

Interaction with material surfaces

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DWD **Deutscher Wetterdienst** Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



Dutch Metrology Institute

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Challenges in measuring VOCs



Approaches to investigate VOC adsorption

Project partners investigate the adsorption/desorption effect of VOC gas mixtures on various materials used for sampling and dynamic generation:

1) Study adsorption-desorption kinetics in step-change **methanol** concentration tests using GC (DWD) & CRDS (VSL)

2) Characterize chemical speciation on surfaces via x-rays (PTB)

3) Model the adsorption-desorption kinetics (POLITO)



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Set-up for measuring the adsorption





CRDS^{*} spectrometer



CRDS= Cavity Ring Down Spectroscopy



Tested materials

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Stainless steel





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Result Copper



Time (minutes)



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Result Stainless Steel tubing





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Result SilcoNert coated Stainless Steel tubing





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GC-based test set-up at DWD



Test tubings (L=10 m):

- Stainless steel 321 (untreated), 1/8" ID 2 mm
- Electropolished 316 stainless steel, 1/8" ID 2.06 mm,
- Sulfinert[®] passivated 304 stainless steel, 1/8" ID 2.159 mm
- Sulfinert[®] passivated 316 stainless steel, 1/8" ID 2.1 mm
- **PFA** tubing, 1/8" ID 1.58 mm
- **PEEK** tubing, 1/8" ID 1.59 mm



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GC method



Sulfinert® passivated stainless steel

Example results at 50°C tubing temperature

Results of PFA at 50°C and 100°C

50°C

100°C

Mole fraction of 3 µmol/mol, flow rate 15 ml/min

Tubings (1/8 inch OD)	50°C results	100°C results
Stainless steel 321 (untreated)	strong adsorption/desorption	no methanol detectable, destruction on the hot surface?
Electropolished stainless steel 316	strong adsorption/desorption	slightly better
Sulfinert [®] passivated stainless steel 304	no adsorption/desorption	no adsorption/desorption
Sulfinert [®] passivated stainless steel 316	no adsorption/desorption	no adsorption/desorption
PFA tubing	acceptable, but intensive flushing required	high outgassing of VOCs
PEEK tubing	some adsorption/desorption	some adsorption/desorption, slight outgassing of VOCs