

Philip Marriott

**A New Paradigm:
Comprehensive two-dimensional GC
(GC×GC) for High Resolution
Volatile Chemical Analysis -
*The Power & The Passion***

... beginning with 'Cryogenics' in GC



Cryogenics & Gas Chromatography?

Hot (GC) & Cold
(Cryo-device)



Yin & Yang



A perfect
combination ??

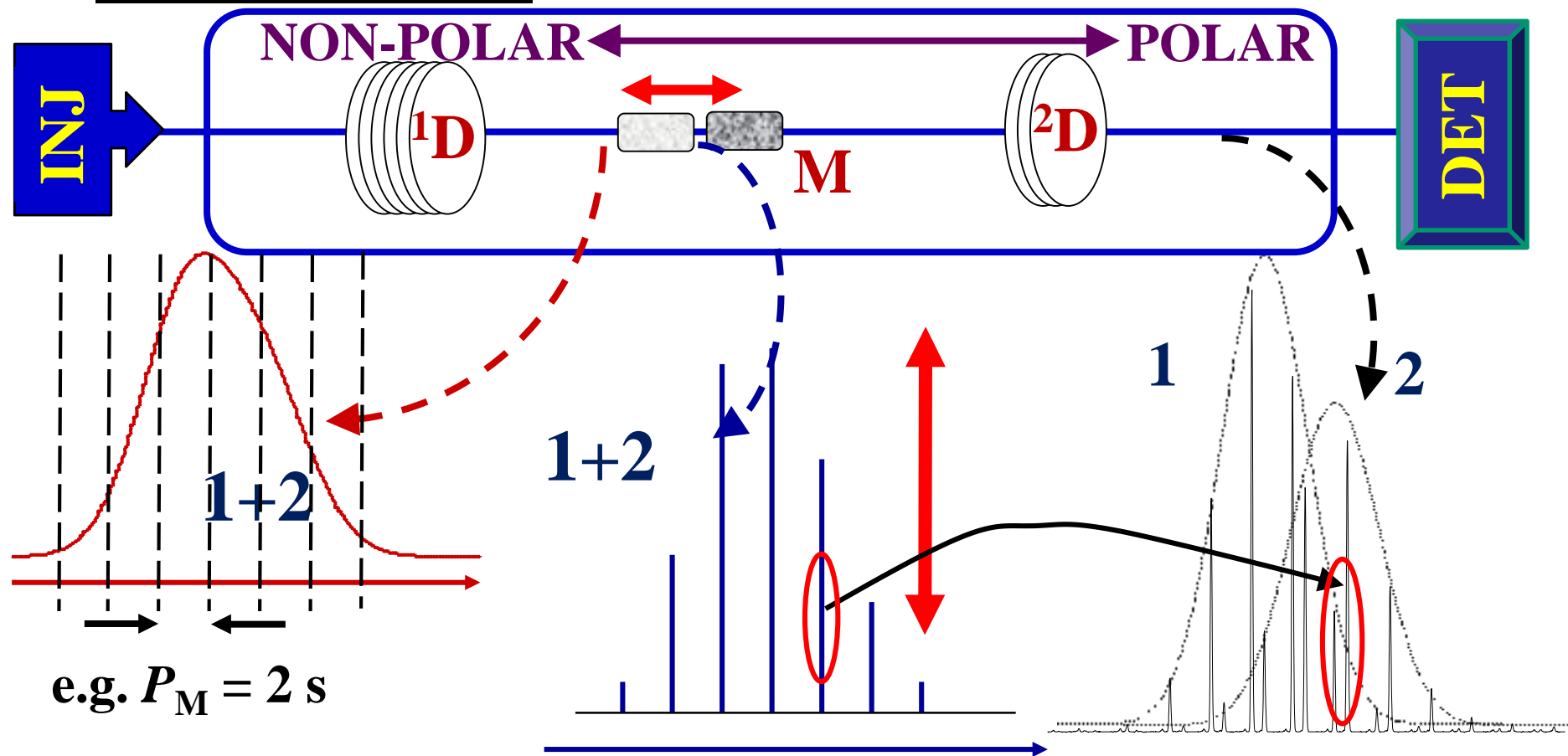
GCxGC process ~ Tutorial

COMMENT..

M – CRYOGENIC modulator

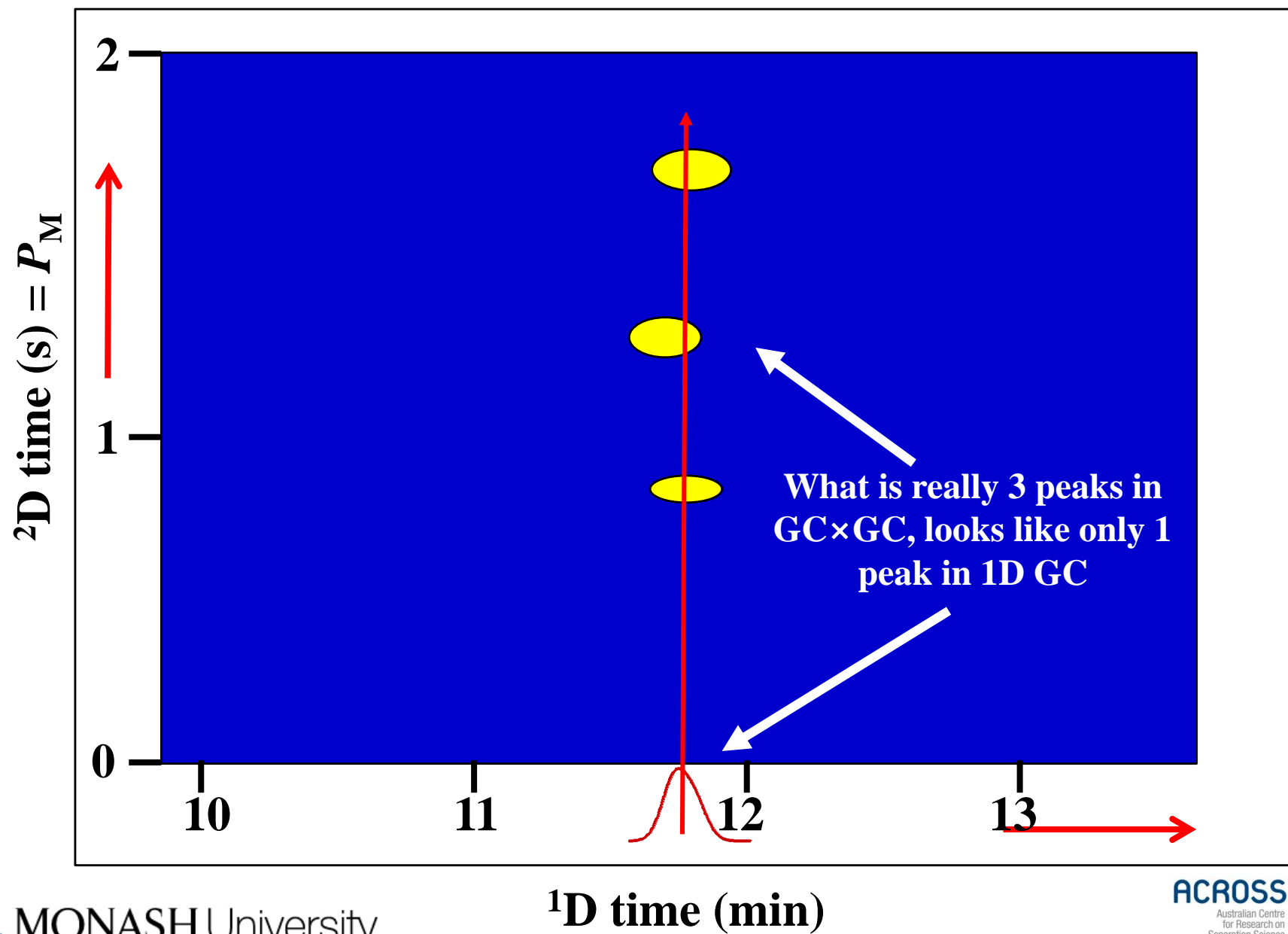
1D , 2D – first/second dimension cols

1 + 2 – overlapping compounds on 1D

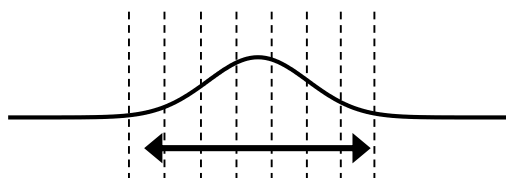


A peak at the end of the 1D column may be unresolved. This is sliced (trapped or modulated); focussed as multiple narrow bands by back-&-forth cryo-modulator movement; these are introduced to a short 2D column and further separation.

Present result as a 2D plot based on ^1D time ($^1t_{\text{R}}$) and ^2D time ($^2t_{\text{R}}$)



**¹D GC peak &
1. timing of sampling**



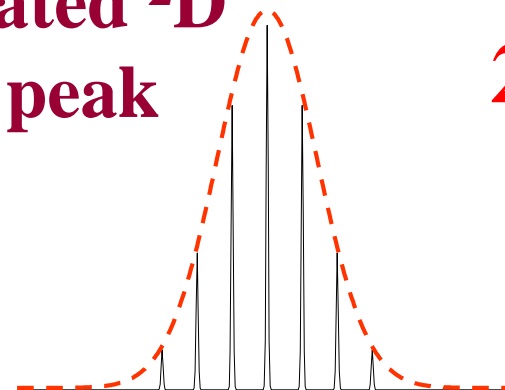
$1w_b$

**modulated ²D
GC peak**

2.

P_M

$M_R \sim w_b/P_M$

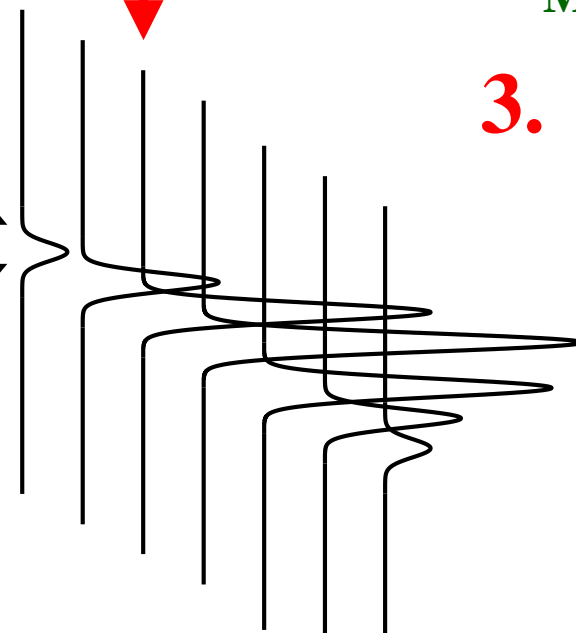


**Transform data
based on P_M .**

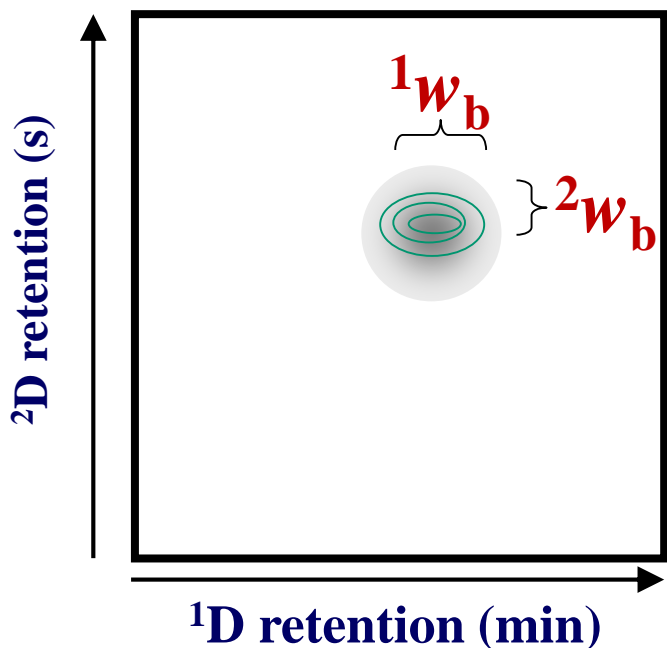
3.

$2w_b$

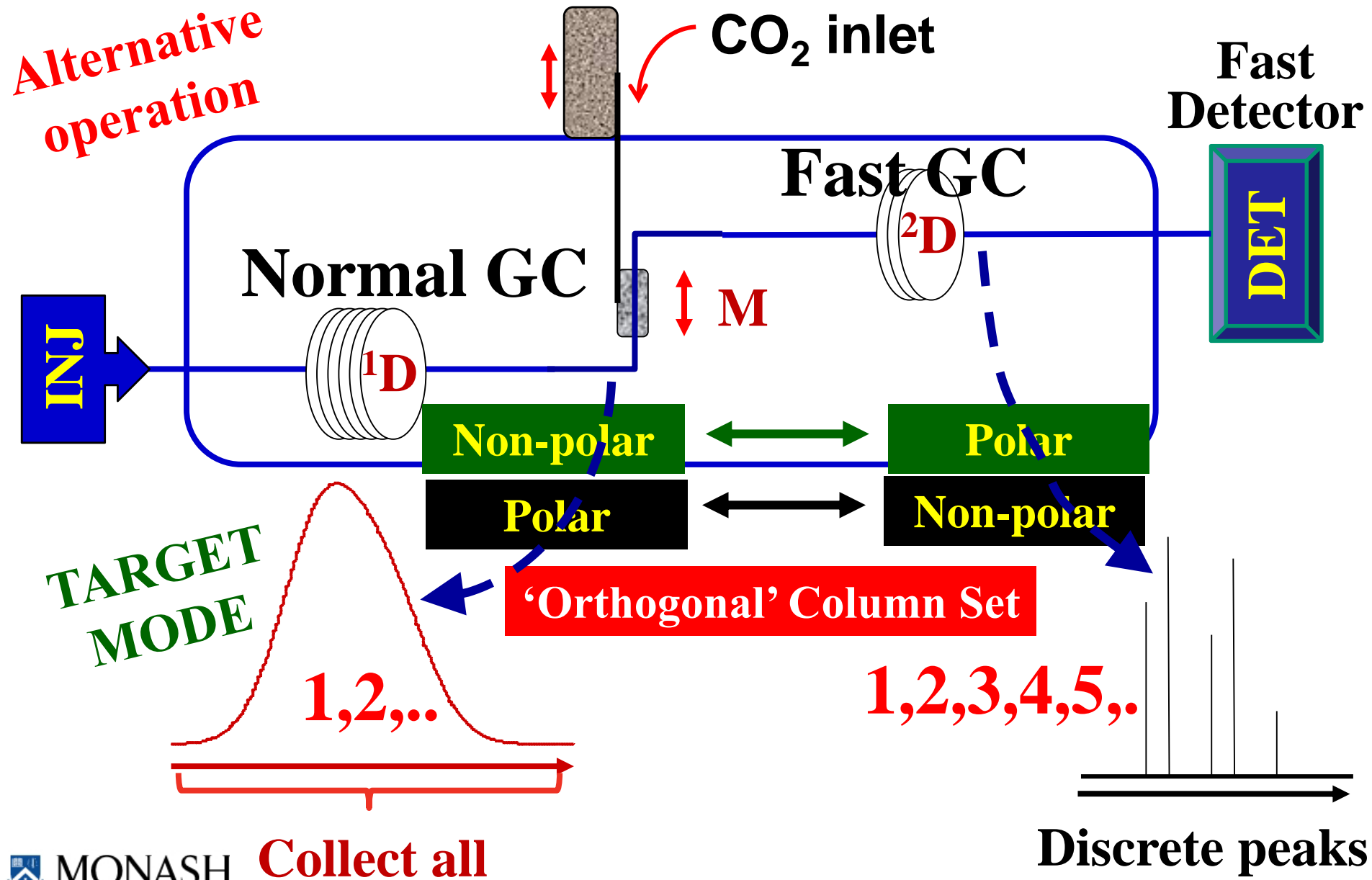
**data
presentation**



4. 2D GC×GC plot



Longitudinally Modulated Cryogenic System: LMCS



Movies of LMCS Operation

MODULATION DRIVE UNIT



CRYOTRAP MOVEMENT



REAL-TIME DATA ACQUISITION
– as seen on chromatography data system ...



Advantages & Attributes of GC×GC

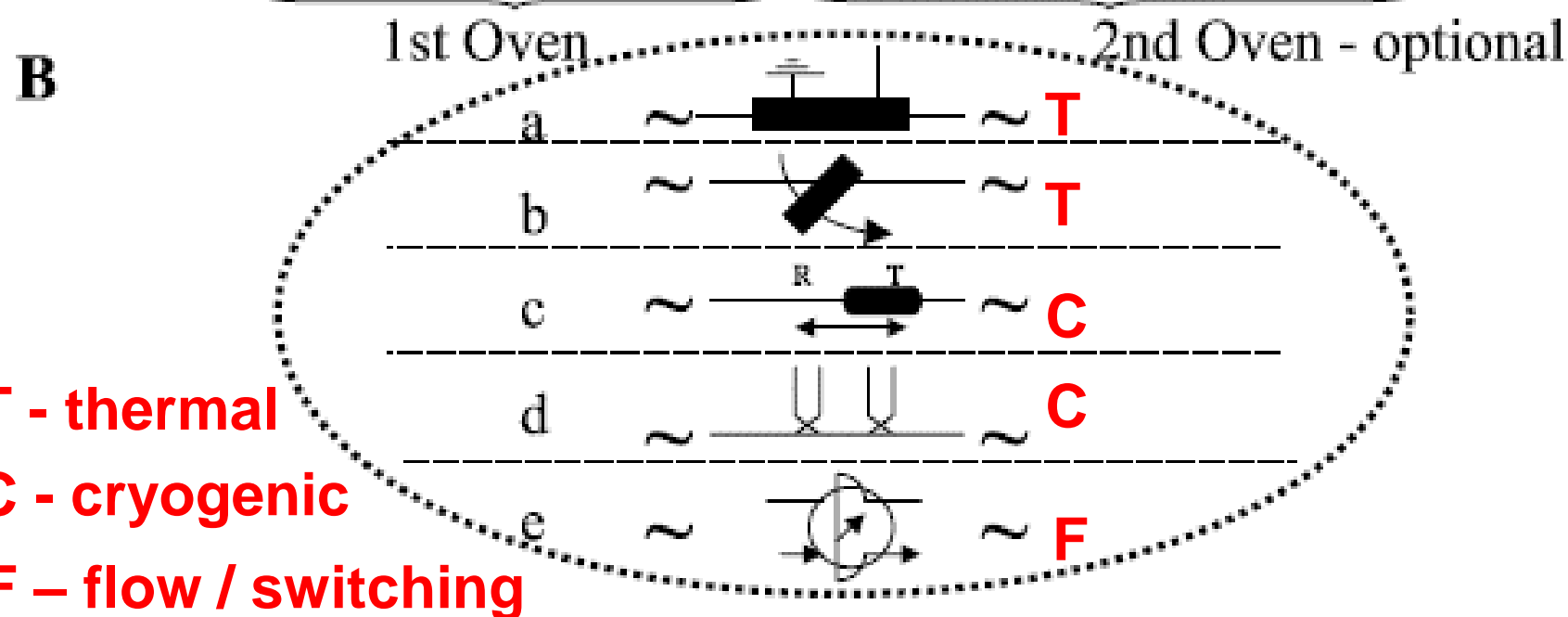
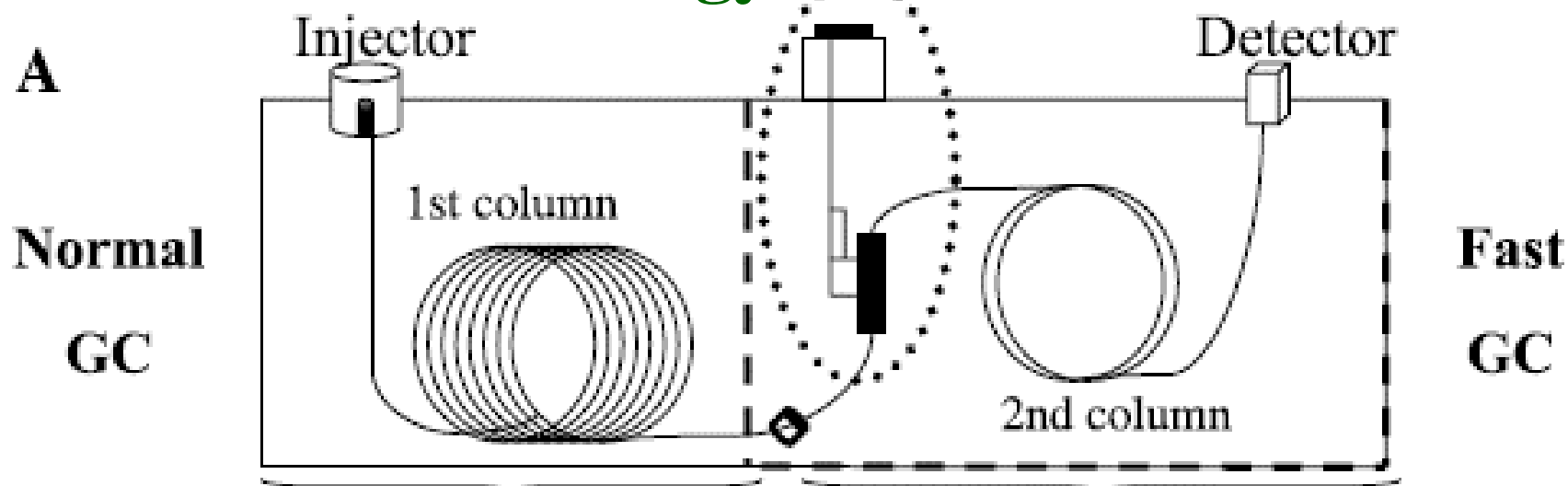
- GC×GC Uses 2 columns; 1st (1D) = long, 2nd (2D) = short
- GC×GC Has a modulator device
- GC×GC Narrow ‘cuts’ are sampled from 1D, transferred rapidly to 2D
- GC×GC 2D provides additional separation – in v short time
- GC×GC Generates a “2D separation space”
- GC×GC Peak compression e.g. 5 s → 0.2 s; = taller peaks
- GC×GC Better detection sensitivity – improved LOD
- GC×GC Improves MS detection – reduced chemical background from column and matrix
- GC×GC Meets many ‘desirables’ of GC development – Separation & Sensitivity

“A Disruptive GC Technology” – meaning?

