

Analytical Chemistry: How do you know if you're right?

Melaine Oliveira Couch, PhD in Statistics

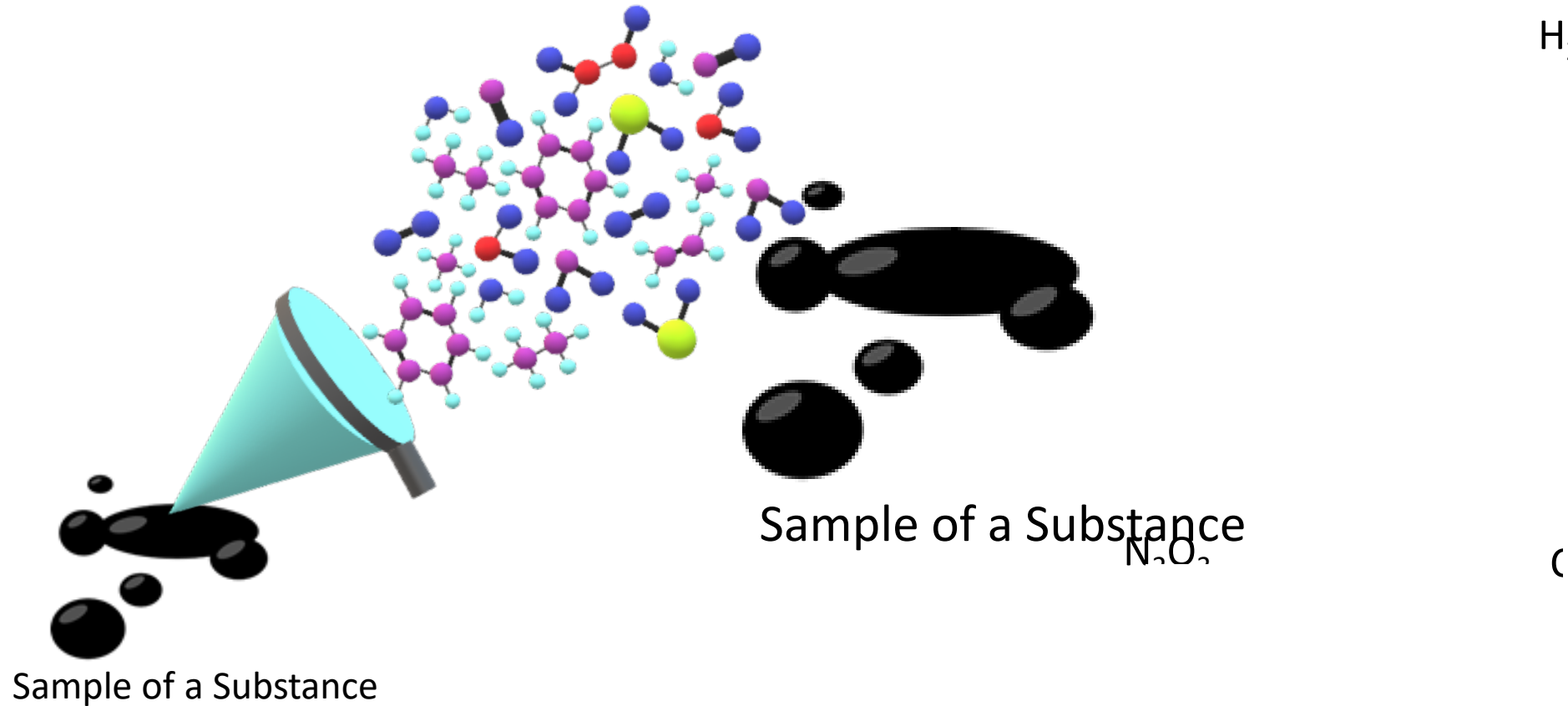
Postdoctoral Scholar at National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL) – MagLab

