



## Pesticides Analysis Focused on Sample Preparation by QUECHERS

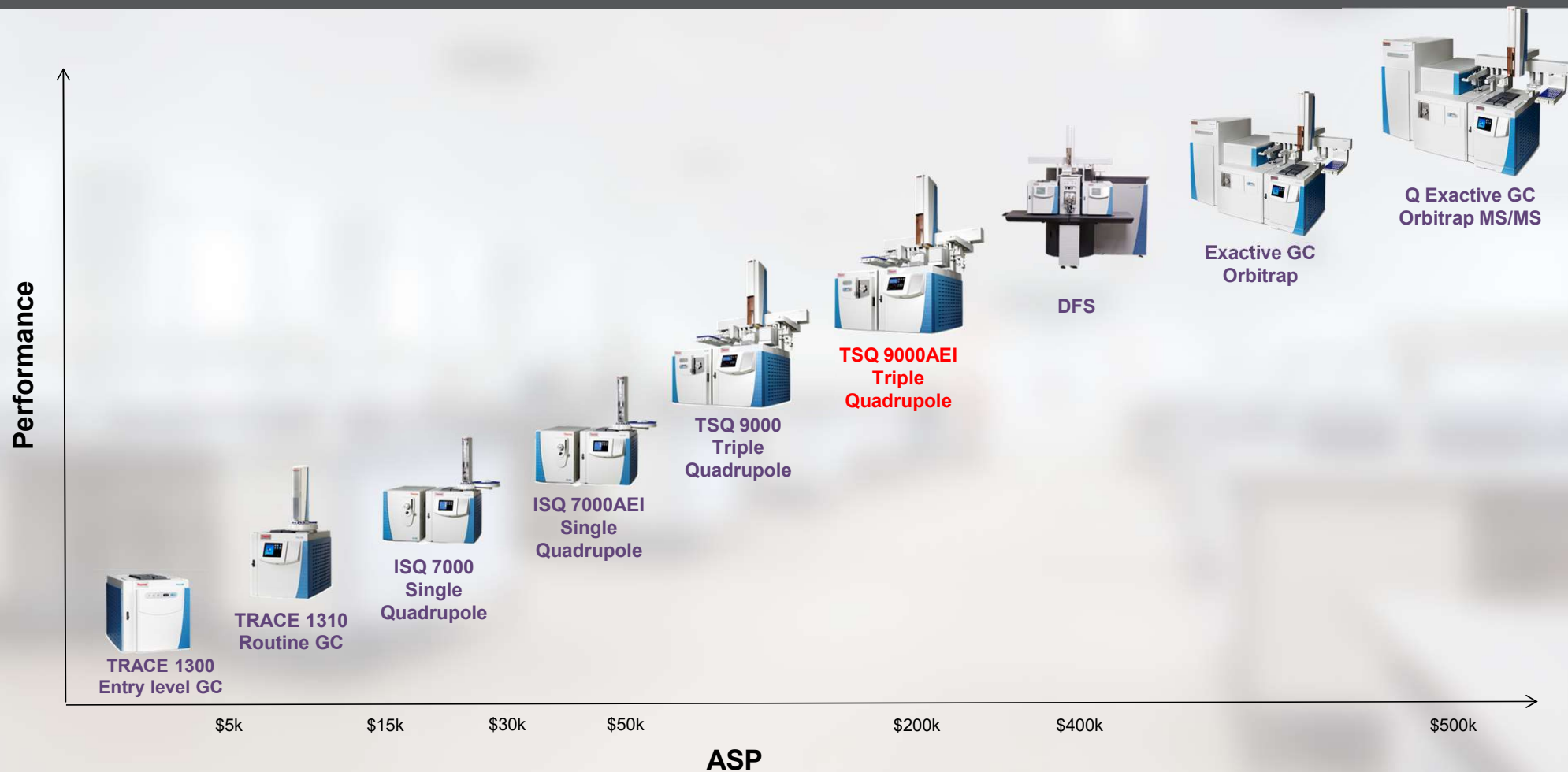
**Miloš Korman, PhD., MBA**  
Technical Sales Manager GCMS  
Emerging Markets

Now silent.....



**You are muted**  
**The session is going to be recorded**

# GC&GCMS - 2020 NEW Product Pipeline



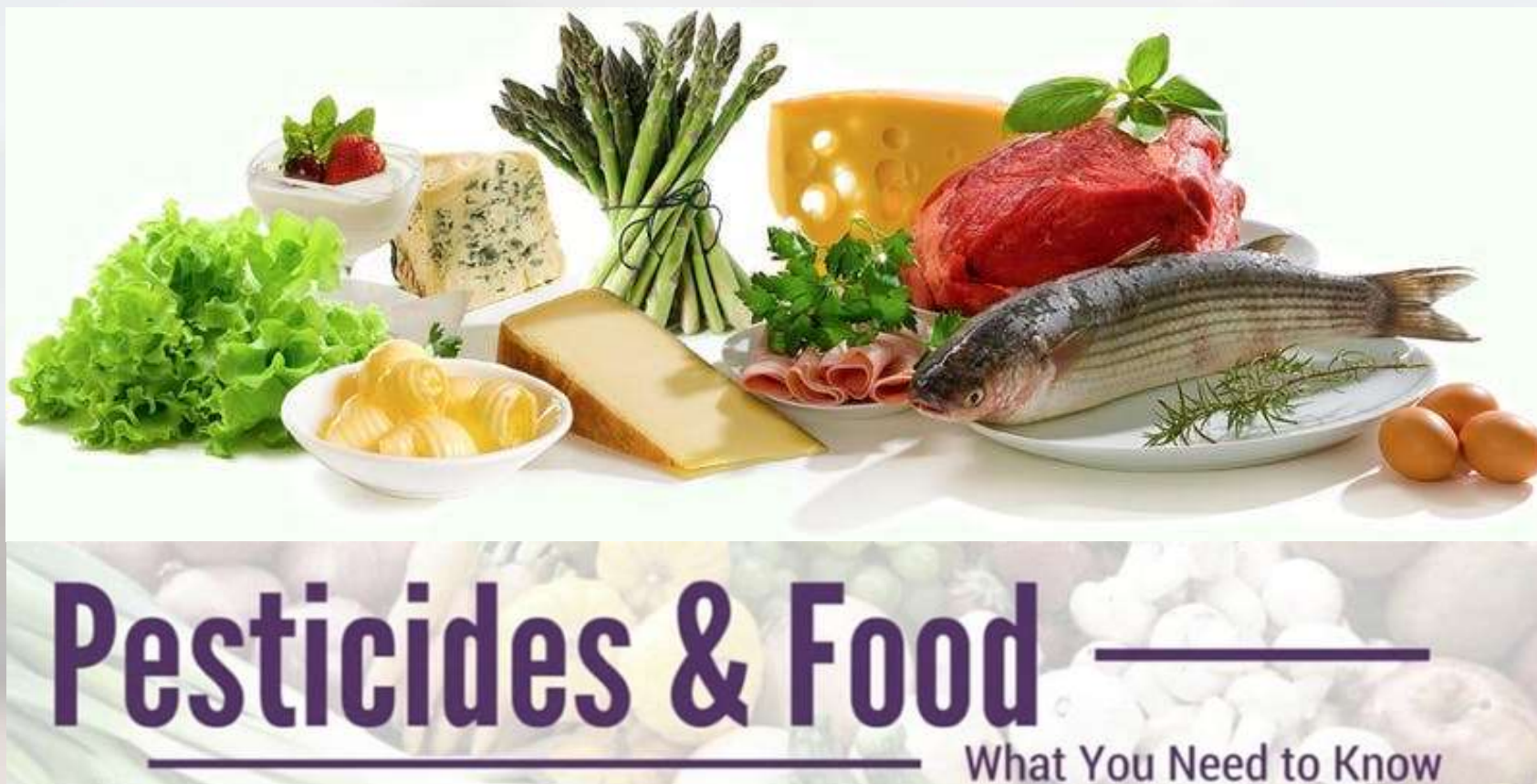
# Agenda

- ☐ Pesticides & Food: What You Need to Know
- ☐ Description
- ☐ Workflows
- ☐ Sample preparation Pesticide Analysis
- ☐ Pesticide Analysis by TSQ 9000 AEI
- ☐ Results
- ☐ Summary





## Pesticides & Food: What You Need to Know



# Pesticide Chemistry

The term "**-cide**" comes from the Latin word "**to kill.**"

- **Organophosphate**
- **Carbamate**
- **Organochlorine**
- **Pyrethroid**
- **Sulfonylurea**
- **Biopesticides**



# TSQ 9000 GC-MS/MS– Flexible purchase options which are scalable in the field

< 4 fg

< 2 fg

< 0.4 fg

## IDL

\* SRM Instrument detection limit  
**verified at installation** (5 fg OFN  
injected n=8, 99% confidence)



TSQ9K-MTNOVPI  
ExtractaBrite EI  
240l pump

Most accesible entry  
from SQ>TQ



TSQ9K-NOVPI  
ExtractaBrite EI  
300l pump

Best price to  
performance ratio



TSQ9K-VPI  
NeverVent  
ExtractaBrite EI  
300l pump

High-throughput  
solution with  
NeverVent Technology



TSQ9K-VPICI  
NeverVent  
ExtractaBrite EI & CI  
300l pump

High-throughput EI/CI  
solution with NeverVent  
technology



TSQ9K-AEI  
Advanced EI  
300l pump

Ultra high performence  
and robustness with  
Advanced EI technology

**Full field upgrade path for TSQ 9000 configurations**

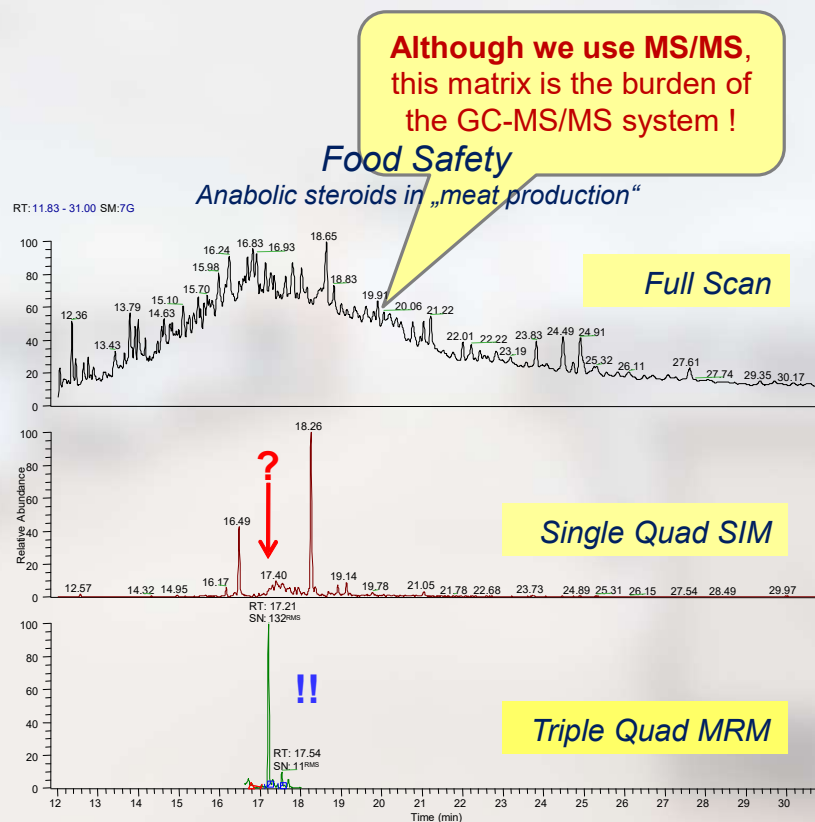
## Outline

- Why do we need MS/MS?
- How do I deal with the sample matrix?
  - Eliminating the sample matrix increases efficiency and productivity
  - Chromatography - PTV Backflush
  - Mass Spectrometer – SRM and H-SRM
- MS/MS for positive identification
- Method set-up for productivity
  - Timed SRM method - Unique way to maximize sensitivity and productivity
- The POPs excellence center

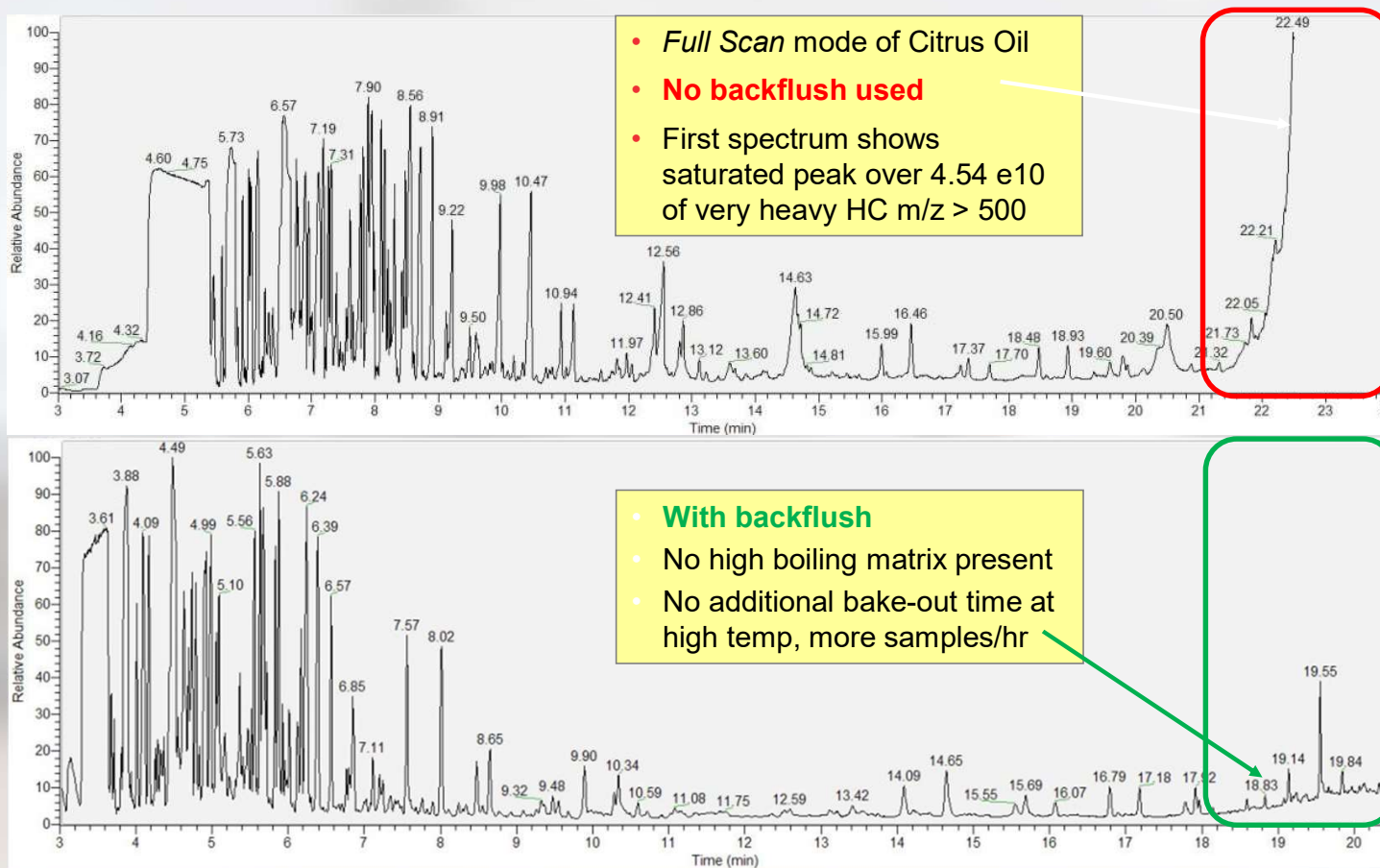


# Strong Analytical Challenges for GC-MS/MS

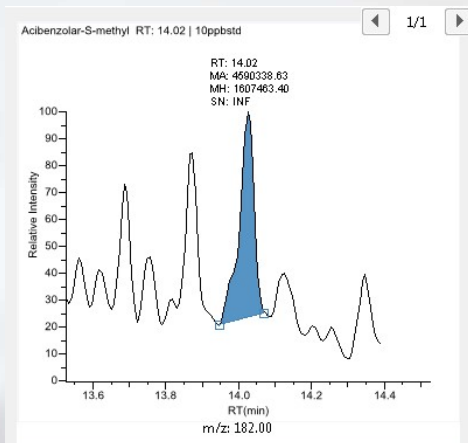
- Multi-methods => More compounds - Shorter sample prep
- Increased Burden to the GCMS-System
  - On injection system and analytical column
  - On mass spectrometer
- Excellent System Performance
  - Keeping high sensitivity
  - Keeping high precision
  - Keeping high productivity
- **Solutions are Addressing**
  1. **GC Injection:**
    - PTV BKF operation
  2. **Mass Spectrometer:**
    - Matrix elimination



