Analytical Methods

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In this lecture I will give a survey on newer and highly sophisticated methods and on ^{trends} in analytical chemistry of meat and meat products.

^{It} is the aim of this presentation to give examples for the application of different $i_{nstrumental}$ methods and to show the efficiency of analytical methods nowadays used in $a_{dvanced}$ laboratories.

 $^{\rm In}$ order to structurize this presentation I will follow the general scheme of analysis $^{\rm (Fig. 1)}$.

CLEAN UP PROCEDURES

^{The} cleaning-up steps in analysis are known as mostly time consuming and tedious. But ^{during} the last decade clean-up and concentration steps have been developed which are ^{rapid} and easy to handle. In order to control the problem of residues of veterinary drugs ⁱⁿ food of animal origin, it is essential that suitable i.e. quick and reliable methods ^{are} available.

^{The} main problems arising in developing such quick and reliable methods are the low ^{lev}els of the compounds to be analyzed as well as the complicated matrix of meat and meat ^{products}. Physicochemical methods offer a possibility to overcome these problems.

It can be observed that during past decades the main emphasis of analysts was layed on the development of sensitive and selective detection methods to determine a great many of ^{compounds} in the 1-10 ppm range.

^{But} in drug residue analysis the lower ppm and ppb level is necessary to definitely ^{Cont}rol products. Therefore preconcentration steps have turned out to be as effective as ^{Poss}ible to gain the concentration factors which are sufficient to analyse the drug ^{res}idues.

^{Ext}raction of the analyte needs an intense contact of solvent and sample. Mixer e.g. ^{Ultra} turrax, or ultra sonic devices are helpful in this respect.

Extraction with water containing solvents is less favourable because of the adsorption of drug molecules on proteins. This causes incomplete extraction. It has been shown that in pig meat tissues sulphadimidin to a great extent was bound to proteins. Dichloromethane or chloroform-acetone mixtures were able to fully extract the analyte.

As a new trend, beside time consuming and tedious extraction by liquid-liquid partition solid phase extraction and immunoaffinity clean up has been introduced into analysis of drugs.

<u>Solid phase extraction</u> becomes very popular due to its simplicity. Handling time and amount of solvents needed are greatly reduced whilst emulsification problems are totally avoided.

In these procedures the analyte is removed from the sample solution by sorption on ^a solid phase present in a small column. After an eventual wash step the analyte e.g. ^{the} drug is eluted by a small volume of solvent.

Extraction can be performed by a variety of principles: straight-phase and reversed-phase retention, ion exchange and ion pair formation.

The type of sorbent and solvent used has to be selected in relation to the analyte to be extracted.

The retention of an analyte may be based on different and combined types of interaction. As an example retention on bonded silica phase is usually caused by the functional groups bonded to the silica, but may also be due to the interaction between the analyte and the unbonded silanol groups remaining on the silica substrate. These secondary interaction may give rise to a severe problem. It was observed that e.g. tetracyclines have been strongly retained on a reversed phase column so that no complete elution has been achieved.

Recently, fully automated sample pretreatment combined with fast LC, using aqueous samples or sample extracts, is described for analysis of veterinary drugs. This combines on-line continous-flow dialysis - in which the drug molecules pass through a membrane whilst large molecules such as proteins are retained - with on-line preconcentration on a small column.

Reviews with regard to on-line sample handling and trace enrichment in liguid chromatography and to the determination of drugs has been presented by N. Haagsma ⁽¹⁾. On-line sample preparation procedures are also described for sulphonamides ⁽²⁾ and nitroburans (3).

<u>Gelpermeation</u> is a well established clean-up technique for organophosphorus and organochlorine pesticides from co-extracted lipids (4). Using Sephadex LH-20 there has been also observed a good separation of drugs from coextractives from liver, kidney and mussel tissues (5). However time is needed and the large eluate volume restricts the application to some extent. But recently GP was applied on-line to the analysis of sulphonamides, thimethoprim and their metabolites in pig tissues (6). Matrix solid phase dispersion is a recently introduced method based upon dispersion of animal tissue for extracting drug residues from these tissues proceeding HPLC analysis. Homogenized tissue samples are blended with a lipid-solubilizing polymer e.g. C-18 Packing material, which gives a semi-dry mixture. In the same manner as certain ^{surfactants} do, this material disrupts cell membranes through solubilisation of membrane ^{components}, e.g. phospholipides, making by this procedure the cell content accessible to ^{extraction}.

