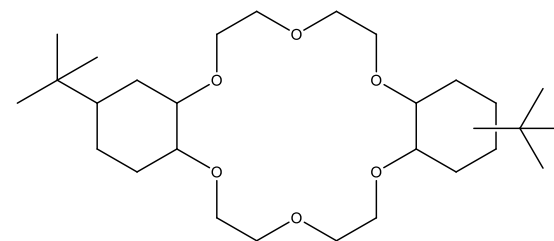
# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications:** Determination of  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.

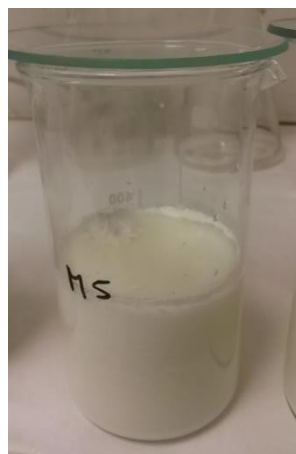
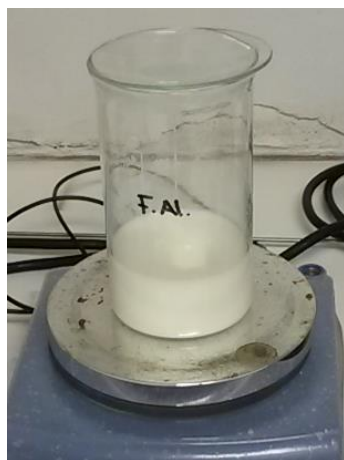
Extractant: 4,4'(5')-di-t butylcyclohexane 18-crown-6 1M Octanol

Sample: 100 mL milk



## Pretreatment:

1. Trichloroacetic acid
2. Oxalates precipitation



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications:** Determination of  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.

Extractant: 4,4'(5')-di-t butylcyclohexane 18-crown-6 1M Octanol

Sample: 100 mL milk

**Pre-treatment:**

- . Tricloroacetic acid
- . Oxalates precipitation
- . Redisolution in  $\text{HNO}_3$  6 M.

**Cleaning:**  $\text{HNO}_3$  6 M and  $\text{LiNO}_3$  6 M

Carrier: 5 mg  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$

Type of milk	Pre-treatment Recovery (%)	Column Recovery (%)	Total Recovery (%)
Cow (x7)	93 (3) (3%)	69 (2) (3%)	64 (3) (3%)
Sheep (x4)	94 (6) (6%)	64 (3) (3%)	60 (6) (10%)
Goat (x4)	96 (3) (3%)	67 (2) (3%)	67 (3) (3%)
Semi-skimmed	87	72	62
Skimmed	90	71	64
Powder (x2)	95 (1) (1%)	68.3(0.5) (1%)	65 (1) (2%)
Pasteurized	95	68	65
Reference material (x3)	91 (2) (3%)	78(2) (2%)	72 (2) (2%)
<b>Total samples</b>	<b>93 (4) (4%)</b>	<b>70(4) (6%)</b>	<b>65 (5) (7%)</b>



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

PSresin applications: Determination of  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

	Type of milk	Activity $^{89}\text{Sr}$ (Bq/L)	Activity $^{90}\text{Sr}$ (Bq/L)	Ratio $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$	Relative bias ( $^{89}\text{Sr} + ^{90}\text{Sr}$ ) (%)
<b>M3</b>	Cow/whole/UHT	-	27	0:1	-2.2 (1.9*)
<b>M4</b>	Cow/whole/UHT	15	-	1:0	6.6 (3.0*)
<b>M5</b>	Cow/whole/UHT	27	27	1:1	-1.9
<b>M8</b>	Cow/semi-skimmed/UHT	27	27	1:1	4.5
<b>M9</b>	Cow/skimmed/UHT	27	27	1:1	6.1
<b>M11</b>	Cow/whole/powder	27	27	1:1	1.7
<b>M12</b>	Cow/whole/pasteurized	27	27	1:1	2.6
<b>M13</b>	Goat/whole/raw	27	27	1:1	-1.9
<b>M15</b>	Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	27	27	1:1	7.0
<b>M19</b>	Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	27	27	1:1	5.2

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

**PSresin applications:** Determination of  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  in **milk** in **emergency** situations

**Objective:** reduction of total **analysis time**.

	Type of milk	Activity $^{89}\text{Sr}$ (Bq/L)	Activity $^{90}\text{Sr}$ (Bq/L)	Ratio $^{89}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Sr}$	Relative bias ( $^{89}\text{Sr} + ^{90}\text{Sr}$ ) (%)
<b>M6</b>	Cow/whole/UHT	27	13.5	2:1	1.6
<b>M15</b>	Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	27	13.5	2:1	20.2
<b>M19</b>	Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	27	13.5	2:1	6.5
<b>M7</b>	Cow/whole/UHT	125	13.5	10:1	-4.1
<b>M17</b>	Sheep/semi-skimmed/UHT	125	13.5	10:1	-3.9
<b>M21</b>	Goat/semi-skimmed/UHT	125	13.5	10:1	-4.1

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$ in WATER

Extractant: 4,4'(5')-di-t butylcyclohexane 18-crown-6 1M Octanol

Separation conditions:  $\text{LiNO}_3$  6 M (5 mL)

Sample volume: 10 mL

Cleaning:  $\text{LiNO}_3$  6 M (4\*5 mL)

Carrier: 100  $\mu\text{g}$   $\text{Sr}^{2+}$

- **Recovery:** 100 %
- **Det. Eff. (1-1024):** 84(2)%
- **Det. Eff. (300-617):** 69.0(0.3)%
- **Bkg) (300-617):** 0.47 cpm
- **MDA) (10 mL, 5H):** 0.46 Bq  $\text{L}^{-1}$

