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# Elemental and isotopic analysis: solutions for food authenticity, quality and safety

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Sales representative Inorganic Mass Spectrometry September 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 RAFA 2022

The world leader in serving science



# Agenda



Food analysis using triple quadrupole ICP-MS

2 Elemental analysis workflow

2 Isotope analysis workflow





# Food analysis using triple quadrupole ICP-MS

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# **Regulatory limits**

- Regulations for nutritional and toxic elements in baby foods vary globally
- Toxic elements low limits subject to regular amendments!
- The Baby Food Safety Act introduced on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in US reduces low limits for heavy metals in baby foods e.g., Hg → 2 µg·kg<sup>-1</sup>

Toxic element	Lowest limit value globally (µg∙kg <sup>⁻1</sup> )	Target conc. = 30% of the limit ∼MLOQ (µg⋅kg <sup>-1</sup> )
As	10	3.0
Cd	5	1.5
Hg	2	0.6
Pb	5	1.5
Sn	5000	1500

Toxic element	Lowest limit value globally (µg∙kg <sup>⁻1</sup> )	Target conc. = 30% of the limit ∼MLOQ (µg∙kg⁻¹)	Commonly analyzed isotope	Potential interferences
As	10	3.0	<sup>75</sup> As+	<sup>150</sup> Nd++, <sup>150</sup> Sm++
Cd	5	1.5	<sup>111</sup> Cd+	<sup>95</sup> Mo <sup>16</sup> O+
Hg	2	0.6	<sup>202</sup> Hg <sup>+</sup>	186 <mark>W</mark> 16 <b>O</b> +
Pb	5	1.5	<sup>206-208</sup> Pb <sup>+</sup>	-
Sn	5000	1500	<sup>118</sup> Sn+	-



# As determination using SQ ICP-MS with KED mode



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What happens if we use a reactive gas?

# As determination using SQ ICP-MS with O2 mode



What happens when we add an extra quadrupole?

#### Why do we need another quadrupole?

#### Consider analysis of As using TQ-ICP-MS with Collison/Reaction Cell – O<sub>2</sub> mode



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Interference free analysis with iCAP TQe ICP-MS system

#### Impact of interferences



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#### **Doubly charged interferences cause enhancement effects**

#### Which type of ICP-MS should be used?



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# **Analysis of Baby food**

#### Instrument configuration

- iCAP TQe ICP-MS
- ASX560 with ASXPRESS<sup>®</sup> PLUS (Teledyne Cetac Technologies)
- O<sub>2</sub> mode utilized for all analysis
- 1 minute 19 seconds analysis time

#### **Sample Preparation**

- 0.4 ± 0.05 g of dry sample or 2.0 g of wet sample + 5 ml HNO<sub>3</sub> + 1 ml HCl
- Closed vessel microwave digestion for 20 mins at 1200 W
- Dilution factors 125x for dry samples, 25x for wet samples



# **Thermo Scientific™ iCAP™ TQe Instrument Parameters**

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- Footprint Smallest footprint of any ICP-MS
- **SEM** with improved lifetime
- 2 Quadrupole Dwell times 0.2 s for As, Hg, Se; 0.1 s for Cd, Fe, Pb, Sb, Sn; 0.05 s for others. 5 sweeps, 3 main runs
- **3 QCell**  $O_2$  mode only
- Additional 'Q1' quadrupole for best interference removal
- 5 Interface settings RF power 1550 W Nebulizer : Borosilicate glass micromist, 400 μL·min<sup>-1</sup> at Ar flow rate 1.13 L·min<sup>-1</sup>
  - **MFC** 100% O<sub>2</sub>, 0.34 mL·min<sup>-1</sup> or 0.7 mL·min<sup>-1</sup> (analyte dependent)



#### Robust and innovative design for greater ease of use

#### Thermo Fisher SCIENTIFIC

# **Detection limits**

- Instrument detection limit (IDL) based on standard deviation of blank concentrations
- Instrumental limit of quantification (ILOQ) in solution
  - 3 x IDL
- Method LOQ in baby food samples (MLOQ)
  - 125 x LOQ for powders
  - 25 x LOQ for purees

