

ASMS Environmental Applications Working Group – Workshop Report 2015

The Environmental Working Group's workshop this year featured scientists early in their careers. Each participant spoke five minutes about their work and the challenges they are having or have had. The mix included two post docs Whitney Stutts (FDA, CFSAN), Veronica Termoli (University of Urbino) and three PhD candidates Hannah Liberatore (University of South Carolina), Kari Organtini (Penn State) and Jeremy Koelmel (University of Florida). After each participant discussed their research, time was allowed for questions and discussion with the working group. The question and discussion period provided a good opportunity for the exchange of ideas and information for both the attendees and speakers. Topics covered included microcystins contamination of dietary supplements (W. Stutts), the discovery of new disinfectant byproducts (H.Liberatore), PFOS and a possible link to exposure and obesity (J. Kolmel), health risks to firefighters from fire debris (K. Organtini), and advancements in LC-Direct EI interfacing (V. Termoli). Overall, the workshop seemed quite successful, and lively discussions continued after its completion at the annual post workshop dinner. As an additional summary of the activities, pdf's for each participant's discussion slides are provided (with their permission) on the working group webpage.

Sincerely,

Chris Gill and Marc Engel,
Co-Chairs, ASMS Environmental Working Group

Challenges in the Identification of New Toxic Iodinated Disinfection By-Products Using Mass Spectrometry

Hannah K. Liberatore¹, Yang Yang³, Yukako Komaki²,
Susana Y. Kimura¹, Hong-Ying Hu³, Elizabeth D. Wagner²,
Michael J. Plewa², and Susan D. Richardson¹

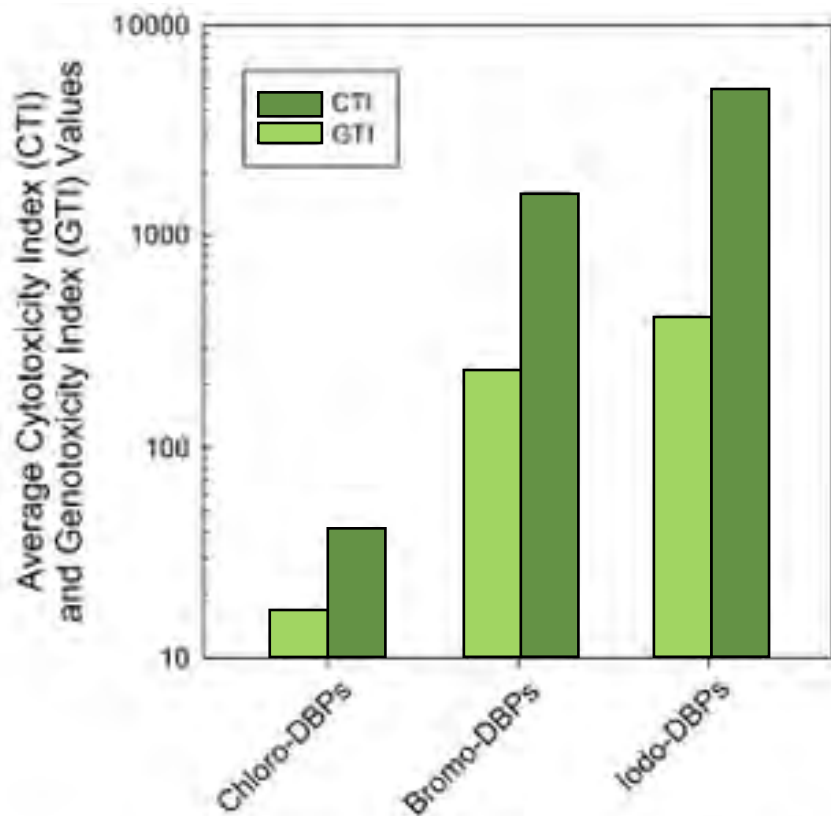
¹University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

²University of Illinois, Urbana, IL

³Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

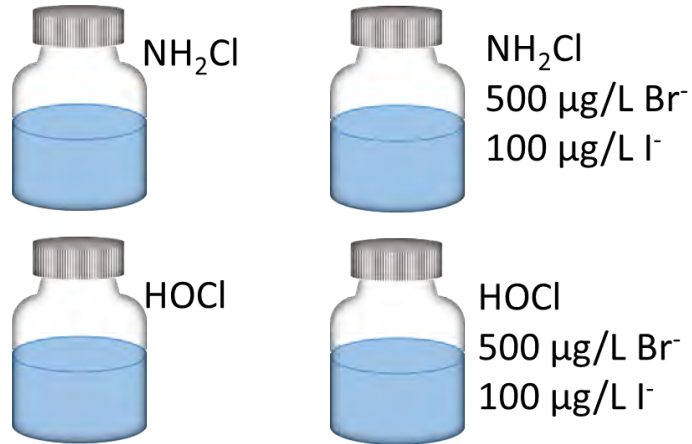


Disinfection By-Products (DBPs)



Halogenated DBP
Relative Toxicity:
 $I > Br \gg Cl$

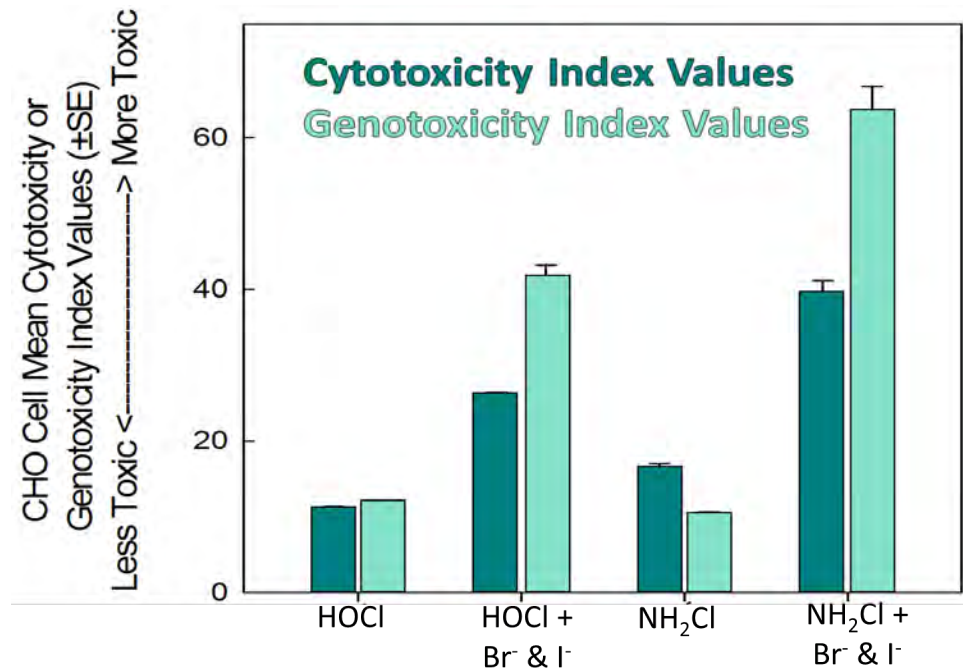
Disinfection Scenarios Investigated:



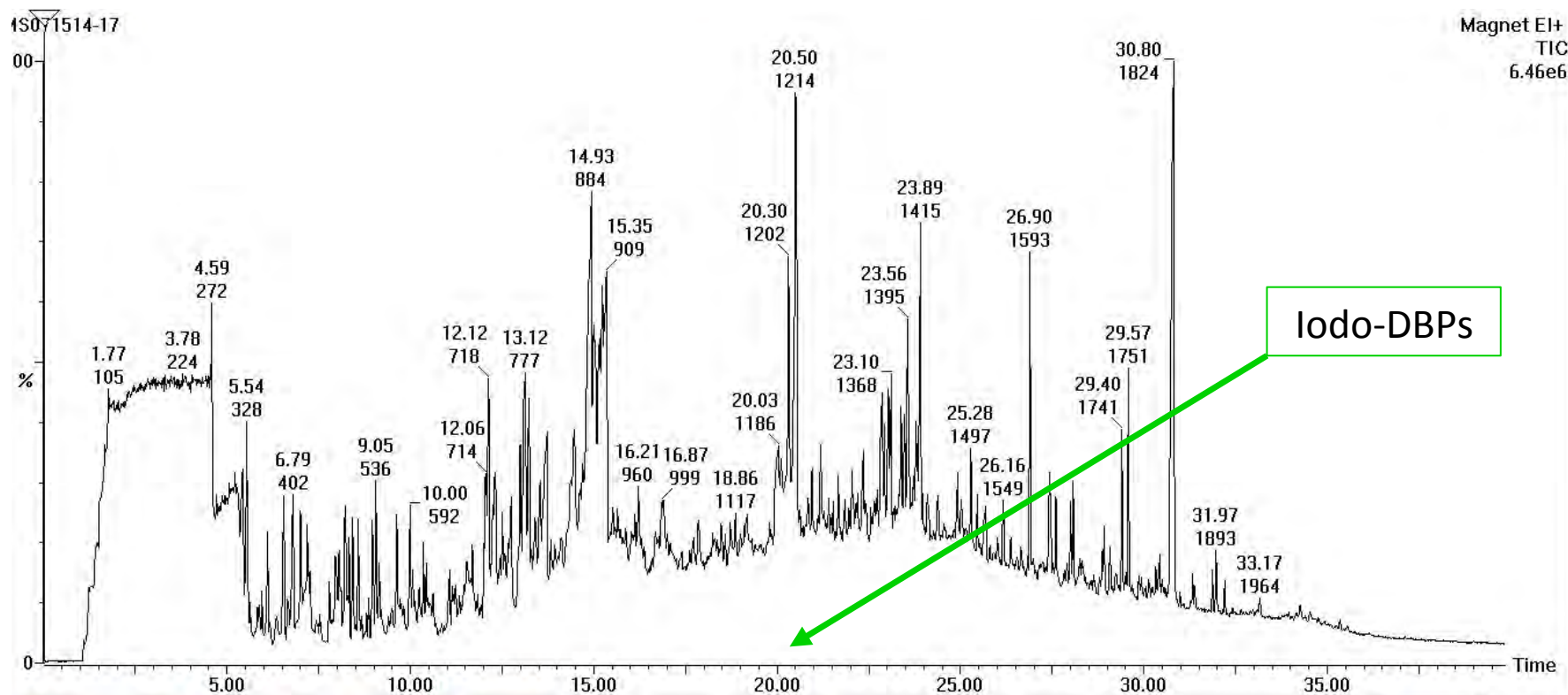
Toxicity of both disinfection processes increased with the addition of bromide and iodide

Chloraminated water with Br^- and I^- spike was the most toxic of the scenarios tested

High and low resolution GC/MS used to identify DBPs contributing to this elevated toxicity



