

# Identification of E&L compounds

The need for (high-end) analytical techniques



WARD D'AUTRY  
25 MAR 2021

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# What is screening? The lake fishing metaphor

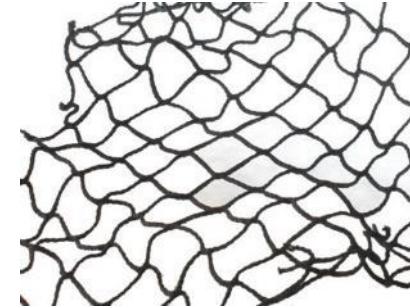
USE ARRAY OF FISHING TECHNIQUES



SPECIES?



**IDENTIFICATION**

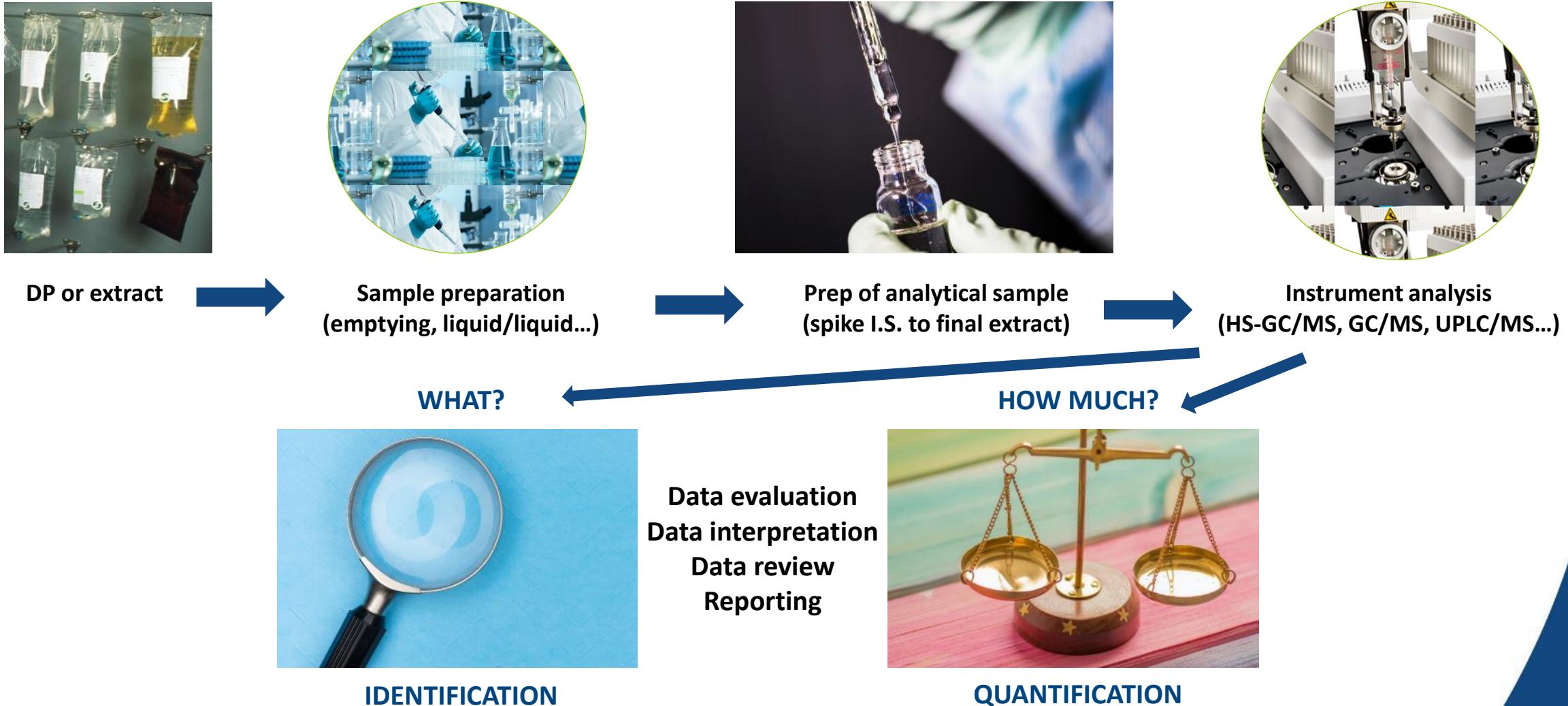


AMOUNT PER SORT?



**QUANTITATION**

# What is screening? This time in the E&L lab



# Identification

- Process of **securing the identity** of an extractable or leachable
- Detected with a **screening** method (HS-GC/MS, GC/MS or LC/MS)
- **Above the reporting threshold** (AET)
- **Unambiguous:** besides name, use structure and/or CAS number