**Toxic elements** 

Element	R <sup>2</sup>	BEC (µg∙L⁻¹)	IDL (μg·L⁻¹)	ILOQ = 3 x IDL (μg·L <sup>-1</sup> )	MLOQ in dry samples (125 x LOQ) (µg∙kg⁻¹)	MLOQ in puree or wet samples (25 x LOQ) (µg·kg <sup>-1</sup> )
<sup>75</sup> As	0.9995	0.002	0.004	0.012	1.44	0.29
<sup>9</sup> Be	0.9994	0.024	0.126	0.377	47.1	9.4
<sup>111</sup> Cd	> 0.9999	0.007	0.003	0.009	1.09	0.22
<sup>59</sup> Co	> 0.9999	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.49	0.10
<sup>52</sup> Cr	0.9993	0.028	0.032	0.096	12.0	2.4
<sup>63</sup> Cu	0.9996	0.024	0.013	0.040	5.0	1.0
<sup>56</sup> Fe	0.9993	0.190	0.058	0.174	21.8	4.4
<sup>202</sup> Hg	> 0.9999	0.002	0.0003	0.001	0.11	0.02
<sup>60</sup> Ni	0.9993	0.060	0.033	0.099	12.4	2.5
<sup>208</sup> Pb	> 0.9999	0.006	0.001	0.004	0.45	0.09
<sup>78</sup> Se	0.9999	0.005	0.010	0.030	3.7	0.7
<sup>118</sup> Sn	0.9998	0.015	0.003	0.009	1.11	0.22
<sup>51</sup> V	0.9995	0.059	0.021	0.064	8.0	1.6

Data for more elements can be found in AN 00209

#### Accuracy – analysis of certified reference materials



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**Excellent agreement with certified values achieved** 

#### **Robustness – QC standard recovery**

• QC standard concentration – 0.1 µg·kg<sup>-1</sup> Hg, 1 µg·kg<sup>-1</sup> other traces, 20 mg·kg<sup>-1</sup> major elements

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Consistent QC recovery obtained throughout the entire measurement time

# **Analysis of arsenic**

#### iCAP TQe – $O_2$ mass shift



# **Analysis of selenium**



# Food Nutrition & Safety Measurements Quality Assurance Program (FNSQAP) organized by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

	Dates	Samples	Nutritional Elements	Toxic Elements
FNSQAP		Infant Formula A	Na, K, Ca, Mg	-
Exercise 1 - Spring 2021	Samples received:	Infant Formula B		
	April 10, 2021	Baby Food A	-	As, Cd, Hg, Pb
		Baby Food B		
FNSQAP		Infant Formula B	Cr, Mo, Se	-
Exercise 2 - Spring 2022	Samples received:	Infant Formula C		
	May 10, 2022	Cocoa Powder	-	Cd, Pb
		Chocolate Drinking Mix		

• Three packets of each sample provided  $\rightarrow$  three results for each analyte required

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# **FNSQAP Ex-1, NIST**

#### Results - Major elements in Infant formula samples



#### **Excellent agreement with certified values achieved**

# **FNSQAP Ex-1, NIST**

#### Results - Mercury in provided samples, our data point in yellow



- Only 18 reported values for mercury out of 33 participants
- Many reported values extremely high false positives?
- Single mode iCAP Tqe ICP-MS analysis was able to provide accurate values close to LOQ level for mercury!

#### Even easier method development: single mode analysis



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# Even easier method development: single mode analysis

# Single mode analysis using just TQ-O<sub>2</sub> mode

- Very straightforward method development – one mode for all elements
- Improved interference removal for key analytes (e.g. V, As, Se, Cd, Hg) eliminates false positive results

#### Advantages:

 Reduced method runtime enables increased laboratory productivity



Reduced sample turnaround times



Improved return on investment

## **'Reaction Finder' - method development assistant**



• Select Element/Isotope of interest



Reaction Finder proposes most appropriate gas/scan setting combination



Choose from list of Internal Standards

Acqu	uisition Param	neters, i	untime estimation	19 se	conds					
	Identifier		Q3 Analyte		SQ		CR Ga	Dwell time (s)	Channels	Spacing (u)
	7Li (S-SQ-H	(ED)			SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	55Mn (S-SC	-KED			SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	65Cu   65Cu	J.14N	65Cu.14N2.1H6		TQ		NH	0.1	1	0.1
	51V   51V.1	60 (S	51V.16O		TQ		0:	0.1	1	0.1
	48Ti   48Ti	14N4	48Ti 14N4 1H10		TQ		NHa	0.1	1	0.1
	Fit cells	to gri	d l		SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	Fit cells	to co	ntent		SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	Export	to Exce	1		SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	+ Duplica	ate ana	lyte		SQ		KED	0.1	1	0.1
	Add int	ternal s	tandard analyte	•		59Co				
						115In	- 1			
						209Bi	2			