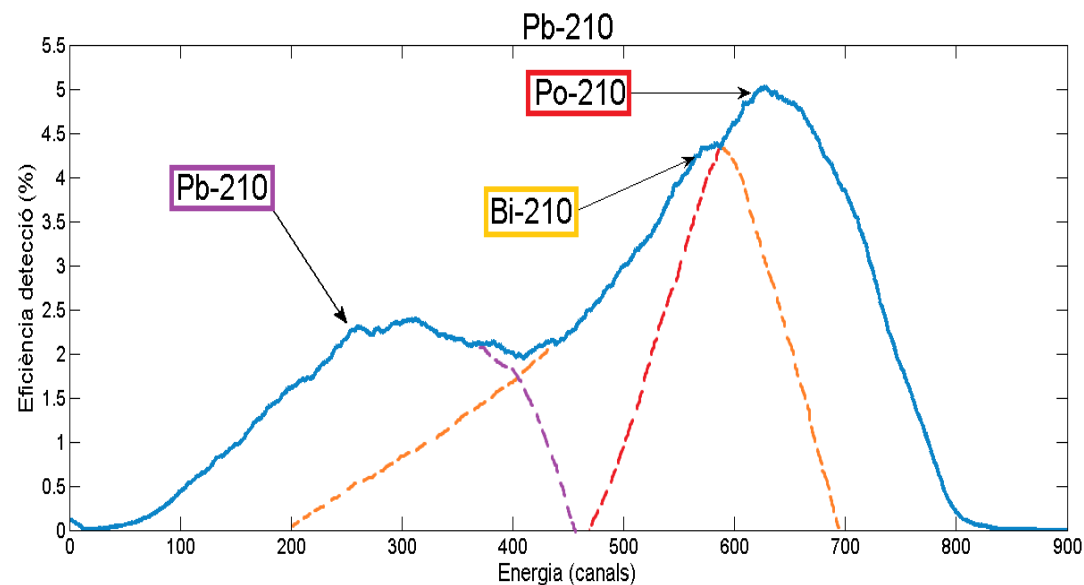
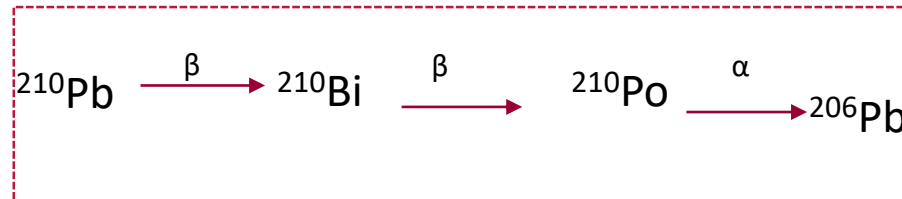
	Act (dpm)	Act calc (dpm)	Error) (%)
Drinking water	8.02	8.18	1.94
	7.77	7.66	-1.44
	7.66	7.54	-1.51
Sea Water	7.88	8.06	2.29
	8.00	7.80	-2.56
	7.70	8.01	4.09
River Water	7.86	7.84	-0.28
	7.75	7.60	-1.94
	7.77	7.72	-0.61

# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{210}\text{Pb}$ in BRONZE SCULPTURES

### Analytical Feasibility.

. Radiometric detection



Expected Total detection efficiency  $^{210}\text{Pb} + ^{210}\text{Bi} + ^{210}\text{Po}$ : 220 % after 2 years

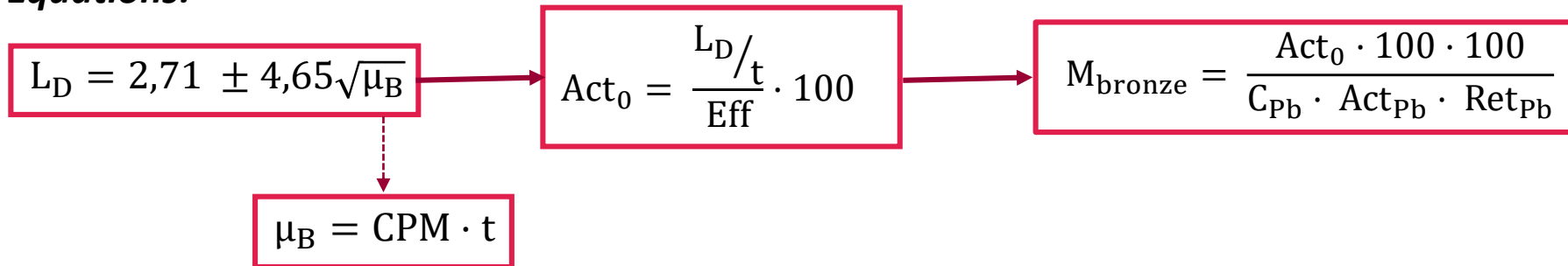
# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{210}\text{Pb}$ in BRONZE SCULPTURES

### Analytical Feasibility.

. Minimum amount of sample.

#### Equations:



#### Parameters:



# PSresin (Separation and detection)

## PSresin applications: Determination of $^{210}\text{Pb}$ in **BRONZE SCULPTURES**

### Analytical Feasibility.

. Minimum amount of sample.

Composition Pb: 1 %  
Activity Pb: 10 dpm/g<sub>Pb</sub>

	$^{210}\text{Pb}$	$^{210}\text{Pb} / ^{210}\text{Bi}$	$^{210}\text{Pb} / ^{210}\text{Bi} / ^{210}\text{Po}$
Parameters	time 0 days	time 35 days	time 2 years
Detection EFF (%)	46,5 %	136 %	222,35 %
200 min	9,49 g	3,23 g	1,98 g
1 g	11,6 days	1,4 days	12,7 hours
0,5 g	46,5 days	5,5 days	2 days

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)



- Automated separation using SPE cartridges (with PSresin)
- Simple design
- Coupled to vacuum box
- Controlled by computer



