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Analysis of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) in outdoor wear

Ike van der Veen

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VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT

ANALYSIS OF PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFASS) IN OUTDOOR WEAR

ACADEMISCH PROEFSCHRIFT

ter verkrijging van de graad Doctor of Philosophy aan de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, op gezag van de rector magnificus prof.dr. J.J.G. Geurts, in het openbaar te verdedigen ten overstaan van de promotiecommissie van de Faculteit der Bètawetenschappen op donderdag 10 maart 2022 om 13.45 uur in een bijeenkomst van de universiteit, De Boelelaan 1105

door

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prof.dr. A.P. van Wezel prof.dr. R.J. Letcher dr. T.P. Traas dr. M. Ricci Analysis of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) in outdoor wear

Ike van der Veen

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Abbreviations

AFFF aqueous film-forming foam

AV assigned value

BFRs brominated flame retardants

br-PFOS branched-perfluorooctane sulfonate anion

bw body weight

CAS No. chemical abstract system number

CEE Central and Eastern Europe

CIC combustion ion chromatography

CV coefficient of variation

DDT dichloro-diphenyltrichloroethane

dl-PCB dioxin-like PCB

DWR durable water repellency/durable water repellent

EDI estimated daily intake

EFSA European Food Safety Authority

EN electronegativity

EPA Environmental Protection Agency
EtFOSA N-ethyl perfluorooctane sulfonamide

EtFOSE N-ethyl perfluorooctane sulfonamidoethanol

FBSA perfluorobutane sulfonamide

FC fluorine chemistry

FC-4 DWR coating DWR coatings based on perfluorobutane-based SFPs FC-6 DWR coating DWR coatings based on perfluorohexane-based SFPs FC-8 DWR coating DWR coatings based on perfluorooctane-based SFPs

FORMAS Swedish Research Council for Environment,

Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning

FOSA perfluorooctane sulfonamide

FTAC fluorotelomer acrylate
FTMAC fluorotelomer methacrylate

FTOH fluorotelomer alcohol

FTP fluorotelomer-based polymer FTSA fluorotelomer sulfonic acid

GC/EI-MS gas chromatography/electron impact-mass

spectrometry

GEF Global Environment Facility

GenX 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoic

acid

GMP Global Monitoring Plan

GRULAC Group of Latin America and the Caribbean

HBCD hexabromocyclododecane HDPE high-density polyethylene

HFPO-DA 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoic

acid

HFPO-TA ammonium perfluoro-2-[(propoxy)

propoxy]-1-propanoate

HxBB hexabromobiphenyl

ILS interlaboratory comparison study

INAA instrumental neutron activation analysis

IS internal standard

LC liquid chromatography
LCV left-censored values
LOD limit of detection
LOO limits of quantification

L-PFBS linear-perfluorobutane sulfonic acid
L-PFDS linear-perfluorodecane sulfonic acid
L-PFHxS linear-perfluorohexane sulfonate anion
L-PFOS linear-perfluorooctane sulfonate anion

LSE liquid-solid extraction

MeFBSA N-methyl perfluorobutane sulfonamide

MeFBSAA N-methyl perfluorobutane sulfonamidoacetic acid

MeFOSA N-methyl perfluorooctane sulfonamide

MeFOSE N-methyl perfluorooctane sulfonamidoethanol MS/MS tandem mass spectrometry/tandem mass

spectrometric

MTM Man-Technology-Environment Research Center

N noise

na not available nr not reported NAV no assigned value

NEOF non-extractable organic fluorine

OCP organochlorine pesticide

PA polyamide

PBDE polybrominated diphenyl ether

PBNS perfluorobutane sulphonic acid PBT persistent bioaccumulative and toxic

PCB polychlorinated biphenyl

PCDD polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxin
PCDF polychlorinated dibenzofuran
PDF probability density function

PES polyester

PFAA perfluoroalkyl acid

PFAS per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance

PFBA perfluorobutanoic acid

PFBS perfluorobutane sulfonate anion
PFCA perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acid
PFDA perfluorodecanoic acid
PFDoDA perfluorododecanoic acid
PFHpA perfluoroheptanoic acid

PFHpS perfluoroheptane sulfonate anion

PFHxA perfluorohexanoic acid

PFHxS perfluorohexane sulfonate anion

PFNA perfluorononanoic acid PFOA perfluorooctanoic acid

PFOS perfluorooctane sulfonate anion

PFPeA perfluoropentanoic acid
PFSA perfluoroalkane sulfonic acid
PFTeDA perfluorotetradecanoic acid
PFTrDA perfluorotridecanoic acid
PFUnDA perfluoroundecanoic acid
PIGE particle induced -ray emission
POP persistent organic pollutant

pp polypropylene

PPA polymerization processing aid

PTFE polytetrafluoroethylene
PUF polyurethane foam
QA quality assurance
QC quality control

REACH Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of

Chemicals

Rec recovery

RIVM National Institute for Public Health and the

Environment

RPF relative potency factor
RSD relative standard deviation
SFP side-chain fluorinated polymer

SI supporting information SPE solid phase extraction

SUPFES Substitution in Practice of Prioritized Fluorinated

Chemicals to Eliminate Diffuse Sources

SVHC substances of very high concern

TDI tolerable daily intake
TEF toxic equivalency factor

TEQ toxic equivalent

ToF-MS time-of-flight mass spectrometer

TOP total oxidizable precursor
TWI tolerable weekly intake

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UV ultra violet

VU Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

WEOG Western European and other groups

WEPAL Wageningen Evaluating Programmes for Analytical

Laboratories

Contributions to publications in this thesis

Chapter 2:

Van der Veen, I.; Weiss, J. M.; Hanning, A.; de Boer, J.; Leonards, P. E. G., Development and validation of a method for the quantification of extractable perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs) and perfluoroactane sulfonamide (FOSA) in textiles. *Talanta* 2016, 147, 8-15.

(Co)- Author Contribution

Van der Veen, I. : Conceptualization, execution, analyses, data

generation, data interpretation, validation, writing

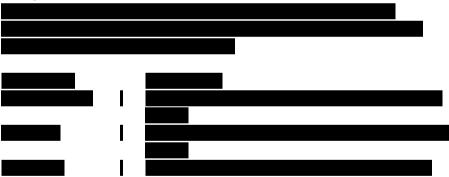
Weiss, J. : Supervision, review & editing

Hanning, A. : Execution

De Boer, J. : Supervision, review & editing

Leonards, P. E. G. : Conceptualization, supervision, review & editing

Chapter 3:



Chapter 4:

Van der Veen, I.; Hanning, A.; Stare, A.; Leonards, P. E. G.; de Boer, J.; Weiss, J. M., The effect of weathering on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) from durable water repellent (DWR) clothing. *Chemosphere* 2020, 249, 126100.

(Co)- Author Contribution

Van der Veen, I. : Conceptualization, execution, analyses, data

generation, data interpretation, validation, writing

Hanning, A. : Conceptualization, execution

Stare, A. : Execution

Leonards, P. E. G. : Conceptualization, supervision, review & editing.

De Boer, J. : Supervision, review & editing Weiss, J. : Supervision, review & editing

Chapter 5:



Chapter

General introduction

1.1. Halogenated compounds

The world around us is made up of countless different chemicals. A number of these are naturally occurring, but a significant proportion are manmade (synthetic) chemicals. Those manmade chemicals were synthesized because of their great benefits, or they were just coincidently synthesized, while the benefit of the chemical was discovered later. In many cases this resulted in large production volumes and intense use of those chemicals. An example is dichloro-diphenyltrichloroethane (DDT). This compound was already synthesized for the first time in 1873 by Othmar Zeidler, but not earlier than 1939 the usefulness of the substance as an insecticide was discovered and demonstrated by Paul Hermann Müller^{1, 2}. He received the Nobel Prize in 1948 because DDT proved to be of great value in the fight against typhoid and malaria.

Like DDT, a lot of other organochlorine pesticides like dieldrin, heptachlor, toxaphene and other chlorine-containing organic compounds have been produced, like for example polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). These were produced since the late 1920s³ for their functionality as an isolation fluid, hydraulic fluid, cooling liquid, lubricant, etc. PCBs have also been used as flame-retardants. In the 1970s other types of halogen-containing organic flame-retardants were introduced at the market, namely the brominated flame retardants (BFRs), which are mainly used in electronics and furniture. Nowadays ca. 75 types of brominated organic compounds are being synthesized and marketed.

Besides the aforementioned chlorinated and brominated organic compounds, a third group of halogenated organic substances, the per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), entered the market in the 1950s. PFASs are also manmade chemicals. They have a great functionality in a wide range of consumer products, e.g. as aqueous filmforming foam (AFFF) in firefighting foams, as water and dirt repellent on outdoor wear and furniture, in food wrapping paper, etc. Some are being used as intermediates in the Teflon® production, which is among other used in non-stick coatings in cooking pans.

All those halogen-containing organic compounds have been widely used and applied and have been praised for their good functionality. However, nowadays much more knowledge has become available about the negative side effects of these halogen containing chemicals. The once highly acclaimed DDT turned out to be a highly toxic substance, which, due to its frequent use and persistence, disappears only very slowly from the environment. Like DDT, PCBs are nowadays classified as persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) substances. Some of the PCBs have been proven

to have toxic properties comparable to those of dioxins. Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs) and furans can be formed in aging PCB oil, and also be formed from combustion of chlorinated organic compounds, such as PCBs, at temperatures below 1000°C. Also, many BFRs are persistent, toxic and accumulative. All those chlorinated, and brominated compounds are highly lipophilic. When they end up in the environment, they can be found in sediments, as well as in biota, while biomagnification takes place in the food-chain. As a result, those compounds can also be found in the human body, where they are mostly stored in the fat tissue.

1.2. **PFAS**

The PFASs show a different behavior than the chlorinated and brominated compounds. PFASs consist of a polar functional group like a carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, alcohol, etc. and a carbon backbone, which varies in carbon chain length from three to more than 20 carbon atoms, of which at least one is fully fluorinated.

In Figure 1-1 the molecular structure of one of the PFASs, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), is given as an example. PFOS has a carbon chain of eight carbon atoms, a sulfonic acid functional group, and all the carbon atoms are fully fluorinated.

Figure 1-1 Molecular structure of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS).

The functional groups of PFASs are polar, while the carbon backbone is a nonpolar chain. However, due to the strong electronegative character of the fluorine atoms (EN= 3.98), the electron cloud within the C-F bonds is very strongly drawn towards the fluorine atoms. This ensures that the carbon chain is neither nonpolar nor polar. This gives the PFASs their unique properties. In the human body PFASs bind in particular to the protein albumin⁴ in blood while they are less accumulated in the fat tissue. They are therefore found in whole blood, and not only in the serum. They accumulate in the liver, kidney, brain, lung, and bones⁵.

There are several production methods for PFASs, but the main manufacturing processes are electrochemical fluorination (ECF), and telomerization⁶. The PFAS product is dependent of the manufacturing process. The products of telomerization contain mainly PFASs with a linear carbon chain, consisting of an even number of C-atoms, while with ECF PFASs with even as well as odd carbon chain lengths are produced. With ECF a mixture of 70% linear and 30 % branched PFAS isomers is produced.

As can be observed in Figure 1-1, PFASs contain a large number of C-F bonds. The covalent bond between a fluorine atom and a carbon atom is one of the strongest single bonds in organic chemistry. The fluorine atom is the most electronegative atom of all elements in the periodic table, and hence the most electronegative of the halogen atoms. Due to the high electronegativity of the fluorine atom (EN=3.98) compared to the electronegativity of carbon (EN=2.55) the electrons of the C-F bond are drawn towards the fluorine atom, resulting in a high density of electrons around the fluorine atom, and a low density around the carbon atom, which makes both atoms partially charged. This results in a very strong bond between the fluorine and the carbon with a dissociation energy up to 536 kJ/mol. Due to those strong C-F bonds, PFASs are extremely persistent. In comparison, the dissociation energy of the C-Cl bond is 397 kJ/mol and of the C-Br bond 280 kJ/mol. PCBs and many BFRs, which are classified as persistent organic pollutants (POPs), have half-lives of some decades. The PFASs on the other hand are classified as "forever chemicals", since they are resistant to complete mineralization under natural conditions7. Although a variety of studies are being conducted on remediation, at this moment the only way to clean up PFASs is to burn them at high temperatures (> 900°C), at which PFASs break down. Huang and Jaffé (2019)8 discovered acidimicrobium Sp. autotroph bacteria, who were supposed to degrade PFASs. However, the conditions are so specific (presence of ammonium and high iron concentrations) that this does not work in practice or only at very specific locations. No other bacteria have been identified to attack the C-F bond. Therefore, bioremediation of PFASs-contaminated sites is, until now, no feasible option.

Unfortunately, PFASs are also very mobile. Some of the PFASs are more water soluble, such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), and will be distributed by surface water up to hundreds of kilometers from the point source⁹. They can also transported to and by the groundwater. Some other PFASs are more volatile, and due to the grasshopper effect, they even end up at the North and South pole¹⁰⁻¹².

Like the chlorinated, and the brominated organic compounds, PFASs were, and still are praised for their good functionality. For example, the non-stick coating in pans

appeared to be a great invention. Also the water and dirt repellence of the PFASs is one of the very popular properties for their use in jackets, shoes and furniture. In firefighting foams the PFASs are very much needed because of the very good film forming foam properties of PFASs. Their fire-extinguishing abilities cannot be reached with any other non-PFASs containing firefighting foam. This is especially true for fires in large atmospheric storage tanks.

Nowadays, it is known that PFASs, like the other organohalogen compounds mentioned above, do not only possess beneficial properties. They are very persistent and very mobile and harmful to the environment and human health.

Since 1951, a factory of Dupont in Parkersburg (West Virginia) used PFOA, which is one of the PFASs, for the production of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE or Teflon®). Since the late 1980s a high percentage of employees of Dupont who worked in the factory were diagnosed with cancer and leukemia^{13, 14}. In the neighborhood of the Teflon plant, a remarkable number of miscarriages, deformities, kidney and liver cancers and lung diseases appeared. Cows became aggressive, and a high death rate among cattle was observed. People in the surroundings of the plant called this the Teflon disease. Later on it was found out that Dupont discharged enormous amounts of PFOA powder into the Ohio river, and dumped tons of sludge, contaminated with PFOA, into the environment. The environmental lawyer Robert Bilott started to study the observed health issues in relation with PFOA pollution and exposure of the cattle, the citizens of Parkersburg and the employees of Dupont. He filed a federal suit against Dupont for the first time in the summer of 199915. Finally, in 2005 DuPont settled with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US-EPA) for 16.5 million dollar, because of being accused of withholding information on the toxicity of PFOA and the environmental pollution. As part of the settlement agreement, the C8 Health Project was set up, authorized, and funded. Within the C8 Health Project, the amounts of PFOA and PFOS were determined in blood samples and health data was collected by questionnaires and blood tests. This resulted in more knowledge on the harmfulness of PFOS and PFOA. Partly due to the Parkersburg case PFASs have attracted attention, and more projects and research on the health effects of PFASs have been conducted since.

For PFOS and PFOA more knowledge is now available on possible negative health outcomes caused by exposure to those compounds. Also for some other PFASs, like perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), some studies have already been conducted on possible negative health effects after exposure to those PFASs. For other PFASs it is still unclear, and more research is needed here. Despite this data gap in knowledge, because of the persistence and mobility of PFASs, and the ability of non-persistent

PFASs to degrade or transform into the persistent and harmful PFASs, like the perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs), and perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs), the use of PFASs is more and more restricted, and safety norms are regularly adjusted to a decreased value.

1.3. Safety and legislation

Partly due to the "Parkersburg case", authorities and companies became aware of the drawbacks of using PFOA, and other PFASs, which resulted in legislation for some of the PFASs. Within the EU, the first PFAS of which the production and use was regulated was PFOS in 2006. In Antwerp, Belgium, the 3M company voluntarily stopped their production of PFOS in 2000, although leaving behind a highly polluted site, at which other PFASs are still being produced. Nowadays, PFOS, and PFOA are included in the Stockholm Convention list of persistent organic pollutants (POPs)¹⁶⁻¹⁸, PFHxS is recommend to be considered for listing in Annex A of the Convention^{19, 20}, and long-chain PFCAs are proposed for listing under this Convention²¹. In October 2020 the European Commission published a strategy for sustainable chemistry management²². Besides other actions, the EU intends to phase out the production and use of PFASs in the EU, unless their use is essential and alternatives are not available.

Because PFOS and PFOA were increasingly found in the environment, in 2008 the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) evaluated the importance of food to human exposure to those compounds, and established a tolerable daily intake (TDI) for PFOS of 150 ng/kg body weight (bw) per day and for PFOA 1.5 μ g/kg bw/d, stating that the general population would not have any negative health effects, i.e. liver damage and developmental and reproductive problems, when exposed by food intake below those TDIs²³.

Since then, the EFSA has lowered the TDIs for PFOS and PFOA several times, after toxicological effect data became gradually available. In 2018, for the first time tolerable weekly intakes (TWIs) were set instead of TDIs. For both PFOS and PFOA, the new TWI (PFOS: 13 ng/kg bw/week, PFOA: 6 ng/kg bw/wk) were, besides other effects as reduced birth weight, based on the risk of an elevated cholesterol level as most critical effect²⁴.

In 2020 the EFSA drastically lowered the tolerable intake of PFASs again. This time the calculation of the new TWI was based on the decrease in immune response after vaccination^{25, 26}, which occurs at much lower PFAS concentrations than an increase in cholesterol level. For the first time the TWI was not based on a single compound, but

on the sum of four PFASs, since PFASs often co-occur in food and drinking water²⁷. The TWI for the sum of the intake of PFOA, PFOS, perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA), and PFHxS was set at 4.4 ng/kg bw/wk. The RIVM used this TWI to estimate the exposure and risk of the Dutch population. Based on available data of Dutch food intake and drinking water intake, they concluded that people in the Netherlands on average exceed this TWI. The exposure by food was estimated at 83-98% of the TWI and that of drinking water is 2-17%. Interestingly, exposure to indoor dust was not calculated. Levels of several PFASs are, however, quite elevated compared to those in other countries and may contribute to the daily intake^{28.} For example, in ten house and office dust samples the average PFOS concentration was 35 µg/kg, and the perfluorobutane sulphonic acid (PBNS) concentration 351 µg/kg. These levels are much higher than the maximum concentrations proposed for PFASs in soil, which are 3 µg/kg for PFOS, 7 µg/kg for PFOA and 3 µg/kg for all other PFASs, for use for building activities. Also, the average intake of indoor dust, 20 mg/d, is much higher than a possible intake of outdoor soil^{29, 30}. Currently, several thousands of different PFASs exist, which all have different properties, due to their differences in carbon chain length, functional group, branching, and fluorination degree. Individual PFASs are, therefore, not equally persistent. Some PFASs do (bio)degrade or transform into the not (bio)degradable PFCAs, and PFSAs. The toxicity, risk and harmfulness of the PFCAs and PFSAs also differ per compound. This is partly due to the fact that the short-chain PFASs are much more water-soluble and will therefore be found more often in water, while longer-chain PFASs are detected more often in sediments and biota. All PFASs present in the environment or in organisms can have a toxic effect, although not equal per compound. An extreme example is perfluoro iso-butene31, which is acutely toxic^{32,33}, but was nevertheless legally discharged by the Teflon plant of Chemours in Dordrecht, The Netherlands³⁴. The permit has been reduced in 2013 to 28 kg/yr^{35, 36}. From 1 January 2025 this permit will be reduced to 0.28 kg/yr³⁶.

A proposal has now been made by Bil et al. (2021)²⁷ to express the toxicity of individual PFASs based on a relative potency factor (RPF) methodology equal to the toxic equivalency factor (TEF) system for dioxins. With the TEF system a multiplication factor is established for each dioxin compound, based on a comparison with the most toxic dioxin, which is 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD). For determining the mixture effect of dioxins present in a sample, total concentrations of dioxins are not expressed in mass units, but in Toxic Equivalents (TEQ), which is the sum of the concentrations of individual dioxins multiplied by their TEF values.

For determining the RPF of PFASs, PFOA is used as the index compound and set at one. PFASs which are less toxic than PFOA will have a RPF lower than one, and compounds which are more toxic will have a value higher than one.

Bil et al.²⁷ derived the RPFs of 16 PFASs based on liver effects, and of seven PFASs based on read across. The RPFs range from 0.001 for PFBS up to 10 for PFNA. The RPFs could have had different values when another endpoint was chosen, like developmental toxicity or immunotoxicity.

1.4. Consequences of legislation and setting safety standards

Legislation of (some) PFASs, and setting safety standards, have consequences and impact on various social, and economic aspects of our society. One example of this was the standard set in the Netherlands for PFASs in soil of construction land. Because of the knowledge on health effects of PFASs, in 2019 the Dutch Government, advised by the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), set an admissible norm for PFASs of maximum 0.1 µg/kg for soil of construction land. This was an extremely low level. It was basically the implementation of the precautionary principle³⁷ and based on the detection limits of the analytical method for quantification of PFASs in soil^{38, 39}. Since PFASs have been, and are, so widely used and are, in addition to being PBT substances, also mobile, PFASs are detected everywhere in the environment. As a consequence hardly anywhere in the Netherlands soil can be found with PFOA concentrations below this standard. As a result, construction in the Netherlands came to a standstill for several weeks in 2019, with dramatic economic consequences. Therefore, and following protests of building companies, a new standard was temporarily installed, being 7 µg/kg for PFOA, and 3 µg/kg for every other individual PFAS. This made that the construction projects could continue again^{40, 41}. At the moment a final standard for PFASs in soil is being discussed.

Another example of the consequences of legislation of some of the PFASs, is the substitution by one or more other harmful compounds, which is called regrettable substitution. In a fluoropolymer production factory in Dordrecht (The Netherlands) PFOA was used as polymerization processing aid (PPA) until 2012. Since PFOA was labeled as a POP under the Stockholm Convention, the production plant in Dordrecht stopped using PFOA, and switched to the use of the ammonium salt of 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoic acid (HFPO-DA) (see Figure 1-2), also called GenX, as alternative chemical for PFOA.

Figure 1-2 Molecular structure of ammonium salt of 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy) propanoic acid (HFPO-DA), also called GenX.

GenX showed to be less bioaccumulative than PFOA. However, GenX is expected to be just as persistent and to have a comparable toxic potency to PFOA, which was determined in a toxicokinetic model study for male rats⁴². GenX is a more water soluble compound than PFOA, and hence more mobile in surface- and groundwater. As a result GenX ends up in drinking water, much more than PFOA⁴². In this way one hazard of PFOA – bioaccumulation in fish – was replaced by another hazard of PFOA in drinking water, of which each citizen consumes ca. 2 L per day. Several other alternatives for PFOA are being used worldwide, such as the use of ammonium perfluoro-2-[(propoxy) propoxy]-1-propanoate (HFPO-TA) in China⁴³. This compound was found in surface water collected from the Xiaoqing River (5200–68500 ng/L) and in residents (mean 2.9 ng/mL blood) residing near a fluoropolymer production plant in Huantai County, China. These examples show that banning one compound leads to the introduction of alternatives that are often not much better in environmental behavior.

An additional example of the impact of legislation of PFASs on social and economic aspects of society, is the regulation on PFASs in products. Within the EU, the first PFAS of which the production and use was regulated was PFOS in 2006. Among others this had quite an impact for fire fighters. The use of PFOS in firefighting foam provided a solid foam layer with a strong extinguishing capability. Prohibiting the use of PFOS containing fire-fighting foams created the need for alternative chemicals. However, no other chemicals than PFASs with the quality in functionality as PFOS currently exist. As alternative, firefighting foams were produced which contained 6:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid (6:2 FTSA), although the fire-extinguishing quality was less good then those of PFOS-containing firefighting foams. 6:2 FTSA has the same structure as PFOS, except for two carbon atoms nearest to the functional group that are not fluorinated (see Figure 1-3).

Figure 1-3 Molecular structure of 6:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid (6:2 FTSA).

In addition, in the environment 6:2 FTSA can transform into the very persistent PFPeA, and PFHxA⁴⁴. Since legislation in the Netherlands and in the EU is nowadays moving towards not using PFASs at all, or only in essential applications for which no alternative is present, there is a need for PFAS-free alternatives, which are now becoming available for firefighting foams⁴⁵.

1.5. PFASs in outdoor clothing

In outdoor clothing, fluorotelomer based polymers (FTPs) with side-chains of longchain PFASs are used for their water and dirt repellent properties. Because of the regulation of some PFASs and because of the increasing knowledge on the adverse effects of especially the long-chain PFASs, industries started to phase out the use of long-chain PFASs, and started to use alternative chemicals. Those alternative chemicals in outdoor clothing and uniforms were i) FTPs with side-chains of shortchain PFASs, ii) silicon-based polymers or iii) hydrocarbon based polymers⁴⁶. To avoid regrettable substitutions, like the use of GenX instead of PFOA, and water and fat repellence should be maintained as desired properties in outdoor clothing, the Substitution in Practice of Prioritized Fluorinated Chemicals to Eliminate Diffuse Sources (SUPFES)⁴⁷ project was set up in 2013. The project team consisted of a consortium of three universities (Stockholm University, Chalmers University of Technology, and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), the outdoor company Haglöfs, the wastewater treatment association Käppala and the Research Institute of Sweden (RISE). The project was financed by the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS), and ended officially in 2020. The aim of SUPFES was to characterize the diffuse emissions of PFASs from consumer products, such as textiles. In the SUPFES project, alternatives to the longchain PFASs (FTPs with side-chains of short-chain PFASs, silicon-based polymers, and hydrocarbon based polymers), which were already on the market were assessed in comparison with the long-chain PFASs. The functionality, the toxicity and the emissions of the alternatives during use of the outdoor clothing were examined.

1.6. Scope and outline of the thesis

The work described in this thesis is largely resulting from the SUPFES project and focused on the behavior of PFASs in, and the emission of PFASs from, textiles of outdoor clothing and uniforms during use. The objectives of the study were first to set up extraction and analyses methods for the analyses for ionic as well as volatile PFASs in textiles with a durable water repellence (DWR) coating, with a good quality assurance and quality control. A second objective of the study was to determine the effect of weather conditions on PFASs used in outdoor clothing with a DWR coating, and the final objective was to determine the emissions of PFASs during the use phase of outdoor clothing coated with a DWR based on long-chain PFASs in comparison with outdoor clothing coated with DWR based on alternative shorter-chain PFASs.

