



Molecularly imprinted polymer onto glassy carbon and onto graphene electrodes for electrochemical determination of pesticides

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Summer School
22nd – 24th March, Tirana, Albania

Plan

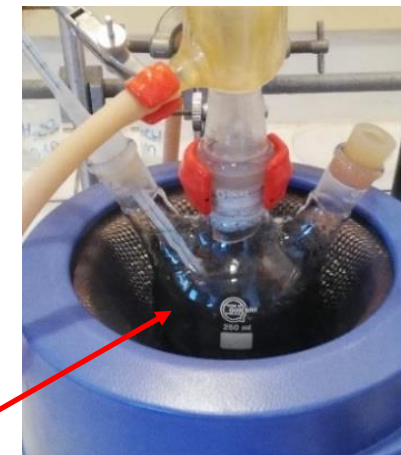
1. Elaboration of pure graphene electrodes for sensing application

2. Characterization of elaborated graphene electrodes

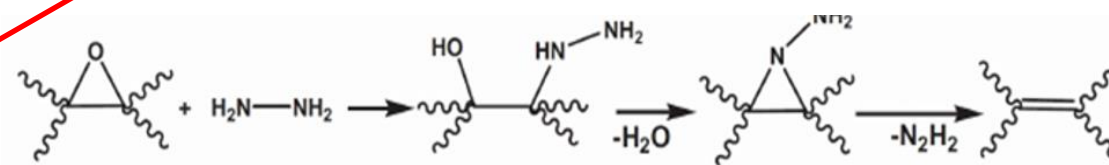
3. Electropolymerization of molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) film onto pure graphene electrodes for isoproturon detection

4. Conclusions and future perspectives

The electrochemical exfoliation in aqueous solvent media: **anodic exfoliation**



Chemical reduction with **hydrazine** at high temperature (100 °C)



The mechanism of the chemical reduction of GOx into rGOx with hydrazine hydrate



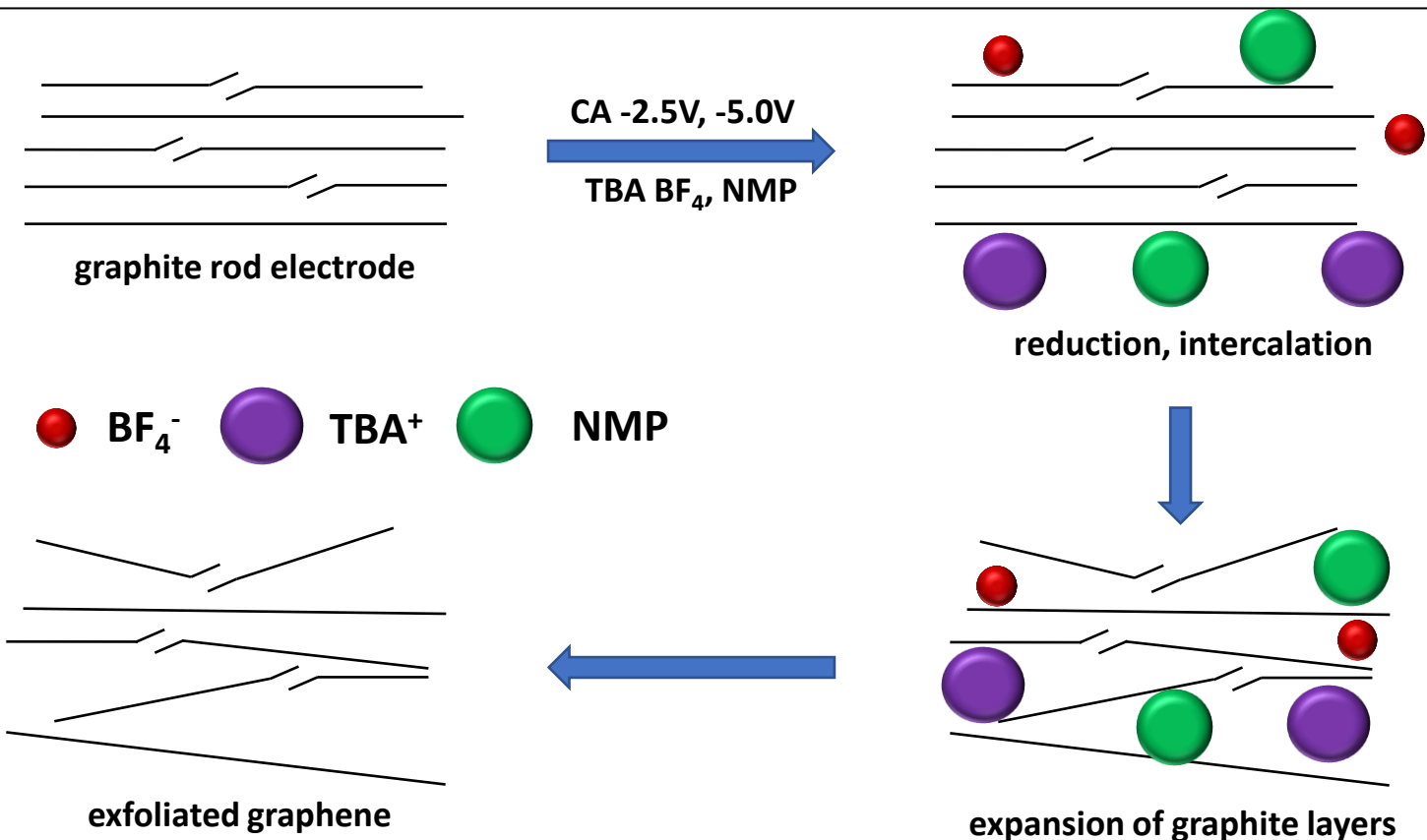
-reduction time **24h**

-electrolyte: **0.1M (NH₄)₂SO₄** dissolved in **water**
-exfoliation time **12h**

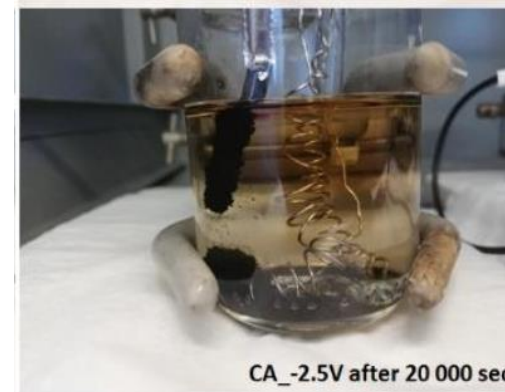


Elaboration of pure graphene electrodes for sensing application

The electrochemical exfoliation in organic solvent media: **cathodic exfoliation**



