

High resolution mass spectrometry for non-targeted environmental exposomics

P. Lee Ferguson, Gordon J. Getzinger, Bernadette Vogler, and Heather M. Stapleton

Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University, Durham, NC

lee.ferguson@duke.edu



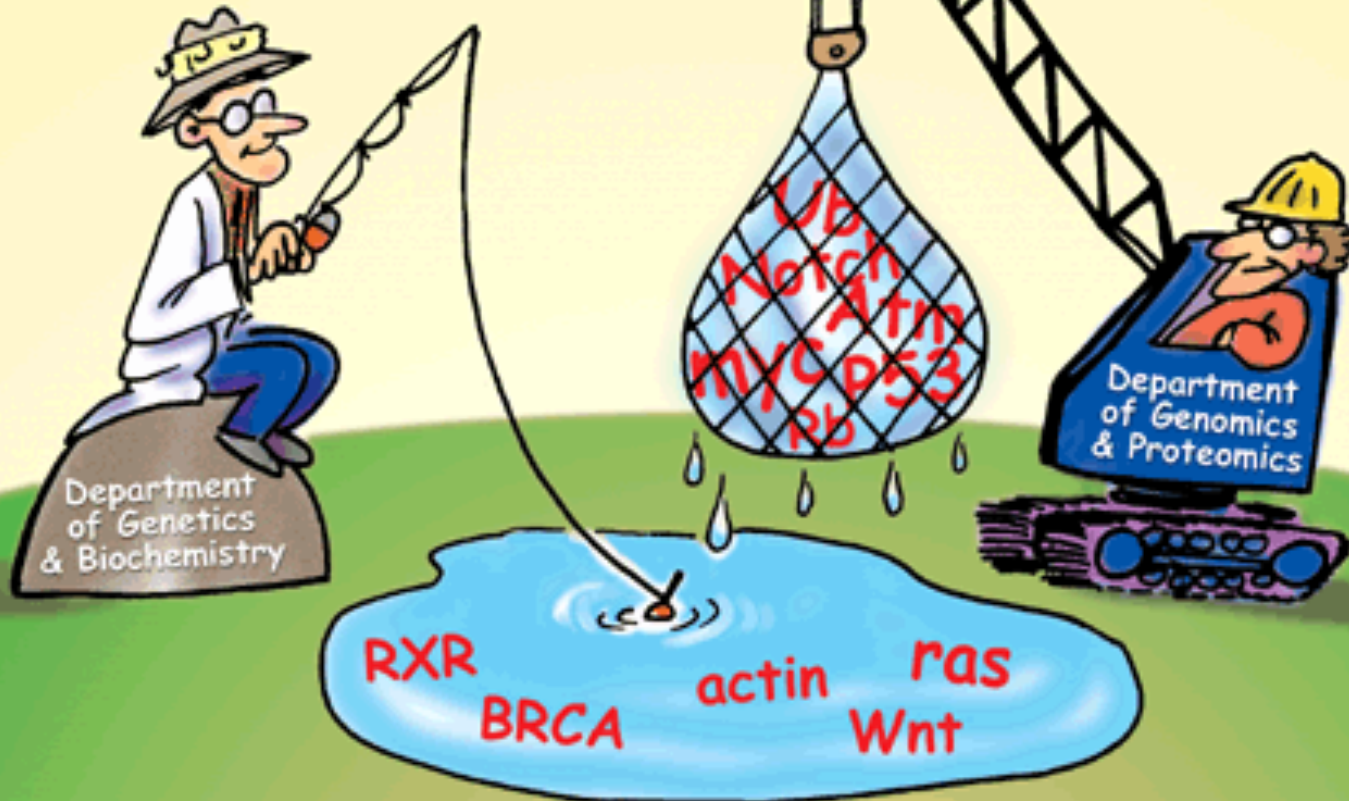
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forging a sustainable future

What are the next emerging contaminants and how can we find them in the environment?

Environmental
Analytical Chemist:
1970s - 2010

Environmental
Analytical Chemist:
2010 & beyond



Science 16 February 2001: vol. 291 no. 5507 1221-1224

LC-HRMS: An emerging technique for environmental exposomics

9

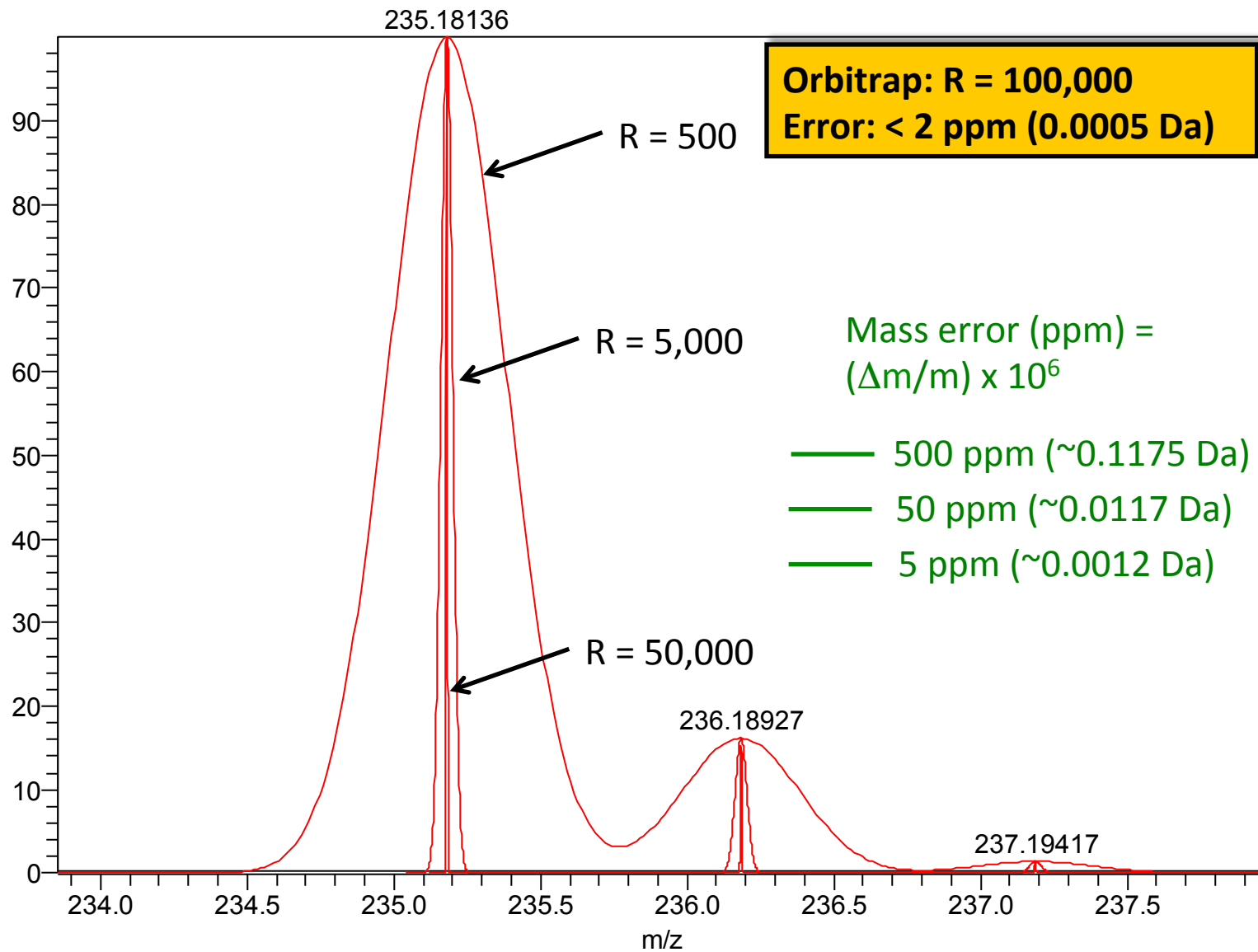
LC-MS strategies for characterization of organic contaminants

Screening technique:	Targeted	Suspect	Non-target
Question:	Are compounds x, y, & z present in this sample?	Which compounds of a defined list are present in this sample?	Which compounds are present in this sample?
Compound Types:	Known-knowns	Known-unknowns	Known-unknowns & unknown-unknowns



"There are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns – the ones we don't know we don't know."

Why do we use HRMS for non-targeted analysis of pollutants?



Semivolatile organic contaminants in the indoor environment: a challenging “exposome”

- Research on SVOCs has focused on occurrence and effects in the ambient environment – there have been few comprehensive studies on human exposure indoors
- SVOCs escape from household products over time and may accumulate in the indoor environment
- They are applied to consumer products to enhance performance or durability – such as:



Phthalates in personal care products



Flame retardants in furniture and electronics



Bisphenol A in waterbottles



Surfactants in cleaning agents



Antioxidants in food packaging

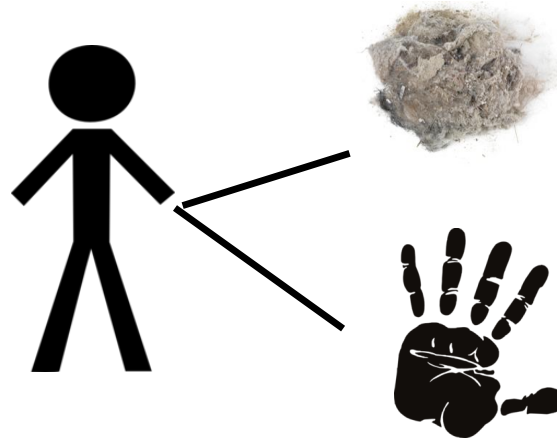
Why study SVOC' s indoors?

