

Designation: D7597 − 16 (Reapproved 2017)

Standard Test Method for Determination of Diisopropyl Methylphosphonate, Ethyl Hydrogen Dimethylamidophosphate, Ethyl Methylphosphonic Acid, Isopropyl Methylphosphonic Acid, Methylphosphonic Acid and Pinacolyl Methylphosphonic Acid in Water by Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7597; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This procedure covers the determination of diisopropyl methylphosphonate (DIMP), ethyl hydrogen dimethylamidophosphate (EHDMAP), ethyl methylphosphonic acid (EMPA), isopropyl methylphosphonic acid (IMPA), methylphosphonic acid (MPA) and pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid (PMPA) (referred to collectively as organophosphonates in this test method) in surface water by direct injection using liquid chromatography (LC) and detected with tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) using electrospray ionization (ESI). These analytes are qualitatively and quantitatively determined by this test method. This test method adheres to single reaction monitoring (SRM) mass spectrometry.

1.2 This test method has been developed by U.S. EPA Region 5 Chicago Regional Laboratory (CRL).

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 The detection verification level (DVL) and reporting range for the organophosphonates are listed in [Table 1.](#page-1-0)

1.4.1 The DVL is required to be at a concentration at least three times below the reporting limit (RL) and have a signal/ noise ratio greater than 3:1. [Fig. 1](#page-1-0) displays the signal/noise ratios at the DVLs for the organophosphonates in the ESI positive mode and [Fig. 2](#page-2-0) in the ESI negative mode.

1.4.2 The reporting limit is the concentration of the Level 1 calibration standard as shown in [Table 2](#page-2-0) for the organophosphonates except for MPA in the ESI negative mode which is at Level 2 due to not meeting the DVL criteria at the lower concentration level. The DVL for MPA in the ESI negative mode is at 20 µg/L, which forces a raised reporting limit. However, the multi-laboratory validation required a spike of all target analytes at Level 1 concentrations. The mean recovery for MPA in the ESI negative mode at this level was 98.7 % as shown in [Table 3.](#page-3-0) If your instrument's sensitivity can meet the requirements in this test method, MPA may have a 50 µg/L reporting limit.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²
- [D1129](#page-1-0) [Terminology Relating to Water](https://doi.org/10.1520/D1129)
- [D1193](#page-4-0) [Specification for Reagent Water](https://doi.org/10.1520/D1193)
- [D2777](#page-7-0) [Practice for Determination of Precision and Bias of](https://doi.org/10.1520/D2777) [Applicable Test Methods of Committee D19 on Water](https://doi.org/10.1520/D2777)
- [D3856](#page-5-0) [Guide for Management Systems in Laboratories](https://doi.org/10.1520/D3856) [Engaged in Analysis of Water](https://doi.org/10.1520/D3856)
- [D3694](#page-5-0) [Practices for Preparation of Sample Containers and](https://doi.org/10.1520/D3694) [for Preservation of Organic Constituents](https://doi.org/10.1520/D3694)
- [D5847](#page-7-0) [Practice for Writing Quality Control Specifications](https://doi.org/10.1520/D5847) [for Standard Test Methods for Water Analysis](https://doi.org/10.1520/D5847)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D19](http://www.astm.org/COMMIT/COMMITTEE/D19.htm) on Water and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D19.06](http://www.astm.org/COMMIT/SUBCOMMIT/D1906.htm) on Methods for Analysis for Organic Substances in Water.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

TABLE 1 Detection Verification Level and Reporting Range

FIG. 1 Example ESI Positive Mode SRM Chromatograms Signal/Noise Ratios

[E2554](#page-7-0) [Practice for Estimating and Monitoring the Uncer](https://doi.org/10.1520/E2554)[tainty of Test Results of a Test Method Using Control](https://doi.org/10.1520/E2554) [Chart Techniques](https://doi.org/10.1520/E2554)

2.2 *Other Documents:*³

[EPA Publication SW-846](#page-7-0) Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 For definitions of terms used in this standard, refer to Terminology [D1129.](#page-0-0)

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *detection verification level, DVL, n—*a concentration that has a signal/noise ratio greater than 3:1 and is at least 3 times below the reporting limit (RL).

3.2.2 *independent reference material, IRM, n—*a material of known purity and concentration obtained either from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) or other reputable supplier. The IRM shall be obtained from a different lot of material than is used for calibration.

3.2.3 *organophosphonates, n—*in this test method, diisopropyl methylphosphonate (DIMP), ethyl hydrogen dimethylamidophosphate (EHDMAP), ethyl methylphosphonic acid (EMPA), isopropyl methylphosphonic acid (IMPA), methylphosphonic acid (MPA) and pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid (PMPA).

³ Available from United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460, http:// www.epa.gov.