CHEMICAL STRUCTURE



CHEMICAL UNIQUE IDENTIFIER NUMBER

CAS No

XXXXXXXX-YY-Z

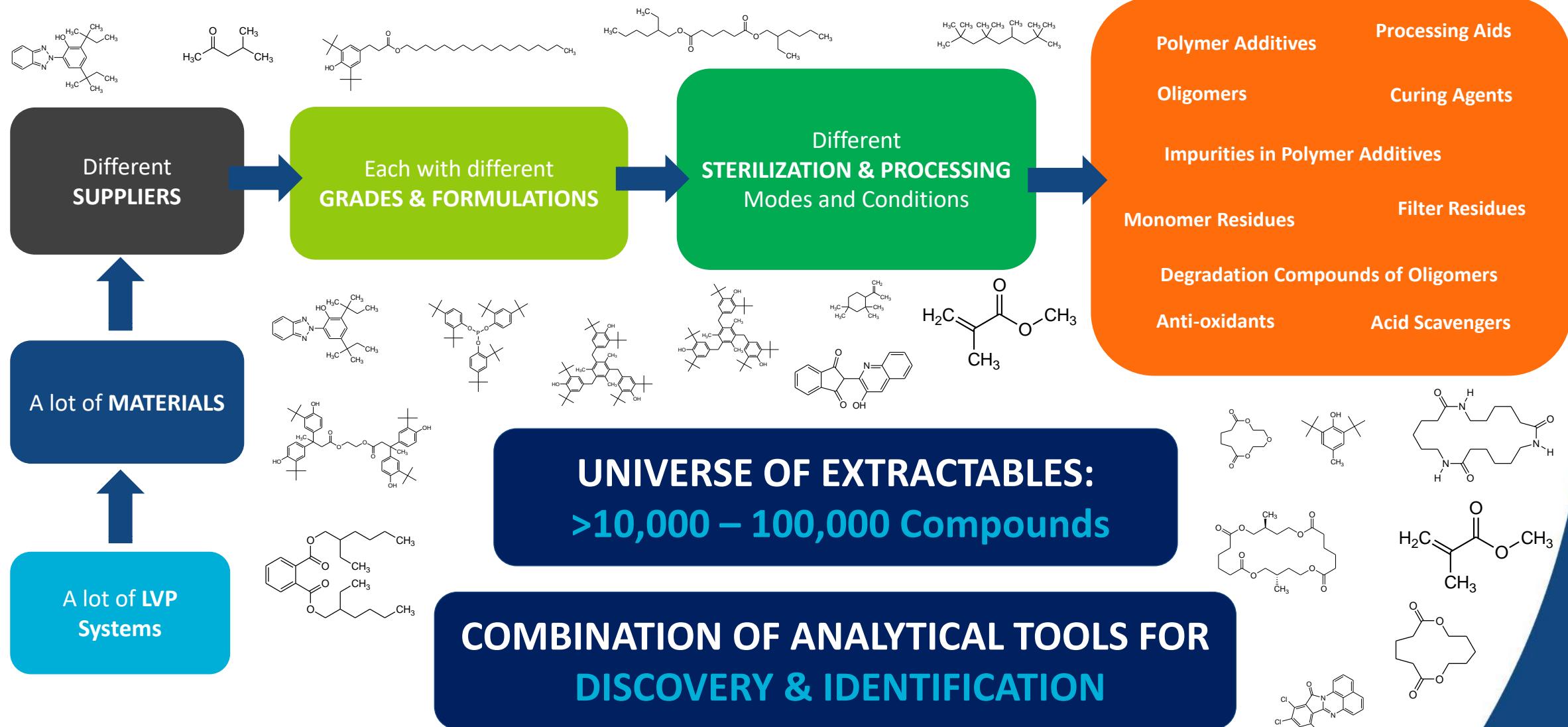
2 to 7 digits

2 digits

1 check digit

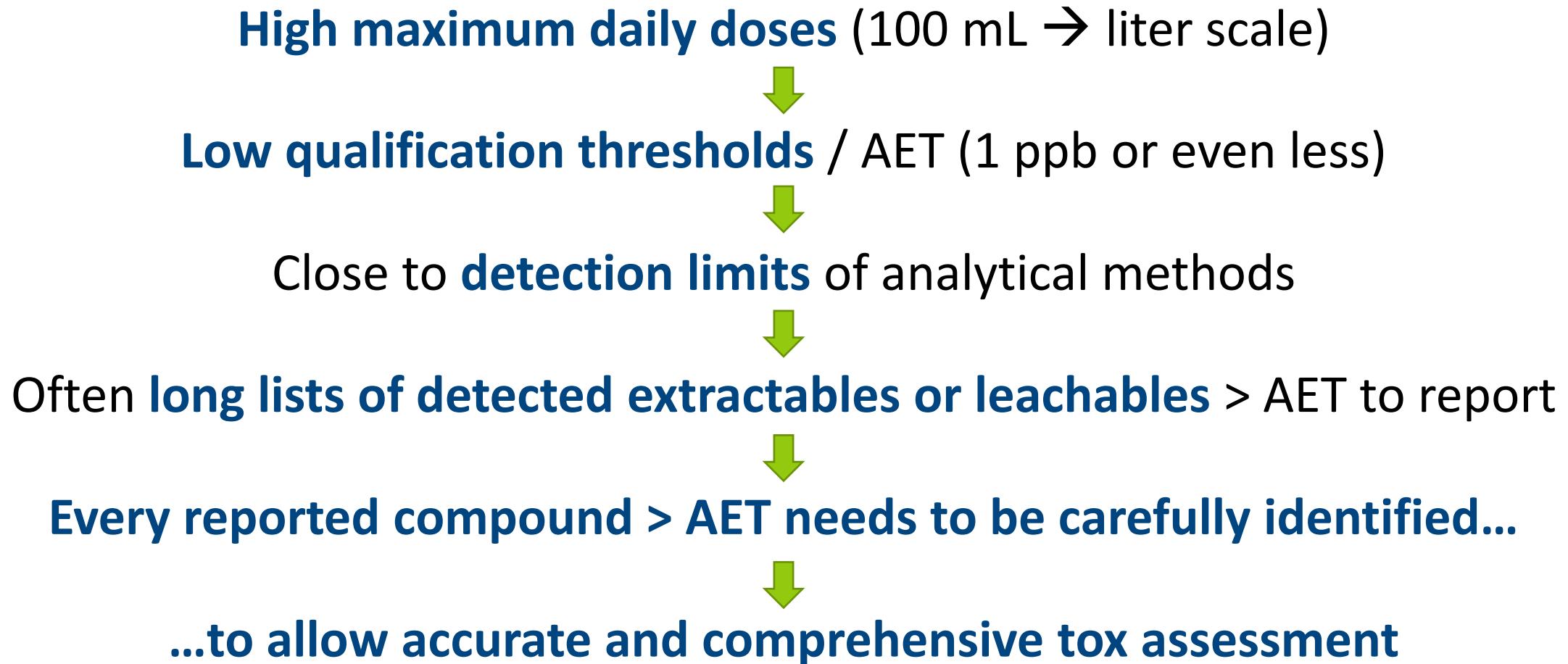


## Why is screening such a challenge for LVP? Part I

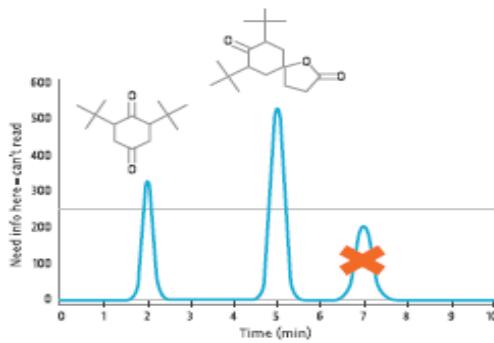
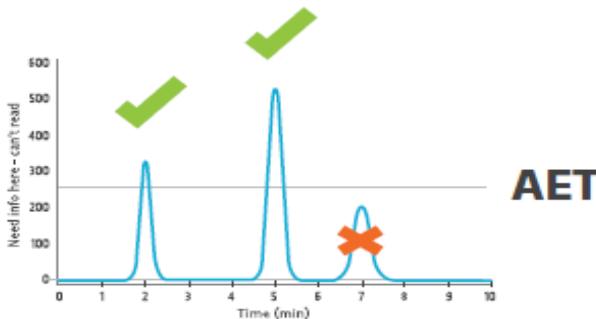


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# Why is screening such a challenge for LVP? Part II



# Consequence of incorrect identifications



PDE, TI, ...  
Accute Systemic tox  
Carcinogenic tox  
Sensitizer, Irritant  
Reprotox

V

TOXICOLOGY

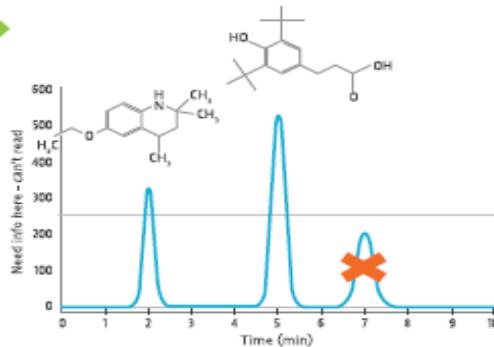


PDE, TI, ...  
Accute Systemic tox  
Carcinogenic tox  
Sensitizer, Irritant  
Reprotox

X

FATAL

WRONG ID



# Identification: small mistakes, large consequences



Error of omission

No details found

Assessment

Safety compromised

**FATAL ERROR**



Error of in-exact or wrong identification

Wrong structure or relationship

Assessment

Safety compromised

**FATAL ERROR**

**GOOD IDENTIFICATION PRACTICES ARE KEY!**

# First Pass Identification

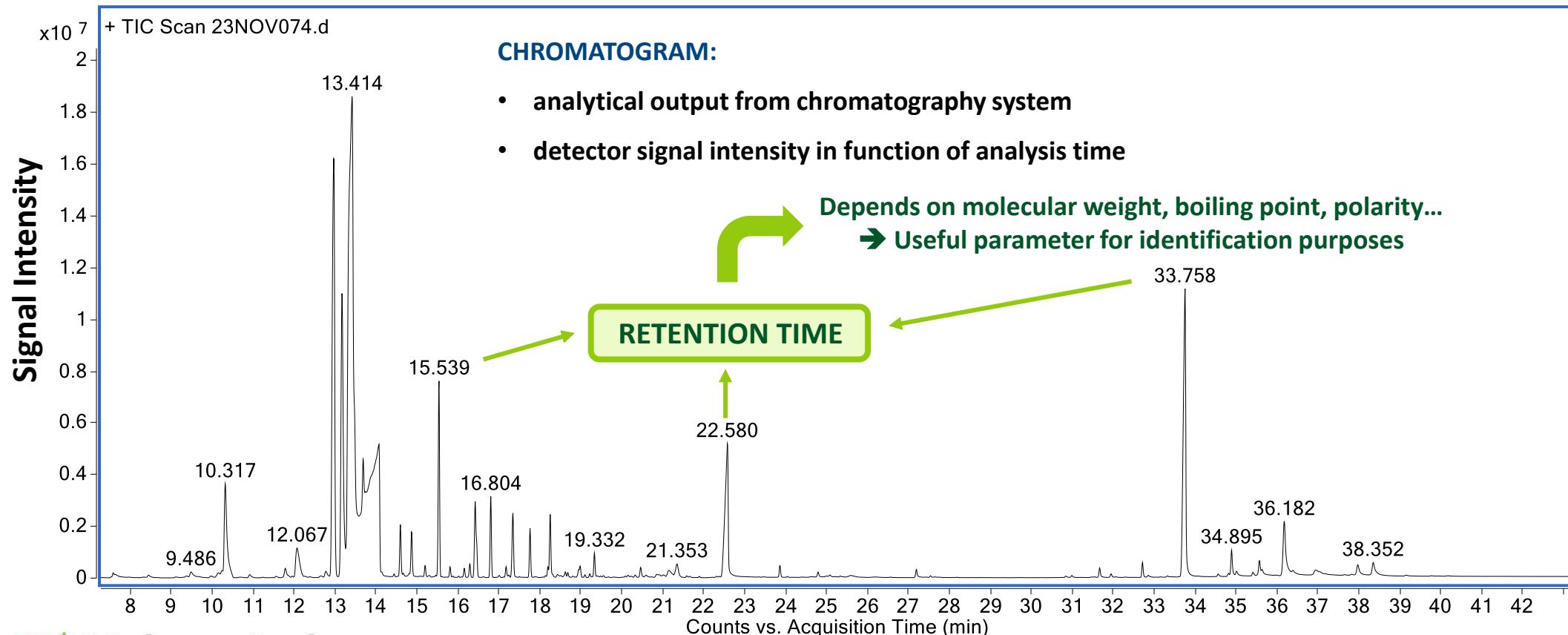
## SCREENING METHODS

# Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry Screening Analysis

Chromatograph: separation of extractables or leachables

Mass spectrometer: detection of extractables or leachables (*but does more than that!*)

Chromatography / Mass Spectrometry software: aids in identification & quantification of detected compounds



# Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry Screening Analysis

Mass spectrometers do not only serve as a detector, but provide mass spectra for each detected compound

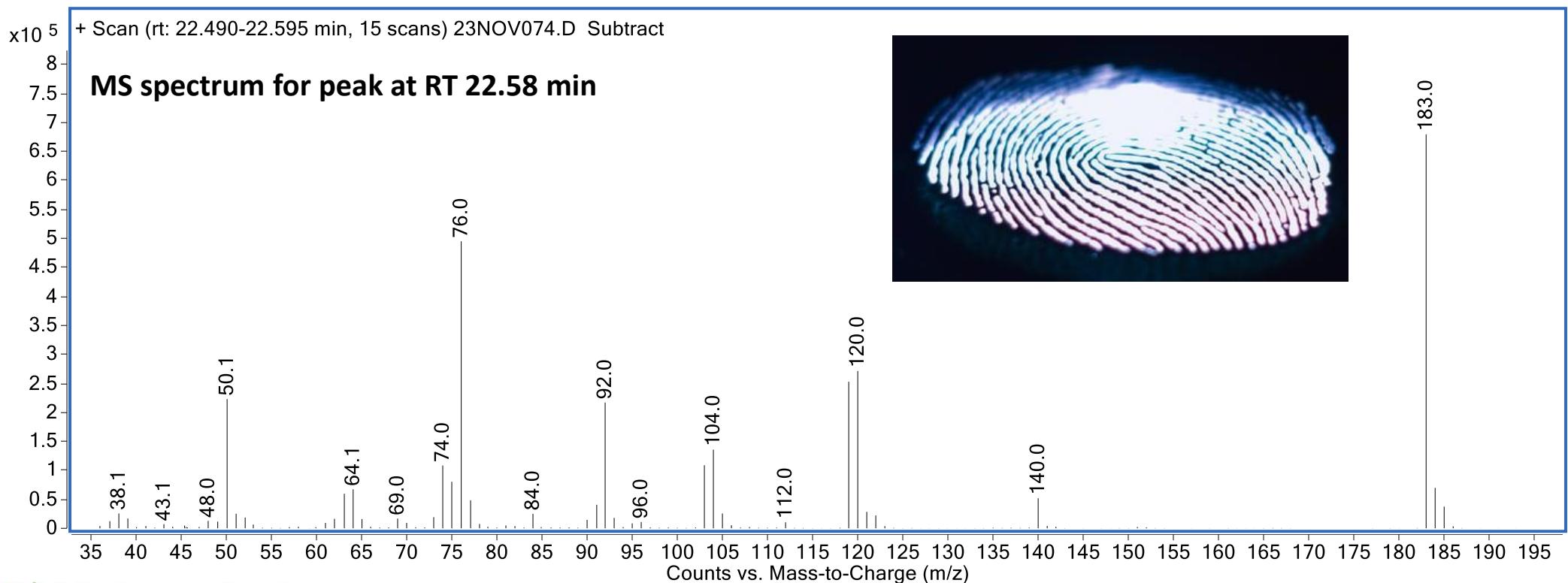
## MASS SPECTRUM:

- analytical output from mass spectrometer
- mass (fragment) information for each detected peak



VERY POWERFUL TOOL FOR IDENTIFICATION!

