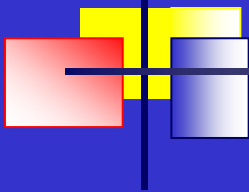


# EVALUATION OF VARIOUS NEBULIZERS FOR USE IN MICROWAVE INDUCED PLASMA OPTICAL EMISSION SPECTROMETRY

Henryk Matusiewicz <sup>a</sup>, Antonio Canals <sup>b</sup>

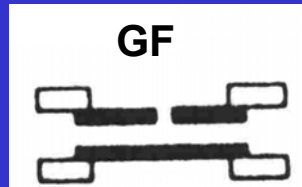
<sup>a</sup> *Politechnika Poznańska, Department of Analytical Chemistry, 60-965 Poznań, Poland.*

<sup>b</sup> *Departamento de Química Analítica, Nutrición y Bromatología, Universidad de Alicante,  
Apdo. 99, E-03080 Alicante, Spain.*

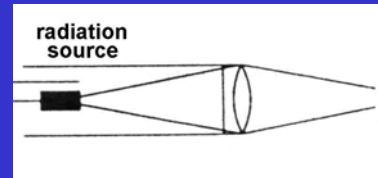


# Is it still possible, necessary and beneficial to perform research in analytical atomic spectrometry?

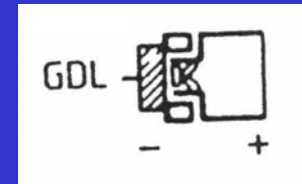
## AAS



## AFS



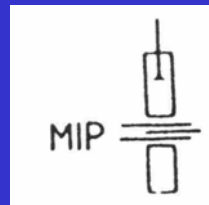
## GDL DISCHARGE



## ICP DISCHARGE



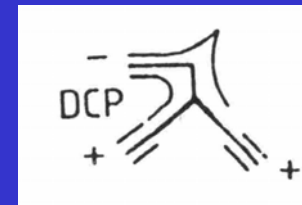
## MIP DISCHARGE

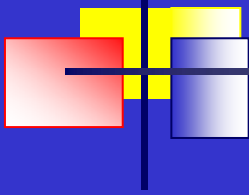


## CMP DISCHARGE



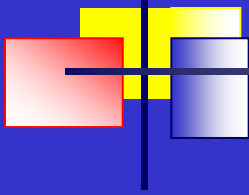
## DCP DISCHARGE



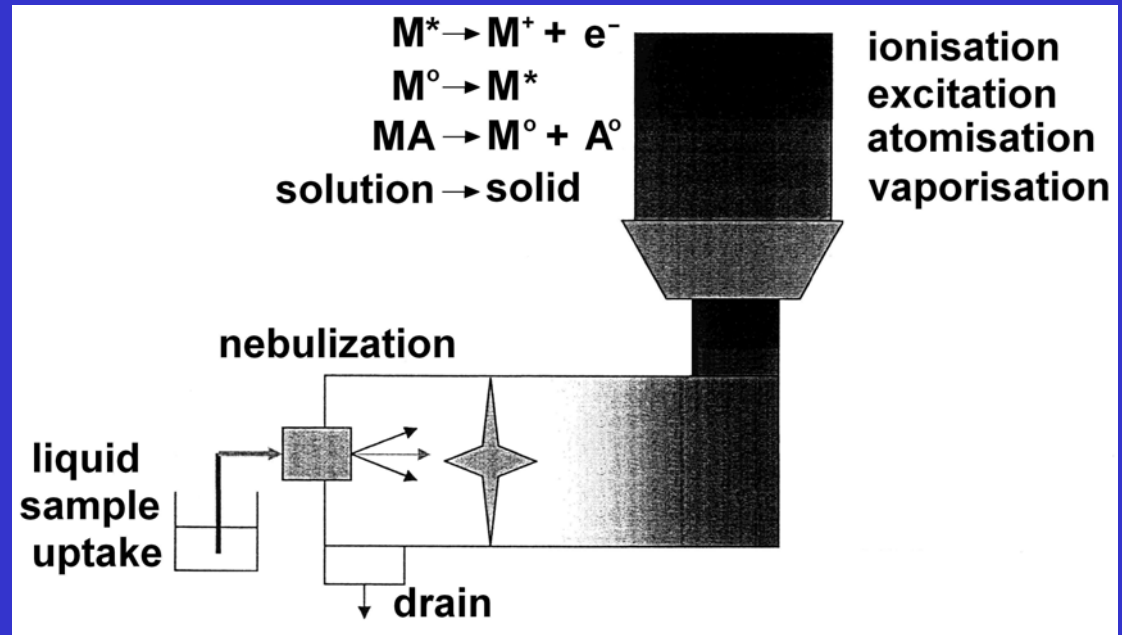
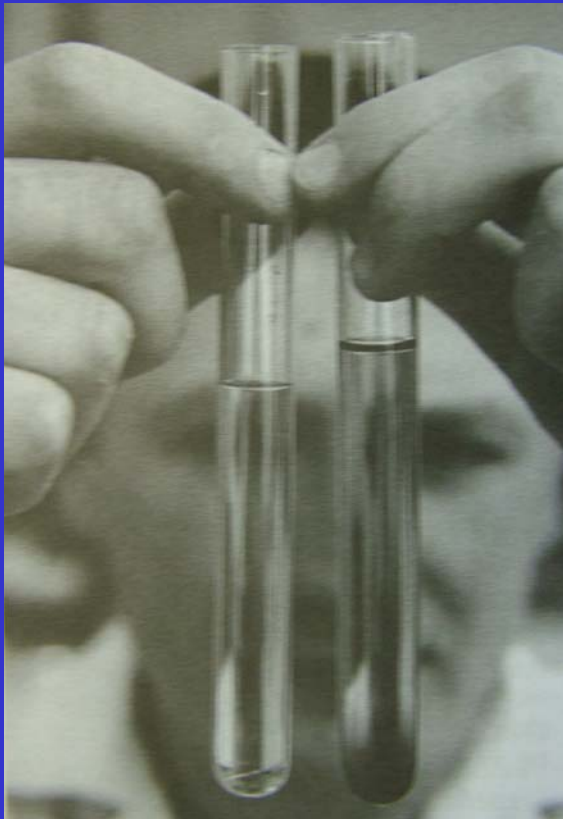


**Analytical atomic spectrometric techniques are still a most appropriate techniques for elemental determinations**

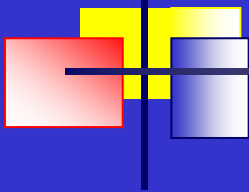
- **Atomic Absorption Spectrometry (AAS)**
  - **Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometry (OES)**
  - **Atomic Fluorescence spectrometry (AFS)**
- mainly due to its simplicity and low cost.**



**Solution nebulization or liquid sample aliquoting are the most common methods for introducing sample into atomic spectrometers.**

