



Field-Portable GC/MS Characterization and Testing

Garth E. Patterson, John W. Grossenbacher, J. Mitchell Wells, Anthony J. Cochran, Caryn O'Hearn, Brent D. Rardin, Brent A. Knecht, Jason L. Springston, Mark A. Gregory, Dennis J. Barket, Jr.

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Field Portable Mass Spectrometry

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U.S. troops will be using poultry to detect chemical attacks in Iraq

Posted on Sat, Mar. 01, 2003

Operation Field Chicken shut down
BY RON HARRIS
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Socialstyrelsen

The Terrorist Attack with Sarin in Tokyo

Summary, experience and conclusions

Aktuellt

Ämnen

Hälsa & Sjukvård

Federal trial begins over explosive-sniffing dogs who bombed

Mon Jun 9, 2:40 PM ET

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Tuesday, September 7, 2004

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Updated September 28, 2001, 11:00 a.m. E

Future terrorist attacks worry people living near ammunition, chemical depots

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Faces minimum sentence of 60 years

Wednesday, January 22, 2003 Posted: 10:57 AM EST (1557 GMT)

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- Calhoun County
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- Talladega County
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- State

Chemical weapons concerns rising

By Richard Raeke
Star Chemical Weapons Correspondent
10-02-2001

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Latest News

June 14, 2004
Volume 82, Number 24
p. 15

CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LAB TESTS CONFIRM SARIN IN IRAQI SHELL

Sophisticated analyses uphold tests fingering nerve agent in roadside bomb

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Officials may store VX in Newport

Disposal plant considers building tank farm to house byproduct

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Published Thursday, July 3, 2003

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Tuesday,
September 7

[Frustration prompts schools to ban cell phones](#)

Field Portable Mass Spectrometry

Opportunities to Improve Airport Passenger Screening With Mass Spectrometry



NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Committee on Assessment of Security Technologies for Transportation, National Research Council of the National Academies. The National Academies Press: Washington, D.C., 2004.

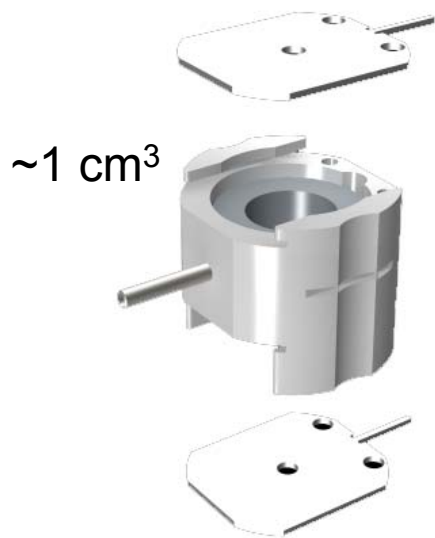
"To improve upon the trace detection systems currently employed in airports across the US, mass spectrometry (MS) is an obvious candidate to consider. It has become the gold standard for resolving high-consequence analyses ..."

But

"Mass spectrometers have historically been large, complex systems. ...commercially-available chemical analysis systems...are not designed for an environment as harsh as an airport or other transportation arena."

-or a battlefield, a depot perimeter, an office building HVAC system...

Griffin's Portable GC/MS

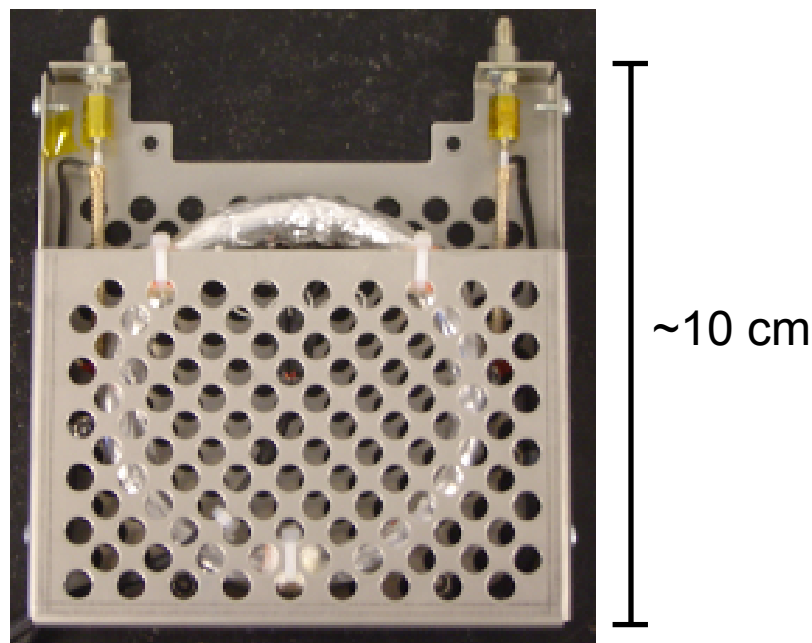


Cylindrical Ion Trap Mass Analyzer

- Easily miniaturized trap geometry
- MS/MS capability
- Lower voltage, higher pressure operation
- Internal electron ionization (EI)

Low Thermal Mass-GC

- Ramp rate $\geq 200^{\circ}$ C/min
- Maximum Temp 350° C
- Cooling time ~ 2 min
- Variety of phases
- 1 m – 30 m standard



Griffin's Portable GC/MS

Minotaur 300



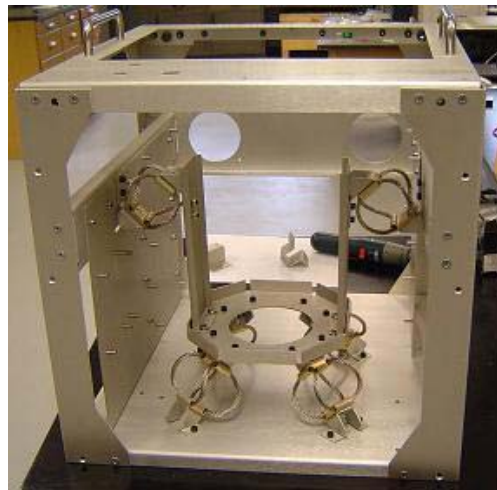
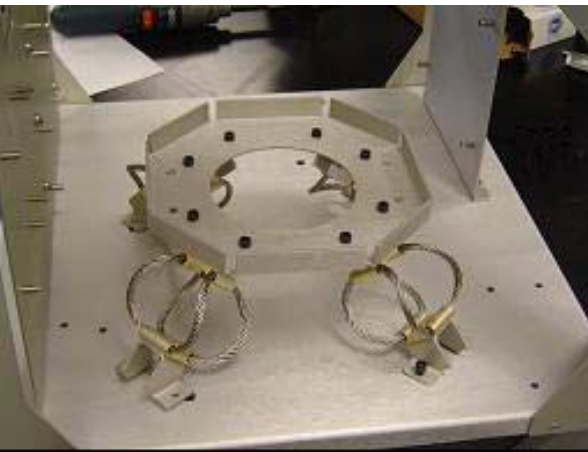
Instrument Specifications:

- MS/MS capable
- Picogram sensitivity (application dependent)
- Low thermal mass GC, SPME, MIMS, and direct SPME sample introduction available
- Multi-level software control
- Helium or ambient air bath gas
- Ruggedized and shock-mounted for outside-the-lab operation (Minotaur 400)
- Network communication compatible

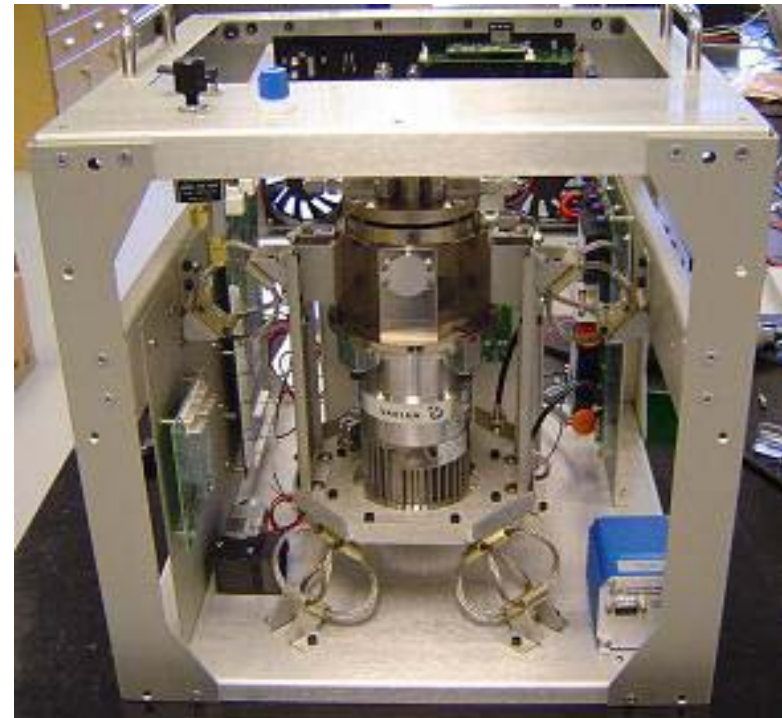
Minotaur 400



Shock Mount platform

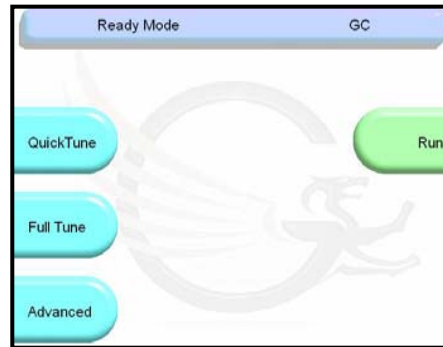


Wire-rope isolators are used to provide shock and vibration isolation of the most fragile components



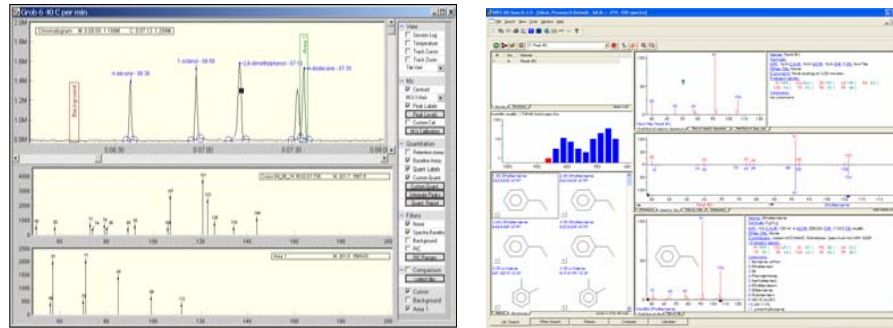
Layered Software Architecture

Level 1



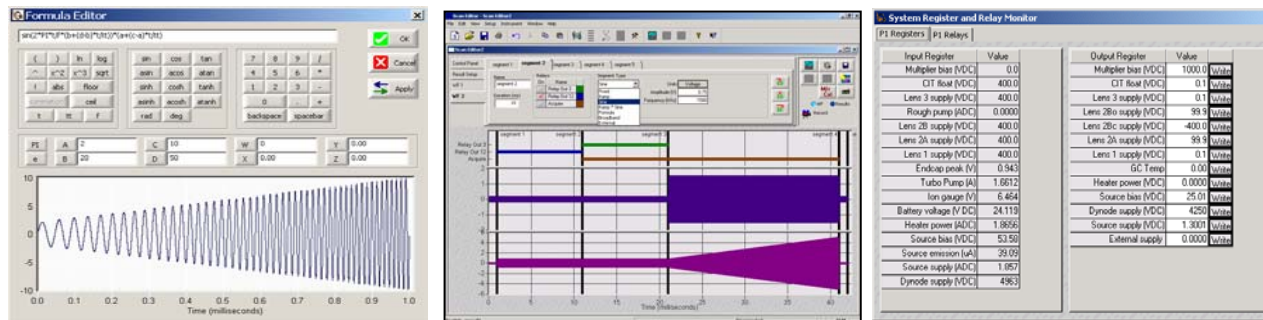
simplified user interface

Level 2



scientific user interface

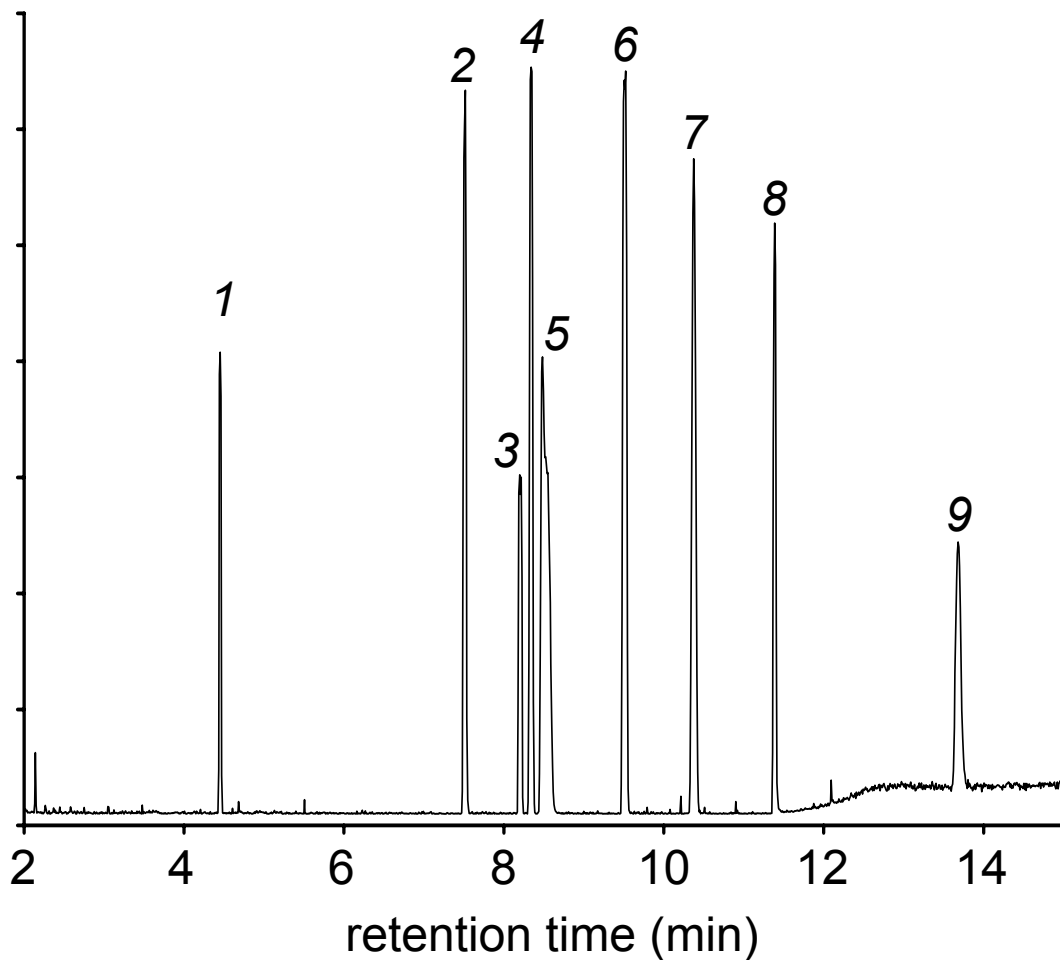
Level 3



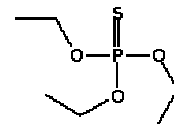
fundamental development tool and expert user interface

Analysis of CW agent simulants

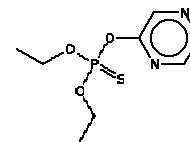
Separation of 9 organophosphorus pesticides
30 m x 0.25 mm Rtx-5MS column



