

HiSorb sorptive extraction

Rapid, versatile analysis of VOCs & SVOCs in liquids and solids by TD-GC-MS









HiSorb[™] sorptive extraction

Introducing HiSorb – an innovative, labour-saving sampling system for the analysis of volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and SVOCs) in liquids and solids by TD–GC–MS.

Extending the capability of thermal desorption (TD), HiSorb probes and accessories are ideal for trace-level component characterisation, aroma profiling, quality control and advanced research across a wide range of applications.



Why use HiSorb?

Time and cost savings

- Robust, easy-to-use probes allow unattended sample preparation and maximum productivity.
- HiSorb is easier and quicker to use than solvent extraction.
- Re-usable probes and tubes minimise the cost per sample.
- The cost of solvent consumption and disposal is eliminated.

Increased sensitivity

- Detection limits are lower than for SPME because of the larger capacity of the sorptive phase.
- Cryogen-free preconcentration by TD prior to automated GC–MS analysis improves sensitivity.

Versatility

- HiSorb can be used for immersive or headspace sampling of liquids and solid samples.
- HiSorb is compatible with TD-GC-MS analysis using industry-standard tubes on all leading commercial systems.
- HiSorb sampling and analysis is fully automated on the Centri[®] extraction & enrichment platform for GC–MS.
- Availability of different phases allows the user to select the optimal phase for analytes of interest.

• We used HiSorb probes in immersive mode to analyse volatiles in raw and pasteurised bovine milk, and found they worked very well. As well as obtaining greater sensitivity than with our existing headspace-SPME protocol, we uncovered compounds that we didn't find even with three-phase SPME fibers. ??

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Reliable, high-throughput analysis

Simple workflows for maximum productivity

HiSorb probes can be analysed either in a semi-automated workflow using a TD instrument (such as the TD100-xr[™]), or in a fully-automated workflow on the Centri[®] sample extraction and enrichment platform.

Semi-automated



Probe insertion: Two probe lengths allow immersive or headspace sampling in 20 or 10 mL vials.



Analyte extraction: The HiSorb Agitator efficiently mixes and heats the sample.



Probe washing: Probes are washed and dried to remove residual matrix.



Probe desorption and analysis: Probes are inserted into industrystandard tubes for analysis by TD–GC–MS.

Fully-automated



Probe insertion and analyte extraction: The robot inserts the probe into the vial, and the assembly is incubated/agitated to ensure analyte equilibration.



Probe washing: The probe is removed from the vial and a wash/dry station removes residual sample matrix.



Probe desorption: The probe is thermally desorbed and vapours transferred to the focusing trap.



Analysis: The trap is thermally desorbed at up to 100°C/s to inject the sample into the GC-MS as a narrow band.



Vial sealing: The vials are re-sealed with special caps to avoid contamination of laboratory air.

Extending the application range

Sorptive extraction for liquids and solids

HiSorb probes are able to sorptively extract VOCs and SVOCs from a range of sample types, both from the headspace and by direct immersion into liquids, such as water-based solutions, emulsions and suspensions, as well as the headspace of solid samples. Key areas of interest include:

- Beverages including aroma-profiling of tea, coffee, fruit juices, wine, spirits and milk.
- Water including detection of off-odours in drinking water and pollutants in watercourses.
- Fragranced goods including profiling of aromaactive compounds in personal care products.
- Clinical research including analysis of bodily fluids for disease markers.



 Foodstuffs – including dairy products, fruit/vegetables, dried goods, and much more.

Typical HiSorb applications



Aromatics in coffee: Heterocycles (•) make a major contribution to coffee flavour, and (amongst many other compounds) are readily sampled using HiSorb.



Lactones in milk: Analysis of semi-skimmed milk using HiSorb uncovered four δ -lactones that may contribute creamy/fatty 'notes' to the aroma.



Bacterial VOCs in bodily fluids:

The mix of volatiles in this artificial sputum sample indicate the presence of the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus*.









