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**Soil quality — Determination of  
selected organotin compounds — Gas-  
chromatographic method**

*Qualité du sol — Dosage d'une sélection de composés  
organostanniques — Méthode par chromatographie en phase gazeuse*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 190, *Soil quality*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Chemical methods and soil characteristics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 23161:2009), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- note in [Clause 1](#) (converted to normal text) and [Table 2](#) have been moved to [Clause 4](#);
- former Note 4 in [Clause 4](#) has been changed to normal text and moved above Note 1;
- other pretreatment procedures allowed in [Clause 4](#) and in [7.1](#);
- former second sentence in [5.5.5](#) has been changed to Note;
- storage conditions has been changed to be consistent with ISO 5667-15;
- the Bibliography has been updated.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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# Soil quality — Determination of selected organotin compounds — Gas-chromatographic method

**WARNING** — Persons using this document should be familiar with usual laboratory practice. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices.

**IMPORTANT** — It is absolutely essential that tests, conducted in accordance with this document, be carried out by suitably qualified staff. It can be noted whether, and to what extent, particular problems will require the specification of additional boundary conditions.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies a gas-chromatographic method for the identification and quantification of organotin compounds (OTCs) in soils as specified in [Table 1](#).

This document is also applicable to samples from sediments, sludges and wastes (soil-like materials).

The working range depends on the detection technique used and the amount of sample taken for analysis.

The limit of quantification for each compound is about 10 µg/kg.

**Table 1 — Organotin compounds**

| $R_n\text{Sn}(4-n)^+$                                               | R          | <i>n</i> | Name                    | Acronym |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|
| <b>Organotin cations<sup>a</sup></b>                                |            |          |                         |         |
| BuSn <sup>3+</sup>                                                  | Butyl      | 1        | Monobutyltin cation     | MBT     |
| Bu <sub>2</sub> Sn <sup>2+</sup>                                    | Butyl      | 2        | Dibutyltin cation       | DBT     |
| Bu <sub>3</sub> Sn <sup>+</sup>                                     | Butyl      | 3        | Tributyltin cation      | TBT     |
| OctSn <sup>3+</sup>                                                 | Octyl      | 1        | Monooctyltin cation     | MOT     |
| Oct <sub>2</sub> Sn <sup>2+</sup>                                   | Octyl      | 2        | Diocetyl tin cation     | DOT     |
| Ph <sub>3</sub> Sn <sup>+</sup>                                     | Phenyl     | 3        | Triphenyltin cation     | TPhT    |
| Cy <sub>3</sub> Sn <sup>+</sup>                                     | Cyclohexyl | 3        | Tricyclohexyltin cation | TCyT    |
| <b>Peralkylated organotin</b>                                       |            |          |                         |         |
| Bu <sub>4</sub> Sn                                                  | Butyl      | 4        | Tetrabutyltin           | TTBT    |
| <sup>a</sup> Organotin compounds are measured after derivatization. |            |          |                         |         |

Organotin cations can only be determined in accordance with this document after derivatization. The anionic part bound to the organotin cation is mainly dependent on the chemical environment and is not determined using this method. The peralkylated organotin compounds behave in a completely different way from their parent compounds. Tetraalkylated organotin compounds which are already peralkylated, such as tetrabutyltin, are determined directly without derivatization.

The properties such as particle size distribution, water content and organic matter content of the solids to be analysed using this document vary widely. Sample pretreatment is designed adequately with respect to both the properties of the organotin compounds and the matrix to be analysed.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*

ISO 11465, *Soil quality — Determination of dry matter and water content on a mass basis — Gravimetric method*

ISO 16720, *Soil quality — Pretreatment of samples by freeze-drying for subsequent analysis*

ISO 22892, *Soil quality — Guidelines for the identification of target compounds by gas chromatography and mass spectrometry*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **organotin compound**

substance containing 1 to 4 Sn-C bonds

Note 1 to entry: The number of Sn-C bonds is a measure for the degree of substitution.

### 3.2

#### **organotin cation**

part of the organotin compound (3.1) that contains all Sn-C bonds and is formally charged

### 3.3

#### **organotin cation derivatives**

non-dissociated tetrasubstituted organotin compounds which are produced by derivatization

### 3.4

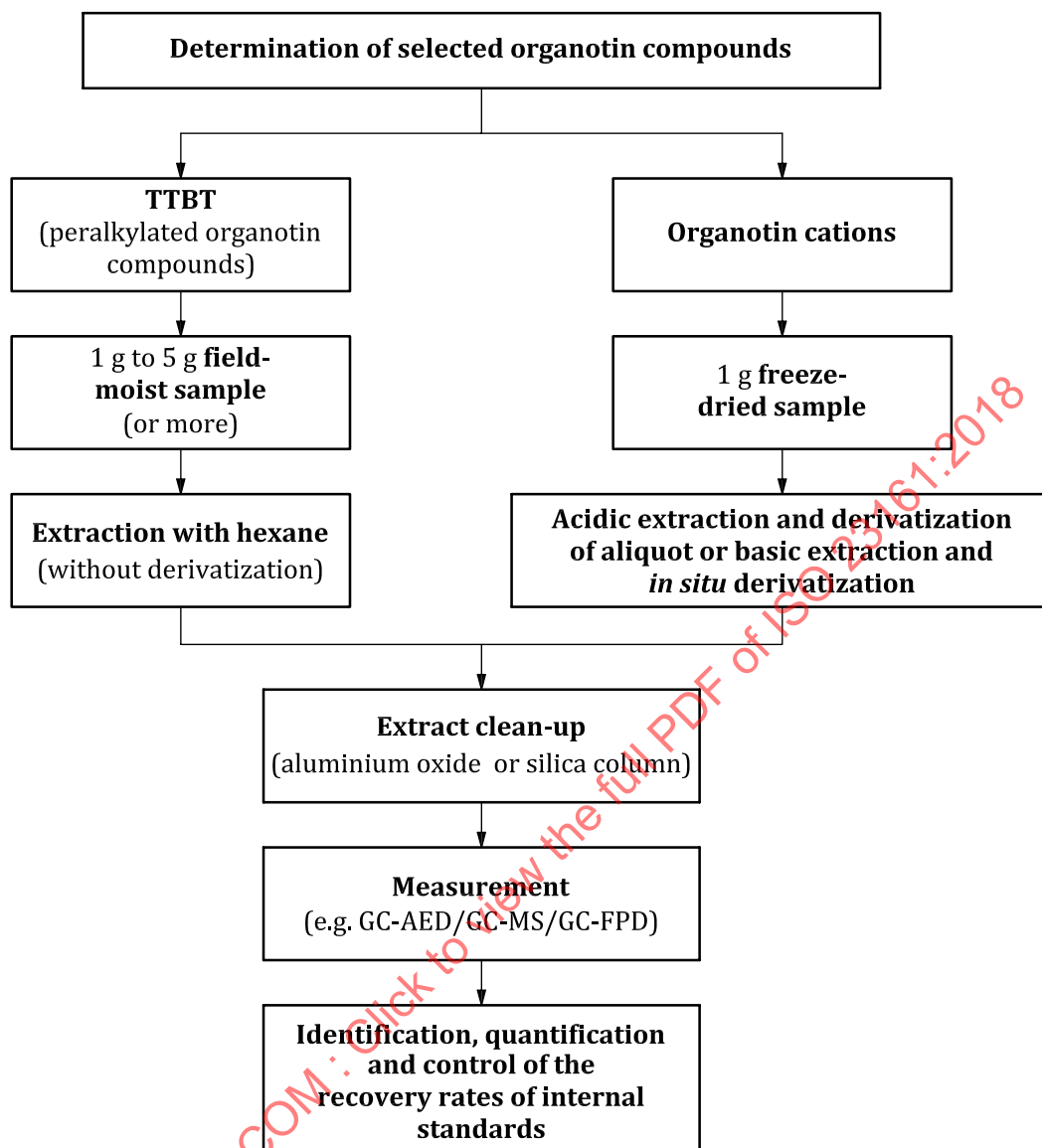
#### **solid**

soil, sediment, sludge and waste (soil-like material)

## 4 Principle

For the ionic and the non-ionic organotin compounds (see Table 1), a different sample pretreatment and sample preparation are necessary. For the determination of organotin cations, laboratory samples are pretreated by freeze drying and grinding. This procedure enables to achieve homogeneity of the sample. The determination of non-ionic TTBT cannot be carried out with freeze-dried materials due to evaporation losses; thus, it shall be determined in the field-moist sample. Organotin cations can only be determined after derivatization, whereas TTBT is already peralkylated and can be determined without derivatization (see the flowchart in Figure 1).





**Figure 1 — Flowchart for the pretreatment and analysis of selected organotin compounds**

Beside freeze drying, other pretreatment procedures can be carried out, if the suitability has been proven.

For the determination of organotin compounds, two alternative extraction methods are given, both followed by *in situ* derivatization with a tetraethylborate compound and simultaneous extraction with hexane:

- a) treatment with acetic acid;
- b) treatment with methanolic potassium hydroxide.

Treatment with potassium hydroxide provides some degree of digestion and is recommended especially when the solid contains high amounts of organic and biological materials.

**NOTE 1** If it is necessary to take a large amount of sample, extraction and derivatization can be done in two steps. An aliquot of the extract can be taken for derivatization. This also applies for samples with high levels of contamination by organotin compounds.

**NOTE 2** During *in situ* derivatization, the solid phase is still present. This supports the extraction by continuous changing of the polar organotin cations to the non-polar organotin cation derivatives. *In situ* methods can improve the extraction efficiency, particularly for monoalkylated organotin compounds.

NOTE 3 Other extraction techniques can be applied if a comparable extraction efficiency is achieved.

When applying this method to the determination of other organotin compounds not specified in the scope, its suitability has to be proven by proper in-house validation experiments, e.g. methyltin compounds (see [Table 2](#)). Methyltin cations are unlikely to evaporate from aqueous solvents, but peralkylated methyltin compounds are volatile and subject to losses (see [C.3](#)). Therefore, additional precautions are established.

**Table 2 — Methyltin compounds**

| $R_n\text{Sn}(4-n)^+$       | R      | $n$ | Name                 | Acronym |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----|----------------------|---------|
| $\text{MeSn}^{3+}$          | Methyl | 1   | Monomethyltin cation | MMT     |
| $\text{Me}_2\text{Sn}^{2+}$ | Methyl | 2   | Dimethyltin cation   | DMT     |
| $\text{Me}_3\text{Sn}^+$    | Methyl | 3   | Trimethyltin cation  | TMT     |

The internal standard mix comprises four compounds representing four alkylation states in order to mimic the behaviour of the target compounds. After alkylation, they cover a wide range of volatility. A recovery of at least 80 % for derivatization/extraction and again 80 % for each clean-up step of the internal standard compounds should be achieved. (For more information, see [A.3](#).) Tetraalkylborate is very reactive and will also alkylate other compounds in the matrix. Those compounds (and also boroxines) may interfere with the target compounds during gas chromatographic determination and influence detection. In order to protect the column and to reduce the interference in chromatography, it will be necessary to apply a pre-cleaning step. Clean-up with silica or aluminium oxide is the minimum; further clean-up steps (e.g. aluminium oxide/silver nitrate, silica/silver nitrate, pyrogenic copper; see [Annex B](#)) may be applied if necessary.

The determination of the tetrasubstituted organotin compounds is carried out after clean-up and concentration steps by separation with capillary gas chromatography and detected with a suitable system [mass spectrometer (MS), (MS/MS), flame photometric detector (FPD), atomic absorption spectrometer (AAS), atomic emission detector (AED), inductively coupled plasma/mass spectrometer ICP/MS]. The concentrations are determined by calibration over the total procedure using aqueous multi-component calibration standard solutions in accordance with [5.4.3](#).

