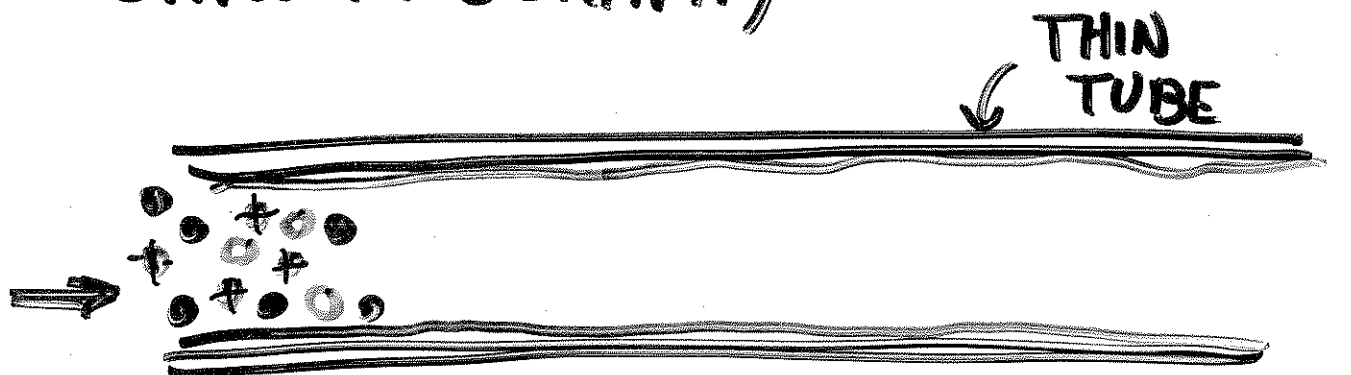
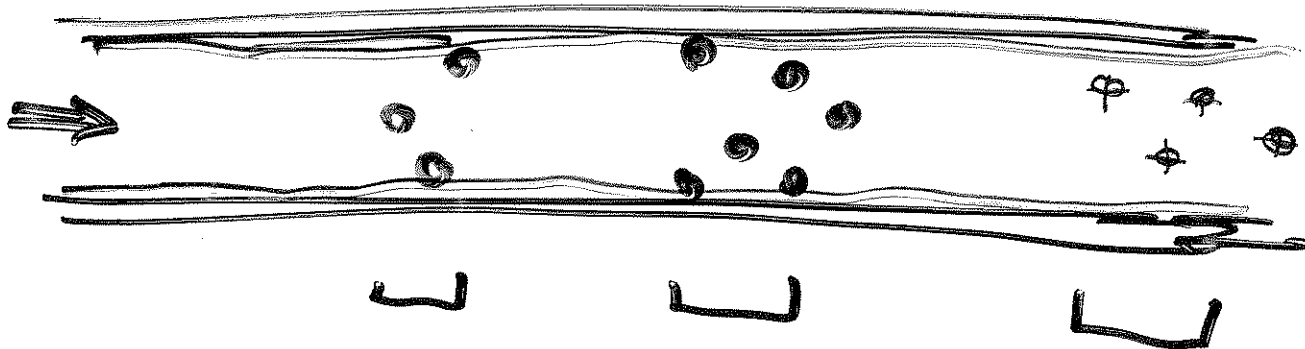
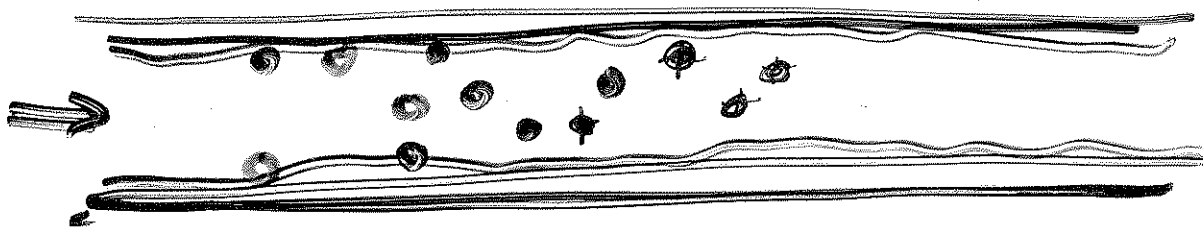


