

# RAPID ANALYSIS OF SYNTHETIC PYRETHROIDS IN STORMWATER

Rapid Trace Analysis of Synthetic Pyrethroids in Stormwater Using  
online pre-concentration followed by Liquid Chromatography-Tandem  
Mass Spectrometry

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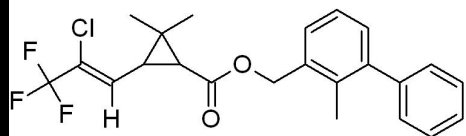


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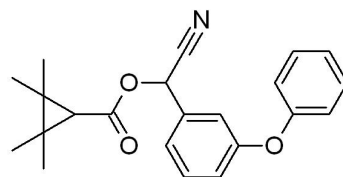
# Outline

- What are synthetic pyrethroids?
- Why develop a new method?
- Pyrethroid use, toxicity, and occurrences
- Analytical considerations; reference material stability and instrument robustness
- Why choose LC-MS-MS? Current methods.
- Equipment and analytical method
- Method Performance; successes and challenges

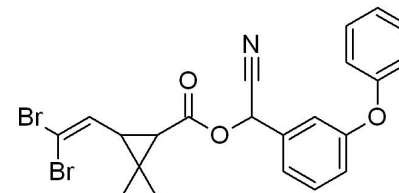
# What are synthetic pyrethroids?



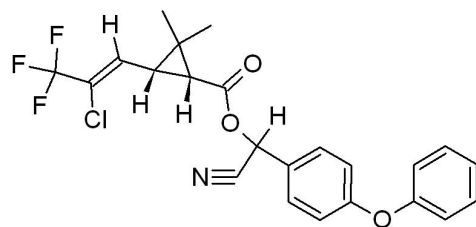
Bifenthrin



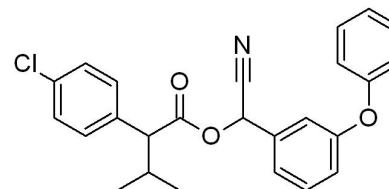
Fenpropathrin



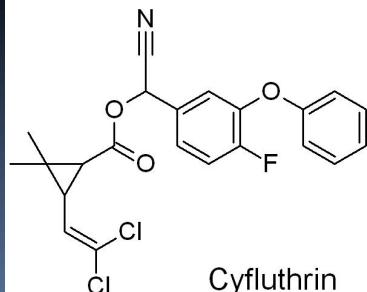
Deltamethrin



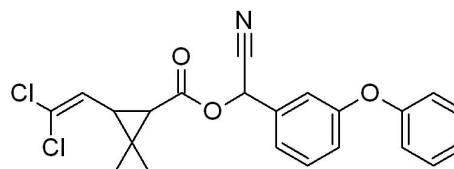
$\lambda$ -Cyhalothrin



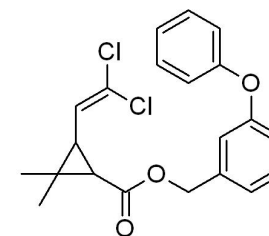
Esfenvalerate



Cyfluthrin



Cypermethrin



Permethrin

# Why develop a new method?

Client  
Needs



Regulation &  
Permits

Basin Plan Obj, NPDES, MS<sub>4</sub>

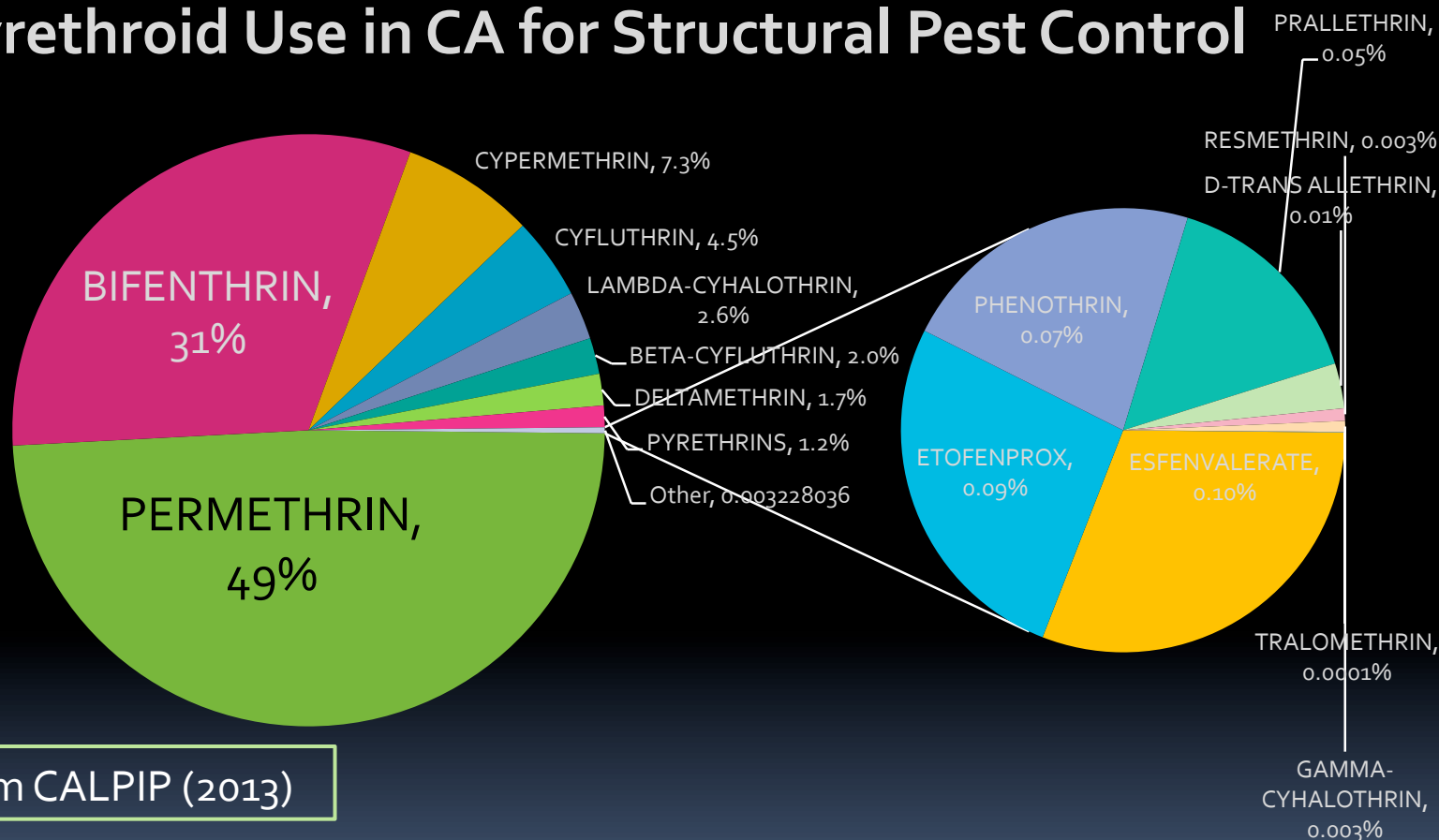


Usage



Toxicity  
Research

# Where are these contaminants coming from? Pyrethroid Use in CA for Structural Pest Control



Data from CALPIP (2013)

