



# **Optimization of anesthetic procedure in crustaceans: evidence for sedative and analgesic-like effect of MS-222 using a semi-automated device for exposure to noxious stimulus.**

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## Abstract

The implementation of anesthetic procedure in aquatic crustaceans remains mostly limited to studies dealing with sedation and survival from anesthesia, possibly owing to the debated question of pain in invertebrates . However, two important issues are generally overlooked: actual analgesic-like effect, and possible physiological post-anesthetical effects. Here we report on the anesthetic properties and possible after-effects of MS-222 (Tricaine Methanesulfonate or Ethyl 3-aminobenzoate methanesulfonate) and Eugenol in the freshwater amphipod *Gammarus pulex*. We first optimized the concentration of MS-222, and the induction and recovery time, based on preliminary tests and published studies. We then relied on the nociceptive modulation of sheltering behavior to assess the analgesic-like effect of the two drugs, using a new semi-automated electric shock device. In addition, we monitored the impact of anesthesia with MS-222 on locomotor activity and oxygen consumption and addressed potential adverse effects upon recovery using biomarkers related to metabolism and neurotoxicity. We provide evidence for the sedative and analgesic-like effects of MS-222 at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> and, to a lesser extent, of Eugenol at 100 µL. L<sup>-1</sup>, with no decrease in survival rate at 6 days post anesthesia. Oxygen consumption was reduced -but not eliminated- under full anesthesia with 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> MS-222. No significant physiological effect of anesthesia was evidenced on the activity of the mitochondrial electron transfer system, or that of acetylcholine esterase, nor on total antioxidant capacity. We therefore conclude to the efficiency of MS-222 as an anesthetic drug in *G. pulex*. Eugenol should be tested at a higher concentration to reach the same efficiency, providing that increased concentration would not incur side-effects. Furthermore, the new and original semi-automated electric shock device used to induce nociception can be easily adapted to any species of aquatic invertebrates and small-sized fish and tadpoles, offering a standardized and flexible protocol to study nociceptive response and anesthesia in aquatic organisms.

Key words: Benzocaine - Metabolism - Refuge-use - Respirometry - Trolox-Equivalent-Antioxidant-Capacity - Surgery

## Introduction

Aquatic crustaceans are commonly used as sentinel organisms for environmental assessment of sublethal toxicity. At the cellular and molecular levels, the use of biomarkers of stress response and toxicity may rely on stressful or invasive laboratory procedures to collect hemolymph, organs such as gonads or hepatopancreas, or stem cells (Kunz et al. 2010; Rosner et al. 2021). The implementation of such procedures potentially raises a welfare issue as generally advocated for wild animals, including invertebrates (Soulsbury et al. 2020). This issue should be addressed in a sound and balanced manner based on growing scientific evidence about nociception and pain in crustaceans (Browman et al. 2019; Diggles, 2019; Elwood, 2019; Walters, 2019). From a pragmatic point of view, the development of an anesthesia protocol in crustacean research constitutes a cautionary approach and, at the same time, may contribute to knowledge about nociception or pain. Whether a pain-centered approach or a pragmatic approach to crustacean welfare is adopted, it should lead to the design and report of ‘appropriate’ anesthetic procedures (Browman et al. 2019; Soulsbury et al. 2020; Stanley et al. 2020). Such reporting is still anecdotal, with less than 0.2% of articles recorded in the Web of Science for the past 20 years on crustacea\* and either hemolymph, tissue, brain or caecum, including anesthe\* as topic keyword (on Jan. 29, 2021).

The implementation of anesthetic procedures in invertebrates has been limited so far by a lack of both regulation and technical solutions (Li et al. 2018), despite several reviews on anesthesia in Invertebrates (Coyle et al. 2004; Cooper, 2011). A definition of anesthesia generalizable to all living organisms has been recently proposed, as "the isolation of an

organism from its environment—both in terms of the afferent arm of sensation and the efferent arm of action—" (Kelz and Mashour, 2019). Endpoints of general anesthesia in medical science encompass amnesia, analgesia, immobility, and unconsciousness (Kelz and Mashour, 2019), the first three being concomitantly applicable to most living forms. Yet, most studies on crustaceans evaluate anesthetic procedure from mobility tests and response to mechanical stimulus (Coyle et al. 2004; Cooper, 2011) (Table A.1.), without further assessment of analgesia. In addition, the study of after-effects of anesthesia on crustaceans is generally limited to recording survival (Table A.1.). Hence, two important issues are generally overlooked: actual antinociceptive effect and possible post-anaesthesia toxicity or physiological and behavioral after-effects (Soulsbury et al. 2020).

Here, we sought to assess the anesthetic effect of MS-222 (Tricaine methanesulfonate or Ethyl 3-aminobenzoate methanesulfonate), in the freshwater amphipod *Gammarus pulex*, in comparison to Eugenol. The assessment of MS-222 efficiency was complemented by physiological tests to address possible aftereffects. MS-222 is a hydrophilic derivative of Benzocaine, widely used in poikilothermic vertebrates such as fish and amphibians. Its efficiency in general anesthesia, through reversible blockade of sensory and motor nerve activity, has been evidenced at the neuronal and behavioral levels in zebrafish (Ramlochansingh et al., 2019). More recently, Stanley et al. (2020) provided evidence that MS-222 reduces the activity of sensory and motor neurons in crabs, crayfish, and fruitflies. The blockade of voltage-gated Na<sup>+</sup> channels seems to be the mode of action involved in the depression of synaptic transmission by MS-222 in these invertebrates, as in vertebrates (Stanley et al. 2020). At the whole-organism level, a few studies have reported an anesthetic effect of MS-222 in crustaceans, while others found little or no effect (Coyle et al. 2004; Table A.1.). These contradictory studies on crustaceans recently led to a dismiss of MS-222 in favor of the more widely tested Eugenol (Li et al., 2018; Ghanawi et al., 2019). In addition, no

study, to the best of our knowledge, has assessed the analgesic/amnesic effect of MS-222 (Table A.1.). Indeed, most studies so far have relied on locomotory or reflex responses (Table A.1.), whereas the blocking of sensory perception and integration of nociception can only be evidenced through aversive behavioral reactions induced by exposure to noxious stimulus. Furthermore, few studies have assessed possible after-effects (Table A.1.)

We first established the optimal concentration of MS-222 for sedation by assessing the dose-effect of three concentrations on time to induce sedation and time to recover. We then assessed the analgesic-like effect of MS-222 at optimal concentrations for sedation by exposing anesthetized *G. pulex* to a noxious stimulus and compared it to Eugenol. Acute noxious stimulation was induced by exposure to electric shocks, based on previous studies reporting behavioral responses consistent with pain (reviewed in Elwood, 2019). Indeed, exposure to electric shock is enhancing protective or withdrawal behavior in crustaceans in a way consistent with induced anxiety-like state (Fossat et al. 2014; Perrot-Minnot et al 2017), and avoidance learning (reviewed in Elwood, 2019). To that aim, we designed a new and cost-effective semi-automated device to standardize exposure to electric shocks (ES). The frequency of refuge use after exposure to electric shocks under anesthesia was taken as the behavioral endpoint for analgesia-like effect. We expected that if these compounds have an anesthetic effect in *G. pulex*, individuals exposed to ES under anesthesia should not express the enhanced protective behavior induced by ES-exposure as observed in non-anesthetized individuals (increased use of refuge). We further monitored the temporal changes in mobility and metabolic rate under MS-222 exposure, during both induction and recovery periods. The locomotor activity and oxygen consumption rate (respirometry assay) of gammarids were measured using automated devices.

Finally, we addressed whether MS-222 and Eugenol could induce immediate physiological after-effects, more specifically on whole-organism cellular respiration capacity,

antioxidative capacity and neurotransmission. We focused on these possible changes in metabolic/oxidative status and neurotoxicity driven by anesthesia, based on previous studies on crustaceans following exposure to Eugenol (Saydmohammed and Pal, 2009) and on fish exposed to MS-222 or Eugenol (Olsen and Christensen, 1980; Teles et al. 2019).