^{For} elution the tissue/C-18 mixture is brought in a small e.g. 10 ml syringe-barrel ^{Col}umn and eluted stepwise by an extracting solvent in order to isolate the drug residues ^(Fig. 2).

This procedure has been applied to the determination of organophosphates, benzimidazoles and B-lactam antibiotics (7).

Immunoaffinity clean-up is the newest hit in analysis of veterinary drugs. These techniques are based upon a high specific binding between a haptene, i.e. the drug Molecule and an antibody raised against it. Another application of this drug-antibody reaction is its use in clean-up and concentration step prior to physicochemical determination. Its name nowadays is immunoaffinity clean-up (Fig. 3).

In principle the antibodies are covalently bound to an activated support such as ^{cyanogenbromide-activated} Sepharose, tresylactivated Sepharose or carbodiimidazol ^{activated} trisacryl. In general the immobilized antibody is transfered to a small column. ^{The} scheme shows this procedure (Fig. 4).

^{The} sample solution is drawn through the column. Due to immunochemical interactions the ^{drug} molecules are retained by the immobilized antibody. The matrix components are ^{passing} the column and are washed out in a washing step. Mainly solutions such as ^{phosphate} buffered saline are used, which do not influence the immuno-chemical ^{interaction.}

After the washing the drug is eluted. Elution can be based on ligand competition, alteration of the ionic strength, solvent charge or buffer and pH-change. Each antibody -Mediated clean-up procedure has its own optimal elution conditions.

It has to be taken into considerations that a low flow rate combined with high volumen and low hapter concentration leads to the highest retention - which is contradictory to solid phase extraction technique. Therefore more time is needed for analysis. Due to the great specificity of monoclonal antibodies a large amount of sample can be subjected to antibody-mediated clean-up without retention of matrix components. This opens the possibility to determine very low drug residue levels.

 $o_{n_{1}y}$ a few applications have been described until now. The analysis of trembolon and

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17 alpha-trembolon in bovine urine (8), a multi-determination of several anabolics in meat and just recently a method comprising seven antibodies used together (9). It has be pointed out that clean-up is still a step of analysis that consumes some time. But very sensitive and selective methods, especially in the field of immunochemical methods are now available leading back to micro analytical techniques also in clean-up.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC METHODS Liquid chromatography

HPLC is a preferred method for the separation of veterinary drugs in food of animal origin.

Increasing tendencies go to the on-line and automated application of HPLC.

A very versatile method is the <u>fully automated sample treatment</u> in combination with liquid chromatography, first introduced in practice by Van Gend (10) for the analysis ^{of} chloramphenicol in milk.

As an example may serve: An aqueous extract of the sample is introduced from an autosampler with a peristaltic pump into the system and the injection volume is segmented by air to avoid diffusion. In the dialyse block the drugs pass the cellulose acetate membrane. Proteins and other macromolecules remain in the upper phase which is descarded. The analytes in the dialysate are trapped on a first column, more polar coextractives and non-organic compounds are washed out. The analytical separation starts when a valve is switched and the trapped drugs from the first column are backflushed to a second column from which separated drugs enter the detector. Despite the low solubility of drugs in water they are totaly extracted because of the very low concentration of residues. To prevent in vitro metabolism of veterinary drugs the addition of sodium azide to the solution is recommended.

In some cases the selectivity and/or sensitivity of a HPLC-separation and instrumental detection device is not sufficient for identification and quantitation. In this case the potential of post- and precolumn derivatisation reactions for enhancing selectivity and sensitivity is used (11). In the case of pre column derivatisation all reagents can be used, even aggressive ones.

Examples are the formation of fluorescent compounds from the coccidostats monensin, salimycin and lasalocid, in beef liver with 9-anthryldiazomethane to derivatize the carbonyl group (12).

