

Corrado TESTA

My fifty year experience in  
Extraction Chromatography

JOURNAL OF CHROMATOGRAPHY

CHROMATOGRAPHY OF SOME CATIONS BY MEANS  
OF PAPER TREATED WITH A LIQUID ANION EXCHANGER

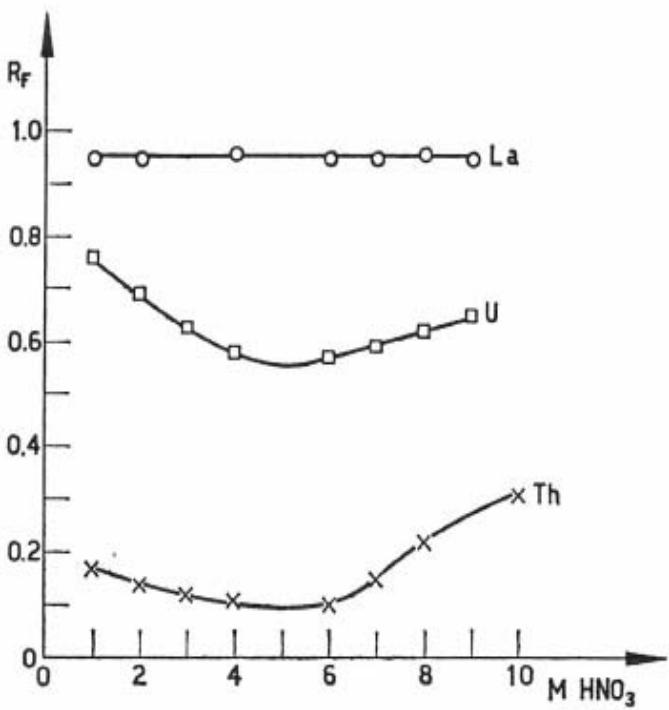
C. TESTA

*Laboratori C.I.S.E., Milan (Italy)*

(Received July 21st, 1960)

## SEPARATION OF $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ - $\text{Co}^{2+}$ - $\text{Ni}$ WITH 4 N HCl

| <i>Element</i>   | $E_a^\circ$ ( <i>from ref.</i> <sup>1</sup> ) | $R_F$ | <i>Developer</i>   |
|------------------|---|-------|--------------------|
| $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ | 1000  | 0     | KCNS               |
| $\text{Co}^{2+}$ | < 1   | 0.50  | 8-Hydroxyquinoline |
| Ni               | 0   | 0.97  | Dimethylglyoxime   |



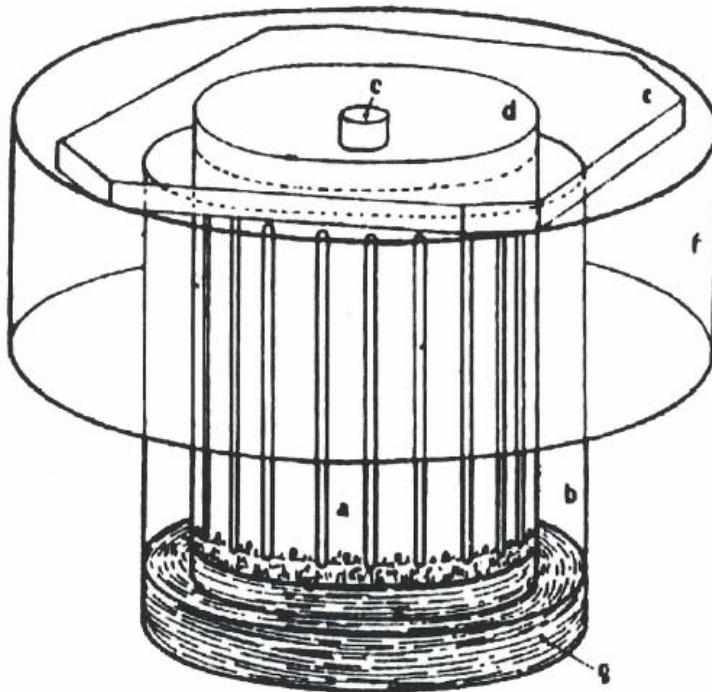
$R_F$  values on paper treated with 0.1  $M$  TNOA in benzene *vs.* molarity of  $HNO_3$  in the eluent.

THE USE OF PAPER TREATED WITH TRI-*n*-OCTYLPHOSPHINE  
OXIDE FOR  
THE CHROMATOGRAPHIC SEPARATION OF METAL IONS

E. CERRAI AND C. TESTA

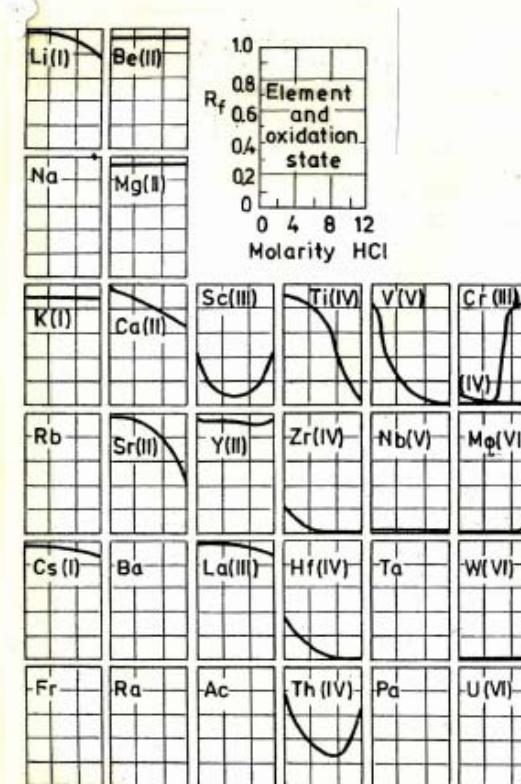
*Laboratori C.I.S.E., Milan (Italy)*

(Received February 27th, 1961)

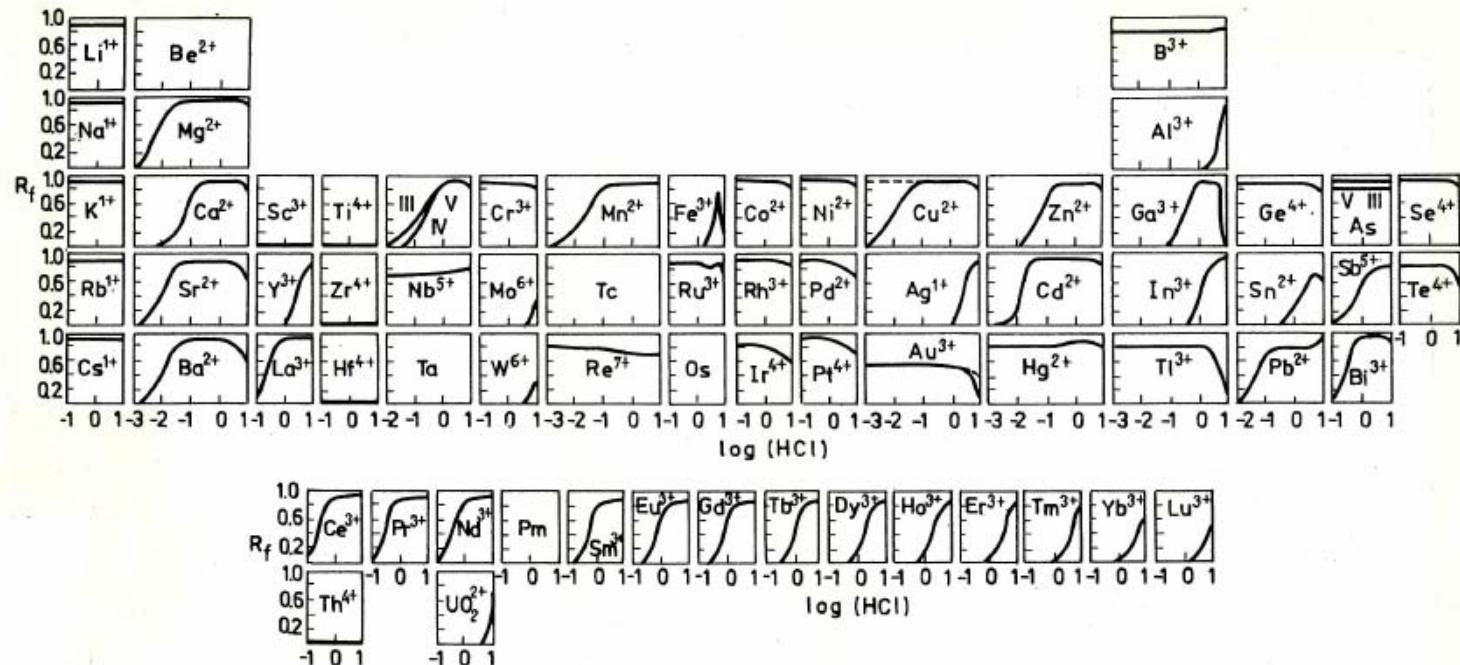


Apparatus for ascending chromatography. (a) Chromatographic paper CRL/1 type; (b) glass container; (c) perspex lid; (d) internal plate of the lid; (e) central hole; (f) glass crystallizing dish; (g) eluent solution.

