

**Delivering the Right Results**



# Presentation

- LECO Background
- Nitrogen/Protein Determination Techniques
- LECO Nitrogen Determination
  - Vertical Furnace (FP-628™)
  - Horizontal Furnace (TruMac™ N)



*by Dipl.- Ing. Beate Boisten*

# LECO Background

- Privately owned U.S. Company for 77 years
- Headquartered in Saint Joseph, MI
- Diverse Instrumentation offerings
  - Organic and Inorganic Elemental Analysis
  - Metallography
  - Microscopy and Image analysis
  - Mass Spectrometry (TOF)



General Markets 2011-.wmv



- 25 LECO subsidiaries representing over 100 countries

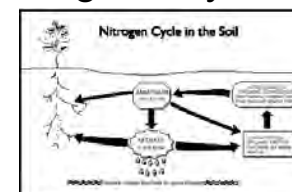


# Why Nitrogen / Protein Determination?

- Quantitative Analysis

- Nutritional labeling (protein) for foods and feeds
- Material characterization - education/research, commercial and regulatory
- Soil/plant science

Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Sugars 5g	
<b>Protein 5g</b>	
Vitamin A	4%
Vitamin C	2%
Calcium	20%
Iron	4%



- Process and Quality Control

- Grade and value for feeds
- Food, agricultural and chemical processing
  - Milling applications (starch, flour, oilseeds)
  - Chemical and Specialty materials processing (plastics, resins, adhesives, etc.)



# Primary Techniques for Determining Nitrogen

- **Kjeldahl** and **Dumas** based techniques
  - Most common nitrogen determination techniques
  - Determine nitrogen content in a sample to calculate protein content
    - **Nitrogen** concentration *is multiplied by a factor* dependent on a specific matrix (typically between 5.70 and 6.38) *to calculate the* concentration of **raw protein** in the sample.
  - **Dumas** technique is commonly referred to as "**Combustion**"

# Techniques for Determining Nitrogen

- **Kjeldahl** Nitrogen Determination
  - Classical wet chemical **digestion** and **titration-based** method long used (developed in 1883) and widely accepted; considered the primary Nitrogen determination method
  - Several hundred mg- to gram-sized sample is digested in **concentrated sulfuric acid with a catalyst; nitrogen is converted to ammonium sulfate**
  - Concentrated sodium hydroxide (**NaOH**) is added to form **ammonia**, which is distilled into standard acid for **quantification by titration**

# Techniques for Determining Nitrogen

- **Kjeldahl** Nitrogen Determination
  - **Disadvantages**
    - **Most effective** Kjeldahl **catalysts** (containing **mercury or selenium**) are not used due to **environmental and health** concerns
    - **CuSO<sub>4</sub>/TiO<sub>4</sub>** based Kjeldahl catalyst is typically utilized, resulting in a **lower Nitrogen recovery** during digestion step and a low Nitrogen bias
    - **Long analysis times** (several hours)
    - **High cost-per-analysis**
    - Occupational health and safety issues
      - **Strong acid** and base reagents – boiling reagents required
      - **Fume handling**
      - **Waste disposal**
    - Requires analytically trained technician



# Nitrogen determination with Dumas



## Dumas principle

- Sample combustion by pure oxygen
- Combustion / oxidation of the protein-N to  $\text{NO}_x$
- Complete reduction of  $\text{NO}_x$  to  $\text{N}_2$  by copper metal
- Removal of “disturbing” gases (excessive  $\text{O}_2$ ;  $\text{CO}_2$ , Water, ...)
- Detection of the nitrogen with TCD (thermal conductivity detector)
- Calculation protein % = factor x nitrogen%

- Since ~ 25 years established in the market
- Meanwhile standards like : DIN, ISO, AOAC, §64LFBG etc.....  
=> Referenced method

# Norms

## AOAC

Instruments	Method	Constituent	Materials
FP628, FP-528 TruSpec® N, TruMac® N	990.03	Crude Protein	Animal Feed
	992.15		Meat/Meat Products & Petfoods
	992.23		Cereal Grain & Oil Seed Products
	993.13	Nitrogen	Fertilizer
	997.09	Nitrogen/ Protein	Beer, Wort, Brewing Grains (Total Protein by Calculation)

## ISO

Instruments	Method	Elements	Materials
FP628, FP528, TruSpec N, TruMac N	14891	Total Nitrogen/Protein	Milk and Milk Products
FP628, FP528, TruSpec N, TruMac N	16634	Total Nitrogen/Protein	Food Products, Oilseed, and Animal Feeds

- § 64 LFBG : German official food methodology
- VD LUFA standards : Agricultural Society of Germany (different standards)

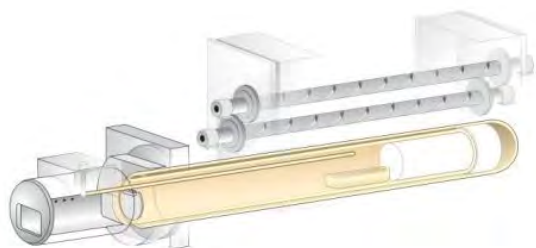
# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

- **FP-628™** utilizes a vertical furnace
- Sample mass **50 mg up to 1 g**
- Quartz furnace tube with a maximum temperature of 1050°C
- Tin capsules or foils used to encapsulate sample
- Reticulated crucible collects ash from sample and tin cap or foil
  - **Crucible lifetime** matrix dependent (**200-400 samples**)