Advisor: Christopher Hendrickson



Analytical Chemistry

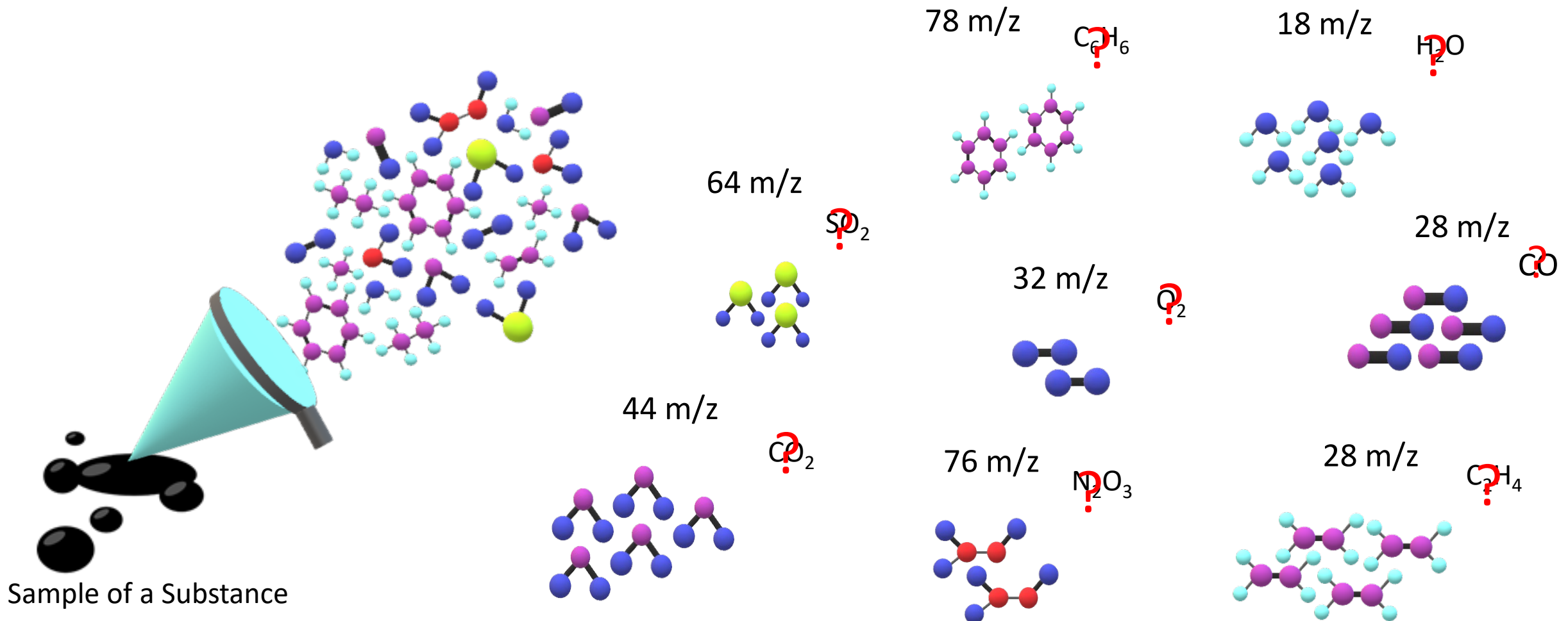
Examines substances by separating them into their chemical components and identifying each one and their abundances.





How to identify Chemical Compositions ?

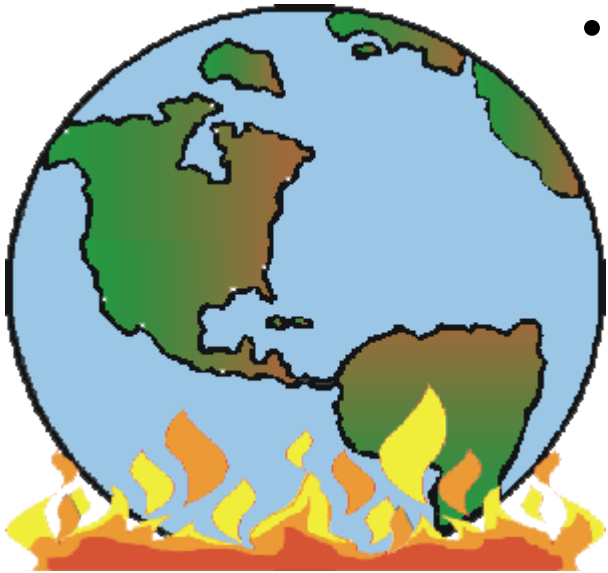
Mass Spectrometry Analysis



Applications

- Climate Change:

Analyze the effects of Global Warming



http://kpe-kastor.kas.sch.gr/energy1/eikones/backgrounds/earth_on_fire_an.gif

- Carbon dioxide and pollution monitoring



- Carbon dating



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4c/August_1,_2012_-_Masiakasaurus_knopferi_Fossil_Partial_Skeleton_on_Display_at_the_Royal_Ontario_Museum_\(FMNH_PR_2481\).jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4c/August_1,_2012_-_Masiakasaurus_knopferi_Fossil_Partial_Skeleton_on_Display_at_the_Royal_Ontario_Museum_(FMNH_PR_2481).jpg)