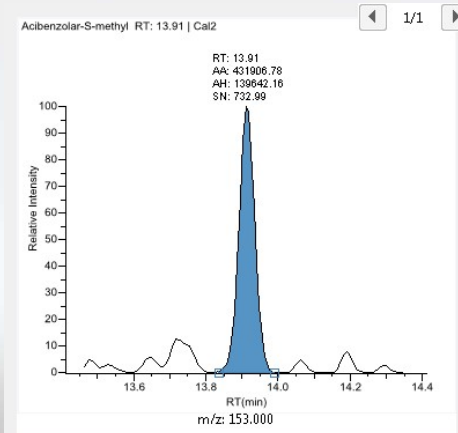
# Analysis of Citrus Oils for Pesticides



# GC-MS/MS – What's so special?



SIM on m/z 182

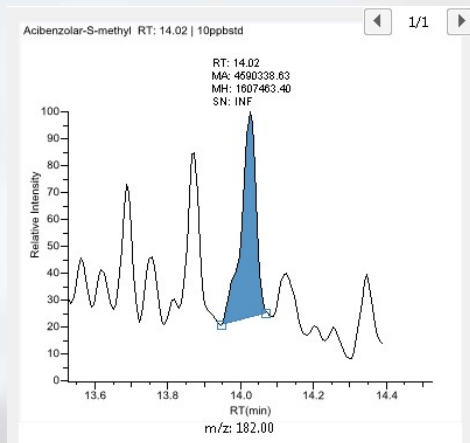


SRM on m/z 182 > 153

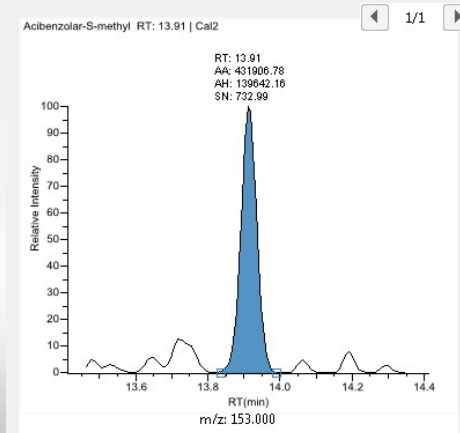
- Acibenzolar-S-Methyl in vegetable matrix



# GC-MS/MS – What's so special?



SIM on m/z 182



SRM on m/z 182 > 153

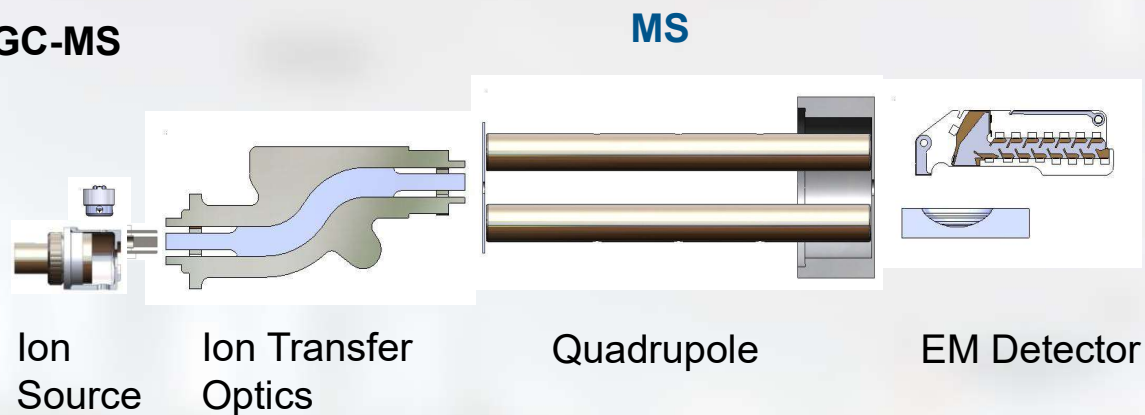
Extra dimension of MS  
to drive selectivity

- Acibenzolar-S-Methyl in vegetable matrix

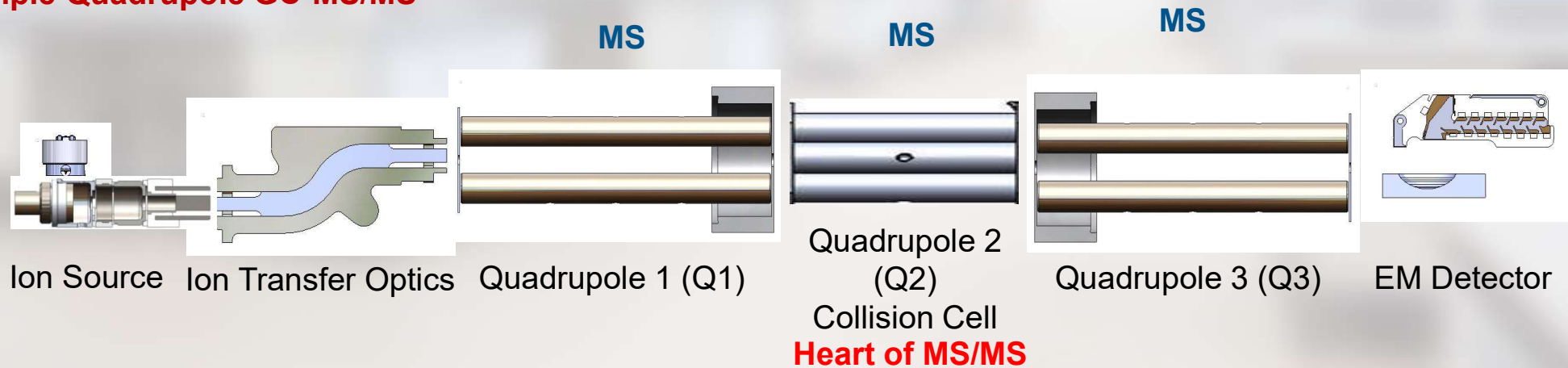


# Why triple quadrupole GC-MS/MS?

## Single Quadrupole GC-MS

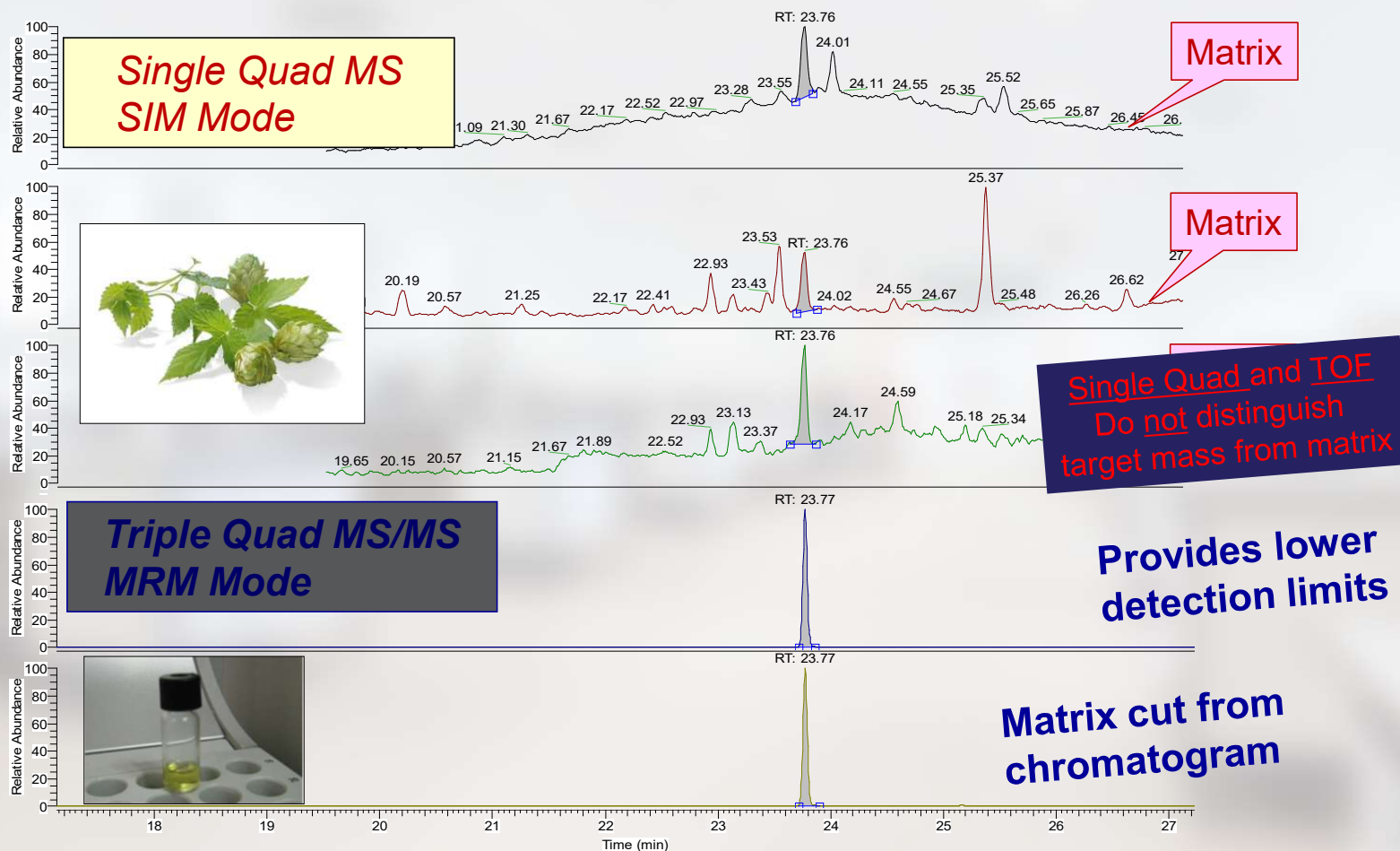


## Triple Quadrupole GC-MS/MS



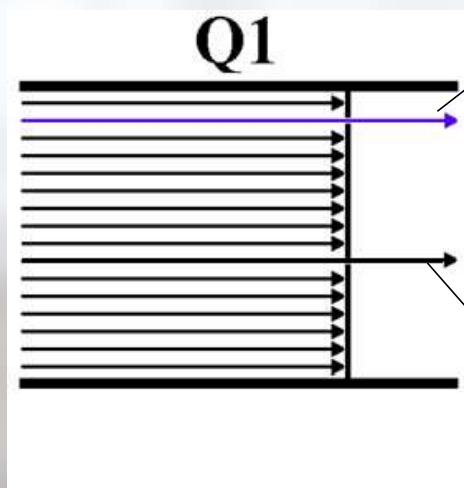


# Quinoxifen in Hops - Using SIM and MS/MS



## Step 1: Precursor Ion Selection

Q1 = mass selective

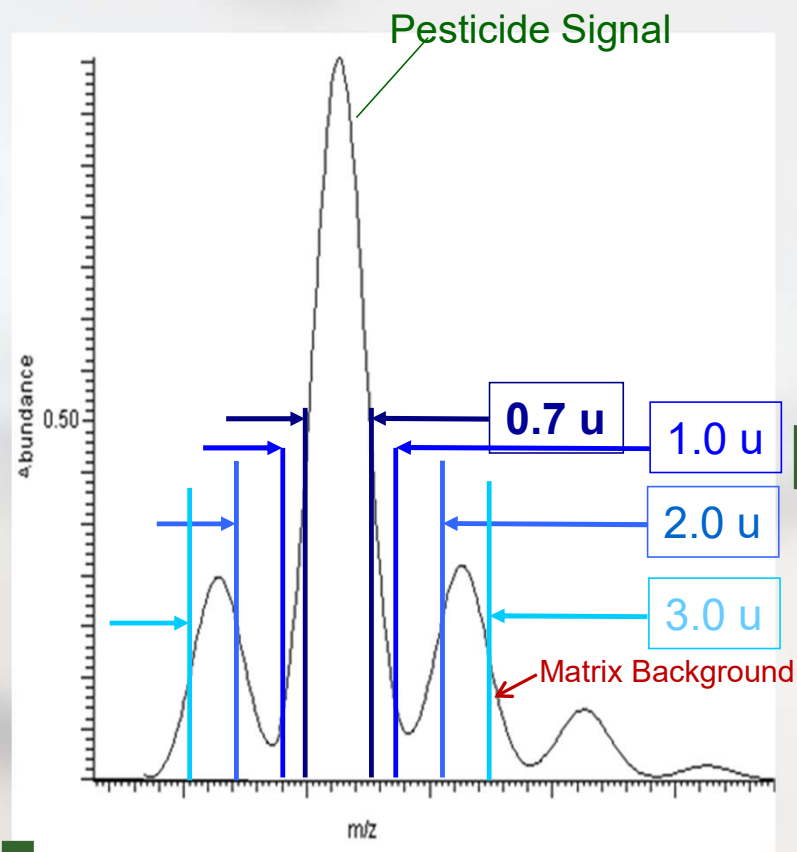


Selected analyte precursor ion

Matrix ion with same mass number



## More Selectivity for More Sensitivity

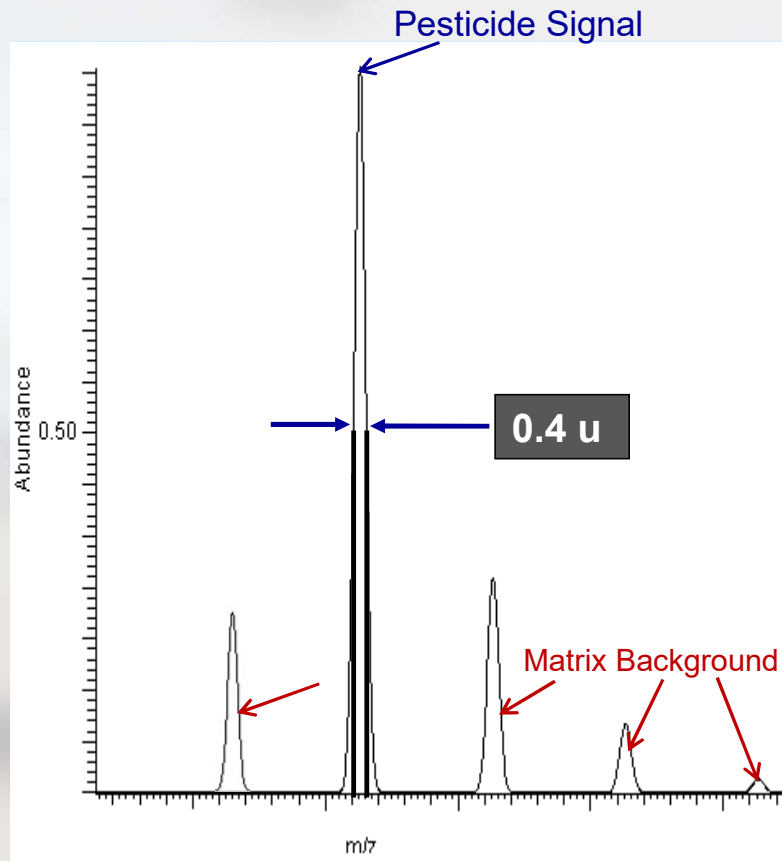


Other technologies use a wide Q1 mass window with a multiple of unit resolution.