Redefining triple quadrupole ICP-MS with unique ease of use

# Options for transient signals analysis in Qtegra ISDS with Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> iCAP<sup>™</sup> TQ ICP-MS



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# **Elemental analysis workflow**

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# Food cycle quality control



# Why run elemental analysis in food?

• Monitoring protein content

- Determination of the nutritional quality of the products
- Transparent labelling nutritional, health, safety and economical point of view
- Price definition and quality comparison enablement based on % protein declarations

- Of essential importance for synthesis of amino acids and vitamins
- Cattle good regeneration of the udder during lactation
- Horse essential for healthy hoof growth
- Brewery preserving the shelf life of beer and securing the safety of the raw materials and final products



Nitrogen



#### **Official methods**

#### Interlaboratory data standardization

• Dumas (combustion) methods for N/Protein determination as the alternative to the Kjeldahl method

Application	Official Association	Official Method	1 48/2 YOU	ASBC	Official Method 1996. Nitrogen Determination
	AACC	Crude Protein in Cereal, 46-30, 1999	Common A	(American Society of Brewing Chemists)	in Barley
	(American Association of Gereal Chemists)		The second second	ASBC	Total Nitrogen in Wort and Beer by Combustion Method.
ACL	AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists)	Official Method 990.03. Protein (crude)	Par -	(American Society of Brewing Chemists)	Report of Subcommittee, 1994
				DIN, EN, ISO 16634-1, 2008	Food Products – Determination of the Total Nitrogen Content by Combustion According to the Dumas Principle
NOK -	AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists)	Official Method 992.15. Crude Protein in Meat and Meat Products including Pet Foods 39.1.16		(International Organization for Standardization)	and Calculation of the Grude Protein Content. Part 1: Oil Seeds and Animal Feeding Stuffs
CON SE	•	-	<b>A</b>	DIN, EN, ISO 16634 – 2	Food Products – Determination of the Total Nitrogen Content by Combustion According to the Dumas Principle
	AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists)	Official Method 992.23. Crude Protein in Cereals, Grain and Oilseeds 32.2.02	<u></u>	(International Organization for Standardization)	and Calculation of the Crude Protein Content. Part 2: Cereals, Pulses and Milled Cereal Products
		Official Mathemat 007.00	200	IFFO (International Fishmeal and Fish Oil	Nitrogen Determination in Fish Meal by Combustion
	AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists)	Nitrogen in Beer, Wort, and Brewing Grains Protein (Total) by Calculation (Combustion Method)		Organization Ltd.)	Method
		Official Method 072 43	-	ISO 14891 (International Organization for Standardization)	Nitrogen Determination in Dairy Products by Combustion
	AOAC (Association of Official Analytical Chemists)	Microchemical Determination of Carbon, Hydrogen and Nitrogen		FIL 185 (International Dairy Federation)	Method
	AOCS (American Oil Chemists Society)	Official Method Ba 4e-93 (revised 1995). Combustion Method for Determination of Crude Protein		Office International de la Vigne et du Vin	Resolution OENO 13/2002 Quantification of Total Nitrogen by Dumas Method (Must and Wines) Quantification de l'Azote Total Selon la Methode de Dumas (Mouts et Vins)

#### **Elemental analysis workflow**



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#### FlashSmart Elemental Analyzer

#### What is the Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> FlashSmart <sup>™</sup> EA?

 An elemental analyzer which operates with the dynamic flash combustion (modified Dumas method) with the Thermal Conductivity Detector (TCD).

#### What is FlashSmart EA measuring?

• Carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, sulfur and oxygen

#### How is the sample introduced in the system?

- Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> MAS Plus Autosampler for solids, viscous and liquids (weighed in containers)
- Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> AI/AS 1310 Liquid Autosamplers

![](_page_29_Picture_9.jpeg)

#### **Data report**

![](_page_30_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_3.jpeg)

Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> Eager*Smart* <sup>™</sup> Data Handling Software

- Specific factors for the conversion of nitrogen content to protein content (FAO)
- Acquired data:
  - Nitrogen
  - N/Protein
  - Sulfur
- Personalized reports

# All-in-one analyzer

#### FlashSmart EA applications

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

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#### Crops

- Cereals and beans are the main component of the human diet and of feeding stock for domestic animals
- In addition to its dietary importance, protein content has become a quality guideline for some cereal trade transactions

![](_page_32_Picture_4.jpeg)

