

# quantification in LC/HRMS NTS: efforts of the community

anneli kruve

[anneli.kruve@su.se](mailto:anneli.kruve@su.se)

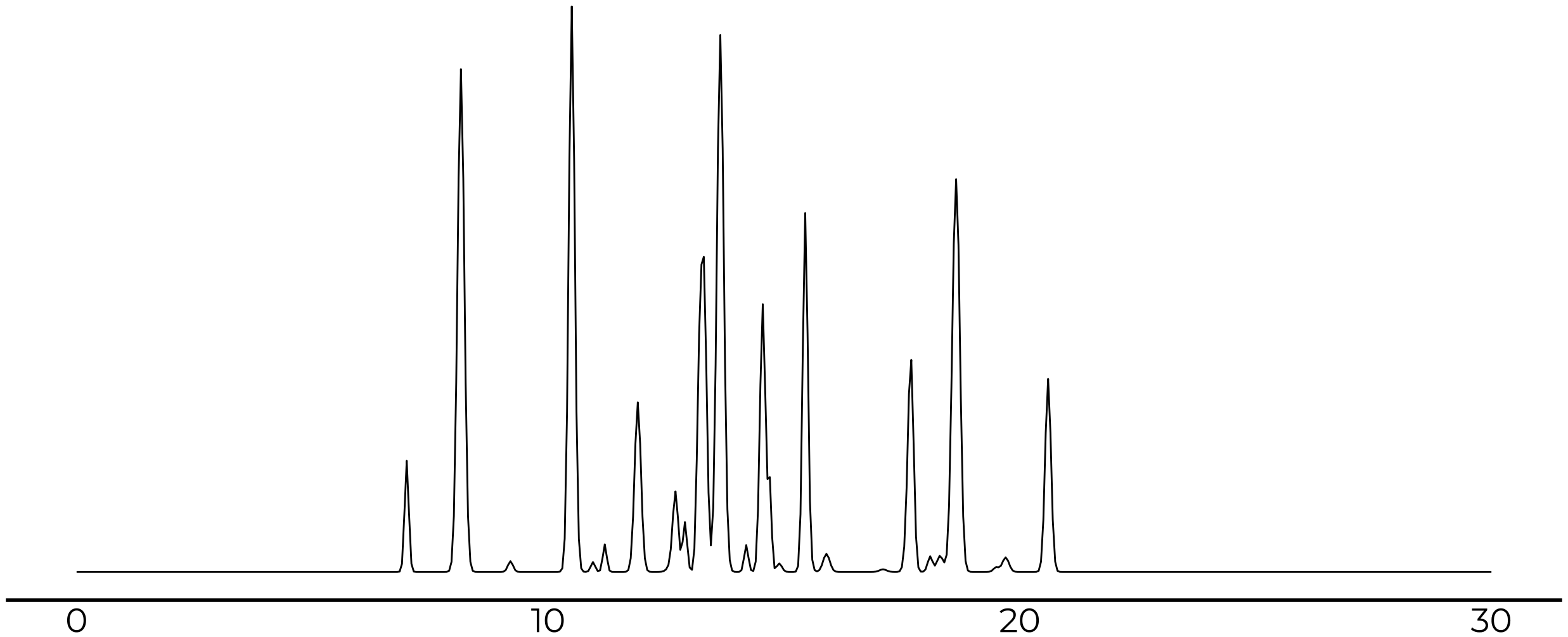
[kruvelab.com](http://kruvelab.com)

louise malm

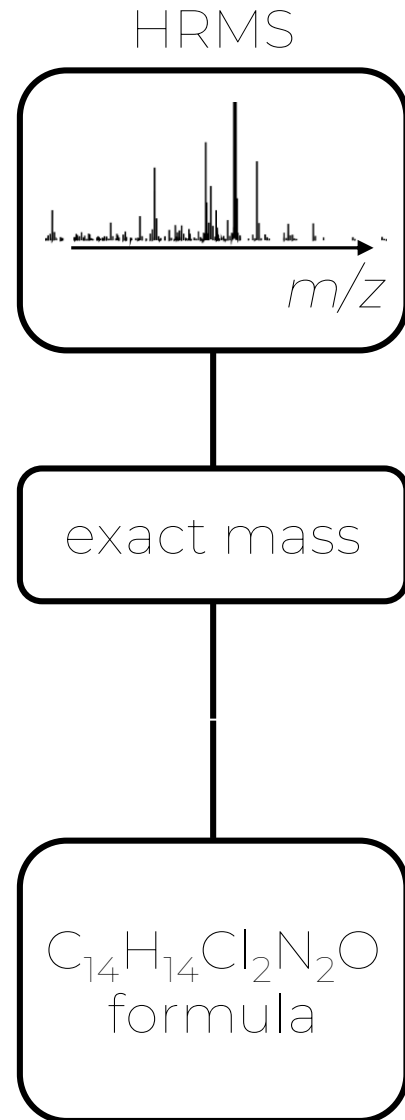
[louise.malm@mmk.su.se](mailto:louise.malm@mmk.su.se)

[kruvelab.com](http://kruvelab.com)

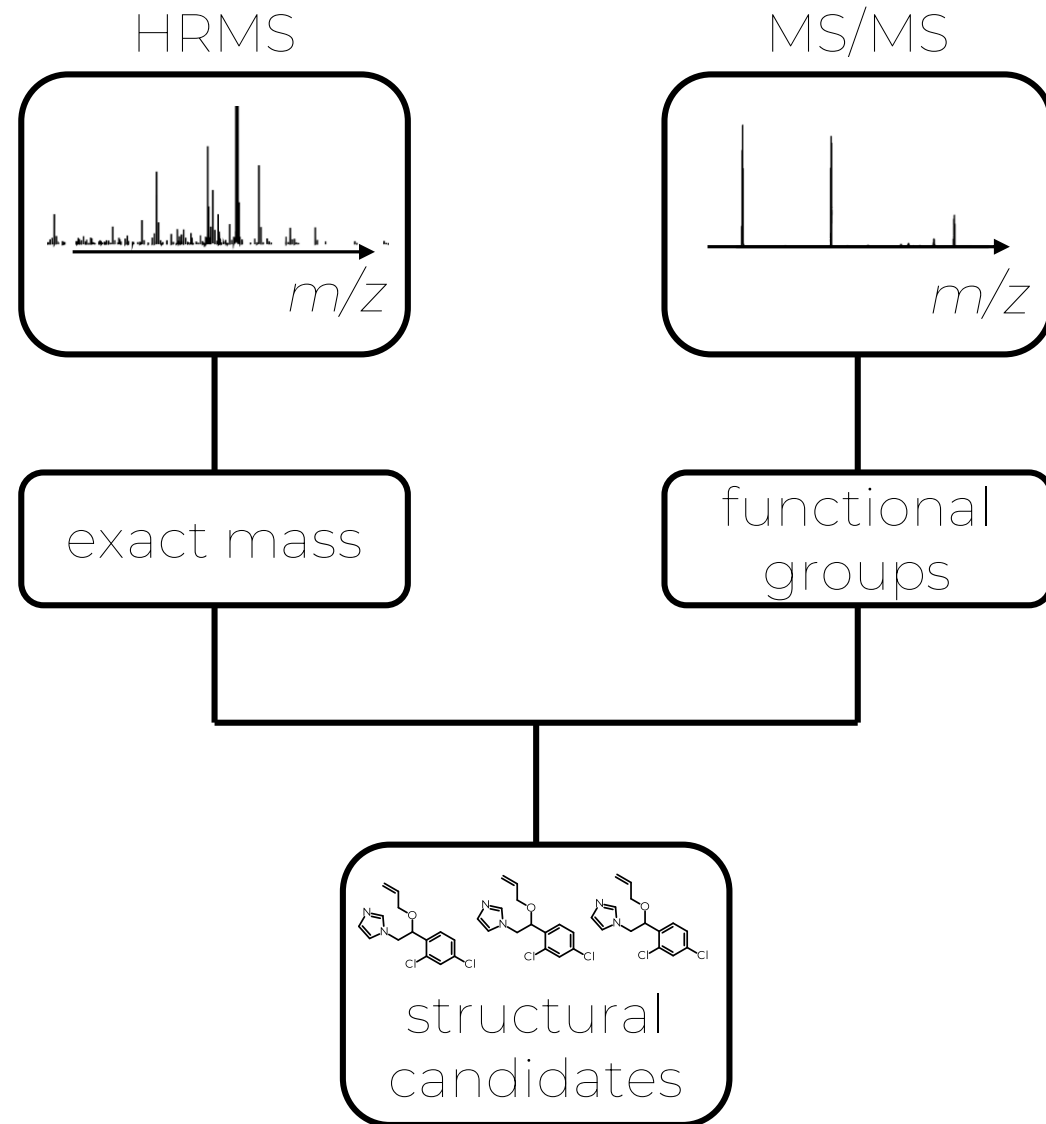
# nontarget screening



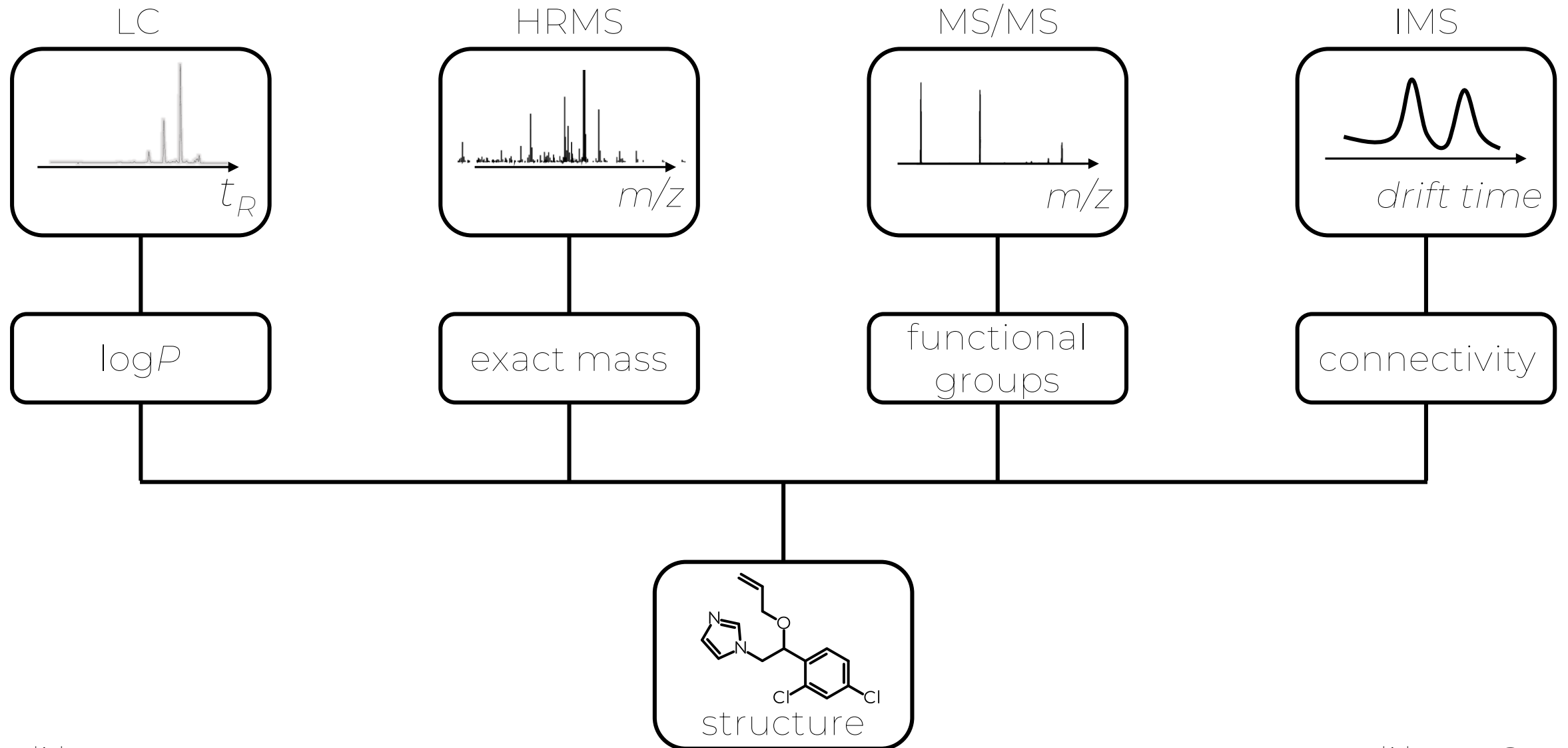
# identification



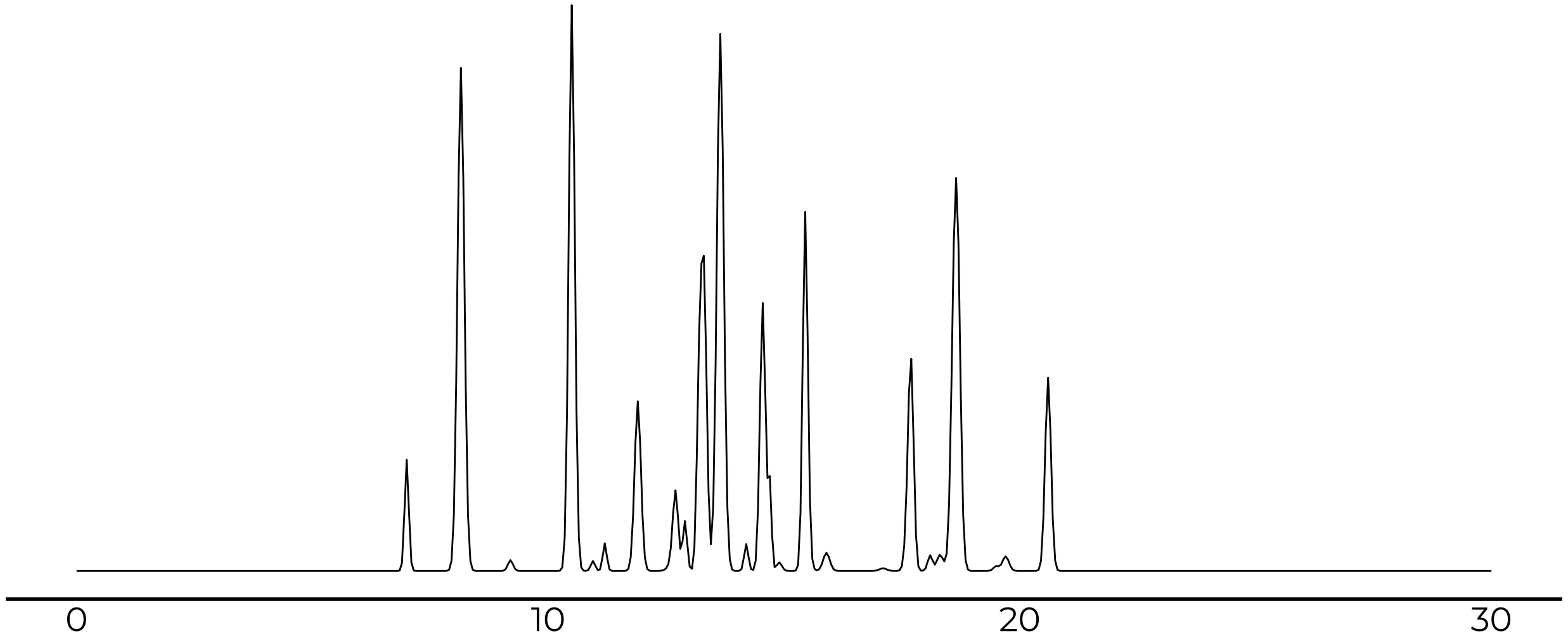
# identification



# identification



what next?



# prioritization



toxicity

# prioritization



toxicity



concentration



# prioritization



toxicity



concentration



risk

# prioritization



toxicity



concentration



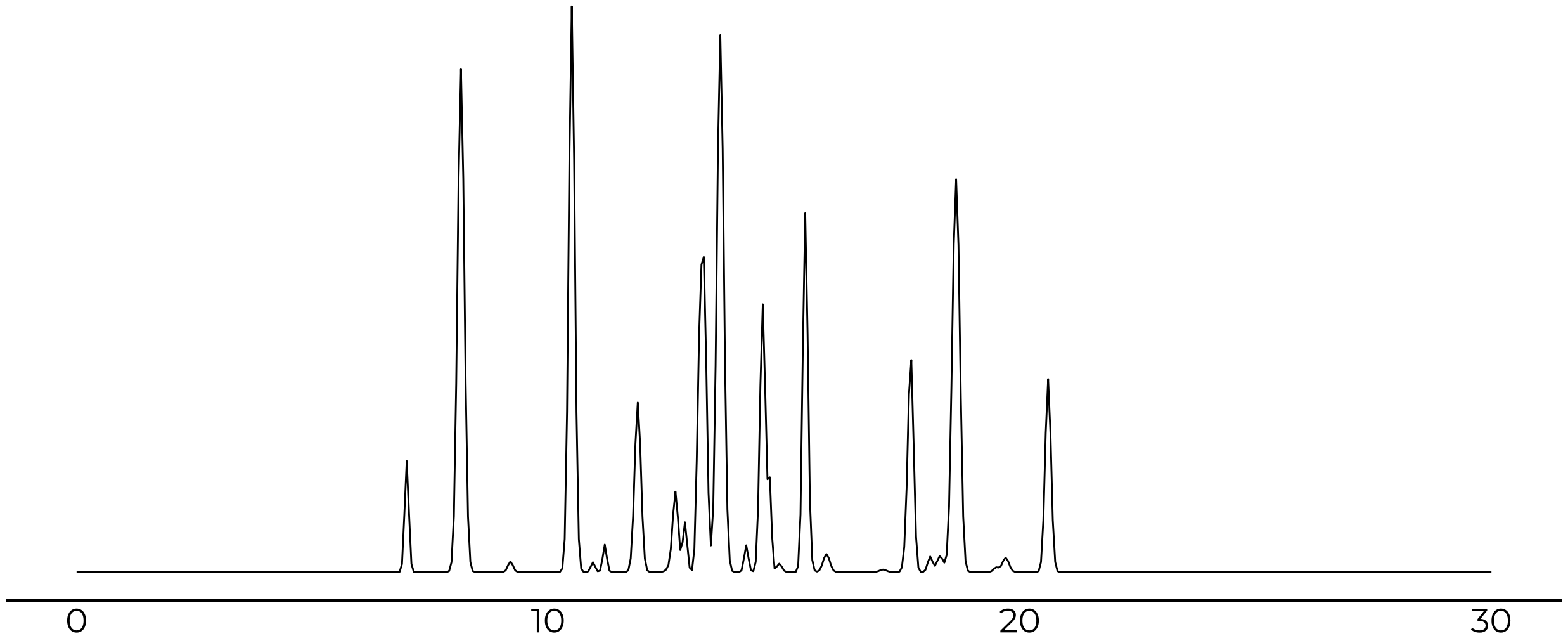
risk

$$\text{PriorityScore} = \frac{C_{\text{predicted}}}{AC_{50}^{\text{5th percentile}}}$$

