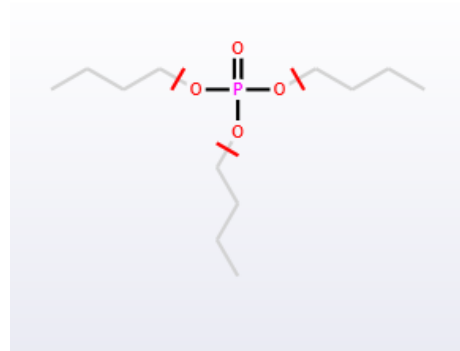




Method Development of a 2D LC-HRMS Extraction and Detection Method for Organophosphorus Flame Retardants in Environmental Water Samples

[Ken Rosnack¹](#)

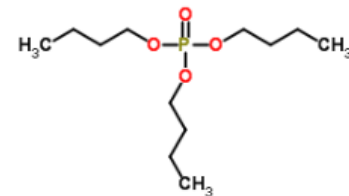
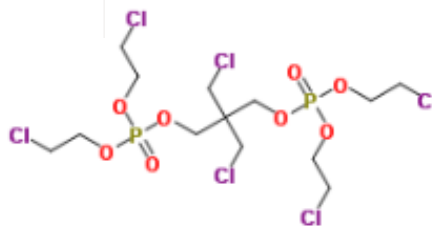
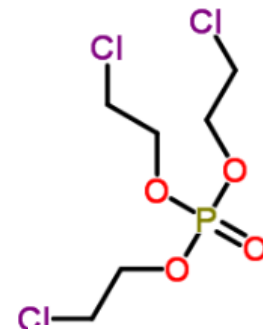
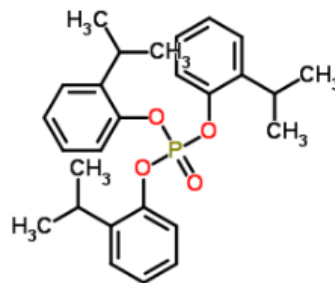
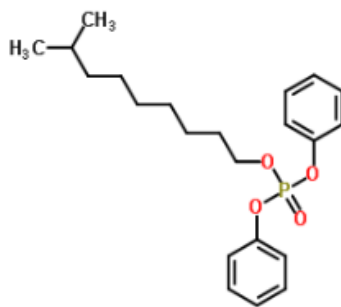
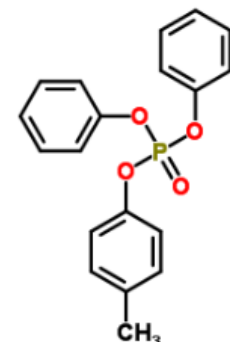
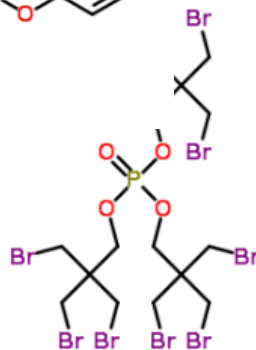
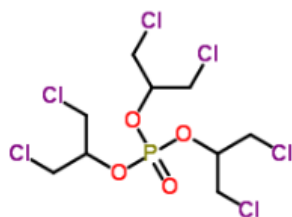
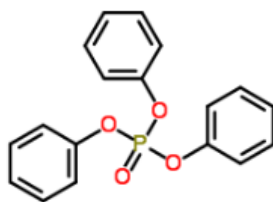
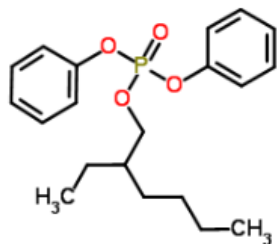
Lauren Mullin^{1,2}, Malorie Mella¹, Claude Mallet¹, Doug Stevens¹, Ingrid Ericson Jogsten², Gareth Cleland¹

¹**Waters Corporation**, 34 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757, USA

²**MTM Research Centre**, Örebro University, 701 82 Örebro Sweden

Overview

- Introduction
- 2D LC QToF overview
- Method optimization
- Sample results



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- Compounds used as flame retardants and plasticizers in various materials
 - K_{ow} ranges 1.71 to 9.0
 - Non-covalently bound to products = potential for environmental occurrence

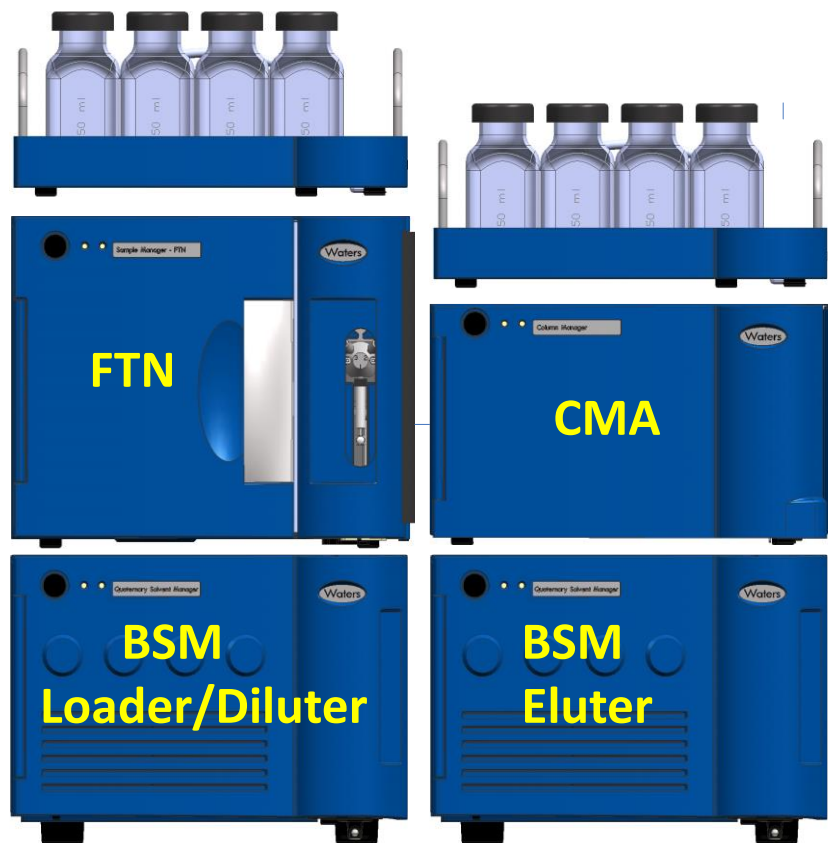
Full Name	CAS #	Abbrev.	Formula
Triphenyl phosphate	115-86-6	TPHP	$C_{18}H_{15}O_4P$
tris(1,3-Dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate	13674-87-8	TDCPP	$C_9H_{15}Cl_6O_4P$
tris(2-Isopropylphenyl) phosphate	64532-95-2	IPPP	$C_{27}H_{33}O_4P$
tetrakis(2-Chloroethyl)dichloroisopentyl diphosphate	38051-10-4	V6	$C_{13}H_{24}Cl_6O_8P_2$
Cresyl diphenyl phosphate	26444-49-5	DCP, CDP	$C_{19}H_{17}O_4P$
2-Ethylhexyldiphenyl phosphate	1241-94-7	EHDP	$C_{20}H_{27}O_4P$
tris(2-chloroethyl) Phosphate	115-96-8	TCEP	$C_8H_{12}Cl_3O_4P$
Isodecyl Diphenyl Phosphate	29761-21-5	IDPP	$C_{22}H_{31}O_4P$
tris(Tribromoneopentyl) Phosphate	19186-97-1	TBNPP	$C_{15}H_{24}Br_9O_4P$
Tributyl Phosphate	126-73-8	TBP	$C_{12}H_{27}O_4P$

- Sample analysis incorporating various sample preparation approaches
 - Dry down and solvent exchange common
 - Targeted
- Goal: Implement direct injection of organic solvents + utilize full spectrum acquisition with accurate mass data to identify targeted and non-targeted OPFRs

