

"Old", "New" and "Novel" Flame Retardants in the Environment - Analytical Methods and Levels

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- "Old" Brominated flame retardants
 - PBDEs, BDE209, TBBP-A and HBCD
- "New" Brominated flame retardants
 - BDBPE, DBDPE, TBB, TBPH and PBT
- "Alternative" Flame retardants
 - PFRs
- "Novel" Flame retardants
 - European research project ENFIRO

"New" brominated flame retardants



DBDPE (decabromodiphenylethane)



BTBPE (1,2 bis(2,4,6-tribromophenoxy)ethane)



TBPH



(bis-2-ethylhexyl)-3,4,5,6-tetrabromo-phthalate)

(2-ethylhexyl-2,3,4,5-tertabromobenzoate)

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Analytical methods for "New" BFRs

- Analytical methods described in literature for different matrices
- Dust \rightarrow Stapleton et al. (2008), Ali et al. (2011)
- Air \rightarrow Sjordin et al. (2001) Takigami et al. (2009)
- Sediment \rightarrow Hoh et al. (2005), Lopez et al. (2011)
- S. sludge \rightarrow Kierkegaard et al. (2004), Ricklund et al. (2008)
- Wastewater \rightarrow Klosterhause et al. (2008), Zhou et al. (2010)
- Biota \rightarrow Law et al. (2006), Luo et al. (2009)
- Blood \rightarrow Karlsson et al. (2007)

Extraction of "New" BFRs

- Different extraction methods
 - Soxhlet
 - ASE
 - Ultrasonic extraction
 - SPE
- Wide range of solvent mixtures
 - Petroleum ether
 - Toluene
 - Dichloromethane
 - Hexane
 - Acetone









Cleanup methods for "new" BFRs

Cleanup methods for abiotic and biotic samples

- Sulphuric washing
- Deactivated or sulphuric acid impregnated silica column
- Florisil column
- SPE cartridges
- Alumina column
- Sulphur removal (activated copper, AgNO3 on silica, TBA reagents and GPC)

Critical parameters for "new" BFRs

- Sulphuric acid treatment can only be used for DBDPE
- Non-destructive cleanup methods needed for BDBPE, TBB and TBPH
- TBA reagents may caused debromination of DBDPE
- DBDPE, TBB and TBPH undergo photodegradation
- Difficulties encountered in the analysis of DecaBDE are also expected for DBDPE
 - Poorly soluble in organic solvent
 - Higher boiling point than DecaBDE
 - Thermally degrades to mainly bromotoluenes
 - Blank problems

Instrumental analysis for DBDPE, BDBPE

- LR-ECNI-MS monitoring m/z 79/81 for DBDPE and 79/81 and 250.8/252.8 for BDBPE
- HR-EI-MS m/z 969/971 for DBDPE m/z 685/687 for BDBPE
- LR-ECNI-MS more sensitive then HR-EI-MS less specific
- Labeled DBDPE could not be used as IS for LR-ECNI-MS
- 13C BDE 209 used as alternative for LR-ECNI-MS
- DBDPE degrades on the GC column use column <15 meter

GC-ECNI-MS chromatogram of DBDPE, BDBPE



Instrumental analysis of TBB and TBPH



TBB was quantified using ion fragment (m/z) 357 (Quant) and 471 (Qual)

TBPH was quantified using ion fragments (*m/z*) 463 (Quant) and 515 (Qual)

GC-ECNI-MS chromatogram

GC/ECNI-MS chromatograms revealing the relative retention times of the primary BDE congeners, TBB and TBPH on a 15 m DB5-MS column



IVM Institute for Environmental Studies Stapleton et al, (2008)Environ. Sci. Technol. **42, 6910–6916**

LC-MS/MS

- LC-APPI-MS/MS in negative mode developed by Abdallah et al. (2009) for analyzing 14 PBDEs in house dust
- LC-MS/MS (APPI/APCI) in negative mode was also used by Zhou et al. (2010) to measure the "new" BFRs in combination with the PBDEs HBCD and TBBP-A

Advantages

- no thermal degradation
 use of 13C labeled standards
- Measuring al compounds in one run no column changes

