

16th Annual Workshop On Emerging High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (Hrms) And Lc-Ms/Ms Applications In Environmental Analysis And Food Safety

Online, 15-16 October, 2020

# **Advantages of supercritical fluid chromatography for the determination of pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables.**

Víctor Manuel Cutillas Juárez  
Amadeo Rodríguez Fernández-Alba

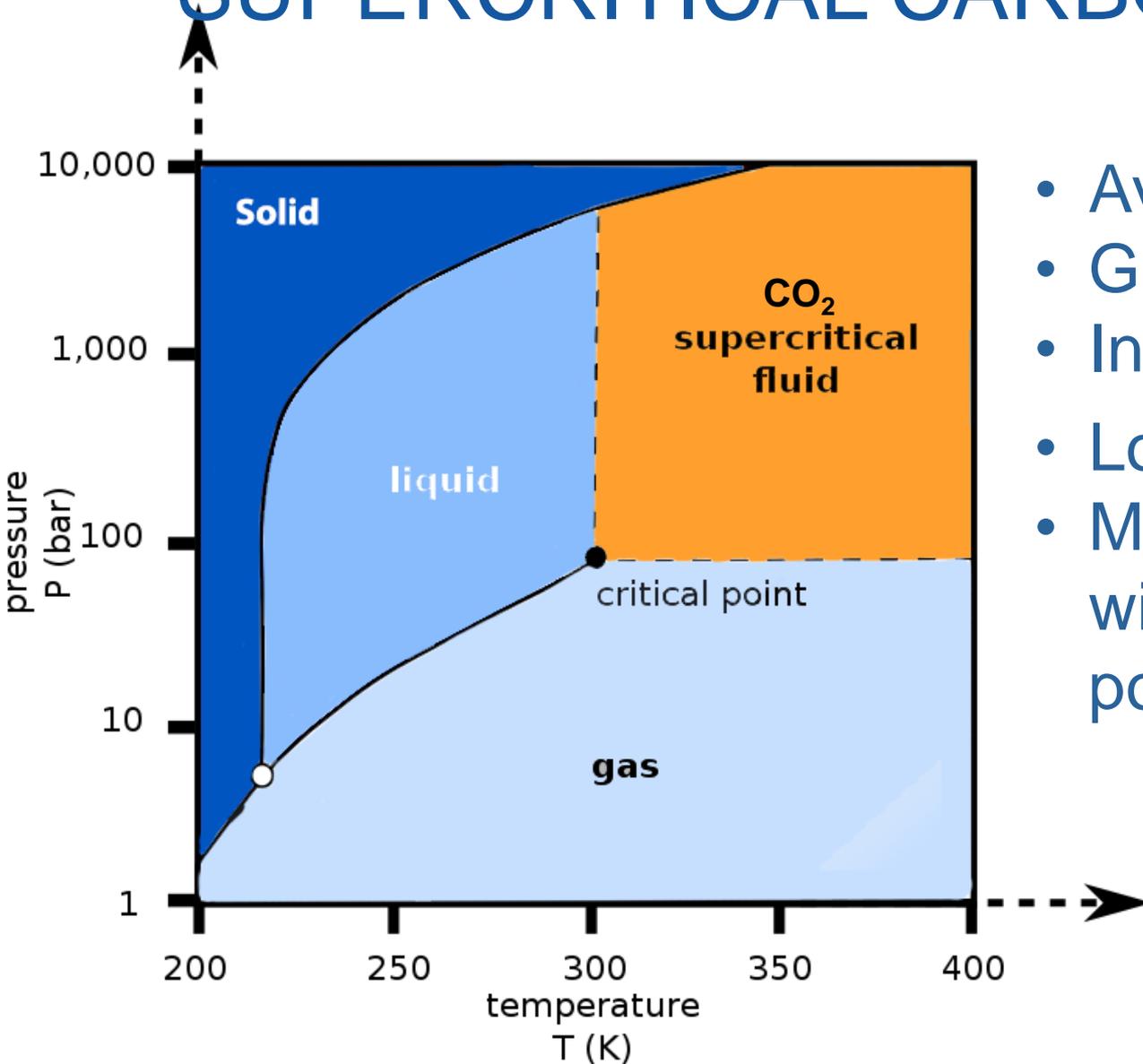
# SFC Overview

- **Technical and operational parameters**
- **Efficacy in Multiresidue Methods**
- **Additional Advantages**
  - **Lower ion suppression**
  - **Wider scope**
  - **Chiral separations**
  - **Efficiency with a low ion source temperature**

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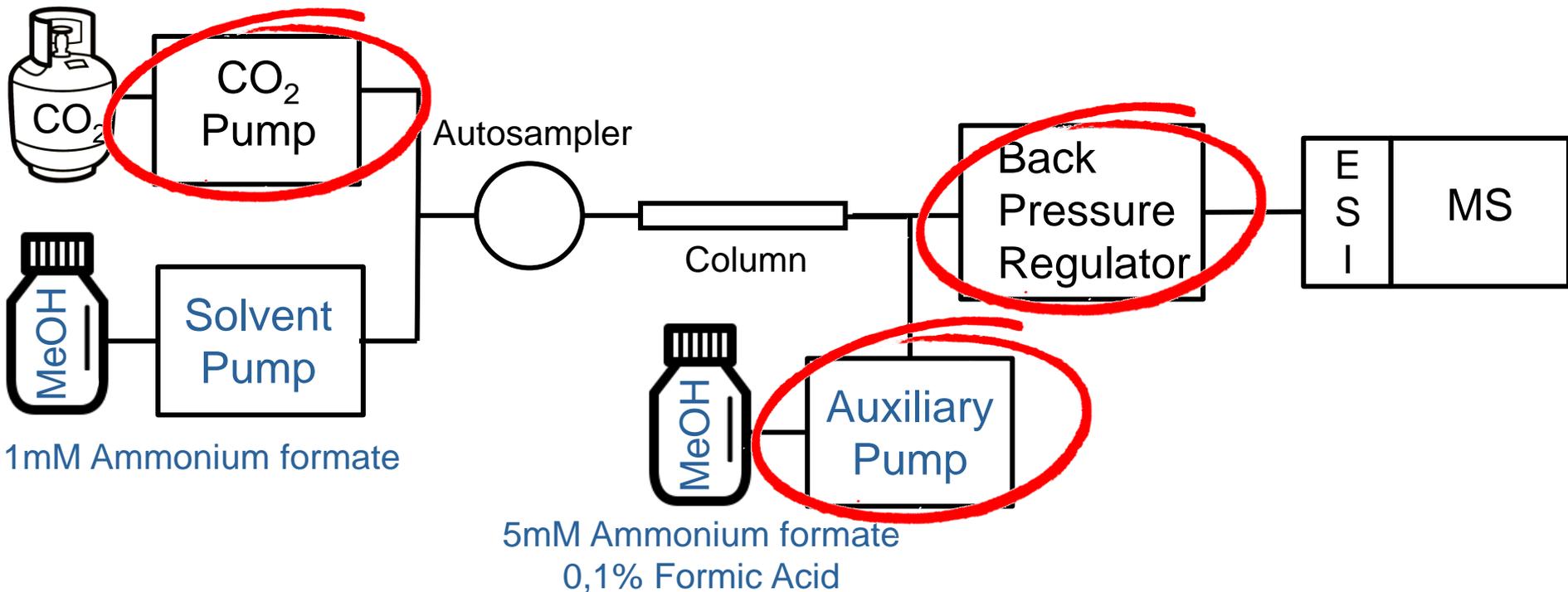
# SUPERCRITICAL CARBON DIOXIDE



- Available
- Green
- Inexpensive
- Low critical point
- Miscible with a wide range of polar solvents

# SFC-MS/MS System

(Nexera UC coupled to Shimadzu LC-MS 8060)



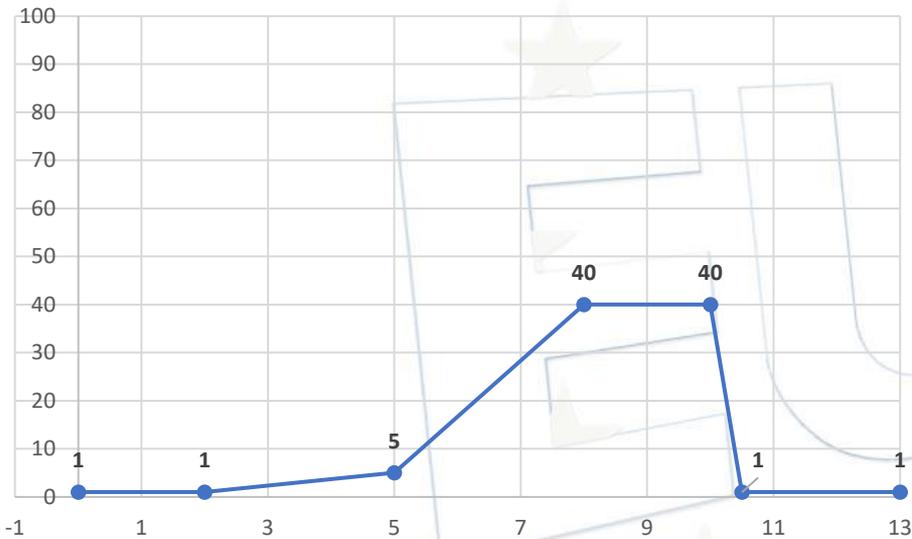
# METHANOL AS CO-SOLVENT

SFC

Run time: 13 min

Flow: 1,3mL/min

Make-up Flow: 0,080mL/min



TOTAL RUN CONSUMPTION

MeOH (Gradient) : 2,22mL  
 MeOH (Make-up): 0,96  
 CO2 Consumption : 13,7mL  
 Water: 0mL

} 3,19 mL

LC

Run time: 20,5min

Flow: 0,3mL/min

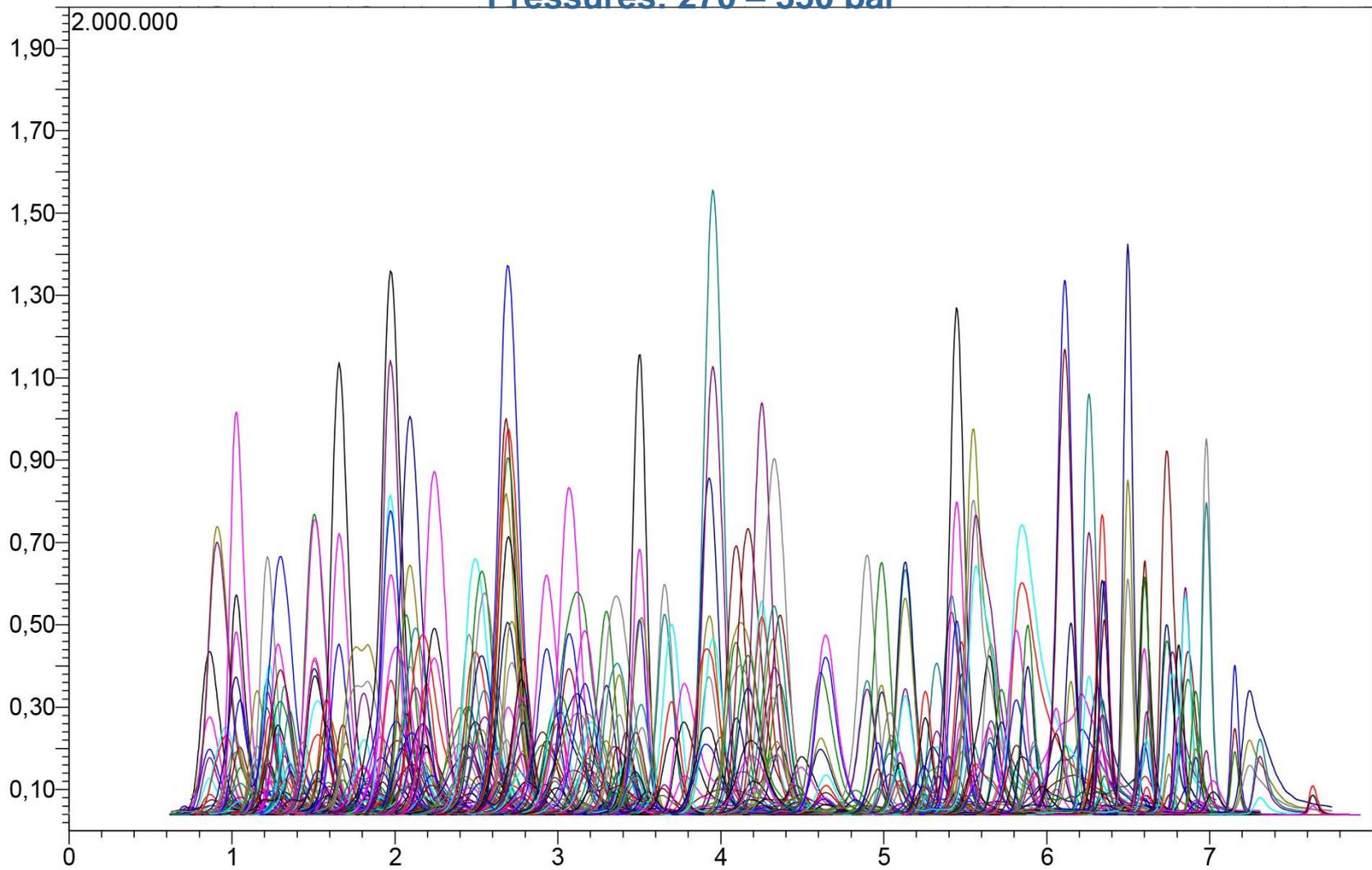


TOTAL RUN CONSUMPTION

MeOH : 3,51mL  
 Water : 2,64mL

# TOTAL FLOW: 1.3 mL/min

Pressures: 270 – 350 bar



5 µg/Kg Tomato (300 pesticides)

min

Too much coelution with this short run time?

# IS A THIRD TRANSITION NECESSARY?

Acquisition window: +/-0,3

MS 8060:  
Switching polarity: 5msec  
Scan speed: 555 MRM/sec

Dwell Time Calculation/Loop Time

267 events (pesticides)

Maximum Loop Time  
Target Value: 0,574 sec

Calculate Dwell Time

Start - End Time(min)	1,856-	1,870-	1,872-	1,882-	1,884-	1,889-	
Event	43	42	43	44	43	42	
Loop Time(sec)	0,562	0,550	0,562	0,574	0,562	0,550	
Dwell Time(msec)	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	5,0	

Maximum Event: 44      Maximum Loop Time(sec): 0,574

Minimum Dwell Time(msec): 5,0

Maximum Dwell Time(msec): 5,0

Maximum cycle time 0.574

Apply to Method    Close

These cycle times allow us to add another transition to compounds without compromising peak shape. Enough points per peak will be obtained.

