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Measurement of arsenic species in environmental, biological fluids and food samples by HPLC-ICPMS and HPLC-HG-AFS

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Abstract

The importance of measuring arsenic (As) species has been appreciated for a long time mainly because of the wide spread knowledge of arsenic's toxicity and its use as a poison. Increasingly health, environmental and food regulations have been written around As species rather than total concentrations. Knowledge of As speciation is important as the chemical form of As controls its bioavailability, toxicity, mobility and therapeutic benefits. Arsenic is present as inorganic (arsenate, arsenite, thioarsenates), complexed (arsenic glutathionines and phytochelatins), low molecular weight (monomethylarsonate, dimethylarsenite, arsenobetaine, arsenocholine etc.) and high molecular weight (arsenic hydrocarbons and arsenic phospholipids) species. In this review we cover the integrity of As species during collection, storage, sample preparation and measurement by HPLC- ICPMS and HPLC-HG-AFS. The major conclusion is that it is essential to ensure that As species, especially in waters and sediments, are not artefacts of the preservation or extraction procedure. Most biota and sediment samples can be stored frozen (-20°C), but the stability of water and sediment samples is matrix dependent and depends on preservation technique applied. Arsenic cannot be extracted from samples using a single set of conditions but must be optimised for each sample type. Methanol-water mixtures with microwave heating are commonly used to extract polar As species from tissues while As-lipids required a non-polar solvent. Dilute acid can be used to increase the efficiencies of extraction of hard to extract tissue As species. Freeze drying is suitable for the drying of biotic material while sediments should not be dried before analysis. Extraction efficiencies are critically dependent on particle size. Polar As species have a wide variety of ionic characteristics thus complimentary chromatographic

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3 approaches utilising ion-exchange or reverse phase columns with modifiers are needed to
4 separate all the As species. Arsenic-lipids require the use of a reverse phase columns and
5 gradient elution with high concentrations of organic solvents and require compensation for
6 carbon enhancement effects in the ICPMS. Care must be taken that chromatographic peaks are
7 not misidentified and matrix interferences accounted for that may influence quantification.
8 Finally, to ensure accurate results, mass balances and extraction and column recoveries need to
9 be determined at all steps. Methods need to be evaluated using As spikes and certified reference
10 materials to provide a means of assessing the quality of results
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Introduction

In nature, arsenic (As) is widely distributed and found at low concentrations in all living matter, and while As has no known biological function, a growing body of evidence suggests that As may be an essential element, playing a role in methionine metabolism as well as in DNA methylation [1]. The importance of measuring As species has been appreciated for a long time because the toxicity of As varies depending on its redox state and its chemical form [2, 3]. Until the early 1980s, however, it was common practice to only measure total As concentrations. Understanding the chemical species of As is also necessary from other standpoints as it controls bioavailability, mobility and therapeutic benefits. The importance of measuring and quantifying As species includes:

Food standards: Where knowledge of the potential toxicity of As species or its role as the active ingredient in food stuffs and supplements is known, food standards require the concentration of that particular As species to be determined [4, 5]. For example, As concentrations in rice require inorganic As (AsO_3^{3-} , AsO_4^{3-}) concentrations to be determined.

Acceptance of agricultural goods: Often agricultural goods will not be accepted without knowledge of the As species present. For example, lobsters exported from Western Australia to Japan was not allowed until it was shown that the As content in lobster tissues was present as benign arsenic species, primarily arsenobetaine ($(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{As}^+\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^-$) rather than the toxic inorganic arsenic species (AsO_3^{3-} , AsO_4^{3-}) [6]. Similarly, to import seaweed products it is necessary to prove the products contain the relatively benign arsenoribosides (see Fig 1, arsenoribosides) than the toxic inorganic As species.

Human occupational and environmental exposure: Often urine and blood measurements of arsenic are used to assess occupational exposure to arsenic. However, if the subject has eaten a seafood meal their urine may contain high As concentrations [7]. Measurement of the arsenic species present can resolve this problem as environmental exposure to inorganic arsenic invariably results in high dimethyl arsenate ($(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AsOOH}$) concentrations while ingestion of seafood results in high arsenobetaine concentrations.

Ecosystem protection: Knowledge of As species is essential for the protection of aquatic life. For example, inorganic As in water may be toxic to some freshwater organisms

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4 *Understanding the action of a chemical species in a food stuff or nutritional supplement:* As
5 mentioned above, some food regulations require specification of the active ingredient of
6 foodstuffs or supplements. However, another important reason for determining the chemical
7 species is to understand the beneficial action of an element. For example, many food stuffs are
8 promoted for their anti-carcinogenic activity [8]. Evaluation of the role of As in preventing
9 cancers has required the active species to be identified [8, 9].

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15 Increasingly health, environmental and food regulations have been written around a knowledge
16 of As species rather than total concentrations. In the environment, As is present as inorganic
17 (arsenate (As(V)), arsenite (As(III)), thioarsenates), complexed, (As glutathionines (AsGSH) and
18 phytochelatins (AsPC)), low molecular weight [monomethylarsonate (MA), dimethylarsenite
19 (DMA), arsenobetaine (AB), arsenocholine (AC) etc.] and higher molecular weight (As
20 hydrocarbons and As phospholipids) species (Table 1). Volatile As species (TMAs, As-hydrides)
21 are also produced by bacteria and fungi [10, 11].

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28 Arsenic is present in all organisms, but is found at high concentrations in marine organisms as a
29 variety of As species. Seaweeds mainly contain arsenoribosides, while AB is the major As
30 species in marine animals [12], but there are at least 40 minor arsenic species [13]. Recently two
31 new classes of As species, the thio-As species where the 'O' bonded to As is replaced by an 'S'
32 and As-lipids (As hydrocarbons and As phospholipids), have been revealed thereby increasing
33 the complexity of As species that exist in organisms [14-17].

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38 The advent of inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICPMS) has made it relatively
39 easy to measure As concentrations [18] and it provides some important benefits when coupled to
40 high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), which is used to separate As species prior to
41 As measurement. ICPMS has low detection limits and a high sampling rate (~ 1 ms), thus
42 transient signals can be determined and closely eluting As species from HPLC can be separated
43 and quantified. The disadvantage of ICPMS is its initial capital cost, the on-going maintenance and
44 running costs, and its high argon usage. Atomic fluorescence spectroscopy (AFS) provides a low
45 cost alternative and is increasing being used in conjunction with HPLC and hydride generation
46 (HG) to measure As species in biological extracts, urine, blood, wine, beer etc [19-23]; typical
47 applications using these approaches are presented in Supplementary Table 1.

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3 The last comprehensive critical review of methods and applications was published in 2004 and
4 reviewed publications in the period 2000-2003 [24]. Since then reviews covering (1) the
5 preservation of As species in water [25], (2) sample preparation and extraction procedures for
6 plants [26, 27], algae [26, 28] and air particles [29], (3) HPLC-ICPMS speciation analysis [28,
7 30-32] have been published. As well, a review of complementary As speciation methods (HPLC-
8 ICPMS, EIS-MS and XAS) has been undertaken [33]. Information on storage, preparation and
9 extraction is scattered; information that is essential for maintaining the integrity of As species
10 while information on instrumental analysis is of a general nature. An exception is Neigel and
11 Mtysik's [28] comprehensive review on the determination of arsenosugars in marine macroalgae.
12 In this review we examine sample storage, preparation and extraction procedures and the practical
13 use, based on our experience, of HPLC-ICPMS and HPLC-HG-AFS to quantify As species
14 concentrations in environmental, biological fluids and food samples. To highlight analytical
15 issues with As determination, examples to illustrate important considerations will, where
16 possible, come from the authors laboratories. We have chosen to focus on HPLC-ICPMS and
17 HPLC-HG-AFS techniques because of their widespread use for measuring As species in 'real
18 samples'. Techniques such as capillary electrophoresis and gas chromatography, although
19 reported in the literature, are not widely used because they do not offer any significant advantage
20 over HPLC-ICPMS or HPLC-AFS, or as in the case of electrophoresis, does not have the
21 required detection limits for routine As quantification. Arsenic species used in agriculture, e.g.
22 arsenic acid, are not reviewed. The nomenclature (names and abbreviations) used in this review
23 are as proposed by [13] (See Table 1).

42 **Sample preservation and storage**

43 A summary of the effects of physicochemical variables on arsenic species stability is given in
44 Table 2.

48 *Waters and biological fluids*

51 As (III), As (V) and simple oxo-methylated As species

52 The interconversion of As(III) and As(V) in water samples readily occurs and appears to be
53 matrix dependent with problems of As(III) being oxidised to As(V) being widely reported. The
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3 oxidation of As(III) to As(V) can be facilitated by the presence of Fe(III), MnO₂ and dissolved
4 organic matter [34-36]. The addition of air to anoxic samples promotes the oxidation of As(III)
5 by Fe(III) as well as removal of As from solution through the precipitation of iron-hydroxy
6 compounds [37, 38]. Sample exposure to light also promotes the photooxidation of As(III) to
7 As(V) [39]. The storage of samples in the dark and the use of preservatives such as EDTA [40]
8 or phosphoric acid [41] can help preserve As(III) and As(V) species, especially in solutions
9 containing high concentrations of iron and manganese. Arsenates can also be reduced to As(III)
10 by humic and fulvic acids [42, 43]. Given the problems with preserving As(III) and As(V), the
11 use of solid phase anionic extraction cartridges [44-47], to selectively retain As(III), As(V), oxo-
12 MA and oxo-DMA in the field provides a rapid means of immobilising and preserving these
13 species. By choosing appropriate columns, loading pH and eluent concentrations, these species
14 can be selectively retained and eluted. Generally, As species such as oxo-MA and oxo-DMA are
15 stable if microbial activity is minimised or eliminated by acidification, the addition of a
16 preservative or by freezing (Table 2).
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29 Many different procedures have also been reported for the storage of biological fluids. For
30 example, storage of urine at reduced temperatures and in the dark [22, 48, 49], saliva at - 20 °C
31 [50] and blood separated into cells and plasma followed by storage at - 80 °C [51]. Goat blood
32 spiked with As(III), As(V), oxo-MA and oxo-DMA stored at 4 °C and -20 °C without additives
33 was stable for at least 2 months [52].
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39 The stability of MA(III) and DMA(III) in aqueous solutions is questionable as MA(III) and
40 DMA(III) are rapidly oxidised to MA (V) and DMA (V), respectively. For example, in urine
41 MA(III) and DMA(III) are lost within 3 days and 17 hr, respectively, when stored at -20°C [53].
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45 Thio-methylated As species

46 Thio-MA and thio-DMA standards are stable for several days when stored at 4 °C, while the
47 stability of thio-As species in samples is matrix dependent [54]. Wallschläger and London [55]
48 showed that acidification of samples causes an immediate and complete loss of dithio-MA and
49 dithio-DMA species, sometimes with an increase in mono thio-As species, and in some cases a
50 decrease in oxo-As species occurs with thio-As species being formed. They recommended the
51 use of cryofreezing to preserve As species.
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Thioarsenates

The filtration of samples through 0.22 µm syringe filters to remove bacteria followed by storage in opaque bottles, to prevent photooxidation, helps with thioarsenate species preservation [56].

Suess and co-workers [57] reported that the preservation of mono- and di-thioarsenates can be achieved for a limited time (~21 days) by flash freezing, minimising oxygen exposure by reducing the head space within bottles, and by addition of EDTA to minimize the effect of Fe(III) oxidation. The addition of NaOH or ethanol also assists in minimising oxidation of thioarsenate species however, tri- and tetra thioarsenates cannot be stabilised. If samples contain tri- and tetra thioarsenates, after flash freezing, they need to be placed in an Anaerobe Container System to prevent exposure to any oxygen and stored on dry ice if transported to the laboratory,.

Changes in As speciation can occur within hours if air is introduced into samples with thioarsenate species degrading to As (III) or As (V). Thioarsenates are transformed to As(V) and sulfide via ligand exchange of OH for HS, ($\text{HAsO}_3\text{S}^{2-} + \text{OH}^- \rightarrow \text{HAsO}_4^{2-} + \text{HS}^-$), decomposition to As(III) and sulfur ($\text{HAsO}_3\text{S}^{2-} + \text{H}^+ \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{AsO}_3^{2-} + \text{S}$) or oxidation of S to SO_4^{2-} by oxygen, which is then replaced by OH ($2 \text{H}_2\text{AsO}_3\text{S}^- + 5 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{HAsO}_4^{2-} + 2 \text{SO}_4^{2-} + 2 \text{H}^+$). Some of these pathways result in As(V) formation, however, the reduction of As(V) to As(III) can occur due to sulphide oxidation. A reduction in thioarsenates can also occur if solutions are purged with nitrogen or argon through the removal of HS^- from solution [58]. Excessive purging of thioarsenate solutions with N_2 or Ar therefore should be avoided.

Acid preservation should also be avoided as oxygen-sulfur exchange has been reported to occur in acid preserved sulfidic waters [59, 60]. If thioarsenates are to be stored for any period it is recommended that samples be flash frozen, stored at -80 °C, in the dark, and under a nitrogen atmosphere [60-62].

Biota

As (III), As (V) and simple oxo-methylated As species

Marine algae and animals: Arsenic species and totals in frozen and freeze dried tissues have been shown to be stable for an indefinite period [63-66], however, a decrease in As concentration can

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3 occur in some samples that are frozen for periods greater than 1-3 months e.g. blue mussels [65].
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5 Inorganic As concentrations remained the same indicating that degradation of organic As species
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7 did not occur. No explanation for loss of As was given. Failure to freeze samples will result in
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9 some degradation of As species due to microbial action. The production of $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{As}$ as a
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11 degradation product has been reported in fish [67]. Freeze dried samples are not likely to result
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13 in changes in As speciation as microbial or chemical conversion cannot occur in dried samples as
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15 long as they are dessicated.

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17 Although most As species are stable in frozen samples, freezing and thawing of samples before
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19 drying and extraction may result in the loss of As. For example, the thawing of frozen seaweeds
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21 results in water lost from samples which leads to a significant reduction in As concentration.
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23 Thus, seaweed samples should not be frozen and thawed before freeze drying.

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25 Plants: Huang and Ilgen [68] evaluated the storage of fresh and freeze dried spruce needles and
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27 *Spagnum* moss at 2 °C, 25 °C and – 20 °C for a month. They found that the concentration of
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29 methanol-water extractable (1:5 v/v) As species decreased with storage except for wet needles.
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31 For wet needles, the concentration of organic As species varied with DMA concentrations
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33 decreasing with an increase in storage temperature in the order 25 °C < 2 °C < -20 °C . AB and
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35 TMAO concentrations also decreased after storage. They found that none of the storage
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37 procedures preserved As(III)/As(V) speciation. The concentration of As species varied less in
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39 freeze dried samples when stored for one month but As(III)/As(V) ratios decreased with
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41 increasing storage temperatures, indicating that the rate of As(III) oxidation increases with
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43 temperature . It was recommended that samples be freeze dried if plants are to be stored for long
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45 periods. Amaral and co-workers [69] evaluated the storage of *Brachiaria brizantha* samples. No
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47 significant differences were found between fresh samples and those freeze dried, chopped and
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49 stored at 4 °C, -18 °C or – 80 °C for 12 months, however, DMA was not extracted. Samples that
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51 were freeze dried, milled with liquid nitrogen and stored at room temperature gave higher As
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53 recoveries and similar results for As(III), As(V) and DMA over a 12 month period.

54 55 56 57 58 59 60 Thio-methylated As species

No information is available on the long term stability of thio-methylated As species in biota. It is presumed that similar precautions, e.g. freeze drying of samples, are needed to prevent microbial action and degradation/conversion of As species.

Arsenic glutathionines and phytochelatins

Raab and co-workers [70] found that when plant samples were stored at -20°C for four weeks, As phytochelatin complexes were degraded. A subsequent study in which plant samples were stored at -80°C showed that the major species AsPC3 are relatively stable, but some minor As species degraded [71]. Bluemlein and co-workers [71] recommended that freeze drying of plants not be performed for As-PC analyses as more than 90% of the As-PC complexes are destroyed. Munoz and co-workers [72], however, reported that freeze drying of *Chlorella vulgaris* before extraction did not result in the loss of As-PC complexes.

Sediment and soils

Little information is available on the stability of As species in stored sediment and soils, however, similar to biota, failure to freeze samples will likely result in degradation of As species due to microbial action.

Huang and Illgen [68] found that for wetland soils, methanol-water (1:5 v/v) extractable and inorganic and organic As species concentrations decreased for fresh and freeze-dried sediments that were stored for one month at 25°C , 2°C and -20°C . It was noted that the freezing of fresh wetland soils released water, thus care needs to be taken that no As species are lost with water released, as can occur for seaweeds. For freeze-dried mineral soils that contained only inorganic As, methanol-water (1:5 v/v) extractable As concentrations varied little compared to freshly prepared samples. Extractable As concentrations increased in the order $25^{\circ}\text{C} > 2^{\circ}\text{C} > -20^{\circ}\text{C}$.

Air particles

Oliveira and co-workers reported that As species in air particles collected on quartz air filters were stable for 33 months. Total As concentrations and speciation after extraction and analysis did not change significantly, however, no details on storage conditions were given other than that the filters were dried and wrapped in aluminium foil. Sánchez-Rodas and co-workers [73]

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3 conducted a similar study in which samples were stored and determined monthly for a year and
4 obtained similar results. Again no details of storage conditons were given.
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10 *Overview and recommendations*

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12 As waters and biological fluids undergo can undergo many physical, chemical and biological
13 reactions a summary of the effects of physiochemical variables on As species stability is given in
14 Table 2 with appropriate preservation techniques. As well, references are indicated that give
15 more information on specific effects. It is evident that the reactions that can occur will be
16 dependent on the sample matrix. Some reactions such as photooxidation can be easily prevented
17 by excluding light while bacteria can be removed by filtration. Freezing or acidification is widely
18 used to prevent a range of chemical (precipitation, complexation, hydrolysis) and biological
19 (microbial and algal growth) reactions. These procedures, however, may cause other physical
20 (photooxidation), chemical (oxidation-reduction, destabilisation of As-S species) and biological
21 (algal cell disruption) effects. Acidification should be avoided as the As(III)/As(V) equilibrium
22 and As-S species are disrupted. Unless precipitation of Fe, Mn or Ca is expected, removal of
23 bacteria by filtering, removing oxygen in container head spaces by N₂ purging, flash freezing
24 with liquid N₂ and storage under anaerobic conditons will probably prevent oxidation and
25 dissociation of most As species. An exception is samples in which MA(III) and DMA(III) are to
26 be determined; these species cannot be preserved or stored.
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40 Most As species in biota are stable if samples are frozen (-20 °C) or freeze dried. An exception
41 may be samples for AsPC analysis that need to be stored at least at -20 °C. Care should be taken
42 with biotic samples such as seaweeds that contain a significant quantity of water. Freezing and
43 thawing of samples will result in the loss of water and As. These type of samples should not be
44 frozen and either analysed fresh or immediately freeze dried.
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50 Drying and/or oxygenation of sediment and soils will cause the interconversion of As(III) and
51 As(V)(see sample preparation section). Thus samples should be fozen to prevent microbial
52 degradation of As species. If sediments are anoxic, precautions should be taken to exclude air to
53 prevent oxygenation of samples.
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Sample preparation

Removal of extraneous material

Macroalgae and plants, often need to be cleaned to remove surface material and epiphytes before analysis, as they can contain As species that can bias speciation results. Slejkovec and co-workers [74] advocated washing seaweeds with a 0.38% m/v NaCl solution so that cells are not disrupted due to osmotic pressure differences. In addition, a range of procedures including brushes and razor blades have been used to remove epiphytes [26], however, rarely are samples checked under a microscope to determine if surface material has been removed. For some samples, it is impossible to remove contaminating organisms. For example, seaweeds contain symbiotic fungi that are part of the plant matrix [75] and cannot be removed by washing or scrapping. Several studies have reported the presence of AB in seaweeds and seagrass leaves [74, 76] an As species not thought to be produced by these organisms and likely to be produced by associated epiphytes.

Animals need to be depurated before analysis as their digestive systems may contain sediment particles or undigested plant and animal tissues, which can contain As species that can bias speciation results. For example, many fish that fed on seagrass epiphytes contain undigested seagrass blades which contain mostly inorganic As [77]. Thus, if seagrass material is not depurated, elevated inorganic As concentrations will be determined in animals.

Efficacy of drying- changes in As speciation

Plants Huang and Illgen [68] compared the drying of two plants (*Picesabies* needles *Sphagnum* moss) by air (25 °C and 65 °C), nitrogen (25 °C) and freeze drying. The highest methanol-water (1:5 v/v) extractable As concentrations obtained for needles were in the following order: air (60 °C) > air (25 °C) > nitrogen > freeze dry > wet (extracted 27.1-63 %); for mosses the order was: wet > air (60 °C) > nitrogen > air (25 °C)~freeze drying (extracted 36.9-70.4 %). A shift in extractable As species occurs upon drying with a decrease in extractable TMAO and oxo-DMA after freeze drying, which is believed to result from demethylation: however, this is more likely

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3 to be the result of shifts in the binding of As species to plant components on drying. All drying
4 procedures caused changes in As (III)/As (V) ratios and organic As species concentrations.
5 Amaral and co-workers [69], however, found no significant changes in As(III), As(V) and DMA
6 in *Brachiaria brizantha* samples when freeze dried, ground in liquid nitrogen and stored at room
7 temperature. They noted that freeze drying was required to extract DMA. Smith and co-workers
8 [78] investigated the speciation of As in radish plants using X-ray Absorption Near Edge
9 Structure (XANES) and showed that drying converted As-S species to As(III), but with little
10 oxidation of As(III) to As(V). Mir and co-workers [79] compared the XANES spectra of dried
11 frozen plants (plants frozen after sampling then dried), dry ground plants and dried residues after
12 the sequential extraction of plants. No significant changes in the oxidation state of As(III) and
13 As(V) occurred for dried frozen plants and dried ground plants. However, shifts occurred from
14 As(Glu)₃ to As(III). Bluemlein and co-workers [71] recommended that freeze drying of plants
15 not be performed for As-PC analyses as more than 90% of the As-PC complexes are destroyed.
16 Munoz and co-workers [72], however, reported that freeze drying of *Chlorella vulgaris* before
17 extraction did not result in the loss of As-PC complexes. Jedynek and co-workers [80] examined
18 the effect of drying on As speciation of White mustard (*Sinapis alba*). Although they state that
19 drying did not significantly change As speciation, As(III)/As(V) ratios were influenced by drying
20 and the use of liquid nitrogen during grinding.
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36 Marine biota: It has been shown that oxo-methylated As species in extracts of fresh and freeze-
37 dried material are identical [81]. Arsenic species in freeze dried samples are stable for years
38 [66]. Kahn and co-workers [17] reported that oxidation of thio-methylated As species during
39 freeze drying also does not occur. Lewis and co-workers [63] reported a small reduction of
40 inorganic As (0.4 ± 0.21 %) in freeze-dried homogenised samples of two fish, Mergrim and
41 Place, compared to wet homogenisation and analysis. No reasons could be given for the
42 differences observed.
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49 Marine sediments: To determine the effect of freeze drying and exposure to air on As species in
50 sediment, Ellwood and Maher [82] compared the As species in three anoxic marine sediment
51 samples before and after freeze drying. The percentages of As extracted from two of the samples
52 that were freeze dried were higher than the non-freeze dried samples. The non-freeze dried
53 samples contained significant amounts of arsenosugars. Upon freeze drying, there, however, was
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3 a significant reduction in the concentration of arsenosugars and a corresponding increase in the
4 concentration of As(V), but no evidence of oxo-MA or oxo-DMA formation. The increase in
5 As(V) concentration probably resulted from the oxidation of Arseno-pyrite present within the
6 samples. These results indicate that the speciation of As determined within sediments is strongly
7 influenced by drying. Traditionally, sediment samples are freeze dried and exposed to air prior to
8 being extracted. Clearly, this influences the speciation of As thereby giving a false impression of
9 the “true” speciation of As within sediment samples.