TABLE 2 Concentrations of Calibration Standards (PPB)

3.3 *Acronyms:*

3.3.1 *CCC, n—*Continuing Calibration Check

- 3.3.2 *IC, n—*Initial Calibration
- 3.3.3 *LC, n—*Liquid Chromatography
- 3.3.4 *LCS/LCSD, n—*Laboratory Control Sample/ Laboratory Control Sample Duplicate
- 3.3.5 *MDL, n—*Method Detection Limit
- 3.3.6 *MeOH, n—*Methanol
- 3.3.7 *mM, n*—millimolar, 1×10^{-3} moles/L
- 3.3.8 *MRM, n—*Multiple Reaction Monitoring
- 3.3.9 *MS/MSD, n—*Matrix Spike/Matrix Spike Duplicate
- 3.3.10 *NA, adj—*Not Available
- 3.3.11 *ND, n—*non-detect
- 3.3.12 *P&A, n—*Precision and Accuracy
- 3.3.13 *PPB, n—*parts per billion
- 3.3.14 *PPT, n—*parts per trillion
- 3.3.15 *QA, adj—*Quality Assurance
- 3.3.16 *QC, adj—*Quality Control
- 3.3.17 *RL, n—*Reporting Limit
- 3.3.18 *RSD, n—*Relative Standard Deviation
- 3.3.19 *RT, n—*Retention Time
- 3.3.20 *SDS, n—*Safety Data Sheets
- 3.3.21 *SRM, n—*Single Reaction Monitoring
- 3.3.22 *SS, n—*Surrogate Standard
- 3.3.23 *TC, n—*Target Compound
- 3.3.24 μ *M, n*—micromolar, 1×10^{-6} moles/L
- 3.3.25 *VOA, n—*Volatile Organic Analysis

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This is a performance-based test method and modifications are allowed to improve performance.

4.2 For organophosphonate analysis, samples are shipped to the lab between 0°C and 6°C and analyzed within 1 day of

TABLE 3 Multi-Laboratory Recovery Data in Reagent Water

collection. In the lab, the samples are spiked with surrogate, filtered using a syringe-driven filter unit and analyzed directly by LC/MS/MS.

4.3 The organophosphonates and the surrogates; diisopropyl methylphosphonate-D₁₄, pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid-
¹³C₆ and methylphosphonic acid-D₃ are identified by retention time and one SRM transition. The target analytes and surrogates are quantitated using the SRM transitions utilizing an external calibration. The final report issued for each sample lists the concentration of each organophosphonate target compound and each surrogate recovery.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Organophosphate pesticides affect the nervous system by disrupting the enzyme that regulates acetylcholine, a neurotransmitter. They were developed during the early 19th century, but their effects on insects, which are similar to their

effects on humans, were discovered in 1932. Some are poisonous and were used as chemical weapon agents. Organophosphate pesticides are usually not persistent in the environment.^{4,5}

5.2 This test method is for the analysis of selected organophosphorous-based chemical weapon agent degradation products from Sarin (GB), Soman (GD), Tabun (GA) and VX. This test method has been investigated for use with reagent and surface water.

6. Interferences

6.1 Test method interferences may be caused by contaminants in solvents, reagents, glassware and other apparatus producing discrete artifacts or elevated baselines. All of these materials are demonstrated to be free from interferences by analyzing laboratory reagent blanks under the same conditions as samples.

6.2 All glassware is washed in hot water with a detergent, rinsed in hot water followed by distilled water. The glassware is then dried and heated in an oven at 250°C for 15 to 30 minutes. All glassware is subsequently cleaned with acetone, then methanol.

6.3 All reagents and solvents should be pesticide residue purity or higher to minimize interference problems.

6.4 Matrix interferences may be caused by contaminants that are co-extracted from the sample. The extent of matrix interferences can vary considerably from sample source depending on variations of the sample matrix.

7. Apparatus

7.1 *LC/MS/MS System:*

7.1.1 *Liquid Chromatography (LC) System—*A complete LC system is needed in order to analyze samples.⁶ This should include a sample injection system, a solvent pumping system capable of mixing solvents, a sample compartment capable of maintaining required temperature and a temperature controlled column compartment. A system that is capable of performing at the flows, pressures, controlled temperatures, sample volumes and requirements of the standard may be used.

7.1.2 *Analytical Column*⁷ —A reverse phase C18 particle column was used to develop this test method. Any column that achieves adequate resolution may be used. The retention times and order of elution may change depending on the column that is used and need to be monitored.

7.1.3 *Tandem Mass Spectrometer (MS/MS) System—*A MS/MS system capable of MRM analysis.⁸ A system that is capable of performing at the requirements in this standard may be used.