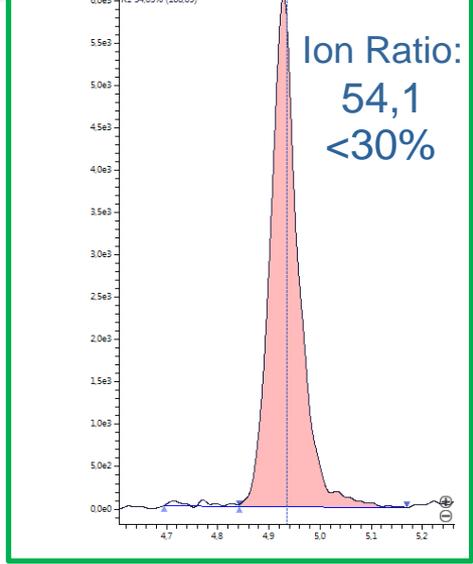
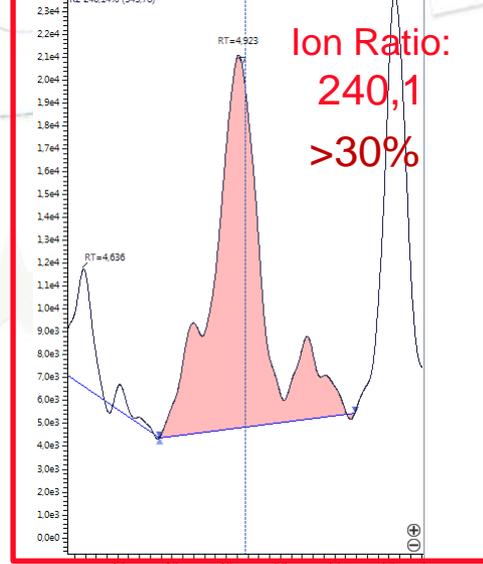
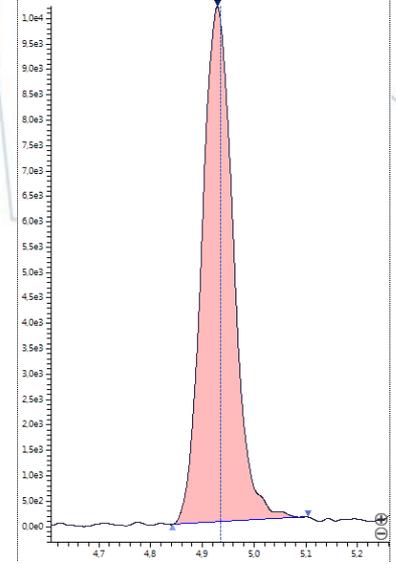
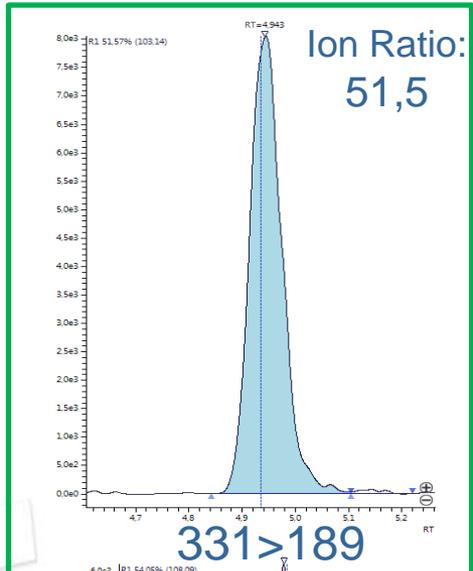
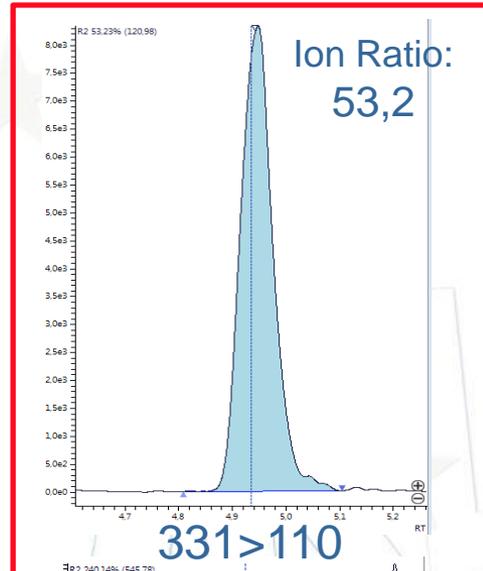
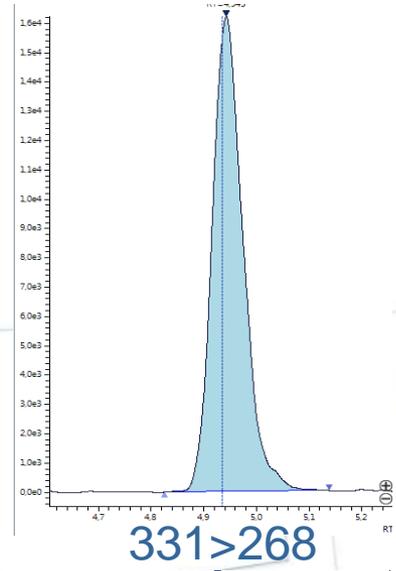
Some compounds need a more selective transition for their identification at low concentrations in difficult matrices.



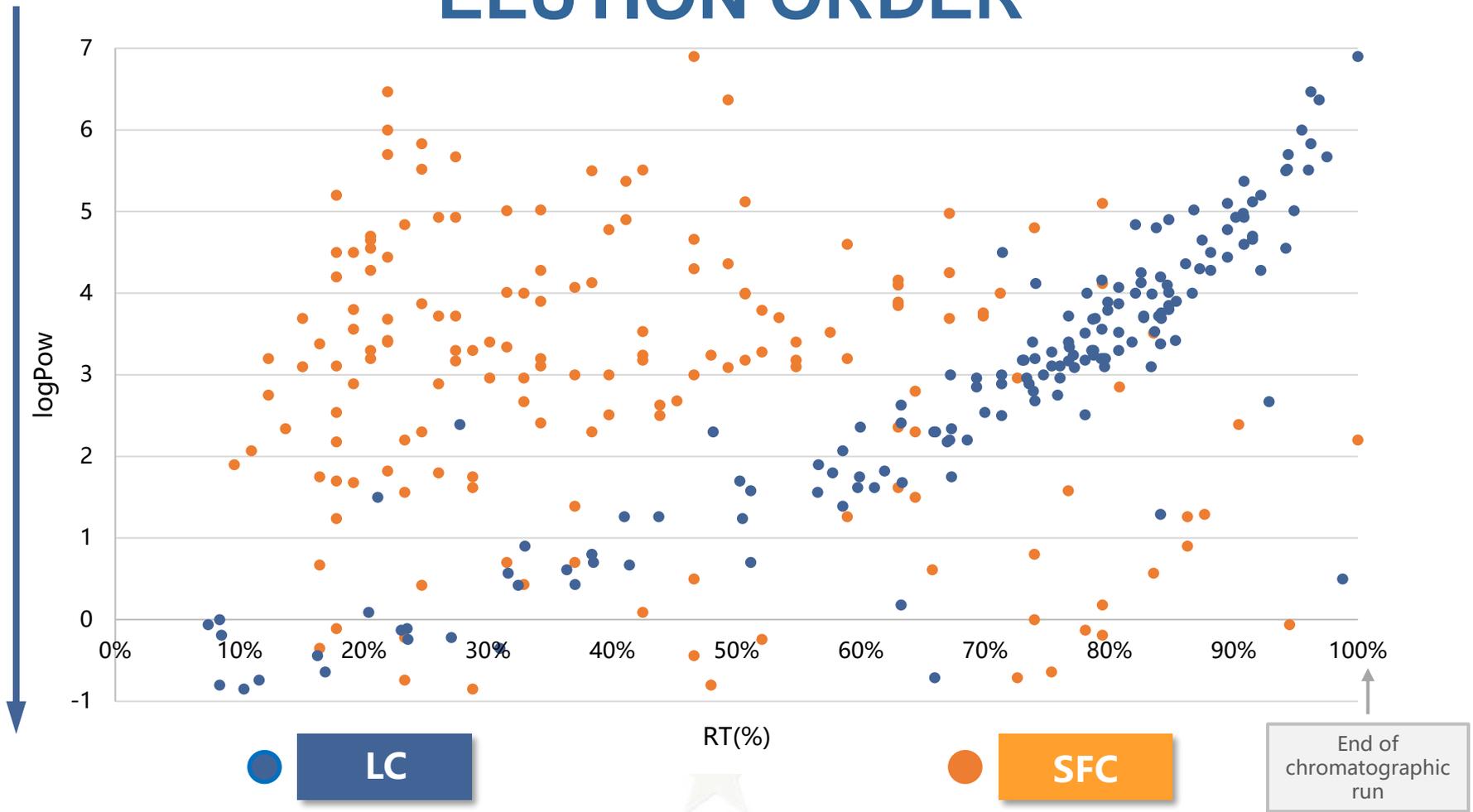
10 µg/kg  
Tomato

FENARIMOL

10 µg/kg  
Leek

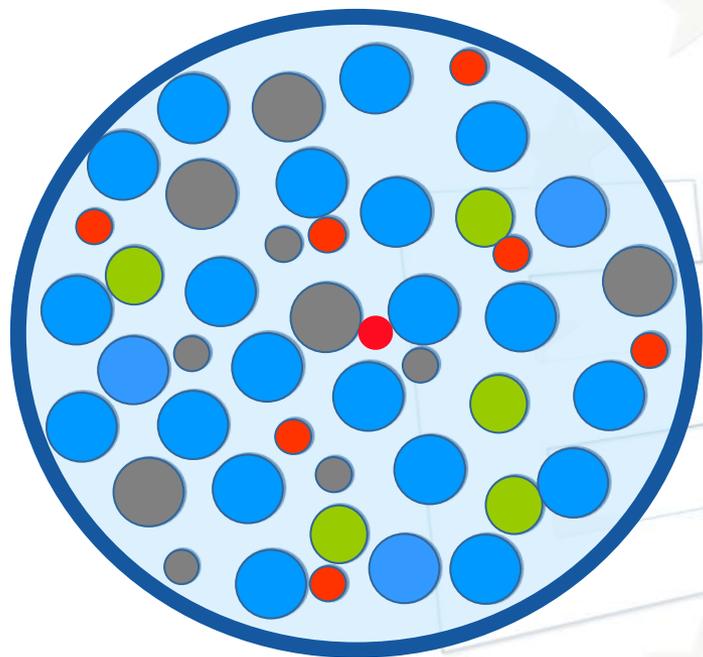


# ELUTION ORDER



In LC, there is a clear trend; the compounds elute in decreasing order of polarity.  
SFC does not follow any polarity criteria for elution.

# ESI IONIZATION PROCESS



SFC MOBILE PHASE:

~~WATER~~

Surface tension (20°C): 72.80 mN/m

METHANOL

Surface tension (20°C): 22.70 mN/m

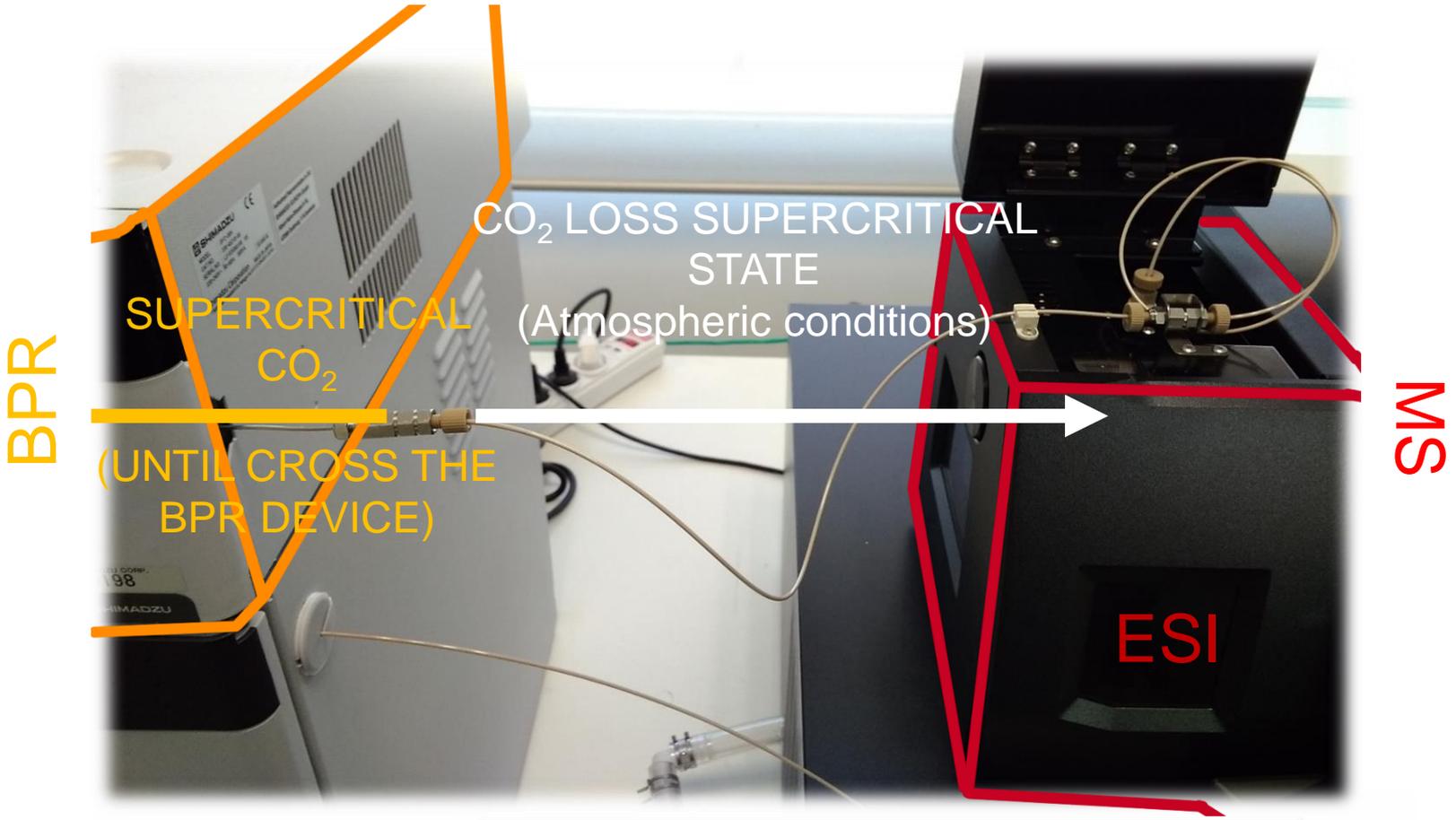
● Ion

● Water

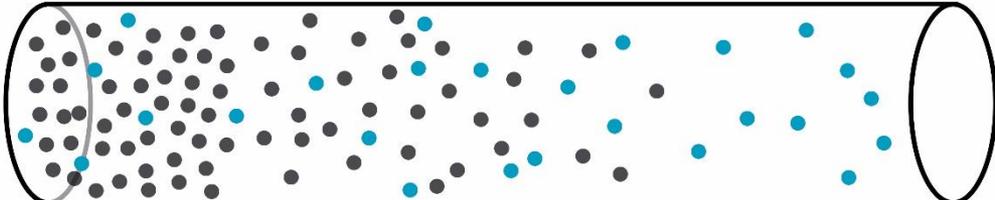
● Matrix

● Methanol

# CO2 loss his supercritical state before ionization



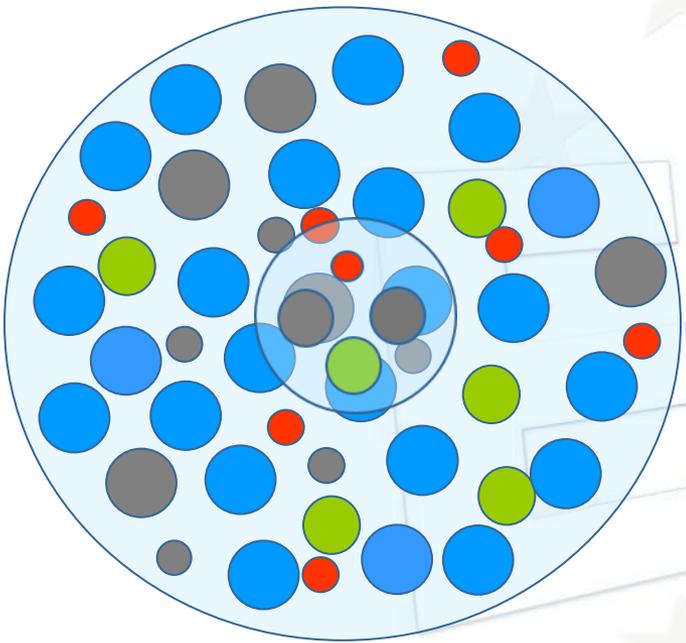
- METHANOL
- SUPERCRITICAL CO<sub>2</sub>