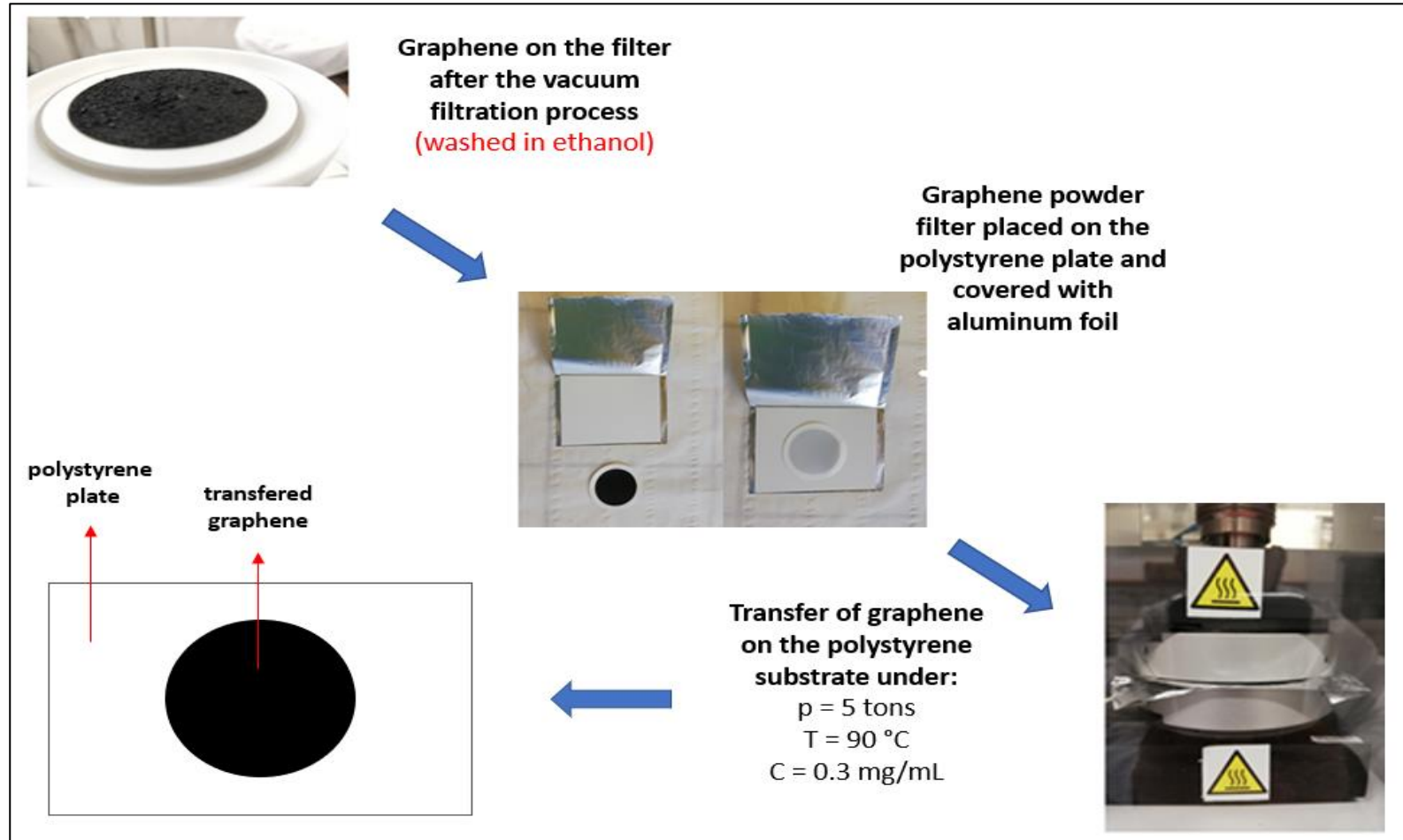
by CA at -5.0 V



by CA at -2.5 V

Electrochemical exfoliation of graphite rod electrode at different times of exfoliation
-electrolyte: **0.1M TBA BF₄** dissolved in **NMP (1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone)**
-exfoliation time: **6h**

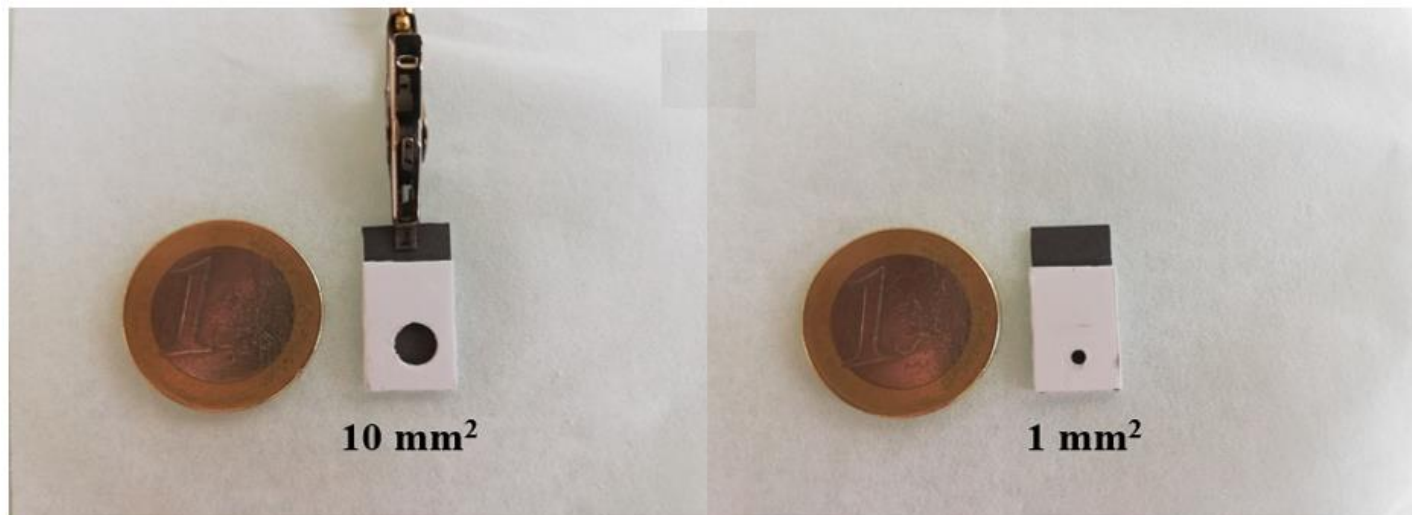
The transfer process of graphene powder onto polystyrene substrate: **graphene/PS electrode fabrication**



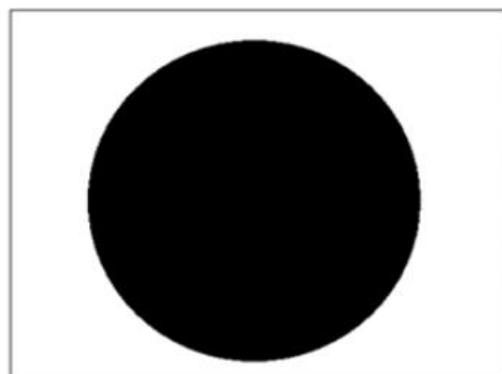
➤ **NO optimization of the parameters for this procedure**



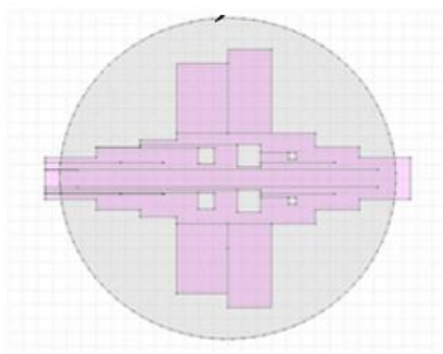
The choice of the design: methods used for the precision of graphene working electrode surface area