## 5 Reagents

### 5.1 General

Use reagents of highest purity, typically of pesticide grade or better. The reagents and the glassware can contain impurities of organotin compounds. It is absolutely essential to verify the blanks.

**5.1.1 Water**, in accordance with grade 3 of ISO 3696, the water shall be free of interferences.

### 5.2 Chemicals

**5.2.1 Acetic acid**,  $\text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$ , glacial.

**5.2.2 Sodium hydroxide solution**,  $\text{NaOH}$ , approximately 400 g/l (aqueous solution).

**5.2.3 Sodium acetate**,  $\text{CH}_3\text{COONa}$ .

**5.2.4 Sodium sulfate**,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , anhydrous.

**5.2.5 Potassium hydroxide**,  $\text{KOH}$ .

**5.2.6 Silica gel**, grain size 0,085 mm to 0,28 mm (63 mesh to 200 mesh).

**5.2.7 Aluminium oxide**,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , alkaline.

**5.2.8 Tetrahydrofuran**,  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}$ , free of peroxides, free of water.

**5.2.9 Acetone**,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CO}$ .

**5.2.10 Hexane**,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{14}$ .

NOTE Both *n*-hexane and 2-methylpentane (*i*-hexane) have been found to be suitable.

**5.2.11 Tetraethylborate compound**, e.g sodium tetraethylborate,  $\text{NaB}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_4$ .

NOTE The active species during derivatization is the tetraethylborate anion. The choice of the cation is arbitrary. Sodium tetraethylborate was chosen since it is commercially available. In principle, any other tetraethylborate compound can be used for analysis, including complexes formed with tetrahydrofuran (THF). A simple and rapid synthesis of a suitable derivatization agent is described in [A.1](#).

**WARNING — Sodium tetraethylborate may contain traces of triethylboron, which may cause instantaneous combustion.**

**5.2.12 Methanol**,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

**5.2.13 Dichloromethane**,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

### 5.3 Standards

**WARNING — Organotin compounds vary largely regarding toxicological properties towards mammals with respect to the alkylation stage and type of alkyl group. Cautious handling of reagents is mandatory at any time.**

[Table 3](#) lists the standards used for calibration of the target compounds (solution A), internal standards (solution B) and injection standard (solution C). Additional information is provided concerning weighing factors for calculation to organotin cations (for 100 % purity of the substances).

**Table 3 — Standards and internal standards for calibration of target compounds**

| No.                       | Standard                  | Abbreviation | Formula                                    | CAS-RN <sup>a</sup> | WF <sup>b</sup> | Solution <sup>c</sup> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 5.3.1                     | Monobutyltin trichloride  | MBTCl        | $\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{SnCl}_3$        | 1 118-46-3          | 0,623           | A                     |
| 5.3.2                     | Dibutyltin dichloride     | DBTCl        | $(\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_2\text{SnCl}_2$    | 683-18-1            | 0,767           | A                     |
| 5.3.3                     | Tributyltin chloride      | TBTCl        | $(\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_3\text{SnCl}$      | 1 461-22-9          | 0,891           | A                     |
| 5.3.4                     | Tetrabutyltin             | TTBT         | $(\text{C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{Sn}$        | 1 461-25-2          | 1,000           | A                     |
| 5.3.5                     | Monooctyltin trichloride  | MOTCl        | $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}\text{SnCl}_3$     | 3 091-25-6          | 0,686           | A                     |
| 5.3.6                     | Diocetyl tin dichloride   | DOTCl        | $(\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17})_2\text{SnCl}_2$ | 3 542-36-7          | 0,830           | A                     |
| 5.3.7                     | Triphenyltin chloride     | TPhTCl       | $(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3\text{SnCl}$      | 6 39-58-7           | 0,908           | A                     |
| 5.3.8                     | Tricyclohexyltin chloride | TCyTCl       | $(\text{C}_6\text{H}_{11})_3\text{SnCl}$   | 3 091-32-5          | 0,912           | A                     |
| <b>Internal standards</b> |                           |              |                                            |                     |                 |                       |
| 5.3.9                     | Monoheptyltin trichloride | MHTCl        | $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{15}\text{SnCl}_3$     | 59 344-47-7         | 0,672           | B                     |
| 5.3.10                    | Diheptyltin dichloride    | DHTCl        | $(\text{C}_7\text{H}_{15})_2\text{SnCl}_2$ | 74 340-12-8         | 0,817           | B                     |

<sup>a</sup> Chemical Abstracts Registration Number.

<sup>b</sup> WF = Weighing factor = Molar mass of organotin cation/molar mass of organotin compound.

<sup>c</sup> A for the multicomponent standard solution in methanol.

B for the solution of the internal standards in methanol.

C for the solution of the injection standards in hexane.

Table 3 (continued)

| No.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Standard              | Abbreviation | Formula                                            | CAS-RN <sup>a</sup> | WF <sup>b</sup> | Solution <sup>c</sup> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 5.3.11                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Tripropyltin chloride | TPTCl        | (C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> SnCl | 2 279-76-7          | 0,875           | B                     |
| 5.3.12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Tetrapropyltin        | TTPT         | (C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> Sn   | 2 176-98-9          | 1,000           | B                     |
| 5.3.13                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Tetrapentyltin        | TTPeT        | (C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> Sn  | 3 765-65-9          | 1,000           | C                     |
| <sup>a</sup> Chemical Abstracts Registration Number.<br><sup>b</sup> WF = Weighing factor = Molar mass of organotin cation/molar mass of organotin compound.<br><sup>c</sup> A for the multicomponent standard solution in methanol.<br>B for the solution of the internal standards in methanol.<br>C for the solution of the injection standards in hexane. |                       |              |                                                    |                     |                 |                       |

Internal standards other than those given in Table 3 may be used, if suitability has been proven. Examples of suitable internal standards are:

- Monobutyltin-D9 for monobutyltin;
- Tripropyltin for dibutyltin and tributyltin;
- Monoheptyltin for monooctyltin;
- Diheptyltin for tetrabutyltin, dioctyltin and tricyclohexyltin;
- Triphenyltin-D15 for triphenyltin.

## 5.4 Preparation of reagents and solutions

### 5.4.1 General requirements

Prepare the following (see also Table 3):

- multicomponent standard stock solution A in methanol (e.g. 1 mg/ml);
- multicomponent standard spiking solutions for calibration, by diluting solution A with methanol;
- stock solution B of internal standards in methanol (e.g. 1 mg/ml);
- spiking solution of the internal standards, by diluting solution B with methanol (e.g. 100 ng/ml);
- stock solution C of the injection standard in methanol (e.g. 2 mg/ml);
- injection standard solution, by diluting solution C (e.g. 2 µg/ml).

### 5.4.2 Blank solution

Add 20 ml of water (5.1) to an Erlenmeyer flask with a ground joint or a screw-capped PTFE lined vial.

### 5.4.3 Aqueous calibration solutions (multicomponent solution of organotin compounds in water)

For each working range, prepare at least six calibration solutions with appropriate concentration levels.

Add 20 ml of water (5.1) to an Erlenmeyer flask with a ground joint or a screw-capped (PTFE-lined) vial. While stirring vigorously, pipette an appropriate volume of the respective spiking solution underneath the surface and ensure that the spiking solution is well distributed in the water. Stir for additional 20 min.

#### 5.4.4 Methanolic potassium hydroxide solution

Dissolve 25 g potassium hydroxide (5.2.5) in 100 ml methanol (5.2.12). This is the methanolic potassium hydroxide solution.

#### 5.4.5 Acetate buffer solution

Dissolve about 1 mol of sodium acetate (equal to 82 g of anhydrous sodium acetate) (5.2.3) in 500 ml of water (5.1) in a 1 l volumetric flask. Add sufficient glacial acetic acid (5.2.1) to adjust to a pH of 4,5. Dilute to volume with water (5.1) and mix well.

#### 5.4.6 Solvent mixture

Prepare a solvent mixture of acetic acid, methanol and water with a volume ratio of 1:1:1.

#### 5.4.7 Derivatization agent

Prepare a solution of approximately 10 g tetraethylborate compound (5.2.11) in 100 ml tetrahydrofurane (5.2.8).

NOTE This solution is stable for about three months if stored under an inert-gas blanket.

### 5.5 Clean-up

#### 5.5.1 General requirements

A silica or aluminium oxide clean-up is the minimum requirement. Further clean-up steps (aluminium oxide/silver nitrate, silica/silver nitrate, pyrogenic copper) may be applied if necessary (see Annex B). A recovery of  $\geq 80$  % of the internal standards and target compounds shall be achieved for each clean-up step.

#### 5.5.2 Silica gel for the clean-up column

Heat silica gel (5.2.6) for at least 12 h at  $(500 \pm 20)$  °C on a quartz plate in a muffle furnace. Ensure that the temperature does not exceed 520 °C.

Allow the plate to cool in an oven to about 200 °C, transfer the silica to a wide-necked glass bottle and allow cooling to room temperature in a desiccator.

Add water to the cooled silica until 3 % mass fraction is reached. Close the bottle and homogenize the contents for 2 h on a shaker.

#### 5.5.3 Aluminium oxide for the clean-up column

Activate aluminium oxide (5.2.7) by heating to 600 °C for a minimum of 24 h.

Allow to cool in the oven to about 200 °C, transfer the aluminium oxide to a wide-necked glass bottle and allow cooling to room temperature in a desiccator.

Add water to the cooled aluminium oxide until 10 % mass fraction is reached. Close the bottle and homogenize the contents for 2 h on a shaker.

#### 5.5.4 Clean-up column

Add about 5 g of adsorbent (5.5.2) or (5.5.3) to one column, and add about 3 g of drying agent. Ensure that the clean-up column is filled homogeneously, for example, by using hexane as a moistening agent during the filling process.

Commercially pre-packed columns may be used as an alternative if the requirement for recovery is met.

#### 5.5.5 Eluent for extract cleaning with silica gel

A mixture of hexane (5.2.10) with a more polar solvent can be used as an eluent to obtain a quantitative elution of all organotin compounds. The concentration of polar solvent in hexane and the volume of total eluent shall be determined prior to application.

NOTE In routine work, about 5 % of acetone (5.2.9) or 20 % of dichloromethane (5.2.13) was used successfully.

#### 5.5.6 Eluent for extract cleaning with aluminium oxide

Generally, hexane (5.2.10) is used as the eluent. The volume of the eluent should be determined prior to application.

### 6 Apparatus

#### 6.1 Requirements for glassware

Customary laboratory glassware shall be used.

All glassware and material that come into contact with the sample or extract shall be thoroughly cleaned e.g. with concentrated mineral acid or by heating for 10 h at 400 °C.

NOTE Glass surfaces can be impregnated with organotin compounds and release these into the sample solution, as well as they can adsorb organotin compounds from the solution.

#### 6.2 Sampling apparatus

Sampling devices shall not be a source of contamination. The use of stainless steel, glass or PTFE is recommended.

NOTE For example, PVC can contain large amounts of organotin compounds.

Containers shall be inert and appropriate for storing and transport.

The size of the container shall be appropriate to ensure sampling of a suitable amount of solid to provide a representative sample and facilitate a determination in accordance with this document within the calibrated working range.

#### 6.3 Additional apparatus

Usual laboratory apparatus and the following.