- PERMETHRIN
- BIFENTHRIN
- CYPERMETHRIN
- CYFLUTHRIN
- LAMBDA-CYHALOTHRIN
- BETA-CYFLUTHRIN
- DELTAMETHRIN
- PYRETHRINS
- ESFENVALERATE
- ETOFENPROX
- PHENOTHRIN
- PRALLETHRIN
- D-TRANS ALLETHRIN
- RESMETHRIN
- GAMMA-CYHALOTHRIN
- TRALOMETHRIN

# Toxicity Data

Pyrethroid	LC <sub>50</sub> Hyalella Azteca, ng/L	5-10 <sup>th</sup> % LC <sub>50</sub>	PAL Benchmark (Invert.)
Permethrin	39.1 <sup>(1,4)</sup>	35 - 76 <sup>(5)</sup>	1.4 <sup>(6)</sup>
Bifenthrin	2.2 <sup>(1,4)</sup>	<3.8 - 15 <sup>(5)</sup>	1.3 <sup>(6)</sup>
Cypermethrin	2.0 <sup>(3)</sup>	3 - 6.4 <sup>(5)</sup>	69 <sup>(6)</sup>
Cyfluthrin	8.7 <sup>(1,4)</sup>	<4 - 12 <sup>(5)</sup>	7.4 <sup>(6)</sup>
Cyhalothrin-λ	1.4 <sup>(1,4)</sup>	<4 - 10 <sup>(5)</sup>	2.0 <sup>(6)</sup>
Deltamethrin	1.1 <sup>(1,4)</sup>	3 - 9 <sup>(5)</sup>	4.1 <sup>(6)</sup>
Esfenvalerate	3.5-8.0 <sup>(2,4)</sup>	3 - 8 <sup>(5)</sup>	17 <sup>(6)</sup>



1) Amweg et al, *Environmental toxicology and chemistry / SETAC* 24.4 (2005): 966–972

2) Weston and Lydy, *Environmental Science & Technology* 44.5 (2010): 1833–1840

3) Weston and Jackson, *Environmental Science & Technology* 43.14 (2009): 5514–5520

4) Laskowski, *Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 174 (2002): 49–170

5) Solomon et al, *Environmental toxicology and chemistry / SETAC* 20.3 (2001): 652–659

6) [http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/ecorisk\\_ders/aquatic\\_life\\_benchmark.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/ecorisk_ders/aquatic_life_benchmark.htm)

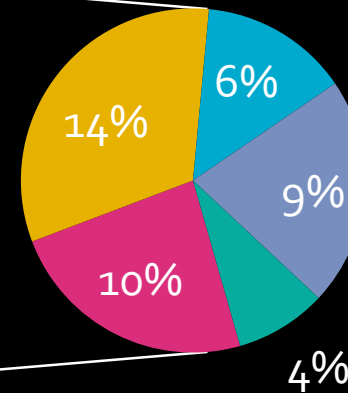
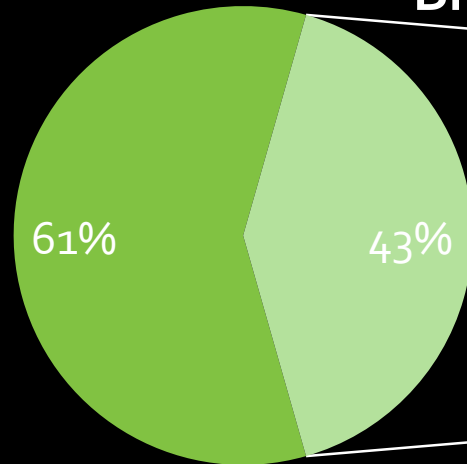
# Historical Data

Occurrences in water samples



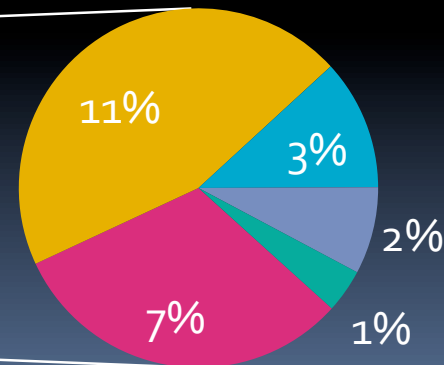
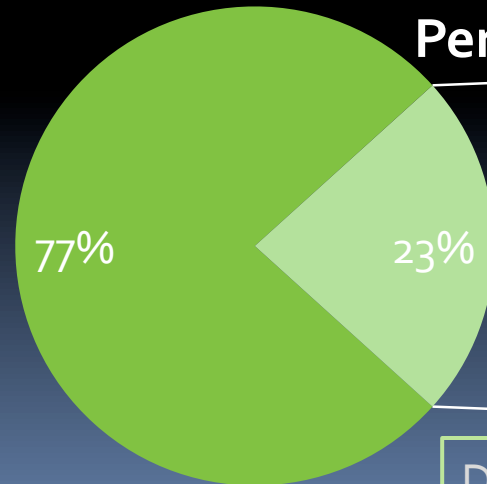
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## Bifenthrin



- <MDL
- J Flag
- 1-5
- 5-10
- 10-50
- >50

## Permethrin



Data from Babcock Laboratories since 2012

# How low ~~can~~ should we go?

- At or below acute toxicity values
- Be able to differentiate sample from blank (ultra low levels)
- Be able to recover analytes at low levels with accuracy and precision in matrix



# How low ~~can~~ should we go?

- At or below acute toxicity values
- Be able to differentiate sample from blank (ultra low levels)
- Be able to recover analytes at low levels with accuracy and precision in matrix

1.0 ng/L

# Other considerations

- Aquatic toxicity studies vary
- Pyrethroids extremely lipophilic
- Certain SP' s degrade through hydrolysis or photolysis<sup>(Laskowski, 4)</sup>
- Absorption in sediment, suspended solids
- Pyrethroids can be a mixture of 2-8 stereoisomers



# Current Methods

Analyte	USGS (GCMSMS)		CDFG (GCMSMS-ECNI)		CDFG (GC-ECD)		CA Dept. Food & Agri. (GC-ECD)	
	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)	RL (ng/L)	ELOD (ng/L)	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)
Permethrins	2.0	0.6		1.0	5.0	3.0	15	3.5
Bifenthrin	2.0	0.7		0.10	1.0	0.5	5.0	1.8
Cypermethrins	5.0	1.1		0.20	4.0	2.0	15	1.8
Cyhalothrins	2.0	0.5		0.20	2.0	1.0	15	1.1
Fenvalerates	2.0	0.5		0.05	2.0	1.0	15	1.8
Fenpropathrin	2.0	0.6		NA	4.0	2.0	15	1.5
Cyfluthrins	5.0	1.1		0.20	4.0	2.0	15	1.7
Deltamethrin	2.0	0.6		0.15	4.0	2.0	15	1.9