# quantification in ESI/HRMS

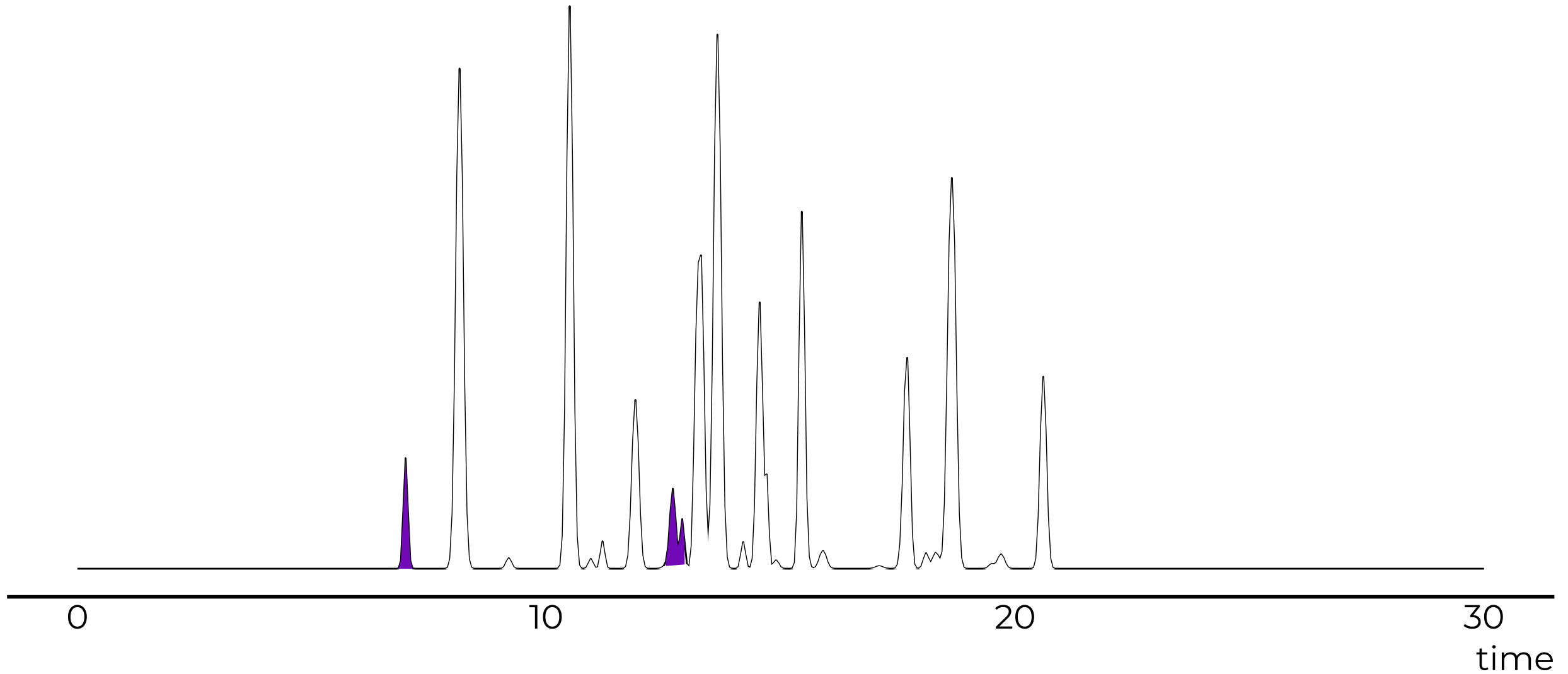
# quantification in ESI/HRMS

Malm et al. Molecules 2021



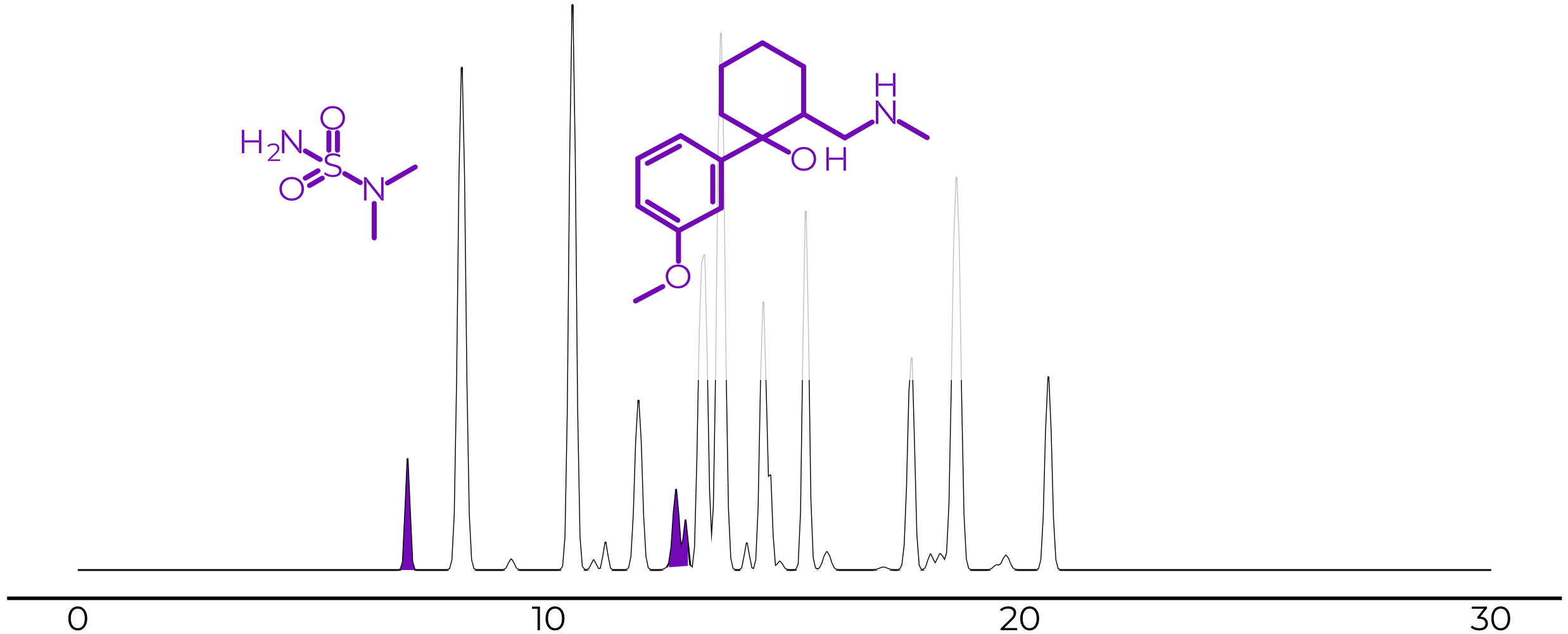
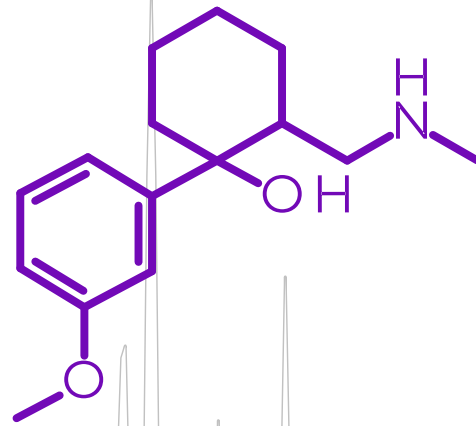
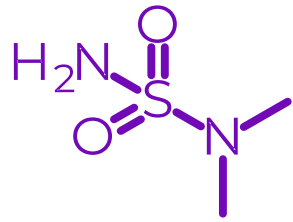
# quantification in ESI/HRMS