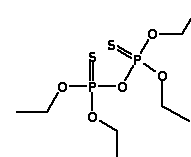
1) O,O,O-Triethyl Thiophosphate



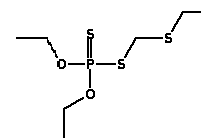
2) Thionazin



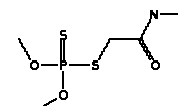
3) Sulfotep



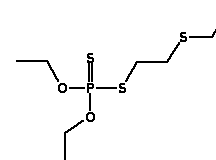
4) Phorate



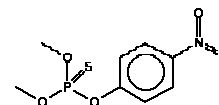
5) Dimethoate



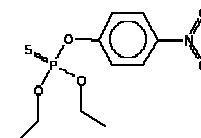
6) Disulfoton



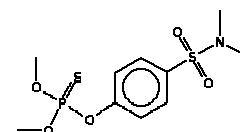
7) Methyl Parathion



8) Parathion

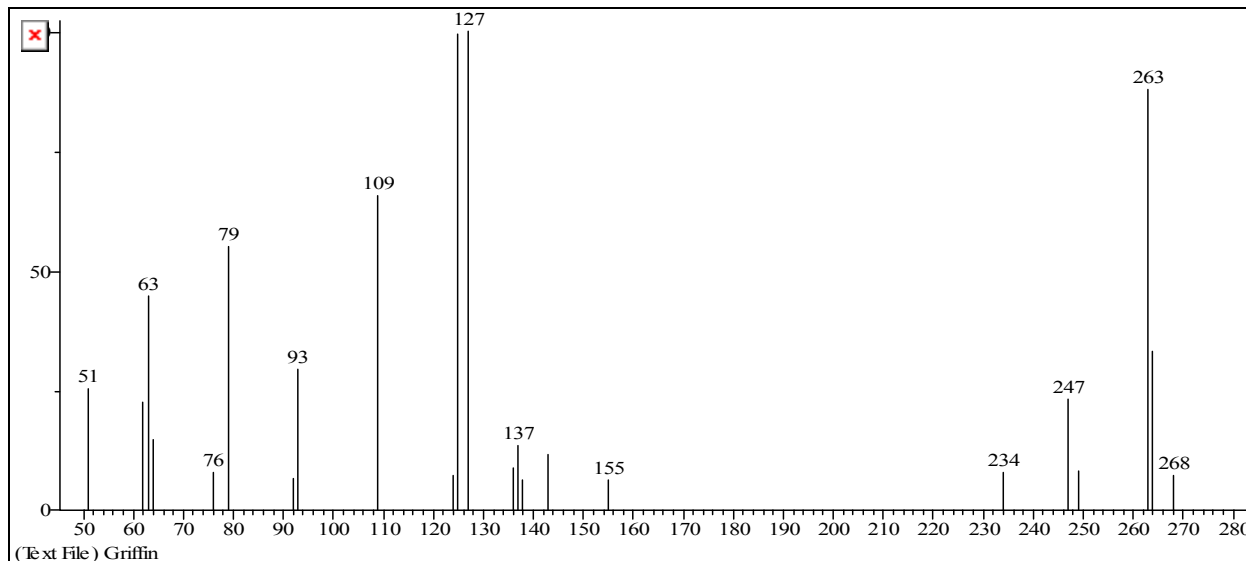


9) Famphur



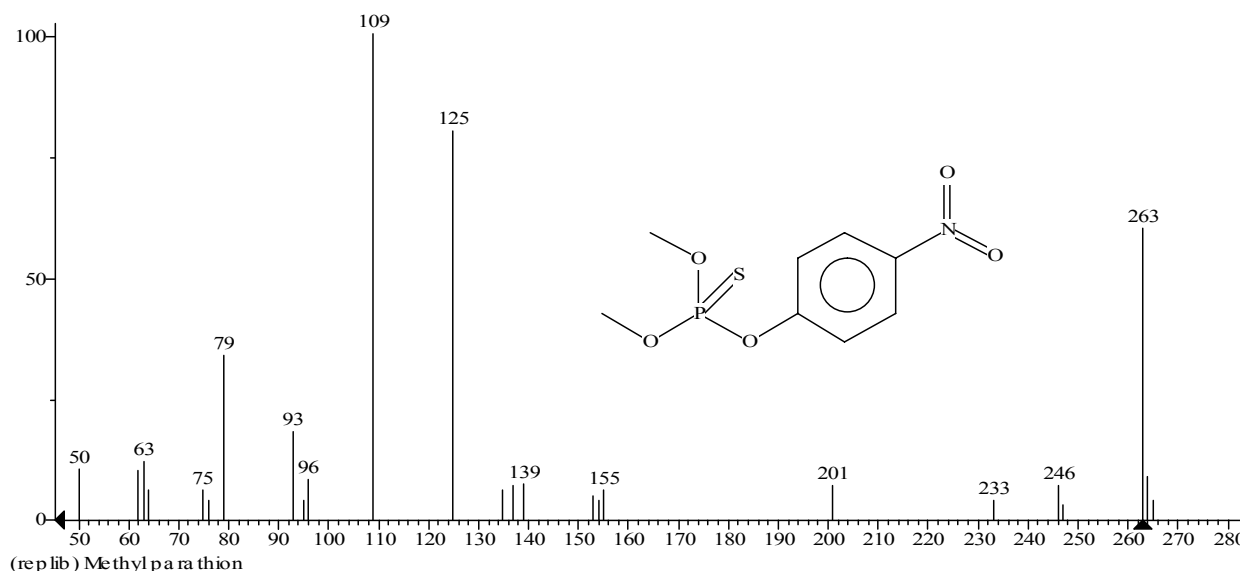
Analysis of CW agent simulants

MS of Peak #7



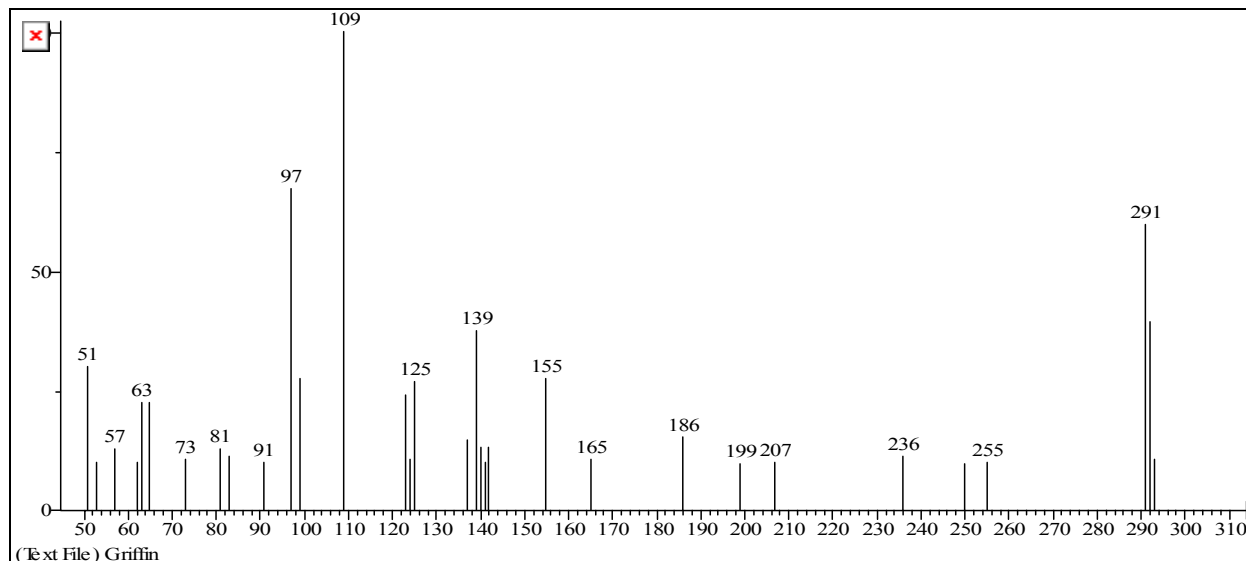
NIST MS of Methyl Parathion

Match
Probability
88.5%



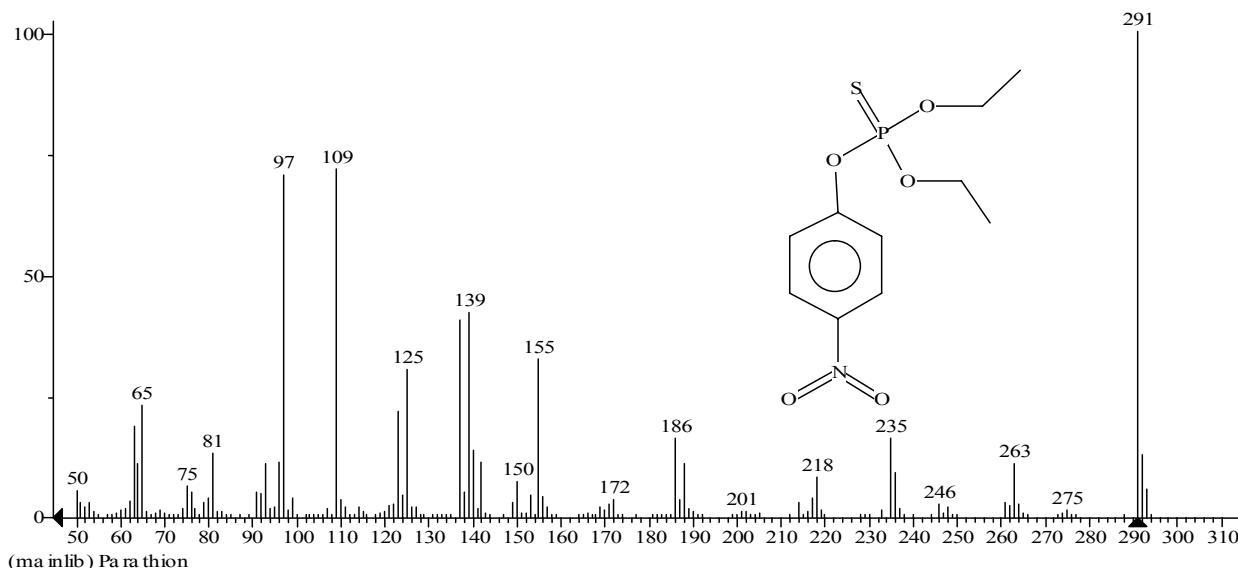
Analysis of CW agent simulants

MS of Peak #8



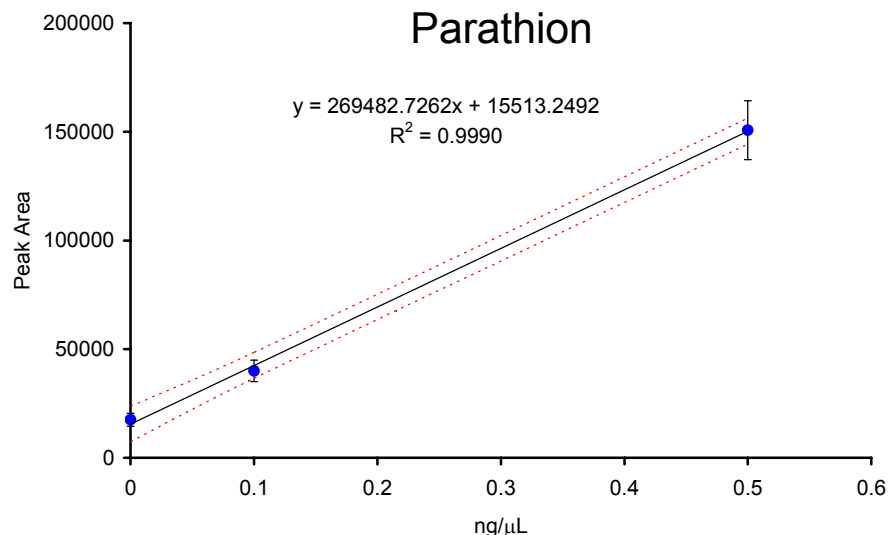
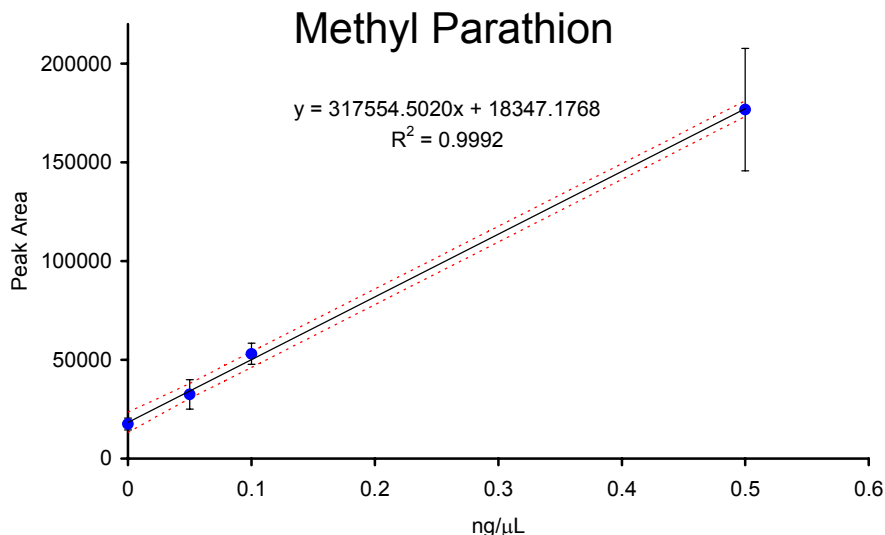
NIST MS of Parathion

Match
Probability
82.1%



Analysis of CW agent simulants

Pesticide Quantitation



Compound	Limit of Detection (pg/μL)
-----------------	--

O,O,O-triethylthiophosphate	9
-----------------------------	---

thionazin	21
-----------	----

sulfotep	45
----------	----

phorate	10
---------	----

dimethoate	44
------------	----

disulfoton	34
------------	----

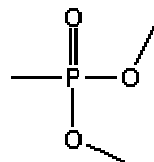
methyl parathion	26
------------------	----