- Some SVOC' s are potential endocrine disruptors
 - Bisphenol A is a xenoestrogen
 - Flame retardants have been shown to act on the thyroid hormone receptor



87% of our time
is spent indoors

Exposure through: inhalation,
ingestion, dermal absorption,



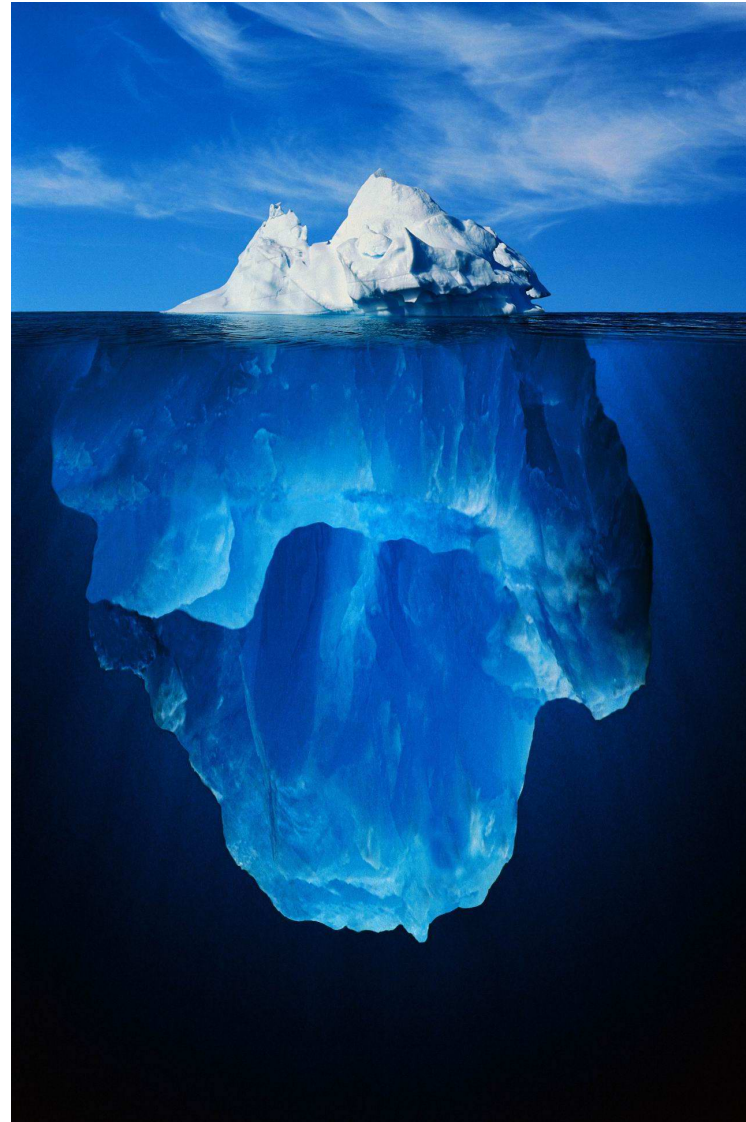
Objective:

Assess human exposure to SVOCs from the indoor environment through non-targeted analysis of paired house dust and hand wipes samples.



Analytical strategy for dust and handwipe samples

- Most indoor exposure analysis has applied gas chromatography mass spectrometry (focus on nonpolar organic contaminants)
- Liquid chromatography coupled with high resolution mass spectrometry can be used to characterize (semi)polar organic contaminants within indoor environments.
- Non-targeted data analytics allows *de novo* identification, prioritized by compounds with highest exposure potential.
- This approach complements more targeted, quantitative analysis of SVOCs by LC-MS/MS or GC-MS approaches.





10 x dust and handwipes
+ dust blanks and wipe blanks

Sample preparation

Extraction by sonication in Hexane/Dichloromethane 1:1;
Solvent exchange to 10 % Acetonitrile in H₂O by speedvac, sonication and centrifugation.

Liquid Chromatography

Reversed phase separation C18,
From 10 % Acetonitrile to 99% in 60 min

Orbitrap Velos

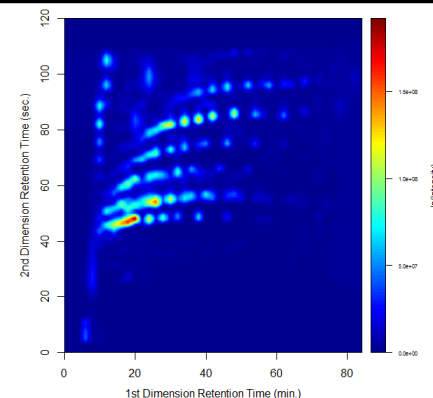
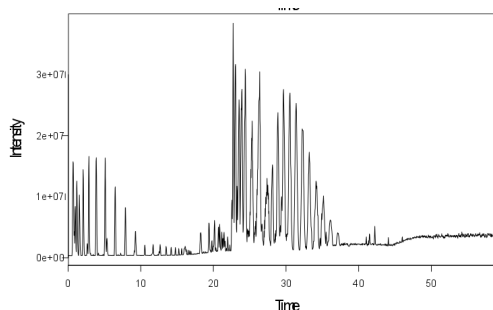
ESI(+) and ESI (-)
Resolution: 60' 000 @ m/z 400
Top 4 data dependent MSMS
CID with 35 normalized energy

Comprehensive 2D Liquid Chromatography

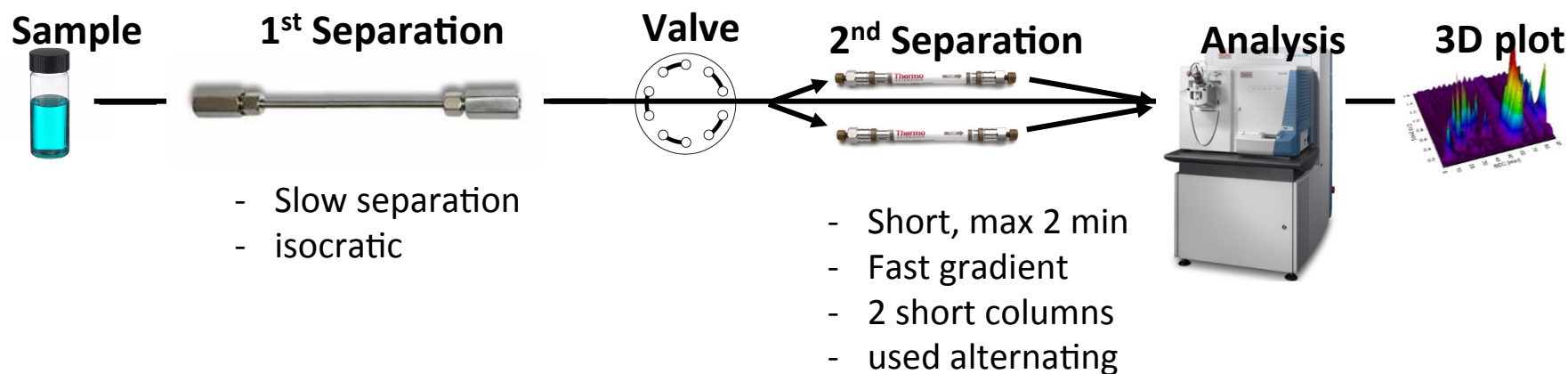
Size exclusion X reversed phase separation
90 min run divided into 2 min segments

Orbitrap Velos

ESI(+)
Resolution: 60' 000 @ m/z 400



Comprehensive 2D UHPLC (LC x LC)