Esters in whisky:

Esters are a major contributor to the aroma of whisky, and are often present at low levels. These two datasets show how the analyte range and sensitivity can be expanded by using three-phase HiSorb probes rather than the equivalent SPME fibers. Contact us for more information about these examples, or other applications of HiSorb



Improved responses:

Three-phase HiSorb probes show improved responses for a range of whisky compounds, compared to the equivalent three-phase SPME fiber.



Better coverage of SVOCs:

The three-phase HiSorb chromatogram has a similar overall profile to that for three-phase SPME, but with a significant improvement in sensitivity, due to the increase in the number and quantity of analytes extracted. As shown in the expansion, the sensitivity for SVOCs (boiling point $>C_{16}$) shows a particular improvement relative to SPME.

Outstanding analytical capability

The benefits of thermal desorption

HiSorb probes are analysed by TD – a versatile preconcentration technology for GC–MS that is used to analyse VOCs and SVOCs in a wide range of sample types.





For full automation of HiSorb sampling and analysis, Markes offers Centri[®], which gives unrivalled flexibility for unattended, rapid and efficient extraction and enrichment of VOCs and SVOCs. With its four sampling modes and modular design, Centri offers maximum versatility for liquid, solid and gaseous samples.



All Markes' TD instruments offer optional sample splitting and re-collection.

One of the many benefits of this feature is the ability to repeat an analysis on exactly the same sample to confirm the results, or to obtain data using a complementary detection method. The fidelity of the re-collection process is demonstrated here by repeat analysis of odorous analytes spiked into drinking water, sampled using HiSorb.

At the heart of every TD instrument is a narrow-bore sorbent-packed focusing trap on which analytes are concentrated, and then released to a GC(–MS) in a small volume of carrier gas for maximum sensitivity.

Versatile probes

Phases for every application

A range of HiSorb probes are available from Markes International:

- Four phase combinations cover the full range of VOCs and SVOCs encountered in the major applications.
- Probes are available in stainless steel or inert-coated stainless steel, with the latter suitable for reactive species.
- Standard-length probes are suitable for immersive sampling from 20 mL vials, while a short version can be used for immersive sampling from 10 mL vials, or headspace sampling from 20 mL vials.

All probes are provided in packs of six.

Phase	Probe material	Length	Part number
PDMS Suitable for volatiles to non-polar semi-volatiles	Inert-coated	Standard	H1-AXAAC
		Short	H1-AXABC
	Stainless steel	Standard	H1-XXAAC
		Short	H1-XXABC
PDMS/CWR Suitable for lower molecular weight compounds	Inert-coated	Standard	H2-AXAAC
		Short	H2-AXABC
	Stainless steel	Standard	H2-XXAAC
		Short	H2-XXABC
PDMS/DVB Suitable for volatiles, amines and polar compounds	Inert-coated	Standard	H3-AXAAC
		Short	H3-AXABC
	Stainless steel	Standard	H3-XXAAC
		Short	H3-XXABC
DVB/CWR/PDMS Suitable for volatiles, semi-volatiles and flavour compounds	Inert-coated	Standard	H4-AXAAC
		Short	H4-AXABC
	Stainless steel	Standard	H4-XXAAC
		Short	H4-XXABC



To complete your HiSorb setup, we also offer a standalone Agitator for heating and agitation during sample extraction, and a starter kit with a range of accessories, including vials, septa, and tools for manual probe extraction.







For the full HiSorb range, see: markes.com/shop/products/hisorb

Markes International

World-leading technologies and unmatched expertise in VOC and SVOC monitoring

For nearly 25 years, Markes International has been helping analysts worldwide enhance the power of GC–MS analysis through thermal desorption and other sample preparation techniques.

We manufacture a comprehensive range of instrumentation, accessories and consumables, providing customers with everything they need for VOC and SVOC analysis. At the same time, our quest for innovation and deep application knowledge mean that we lead the way with new technologies, and are always in touch with emerging industry trends.

We're headquartered in Bridgend, UK, and support our customers in over 60 countries through a network of offices and distribution partners.

Discover more – Deliver more



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