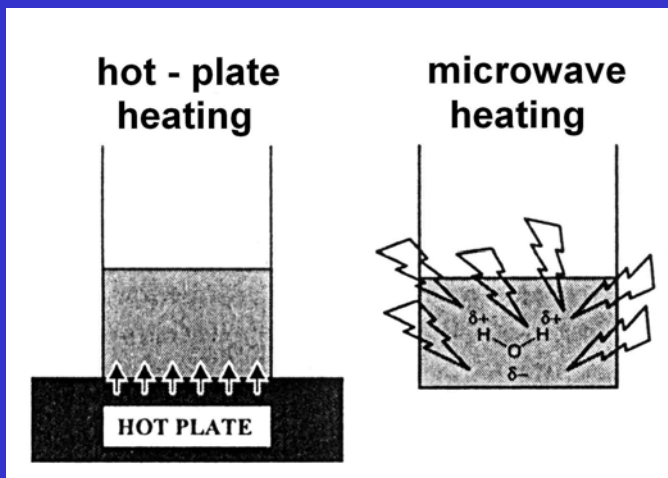


**PROCESSES IN A FLAME / PLASMA**

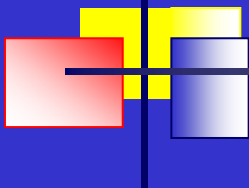


## ➤ MICROWAVE HEATING (MICROWAVE - ASSISTED WET DIGESTION)

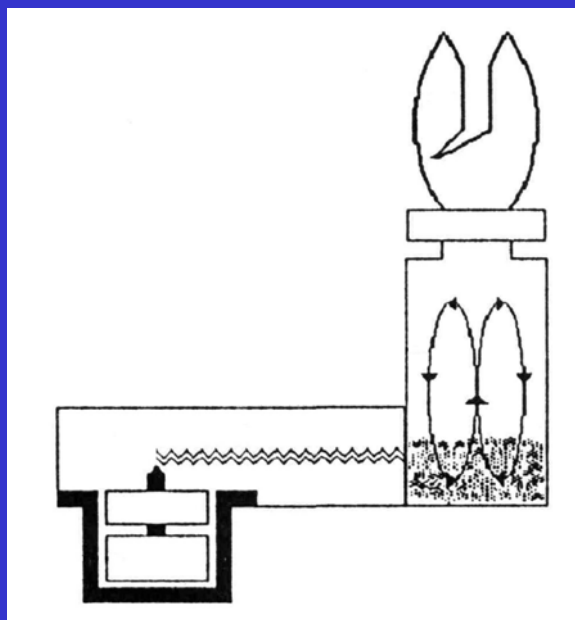
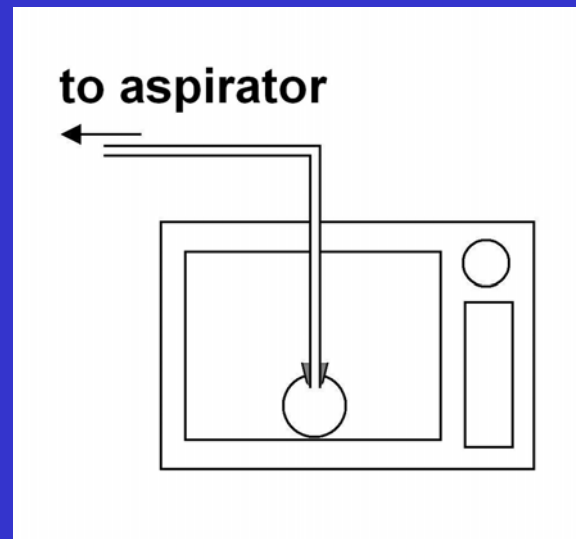
The most innovative source of energy for wet digestion procedure is **MICROWAVES**.



Analytical chemist first began using microwave techniques to wet digestion of biological samples in 1975 (the first paper published on microwave-assisted digestion).



A.Abu-Samra, J.S.Morris,  
S.R.Koirtyohann, *Anal.Chem.*,  
47, 1475 (1975)

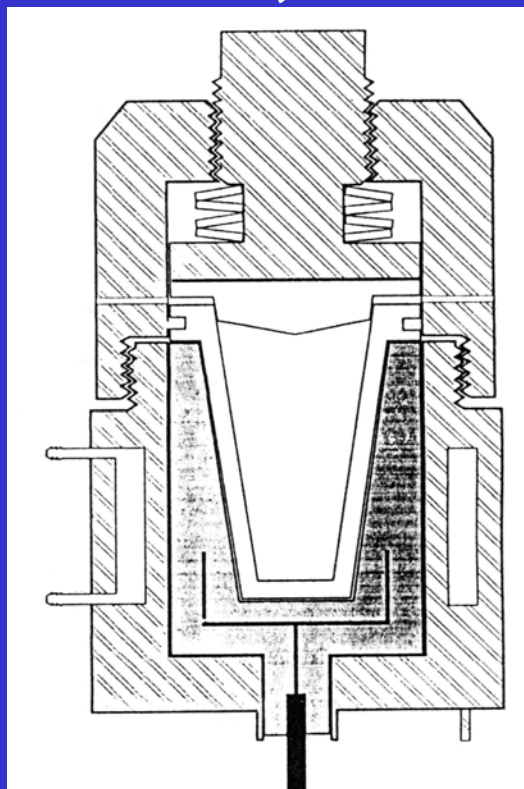


**The focused-microwave-assisted system is primarily used for atmospheric pressure digestions.**



It was developed a focused-microwave-heated bomb that would exceed the operational capabilities of existing microwave digestion systems and permit the construction of an integrated microwave source / bomb combination.

H.Matusiewicz, *Anal.Chem.*, 66, 751 (1994)