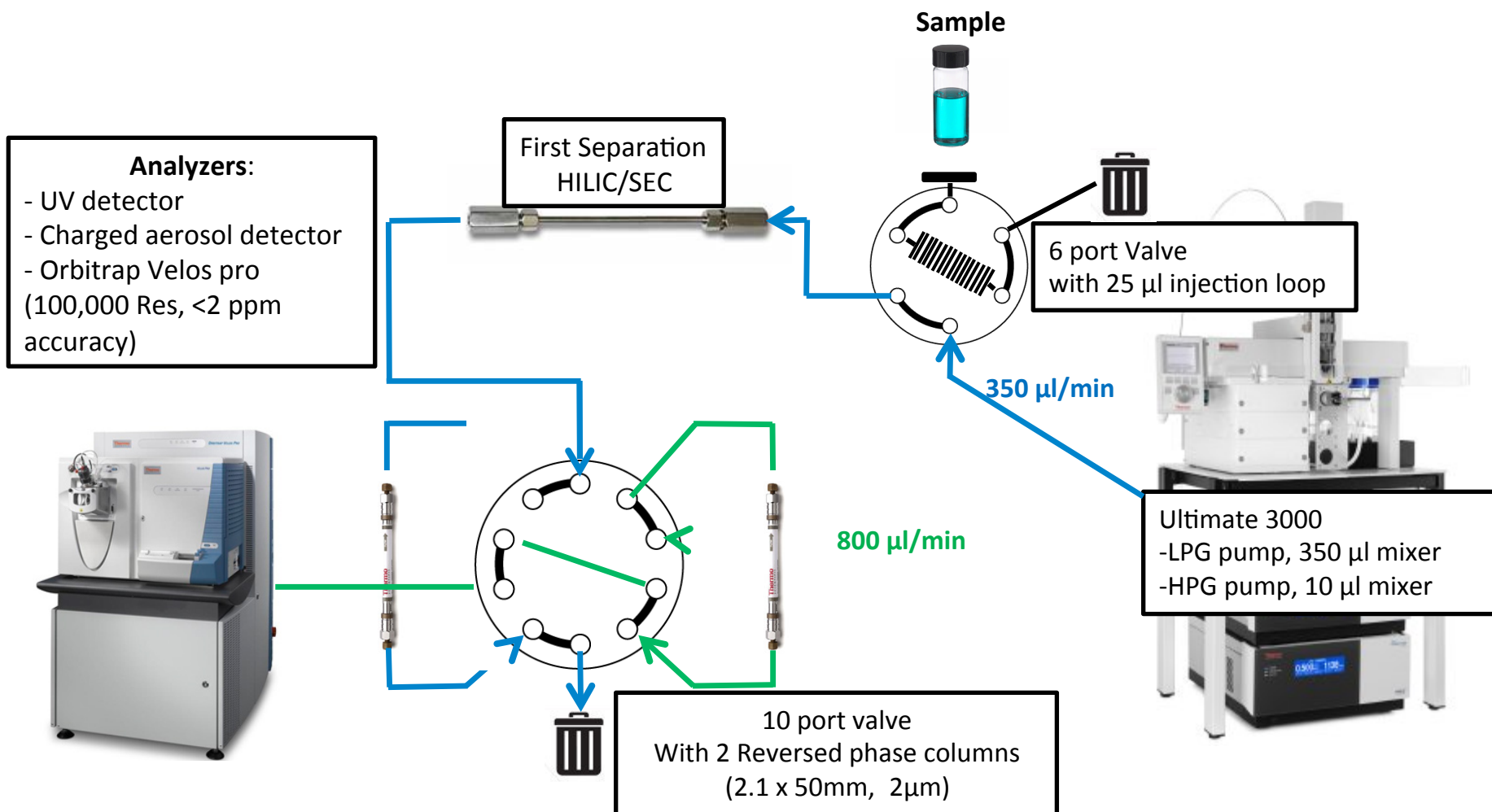
For effective separation:

-Separation mechanisms must be **orthogonal**.

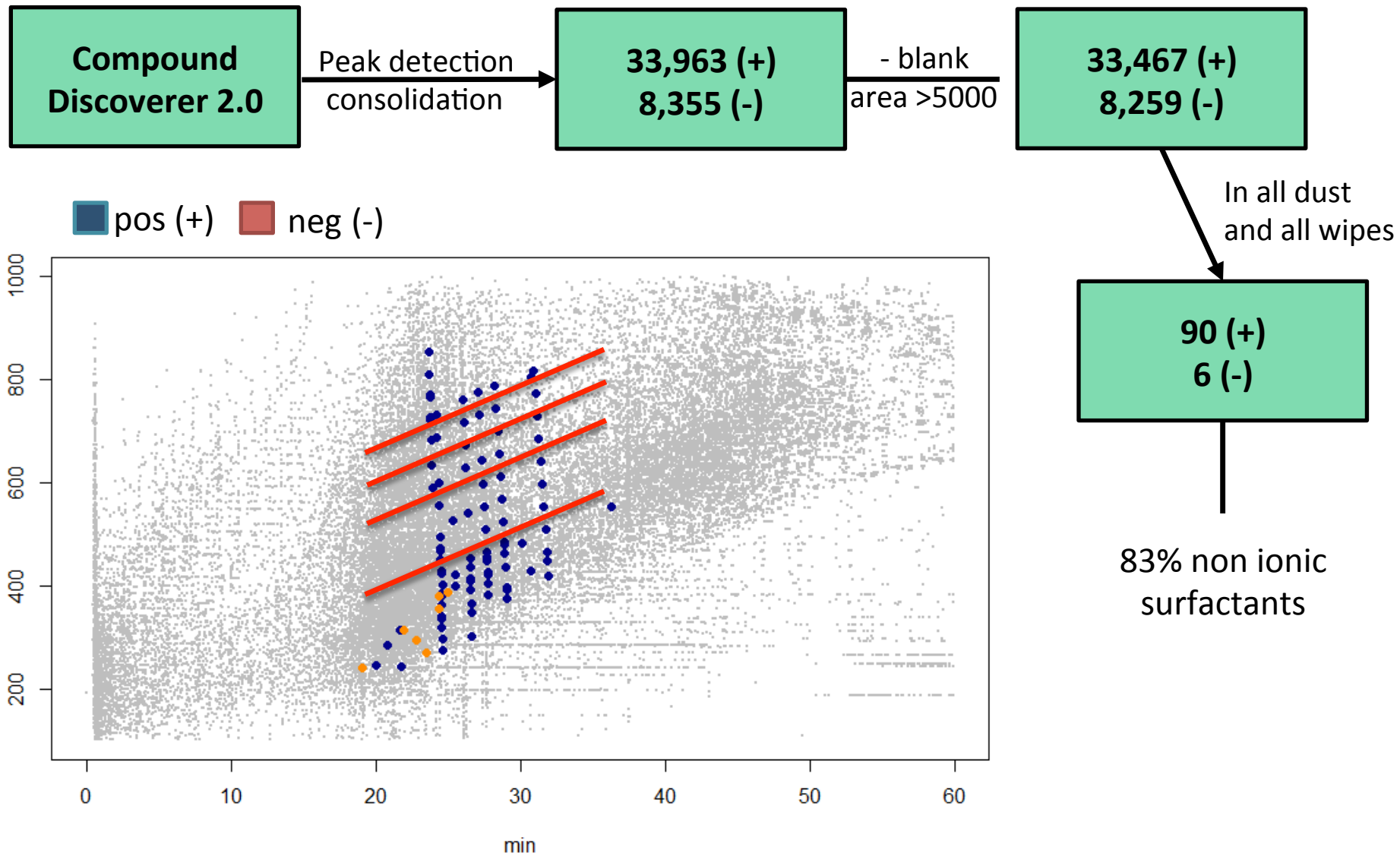
-Example: Size and Hydrophobicity or Hydrophilic interaction and Hydrophobicity.

-While eluting from the first column – requires strong retention on the second column