Modulator Technology Examples

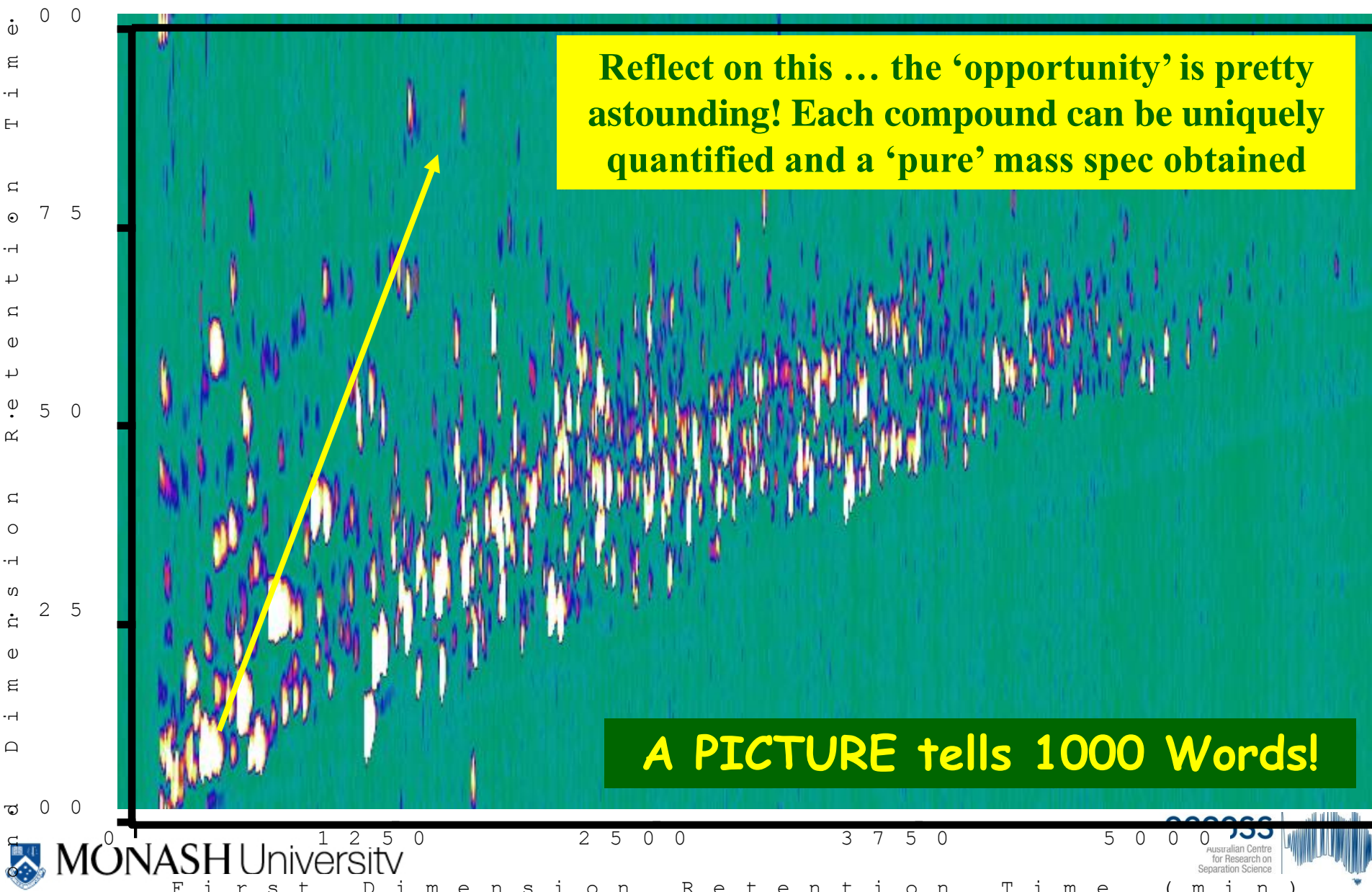
- a. Electric (painted col) – Phillips (U Illinois, original)**
- b. Sweeper modulator – Phillips (original)**
- c. Cryogenic modulator – Ours**
- d. Dual stage modulator – Various; now LECO Inc**
Loop / cryogenic modulator – Zoex Inc
- e. Diaphragm modulator – Synovec (U Washington)**
- Flow modulator – Seeley (U Oakland)**
- Solid-state (Peltier) mod – J&X Technol, Nanjing**

Modulator Technology



Arabica Coffee Headspace:

SPME-GC×GC /**TOFMS** sampling of 1 roasted coffee bean



*** DEANS SWITCH ***

**Fragrances
& Aroma**

Essential oils

Flavonoids

PESTICIDES

GC×GC-qMS

Herbs & Spices

POLLUTANTS

Biofuels

Natural Products

LMCS

FLAVOURS

TCM

STEROIDS

Enantiomers

Enantiomers

Petrochemicals

PAHs

AMINO ACIDS

Fungicides

Illicit Drugs

Allergen

Fatty Acids

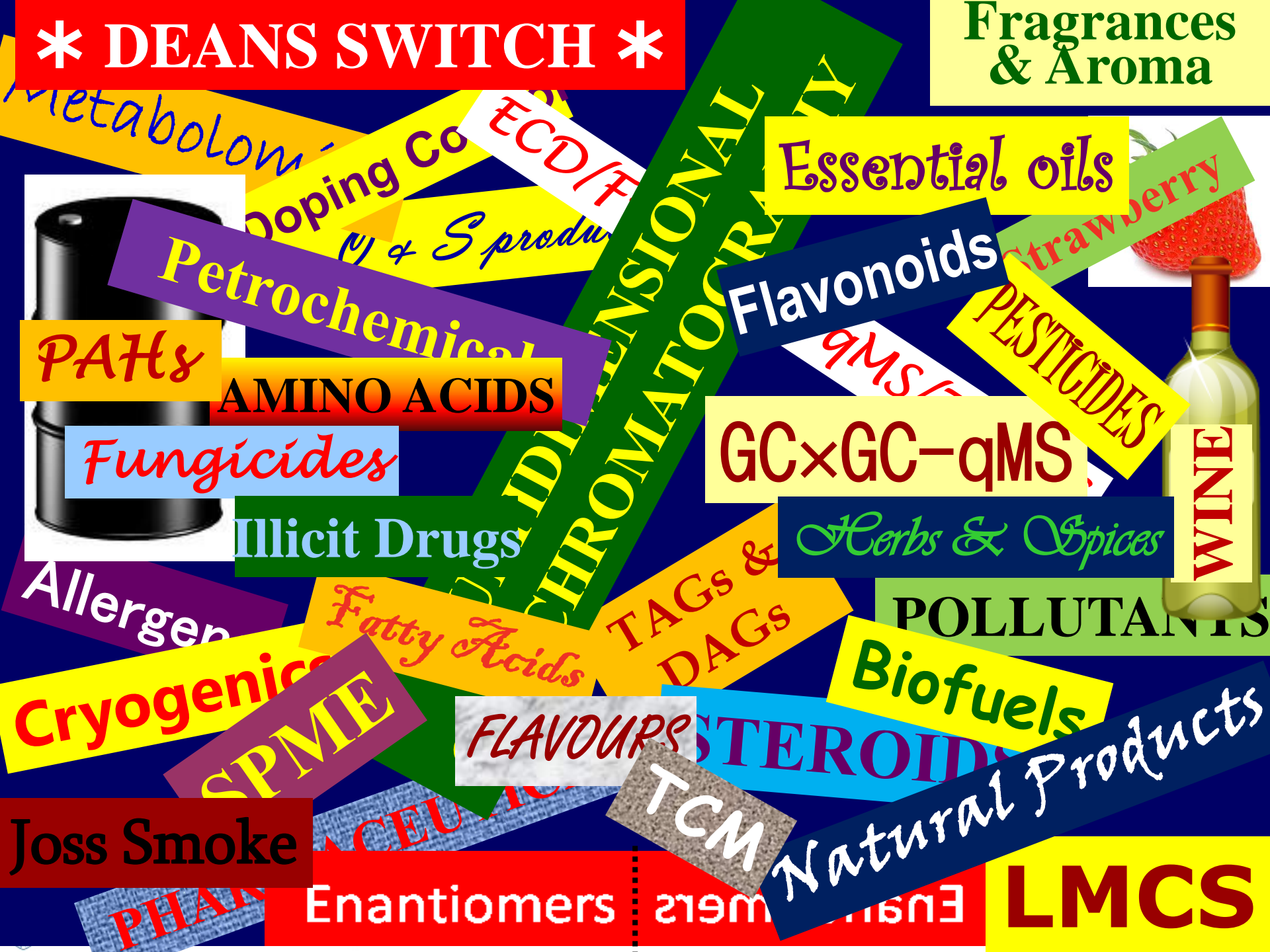
TAGs & DAGs

Cryogenics

SPME

Joss Smoke

PHAN



Technical aspects of GC×GC Technology

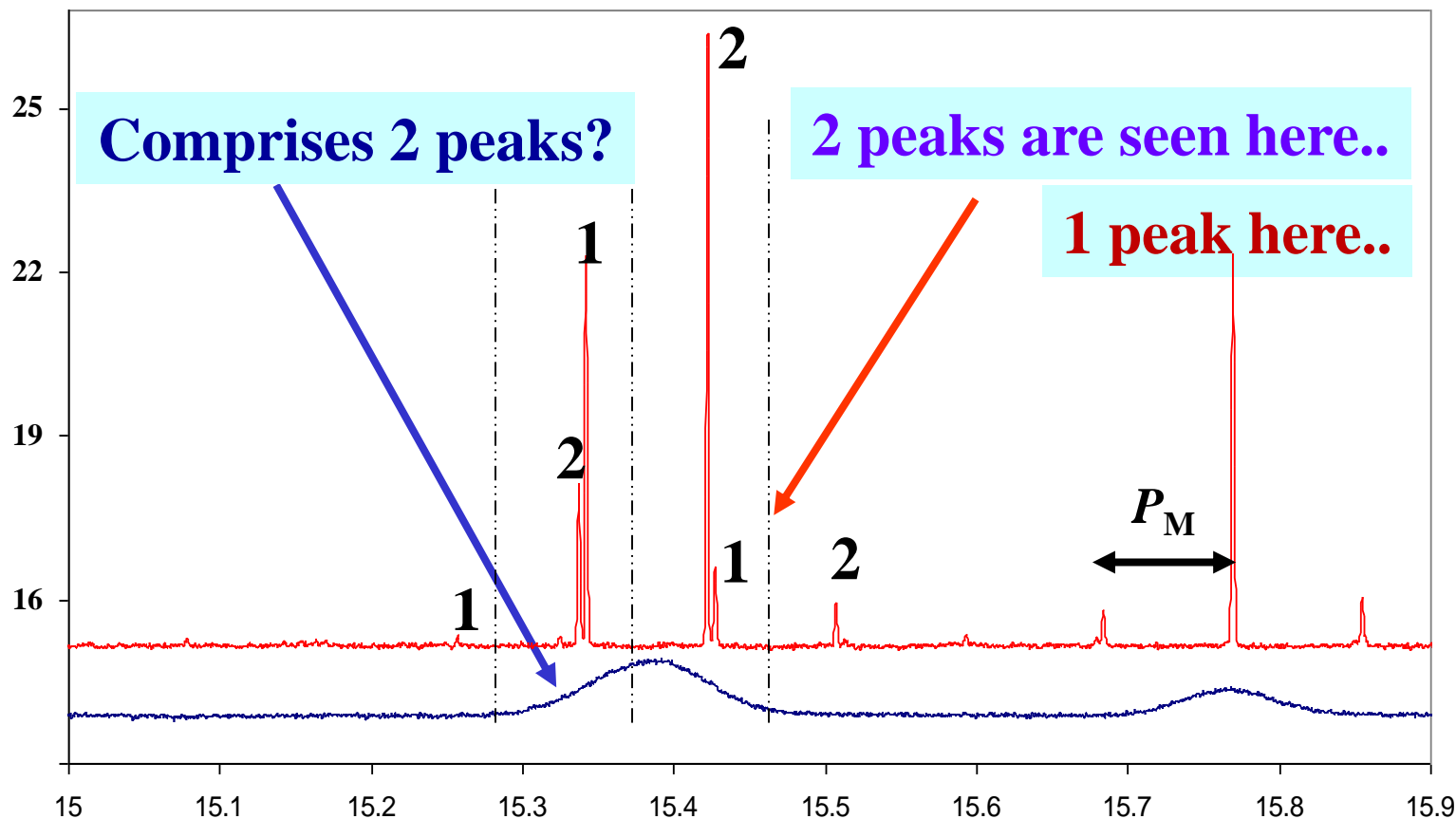
- GC×GC New **nomenclature** needed; define 1st & 2nd dimensions (e.g. 1D , 1t_R , 1w_b , $^1w_{b1}$; 1N ; peak capacity, n_c , 1n_c , $n_{c,tot}$) & operating procedure (modulation period P_M ; modulation ratio M_R ; modl number n_M ??)
- GC×GC **Quantitative analysis** requires all modulated peaks of a compound to be summed. ... more accurate than for a 1D GC method??
- GC×GC Choice of 1D and 2D column phase '**polarity**' plays a critical role in presentation of the total sample separation – '**orthogonal**'?; if the phases are the same, expect that there will be no separation in the 2D axis.
- GC×GC Software presents retention of compounds in 2D space as 1t_R and 2t_R coords.
- GC×GC Expect that for replicate analyses, a compound should always appear in the **same 2D space position** – a VALUABLE capability
- GC×GC '**Zone compression**' with a cryogenic modulator leads to peak magnitude (response height) increase – but of course not in total peak area.
- GC×GC Underlying **interferences much reduced** e.g. 'chemical noise', less 'phase bleed', and matrix interference. This is important in GC×GC-MS
- GC×GC The **modulated peak distribution** depends on the sampling pattern over the 1D peak. We call it 'in-phase', or 'out-of-phase'.
- GC×GC **Independent elution** on the 1D column & on the 2D column

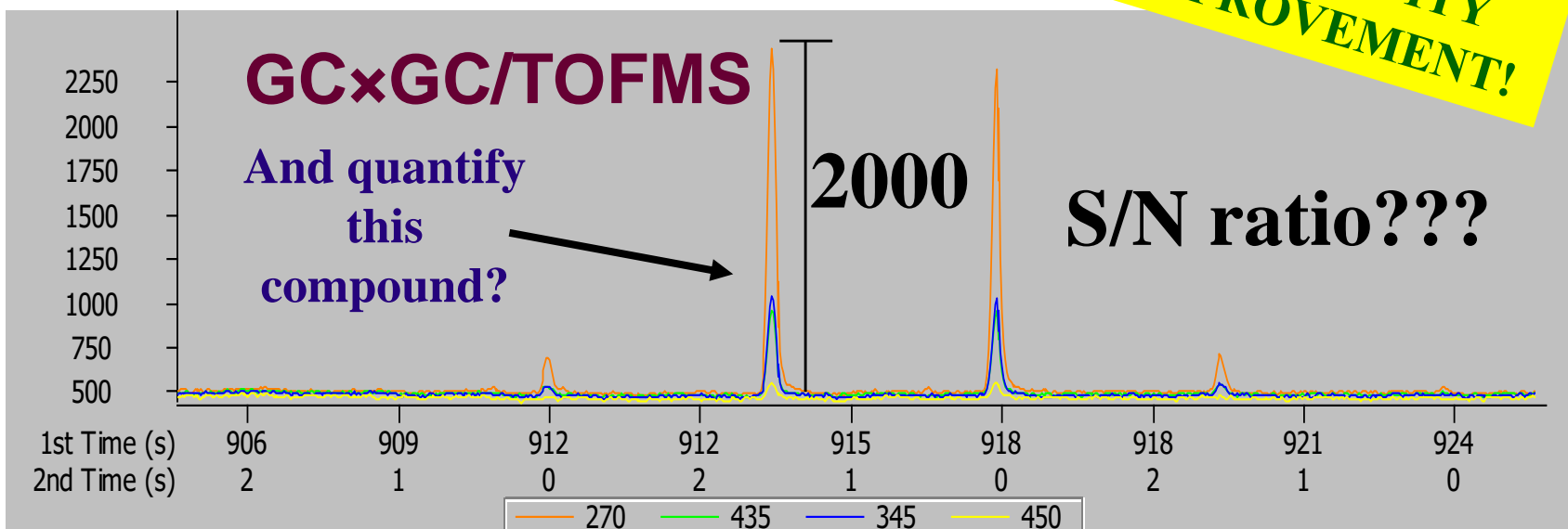
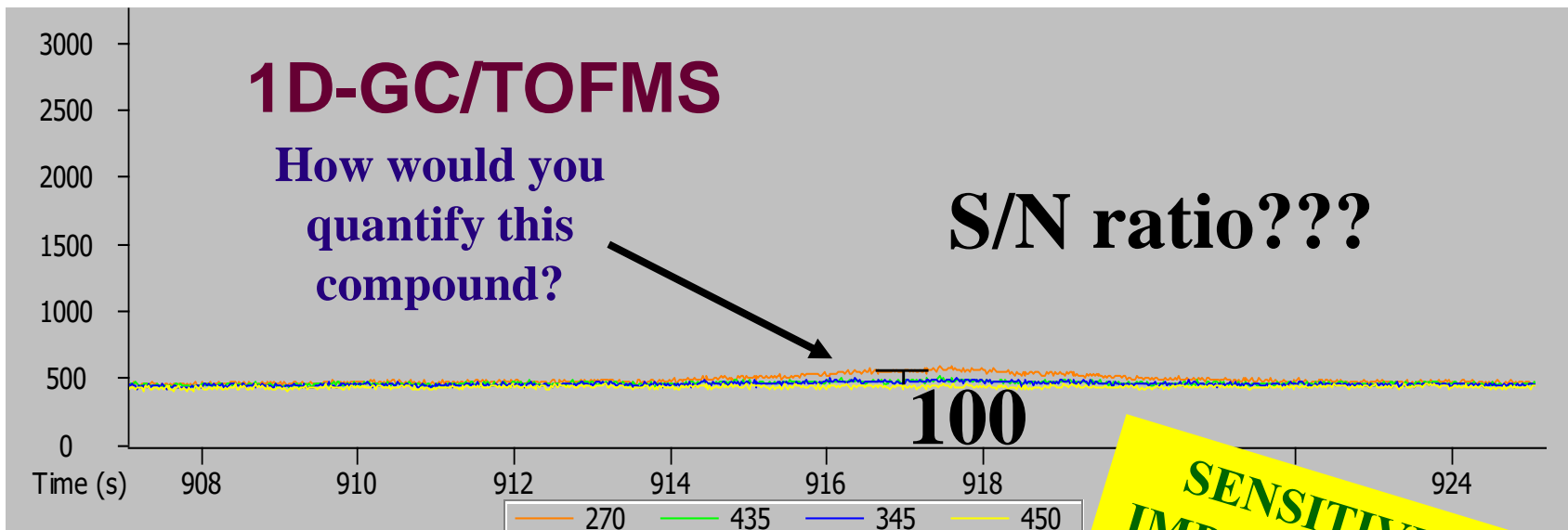
Selected Nomenclature of GC×GC Technology

Modulator	Interface device between the two columns in a GC×GC separation system that accumulates or samples narrow bands from the eluate of the ¹ D column for fast re-injection into the ² D column.
Modulation period (P_M)	Duration of a complete cycle of modulation in a GC×GC separation system (equals the data conversion time of each second dimension chromatogram, <i>i.e.</i> , the time between two successive injections into the ² D column).
Modulation ratio (M_R)	The ratio of the peak width at baseline (1w_b) for the ¹ D peak to the modulation period (P_M). $M_R = ^1w_b / P_M$
Modulation phase (Φ; F_M) (In-phase; 180 ° out of phase)	The pattern of modulated peaks caused by the time relationship between the shape of the analyte peak and the sampling process of the modulator in a GC×GC separation system.
Contour plot (Colour plot; Apex plot)	Two-dimensional plot representing a comprehensive two-dimensional separation, in which the colour represents the signal intensity of the components in the separation system
Column set	The combination of columns used for a given comprehensive 2D chromatography experiment.