(if you know how to interpret the data...)



# Identification levels (USP 1663)

Increasing confidence in securing the correct identity

Minimum identification level to support a qualitative toxicological safety assessment (e.g., QSAR)

Partial  
e.g. phthalate



Full structure

Minimum identification level to support a definitive, quantitative toxicological safety assessment



Unidentified

Tentative

Confident

Confirmed

No information about (partial) structure

Decreasing certainty for correct identification

Identity based on 1 piece of information:

- match with library or literature spectrum
  - expert interpretation

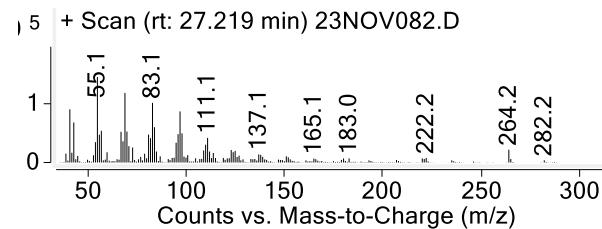
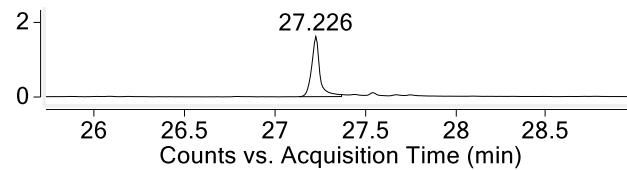
Supporting evidence for tentative ID:

- molecular weight
- elemental formula
- Spectral information from other method

Only 1 method to secure an ID as confirmed:

mass spectral match +  
retention time match with analysis of  
authentic reference standard

# The confirmed ID level



Full match with authentic standard?



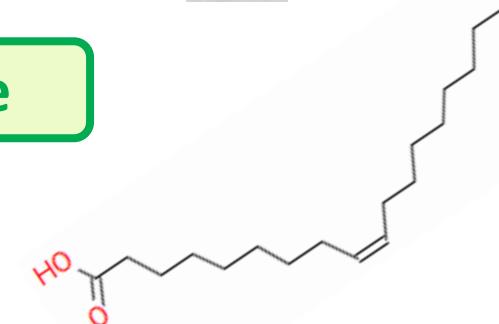
Need for INTERNAL compound database!



Measure standards with own methods



Capture RT & MS spectrum in database



Name: Oleic acid  
Formula: C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
MW: 282 Exact Mass: 282.25588 CAS#: 112-80-1 ID#: 142 DB: svoc\_mh.hp  
Other DBs: None  
Comment: (Z)-9-Octadecenoic acid |RI:1635|  
187 m/z Values and Intensities:

# Nelson Labs Database: 6000 compounds (VOC, SVOC, NVOC)

Excerpt of the NELSON LABS Discovery and Screener Database for Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds Characterized by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS), RT 19 – 19.2 min.

RT (min)	Compound Name	CAS Number	RRF	Target Mass	Q1	Q1 ratio	Q2	Q2 ratio	Q3	Q3 ratio
18.97	Bis(2-ethylhexyl) ether	10143-60-9	1.13	57	71	86	43	7.8	41	36
19.01	4-Hydroxy-3-methylacetophenone	876-02-8	0.413	135	150	39.4	121	107	107	18.7
19.03	Cyclopentyl phenyl ketone	5422-88-8	0.758	105	77	133	121	133	133	15.2
19.05	2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol	96-76-4	0.984	191	191	100	100	57	57	14
19.07	2-(Decyloxy)ethanol	23238-40-6	0.352	100	100	100	99	43	43	65
19.08	Tridecanal	10486-19-8	0.294	120	120	120	81.7	43	43	81.1
19.08	1,4-Isopropanol acetophenone	54549-72-3	0.294	120	120	121	15.7	164	164	11.1
19.08	1-Naphthol	90-99-9	0.294	120	87.8	116	41.9	145	145	11.3
19.08	2-(2-Phenoxyethoxy)ethanol	10486-19-8	0.294	94	76.5	77	52.4	182	182	26.3
19.12	Triisobutyl phosphate	102-99-9	0.294	99	57	19.9	155	14.8	41	12.4
19.13	BHT	132-69-3	0.294	205	220	25.6	206	15.5	57	11.5
19.13	Dimethyl isophthalate	102-65-1	0.557	163	194	24.2	135	23.7	76	11
19.15	N,N-Di-n-butyl-2-chloroacetamide	102-59-1	0.59	86	120	77.5	156	52	162	34.7
19.17	Cyclododecanone	830-13-7	0.697	55	41	79.8	71	73.3	98	63.1
19.2	2-Phenylphenol	90-43-7	0.676	170	169	75.1	141	33.1	115	23.6

**CONFIRMED**

# LC/MS: no universal libraries

- GC/MS spectra are ‘standardized’ → universal libraries possible (NIST, Wiley, EPA...)
- LC/MS spectra depend on vendor, instrument settings... → no universal libraries  
→ the internal database is the only database!

The “Home Court”  
Advantage

## NO DATABASE

Hexane extract of a PU component						
no.	ID Level	ORGANIC COMPOUND	CAS-No./ ToxID	EI (m/z)	t <sub>R</sub> (min)	Result (µg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
POSITIVE IONIZATION MODE (APCI+)						
1	U	-	-	173.080	3.50	0.17
2	U	-	-	251.211	7.17	0.15
3	U	-	-	219.185	7.55	0.49
4	U	-	-	145.122	8.02	0.16
5	U	-	-	353.242	7.72-8.32	1.5
6	U	-	-	145.122	8.18	0.31
7	U	-	-	145.122	8.33	0.25
8	U	-	-	145.122	8.69	0.12
9	U	-	-	145.122	9.19	0.16
10	U	-	-	527.298	9.41	0.12
11	U	-	-	145.122	9.47	0.10
12	U	-	-	338.340	9.71	0.14
13	U	-	-	731.412	10.87	170
14	U	-	-	559.517	11.11	0.15
15	U	-	-	585.533	11.39	0.23
16	U	-	-	535.518	11.47	0.51

ID LEVEL: 1 = Confirmed; 2 = Confident; 3 = Tentative , 4 = Partial, U = unknown

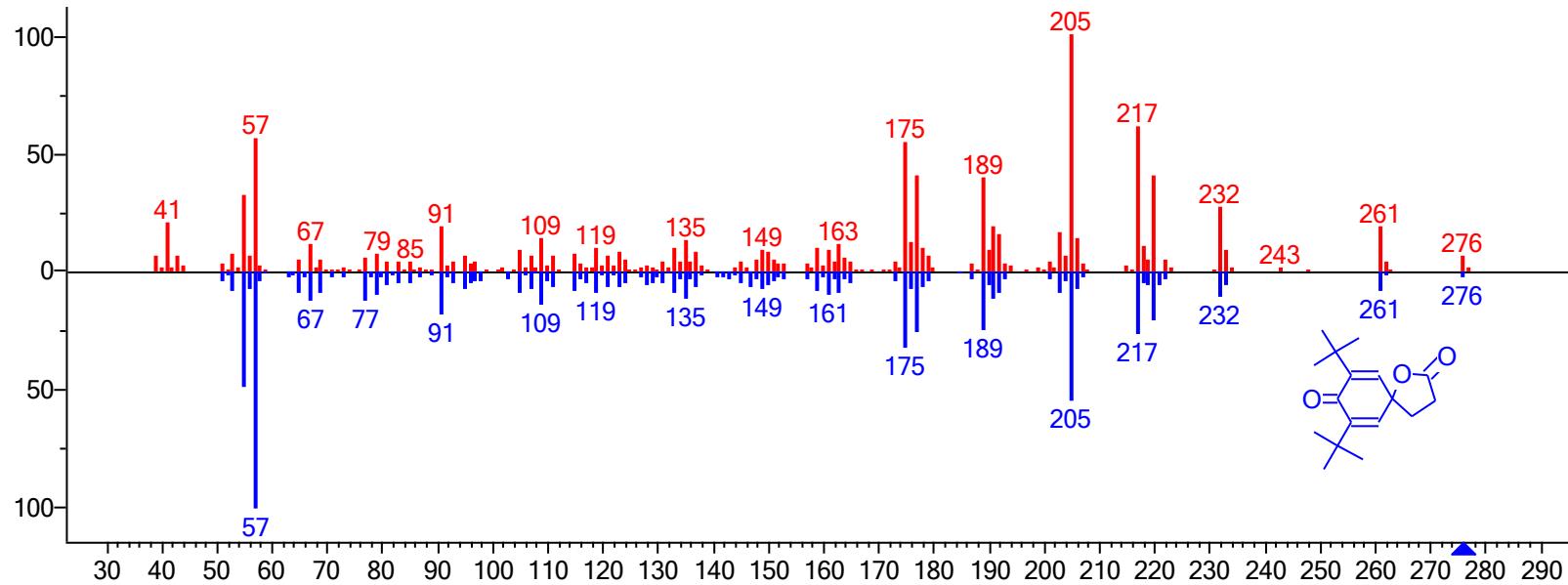
## WITH DATABASE

Hexane extract of a PU component						
no.	ID Level	ORGANIC COMPOUND	CAS-No./ ToxID	EI (m/z)	t <sub>R</sub> (min)	Result (µg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
POSITIVE IONIZATION MODE (APCI+)						
1	1	1,4,7-Trioxacyclotridecane-8,13-dione	6607-34-7	173.080	3.50	0.17
2	U	-	-	251.211	7.17	0.15
3	U	-	-	219.185	7.55	0.49
4	1	35-Crown-7	66055-34-3	145.122	8.02	0.16
5	3	Hump of butoxylated hydrogenated MDI	-	353.242	7.72-8.32	1.5
6	2	40-Crown-8	ToxID 6005	145.122	8.18	0.31
7	2	45-Crown-9	ToxID 6006	145.122	8.33	0.25
8	2	50-Crown-10	ToxID 6007	145.122	8.69	0.12
9	2	55-Crown-11	ToxID 6008	145.122	9.19	0.16
10	3	Irganox 1010 degradation product	ToxID 5005	527.298	9.41	0.12
11	2	60-Crown-12	ToxID 6009	145.122	9.47	0.10
12	1	Erucamide	112.84-5	338.340	9.71	0.14
13	1	Irganox 1010	6683-19-8	731.412	10.87	170
14	U	-	-	559.517	11.11	0.15
15	2	Ethylene bis(linoleamide)	14614-46-1	585.533	11.39	0.23
16	2	N,N'-Ethylene myristyl oleyl diamide	ToxID 5888	535.518	11.47	0.51

ID LEVEL: 1 = Confirmed; 2 = Confident; 3 = Tentative , 4 = Partial, U = unknown

# Tentative identifications

Commonly achieved through computerized database matching algorithms (e.g. NIST, Wiley...)