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17 Terrestrial sediments: Huerga and co-workers [83] compared the effects of freeze drying, oven
18 drying, microwave heating and air drying on water and phosphate buffer exchangeable fractions
19 of As (no details of the temperatures used were given). Drying procedures did not influence the
20 amount of water extractable As, but freeze drying and air drying yielded higher amounts of
21 phosphate extractable As. Arsenic speciation measurements were not performed on the initial
22 wet sediment, thus the extent of As(III)-As(V) transformation is unknown. Huang and Ilgen [68]
23 investigated the effect of drying on methanol-water (5:1 v/v) extractable As species. For wetland
24 soils, extractable As decreased in the following order: air (60 °C) > wet > freeze drying > air (25
25 °C) > nitrogen (25 °C) (Extracted 0.05-0.11 %). For mineral soils, variations in extractable As
26 were small with air (60 °C) = air (25 °C) = nitrogen (25 °C) > wet > freeze drying (extracted 0.09-
27 0.10 %). As (III)/As (V) ratios varied significantly between drying regimes as did oxo-MA, oxo-
28 DMA, AB, TMAO and unknown As species concentrations for dried wetland soils.

39 40 41 *Effects of sample grinding and particle size*

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44 Smith and co-workers [78] using XANES reported that As(III) in leaf and stems of radish
45 plants is oxidised during grinding while Zheng and co-workers [84] could not find any As-PC
46 complexes in plant extracts after samples had been freeze dried and ground.

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50 Pizarro and co-workers [85] showed that due to microbiological activity, once rice grains were
51 ground, As (III), As (V), oxo-MA and oxo-DMA were not stable under any storage conditions (4
52 °C and -20 °C in the dark). When ground rice was sterilised by gamma-irradiation, As species
53 remain stable. Rice can contain 10-20% moisture by weight providing a good medium for
54 microbiological activity and conversion of As species.

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3 Eventhough samples are often homogenised by grinding, particle size is rarely specified or
4 characterised. The importance of particle size on As extraction has been demonstrated by
5 Narukawa and Chiba [86] who showed that the extraction efficiency of As from rice with
6 deionised water decreased by 10 to 30% when particle size increased from < 150 to 500 μm .
7 Alava and co-workers [87] showed that extractable As from rice samples increased from 70% for
8 whole grain, to ~80% for particle size below 1 mm, and to 90% for particle size below 0.5 mm
9 to 100% when particle size was reduced to a powder. Grinding did not seem to affect As
10 speciation. In contrast, Schmidt and co-workers [88] reported that the extracted amount of
11 As(V) and oxo-DMA from rice did not depend on whether the rice was fresh or ground, but
12 As(III) concentrations increase with milling.
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22 Often analysis of certified reference materials (CRM) are used to validate methods. Most CRMs
23 are ground to 50-400 μm e.g. NIST 1568a rice flour [89] and some are de-fatted. Most samples,
24 however, are not de-fatted or adequately ground, bringing into question the performance of the
25 methods validated using CRMs for 'real' samples.
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33 *Overview and recommendations*

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35 Macroalgae and plant surfaces need to be cleaned and animals depurated or As analyses will be
36 biased either in terms of As concentrations or As species determined. Careful consideration
37 needs be given as to whether samples should be dried and the appropriate drying procedure.
38 Drying is likely to cause the interconversion of As(III) and As(V) and oxidation of As-S species,
39 especially in anoxic sediments: however, oxo- and thio- methylated As and AsPC species are
40 generally stable. If drying is performed, the drying procedure may affect the extraction of as
41 species, with freeze drying usually giving the best extraction efficiencies. Sample particle size
42 critically affects extraction efficiencies and a particle size < 100 μm is recommended to obtain
43 good extraction efficiencies. As noted, the use of CRMs to validate methods should be used with
44 caution unless real samples are to be ground to a similar particle size and defatted.
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56 **Arsenic species analysis- general considerations**

The extraction and separation procedures that can be used to isolate, separate and measure lipid, water-soluble and residue-associated As species in various samples are outlined below. There are three distinct steps in undertaking speciation analysis: (1) Total As measurement; (2) As species extraction and measurement of extract As concentration and (3) separation of As species by HPLC and ICPMS or HG-AFS quantification. Each step needs to be optimized and the selection of extractants and mobile phases for HPLC separation carefully considered. For example, when analyzing As species, if ICPMS is used, extractants and mobile phases containing chloride need to be avoided as chloride can form $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$ molecules in the ICPMS plasma. $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$ has the same mass to charge ratio as $^{75}\text{As}^+$ thus leading to overestimation of the “true” amount of As present. The use of a dynamic reaction or collision cell, however, can be used to reduce or remove this $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$ interference [90]. The use of mobile phases with high organic contents can also extinguish plasmas, or cause As signal enhancement [91], thus effluent streams need to be split and oxygen added to the plasma to aid in the removal of carbon [92]. The choice of extraction solvent and mobile phase may also affect the integrity of As species, especially As complexes such as AsGSH [93].

Sample extraction

Arsenic species in plants, animals, sediments, soils and air particles

Water, methanol, methanol-water and buffer soluble

As (III), As (V) and oxy-methylated arsenic species

Francesconi and Kuehnelt [13] suggested that methanol was initially favored for extraction of As species from marine tissues because it extracted fewer non-arsenical compounds and was easy to remove by evaporation. Methanol is a poor extractant of inorganic As species [94], however, it appears that the efficient extraction of some As species such as TETRA requires methanol [95]. Most naturally occurring As species in marine tissues are polar and soluble in water, thus the use of methanol-water mixtures provides a good compromise between As solubility and ease of solvent removal.

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Seaweeds: Most studies of As in macroalgae have used water or methanol-water mixtures [94, 96] to extract As species, with a 1:1 (v/v) the methanol-water mixture most commonly used. Mechanical agitation, sonication and pressurised liquid extraction systems have been used to aid As extraction (Table 4), however, even with the use of repeated extractions (3 or 4 extractions) recoveries of As are often low and variable (3 – 98%). Poor recoveries are often reported for red and green macroalgae [21, 74, 97]. Microwave heating is now widely used to extract As species from seaweeds and shown to give better recoveries [96].

For seaweeds, no single extraction method will remove all As species [94, 96]. The glycerol-arsenoriboside, arsenosugar 1, lacks an acidic group in the aglycone and is less polar than other arsenosugars and better extracted into methanol while the addition of water assists in the extraction of other arsenoribosides. Inorganic As is also not readily extracted into methanol. Tukai and co-workers [96] showed that the optimal methanol-water composition for As extraction varies for different genera and species of seaweeds. The extraction of As from three different macroalgae classes was optimised using a chemometric approach, with solvent composition and sample mass being the two significant factors influencing the extraction of As. Extraction temperature and extraction time did not significantly influence the extraction of As. The optimised conditions for As extraction using sample masses of 0.05-0.08 g per 10 mL of solvent at 70 °C for 5 min were: (% methanol) 56% for phaeophyta, 66% for rhodophyta and 78% for chlorophyta,. When repeat extractions were used, the percentage of As extracted from macroalgae were greater than 88%. No degradation of arsenoribosides was observed. In a subsequent study by Van Elteren and co-workers [94] they showed that the extraction of arsenosugar 1 was enhanced relative to other arsenosugars at higher methanol concentrations (>25%) because arsenosugar 1 is more polar in nature. The dimethyl arsinoyl group (CH₃)₂As- is protonated below pH 3 thereby making arsenosugar 1 polar. At lower methanol concentrations, As(V) and arsenosugar 2 extraction is favored due to their ionic character. Arsenate is not soluble in pure methanol [98] while arsenosugar 2 is likely to be present in an ionized form and not readily extracted into methanol.

Narukawa and co-workers [99] demonstrated that when using microwave assisted extraction that high temperatures (90-100 °C) should not be used during the extraction process. For example, when NMIJ CRM 7405a (*Hizikia fusiforme*) was heated at 60 °C for 30 minutes, arsenosugars 2-

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3 4 remained unchanged and extraction efficiencies were 42-50 %. At 100 °C, arsenosugars 2-4
4 were lost but the peak corresponding to arsenosugar 3 increased.
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10 Plants: The use of methanol-water mixtures and water using mechanical agitation, sonification,
11 microwave heating and pressurised liquid extraction systems have been shown to yield low
12 extraction efficiencies (4-31%) for plant material, including rice (Table 4). Exceptions are the
13 work of Heitkemper and co-workers [100] and Narukawa and Chiba [86]. Heitkemper and co-
14 workers [100] extracted rice using methanol, water and mixtures of methanol-water of varying
15 concentrations with the assistance of a pressurised liquid extraction system operated at room
16 temperature. For CRM 1568a (rice flour) all solvent mixtures used gave good recoveries (76-
17 105%), while “real world” samples only yielded between 24 - 36%. Narukawa and Chiba [86]
18 extracted rice with water at 90°C for 3 hrs and obtained good extraction efficiencies (97-102%).
19 Narukawa and co-workers [101] subsequently showed that extraction of rice with water at 100
20 °C for 2 hours gave similar recoveries (94.7-101.6%). It has been claimed (no data given) that
21 higher extraction efficiencies can be obtained for Chinese Brake fern (*Pteris vittata*) when it is
22 freeze dried rather than air dried [102]. Quaghebeur and co-workers [103] obtained good
23 extraction of As species from grasses using a solution containing 0.3 M sucrose, 50 mM 2-(N-
24 morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid, 5 mM Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid and 50 mM ascorbate
25 (pH 5.5). Mir and co-workers [79] extracted plant tissues with methanol-water (1:1 v/v) followed
26 by 0.1 M hydrochloric acid and increased extraction efficiencies from 32 ±23 to 57 ± 34 %.
27 Others have used aqueous buffers (Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane/HCl, Tris(2-
28 carboxyethyl)phosphine, Phenylmethanesulfonylfluoride and Polyvinylpyrrolidone).
29 Schmidt and co-workers [104] and reported increased extraction efficiencies (76.2 ± 1.7%).
30 Some authors have used sequential extraction to increase extraction efficiencies. For example,
31 Mrak and co-workers [105] extracted lichens with hot water followed by extraction with a tris
32 buffer to increase extraction efficiencies from 19.2-22.4% to 45-83%.
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52 Jedynek and co-workers [80] examined the effect of drying on As speciation of White mustard
53 (*Sinapis alba*). Drying and the use of liquid nitrogen during grinding clearly increased the
54 extraction efficiencies of As from roots, stem and leaves with water, but changed As(III)/As(V)
55 ratios.
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5 The use of sub-critical water (temperatures between 100 and 350 °C under pressure) has not been
6 extensively considered as an extractant medium for As species from plants but may offer some
7 advantages over conventional extraction techniques (see below sediment and soils). Schmidt and
8 co-workers [106] used subcritical water and water-methanol mixtures (9: 1 and 8:2 v/v) at 150
9 °C to extract plants. Recoveries cannot be evaluated as only the sum of As species was given and
10 not total As in extracts. The addition of methanol decreased the extraction efficiencies of As(III)
11 and As(V). As(III) was not stable. MA and DMA were reported to be stable, however, data given
12 in the paper indicates 6-18% loss of these species at 150 °C. We have used water with 2%
13 hydrogen peroxide heated to 150 °C under pressure to quantitatively extract As species from rice
14 samples (Recoveries 99-100%). As(III) is converted to As(V) but DMA is stable.
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27 Animal tissues: Again water and methanol-water mixtures have been used extensively in
28 combination with mechanical agitation, sonication, microwave heating and pressurised liquid
29 extraction systems for the extraction of As species from animal tissues (Table 4). Thus, most
30 methods only determine As species that are soluble in water or methanol-water solutions. This is
31 usually not a problem when analysing marine animal muscle tissues, as As is normally present as
32 AB and is readily extractable [12, 107], however, in other non-muscle tissues, such as in lobster
33 hepatopancreas tissues, As can be present in lipids and only isolated by extraction with solvents
34 such as chloroform-methanol or hexane [92, 108, 109]. The extraction efficiency of As from the
35 water-soluble fraction of marine animals using a methanol-water (1:1 v/v) mixture has been
36 shown to be dependent on the animal species and the tissue being determined. High As
37 extraction efficiencies has been obtained for muscle tissues (e.g. Dorm – 2; $103 \pm 2\%$), however,
38 lower recoveries (19-77%) are reported for other tissues (e.g. liver, hepatopancreas and digestive
39 tissues) and whole animals (e.g. oysters and mussels) [107, 110-114]. The extraction efficiencies
40 for fatty fish e.g. herring and mackerals, tend to be lower (37-54 %) than other fish, molluscs and
41 crustaceans [115]. Similarly, low As recoveries have been reported for terrestrial organisms
42 such as benthic invertebrates (18-49 %)[116]], insects ($32 \pm 26\%$) [117]], earth worms (28-82
43 %) [118]] and zooplankton (36-95 %, mean \pm sd $61 \pm 22\%$) [119]].
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Microwave assisted heating has shown to give better recoveries than shaking and sonication [94, 120]. Kirby and Maher [107] found that As can be extracted from most marine animal tissues, after freeze-drying, grinding and defatting with acetone, using a 50% v/v methanol – water mixture with microwave-assisted heating at 70°C for 5 min. The extraction efficiencies from these tissues showed little improvement with increased extraction time (10 to 20 min). Three separate extractions were required to extract the majority of water-soluble As species. While some mechanical mixing does occur in the microwave oven from turntable rotation, high As extraction efficiencies from animal tissues will only occur at temperatures close to the boiling point of the methanol - water mixture. At temperatures around 70 °C mixing increases between the sample and solvent due to formation of thermal convection currents. The use of sub-critical water gives similar recoveries, for example, Piñeiro and co-workers [121] used a Dionex ASE system to extract human scalp hair with water at 100 °C and 1500 psi for 5 min and obtained extraction efficiencies for GBW-07601 human hair of 80 ±1%.

Sediments and soils: Generally recoveries of As species extracted from sediments and soils with water, methanol-water mixtures or buffers are poor. An exception is the sub-critical extraction of As from soils with water [122, 123], where water is heated under pressure to 300 °C. Extraction efficiencies are increased from ~10% at 25 °C to 94-100% at 300 °C. At this temperature the viscosity, surface tension and dielectric constant of water is decreased and self ionisation increased. In comparison, sub-critical extraction with water containing citric acid, EDTA and sodium hydroxide gave similar recoveries indicating that temperature is the most important factor aiding As extraction and not the presence of a chelating agent [122]. The mechanism leading to efficient As extraction at elevated temperatures is not clear but may result from increased H⁺/OH⁻ production or enhanced oxidative dissolution of As containing minerals e.g. $\text{As}_2\text{O}_3 + 5\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{HAsO}_4^{2-} + 8\text{H}^+$

Thio- methylated arsenic species

Thio-methylated As species can be efficiently extracted from marine algae and animal tissues with a methanol-water (1:1v/v) mixture [56]. Kahn and co-workers [17] reported that methanol is needed for extraction of thio-As species, but no data given to support this conclusion. The efficiency of As extraction is also unclear as published studies only report the total amount of As extracted with recoveries varying from 35% in gonodal material to 86-92% in Kelp powder [17,

124, 125]. Maher and co-workers [56] spiked *Ecklonia radiata* samples with three thio-arsenoribosides (arsenosugar 1, 2 and 3) at the 10 $\mu\text{g/g}$ As level and extracted samples with methanol-water (1:1 v/v) at 70 °C for 5 min; recoveries of 98 ± 5 (n = 5) were obtained. When extraction efficiencies of seaweed and marine animal samples containing thio- methylated As species are examined, most of the methanol-water extractant recoveries lie between 75-107 % (90 ± 15 %, n =12) of the total As present. This indicates that complete extraction of thio-methylated As species probably occurs if these species are present. For some samples, e.g. red seaweeds and the gastropod *Turbo torquatus*, extraction recoveries were low (62-75 %) and probably result from these samples containing large amounts of calcium carbonate or lipids that may inhibit extraction. A methanol-water mixture is usually chosen as the extractant because acid and alkali reagents can potentially degrade thio-As species or promote inter-conversion between oxidized and sulfide forms [54, 126]. Even with these reagents, As species degradation is only severe at high temperatures, at high acid or base concentrations and over long extraction periods. When seaweed tissues were spiked with thio-arsenoribosides at the 20 $\mu\text{g/g}$ As level, Maher and co-workers [56] found that methanol-water (1:1 v/v) extraction, with microwave heating at 70 °C, gave good recoveries (107 ± 14 %, n = 12) with little oxidation of thio-methylated As species occurring over the 30 min extraction period. In contrast, extraction using rotational mixing at 25 °C resulted in the substantial oxidation of spiked thio-methylated As species (recoveries 5 – 40 %, n= 12,). Oxidation of the spiked thio-methylated As species probably resulted from interaction with air in the head space of the extraction vessel as the mixture rotated. When the two extraction methods were compared with tissues obtained from the marine gastropod *Cellana transemosica* containing only natural thio-methylated arsenoribosides, no significant differences are observed between extraction procedures. This finding indicates that when thio-arsenoribosides are incorporated under natural conditions, oxidation during extraction does not appear to occur.

Acid or base soluble As species

Low As extraction efficiencies for plant and other materials are usually obtained with methanol-water, thus acids and bases have been used with varying success to improve extraction efficiencies [117, 127]. Methods that employ microwave assisted heating generally give higher recoveries of As than non-microwave extraction techniques [128].

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5 Seaweeds: Foster and co-workers [127] extracted BCR 279 *Ulva latuca* with 2% v/v nitric acid
6 at 90 °C for 6 min and obtained 58 % recovery. The extraction efficiency of As from hard to
7 extract seaweeds such as red algae *Porphyra yezonsis* can also be enhanced ($113 \pm 8\%$) using
8 nitric acid [128].
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14 When arsenoriboses (Arsenosugars 1-4) standards were extracted with dilute nitric acid they all
15 degraded to a product eluting at the same retention time as the glycerol arsenoribose [127]. In
16 practice dilute nitric acid, however, can be used for extraction because sea-weed bound
17 arsenoribosides remain relatively stable if the samples are determined on the day of extraction.
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23 Narukawa and co-workers [99, 129] extracted NMIJ CRM 7405a *Hizikia fusiforme* with 1 % v/v
24 HNO₃ at 90-100 °C (time not specified) and obtained As recoveries of 96-100%. Similar to
25 Foster and co-workers [127], they reported the conversion of arsenoribosides to other products.
26 They also extracted *Hizikia fusiforme* with 2 % v/v Tetramethyl ammonium hydroxide at 90-100
27 °C (time not specified), but found As recoveries were lower (64-72%).
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34 Plants: Some As species are “not easy” to extract and measure because they are unstable or
35 dissociate during extraction [71]. Arsenic in rice and other plants, for example, is present mainly
36 as inorganic As bound to glutathionines or phytochelatins [130]. If extractants are not chosen to
37 minimise the dissociation of complexes, only inorganic As will be determined. As-
38 phytochelatins extracts can be prepared by grinding wet samples with liquid nitrogen and
39 extraction with chilled 1% v/v formic acid for 1 hr at 0 °C [131]. A range of dilute acids and
40 bases such as 0.3-1.5 M orthophosphoric acid, 2 M trichloroacetic acid, 2 M tricfluoroacetic
41 acid, 1 M hydrochloric acid, 0.28-1 M nitric acid, 0.2-1 M acetic acid, 1M sulfuric acid, 1.25 M
42 EDTA at pH 4.7, 0.66 M sodium hydroxide and 10 mM tetrabutylammonium hydroxide at
43 various temperatures (70 - 100 °C) and times (10 min to 6 hr) have also been used to remove As
44 from plants utilising mechanical mixing and microwave heating [117, 132-136]. Acids tend to
45 extract reasonable amounts of As (67-112%), whereas recoveries for base extractions are
46 typically lower (21 – 36 %). Lui and co-workers [137] in a comprehensive study extracted rice
47 and Chinese herbal medicines with a range of acids and heating steps (1% v/v nitric acid, 1% v/v
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nitric acid-1% v/v hydrogen peroxide and microwave heating, at 55-95 °C for 60 minutes, and 2 M trifluoroacetic acid in a digestion block at 100 °C for 5 hours followed by evaporation to dryness at 160°C). They found that microwave extraction with nitric acid or nitric acid-hydrogen peroxide gave the best extractions (79-128%) compared to water (51-64%) and trifluoroacetic acid (74-84%). Recoveries of As from a range of Chinese herbal medicines (roots and shoots) with nitric acid-hydrogen peroxide were 48-160%. Narukawa and co-workers [101] compared the use of acids (nitric, hydrochloric, sulphuric, perchloric, bromide, phosphoric, formic and methane sulfonate), hydrogen peroxide, tetramethyl ammonium hydroxide and ammonium nitrate using a hot plate to extract As from rice. They found the use acids quantitatively extracted As (97-104.7%) when acid concentration was $> 0.05 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ though some As(V) was reduced to As(III). It was suggested that Γ in rice extracts is oxidised and As(V) reduced to As(III). Extracted As under neutral to basic conditions was lower (81.7-98.5%) as some As(III) could not be extracted.

Under the conditions used, both acids and bases are likely to have destroyed any As-GSH and As-PC species present and also have facilitated As redox transformations. For example, the use of 2 mol/L trifluoroacetic acid as an extractant has been found to reduce As(V) to As(III) while the use of 30% v/v phosphoric acid as an extractant leads to the oxidation of As(III) to As(V) [136, 138, 139]. Munoz and co-workers [72] recently showed that the use of focussed sonification with 1% v/v formic acid for 30 seconds gave improved extraction efficiencies (~71%) from *Chlorella vulgaris*, an increase from 11-27% [70] and preserved the As-PC complexes. The effects of bases on the speciation of As extracted from plant samples has not been assessed.