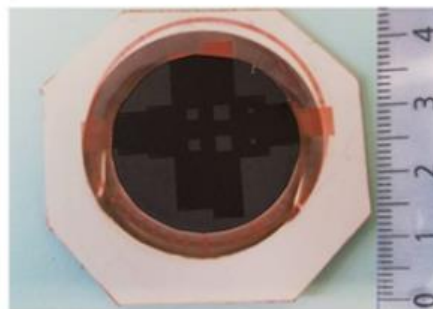
Classical method developed in our laboratory



Graphene/PS



Mask for photolithography



Graphene/PS lithography electrodes



Photolithography method performed in clean room

- A = 500 μm^2
- A = 1 mm^2
- A = 5 mm^2
- A = 10 mm^2

Characterization of graphene electrodes

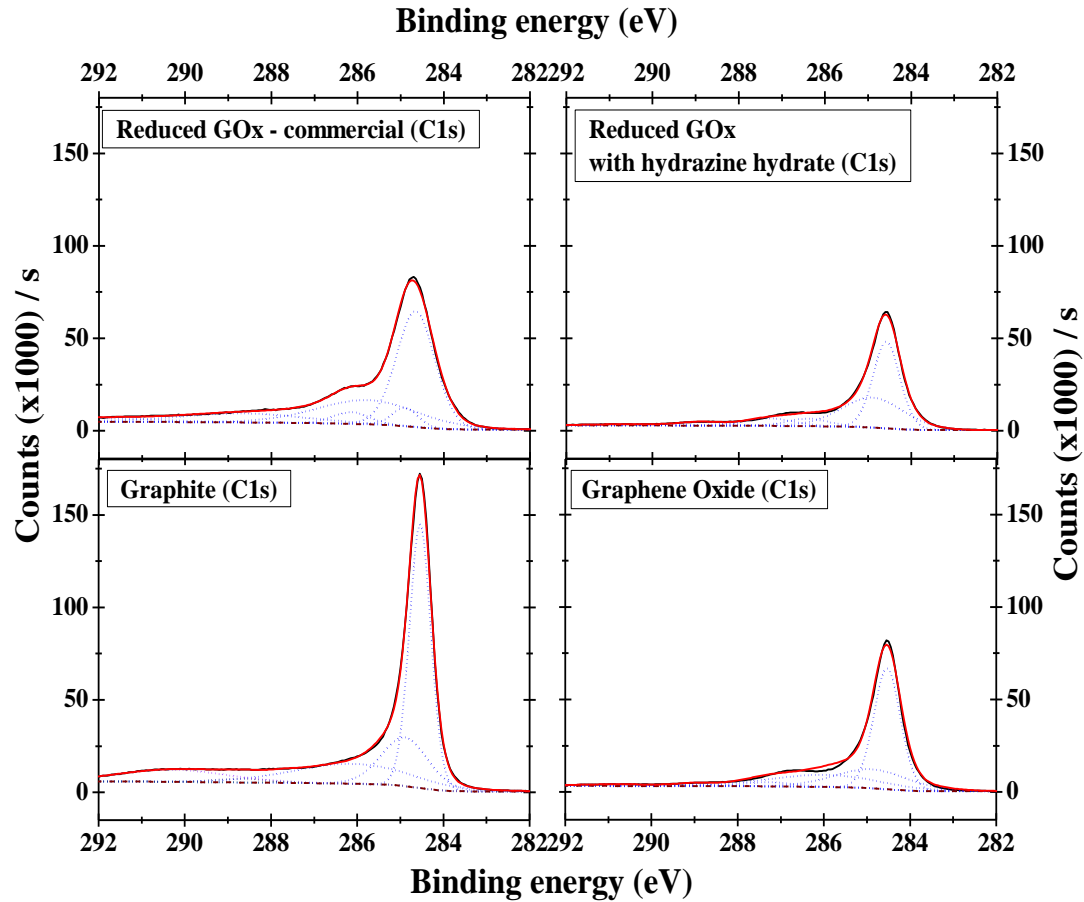
The characterization of chemical structure of graphene electrodes:

- XPS characterization
- Raman characterization
- FT-IR characterization

The characterization of electrochemical behavior of graphene electrodes:

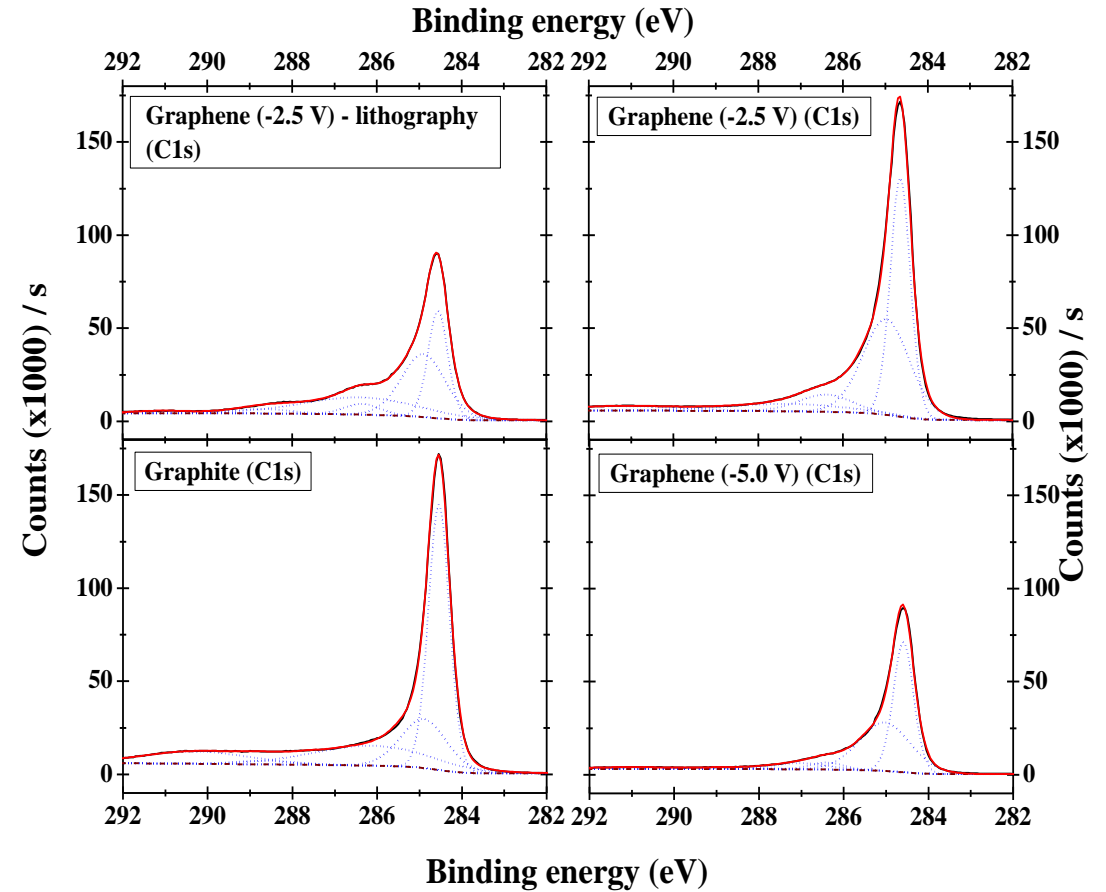
- electrochemical behavior in presence of redox probes
- evolution of electrochemical active area
- using electrochemical window range

