

# GC Applications Using Highly Polar Phases

## INTRODUCTION

- The analysis of volatile mixtures using gas chromatography is demanding and the use of complimentary phases can offer benefits to complete separation. Highly polar phases are noteworthy as their retention mechanism is orthogonal to other phases and so can yield quite different separations.
- Described here are the alternative use of a range of phases: a carborane phase (HT8), a non-polar phase (BPX5), and a highly polar phase (BPX90); for some common analyses that often suffer from coelution problems.
- BPX90 is a highly polar phase that offers useful separations in its own right, but it is also an ideal compliment to BPX5 or HT8 for 2D-GC applications.

## RESULTS

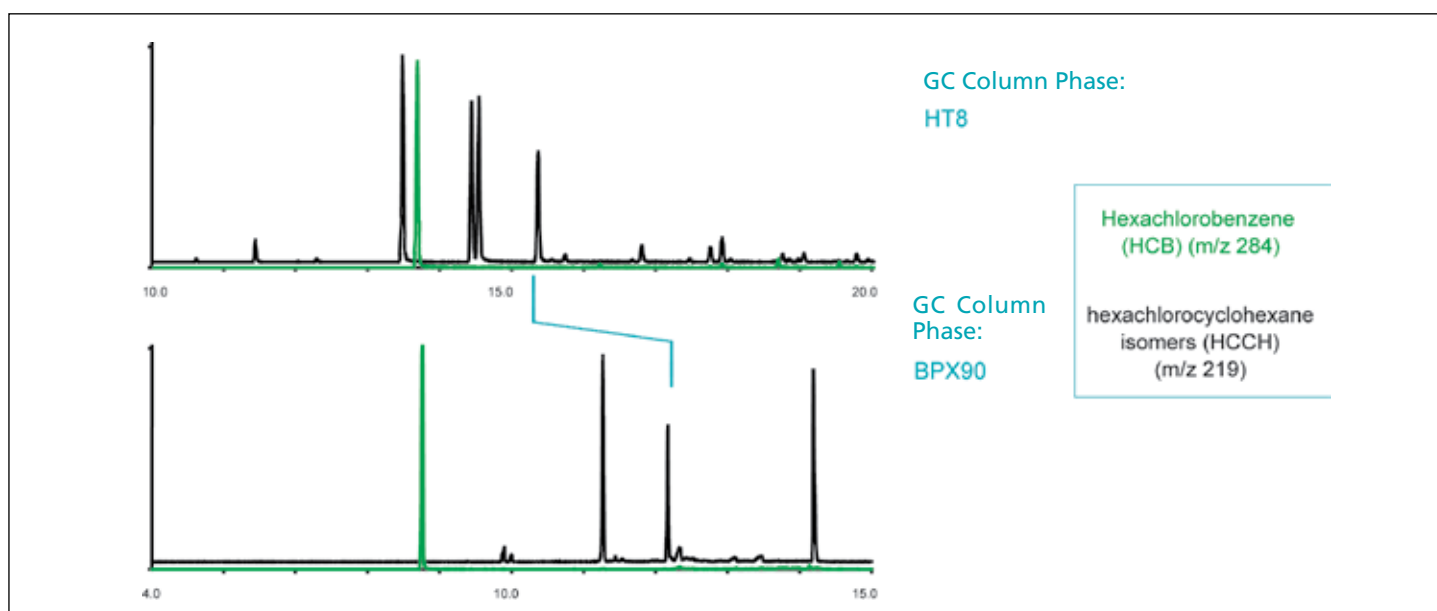


Figure 1. HCCH isomers and HCB.

- Baseline resolution of Lindane ( $\gamma$ -hexachlorocyclohexane) from its  $\beta$ -isomer is readily achieved using a carborane based HT8 column.
- Separation is primarily by boiling point but is enhanced by interaction with the carborane phase.
- BPX90 provides complimentary separation mechanisms based on  $\pi$ -bonding for hexachlorobenzene and on surface polarity for hexachlorocyclohexanes. Changed elution order for HCCH isomers (and loss of resolution for all isomers) suggests BPX90 is a suitable alternative for chromatography of diastereomers and other structural isomers.