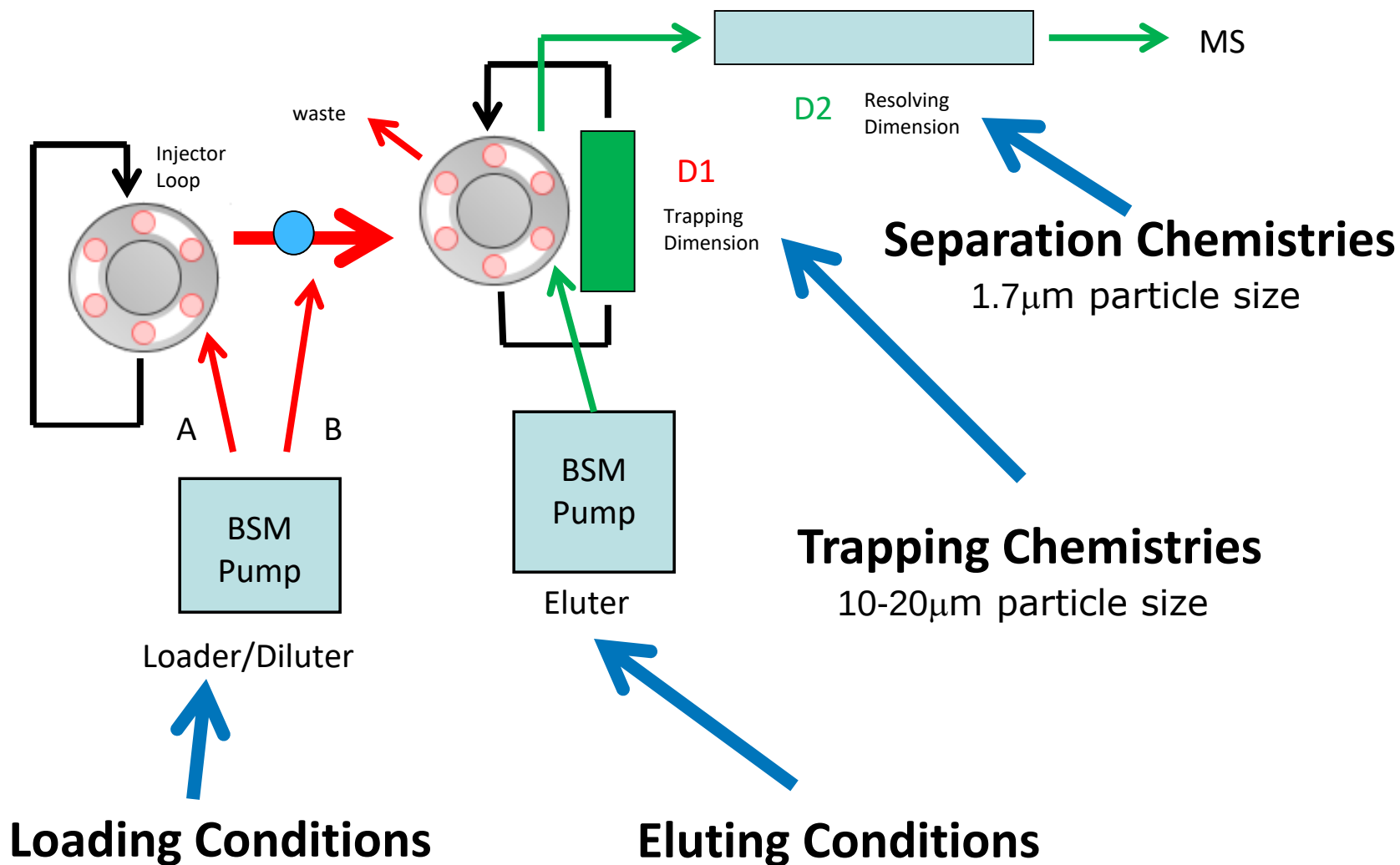
System Overview

System Layout

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At-Column Dilution (ACD) Flow Path



Why QTof?

QQQ Vs HRMS



MRM
#1



MRM
#3



MRM
#4



MRM
#6



MRM
#5



MRM
#7



MRM
#2

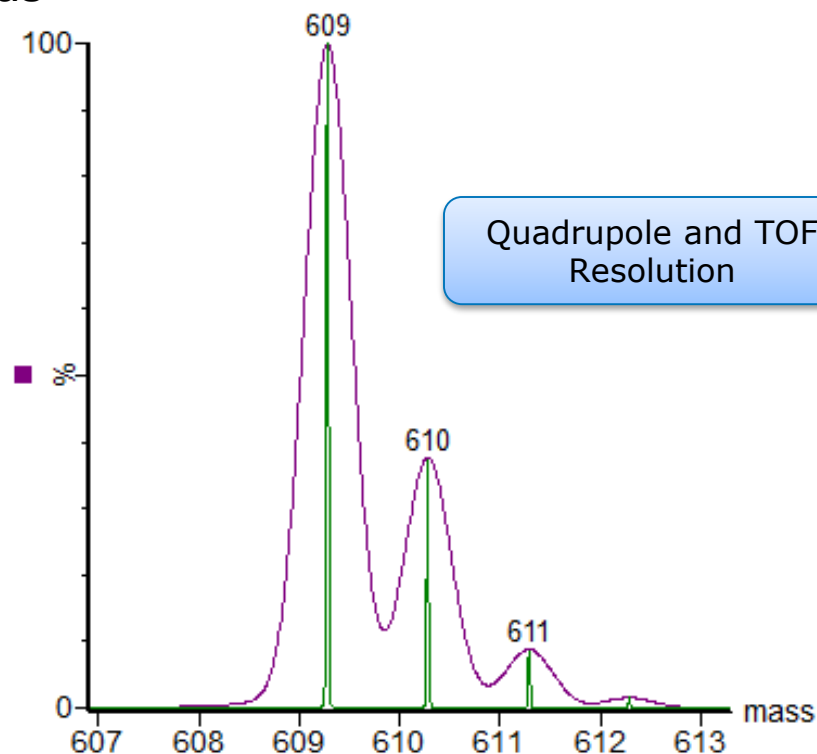
Analyte Selectivity: Triple Quad vs TOF

■ Triple Quad MRM/SRM

- Precursor to Fragment ion transmission
- Compound specific transition
- Analytes defined in method development
- Methods redeveloped for new compounds

■ TOF

- Selectivity from mass resolution
- Data can be re-interrogated

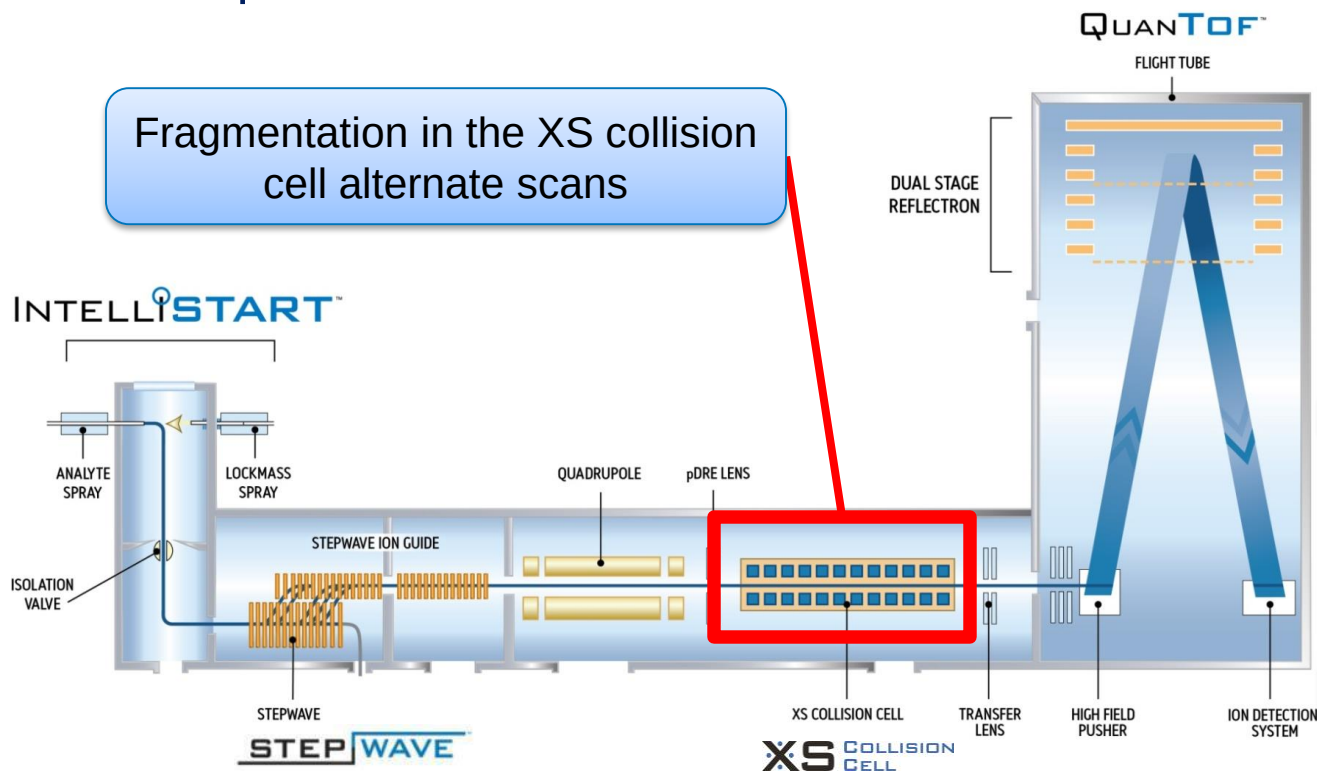


Xevo G2-XS QTof MS^E Acquisition Mode

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Fragmentation in the XS collision cell alternate scans

