



# Workflow Concept in Laboratory

#### Tomi Kemppinen





#### Introduction

- GWB in nut shell
- Milestone Agilent collaboration
- Reagent dosing easyFILL
- Sample filtration: SFS-24
- Acid steam cleaning: traceCLEAN
- Sub-Boiling Distillation: duoPUR & subCLEAN





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Sales:

- Laboratory instruments
- Research instruments (i.e. analysis instruments for laboratory)
- Microscopy & Imaging
- Industrial Sales

Service:

- Balance service team
- Analysis instruments service team
- PI service team







#### Research Instruments Team

- Sample preparation: Microwave digestion and extraction (Milestone)
- Elemental analysis: Mercury (Milestone); XRF (Rigaku) and CS & ONH (Eltra)
- Material Characterization: XRD (Rigaku); BET, particle size (Micromeritics) and Thermal Analysis (Mettler-Toledo)
- Reaction Kinetics Analysis: probes for particle size and spectroscopy analysis (Mettler-Toledo)
- **Reactors**: batch reactors (PARR); flow through reactors (Micromeritics) and automated reactors (Mettler-Toledo)







# World wide collaboration



Sweden Finland Estonia Bosnia, Croatia Bulgaria Macedonia Moldavia Azerbaijan Indonesia Saudi & UAE US Ungheria Slovacchia India Mexico Czech KSA, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait Uruguay & Paraguay **Trinidad & Tobago** Bolivia Costa Rica, Honduras e Nicaragua Panama



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### **Application Reports collaboration**





Direct determination of Al. B Ti, V and Zr in HF acid-digest alloy using the Agilent 4210 Plasma-Atomic Emission Spi

Application note

Author Aleiandro Amoria Agilent Technologies Melbourne, Australia



#### Introduction

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Nickel alloys are used when good high- and low-temperature strength and corrosion resistance are needed. Typical industrial applications are for fabrication of chemical and petrochemical process vessels and gas turbine parts. The aerospace and military industries are also important users of nickel based alloys, which are frequently used in the manufacture of iet. engine parts including turbine blades. The additive elements in the nickel alloy and their concentrations are carefully selected in order to obtain the desired material properties. For example, titanium (Ti) is added to improve corrosion resistance and increase the strength-to-density ratio of the alloy.

Agilent Technologies



#### Webinar collaborations



Join us for a special **Chat with an Expert**, where you will learn how critical the reliability and the quality assessing of batteries is and how microwave digestion can overcome the bottleneck associated with sample preparation for trace metals analysis.

#### What you'll learn:

- Understand why microwave closed-vessel digestion is an essential tool for elemental analysis.
- Learn how the latest microwave digestion systems address your acid digestion needs.
- See practical examples of elemental analysis of samples with varying levels of reactivity.
- Learn tips and tricks to improve the quality of your batteryrelated elemental analysis using ICP-OES.
- Find out how smart ICP-OES software and hardware can help you improve accuracy and verify purity in Li-ion battery materials.

#### REGISTER TO LIVE EVENT

#### When

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 3pm CEST GMT+2

#### Who should attend

- Testing labs
- Li-ion battery R&D
   Manufacturers and
- Recyclers
- QC labs

#### Speakers



Milestone Srl



Ana Garcia Gonzalez Application Scientist Agilent Technologies

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## **REAGENT ADDITION TODAY**

- Reagent addition is a tedious and unpleasant step
- Still done manually, with several drawbacks:
  - Safety Concerns, operator's exposure to acid vapours
  - Risk of contamination and human error
  - Time-consuming operation









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#### IMPROVING YOUR WORKFLOW

- easyFILL Automatic Dosing Station offers
  - Enhanced safety
  - Consistency
  - Improved workflow
  - High flexibility





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#### RUGGED CABINET

- Dosing compartment made of anticorrosive polypropylene
- Built-in exhaust
  - With dedicated inlet filter
- All acid-contact parts made of high-purity PTFE
  - · Compatible with any acid





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#### PERISTALTIC PUMP

- Peristaltic pump with dispensing speed of 1.5 mL/sec
- Dispensing Accuracy: 1%
- Working range from 0,5 mL to 50 mL (higher volume can be dosed too)





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### EASYFILL CAPABILITIES

- Allows for the use of up to 6 reagents
- Full reagent compatibility, including HF
- Automatic line flushing when changing acids
- Waste drains into a carboy for easy disposal
- Software tracks reagents and waste volume:
  - Specific acids require refilling
  - The waste carboy needs to be emptied









#### SMART SOFTWARE

- Touch screen terminal with built-in software
- Pre-stored rack configurations
- Customized methods saved for routine processes
  - Operator simply recalls a method and press "Run"
- Unlimited flexibility
  - Any # of vessels
  - Any type and volume of reagents
  - Same dosing in all batch or individual dosing in each vessel





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#### **BLANKS EVALUATION**

- Comparison between Manual (bottle top dispenser) and easyFILL addition on:
  - 5 mL of TraceMetal HNO<sub>3</sub>
  - 45 mL of UltraPure water

Result	Bias	Color code	
Lower blank achieved with	~0.00%	areen	
easyFILL	<0.0070	green	
Same results	0.01-10.00%	black	
Lower blank achieved with	> 10.01	orange	
Bottle-top dispenser	>10.01		

MAJOR ELEMENTS (µg/L)					
Element	Manual Addition (µg/L)	easyFILL addition (µg/L)	Bias (%)		
11B	0,23	0,22	-3		
23Na	1,52	1,08	-29		
24Mg	0,10	0,06	-36		
27AI	0,15	0,04	-76		
29Si	9,60	10,01	4		
31P	0,47	0,37	-21		
32S	0,21	0,12	-44		
39K	6,75	6,37	-6		
44Ca	0,35	0,15	-57		

\*Analysis done by ICP-MS TQ. Data on trace elements available in the easyFILL technology report.

