

detection and identification
of toxic and high-risk
chemicals with LC/HMRS
and machine learning

anneli kruve

Kruvelab.com

increased
threat to
Swedish
drinking
water

an offence more than
every fifth day

anneli kruve

Ökat hot mot svenska dricksvatten – brott mer än var femte dag

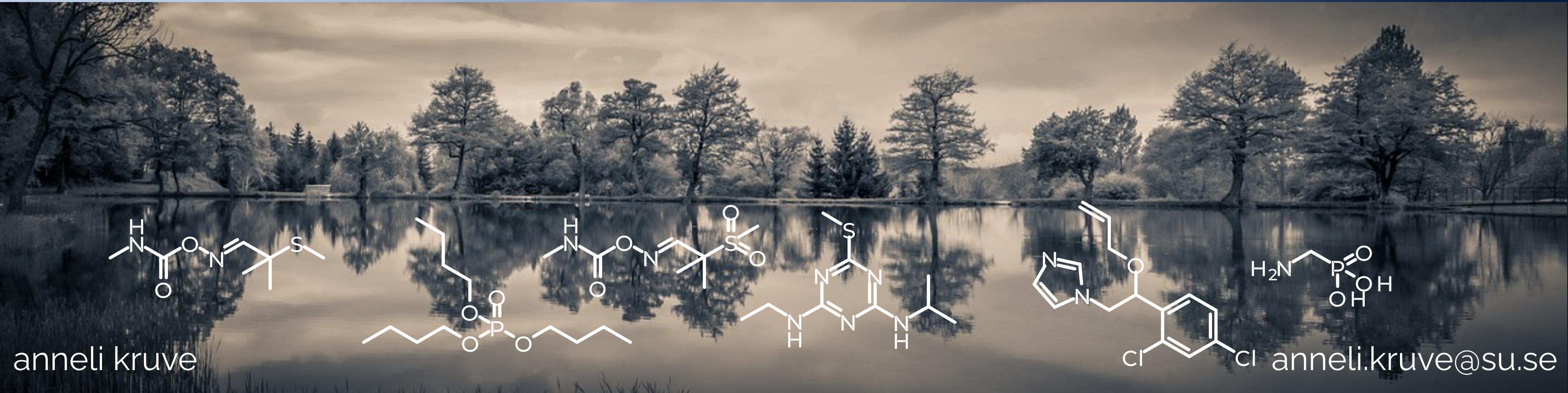
Uppdaterad 2024-12-02 Publicerad 2024-12-01



water analysis



water analysis

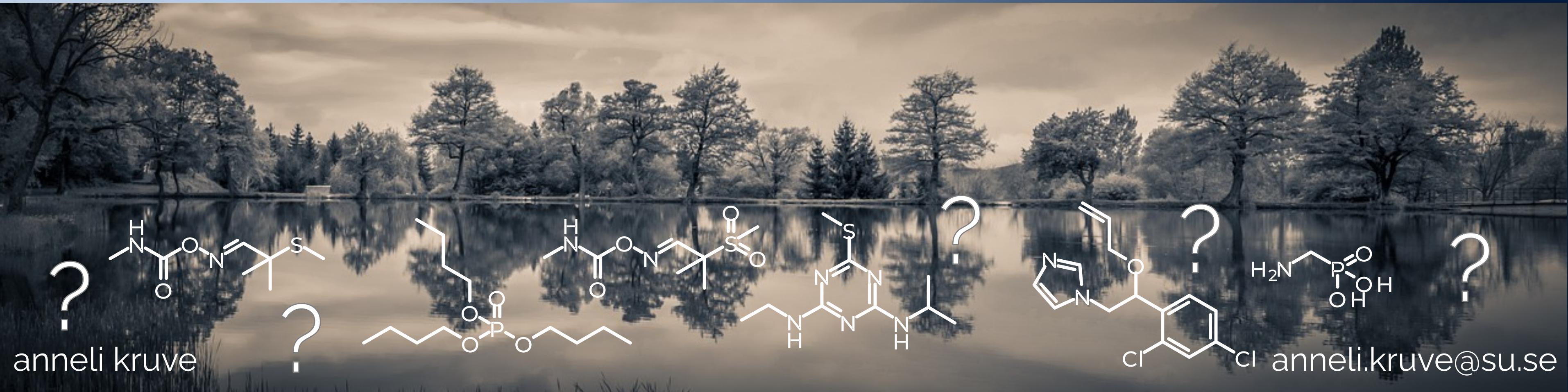


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anneli.kruve@su.se

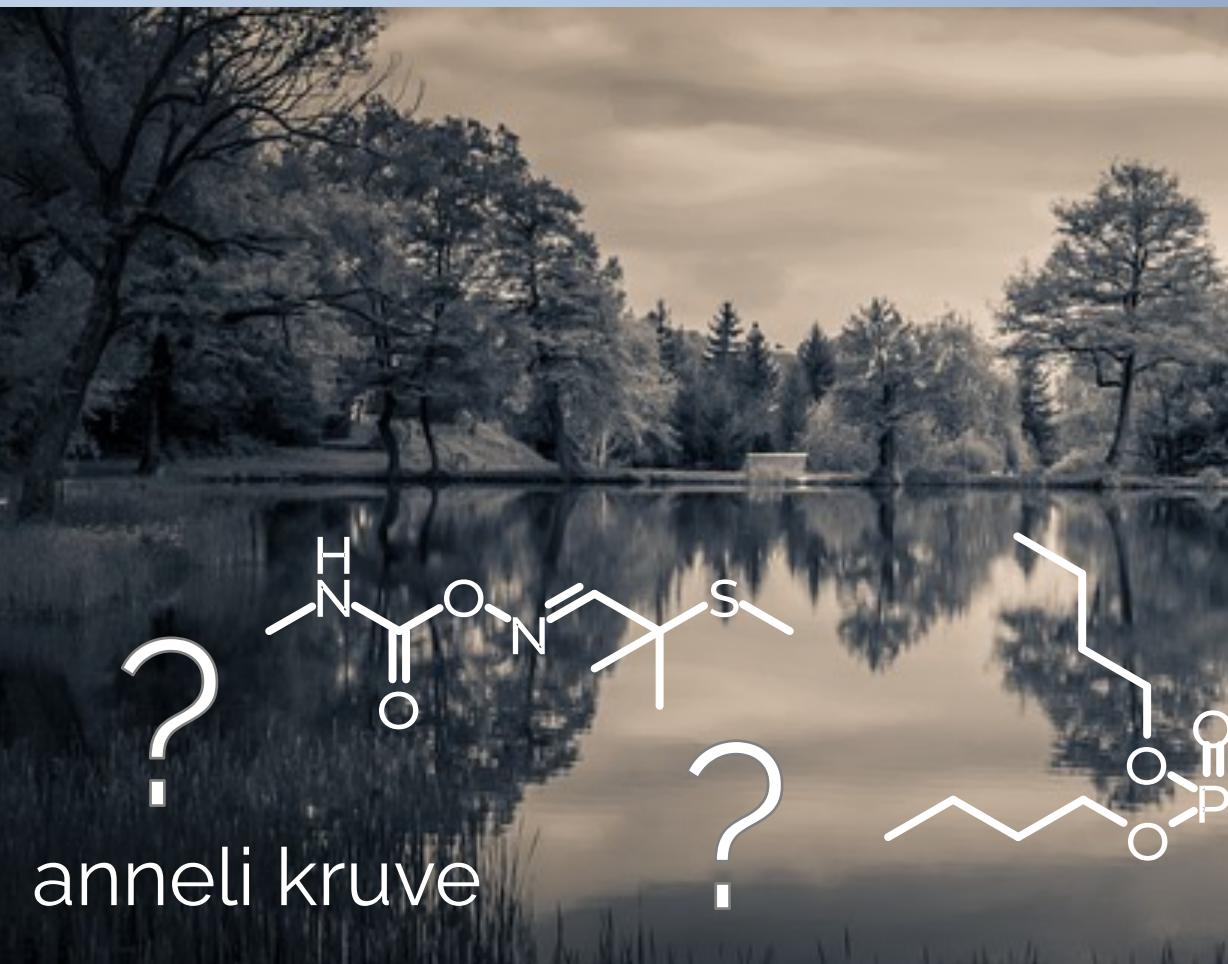
water analysis

thousands of chemicals
detected



water analysis

thousands of chemicals
detected



Machine Translated by Google



Table 1. The following BEQ values were measured in the current samples:

	Nrf2 activity µg/L (tBHQ equivalents)	Anti- γ AR activity ng/L (OHF equivalents)	AR activity ng/L (DHT equivalents)	ER activity pg/L (E2 equivalents)	AhR activity ng/L (TCDD equivalents)
Reference to sample 1	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD
Sample 1	<LOD	<LOD	79300	784	0.0814
Reference to sample 2	21.1	73.6	<LOD	21.7	<LOD
Sample 2	992	2670	<LOD*	<LOD*	<LOD*
Detection limit	8.34	43.8	0.122	12.5	0.0196
detection limit*			6.93	50.0	0.156

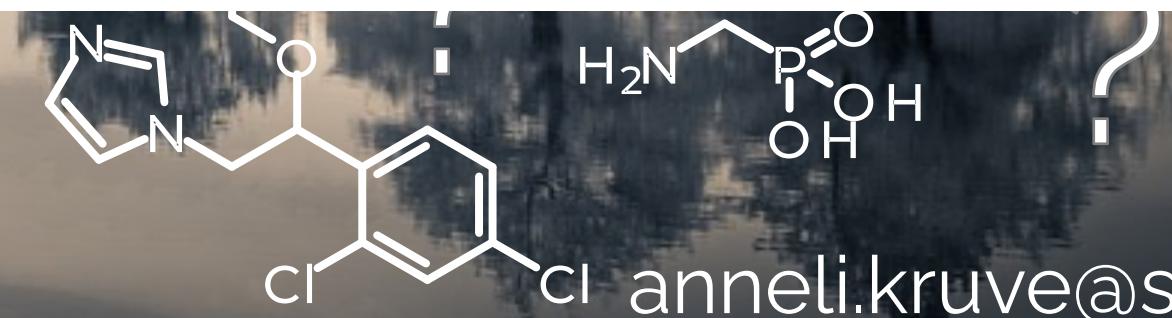
Table 2. Genotoxicity.

	Genotoxic?
Reference to sample 1	No
Sample 1	No
Reference to sample 2	No
Sample 2	Could not be determined*

*Due to extensive cytotoxicity, despite repeated analyses, it could not be determined whether sample 2 was genotoxic or not. The sample was tested down to the concentration REF 12.5, but even then was too cytotoxic to be able to determine if it was genotoxic.

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how to ...



PRIORITIZE

risk



IDENTIFY

structure

how to ...



PRIORITIZE

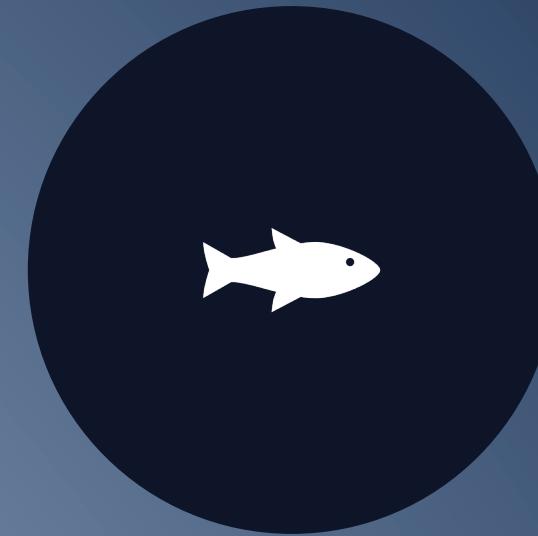
risk



IDENTIFY

structure

prioritization of chemicals



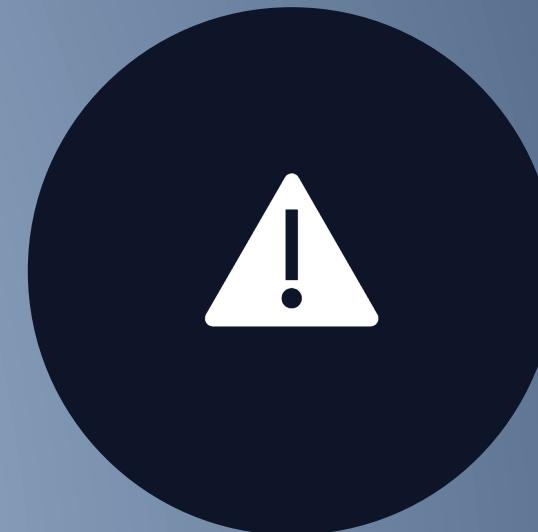
TOXICITY

ecotoxicity and endocrine
disruptors



CONCENTRATION

exposure to potentially toxic
chemicals



RISK

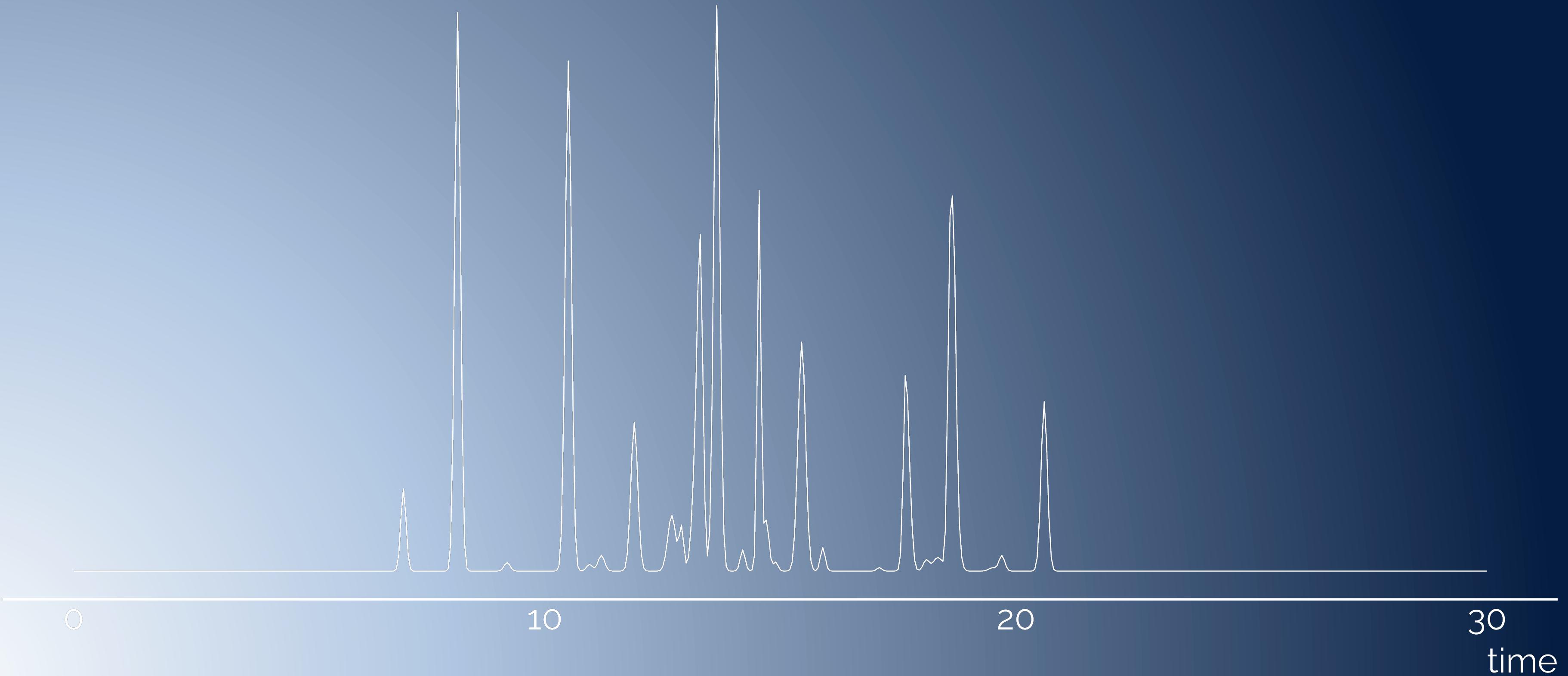
$$\text{PriorityScore} = \frac{c_{\text{predicted}}}{AC_{50}^{\text{5th percentile}}}$$