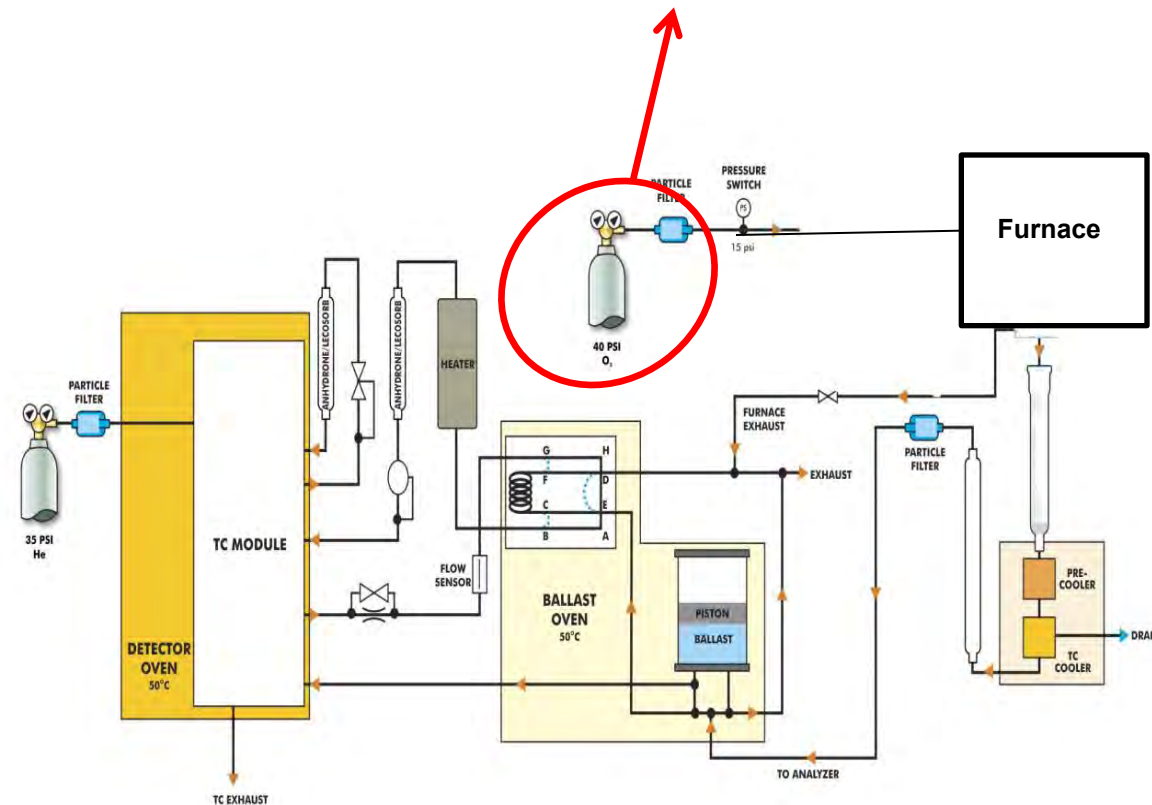
# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

- **TruMac N** utilizes a horizontal furnace
- Sample mass **50 mg up to 3 g**
- Ceramic furnace
  - Designed for handling macro sample combustion
  - Maximum Temperature of 1450°C
- Large reusable ceramic boats
  - Facilitate macro sample handling
  - Retain **sample ash** for post analysis **removal**



# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

- Both **vertical** and **horizontal furnace** designs utilize a *Pure Oxygen Environment in Furnace*



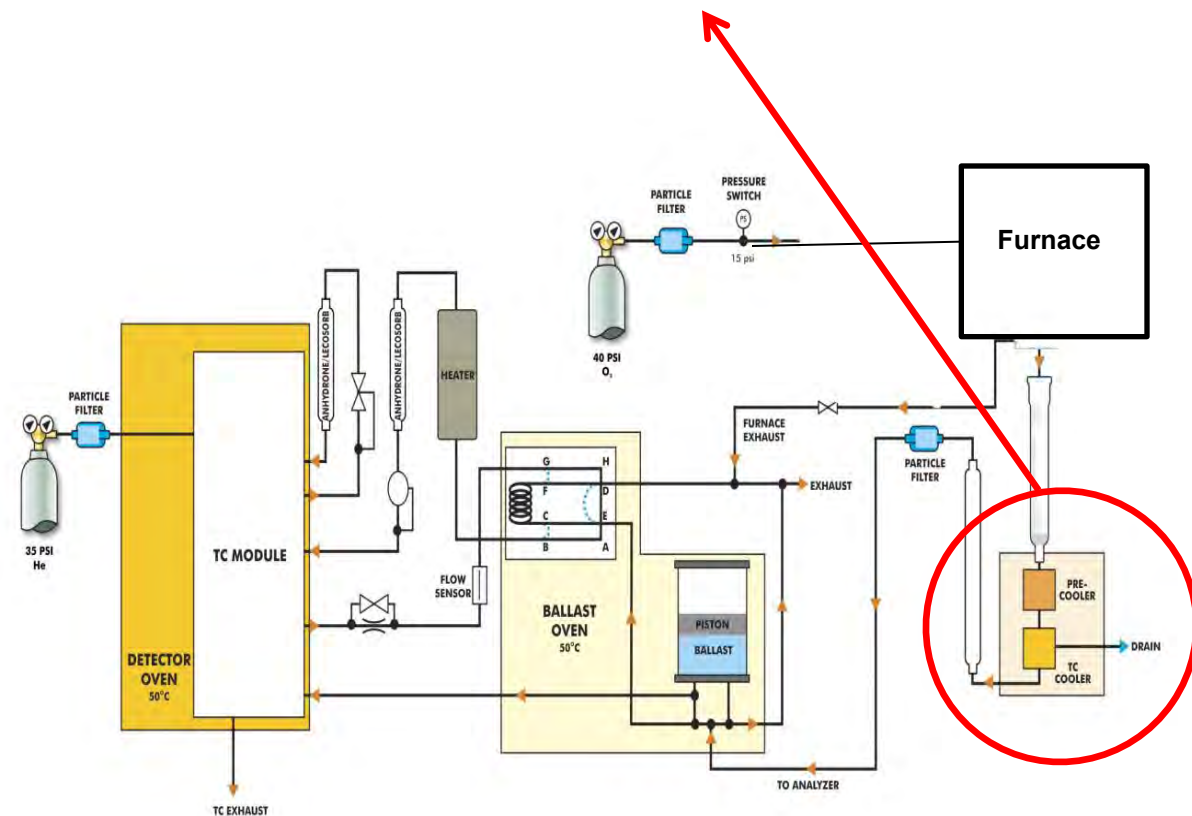
- Ensures **complete combustion**
- Eliminates the need for additional **chemical or metal oxidizers** and reagents in flow path
- Sample matrix independent** (feeds, food, bones, meat, etc.)
- Increases speed** of combustion
- Allows large sample mass** capability



# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

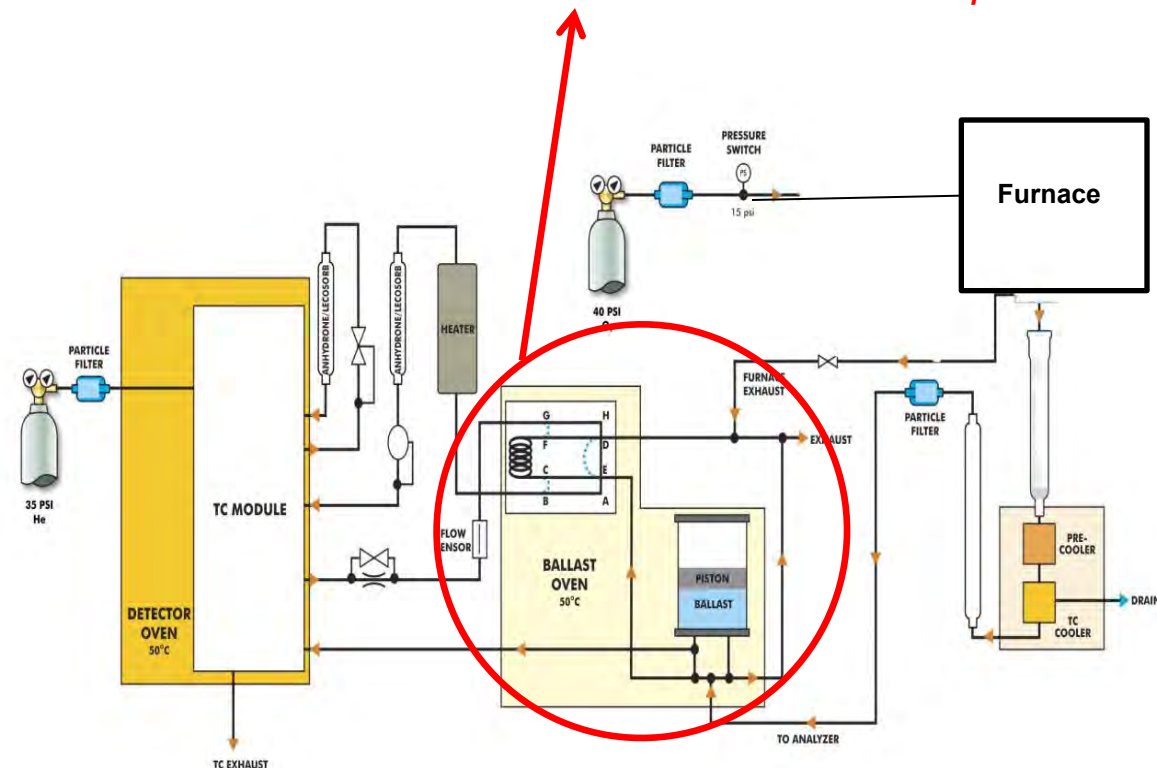
- Both **vertical** and **horizontal** furnace designs utilize a *Thermo Electric Cooler*

- Removes moisture from combustion gas by cooling/condensing moisture
- Eliminates the need for chemical reagents (Anhydron) to remove moisture from combustion gas
- Removes other unwanted combustion gases via interaction with condensing moisture
  - Acid gases (sulfur, chlorine, halogens, etc.)
  - Combustion particulates



# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

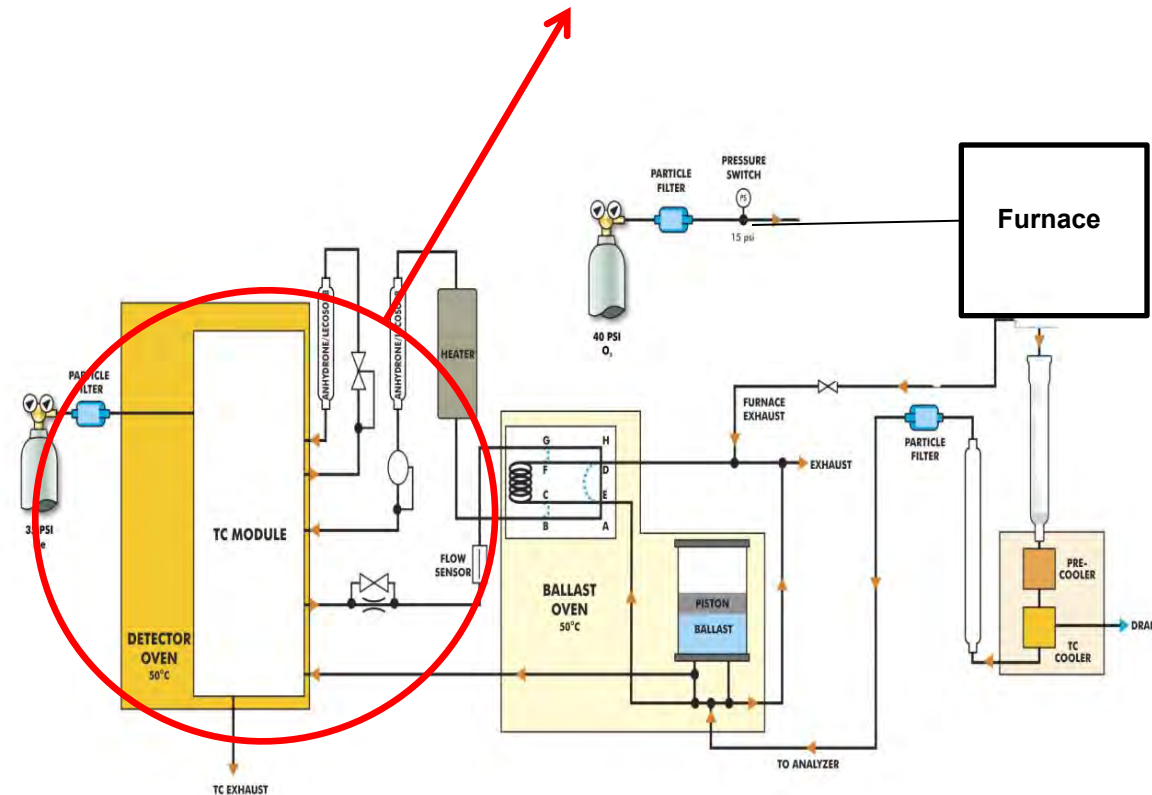
- Both **vertical** and **horizontal** furnace designs utilize a *Combustion Gas Collection and Aliquot Dose System*



- Collects and equilibrates all combustion gas for aliquot collection
- Eliminates treating the whole combustion gas with reduction reagents and carbon scrubbers
- Greatly extends lifetime of carbon scrubber and reduction reagents
  - Allows large sample mass capability
- Greatly lowers the cost-per-analysis

# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

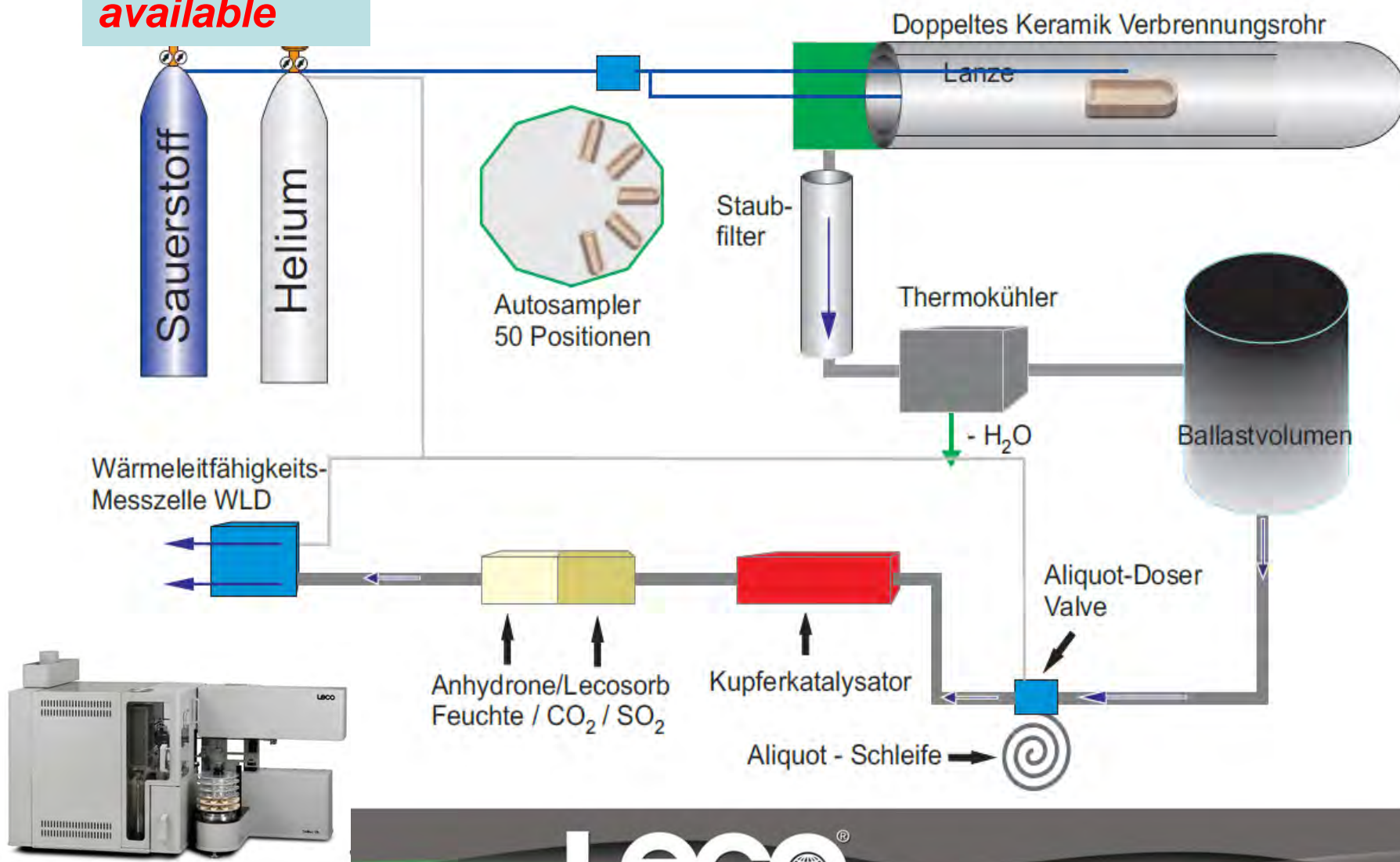
- Both **vertical** and **horizontal** furnace designs utilize a *Thermal Conductivity Cell* for Nitrogen Detection



- Wide linear dynamic range
- Low noise and drift
- Low helium consumption

**Argon as  
carrier gas  
available**

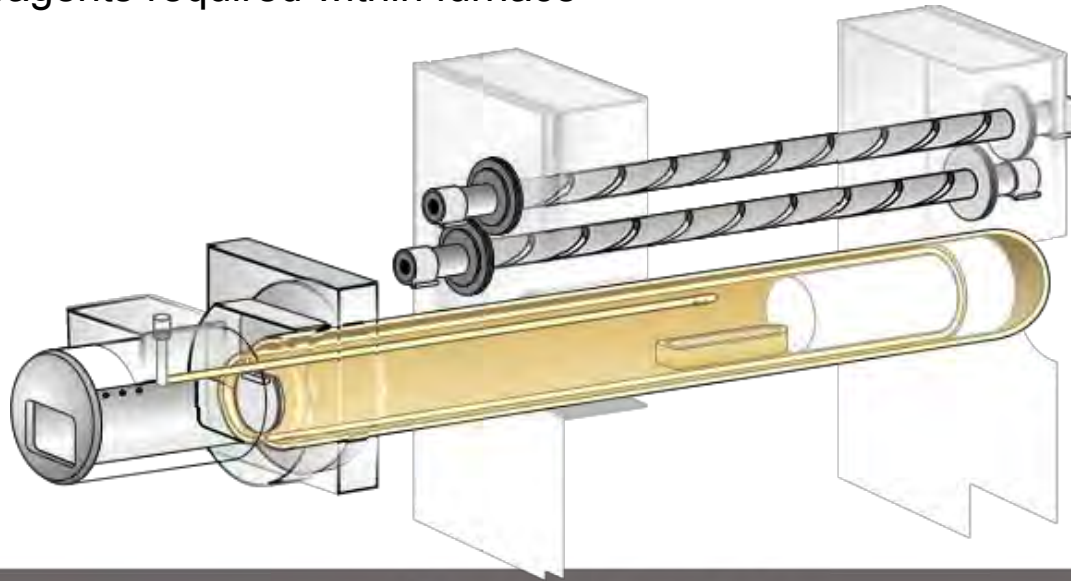
# Gas flow diagram TruMac N





# TruMac N

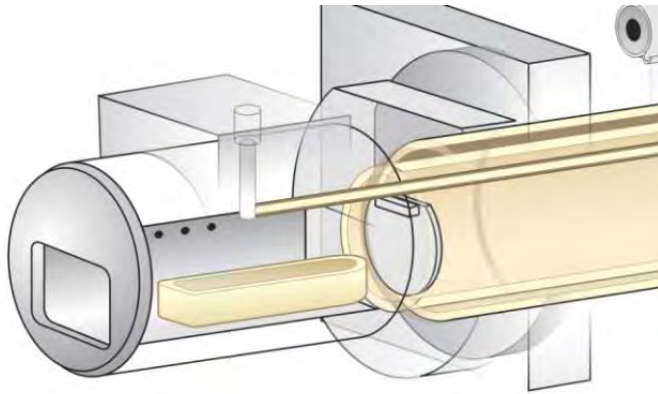
- Ceramic horizontal furnace designed for macro samples
  - Robust design utilizes 6 heating elements for increased reliability and heating efficiency with a maximum temperature of 1450°C
  - **Pure oxygen** environment ensures **complete combustion** of macro samples
  - Ceramic **lance** directs additional oxygen flow **directly onto the sample**
  - No reagents required within furnace