Animal tissues: Foster and co-workers [127] extracted marine animal tissues with four extractants (water, methanol-water (1:1 v/v), 1.5 mol/L orthophosphoric acid and 1-3% v/v nitric acid). The most efficient extractant was 2% v/v nitric acid (90 °C for 6 min) which gave excellent As recoveries across a range of reference materials and “hard to extract tissues” e.g. digestive tissues (76-107%). As species (As(III), As(V), oxo-MA, oxo-DMA, AB, TMAO, DMAE, DMAA, TMAP, AC, TETRA and glycerol trimethyl arsonioribose) but not arsenosugars 1-4 were found to be stable under these optimised conditions. Batista and co-workers [140] used a modification of the 2% v/v nitric acid procedure in which 10% v/v methanol was added

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3 and sonified for 2 minutes. Recoveries from a range of terrestrial and marine tissues including
4 three reference materials ranged between 86-112%. A few studies have reported the use of bases
5 to extract inorganic As species from animal tissues [141, 142]. For example, Pétursdóttir and co-
6 workers [143] used sodium hydroxide in 50% ethanol with microwave heating at 85 °C for 5
7 minutes, to extract inorganic As from fish tissues. Extraction efficiencies for total As ranged
8 between 66-102%.
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15 Sediments: A range of acids including phosphoric, sulphuric and hydrochloric acid with and
16 without reducing agents (ascorbic acid, hydroxylamine hydrochloride) and sonification or
17 microwave heating have been used to extract As from sediments (Table 4). Sediments usually
18 contain a range of As-binding sites, thus a number of sediment classification schemes have been
19 devised to investigate the distribution of As within sediments [144, 145]. The major adsorptive
20 phases within the sediment that have been identified, include an exchangeable fraction, an
21 iron/manganese oxide fraction, a carbonate fraction, an organic fraction or adsorbed or
22 incorporated into a residual or lattice bound fraction. Sodium hydroxide, hydroxylamine
23 hydrochloride and ascorbic acid have been used to remove As associated with amorphous and
24 well-crystallised Fe-Mn oxides, phosphoric acid or phosphoric acid/methanol (1:1, v/v) mixtures
25 are used to remove As associated with organics while hydrochloric acid has been used to remove
26 As from carbonates [82, 146, 147]. Procedures to extract As species from sediments have had
27 limited success in preserving the original As redox species during extraction. As(III) appears to
28 be stable in solutions used for extraction, however, when sediments are added As(III) is quickly
29 oxidised to As(V). Ellwood and Maher [82] tested a number of extractants known for their
30 ability to remove As associated with different sediment phases accompanying marine sediments.
31 Overall the best extractant for removing As from oxic sediments was phosphoric acid, which was
32 able to extract up to ~75% of As from some sediments. For anoxic sediments, hydrochloric acid
33 and sodium hydroxide proved to be the best reagents for extracting As, followed by phosphoric
34 acid. Repeated extraction of NRCC BCSS-1 with each reagent showed that the amount of As
35 released to solution during the second extraction was 4-8%, indicating that only a single
36 extraction step is required to obtain ~90% of extractable As. The best extractant for both oxic
37 and the anoxic sediments was phosphoric acid. For oxic sediments spiked with 100 µg L⁻¹
38 As(III), the recovery of As(III) after extraction was low with values ranging between 15 to 30 %.
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3 A corresponding increase in As(V) concentration indicated that a significant amount of the
4 As(III) added to oxic sediment solutions was being oxidised to As(V) during the extraction
5 procedure. During the extraction process, it is likely that the oxidation of As(III) to As(V) is
6 facilitated by redox active metals, such as iron and manganese, which are co-extracted with As.
7 A number of “sacrificial oxidants” were added to the phosphoric acid solution in an effort to
8 reduce the oxidation of As(III) to As(V) during the extraction procedure, but without reducing
9 As(V) to As(III). The sacrificial oxidants tested in combination with phosphoric acid (0.5 mol/L)
10 were hydroxylamine hydrochloride (0.1 M), cysteine (2.5 % w/v), ascorbic acid (0.5 mol/L) and
11 mercaptoethanol (2.5 % w/v). The best results for preserving As(III) from oxidation were
12 achieved when hydroxylamine hydrochloride was used in combination with phosphoric acid.
13 Only a slight increase in As(V) concentration occurred for all but one reference sediment spiked
14 with As(III), thereby indicating that little As(III) was converted to As(V) during the extraction
15 process. No increase in the As (III) concentration was observed for samples spiked with As(V),
16 indicating that As(V) was not reduced during the extraction process. Of the other sacrificial
17 oxidants tested, cysteine reduced As(V) to As(III), ascorbic acid did not prevent the oxidation of
18 As(III) to As(V), and with mercaptoethanol neither As(V) and As(III) were recovered. Similar
19 approaches using added ascorbic acid have been used to extract As species from soils [148] and
20 iron minerals [149]. The recoveries of As from oxic and an anoxic sediment extracted with 0.5
21 mol/L phosphoric acid and 0.1 mol/L hydroxylamine hydrochloride ranged between ranged
22 between 32 % As extracted for NIST 1646 Estuarine sediment to 72 % for NIST 1941 Marine
23 sediment indicating that there is a significant amount of As present in the sediment that is not
24 extractable. Extraction efficiencies were greater for freeze dried ground sediments than anoxic
25 sediments (15-79% vs 18-26%). Maher [150] also found that a significant amount of As could
26 not be extracted (13-30 %) from sediments collected from the African coast and estuarine
27 sediments from southern England. Only after digestion with HNO₃/HF/HClO₃ acids was this As
28 recovered. It appears that if the sediment contains minerals such as arsenopyrite, little of this As
29 is extractable. As noted previously, the freeze drying of anoxic sediments results in a significant
30 reduction in the concentration of arsenosugars and an increase in the concentration of As(V).
31 Although freeze drying leads to a greater extraction efficiencies, the true speciation is not
32 obtained. Other authors have also reported the oxidation of As(III) to As(V) on drying sediments
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3 It should be noted that the use of hydrochloric acid is not particularly useful for the extraction of
4 As from sulfidic sediments such as those containing pyrite compounds; hydrochloric acid
5 promotes the formation of H₂S and precipitation of As-sulfide complexes e.g. As + H₂S = AsS
6 [152]. The use of alkali provides better extraction of As from sulphur rich sediments.
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11 Air particles: Similar to sediments, a range of acids with and without reducing agents and
12 sonification or microwave heating have been used to extract As from air particles (Table 4). As
13 recoveries are variable (60-100%) with sonification giving lower recoveries than microwave
14 assisted extraction. Most studies have only reported As(III) and As(V) concentrations in samples
15 [73, 153-155]. One study has reported measurable concentrations of DMA and TMA in airborne
16 particulate matter [118].
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19 Sequential extraction of As species with methanol-water and dilute nitric or hydrochloric acid

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22 Foster and co-workers [127] described a sequential As extraction procedure for algae, plants and
23 animal tissues using methanol-water (1:1 v/v) followed by 2% v/v nitric acid with microwave
24 assisted heating (90 °C, 5 min). This approach was used to preserve the integrity of As species
25 (As(III), As(V), oxo-MA, oxo-DMA, AB, TMAO, DMAE, DMAA, TMAP, AC, TETRA,
26 arsenosugars 1-4, glycerol trimethyl arsonioribose). The increased extraction efficiencies of hard
27 to extract organisms such as *Ulva*, seagrass and salt marsh plant leaves varied between 30-40%
28 to 50-90% respectively. The methanol-water extraction removed most of the organic As species
29 while the 2% v/v nitric acid removed the remaining inorganic As and some oxo-DMA. Whaley-
30 Martin and co-workers [95] have also reported the use of this approach to increase the extraction
31 efficiencies of hard to extract As species from terrestrial organisms.
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36 Mir and co-workers [79] used methanol-water (1:1 v/v) followed by 0.1 M hydrochloric acid to
37 extract As from plants grown in As contaminated soils. Methanol-water extraction efficiencies
38 ranged between 13-105%. The use of hydrochloric acid increased the median extraction
39 efficiency from 29 to 46%.
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42 Enzyme soluble As species

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45 A number of studies have reported that the use of trypsin [123], trypsin in 0.1 mol/L ammonium
46 hydrogen carbonate [156], amylase [157], pepsin and pancreatin [134], protease Type XIV and
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amylase [158] and protease and lipase [159] with and without the use of sonification. All give good recoveries of As (80-110%) extracted from hair, rice, baby foods, fish and crustaceans (Table 4). Long extraction times are normally required (12-24 hours) but can be shortened to 3-10 minutes if samples are ultrasonicated [159-161]. The use of ultrasonification disrupts cell walls and facilitates the interaction of enzymes with cells. For example, Sanz and co-workers [159] extracted human hair with lipase and protease and released 60% of the As within 10 minutes.

Organic solvent soluble As species

To extract arseno-lipids from fish tissues or oils, hexane [92, 160], methanol [162-165], ether [166], chloroform/methanol (2:1 v/v) [108, 109, 167-173], hexane-methanol [14] and hexane-methanol-dichloromethane [174], and methanol-dichloromethane [175] have been used. When methanol is used in conjunction with dichloromethane as a component of the solvent mixture, greater recoveries of the arsenic phospholipids are obtained [175].

Validation of the use of extractants

There is on-going concern that extraction procedures alter the As species extracted. XANES has been used to analysis As species in solid samples to determine whether As species change during extraction. As-S species in particular have been shown to convert to As(III)/As(V) when extracted and determined by HPLC-ICPMS, for example, in rice [129]. Three reasons are given for conversion of As species during extraction and HPLC-ICPMS:

1) *Oxidation and dissociation during grinding and drying.* The release of cellular compounds causes As-S to dissociate and As(III) to oxidise to As(V). Maher and co-workers [176] extracted freeze dried and ground rice samples with 2% v/v nitric acid at 90 °C for 10 minutes and used XANES and HPLC-ICPMS to compare As species, pre- and post extraction. Good agreement using both techniques for total inorganic As and oxo-DMA in a range of rice samples was found with clear evidence of As(III)-S species dissociating to As(III). Some minor differences in As(III) and As(V) were found as a result of photooxidation in the XANES beam. Lombi and co-

workers [129] also found that As(III)-S species in rice survive drying and grinding. Langdon and co-workers [137] determined methanol-water (1:1 v/v) extracts of the earthworm *Lumbricus rubellus*. Worms from the same site with comparable As concentrations had good agreement of the percentage of As(III)/As(III)-S and As(V) by HPLC-ICPMS (68 and 31% respectively, 81% extracted) and XANES (65 and 35% respectively). Bluemlein and co-workers [71] compared the measurement of As-peptides in plants by HPLC-ICPMS after extraction with 1% formic acid and XANES and showed that As bound to S of peptides was similar (HPLC: 55-64%, XANES: 53%). As-S bonds were not formed during extraction or chromatography thus the extraction procedure preserved the integrity of the As-S species. Caumette and co-workers [119] extracted fresh water phytoplankton and zooplankton with water and compared the results of anion HPLC-ICPMS with XANES of solid samples. For one zooplankton sample (95% extracted, 89 ± 12 % column recovery) a good agreement between total inorganic As (XANES, 32%, HPLC-ICPMS, 38%) and total arsenosugar (XANES, 67%, HPLC-ICPMS, 67%) contents were obtained.

Mir and co-workers [79] used XANES to examine the As species of dried ground plants and dry residues of plants extracted with methanol-water (1:1 v/v) and 0.1 M hydrochloric acid. As(III)/As(V) ratios were preserved during sample preparation and extraction but As-S species were not major species in these plants. The As species in dried residues are not consistent with the original As species in plants showing that when these solvents are used transformations occur during extraction.

2) *HPLC buffers cause oxidation and dissociation.* Raab and co-workers [130] showed that As-PCs in *Holcus lanatus* and *Pteris cretica* dissociated during chromatography. Bluemlein and co-workers [177] showed that As in peptides could be extracted from plants by formic acid and separated by HPLC-ICPMS using with good agreement between XANES (As(III)-S, 53%) and HPLC-ICPMS (As(III)-PCs, 55-64%).

3) *Retention of As species by column.* It has been shown that As-S species can have long retention times when chromatographic conditions normally used to separate oxo-As species are used [22, 178, 179]. Thus differences observed between XANES and HPLC-ICPMS may not be due to sample preparation but poor chromatography.

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5 Other studies have used HPLC-ICPMS and XANES to examine As species but it is not possible
6 to compare results because of low extraction efficiencies. For example, two terrestrial
7 invertebrates [144, 180], 28-82% and $32 \pm 26\%$ respectively), rice (Merharg et al 2008, 63-86%)
8 and *Mytilus edulis* (42-62%) [181]. Most of the unextracted As is inorganic As, but not always
9 [181].
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16 XANES cannot be used to confirm the presence of AB and TETRA as these As species have
17 similar line energies and cannot be discriminated. Also organic As species are often below the
18 instrumental detection limits [119, 144, 180, 181]. Often XANES and HPLC-ICPMS are used
19 together to measure As species. For example, Smith and co-workers [182] reported Inorganic As,
20 AB and DMA in white button mushrooms *Agaricus bisporus* using a combination of these
21 techniques.
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28 ***Storage of extracts***

29 As (III) and As (V)

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32 The stability of As(III) and As(V) in extracts is unclear, but standards have been reported to be
33 unstable even when frozen at $-21\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ [183], and it is likely that As(III) is oxidised to As(V) in
34 extracts. Pizaro and co-workers [85] showed that As (III) and As (V) in methanol-water (1:1
35 v/v) extracts of rice were stable when stored at $4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ in the dark. These rice samples have been γ -
36 irradiated and the applicability of these findings to non-sterile samples containing bacteria needs
37 to be investigated. García Salgado and co-workers [66] reported that As (V) in water extracts of
38 NIES No 9 Sargasso are stable in polystyrene containers at $-18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 15 days, while Hijiki
39 extracts needed to be stored at $+4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ in order to ensure stability for 10 days. There was,
40 however, some uncertainty as to the type of container (polystyrene, glass etc.) that is the most
41 suitable for the storage of extracts.
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52 Oxo-methylated As species

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55 Generally aqueous and methanol-water extracts of oxo-methylated As species stored at $4\text{-}20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
56 are stable for short periods of 15-20 days [26, 85]. Phosphate and sulphonated arsenoribosides
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3 can hydrolyse to glycerol sugars when in solution, thus arsenosugar extracts are best stored as
4 freeze dried extracts. MA(III) and DMA (III) stocks have been reported to be unstable if stored
5 for more than a week at 4 °C, but stable if stored at -20 °C [184]. Thus it is likely that sample
6 extracts will need to be stored below -20 °C, if the integrity of these As species are to be
7 maintained. Acidification of extracts should also be avoided as this will also led to the
8 degradation of arsenosugars [185].
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14 Thio-methylated As species

15 During storage at 25 °C, thio-methylated As species in deionised water slowly convert into their
16 oxy-analogs. Elevated temperatures (60 °C) accelerate S to O conversion rates of thio-DMA and
17 thio-TMAO in solution whereas refrigeration (4 °C) retards conversion (10 % vs 0.4 % per
18 week) [186]. The authors point out that even at 60 °C it would take 2 days for conversion to
19 occur that exceeds the 95% confidence interval, effectively extracts are stable for this period. In
20 contrast at 80 °C and a pH < 3.5, complete conversion of thio- to oxo-arsenosugar-2 occurs
21 within 24 hours [125]. Maher and co-workers [54] reported a loss of 1-2% of thio-methylated
22 As species in deoxygenated deionised water over a week at 25 °C. Sample extracts, however,
23 were not stable at 25 °C and within 48 hours a complete loss of thio-arsenoribosides in extracts
24 occurred. Hansen and co-workers [185] also have shown that thio-As sugar extracts stored at 25
25 °C degrade within 24 hours. Kahn and co-workers [17] have shown that for aqueous extracts of
26 great scallops, thio-arsenosugars are stable for 6 months if extracts are stored at -16 °C. If
27 sample extracts are rotary evaporated to dryness and the residues stored in a desiccator and
28 redissolved prior to analysis in deoxygenated deionised water (pH 6-7), As species are stable for
29 at least two weeks with conversion rates of less than 1%. This indicates that the oxidation of
30 thio- methylated As species is minimized. Multiple freeze-thawing of extracts results in 30-50%
31 loss of thio methylated As species [54].
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47 Acidification has been shown in a number of studies [55] to be unsuitable as a preservation
48 method for samples because it leads to an immediate decrease, or complete loss of dithio-MA
49 and dithio-DMA, often accompanied by an increase in the corresponding monothio- methylated
50 As species. Thio-MA and dithio-DMA may also be formed from MA and DMA respectively,
51 under acidic conditions, in the presence of free sulfide or other reduced sulfur species. Similarly
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3 the conversion of oxidized arsenosugars to thio-arsenosugars has been shown to occur on
4 acidification of seafood extracts [185, 187].
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8 As glutathionines and phytochelatins

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11 As-PC complexes extracted from plants with 1% formic acid are stable for 3 days at 1°C, but not
12 present after four weeks [130]. As-GSH species are stable when extracted with 0.1% formic acid
13 (pH 2.5) for 12 hours when stored at 4 °C; the stability of complexes was much less when
14 extracts stored at 25 °C [70].
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18 As lipids

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21 No information is available on the stability of As-lipids in extracts, however, as As-lipid species
22 are stable even when undergoing procedures utilizing acidic and alkaline solvents [108] it would
23 be expected that As-lipids are relatively stable in extracts.
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28 *Overview and recommendations*

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31 A compilation of extraction methods for various application is given in Table 3 to illustrate the
32 extraction media and procedures that are commonly used to isolate As species from sample
33 matrices. References are given to allow the full exploration of each approach. It is apparent that
34 As cannot be extracted from all sample matrices using a single set of conditions. For example, As
35 species in marine animals, present as mostly AB, are easily extracted with methanol, water and
36 methanol-water mixtures, however, extraction of inorganic As species from angiosperms such as
37 mangroves and seagrasses and rice requires the use of a dilute acid or base [127, 188]. Sequential
38 extraction with methanol-water followed by dilute acid has been shown to increase extraction
39 efficiencies while maintaining the integrity of As species for hard to extract samples. Extracting
40 media should be based on the As species of interest. Most As species are polar and soluble in
41 water, thus the use of methanol-water is a good compromise between As solubility and ease of
42 solvent removal. The use of acids or alkalis will degrade thio-As species, however, the use of
43 formic acid helps preserve AsPC species by minimising the dissociation of As complexes.
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Extraction of As-lipids requires an organic solvent such as hexane-methanol or chloroform-methanol. The use of enzymes, doent appear to offer any additonal advantages.

Determination of As species in sediments and soils remains a challenge as full extraction without altering As (III)/As(V) and As-S species appears not to be possible. This in practice, however, may not be important if only total inorganic arsenic concentrations are required. Sediments contain several adsorptive phases (exchangeable, Fe-Mn oxides, carbonates , organics, lattice incorporated) and require several solvents to removed As adsorbed to the different phases. The use of subcritical extraction where water is heated under pressure to ~ 300 °C provides promise for the full extraction of As from sediments and soils while maintaing the integrity of As species.

Most oxo-methylated As species are stable to short-term heating at temperatures below 100 °C and exposure to dilute acids and bases [127]. An exception to this are dimethylarsenoribosides that have been shown to undergo side-chain hydrolysis upon heating with acid [127]. In addition, published methods have employed shaking, micowave assisted extraction, sonification or pressurised liquid extraction systems using a variety of temperatures, and times to assist in As extraction (Table 2), but often without any justification for their use. The use of microwave assisted heading is now in widesread use as its use reduces extraction times, requires less reagents, is subject to less contamination and gives good recoveries of As from most sample matrices.

There are two important considerations when extracting As from biota: 1) the necessity to lyse cells, and; 2) whether samples need to be defatted. Cells and membranes need to be ruptured to ensure quantitative extraction of As species. The use of freeze drying and grinding will normally break-up most biological cells and membranes. The presence of fat can lower As extraction efficiencies and influence HPLC column performance [107]. Fats can be easily removed with an acetone or ether wash with little co-extraction of As species in non-fatty tissues such as muscle tissue [107].

Sample extraction procedures need to be optimised for the tissues of interest. For example, Rahman and co-workers [189] found that the extraction of As from the roots, stem, leaves and grain of rice gave poor extraction efficiencies from roots (3-10%) but better extraction efficiencies for other tissues (50- 60%). Schmidt and co-workers [190] also showed variable

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3 recoveries of As (46-96%) when the leaf, stalk and stems of Indian cress (*Tropaeolum majus*)
4 were extracted with a phosphate buffer. Similarly methanol-water (2:1 v/v) gives good As
5 recoveries from marine muscle tissues (> 95%) but poorer recoveries (19-71%) from other
6 tissues [107].
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11 The importance of sample particle size is often overlooked. As mentioned previously, often
12 methods are validated using CRMs that have well characterised particle distributions (50-400
13 μm) while the particle size distribution of “real world” samples is unknown, but unlikely to be as
14 fine as CRM particles [87]. The higher surface area to solvent contact for CRMs may result in
15 better extraction recoveries than “real world” samples. Furthermore, As may be trapped on or
16 within tissues pellets post extraction, thus a wash with the extractant solvent is needed to remove
17 any trapped As.
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25 It is evident from the literature that little information is given on the purity of reagents or steps
26 taken to purify reagents. A notable exception is for enzymes where it has been reported that
27 enzymes may contain up to 2 $\mu\text{g/g}$ of As(V) [191].
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31 The stability of As(III) and As(V) in extracts is unclear as even in frozen extracts ($-21\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$),
32 As(III) was oxidised to As(V). Similarly AsPC complexes are only stable for short periods at 4
33 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($\sim 12\text{ hr}$). Generally aqueous and methanol-water extracts of oxo- and thio- methylated As
34 species at 4°C are stable for short periods (15-20 days) although some degradation of
35 arsenosugars has been reported. Acidification should be avoided as arsenosugars are degraded
36 and thio-As species are destroyed. As-lipids are expected to be relatively stable in extracts.
37
38 Based on this information, if As(III), As(V) or AsPCs are of interest, extracts should be analysed
39 immediately. Eventhough oxo- and thio- methylated As species can be stored for long periods
40 we generally freeze dry extracts for prolonged storage and have found little loss or conversion of
41 these As species.
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52 HPLC-ICPMS or HPLC-HG-AFS

53 54 55 *Instrumental setups*

56 Mode 1: HPLC-ICPMS

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3 The most common set up for the analysis of As species is the direct coupling of a HPLC to an
4 ICPMS via small diameter PEEK tubing without loss of peak resolution. Chromatographic flow
5 rates are usually compatible with conventional ICP spray chambers. The high sampling and data
6 acquisition rates of the ICPMS allow adjacent chromatography peaks to be separated and
7 quantified. However, typically only 1% of the As in the eluent is vaporized into the ICPMS
8 plasma. A typical analysis of As species standards and a gastropod sample, *Bembicium namun*
9 are shown in Figure 1 A - C.

16 Mode 2: HPLC-HG-ICPMS or HPLC-HG-AFS

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18 The sensitivity of the HPLC-ICPMS technique can be substantially increased by the
19 incorporation of a hydride generation system after chromatographic As species separation; note
20 that the AFS requires the use of a hydride generation system to operate. Many As species form
21 volatile hydrides e.g. AsH_3 , CH_3AsH_2 , $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AsH}$ etc. approximately 70-80% of the As as a
22 hydride gas reaches the ICPMS plasma or AFS hydrogen flame. Typically sodium
23 tetrahydroborate (III) is used as the reductant to generate hydride species [192]. The efficiency in
24 generating As-hydride species is critically depends on the As species species and the sample
25 matrix. For example, AB and AC do not form volatile hydride species, while arsenoribosides
26 form volatile analytes, but the efficiency of generating hydride species is poor (~5%) unless the
27 hydride generation system is specifically optimized for arsenoribosides (21-28%) [193]. Regmi
28 and co-workers [194] identified the volatile species generated by arsenoribosides to be
29 $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AsH}$. A typical analysis of inorganic As standards and species in the sea weed,
30 *Macrocystis pyrifera*, is shown in Figure 2A and B. If only inorganic As species concentrations
31 are required, for example to satisfy food regulation standards, the use of hydride generation
32 eliminates the overestimation of these species as the signals of other As species not generating
33 hydrides are eliminated [143]. Alternatively if the organo-As concentrations are needed, a post-
34 column reactor is required to transform compounds to species that can form a hydride. Usually
35 this process involves the addition of an oxidant e.g. Potassium peroxydisulfate along with UV
36 irradiation to convert As species such as AC and AB to As(V) before hydride generation [195,
37 196]. Arsenic species dependent responses are often obtained reflecting the variable efficiency of
38 the reactor in degrading organic As species to As(V) [197].

57 Mode 3: Cryogenic trapping ICPMS or AFS

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3 This set up incorporates the trapping of hydride forming As species using a packed column and
4 cooling with liquid nitrogen (Figure 3A). After trapping, the column is heated and volatile As
5 species flushed into the ICPMS or AFS for analysis [198]. This cryogenic trap set up is useful
6 when extreme sensitivity is required and is particularly suitable for aqueous samples and
7 biological extracts. We have used this approach to measure As profiles in open ocean waters
8 (Figure 3B). This approach can also be used with selective hydride generation based on pH to
9 separate and measure MA(III) and DMA (III) concentrations in biological fluids [199].
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18 Mode 4: In-situ cryogenic trapping ICPMS or AFS

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21 Bacteria are known to form volatile As species [10, 11]. Solutions, extracts and head space
22 samples can be purged with helium and the evolved volatile As species trapped using a packed
23 column cooled with liquid nitrogen. The columns can then be attached to an ICPMS or AFS,
24 warmed, and purged As species determined [200, 201].
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31 *ICPMS and AFS considerations*

32 Optimisation

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36 It is common for optimised instrument parameters for ICPMS (plasma conditions and mass
37 spectrometer settings) to be reported. Some authors report that different As species (e.g. As(III),
38 As(V) and AB) have different ICPMS responses [202, 203]. Responses are dependent on the
39 micronebuliser/spray chamber configuration as well as flow rates, spray chamber temperatures
40 and the sample matrix. Differences in responses of As species reported when HPLC-ICPMS is
41 used are attributed to
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- 46 (1) The ICPMS plasma: differences in ion extraction processes i.e. defocussing, buffer salts
47 modifying plasma chemistry and ionic interactions in the plasma-mass spectrometer
48 interface.
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- 50 (2) HPLC: Variations in adsorption of As species to column packing material and different
51 transport efficiencies in nebulizers.
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Cooling of the spray chamber to 4 °C improves the relative responses and the presence of ammonium phosphate i.e. in HPLC eluents can mitigate differences.