COMPARISON: GC×GC vs. 1D GC

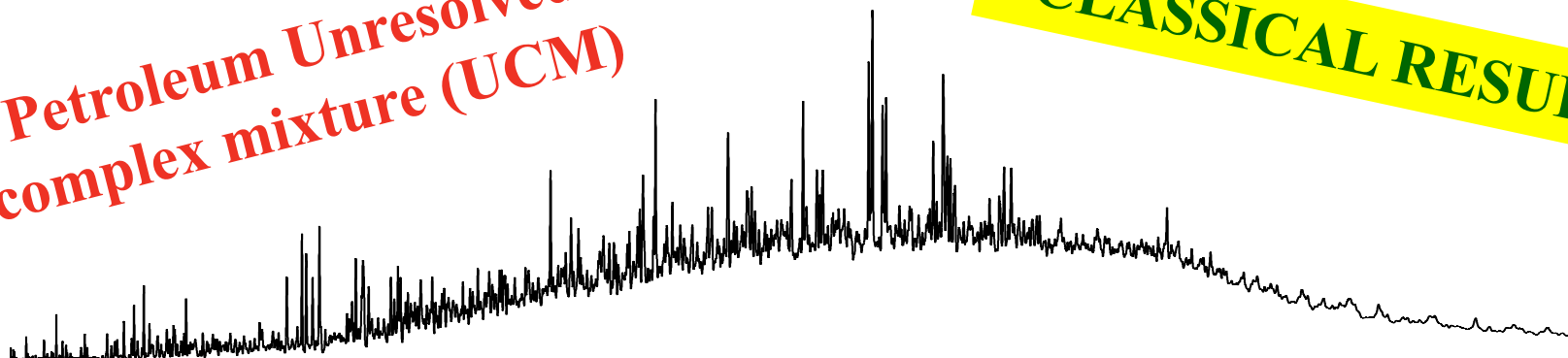
GC×GC OFFERS BETTER SEPARATION





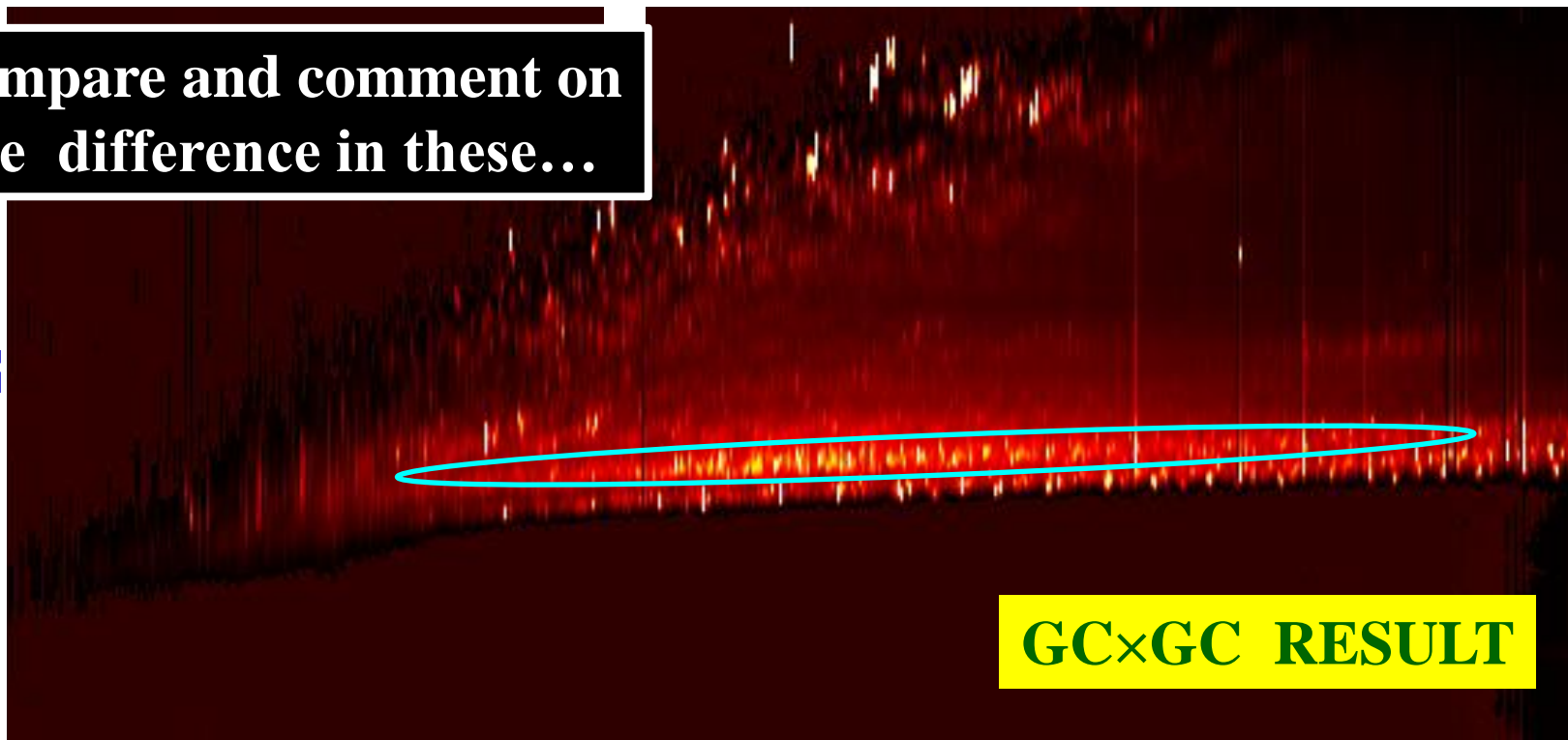
Petroleum Unresolved
complex mixture (UCM)

CLASSICAL RESULT



Compare and comment on
the difference in these...

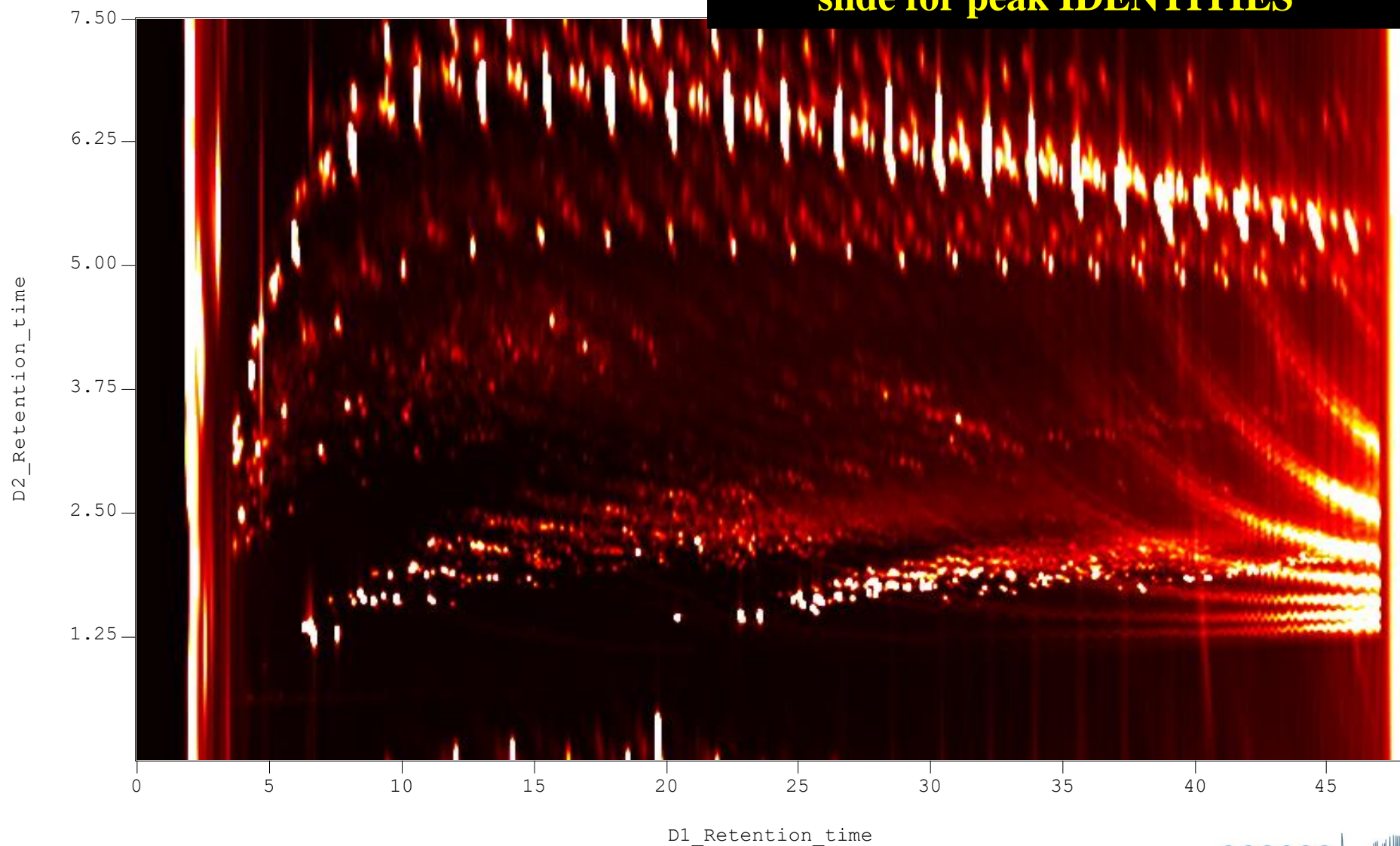
$2t_R$ (s)

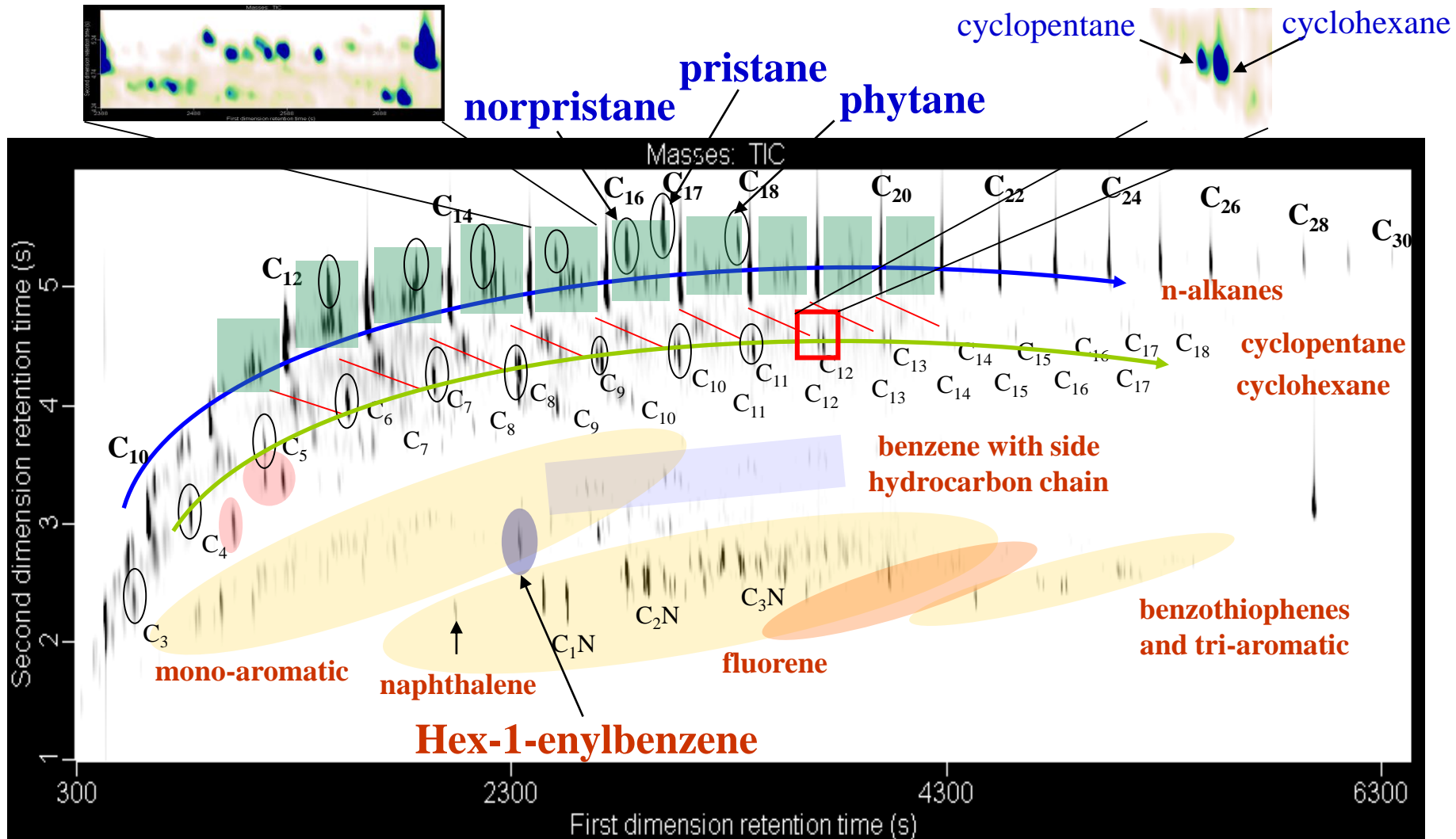


GCxGC RESULT

Alternative GC×GC RESULT for the same sample..

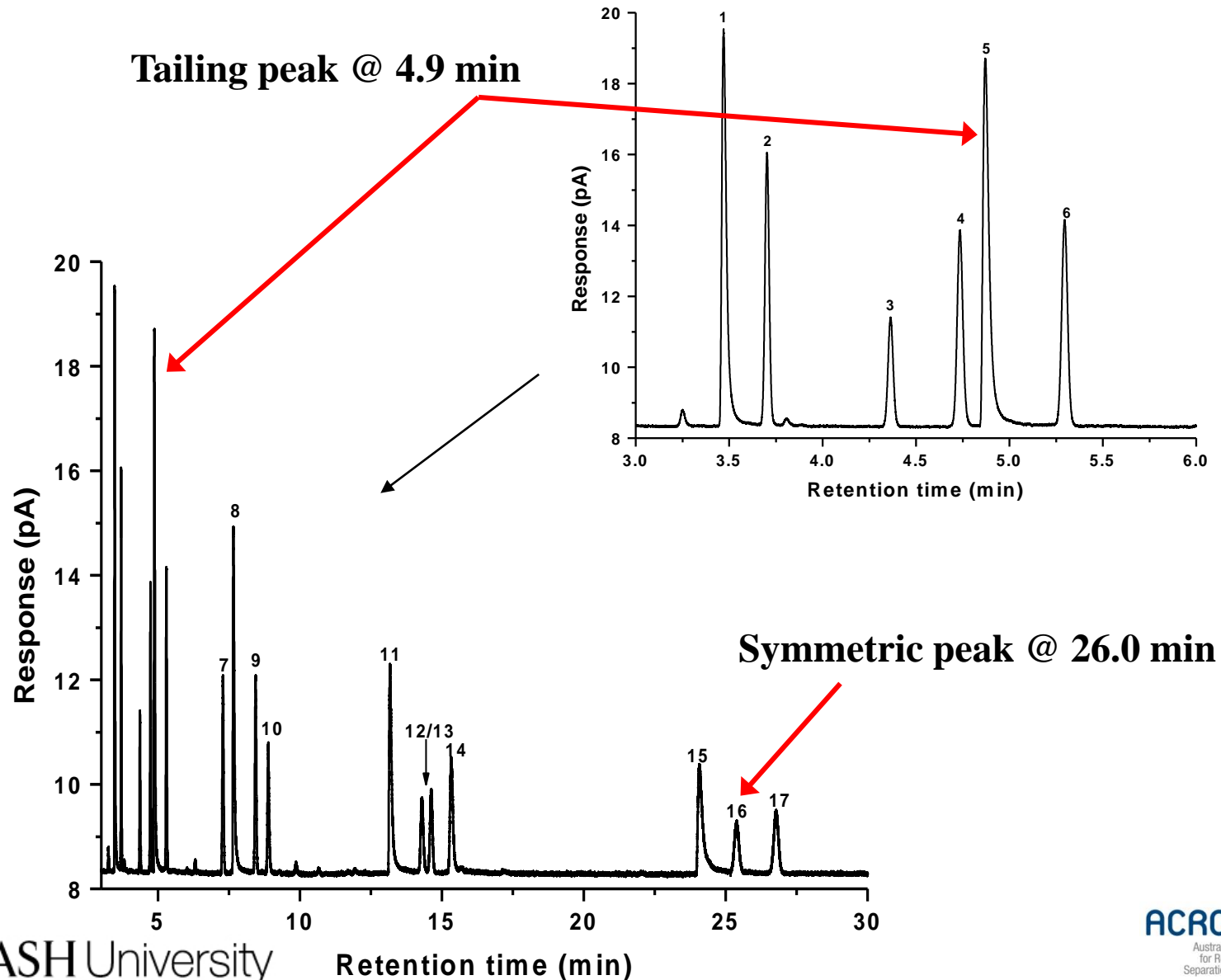
**** Why is there a difference between
the two presentations? See the next
slide for peak IDENTITIES**





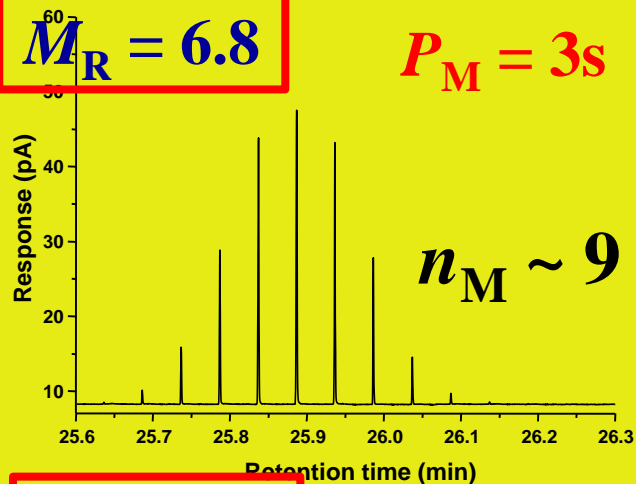
Marine; Early Cretaceous; limited degradation