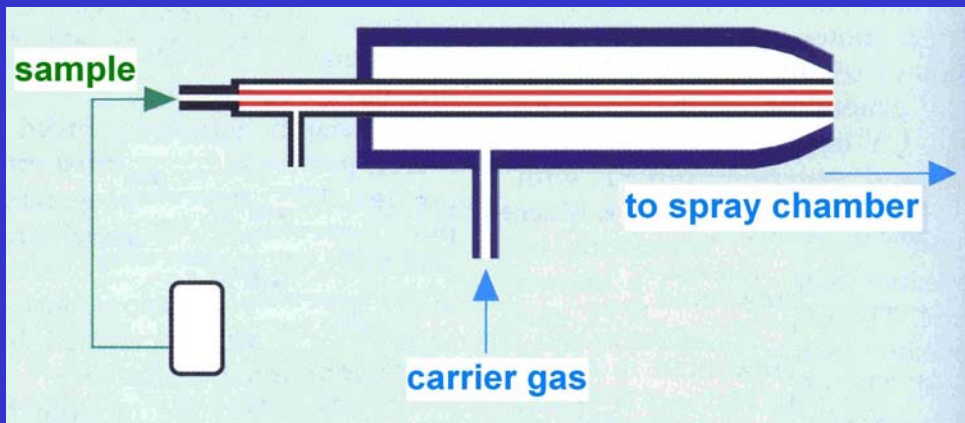


# LIQUID-SAMPLE INTRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

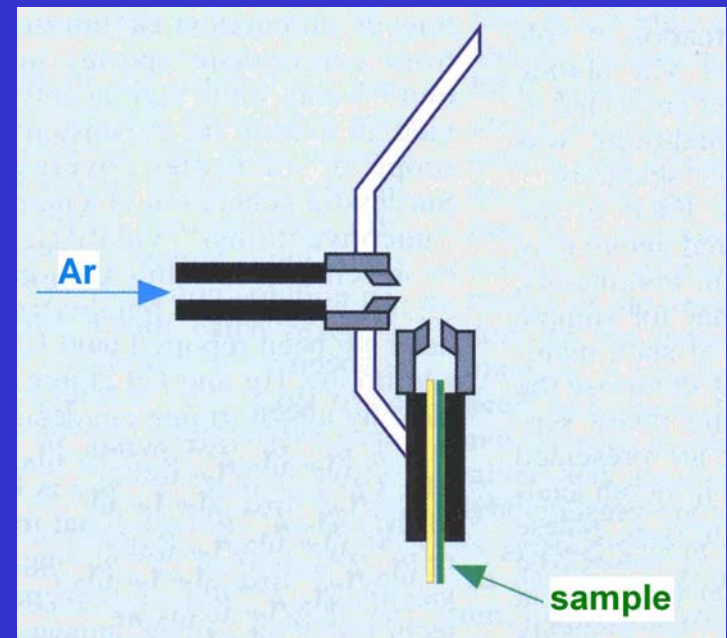


## ➤ PNEUMATIC NEBULIZATION

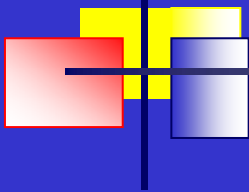
### CONCENTRIC NEBULIZER



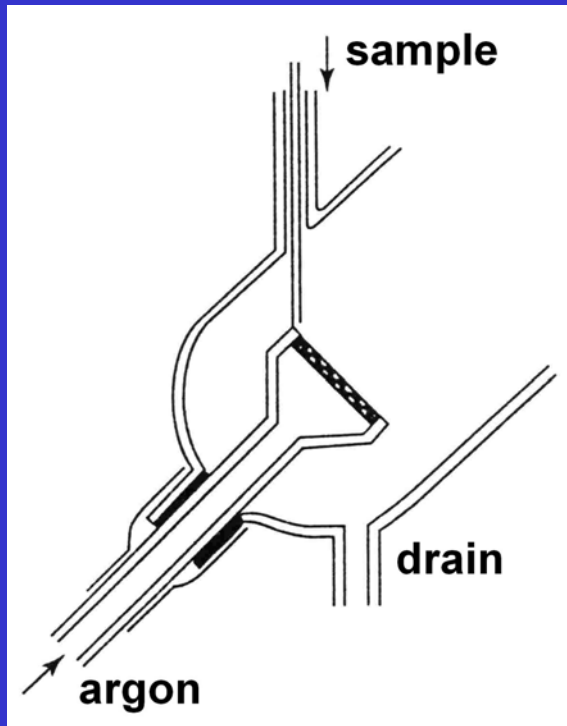
### CROSS-FLOW NEBULIZER



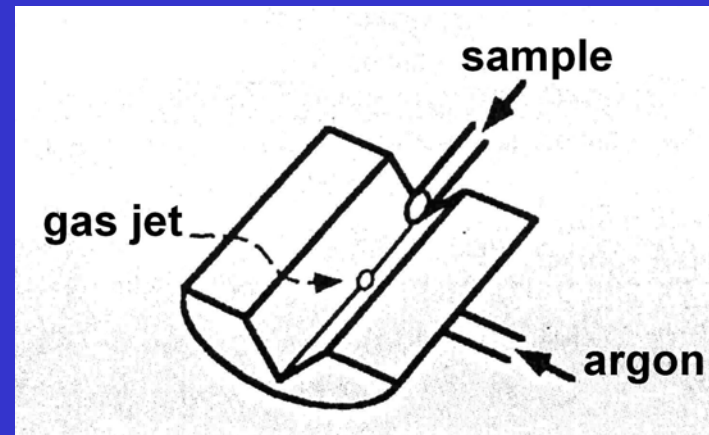




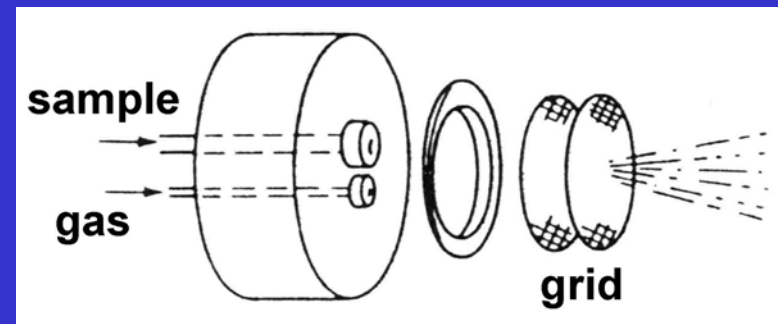
## FRITTED-DISC NEBULIZER

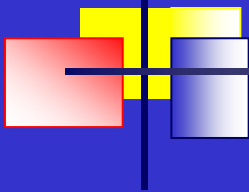


## VEE-GROOVE NEBULIZER

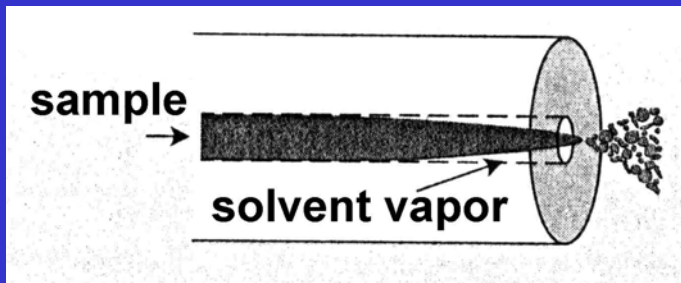
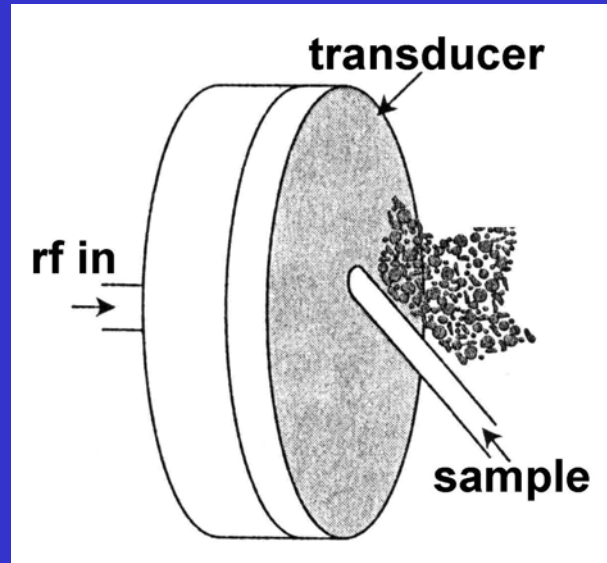