Sample	N%	Protein %	RSD%
Corn	1.14	7.10	0.74
Bran	2.27	14.19	0.81
Wheat	1.74	10.89	0.30
Rice	1.10	6.27	0.83
Soy	6.21	38.81	0.55
Lentils	3.84	23.99	0.55
Beans	3.54	22.15	0.69
Peas	4.46	27.89	040
Green beans	3.90	24.40	0.53

# **Dairy products**

- Solid, liquid and viscous dairy products
- Nitrogen/Protein determination for food quality control and R&D purposes
- Protein content and labeling requirements enable consumers to compare price and quality

![](_page_33_Picture_5.jpeg)

Sample	N%	Protein %	RSD%
Raw milk	0.476	3.04	0.61
Pasteurized milk	0.510	3.25	0.68
UHT milk	0.529	3.38	0.56
Milk powder	5.46	34.83	0.30
Emmental	3.38	21.07	0.88
Parmesan	5.21	33.25	0.80
Provolone	4.35	27.77	0.67
Spread cheese	3.36	20.99	0.99
Yoghurt	0.515	3.28	0.95

#### **Meat products**

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- Meat products require homogenization
- Nitrogen/Protein determination for food quality control

![](_page_34_Picture_4.jpeg)

Sample	N%	Protein %	RSD%
Cured ham	4.51	28.19	0.35
Сорра	4.34	27.12	0.71
Beef sausage	2.99	18.69	1.54
Wurstel	2.42	15.15	0.83
Salame	3.18	19.87	0.49
Bacon	2.75	17.19	1.15
Mortadella Bologna	3.27	20.44	1.32

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

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FLASH IRMS

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# **Isotope fingerprints**

Product origin of fruits and vegetables, animal meat  $\delta^{34}S$ 

Watering of beverages δ<sup>18</sup>Ο

and product origin of coffee, wine, liquor, water, sugar, animal meat, flavors

Mislabeling of fruits and vegetables, animal meat

#### $\delta^{15}N$

Adulteration of honey, liquor, wine, olive oil, butter, flavors, animal meat δ<sup>13</sup>C

Watering of beverages and product origin of coffee, wine, liquor, water, sugar, animal meat, flavors **ThermoFisher** 

 $\delta^2 H$ 

# **Official methods in food integrity applications**

- CODEX ALIMENTARIUS INTERNATIONAL
   FOOD STANDARDS (FAO/WHO)
  - Recommended methods of analysis and sampling CXS 234-1999
- CEN Technical Committee 460 'Food Authenticity' Working Group 6 - IRMS

Product	Official method	Isotope fingerprint	Sample	What does it address?	Analytical solution
Wine					
	OIV-MA- AS2-12	ô <sup>18</sup> O	Water	Adulteration, Geographical origin, Year of vintage	Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> GasBench II System, Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> Dual Inlet
	OIV-MA- AS312-06	õ <sup>ta</sup> C	Ethanol, Wine must, Grape sugar	Adulteration, origin	Thermo Scientific™ EA IsoLink™ IRMS System, Thermo Scientific™ GC IsoLink II™ Interface for GC-IRMS
1913	OIV-AS312-07	δ <sup>13</sup> C	Glycerol in wines	Adulteration by addition of glycerol from C4 maize or Fossil sources	GC IsoLink II Interface for GC-IRMS, Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> LC IsoLink <sup>™</sup> Interface for IRM-LC/MS
	OIV-OENO 510-2013	ð <sup>13</sup> C	Acetic acid in wine, vinegar		GC IsoLink II Interface for GC-IRMS, EA IsoLink IRMS System
at the second	OIV-OENO 510-2013	ô <sup>18</sup> O	Water in wine, vinegar	Adulteration, Geographical Origin, Year of Vintage	Thermo Scientific <sup>™</sup> GasBench II System, Dual Inlet
Sparkling wine					
	OIV-MA- AS314-03	δ <sup>t3</sup> C	CO <sub>2</sub> in sparkling wine	Origin and authenticity of sparkling wine	GasBench II System, EA IsoLink IRMS System, GC IsoLink, Dual Inlet
Spirits					
tista.	OIV-AS312-07	ô <sup>t3</sup> C	Glycerol in spirits	Adulteration by addition of glycerol from C4 maize or Fossil sources	GC IsoLink II Interface for GC-IRMS, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS
Fruit Juice		8			
	EU – CEN 1995	δ <sup>t3</sup> C	Sugars	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, GC IsoLink II Interface
	USA – AOAC 1981	δ <sup>13</sup> C	Sugars	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, GC IsoLink II Interface
1011	EU – CEN 1998	δ <sup>13</sup> C	Sugars and pulp	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, GC IsoLink II Interface
AL ESG	EU – CEN 1995	δ <sup>2</sup> H and δ <sup>18</sup> O	Water	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, GC IsoLink II Interface
	AOAC method 2004.01	δ <sup>13</sup> C	Ethanol (From Fermentation)	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, GC IsoLink II Interface
Fruit Juice (Concent	rate)				
Î.	AOAC 1992	δ <sup>18</sup> Ο	Water	Adulteration	GasBench II System, LC IsoLink Interface for IRM-LC/MS, EA IsoLink IRMS System
Honey	AOAO method		0.4.1		
	991.41	ð <sup>13</sup> C	concentration >7%	Adulteration of honey	EA IsoLink IRMS System
	AOAC method 998.12	δ <sup>13</sup> C	C-4 plant sugars at concentration >7%	Adulteration of honey	EA IsoLink IRMS System
Cheese					
	EU Reg 548/2011	ô <sup>t3</sup> C	PDO	PDO Grana Padano	EA IsoLink IRMS System