parathion	41
-----------	----

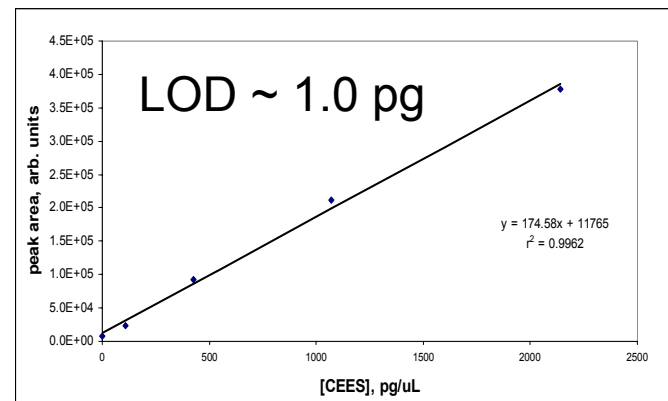
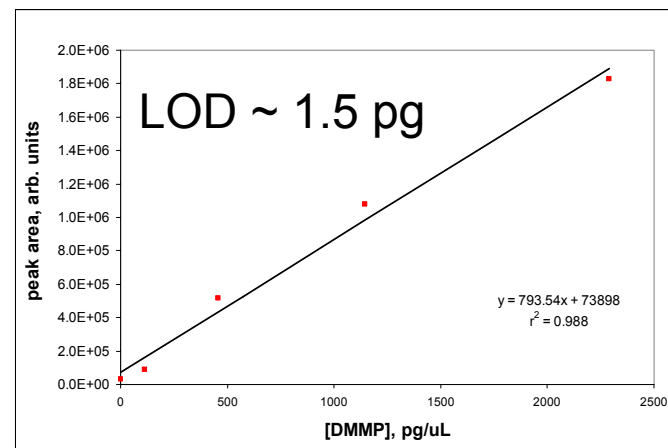
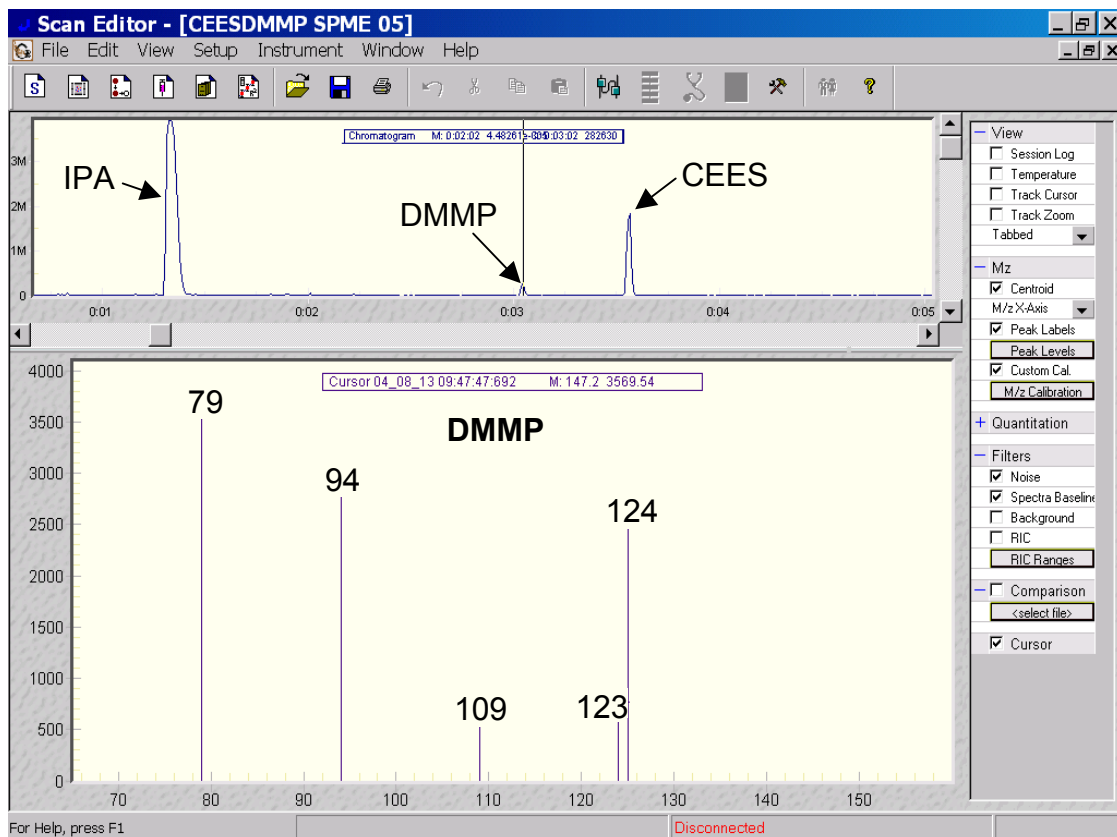
famphur	~1000 pg (not detected in 500 pg/ μ L sample)
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Analysis of CW agent simulants

Dimethyl methylphosphonate (DMMP)

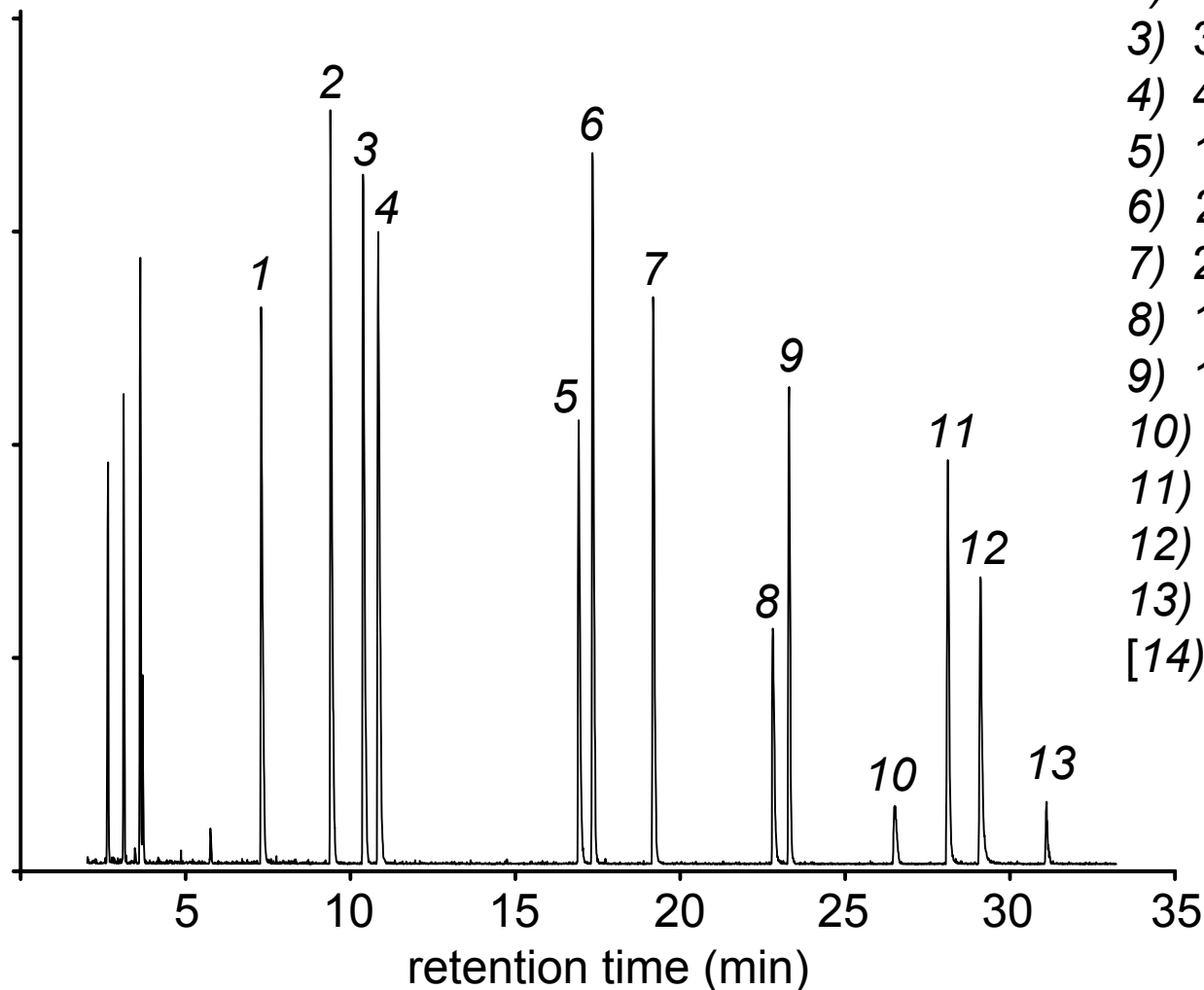


Chloroethyl ethyl sulfide (CEES)



Analysis of Explosives

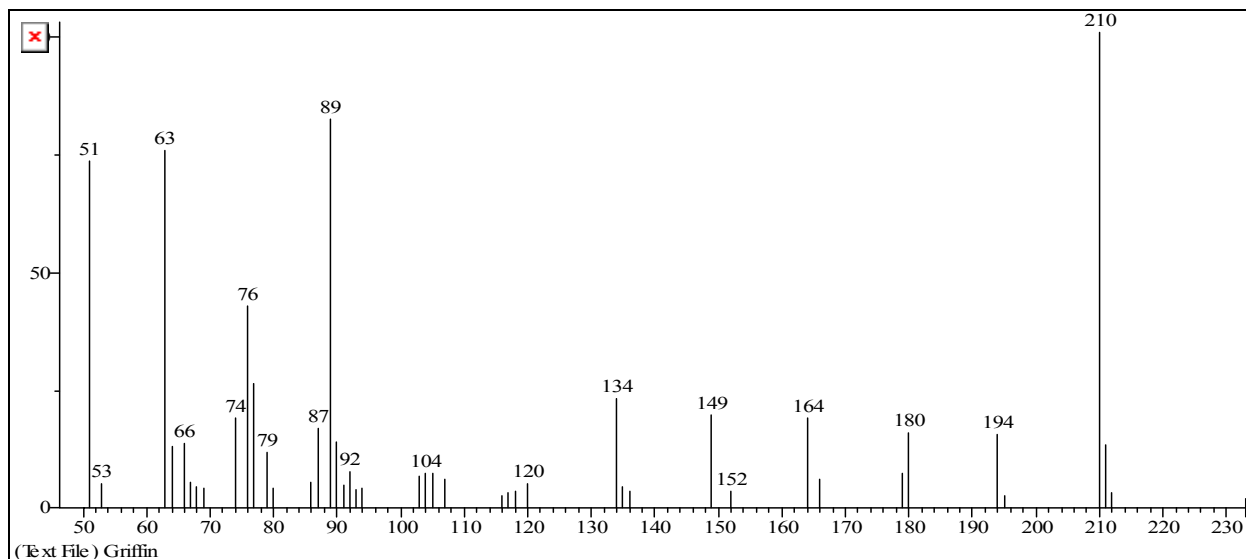
Separation of 14 nitrated organics
15 m x 0.25 mm Rtx-TNT1 column



- 1) Nitrobenzene
- 2) 2-Nitrotoluene
- 3) 3-Nitrotoluene
- 4) 4-Nitrotoluene
- 5) 1,3-Dinitrobenzene
- 6) 2,6-Dinitrotoluene
- 7) 2,4-Dinitrotoluene
- 8) 1,3,5-Trinitrobenzene
- 9) 1,3,5-Trinitrotoluene
- 10) RDX
- 11) 4-Amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene
- 12) 2-Amino-4,6-dinitrotoluene
- 13) Tetryl
- [14) HMX not observed]