More matrix gets into the collision cell and severely sacrifices selectivity.

**A narrow mass window of 0.7 Da selects the target precursor efficiently from the matrix**

# Higher Resolution for More Selectivity in Q1



## H-SRM

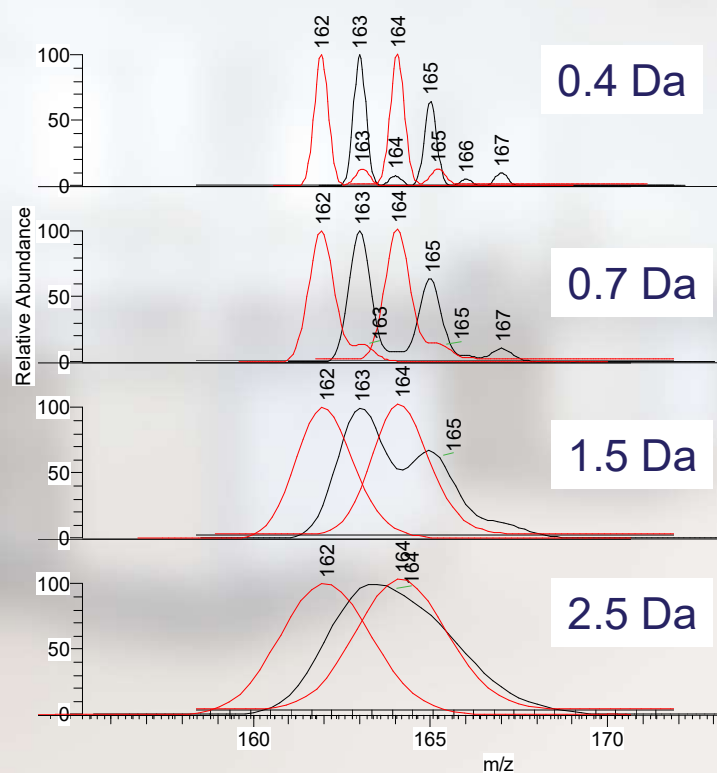
Highly Selective SRM  
Mode

Less matrix gets into the  
collision cell – less noise.

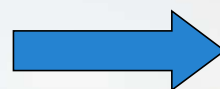
Increased Q1 resolution  
on the TSQ Quantum  
increases selectivity  
for higher S/N.

# Mass resolution - FWHM of 0.4, 0.7, 1.5 and 2.5 Da

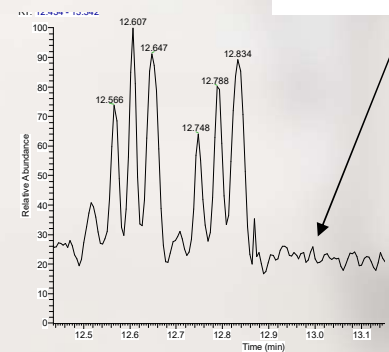
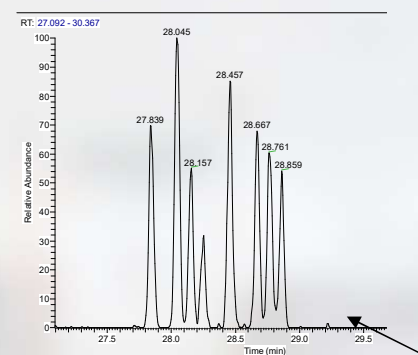
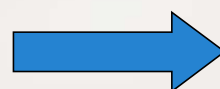
An example: 163 as one of precursor ions for cyfluthrin and cypermethrim,  
162 or 164 as interference ions



163 → 127



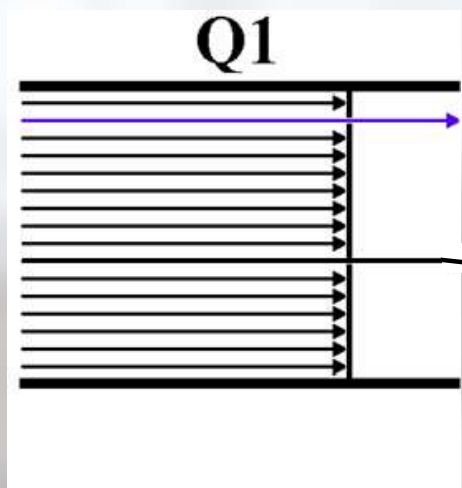
163 → 127





## Step 1: Precursor Ion Selection

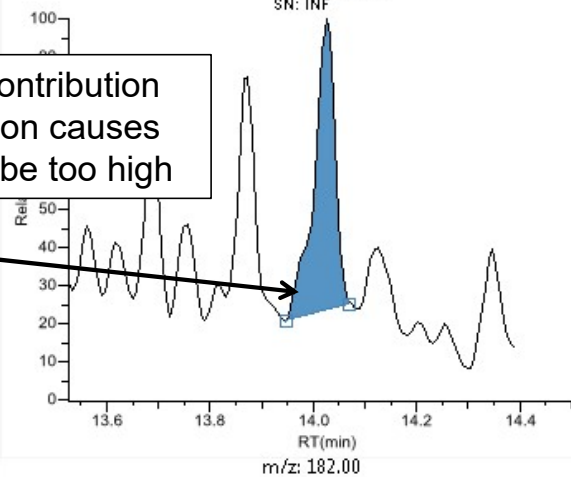
Acibenzolar-S-Methyl – 10 ppb in Lettuce



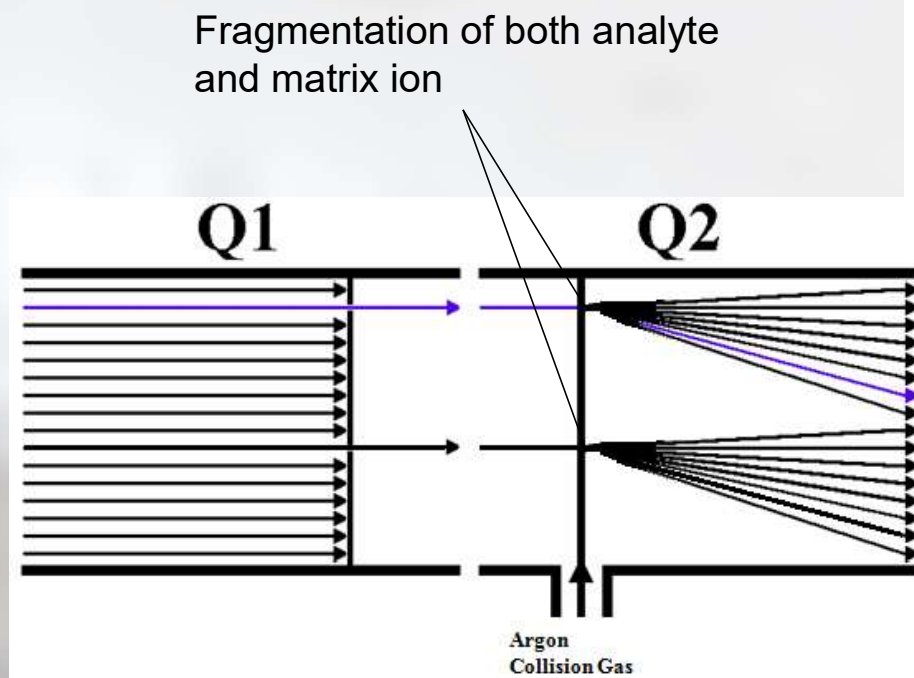
Significant contribution from matrix ion causes peak area to be too high

Acibenzolar-S-methyl RT: 14.02 | 10ppbstd

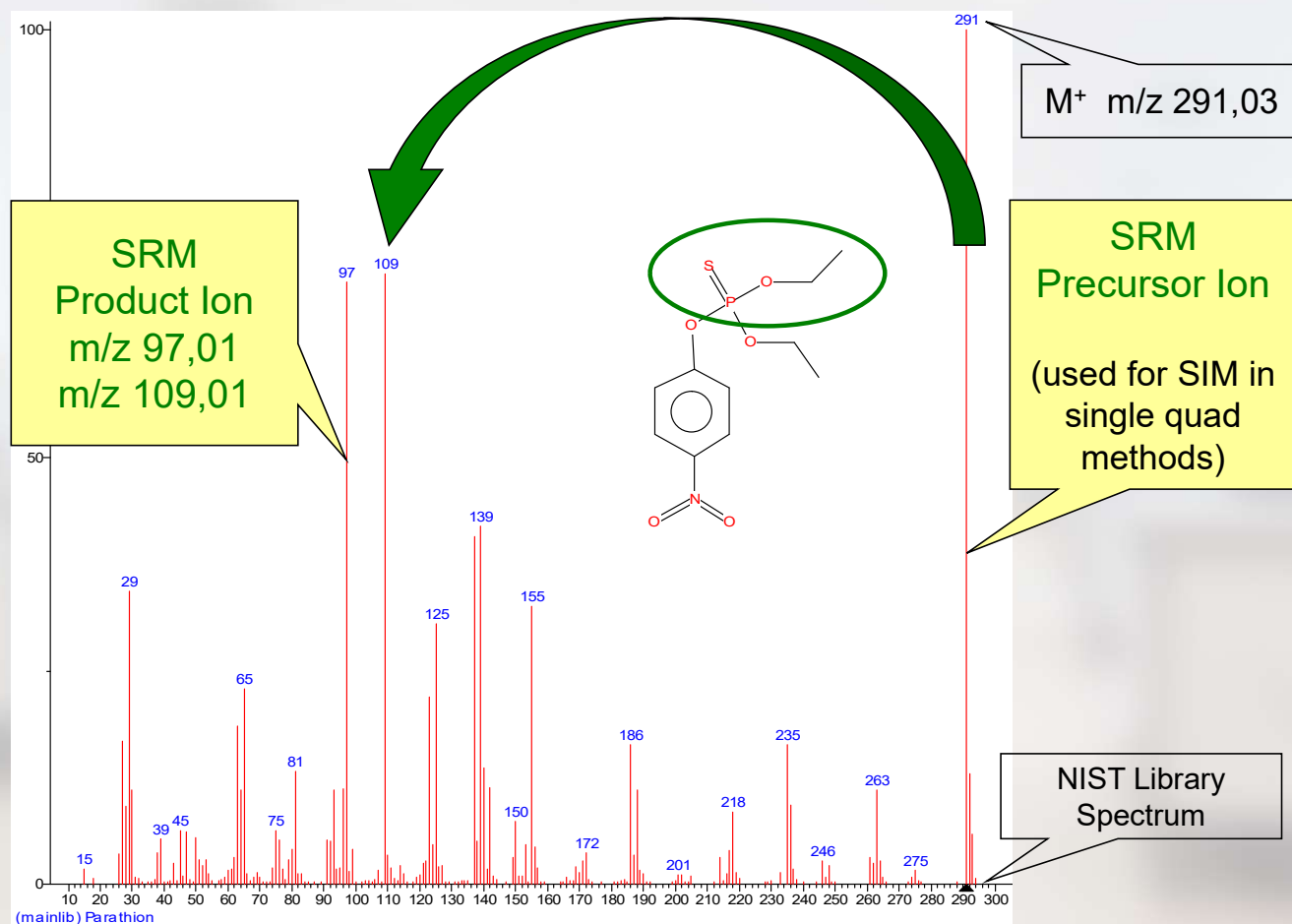
RT: 14.02  
MA: 4590338.63  
MH: 1607463.40  
SN: INF



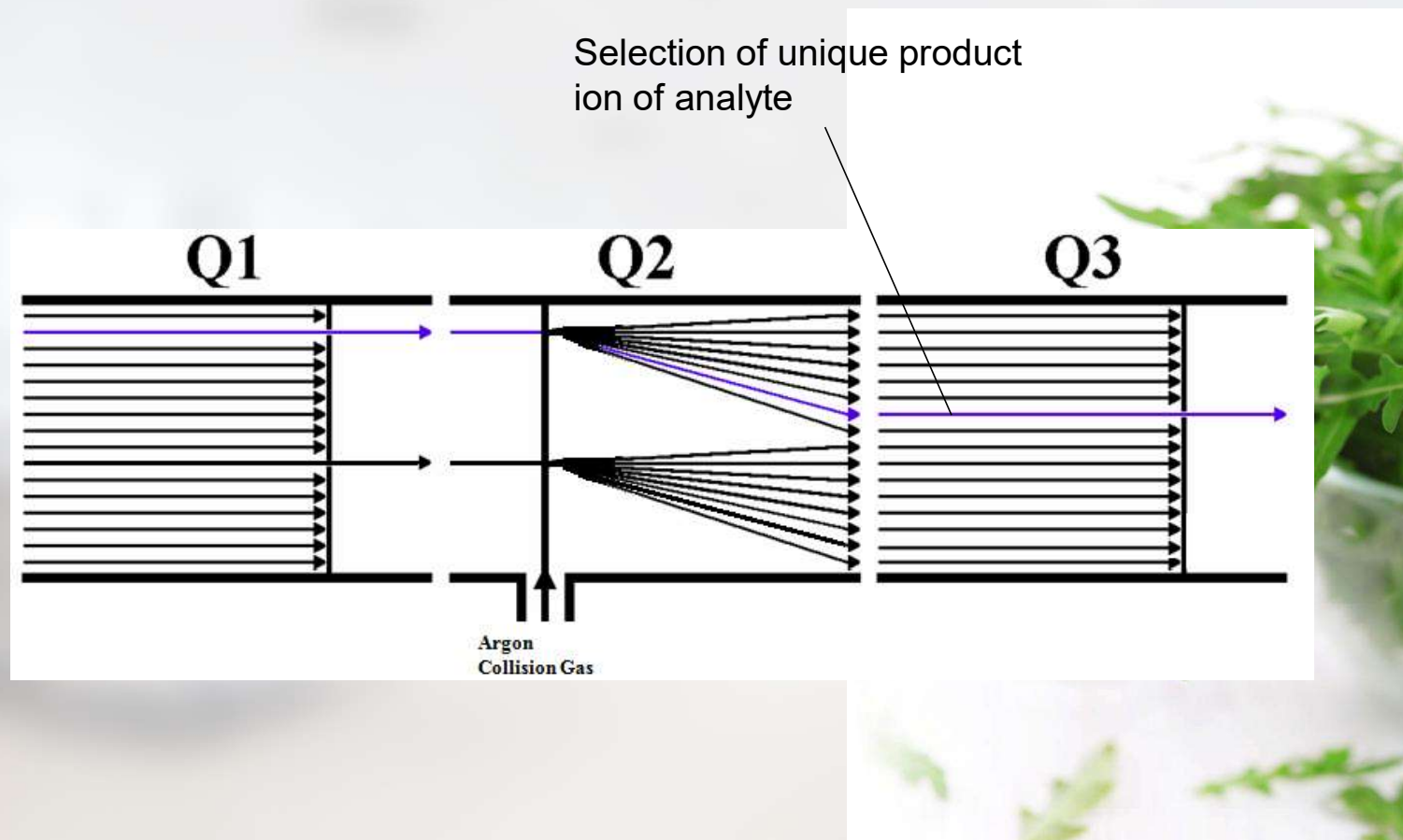
## Step 2: Fragmentation in Collision Cell