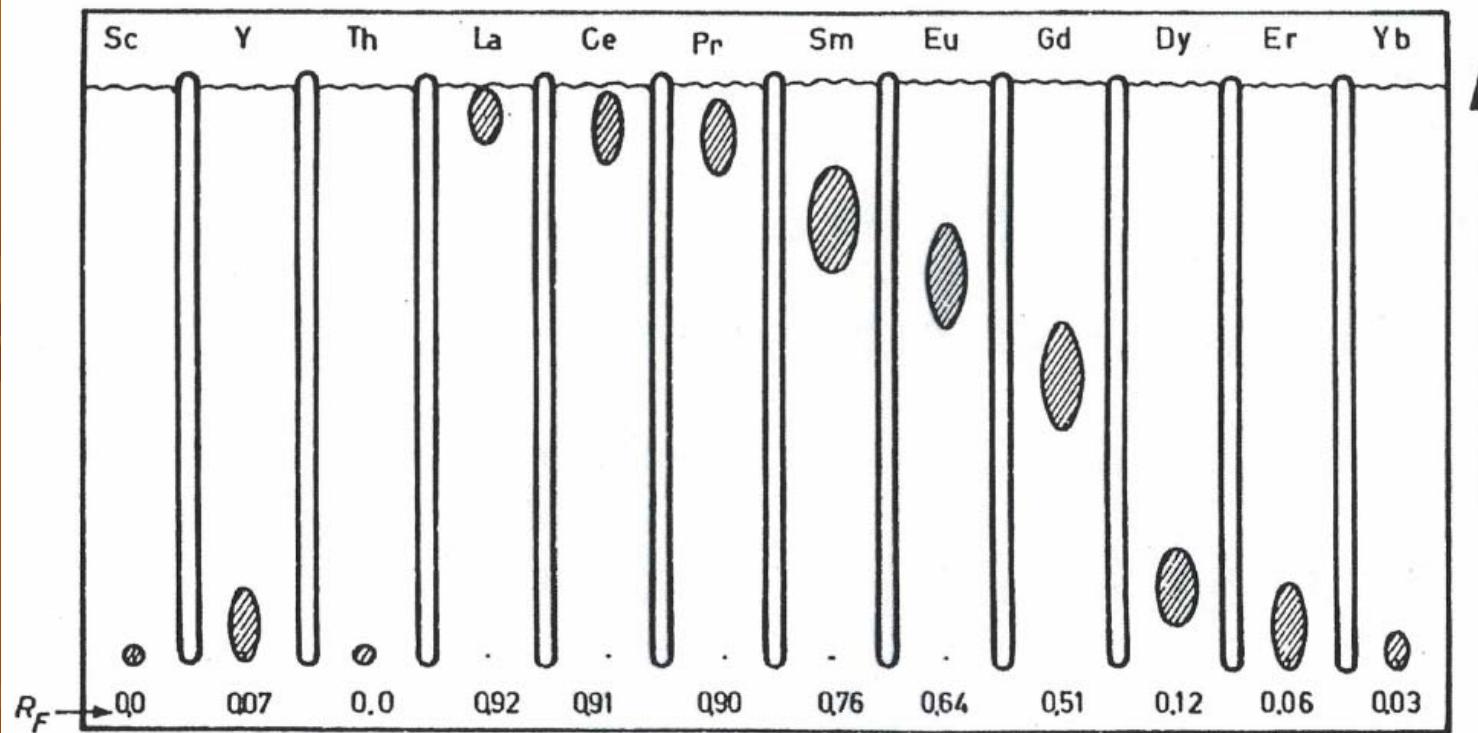
Cerrai, Testa, 1962



$R_f$  spectra of elements eluted with HCl on paper treated with TOPO (reprinted from Ref.[4], p. 115, by courtesy of Elsevier Publ. Co.)

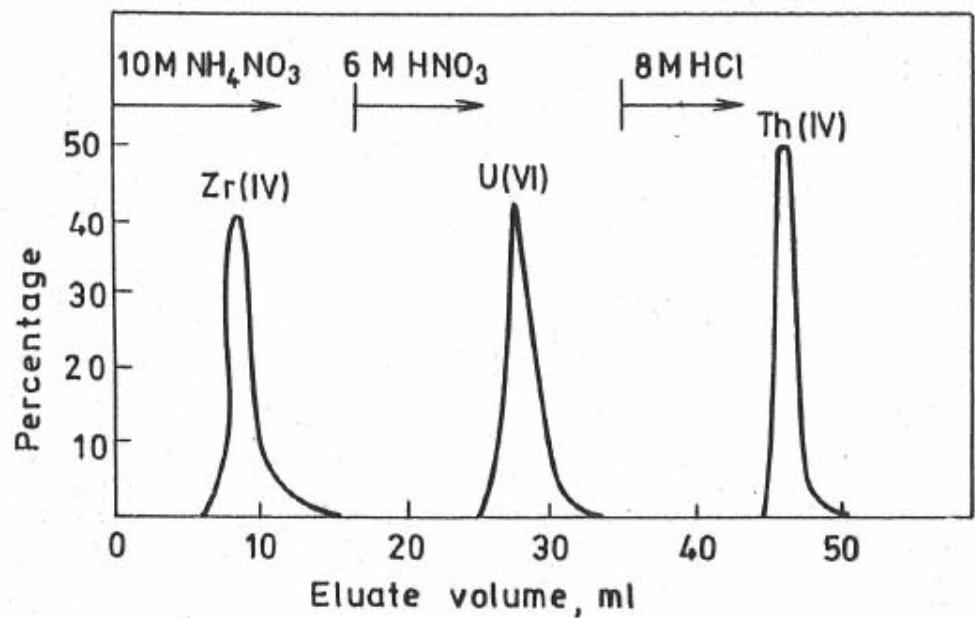


$R_f$  spectra of elements eluted with HCl on paper treated with HDEHP (reprinted from Ref.[3], p. 386–7, by courtesy of Elsevier Publ. Co.)



Example of ascending chromatogram on type CRL/1 paper with nine rare earths and three additional elements. Paper treated with 0.1 M HDEHP, elution with 1 M HCl.

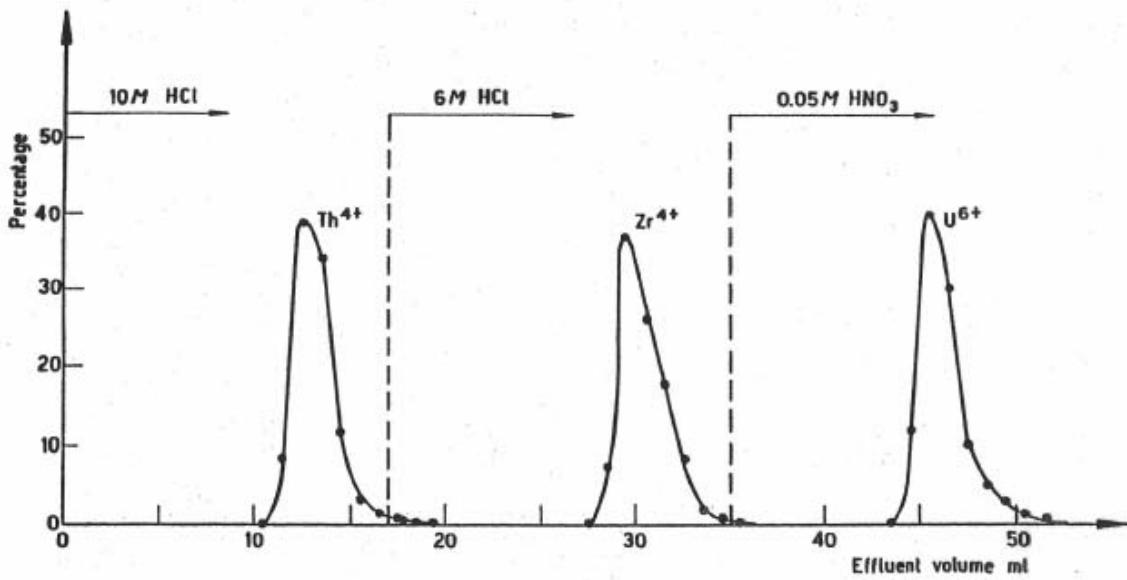
Cerrai, Testa, 1962



Separation of Zr (10 mg), U (5 mg) and Th (1 mg).

Column: TNOA-Cellulose (0.045 M), 10x150 mm; Flow rate:  $0.25 \text{ ml} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$  (from Ref.[65],  
by courtesy of the author)

Cerrai, Testa, 1961



Separation of Th (1 mg +  $^{234}\text{Th}$ ) – Zr (10 mg) – U (5 mg). Percentage of initial amount detected in the effluent *vs.* effluent volume. Bed: 15 cm × 1 cm<sup>2</sup>; elution rate 0.25 ml/min.cm<sup>2</sup>.

Cellulose powder - TMOA

Cerrai, Testa; 1961

## SUPPORTI INERTI MICROPOROSI

\* KEL-F                     $[-\text{CFCl}-\text{CF}_2-]^n$         policlorotrifluoretilene

ALGOFLON                   $[-\text{CF}_2-\text{CF}_2-]_n$         politetrafluoroetilene

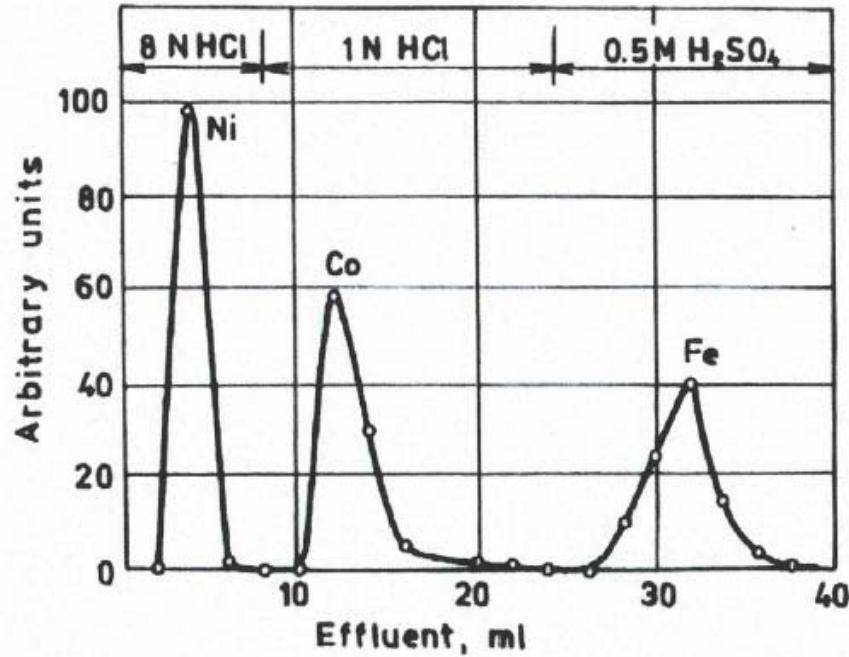
MOPLEN                     $\begin{matrix} \text{CH}_3 \\ | \\ [-\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-]_n \end{matrix}$         polipropilene

VIPLA, PVC                 $[-\text{CHCl}-\text{CH}_2-]_n$         polivinilcloruro

\* MICROTENE               $[-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-]_n$         polietilene

**MICROTHENE-710**

**50÷100 MESH A BASSA DENSITA'**



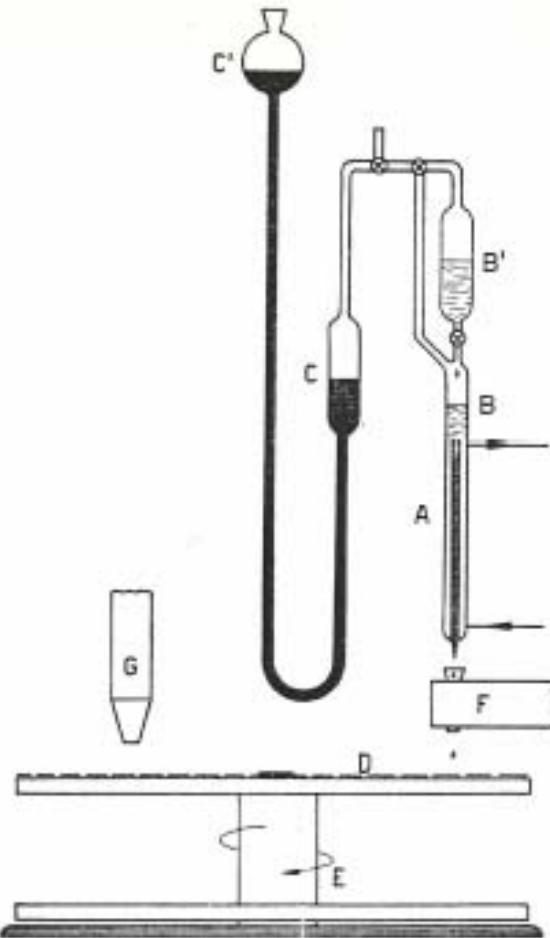
Separation of iron sub-group elements[25].