##### 6.3.1 Centrifuge.

**WARNING — The use of organic solvents in centrifuges needs to be assessed for safety reasons.**

##### 6.3.2 Glass column for clean-up, e.g. length 15 cm, inner diameter 1 cm, with frit, without a cock.

##### 6.3.3 Shaker.

##### 6.3.4 Ultrasonic bath or horn-type transducer.

##### 6.3.5 Analytical balance, with suitable reading accuracy and range.

##### 6.3.6 Concentration apparatus, e.g. rotary evaporator, Kuderna Danish.

**6.3.7 Gas chromatograph**, equipped with a high-resolution capillary column of suitable polarity and **injector**, split or splitless, preferably with an automated sampling device (C.1).

**6.3.8 Detectors**, (for typical detector configurations, see C.2). The following detector types may be used for the measurement of alkylated organotin compounds:

- atomic absorption spectrometer (AAS), quartz oven, tin(Sn) lamp;
- flame photometric detector (FPD), equipped with a cut-off filter of 590 nm or interference filter of 610 nm;
- pulsed flame photometric detector (PFPD) equipped with a large pass-band filter working at 610 nm or 390 nm with a time-selective acquisition;
- mass spectrometer (MS) for electron impact mode (EI-mode);
- atomic emission detector (AED);
- inductively coupled plasma/mass spectrometric detector (ICP/MS).

**6.3.9 Data processing system**, suitable for the respective detector for acquisition and data evaluation.

## 7 Procedure

### 7.1 Sampling and sample pretreatment

Sample pretreatment should be carried out according to ISO 14507 or ISO 16720.

Store the sample until pretreatment under the following conditions.

If the storage time is less than 7 days, store the sample in a dark, cool place (1 °C to 5 °C) until pretreatment.

If the storage time exceeds 7 days, the sample shall be stored frozen ( $\leq -18$  °C) in the dark.

The laboratory sample should represent the field sample. The amount of sample taken depends on homogeneity and on the resulting dry mass after preparation. If necessary, select coarse material and sieve to particle size  $< 2$  mm. Stir with a metal spoon.

For the preparation of freeze-dried samples, take, for example, 250 g of original field-moist sample and proceed with freeze drying in accordance with ISO 16720.

Grind the freeze-dried material, for example, in an agate centrifugal ball mill, to a homogeneous powdery consistency. Prevent high temperatures in the mill by grinding for a short time.

Determine the dry mass of the freeze-dried material in accordance with ISO 11465.

For the determination of organotin compounds in original field-moist material, take the sieved and stirred sample as described above. From this homogenized laboratory sample, suitable amounts of sub-samples (test samples) are taken for subsequent analysis for the determination of organotin compounds and dry mass in accordance with ISO 11465.

### 7.2 Sample extraction

#### 7.2.1 General

Add 1 g to 5 g of solid to a container that can be closed (e.g. an Erlenmeyer flask with a ground joint or a screw-capped vial, PTFE lined). It is recommended to choose two samples, varying in size at least by a factor of 2. Ensure that the mass of analytes in the samples is covered by the working range.



Pretreat samples of solids, blank solutions (5.4.2) and aqueous calibration solutions (5.4.3) as follows.

### 7.2.2 Acidic extraction and derivatization of an aliquot

Add an appropriate amount of internal standard mixture and of a solvent mixture of acetic acid: methanol:water (1:1:1) to the freeze-dried sample to obtain a sample slurry containing 20 % mass fraction or less of solid material.

Sonicate for 30 min in an ultrasonic bath.

Transfer all the slurry to a centrifuge glass tube and then centrifuge to obtain a liquid/solid phase separation. The liquid phase is then transferred (e.g. by a pipette) to another container. The extraction procedure is repeated in the same way by adding half of the volume of extraction solvent mixture used for the first extraction step. The two extraction solutions are combined prior to derivatization.

For derivatization, add aqueous sodium hydroxide (5.2.2) to an appropriate aliquot (at least 5 ml) of the extraction solution obtained above and adjust to a range from pH 4,0 to pH 4,4 using acetic acid (5.2.1). After the addition of 5 ml of hexane (5.2.10) and the solution of tetraethylborate compound in tetrahydrofuran (5.4.7) (0,5 ml per g of sample taken), the solution is immediately shaken by hand for 1 min. Afterwards, the whole mixture is shaken for 20 min on a mechanical shaking machine. The procedure is then repeated. The hexane phases separated are combined and dried over sodium sulfate (5.2.4) and concentrated to 1 ml.

Blank solutions and aqueous calibration solutions (5.4.2) and (5.4.3) shall be treated in the same way as the samples.

### 7.2.3 Alkaline treatment and *in situ* derivatization

Add an appropriate amount of the internal standard solution and water (5.1) to the freeze-dried sample to obtain a sample slurry with 20 % or less of solid material.

Shake for about 20 min and ensure that the spiking solution is well distributed in the water or water/solid slurry.

Add methanolic potassium hydroxide solution (1,2 ml/g of sample taken) (see 5.4.4) and 20 ml of hexane (5.2.10). Heat to 70 °C for 1 h in a closed container (ensure the tightness). Choose a volume of methanolic potassium hydroxide solution to ensure that the slurry is alkaline. Instead of treatment at 70 °C for 1 h, ultrasonic treatment (e.g. for a few minutes followed by 1 h of shaking) or treatment overnight at ambient temperature may be applied.

Add acetic acid (5.2.1) to adjust to a range from pH 4,0 to pH 4,4. Add 10 ml of acetate buffer solution (5.4.5) and shake for about 1 min. To the buffered solution, add the solution of tetraethylborate compound in tetrahydrofuran (see 5.4.7) (0,5 ml per g of sample taken). Shake for about 2 h. Repeat the derivatization procedure and shake for 1 h minimum. Ensure that the phases are well mixed.

Separate the phases using a centrifuge. Collect the hexane layer and dry it with sodium sulfate (5.2.4), and reduce the volume of the organic phase to 1 ml using a suitable apparatus, but avoid reduction to dryness in every case.

Blank solutions and aqueous calibration solutions (5.4.2) and (5.4.3) shall be treated in the same way as the samples.

### 7.2.4 Separate determination of TTBT in the field-moist sample

The determination of TTBT can be carried out by extraction of the field-moist sample with hexane without the derivatization step. Therefore, it is possible to take a larger amount of homogenized field-moist sample (5 g or more) and to use only tetrapropyltin as the internal standard.



### 7.3 Clean-up of the extract

#### 7.3.1 General

In order to protect the GC-column and to reduce the interference in chromatography, sample extracts should be subjected to an adsorption chromatography clean-up. If the chromatographic measurements of the target compounds are still disturbed by interferences, apply further appropriate clean-up procedures (see [Annex B](#)) provided a recovery of  $\geq 80\%$  of the internal standard compounds is achieved for each clean-up step. The reference and blank solutions shall be treated in the same way.

NOTE 1 Triphenyltin (TPhT) elutes later from the clean-up column than the other organotin compounds. If TPhT is not to be analysed, the clean-up efficiency can be improved by reducing the eluent volume, the water content of the adsorbent or the concentration of the polar solvent in hexane.

NOTE 2 Boroxins will be formed during derivatization, which can affect the gas chromatography (GC) column. These are eliminated by silica clean-up with hexane, but can be eluted if acetone is added to the eluent. An alternative separation method is to shake with sodium hydroxide (NaOH) solution; peralkylated organotin compounds are stable against NaOH solution. A combination of both steps can be advisable when interferences in chromatography occur.

#### 7.3.2 Silica and aluminium oxide clean-up

Rinse the clean-up column, freshly prepared in accordance with [5.5.4](#), with 30 ml of hexane ([5.2.10](#)).

Transfer the concentrated extract in hexane to the clean-up column ([5.5.4](#)). After the extract has penetrated the top of the adsorbent layer, cautiously add the volume of eluant ([5.5.5](#) or [5.5.6](#)) found to be necessary.

Collect the eluate and reduce the volume of the organic phase to 1 ml using a suitable apparatus, but avoid reduction to dryness in every case. If appropriate, e.g. 200  $\mu\text{L}$  of octane can be added as keeper.

If the chromatography turns out to be unacceptable, apply further clean-up procedures (see [Annex B](#)).

### 7.4 Determination of dry mass

Determine the fraction of dry mass gravimetrically in accordance with ISO 11465. The fraction of dry mass of original field-moist samples or of freeze-dried materials is expressed as a percentage.

NOTE The following standards can be used for other solids: EN 15934<sup>[1]</sup> for sediments or sludges.

### 7.5 Measurement

#### 7.5.1 Gas chromatographic separation

Optimize the instrument in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In case a non-specific detector is used, ensure at least baseline separation of the target peaks of interest. Higher resolution is recommended to avoid co-elution of matrix compounds as far as appropriate (for typical gas chromatographic conditions, see [C.1](#)).

In case a specific detector is used, the resolution of triphenylethyltin and tricyclohexylethyltin should be at least 0,8.

Before injection, add, for example, 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of the injection standard (see [5.4.1](#)) to the final sample extract of 1 ml. Proceed the same way with solutions of blanks and references.

Inject an appropriate volume of the prepared sample extracts into the injection port of a gas chromatograph. Record retention times and the signal intensity of each compound.

Quantify the gas chromatographic signals either as peak areas or as peak heights. In the case of non-continuous detection (e.g. mass spectrometry), evaluation using peak areas is recommended.

NOTE In this document, only the evaluation using peak areas is described as an example.

### 7.5.2 Detection and identification

Use an appropriate detector (see 6.3.8) for monitoring the target peaks.

Independent from the detection system, identify the analytes by comparison of the retention times for samples and references. Minimal requirements for identification are retention times within  $\pm 0,02$  min and relative retention times within  $\pm 0,1$  % over the total run of a chromatogram.

Following the retention time criteria, three identification points are necessary. For GC-MS, this procedure is conducted according to ISO 22892. Each individual mass meeting the criteria gives one identification point. Identification points for other detectors are described in Table 4. If the detector does not give three identification points, additional points can be obtained by, for instance, using a second column or by pattern recognition (see also ISO 22892).

**Table 4 — Identification points**

| Detector        | Number of identification points | Remarks                  |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FPD, PFPD       | 2                               |                          |
| MS              | 1 for each individual mass      | According to ISO 22892   |
| MS/MS           | 2 for each mass transfer        |                          |
| MS <sup>n</sup> | 1 for each mass transfer        |                          |
| AED             | 3                               | Different spectral lines |
| ICP/MS          | 3                               |                          |
| AAS             | 3                               |                          |

## 8 Calibration

Calibration is carried out by putting standards, including internal standards, through the whole procedure. The underivatized organotin compounds are added to water to give the aqueous calibration solutions (5.4.3). The whole procedure of derivatization, extraction, clean-up and concentration is carried out to establish calibration curves. At least six calibration solutions at different concentrations should be used to prepare the calibration curve.

The calibration function is only valid under specific operational conditions and should be re-established if these conditions are changed. The calibration function does not need to be renewed for every batch of samples. For routine analysis, it is sufficient to check the calibration function by a two-point calibration.

In this document, the formulae given relate to a linear calibration model. Other calibration models (e.g. a quadratic calibration function) may be used if proven to be suitable.

For quantification of monobutyltin and mono-octyltin compounds, use monoheptyltin trichloride (MHTCl) as the internal standard; for dibutyltin and dioctyltin compounds, use diheptyltin dichloride (DHTCl) as the internal standard; and for tributyltin, triphenyltin and tricyclohexyltin compounds, use tripropyltin chloride (TPtCl) as the internal standard. The recovery of the internal standards corresponding to each group of organotin compounds is to be checked to verify complete derivatization and extraction. For quantification of tetrabutyltin, use tetrapropyltin (TPt) as the internal standard.