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/Carnotaurus_LA.jpg

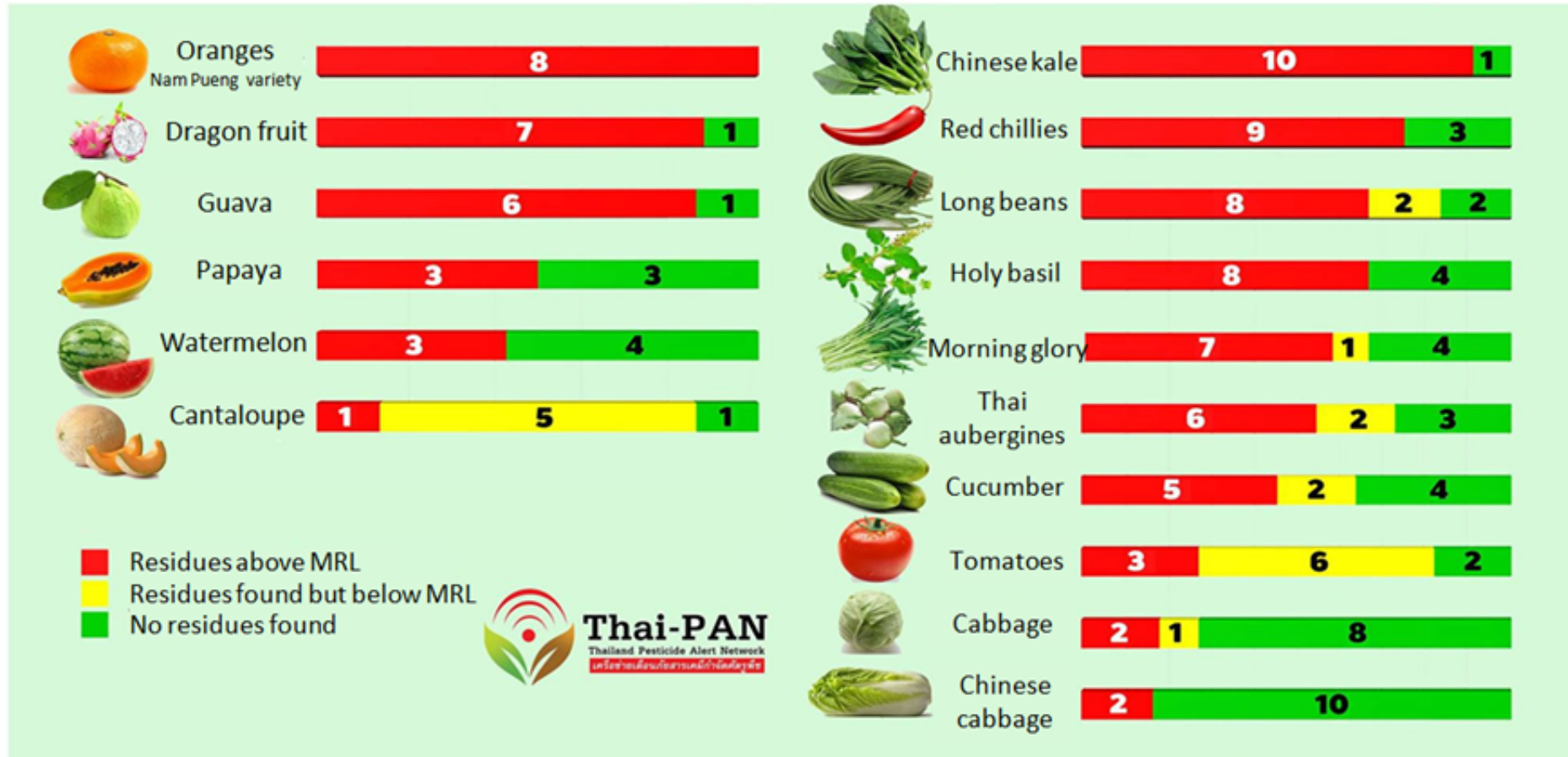
http://www.soil-net.com/album/Soils_Rocks/slides/Fossil%20Amonite.jpg

- Soil contamination assessment
- Food contamination detection
- Pesticides Control
- Drinking water quality



2nd Report on pesticide contamination monitoring on fruits and vegetables 2016

Comparison of fruit and vegetables with residues above maximum limit (MRL)



158 samples were collected on 23-29 August 2016, sent to laboratory certified to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 standard, tested for over 450 different chemicals