Malm et al. Molecules 2021



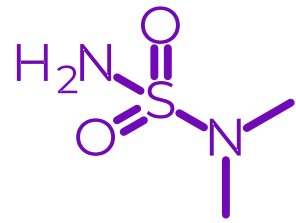
# quantification in ESI/HRMS

Malm et al. Molecules 2021



# quantification in ESI/HRMS

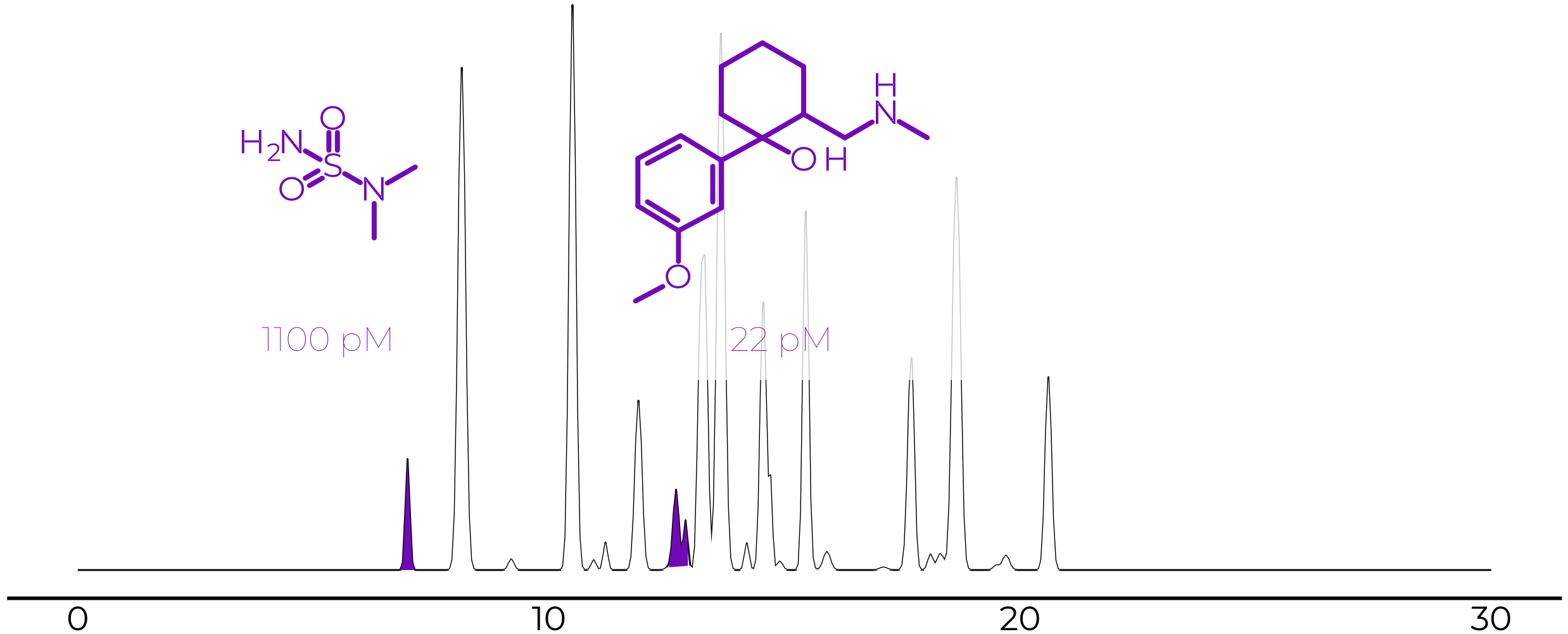
Malm et al. Molecules 2021



1100 pM



22 pM



0

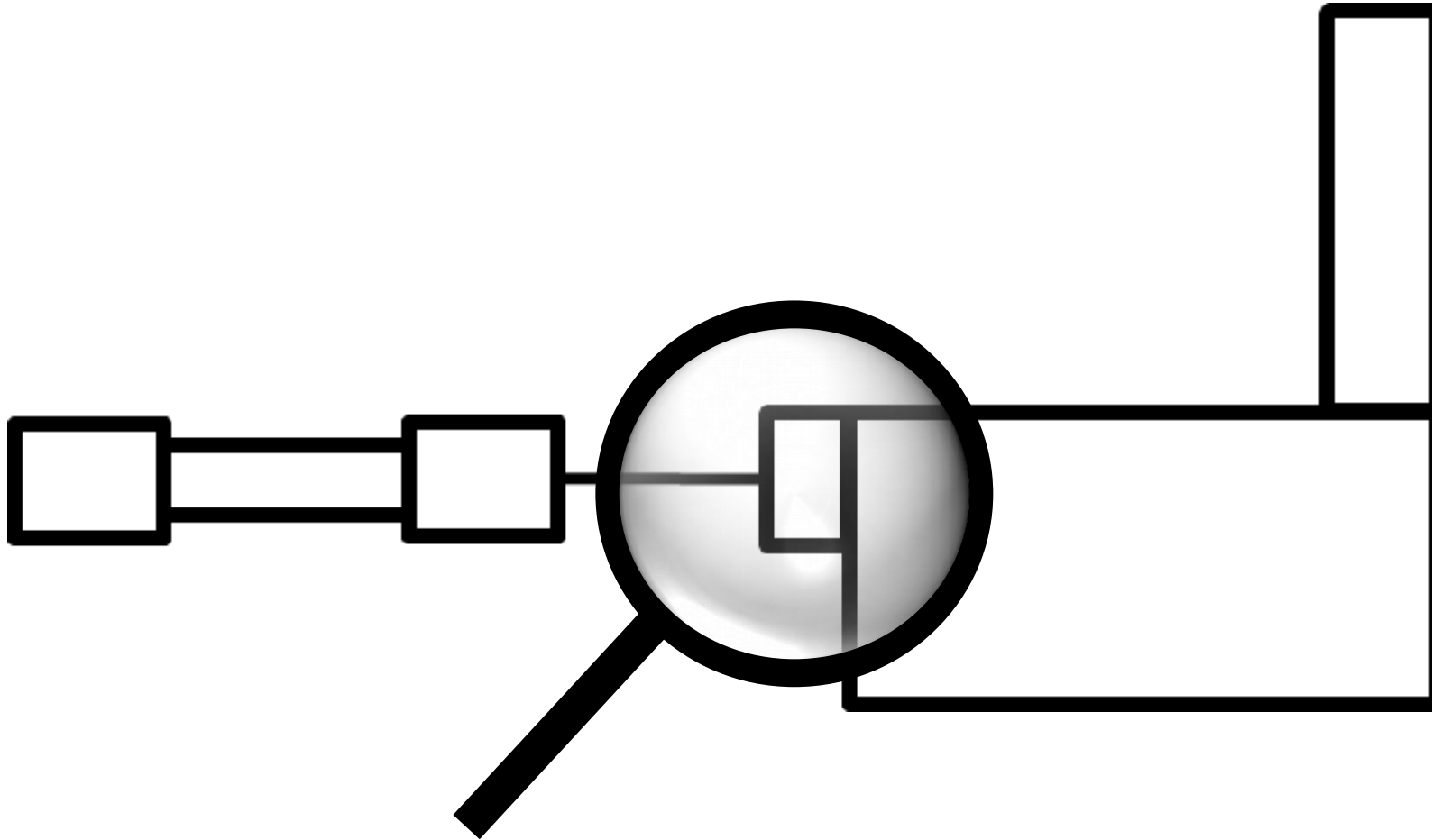
10

20

30

time

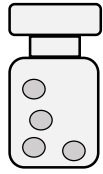
# electrospray





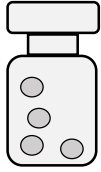
ionization efficiency

# workflow

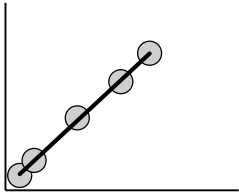


flow injections

# workflow

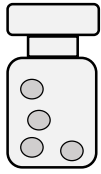


flow injections

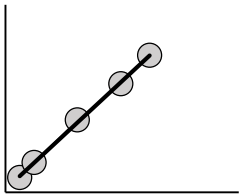


calibration graph

# workflow



flow injections



calibration graph

$$\frac{\text{slope}_1}{\text{slope}_2} \rightarrow IE$$

relative measurements

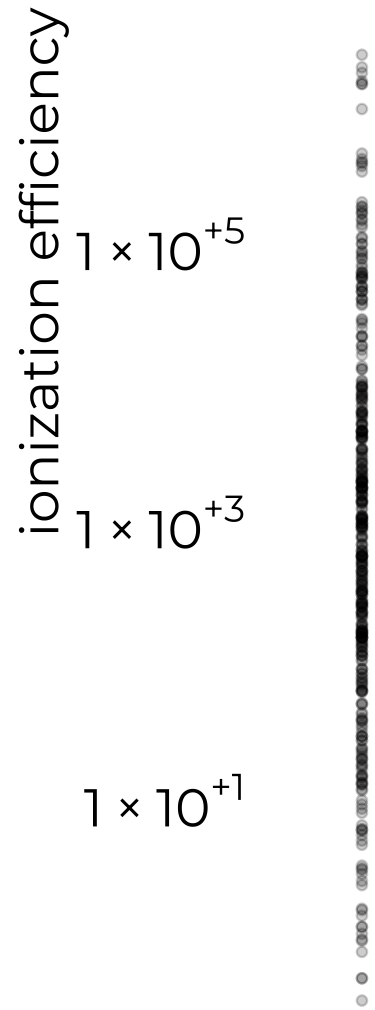
structure

# structure

one solvent, purely analyte properties

377 chemicals

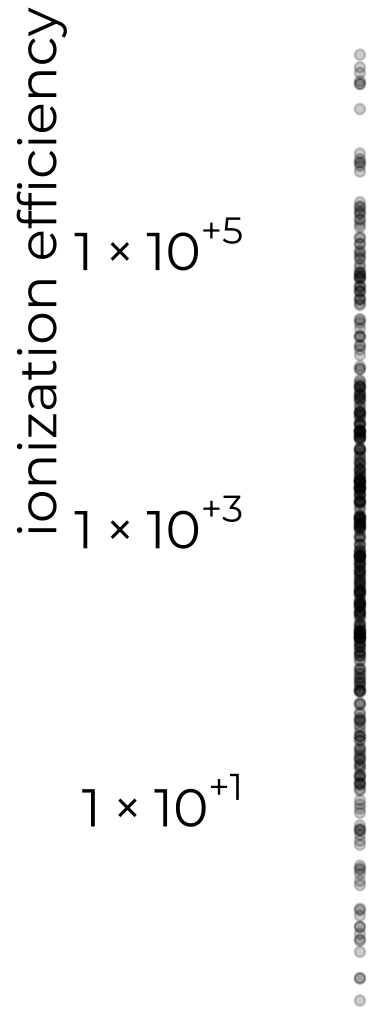
# structure



one solvent, purely analyte properties

377 chemicals

# structure



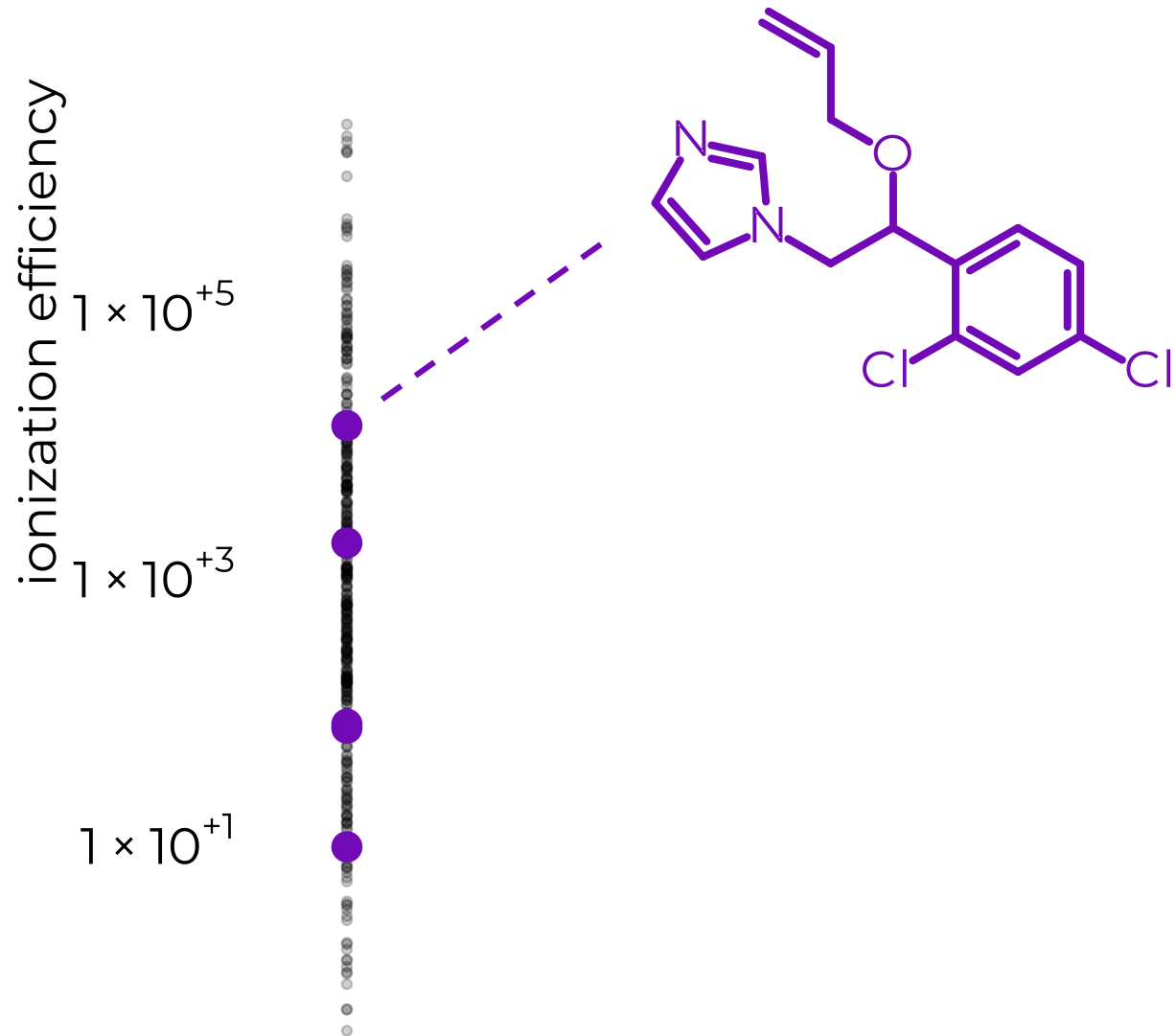
one solvent, purely analyte properties

377 chemicals

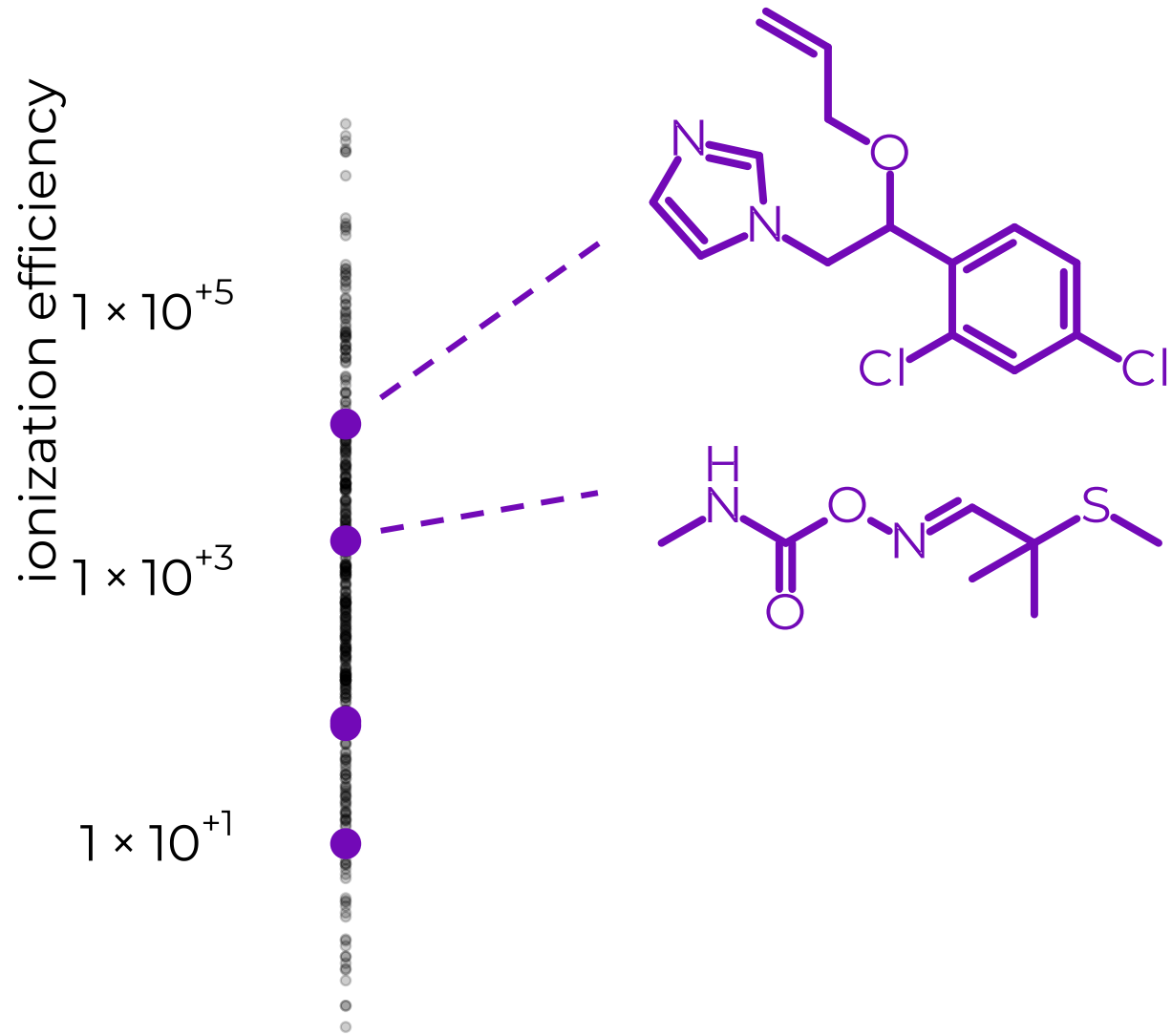
10,000,000x difference in ionization efficiency