7.2 *Filtration Device:*

7.2.1 *Hypodermic Syringe—*A luer-lock tip glass syringe capable of holding syringe-driven filter unit.

7.2.1.1 A 25-mL lock tip glass syringe size is recommended since a 25-mL sample size is used in this test method.

7.2.2 *Filter Unit*⁹—A PVDF filter units were used to filter the samples.

8. Reagents and Materials

8.1 *Purity of Reagents—*High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) pesticide residue analysis and spectrophotometry grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless indicated otherwise, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society.¹⁰ Other reagent grades may be used provided they are first determined they are of sufficiently high purity to permit their use without affecting the accuracy of the measurements.

8.2 *Purity of Water—*Unless otherwise indicated, references to water shall be understood to mean reagent water conforming to Type 1 of Specification [D1193.](#page-0-0) It must be demonstrated that this water does not contain contaminants at concentrations sufficient to interfere with the analysis.

8.3 *Gases—*Ultrapure nitrogen and argon.

8.4 Acetonitrile (CAS # 75-05-8).

8.5 Methanol (CAS # 67-56-1).

8.6 Acetone (CAS # 67-64-1).

8.7 Formic acid (≥95 %, CAS # 64-18-6).

8.8 Diisopropyl methylphosphonate (DIMP, CAS # 1445- 75-6).

8.9 Ethyl hydrogen dimethylamidophosphate (EHDMAP, CAS # 2632-86-2).

8.10 Ethyl methylphosphonic acid (EMPA, CAS # 1832-53- 7).

8.11 Isopropyl methylphosphonic acid (IMPA, CAS # 1832- 54-8).

8.12 Methylphosphonic acid (MPA, CAS # 993-13-5).

8.13 Pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid (PMPA, CAS # 616- 52-4).

⁴ Additional information about organophosphate pesticides is available on the Internet at http://www.epa.gov (2009).

⁵ Additional information about chemical weapon agents is available on the Internet at http://www.opcw.org (2009).

⁶ A Waters Alliance (a trademark of the Waters Corporation, Milford, MA) High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) System, or equivalent, was found suitable for use. The multi-laboratory study included Agilent and Waters LC systems.

⁷ A Waters Atlantis (a trademark of the Waters Corporation, Milford, MA) dC18, 150 mm × 2.1 mm, 3 µm particle size, or equivalent, has been found suitable for use.

⁸ A Waters Quattro (a trademark of the Waters Corporation, Milford, MA) micro API mass spectrometer, or equivalent, was found suitable for use. The multilaboratory study included applied Biosystems and Waters mass spectrometers.

⁹ A Millex (a trademark of Merck KGAA, Darmstadt, Germany) HV Syringe Driven Filter Unit PVDF 0.45 µm (Millipore Corporation, Catalog # SLHV033NS) has been found suitable for use for this test method, any filter unit may be used that meets the performance of this test method may be used.

¹⁰ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For Suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Annual Standards for Laboratory Chemicals,* BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary,* U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.

8.14 Diisopropyl methylphosphonate-D₁₄ (DIMP-D14, Unlabeled CAS # 1445-75-6).

8.14.1 DIMP-D14 represents deuterium labeled diisopropyl methylphosphonate where the two isopropyl moieties contain all \overline{H} .

8.15 Methylphosphonic acid-D3 (MPA-D3, Unlabeled CAS # 993-13-5).

8.15.1 MPA-D3 represents deuterium labeled methylphosphonic acid where the methyl moiety contains all ²H.

8.16 Pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid- ${}^{13}C_6$ (PMPA-13C6, Unlabeled CAS # 616-52-4).

8.16.1 PMPA-13C6 represents ¹³C labeled pinacolyl methylphosphonic where all the trimethylpropyl carbon atoms are uniformly labeled 13 C.

9. Hazards

9.1 Normal laboratory safety applies to this test method. Analysts should wear safety glasses, gloves, and lab coats when working in the lab. Analysts should review the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all reagents used in this test method.

10. Sampling

10.1 *Sampling—*Grab samples must be collected in ≥25-mL pre-cleaned amber glass bottles with Teflon-lined caps demonstrated to be free of interferences. This test method requires a 25-mL sample size per analysis. Conventional sampling practices should be followed. Refer to Guide [D3856](#page-0-0) and Practices [D3694.](#page-0-0)

10.2 *Preservation—*Store samples between 0°C and 6°C from the time of collection until analysis. Analyze the sample within 1 day of collection.

11. Preparation of LC/MS/MS

11.1 *LC Chromatograph Operating Conditions:*⁶

11.1.1 Injection volumes of all calibration standards and samples are 50 µL. The first sample analyzed after the calibration curve is a blank to ensure there is no carry-over. The gradient conditions for the liquid chromatograph are shown in Table 4.