XPS characterization of graphene electrodes



C1s XPS spectra

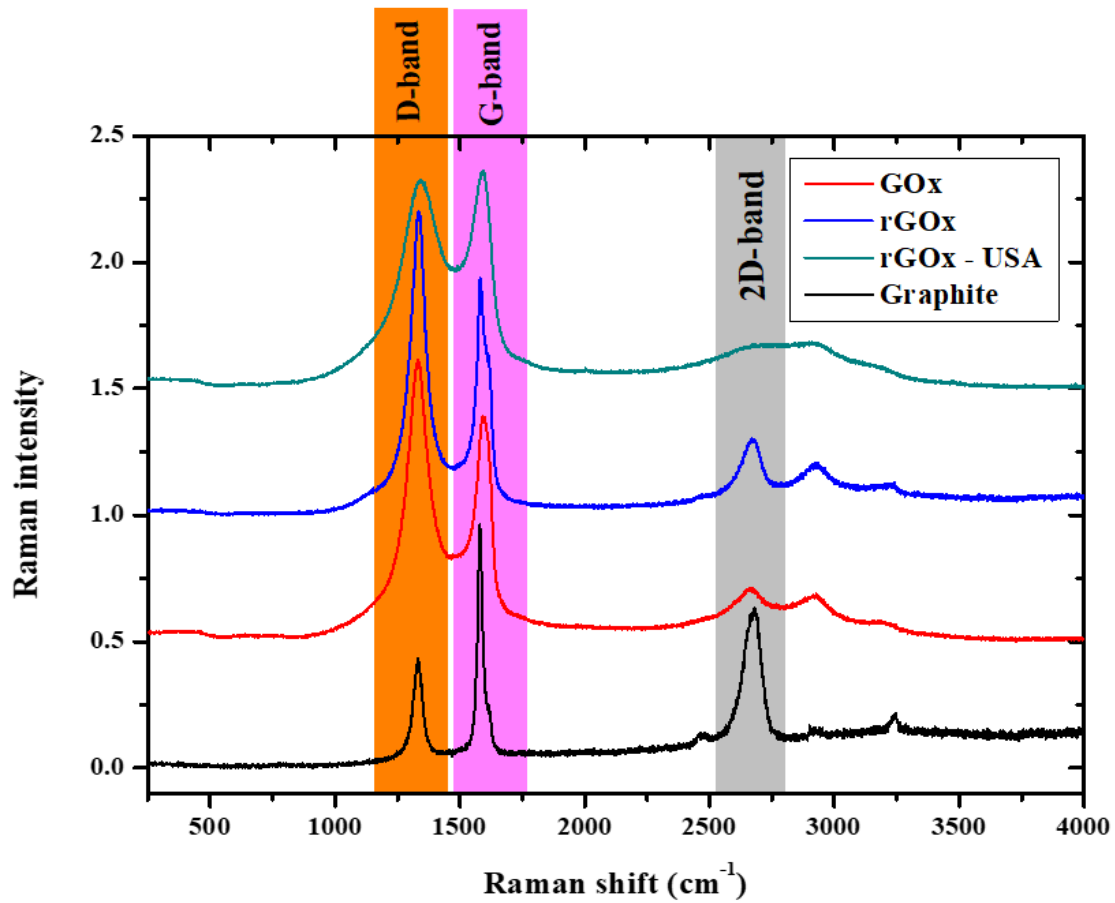
-graphene exfoliated in aqueous solvent media