## GRID-TYPE NEBULIZER

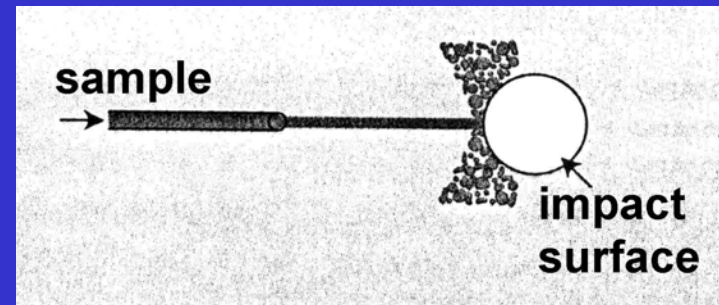




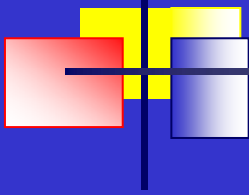
## ➤ ULTRASONIC NEBULIZATION



## ➤ THERMOSPRAY

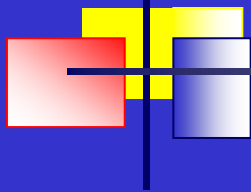


## ➤ JET IMPACTION

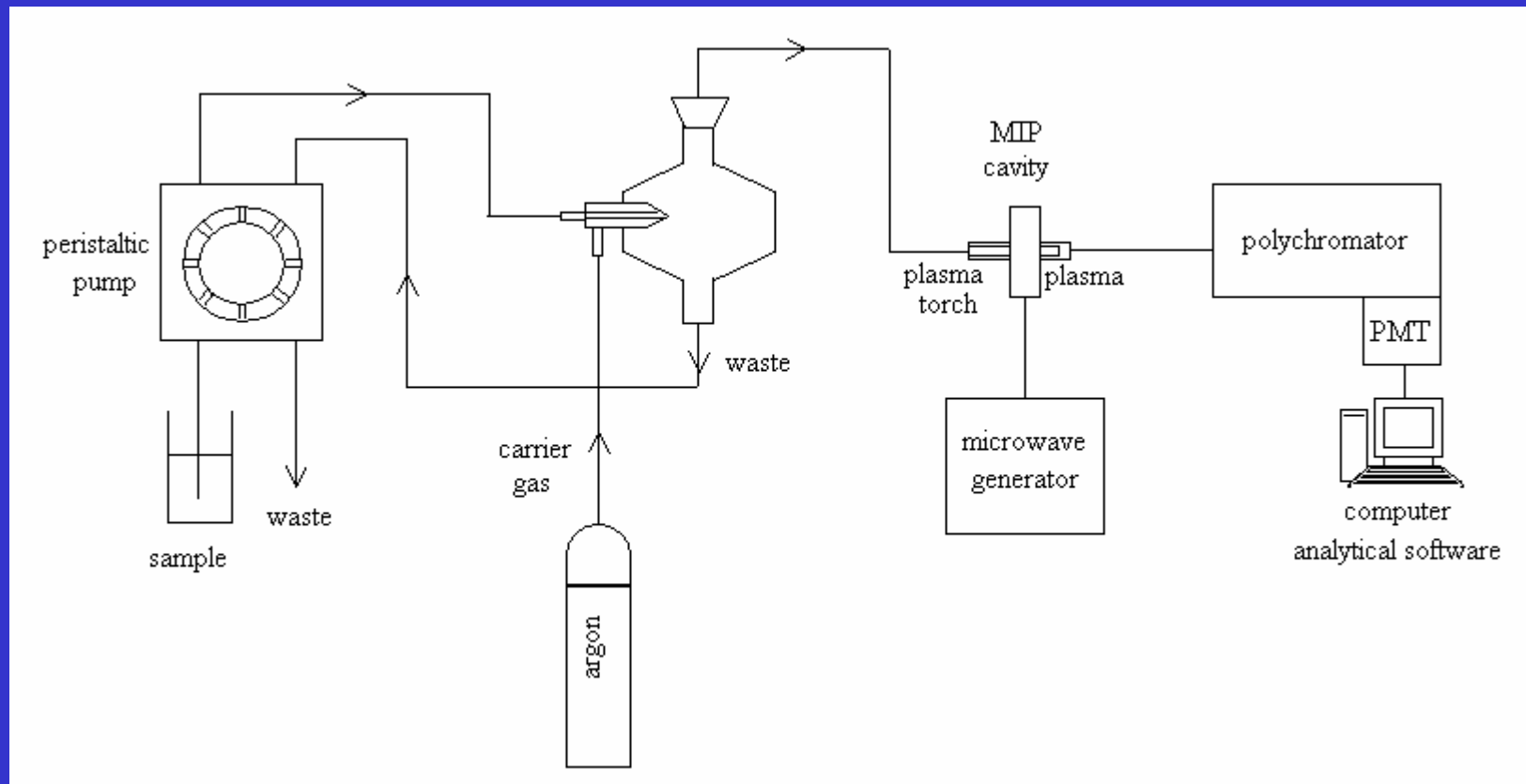


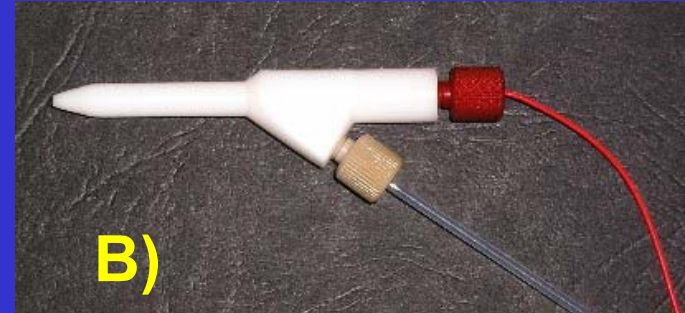
## ➤ MICROFLOW – SCALE NEBULIZERS

- **microconcentric**
- **high efficiency**
- **direct injection**
- **micro – mist**
- **micro – ultrasonic**

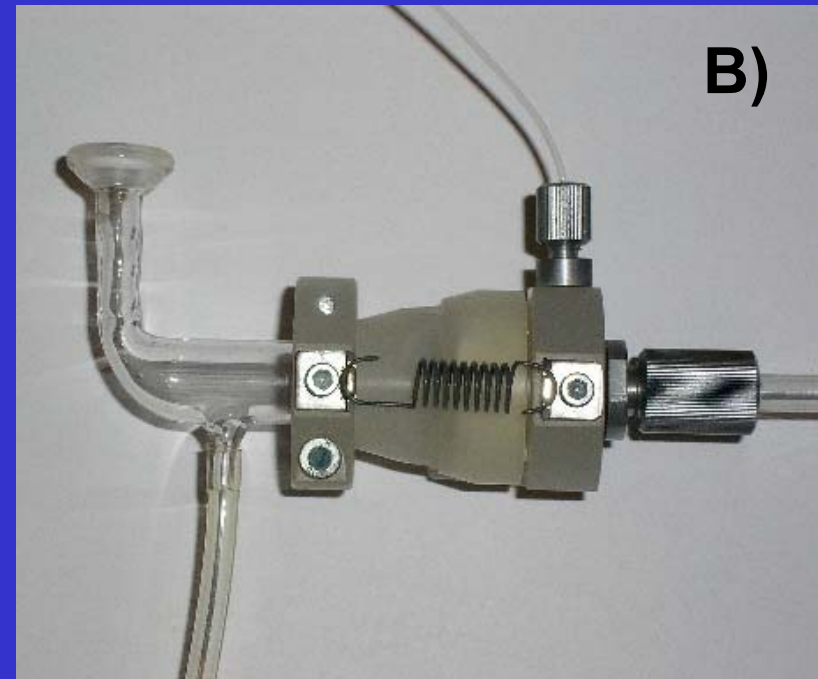
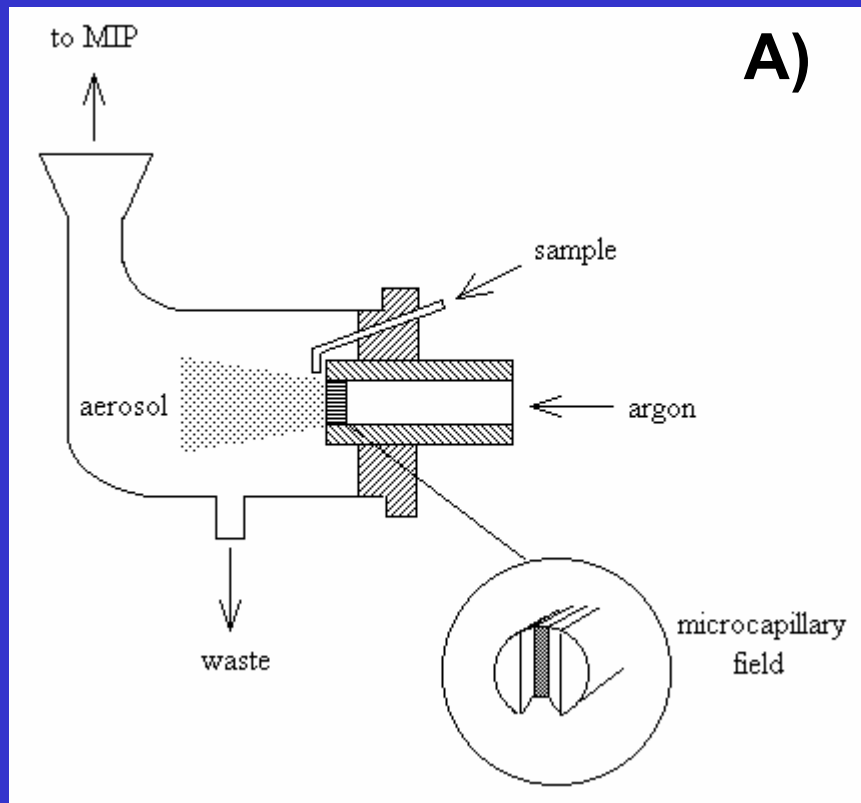
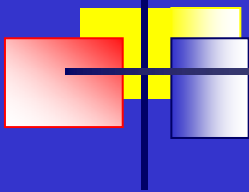


## Component diagram of the elaborated nebulizer-MIP-OES system

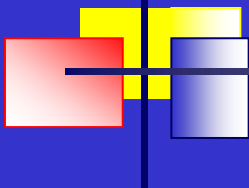




- Pictures of the nebulizers:**
- A) conventional pneumatic concentric nebulizer (PN, Meinhard);**
  - B) micro 3 (M3);**
  - C) flow focusing pneumatic nebulizer (FFPN)**