## 2. Material and methods

All gammarids *G. pulex* were collected in Val Suzon (Burgundy, France: 47.40°N, 4.88°E) and sorted on-site to keep only males ranging in size from 0.8 to 1.2 cm length (estimated by eye). Fresh weight of gammarids was 37 mg on average (SD=9.45, N=309). Gammarids were allowed to acclimate for at least one week prior to onset of experiments, in tanks filled with oxygenated dechlorinated ultraviolet (UV)-treated tap water mixed with water and rocky substrate from the Val Suzon river ('conditioned' water, hereafter abbreviated as CW). The acclimatization of gammarids and the experiments were done in a temperature- and photoperiod-controlled room (16°C, UV, 12 L: 12 D, under 800 Lux illumination).

### 2.1. Optimization of anesthetic procedures with MS-222 and Eugenol based on sedative effect.

Preliminary tests with MS-222 were undertaken to assess its dose-dependent sedative effect, as well as optimal induction and recovery times. We prepared the anesthetic solution fresh by dissolving MS-222 (Sigma-Aldrich E10521) in CW, at three concentrations, 500, 600 and 700 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>. These test concentrations were chosen based on previous studies (Table A.1), and preliminary assays. Gammarids were immersed individually in MS-222 bath to monitor induction time, and in CW to monitor recovery time. Criteria for induction of full sedation was immobility, the lack of escape reaction to a gentle touch with a brush (a common tactile stimulation method employed in most studies, Table A.1.), and interruption of pleopod beating. Criteria for full recovery was the resumption of these motor activities. To assess full

recovery of locomotion, we compared the locomotor activity of anesthetized gammarids to unanesthetized ones at 50 min post recovery. The locomotor activity was monitored using an automated recording device, including a lighting infrared system and an infrared camera connected to a laptop for videorecording (Zebralab software, View Point, Lyon, France). Individual activity was recorded during 15 min in a 9 cm petri dish filled with CW, under low light intensity corresponding to twilight illumination (100 lux). Three velocity thresholds were initially set to quantify locomotor activity according to the speed of motion: below 7 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for inactivity (motionless, but including pleopod beating), between 7 and 15 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for slow movements (crawling), and above 15 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for swimming. Activity was scored as the proportion of time spent motionless or swimming during 15 min

We adjusted Eugenol concentration, induction, and recovery times by running a pilot study and using previously published data (with a dose range of 30 to 1000 mg (μL) L<sup>-1</sup> recommended for crustaceans, Darbyshire et al. 2019). Our preliminary observations showed that the concentrations used by Venarsky and Wilhem (2006) on *Gammarus minus* were too low to induce a decrease in motor activity in *G. pulex*. Based on both the study of Li et al. (2018) on small shrimps, and preliminary assays, we decided to set the concentration at 100 μL (mg). L<sup>-1</sup>. A stock solution of Eugenol (Fluka, 46129) was prepared at 10% in EtOH (100 μL in 900 μL EtOH), thoroughly mixed, and then diluted in one liter of CW to reach the final concentration. Preliminary observations using the same criteria for sedation as above were done to adjust induction and recovery times at 30 and 50 min respectively (exp. 1) and 45 and 70 min respectively (exp. 2).

## 2.2. Exposure to noxious stimulus: electric shock device

The objective in designing the experimental set-up was to expose individual gammarids to a homogeneous and accurately reproducible electric field in the same arena as the one used to

record behavior. The device must be simple, flexible, robust, and inexpensive, to allow testing several individuals simultaneously under repeatable conditions. Applied voltage, the number and duration of each pulse, and total duration should be adjustable by the experimenter. We met these specifications by adopting a DIY (“Do-It-Yourself”) engineering approach through a three-steps workflow: the mechanical and electronic assembly of the blocks holding electrodes and plugs (hereafter referred to as ‘ES-chamber’), the validation of the device by performing electrical measurements, and the design of electronic driver and PC-software (control module) to allow simple and complete control of the system.

#### 2.2.1 Mechanical assembly

The ES-chamber was made of a 3D-printed polymer part, which contains the two electrodes, and the electrical connections to the control module (Fig. 1a, 1b). The block was printed using a water-repellent and non-toxic PET-G polymer from Neofil® and Ultimaker® heating wire 3D printer. The electrodes were made from metal sheets (1mm thick) of tinned copper (usually used to make electromagnetic shielding), cut to the size matching the entire interior wall of the block lengthwise (95x27 mm<sup>2</sup>). The swimming area was limited inside by fixing two thin perpendicular polymer walls (Fig. 1a, 1b). This geometry avoided edge effects and thereby large variations in the electric field in the swimming area. The device was designed to fit into the arena used for refuge use experiment (10.5 \* 16 cm rectangular box: Fig. 1c).

#### 2.2.2 Electrical measurements

We first measured water resistance using two samples of water either directly from tap water or from laboratory water (CW). We then measured the voltage / current characteristic for different distances between electrodes and for three voltages applied to the terminals of the electrodes ( $\Delta V=8, 12$  and  $16V$ ). Figure 2 shows the results obtained for tap water. As expected, the characteristic of the resistance was proportional to the distance between the electrodes.

The measured resistance in tap water and in filtered and treated water from the laboratory was  $0.19\text{k}\Omega/\text{cm}$  and  $0.15\text{k}\Omega/\text{cm}$  respectively ( $0.95\Omega$  and  $0.75\text{k}\Omega$  for a  $5\text{cm}$ -distance between electrodes in the final device). The dissipated power was calculated using the product between voltage ( $\Delta V$ ) and current ( $I$ ) with the well-known relation  $P=\Delta V \cdot I$ . For a voltage  $\leq 12\text{V}$  and  $5\text{cm}$  between electrodes, the maximum power  $P_{\text{max}}$  was thus estimated at  $0.20\text{W}$ , which is negligible for the volume of water considered. One last issue to address was metal contamination in the water due of the electrolysis of the electrodes. To reduce this potential hazard, short-time electric pulses were delivered (a few seconds to a few tens of seconds) and the water was changed between each exposure. Under these operating conditions, the risk of contamination of the water by electrolysis of the electrodes was made negligible.

The homogeneity of the electric field was checked by measuring with a voltage probe the electric potential difference with respect to the electrode connected to the reference potential (designed as ground). The voltage difference  $\Delta V$  was then plotted as a function of the position in the swimming zone, and the electric field calculated by applying the relation  $E = -\text{grad } \Delta V$  (Fig. 3). To the maximum voltage of  $12\text{V}$  corresponded a value of  $\Delta V$  of about  $2.40\text{V}/\text{cm}$ .

### 2.2.3 Electronic driver and PC-software

The electronic driver of the experimental setup was designed to allow easy configuration. The 12 ES-chambers were operated from 12 channels split into three independent groups (Fig. 4a). For each group of four channels, the experimenter could choose applied voltage and electric pulses parameters (pulse duration, number of pulses, total time). The electronic assembly included an Arduino MEGA<sup>®</sup> module connected to a small LCD screen, a board for shaping the excitation voltages, and three relay switch boards with four relays each. The configuration

was carried out by in-house software produced under Visual basic, and accessible via a PC through a simple USB port and a user-friendly interface (Fig. 4b).

### *2.3. Anesthetic effect of MS-222 and Eugenol: behavioral response following exposure to ES*

We applied a fully crossed design to assess the behavioral effects of anesthetic procedures and exposure to electric shocks on refuge use. All individuals were manipulated in the same way and same duration, whether they were exposed to ES or not (placed in ES-chambers with or without electric current), under anesthesia or not (bathed in anesthetic solution or in CW).

Gammarids were anesthetized in pools of 10 individuals by immersion in 250 mL anesthetic solution in plastic food containers at 16°C, for 45 min (MS-222 at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>) or 30 and 50 min (Eugenol at 100 µL. L<sup>-1</sup>). Following induction of anesthesia, gammarids were rinsed and transferred immediately as individuals to refuge boxes equipped with one ES-chamber and filled with 250 mL CW. For individual exposure to ES, we relied on preliminary tests and a previous study (Perrot-Minnot et al. 2017) to set a fixed configuration at ten pulses of 12V and 2 sec. each, for a total duration of 3 min. Exposure to ES was performed on half gammarids anesthetized with MS-222 or Eugenol, and half gammarids not anesthetized (controls). The other half, for each anesthetic treatment and controls, were placed in ES-chamber without current. After exposure to electric shocks, ES-chambers were removed, and gammarids were left to fully recover from anesthesia (MS-222: 50 min, Eugenol: 50 or 70 min). During that time, a refuge (half a terracotta saucer: Fig. 1c) was placed in the middle of the box for the gammarid to become familiar with while recovering. At the end of recovery time, the refuge was placed at few millimeters from the box wall (Fig. 1c), and gammarids were left to acclimatize for 5 min. We then quantified refuge use by scoring the position of individual gammarids every 30 s for 10 min, giving a score range from 0 to 20. Refuge use

was reported as a frequency by dividing as the number of times individual gammarids were under refuge by the maximum score (20).