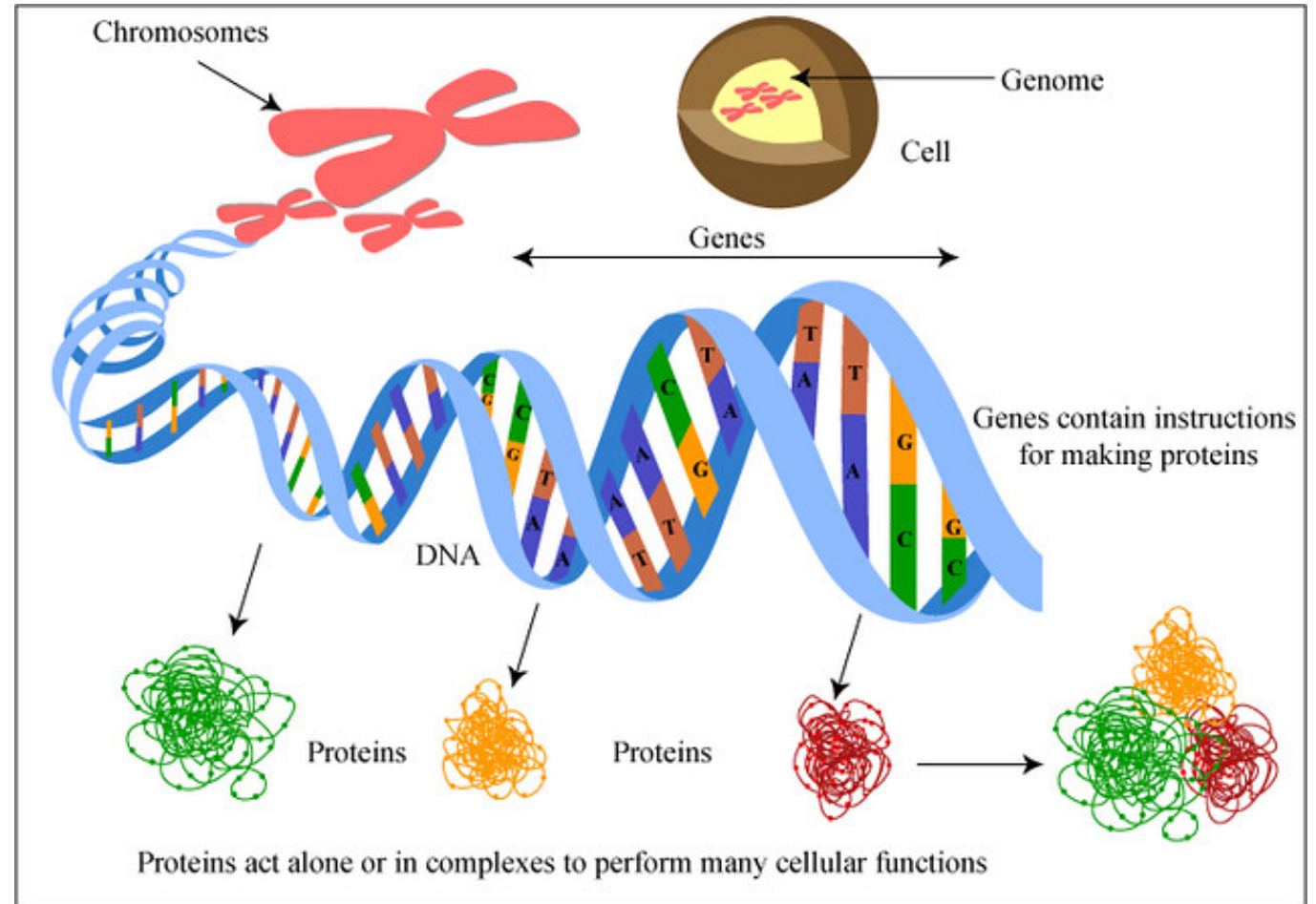
- Drug testing and discovery
- Drug abuse confirmation



Forensic analysis:

- Trace evidence:
 - Fibers in carpet
 - Polymers in paint
- Explosive residues:
 - Bombing investigation
 - Fire Accelerants

- Genetics: Protein identification and Mutations
- Disease screening
- Cancer screening and diagnostics





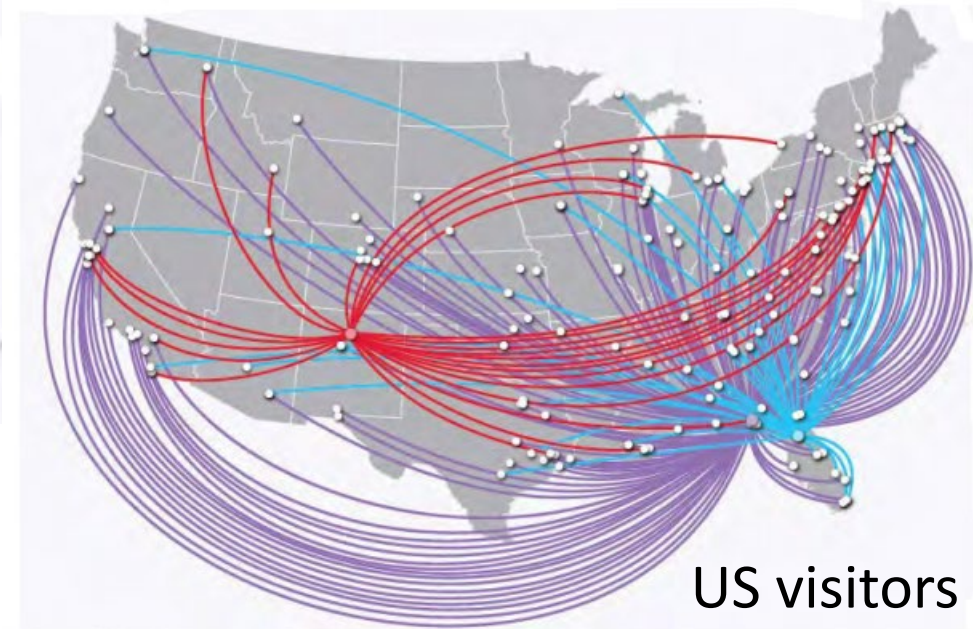
FTICR-Mass Spectrometry

(Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Mass Spectrometry)



World visitors

Measures the 'weight' (in m/z) of ions based on the cyclotron frequency of the ions in a fixed magnetic field.