1.6.1. Quality assurance and quality control in PFAS analyses

In 2006 a maximum level of 1 μ g/m² for PFOS in textiles was set by the European⁴⁸ while a maximum of 1 μ g/m² for PFOA was set in 2014 in Norway, being the first country setting a limit for PFOA⁴⁹. To determine whether a textile meets these requirements, there is a demand for good quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) for the analysis of PFASs in textile, to avoid that reported concentrations would depend of the quality of the analyzing laboratory.

Various methods have already been developed and described for the analysis of ionic PFASs in sediment, food, fish, water etc. However, no validated methods have been described for the extraction of PFASs from DWR-coated textiles. For this reason, the development, optimization and validation of an extraction and analysis method for ionic PFASs from DWR-coated textiles was developed, optimized and validated (Chapter 2).

Although nowadays PFAS analyses are performed in many laboratories, the analysis remains a challenge, and there is a need for (more) interlaboratory comparison studies (ILSs) to evaluate the comparability of laboratories, especially since some of the PFASs, like PFOS and PFOA, have now been added to the POP list of the Stockholm Convention. Countries that signed the Stockholm Convention are obliged to properly analyse these compounds in certain matrices like air, sediment, and biota. Chapter 3 reports on the organization and evaluation of such a worldwide ILS that was organized in 2018/2019.

1.6.2. Effect of weather conditions on PFASs used in outdoor clothing with a DWR coating

Chapter 4 describes the change in PFAS levels after exposure of commercially available DWR-coated textiles of outdoor clothing to elevated ultra violet (UV) radiation, humidity, and temperature in an aging device. To assess the influence of weathering on PFASs in DWR-treated outdoor clothing, the concentrations of PFASs in the textiles were determined before and after weathering. The hypothesis was that PFASs used in the DWR-treated outdoor clothing are a relevant source of environmental pollution and human exposure due to emission of PFASs during usage.

1.6.3. Emissions of PFASs during the use phase of outdoor clothing

Commercially available textiles of outdoor wear are less suitable to make a good comparison between different DWR chemistries, because it is unknown what type of DWR chemistry was applied on the textiles, and which other additives would possibly be present. Therefore, in the SUPFES project two fabrics, a polyamide (PA) and a polyester (PES) textile, have been coated with different fluorochemistry DWR formulations. Chapter 5 describes the comparison of the effect of washing, tumble drying, and aging on the PFAS concentrations in the DWR of the C₆-based side-chain fluorinated polymers (SFPs) coated textiles compared to the 'old fashioned' C₈-based SFP coated textiles. A comparison was made between the concentrations and the identities of PFASs before and after aging, washing and tumble drying cycles.

In Chapter 6 the results of the research as described in chapters 2 to 5 are discussed, followed by conclusions and recommendations.

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Chapter



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Development and validation of a method for the quantification of extractable perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs) and perfluorooctane sulfonamide (FOSA) in textiles

Abstract

In textiles, like outdoor clothing, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are often used for durable water repellency (DWR) of the final products. The analytical performance to determine the concentration of these chemicals available for exposure to humans and to the environment need to be established. Here a method for the extraction and analysis of one class of PFASs, namely perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs), in outdoor clothing was developed and validated. The PFAAs which were validated, included perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs) (C₂-C₁₂), and perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs) (C₁, C₂, C₃). In addition, perfluorooctane sulfonamide (FOSA) was included in this study. The method was based on an organic solvent extraction and analysis by high-performance liquid chromatographytandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). No further cleaning was needed. Two commonly used organic solvent compositions were evaluated for the optimal extraction, i.e. methanol and acetone/acetonitrile (80:20, v/v), and the number and duration of the sequential extractions were optimized. Results showed that two sequential extractions with 5 mL methanol and an extraction time of 30 min gave an optimal performance with an extraction efficiency of > 90%. The influence of matrix on the quantification of PFAAs was studied. This indicated ion suppression due to different matrix effects or sorption behavior to specific textile samples. Validation of the entire method showed overall recoveries of > 80% and relative standard deviations (RSDs) of < 9% (n=3) for repeatability and < 20% (n=3) for reproducibility. This is the first validation of an analytical method for the analysis of extractable PFCAs, PFSAs and FOSA associated to textiles, which is of high importance due to the regulation of PFAAs in textile.

2.1. Introduction

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are a class of chemicals which consist of a non-polar perfluoroalkyl chain and a polar end-group¹. This unique combination of physical properties provides both oil and water repellency. Since the 1950s(Buck et al., 2011) polymers with PFAS side-chains have therefore been used in a wide range of consumer products like textiles². Those polymers can degrade to perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs) like perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), and contain PFAA impurities³. These PFAAs can reach air, water, soil and biota and are hence globally detected in a wide range of environmental matrices⁴⁻⁷.

Since certain PFAAs are known to cause adverse effects to organisms including humans^{8, 9}, to be persistent¹⁰ and bioaccumulative^{11, 12}, industry voluntarily started to phase out the production of PFOS and PFOS-based compounds in 2000¹³. Nowadays, PFOS and its salts are listed as persistent organic pollutants (POPs) under the Stockholm Convention¹⁴ and, consequently, restricted in use in many countries. Some of the longer chain perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs) (C_8 , C_{11} – C_{14}) are included in the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern under REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals)¹⁵. Therefore, industry has started to search for more environmentally friendly alternatives¹⁶⁻¹⁹. A maximum level of 1 μ g/ m² for PFOS in textiles was set by the European Union in 2006²⁰ and a maximum of 1 μ g/m² for PFOA was set in 2014 in Norway, as the first country setting a limit for PFOA^{21,22}.

Only two analytical methods developed for PFOA analysis in textiles are known^{23, 24}. To the best of our knowledge no peer reviewed validation data has been published so far for the determination of the other PFAAs in textiles, although Knepper et al.²⁵ presented a method for PFAA analysis in textiles in a non-peer review report. Liquid-solid extraction (LSE) with acetone/acetonitrile (80:20, v/v) was used without any purification step. Analysis was performed with high-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). For a method to be validated the precision, which is generally accepted as repeatability and reproducibility, the accuracy, which is often evaluated by repetitively spiking the matrix, and the limit of detection (LOD) need to be determined as a minimum requirement²⁶⁻²⁸. In the study of Knepper et al.²⁵ PFAA recoveries of a spiking experiment were generally between 70-130%, except for perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA) and perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTrDA) (< 50%). Repeatabilities were < 20% and no reproducibility or LOD results were reported for PFAAs in outdoor jackets, although LOQs were reported (0.01-0.4 µg/m²).

There are a number of non-peer reviewed studies reporting concentrations of PFAAs in outdoor clothing²⁹⁻³⁸. On the concentration of PFAAs in other types of textiles, like upholstery and table-cloths, two more peer reviewed studies were reported^{39, 40}. Vestergren et al.³⁹ analysed 45 different types of consumer products, including upholstery, carpets, cotton and leather clothes, and food contact materials. Herzke et al.⁴⁰ analysed 30 consumer products, including two carpets, one pooled sample of table-cloths and one pooled sample of office furniture textiles. In both studies PFAAs were extracted by LSE with methanol, followed by a purification step with envicarb. In the study of Vestergren et al.³⁹ seven isotope-labeled PFCAs and two isotope-labeled perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs) were used as internal standards (ISs). Average recoveries ranged from 46 to 108%. Repeatabilities of triplicate extractions and analyses were \leq 44%. In the study of Herzke et al.⁴⁰ only two ISs were used ($^{13}C_4$ -PFOA and $^{13}C_4$ -PFOS) for the quantification of 11 PFCAs and six PFSAs. Average recoveries varied between 64 and 126%. No repeatability, reproducibility or LOD results were given.

The aim of the present study was to develop and validate a method for the determination of PFCAs (C_4 - C_{14}), PFSAs (C_4 , C_6 , C_7 , C_8) and perfluorooctane sulfonamide (FOSA) in textile samples. In short, the method is based on extraction with an organic solvent and no further cleaning. The goals of the optimization of the extraction solvent composition and the number of sequential extractions were i) to achieve that more than 90% of the analytes are extracted from the samples, ii) although ionization suppression and enhancement in LC–MS ion source due to matrix effects have not been taken into account in validation guides⁴¹, a goal is set to obtain more than 30% recovery *of* the isotope-labeled ISs, which equals the regulation of the European Union for the analyses of dioxins by GC-MS⁴², and which enables quantification of a compound above the LOQ, and below the limit of 1 μ g/ m² for textiles²⁰⁻²², and iii) to achieve the first two goals in the minimum number of extraction steps possible. For the chemical analysis a previously described method based on LC-MS/MS was used⁴³. Twelve isotope-labeled PFAAs were used as ISs.

2.2. Material and methods

2.2.1. Chemicals and reagents

All validated PFAAs and isotope-labeled PFAAs are listed in Table S2-1 of the Supporting Information (SI), including their abbreviations according to Buck et al.², chemical formula, and chemical abstract system numbers (CAS No.). All PFAAs and isotope-labeled PFAAs were purchased from Greyhound Chromatography

(Merseyside, UK) in solutions of 50 μ g/mL in methanol and with a purity of > 98%. The isotope purity of $^{18}O_2$ -PFHxS was >94%, and the isotope purity of all other isotope-labeled PFAAs was >99%. HPLC grade methanol (J.T. Baker, 8402), and acetone (J.T. Baker, 9254) were purchased from Boom (Meppel, The Netherlands). Acetonitrile (Chromasolve, 34851) and ammonium formate (Bio ultra, 09735) were obtained from Sigma Aldrich (Zwijndrecht, The Netherlands). Ultrapure water was supplied by a Milli-Q system from Millipore (Watford, UK). Glass fiber filters (GF/F, pore size 0.42 μ m) for filtering of the mobile phase, were purchased from Whatman (Maidstone, UK).

2.2.2. Textile samples

Pieces of outdoor clothing (three jackets and three fabrics for outdoor clothes), supplied by six different suppliers from the outdoor textile industry in Sweden, were provided by SWEREA IVF (Mölndal, Sweden). Circular pieces with a diameter of 35.3 mm (equals 9.79 cm²) were cut from the outdoor clothes samples by a bore (Cordia Matic, 270 rpm) for analysis. The known details of the textile samples are given in Table S2-2. Some of the textile samples were laminated with a membrane on one side of the fabric.

2.2.3. Extraction procedure

The cut samples (9.79 cm²) were weighed into 15 mL polypropylene (pp) tubes. Prior to extraction dust particles were rinsed from the samples by adding 5 mL water to the pp tubes and transferring the samples immediately into fresh 15 mL pp-tubes. The samples were fortified with 50 μ L of an IS solution (mixture of isotope-labeled PFAAs, approx. 100 ng/mL each in methanol, which equals a concentration of 5 μ g/m²), added directly onto the samples and left to equilibrate for 1 h. PFAAs were extracted from the samples by LSE. Different extraction variables such as solvent composition, extraction time on a shaking device (Edmund Bühler GmbH, *Hechingen, Germany*), and number of sequential extractions were optimized. After extraction, the solvent was evaporated till dryness by a gentle stream of nitrogen at 40°C. The extracts were reconstituted in 200 μ L methanol: water (1:1, v/v). After centrifugation (10 min, 3000 rpm) the extracts were transferred into 0.3 mL pp micro vials (VWR International BV, Amsterdam, The Netherlands).

2.2.4. Extraction method development

To develop and optimize the analytical method, extraction solvents, the number of sequential extractions and the extraction time were evaluated on 5 samples (Table 2-1). Methanol has been used successfully to extract PFAAs from several matrixes^{1, 44-47}, including textiles^{23, 24, 29, 33, 34, 38, 40}. One group used acetone/acetonitrile (80:20, v/v)²⁵, therefore both methanol and acetone/acetonitrile were included in the

evaluation. To assess the extraction time and the number of successive extractions needed to achieve an extraction efficiency of > 90% with either methanol or acetone/acetonitrile three experiments were performed, in which sequential extractions were made from 5 samples with 5 mL extraction solvent each (Table 2-1). Prior to all sequential extractions, additional ISs were added to the samples before extraction. The extraction efficiency per sequential extraction is calculated as the percentage of the sum of quantified concentrations over the successive extractions.

Table 2-1 Experiments performed to optimize and validate the extraction method for analyses of PFAAs and FOSA in textiles.

Experiment		Sample No.	Number of replicates	Extraction solvent	Number and time of successive extractions
Optimization					
Experiment 1		1-5	1	Acetone/ acetonitrile (80:20, v/v)	a:1h b:1h c:24 h d:6 d
Experiment 2		1-5	1	Acetone/ acetonitrile (80:20, v/v)	a: 30 min b: 30 min c: 30 min d: 30 min
Experiment 3		1-5	1	Methanol	a: 30 min b: 30 min c: 30 min d: 30 min e: 4 d
Validation					
Recovery	1 μg/m²	1, 2	3	Methanol	2* 30 min
assessment	10 µg/m²	1, 2	3	Methanol	2* 30 min
Repeatability assessment		1, 2, 6	3	Methanol	2* 30 min
Reproducibility assessment		1, 2, 6	3	Methanol	2* 30 min

2.2.5. Instrumental analysis and quantification

The extracts were analysed by an Agilent 6410 Triple Quad LC-MS/MS (Agilent Technologies, Amstelveen, The Netherlands) operating in electrospray negative ionization mode according to a previously described method⁴³. Briefly, separation was performed on a FluoroSep-RP Octyl column (150 mm length x 2.1 mm i.d., 5 μ m; ES Industries, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, USA) with a Symmetry C₁₈ guard column (20 mm x 3.9 mm, 5 μ m; Waters Corporation, Milford, Massachusetts, USA). To retain contaminants leaching out of the HPLC and the mobile solvents, an extra column

(Symmetry C₁₀, 150 mm length x 2.1 mm i.d., 5 μm; Waters Corporation) was installed between the pump and the autosampler. Mobile phase solvents used were 5 mM ammonium formate in water (solvent A) and methanol (solvent B) with a flow rate of 300 μL/min. Injection volume was 20 μL. The gradient started at 35% methanol for 2 min, increased to 75% in 3 min, which was followed by an increase to 95% in 20 min. After 10 min the mobile phase composition was returned to 35% methanol in 0.5 min and held constant for 10 min until the next injection. Quantification was performed against five calibration solutions (0.1, 0.5, 2, 10, 50 ng/mL) in methanol: water (1:1, v/v) prepared from a single stock solution and the isotope-labeled ISs (Table S2-3). For quantification the software Masshunter Workstation software, Quantitative analysis for QQQ of Agilent Technologies was used with quadratic curves and a curve fit weight of 1/x, with x being the relative analyte concentration. Procedure solvent blanks were analyzed alongside the samples and subtracted from the final results. LODs were calculated per sample as the concentration of a peak area three times greater than the noise divided by the sample intake and the recovery. Limits of quantification (LOOs) were calculated as 3.3 times the LOD.

2.2.6. Validation of the method

The selected method was validated by a recovery assessment, by assessment of the repeatability, and the determination of the reproducibility (Table 2-1). All samples of the recovery assessment and repeatability assessment were extracted and analysed in the same series and for both assessments the same calibration curves were used.

To assess the recovery of the developed extraction method with methanol two samples in triplicate were fortified with native PFAAs at two different levels (1 and 10 $\mu g/m^2$). Two solutions, containing all the native PFAAs and FOSA (Table S2-1) were prepared in methanol (20 and 200 ng/mL), which equals a concentration of 1 $\mu g/m^2$ and 10 $\mu g/m^2$ respectively. After sample intake, the samples were fortified with 50 μL of the solutions by placing different spots on the textile samples. After three days, the samples were extracted according to the aforementioned procedure. To calculate the recoveries, the average PFAA concentrations of the three fortified repeatability samples were subtracted from the concentrations of the unfortified samples. The concentrations calculated were divided by the fortified concentrations.

To assess the repeatability of the developed extraction method, three samples were extracted in triplicate on the same day. For the reproducibility assessment, the three samples were each extracted and analysed on three different days.

To confirm that the extraction using methanol is exhaustive, the samples of the recovery and repeatability assessment were re-extracted using 5 mL acetone/

acetonitrile (80:20, v/v), which is a less polar solvent. Before re-extraction the samples were fortified with 50 μ L IS mixture (approx. 100 ng/mL) which equals a concentration of 5 μ g/m².

2.3. Result and discussion

2.3.1. Method development

The majority of the PFAAs were extracted during the first extraction (85-100% of the sum of concentrations of the sequential extractions) in experiment 1 where acetone/acetonitrile as extraction solvent was evaluated (Table 2-1 and Table S2-4). The first and second extractions together resulted in a median extraction efficiency of 100% for PFAAs in the five samples. Only minor amounts (< 0.15 μ g/m², < LOQ) of PFAAs in samples 2 (PFDA, PFDoDA) and 3 (PFHxA, PFHpA, PFDA, PFDoDA) were extracted in the third (0-4%), and fourth (0-3%) sequence.

Results of experiment 2 were comparable with results obtained in experiment 1, using the same extraction solvent but where 30 min extraction cycles were used instead of 1 hour cycles in experiment 1 (Table S2-5). The majority of the PFAAs (83-100%) were extracted during the first extraction and the first and second extraction together resulted in a median extraction efficiency of 100%. Again, minor amounts (< 0.15 μ g/m², < LOQ) of the PFAAs were detected in samples 2 and 3.

In experiment 3, where methanol was evaluated as extraction solvent, the extraction efficiency of the first sequential extraction was a little lower (77-100%) than those of experiments 1 and 2, but also with methanol the first and second extraction together resulted in an median extraction efficiency of 100% (Table S2-6). Again, only in sample 2 and 3, with higher PFAA concentrations determined, some PFAAs could be detected in the third and fifth extract above LOD but below LOQ.

High concentrations of PFOA, with unclear origin, were detected in the method blank samples, which were extracted and analysed alongside the five samples of experiment 1 and 2. Therefore, the PFOA results of experiments 1 and 2 were considered not reliable and excluded. No PFOA was detected in the blank sample of experiment 3.

The extraction efficiencies of all three experiments are comparable, independent of the extraction solvent and extraction time. Therefore, it is concluded that two sequential extractions with either acetone/acetonitrile or methanol and an extraction time of 30 min for each extraction cycle results in a sufficient extraction efficiency of > 90%.

It is commonly known that ion suppression or enhancement caused by matrix effects can occur in the analysis with LC-MS/MS^{48, 49}. This is why the use of isotope-labeled ISs is required in LC-MS/MS quantification. Although the loss of abundance caused by ion suppression will be compensated for by the use of isotope-labeled ISs, the LODs and LOQs will be higher if ion suppression occurs resulting in a decreased method performance. A minimum of 30% recovery of ISs was set by the authors for the analysis of PFAAs in textiles to enable quantification of a compound above the LOO. The aim was to perform analysis with LOO below the limit of 1 µg/m² for textiles, as set by the European Union²⁰ for PFOS and by Norway for PFOA^{21, 22}. For all extracts measured in the aforementioned experiments the recoveries of the isotope-labeled ISs were calculated by dividing the abundance of the signal of the isotope-labeled ISs by the average abundance of the signals of the isotope-labeled ISs which were added to the five calibration solutions. The results of those calculations are shown in Figure 2-1. As can be observed the extraction with methanol resulted in higher recoveries (33-149%, average 97%) of isotope-labeled PFAA ISs compared to the extraction with acetone/ acetonitrile (2-147%, average 66%). Also the recovery of ${}^{13}\mathrm{C_g}$ -FOSA is higher with methanol extraction (10-98%, average 45%) than with acetone/acetonitrile (3-55%, average 30%). It is to be expected that with the less polar solvent acetone/acetonitrile (dipole moment 2.88 D and 3.92 D, respectively 50), more non-polar compounds, which can interfere during the LC-MS/MS analysis, are extracted from the matrix than with methanol (dipole moment 1.70 D 50). It was observed that IS recoveries for the first sequential extractions (a) with acetone/acetonitrile are lower than IS recoveries for the following sequential extractions (b-d). This might be an indication of lower IS recoveries caused by ion suppression due to matrix effects, since the majority of the extractable matrix is expected to be extracted in the first extraction.

To confirm the influence of matrix on IS recovery, a mixture of $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -PFHxA, $^{13}\text{C}_8$ -PFOA, $^{13}\text{C}_7$ -PFUnDA and $^{13}\text{C}_8$ -PFOS in methanol was added to the first sequential extraction of sample 1 at a final concentration of 15 ng/mL The recovery of those compounds showed that the matrix was responsible for a signal loss of IS of 33% for PFHxA, 34% for PFOA, 25% for PFUnDA, and 36% for PFOS.

Given the lower recoveries of ISs obtained by extraction with acetone/acetonitrile, methanol was selected as the optimal solvent for extraction. Therefore, the recommended method for the determination of PFAA and FOSA concentrations in textiles is to use two sequential extraction cycles of 30 min each, and methanol as extraction solvent.

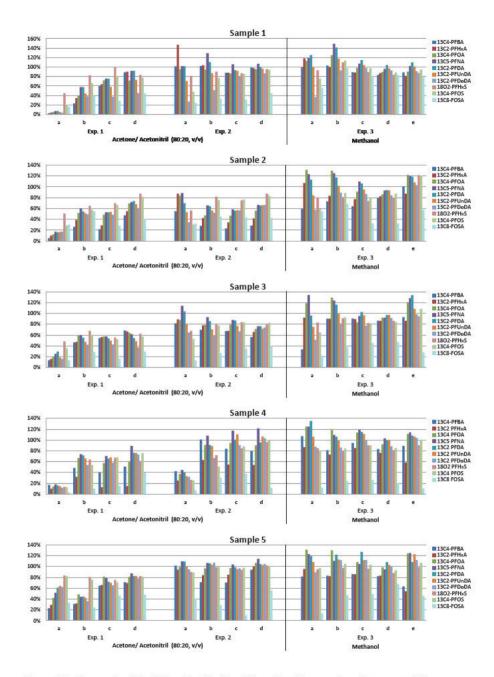


Figure 2-1 Recoveries (%) of ISs added to five different textile samples after sequential extractions (according to Table 2-1) with acetone/acetonitrile or methanol for the quantification of PFAAs and FOSA.

2.3.2. Validation of PFAA and FOSA extraction method with methanol

Recovery assessment

Extraction with methanol of the two fortified samples (textile sample 1 and 2) analysed in triplicate gave satisfactory recoveries (80-120%) for all but two PFAAs, PFTrDA (49-65%) and PFTeDA (31-59%) in sample 2. As can be observed in Figure 2-2, the recoveries for PFTrDA and PFTeDA are normal for sample 1, but on the low side for sample 2. This might be caused by either ion suppression in the LC-MS/MS analysis or by a stronger adsorption to the specific textile material. Both would normally be compensated for by the ISs, but since no isotope-labeled PFTrDA or PFTeDA were available, those two compounds were calculated against \$^{15}C_2\$-PFUnDA and \$^{15}C_2\$-PFDoDA, respectively, which might not compensate properly for the ion suppression or the adsorption. In the study of Knepper et al. \$^{25} comparable results were shown for the recovery of PFTrDA and PFTeDA. In their study $^{15}C_2$ -PFDoDA was used as IS for the quantification of PFTrDA and PFTeDA. The recoveries of PFTrDA and PFTeDA varied between approximately 40 and 100%, depending on the sample.

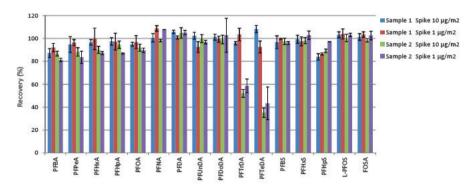


Figure 2-2 Recoveries of PFAAs and FOSA in a recovery assessment in which two samples in triplicate were fortified at two different concentration levels (1 μ g/m² and 10 μ g/m²).

Repeatability assessment

The calculated relative standard deviation (RSD) of the quantified PFAA concentrations in three samples extracted in triplicate, showed acceptable repeatabilities for all detected PFAAs (0.1-8.7%) (data not shown). The repeatabilities of PFTrDA, PFHpS, L-PFOS and FOSA could not be determined in the unfortified samples of this validation assignment as the concentrations were < LOD in all three samples. However, the RSDs of the calculated recoveries of the fortified samples in the recovery study were well below 10%, except for three PFAAs in sample 2 fortified

at level 1 μ g/m², and one PFAA in sample 2 fortified at level 10 μ g/m² (Table S2-7 and error bars in Figure 2-3). Those higher RSDs were all caused by the third replicate, of which the quantified concentrations are higher than the concentrations in the other two replicates. No explanation other than a possible incidental contamination was found for the higher results obtained for this replicate.

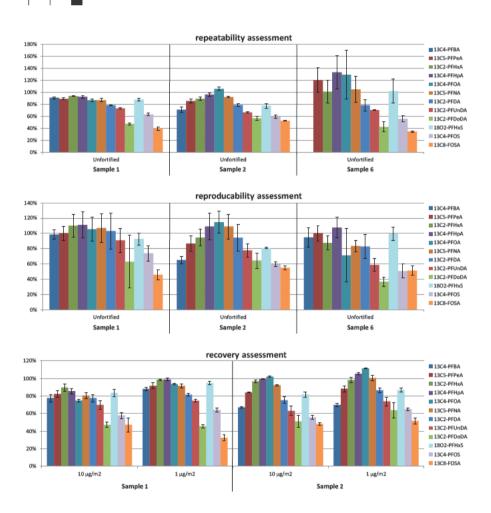


Figure 2-3 Recoveries of the internal standards added to the textile samples of the repeatability, reproducibility and recovery assessment, to study possible matrix effects for PFAAs and FOSA.

Reproducibility assessment

Acceptable RSD for the reproducibilities were calculated for all detected PFAAs (2-20%) in samples 1, 2 and 6 extracted and analysed over three executive days (Table S2-8). The reproducibility was not reported by Knepper et al. 25 on the extraction of PFAAs from textile samples, except for the RSDs of the analyses of a fortified extract on two different days (0.2-5.1%). Stadalius et al.24 calculated a reproducibility of PFOA in samples fortified at three different levels, which were extracted on three different days. RSDs were 2.5% (fortified at 5 ng/g), 4.0% (fortified at 50 ng/g) and 3.9% (fortified at 200 ng/g), which is better than the reproducibility of PFOA in the present study for the unfortified samples No. 1 (17.5%), No. 2 (8.9%) and No. 6 (5.3%). A reasonable explanation of the higher RSD for sample No. 1 might be the 5-fold lower concentration of the sample (approximately 1 ng/g) than in the Stadalius study. For all three samples the higher RSDs might be explained by the fact that the samples were unfortified. To the best of our knowledge no reproducibility data have been published on the extraction of the other PFAAs in textiles. In an interlaboratory comparison study (ILS) from 2011 between-laboratory coefficient of variations (CVs) were 12-31% for the analysis of PFAAs in a standard solution⁴⁴. Since the standard solution contained PFAAs in concentrations comparable to those of the final extracts of the present study, it was expected that the extraction and analyses of a textile would give higher RSDs, due to the additional extraction procedure and due to additional matrix. However, the RSDs obtained in the present study are < 20% and hence satisfactory.

