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Article

Turning a 3D Printer into a HPLC Fraction Collector: A Tool for Compound-Specific Stable Isotope Measurements

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Abstract: Compound-specific isotope analysis (CSIA) can provide unique insights into the cycling of elements including carbon and nitrogen. One approach for CSIA is the use of high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) to separate compounds of interest, followed by analysis of these compounds using an elemental analyzer coupled to an isotope ratio mass spectrometer. A key component of this technique is the fraction collector, which automatically collects compounds as they are separated by HPLC. Here we present a fraction collector which is a simple adaptation of a 3D printer, and thus can be easily adopted by any laboratory already equipped for HPLC. In addition to the much lower cost compared to commercial alternatives, this adaptation has the advantage for CSIA that the 3D-printer is able to heat the collected fractions, which is not true for many commercial fraction collectors. Heating allows faster evaporation of the solvent, so that the dried compounds can be measured by EA-IRMS immediately. The procedure can be repeated consecutively so that dilute solutions can have the compounds concentrated for analysis. Any computer-controlled HPLC can be integrated to the fraction collector used here by means of AutoIt.

Keywords: Arduino; AutoIt; carbohydrates; CSIA; IRMS; HPLC; liquid chromatography; stable isotopes

1. Introduction

Compound specific isotope analysis is the name given to a group of analytical techniques which generally consist of isolating the specific chemical compound and then measuring them for their stable isotope composition [1]. The term is used to differentiate from the analysis performed without the initial separation step, which is known as bulk analysis. Common targets for compound specific isotope analysis are carbohydrates [2–4], amino acids [3,5–8] and fatty acids [3,9,10].

High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) is a technique used to separate dissolved compounds in a liquid sample by making the solution go through a chromatographic column. The chromatographic column has stronger affinity to some compounds compared to others, and this makes them elute at different times. HPLC is one technique that enables compound specific isotope ratio mass spectrometry. There have been numerous studies in which samples separated by HPLC are subsequently measured using IRMS, for a range of chemical elements [11–19]. HPLC-IRMS can be achieved using on-line HPLC-IRMS, where a HPLC is directly connected to an IRMS [20], but this approach has some limitations: it is limited to carbon isotopes only (while IRMS can measure many different elements); it can only operate using low-flow water as the mobile phase (in contrast, HPLC can operate using many other solvents, including organic solvents, which cannot be used for on-line HPLC-IRMS); and it demands the use of corrosive chemicals and fragile membranes / filaments which make the operation of the system highly labor (and capital) intensive [21]. Furthermore, on-line HPLC-IRMS demands specialized equipment that is not present in most IRMS laboratories [21]. An alternative to on-line HPLC-IRMS is off-line HPLC-IRMS, where compounds separated by HPLC are physically collected then subsequent analysis with an IRMS. While not as efficient as the on-line approach, off-line HPLC-IRMS is arguably more flexible, robust and accessible,

because there is no limitation of solvent or target element, there is no need of specialized interfaces between the HPLC and the IRMS, and HPLC is a very common technique present in many laboratories.

A key element of off-line HPLC-IRMS is the fraction collector, a device that automatically collects the compounds as they elute through HPLC. Here we show how a common 3D printer can be easily adapted to become a fraction collector with the ultimate aim of enabling stable isotope analyses for compounds separated using HPLC.

2. Design

2.1. Justification of the design

Fraction collectors for HPLC typically consist of delivery tubing and a container tray. The delivery tubing (or the tray) is moved so that the liquid eluting from the HPLC, corresponding to specific peaks of the various compounds separated by the HPLC, can be delivered to the individual compartments within the tray, so that the desired compounds are collected.

Fraction collectors can be seen as a kind of autosamplers. This means that they are among the simplest instruments in a laboratory. Despite their simplicity, commercial fraction collectors are arguably overpriced, as is most commercial scientific equipment [22–24]. This has prompted scientists to build their own fraction collectors [25–28]. Adapting these designs, or some autosampler designs [29–32], could be an option for our purposes. However, we realized that a simpler approach would be to adapt commercially available 3D-printers to this end. The main advantages are: 1) low cost; 2) wide availability; 3) high similarity in function. This similarity consists in the ability of 3D-printers to move the extruder (equivalent to the delivery tubing) and the printing bed so that positions in the 3D space can be reached. Also, most current 3D-printers have an advantage compared to autosamplers for this purpose: 3D-printers are equipped with a heated bed, which is used to aid printing. A heated bed is convenient for a fraction collector because it allows the collected liquid to be simultaneously evaporated, so that only the non-volatile compounds remain in each container as dry powders. This way, the collected fractions can be immediately taken for diverse chemical measurements, including stable isotope analyses of carbon and nitrogen, which are our main interest.

2.2. 3D-printer modifications

The fraction collector used here consists of a 3D printer (3D printer touch, Balco) which had its extruder removed and replaced with a simple tube holder for the PEEK (polyether ether ketone) tubing coming from the HPLC. A metal tray (PAL TR98, CTC analytics) was placed on the heat bed of the 3D printer using double sided tape. A tube leading to a waste drum was attached to the side of the 3D printer body to allow for waste collection.

Instead of the original control board for the 3D printer, an MKS-GEN-L board (Makerbase) was connected to the stepper motors, the heat bed, and the power supply of the 3D printer. Replacing the control board is not strictly necessary, but we have familiarity with the MKS-GEN-L board, and thus opted for this approach. The Marlin firmware was uploaded to the board to allow the control of the stepper motors and heat bed. Stepper motor drivers (A4988) were installed on the board.

2.3. Bill of materials

Table 1. Bill of materials.

Component	Source	Cost
3D printer Prusa I3 style ¹	https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/155077037136	AU\$232.00
MKS GEN L board	https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/354788810185	AU\$70.00
A4988 drivers (5 units)	https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/134438897517	AU\$11.00

PAL TR98 tray	https://www.palparts.com/product/pal-tr98/	AU\$1045.00
Male-female DuPont cable for stepper motors (5 units)	https://3dprintingperth.com/products/stepper-motor-cable-male-to-female-extension-dupont-wire?variant=39471376826481	AU\$15.00
Adapter model BT7242A for stepper motors	https://www.aliexpress.com/i/32881420875.html	AU\$5.00
Waste tube	https://www.labfriend.com.au/bsafe-corrugated-tubing-pp-ø-65-x-100-mm-t-175-mm	AU\$50.00
Cable holder for waste tube	https://www.ebay.com.au/itm/203860080384	AU\$4.00
M3 screw, nut, and space	Hardware store	Less than AU\$5.00
3D-printed tube holder	Appendix A	Less than AU\$1.00
Total		AU\$1438.00

¹ A model is suggested here, but any model with similar design can be used.

3. Build Instructions

The instructions presented here are for one specific model of 3D-printer. However, they can be easily adapted for most other similar models available in the market.

The first step is to remove the filament extruder (Figure 1).

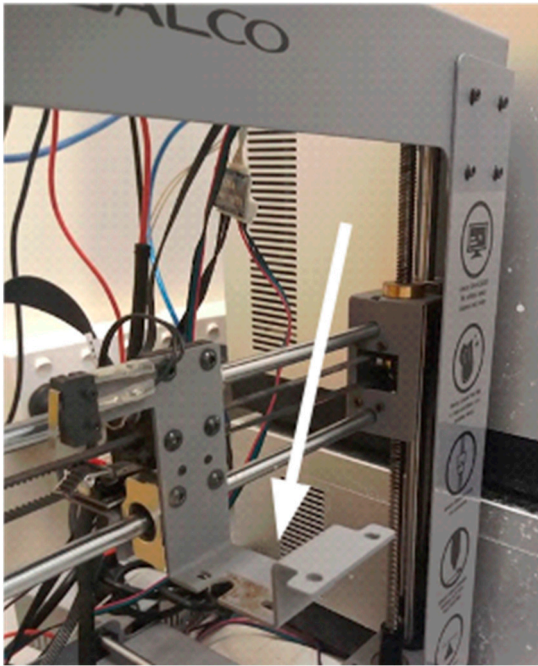


Figure 1. 3D printer without its filament extruder. Arrow points to the extruder support.