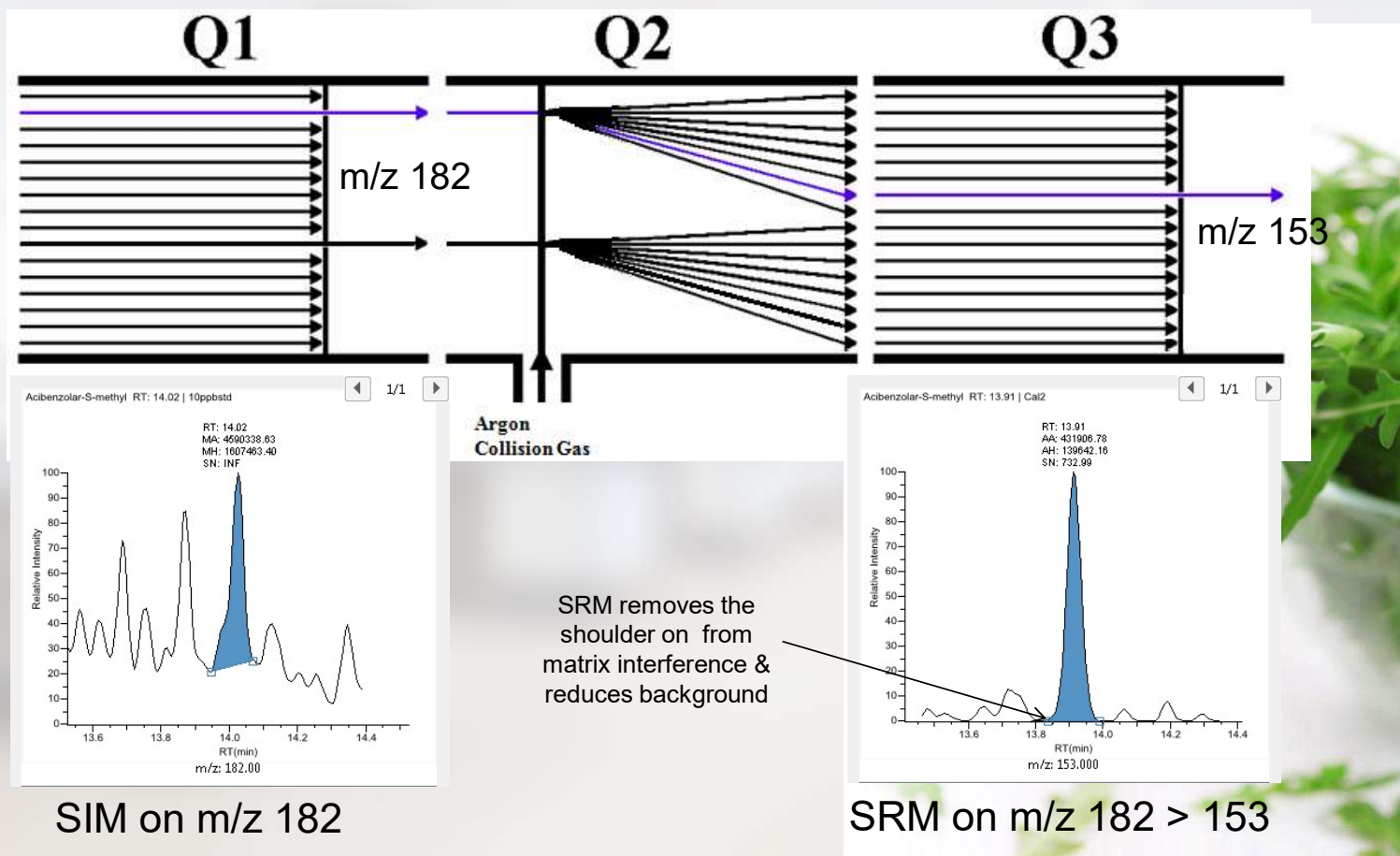
## Structure Specific Selectivity – Parathion-Ethyl



## Step 3: Product Ion Selection



## Step 3: Production Ion Selection

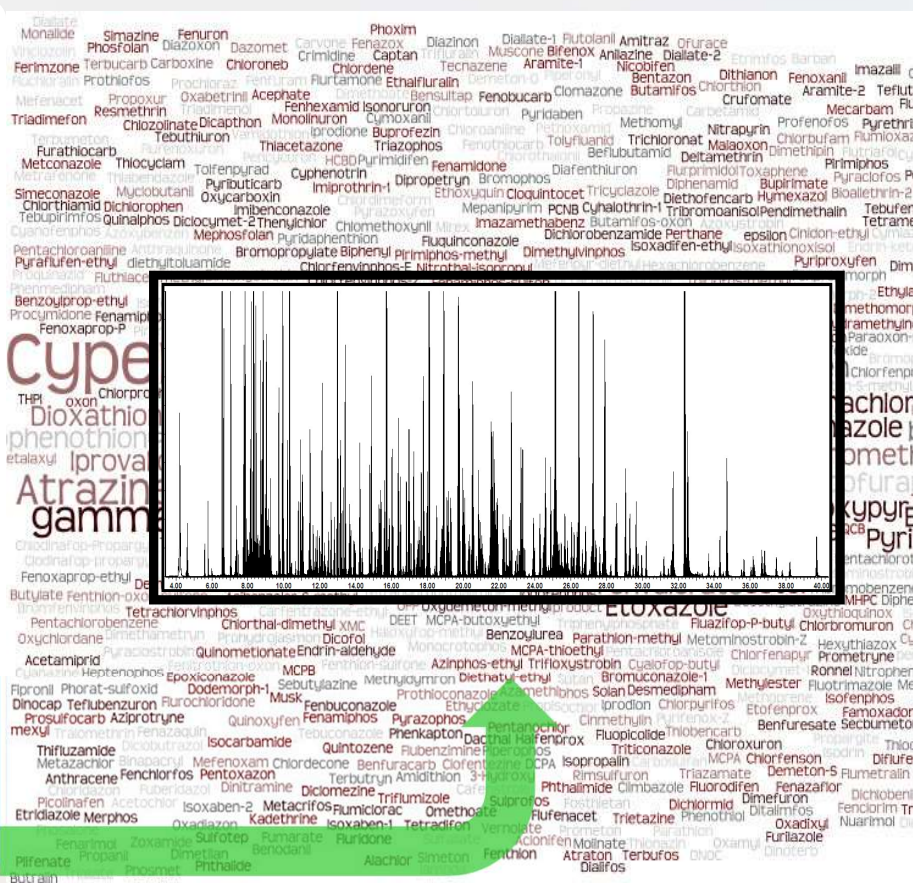




# Benefits of selectivity

## High selectivity

- Possibility to reduce selectivity in sample preparation.
- Reduced sample prep steps create a more generic sample prep method – more compounds & matrices
- Consolidated GC-MS methods due to high performance – buffer against requirements
- Compressed chromatography possible
- Easy peak evaluation – auto-integrators



# TSQ 9000 Pesticide Analyzer

## Thermo Scientific TSQ 9000 Pesticide Analyzer



**A complete pesticide method implementation, management and maintenance solution to drive unstoppable result productivity**

**TSQ 9000 PA designed to create powerful pesticide methods that are:**

- 1. Self-customized**
- 2. Auto-optimized**

## Powering the TSQ 9000 AEI Pesticide Analyzer

- **Preconfigured performance leading TSQ 9000 GC-MS/MS system featuring the award winning TRACE1310 GC**
- **Pre-loaded acquisition methods**
- **TraceGOLD GC Column and consumable technology**
- **Tracefinder 5.0 EFS Data Processing software**
- **1000+ Pesticide compound database (CDB) with 1500 + SRM transitions**
- **AutoSRM & timed SRM (t-SRM)**
- **Pesticide Analyzer installation guide**



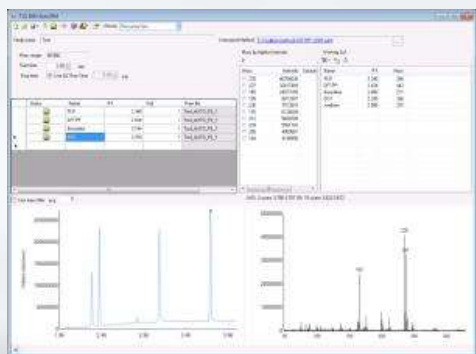


## Pesticide Analyzer Reference

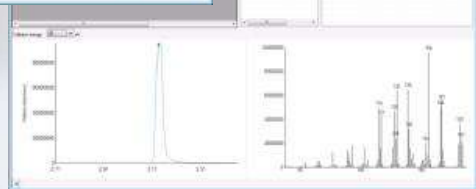


# AutoSRM: Fast, Simple Route to Optimized SRM

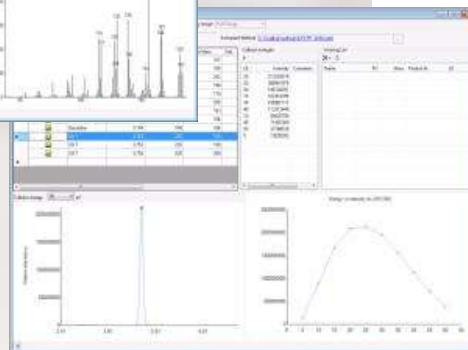
## 1) Precursor ion selection



## 2) Product ion selection



## 3) Collision energy optimization



AutoSRM automates the development of SRM methodology

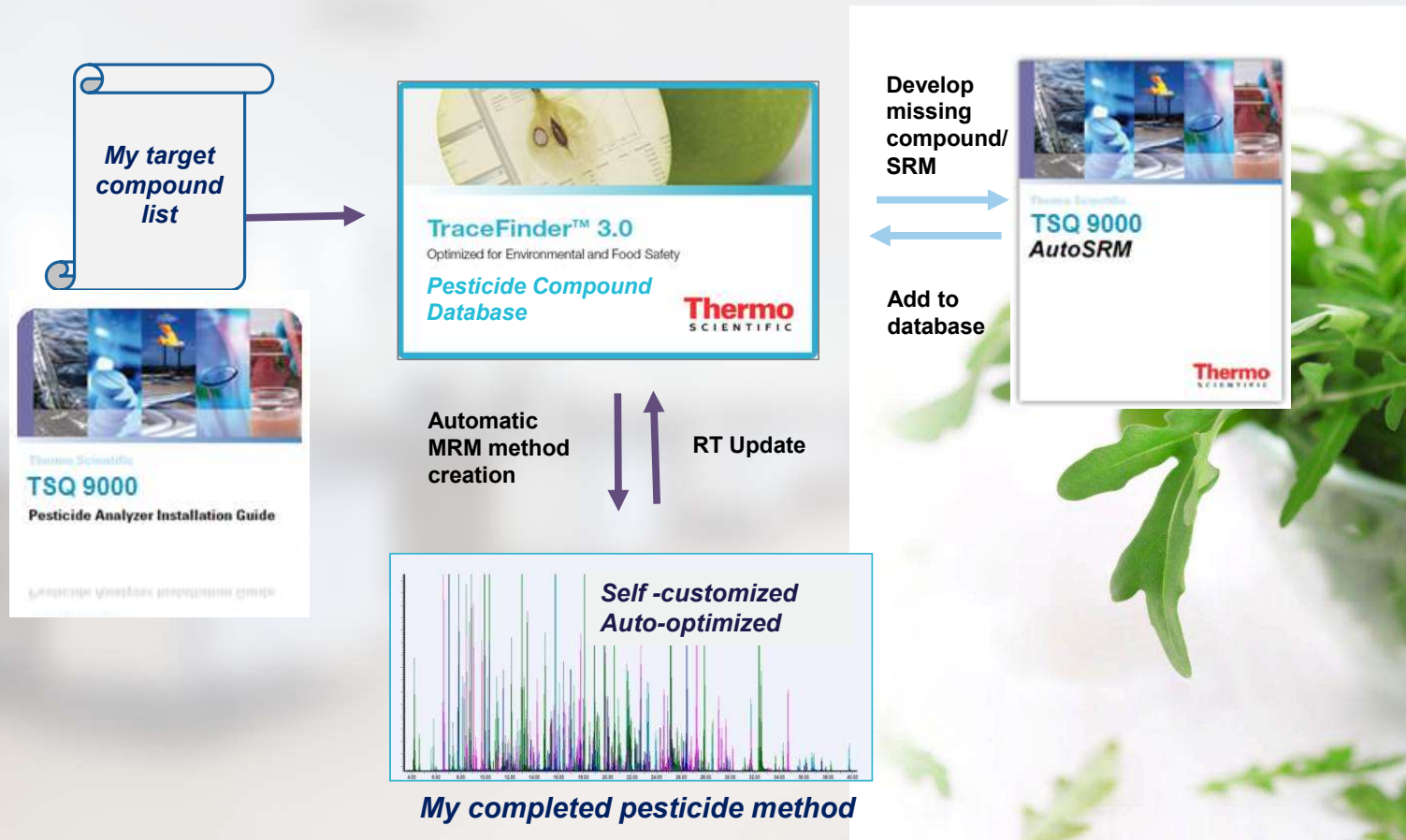


# SRM Method Library

**Table 27.** Compounds For GCMS Positive Electron Ionization (EI) SRM Detection (Organized by Compound Name), continued

Compound	Nom Mass	Mass	M Defect	Precursor Ion ( <i>m/z</i> )	Product Ion ( <i>m/z</i> )	Collision Energy (eV)	Comments
Alachlor	269	269.1184	44	161.07	146.06	12	—
	—	—	44	188.08	160.07	10	
Aldrin	362	361.8760	-34	292.90	257.91	20	—
	—	—	-34	292.90	222.92	20	
	—	—	-34	264.91	229.92	26	
	—	—	-34	262.91	227.92	26	
	—	—	-34	262.91	192.93	32	
Allethrin	302	302.1883	62	367.23	213.03	25	—
	—	—	62	136.08	93.06	10	
	—	—	62	123.08	81.05	10	
Allidochlor	173	173.0609	35	134.05	56.02	15	—
	—	—	35	132.05	56.02	15	
Ametryne	227	227.1207	53	227.12	212.11	15	—
	—	—	53	227.12	170.09	10	
	—	—	53	227.12	170.09	15	
Amitraz	293	293.1894	65	293.19	162.10	10	—
	—	—	65	293.19	147.10	15	
Ancymidol	256	256.1213	47	228.11	121.06	15	—
	—	—	47	215.10	107.05	15	
Anilazine	274	273.9583	-15	238.96	142.98	23	—
	—	—	-15	177.97	142.98	9	

# TSQ 9000 Pesticide Analyzer Workflow



## Auto-Optimized: Adding New Compounds

Step-by-step instruction make adding new compounds to the Compound Database easy.