toxicity

of detected chemicals

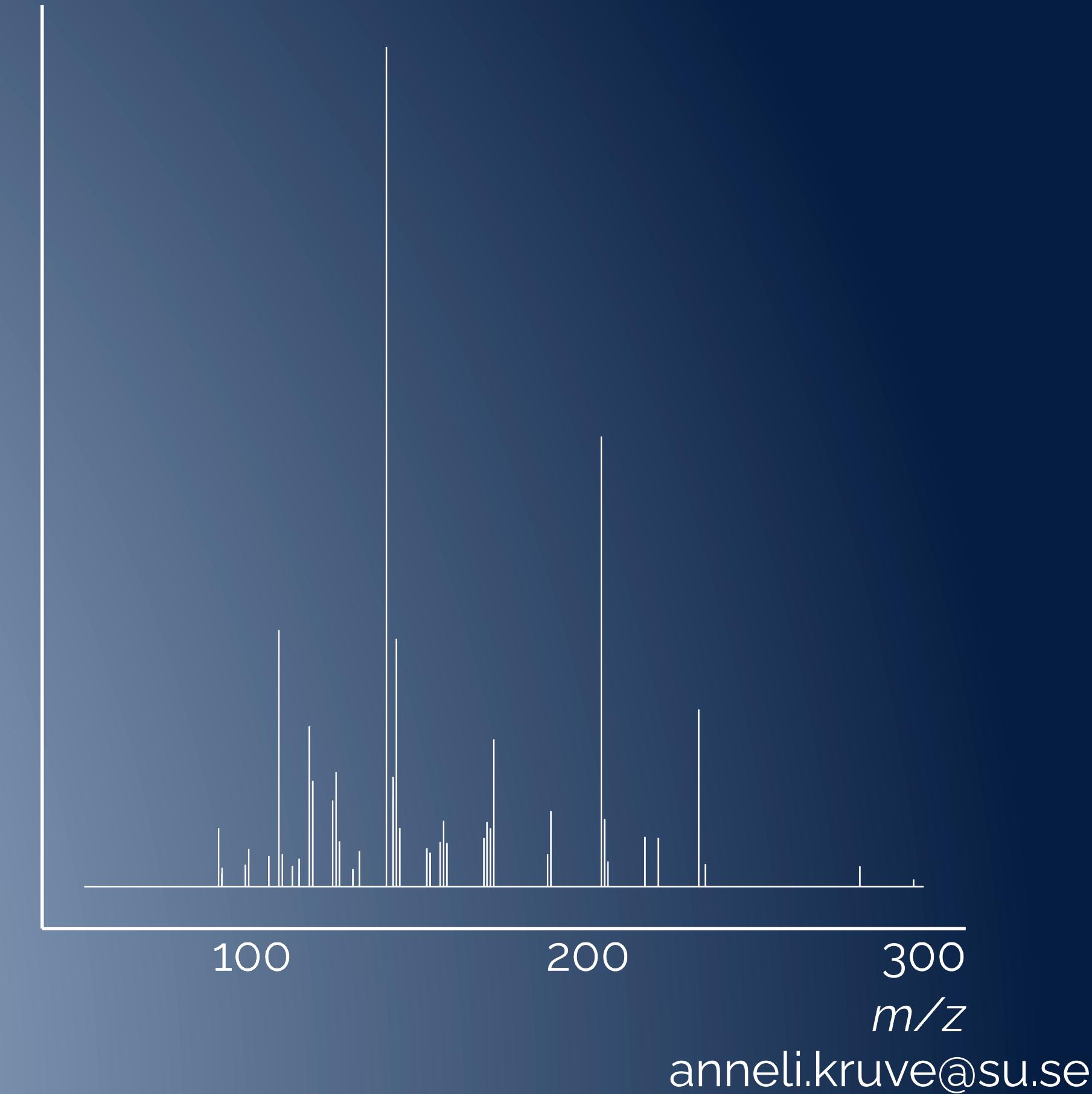
nontarget screening

with LC/HRMS

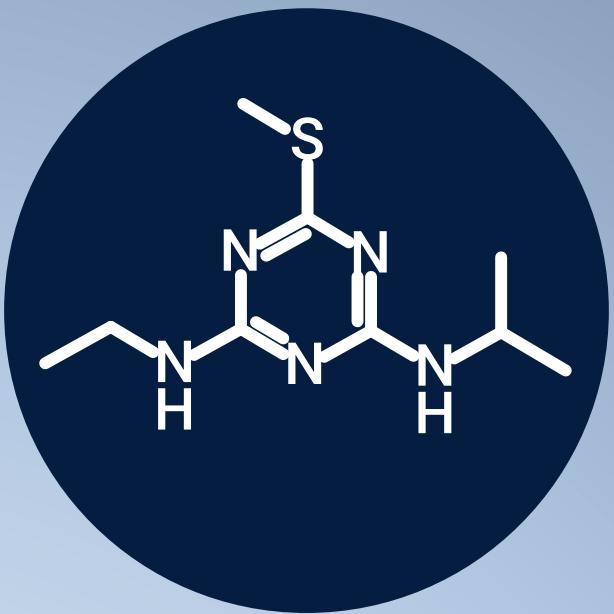


toxicity assessment

from spectra
to structure
to toxicity

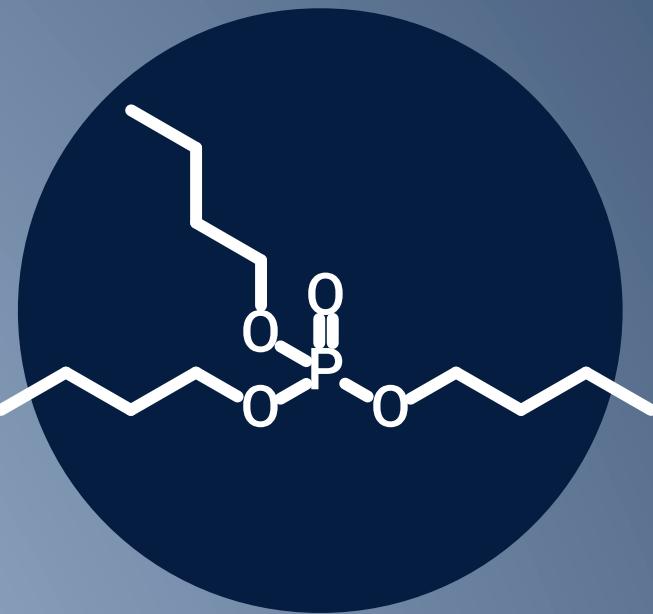


toxicity assessment



$LC_{50} = 9.3 \text{ mg/L}$

known structure
known toxicity



$LC_{50} = ? \text{ mg/L}$

known structure
unknown toxicity



$LC_{50} = ? \text{ mg/L}$

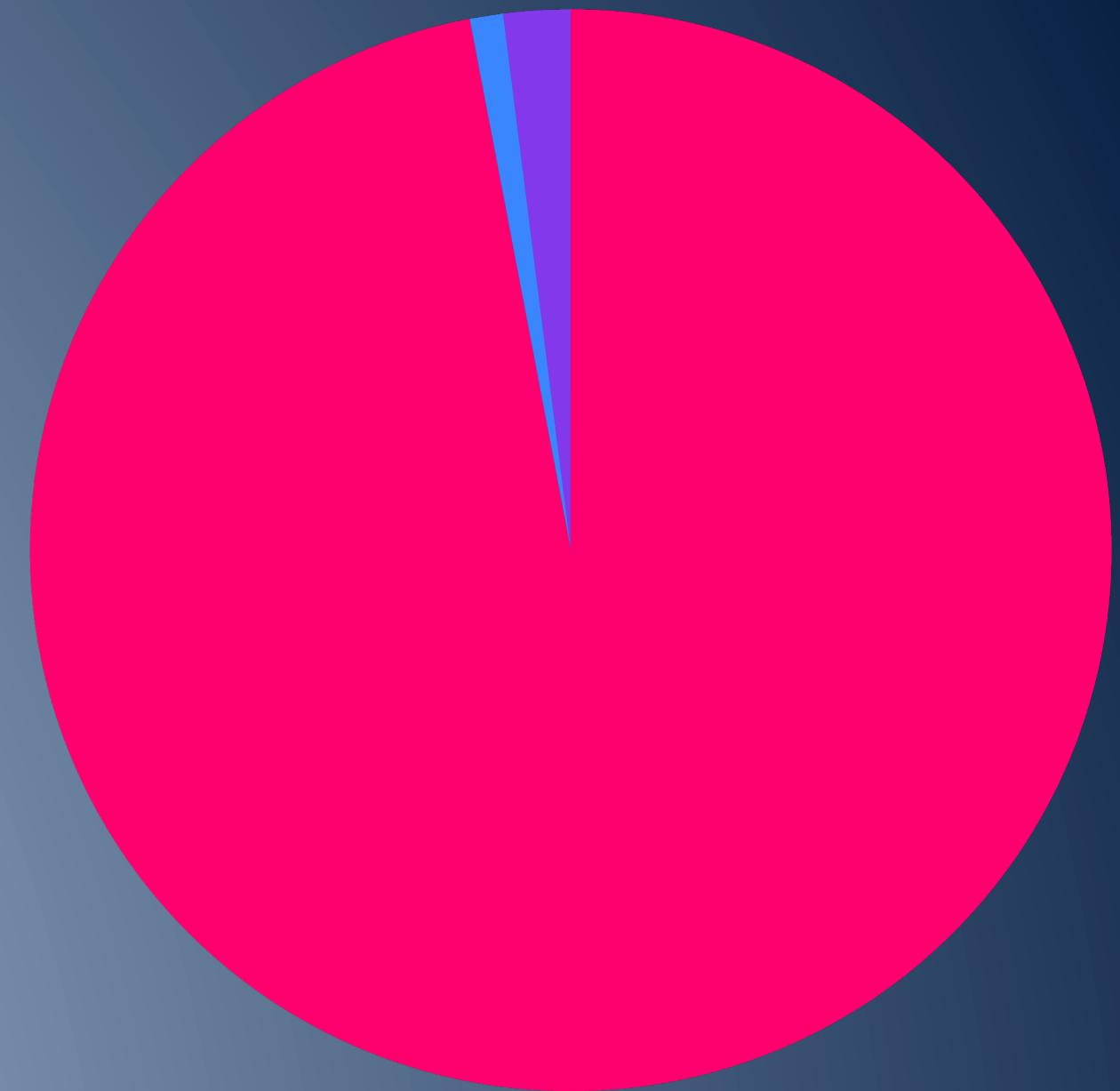
unknown structure
unknown toxicity

toxicity assessment

vast majority of detected
chemicals remain unknown

1%
known structure
known toxicity

2%
known structure
unknown toxicity

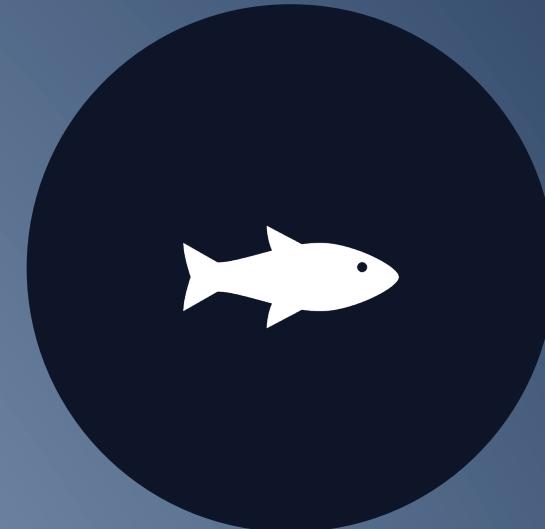


97%
unknown structure
unknown toxicity

predicting toxicity

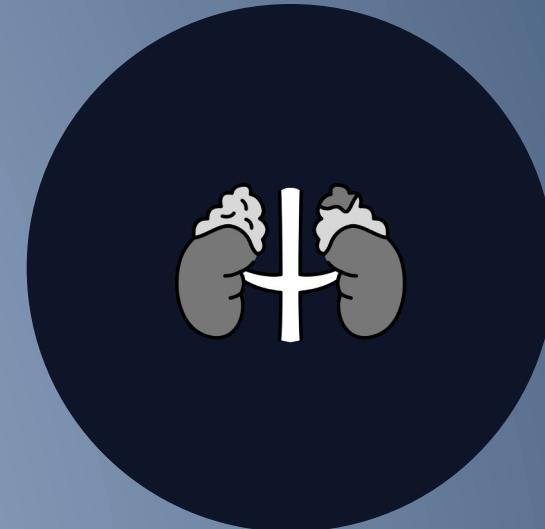
of detected chemicals

endpoints



ECOTOXICITY

fathead minnow, bluegill,
and rainbow trout



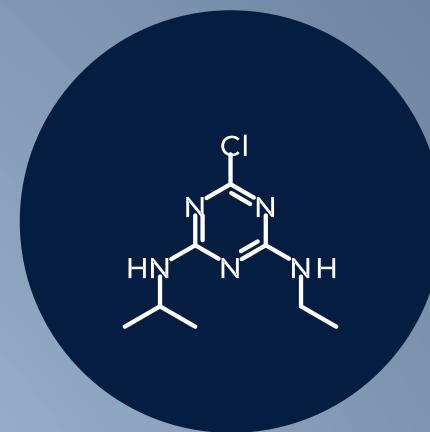
ENDOCRINE DISRUPTION

AhR, AR, ER, MMP, P53, ...