Generally papers reporting the use of AFS do not give many details relating to the optimisation of AFS instrument and probably use the defaults settings set by the instrument manufacturers. Zhang and co-workers [128] showed that lamp current, PMT voltage, carrier gas and shield gas can be adjusted to optimise the As signal. Light scattering and background interferences due to the sample matrix can cause problems when using AFS, however, the use of HG-AFS reduces these problems but the hydride system needs to be carefully optimised to reduce noise. There are three sources of noise that reduce signal to noise ratios [204].

- (1) Radiation scattering generated by carry over of moisture from the gas-liquid separator to the AFS flame. The relatively low temperature of the flame cannot vaporise spray particles.
- (2) Introduction of molecular species generated by the use of tetrahydroborate e.g. boranes and OH radicals that quench fluorescence.
- (3) Excessive changes in hydrogen gas evolution that change flame stoichiometry, flame volume and temperature causing residence time changes, dilution of atoms and self absorption all affecting fluorescence intensity [205].

These can be controlled by minimising the use of tetrahydroborate, acids etc. and the lowest purge gas rates possible. The use of optical filters may also eliminate some noise. The use of lower tetrahydroborate and acid concentration can exacerbate the effects of transition elements on hydride generation of As species but can be masked with cysteine or thiourea.

If As species are not converted to As(III) before hydride generation, different As species give different AFS responses as the dissociation of As species in the coll flame is different.

Atomisation of AsH₃ is 41-56% greater than MAH₂ and DMAH [205]. As well, responses are concentration dependent as recombination of free atoms and self adsorption depend on atom density.

There are few reports that compare HPLC-ICPMS and HPLC-HG-AFS detection limits.

Gómez-Ariza [206] reported that detection limits for HPLC-ICPMS (As(III) 0.7 µg/L; As(V) 0.8 µg/L; MA 0.5 µg/L) are much lower than HPLC-HG-AFS (As(III) 16 µg/L; As(V) 17 µg/L; MA

3 $\mu\text{g/L}$). Decreased sensitivity was attributed to the use of compromise conditions to generate hydrides. In a later publication by the same authors [195] similar detection limits were reported for both techniques with HG-AFS having better precision and reproducibility. Pétursdóttir and co-workers [143] also reported that the limits of quantification for HPLC-ICPMS ($0.026 \mu\text{g/g}$) is much lower than HPLC-HG-AFS ($0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$).

Use of hydride generation

Generally organic As species in HPLC eluents are converted to As(V) by use of UV-photolysis and potassium peroxydisulphate [195] with cysteine used to reduce As(V) to As(III) [207] before the formation of AsH_3 . It has been proposed that the As-cysteine complexes in which an O is replaced by an SR group, reacts with BH_4^- more readily as it is less sterically hindered than $\text{As}(\text{OH})_3$ [208]. The use of cysteine allows the use of lower acid concentrations [209] and the same response for As(III), As(V), oxo-MA and oxo-DMA are obtained. The use of charged surfactants also enhances the generation of As-hydrides [210], while some organic solvents e.g. ethanol can suppress hydride generation [211]. The UV decomposition-HG steps should be carefully evaluated as the degradation of AB and arsenoribosides may be influenced by the sample matrix causing incomplete conversion to As(V) or suppression of hydride formation [196].

Thioarsenate species can be quantitatively converted to As(III) at low pH (< 3) by the use of potassium iodide and ascorbic acid [212], as cysteine has been found to be less effective in the formation of AsH_3 for these As species. Mamindy-Pajany and co-workers [213] also reported that UV irradiation at 30°C with 2% w/v $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ - 2% w/v NaOH converted thioarsenates to As(V).

Hydride generation can result in excessive amounts of water being entrained in the gas stream used to purge hydrides from solution. The gas stream needs to be dried before entering the AFS flame as quenching of fluorescence will occur. Water entrainment can be minimised by attention to the design of the hydride generation system, especially the introduction of the carrier gas stream [214].

ICPMS interferences and signals

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3 The optimum mobile phase for the separation of anion and cation As species may not be
4 compatible with the analytical detection system. For example, chlorinated solvents may result in
5 ICP-MS polyatomic interferences especially for ^{75}As [90] e.g. $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$. Substitution of problem
6 buffers, for example buffers containing chloride with carbonate, is often possible. Mass
7 interferences by polyatomic species with the same mass to charge ratio can be removed by the
8 use of a dynamic reaction or collision cell during the measurement phase ([90]. Typically
9 helium, ammonia, hydrogen and oxygen gas are used to eliminate interferences [30, 90, 215]
10 and more recently SF_6 [216]. Helium, for example, can be used to suppress $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$ formation
11 but also suppresses $^{75}\text{As}^+$ intensity (~ 50%) at high helium flow rates [217]. Addition of
12 methanol (1-5%) is commonly used to improve As sensitivity (2.5-3 times) and also suppresses
13 $^{40}\text{Ar}^{35}\text{Cl}^+$ formation.

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24 Interference by Cl forming polyatomic species are in practice rarely a problem as they can be
25 separated from As species during chromatography. For example, Cl^- elutes after As(V) on a
26 PRPX-100 anion exchange column. Care, however, must be taken that large amounts of Cl^- do
27 not overlap with As(V) peaks. Doubly charged interferences in extracts can be significant, if for
28 example, extracts contain high concentrations of rare earths e.g. NIST 1547 Peach leaves and
29 NIST 1515 Apple leaves [218]. Rare earth elements have low ionisation potentials (11-12 eV)
30 and readily form doubly charged ions. In practice, interferences from these ions appear not to be
31 a problem when HPLC-ICPMS is used.

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39 High concentrations of organic solvents used for C_{18} reverse phase separations can extinguish the
40 ICP-MS plasma, thus the amount of organic solvent introduced into the plasma needs to be
41 reduced and oxygen gas added to the plasma to ensure removal of the additional carbon entering
42 the mass spectrometer. Alternatively, for some organic solvents a chilled spray chamber (-5 to -
43 10 °C) or a desolvation device can be used to reduce or eliminate the organic carbon load.

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49 The ionisation of As in the ICPMS plasma is sensitive to the carbon loading of the HPLC mobile
50 phase being aspirated. Thus, the use of gradient elution with mobile phases containing variable
51 organic content will result in a variable response in the As signal. For example, the As response
52 changes by a factor of 4 as the methanol content of the HPLC mobile phase increases from 20 to
53 80%. To overcome this problem, the HPLC effluent can be split and methanol or acetone added
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3 to the spray chamber to equalise As signals i.e gradient compensation [219]. The loss of
4 sensitivity is compensated by the carbon enhancement effect.
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9 If a mobile phase containing high concentrations of sodium hydroxide is required for
10 chromatography, the sodium will need to be removed as sodium entering the ICPMS suppresses
11 the As signal [56, 215] and causes severe baseline drift. A self-regenerating suppressor can be
12 used to remove sodium and OH converted electrochemically to water prior to sample
13 introduction into the ICPMS [220]. As the suppressor is also a cation exchanger any cation
14 species present such as oxo-DMA will be lost. The use of a suppressor improves detection limits
15 and enhances the long-term signal stability and robustness of ICPMS operation.
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23 The limits of detection for As determination by ICPMS are limited by the signal to noise ratios.
24 To improve the detection power, signal treatment (Gaussian distribution curves, Fourier
25 transform, wavelet transform) can be applied [221]. Detection limits may be improved by factors
26 of about 6 using these techniques i.e. As(III) 0.25 µg/L to 0.04-0.1 µg/L; As(V) 0.72 µg/L to
27 0.12-0.2 µg/L; DMA 0.54 µg/L to 0.09-0.16 µg/L and AB 0.35 µg/L to 0.06-0.11 µg/L.
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33 *Standards*

34 As(III), As (V) and oxo-methylated As species

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36 Many As species such as As(III), As(V), oxo-MA (V), oxo-DMA (V), AB, AC, oxo-DMAA,
37 oxo-DMAE and TETRA can be obtained commercially or synthesised with good yields. The
38 common arsenoribosides and TMAP can be isolated from seaweeds or from reference materials
39 e.g NRCC DORM 2 [222]. The preparation of MA(III) and DMA(III) is more problematic. For
40 example, the use of thiosulfate to reduce oxo-MA produces two products; thio-MA and dithio-
41 MA [54]. Cullen and co-workers [223] showed that MA(III) could be produced by first
42 synthesising tetramethyl-cyclo-tetraarsaoxane (cycl-(CH₃AsO)₄), which then hydrolyses in
43 deionised water to give MA(III). MA(III)I₂ and DMA(III)I can be synthesised from oxo-MA
44 and oxo-DMA by the addition of KI and acid following saturation with sulfur dioxide. The newly
45 formed precipitates then can be washed, dried and purified by extraction with diethylether
46 [MA(III)] or distillation [DMA(III)] [224]. Hansen and co-workers [225] also showed that the
47 reaction of oxo-DMA with KI/H₂SO₄/SO₂ produces DMAI giving DMA(III).
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Thio-methylated As species

Thio analogues of oxo-MA, arsenosugars, DMAE, DMAA can be synthesized by adding a saturated sulfide solution (prepared by bubbling H₂S gas through deionized water for one hour) to oxo-As standards and reacting for 30 min at pH 4 [226]. The excess H₂S generated is removed by purging with argon and the solutions evaporated and recrystallised using acetone or dichloromethane. Thio-DMA can be prepared according to Raml and co-workers [227] where a solution of oxo-DMA is adjusted to pH 3, a saturated H₂S solution added and ethylacetate extraction used to ensure that only thio-DMA is formed. Dithio-DMA can be prepared by adjusting a solution of oxo-DMA to pH 6 and adding a saturated H₂S solution. added by Fricke and co-workers [228] also published a procedure to produce dimethylthioarsinic anhydride ((CH₃)₂AsSOAs(S)(CH₃)₂), which is stable and when dissolved in water produces the monomer. Fricke and co-workers [228] have shown that the conditons of Reay and Asher [229] purported to produce DMA(III) actually produced thio-DMA. Wallschlager and London [55] amd Hansen and co-workers [225] also showed that reactions of oxo-DMA with H₂S gave Dithio-DMA as the major product and Thio-DMA as a minor product. Oxo-MA reacted with H₂S gave Thio-MA, Dithio-MA and Trithio-MA.

As-glutathione complexes

As(GS)₃, MA(GS)₂ and DMAGS can be synthesised by adding As(V), oxo-MA or oxo-DMA to glutathionine in water under a stream of argon to prevent oxidation [230, 231]. Solutions are then stored at 4 °C under oxygen-free conditions. Further purification of As(GS)₃ and MA(GS)₂ can be achieved by adding methanol or ethanol, with filtering and air drying of precipitates. The remaining DMAGS in solution can be concentrated by rotoevaporation and solids purified by extraction with methanol.

As phytochelatins

A mixed solution containing glutathione (36%), PC2 (50%) and PC3 (14%) in 1% formic acid can be reacted with a surplus of As(III) to form As(PC2)₂, GSAsPC2, AsPC3 and AsPC2 [70].

Thioarsenate species

Sodium monothioarsenate ($\text{Na}_3\text{AsO}_3\text{S}\cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$) can be synthesized as described by Schwedt and Rieckhoff [232] by adding solid sulfur (0.045 mol S) to a mixture of As_2O_3 (0.05 mol As) and NaOH (0.15 mol Na) in 20 ml H_2O and heating at 90°C for 2 hours. The excess sulfur is filtered off and the solution cooled down slowly to 4°C . The colorless crystals obtained are dried under vacuum for 1 hour. Sodium dithioarsenate ($\text{Na}_3\text{AsO}_2\text{S}_2\cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$), sodium trithioarsenate ($\text{Na}_3\text{AsOS}_3\cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$) and sodium tetrathioarsenate ($\text{Na}_3\text{AsS}_4\cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$) are obtained using the general approach used by Wilkin and co-workers [233] by mixing an excess of sodium bisulfide (NaHS, formed by dissolving NaS_2 in deionized water) to sodium arsenite to obtain a mixed standard. A 1:1 ratio of As:S is used to obtain monothioarsenate, whereas a 1:100 molar ratio of As:S is used to obtain di-, tri- and tetrathioarsenate. All thioarsenate species should be stored under nitrogen at 4°C to prevent oxidation.

As-lipids

The synthesis of As-lipids is complex and a number of studies have been published for the preparation of a limited number of As-hydrocarbons and As-fatty acids [166, 234, 235].

Separation of methanol, water, methanol-water and buffer soluble As (III), As (V) and oxo-methylated As species

Anion and cation exchange chromatography

Ion exchange chromatography is used to separate free ions and ionisable species. The stationary phase consists of a polystyrene-divinylbenzene polymer or silica backbone, which has an ionic functional group such as quaternary ammonium or sulfonate. Analytes will interact with the stationary phase if they are oppositely charged to that of functional group bonded to the stationary phase. A comprehensive summary of ion-exchange columns and mobile phases has been presented by Ammann [236]. An overview of the use of ion-exchange chromatography for various sample matrices is given in Table 4.

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3 Biological fluids: As species in urine, saliva and blood are readily separated by anion and cation
4 chromatography with isocratic or gradient elution [237-241].
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8 Biota: Over fifty water soluble As species have been identified in extracts of marine organisms
9 using anion, cation and reverse phase chromatography. Factors that can affect the separation of
10 anion and cation species by HPLC include pH, temperature, mobile phase concentration and/or
11 methanol concentration. Mobile phase pH determines the charge of As species. At pH < 5, As
12 (V), sulphonate, sulfate and phosphate arsenoribosides will have a negative charge. Glycero-
13 arsenoriboside has no charge in the range pH 3.8-9. Arsenoribosides have different functional
14 groups on their side chains, thus will have different retention characteristics. The addition of
15 methanol, lowers the retention times of arsenoribosides on anion-exchange columns as
16 interaction of these species with the stationary phase is not entirely via anion exchange [242].
17 Examples for the separation of As species found in seaweed and marine animal tissue extracts
18 are given in Figure 4 & 5. This figure serves to illustrate the limitation of undertaking As
19 speciation measurements using HPLC-ICP-MS or HPLC-HG-AFS. If the As species has not
20 been identified, or a standard is not available for the As species, it is not possible to be identified.
21 A HPLC coupled to an electrospray mass spectrometer is required for this purpose. It is difficult
22 to synthesize many of the natural occurring As species e.g. arsenoribosides and arsenolipids. We
23 have used HPLC-MS-MS to characterise these species for use as standards. For example, an
24 unknown As species in *Haliotis rubra* intestine tissues was identified using tandem mass
25 spectrometry as 2', 3' - dihydroxypropyl 5 - deoxy - 5 - trimethylarsonioriboside (trimethyl
26 glycerol arsenoribose) [243]. The concentration of trimethyl glycerol arsenoribose in intestine
27 tissue was estimated to account for 28 % (5.0 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ dry mass) of the methanol-water soluble As
28 fraction. Seventeen As species have been separated in one run using an anion exchange column
29 in conjunction with an ion-pairing reagent and gradient elution with nitric acid [244]. Sloth and
30 co-workers [245] reported the separation of 23 As species by cation exchange with gradient
31 elution using an aqueous pyridine-formate mobile phase, but large matrix effects were
32 experienced. In addition, many samples can contain large amounts of a particular As species, e.g.
33 AB, that can obscure other minor As species during sample elution. Longer elution times are
34 often better as there is less chance of co-eluting unknown As species, and the use of
35 complementary separations techniques reduces problems from matrix components. For example,
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3 when using anion and cation chromatography, cations are voided from the anion column and
4 anions voided from the cation column, as well as reducing matrix interferences.
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8 Sample matrix components such as sodium can affect chromatography and spiking is essential to
9 account for matrices influencing retention times. For example, Sloth and co-workers [245] have
10 shown that a four-fold increase in the loading of a TORT-2 sample extract on to a HPLC column
11 decreased the retention time of AB from 10 min to 7 min. Peak suppression and the splitting of
12 the AB peak by sodium and potassium occurs during cation chromatography, but can be
13 eliminated by dilution or adjustment of eluent pH to separate AB from these cations. Slejovec
14 and co-workers [74] and Masden and co-workers [246] also reported severe matrix effects during
15 the separation of sulphonate-arsenoriboside on a PRP X- 100 anion exchange column. Matrix
16 effects seems to be more pronounced when gradient elution is used [97, 247]. Sodium, potassium
17 and other unretained material migrate with the solvent front during anion exchange
18 chromatography and may interfere with As(III) and glycerol arseno riboside measurements. We
19 have found that As (III) and low concentrations of oxo-MA, oxo-DMA and As (V) in rice can be
20 reliably determined using anion chromatography without hydride generation with ICP-MS
21 detection [188]. We have also found that when acetone is used to clean up tissue samples i.e.
22 remove fats prior to extraction [107], retention times are very stable and column life is
23 prolonged.
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27 Column recoveries reported in the literature are highly variable (30-100%) and can vary
28 significantly for extracts obtained from the same organism [21, 97, 247]. Some As species, for
29 example thio-arsenoribosides, have non-ionic interactions of As=S with stationary phases such as
30 PRPX-100 and require high pH (>10) to elute As species within 10 -15 min [179]. Schmeisser
31 and co-workers [178] and Nischwitz and co-workers [248] showed that oxidation of extracts
32 with H₂O₂ converted As=S to As=O and can be used to confirm the presence of thio-
33 arsenoribosides in extracts being determined by anion chromatography when low column
34 recoveries are obtained.
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37 Reversed phase chromatography

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39 A comprehensive summary of reversed phase columns, ion pairing reagents and mobile phases
40 has been presented by Ammann [236]. An overview of the use of reverse phase chromatography
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3 for various matrices is given in Table 4. A typical separation of As species by C18 reversed
4 phase chromatography is shown in Figure 6. An ion pairing reagent is added to the mobile phase
5 to simultaneously separate anions, cations, and non-charged species. An ion pairing reagent is a
6 salt with a cationic or anionic polar head group and a nonpolar tail such as sodium alkyl
7 sulfonate and tetraalkyl ammonium salts. The separation mechanism is not completely
8 understood. One theory states that an ionic analyte is electrostatically attracted to the charged
9 portion of the ion pair reagent, charge neutralization causes the charged analyte to be retained by
10 the non-polar stationary phase [249, 250]. A second theory is that the hydrophobic portion of the
11 ion pair reagent adsorbs to the stationary phase and a pseudo ion exchange stationary phase is
12 formed. Thus, charged species interacts with the pseudo ion exchange stationary phase [251].
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22 The choice of the ion pairing reagent is critical. For example, changing from tetra methyl
23 ammonium hydroxide (TMAH) to tetra butyl ammonium hydroxide (TBAH) increases the
24 retention times of As species as it is less polar [252]. The separation mechanism when using tetra
25 butyl ammonium hydroxide changes from ion pair formation to dynamic ion exchange (Figure 9)
26 i.e. solute ions binding to ion pairing reagents that are already bound to the stationary phase. This
27 results from the increased hydrophobicity of the ion pairing reagent. Some published papers have
28 use mixtures of ion pair reagents [253], however, mixtures of different ion pairing reagents are
29 probably not needed as they have the same capacity factor as an ion pair reagent with the same
30 mean chain length [250].
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39 Reverse phase chromatography seems to be prone to matrix and pH effects [254, 255] in
40 comparison to ion chromatography. One of the problems of using ion pairing reagents is that ion
41 pairing with matrix components occurs as well, thus causing shifts in retention times [183, 256].
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45 The use of C18 reverse phase and a mobile phase consisting of 4.7 mM TBAH, 2 mM malonic
46 acid and 4 %v/v methanol (pH 5.85) has been successfully used to separate MA(III), MA(V),
47 DMA(III) and DMA(V) [257].
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54 *Separation of acid/base soluble As (III), As (V) and oxo-methylated As species*
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Plants: Rice is commonly extracted with dilute acids such as 2% v/v nitric or 2M trifluoroacetic acid and determined by anion exchange chromatography using malonic acid or phosphate buffers (Figure 7) [126, 188]. Arsenite is eluted near the void and careful control of the acid content (< 0.5%) is required to prevent the co-elution of As(III) and oxo-DMA. Raber and co-workers [126] replaced the phosphate buffer ($pK_{a2} = 7.2$) with malonic acid ($pK_{a2} = 5.7$) as it has a higher apparent charge (-1.44 compared to -1.02) at pH 5.6 to obtain more reproducible separations. Because only knowledge relating to total inorganic As concentrations in rice and seafood is required for regulatory purposes, oxidation of As(III) to As(V) by H_2O_2 can be used and the single As(V) peak quantified [143, 258, 259] as this peak does not elute near oxo-MA or oxo-DMA. Often there is a small peak in the void volume that is attributed to carbon, however, Hansen and co-workers [260] have shown that in some rice samples this peak is TETRA. Cation chromatography should be used to check the composition of any peaks in the void volume.

Biota: Acid extracts of animals can be chromatographed on anion exchange columns [127] after dilution, but suffer from the same problems as described above for plants.

Sediments: Phosphoric acid concentrations, commonly used for extraction of sediments, greater than about 0.32M, result in significant peak distortion and hinders the quantification of As(V) [261]. The retention times for As species can also change depending on column usage and on the sample matrix. Older “well-used” columns tend to have shorter retention times compared to new columns. For samples that contain hydroxylamine hydrochloride to prevent oxidation of As(III) to As(V), retention times are shorter than for samples that do not contain hydroxylamine hydrochloride [82].