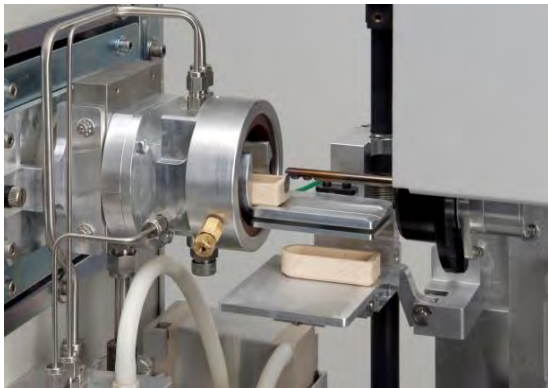
# TruMac N

- **Open ceramic** boats provide sample **surface area** enhancing:
  - Efficient atmospheric purging of macro samples
  - Complete combustion of heterogenous macro samples



# TruMac N

- Automated sample **ash removal** from furnace
- Sample ash is retained and removed in ceramic boat post analysis
  - Furnace remains free of sample ash debris and residue build up
  - Reduces the need for routine furnace maintenance
  - Eliminates the need for a furnace crucible



# TruMac N Advantages

- The TruMac N **horizontal furnace** design offers additional benefits
  - Ability to handle macro samples **up to 3 g**, ideal for:
    - **Heterogeneous** and **difficult to prepare samples** (meats and feeds, etc.)
    - **Low-level nitrogen** samples (starches, slurries, wastewater, etc.)
    - **Low density or bulky samples** (filter papers/bags, celite)
  - Increased **ease of sample handling** and preparation
    - Large **reusable ceramic boats**
  - Automated sample **ash removal** from furnace

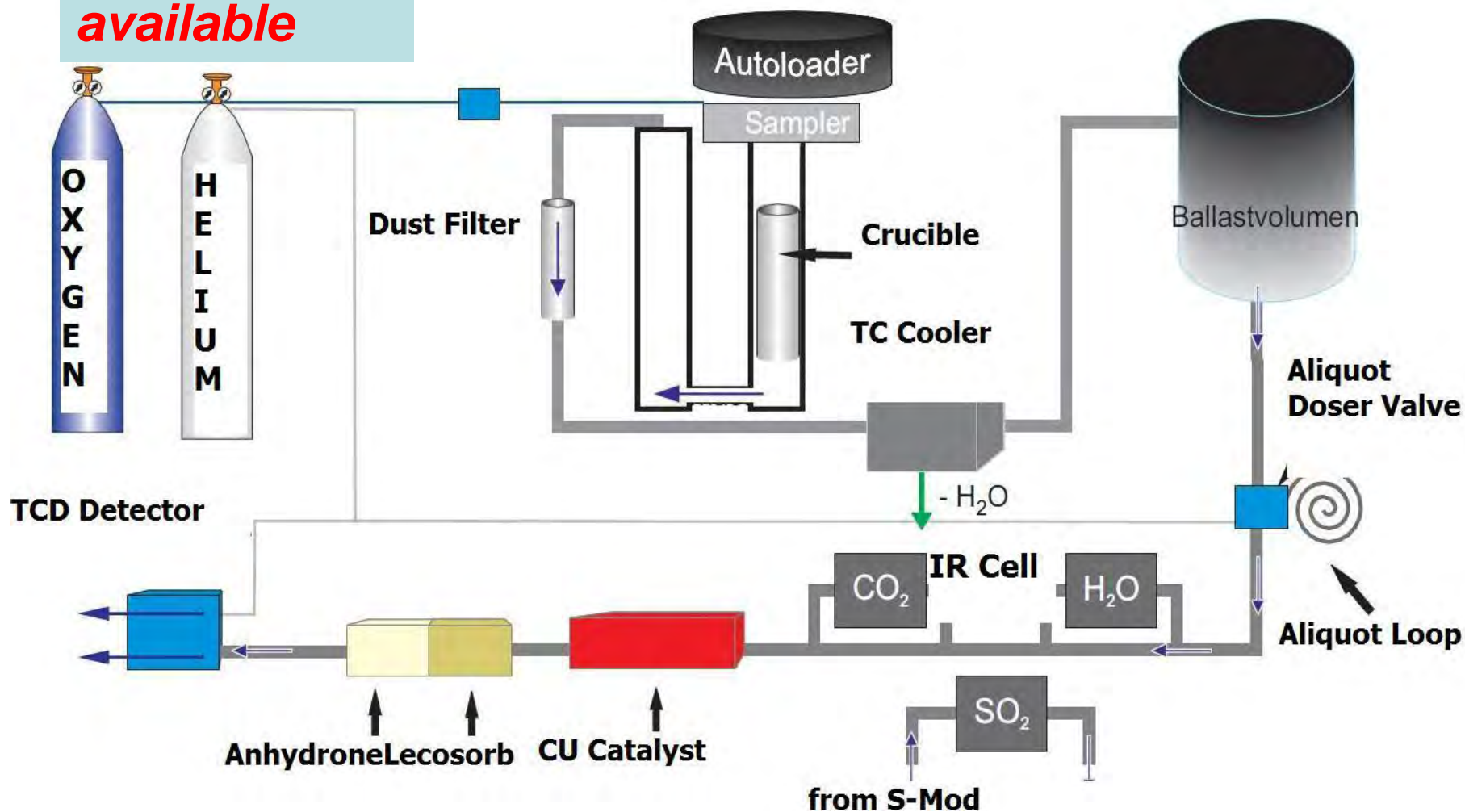


# TruMac N Specifications

- Instrument Range @ 1.0 g\*
  - Nitrogen 20 ppm or 0.002% to 30% (0.02 mg to 300 mg Nitrogen)  
*\*Adjusting sample size may extend instrument range*
- Precision Range @ 1.0 g
  - Nitrogen 10 ppm or 0.3% RSD (whichever is greater)
- Analysis Time 4 minutes nominal
- Sample Size Up to 3.0 g, 1.0 g nominal
- Furnace Resistance 1450°C max (1050°C nominal)
- Operational Control Windows®-based software on an external PC
- Autoloader 50-position
- Electrical Power Requirements
  - Instrument 230 V~, 50/60 Hz, single phase
  - Autoloader 1150/230 V~, 50/60 Hz, single phase

**Argon as  
carrier gas  
available**

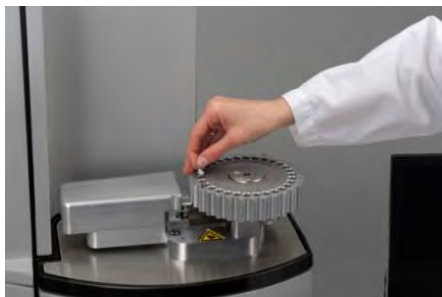
# Gas flow diagram FP-628 / CHNS-628





# FP-628

- A sample is weighed into a foil or capsule and loaded into autoloader



- Sample is loaded into purge chamber removing atmospheric gas
- Sample introduced to furnace