#### *2.4. Monitoring changes in metabolic rate and locomotor activity during induction of sedation with MS-222 and during recovery*

We monitored the decrease in locomotor activity during induced sedation, and the progressive resumption of locomotor activity during recovery in CW, using the Zebralab automated device (see 2.1. above). We split the 44 min- recording time in four bins of 11 min to capture the temporal changes in activity. The same three velocity thresholds were used to quantify locomotor activity according to the speed of motion: below 7 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for inactivity (motionless, but including pleopod beating), between 7 and 15 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for slow movements (crawling) and above 15 mm.sec<sup>-1</sup> for swimming. Activity was scored as the proportion of time spent motionless or swimming during each bin of 11 min

Metabolic capacity at the organismic level was quantified by measuring oxygen consumption using Sensordish optical fluorescence-based respirometry (Presens, Regensburg, Germany), following protocols previously outlined in Perrot-Minnot et al. (2014). Briefly, we recorded the oxygen consumption rate of gammarids placed individually in 3.4 mL-well equipped with O<sub>2</sub> sensor (24-well microplates of 1.7 cm in diameter, batch OD-1142-01 calibrated at 16°C). Gammarids were introduced in wells filled to the top with either MS-222 or CW (anesthesia) or CW (recovery) and left to acclimatize for 1 min prior to sealing the microplate with parafilm and cover, and immediate recording under near darkness at 15°C. Two wells, filled in the same way but without gammarid, were included per plate to control for possible changes in [O<sub>2</sub>] independent of gammarid respiration. Oxygen concentration was measured at 15 s intervals during 44 min using oxygen meter (SDR v. 4 SensorDish Reader; Presens). We subtracted O<sub>2</sub> concentration in experimental wells to the mean value of the two

control wells at the same time, to calculate the decline in O<sub>2</sub> concentration due to respiration ( $\Delta\text{O}_2$  in mg. L<sup>-1</sup>). We then derived O<sub>2</sub> consumption rate (in  $\mu\text{g O}_2 \text{ min}^{-1}$ ) from the slope of the linear regression of  $\Delta\text{O}_2$  multiplied by well volume (3.4 mL), on time. Two separate groups of gammarids were used to record oxygen consumption rate during anesthetic bath and during recovery in CW, to avoid prolonged stay in the apparatus and decrease in dissolved [O<sub>2</sub>] below 5 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>. Slight movement of gammarids in this static respirometry device likely contributed to the homogenization of O<sub>2</sub> concentration in the well. Because the O<sub>2</sub> sensor is placed in the middle of the well bottom and smaller than its diameter, the value of O<sub>2</sub> concentration measured at the sensor represents the actual concentration in the whole water volume if the water in the well is mixed by some kind of movement (stirring or individual movement inside the well). Consequently, motion-induced homogenization of O<sub>2</sub> concentration occurred at a level depending on locomotor activity. We therefore split the 44 min- recording time in bins of 11 min to match the monitoring of locomotor activity (see above).

Following respirometry measurements, each gammarid was quickly blotted on a paper towel and weighed to the nearest 0.01 mg using an analytical balance (Precisa 262SMA-FR, Precisa Instruments, Bisingen, Switzerland). For statistical analysis, we divided O<sub>2</sub> consumption rate (in  $\mu\text{g O}_2 \text{ min}^{-1}$ ) for gammarid's weight (log<sub>10</sub>), based on the log-log relationship between metabolic rate and weight known as metabolic scaling (Glazier, 2005).

## *2.5. Survival and physiological consequence of anesthesia with MS-222-and eugenol: markers of cellular aerobic metabolism, oxidative stress and neurotoxicity*

We assessed the effect of exposure to MS-222 and Eugenol on physiological parameters of whole organism just after 50 min and 70 min recovery from anesthesia, respectively. The total protein content, ETS activity, antioxidant potential (Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity

(TEAC) assay), and AChE, were estimated in supernatant from individual sample, using colorimetric assays (Appendix B). We assessed the survival of gammarids six days following a single anesthesia in MS-222 (600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>, 45 min) or in Eugenol (100 µL. L<sup>-1</sup>, 45 min). Gammarids were either anesthetized or left in CW (controls) in pools of 8 to 10 individuals in 250 mL plastic food container, rinsed, and maintained for six days in boxes filled with CW, with decaying elm leaves as food and rocks as refuge (N = 67 to 73).

## 2.7. Statistical analysis

All analysis were done with R-Studio, version 1.3.1073 (RStudio Team, 2020). When running generalized linear models, we visualized the distribution of response variable a priori, and checked model assumptions a posteriori by visual inspection of diagnostics plots (package “ggResidpanel” v. 0.3.0., Goode and Rey, 2019) (Zuur et al., 2010). Whenever normality assumption or homogeneity of variance assumptions were violated, we used non-parametric tests.

We run an ordinal linear regression to analyze MS222 dose effect on induction time, and recovery time (log-transformed). We performed Tukey post hoc tests to do paired comparison between concentrations.

We relied on non-parametric tests to compare locomotor activity and oxygen consumption rate between treatment at each time-bin, and for each treatment, between time bins. At each time-bin, we compared the proportion of time spent at each speed level and the oxygen consumption rate between treatment, using Wilcoxon tests. We analyzed change in locomotor activity and [O<sub>2</sub>] consumption rate across time bins within treatment using the Friedman test followed by pairwise comparisons using Nemenyi post-hoc test (package PMCMR v. 4.3; Pohlert 2014).

We analyzed refuge use according to anesthetic treatment and exposure to ES, using Kruskal-Wallis test followed by pairwise comparisons with BY correction, and reported the associated Z-statistic and adjusted p-value (Package dunn.test, v1.3.5; Dinno 2017). In addition, we estimated the effect size of exposure to ES on refuge use according to anesthetic treatment, by using the Cliff's delta index, following Perrot-Minnot et al. (2014). Based on the threshold values for the Cliff's delta reported in Romano et al. (2003) the magnitude of effect sizes was interpreted as negligible (less than 0.147), small (between 0.147 and 0.33), medium (between 0.33 and 0.474), or strong (more than 0.474).

We compared the survival of gammarids according to anesthetic treatment (MS-222, Eugenol and controls) using the Fisher exact-test on pooled replicates. Survival Odds were calculated for all three groups (MS222, Eugenol and controls) as the probability of death on probability of survival, and Odd ratio were calculated as the ratio of odds of one anesthetic on the odd of the control. We run linear mixed-effects model to analyze the effect of anesthesia on physiological parameters. For total protein content, fixed factors were anesthetic treatment, gammarid wet weight (mg) and interaction between treatment and weight, and plate number was incorporated as random factor. For ETS activity, TEAC and AChE, fixed effects were anesthetic treatment, total protein content and interaction between treatment and protein content, with plate number as random factor. A posteriori multiple pair comparison was done using Tukey test with Westfall correction for multiple comparisons (see Appendix B for detailed analysis).

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Optimization of anesthetic procedures with MS-222 based on sedative effect

Induction time decreased with increasing concentration of MS-222 ( $F_{2,68} = 12.65$ ;  $P < 0.0001$ ;  $R_{adj.} = 0.25$ ; Fig. 5). Sedative state was reached at a significantly later time at 500 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>

compared to 600 and 700 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> (Tukey post-hoc tests:  $P_{\text{adj}} = 0.0005$  and  $P_{\text{adj}} < 0.0001$ , respectively). Conversely, recovery time in CW increased with increasing concentration of MS-222 during anesthesia ( $F_{2,68} = 13.54$ ;  $P < 0.0001$ ;  $R_{\text{adj}} = 0.26$ ; Fig. 5). Paired comparisons of recovery time were all significant (Tukey post-hoc tests: 500-600:  $P_{\text{adj}} = 0.014$ ; 500-700:  $P_{\text{adj}} < 0.0001$ ; 600-700:  $P_{\text{adj}} = 0.03$ ). Therefore, we choose the concentration of 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> as the best compromise to minimize both induction and recovery times. We set the induction time to 45 min to get the maximum number of individuals under full sedation, and the recovery time at 50 min considering that most manipulation following recovery would take 5 to 10 additional minutes.