2007 SOP

2011 SWAMP pres.

2011 SWAMP pres.

2007 SOP



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# Babcock Methods

Analyte	LVI (LCMSMS)		Cont Liq-Liq (LCMSMS)		Cont Liq-Liq (GCMSMS)	
	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)	RL (ng/L)	MDL (ng/L)
Permethrins	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.3	5.0	1.9
Bifenthrin	1.0	0.6	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.4
Cypermethrins	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.4	5.0	2.5
Cyhalothrins	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.2
Fenvalerates	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.5	5.0	2.4
Fenpropathrin	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.3
Cyfluthrins	1.0	0.7	1.0	0.6	5.0	1.6
Deltamethrin	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.5	5.0	1.3

# Why choose LC-MS-MS?

- Availability; other work with drinking water  
UCMR<sub>3</sub>, PPCPs
- Sensitivity/robustness challenges of GC-MS-MS or GC-MS-ECNI
- Few compounds that can't be analyzed;  
adaptable to new targets
- Adaptable to chiral analysis
- Future in environmental analysis? Detecting  
known unknowns.

# Equipment

- Thermo Scientific TSQ Quantum Ultra
- (2) HPLC Pumps Accela 600 and 1250
- CTC PAL Autosampler equipped with two valves
- Phenomenex Kinetex 2.6um Phenyl-Hexyl
- Thermoscientific HESI-II Probe

# LC Parameters

- Variable flow rate (0.2-0.5-0.2mL/min)
- High flow loading - 5.0mL of 100% aqueous sample
- Online SPE using Hypersil 12 $\mu$ m aQ Gold columns (Thermo)
- SPE elution with mobile phase; methanol, water, and 0.002% ammonium hydroxide, elution focusing with ACN

# MS Parameters

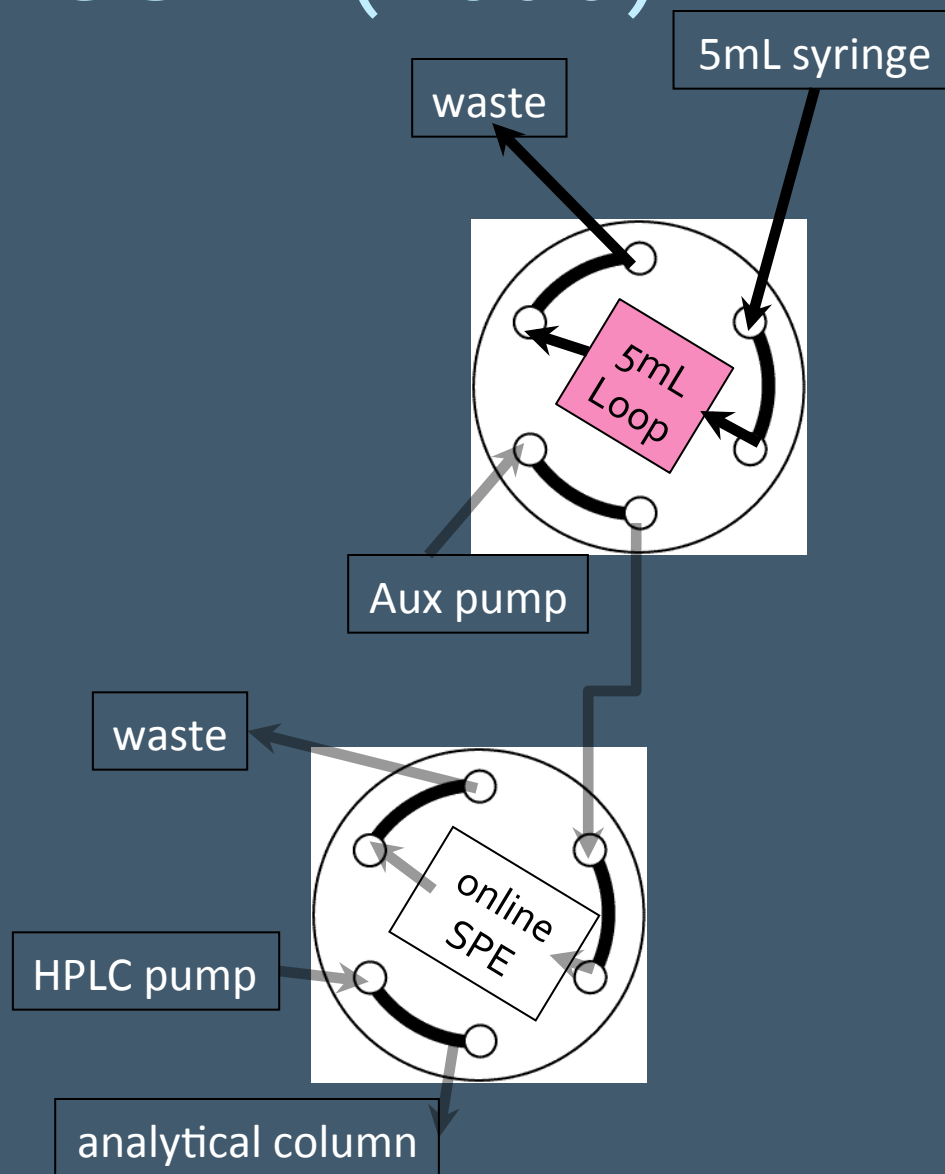
- Analytes all detected as  $[M+NH_4]^+$
- Desolvation Temp: 250C
- Sheath gas: 40arb, Aux Gas: 40arb
- Capillary Temp: 225C
- CID pressure: 1.0mTorr Argon
- All collision energies optimized by direct infusion with eluent