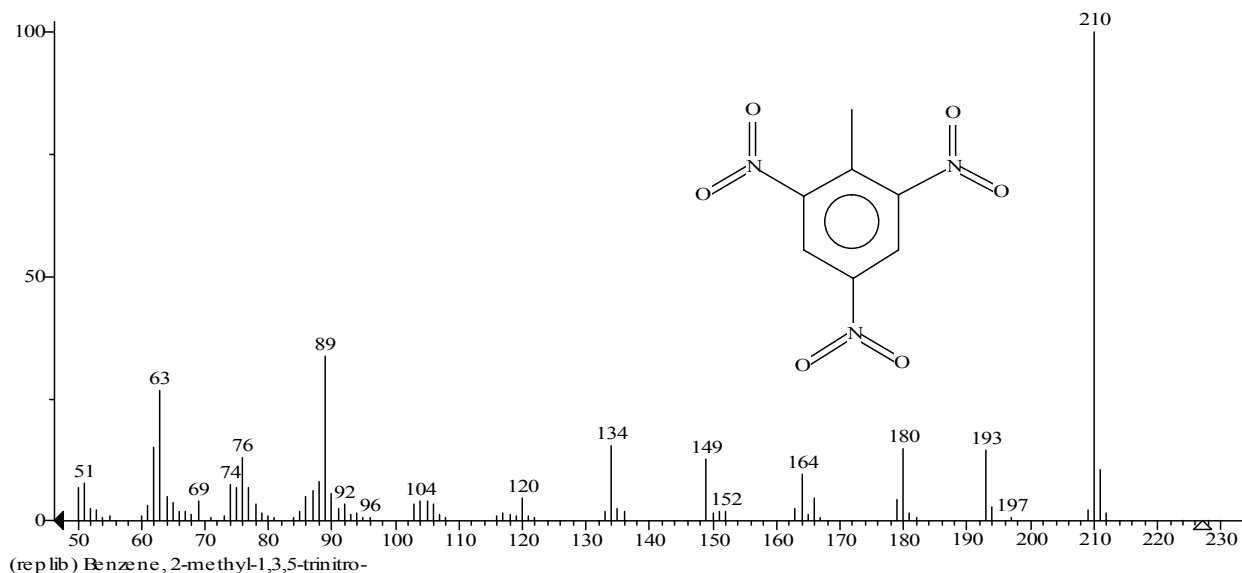
Analysis of Explosives

MS of Peak #9



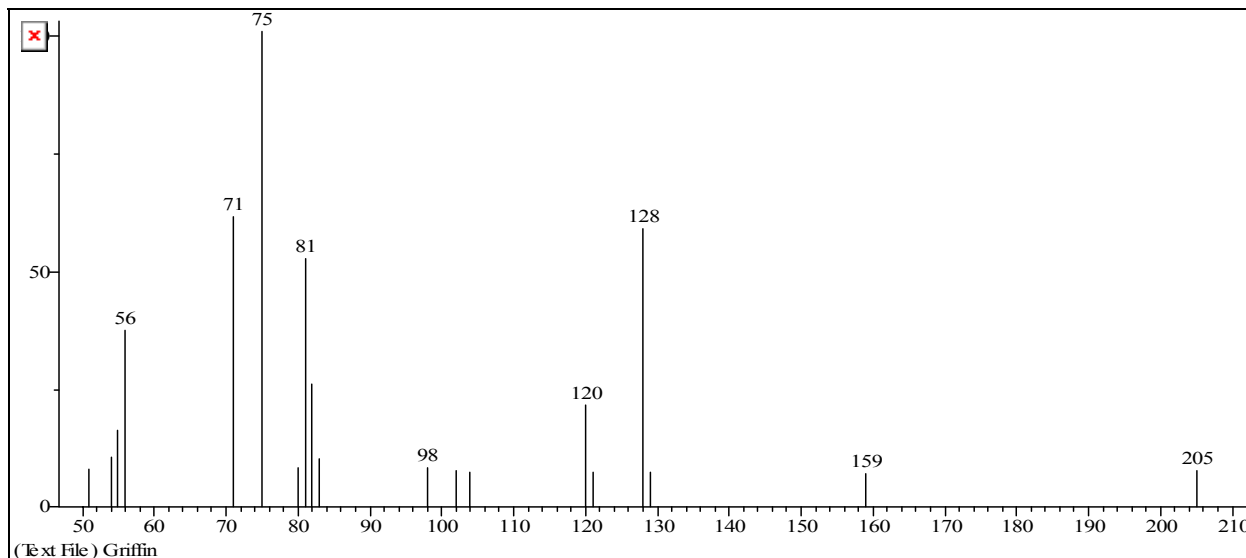
NIST MS of TNT

Match
Probability
90.5%



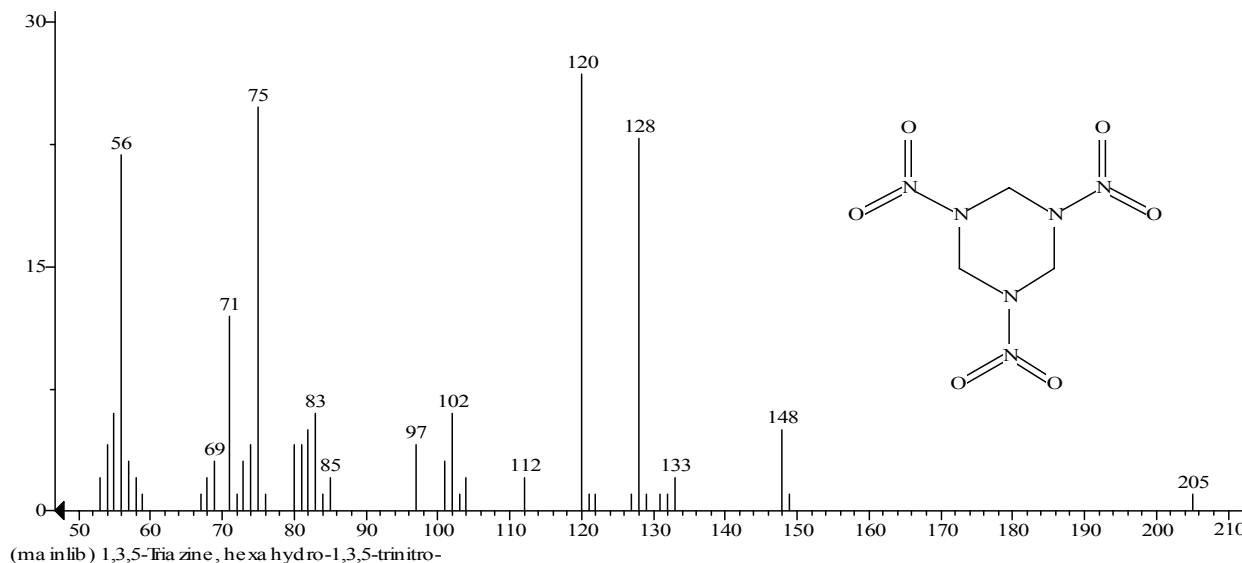
Analysis of Explosives

MS of Peak #10



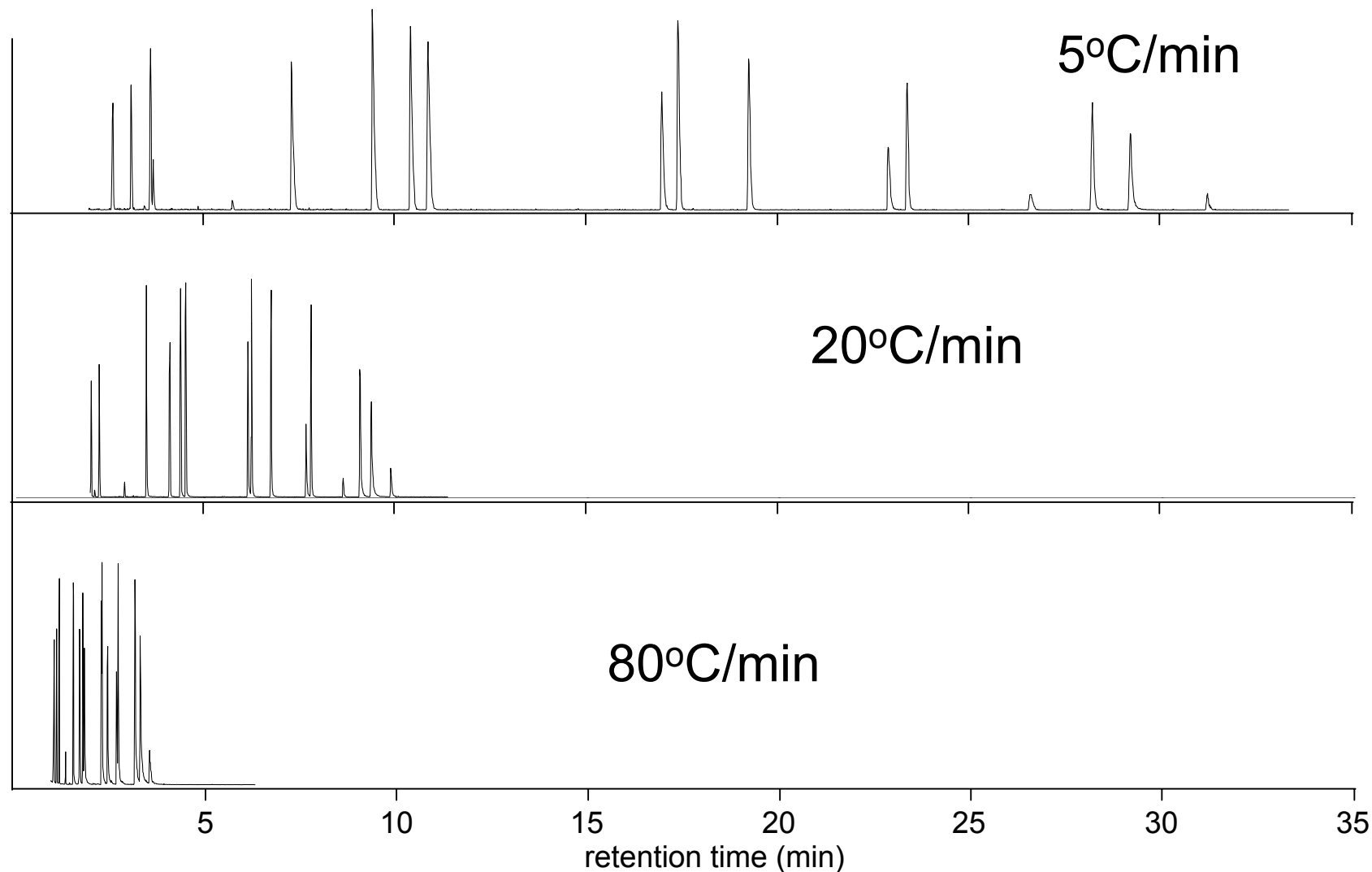
NIST MS of RDX

Match
Probability
80.3%



Analysis of Explosives

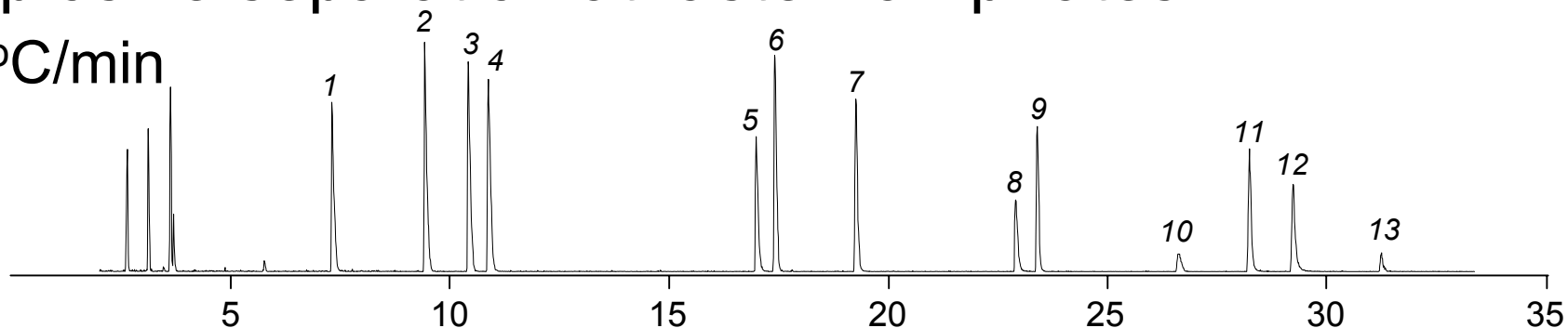
Explosive separation at faster ramp rates



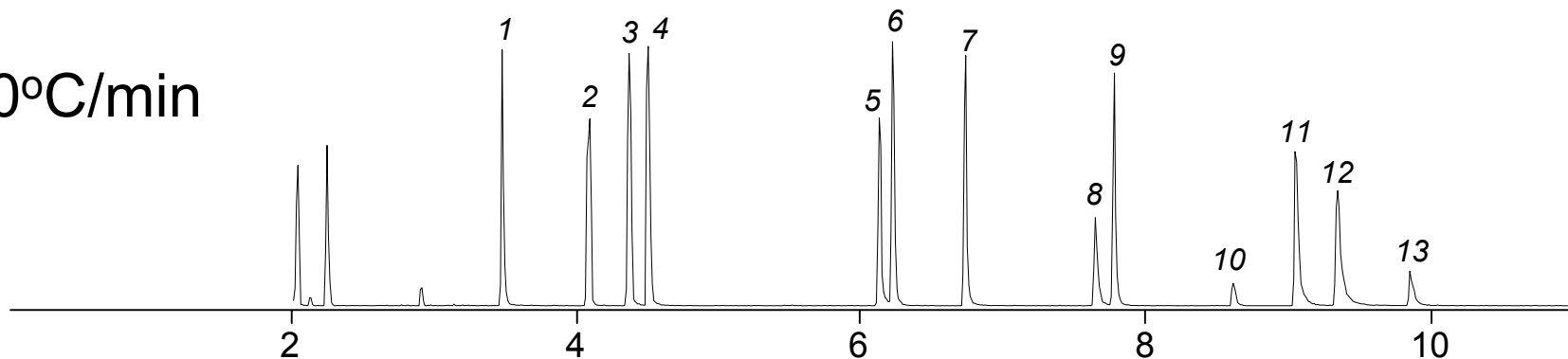
Analysis of Explosives

Explosive separation at faster ramp rates

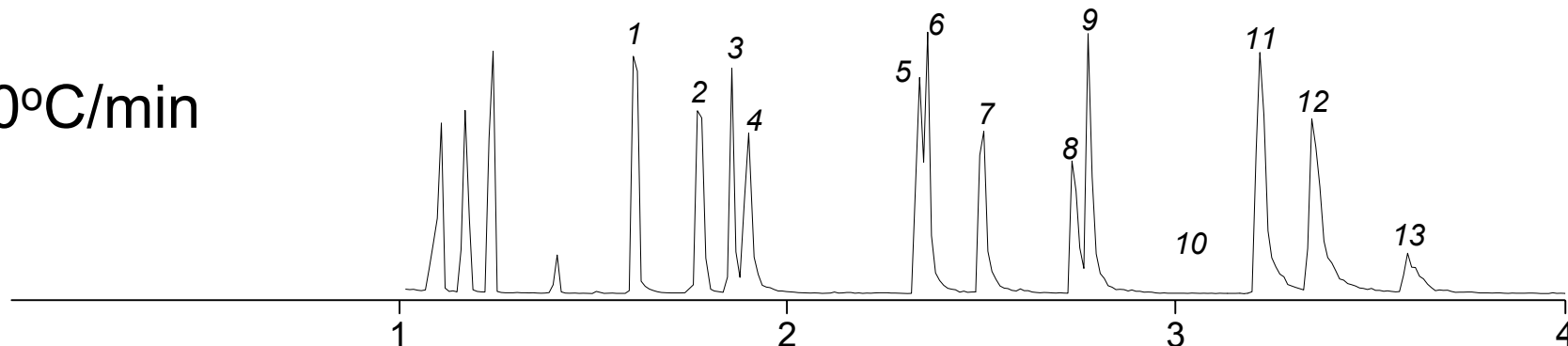
5°C/min



20°C/min

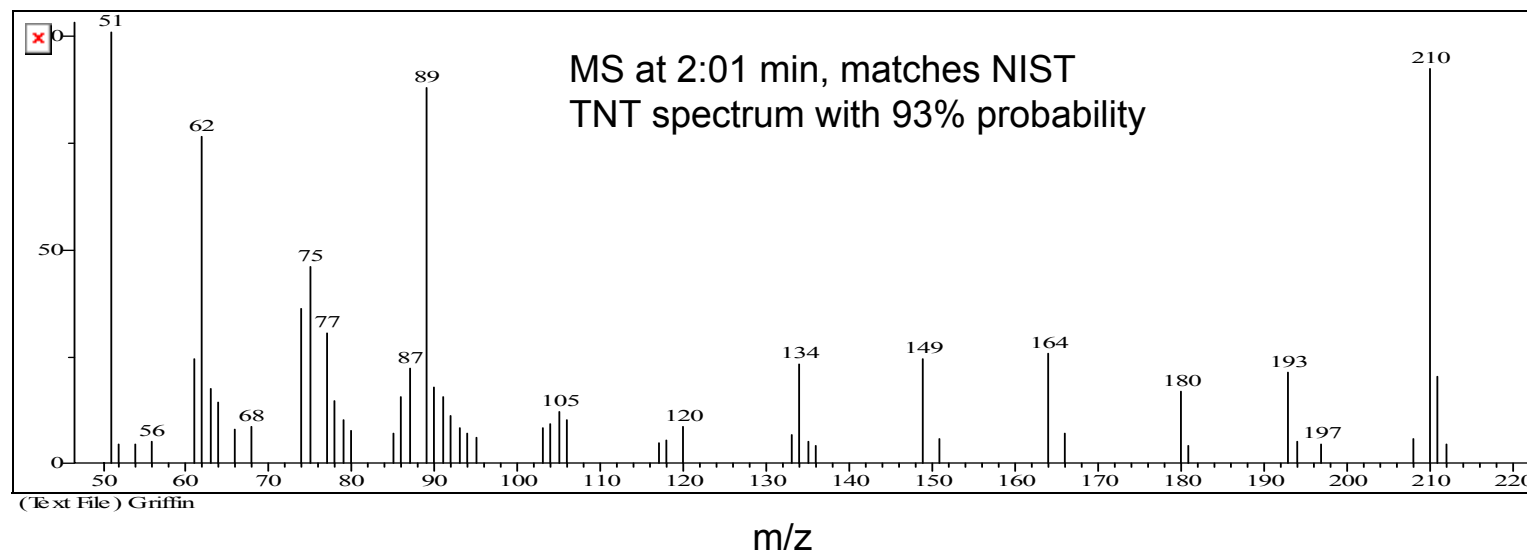
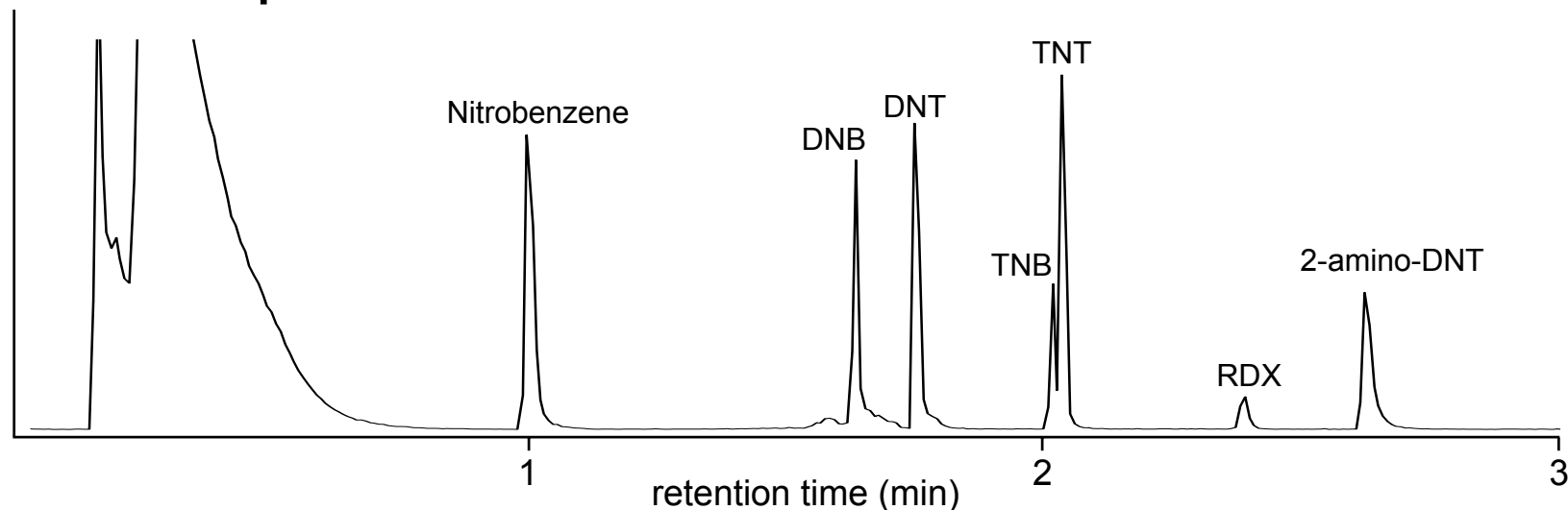