With the extruder removed, the tube holder can be attached to its place (Figure 2) using two M3 screws and nuts. The design file for the tube holder is available from <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/D24EK>. Note that this tube holder was designed specifically for this 3D-printer and for the tube diameter (1.5 mm) used with the HPLC. Different dimensions will demand a different design.



Figure 2. Custom 3D-printed tube holder attached to the extruder support on the 3D printer.

The next modification is to attach a metal tray to the printing bed (Figure 3). Here we used a PAL TR98 tray from CTC analytics. Metal trays are suitable to allow heating, and thereby concentration, of the samples upon collection. We used double sided adhesive tape to attach the

tray to the bed.

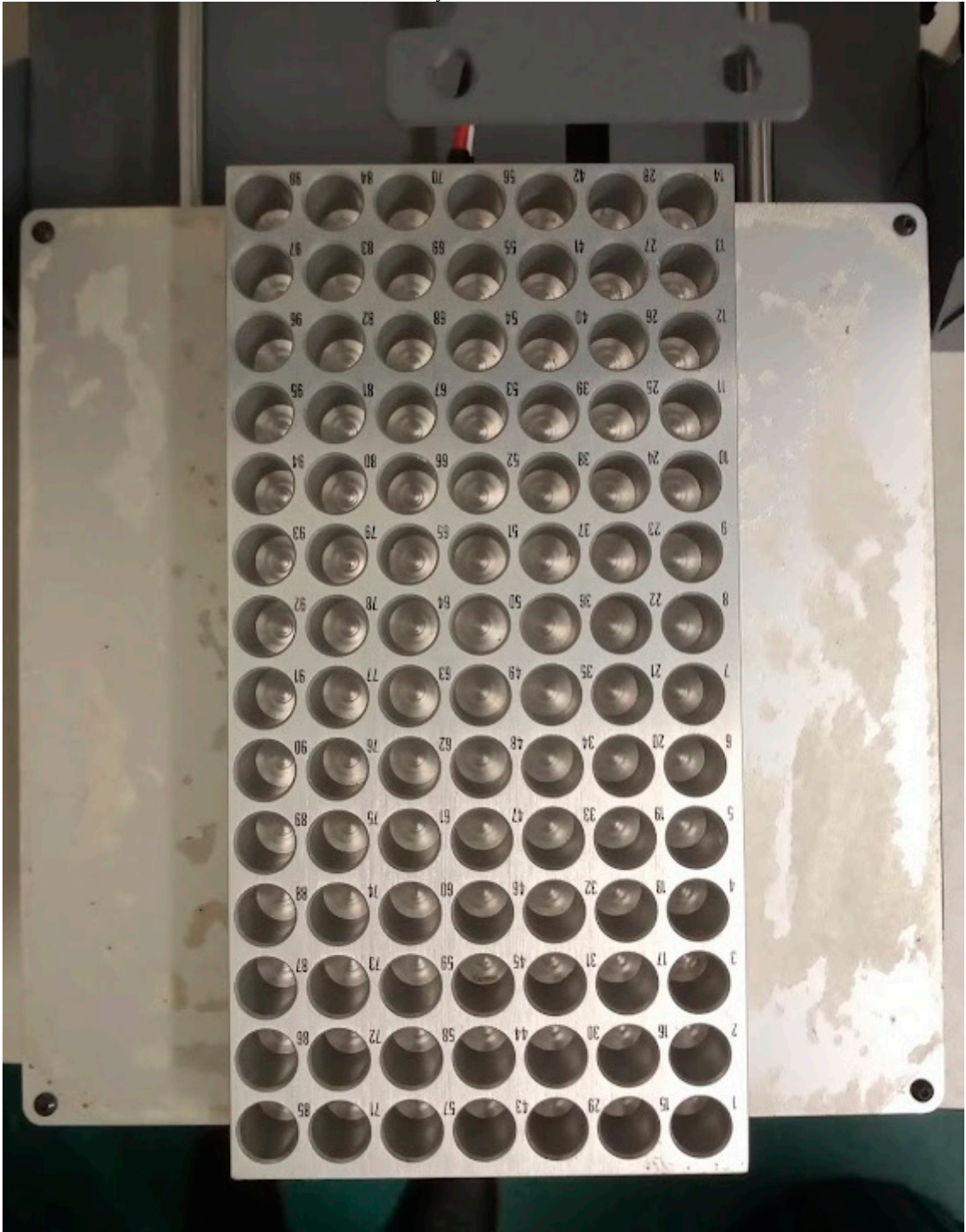


Figure 3. Sample tray attached to the printing bed.

The next steps involve re-wiring the printer so that a different control board is used instead of the one that comes with the printer. By turning the printer upside down and removing the lower cover, the cables become accessible. The cables for the stepper motors, for the heated bed, and for the power supply must be disconnected from the main board (Figure 4).

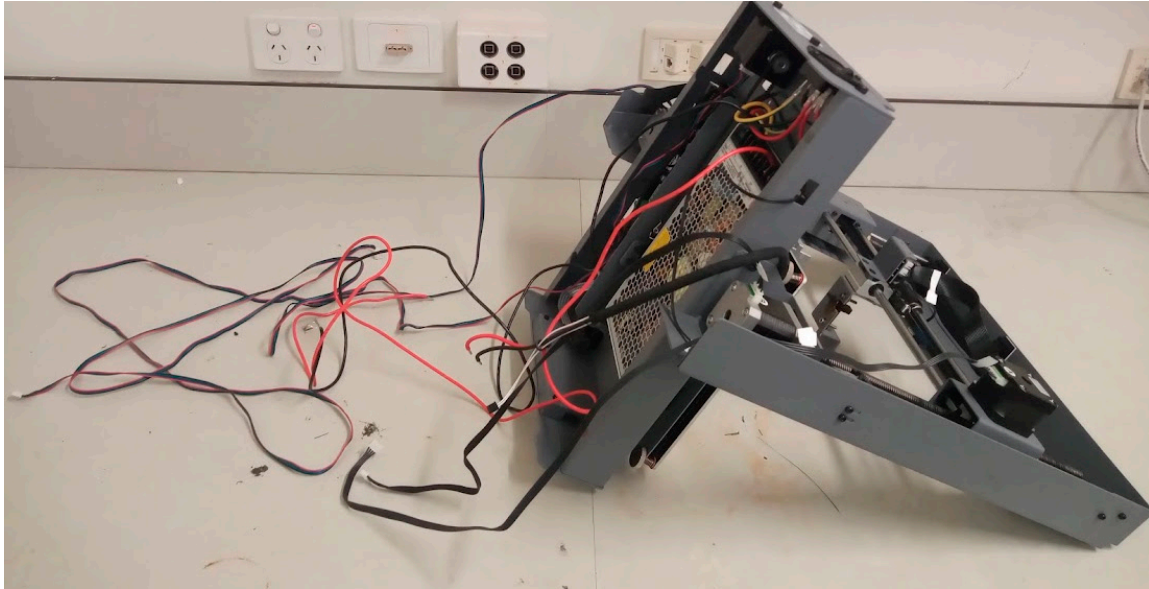


Figure 4. 3D-printer turned upside down with the cables disconnected from the control board.

Instead of the original control board in the 3D printer, we used the MKS-GEN-L control board because of our familiarity with it [30,31,33,34]. The board needs to be prepared to be connected to the stepper motors. The first step is to upload the Marlin firmware (download from <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/D24EK>) to the board. This can be done by using the Arduino IDE (download from <https://www.arduino.cc/en/software>). The board needs to be connected to a computer using a USB cable. The configuration parameters used in the firmware were optimized for this specific 3D-printer model. They may need to be modified for different 3D-printer models.

Once the board is disconnected from the computer, the stepper motor drivers can be connected to the board (Figure 5). Here, A4988 drivers were used.