# CHROMATOGRAPHY

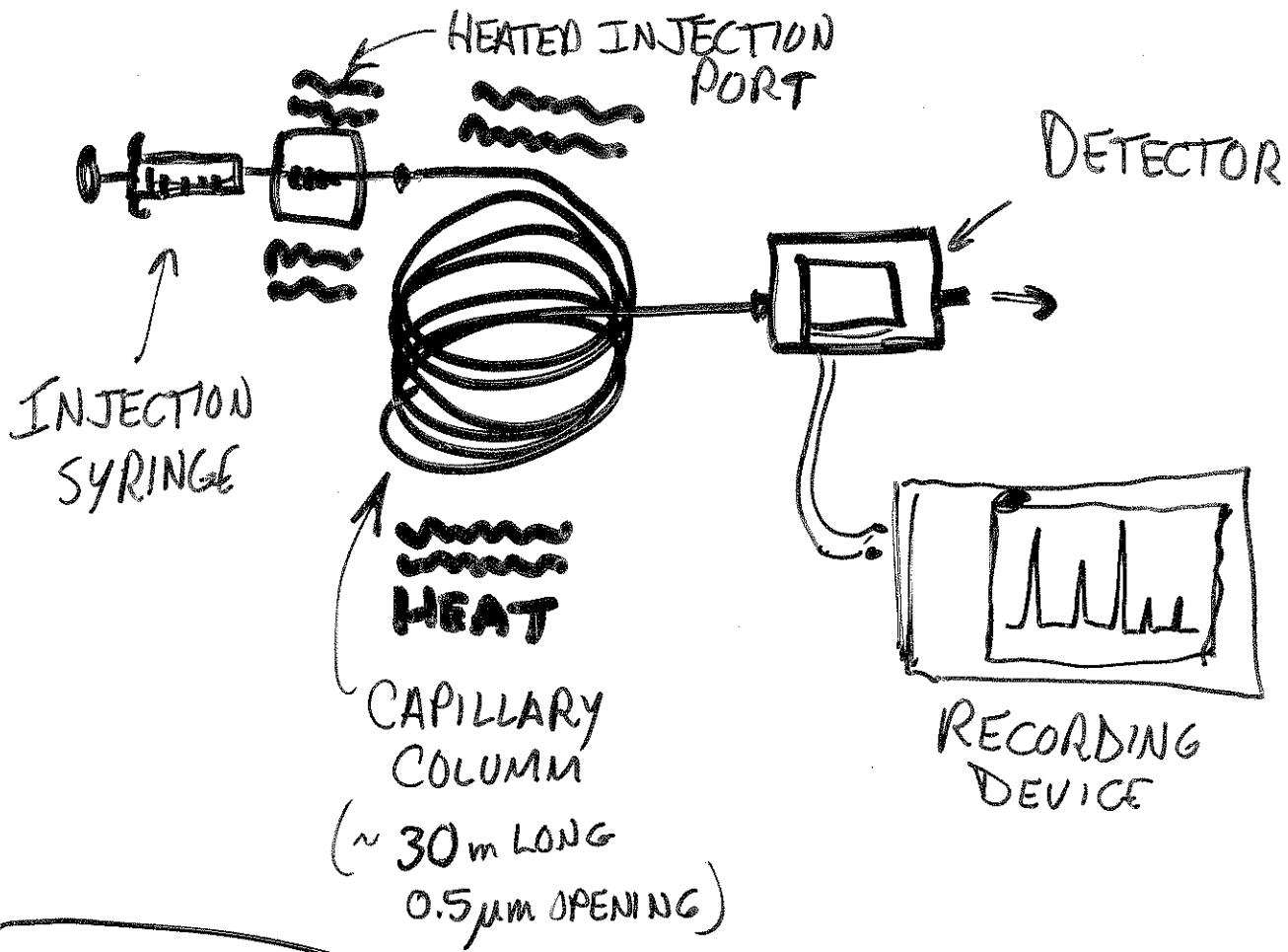


MIX OF  
3 COMPOUNDS

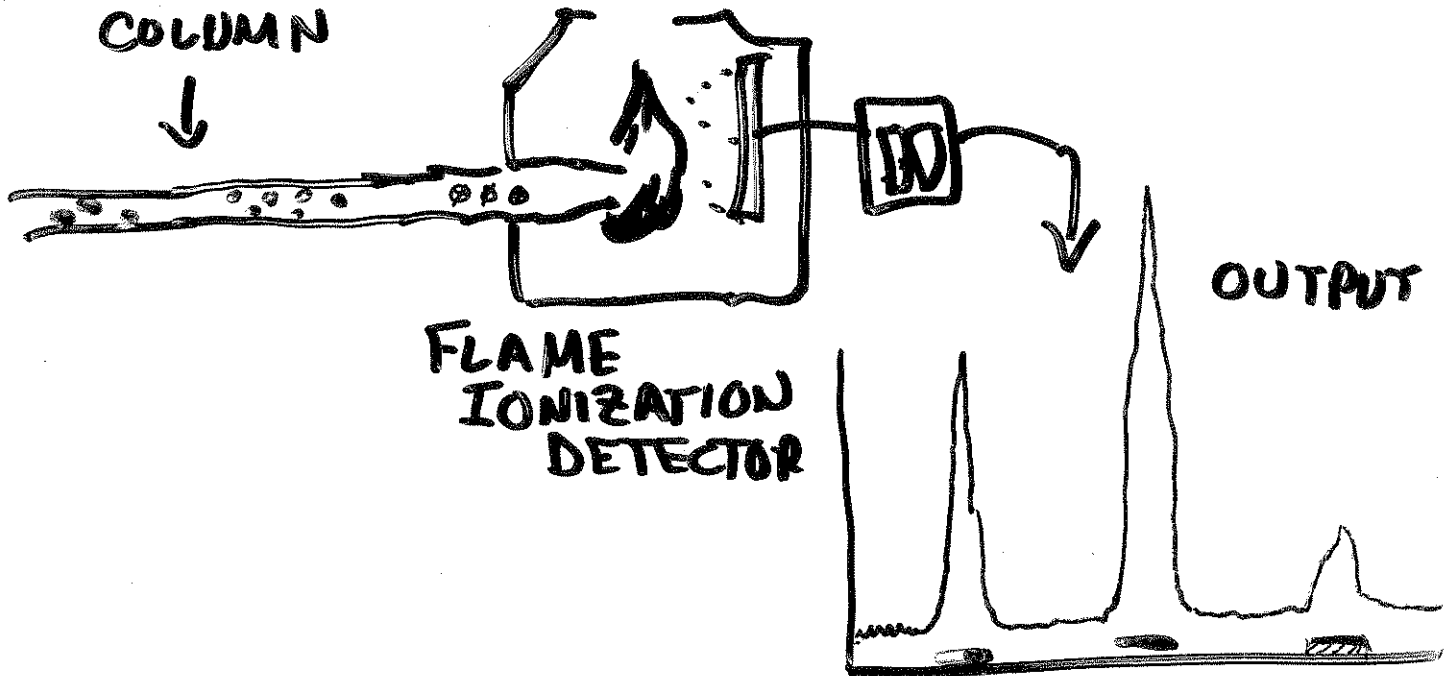


SEPARATION  
OF THE  
3 COMPOUNDS

# GC:



## Ex

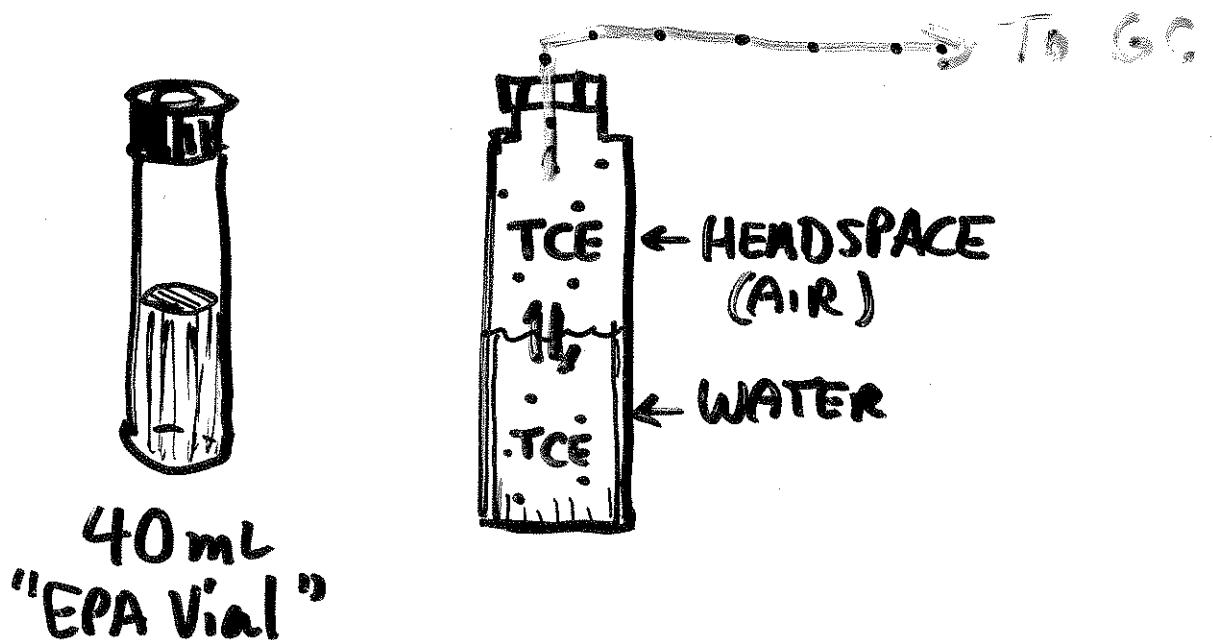


# GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY (GC)

■ Separates & quantifies gases

◦ Used for volatilizable organic compounds

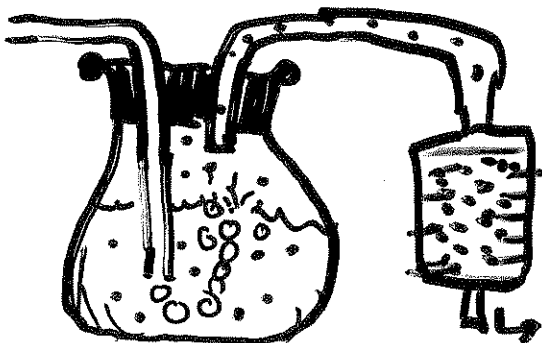
Ex: Volatile Organic Compounds



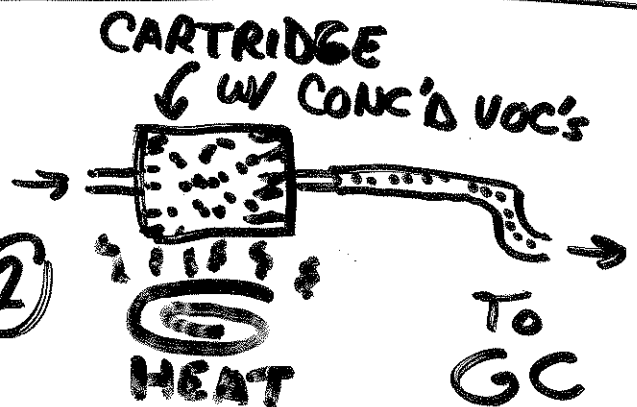
OR:

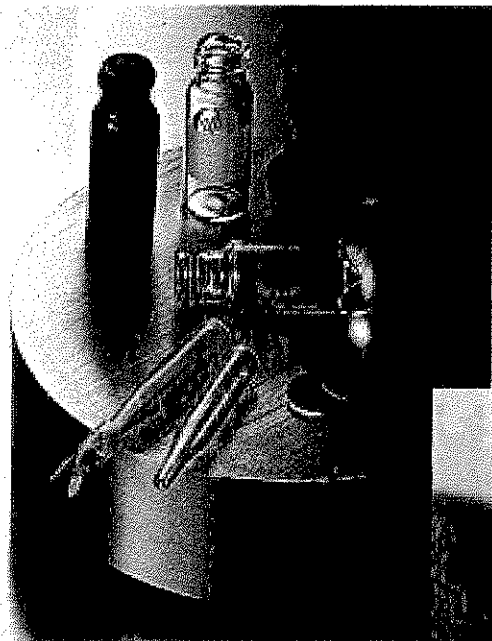
PURGE & TRAP

①



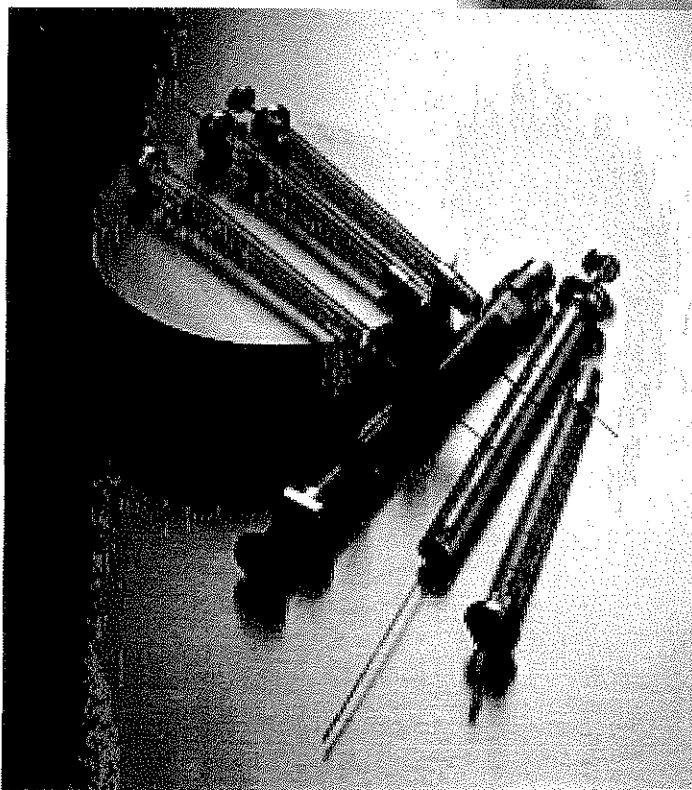
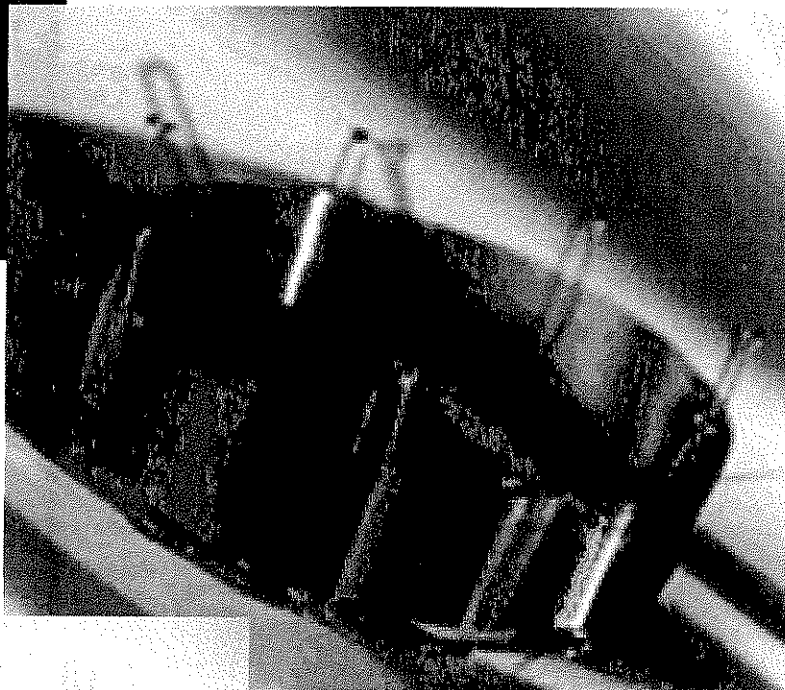
②