**Automates the following:**

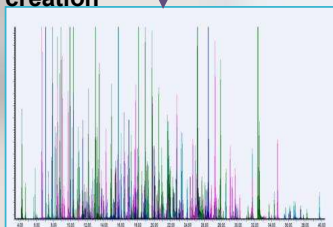
- ✓ Creation of full scan, product ion scan, and SRM methods
- ✓ Creation of sample sequences
- ✓ Creation of data layouts for analyzing results
- ✓ Selection of precursor, product and collision energies

# Auto-Optimized:Timed-SRM



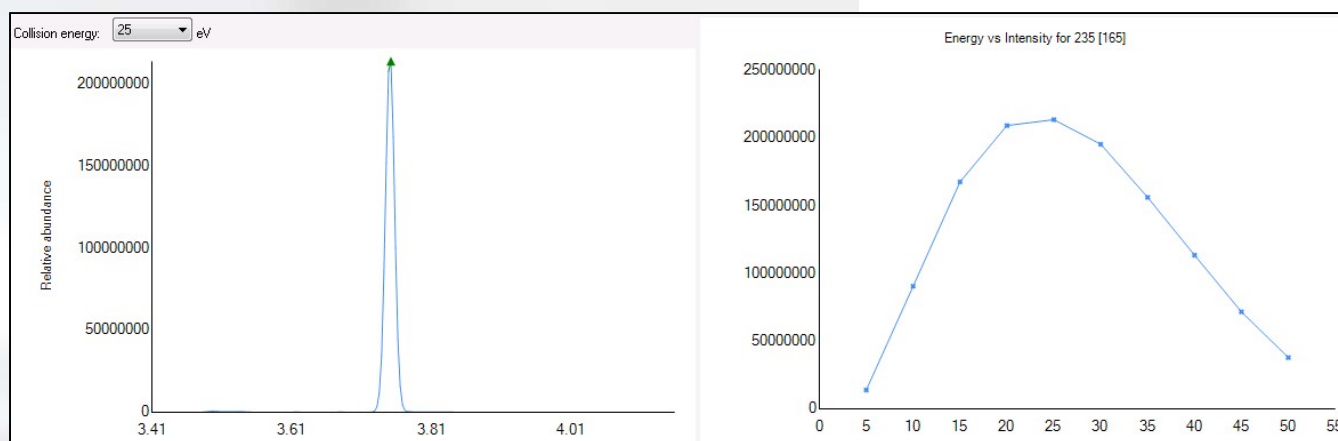
Automatic  
MRM  
method  
creation

RT Update



- **Classical “segmented” SRM methods become problematic with ~100 or more compounds**
  - Difficult to find “quiet time” in TIC for segment break
  - Too many transitions at once can give unacceptable sensitivity
  - Complex calculations and dwell time decisions

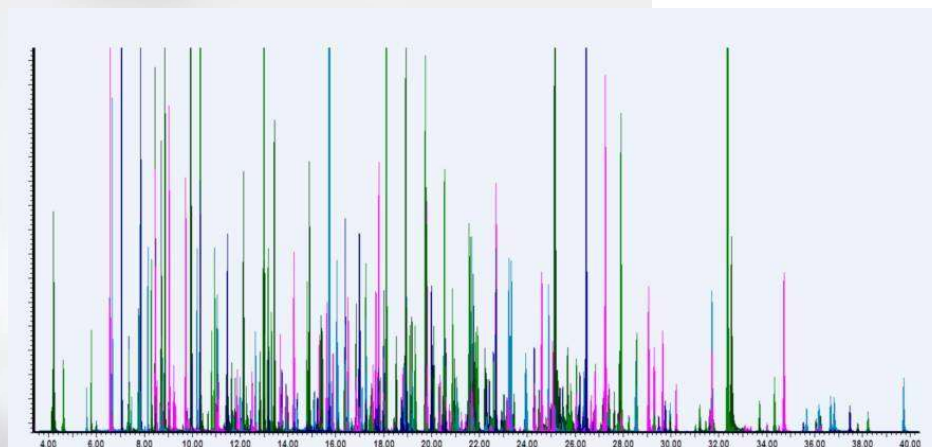
# Highlights of AutoSRM



*End result showing optimized transition*

- **Automates the following:**
  - Creation of fullscan, product ion scan and SRM methods
  - Creation of sample sequences
  - Creation of data layouts for analyzing results
  - Selection of precursor, product and collision energies

## Analysis of 300 Pesticides – Segmented vs. Timed

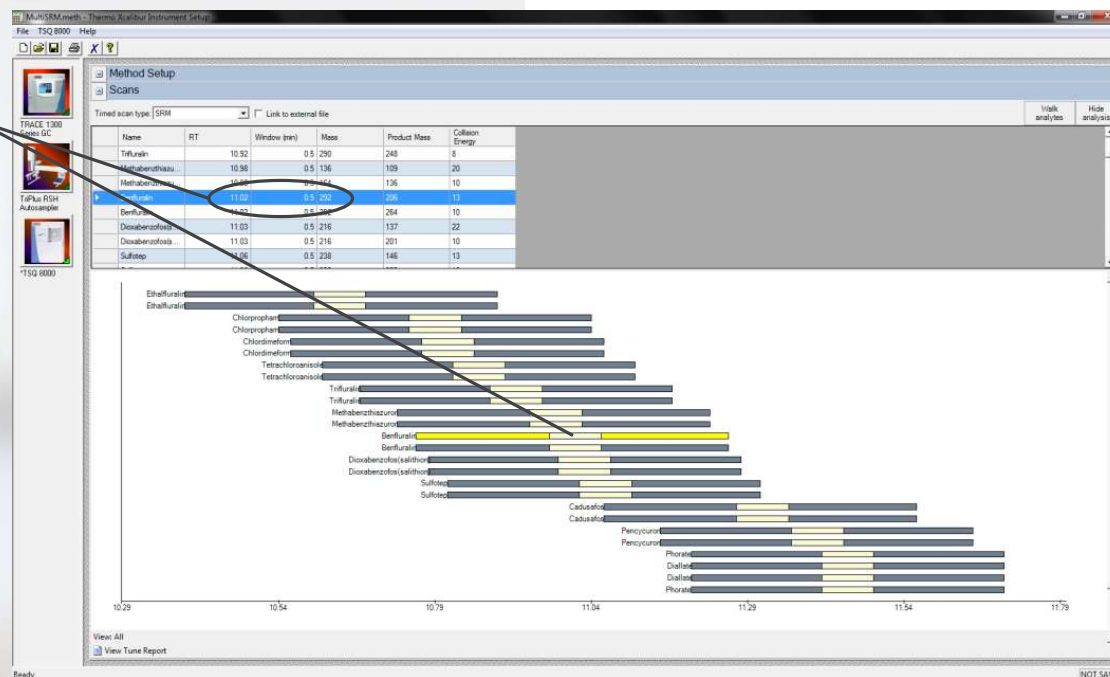


Segmented SRM	Timed SRM
Closest compound to segment break: <b>5 seconds</b>	Closest compound to segment break: <b>15 seconds</b>
Average number of simultaneous transitions: <b>55</b>	Average number of simultaneous transitions: <b>15</b> <b><u>(4X higher dwell times- better sensitivity)</u></b>



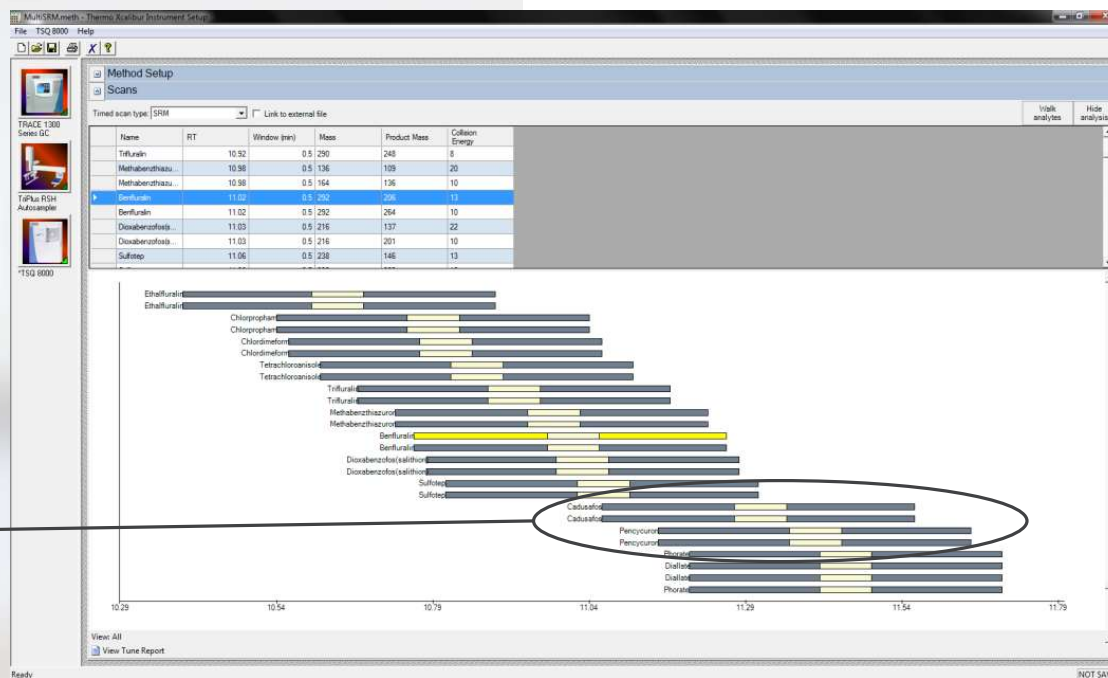
# Auto-Optimised :Timed-SRM Method Overview

Acquisition windows centered around retention time



# Timed-SRM Method Overview

Acquisition windows allowed to overlap

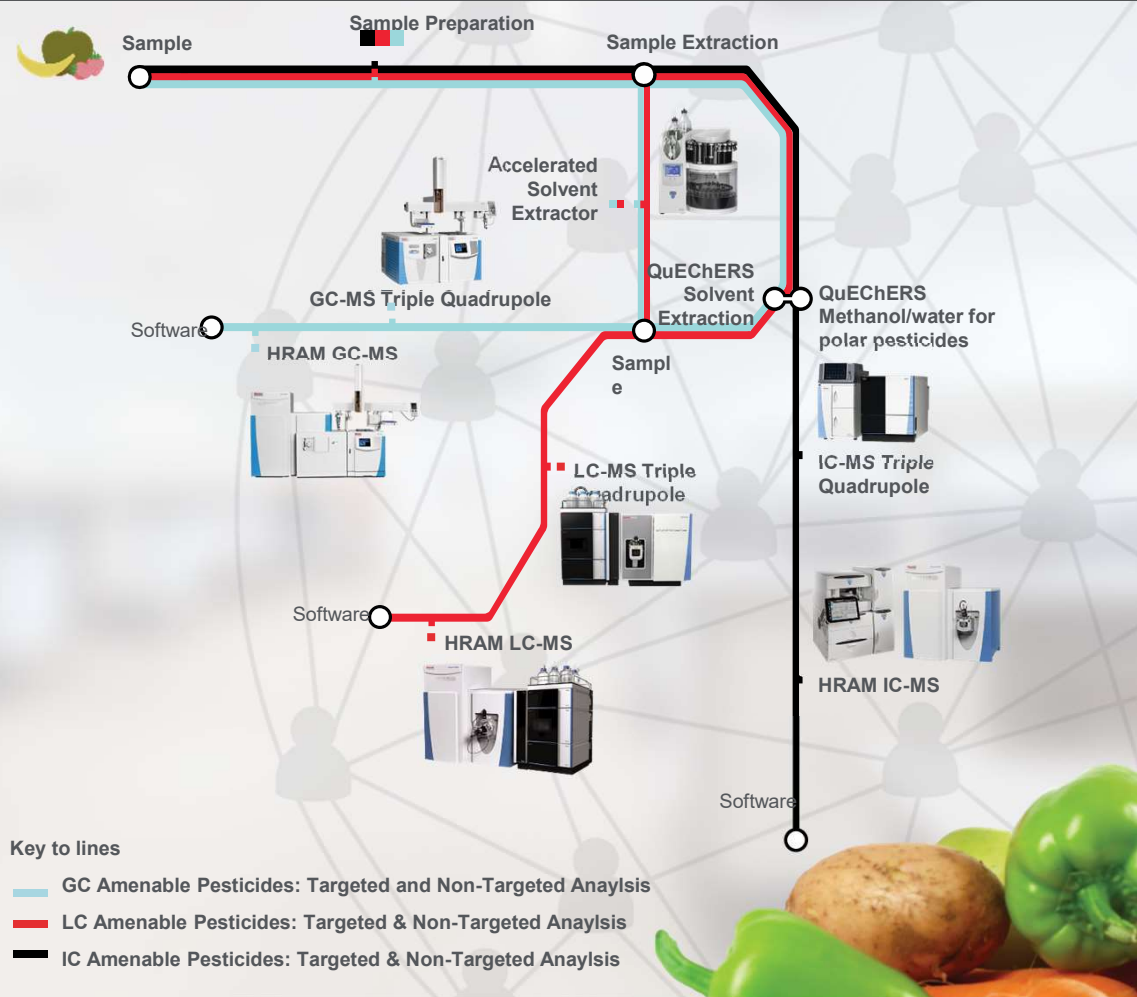


# Pesticides Workflows

GC-MS/MS Pesticide Analyzer

LC-MS/MS Pesticide Explorer Collection

IC-MS/MS Anionic Pesticide Explorer



# Challenges of residue analysis

## Challenges

- Sample variability (matrix)
- Compound different characteristics
- Number of samples
- Number of analytes monitored
- Low levels controlled (  $<10$  ng/g )
- Fast response required

## Goals

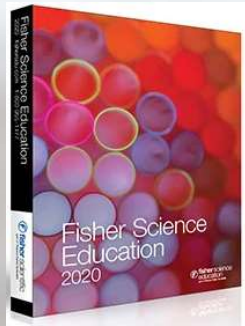
- Accurate, consistent data
- Keep the instruments running
- Process as many samples for as little cost as possible (cost effective)
- Remove interferences (matrix effect)



# Complete Workflow Solution



- Homogenization, sampling



- Extraction, clean-up, filtration, centrifugation etc...



- GC
- Detectors
- Consumables

- Advanced software solution



Equipments and all consumables

Thermo Scientific™  
TSQ™ 9000 AEI  
Pesticide Analyzer

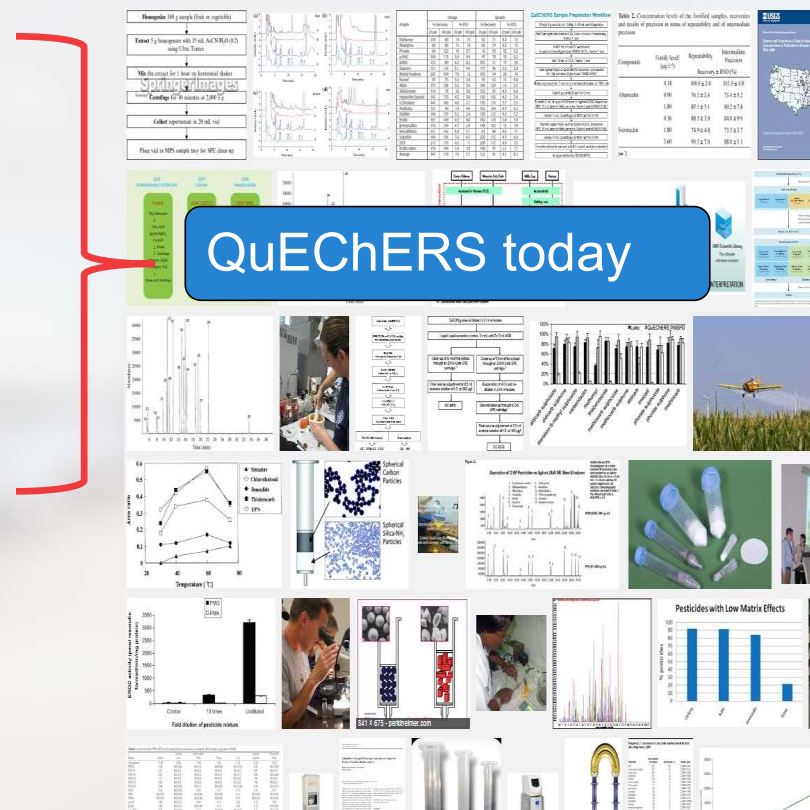


# Former Pesticide Multi-Residue Method Setup

## Sample preparation



- **Extraction**  
Acetonitrile, Ethyl acetate, Methanol...
- **Clean-up**  
GPC, SPE, LLE, on- and offline LC
- **Determination**  
GC, LC, GC/MS, LC/MS, GC/MS/MS, LC/MS/MS...