80°C/min



Analysis of Explosives

Explosive separation on a 5 m Rtx-5MS column



Manifold

Ambient air in

Minotaur
400

MFC

He
source

hot

cold

Valve 2

Solenoid

Vent

needle
valve

"Dry air"
cylinder

Pump and needle valve

actuator

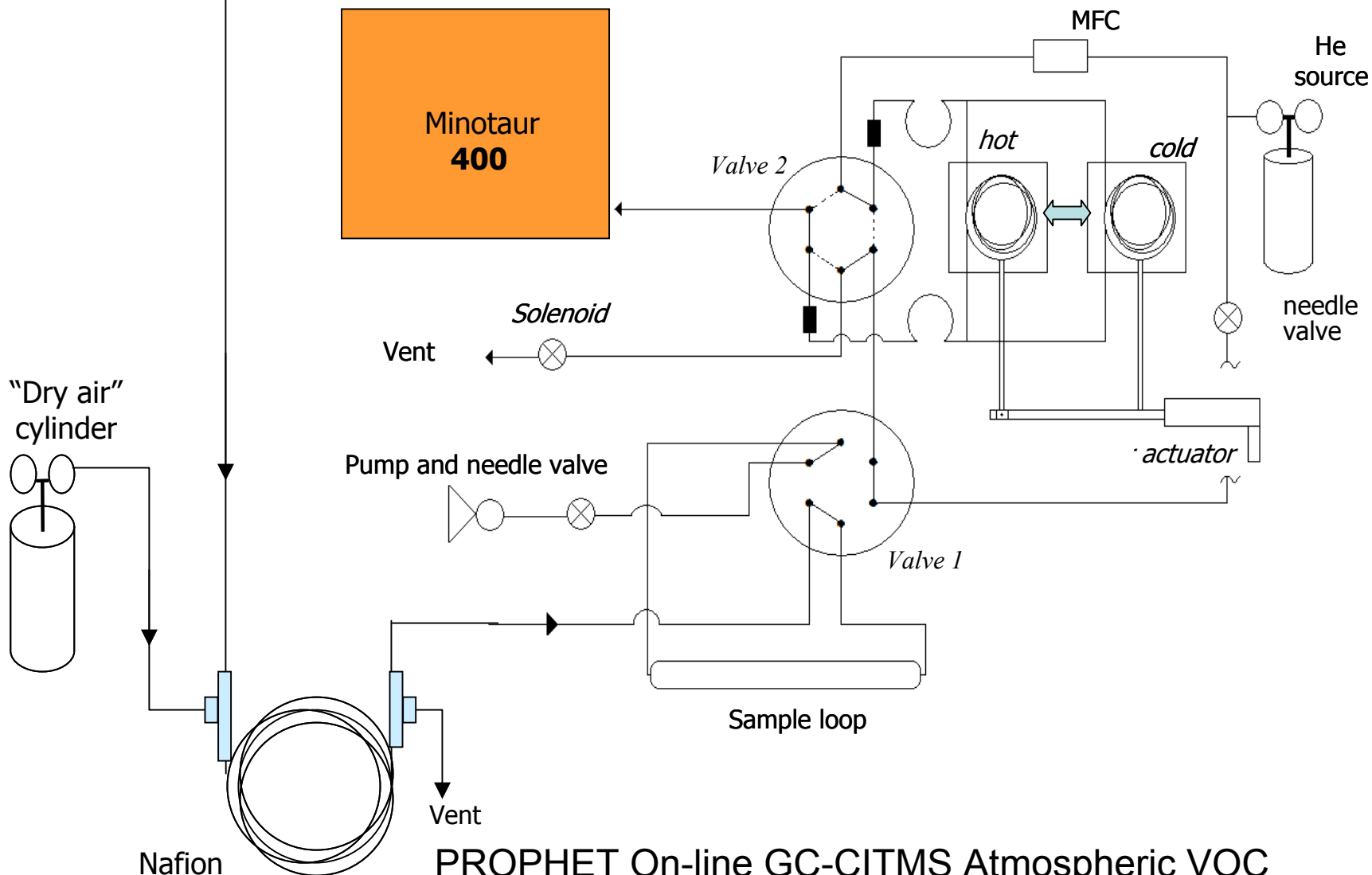
Valve 1

Sample loop

Vent

Nafion
dryer

PROPHET On-line GC-CITMS Atmospheric VOC
Monitoring System (Gavin Edwards, Paul Shepson)



Manifold

Ambient air in

Minotaur

MFC

He source

hot

cold

V2

Solenoid

Vent

needle valve

Pump and needle valve

V1

actuator

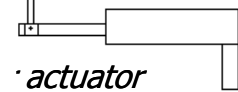
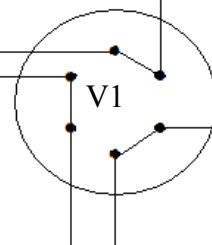
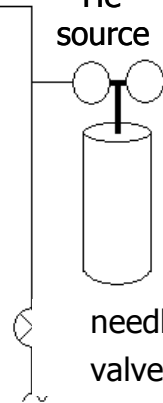
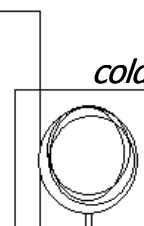
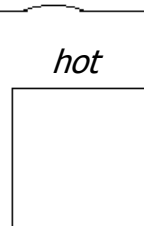
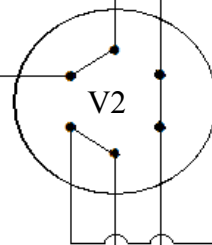
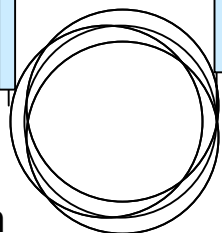
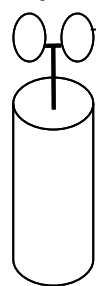
Sample loop