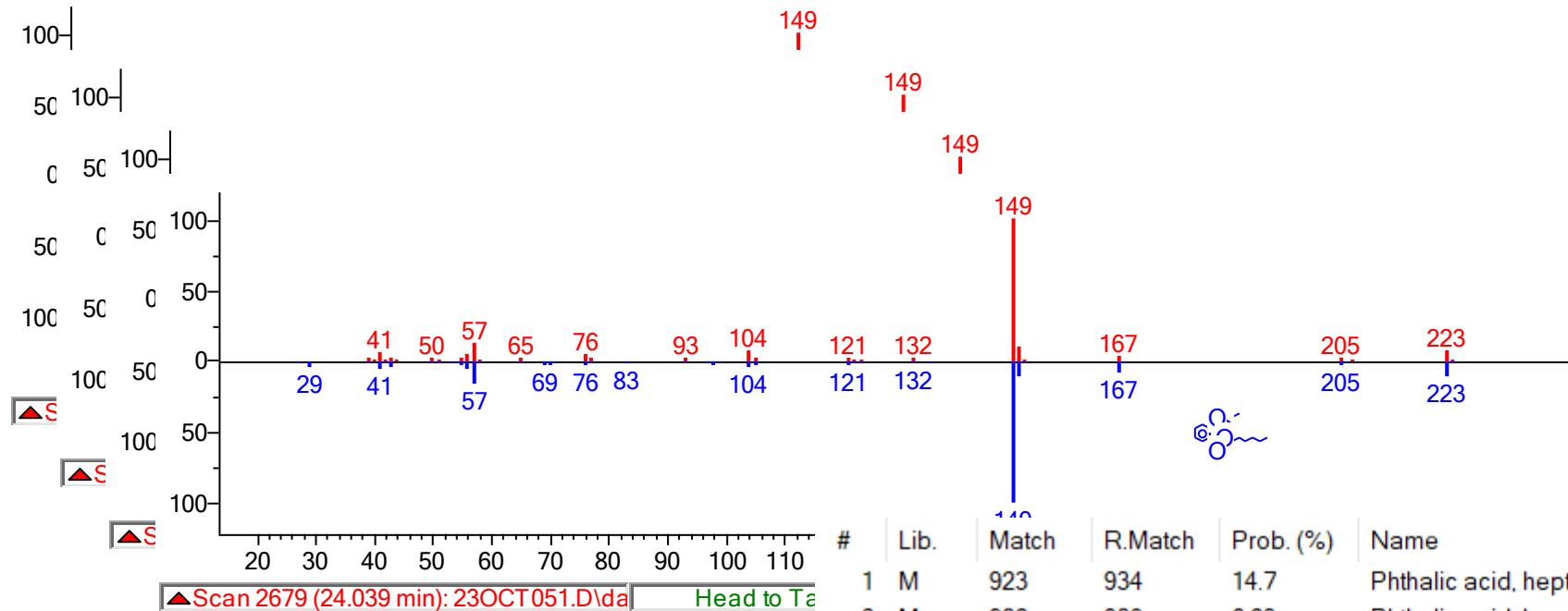
**Never trust the algorithm!**

Every ‘hit’ to be carefully evaluated by a trained mass spectrometrist:

- Visual inspection
- Match factors
- Probability
- “InLibrary” score

# Tentative identifications

When you have a wealth of compounds with similar mass spectra...



What to report?

Phthalate

= partial TIC

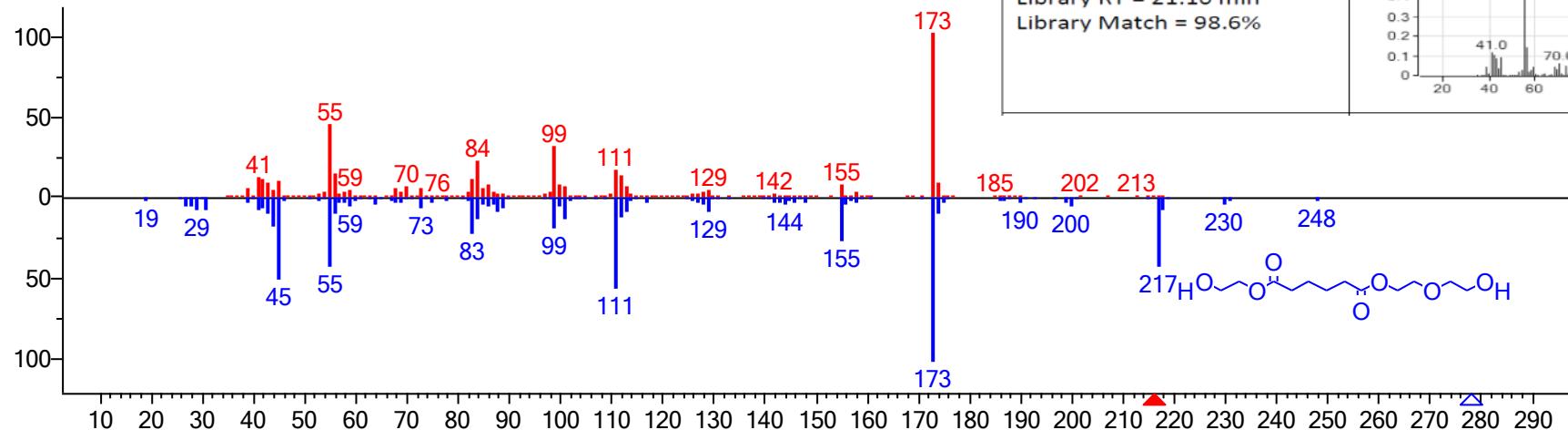
All possible candidates!

Hit 1 is not automatically the compound to report!!

#	Lib.	Match	R.Match	Prob. (%)	Name
1	M	923	934	14.7	Phthalic acid, hept-4-yl isobutyl ester
2	M	902	908	6.23	Phthalic acid, hex-3-yl isobutyl ester
3	M	901	909	5.99	Phthalic acid, hept-3-yl isobutyl ester
4	M	892	897	4.34	Phthalic acid, hept-2-yl isobutyl ester
5	M	891	898	4.18	Phthalic acid, isobutyl 2-propylpentyl ester
6	M	887	892	3.53	Phthalic acid, 2-ethylbutyl isobutyl ester
7	M	881	884	2.77	Phthalic acid, isobutyl 2-methylpent-3-yl ester
8	M	879	885	2.56	Phthalic acid, butyl isohexyl ester
9	M	878	885	2.46	Phthalic acid, butyl 2-ethylbutyl ester
1..	M	876	878	2.27	Phthalic acid, 2,4-dimethylpent-3-yl isobutyl ester

# Tentative identifications

## When the mass spectrum is not in the database...



# The “Home Court” Advantage

#	Lib.	Match	R.Match	Prob. (%)	Name
1	M	691	693	36.7	Ethylene glycol - Adipate - Diethylene glycol
2	M	681	685	25.9	Diethylene glycol adipate
3	M	637	659	5.61	Succinic acid, 2-(2-chlorophenoxy)ethyl ethyl ester
4	M	630	632	4.30	Butanamide, N-methyl-4-(methylthio)-2-(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)ethyl-
5	M	621	623	3.12	Diethylene glycol - Adipate - Diethylene glycol
6	M	619	640	2.88	1-Dimethylhexylsilyloxyheptane