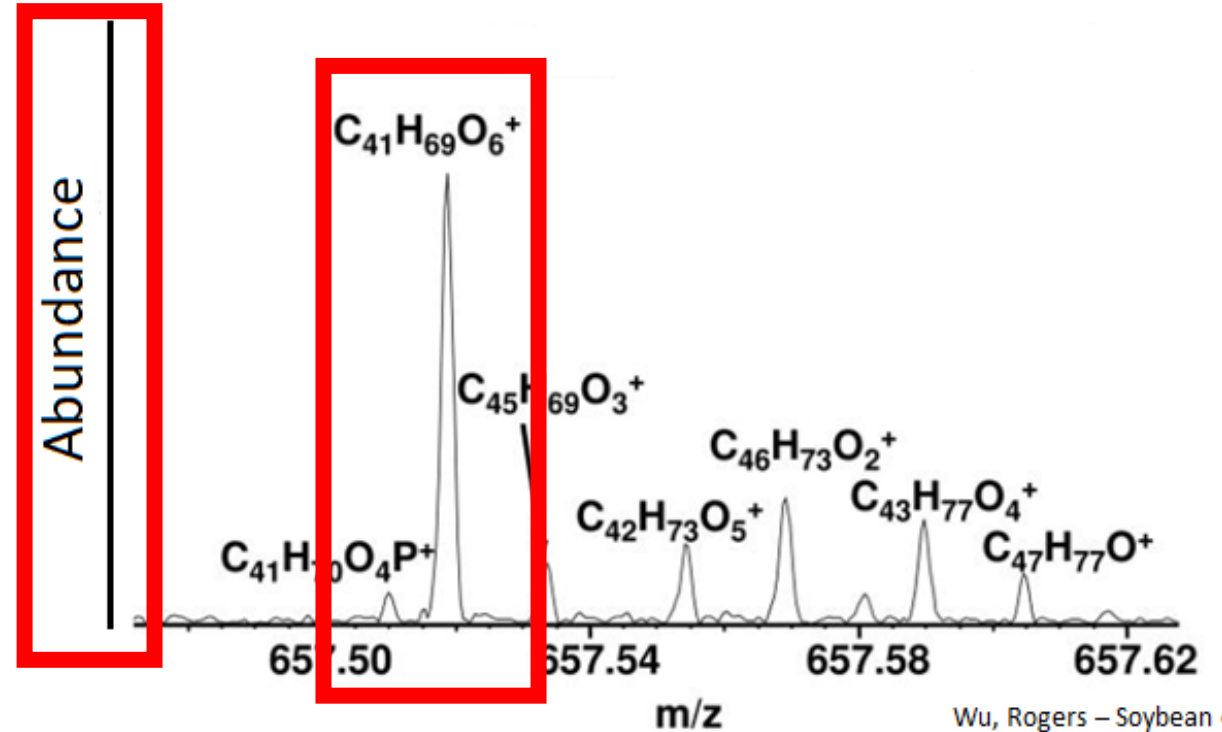
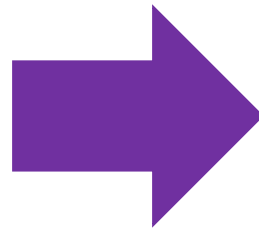
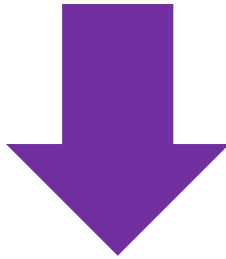
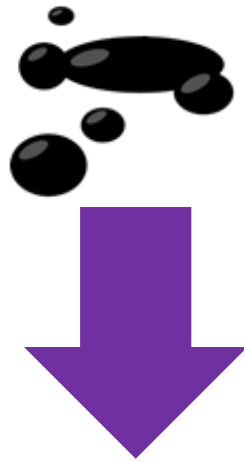


US visitors

Mass Spectrometry Analysis



Assigning a molecular formula for each component/peak by their 'weight' (m/z)