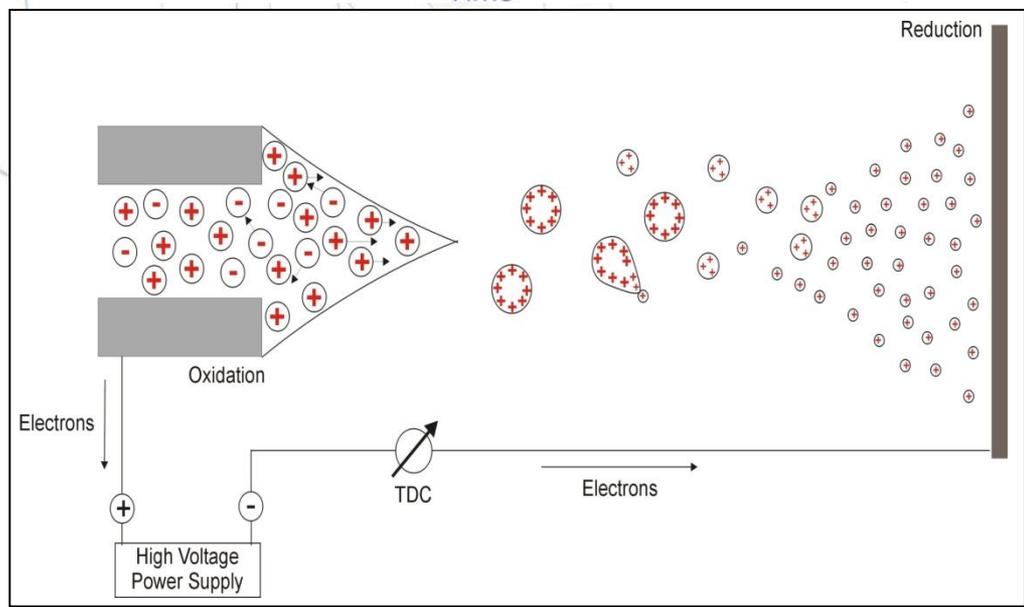
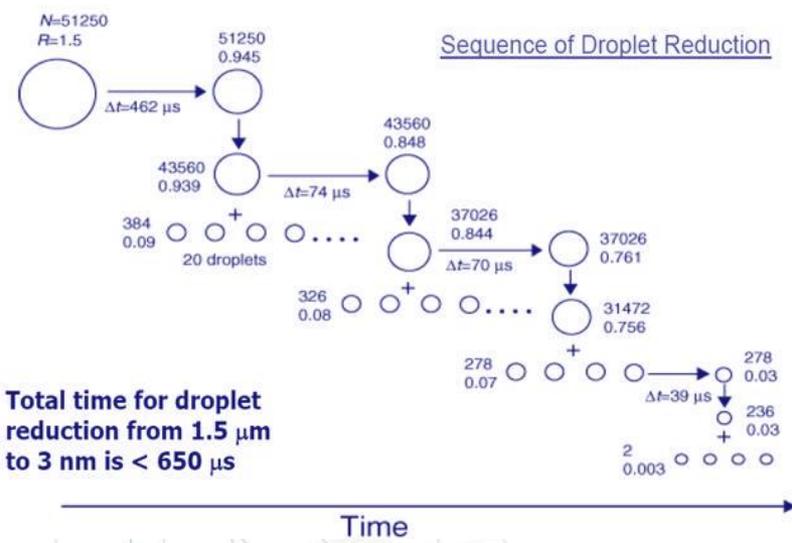
SMALL AMOUNT OF ORGANIC SOLVENT REACHING THE SOURCE

# IONIZATION PROCESS

Low methanol flow  
 70% of compounds: <math> < 140 \mu\text{L}/\text{min}</math>  
 (Including make-up solvent)



- Ion
- Water
- Matrix
- Methanol



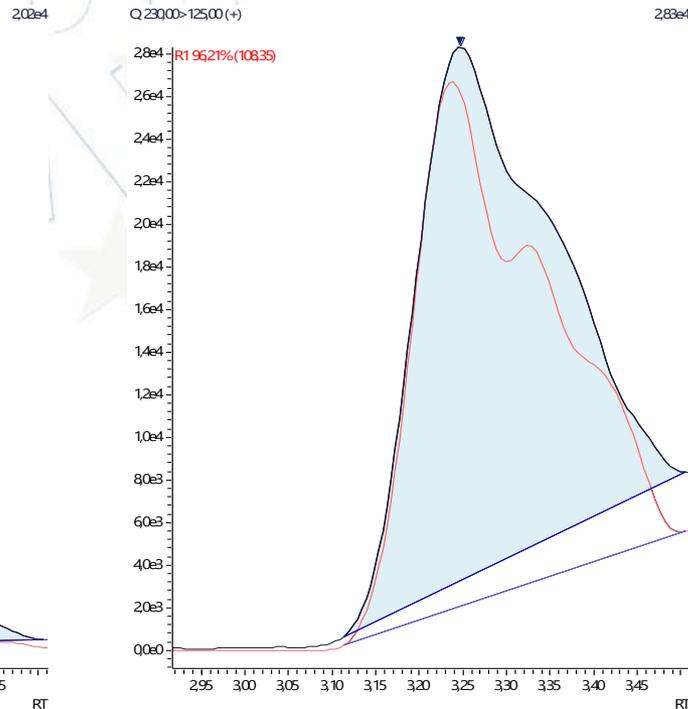
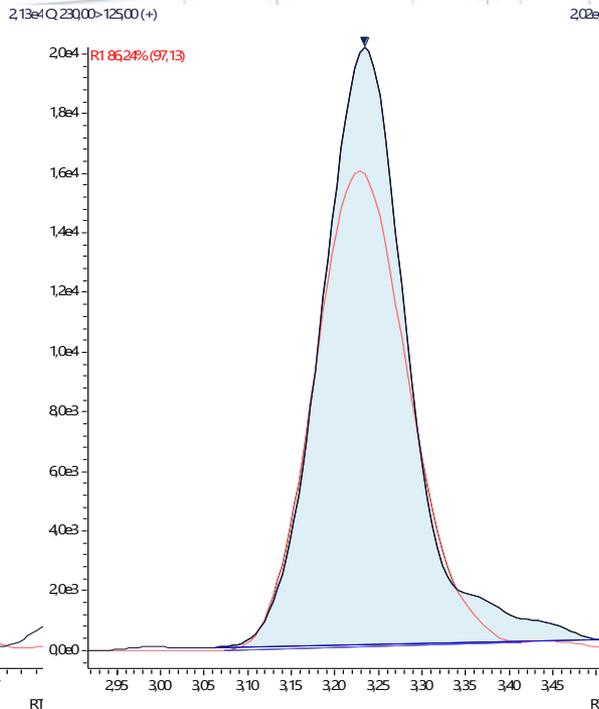
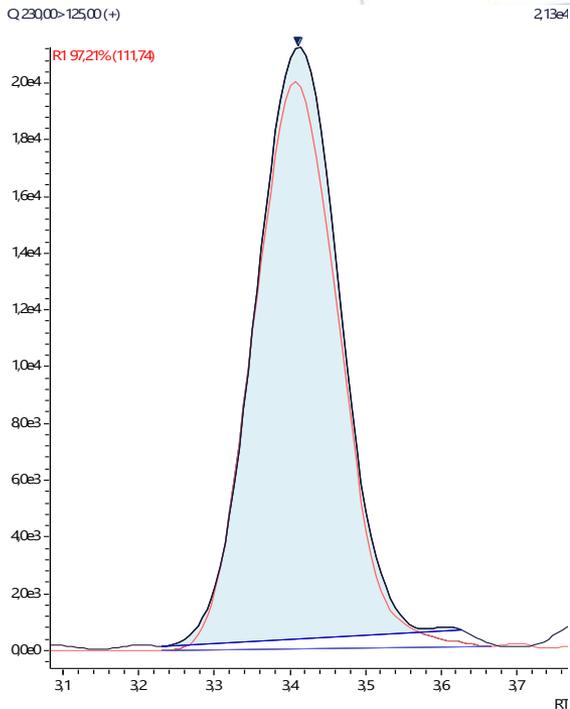
# INJECTING 100% WATER VIAL

As SFC mobile phase does not use water as solvent. Injecting high volumes of 100% water samples can disturb the peak shapes of some compounds.

Vial conc: 1 µg/Kg  
**ACN 1:4 H<sub>2</sub>O**  
 Inj.volumen: **2µL**  
 Area: 163018

Vial conc: 1 µg/Kg  
**100% H<sub>2</sub>O**  
 Inj.volumen: **2µL**  
 Area: 139654

Vial conc: 1 µg/Kg  
**100% H<sub>2</sub>O**  
 Inj.volumen: **5µL**  
 Area: 269292



# SFC Overview

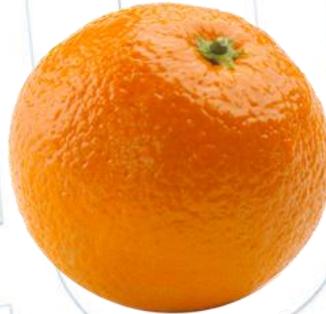
- Technical and operational parameters
- **Efficacy in Multiresidue Methods**
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# TESTING SFC-MS/MS

## VALIDATION OF THE METHOD



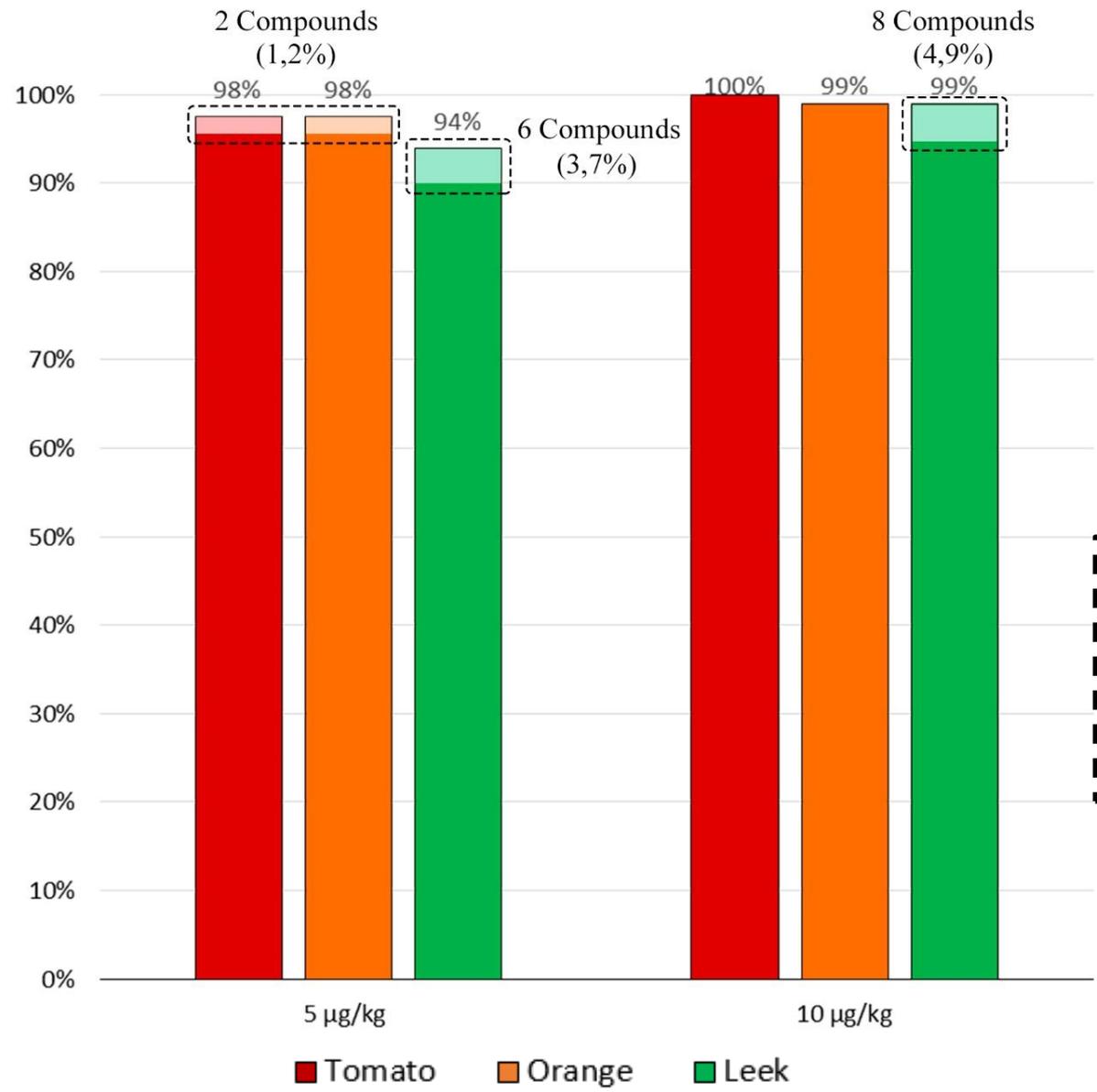
Tomato



Orange



Leek



IDENTIFIED COMPOUNDS



Inj.volumen: 2uL

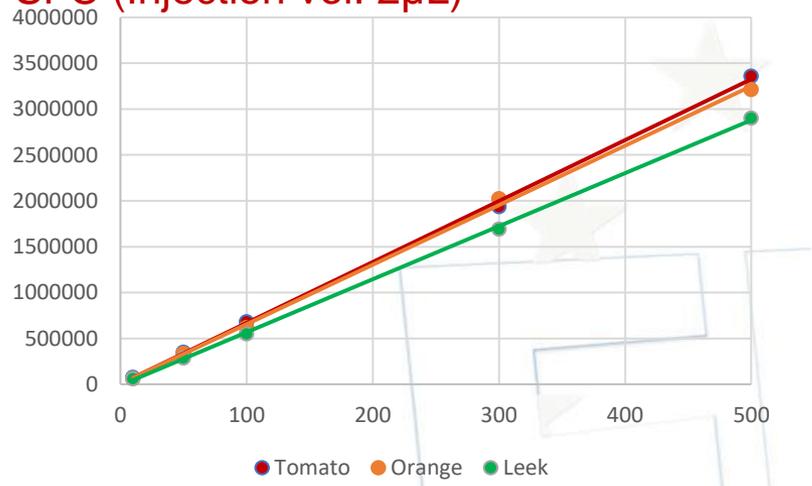
The area of each bar surrounded by a dashed-line box refers to those compounds that presented isobaric interferences and have been identified after adding a third transition.