11.1.2 *Temperatures—*Column, 30°C; Sample compartment, 15°C.

11.1.3 *Seal Wash—*Solvent: 50 % Acetonitrile/50 % Water; Time: 5 minutes.

11.1.4 *Needle Wash—*Solvent: 50 % Acetonitrile/50 % Water; Normal Wash, Approximately 13 second wash time.

11.1.5 *Autosampler Purge—*Three loop volumes.

11.1.6 Specific instrument manufacturer wash/purge specifications should be followed in order to eliminate sample carry-over in the analysis of organophosphonates.

11.2 *Mass Spectrometer Parameters:*⁸

11.2.1 In order to acquire the maximum number of data points per SRM channel while maintaining adequate sensitivity, the tune parameters may be optimized according to your instrument. Each peak requires at least 10 scans per peak for adequate quantitation. This standard contains three surrogates and six target compounds which are located in multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) experiment windows. This test method does however require the analysis of the organophosphonates and surrogates, in most cases, be analyzed in both the ESI positive and negatives modes in order to obtain the optimum results from the individual matrices tested. Depending on your instrument, this may be accomplished in one analysis run if the instrument can switch between positive and negative mode fast enough without losing sensitivity and maintaining at least 10 scans per peak. If your instrument is not able to switch between modes fast enough it will require two analyses, one in ESI positive and one in ESI negative. For example, the newer instruments may be capable of switching between positive and negative modes in 50 milliseconds which would require one analysis run for this test method. The older instruments may be capable of switching between positive and negative modes in 300 milliseconds which will require two analysis runs to obtain maximum sensitivity and the adequate number of scans per peak. The single laboratory data in this test method was generated using two analysis runs. Variable parameters regarding retention times, SRM transitions and cone and collision energies are shown in [Table 5.](#page-6-0)

The instrument is set in the Electrospray (+) positive and/or (–) negative source setting Capillary Voltage: 3.5 kV Cone: Variable depending on analyte [\(Table 3\)](#page-3-0) Extractor: 2 Volts RF Lens: 0.2 Volts Source Temperature: 120°C Desolvation Temperature: 300°C Desolvation Gas Flow: 500 L/hr Cone Gas Flow: 25 L/hr Low Mass Resolution 1: 14.5 High Mass Resolution 1: 14.5 Ion Energy 1: 0.5 Entrance Energy: –1 Collision Energy: Variable depending on analyte [\(Table 5\)](#page-6-0) Exit Energy: 2 Low Mass Resolution 2: 15 High Mass resolution 2: 15 Ion Energy 2: 0.5 Multiplier: 650 Gas Cell Pirani Gauge: 3.3×10^{-3} Torr Inter-Channel Delay: 0.02 seconds Inter-Scan Delay: 0.1 seconds in one ESI mode (0.3 seconds if acquiring in ESI positive and negative mode in same analysis run on a Quattro micro API mass spectrometer) Repeats: 1 Span: 0 Daltons Dwell: 0.1 seconds

12. Calibration and Standardization

12.1 The mass spectrometer must be calibrated per manufacturer specifications before analysis. In order that analytical values obtained using this test method are valid and accurate

within the confidence limits of the test method, the following procedures must be followed when performing the test method.

12.2 *Calibration and Standardization—*To calibrate the instrument, analyze seven calibration standards containing the seven concentration levels of the organophosphonates and surrogates prior to analysis as shown in [Table 2.](#page-2-0) A calibration stock standard solution is prepared from standard materials or purchased as certified solutions. Stock standard solution A (Level 7) containing the organophosphonates, diisopropyl methylphosphonate-D₁₄, pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid-
¹³C₆ and methylphosphonic acid-D₃ is prepared at Level 7 concentration and aliquots of that solution are diluted to prepare Levels 1 through 6. The following steps will produce standards with the concentration values shown in [Table 2.](#page-2-0) The analyst is responsible for recording initial component weights carefully when working with pure materials and correctly carrying the weights through the dilution calculations.

12.2.1 Prepare stock standard solution A (Level 7) by adding to a 100-mL volumetric flask individual methanol solutions of the following: 750 μ L of 0.1g/L solutions of MPA-D3 and PMPA-13C6, 15 µL of 1 g/L solutions of DIMP, DIMP-D14 and EHDMAP and 150 µL of 1 g/L solutions of EMPA, IMPA, MPA and PMPA then dilute to 100 mL with water. The preparation of the Level 7 standard can be accomplished using different volumes and concentrations of stock solutions as is accustomed in the individual laboratory. Depending on stock concentrations prepared, the solubility at that concentration will have to be ensured.