→ Compound not in database

→ Unidentified or Tentative identification by expert interpretation

Again: reporting hit 1 would be a wrong identification



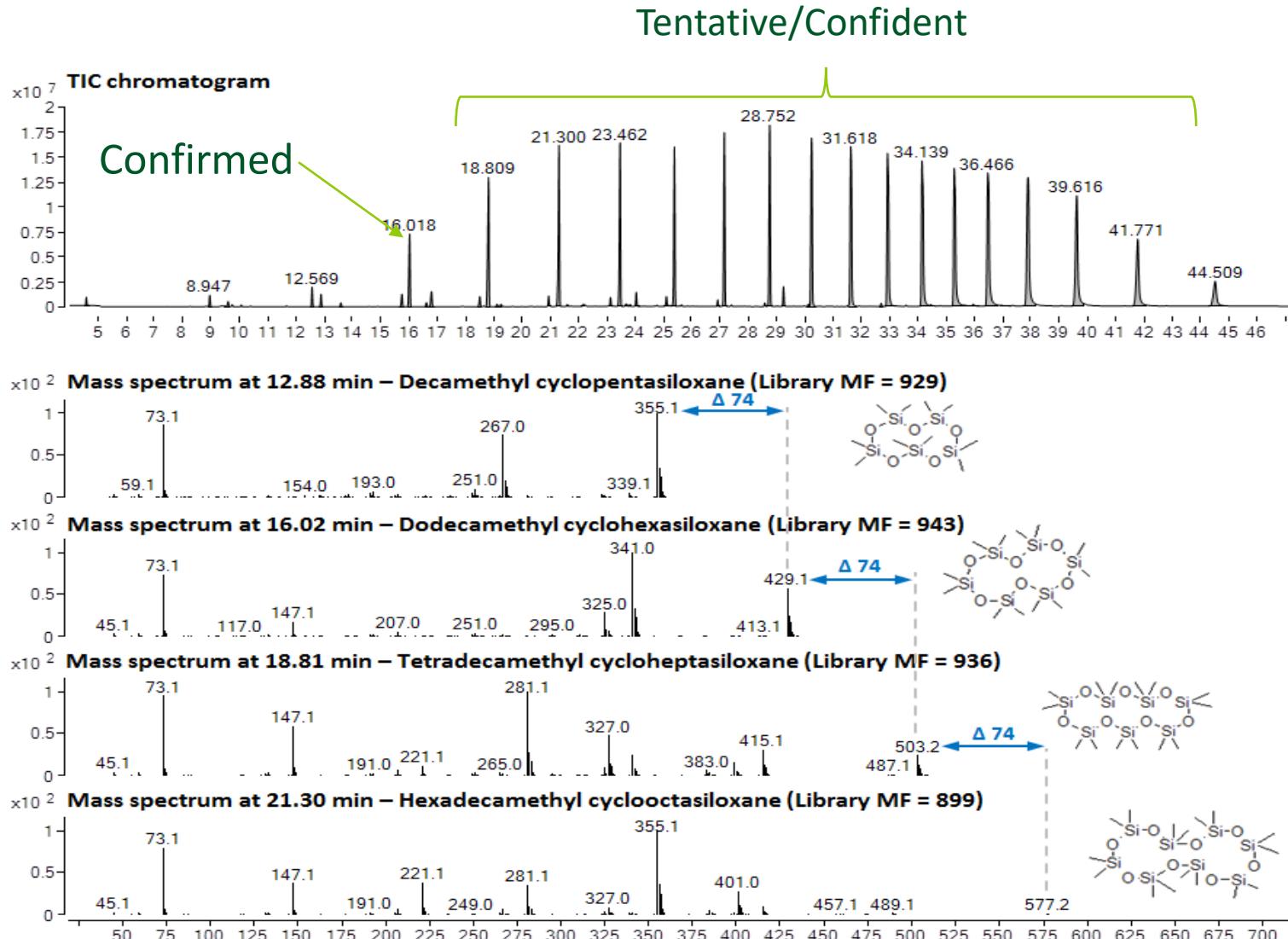
# Confident identifications

- Additional evidence for tentative identification
  - Molecular weight confirmation (chemical ionization, *vide infra*)
  - Elemental formula confirmation (accurate mass, *vide infra*)
  - Confirmed identification in **orthogonal technique**
  - Material/processing knowledge (e.g. expected anti-oxidant degradation after gamma-sterilization)
  - Homologue series with provable relationship to confirmed compound
  - Compound within **expected retention index window** (based on **experimental** RI data from **same GC column phase** in NIST)



# Confident identifications

Case: homologue series



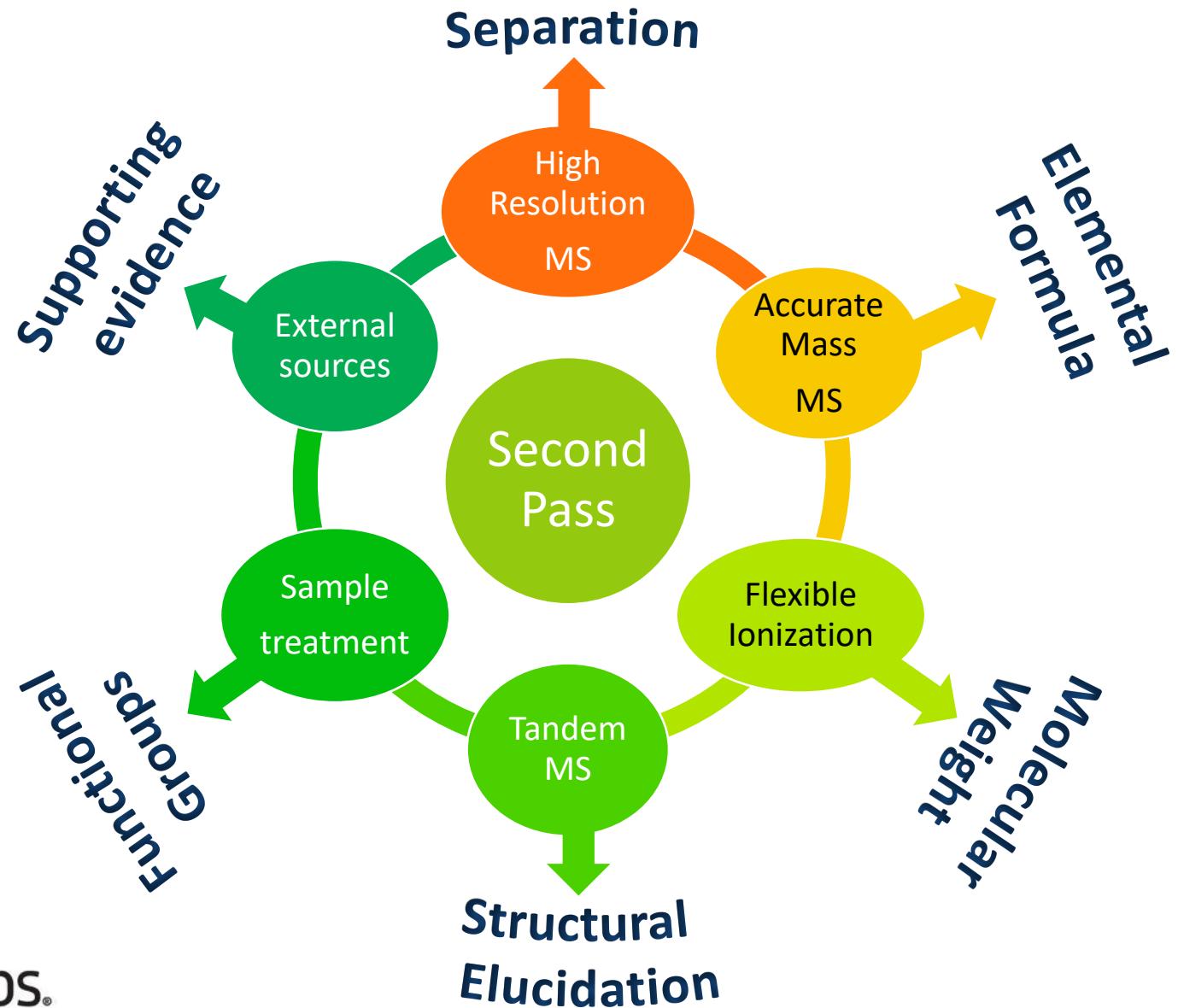
# Second Pass Identification

INCREASE IDENTIFICATION LEVEL

# When second pass comes into play?

- **Unknown / Partially identified compounds > AET** in 1st pass screening
  - Unknowns are treated as carcinogenic/mutagenic
  - To allow de-risking by tox assessment, a **structure is needed!**
- Request to **further increase ID level** (e.g. low margin of safety)
  - TIC to Confident
  - Confident to Confirmed (standard should be available or synthesized)
- Goal of second pass studies: generate / collect comprehensive set of **supporting data to increase the identification level**

# What is second pass testing?



# Why need for High Resolution / Accurate Mass Spectrometry?

Element	Nominal Mass	Exact Mass
Hydrogen (H)	1	1.0078
Carbon (C)	12	12.0000
Nitrogen (N)	14	14.0031
Oxygen (O)	16	15.9949



**Nitrogen gas: N<sub>2</sub>**

Nominal mass: 28 Da

Exact mass: 28.0062 Da



Difference: 0.0113 Da

**Carbon monoxide: CO**

Nominal mass: 28 Da

Exact mass: 27.9949 Da



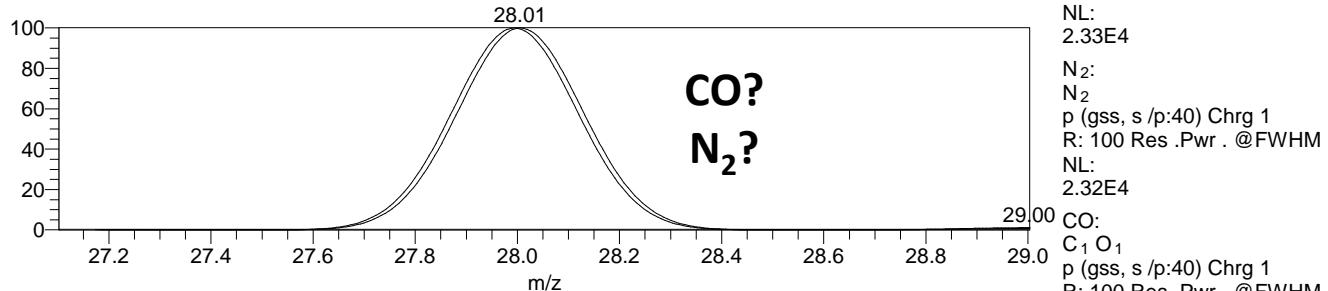
# High Resolution / Accurate Mass Spectrometry

Assigning the wrong identification for a compound with a mass of 28 Da can be fatal... how to be sure?