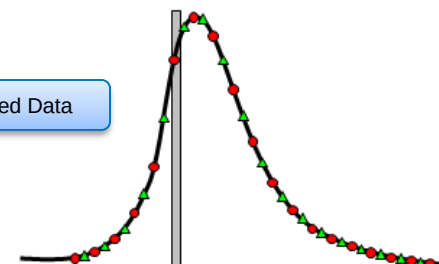


Acquisition Conditions

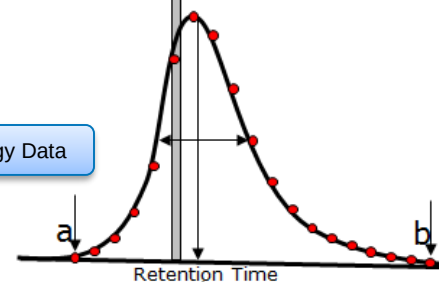
Ionization Mode: ESI⁺
Acquisition Range: 50-1200 m/z
Acquisition Rate: 8 spectra/sec
Capillary: 0.80 kV
Source Temp: 120 ° C
Desolvation Temp: 550 ° C
Cone Gas: 50 L/hr
Desolvation Gas: 1000 L/hr
Cone Voltage: 20 V

Collision Energy (LE): 4 V
Collision Energy (HE Ramp): 10 to 45 V
Lockspray: Leu Enk (556.2771)

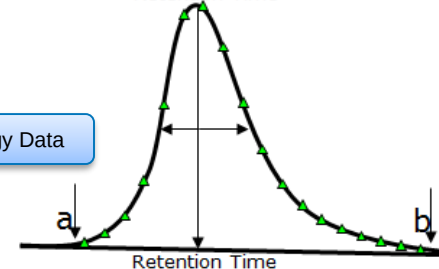
Combined Data



High Energy Data



Low Energy Data



Method Development

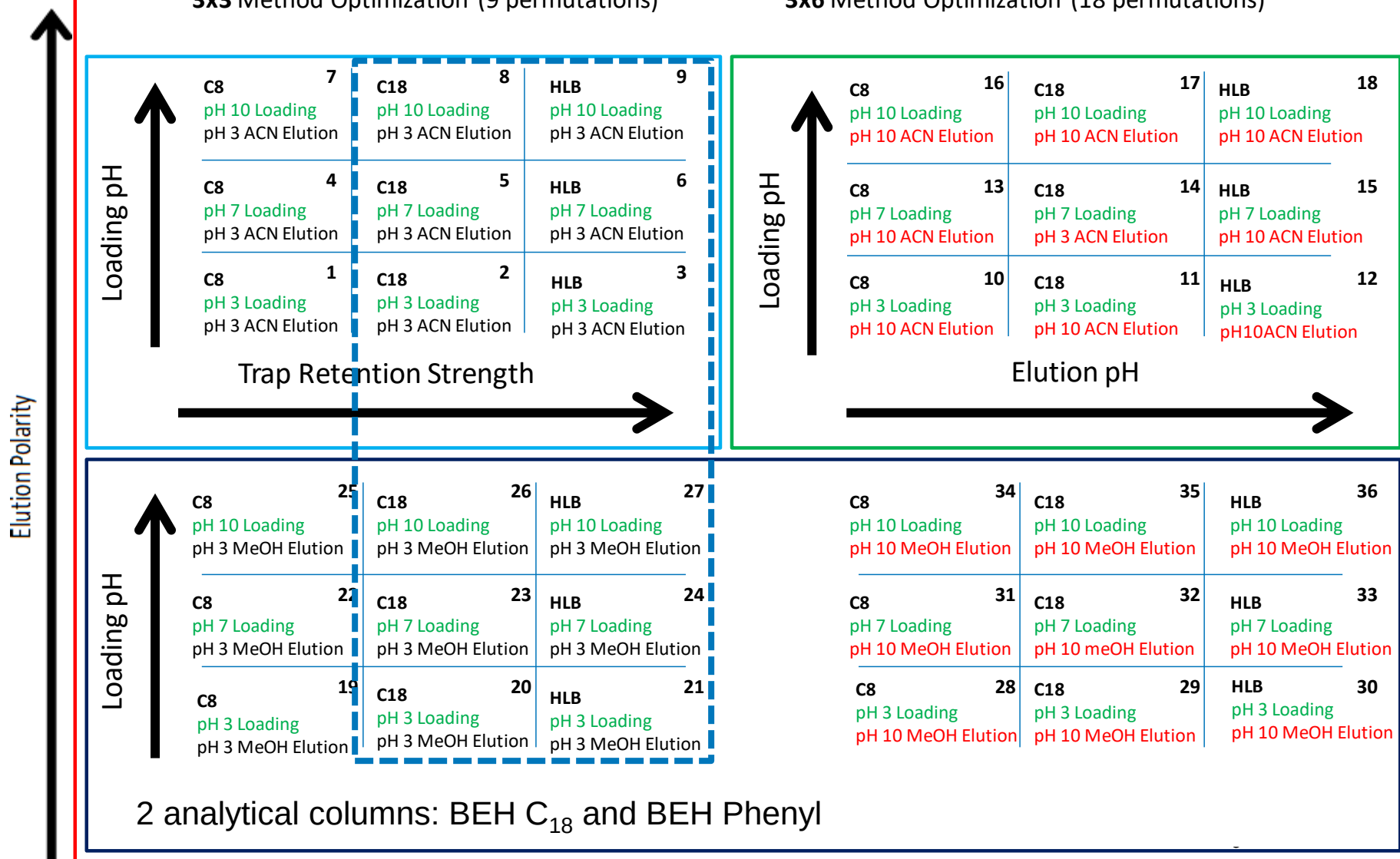
2D Optimization Scheme

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3x3 Method Optimization (9 permutations)

3x6 Method Optimization (18 permutations)



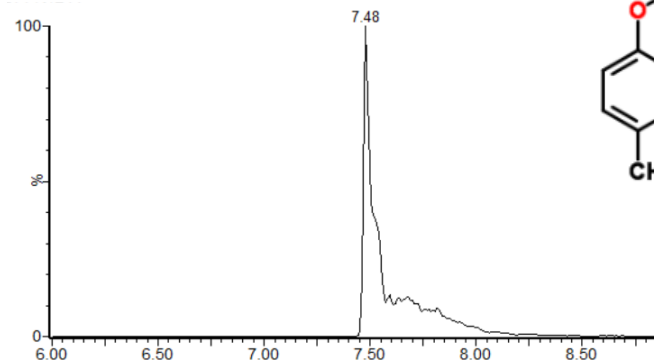
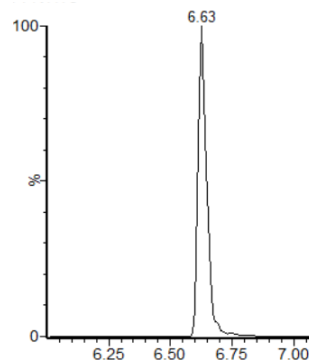
Chromatography Results: Trap Retention Strength and Elution Polarity

- Tailing with increasing retention strength of trap when MeOH is used for organic mobile phase
- Ex. Cresyl diphenyl phosphate (DCP) MW: 340.31

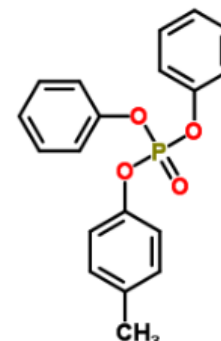
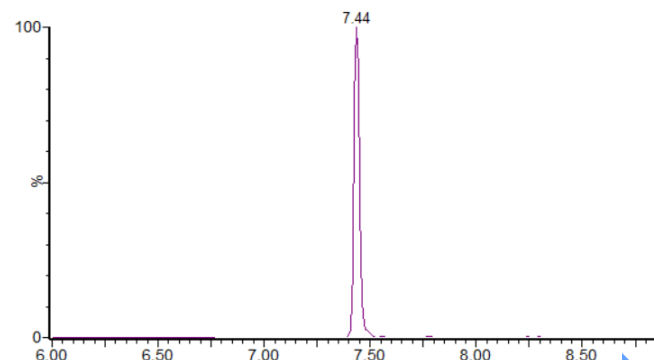
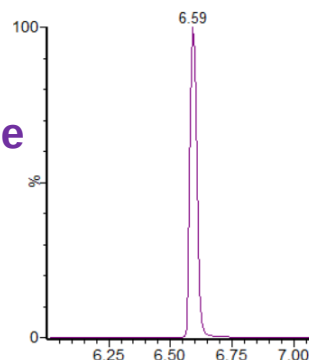
Impacts Earlier Eluters: TCEP, V6, TCDPP, TPhP and TBP