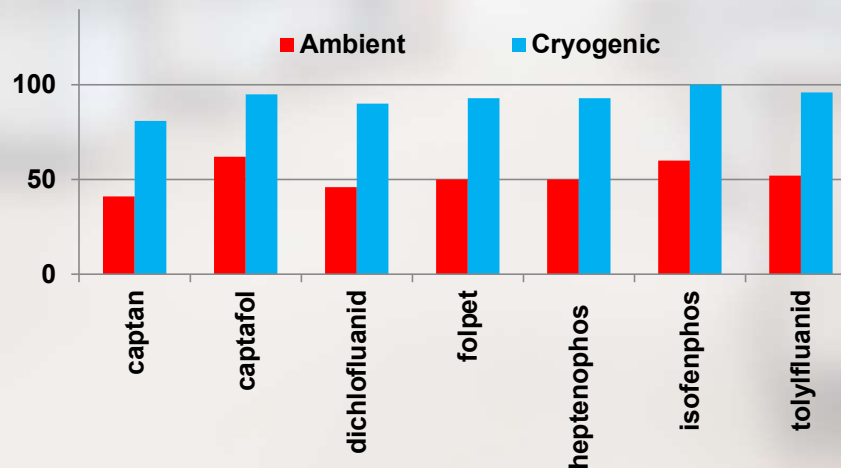
# Sample Preparation

## Sampling

- Losses of a number of pesticides during sample processing at ambient temperatures may occur – solidify with solid CO<sub>2</sub>



## Cryogenic Homogenization



Fussell et al. (2007) Food Additives & Contam., 24:1247-1256



**ThermoFisher**  
SCIENTIFIC

# Sample Preparation

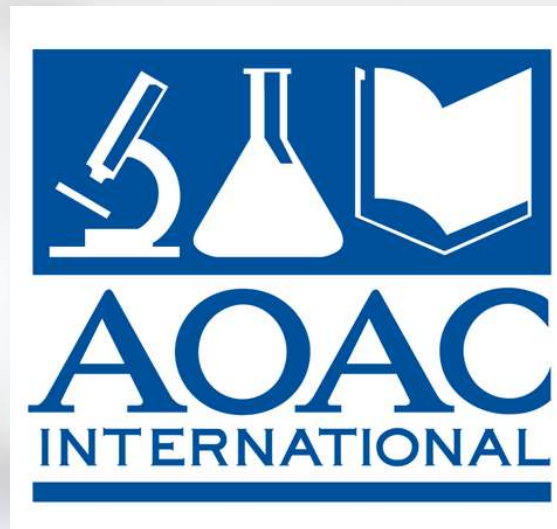
## 1.Extraction

The world leader in serving science

## QuEChERS methods



unbuffered



pH 4.8



pH 5.0 – 5.5

## Original QuEChERS method (unbuffered)



# unbuffered

### Quick, Easy, Cheap, Effective, Rugged, and Safe

Introduced in 2002 : European Pesticide Residues Workshop (EWPR), Rome, Book of Abstracts, 2002 Anastassiades M., Lehotay S.J., et al., Quick, Easy, Cheap, Effective, Rugged and Safe (QuEChERS) approach for the determination of pesticide residues,

Published in 2003: 2] Anastassiades M., Lehotay S.J., Stajnbaher D., Schenck F.J., Fast and easy multiresidue method employing acetonitrile extraction/partitioning and “dispersive solid-phase extraction” for the determination of pesticide residues in produce, J. AOAC Int., 2003, 86(2), 412-31, PMID: 12723926

•Validated in 2005, with subsequent modification in 2007

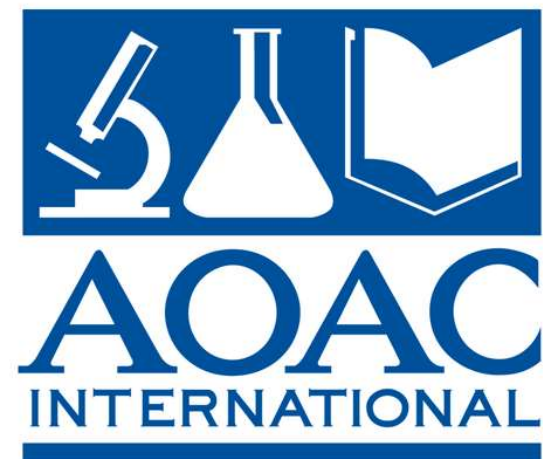
Unbuffered method have a negative effect on few pH-dependent pesticides

The original QuEChERS version included no pH control (unbuffered)

4g MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 1g NaCl

- ✓ **Rapid** (8 samples in less than 30 min)
- ✓ **Simple** (no laborious steps, minimal sources of errors)
- ✓ **Cheap** (ca. 1 € per sample for the sample preparation)
- ✓ **Low Solvent Consumption** (10 mL acetonitrile)
- ✓ **Practically No Glassware Needed**
- ✓ **Wide Pesticide Range** (polars, pH-dependent compounds)
- ✓ **Extract in Acetonitrile** (GC- and LC-amenable)

Quick, Easy, Cheap, Effective, Rugged, Safe



pH 4.8

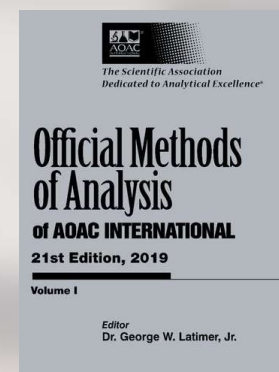
6 g MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 1.5 g Na Acetate

## AOAC Official Method 2007.01 Pesticide Residues in Foods by Acetonitrile Extraction and Partitioning with Magnesium Sulfate

S.J. Lehotay, K. Mastovska, A.R. Lightfield, J. AOAC Int. 88 (2005), 615-629 & 60A

Buffered method

Relatively strong Acetate buffer pH 4.8 is used for low pH susceptible compounds . Low pH samples such as orange juice (pH~3.5) also need pH adjustment during extraction to efficiently extract pesticides of a range of polarities



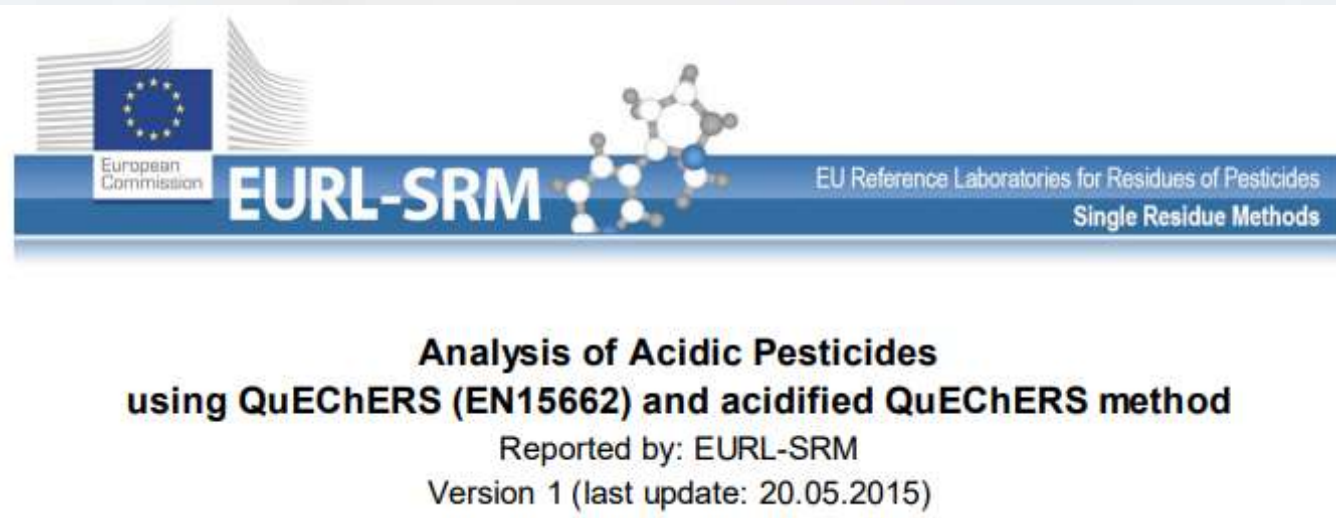


## European Committee for Standardization (EN 15662) pH dependent



pH 5.0 – 5.5

M. Anastassiades, E. Scherbaum, B. Tasdelen, D. Stajnbaher, in: H. Ohkawa, H. Miyagawa, P. W. Lee (Eds.), Crop Protection, Public Health, Environmental Safety, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, Germany, 2007, p.439.



4 g MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 1 g NaCl, 1 g NaCitrate (Na<sub>3</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>7</sub>), 0.5 g disodium citrate sesquihydrate (HOC(COOH)(CH<sub>2</sub>COONa)<sub>2</sub> · 1.5H<sub>2</sub>O)





**ThermoFisher**  
SCIENTIFIC

# Sample Preparation

## 2.Clean-up

The world leader in serving science

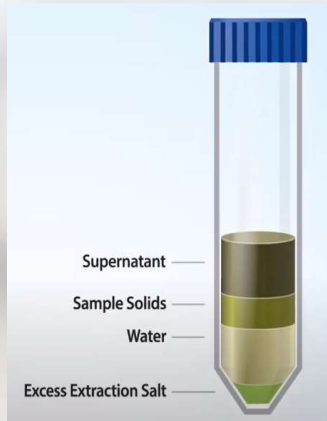
# Cleaning step - Dispersive Solid Phase Extraction (d-SPE)

- I. Sample Homogenization (cryogenic & wetted if required)
- II. Extraction / partitioning & ACN & salts (Origin, AOAC, EN)

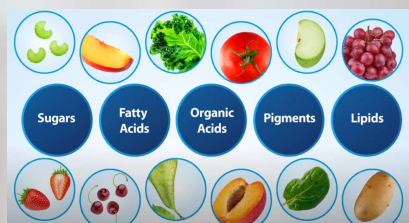
## Criteria for right cleaning process d-SPE

### III. Cleaning process Dispersive Solid Phase Extraction (d-SPE)

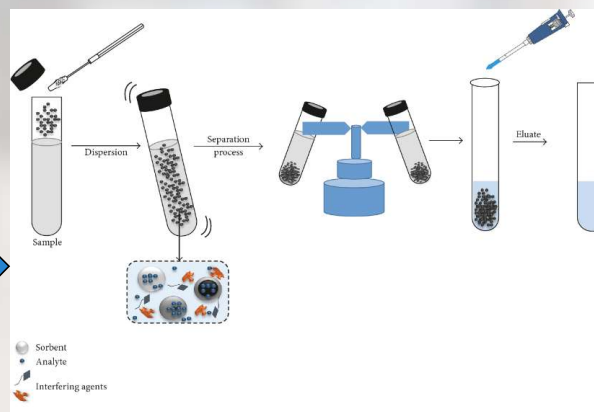
I + II steps



Matrix interferences  
co-extracts



### III. Step Dispersive Solid Phase Extraction (d-SPE)



1. Size of d-SPE tube
2. What sorbent is inside of the tube
3. How much of sorbent is inside of the tube



$\text{MgSO}_4$

PSA primary, secondary, amine

$\text{C}_{18}$  end capped silica coated  
with  $\text{C}_{18}$  sorbent

GSB graphitized carbon black

# d-SPE Sorbents

## MgSO<sub>4</sub>

Residual water removal after extraction

## PSA

Primary  
Secondary  
Amine

Polar matrix components, Sugar, Organic Acids, Fatty acids, Sterols

## C18

end capped  
silica coated  
with C18 sorbent

Non polar-fat & waxes

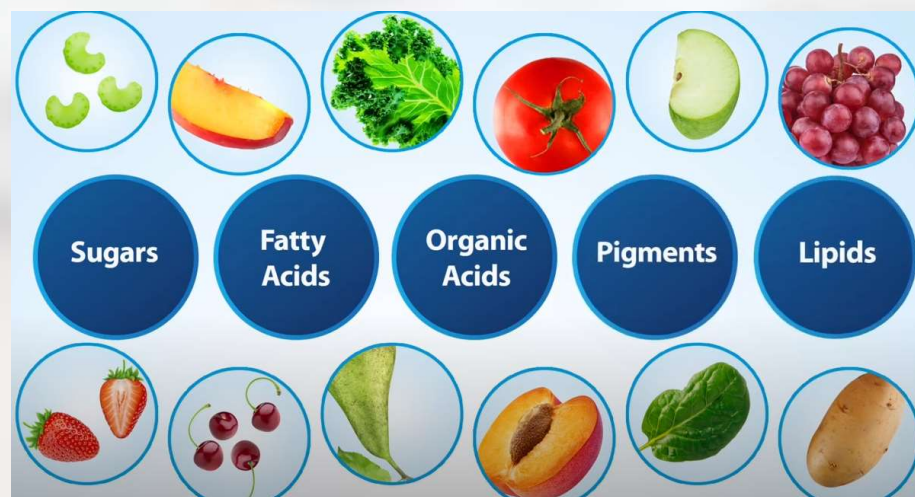
## GSB

graphitized  
carbon  
black

Pigment, colour

## Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

Removal of lipophilic compounds



## Enhanced Matrix Removal - Lipids

### EMR-Lipid Mechanism –Size exclusion and hydrophobic interaction.

The use of freezing-out after ethyl acetate salt-out extraction can remove the high lipid content in the co-extracted matrix

GC/MS/MS to analyze food samples with high fat content.

#### Sorbent

- The materials selective hydrophobic interactions increase.
- Suspension of nanoparticles (high surface area).
- Rapidly interacts with straight chain, “lipid-like” functional groups.

#### What are Lipids?

A class of naturally occurring hydrocarbon containing compounds commonly known as fats and oils (butter, vegetable oil, **cholesterol** and other **steroids**, **waxes**, phospholipids, and fat-soluble vitamins. The common characteristic of all of these compounds is that they are essentially insoluble in water, yet soluble in one or more organic solvents)



*Enhanced Matrix Removal-Lipid*

# Gel Permeation-Chromatography (GPC)

**GPC** is the separation of molecules according to molecular size when using an organic solvent as the mobile phase

**SEC** Size-exclusion chromatography, also known as molecular sieve chromatography, is a chromatography in which molecules in solution are separated by their size, and in some cases molecular weight.

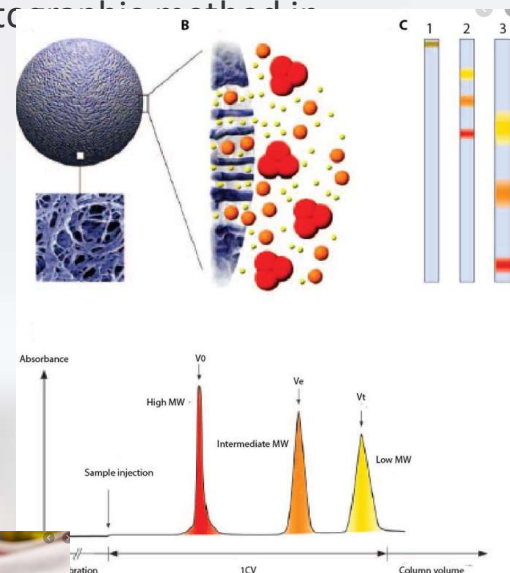
The QuEChERS method, for example, can bring coextractives such as fatty acids, sugars, and carotinoids<sup>12</sup> into the solution along with the analytes of interest which can often interfere with the chromatography. Thus, GPC remains one of the most effective cleanup methods for complex samples because it removes the matrix entirely rather than try to work around it

Some challenges with high lipid content in which lipophilic pesticides may remain in the fatty layer even after the extraction.