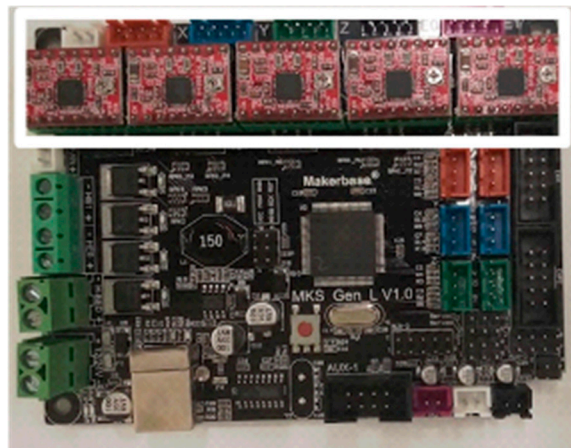


Figure 5. MKS-GEN-L board with A4988 stepper motor drivers (circled in white in the figure) attached. The orientation of the drivers is important, as misplacement may lead to driver or board failure. Notice the small screws on each driver positioned to the right of the photo, and away from the power connections at the board.

Once the control board is prepared, it can be connected to the power supply, heat bed and stepper motors (Figures 6–8). Notice that for the Z axis an adapter (model BT7242A) was used to enable two motors. Different 3D-printer models may need different arrangements.

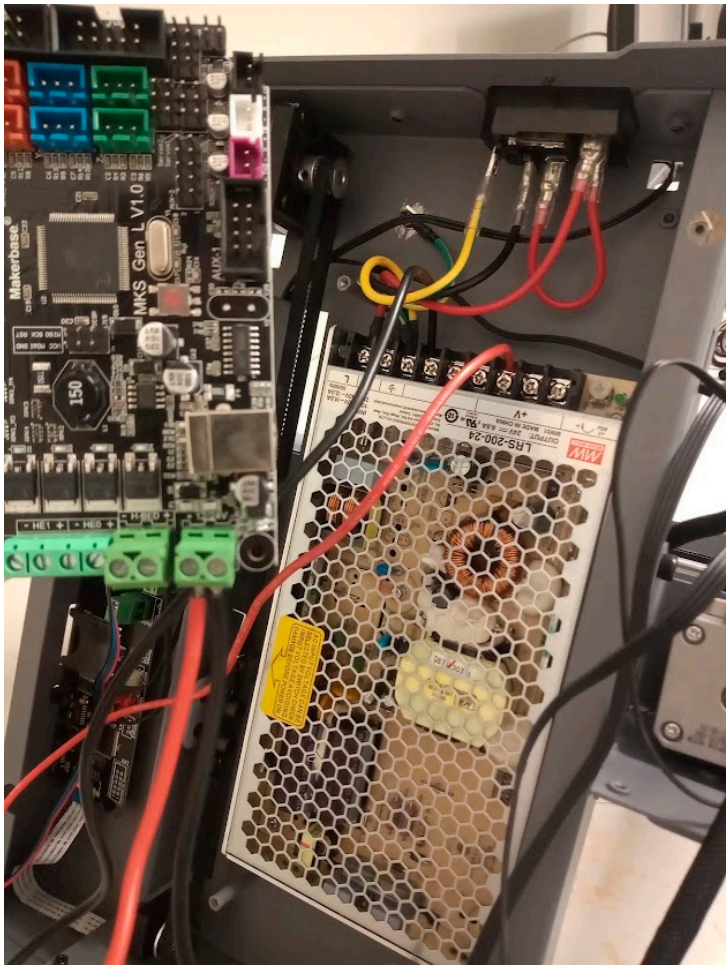


Figure 6. Power supply connected to the MKS-GEN-L control board.

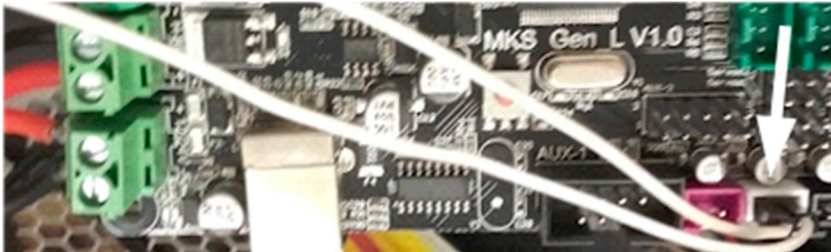


Figure 7. Heat bed connected to the MKS-GEN-L control board.

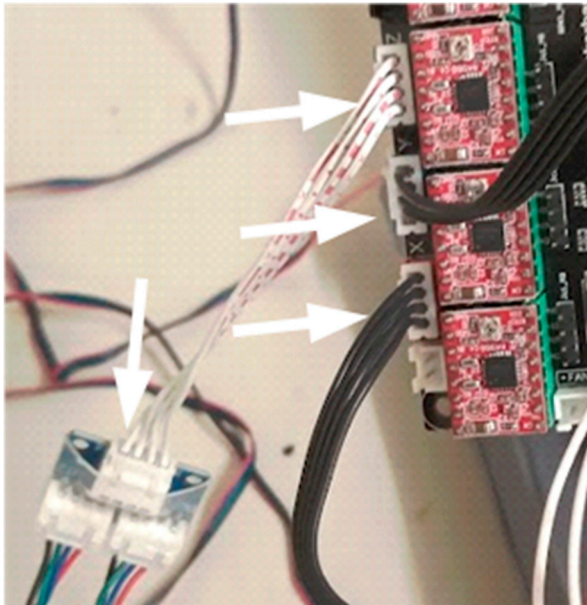


Figure 8. Stepper motors connected to the MKS-GEN-L control board. Connections indicated by arrows.

Once all cable connections are complete, the control board should be attached to the top of the 3D-printer body using a M3 screw, nut, and a spacer (Figure 9).

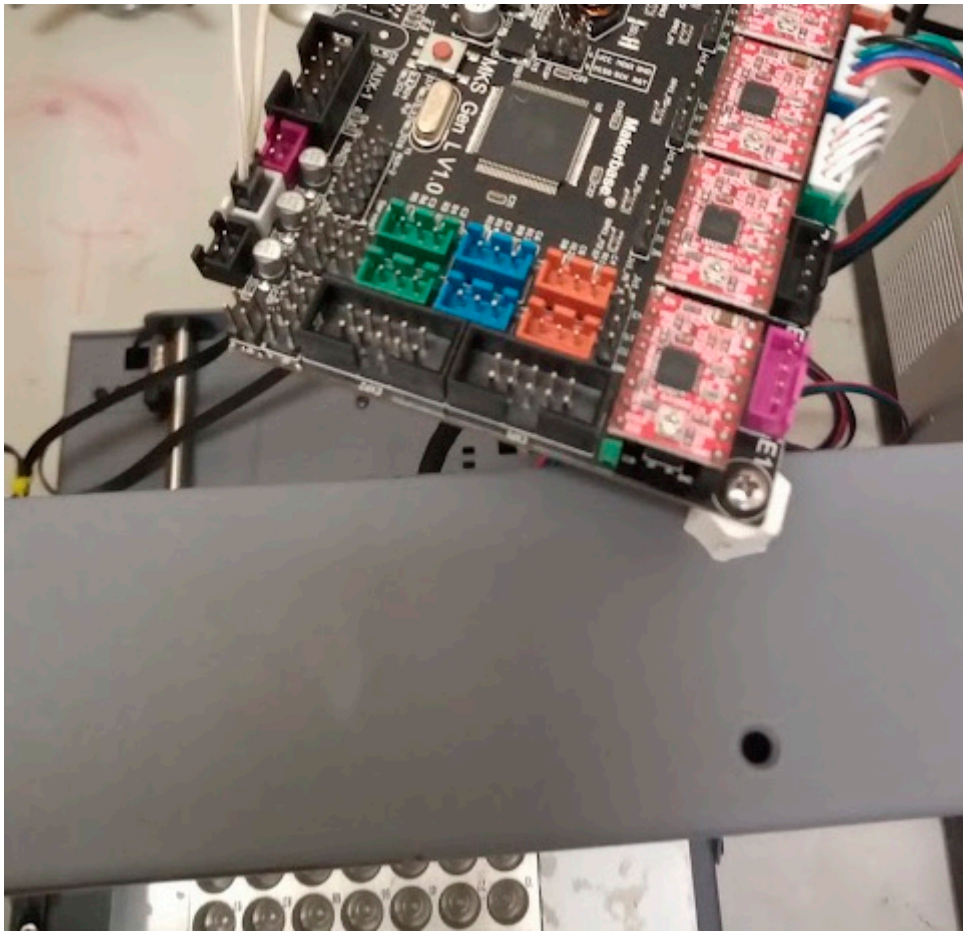


Figure 9. Control board attached to the top of the 3D-printer body using a screw and a spacer.

