

High Throughput Workflow for Global Metabolomic Profiling of Biological Samples with RapidFire online SPE/MS system

Michelle Romm, Ph.D.

*Applications Scientist,
Agilent Technologies, Inc.*

What is High Throughput?



of Samples

N=1

N=100

N=1,000

N=10,000

RapidFire/MS

14 secs

23 mins

3.8 hrs

38.8 hrs (1.6 days)

LC/MS

30 mins

50 hrs

20.8 days

208.3 days

120X Faster



Why High Throughput Profiling?

Is Faster better?

When

Method Development

Large Population Studies

pH
Solvents/Additives
Chemistry
Timings/Flows

N= 5
50
500
5000

Better Experiments!

RapidFire/MS System



RapidFire 365 Online SPE/MS System

- **BenchBot plate handling robot**
 - 63 plate capacity (384 well plates = 24,192 samples)
 - Off-deck reach capability
- **Quaternary pumps**
 - Solvent switching capability
 - Capable of running multiple disparate methods in one batch
- **12 position automated cartridge changer**
- **Automated method development**
 - Perform multiple injections of a single sample with different SPE cartridges and mobile phases
 - C18, C8, C4, CN, Phenyl, HILIC, Graphitic Carbon
 - Simply run multiple samples overnight and select your ideal conditions the next morning

Aspirate	Load/Wash	Elute	Re-equilibrate
600ms	3000ms	8000ms	1000ms



For Research Use Only. Not for Use in Diagnostic Procedures.

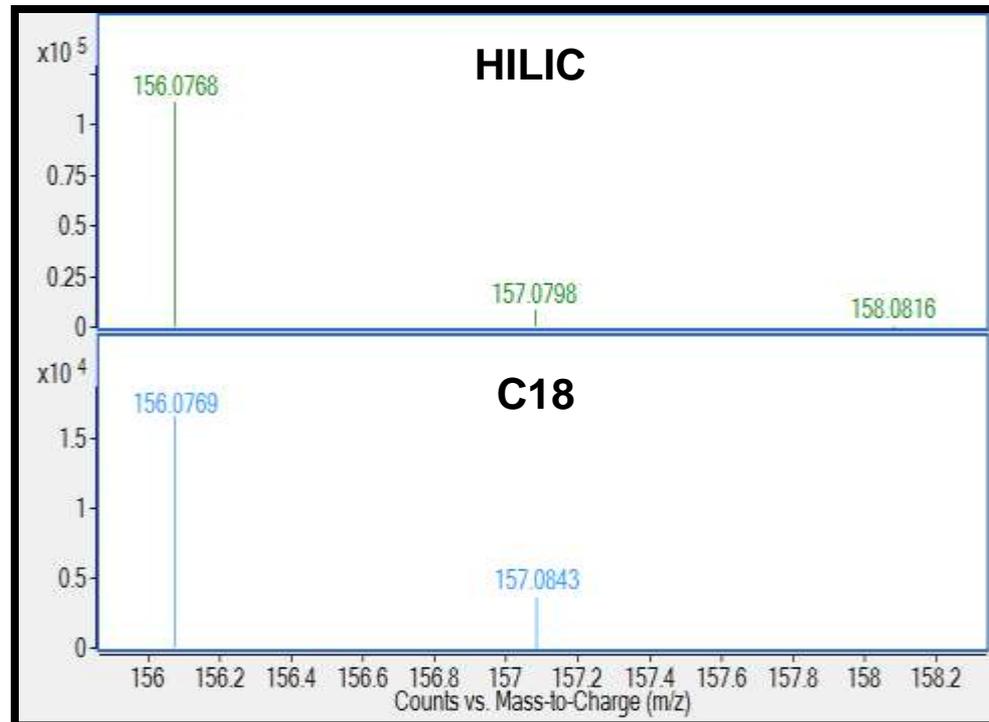
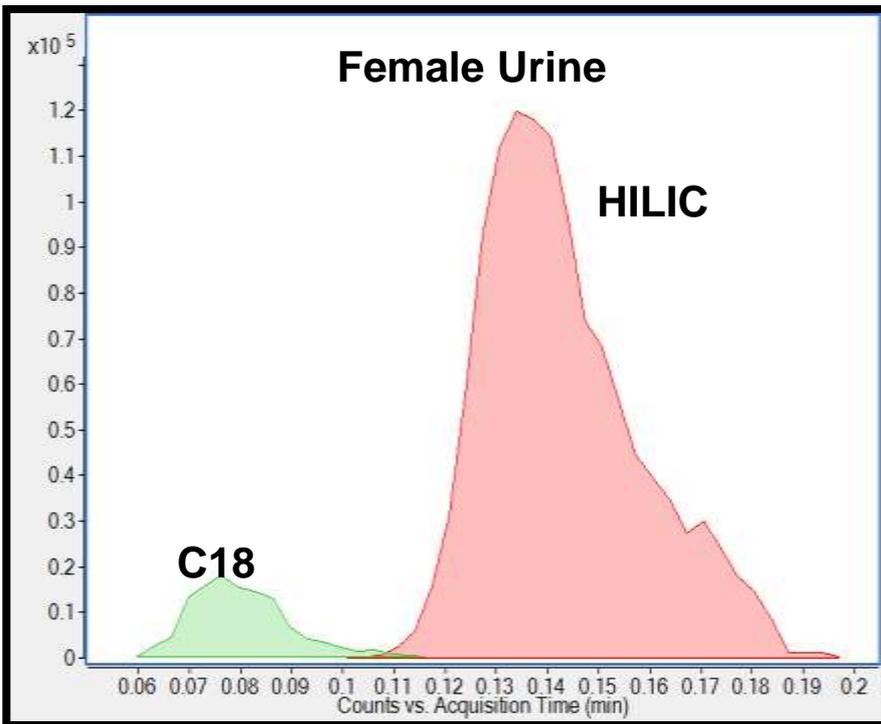
Method Development: Refining the Experiments

- Cartridge chemistries
- Ionization mode
- Loading solvents/times
- Elution times/solvents

One solution doesn't fit everyone, this system allows
FLEXIBILITY!

Comparison of SPE Chemistries: HILIC vs. C18 SPE/MS for a Single Feature in Urine Sample

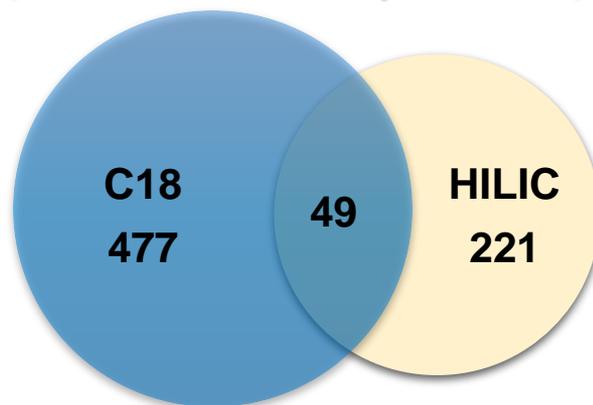
Show/Hide	File	Mass	m/z	RT	Quality Score	Height	Ions	Polarity	Algorithm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inj00012-MetStab C18-A1.d	155.0696	156.0769	0.08	70.2	16551	2	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inj00011-MetStab C18-A1.d	155.0695	156.0768	0.14	100	111020	3	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature



Comparison of Chemistries: C18 vs. HILIC SPE/MS (+ESI) in Urine

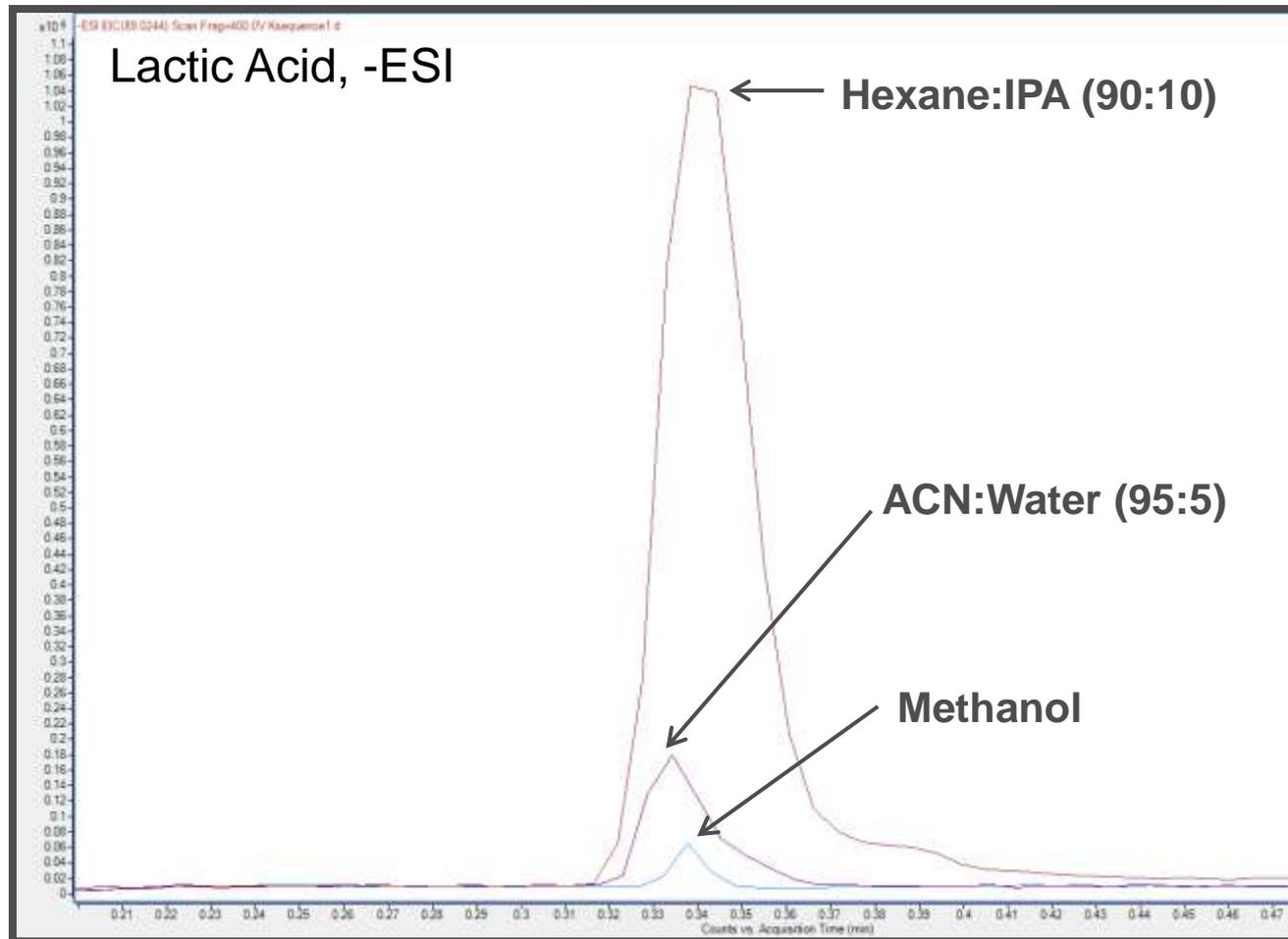
- ✓ 526 metabolites annotated by C18 SPE/MS
- ✓ 270 metabolites annotated by HILIC SPE/MS
- ✓ 49 annotated metabolites common between HILIC and C18 SPE/MS