GC Vials, septa, caps

Glass  
Capillary  
Column

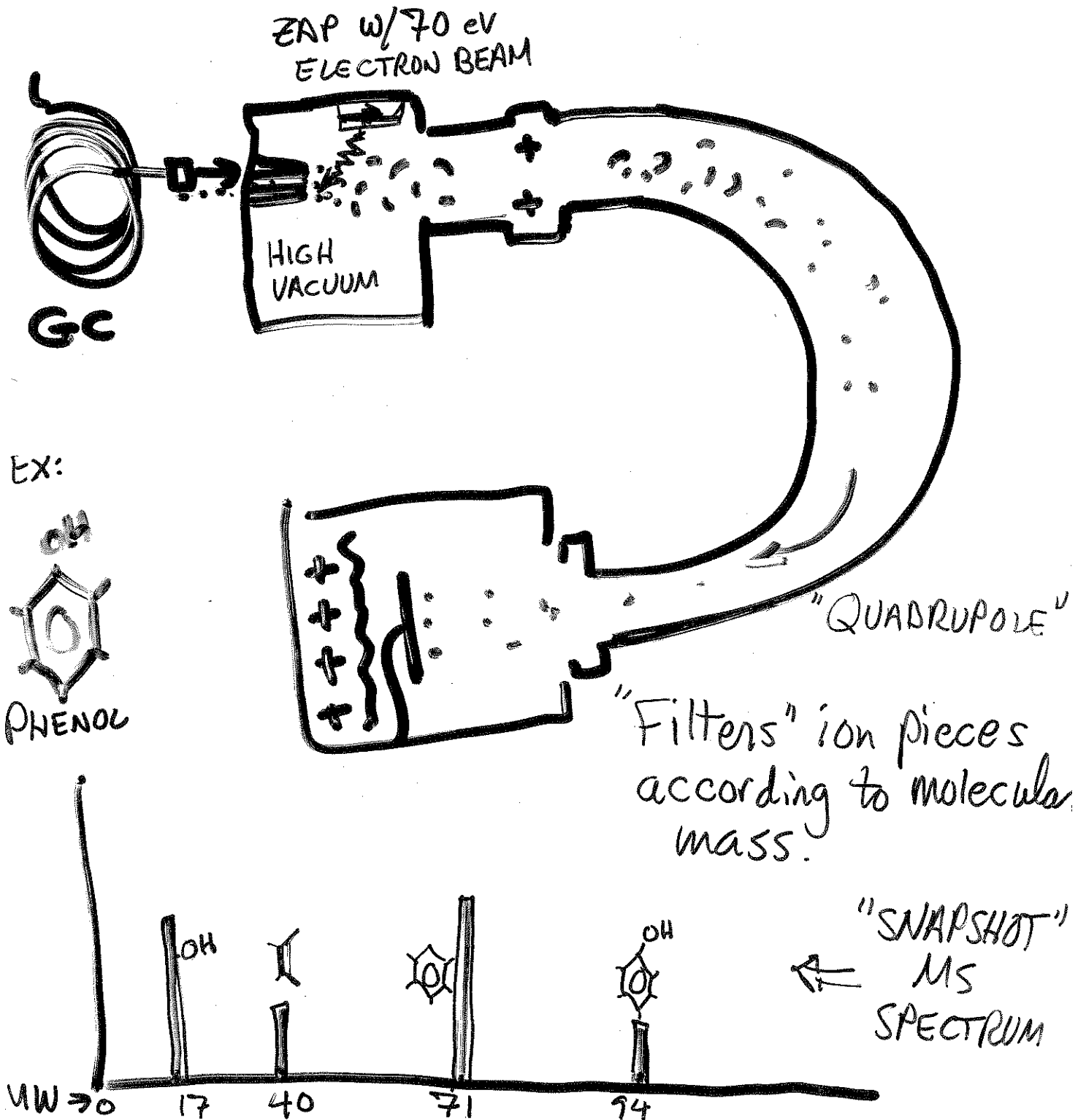


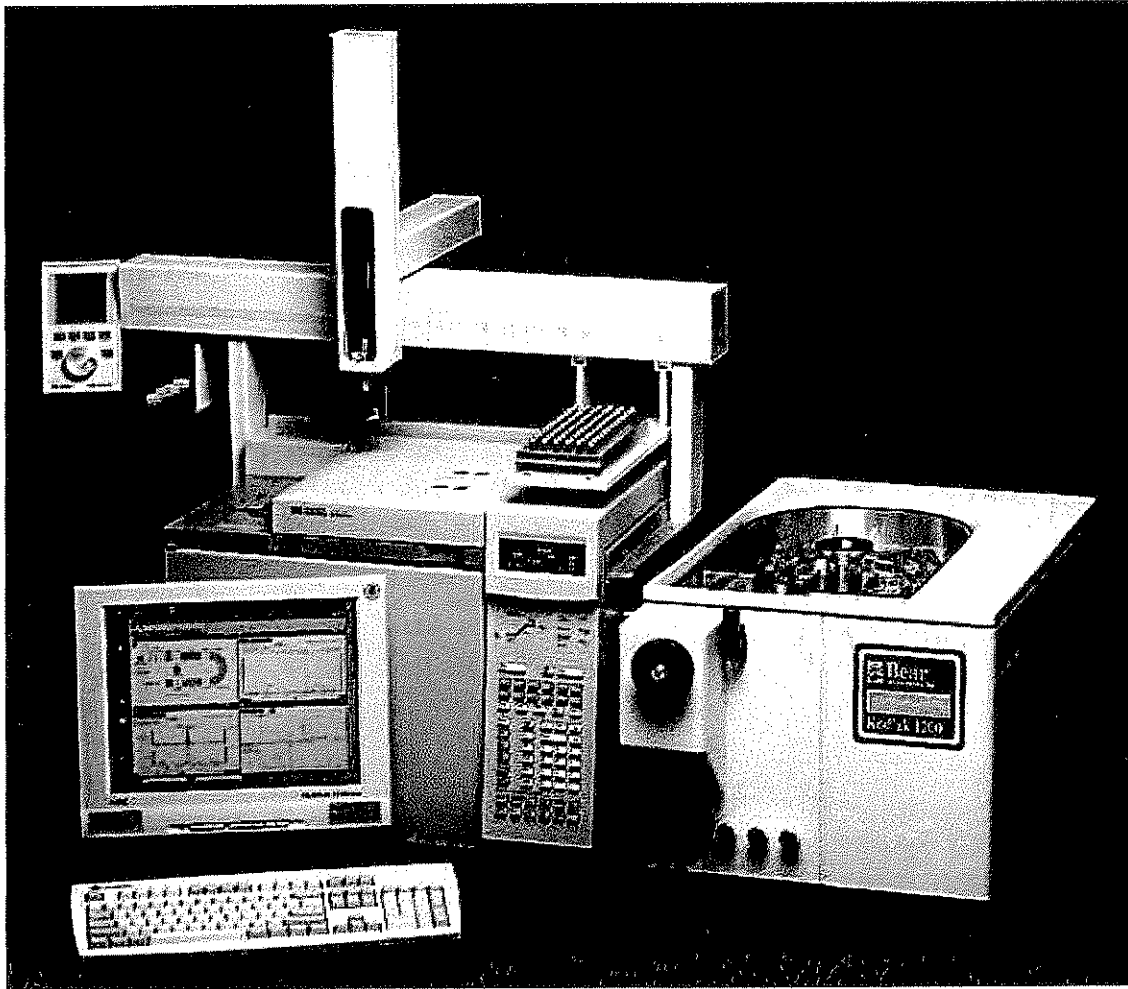
GC Injection GC  
syringes

# GC w/ MASS SPECTROMETRY

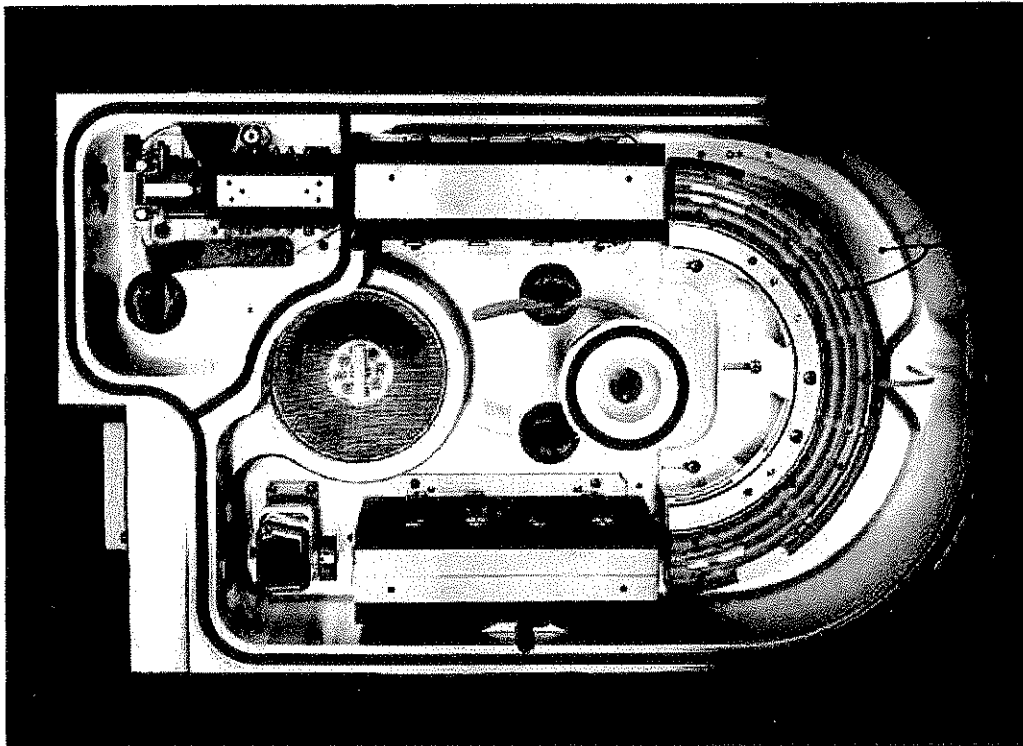
## GC/MS

IDEAL FOR SCANNING A SAMPLE WITH MANY UNKNOWN COMPONENTS



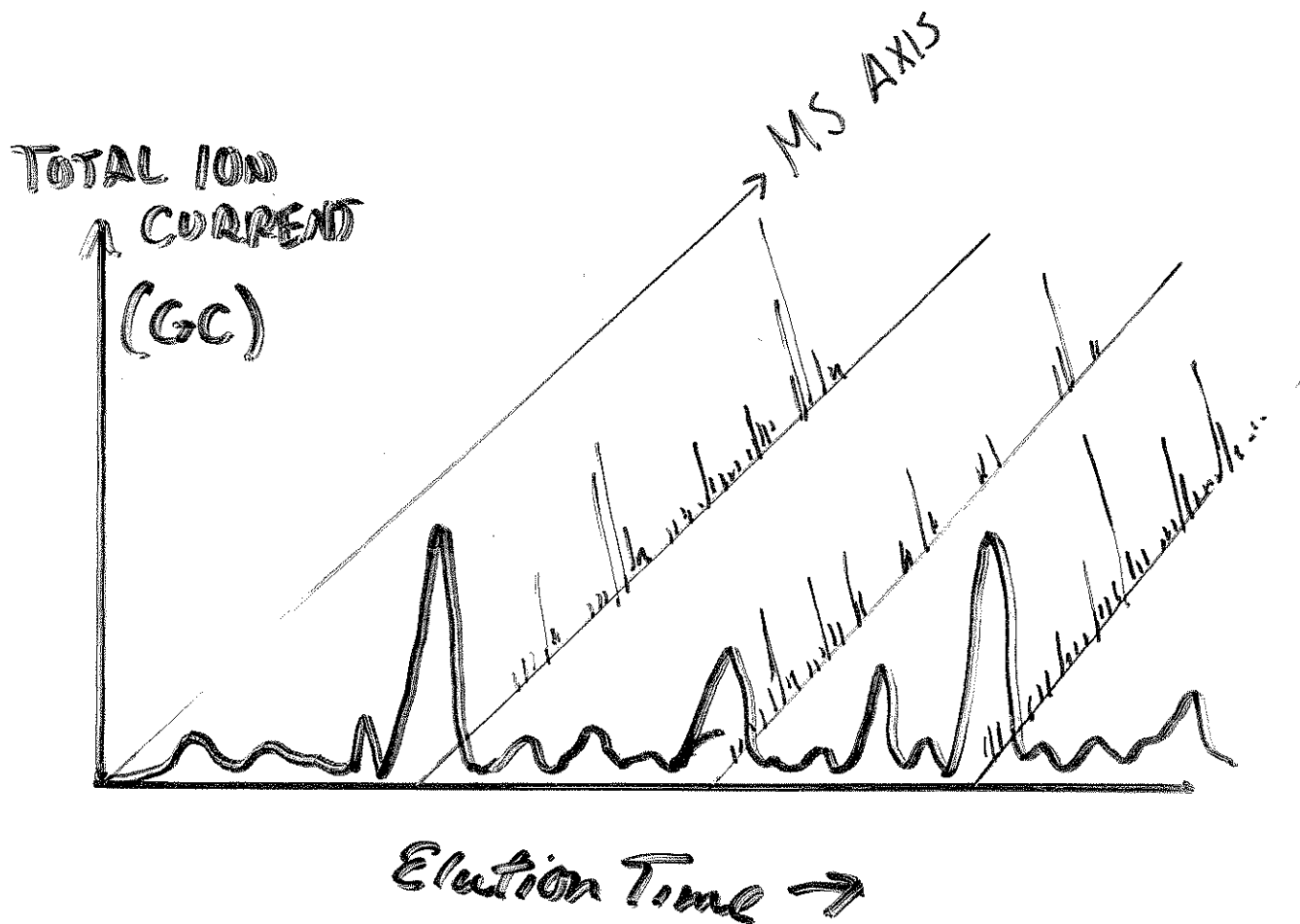


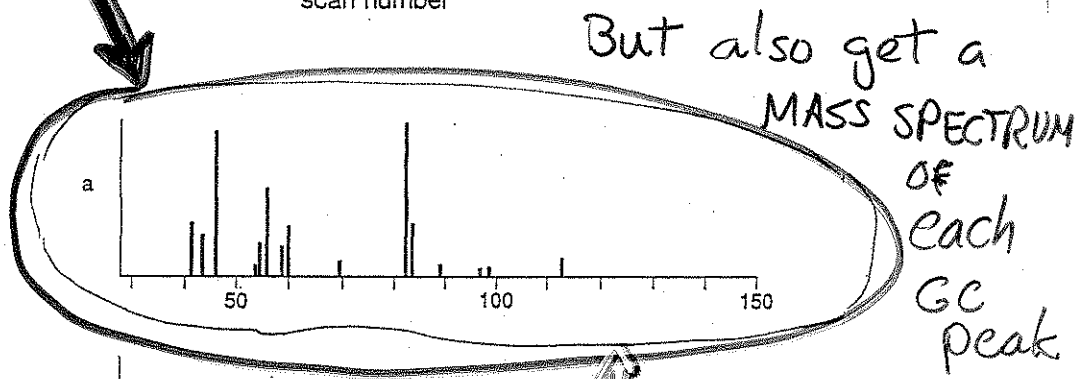
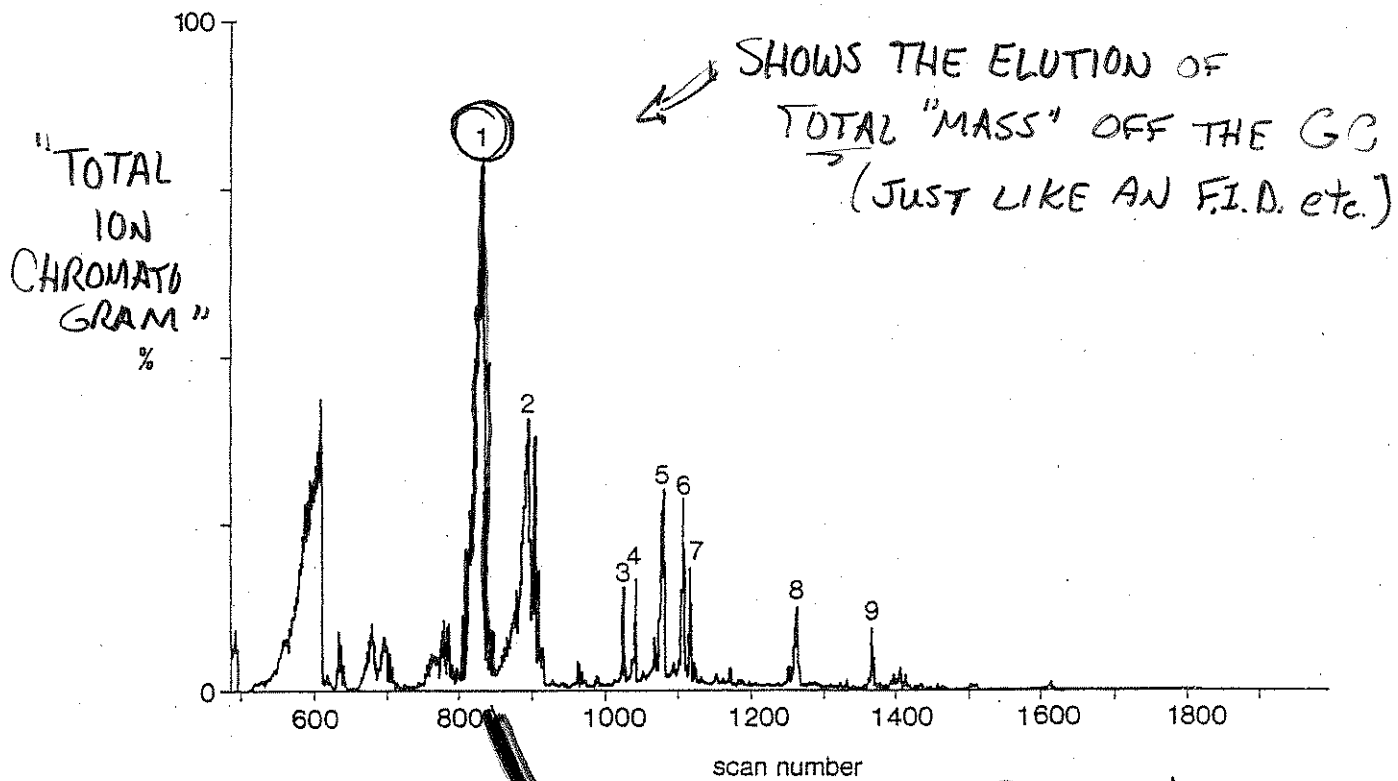
TYPICAL  
