



Agilent Technologies

Problem with Peaks Tailing Applies to 5973A/N MSD

Problems with chromatographic peak tailing are indicated by the peak trailing off to the right during the down-slope of the peak with a normal up-slope of the peak. This gives the effect that the peak has a long tail which may or may not return to the baseline and can be caused by the following:

- Active sites in the sample path
(clean the injection port, replace the liner, gold seal and column if needed)
- Injection volume too large
(decrease sample volume or concentration)
- Incorrect injection port temperature
(for the sample type)
- Insufficient column flow
(raise column flow in method)
- GC/MSD interface temperature too low
(raise interface temperature in method)
- Ion Source temperature is too low
(raise source temperature in method)
- Bad column
(recondition the old column or replace and condition a new column)

Note: *Never condition column into the Mass Spec. Make sure MSD is vented and column is removed from MSD but connected to injection port with flow so that*

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column is not damaged when GC oven is heated. It is also recommended to cap of the MSD to prevent air and water build up.

If nothing corrects the problem then Agilent Technologies phone support or onsite service is recommended!!!