# FP-628

- Combustion gases are swept from the furnace into the thermo electric cooler
- Moisture efficiently removed without the use of chemical anhydride
- Combustion gas is swept onto the combustion gas collection and aliquot collection system

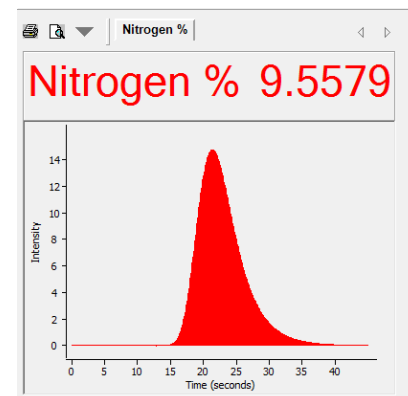


# FP-628

Aliquot gas is swept through a reduction reagent tube (lifetime ~ 600 analyses) then passes through Lecosorb and Anhydrone reagent tube



The aliquot gas passes through a thermal conductivity cell for nitrogen detection

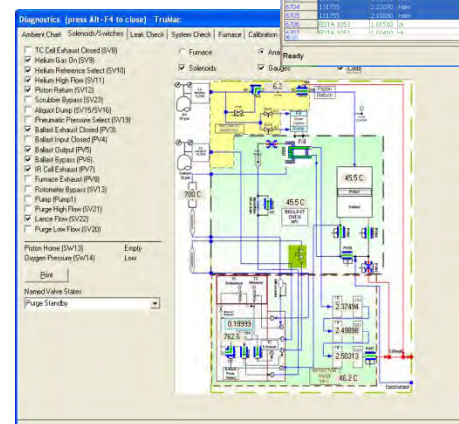
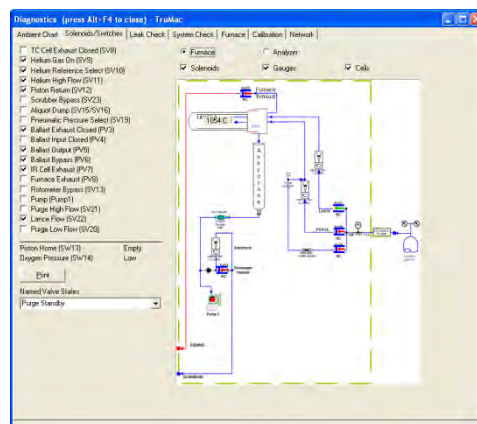
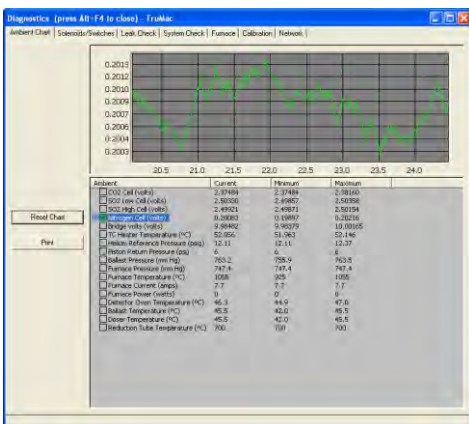
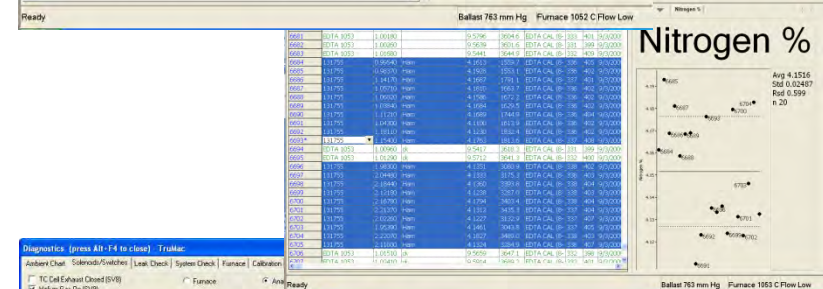
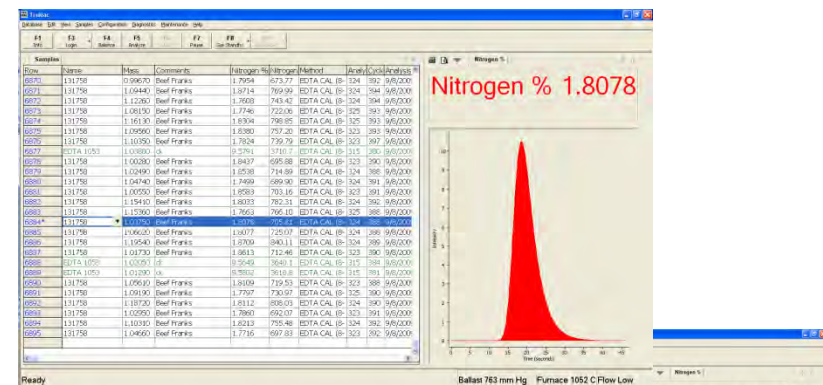


# FP-628 Specifications

- Instrument Range
    - Nitrogen 0.04 mg to 50 mg Nitrogen; 80 ppm – 10 % Nitrogen @ 500 mg
  - Precision Range
    - Nitrogen 0.02 mg Nitrogen or 0.5% RSD (whichever is greater)
  - Analysis Time 4.5 minutes nominal
  - Sample Mass
    - N up to 750 mg, 500 mg nominal
  - Autoloader 30-position, expandable up to 120
- 
- FP628 range:
    - 500 mg sample mass
      - Nitrogen (80ppm to 10%)
        - Low end =  $(0.04 \text{ mg N} / 500 \text{ mg sample}) * 100 = 0.08\%$  or **80 ppm N**
        - High end =  $(50 \text{ mg N} / 500 \text{ mg sample}) * 100 = \mathbf{10\% N}$

# LECO Software

- LECO Windows-based operating software
  - Monitor real-time internal component readings
  - Expanded interactive diagnostic screens aiding
    - Troubleshooting
    - Improve serviceability





# LECO Combustion Nitrogen Determination

- extended reagent lifetime, less instrument downtimes, low cost-per-analysis!
  - **Exclusive** use of **Oxygen** within Combustion Furnace results in:
    - Ensures **complete combustion** and superior recovery of elements
    - **Speeds combustion**
    - Allows for use of **macro sample mass**
    - **No need for other expensive reagent oxidizers** within combustion system
  - **Ballast and Aliquot** Combustion Gas Handling system
    - **Allows** for the exclusive **use of pure oxygen** in the furnace (no soot!)
    - **Eliminates treating the whole combustion gas** with reduction reagents and carbon scrubbers (10 ml instead of 5-10 l)
    - Significantly **extends lifetime of reduction reagents Cu (~600 analyses with one small tube and carbon scrubber)**