**Not separated**

**R = 100**

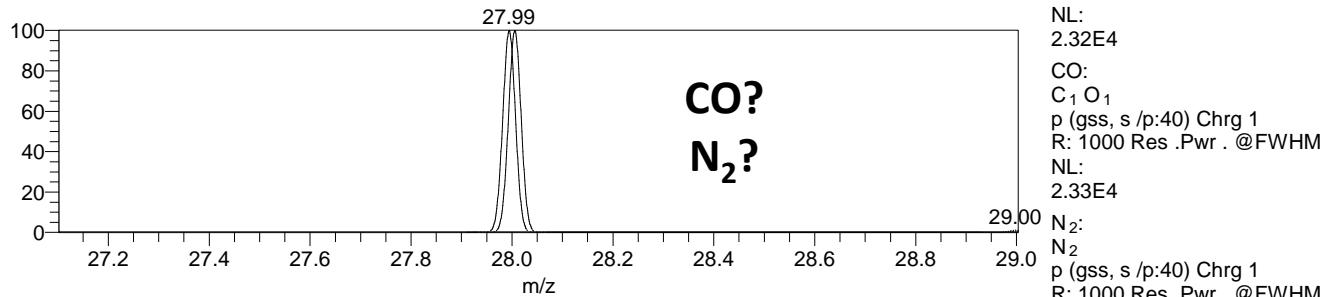
**GC/MS Quadrupole**



**Not separated**

**R = 1000**

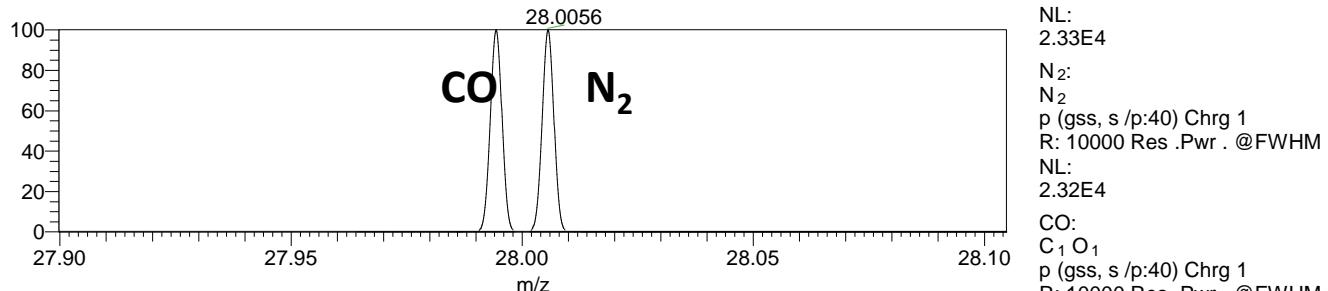
**GC/MS Q-TOF**



**Separated**

**R = 10000**

**GC/MS Orbitrap**



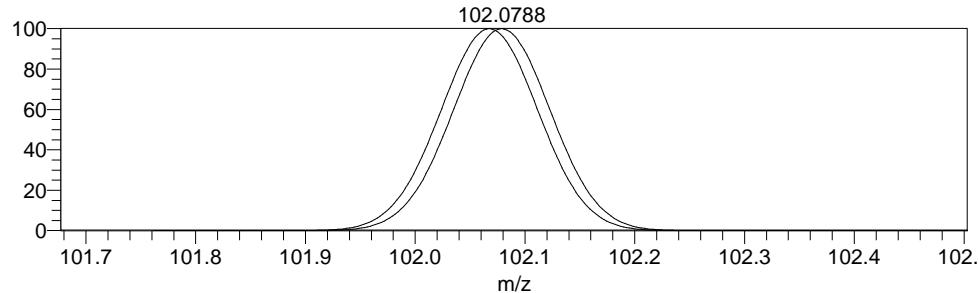
# High Resolution / Accurate Mass Spectrometry

Organic example: 2 compounds where both have nominal mass 102...

LC/MS Quadrupole

Not separated

R = 1000



Close...



LC/MS TOF

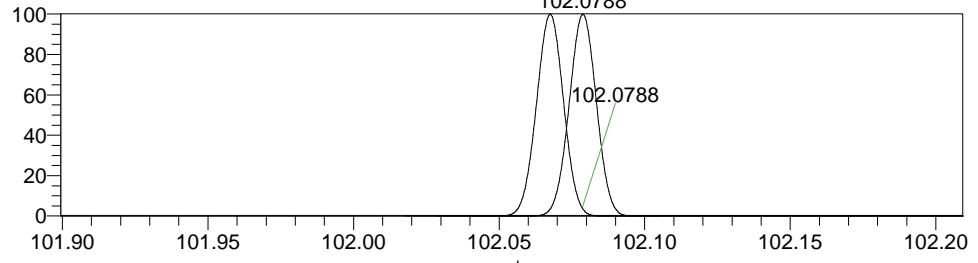
R = 10000

LC/MS Q-TOF

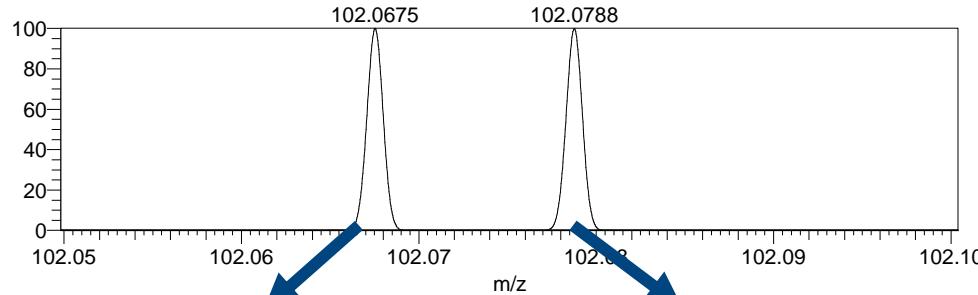
LC/MS Orbitrap

R = 100000

LC/MS Orbitrap



Separated



$C_5H_{10}O_2$  - isopropyl acetate

$C_4H_{10}N_2O$  - N-nitrosodiethylamine

NL: 2.22E4  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O$ :  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O_1$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 1000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM  
NL: 2.21E4  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$ :  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 1000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM  
NL: 2.22E4  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O$ :  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O_1$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 10000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM  
NL: 2.21E4  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$ :  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 10000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM  
NL: 2.22E4  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O$ :  
 $C_4H_{10}N_2O_1$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 100000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM  
NL: 2.21E4  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$ :  
 $C_5H_{10}O_2$   
p (gss, s /p:40) Chrg 1  
R: 100000 Res .Pwr . @FWHM

Sometimes very high resolution needed to separate compounds with same nominal mass!

# High Resolution / Accurate Mass Spectrometry

## Important take aways around HRAM MS:

accurate mass alone does not deliver a structure...

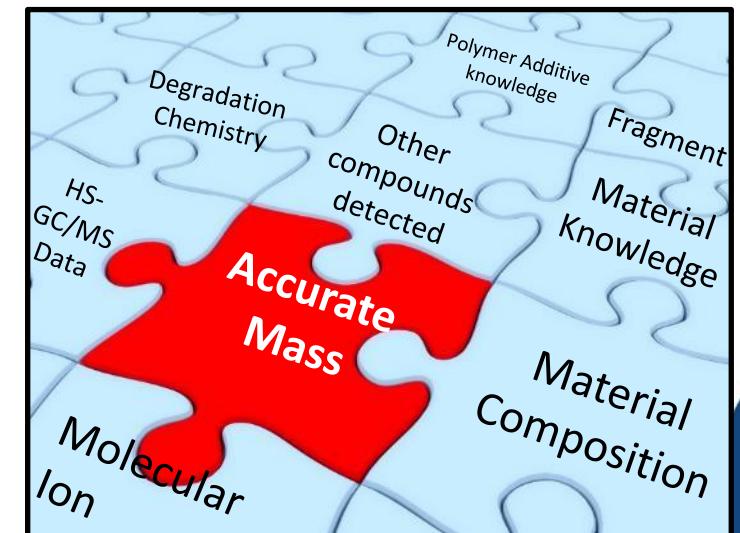
... but delivers **the elemental formula** of the molecule and fragments of the molecule

high resolution does not deliver a structure...

... but enables to **separate molecules** with the same nominal mass but different elemental formulas

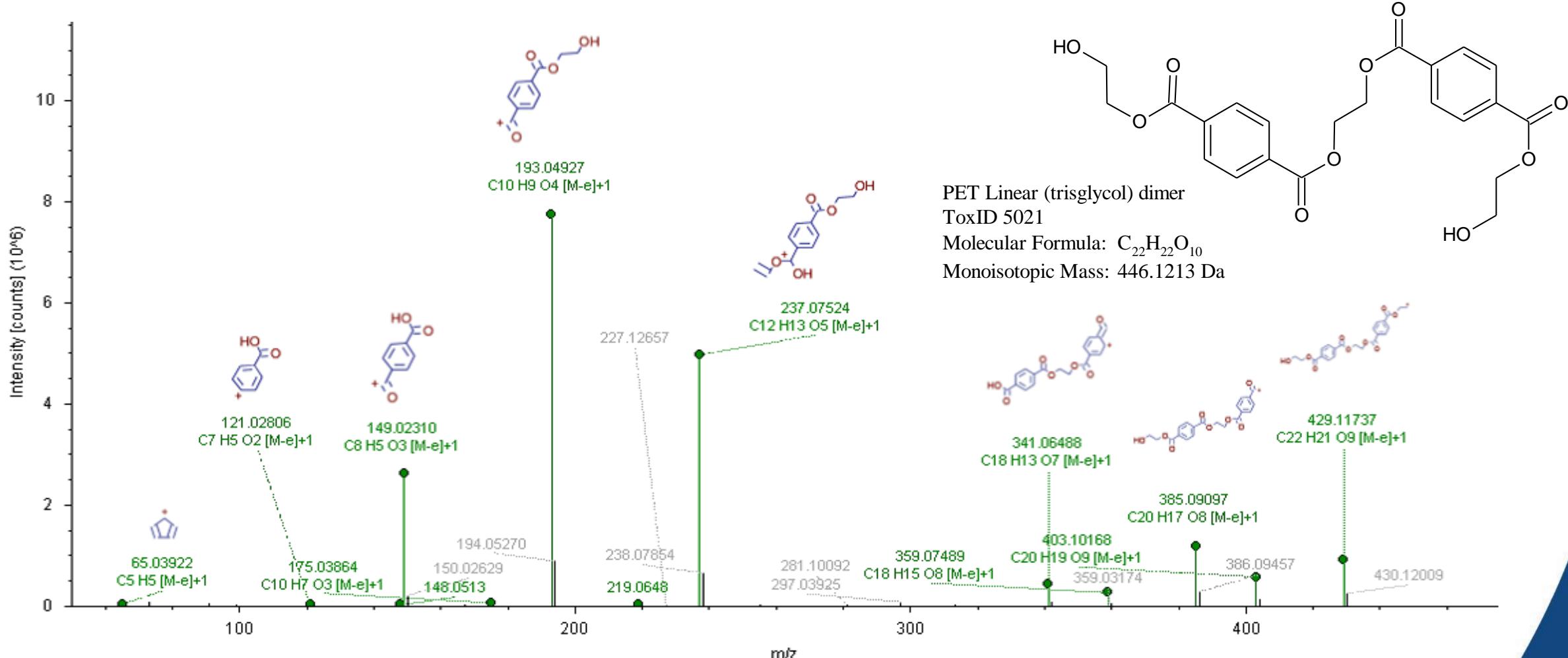
...but assists in confirming the elemental formula using isotope matching