Easy handling of  
the samples

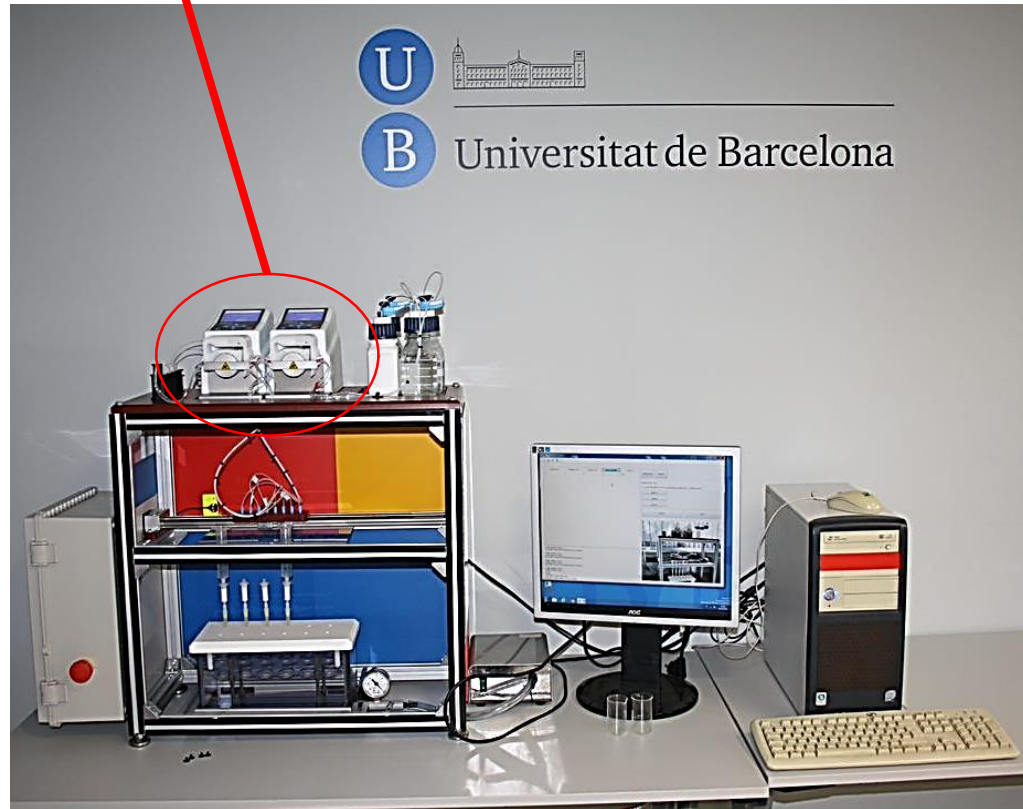


Similar set-up compared to  
manual separation



# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

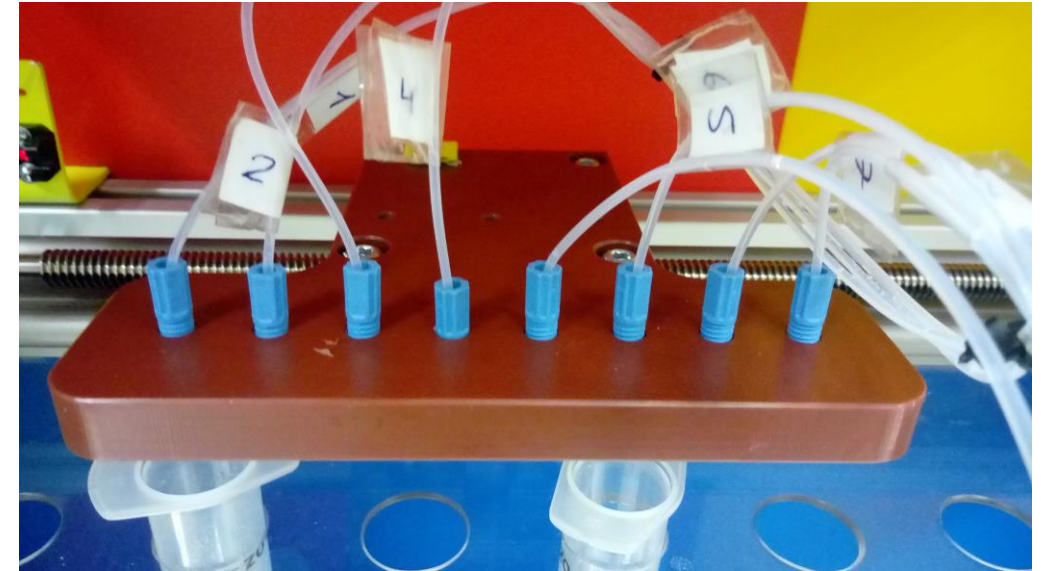
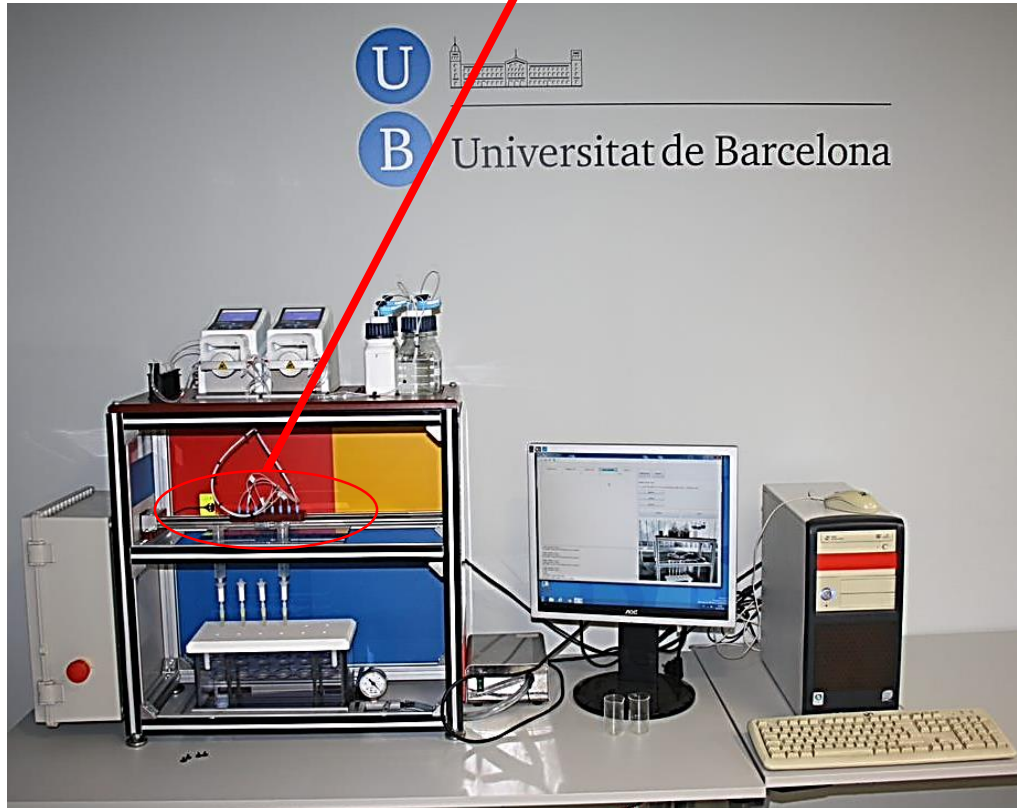
## PUMPS