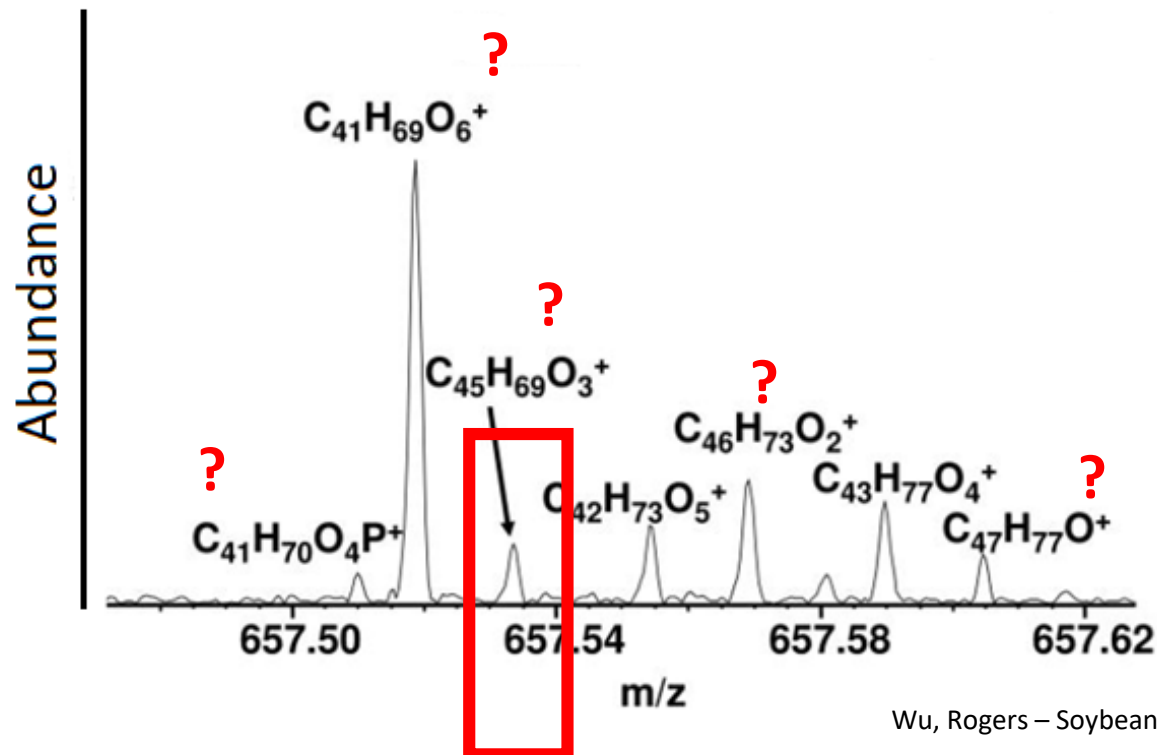


Wu, Rogers – Soybean oil



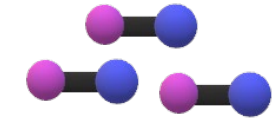
How do you know if your molecular formula assignments are correct?

There is uncertainty and noise in the process

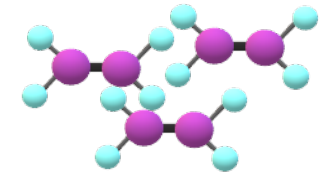


28 m/z = ?

CO



C_2H_4

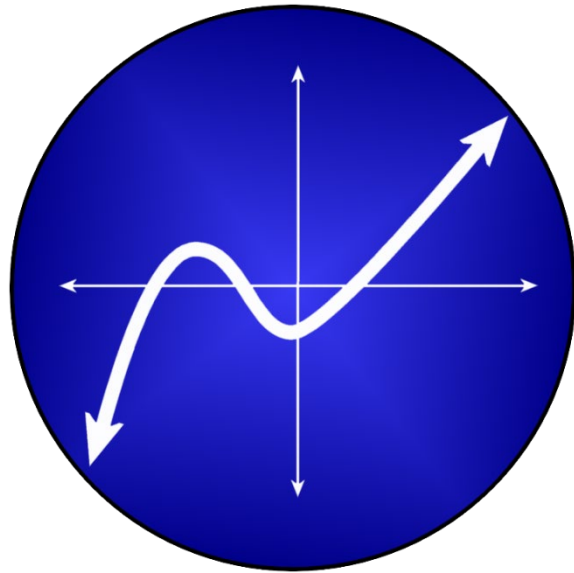




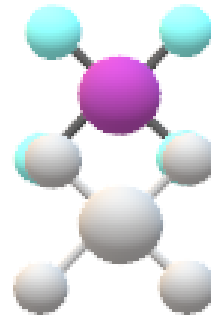
Goal

To measure the uncertainty of substance identification

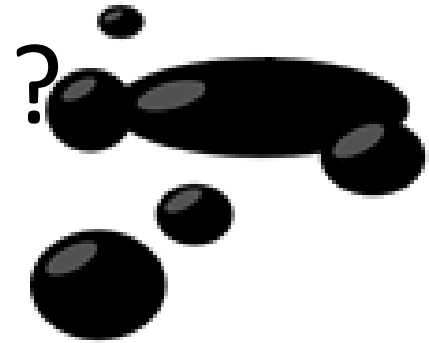
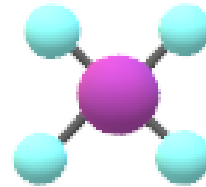
Statistical Model



$P(\text{CH}_4 \text{ correct}) = ?$



||
?