**Mass spectral interpretation skills and expertise are required**



# High Resolution / Accurate Mass Spectrometry

Case: “de novo” structural elucidation and interpretation of HRAM MS/MS fragmentation spectra



# Read more...

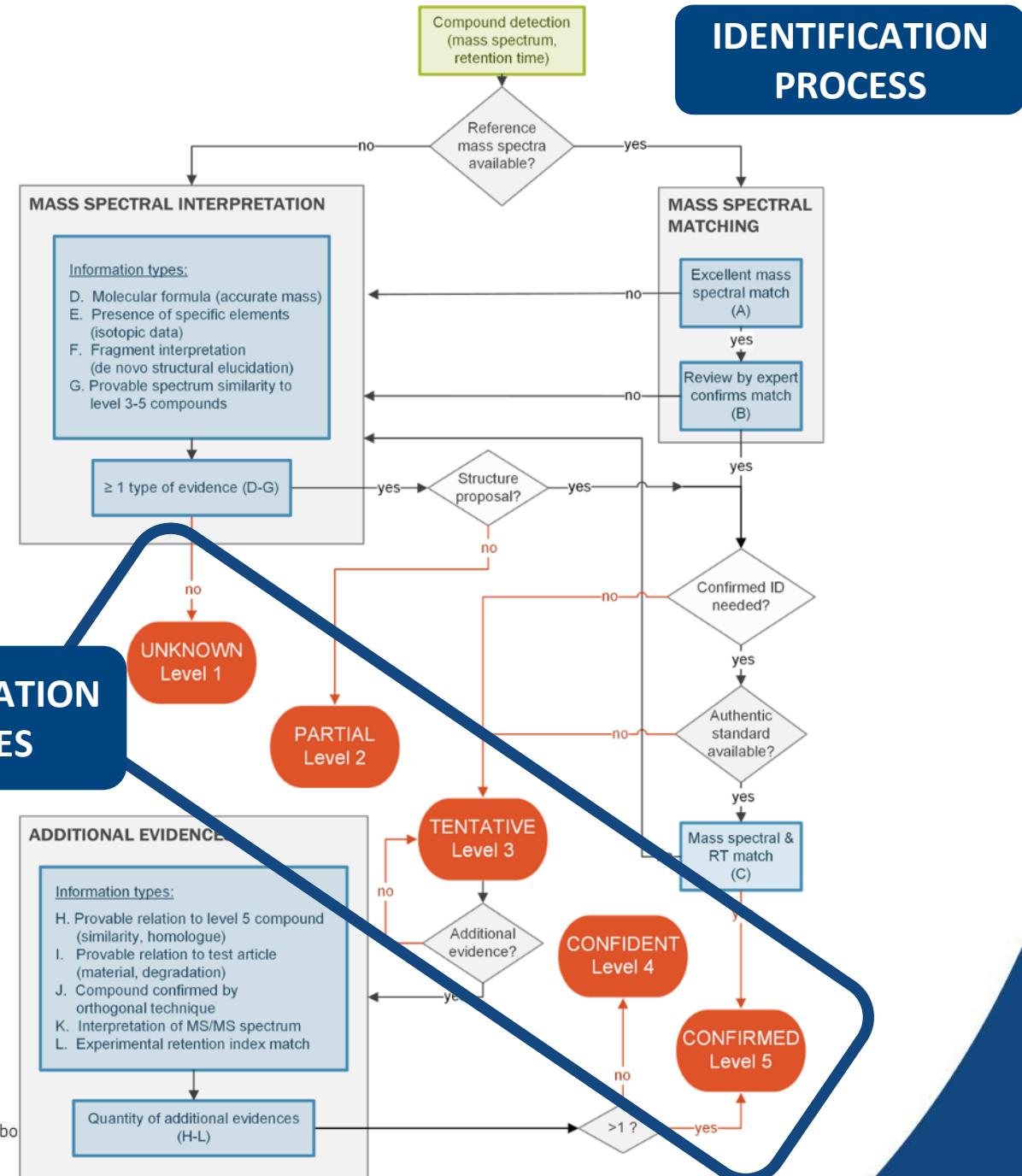
## NELSON LABS White Paper Series

### Part 1: Introduction and Description of the “*Identification Classes & Processes*”



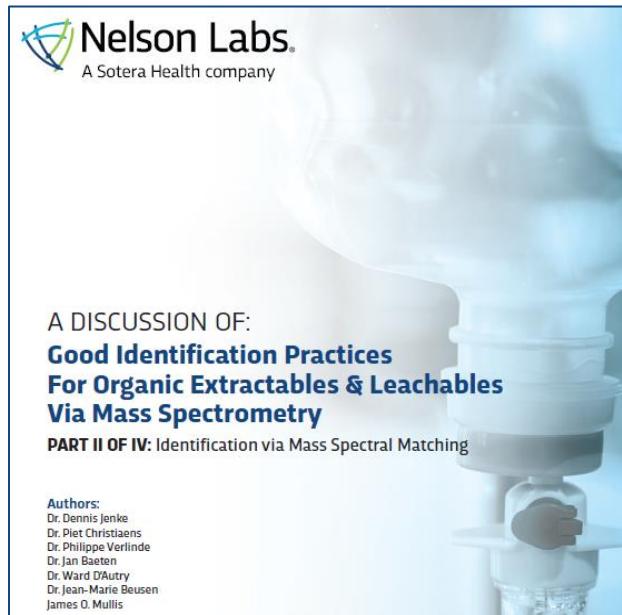
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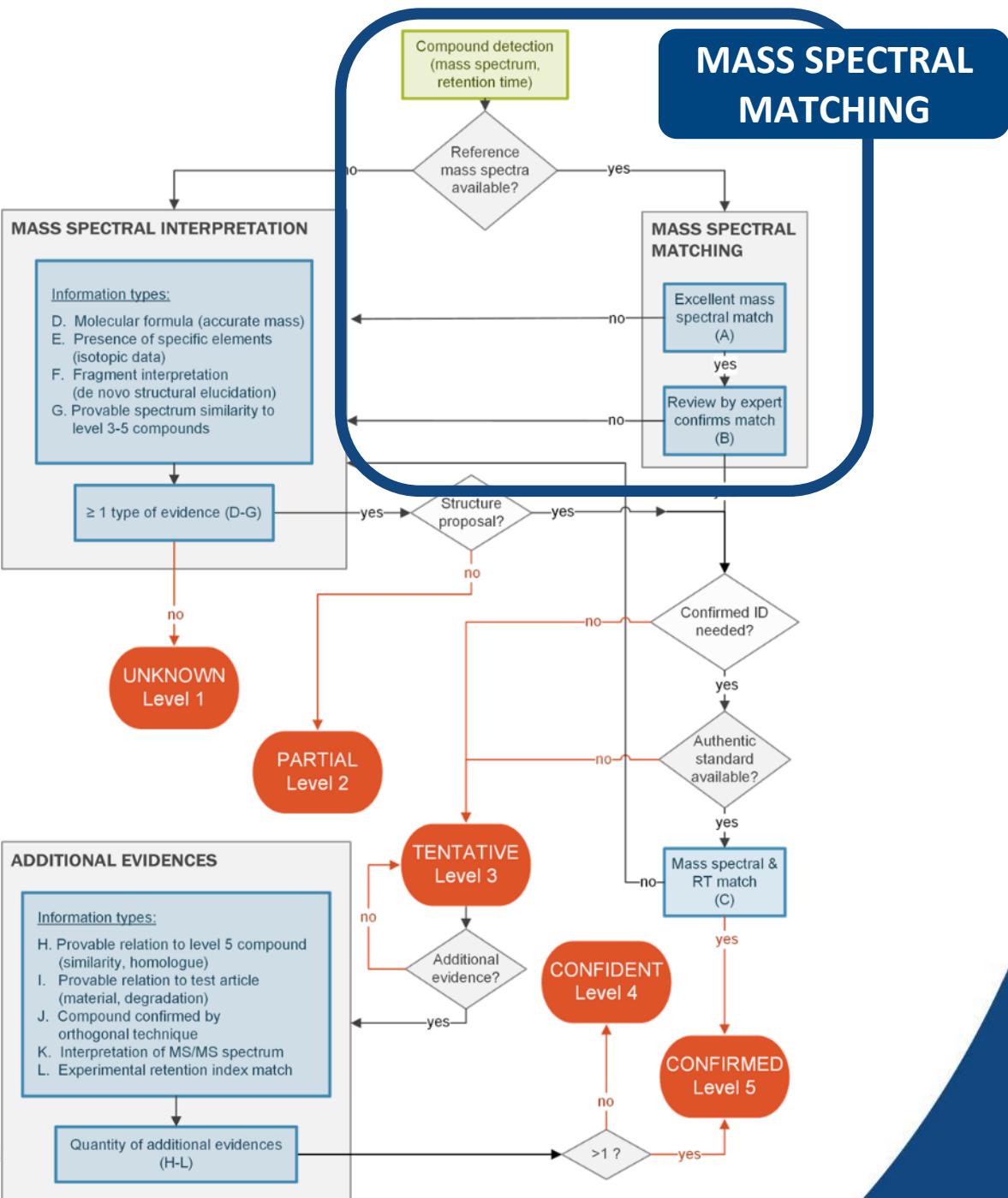
# Read more...