Finding a Needle in a Haystack: DBP Identification By GC/MS



> 1000 compounds per sample – most unidentified

Toxic Iodo-DBPs of particular concern

Challenges of Iodo-DBP Identification

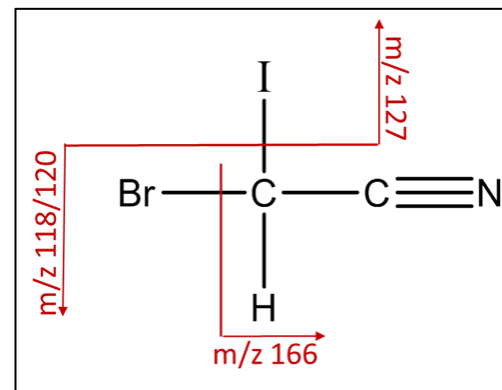
- Not many iodo-DBPs have been identified
- No telltale isotopic patterns indicating iodine
- XIC m/z 127 – I^+ fragment
- 127 not unique to I-containing compounds

Solution: High resolution & accurate mass

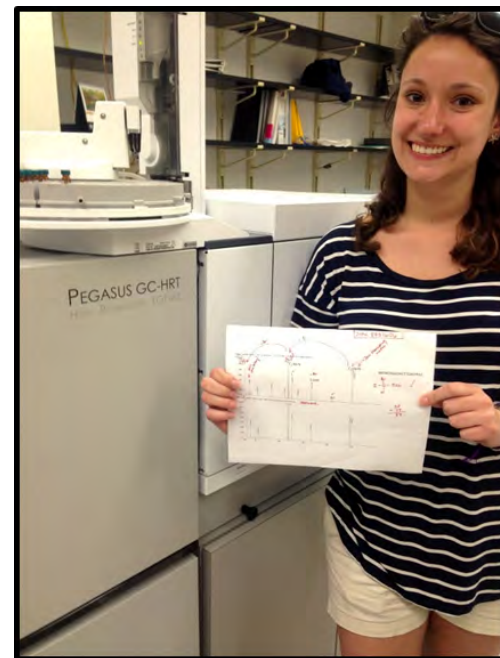
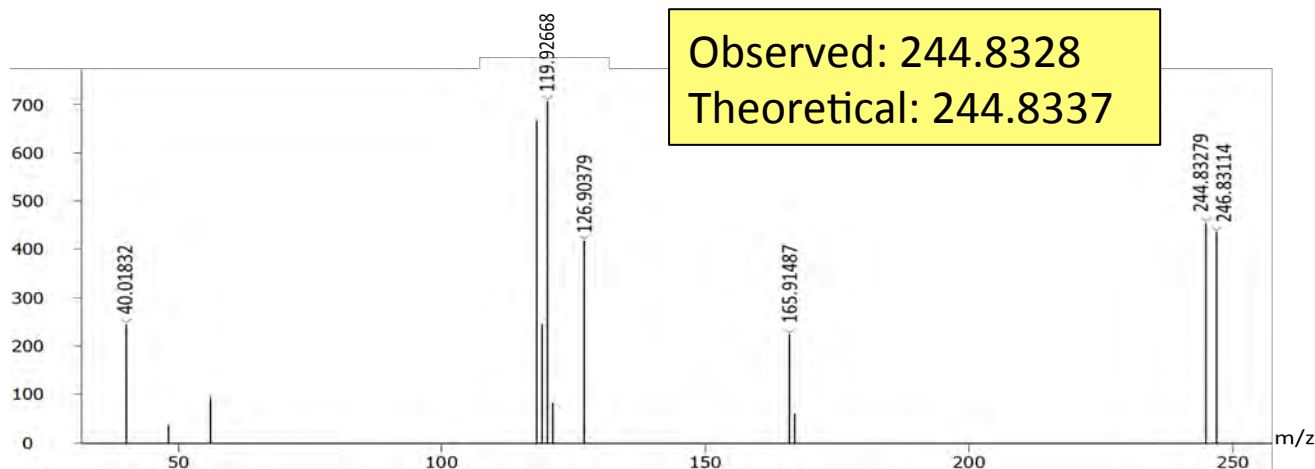
Fragment	Exact Mass	Resolution Needed
$CHClBr^+$	126.8950	13,421 520
I^+	126.9045	
$C_9H_{19}^+$	127.1487	

Discovery of New Iodo-DBP

- LECO Pegasus GC-HRT time-of-flight mass spectrometer
- High resolution: 25,000
 - Maximum: 50,000
- Accurate mass
- XIC m/z 126.904
- Continuing data analysis for iodoacetonitriles and other new iodo-DBPs

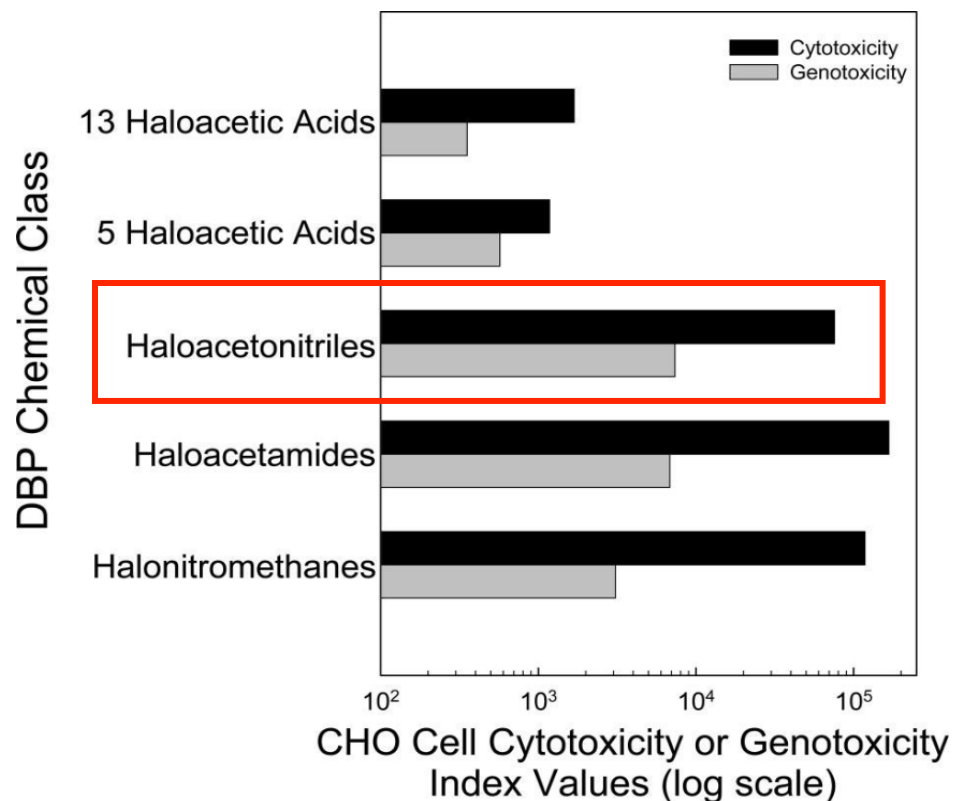


Bromoiodoacetonitrile



Haloacetonitriles are one of the most toxic classes of DBPs

Bromoiodoacetonitrile is likely to be the ***most toxic*** haloacetonitrile identified to date



Acknowledgments

- NSF WaterCAMPWS (Award CTS-0120978)
- U.S. EPA STAR grant R834867
- U.S. Department of Education's GAANN Fellowship through the University of South Carolina's Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry



Michael Plewa



Susan Richardson
Susana Kimura-Hara
Richardson Group



Jonathan Byer



ADVANCEMENTS IN LC-DIRECT EI-MS INTERFACING: NEW STRATEGIES TO BOOST SENSITIVITY AND SPECIFICITY.

- **Veronica Termopoli**, Laura Magrini, Giorgio Famiglini, Pierangela Palma and Achille Cappiello.
- LC-MS Laboratory, University of Urbino, Urbino, Italy.

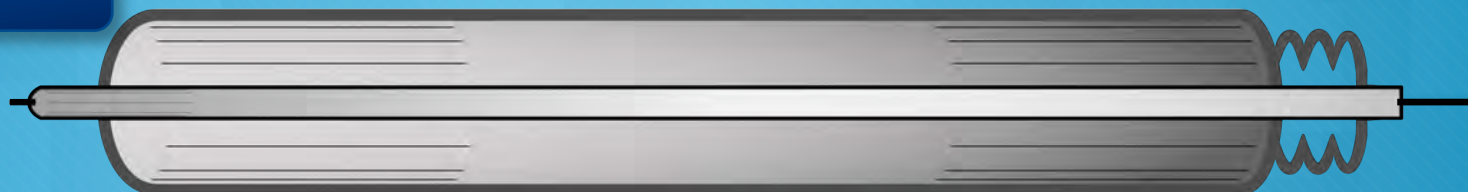
DIRECT EI INTERFACE: HOW DOES IT WORK?

TRIPLE QUAD

VACUUM HEATED REGION

UHPLC
FLOW RATE

EI SOURCE



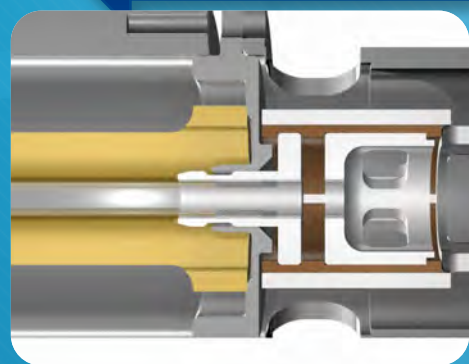
M^+

4 - Analyte
ionization

3 - Solute
vaporization

2 - Solvent
evaporation

1 - Aerosol
formation



Cappiello et al., *Anal. Chem.*, 2008, 80 (23), pp 9343–9348.
Cappiello et al., *Anal. Chem.*, 2007, 79 (14), pp 5364–5372.