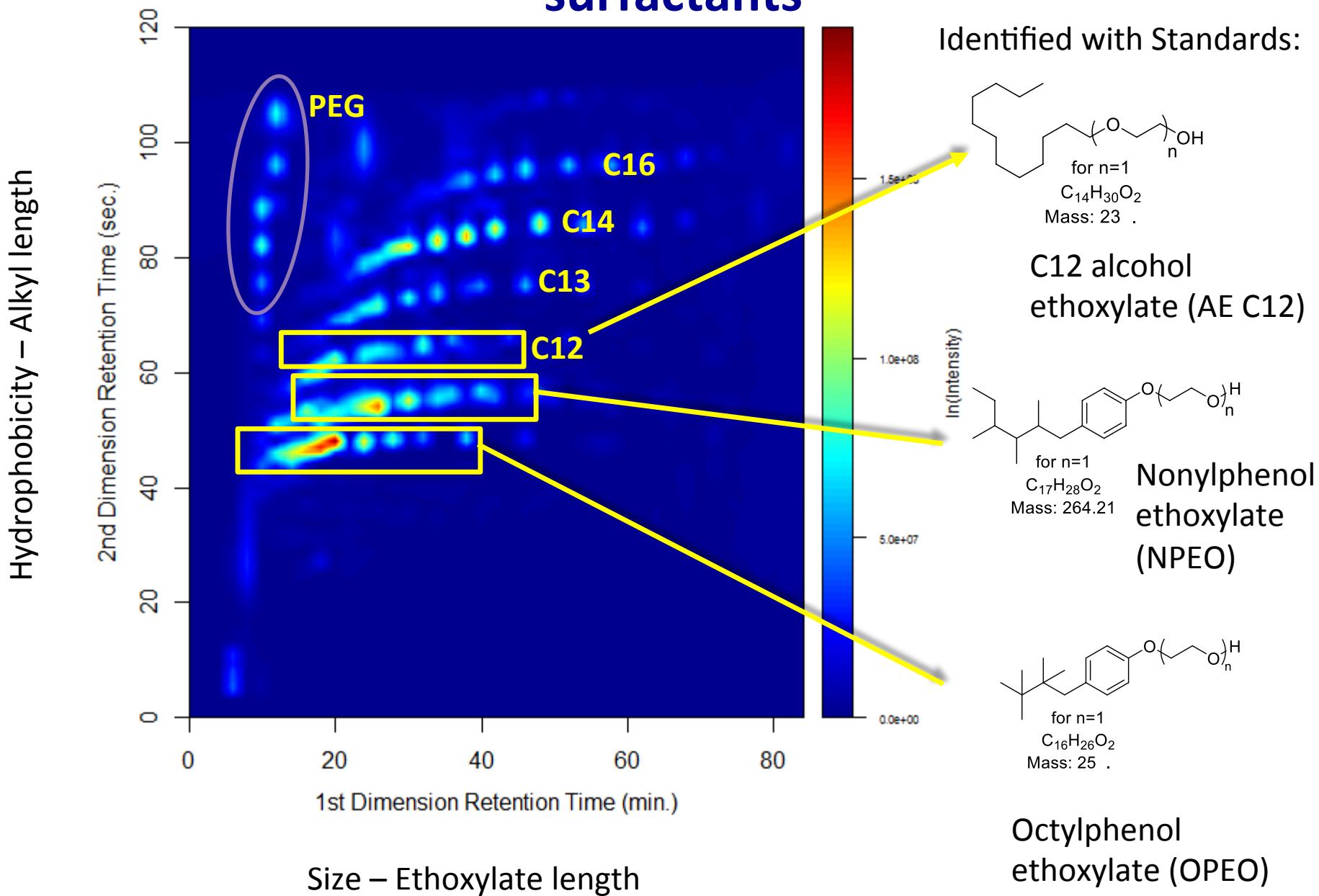
2D UHPLC-HRMS configuration



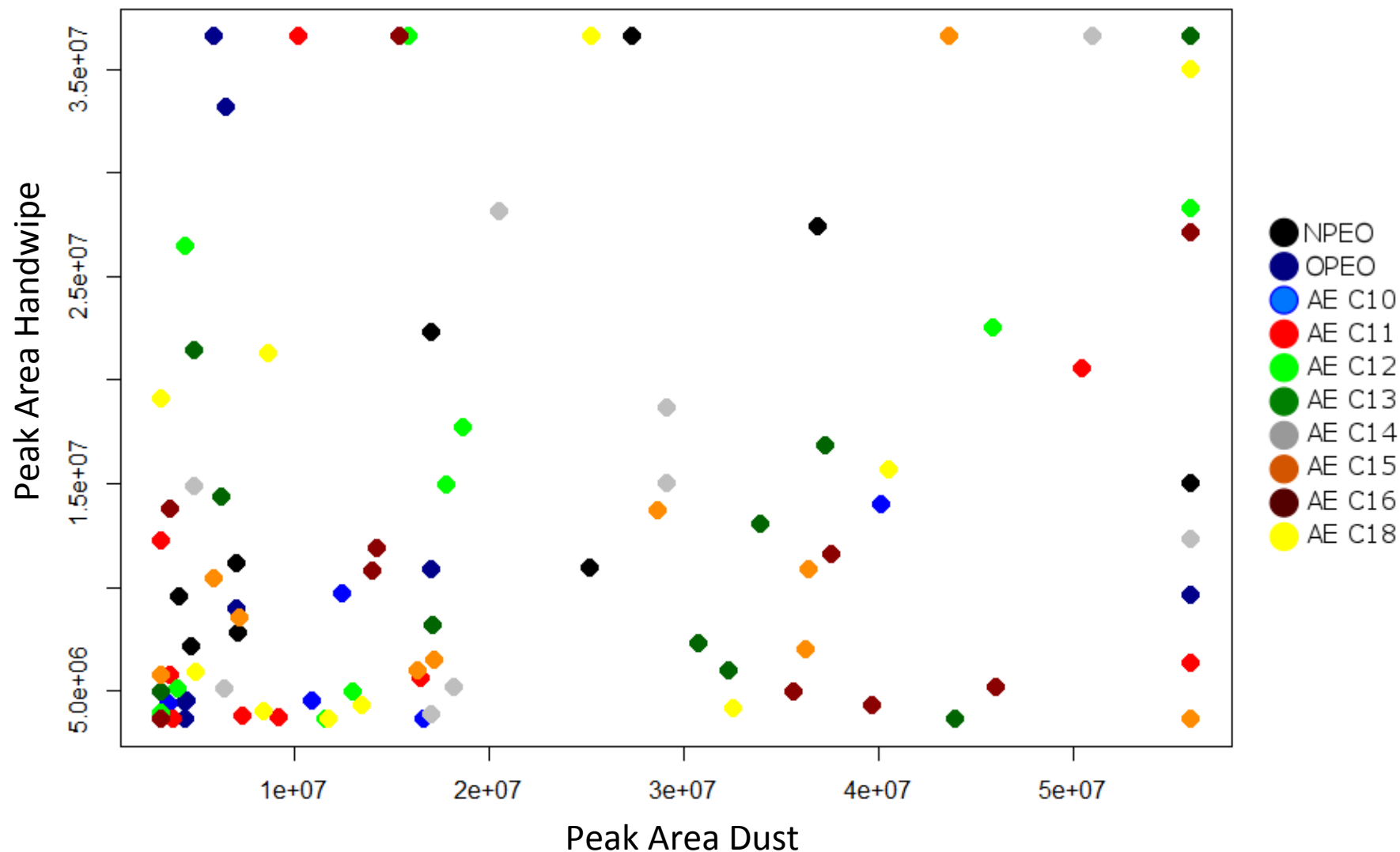
Data processing starts with Thermo Compound Discoverer 2.0 for peak consolidation/filtering



Comprehensive LC x LC-HRMS of dust reveals ethoxylated surfactants

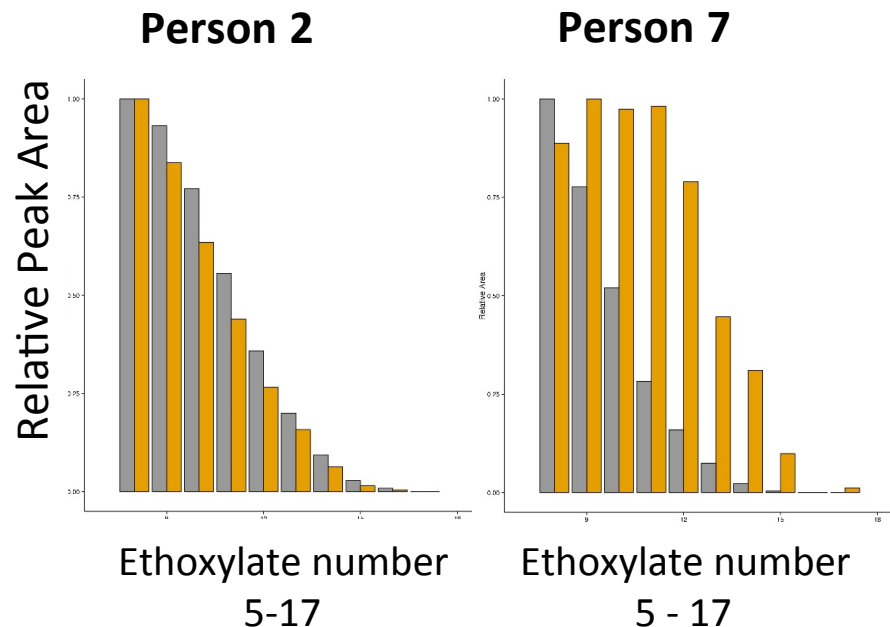


There was no correlation between ethoxylated surfactant peak areas in paired dust/handwipe samples (decoupled sources?)