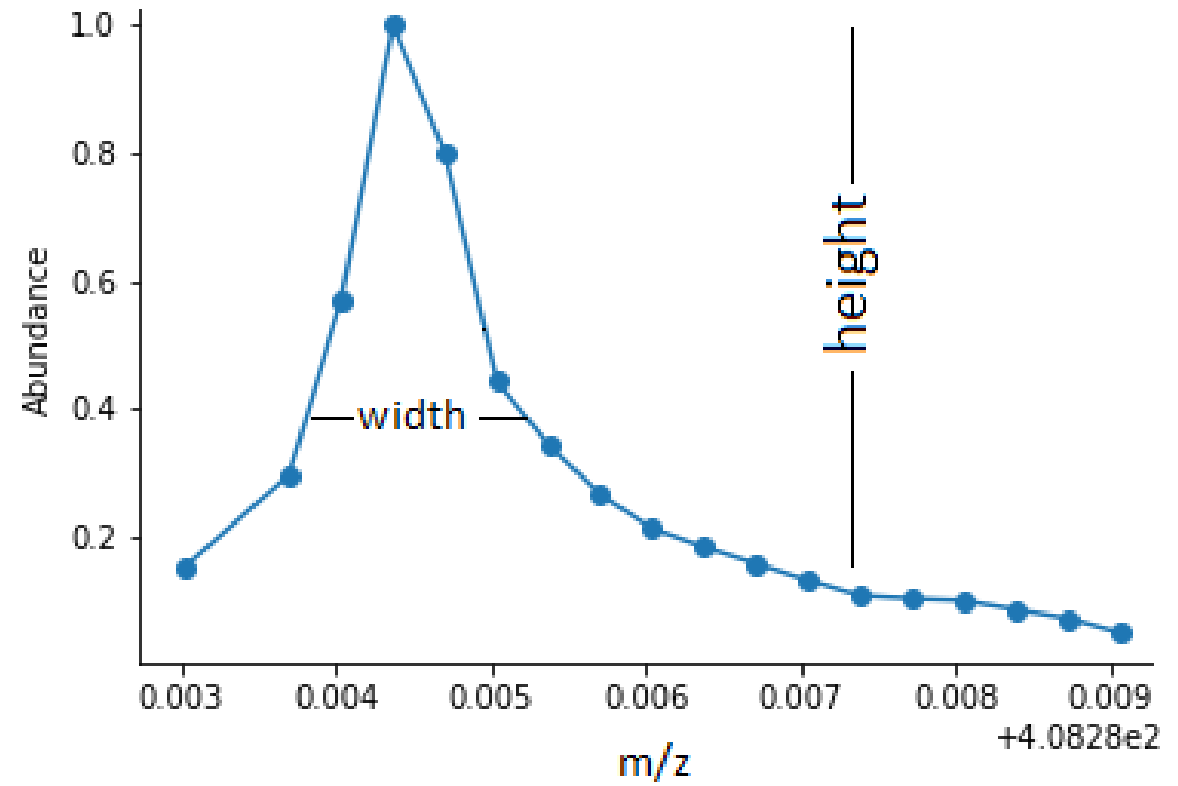
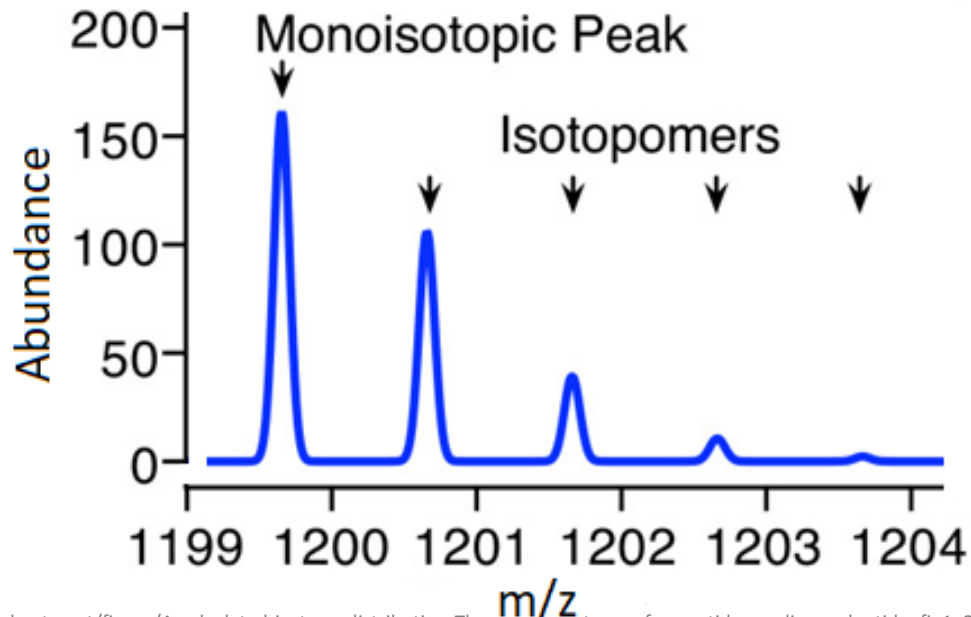