workflow



MS² spectra



structure as SMILES



molecular descriptors



toxicity prediction

workflow



MS² spectra



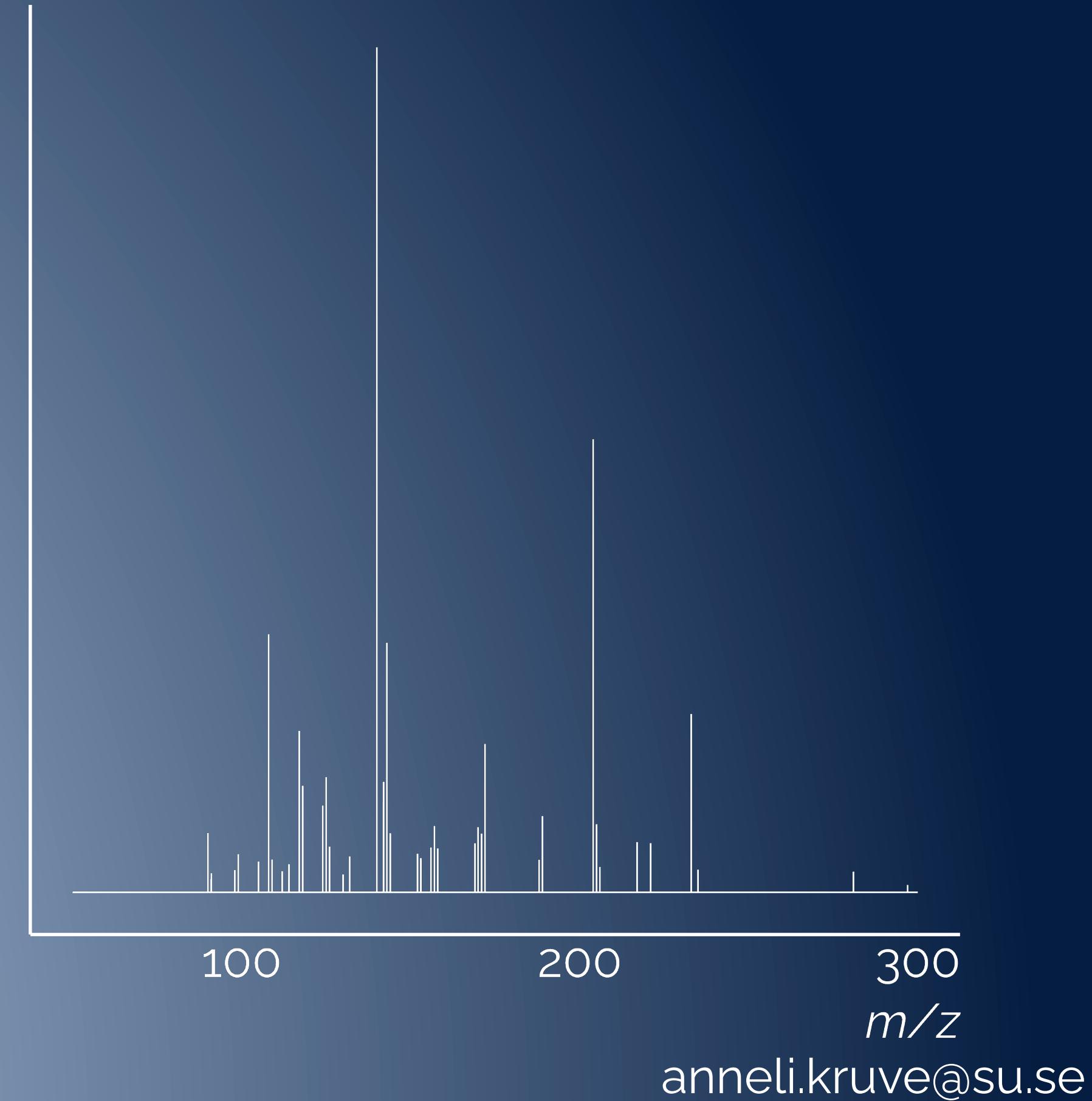
molecular descriptors



toxicity prediction

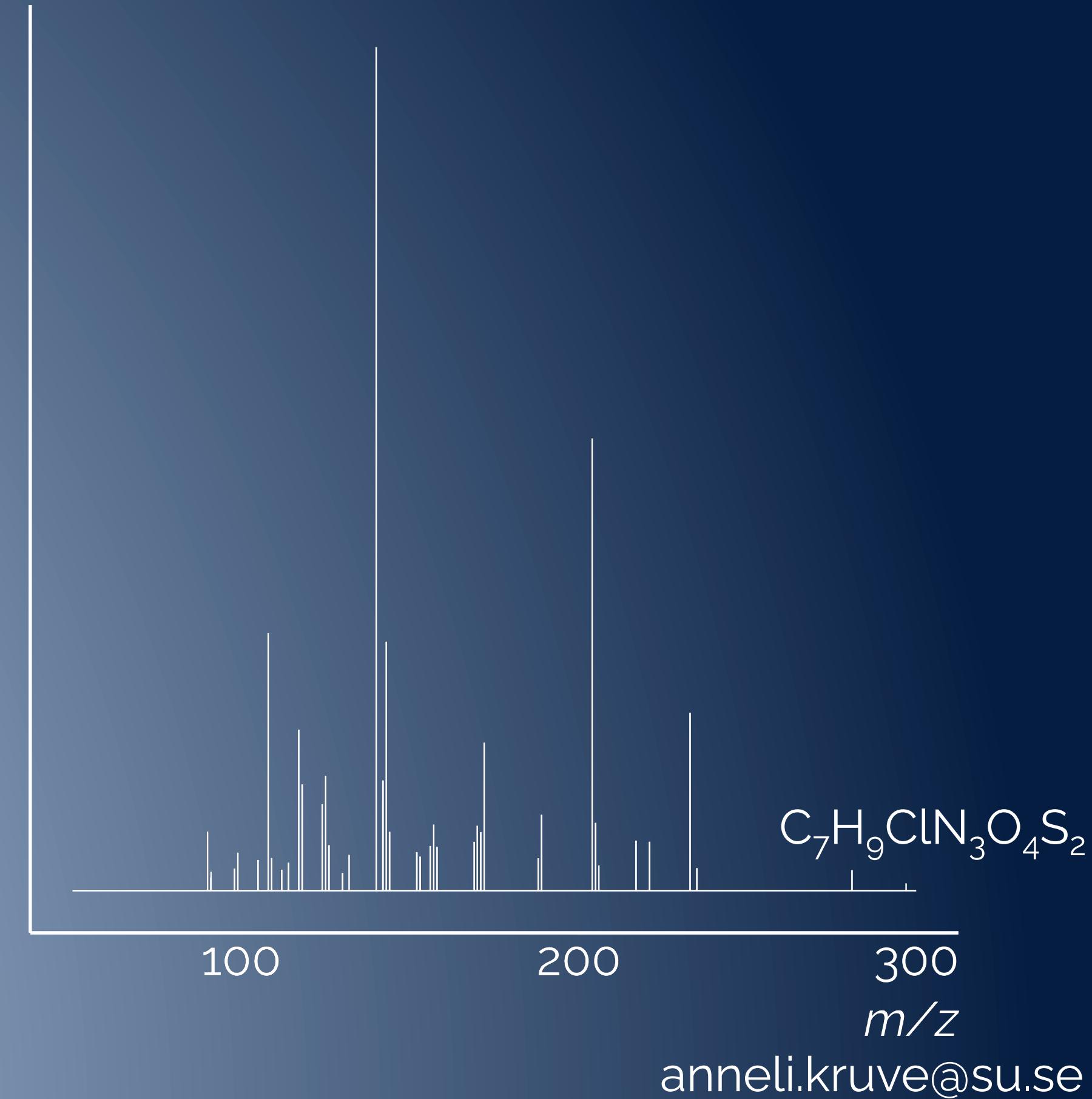
information available

in mass spectra



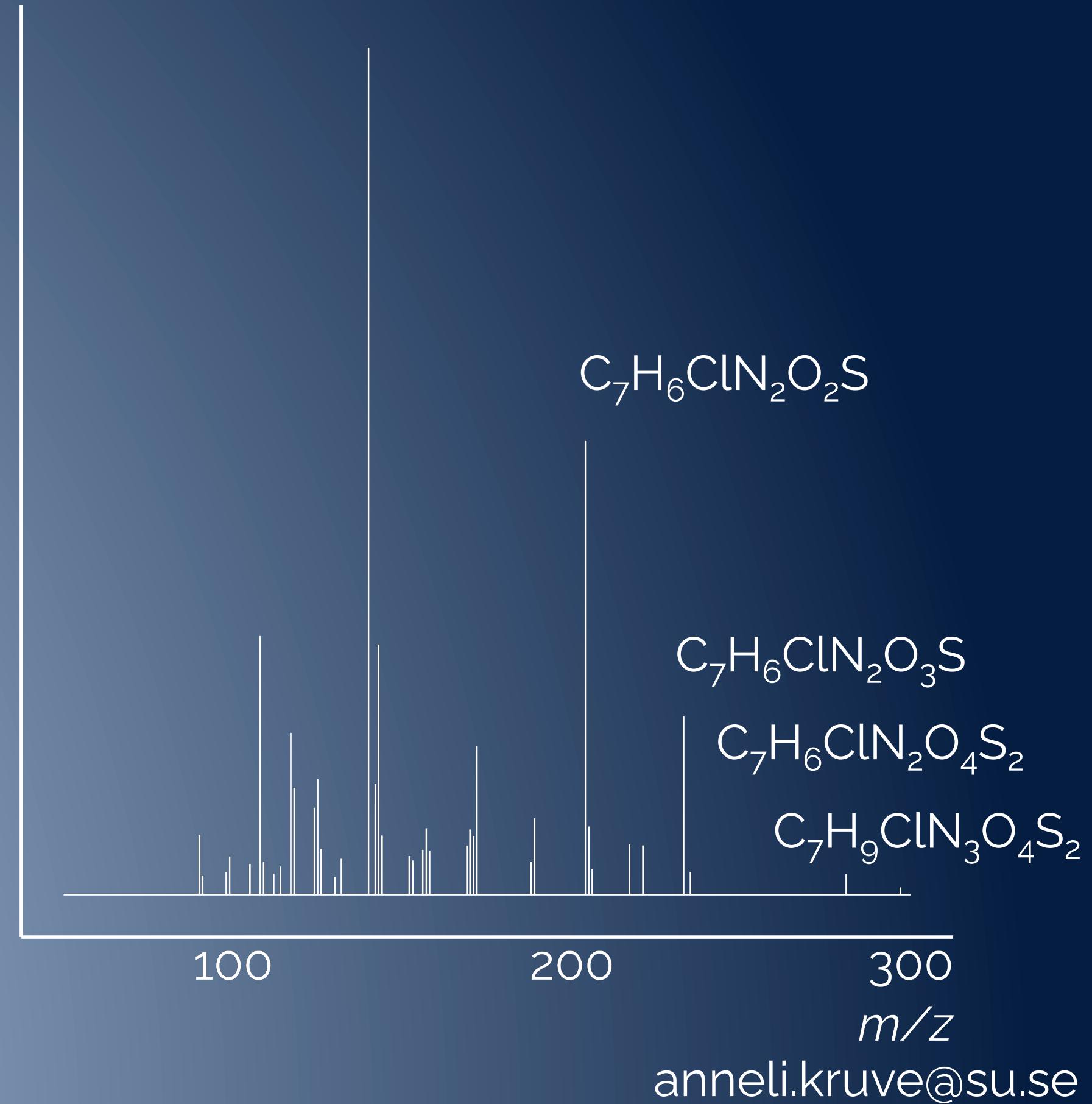
information
available

in mass spectra



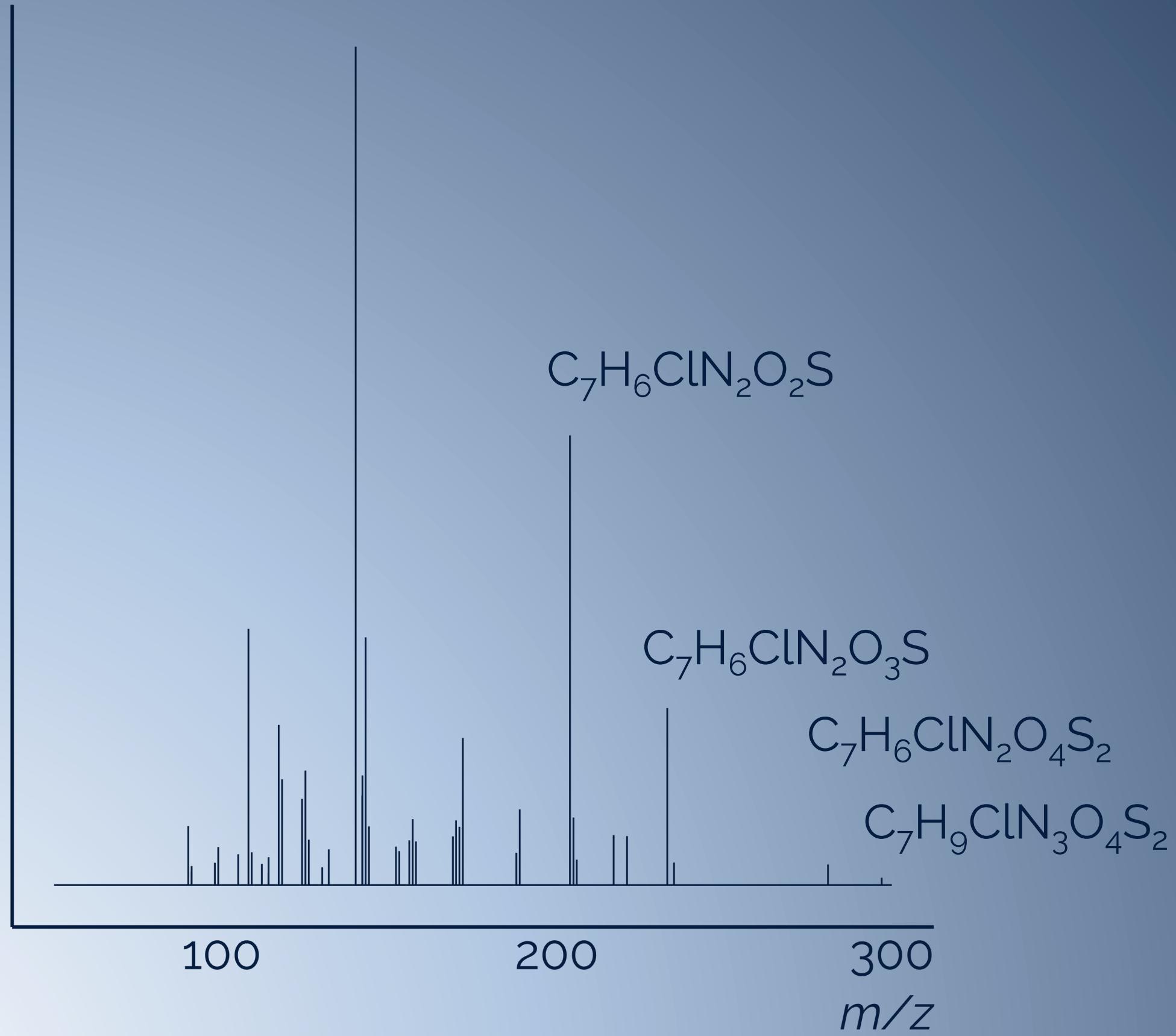
information
available

in mass spectra



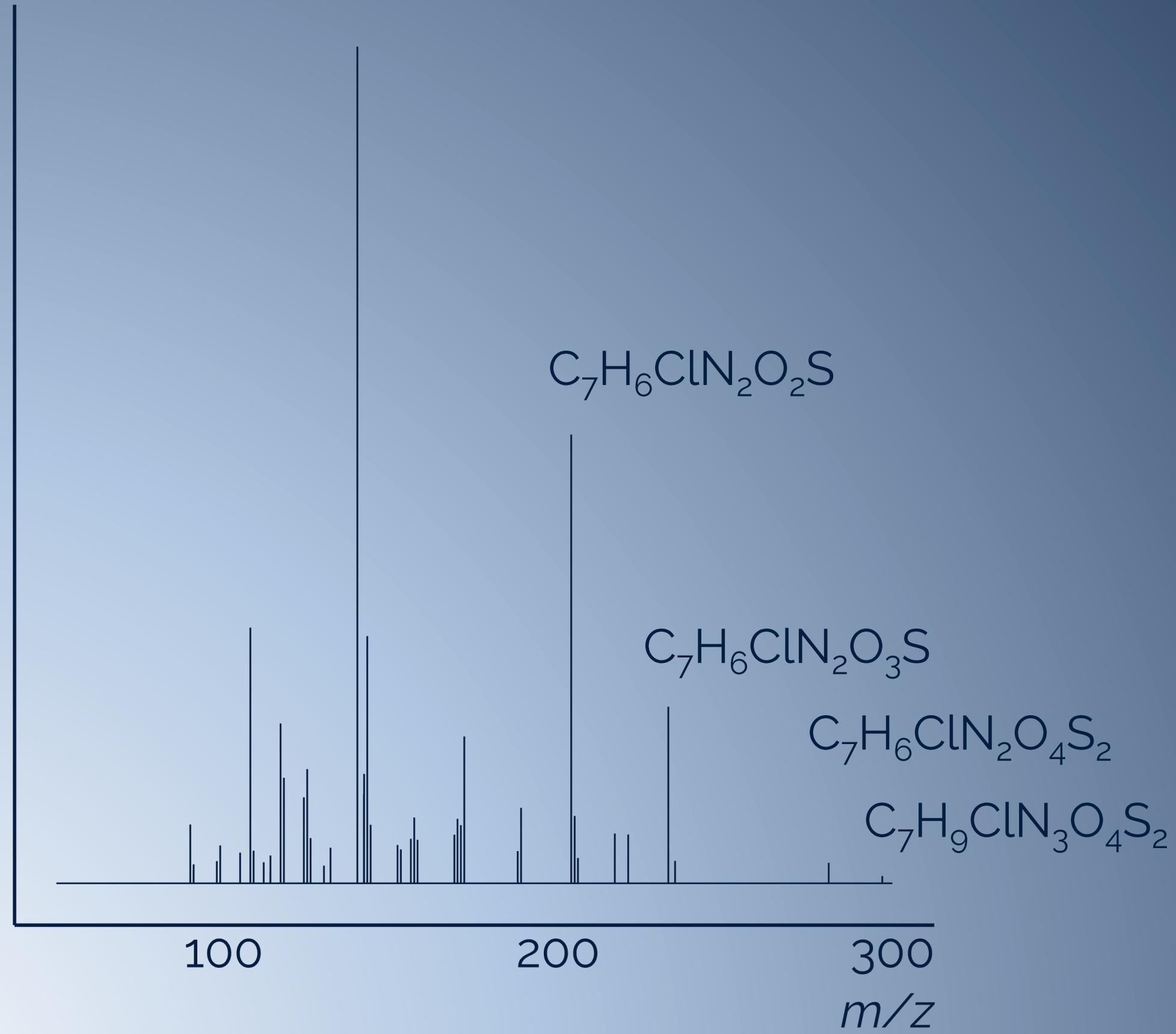
information
available

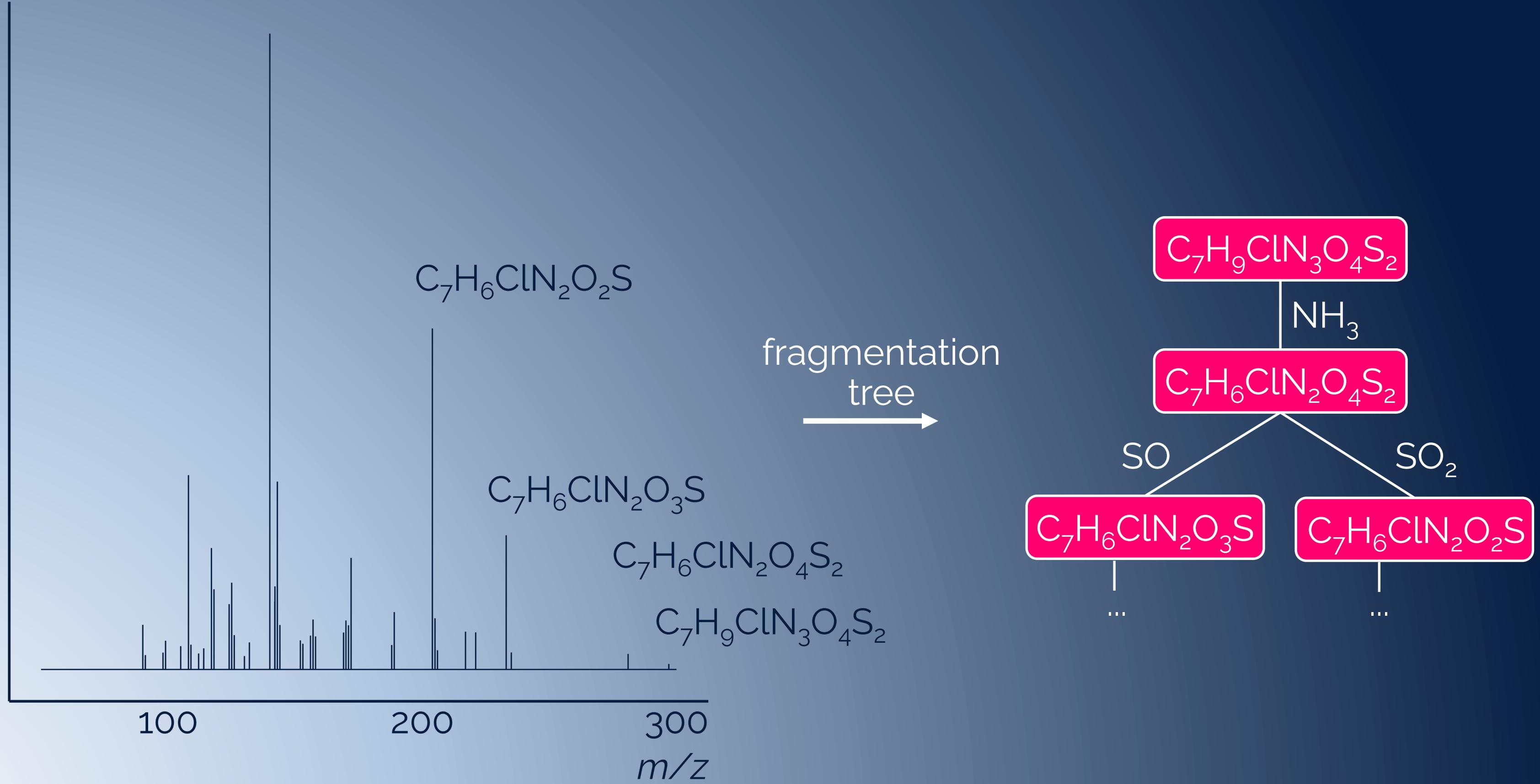
in mass spectra

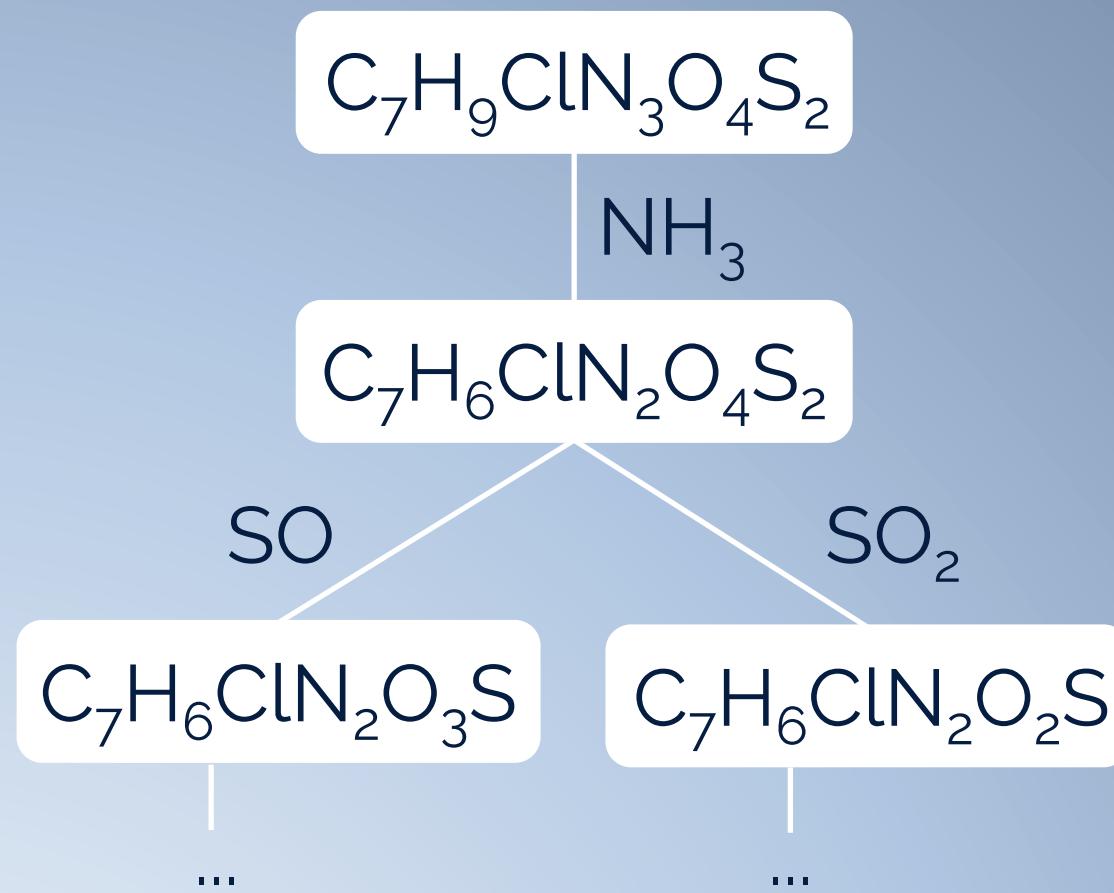


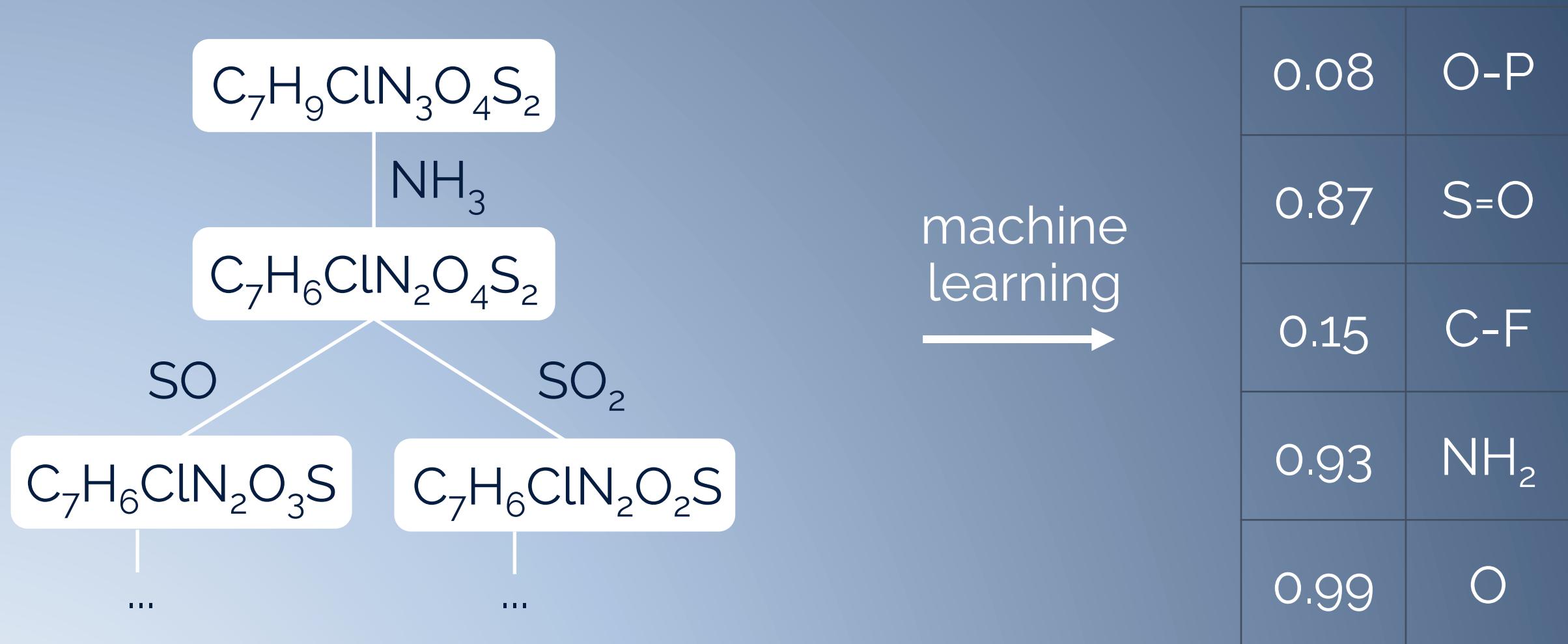
predict
toxicity

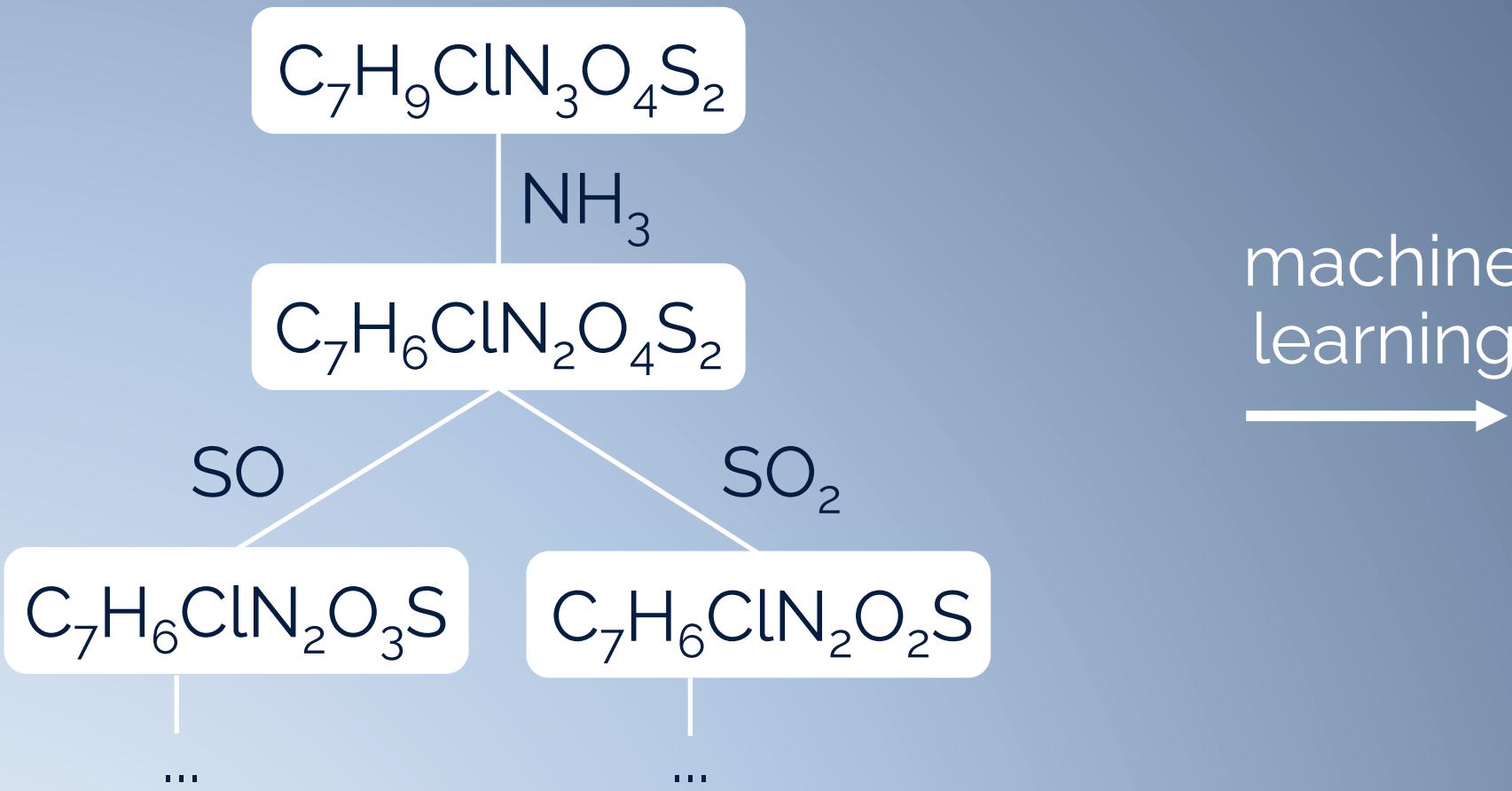
for unknown chemicals











machine
learning
→

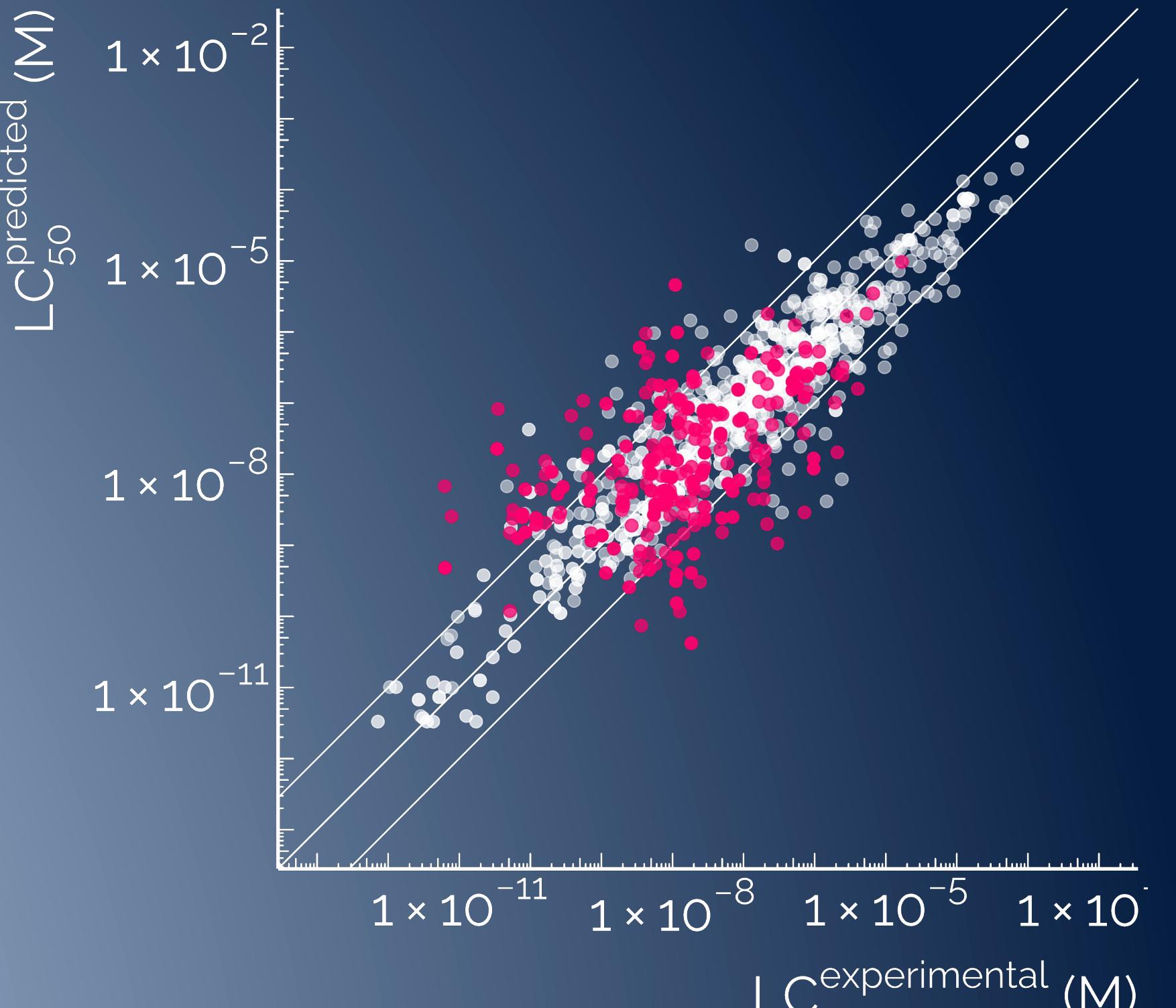
0.08	O-P
0.87	S=O
0.15	C-F
0.93	NH ₂
0.99	O

machine
learning
→

$$p(\text{AhR active}) = 0.83$$

LC_{50} predictions

Peets et al. ES&T 2022
fish LC_{50}



validation on MassBank

$RMSE_{\text{model}}$ 0.88 log(M)

$SD_{\text{experimental}}$ 0.44 log(M)

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

true label	
active	non-active

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

		true label	
		active	non-active
prediction	active	TP	FP
	non-active	FN	TN

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
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endocrine disruption

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endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
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which is more dramatic:
FP or FN?

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

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which is more dramatic:
FP or FN?

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

		true label	
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prediction	active	TP	FP
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FPR @ TPR = 0.9

endocrine disruption

Rahu et al. JCIM 2024
Tox21 endpoints

bioassay	FPR
sr.mmp	25.1%
sr.p53	25.4%
nr.ahr	41.8%
...	...
nr.ar	82.4%
nr.er	85.0%

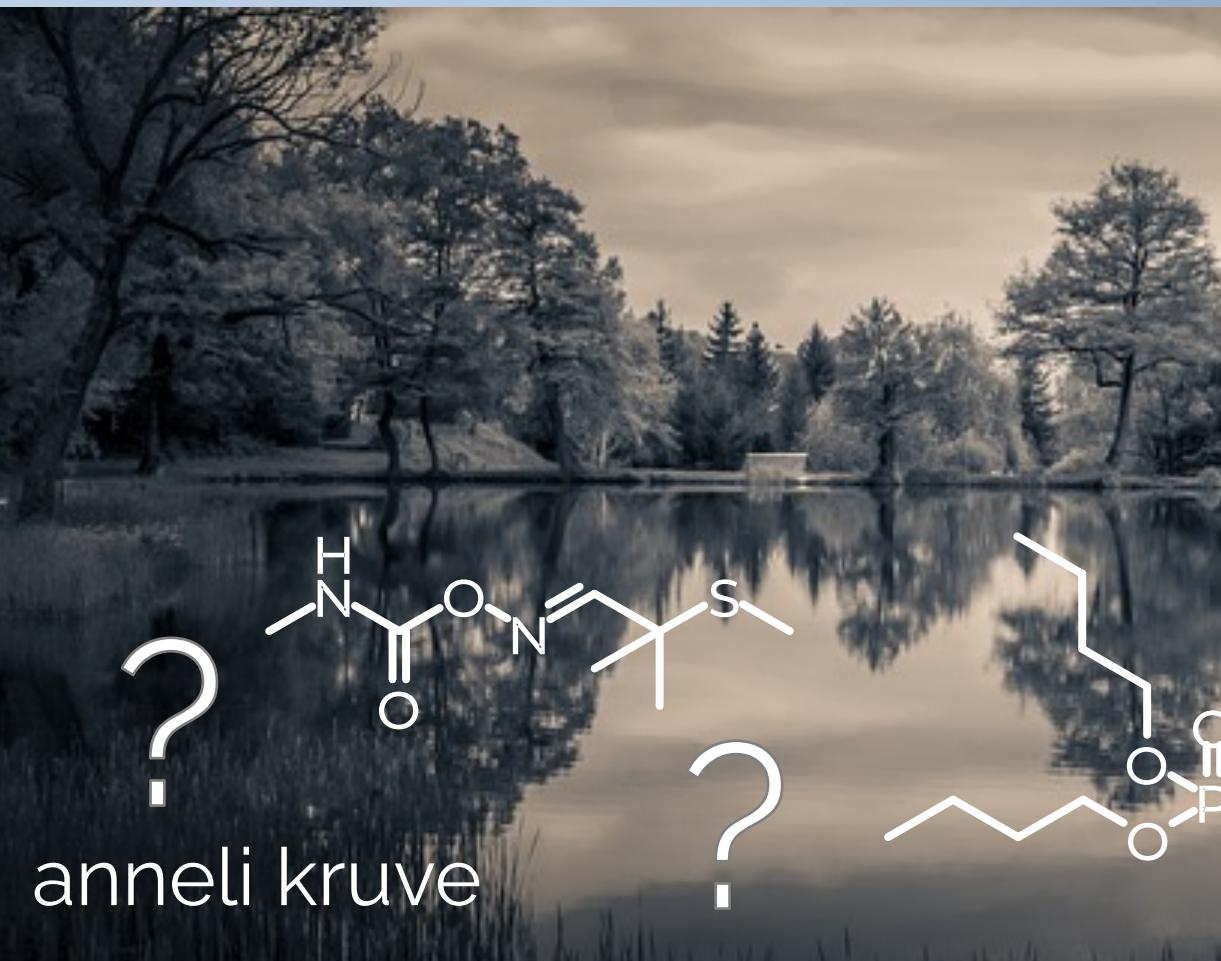
MassBank & MoNA
748 chemicals

case study: interlaboratory comparison



water analysis

thousands of chemicals
detected
in the environment



Machine Translated by Google



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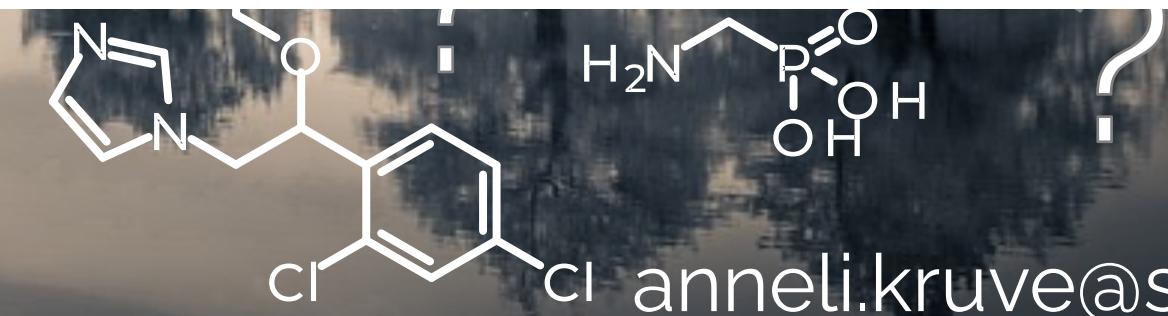
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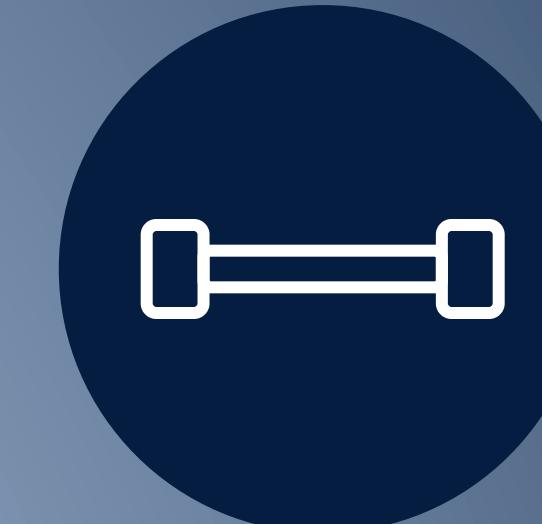
interlaboratory comparison

Sandberg, Rahu, in
preparation



SAMPLES

spiked water samples



ANALYSIS

HRMS, etc. characterization



DATA PROCESSING

AhR activity

results

4700

LC/HRMS features detected

238

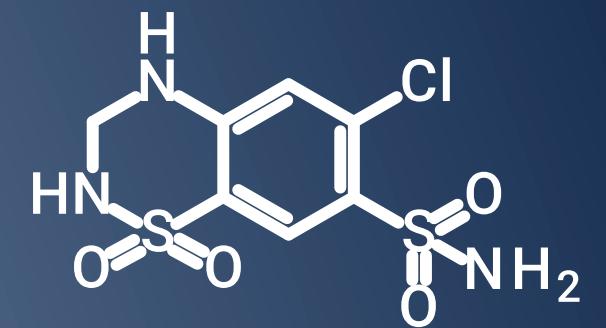
features with MS² spectra

55

features predicted active

AhR active

hydrochlorothiazide



alternative approaches

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints

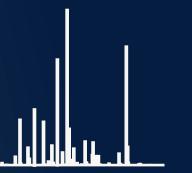
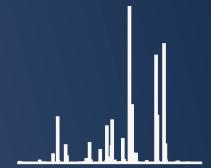
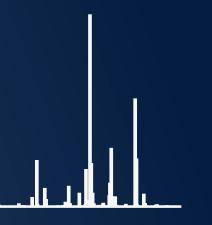
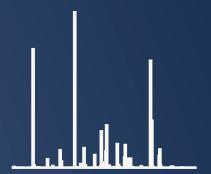
molecular networks