Organize the cables at the back of the 3D-printer paying attention to their possible interference with the path of the moveable parts (Figure 10). Cable ties are useful for this purpose.

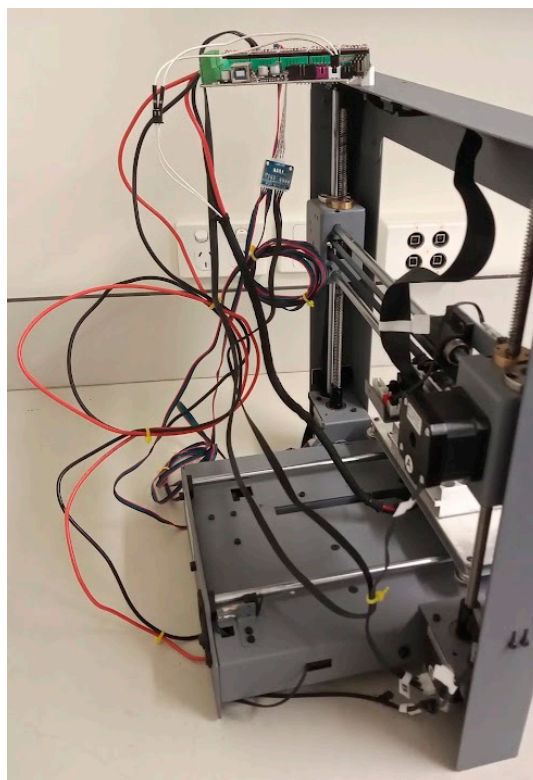
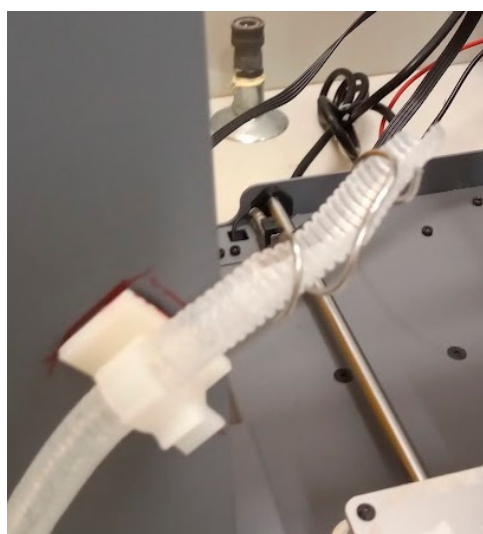


Figure 10. Cables at the back of the 3D-printer.

Attach the waste tube to the side of the 3D-printer body (Figure 11). It must be in a position that can be reached by the tube holder that will support the HPLC delivery line, but not on top of the tray where the samples will be collected. In our configuration, the tube was cut in half to allow dripping from above and held in place using a metal tube. Using a waste tube connected to a waste drum allows for line purging and the discarding of undesired eluents.



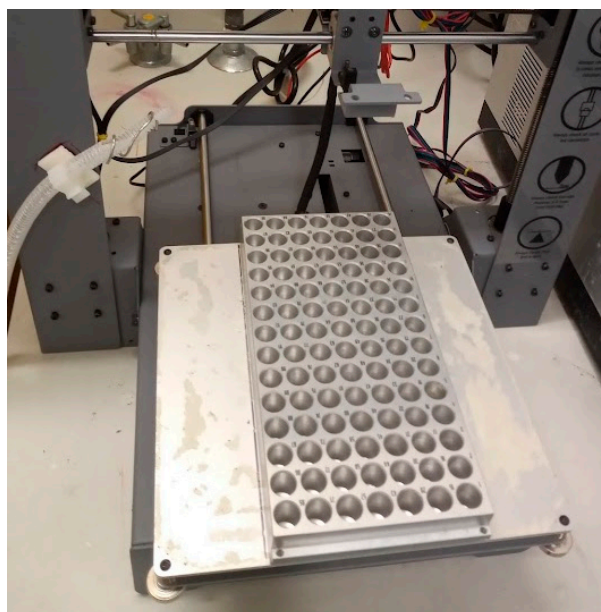


Figure 11. Waste tube attached to the 3D-printer.

Attach the delivery line from the HPLC to the tube holder on the 3D-printer (Figure 12). A portion of the tube (about 3 mm) should hang beneath the holder so that the water dripping falls without interference from the holder. The delivery line should be as short as possible to minimize dispersion of the HPLC eluents before collection.

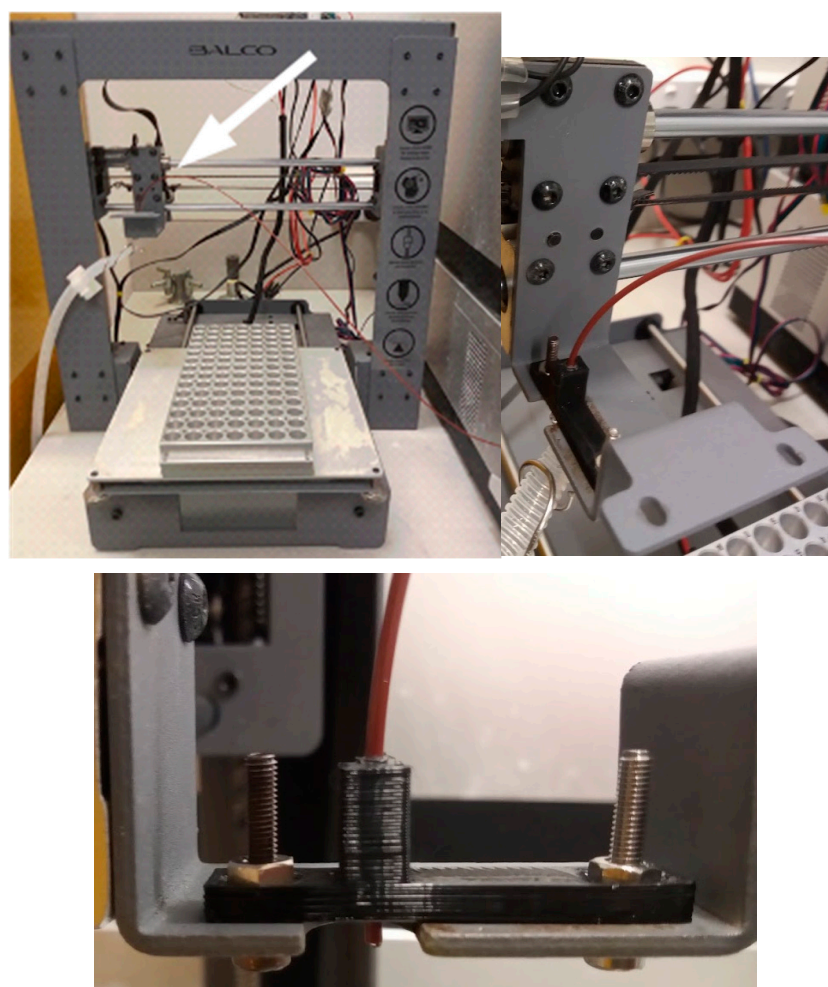


Figure 12. HPLC tube attached to the tube holder on the 3D printer.