Gammarids anesthetized with MS-222 at 600 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> for 45 min resumed swimming activity at a comparable level to unanesthetized ones after 50 min of recovery in CW (Fig. 6: Wilcoxon test:  $W = 372$ ,  $N = 60$ ,  $P = 0.37$ ). No significant difference in time spent in intermediate locomotion was observed between anesthetized and control gammarids ( $W = 510$ ,  $N = 60$ ,  $P = 0.24$ ).

### *3.2. Anesthetic effect of MS-222 compared to eugenol: refuge use following exposure to noxious stimulus.*

Refuge use by gammarids differed across anesthetic treatment and ES exposure, for each of the three experiments (MS-222: Kruskal-Wallis  $\chi^2 = 47.62$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; Eugenol 30-50,  $\chi^2 = 9.99$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $P = 0.02$ ; Eugenol 45-70; Kruskal-Wallis  $\chi^2 = 21.64$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ). In unanesthetized gammarids, refuge use 50 min and 70 min after the electric shock increased compared to controls (unexposed to ES) in all three experiments (MS-222,  $Z = 5.87$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; Eug. 30-50,  $Z = 3.13$ ,  $P = 0.01$ ; Eug. 45-70,  $Z = 3.15$ ,  $P = 0.004$ , respectively) (Fig. 7a, 7b).. Refuge use of gammarids not exposed to ES did not differ,

independently of whether they were anesthetized or not, thereby showing no side effect of anesthesia per se on refuge use.

The level of refuge use of gammarids anesthetized with MS-222 and exposed to ES was significantly lower compared to unanesthetized gammarids exposed to ES ( $Z = 5.07$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; Fig. 7a). It was comparable to that of anesthetized gammarids not exposed to ES ( $Z = -0.67$ ,  $P = 0.74$ ). Anesthesia in Eugenol for 30 min only partly mitigated the effect of ES on refuge use. Anesthetized gammarids exhibited an intermediate level of refuge use 45 min after exposure to ES, with no significant difference with anesthetized gammarids not exposed to ES ( $Z = -1.77$ ,  $P = 0.11$ ) and unanesthetized gammarids exposed to ES ( $Z = 1.82$ ,  $P = 0.17$ ) (Fig. 7c). The level of refuge use of gammarids anesthetized with Eugenol for 45 min and exposed to ES was significantly lower 70 min later, compared to unanesthetized gammarids exposed to ES ( $Z = 3.3$ ,  $P = 0.035$ ) and was comparable to that of anesthetized gammarids unexposed to ES ( $Z = -1.94$ ,  $P = 0.1$ ; Fig. 7a).

The effect size of exposure to ES on sheltering behavior was negligible and not different from null in gammarids anesthetized in MS-222, low in gammarids anesthetized in eugenol for 45 min, and moderate in gammarids anesthetized in eugenol for 30 min (Fig. 8). It was strong in unanesthetized gammarids, 50 min post exposure to ES (pooled controls from MS-222 and Eug. 30-50 experiments) and 70 min post exposure to ES (controls from Eug. 45-70 experiment).

### *3.3. Changes in locomotor activity and metabolic rate during induction of sedation with MS-222 and during recovery*

#### **Activity**

Locomotor activity of control gammarids in CW was regular throughout the 44 min-recording period (Friedman test: proportion of time motionless,  $\chi^2 = 1.13$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $P = 0.77$ ; proportion

of time swimming,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 1.73$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P = 0.63$ ; Fig.9 a, d, g), whereas that of gammarids in MS-222 decreased through time (Friedman test: proportion of time motionless,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 67.03$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; proportion of time swimming,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 68.08$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ). Gammarids in MS-222 sharply reduced swimming within the first 22 min by switching to moderate locomotion and immobility (Fig.9 b,e,h: Bin A, B; Fig. A2). A sharp increase in time spent motionless occurred after 33 min in MS-222, with half of the gammarids spending more than 90% time motionless during the last bin (Fig. 9b). Gammarids recovering from MS-222 progressively increased their activity (Friedman test: proportion of time motionless,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 12.99$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P = 0.005$ ; proportion of time swimming,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 28.15$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ). Locomotor activity at intermediate speed was quickly resumed during the first 11 min of recovery (Fig.9 (f) Bin A compared to (e) Bin D), by sharply decreasing time motionless (Fig. 9 (c) Bin A compared to (b) Bin D). However, the recovery of swimming activity was more progressive, as the proportion of time spent swimming was still slightly below controls after 44 min recovery time (Fig. 9 g, i: Bin D).

## **Metabolic rate**

Oxygen consumption rate of gammarids in MS-222 was comparable to that of controls during the first three time-bins. It increased significantly during the last one (from 33 to 44 min), when most gammarids in MS-222 were motionless (Fig 10b). There was a trend for the oxygen consumption rate of gammarids in CW (controls) to decrease through time (Friedman test,  $\text{Chi}^2 = 39.37$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ), especially during the first 22 min (Bins A-B:  $P = 0.005$ ). The pattern was different for gammarids in MS-222, as  $\text{O}_2$  consumption rate first decreased during 22 min but then tended to slightly increase (Friedman test:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 24.73$ ,  $\text{df} = 3$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; Bin A-B:  $P = 0.0001$ , Bins B-D:  $P = 0.0002$ ) (Fig. 10). During recovery in CW, the oxygen consumption rate of gammarids anesthetized MS-222 was lower than that of

controls during the firsts 0-11 min and then higher during the last one (33-44 min; Fig. 10). Again, there was a trend for the oxygen consumption rate of gammarids in CW (controls) to decrease with time (Friedman test:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 50.37$ ,  $\text{df} = 2$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ; all paired comparisons significant at  $P < 0.03$ ). Oxygen consumption rate of gammarids in MS-222 was low and stable during the first 22 min, and then increased (Friedman test:  $\text{Chi}^2 = 11.74$ ,  $\text{df} = 2$ ,  $P = 0.003$ ; Bin A-C,  $P = 0.007$ , Bin B-C,  $P = 0.01$ ; Fig. 10). Overall, the comparison of  $\text{O}_2$  consumption rate of gammarids incubated in MS-222 to that of controls was limited by reduced  $\text{O}_2$  mixing due to the absence of activity by anesthetized gammarids in the static respirometry device, particularly during the second half of the induction period and the first half of the recovery period. However, low consumption rate under full sedation was still evidenced during the last 11 min anesthesia and the first 11 min of recovery.

#### *3.4. Survival and physiological markers of cellular metabolism, oxidative stress and neurotoxicity, after anesthesia in MS-222 and Eugenol*

Total protein content increased linearly with gammarid's wet weight, with no effect of treatment or of the interaction between treatment and weight. All three biomarkers, ETS activity, TEAC and AChE activity, were positively related to total protein content (Appendix B). The activity of ETS in gammarids recovering from anesthesia was higher after Eugenol bath compared to MS-222 bath, but none of these treatments differed from controls. Total antioxidant capacity (TEAC) and AChE activity were comparable between anesthetic treatments (Appendix B).

Six days after anesthesia, most gammarids were still alive (Controls: 97.1%,  $N=68$ , MS-222: 93.2%,  $N=73$ ; Eugenol, 86.6%,  $N=67$ ). Survival rate was comparable across anesthesia treatments (Fisher exact test:  $P = 0.07$ ), although slightly lower for gammarids

exposed to Eugenol. The Odd ratio of mortality due anesthesia with MS-222 and Eugenol compared to controls were 2.42 and 5.12, respectively.