Sample diluted 5 times: 0,4 µg/Kg in the vial



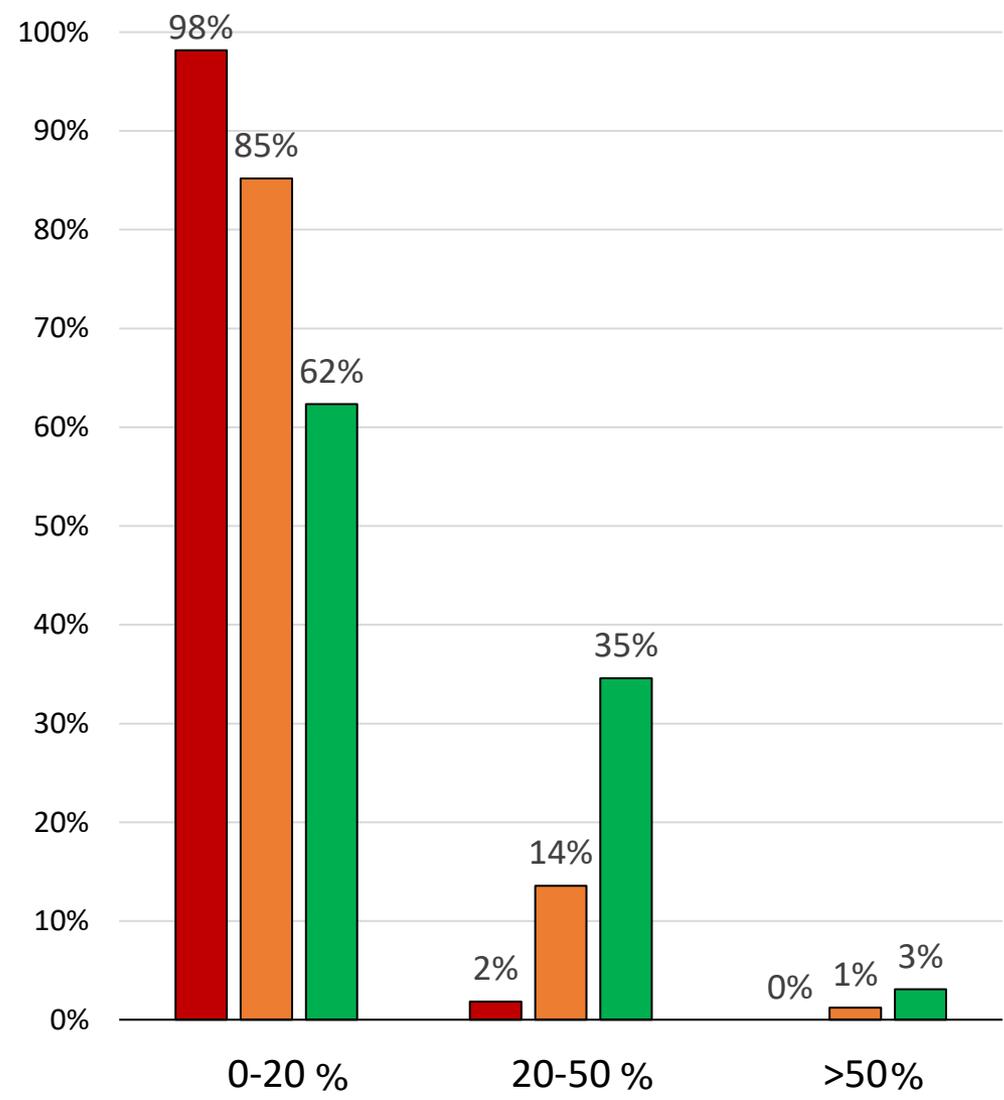
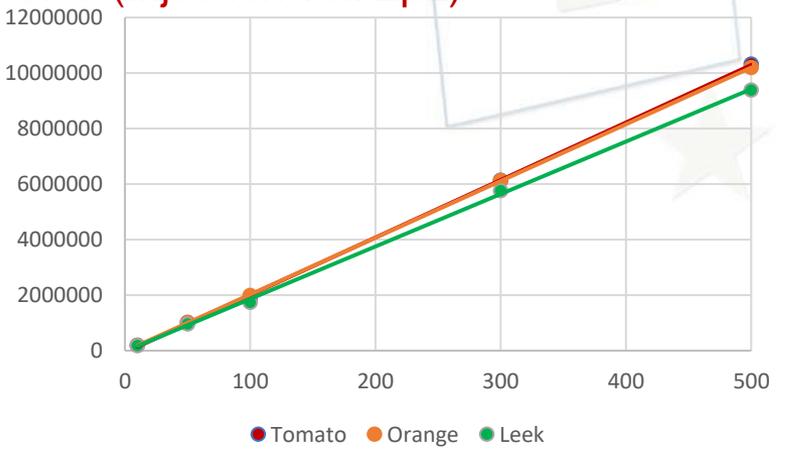
## CARBARYL

SFC (Injection vol: 2µL)



## PROQUINAZID

SFC (Injection vol: 2µL)