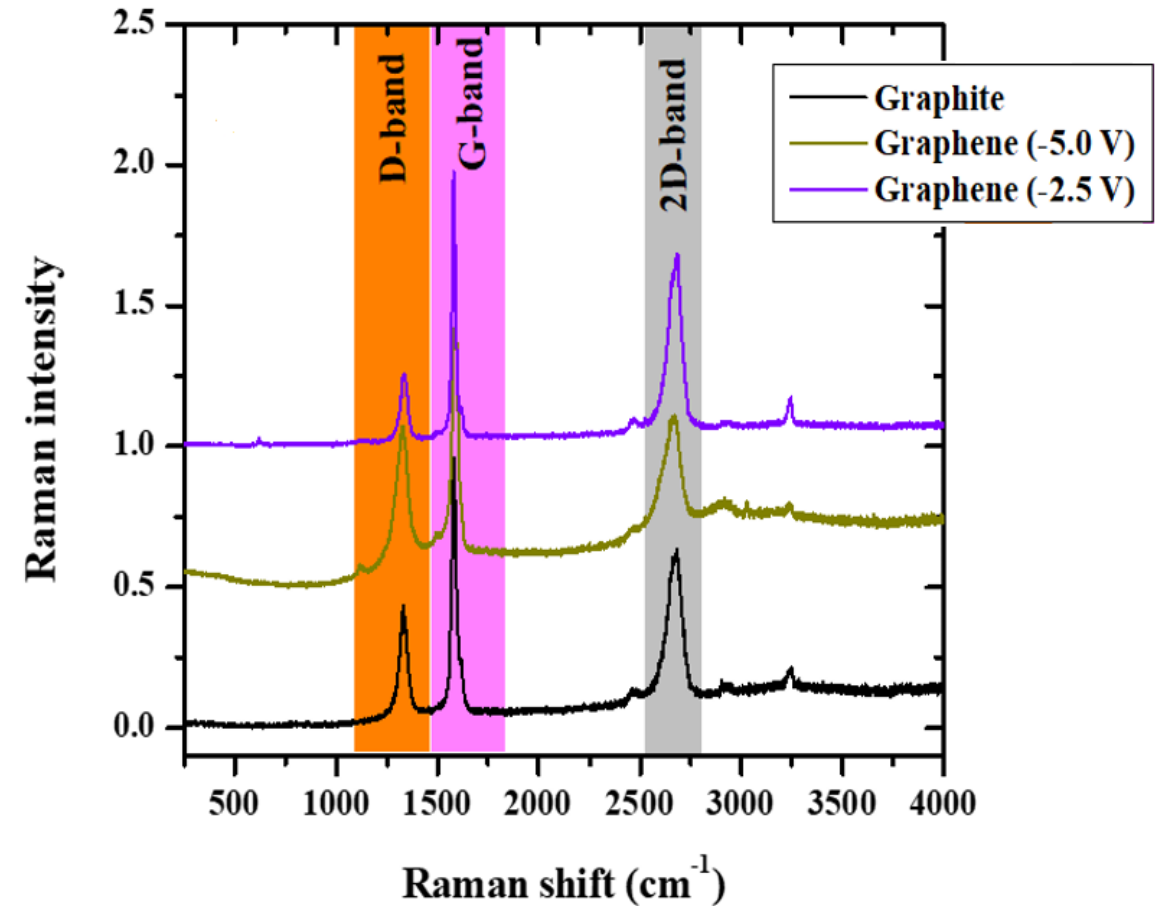
C1s XPS spectra

-graphene exfoliated in organic solvent media

Raman characterization of graphene electrodes

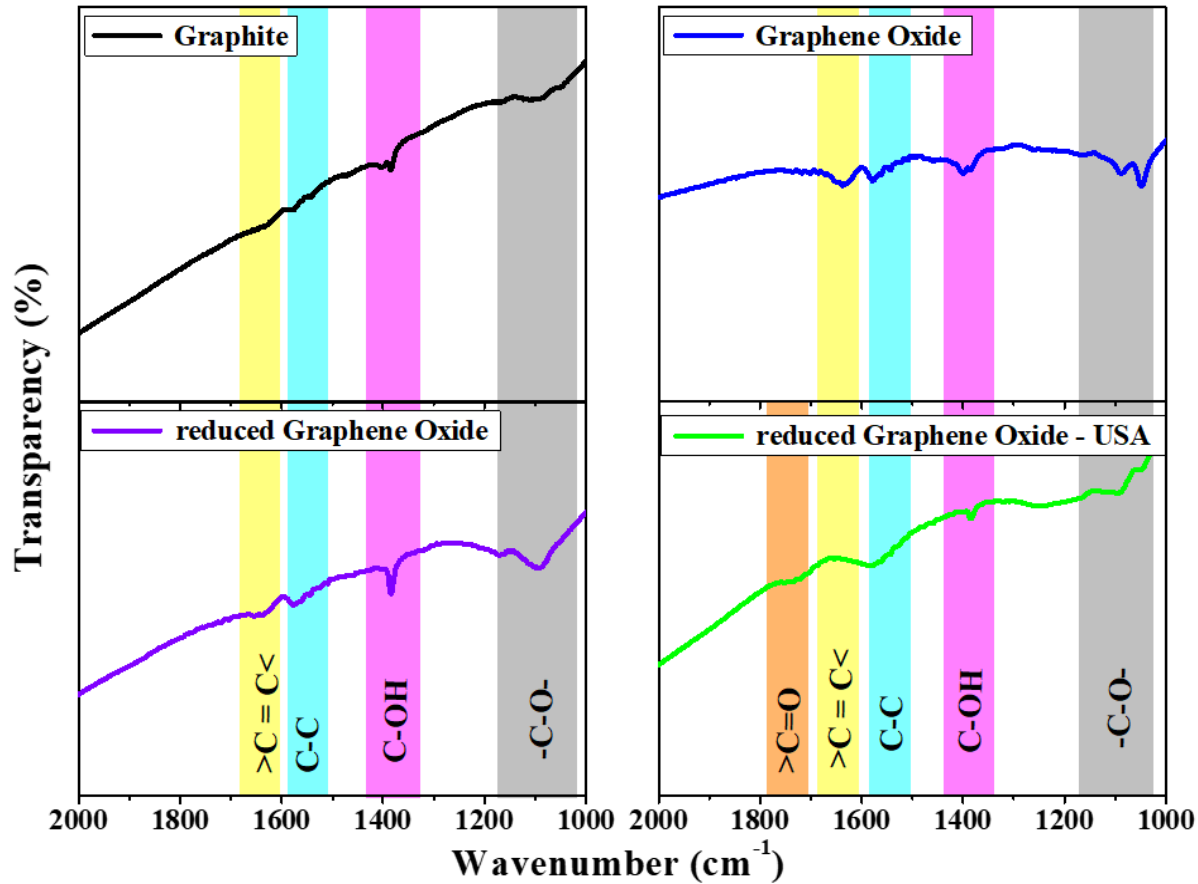


Raman spectra
-graphene exfoliated in aqueous solvent media



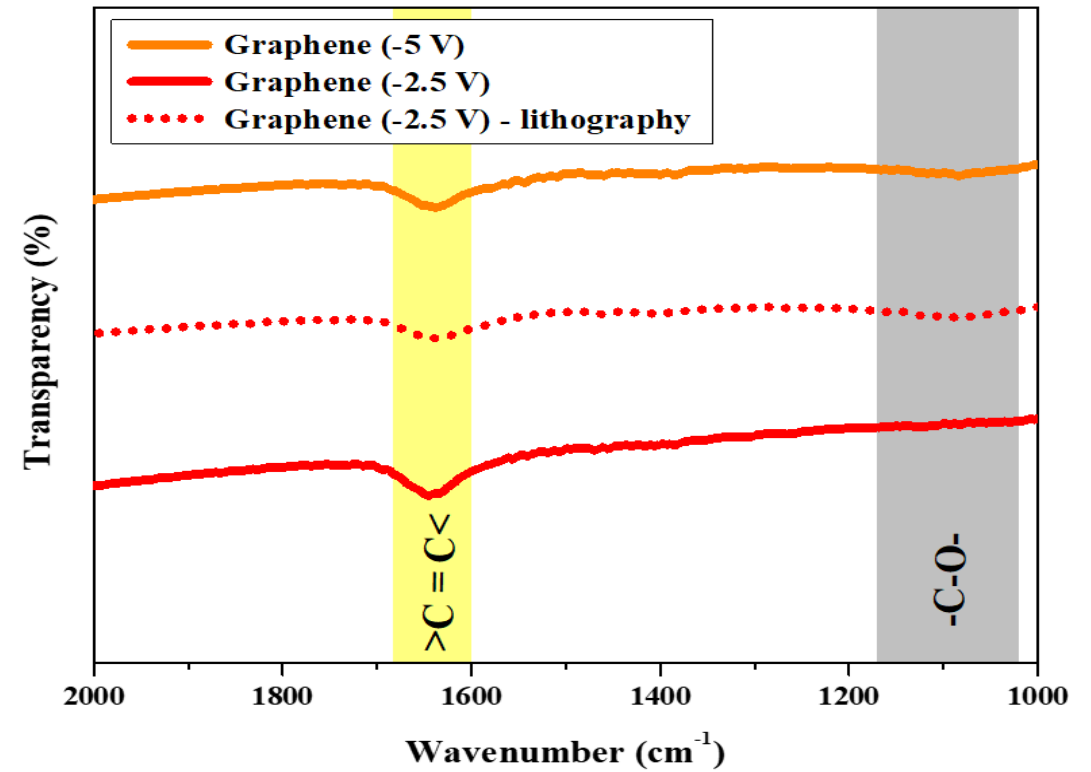
Raman spectra
-graphene exfoliated in organic solvent media