Check modulation performance for this sample, P_M ; M_R



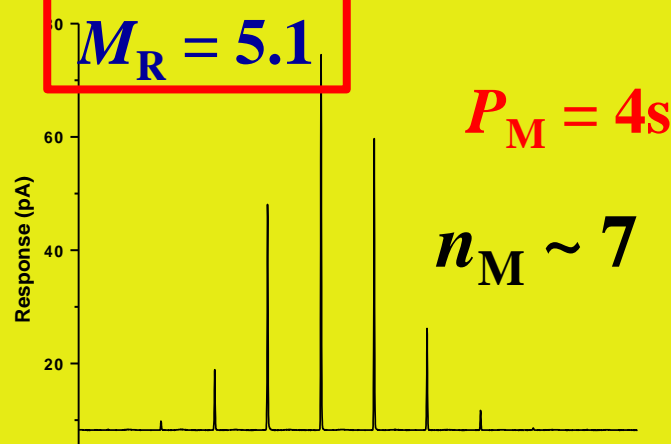
$$M_R = 6.8$$

$$P_M = 3s$$



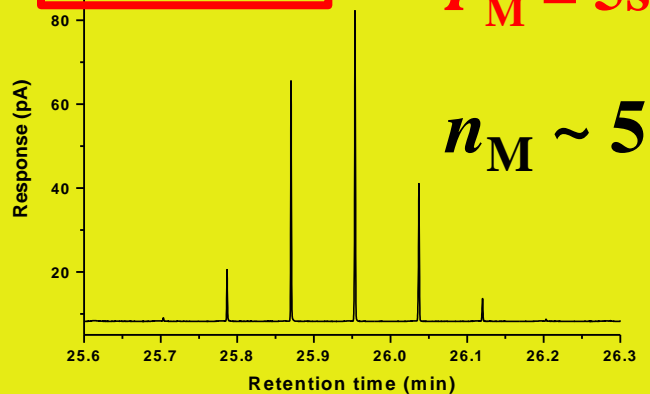
$$M_R = 5.1$$

$$P_M = 4s$$



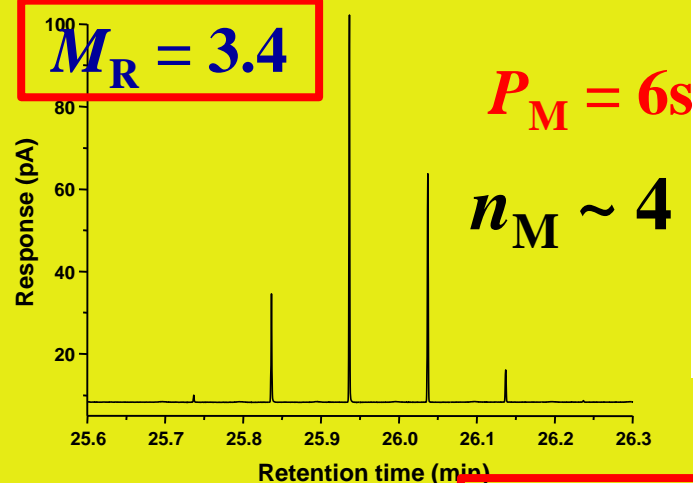
$$M_R = 4.1$$

$$P_M = 5s$$



$$M_R = 3.4$$

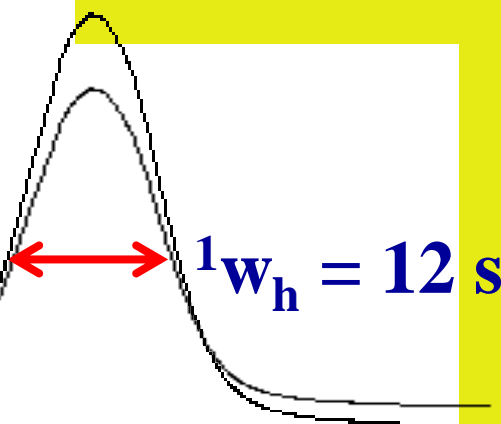
$$P_M = 6s$$



Symmetric
REAL²D
PEAKS
Isothermal
GC
... Alter P_M

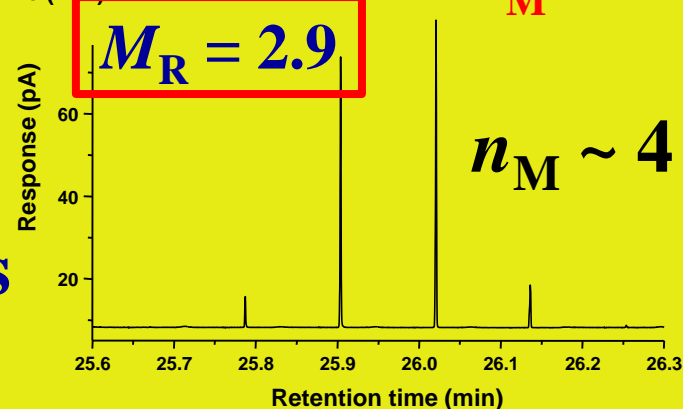
$n_M =$
modulation
number!!

HOW MANY
modulations do
we want??



$$M_R = 2.9$$

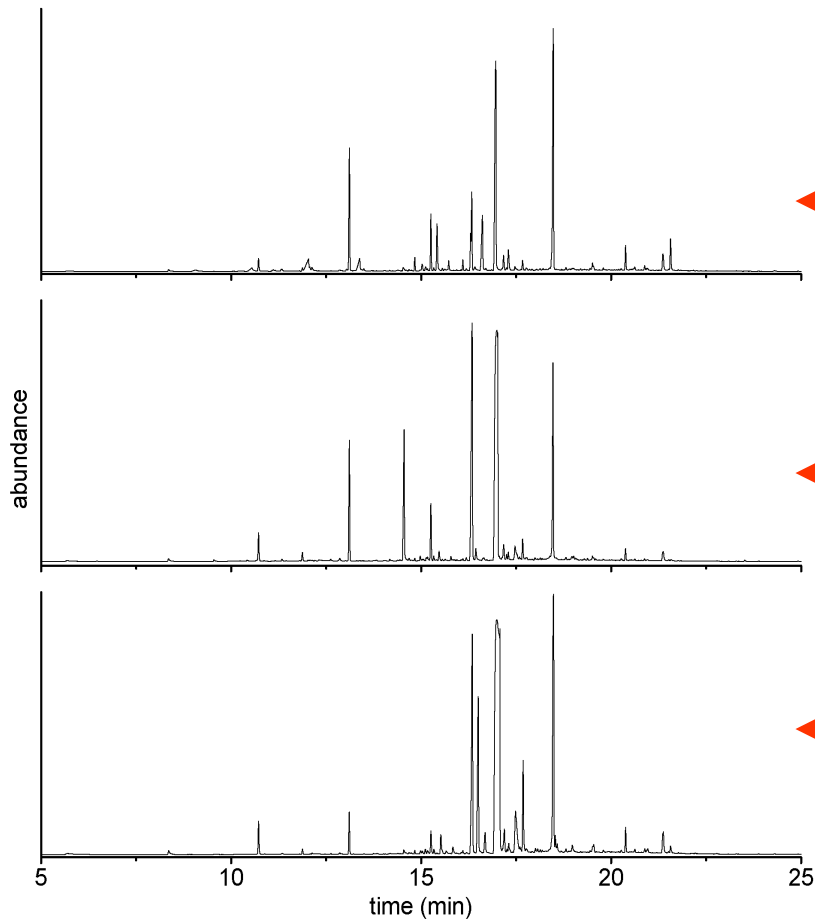
$$P_M = 7s$$



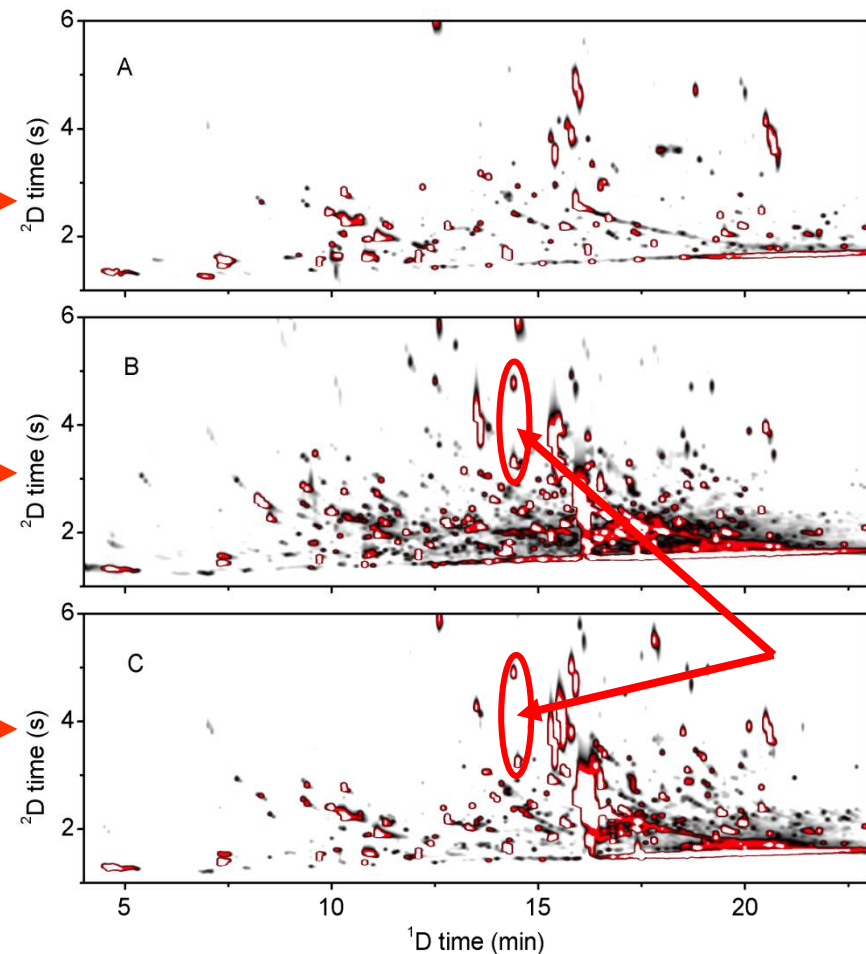
Illicit Drugs - GC×GC

REPRODUCIBLE; HIGH DATA DENSITY COMPARED WITH 1D GC

GC-qMS



GC×GC-FID

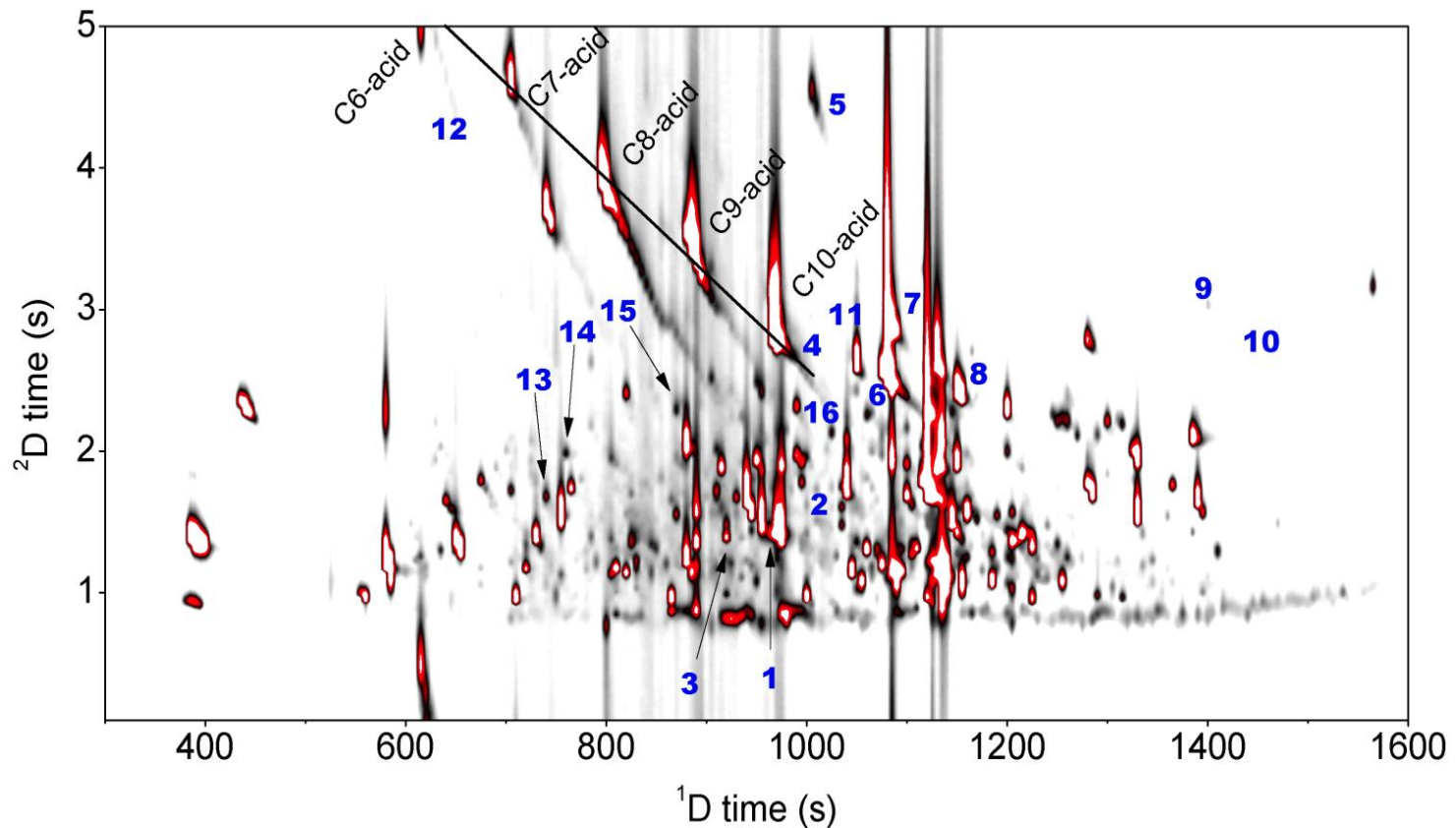


Ecstasy profiling using GC×GC-TOFMS

450 out of 1200 identified

BPX5 / BP20 column set
= non-polar / polar

- S/N > 100
- MAM > 800



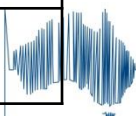
Ecstasy profiling by GC×GC-TOFMS

**Table of
selected 16
components
for profiling**

**Much wider
choice for
component
selection in
GC×GC**

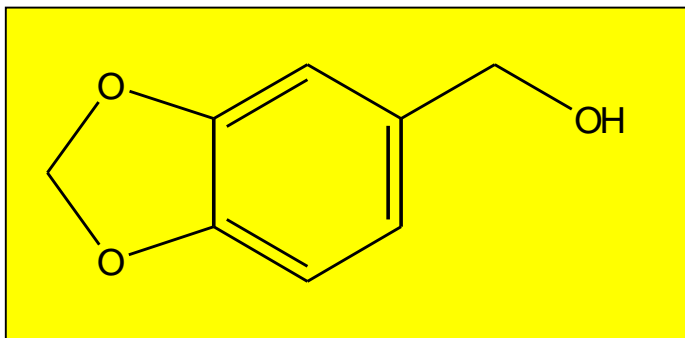
- **↑ sensitivity**
- **↑ separation**

Nº	Compound	¹ D time (s)	² D time (s)	Quant ion (m/z)
1	safrole	960	1.58	162
2	isosafrole-2	995	1.78	162
3	3,4-methylenedioxyphenylpropane (3,4-MD propane)	920	1.48	164
4	Piperonal	970	2.86	149
5	1,3-benzodioxole-5-MeOH (benzodioxole-5-MeOH)	1005	4.54	152
6	3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone (Piperonylmethylketone, PMK)	1080	2.58	178
7	3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanol (PMK-OH)	1085	2.88	180
8	unknown 147	1150	2.420	147
9	N-formyl-MDMA	1400	3.080	162
10	N-acetyl-MDMA	1415	2.78	162
11	3,4-methylenedioxyacetophenone (3,4-MDAcPh)	1050	2.62	164
12	Benzylalcohol	670	4.24	108
13	3,4-methylenedioxymethylbenzene (3,4-MD toluene)	740	1.68	135
14	benzylmethylketone (BMK)	760	1.98	134
15	Benzothiazole	870	2.28	135
16	3,4-methylenedioxybenzylchloride (3,4-MD-benz-Cl)	990	2.30	170



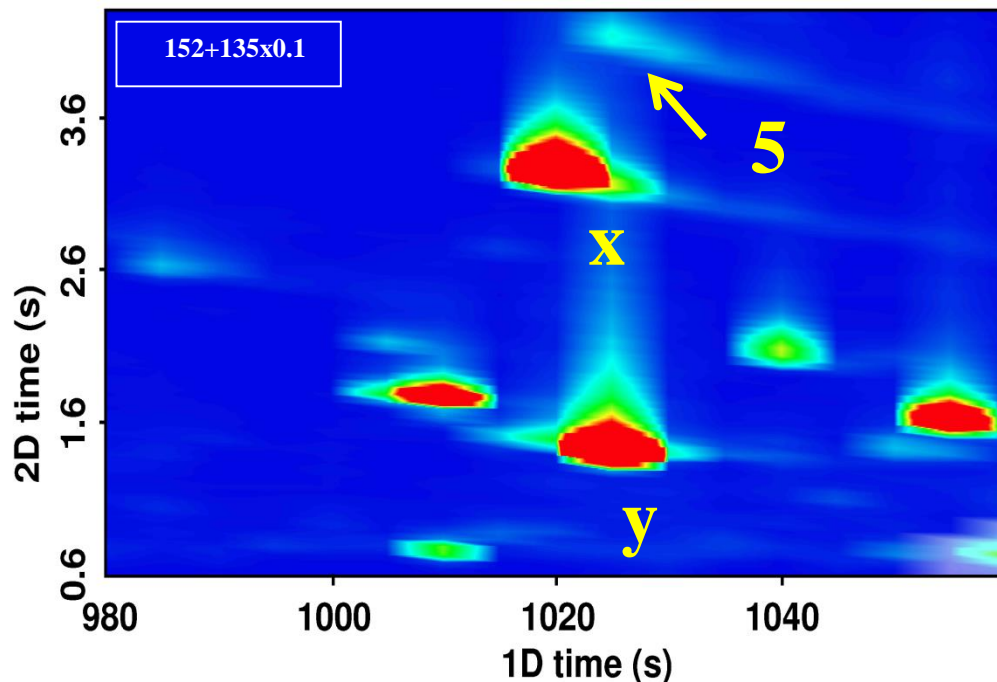
Example of Resolution benefits of GC×GC-MS

Example: Comp. 5



- Production specific
- Polar component
- Present in trace amount
- Co-elutes with x and y