Kel-F, low density type, TOPO-HCl, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Flow rate : 0.5 ml·min<sup>-1</sup>; Column size :  $\phi = 8.6$  mm;  
Concentration : Ni = Co = Fe = 5 mg. (By courtesy of the authors)

E. Cerrai , C. Testa , 1962

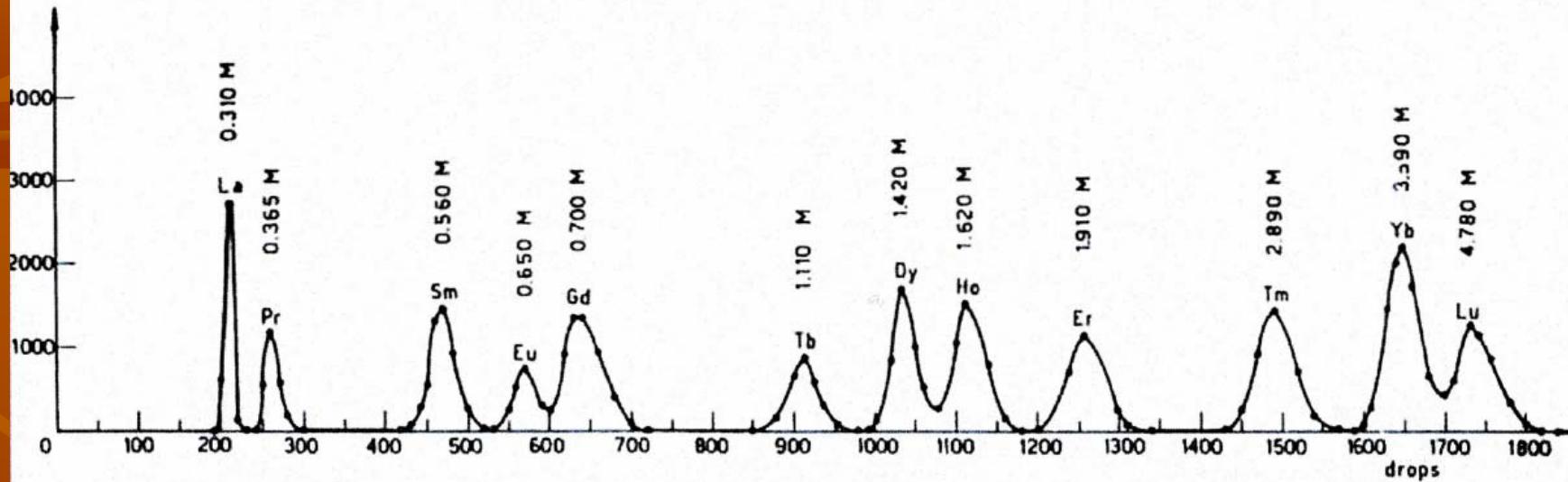
SEPARATION OF RARE EARTHS BY MEANS OF  
SMALL COLUMNS OF KEL-F SUPPORTING  
DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL)ORTHOPHOSPHORIC ACID

E. CERRAI and C. TESTA  
Laboratori CISE Segrate (Milano)\*



Diagrammatic sketch of the apparatus used for column separation of rare earth elements. *A*: jacketed column kept at a constant temperature; *B*: lower container of the gradient elution system; *B'*: higher container of the gradient elution system; *C* and *C'*: mercury containing bulbs; *D*: paper disk; *E*: rotating fraction collector; *F*: photocell device for elution control; *G*: warm air blower.

Kel-F - HDEHP Column,

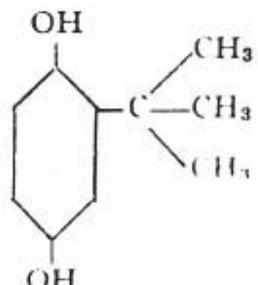


Separation of La-Pr-Sm-Eu-Gd-Tb-Dy-Ho-Er-Tm-Yb-Lu at  $85 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ . Feed solution: 0.04 ml of a solution containing the elements at a tracer level. Gradient elution with HCl; the molarity is quoted in the plot. Flow-rate 0.06 ml/min (4.8 drops/min).

Cerrai, Testa, 1963

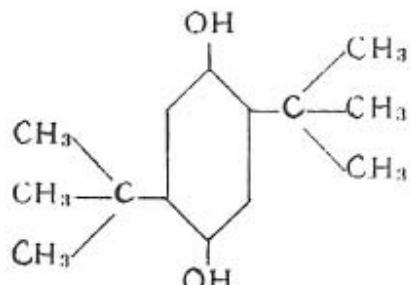
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS INVESTIGATED

Compound A



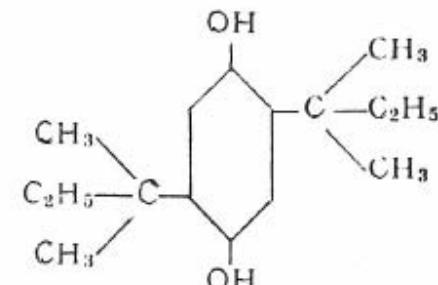
Tert.-butylhydroquinone  
(M.W. = 166)

Compound B



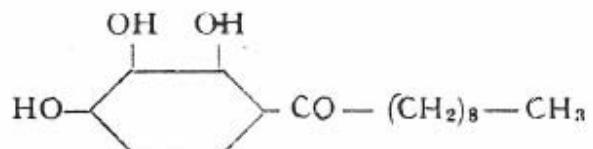
2,5-Di-tert.-butylhydroquinone  
(M.W. = 222)

Compound C



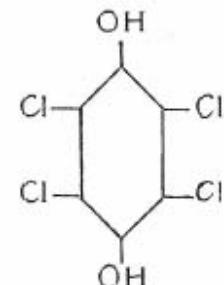
2,5-Di-tert.-amylhydroquinone  
(M.W. = 250)

Compound D

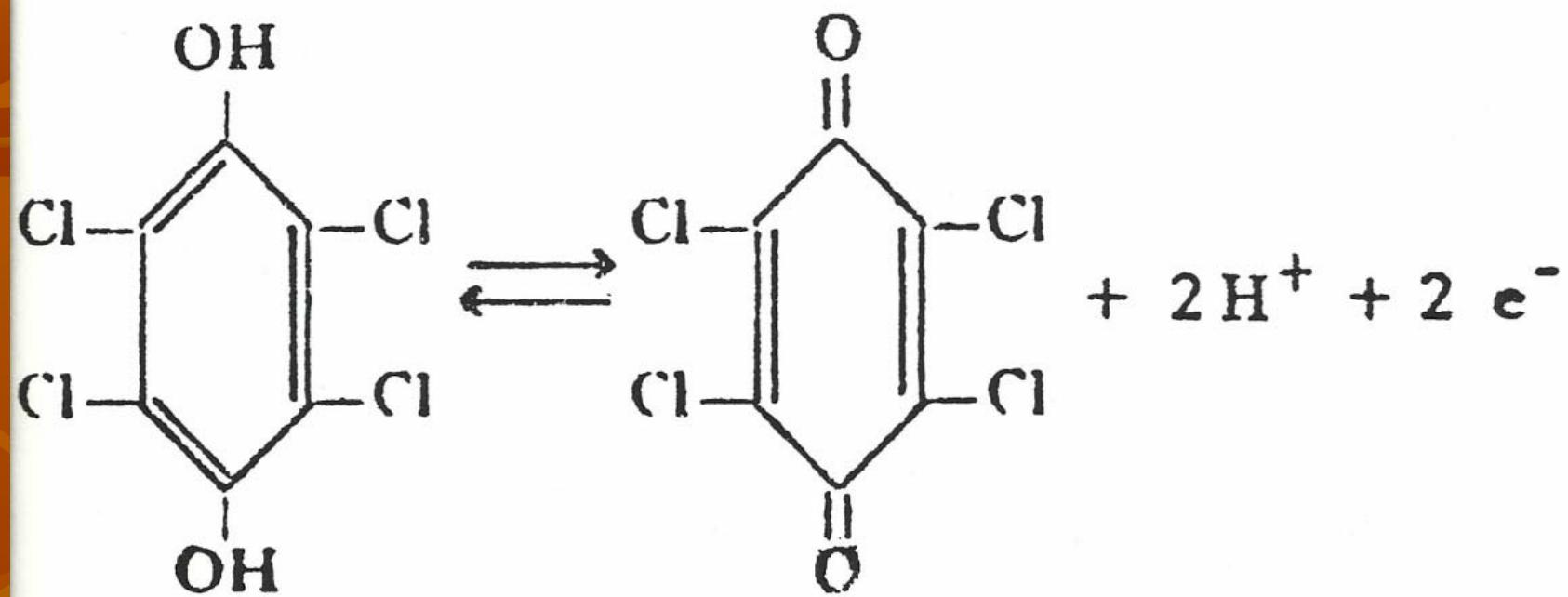


2,3,4-Trihydroxydecanophenone (M.W. = 280)

Compound E



Tetrachlorohydroquinone (M.W. = 248)



## REDOX REACTIONS OBTAINED WITH COLUMN I

| <i>Reduced form</i> |   |                               | <i>Oxidized form</i> |   |                               |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <i>Cycle</i>        | <i>Reaction</i>                             | <i>Bed capacity<br/>(meq)</i> | <i>Cycle</i>         | <i>Reaction</i>                             | <i>Bed capacity<br/>(meq)</i> |
| 1                   | $\text{Fe}^{3+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}$ | 9.80 <sup>a</sup>             | 2                    | $\text{I}^- \rightarrow \text{I}$           | 9.60 <sup>b</sup>             |
| 3                   | $\text{I} \rightarrow \text{I}^-$           | 10.96                         | 4                    | $\text{Sn}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Sn}^{4+}$ | 10.70                         |
| 5                   | $\text{V}^{5+} \rightarrow \text{V}^{4+}$   | —                             | 6                    | $\text{Sn}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Sn}^{4+}$ | —                             |
| 7                   | $\text{Ce}^{4+} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{3+}$ | 10.80                         | 8                    | $\text{Cu}^+ \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{2+}$    | 12.00 <sup>c</sup>            |
| 9                   | $\text{Fe}^{3+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}$ | —                             | 10                   | Ascorbic ac. $\rightarrow$ dehydroasc. ac.  | 10.90                         |
| 11                  | $\text{I} \rightarrow \text{I}^-$           | 10.70                         | 12                   | $\text{I}^- \rightarrow \text{I}$           | 10.50                         |
| 13                  | $\text{Ce}^{4+} \rightarrow \text{Ce}^{3+}$ | 11.00                         |                      |   |                               |

<sup>a</sup> Incomplete saturation of the bed.<sup>b</sup> The previous oxidation was incomplete.<sup>c</sup>  $\text{Cu}^+$  partially oxidized to  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  by atmospheric oxygen.