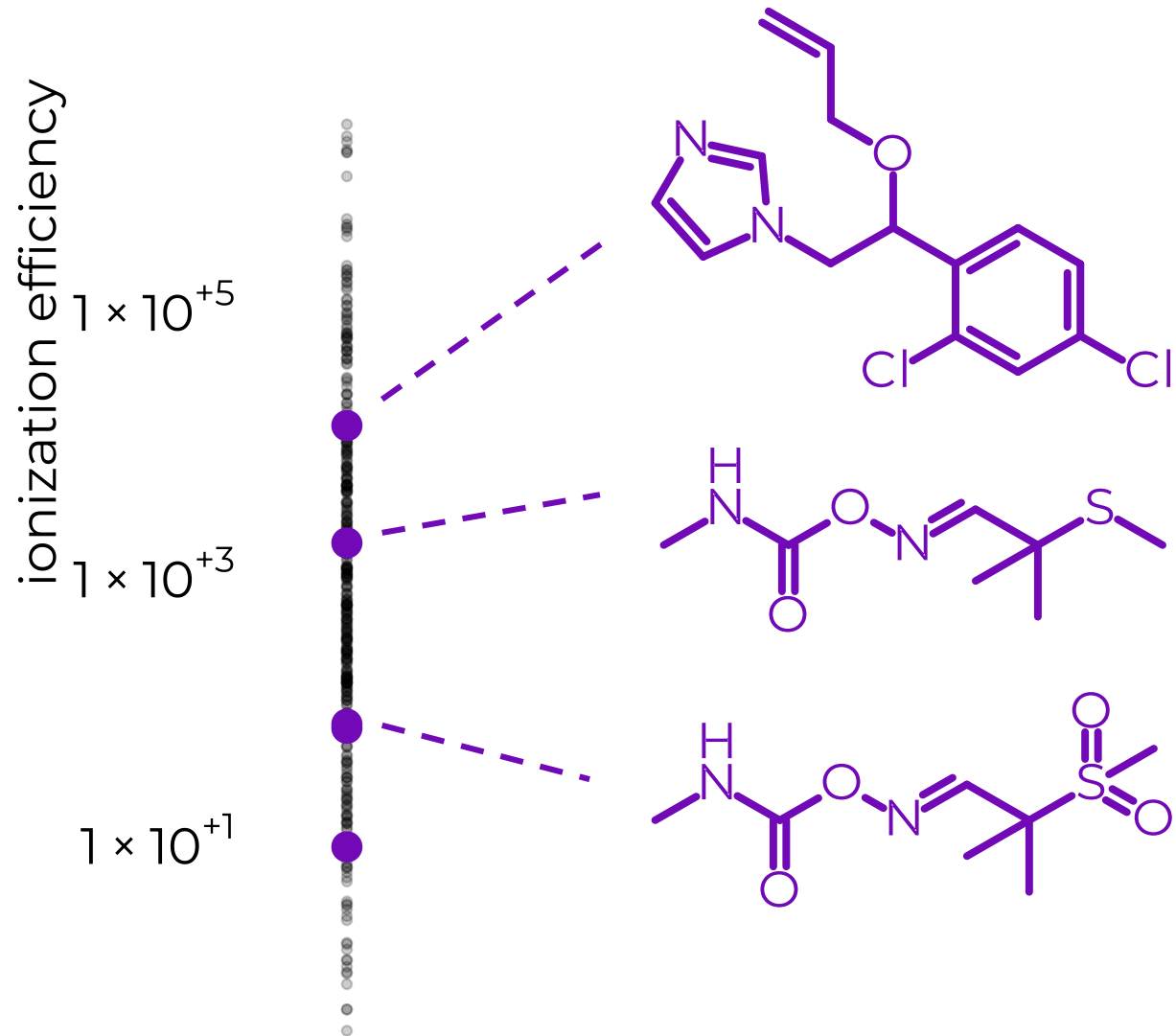
# structure



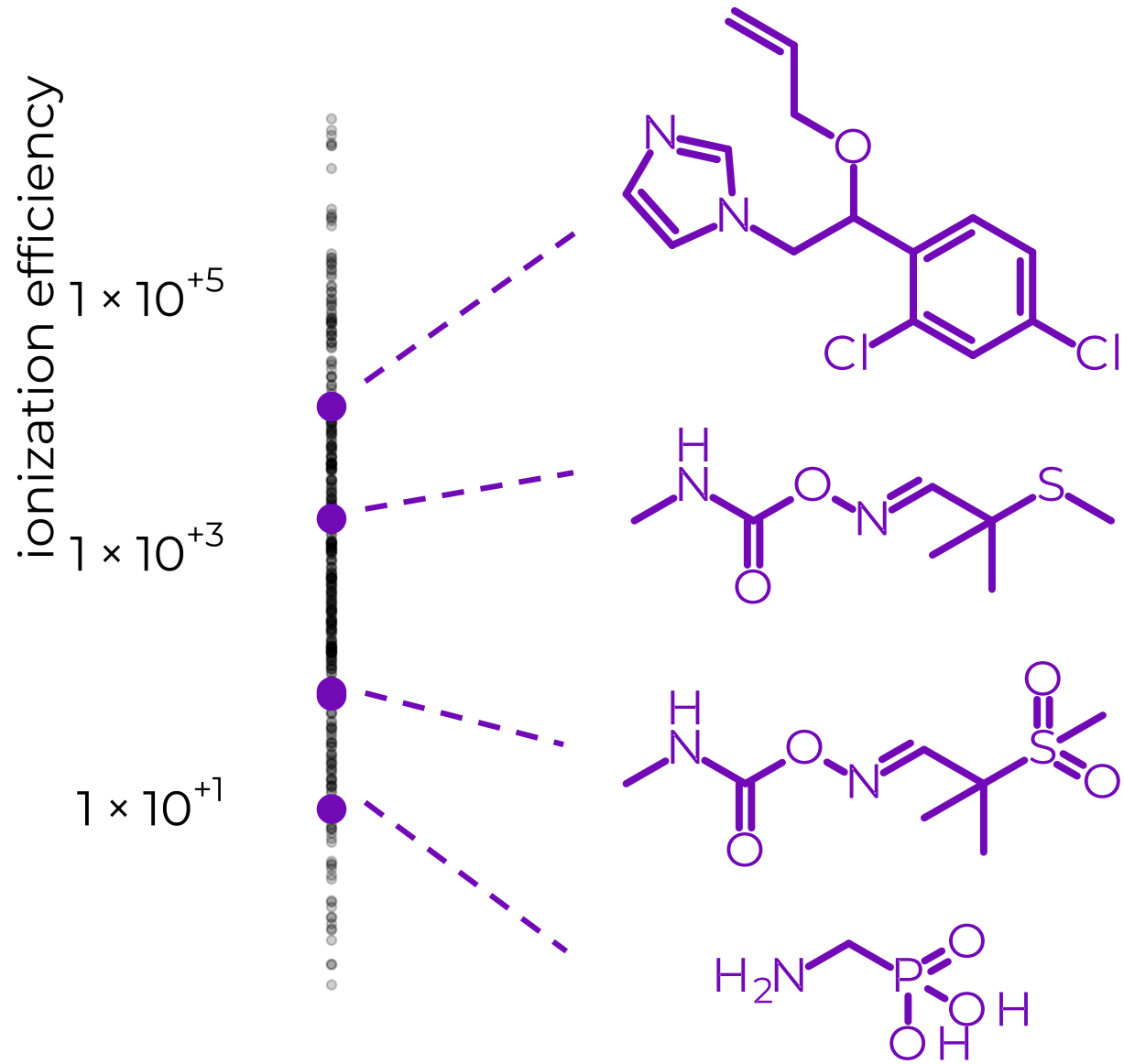
# structure



# structure



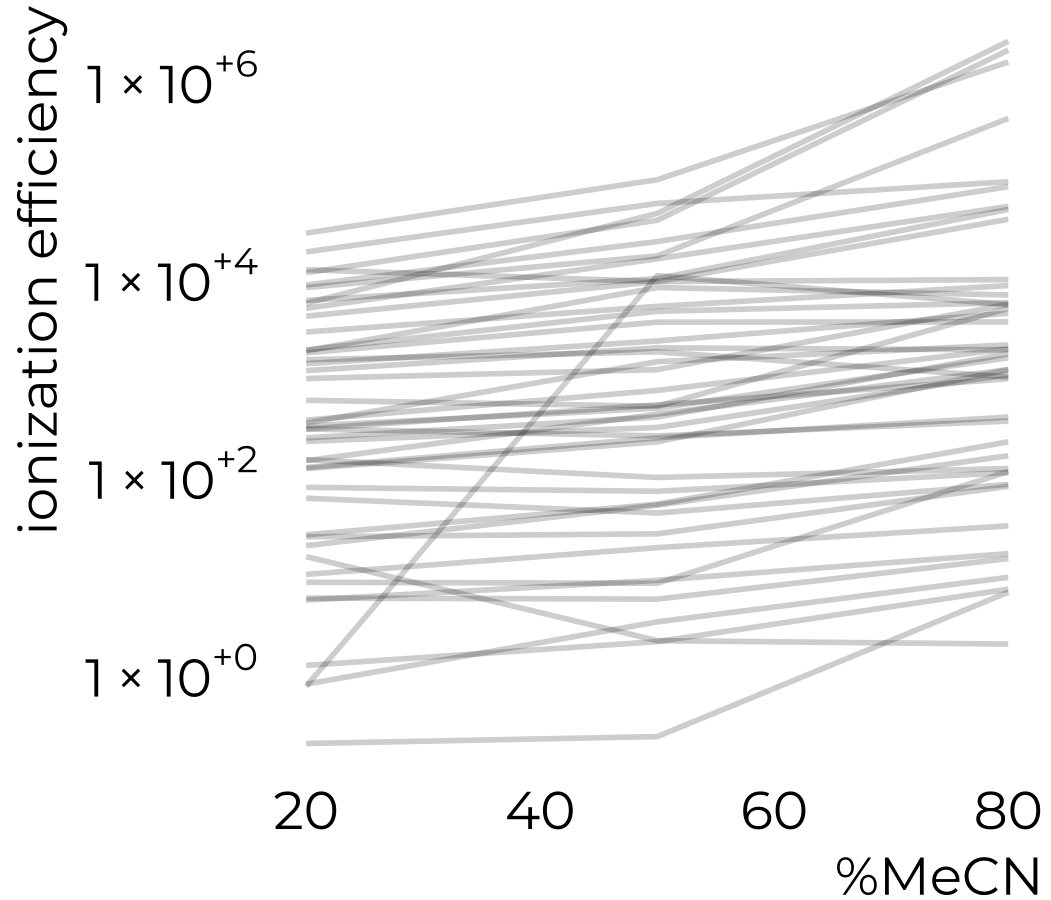
# structure



mobile phase: organic modifier

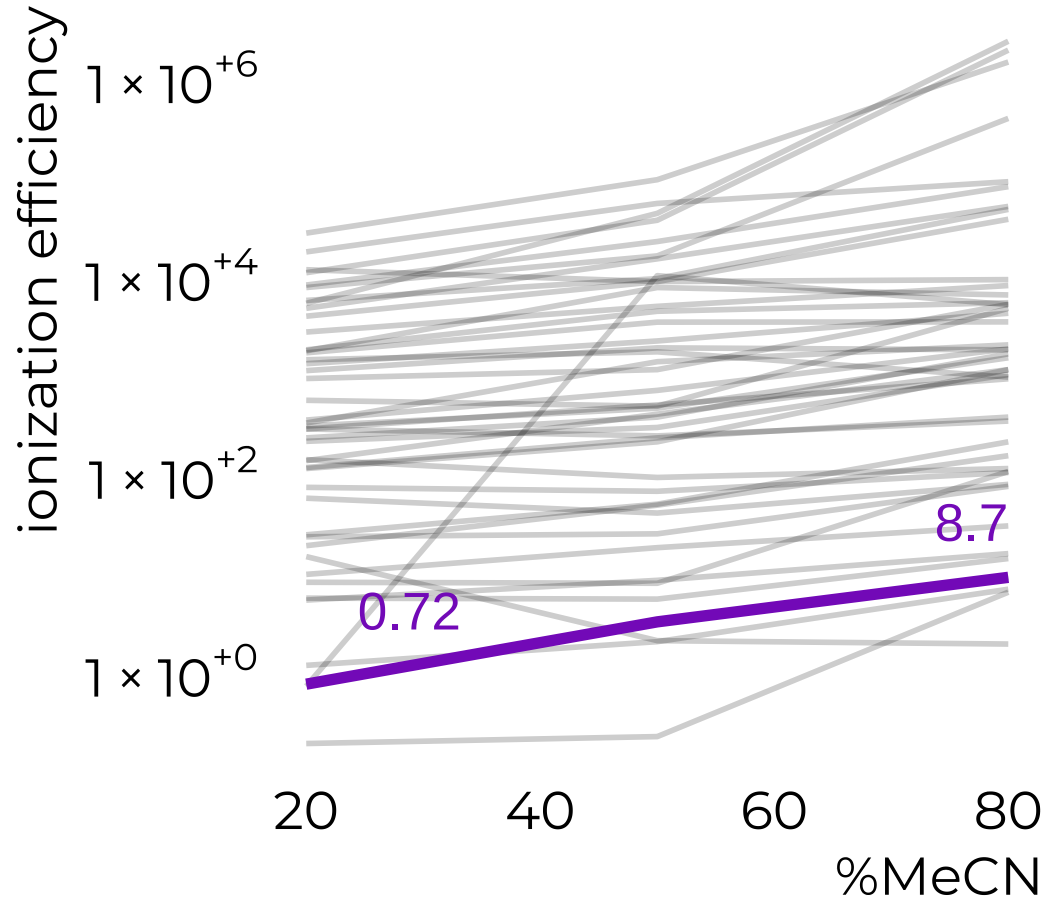
# mobile phase: organic modifier

Liigand et al. JASMS 2014



# mobile phase: organic modifier

Liigand et al. JASMS 2014



%MeCN  $\uparrow$   $\sim$  ionization efficiency  $\uparrow$

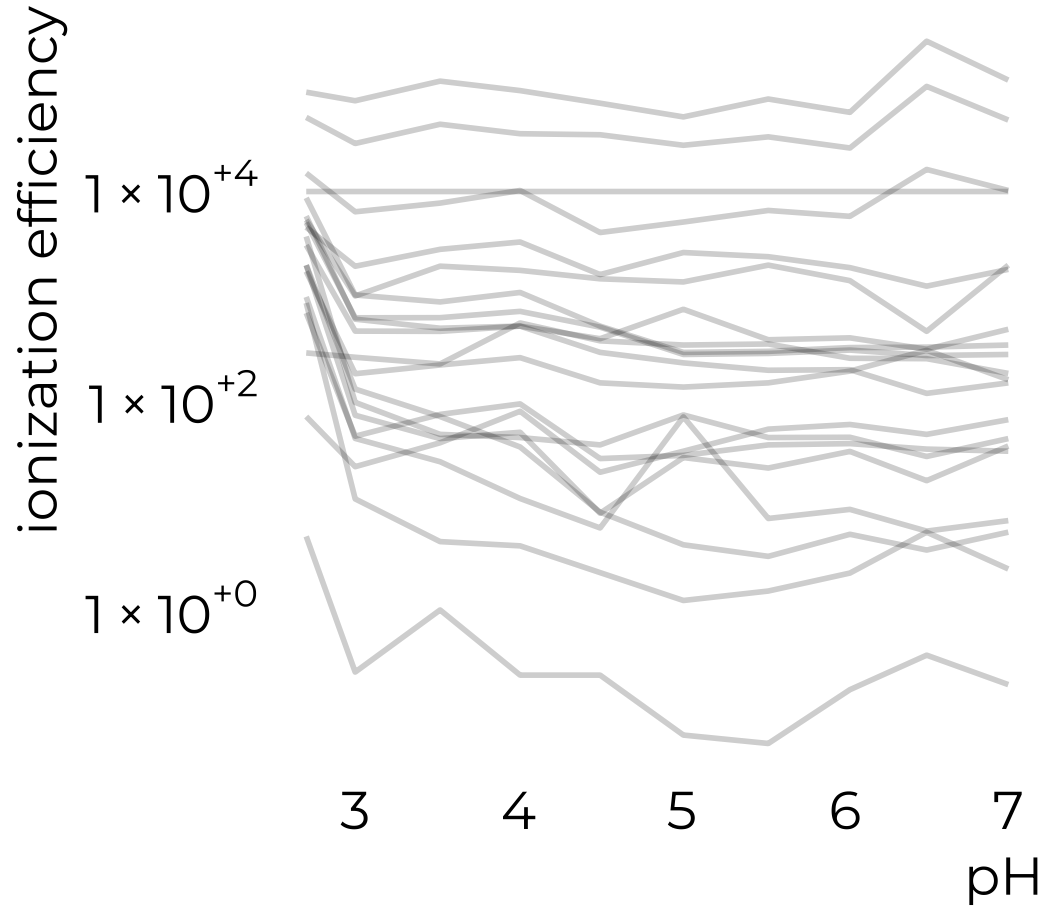
mobile phase: pH



# mobile phase: pH

Liigand et al. JASMS 2017

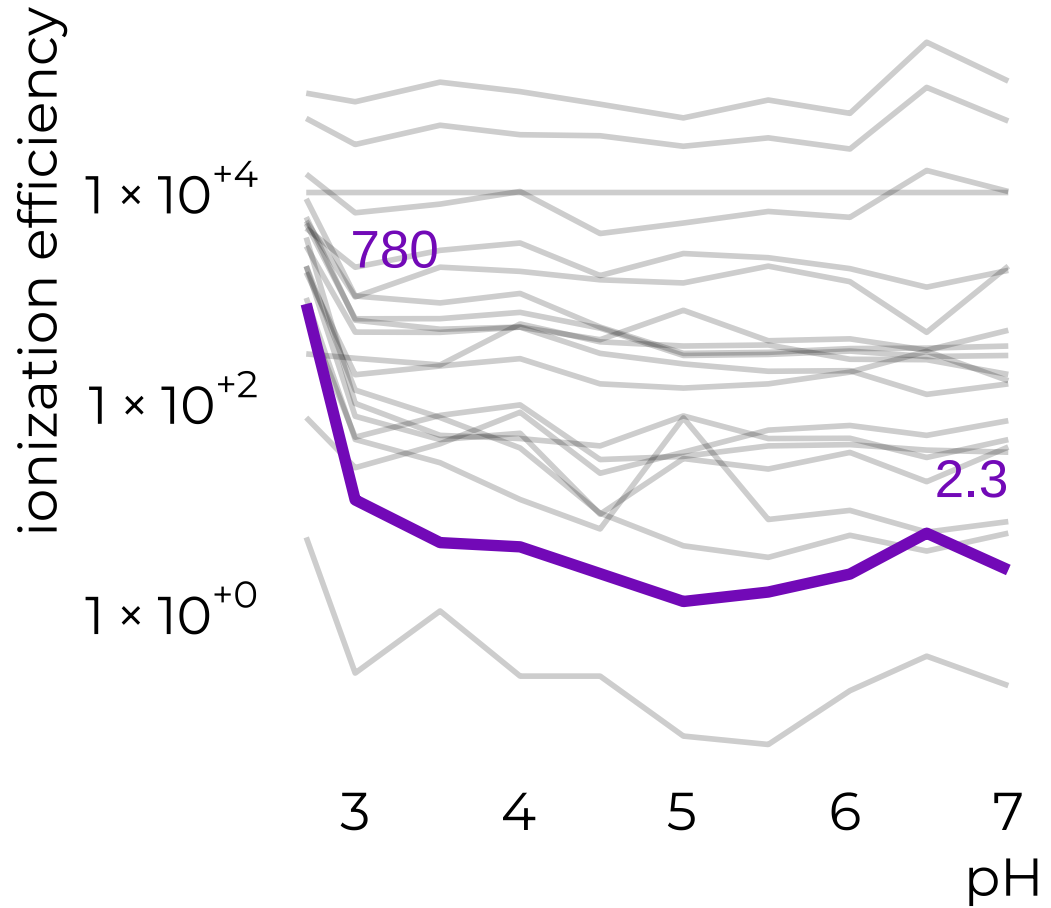
Kruve et al. Anal Chem 2017



# mobile phase: pH

Liigand et al. JASMS 2017

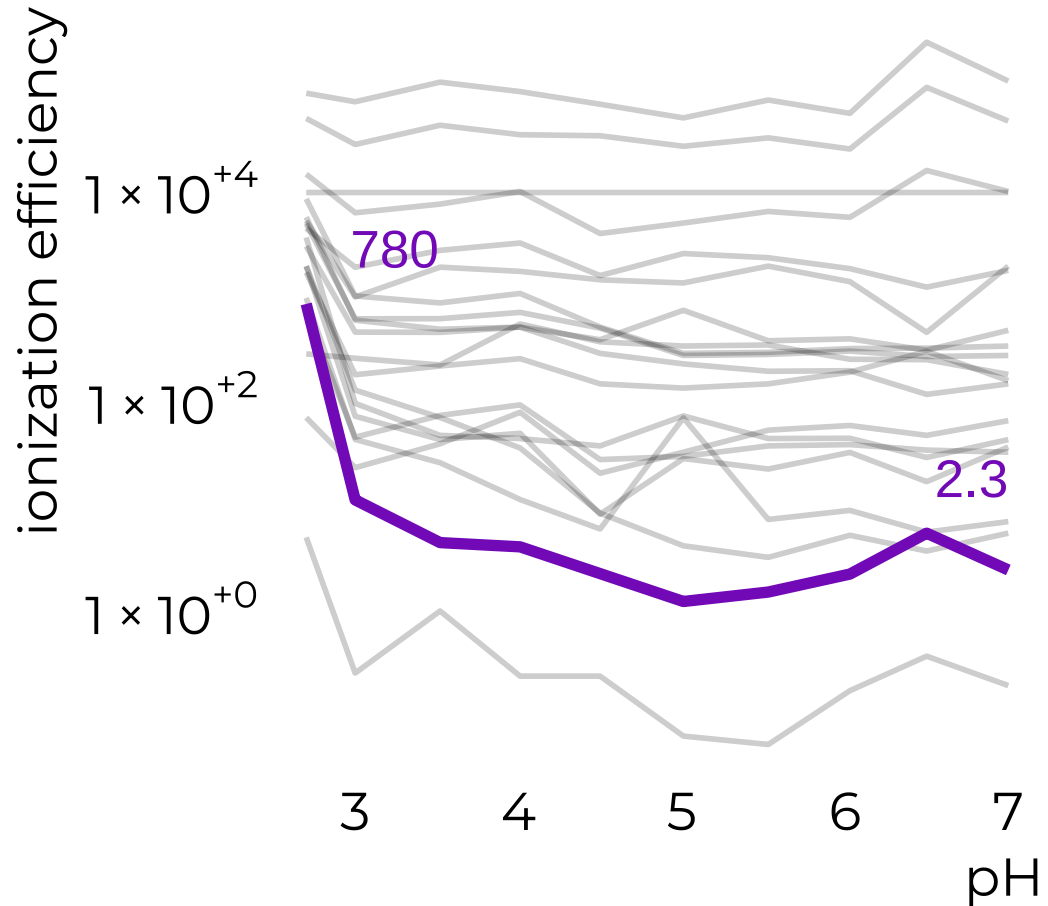
Kruve et al. Anal Chem 2017



# mobile phase: pH

Liigand et al. JASMS 2017

Kruve et al. Anal Chem 2017

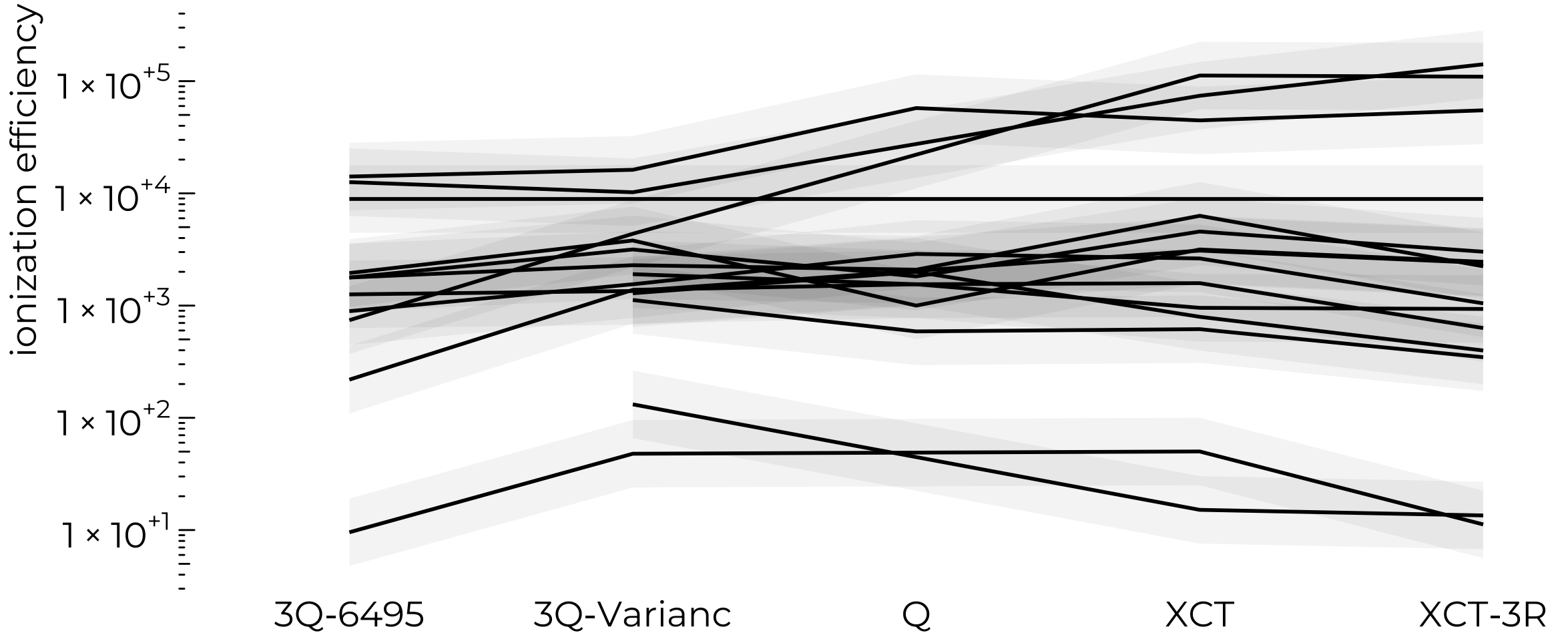


pH & buffer type affect ionization efficiency

instruments

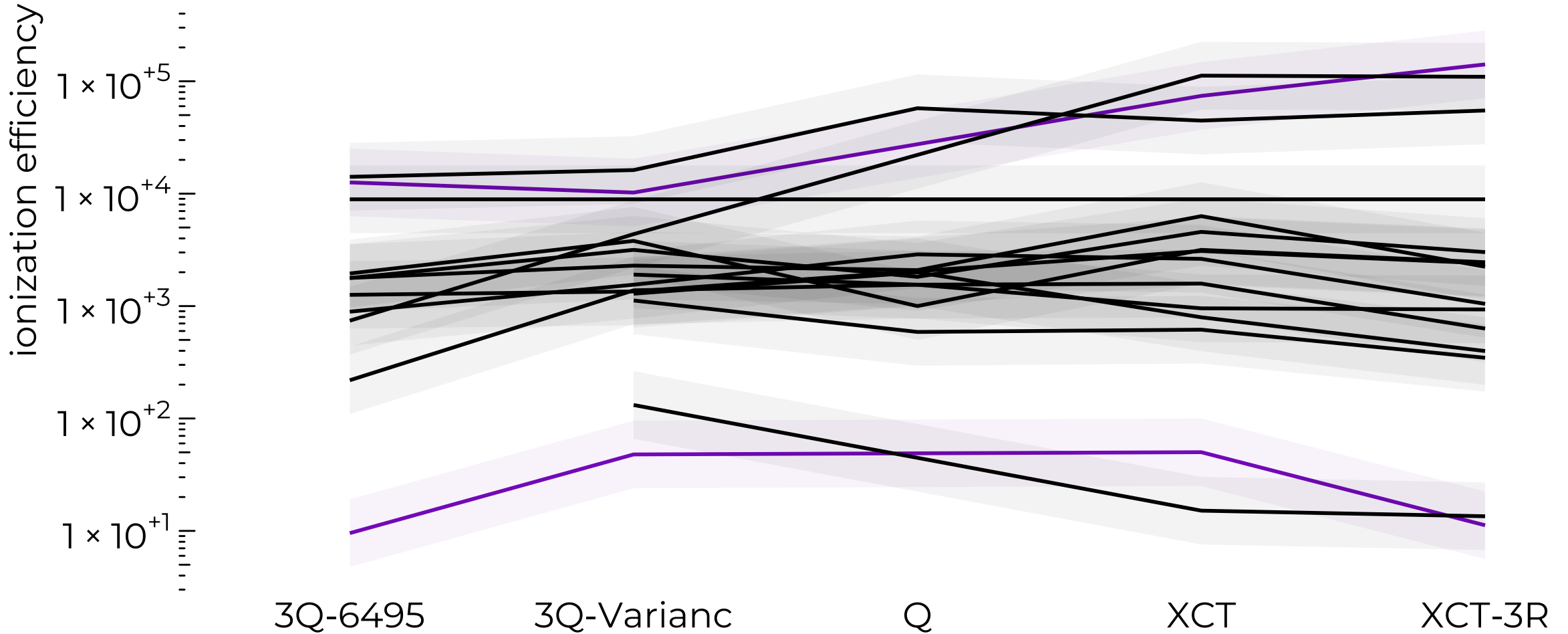
# instruments

Liigand et al. JASMS 2015



# instruments

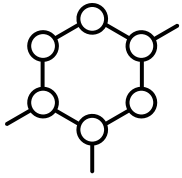
Liigand et al. JASMS 2015



quantification

approaches

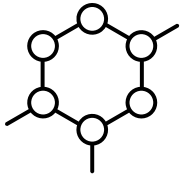
# three common methods



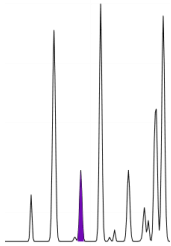
structurally similar chemicals



# three common methods

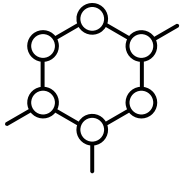


structurally similar chemicals

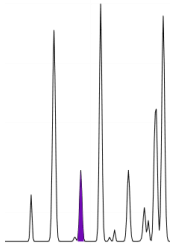


close eluting chemicals

# three common methods



structurally similar chemicals



close eluting chemicals



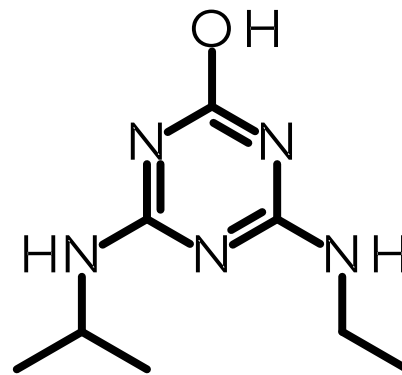
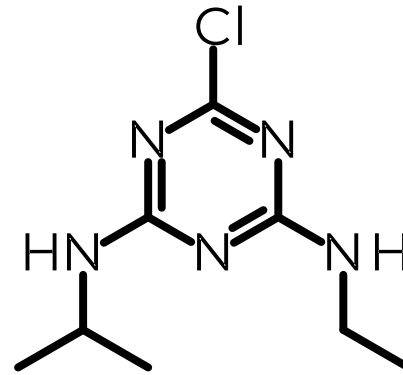
machine learning