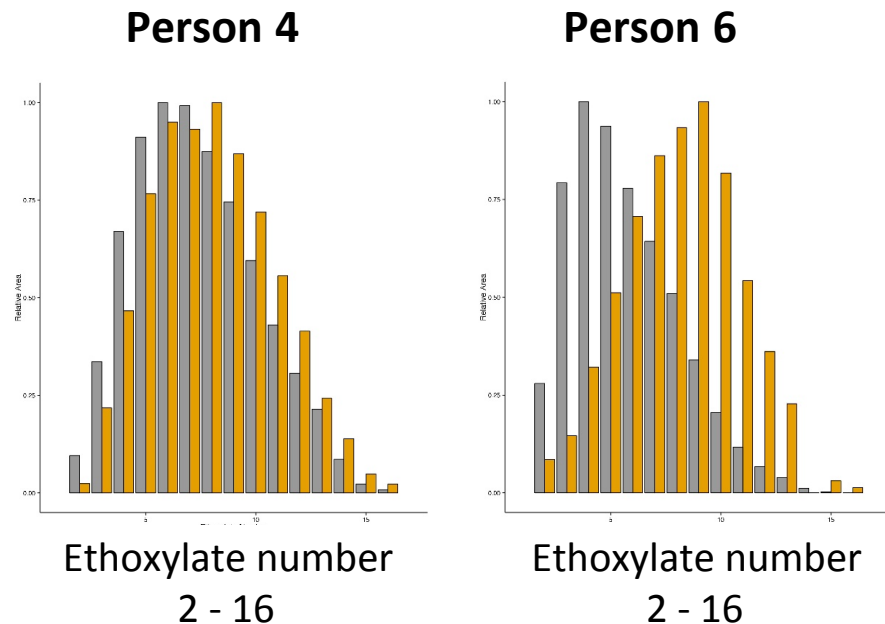


Nonionic surfactant ethoxymers distributions in paired dust/handwipe samples

Example: NPEO

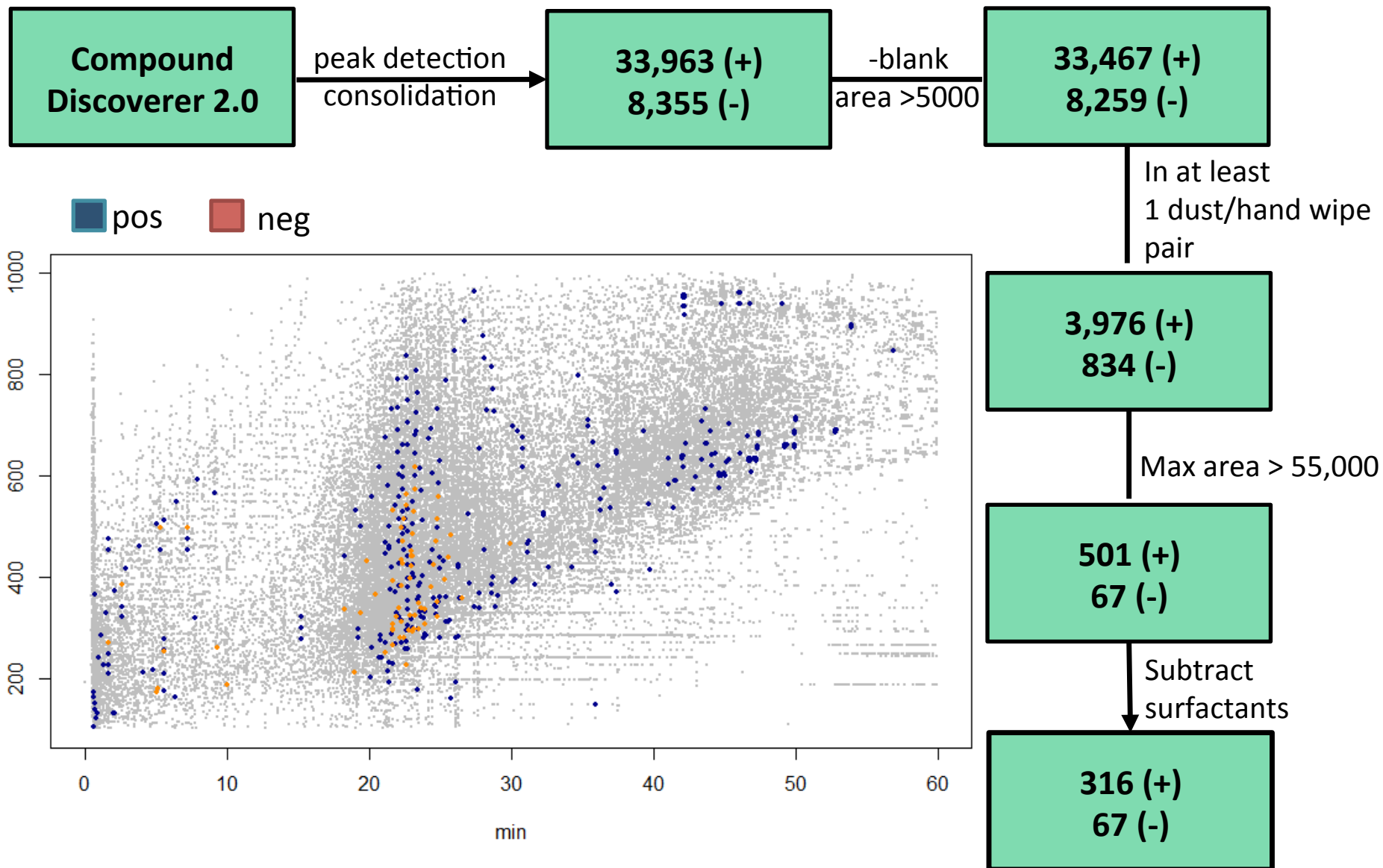


Example: Alcohol Ethoxylate C14

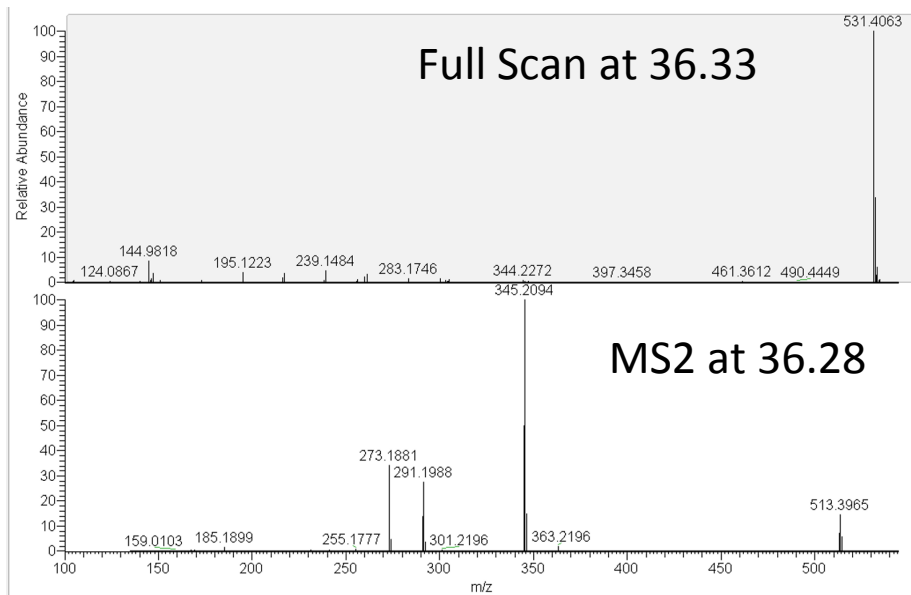
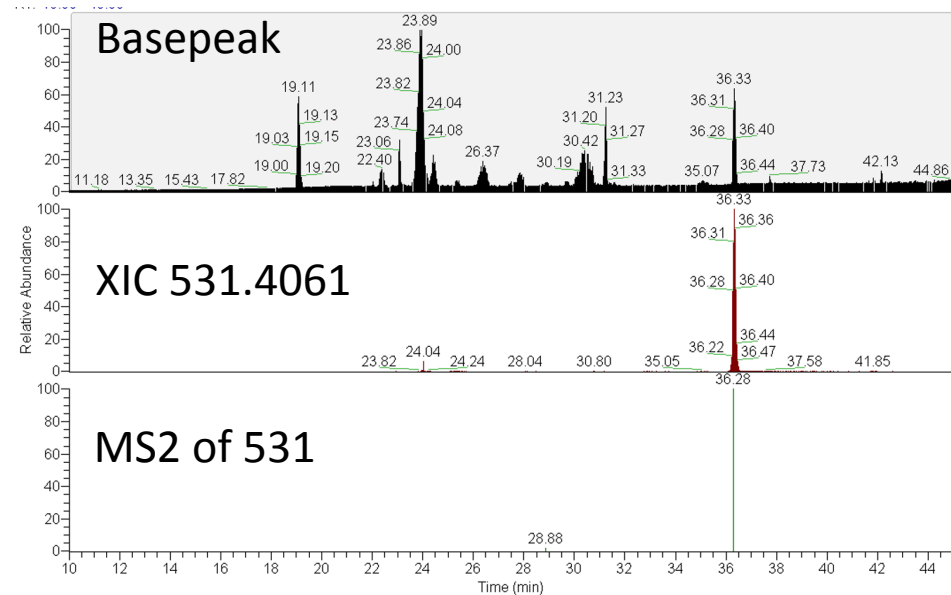
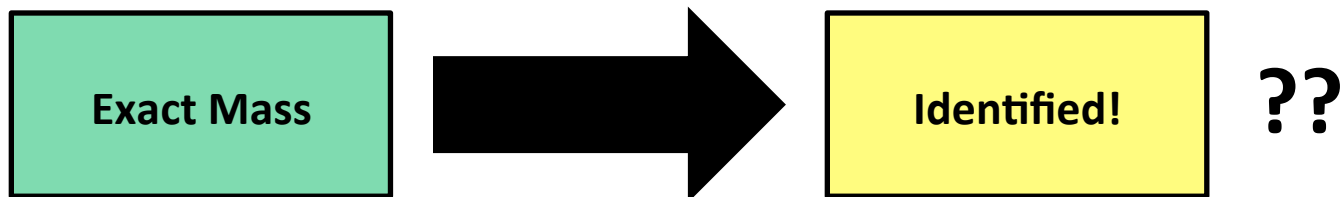


Ethoxymers distribution varied from surfactant to surfactant and person to person – this suggests different sources of ethoxylated surfactants in some cases.