Matrix effects

To examine the influence of matrix effects on the quantification of PFAAs and FOSA when using the validated method, in which two extracts are combined, the recoveries of the isotope-labeled standards in the extracts of the validation samples were determined. The results are shown in Figure 2-3. Although all recoveries of the ISs were higher than the limit of 30%, which was set by the authors, the recoveries of ¹⁵C_o-FOSA (average 46%, range 30-58%) were substantial lower than the recoveries of the other ISs (average 84%, range 30-175%). The low recoveries of FOSA are comparable to those obtained in the validation of the method used by Knepper et al. 25 with acetone/acetonitrile as extraction solvent (<33%). Knepper et al. 25 explained the low recovery by evaporation of FOSA during the evaporation of the extraction solvent at elevated temperatures (40°C). Another method developed by Knepper et al.²⁵ based on extraction with hexane and concentration by solid phase extraction (SPE) showed slightly better recoveries of 49%. As can be observed from Figure 2-3 all replicates of a sample, fortified as well as unfortified, have the same pattern of IS recovery, while the patterns between the three different samples slightly differ from each other. This might be an indication of ion suppression due to different matrix effects or sorption behavior to specific textile samples.

Confirmation of completion of extraction (recovery and repeatability samples)

To confirm that the extraction efficiency of the methanol extraction is sufficient in comparison with acetone/acetonitrile extraction, the samples of the repeatability and recovery assessment were re-extracted with acetone/acetonitrile after the methanol extraction for 30 min. Except for PFBS in the first replicate of sample 6 (2%), all PFAAs in the acetone/acetonitrile extracts of the repeatability assessment were below the LODs. Samples from the recovery assessment showed that all PFAA concentrations in the acetone/acetonitrile extracts were \leq 5%, with the exception of PFTeDA (0-8%, average 4%) and PFBS (0-11%, average 4%), which are both compounds without an isotope-labeled homologue. This shows that using methanol as extraction solvent results in an extraction efficiency of > 90%.

Expression of concentration unit: µg/m² vs ng/g

Although Guo et al.²⁹, Stadalius et al.²⁴ and Mawn et al.²³ expressed the PFAA concentration in textile samples in ng/g, the unit predominantly used for expression of the concentration of PFAAs in textiles is $\mu g/m^2$ ^{25,39,40,51}. The average sample intakes (9.79 cm²) for sample 1, 2 and 6 for the repeatability and recovery assessment were 143.3, 179.6 and 143.9 mg, respectively. As the RSDs of the sample intake for sample 1, 2 and 6, expressed in mg were low (3.1, 1.9 and 0.4%, respectively) the results of the repeatability and reproducibility assessments also apply when the PFAA concentrations are expressed in ng/g instead of $\mu g/m^2$. Since all textile samples differ from each other in thickness and fiber material, we suggest that authors report both in ng/g and in $\mu g/m^2$.

Limit of detection

The LODs varied between samples mainly due to differences in IS recoveries. The LODs per compound at 100% recovery of IS were 0.02-0.10 $\mu g/m^2$ for all analyses performed in this study (Table S2-9). The LODs were lower than or equal to those reported by Brigden et al.³³ (0.049-2.424 $\mu g/m^2$) and by Brigden et al.³⁴ (0.092-0.184 $\mu g/m^2$), but slightly higher than those reported by Vestergren et al.³⁹ (0.005-0.010 $\mu g/m^2$), what could be explained by the 10-fold higher sample intake used by Vestergren et al.³⁹. LOQs, calculated as 3.3* LOD, were in the same range as LOQs reported by Knepper et al.²⁵ (0.01-0.4 $\mu g/m^2$), although the sample intake in the present study was 5-fold lower.

LODs expressed in ng/g varied between 0.15 and 3.7 ng/g depending on the mass of the sample intake (0.14-0.19 g) for all PFAAs, which was equal to or better than the LODs reported by Guo et al.²⁹ (1-3.9 ng/g). For the analysis of PFOA, LODs and LOQs varied depending on the weight of the sample intake and the recovery of the ISs between 0.15 and 0.74 ng/g, and between 0.48 and 2.4 ng/g, respectively, which was

equal to or better than the LOD reported by Stadalius et al.²⁴ for PFOA (1 ng/g) and the LOQ reported by Mawn et al.²³ for PFOA (2.5 ng/g). In the studies of Berger and Herzke³⁸ and Herzke et al.⁴⁰ no LODs or LOOs were reported.

2.4. Conclusions

For the first time a validation of an analytical method for the extraction and quantification of a set of PFAAs in textile samples was reported. Extraction efficiencies of > 90% and LODs between 0.02-0.10 $\mu g/m^2$ were achieved using a two-step sequential extraction (2x5 mL methanol) and extraction times of 30 min each. Validation of the method based on three replicate extractions of three different samples on either the same day or on three different days results in repeatabilities of < 9% and reproducibilities of < 20%. Two samples fortified at two different levels showed recoveries > 80% for all PFAAs for which an isotope-labeled IS was available. The developed method is able to detect PFOS and PFOA below the set of European maximum allowable levels in textile.

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Supporting Information

Table S2-1 Full names, acronyms, chemical formula and CAS numbers of compounds analysed in this study and their isotope-labeled ISs.

Compounds	Abbreviation	Formula	CAS No.
Perfluorobutanoic acid	PFBA	C ₃ F ₇ COOH	375-22-4
Perfluoropentanoic acid	PFPeA	C ₄ F ₉ COOH	2706-90-3
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	$C_5F_{11}COOH$	307-24-4
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	PFHpA	C ₆ F ₁₃ COOH	375-85-9
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	C ₇ F ₁₅ COOH	335-67-1
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	C ₈ F ₁₇ COOH	375-95-1
Perfluorodecanoic acid	PFDA	C ₉ F ₁₉ COOH	335-76-2
Perfluoroundecanoic acid	PFUnDA	$C_{10}F_{21}COOH$	2058-94-8
Perfluorododecanoic acid	PFDoDA	$C_{11}F_{23}COOH$	307-55-1
Perfluorotridecanoic acid	PFTrDA	$C_{12}F_{25}COOH$	72629-94-8
Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	PFTeDA	$C_{13}F_{27}COOH$	376-06-7
Perfluorobutane sulfonate anion	PFBS	C ₄ F ₉ SO ³ -	45187-15-3
Perfluorohexane sulfonate anion	PFHxS	C ₆ F ₁₃ SO ³ -	108427-53-8
Perfluoroheptane sulfonate anion	PFHpS	C ₇ F ₁₅ SO ₃ -	375-92-8
Perfluorooctane sulfonate anion	PFOS	C ₈ F ₁₇ SO ₃ -	45298-90-6
Perfluorooctane sulfonamide	FOSA	C ₈ F ₁₇ SO ₂ NH ₂	754-91-6
Isotope-Labeled PFAAs			
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4-13C ₄]butanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFBA	[2,3,4- ¹³ C ₃]F ₇ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4,5- 13 C $_{5}$]pentanoic acid	¹³ C ₅ -PFPeA	[2,3,4,5- ¹³ C ₄]F ₉ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]hexanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFHxA	C ₄ F ₉ [2- ¹³ C]F ₂ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4-13C ₄]heptanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFHpA	$C_3F_7[2,3,4-{}^{13}C_3]F_6^{13}COOH$	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4- 13 C ₄]octanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFOA	$C_4F_9[2,3,4-{}^{13}C_3]F_6^{13}COOH$	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4,5-13C _s]nonanoic acid	¹³ C ₅ -PFNA	C ₄ F ₉ [2,3,4,5- ¹³ C ₄]F ₈ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]decanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFDA	C ₈ F ₁₇ [2- ¹³ C]F ₂ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]undecanoic acid	$^{13}\mathrm{C}_2\text{-PFUnDA}$	C ₉ F ₁₉ [2- ¹³ C]F ₂ ¹³ COOH	na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]dodecanoic acid	$^{13}\mathrm{C}_2\text{-PFDoDA}$	$C_{10}F_{21}[2^{-13}C]F_{2}^{-13}COOH$	na
Perfluoro-1-hexane[18O2]sulfonate anion	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS	C ₆ F ₁₃ S[¹⁸ O ₂]O ⁻	na
Perfluoro-1-[1,2,3,4- 13 C ₄]octane sulfonate anion	¹³ C ₄ -PFOS	$C_4F_9[1,2,3,4-{}^{13}C_4]F_8SO_3^{-1}$	na
Perfluoro-1- $[^{13}C_8]$ octane sulfonamide	¹³ C ₈ -FOSA	$^{13}C_8F_{17}SO_2NH_2$	na

na = not available

 Table S2-2
 Details of outdoor clothing samples.

Sample No.	Sample No. Sample type	Sample color	Year of manufacturing Material	Material	Membrane
_	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Red	n.r.*	100% recycled polyester	Transparent layer, polyethylene
2	Jacket	Yellow	2013	100% polyester	White layer, unknown**
23	Jacket	Yellow	2012-2013	100% polyester	White layer, unknown**
4	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Black	2013	92% polyester, 8% elastan	Not**
2	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Turquois blue	2013	100% nylon	Not**
9	Jacket	Black	».r.	100% polyester	Thick white layer, unknown**

n.r. : not reported; * nformat on g ven by supp er; ** v sua y observed

 Table S2-3
 Instrumental settings for PFAAs and FOSA analyses.

Abbreviation	MS/MS mass transition (m/z-> m/z)	Fragmentor voltage (V)	Collision energy (V)	Ionization mode	Isotope-labeled standard
PFBA	213.0 → 169.0	60	3	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFBA
PFPeA	263.0 → 219.0	60	3	Negative	¹³ C ₅ -PFPeA
PFHxA	313.0 → 269.0	80	3	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFHxA
PFHpA	363.1 → 319.0	80	4	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFHpA
PFOA	413.0 → 369.0	80	4	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFOA
PFNA	463.0 → 419.0	100	5	Negative	¹³ C ₅ -PFNA
PFDA	513.0 → 468.9	100	5	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDA
PFUnDA	562.9 → 518.9	100	6	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA
PFDoDA	613.0 → 568.9	100	7	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA
PFTrDA	663.0 → 618.9	100	7	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA
PFTeDA	712.9 → 668.9	120	4	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA
PFBS	299.0 → 80.0	150	35	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFHxS	399.0 → 80.0	200	48	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFHpS	449.0 → 80.0	150	45	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFOS	499.0 → 80.0	200	48	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFOS
FOSA	498.1 → 78.0	200	35	Negative	¹³ C ₈ -FOSA
¹³ C ₄ -PFBA	217.0 → 172.0	60	3	Negative	
¹³ C ₅ -PFPeA	268.0 → 222.9	60	3	Negative	
¹³ C ₂ -PFHxA	315.0 → 270.0	80	3	Negative	
¹³ C ₄ -PFHpA	367.0 → 321.9	80	4	Negative	
¹³ C ₄ -PFOA	416.9 → 371.9	80	4	Negative	
¹³ C ₅ -PFNA	468.0 → 423.0	100	5	Negative	
¹³ C ₂ -PFDA	515.0 → 470.0	100	5	Negative	
¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA	565.0 → 520.0	100	6	Negative	
¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA	615.0 → 569.9	100	7	Negative	
¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS	403.0 → 84	200	48	Negative	
¹³ C ₄ -PFOS	503.0 → 80	200	48	Negative	
¹³ C ₈ -FOSA	506.1 → 78	200	35	Negative	

 Table S2-4
 PFAA concentrations > LOD in extracts of four sequential extractions with acetone/acetonitrile as extraction solvent and varying extraction
 times ($\mu g/m^2$) (Experiment 1).

Sample	Sequential	Extraction															
2	extraction		PFBA	PFPeA	РЕРВА РЕНХА РЕНРА	РЕНРА	PFNA	PFDA	PFUnDA	PFUnDA PFDoDA PFTrDA	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	PFBS	PFHxS PFHpS L-PFOS FOSA	PFHpS	L-PFOS	FOSA
_	Ф	14			*06.0			0.14*					*40.0			0.74	
	q	11															
	O	24 h															
	О	p 9															
2	В	٦h			0.44*	0.17*	*60.0	1.26		1.29		0.39		0.15			
	q	٦ ۲						0.11		0.12		0.03*					
	O	24 h						0.05*		0.02*							
	р	6 d						0.02*		0.02*							
23	Ф	٦h	1.03	1.61*	3.87	1.33	*01.0	1.01	0.03*	0.53		01.0				0.14*	
	Q		0.14	0.23*	0.44	0.16		60.0		0.05							
	O	24 h			0.15*	*90.0		0.03*		0.01*							
	р	6 d			0.07*			0.04*									
4	В	14						0.12									
	Ω	14															
	O	24 h															
	р	6 d															
2	В	11															
	Q	14															
	U	24 h															
	р	p 9															

NB: Since high concentrations of PFOA, with unclear origin, were detected in the blank samples which were extracted and analysed alongside the samples, results for PFOA are not reliable and therefore excluded.
* Concentration between LOD and LOQ.

Table S2-5 PFAA concentrations >LOD in extracts of four sequential extractions with acetone/acetonitrile as extraction solvent (µg/m²) and extraction times of 30 min (Experiment 2).

Sample No.	Sequential extraction	Extraction time	PFBA	PFPeA	PFHxA	PFPeA PFHxA PFHpA PFNA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUnDA	PFUnDA PFDoDA PFTrDA PFTeDA PFBS	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	PFBS	PFHxS	PFHxS PFHpS L-PFOS FOSA	L-PFOS	FOSA
_	Ф	30 min	0.24	*60.0	0.30	0.04*	0.02*	0.05*								0.02*	
	Ω	30 min			0.02*												
	O	30 min															
	р	30 min															
2	в	30 min	0.22		0.32	0.10	0.07	1.29	0.04	1.32		0.27		0.22		0.02*	
	q	30 min			0.04*			0.10		%LI.O				0.03*			
	O	30 min						0.05*									
	р	30 min															
3	Ф	30 min	0.67	1.41	3.39	1.53	60.0	1.03	0.03	0.53		0.04					
	Ω	30 min	0.14	0.17*	0.45	0.21	0.02*	60.0		0.05							
	O	30 min			0.15*	0.05*		0.02*									
	р	30 min			0.07*												
4	Ф	30 min				0.04*		0.08									
	Ω	30 min						0.02*									
	U	30 min															
	р	30 min															
2	Ф	30 min															
	Ω	30 min															
	U	30 min															
	р	30 min															

NB: Since high concentrations of PFOA, with unclear origin, were detected in the blank samples which were extracted and analysed alongside the samples, results for PFOA are not reliable and therefore excluded.
* Concentration between LOD and LOQ.

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Table S2-6 PFAA concentrations > LOD in extracts of five sequential extractions with methanol as extraction solvent (µg/m²) and different extraction times (Experiment 3).

0.14* 0.28 0.03* 0.19 0.11* 0.29 0.09 0.79 0.07 0.04* 0.05* 0.03* 0.13* 0.35 0.09 0.17 0.03* 0.04* 0.02* 0.04* 0.02* 0.04* 0.02* 0.04* 0.02*	Sample	Sequential	Extraction		4			0				4	4				1		
a 30 min 017 014* 0.28 0.03* 0.19 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.0	No.	extraction	time	PFBA	PFPeA	РЕНХА	РЕНРА	PFOA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUNDA	PFDoDA	PFIrDA	PFIEDA		PFHXS	РЕНРЅ	L-PFOS	FOSA
b 30 min a 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4 d 4	_	Ф	30 min	0.17	0.14*	0.28	0.03*	61.0		0.05									
c 30 min e 4 d a 30 min o 1.4* o 1.1* o 2.9 o 0.9 o 0.79 o 0.04* o 1.07 o 0.24 b 30 min o 1.4* o 1.1* o 2.9 o 0.9 o 0.79 o 0.07 o 0.94 o 0.04* o 0.03* c 30 min e 4 d a 30 min e 50 min e 6 d a 30 min e 6 d a 30 min e 7 d a 4 d a 4 d a 50 min e 7 d a 6 d a 7 d a 7 d a 7 d a 7 d a 8 d a 8 d a 9 d a 0 d a 0 d a 0 d a 0 d a 0 d a 0 d a 0 d		Ω	30 min	0.03*		0.03*													
d 30 min 014* 0.11* 0.29 0.09 0.07 0.04* 0.05* 0.07 0.04* 1/07 0.024 b 30 min 014* 0.11* 0.29 0.09 0.07 0.07* 0.08 0.03* c 30 min 069 1.06 3.99 1.42 2.81 0.11 0.81 0.02* 0.41 0.03* d 30 min 002* 0.13 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.01* 0.03* d 30 min 007* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.03* d 30 min 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* e 4-d 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* e 4-d 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* <td></td> <td>U</td> <td>30 min</td> <td></td>		U	30 min																
e 4d a 30 min 0.14* 0.11* 0.29 0.09* 0.79 0.07* 0.07* 0.07* 0.09* 0.07* 0.00* 0.04* 0.07* 0.05* 0.00* 0.09* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.02* 0.03* 0.03* c 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.05* 0.00* 0.07* 0.00* 0.07* 0.00* 0.00* 0.01* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* <		О	30 min																
a 30 min 0.14* 0.11* 0.29* 0.79 0.07* 0.94* 1.07 0.03* 0.03* c 30 min 30 min 0.04* 0.05* 0.05* 0.07* 0.02* 0.03* e 4 d 30 min 0.02* 0.17 0.28 0.10 0.81 0.01* 0.03* d 30 min 0.02* 0.17 0.02* 0.17 0.02* 0.05* 0.03* d 30 min 0.04* 0.07* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.03* d 30 min 0.04* 0.02* 0.23 0.05 0.02* 0.03* d 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.03* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.04* 0.02* e 4 d 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.0		Φ	4 d																
b 30 min c 4 d 5 min c 30 min c 5 4 d 5	2	В	30 min	0.14*	0.11*	0.29	60.0	0.79	0.07	0.94		1.07		0.24		0.15			
c 30 min e 4 d 0.02* 0.13* 0.25* 0.09 0.17* 0.03* 0.10* 0.02* 0.13* 0.25* 0.09 0.17* 0.03* 0.10* 0.02* 0.19* 0.00* 0.17* 0.03* 0.10* 0.02* 0.09* 0.17* 0.03* 0.10* 0.00* 0.17* 0.00* 0.17* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00* 0.10* 0.00*		Q	30 min			*40.0		0.05*	0.02*	0.07		0.08		0.03*	_	0.02*			
d 30 min 0.69 1.06 3.99 1.42 2.81 0.11 0.81 0.02* 0.41 b 30 min 0.02* 0.13* 0.03* 0.17 0.02* 0.10 0.05* d 30 min 0.02* 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.07* 0.07* 0.02* 0.03 0.02* 0.03* e 4 d 0.07* 0.07* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* a 30 min 0.04* 0.07* 0.07* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* b 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.00* 0.00* d 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* 0.00* <t< td=""><td></td><td>U</td><td>30 min</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>0.02*</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>		U	30 min									0.02*							
e 4dd 30 min 0.69 1.06 3.99 1.42 2.81 0.11 0.81 0.02* 0.41 c 30 min 0.02* 0.13* 0.35 0.09 0.17 0.03* 0.10 0.05* d 30 min 0.07* 0.07* 0.02* 0.03 0.03* 0.03* d 30 min 0.07* 0.02* 0.03 0.03* 0.02* 0.03* a 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.02* 0.03* 0.02* 0.02* b 30 min 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* 0.04* c 30 min 0.04*<		О	30 min																
a 30 min 0.69 1.06 3.99 1.42 2.81 0.11 0.81 0.02* 0.41 0.02 0.02* 0.13* 0.35* 0.09 0.17 0.03* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.10 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.02* 0.03* 0.02* 0.03* 0.0		Ф	4 d									*LO.O							
b 30 min 0.02* 0.13* 0.35 0.09 0.17 0.03* 0.10 c 30 min e 4d a 30 min 0.007* 0.007* 0.002* 0.008 b 30 min e 4d a 30 min b 30 min c 0.004* c 30 min b 30 min c 4d a 30 min c 4d b 4d c 30 min e 4d e 44d e 44d	2	Ф	30 min	69.0	1.06	3.99	1.42	2.81	0.11	0.81		0.41		0.03*					
c 30 min 0.04* 0.02* 0.02* d 30 min 0.07* 0.02* 0.03 e 4d 0.007* 0.07* 0.02* 0.08 c 30 min e 4d e 4d 0.004* c 30 min 0.04* e 4d 0.004*		Q	30 min	0.02*	0.13*	0.35	60.0	0.17	0.03*	0.10		0.05							
d 30 min e 4d a 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4d a 30 min e 4d a 30 min c 30 min e 4d a 30 min c 30 min c 4d b 30 min c 4d e 4d		U	30 min			*40.0		0.02*		0.02*		0.02*							
e 4d 0.02* a 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4d a 30 min e 4d a 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4d e 4d		Ф	30 min																
a 30 min 0.07* 0.02* 0.03 0.06 0.08 b 30 min e 4d a 30 min 0.04* b 30 min 0.004* c 30 min c 30 min e 44d		Ф	4 d							0.02*		0.03*							
b 30 min 0.07 c 30 min e 4d a 30 min b 30 min c 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4d	4	æ	30 min			0.07*	0.02*	0.23	0.05	0.08		0.02*							
c 30 min e 4 d a 30 min b 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4 d		Ω	30 min					0.07		0.02*									
d 30 min e 4 d a 30 min b 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4 d		O	30 min																
e 4d a 30 min c 30 min d 30 min e 4d		Ф	30 min																
a 30 min b 30 min d 30 min e 4 d		Ф	4 d																
	2	Ф	30 min			*50.0													
		Q	30 min																
		O	30 min																
		Ф	30 min																
		Ф	p 4																

* Concentration between LOD and LOQ.

Table S2-7 Recoveries (%) and RSDs of fortified textile samples (n=3) extracted and analysed to validate a method for PFAAs and FOSA analysis.

Sample	Sample Spiking level Replicate	Replicate	PFBA	PFPeA	PFHXA	PFHpA	PFOA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUnDA	PFDoDA	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	PFBS	PFHxS	PFHpS	L-PFOS	FOSA
_	10 µg/m²	Rep.1	87	97	96	97	94	100	106	105	102	97	104	86	86	85	102	103
		Rep.2	84	87	95	94	94	26	104	66	86	95	109	91	96	83	102	86
		Rep.3	9	100	66	101	97	105	107	103	103	96	110	102	103	98	901	103
		RSD (%)	4.5	7.2	2.4	3.3	1.8	3.7	1.4	2.9	2.6	1.4	3.0	5.7	3.5	3.4	2.5	2.9
_	$1 \mu g/m^2$	Rep.1	91	93	103	102	66	E	100	95	96	66	87	100	102	85	66	101
		Rep.2	96	98	107	101	101	109	102	96	101	601	96	100	95	87	901	104
		Rep.3	68	86	68	68	06	901	100	87	100	102	96	66	96	87	107	901
		RSD (%)	4.0	2.7	9.4	7.5	0.9	2.2	1.3	5.2	2.7	5.3	5.6	0.7	3.9	1.2	4.2	2.3
2	$10 \mu g/m^2$	Rep.1	84	84	87	16	88	97	100	97	95	26	36	92	95	91	66	97
		Rep.2	87	06	93	95	94	86	105	66	lol	52	31	100	101	88	98	98
		Rep.3	88	16	16	86	93	66	601	104	102	49	39	97	66	88	104	100
		RSD (%)	2.4	4.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	1.0	4.4	3.5	3.8	9.9	11.6	2.8	2.8	1.8	3.2	1.4
2	$1 \mu g/m^2$	Rep.1	80	80	87	98	68	108	107	97	93	54	32	97	103	26	102	105
		Rep.2	18	06	68	88	92	108	103	95	95	57	38	97	107	26	103	104
		Rep.3	83	16	98	87	88	108	105	86	120	65	65	92	66	26	105	98
		RSD (%)	1.9	6.4	1.6	9.0	2.1	0.7	1.8	1.6	14.4	70.3	32.9	7.3	3.5	0.7	1.5	3.6

Table 52-8 Concentrations ($\mu g/m^2$) and reproducibilities (%) of three textile samples extracted and analysed on three different days to validate a method for PFAAs and FOSA analysis.

Sample number	umber	PFBA	PFPeA	PFHxA	PFHpA	PFOA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUnDA	PFDoDA	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	PFBS	PFHxS	PFHpS	L-PFOS	FOSA
_	Rep.1	0.20	0.14*	0.30	0.03*	0.19		0.05*									
	Rep.2	0.20	0.13*	0.36	0.03*	0.14		0.03*									
	Rep.3	0.18	0.12*	0.35	0.02*	0.14	*10.0	0.04*									
	RSD (%)	4.2	5.4	9.4	13.5	17.5		13.7									
7	Rep.1	0.14*	*11.0	0.33	60.0	0.83	0.09	1.01	0.04*	1.15		0.27		0.17			
	Rep.2	0.11*		0.32	0.08	0.71	0.07	1.13	0.03*	1.29		0.21		0.14			
	Rep.3	0.14*	*80.0	0.31	0.08	0.84	0.08	1.28	***************************************	1.56		0.26		O.11		0.02*	
	RSD (%)	13.1		2.4	3.7	8.9	10.2	11.8	8.0	15.4		13.0		19.8			
9	Rep.1	1.68	0.61	1.35	1.14	2.26	0.95	0.85	0.22*	0.31*		•	1.60				
	Rep.2	1.53	09.0	1.20	1.02	2.16	0.81	0.88	0.24*	0.25*			1.50				
	Rep.3	1.5.1	0.57	1.19	1.01	2.40	0.83	0.88	0.22*	0.23*			1.46				
	RSD (%)	5.9	3.3	7.7	6.5	5.3	8.5	1.5	4.8	14.4			4.8				

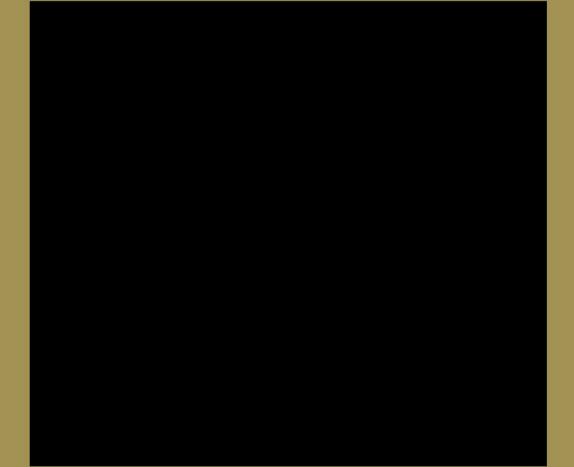
 * Concentration between LOD and LOQ

Table S2-9 LODs and LOQs per compound for the analyses of PFAAs and FOSA in textiles at a IS recovery of 100%.