- 2 Peristaltic pumps (samples and reagents)
- Four independent channels in each pump
- Controlled by computer
- Flow: 0.5 to 4 ml min<sup>-1</sup>

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

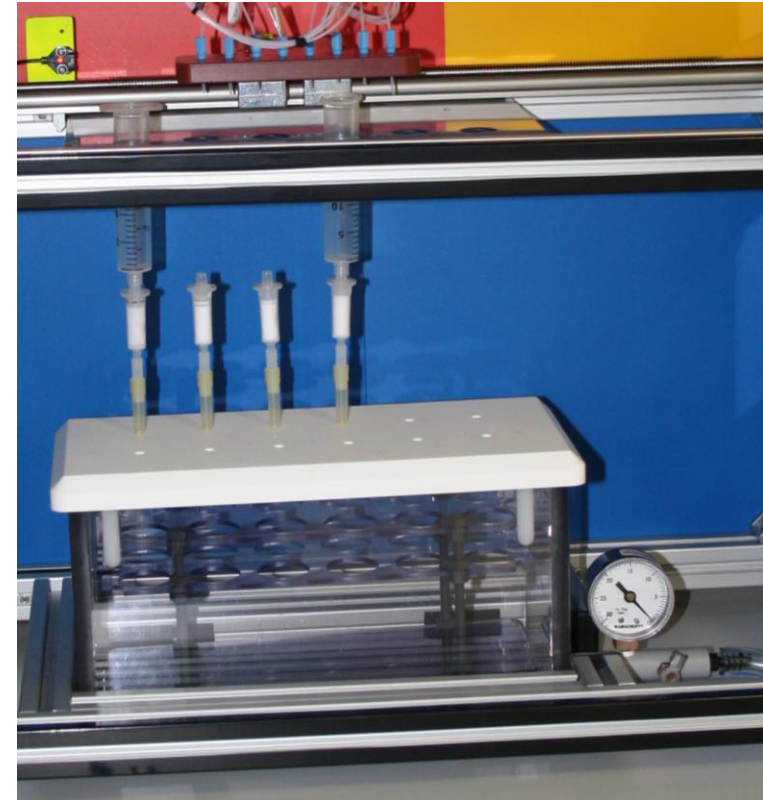
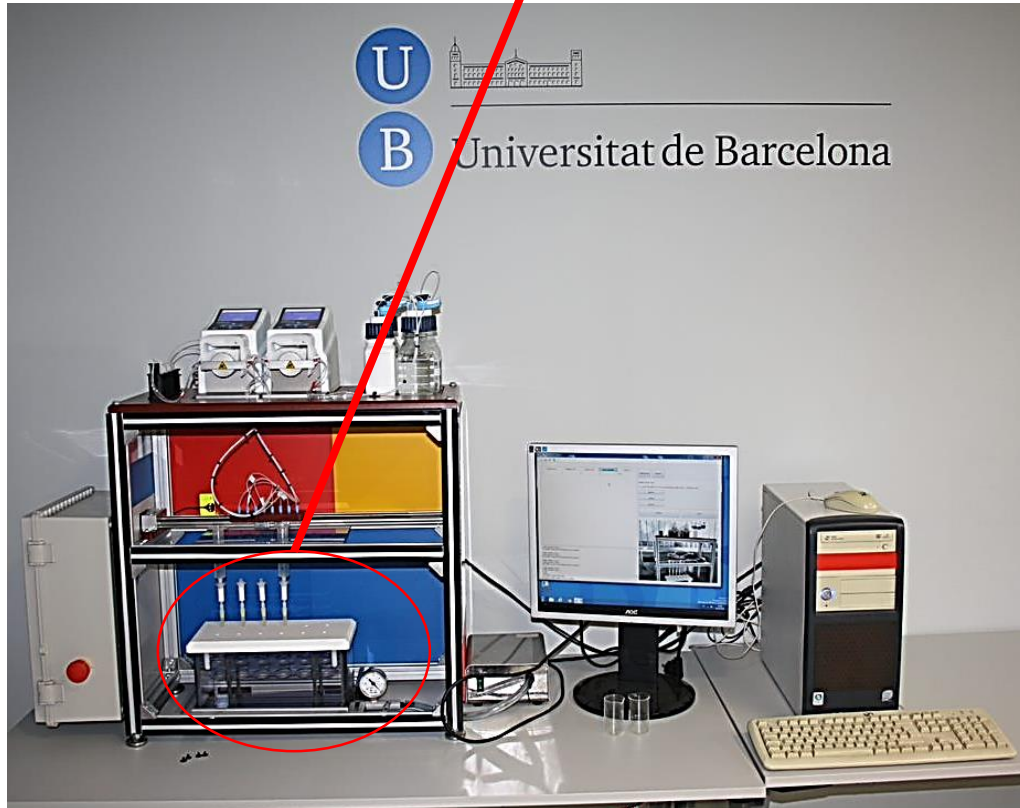
## Linear table (Sample/reagents addition)



- Movement in one axis
- 8 tubes (4 samples + 4 reagents)
- 4 adding positions (one for each PSresin)

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## Vacuum box with PSresin cartridge