747 unique metabolites (100% reproducibility; CV<15%)



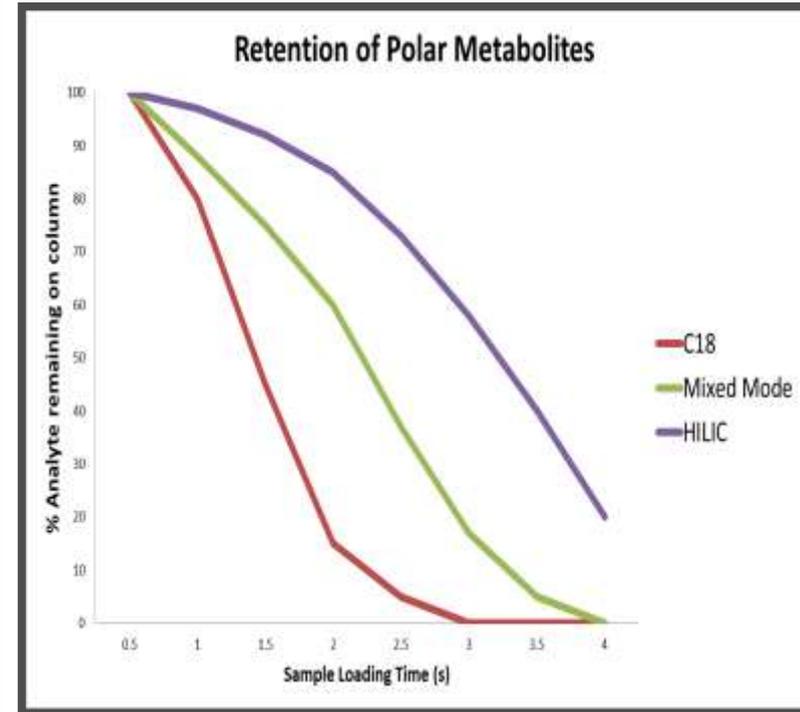
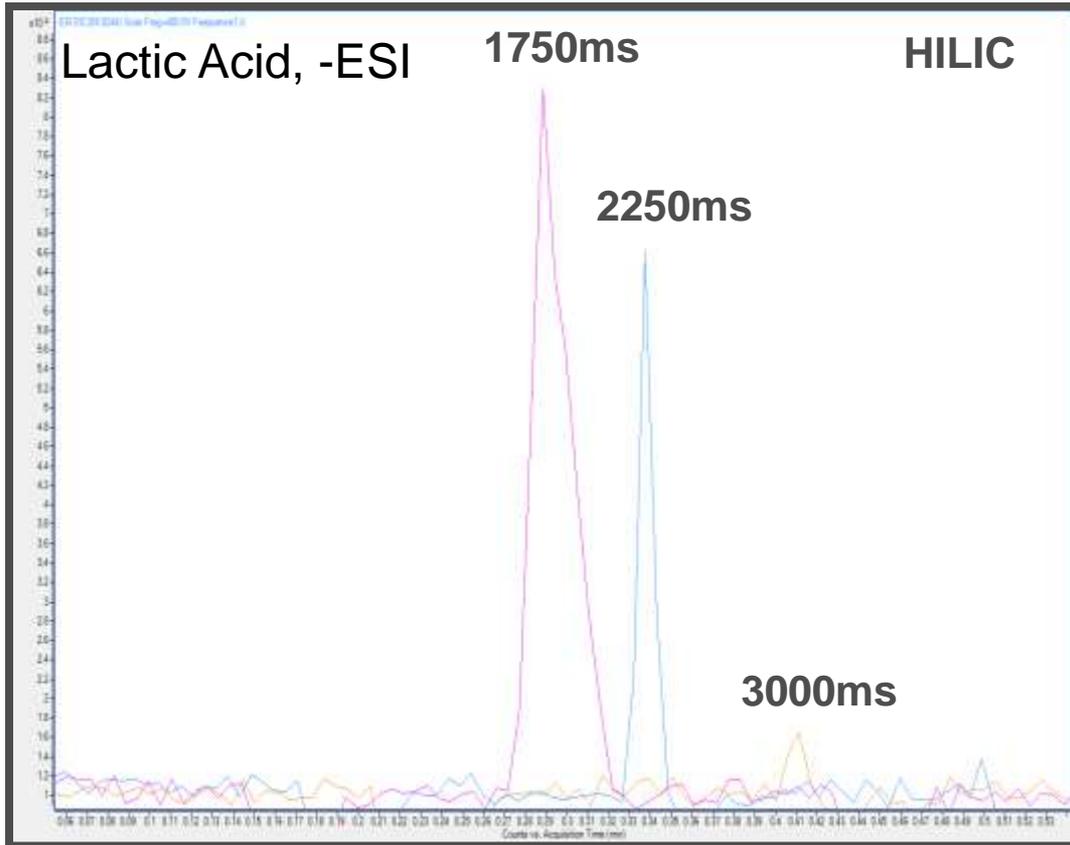
Utilize multiple unique chemistries to increase the metabolite coverage

Comparison of Loading Solvents: HILIC Normal Phase



Data obtained by Jeramie Watrous and Mohit Jain, University of California, San Diego

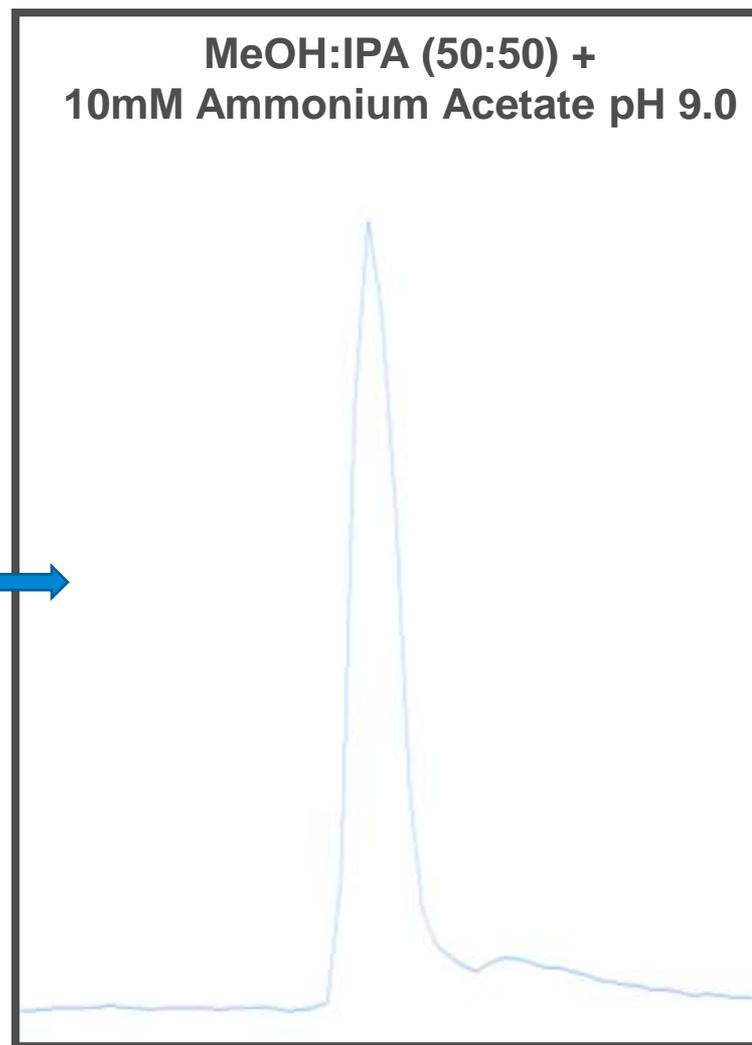
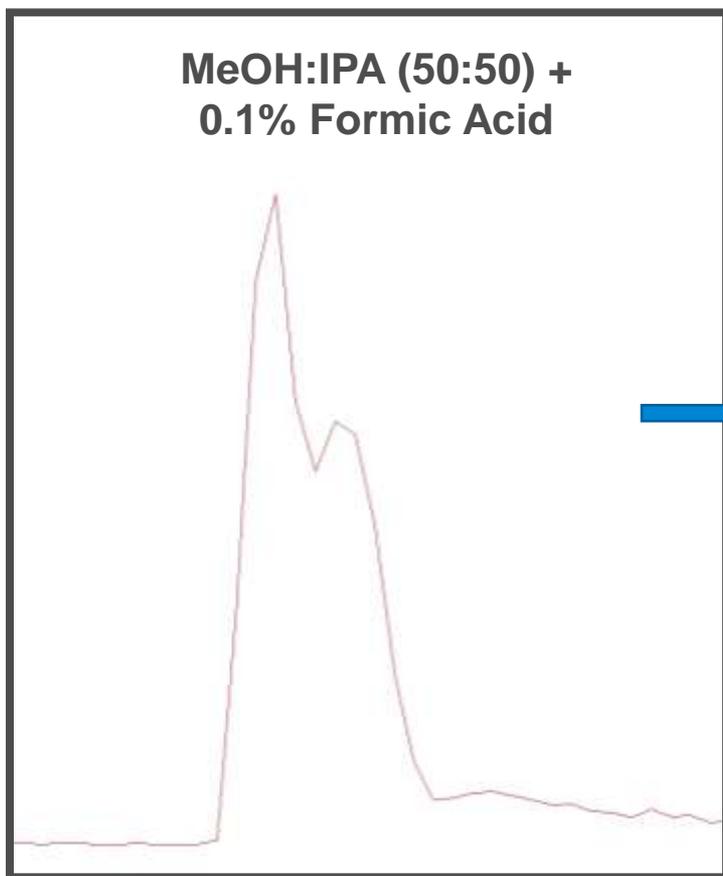
Comparison of Loading Times: Polar Analytes