Derive from the chromatograms, by integration, the peak areas of the organotin cation derivatives, TTBT and the internal standards. Calculate, for each organotin cation and TTBT, a calibration curve according to [Formula \(1\)](#) for each working range, using the least-squares linear regression:

$$y = a_1 \cdot x + a_0 \quad (1)$$

where

$x$  is the ratio of the masses of organotin cation, respectively TTBT ( $m_i$ ) and the corresponding internal standard ( $m_I$ ) in the reference solution;

$$x = \frac{m_i}{m_I}$$

$a_1$  is the slope of the calibration curve;

$y$  is the ratio of the peak areas of organotin cation derivatives or TTBT and the corresponding internal standard in the chromatograms of the calibration solutions;

$a_0$  is the intercept of the calibration curve.

## 9 Recovery rates of the internal standard compounds

The recoveries facilitate the recognition of bias caused by the procedure or by the matrix of the sample, allowing indications of the reliability of the procedure to be derived. Examples are shown in [Table A.1](#) (A to D) to assist in the assessment of possible causes and effects.

These recoveries are not to be used for the calculation of results. They should be at least 80 % for derivatization/extraction and again 80 % for each clean-up step, with a minimum of 50 % for the overall recovery.

The injection standard tetrapentyltin (TTPeT) is used as the internal standard for the calculation of the recovery rates of the other internal standards.

The ratios of the signal response of each of the four internal standards and the tetrapentyltin in the six calibration chromatograms (the relative response factors, RRF) are calculated according to [Formula \(2\)](#).

$$RRF = \frac{A_I \cdot m_{TTPeT}}{A_{TTPeT} \cdot m_I} \quad (2)$$

where

$A_I$  is the peak area of the internal standard, I;

$m_I$  is the mass of the internal standard, I;

$A_{TTPeT}$  is the peak area of the injection standard;

$m_{TTPeT}$  is the mass of the injection standard.

The mean of the relative response factors for each internal standard is taken as the reference value of recovery = 100 %. The relative response factors of these internal standards have to be calculated in the same manner as for the sample materials and thus measure the recoveries of the four internal standards.

The recovery of a single internal standard (Rec) is calculated according to [Formula \(3\)](#).

$$\text{Rec} = \frac{\text{RRF}_{\text{I sample}}}{\text{RRF}_{\text{I cal}}} \cdot 100 \quad (3)$$

where

$\text{RRF}_{\text{I sample}}$  is the relative response factor of the internal standard, I, of the sample;

$\text{RRF}_{\text{I cal}}$  is the mean relative response factor of the internal standard, I, of the calibration.

## 10 Quantification

Calculate the mass,  $m_i$ , of organotin cation or TTBT (analyte  $i$ ) in the sample extract according to [Formulae \(4\)](#) to [\(6\)](#).

$$x = \frac{y - a_0}{a_1} \quad (4)$$

$$m_i = x \cdot m_1 \quad (5)$$

$$y = \frac{A_i}{A_I} \quad (6)$$

where

$a_1$  is the slope of the calibration curve;

$a_0$  is the intercept of the calibration curve;

$A$  is the peak area of analyte,  $i$ , or of internal standard, I, in the sample chromatogram;

$m$  is the mass of analyte,  $i$ , or of internal standard, I, in the sample taken;

$y$  is the ratio of the peak areas of organotin cation derivatives,  $i$ , or of TTBT and the corresponding internal standard, I, in the sample chromatograms.

Calculate the mass fraction of analyte,  $i$ , in the solid sample, in micrograms per kilogram,  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ , dry mass, according to [Formula \(7\)](#).

$$w_i = \frac{m_i}{E} \quad (7)$$

where

$w_i$  is the mass fraction of the analyte  $i$  in the solid, in micrograms per kilogram,  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ , or nanograms per gram,  $\text{ng}/\text{g}$ , respectively;

$m_i$  is the mass of analyte  $i$  in the pretreated sample portion, in nanograms,  $\text{ng}$ ;

$E$  is the dry mass of sample taken, in grams,  $\text{g}$ .

## 11 Expression of results

Report the mass fraction, in micrograms of analyte,  $i$ , (organotin cation or TTBT) per kilogram of dry solid ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ), to the nearest whole number and with two significant digits.

## 12 Validation

Validation data of four soil and soil-like materials are included in [Annex E](#).

## 13 Test report

The test report shall contain at least the following information:

- a) the test method used, together with a reference to this document, i.e. ISO 23161:2018;
- b) a complete identification of the sample;
- c) information on sampling, storage and pretreatment;
- d) a detailed description of the procedure (e.g. extraction method, extract cleaning, type of detector);
- e) the results of the determination;
- f) the determined recoveries of the internal standards (optional);
- g) any details not specified in this document or which are optional, as well as any factor which may have affected the results.

## Annex A (informative)

### Information about the procedure

#### A.1 Derivatization agent

A simple and rapid synthesis of a suitable derivatization agent is published in Reference [2].

Attach a stirrer, reflux condenser and a dropping funnel with inert-gas supply to a three-necked round-bottomed flask. Add 14,19 g of  $\text{BF}_3\text{OEt}_2$ , 9,72 g of Mg and 75 ml of THF to the round-bottomed flask. Add, by means of the dropping funnel, 43,59 g of ethyl bromide while stirring. Stir for 2 h. Let the phases separate.

The resulting supernatant is about 1,33 mol/l of tetraethylborate. Accompanying salts, such as  $\text{MgFBr}$ , do not interfere with the derivatization reaction.

Tetraethylborate solutions are stable for about three months if they are stored under an inert-gas blanket.

#### A.2 Stability of stock solutions (A, B, C) and spiking solutions

Since the stability of the organotin compound in the multicomponent stock solution cannot be assessed, it is recommended to prepare separate stock solutions of each substitution grade. Stability can then be assessed by the absence of compounds of lower substitution grade.

The organotin compounds in the stock solutions (1 mg/ml organotin cation in methanol) are stable for at least one year if stored at 4 °C in a refrigerator in the dark.

The organotin compounds in the spiking solutions are stable for at least six months if stored at 4 °C in a freezer in the dark; however, it is recommended to prepare a fresh batch after three months.

**NOTE** In multicomponent standards containing additional phenyltin compounds, ligand exchange has been observed, e.g. formation of phenylbutyltin and phenyloctyltin.

The stability of the concentration of the solution is dependent on the use of appropriate containers (see 6.1). Measures of control have to be established in each laboratory.

#### A.3 Internal standards

The use of multiple internal standards serves to ensure the accuracy of the procedure. The internal standards used will not only represent compounds of each substitution grade but also check for definite procedural steps.

- Tetrapropyltin (TTPT) as peralkylated compound will not be derivatized; it therefore indicates extraction efficiency.
- Tripropyltin (TPT) is the most volatile internal standard. It indicates losses during evaporation; however, as far as methyltin compounds are concerned, the indication is limited.
- Monoheptyltin (MHT) is the internal standard that needs to be derivatized three times to be peralkylated. It indicates the completeness of derivatization.
- Diheptyltin (DHT) is the least volatile internal standard and indicates whether gas chromatographic effects (e.g. discrimination) occur.

- Tetrapentyltin (TTPeT) is added prior to injection. It is therefore not influenced by derivatization, extraction and clean-up. It indicates detector sensitivity and may be used to determine recovery rates of the other internal standards. If there are no interferences during detection, recovery rates are independent of the detection mode used [mass spectrometric detection (MSD), flame photometric detection (FPD), atomic emission spectrometric detection (AESD), etc.] The recovery rates may also be used to assess the procedural performance with respect to derivatization, extraction and evaporation.

If the recovery rates of the internal standards are calculated in accordance with [Clause 9](#), indications on the reliability of the procedure may be derived. Examples are shown in [Table A.1](#) (A to D) to assist in assessing possible causes and effects.

**Table A.1 — Selected examples of interpretation to recognize analytical problems using recovery rates of internal standards related to the injection**

| Example         | Recovery rates of internal standards related to tetrapentyltin, % |                                                  |                                                                            |                                                                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                 | A                                                                 | B                                                | C                                                                          | D                                                                             |
| TPT             | 51                                                                | 158                                              | 43                                                                         | 70                                                                            |
| TTPT            | 55                                                                | 151                                              | 46                                                                         | 91                                                                            |
| MHT             | 60                                                                | 142                                              | 41                                                                         | 12                                                                            |
| DHT             | 96                                                                | 105                                              | 48                                                                         | 34                                                                            |
| TTPeT           | 100                                                               | 100                                              | 100                                                                        | 100                                                                           |
| Cause           | Selective loss due to evaporation                                 | Selective loss in calibration due to evaporation | Equal distributed loss due to non-quantitative separation of organic phase | Selective loss due to non-quantitative derivatization                         |
| Possible effect | False quantification on volatile organotins                       | False quantification                             | Elevated limit of detection (e.g. factor of 2)                             | False quantification, especially of mono-alkylated and dialkylated organotins |

Alternatively, for MS detection, tin-isotope enriched, deuterated or  $^{13}\text{C}$ -labelled standards can be used.

#### A.4 Volume reduction of extracts

When using a rotary evaporator, a water-bath temperature of about 40 °C is recommended and a constant pressure of about 300 hPa to 450 hPa is allowed.

Experience has shown that losses will not occur if solvent reduction is stopped at 1 ml. If appropriate, e.g. 200 µL of octane can be added as keeper.

## Annex B (informative)

### Additional clean-up procedures

#### B.1 Clean-up with silica/silver nitrate

##### B.1.1 Supplementary reagents

Silver nitrate,  $\text{AgNO}_3$ .

##### B.1.2 Silica/silver nitrate adsorbent for the clean-up column

Add 90 g of dried silica to a 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask with a ground joint. Dissolve about 10 g of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  in 40 ml of water in a beaker. Add the  $\text{AgNO}_3$  solution to the silica. Mix well for about 2 h on a shaker and let stand for about 30 min. Place in an oven at 70 °C and raise the temperature within 5 h, stepwise at 10 °C per hour to 120 °C. Activate at 120 °C for a further 15 h. Allow to cool in a desiccator to room temperature. Store the adsorbent in a closed amber glass bottle with a ground joint. The efficiency will decline over a period of several months.

##### B.1.3 Silica/silver nitrate clean-up

The adsorption properties of silica/silver nitrate are different from silica. Phenyltin compounds will not elute quantitatively from silica/silver nitrate.

Transfer the reduced extract in hexane (5.2.10) to a clean-up column (5.5.4) prepared with silica/silver nitrate (B.1.2). After the extract has penetrated, cautiously add the volume of hexane that was found to be necessary.

Collect the eluent and reduce the volume of the organic phase to 1 ml using a suitable apparatus, but avoid reduction to dryness.

#### B.2 Clean-up with aluminium oxide/silver nitrate

##### B.2.1 Supplementary reagents

Silver nitrate,  $\text{AgNO}_3$ .

##### B.2.2 Aluminium oxide/silver nitrate adsorbent for the clean-up column

Add, to 10 g of aluminium oxide (5.2.7), 4 ml of acetone (5.2.9) and 0,75 ml of 50 % silver nitrate solution, for example, made from 1 g of water and 1 g of silver nitrate. Remove the acetone by means of rotary evaporation (e.g. at 50 °C and 300 hPa). Store the adsorbent in a closed amber glass bottle with a ground joint. The efficiency will decline over a period of several months.

##### B.2.3 Aluminium oxide/silver nitrate clean-up

The adsorption properties of aluminium oxide/silver nitrate are different from those of aluminium oxide. Phenyltin compounds will not elute quantitatively from aluminium oxide/silver nitrate.