# Online SPE (Load)



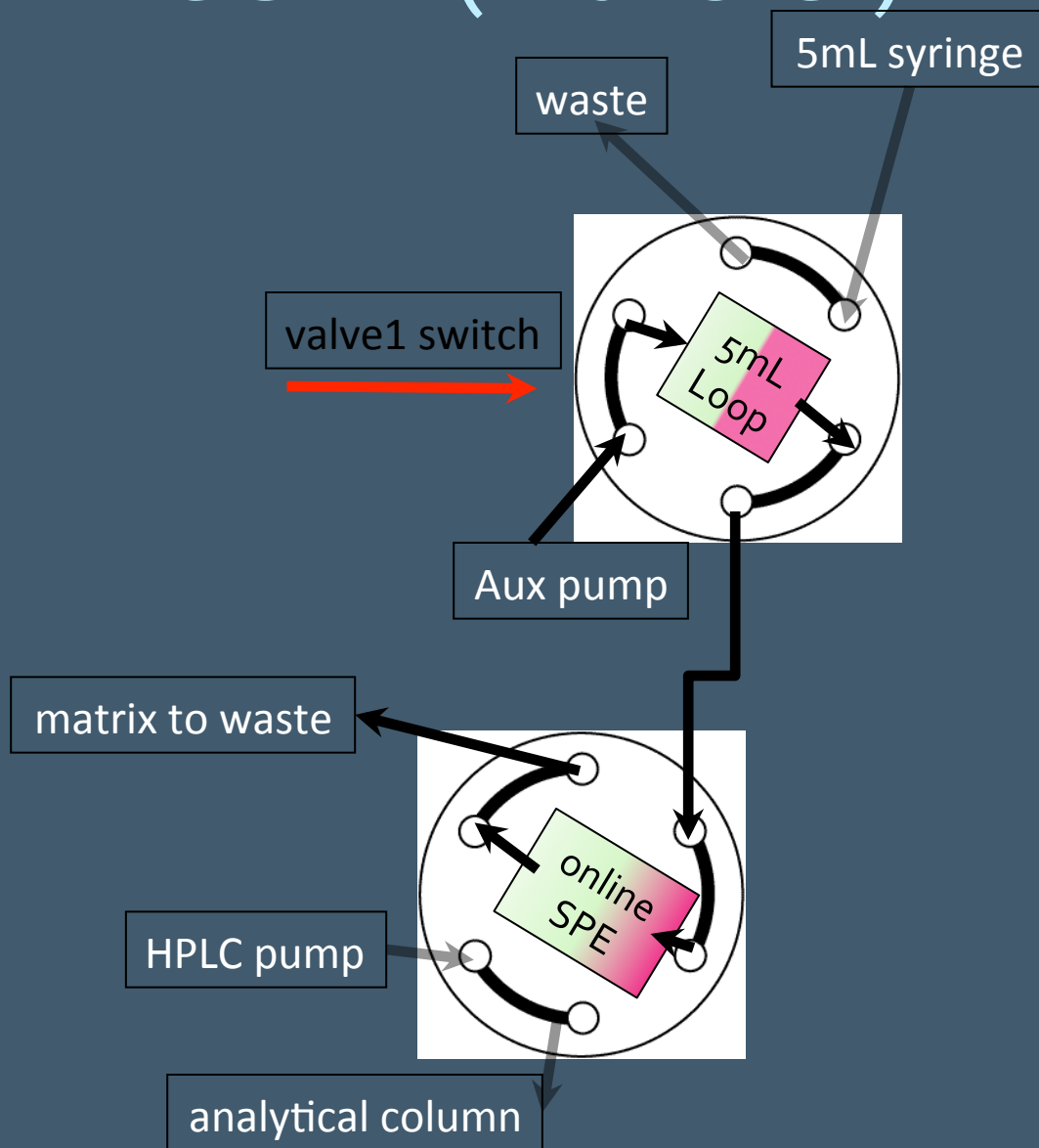
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# Online SPE (Transfer)



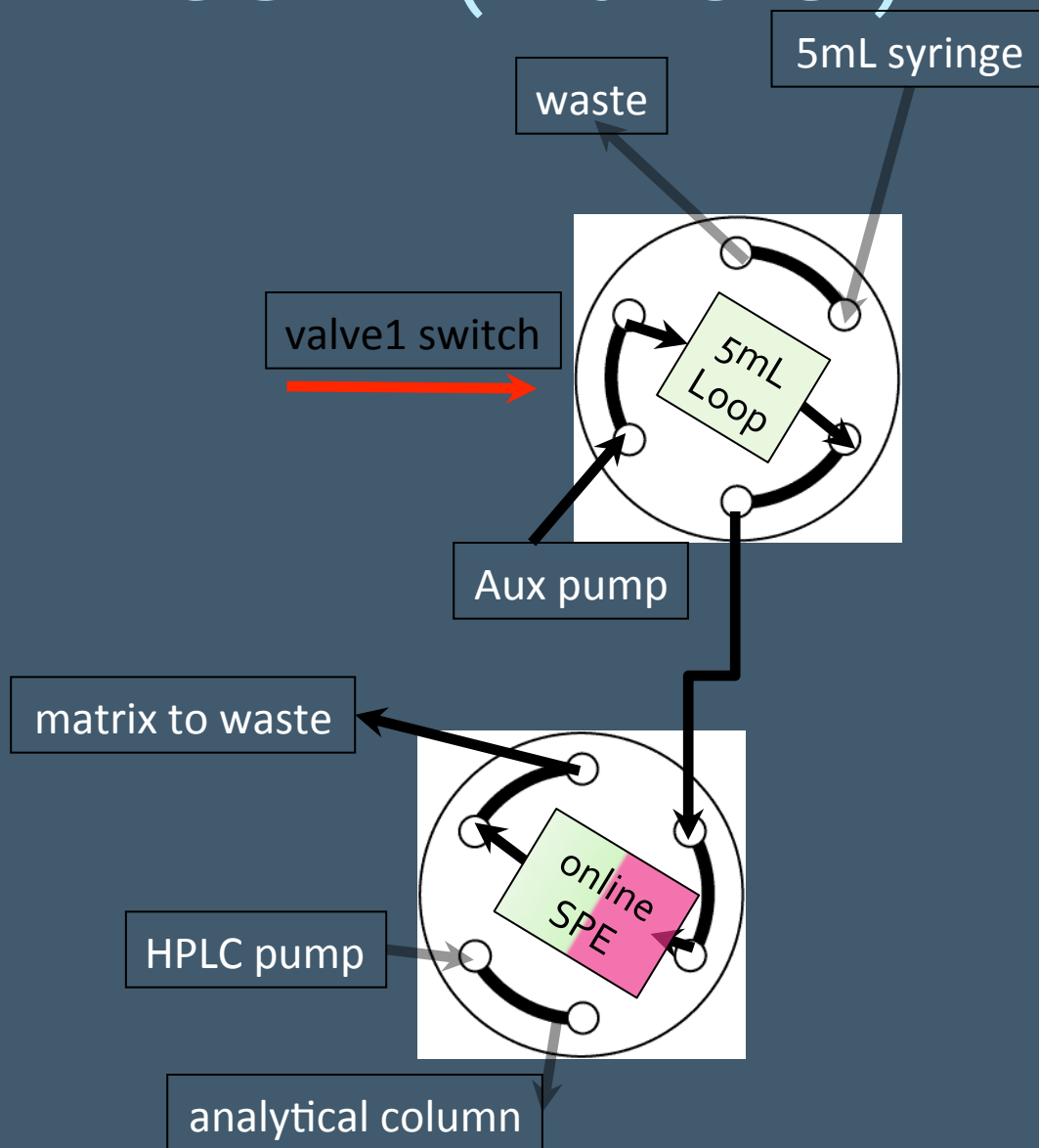
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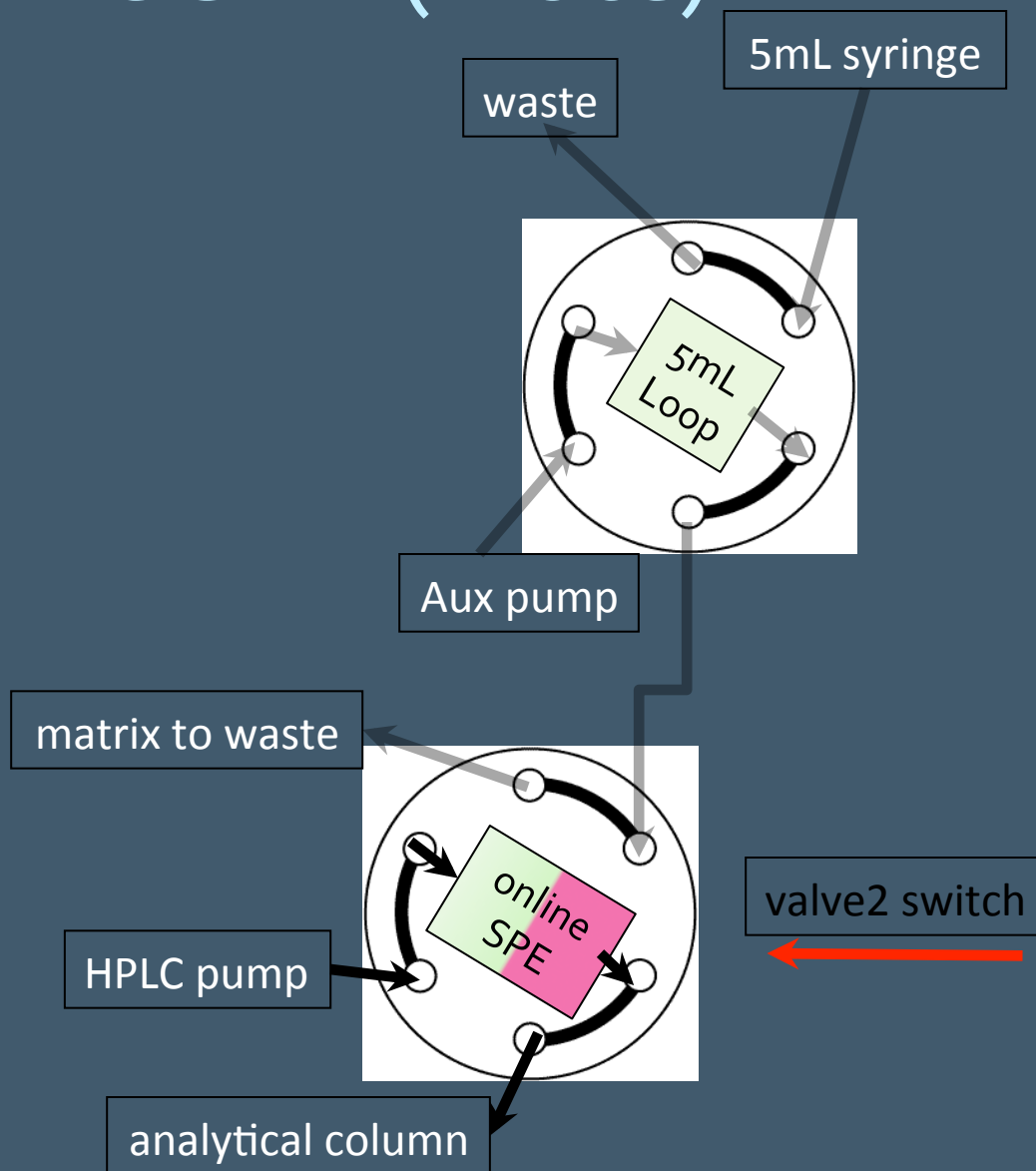
# Online SPE (Transfer)