## NELSON LABS White Paper Series Part 2: “*Mass Spectral Matching*”



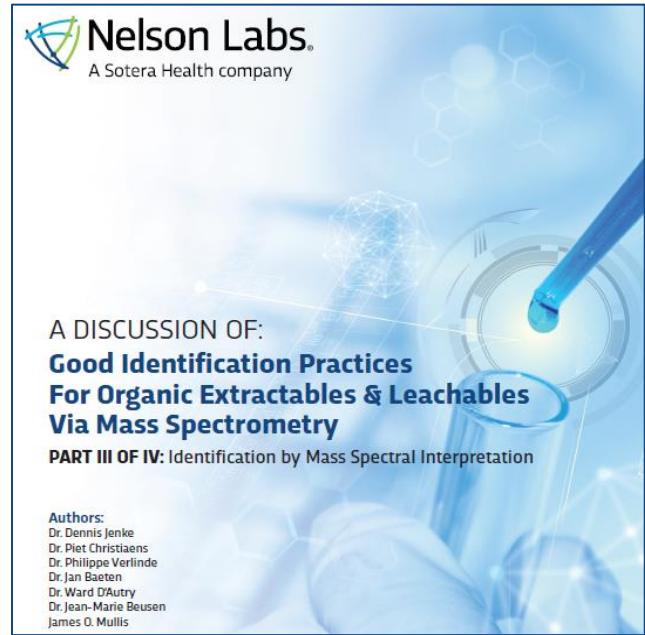
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# Read more...

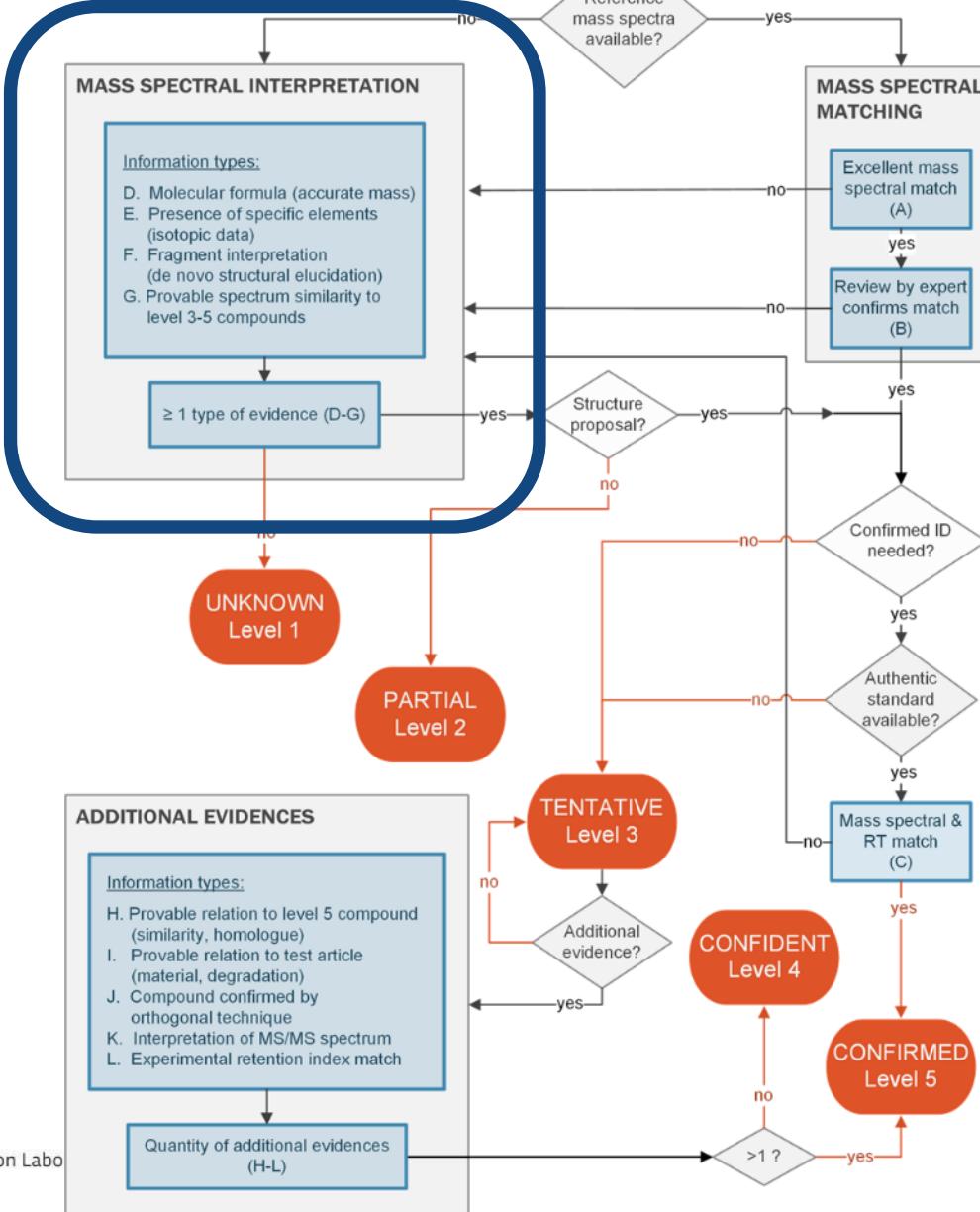
## NELSON LABS White Paper Series Part 3: “*Mass Spectral Interpretation*”



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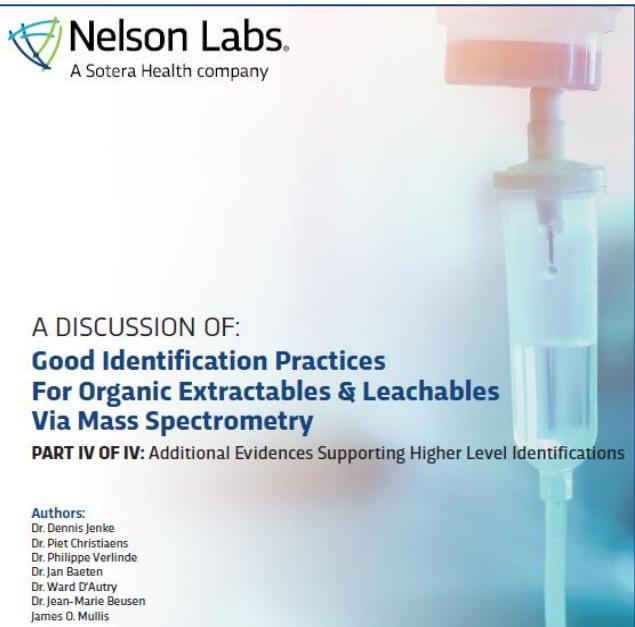
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## MASS SPECTRAL INTERPRETATION



# Read more...

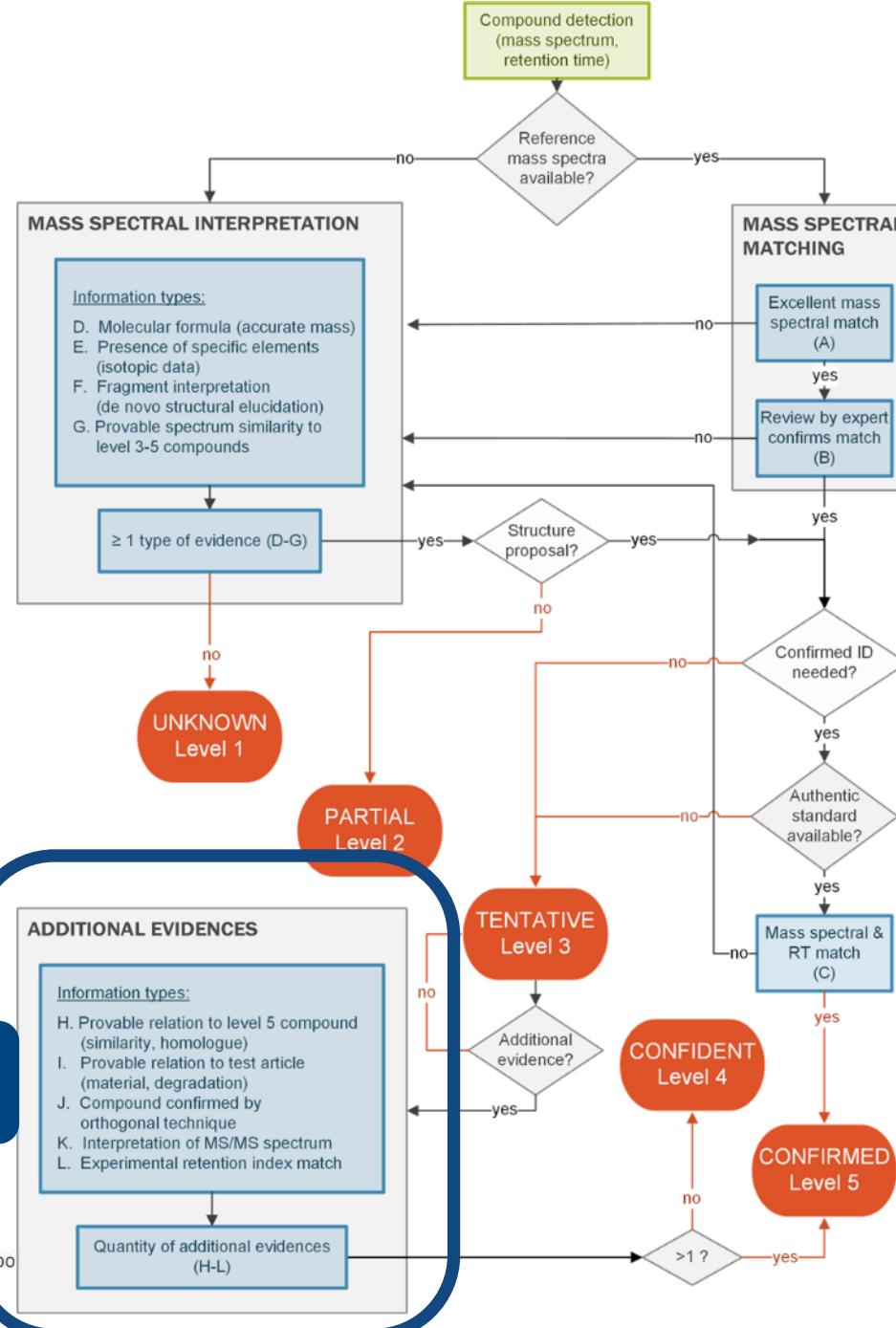
## NELSON LABS White Paper Series Part 4: “Additional Evidences supporting Higher Level Identifications”



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## ADDITIONAL EVIDENCES

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