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints



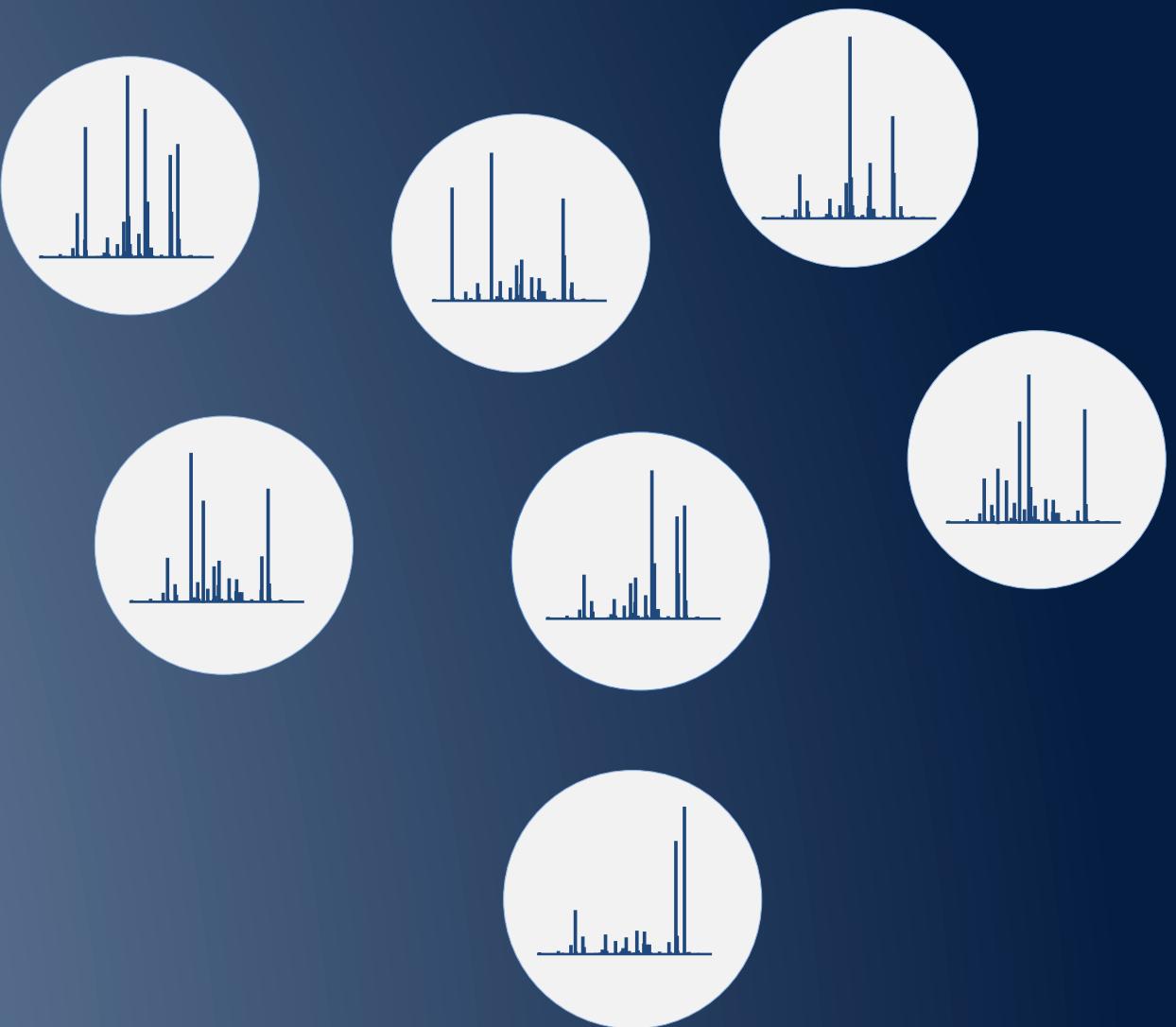
molecular networks

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints



molecular networks

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints



molecular networks

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints



molecular networks

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints

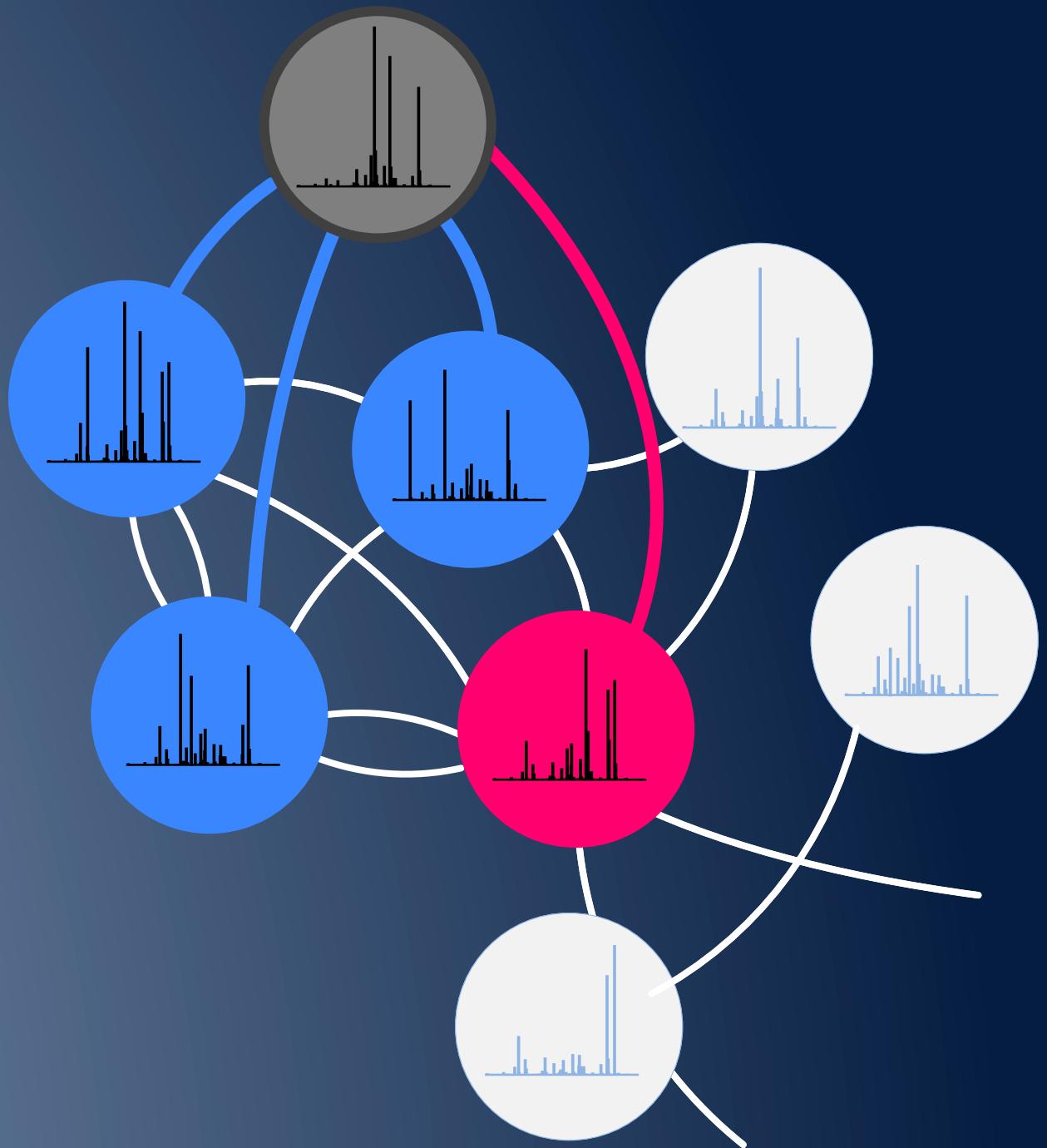
- Active
- Inactive
- Inconclusive



molecular networks

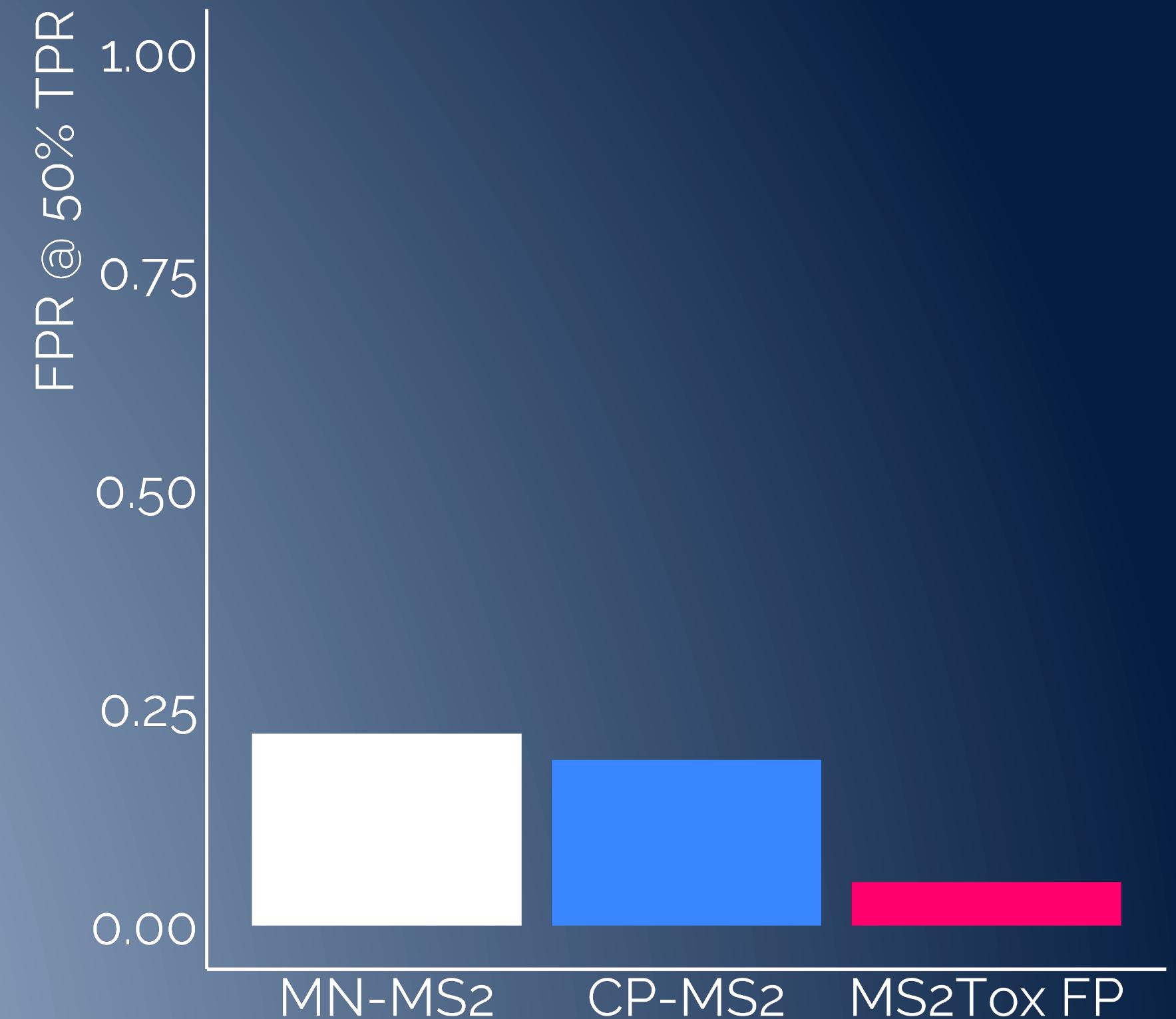
Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints

- Active
- Inactive
- Inconclusive
- Unknown



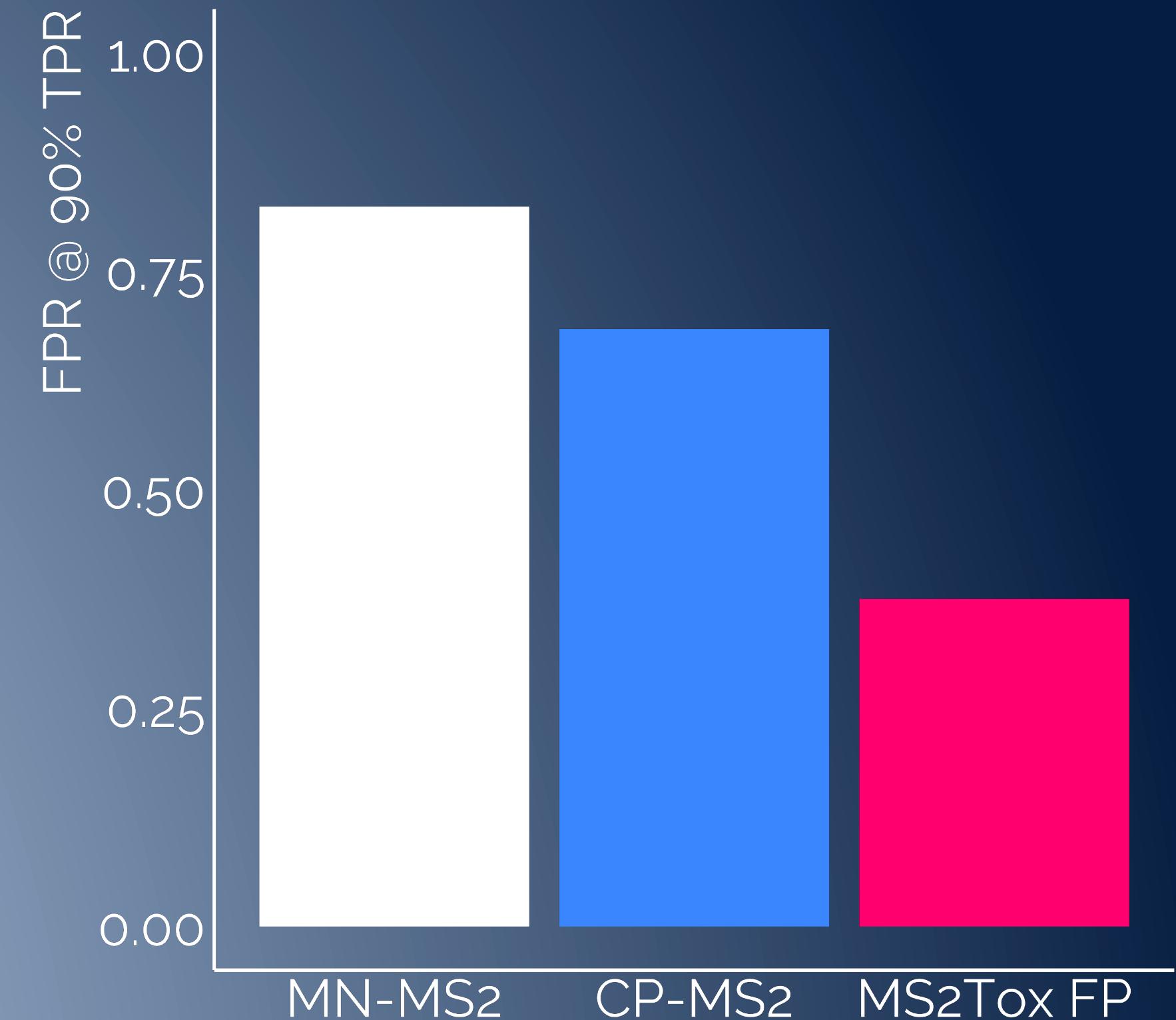
AhR activity predictions

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints



AhR activity predictions

Kreutzer et al. in preparation
Tox21 endpoints





application:
wastewater analyses

LC/HRMS features

986 features

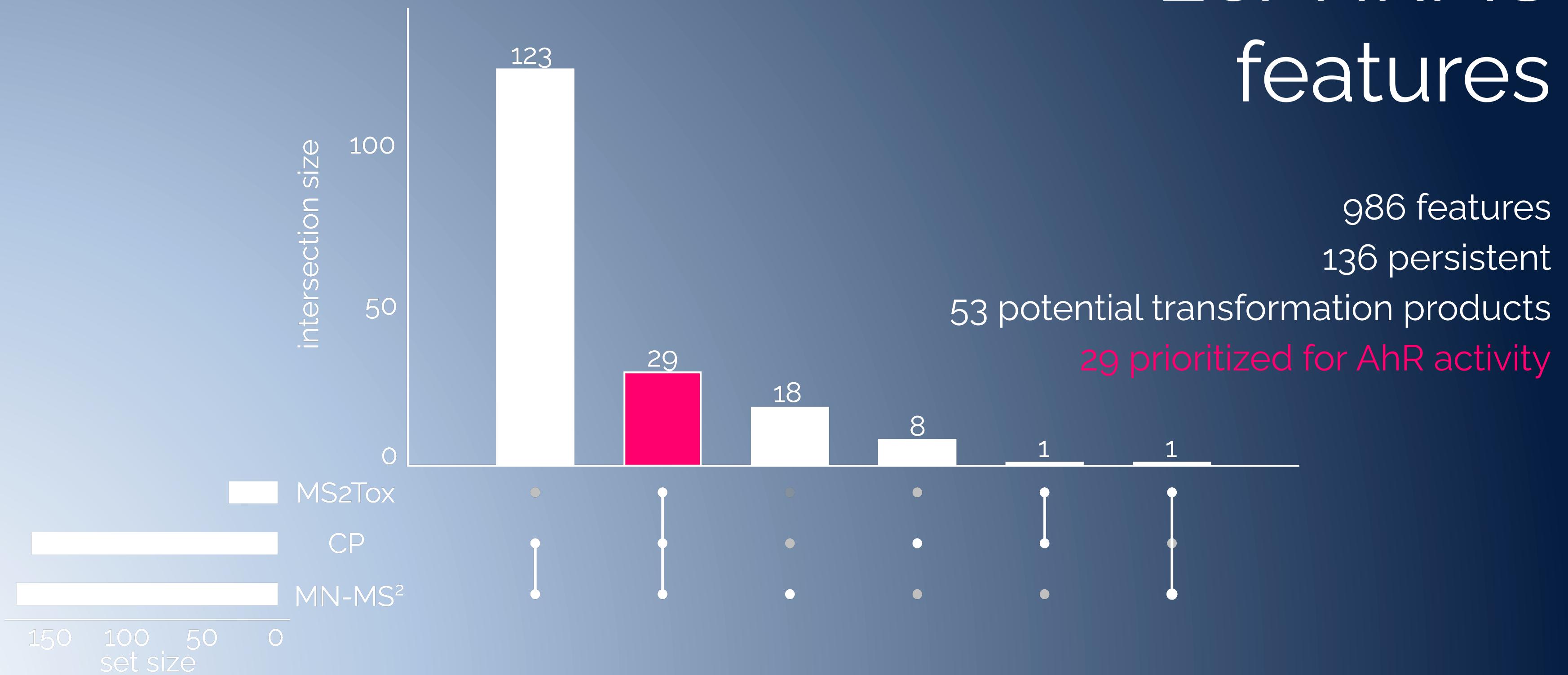
LC/HRMS features

986 features
136 persistent

LC/HRMS features

986 features
136 persistent
53 potential transformation products

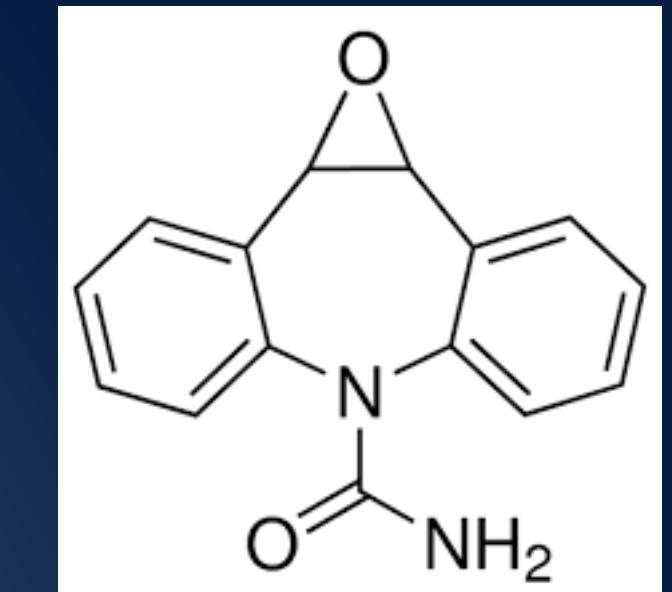
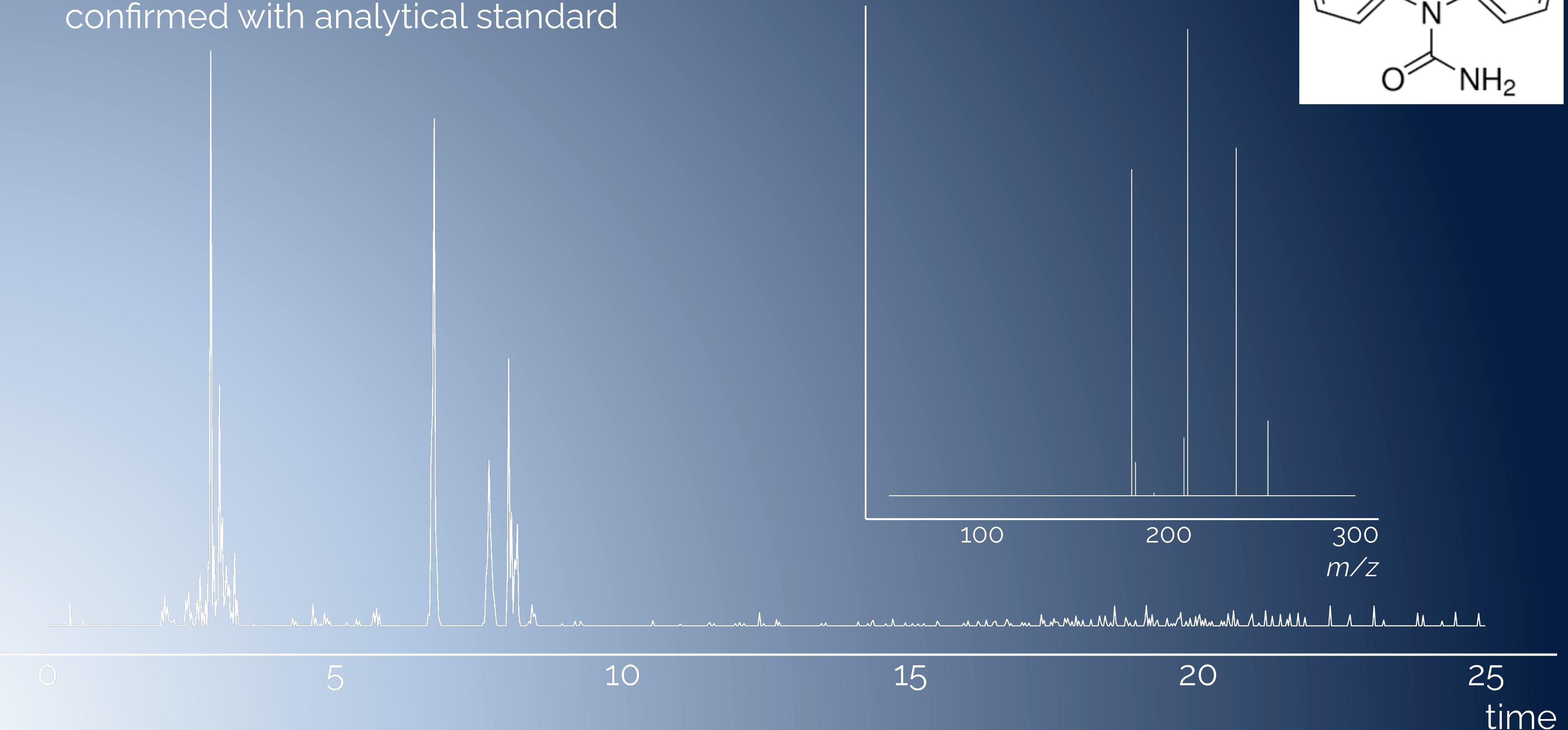
LC/HRMS features



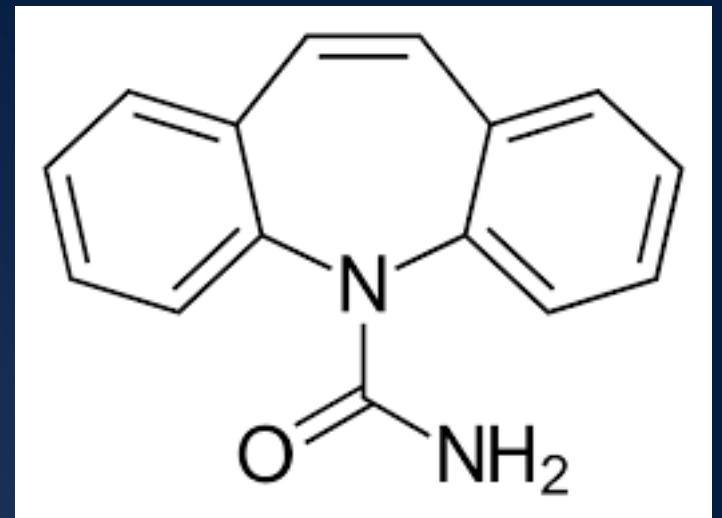
carbamazepine-10,11-epoxide

RT 8.01 min m/z = 252.090

confirmed with analytical standard



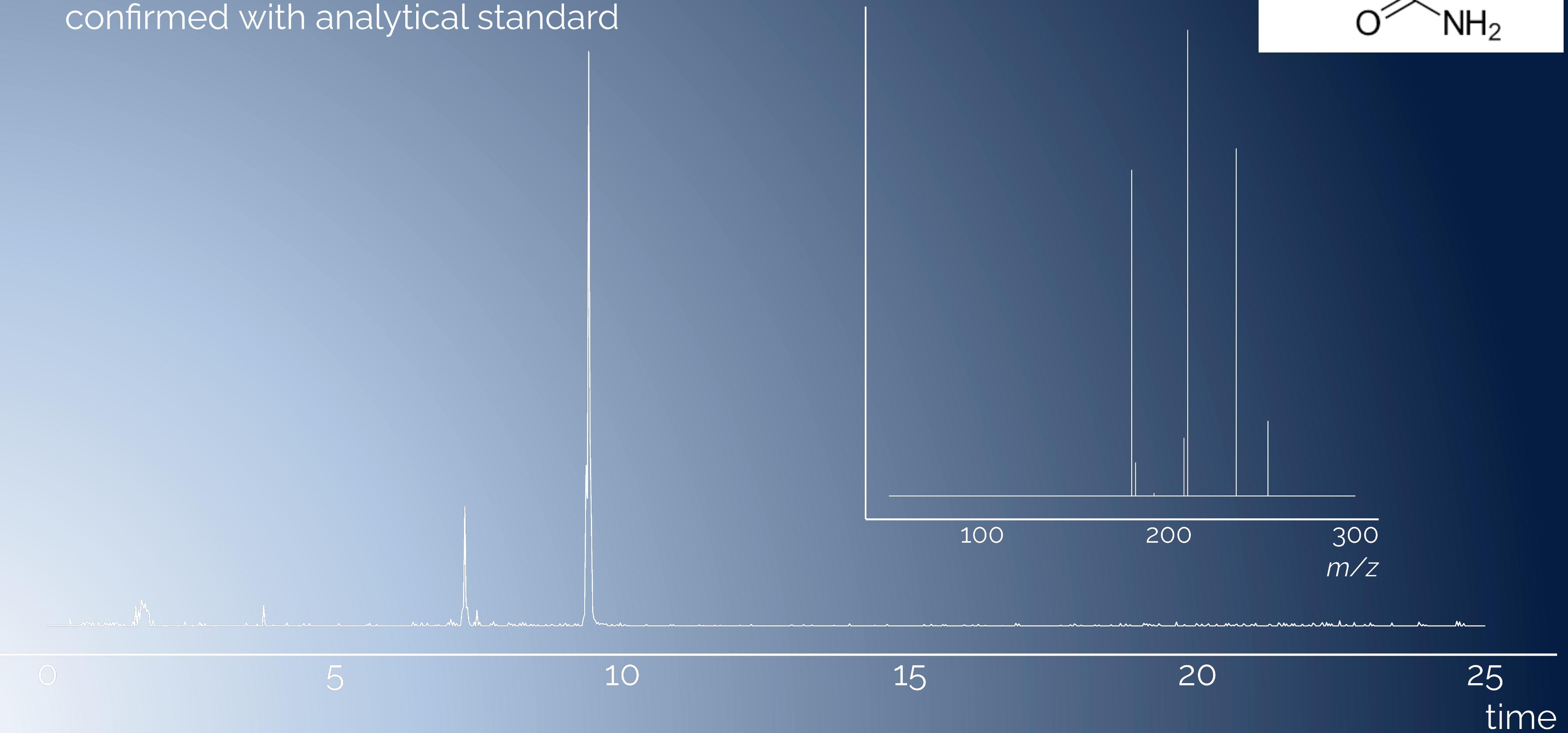
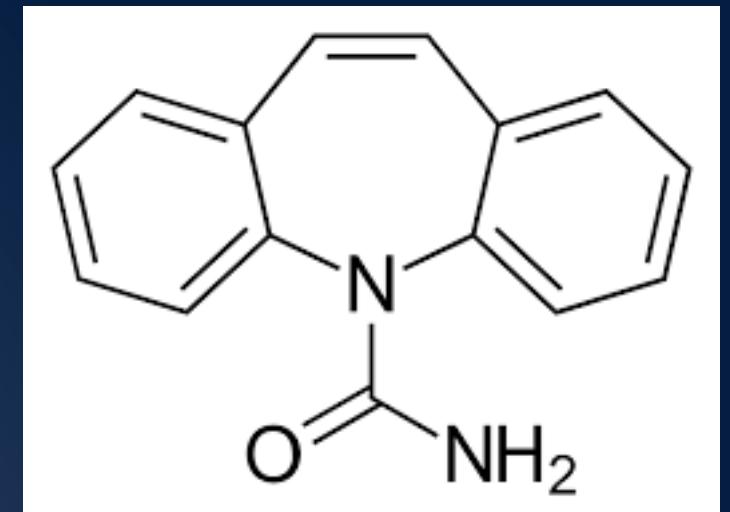
carbamazepine