# TruMac N Data

- Flour Matrix Sample Data
  - ~0.5 g sample mass



## Wheat Flour Data

Name	Description	Mass	Nitrogen %	Protein %
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.51170	2.5494	15.934
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.51260	2.5367	15.854
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50370	2.5394	15.871
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50170	2.5290	15.806
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50230	2.5360	15.850
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50300	2.5329	15.830
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.51440	2.5426	15.891
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50210	2.5366	15.854
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50310	2.5378	15.861
502-274 1010	Wheat Flour	0.50180	2.5306	15.816

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	0.50564	0.005	1.006	10
Nitrogen %	2.5371	0.00591	0.233	10
Protein %	15.857	0.0369	0.233	10

- Easy-of-use operating software with results management and data export (LIMS)
- Wide dynamic range linear calibration with drift correction

# Example Ham

## TRU MAC

### Ham Data

Name	Comments	Mass	Nitrogen %	Protein %	Method
131755	Ham	1.98300	4.1351	25.844	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.04480	4.1333	25.833	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.18440	4.1360	25.850	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.12180	4.1238	25.773	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.16780	4.1794	26.121	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.21370	4.1312	25.820	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.02260	4.1227	25.767	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	1.95390	4.1461	25.913	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.22070	4.1827	26.142	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C
131755	Ham	2.11600	4.1324	25.827	EDTA CAL (8-28-09) 1350C

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	2.10287	0.10	4.592	10
Nitrogen %	4.1423	0.02145	0.518	10
Protein %	25.889	0.1341	0.518	10



# Example Meat

## TRU MAC

### Turkey Data

Name	Comments	Mass	Nitrogen %	Protein %
131756	Turkey	1.04190	4.2318	26.449
131756	Turkey	1.04950	4.2162	26.351
131756	Turkey	1.04560	4.1914	26.196
131756	Turkey	1.01480	4.2385	26.491
131756	Turkey	1.04090	4.2423	26.514
131756	Turkey	1.06230	4.2205	26.378
131756	Turkey	1.08060	4.2241	26.400
131756	Turkey	1.10820	4.2362	26.476
131756	Turkey	1.07540	4.1897	26.186
131756	Turkey	1.07850	4.1931	26.207

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	1.05977	0.03	2.513	10
Nitrogen %	4.2184	0.02030	0.481	10
Protein %	26.365	0.1269	0.481	10

# Example Starch

<b>Name</b>	<b>Gewicht in g</b>	<b>Stickstoff in %</b>	<b>Proteinfaktor</b>	<b>Protein in %</b>	<b>Datum</b>
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0427	6,25	0,2669	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0424	6,25	0,2651	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0421	6,25	0,2628	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0421	6,25	0,2631	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0421	6,25	0,2628	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0427	6,25	0,2670	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0422	6,25	0,2638	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0419	6,25	0,2619	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0427	6,25	0,2669	01.06.2013
Stärke A	~1 g	0,0427	6,25	0,2668	01.06.2013
<b>Mittelwert</b>		<b>0,0424</b>		<b>0,2647</b>	
<b>Abweichung (+-)</b>		<b>0,00033</b>		<b>0,00206</b>	
<b>RSD</b>		<b>0,78</b>		<b>0,78</b>	



# Example homogenous chemical

## TRU MAC

### Caffeine Data

Name	Mass	Description	Carbon %	Nitrogen %	Analysis Date
502-205 1010	0.1522	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.311	28.816	1/7/2011 12:21:49 PM
502-205 1010	0.1516	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.354	28.848	1/7/2011 12:28:36 PM
502-205 1010	0.1524	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.339	28.871	1/7/2011 12:35:24 PM
502-205 1010	0.1502	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.238	28.810	1/7/2011 12:42:12 PM
502-205 1010	0.1547	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.325	28.862	1/7/2011 12:49:00 PM
502-205 1010	0.1516	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.341	28.875	1/7/2011 12:55:48 PM
502-205 1010	0.1527	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.264	28.852	1/7/2011 1:02:36 PM
502-205 1010	0.1537	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.322	28.902	1/7/2011 1:09:24 PM
502-205 1010	0.1538	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.503	28.962	1/7/2011 1:16:11 PM
502-205 1010	0.1527	Caffeine @ 49.48%C, 28.85%N	49.264	28.859	1/7/2011 1:22:59 PM

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	0.1526	0.001	0.847	10
Carbon %	49.326	0.0732	0.148	10
Nitrogen %	28.866	0.0433	0.150	10



Delivering the Right Results

# FP628 Series Software

## 628 SERIES

### Barley 502-277

Name	Mass	Description	Nitrogen %	Analysis Date
Barley 502-277 1008	0.2542	@44.72%C, 1.79%N	1.7778	5/19/2011 3:21:20 PM
Barley 502-277 1008	0.2537	@44.72%C, 1.79%N	1.7790	5/19/2011 3:25:04 PM
Barley 502-277 1008	0.2519	@44.72%C, 1.79%N	1.7905	5/19/2011 3:28:49 PM
Barley 502-277 1008	0.2533	@44.72%C, 1.79%N	1.7807	5/19/2011 3:32:33 PM
Barley 502-277 1008	0.2521	@44.72%C, 1.79%N	1.7889	5/19/2011 3:36:19 PM

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	0.2530	0.001	0.397	5
Nitrogen %	1.7834	0.00589	0.330	5

# FP628 Data

## 628 SERIES

### LECO Corn Flour 502-563

Name	Mass	Description	Nitrogen %	Analysis Date
Corn Flour 501-563 1011	0.2529	@1.46%N	1.4564	5/19/2011 3:40:04 PM
Corn Flour 501-563 1011	0.2545	@1.46%N	1.4569	5/19/2011 3:43:50 PM
Corn Flour 501-563 1011	0.2513	@1.46%N	1.4574	5/19/2011 3:47:35 PM
Corn Flour 501-563 1011	0.2505	@1.46%N	1.4544	5/19/2011 3:51:20 PM
Corn Flour 501-563 1011	0.2530	@1.46%N	1.4499	5/19/2011 3:55:04 PM

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	0.2524	0.002	0.621	5
Nitrogen %	1.4550	0.00305	0.210	5

# FP628 Data

## 628 SERIES

### Glycine 0.1% N Solution

Name	Mass	Description	Nitrogen %	Analysis Date
Glycine 0.1%	0.2937	@0.172%C, 0.100%N	0.09916	5/24/2011 12:00:24 PM
Glycine 0.1%	0.3198	@0.172%C, 0.100%N	0.09782	5/24/2011 12:04:10 PM
Glycine 0.1%	0.3088	@0.172%C, 0.100%N	0.09772	5/24/2011 12:07:55 PM
Glycine 0.1%	0.3237	@0.172%C, 0.100%N	0.09677	5/24/2011 12:11:40 PM
Glycine 0.1%	0.3203	@0.172%C, 0.100%N	0.10076	5/24/2011 12:15:25 PM