Data obtained by Jeramie Watrous and Mohit Jain, University of California, San Diego

Comparison of Elution pH

Lactic Acid, -ESI



Data obtained by Jeramie Watrous and Mohit Jain, University of California, San Diego

High Throughput Metabolomics Profiling Workflow

High Throughput Acquisition



RapidFire 365



iFunnel
6550 Q-TOF

Batch Data Processing

MassHunter Profinder (NEW)



.d data input



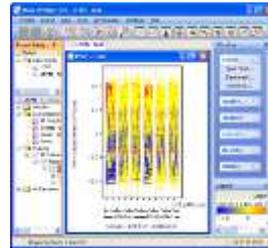
Recursive
MFE



Features
.cef output

Data Analysis

Mass Profiler Professional (MPP)



Statistics

Database Search

Pathway Analysis

**Potential
Targets**

Verification/ Confirmation/ Validation

Pooled Sample/
Random Samples

**LC/MS
Acquisition**
FindbyFormula
Verify Targets

**LC/MS/MS
Acquisition**
Metlin Library/
SimLipid/
MSC

Confirm Targets



**Validate with
Reference
Standard**

High Throughput Quantitation



RapidFire 365



iFunnel
6490 QQQ



High-throughput Profiling: What is the Workflow?

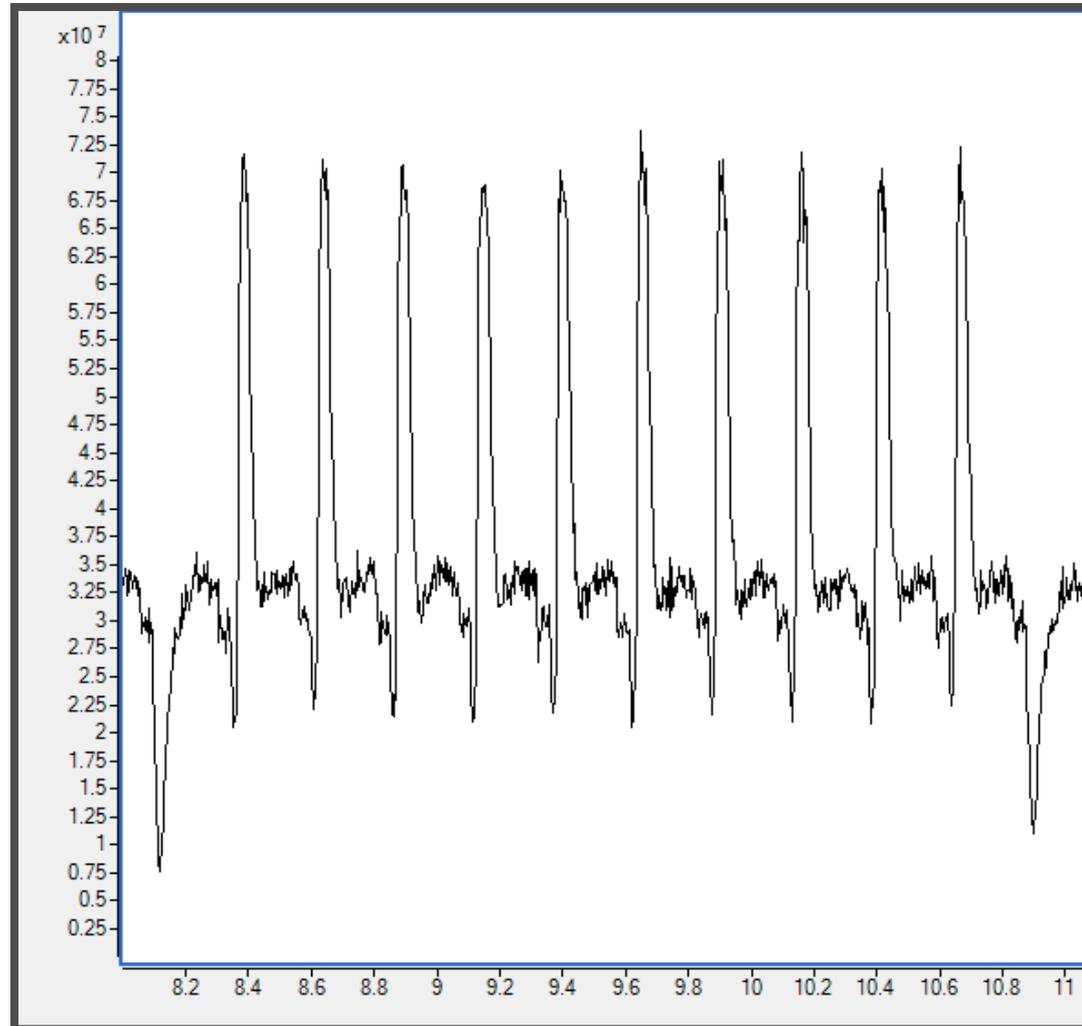
- Human urine
- Human serum lipidome
- Milk lipidome

Human Urine Metabolomics Profiling: Sample Prep

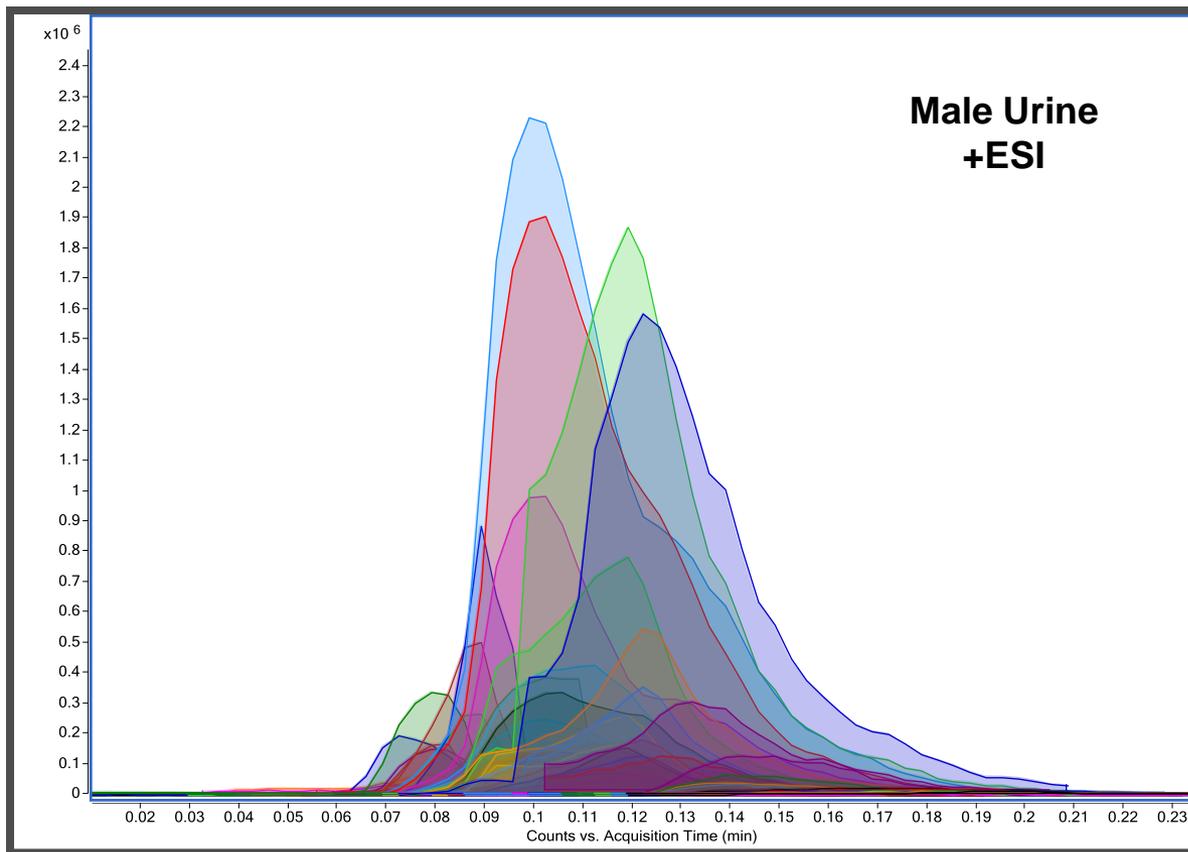
- Human urine, collected and pooled from healthy subjects (males and females), was purchased from Innovative Research Inc. (Novi, MI)
- Filter 400 μ L urine through a 0.22 μ m Ultrafree-MC[®] centrifugal filter units (Millipore) by centrifugation @ 12,000xg for 20min @ 4°C
- Pipette 50 μ L of filtered urine (10 replicates) into the Amicon Ultra-0.5mL Centrifugal Filter (3kDa Cut-off Ultracel-3 membrane) from Millipore
- Dilute with 350 μ L of Milli-Q quality water containing 0.2% Acetic acid, 1mM Ammonium acetate, and centrifuge @ 12000xg, 4°C for 30min to concentrate
- The flow-through represents the metabolomics sample
- Inject **10 μ L** of flow-through for SPE/MS as well as LC/MS/MS analysis

Human urine equivalent to 1.25 μ L was used for the metabolomics profiling studies

TIC for 10 Human Urine Samples (C18 SPE/MS)