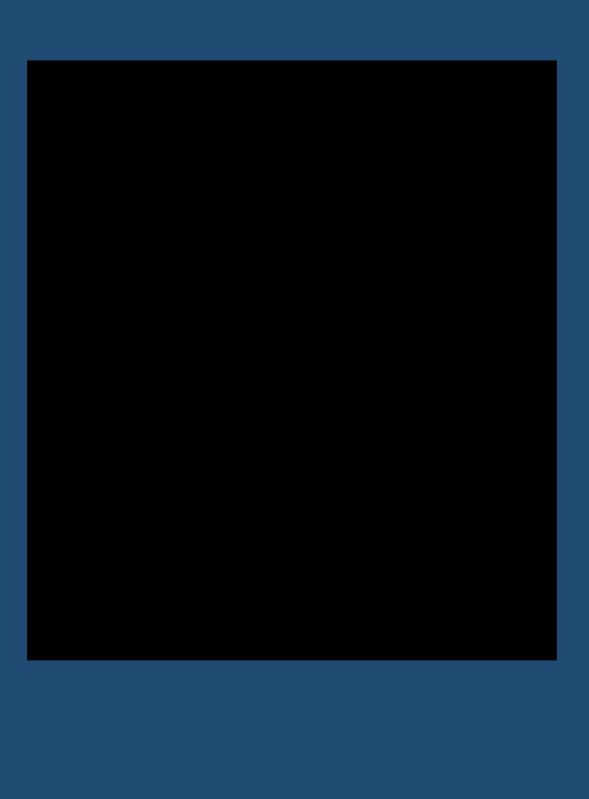
	LOD	LOQ
	(µg/m2)	(µg/m2)
PFBA	0.04	0.13
PFPeA	0.10	0.34
PFHxA	0.03	0.10
PFHpA	0.02	0.07
PFOA	0.02	0.07
PFNA	0.02	0.07
PFDA	0.02	0.07
PFUnDA	0.02	0.07
PFDoDA	0.02	0.07
PFTrDA	0.02	0.07
PFTeDA	0.03	0.10
PFBS	0.02	0.07
PFHxS	0.02	0.07
PFHpS	0.02	0.07
L-PFOS	0.02	0.07
FOSA	0.02	0.07

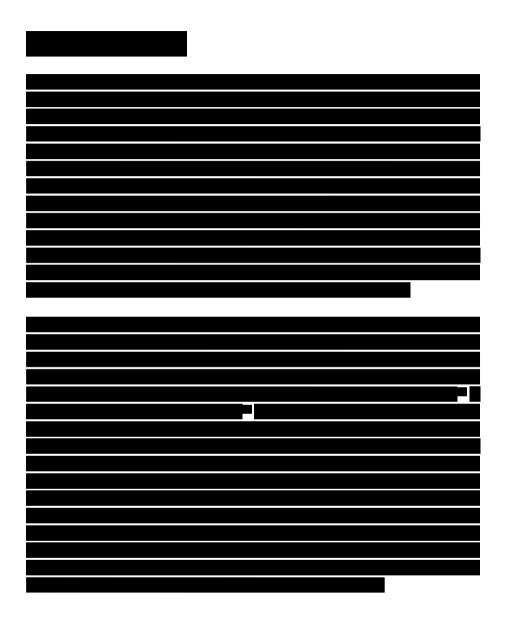
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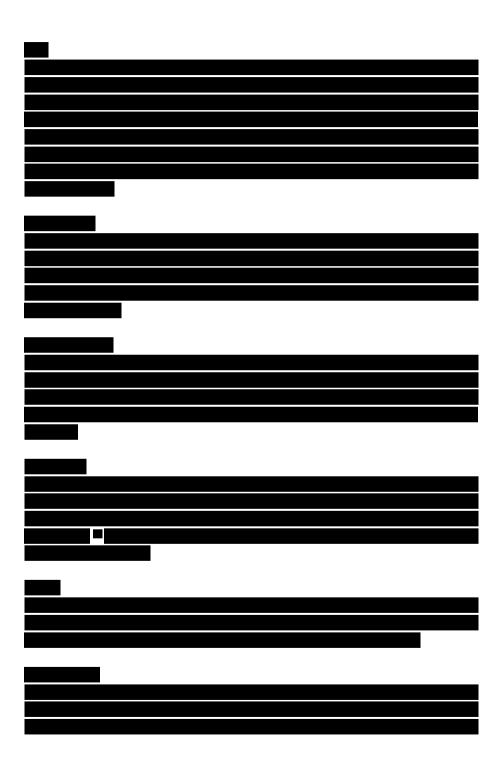


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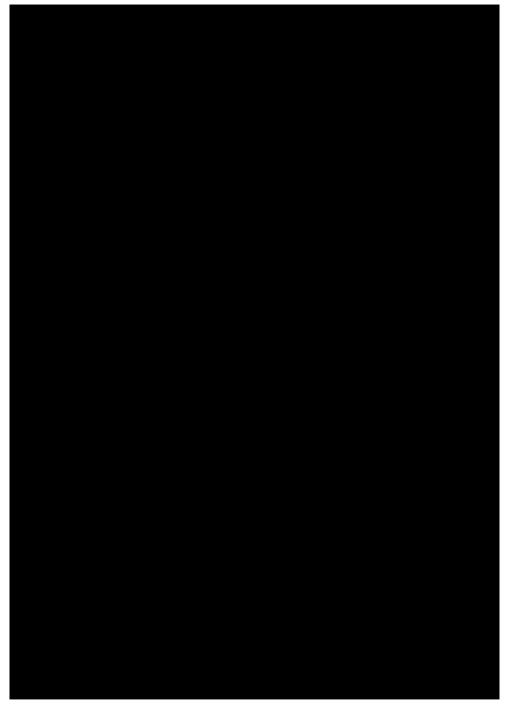


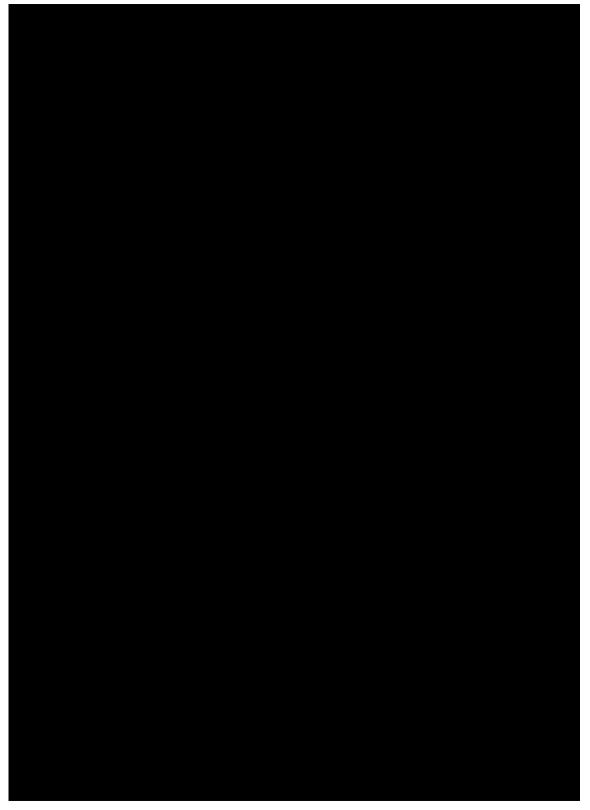


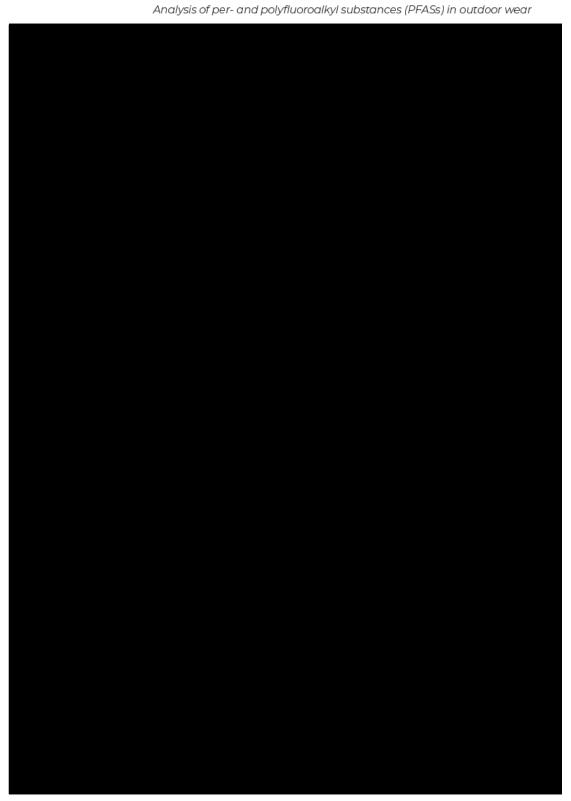


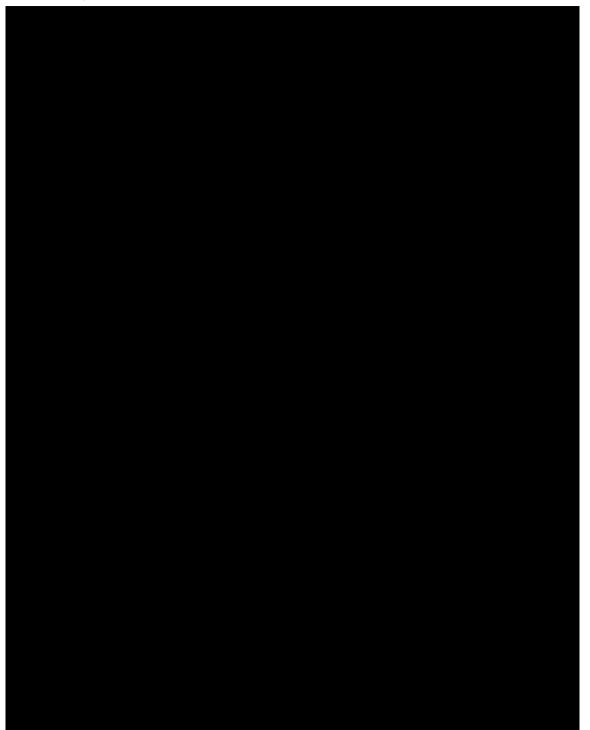


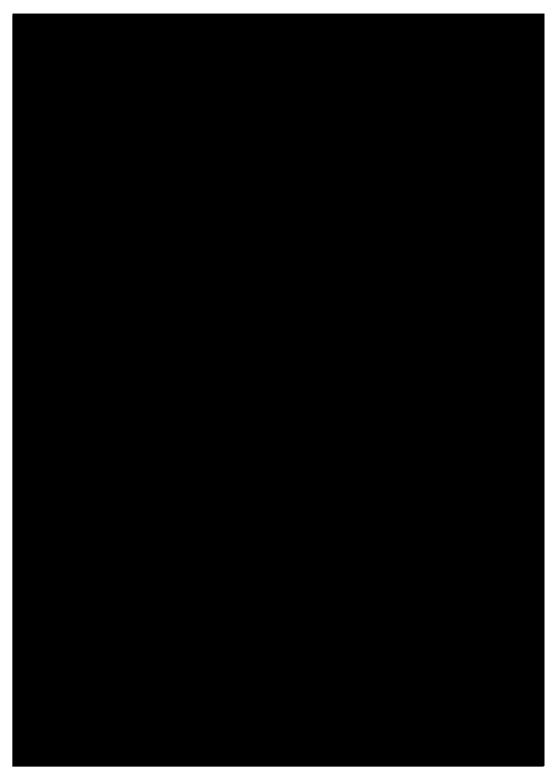


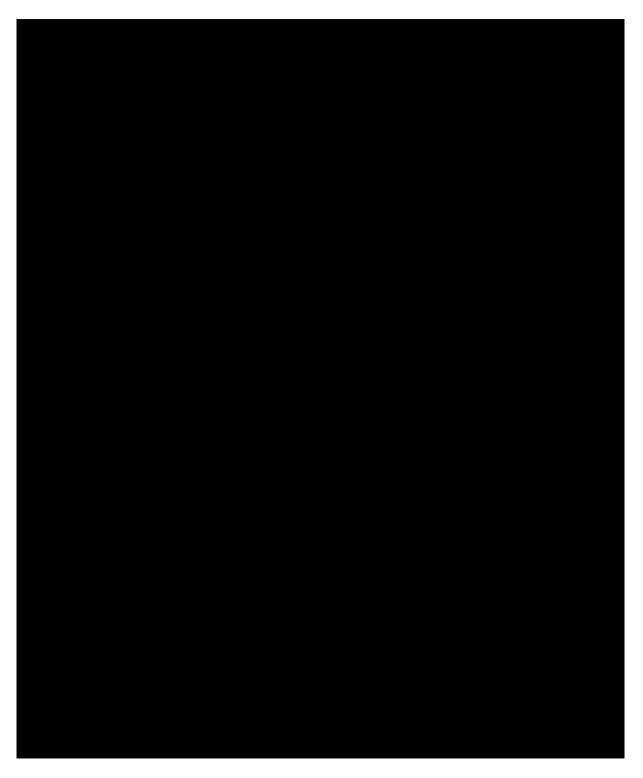




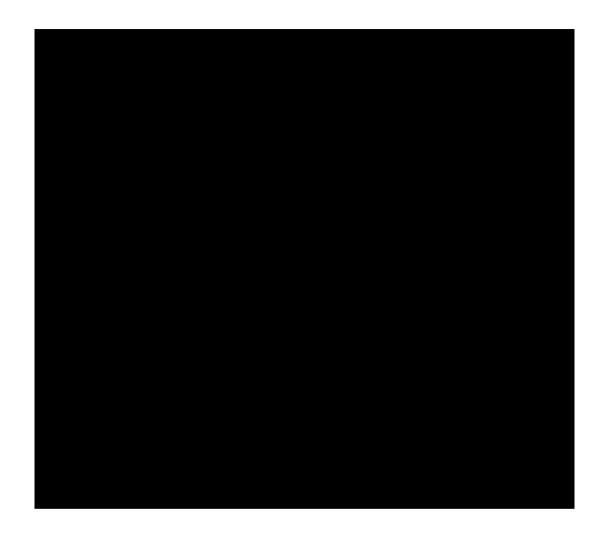


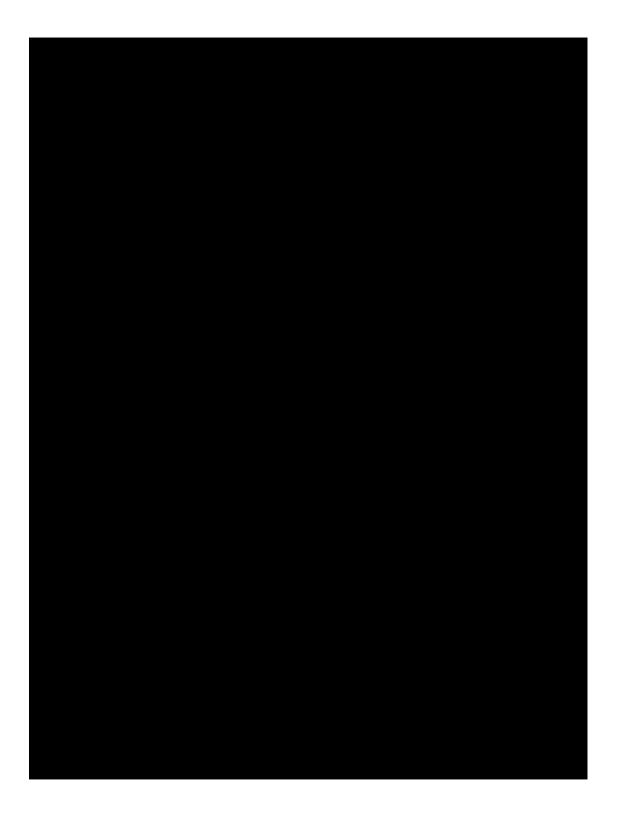


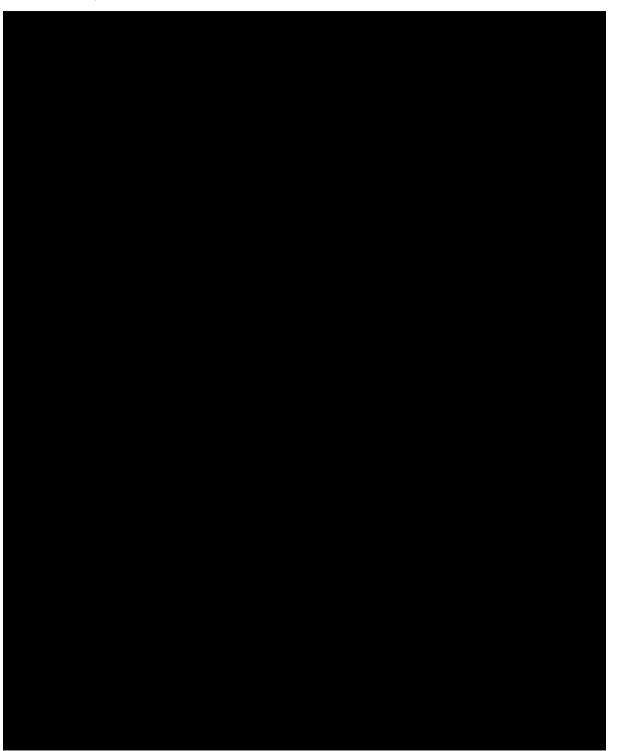


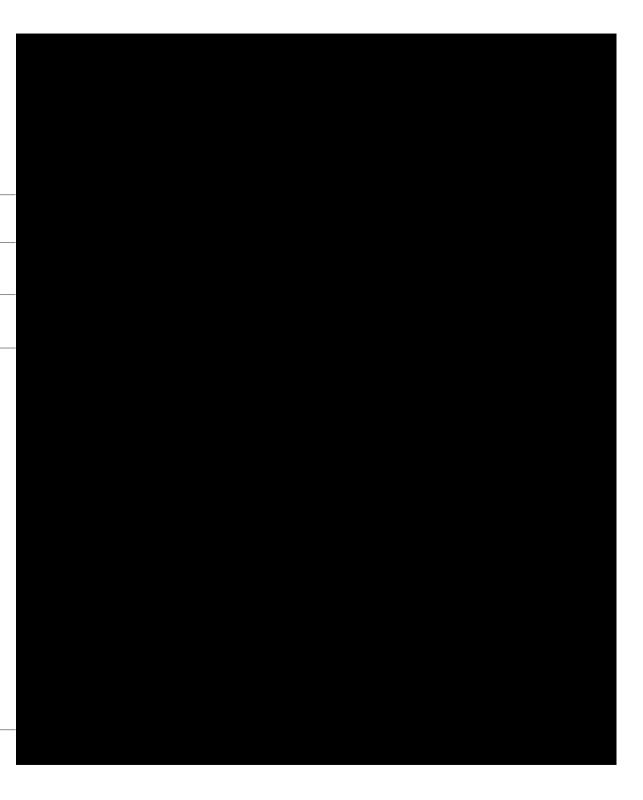


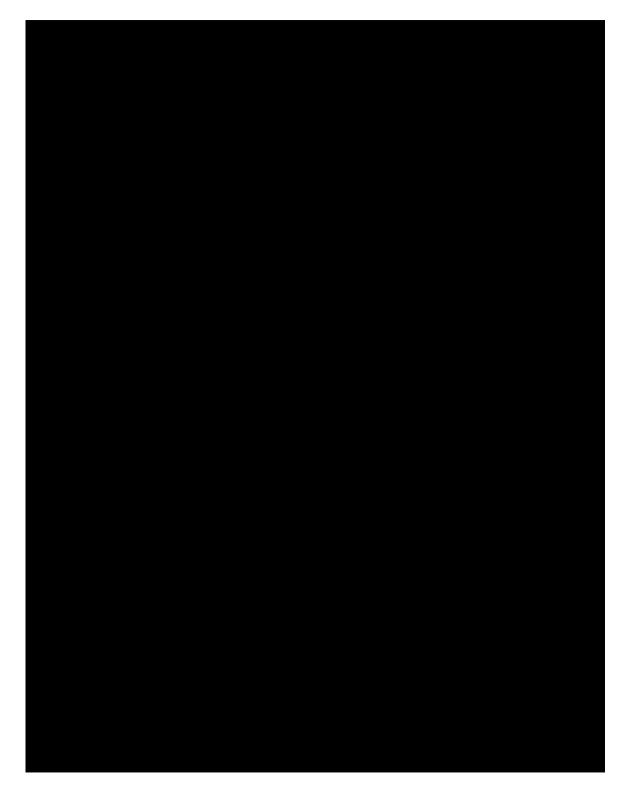










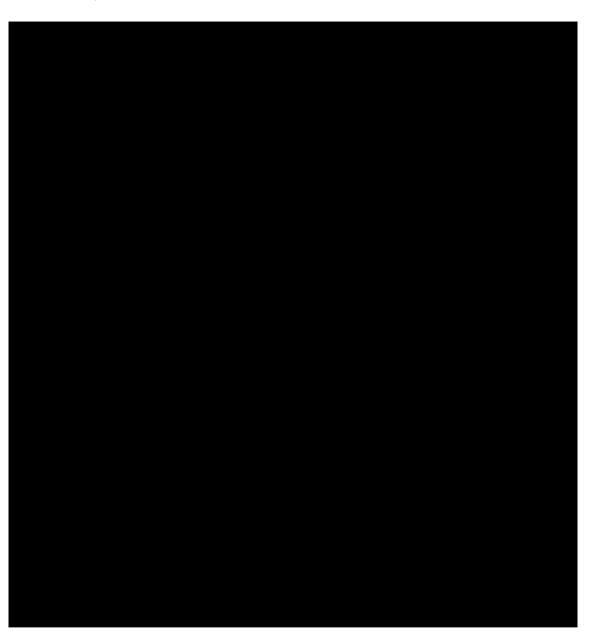


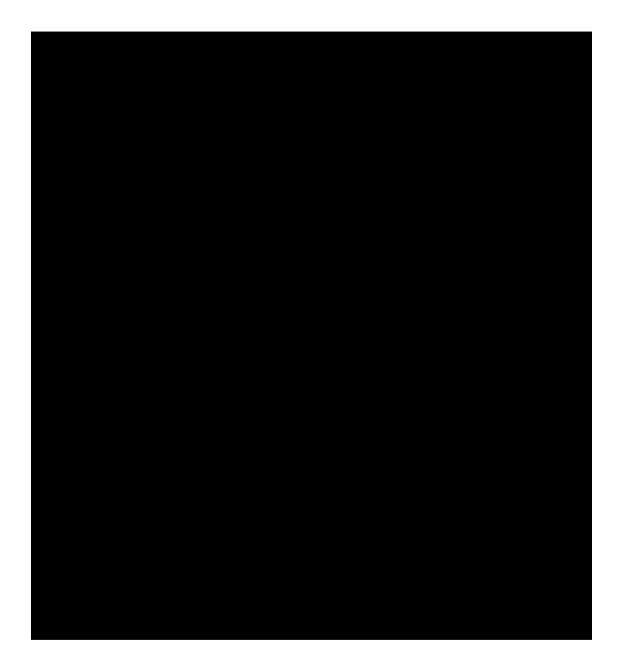




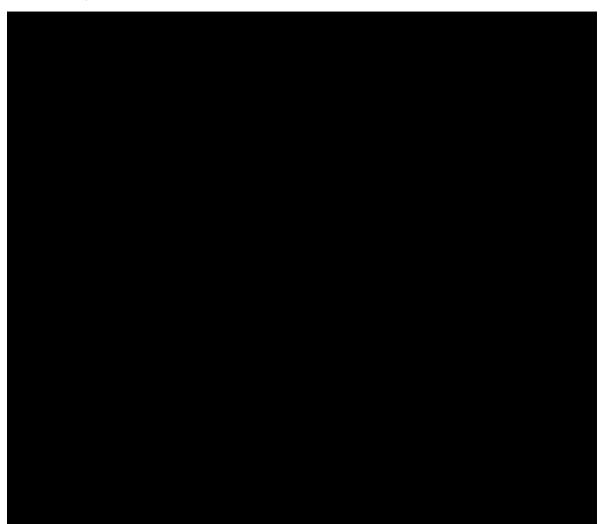




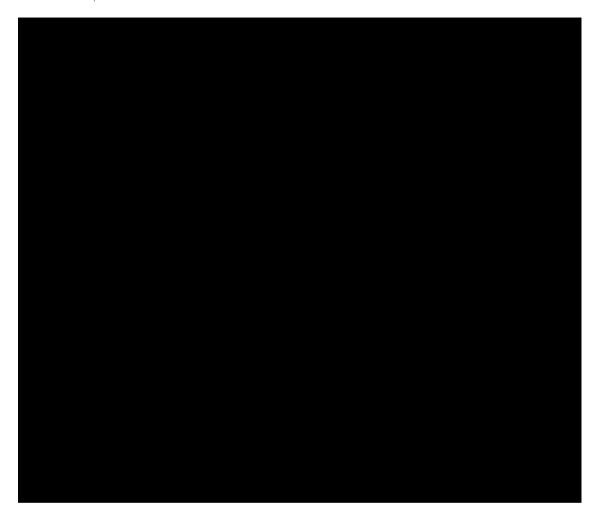


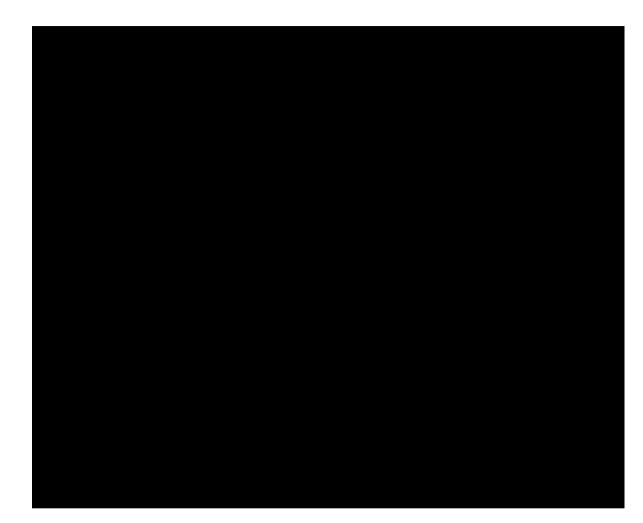


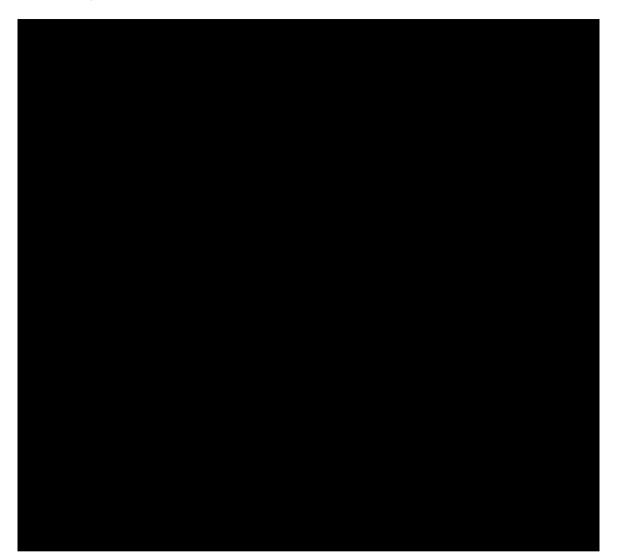
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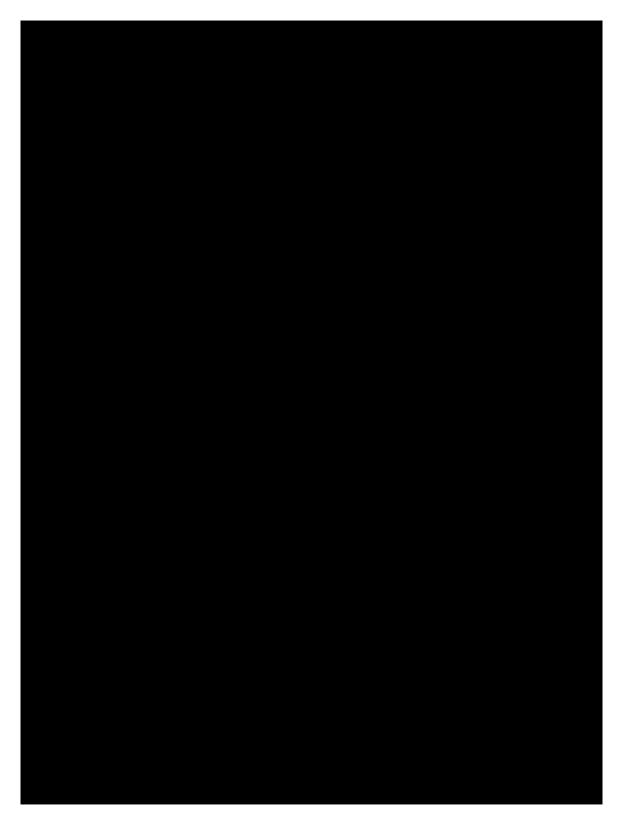