LC- DIRECT ELECTRON IONIZATION MASS SPECTROMETRY

Agilent UHPLC
1290 Infinity

Agilent 7000 QqQ

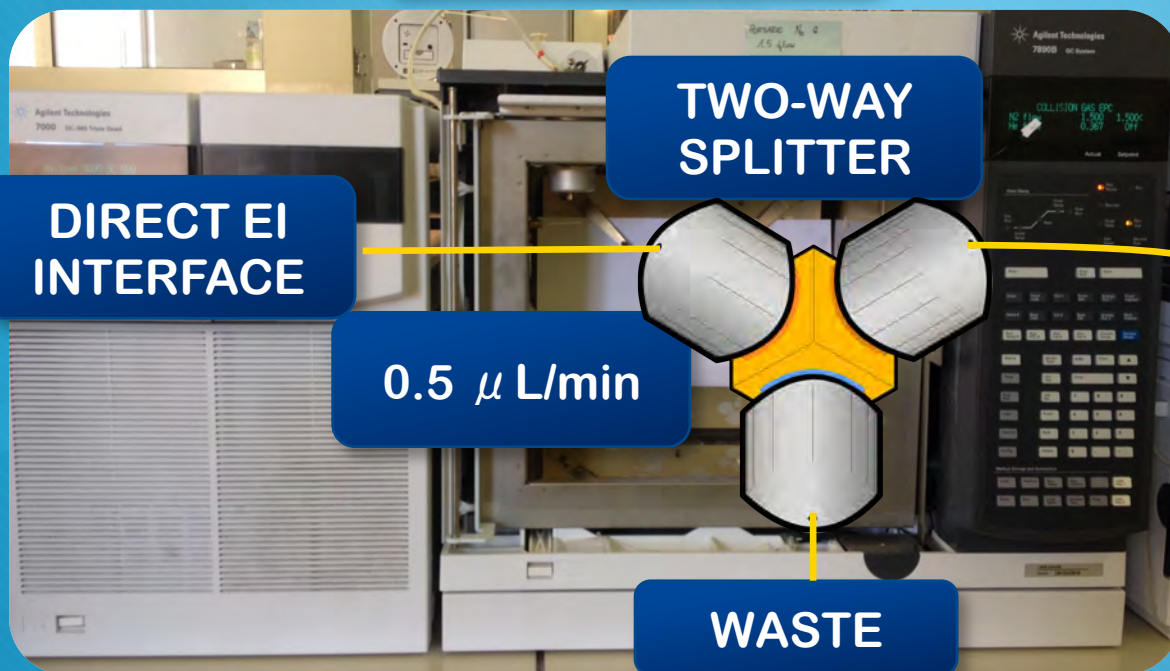
DIRECT EI
INTERFACE

TWO-WAY
SPLITTER

0.5 μ L/min

WASTE

100 μ L/min



ADVANTAGES... DISADVANTAGES...

+

EXTREMELY SIMPLE INTERFACE

EASY IDENTIFICATION USING ELECTRONIC
MASS SPECTRA LIBRARIES

NO EVIDENT
MATRIX EFFECTS

LC AND GC-AMENABLE
COMPOUNDS IN THE SAME
CHROMATOGRAPHIC RUN

-

LIMITED
SENSITIVITY AND
SELECTIVITY WITH
COMPOUNDS THAT
HAVE A HIGH
BOILING POINT
AND HIGH
MOLECULAR
WEIGHT

HOW TO BOOST SENSITIVITY AND SPECIFICITY?

MS/MS

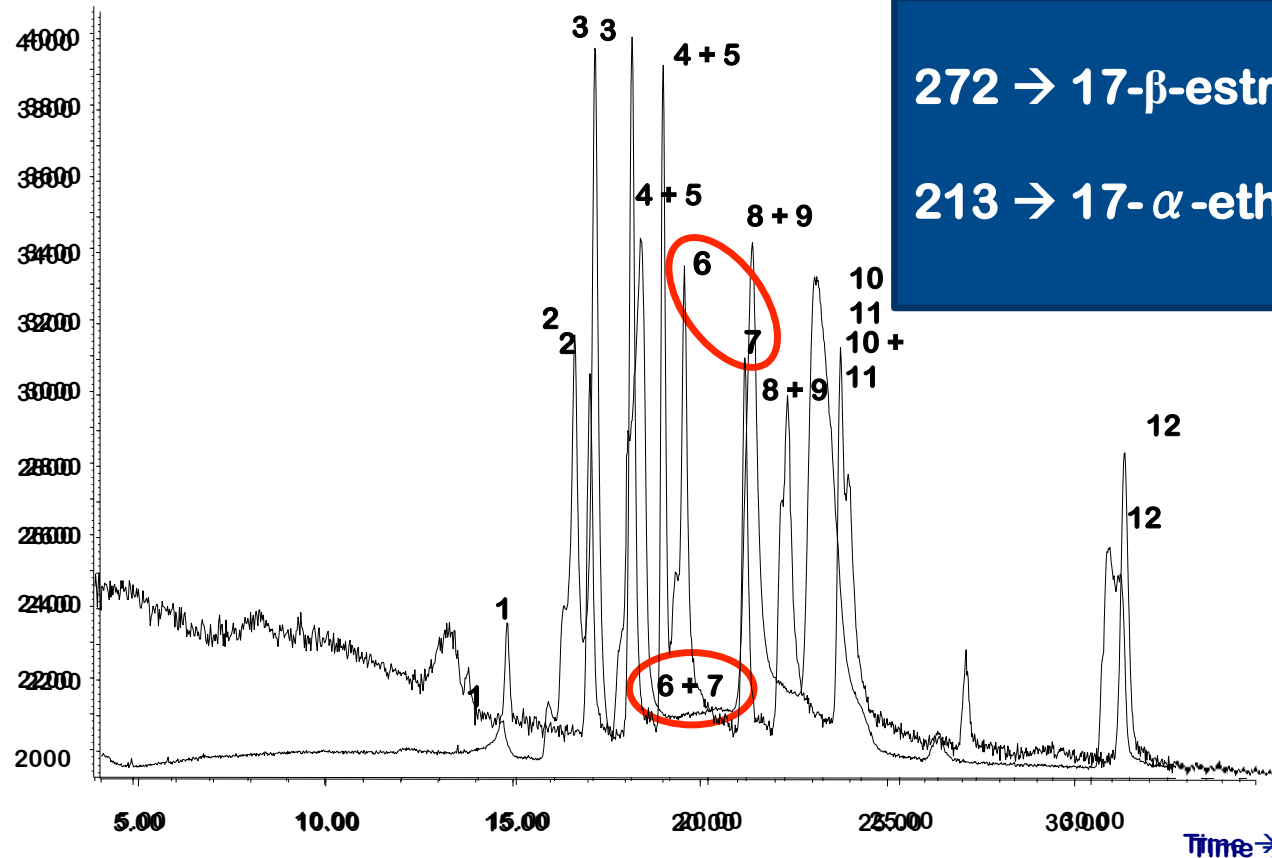
NEW
VAPORIZATION
SURFACE

CERAMIC
COATED
ION
SOURCE



METAL Vs CERAMIC COATING: PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Abundance



272 → 17- β -estradiol

213 → 17- α -ethynilestradiol

- 6. 272 → 17- β -estradiol
- 7. 213 → 17- α -ethynilestradiol
- 8. 162 → 2,4 DB
- 9. 142 → MCPB
- 10. 268 → diethylstilbestrol
- 11. 196 → silvex
- 12. 227 → mestranol

Mix 12 50/50 MeOH/EtOH; flow rate: 500 nL/min; mobile phase: water (A), acetonitrile (B), both acidified with 0,1% of TFA. Elution gradient : 0% B → 40 % B in 5 min, 40% B → 80% B in 35 min. Injection volume : 60 nL; SIM one group : dwell time : 40 millis, 0,86 cycle/s; Temperature: 350°C

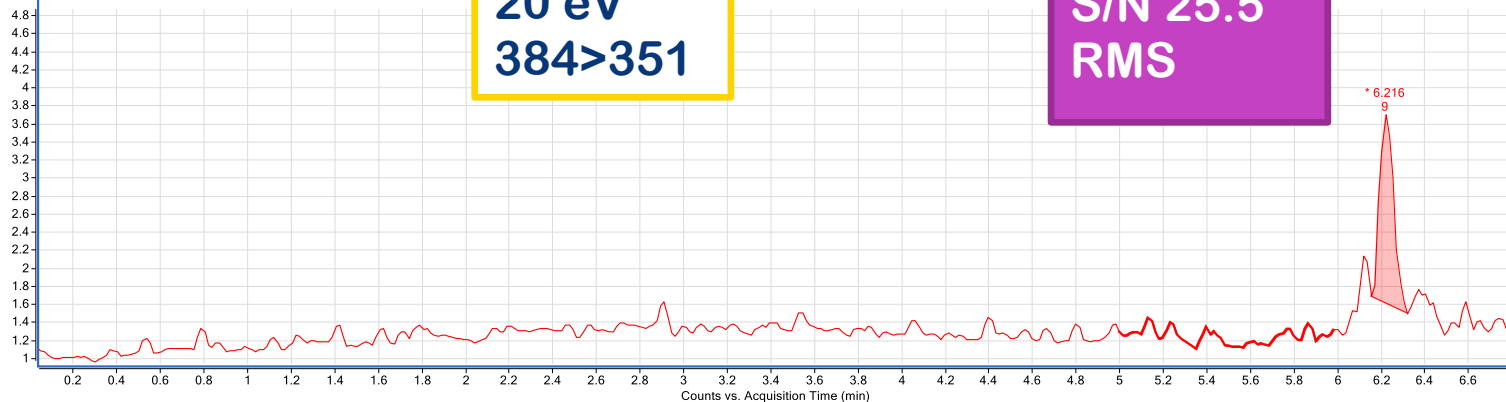
....PLAY WITH DIFFERENT IONIZATION ENERGIES!!!!

40 pg/ μ L of Vitamin D₃ in plasma...

+EI MRM CID@5.0 (384.0 $\rightarrow$ 351.0) CHOLECAL_RECPLASMA_002.D
Noise (RMS) = 0.08; SNR (6.216min) = 25.5

20 eV
384>351

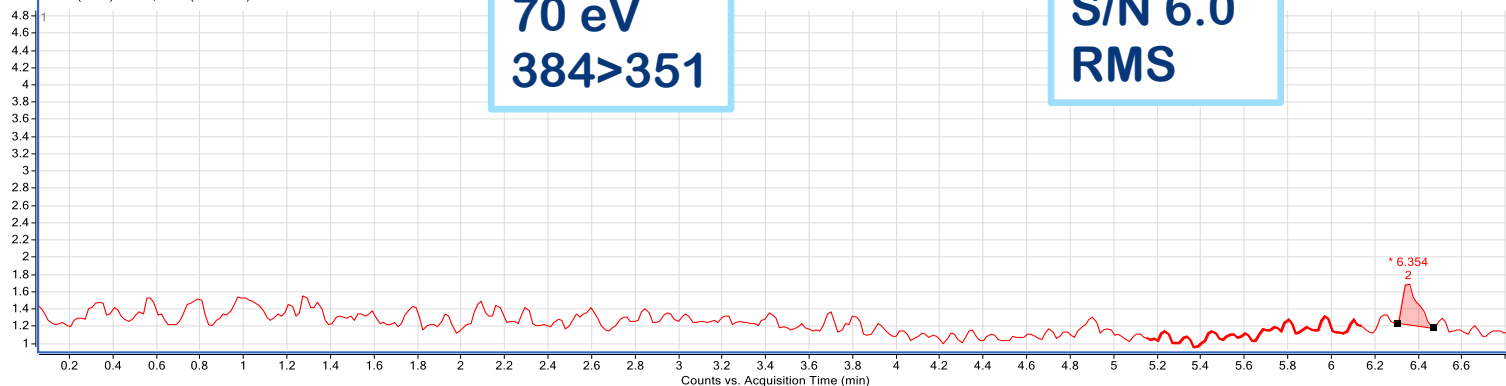
S/N 25.5
RMS



+EI MRM CID@5.0 (384.0 $\rightarrow$ 351.0) CHOLECAL_PLASMA_005.D
Noise (RMS) = 0.08; SNR (6.354min) = 6.0

70 eV
384>351

S/N 6.0
RMS





Thanks.....