Once the fraction collector is assembled, the sample tray can be loaded with tin (PN SC9428, Sercon) or silver (PN SC1295, Sercon) capsules (Figure 13). Silver capsules are needed if the eluent is corrosive. The capsule size (6 mm x 9 mm in diameter) was chosen to match the tray. A different tray would demand a different tin capsule size.



Figure 13. Sample tray loaded with tin capsules.

The control board is connected to the computer, and the power supply to the wall. When the power is turned on, the fraction collector will be ready to use. Of course, in addition to the fraction collector preparation, the HPLC system should also be prepared in accordance with the protocols used for the separation to be performed.

Finally, because the procedure takes many hours (often more than a full day) to complete, it is important that contamination (e.g. dust) is avoided. The system should be placed in a clean and quiet place, in a closed room, preferably with air conditioning.

4. Operating Instructions

4.1. Control board preparation

The fraction collector was controlled using the Hype!Terminal program (<https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/D24EK>), which allows commands to be sent through COM ports (including USB, which connects the control board to the computer).

The first action when launching Hype!Terminal is to configure the COM port (Figure 14). Most parameters in the configuration do not need to be changed, except for the port number and the BAUD rate (bits per second). The port number needs to be known previously (e. g., by checking the Device Manager utility on the Windows Operating System). Bits per second need to be changed to 115200.

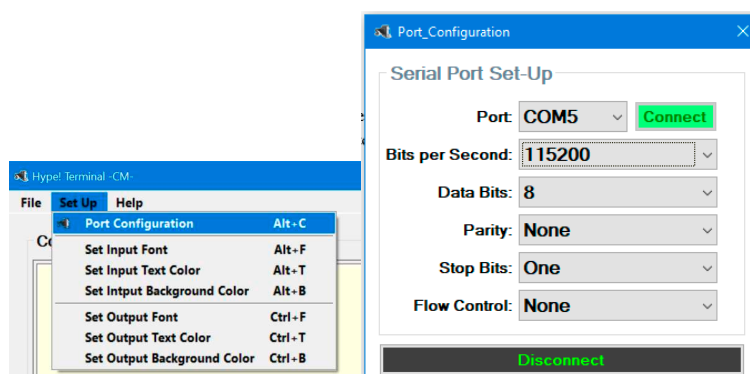


Figure 14. COM port configuration on Hype!Terminal.

Once the connection with the board is established, the command “M121” must be sent to allow the use of negative coordinates when sending commands to the stepper motors. This and the COM port configuration need to be done every time the program is started.

4.2. Basic commands

Once the control board is connected and negative coordinates can be used, the fraction collector can be controlled from the computer using Hype!Terminal. Movements are achieved using the command G1. For example, G1X1F500 moves the HPLC tube horizontally 1 unit with 500 speed units. G1Z2F500 moves it vertically 2 units. G1Y3F500 moves the heat bed (and consequently the tray) 3 units. More than a single axis can be used as input at any given time. For example, the command G1X3Y4F500 will move the HPLC tube and the tray simultaneously. The command M114 can be used to verify the current position. If it is desired that the current position becomes zero, the command is G92. For example, G92X0Y0Z0 forces all axes to have the value of zero.

The heat bed can be warmed using the command M140. Using M140S80 will warm the bed to 80°C. It is useful to preheat the sample tray, as it can take some minutes to reach the final temperature. To turn off the heat bed, use M140S0.

4.3. Determining important positions

Stepper motors do not use absolute positioning, but instead rely on positions that are relative to arbitrary origin points. When the board is connected, it assumes all positions (X, Y and Z) are equal to zero. It is, therefore, possible to determine all other relevant positions in relation to any initial position. However, it is more convenient to start from an easily reproducible position so that the other positions do not need to be redefined every time the machine is started. Here, the zero positions were determined as the leftmost possible position for X, the frontmost position for Y, and an arbitrary height for Z, at which the HPLC tube can move without touching the waste tube (Figure 15).

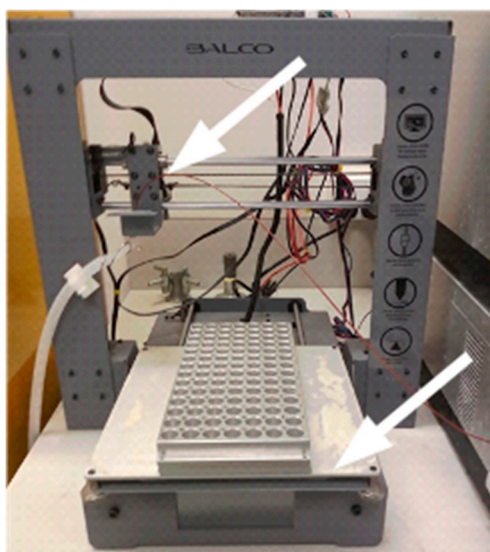


Figure 15. HPLC delivery line at the zero position.

The next important positions are the four corners of the tray that can be reached by the HPLC tube (Figure 16). Both the leftmost ($X = 2.30$; positions given here are likely to be different for different 3D-printers and trays) and rightmost ($X = 5.95$) positions of the tray are accessible, but only 11 of the 14 back to front positions are accessible (Y from 0.30 to 7.05).

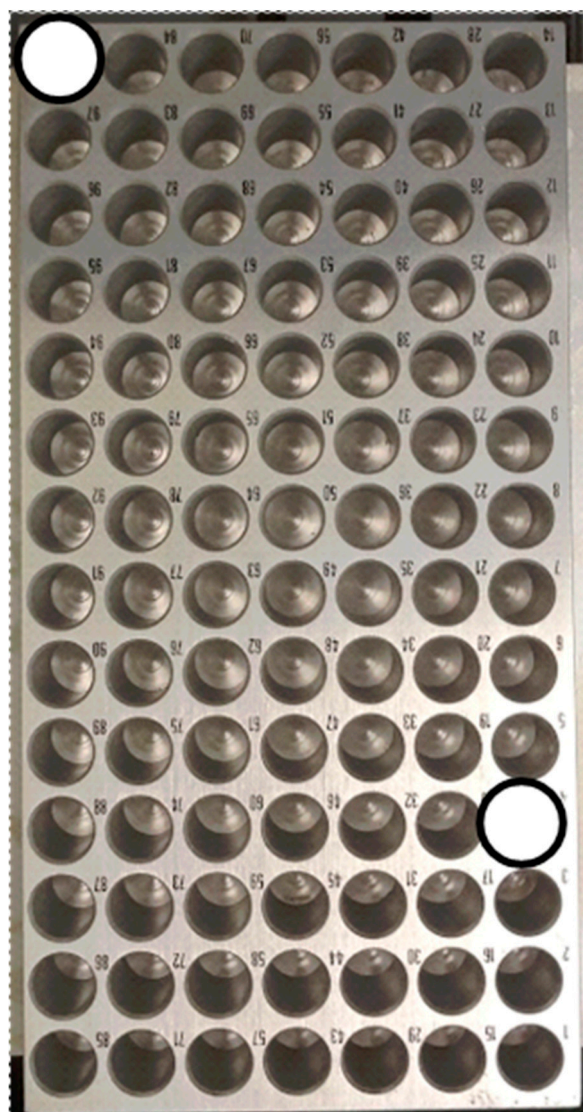


Figure 16. Sample tray with the two extreme positions that can be reached by the HPLC delivery line marked by white circles.

The remaining important positions are the vertical positions. For the waste, these were $Z = -1$. For moving above the tray, $Z = -17$, and for liquid delivery to the tray, $Z = -19$.

The determination of the positions normally only needs to be done once. It may need to be redone if the tray is removed and put back in place, for example.

4.4. Automated control

The fraction collector and the HPLC were integrated using an AutoIt script [35]. AutoIt allows the integration of different programs using seamless control of the windows elements, or mouse click and keyboard entries [35]. Here, we employed both approaches. To control Hype!Terminal, AutoIt sent seamless commands to the input field (Figure 17).