Transfer the reduced extract in hexane (5.2.10) to a clean-up column (5.5.4) prepared with aluminium oxide/silver nitrate (B.2.2). After the extract has penetrated, cautiously add the volume of hexane that was found to be necessary.



Collect the eluent and reduce the volume of the organic phase to 1 ml using a suitable apparatus, but avoid reduction to dryness.

### B.3 Pyrogenic copper

#### B.3.1 Supplementary reagents

**B.3.1.1 Copper(II) sulfate pentahydrate**,  $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

**B.3.1.2 Hydrochloric acid**,  $\text{HCl}$ ,  $c = 2 \text{ mol/l}$ .

**B.3.1.3 Zinc granules**,  $\text{Zn}$ , particle size 0,3 mm to 1,4 mm (14 mesh to 50 mesh ASTM).

**B.3.1.4 *n*-Dodecane-1-sulfonic acid**, sodium salt,  $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{11}\text{SO}_3\text{Na}$ .

#### B.3.2 Pyrogenic copper for clean-up column

**WARNING — Pyrogenic copper is spontaneously inflammable. Suitable precautions shall be taken.**

In a 1 000 ml beaker, dissolve 45 g of copper(II) sulfate pentahydrate ([B.3.1.1](#)) in 480 ml of water containing 20 ml of 2 mol/l hydrochloric acid ([B.3.1.2](#)).

To another 1 000 ml beaker, add 15 g of zinc granules ([B.3.1.3](#)) and then 25 ml of water and one drop of anionic detergent aqueous solution [e.g. 35 % *m/V* *n*-dodecane-1-sulfonic acid, sodium salt ([B.3.1.4](#))].

Stir with a magnetic stirrer at a high speed to form a slurry. While stirring at this high speed, carefully add the copper(II) sulfate solution drop by drop using a glass rod.

Hydrogen is liberated, and elemental pyrogenic copper is precipitated (red-coloured precipitate).

Continue stirring until the hydrogen generation almost ceases and the precipitated copper is allowed to settle. The supernatant water is carefully removed and the product washed with deoxygenated water three times to eliminate residual salts.

Then the water is carefully replaced with 250 ml of acetone ([5.2.9](#)) (while continuously stirring the mixture). This operation is repeated twice more to ensure elimination of water.

The above procedure is repeated three times with 250 ml of hexane ([5.2.10](#)) to ensure elimination of the acetone.

Carefully transfer the copper with hexane into an Erlenmeyer flask and store under hexane. Seal the flask to prevent ingress of air and store in an explosion-proof refrigerator at 2 °C to 8 °C.

The shelf-life of the pyrogenic copper is at least two months. The clean-up efficiency will then decline. The copper will change colour as the clean-up efficiency decreases.

#### B.3.3 Pyrogenic copper clean-up column

Pyrogenic copper is useful if the extract is not heavily contaminated. It does not affect phenyltin compounds.

Add about 100 mg of pyrogenic copper to the extract and treat in an ultrasonic bath for 2 min to 3 min. Centrifuge for 5 min at  $3\,500 \text{ min}^{-1}$ . Separate the supernatant, rinse the copper with some hexane and combine the hexane with the supernatant.

Reduce the volume of the organic phase to 1 ml using a suitable apparatus, but avoid reduction to dryness.

## Annex C (informative)

### Information about typical instrumental conditions<sup>1)</sup>

#### C.1 Example of common gas chromatographic conditions

|                        |                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Injection:             | splitless for 60 s, injection volume: 1 µl, autosampler: HP 7673                                                                              |
| Injection temperature: | 280 °C                                                                                                                                        |
| Carrier:               | helium (He), constant flow: 2,5 ml/min = 40 cm/s                                                                                              |
| Capillary column:      | length 30 m, internal diameter (ID) = 0,32 mm, $d_f = 0,25$ µm, phase HP-5                                                                    |
| Temperature program:   | 40 °C for 3 min, then 10 °C/min increments to 220 °C, held for 5 min, then 20 °C/min increments to 300 °C, held for 2 min (HP 5890 Series II) |

#### C.2 Examples of common detection conditions

##### C.2.1 Atomic absorption spectrometric detection

|                |                                                                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transfer line: | 250 °C                                                                             |
| Quartz oven:   | minimum constant temperature > 650 °C, e.g. 750 °C                                 |
| Gases:         | hydrogen (H <sub>2</sub> ), 145 ml/min; air, 15 ml/min                             |
| Excitation:    | tin(Sn)-lamp, e.g. electrodeless discharge lamp (EDL) or hollow cathode lamp (HCL) |
| Wavelengths:   | 286,3 nm (224,6 nm, 235,5 nm) e.g. excitation/wavelength: EDL, 286,3 nm            |
| Slit:          | 0,7 nm                                                                             |

##### C.2.2 Flame photometric detection

###### C.2.2.1 Continuous flame

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Detector temperature: | 180 °C, detector base 300 °C                                                                                                                                    |
| Gases:                | H <sub>2</sub> , He, synthetic air, inert gas (e.g. nitrogen, N <sub>2</sub> )                                                                                  |
| Filter:               | If interferences are suspected, use a cut-off filter with a cut range below 590 nm or an interference filter at 610 nm transmissible in the range 610 nm ± 5 nm |

The flame should be as hydrogen-rich as possible in order to allow the formation of Sn-H\* species. The synthetic air level should be kept as low as possible in order to avoid a high background; however, it should be sufficient to prevent the extinction of the flame when passing the solvent peak.

1) The instruments mentioned in this annex are examples of suitable products available commercially. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of these products.

**C.2.2.2 Pulsed flame**

|                       |                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Detector temperature: | 350 °C, detector base 300 °C                                                         |
| Gases:                | H <sub>2</sub> , He, synthetic air, inert gas (e.g. N <sub>2</sub> )                 |
| Filter:               | large pass-band filter working at 610 nm or 390 nm with a time-selective acquisition |

**C.2.2.3 Pulsed flame photometric detection**

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Instrument:                              | Varian GC 3 800                                                                                                                                                |
| Injection:                               | splitless, injection volume: 5 µl, autosampler: CTC Analytics CombiPal                                                                                         |
| Injector temperature:                    | 220 °C                                                                                                                                                         |
| Carrier gas:                             | N <sub>2</sub> constant flow 2 ml/min                                                                                                                          |
| Capillary column:                        | length 30 m, ID = 0,32 mm, $d_f = 0,25 \mu\text{m}$                                                                                                            |
| Factor four Varian:                      | VF-1 ms                                                                                                                                                        |
| Temperature program:                     | 70 °C for 1 min, then 10 °C/min increments to 120 °C, held for 2 min; then 20 °C/min increments to 190 °C, held for 2 min; then 30 °C/min increments to 300 °C |
| Detector temperature:                    | 350 °C                                                                                                                                                         |
| Gas flows:                               | H <sub>2</sub> : 30,0 ml/min, air 1: 22,0 ml/min, air 2: 25,0 ml/min                                                                                           |
| Filter:                                  | Large pass-band filter working at 610 nm or 390 nm with a time-selective acquisition                                                                           |
| Selective acquisition for 610 nm filter: | gate delay 3,5 ms, gate width 2,0 ms.                                                                                                                          |

**C.2.3 Atomic emission spectrometric detection**

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Instrument:              | HP 5921A                 |
| Transfer line:           | HP-5 capillary, 280 °C   |
| Cavity temperature:      | 280 °C                   |
| Wavelength for Sn:       | 271 nm or 303 nm         |
| Elevated helium make-up: | 270 ml/min               |
| Gas flow:                | measured at cavity vent  |
| Gas for spectrometer:    | N <sub>2</sub> : 2 l/min |
| Solvent back flush:      | 0,1 min to 4 min         |
| Hydrogen (purity 5,6):   | 3,5 bar                  |
| Oxygen (purity 4,8):     | 1,0 bar                  |

**C.2.4 ICP/MS detection**

|                          |                                                           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Instrument:              | HP 6 890/HP 4 500/HP ICP-MS Chemstation (Hewlett-Packard) |
| Power:                   | 1 300 W                                                   |
| Sampling depth:          | 7 mm                                                      |
| Carrier-gas flow rate:   | 1 500 ml/min                                              |
| Auxiliary-gas flow rate: | 1,0 l/min                                                 |
| Plasma-gas flow rate:    | 15,0 l/min                                                |
| Sampling cone:           | nickel                                                    |
| Skimmer cone:            | nickel                                                    |
| Acquisition mode:        | time-resolved analysis; 1 point per spectral peak         |

**Table C.1 — Proposed masses of tin and possible interferences**

| Element | Isotope | Abundance<br>% | Potential<br>interferences<br>Inter-element | Interference with<br>practical relevance<br>Polatomic ions | Preference | Reason                |
|---------|---------|----------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Sn      | 118     | 24,2           | U                                           | MoO, RuO, PdO                                              | X          | Least<br>interference |
|         | 120     | 32,6           | Te                                          | RuO, PdO                                                   |            |                       |

|                              |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Scan time Sn:                | 30 ms; Xe: 5 ms                                                                         |
| Transfer line:               | 250 °C                                                                                  |
| Gas chromatograph<br>column: | FSOT (fused-silica open tubular), 30 m, ID = 0,25 mm, $d_f$ = 0,25 µm<br>methylsilicone |
| Injection technique:         | splitless                                                                               |
| Injection temperature:       | 250 °C                                                                                  |
| Purge time:                  | 1 min                                                                                   |
| Temperature<br>program:      | 60 °C (for 1 min) → 45 °C/min → 250 °C (for 1 min)                                      |
| Carrier gas/inlet pressure:  | Xe/H <sub>2</sub> (0,1/99,9 mixture); 30 psi                                            |
| Pressure control:            | constant pressure mode: 2,1 bar                                                         |

**C.2.5 Mass spectrometric detection**

|                                   |                                  |       |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Instrument:                       | Agilent 6 890 / 5 973 Quadrupole | GC-MS |
| MSD transfer-line<br>temperature: | 300 °C                           |       |
| Acquisition mode:                 | single-ion monitoring (SIM)      |       |

Detected ions: see [Annex D](#)

Ionization voltage: 70 eV

Source temperature: 230 °C

Quadrupole temperature: 150 °C

### C.2.6 GC-MS<sup>n</sup> detection

Instrument: Saturn 2 200, Varian

Ion-trap: Transfer-line temperature: 270 °C  
 Temperature 220 °C  
 Ionization voltage 70 eV  
 Emission current 100 µA  
 Multiplier voltage elevated by 300 V

MS<sup>n</sup>-conditions: see [Table C.2](#)

**Table C.2 — MS<sup>n</sup> -conditions**

| Precursor-ion<br><i>m/z</i> | Isolation window<br><i>m/z</i> | Wave mode    | Amplitude of excitation<br>V |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 122                         | 3                              | Non-resonant | 80                           |
| 121                         | 7                              | Resonant     | 1                            |
| 120                         | 3                              | Resonant     | 1,5                          |

### C.3 Example of a chromatogram

A chromatogram is shown in [Figure C.1](#). The retention time of tetrapentyltin would be at 20,82 min and the retention time of tricyclohexylethyltin would be at 25,10 min. The gas chromatographic (GC) conditions are given in [C.1](#).