Agilent Technologies



Utilization of Atmospheric Pressure Ionization Coupled to Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometry for the Analysis of Mixed-Halogenated Dioxins and Furans

Kari Organtini, Eric Reiner, Karl Jobst, Anne Myers, Adam Ladak, Doug Stevens, and Frank Dorman

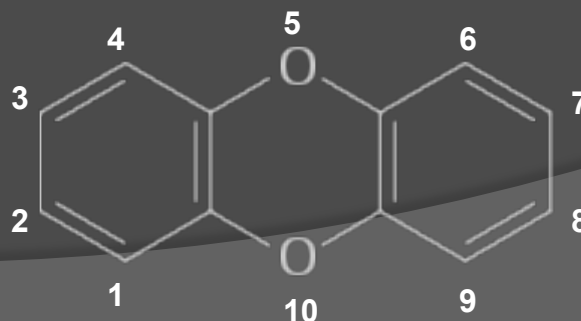
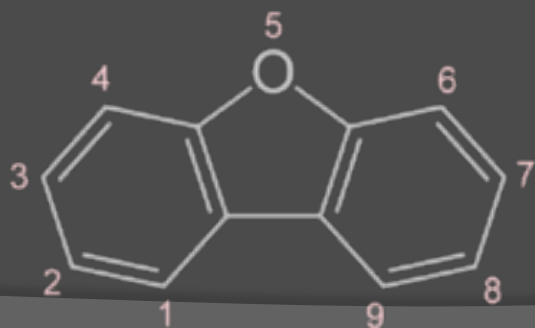
PENNSSTATE



Eberly College
of Science

Dibenzo-p-dioxin/Dibenzofuran in fire debris

- Persistent environmental pollutants
 - 17 polychloro- congeners monitored by WHO
- Unintentional combustion byproducts
 - Municipal waste incinerators
 - Generation from brominated flame retardants during fires?
- Many studies performed on polychloro's (PCDD/Fs)
- Few analytical and biochemical studies of the mixed halo congeners have been performed (PXDD/Fs and PBDD/Fs)



Analytical Challenges:

- Complex matrix
- Complex separation
 - 5000 possible PXDD/F, PCDD/F, and PBDD/F congeners
 - 421 2,3,7,8-substituted congeners
- Limited availability of commercially available standards
- Trace level concentrations



GCxGC-TOFMS

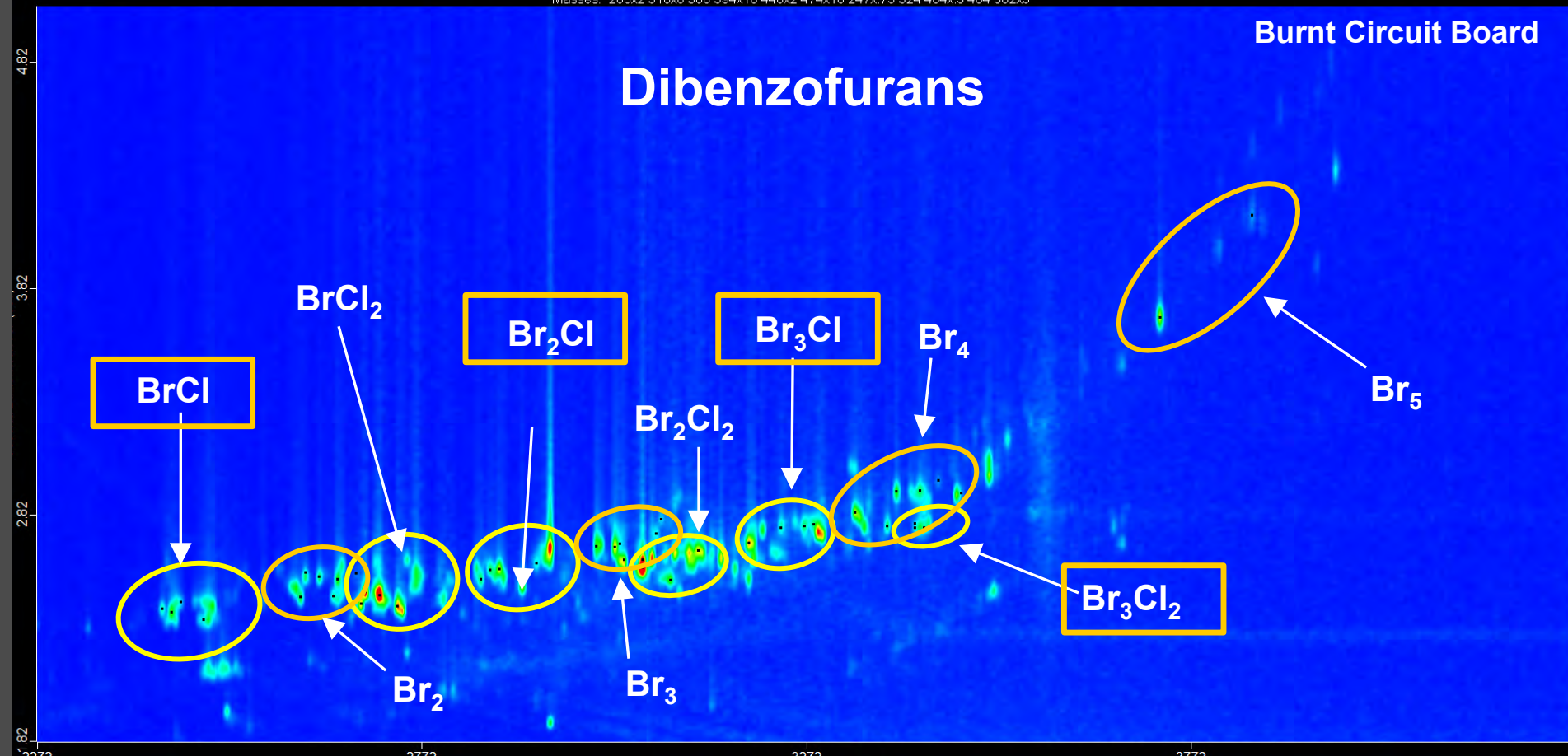


APGC-MS/MS

GCxGC-TOFMS Analysis

Electronics Fire Simulation Sample

Masses: 280x2 316x6 360 394x10 440x2 474x10 247x.75 324 404x.5 484 562x3

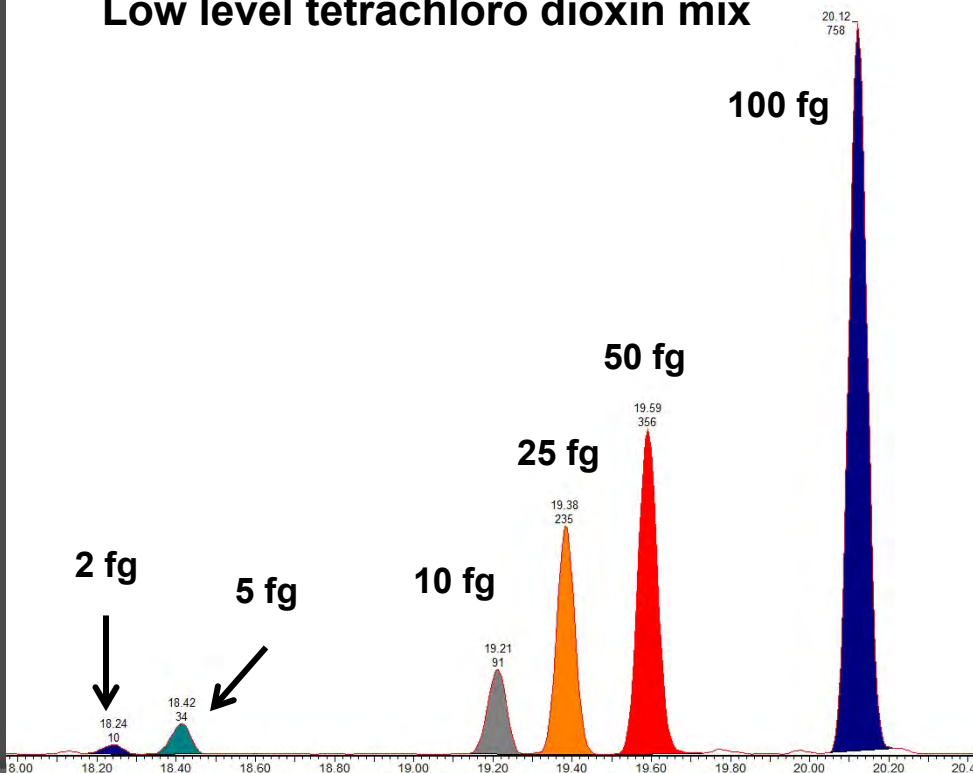


- Household fire generated a variety of PBDFs
- Electronics fire generated a variety of PBDFs and PXDFs
- No dioxin compounds identified
- Congener profiles very heterogeneous between samples

APGC-MS/MS Analysis

- Instrumentation is highly sensitive (fg level)
- We qualified APGC-MS/MS as a dioxin instrument
 - Historically GC-HRMS is used
- APGC-MS/MS MDLs are 2-20 times lower than GC-HRMS in multiple matrices for dioxins