Chapter



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The effect of weathering on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) from durable water repellent (DWR) clothing

Abstract

To assess the effects of weathering on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) from durable water repellent (DWR) clothing, thirteen commercial textile samples were exposed to elevated ultra violet (UV) radiation, humidity, and temperature in an aging device for 300 h, which mimics the lifespan of outdoor clothing. Before and after aging, the textile samples were extracted and analysed for the ionic PFASs (perfluoroalky) acids (PFAAs), perfluorooctane sulfonamide (FOSA)) and volatile PFASs (fluorotelomer alcohols (FTOHs), acrylates (FTACs) and methacrylates (FTMACs)). Results showed that weathering can have an effect on PFASs used in DWR of outdoor clothing, both on the PFAS profile and on the measured concentrations. In most weathered samples the PFAA concentrations increased by 5- to more than 100-fold, while PFAAs not detected in the original textiles were detected in the weathered samples. DWR chemistries are based on side-chain fluorinated polymers. A possible explanation for the increase in concentration of the PFAAs is hydrolysis of the fluorotelomer based polymers (FTPs), or degradation of the FTOHs, which are used in the manufacturing of the FTPs. The concentrations of volatile PFASs also increased, by a factor up to 20. Suggested explanations are the degradation of the DWR polymers, making non-extractable fluorines extractable, or the transformation or degradation of unknown precursors. Further research is needed to unravel the details of these processes and to determine the transformation routes. This study shows that setting maximum tolerance limits only for a few individual PFASs is not sufficient to control these harmful substances in outdoor clothing.

4.1. Introduction

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are a class of man-made chemicals, which do not occur in nature. Nowadays, they are ubiquitously present in water, soil, air and biota, and also in human blood and mother's milk1-7. PFASs are used in a wide range of consumer products such as in firefighting foams, cooking pans, carpets and food wrapping paper. Among the multitude of applications, PFASs are also used in textiles for outdoor clothing⁸ in order to obtain the desired durable water repellence (DWR). DWR chemistries are based on side-chain fluorinated polymers9. PFASs are divided into short-chain, and long-chain PFASs by their alkyl chain length (C,F,20+1), with $n \ge 6$ for long-chain perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs), and $n \ge 7$ for longchain perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs)^{8, 9}. Since it was revealed that some of the PFASs are very persistent in the environment¹⁰, bioaccumulative^{1, 12} and (eco) toxic¹³⁻¹⁷, the use and production of some PFASs was regulated. In 2006 the European Commission regulated the level of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) in consumer products (Regulation Directive 2006/122/EC)¹⁸. In June 2017, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and PFOA-related substances, including salts and polymer containing -C₈F₁₇ as structural element, have been added to REACH annex XVII restricted substances list (entry 68) by the European Commission¹⁹. Some of the longer chain PFCAs (C_s, C₁₁-C₁₄) were included in the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) under REACH20, and recently also perfluorohexane sulfonate (PFHxS) was added to that list21. In 2009 PFOS and in 2017 PFOA and its salts have been listed in Annex B of the Stockholm Convention (decisions SC-4/17²² and SC-9/12²³), which describes the restriction of production and use of the compounds^{19, 22-24}. Finally, in 2019 the conference of the parties (COP) decided to list PFOA and its salts in Annex A (decision UNEP/POPS/COP.9/CRP.14)^{25, 26}. PFHxS is currently proposed to be listed as a POP under the Stockholm Convention²⁷. Nowadays, the textile industry is phasing-out the long-chained PFASs9 and is replacing those compounds with alternative chemicals that also deliver the desired DWR effect. Those alternative chemicals can be divided in three main groups: fluorocarbon-based, silicon-based and hydrocarbon-based polymers²⁸. Hill et al.²⁹ assessed the repellent performance of some hydrocarbon-based DWRs in comparison with the long-chained PFAS DWR, and within the SUPFES (Substitution in Practice of Prioritized Fluorinated Chemicals to Eliminate Diffuse Sources³⁰) project alternative DWRs from all three main groups were assessed in comparison with PFASs with regard to their functionality and their impact on the environment^{30, 31}.

Some studies have been performed before on the concentrations of PFASs in textiles³²⁻⁴⁴. Gremmel et al.³⁷ analysed 16 outdoor jackets for the concentrations of 23 PFASs. All jackets contained at least one of the PFASs. Brigden et al.³⁴ reported the detection of PFASs in 15 articles including seven waterproof garments, and Robel et al.⁴⁰ reported the analyses of nine textiles, which included seven garment samples. Not only PFASs in outdoor clothing have been analysed, but also the leaching of PFASs from the garments during washing was investigated. Knepper et al.⁴⁵ reported PFAS concentrations in washing water after washing of outdoor jackets. Until now, no studies have been performed on the effect of different weather conditions on PFASs in textiles. As part of the SUPFES project, the present study was conducted with an aim to assess the influence of weathering on PFASs in DWR-treated outdoor clothing. The hypothesis was that PFASs used in the DWR-treated outdoor clothing is a relevant source of environmental pollution and human exposure due to emission of PFASs during usage.

4.2. Material and methods

4.2.1. Chemicals and reagents

All analysed PFASs and isotope-labeled perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs), are shown in the Tables S4-1.1 (ionic PFASs) and S4-1.2 (volatile PFASs) of the Supporting Information (SI) according to the terminology of Buck et al.8. Three mixtures containing 50 µg mL⁻¹ of FTOHs (4:2, 6:2, 8:2, and 10:2), FTACs (6:2, 8:2, 10:2), and FTMACs (6:2, 8:2, 10:2) in methanol, and individual solutions of 50 µg/mL of the isotope labeled D₂-6:2 FTOH, D_z-6:2 FTAC and D_z-6:2 FTMAC in methanol, were purchased from Chiron AS (Trondheim, Norway). The purities of those mixtures were >98%, and the isotope purity of D_2 -6:2 FTOH, D_3 -6:2 FTAC and D_5 -6:2 FTMAC was >99%. All other PFASs (50 µg/mL in methanol, purity of > 98%.) were purchased from Wellington Laboratories (Guelph, ON, Canada). The isotope purity of the isotope-labeled PFAAs was >99%, except for ¹⁸O₂-PFHxS (>94%). HPLC grade methanol (J.T. Baker, 8402), and acetone (J.T. Baker, 9254) were obtained from Boom (Meppel, The Netherlands). Ethylacetate (HPLC, 054006) was purchased from Biosolve Chimie (Dieuze, France). Acetonitrile (Chromasolve, 34851), ammonium formate (Bio ultra, 09735), and Supelclean™ Envi-carb™ (Supelco, 957210-U) were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (Zwijndrecht, The Netherlands). A Milli-Q system from Millipore (Watford, UK) was used to obtain ultrapure water. Glass fiber filters (GF/F, pore size 0.42 µm), purchased from Whatman (Maidstone, UK), were used for filtering of the mobile phase.

4.2.2. Textile samples

Textile samples originating from outdoor clothing (one pair of outdoor trousers, seven jackets, four fabrics for outdoor clothes, and one outdoor overall, Table 4-1), were provided by six different suppliers from the outdoor textile industry in Sweden to SWEREA IVF (Mölndal, Sweden). Two pieces were cut out of each fabric. One of the pieces (9 cm x 12 cm) was exposed in an ATLAS weather-Ometer Ci 3000 to elevated UV radiation, humidity, and temperature for 300 h (Table 4-2), which can be compared to the lifespan of the outdoor clothing⁴⁶. Both pieces of textile, aged and not aged, were analysed for ionic PFAS and volatile PFAS content. Until analyses, all pieces of textile were stored at room temperature in the dark.

Table 4-1 Details of outdoor clothing samples.

Sample			Year of	
No.	Sample type	Sample color	manufacturing*	Fabric*
1	Outdoor trousers	Black	nr	100% recycled polyester
2	Fabric for jacket	Anthracite	nr	80% polyester, 20% cotton
3	Fabric for jacket	Olive	nr	100% polyamide
4	Men's jacket	Brown	2013	100% cotton
5	Men's jacket	Yellow	2013	100% polyester
6	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Yellow	2012	65% cotton, 35% polyester
7	Children's jacket	Brown	2012/2013	100% polyamide
8	Jacket (parka)	Olive	nr	nr
9	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Yellow	nr	100% polyester
10	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Green	nr	nr
11	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Yellow	nr	nr
12	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Light blue	nr	nr
13	Fabric for outdoor clothes	Bright blue	nr	100% polyester

nr: not reported; *: information given by supplier

Table 4-2 Conditions of ATLAS weather-Ometer Ci 3000 for a weathering experiment (total duration 300 h)*.

Method	Exposure cycles	Broadband (300-400 nm) W /m²	Narrowband (340 nm) W /m² nm	Black standard temperature** (°C)		Humidity (%)
A1 (ISO 4892-2)	102 min dry 18 min water spray		0.51 ± 0.02	65 ± 3	38 ± 3	50 ± 10

^{*} Conditions as described in ISO 4892-2 method A147, and ISO 105-B10 Exposure method A46

^{**} Reference temperature on a black metal plate in the ATLAS weather-Ometer Ci 3000, which characterizes the temperature on the sample surface 48

4.2.3. Extraction procedure

Ionic PFASs

Circular pieces with a diameter of 35.3 mm (equals 9.79 cm²) were taken from the aged and unaged outdoor clothes samples by a bore (Cordia Matic, 270 rpm) for analysis of ionic PFASs. Extraction was performed according to the method of Van der Veen et al.⁴⁹, which was developed and validated after comprehensive testing of different solvents and exhaustive extraction. In short, dust particles were rinsed from the textile pieces by adding 5 mL water to the test tube and taking the textile piece out immediately afterwards. After adding 150 μ L isotope labeled internal standard solution (conc. 100 ng/mL) (Table S4-1.1), the samples were left to equilibrate for one night. Ionic PFASs were extracted with two times shaking the textile pieces in 5 mL methanol for 30 minutes on a shaking device. After concentration until dryness by a gentle stream of nitrogen at 40°C, the extracts were reconstituted in 200 μ L methanol: water (1:1, v/v).

Volatile PFASs

Both pieces of textile, aged and not aged, were extracted and analysed for volatile PFAS content in the same series. Because of the limited amount of textile available for the analyses of volatile PFASs, squares of approximately 20 cm² were cut with a pair of scissors from each aged and unaged outdoor clothes sample, instead of cutting by a bore.

To enhance extraction performance, each piece of textile was cut into eight smaller pieces, which were all weighed together into a 15 mL polypropylene (pp) tube. The samples were fortified with 50 μ L of an IS solution (mixture of 800 ng/mL D_2 -6:2 FTOH, 800 ng/mL D_3 -6:2 FTAC and 200 ng/mL D_5 -6:2 FTMAC in ethylacetate, which equals concentrations of 20, 20 and 5 μ g/m², respectively), added directly onto the samples and left to equilibrate for one night (IS recoveries are given in Table S4-2.3). Volatile PFASs were extracted from the samples by liquid solid extraction (LSE) with 2 times 5 mL ethylacetate. Extraction was performed by shaking on a shaking device (Edmund Bühler GmbH, Hechingen, Germany) for 30 min. The extracts were concentrated to a volume of approximately 1 mL by a gentle stream of nitrogen at 20°C. The extracts were purified by adding 100 mg Envi-carbTM followed by mixing on a Vortex and centrifugation (10 min, 3000 rpm). The final extracts were concentrated to a volume of 100 μ L by a gentle stream of nitrogen at 20°C.

4.2.4. Instrumental analysis and quantification

Ionic PFASs

The extracts were analysed for ionic PFASs by electrospray negative ionization LC-MS/MS as previously described by Van der Veen et al.⁴⁹. Instrumental settings are reported in Table S4-1.3.

Volatile PFASs

Separation and detection of volatile PFASs was carried out by GC/EI-MS (Gas chromatography/ Electron impact-Mass spectrometry) on an Agilent 6890 series GC coupled to a 5973 Network MS (Agilent Technologies, Amstelveen, The Netherlands) equipped with a PTV injector without liner. Separation was performed on a HP-INNOWAX column (30 m x 0.25 mm i.d. x 0.25 µm; Agilent Technologies, Amstelveen, The Netherlands) using the following GC temperature programming: 50°C (held 1 min), ramped at 3°C/min to 130°C (held 10 min), ramped at 20°C/min to 225°C (held 11 min). An injector temperature program was used, with an initial temperature of 50°C (held for 0.1 min), ramped at 5°C/ sec to 150°C (held 10 min), ramped at 3.3°C/sec to 220°C (held 1 min). Injection volume was 1 µL in pulsed splitless mode. Helium was employed as the carrier gas. Quantification was performed against three individual calibration curves (FTOHs, FTACs and FTMAC) consisting out of six calibration solutions (5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 500 ng/mL) for FTACs and FTMACs and eight solution for FTOHs (5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 500, 2500, 5000 ng/mL) in ethylacetate, and against the isotope-labeled ISs D_2 -6:2 FTOH, D_z -6:2 FTAC and D_z -6:2 FTMAC. Instrumental settings are reported in Table S4-1.4. For quantification MSD Chemstation software (E.02.00.493) of Agilent Technologies (Amstelveen, The Netherlands) was used with quadratic curves.

4.2.5. Quality control

Validation of the extraction and analyses method for volatile PFASs

The extraction and analysis method for the volatile PFASs was validated by assessment of the repeatability and the recovery. All textile samples of the repeatability and recovery assessment were extracted and analysed in the same series. For both assessments the same calibration curves were used. To assess the repeatability of the method, two textile samples were extracted in triplicate on the same day. To assess the recovery of the method, those textiles were fortified with volatile PFASs at two different levels (50 and 500 μ g/m²) in triplicate. Calculations of the repeatability and the recovery are given in Chapter S4-3. The relative

standard deviations for the triplicate analyses of the unfortified samples were 5-17% for PFASs. The relative standard deviations of the fortified textile samples were 0-28%. The recoveries were 60-130% (median 100%) for all compounds except 10:2 FTOH (86-159%, median 98%), and 8:2 FTAC (103-146, median 132%).

Carry-over and blank control

Two textile fabrics (polyamide and polyester) without any DWR-treatment were exposed to UV radiation, humidity, and temperature alongside the cloth samples, to determine any possible carry-over in the aging device. No ionic PFASs were detected in the textiles before and after aging. Only 6:2 FTOH was present of the volatile PFASs before aging in both textiles (9.3 and 13 μ g/m²). After aging the concentration of 6:2 FTOH increased with an average of 5 μ g/m², and small amounts of 8:2 FTOH (4 μ g/m²), 10:2 FTOH (4 μ g/m²) and 6:2 FTMAC (2 μ g/m²) were detected, which were subtracted from the final results. Only results higher than three times the amount detected in the blank textiles were reported.

Procedure solvent blanks were analysed alongside the samples and subtracted from the final results. Limits of detection (LODs) of the ionic PFASs were between 0.02 and 0.1 μ g/m², and LODs of the volatile PFASs were 0.3 μ g/m². The limit of quantification (LOQ) was calculated as 3.3 times the LOD. (Chapter S4-3).

Homogeneity testing of PFAAs in textiles from commercial outdoor clothing

Homogeneity tests of PFAAs have been performed on pieces of textile originating from four fabrics of commercial outdoor clothing, which is described in Chapter S4-4 of the SI. Results showed that the homogeneity differs per fabric, but can also differ per piece of the same material, which is shown for PFOA in Figure 4-1.

30 Piece 1 ■ Piece 2 PFOA concentration (μg/m²) 25 ■ Piece 3 ■ Piece 4 20 Piece 5 15 10 5 n=4 n=1 n=3 n=2 n=4 n=6 n=4 n=2 n=4 Fabric No 1. Fabric No 2. Fabric No 3. Fabric No 4.

Mean PFOA concentrations of homogeneity testing

Figure 4-1 Results of homogeneity testing of mean PFOA concentration (+/- 1 sd) (μg/m²) in four fabrics (Fabric No 1 – 4) of commercial outdoor clothing. ('n' represents the number of samples analysed per piece of fabric).

4.3. Results and discussion

4.3.1. Concentrations before weathering

As expected, the fabrics contained a wide range of levels of PFASs with different congener profiles depending on the DWR layer. Tables S4-2.1 and S4-2.2 show the concentrations of ionic PFASs and volatile PFASs in the original samples. Volatile PFASs were present in higher concentrations (median 4.8 μ g/m², max. 350 μ g/m²) than ionic PFASs (median 0.85 μ g/m², max. 45 μ g/m²).

Ionic PFASs

In 77% of the samples at least one of the ionic PFASs was detected. PFHxA and PFOA were the most frequently detected PFAAs above limit of quantification (LOQ) (each detected in 62% of the samples). PFTrDA, PFHpS, FOSA, and 4:2 FTSA were not present above the LOQ in any of the samples. The highest concentration was 45 μ g/m² for PFBS in one of the samples. This sample also contained a high amount of PFBA (28 μ g/m²). For all other PFAAs the concentrations in the unexposed samples ranged from < LOQ to 9.1 μ g/m² for 8:2 FTSA. Those concentrations were in the same range as reported by Gremmel et al.³⁷,

and of Robel et al.⁴⁰. Concentrations of individual PFAAs in 16 outdoor jackets reported by Gremmel et al.³⁷ ranged up to $9.24 \,\mu\text{g/m}^2$, except for one jacket which contained PFOA in a concentration of $171 \,\mu\text{g/m}^2$. The highest concentration of PFAAs reported by Robel et al.⁴⁰ for seven clothing samples was $31 \,\mu\text{g/m}^2$ for PFHxA.

Volatile PFASs

Since volatile PFASs can easily evaporate, concentrations detected in the fabrics in our study might be underestimating the real concentrations present in the fabrics. However, the detected concentrations are in line with the studies of Gremmel et al.³⁷, and of Robel et al.40. The highest concentration quantified for volatile PFASs in our study was 350 µg/ m² for 6:2 FTOH. Gremmel et al.³⁷ reported concentrations up to 516 µg/m² for individual FTOHs. In all of their samples, except one, 8:2 FTOH was detected, which corresponds to the results from our study. It is remarkable though, that in our study all samples except one contained 6:2 FTOH, while in the study of Gremmel et al.³⁷ 6:2 FTOH was only quantifiable in two samples. In the study of Robel et al. 40 6:2 FTOH was detected in four of seven samples. In one of those samples an extremely high concentration (14000 µg/m²) was found. In our study 10:2 FTOH was found in eleven out of thirteen samples and 6:2 FTMAC in nine samples. 8:2 FTMAC and 10:2 FTMAC were not detected at all. 4:2 FTOH was not detected in any of the samples. Due to the high costs of isotope-labeled standards only D₂-6:2 FTOH was used as internal standard for the quantification of 4:2 FTOH, which might have been insufficient to compensate for eventual losses during extraction and analyses due to the volatility of the short-chain 4:2 FTOH.

4.3.2. Effects of weathering

Ionic PFASs

Weathering increased the concentrations of all ionic PFASs in most samples, by 5-fold to more than 100-fold. Three samples did not contain any ionic PFASs before aging. In one of those samples, no ionic PFASs were found after aging, while in another sample after aging two PFAAs (PFHpA, 0.16 μ g/m²; PFNA 0.13 μ g/m²) appeared. In the third sample six different PFAAs appeared with concentrations of 0.1 μ g/m² (PFOA) – 7.1 μ g/m² (PFBA). Tables S4-2.1 and S4.2.2 show all extractable concentrations of ionic PFASs and volatile PFASs in the samples before and after aging, and Figure 4-2 shows four selected samples to illustrate different results. As can be observed, the concentrations of all PFCAs in samples 5 and 6 increased, and the odd-chain length PFASs PFUnDA and PFTrDA appeared. In sample 9 the most abundant ionic PFASs were the compounds with a C4 chain length, PFBA and PFBS, which increased 5 and 8 times, respectively. Sample 13 did not contain any ionic PFASs before aging, while 6 PFASs were detected in the samples after aging. In Figure S4-2.1 the results of all the samples are shown.

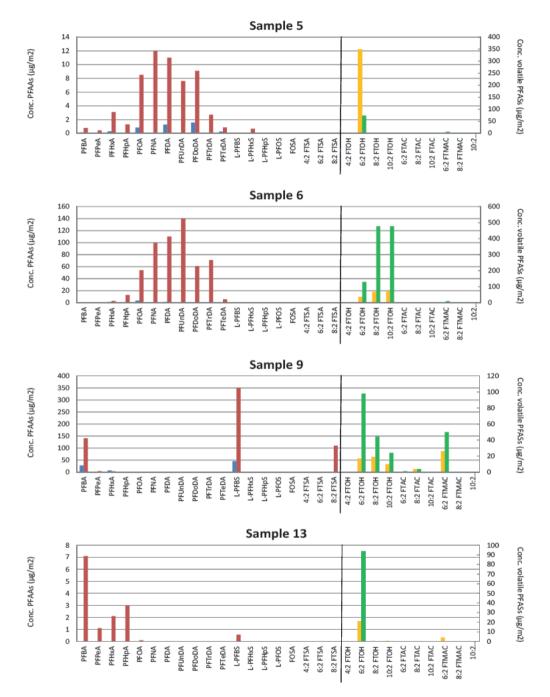


Figure 4-2 PFAS concentrations quantified in four textile samples of outdoor clothing (sample 5, 6, 9 and 13). Concentrations of ionic PFASs (■before; ■after) in μg/m² on the left y-axis. Concentrations of volatile PFASs (■before; ■after) in μg/m² on the right y-axis. The PFAS concentrations in the other textile samples are given in Figure S4-2.1 and Table S4-2.1, and S4-2.2.

Robel et al.⁴⁰ performed a study on the mass balance of PFASs. They analysed 77 individual PFASs in nine textiles and eight papers, and analysed the total amount of organic fluor by particle induced gamma ray emission (PIGE) spectroscopy. After extraction the papers and textiles still contained $64 \pm 28\%$ to $110 \pm 30\%$ of the original concentration, expressed in nmol F/cm². The high non-extractable organic fluor (NEOF) fraction was also described by Koch et al.⁵⁰, and by Schultes et al.⁵¹. Within our study the amount of total organic fluorine was not determined, but it is expected that the textiles before aging also contained NEOF. The increase of PFAAs as an effect of the exposure to weather conditions might be explained by the NEOF, which could have become partially extractable due to weather conditions.

Another explanation for the increase in PFAAs as an effect of the exposure to weather conditions, might be the degradation and transformation of the precursors FTOHs, FTACs, and FTMAC, which are used for the formation of the DWR polymers. The degradation and transformation of FTOHs into PFCAs has been described multiple times⁸, including aerobic biodegradation⁵²⁻⁵⁶, anaerobic biodegradation⁵⁷, metabolic transformation⁵⁸, and atmospheric degradation^{59, 60}. Photodegradation might be the degradation and transformation route when precursors are exposed to weather conditions. Taniyasu et al. 61 tested the influence of solar irradiation on 21 PFASs in test solutions in a field study, and in a laboratory study in which the solutions were irradiated in an UV chamber. Although results of their study indicated photodegradation of PFOA, PFNA, PFDA, PFOS, PFDS, 4:2 FTOH, 6:2 FTOH, and 8:2 FTOH, the conclusions of their study are being questioned, because of the lack of essential experimental details, the lack of plausible transformation mechanisms, and the inconsistency of results⁶². However, the photodegradation of PFAAs in aqueous solutions under special conditions, with PFAAs decomposing slowly to form F-, CO2, and shorter-chain PFCAs, has been described earlier by Hori et al. 63, 64. Also Kongpran et al. 65 performed experiments that showed photodegradation of FTOHs into PFCAs. Since PFCAs in their study were formed at a very slow rate, the authors concluded that 8:2 FTOH did not degrade to PFCAs directly, but first to some intermediate products⁶⁵.

