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Comprehensive Two-Dimensional Gas Chromatography in Environmental Analysis

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Comprehensive Two-Dimensional Gas Chromatography in Environmental Analysis 1 2 Alina M. Muscalu^{1,2}, Tadeusz Górecki^{1,*} 3 ¹Department of Chemistry, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, N2L 3G1, Canada 4 ²Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Toronto, ON, M9P 3V6, Canada 5 6 7 8 Abstract 9 Comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography (GC×GC) offers increased peak capacity and selectivity relative to conventional one dimensional separations. The analysis of 10 persistent organic pollutants in environmental matrices is very challenging due to the large 11 12 number of compounds with varying chemical and physical properties that are typically present in 13 the sample at the same time at concentrations ranging from ultra-trace to percent levels. GC×GC is steadily gaining in popularity in environmental analysis and the number of publications citing 14 the use of this technique has been increasing significantly in the recent years. An overview of the 15 latest applications in the environmental field is presented in this paper, emphasizing the advances 16 17 for targeted and non-targeted analysis in complex matrices. In addition, instrumentation, data interpretation approaches, as well as the quality assurance and control for routine analyzes are 18 discussed. 19 20 Keywords: Comprehensive Two-Dimensional Gas Chromatography; GC×GC; environmental 21 22 analysis; targeted and non-targeted analysis; multiresidue methods 23

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