FT-IR characterization of graphene electrodes



IR spectra

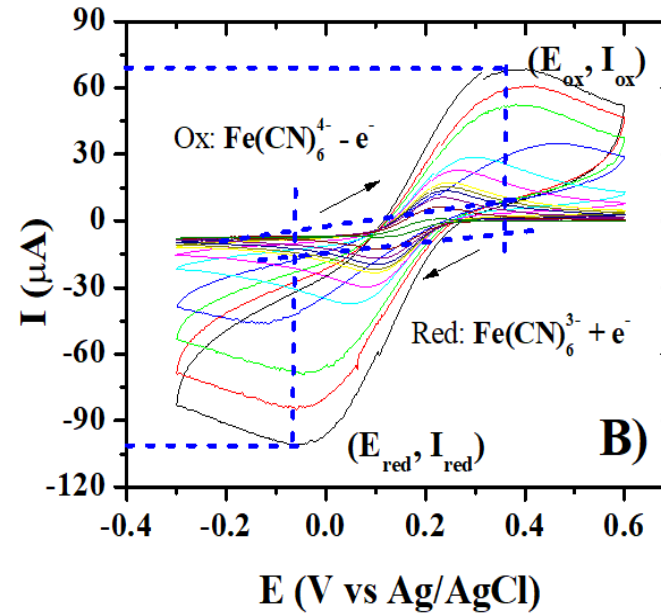
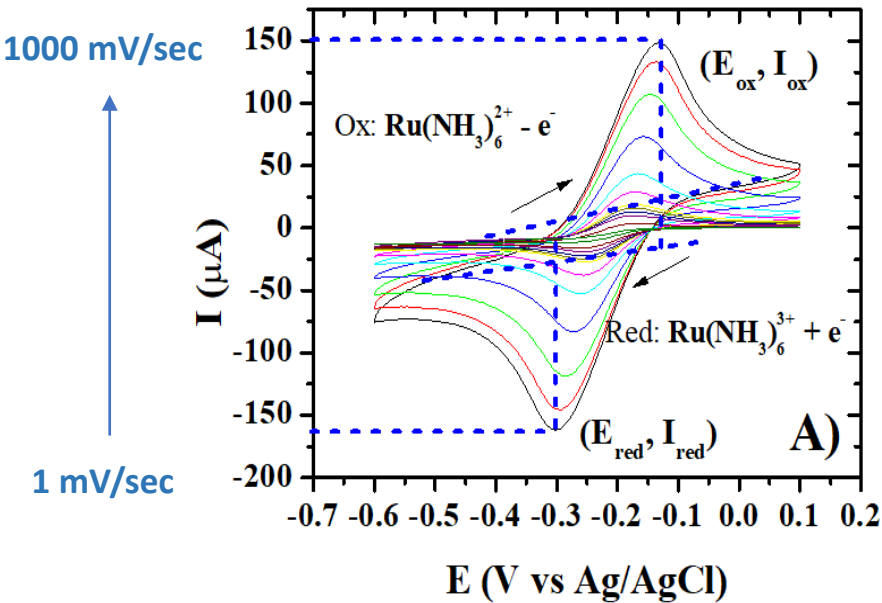
-graphene exfoliated in aqueous solvent media



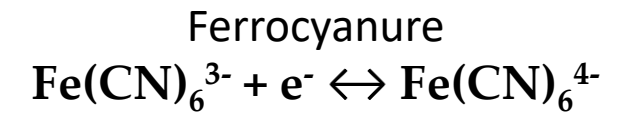
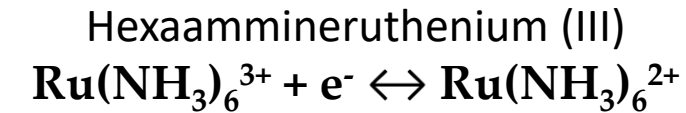
IR spectra

-graphene exfoliated in organic solvent media

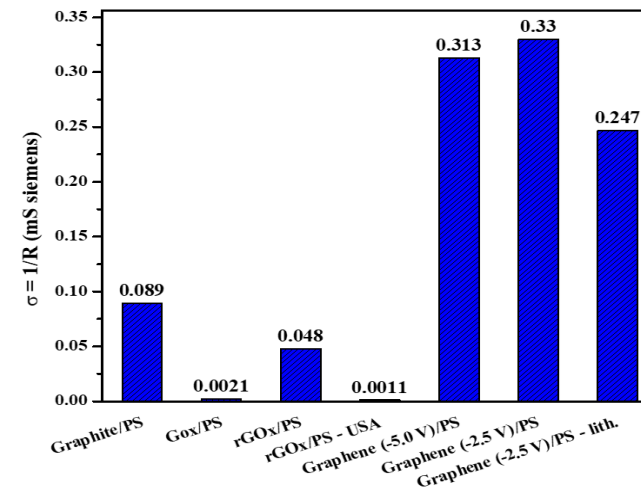
Electrochemical characterization – evolution of electrochemical active surface area



Two different redox probes:



Four-point probe electrical conductivity measurements of different samples transferred on polystyrene substrate



Electropolymerization of molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) film onto pure graphene electrodes for isoproturon detection

Why isoproturon?



WFD

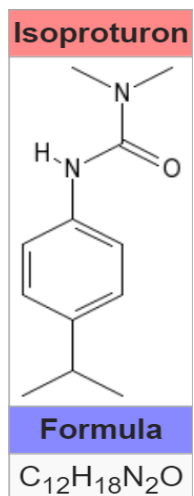
- the maximum allowed concentration at **0.3 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ($1.45 \times 10^{-9}\text{M}$)**
- attempts for finding the simplest way how to **determine** micropollutants



WHO

In 2013, list of **45 Priority Substances** in the Field of Water Policy

Hexachlorobutadiene	X
Hexachlorocyclohexane	X
Isoproturon	
Lead and its compounds	
Mercury and its compounds	X
Naphthalene	



ISO (3-(4-isopropylphenyl)-1,1-dimethylurea or 3-p-cumenyl-1,1-dimethylurea)



a phenyl herbicide urea

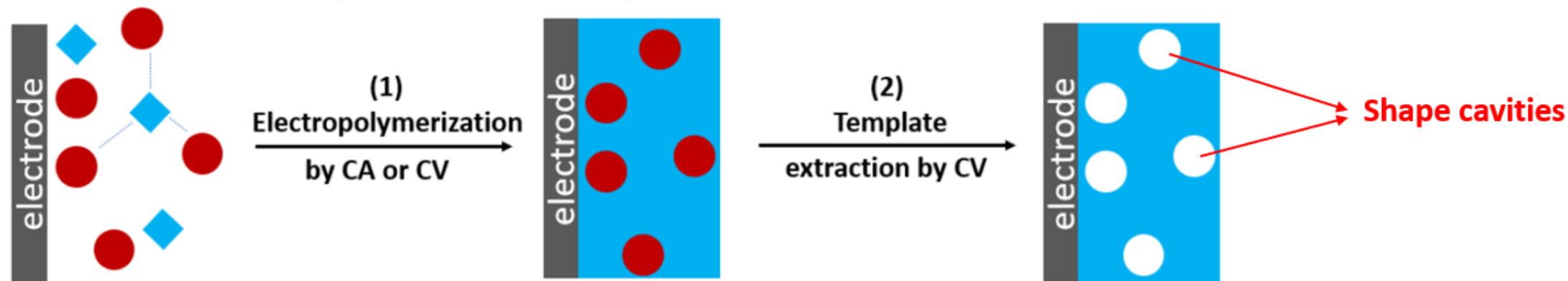
kill weeds in agricultural soils

the EU banned its use in 2016

Electropolymerization of molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) film onto pure graphene electrodes for isoproturon detection