## Discussion

To our knowledge, this is the first study to provide experimental evidence for actual analgesic-like effects of both MS-222 and Eugenol in aquatic crustaceans. Using standard criteria for sedation level and a new paradigm to assess antinociceptive effect, we evidenced here the efficiency of MS-222 and, to a lesser extent, of Eugenol, in the freshwater amphipod *G. pulex*. The use of “do it yourself engineering” enabled the design and manufacture of ES-chambers and electronic driver offering both flexible and standardized manipulation.

We observed a dose-effect of MS-222 on induction of full sedation and on recovery time, as reported in other studies reviewed here on MS-222 and Eugenol. The efficiency of MS-222 at 500 to 700 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> has been previously reported in five out of eight studies on crustaceans but with contrasted induction and recovery times. More specifically, the effective concentrations of MS-222 matches the range of effective concentrations reported for *G. pulex* by Ahmad (1969), although the comparison is not directly possible due to different assay temperatures. However, extrapolating to the dose- and temperature- dependent induction time reported by this author (p. 198), sedation at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> should be reached in approximately 50 min at 14-15°C, which is close to the induction time found here. By contrast, recovery time following immediate transfer to freshwater was much longer here (50 min) compared to the one reported by Ahmad (1969) at an even higher dose (16 min at 14-15°C, 800 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>). Sedative effect of Eugenol also confirms previous studies on crustaceans, but with variable induction and recovery time as well. Induction time of sedation in Eugenol at 100 µL. L<sup>-1</sup> (30 to 45 min) was slightly longer than the one reported for small shrimp at the same concentration and temperature (20 min in Li et al. 2018), but full recovery was reached sooner

(70 min compared to approx. 100 min in Li et al. 2018). These values are much higher than the ones reported for *G. minus* by Venarsky and Wilhem (2006) at 148  $\mu\text{L. L}^{-1}$ , what could be due to testing at different temperature (15°C here, versus 20°C), and to the criteria used to assess full sedation and recovery. To assess more accurately the concentration of MS-222 needed to induce the desired anesthetic effects at given induction or recovery times, a larger set of concentrations should be tested, and the optimal concentration derived from the best-fit model. The optimal concentration should be determined specifically for the species, body size of individuals, and, possibly, the source population under study.

The analgesic-like effect of MS-222 at 600  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  was evidenced in the lack of behavioral response of gammarids exposed to a noxious stimulus under anesthesia compared to unanesthetized ones. Archibald et al. (2019) concluded to a state of “surgical anesthesia” reached with MS-222 based on the lack of response to a mechanical noxious stimulus manually applied to Horseshoe crab (*Limulus polyphemus*). The absence of immediate withdrawal reaction to a noxious stimulus can result from the lack of either nociceptive perception or information processing under anesthesia, or that of motor response to the immediate stimulus (despite perception and processing). By contrast here, we recorded a delayed behavioral response after full recovery from anesthesia and in a context different from the one in which the noxious stimulus had been experienced. We can therefore conclude that the observed phenomenon was not due to motor impairment but resulted from nociception perception or integration. To our knowledge, this study is the first one to report such analgesic-like effect in crustaceans. Future studies should compare the anesthetic efficiency of drugs using behavioral responses that rely on different levels of information processing and integration, such as immediate reflex versus more cognitively demanding behavior. Eugenol at 100  $\mu\text{L. L}^{-1}$  was also effective as an anesthetic but performed slightly less than MS-222 (although the difference in effect size could not be considered as

significant). Additionally, it required longer recovery time at the induction time necessary to reach a significant analgesic-like effect. Lower efficiency of Eugenol compared to MS-222 (as sedative agents) has been reported by Coyle et al. (2004), while the reverse was found in crabs (Morgan et al., 2001). We did not test Eugenol at higher concentration, as full recovery time was already 40% longer than that of MS-222, and recovery time generally increases with increased concentration (Table A.1.). In addition, trends for decreased survival and higher ETS activity were observed here, albeit non-significant, which may warn against using higher concentration of Eugenol. A pilot study was also done to test for the analgesic properties of hypothermia with ice, as it is commonly used for hemolymph collection for instance. We did not find evidence for an analgesic-like effect of immersion in melted-ice (Appendix C). This result warns against using ice for surgical anesthesia in this temperate species of freshwater amphipod.

We further monitored the temporal changes in locomotion and O<sub>2</sub> consumption rate during sedation under MS-222. During the first half, swimming decreased sharply but locomotion was maintained at an intermediate rate corresponding to crawling on the side (pers. obs.) and oxygen consumption rate was comparable to that of controls. After 22 min in MS-222, gammarids switched from intermediate locomotion to inactivity. Oxygen consumption seemed to be retained at low rate until the last minutes of anesthesia. Recovery from sedation followed the opposite pattern, with first a sharp increase in intermediate locomotion at low O<sub>2</sub> consumption rate within the first 11 min, and then progressive increase in swimming and oxygen consumption rate. This sharp decrease in swimming in MS-222 bath and rapid resumption of moderate locomotion upon transfer to water, can be interpreted considering the mode of action of MS-222 at the tissue level (Stanley et al. 2020). The electrical activity in sensory neurons of crayfish abdominal muscle receptor organ and of crab chordotonal organ within the limb, showed a substantial decrease within 15 min incubation in

0.1% MS-222 and a gradual return within 20 min washing out (Stanley et al. 2020). The temporal dynamics of induction and recovery observed here at the level of whole-body motion is therefore consistent with these temporal changes in neural activity at the tissue level. This comparison between the organismic and tissue levels only considers motor mechanisms. It is not known whether swimming in these organisms is under motivational processing. Additionally, we did not find evidence for a complete cessation of oxygen consumption under full sedation with MS-222, although the respirometry device used did not allow a quantitative comparison with controls during phases of large differences in motion (last 22 min of anesthesia and first 22 min of recovery). The observed maintenance of  $O_2$  consumption at a low rate under sedated state is consistent with the sustained heart rate (but not gill rate) reported in Horseshow crab anesthetized with MS-222 (Archibald et al., 2019).

Overall, the temporal changes in locomotion and oxygen consumption during recovery together with the analgesic-like effect of MS-222 during the first 3 min recovery suggest that MS-222 is an efficient way to cope with stressful or harmful manipulations for a few minutes following transfer out of anesthetic bath. Future studies should be run to assess how long the analgesic-like effect lasts beyond these few minutes, given the fast resumption of locomotion at low-intermediate level during the first 11 min of recovery. For experiments requiring longer time under full anesthesia, it could be worth testing longer stay in MS-222 for manipulation, providing that side-effect are addressed concomitantly.

We did not find evidence for immediate after-effect of anesthesia on several physiological markers nor on survival at 6 days. In gammarids anesthetized with MS222 or Eugenol, cellular metabolism, non-enzymatic antioxidant capacity and neural homeostasis (approximated by AChE activity) were preserved at levels comparable to unanesthetized gammarids. The maintenance of total antioxidant capacity despite anesthesia with Eugenol is not consistent with a previous study suggesting its pro-oxidant effect in subadults of the white

shrimp *Litopenaeus vannamei* (Parodi et al. 2012). However, the induction of oxidative stress might have resulted from the long duration of incubation of white shrimps in eugenol (6 hrs) rather than from the concentration used (5 times lower for individuals at least 10 times bigger, compared to the present study). More generally, both low (residual) oxygen consumption and the short time under full sedation (evidenced in locomotory test with MS-222) may explain the lack of physiological imprint of incubation in MS-222 observed here. No effect on AChE activity was evidenced either, in agreement with the fairly high concentration needed to decrease AChE activity by 50% in the brain of minnow (*Phoxinus phoxinus*) (I50 at  $1.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$  M) compared to other chemicals (Olsen and Christensen, 1980). However, to complete this study, the response of other biomarkers commonly used in ecotoxicological studies should be investigated, such as Glutathione-S-Transferase activity (detoxification) and Heat-Shock-proteins (cellular homeostasis and stress response) (Kunz et al. 2010). In addition, possible long-term sublethal effects or carry-over effects of MS-222 should be investigated, especially if anesthesia must be repeatedly performed on the same individuals.