Post column derivatisation is executed using an additional pump and mixing the reagent ⁱⁿ a T-piece with the eluate of the LC column. As an example Neomycin and ^{other} aminoglycoside antibiotics are analyzed by post column derivatisation with °-phthalaldehyde (13).

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^A very promising new approach to increase specifity in on-line HPLC is the application of ^{phot}oreaction in a <u>photoreactor</u>. By simply switching light on, due to photochemical ^{reactions} a fluorescent or electroactive substance can be created.

An example is the formation of fluorescent hexahydrophenanthren from diethylstilbestrol $(D_{\rm ES})$ (14).

Additional efforts have been undertaken, to develop-methods which are able to give molecular information on the residues analyzed, guaranteeing unambigous identification. Currently only mass spectrometry offers this information for the sensitive residue analysis.

Many years the efforts of coupling HPLC/MS were not successful. But now there seems a ^{break} through of thermospray systems also with respect to drug analysis.

As an example for confirmation of the results using thermospray MS the analysis of Nicarbrazin in chicken tissue may serve. The principle of thermospray which can be used in conventional RP-HPLC flow rates, can be easily explained. Aqueous mobile phase ^{Cont}aining an electrolyte e.g. ammoniumacetate passes at a flow rate of 1-2 ml/min through an electrically heated stainless steel capillary situated in a special heated ion ^{Source.} The end of the capillary lies opposite a vacuum line. This results in a super ^{Sonic} jet stream of vapor, containing little electrically charged droplets. As the ^{droplets} move to the hot source area they continue to vaporize. The electric field at the ^{liquid} surface increases until ions present in the liquid phase are ejected from the ^{droplets}.

Ions are sampled through an exit aperture in the mass analyzer. Ions can be formed either by direct ion evaporation of a sample ion or similar to chemical ionisation (CI) ^{processes} in a two-step process, e.g. ammonia ions ejected from a droplet reacts with a ^{sample} molecule in the gas phase and generates a sample ion that is mass analyzed.

 ${}^{\mbox{\tt Hp}_{\rm LC}}$ is applied to several other problems in meat science and technology.

One challenging problem are mutagens in heated meat. From the list of mutagens identified in cooked meat one can see that analysis of these substances is necessary in the lower Ppb range.

^{ApLC} is used as purification step of the extracts as well as for the separation itself. ^A standard procedure is extraction with methanol, purification using acid/base partition ^{and} HPLC on a sulfopropenyl cation exchange column. The separation and quantification of ^{the} mutagens was carried out by HPLC on RP-18-phase using either electrochemical or ^{IV-detection} (16).

ApLC in combination with fluorescence detection offers a very sensitive method of analysis.

The tranquilizer Carazolol, used for diminishing stress in cattle during transportation

can be analyzed by the following methode:

Carazolol is extracted by methanol from meat homogenates. The extract is purified by passing an Extrelut-column. Subsequently the basic fraction is extracted. For confirming the results excitation spectra as well as emission spectra can be recorded. The limit of detection amounts to 0,5 µg/kg (17).

Gaschromatography

New trends in analysis of quality of meat and meat products by gaschromatography can be observed in two areas.

First the application of newer specific detectors namely the atomic emission detector ^{js} now commercially available (Fig. 5).

Just at that place some words on GC-detectors, their types and selectivity as well ^{as} their dynamic range is advisable. From the table presented (Fig. 6) one can see minimum amounts detected and selectivity achieved by various detector types.

The second area of fast development is the combination of sensory and instrumental analytical methods e.g. in aroma extract dilution analysis (AEDA). This technique was introduced first by Rothe in the early 70s, and successfully applied to different problems by the working group of Grosch (21).

Starting with quality assessment and quality assurance flavour analysis can give insights into the effect of differences in feeding on characteristic flavour. The distinct flavour of sheep meat especially that of older animals is a reason for its low consumption rate. F. Caporasco et al. (20) extracted the subcutan adipose tissues of sheep and separated the extract into acid, basic and neutral fractions. The apparatus and scheme is shown here (Fig. 7).