Experimental strategy for the preparation of the MIPPy thin films on GC/Gr electrodes

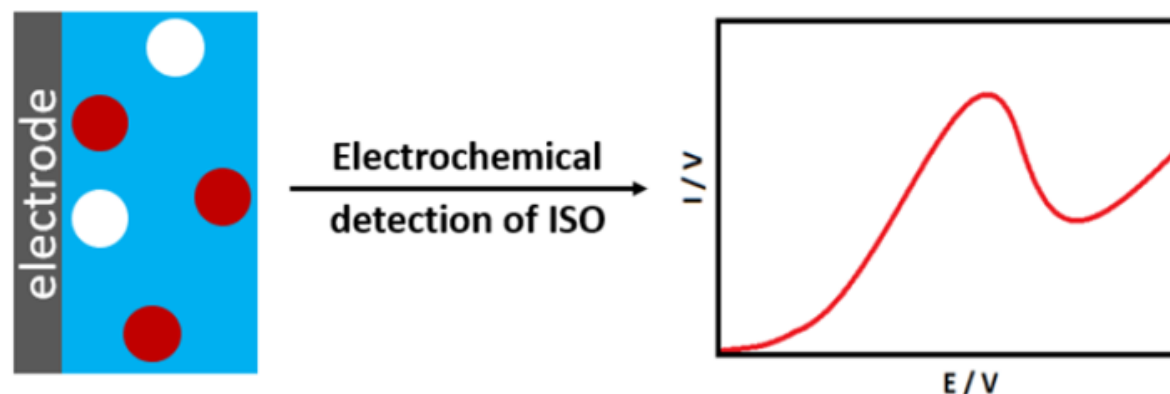
Synthesis of ISO-MIPPy onto GC/Gr electrodes



● Isoproturon
Template/Targeted molecule

◆ Pyrrole monomer

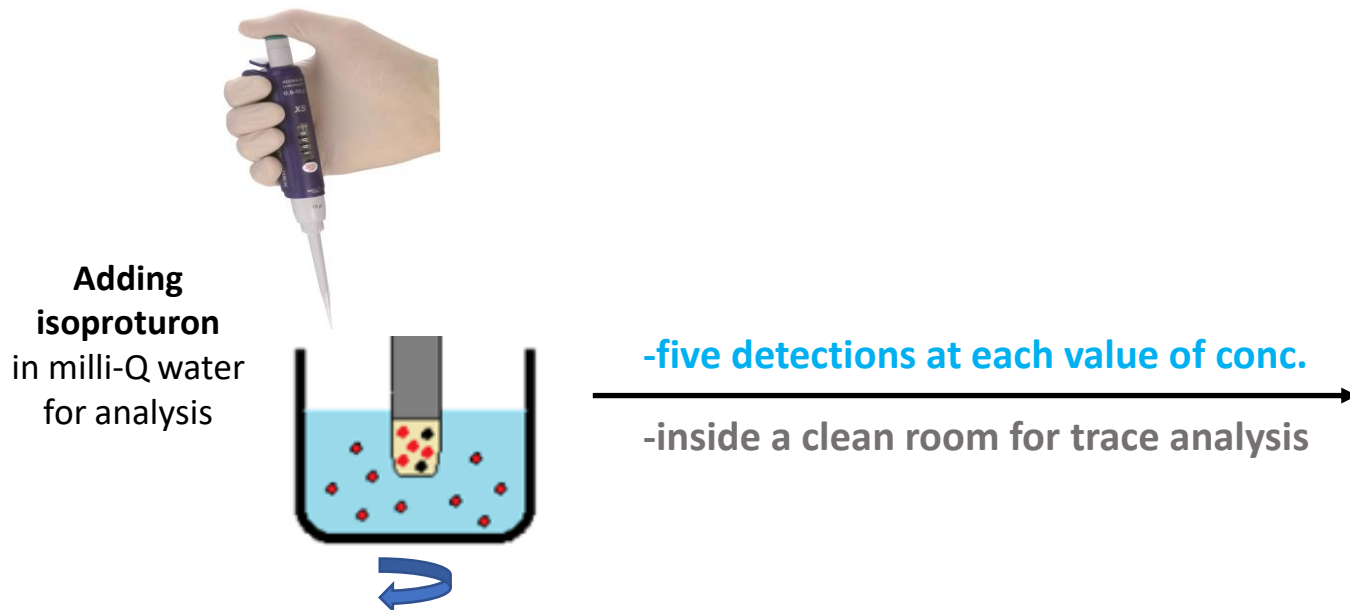
Electroanalytical procedure



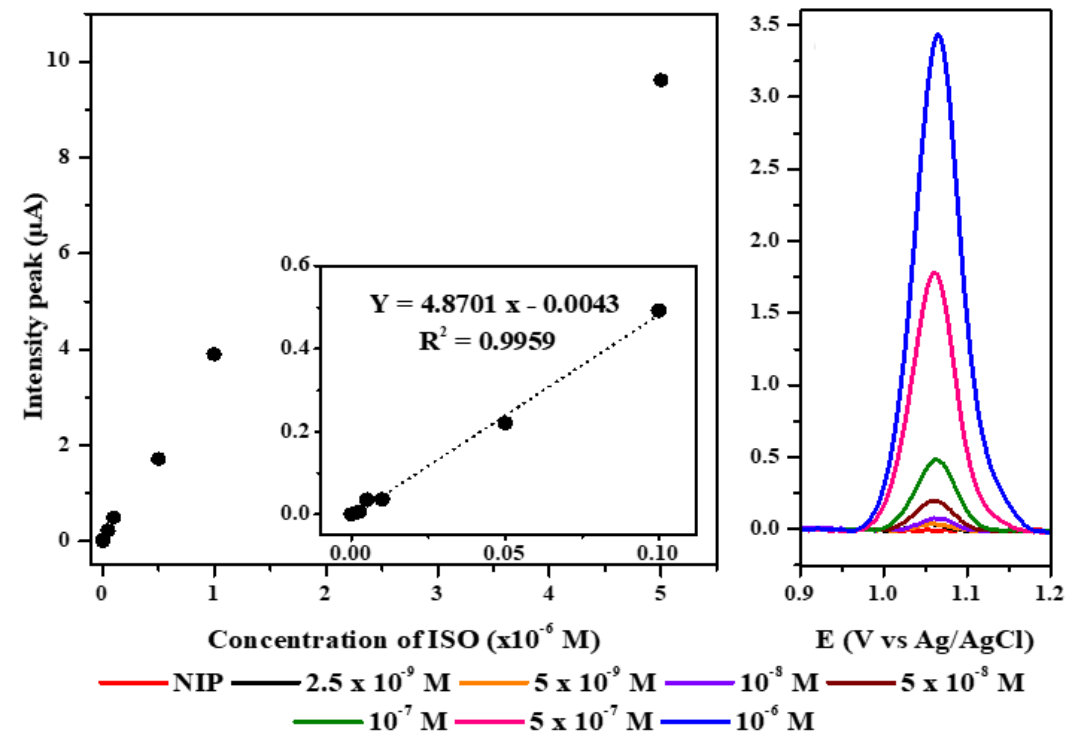
Schematic representation of the procedure used for the preparation of ISO-MIPPy films onto GC and Gr electrodes, including two steps: 1) electropolymerization of MIPs by CA and/or CV, and 2) the CV extraction of ISO molecules. Both electrodes were tested for electrochemical detection of ISO.