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#### WHY EASYFILL?



- Improved workflow
  - Automated process
  - Less operator time and more time for other tasks



- High reliability
  - Limited risk of contamination
  - No human error
  - Precise peristaltic pump



- Enhanced safety
  - No direct contact with acids
  - No exposure to acid vapors



- High flexibility
  - Suitable for reagent addition and pre-dilution
  - Compatibility with all current Milestone and Non-Milestone rotors and racks





### SAMPLE FILTRATION TODAY

- Sample filtration is a repetitive process
- Requires fume hood space
- Stressful for operator
- Time-consuming





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### IMPROVED SAMPLE FILTRATION

- SFS-24 vacuum filtration
  - Max. 24 sample positions
  - Volume 50 ml/position
  - High sample through-put
- Existing laboratory vacuum system can be used







### ACID CLEANING FOR TRACE METAL ANALYSIS

- Preconditioning methods seems to be the most effective method to control contamination
- The procedure suggested by US EPA (3052) is:
  - Soak in hot 1:1 HCl for minimum 2 h
  - Soak in hot 1:1 HNO3 for minimum 2 h
- Temperature must be > 80°C and < boiling point
- Steam cleaning with HNO3 vapors is very effective for routine cleaning





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### ACID STEAM CLEANING

- Steam cleaning with HNO3 vapors is very effective for routine cleaning
- Containers/ flasks are placed on rods
- Acid reservoir will be heated
- Condensed acid will remove the contamination





### AUTOMATED ACID STEAM CLEANING

- traceCLEAN
- Suitable for Teflon, quartz and glass items
- Fast, typically < 1 hour
- Preset programs or own method





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# traceCLEAN PERFORMANCE

 

 Table 9. Comparison of high-temperature acid leaching cleaning vs acid steam cleaning. Trace metal contamination (ng/L) in 5% HNO<sub>3</sub> blanks prepared after cleaning are listed below. The acid leaching was performed at 180°C with mixture of HCl and HNO<sub>3</sub>. The steam cleaning performed with HNO<sub>3</sub> only.<sup>29</sup>

Element	TFM Teflon Vessel		Quartz Vessel	
	Acid Leaching	Steam Cleaning	Acid Leaching	Steam Cleaning
Al	287 ± 46	$258 \pm 24$	398 ± 28	327 ± 18
Mg	289 ± 22	232 ± 15	441 ± 56	$347 \pm 26$
Na	< 121	< 121	$1190 \pm 350$	608 ± 67
e	< 474	< 474	< 474	< 474
Ni	< 55	< 55	< 55	< 55
Co	< 56	< 56	< 56	< 56
Cu	$144 \pm 39$	117 ± 12	170 ± 15	$109 \pm 9$
Dr .	< 85	< 85	176 ± 57	< 85
Cd	< 72	< 72	< 72	< 72
П	< 261	< 261	< 261	< 261
Pb	< 57	< 57	< 57	< 57
Zn	995 ± 80	< 876	$1640 \pm 1000$	1005 ± 124



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# REAGENTS FOR TRACE ELEMENT ANALYSIS

- For liquid reagents distillation has been used to improve their quality
  - This approach create significant contamination due to the bubble generation
- An alternative technique is the sub-boiling distillation
  - Sub-boiling eliminates the problems associates with the traditional distillation



# SUB-BOILING VS TRADITIONAL DISTILLATION Element Sub-Boiled Distilled

Comparison of metal contamination (µg/L) in nitric acid purified by traditional and sub-boiling distillation

Element	Sub-Boiled Distilled	Traditional Distillation
Pb	0.02	0.2
П		0.2
Ba	0.01	8
Те	0.01	0.1
Sn	0.01	0.1
In	0.01	-
Cd	0.01	0.1
Ag	0.1	0.03
Sr	0.01	2
Se	0.09	0.2
Zn	0.04	4
Cu	0.04	20
Ni	0.05	20
Fe	0.3	24
Cr	0.05	6
Ca	0.2	30
К	0.2	10
Mg	0.1	13
Na	1	80
Total	2.3 µg/L	220 µg/L

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# SUB-BOILING DISTILLATION SYSTEM

- Sub-boiling distillation uses infrared heaters
- Infrared heating vaporize the surface liquid
- Vaporized liquid is condensate by a cooling system



Vaporization without boiling prevents aerosol with particles/ contaminates

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#### MILESTONE DUOPUR QUARTZ SUB-BOILING DISTILLATION SYSTEM

- Double Quartz sub-boiling system
- Cost savings of ultra-pure acid
- High productivity
- Water cooling
- Suitable for HNO<sub>3</sub>, HCI, H<sub>2</sub>O





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# SUBCLEAN DISTILLATION SYSTEM

- PTFE sub-boiling system
- Cost savings of ultra-pure acid
- Air cooling
- Suitable for HF, HNO3, HCI, H2O
- Affordable











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