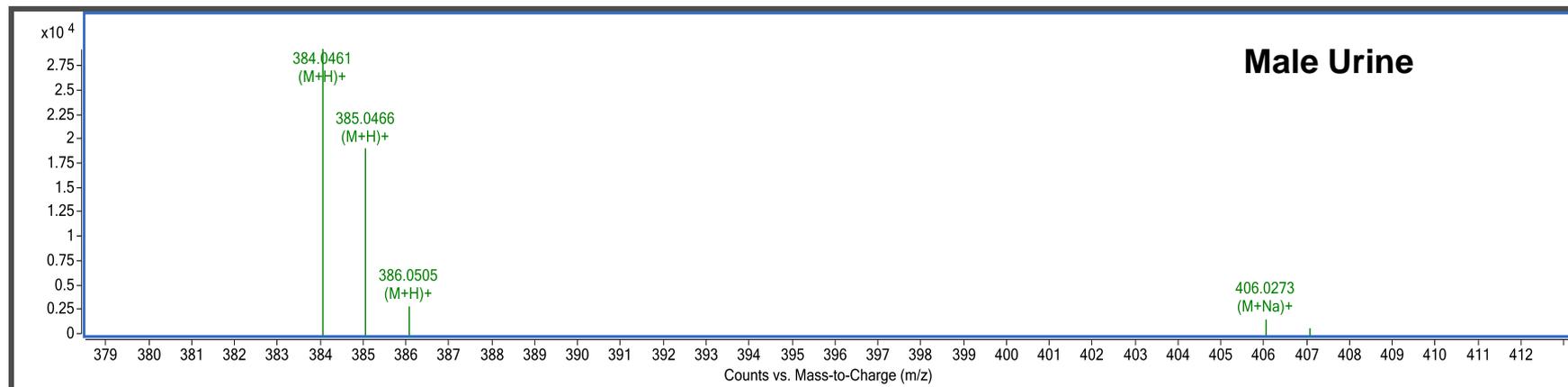
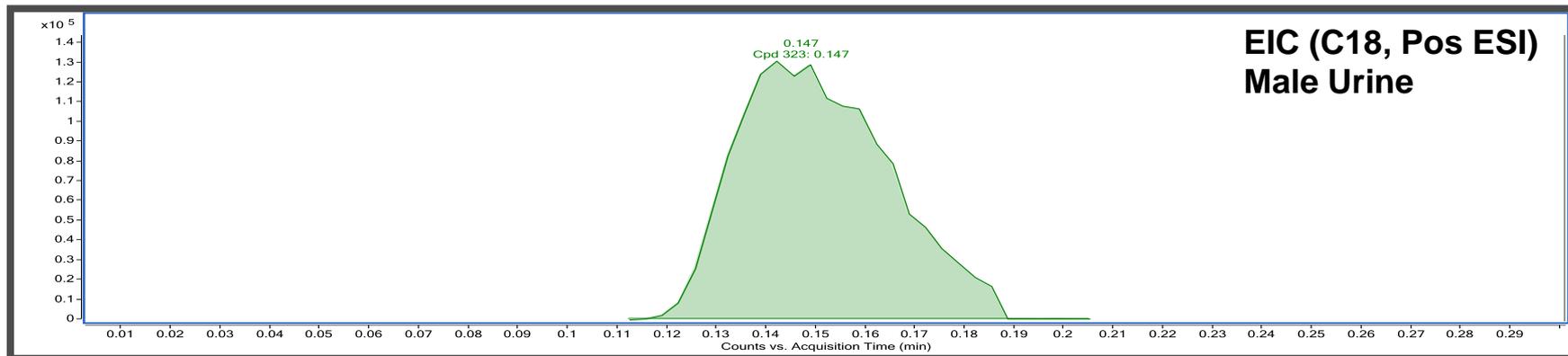


EIC of a Single Injection of Urine Sample on C18 RapidFire SPE/MS



EIC Overlay of a Single Feature in Urine on C18 RapidFire SPE/MS

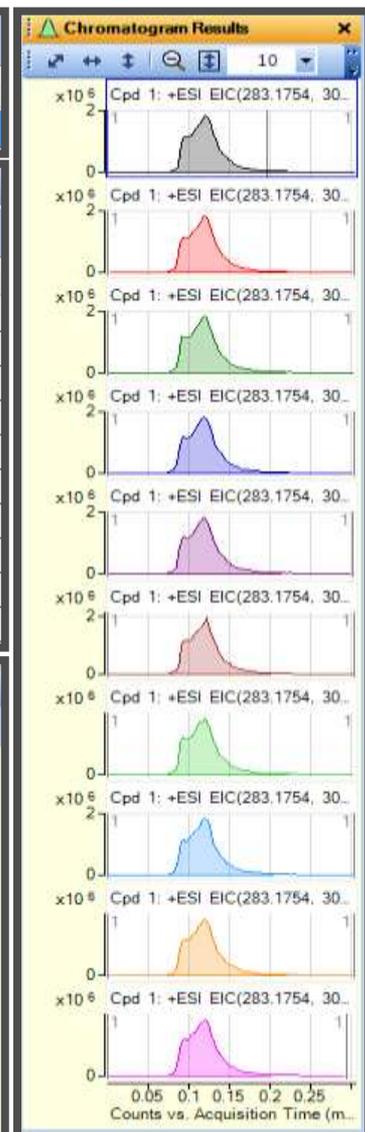
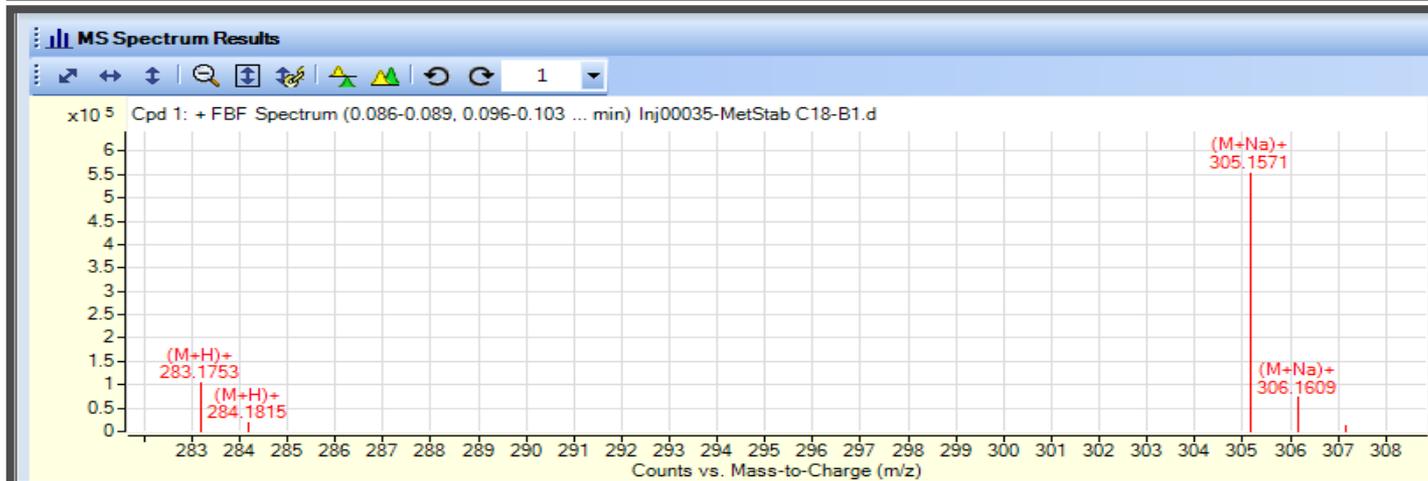
Show/Hide	Cpd	File	Mass	m/z	RT	Quality Score	Height	Ions	Polarity	Algorithm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	318	Inj00037-MetStab C18-B1.d	267.0691	268.0764	0.145	100	8518	3	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	320	Inj00037-MetStab C18-B1.d	517.0538	518.061	0.146	100	4607	3	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	323	Inj00037-MetStab C18-B1.d	383.0388	384.0461	0.147	100	108704	6	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	324	Inj00037-MetStab C18-B1.d	373.018	374.0253	0.15	100	3354	3	Positive	Find by Molecular Feature



ProFinder for High Throughput Batch Analysis of Samples

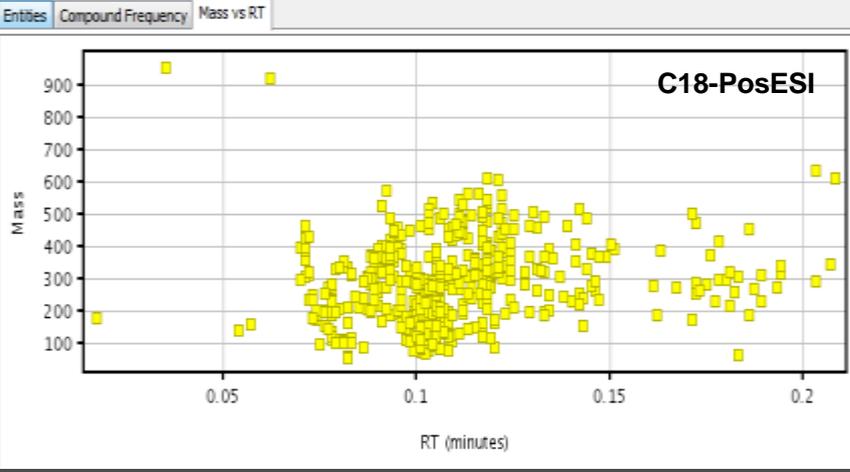
Group	RT (Tgt)	RT (med)	Found	Missed	%RSD (Tgt)	Height (med)	Mass (Tgt)	RSD (Mass, ppm)	RT (span)	RT (m
1	0.115	0.119	10	0	0.3	1817658	282.1683	0.41	0.004	0.151

File	Score (Tgt)	Score (MFE)	Area	Height	Mass	Diff (Tgt, ppm)	RT	Ions	Z Count
Inj00034-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.62	100	4744036	1821442	282.1681	-0.71	0.12	5	1
Inj00035-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.01	100	4769787	1824081	282.1679	-1.46	0.119	5	1
Inj00036-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.88	100	4786381	1821291	282.1683	-0.06	0.118	5	1
Inj00037-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.81	100	4748902	1814025	282.1682	-0.3	0.119	5	1
Inj00038-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.43	80	4768715	1812210	282.168	-0.96	0.118	5	1
Inj00039-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.76	100	4724047	1935793	282.1681	-0.45	0.121	5	1
Inj00040-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.69	100	4763608	1798235	282.1681	-0.65	0.119	5	1
Inj00041-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.74	100	4744920	1825080	282.1681	-0.62	0.12	5	1
Inj00042-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.8	100	4749936	1798975	282.1682	-0.39	0.119	5	1
Inj00043-MetStab C18-B1.d	99.87	100	4649658	1756119	282.1682	-0.2	0.121	5	1