GPC is especially true for highly colored samples or those with high fat content.

A good example of this is the analysis of certain pesticides in meat using gas chromatography. To clean the sample prior to analysis, it is first dissolved in cyclopentane, and is then cleaned up with the GPC

Using gel permeation chromatography (GPC), olive oil minor constituents (diglycerides, free fatty acids, oxidation products, flavor compounds and dimers) can be fractionated and therefore quantified.







**ThermoFisher**  
SCIENTIFIC

# Sample Analysis

## 3.Determination

The world leader in serving science



## Samples

Two sample types of baby food samples were sourced locally.

Apple/pear/banana

Carrot/potato

Samples were pre-spiked at 10 µg/kg with a pesticide mix containing over 200 individual pesticide residues.

Extractions were carried out following a citrate buffered QuEChERS protocol with dispersive solid phase extraction (dSPE) as per the European Committee for Standardization CEN 15662:2017 E.



# GC and Injector conditions

## TRACE 1310 GC System Parameters

Injection Volume:	1 mL
Liner:	Siltek™ six baffle PTV liner (P/N 453T2120)
Inlet:	70°C
Carrier Gas:	He, 1.2 mL/min
Inlet Mode:	PTV Splitless (split flow 50mL/min after 2 min)
Column:	Thermo Scientific™ TraceGOLD™ TG-5SilMS with SafeGuard (30m x 0.25mm, 0.25µm- with 5m integrated guard column - P/N: 26096-1425)

PTV Parameters:	Rate (°C/s)	Temperature (°C)	Time (min)	Flow (mL/min)
Injection	-	70	0.10	-
Transfer	5.0	300	2.00	-
Cleaning	14.5	320	5.00	75.0

## Oven Temperature Program:

Ramp	RT (min)	Rate (°C/min)	Target Temperature (°C)	Hold Time (min)
Initial	0	-	40	1.50
1	1.5	25.0	90	1.50
2	5.0	25.0	180	0.00
3	8.6	5.0	280	0.00
Final	28.6	10.0	300	5.00
Run time	35.6	-	-	-



# MS conditions

## TSQ 9000 Mass Spectrometer Parameters

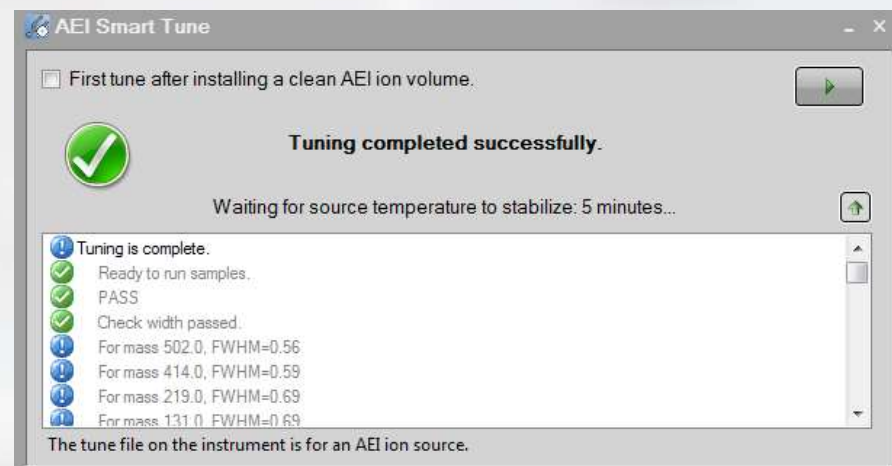
Transfer Line:	250 °C
Ionization Type:	El using the Thermo Scientific™ advanced electron ionisation (AEI) source
Ion Source:	320°C
Acquisition Mode:	Timed SRM, peak width 3 seconds, 10 scans per peak Detector gain factor x7

Tuning parameters: AEI **SmartTune**

Collision gas and pressure: Argon at 70 psi  
Peak Width: 0.7 Da (both Q1 and Q3 @FWHM)

r9

selected or multiple reaction monitoring (SRM, MRM), mass resolution for precursor-ion isolation equal to or better than unit mass resolution



**SANTE**  
compliant

r9

No mention of 45 EV ionisation energy

richard.fussell, 4/2/2018

# Sample Preparation

## Extraction

4000mg Magnesium Sulfate, 1000mg Sodium Chloride,  
500mg Sodium Citrate dibasic sesquihydrate, 1000mg  
sodium citrate tribasic

60105-333 (50pk)



## Clean up (dSPE)

### Apple/banana/pear

Anhydrous Magnesium Sulfate (150mg), Primary/Secondary  
Amine (25mg)

60105-219 (100pk)

### Carrot/potato

Anhydrous Magnesium Sulfate (150mg), Primary/Secondary  
Amine (25mg), Graphitized Carbon Black (25mg)

60105-221 (100pk)



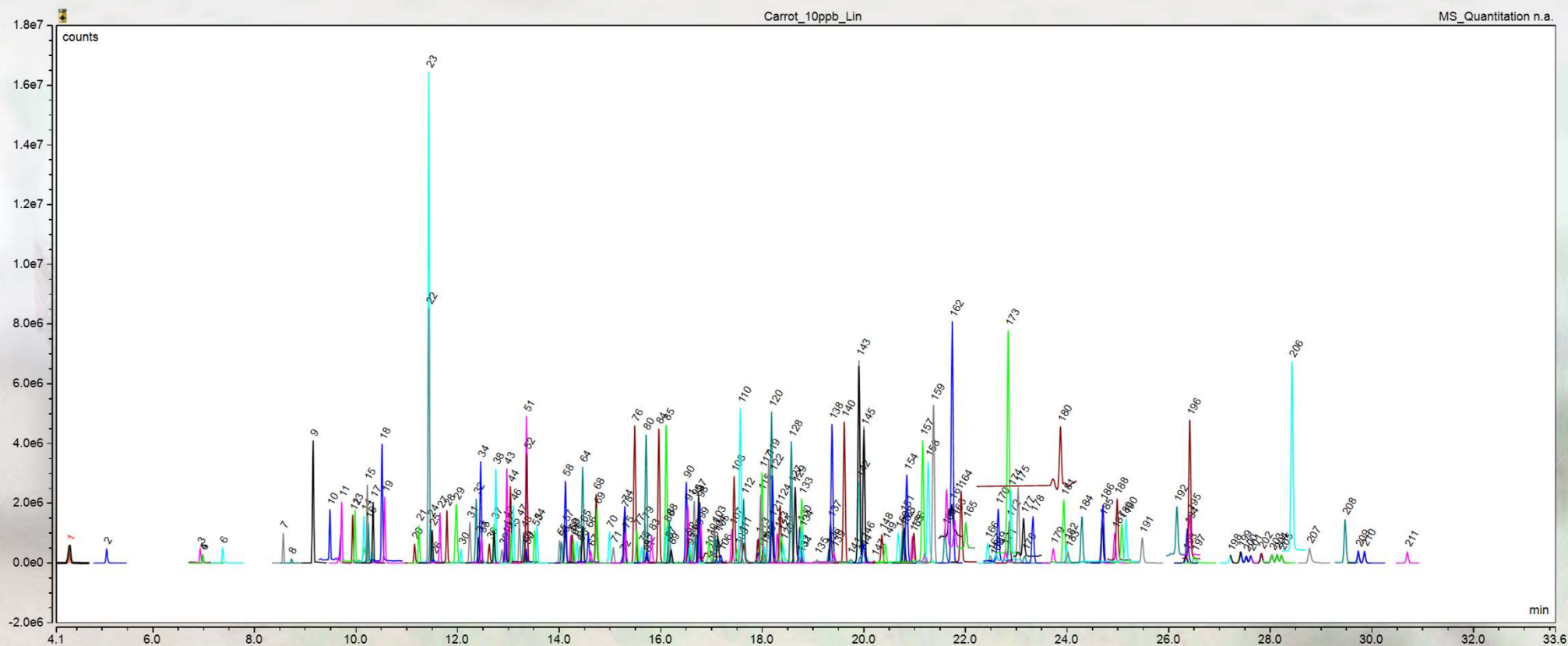
# Results

Pesticide recoveries were obtained from the QuEChERS extractions performed on the samples spiked before extraction (10 µg/kg). All detected compounds, at the three spiking levels in both matrices satisfied all SANTE requirements.

	Carrot 1ppb		Apple 1ppb		Carrot 2.5ppb		Apple 2.5ppb		Carrot 10ppb		Apple 10ppb	
	Mean recovery (n=6)	Precision (% RSD)	Mean recovery (n=6)	Precision (% RSD)	Mean recovery (n=6)	Precision (% RSD)	Mean recovery (n=3)	Precision (% RSD)	Mean recovery (n=6)	Precision (% RSD)	Mean recovery (n=6)	Precision (% RSD)
<b>Min</b>	34.1%	0.9%	27.6%	0.8%	35.8%	0.7%	27.2%	0.2%	34.1%*	0.3%	29.0%	1.0%
<b>Max</b>	119.6%	27.8%*	118.8%	26.3%	118.9%	29.2%†	119.5%	28.2%	120.0%	47.7%*	115.2%	16.7%
<b>Average</b>	100.3%	6.1%	95.2%	6.3%	95.2%	4.4%	98.7%	3.6%	96.1%	3.2%	96.9%	3.3%
<b>No. of Pesticides detectable</b>	202	202	202	202	208	208	209	209	210	210	210	210
<b>No. of Pesticides within limits</b>	197	201	197	201	203	207	206	208	206	209	208	210



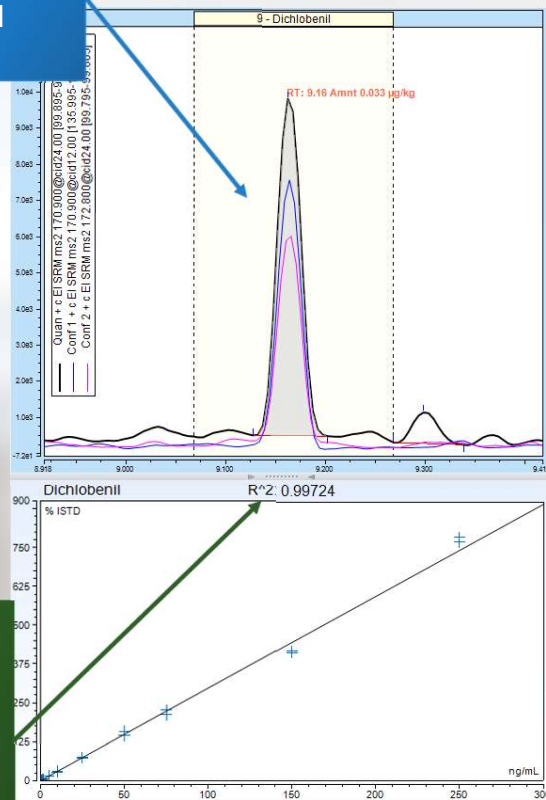
# Chromatography



# Sensitivity and linearity

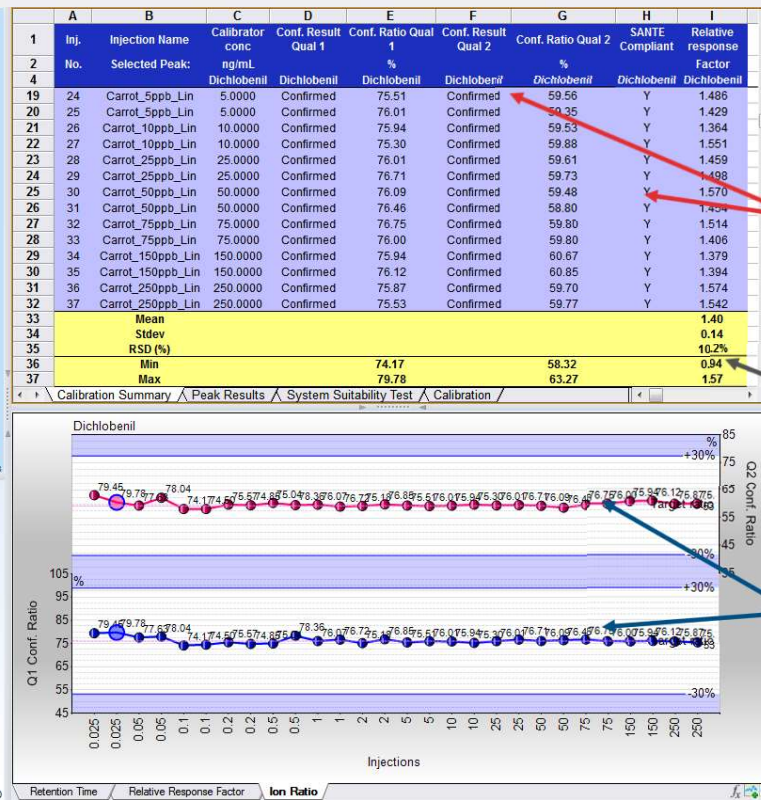
Gaussian peak shape -  
Quan SRM and two  
additional SRM  
transitions

Dichlobenil at 25 fg (on column concentration)



Excellent linearity with  
 $R^2 > 0.99$   
1/x weighting used  
throughout,

Duplicate injection per  
calibration point



Ion ratio confirmation  
flagging and custom  
columns to show  
SANTE compliance

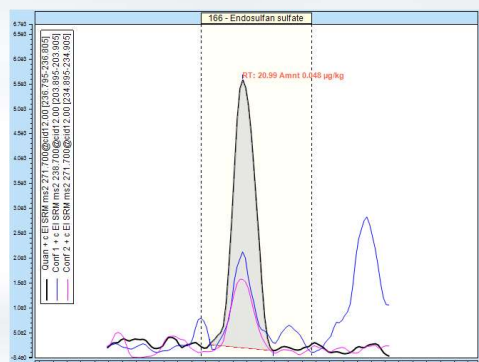
RF RSD% ~10%

Both SRM qualifier ion  
ratios stable across the  
entire calibration range

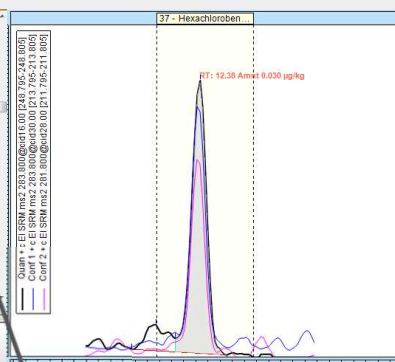
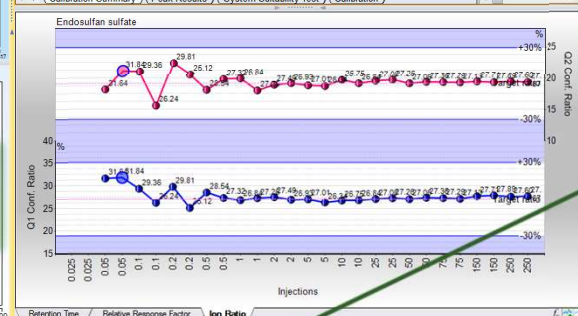
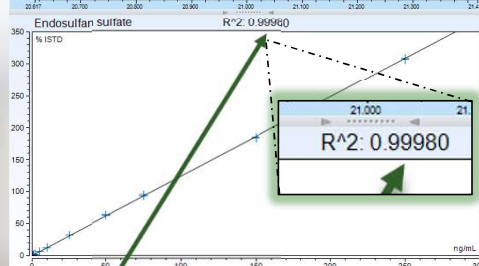
# Sensitivity and linearity (continued)

