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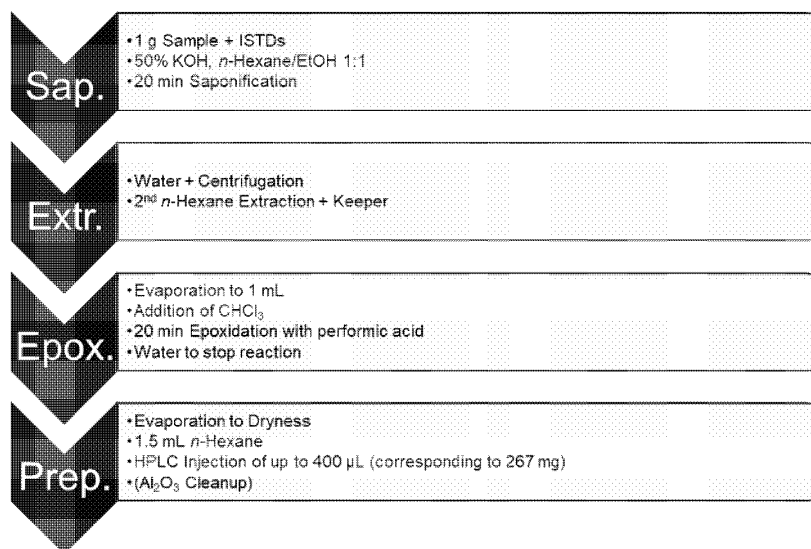
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE (PARTIALLY) AUTOMATED ANALYSIS OF MINERAL OIL CONTAMINATION IN FOODSTUFFS DURING SAMPLE PREPARATION



(57) **Abstract:** Disclosed is a method for the (partially) automated analysis of mineral oil contaminants in foodstuffs comprising the following steps in sample preparation: contacting and dissolving resp. extracting the food with an excess of a solution of a hydrocarbon solvent and an alcohol at a temperature between 20 °C and the boiling point of the solvent mixture, after cooling and if an alcohol was used in the previous step, initiating the phase separation by adding water or a mixture of water and an alcohol, contacting the organic phase with an excess of at least 30% hydrogen peroxide and a compound of the general formula (I) R¹-COOH (I), in which R¹ represents H or the general partialformula (II) (R²)(R³)C(R⁴)- (II), where R², R³ and R⁴, independently, represent H, F, Cl, OH or methyl, in the presence of a small amount of a mineral acid at a temperature of above 20°C to

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70°C for 5 min to 2h with epoxidation, separation of the reagents by addition of an excess of water, use of the hydrocarbon solvent extract for the following analysis.