quantification

with structurally similar chemical

# parent – transformation product

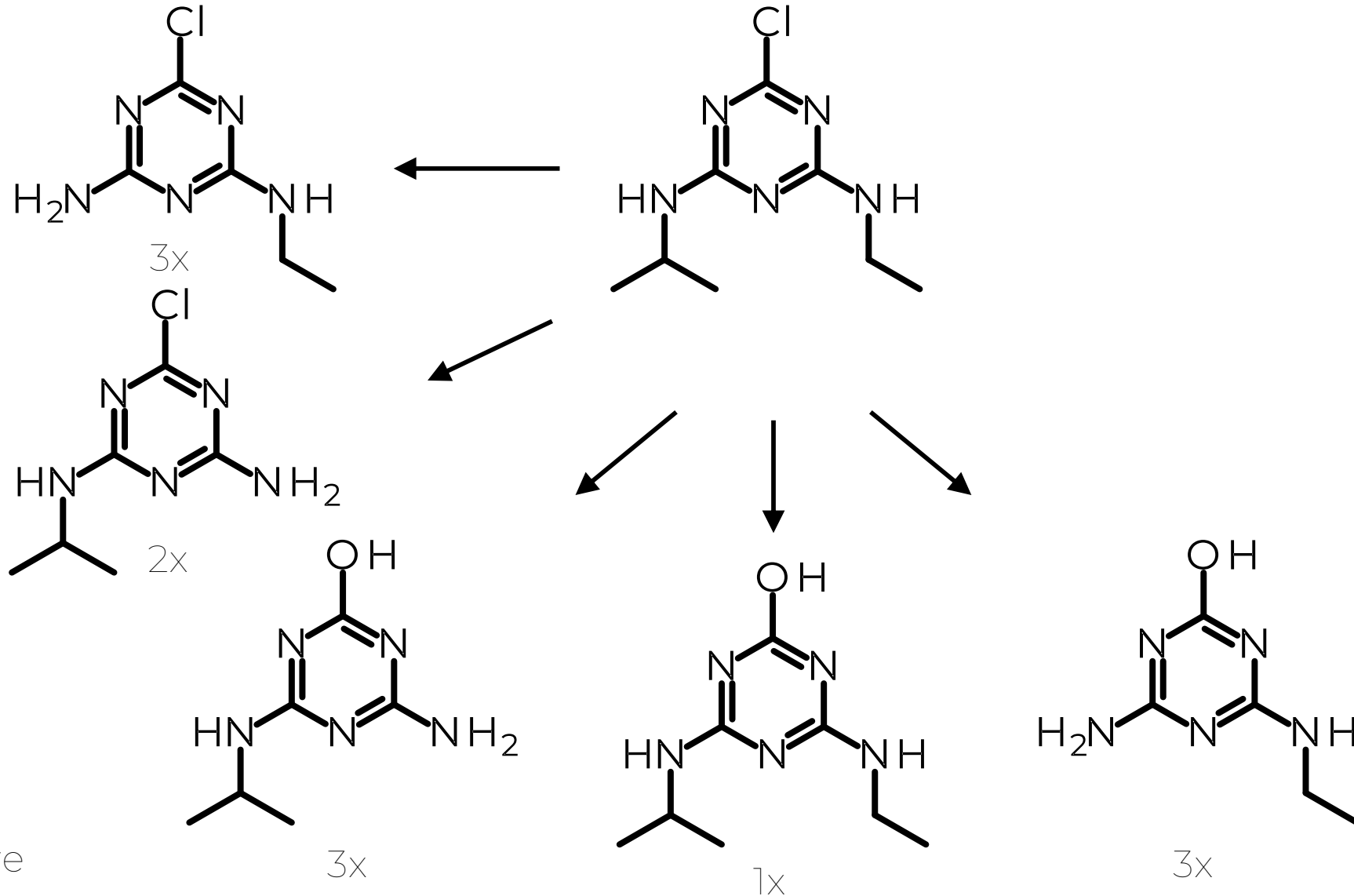
Malm et al. Molecules 2021



1x

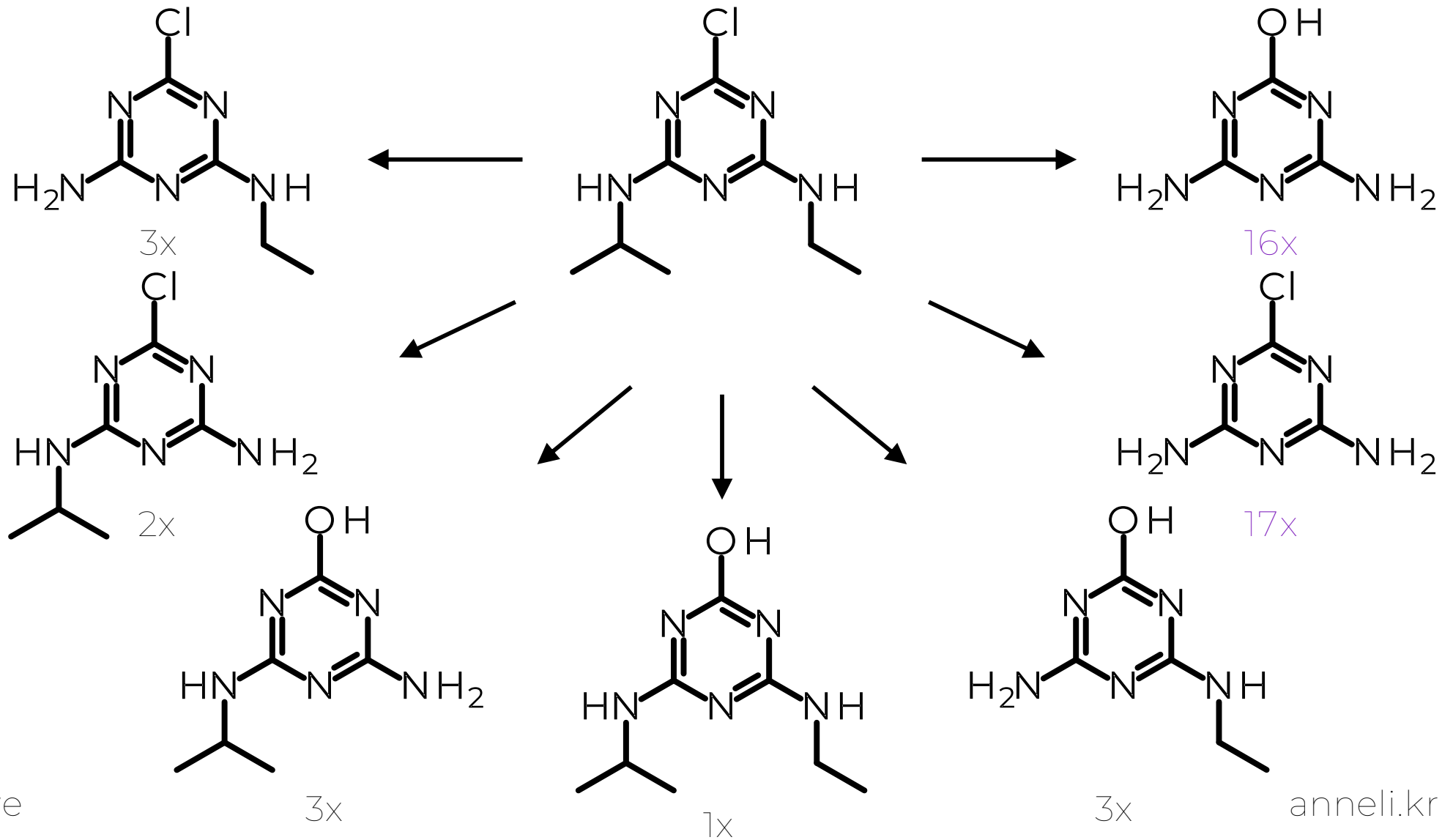
# parent – transformation product

Malm et al. Molecules 2021



# parent – transformation product

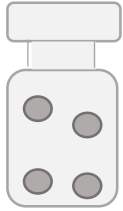
Malm et al. Molecules 2021



quantification

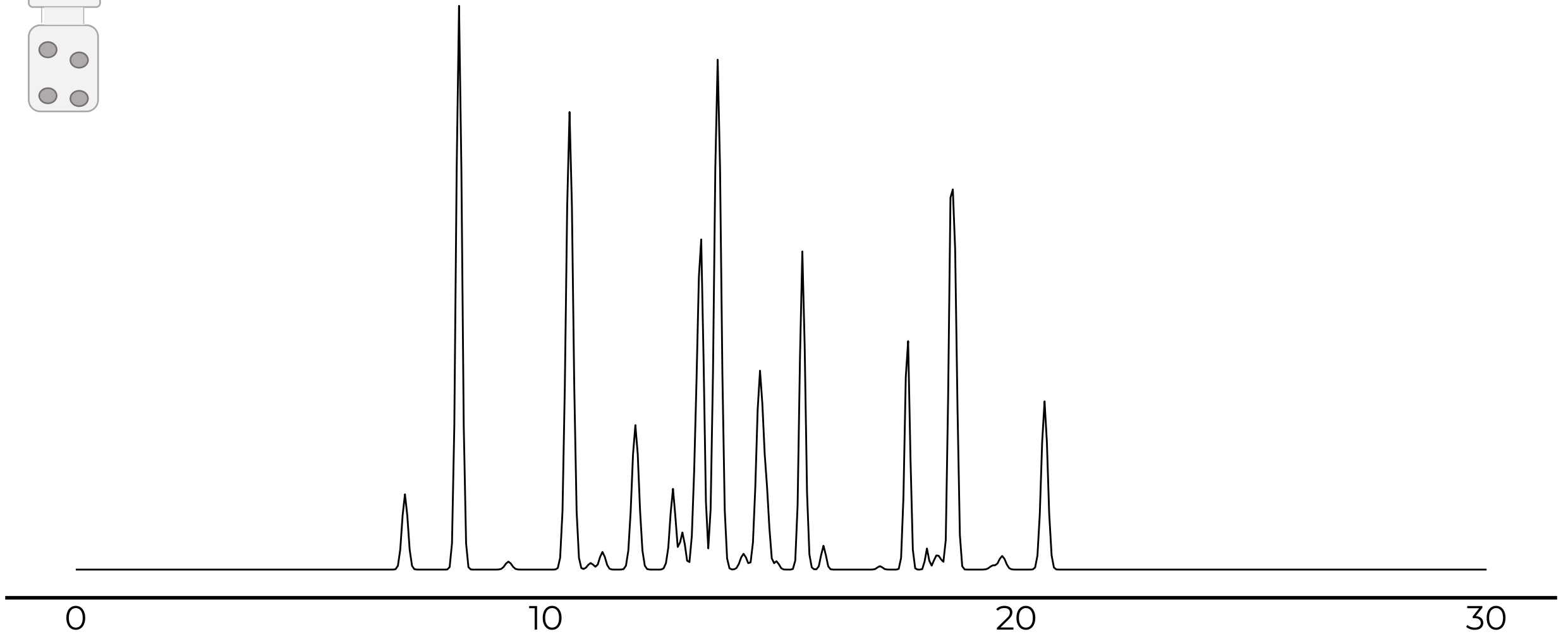
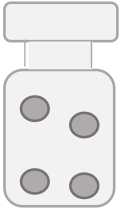
with close eluting chemical

compound eluting closest

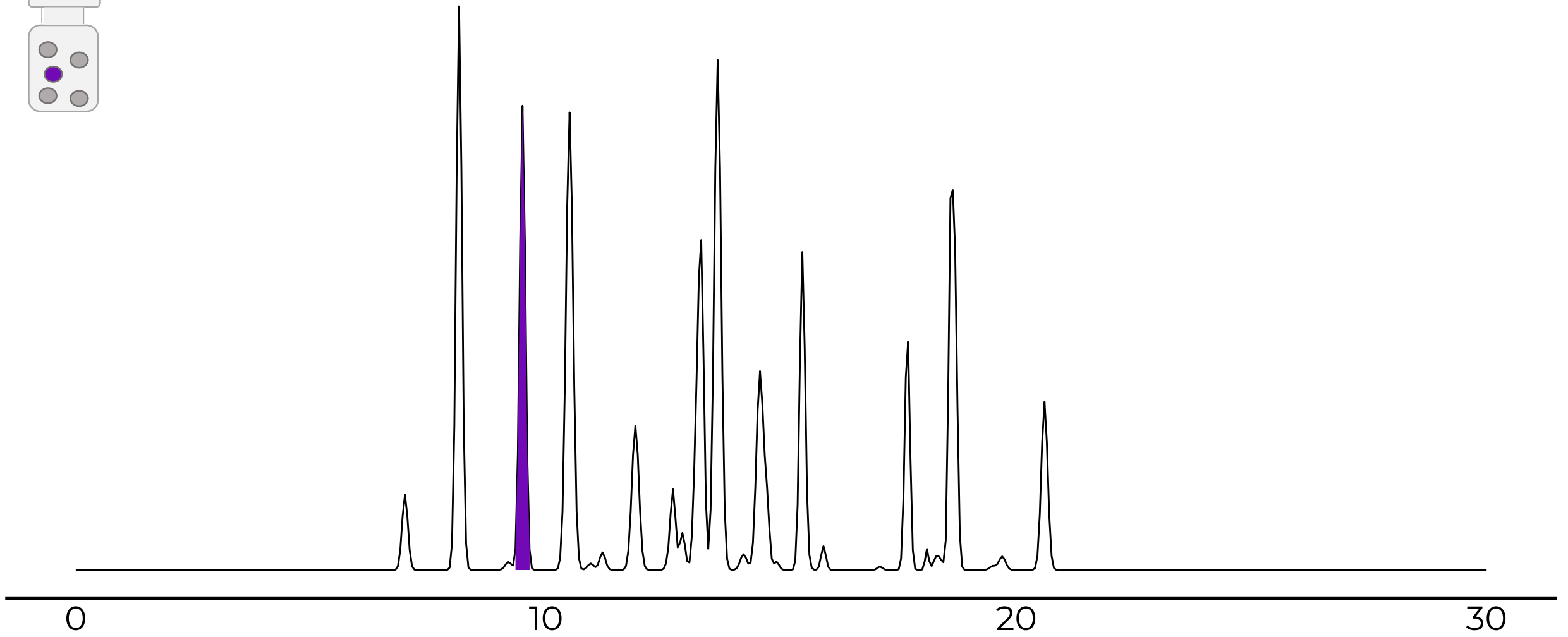
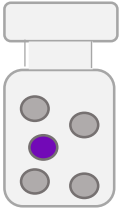




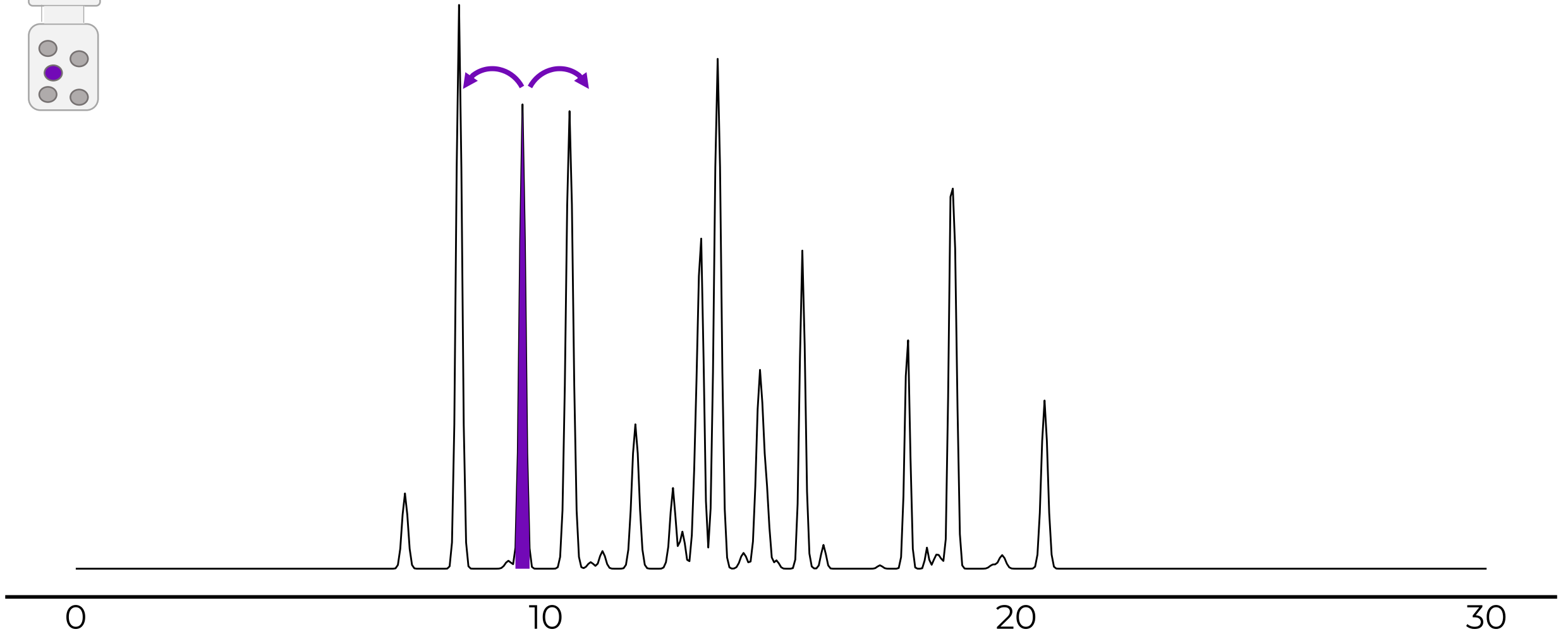
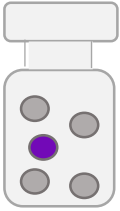
# compound eluting closest



# compound eluting closest



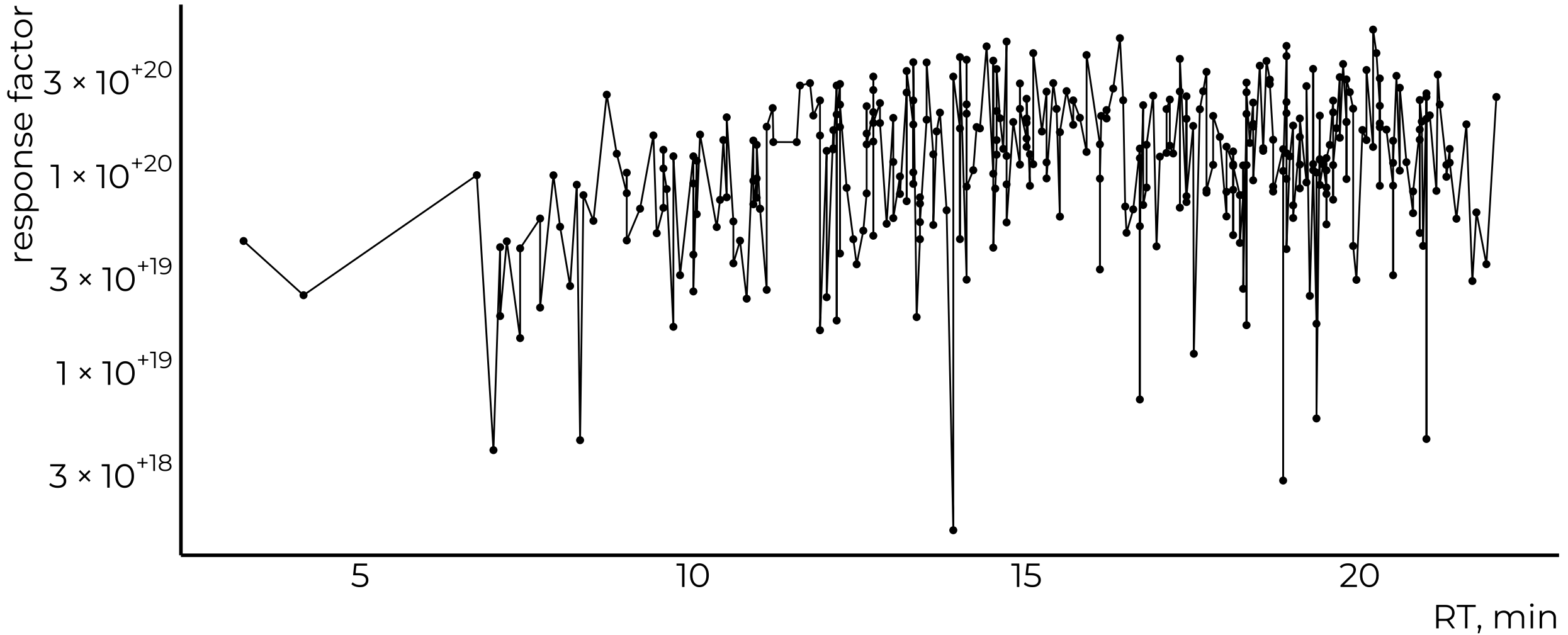
# compound eluting closest



# pesticides and micropollutants

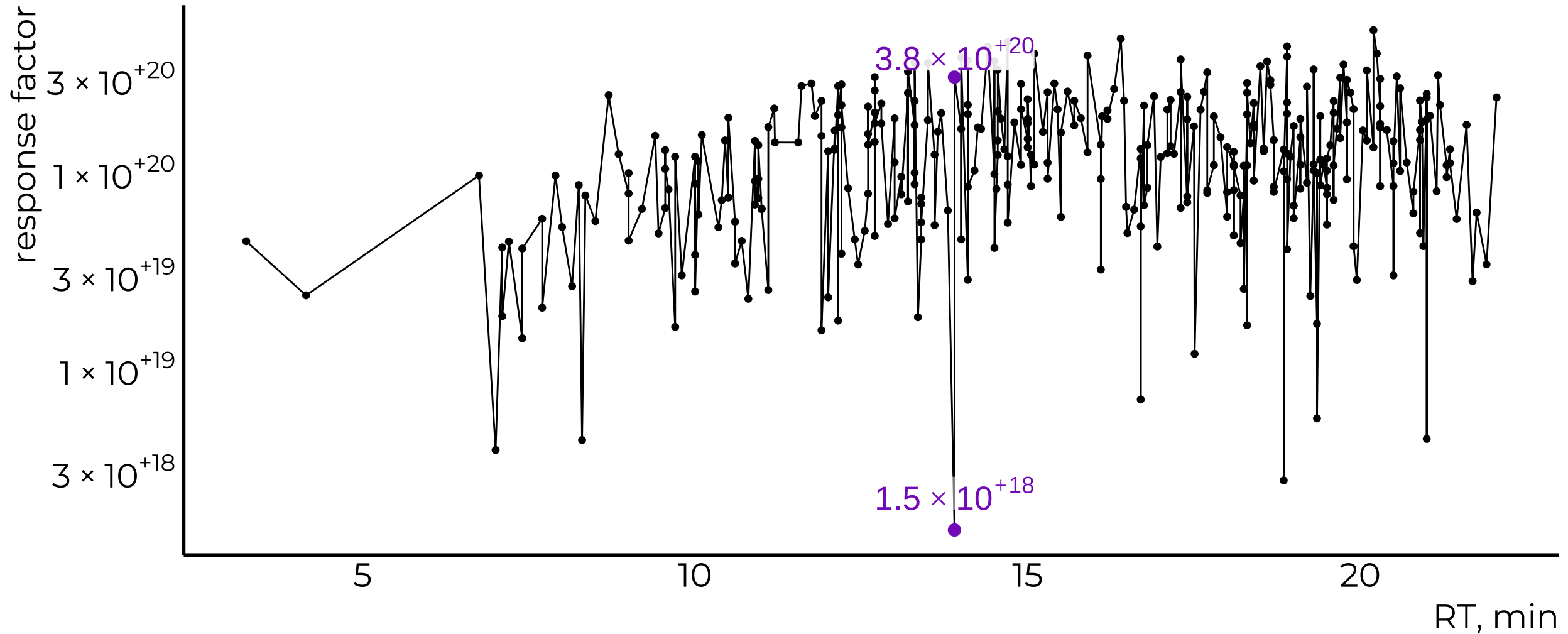
# pesticides and micropollutants

Kruve et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2021



# pesticides and micropollutants

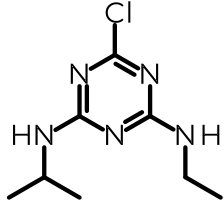
Kruve et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2021