Separation of lipid soluble species

Until recently, As lipids in fish oils were saponified with potassium hydroxide [173, 262] while tissues were extracted with a mixture of chloroform/methanol (2:1 v/v), the solvent removed and residues hydrolysed with an acid, an alkali or phospholipase D enzyme. These procedures cleaved the As moieties in lipid extracts, thereby liberating the water-soluble As species that can be determined by HPLC-ICP-MS (Table 5). Lipid soluble As species such as phosphatidyl

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3 arsenocholine and phosphatidyl arsenoriboside on treatment released As (III), As (V), oxo-MA,
4 oxo-DMA, AC, DMAE and glycerol and phosphate arsenoriboside.
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8 Now analysis of intact As-lipids is undertaken (Table 5). Rigorous cleanup of extracts is required
9 for two purposes: first to prolong the lifetime of HPLC columns and second to enable molecular
10 identification of complex As-lipids by reverse phase HPLC-MS, which can only be achieved with
11 “clean” and highly concentrated extracts. A more rigorous clean up is required to isolate the As
12 species in lipid fractions to achieve good separation of species by reverse phase (C8 or C18)
13 HPLC [108, 160, 161]. Typically after centrifugation of, for example, a chloroform-methanol
14 extract, the supernatant is washed with bicarbonate solution (1% w/v) to remove water-soluble
15 As species. The chloroform layer is separated and evaporated to dryness to yield a crude As-lipid
16 fraction, which is re-dissolved in a mixture of chloroform/acetone (1:1 v/v). A portion of this
17 solution is applied to a silica column and eluted with chloroform/acetone, (1:1 v/v) containing
18 formic acid (1% v/v), methanol and finally methanol containing aqueous ammonia (1% v/v). The
19 methanol–ammonia fractions containing 85% of the total As content are evaporated to dryness
20 and re-dissolved in methanol. Extraction of As-lipids from algae, for example, is easy to
21 accomplish since most of the species are relatively stable. In general, the recoveries of As-lipids
22 after cleanup are higher than 80% with matrix removal efficiencies of > 90%. The As-lipid
23 species are stable even when undergoing procedures utilizing acidic and alkaline solvents.
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37 Lipid extracts, without hydrolysis, can be determined by HPLC-ICPMS using a Zorbax Eclipse
38 XDB-C8 column (4.6 mm x 150 mm; 5 µm particle size; Agilent Technologies, Waldbronn,
39 Germany) and a mobile phase comprising 10 mM acetic acid at pH 6 and methanol under the
40 following gradient elution conditions: 0-25 min, 50%-95% methanol; 25-40 min, 95% methanol;
41 flow rate 1 ml·min⁻¹, 40°C.
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47 To prevent deposition of carbon on the interface cones of the ICPMS, 1% v/v oxygen is
48 introduced into the argon gas stream. PO⁺ [*m/z* 47] is also monitored to confirm the presence of
49 As phospholipids. Methanol or acetone is also introduced directly into the ICPMS spray chamber
50 to compensate for the variable amounts of carbon in the mobile phase entering the ICPMS [219].
51 A typical chromatograph of As lipid species in a Wakame and Hijiki seaweed extracts are
52 presented in Figure 8A and B. A difficulty when determining As-lipids is the high number of As
53 species with similar masses and chromatographic behavior. Whereas methanol-water soluble As
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species can be separated under isocratic HPLC conditions, As-lipids can only be separated under gradient elution conditions with acceptable chromatographic efficiency and within a reasonable time frame. As the ICPMS responses of As-lipids are dependent on the amount of carbon in the plasma, ICPMS cannot be used for species independent quantification without the introduction of methanol, ethanol or acetone directly into the ICPMS spray chamber [219]. This is to compensate for the variable amounts of carbon in the mobile phase entering the ICPMS. Without compensation, As species eluting with higher organic content in the mobile phase are overestimated by a factor of 8-10 whereas with gradient compensation the results for all As species are comparable to results obtained for isocratic separations. The simultaneous monitoring of phosphorus also confirms that the As-lipids in the phospholipid fraction are indeed As phospholipids.

Separation of thio-As species

Thio-methylated As species

Thio methylated As species cannot be separated using typical conditions used for oxo-methylated As species, e.g. anion exchange on PRPX-100 and phosphate buffers (pH 6), as they have very long retention times e.g. thio- As sugars, or do not elute, e.g. thio DMAA, and peak broadening occurs. Increasing the pH to 8-10 with the addition of methanol will elute some thio-methylated As species, e.g thio-arsenosugars within 20-30 min [17, 263]. Some researchers have added hydrogen peroxide to extracts to confirm the presence of thio-methylated As species or to measure the concentration of thio-methylated As species by difference [178].

The common thio-methylated As species can be separated using an Atlantis C18 column (150 mm x 4.4 mm, 5 μ m) eluted with 20mM ammonium phosphate, pH 3, 1 ml/min, 25 °C (Figure 9) [54]. Buffer concentrations in the range of 10-50 mM have little influence on retention times with the higher mobile phase concentration reducing retention times by less than 1 min (t_r = 7-24 min at 10 mM; t_r = 6.5-23 min at 50 mM). The addition of methanol significantly reduced the retention of thio-methylated As species especially the thio-arsenoribosides (t_r = 7-23 min at 0% methanol; t_r = 3-8 min at 5% methanol) and causes peak broadening. pH in the range 3-6 only has a minor effect on the retention times of thio-methylated As species (t_r = 7-23 min at pH 3; t_r = 6-21 min at pH 6) except for thio-DMAA (t_r = 8.5 min at pH 3; t_r = 3 min at pH 6), because most of the

As species are either uncharged or anions at pH 3. At pH 3, oxidation of thio-methylated As species on the column during a chromatographic run does not occur. Recoveries of As standards (50 µg/l) are greater than 98%. Thio- MA coelutes with oxo- sulfate arsenoriboside (Figure 8), thus for samples containing large amounts of oxo-arsenoribosides measurement of thio-MA is difficult. Our experience is that excellent separation of thio-methylated As species can be achieved with new columns, but retention times shorten when several 'real' samples have been run.

Thioarsenate species in waters

Thioarsenates are commonly determined using an Ion Pac AS16 (250 mm x 4-mm) anion column (Dionex, Sunnyvale, CA, USA), but eluted with a gradient of 20–100 mM NaOH, 1 ml/min, 25 °C (Figure 10). An self-regenerating suppressor (Dionex, Sunnyvale, CA, USA) is used to remove sodium from the solutions prior to introduction into the ICP-MS [220]. Later eluting mono, di- and tri- thioarsenate species are quantitatively eluted from the column (95-100%), however, the baseline early in the chromatograph is unstable and it is not possible to quantify early eluting thio-methylated As species. To determine thioarsenates in waters, the samples need to be thawed in a glove box filled under nitrogen and then transferred into Teflon screw cap glass vials so that air is excluded to prevent oxidation of thio- species. Water samples, if possible, should not be diluted before analysis as alteration of pH or HS⁻ concentration may alter the distribution of thioarsenate species present [264].

Separation of As glutathionine and phytochelatin species

Complexed As species in bile, urine and plants such as rice presents a challenge to speciate as they are easily denatured and difficult to chromatograph, because species are only stable for a short period, 1-2 hr, and easily dissociate on chromatographic columns unless a mobile phase with a low pH is used [71, 93].

As-GSH species can be separated and quantified using C18 reverse phase chromatography with 0.1% formic acid (pH 2.65) and an acetonitrile gradient (0-40%) [265]. As-PC species in plants can also be separated and quantified by C18 reverse phase chromatography with gradient elution

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3 using formic acid and methanol to separate As species (Fig 13) [131, 266]. It is recommended by
4 [131] that extracts be spiked with As(III) to check that As-PCs are not formed during extraction
5 although this does not appear to occur. A mass spectrometer detector that can precisely measure
6 the mass of the As species eluting needs to be used concurrently to allow definitive identification
7 of the As-PC species.
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12 *Overview and recommendations*

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14 As species have a wide variety of ionic characteristics that are pH dependent, thus finding one
15 separation scheme that will separate all the common As species is difficult. At pH 7, As(III)
16 ($pK_{a1} = 9.3$) is an uncharged species; As(V) ($pK_{a1} = 2.3$), oxo-MA ($pK_a = 3.6$) and oxo-DMA
17 ($pK_a = 6.2$) are anions; AC, TETRA and TMAO ($pK_a = 3.6$) are cations while AB ($pK_a =$
18 2.18) is a zwitterion. Different chromatographic approaches using anion exchange, cation
19 exchange, reverse phase, ion-exclusion and size exclusion that been used to separate As species
20 are illustrated in Table 4. Normally at least two complimentary techniques are required to fully
21 separate and characterise As species although the coupling of an anion and a cation column can
22 be used to simultaneously separate anion and cation As species [149]. The general approach is to
23 use ion exchange chromatography to separate the anions and cations or use reverse phase
24 chromatography in conjunction with an ion pairing reagent to separate charged and uncharged As
25 species.
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39 Care must be taken with choice of columns. Columns with the same chromatographic resin often
40 produce different elution profiles depending on if glass or PEEK lined columns are used. For
41 example, As anions separated using Hamilton PRPX-100 anion exchange columns, which are
42 extensively used As speciation studies, have longer retention times in glass lined columns than
43 PEEK lined columns. Whether the effects are due to the lining is not clear as glass columns have
44 a 4.1 mm bore while PEEK columns have a 4.6 mm bore. There has been a shift to the use of
45 microbore columns packed with smaller particles for HPLC chromatography [152, 267] to obtain
46 greater resolving power and lower detection limits. The use of micorbore columns requires low
47 dead volumes, low flows and the use of cooled spray chambers and micronebulisers with higher
48 mass transfer efficiencies. Low flow systems may cause problems due to instability of the
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3 ICPMS signal resulting in a decrease in chromatographic resolution and decreased sensitivity. In
4 practice, these problems seem not to occur [268, 269].
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7 Factors affecting separation and eluting times include, pH, mobile phase composition and
8 temperature. HPLC columns are normally operated at elevated temperatures (30-70 °C) to
9 improve solution diffusion and mass transfer because of lower viscosities, lower back pressures
10 and higher flow rates [253, 270]. For example, increasing column temperatures from 25 to 55 °C
11 reduces the retention times of sulfonate and sulfate arsenoribosides on PRPX-100 anion columns
12 by 10-20 % [271]. The advantages of using very high temperatures has been demonstrated by
13 Terol and co-workers [272] who used a porous graphitic carbon column (Hypercarb, Thermo
14 Electron Corporation) with a 2% methanol , pH 8 mobile phase operated at 120 °C to separate
15 arsenoribosides in seaweed and krill samples. When column temperatures were increased,
16 retention times and peak dispersion substantially decreased along with an accompanying increase
17 in sensitivity.
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20 Evethough gradients have been used to separate As species in one run, we prefer isochratic
21 mobile phases and the use of anion and cation chromatography to separate water soluble As
22 species. Sample extracts often contain large amounts of a particular species e.g. AB, that obscure
23 minor As species The use of anion and cation chromatography is attractive as anions and cations
24 are elute in the void from cation and anion columns respectively reducing coelution of As species
25 and matrix interferences. A major problem, however, seems to be the coelution of As(III) and
26 DMA on anion columns especially if analysing acid extracts or extracts contain a large amount of
27 organic matter. Similiarly the analysis of phosphoric acid can distort the As(V) peak shape. We
28 have also found that the use of reverse phase chromatography with ion-pairing reagents is prone
29 to severe matrix and pH effects as ion-pairing reagents also pair with matrix components.
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32 Some As species (Thio-As, AsGSH and As-lipids) cannot be readily separated by ion-exchange
33 and require the use of reverse phase chromatography. Thio-As species bind to ion-exchange
34 columns with AsGSH species require acidic mobile phases to prevent degradation and the use of
35 acetonitrile gradients to separate species.
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38 Lipid-As species used to be analysed by subjecting extracts to acid or enzymatic hydrolysis to
39 convert species to water soluble As species, now reverse phase chromatography is used to
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3 determine intact As-lipid species. Rigorous clean up of extracts is required as well as gradient
4 elution with mobile phases containing high contents of organics (e.g. 95 % methanol) to separate
5 closely eluting As species with similar masses. Besides needing to prevent carbon build up on
6 interface cones, the different response of As-lipids in the ICPMS due to variable carbon content
7 affecting the ionisation of As-lipid species in the plasma needs to be accounted for. Post column
8 addition of carbon as acetone or methanol can be used to give a consistence response for As-lipid
9 species.
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17 What ever chromatographic system is chosen, spiking is essential to account for matrices
18 influencing retention times, peak suppression and splitting. Column recoveries also need to be
19 measured to account for As species e.g. Thio- As species adsorbing to columns.
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25 **Quality assurance and control**

26 *Mass balances*

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31 Mass balances and recoveries must be determined for all steps of the analytical procedure. It is
32 essential that both total As and extractable As be determined to allow the percentage of
33 unextracted As species to be determined. In many published studies low extraction and column
34 efficiencies are reported resulting in little of the As species present being characterised.
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39 *Use of As additions*

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41 Methods need to be evaluated using standards addition technique for As. Two types of spikes are
42 used; (1) during extraction to determine if As species conversion or degradation are occurring,
43 and (2) during chromatographic separation to account for matrix effects on retention times, peak
44 shapes and peak areas. For example, a large amount of starch material is present in rice [86],
45 which can lead to a decrease in peak resolution and a shift in retention times. Meanwhile the
46 carbon in the extract may enhance the As signal.
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52 *Use of certified reference materials*

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3 Digestion, extraction, separation and measurement processes are all subject to errors including
4 contamination, degradation, matrix effects and calibration errors. Certified reference materials
5 (CRMs) are available to assist in quantifying full procedural errors. Many laboratories have
6 published values for As species in certified reference materials (Table 6 and 7). Although
7 relatively few CRMs have been certified for As species, a large range of As species have been
8 reported for CRMs. Relatively few As species concentrations have been reported for terrestrial
9 water and soils, human tissues (urine, hair and blood) and crops (rice, tomatoes, peaches and
10 wheat), while there is only one report for terrestrial animal tissues (Bovine liver). As expected
11 the common species reported are As (III), As (V), MA and DMA as these occur naturally in most
12 samples. AB is also reported in human tissue CRMs as it is present from the ingestion of
13 seafood. Other As species (TMAO, AC, TMAP and Thio-As) are sporadically reported.
14 A large range of As species have been reported in marine CRMs reflecting the high As
15 concentrations, relative ease of extraction and large range of naturally occurring As species.
16 Common species reported are As (V), MA, DMA and arsenosugars in algae and plankton. While
17 As(III), As(V), MA, DMA, AB and AC are reported for mollusc, crustacean and fish. Other As
18 species that are sporadically reported are TMAO, TETRA, DMAA and TMAP. Notable gaps in
19 As species reported include Thio-As and As-lipid species, probably reflecting the difficulty of
20 their measurement.
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37 We have not attempted to compile the concentration of As species in these publications to
38 provide consensus values as this is outside the scope of the review. If this is to be undertaken,
39 this will require each paper to be critically reviewed in terms of (1) the extraction procedure used
40 (i.e. extraction efficiencies), (2) the chromatographic system used (i.e. coelution of As species
41 such as As(III) and AS1, column recoveries) and (3) quantification (i.e. ICPMS conditions and
42 standards used).
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49 ***Interlaboratory studies***

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51 In the absence of CRMs, interlaboratory studies also provide a means of assessing the quality of
52 results.
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56 Morabito and co-workers [273] prepared a new reference material, BCR 710 Oyster tissue, from
57 *Crassostreae gigas*. No agreement was found with respect to inorganic As, oxo-DMA,
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3 arsenosugars and residual As concentrations. AB results were scattered but a consensus value of
4 $33 \pm 7 \mu\text{g/g}$ was given and an indicative value of $0.82 \pm 0.18 \mu\text{g/g}$ for oxo-DMA.
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8 Raab and co-workers [97] distributed seven algae samples (Five purchased from food stores and
9 two BCR 279 Sea lettuce samples) to thirteen laboratories. Five laboratories characterised the
10 water soluble fraction with respect to As species. Extraction efficiencies ranged from 3-96%
11 depending on the algal sample. Although different chromatographic procedures were used, three
12 of the five laboratories gave results in agreement for As (V), oxo-DMA and arsenosugars 1-4.
13 For BCR 279, extraction efficiencies ranged from 38-58% and column recoveries from 68-82%.
14 The trial showed that the identification of As species using only one chromatographic system is
15 problematic as the elution order of As species for some algal samples were altered when other
16 chromatographic conditions were used.
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25 Baer and co-workers [274] published the results of an interlaboratory study measuring inorganic
26 As in NRCC DOLT-4. Only 22 out of 95 laboratories reported inorganic As concentrations. 16
27 laboratories reported As concentrations below $0.25 \mu\text{g/g}$ while 3 laboratories reported results as
28 $< 1 \mu\text{g/g}$. Results were not method dependent, but inexperienced laboratories reported higher
29 values.
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35 Ito and co-workers [52] investigated the measurement of As species in blood. Four laboratories
36 reported values for five As species in blood materials. For most As species, good agreement was
37 obtained and the consensus values obtained were assigned as target values so these samples can
38 be used as quality assurance materials. All As species were stable for up to 2 months when stored
39 at 4°C and -20°C without additives. Quantification of AB concentrations in blood was poor,
40 possibly because of signal suppression due to the coelution of other components.
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47 de la Calle and co-workers [259] conducted an interlaboratory comparison exercise for the
48 determination of inorganic and total As concentrations in rice. Six extraction procedures were
49 compared and general agreement found between methods. When discussing the results the
50 authors highlighted the problem of not correcting for sample moisture content.
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55 de la Calle and co-workers [258] conducted a similar interlaboratory comparison exercise for the
56 determination of inorganic and total As concentrations in dried samples of spinach (NIST
57 CRM1570a), wheat and seaweed (*Fucus vesiculosus*). 71 laboratories from 31 countries,
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3 including 30 European reference laboratories, participated and again results did not appear to be
4 method dependent. 85%, 65% and 20% of results for spinach, wheat and seaweed were
5 acceptable. Spinach results were good despite the low As concentration (0.05 $\mu\text{g/g}$). The results
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7 from this exercise highlighted the need for hydrogen peroxide to extract As from wheat.
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9 Overestimation of inorganic As concentrations in seaweed was common.
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13 Briscoe and co-workers [275] conducted a similar interlaboratory comparison exercise for the
14 determination of As(III), As(V), MA, DMA and total As concentrations in rice, kelp powder and
15 apple juice. The authors conclude that as the majority of laboratories participating in this study
16 (66%) achieved an overall score of 3 or 4 (good or outstanding) there is generally good
17 intercomparability amongst most laboratories that are producing total As and As speciation data
18 for these matrices. 93% of the laboratories received an overall score of 2 or better, and only 2
19 laboratories (7%) received scores of 1 or 0 (poor or unacceptable, respectively). As only 6
20 laboratories (15%) receiving an overall score of 4, further analytical method development is
21 required in order to achieve a high level of consistency across multiple laboratories using various
22 methods worldwide. Examination of data shows there was a considerable variation in results
23 even for total As concentrations. Problems were evident for the measurement of As(III), As(V),
24 MA and DMA in the kelp sample and As(III) and As(V) in apple juice.
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38 **Concluding remarks**

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40 The aim of this review was to examine published information on storage and sample preparation
41 procedures and the use of HPLC- ICPMS and HPLC-HG-AFS to extract and measure As
42 species concentrations. The continuous challenge in speciation analyses is to quantitatively
43 extract and maintain the integrity of species. As illustrated above, some As species such as the
44 arsenosugars and AB are relatively stable but As(III), As(V), MA (III), DMA (III), As-GSH and
45 As-PC species are not. Considerable care should be taken to ensure that the As species
46 determined are not artifacts of the preservation or extraction procedures. Some general
47 observations that arise out of this review are:
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Sample preservation: For waters and biological fluids, flash freezing in liquid nitrogen with the exclusion of air and adding a preservative such as EDTA is suitable for the preservation of most As species. Stability of As species is critically dependent on the sample matrix and the preservation technique used should be evaluated for each sample type. If aqueous As(III) and As(V) measurements are required the use of “in field” solid phase extraction cartridges should be considered to isolate these species before oxidation changes can occur. Most biota and sediment samples can be stored at -20 °C to -80 °C, however, on thawing some samples can lose considerable amounts of water containing As species. If As species in plants such as As-GSH or As-PCs are to be determined, samples need to be determined fresh and not stored.

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Removal of extraneous material: It is essential that all biota be cleaned to remove surface material and epiphytes and animals be depurated to remove gut contents before As species analysis

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Drying of samples: Animal tissues can be freeze dried before analysis with a low likelihood that As species will change. Plants can be oven or freeze dried if only a measure of inorganic As and methylated As species is required. If As species such as As-GSH or As-PCs are to be determined, the effects of drying on samples needs to be evaluated as the loss of As-PC complexes have been reported. Similarly, sediments and soils should not be dried as redox changes will occur affecting the As(III) and As(V) species and other As species such as arsenosugars.

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Sample grinding and particle size: Extraction efficiencies have been shown to be critically dependent on particle size and substantial increases in extraction efficiencies occur when particle size is reduced from 500 µm to less than 50 µm. Grinding, however, can result in the loss of some As species e.g. As-PC complexes from plants. It should be noted that CRMs are supplied ground to 50-400 µm while real samples are not, bringing into question the performance of methods validated only with CRMs.

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Sample extraction: As cannot be extracted from all sample matrices using a single set of conditions. Extraction procedures need to be optimised for each tissue type e.g. roots, stems and