Vent

Analysis Mode

Nafion
dryer

"Breathing air"
cylinder



Manifold

Ambient air in

Minotaur

MFC

He source

hot

cold

Solenoid

Vent

needle valve

actuator

Pump and needle valve

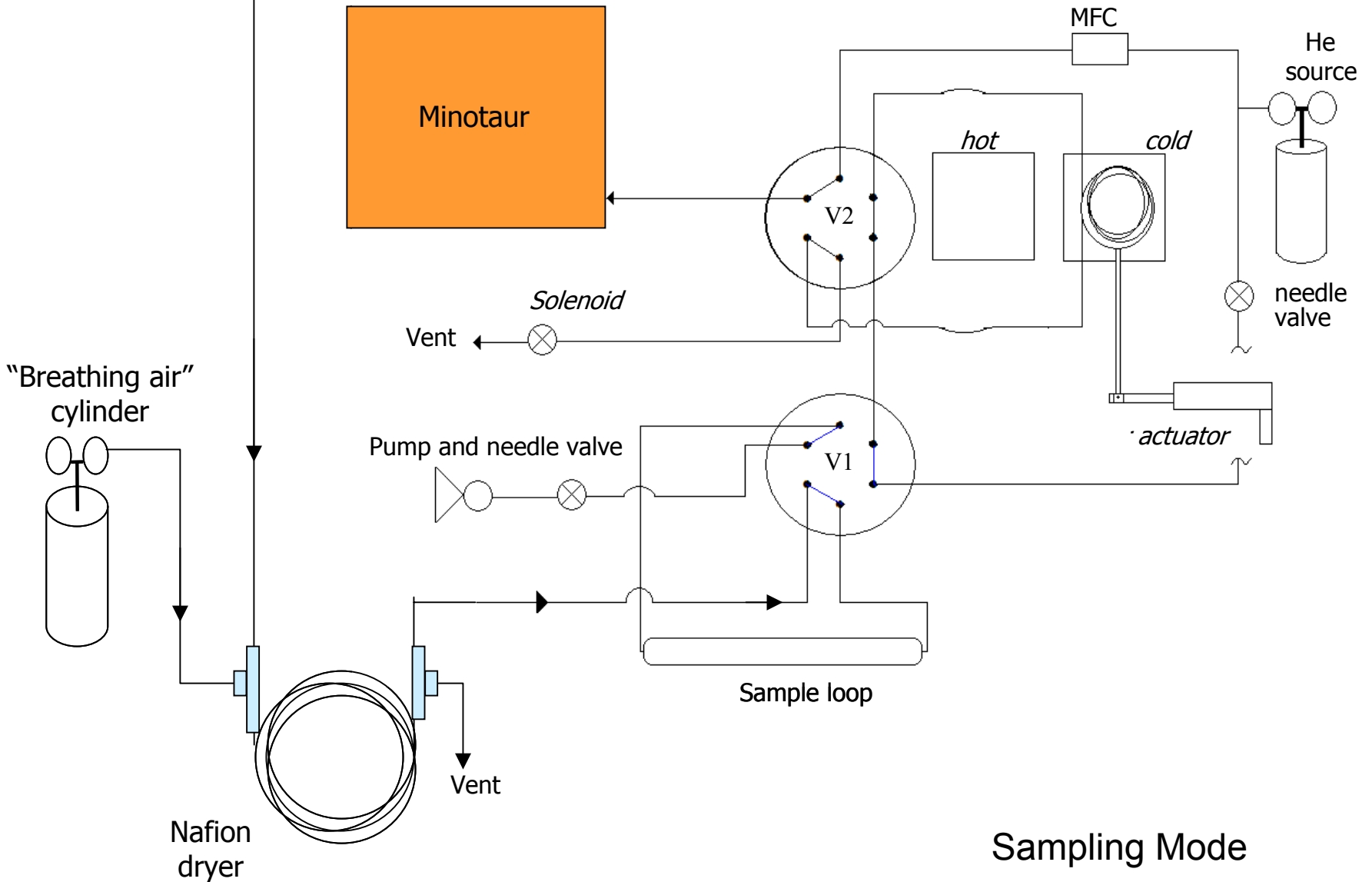
V1

Sample loop

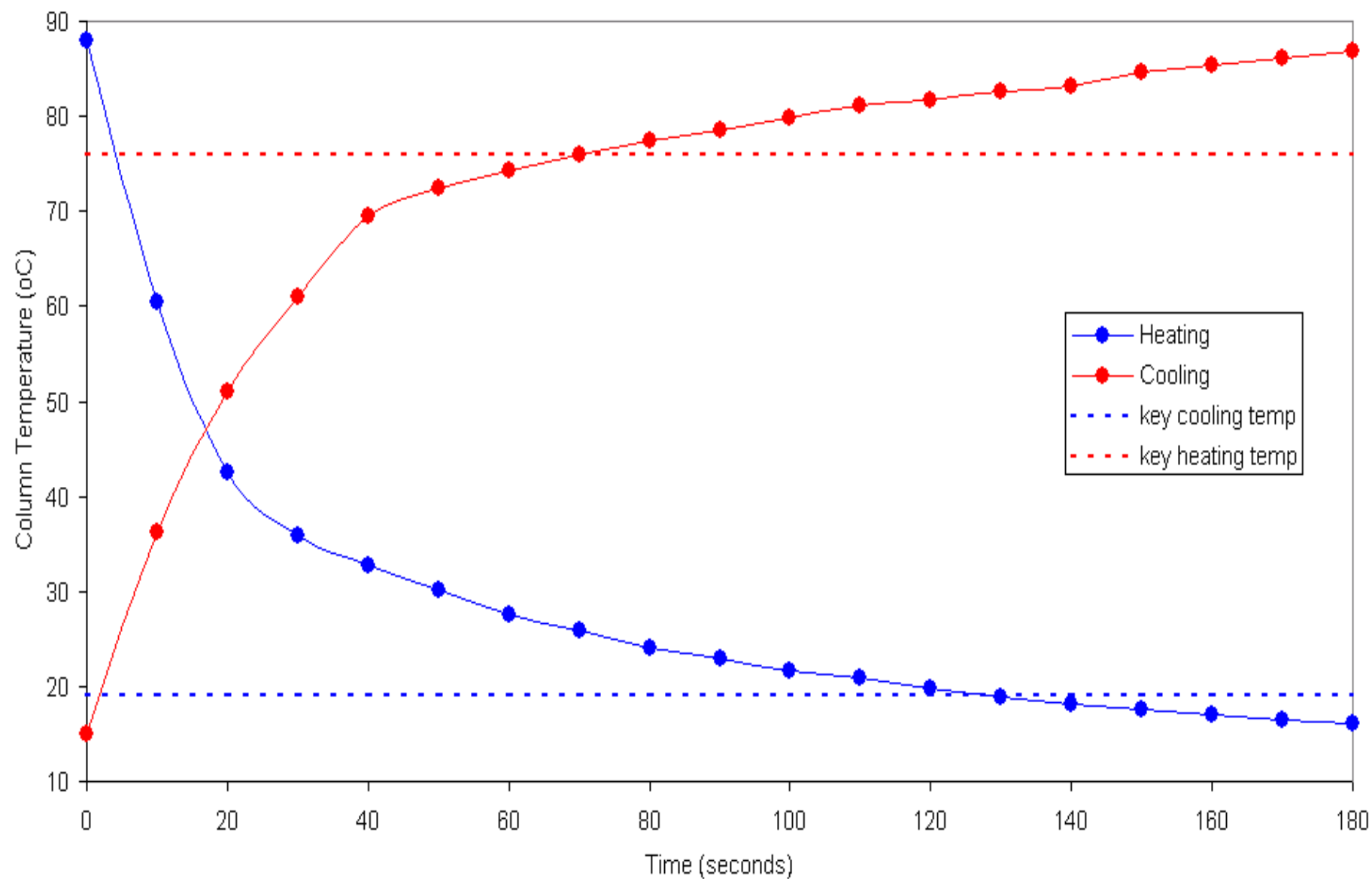
Vent

Nafion dryer

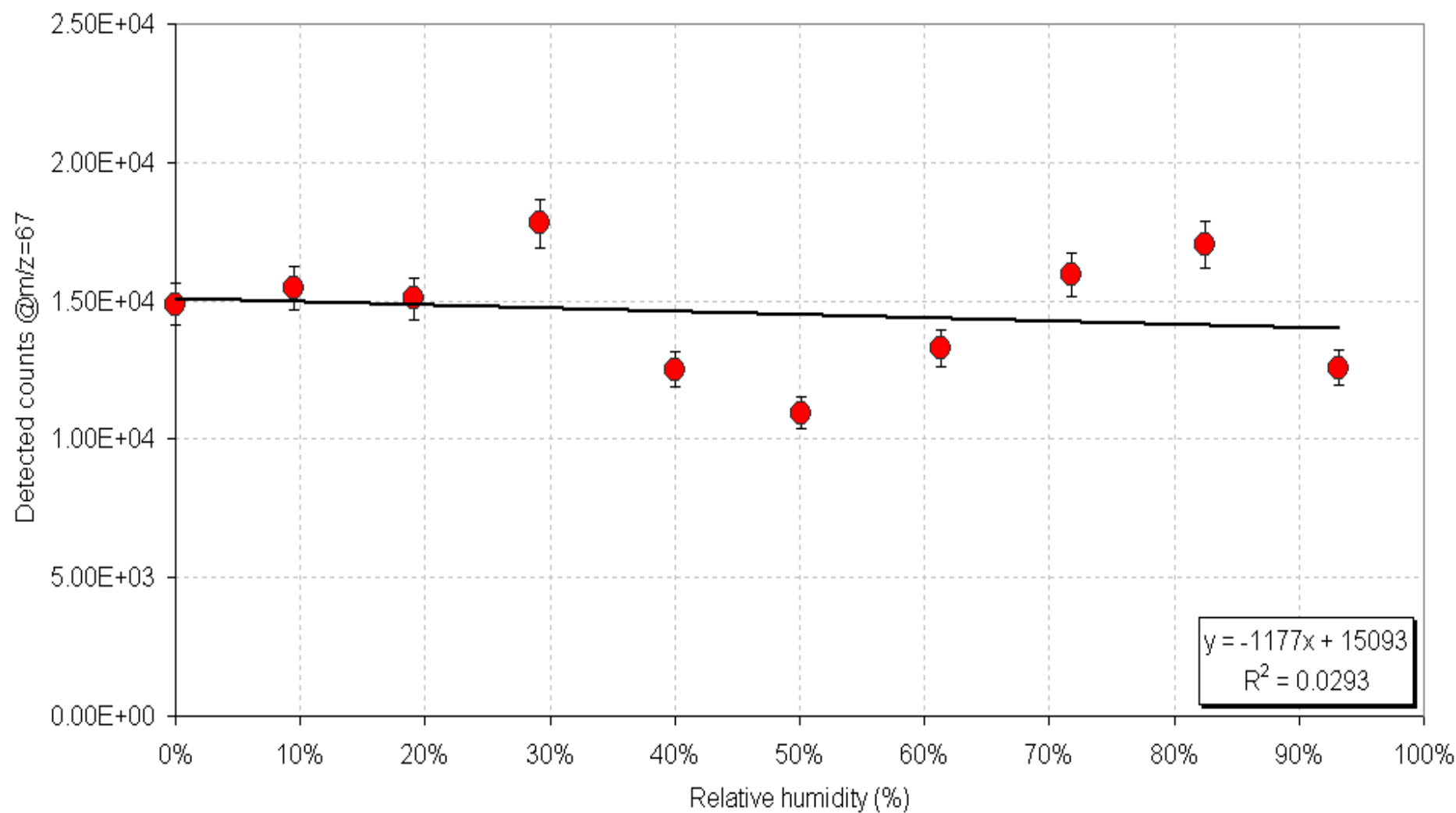
Sampling Mode



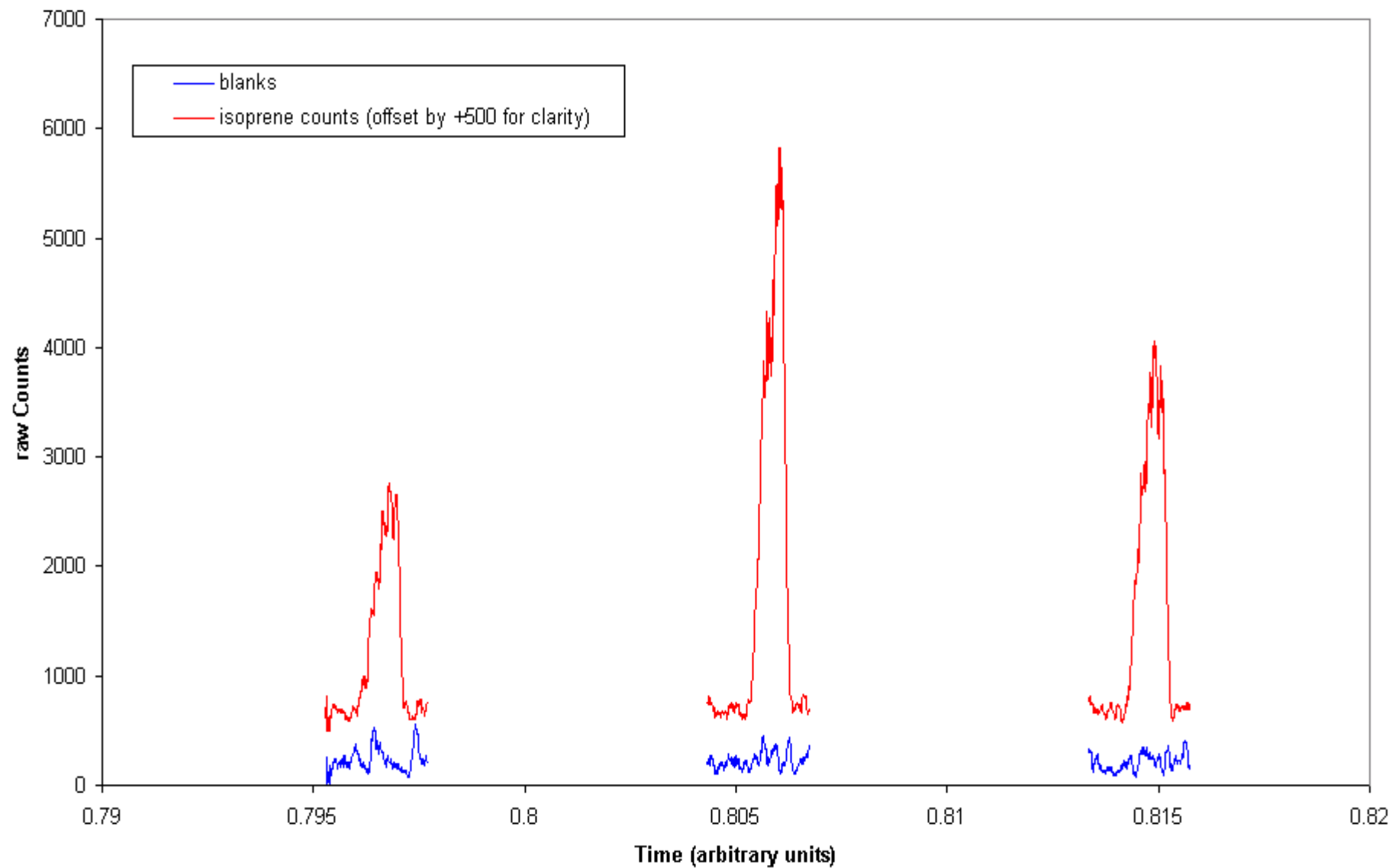
Heating and cooling rates for PROPHET 2005 conditions



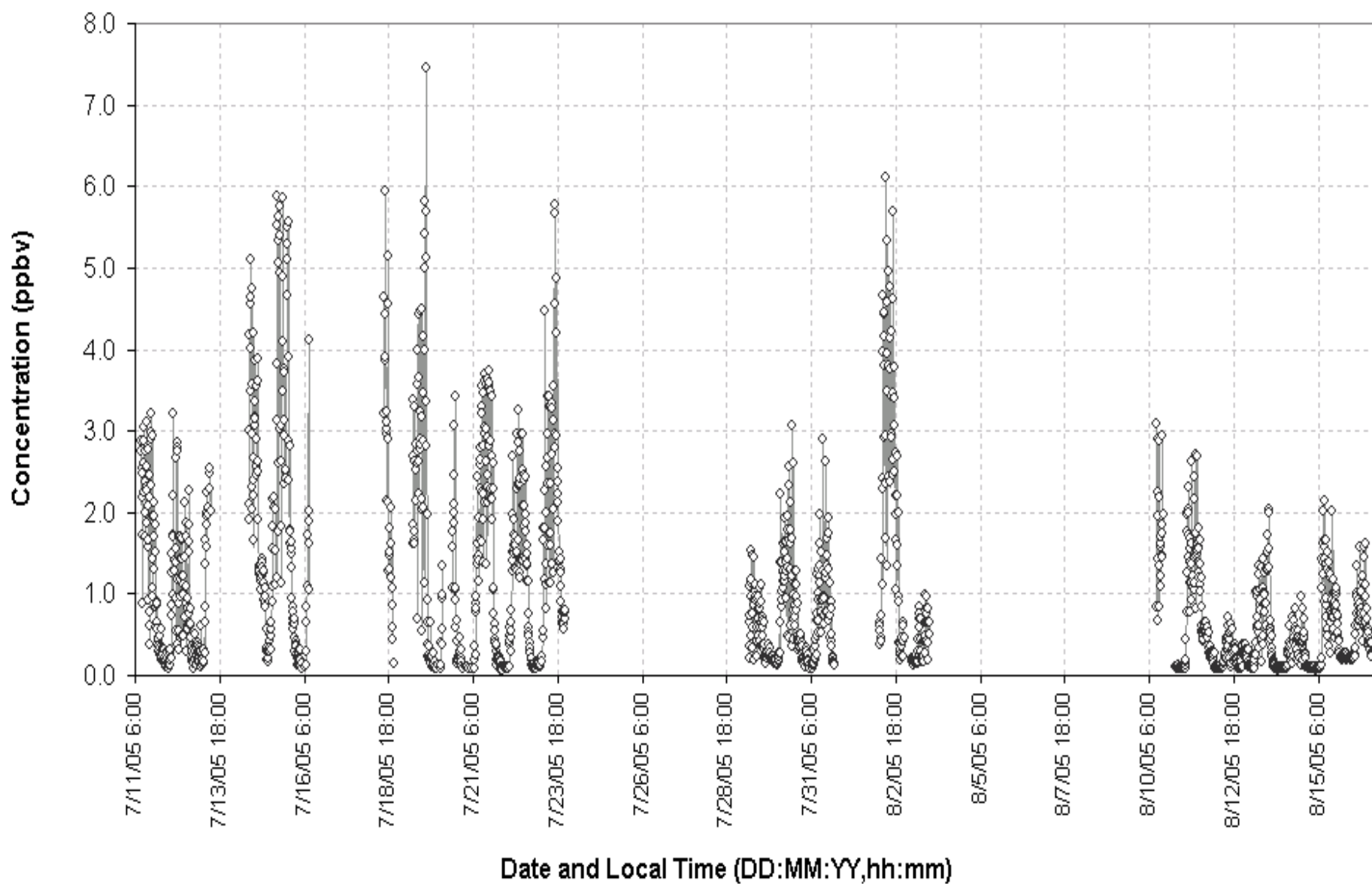
Effect of increasing relative humidity on blank subtracted peak heights for 2ppbv
of isoprene dried *via* Nafion tubing



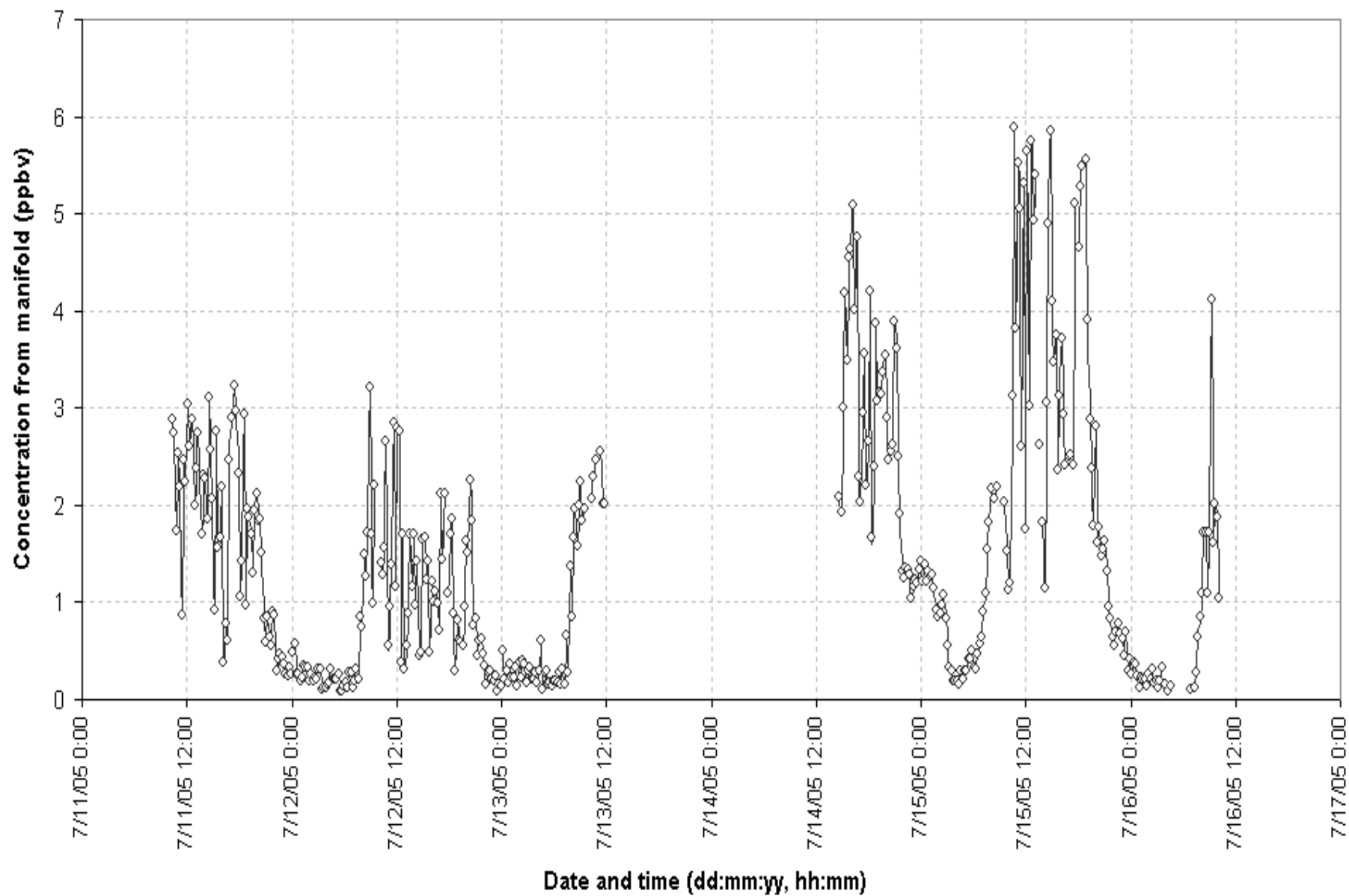
Plot of blanks counts compared to isoprene signal counts