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# TESTING SFC-MS/MS

## SPICES



**BLACK PEPPER**



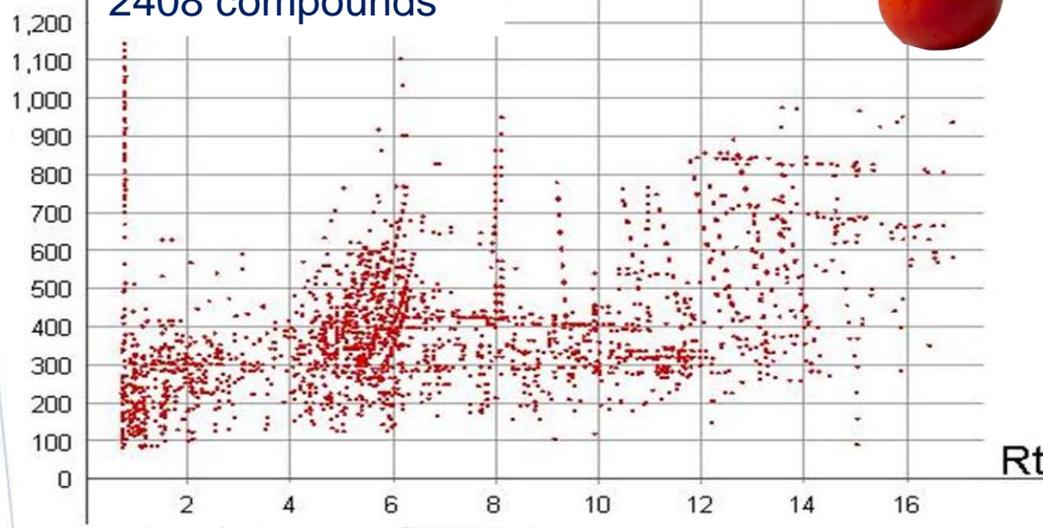
**CAYENNE**

# CO-EXTRACTED MATRIX COMPONENTS (LC-QTOF-MS) Extract: 1g/mL



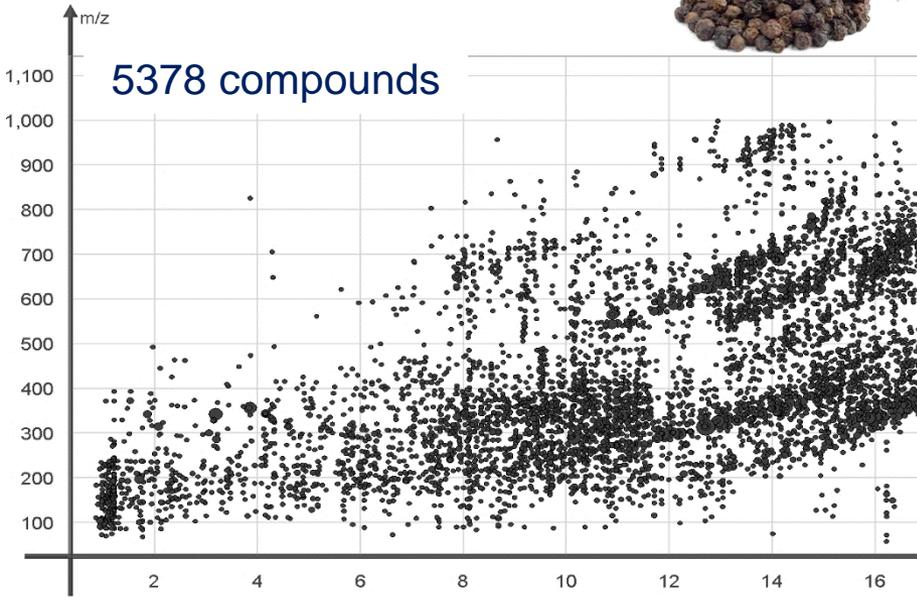
TOMATO QuEChERS+PSA

2408 compounds



BLACK PEPPER QuEChERS+PSA

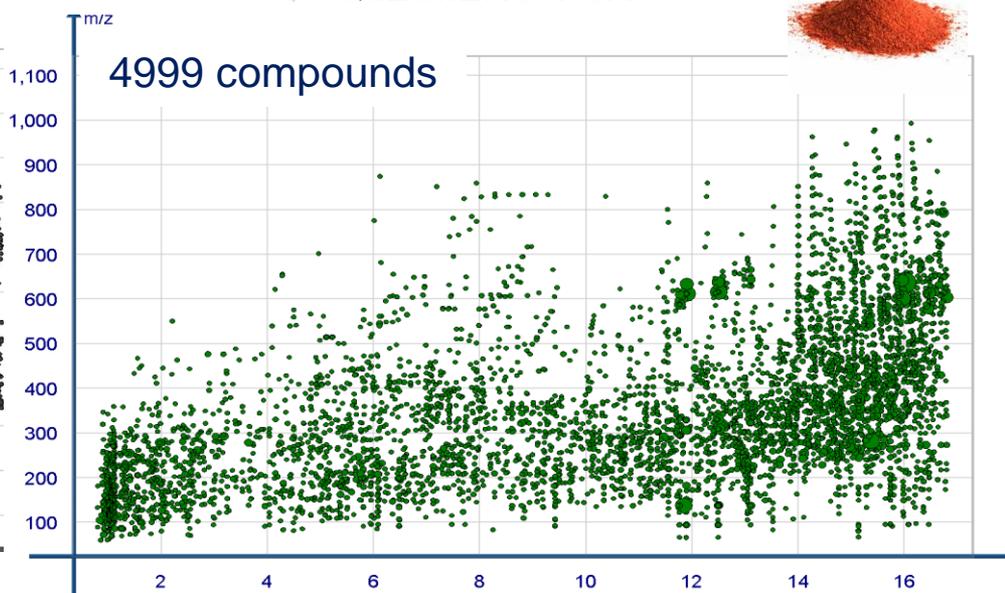
5378 compounds



CAYENNE

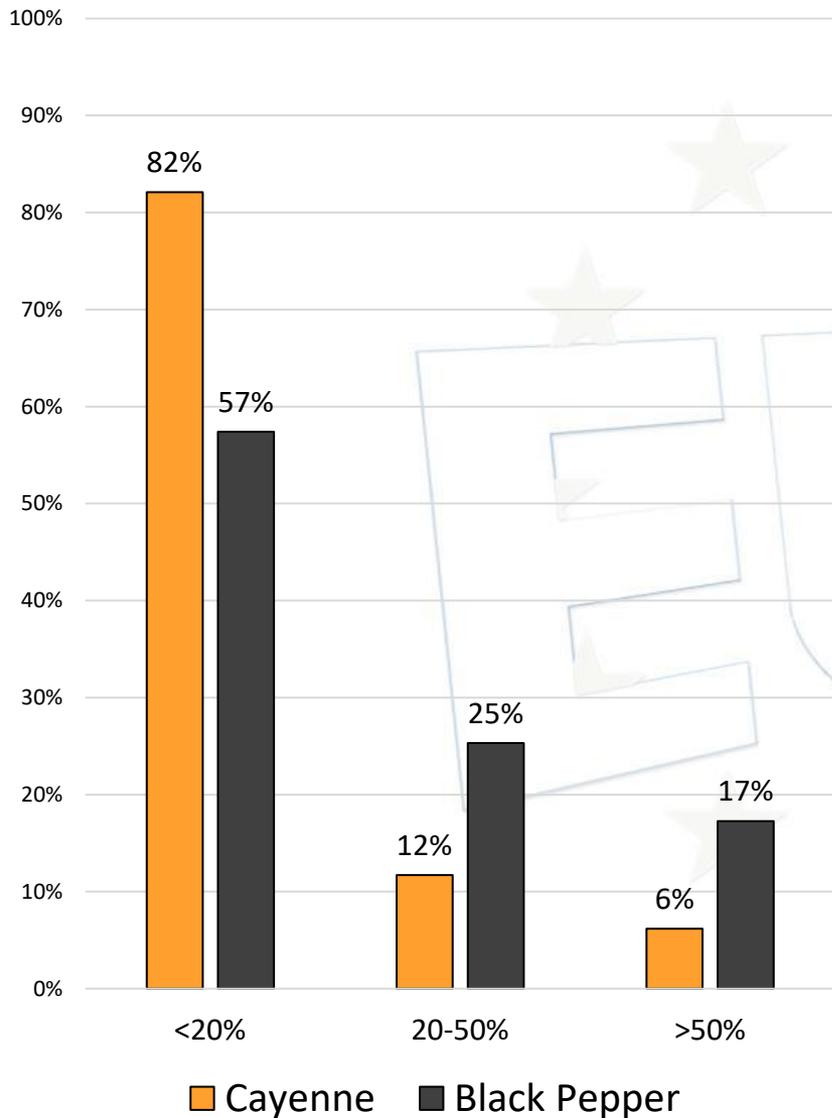
QuEChERS+PSA

4999 compounds

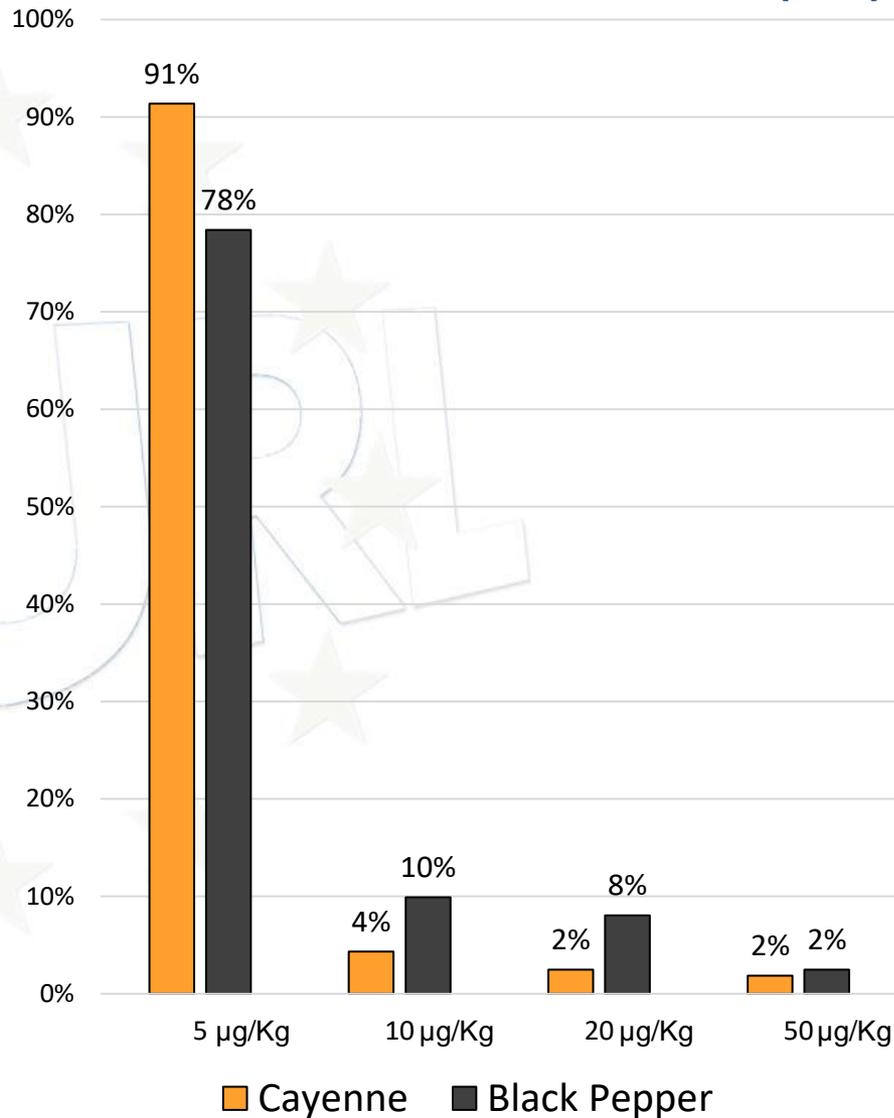


Total amount injected: 0.1 mg

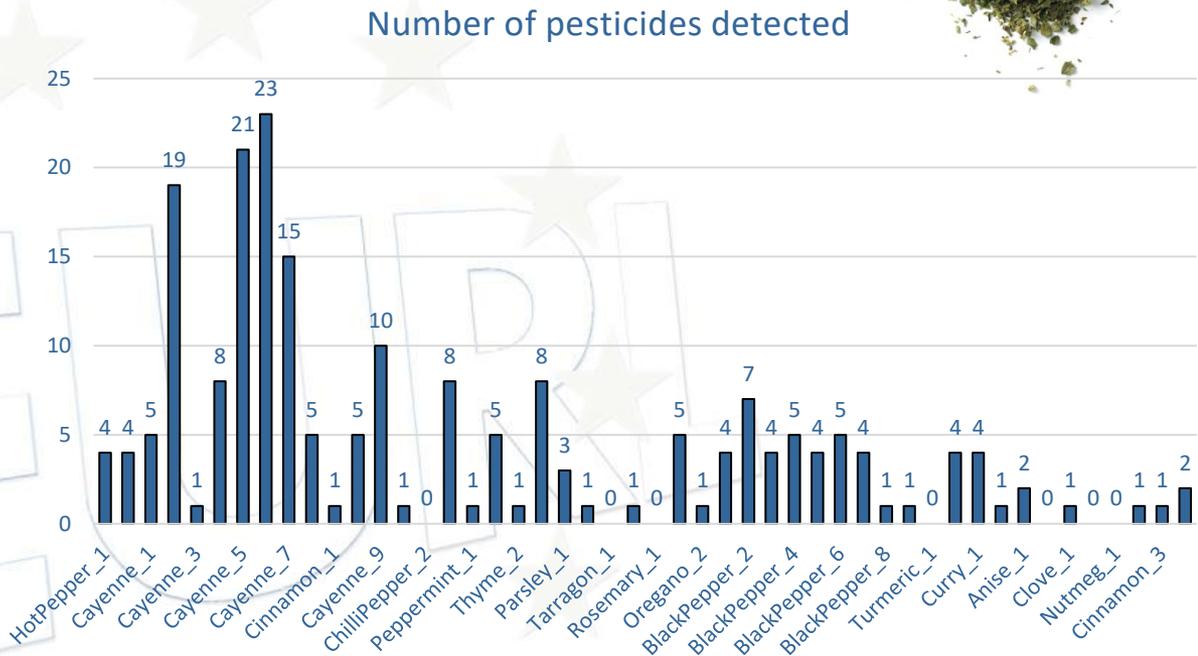
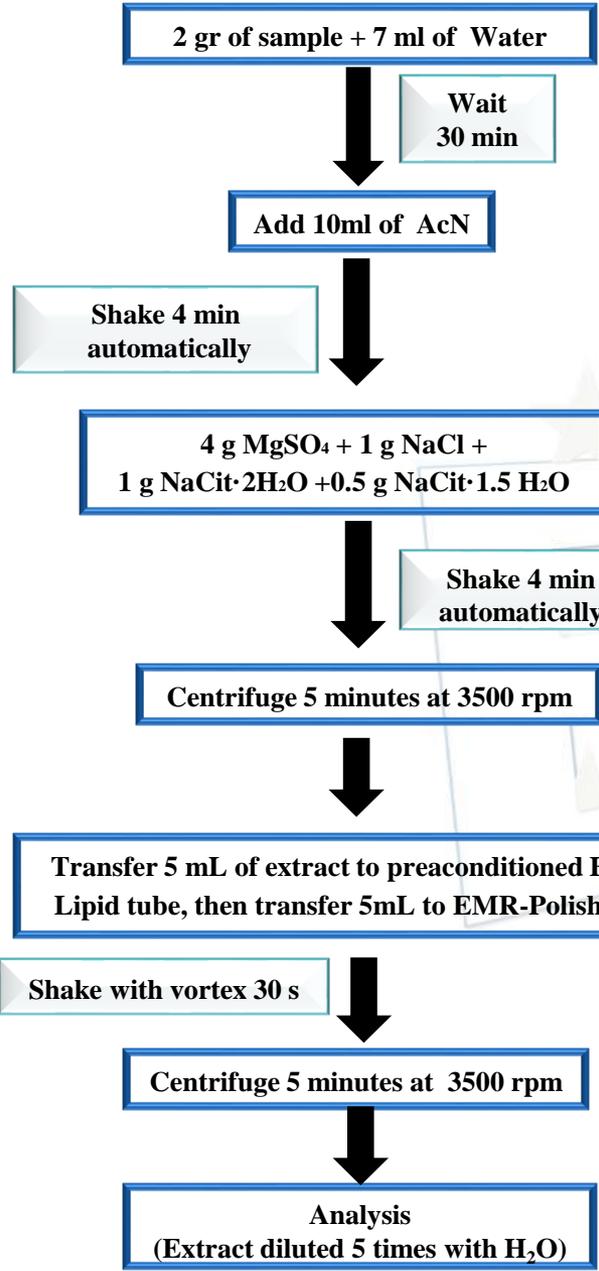
### MATRIX EFFECT



### IDENTIFIED COMPOUNDS (162)



# REAL SAMPLES (SPICES)



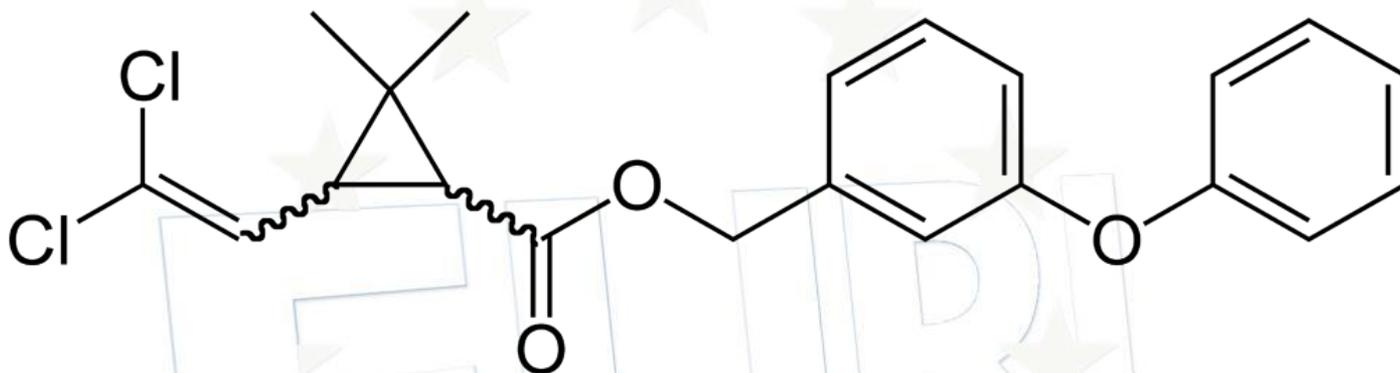
Number of samples analyzed	48
Samples with pesticides	43 (85%)
Range of pesticides detected per sample (LOQ: 5 µg/kg)	0 -23
Samples with pesticides above MRL	25 (52%)
Most detected pesticide	Carbendazim

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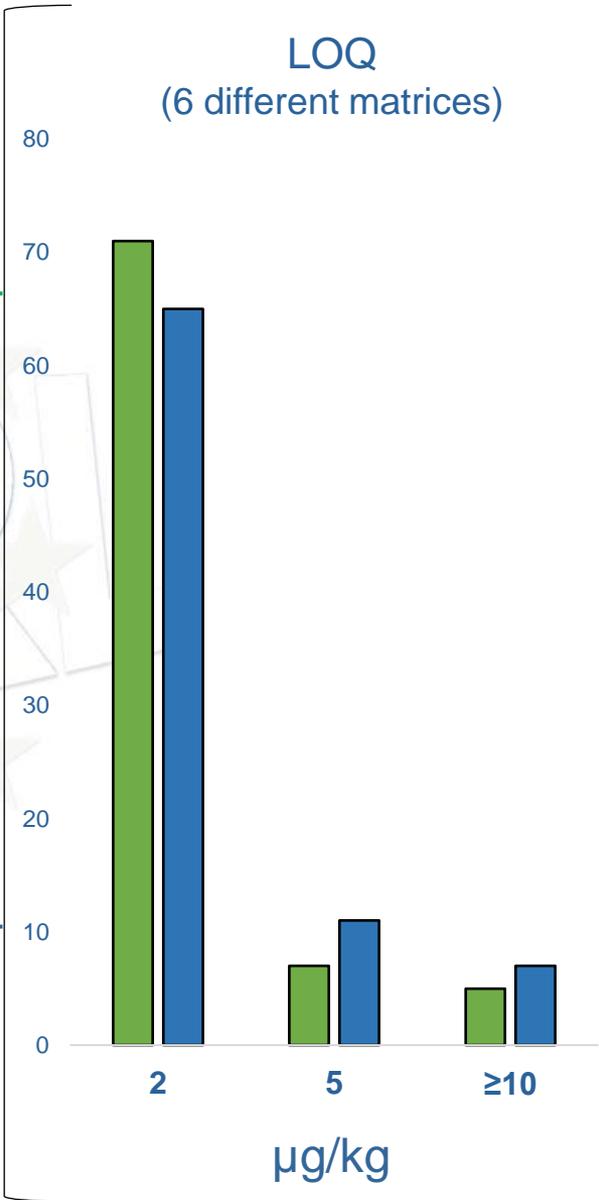
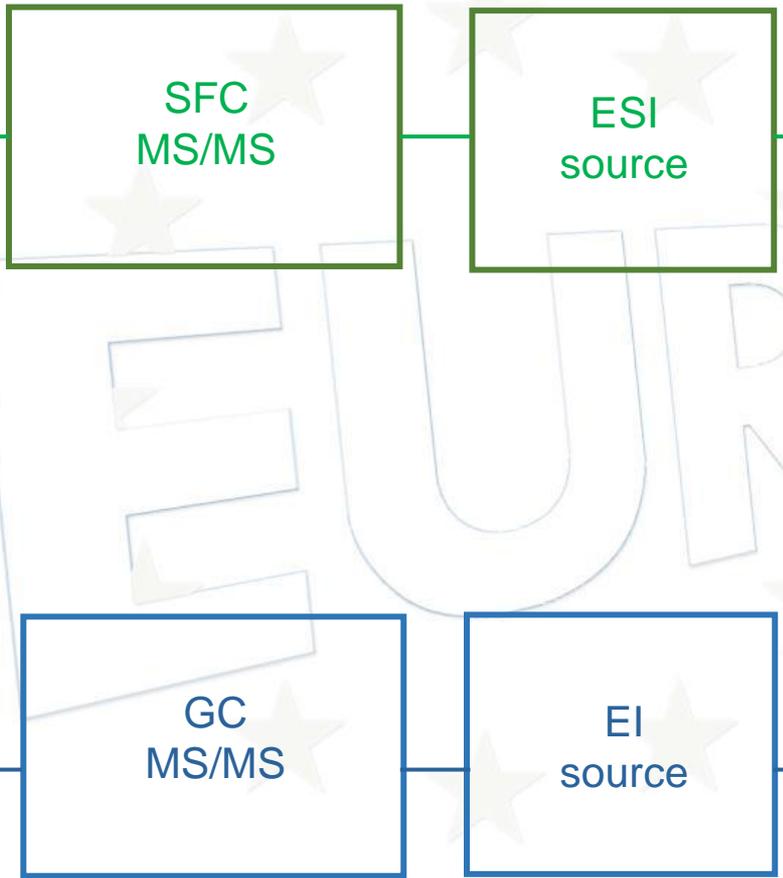
# PYRETHROIDS

## GC-MS/MS & SFC-MS/MS



This study describes a comprehensive comparison between supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC) and gas chromatography (GC) coupled to mass spectrometry for the analysis of pyrethroids in vegetable matrices. The ionization process used was electrospray ionization (ESI) in SFC and electron ionization in GC.

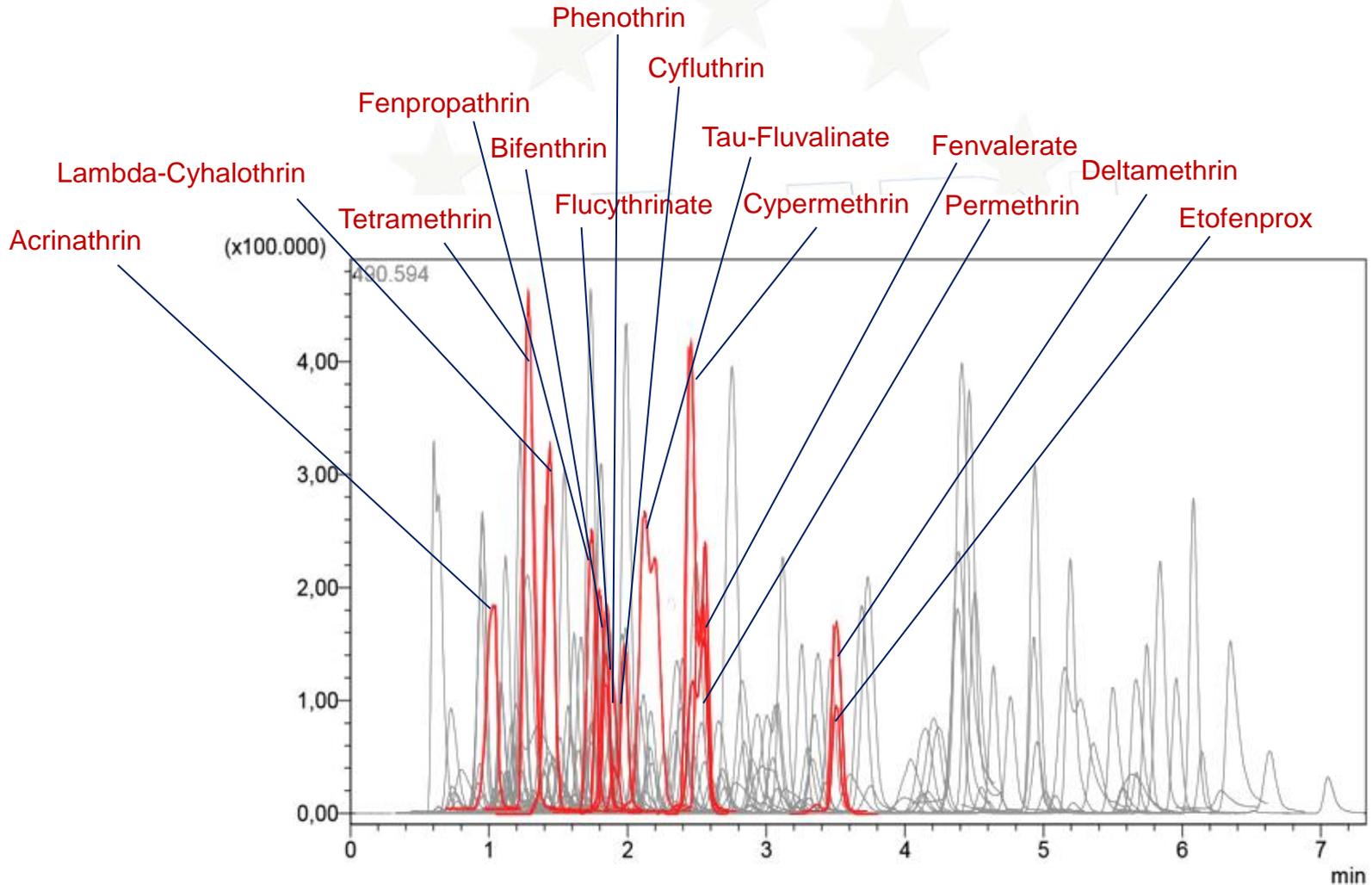
- Achrinathrin
- Bifenthrin
- Cyfluthrin
- Cypermethrin
- Deltamethrin
- Etofenprox
- Fenprotathrin
- Fenvalerate
- Flucythrinate
- Lambda-cyhalothrin
- Permethrin
- Phenothrin
- Tau-Fluvalinate
- Tetramethrin



# MULTIRESIDUE METHOD

10 µg/Kg Tomato

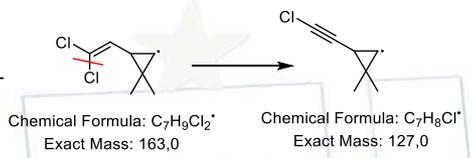
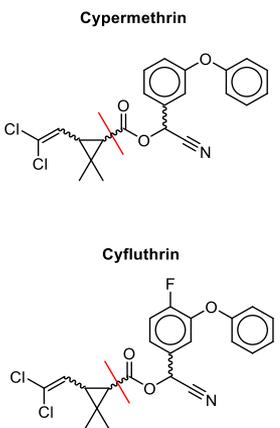
## Pyrethroids