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3 leaves of plants, animal muscle and liver tissues. Cells and membranes need to be ruptured by
4 grinding, freeze drying or the use of sonification. Samples may also need to be defatted e.g.
5 using acetone as the presence of fats can lower extraction efficiencies and influence HPLC
6 column performance. Methanol, water and methanol-water mixtures are commonly used to
7 extract non-lipid As species from marine algae and animals, but are inefficient in extracting
8 inorganic As species from angioperms, terrestrial animals, sediment, soils and air particulates.
9 For these samples the use of a dilute acid is required. The use of a sequential extraction
10 procedure, where for example, methanol-water extraction is followed by dilute acid extraction,
11 will increase the extraction efficiencies of hard to extract As species. Microwave heating is now
12 widely used and often has been shown to give better recoveries relative to mechanical mixing
13 and sonification. The use of sub-critical water (temperatures between 100-350 °C under pressure)
14 shows promise to quantitatively extract As species from plant and sediment samples. A number
15 of studies have verified the efficacy of extraction procedures using XANES. Good agreement
16 has been reported between XANES and HPLC-ICPMS for the analysis of plants, rice,
17 earthworms, phytoplankton and zooplankton extracts, but, speciation information such as the
18 binding partners of As(III) e.g. GSH, PCs may be lost on extraction. As-lipids can be extracted
19 using a variety of organic solvents with the traditional chloroform-methanol (2:1 v/v) mixture
20 being popular.
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37 *Storage of extracts:* Similar to waters and biological fluids, the behaviour of As species in
38 sample extracts is critically dependent on the sample matrix and the preservation technique used
39 should be evaluated for each sample type. Generally aqueous and methanol-water extracts of
40 oxo- and thio-methylated As species stored at 4-20 °C are stable for short periods of 15-20 days
41 Some As species such as phosphate and sulphonated arsenoribosides can hydrolyse to glycerol
42 sugars when in solution. As well, thio-methylated As species slowly convert into their oxy-
43 analogs. Arsenosugar and thio-methylated As species extracts are best stored as freeze dried
44 pellets. Arsenosugars also degrade slowly at low pH while acification leads to an immediate
45 decrease, or complete loss of dithio-MA and dithio-DMA, often accompanied by an increase in
46 the corresponding mono thio-As species, thus acidification of extracts should be avoided. Sample
47 extracts for MA(III) and DMA (III) analysis need to be stored below -20 °C, if the integrity of
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3 these As species are to be maintained. As-PC complexes extracted from plants are only stable for
4 short periods (< 3 days) at 1 °C and their stability when frozen is unknown.
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10 *HPLC –ICPMS or HPLC-HG-AFS:* Water soluble As species have a wide variety of ionic
11 characteristics that are pH dependent, thus finding one separation scheme that will separate all
12 the common As species is difficult. Consequently different chromatographic approaches using
13 anion exchange, cation exchange, reverse phase, ion-exclusion and size exclusion have been
14 used to separate As species. Normally at least two complimentary techniques are required to
15 fully separate and characterise As species although the coupling of an anion and a cation column
16 can be used to simultaneously separate anion and cation As species. The general approach is to
17 use ion exchange chromatography to separate the anions and cations or use reverse phase
18 chromatography in conjunction with an ion pairing reagent to separate charged and uncharged As
19 species. HPLC columns are normally operated at elevated temperatures (30-70 °C) to improve
20 solution diffusion and mass transfer because of lower viscosities, lower back pressures and higher
21 flow rates. There has been a shift to the use of microbore columns packed with smaller particles
22 for chromatography to obtain greater resolving power and lower detection limits. Use of these
23 columns requires the minimisation of dead volumes and low flows require the use of cooled
24 spray chambers and micronebulisers with higher mass transfer efficiencies. The analysis of water
25 soluble As species is relatively straight forward as long as sample peaks are not misidentified and
26 matrix interferences accounted for that may influence quantitation. The use of reverse phase
27 chromatography seems to be prone to more severe matrix and pH effects in comparison to ion
28 chromatography. One of the problems of using ion pairing reagents is that ion pairing with
29 matrix components occurs as well causing shifts in retention times. Thio-methylated As species
30 cannot be separated using typical conditions used for oxo-methylated As species, e.g. anion
31 exchange on PRPX-100 and phosphate buffers (pH 6), as they have very long retention times or
32 do not elute and peak broadening occurs. Increasing the pH to 8-10 with the addition of
33 methanol will elute some thio-methylated As species, e.g. thio-arsenosugars within 20-30 min.
34 Some researchers have added hydrogen peroxide to extracts to confirm the presence of thio-
35 methylated As species or to measure the concentration of thio-methylated As species by
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3 difference. The common thio-methylated As species can be separated using an Atlantis C18
4 column eluted with 20mM ammonium phosphate, pH 3, 1 ml/min, 25 °C.
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9 Until recently, As lipids in fish oils were saponified with potassium hydroxide while tissues were
10 extracted with a mixture of chloroform/methanol the solvent removed and residues hydrolysed
11 with an acid, an alkali or phospholipase D enzyme. These procedures cleaved the As moiety in
12 lipid extracts, and the water-soluble As species liberated were determined by HPLC-ICP-MS.
13 Now analysis of intact As-lipids is undertaken . Rigorous cleanup of extracts is required and As-
14 lipids can only be separated using reverse phase chromatography using gradient elution
15 conditions. Methanol or acetone is commonly introduced directly into the ICPMS spray chamber
16 to compensate for the variable amounts of carbon in the mobile phase entering the ICPMS and
17 standardising As signals
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21 Thioarsenates in water are commonly determined using an Ion Pac anion column eluted with a
22 gradient of 20–100 mM NaOH, 1 ml/min, 25 °C with an anionic self-regenerating suppressor
23 used to remove sodium from the eluent prior to introduction into the ICP-MS to prevent the
24 suppression of As signals.
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28 Complexed As species in bile, urine and plants such as rice presents a challenge to speciate as
29 they are easily denatured and difficult to chromatograph because species are only stable for a
30 short period, 1-2 hr, and easily dissociate on chromatographic columns unless a mobile phase
31 with a low pH is used. As-GSH species can be separated and quantified using C18 reverse phase
32 chromatography with 0.1% formic acid (pH 2.65) and an acetonitrile gradient (0-40%). As-PC
33 species in plants can also be separated and quantified by C18 reverse phase chromatography with
34 gradient elution using formic acid and methanol to separate As species. A mass detector
35 techniques that precisely measure the mass of the As species needs to be used concurrently to
36 allow definitive identification of the As-PC species.
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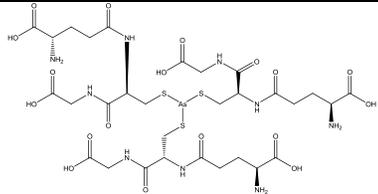
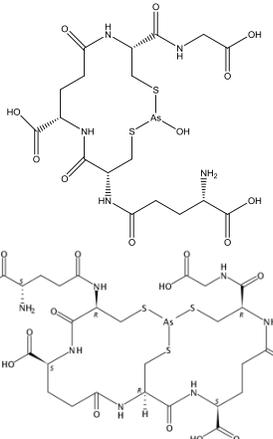
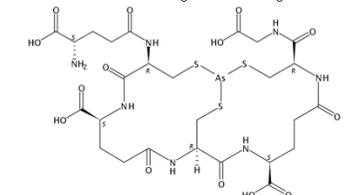
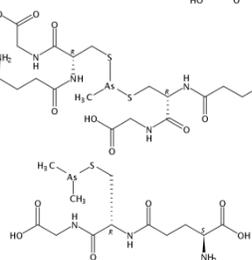
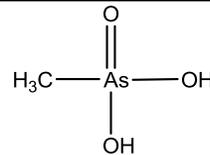
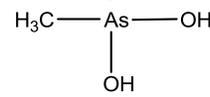
53 *Quality assurance and control:* Mass balances and recoveries must be determined for all steps of
54 the analytical procedure. It is essential that both total As and extractable As be determined to
55 allow the percentage of unextracted As species to be determined. In many published studies low
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3 extraction and column efficiencies are reported resulting in little of the As species in samples
4 being characterised. Methods need to be evaluated using As standards addition. Digestion,
5 extraction, separation and measurement processes are all subject to errors including
6 contamination, degradation, matrix effects and calibration errors. Certified reference materials
7 with data on As species are available to assist in quantifying full procedural errors. In the
8 absence of CRMs, interlaboratory studies also provide a means of assessing the quality of results.
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17 Environmental and food guidelines e.g for rice are being implemented world wide that require
18 not only the accurate measurement of the total As concentration, but As species as well.
19 Protocols developed need to be defensible and be able to show that the integrity of the As species
20 has been maintained through the entire analysis program and that measurements are quantitative
21 and not subject to matrix or other interferences. At a minimum, mass balances need to be
22 undertaken together with As standards additions and a series of quality control samples with
23 known concentrations of As species need to be determined. Participation in proficiency trials are
24 also required to evaluate method performance under normal laboratory operations.
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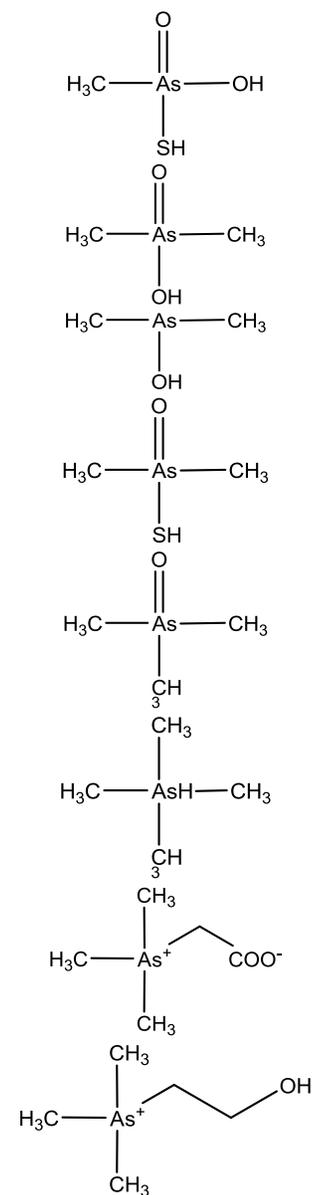
Table 1: Name, formula, molecular mass and CAS number for selected arsenic species.

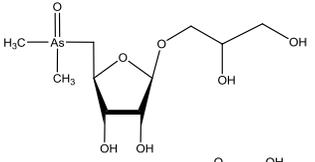
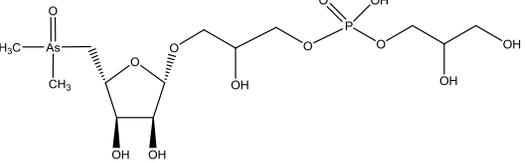
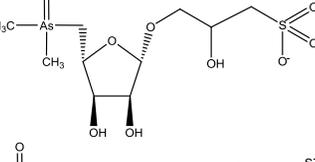
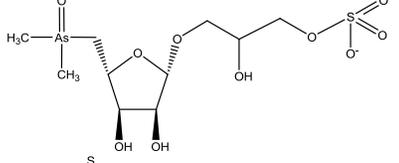
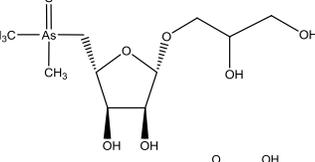
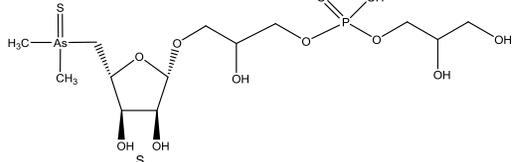
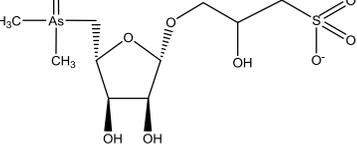
Species name ^a	Abbreviation ^a	Formula	Molecular mass m/z ^b	pKa ^c	CAS	Structure
<i>Inorganic</i>						
Arsenite	As(III)	As(OH) ₃	125.94	6.86±0.53	13464-58-9	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HO}-\text{As}-\text{OH} \\ \\ \text{OH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Arsenate	As(V)	AsO(OH) ₃	141.94	3.09±0.10	7778-39-4	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HO}-\text{As}-\text{OH} \\ \\ \text{OH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Thioarsenite	TAs(III)	AsH ₃ O ₂ S	142.01	4.63±0.10	50288-24-9	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HO}-\text{As}-\text{OH} \\ \\ \text{SH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Thioarsenate	TAs(V)	H ₃ AsO ₃ S	158.01	2.49±0.10	58904-80-6	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HO}-\text{As}-\text{OH} \\ \\ \text{SH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Dithioarsenate	DTAs(V)	H ₃ AsO ₂ S ₂	174.07	13.50±0.70	50288-27-2	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HS}-\text{As}-\text{OH} \\ \\ \text{SH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Trithioarsenate	TTAs(V)	AsH ₃ OS ₃	190.14	-	50288-22-7	$\begin{array}{c} \text{HS}-\text{As}-\text{SH} \\ \\ \text{SH} \\ \\ \text{O} \end{array}$
Tetrathioarsenate	TetraTAs(V)	AsH ₃ S ₄	206.21	-		$\begin{array}{c} \text{S} \\ \\ \text{HS}-\text{As}-\text{SH} \\ \\ \text{SH} \end{array}$

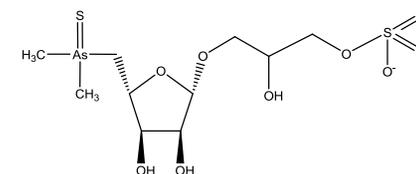
Complexed						
Arsenic triglutathione	As(III)[GSH]3	C ₃₀ H ₄₈ AsN ₉ O ₁₈ S ₃	993.87	1.74±0.10 9.76±0.16	145903-88-4	
Arsenic phytochelatin	As(III)PC2; GSH-As(III)PC2; As(III)PC3; As(III)[PC2]2	As(C ₈ H ₁₁ N ₂ O ₄ S) _n C ₁₈ H ₂₈ AsN ₅ O ₁₁ S ₂ C ₂₆ H ₃₈ AsN ₇ O ₁₄ S ₃	629.49 [276]; 843.73; 918; 1150 [277]	2.21±0.10 9.29±0.16	1113020-54-4 887122-60-3 [276]	
Methyarsenate glutathionine	MA(III)[GSH]2	C ₂₁ H ₃₅ AsN ₆ O ₁₂ S ₂	702.59	1.91±0.10 9.59±0.16	91919-81-2	
Dimethyarsenate glutathionine	DMA(III)GSH	C ₁₂ H ₂₂ AsN ₃ O ₆ S	411.31	2.21±0.10	69819-86-9	
Low molecular weight						
Oxo-monomethyarsenate (V)	MA	CH ₅ AsO ₃	139.97	3.87±0.10	124-58-3	
Oxo-monomethylarsenate (III)	MA(III)	CH ₅ AsO ₂	123.97	9.73±0.53	25400-23-1	

60

1							
2							
3							
4	Thio-	Thio-MA	CH ₅ AsSO ₂	156.04	4.41±0.70	937022-98-5	
5	monomethylarsenate						
6							
7							
8							
9	Oxo-diimethylarsenate	DMA	C ₂ H ₇ AsO ₂	138.00	6.30±0.30	75-60-5	
10	(V)						
11							
12	Oxo-diimethylarsenate	DMA(III)	C ₂ H ₇ AsO	122.00	12.72±0.53	55094-22-9	
13	(III)						
14							
15							
16							
17	Thio-diimethylarsenate	Thio-DMA	C ₂ H ₇ AsOS	154.06	-	754217-65-7	
18							
19							
20							
21							
22	Trimethyl arsine oxide	TMAO	C ₃ H ₉ AsO	136.02	-	4964-14-1	
23							
24							
25							
26							
27	Tetra methyl arsenic	TETRA	C ₄ H ₁₂ As	135.06	-	27742-38-7	
28	oxide						
29							
30							
31							
32							
33	Arsenobetaine	AB	C ₅ H ₁₁ AsO ₂	178.06	-	64436-13-1	
34							
35							
36							
37							
38	Arsenocholine	AC	C ₅ H ₁₄ AsO	165.09	-	39895-81-3	
39							
40							
41							
42							
43							
44							
45	61						
46							
47							
48							
49							



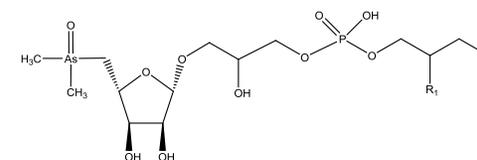
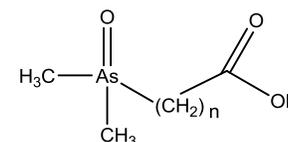
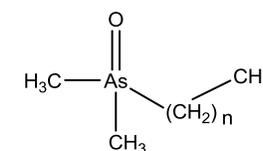
1							
2							
3							
4	Arsenosugar 1	Arsenosugar -	$C_{10}H_{21}AsO_7$	328.19	15.02 ± 0.10	1227057-97-7	
5	(glycerol arsenosugar)	OH					
6							
7							
8							
9	Arsenosugar 2	Arsenosugar-	$C_{13}H_{28}AsO_{12}P$	482.25	14.95 ± 0.10	88216-76-6	
10	(phosphate	PO ₄					
11	arsenosugar)						
12							
13							
14	Arsenosugar 3	Arsenosugar-	$C_{10}H_{20}AsO_9S$	391.25	-	123288-10-8	
15	(sulfonate arsenosugar)	SO ₃					
16							
17							
18							
19	Arsenosugar 4	Arsenosugar-	$C_{10}H_{20}AsO_{10}S$	407.25	-	123257-94-3	
20	(sulfate arsenosugar)	SO ₄					
21							
22							
23							
24							
25	Thio-arsenosgar glycerol	Thio-OH	$C_{10}H_{21}AsO_6S$	344.26	15.02 ± 0.10	761458-55-3	
26							
27							
28							
29							
30	Thio-arsenosugar	Thio -PO ₄	$C_{13}H_{28}AsO_{11}PS$	498.32	14.95 ± 0.10	761458-56-4	
31	phosphate						
32							
33							
34							
35	Thio-arsenosugar	Thio -SO ₃	$C_{10}H_{20}AsO_8S_2$	407.31	-	1227407-67-1	
36	sulfonate						
37							
38							
39							
40							
41							
42							
43							
44							
45	62						
46							
47							
48							
49							



Thio-arsenosugar sulfate	Thio -SO ₄	C ₁₀ H ₂₀ AsO ₉ S ₂	423.31	-	1227407-68-2
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High molecular weight

Arsenic hydrocarbons	AsHC	C ₁₅ H ₃₃ AsO	304.34		1456610-35-7
		C ₁₇ H ₃₅ AsO	330.38		1456610-38-0
		C ₁₆ H ₃₅ AsO	318.37		6145-24-0
		C ₁₇ H ₃₇ AsO	332.40		1083077-42-2
		C ₁₈ H ₃₉ AsO	346.42		1423745-41-8
		C ₁₉ H ₃₉ AsO	358.43		1456610-45-9
		C ₁₉ H ₄₁ As O	360.45		1083077-43-3
		C ₂₀ H ₄₃ AsO	374.48		1423745-42-9
		C ₂₁ H ₄₅ AsO	388.50		1393357-63-5
		C ₂₂ H ₄₇ AsO	402.53		1423745-43-0
Arsenic fatty acids	AsFA	C ₂₄ H ₃₉ AsO	418.49		1456610-47-1
		C ₁₇ H ₃₅ AsO ₃	362.38		1032052-02-0
		C ₂₃ H ₃₇ AsO ₃	436.46		1032052-10-0
		C ₂₄ H ₃₇ AsO ₃	448.47		1296225-43-8
		C ₂₂ H ₃₅ AsO ₃	422.43		1423745-44-1
		C ₂₂ H ₃₇ AsO ₃	424.45	4.75±0.10	1423745-45-2
		C ₄₅ H ₈₈ AsO ₁₄ P	959.07		115921-38-5
		C ₄₃ H ₈₄ AsO ₁₄ P	931.01		1423745-30-5
		C ₄₄ H ₈₆ AsO ₁₄ P	945.04		1423745-31-6
		C ₄₆ H ₉₀ As O ₁₄ P	973.09		1423745-32-7
Arsenic phospholipids	AsPL	C ₄₇ H ₉₂ As O ₁₄ P	987.12		1423745-34-9
		C ₄₈ H ₉₄ As O ₁₄ P	1001.15		1423745-35-0
		C ₄₉ H ₉₆ AsO ₁₄ P	1015.17		1393357-61-3
		C ₅₁ H ₁₀₀ AsO ₁₄ P	1043.23		1631038-74-8
		C ₅₃ H ₁₀₄ AsO ₁₄ P	1071.28	13.15±0.20	1393357-62-4
		C ₄₇ H ₉₀ AsO ₁₄ P	985.10		1423745-37-2
		C ₄₇ H ₈₈ AsO ₁₄ P	983.09		1423745-38-3
		C ₄₇ H ₈₆ AsO ₁₄ P	981.07		1423745-39-4
		C ₄₅ H ₈₆ AsO ₁₄ P	957.05		1423745-40-7
		C ₄₃ H ₈₄ As O ₁₄ P	931.01		1423745-46-3
C ₄₇ H ₈₆ As O ₁₄ P	981.07		1423745-47-4		
C ₄₅ H ₈₆ As O ₁₄ P	957.05		1423745-48-5		



C45H84AsO14P	955.04	1393357-60-2
C45 H84 As O14 P	955.04	1425509-86-9

^a some common names and abbreviations taken from Francesconi and Kuehnelt 2004[13]

^b formula, molecular mass and chemical properties taken from SciFinder™, predicted pKa and molecular weight calculated using Advanced Chemistry Development (ACD/Labs) Software V11.02 (© 1994-2015 ACD/Labs).

Table 2: Preservation techniques: Reactions that may occur in containers and effect on total arsenic concentrations and arsenic species

Reaction	Effect	Comment	Preservation	References
Physical				
Change in temperature	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Increasing temperature can dissolve precipitates e.g. FeS. Destabilization of As associated with colloids. Freezing may cause precipitates, Fe(III) oxides, calcite, MnO ₂ , CaP Temperature increase: Microbial activity increases Temperature decrease : Microbial activity decreases	Water: Store in cool room. Use in-field preconcentration procedures	[25, 34, 36, 38, 57, 60, 183, 186, 237, 278-280]
Freeze/thawing	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Defrosted samples may lose water on thawing	Analyse fresh	[279, 281]
Exposure to light	As(III)/As(V) ↑↓	Photooxidation. Reaction of As(III) with Fe(II/III), MnO ₂ or organic matter. Addition of acid can increase oxidation rate.	Store in dark. Avoid acid or store acidified samples in dark with EDTA	[25, 34, 38, 39, 282, 283]
Chemical				
Sorption	Total As ↑↓	Loss of As to container walls	Use PTFE containers	[23, 183, 237, 284]
pH change and Chemical hydrolysis	As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	AsS species unstable. Preservatives can hydrolyze compounds in solution and associated with particles	Flash freeze, avoid preservatives	[25, 38, 39, 57, 59, 60, 186, 187, 231, 264, 280, 282]
Enzymatic hydrolysis	As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻	Organic associated with particles may be hydrolyzed by enzymes	Flash freeze	
Oxidation/reduction	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Oxidation by Fe(III), O ₂ , MnO ₂ Fe/Mn oxides precipitate or dissolve	Remove oxygen in head space by N ₂ purging. Store in Anaerobic bag	[25, 34, 38, 39, 57, 60, 231, 264, 280, 282]
Precipitation	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Calcite formation. Ca, Mg or trace metal arsenates. Addition of H ₃ PO ₄ , if high [Fe] can form Fe ₃ (PO ₄) ₂ Fe/Al salts of phytic acid are not soluble Coprecipitation with Fe(III) or MnO ₂ High S, As ₂ S ₃ ppt	Acidify, avoid H ₃ PO ₄	[25, 34, 37, 38, 60, 237, 279, 280, 282]
Complexation	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓	Dissociation of complexes. Particles that are removed on filtration	Acidify	[25, 39, 187, 231, 264, 280, 285]
Biological				
Microbial growth	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Bacteria adhere to container walls, demethylation occurs	Freeze/acidify	[25, 34, 85, 279]

Microbial death	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓ (CH ₃) _x As ⁻ ↑↓	Particle associated As may be released	Freeze/acidify	[25, 38, 65, 85, 279]
Algal growth	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓	May occur in samples stored at room temperature without exclusion of light	Exclude light	
Algal cell disruption	Total As ↑↓ As(III)/As(V) ↑↓	May occur during filtration and freezing	Centrifuge	[25, 183]

Table 3: Extraction procedures to isolate arsenic species form sample matrices. M – mechanical extraction; H – hot plate extraction; US – ultra sonic extraction; PE - pressure extraction; MAE – microwave assisted extraction.