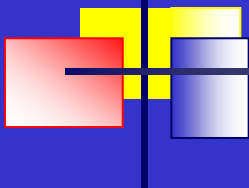


**NAR-1 microcapillary array nebulizer:  
A) schematic diagram; B) picture of the NAR-1**



## Instrumental parameters for Ar-MIP-OES system

<b>Microwave frequency</b>	2450 MHz
<b>Applied microwave plasma power</b>	100-200 W, variable
<b>Microwave cavity</b>	TE101 rectangular, water cooled
<b>Microwave generator</b>	700 W, MPC-01 (Plazmatronika Ltd., Wrocław, Poland)
<b>Plasma viewing mode</b>	Axial
<b>Plasma torch</b>	Quartz tube, 2.5 mm i.d., air cooled
<b>Plasma supporting argon flow rate</b>	400 ml min <sup>-1</sup>
<b>Integration time</b>	0.1 s
<b>Determination</b>	Simultaneous
<b>Wavelength/nm (line type)</b>	Ba 455.403 (II), Ca 317.933 (II), Ca 393.366 (II), Cd 226.502 (II), Cu 324.754 (I), Fe 238.204 (II), Mg 279.553 (II), Mg 285.213 (I), Mn 257.611 (II), Pb 405.783 (I), Sr 407.771 (II), Zn 213.857 (I), I 206.163 (I)

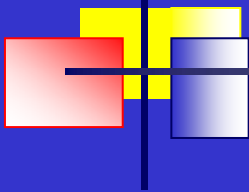


## Optimum operating conditions for MIP-OES measurement <sup>a</sup> of elements obtained by simplex and univariate methods

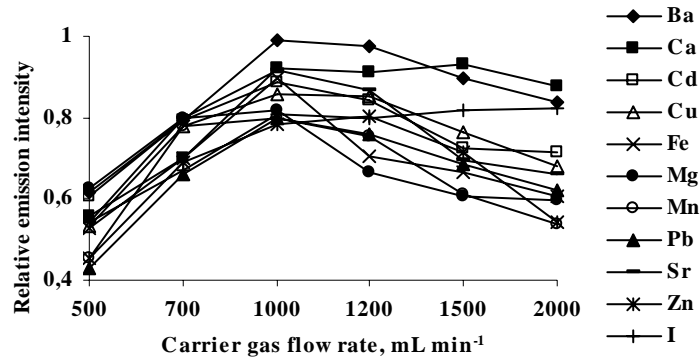
Parameter (variable)	Boundary limits of parameters, range				Univariate method				Simplex method			
	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1
Forward power, W	100-200	100-200	100-180	100-180	160	160	160	160	155	160	160	150
Sample carrier argon flow rate, ml min <sup>-1</sup>	400-2000	900-1500	600-1400	400-1000	1000	1200	1000	800	1050	1180	970	750
Sample liquid uptake rate (pumped), ml min <sup>-1</sup>	0.5-4.0	0.2-1.0	0.4-1.0	0.05-0.35	2.5	0.6	0.8	0.15	2.7	0.5	0.8	0.17

<sup>a</sup> Response, peak height of the element emission intensity

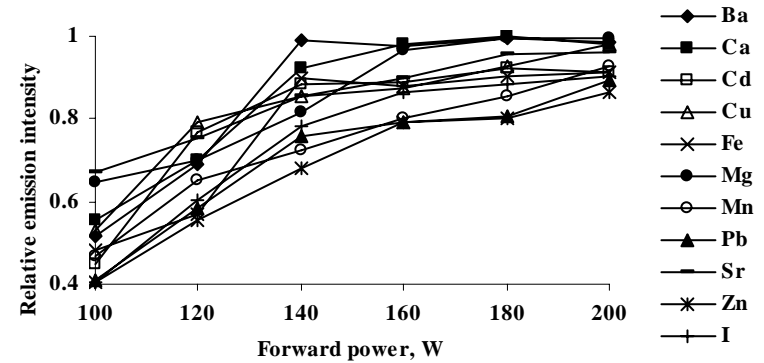




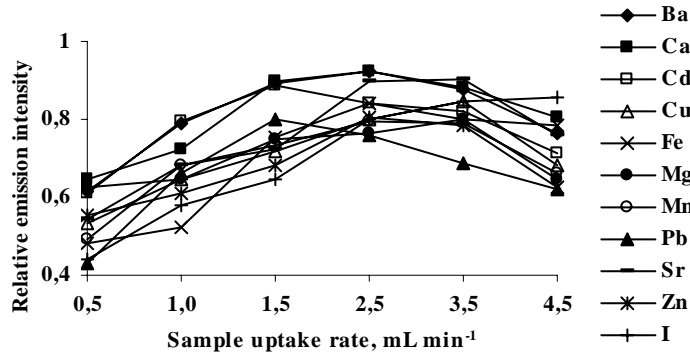
A)



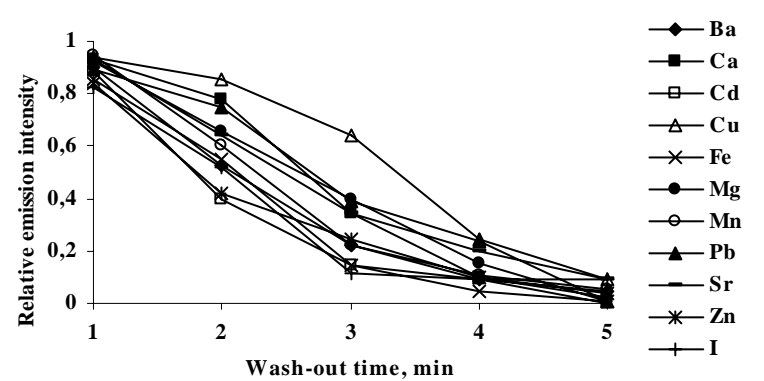
B)