## Conclusion

We provide evidence for the efficiency and safety of MS-222 incubation for anesthesia of *G. pulex*, including analgesic-like effect, contrasting with mixed evidence based on previous studies on crustaceans. Eugenol was as efficient as MS-222 in inducing sedation, but less in inducing analgesia-like effect. The use of Eugenol for full anesthesia should therefore require further investigation with either a longer induction time or higher concentration, at the risk of inducing changes in metabolism, mortality or oxidative stress as reported in previous studies, and suspected here. The comparison to previous studies was limited by (1) the lack of studies on analgesic-like effect; (2) heterogeneity among studies in the optimal concentration and times for sedation. Noticeably, both the efficiency of sedative agent and its consistency

vary between species and, within species, with size and temperature, suggesting that species-specific studies comparing different drugs should be performed prior to using any anesthetic procedure (Darbyshire et al. 2019; Table 1). Heterogeneity or lack of consistency across studies could also be due to variable criteria used to determine sedation state based on locomotion pattern and escape response. For instance, it is surprising to find no relationship between induction and recovery time across studies (Table 1:  $N = 15$ ,  $Rho=0.06$ ,  $P = 0.82$ ). We suggest that visual inspection of immobility and lack of reaction to manual stimulus still comes with lack of precision, and automated system to record locomotion and deliver stimulus should therefore be preferred. In addition, they should be used for assessment of sedative effect only, with limited reliability to assess the level of stress or nociception experienced by the animal. For instance, here, induction time of 30 min at  $100 \mu\text{L} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  Eugenol fulfilled sedation criteria, yet it did not prevent gammarids from experiencing nociception. Validation of anesthetic procedure should therefore rely on analgesia/amnesic effects.

The properties required for anesthesia vary both in duration and intensity, depending on the objective. Transportation and mildly stressful handling rely on light sedation, while managing stress and nociception associated with intensive and invasive manipulation respectively, requires full anesthesia. Optimal duration also depends on transportation and manipulation constraints and should balance the potential deleterious effect of high concentration for quick induction versus long induction time at low concentration. This study shows that both “Do-it-yourself” engineering and standard paradigm can be used to design standardized and flexible tests. We hope it will stimulate further investigation, not only to optimize sedative-anesthetic procedures for transportation, but also for stressful and invasive manipulation of aquatic invertebrates.

590 *Ethics.* The study complies with the rules of ethics as prescribed by the French legislation and  
591 the Université de Bourgogne Franche-Comté.

592 *Data accessibility.* Data are available from Mendeley Repository: V1, doi:  
593 10.17632/yfsjx8p7vv.1

594 *Authorship statements*

595 Marie-Jeanne Perrot-Minnot: conceptualization, methodology, investigation, formal analysis,  
596 visualization, writing original draft. Aude Balourdet: conceptualization, investigation. Olivier  
597 Musset: conceptualization, methodology, investigation, visualization, writing original draft.

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602

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## Figure legends

Fig. 1. Electric shock device: the ES-chamber is made of a 3D block holding two flat electrodes, as seen from the bottom view (a), in which four wires are embedded on each side, delivering electric current to electrodes via two plugs connected to electric power supply, as seen from the top view (b). Total dimensions of ES-chamber:  $L \times W \times H = 95 \times 70 \times 40 \text{ mm}^3$  for a swimming volume of dimensions  $L \times W \times H = 50 \times 50 \times 27 \text{ mm}^3$ . The ES-chamber can be easily placed in and removed out of the arena used to score refuge use, as pictured in (c): full setting to expose gammarid to ES and subsequently score refuge use after removing ES-chamber and following recovery (refuge is made of half a terracotta sauce with three entries, one in the front, and one on each side).

Fig. 2. Measurement of the electrical characteristics of tap water according to distance between electrodes for three voltages ( $\Delta V$ ) (a) current  $I$  in mA, (b) resistance  $R$  (Ohms). The vertical line corresponds to the actual distance between the electrodes in the device (5 cm).

Figure 3. Measurement of the voltage difference between the mass and a point in the swimming volume (a), and the calculation of corresponding electric field  $E$  (b), with a voltage applied between electrodes of 10V. The small voltage drop (0.5V at  $Y=0$ ) giving a full voltage less than the programmed 10V is induced by a current limiting and measurement resistor placed in series in the circuit. The electric field is indeed almost constant over the swimming area, both between electrodes ( $Y$  axis) and along each electrode ( $X$  axis), with a value of about 1.8V/cm (b).

Fig. 4. Simplified block diagram of the control electronics with 12 output channels (3\*4) (a) (AB - Arduino Board, AS - Arduino Screen), VC - Voltage conditioners, RB - Relay Boards, USB - I/O to PC controller, OC - Output Connector, and view of the PC user interface (b).

Fig. 5. Dose-effect of MS-222 in *G. pulex* males on the time for induction of sedation (a) and for recovery from sedation (b). Gammarids were immersed individually in MS-222 bath to monitor induction time, and in water to monitor recovery time. Full sedation was determined from the lack of pleopod beating and escape reaction to a tactile stimulus, and recovery from resuming escape reaction to the same stimulus. Sample size is 20 individuals per concentration.

Fig. 6. Resumption of locomotor activity of *G. pulex* males following anesthesia in MS-222 at 600 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> for 45 min, and 50 min recovery in water: proportion of time spent immobile (Immob.: <7 mm.s<sup>-1</sup>), at intermediate velocity (Interm.: 7-15 mm.s<sup>-1</sup>) or swimming (Swim.: > 15mm.s<sup>-1</sup>) by gammarids during 15 min recording period. Sample size is 24 for anesthetized group, 36 for controls.

Fig. 7. Refuge use of gammarids following exposure to noxious stimulus (electric shock: E.S.) or not (Cont. E) under anesthesia or not (Cont. A). Anesthesia was done by immersion in (a) MS-222 for 45 min (600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup>), (b) Eugenol for 30 min induction (Eug.30) and 45 min. induction (Eug.45) (both at 100 µL. L<sup>-1</sup>). The refuge use of individual gammarids was recorded after 50 min (MS-222 and Eug. 30) or 70 min (Eug. 45) of recovery in water following anesthesia and exposure to ES. The score of refuge use is the number of times individual gammarids were under refuge out of the maximum score

(20) during a 10 min time sampling period and is therefore reported as a frequency.  
Sample size is given below bars.

Fig. 8. Effect size of noxious stimulus on refuge use by *G. pulex*, according to the anesthetic treatment prior to delivering electric shocks (ES): MS-222 at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> (45 min. induction time), Eugenol at 100 mL.L<sup>-1</sup> (30 min or 45 min induction time, 50 or 70 min recovery time, respectively) and two controls (exposed to ES without anesthesia). Effect size was estimated using Cliff Delta index (and 95% CI): the closer it is to zero, the weaker is the change in refuge use 50 min (MS-222; Eugenol 30-50; Control 50) to 70 min (Eugenol 45-70; Control 70) after exposure to electric shocks. Following Romano et al. (2006), the magnitude of effect size can be considered as negligible (less than 0.147), small (between 0.147 and 0.33), medium (between 0.33 and 0.474), or strong (higher than 0.474) (dashed vertical lines).

Fig. 9. Monitoring of changes in locomotor activity of individual gammarids during anesthesia by immersion in MS-222 at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> (b, e) and during recovery in water following 45 min immersion in anesthetic bath (c, f) compared to controls. The proportion of time spent at different speed levels (immobile: < 7 mm.s<sup>-1</sup> (a, b, c); intermediate level: 7 to 15 mm. s<sup>-1</sup> (d, e, f); swimming: > 15 mm. s<sup>-1</sup> (g, h, i)) was recorded during four consecutive bins of 11 min each. Sample size is 36 for anesthesia, and 36 for recovery. Controls (a, d) placed in water were handled either as gammarids in MS-222 (N = 24) or as gammarids recovering (N = 12). Groups with different letters above bars are significantly different at  $P = 0.05$ , after Friedman test and a posteriori multiple pairwise comparisons (at immobility and swimming activity only).

Fig.10. Oxygen consumption rate of *G. pulex* during incubation in MS-222 at 600 mg. L<sup>-1</sup> (N=63) (a to d), and during the first 33 min recovery in water (e to g), compared with *G. pulex* in control water (N=26). Oxygen consumption rate was estimated as the regression slope of O<sub>2</sub> consumption (difference in [O<sub>2</sub>] in each well compared to blank well without gammarid multiplied by well volume), on time in min. The 45 min continuous recording of individual gammarids (during anesthetic bath) and 30 min recording during recovery in CW, was split in four bins of 11 min for illustration and analysis.