Low level tetrachloro dioxin mix



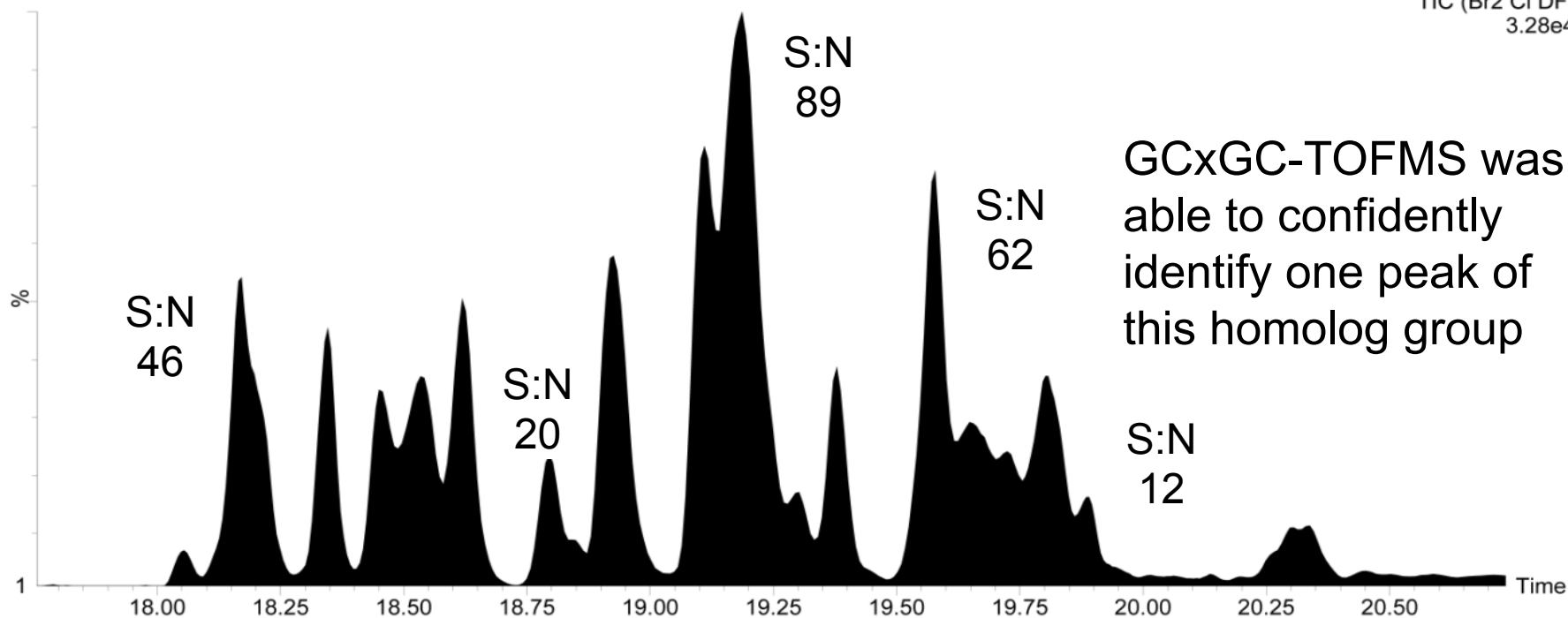
Manuscript submitted for publication

		Soil matrix (n=10)	
Compound	units	APGC-MS/MS MDL	GC-HRMS MDL
2,3,7,8-TCDF	pg/g	0.17	0.68
2,3,7,8-TCDD	pg/g	0.15	0.80
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDF	pg/g	1.32	2.64
2,3,4,7,8-PeCDF	pg/g	0.48	2.22
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDD	pg/g	0.39	3.85
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDF	pg/g	0.78	2.28
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF	pg/g	0.54	1.01
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDF	pg/g	0.41	2.21
2,3,4,6,7,8-HxCDF	pg/g	0.37	2.30
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD	pg/g	0.62	3.79
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD	pg/g	0.40	3.01
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDD	pg/g	0.35	4.28
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDF	pg/g	0.28	3.36
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpCDF	pg/g	0.56	4.87
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD	pg/g	0.41	1.62
OCDF	pg/g	0.74	4.85
OCDD	pg/g	1.42	4.49

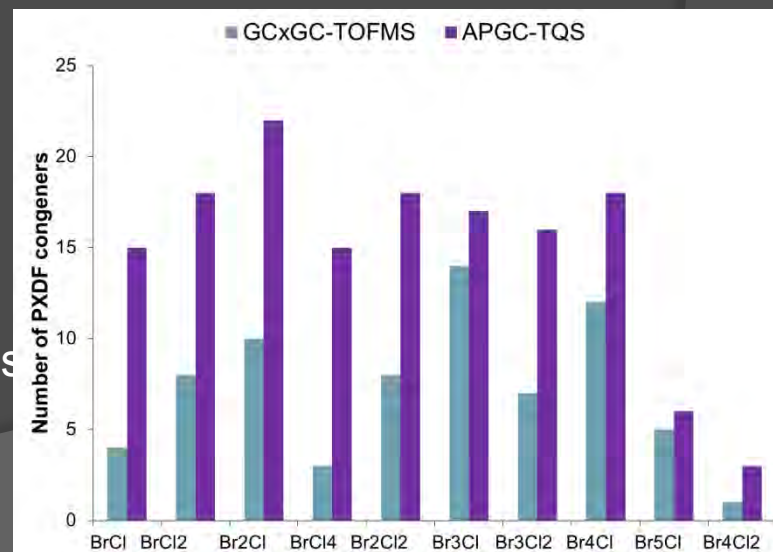
APGC-MS/MS Analysis

PXDDF_DryWall_d10 Sm (Mn, 2x1)

6: MRM of 4 Channels AP+
TIC (Br2 Cl DF)
3.28e4



- APGC-MS/MS was considerably more sensitive than both GCxGC-TOFMS and GC-HRMS
- APGC-MS/MS analysis confirmed the GCxGC data but identified many more compounds in the samples
- Polyhalogenated dioxins were identified in samples
- Congener profiles were more homogeneous between samples

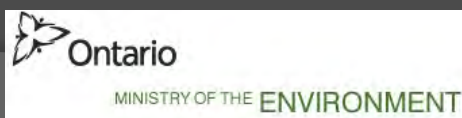


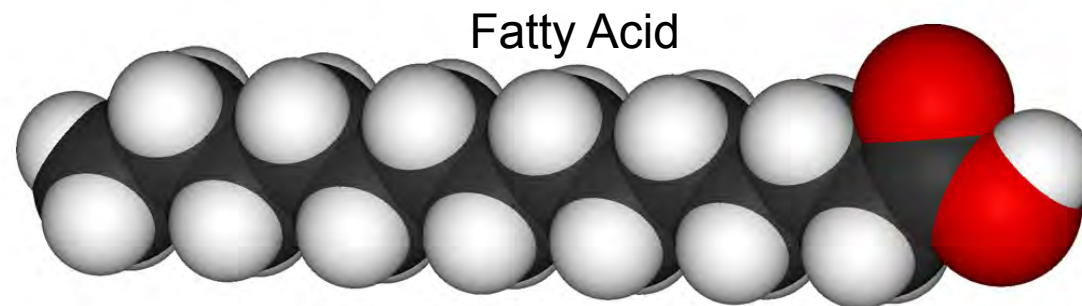
Overall Conclusions and other studies

- Multiple analytical approaches have identified the generation of PXDD/Fs in fire debris
 - Semi-quantification has been completed to determine homolog group concentrations
 - Congener identity is not possible...yet
 - Ion mobility mass spectrometry
- Initial toxicity studies have shown these compounds behave similarly to 2,3,7,8-TCDD
 - Using a human cell culture system
- Fire fighters are being exposed to a complex mixture of PXDD/Fs through inhalation and contact
 - Better/increased regulation needed
 - Reconsider fire fighter safety procedures and standards

Thank you for your attention!

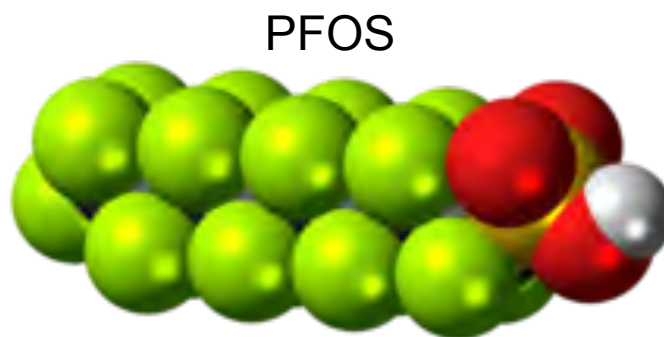
klo5013@psu.edu





Lipidomics for Elucidating Biomarkers and Mechanisms of Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) Toxicity

Jeremy P. Koelmel¹, John A. Bowden², Timothy J. Garrett¹, Louis J. Guillette³, and Richard A. Yost¹

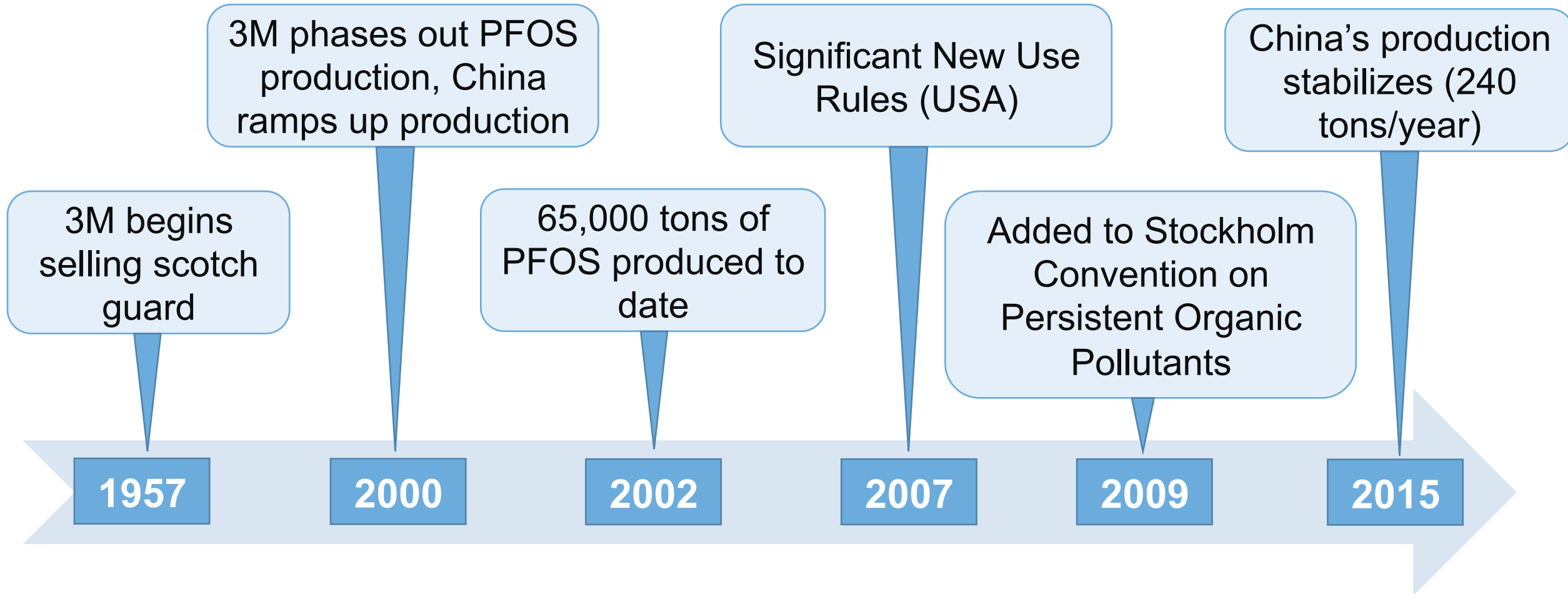


1: University of Florida, SECIM

2: NIST

3: Medical University of South Carolina

PFOS: Production, Fate, and Transport



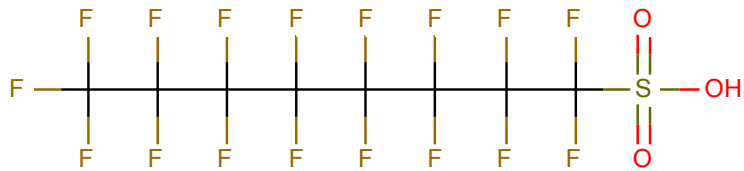
Environmental fate and transport:

Degradation Water: 41 years (do not partition to sediment)

Atmospheric half life: 114 days (arctic)

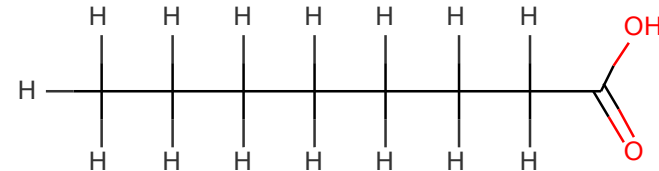
PFOS: Biology, the Case for Lipidomics

Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid



PFOS

Octanoic Acid



FFA(8:0)

Obesogenic:

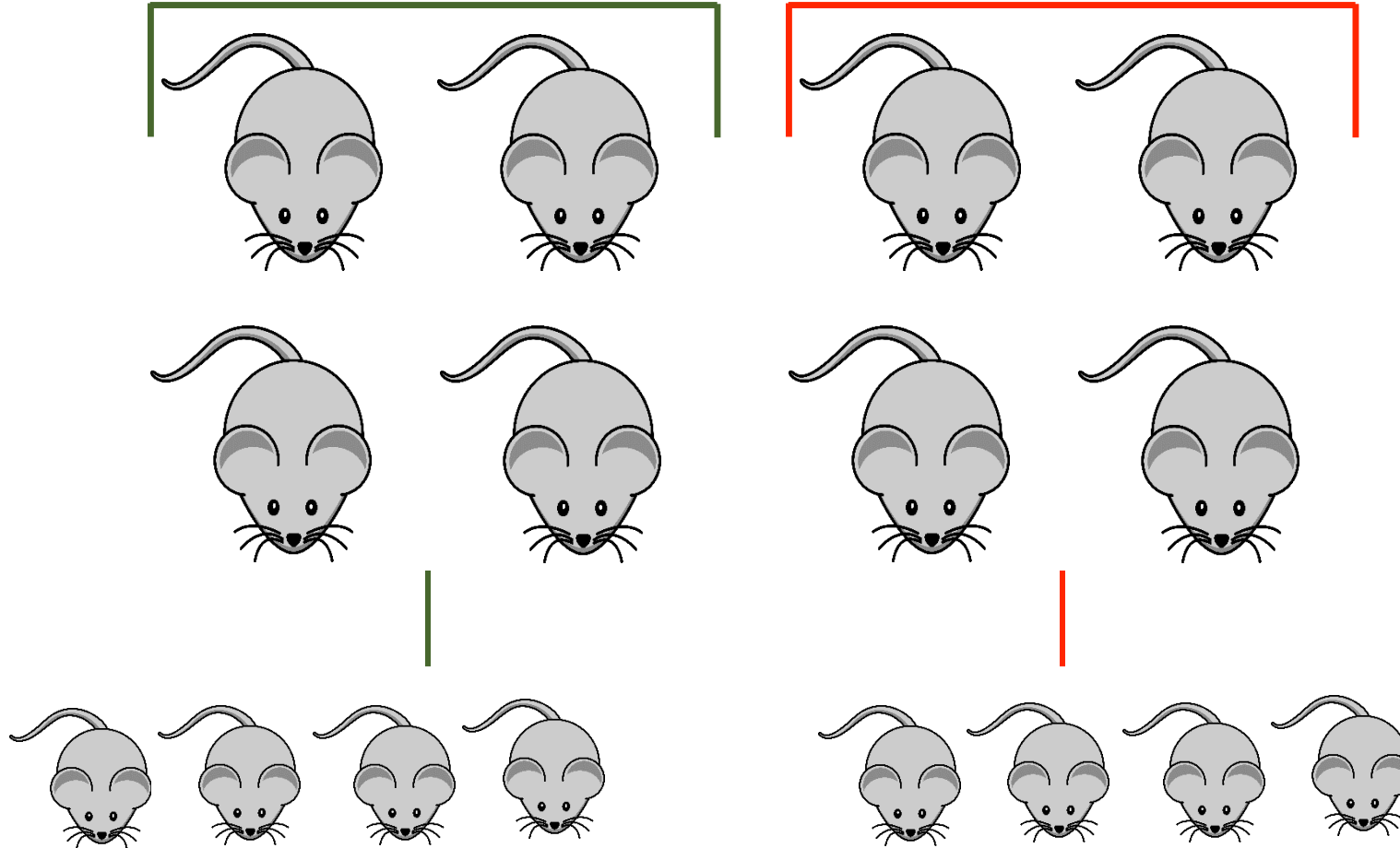
PPAR α inhibition: $\uparrow$ **secretion cholesterol** and lipoproteins in liver, $\downarrow$ **β -oxidation of fatty acids**, $\uparrow$ **lipid droplets**

Increased cholesterol. No true lipidomics study.

Lipidomics: Workflow

Control

Dosed at 150ug/kg/day



After gestation and weaning (18 weeks)
Daughter liver, fat and brain

Extraction

Acquisition

Feature
Detection

Feature
Identification

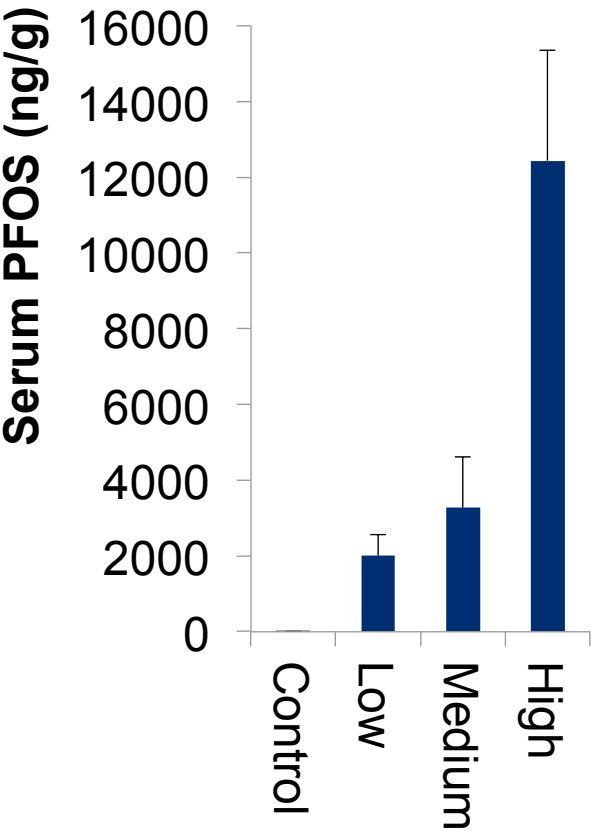
Statistics
Biology

PFOS Measurements

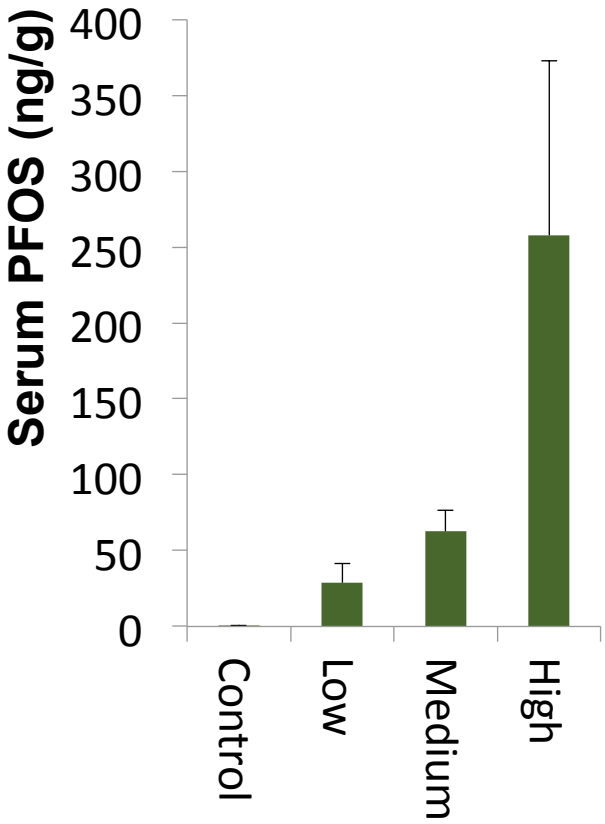
Serum PFOS

Liver PFOS

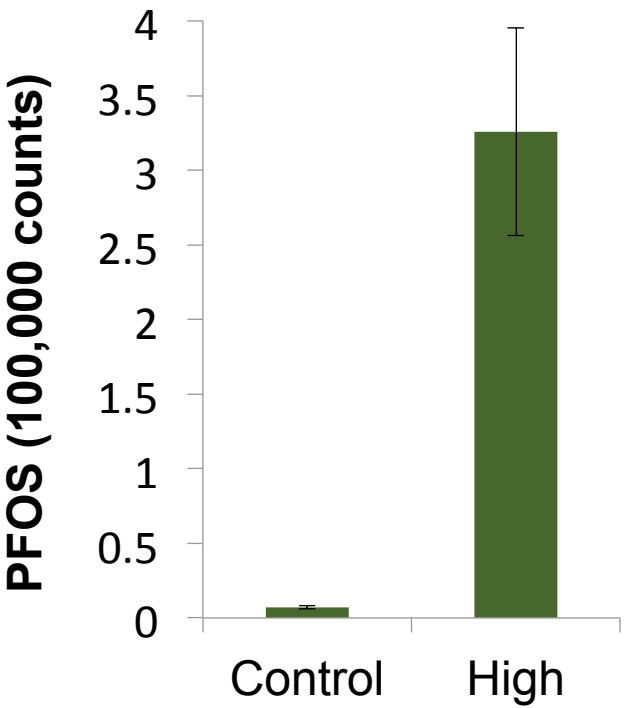
Mothers



Daughters (18 weeks)