12.2.2 Aliquots of Solution A are then diluted with water to prepare the desired calibration levels in 2 mL amber glass LC vials. The calibration vials must be used within 24 hours to ensure optimum results. Stock calibration standard solutions are routinely replaced every 3 days if not previously discarded for quality control failure. Calibration standards are not filtered.

12.2.3 Inject each standard and obtain a chromatogram for each one. An external calibration is used monitoring the SRM transitions of each analyte. Calibration software is utilized to conduct the quantitation of the target analytes and surrogates. The SRM transition of each analyte is used for quantitation and confirmation. This gives confirmation by isolating the parent ion, fragmenting it the product ion fragment, and also relating it to the retention time in the calibration standard.

12.2.4 The calibration software manual should be consulted to use the software correctly. The quantitation method is set as an external calibration using the peak areas in ppb or ppm units as long as the analyst is consistent. Concentrations may be calculated using the data system software to generate linear regression or quadratic calibration curves. Forcing the calibration through the origin is not recommended.

12.2.5 Linear calibration may be used if the coefficient of determination, r^2 , is >0.98 for the analyte. The point of origin is excluded and a fit weighting of 1/X is used in order to give more emphasis to the lower concentrations. If one of the calibration standards other than the high or low point causes the r^2 of the curve to be <0.98, this point must be re-injected or a new calibration curve must be regenerated. If the low or high (or both) point is excluded, minimally a five point curve is acceptable but the reporting range must be modified to reflect this change.

12.2.6 Quadratic calibration may be used if the coefficient of determination, r^2 , is >0.99 for the analyte. The point of origin is excluded and a fit weighting of 1/X is used in order to give more emphasis to the lower concentrations. If one of the calibration standards, other than the high or low, causes the curve to be <0.99 this point must be re-injected or a new calibration curve must be regenerated. If the low or high point is excluded, a six point curve is acceptable using a quadratic fit. An initial seven point curve over the calibration range is suggested in the event that the low or high point must be excluded to obtain a coefficient of determination >0.99. In this event, the reporting range must be modified to reflect this change. Each calibration point used to generate the curve must have a calculated percent deviation less than 25 % from the generated curve.

12.2.7 The retention time window of the SRM transitions must be within 5 % of the retention time of the analyte in a midpoint calibration standard. If this is not the case, re-analyze the calibration curve to determine if there was a shift in retention time during the analysis and the sample needs to be re-injected. If the retention time is still incorrect in the sample, refer to the analyte as an unknown.

12.2.8 A midpoint calibration check standard must be analyzed at the end of each batch of 20 samples or within 24 hours after the initial calibration curve was generated. This end calibration check should be the same calibration standard that was used to generate the initial curve. The results from the end calibration check standard must have a percent deviation less than 30 % from the calculated concentration for the target analytes and surrogate. If the results are not within these criteria, the problem must be corrected and either; all samples in the batch must be re-analyzed against a new calibration curve, or the affected results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method. If the analyst inspects the vial containing the end calibration check standard and notices that the sample evaporated affecting the concentration, a new end calibration check standard may be made and analyzed. If this new end calibration check standard has a percent deviation less than 30 % from the calculated concentration for the target analytes and surrogate the results may be reported unqualified.

12.3 All samples are prepared using Class A glass volumetric glassware. The sample volume used throughout this test method is 25 mL. Every sample, the entire 25 mL volume, is filtered through the filtration device described in [7.2](#page-4-0) only after all required spiking solutions are added and mixed throughout the sample.

12.3.1 A new filter unit is used for each sample. The syringe must be cleaned between each filtration. It is the analyst's responsibility to ensure that the syringe is clean. A possible way of cleaning the syringe between filtrations is first by rinsing with at least 5 syringe volumes of water, followed by at least 3 volumes of acetone, then 3 volumes of methanol and finally rinsed with water to remove any residual solvent.

12.4 If a laboratory has not performed the test before or if there has been a major change in the measurement system, for example, new analyst, new instrument, etc., perform a precision and bias study to demonstrate laboratory capability.

12.4.1 Analyze at least four replicates of a sample solution containing the target compounds and surrogates at a concentration in the calibration range of Levels 3 to 5. The matrix and chemistry should be similar to the solution used in this test method. Each replicate must be taken through the complete analytical test method including any sample preservation and pretreatment steps.

12.4.2 Calculate the mean (average) percent recovery and relative standard deviation (RSD) of the four values and compare to the acceptable ranges of the quality control (QC) acceptance criteria for the initial demonstration of performance in Table 6.

12.4.3 This study should be repeated until the single operator precision and mean recovery are within the limits in Table 6. If a concentration other than the recommended concentration is used, refer to Practice D5847 for information on applying the F test and t test in evaluating the acceptability of the mean and standard deviation.