# ELECTRON-EXCHANGE PROCESSES ON SIMPLE COLUMNS OF KEL-F SUPPORTING TETRACHLOROHYDROQUINONE

E. CERRAI AND C. TESTA

*Laboratori CISE - Segrate, Milano (Italy)\**

(Received September 1st, 1962)

# THE APPLICATION OF COLUMN REDOX-EXTRACTION CHROMATOGRAPHY TO THE SEPARATION OF SOME ACTINIDE ELEMENTS

A. DELLE SITE and C. TESTA

*Radiotoxicological Laboratory, Medical Service, CSN-CASACCIA, CNEN, Rome (Italy)*

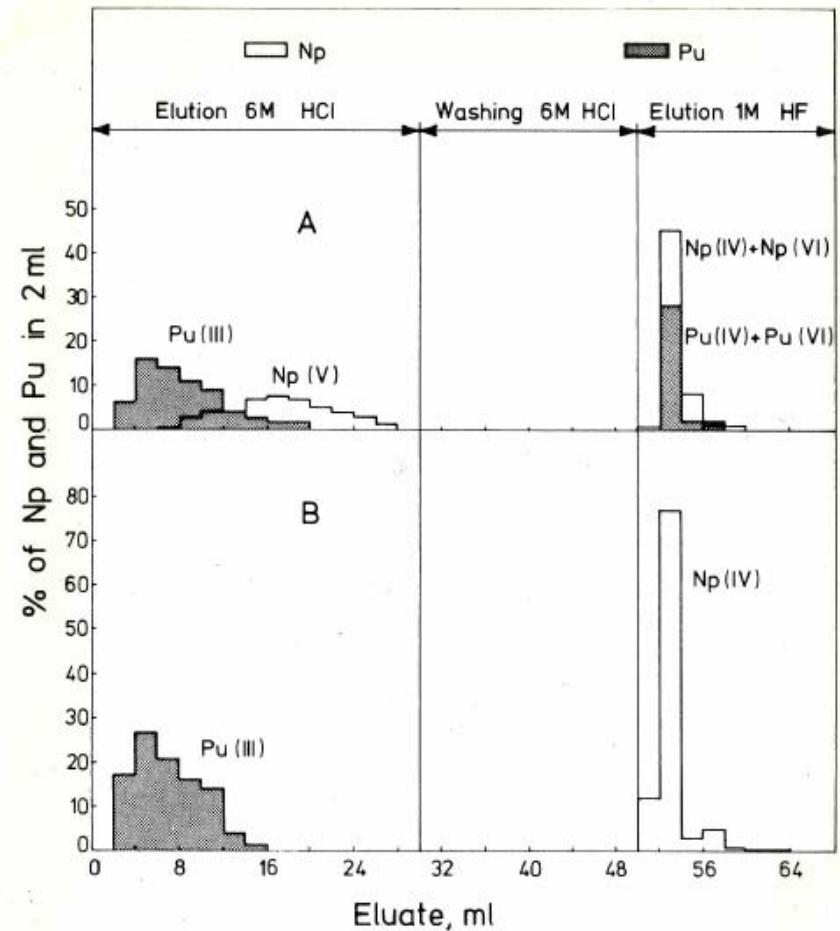


Fig. 2. Separation of neptunium and plutonium in 6 M HCl. (A) Microthene-TOPO column; (B) Microthene-TOPO-DPHQ column.

# **USE OF EXTRACTION CHROMATOGRAPHY IN RADIOTOXICOLOGY**

**C. TESTA**

Determinations of radionuclides in urine by means of extraction chromatography techniques

| Radio-nuclide <sup>a</sup> | Pretreat-ment <sup>b</sup> | HNO <sub>3</sub><br>Molarity<br>in<br>urine | Inert<br>support <sup>c</sup> | Stationary<br>phase <sup>d</sup> | Chroma-tog.<br>pro-<br>cedure <sup>e</sup> | Eluting agent                            | Final<br>reco-v-<br>ery, % | Sensitivity limit | Detec-tion<br>system <sup>f</sup> | Time,<br>hrs. | Ref. |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|
| Th                         | W.M.                       | 4.0 M                                       | K.                            | 0.1 M TOPO                       | C.C.                                       | 0.5 M HCl                                | 97.5                       | 1 µg/l            | Col.                              | 8             | [9]  |
|                            | W.M.                       | 4.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.5 M TOPO                       | B.E.                                       | 0.3 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>     | 98.2                       | 0.2 µg/l          | Col.                              | 4             | [17] |
| U                          | W.M.                       | 7.5 M                                       | K.                            | conc. TBP                        | C.C.                                       | Water                                    | 91.1                       | 2 dpm/l           | ZnS                               | 4             | [12] |
|                            | W.M.                       | 4.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.5 M TOPO                       | B.E.                                       | 1 M HF                                   | 70.0                       | 1 dpm/l           | ZnS                               | 4             | [17] |
| Pu                         | P.P.                       | 2.0 M                                       | K.                            | 1 M TNOA                         | C.C.                                       | conc. H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub>     | 90.5                       | 0.04 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 16            | [14] |
|                            | W.M.                       | 4.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.3 M TOPO                       | B.E.                                       | 6 M HCl·0.01 M HI                        | 70.5                       | 0.07 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 8             | [25] |
|                            | W.M.                       | 2.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.3 M TOPO                       | B.E.                                       | 6 M HCl·0.1 M HI                         | 76.5                       | 0.10 pCi/l        | ZnS                               | 4             | [20] |
|                            | P.O.                       | 2.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.3 M HX70                       | C.C.                                       | 2 M HNO <sub>3</sub> ·0.15% hydroquinone | 73.5                       | 0.08 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 16            | [29] |
| Np                         | W.M.                       | 6.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.1 M TOPO                       | E.E.                                       | 6 M HCl · Cl <sub>2</sub>                | 83.2                       | 0.05 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 8             | [26] |
|                            | P.P.                       | 2.0 M                                       | M.                            | 0.3 M HX70                       | C.C.                                       | 0.1 M oxalic acid                        | 82.3                       | 0.04 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 16            | [29] |
| Am (Cm)                    | W.M.                       | 0.001 M                                     | M.                            | 1.5 M HDEHP                      | B.E.                                       | 3 M HNO <sub>3</sub>                     | 85.9                       | 0.05 pCi/l        | SSD                               | 8             | [33] |
| Y                          | W.M.                       | 0.3 M                                       | M.                            | 1.5 M HDEHP                      | B.E.                                       | 6 M HCl                                  | 92.0                       | 5 pCi/l           | β                                 | 4             | [35] |

<sup>a</sup>Th = Natural thorium; U = enriched uranium; Pu = <sup>239</sup>Pu, <sup>240</sup>Pu; Np = <sup>237</sup>Np; Am = <sup>241</sup>Am; Y = <sup>90</sup>Y, for the determination of <sup>90</sup>Sr

<sup>b</sup>W.M. = Wet mineralization; P.P. = Phosphates precipitation

<sup>c</sup>K. = Kel-F; M. = Microthene-710

<sup>d</sup>TOPO = Tri-n-octylphosphine oxide; TBP = Tri-n-butylphosphate; TNOA = Tri-n-octylamine; HX70 = Neo-tridecanohydroxamic acid; HDEHP = Di(2-ethylhexyl) phosphoric acid

<sup>e</sup>C.C. = Column chromatography; B. E. = Batch extraction

<sup>f</sup>Col. = Colorimetry; ZnS = Alpha counting with a ZnS(Ag) detector; SSD = Alpha counting with a solid state detector after electroplating;

β = low background beta counting

**Mineralizzazione del campione (1-1,5 L)  
con  $\text{HNO}_3$  e  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$**



**Precipitazione dell'Uranio  
con  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$**



**Separazione dell'Uranio su colonna cromatografica  
(polietilene microporoso + tri-ottifosfina ossido)**



**Preparazione della sorgente alfa per  
elettrodeposizione**



**Conteggio mediante rivelatore al  
silicio a barriera superficiale**

# **Extraction Chromatography in Radioecology**

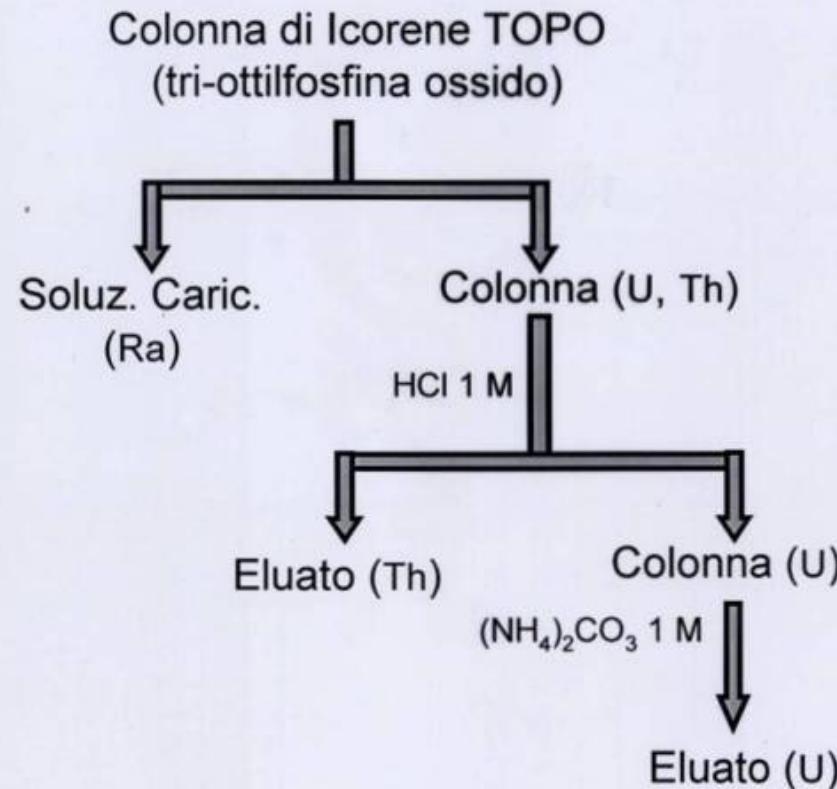
C. Testa, D. Desideri, M.A. Meli, C. Roselli