GC/  
MS  
SYSTEM



TOP  
VIEW  
OF  
MS  
PART

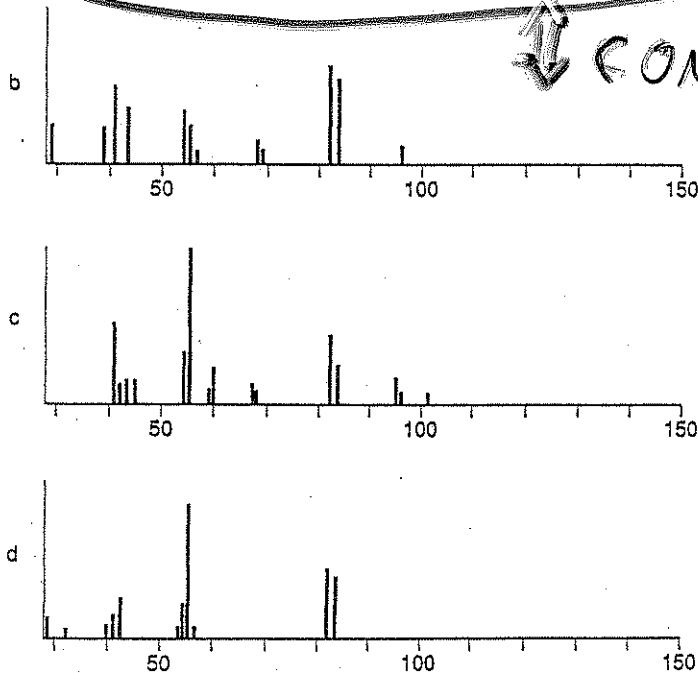
# GC-MS ANALYSIS: Data





↓ COMPARE

LIBRARY  
OF  
KNOWN  
SPECTRA



**QUALITY ASSURANCE**  
**=**  
**A Stated Set of Quality Goals**  
**+**  
**Quality Control**  
**+**  
**Quality Assessment**

**Quality Assurance:** Assure that data meet defined standards of quality with a stated level of confidence.

**Quality Control:** How you control the quality of the methods so they meet the needs of the user:

- ✓ adequate in precision and accuracy
- ✓ dependable
- ✓ economical

**Quality Assessment:** Assuring that the quality control is effective. Includes auditing and evaluation of results.

**Statistical**

Use of data  
from a stable  
measurement system

**Quality**

to provide  
probabilistic confidence  
of achieving

**Assurance**

a desired  
level  
of acceptability.