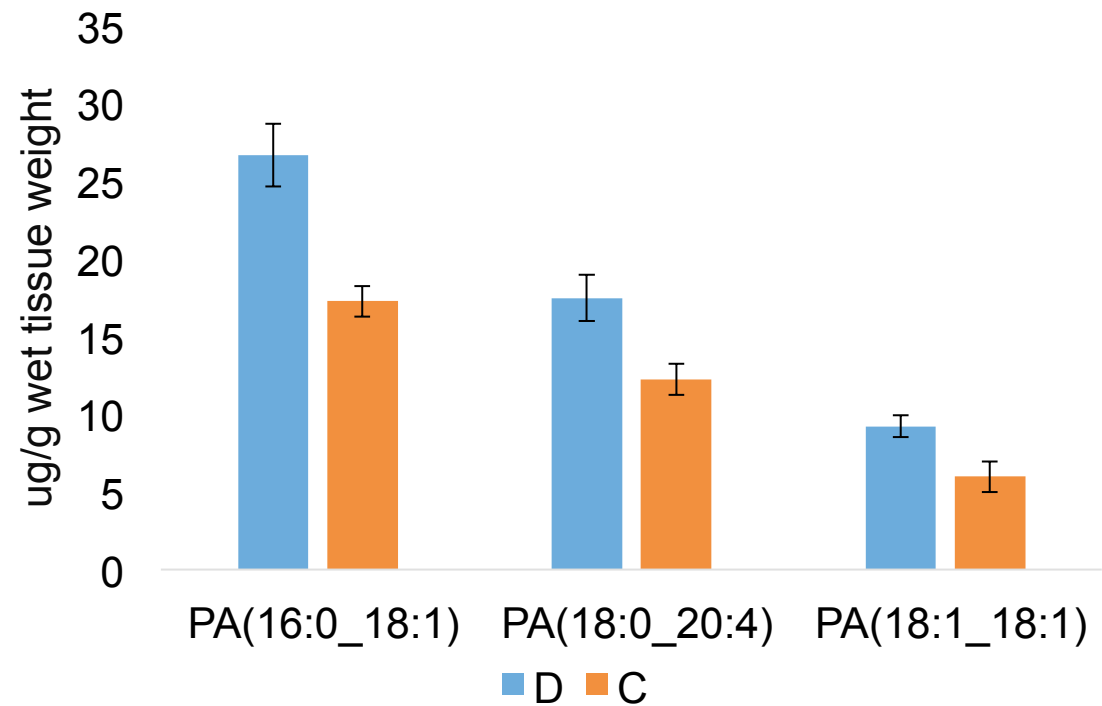
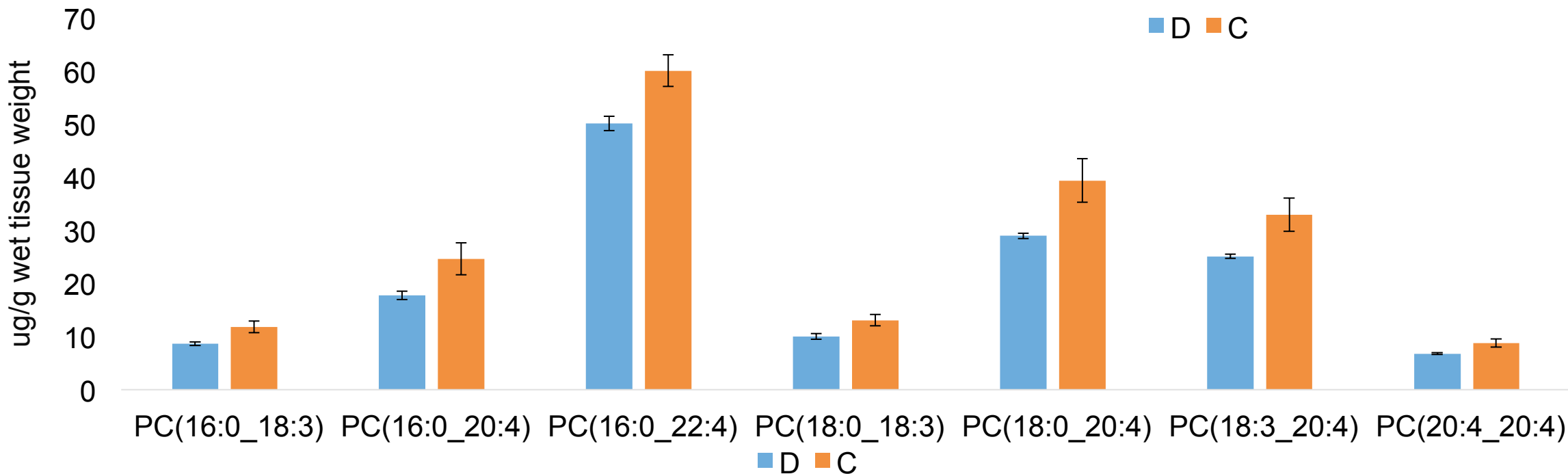
Daughters (18 weeks)



*Brain and fat:
no increase in PFOS

Lipid Measurements

Brain: 112 Lipids Confirmed
3 out of 3 PAs upregulated dosed
11 out of 36 PCs downregulated dosed
4 out of 11 Cers upregulated dosed
4 out of 9 PSs upregulated dosed



Development of an LC-MS/MS Method for the Quantification of Microcystins in Blue-Green Algal Dietary Supplements

Whitney L. Stutts, Christine H. Parker, and Stacey L. Degrasse
ASMS Environmental Working Group

June 3, 2015



Blue-Green Algal Dietary Supplements & Microcystins

• Problem:

The cyanobacterium *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae* (AFA), which is harvested from natural lakes and commercially distributed as blue-green algal (BGA) dietary supplements, may be contaminated with toxic microcystins produced by co-occurring *Microcystis aeruginosa*.

• Regulation:

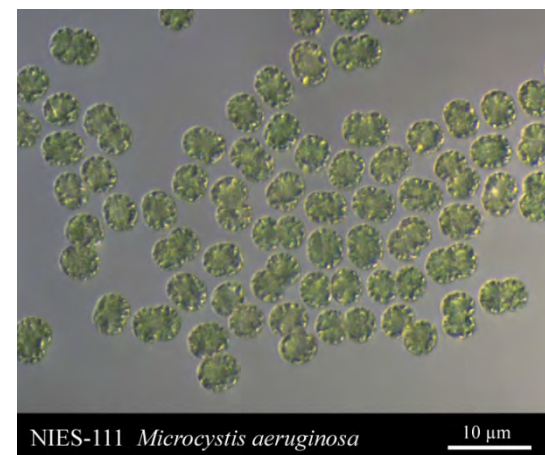
- No regulatory action level for microcystins (MC) in dietary supplements
- Oregon Health Division and Oregon Department of Agriculture: state guidance value of $1 \mu\text{g MC-LR}_{\text{eq}}/\text{g}$ for microcystins in BGA products

• Research Goal:

Develop and validate a selective LC-MS/MS method for the simultaneous detection and quantification of 7 MC congeners in AFA dietary supplements

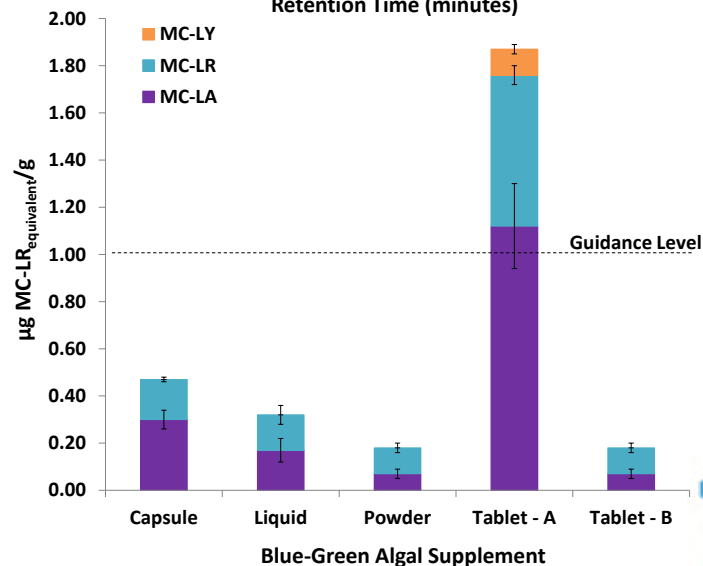
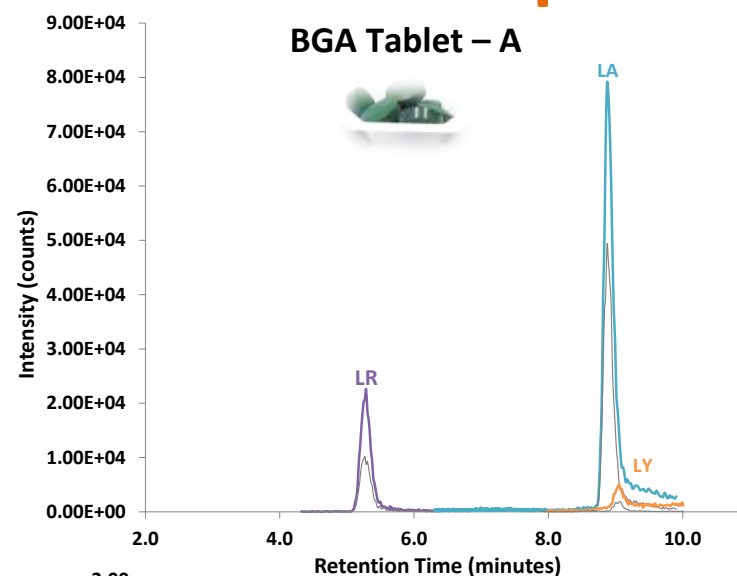
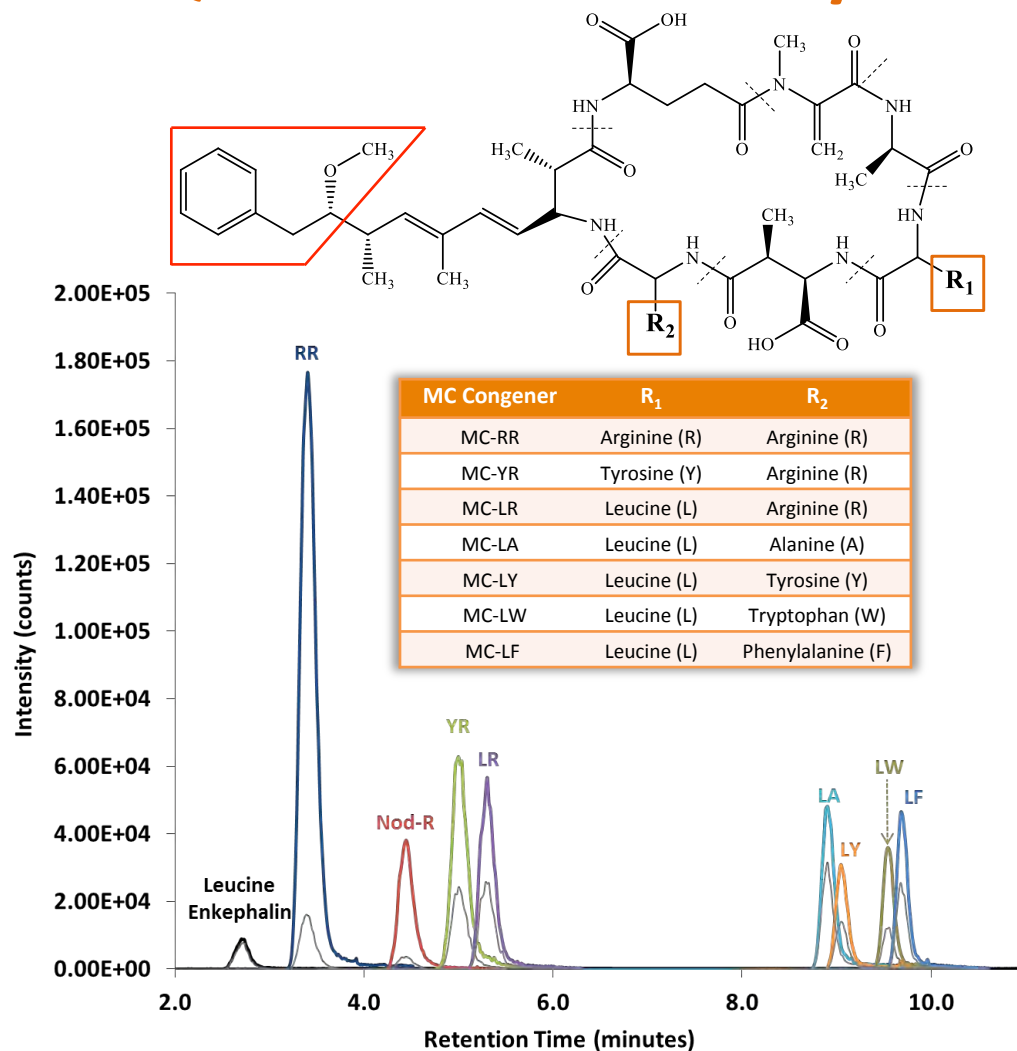