It was found out from a total number of 51 different volatiles identified, 14 are suggested as important contributors to the overall flavour quality. Olfactory analysis of a six membered sensory panel accompagnied the study. Also sniffing analysis was carried out.

The typical flavour of meat develops during heating processes and is due to the thermal and oxidative degradation of sugars, amino acids, unsaturated acyl lipids and thiamine. In the case of cooked beef, more than 500 volatiles have been identified but only a relatively small number of these volatiles are responsible for the smell of this typ of meat.

So the question of character impact compounds raises. In this respect the technique of GC/Sniffing analysis is important. Using this technique the working group of Grosch ⁽²¹⁾ developed a measure called flavour dilution factor ("FD-factor"). The scheme of

^{Sep}aration and a chromatogram are shown in the following figures (Fig. 8, 9).

As a result shown in the aromagram compounds having high aroma values were identified and ^{exh}ibit a meat like aroma. The two compounds showing highest aroma values and possessing ^a meat-like odor have been identified as 2-methyl-furanthiol and its disulfide. The odor threshold level is shown in the Fig. 10.

 \mathbb{T}_{he} Aroma Extract Dilution Analysis (AEDA) shows the significant contribution of these ^{Com}pounds to the meat like odor of cooked beef. In addition compounds contributing to the ^{roasted} note of cooked beef have been identified, namely 2-acetyl-l-pyrrolin, which has ^{been} identified previously in crust of white bread.

Another problem nowadays food chemists are faced with, is the so called "warmed oven $^{\hat{l}_{avour}}$ (WOF)" which is a result of the autoxidative spoilage of fatty acids started by iron liberated from myoglobins. This off-odor is recognized if boiled frozen meat is reheated.

 A_{1so} this problem may be analyzed by GC/sniffing analysis.

In connection to flavour analysis the atomic emission spectrocopic-(AES)-detection is of considerable interest.

An objective of flavour analysis is to identify components which are not yet in spectral libaries.

Knowing which elements are present in an unknown can be an invaluable aid in identifying the molecule.

Commercial available Atomic Emission Detectors are capable of specifically detecting any ^{Organ}ic element (and many metals) and can be used to determine, which elements are present in unknowns.

Thinlayer Chromatography

HPTLC is a very cheap and quick method for separation of analytes. Nowadays equipment is ^{available} to spot extracts precisely and to separate under exact defined conditions. Detection using UV, visible or fluorescence light direct or after derivatisation can be executed.

^{Poly}cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) play an important role in smoked meat technology. Smoking conditions have to be checked very carefully to prevent to high residues of PAH. W_e W_se a TLC-separation on acetylcellulose plates and an in-situ determination of the different PAHs. fluorescence

With this equipment concentrations down to e.g. 0,01 ppb Benzo(a)pyren can be quantified (18).

HPTLC also serves very well as multiresidue method. The screening of pesticides using different solvents and combinations of spraying agents is possible.

In a recent publication (19) it has been demonstrated, that more than 150 different pesticides can be analyzed.

The detection via cholinesterase spraying agents on Kieselgel plates offers the possibilities of very sensitive and reliable analysis of groups of pesticides. Also an RP-18 reversed phase plate using silver nitrite/UV light or chlorine/ or toluidin staining are useful approaches to quick screening and/or quantitation of pesticide residues.

IMMUNOASSAY

As an example the use of monoclonal antibodies for the immunoassay of mutagenic compound⁵ produced by cooking meat is chosen (22).

Grilling, frying and broiling of meat is an important source of mutagens of ^{the} Aminoimidazoarene (AIA) group, which count to the most potent carcinogens known until ^{now} (Fig. 11).

AIAs are present in 0,1-15 ppb levels in cooked beef. Although e.g. HPLC is a possible tool for the determination of these compounds due to high sensitivity, selectivity and low sample preparation requirements immunoassay have attracted alteration. To produce antibodies to small organic molecules the chemical of interest must first ^{pe} conjugated to carrier proteins (Fig. 12). In the AIA-case keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH) was used. The site and typ of conjugation are important because they influence the specificity of the antibodies used.