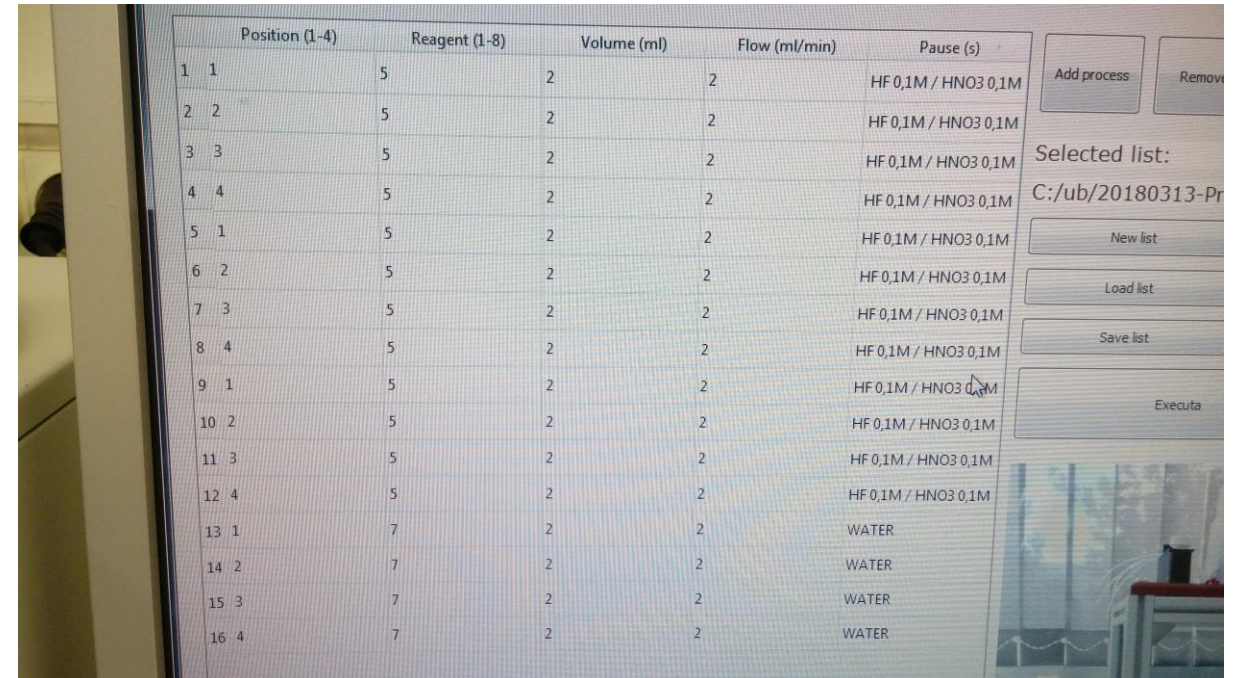
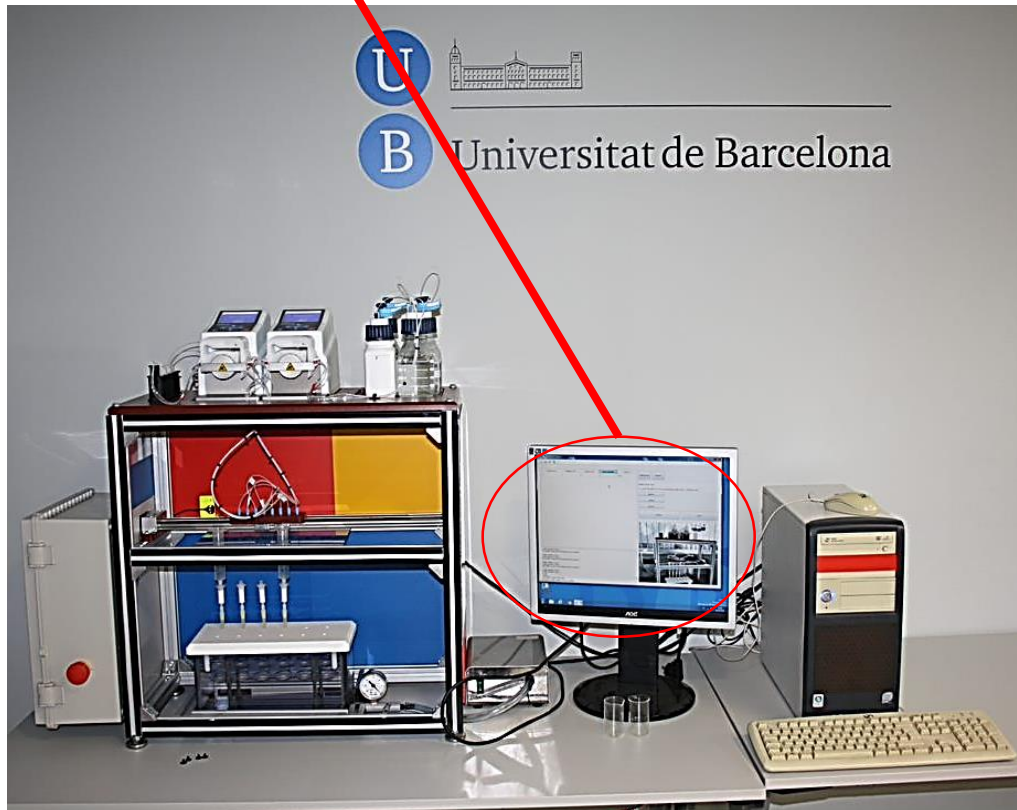


- 12 position vacuum box
- 4 fixed positions



# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## Control Software



	Position (1-4)	Reagent (1-8)	Volume (ml)	Flow (ml/min)	Pause (s)	
1	1	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	<div>Add process Remove</div> <div>Selected list: C:/ub/20180313-Pr</div> <div>New list</div> <div>Load list</div> <div>Save list</div> <div>Executa</div>
2	2	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
3	3	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
4	4	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
5	1	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
6	2	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
7	3	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
8	4	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
9	1	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
10	2	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
11	3	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
12	4	5	2	2	HF 0,1M / HNO3 0,1M	
13	1	7	2	2	WATER	
14	2	7	2	2	WATER	
15	3	7	2	2	WATER	
16	4	7	2	2	WATER	

- Define sequential process
- Actions: position (1-4); reagent (1-8); volume; flow
- Possibility to save/load protocols