Figure 1

(1.5 column)

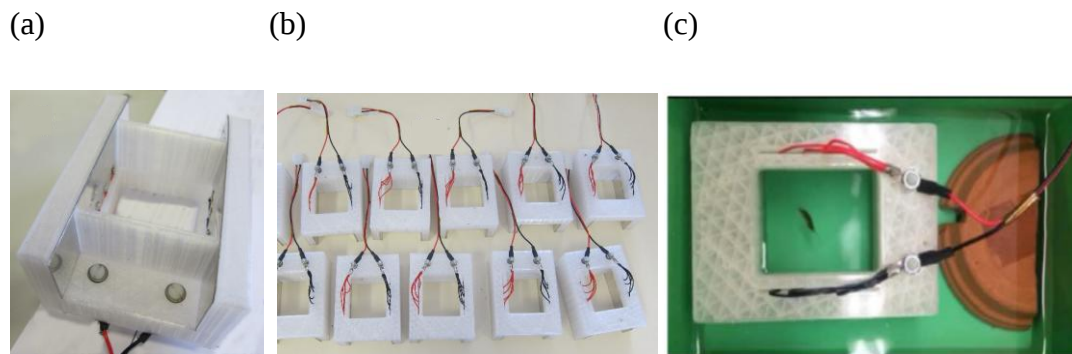
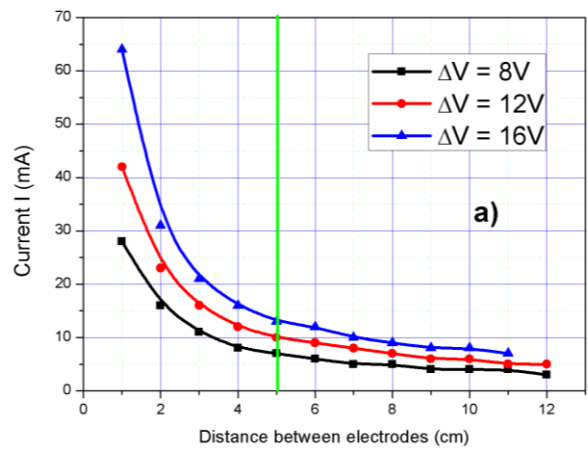


Figure 2  
(single column)

(a)



(b)

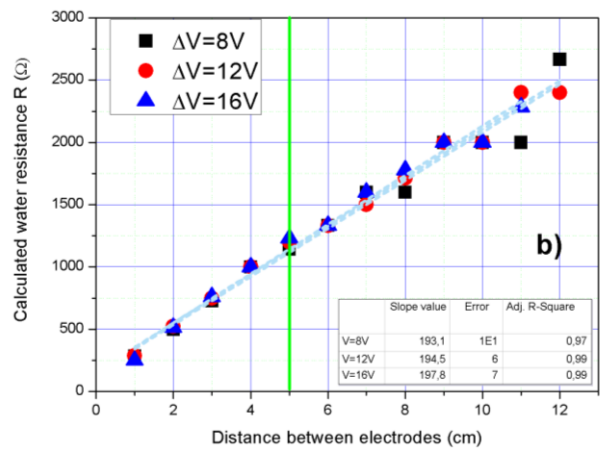


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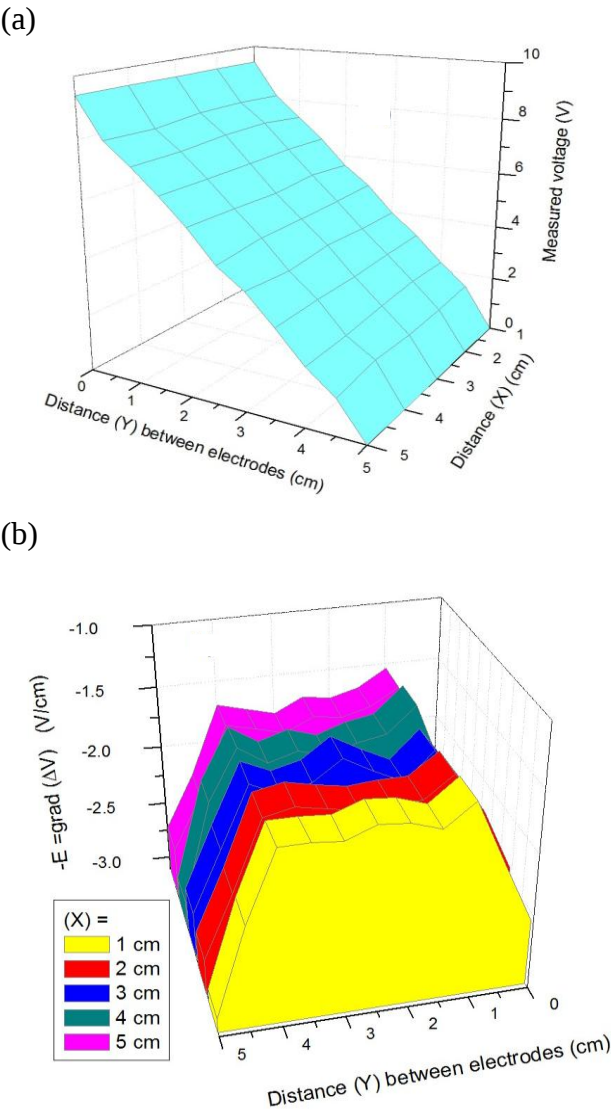
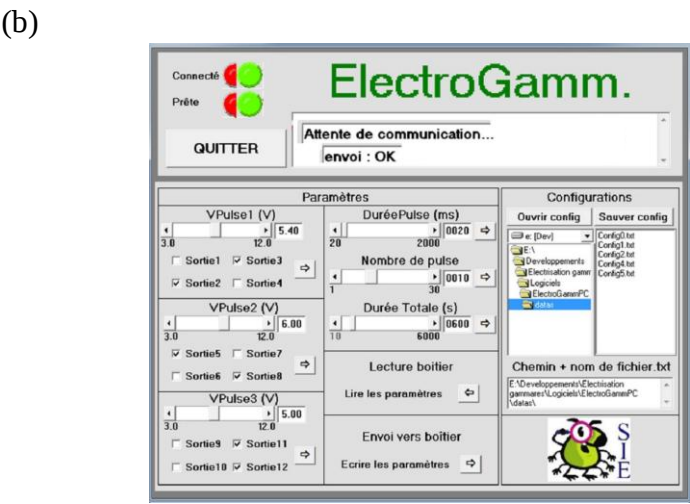
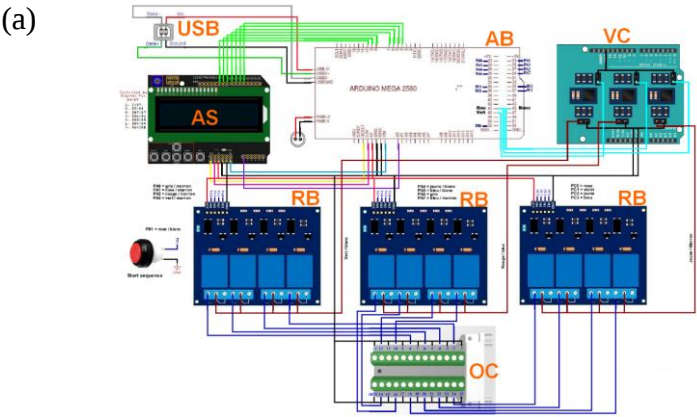
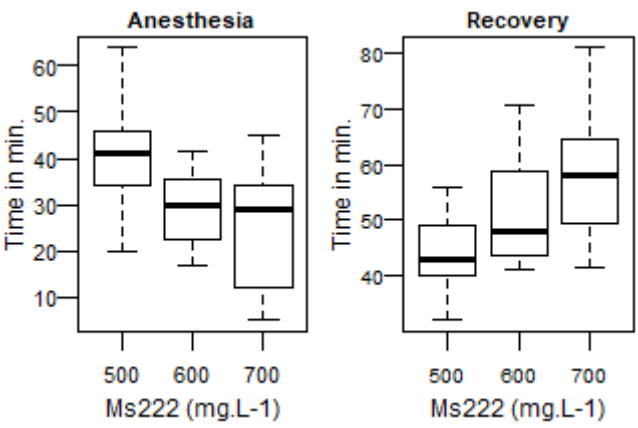