Degradation of the FTOHs, or (part of) the NEOF becoming extractable might not only explain the increase in concentrations of the ionic PFASs in our study, but also the formation of odd-chain length PFASs in some of the samples, which were not present in the original textiles.

Volatile PFASs

If the increase in concentrations of ionic PFASs would only be the result of the transformation of the volatile PFASs into ionic PFASs, it could be expected that the concentrations of volatile PFASs would decrease when exposed to weather conditions.

In contrast with this expectation, the volatile PFASs show an increase in concentrations after aging, by a factor up to 20. No 4:2 FTOH, 8:2 FTMAC and 10:2 FTMAC were formed, while the concentration of 6:2 FTOH increased in all samples except in sample 5 (Figure 4-2, Table S4-2.2). It is possible that sample 5 did not contain any precursors of 6:2 FTOH. However, since in all samples the concentration of 6:2 FTOH increased by a factor of 2.4-16, the decrease in sample 5 might possibly be due to inhomogeneity of the textile (section 4.2.5). Confirmation of this hypothesis was not possible since there was not enough material to perform homogeneity tests on the commercial textile samples, which were used for the aging experiments.

Although concentrations of volatile PFASs could be underestimated due to off-gassing during storage (section 3.1.2), the differences between the concentrations before and after aging could not be explained by this, since all samples were stored at the same temperature, and analysed in the same series.

In the study of Robel et al.⁴⁰ where 77 individual PFASs were quantified in paper and textiles, the analyses of the total amount of organic fluor by PIGE spectroscopy showed that only 0-2.2% of the total amount of organic fluor was explained by the analysed volatile PFASs, and only 0-0.41% by the analysed ionic PFASs. The remaining organic fluor in the study of Robel et al.⁴⁰ might be in the fluorotelomer based polymers (FTPs). Since nowadays more than 2,000 different PFASs are present on the market⁶⁶, part of the remaining organic fluor might also be non-polymeric PFASs that were not included in the analysis. In our study, only 29 individual PFASs were analysed. It is likely that more non-polymeric PFASs were present in the unexposed samples. Possibly, some of the PFASs that were not analysed in this study could have been degraded or transformed into the volatile PFASs, analysed in our study. It cannot be ruled out that more volatile PFASs were formed and emitted to the air, or to the spray water. Further research with e.g. total organic fluorine analyses, and total oxidizable precursor (TOP) assays⁶⁷ is needed to complete the balance on PFASs present before and after weathering.

Another explanation for the increase in the concentrations of volatile PFASs as an effect of the exposure to weather conditions might come from the FTPs. DWR chemistries of outdoor clothing are not based on the individual volatile PFASs, like alcohols and acrylates, but are based on side-chain fluorinated polymers⁹. FTPs can degrade to FTOHs and FTACs in the environment⁶⁸. This was also demonstrated by Washington et al.⁶⁹. They reported degradation of two commercial acrylate-linked FTPs in soil and water and monitored 71 analytes. Fifty of those were detected in the final samples, which made the authors conclude that commercial FTPs can degrade under environmental conditions at levels that are detectable. Additional experiments performed by Washington et al.⁶⁹ suggested hydrolysis of the ester linkage of the FTP as

a degradation mechanism, and a follow-up study showed not only an increase of FTOH concentrations, but also of PFCAs ⁷⁰. The half-lives reported by Washington and Jenkins were 55 years for 8:2 FTOH and 89 years for 10:2 FTOH at 25°C ⁷⁰. Considering the black standard temperature (Table 4-2) during aging in our study was 65°C, it is expected that the half-lives in our study would be much shorter ⁷¹. Based on the studies of Li et al.⁶⁸, Washington et al.⁶⁹, and Washington and Jenskins⁷⁰ not only the increase in the concentrations of volatile PFASs in our study may be explained by the degradation of the DWR polymers themselves, or by hydrolysis of the FTPs, but also the increase of ionic PFASs could be explained by hydrolysis of the FTPs.

Finally, the increase of the volatile PFAS concentrations might also be explained by the NEOF becoming extractable under influence of weather conditions, as described in section 4.3.2.

An overview of potential degradation/transformation pathways of PFASs used in the DWR layer of textiles is shown in Figure 4-3. More research is needed to reveal or confirm the processes which are responsible for the increase in concentration of the analysed PFASs.

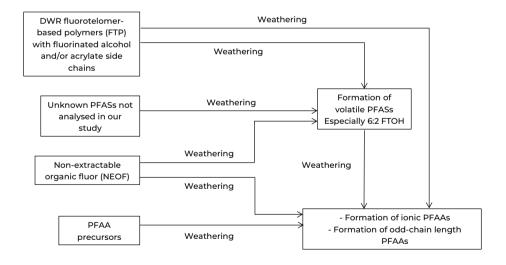


Figure 4-3 Potential degradation pathways of weathering of PFASs used in the DWR layer of textiles.

4.3.3. Implications of weathering

For PFOS and PFOA a content limit is set by the European Commission for products like textiles for outdoor clothing. According to the restriction of PFOS by the European commission in 2006 18 , its concentration in coated materials should be lower than 1 µg/m². One of the textiles of our study (Sample No.2) exceeded this limit before weathering, but after aging PFOS was not detected anymore. The EU regulation for PFOA¹9 states that, starting 4 July 2023, PFOA and PFOA-related substances shall not be used or placed on the market in textiles used for protective clothing in a concentration equal to or above 25 µg/kg 72 . The original textile products used in this study all fulfilled this criterion for PFOA, but after aging two of the tested fabrics exceeded this limit, with PFOA concentrations of 47 and 170 µg/kg. This means that setting a limit only for PFOA and related substances may not be sufficient to ensure safety. Instead of regulating only PFOA and related substances, all possible precursors of PFOA, including the FTP, should be taken into account when setting criteria.

The leaching of PFASs out of textiles, but also the increase in concentrations of PFOA and other PFASs due to weather conditions might not only have an environmental impact. The use in outdoor clothing may also form a direct exposure route to humans, since there is dermal contact with the textiles. Franko et al.⁷³ showed in an in vitro study that PFOA can penetrate the human skin. As much as 24% of the applied PFOA dose penetrated the complete skin, and 46% was found in the skin. In an *in vivo* study of mice, Franko et al.⁷³ also showed that dermal exposure to PFOA caused an increase in PFOA levels in serum. The dermal absorption of PFASs from dust was estimated by Su et al.⁷⁴. They determined an estimated daily intake (EDI) of 0.04-1.79 ng PFOA /kg bw/d for dermal absorption, depending on age. Combining the findings in our study and the dermal uptake determined by Franko et al.⁷³ a worst case scenario could be calculated for the dermal exposure of humans to PFOA when wearing outdoor clothing.

In our study the highest PFOA concentration detected after aging was $54 \,\mu g/m^2$ (170 $\,\mu g/kg$). Assuming an average outdoor jacket would consist of approximately 2 $\,m^2$ fabric, would result in an absolute amount of 108 $\,\mu g$ PFOA in the jacket. In a worst case scenario, a person would be having direct skin contact with the entire fabric of the jacket and all PFOA would be leaching out of the jacket. With 24% of the PFOA penetrating through the skin 73 , by wearing this outdoor jacket a person could absorb a maximum of $26 \,\mu g$ PFOA, or ca. $0.4 \,\mu g/kg$ for a person of 70 kg. This is most likely an overestimation as the concentration of leachable PFOA was determined by extracting the material with methanol, whereas leaching of PFOA from the textile in contact with the skin will be much slower.

The health-based safety value for human derived by the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) is 89 ng/mL PFOA in serum corresponding to 267 μ g PFOA in an adult with approximately 3 L serum. The maximum up-take of 26 μ g PFOA from wearing the outdoor jacket calculated here would correspond to 10% of this safety limit. Although it is unlikely that a human will be exposed to the total amount of PFOA present in a jacket, and this worst case scenario is also based on the total life time of the jacket, further research is warranted to determine the importance of this possible exposure pathway of PFOA for humans.

4.4. Conclusion

Weather conditions like sunlight, high temperature, or humidity can have an effect on the congener profile and concentrations of PFASs in DWR-treated outdoor clothing. In most samples the PFAA concentrations increased and PFAAs not present in the original textiles were formed during weathering. A possible explanation is degradation of the fluorotelomer alcohols to the PFAAs, or hydrolysis of the FTPs. The concentrations of volatile PFASs also increased. Degradation of the DWR polymers is suggested as one of the possible explanations for this phenomenon. Other possibilities would be non-extractable organic fluor becoming extractable, or unknown precursors degrading or transforming to the analysed volatile PFASs. Further research is needed to unravel the details of these processes and to determine the transformation routes. Total organic fluorine analyses, and TOP assays are suggested to complete the balance on PFASs present before and after weathering. This study shows that setting maximum tolerance limits for a few PFASs alone is not sufficient to control these harmful substances in outdoor clothing.

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Supporting Information

S4-1. PFAS analysis of samples

The data in the Tables S4-1.1 and S4-1.2 show the general information of the compounds analysed in this study. In Table S41.1 the PFAAs are given and in Table S4-1.2 the volatile PFASs are shown. In the Tables S4-1.3 and S4-1.4 the instrumental settings for the analyses are given.

Table S4-1.1 Full names, acronyms, chemical formula and CAS numbers of PFAAs analysed in this study and their isotope-labeled ISs.

Compounds	Abbreviation	Formula	CAS No.
Perfluorobutanoic acid	PFBA	C ₃ F ₇ COOH	375-22-4
Perfluoropentanoic acid	PFPeA	C ₄ F ₉ COOH	2706-90-3
Perfluorohexanoic acid	PFHxA	C ₅ F ₁₁ COOH	307-24-4
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	PFHpA	C ₆ F ₁₃ COOH	375-85-9
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	C ₇ F ₁₅ COOH	335-67-1
Perfluorononanoic acid	PFNA	C ₈ F ₁₇ COOH	375-95-1
Perfluorodecanoic acid	PFDA	C ₉ F ₁₉ COOH	335-76-2
Perfluoroundecanoic acid	PFUnDA	C ₁₀ F ₂₁ COOH	2058-94-8
Perfluorododecanoic acid	PFDoDA	C ₁₁ F ₂₃ COOH	307-55-1
Perfluorotridecanoic acid	PFTrDA	C ₁₂ F ₂₅ COOH	72629-94-8
Perfluorotetra decanoic acid	PFTeDA	C ₁₃ F ₂₇ COOH	376-06-7
Perfluorobutane sulfonate anion	PFBS	C ₄ F ₉ SO ₃	45187-15-3
Perfluorohexane sulfonate anion	PFHxS	C ₆ F ₁₃ SO ₃	108427-53-8
Perfluoroheptane sulfonate anion	PFHpS	C ₇ F ₁₅ SO ₃	375-92-8
Perfluorooctane sulfonate anion	PFOS	C ₈ F ₁₇ SO ₃	45298-90-6
Perfluorooctane sulfonamide	FOSA	C ₈ F ₁₇ SO ₂ NH ₂	754-91-6
4:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid	4:2 FTSA	C ₄ F ₉ CH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₃ H	757124-72-4
6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid	6:2 FTSA	C ₆ F ₁₃ CH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₃ H	27619-97-2
8:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid	8:2 FTSA	C ₈ F ₁₇ CH ₂ CH ₂ SO ₃ H	39108-34-4
Isotope-Labeled PFAAs			
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4-13C4]butanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFBA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4,5- ¹³ C ₅]pentanoic acid	¹³ C ₅ -PFPeA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]hexanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFHxA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4-13C ₄]heptanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFHpA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4-13C ₄]octanoic acid	¹³ C ₄ -PFOA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2,3,4,5-13C ₅]nonanoic acid	¹³ C ₅ -PFNA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]decanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFDA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C ₂]undecanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA		na
Perfluoro-n-[1,2-13C2]dodecanoic acid	¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA		na
Perfluoro-1-hexane[18O ₂]sulfonate anion	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS		na
Perfluoro-1-[1,2,3,4-13C ₄]octane sulfonate anion	¹³ C ₄ -PFOS		na
Perfluoro-1-[13C ₈]octane sulfonamide	¹³ C ₈ -FOSA		na
¹³ C ₂ 6:2 Fluorotelomer sulfonic acid	¹³ C ₂ -6:2 FTSA		na

na = not available

Table S4-1.2 Full names, acronyms, chemical formula and CAS numbers of volatile PFASs analysed in this study and their isotope-labeled ISs.

Compounds	Abbreviation	Formula	CAS No.
4:2-Fluorotelomer alcohol	4:2 FTOH	C ₄ F ₉ CH ₂ CH ₂ OH	2043-47-2
6:2-Fluorotelomer alcohol	6:2 FTOH	C ₆ F ₁₃ CH ₂ CH ₂ OH	647-42-7
8:2-Fluorotelomer alcohol	8:2 FTOH	C ₈ F ₁₇ CH ₂ CH ₂ OH	678-39-7
10:2-Fluorotelomer alcohol	10:2 FTOH	$C_{10}F_{21}CH_2CH_2OH$	865-86-1
6:2 Fluorotelomer acrylate	6:2 FTAC	C ₆ F ₁₃ CH ₂ CH ₂ OC(O)CH=CH ₂	17527-29-6
8:2 Fluorotelomer acrylate	8:2 FTAC	C ₈ F ₁₇ CH ₂ CH ₂ OC(O)CH=CH ₂	27905-45-9
10:2 Fluorotelomer acrylate	10:2 FTAC	$C_{10}F_{21}CH_2CH_2OC(O)CH=CH_2$	17741-60-5
6:2 Fluorotelomer methacrylate	6:2 FTMAC	$C_6F_{13}CH_2CH_2OC(O)C(CH_3)=CH_2$	2144-53-8
8:2 Fluorotelomer methacrylate	8:2 FTMAC	$C_8F_{17}CH_2CH_2OC(O)C(CH_3)=CH_2$	1996-88-9
10:2 Fluorotelomer methacrylate	10:2 FTMAC	$C_{10}F_{21}CH_2CH_2OC(O)C(CH_3)=CH_2$	2144-54-9
Isotope-Labeled volatile PFASs			
6:2 Fluorotelomer alcohol-D2	D ₂ -6:2 FTOH		na
6:2 Fluorotelomer acrylate-D3	D ₃ -6:2 FTAC		na
6:2 Fluorotelomer methacrylate-D5	D _s -6:2 FTMAC		na

na = not available

 Table S4-1.3
 Instrumental settings for PFAAs and FOSA analyses.

Abbreviation	MS/MS mass transition (m/z-> m/z)	Fragmentor voltage (V)	Collision energy (V)	Ionization mode	Isotope-labeled standard
PFBA	213.0 → 169.0	60	3	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFBA
PFPeA	263.0 → 219.0	60	3	Negative	¹³ C ₅ -PFPeA
PFHxA	313.0 → 269.0	80	3	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFHxA
PFHpA	363.1 → 319.0	80	4	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFHpA
PFOA	413.0 → 369.0	80	4	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFOA
PFNA	463.0 → 419.0	100	5	Negative	¹³ C ₅ -PFNA
PFDA	513.0 → 468.9	100	5	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDA
PFUnDA	562.9 → 518.9	100	6	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA
PFDoDA	613.0 → 568.9	100	7	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA
PFTrDA	663.0 → 618.9	100	7	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFUnDA
PFTeDA	712.9 → 668.9	120	4	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -PFDoDA
PFBS	299.0 → 80.0	150	35	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFHxS	399.0 → 80.0	200	48	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFHpS	449.0 → 80.0	150	45	Negative	¹⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS
PFOS	499.0 → 80.0	200	48	Negative	¹³ C ₄ -PFOS
FOSA	498.1 → 78.0	200	35	Negative	¹³ C ₈ -FOSA
4:2 FTSA	327.0 → 307.0	127	20	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -6:2 FTSA
6:2 FTSA	427.0 → 407.0	150	25	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -6:2 FTSA
8:2 FTSA	527.0 → 506.9	157	28	Negative	¹³ C ₂ -6:2 FTSA
³C ₄ -PFBA	217.0 → 172.0	60	3	Negative	
³ C _s -PFPeA	268.0 → 222.9	60	3	Negative	
³ C ₂ -PFHxA	315.0 → 270.0	80	3	Negative	
³C ₄ -PFHpA	367.0 → 321.9	80	4	Negative	
3C ₄ -PFOA	416.9 → 371.9	80	4	Negative	
3C ₅ -PFNA	468.0 → 423.0	100	5	Negative	
3C ₂ -PFDA	515.0 → 470.0	100	5	Negative	
³ C ₂ -PFUnDA	565.0 → 520.0	100	6	Negative	
C ₂ -PFDoDA	615.0 → 569.9	100	7	Negative	
⁸ O ₂ -PFHxS	403.0 → 84	200	48	Negative	
³C ₄ -PFOS	503.0 → 80	200	48	Negative	
¹³ C ₈ -FOSA	506.1 → 78	200	35	Negative	
³C₂-6:2 FTSA	429.0 → 408.9	150	25	Negative	

 Table S4-1.4
 Instrumental settings for volatile PFASs analysed.

Abbreviation	Target ion	Qualifier ion
4:2 FTOH	244.0	263.1
6:2 FTOH	344.1	295.1
8:2 FTOH	405.1	463.1
10:2 FTOH	505.1	563.1
6:2 FTAC	418.1	327.0
8:2 FTAC	518.1	427.1
10:2 FTAC	618.1	527.1
6:2 FTMAC	432.2	327.0
8:2 FTMAC	532.0	427.1
10:2 FTMAC	632.0	527.1
D ₂ -6:2 FTOH	346.1	314.1
D ₃ -6:2 FTAC	421.1	420.3
D _s -6:2 FTMAC	437.1	438.2

S4-2. PFAS concentrations

PFAS concentrations are quantified in thirteen textiles of outdoor clothing before and after the textiles have been exposed to radiation, humidity, and temperature in an aging device for 300 h. In Table S4-2.1 the PFAA concentrations before and after exposure are given and in Table S4-2.2 the concentrations of volatile PFASs are shown. In Figure S4-2.1 those concentrations are graphically presented as well.

Table S4-2.1 PFAA concentrations quantified in thirteen textile samples of outdoor clothing before and after aging (µg/m²)*.

Sample No.	aging PFBA	PFPeA	PFHxA	PFHpA	PFOA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUnDA	PFDoDA	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	L-PFBS	L-PFHxS L-PFH	PFUnDA PFDoDA PFTrDA PFTeDA L-PFBS L-PFHXS L-PFHpS L-PFOS FOSA	4:2 FTSA 6:2 FTSA 8:2 FTSA	8:2 FTSA
_	before				LL,O											
	after				0,28	1,3	0,27	69'0								
2	before		1,3	0,07	2,9	0,05	0,10						68'0	3,24	0,03	
	after 0,67		4,1	2,1	0,22	0,14	0,17									
2	before															
	after			91,0		0,13										
4	before				0,03											
	after				90'0		0,07									
2	before 0,14		0,31	0,08	0,84	80'0	1,3		9'1		0,26		וו'ס			
	after 0,79	0,42	3,1	1,3	8,5	12	=	2,6	1,6	2,7	0,88		0,68			
9	before 0,17		1,2	0,38	3,8	0,29	1,5	0,14	0,47		0,12			01,0		0,03
	after 0,57	0,56	2,8	13	54	100	110	140	[9	7	2,7			11,0		0,17
7	before															
	after															
ω	before		1,2	0,89	0,46	1,1	0,85	61,0								
	after	1,2	6,9	8,0	4,5	3,5	9'1									
0	before 28	0,97	6,4	0,88	0,35							45				1,3
	after 140	3,4	2,8	6,1	0,23	0,63	0,55	0,94	0,52	94'0	61,0	350			1,8	011
10	before 6,5	0,29	1,3	0,40								9'6				
	after 190	27	25	32	0,32	0,15	0,13					130			L,O	0,13
F	before 21	1,0	6,4	ľ.ľ	0,42		0,27					43				Г,е
	after 54	2,8	2,0	1,6	0,26	0,49	0,42	0,81	0,25	0,27		140			1,8	300
12	before 3,2		0,79													
	after 22	F	33	91	65'0	LL,O	91,0					1,7		92'0		0,28
13	before															
	after 7,1	[-	L,2	3,0	01,0							0,57	A Z			

* Empty cells are non-detects

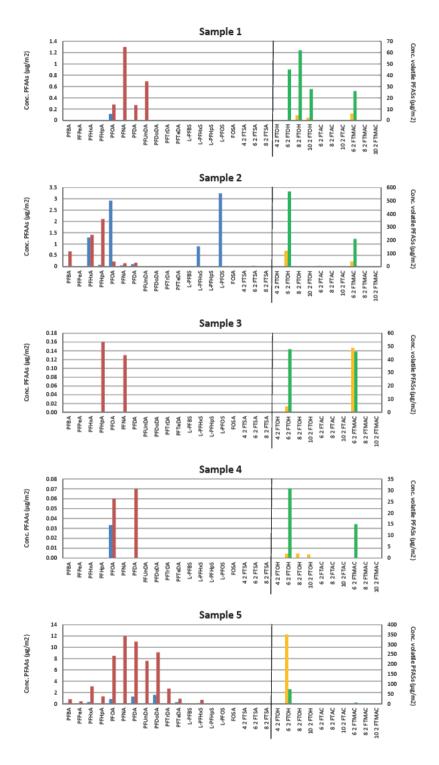
Table S4-2.2 Volatile PFAS concentrations quantified in thirteen textile samples of outdoor clothing before and after aging $(\mu g/m^2)^*$.

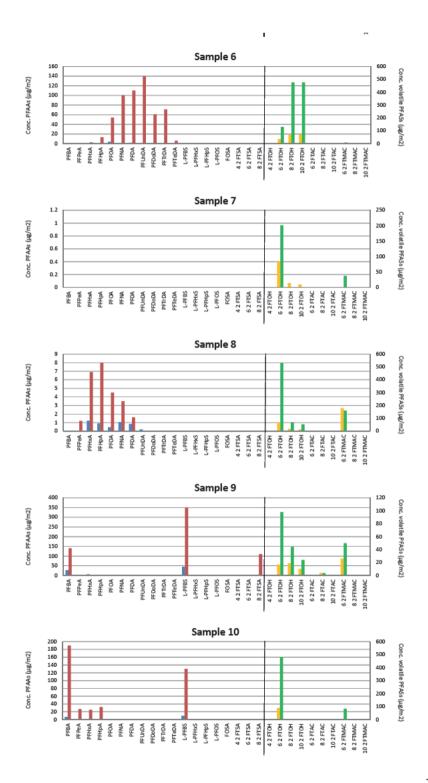
1 before 4,6 2,2 36 60 3 after 45 62 28 60 26 3 after 13 6 30 20 20 3 before 15 0.20 1,5 4,6 4,9 4,9 4,9 4 before 1,9 2,0 1,6 1,6 4,9<	Sample No.	aging	4:2 FTOH	6:2 FTOH	8:2 FTOH	10:2 FTOH	6:2 FTAC	8:2 FTAC	10:2 FTAC	6:2 FTMAC	8:2 FTMAC	10:2 FTMAC
after 45 62 28 after 120 1,3 6 after 4,5 0,12 0,38 8 before 4,8 2,0 1,6 8 before 350 73 8 1,6 after 37 69 73 2,1 before 68 1,4 9,7 1,2 before 68 1,4 3,7 4,4 before 20 2,4 1,0 3,9 after 480 2,4 1,0 3,7 0,67 before 68 2,4 2,7 1,4 2,1 before 58 2,0 3,3 1,3 3,1 before 68 2,2 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 28 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 350 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 37 3,2 3,2		before			4,6	2,2				0,9		
before 120 1,3 6 after 4,5 0,12 0,38 after 4,8 1,9 2,0 1,6 before 1,9 2,0 1,6 2,1 before 350 4,7 4,7 2,1 before 130 4,7 4,7 2,1 before 202 1,4 3,7 0,67 before 202 1,4 3,7 0,67 before 20 2,4 2,7 1,4 0,54 after 480 2,4 1,0 3,7 0,67 before 5,8 2,0 1,8 2,5 2,1 before 480 2,5 1,9 1,4 2,6 before 48 2,5 1,9 1,4 2,6 before 48 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 2,6		after		45	62	28				26		
after 4/5 0/12 0/38 Residue Applies Applies <td>2</td> <td>before</td> <td></td> <td>120</td> <td>1,3</td> <td></td> <td>9</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>39</td> <td></td> <td></td>	2	before		120	1,3		9			39		
before 4,5 0,12 0,38 after 1,9 2,0 1,6 after 31 2,0 1,6 before 350 7 2,0 2,0 after 37 69 73 2,1 before 85 1,4 9,7 2,1 after 202 1,4 9,7 2,1 before 68 18 1,4 3,9 after 98 4,4 2,4 1,0 3,9 before 17 19 10 3,9 2,1 after 24 2,4 2,4 3,7 4,4 before 2,6 1,9 3,7 4,4 2,7 4,4 2,2 2,2 2,1 after 68 2,4 2,7 1,4 2,5 3,5 1,4 2,6 3,1 before 2,8 2,0 1,8 2,2 2,2 2,2 2,2 3,2		after		570						210		
after 48 1,9 2,0 1,6 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,7 1,4 1,7 1,4 <td>3</td> <td>before</td> <td></td> <td>4,5</td> <td>0,12</td> <td>0,38</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>64</td> <td></td> <td></td>	3	before		4,5	0,12	0,38				64		
before 1,9 2,0 1,6 after 350 73 8 before 37 69 73 2,1 before 85 14 9,7 477 before 68 14 9,7 8 after 202 14 9,7 8 before 68 18 14 3,9 14 before 69 2,4 2,7 1,0 3,9 6,6 before 90 2,4 2,7 1,4 1,4 1,0 3,9 1,1 before 90 2,4 2,7 1,2 3,9 2,1 before 68 2,6 1,0 3,7 1,4 2,6 before 68 2,6 1,3 2,6 3,2 1,3 3,6 before 68 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 2,6 before 21 3,3 1,9 1,9 <t< td=""><td></td><td>after</td><td></td><td>48</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>46</td><td></td><td></td></t<>		after		48						46		
after 350 after 74 477 477 21 before 85 14 9,7 21 before 85 14 9,7 8 before 68 18 14 9,7 8 before 68 18 14 24 10 3,9 before 17 19 10 3,9 14 before 24 24 1,0 3,7 0,67 before 480 2,7 1,2 1,4 1,4 before 58 2,0 1,8 2,2 0,54 before 48 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,59 2,2 0,54 before 21 0,59 2,2 0,54 before	4	before		6,1	2,0	1,6						
before 350 after 74 477 477 2,1 before 85 14 9,7 2,1 before 68 18 14 3,7 before 530 69 54 3,9 before 17 19 10 3,9 6,6 before 90 2,4 2,4 1,4 1,4 6,7 before 90 2,4 2,7 1,4		after		31						15		
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before 90 2,4 2,7 1,4 after 480 2,0 1,8 2,2 2,1 before 48 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 after 350 35 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,1 after 93 1,2 1,2		after		86	44	24	1,0	3,7	0,67	20		
after 480 2,0 1,8 2,2 2,1 after 68 2,5 3,3 2,6 0,54 before 48 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,9 1,1 after 93	10	before		06	2,4	2,7		7,4		4,1		
before 5,8 2,0 1,8 2,2 0,54 after 68 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 25 3,5 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,3 after 93 1,3 1,3		after		480				2	1,2	84		
after 68 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 before 350 1,3 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,3 after 93 1,3 1,3	F	before		2,8	2,0	1,8		2,2	0,54	10		
before 48 2,5 3,3 1,9 1,1 after 350 0,39 0,53 1,9 1,1 before 21 0,39 0,53 1,1 1,9 1,1 after 93 1,53 1,1 1,9 1,1 1,1		after		89				2,6		16		
after 350 before 21 0,39 0,53 after 93 0,39 0,53	12	before		48	2,5	3,3		6,1	L'L	2,0		
before 21 0,39 0,53 after 93		after		350						37		
	13	before		21	62'0	0,53				1,4		
		after		93								

* Empty cells are non-detects

Table S4-2.3 Recoveries of internal standards spiked to the textile samples (%).