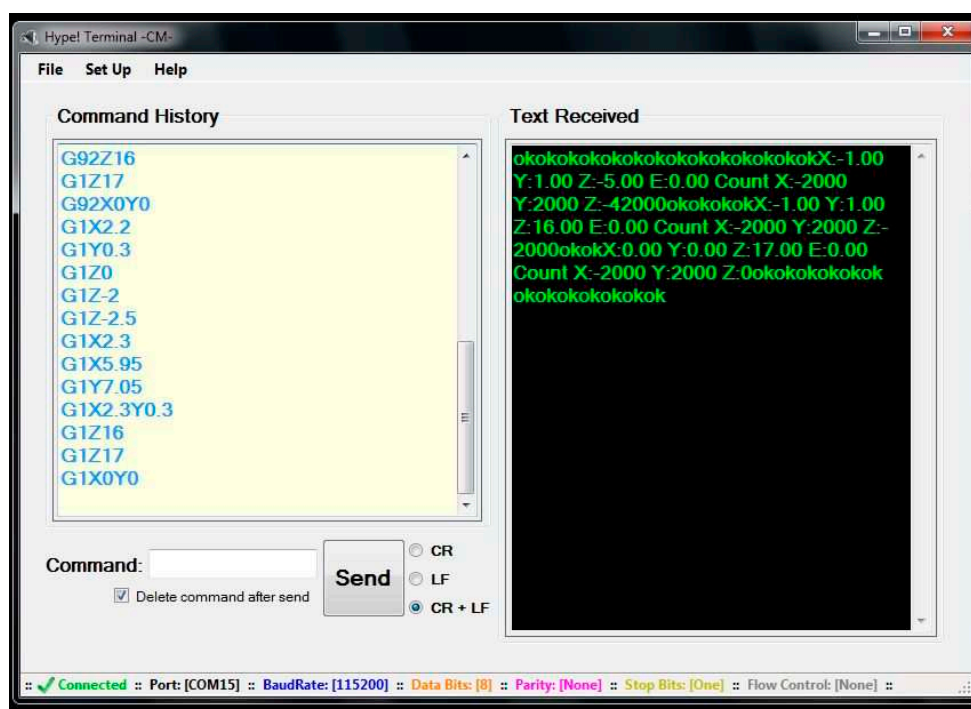


Figure 17. Hype!Terminal graphical interface. The input fields that received AutoIt instructions were the text box after “Command” and the “Send” button.

The fraction collector worked together with a HPLC (Ultimate 3000, Thermo Fisher), controlled with Chromeleon 7 (Thermo Fisher). The system was equipped with a solvent pump, an autosampler, and a column compartment with temperature control.

To control the HPLC pump, seamless commands were sent to the input field for flow control (Figure 18). However, to control the HPLC autosampler seamless commands did work, and thus automated mouse and keyboard strokes were sent to the “Pos.” input box, and to the “Inject” button (Figure 18).

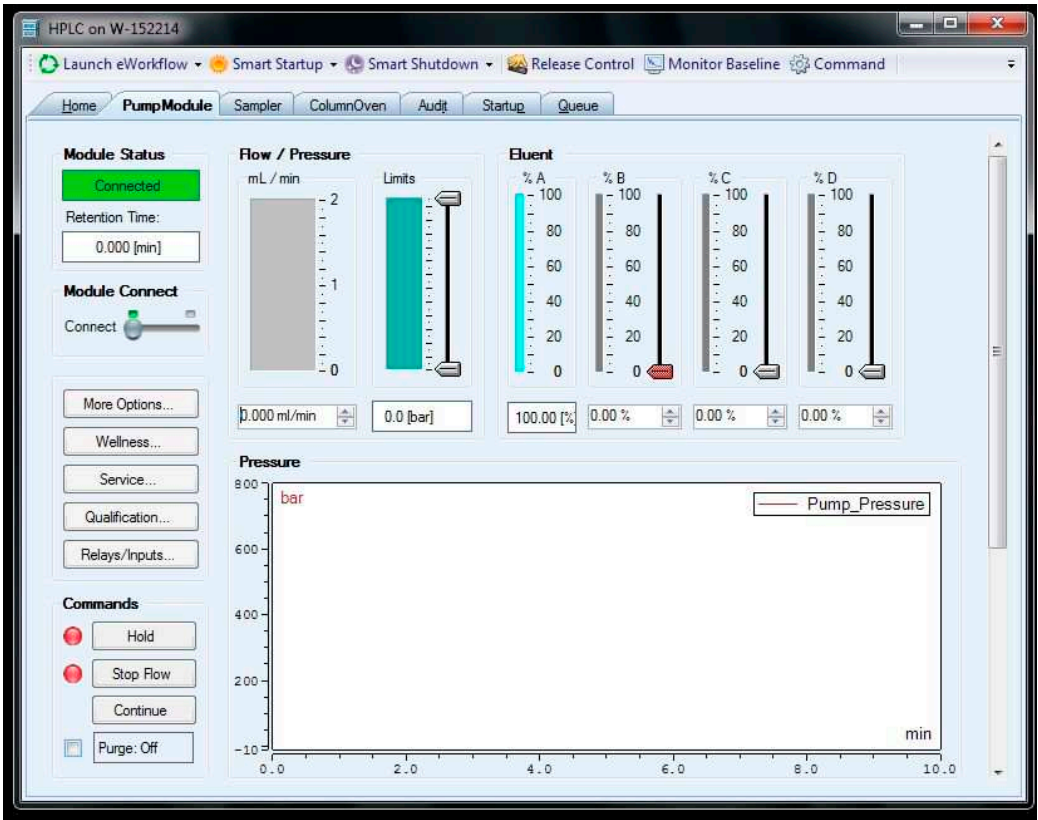


Figure 18. Chromeleon interface for pump control. Commands were sent to the “Flow/pressure” input box (it has a value of 0.000 in the figure).

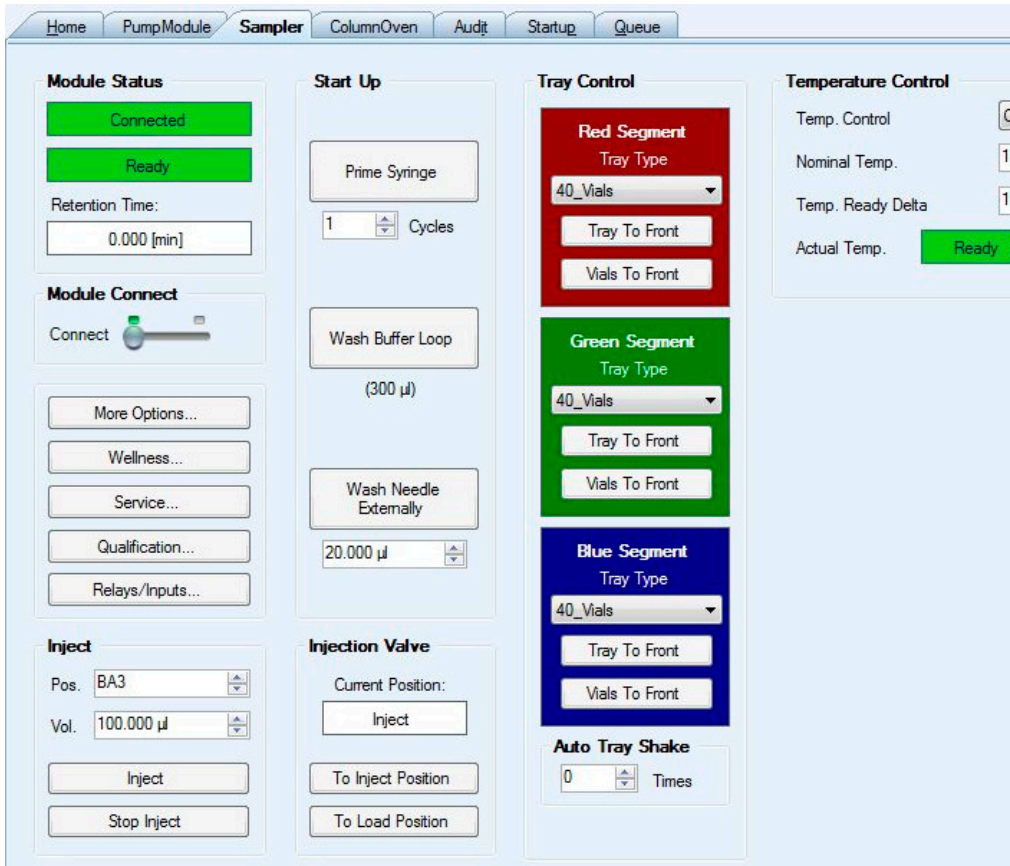


Figure 19. Chromeleon interface for autosampler control. Commands were sent to the “Pos.” input box, and to the “Inject” button.