quantification

with machine learning

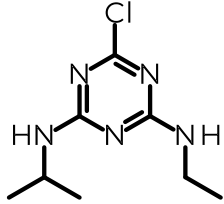
# workflow



SMILES & solvent



# workflow

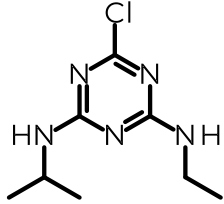


SMILES & solvent



molecular descriptors

# workflow



SMILES & solvent

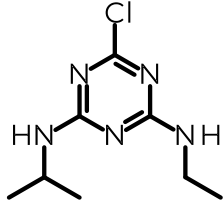


molecular descriptors



training machine learning models

# workflow



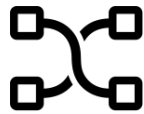
SMILES & solvent



molecular descriptors

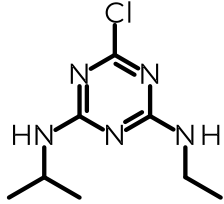


training machine learning models



best model selection

# workflow



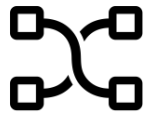
SMILES & solvent



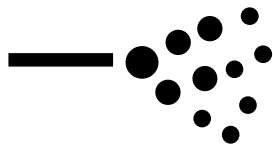
molecular descriptors



training machine learning models



best model selection



predict ionization efficiency

# performance

Liigand et al. Sci Reports 2020

Sepman et al. in preparation

1403 chemicals

$x\log P$  from -6.6 to 22.5

13 labs/methods

flow injections

RP & HILIC methods

MeCN & MeOH

0 – 100%

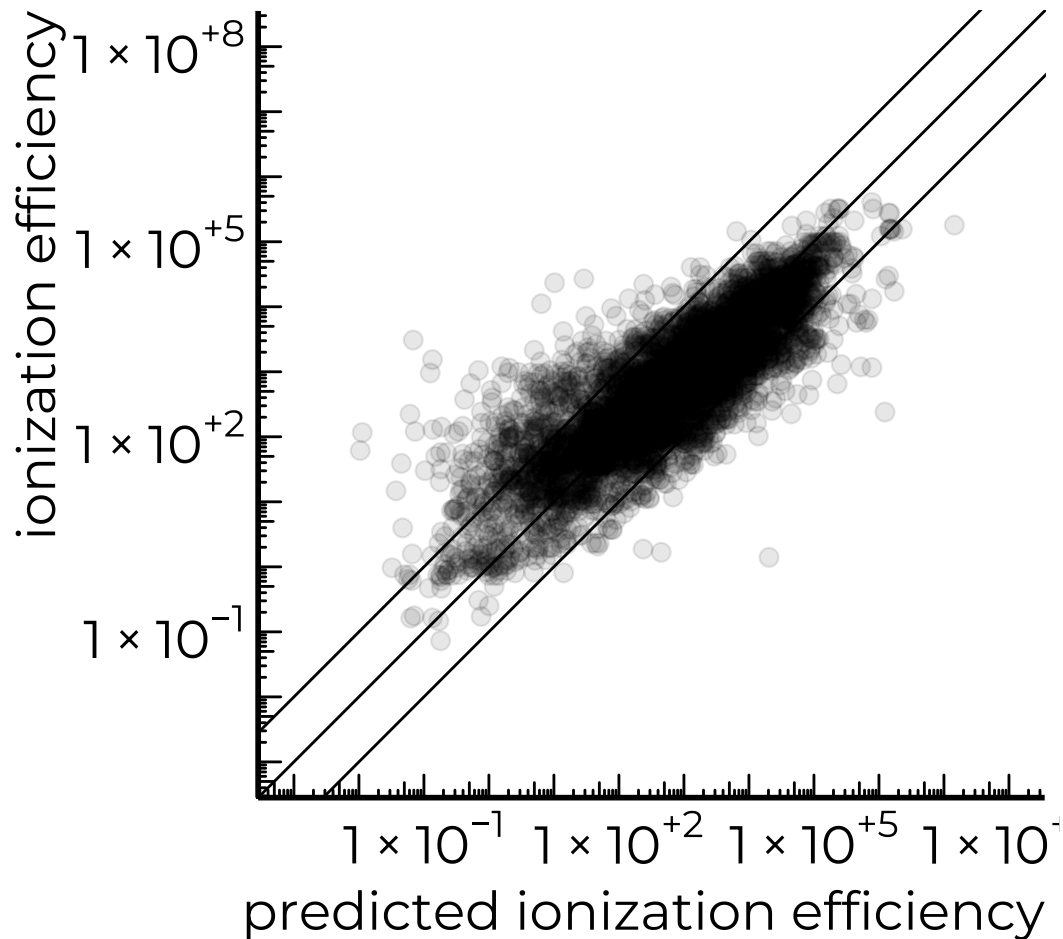
pH 2.1 – 10.8

different buffers

# performance

Liigand et al. Sci Reports 2020

Sepman et al. in preparation



IE range

100,000,000

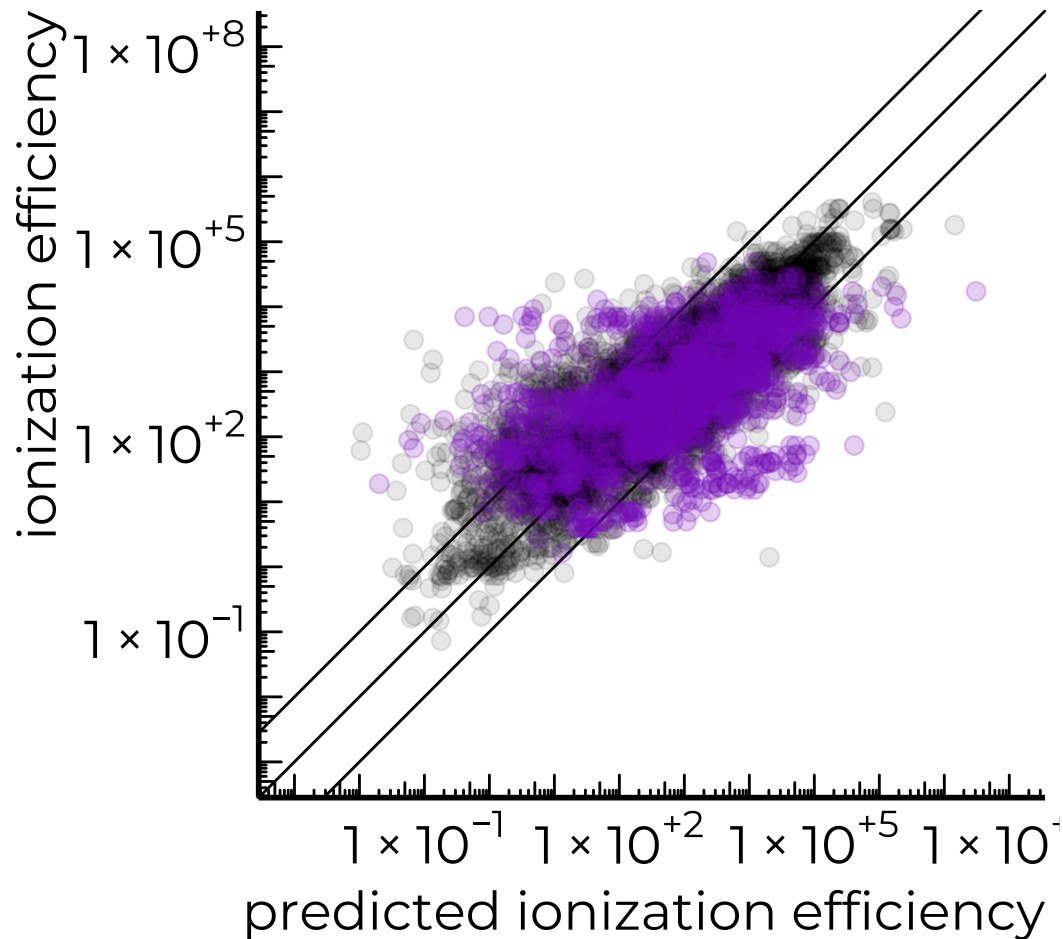
training set

RMSE 5.6x

# performance

Liigand et al. Sci Reports 2020

Sepman et al. in preparation



IE range

100,000,000

training set

RMSE 5.6x

test set

RMSE 13.0x

# application

compound	peak area
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300
pyridaben	5,400
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800



# application



predict ionization efficiency

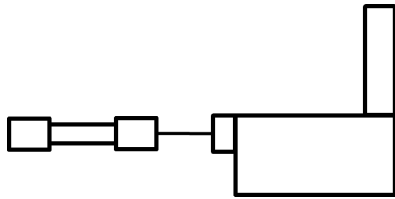
# application

compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57
pyridaben	5,400	3.78
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99

# application



predict ionization efficiency



convert to instrument specific values

# application

compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$	c (nM)
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57	
pyridaben	5,400	3.78	
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99	
atrazine-D5			4.5
gabapentin-lactam			0.35
sitagliptin			0.23
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole			0.94
neburon			3.4
caffeine			0.50

# application

compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$	c (nM)
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57	
pyridaben	5,400	3.78	
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99	
atrazine-D5	450,000		4.5
gabapentin-lactam	10,400		0.35
sitagliptin	8,100		0.23
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000		0.94
neburon	243,000		3.4
caffeine	5,600		0.50

# application

$$RF_{\text{measured}} = \text{peak area} / c$$

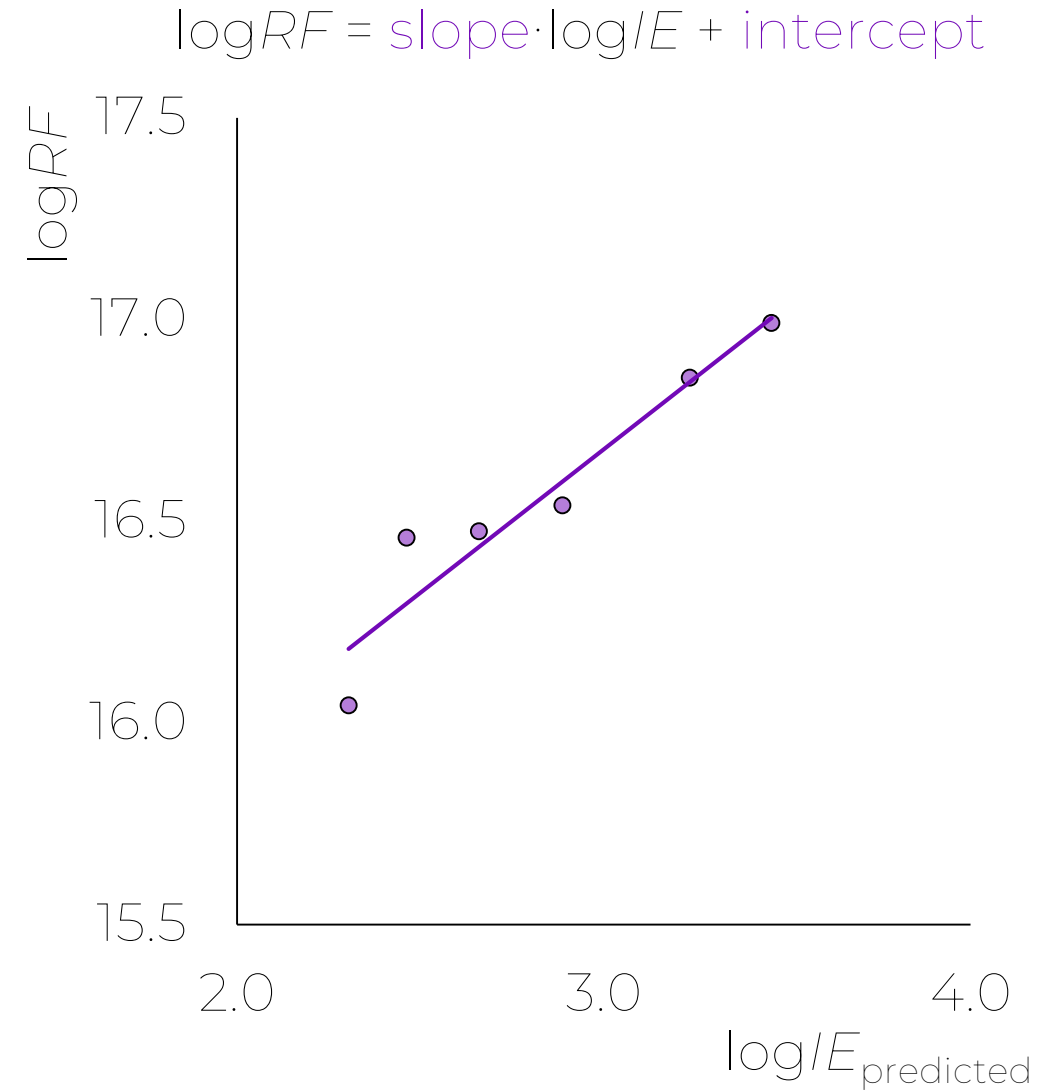
compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$	c (nM)	$RF_{\text{meas}} \cdot 10^{16}$
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57		
pyridaben	5,400	3.78		
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99		
atrazine-D5	450,000		4.5	9.8
gabapentin-lactam	10,400		0.35	3.0
sitagliptin	8,100		0.23	3.5
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000		0.94	2.9
neburon	243,000		3.4	7.2
caffeine	5,600		0.50	1.1

# application

compound	peak area	$\log I/E_{\text{pred}}$	c (nM)	$RF_{\text{meas}} \cdot 10^{16}$
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57		
pyridaben	5,400	3.78		
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99		
atrazine-D5	450,000	3.46	4.5	9.8
gabapentin-lactam	10,400	2.66	0.35	3.0
sitagliptin	8,100	2.89	0.23	3.5
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000	2.46	0.94	2.9
neburon	243,000	3.23	3.4	7.2
caffeine	5,600	2.30	0.50	1.1

# application

compound	peak area	$\log I_{E_{\text{pred}}}$
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57
pyridaben	5,400	3.78
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99
atrazine-D5	450,000	3.46
gabapentin-lactam	10,400	2.66
sitagliptin	8,100	2.89
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000	2.46
neburon	243,000	3.23
caffeine	5,600	2.30





# application

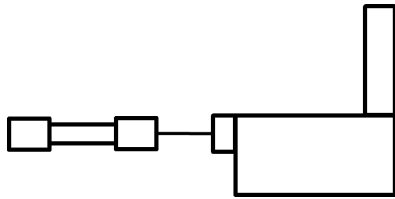
$$\log RF_{\text{predicted}} = \text{slope} \cdot \log/E_{\text{predicted}} + \text{intercept}$$

compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$	c (nM)	$RF_{\text{meas}} \cdot 10^{16}$	$RF_{\text{pred}} \cdot 10^{16}$
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57			2.6
pyridaben	5,400	3.78			15.5
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99			1.1
atrazine-D5	450,000	3.46	4.5	9.8	
gabapentin-lactam	10,400	2.66	0.35	3.0	
sitagliptin	8,100	2.89	0.23	3.5	
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000	2.46	0.94	2.9	
neburon	243,000	3.23	3.4	7.2	
caffeine	5,600	2.30	0.50	1.1	

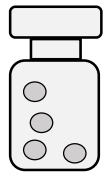
# application



predict ionization efficiency



convert to instrument specific values



estimate concentration

# application

$$c = \text{peak area} / RF_{\text{predicted}}$$

compound	peak area	$\log/E_{\text{pred}}$	$c$ (nM)	$RF_{\text{meas}} \cdot 10^{16}$	$RF_{\text{pred}} \cdot 10^{16}$	$c_{\text{pred}}$ (nM)
methiocarb sulfoxide	5,300	2.57			2.6	0.20
pyridaben	5,400	3.78			15.5	0.035
aldicarb-sulfone	70,800	1.99			1.1	6.3
atrazine-D5	450,000	3.46	4.5	9.8		
gabapentin-lactam	10,400	2.66	0.35	3.0		
sitagliptin	8,100	2.89	0.23	3.5		
5-methyl-1H-benzotriazole	27,000	2.46	0.94	2.9		
neburon	243,000	3.23	3.4	7.2		
caffeine	5,600	2.30	0.50	1.1		

# case studies



water

# chemicals in surface water

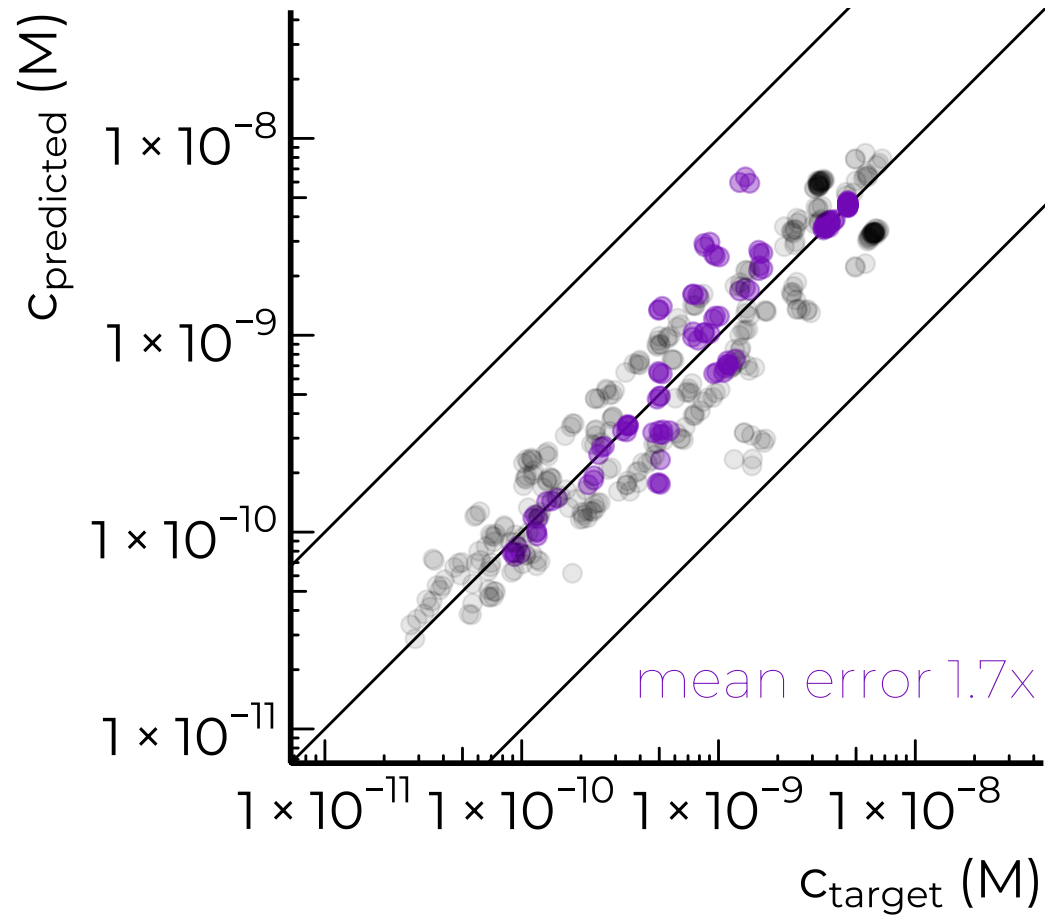
The Netherlands

Been et al. Water Research 2021

# chemicals in surface water

The Netherlands

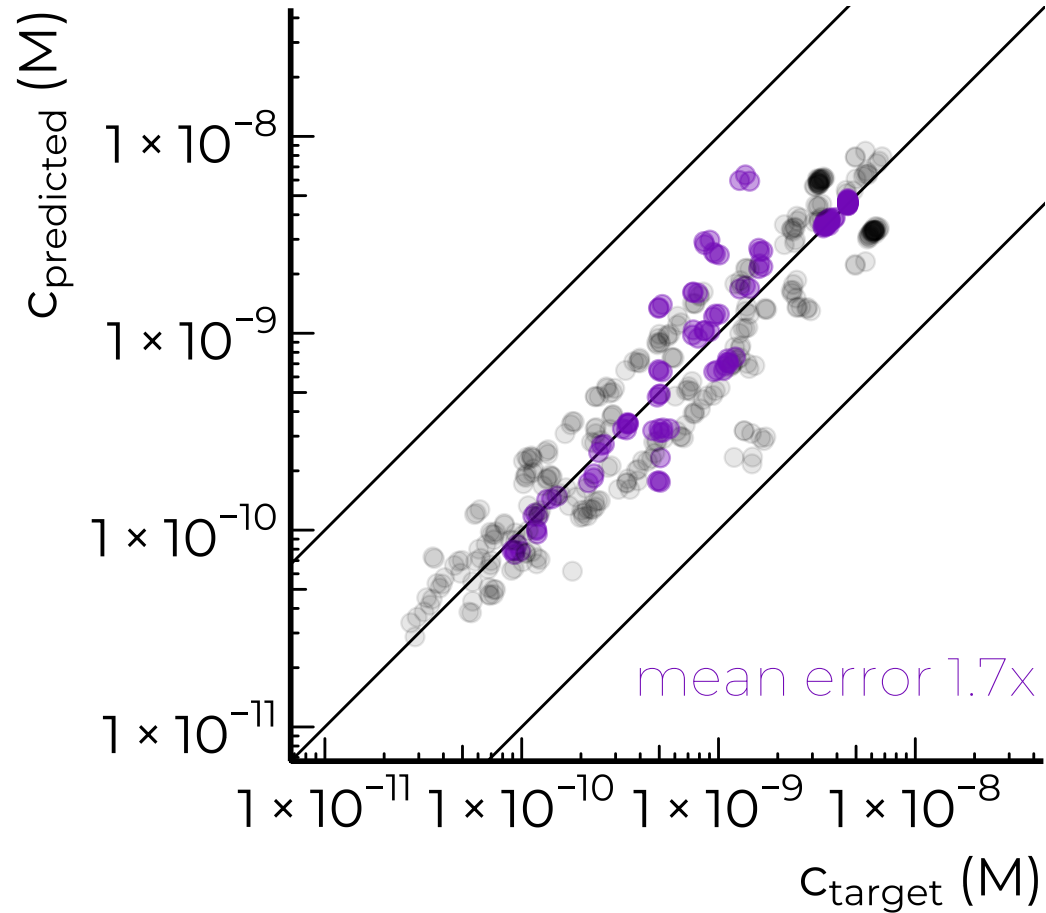
Been et al. Water Research 2021



# chemicals in surface water

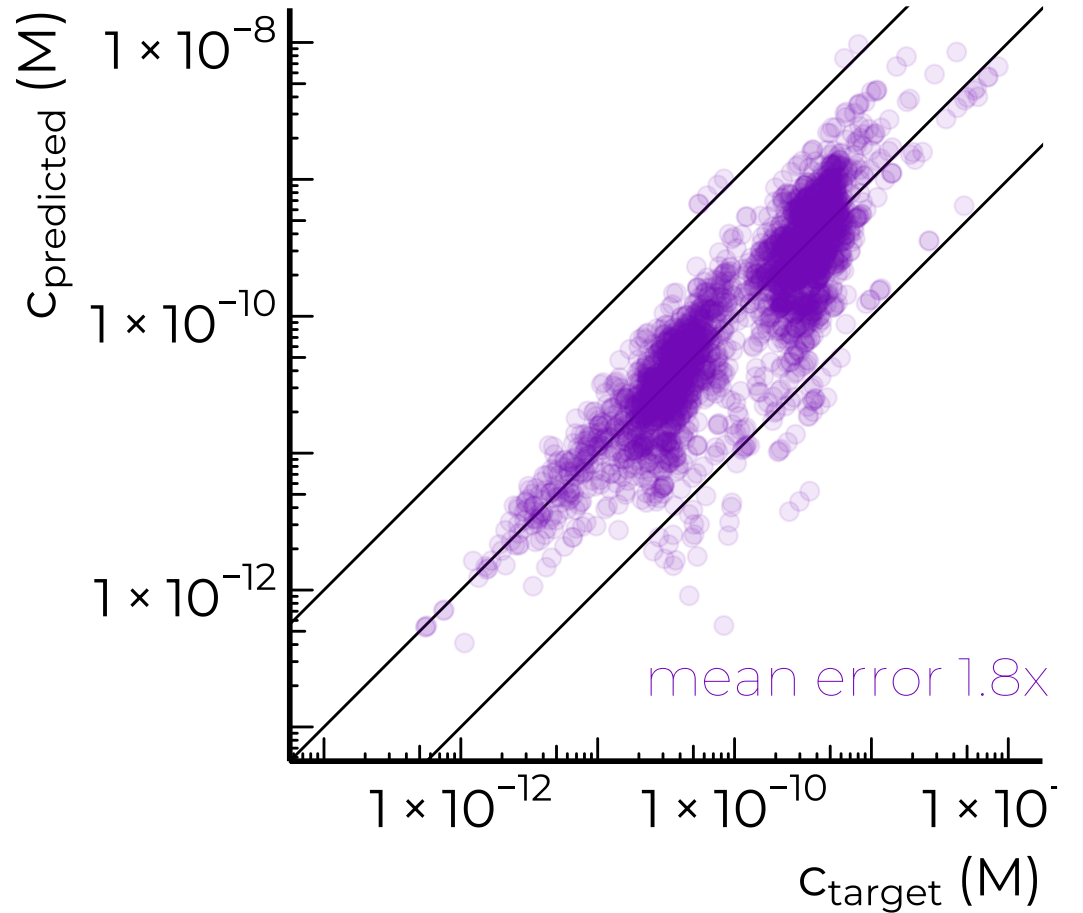
The Netherlands

Been et al. Water Research 2021



Switzerland

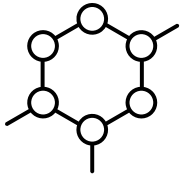
Kruve et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2021