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

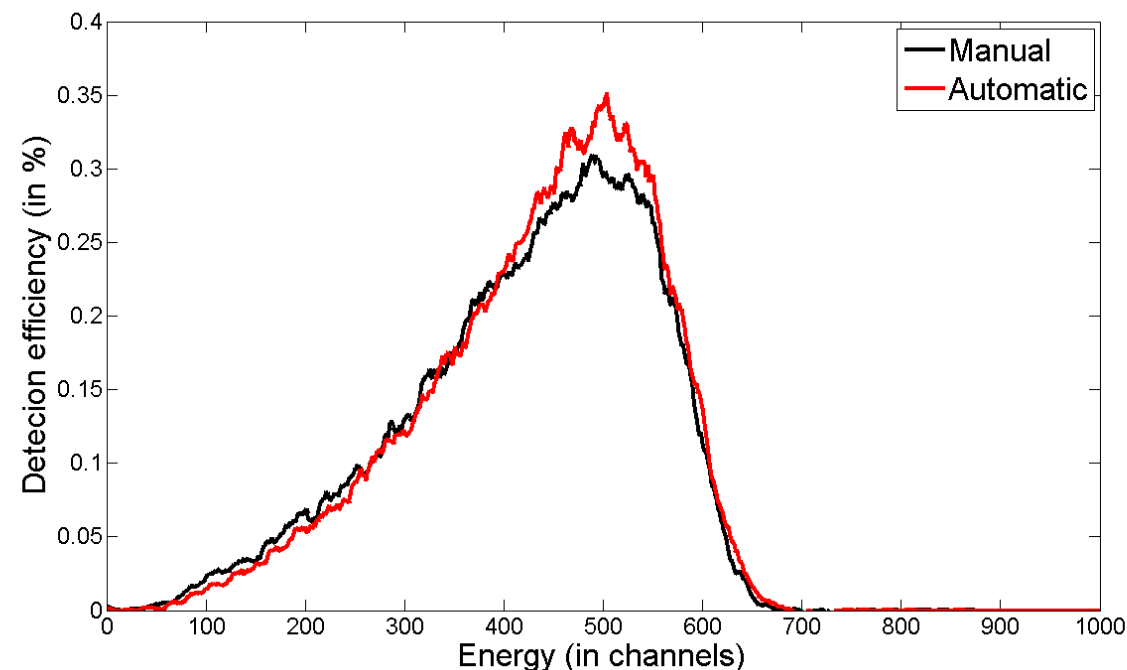
## APPLICATION $^{99}\text{Tc}$ DETERMINATION

### SEPARATION WITH PSRESIN

1. Conditioning: 2 mL HCl 0.1M
2. Sample loading: 10 mL
3. 1<sup>st</sup> cleaning: 2 mL HF 0.1M/HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.1M
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> cleaning: 2 mL HF 0.1M/HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.1M
5. 3<sup>rd</sup> cleaning: 2 mL HF 0.1M/HNO<sub>3</sub> 0.1M\*
6. 4<sup>th</sup> cleaning : 2 mL H<sub>2</sub>O

### CALIBRATION

10mL containing 240 dpm of  $^{99}\text{Tc}$ , 1 mg or rhenium in HCl 0.1M



	Manual [%]	Automatic [%]
Yield	Quantitative (>98.8%)	Quantitative (>99.8%)
SQP(E)	802(8)	795(5)
Detection efficiency [%]	85.3(1.3)	88.2(1.3)

# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## SAMPLES

Treatment:

- $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  at 90°C for 60 minutes.
- HCl until 0.1M.

Samples:

- River water (50 mL, 16 Bq/L)
- Sea water (50 mL, 16 Bq/L)



# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## SAMPLES

River water (50 mL, 16 Bq/L)

River water sample	Activity [Bq/Kg]	Activity measured [Bq/Kg]		Deviation [%]	
		Manual	Automated	Manual	Automated
1 <sup>st</sup> replicate	18.2	16.9	18.6	-7.3	2.1
2 <sup>nd</sup> replicate	16.8	17.0	16.8	1.2	0.1
3 <sup>rd</sup> replicate	18.0	18.3	17.7	1.7	-1.5
Mean				-1.5(5.1)	0.2(1.8)

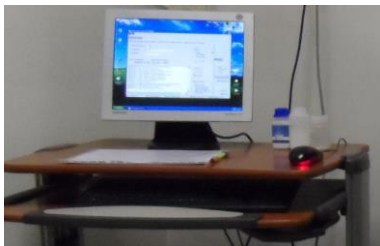
Sea water (50 mL, 16 Bq/L)

Sea water sample	Activity [Bq/Kg]	Activity measured [Bq/Kg]		Deviation [%]	
		Manual	Automated	Manual	Automated
1 <sup>st</sup> replicate	17.5	17.4	17.6	-0.8	0.6
2 <sup>nd</sup> replicate	17.4	17.2	18.1	-1.2	4.0
3 <sup>rd</sup> replicate	18.9	18.0	17.7	-5.0	-6.4
Mean				-2.4 (2.3)	-0.6 (5.3)



# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

## USER LOCATION

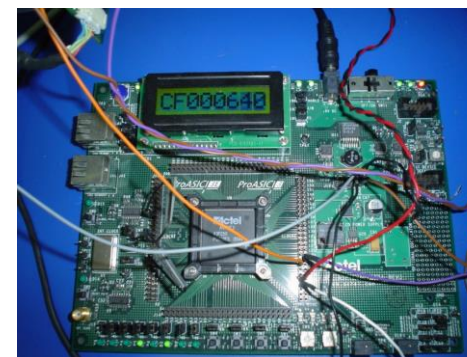


- Number of periods per sample
- Counting time of each period
- Calibration and Cleaning frequency
- Communication frequency