A typical script would consist of the following instructions:

- 1) Turn on the HPLC pump (by sending a command to the Chromeleon pump control interface);
- 2) Inject a sample volume from a sample in the HPLC autosampler (by sending a command to the Chromeleon sampler control interface);
- 3) Wait a predetermined time until the compound of interest is at the exit of the tube in the fraction collector (this needs to be determined beforehand without this wait time);
- 4) Move the HPLC tube to the first tin capsule (by sending commands to Hype!Terminal);
- 5) Wait for a predetermined time above the tin capsule so that the compound was completely collected in it;
- 6) Move to the next tin capsule (by sending commands to Hype!Terminal);
- 7) Repeat step 6 for as many compounds as are needed to be collected (by sending commands to Hype!Terminal);
- 8) Move to the waste tube (by sending commands to Hype!Terminal);
- 9) Turn the HPLC pump off (by sending a command to the Chromeleon pump control interface);
- 10) Wait until the collected liquid has completely evaporated completely;
- 11) Repeat all steps for multiple replicates of the sample, as required to collect sufficient material for elemental analysis coupled to isotope ratio mass spectrometry (EA-IRMS).

A script example can be at Appendix B, and a video showing the setup working can be found as Supplementary Material 1 and on <https://youtu.be/uQRLIZQone4>.

5. Validation

5.1. Stable carbon isotope analysis of glucose

The fraction collector was tested for accuracy in the measurement of glucose in a water solution. The HPLC was equipped with a HyperRez XP Carbohydrate H+ (Thermo Fisher) column kept at 75 °C in the column compartment. A guard column (also HyperRez XP Carbohydrate H+) was used, as well as a frit between connections to prevent column clogging. The frit was replaced every time pressure surpassed 40 bar to avoid deterioration of the column. This limit also dictated the maximum flow rate that could be used, which was 0.6 mL min⁻¹. Milli-q water was used as the solvent.

A glucose (Sigma Aldrich, 99.9% purity) solution was prepared using milli-q water (final concentration 4 mM as carbon). This solution was transferred to 2 mL vials which were placed in the HPLC autosampler. The autosampler injected 0.1 mL of the glucose solution into the HPLC. At a flow rate of 0.3 mL min⁻¹, glucose would be collected in 22 min, whilst at a flow rate was 0.6 mL min⁻¹, it would be collected at 11 min. These retention times were determined by doing preliminary injections and performing collections every minute. Based on these retention times, a narrow collection range, between 10 and 12 min for 0.6 mL min⁻¹, and between 20 and 24 min for 0.3 mL min⁻¹ were employed. Repeated injections were performed, and it was found that glucose was better collected using a flow rate of 0.6 mL min⁻¹. Not only the time spent was smaller, but more importantly the peak was sharper, as it concentrated only in a single tin capsule, while with 0.3 mL min⁻¹ it spread through 2 tin capsules (Figure 20). Peak areas in the figure are proportional to the amount of carbon in the tin capsule, while $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ stands for the “delta” notation used to describe the abundance of ¹³C compared to ¹²C in a substance (SI units ‰). The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of glucose (-10.5 ± 0.1 ‰) was determined from previous measurements of the solid powder using the EA-IRMS. Therefore, empty tin capsules will have low areas and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ different from the known value for glucose, while tin capsules containing glucose will have larger areas and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ closer to the known value. The actual value for the compound (glucose, in this case) in the tin capsules can be calculated by assuming that the values for empty tin capsules are representative of the blank, and applying a mass balance. By doing so, it was found that for injections done at 0.6 mL min⁻¹ the average value for glucose was -10.4 ± 0.25 ‰, $n = 7$, while for 0.3 mL min⁻¹ results were -10.4 ± 0.13 ‰, $n = 3$. In both cases, results were very close to the known value.

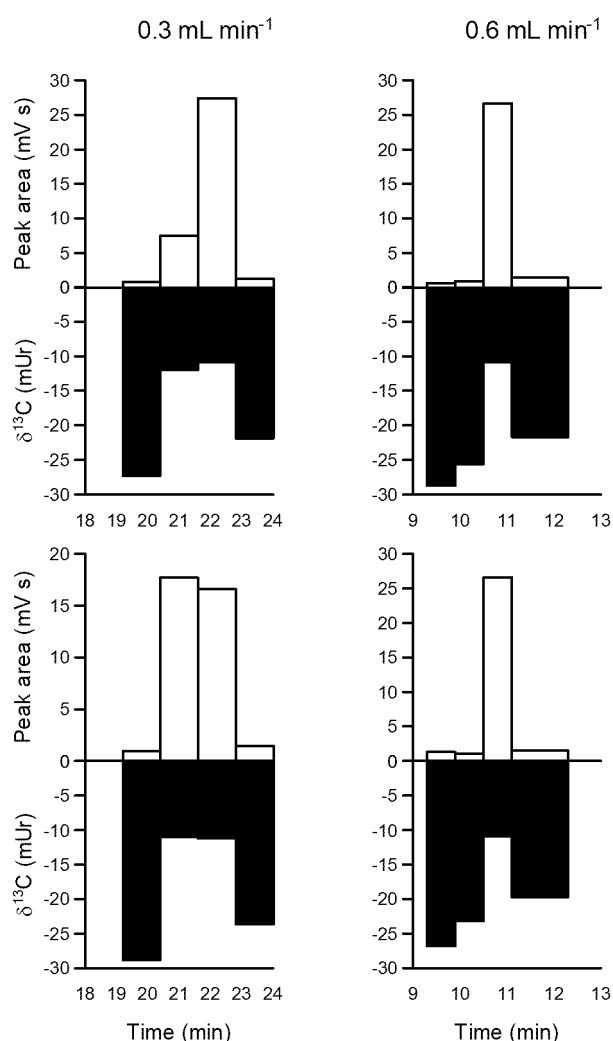


Figure 20. Typical results for glucose collected four times using the 3D printer fraction collector interfaced with an HPLC, and analysed using an elemental analyzer coupled to an isotope ratio mass spectrometer (EA-IRMS).

6. Conclusions

The fraction collector presented here is a low-cost and easy to build solution to prepare compound-specific samples for stable isotope analyses. Compared to most other systems (open source and commercial), it has the added advantage of concentrating the compounds as the collection proceeds.

The 3D-printer used here was based on a very popular template (Prusa I3), and so the adaptation of any 3D-printer of this family should be as simple as for the one used here. Most other 3D-printer models should be also amenable to use, provided they are equipped with a heat bed.

The fraction collector has performed very well without issues for three days uninterrupted, and could potentially work for much longer, as no problems happened. Compared to the normal operation of a 3D printer, the fraction collector makes much less intensive use of the stepper motors, but equivalent or higher use of the heat bed.

Further improvements could come with the simultaneous use of a detector in the HPLC, as shown previously [16], which could enable more optimized collection times.

Peak spreading (Figure 20) and other issues, such as co-elution of different substances at the same time, are known challenges for compound specific isotope ratio mass spectrometry [1]. Despite

these problems, this is a technique with established scope in numerous scientific fields. We hope that the introduction of our fraction collector contributes to an even more widespread adoption of the fraction collection approach.