Figure 4  
(single column)



835 Figure 5  
836 (single column)

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Figure 6  
(single column)

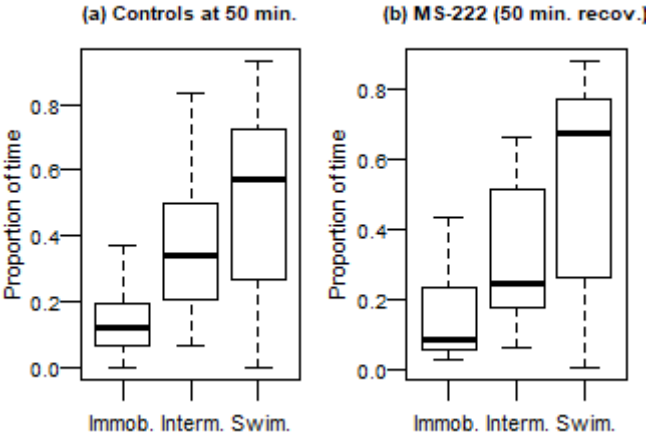


Figure 7  
(1.5 column)

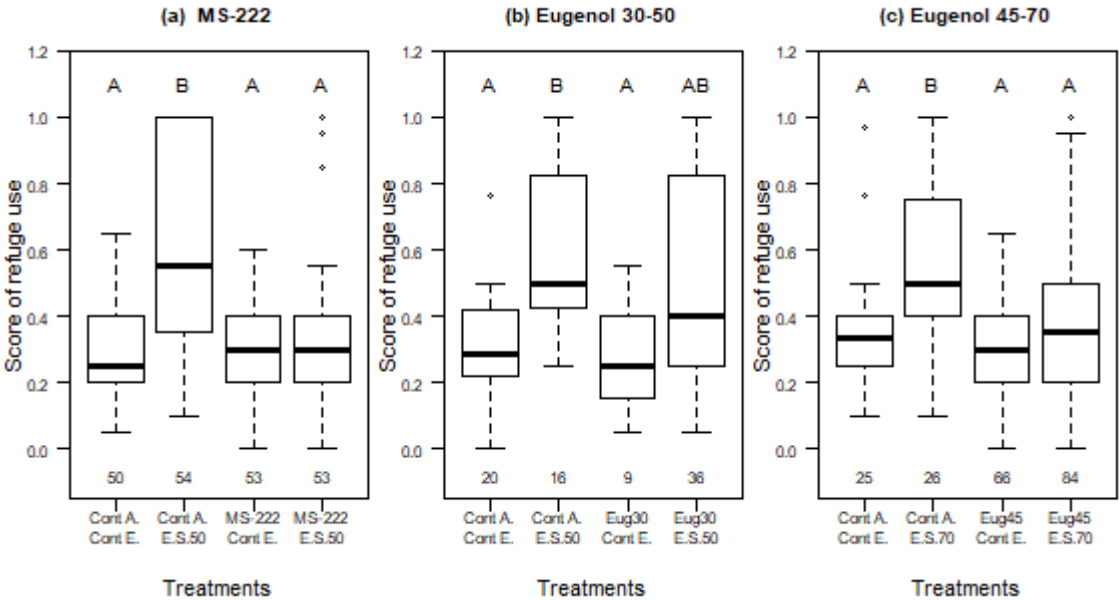


Figure 8  
(single column)

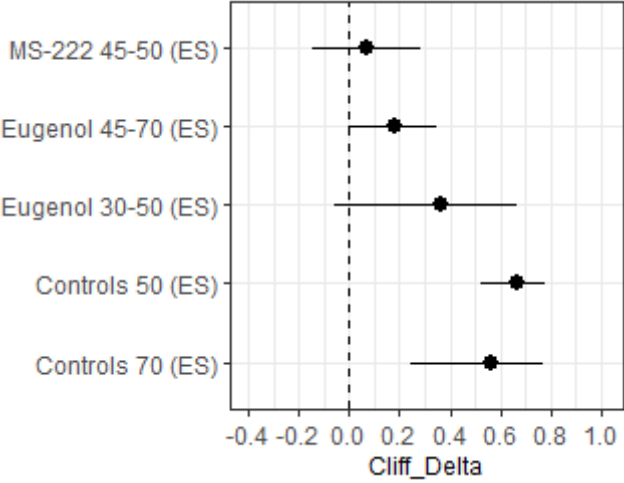


Figure 9  
(2 columns)

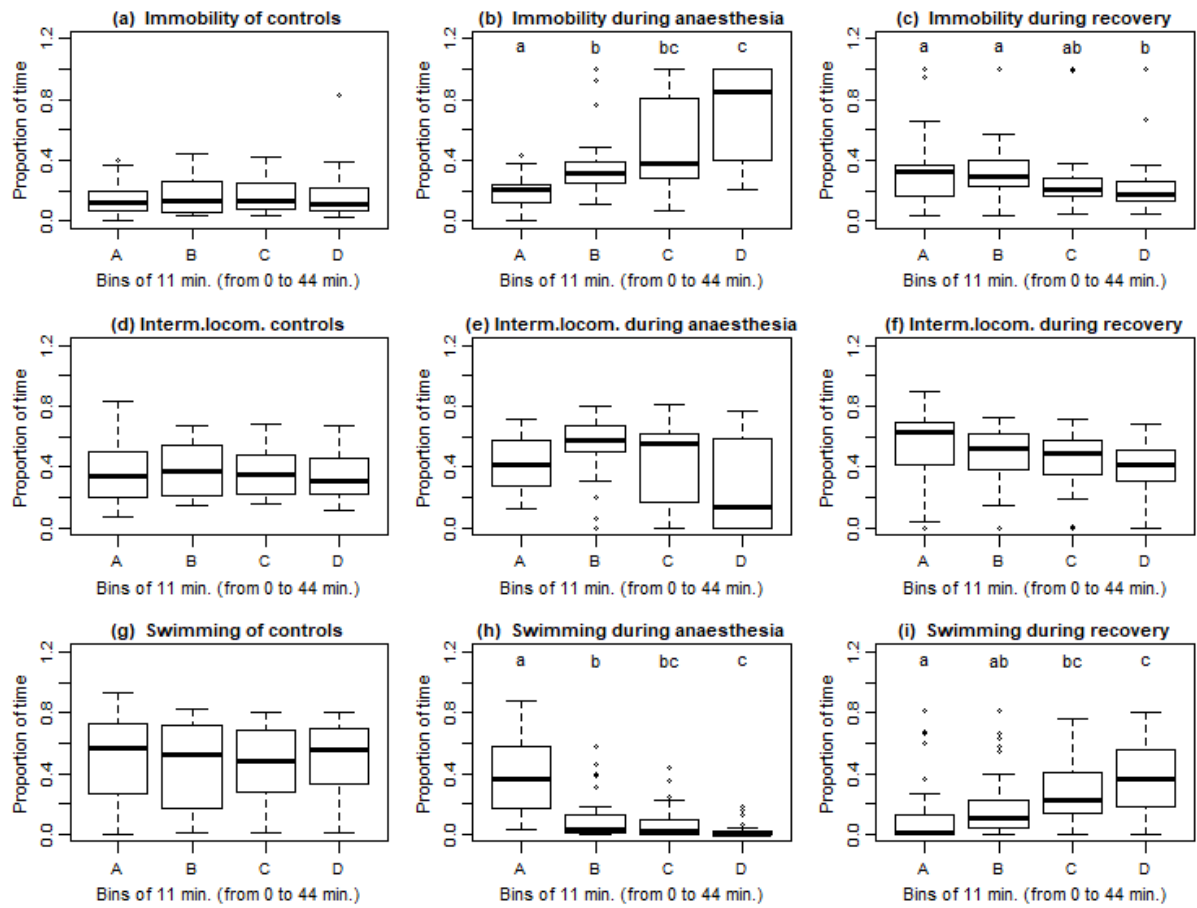


Figure 10  
(1.5 column)