# METHOD SELECTIVITY

GC  
EI  
source

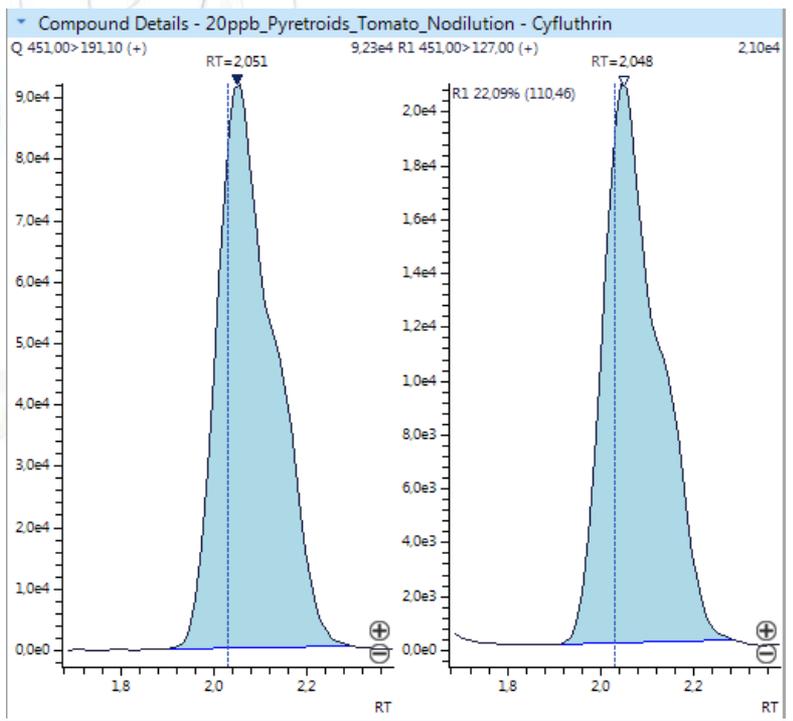
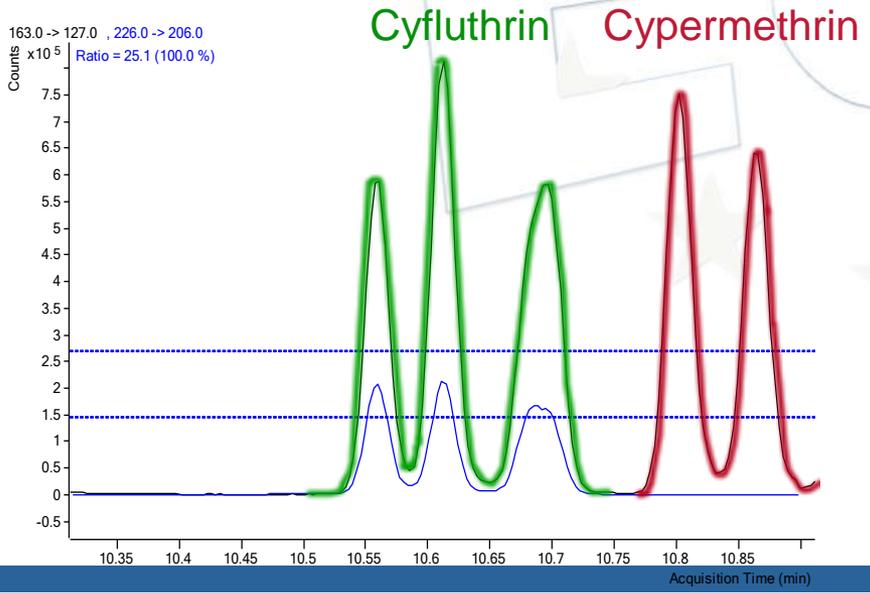
SFC  
ESI  
source



451>191

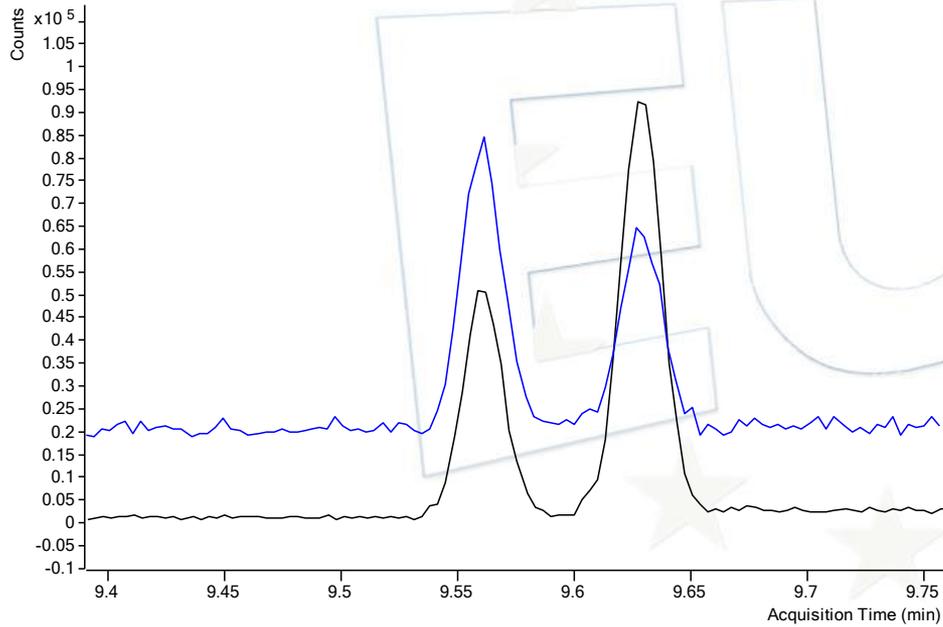
451>127

163.0 -> 127.0 , 226.0 -> 206.0  
Ratio = 25.1 (100.0 %)

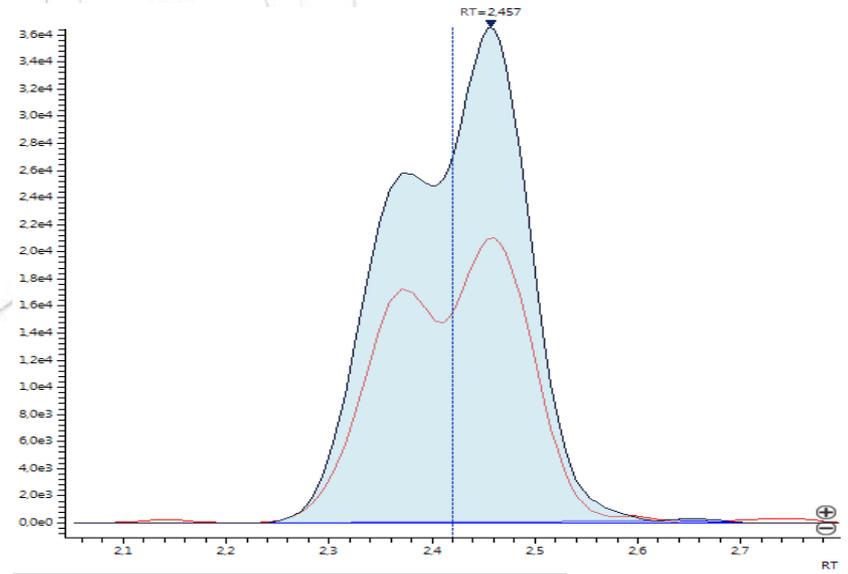


# RESOLUTION

PERMETHRIN  
GC



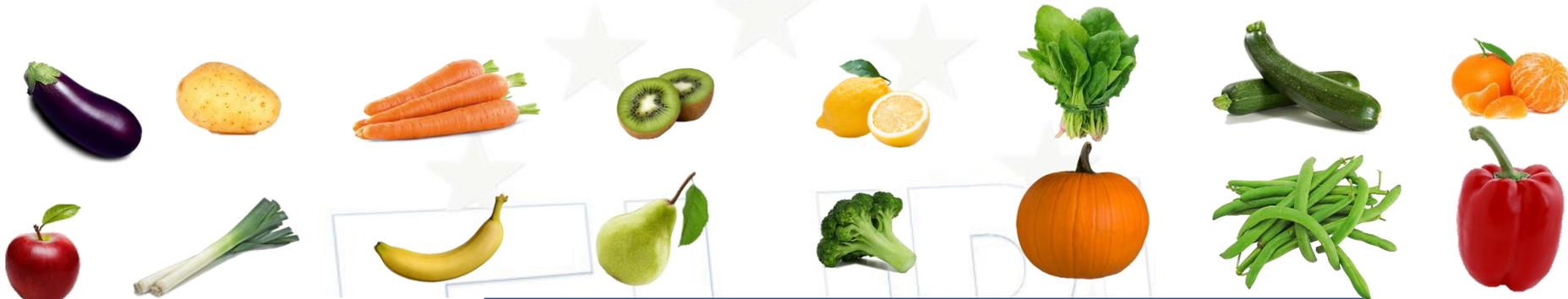
PERMETHRIN  
SFC



# MATRIX EFFECT

	Pear		Zucchini		Orange		Onion		Tea	
	SFC	GC	SFC	GC	SFC	GC	SFC	GC	SFC	GC
Achrinathrin	5	10	5	7	0	94	0	44	-22	52
Bifenthrin	10	4	8	8	-7	33	-24	28	-3	5
Cyfluthrin	10	0	15	-1	-4	40	-2	23	-57	-5
Cypermethrin	-2	1	4	-2	-8	43	-17	26	-32	3
Deltamethrin	1	11	3	-3	-14	23	-63	15	-18	-
Etofenprox	0	1	-1	0	-8	21	-65	15	-10	-12
Fenprotathrin	18	5	20	4	-7	41	-25	30	-1	13
Fenvalerate	0	-1	4	10	-6	24	-40	12	-32	1
Flucythrinate	-5	6	-5	1	-8	52	-37	34	-86	16
Lambda-cyhalothrin	-7	2	-6	2	-9	43	-18	25	-19	18
Permethrin	2	3	8	5	2	48	-11	28	-10	2
Phenothrin	6	9	11	12	-8	53	-17	41	-75	18
Tau-Fluvalinate	6	9	10	-4	-6	62	-12	22	-50	35
Tetramethrin	-3	4	3	6	-4	64	-2	35	-11	-38

# REAL SAMPLES



	Matrix	Conc. (µg/kg)	
		SFC-ESI-MS/MS	GC-EI/MS/MS
<b>Acrinathrin</b>	<b>Pepper</b>	639	633
<b>Cypermethrin</b>	<b>Pepper</b>	397	321
	<b>Potato</b>	135	119
<b>Deltamethrin</b>	<b>Mandarin</b>	158	137
<b>Etofenprox</b>	<b>Green Beans</b>	502	516
<b>Lambda-Cyhalothrin</b>	<b>Pepper</b>	75	80
<b>Permethrin</b>	<b>Broccoli</b>	228	184
<b>Tau-Fluvalinate</b>	<b>Mandarin</b>	142	137

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# CHIRAL SFC

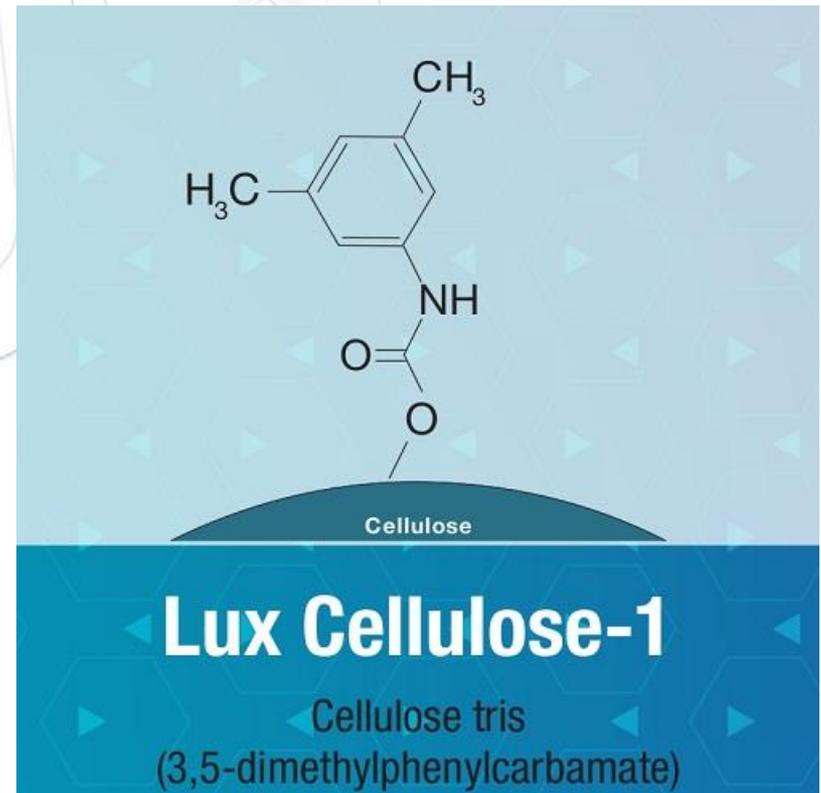
Supercritical fluid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry (SFC-ESI-MS/MS) has been demonstrated to perform fast and highly efficient separations without the need to change the mobile phase employed in multiresidue pesticide analyses.

Column: LUX CELLULOSE-1

Stationary phase: Cellulose tris(3,5-dimethylphenylcarbamate)

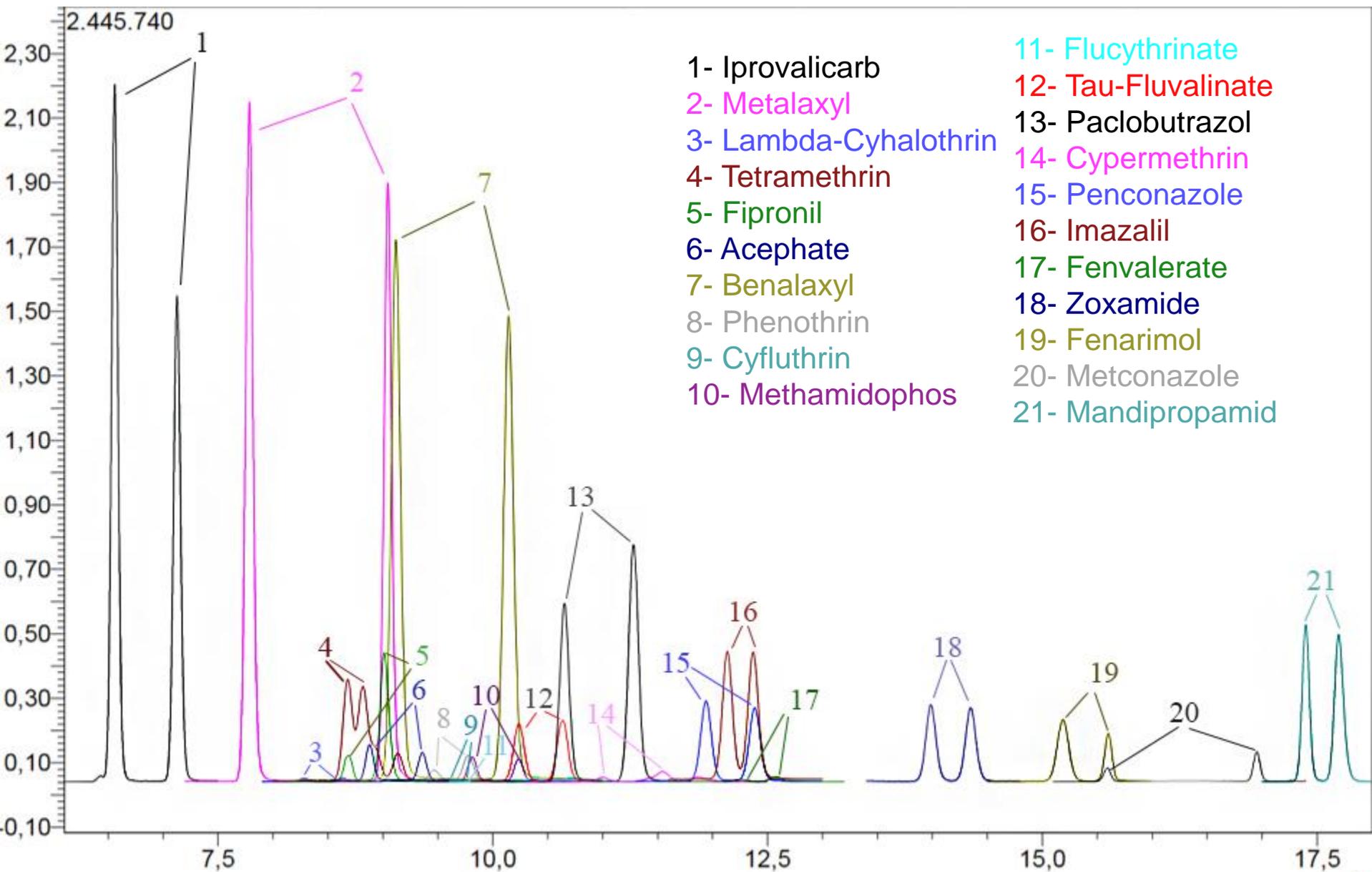
Length: 250 x 4.6 mm

Particle size: 5  $\mu\text{m}$



# COLUMN: LUX CELLULOSE-1

Cellulose tris(3,5-dimethylphenylcarbamate)