Methanol



Acetonitrile



C₁₈

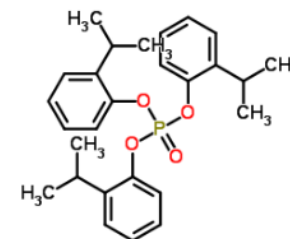
HLB

pH 3 loading



Chromatography Results: Loading pH Impact

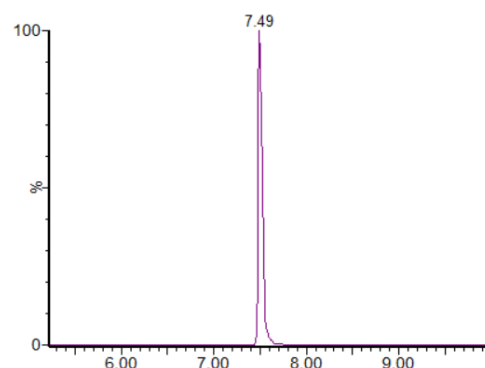
- Tailing with pH 10 loading (organic mobile phase independent)
- Ex. Tris (2-isopropyl phenyl) phosphate (IPPP) MW: 452.52



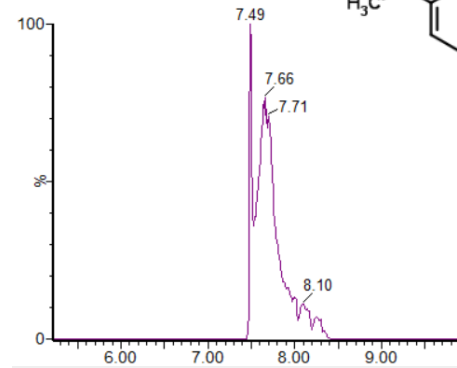
Acetonitrile



Impacts Later
Eluters: EDHP,
IDPP, TBNPP



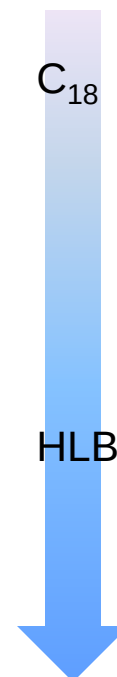
pH 3 loading



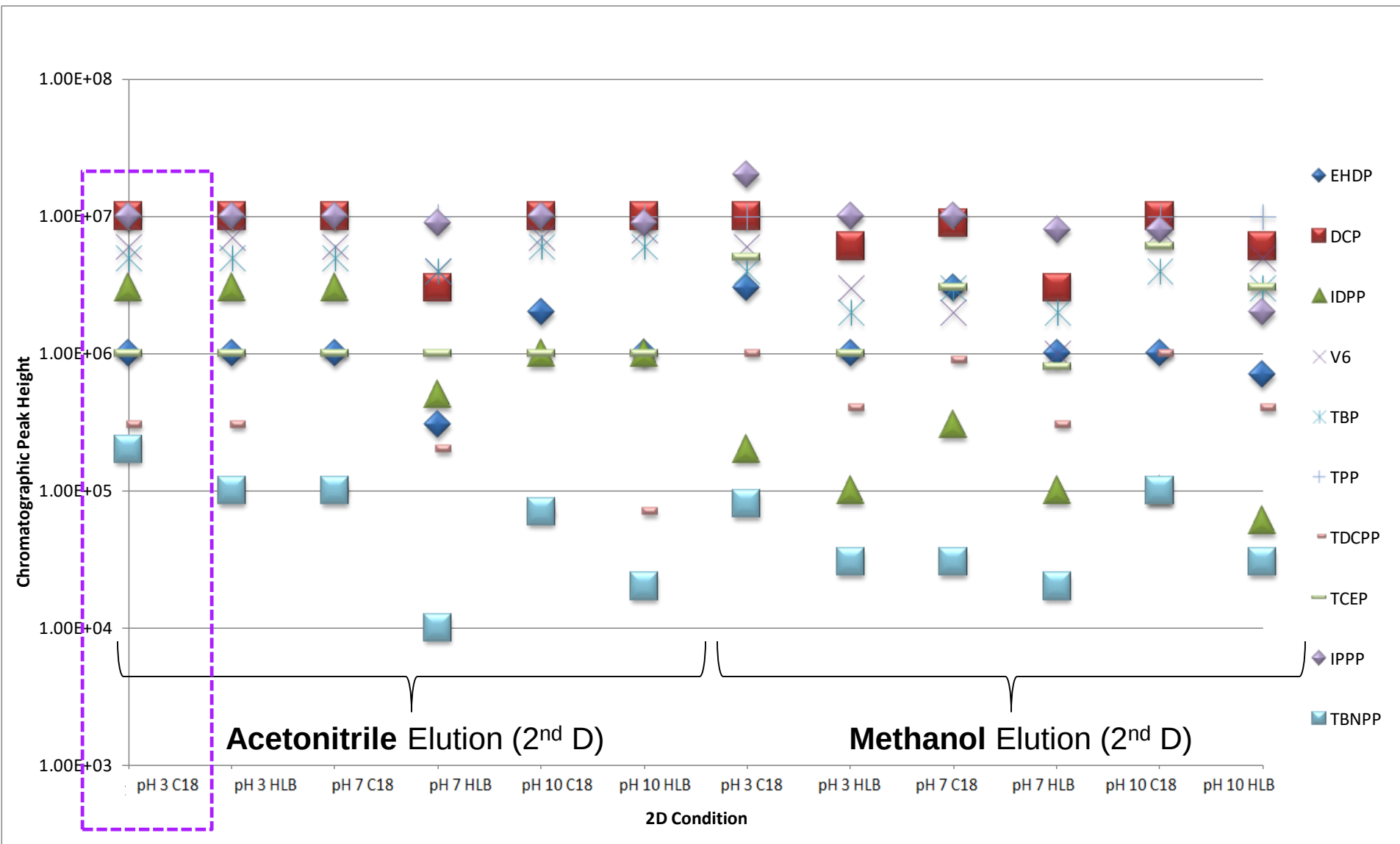
pH 10 loading

C₁₈

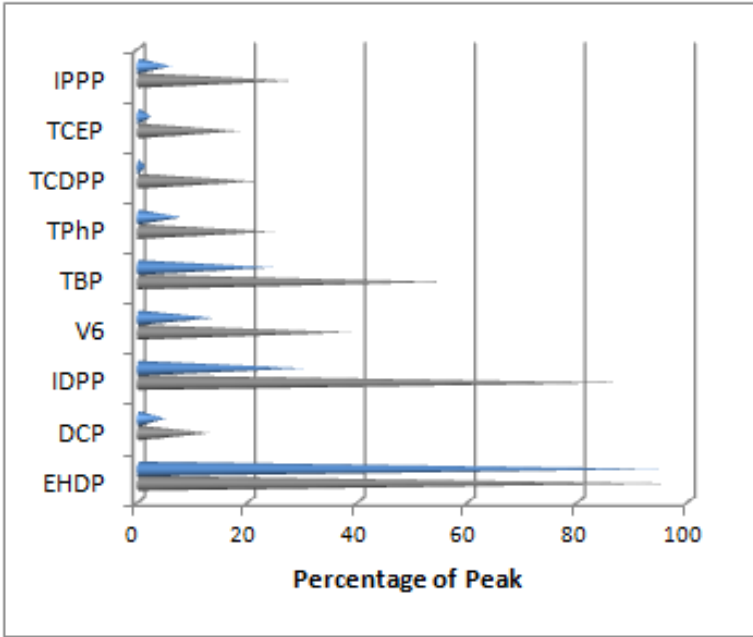
HLB



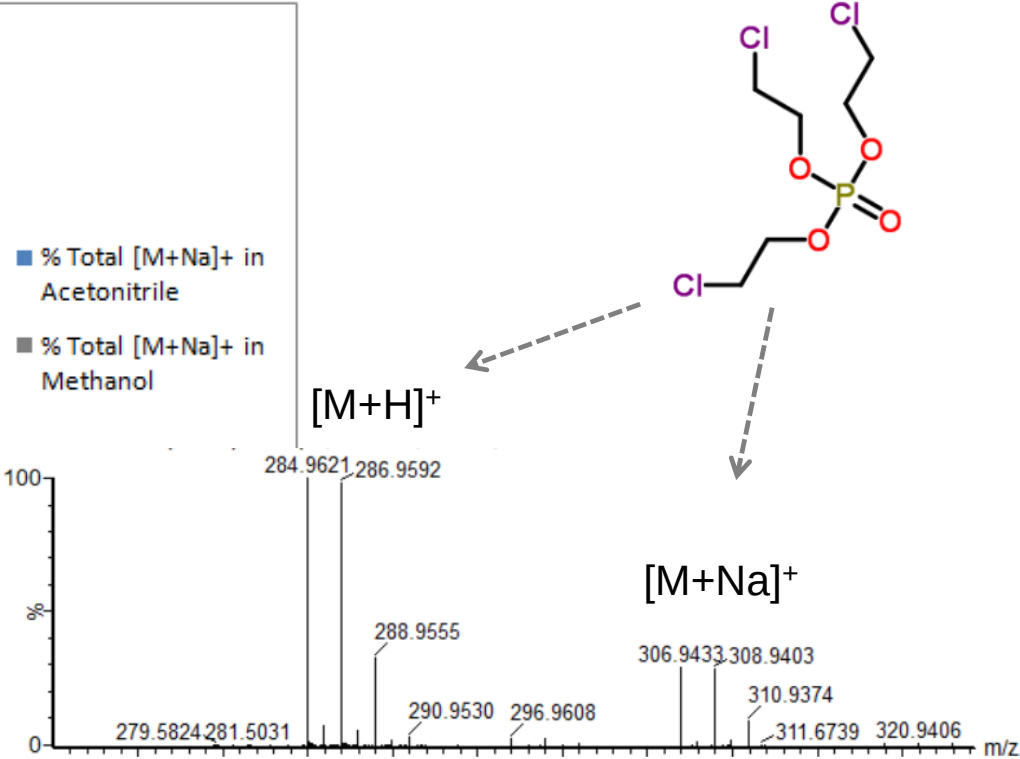
Analyte Response Variation by 2D Method



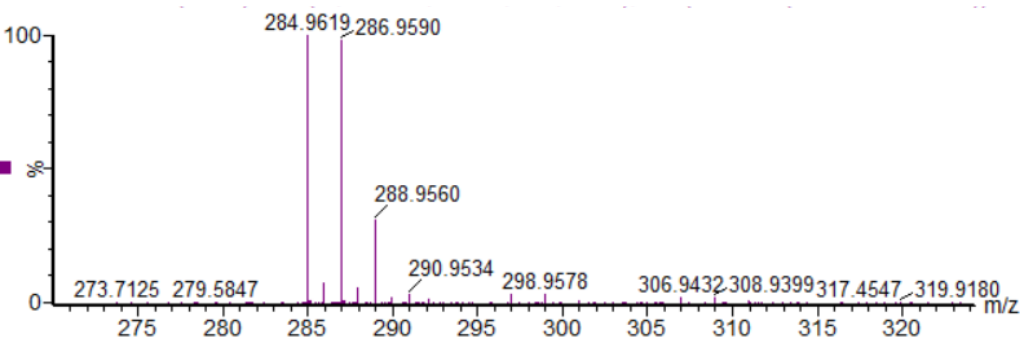