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# **Isotope analysis workflow**

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

# **IRMS portfolio**

#### Driven by Thermo Scientific<sup>™</sup> Qtegra<sup>™</sup> Intelligent Scientific Data Solution (ISDS) Software

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#### Why Qtegra ISDS Software?

- Automate workflows
- Simplify your experience
- Improve efficiency

![](_page_39_Picture_8.jpeg)

#### **ThermoFisher** SCIENTIFIC

#### Where does my beef come from?

![](_page_40_Figure_2.jpeg)

Thermo Scientific™ EA IsoLink™ IRMS System

![](_page_40_Figure_4.jpeg)

Heaton et al., 2008

- Carbon and Nitrogen isotope fingerprint
- Pasture varies between C3 and C4 plant groups, which result in difference in animal (i.e., dietary differences)
- UK cattle reared on C3 diet, whilst Brazilian cattle reared on C4 diet

![](_page_40_Picture_9.jpeg)

# Was my produce organically grown?

![](_page_41_Figure_2.jpeg)

Thermo Scientific™ EA IsoLink™ IRMS System

![](_page_41_Figure_4.jpeg)

- Nitrogen isotope fingerprint
- Differentiation of nitrogen isotopes in plants and soils due to ammonia volatilization, denitrification, nitrification, etc.
- Organic (+8‰ to +20‰) versus synthetic fertilization (+3‰ to +6‰)

![](_page_41_Picture_8.jpeg)

# What is in my ice cream?

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

Thermo Scientific™ GC IsoLink II™ IRMS System

![](_page_42_Figure_4.jpeg)

Courtesy D. Psomiadis, Imprint Analytics

- Carbon and Hydrogen isotope fingerprint
- Investigation the origin of vanillin in ice cream, cakes, cookies
- Natural (vanilla pods) vs. synthetic (e.g. wood, petroleum) vs. biosynthetic (e.g. cloves, rice, corn)

![](_page_42_Picture_9.jpeg)

#### Was my honey sweetened?

![](_page_43_Picture_2.jpeg)

Thermo Scientific™ LC IsoLink™ IRMS System

![](_page_43_Figure_4.jpeg)

- Carbon isotope fingerprint
- Honey adulteration by addition of exogenous sugars
- Official method AOAC 998.12 (detection limit 7% sugar from C4 plant source) by EA-IRMS
- Compound specific analysis of individual sugars by LC-IRMS

![](_page_43_Picture_9.jpeg)

#### Was my wine watered down?

![](_page_44_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Oxygen isotope fingerprint
- Geographical origin and adulteration OIV-MS-AS2-12
- Grapes have local-regional fingerprint associated with localregional rainfall
- If adulterated by water or juices, the oxygen isotope fingerprint changes

![](_page_44_Picture_7.jpeg)

# **Summary and Conclusion**

- **Triple Quad ICP-MS** Single method
  - 30 elements Toxic and nutritional
  - Excellent interference removal
- Elemental Analysis C,N,O,S and H
  - Nitrogen/Protein determination
  - All in one analysis of liquid and solid samples
- **Isotopic analysis** origin and authenticity
  - Bulk and compound specific information
  - Fully integrated peripherals

![](_page_45_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_11.jpeg)

Come speak to us at booth #2

![](_page_45_Picture_13.jpeg)

Solutions for all your analytical needs

![](_page_45_Picture_15.jpeg)

Visit <u>www.thermofisher.com</u> for more information

# Thank you

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