	³C₄ PFBA	³C _s PFPeA	C ₂ PFHxA	³C₄ PFHpA	³C₄ PFOA	³C ₅ PFNA	3C2 PFDA	³C2 PFUnDA	C ₂ PFDoDA	80 ₂ PFHxS	³C₄ PFOS	³C ₈ FOSA	3C2 6:2 FTSA	D ₂ -6:2 FTOH D ₃ -6:2 FTAC		D ₅ -6:2 FTM AC
яi	13	71	20	24	27	34	32 1	L 61	, 91	40		01	49	30	26	31
max	116	130	. 811	148	203	158	166	131	155		. 821	, 501		173	150	187
median '	72	84	98		001	95	17	28 2	46 8	81		29	3 651	69	55	61





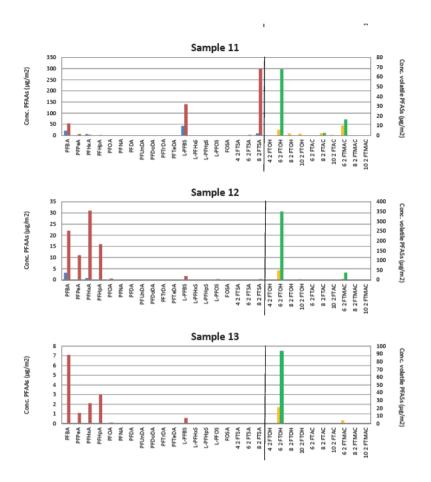


Figure S4-2.1 PFAS concentrations quantified in thirteen textile samples of outdoor clothing. Concentrations of ionic PFASs (\blacksquare before; \blacksquare after) in μ g/m² on the left y-axis. Concentrations of volatile PFASs (\blacksquare before; \blacksquare after) in μ g/m² on the right y-axis.

S4-3. Quality control

Recovery

To assess the recovery of the method, two textile samples were fortified with volatile PFASs at two different levels (50 and 500 $\mu g/m^2$) in triplicate. The unfortified textile samples (in triplicate), and the fortified textiles were extracted and analysed for the concentration of volatile PFASs. Calculation of the recovery of the volatile PFASs is given in Equation 1:

```
Equation 1: Recovery= (C<sub>r</sub> - C<sub>ur</sub>)/C<sub>a</sub>* 100 %

C<sub>r</sub> = Mean PFAS concentration of fortified textile samples (μg/m²)

C<sub>ur</sub> = Mean PFAS concentration of unfortified textile samples (μg/m²)

C<sub>a</sub> = Added PFAS concentration (μg/m²)
```

Repeatability

The unfortified, and fortified textile samples of the recovery assessment were extracted and analyzed in triplicate for the concentration of volatile PFASs. Repeatabilities were given as the relative standard deviation (RSD) of the results of the triplicate analyses as calculated in Equation 2:

```
Equation 2: RSD = st.dev./mean * 100 %
RSD = Relative standard deviation
St.dev. = Standard deviation
```

LOD/LOQ

The limit of detection (LOD) was calculated per compound per sample as three times the noise divided by the sample intake and corrected for the recovery of the internal standard as given in Equation 3:

```
Equation 3: LOD = (3 * N/rec )/X

LOD = Limit of detection (μg/m²)

N = noise (μg)

Rec = recovery

X = sample intake (m²)
```

The limit of quantification (LOQ) was calculated as 3.3 times the LOD.

S4-4. Homogeneity of PFASs in commercial textiles

Homogeneity tests of PFAAs have been performed on pieces of textiles originating from four fabrics of commercial outdoor clothing. Results showed that the homogeneity differs per fabric, but can also differ per piece of the same fabric.

Fabric No.1 and No.2 consisted each out of two pieces, which is shown in Figures S4-4.1 and S4-4.3. Fabric No.3 consisted of one piece of textile (Figure S4-4.5), and Fabric No.4 consisted of 5 pieces of textile (Figure S4-4.7), each originating from the same fabric of outdoor clothing. The numbers in the picture represent the positions of which the samples for the homogeneity tests have been taken. The results of the homogeneity testing are shown in Figures S4-4.2, S4-4.4, S4-4.6 and S4-4.8.

Fabric No. 1

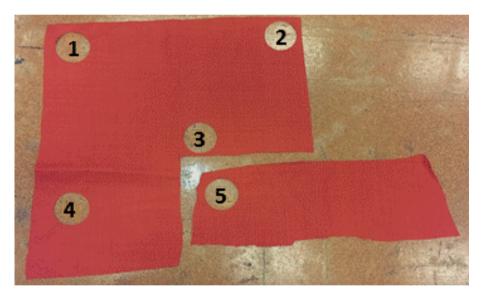


Figure S4-4.1 Picture of Fabric No. 1. The numbers 1-5 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

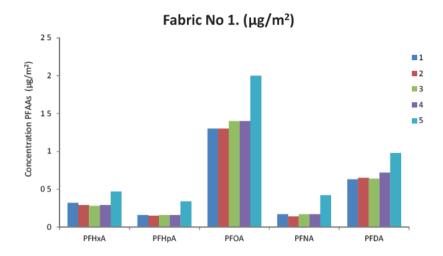


Figure S4-4.2 PFAA concentrations (μg/m²) of Fabric No.1. The numbers 1-5 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

Of Fabric No.1. four samples were analysed out of the first piece and one sample out of the second piece (Figure S4-4.1). The relative standard deviations (RSDs) for the individual PFASs over all samples were 20-54%, with a maximum of a factor 3 between the lowest and highest concentration quantified for an individual PFAS congener. Excluding the second piece of Fabric No.1 (i.e. sample 5) results in RSDs of 3.2-9.2%, and a maximum factor difference of 1.2 between the lowest and highest concentration. Out of this it can be concluded that even though samples out of one piece of fabric can show a certain amount of homogeneity, there can be an inhomogeneity between pieces of fabric, which originate from the same outdoor clothing.

Fabric No. 2

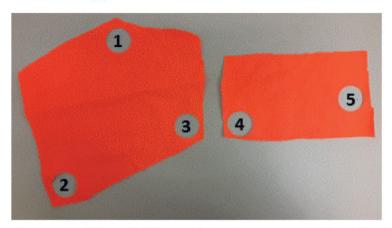


Figure S4-4.3 Picture of Fabric No. 2. The numbers 1-5 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

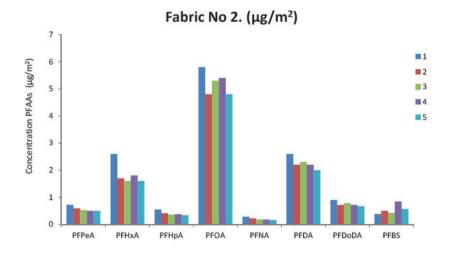


Figure S4-4.4 PFAA concentrations (μ g/m²) of Fabric No.2. The numbers 1-5 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

Of Fabric No.2. three samples were analysed out of the first piece and two sample out of the second piece (Figure S4-4.3). The RSDs for the individual PFASs over all samples were 8-33%, with a maximum of a factor 2.2 between the lowest and highest concentration quantified for an individual PFAS congener.

Fabric No. <u>3</u>

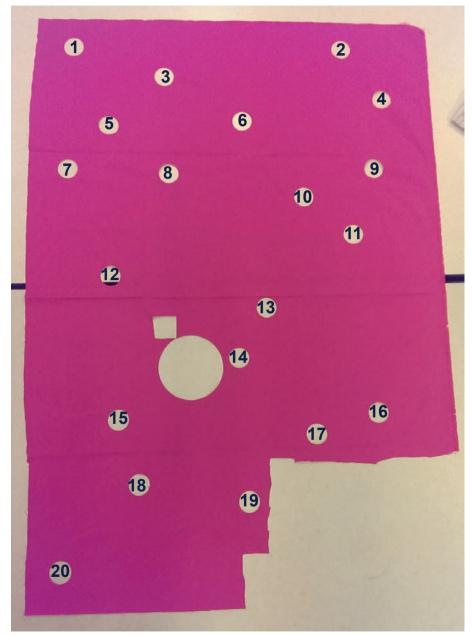


Figure S4-4.5 Picture of Fabric No. 3. The numbers 1-20 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

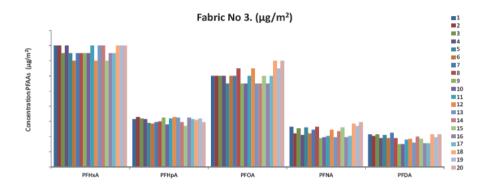


Figure S4-4.6 PFAA concentrations (μ g/m²) of Fabric No.3. The numbers 1-20 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

Of Fabric No.3 a bigger piece of textile was available (Figure S4-4.5). Twenty samples were analyses, resulting in RSDs of 4.8-14% for PFASs present > LOQ, with a maximum factor difference of 1.6 between the lowest and highest concentration quantified for an individual PFAS congener.

Fabric No. 4

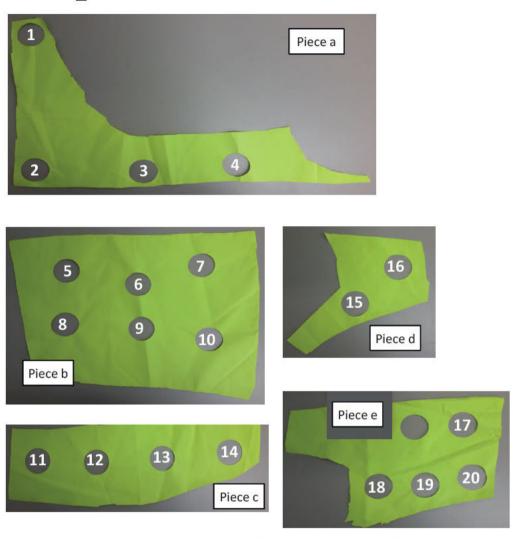


Figure S4-4.7 Picture of Fabric No. 4. The numbers 1-20 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

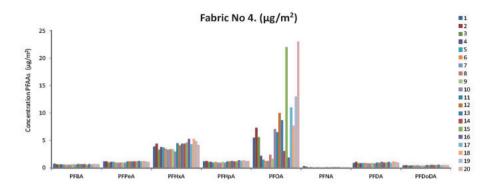


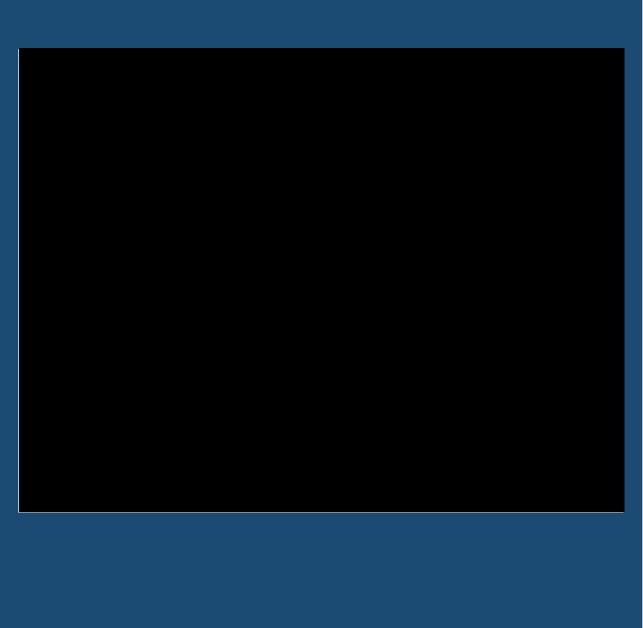
Figure S4-4.8 PFAA concentrations (μ g/m²) of Fabric No.4. The numbers 1-20 represent the positions of which the samples are taken for homogeneity testing.

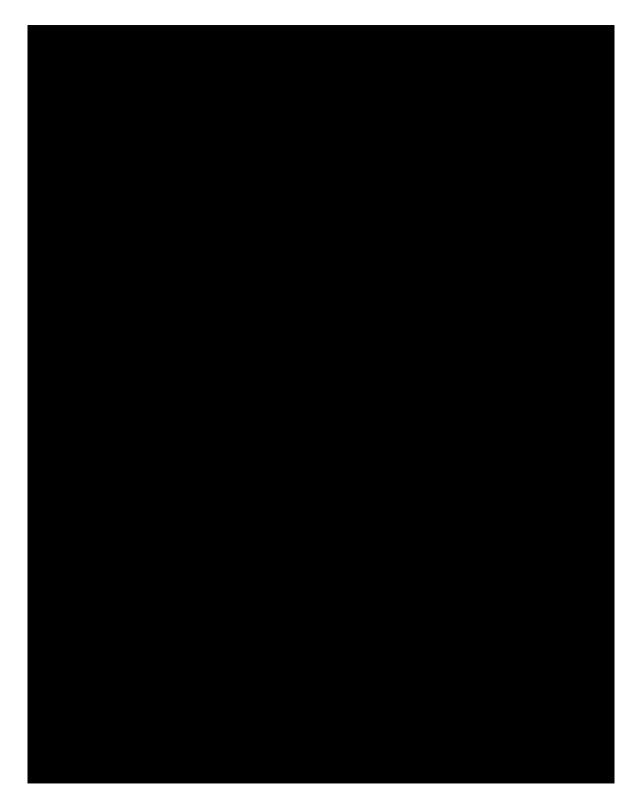
Five pieces were available of Fabric No.4 (Figure S4-4.7), of which 20 samples were taken in total. The fabric appeared to be inhomogeneous for especially PFOA and PFNA with RSDs of 88 and 44% respectively. Concentrations of PFOA in this fabric ranged between 1.3 and 23 μ g/m² and concentration of PFNA ranged from 0.09- 0.35 μ g/m². For this fabric not only between the five pieces inhomogeneity was shown, but also within the pieces. For example, PFOA concentrations in Piece d (Figure S4-4.7) were 22 μ g/m² for sample 15 and 1.9 μ g/m² for sample 16.

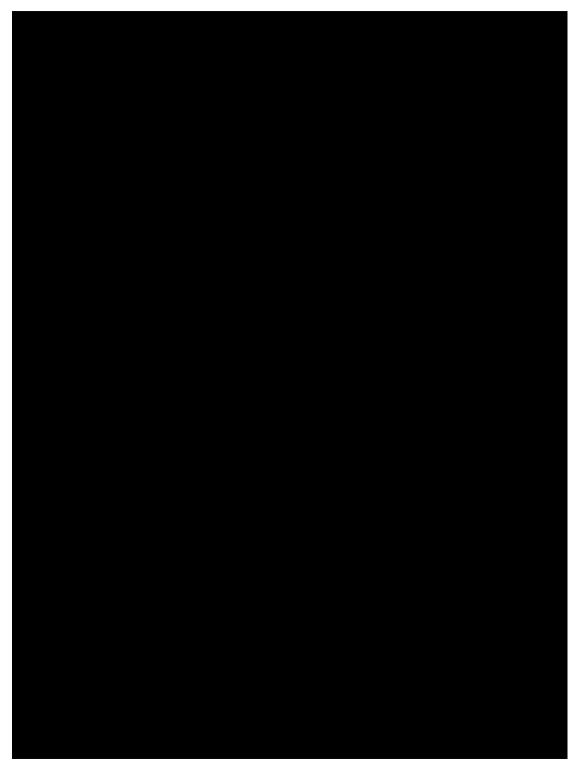
Chapter



The fate of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) from durable water repellent (DWR) clothing during use



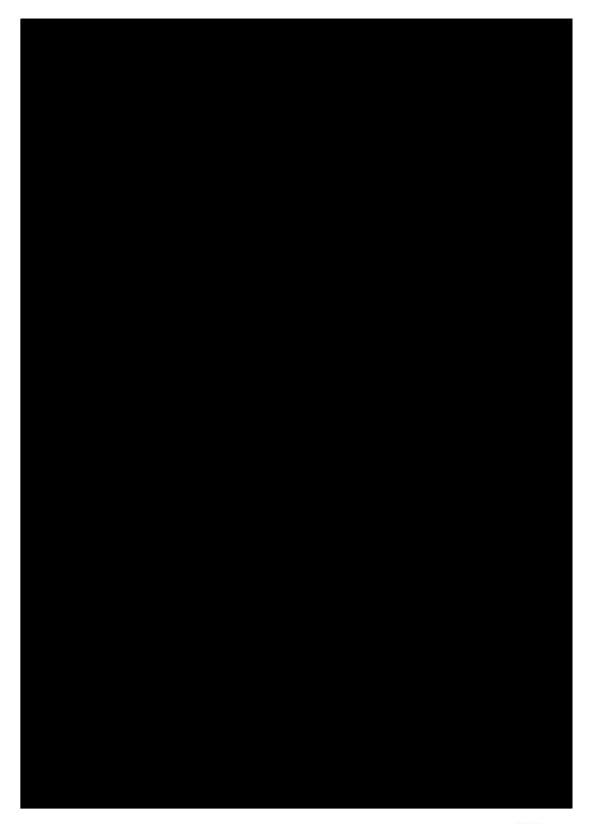




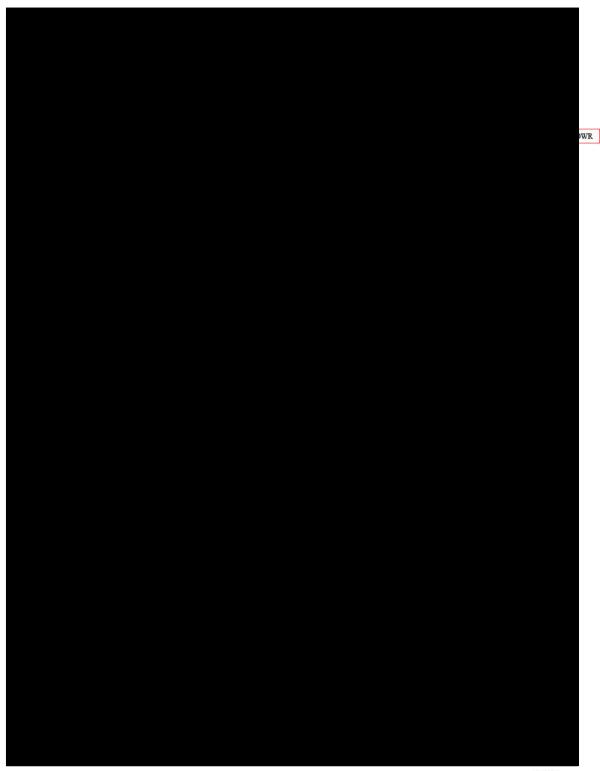


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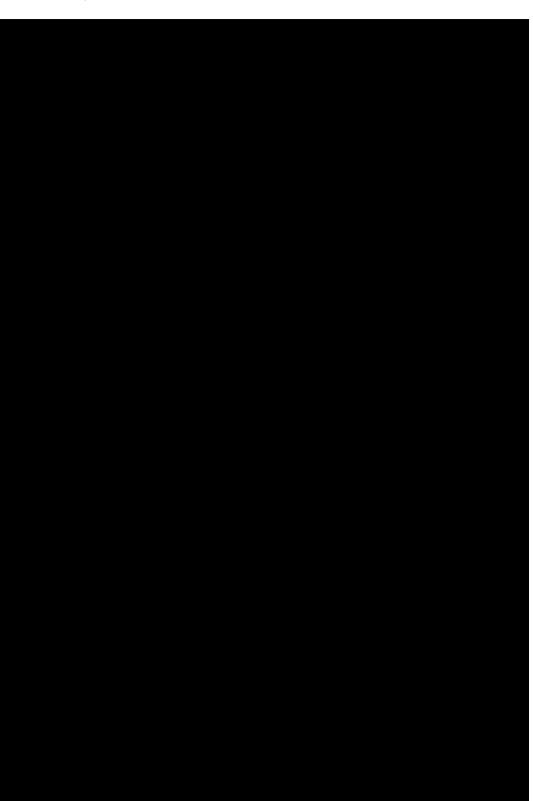




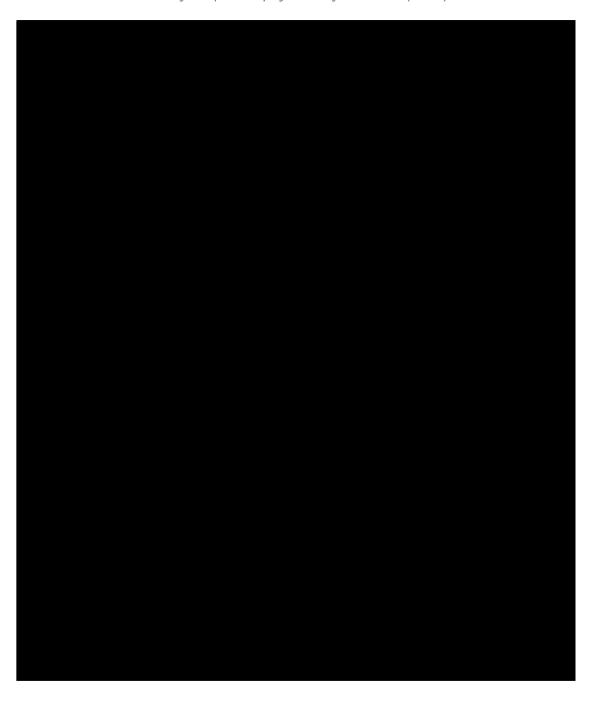


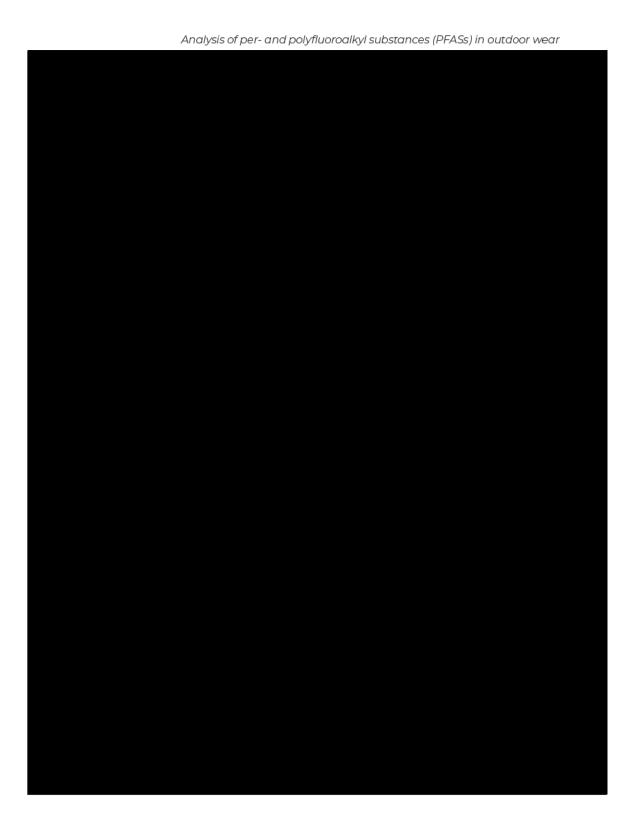




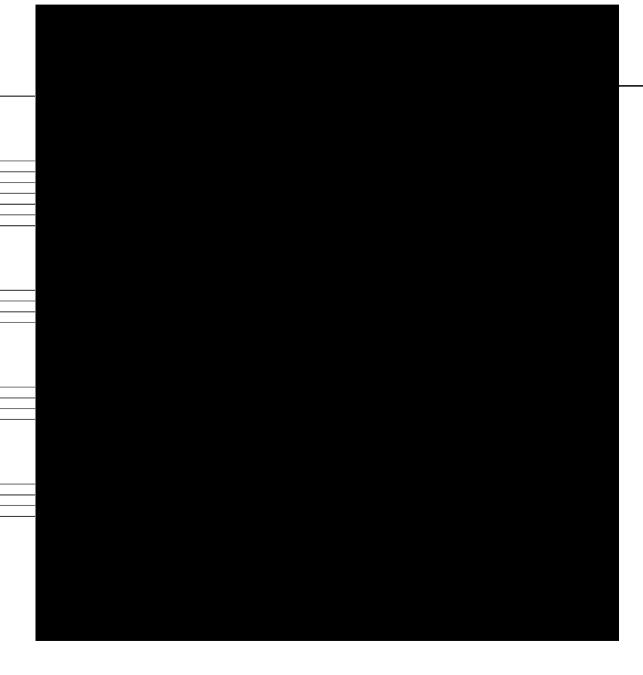








Chapter 5







Chapter

Discussion and Outlook

6.1. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) analyses in textiles

The developed method for perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs), perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs) and perfluorooctane sulfonamide (FOSA) in outdoor wear is the first method published that is suitable for the determination of PFASs in textile. It includes two sequential extractions with 5 mL methanol and an extraction time of 30 min, and analysis by high-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) without further cleaning of the extracts. A method reproducibility of <20% (RSD) and an extraction efficiency of >90% was achieved. Because the limits of detection (LODs) of the developed method were between 0.02 and 0.10 µg/m² (equals 0.15 and 3.7 ng/g, respectively), the method was suitable to detect concentrations below the European maximum allowable levels for perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) (1µg/m²)¹ and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (0.025 mg/kg)² in textile. Analyses were performed on an Agilent 6410 Triple Ouad LC-MS/MS (Agilent Technologies, Amstelveen, The Netherlands). Since more sensitive analytical equipment, like e.g. the SCIEX triple QuadTM 6500+ LC-MS/MS system has come to the market after the method was developed and validated, LODs of the developed method would now be approximately 50 fold lower. The influence of matrix on the quantification of perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs) with the developed method was studied. All recoveries of the internal standards (ISs) were, besides three exceptions, in the range of 30-130%. Since the same IS recovery pattern was observed for individual PFASs between all replicates of a sample, while those patterns differed between different samples, the lower recoveries of the ISs were most likely not caused by insufficient extraction, but by the matrix causing ion suppression. An additional cleaning step would be needed to reduce the ion suppression.