Solvent Na⁺ Adducting Trends: Higher for Methanol MP B



Methanol MP B



Acetonitrile MP B



Optimum Chromatography Method Results

Loading Conditions

Column: XBridge C₁₈ Direct Connect HP, 2.1 x 30 mm, 10µm

Loading: MilliQ Water (pH 3)

Flow Rate: 2 mL/min

ACD: 5% (0.1 mL/min loading pump and 2mL/min diluting pump)

UPLC Conditions

System: ACQUITY UPLC I-Class BSM configured for "Trap and Elute" with ACD

Runtime: 10 min

Column: ACQUITY UPLC BEH Phenyl, 2.1 x 50 mm, 1.7µm

Column Temp: 50 ° C

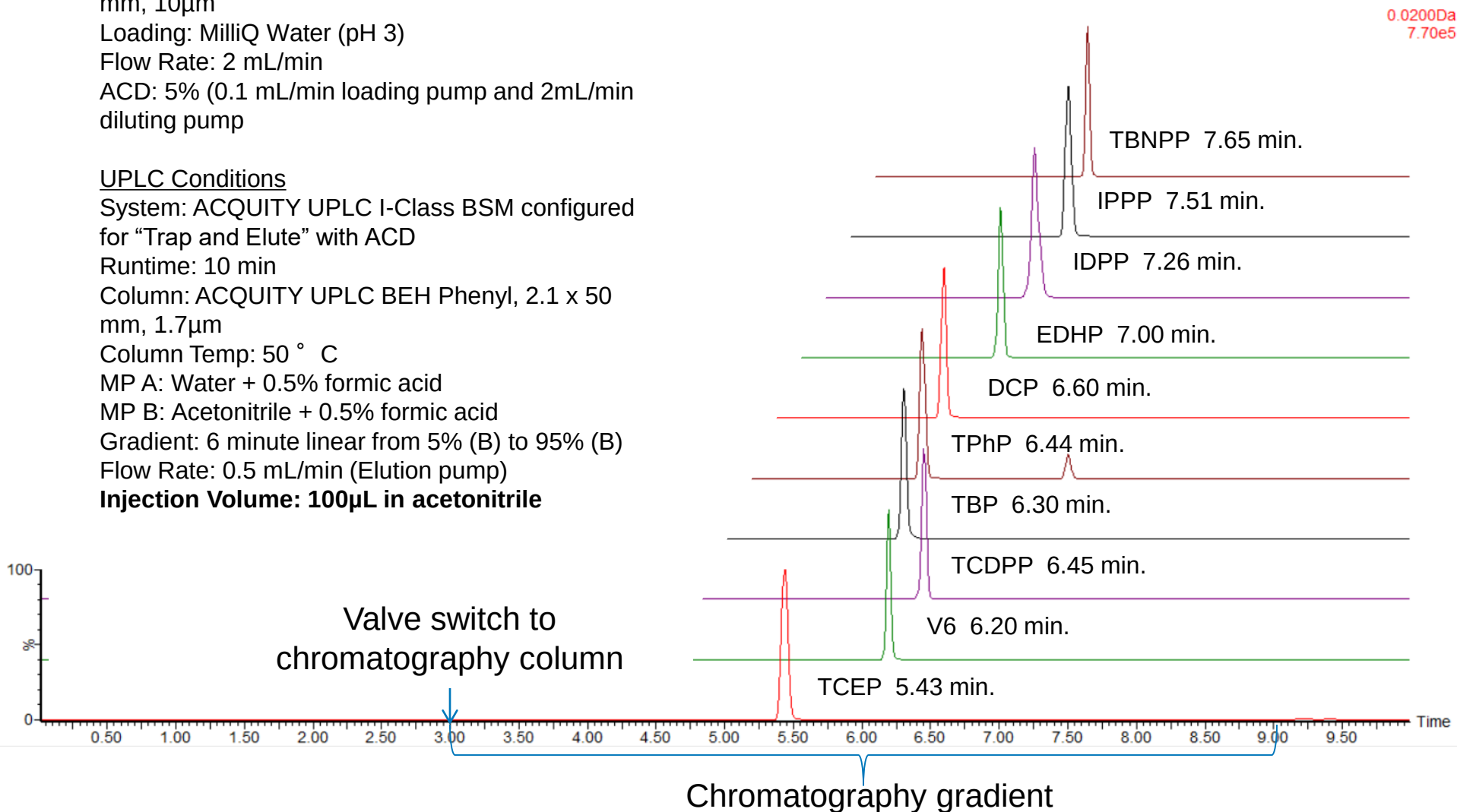
MP A: Water + 0.5% formic acid

MP B: Acetonitrile + 0.5% formic acid

Gradient: 6 minute linear from 5% (B) to 95% (B)