Thus '5' is desirable for profiling studies



Comp. x – gives 135 m/z ion

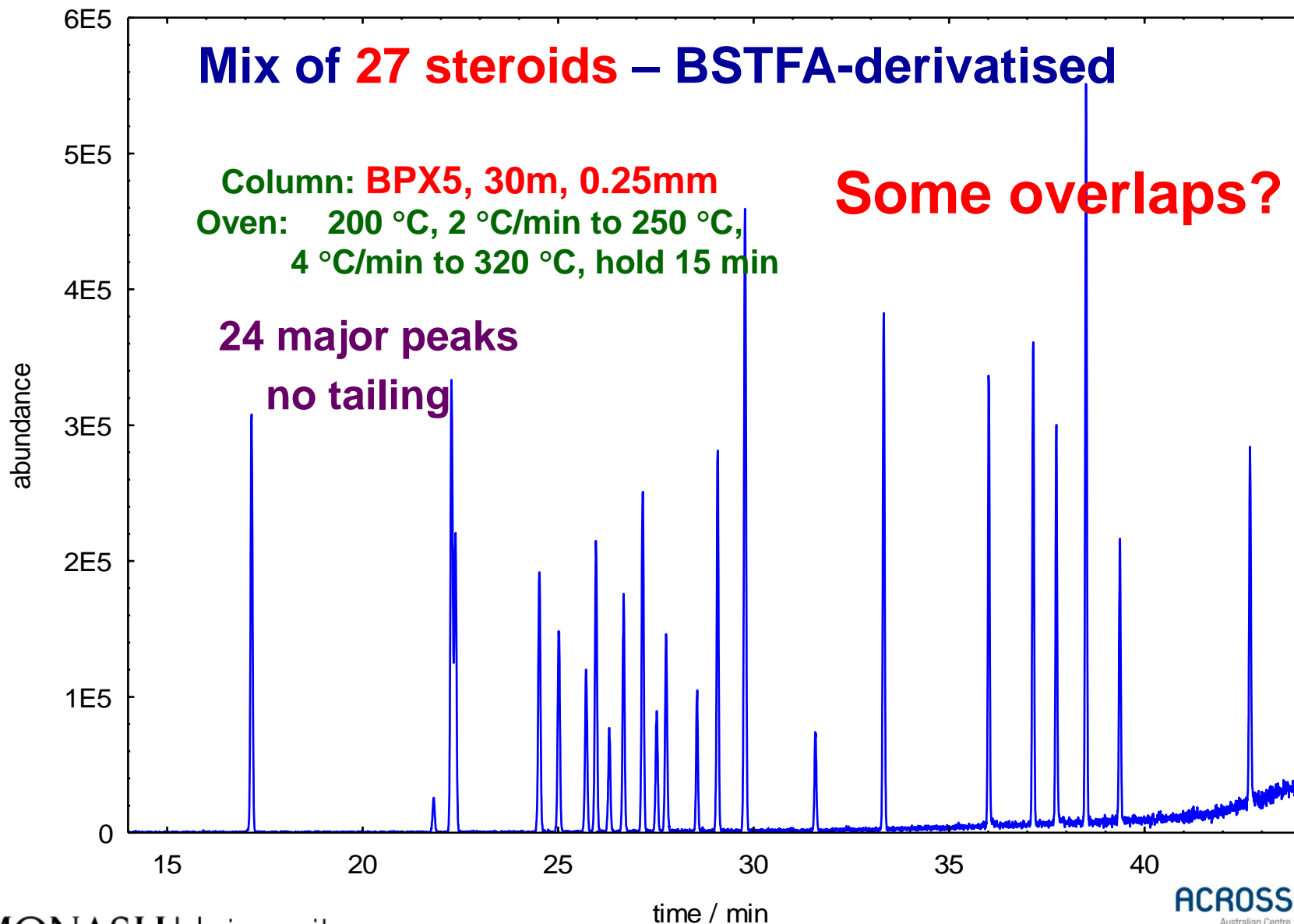
Comp. y – gives 152 m/z ion

135 m/z and 152 m/z are most characteristic for comp. 5

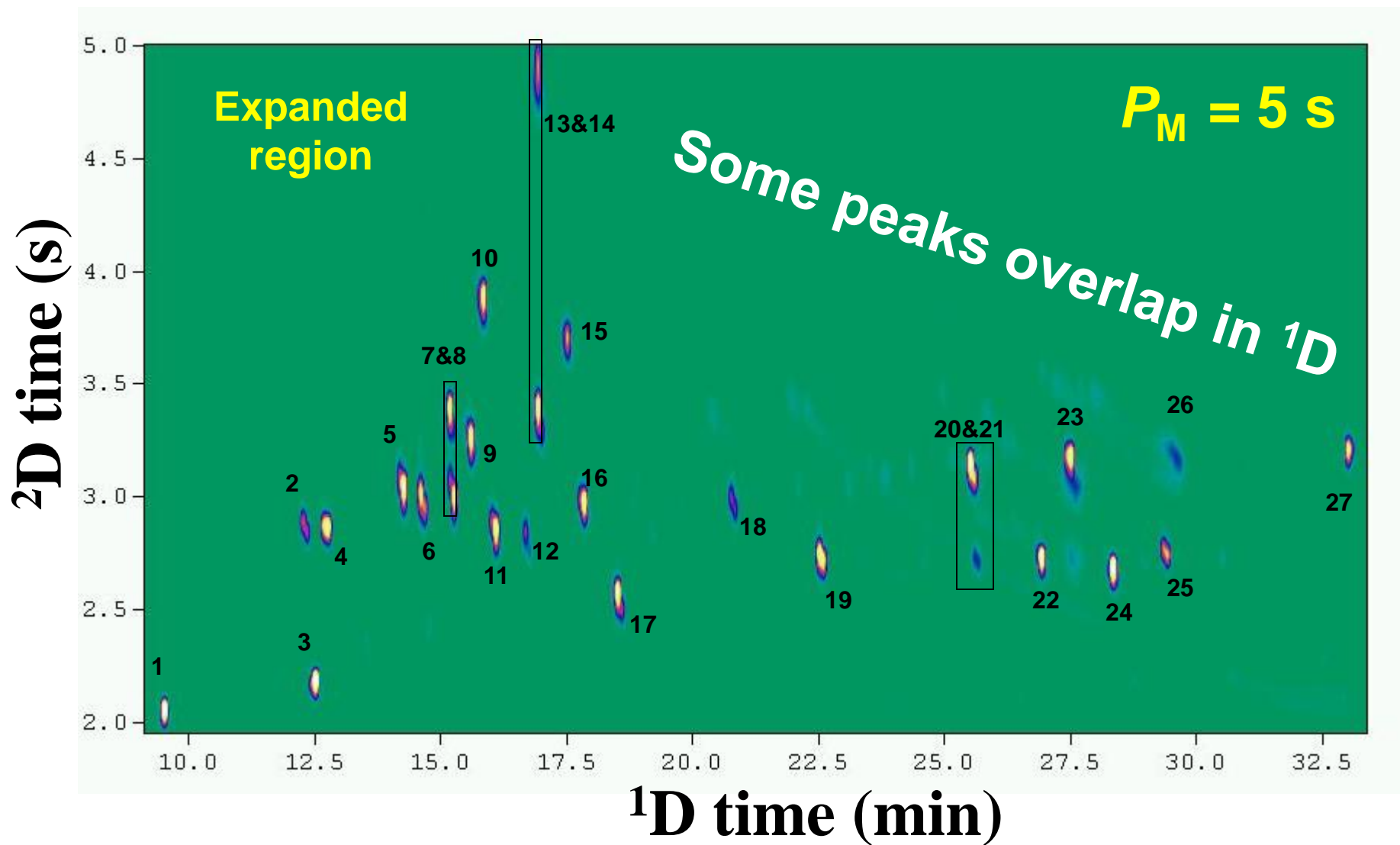
In 1D GC, 5 is hard to measure!



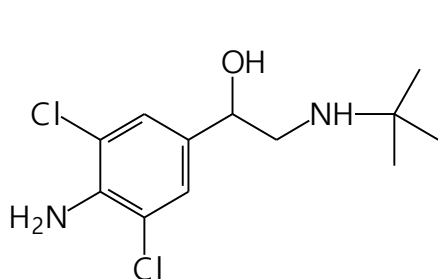
BSTFA-DERIVATISED STEROIDS ON 1D GC-MS



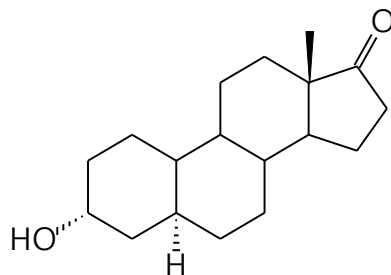
BSTFA-DERIVATISED STEROIDS: GC×GC-FID



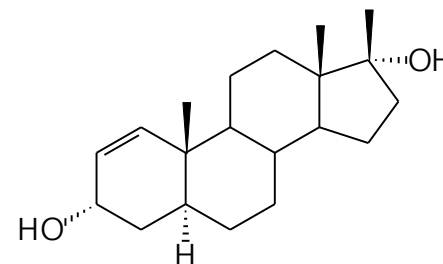
The substances: WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) key anabolic agents – TEST analytes for LAB performance



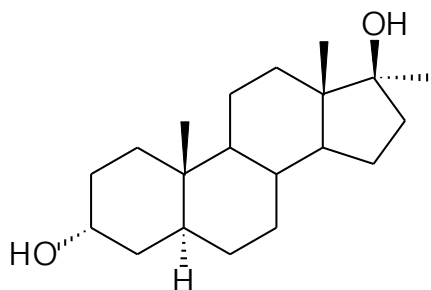
1. Clenbuterol



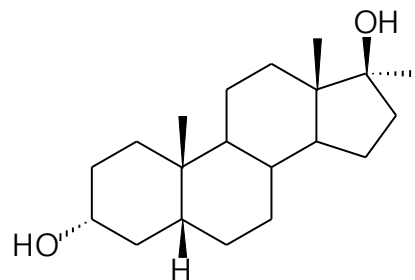
2. 19-norandrosterone



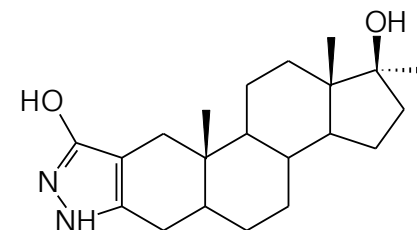
3. Epimethendiol



4. Methyltestosterone metabolite M1



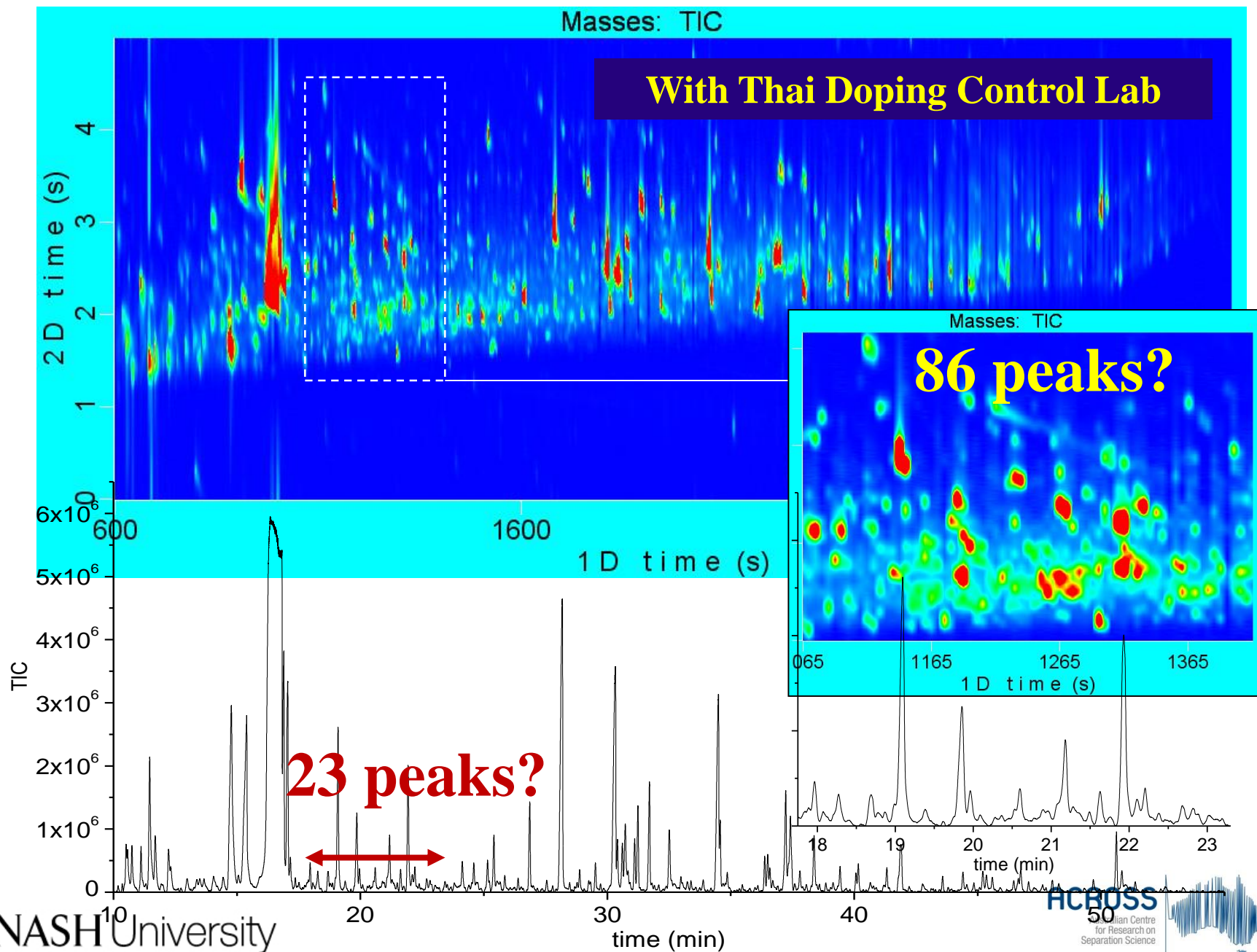
5. Methyltestosterone metabolite M2



6. 3'-hydroxystanozolol

Labs must be able to correctly ID all these in matrix, and meet various analysis criteria to retain their accreditation with WADA.
GC×GC was able to meet these criteria.

WADA Urine Positive Control (UPC), spiked at 5 ng/mL



WADA ANTI-DOPING RULE VIOLATIONS

1. PRESENCE OF A PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE OR ITS METABOLITES OR MARKERS IN AN ATHLETE'S SAMPLE.

2. USE OR ATTEMPTED USE OF A PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE OR PROHIBITED METHOD.

3. EVADING, REFUSING OR FAILING TO SUBMIT TO SAMPLE COLLECTION.

4. WHEREABOUTS FAILURES—THREE STRIKES RULE.

5. TAMPERING OR ATTEMPTED TAMPERING.

6. POSSESSION OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES AND PROHIBITED METHODS.

7. TRAFFICKING OR ATTEMPTED TRAFFICKING.

8. ADMINISTRATION OR ATTEMPTED ADMINISTRATION.

9. COMPLICITY.

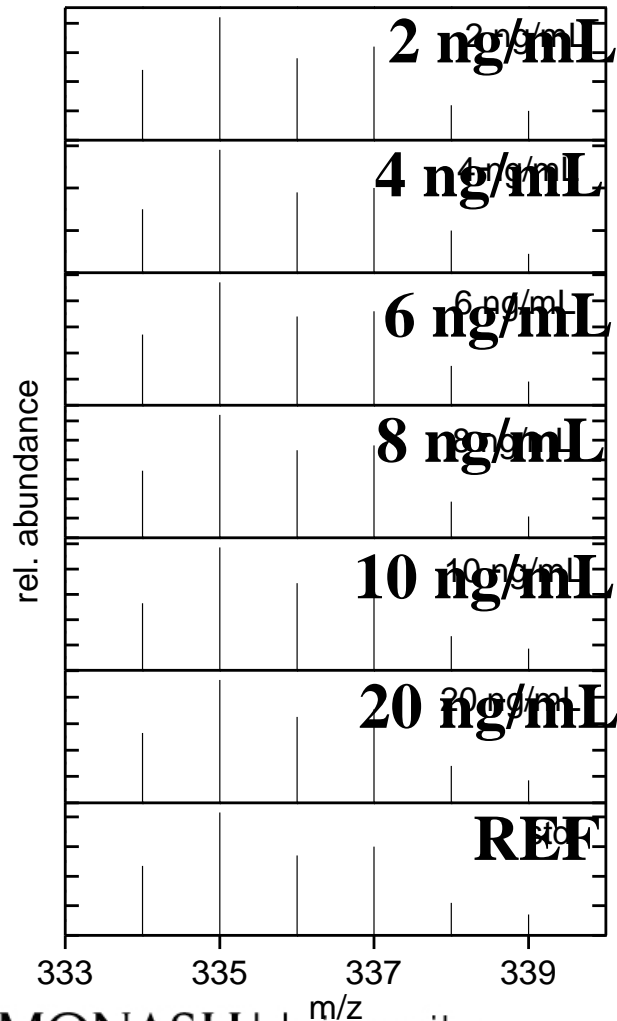
10. PROHIBITED ASSOCIATION.

11. ACTS BY AN ATHLETE OR OTHER PERSON TO DISCOURAGE OR RETALIATE AGAINST REPORTING TO AUTHORITIES.

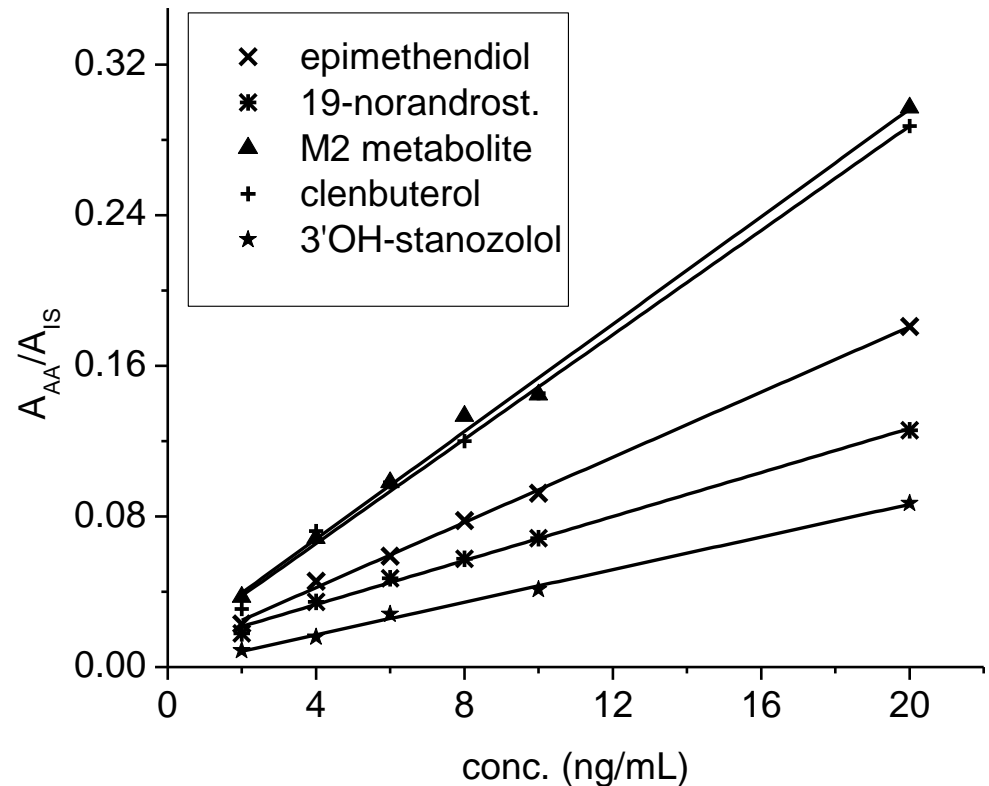
Only 1 rule is about direct doping in a sample – an **“Adverse Analytical Finding”**

VALIDATION OF RESULTS, WADA CRITERIA

Check Isotope pattern for clenbuterol (2x Cl atoms)



Calibr Linearity



VALIDATION OF RESULTS, WADA CRITERIA

MS Similarity

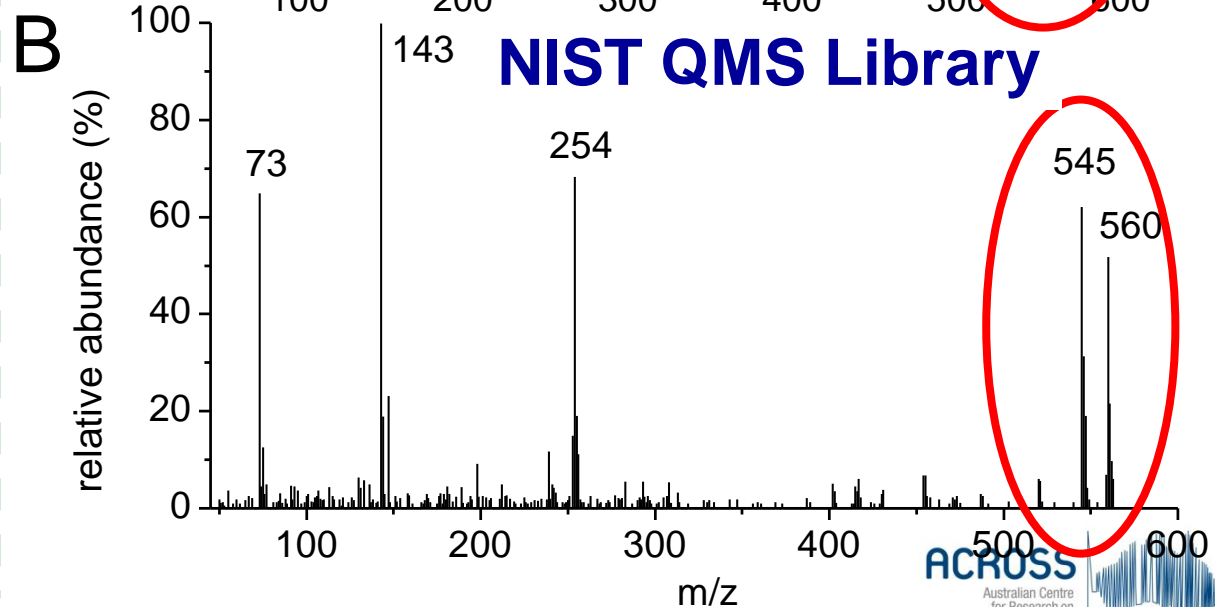
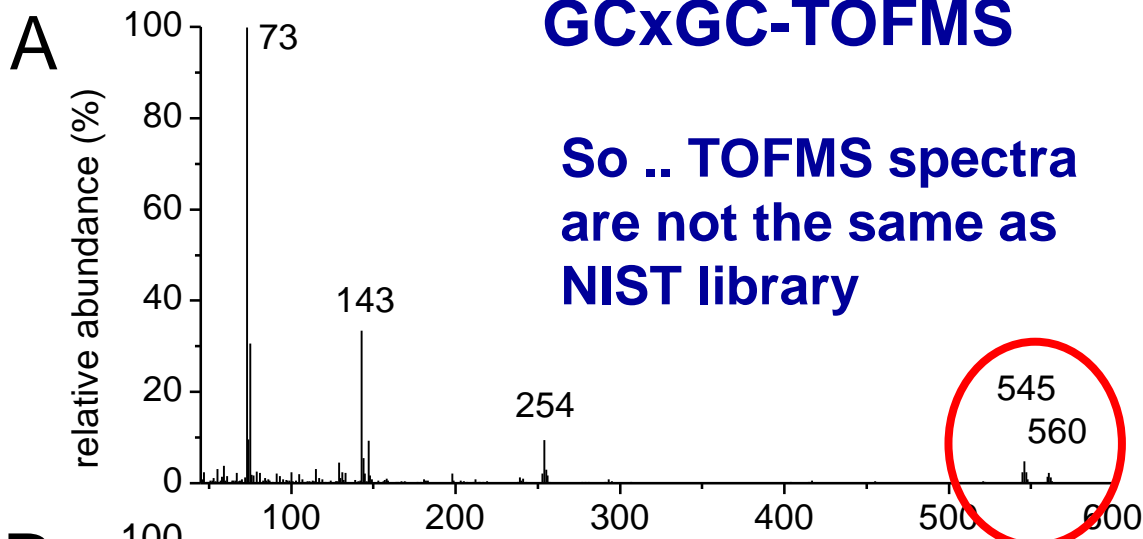
19-norandrosterone