Institute of General Chemistry  
University of Urbino, Italy

Rad. & Rad.  
1991

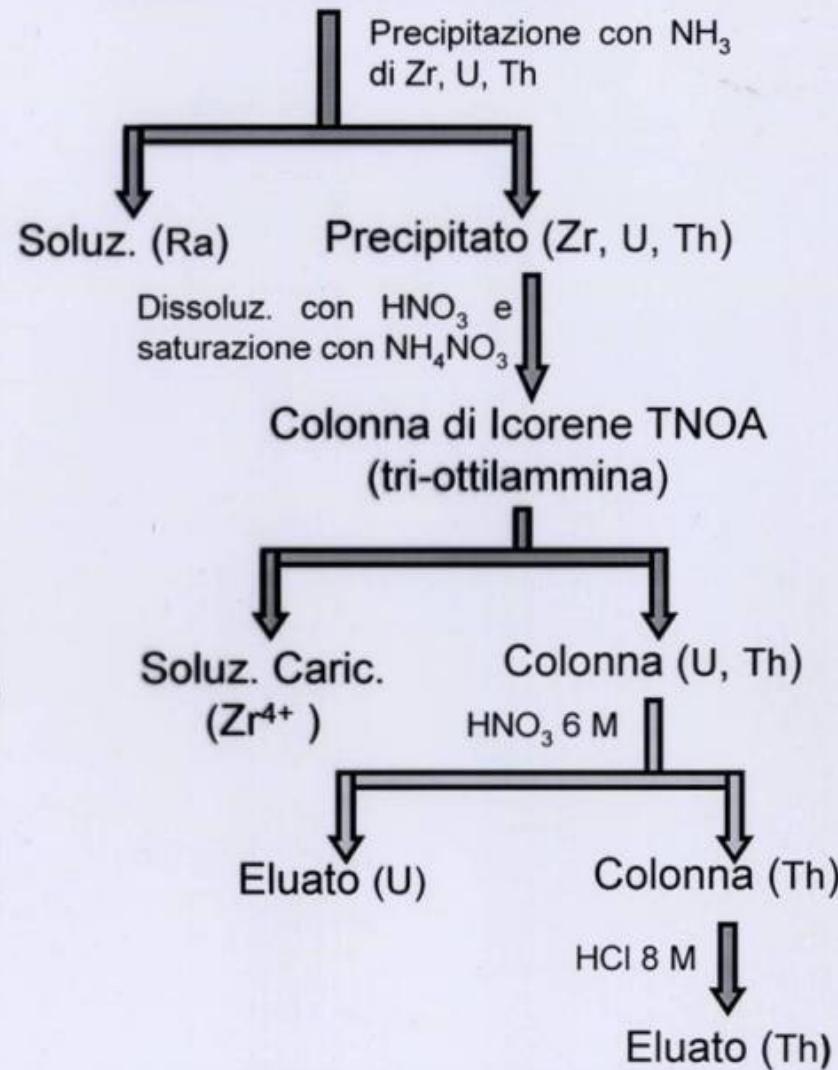
## Fosforiti

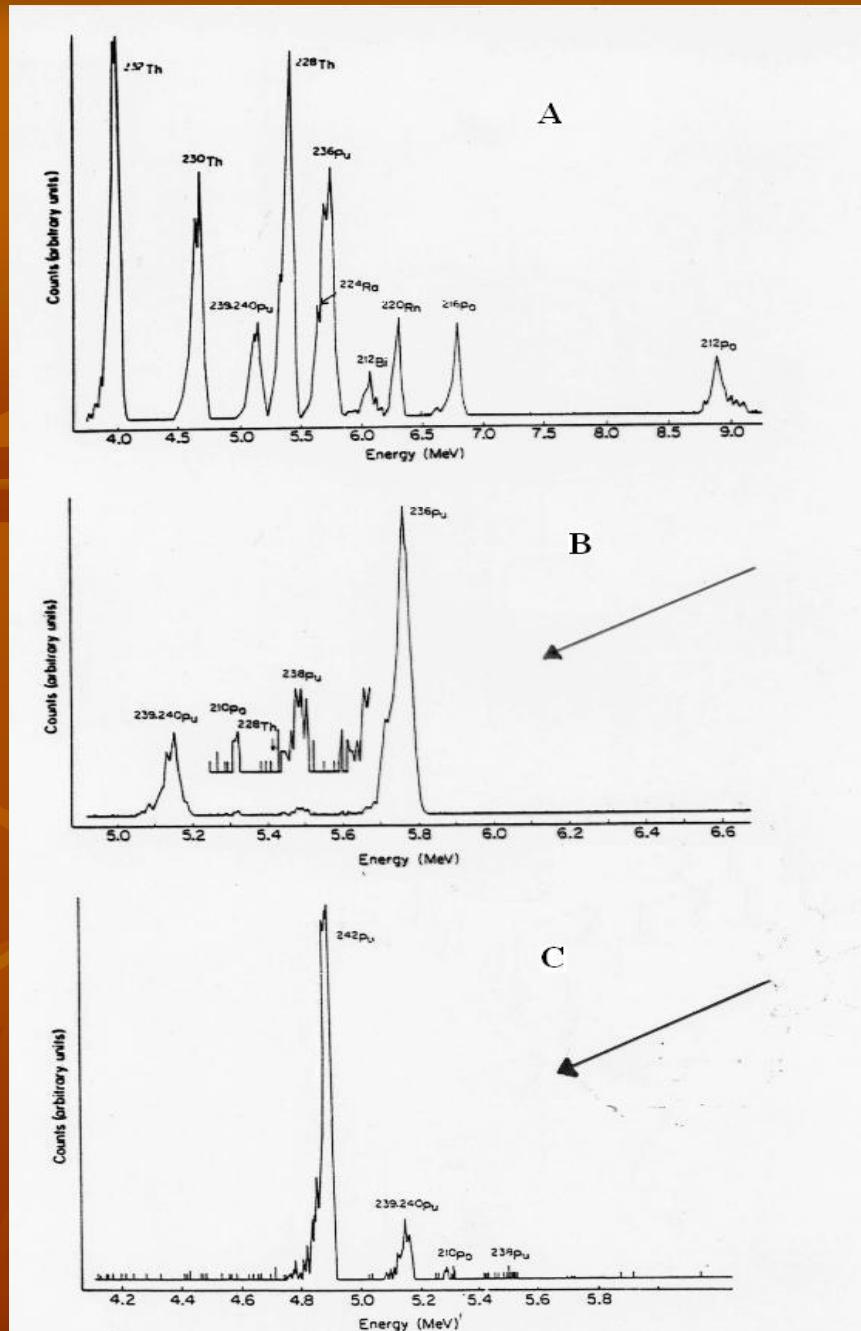
Soluz. di  $\text{HNO}_3$  2 M (U, Th, Ra) +  
standards interni di resa



## Sabbie zirconifere

Soluz. di  $\text{HNO}_3$  2 M (U, Th, Ra) +  
standards interni di resa





## The $\alpha$ -spectra of

- (A) a sediment sample after one extraction step with TOPO;
- (B) sediment sample after double extraction with TOPO;
- (C) a marine organism sample (*Merluccius merluccius*) after double extraction with TOPO.

# **CONCENTRATION AND SPECIATION OF PLUTONIUM, AMERICIUM, URANIUM, THORIUM, POTASSIUM AND Cs-137 IN A VENICE CANAL SEDIMENT SAMPLE**