Application	Methanol-water, water and buffers					Aid or base					Sequential Extraction			Enzymatic		
	M	H	US	MAE	PE	M	H	US	MAE	PE	M	US	MAE	M	US	MAE
Human																
Urine																
Blood	[286]					[286]										
Hair	[286, 287]															
Finger nails	[286]															
Terrestrial																
Atmospheric particles			[154, 288]					[153, 154]	[20, 153, 154, 288, 289]							
Soil/sediment	[290-292]		[68, 83, 154, 290, 293]	[290]		[151]		[294]	[147]							
Iron minerals						[295]										
Coal																
Plants		[70, 71, 277]	[68, 79, 296]		[106]	[177, 297]		[79]			[144, 296, 298]	[79]				
Grasses				[103]												
Lichens												[289]				
Mushrooms			[182]			[299]										
Fungus			[300]													
Castor beans			[301]													
Mung beans	[302]															
Indian cress			[190]													
Pepper	[303]															
Rice		[86]	[100, 304]	[305]	[100, 306]	[100, 134, 259, 306]	[100, 138, 307-310]	[259]	[188, 259, 260, 305, 311]					[134]	[100, 157, 294, 305, 306, 312]	
Dietary supplements				[313]					[313]							
Cereals									[314]							
Tomatoes																
White			[80]													

mustard																
Radishes			[78]													
Spinach															[306]	
Apples							[306]									
Carrots	[315]		[315]			[316]										
Algae			[317]						[72]							
Wheat			[289, 318]							[318]					[289]	[289]
Chicken			[319]		[319]*										[294, 306]	
Baby foods														[156]		
Herbal medicines					[320]			[320]		[320]						
Bird eggs			[321]													
Plankton																
Earthworms	[137, 180, 322]															
Invertebrates	[144]															
Rodents	[298]												[298]			
Fish			[317]													
Sponges			[317]													
Molluscs			[317]													
Frogs			[317]													
Marine																
Sediment								[77, 323]								
Phytoplankton	[119]									[324, 325]		[167, 168, 326-328]				
Angiosperms					[76, 112, 127, 329]			[77, 323]		[127]				[127]		
Seaweeds	[193, 242, 330- 332]	[128]	[157, 300]		[56, 77, 96, 127, 128, 192, 222, 243, 323, 333- 339]	[340]		[128]		[128, 341]				[127]		
Animals																
Mollusca	[17, 178, 342,		[196, 321, 344]		[56, 77, 107, 112, 115, 222,	[345]		[187]				[95, 125]	[95]			

	343]			243, 323, 329, 333]												
Crustaceans	[332, 342, 343, 346]		[346, 347]	[77, 107, 112, 115, 323, 329, 346, 347]		[346]								[123]		
Fish	[65, 255, 342, 343, 348, 349]		[294, 344, 347]	[56, 77, 107, 113, 115, 127, 243, 323, 333, 347]	[345]			[347]	[127, 347]					[127]	[123, 348]	
Polychaetes			[350]	[77, 323]					[127]					[127]		
Echinoderms				[243, 333, 341]					[127]					[127]		
Amphipod				[329]												
Pinnipeds	[351]															
Sea birds	[351]															
Sea turtles	[351]															

Table 4: Overview of extraction and chromatographic separation conditions used for various sample matrixes

Application	Anion exchange					Cation exchange				Reverse phase			Other
	None	Methanol-water or water or buffer	Acid	Sequential	Enzymes	None	Methanol-water or water or buffer	Acid	Sequential	None	Methanol-water or water or buffer	Acid	
Biological fluids													
Gut microflora	[184]												
Urine	[22, 50, 214, 240, 270, 280, 286, 352-369]					[49, 245, 280, 356, 357, 359-361, 370, 371]				[227, 253, 270, 356, 357, 360, 370, 372-374]			[22, 375]
Rat urine	[376]												
Sheep's urine	[263, 377]					[263]							
Blood-serum	[22, 52, 360, 361, 377]	[287]	[287]			130 [360]				[52, 360, 378, 379]			[22, 52, 378]
Saliva										[241]			
Hair		[287]											
Finger nails		[287]											
Liver cytosol	[185]					[185]							
Terrestrial													
Atmospheric particles		[154, 288]	[20, 153, 154, 288]	[380]					[380]				
Water	[34, 47, 55, 57, 60, 267, 278, 355, 381-386]					[387-390]				[46, 56, 205, 344, 372, 389, 391-396]	[83]		
Soil/sediment		[47, 68, 267, 290, 292, 293]	[80, 147, 397]				[292]						
Coal													
Leachate	[398, 399]												
Algae		[317]					[317]					[72]	
Plankton		[119]					[119]						
Mushrooms		[182]					[182]						
Lichens				[380]					[380]				
Fungus		[300]									[300]		
Plants		[68, 79, 106, 296, 302]	[79, 297]	[79, 144, 298]				[144]				[71, 130, 177, 277]	
Invertebrates		[144]					[144]						
Rodents		[298]		[298]			[298]		[298]				

Mushrooms													[299]
Rice		[85, 100, 188, 305, 306, 400]	[100, 134, 138, 188, 305, 307-312]	[100, 134]	[157, 305, 306, 312]				[260]				[157]
Sun flowers													
Grasses		[103]											
Indian cress		[190]											
Apples		[306]			[306]								
Spinach		[80, 306]	[306]		[306]								
White mustard													
Pepper		[303]											
Wheat		[289, 318]	[289, 318]		[289]								
Carrots		[315, 316]											[401]
Radishes		[78]						[78]					
Castor beans		[301]											
Herbal medicines		[320]	[320]										
Chicken		[319]											
Beverages	[211, 354, 402-404]							[405]					
Dietary supplements										[313]			
Baby food					[156]								
Fish sauce	[16, 406]												
Earthworms		[137, 180, 322]						[137, 180, 322]					
Fish		[317, 347]	[347]					[317]					
Sponge		[317]						[317]					
Mollusca		[179, 317]						[179, 317]					
Frog		[317]						[317]					
Marine													
Water	[213, 325]												[407]
Sediment		[213]	[77, 123, 323, 325]						[325]				
Phytoplankton		[167]			[326-328, 408]					[326-328, 408]			
Sea anemone		[409]											
Angiosperms		[76, 112, 329, 341]	[77, 323, 341]	[341]				[76, 329, 341]	[77, 341]	[341]			
Seaweeds		[96, 128, 192, 193, 242, 243, 323, 330-334, 336-338, 340,	[128, 341]	[341]				[77, 323, 330, 333, 334, 338, 341, 409, 412]		[341]		[56, 331, 410]	[332]

		341, 408, 410-412]										
Polychaetes		[77, 323, 350]	[341]	[341]			[77, 323, 335, 341, 413]	[341]	[341]			
Mollusca		[17, 65, 77, 107, 115, 178, 196, 222, 243, 323, 329, 333, 341-343, 345]	[187]	[95, 125, 181, 341]			[77, 107, 112, 178, 222, 243, 323, 329, 333, 341]	[187, 341]	[95, 181, 341]		[56, 222, 333, 344]	
Crustaceans		[77, 107, 115, 329, 332, 342, 343, 347, 414]		[347]	[123]		[77, 107, 112, 323, 329]					[332]
Fish		[65, 77, 107, 112, 113, 115, 243, 323, 333, 342, 343, 345, 348, 349, 415]			[123, 348]		[77, 107, 112, 113, 243, 323, 333, 415]				[333, 344, 415]	
Echinoderms		[243, 333, 341]	[341]				[243, 333, 341]	[341]	[341]			
Amphipods		[329]					[329]					
Pinipeds		[351]					[351]					
Sea birds		[351]					[351]					
Sea turtles		[351]					[351]					

Table 5: Separation of lipid soluble species by HPLC-ICPMS

Applications	Extraction	Treatment	Separation	Reference
<i>Terrestrial</i>				
Sheep tissues	CH/M	Silicic acid/ enzyme hydrolysis	Anion exchange	[170]
<i>Marine</i>				
Seaweed	CH/M	Silicic acid/ enzyme hydrolysis	Anion exchange	[170]
Seaweed	CH/M	Silica	C8	[109]
Seaweed	DCM/M	Silica	C18 and Anion exchange	[416]
Seaweed	CH/M	Silica	C8	[109]
Mollusca	CH/M	Phospholipase hydrolysis		[417]
Crustaceans	M	TMAH hydrolysis	GPC/RP C18	[418]
Seals	CH/M	Alkaline hydrolysis	Anion/cation exchange	[171]
Fish oils	CH/M	Acid hydrolysis	Anion exchange	[262]
Fish oils	H/W	Silica gel	RP C18	[160]
Fish oils	Heptane/M/W	M/A partitioning	RP C18	[419]
Fish	H/ M/DCM	Silica gel	RP C18	[92]
Fish	CH/M	DEAE- anion/Silica	RP C18	[420]
Fish	H /M	Size exclusion	RP C18	[14]
Fish	CH/M	Silica, alkaline hydrolysis	Anion exchange	[173, 421]

A = Acetone, CH = Chloroform, M = Methanol, H = Hexane, DCM = Dichloromethane, W = Water, GPC = gel permeation, RP= reverse phase

Table 6: Arsenic species reported in non- marine certified reference materials

CRM	As species												References	
	As(III)	As(V)	MA	DMA	AB	TMAP	AC	TMA O	Thio- DMA	DMA A	Thio- DMA A	Thio- DMAE		
Geological														
Coal GBW11117	x	x												[422]
Soil GBW07450	x	x												[148]
Soil CRM025-050	x	x												[148]
Soil IAEA 7	x	x	x	x	x									[147, 158]
Soil BCR 320	x	x	x	x										[147, 151]
Soil BCR 141	x	x	x	x										[147]
River Sediment APS 1066		x												[403]
Human														
Urine Urichem N	x	x	x	x										[353, 354]
Urine NIST SRM 2670	x	x	x	x	x									[23, 50, 237, 253, 287, 353, 354, 374, 423-433]
Urine NIST SRM 2670a	x	x	x	x	x									[49, 362, 365]
Urine NIST SRM 2669	x	x	x	x	x		x	x						[238, 434]
Urine NIES CRM 18	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x		[362, 370, 375, 379, 435, 436]
Urine Utack normal	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Urine Utack high	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
BioRad 1	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
BioRad 2	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Sigma 1	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Sigma 2	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Hair GBW-07601	x	x	x	x										[121, 159]
Hair NIES 13	x	x	x	x										[287, 433]
Blood Utak 1	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Blood Utak 2	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Blood Utak 3	x	x	x	x	x									[437]
Plants														
Rice NIST CRM -1568a	x	x	x	x										[86, 87, 100, 126, 133, 134, 138, 157, 159, 176, 305-308, 312, 400, 438-443]
Rice NMIJ CRM -7503a	x	x	x	x										[176, 307]
Rice NMIJ CRM -7405a	x	x		x										[86]
Rice IMEP- 107	x	x	x	x										[188, 307]
Rice ERM BC211	x	x	x	x										[188]
Rice NIES 10a	x	x	x	x										[188]
Rice NIES 10b	x	x	x	x										[188]
Rice NIES 10c	x	x	x	x										[188]
Rice FAPAS T07151QC	x	x	x	x										[188]

Rice GBW 10010	x	x	x	x									[305, 320]
Tomato leaves NIST CRM 1573a	x	x											[132]
Peach GBW82301	x	x	x	x									[297]
Wheat NIST RM 8436	x	x	x	x									[289]
<i>Water</i>													
NIST 1643d	x	x											[444]
NIST 1643c	x	xx	x	x									[205]
EC SLRS-2	x	x	x	x									[47, 391]
APS 1075	x	x											[403]
APS 1071	x												[403]
<i>Animals</i>													
Bovine liver NIST SRM1577	x	x	x	x	x								[140, 286]

GBW= NRCCRM China; CRM = Resource Technology Corporation USA; ERM = European Reference Materials (Europe); IAEA = International Atomic Energy Agency, Belgium; BCR = ; Community Bureau of Reference, Belgium; Urichem = Urine Control Fisher Scientific; IMEP = International Measurement Evaluation Program (Europe), NMIJ =National Measurement Institute (Japan), NIES = National Institute of Environmental Science (Japan), Utack = Utack, Valencia, USA; Biorad = Biorad, Munchen Germany; Sigma = Sigma, St Louis USA; FAPAS = Food Analysis Performance Assessment Scheme (USA), NIST = National Institute of Science and Technology (USA), EC = Environment Canada; APS = ; NFA = National Food Agency Denmark; GBW = Standard materials of soils component, China; NRCC = National Research Council Canada; MURST = Institute for Reference Materials and Measurement, Belgium..

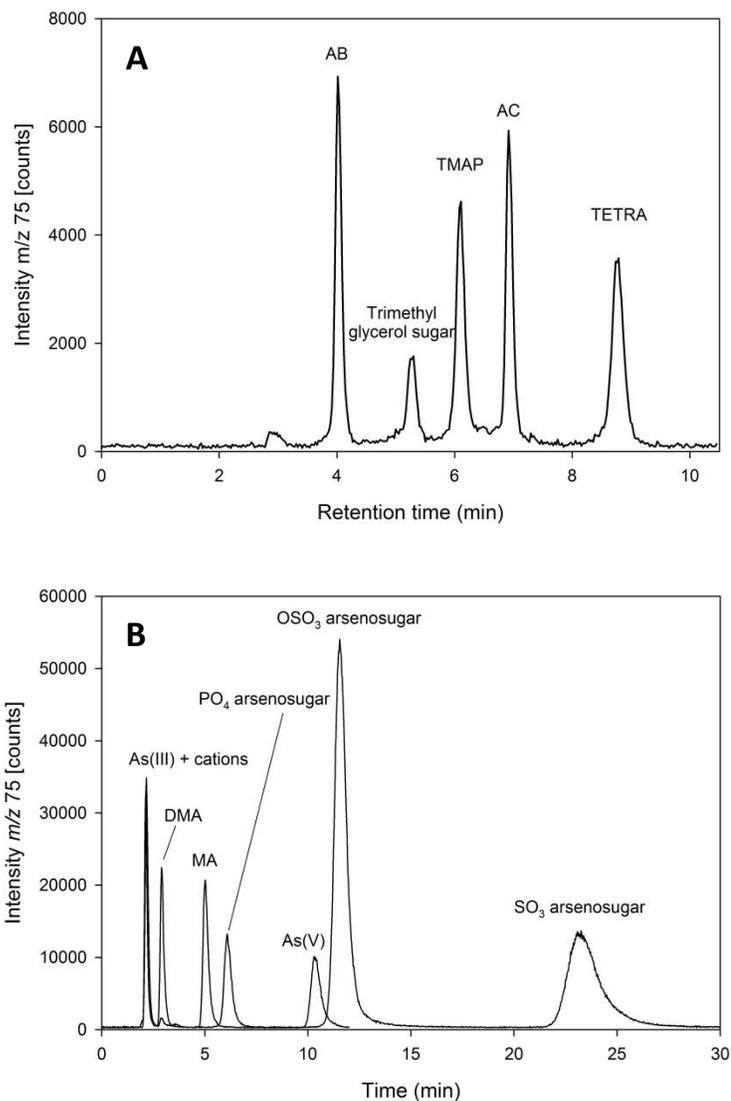
Table 7 As species concentrations reported in marine certified reference materials.

CRM	As species														Reference	
	As(III)	As(V)	Total In As	MA	DMA	AB	AC	TMAO	TETRA	DMAA	TMAP	AS1	AS2	AS3		AS4
<i>Marine sediment</i>																
MURST-ISS-A1	x	x		x	x	x										[294]
IAEA 405	x	x		x												[151]
<i>Marine biota</i>																
<i>Algae/diatoms/plankton</i>																
Seaweed IAEA/TM 140	x	x		x	x					x		x	x	x	x	[74, 94, 96, 294, 336, 445, 446]
Seaweed NIES No 14												x	x	x	x	[432, 447, 448]
Seaweed BCR 279	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	[97, 119, 127, 168, 328, 339, 449]
Seaweed NIES 9		x			x							x	x	x	x	[21, 66, 96, 168, 328, 336, 339, 450]
Seaweed NIES 14	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	[432, 447, 448]
Seaweed NMIJ CRM 7405a		x														[99]
Seaweed <i>Fucus</i> extract		x			x							x	x	x	x	[157, 193, 246, 432, 446, 451]
Seaweed extract					x								x	x		[157]
Plankton BCR 414	x	x														[452]
<i>Oyster/shrimp/scallop tissue</i>																
Oyster NIST 1566													x			[453]
Oyster NIST 1566a	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			[432, 454-461]
Oyster NIST 1566b	x	x			x	x	x	x	x			x	x			[432, 459, 462, 463]
Oyster BCR710	x	x		x	x	x							x			[227, 273, 462, 464]
Shrimp NFA				x	x	x	x	x	x							[465, 466]
Scallop NIES 15	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x			[432]
<i>Mussel tissue</i>																
BCR 278R		x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x			[63, 345, 460, 462, 463, 467]
BCR 525					x	x						x	x			[345, 455]
NIST CE 278	x	x		x	x	x										[140, 463]
NIES 6					x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			[448, 458, 468, 469]
Mussel GBW-08751		x			x	x	x									[345]

<i>Fish tissue</i>																
NMIJ CRM 7402a (Cod fish)	x	x		x	x	x									[395, 459]	
BCR 627 (Tuna fish)	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	[63, 120, 247, 294, 375, 462, 465, 470-473]	
NFA				x	x	x	x	x	x						[455, 458, 465, 466, 469]	
BCR422 (Cod fish)						x									[63, 463]	
BCR 627 (Tuna fish)						x									[306]	
NIES 11 (Sea bass)						x									[448]	
*NRCC DORM 1 (Dog fish)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	[123, 255, 432, 460, 463, 469, 473-476]
*NRCC DORM 2 (Dog fish)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	[63, 76, 77, 107, 112, 119, 120, 127, 156, 157, 168, 192, 222, 243, 247, 323, 327, 333, 335, 343, 345, 349, 365, 393, 409, 430, 459, 460, 462, 465, 466, 470, 472, 474, 477-486]
*NRCC DORM 3 (Dog fish)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x								[140, 143, 472, 487, 488]	
**NRCC DOLT 1 (Dog fish)	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	[432]	
**NRCC DOLT 2 (Dog fish)		x	x	x	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x	[459, 479, 480]
**NRCC DOLT 3 (Dog fish)	x	x		x	x	x	x								[140, 472]	
**NRCC DOLT 4 (Dog fish)			x												[487]	
<i>Lobster tissue</i>																
**NRCC TORT 1 (Lobster hepatopancreas)	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	[123, 195, 432, 455]	
**NRCC TORT 2 (Lobster hepatopancreas)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	[107, 127, 156, 346, 393, 414, 459, 460, 465, 472, 479, 480, 485, 487-492]

*Muscle tissue (defatted), ** Liver tissue (defatted)

Figure 1: A) Cation exchange chromatogram of arsenic standards, using a Supelco Supelcosil SCX column (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5 μ m), mobile phase of 20 mM pyridine pH 2.6 adjusted with HCO₂H, flow rate 1.5 ml/min, column temperature 40 °C; B) Anion exchange chromatogram arsenic standards using a Phenomenex PRP-X100 column (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 10 μ m), mobile phase of 20 mM (NH₄)₃PO₄ pH 5.6 adjusted with NH₄OH, flow rate 1.5 ml/min, column temperature 40 °C; C) Cationic arsenic species in the gastropod *B. nanum* [222] using the conditions outlined for cation exchange chromatography.



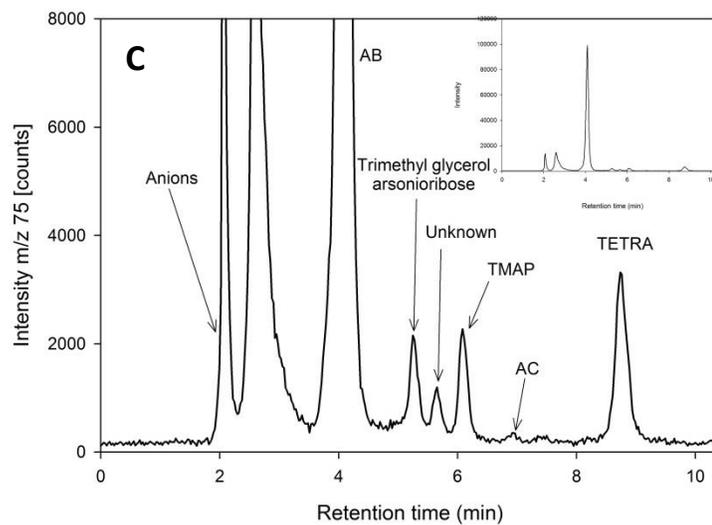


Figure 2: HPLC–HG–ICP–MS chromatograms for: (A) Anion exchange chromatogram arsenic standards using a Phenomenex PRP-X100 column (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 10 μ m), mobile phase of 20 mM $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{PO}_4$ pH 5.6 adjusted with NH_4OH , flow rate 1.5 ml/min, column temperature 40 $^\circ\text{C}$, hydride formation by post column mixing with 1% v/v HCl, 2% m/v L-Cysteine, 3% NaBH_4 heating to mixed reagents to 70 $^\circ\text{C}$ to speed up the reaction before separation of the gas and liquid phases prior to ICPMS analysis; and (B) *Macrocystis pyrifera*, conditions as above. Redrawn with permission from Kirby and co-workers [192].

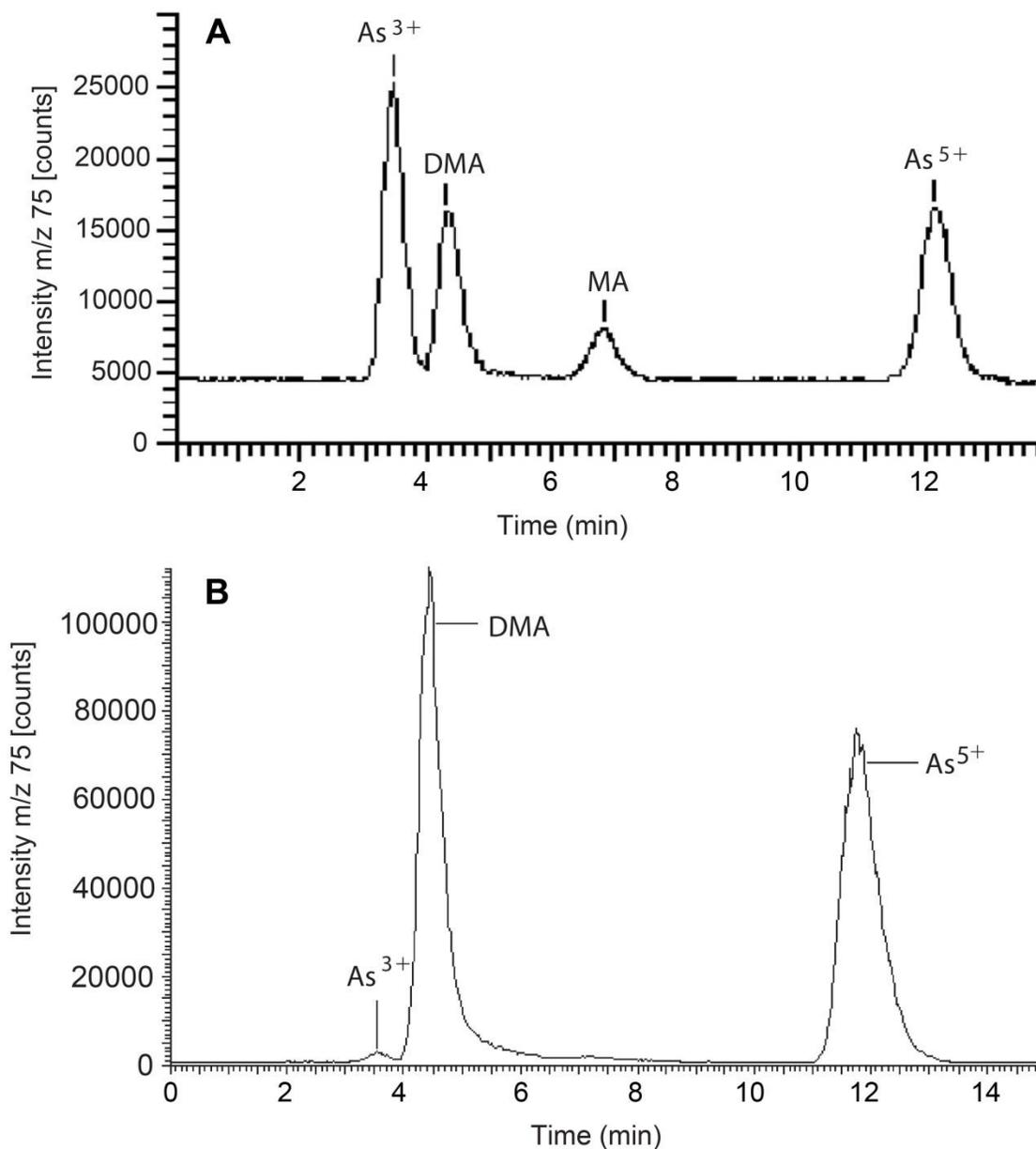


Figure 3: Cryogenic trapping ICPMS (A) Schematic of system (B) Separation of arsenic species in open ocean seawater. Reproduced with permission from Ellwood and Maher [198] and Maher *et al.* [81].