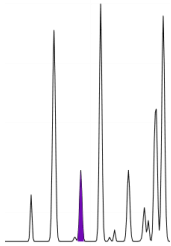
norman interlab



# tested methods



structurally similar chemicals  
transformation product - parent  
Tanimoto similarity



close eluting chemicals



machine learning  
Liigand et al.  
Aalizadeh et al.

sample



HPLC water

# sample



HPLC water



drinking water

# sample



HPLC water

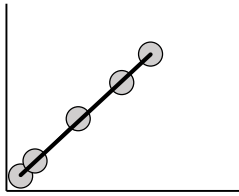


drinking water



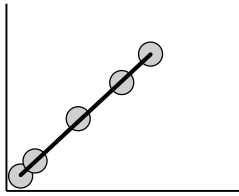
surface water

# chemicals

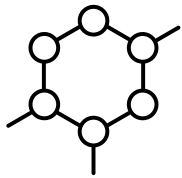


41 calibration chemicals  
known concentration

# chemicals



41 calibration chemicals  
known concentration



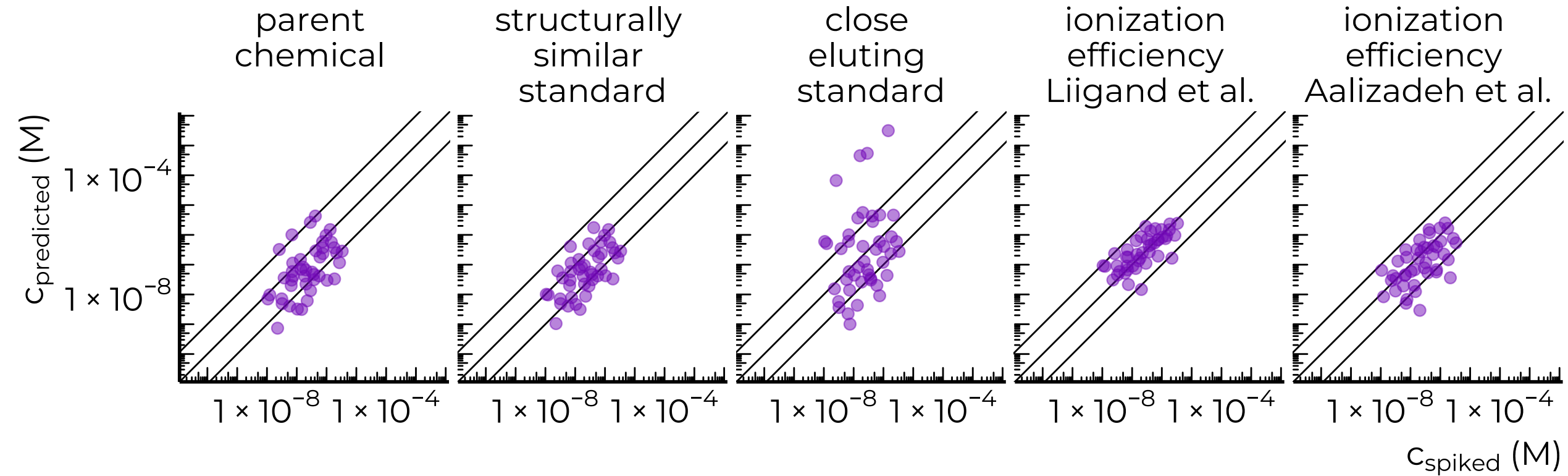
45 suspect chemicals  
low and high concentration spike

# participants



# correlations across methods

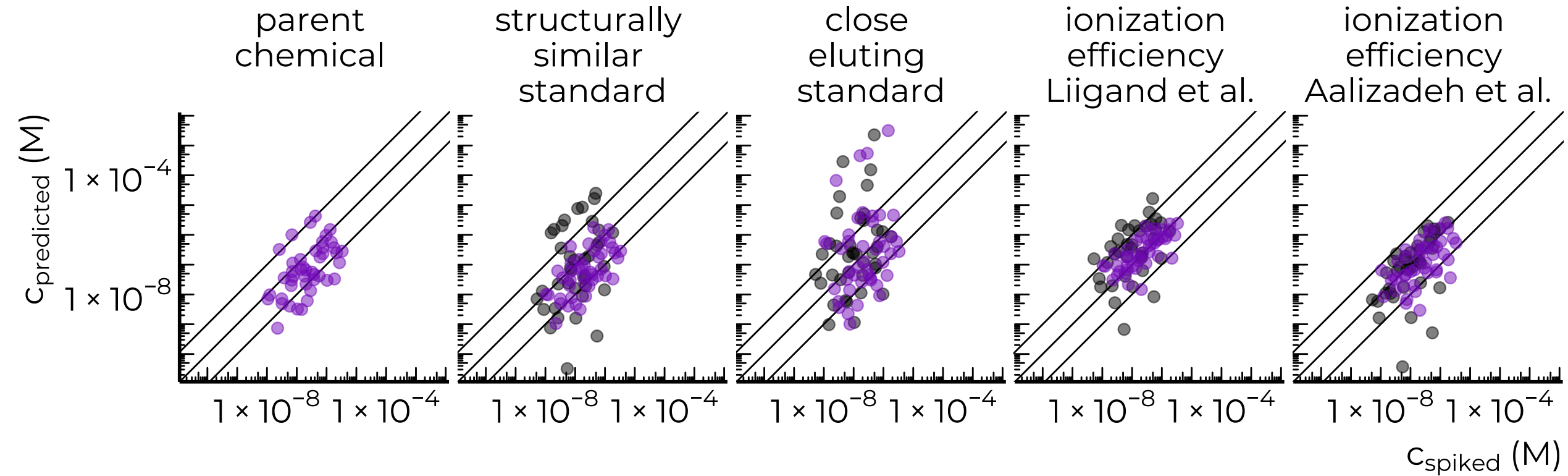
transformation products



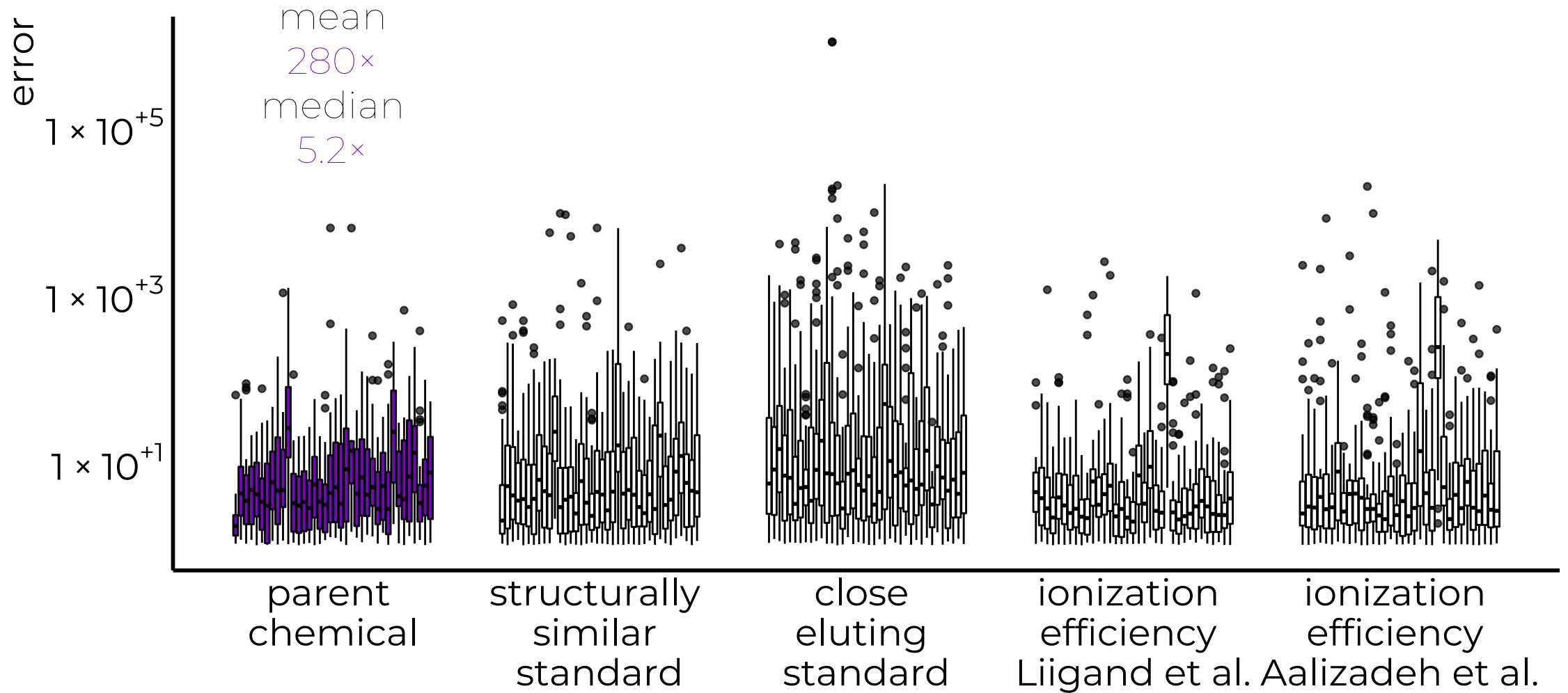


# correlations across methods

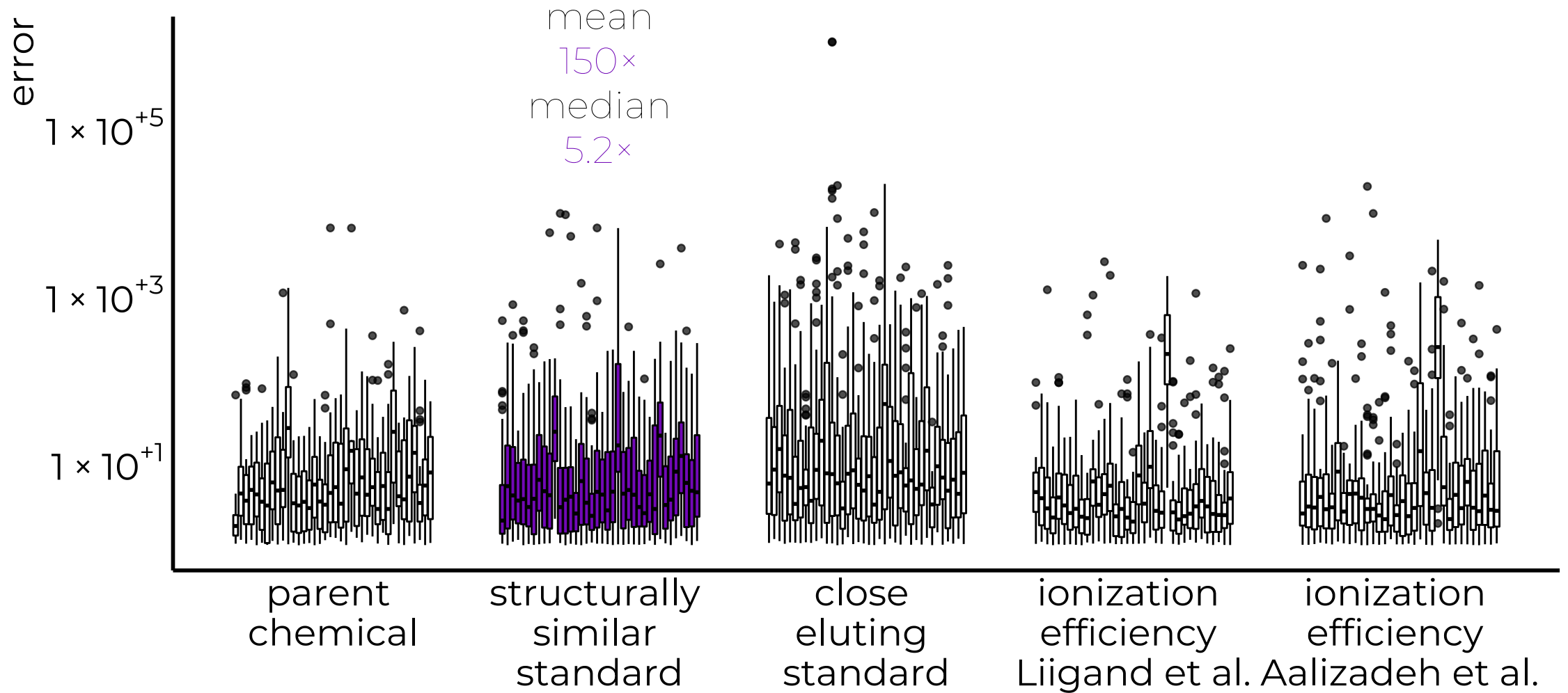
transformation products  
remaining suspects