carbamazepine

RT 9.42 min m/z = 236.095

confirmed with analytical standard

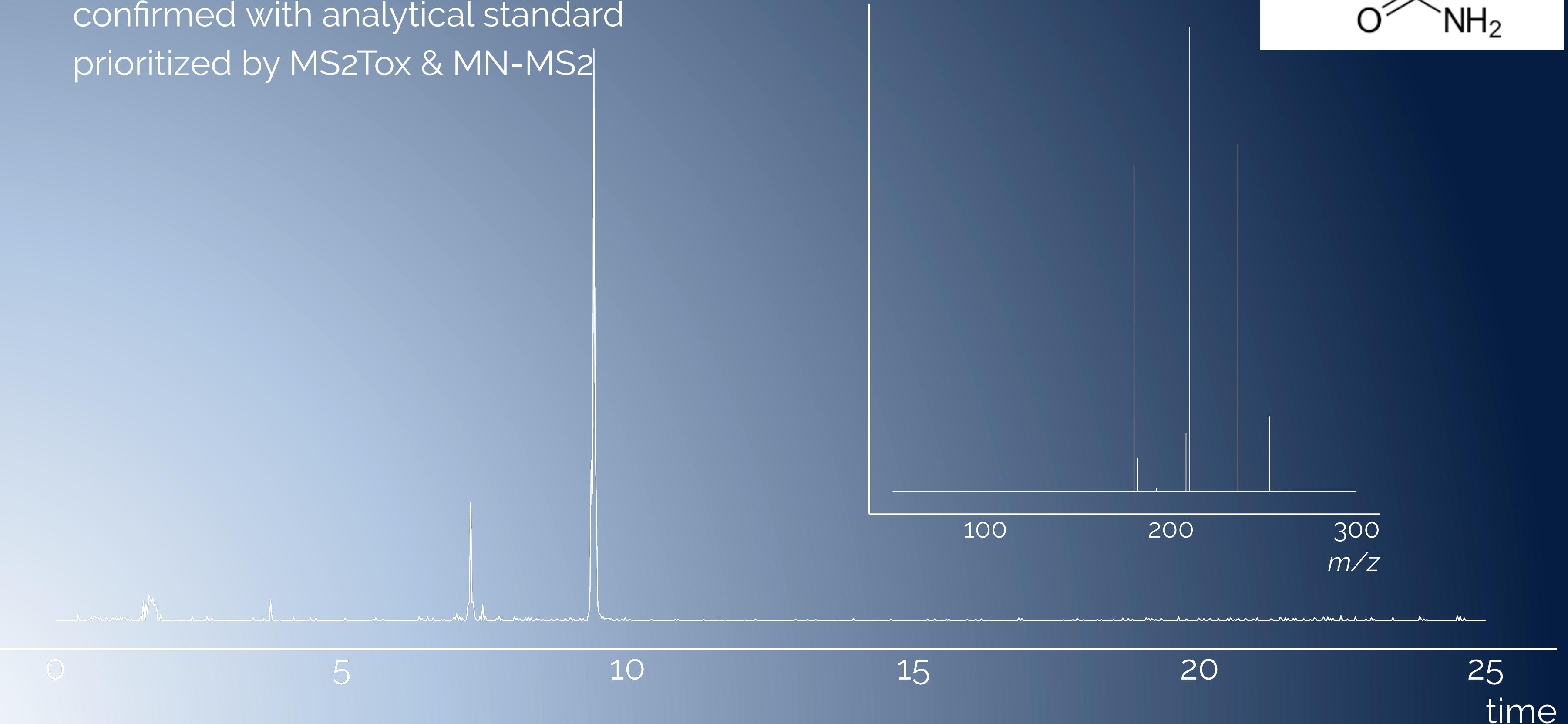
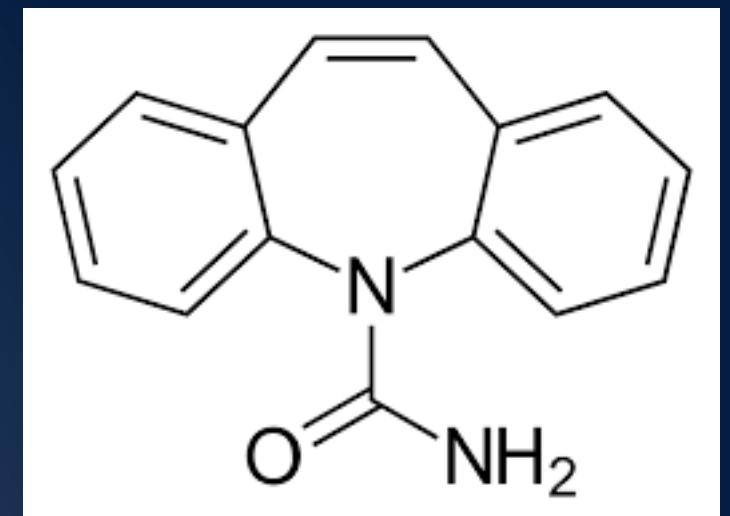