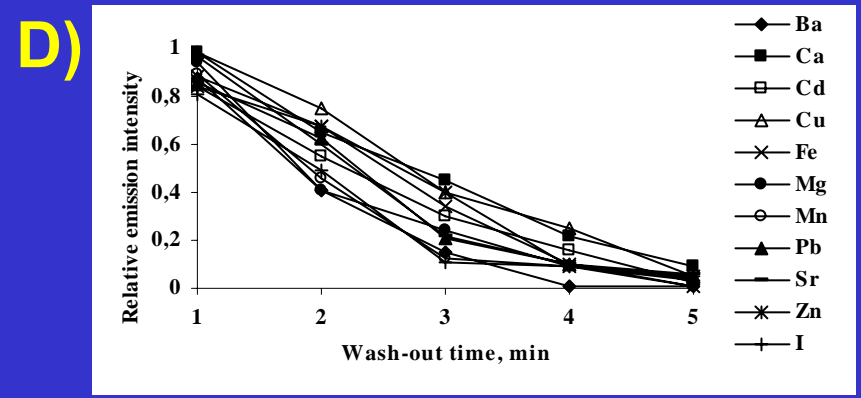
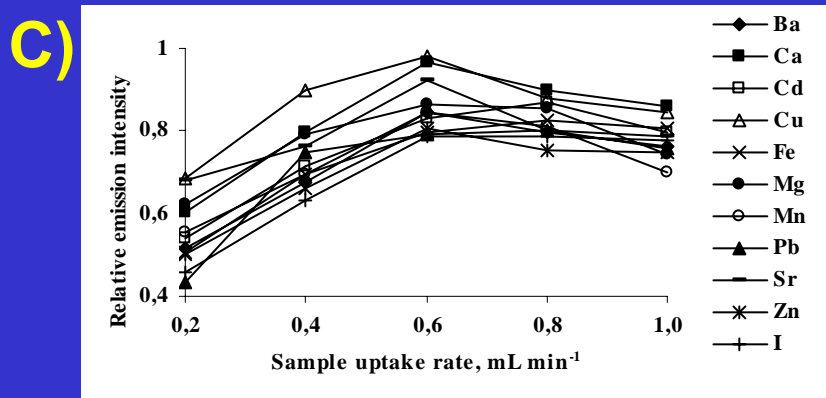
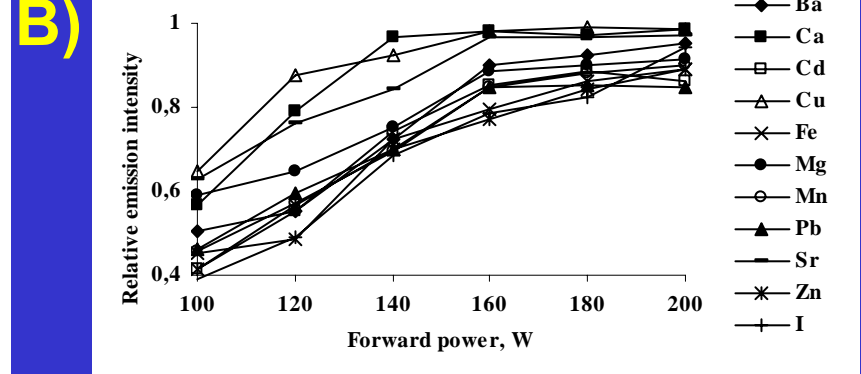
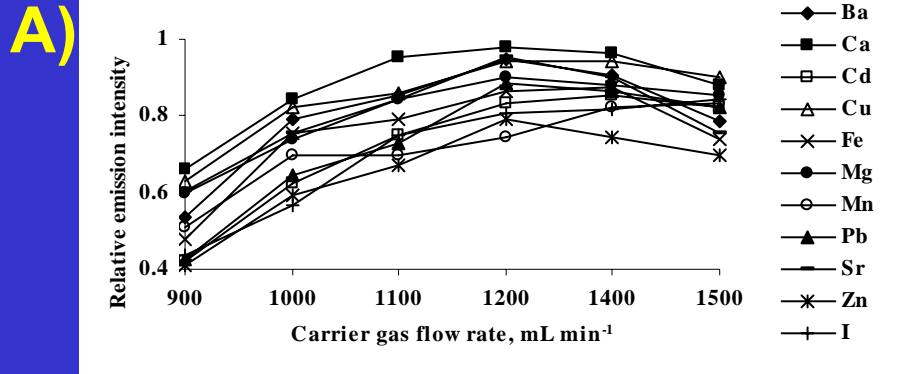
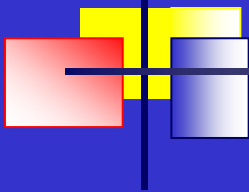
C)



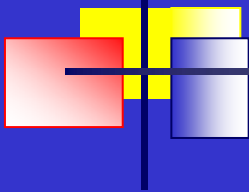
D)



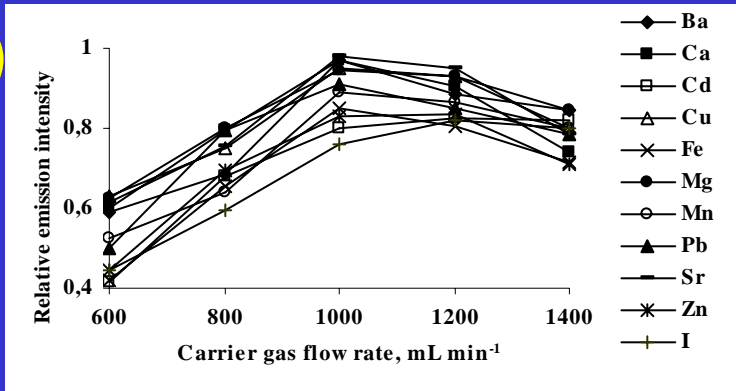
**Effect of the variables on the element's normalized emission intensity for pneumatic nebulizer (PN)**



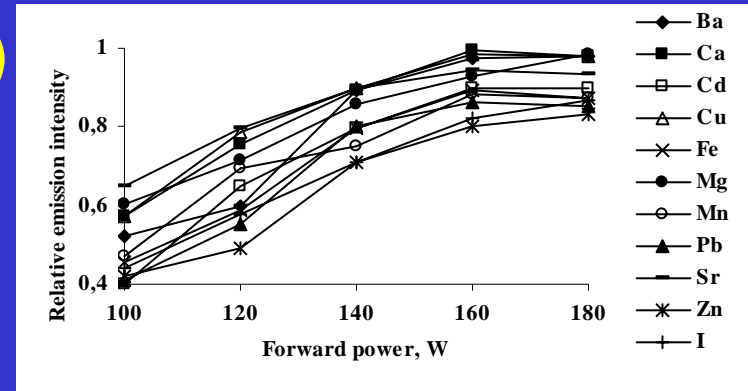
**Effect of the variables on the element's normalized emission intensity for micro 3 nebulizer (M3)**



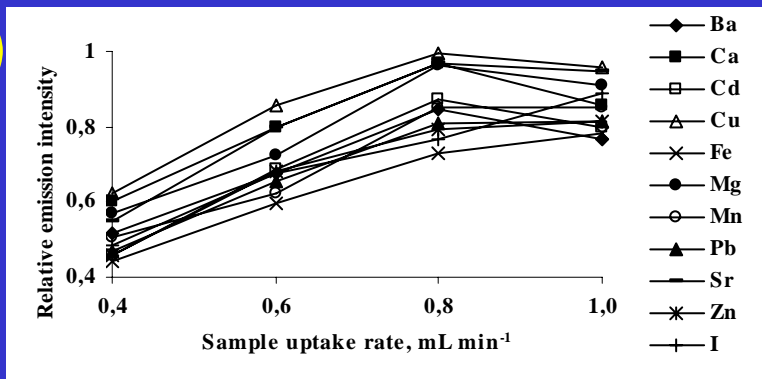
A)



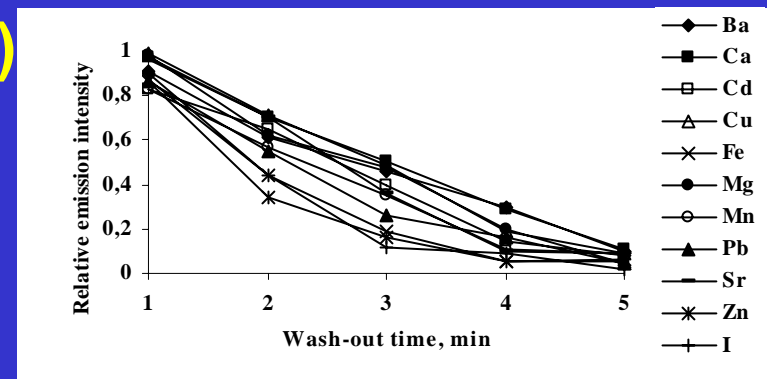
B)



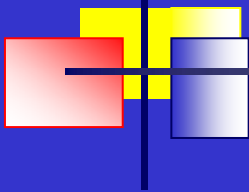
C)



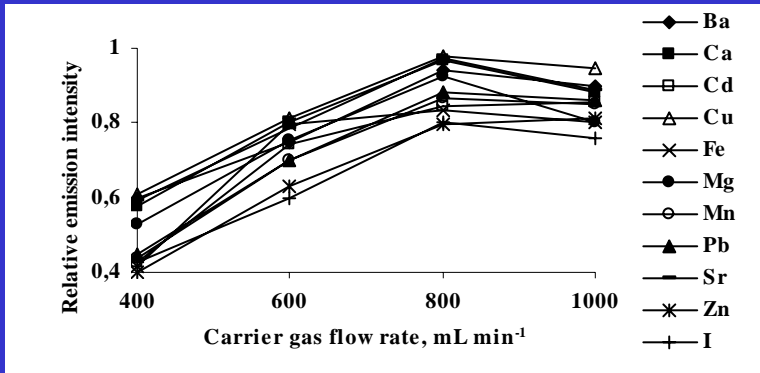
D)