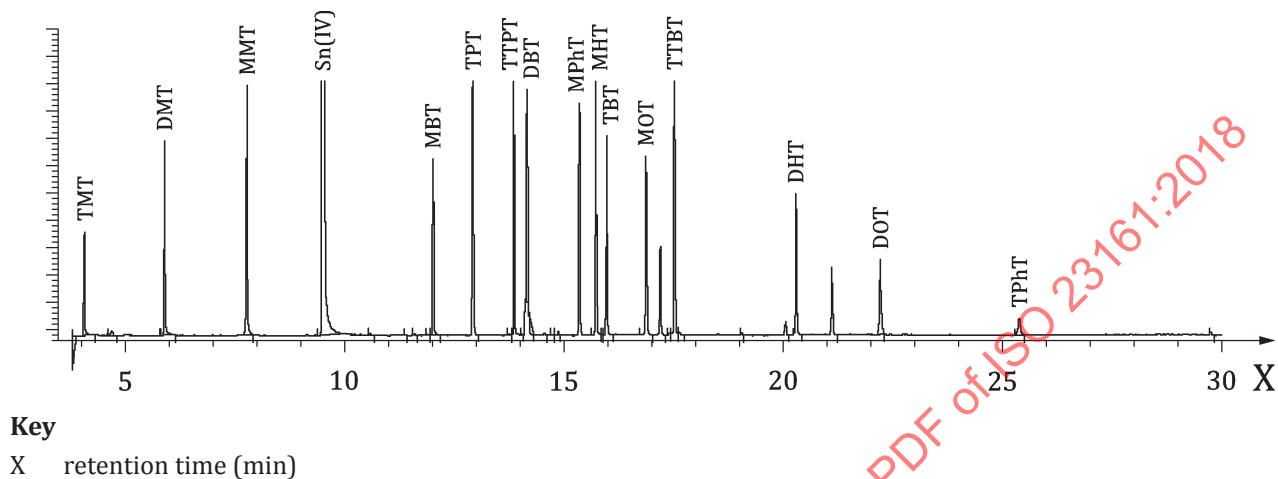


Figure C.1 — Example of a chromatogram using GC-AED

### C.4 Examples of mass spectra (for MS conditions, see [C.2.5](#))

#### C.4.1 Butyltriethyltin (see [Figure C.2](#))

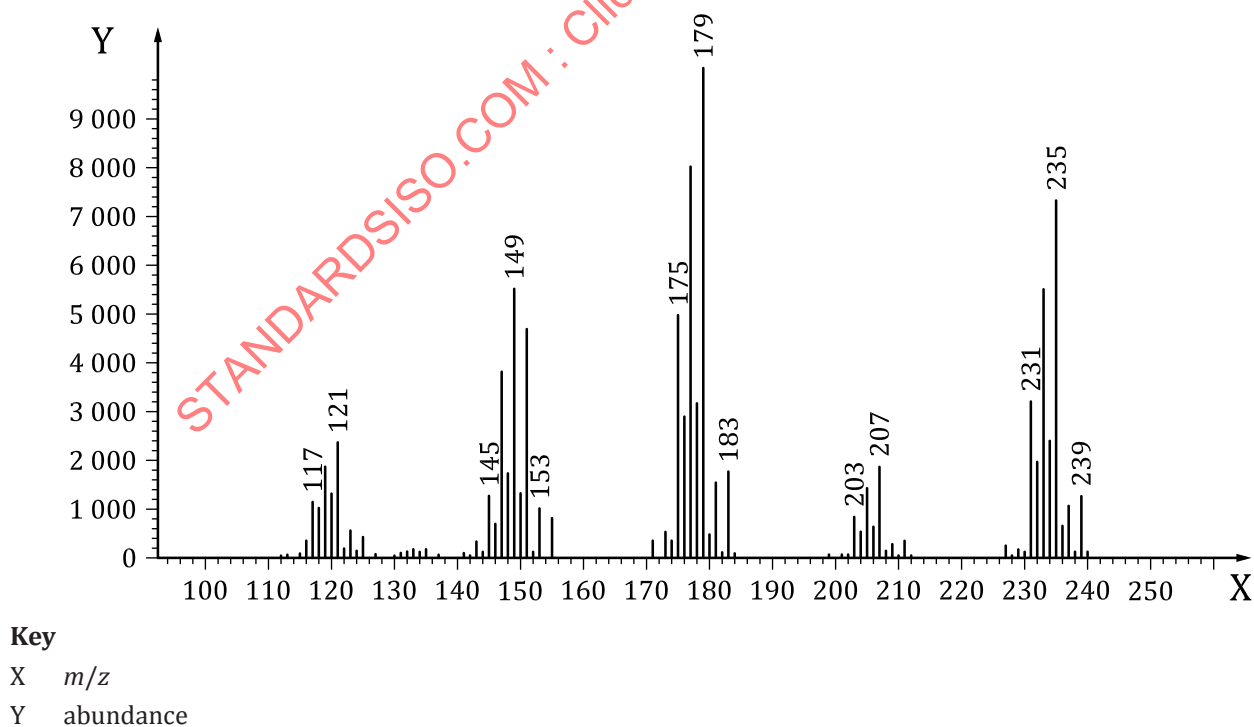
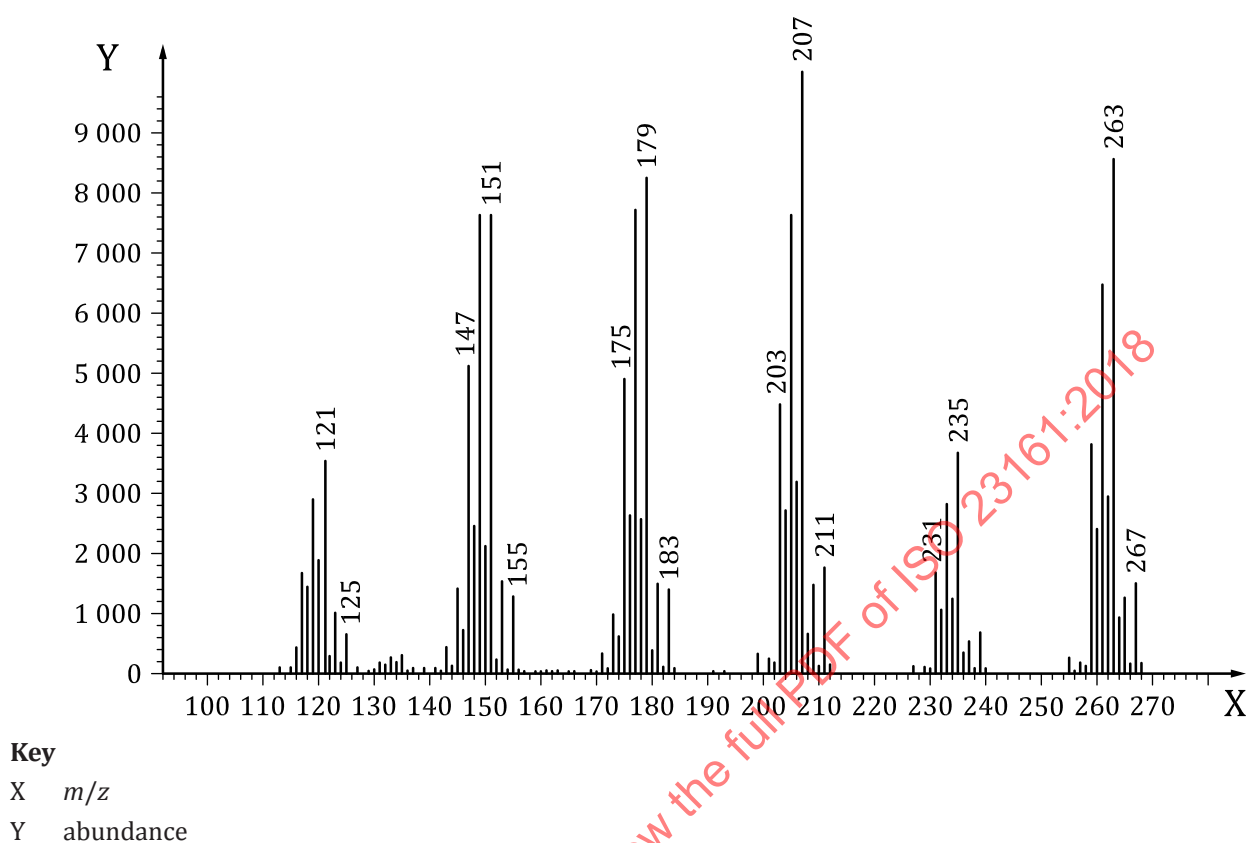
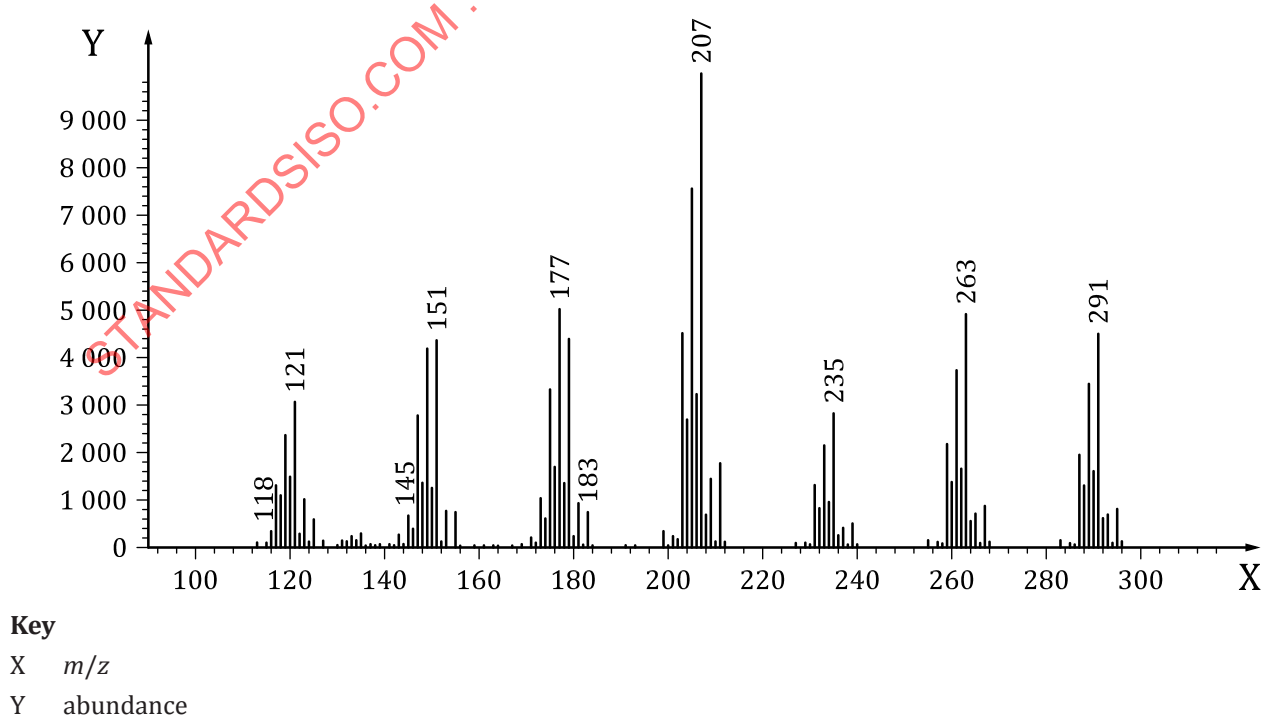


Figure C.2 — Butyltriethyltin

C.4.2 Dibutyldiethyltin (see [Figure C.3](#))C.4.3 Tributylethyltin (see [Figure C.4](#))