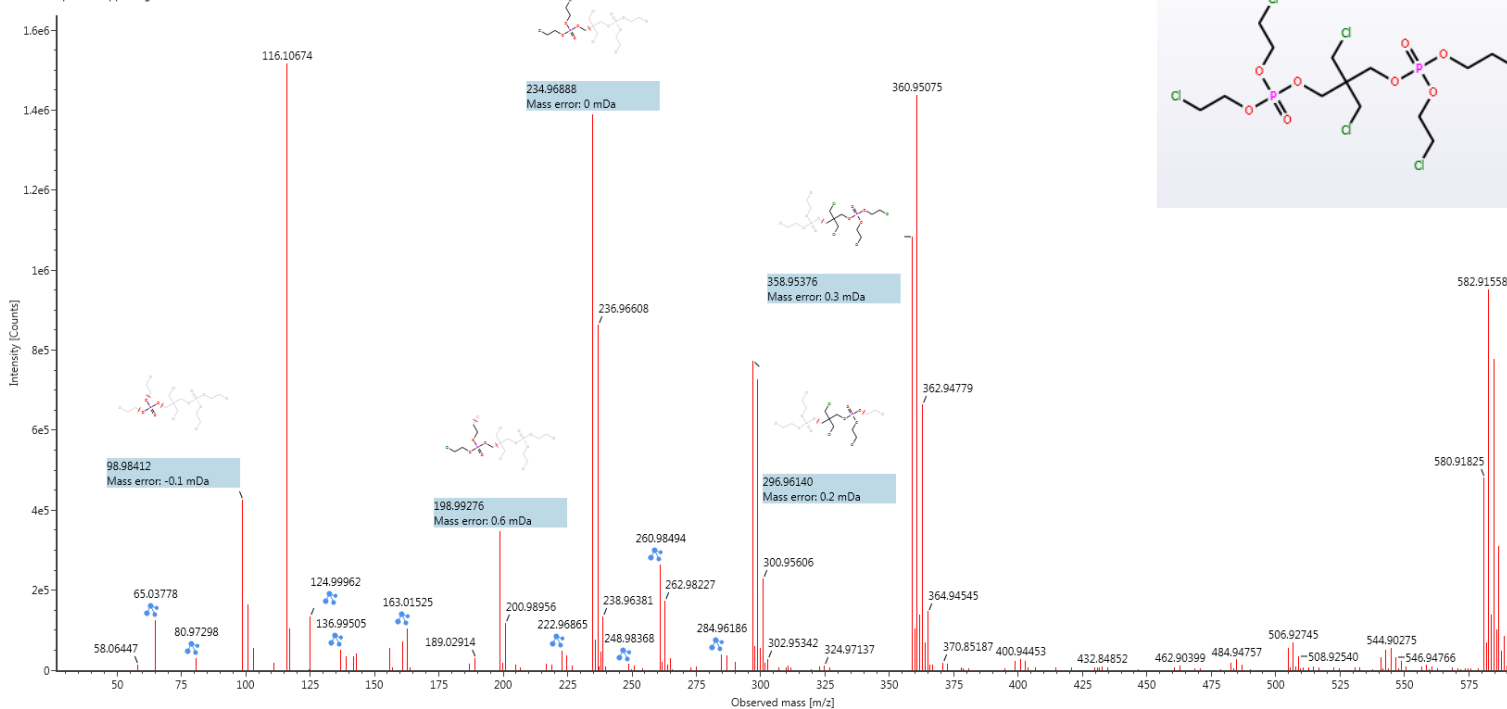
Flow Rate: 0.5 mL/min (Elution pump)

Injection Volume: 100µL in acetonitrile



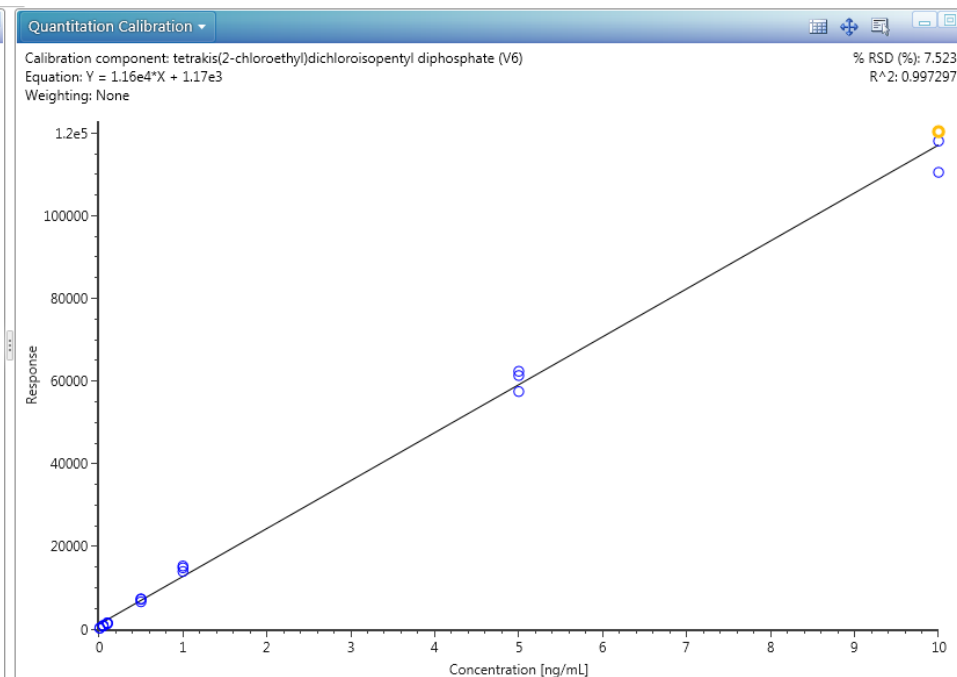
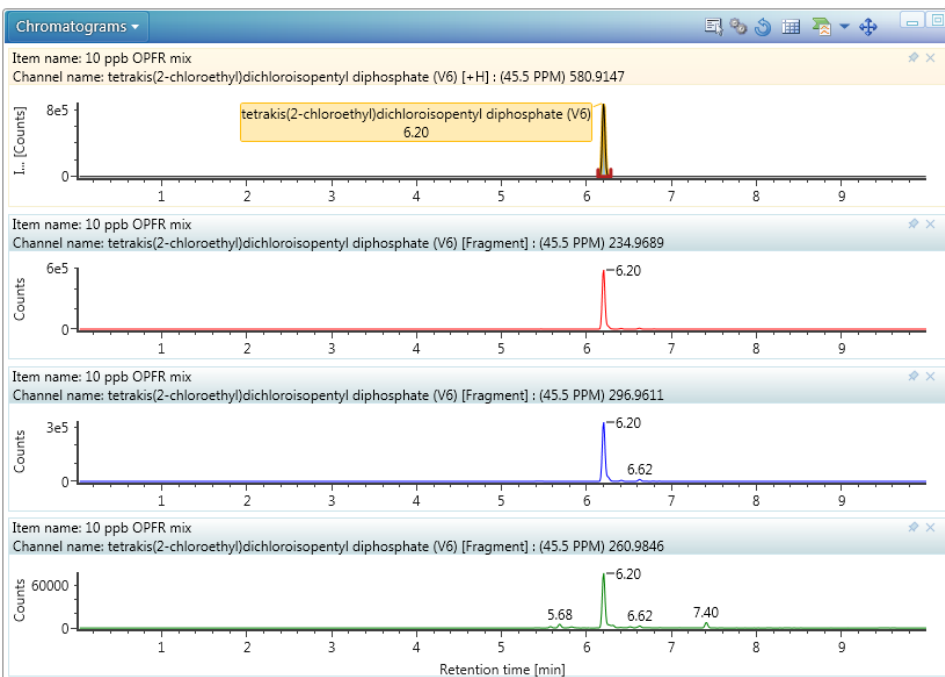
MSE fragments

Item name: OPFR_SPE2_027
Item description: 25 ppb original mix meoh



Compound	F1	Formula	F2	Formula2	F3	Formula3	F4	Formula4
TCEP	98.9842	H ₄ O ₄ P	222.9688	C ₄ H ₁₀ Cl ₂ O ₄ P	124.9998	C ₂ H ₆ O ₄ P	160.9765	C ₂ H ₇ ClO ₄ P
V6	358.0953	C ₆ H ₁₆ Cl ₄ O ₄ P	234.9688	C ₅ H ₁₀ Cl ₂ O ₄ P	296.9612	C ₇ H ₁₃ Cl ₃ O ₄ P	260.9845	C ₇ H ₁₂ Cl ₂ O ₄ P
TDCCP	98.9842	H ₄ O ₄ P	208.0953	C ₃ H ₈ Cl ₂ O ₄ P	318.9222	C ₆ H ₁₂ Cl ₄ O ₄ P		
TPhP	251.0468	C ₁₂ H ₁₂ O ₄ P	233.0362	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ O ₃ P				
TBP	98.9842	H ₄ O ₄ P	80.9736	H ₂ O ₃ P				
DCP	91.0542	C ₇ H ₇	247.0519	C ₁₃ H ₁₂ O ₃ P	265.0624	C ₁₂ H ₁₄ O ₄ P	251.0468	C ₁₂ H ₁₂ O ₄ P
EHDP	251.0468	C ₁₂ H ₁₂ O ₄ P	152.0597	C ₅ H ₁₃ O ₃ P	77.0386	C ₆ H ₅		
IDPP	251.0468	C ₁₂ H ₁₂ O ₄ P	152.0597	C ₅ H ₁₃ O ₃ P	77.0386	C ₆ H ₅		
IPPP	327.0781	C ₁₈ H ₁₆ O ₄ P	369.1250	C ₂₁ H ₂₂ O ₄ P	411.1720	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ O ₄ P	233.0362	C ₁₂ H ₁₀ O ₃ P
TBNPP	144.9653	C ₅ H ₆ Br	224.8914	C ₅ H ₇ Br ₂	304.8176	C ₅ H ₈ Br ₃		