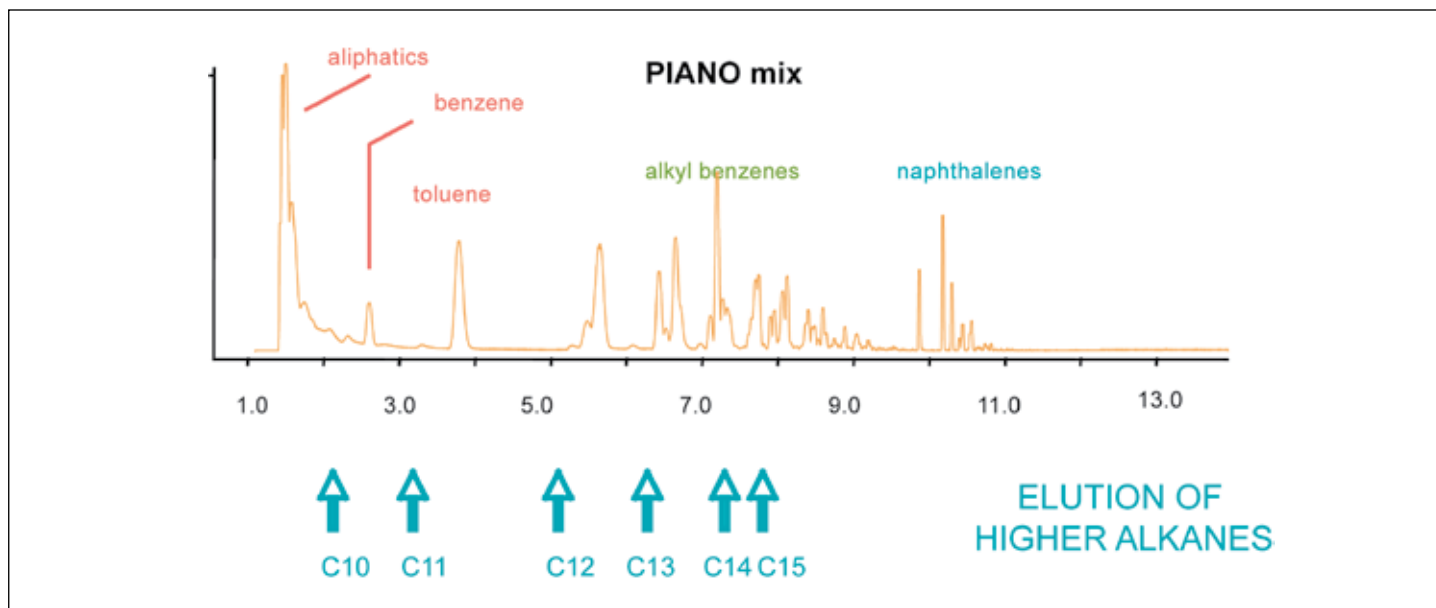


Figure 2. Separation of aromatics on BPX90.

- BPX90 allows effective speciation of aliphatics, simple aromatics and polycyclics.
- Separation is based on both boiling point and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions for aromatics meaning the phase will also speciate aromatics on the basis of electron density and so allows the separation of ortho, meta and para substituted forms.