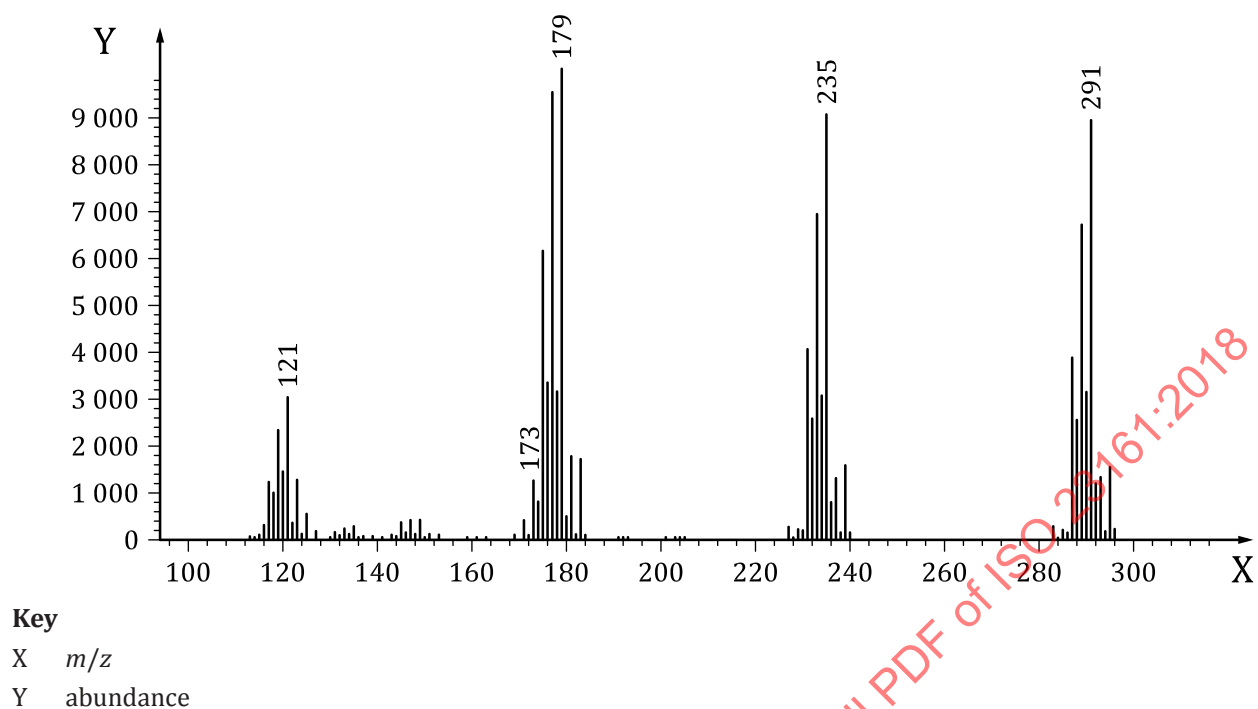
C.4.4 Tetrabutyltin (see [Figure C.5](#))

Figure C.5 — Tetrabutyltin

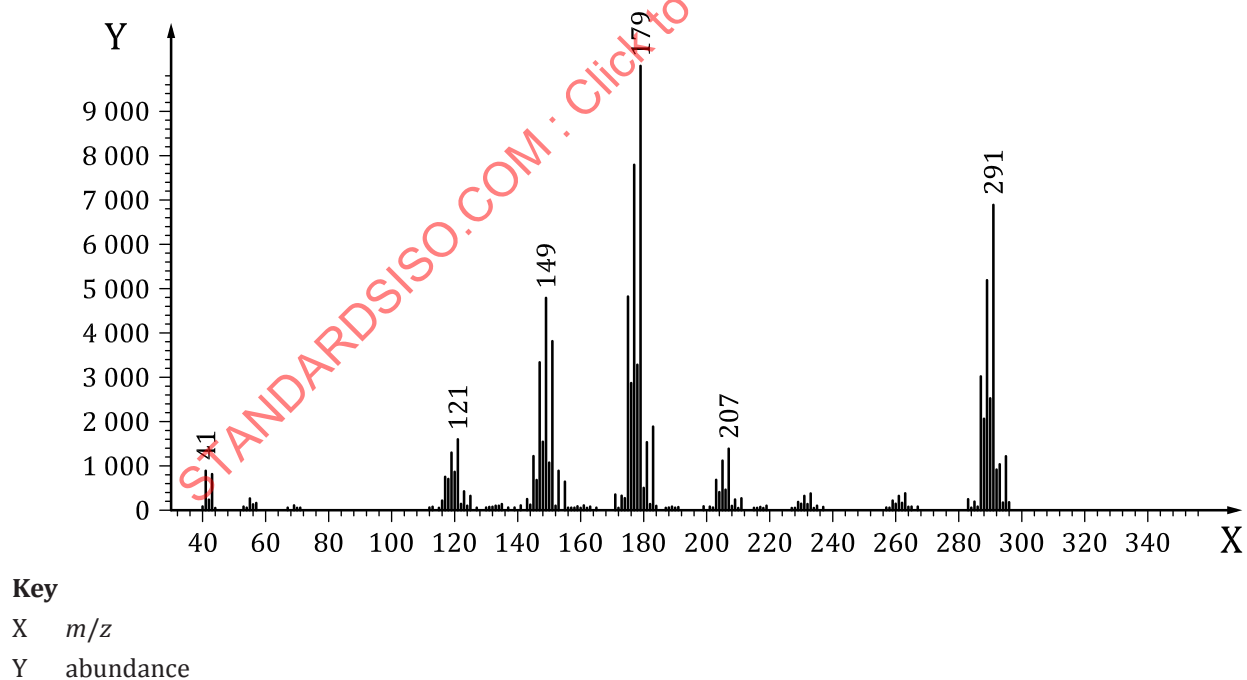
C.4.5 Octyltriethyltin (see [Figure C.6](#))

Figure C.6 — Octyltriethyltin



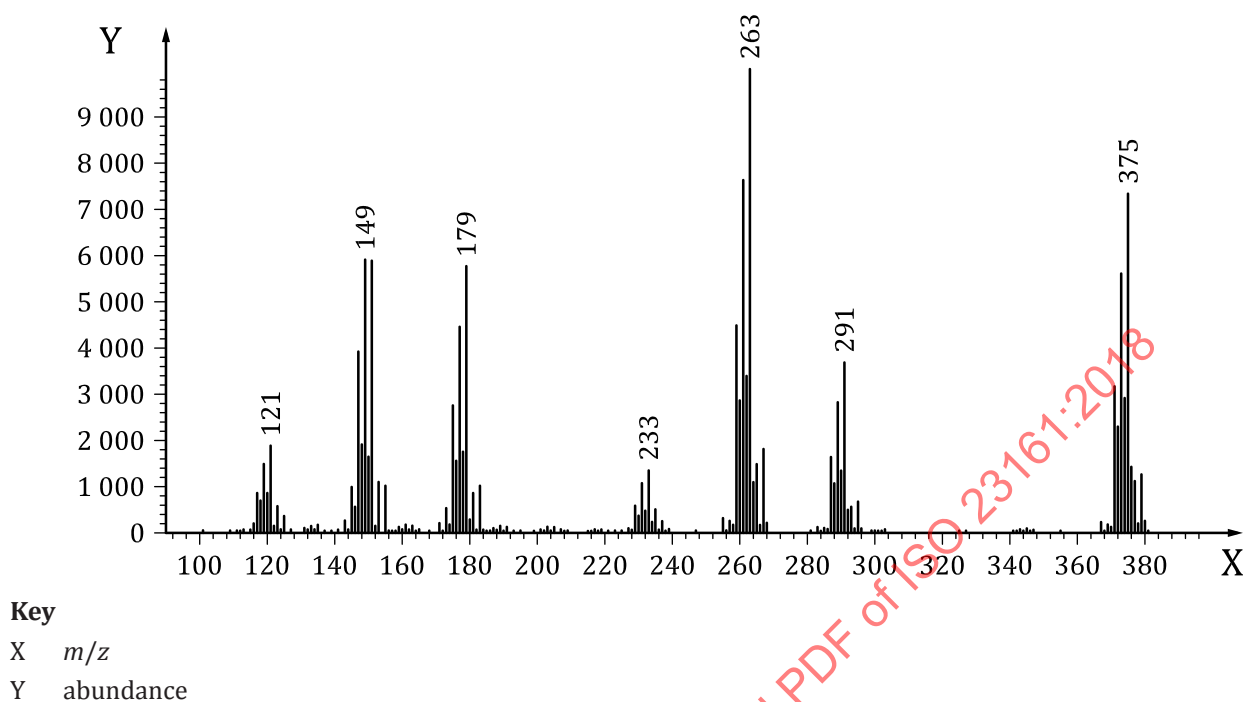
C.4.6 Dioctyldiethyltin (see [Figure C.7](#))

Figure C.7 — Dioctyldiethyltin

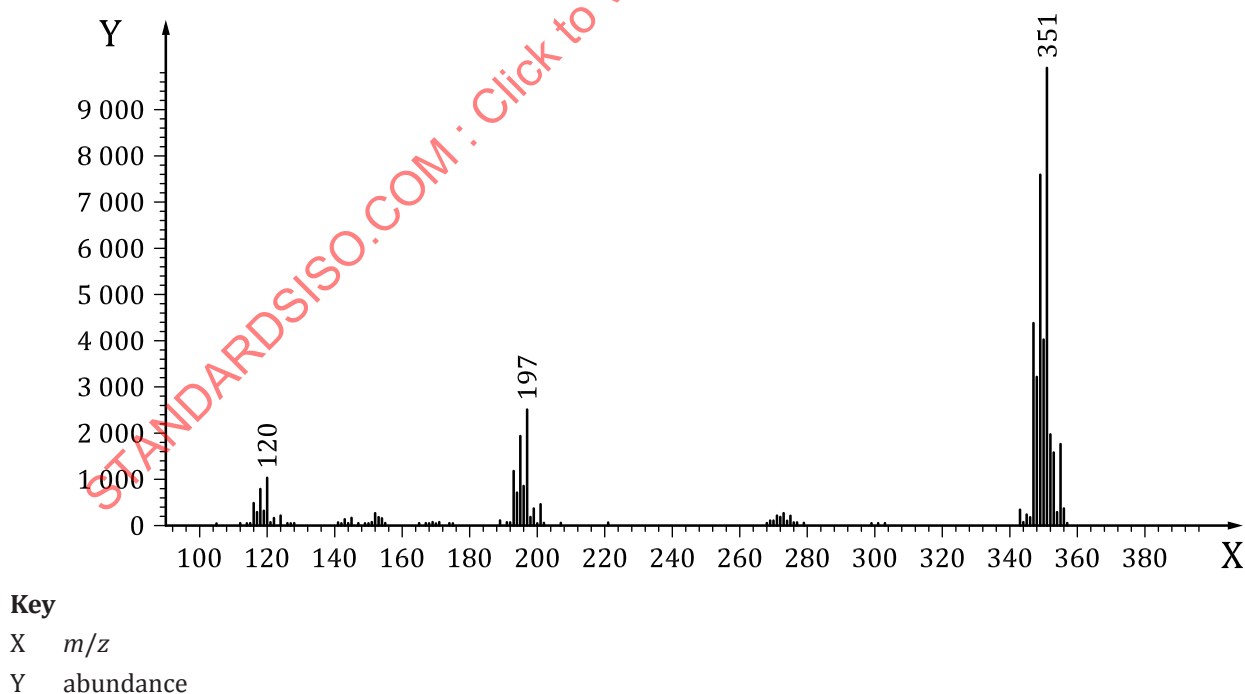
C.4.7 Triphenylethyltin (see [Figure C.8](#))

Figure C.8 — Triphenylethyltin

C.4.8 Tricyclohexylethyltin (see [Figure C.9](#))