Limit-of-Detection/Quantification



	LOD (ng/mL)	LOQ (ng/mL)
TCEP	0.1	0.5
V6	0.01	0.05
TBP	0.1	0.1
EDHP	0.1	5.0
IDPP	0.05	0.1
IPPP	0.01	0.01
TBNPP	2.0	10.0

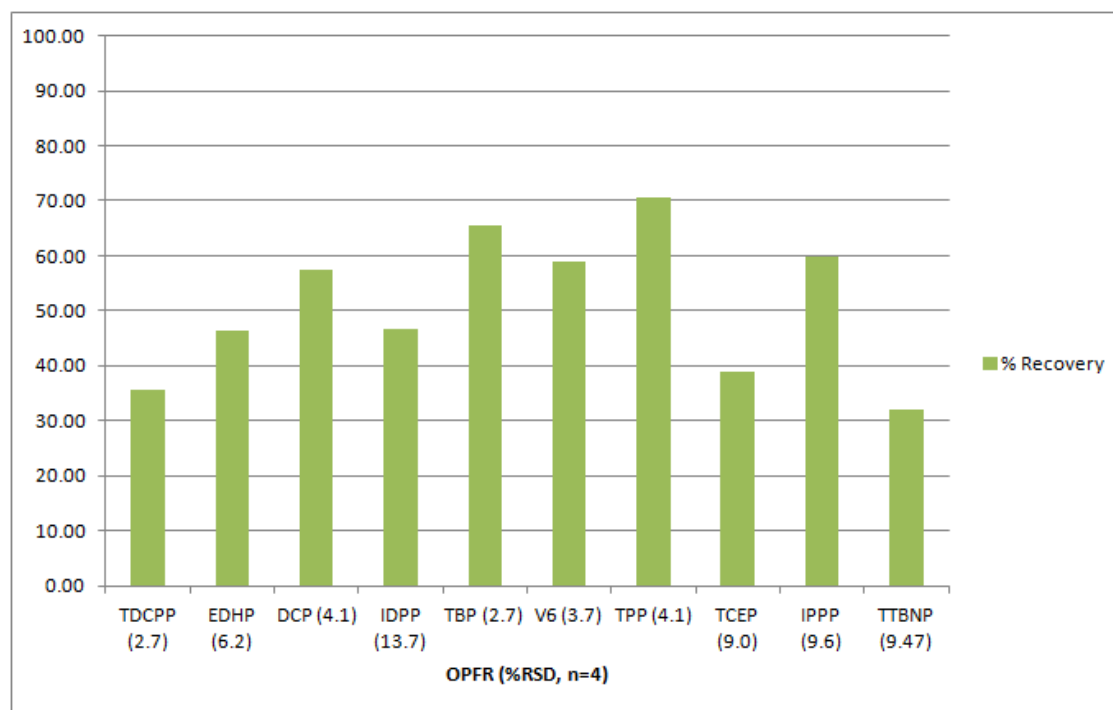
- LOD S/N PtP 3:1
- LOQ S/N PtP 10:1
- Both: at least 1 fragment ion confirmation
- TPP, TDCPP and DCP excluded as levels observed in blank at lowest cal. point



Sample Introduction



- Previous methodologies for various OPFRs have utilized SPE successfully in environmental water samples
- Simplified version adopted in with dry-down step eliminated
- Steps:
 - Rinse needles with methylene chloride
 - Affix Oasis HLB cartridge (6cc 150 mg) to extraction manifold
 - Wash 5mL MeOH, 5mL water
 - **Load sample (100mL)**
 - Elute 5mL pH 3 acetonitrile
 - Inject 100uL acetonitrile extraction

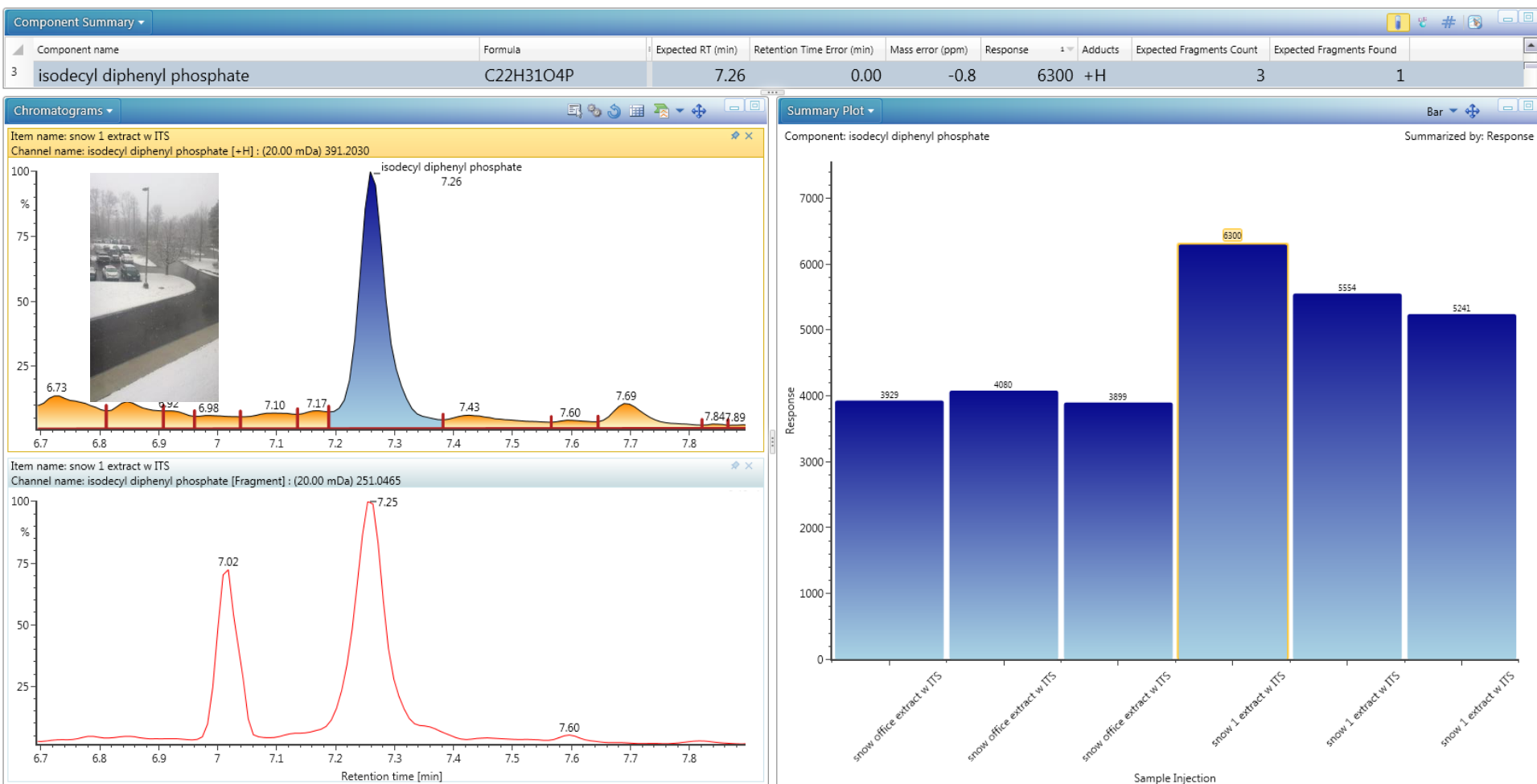


Targeted Identification

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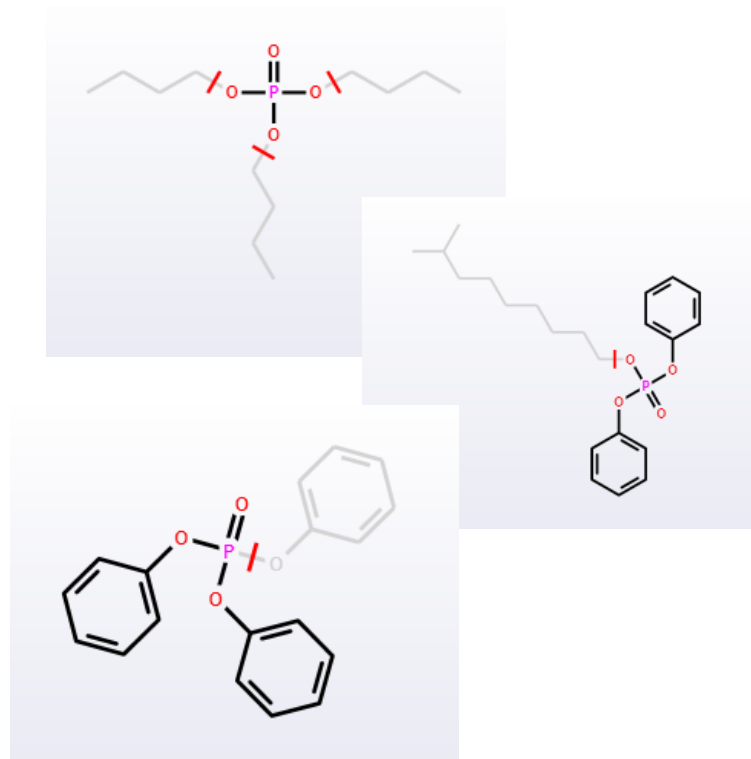
- IDPP, in both snow samples
- Identification criteria
 - Mass error: +/- 5 ppm mass error
 - Fragment mass confirmation