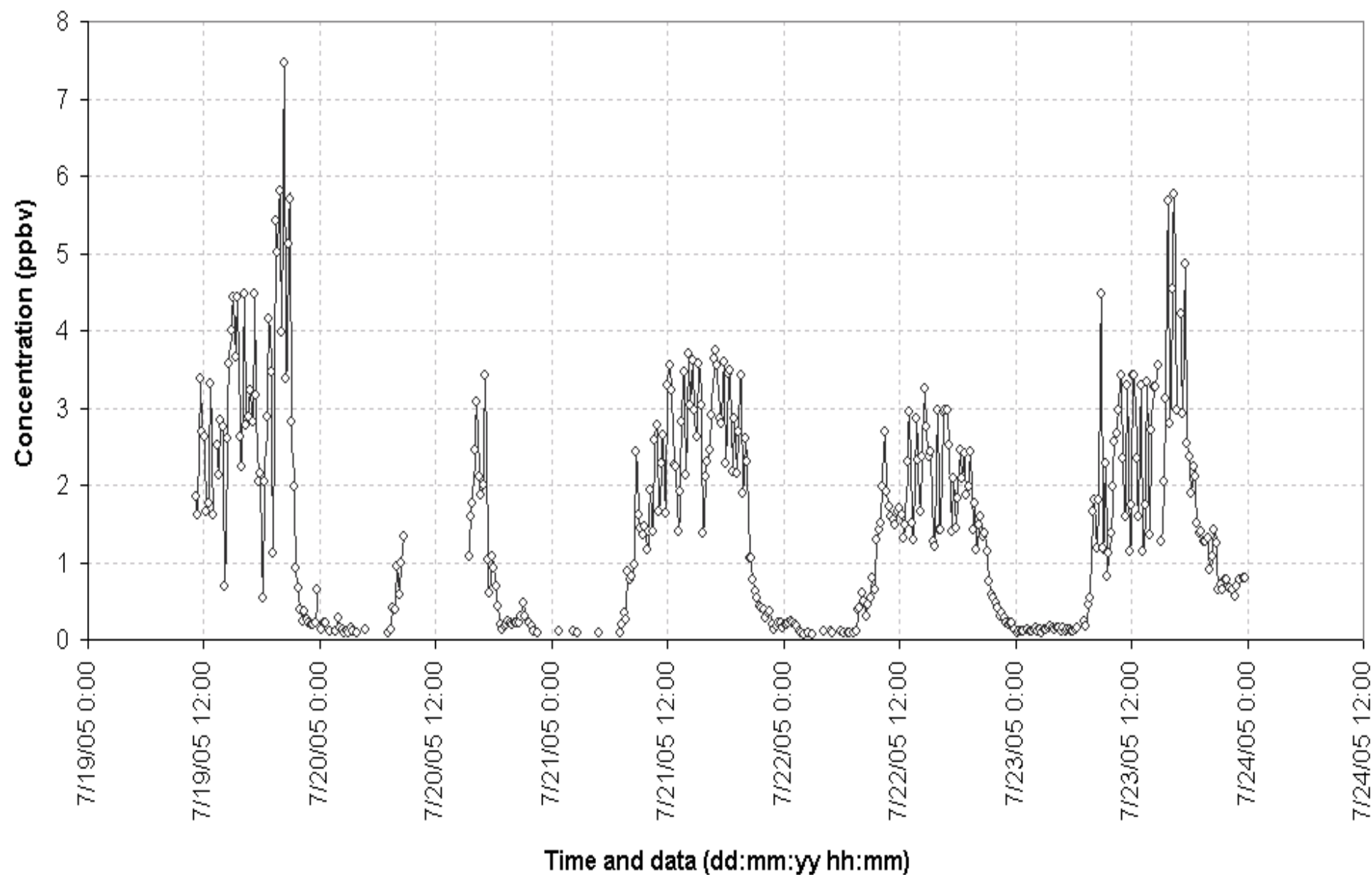
Running isoprene conc for PROPHET 2005



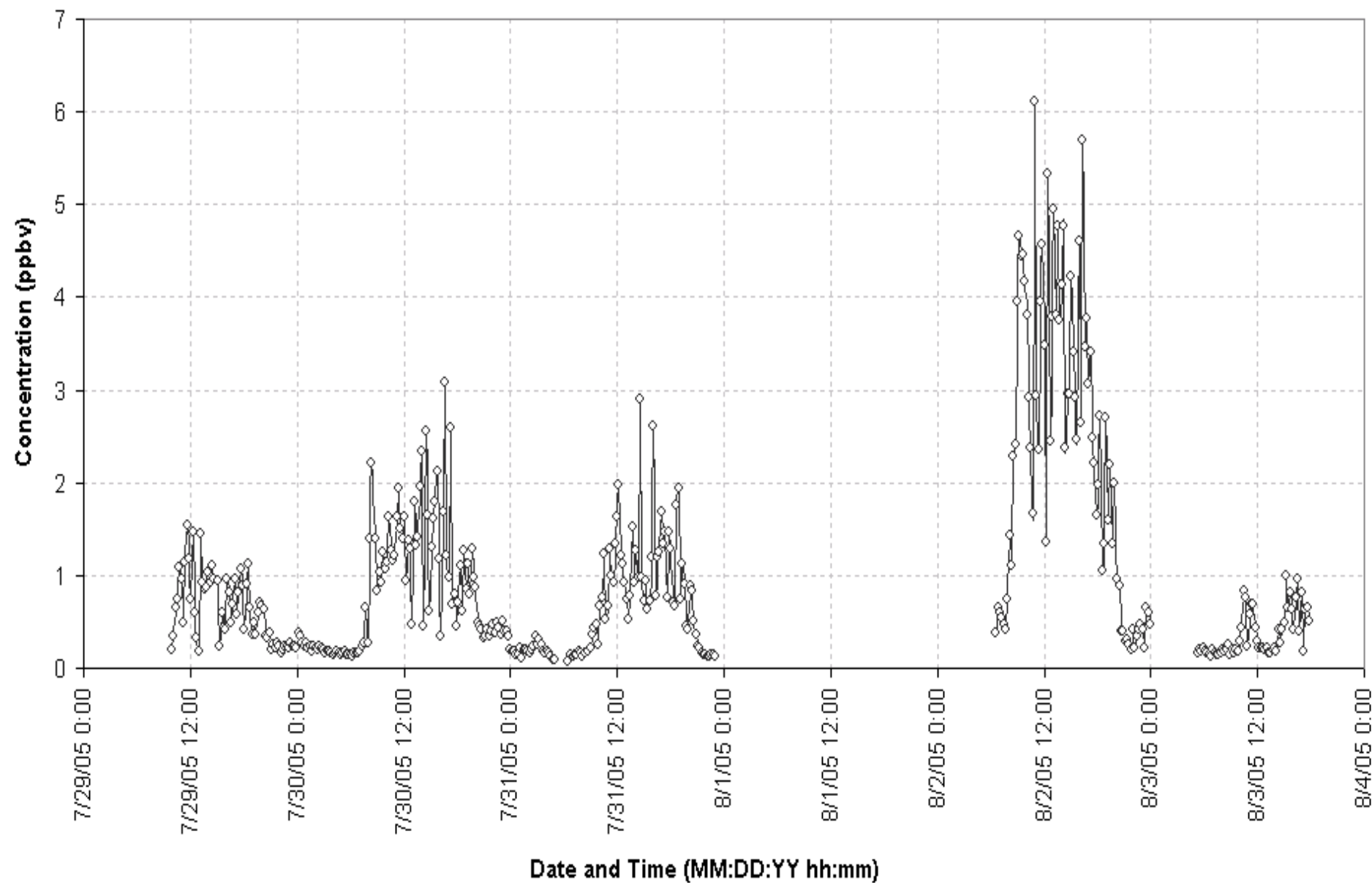
Week one for PROPHET 2005 isoprene data via Minotaur



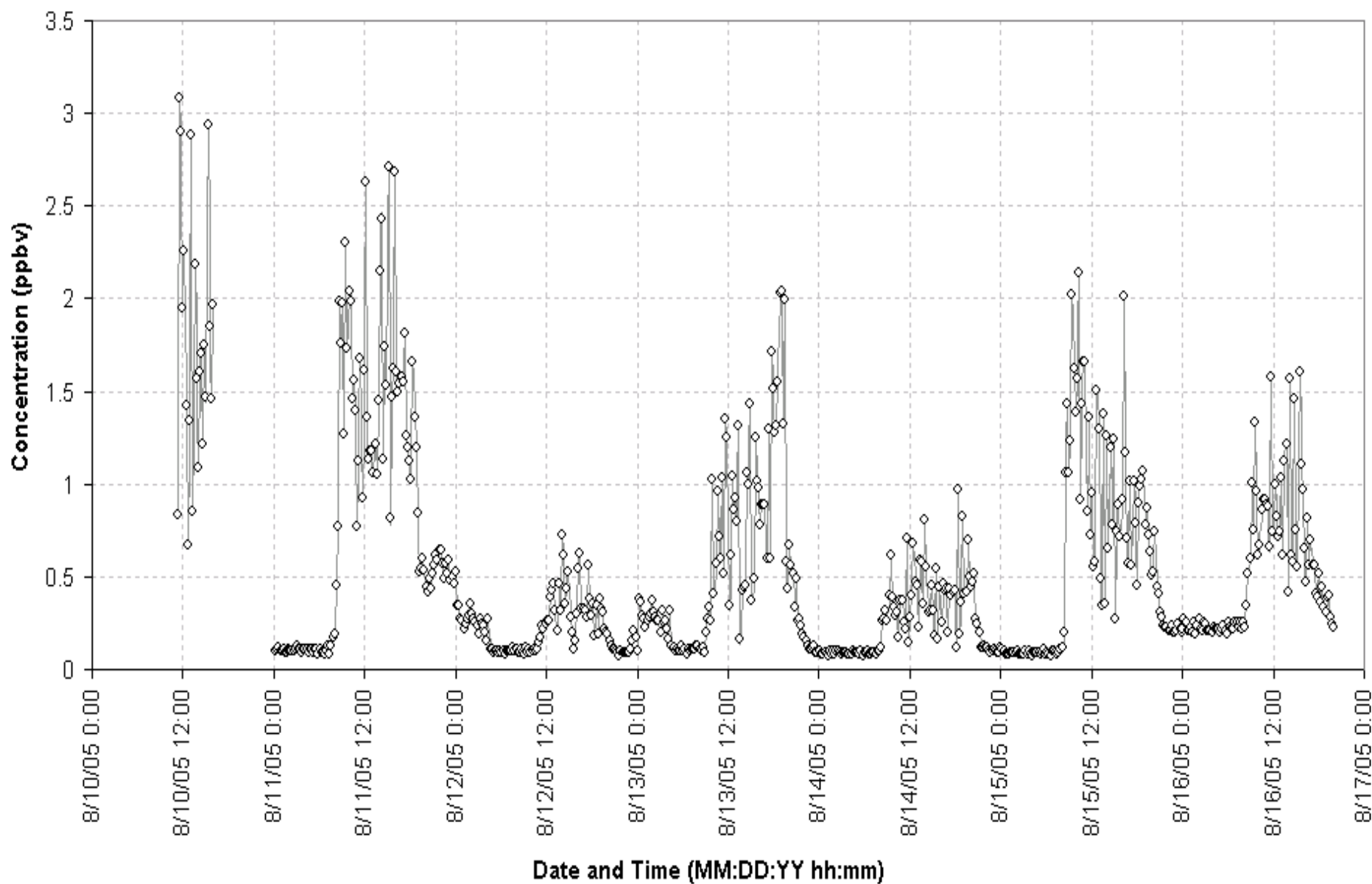
Week 2 of ambient measurements, PROPHET 2005 via Minotaur



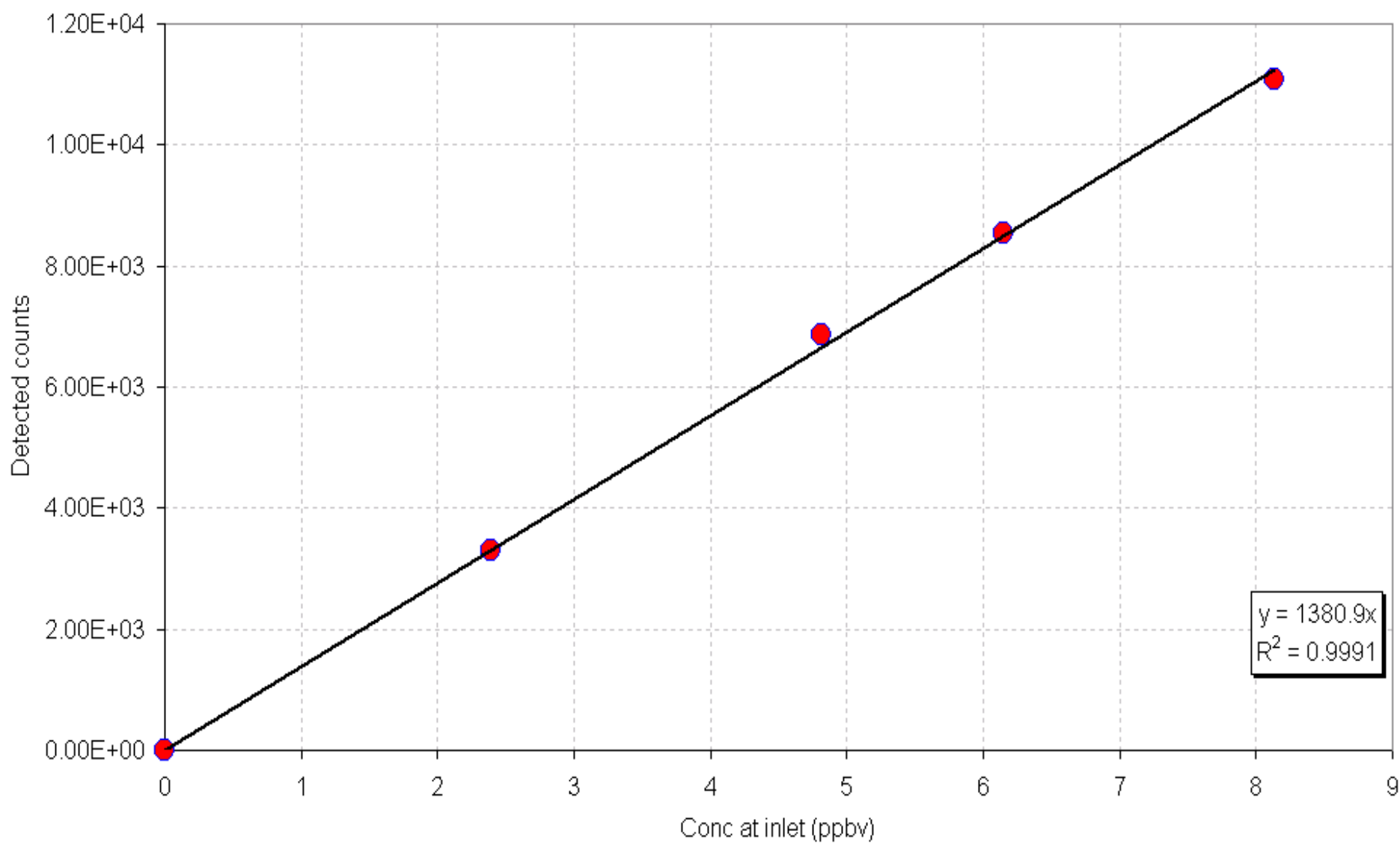
Week 3 PROPHET Isoprene concentration via Minotaur



Week 4 PROPHET Isoprene concentration via Minotaur



Calibration curve 5 for Minotaur at PROPHET, blank subtracted, dynamic sampling, 7/20/05



Field Study Summary

- Verified new inlet and MS system in an atmospheric chemistry field study
- 9 calibrations, humidity blanks evaluated
- >2000 measurements (7/11/2005-8/16/2005, off and on)
- 14 days with 24 hr coverage, 7 days with partial coverage
- Isoprene concentrations between <70 ppt (LOD) and >8 ppb
- Potential for intercomparison with other techniques such as FIS, DEA and PTRMS