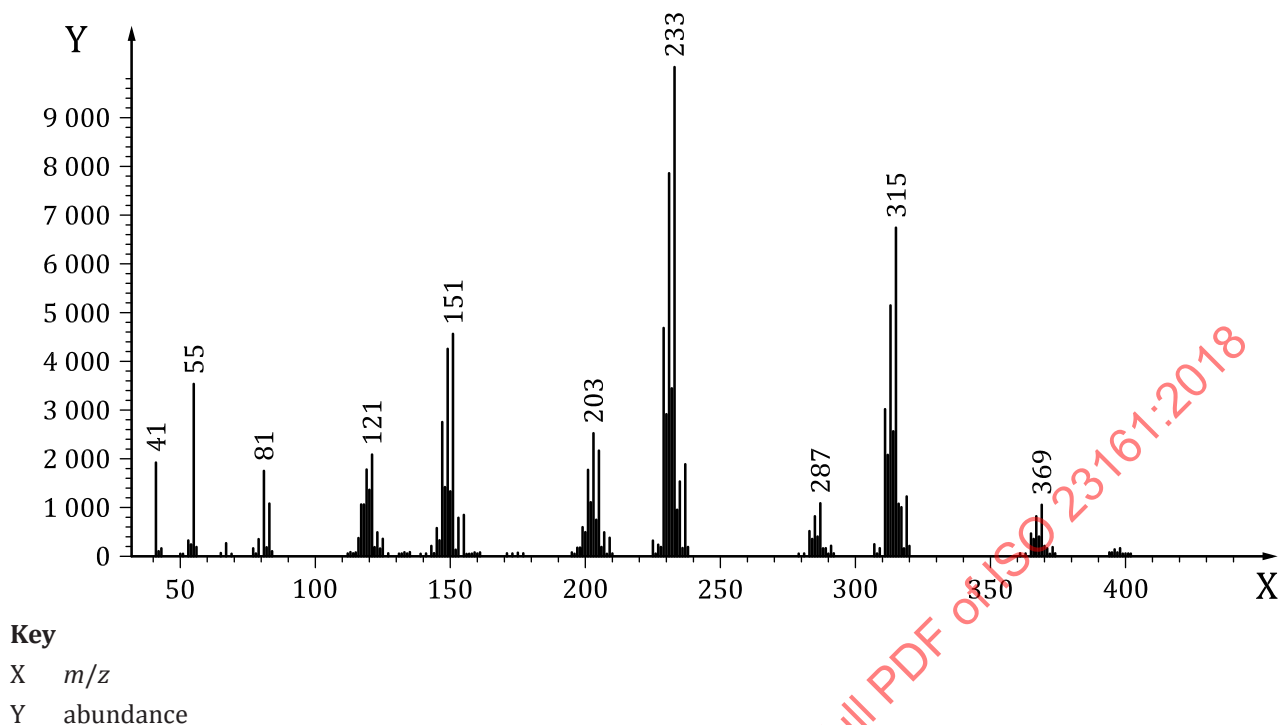


Figure C.9 — Tricyclohexylethyltin

C.4.9 Tripropylethyltin (see [Figure C.10](#))

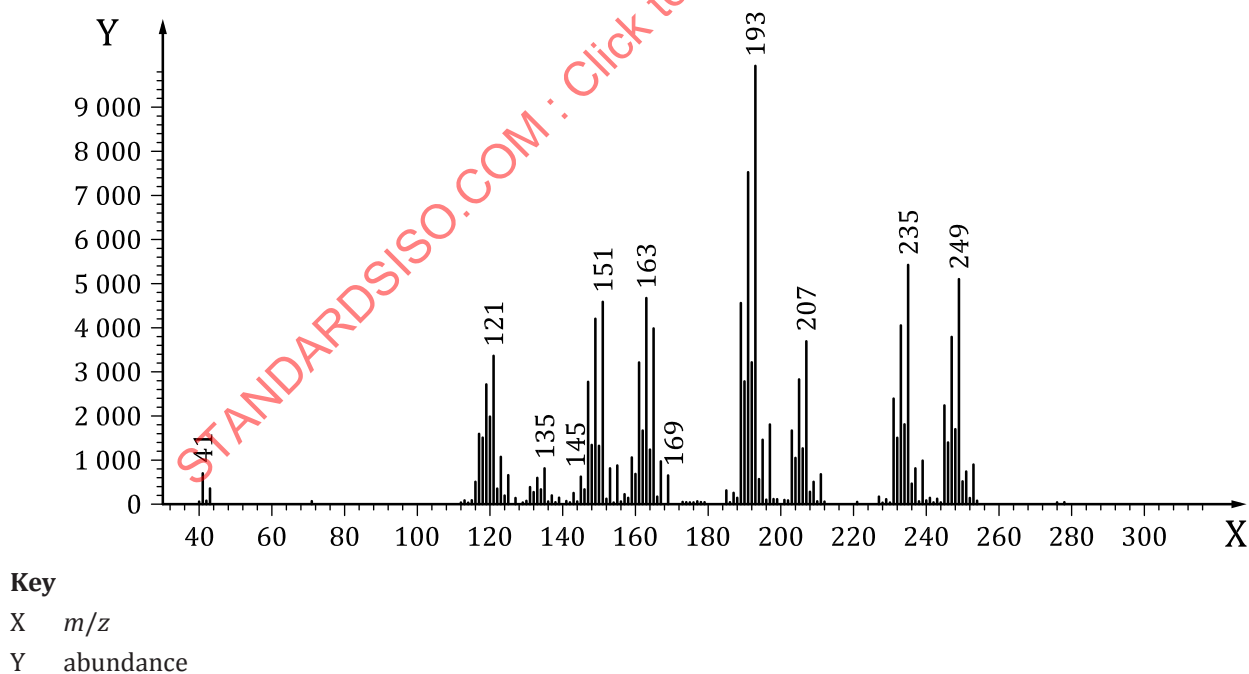


Figure C.10 — Tripropylethyltin

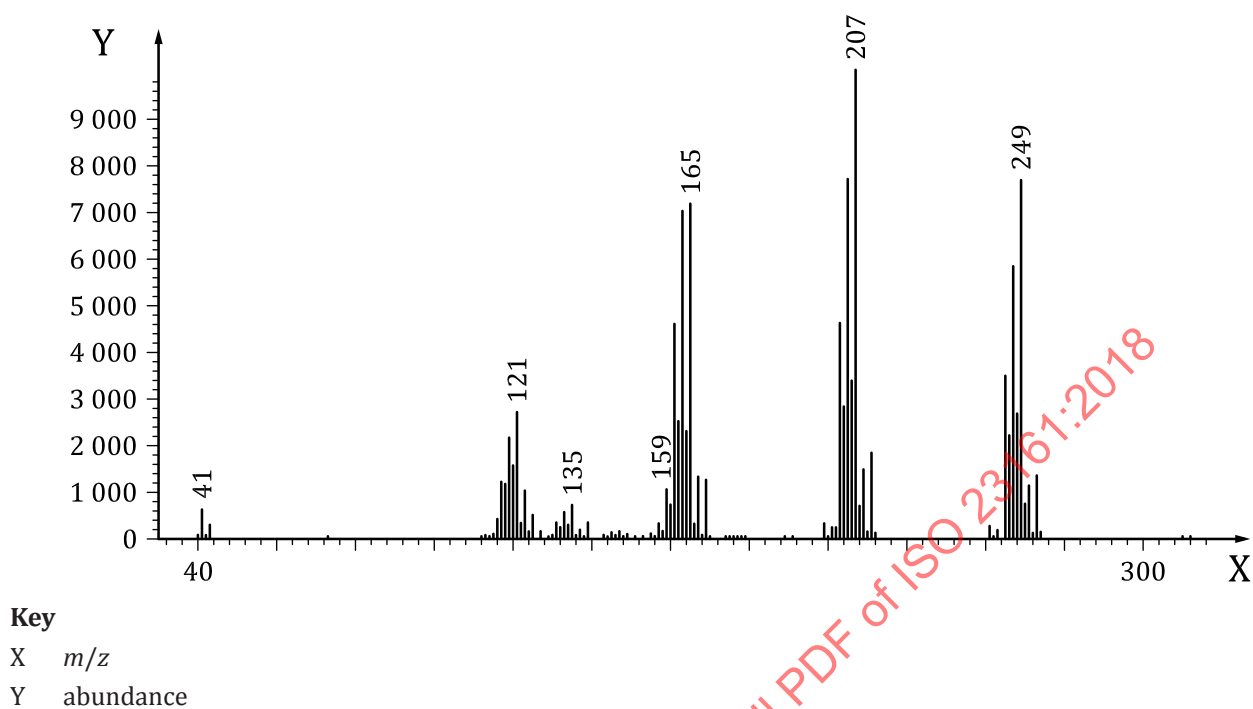
C.4.10 Tetrapropyltin (see [Figure C.11](#))

Figure C.11 — Tetrapropyltin

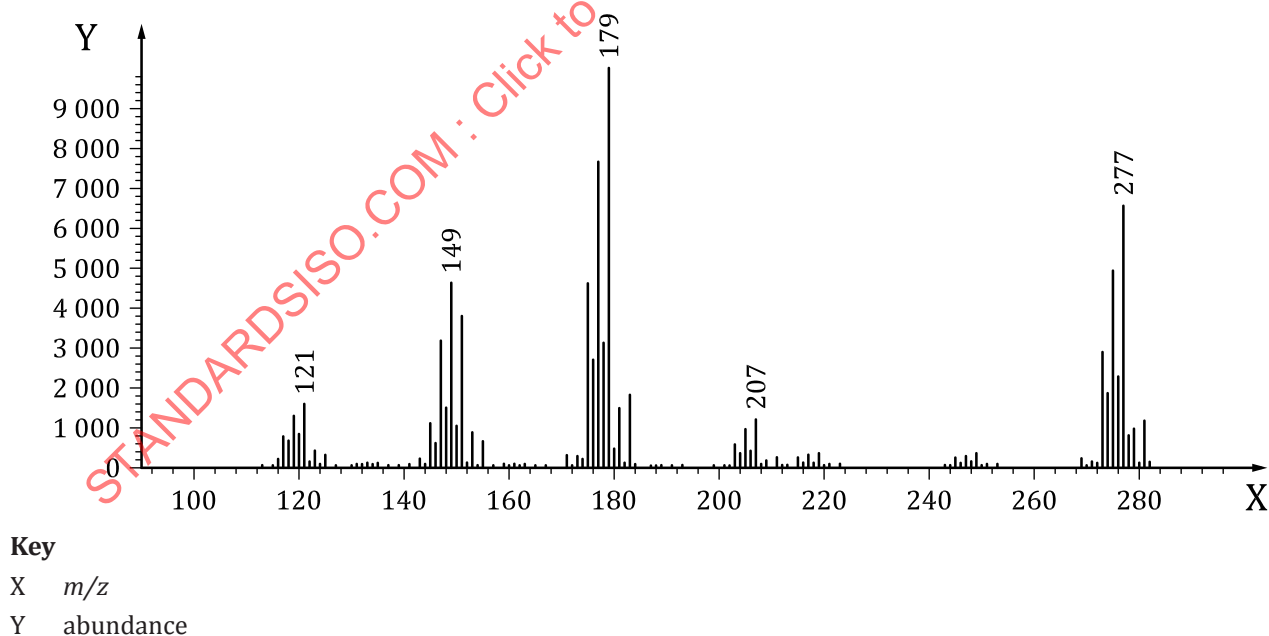
C.4.11 Heptyltriethyltin (see [Figure C.12](#))

Figure C.12 — Heptyltriethyltin