Disadvantages

Less sensitive then GC-ECNI-MS

	GC/LR-ECNI-MS	LC-MS/MS	
LOD	30 fg - 1.7 pg*	12 - 30 pg*	
Sensitivity	+ +		
Selectivity	No	yes	
Labeled standards	No (only for BDE209)	yes	
Thermal degradation	yes	no	
Expensive	+ -	+	
Expert training	-	+	
Libary search	No	No	
	*Eljarrat et al, (2002)	*Abdallah et al, (2009)	
	J Mass Spectrom 37: 76-84	Anal. Chem., 81, 7460–7467	

Levels in the environment (I)

Matrix	DBDPE concentrations	Range DBDPE	BTBPE concentrations	Range BTBPE
Air	1916 pg/m ³ (Shi et al., 2009). 1–22 pg/m ³ (Venier and Hites, 2008)	1–1916 pg/m ³	0.1–10 pg/m ³ (Hoh and Hites, 2005) 30.7 pg/m ³ (Shi et al., 2009)	0.1-30.7 pg/m ³
Air (e-waste)	up to 120 pg/m ³ (Hoh et al., 2005) 0.6 ng/m ³ (Kierkegaard et al., 2004) 7 ng/m ³ (Karlsson et al., 2006a,b)	0.7-77 ng/m ³	0.5–1.2 pg/m ³ (Venier and Hites, 2008) <0.6–39 ng/m ³ (Pettersson-Julander et al., 2004) 5.6–67 ng/m ³ (Sjödin et al., 2001) 30 ng/m ³ (Kalsson et al., 2006b)	5.6–67 ng/m ³
Dust	Average 47 µg/kg in Swedish house dust (Karlsson et al., 2007) Average 270, 170, and 400 µg/kg in UK homes	<10 to 11070 µg/kg dw	Average 4.8 µg/kg in Swedish house dust (Karlsson et al., 2007) Average 120, 7, 2, and 7,7 µg/kg in LIK homes offices	4.8–1060 µg/kg dw
	offices, and cars respectively (Harrad et al., 2008) <10 to 11070 µg/kg dw, median 201 µg/kg dw (Stapleton et al., 2008).		and cars respectively (Harrad et al., 2008) 1060 μg/kg dw (Sawal et al., 2008) 1.6-789 μg/kg dw (Stapleton et al., 2008)	
	353 µg/kg dw (Sawal et al., 2008)		······································	
Dust e-waste	<2.50 to 139 µg/kg dw (Shi et al., 2009)	<2.50 to 139 µg/kg dw	14.6 to 232 μg/kg (median 107 μg/kg) dw (Shi et al., 2009).	14.6–232 µg/kg dw
Sewage sludge	100 µg/kg dw (Kierkegaard et al., 2004) 266 to 1995 (median 1183) µg/kg dw (Shi et al., 2009).	266 to 1995 µg/kg dw	0.31 to 1.66 µg/kg dw (Shi et al., 2009).	0.31–1.66 µg/kg dw
	- DBDPE range 57–220 µg/kg dw (mean 81 µg/kg dw Europe, 31 µg/kg dw North America); ratio			
	2008a,b) - DBDPE digested sludge 66–95 µg/kg dw			
	(mean 81 µg/kg dw), BDE-209 digested sludge 650–1100 µg/kg dw (mean 800 µg/kg dw) (Bieldund et al. 2008)			
Sediment	(hier is a soo ig/kg dw) (Kierkegaard et al., 2003) 24 µg/kg dw (Kierkegaard et al., 2004) 38.8 to 364 µg/kg (mean 247) µg/kg dw (Shi et al. 2009)	24–364 µg/kg dw	0.05 to 2.07 µg/kg dw (Shi et al., 2009) 6.7 µg/kg dw (Qiu et al., 2007)	0.05-6.7 µg/kg dw
Soil	28.1 µg/kg dry wt (Shi et al., 2009).	28.1 µg/kg dw	0.05 µg/kg dw (Shi et al., 2009).	0.05 μg/kg dw
Birds	Muscle: 9.6–16.3 µg/kg dw (mean 12.7), Liver: 13.7–54.6 µg/kg dw (mean 34.4), Kidney: 24.5– 124 µg/kg dw (mean 64.5) (Shi et al., 2009) ND to 1.7 µg/kg lw (Gao et al., 2009). Range 4–800 µg/kg lw in various tissues	ND-800 µg/kg Iw	Muscle: 0.07–0.39 µg/kg dw (median 0.19), Liver: 0.27–2.41 µg/kg dw (median 1.23), Kidney: 0.12– 0.89 µg/kg dw (median 0.45) (Shi et al., 2009)	0.07–2.41 μg/kg dw
	(Luo et al., 2009)			
Fish Bird egg	< 0.03–3.7 µg/kg lw (K. Law et al., 2006) 1.3 to 288 µg/kg ww (Gauthier et al., 2007)	<0.03 to 3.7 μg/kg lw 1.3 to 288 μg/kg ww	0.11 µg/kg (Karlsson et al., 2006a,b)	0.11–0.96 µg/kg
Tree bark	ND to 0.73 µg/kg dw (Qiu and Hites, 2008; Zhu and Hites, 2006)	ND to 0.73 $\mu\text{g/kg}~dw$	o.50 µg/kg IW III egg yolk (Verreault et al., 2007)	
Panda tissue Childrens' toys	ND to 863 µg/kg lw (Hu et al., 2008). 5540 µg/kg (Chen et al., 2009)	ND to 863 µg/kg lw 5540 µg/kg	101 µg/kg (Chen et al., 2009)	101 µg/kg