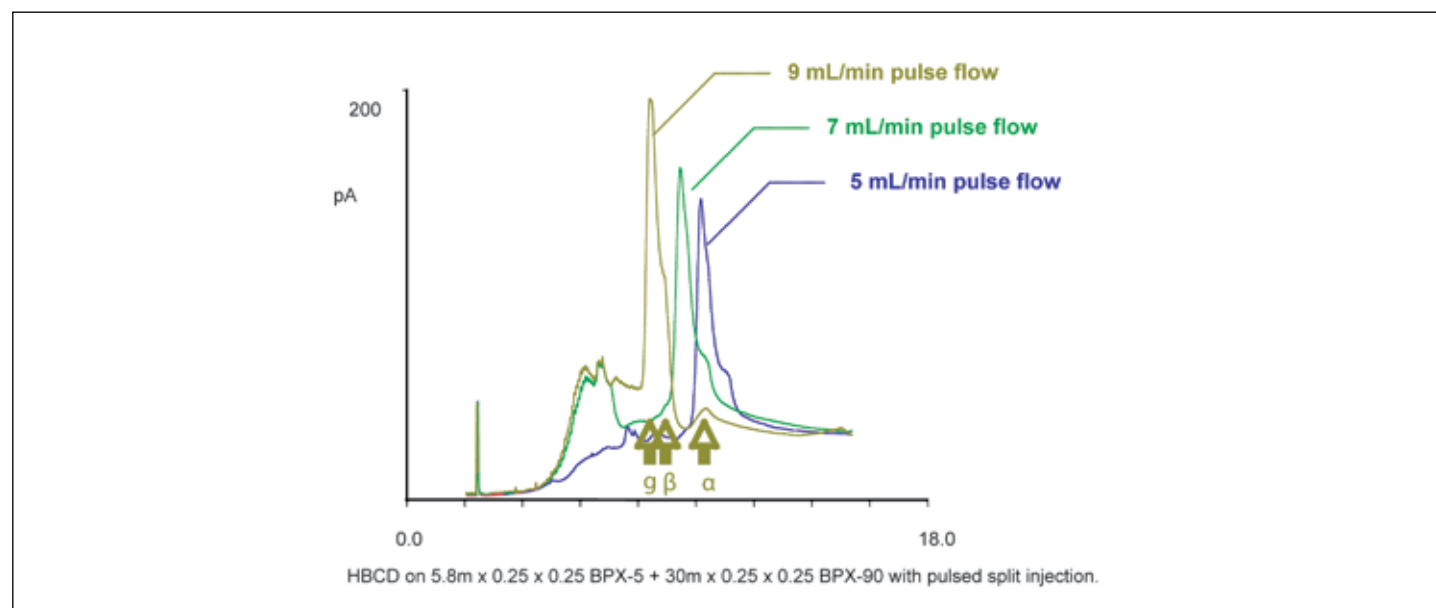


Figure 3. Separation of hexabromocyclododecanes..

- Separation of the HBCDs is made difficult by their interconversion at temperatures above 160 °C and by debromination.
- The unique characteristics of BPX90 allow separation based on differences in the phase interaction with the n-electrons on axial and equatorial bromine atoms.
- Separation may be improved with thicker film columns and reduced temperature.