**C. Testa, D. Desideri, F. Guerra, M.A. Meli, C. Roselli**

*Institute of General Chemistry, Urbino University, Urbino, Italy*

**S. Degetto**

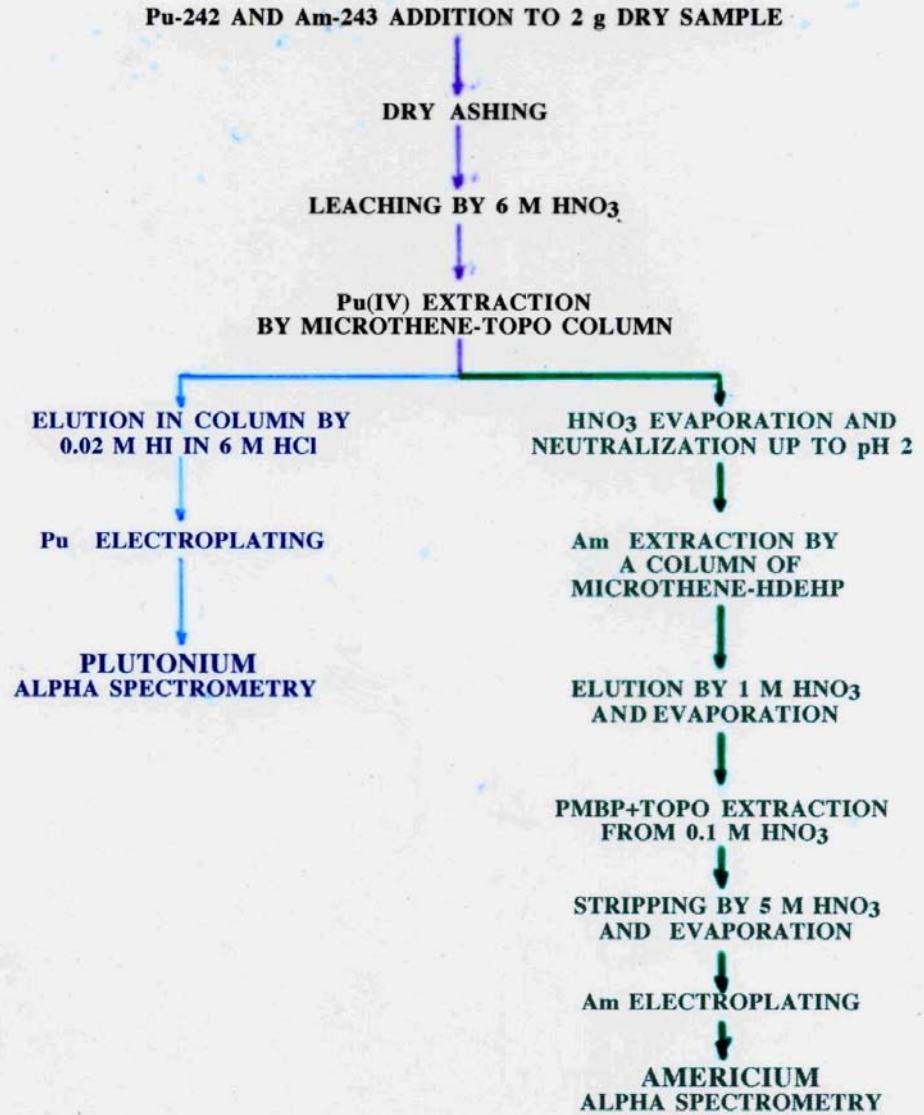
*ICTIMA-CNR, Padua, Italy*

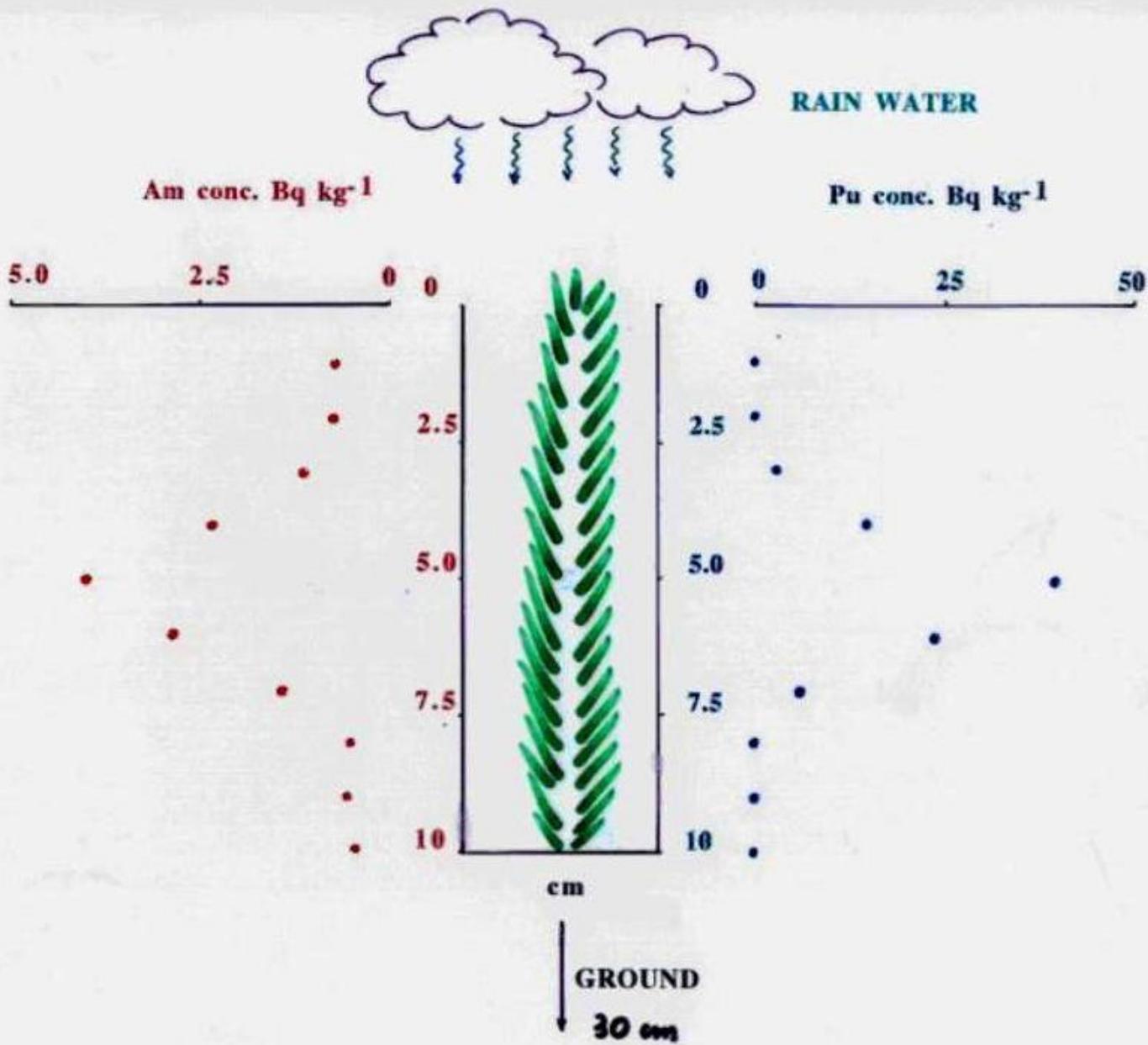
**VERTICAL PROFILES OF Pu-239 (240), Pu-238,  
AND Am-241 IN SOME PECULIAR ITALIAN  
MOSSES**

*C. Testa<sup>1</sup>, G. Jia<sup>2</sup>, S. Degetto<sup>3</sup>, D. Desideri<sup>1</sup>, E. Guerra<sup>1</sup>,  
M.A. Meli<sup>1</sup>, C. Roselli<sup>1</sup>.*

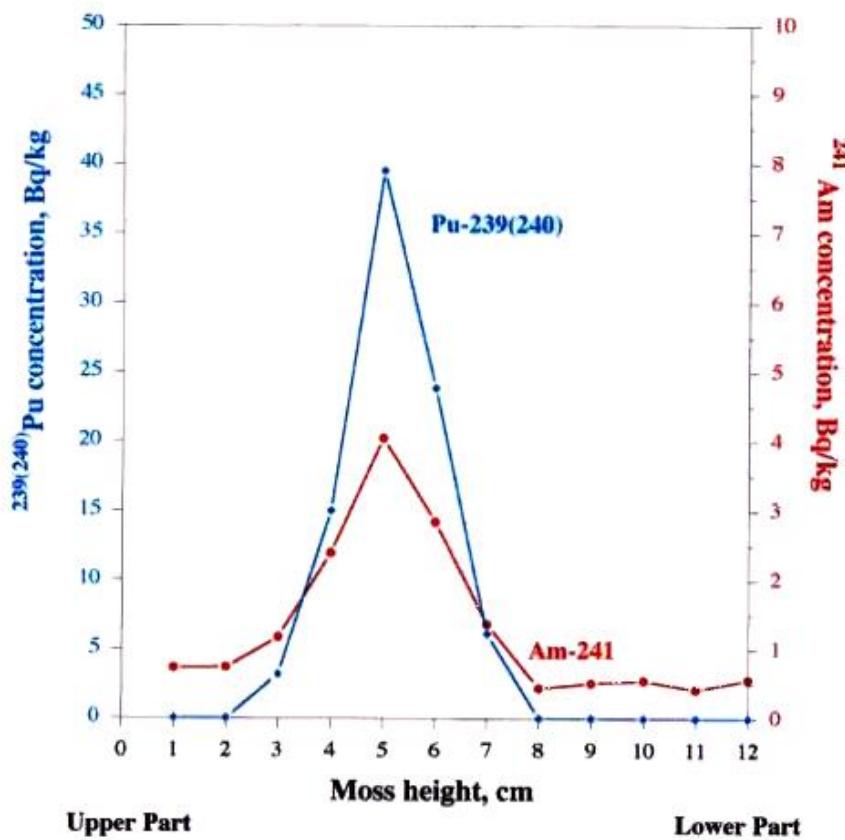
- 1. Urbino University, Italy*
- 2. Institute of Atomic Energy, Beijing, P. R. of China*
- 3. CNR - ICTIMA, Padua, Italy*

RADIOANALYTICAL METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF PLUTONIUM AND AMERICIUM IN MOSSES AND LICHENS

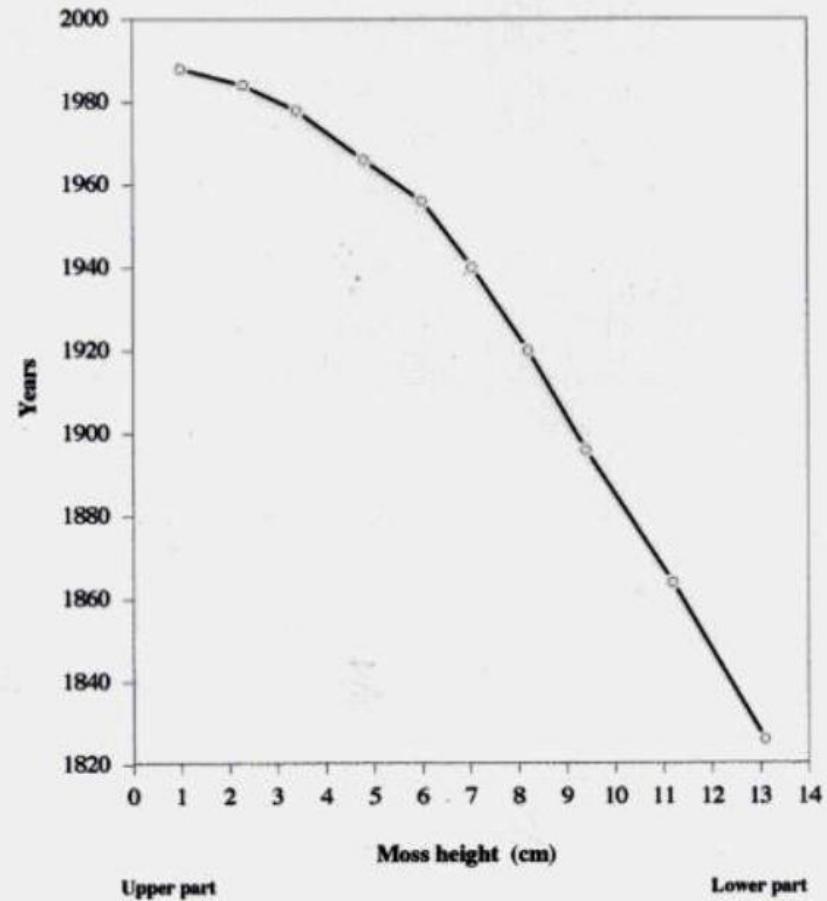




Vertical distribution of  $^{239}(240)\text{Pu}$  and  $^{241}\text{Am}$  in a  
terrestrial moss core (*Sphagnum Compactum*) drawn  
on the Alps (Northern Italy)



**SPHAGNUM COMPACTUM SECTIONS DATATION BY THE Pb-210 METHOD**



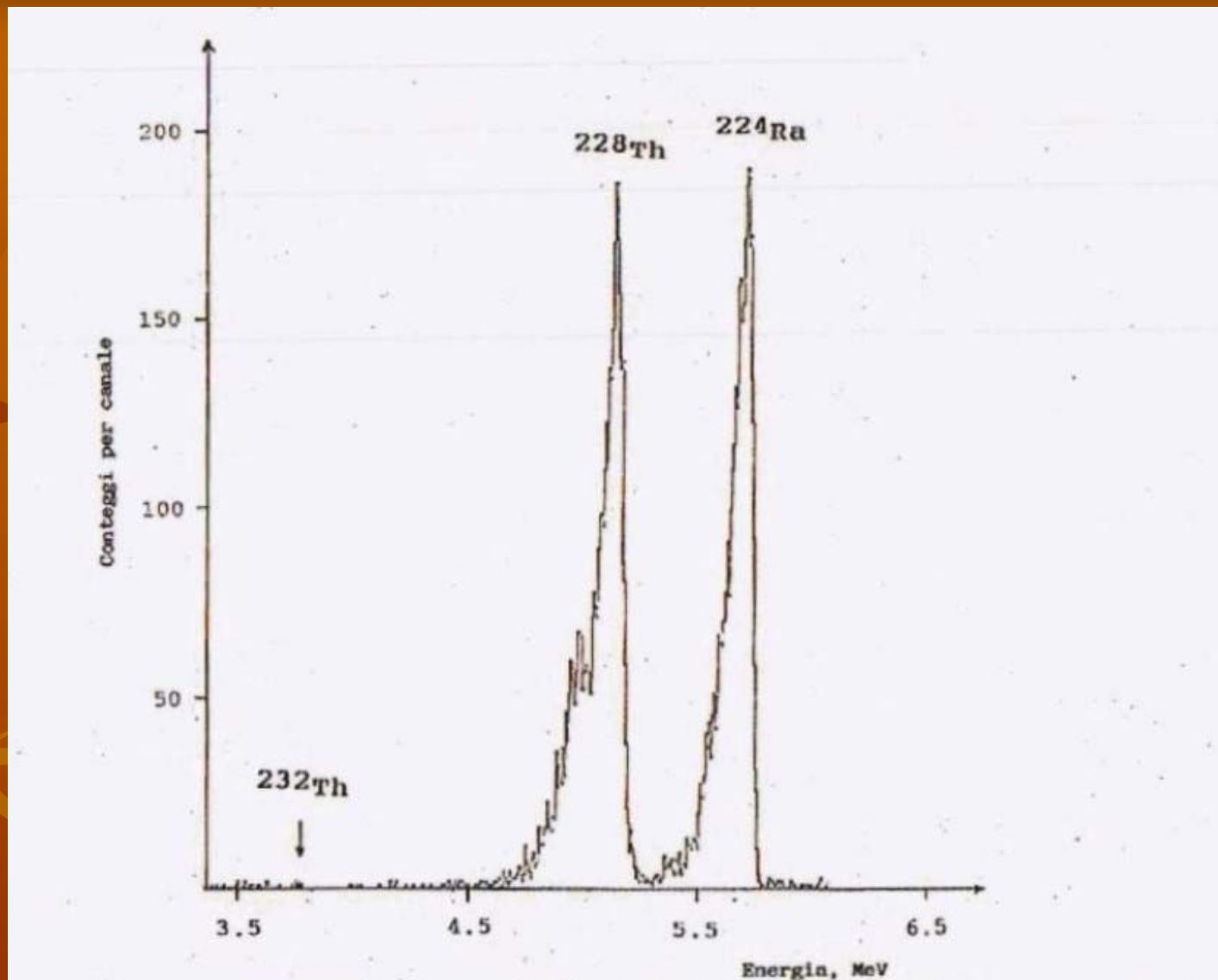
**EXTRACTION CHROMATOGRAPHY FOR THE  
DETERMINATION OF NATURAL  
RADIONUCLIDES IN SOME MATRIXES  
CONNECTED WITH HYDROCARBONS  
EXPLOITATION.**