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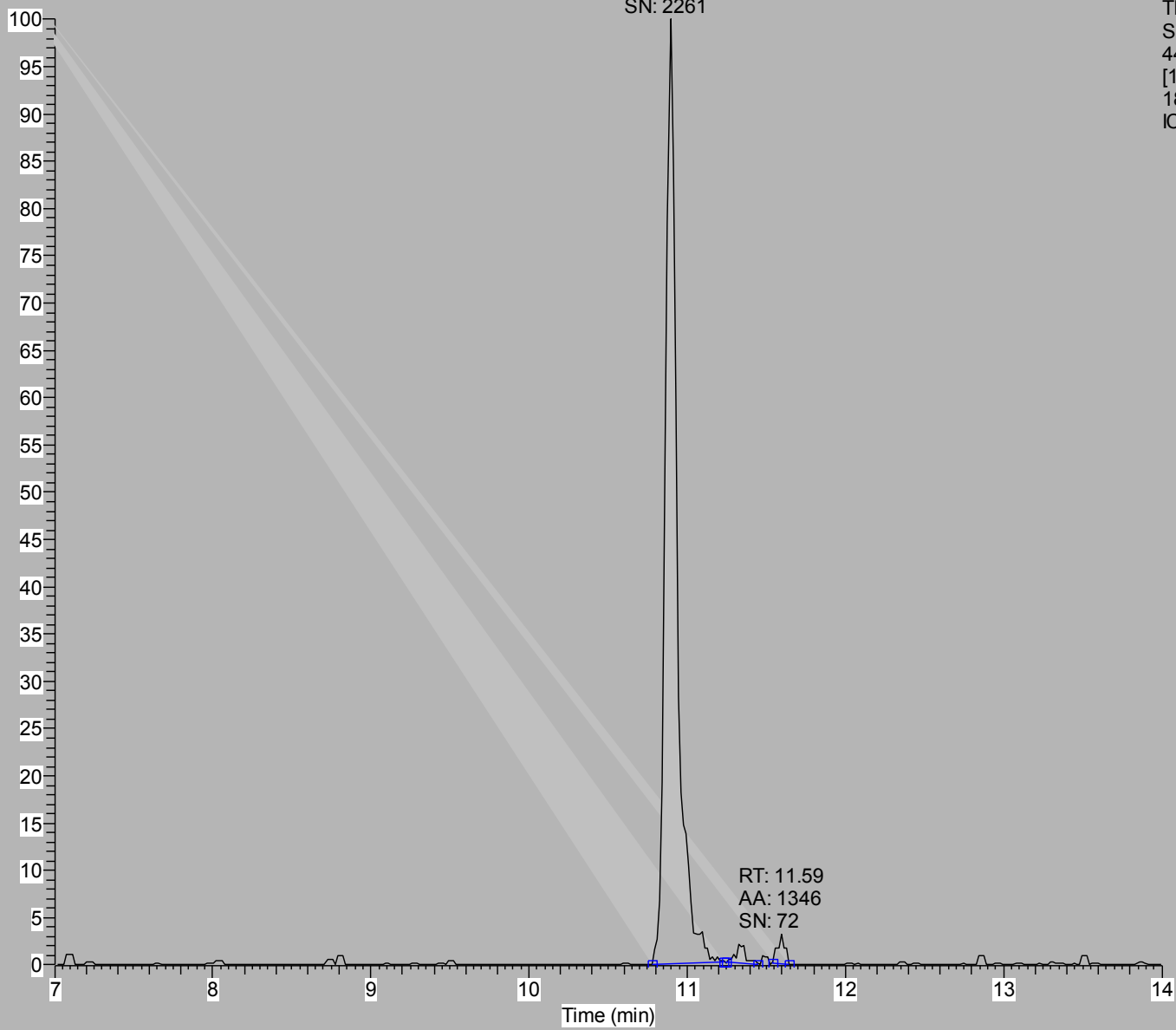