Subtraction of surfactant features prioritizes monomeric compounds for identification



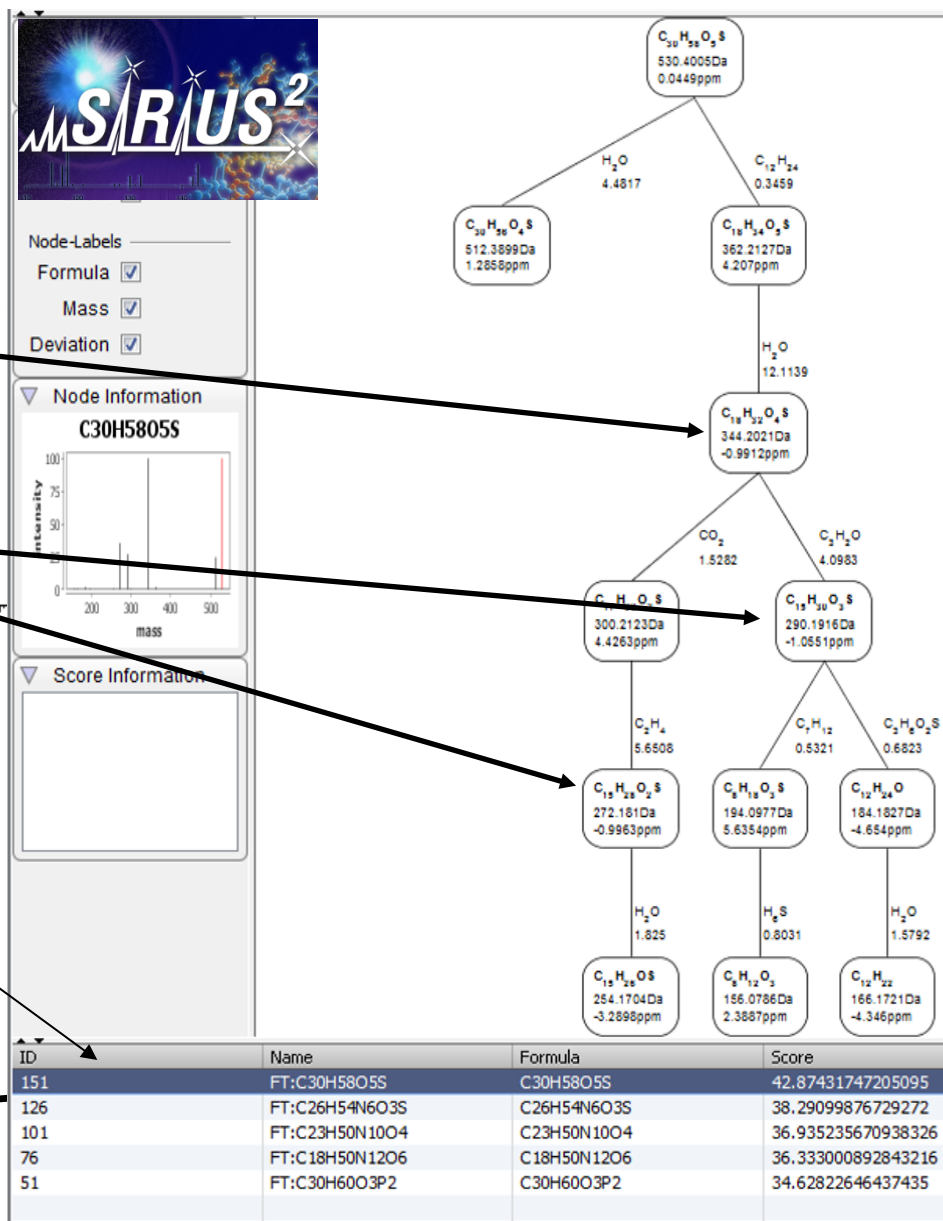
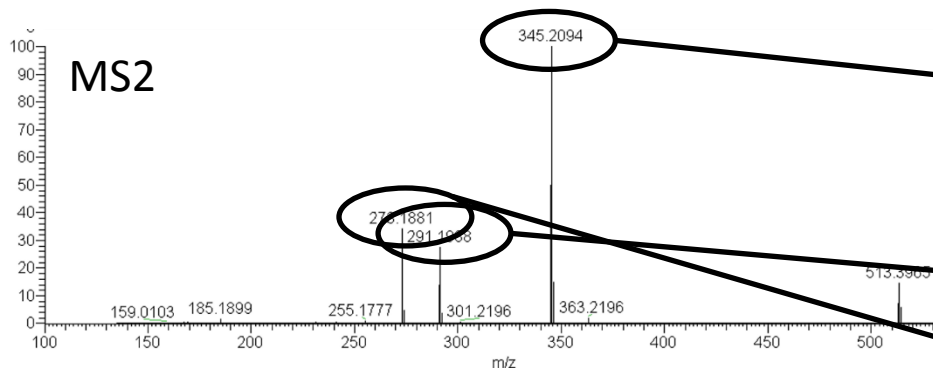
Workflow strategies for identifying compounds in dust/handwipes from LC-HRMS data



Molecular formula generation: Vital first step toward structural ID

SIRIUS (<http://bio.informatik.uni-jena.de/software/sirius/>)

Calculates molecular formula assuming that all fragments must be a subset of the parent formula



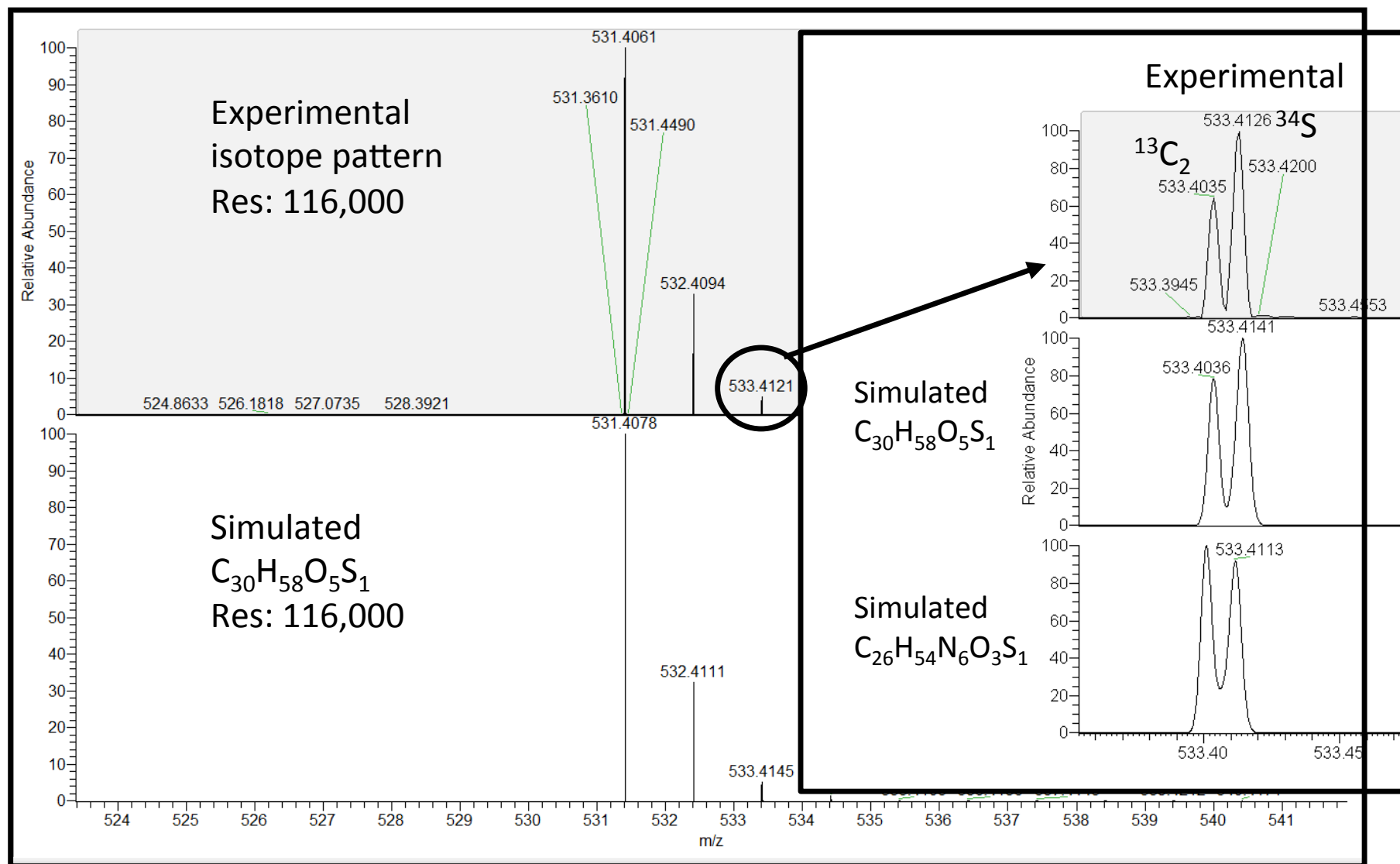
With 5 ppm mass range: **16 possibilities**

With fragment trees: limited to **5**

Highest scoring molecular formula for m/z


531.4061: $C_{30}H_{58}O_5S_1$

Ultra-high resolution allows molecular formula validation by isotope fine structure inspection



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Foniokova E 1

Franklin Ronald B 1

Pac J 1

Patel Shefali 1

Sedlar J 1

Xia Yuan Qing 1

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☐ 1. [Identification of a new source of interference leached from polypropylene tubes in mass-selective analysis](#)
[Quick View](#) [Other Sources](#)

By Xia, Yuan-Qing; Patel, Shefali; Bakhtiar, Ray; Franklin, Ronald B.; Doss, George A.