carbamazepine

RT 9.42 min m/z = 236.095

confirmed with analytical standard

prioritized by MS2Tox & MN-MS2

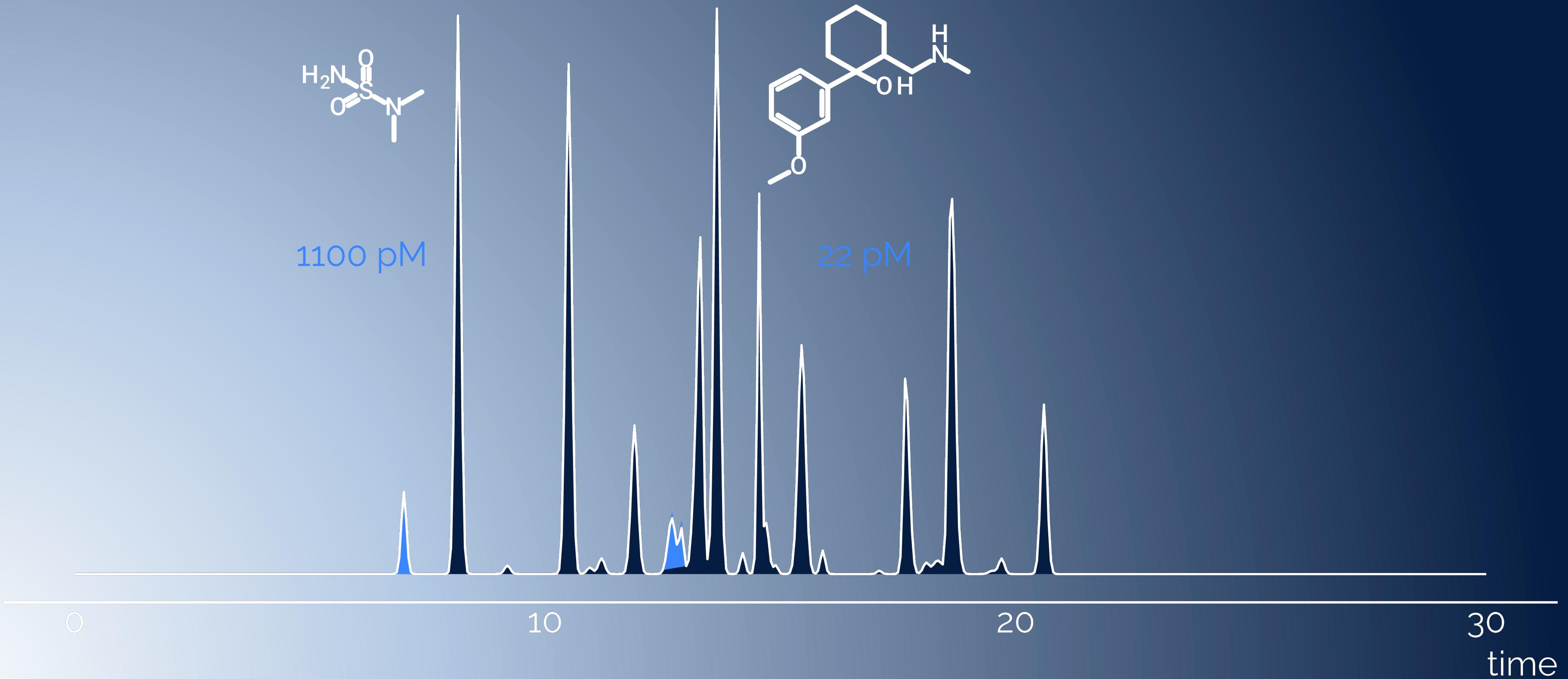


quantification

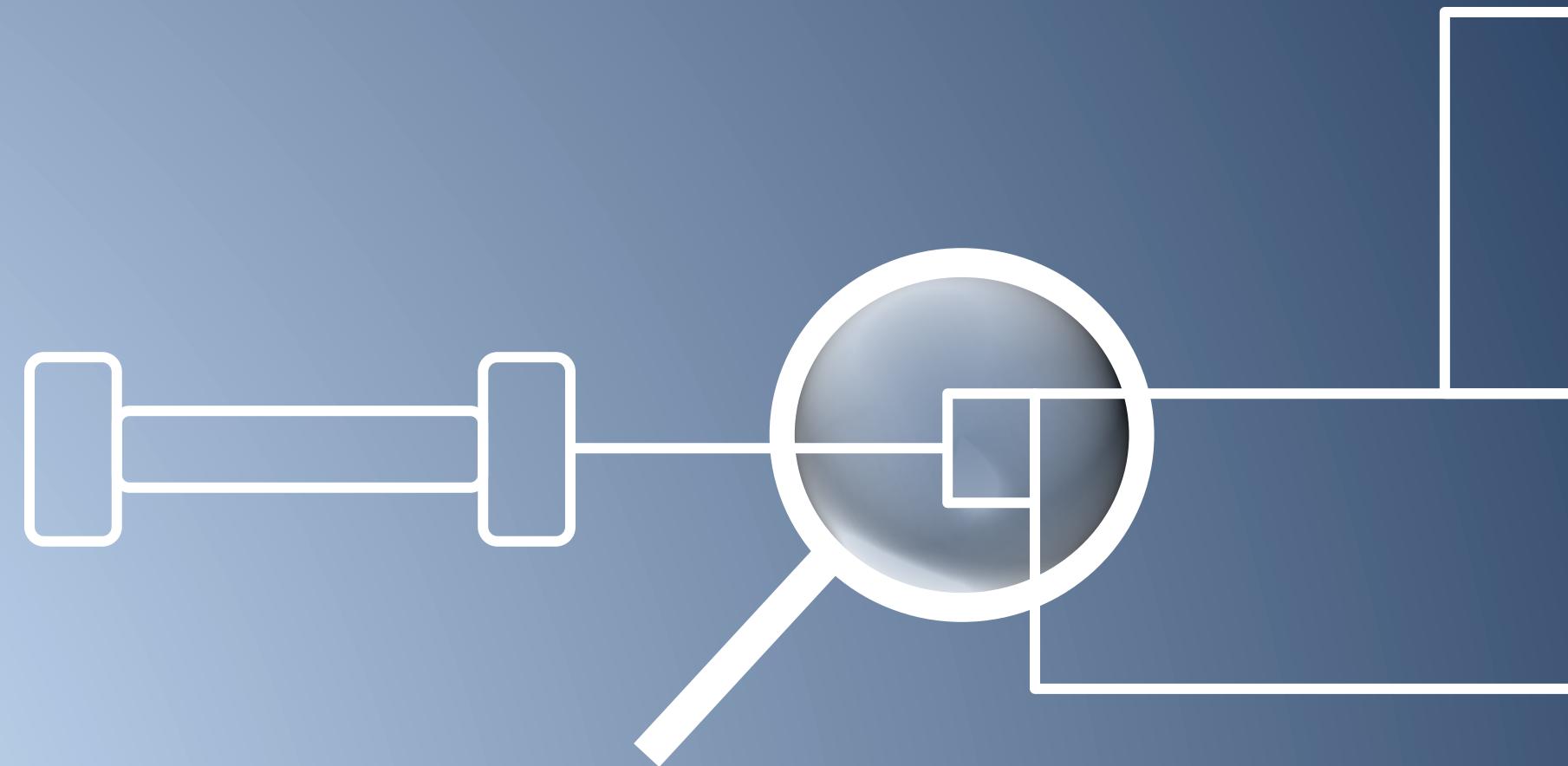
of detected chemicals

quantification in ESI/HRMS

Malm et al. Molecules 2021



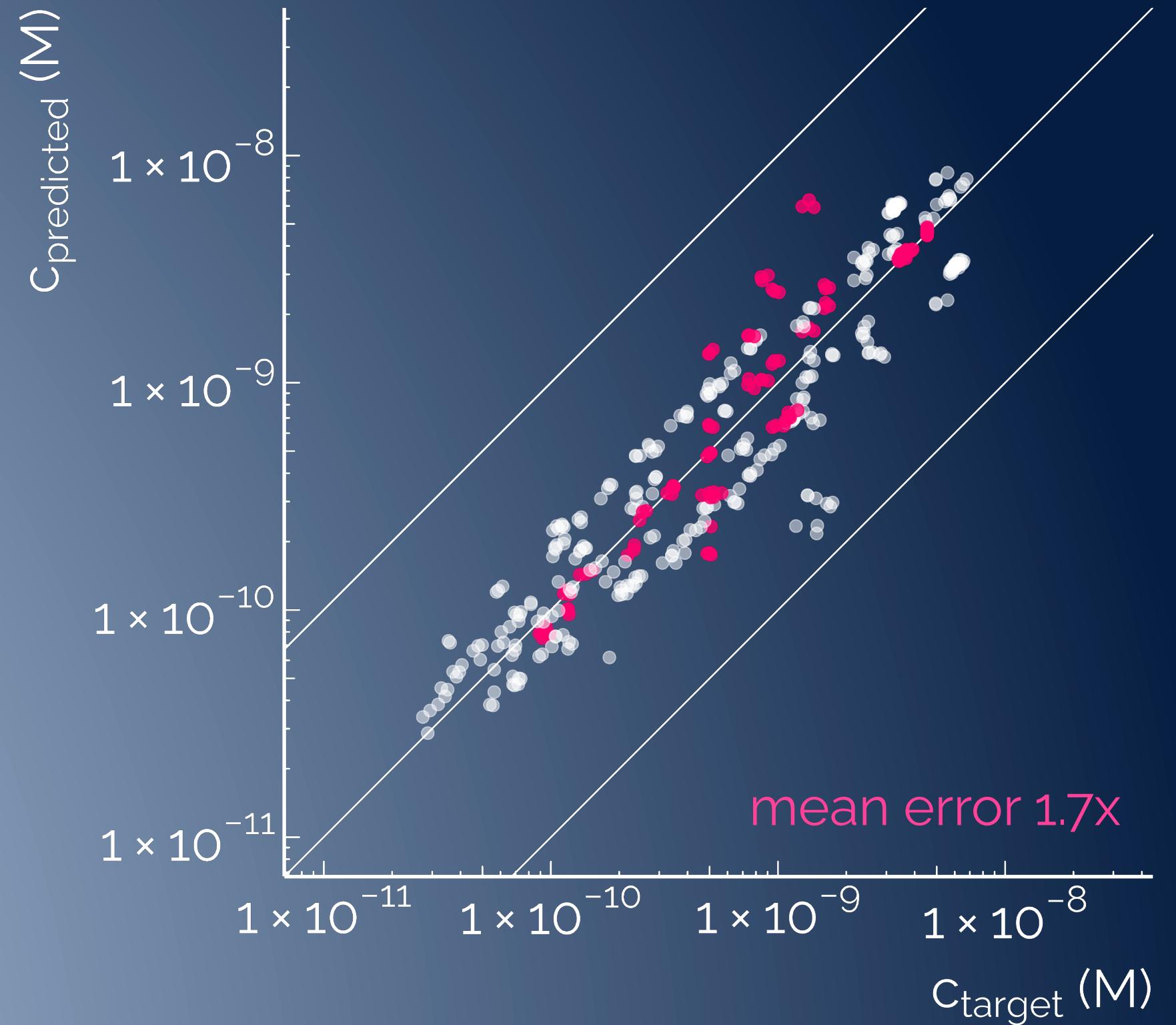
electrospray



quantification

from structure

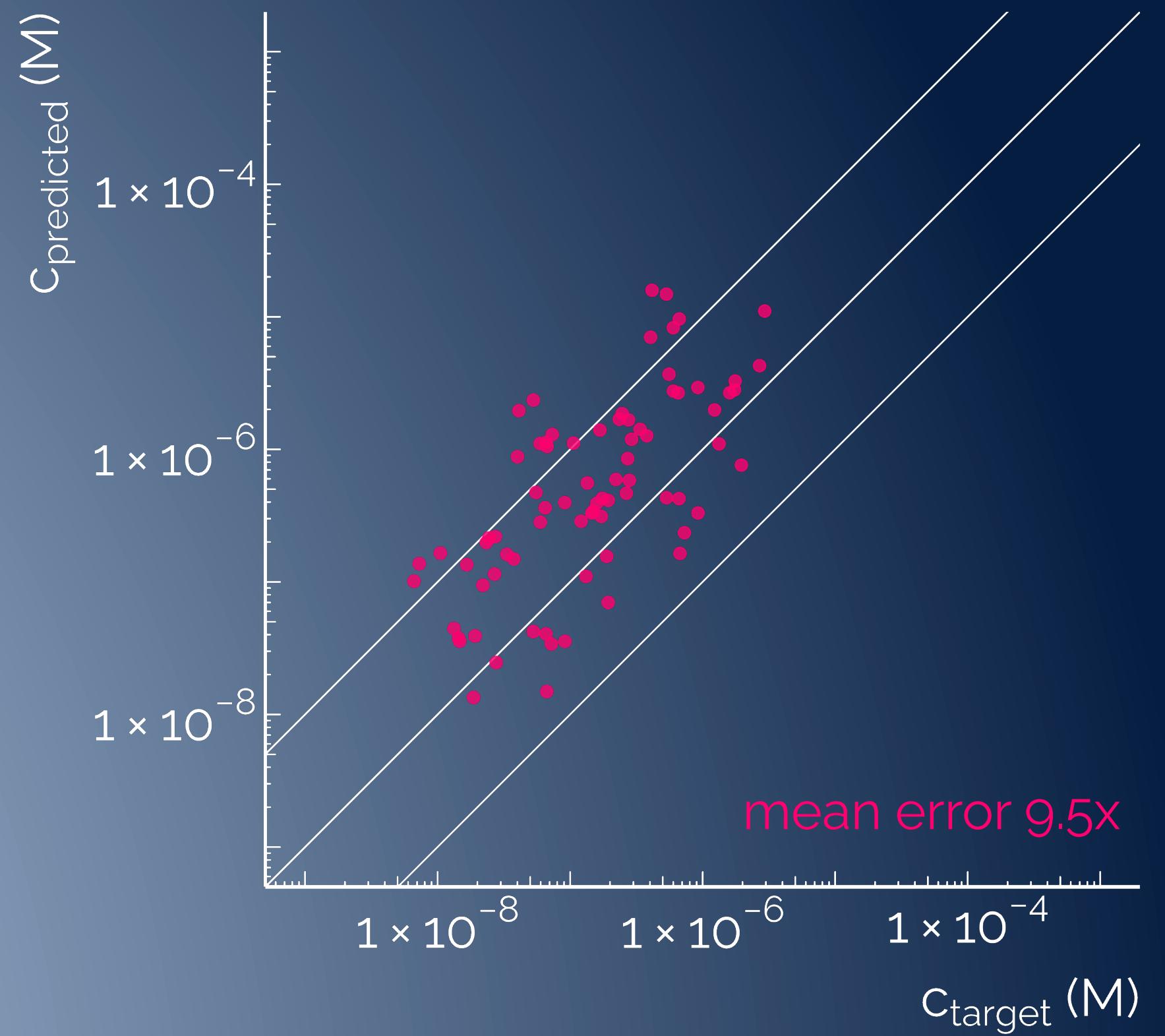
Been et al. Water Research 2021



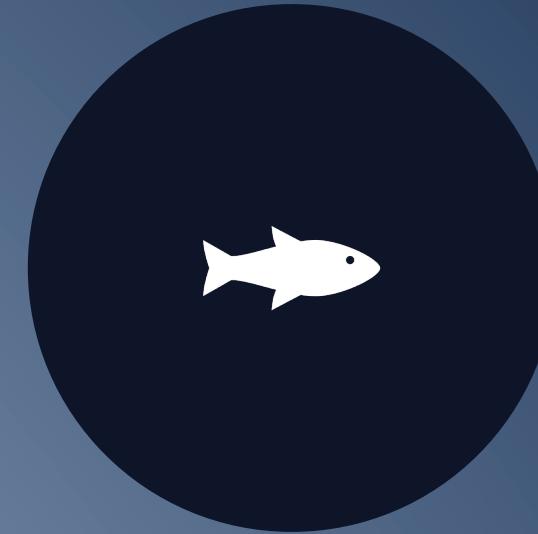
quantification

from MS² spectra

Sepman et al. Anal Chem 2023



prioritization of chemicals



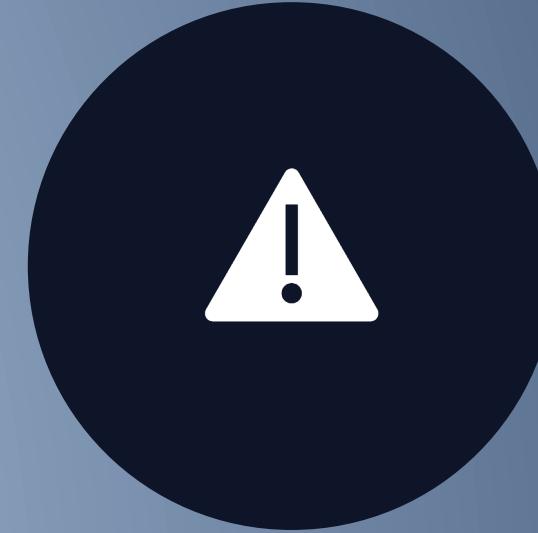
TOXICITY

ecotoxicity and endocrine
disruptors



CONCENTRATION

exposure to potentially toxic
chemicals

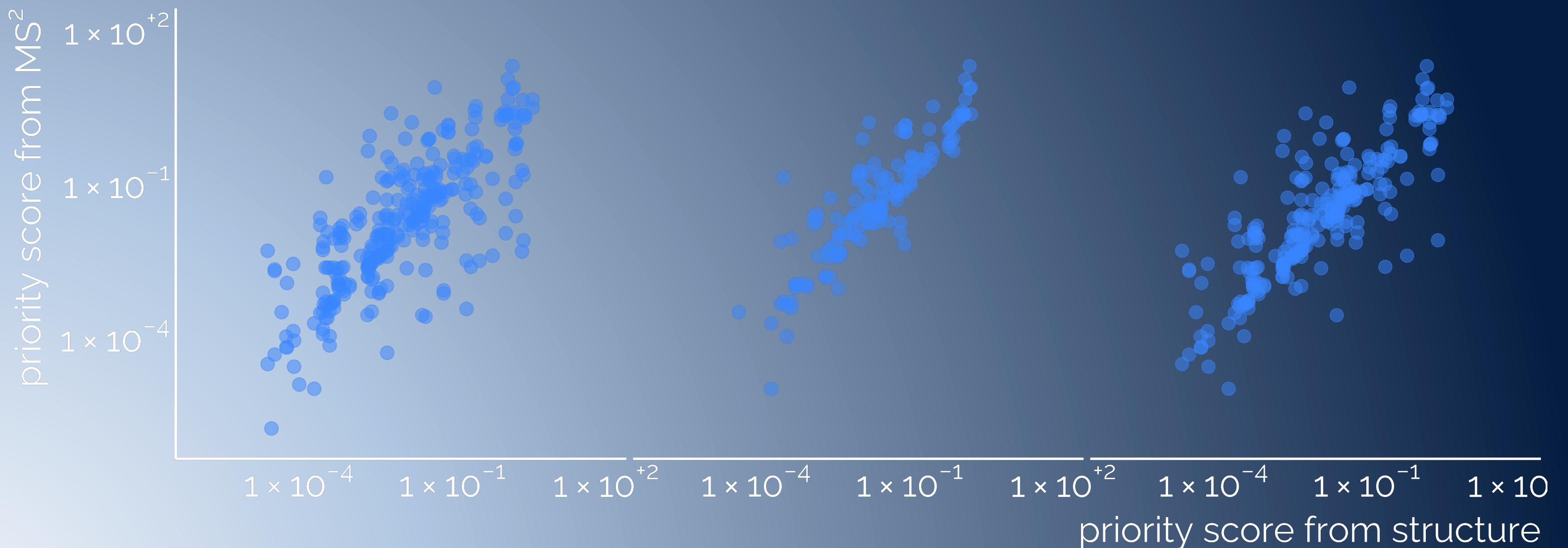


RISK

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

wastewater analysis

Sepman, in preparation



how to ...



PRIORITIZE

risk



IDENTIFY

structure

how to ...