In this example mentioned, the authors produced monoclonal antibodies by immunisation of mice with 2-KLH-IQ, to respond with antibodies capable to recognize IQ preferentially since the distinctive portion of the hapten is available to the immune system. Also 8-KLH-Me/Qx immunisation was the used to respond with antibodies that recognize many members of the AIA-class, since the aminoimidazo ring is presented unmodified to the immunesystem.

This experiments ended up with a set of antibodies that recognice four AIAS. This immunoassay has sufficient sensitivity to quantify AIAs in that concentration found in well-done-ground beef.

ISOELECTRIC FOCUSSING (IEF)

The differentiation of the race of animals is done using electrophoretic, as well $^{a^5}$

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^{ch}romatographic and immunoserological methods of analysis.

Electrophoretic and immunoserological methods relay on the identification of specific proteins or break-down-products of that proteins.

A very potent analytical method in this respect is Isoelectric Focussing (IEF).

Water extracts from meat or pressed and diluted meat juices are directly spolted on a polyacrylamid gel.

For identification the typical and characteristic myoglobin bounds with or without ^{add}itional staining reactions or enzymatic reactions to visualize the specific proteins are applied.

 b_{ue} to their genetically different protein pattern different breeds of animals can be differentiated by their native proteins very easily. Much more difficult is the quantitation in mixtures and the qualitative analysis in processed, especially in heated meat products.

IEF has been used in our institute (23) e.g. for the determination of pig meat in beef Meat products which have been heated up to 75°C inner temperature. To enhance

the sensitivity ultrathin polyacrylamide gel layers and a highly sensitive silver ^{Staining} procedure has been used. The determination is carried out using 1-2 specific Protein bounds as indicator for the presence or absence of pig meat.

As higher the products are heated the less sensitive is the determination limit.

In the case of sterilized meat products there are nowadays kits commercial available, Using ELISA technique. Using this method the determination of pig, beef and chicken in Meat heated products is possible.

INDUCED COMPLED PLASMA EMISSION (ICP) AND ATOMIC ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY (AAS)

These two techniques for the analysis of inorganic ionic constituent are nowadays well established.

ICP techniques are of advantage in determining a number of trace elements in one sample Simultaneously. A proper digestion step has to precede. Nowadays mostly temperature controlled acid digestion in decombustion bombs is used for most of the elements. Salinity content has to be controlled very carefully avoiding matrix effects on the signal.

 A_{AS} with graphit furnace and background correction (Zeeman-Effect or D_2 -Lamp) is now state of the art.

Some elements e.g. arsenic and selenium are determined by their volatile hydrids, mercury is determined using the vapor formed from metallic mercury formed by reduction.

Main topics in meat analysis are in this field essential trace elements as well as toxic trace elements.

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Meat is known as a food rich in essential trace elements e.g. iron, zinc and selen^{ium.} With respect to that, meat therefore acts as an important constituent for an adequ^{ate} nutrition of man.

Potential toxic elements e.g. lead, cadmium and mercury can be found only in minute amounts in meat, whilst the amount in liver and kidney is times 2 to 10 respectively higher. It has to be pointed out that concentrations normaly present in meat or viscera are proportional higher than in other foodstuffs but are considerable below any harmful dose.

In a duplicate diet study we checked the total uptake of Hg, As, Cd and Pb in Austria (24). Fig. 13 presents the results, showing that there is no harmful situation given at present.

Some meat of game has been found higher burdened with these heavy metals due to environmental pollution.

QUICK-TESTS

Where YES/NO-results are satisfactory, card or cup tests based on enzyme-immunochemical reactions may be sufficient. These quick tests which indicate presence or absence of a drug by a colour change can be very sensitive and are commercially available for chloramphenicol, sulfamethazine or benzylpenicillin (penicillin G). The extended use of these kits led to a significant increase in the numbers of samples tested by the monitoring program of the US Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). While in 1980 65.000 samples were analyzed this number rose in 1988 to 300.000 samples and in 1989 to 450.000 samples (25).