Conc. (ng/mL)	Match
Std. soln.	945
20	926
10	867
8	891
6	888
4	799
2	784

Stanozolol (Ben Johnstone)

GCxGC-TOFMS

So .. TOFMS spectra
are not the same as
NIST library



And...
High Resolution MDGC

... supported by ‘Cryogenic’
modulation in GC



Tobacco Essential Oil

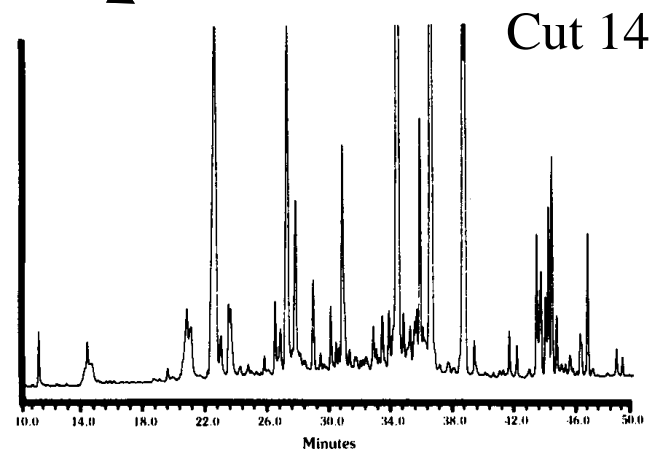
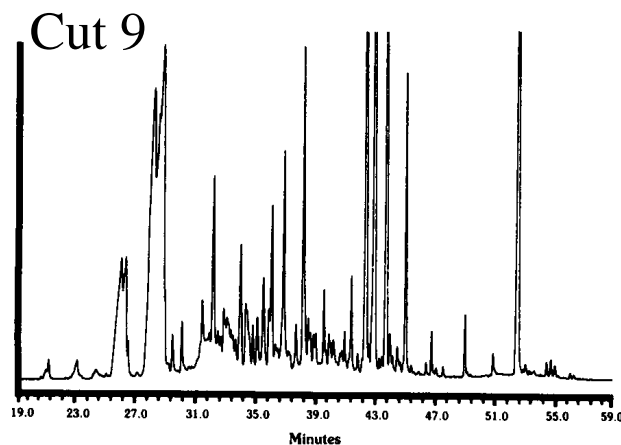
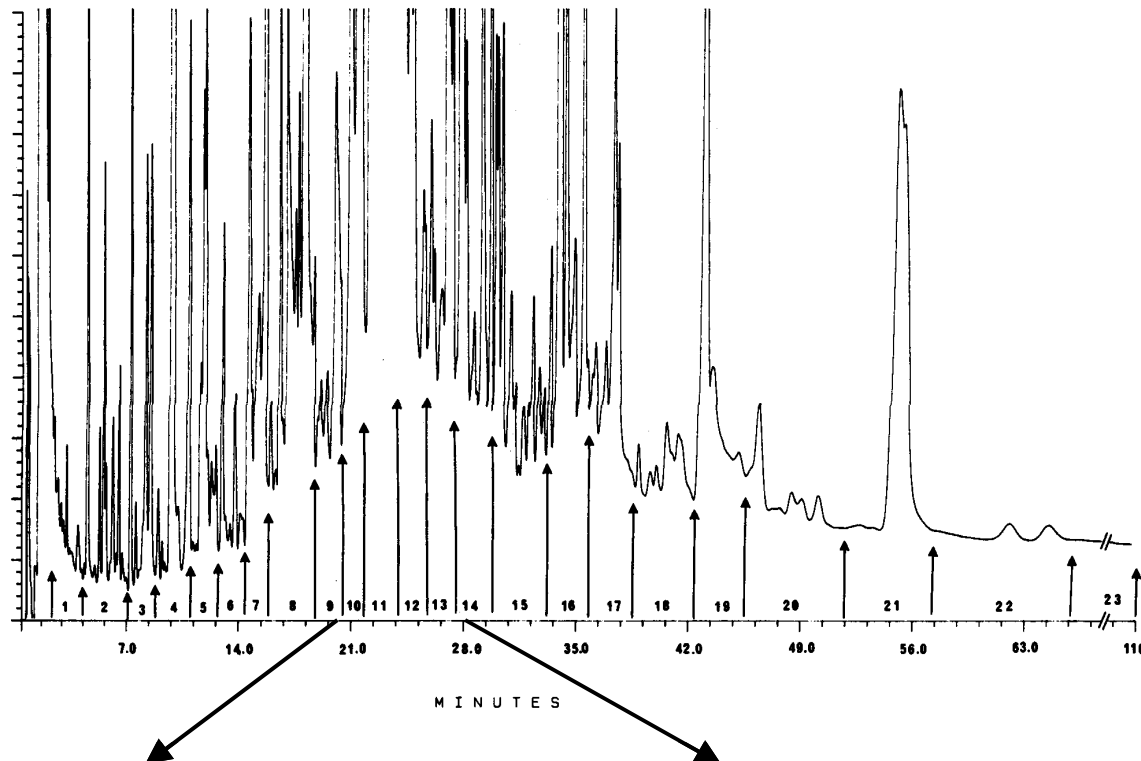
24
Heart cuts;
24 injections

Each H/C
passed to a long
 ^2D col, with full
GC analysis

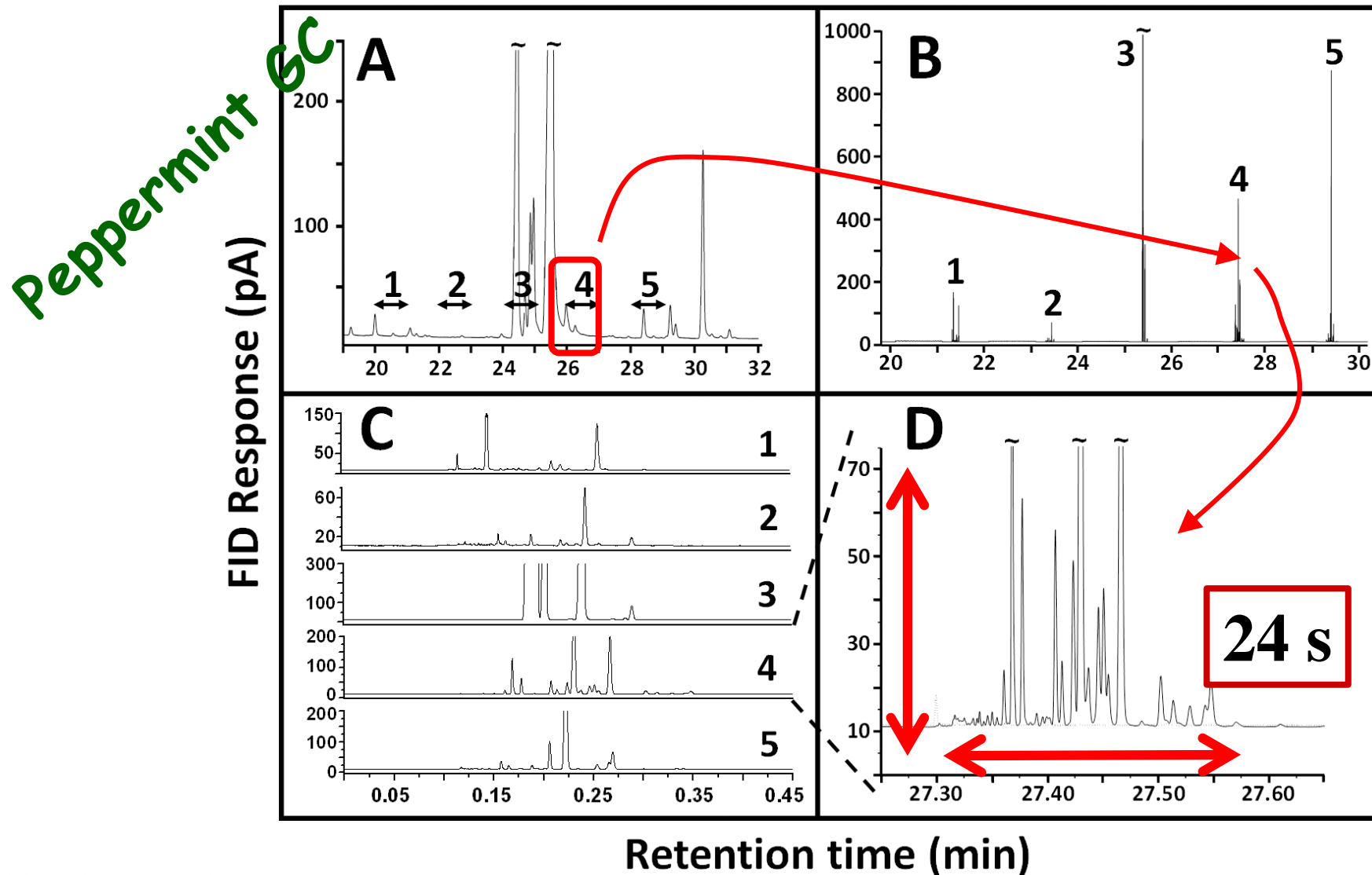
48 h
Analysis!

**Can we do
it in 1 h**

GORDON's Conventional MDGC



A: Full GC analysis; B: Transfer heart-cuts shown to a fast elution ^2D column, (7 m long; narrow bore) using cryogenic trapping & modulation; C: expand each region 1-5. D: Region 4 shows ~ 30-40 compounds, but A. suggested only 3 or 4!



GC×GC of Fatty Acid Methyl Esters

- **Samples:**

- 37 component FAME standard (Supelco)
- FAME from cod liver oil

- **GC×GC conditions:**

- ¹D 30m x 0.25mm x 0.25μm BPX5 (nonpolar)
- ²D 1.5m x 0.10mm x 0.10μm BP20 (Polar)
- Oven: 100°C (5min) / 3°C/min to 260°C (12 min)
- H₂ 1.5mL/min constant flow
- P_M 3s, start @4.98min; FID 100Hz

Or other options...

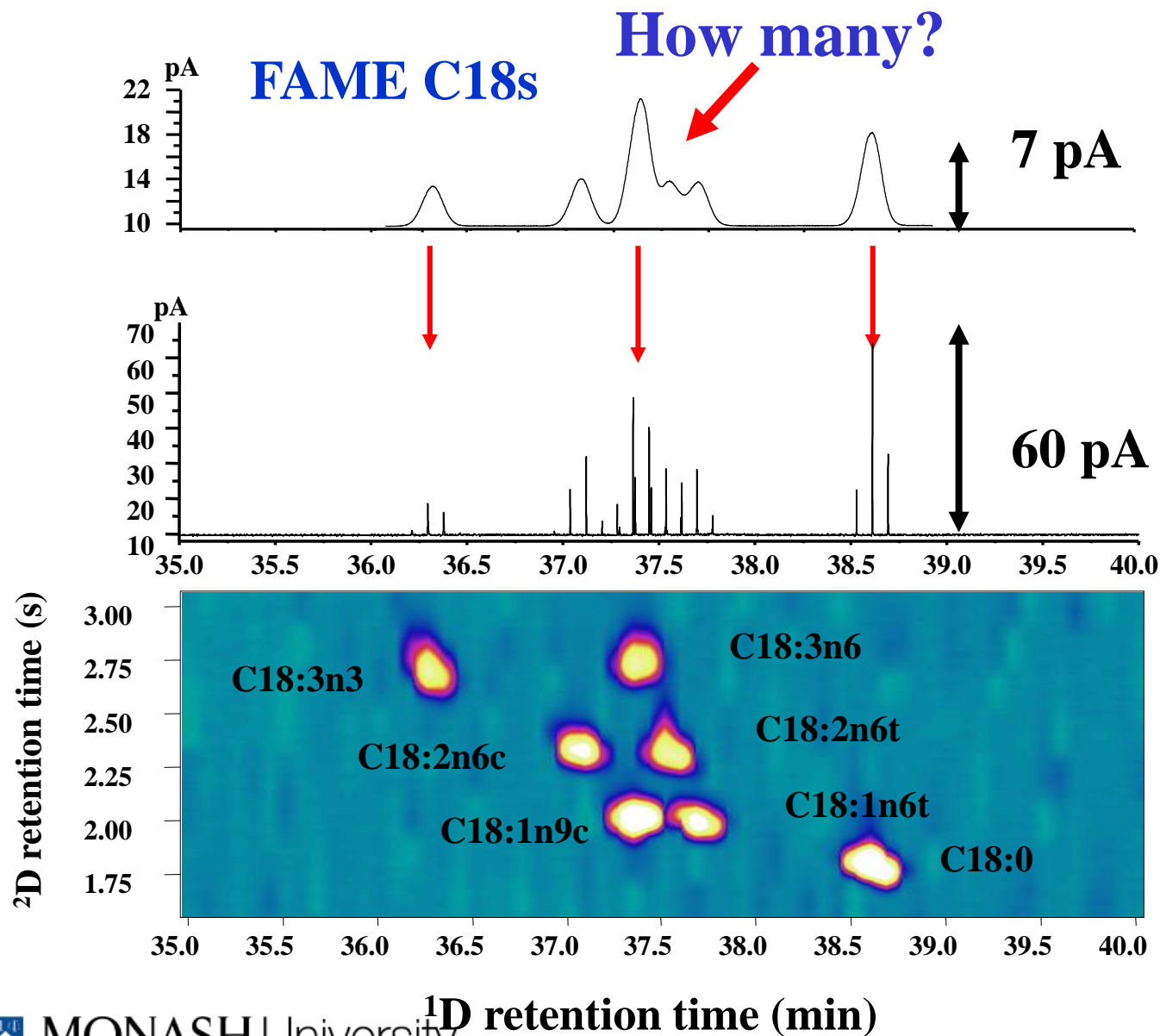
Saponify triglycerides to their fatty acids, derivatise to methyl esters. Analyse by GC, GC×GC.



- Alkyl Group R varies in Chain Length (but odd C_n not common)
- Saturated or unsaturated / polyunsaturated; bad fats – good fats
- ω3 / ω6 etc indicate first unsaturated carbon in the FAME
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 etc unsaturated bonds
- And other structural variations / branching, cyclics

**Hence
separation
may be
difficult**

GC×GC gives STRUCTURE in the 2D space



1D-GC



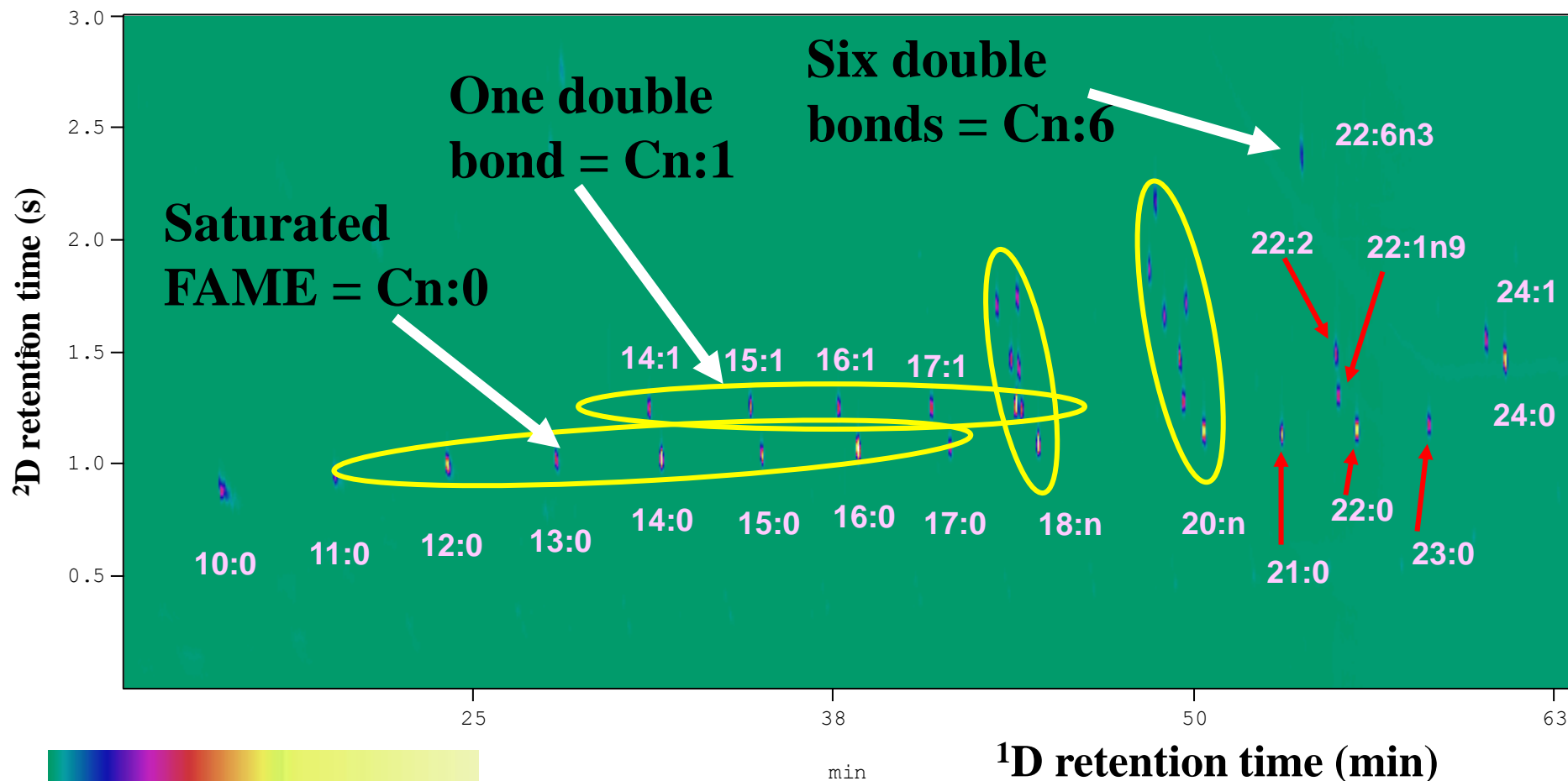
GC×GC

Improved peak
separation

■ Higher
responses

More information!

FAAME Standard Mixture



Response scale (pA). Baseline is green.

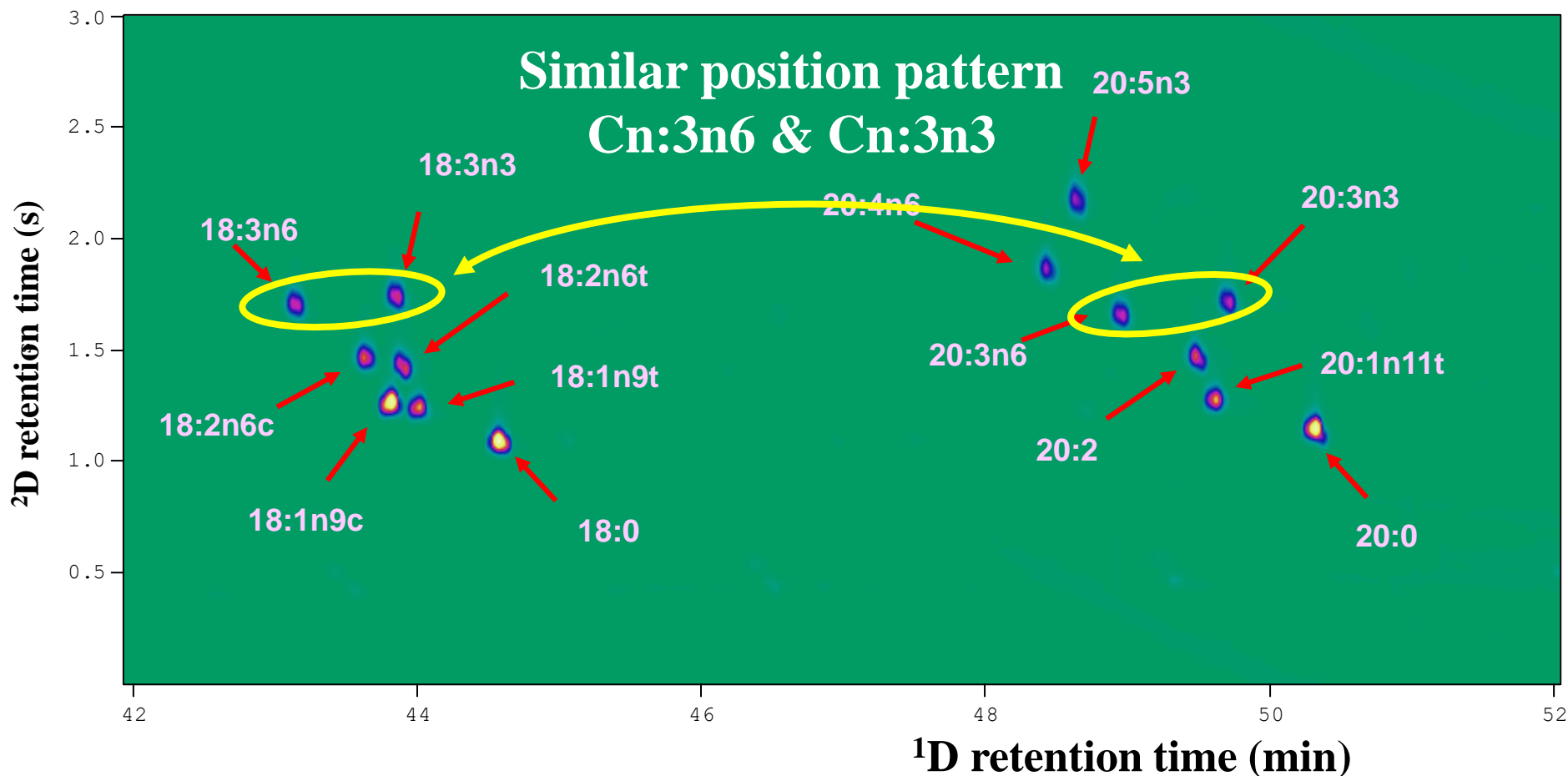
Large peaks are pale/white colour.