12.4.3.1 The QC acceptance criteria for the Initial Demonstration of Performance in Table 6 were generated from a multi-laboratory method validation involving six laboratories. The descriptive statistics from this validation are shown in Section [16,](#page-9-0) Precision and Bias. The analyst must be aware that the performance data generated from multiple-laboratory data tend to be significantly wider than those generated from single-laboratory data. It is recommended that the laboratory generate their own in-house QC acceptance criteria which meets or exceeds the criteria in this standard. References on how to generate QC acceptance criteria are ASTM standards Practices [D2777,](#page-9-0) [D5847,](#page-9-0) [E2554](#page-9-0) or Method 8000B in EPA Publication SW-846 may be helpful.

12.5 *Surrogate Spiking Solution:*

12.5.1 A surrogate standard solution containing MPA-D3, PMPA-13C6 and DIMP-D14 is added to all samples. A stock surrogate spiking solution is prepared in methanol at 50 ppm for MPA-D3 and PMPA-13C6 and 5 ppm for DIMP-D14. Spiking 125 µL of this spiking solution into a 25 mL water sample results in a concentration of 250 ppb for MPA-D3 and PMPA-13C6, and 25 ppb for DIMP-D14 of the surrogates in the sample. The result obtained for the surrogate recovery must fall within the limits of Table 6. If the limits are not met, the

Analyte	ESI Mode	Test Conc. $(\mu g/L)$	Initial Demonstration of Performance			Lab Control Sample	
			Recovery (%)		Precision	Recovery (%)	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Maximum $%$ RSD	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Diisopropyl methylphosphonate	Positive	25	67	139	10	67	139
Ethyl hydrogen dimethylamidophosphate	Negative	25	16	152	15	17	152
Ethyl hydrogen dimethylamidophosphate	Positive	25	25	154	11	25	154
Ethyl methylphosphonic acid	Negative	250	76	134	11	75	134
Ethyl methylphosphonic acid	Positive	250	51	149	11	51	149
Isopropyl methylphosphonic acid	Negative	250	59	137	24	55	142
Isopropyl methylphosphonic acid	Positive	250	75	119	14	72	122
Methylphosphonic acid	Negative	250	66	133	14	65	134
Methylphosphonic acid	Positive	250	4	179	16	4	179
Pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid	Negative	250	69	133	9	69	133
Pinacolyl methylphosphonic acid	Positive	250	60	147	8	61	147
DIMP-D14 (Surrogate)	Positive	25	86	119	16	79	126
PMPA-13C6 (Surrogate)	Negative	250	82	117	16	76	123
MPA-D3 (Surrogate)	Negative	250	44	179	25	42	181
MPA-D3 (Surrogate)	Positive	250	72	137	23	66	143

TABLE 6 QC Acceptance Criteria

affected results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method.

12.6 *Method Blank:*

12.6.1 Analyze a reagent water blank with each batch of 20 or fewer samples. The concentration of the organophosphonates found in the blank must be below the DVL. If the concentrations of the organophosphonates are found above this level, analysis of samples is halted until the contamination is eliminated and a blank shows no contamination at or above this level, or the results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method.

12.7 *Laboratory Control Sample (LCS):*

12.7.1 To ensure that the test method is in control, analyze a LCS prepared with the organophosphonates at a concentration containing the organophosphonates and surrogates at a concentration in the calibration range of Levels 3 to 5. The LCS is prepared following the analytical method and analyzed with each batch of 20 samples or less. Prepare a stock matrix spiking solution in methanol containing EMPA, MPA, IMPA and PMPA each at 250 ppm and EHDMAP and DIMP each at 25 ppm. Spiking 25 µL of this stock solution into 25 mL of water to yield a concentration of 250 ppb for EMPA, MPA, IMPA and PMPA and 25 ppb for EHDMAP and DIMP in the sample. The result obtained for the LCS must fall within the limits in [Table 6.](#page-7-0)

12.7.2 If the result is not within these limits, analysis of samples is halted until the problem is corrected, and either all samples in the batch must be re-analyzed, or the results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method.

12.8 *Matrix Spike (MS):*

12.8.1 To check for interferences in the specific matrix being tested, perform a MS on at least one sample from each batch of 10 or fewer samples by spiking the sample with a known concentration of organophosphonates and following the analytical method. Prepare a stock matrix spiking solution in methanol containing EMPA, MPA, IMPA and PMPA each at 250 ppm and EHDMAP and DIMP each at 25 ppm. Spiking 25 µL of this stock solution into 25 mL of water to yield a concentration of 250 ppb for EMPA, MPA, IMPA and PMPA and 25 ppb for EHDMAP and DIMP in the sample.