SCREENING-TESTS

A screening procedure with higher specifity is the Charm-test II which originally was developed for residues in milk (4) but now has been modified also for meat testing. With this technique 7 antibiotic families can be detected and identified within 12 to 15 minutes: beta-lactams, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, novobiocin, sulfonamides and chloramphenicol. Most antibiotic drugs act by specifically binding to a site in a microbe causing an interruption of metabolic activity, for example beta-lactam drugs bind to an enzyme immobilized on the cell wall; tetracyclines and aminoglycosides bind to sites on ribosomes. This is used as principle of the Charm-test. Two different microorganisms are required to provide the necessary sites for the 7 families. Because the functional chemical group of the drug is involved with the binding site and not a ^{side} chain as in most cases of immunoassays, a single receptor detects all members of a ^{family}. Known amounts of C-14 or H-3-labelled antibiotics and microorganism are added to ^{the} sample. A residual antibiotic in the food sample competes for sites on the ^{microorganism} with the labelled antibiotic. As lower the antibiotic concentration in the ^{milk} sample, the more labelled drug will bind to a site. For quantitation the amount of ^{tracer} binding is correlated with the concentration of drug in the sample. To identify a ^{spec}ific drug in a family, a confirmatory assay must be performed.

These screening methods can give very precise results when it is known that there is only ^{One} particular drug from one family present.

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Fig. 1





Fig. 4

Schematic representation of immunoaffinity clean-up





Fig. 6 General Characteristic of GC Detectors Linear Dyn

5. 5.

5.

Bi

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2.

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F

Qx.

hid

E

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8-M

dime

Ph

pha

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lame	Туре	Selective For:	Minimum "	
FID	Selective	Materials that ionize in air/H2 flame	5 pg C/sec	10
ECD	Selective	Gas-phase electrophoreses	0.1 pg Cl/sec (varies w/str.)	10
NPD	Selective	N,P, hetero	0.4 pg N/sec	10
	Calactive	atoms	0.2 pg P/sec	10
FPD	Selective	P,5	0.9 pg N/sec	10
FTIR	Universal	Molecular	1000 pg of	10
MSD	or Specific	vibrations Tunable for	str. absorber	10
NOD	or Specific	any species	(depending on SIM vs scan)	10
AES	Universal or Specific	Tunable for any element	0.1 pg-1 ng (depending on element)	

Fig. 7

Apparatus for the isolation of total volatiles from liquid ovine fat



fraction into acidic, dasic, and neutral fractions TOTAL VOLATILE FRACTION Washed 3X 5% HCI (15ml) Aqueous phase V Organic phase Washed 3X 5% NaHCO3 (20ml) Washed 2X CH2Cl2 (10ml) Organic phas (NEUTRAL FRACTION Aqueous phase Organic phase Aqueous phase Adjusted to ph 9 Washed 2X CH2CL2 (10ml) Organic phase with 5% NaOH Aqueous phase Washed 3X CH2Cl2 (10ml) Adjusted to pH 5 with 5% HCI Aqueous phase Organic phase (BASIC FRACTION) Washed 3X CH2CI2 (10ml) Organic phase (ACIDIC FRACTION) Aqueous phase

Scheme of separation of total volatile

Fig 9/1



Aromagram of volatile compounds obtained from cooked beef

Fig. 9/2

Fig. 8

- 2 2-Methyl-3-furanthiol 6 Unknown
- 7 2-Acetyl-1-pyrroline
- 10 Methional 12 1-Octen-3-one
- 15 2-Octanone
- 16 2-Acetylthiazole
- 18 2(E)-Octenal
- 20 Phenylacetaldehyd
- 25 2(E)-Nonenal 28 2-Decanone 31 2(E),4(E)-Nonadiena 36 2(E),4(E)-Decadiena 37 2-Dodecanone 40 Bis(2-methyl-3-fund 39 beta-lonone
 - disulfide



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	(mg/person and month)					
	Investigatio 1978	Investigation 1978		Investigation 1988		
Element	Range Me	Mean	F	Range	Mean	
Lead	1,15 -3,23	1,86	1,04	-3,97	1,98	
Cadmium	0,33 -1,16	0,72	0,34	-1,69	0,74	
Arsenic	0,25 -1,68	0,83	0,15	-0,55	0,26	
Mercury	0,110-0,180	0,140	0,033	80-0,4223	0,138	

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