Supplementary Materials: The following supporting information can be downloaded at the website of this paper posted on Preprints.org. Video S1: FractionCollector.mp4.

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, methodology, software, validation: M.C., resources and writing: M.C. and J.O.; project administration and funding acquisition: J.O. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Appendix A

Open Scad code for the tube holder.

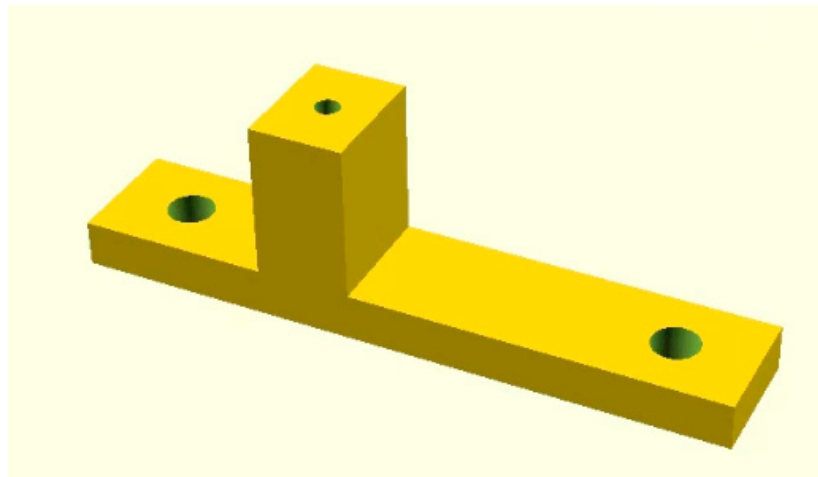


Figure A1. 3D drawing of tube holder.

```
//lowest part of the block
basex = 42;
basey = 8;
basez = 3;
basetx = 0;
basety = 0;
basetz = 0;
//hole
holer = 1.5;
holez = basez;
holetx = basetx+5;
holety = basety+4;
holetz = basetz;
//neck
neckx = 6;
necky = 8;
neckz = 10;
necktx = 12;
neckty = 0;
```

```

necktz = basez;
$fn=64;
difference(){
  translate([basex,basety,basez]){cube([basex,basety,basez]);} //base
  #translate([holetx,holety,holetz]){cylinder( holez, holer, holer, false);}
  #translate([holetx+10,holety,holetz]){cylinder( holez, 0.8, 0.8, false);}
  #translate([holetx+32,holety,holetz]){cylinder( holez, holer, holer, false);}
}
difference(){
  translate([necktx,neckty,necktz]){cube([neckx,necky,neckz]);} //base
  #translate([holetx+10,holety,holetz]){cylinder( 20, 0.8, 0.8, false);}
}

```

Appendix B

```
Opt("WinTitleMatchMode", 1)
```

```
$Hypecontrol = "[NAME:tb_cmd]"
```

```
$PumpFlowControl = "WindowsForms10.EDIT.app.0.282af8c4"
```

```
;important positions
```

```
$zs = 0.0 ;safe Z
```

```
;TIN
```

```
$tinxs = 2.3 ;first tin X
```

```
$tinxe = 5.95 ;last tin X
```

```
$tinys = 0.3 ;first tin Y
```

```
$tinYE = 7.05 ;last tin Y
```

```
$tinxn = 7
```

```
$tinyn = 12
```

```
$ztin = -2.5
```

```
;WASTE
```

```
$xw = 0.0 ; waste X
```

```
$yw = 0.0 ;waste Y
```

```
$zw = 16 ; needle inside waste Z
```

```
;2D array for tin positions
```

```
Dim $tinxy[100][2]
```

```
$tin = 0
```

```
;Tin tray
```

```
For $y = 0 To $tinyn - 1
```

```
  If Mod($tin, 2) = 0 Then
```

```
    For $x = 0 To $tinxn - 1
```



```

        $tinxy[$tin][0] = $tinxs + $x * ($tinxe - $tinxs) /
($tinxn - 1)
        $tinxy[$tin][1] = $tinys + $y * ($tinye - $tinys) /
($tinyn - 1)
        $tin = $tin + 1
    Next
Else
    For $x = $tinxn - 1 To 0 Step -1
        $tinxy[$tin][0] = $tinxs + $x * ($tinxe - $tinxs) /
($tinxn - 1)
        $tinxy[$tin][1] = $tinys + $y * ($tinye - $tinys) /
($tinyn - 1)
        $tin = $tin + 1
    Next
EndIf
Next

;sampling routine
$turns = 10
$bunch = 7
$samples = 3

For $turn = 1 To $turns
    ConsoleWrite("Starting turn " & $turn & " " & @HOUR & " " &
@MIN & " " & @CRLF)
    SetPump(0.3)
    Sleep(0.5 * 60 * 1000)
    For $sample = 1 To $samples
        $tins = $bunch * ($sample - 1) + 1
        For $tino = $tins To $tins + $bunch - 1
            If Mod($tino - 1, $bunch) = 0 Then
                InjectSample($sample)
                Sleep(15.5 * 1.2 * 60 * 1000)
                LeaveWaste()
            EndIf
            ConsoleWrite("Starting tin " & $tino & " " & @HOUR
& " " & @MIN & " " & @CRLF)
            GoToTin($tino)
            Sleep(1.2 * 60 * 1000)
        Next
        GoToWaste()
        Sleep(5 * 60 * 1000) ;Rinsing in between samples
    Next

```

```

    SetPump(0.0)
    Sleep(1 * 3600 * 1000) ;Waiting for samples to evaporate
the solvent
Next

;Level 2

Func GoToTin($sample)
    Move("Z", $zs, 200, 1000, $Hypecontrol) ;go up
    MoveXY($tinxy[$sample - 1][0], $tinxy[$sample - 1][1],
1000, 1000, $Hypecontrol) ;goes to origin
    Move("Z", $ztin, 500, 500, $Hypecontrol) ;go down
EndFunc    ;==>GoToTin

Func GoToWaste()
    Move("Z", $zw + 2, 200, 5000, $Hypecontrol) ;go up
    Move("X", $xw, 200, 5000, $Hypecontrol) ;go left
    Move("Z", $zw, 200, 5000, $Hypecontrol) ;go down
EndFunc    ;==>GoToWaste

Func LeaveWaste()
    Move("X", $xw + 1, 200, 5000, $Hypecontrol) ;go right
EndFunc    ;==>LeaveWaste

;Level 1

Func Move($direction, $position, $speed, $wait_time, $control)
    ControlSetText("Hype", "", $control, "G1" & $direction &
$position & "F" & $speed)
    Sleep(1000)
    ControlSend("Hype", "", $control, "{ENTER}")
    Sleep($wait_time)
EndFunc    ;==>Move

Func MoveXY($position1, $position2, $speed, $wait_time,
$control)
    ControlSetText("Hype", "", $control, "G1X" & $position1 &
"Y" & $position2 & "F" & $speed)
    Sleep(1000)
    ControlSend("Hype", "", $control, "{ENTER}")
    Sleep($wait_time)
EndFunc    ;==>MoveXY

```

```

Func SetPump($Flow)
    WinActivate("HPLC")
    ControlSend("HPLC", "", $PumpFlowControl, "{DEL
50}{BACKSPACE 50}")
    Sleep(1000)
    ControlSend("HPLC", "", $PumpFlowControl, $Flow)
    Sleep(500)
    ControlSend("HPLC", "", $PumpFlowControl, "{ENTER}")
EndFunc    ;==>SetPump

```

```

Func InjectSample($sample)
    WinActivate("Chromeleon")
    Sleep(1000)
    MouseClick("left", 400, 550)
    Sleep(1000)
    Send("{DEL 50}{BACKSPACE 50}")
    Sleep(1000)
    Send("BA" & $sample & "{ENTER}")
    Sleep(2000)
    MouseClick("left", 400, 620)
EndFunc    ;==>InjectSample

```

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