**C. Testa, D. Desideri, F. Guerra, M. A. Meli,  
C. Roselli**

*General Chemistry Institute, University of Urbino (Italy)*

- TYPICAL L.S.A. SCALE FORMATION





Spettro alfa del Torio isolato da un'incrostazione proveniente da un impianto di estrazione di idrocarburi sito in Tunisia; si noti l'enorme disequilibrio tra il  $^{232}\text{Th}$  e il  $^{228}\text{Th}$

Corrado Testa  
Centro di Radiochimica Applicata  
Università di Urbino "Carlo Bo"

# **L'IMPORTANZA DELLA RADIOCHIMICA IN CAMPO AMBIENTALE E PER LA CARATTERIZZAZIONE RADIOLOGICA DI MATERIALI PROVENIENTI DA CENTRALI NUCLEARI IN DECOMMISSIONING**

Convegno: "Il Sistema T.E.R.N.I. Research."  
Workshop: "Progetti di ricerca applicata sulle radiazioni ionizzanti"

Narni, 10 Giugno 2005

$^{239(240)}\text{Pu}$ ,  $^{238}\text{Pu}$ ,  $^{241}\text{Pu}$

$^{241}\text{Am}$ ,  $^{242}\text{Cm}$ ,  $^{244}\text{Cm}$

Aggiunta dello standard di resa  $^{242}\text{Pu}$  e  
stabilizzazione stato di ossidazione (IV)

Estrazione cromatografica  
con scambiatore anionico in  
ambiente nitrico

Conteggio per  
Scintillazione Liquida  
 $^{241}\text{Pu}$

Elettrodepositioe e  
conteggio per  
spettrometria alfa  
 $^{239(240)}$ ,  $^{238}\text{Pu}$

Aggiunta dello standard di resa  $^{243}\text{Am}$  e  
precipitazione degli ossalati

Estrazione cromatografica del Fe  
con scambiatore anionico in  
ambiente cloridrico

Estrazione cromatografica di Am e Cm  
con scambiatore cationico a pH 2,5

Elettrodepositioe e  
conteggio per  
spettrometria alfa  
 $^{241}\text{Am}$ ,  $^{242}\text{Cm}$ ,  $^{244}\text{Cm}$

$^{59}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{55}\text{Fe}$

Aggiunta di Ni e Fe stabili come standards di resa e AAS

Estrazione cromatografica con scambiatore anionico in ambiente cloridrico

Colonna (Fe)

Precipitazione come idrossido e dissoluzione

Controllo resa chimica del Fe per AAS

Preparazione sorgente e conteggio X del  $^{55}\text{Fe}$

Soluzioni di caricamento e lavaggio (Ni)

Precipitazione con dimetigliossima e dissoluzione

Controllo resa chimica del Ni per AAS

Scintillazione Liquida  
 $^{59}\text{Ni}$  e  $^{63}\text{Ni}$

$^{90}\text{Sr}$

Aggiunta di Y stabile come standard di resa e precipitazione degli ossalati

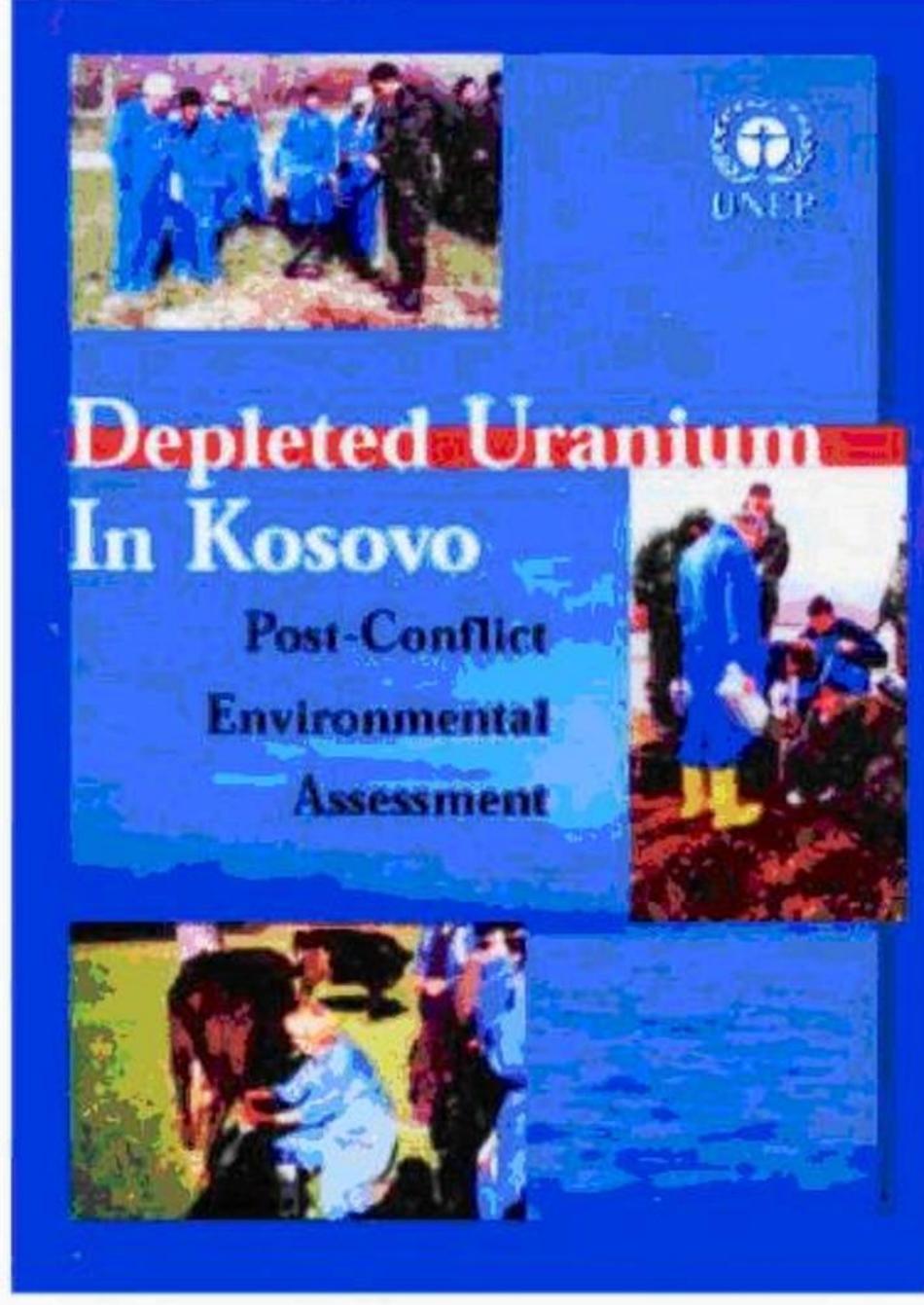
Estrazione cromatografica del Fe con scambiatore anionico in ambiente cloridrico

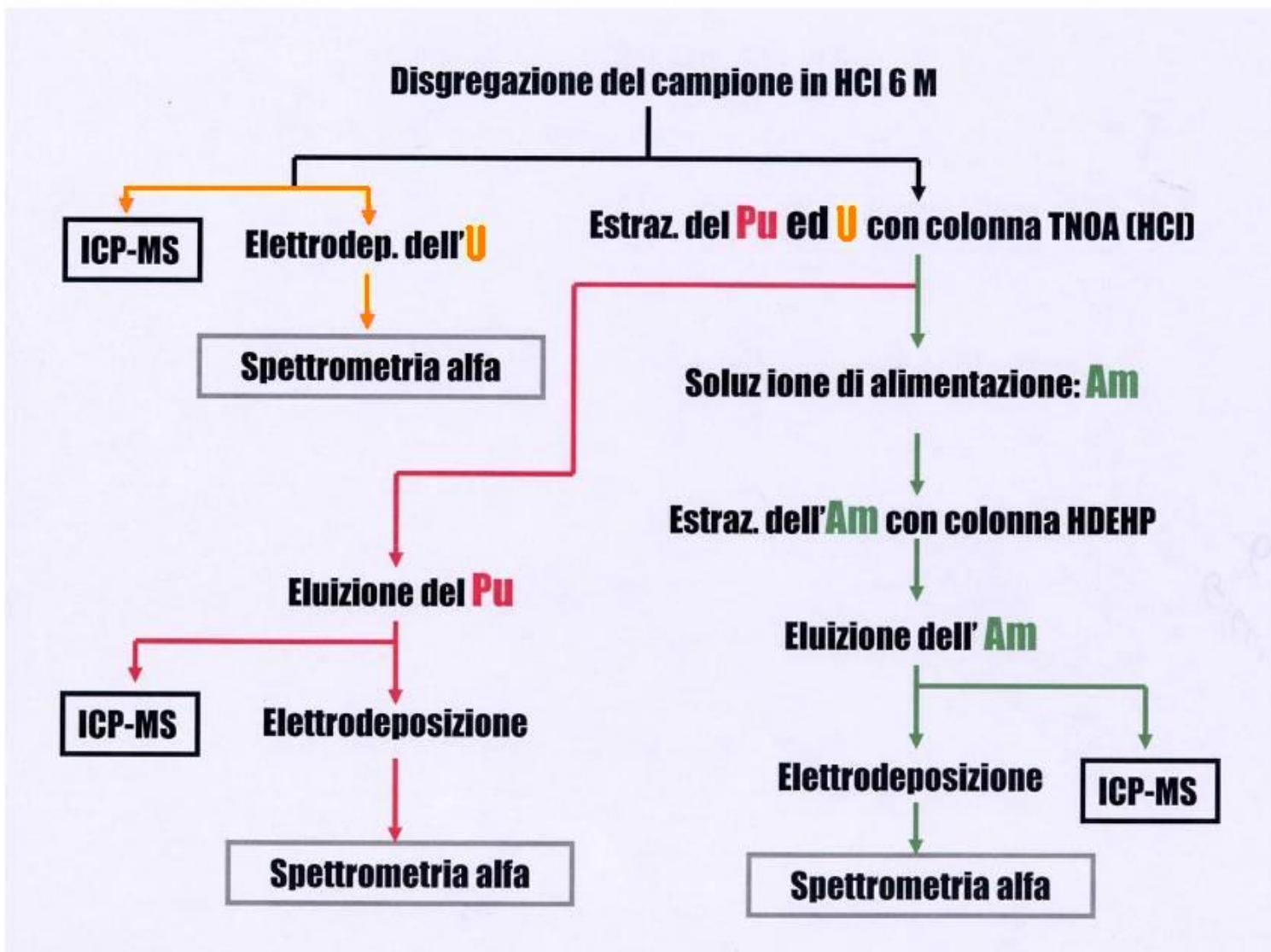
Estrazione cromatografica dell'Y con scambiatore cationico a pH 1