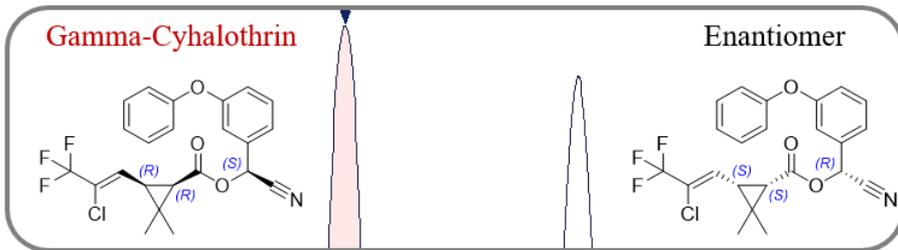
# 100 µg/kg Cyhalothrin mix

## Lambda-Cyhalothrin enantiomers

3,70e4

36e4  
 34e4  
 32e4  
 30e4  
 28e4  
 26e4  
 24e4  
 22e4  
 20e4  
 18e4  
 16e4  
 14e4  
 12e4  
 10e4  
 80e3  
 60e3  
 40e3  
 20e3  
 00e0

467,1>225,1  
 467,1>450  
 467,1>141,1

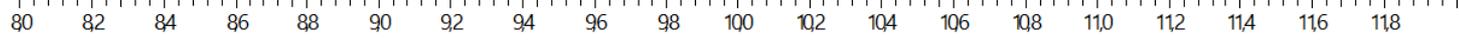
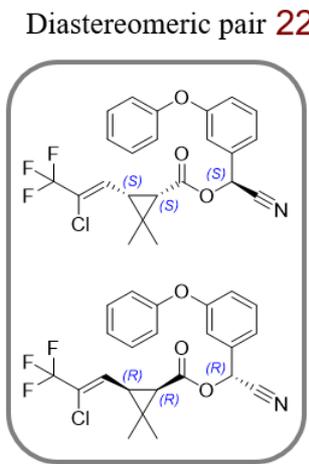


I.ratio:  
 43.8%  
 I.ratio:  
 19.2%

I.ratio:  
 44.9%  
 I.ratio:  
 20.2%

I.ratio:  
 44%  
 I.ratio:  
 22.5%

I.ratio:  
 40.2%  
 I.ratio:  
 20.2%

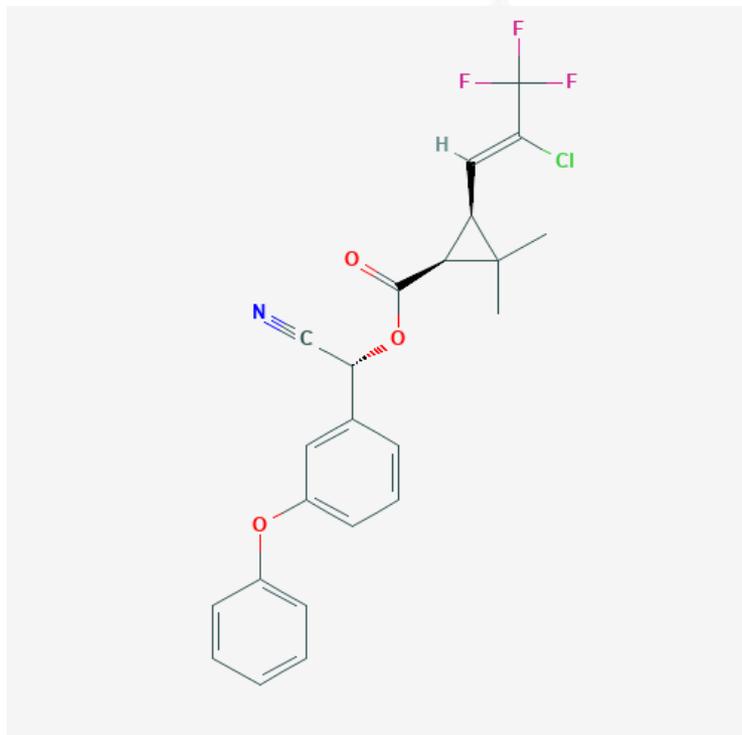


RT

# LAMBDA-CYHALOTHRIN MIXTURE

## ENANTIOMER

(R)- $\alpha$ -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl (1S)-cis-3-[(Z)-2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoropropenyl]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate

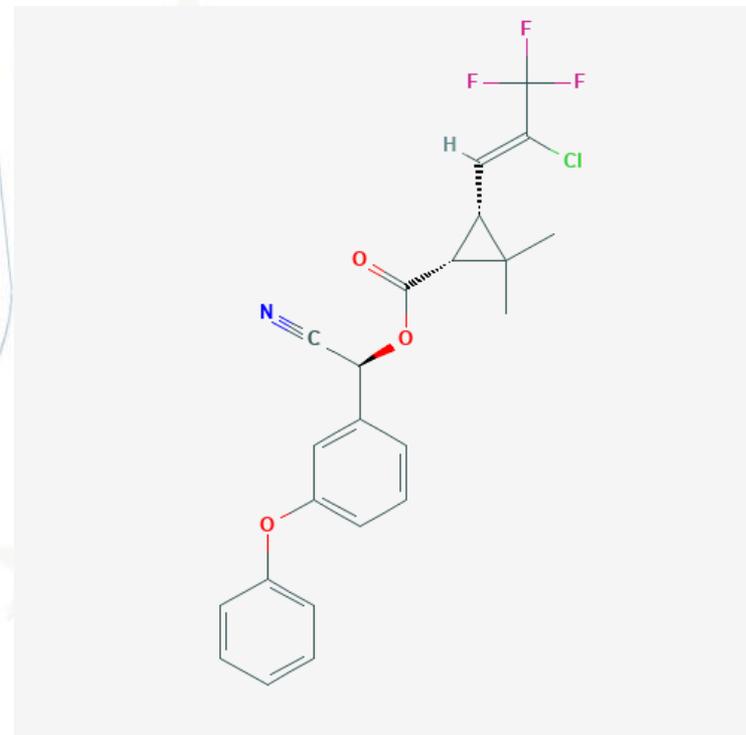


ARfD: 0.005

Source: Reg. (EU) No 1334/2014

## GAMMA- CYHALOTHRIN

(S)- $\alpha$ -cyano-3-phenoxybenzyl (1R)-cis-3-[(Z)-2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoropropenyl]-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate



ARfD: 0.0025

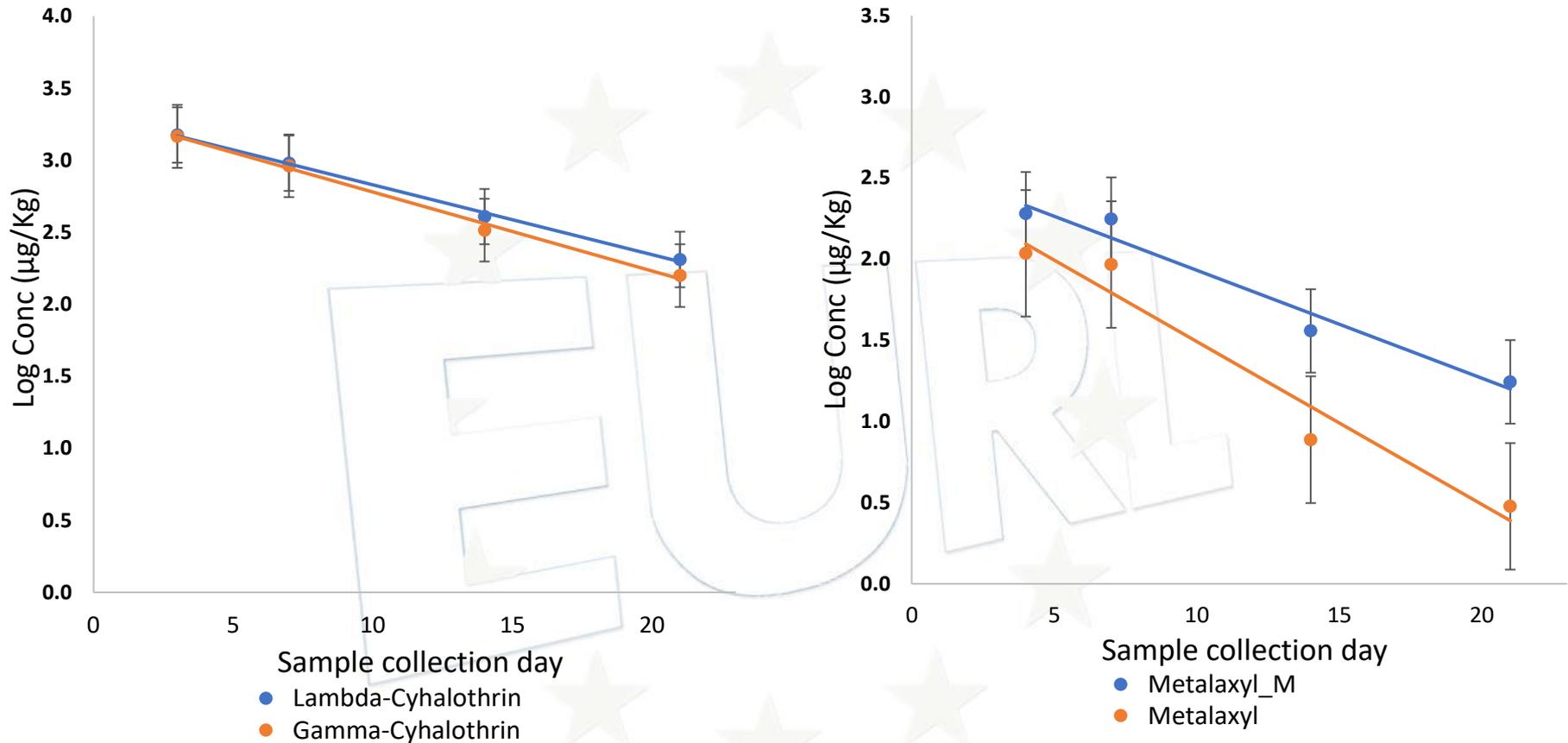
Source: Reg. (EU) No 1334/2014

# INCURRED LAMBDA- CYHALOTHRIN/METALAXYL

Two experiments were carried out in a greenhouse located in Almeria. Lettuces were planted in their grown stage and spiked with a commercial formulation containing the mixture of lambda- cyhalothrin enantiomers. The same experiment was repeated with metalaxyl in tomatoes.



# DEGRADATION SLOPES OF BOTH ENANTIOMERS



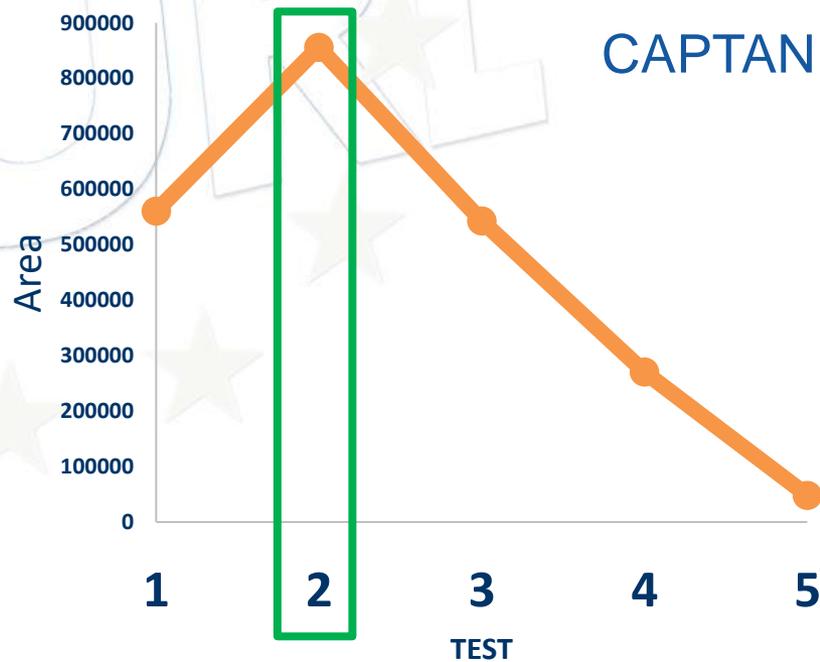
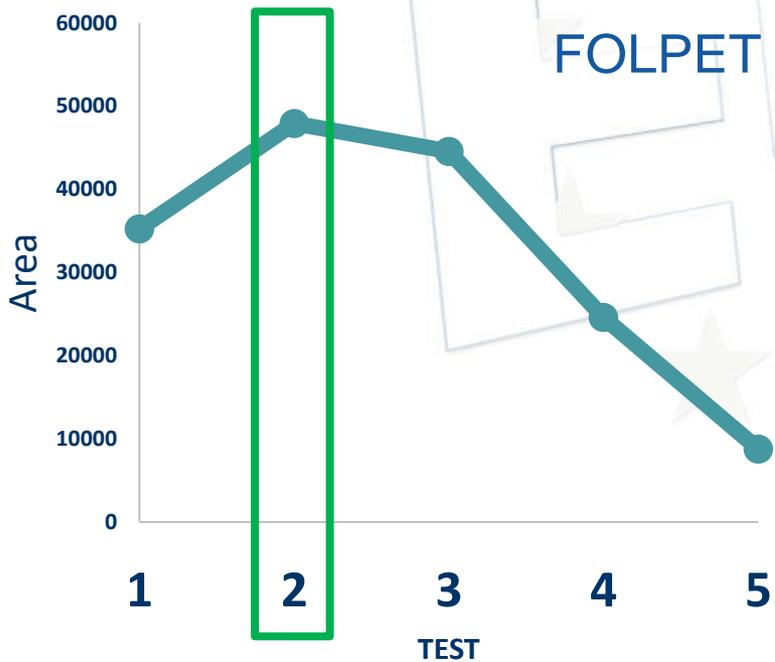
Lambda-cyhalothrin degradation in lettuce was the same for both isomers. However, metalaxyl-M (mefenoxam) degradation in tomato matrix was 2 to 6-times lower than its less active S- enantiomer.