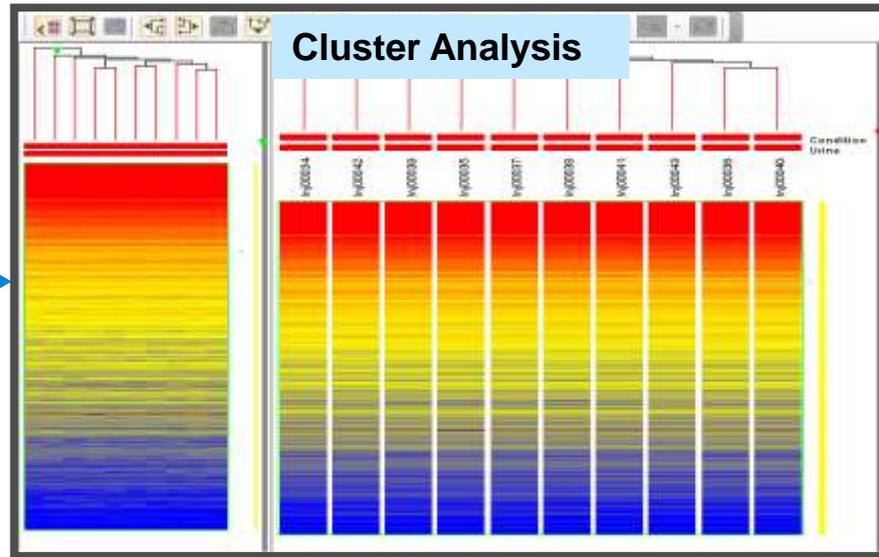


Mass Profiler Professional (MPP)

Filter by all 10 reps, abundance >2, CV ≤ 15%



Cluster Analysis



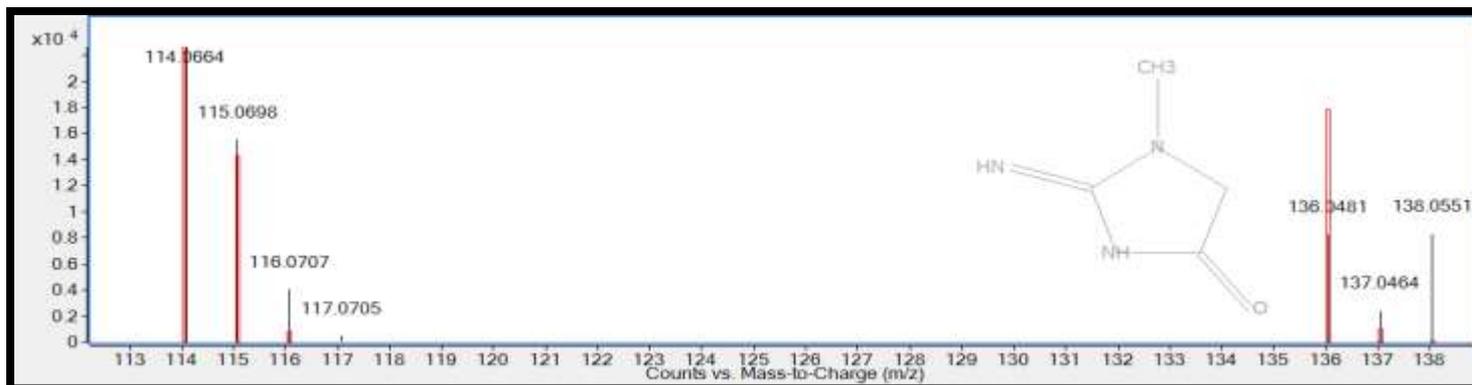
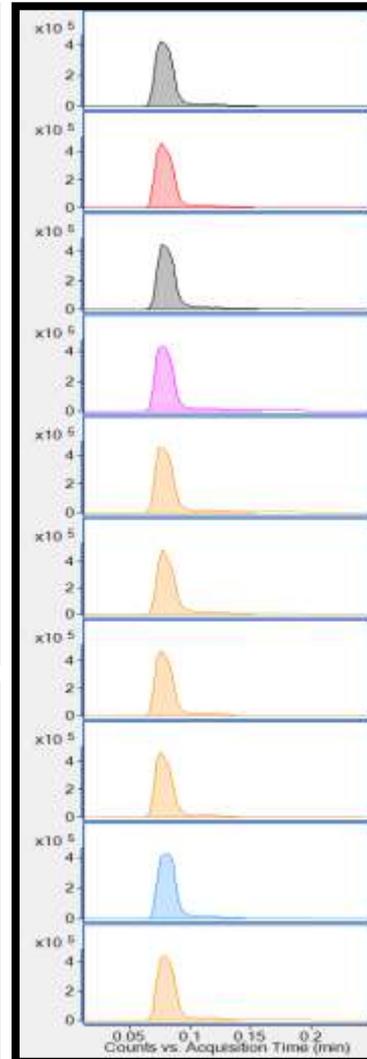
Annotation of Creatinine in Urine Samples by C18 RapidFire SPE/MS

Compound List

Automatically Show Columns

Show/Hide	File	Name	Formula	Mass	m/z	RT	Height	Area	Diff (Tgt ppm)	Score	Ion	Z Count	Polarity	Algorithm	CAS	HMP	KEGG	
[x]	lyj00017-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	114.0662	114.0662	0.08	472120	492944	1.07	99.62	5	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791	
Best																		
Name	Formula	Species	RT	Score	Mass (DB)	m/z	Diff (ppm)	Diff (mDa)	ID Source	RT Available (DB)	Notes							
Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	0.08	99.62	114.0662	114.0662	136.0481	-1.07	-0.12									
Species	Ion Formula	m/z	Height	Score (MFG)	Score (MS)	Score (mass)	Score (rel. abund)	Score (rel. spacing)										
(M+H) ⁺		114.0662	294728.5		99.62	99.78	97.64	93.83										
m/z	m/z (Calc)	Diff (ppm)	Diff (mDa)	Height	Height (Calc)	Height %	Height % (Calc)	Height Sum %	Height Sum % (Calc)									
114.0662	114.0662	-0.49	-0.1	29738.3	294728.5	100	100	92.8	94.4									
115.0696	115.0684	-11.24	-1.3	17098.2	18809.2	6.1	6.6	6.7	5.2									
116.0705	116.0704	-0.96	-0.1	4162.7	551.7	1.5	0.3	1.4	0.3									
117.0713	117.0725	10.12	1.2	530.1	36.9	0.2	0	0.2	0									
Species	Ion Formula	m/z	Height	Score (MFG)	Score (MS)	Score (mass)	Score (rel. abund)	Score (rel. spacing)										
(M+Na) ⁺		136.0481	6721		71.4	99.96	0	0	0									
m/z	m/z (Calc)	Diff (ppm)	Diff (mDa)	Height	Height (Calc)	Height %	Height % (Calc)	Height Sum %	Height Sum % (Calc)									
136.0481	136.0481	0.41	0.1	6721	6721	100	100	100	100									

Show/Hide	File	Name	Formula	Mass	m/z	RT	Height	Area	Diff (Tgt ppm)	Score	Ion	Z Count	Polarity	Algorithm	CAS	HMP	KEGG
[x]	lyj00014-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.08	436056	479959	2.03	96.47	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00015-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.07	448524	492247	1.6	99.58	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00016-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.08	499525	499846	2.03	99.28	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00018-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.08	466427	489427	1.61	96.38	5	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00019-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.08	421808	472451	2.1	99.72	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00020-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0591	114.0663	0.08	441391	469134	1.38	96.56	5	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00011-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0592	114.0664	0.08	421166	452746	2.84	97.87	7	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00012-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0592	114.0663	0.08	460378	487042	2.53	99.09	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791
[x]	lyj00013-MetStab C18-A1.d	Creatinine	C4 H7 N3 O	113.0592	114.0663	0.08	445145	476497	2.16	98.26	6	1	Positive	Find By Formula	99-27-5	HMDB00562	C00791



Select High Abundant Metabolites in Human Urine Annotated by SPE/MS

Compound	RF-C18 Male
Hippuric acid	5158031
Pirimicarb	3255466
Enprofylline	496924
Lys Asn Asp	420101
3-Hydroxyhippuric acid	410564
Pinacidil	359491
Nadolol	357228
4-(1-Hydroxy-2-(methylamino)ethyl)phenol	299538
Leu Gln Lys	287646
Triciribine	285932
3-Amino-2-naphthoic acid	277964
L-4-Hydroxy-3-methoxy- α -methylphenylalanine	266033
1-Methylxanthine	262927
AFMK	229545
Creatinine	225274
4-Chloroacetophenone	217597
Jasmolone glucoside	209979
Istamycin C1	192524
N-Acryloylglycine	183487
N2,N2-Dimethylguanosine	175089
N(α)-t-Butoxycarbonyl-L-leucine	171812
beta-Snyderol	135177
2-Methylguanosine	126988

Metlin Library Check for Isomers/Isobars

Single Search
Batch Search
Batch Summary
Edit Compounds
Spectral Search
Browse Spectra
Edit Spectra

Mass

179.0582 [M+H]⁺ Neutral [M-H]⁻

Mass tolerance: 10.0 ppm mDa

Retention time

Require

RT tolerance: 0.1 min

Ion search mode

Include neutrals

Include anions

Include cations

Formula:

Name:

Notes:

IUPAC:

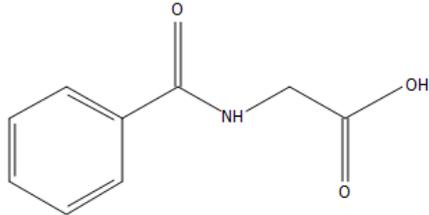
CAS: KEGG:

ChemSpider: HMP:

METLIN: LMP:

Molecule:

Structure MOL Text



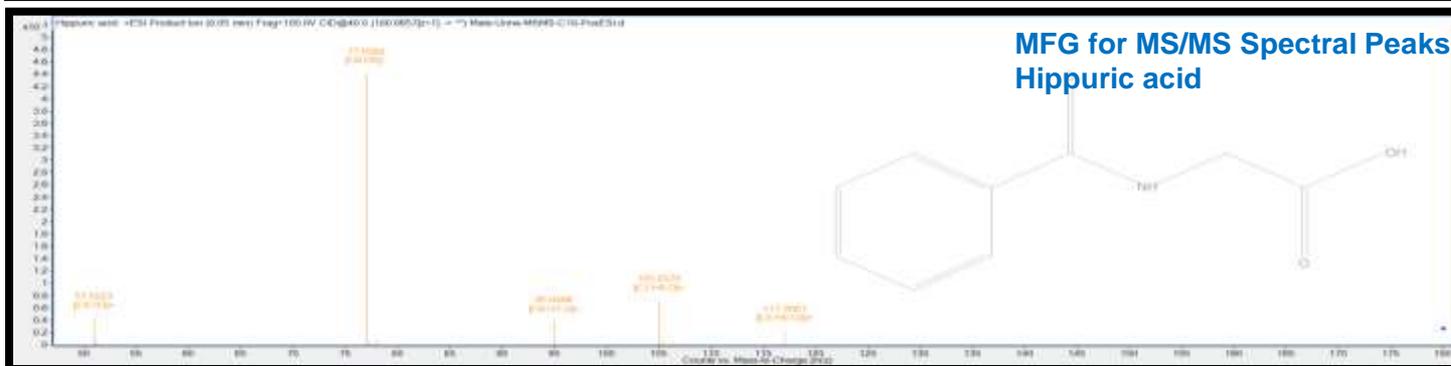
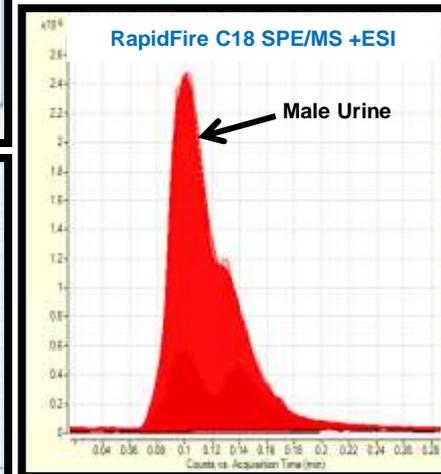
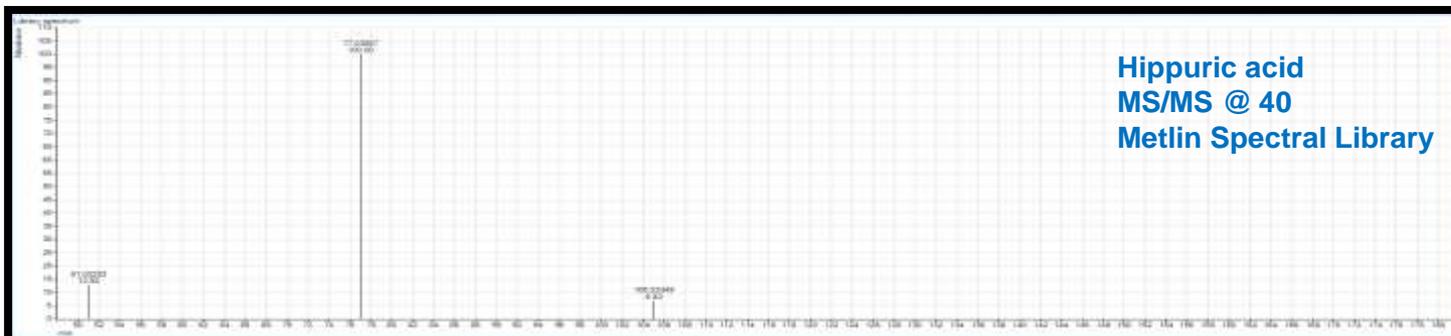
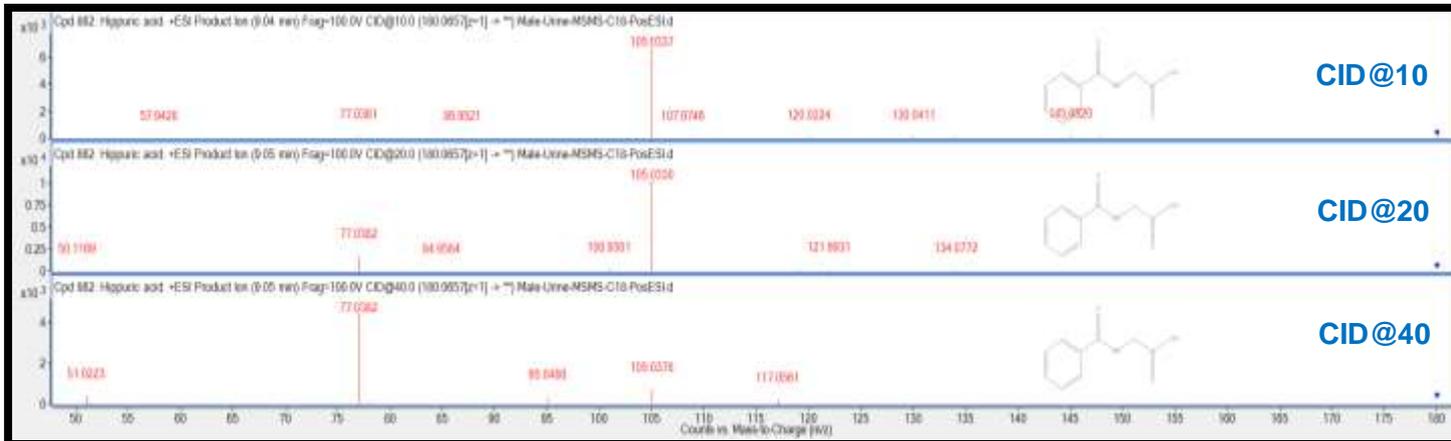
Notes:

Print/Copy in Summary Format

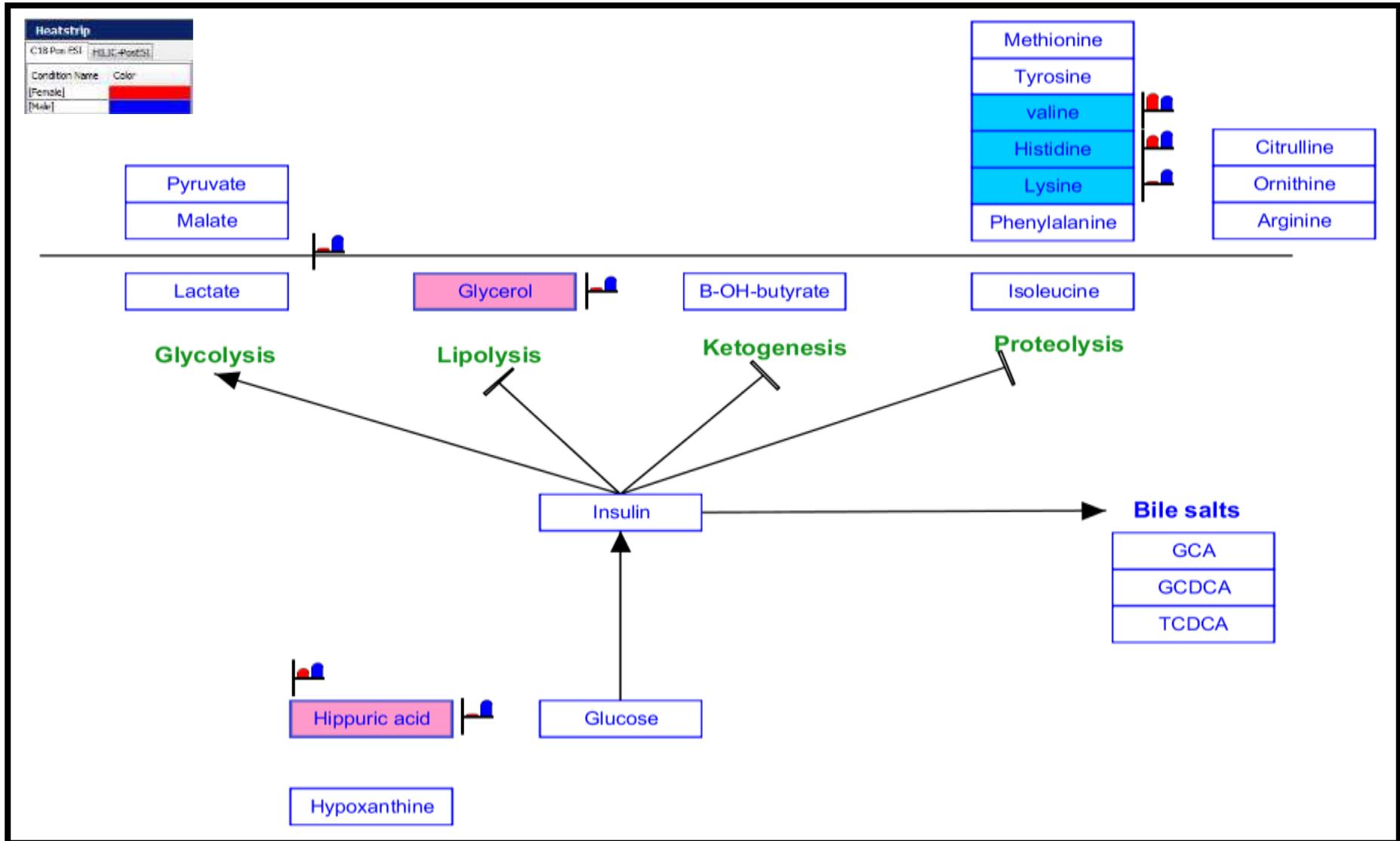
Single Search Results: 9 hits for Mass: 179.0582

	Compound Name	Formula	Mass	Delta Mass (ppm)	Anion	Cation	RT (min)	CAS	ChemSpider	METLIN	HMP	KEGG	LMP	IUPAC Name
▶	Hippuric acid	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		495-69-2		1301	HMDB00714	C01586		
	5,8-Dihydroxy-3,4-dihydrocarbostyrl	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		59430-56-7		1552				
	p-Acetaminobenzoic acid	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		556-08-1		2830				
	4-Oxo-4-(3-pyridyl)butanoic acid	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		4192-31-8		5924	HMDB00992	C19569		
	Adrenochrome	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		54-06-8		64954	HMDB12884			
	N-Acetylanthranilate	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		89-52-1		66371		C06332		
	2,5,6-Trihydroxy-5,6-dihydroquinoline	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				66377		C06339		
	Methyl n-formylanthranilate	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		41270-80-8		88422	HMDB32398			
	1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroethylene	C9H9NO3	179.05824	0.24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		3179-10-0		88550	HMDB32595			

