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Authors: Huilian Ma, Jiping Chen

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Response to “Salt-assisted dispersion effects in dispersive liquid-liquid microextraction of haloacetonitriles”

Huilian Ma, Jiping Chen*

Key Laboratory of Separation Sciences for Analytical Chemistry, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian 116023, China

Keywords: salt-assisted; Dispersive liquid-liquid microextraction; Dispersion

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to respond to the issues raised in Dr Ebrahimpour’s letter and to clarify aspects of our methodology in relation to these concerns. We would also like to thank Dr Ebrahimpour for his interest in our paper, “Salt-assisted dispersive liquid–liquid microextraction coupled with programmed temperature vaporization gas chromatography–massspectrometry for the determination of haloacetonitriles in drinking water” Huilian Ma, Yun Li, Haijun Zhang, Syed Mazhar Shah, Jiping Chen. *Journal of Chromatography A*, 1358 (2014) 14–19. Our responses to his specific remarks were individually given below.

A.) According to the classic description of DLLME, “the cloudy state is formed due to the solvent droplets upon injection of the binary solvent mixture (extraction and disperser solvents) into an aqueous sample” [2], and the characteristic of DLLME is that “the large surface area between the fine droplets and the aqueous phase facilitates the quick transfer of analytes from the sample solution into the extraction phase”. In fact, the extraction method established in our study also has obvious characteristic of DLLME. With the addition of salt and assistant of manual shaking, fine droplets of extraction solvent can be fully dispersed in aqueous phase, and thus a cloudy solution is formed. Different from the traditional DLLME, the extraction solvent was used but the disperser solvent was not needed. So we defined our method as “Salt-assisted

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