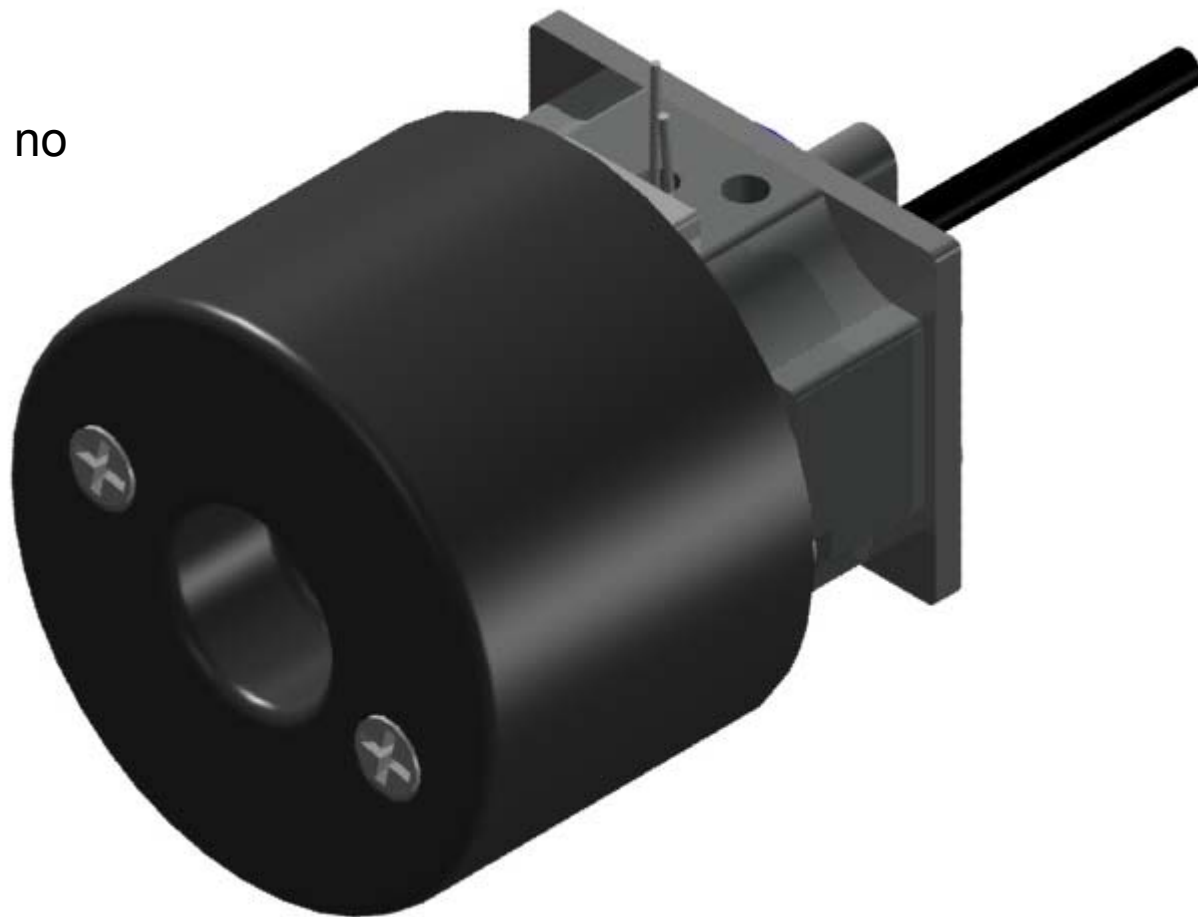
Direct SPME

Direct Inject SPME

SPME fiber is directly inserted into the vacuum chamber for rapid desorption

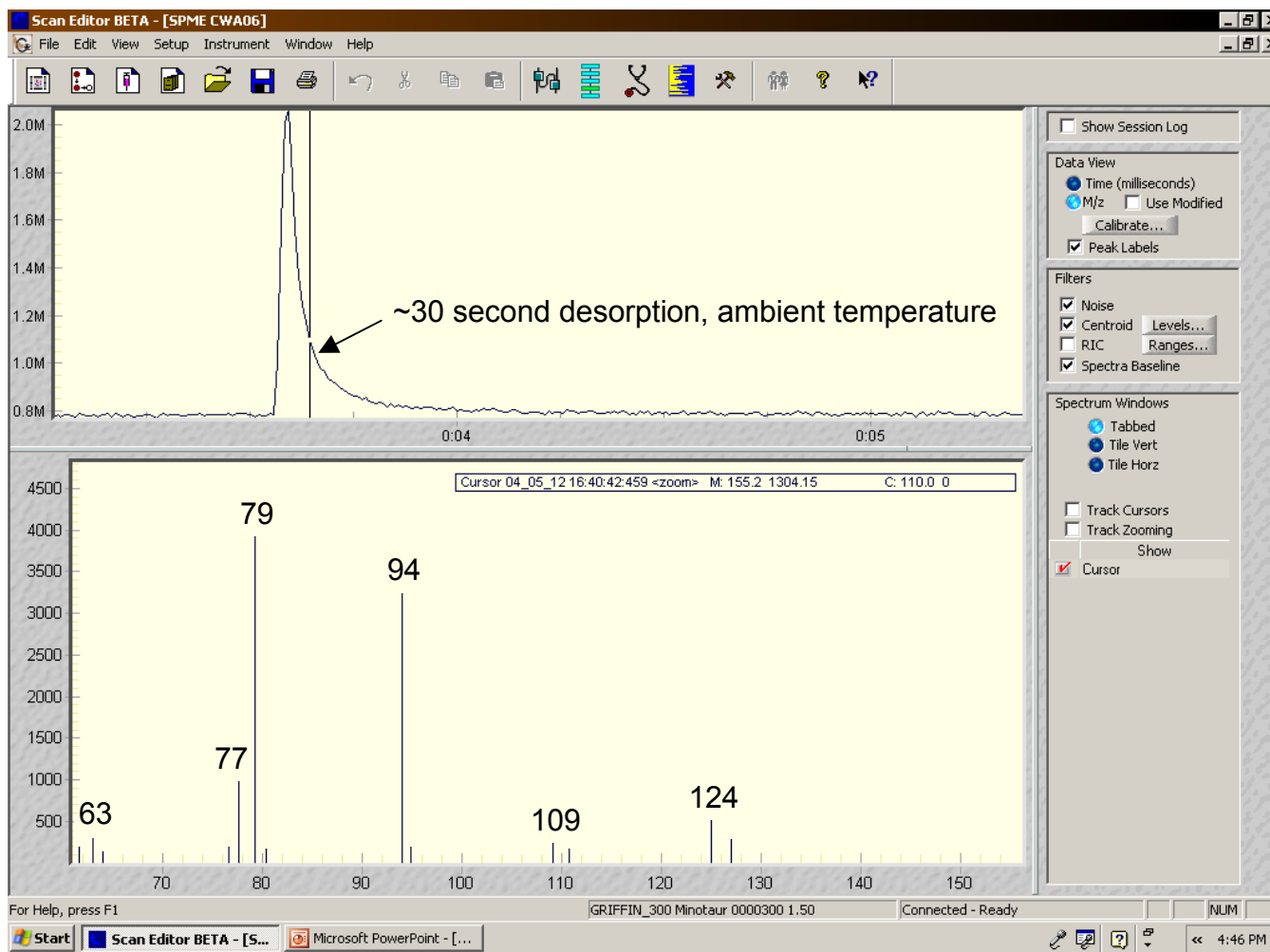
Max temp 300°C

Replaceable septum with no vacuum vent



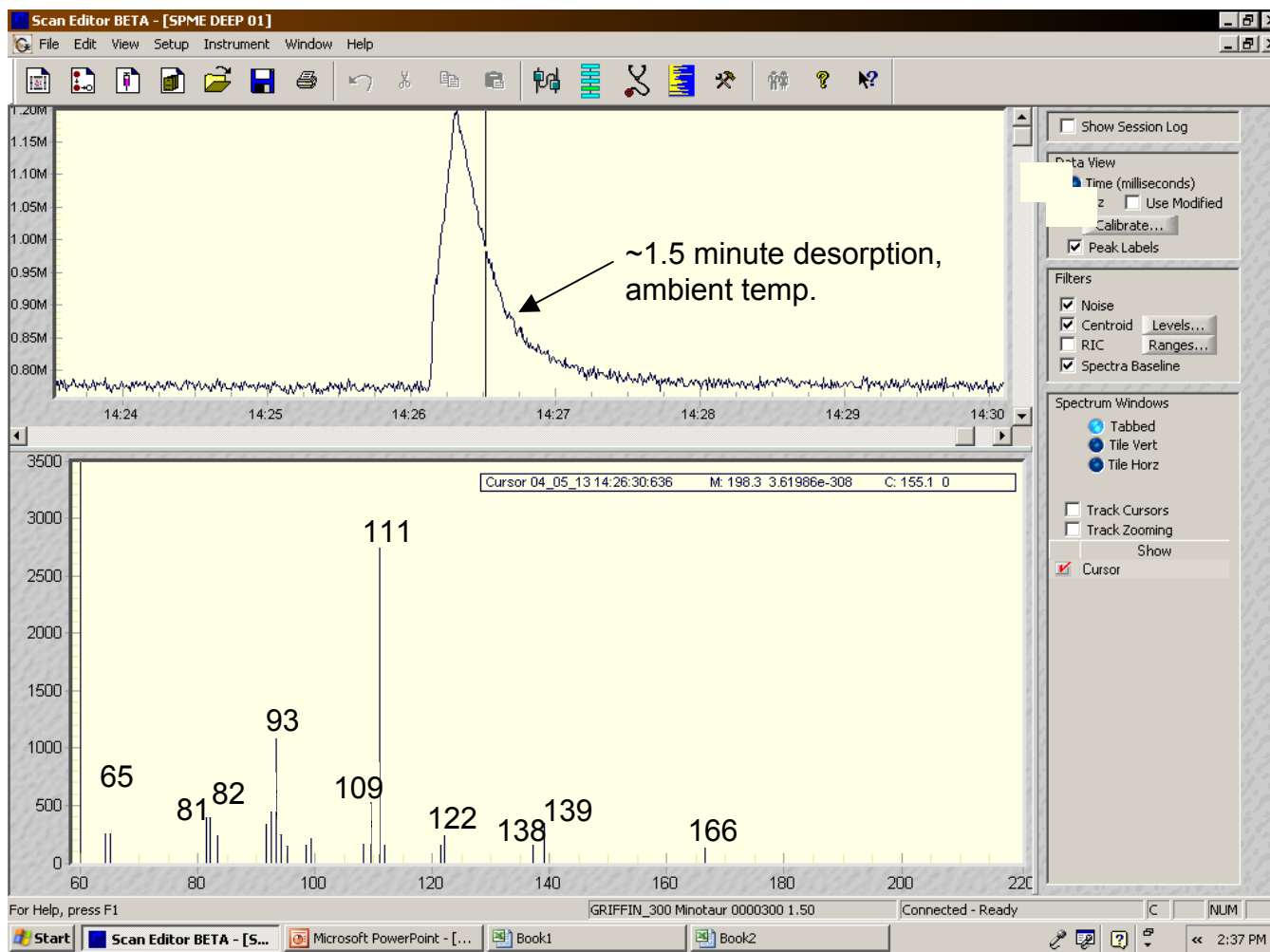
Direct SPME

Direct SPME analysis of DMMP, headspace sampling of neat compound



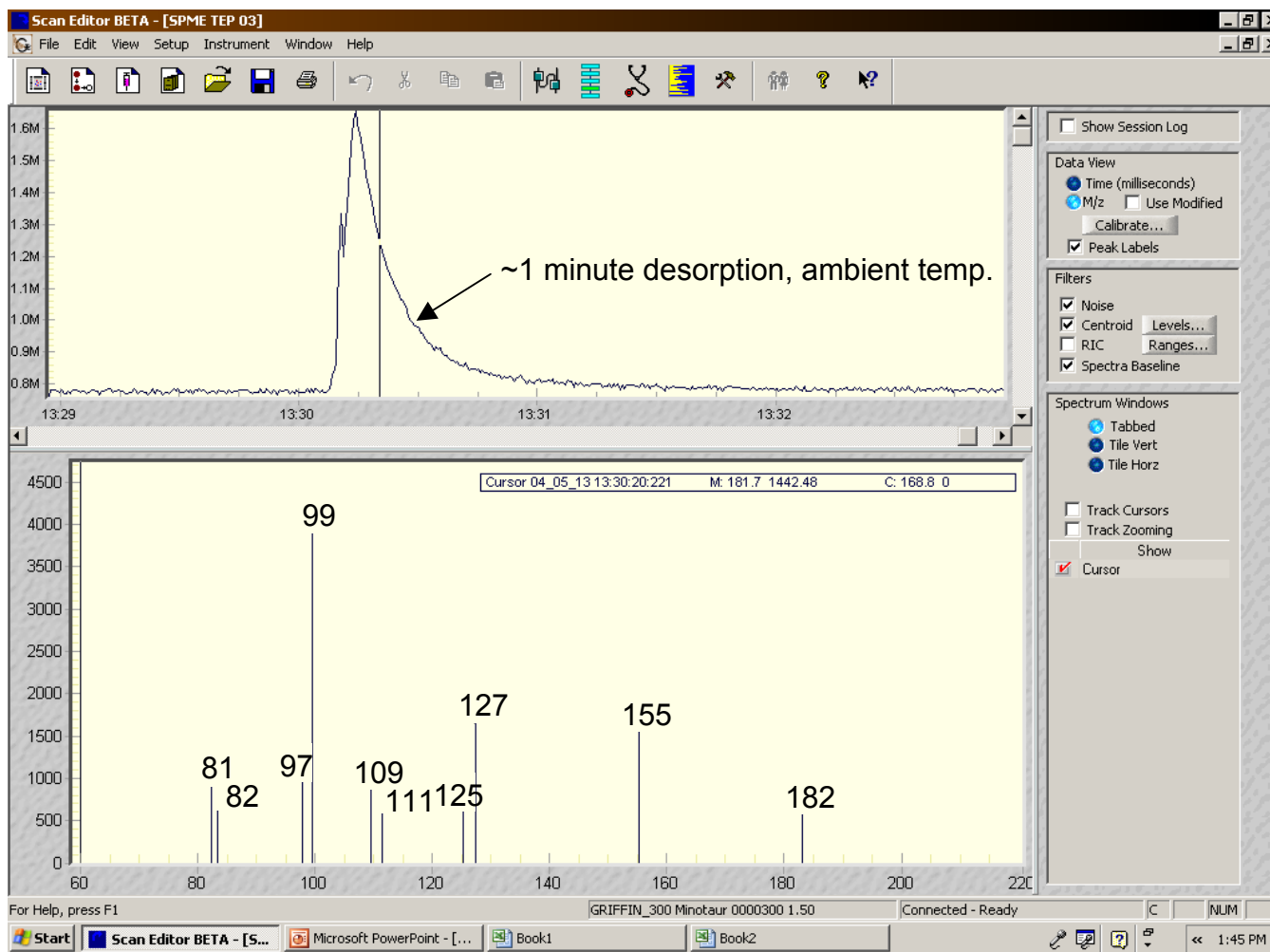
Direct SPME

Direct SPME analysis of DEEP, headspace sampling of neat compound



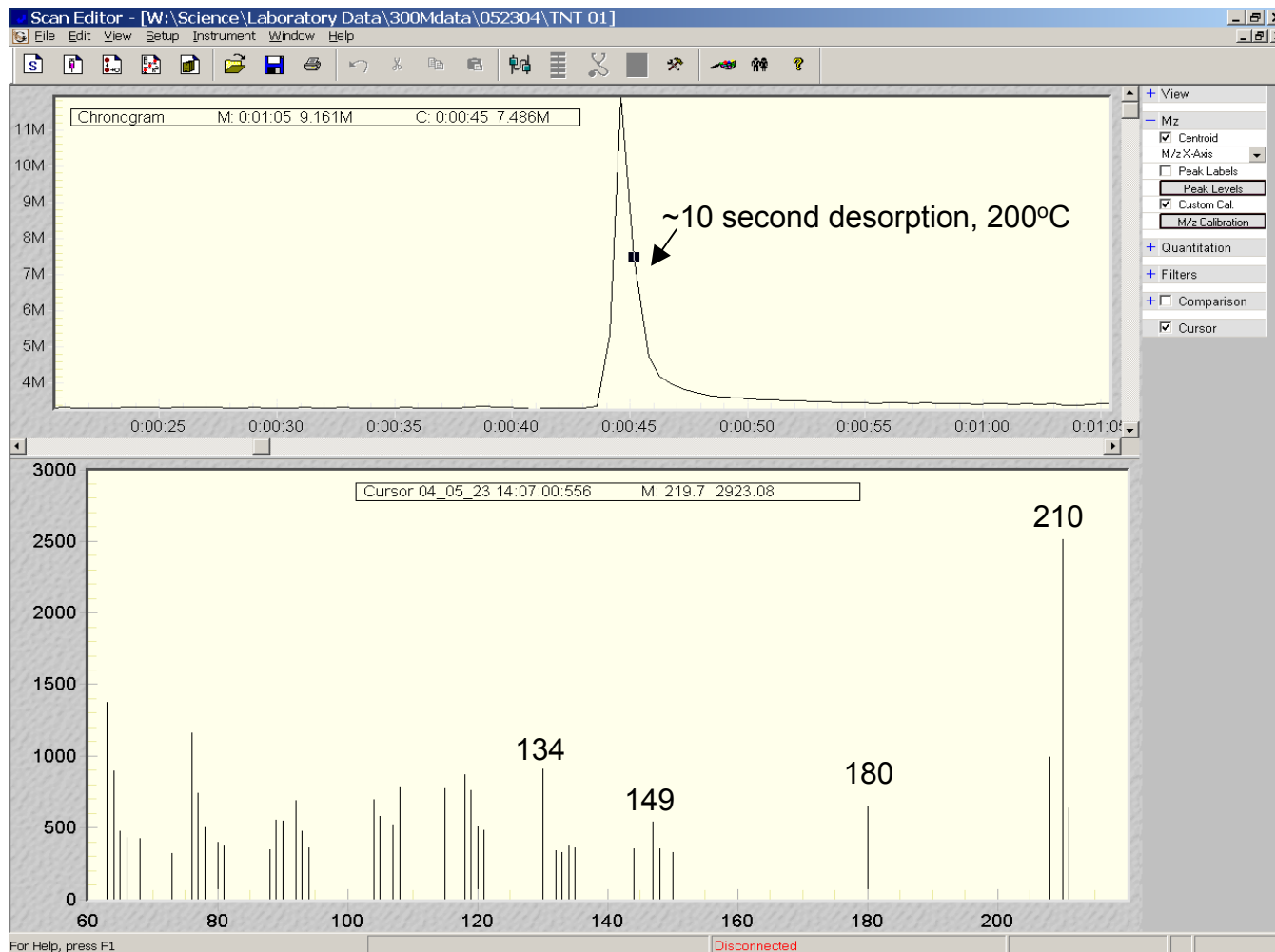
Direct SPME

Direct SPME analysis of TEP, headspace sampling of neat compound



Direct SPME

Direct SPME analysis of TNT, headspace sampling 100 ng/uL solution



Conclusions

- New GC/MS instruments based on LTM-GC and CIT mass analyzer provide:
 - Small footprint, ruggedized package for field use
 - Rapid separation of complex mixtures
 - MS analysis with good database matching (NIST and user-defined) for compound ID, MS/MS for ID confirmation
 - Quantitation to low pg (ppt-ppb) levels without preconcentration
 - Complementary sample inlets are also available

Acknowledgments

- Acknowledgements
 - Brad Rowland, US Army DPG
 - Prof. Graham Cooks, Purdue University
 - Prof. Paul Shepson, Purdue University
- The Griffin Team