LC/MS/MS Confirmation of Hippuric acid



Glucose Homeostasis Pathway (WP661_45308)

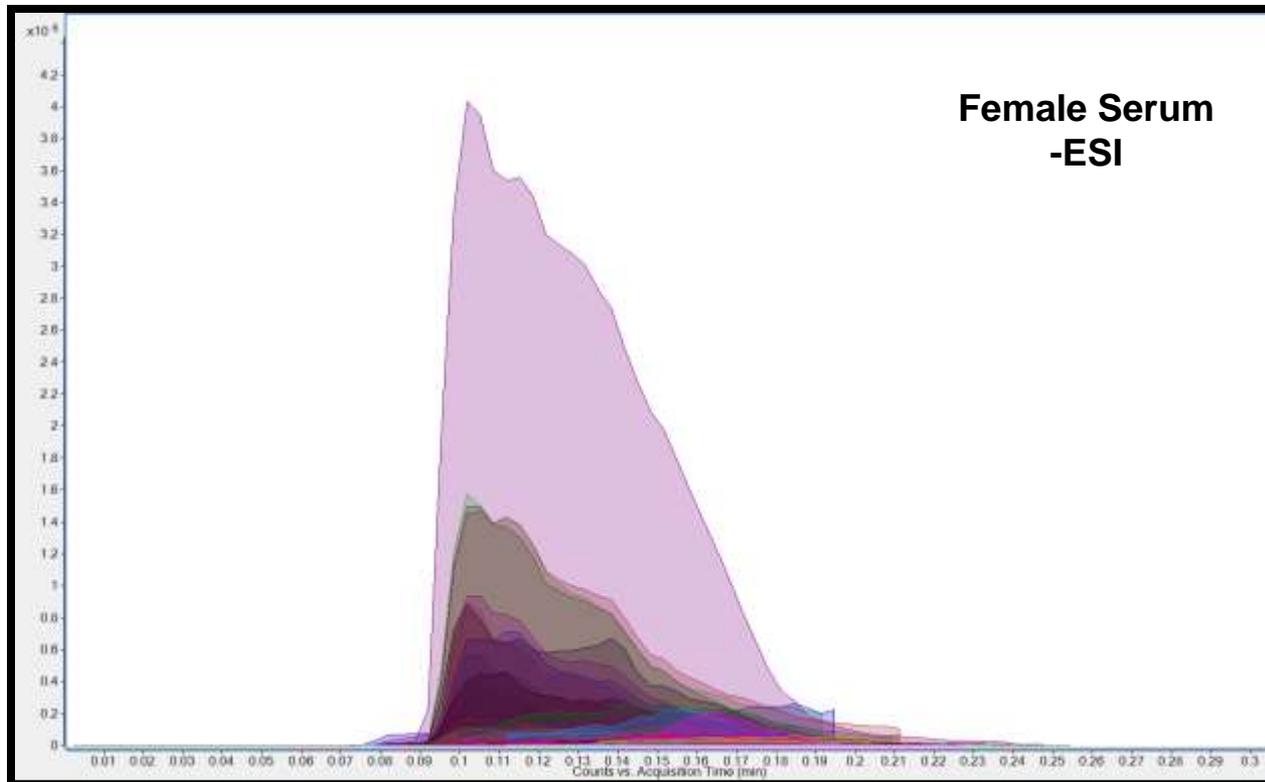


Human Serum Lipidomics Profiling: Sample Prep

- Human serum, collected and pooled from healthy subjects (males and females), was purchased from Innovative Research Inc. (Novi, MI)
- Filter 400 μ L serum through a 0.22 μ m Ultrafree-MC[®] centrifugal filter units (Millipore) by centrifugation @ 12,000xg for 20min @ 4°C
- Pipette 100 μ L filtered serum into a Protein LoBind[®] Eppendorf tube
- Add 700 μ L ice-cold Methanol:Isopropanol, 1%Acetic Acid, vortex 30sec
- Equilibrate for 10min at room temp and Centrifuge at ~12000xg, 20min, 4°C
- The organic supernatant represents the lipidomics sample
- Inject **10 μ L** for SPE/MS as well as LC/MS/MS analysis

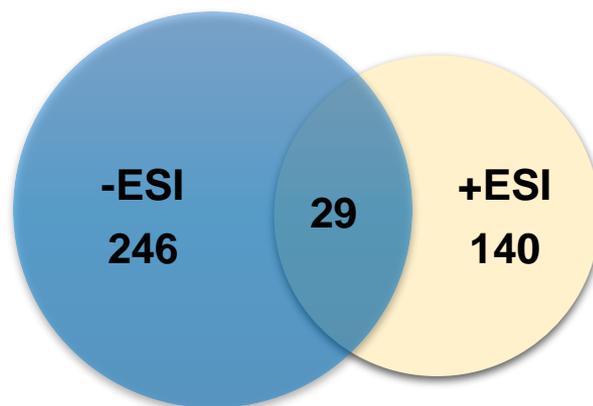
Human serum equivalent to 1.25 μ L was used for the lipidomics studies

EIC of a Single Injection of Serum Sample on C18 RapidFire SPE/MS



Lipidomics Profiling of Human Serum by C18 SPE/MS

- ✓ 169 lipids annotated in +ESI mode
- ✓ 275 lipids annotated in –ESI mode
- ✓ 29 annotated lipids common between +ESI and –ESI modes



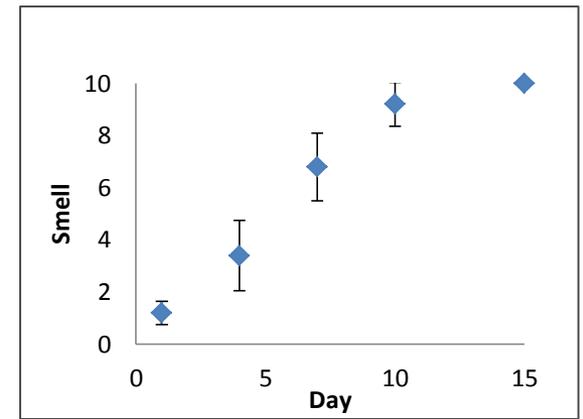
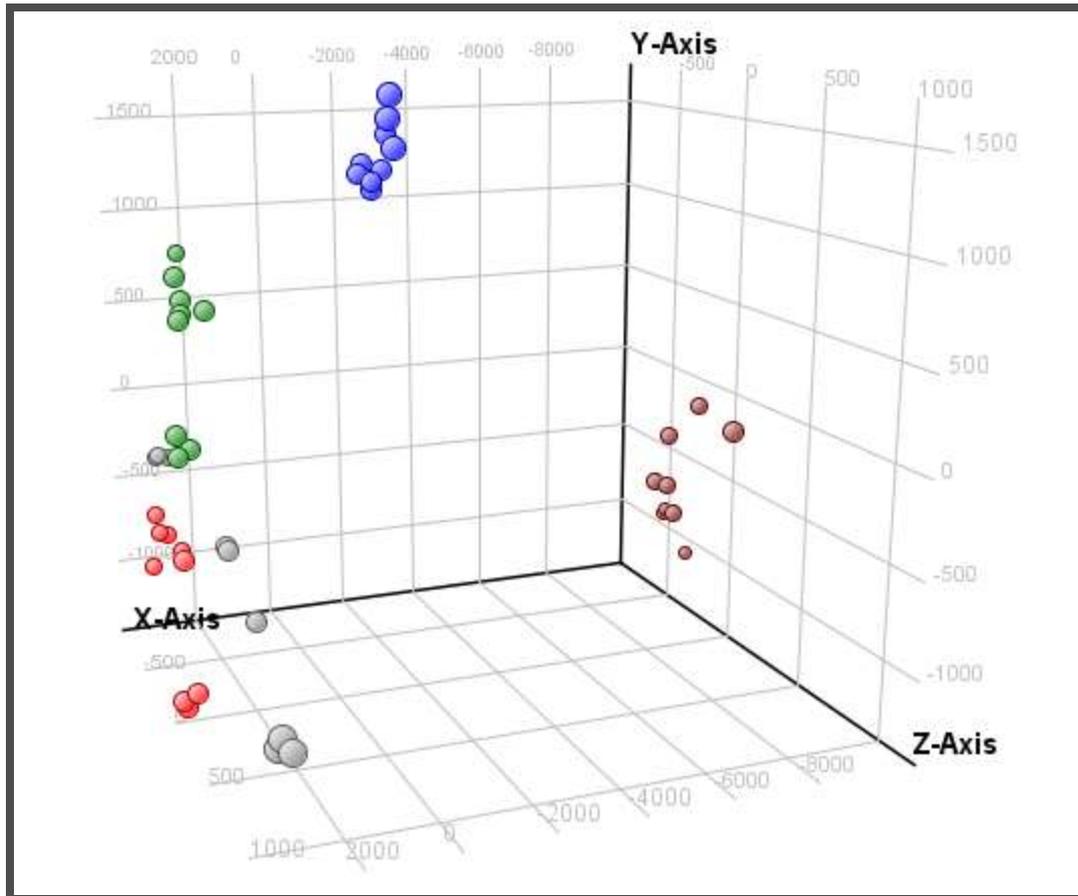
415 unique lipids

Milk Lipidomics Profiling: Sample Prep

- Pipette 150 μ L of milk into a Protein LoBind® Eppendorf tube
- Add 1200 μ L ice-cold Methanol:Isopropanol 1%Acetic Acid, vortex 30sec
- Equilibrate for 10min at room temp and Centrifuge at \sim 12000xg, 10min, 4°C
- Transfer the organic supernatant into a separate Protein LoBind® Eppendorf tube.
- Store at -80°C
- Inject 10 μ L of sample for SPE/MS