Identifying Non-Targeted Compounds: Common Fragments

- Possibility of other OPRFs and plasticizers
 - Full spectral acquisition=non-targeted acquisition for low and high collision energy
- $-\text{PO}_4 (+4\text{H})$ common structure and other common fragments

Common Fragment				
☒ Enable Common Fragment search				
Tolerance: 2.00 mDa				
Display				
☒ Include Label in results				
☒ Include Formula in results				
Result output: m/z (Label [Formula])				
Add Remove Import				
	m/z	Formula	Label	Charge
1	98.98417	H4O4P	Phosphate Group	Positive
2	251.04677	C12H12O4P		Positive
3	233.03621	C12H10O3P		Positive

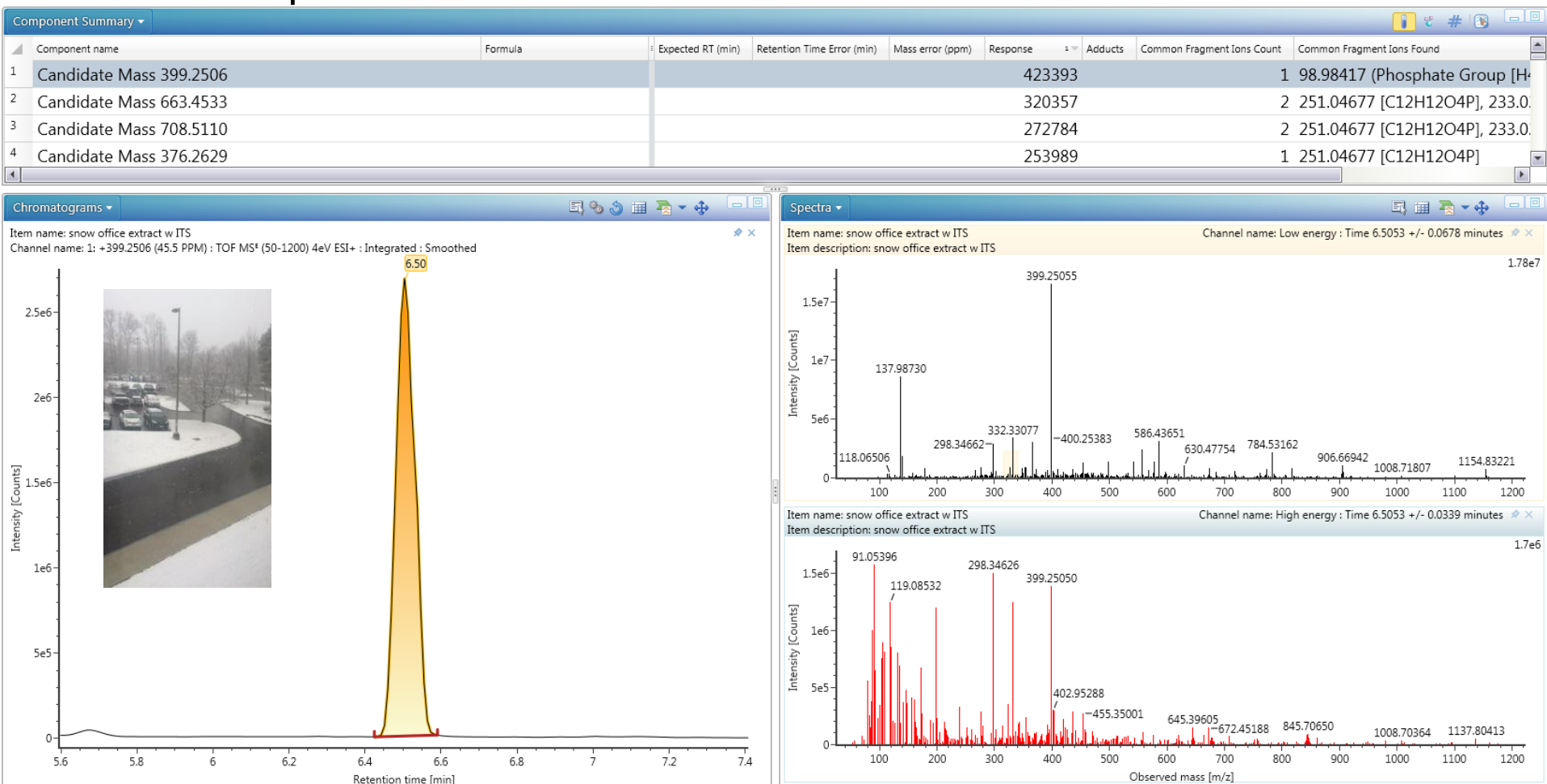


Non-targeted identifications

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- Additional compounds found with common fragments, ordered by most intense response



Database Search for ID

■ Tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate (TBEP)

Discovery

Parameters

Discovery Elemental Composition ChemSpider Fragment Match

Available libraries:

- ChemRefer
- ChemScene
- ChemShuttle
- ChemSources
- Chemspace
- ChemSpider SyntheticPages
- ChemSpiderman
- ChemSpiderMan Depositions

Selected libraries:

- ChEMBL
- ChEBI
- ChemSpiderman

Start Cancel

Results (18 found)

Component Name	m/z	Elemental Composition	i-FIT Confidence (%)	Common Name	Fragment Matches	Predicted Intensity (%)	Citations
1	Candidate Mass 399.250499466991	399.2505	C17H35FN2O7	51.78			
2	Candidate Mass 399.250499466991	399.2505	C18H39O7P	36.37	Tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate	9	13 113
3	Candidate Mass 663.453206904496	663.4532	C41H59FN2O4	61.38			
4	Candidate Mass 663.453206904496	663.4532	C42H63O4P	37.42			
5	Candidate Mass 708.510926865549	708.5109	C43H66FN3O4	71.69			
6	Candidate Mass 708.510926865549	708.5109	C44H70NO4P	25.43			
7	Candidate Mass 376.262935950964	376.2629	C26H33NO	99.99	15-Anilinoresin		

Assign

Information

Tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate

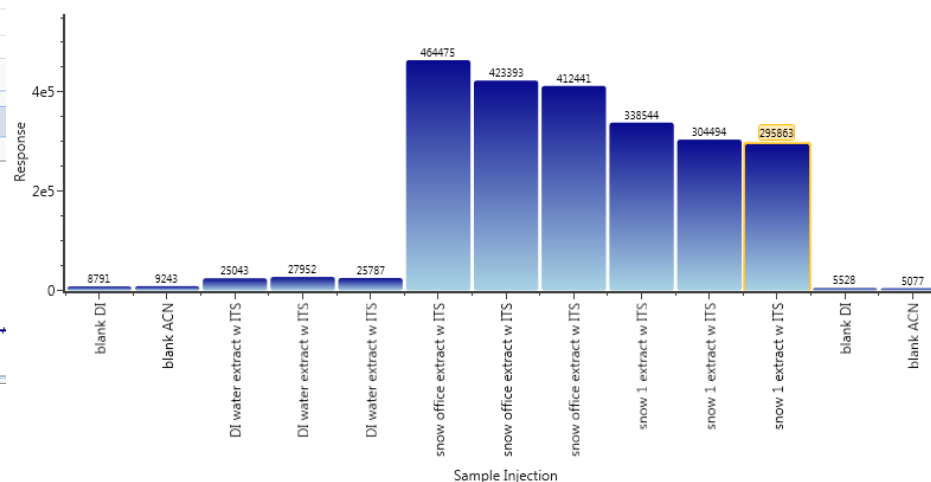
Synonyms

- Tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate
- Phosphoric acid, tributoxyethyl ester
- 201-122-9
- Phosphoric acid, tris(2-butoxyethyl) ester
- Phosphoric acid, tri(butoxyethyl) ester
- 4-01-00-02422 (Beilstein Handbook Reference)
- 78-51-3

Chemical structure diagram of Tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate (TBEP) is shown, along with its molecular formula C₁₈H₃₉O₇P.

Component: tris(2-butoxyethyl) phosphate (TBEP)

Summarized by: Response



Conclusions

- 2D LC technology provides ability to inject large volumes of organic solvents without peak shape compromise
- Sensitive detection of OPFRs is possible with this large volume injection approach combined with Qtof detection
- Non-targeted data acquisition coupled with accurate mass measurement affords the ability to search for additional constituents in samples
- Future Direction
 - Revisit sample prep method
 - Biological and other environmental sample analysis

References and Acknowledgements

1. G. Santin et al. *J. Chromtogr. A* 1441 (2016) 34-43
2. X. Wang et al. *J. Chromtogr. A* 1218 (2011) 6705-6711
3. H. Wolshke et al. *Environmental Pollution* (2015) 488-493
4. D. Chen et al. *J. Chromtogr. A* 1220 (2012) 169-174
5. S. Chu et al. *Analytica Chimica Acta* 885 (2015) 183-190
6. J. Regnery et al. *Clean* 37 (2009) 344-342

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Thank You!!