- Counting times
- Number of Counts
- Spectrum

## DETECTOR

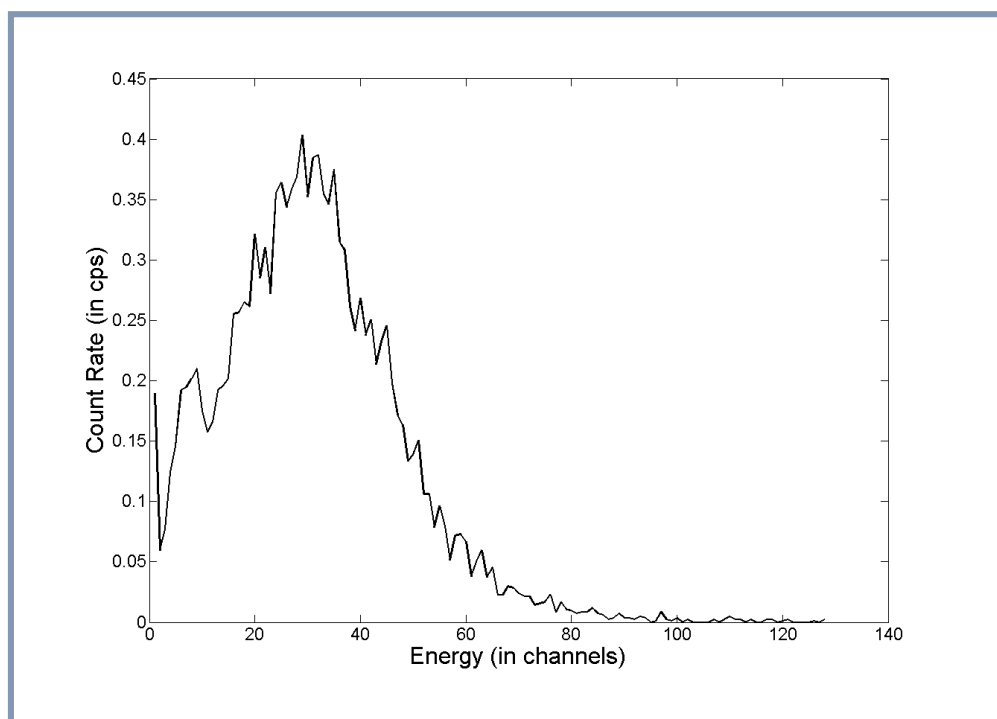


- In the test performed, data was send each hour and a each subperiod was of 5 minutes

# Applications – Continuous monitoring

## Applications: Continuous monitoring

### WATER-RADD: background

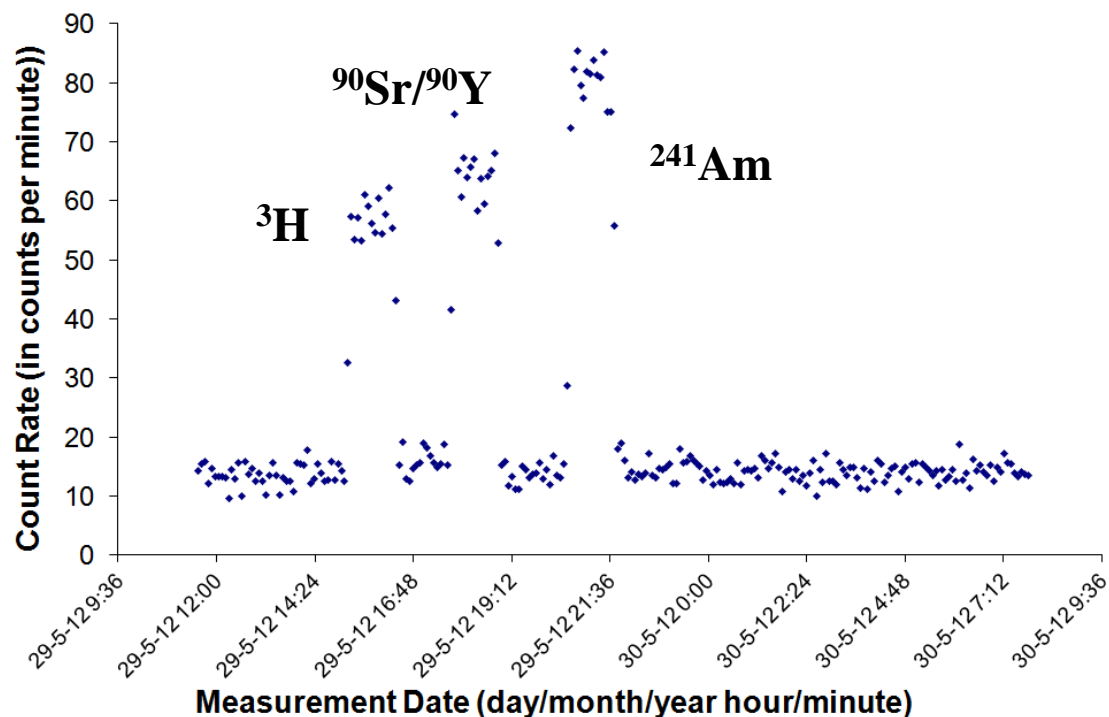


	Count rate (cpm)
1 <sup>st</sup> sequence (n=5)	$14.41 \pm 0.94$
2 <sup>on</sup> sequence (n=6)	$13.90 \pm 0.54$
3 <sup>th</sup> sequence (n=7)	$13.98 \pm 0.54$

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

## Calibration

- Background and  $^3\text{H}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  and  $^{241}\text{Am}$  standards was measured in each sequence.
- Three replicate sequences were measured
- Counting time: 60 min



### Background count rate (in cpm)

14.1(0.3)

	Efficiency (in %)	Detection Limit (1h)
$^3\text{H}$	0.38(0.08)	486 Bq/L
$^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$	142(6)	3.9 Bq/L
$^{241}\text{Am}$	58.1(0.2)	5.2 Bq/L

- 3 samples
- Counting time: 60 min
- Beta detection limit: 2.0 Bq/L
- Alfa detection limit: 2.1 Bq/L

Count rate (in cpm)

