

MVOC – methods and possibilities

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The idea of analysis of volatile organic compounds emitting by microbial activity (MVOC's) is to detect microbial growth in buildings, without making any damage on the building materials.

The most frequent method for sampling MVOC is pumping air through adsorption tubes, followed by analysis at a laboratory. The sampling technique is simple and can be performed without any training.

There are plenty of sources for emission of volatile organic compounds (VOC) in a building, and most of the emitted MVOC's are the same compounds as the VOC's. The most difficult problem by analysis of MVOC is to find suitable tracers for microbial activities and to separate them from ordinary VOC's.