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Covaci et al, (2011) Environ. Internat. 37, 532–556

Levels in the environment (II)

- PBB and TBPH
- TBPH and TBB sewage sludge of WWTP San Francisco, US (*Klosterhaus et al. 2008*)
 - TBB: 40 to 1412 ng/g dw
 - TBPH: 57 to 515 ng/g dw
 - In the same ranges or higher than HBCD and decaBDE
- In finless porpoises from Hong Kong and China (*Lam et al. 2009*)
 - TBB: <0.4 -70 ng/g lw
 - TBPH: <0.04-3859 ng/g lw
- In house dust form Boston, US (Stapleton et al. 2008)
 - TBB: <6.6 to 15,030 ng/g (median 133 ng/g)
 - TBPH:1.5 to 10,630 ng/g (median 142 ng/g)

Conclusions

- GC-ECNI-MS sensitive method to measure BDBPE, DBDPE, TBB and TBPH
- The 'new' BFRs can be analyzed in the same run as PBDEs
- GC column < 15 meter (degradation of DBDPE)
- Use of non-destructive cleanup methods is needed (no acids)
- Combine cleanup with PBDEs
- LC-MS/MS in APPI/APCI mode good alternative
- Detected in the environment (limited data)

More "new" BFRs

 Determination of new brominated flame retardants and PBDEs in sediment and SPM from the Western Scheldt (Lopez et al. 2011)

Molecular structure Compound		Molecular structure	Compound
Br Cl Br Br Br Br	Pentabromochlorocyclohexane PBCCH (isomers A, B, C and D) CAS [87-84-3] ^a MW = 513.09 ^b S _{water} =0.055 mg/L ^c Log P _{octanol-water} = 4.72	H ₃ C Br CH ₃ Br Br	2,3,4,5,6-Tetrabromo- <i>p</i> -xylene <i>p</i> TBX CAS [23488-38-2] MW = 421.75
Br Br Cl	Tetrabromo- <i>o</i> -chlorotoluene TBoCT CAS[39569-21-6] MW = 422.19	Br Br CH ₃ Br Br	2,3,4,5,6-Pentrabromotoluene PBT CAS [87-83-2] MW = 486.62 S _{water} =0.000935 mg/L Log P _{octanol-water} = 6.99
Br O Br O Br O Br O	Tetrabromophthalic anhydride TBPhA CAS [632-79-1] MW = 463.7 S _{water} =0.016 mg/L Log P _{octanol-water} = 5.63	Br O Br Br Br Br	Tris(2,3-dibromopropyl)phosphate TDBPP CAS [126-72-7] MW = 697.64 S _{water} =8 mg/L Log P _{octanol-water} = 4.29
Br Br Br Br Br	1,2-bis(2,4,6-tribromphenoxy)ethane BTBPE CAS [37853-59-1] MW = 687.64 $S_{water} = 0.2 mg/L$ Log P _{octanol-water} = 9.15	Br Br Br Br	Decabromodipheylethane DBDPE CAS [84852-53-9] MW = 971.2 S _{water} =0.00072 mg/L Log P _{octanol-water} = 11