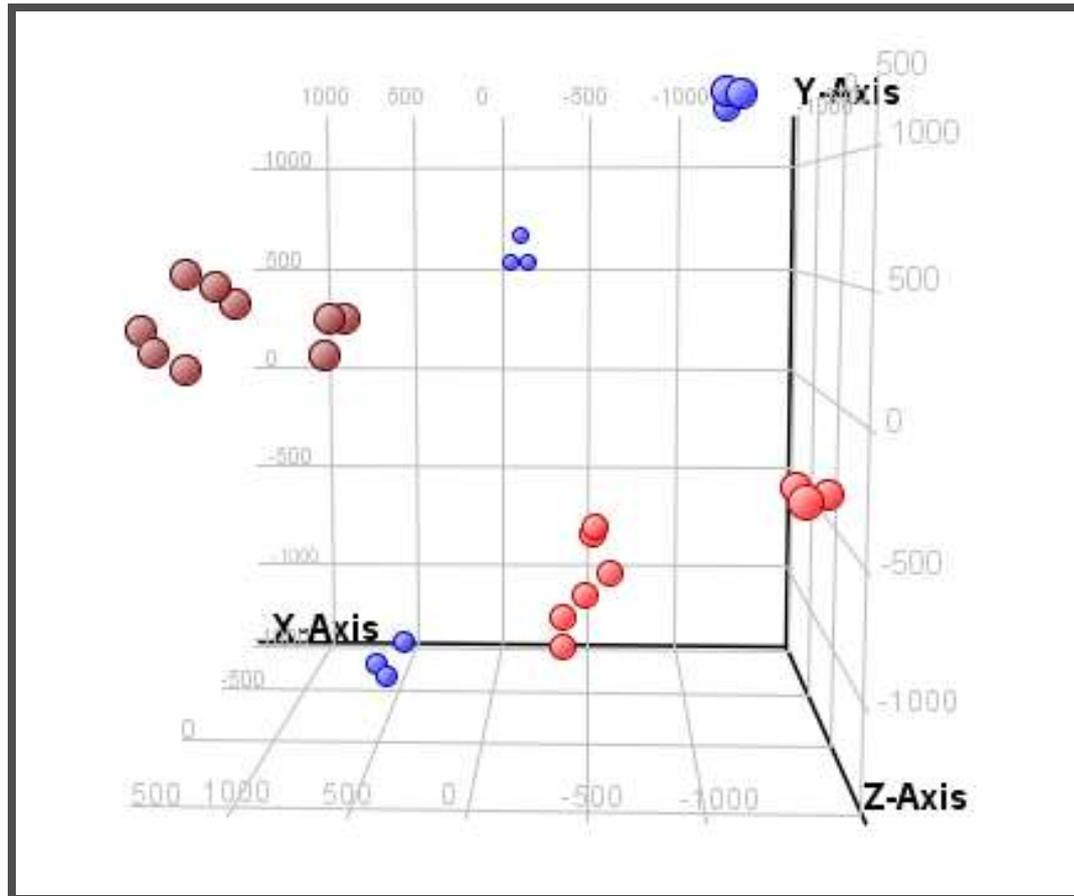
Milk equivalent to 1 μ L was used for the lipidomics studies

Whole Milk C4 SPE/MS (+ESI) – Time Course



- Day 1
- Day 10
- Day 15
- Day 4
- Day 7

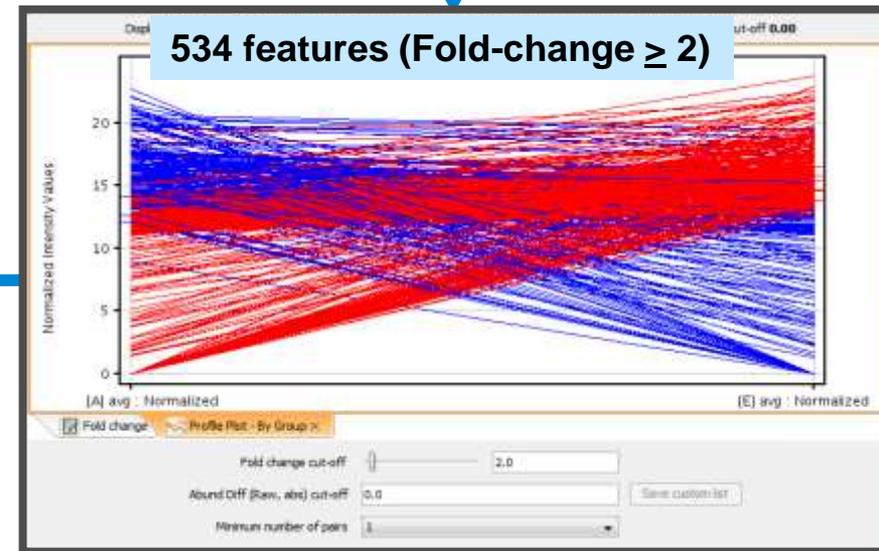
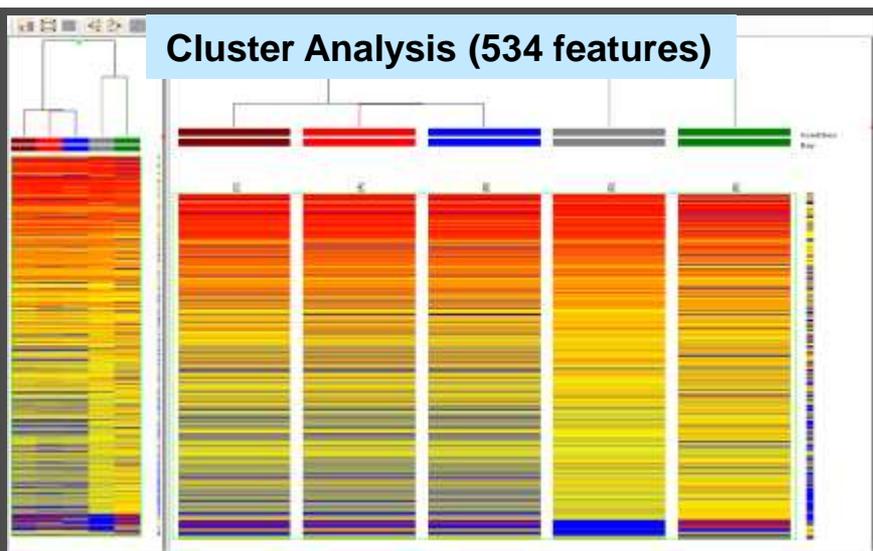
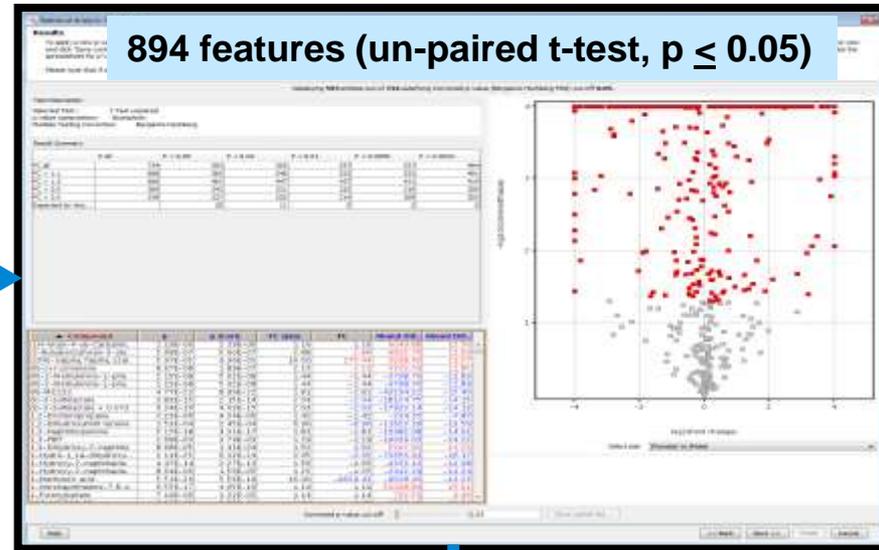
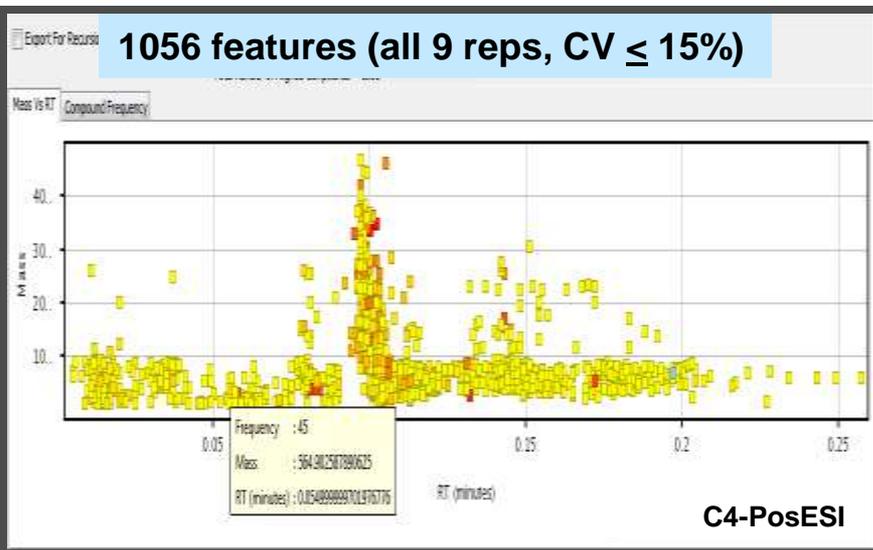
Whole Milk C4 SPE/MS (+ESI) – Days 1 to 7



Color by Day

- Day1
- Day4
- Day7

Mass Profiler Professional (MPP)



Summary

- Performed “high throughput” profiling of biological samples with RapidFire SPE/MS
- RapidFire data were fully integrated and compatible with Agilent software solutions (MassHunter, ProFinder, MPP, Metlin)
- Demonstrated reproducibility and fidelity of the current high throughput workflow for data processing and analysis
 - *Confirmed select metabolites/lipids by MS/MS analysis*

Take Home Message...

- **Fast**
 - Less than 15 secs per sample
 - Facilitates quick hypothesis verification
- **Flexible**
 - Ability to change method parameters quickly
 - Multiple binding chemistries available
- **Reproducible**
 - Replicates had less than a CV <15%
 - Extracted peaks were superimposable
- **High fidelity of data**
 - Annotations were confirmed by LC/MS/MS



Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Jeramie Watrous and Mohit Jain from University of California, San Diego.