

## COMMON CONTAMINANT AND BACKGROUND IONS

### ELECTRON IONISATION

| <i>m/z</i> | Ion*           | Compound  |
|------------|----------------|---|
| 18         | M <sup>+</sup> | water   |
| 28         | M <sup>+</sup> | nitrogen  |
| 32         | M <sup>+</sup> | oxygen  |
| 40         | M <sup>+</sup> | argon   |
| 44         | M <sup>+</sup> | carbon dioxide  |
| 73         | F <sup>+</sup> | trimethylsilyl (TMS)  |
| 147        | F <sup>+</sup> | polydimethylsiloxane  |
| 149        | F <sup>+</sup> | phthalate [C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> (CO) <sub>2</sub> OH] <sup>+</sup> |
| 167        | F <sup>+</sup> | phthalate   |
| 205        | F <sup>+</sup> | butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT)  |
| 220        | F <sup>+</sup> | butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT)  |
| 207        | F <sup>+</sup> | polydimethylsiloxane  |
| 279        | F <sup>+</sup> | phthalate (dioctyl)   |
| 281        | F <sup>+</sup> | polydimethylsiloxane  |
| 355        | F <sup>+</sup> | polydimethylsiloxane  |
| 429        | F <sup>+</sup> | polydimethylsiloxane  |
| 446        | F <sup>+</sup> | polyphenol ether diffusion pump oil   |

#### Oligomeric series

74 *m/z* units apart dimethylsiloxane (*e.g.* from septa)

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\* M<sup>+</sup> = molecular ion; F<sup>+</sup> = fragment ion