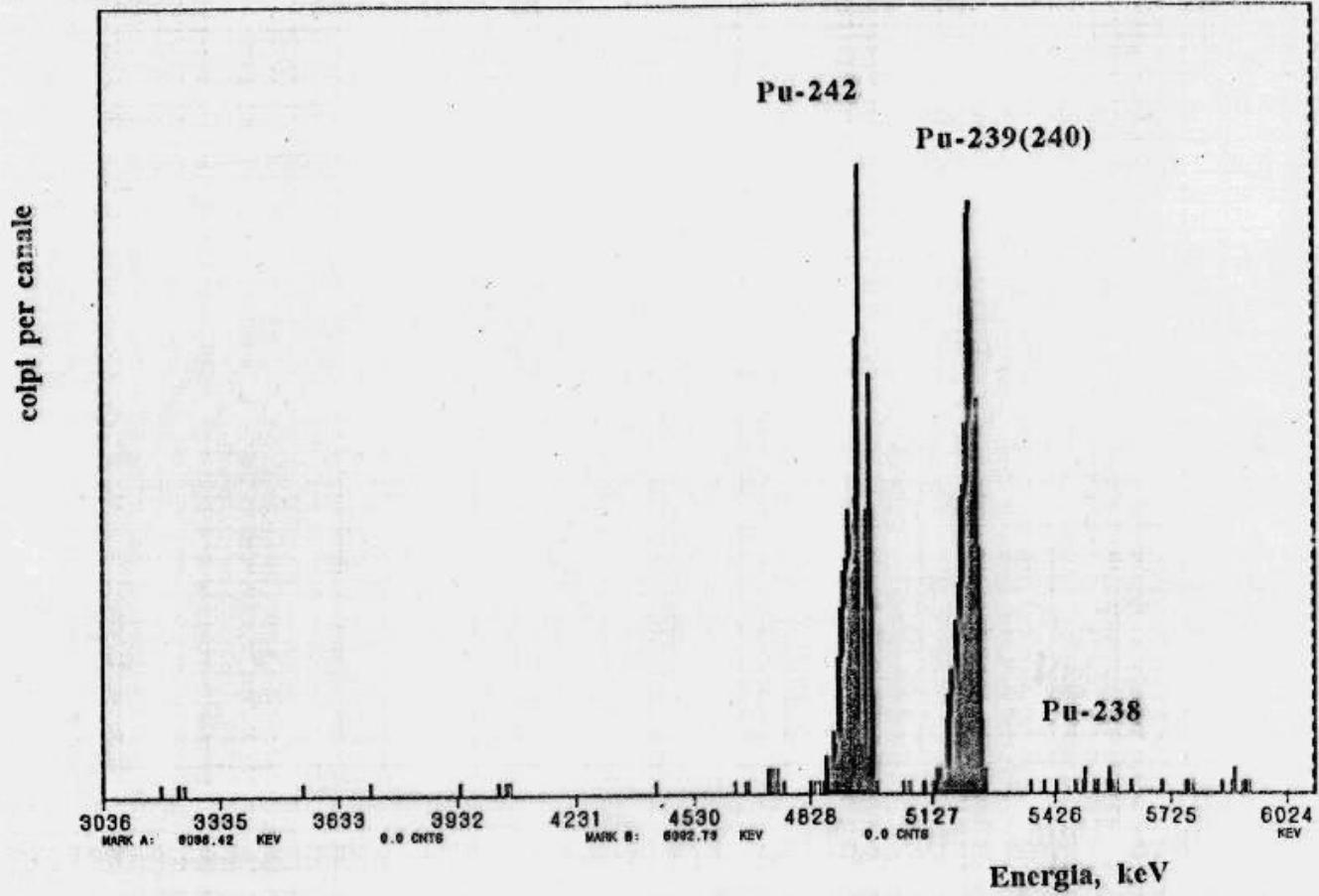
Precipitazione dell'Y come ossalato

Conteggio  $\beta$  basso fondo dell'  $^{90}\text{Y}$

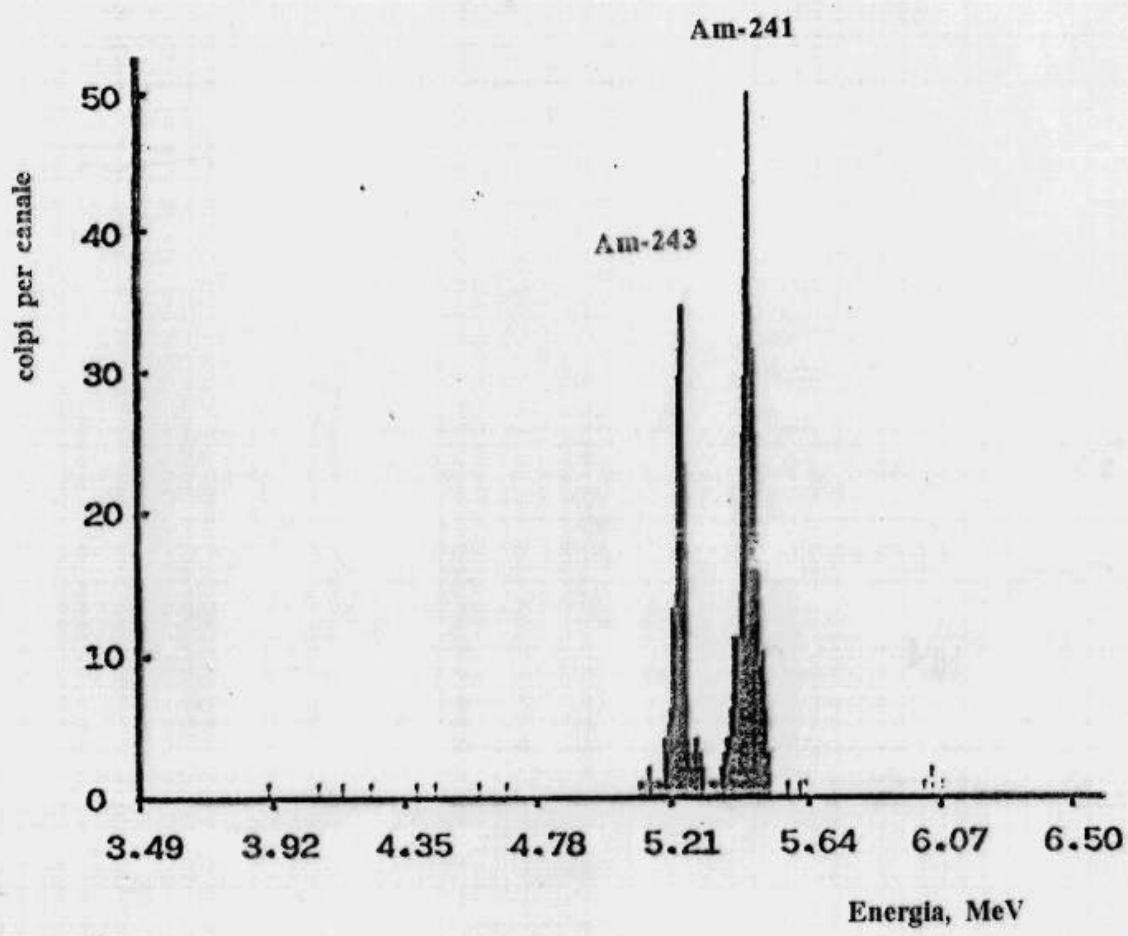
Controllo resa chimica dell'Y per titolazione complessometrica







Spettro alfa del plutonio



Spettro alfa dell'americio

# EICHROM RESINS

**Sr • Spec**

**> Sr - Pb**

**Tru • Spec**

**> Attinidi e  
Lantanidi**

**U/TEVA • Spec**

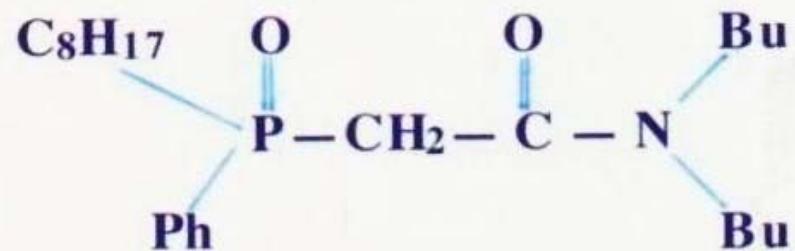
**> U, Th, Pu,  
Np**

**TEVA • Spec**

**> Th, Pu, Np,  
Tc**

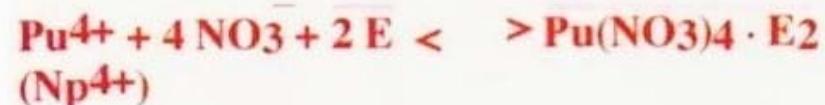
## TRU • SPEC

Estraente:



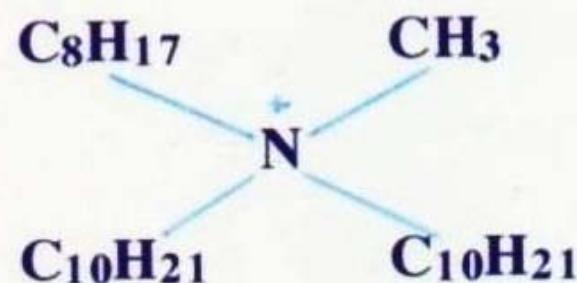
[CMPO] [ottile (fenil)-N,N-diisobutilcarbametilfosfinaossido]

Diluente: Tri-n-butil fosfato



**TEVA • SPEC**

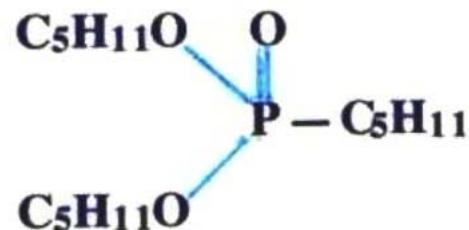
**Estraente:**



**Diluente: nessuno**



**Estraente:**



**DP[PP] Diamilamilfosfonato**

**Diluente: nessuno**



**Authors working in Extraction Chromatography in the period  
1960-1970**

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*Belgium:* DRENT W., ESCHRICH H.

*Czechoslovakia:* SEBESTA F.

*China:* LIANG S.C., PANG S.W.

*Germany:* MULLER W.

*Great Britain:* HAMLING A.G., HOBBS R.S., PECK P.F., PIERCE T.

*Hungary:* BRAUN T.

*Italy:* CERRAI E., DELLE SITE A., GHERSINI G., TESTA C.

*Netherland:* BRINKMANN U.A.

*Poland:* FIDELIS I., SMULEK W., SIEKIERSKI S., STRONKI I.

*U.S.A.:* BLOOMQUIST C.A., FRITZ J.S., HORWITZ E.P.,  
PEPPARD D.F.

*U.S.S.R.:* ALIMARIN D.P., BOLSHOVA T.A., KATYKHIN G.S.,  
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