Although such an additional cleaning step before analysis might reduce ion-suppression, it is highly recommended to use isotope-labeled ISs for each PFAS congener. Unfortunately, to the best of our knowledge, those are still not commercially available for all analysed PFAAs in this thesis. They are still missing for example for perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA) and perfluoroheptane sulfonic acid (PFHpS). In addition to an extraction method for PFAAs from textiles, described in Chapter 2, also an extraction and analytical method for volatile PFASs from textiles has been developed in this study. This method included two sequential extractions with ethyl acetate, followed by a cleaning step with active carbon and analysis by gas chromatography/electron impact-mass spectrometry (GC/EI-MS) (see Chapter 4).

Analytical methods for ionic and volatile PFASs are currently also available for other matrices than textiles. However, new PFASs like e.g. ammonium 2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-

2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoate (GenX)^{3, 4} and ammonium perfluoro-2-[(propoxy) propoxy]-1-propanoate (HFPO-TA)⁵, are regularly introduced to the market, or enter the environment through discharges of side products from production processes, like e.g. perfluorobutane sulfonamide (FBSA)⁶, N-Methyl perfluorobutane sulfonamide (MeFBSA)⁷ and N-Methyl perfluorobutane sulfonamidoacetic acid (MeFBSAA)⁸. Since all these compounds have different properties (e.g. solubility and volatility), there will be a continuous need for extending the available methods, and for more analytical standards, including isotope-labeled analytical standards.

Currently, several thousands of different PFASs exist, and are present in products, in the environment and in the human body. With this high number of PFAS congeners, it is impossible to analyse each individual PFAS congener separately, even in case analytical standards would be available for all PFASs. Because of this, laboratories started to use other methods like the analysis of the total amount of organic fluorine by particle induced γ -ray emission (PIGE) spectroscopy⁹, combustion ion chromatography (CIC), and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA)¹⁰. Total organic fluorine analyses have the advantage to measure the total concentration of all per- and polyfluorinated organic compounds present in a sample, including the side-chain fluorinated polymers (SFPs). The obvious disadvantage of performing only total organic fluorine analyses is that all information about individual PFASs is lost. Combination of congener-specific and total fluorine methods is therefore recommended.

Another method which is nowadays used by several laboratories is the total oxidizable precursor (TOP) assay¹¹⁻¹³. With this method all PFAS precursors present in a sample are degraded or transformed into undegradable PFCAs and PFSAs. The PFCAs and PFSAs are analysed before and after the degradation. This method does have some disadvantages like, e.g. the conversion of precursors into PFCA can be incomplete, and other organics which are present in a sample may interfere with the oxidation of the PFAS precursors¹⁴. With the TOP assay no information is generated on the concentration of each individual PFAS, but it does provide information on the potential risk of a sample, since all PFASs will finally end up in the environment as PFAAs and PFSAs by biotic or abiotic degradation or transformation.

6.2. Fate of PFASs in DWR of clothing

In Chapter 4 it has been demonstrated that weather conditions like sunlight, high temperature, or humidity can have an effect on the congener profile and concentrations of PFASs in DWR-treated outdoor clothing. For some of the PFASs an

increase in concentration was observed after aging. Although in Chapter 4 possible explanations for the occurrence of this increase are given, like degradation of the DWR polymers, non-extractable organic fluorine becoming extractable, or unknown precursors degrading or being transformed into the analysed volatile PFASs, the precise cause of the increase in concentration is still unclear. All results of the research described in this thesis were based on the analysis of single compounds. With the aforementioned techniques like the TOP assay, and total organic fluorine analysis, the balance on PFASs present before and after weathering could be completed. To unravel the details of the processes and transformation routes involved, further research is needed which includes a) the use of TOP assay, which would reveal the amount of precursors present before aging and washing, and the amount of released unextractable PFASs after aging and washing, and b) total F methods, which would reveal the loss of organic fluorine out of the textiles by aging and washing, and c) a combination of TOP assay and total organic fluorine, which would reveal the amount of polymers which are degraded.

In Chapter 5 it is shown that also washing affects the concentration of residual or unreacted PFASs in fabrics coated with DWR based on SFPs. This effect becomes stronger in a combination of aging and washing. Tumble drying did not cause an observable effect. This is a positive result, since most of the manufacturers recommend to tumble dry the outdoor clothing after washing, to regenerate the DWR capacity.

It has been shown that PFAS concentrations in the untreated and treated fabrics are not just depending on the type of DWR formulation used to coat the fabric, but also on the type of fabric (polyamide (PA) or polyester (PES)). Aging could either cause an increase, or a decrease of extractable PFAS concentrations, depending on the type of fabric, and chain length of the PFASs. Washing caused a decrease of PFAA concentrations on the textiles. Volatile PFASs are generally washed off from the textiles. The PFASs which are washed off end up in the sewage system, and via the sewage water treatment plant the PFASs finally end up in surface water as they are only partly removed¹⁵. Because of the high persistence of PFASs, those compounds will stay in the environment, or end up in the food chain.

These results point to some weaknesses in legislation. Firstly, setting safety standards for only a few individual PFASs is not sufficient to control these harmful substances. Secondly, it has been shown that emission of PFASs from outdoor clothing coated with SFP-based DWR to the environment does take place. To avoid such an emission of PFASs, non-harmful non-fluorinated alternative chemicals are needed in the DWR of outdoor clothing. In the SUPFES project alternative chemicals, which were already

on the market (hydrocarbons, and silicones), were assessed for their performance and their hazard. Results from the technical performance assessment showed inconsistent results for water repellency and durability for the non-fluorinated DWRs. Only some hydrocarbons provided good water repellency and durability. This makes those compounds suitable non-fluorinated alternatives in the DWR for most consumer outdoor clothing^{16, 17}. The hydrocarbons have a relatively low hazard¹⁸, and after washing and weathering of fabrics coated with this type of DWR, the water repellence is still maintained¹⁷. However, with none of the assessed non-fluorinated alternatives (hydrocarbons, and silicones), the oil- and stain repellence, required for certain occupational protective clothing, could be achieved.

6.3. International performance on PFAS analyses

In Chapter 3 of this thesis the results of the fourth round of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) interlaboratory comparison study (ILS) on PFAS analyses show that internationally the analysis of individual PFAS congeners is still a challenge for many laboratories. In this study, in total 1457 z- scores were obtained for PFASs of which 64% were satisfactory. With a coefficient of variation (CV) of 18%, results of PFAS analyses in the human plasma test material of the study looked promising. However, the results of all other matrices (sediment, fish, human milk, human plasma, air extract, and water) did not yet meet the criterion of a maximum uncertainty of $\pm 25\%$. There were substantial differences in performance and participation between laboratories from different continents. The most important reason for that is the absence of HPLC instrumentation in universities and governmental laboratories in most countries in Africa and South-America, as well as the absence of properly working mass spectrometers.

The gap in the performance of POP analyses in general and the PFAS analysis in particular between developed and developing countries is rather growing than shrinking. In spite of training provided by UNEP, laboratories in developing countries fall short because this type of analysis is not among the priorities in these countries. Lack of instrumentation and experience, difficulties in ordering analytical standards and certified reference materials abroad, and related customs delays, and the absence of proper instrumental service in these countries leads to continuous poor results in ring trials.

There is an increasing number of new PFASs which are being introduced. Besides that, safety standards are being introduced for new PFAS congeners by for example

EFSA, which recently set a new standard for PFASs¹⁹ including perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). Therefore, there is a continuous need for implementing or adapting methods. However, when laboratories are not even able to submit reliable data on PFASs which are classified as persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and so mandatory to monitor under the Stockholm Convention, it is not realistic to expect those laboratories to perform analyses on other PFAS congeners as well. The TOP assay and the total organic fluorine analyses are also still unknown in developing countries.

6.4. Conclusions

In this study, for the first time, two analytical methods for the analysis of PFASs in textiles haves been developed and validated. The extraction solvents, the number of extractions, and the extraction time were optimized.

Despite that no individual PFAAs and volatile PFASs are used to obtain DWR, this study shows that they are present as impurities and as unreacted products of the production process of the fluorotelomer-based polymers (FTPs). Those PFASs can be released, and emitted to the environment during use, and under certain weather conditions, and also during washing. Results of this study show that aging of DWR can increase the concentrations of extractable PFASs. This increase might be caused by degradation or transformation of other not analysed PFAS congeners, which were present in the textiles before aging. Because of this, legislation and setting safety standards for only some individual PFASs is not enough to protect the consumer. This also emphasizes that replacing one PFAS congener with another PFAS congener is not desirable. The alternative PFASs might also be toxic, and could also degrade or transform into the very persistent PFCAs and PFSAs. The European initiative to ban the use of PFASs as a group²⁰⁻²² should, therefore, receive general support.

Regrettable substitution of one PFAS by another should be avoided, although results of the SUPFES project show the challenge to find non-halogenated alternatives with a similar performance to PFASs.

The ILS on the analysis of PFASs described in this thesis shows that developing countries are unable to properly perform such analyses at the moment.

6.5. Future perspectives

Regular international ILSs are needed to ensure a good quality of the analyses of PFASs. A major effort is required to bring developing countries up to date in their performance of the PFAS analysis. This includes improvement of very basic conditions such as instrumental service and fast ordering and custom procedures. In addition, upcoming ILSs should include relevant new PFASs that are found in the environment. More certified reference materials are needed, for materials like outdoor wear. The need for additional analytical PFAS standards and their isotope-labeled analogues remains high.

To complete the mass balance on PFASs before and after treatment of outdoor wear such as weathering, washing and tumble drying, it is recommended to perform TOP assays and total organic fluorine analyses. More research will be needed on the molecular level, to unravel the details of the processes and transformation routes involved in the increase in PFAS concentrations due to weathering.

Considering the environmental- and health impact of PFASs, all applications and use of the entire PFAS group should be banned, including organic fluorine containing replacements, of which not much information is available yet. In contrast with this is the aspect of the need of using PFASs, for example in the DWR of outdoor clothing and uniforms. The SUPFES project has shown that with non-fluorinated alternatives for PFASs in DWR which are available nowadays, water repellence could be reached, but not yet oil, stain and blood repellence. In case the use of PFASs is only a matter of luxury, such as not getting your outdoor clothing dirty so quickly, PFASs could be replaced by non-fluorinated less harmful alternatives, like hydrocarbons. However, there are applications of PFASs in DWR, for which the dirt, oil and stain repellence is required for safety, such as in medical uniforms, and in work wear in the oil industry. For those purposes functional alternatives are required. Until those are available, it may be needed to continue the use of PFASs in those essential applications²⁵.

PFASs can be harmful to the environment and health. It is highly recommended to prohibit the manufacturing and use of PFASs, except for essential use in case no good alternatives are available yet. However, ultimate efforts should be made in developing proper alternatives, so the use of PFASs in those applications can also soon be phased out.

PFASs are ubiquitous in the environment and humans and due to their high persistence they will not disappear for decades at least. Please let us ensure that we do not pollute the environment any further with these compounds.

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Summary

Summary

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are a class of man-made chemicals, which consist of a fluorinated carbon back bone and a functional group like a carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, alcohol, etc. Because PFASs have the unique properties of being hydrophobic as well as fat resistant, the compounds are used in a wide range of applications, like non-stick coating in pans, firefighting foams, etc. In outdoor wear side-chain fluorinated polymers (SFPs), which consist of polymers such as polyurethanes or acrylates with PFASs as side-chains, are used to obtain the required water and dirt repellence. In outdoor wear PFASs are present as impurities and as unreacted products of the production process of those SFPs. The study described in this thesis focused on PFASs present in textiles of outdoor wear.

Since no peer-reviewed method was available for the analyses of PFASs in textiles, a method was first developed, optimized and validated for the analyses of perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs) ($\rm C_4$ - $\rm C_{14}$), and perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFSAs) ($\rm C_4$, $\rm C_6$, $\rm C_7$, $\rm C_8$) in textiles. Extraction solvents, extraction duration and number of sequential extractions were optimized. The final method consisted of two sequential liquid-solid extractions (LSE) with 5 mL methanol each, and an extraction duration of 30 min, followed by a concentration step and analysis by high-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS), without further cleaning of the extracts. With the developed method an extraction efficiency of >90% was reached. The overall recoveries of the entire method were > 80%, the repeatabilities were < 9% (n=3), and the reproducibilities were < 20% (n=3). Ion suppression was observed due to matrix effects, but recoveries of the mass labeled internal standards were all > 30%.

Because some of the PFASs are very persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic and very mobile, and hence are ubiquitously present in the environment and in the human body, the use of some PFASs has been restricted, and the regulation of more PFAS compounds is ongoing. The determine whether PFAS concentrations meet the safety standards, there is a need for reliable analytical methods. To avoid that reported concentrations are dependent on the quality of the analysis laboratory, an interlaboratory comparison study (ILS) was organized to assess the overall performance of laboratories worldwide. Participants could report PFAS concentrations in a test solution of the target compounds, and in six matrices (sediment, fish, human milk, human plasma, air extract, and water). In total 53 laboratories registered, of which 39 submitted results for at least one matrix or test solution. The majority of the participating laboratories originated from Western Europe and North-America, and from the Asia-Pacific region. There were no participating laboratories from Africa, and from

Central and Eastern Europe only two participating laboratories submitted results. Only one laboratory from South/Central America reported PFAS concentrations. For the instrumental analysis liquid chromatography (LC) was used by all participants. The preferred detection method used by the majority of the participants was tandem mass spectrometric (MS/MS) detection. 64% of the 1457 assigned z-scores were satisfactory. The mean coefficients of variation (CVs) exceeded the satisfactory limit of 25% for all matrices, except for the human plasma test material (18%). For the test solution the CVs for all PFASs ranged from 7%-24% (mean 14%). For human milk the highest mean CV (61%) was calculated.

The effects of weathering on PFASs from outdoor wear were assessed on thirteen commercial available textile samples with an SFP-based durable water repellent (DWR) coating. The concentrations of perfluoroalkyl acids (PFAAs) and volatile PFASs in the textiles were determined. The described developed and validated method was used for the analysis of PFAAs. Volatile PFASs were extracted from the textiles by LSE with ethyl acetate, and the separation and detection of volatile PFASs was carried out by gas chromatography/electron impact-mass spectrometry (GC/EI-MS). After weathering (exposure to elevated ultra violet (UV) radiation, humidity and temperature) of the thirteen textile samples in an aging device for 300h, the samples were again analysed for their PFAA and volatile PFAS concentrations. Weathering did effect the PFAS concentrations and the PFAS profiles in the DWR coated textiles. An increase of 5-fold to more than 100-fold was observed for the PFAA concentrations in most of the samples, and some PFAAs which were not detected in the textiles before aging were detected in same textiles after weathering. For the volatile PFASs the concentrations increased up to 20-fold. Sinds DWR chemistries are based on SFPs, suggested explanations for the increase in concentrations are hydrolysis of the SFPs or degradation of the DWR polymers. Other possible explanations are the release of the unextractabe fraction, or degradation or transformation of not analysed unknown precursors which were present in the not aged textiles as impurities, into the analyses PFAAs and volatile PFASs.

To determine the fate of PFASs from DWR coated outdoor clothing during use, the effects of aging, washing and tumble drying on extractable PFAS concentrations and profiles in DWR coated textiles were assessed. Two types of fabrics, polyamide (PA) and polyester (PES), which were each coated with perfluorohexane-based short-chain SFPs (FC-6 chemistry) and perfluorooctane-based long-chain SFP (FC-8 chemistry) were aged in an aging device, followed by ten sequential washing and tumble drying cycles. In addition the FC-6 chemistry coated PA fabric was washed and tumble dried without aging.

The concentration of extractable PFAAs increased due to aging as was seen before on the commercial textiles. The effect of aging on the volatile PFASs was dependent of the type of fabric. Extractable PFAA concentrations decreased after washing. Washing in general, caused the volatile PFASs to be partly washed out of the textiles, but washing also appeared to be increasing the volatile PFAS concentration in fabrics. With a combination of aging and washing this effect became stronger. There was no effect of tumble drying on the extractable PFAS concentrations in textiles observed.

Possible degradation and transformation mechanisms and routes, which potentially result in emissions of PFASs to the environment, are described for the increase of extractable PFAS concentrations in fabrics as an effect of aging and washing.

With the study described in this thesis it has been shown that performing a reliable PFAS analysis remains a challenge, especially for laboratories from less developed countries. With the study described in this thesis it has also been shown that PFASs from outdoor wear coated with DWR based on SFPs can be released, and emitted to the environment during use, under certain weather conditions, and also during washing. Since extractable PFAS concentrations increased, it has been shown that legislation and setting safety standards for only some individual PFASs is not enough to protect the environment. Also replacing one PFAS congener with another PFAS congener should be avoided.

Samenvatting

Samenvatting

Per- en polygefluoreerde alkylstoffen (PFASs) vormen een groep synthetische verbindingen die niet van nature voorkomen in het milieu. Deze verbindingen bestaan allemaal uit een keten van gefluoreerde koolstoffen en een functionele groep zoals b.v. een zuurgroep, een sulfonaatgroep of een alcoholgroep. PFASs zijn zowel hydrofoob als vetafstotend. Vanwege deze unieke eigenschappen, worden PFASs in een breed scala aan producten gebruikt, zoals o.a. in de antiaanbaklaag in pannen, blusschuim, enz. In outdoor kleding worden polymeren met gefluoreerde zijketens (SFPs) gebruikt om de kleding water- en vuilafstotend te maken. Deze SFPs bestaan uit polymeren zoals polyurethaan of acrylaten met PFASs als zijketens. In outdoor kleding zijn PFASs aanwezig als verontreinigingen en als niet gereageerde componenten vanuit het SFP productieproces. Het onderzoek dat in dit proefschrift is beschreven, richtte zich op de PFASs die aanwezig waren in textiel van outdoor kleding.

Aangezien er geen peer-reviewed methode beschikbaar was voor de analyse van PFASs in textiel, werd eerst een methode ontwikkeld, geoptimaliseerd en gevalideerd voor de analyse van perfluoralkylcarbonzuren (PFCAs) (C_4 - C_{14}) en perfluoralkaansulfonzuren (PFSAs) (C_4 , C_6 , C_7 , C_8) in textiel. Het type oplosmiddel voor de extractie, de extractieduur en het aantal opeenvolgende extracties werden geoptimaliseerd. De uiteindelijke methode bestond uit twee opeenvolgende vloeistof-vaste stof extracties (LSE) met elk 5 ml methanol en een extractieduur van 30 minuten, gevolgd door een concentratiestap en analyse d.m.v. high-performance vloeistofchromatografietandem massaspectrometrie (LC-MS/MS), zonder verdere zuivering van de extracten. Met de ontwikkelde methode werd een extractie-efficiëntie van >90% bereikt. De totale recovery's van de gehele methode waren > 80%, de herhaalbaarheid was < 9% (n=3) en de reproduceerbaarheid was < 20% (n=3). Ion suppressie werd waargenomen als gevolg van matrixeffecten, maar de recovery's van de massa-gelabelde interne standaarden waren allemaal > 30%.

Omdat sommige van de PFASs zeer persistent, bioaccumulerend, toxisch en zeer mobiel zijn en daarom alomtegenwoordig zijn in het milieu en in het menselijk lichaam, is het gebruik van sommige PFASs beperkt en wordt momenteel gewerkt aan de regulering van meer PFAS verbindingen. Om te bepalen of PFAS concentraties voldoen aan de normen is er behoefte aan betrouwbare analysemethoden. Om te voorkomen dat gerapporteerde concentraties afhankelijk zijn van de kwaliteit van het analyselaboratorium, werd een interlaboratorium studie (IL) georganiseerd om de algehele prestaties van laboratoria wereldwijd vast te stellen. Deelnemers konden de PFAS concentraties in een testoplossing rapporteren en in zes matrices (sediment,

vis, moedermelk, menselijk plasma, luchtextract en water). In totaal registreerden 53 laboratoria zich voor de IL, waarvan 39 uiteindelijk hun resultaten indienden voor minimaal één matrix of testoplossing. Het merendeel van de deelnemende laboratoria was afkomstig vanuit de Azië-Pacific regio en uit West-Europa en Noord-Amerika. Uit de regio Midden- en Oost-Europa kwamen slechts twee deelnemende laboratoria en uit Zuid en Midden-Amerika deed slechts één laboratorium mee. Geen enkel Afrikaans land deed mee. Alle deelnemers gebruikten vloeistofchromatografie (LC) voor de analyse van de PFASs, waarbij de meest gebruikte detectiemethode tandem-massaspectrometrie (MS/MS) was. 64% van de 1457 toegekende z-scores was voldoende. De gemiddelde variatiecoëfficiënten (CVs) waren voor alle matrices hoger dan de gestelde limiet van 25%, behalve voor het plasma testmateriaal (18%). Voor de testoplossing varieerden de CVs voor alle PFASs van 7%-24% (gemiddeld 14%). Voor moedermelk werd de hoogste gemiddelde CV (61%) berekend.

Vervolgens werd het effect van verwering op PFASs in outdoorkleding onderzocht. In 13 commercieel verkrijgbare stukken textiel met een duurzame waterafstotende (DWR) coating werden de concentraties van perfluoralkylzuren (PFAAs) en vluchtige PFASs bepaald. Voor de analyses van PFAAs werd gebruik gemaakt van de hierboven genoemde ontwikkelde en gevalideerde methode. Vluchtige PFASs werden uit het textiel geëxtraheerd d.m.v. LSE met ethylacetaat. Voor de scheiding en detectie van vluchtige PFASs werd gebruik gemaakt van gaschromatografie/ elektron impact massaspectrometrie (GC/EI-MS). Na verwering (blootstelling aan verhoogde ultraviolette (UV) straling, vochtigheid en temperatuur) van de dertien textielmonsters in een verweringsmachine gedurende 300 uur, overeenkomstig met de levensduur van een jas, werden de monsters opnieuw geanalyseerd op hun PFAA en vluchtige PFAS concentraties. Verwering had effect op zowel de PFAS concentraties als op de PFAS profielen in de DWR-gecoate stukken textiel. In de meeste stukken textiel werd een 5- tot meer dan 100-voudige verhoging waargenomen in PFAA concentratie en sommige PFAAs die niet vóór verwering in het textiel werden gedetecteerd, werden na verwering wel gedetecteerd in hetzelfde stuk textiel. Van de vluchtige PFASs namen de concentraties tot 20 keer toe. Aangezien DWR-chemie gebaseerd is op SFPs, zijn mogelijke verklaringen voor de toename van deze concentraties hydrolyse van de SFPs of afbraak van de DWR-polymeren. Andere mogelijke verklaringen zijn het vrijkomen van de niet-extraheerbare fractie, of degradatie of transformatie van niet geanalyseerde onbekende precursors van PFAAs en vluchtige PFASs, die als onzuiverheden in het niet-verweerde textiel aanwezig waren.

Om het lot van PFASs van DWR-gecoate outdoorkleding tijdens gebruik te bepalen, werden de effecten van verwering, wassen en drogen (in een droogtrommel) op extraheerbare PFAS concentraties en PFAS profielen in DWR-gecoat textiel

onderzocht. Twee typen textiel, polyamide (PA) en polyester (PES), die elk waren gecoat met op perfluorhexaan gebaseerde korte keten SFPs (FC-6-chemie) en op perfluoroctaan gebaseerde lange keten SFPs (FC-8-chemie) werden verweerd in een verweringsmachine, gevolgd door tien opeenvolgende was- en droogcycli. Bovendien werd het met FC-6 chemie gecoate PA-textiel gewassen en in een droogtrommel gedroogd zonder eerdere verwering. De concentratie van extraheerbare PFAAs nam door verwering toe, zoals eerder werd waargenomen bij verwering van het commerciële textiel. Het effect van verwering op de vluchtige PFASs was afhankelijk van het type stof. Extraheerbare PFAA concentraties namen af als gevolg van wassen. Wassen in het algemeen zorgde ervoor dat de vluchtige PFASs gedeeltelijk uit het textiel werden gewassen, maar wassen verhoogde soms ook de vluchtige PFAS concentraties in de stukken textiel. Met een combinatie van verwering en wassen werd dit effect sterker. Het drogen van de stukken textiel in een droogtrommel had geen waarneembaar effect op de extraheerbare PFAS gehalten in textiel. Mogelijke afbraak- en transformatiemechanismen en routes, die kunnen leiden to emissies van PFASs naar het milieu, zijn beschreven voor de toename van extraheerbare PFAS concentraties in DWR gecoate stukken textiel als gevolg van verwering en wassen.

Met de studie beschreven in dit proefschrift is aangetoond dat het uitvoeren van een betrouwbare PFAS analyse vooral voor veel laboratoria uit minder ontwikkelde gebieden een een flinke uitdaging blijft. Verder is aangetoond dat tijdens het wassen en tijdens het gebruik van op basis van SFP DWR gecoate outdoorkleding onder bepaalde weersomstandigheden PFASs kunnen vrijkomen. Deze PFASs komen uiteindelijk in het milieu terecht, waaruit ze door hun hoge persistentie niet of nauwelijks meer verdwijnen. Aangezien de concentraties van individuele extraheerbare PFASs toenamen, is aangetoond dat wetgeving en het stellen van veiligheidsnormen voor slechts enkele individuele PFASs niet voldoende is om het milieu te beschermen. Ook het vervangen van de ene PFAS verbinding door een andere PFAS verbinding moet worden vermeden.

List of publications

List of publications

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