Blue ~ 50 pA

All standard compounds are well resolved in the 2D space.

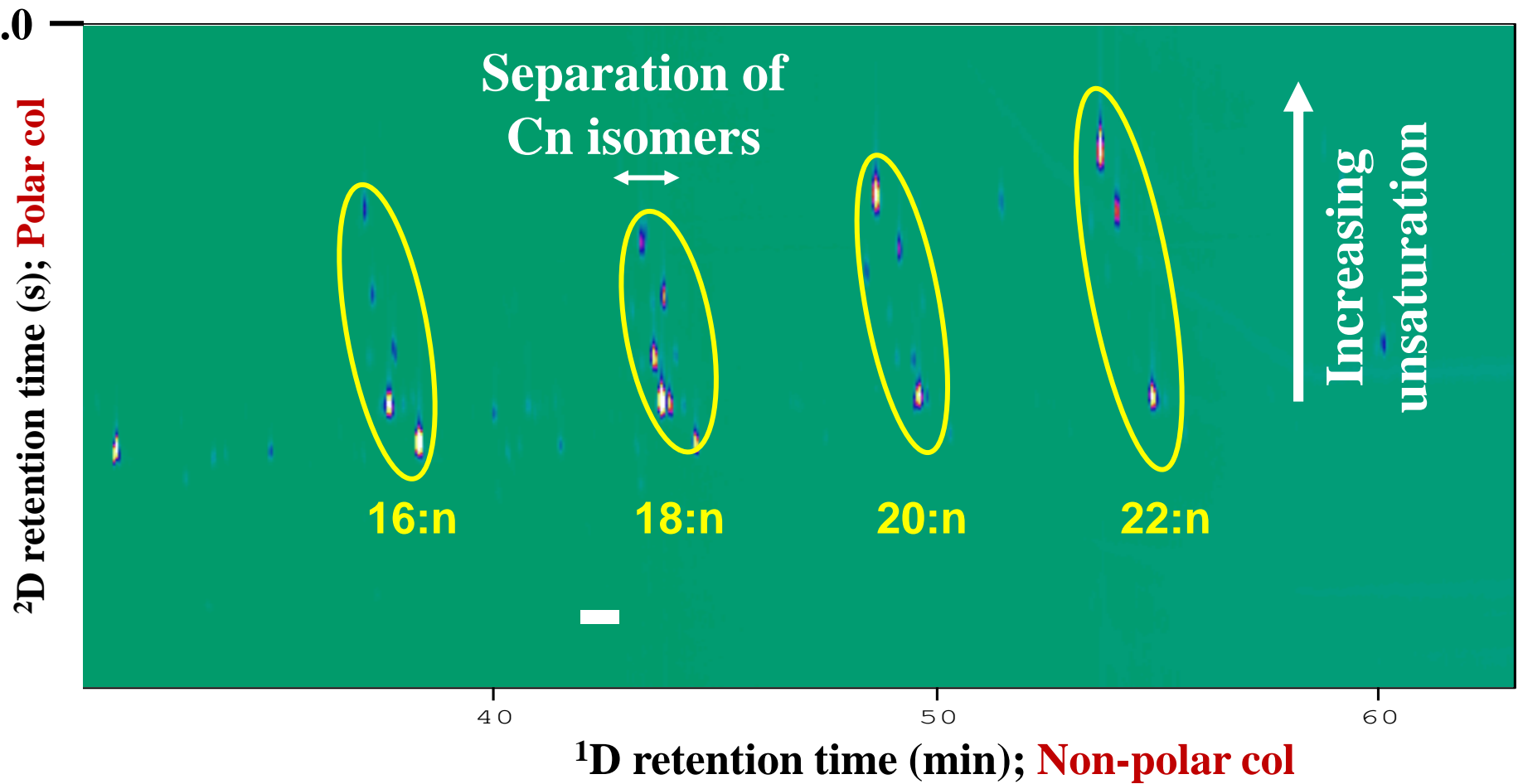
FAAME with more double bonds are more polar – so elute later on ²D column

FAME Standard Mixture

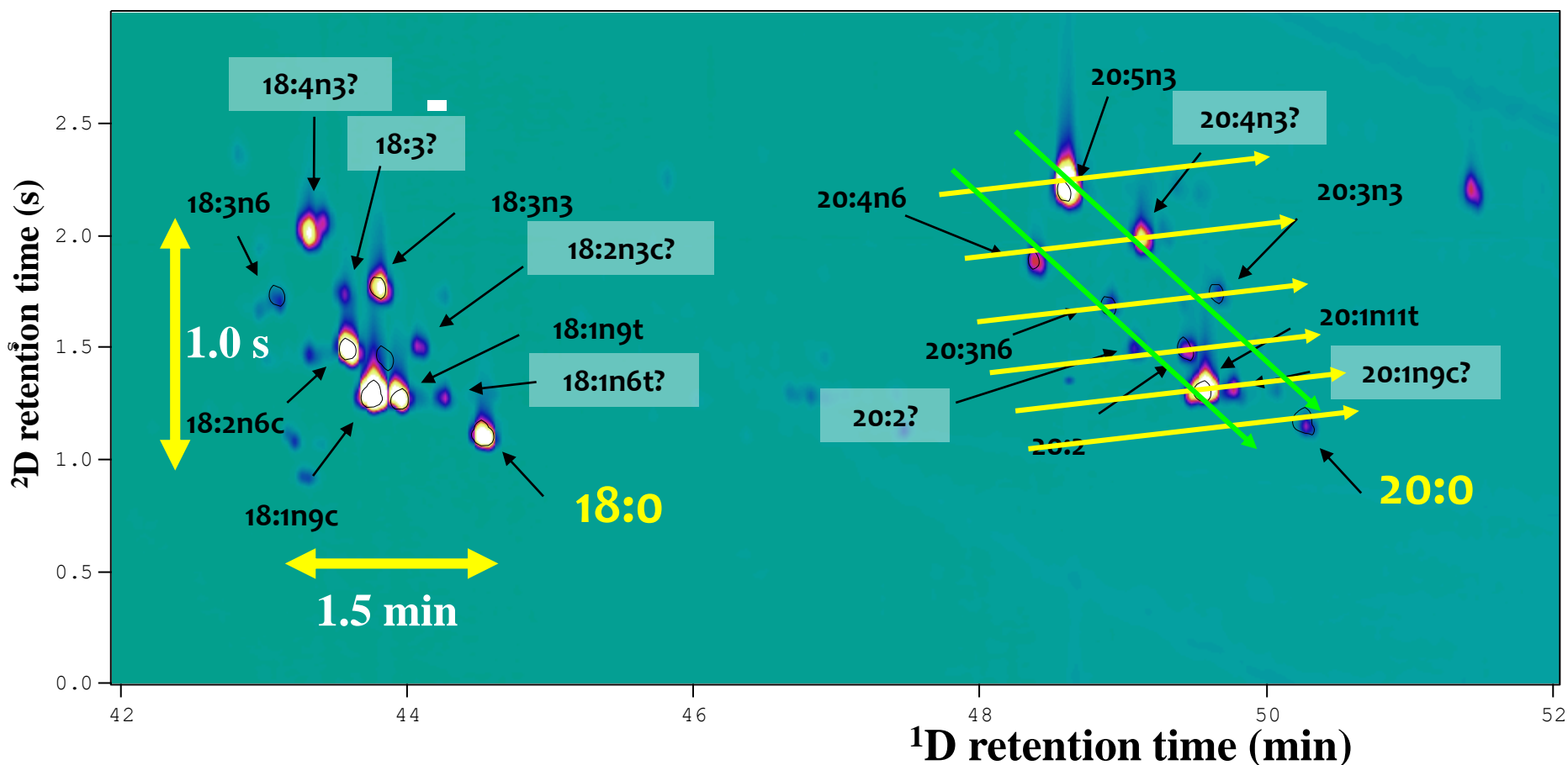


The more polar isomers (i.e. unsaturated) elute earlier on the non-polar 1D column, so before the Cn:0 saturated FAME. No separation of FAME with different bond positions (1t_R 18:3n6 < 18:3n3) and cis/trans isomers (18:2n6)

Cod Liver Oil FAME



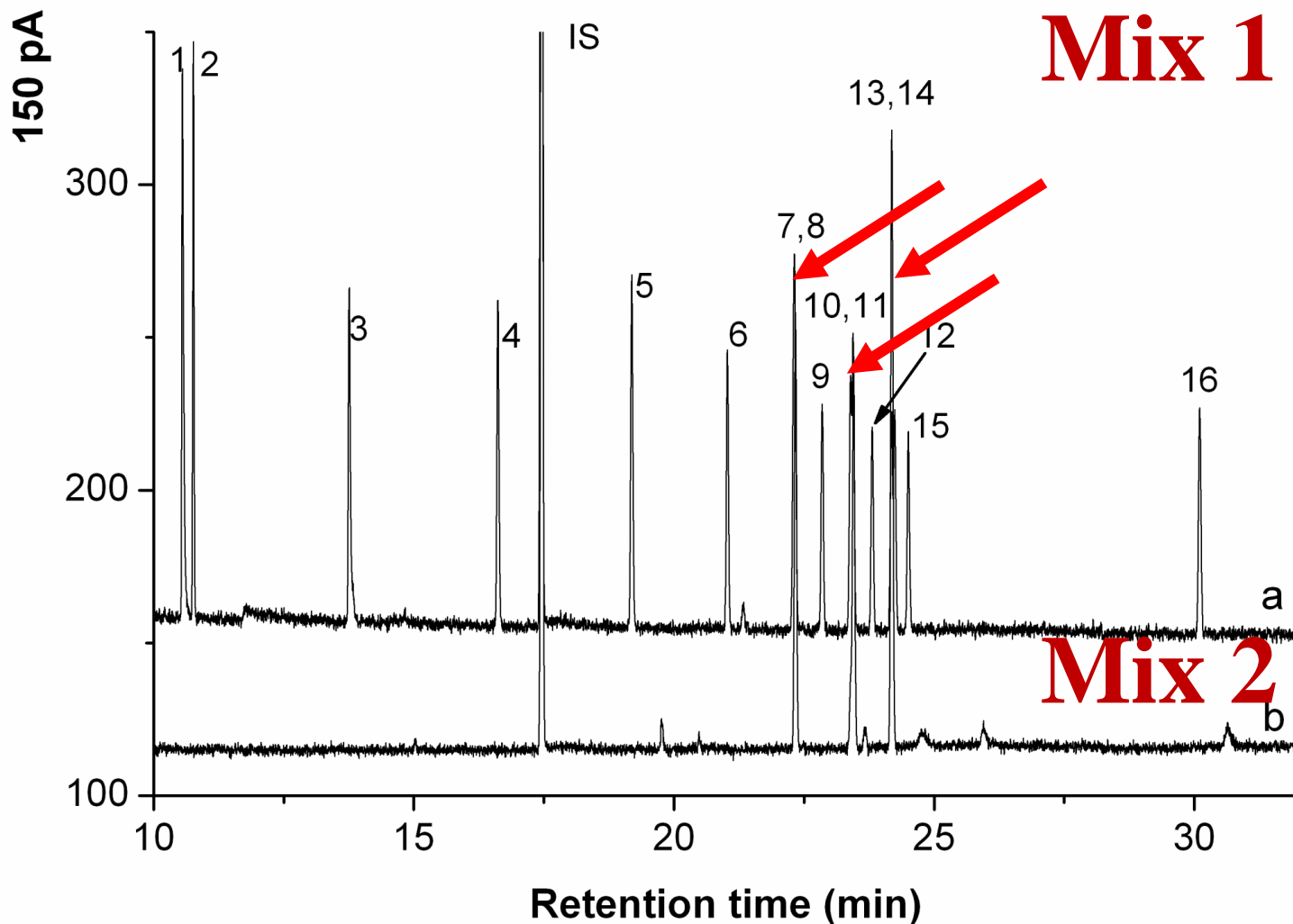
Cod Liver Oil Sample FAME



Many FAME in the CLO sample will overlap in 1D GC. Very many are resolved in GC×GC. And it might be possible to predict 'structure' from the peak pattern in 2D space... CLO is largely polyunsaturated - GOOD

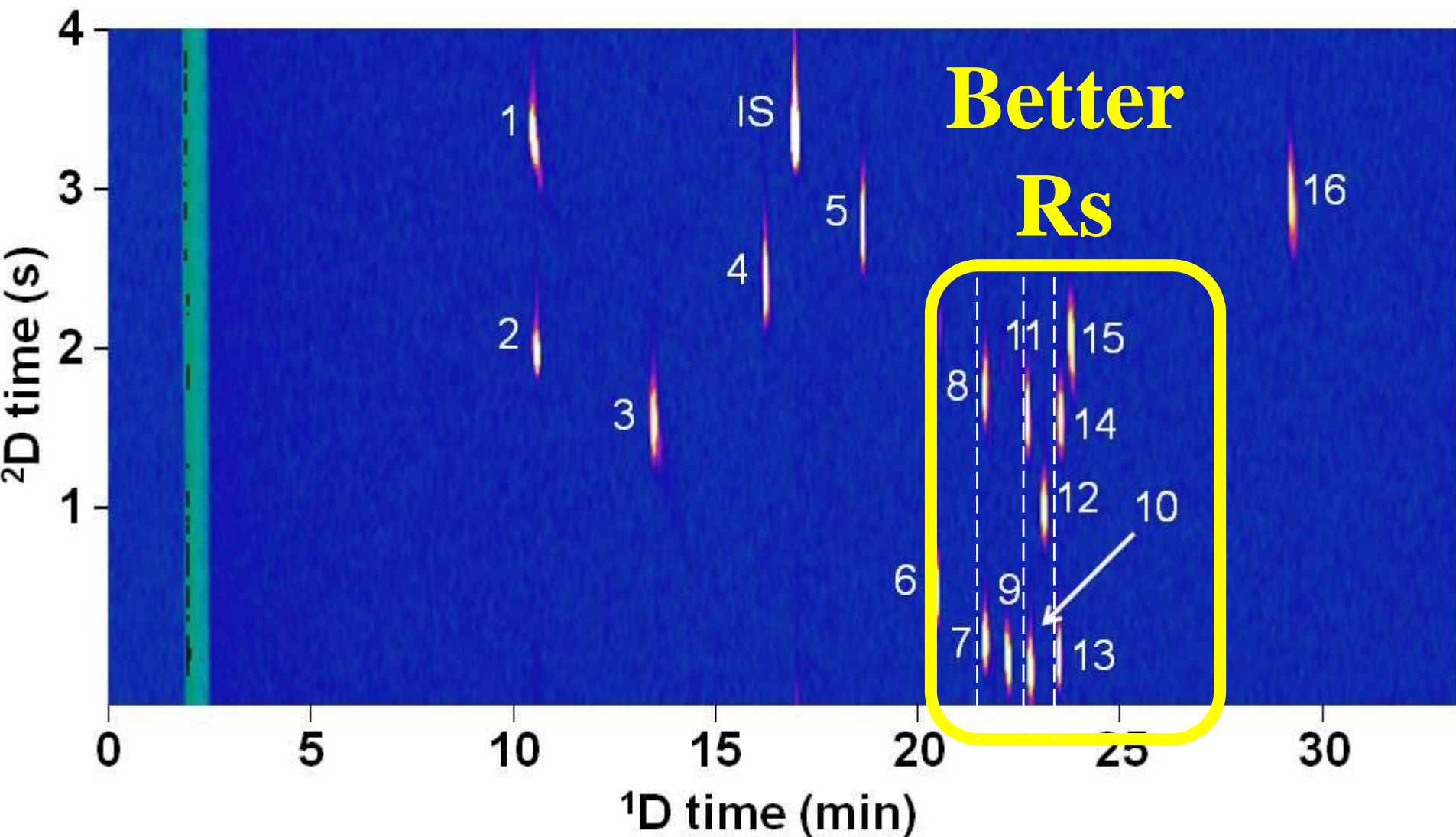
1DGC OP Pesticides in Vegetable.. (See GC Lecture)

OP Standards; even in this SIMPLE MIX (16 compounds), peaks do overlap. See the ARROWS