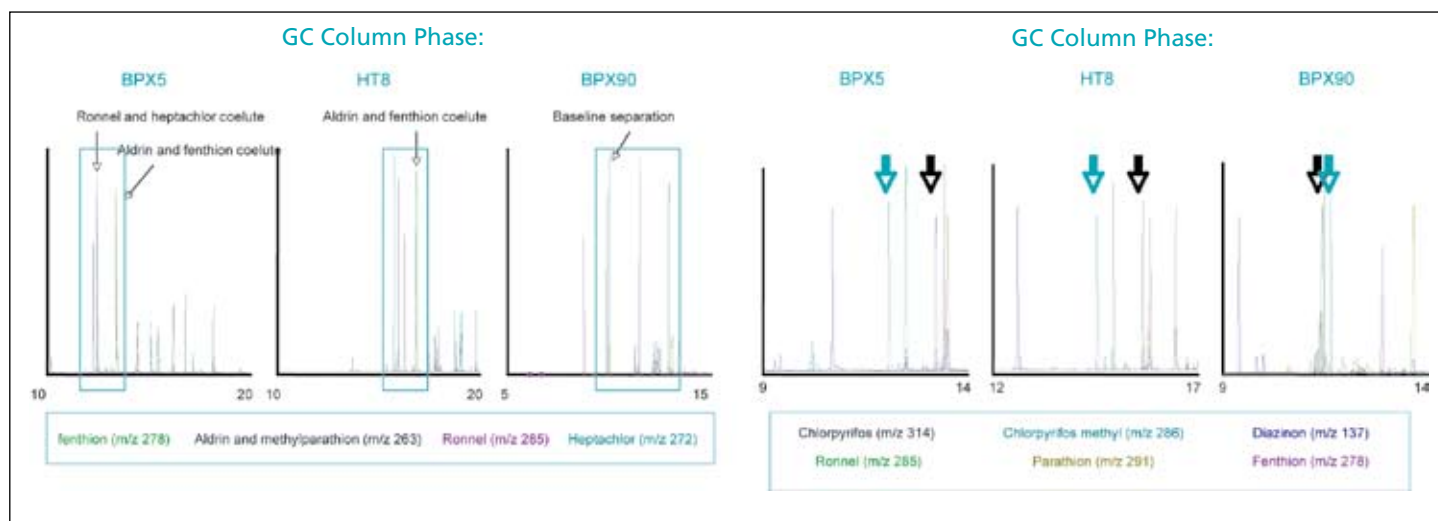


Figure 4. Variable GC column phase selectivity for pesticides & thiophosphate esters.

- Polar phase separation of thiophosphate esters shows a reversal of elution order for chlorpyrifos ethyl and methyl showing BPX90 separation is dominated by  $\pi$ - $\pi$  mediated rather than boiling point based separations.
- Steric hindrance of  $\pi$ -bonds and steric volume can contribute to separation using BPX90.
- The unique characteristics of BPX90 allow separation based on differences aromatic electron density caused by different functional groups.

For more information contact our technical customer support team on: [techsupport@sge.com](mailto:techsupport@sge.com)

## AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC REGION

SGE Analytical Science Pty Ltd  
 Toll Free: 1800 800 167  
 Tel: +61 (0) 3 9837 4200  
 Fax: +61 (0) 3 9874 5672  
 Email: [support@sge.com](mailto:support@sge.com)

## CHINA

SGE Shanghai Representative Office  
 Tel: +86 21 6407 9382  
 Fax: +86 21 6407 9386  
 Email: [china@sge.com](mailto:china@sge.com)

## MIDDLE EAST

SGE Gulf  
 Tel: +971 6 557 3341  
 Fax: +971 6 557 3541  
 Email: [gulfsupport@sge.com](mailto:gulfsupport@sge.com)

## EUROPE

SGE Europe Ltd  
 European Head Office  
 Toll Free: 00800 2790 8999  
 Toll Free Fax: 00800 2626 2609  
 Tel: +44 1908 568 844  
 Fax: +44 1908 566 790  
 Tel France: +33 1 69 29 80 90  
 Fax France: +33 1 69 29 09 25  
 Tel Germany: +49 (0) 6155 / 60746 0  
 Fax Germany: +49 (0) 6155 / 60746 50  
 Email: [europe@sge.com](mailto:europe@sge.com)

## INDIA

SGE Laboratory Accessories Pvt Ltd  
 Tel: +91 22 24715896  
 Fax: +91 22 24716592  
 Email: [sgeindia@vsnl.com](mailto:sgeindia@vsnl.com)

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SGE Incorporated  
 Toll Free: (800) 945 6154  
 Tel: +1 512 837 7190  
 Fax: +1 512 836 9159  
 Email: [usa@sge.com](mailto:usa@sge.com)

## JAPAN

SGE Japan Inc  
 Tel: +81 45 222 2885  
 Fax: +81 45 222 2887  
 Email: [japan@sge.com](mailto:japan@sge.com)

 **SGE Analytical Science**  
[www.sge.com](http://www.sge.com)