From Journal of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry (2005), 16(3), 417-421. | Language: English, Database: CAPLUS

An interference leached from polypropylene tubes was identified to be a sulfoxide oxidative product of didodecyl 3,3'-thiodipropionate (DDTDP) that was used to prevent oxidative degrdn. of synthetic polymers. A sulfone oxidative product of DDTDP leached from the polypropylene tubes was also obsd. The interfering compds. were isolated by LC and characterized using time-of-flight mass spectrometry and NMR. Authentic sulfoxide and sulfone products of DDTDP were also prepd. by reacting DDTDP with hydrogen peroxide reaching an unequivocal structural assignment. In conclusion, when analytes of i...

☐ 2. [Gas-chromatographic determination of dilauryl \$\beta,\beta'\$ -thiodipropionate and its primary oxidation products](#)
[Quick View](#) [Other Sources](#)

By Sedlar, J.; Foniokova, E.; Pac, J.

From Analyst (Cambridge, United Kingdom) (1974), 99(1174), 50-3. | Language: English, Database: CAPLUS

The title compd., and dilauryl sulfonyl- β,β' -dipropionate and sulfonyl- β,β' -dipropionate, were detd. by hydrolysis in 5N MeOH-KOH and gas chromatog. detn. of the lauryl alc. extd. by CHCl_3 using n-octadecane as internal marker on a 6 ft glass 1.5% fluorosilicone oil FS-1265 or Chromosorb W AW-DMCS column at 165°. The detn. gave results consistently low by a factor of 0.97. Detns. were of ≥ 10 - $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concns. with a std. deviation of $\pm 3\%$.

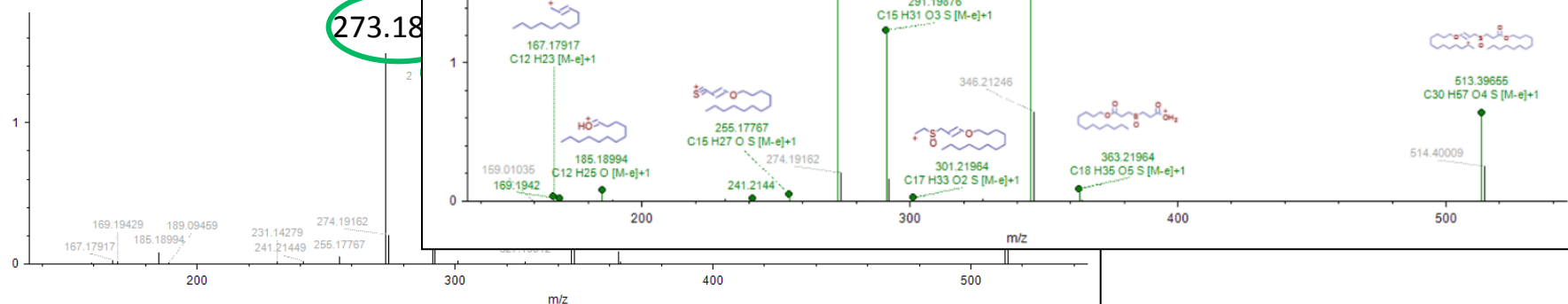
Identification of a New Source of Interference Leached from Polypropylene Tubes in Mass-Selective Analysis

Yuan-Qing Xia, Shefali J
and George A. Doss
Department of Drug Metabolism, M

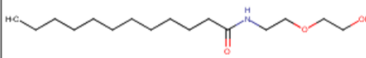
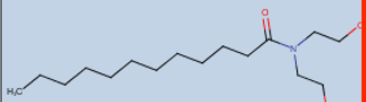
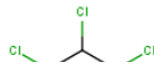
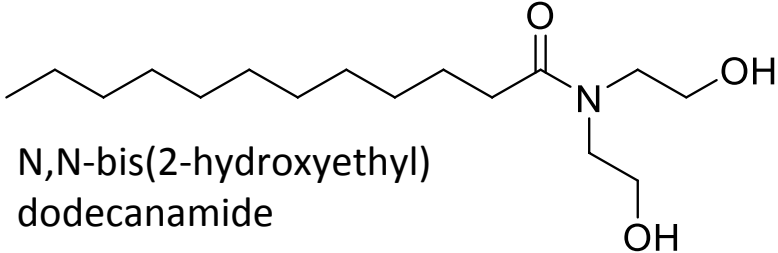
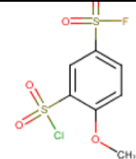
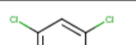
An interference leached from product of didodecyl 3,3'-thi degradation of synthetic poly polypropylene tubes was also characterized using time-of-flight sulfone products of DDTDP w reaching an unequivocal struc solubilized in predominantly possibility of contamination from Mass Spectrum 2005, 16, 417-4

#3385, RT=36.227 min, FTMS (+), MS2 (CID, DDF, m/z=531.41, z=+1)
n/a C30 H58 O5 S, MW: 530.40050, Area: 6318326
FISH Coverage: 11 Direct, 5 Unmatched, 4 Skipped

MassFrontier
In silico MS/MS rationalization
FISH coverage: 50.0



Identifying features from an in-house curated suspect database (31,985 entries)

Duke University Unique Record #	Structure	Formula	Exact Mass ^{▲ (1)}	CAS #	TSCA #	Pesticide Product Code #	Traditional Name	CAS Index Name	LogP	2012 National Production Volume	EFS #
DU15264		C16H33NO3	287.24603	20138-28-7	TSCA21318	PC79067	N-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl]dodecanamide	Dodecanamide, N-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl]-	3.16		
DU3741		C16H33NO3	287.24603	130-40-1	TSCA2977	PC79018	N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)dodecanamide	Dodecanamide, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)-		1,000,000 - 10,000,000	
DU177		C6H6Cl6	287.86008	50-89-9	TSCA182	PC9001	lindane	Cyclohexane, 1,2,3,4,5,6-hexachloro-, (1.alpha.,2.alpha.,3.beta.,4.alpha.,5.alpha.,6.beta.)-	4.35		
DU18											
DU27			287.93292				methoxybenzenesulfonyl fluoride	chlorosulfonyl-4-methoxy-	1.42		
DU10120		C12H7Cl3O2		3380-34-5	TSCA11317	PC54901	tricosan	Phenol, 5-chloro-2-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)-			EFS9