<http://www.oregonwild.org/waters/klamath/the-klamath-river/klamath-river-water-quality>



NIES-111 *Microcystis aeruginosa*
<http://www.shigen.nig.ac.jp/algae/strainDetailAction.do?stockNo=NIES-111>

Quantitative LC-MS/MS Method Development



The Challenge of Finding a Matrix Blank

• BGA supplements

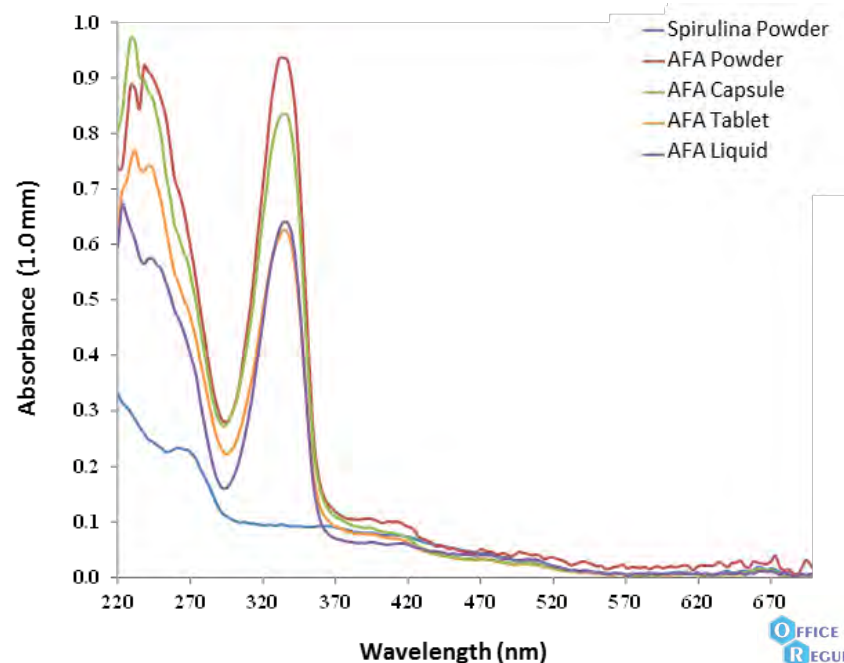
- AFA-based: detectable concentrations of MC in all supplements tested
- Spirulina-based: free of MC contamination, but not a suitable matrix blank

Congener	z	% Recovery [†] AFA	% Recovery [†] Spirulina
MC-RR	2	65.1 ± 0.6	53.2 ± 1.0
Nod-R	1	72.2 ± 1.7	56.9 ± 4.0
MC-YR	1	54.9 ± 1.5	17.2 ± 0.4
MC-YR	2	59.8 ± 1.8	76.7 ± 2.7
MC-LR	1	67.7 ± 1.7	31.2 ± 1.6
MC-LR	2	71.7 ± 1.4	61.9 ± 1.1
MC-LA	1	77.2 ± 1.4	57.0 ± 2.2
MC-LY	1	63.3 ± 1.4	43.3 ± 1.5
MC-LW	1	50.0 ± 1.4	25.0 ± 1.4
MC-LF	1	60.1 ± 1.4	42.7 ± 2.7
Average		64.2 ± 8.3	46.5 ± 18.2
%RSD		13.0%	39.2%

[†]Peak areas were compared for biological replicates of pre- and post-fortified sample extracts at a 1 µg/g spike concentration.

• Problems with Spirulina

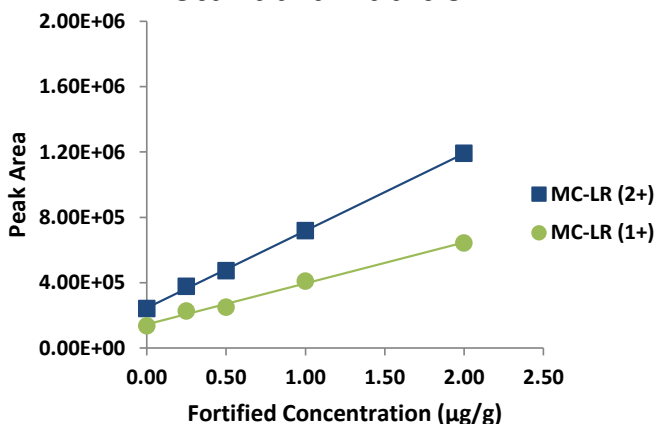
- Lower sample processing recoveries
- Possibly due to the absence of planar Mycosporine-like amino acids (MAAs)—accessory pigment molecules produced in cyanobacteria under high UV radiation



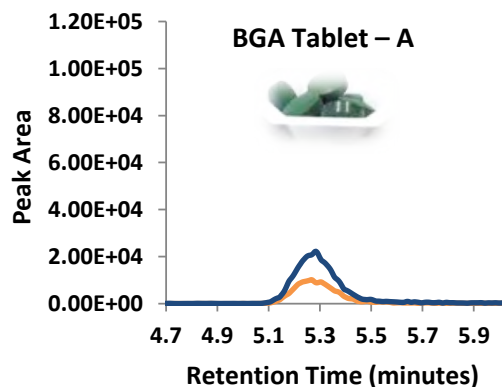
Solutions for Quantitation

Fortified Concentration (µg/g) MC-LR	Standard Addition % Recovery	Matrix-Corrected Neat Calibration %Recovery
2.00	100.1 ± 3.7	97.4 ± 3.6
1.00	100.1 ± 1.0	97.9 ± 1.4
0.50	95.9 ± 6.0	94.8 ± 6.1
0.25	111.3 ± 1.6	111.6 ± 4.3

Standard Addition

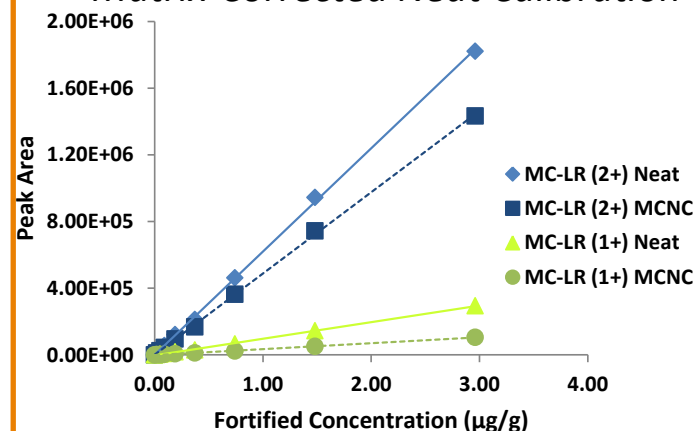


Endogenous MC-LR



Standard Addition	Matrix-Corrected Neat Calibration
0.52 ± 0.02 µg/g	0.49 ± 0.01 µg/g

Matrix-Corrected Neat Calibration



Conclusions & Ongoing Challenges

Microcystin Congener	AFA Capsule (µg/g)	AFA Liquid (µg/g)	AFA Powder (µg/g)	AFA Tablet Lot A (µg/g)	AFA Tablet Lot B (µg/g)
MC-LR	0.17 ± 0.01	0.15 ± 0.04	0.11 ± 0.02	0.64 ± 0.04	0.11 ± 0.02
MC-LA	0.30 ± 0.04	0.17 ± 0.05	0.07 ± 0.02	1.12 ± 0.18	0.07 ± 0.01
MC-LY	ND	ND	ND	0.11 ± 0.02	ND
Total µg MC-LR_{eq}/g	0.47 ± 0.04	0.32 ± 0.06	0.18 ± 0.03	1.87 ± 0.19	0.18 ± 0.02

ND = Not Detected

- **94 MC variants reported**
 - Toxicities for all MC variants have not been determined
 - Chronic effects of exposure are unknown
 - Risk assessment data is needed before a regulatory level(s?) can be established
- **Lot-to-lot variability poses a challenge for screening and regulation**
- **Isotopically labeled internal standards are not yet available, making accurate quantitation more challenging**

Experimental

- Instrumentation: AB Sciex QTrap 5500 equipped with a Turbo V ionization source and a Waters Acquity UPLC system

- LC Parameters:

Acquity UPLC Column	BEH C18 (1.7 μ m, 1.0 mm $\times$ 150 mm)
Column Temperature	40 $^{\circ}$ C
Injection Volume	2 μ L

- MS Parameters:

Source Temperature	400 $^{\circ}$ C
IonSpray Voltage	5000 V
Curtain Gas	20 psi
Gas 1	40 psi
Gas 2	30 psi