Statistical Approach

Capture the uncertainty of molecular formula assignments

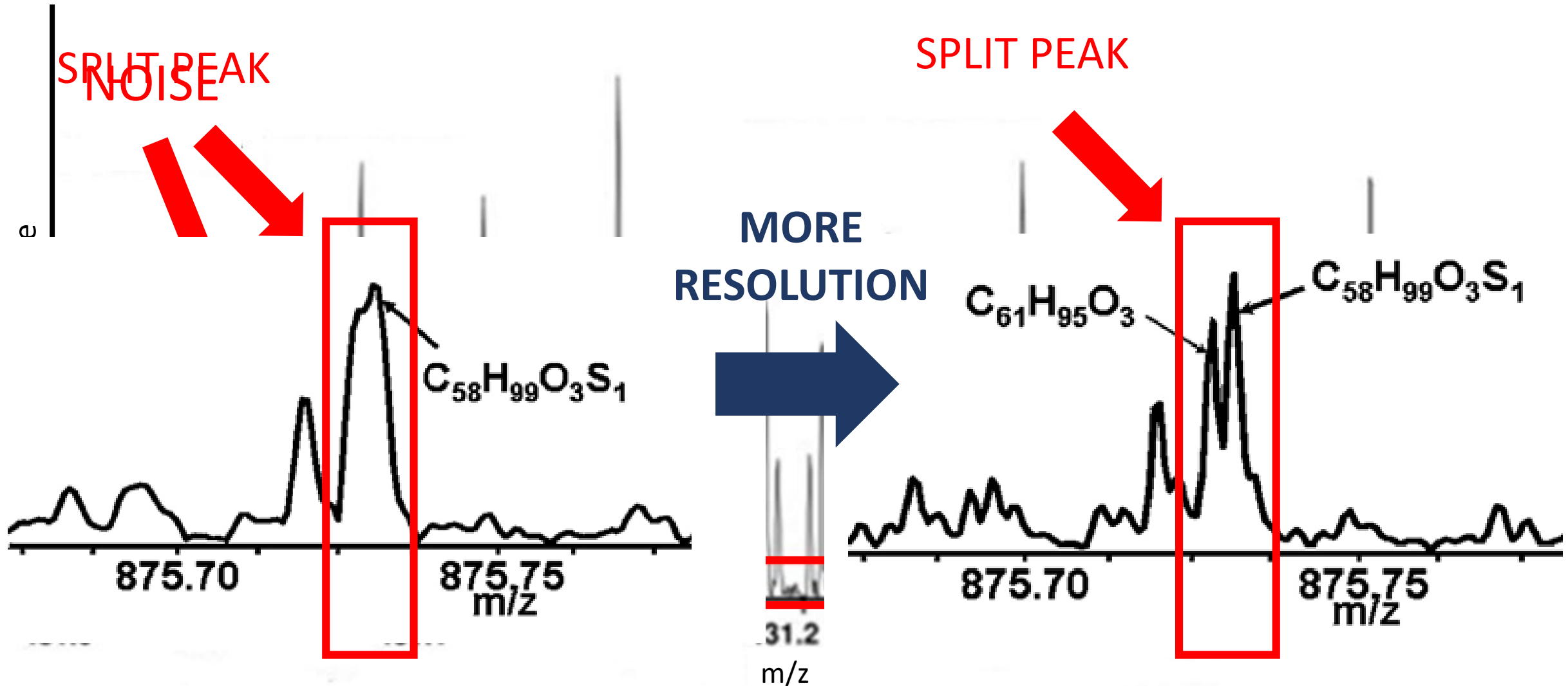
Theoretical m/z	Identified Component	Observed m/z
214.159026066	$C_{15}H_{20}N_1$	214.15902
466.252926451	$C_{35}H_{32}N_1$	466.25292
523.379767240	$C_{33}H_{52}N_1O_1S_1^{13}C_1$	523.37927
⋮	⋮	⋮





Uncertainty of assignments

(noise, split peaks = non-unique theoretical candidate)





Direct Contributions of our Model

- Gives the confidence in each chemical component identified
- Improve research in several fields
- How much resolution is enough?

Thank you!

Supported by NSF and the State of Florida.



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