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Cleanup method

- Quantification was conducted by IS.
 ¹³C BDE209 was used for octa-, nona,and decaBDE and DBDPE. BDE58 and
 ¹³C BDBPE was used for the other BFRs
- PBCCH, TBoCT, pTBX, PBT, TBPhA, TBDPP and BTBPE were analysed together with the PBDEs on a 50 m column
- DBDPE was analysed in the same run as octa-, nona-BDEs and BDE209 on a short column to avoid on-column degradation





Concentrations in sediment (ng/g dw)



Upstream Scheldt estuary



Results and Conclusions

- Analytical procedure to determine PBCCH, TBoCT, pTBX, TBPhA, PBT, BDBPE, and DBDPE together with PBDEs in sediments and in suspended particulate matter
- First identification of PBCCH, pTBX and TBoCT in sediment and SPM
- The concentrations of these new flame retardants ranged from 0.05 to 0.30 μ g/kg dry weight

Organophosphorus Flame Retardants (PFRs)



Introduction

- Phase-out production and use of PBDEs
- Increased use of alternative FRs (e.g. PFRs)
- Worldwide production volume of FRs
 - 14% PFRs compared to 21% for BFRs*
- Detected in various matrices e.g. water, air sediment
- Limited information on PFRs in biota







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 Determination of PFRs in the pelagic and benthic food web of the Western Scheldt



IVM Institute for Environmental Studies **PFRs**



TiBP



TBP



TCEP



ТСРР









TDCPP

TBEP

TPP

EHDP



TCP



DBPhP





Cleanup



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PFRs in Belgian home dust (n=33) µg/g

	House dust	House dust samples $(n=33)$					
FRs	DF (%) ^a	Mean	Median	P95 ^b	Range		
OPFRs							
TEP	0	< 0.05	< 0.05				
TiBP	100	4.20	2.99	8.81	0.70-15.6		
TnBP	100	0.25	0.13	0.63	0.03-2.70		
TCEP	86	0.49	0.23	1.72	<0.08-2.65		
TCPP	100	4.82	1.38	14.5	0.19-73.7		
TBEP	100	6.58	2.03	23.1	0.36-67.6		
TPP	100	2.02	0.50	7.28	0.04-29.8		
TDCPP	97	0.57	0.36	0.99	< 0.08-6.64		
TCP	97	0.44	0.24	1.10	<0.04-5.07		
$\sum OPFRs$		19.4	13.1	70.3	1.92-94.7		
BFRs ^c							
BDE-209	98	0.59	0.31	0.92	< 0.001-5.30		
\sum PBDEs		0.70	0.36	1.14	0.003-6.33		
\sum HBCDs		1.74	0.13	2.46	0.010-42.70		
TBBPA	85	0.04	0.01	0.09	0.002-0.42		

Van den eede et al, (2011) Environment International 37 454-461





Life Cycle and Risk Assessment of Environmental Compatible Flame Retardants Prototypical case study ENFIRO

EU research project FP7: 226563





Objectives ENFIRO

- To study the substitution options for some BFRs
- ENFIRO delivers:
 - Comprehensive dataset on the viability of production, application
 - Risk assessment
 - Life cycle assessment (LCA)

Work plan



ENFIRO: HFFRs for screening study

Inorganic FRs (n=7)







Intumescent systems (n=2)

Nanoclay (n=1)

Three level assessments



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Assessment of FR/polymer material





AIPi leaching from PBT pellets and moulded plates





Final conclusion

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- New BFRs can be analysed by LC versus GC \rightarrow Both
- Alternative flame retardant → only brominated or include PFRs
- What if we only use metal based FRs like ATH → problem solved?



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