12.8.2 The matrix spike analysis is important in the analysis of the organophosphonates. Every different matrix sampled must have an associated matrix spike sample analyzed. The chemistry of the various surface waters may impact the recoveries and must be monitored on a case by case basis. Both the ESI positive and negative modes of analysis are required for this test method due to the possible ion enhancement or suppression of signal in certain matrices. An example of this effect was found in the analysis of Chicago River water for methylphosphonic acid. The recovery of methylphosphonic acid in the ESI positive mode was 90 % in reagent water and 141 % in Chicago River water. The recovery of methylphosphonic acid in the ESI negative mode was 93 % in reagent water and below the reporting limit in Chicago River water. Due to these effects, the matrix spike QC acceptance criteria is wide and the laboratory should generate their own in-house QC acceptance criteria after the analysis of 15–20 matrix spike samples of a particular surface water matrix. All results must be reported to the project manager so informed decisions to be made.

12.8.3 If the spiked concentration plus the background concentration exceeds that of the Level 7 calibration standard, the sample must be diluted to a level near the midpoint of the calibration curve.

12.8.4 Calculate the percent recovery of the spike (P) using Eq 1:

$$
P = 100 \frac{\left| A(V_s + V) - BVs \right|}{CV} \tag{1}
$$

where:

A = concentration found in spiked sample,

 $B =$ concentration found in unspiked sample,
 $C =$ concentration of analyte in spiking soluti $C =$ concentration of analyte in spiking solution,
 $V =$ volume of sample used.

 V_s = volume of sample used,
 $V =$ volume of spiking solution

 $V =$ volume of spiking solution added, and $P =$ percent recovery.

= percent recovery.

12.8.5 The percent recovery of the spike shall fall within the limits in Table 7. If the percent recovery is not within these limits, a matrix interference may be present in the selected

 $\frac{1}{100}$

sample. Under these circumstances, one of the following remedies must be employed: the matrix interference must be removed, all samples in the batch must be analyzed by a test method not affected by the matrix interference, or the results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method.

12.8.6 The matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate (MS/MSD) limits in [Table 7](#page-8-0) were generated by five laboratories across the country using surface waters collected near their facilities. The matrix variation between the different surface waters may have a tendency to generate significantly wider control limits than those generated by a single laboratory in one surface water matrix. It is recommended that the laboratory generate their own in-house QC acceptance criteria which meets or exceeds the criteria in this standard.

12.8.6.1 The laboratory should generate their own in-house QC acceptance criteria after the analysis of 15–20 matrix spike samples of a particular surface water matrix. References on how to generate QC acceptance criteria are ASTM standards Practices [D5847,](#page-0-0) D2777, [E2554](#page-1-0) or Method 8000B in EPA Publication SW-846 may be helpful.

12.9 *Duplicate:*

12.9.1 To check the precision of sample analyses, analyze a sample in duplicate with each batch of 20 or fewer samples. If the sample contains the analyte at a level greater than 5 times the detection limit of the test method, the sample and duplicate may be analyzed unspiked; otherwise, an MSD should be used.

12.9.2 Calculate the relative percent difference (RPD) between the duplicate values (or MS/MSD values) as shown in Eq 2. Compare to the RPD limit in [Table 7.](#page-8-0) Relative percent difference:

$$
RPD = \frac{|MSR - MSDR|}{(MSR + MSDR)/2} \times 100\tag{2}
$$

where:

RPD = relative percent difference,
MSR = matrix spike recovery, and = matrix spike recovery, and *MSDR* = matrix spike duplicate recovery.

The vertical bars in Eq 2 indicate the absolute value of the difference, hence RPD is always expressed as a positive value.

12.9.3 If the result exceeds the precision limit, the batch must be re-analyzed or the results must be qualified with an indication that they do not fall within the performance criteria of the test method.

13. Procedure

13.1 The water samples are shipped chilled between 0°C and 6° C in ≥ 25 mL pre-cleaned amber glass bottles with Teflon-lined caps and stored in the laboratory between 0°C and 6°C. The samples must be analyzed within 1 day of collection. If the samples are above 6°C when received or during storage, or not analyzed within 1 day of collection the data is qualified estimated and noted in the case narrative that accompanies the data.

13.2 In the laboratory, a 25-mL Class A glass volumetric flask is used to measure a 25-mL aliquot of the sample. Every sample is then spiked with the surrogate as described in [12.5.](#page-7-0) The laboratory control and matrix spike samples are then spiked with the target compounds as described in [12.7](#page-8-0) and [12.8.](#page-8-0) The samples are then shaken in order to mix the spike solutions throughout the water sample. The sample, the entire 25-mL volume, is filtered through the filtration device described in [7.2.](#page-4-0) An aliquot of that filtered sample is placed into 2-mL amber glass LC vials for analysis.