# Online SPE (Elute)



# Bifenthrin – 1.0ng/L

RT: 7.00 - 14.00 SM: 3B



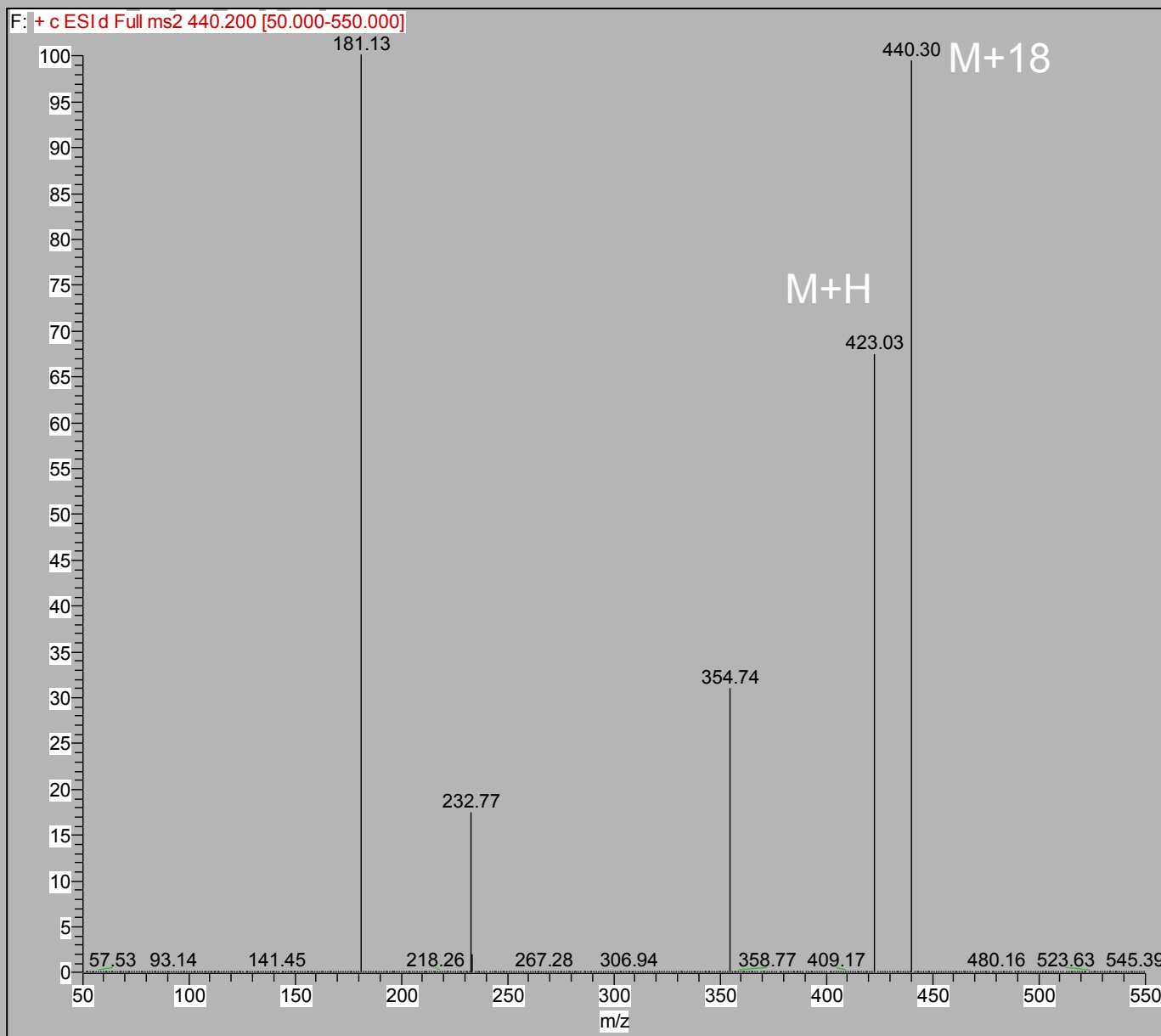
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NL:  
1.32E4  
TIC F: + c ESI  
SRM ms2  
440.200  
[181.099-  
181.101] MS  
ICIS Test08