---

U.S. EPA guidelines for establishing a  
“desired level of acceptability”:

**Completeness:**

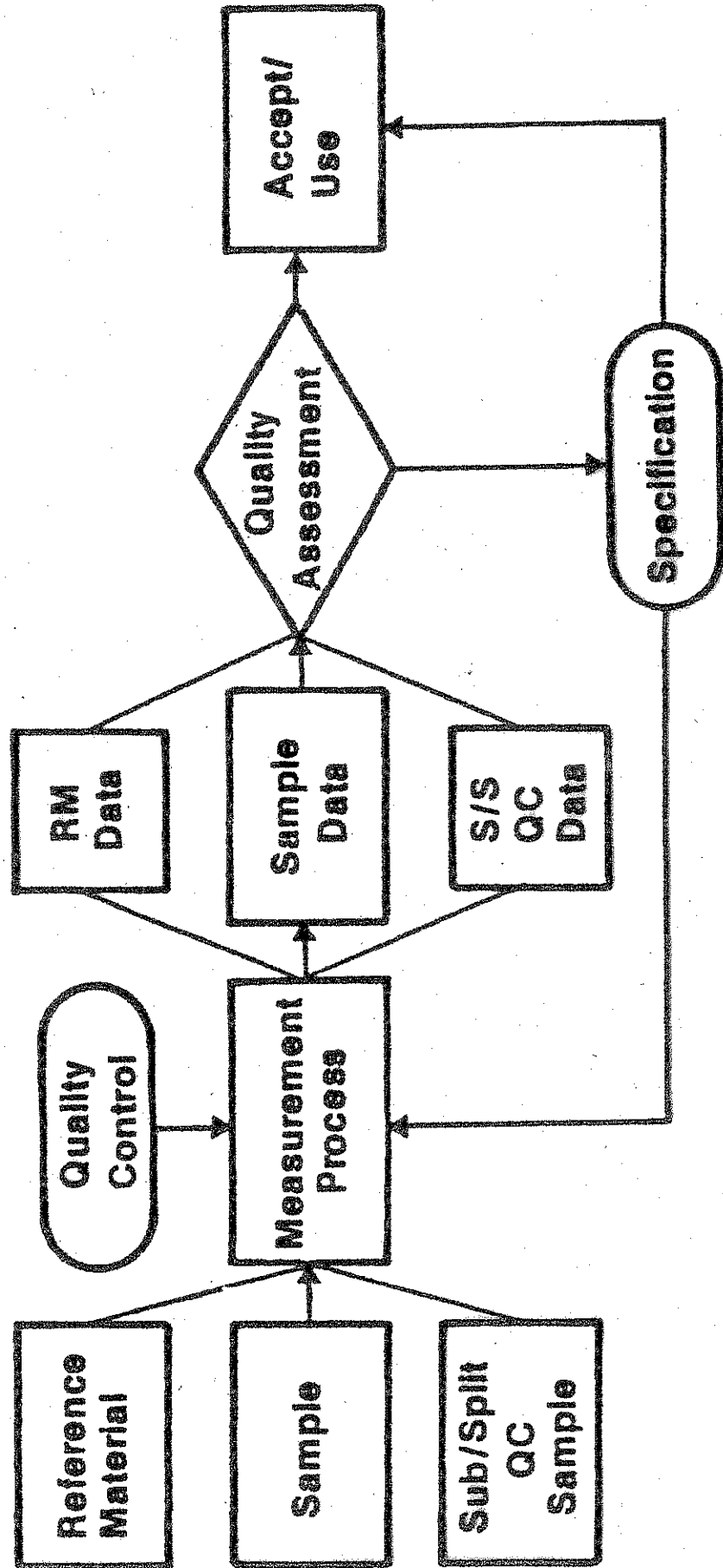
Did we get all the data we set out to get?

**Representativeness:**

Do our data accurately and precisely represent  
what is really going on in the system?

**Comparability:**

Can we confidently compare one data set with  
another?



Measurement process quality assurance.

## *Measurement Quality Objectives*

MQOs are specific goals defined by the data users that clearly describe the data quality that is sought for the project phase. The MQOs should be defined according to the following six quality assurance objectives and attributes:

- **Detection Limit**--The lowest concentration of an analyte that a specified analytical procedure can reliably detect
- **Bias**--The difference between an observed value and the "true" value (or known concentration) of the parameter being measured; bias is the first component of accuracy, which is the ability to obtain precisely a nonbiased (true) value
- **Precision**--The level of agreement among multiple measurements of the same characteristic; precision is the second component of accuracy
- **Representativeness**--The degree to which the data collected accurately represent the population of interest (e.g., contaminant concentrations)
- **Comparability**--The similarity of data from different sources included within individual or multiple data sets; the similarity of analytical methods and data from related projects across AOCs
- **Completeness**--The quantity of data that is successfully collected with respect to the amount intended in the experimental design.

## Replicates [Precision Check]

- Analytical: Sample divided in the lab
- Field Replicates: Several samples in the field
- Field Split Samples: One field sample split in the field

## Blanks: [Check on Contamination]

- Reagent Blank: Pure water in lab taken through process
- Field Blank: Pure water taken into field and “sampled”

## Reference Materials: [Check on Bias]

- Carefully standardized materials with known levels of the compounds
- Can be pure samples or environmental matrices with known contamination levels
- Available from licenced sources and NIST

## Spikes

- Matrix spikes: Known amount added to the matrix before analysis
- Surrogate spikes: Something similar to analyte but not actually in the sample; allows tracking of the amount of *recovery* of analyte

## Sample Custody

"Chain of custody" is a set of procedures used to provide an accurate *written record* that can be used to trace the possession of a sample from the moment of its collection through its introduction into a data set.

The National Enforcement Investigations Center of EPA defines custody of a sample in the following ways:

- It is in your actual possession, or
- It is in your view, after being in your physical possession, or
- It was in your possession and then you locked or sealed it up to prevent tampering, or
- It is in a secure area.