Electropolymerization of molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) film onto pure graphene electrodes for isoproturon detection

Electrochemical preparation of MIP/Graphene (-2.5 V) electrodes for the detection of isoproturon in water



Calibration plots obtained during the SWV determination of low concentrations of isoproturon milli-Q water samples



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

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Molecularly imprinted polymer modified glassy carbon electrodes for the electrochemical analysis of isoproturon in water

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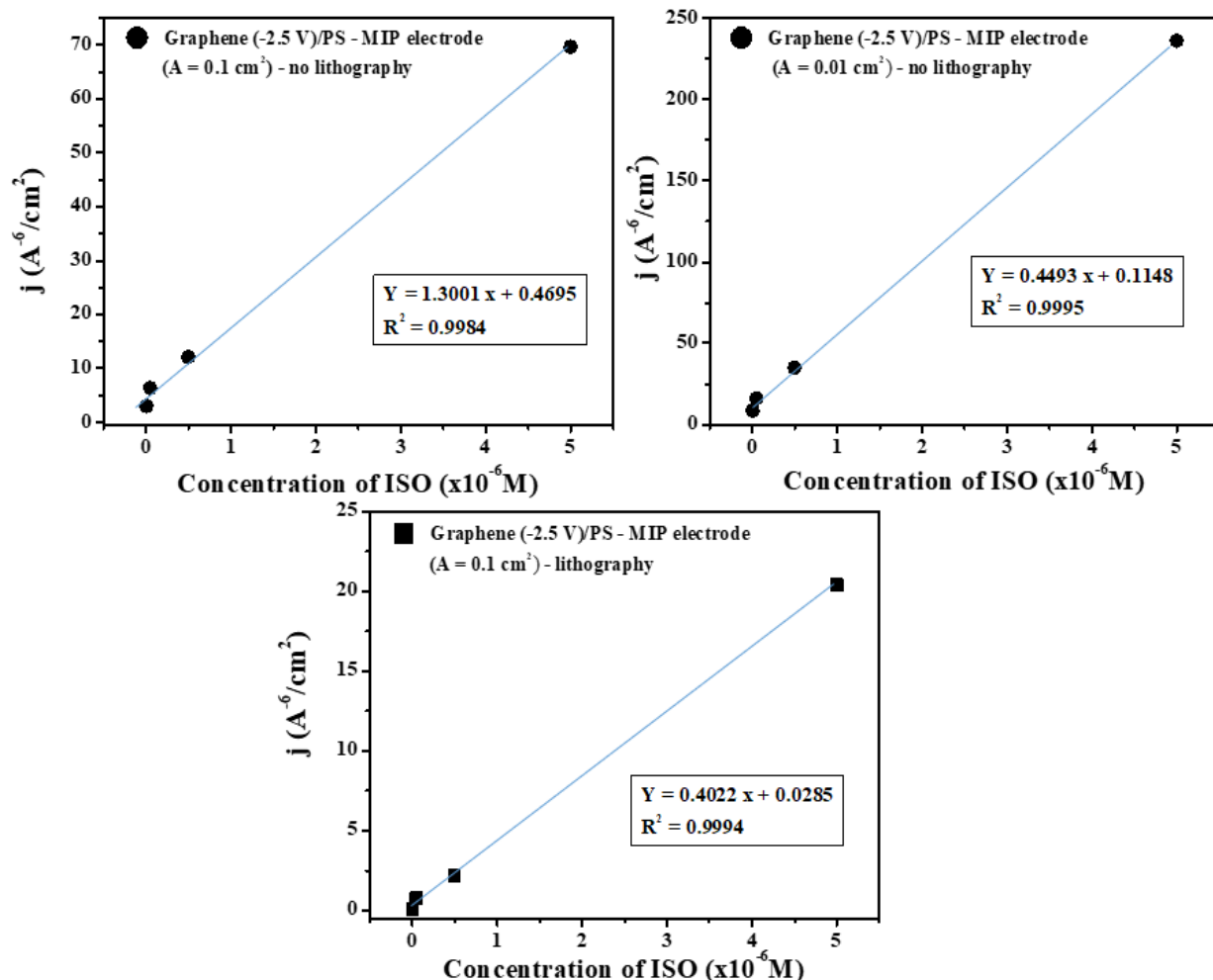
Sadriu et al. 2020, Talanta, Elsevier DOI: [10.1016/j.talanta.2019.120222](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.talanta.2019.120222)

(LOD) = 2.76×10^{-9} M ($0.5 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)

(LOQ) = 9.2×10^{-9} M ($1.9 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$)

Electropolymerization of molecularly imprinted polymer (MIP) film onto pure graphene electrodes for isoproturon detection

Electrochemical preparation of MIP/Graphene (-2.5 V) electrodes for the detection of isoproturon in water



Calibration plots obtained during the SWV determination of low concentrations of isoproturon milli-Q water samples



Electrode	Straight line equation	LOD	RSD
Graphene (-2.5 V)/PS - no lithography A = 10 mm ²	I (μA) = 1.3 [Isoproturon] + 0.46 (R ² = 0.99)	6.9 × 10 ⁻⁸ M (14.2 μg/L)	13.1 %
Graphene (-2.5 V)/PS - no lithography A = 1 mm ²	I (μA) = 0.45 [Isoproturon] + 0.11 (R ² = 0.99)	6.6 × 10 ⁻⁸ M (13.6 μg/L)	9.5 %
Graphene (-2.5 V)/PS - lithography A = 10 mm ²	I (μA) = 0.4 [Isoproturon] + 0.02 (R ² = 0.99)	8.9 × 10 ⁻⁸ M (18.4 μg/L)	17.2 %
Glassy carbon electrode A = 1 mm ²	I (μA) = 4.87 [Isoproturon] - 0.004 (R ² = 0.99)	2.76 × 10 ⁻⁹ M (0.5 μg/L)	7.6 %

→ -four detections at each value of conc.

-by SWV in an ethanol/water solution (70:30 v/v) of H₂SO₄ 0.1 M

Conclusions and future perspectives

- The elaboration of pure graphene electrode and use them for the preparation of MIP sensors for ISO detection

An original method for elaboration of 100% graphene electrodes by performing exfoliation of graphite

Graphene was transferred onto polystyrene substrate for graphene/PS electrodes

Characterization results showed higher quality for graphene made by CA (-2.5V) in organic media

Electropolymerization of MIPs on graphene for isoproturon detection

- Electrochemical exfoliation of graphite in organic solvent media is to replace the NMP (1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone) as solvent with another solvent which is more friendly for the environment

- To improve the sensitivity of the electrochemical detection of ISO by using 100% graphene electrodes will involve the optimization of the design and the parameters procedure

- Further improvement of the properties such as sensitivity, robustness, reliability, adaptability will also help in the increasing of the performance of this technique for environmental applications

Thank you for your kind attention!