Endosulfan sulphate at 50 fg (on column concentration)

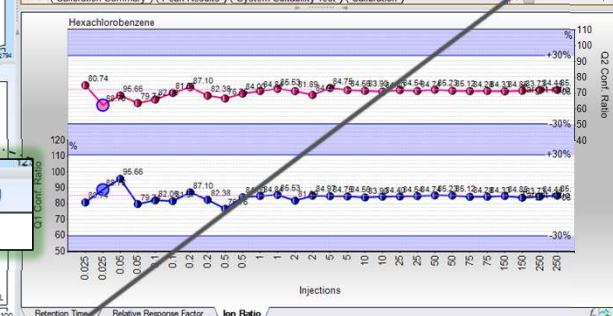
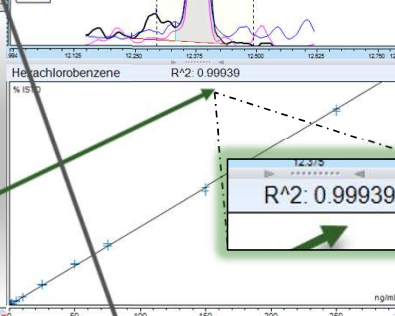
Hexachlorobenzene at 25 fg (on column concentration)



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Inj.	Injection Name	Calibrator conc	Conf. Result Qual 1	Conf. Result Qual 2	Conf. Ratio Qual 2	SANITE Compliant	Relative response factor
2	No.	Selected Peak:	ng/mL	Endosulfan sulfate	Endosulfan sulfate	Endosulfan sulfate	Endosulfan sulfate	Endosulfan sulfate
4	21	26	Carrot_10ppb_Lin	10.0000	Confirmed	0.612	Y	0.611
	22	27	Carrot_10ppb_Lin	10.0000	Confirmed	0.617	Y	0.617
	23	28	Carrot_25ppb_Lin	25.0000	Confirmed	0.644	Y	0.644
	24	29	Carrot_25ppb_Lin	25.0000	Confirmed	0.640	Y	0.640
	25	30	Carrot_50ppb_Lin	50.0000	Confirmed	0.625	Y	0.625
	26	31	Carrot_50ppb_Lin	50.0000	Confirmed	0.635	Y	0.635
	27	32	Carrot_75ppb_Lin	75.0000	Confirmed	0.629	Y	0.629
	28	33	Carrot_75ppb_Lin	75.0000	Confirmed	0.617	Y	0.617
	29	34	Carrot_150ppb_Lin	150.0000	Confirmed	0.612	Y	0.612
	30	35	Carrot_150ppb_Lin	150.0000	Confirmed	0.608	Y	0.608
	31	36	Carrot_250ppb_Lin	250.0000	Confirmed	0.617	Y	0.617
	32	37	Carrot_250ppb_Lin	250.0000	Confirmed	0.612	Y	0.612
	33	Mean				27.57	Confirmed	10.34
	34	Stdev				0.62		0.62
	35	RSD (%)				2.00		2.00
	36	Min				25.12		15.59
	37	Max				31.84		22.43
	38							
	39							



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Inj.	Injection Name	Calibrator conc	Conf. Result Qual 1	Conf. Result Qual 2	Conf. Ratio Qual 2	SANITE Compliant	Relative response factor
2	No.	Selected Peak:	ng/mL	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene	Hexachlorobenzene
4	20	25	Carrot_5ppb_Lin	5.0000	Confirmed	0.952	Y	0.935
	21	26	Carrot_10ppb_Lin	10.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.940
	22	27	Carrot_10ppb_Lin	10.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.990
	23	28	Carrot_25ppb_Lin	25.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.978
	24	29	Carrot_25ppb_Lin	25.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	1.012
	25	30	Carrot_50ppb_Lin	50.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	1.004
	26	31	Carrot_50ppb_Lin	50.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	1.015
	27	32	Carrot_75ppb_Lin	75.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	1.008
	28	33	Carrot_75ppb_Lin	75.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.965
	29	34	Carrot_150ppb_Lin	150.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.965
	30	35	Carrot_150ppb_Lin	150.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.931
	31	36	Carrot_250ppb_Lin	250.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.964
	32	37	Carrot_250ppb_Lin	250.0000	Confirmed	0.96	Y	0.952
	33	Mean				8.372	Confirmed	71.75
	34	Stdev				0.444		71.75
	35	RSD (%)				5.31		7.3%
	36	Min				76.76		62.15
	37	Max				95.66		74.62
	38							
	39							



Excellent linearity with  $R^2 > 0.999$   
1/x weighting used throughout,

Duplicate injection per calibration  
point

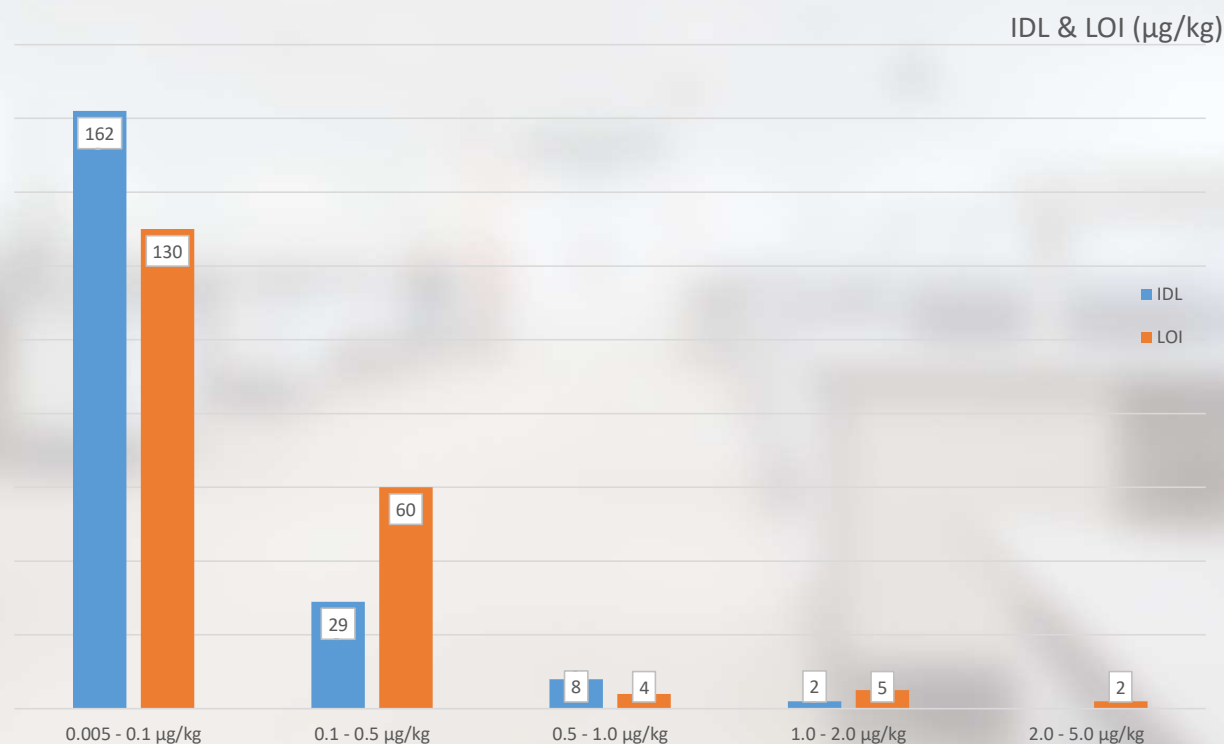
RF RSD% <10%

# Instrumental detection limit (IDL) & Limit of identification (LOI)

IDL determined by repeatedly injecting (n=10) the 0.05, 0.2, 1 and 5 µg/kg matrix-matched standards and using the Student's-t critical values for the corresponding degrees of freedom (99% confidence).

LOI was defined as the lowest level calibration standard which satisfied all of the SANTE criteria

- Two SRM product ions
  - Ion ratio agreement with average calibration ( $\pm 30\%$  relative)
  - Ions must fully overlap



# Instrumental detection limit IDL

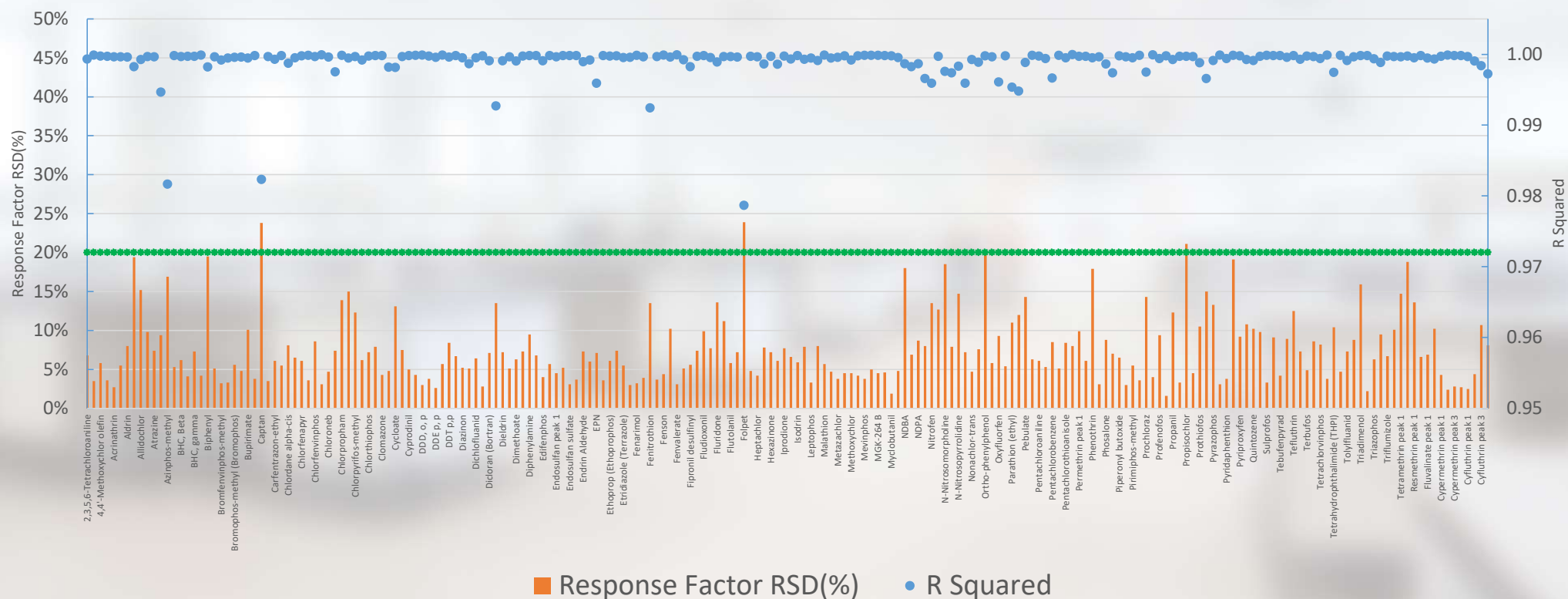
IDL determined by repeatedly injecting (n=10) the 0.05, 0.2, 1 and 5 µg/kg matrix-matched standards and using the Student's-t critical values for the corresponding degrees of freedom (99% confidence).





# Linearity

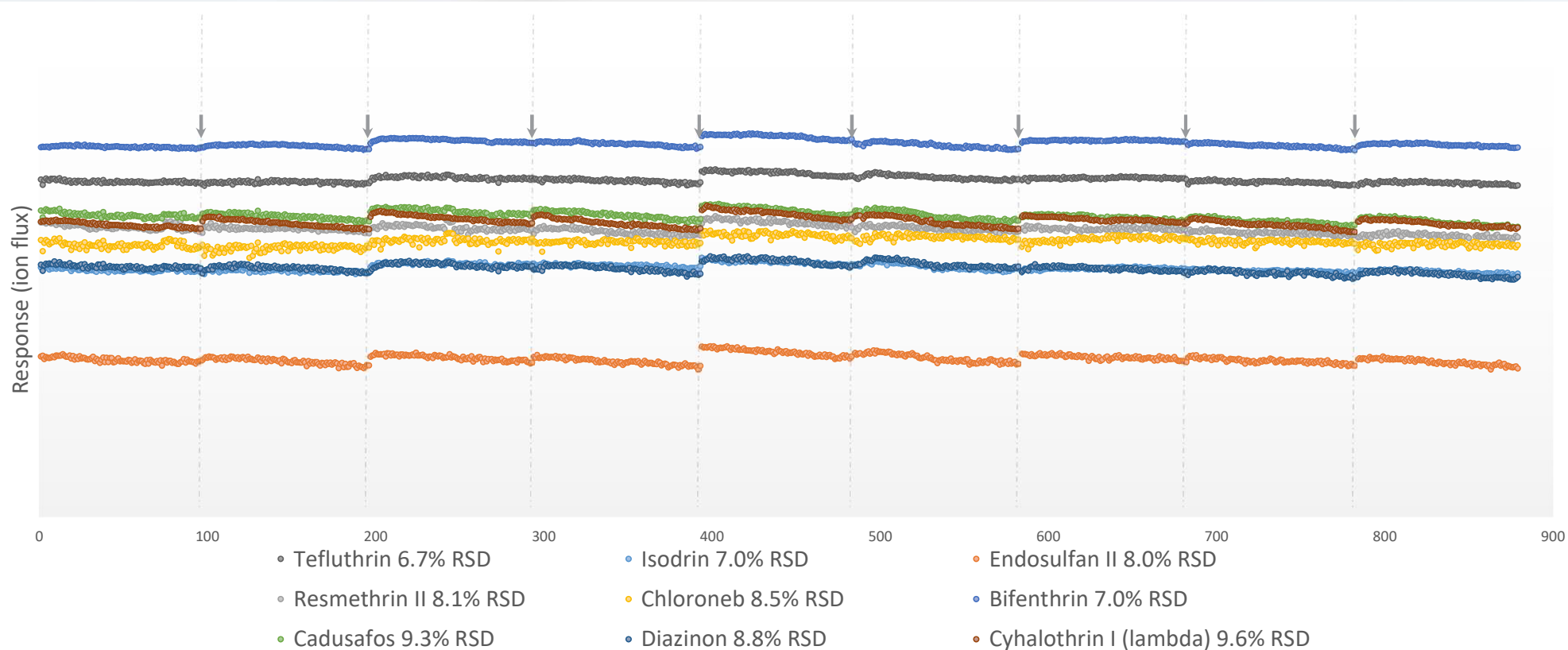
Linearity in apple/pear/banana matrix matched standards – duplicate injections per point





# Robustness

Almost 900 sequential matrix injections...



## Software

Chromeleon™ 7.2 Chromatography Data System (CDS) software was used for instrument control, data acquisition, processing and reporting.

One-click eWorkflows™ available for simplified method, sequence creation and reporting.

Integration with Thermo Scientific™ SampleManager LIMS™, SDMS and LES to manage the complete laboratory workflow.



## Conclusions

The demonstrated stability of the advanced ion source ensures that even after hundreds of complex matrix samples, the sensitivity required is robustly maintained.

QuEChERS extraction and subsequent clean-up of over 200 pesticides from replicate analysis (n=6 each at three concentrations) of each of two sample matrices, demonstrating excellent accuracy (recovery) and precision.

Accurate, quantitative analysis of over 200 pesticides over up to 5 orders of magnitude (0.025 – 250 µg/kg), showing outstanding LODs and linear response.

Robustness displayed over ~400 consecutive injections of sample matrix (1 g/mL), with SANTE compliance at the default MRL throughout.

High sensitivity providing the real possibility to dilute the sample extract, thus limiting matrix contamination and system maintenance, leading to an increase in laboratory productivity.