# SFC Overview

- Technical and operational parameters
- Efficacy in Multiresidue Methods
- **Additional Advantages**
  - Lower ion suppression
  - Wider scope
  - Chiral separations
  - **Efficiency with a low ion source temperature**

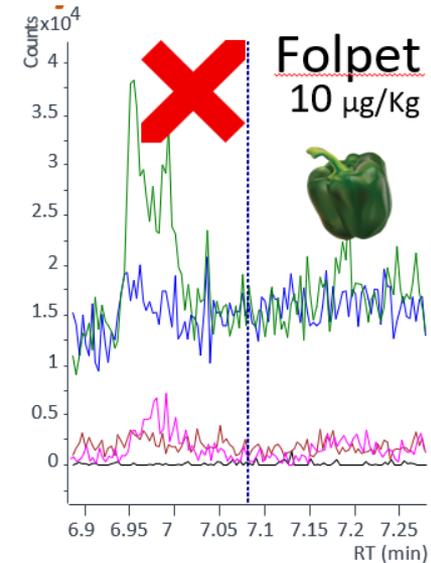
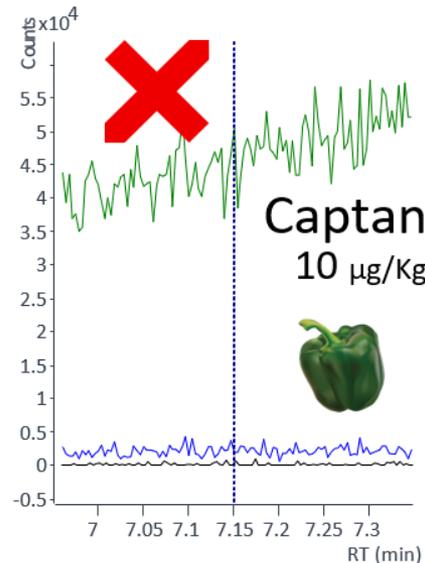
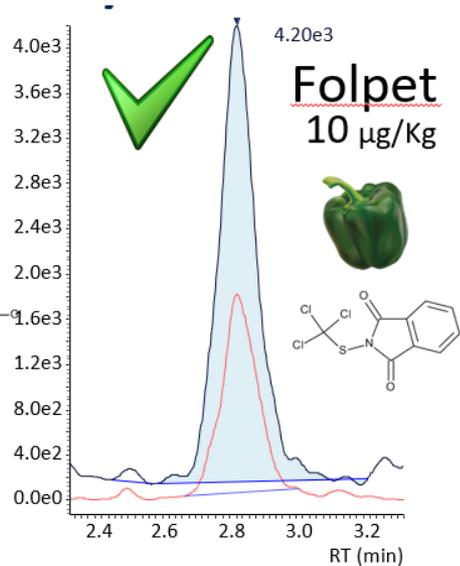
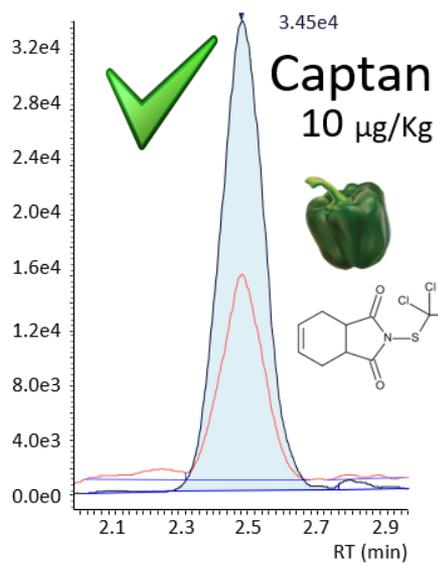
# ION SOURCE OPTIMIZATION

Temperature test ESI	Interface (C°)	DL (C°)	Heat block (C°)
T1	100	100	150
<b>T2</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>200</b>
T3	150	150	300
T4	200	200	300
T5	300	250	400



# SFC-MS/MS

# GC-MS/MS



Same vial: 100 µg/Kg

# SFC-MS/MS

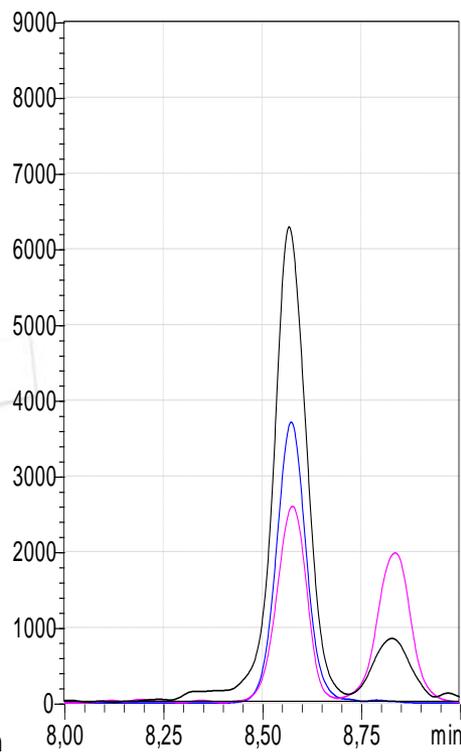
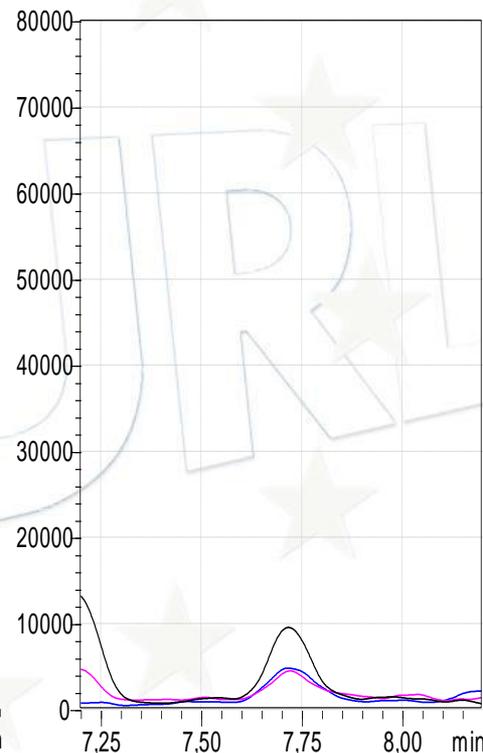
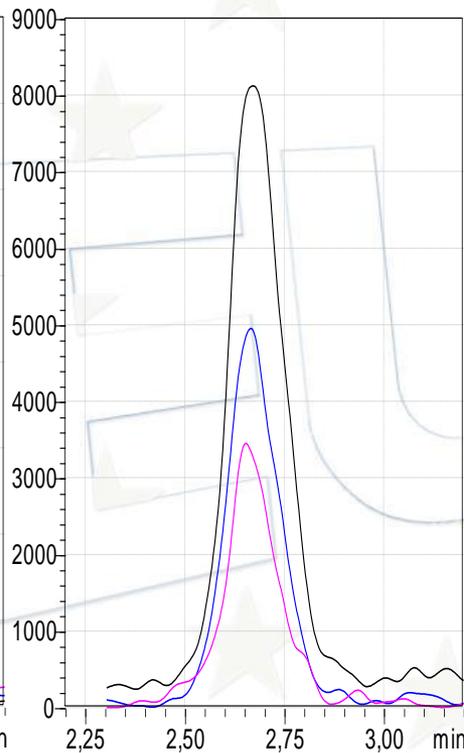
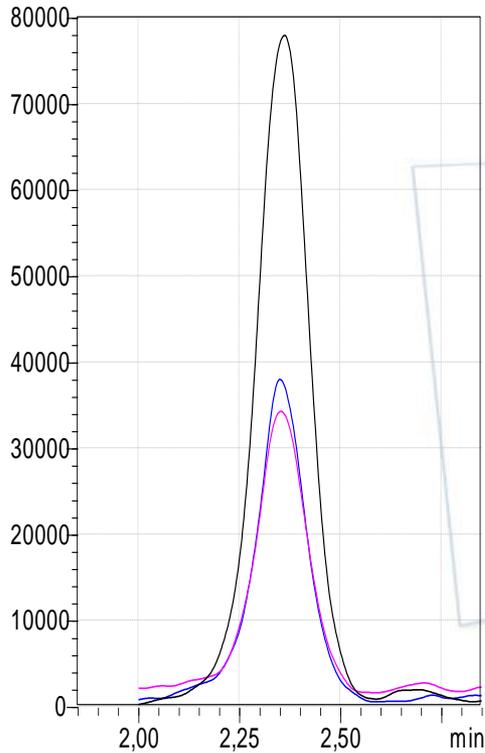
# LC-MS/MS

Captan

Folpet

Captan

Folpet



316,7>264,0  
 316,7>299,9  
 316,7>79,1

314,6>130,1  
 314,6>261,8  
 314,6>102,0

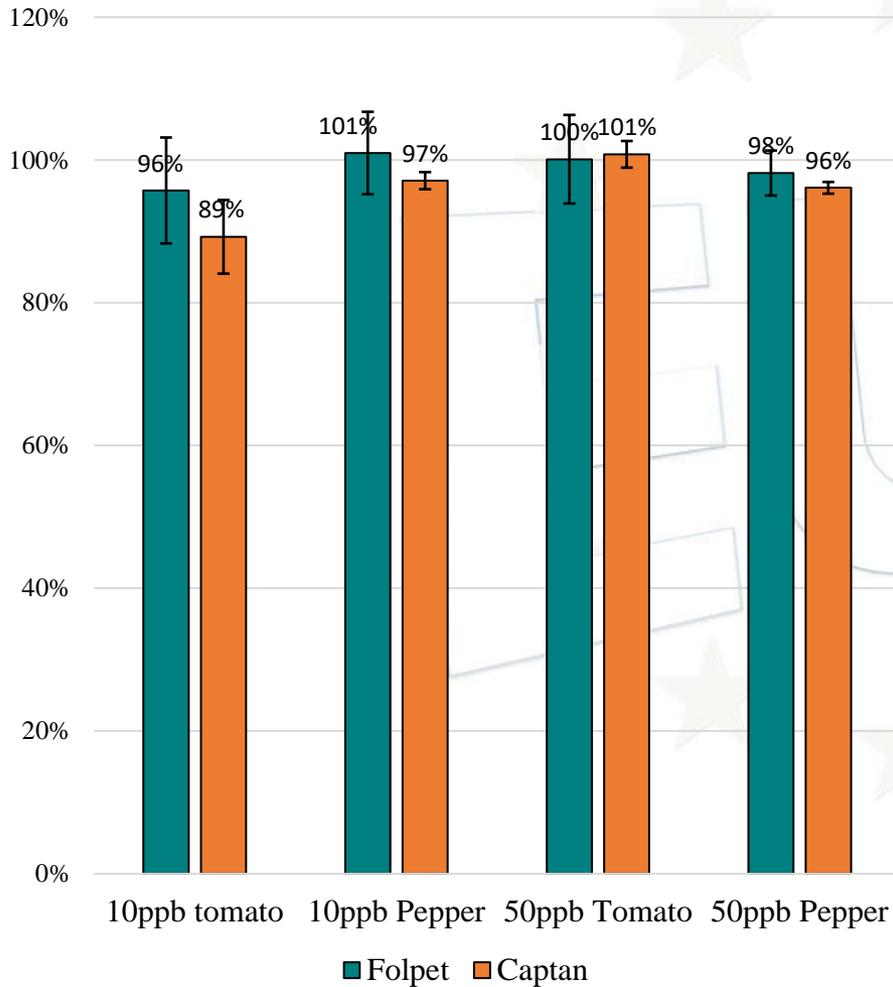
316,7>264,0  
 316,7>299,9  
 316,7>79,1

314,6>130,1  
 314,6>261,8  
 314,6>102,0

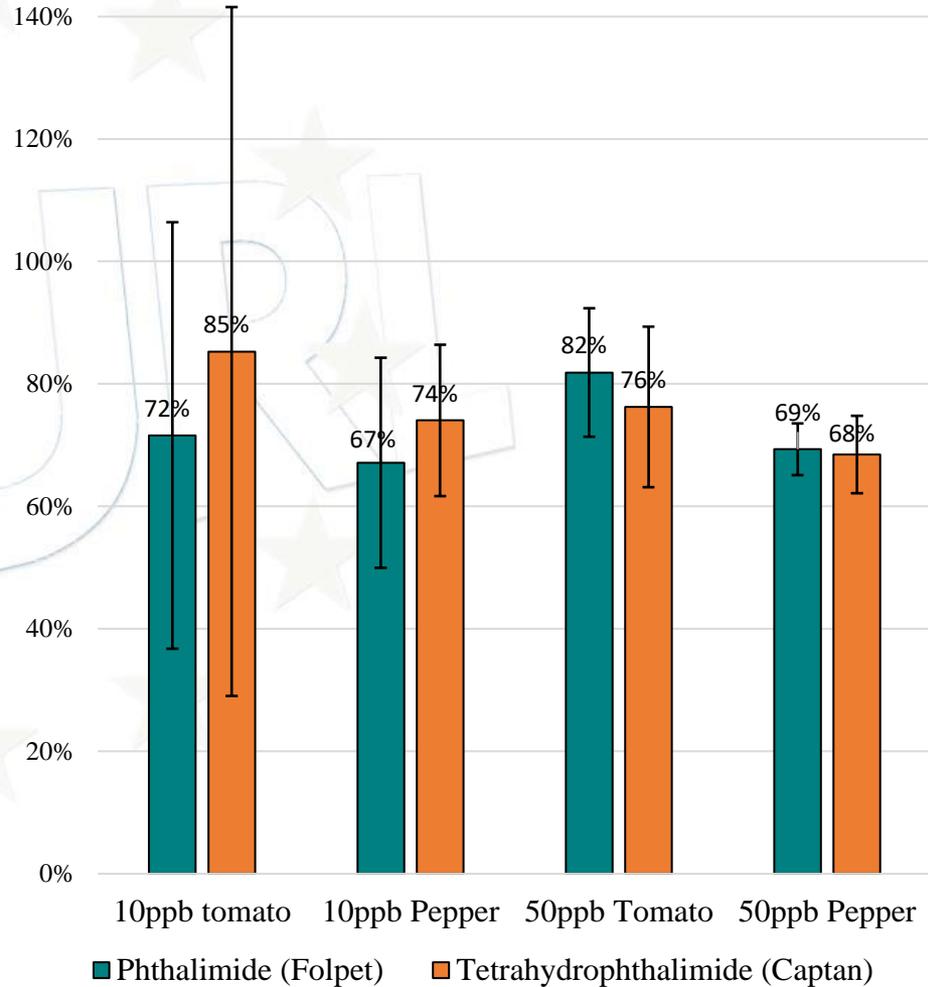
# Recoveries

(same extraction)

## SFC-MS/MS



## GC-MS/MS



# FOR FURTHER DATA:



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Article

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## Supercritical Fluid Chromatography and Gas Chromatography Coupled to Tandem Mass Spectrometry for the Analysis of Pyrethroids in Vegetable Matrices: A Comparative Study

María Murcia-Morales, Víctor Cutillas, and Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba<sup>a,\*</sup>

Agrifood Campus of International Excellence (ceiA3), European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues in Fruit and Vegetables, Department of Hydrogeology and Analytical Chemistry, University of Almería, Carretera Sacramento s/n, La Cañada de San Urbano, 04120 Almería, Spain

Supercritical fluid chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry for the analysis of pesticide residues in dried spices. Benefits and drawbacks

Víctor Cutillas<sup>a</sup>, María Murcia-Morales<sup>a</sup>, María del Mar Gómez-Ramos<sup>a</sup>, Sherif M. Taha<sup>b</sup>, Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba<sup>a,\*</sup>

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**Talanta**

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Supercritical fluid chromatography separation of chiral pesticides: Unique capabilities to study cyhalothrin and metalaxyl as examples

Víctor Cutillas, Mar García-Valverde, María del Mar Gómez-Ramos, Francisco José Díaz-Galiano, Carmen Ferrer, Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba<sup>\*</sup>

European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues in Fruit & Vegetables, University of Almería, Agrifood Campus of International Excellence (ceiA3), Ctra. Sacramento S/N, La Cañada de San Urbano, 04120, Almería, Spain

Overcoming difficulties in the evaluation of captan and folpet residues by supercritical fluid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry

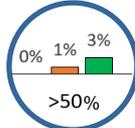
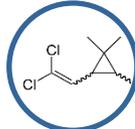
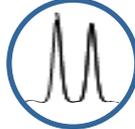
Víctor Cutillas<sup>a</sup>, Florencia Jesús<sup>b</sup>, Carmen Ferrer<sup>a</sup>, Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues in Fruit & Vegetables. University of Almería, Agrifood Campus of International Excellence (ceiA3), Ctra. Sacramento S/N, La Cañada de San Urbano, 04120, Almería, Spain

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# CONCLUSIONS

-  **7,2 min SHORT RUN TIMES**
-  **LOWER SOLVENT CONSUMPTION**
-  **REDUCTION OF ION SUPPRESSION IN DIFFICULT MATRICES**
-  **SCOPE ENLARGEMENT (PYRETHROIDS)**
-  **FAST CHIRAL SEPARATIONS**
-  **SENSITIVITY WITH A LOW ION SOURCE TEMPERATURE**

# EUURL-FV team



<http://www.eurl-pesticides.eu>

**Thank You  
for Your Attention**



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