PRIORITIZE

risk

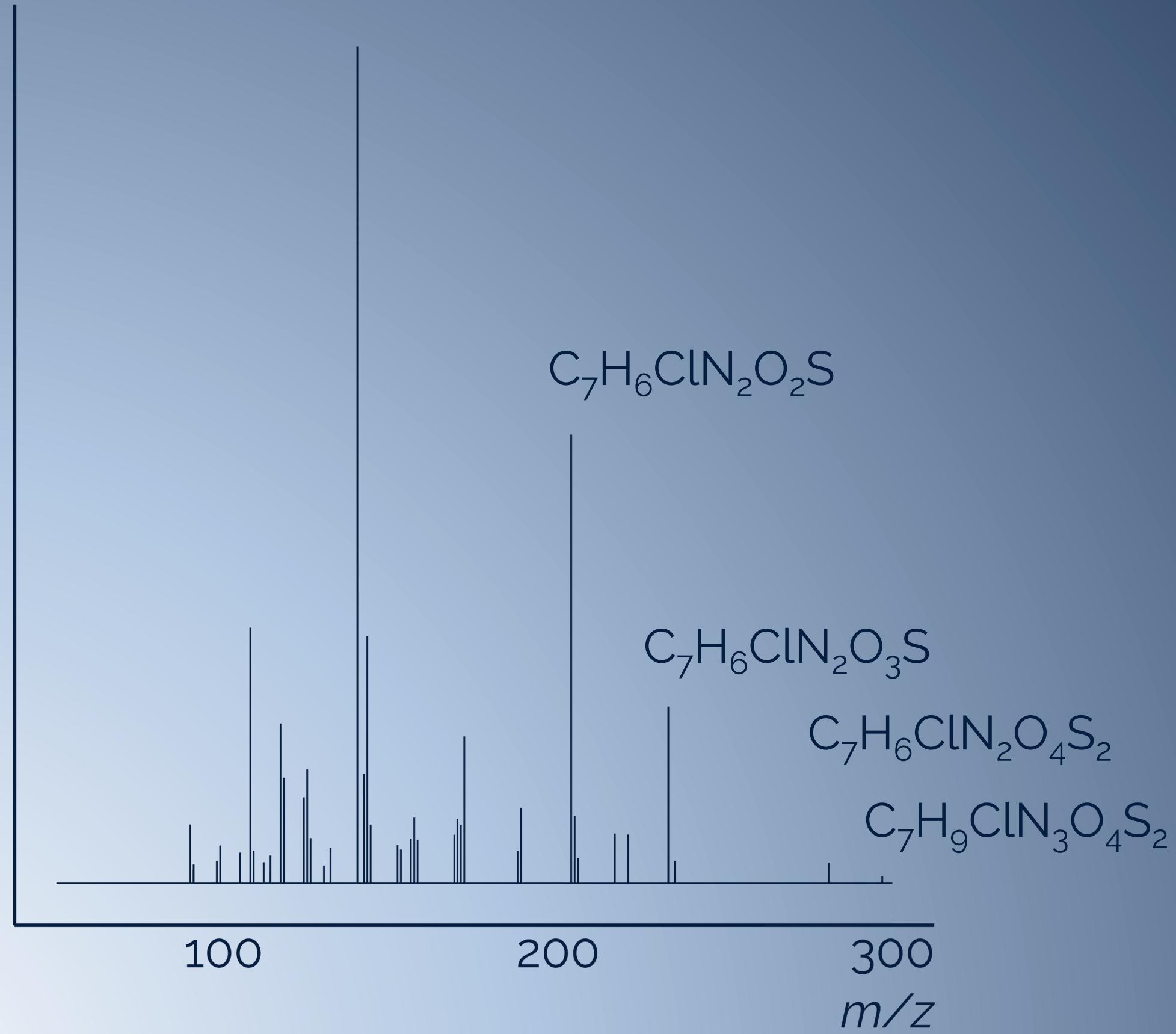


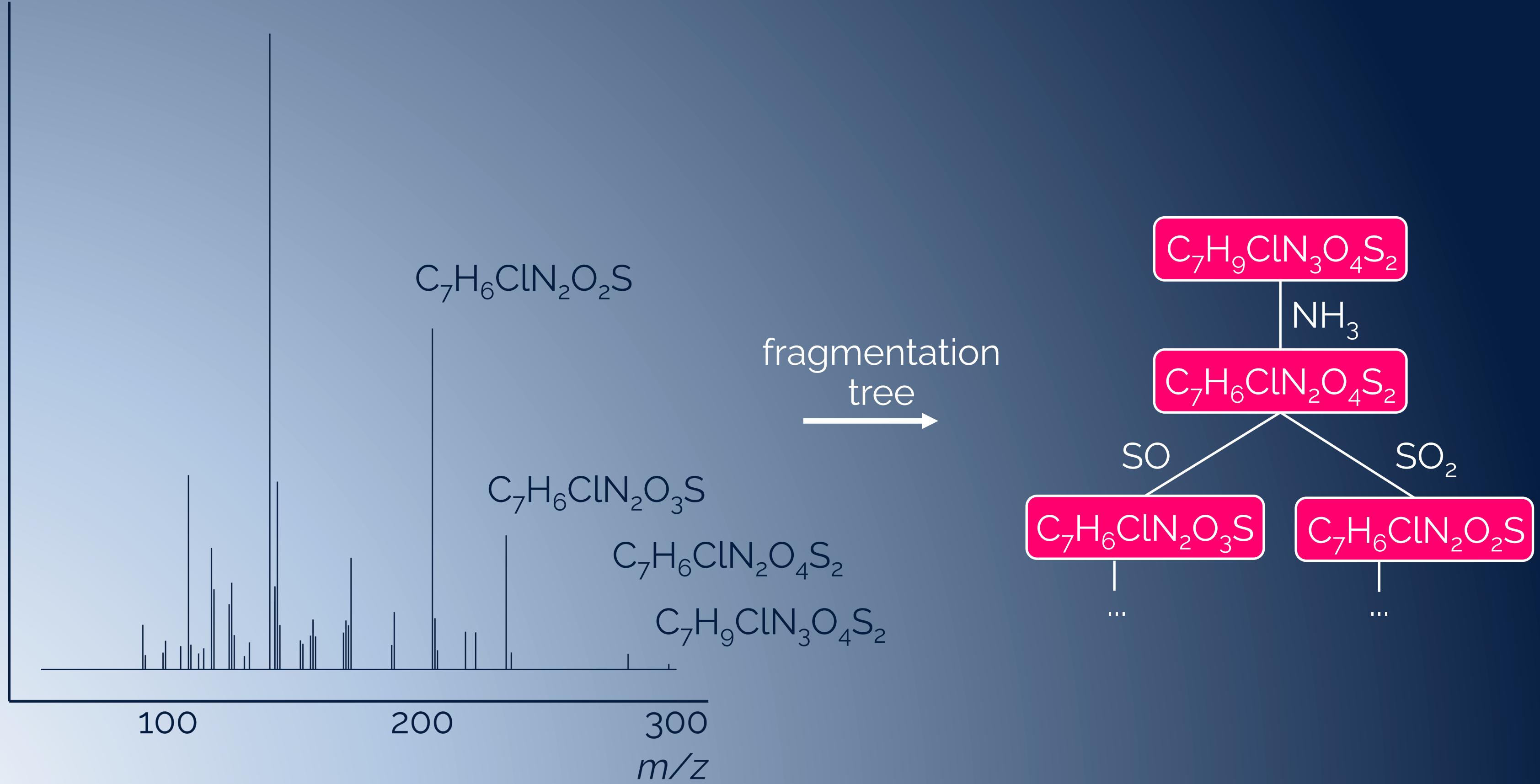
IDENTIFY

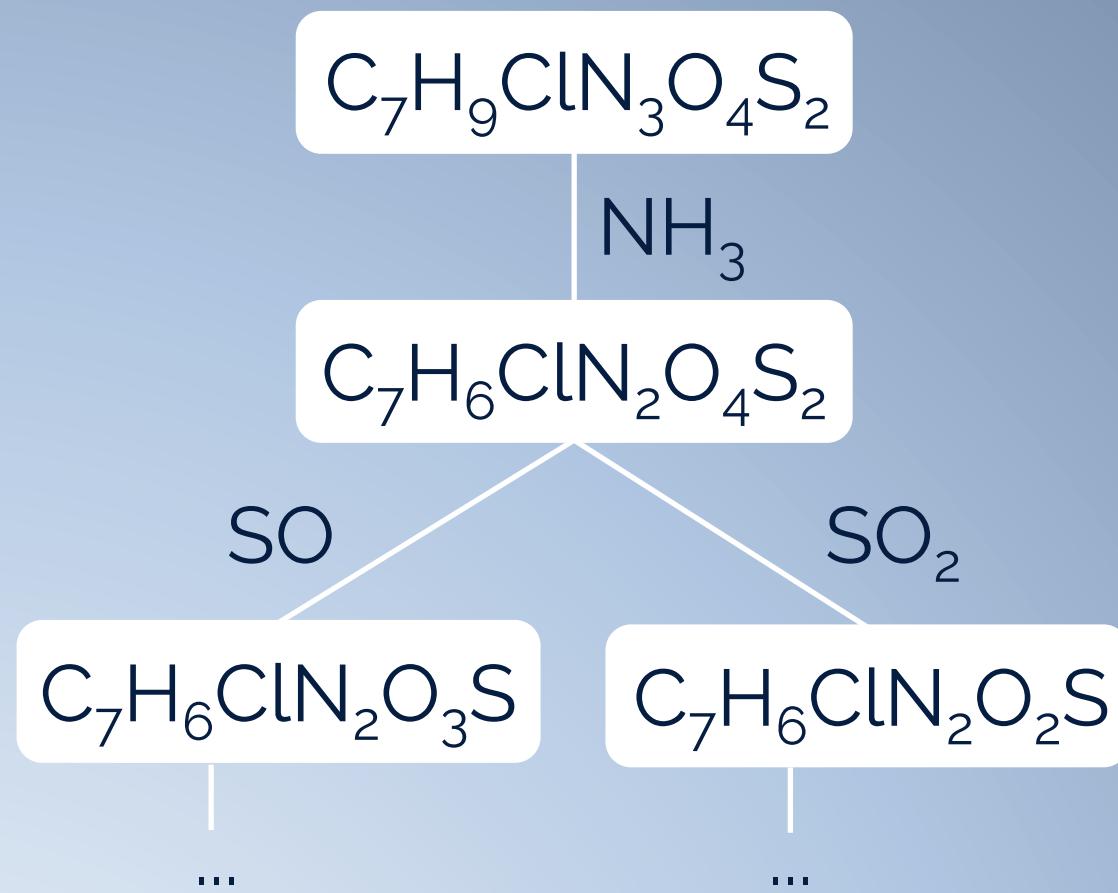
structure

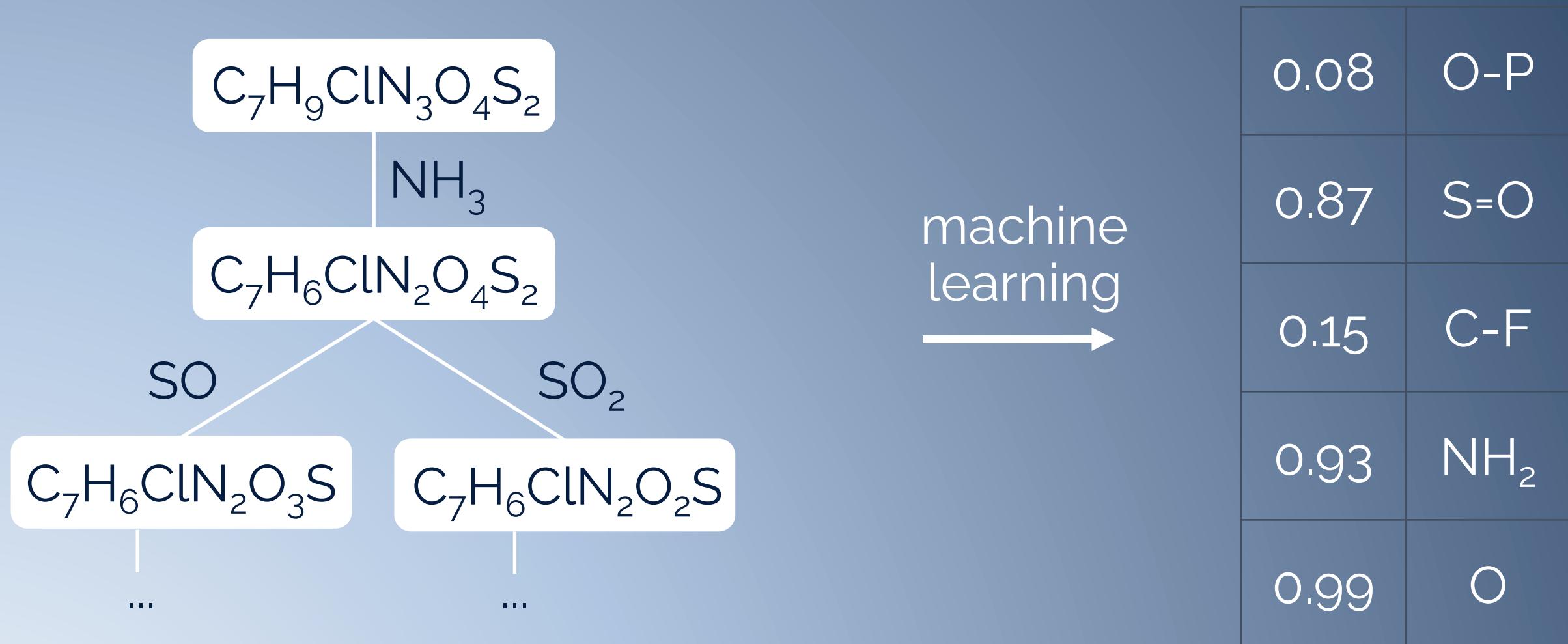
structural identification

from MS² spectra







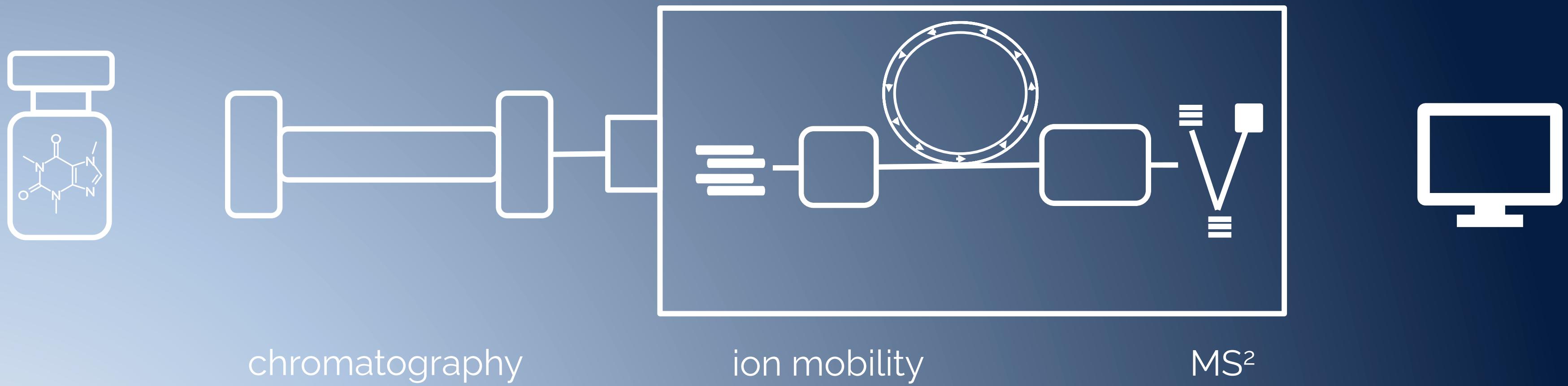




database
matching

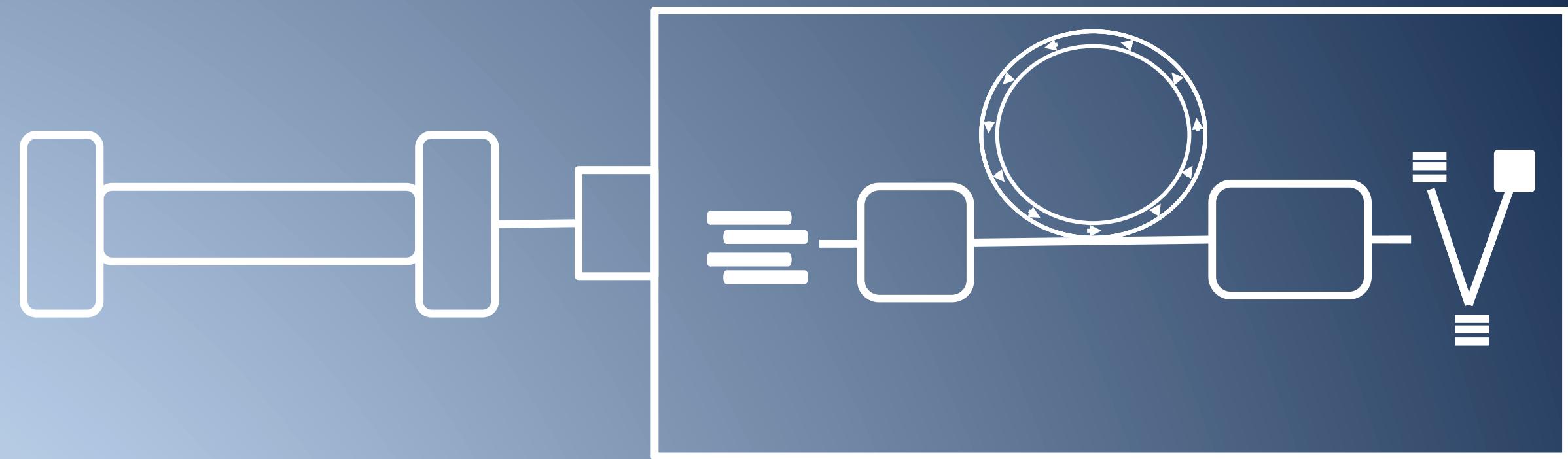
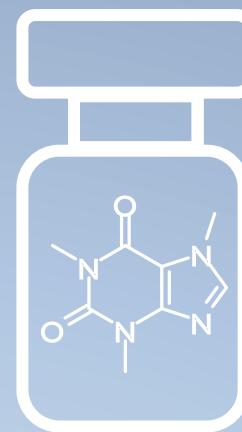
orthogonal separation

Akhlaqi et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2023



orthogonal separation

Akhlaqi et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2023



14
isomeric
chemicals

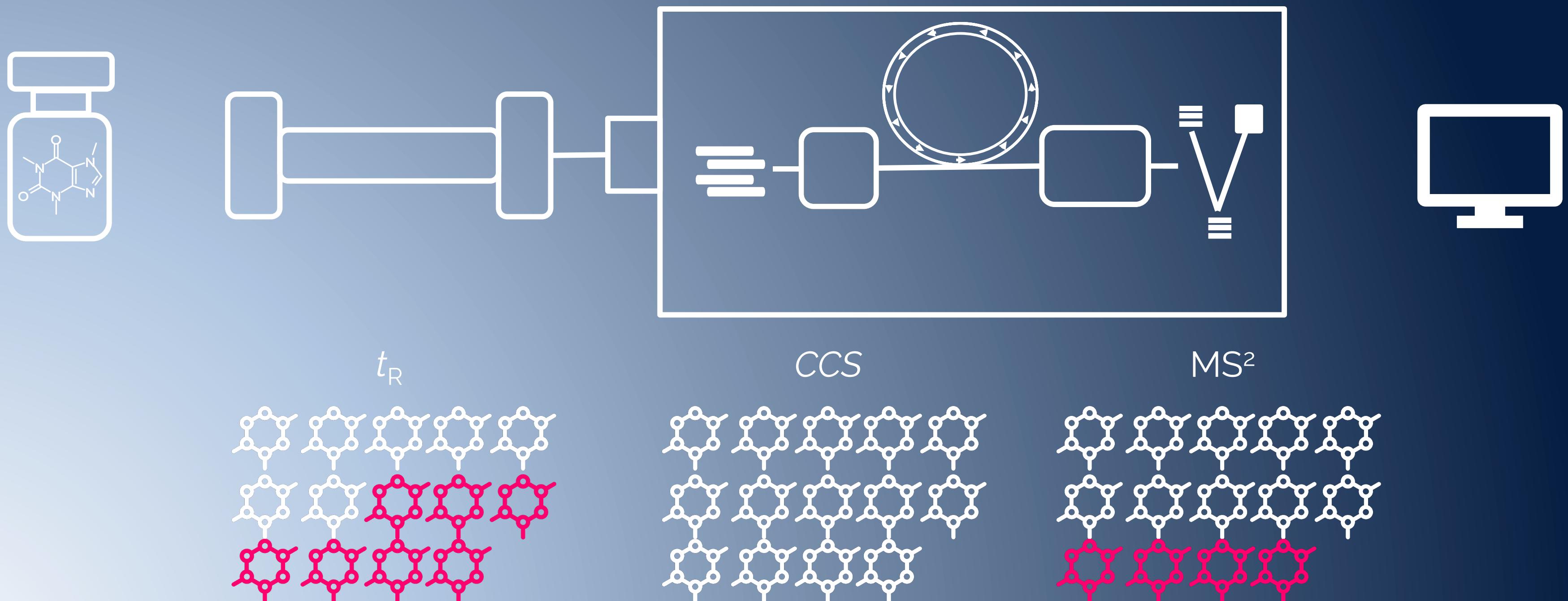
C₁₈ RP

Cyclic IMS
&
MS² with ToF

SIRIUS+
CSI:FingerID
&
CFM-ID

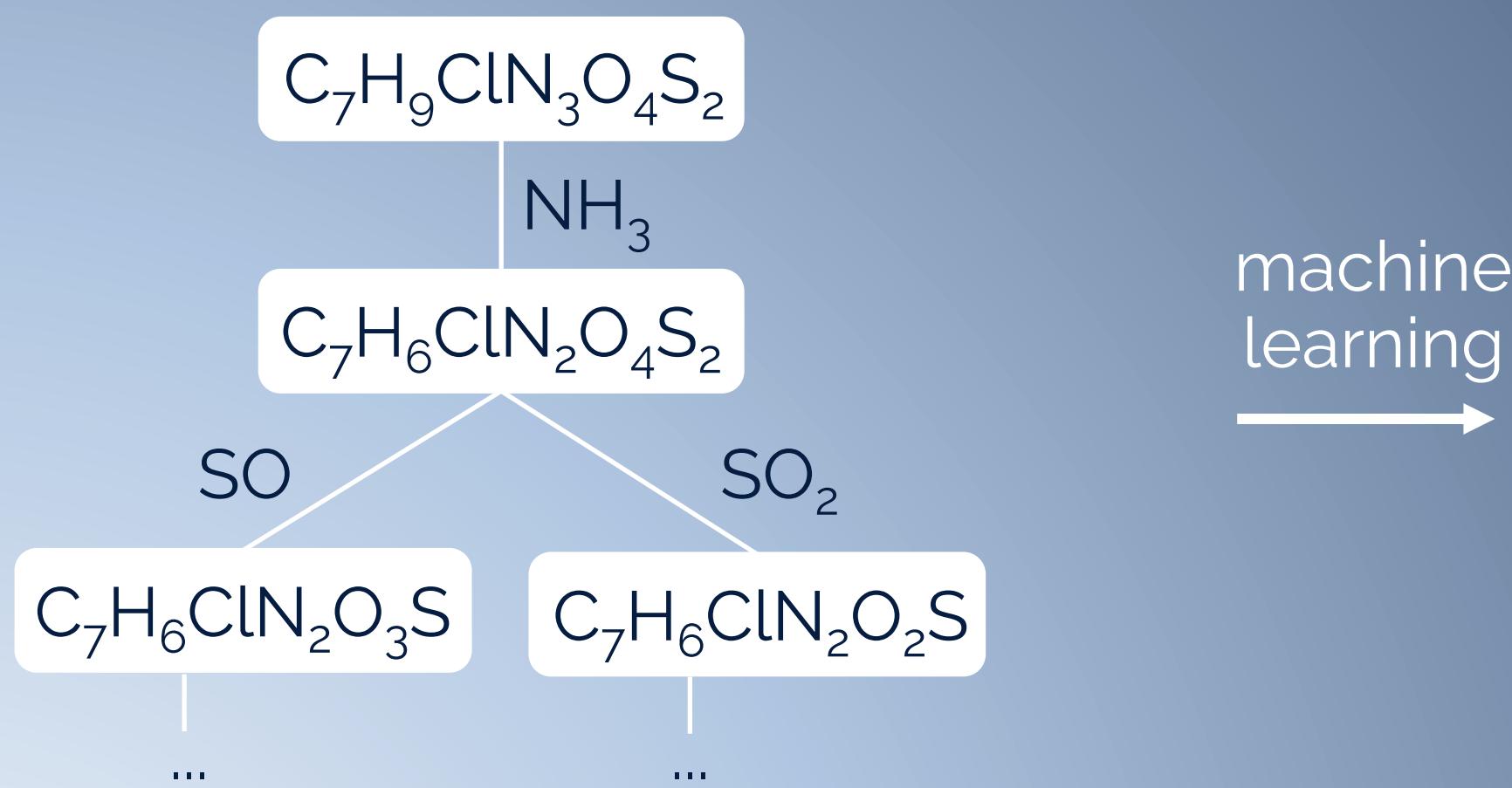
orthogonal separation

Akhlaqi et al. Anal Bioanal Chem 2023



Dührkop et al. SIRIUS + CSI:FingerID

Stravs et al. MS Novelist



machine
learning
→

0.08	O-P
0.87	S=O
0.15	C-F
0.93	NH ₂
0.99	O

structure
→



database
matching



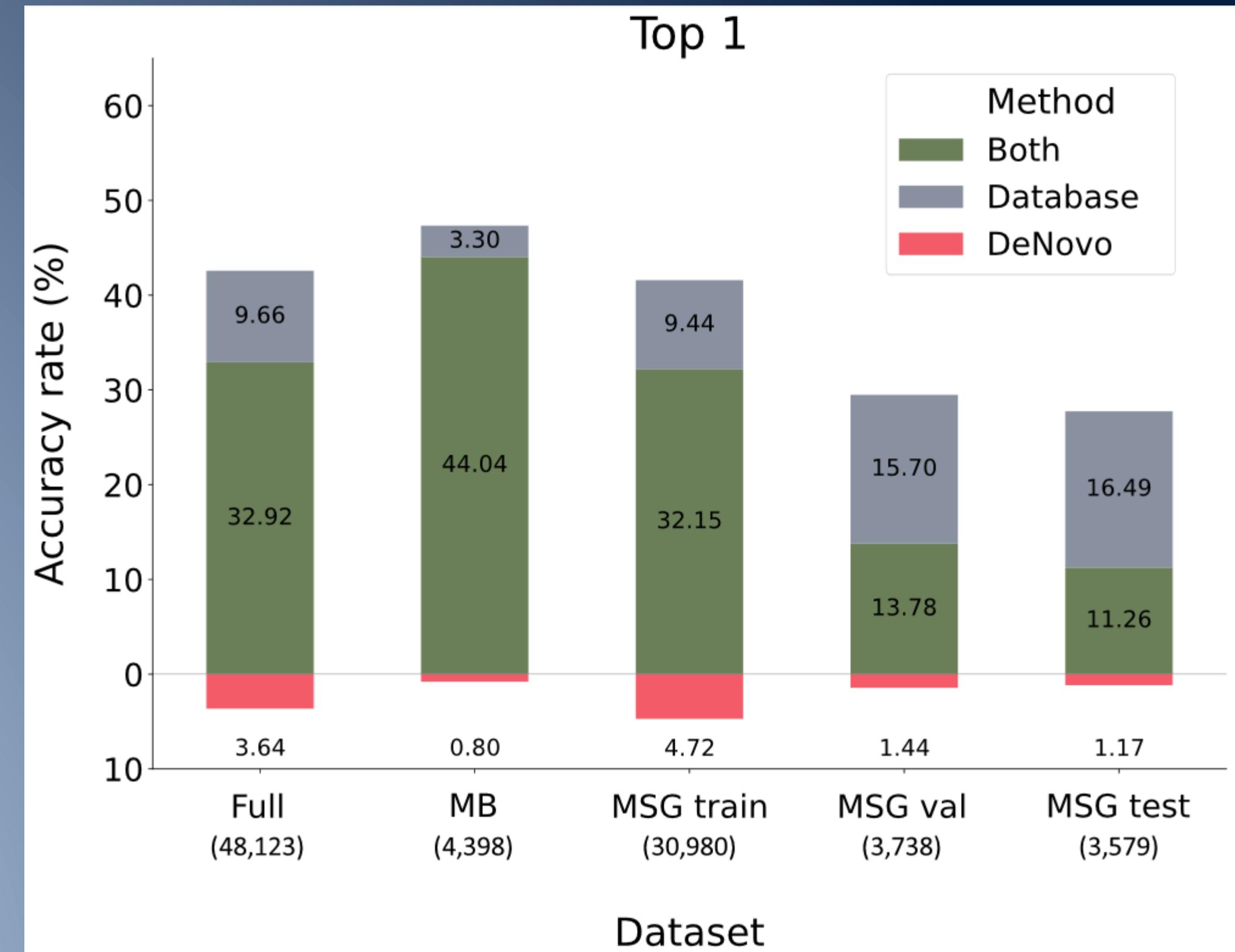
De Novo

structural identification

from MS² spectra

Hättestrand et al., in preparation

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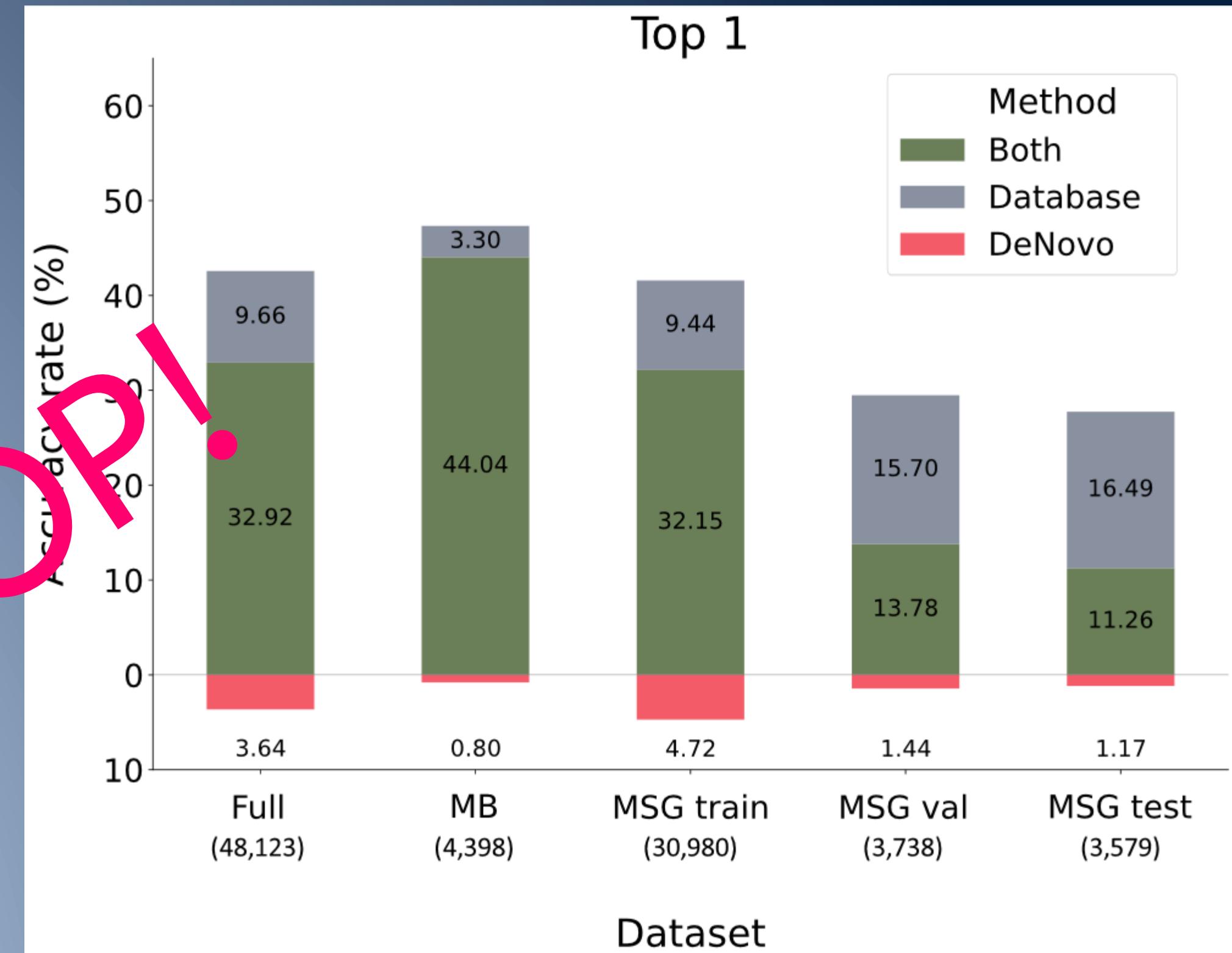


in training set 36.0%
not in training 8.3%

structural identification

from MS² spectra

STOP!



in training set 36.0%
not in training 8.3%

take-home message



PRIORITIZE

- (1) measuring performance is very important!
- (2) chemistry still matters!



IDENTIFY

- (1) all wrong structures are NOT false positives!
- (2) multi-technique approach is important!



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