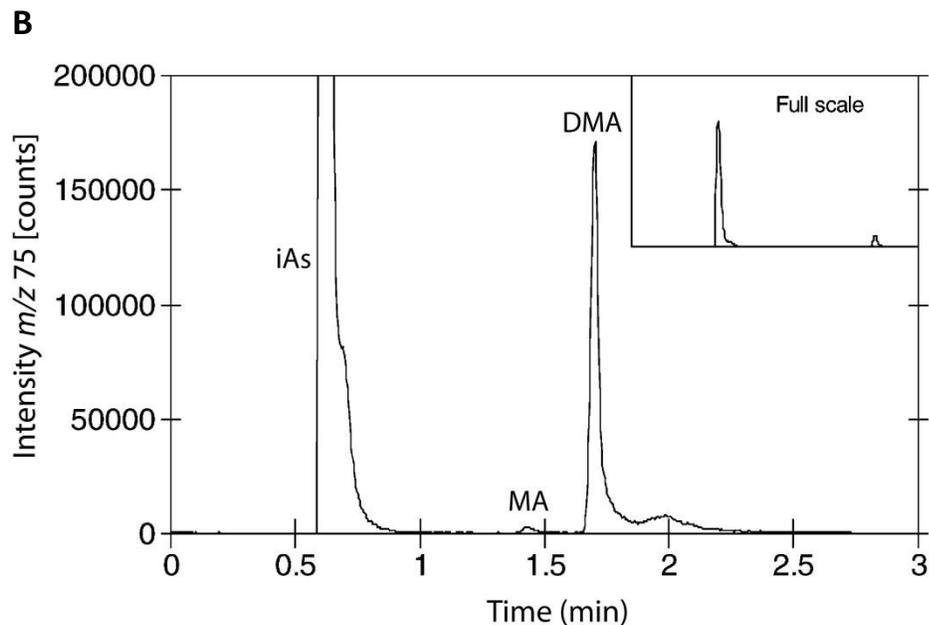
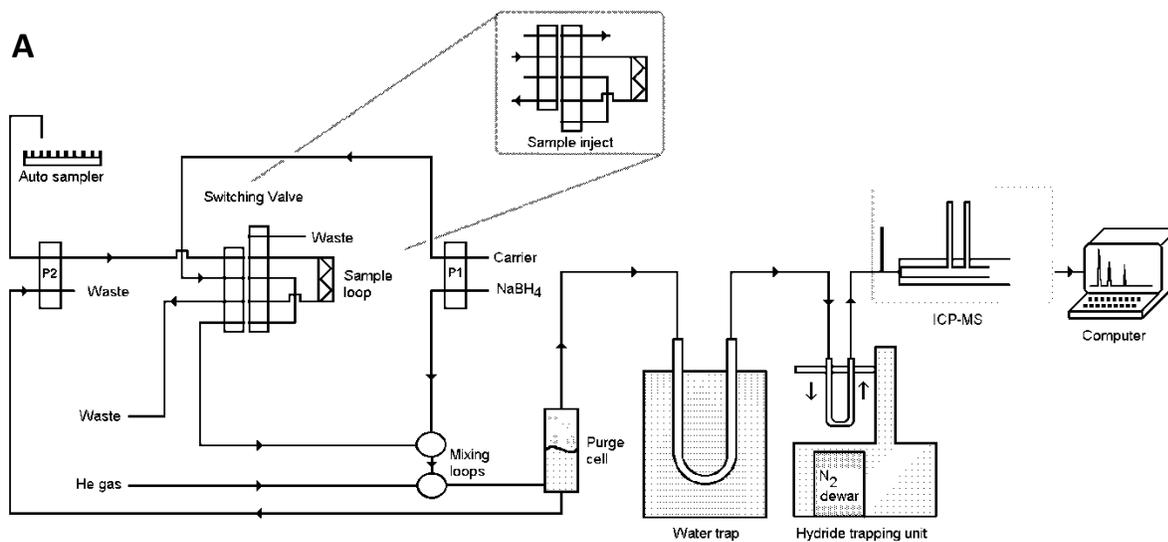


Figure 4: Arsenic species in *Fucus serartus*, separated using a Phenomenex PRP-X100 column (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 10 μ m), mobile phase of 20 mM $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{PO}_4$ pH 5.6 adjusted with NH_4OH , flow rate 1.5 ml/min, column temperature 40 $^\circ\text{C}$ (A) and *Homerseria Banksii* (B) separated using the same conditions as above.

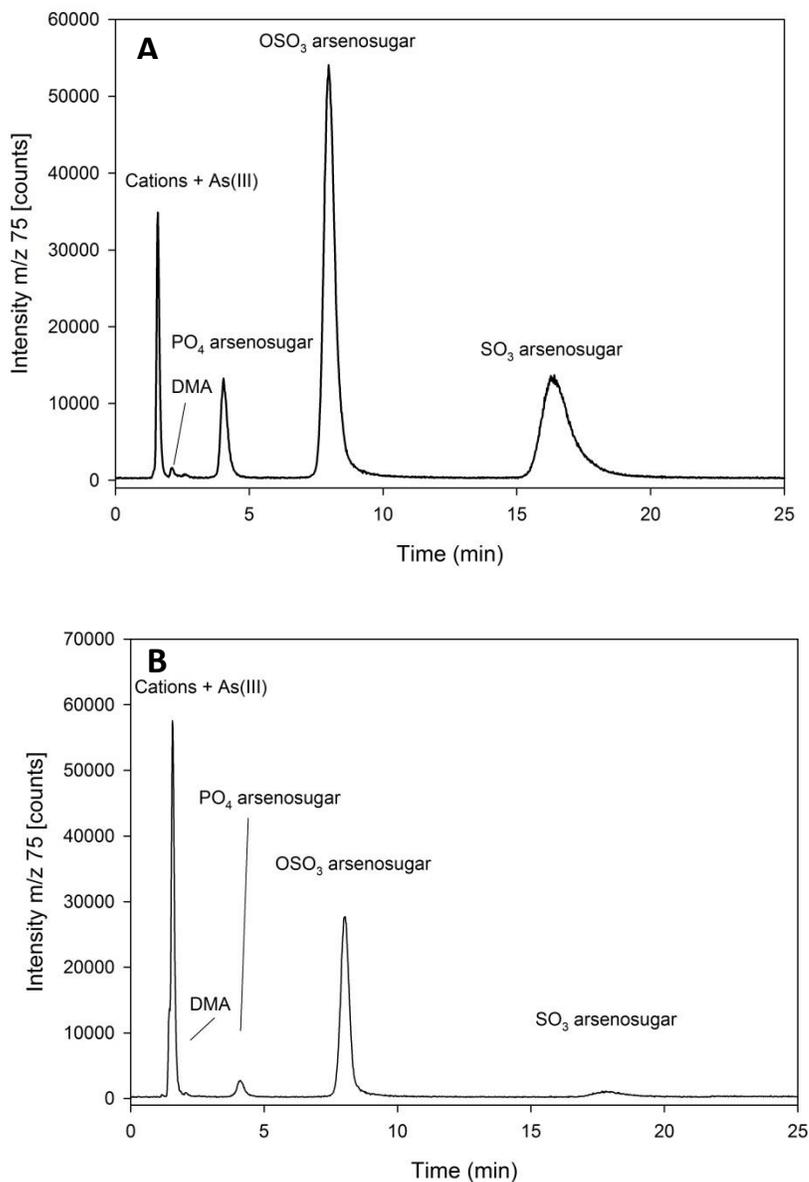


Figure 5: Arsenic species in bivalve tissues, separated using a Supelco Supelcosil SCX column (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5 μ m), mobile phase of 20 mM pyridine pH 2.6 adjusted with HCO₂H, flow rate 1.5 ml/min, column temperature 40 °C [222].

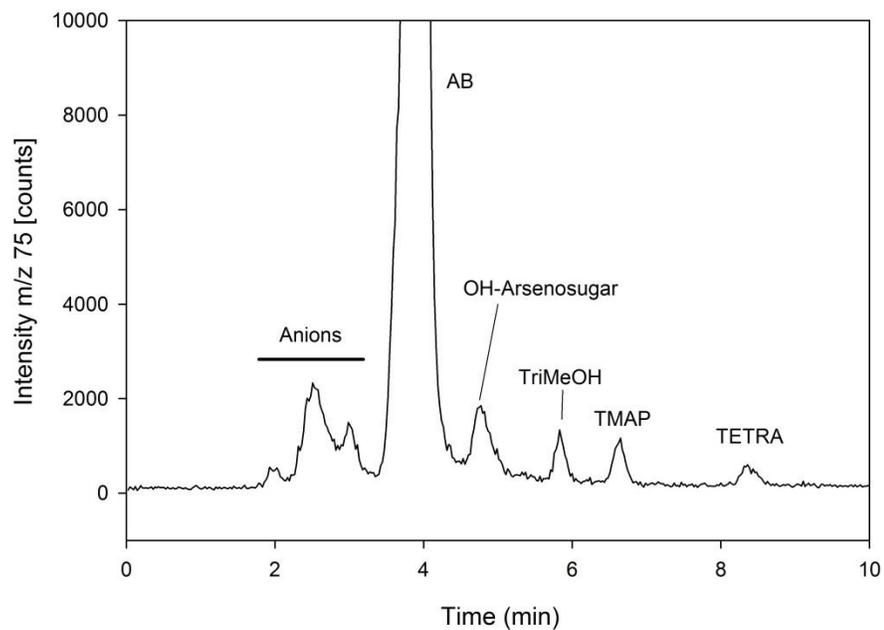


Figure 6: Arsenic species in long grain white rice. Arsenic extracted with 2% (v/v) HNO₃ at 95°C and separated on a anion exchange column (PRP-X100 150 mm x 4.1 mm x 5 μm) using a 5 mM CH₂(COOH)₂ buffer pH 5.6 adjusted with NH₄OH at 1 ml min⁻¹, column temperature 25 °C.

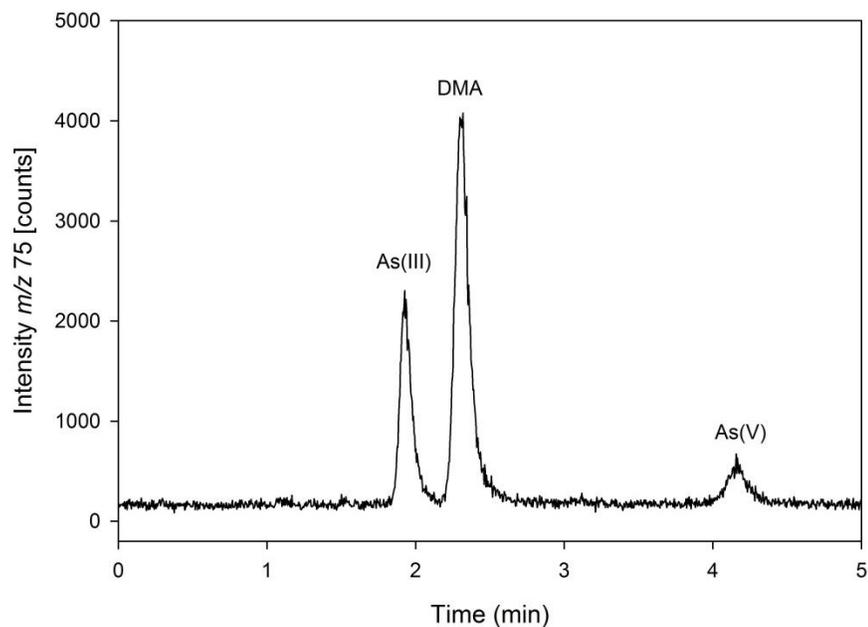


Figure 7: Arsenic lipids in seaweed extracts. HPLC separation conditions were carried out by reverse phase chromatography using a Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C8 column (150 mm x 4.6 mm x 5- μ m particle size) and a mobile phase comprising A) 10 mM CH₃COOH pH 6.0 adjusted with NH₄OH and B) methanol with the following gradient elution conditions: 0–25 min, 50–95% mobile phase B; 25–40 min, 95% mobile phase B, Figure redrawn with permission from Raber et al.[109]

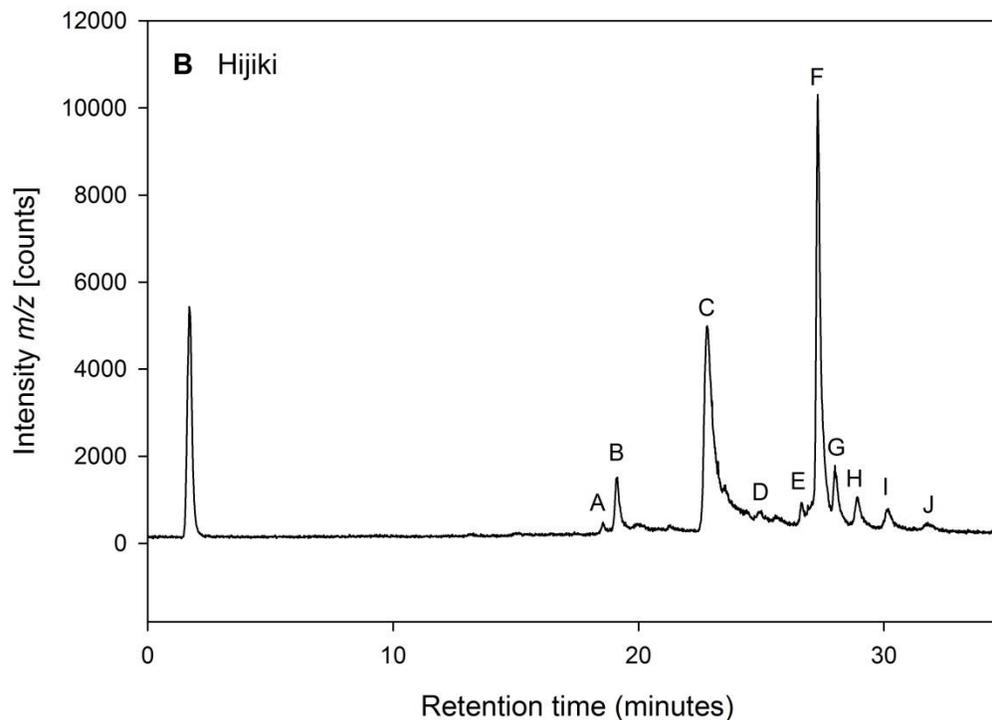
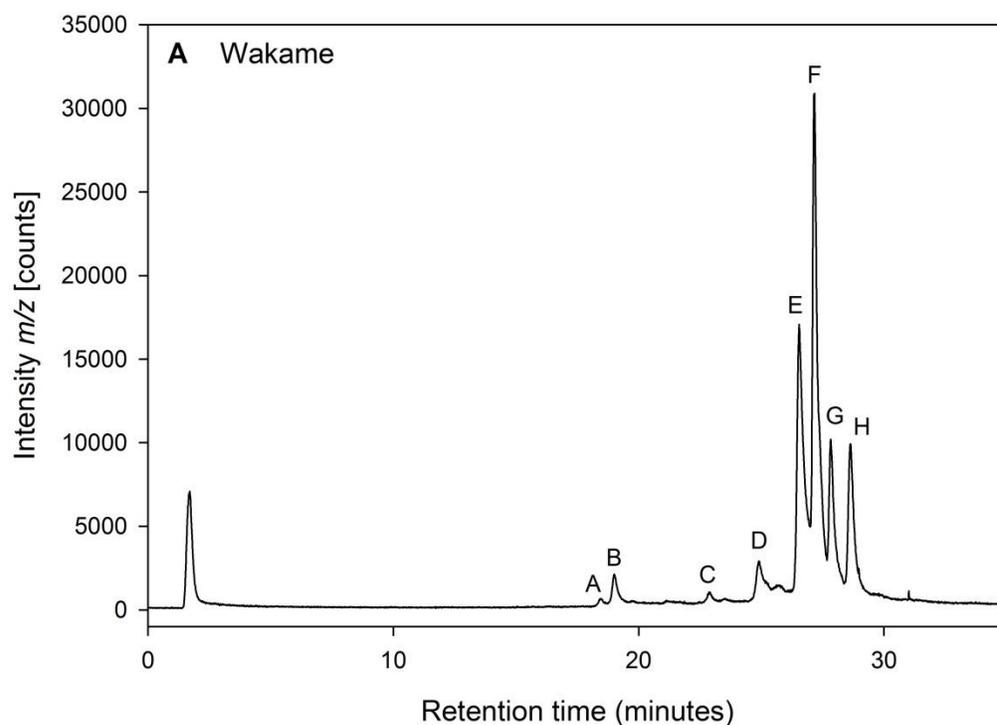


Figure 8: Thio-arsenic species separated by C18 reverse phase chromatography using a Atlantis dC18 column (150 mm x 4.6 mm x 5- μ m particle size), mobile phase of 10 mM NH_4HCO_2 pH 3.0 adjusted with NH_4OH , flow rate 1 ml/min, column temperature 25 $^\circ\text{C}$. Figure redrawn from Maher and co-workers [62].

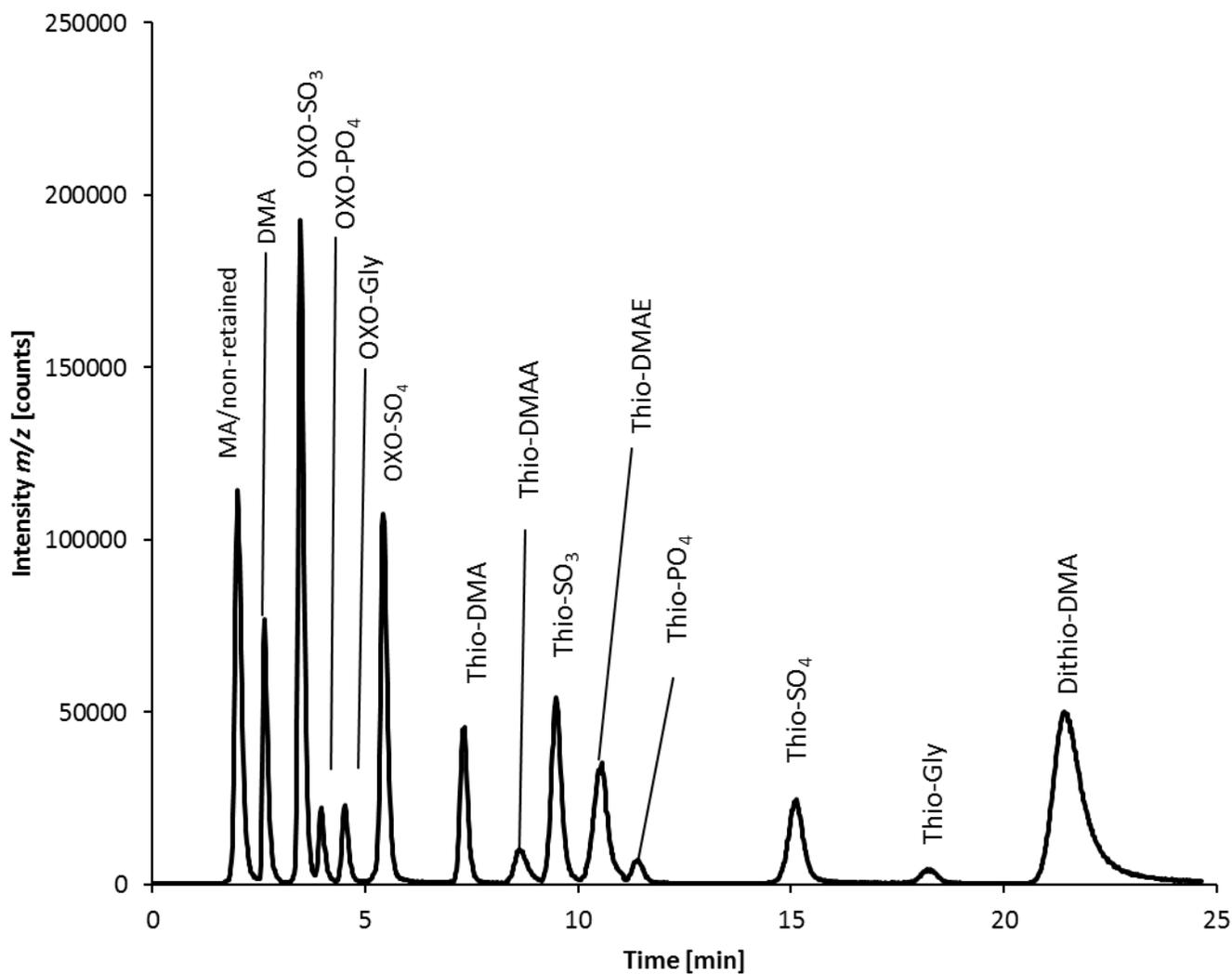
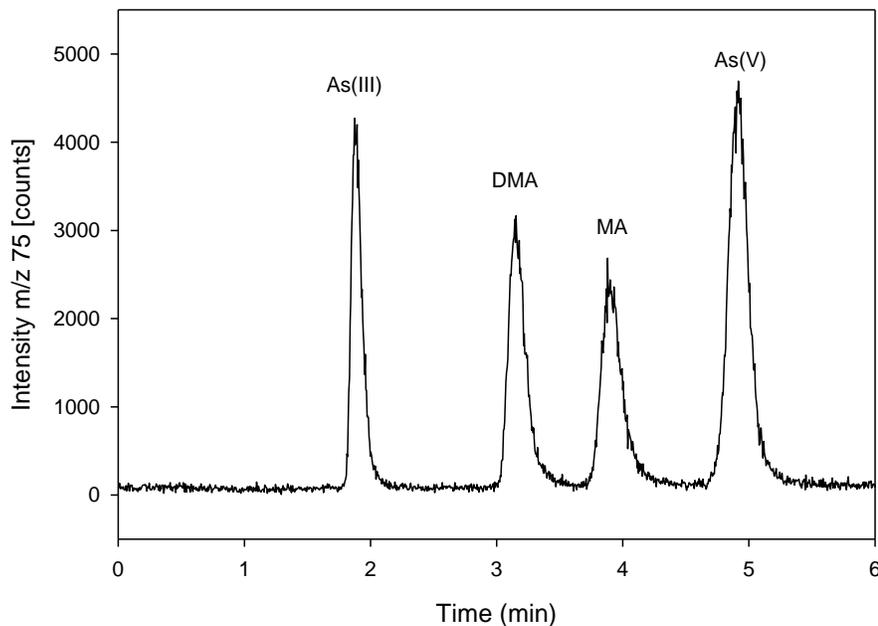
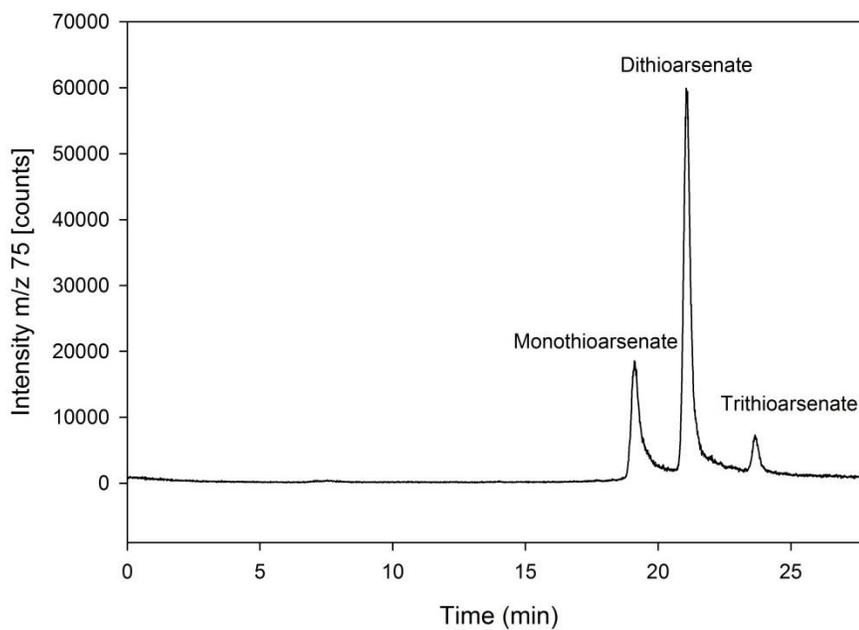


Figure 9: Separation of common anions by reverse phase ion pairing with tetra butyl ammonium hydroxide (TBAH) as the ion pairing reagent. Conditions were modified from those of Wangkarn and Pergantis [405]. Column: Waters Atlantis dC18 (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5 μ m), flow rate 1.200 ml/min, column temperature 25 $^{\circ}$ C, injection volume 5 μ l, mobile phase A: H₂O, mobile phase B: 10 mM TBAH pH 6.2 with a gradient of 50% B held for 1 min, 50 % B to 100 % B from 2 min to 5 min, 50% B from 5 min to 7 min, standards of As(III), DMA, MA and As(V) are ~ 5 ppb.



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Figure 10: Thio arsenate standards eluted using an Ion Pac AS16 (250 mm x 4-mm, 10 μm particle size) anion column, with a gradient of 20–100 mM NaOH over 20 mins at a flow rate of 1 ml/min, 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, using a Dionex AERS 300 suppressor (2mm) prior to introduction of the mobile phase into the ICPMS.



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