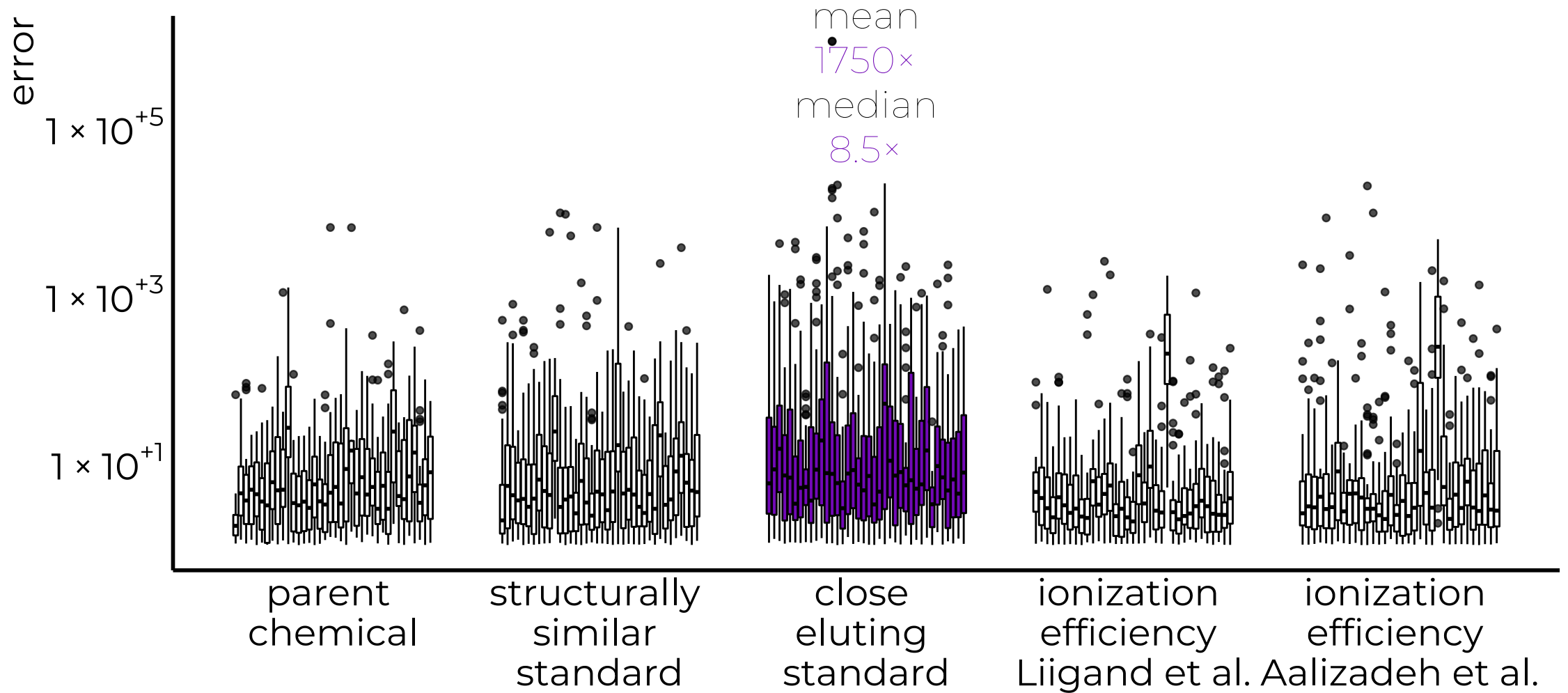
# prediction error



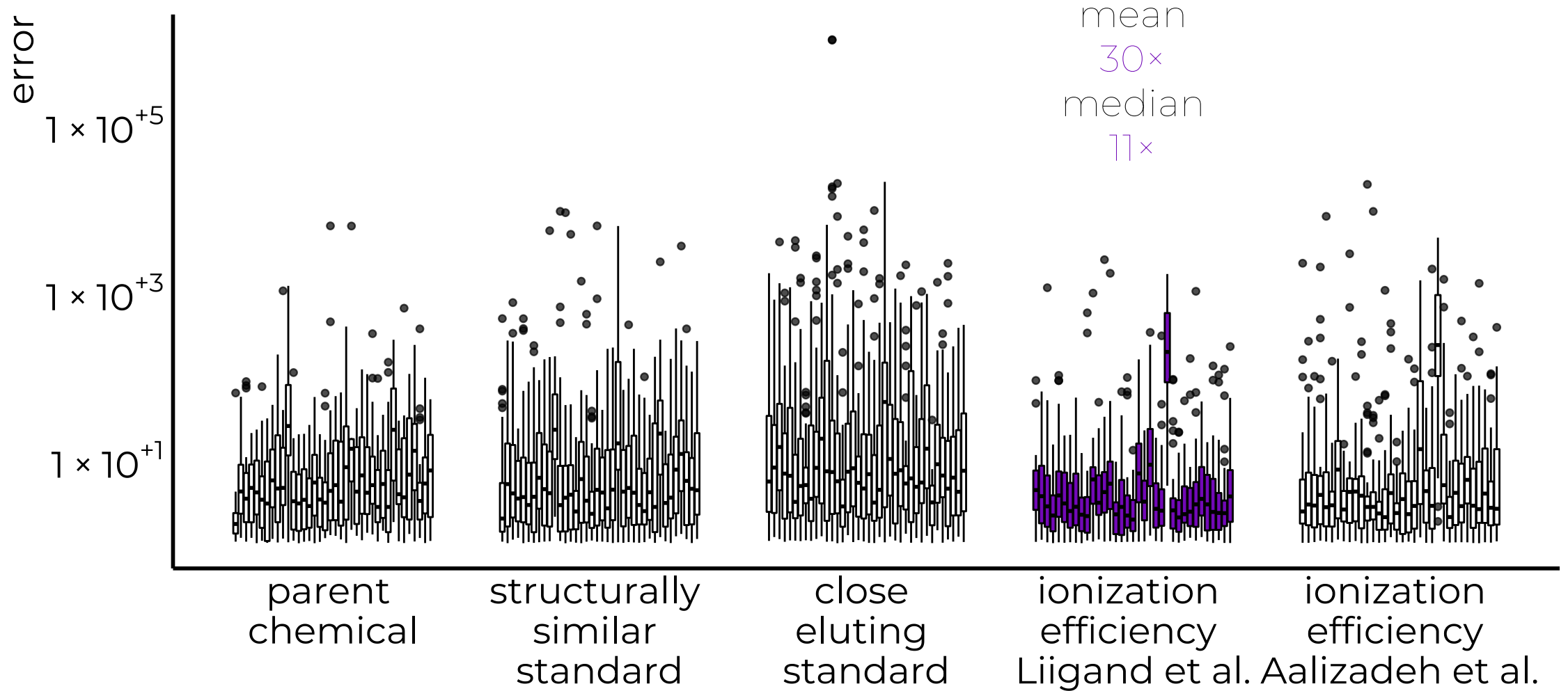
# prediction error



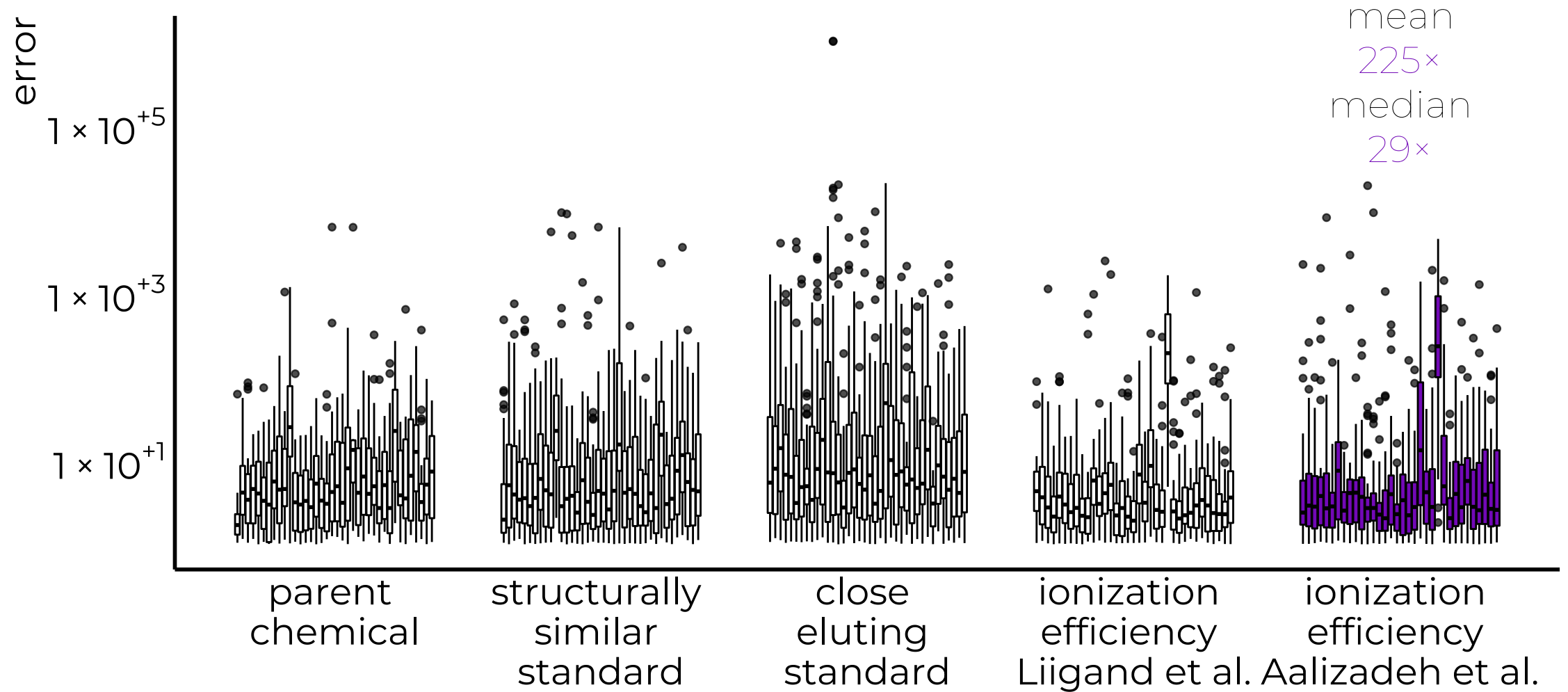
# prediction error



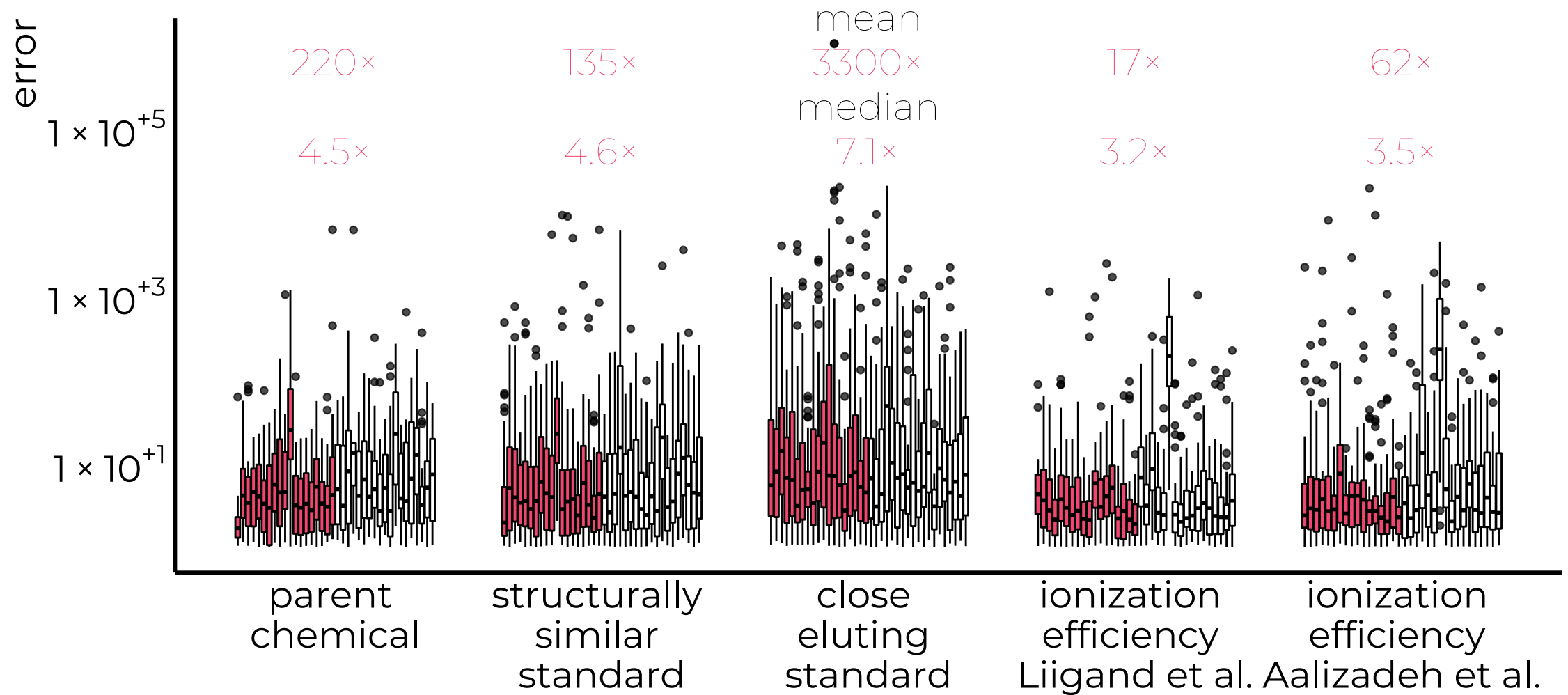
# prediction error



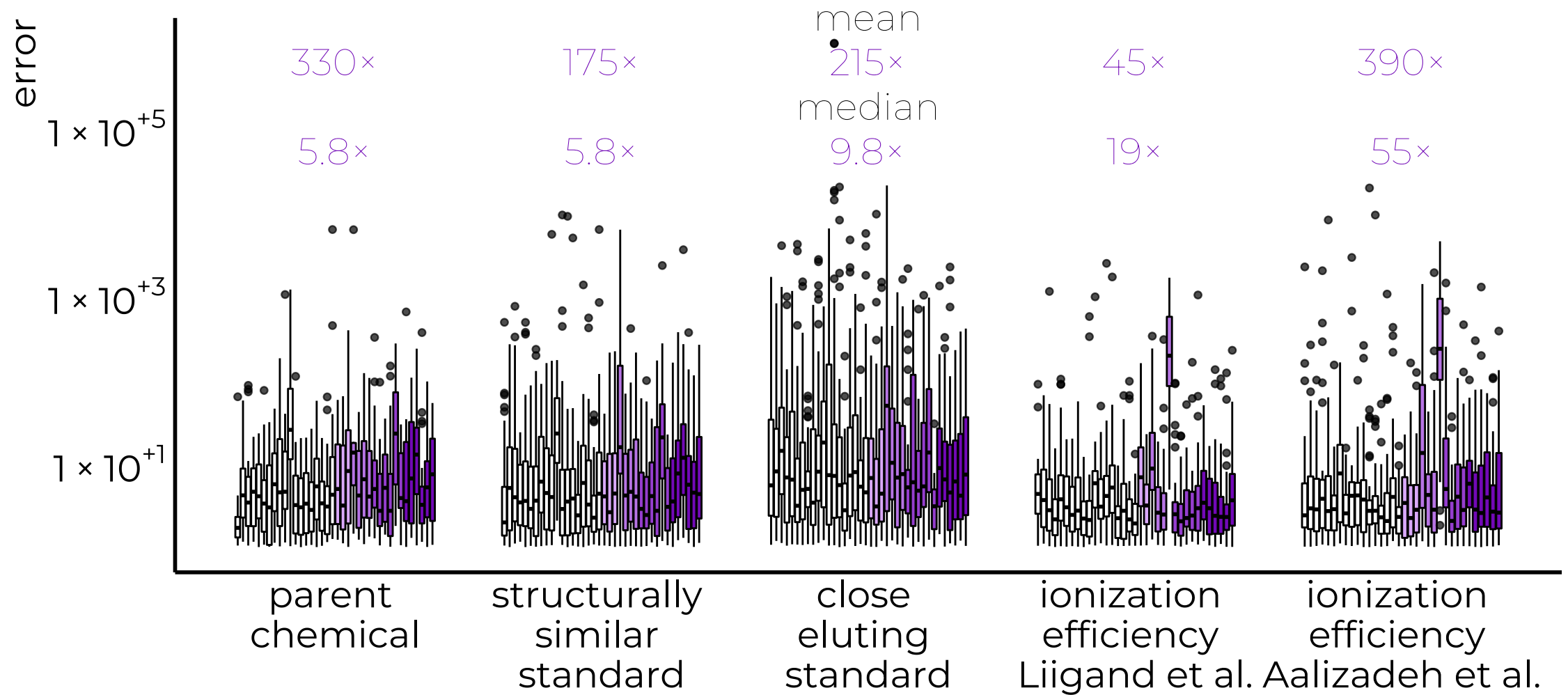
# prediction error



# prediction error orbitrap

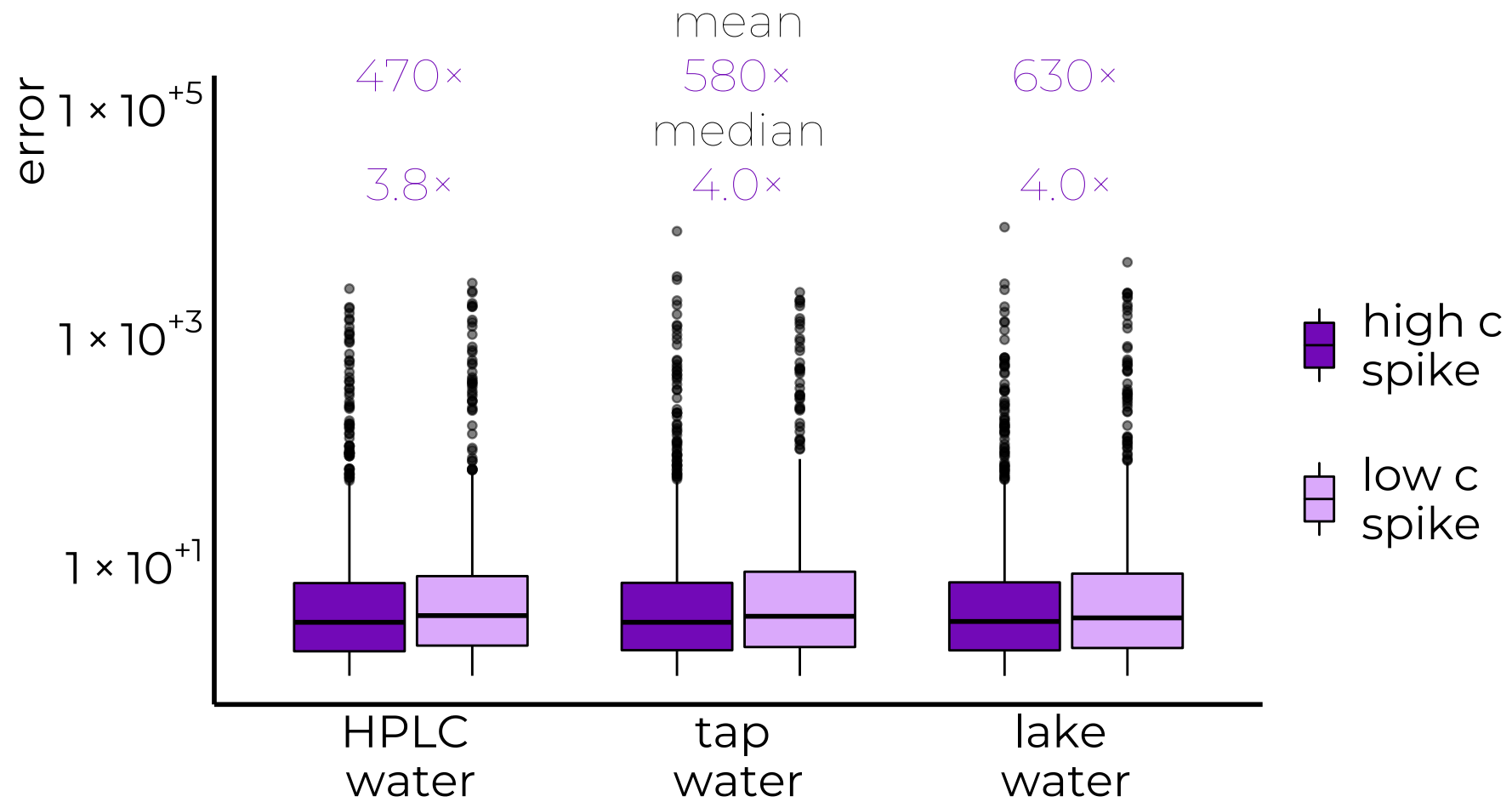


# prediction error time-of-flight

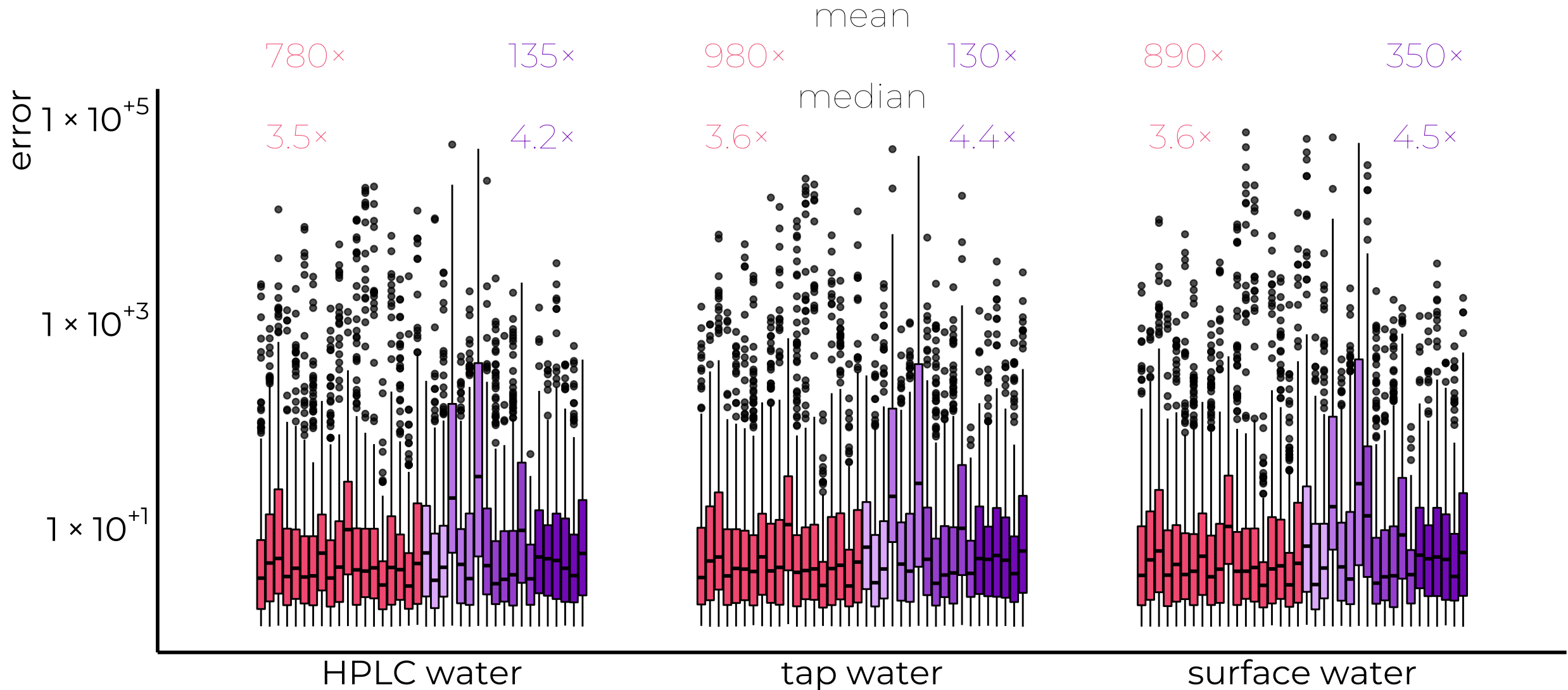




# across samples

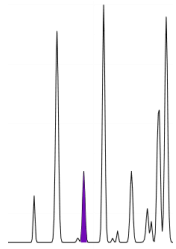


# across samples



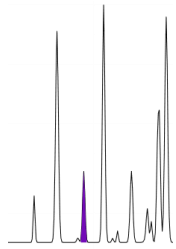
# conclusions

close eluting

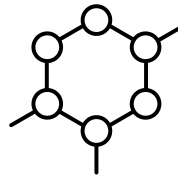


# conclusions

close eluting



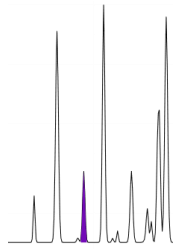
structurally similar



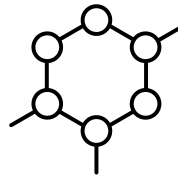
better

# conclusions

close eluting



structurally similar



better

ionization efficiency



best

future



reintegrate

future



reintegrate



recompute concentrations

# future



reintegrate



recompute concentrations



summarize



summary

# quantification

concentration



# quantification

concentration



community



# quantification

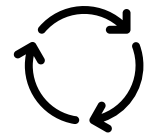
concentration



community



development





[anneli.kruve@su.se](mailto:anneli.kruve@su.se)



[louise.malm@mmk.su.se](mailto:louise.malm@mmk.su.se)

# quantification in LC/HRMS NTS: efforts of the community

anneli kruve

[anneli.kruve@su.se](mailto:anneli.kruve@su.se)

[kruvelab.com](http://kruvelab.com)

louise malm

[louise.malm@mmk.su.se](mailto:louise.malm@mmk.su.se)

[kruvelab.com](http://kruvelab.com)