13.3 Once a passing calibration curve is generated the analysis of samples may begin. An order of analysis may be; method blank(s), laboratory control sample(s), sample(s), duplicate(s), matrix spike sample(s) followed by an end calibration check standard.

14. Calculation or Interpretation of Results

14.1 For quantitative analysis of the organophosphonates and surrogates, the SRM transitions are identified by comparison of retention times in the sample to those of the standards. External calibration curves are used to calculate the amounts of DIMP, EHDMAP, EMPA, IMPA, MPA and PMPA, and MPA-D3, PMPA-13C6 and DIMP-D14 surrogates. Calculate the concentration in µg/L (ppb) for each analyte. The individual organophosphonates may be reported if present at or above the reporting limit. If the concentration of the analyte is determined to be above the calibration range, the sample is diluted with reagent water to obtain a concentration near the mid-point of the calibration range and re-analyzed.

14.2 DIMP and PMPA are separated by the LC conditions in this test method. If there is overlap encountered due to poor chromatography which may be caused by a variation in elution solvent concentrations or column degradation this is not a concern if the analyte specific SRM transitions are employed. DIMP and PMPA have a same molecular weight parent ion which produces the same product fragment under certain conditions. DIMP does not produce a 179.2 m/z parent ion in the ESI negative mode. Therefore, the optimum transition for PMPA analysis is using the ESI negative mode using 179.2 > 94.8. DIMP in the ESI positive mode does produce a 181.3 m/z parent ion which is the same m/z as the PMPA parent ion. However, the DIMP parent ion produces a 139.1 m/z product ion by loss of one isopropyl moiety whereas PMPA is not able to lose that fragment. Therefore the optimum SRM transition for DIMP is in the ESI positive mode using $181.3 > 139.1$.

15. Report

15.1 Determine the results in units of µg/L (ppb) in a water sample. Calculate the concentration in the sample using the linear or quadratic calibration curve generated. All data that does not meet the specifications in the test method must be appropriately qualified.

16. Precision and Bias¹¹

16.1 The determination of precision and bias was conducted through EPA and generated applicable data to determine the precision and bias as described in Practice [D2777.](#page-0-0)

¹¹ Supporting data have been filed at ASTM International Headquarters and may be obtained by requesting Research Report RR:D19-1187. Contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org.

16.2 This test method was tested by US EPA Region 5 Chicago Regional Laboratory (CRL) on reagent water. The samples were spiked with target compounds and surrogates as described in Section [12.](#page-5-0) Tables 8 and 9 contain the recoveries and standard deviation (SD) for the surrogates and target compounds.

16.3 This test method was tested by US EPA Region 5 Chicago Regional Laboratory (CRL) on Chicago River water. The samples were spiked with target compounds and surrogates as described in Section [12.](#page-5-0) [Tables 10 and 11](#page-11-0) contain the recoveries and standard deviation (SD) for the surrogates and target compounds.

16.4 *Multi-Laboratory Validation—*This test method has been tested by six laboratories using reagent water and up to five local surface waters. The incorporation of the testing laboratory's individual local surface water was chosen to validate the test method using various surface water matrices. The surface waters were from California, Mississippi, Illinois, Massachusetts and Virginia. The reagent and local surface waters were spiked across the reporting range in quadruplicate for reagent water and duplicate for surface water. The multilaboratory data for reagent water is shown in [Table 3](#page-3-0) and for surface waters in [Table 12.](#page-12-0) Results of this collaborative study may not be typical of the results for matrices other than those studied. Grubbs' outliers were removed.

17. Quality Control

17.1 A crucial part of a test method is quality control. A laboratory should follow their in-house QA/QC procedures and should meet or exceed the criteria given in this test method. The quality-control criteria are given in the various test method sections. Section [10](#page-5-0) contains the sampling and preservation requirements and Section [12](#page-5-0) contains the majority of quality control requirements when following this test method. Section [12](#page-5-0) includes requirements for calibration, precision and bias study to demonstrate laboratory capability, initial demonstration of performance, surrogate, method blank, reporting limit check, laboratory control, matrix spike and duplicate sample requirements. An IRM should be incorporated into the analysis periodically to verify that standard concentrations are comparable between sources. The IRM criteria should be based upon the laboratories QA/QC policies and the individual data quality objectives.

18. Keywords

18.1 liquid chromatography; mass spectrometry; organophosphonates

TABLE 9 Single-Laboratory Recovery Data in Reagent Water ESI Negative Mode

TABLE 10 Single-Laboratory Recovery Data in Chicago River Water ESI Positive Mode

TABLE 11 Single-Laboratory Recovery Data in Chicago River Water ESI Negative Mode

TABLE 12 Multi-Laboratory Recovery Data in Surface Water

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