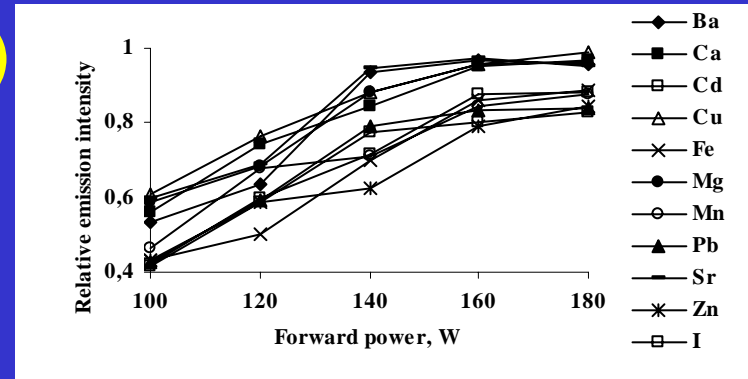
**Effect of the variables on the element's normalized emission intensity for flow focusing pneumatic nebulizer (FFPN)**



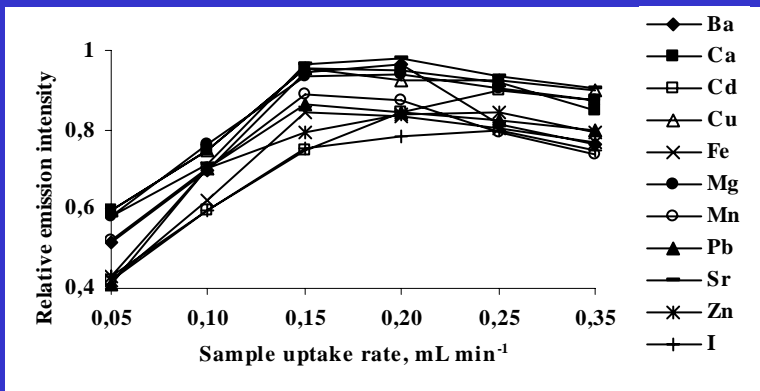
A)



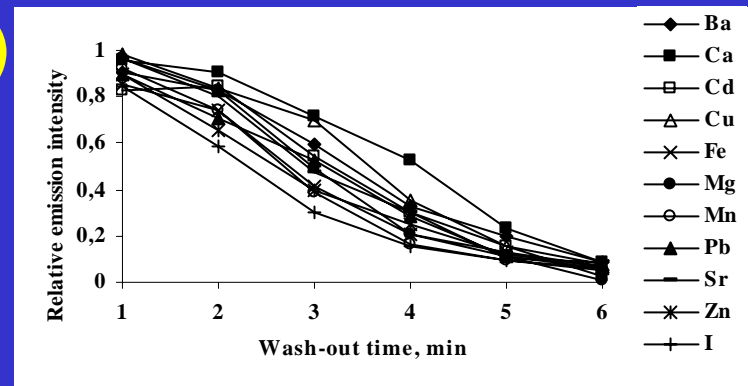
B)



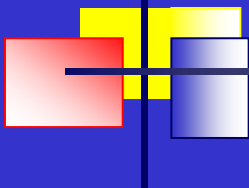
C)



D)

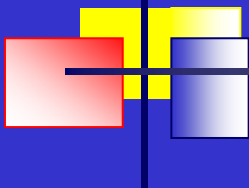


**Effect of the variables on the element's normalized emission intensity for microcapillary nebulizer (NAR-1)**



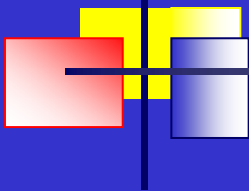
## Optimum operating conditions for the determination of elements in soluble materials by Ar-MIP-OES *via* liquid nebulization systems

Parameter	Nebulizers			
	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1
Applied power, W	160	160	160	155
Nebulizer pressure, bar	3	3	4	5
Sample carrier gas flow rate, ml min <sup>-1</sup>	1000	1200	1000	800
Sample liquid uptake rate (pumped), ml min <sup>-1</sup>	2.5	0.6	0.8	0.15



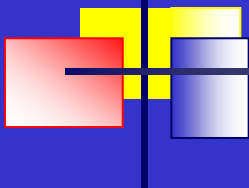
## Limits of detection LOD ( $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ ) values for the elements and nebulizers tested

Element	Analysis wavelength (nm)	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1
Ba	455.403	0.099	0.046	0.020	0.044
Ca	393.366	0.049	0.020	0.007	0.030
Cd	226.502	0.055	0.030	0.010	0.028
Cu	324.745	0.010	0.010	0.007	0.008
Fe	238.204	0.078	0.079	0.020	0.062
Mg	285.213	0.068	0.009	0.004	0.006
Mn	257.611	0.011	0.008	0.004	0.006
Pb	405.783	0.069	0.059	0.008	0.022
Sr	407.713	0.025	0.007	0.004	0.007
Zn	213.857	0.080	0.067	0.010	0.008
I	206.163	12.3	11.4	11.0	10.0



## Background equivalent concentration BEC ( $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ ) values for the elements and nebulizers tested

Element	Analysis wavelength (nm)	PN	M3	FFPN	NAR-1
Ba	455.403	0.221	0.108	0.052	0.100
Ca	393.366	0.120	0.052	0.020	0.009
Cd	226.502	0.104	0.055	0.024	0.084
Cu	324.745	0.028	0.041	0.018	0.036
Fe	238.204	0.184	0.175	0.047	0.137
Mg	285.213	0.140	0.020	0.012	0.014
Mn	257.611	0.028	0.017	0.014	0.013
Pb	405.783	0.144	0.125	0.019	0.039
Sr	407.713	0.059	0.017	0.011	0.019
Zn	213.857	0.172	0.148	0.028	0.015
I	206.163	26.8	23.6	20.9	20.7

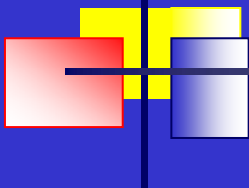


## Aerosol MIP-OES analysis (concentrations in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1} \pm \text{SD}$ of three parallel determinations) of certified (standard) reference materials using pneumatic nebulizer (PN)

Element	Lobster Hepatopancreas NRCC TORT-1		Human Hair NIES CRM-13	
	Found value	Certified value	Found value	Certified value
<b>Ba</b>	-	-	<DL <sup>a</sup>	2 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Ca</b>	0.826 % $\pm$ 0.075	0.895 % $\pm$ 0.058	835 $\pm$ 74	820 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Cd</b>	30.1 $\pm$ 5.1	26.3 $\pm$ 2.1	<DL <sup>a</sup>	0.23 $\pm$ 0.03
<b>Cu</b>	441 $\pm$ 43	439 $\pm$ 22	16.7 $\pm$ 1.5	15.3 $\pm$ 1.2
<b>Fe</b>	200 $\pm$ 28	186 $\pm$ 11	153 $\pm$ 21	140 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Mg</b>	0.239 % $\pm$ 0.021	0.255% $\pm$ 0.025	169 $\pm$ 14	160 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Mn</b>	26.4 $\pm$ 3.1	23.4 $\pm$ 1.0	4.9 $\pm$ 0.6	3.9 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Pb</b>	11.1 $\pm$ 1.3	10.4 $\pm$ 2.0	5.4 $\pm$ 0.7	4.6 $\pm$ 0.4
<b>Sr</b>	118 $\pm$ 11	113 $\pm$ 5	-	-
<b>Zn</b>	194 $\pm$ 25	177 $\pm$ 10	184 $\pm$ 24	172 $\pm$ 10

<sup>a</sup> Below detection limit    <sup>b</sup> Non-certified value

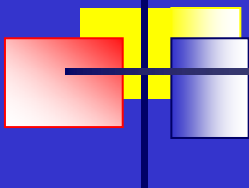




## Aerosol MIP-OES analysis (concentrations in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1} \pm \text{SD}$ of three parallel determinations) of certified (standard) reference materials using micro3 nebulizer (M3)