# QED Scan - Bifenthrin

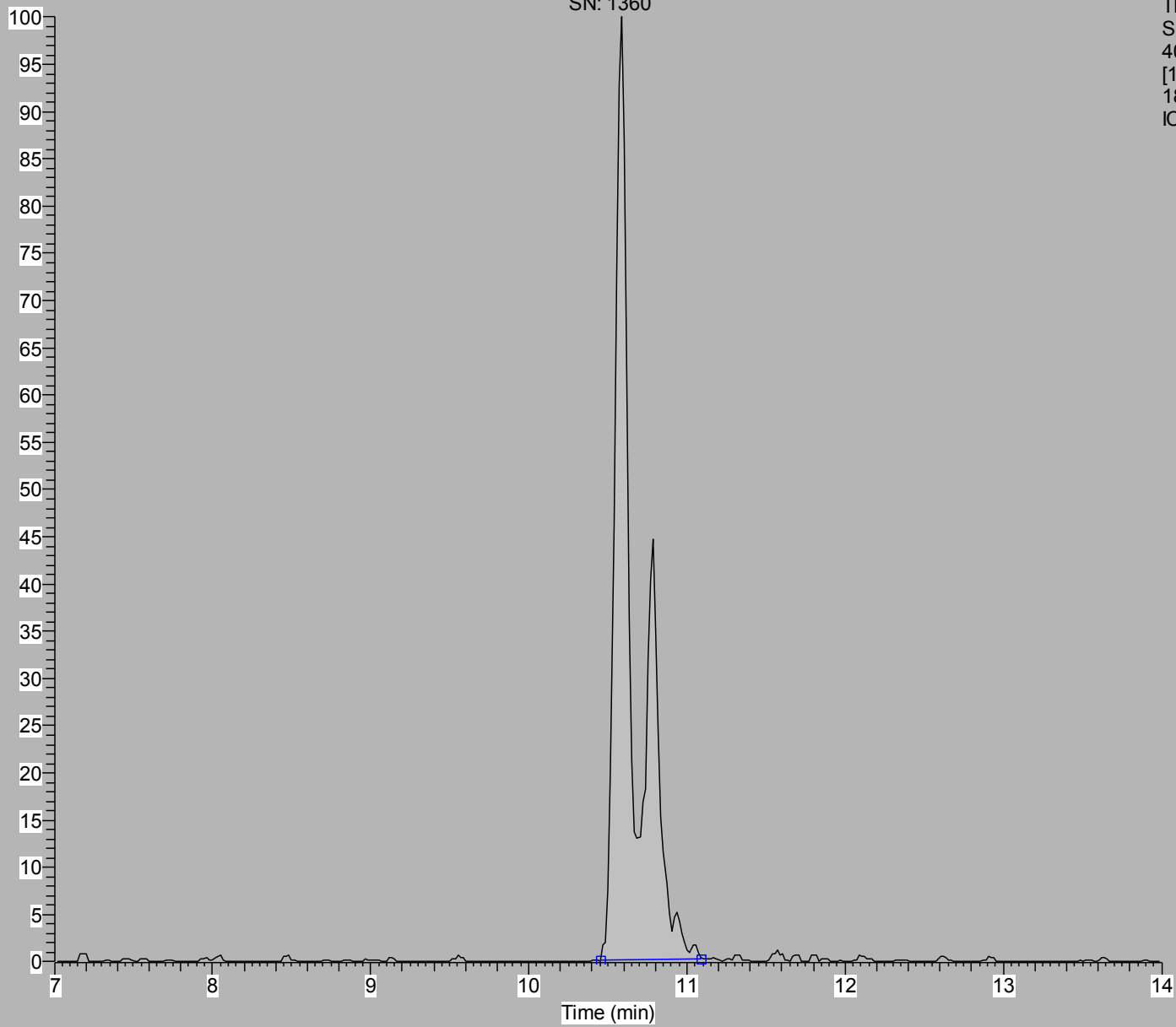


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# Permethrin – 1.0ng/L

RT: 7.00 - 14.00 SM: 3B



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1.88E4

TIC F: + c ESI

SRM ms2

408.100

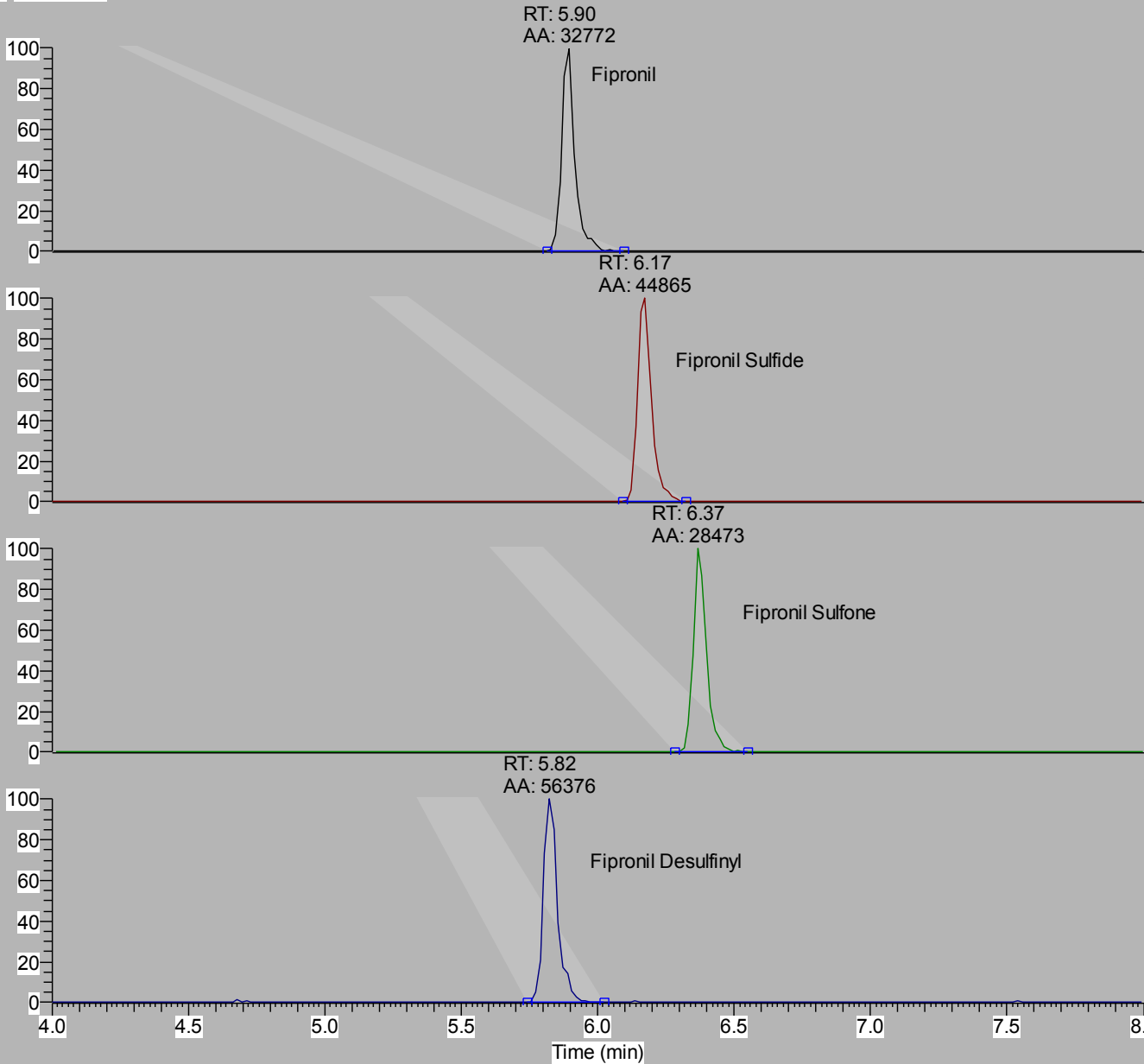
[183.099-

183.101] MS

ICIS Test08

# Fipronil+Deps – 1.0ng/

RT: 4.00 - 8.00



NL: 9.87E3  
TIC F: - c ESI  
SRM ms2 434.800  
[329.999-330.001] MS  
ICIS Test08

NL: 1.25E4  
TIC F: - c ESI  
SRM ms2 418.800  
[261.999-262.001] MS  
ICIS Test08

NL: 8.30E3  
TIC F: - c ESI  
SRM ms2 450.800  
[281.999-282.001] MS  
ICIS Test08

NL: 1.55E4  
TIC F: - c ESI  
SRM ms2 386.800  
[350.999-351.001] MS  
ICIS Test08