Element	Average	Std. Deviation	RSD	Count
Mass	0.3133	0.01	3.922	5
Nitrogen %	0.09845	0.001549	1.574	5

# Example Argon / Helium

	Teststärke mit Helium			Teststärke mit Argon		
	Einwaage	N in %	Protein in %	Einwaage	N in %	Protein in %
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0340	0,2126	~ca 2 g	0,0351	0,2192
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0345	0,2157	~ca 2 g	0,0348	0,2174
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0350	0,2184	~ca 2 g	0,0334	0,2085
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0347	0,2166	~ca 2 g	0,0343	0,2141
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0347	0,2166	~ca 2 g	0,0353	0,2204
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0343	0,2143	~ca 2 g	0,0349	0,2183
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0342	0,2137	~ca 2 g	0,0340	0,2124
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0348	0,2174	~ca 2 g	0,0342	0,2137
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0342	0,2137	~ca 2 g	0,0338	0,2109
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0355	0,2217	~ca 2 g	0,0351	0,2193
Eichstärke	~ca 2 g	0,0342	0,2138	~ca 2 g	0,0350	0,2185
<b>Mittelwert:</b>		<b>0,0345</b>			<b>0,0345</b>	
<b>SA</b>		<b>0,00043</b>			<b>0,00063</b>	
<b>RSA</b>		<b>1,24</b>			<b>1,84</b>	





and ....

# TGA 701: Moisture and Ash



Samples logged into software and empty crucibles loaded into TGA701 carousel for taring

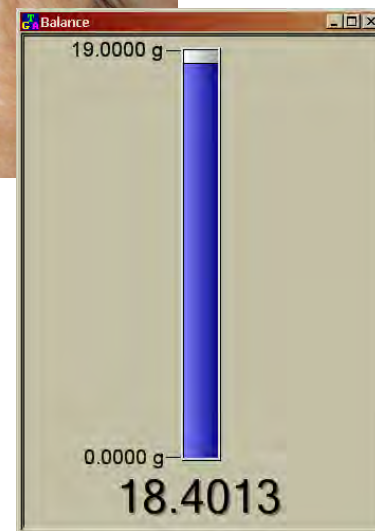
Green button on TGA701 is pressed to begin the tare



# TGA 701

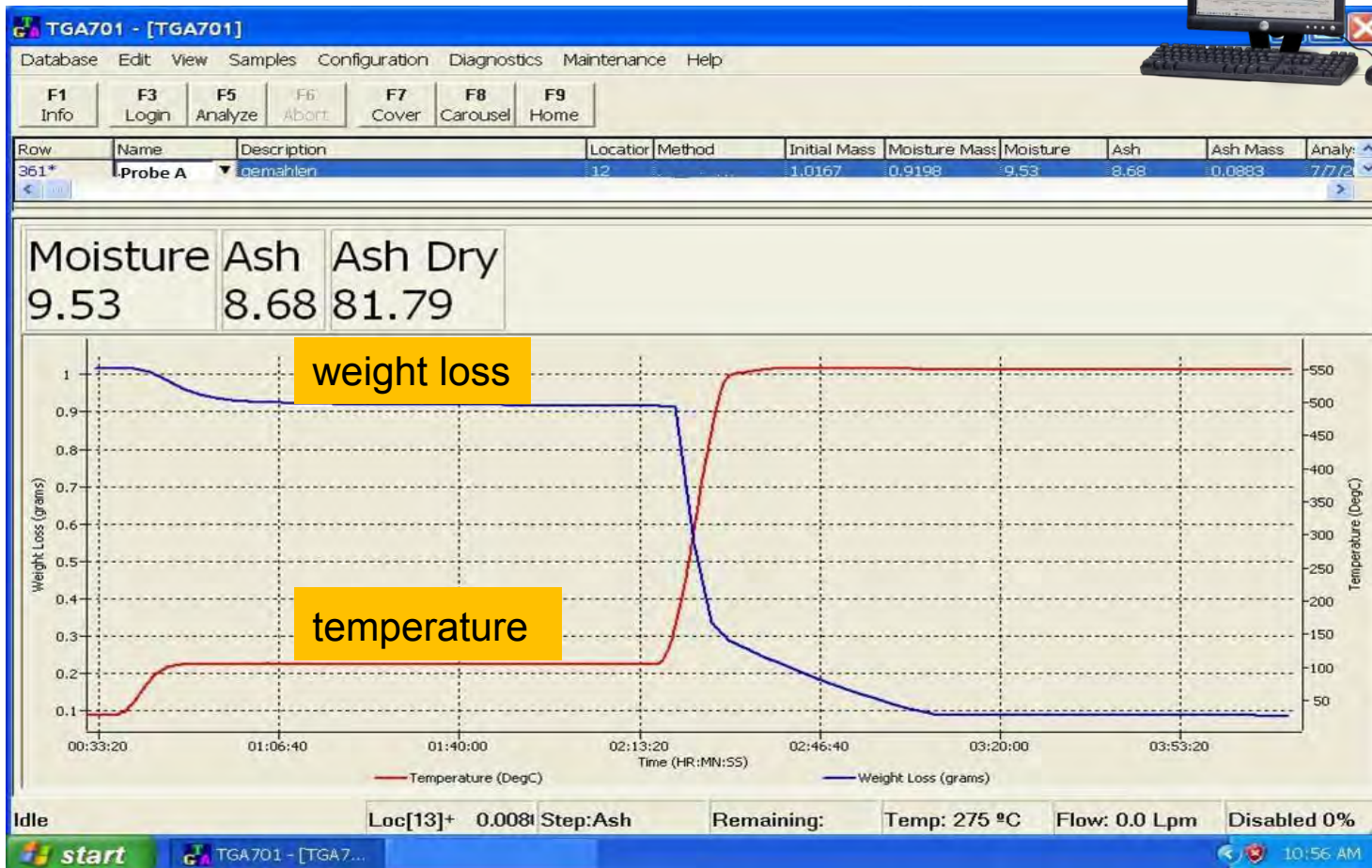


Sample placed into  
tared crucibles  
Operator may use  
live balance display  
in software as a  
reference  
Green button  
pressed and the  
analysis run begins





# TGA-701



The TGA-701 measures the **weight loss** of organic, inorganic, and synthetic material **as a function of temperature** in a controlled environment. The instrument consists of a computer and a multiple sample furnace that allows up to **19 samples** to be analyzed **simultaneously**.

Hartelijk dank voor uw belangstelling!