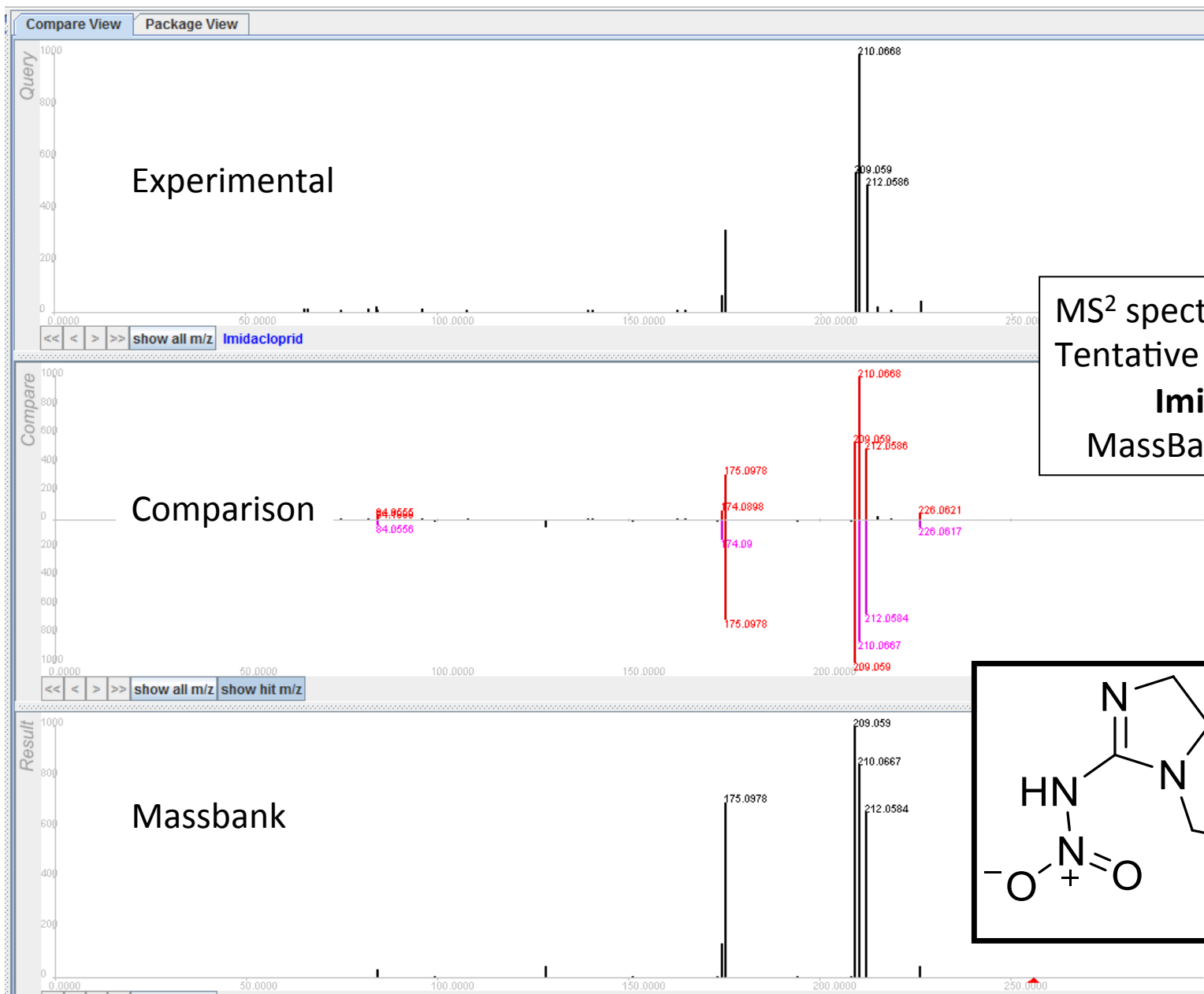
Search by formula

N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)
dodecanamide

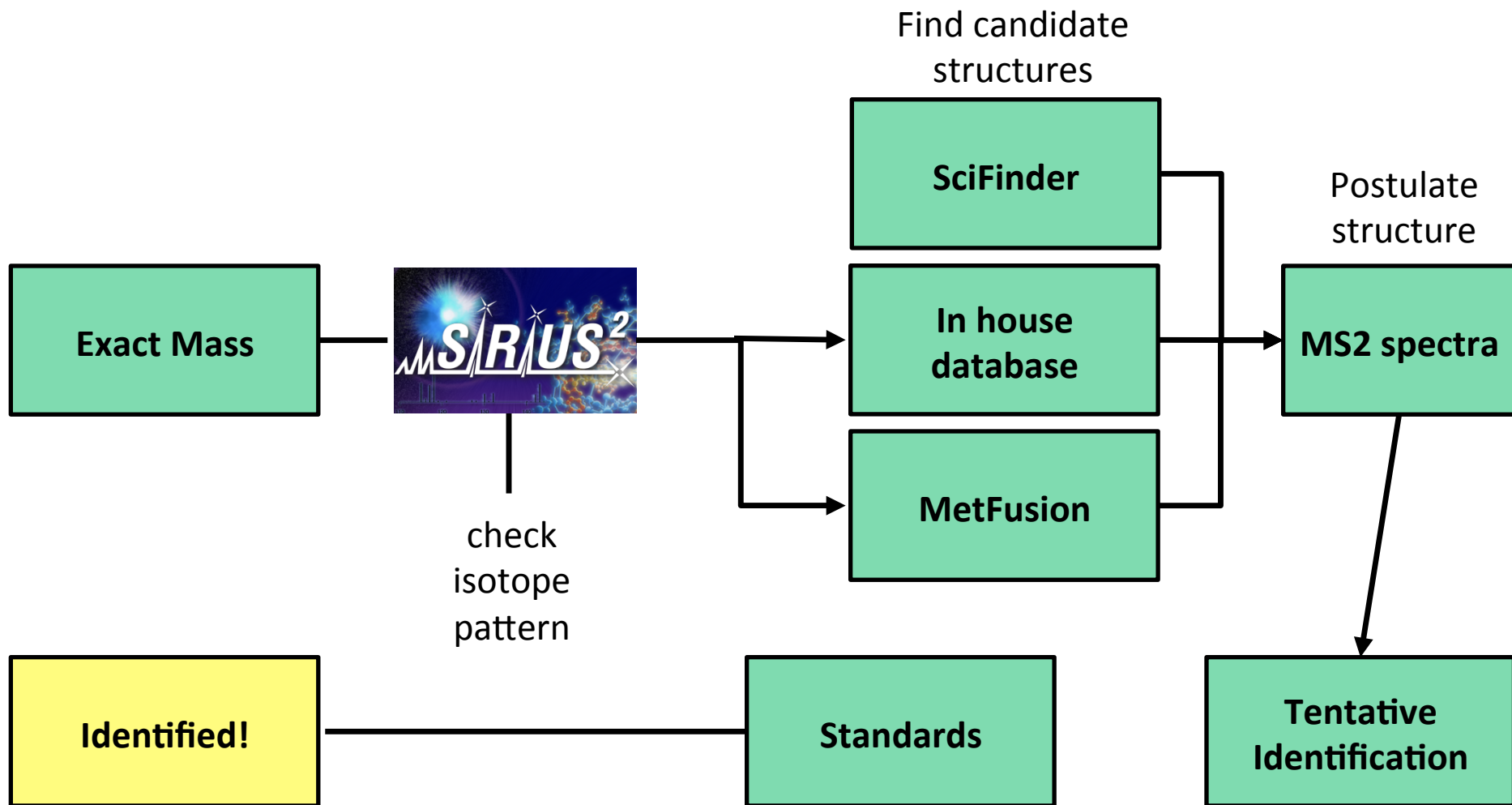
Tentative identification
supported by in silico MS²
prediction using Mass
Frontier (FISh Score: 80)

2012 National Production Volume

MetFusion for compound ID from HRMS² data



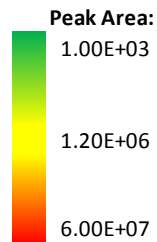
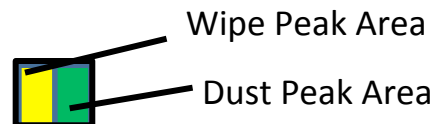
Generalized workflow strategies for identifying SVOC contaminants in paired dust/handwipes by LC-HRMS



Compounds identified in dust/ handwipes

34 compounds

- 10 identified with Standard
- 24 tentatively identified



Name		# of hits		Paired samples										STD?
		W	D	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Organophosphates	di-tertbutyl triphenyl phosphate	4	5											
	tri-(2-butoxyethyl)-phosphate (TBOEP)	10	10											x
	tris (4-butyl-phenyl) phosphate (TBPP)	7	5											x
	tris (2-chloro-ethyl) phosphate (TCEP)	5	10											x
	tris (1-chloro-isopropyl) phosphate (TCPP)	10	10											x
	tricresyl phosphate	6	7											
	triphenyl phosphate (TPP)	10	10											x
	V6	2	4											x
Surfactants	dodecyl sulfate	2	5											
	tridecyl sulfate	2	6											
	tetradecyl sulfate	2	5											
	pentadecyl sulfate	3	6											
	hexadecyl sulfate	6	10											
	dodecylethanolamine	9	8											
	N-lauroyl sarcosine	6	6											
	perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	0	2											

Surfactants used in
shampoo, cosmetics

handwipes

- 24 tentatively identified



- Dust Peak Area



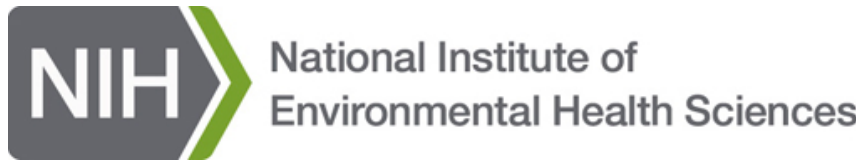
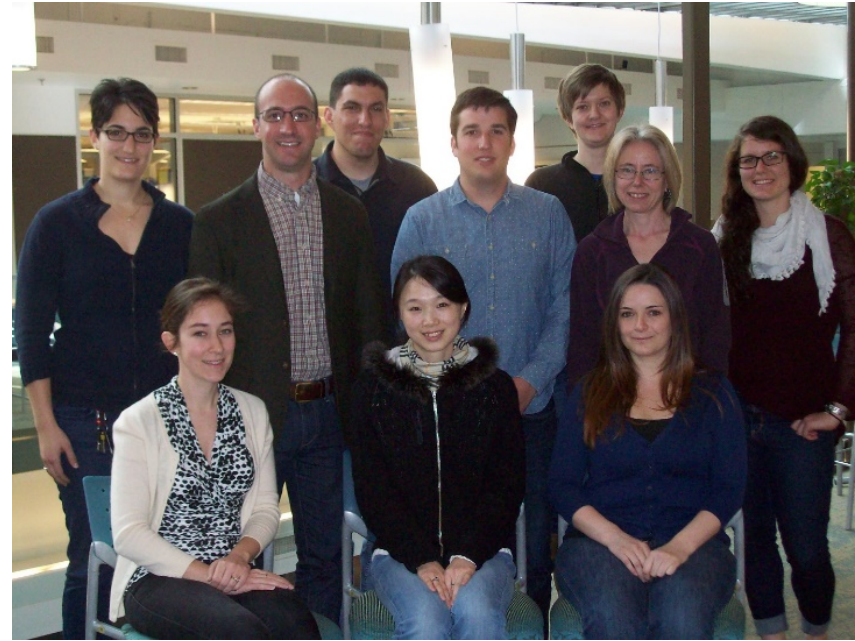
W D 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

Conclusions: Exploring the indoor environment exposome using non-targeted analysis strategies

- (2D)LC-HRAM mass spectrometry is a powerful tool for analysis of SVOC compounds in dust and hand wipe samples.
- Non-targeted workflows allow a more holistic view of contaminant exposure in indoor environments relative to targeted analysis.
- 213 tentative and confirmed identifications were made from 567 filtered components in dust/wipes (37.5% of filtered features).
- The most dominant compounds in dust and handwipes were non ionic surfactants such as nonylphenol ethoxylates or alcohol ethoxylates.

Acknowledgement

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Stapleton Lab Group



ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC

Richard Jack and Dipankar Ghosh