# Blank Spike Data



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CA Rank	Analyte	Spike Conc (ng/L)	Rep1 (ng/L)	Rep2 (ng/L)	Rep3 (ng/L)	Rep4 (ng/L)	Avg % Rec	% RSD
1	Permethrins	10	9.2	8.7	9.4	9.4	92%	3.2%
2	Bifenthrin	10	10.2	9.4	10.6	9.9	100%	5.2%
3	Cypermethrins	10	10.0	8.5	9.8	9.6	95%	7.2%
4	Cyhalothrins	10	9.6	8.9	10.1	10.3	97%	6.5%
5	Fenvalerates	10	10.0	7.6	8.8	8.6	88%	11%
6	Fenpropathrin	10	8.1	7.9	8.4	8.5	82%	3.4%
7	Cyfluthrins	10	10.8	7.9	9.8	9.3	94%	13%
8	Deltamethrin	10	9.3	7.6	8.5	8.3	85%	8.4%
9	Sumithrin	10	11.8	11.0	12.2	12.1	118%	4.5%
10	tau-Fluvalinate	10	9.4	6.6	8.6	10.8	88%	20%
11	Prallethrin	10	9.7	8.9	9.7	10.1	96%	5.1%
12	Resmethrin	10	11.8	11.4	12.6	12.7	121%	5.2%
13	Allethrin	10	9.2	8.8	9.4	9.7	93%	4.1%
14	Tralomethrin	10	11.8	12.9	12.7	11.7	123%	5.1%
15	Tetramethrin	10	12.0	12.1	12.7	13.6	126%	5.8%
NA	Acrinathrin	10	12.4	10.3	11.9	11.8	116%	7.9%
NA	Cyphenothrin	10	12.1	11.2	11.9	11.7	117%	3.1%
NA	Etofenprox	10	9.5	8.8	9.7	9.5	94%	4.4%
NA	Flucythrinate	10	10.6	11.1	12.8	13.8	121%	12%
NA	Kadethrin	10	8.6	8.7	9.5	10.4	93%	8.8%
-	Permethrin-13C6 (Surr)	10	9.8	10.3	10.6	10.7	104%	3.6%

# Matrix Spike Data

Simulated Matrix with  
25mg/L TSS, 10.0 NTU



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CA Rank	Analyte	Spike Conc (ng/L)	Rep1 (ng/L)	Rep2 (ng/L)	Rep3 (ng/L)	Rep4 (ng/L)	Avg % Rec	% RSD
1	Permethrins	10	8.6	9.1	9.0	8.6	88%	3.1%
2	Bifenthrin	10	9.9	10.3	10.1	9.7	100%	2.9%
3	Cypermethrins	10	7.4	8.6	8.4	8.2	82%	6.2%
4	Cyhalothrins	10	9.9	12	12	11	111%	8.1%
5	Fenvalerates	10	9.1	10.9	10.5	8.8	98%	11%
6	Fenpropathrin	10	7.9	8.7	9.6	9.5	89%	9.2%
7	Cyfluthrins	10	7.8	10.2	11.5	13.0	106%	21%
8	Deltamethrin	10	7.4	8.2	7.9	7.5	78%	4.7%
9	Sumithrin	10	9.3	9.8	9.9	9.6	96%	2.5%
10	tau-Fluvalinate	10	8.2	9.6	7.4	8.8	85%	11%
11	Prallethrin	10	5.3	5.6	6.1	6.4	59%	8.3%
12	Resmethrin	10	8.3	7.9	9.2	8.5	85%	6.7%
13	Allethrin	10	7.1	6.8	7.8	7.3	73%	5.5%
14	Tralomethrin	10	9.7	10.5	10.6	10.2	103%	3.8%
15	Tetramethrin	10	6.3	6.7	7.6	6.8	68%	7.9%
NA	Acrinathrin	10	10	12	12	11	110%	6.2%
NA	Cyphenothrin	10	8.4	9.0	9.0	8.6	87%	3.2%
NA	Etofenprox	10	7.7	7.8	8.3	8.1	80%	3.5%
NA	Flucythrinate	10	8.4	8.5	9.0	9.4	88%	5.2%
NA	Kadethrin	10	7.5	8.2	10.7	10.1	91%	17%
-	Permethrin-13C6 (Surr)	10	9.6	9.4	9.2	9.0	93%	2.8%

# Analyte Stability

Simulated Matrix with  
25mg/L TSS, 10.0 NTU



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CA Rank	Analyte	Spike Conc (ng/L)	Day 0 (%Rec)	Day 1 (%Rec)	Day 4 (%Rec)	Day 6 (%Rec)
1	Permethrins	20	93%	85%	71%	70%
2	Bifenthrin	20	92%	82%	70%	91%
3	Cypermethrins	20	93%	89%	82%	73%
4	Cyhalothrins	20	93%	80%	98%	94%
5	Fenvalerates	20	88%	80%	53%	58%
6	Fenpropathrin	20	101%	92%	103%	78%
7	Cyfluthrins	20	93%	96%	103%	90%
8	Deltamethrin	20	103%	105%	89%	96%
-	Permethrin-13C6 (Surr)	10	109%	103%	96%	107%



Stored in 40mL unpreserved VOA vials in refrigerator

# Analytical Challenges

- CRM Availability
- Low response from Cyfluthrin/Esfenvalerate
- CRM Degradation;  $\alpha$ -cyano pyrethroids form a carboximidate(?) in methanol
- Stereoisomer confusion/labeling
- Unable to do tefluthrin or transfluthrin by ESI
- Preservation (tetramethrin issues)
- Solubility very low and Log(P) high

# Developments

- Holding time study and preservation study of simulated matrix with ACN keeper
- Split samples from UC Davis last fall for bioswales.
- Try different online SPE media or analytical column
- Apply method to Fipronil and degradates
- Analyte confirmation
- Chiral separation

# Developments

- Holding time study and preservation study of simulated matrix with ACN keeper
- Split samples from UC Davis last fall for bioswales. **Mixed results from split lab**
- Try different online SPE media or analytical column – **Done**
- Apply method to Fipronil and degradates - **Done**
- Analyte confirmation – **Done**
- Chiral separation – **Limited success**

# References

- 1) Amweg, Erin L, Donald P Weston, and Nicole M Ureda. 2005. "Use and Toxicity of Pyrethroid Pesticides in the Central Valley, California, USA." *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry / SETAC* 24 (4): 966–72.
- 2) Weston, Donald P., Yuping Ding, Minghua Zhang, and Michael J. Lydy. 2013. "Identifying the Cause of Sediment Toxicity in Agricultural Sediments: The Role of Pyrethroids and Nine Seldom-Measured Hydrophobic Pesticides." *Chemosphere* 90 (3): 958–64.
- 3) Weston, Donald P., and Colin J. Jackson. "Use of Engineered Enzymes to Identify Organophosphate and Pyrethroid-Related Toxicity in Toxicity Identification Evaluations." *Environmental Science & Technology* 43, no. 14 (July 15, 2009): 5514–20.
- 4) Laskowski, Dennis A. "Physical and Chemical Properties of Pyrethroids." *Reviews of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* 174 (2002): 49–170.
- 5) Solomon, K. R., J. M. Giddings, and S. J. Maund. "Probabilistic Risk Assessment of Cotton Pyrethroids: I. Distributional Analyses of Laboratory Aquatic Toxicity Data." *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry / SETAC* 20, no. 3 (March 2001): 652–59.
- 6) EPA Aquatic Life Benchmark List [http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/ecorisk\\_ders/aquatic\\_life\\_benchmark.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/ecorisk_ders/aquatic_life_benchmark.htm)