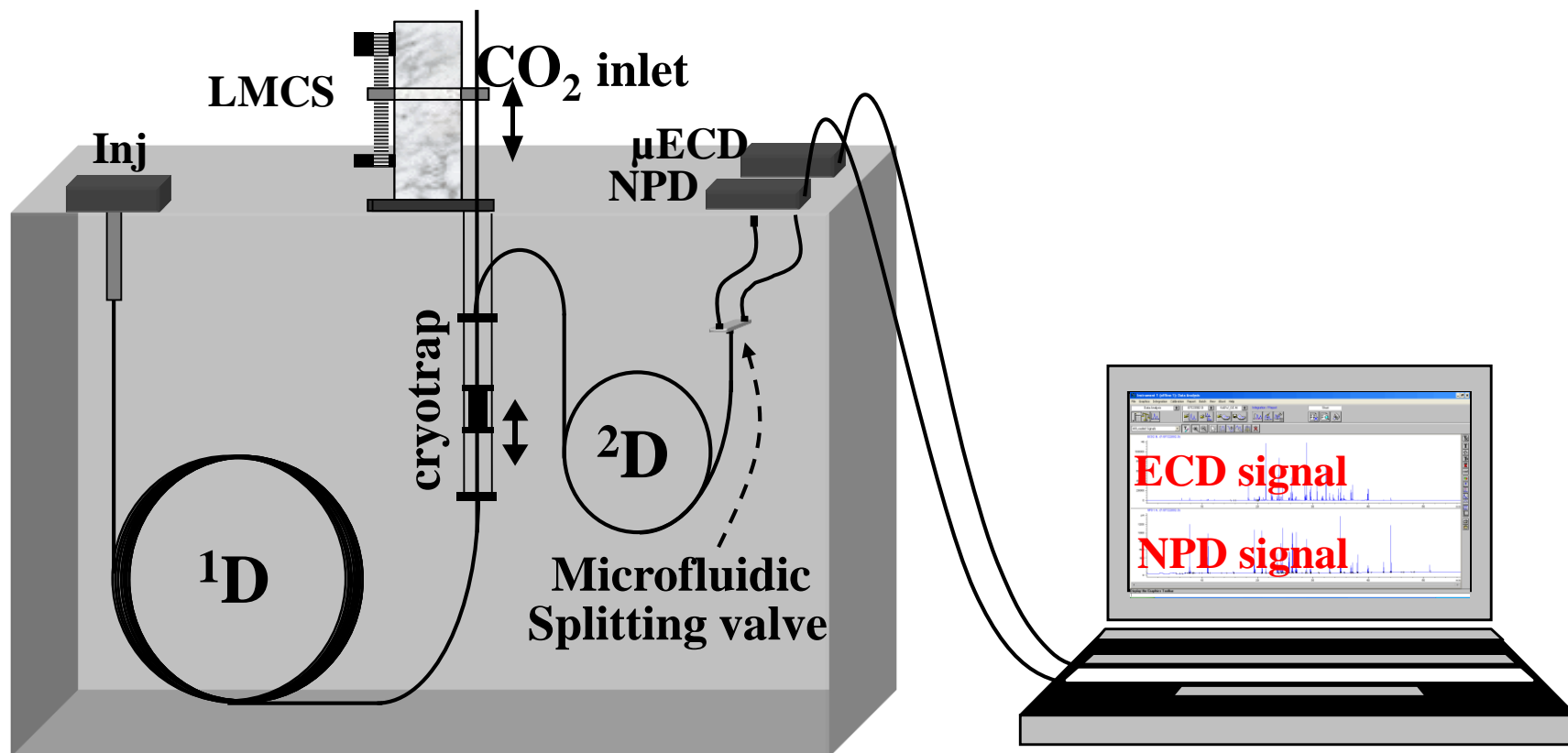
GC×GC OP Pesticides in Vegetable

Excellent overlay with position of standards



Fungicide

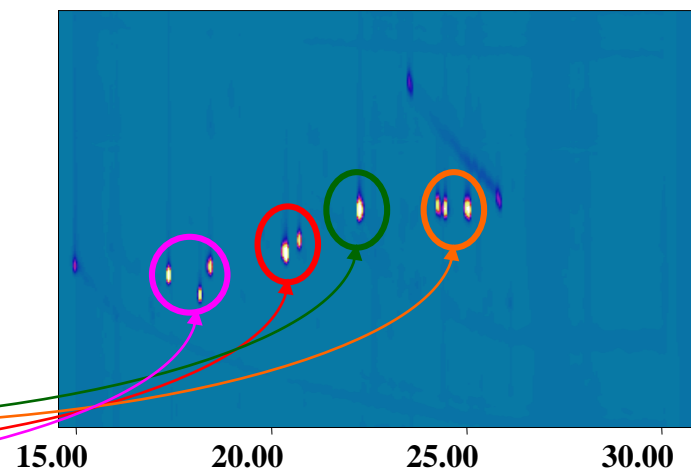
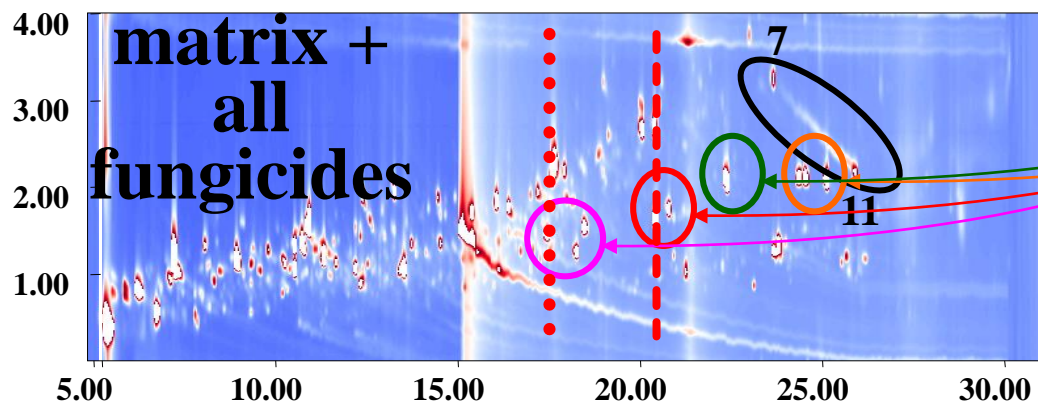
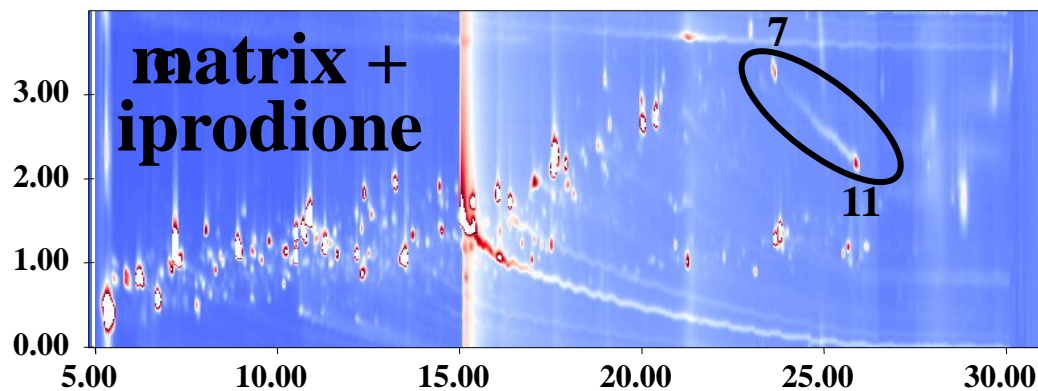
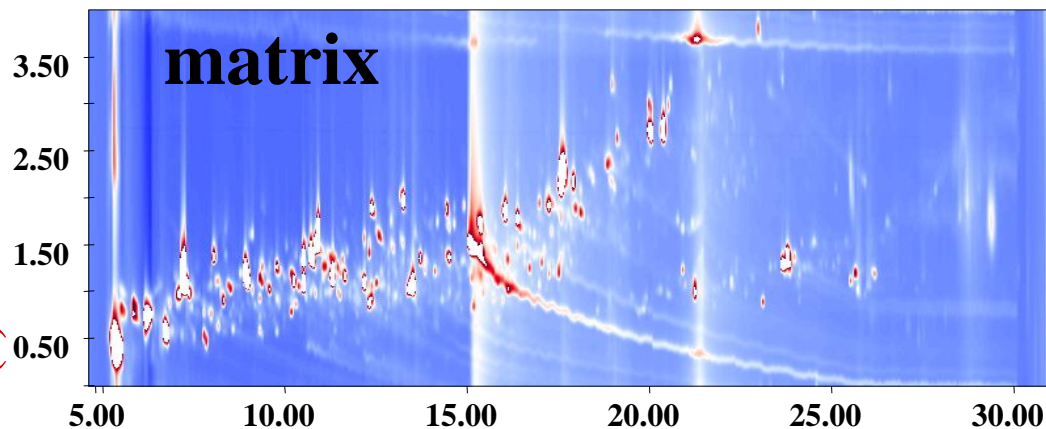
Dual Detection GC×GC system



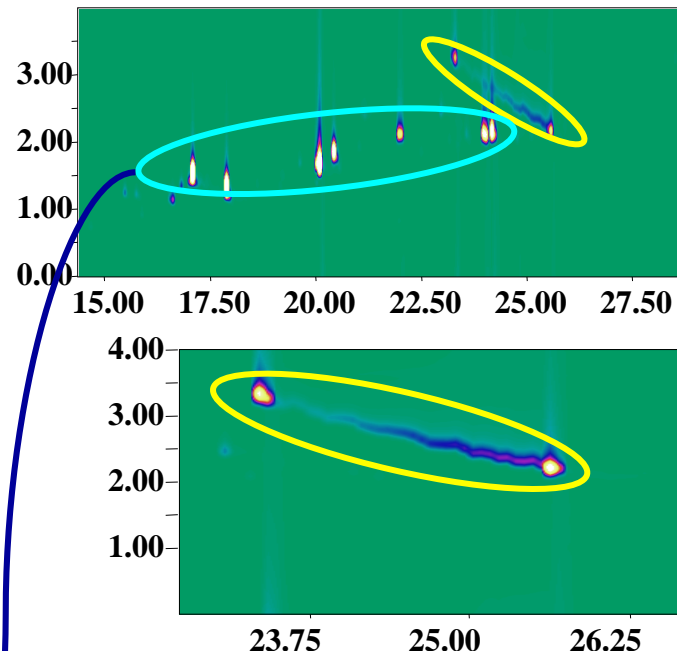
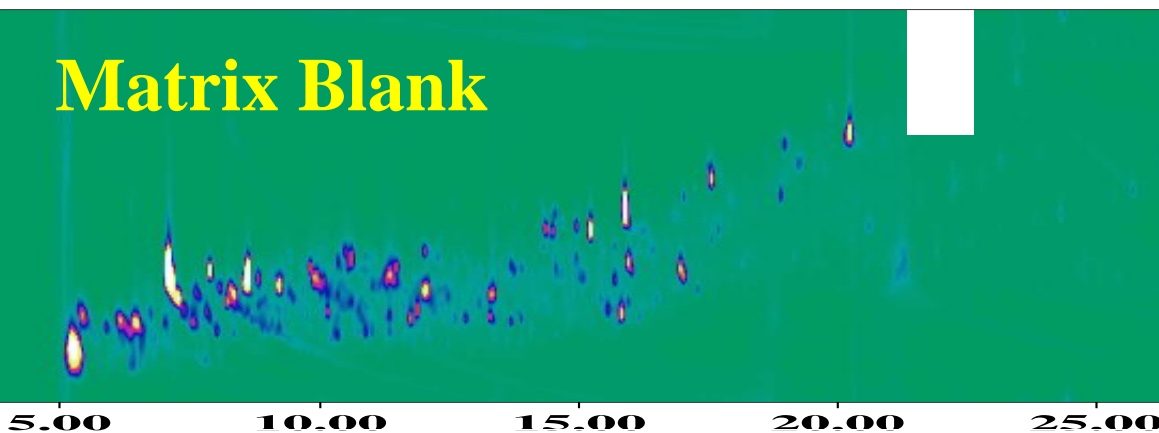
GC×GC-NPD

All the fungicides are well separated from the matrix when GC×GC is used.
In 1D GC, some matrix components exactly overlap a fungicide!

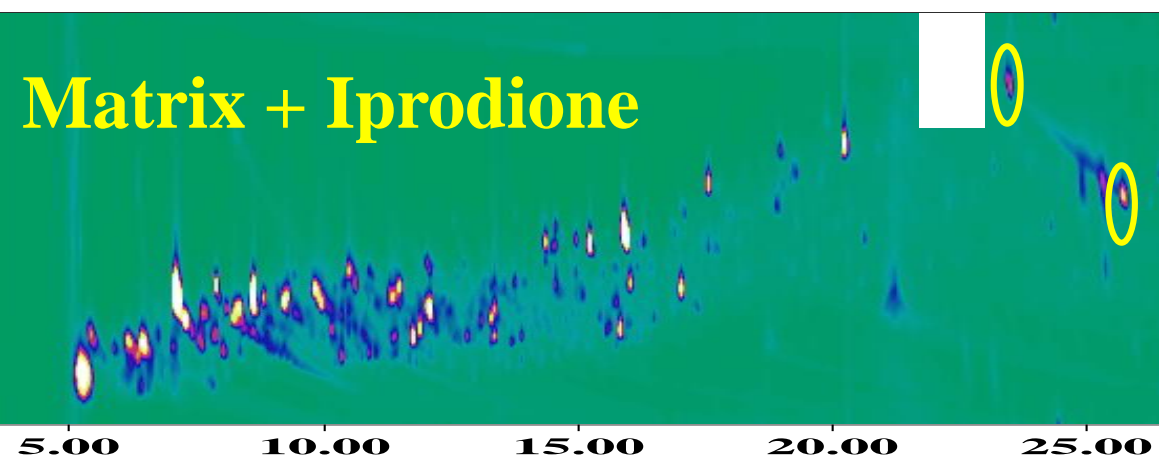
2D Retention time (s)



Matrix Blank



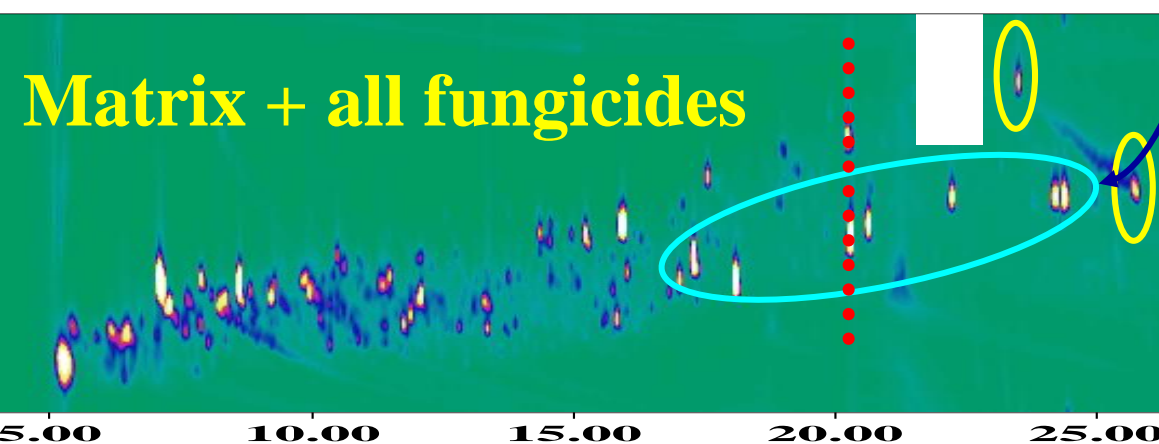
Matrix + Iprodione



GCxGC-ECD

**.. Unspecified
overlap of target
and matrix =
problem for 1D GC**

Matrix + all fungicides

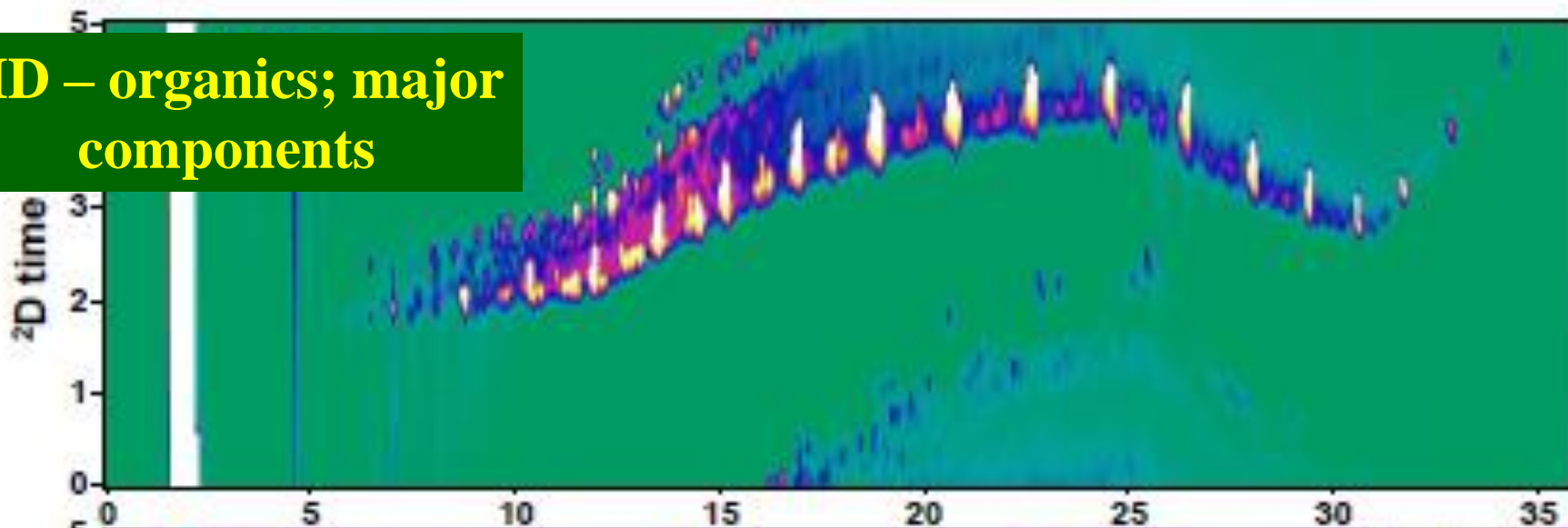


GC×GC-FPD HPO Mode

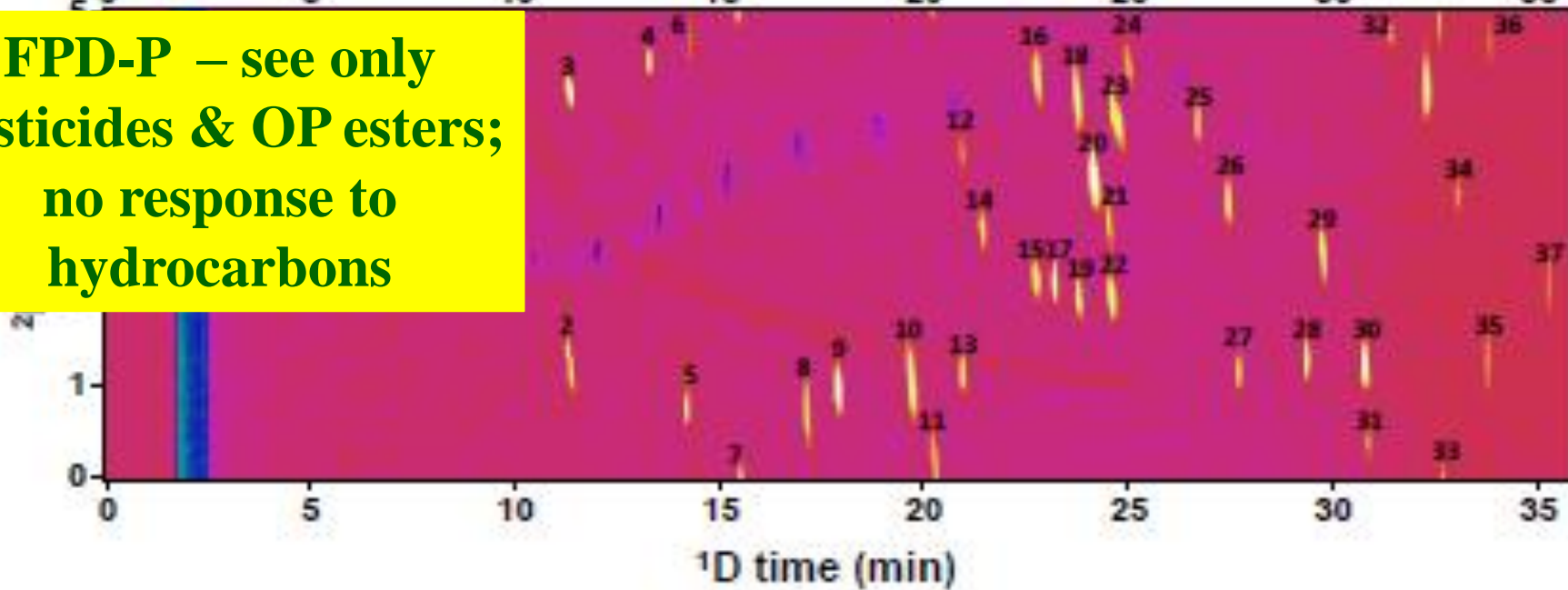
GC×GC performance using
FPD-P detection

Model Study: GC analysis of OP
Pesticides & Esters in a DIESEL matrix!
(a test for Chemical Weapons &
Degradation Products)

FID – organics; major components



**FPD-P – see only pesticides & OP esters;
no response to hydrocarbons**

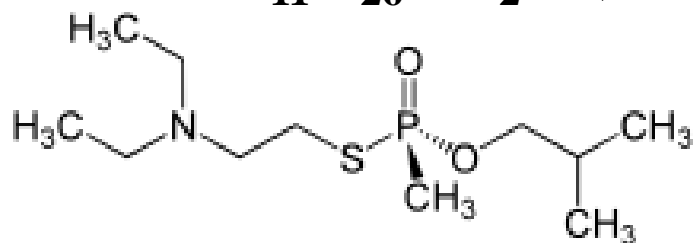


VX (= Russian VR) & Novichok (“Newcomer”)

Novichok (“Newcomer”); Lethal, & Unusual; more dangerous & sophisticated than VX or Sarin.

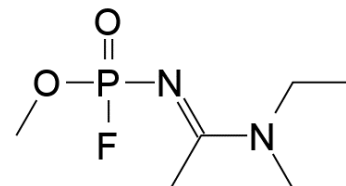
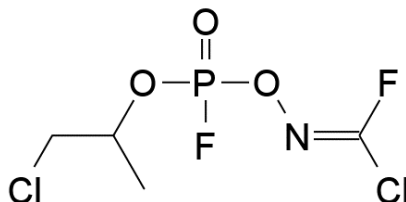
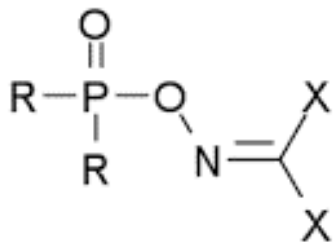
[VX = Kim Jong Nam; Sarin = Tokyo Subway; & Syria]

Hard to identify, since component parts are not specifically banned on Chemical Weapons Convention lists; and not readily measured by CWC Tests. Colourless, odourless & tasteless



**VX v toxic; OP class
(thiophosphonate) - nerve agent.
Developed for military use as CWA
(translation of OP toxicity in
pesticide research.**

Novichok agents



Acetaldoxime @ 80°C; 5psi; See GC Lecture