Element	Lobster Hepatopancreas NRCC TORT-1		Human Hair NIES CRM-13	
	Found value	Certified value	Found value	Certified value
<b>Ba</b>	-	-	$3.1 \pm 0.5$	2 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ca</b>	$0.843 \% \pm 0.094$	$0.895 \% \pm 0.058$	$829 \pm 91$	820 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Cd</b>	$28.6 \pm 3.40$	$26.3 \pm 2.1$	<DL <sup>b</sup>	$0.23 \pm 0.03$
<b>Cu</b>	$445 \pm 44$	$439 \pm 22$	$16.2 \pm 1.6$	$15.3 \pm 1.2$
<b>Fe</b>	$193 \pm 24.08$	$186 \pm 11$	$149 \pm 18$	140 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mg</b>	$0.241 \% \pm 0.023$	$0.255\% \pm 0.025$	$166 \pm 17$	160 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mn</b>	$25.9 \pm 2.51$	$23.4 \pm 1.0$	$4.6 \pm 0.5$	3.9 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Pb</b>	$11.6 \pm 0.93$	$10.4 \pm 2.0$	$5.5 \pm 0.6$	$4.6 \pm 0.4$
<b>Sr</b>	$116 \pm 10$	$113 \pm 5$	-	-
<b>Zn</b>	$189 \pm 24.5$	$177 \pm 10$	$181 \pm 24$	$172 \pm 10$

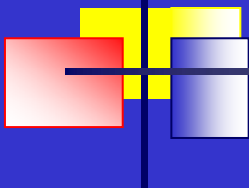
<sup>a</sup> Non-certified value <sup>b</sup> Below detection limit



## Aerosol MIP-OES analysis (concentrations in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1} \pm \text{SD}$ of three parallel determinations) of certified (standard) reference materials using focusing pneumatic nebulizer (FFPN)

Element	Lobster Hepatopancreas NRCC TORT-1		Human Hair NIES CRM-13	
	Found value	Certified value	Found value	Certified value
<b>Ba</b>	-	-	$2.4 \pm 0.3$	2 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ca</b>	$0.885 \% \pm 0.081$	$0.895 \% \pm 0.058$	$826 \pm 73$	820 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Cd</b>	$27.1 \pm 2.6$	$26.3 \pm 2.1$	<DL <sup>b</sup>	$0.23 \pm 0.03$
<b>Cu</b>	$442 \pm 35$	$439 \pm 22$	$15.9 \pm 1.3$	$15.3 \pm 1.2$
<b>Fe</b>	$189 \pm 19$	$186 \pm 11$	$147 \pm 15$	140 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mg</b>	$0.252 \% \pm 0.026$	$0.255\% \pm 0.025$	$163 \pm 16$	160 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mn</b>	$24.0 \pm 2.2$	$23.4 \pm 1.0$	$4.1 \pm 0.4$	3.9 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Pb</b>	$10.8 \pm 1.0$	$10.4 \pm 2.0$	$4.9 \pm 0.4$	$4.6 \pm 0.4$
<b>Sr</b>	$115 \pm 9$	$113 \pm 5$	-	-
<b>Zn</b>	$183 \pm 20$	$177 \pm 10$	$175 \pm 19$	$172 \pm 10$

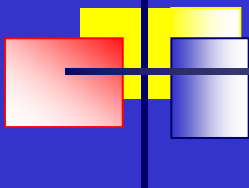
<sup>a</sup> Non-certified value <sup>b</sup> Below detection limit



## Aerosol MIP-OES analysis (concentrations in $\mu\text{g g}^{-1} \pm \text{SD}$ of three parallel determinations) of certified (standard) reference materials using microcapillary array nebulizer (NAR-1)

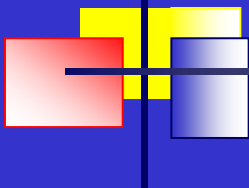
Element	Lobster Hepatopancreas NRCC TORT-1		Human Hair NIES CRM-13	
	Found value	Certified value	Found value	Certified value
<b>Ba</b>	-	-	$3.0 \pm 0.4$	2 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Ca</b>	$0.856\% \pm 0.099$	$0.895\% \pm 0.058$	$831 \pm 84$	820 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Cd</b>	$28.2 \pm 3.7$	$26.3 \pm 2.1$	<DL <sup>b</sup>	$0.23 \pm 0.03$
<b>Cu</b>	$440 \pm 52$	$439 \pm 22$	$16.2 \pm 1.9$	$15.3 \pm 1.2$
<b>Fe</b>	$192 \pm 23$	$186 \pm 11$	$152 \pm 18$	140 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mg</b>	$0.248\% \pm 0.25$	$0.255\% \pm 0.025$	$165 \pm 116$	160 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Mn</b>	$24.5 \pm 2.7$	$23.4 \pm 1.0$	$4.3 \pm 0.5$	3.9 <sup>a</sup>
<b>Pb</b>	$11.2 \pm 1.1$	$10.4 \pm 2.0$	$5.1 \pm 0.5$	$4.6 \pm 0.4$
<b>Sr</b>	$115 \pm 10$	$113 \pm 5$	-	-
<b>Zn</b>	$179 \pm 21$	$177 \pm 10$	$177 \pm 21$	$172 \pm 10$

<sup>a</sup> Non-certified value <sup>b</sup> Below detection limit



**Determination of elements**  
**(concentrations in %  $\pm$  SD of three parallel analyses)**  
**in feminatal tablets, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**  
**using the MIP-OES method**

<b>Nebulizers</b>					
<b>Element</b>	<b>PN</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>FFPN</b>	<b>NAR-1</b>	<b>Information value (%)</b>
	<b>Found</b>	<b>Found</b>	<b>Found</b>	<b>Found</b>	
<b>Ca</b>	<b>0.151 <math>\pm</math> 0.014</b>	<b>0.160 <math>\pm</math> 0.018</b>	<b>0.142 <math>\pm</math> 0.013</b>	<b>0.149 <math>\pm</math> 0.0138</b>	<b>0.120</b>
<b>Cu</b>	<b>0.173 <math>\pm</math> 0.016</b>	<b>0.165 <math>\pm</math> 0.016</b>	<b>0.160 <math>\pm</math> 0.013</b>	<b>0.167 <math>\pm</math> 0.017</b>	<b>0.143</b>
<b>Fe</b>	<b>4.51 <math>\pm</math> 0.63</b>	<b>4.39 <math>\pm</math> 0.56</b>	<b>4.17 <math>\pm</math> 0.40</b>	<b>4.33 <math>\pm</math> 0.42</b>	<b>3.99</b>
<b>Mg</b>	<b>10.6 <math>\pm</math> 8.2</b>	<b>10.4 <math>\pm</math> 9.4</b>	<b>10.2 <math>\pm</math> 0.10</b>	<b>10.4 <math>\pm</math> 1.13</b>	<b>9.98</b>
<b>Mn</b>	<b>0.161 <math>\pm</math> 0.017</b>	<b>0.157 <math>\pm</math> 0.016</b>	<b>0.150 <math>\pm</math> 0.014</b>	<b>0.155 <math>\pm</math> 0.016</b>	<b>0.143</b>
<b>Zn</b>	<b>1.84 <math>\pm</math> 0.24</b>	<b>1.92 <math>\pm</math> 0.21</b>	<b>1.65 <math>\pm</math> 0.18</b>	<b>2.25 <math>\pm</math> 0.23</b>	<b>2.14</b>



**Determination of iodine (three parallel analyses)  
in iodide tablets, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany  
using the MIP-OES method**

<b>Sample</b>	<b>NAR-1 nebulizer</b>	
	<b>Found value</b>	<b>Information value</b>
<b>Brine</b>	<b>211 ± 24 µg ml<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Tablet</b>	<b>916 ± 115 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>	<b>799 µg g<sup>-1</sup></b>