WA

Calibrations

1st

2nd

3rd

Samples

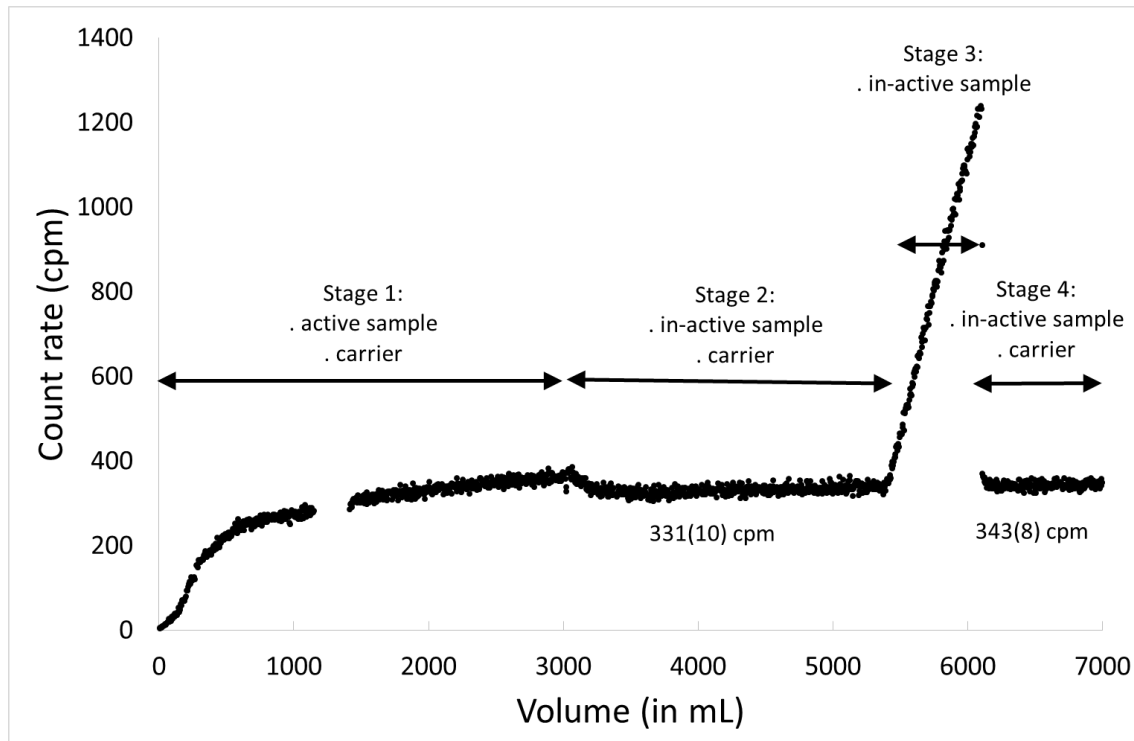
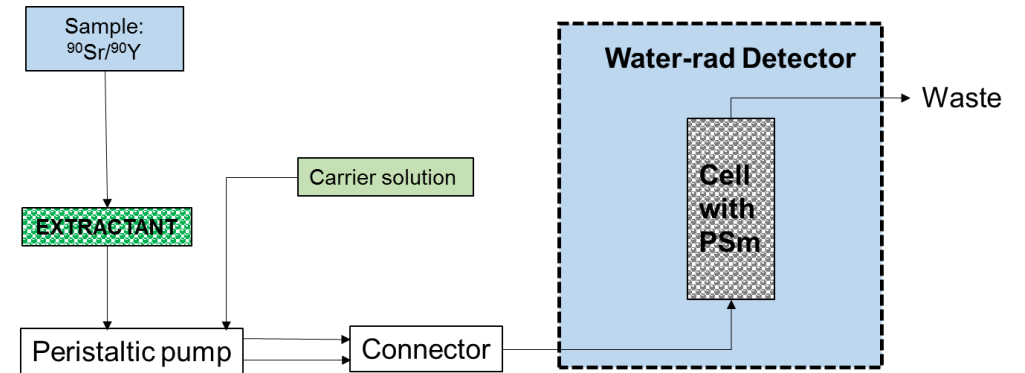
Background

water water water water water water water Background tritium beta std alpha std Background 1st sample Background 1st sample Background tritium beta std alpha std Background 1st sample 1st sample Background 1st sample 2nd sample Background tritium beta std alpha std Background 2nd sample 2nd sample 2nd sample Background 3rd sample 3rd sample Background water water water Background Background tritium beta std alpha std water water Background

# WATER-RADD (on-line continuous detector)

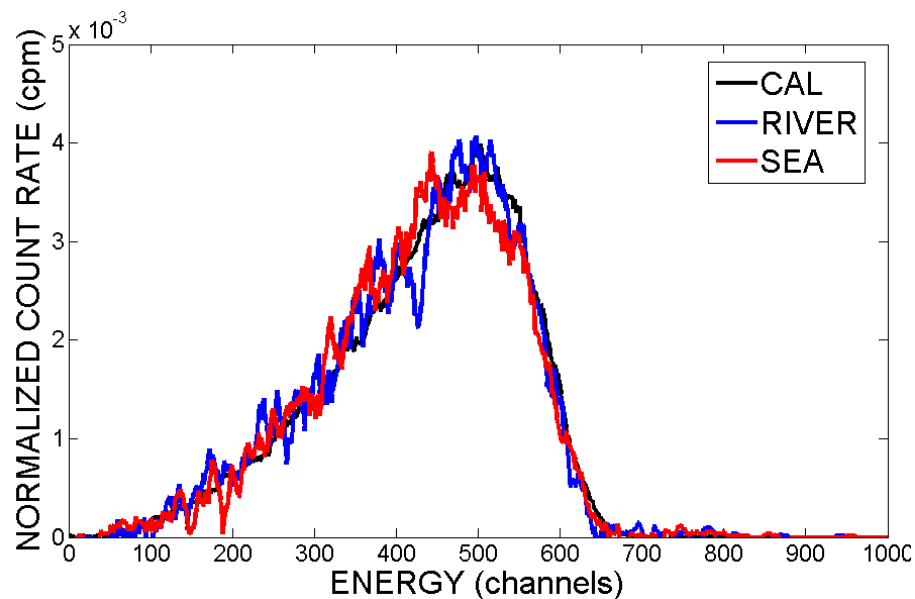
## Study of extractant performance

- $^{90}\text{Sr}/^{90}\text{Y}$  assay
- 150 hours experiment
- 4 different experimental set-up
- Counting time: 5 min



# MASS (Modular Automated Separation System)

## Automatic vs. Manual: Determination of $^{99}\text{Tc}$ in WATER samples



Limit of detection (Bq/L)	
10 mL and 180 min	0.7
500 mL and 180 min	0.014

- Automated and manual separation present equivalent performances
- Automated separation with MASS and PSresin can lead to a increase of analysis productivity