

# ***Automated Parallel Derivatization Strategy to Improve Metabolites Analysis in Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry***

Maria Girard<sup>1\*</sup>, David Ruskic<sup>1\*</sup>, Renzo Picenoni<sup>2</sup>, Günter Böhm<sup>2</sup>, Gérard Hopfgartner<sup>1</sup>

1) Life Sciences Mass Spectrometry, Department of Inorganic and  
Analytical Chemistry, University of Geneva, Geneva,  
Switzerland

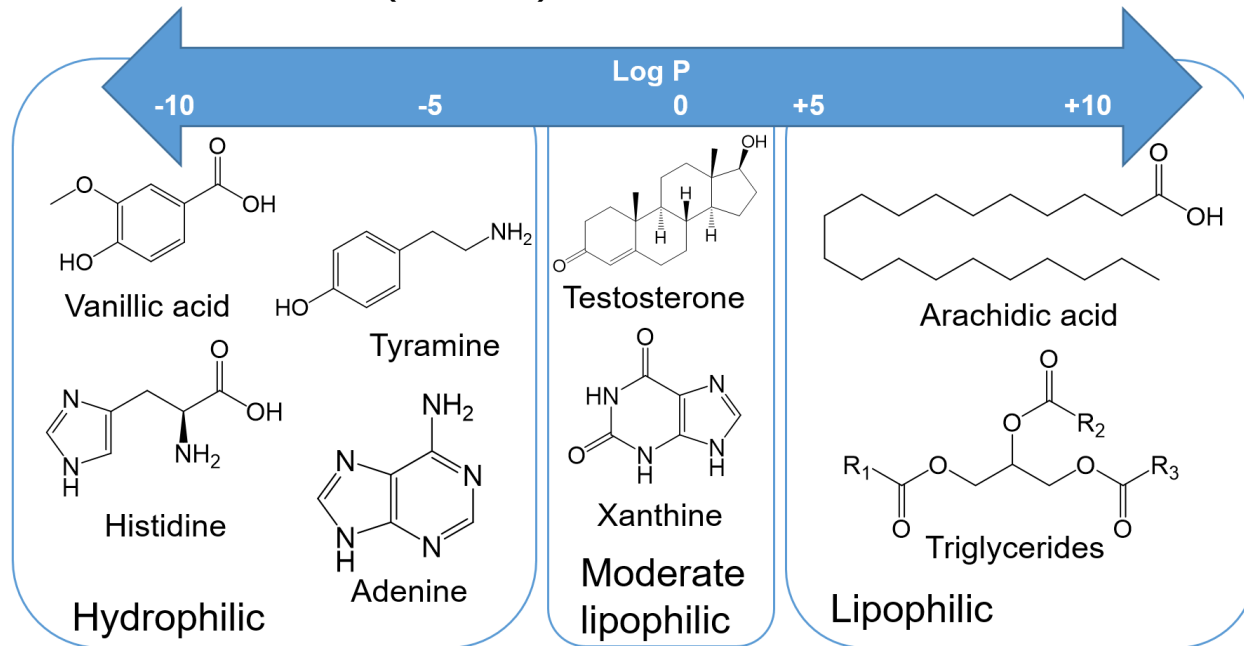
2) CTC Analytics, Zwingen, Switzerland

CHanalysis, Beatenberg, Switzerland

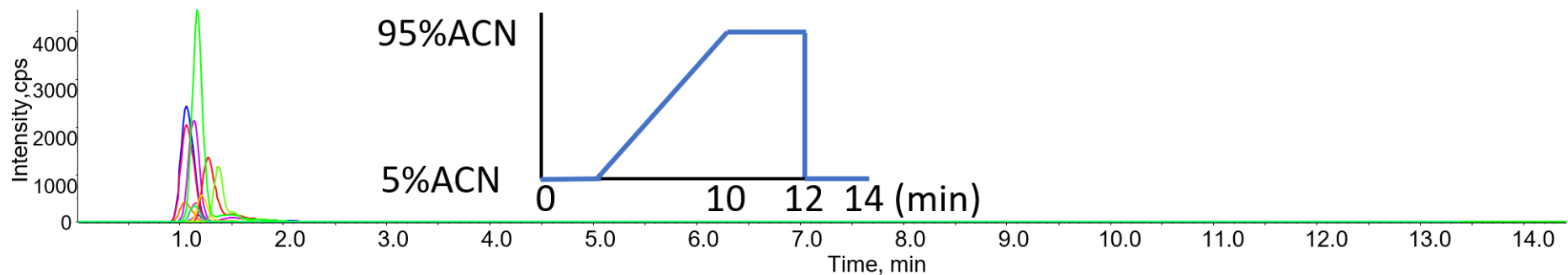
April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS) for polar metabolites

Human Metabolome Database (HMDB) contains 114,098 metabolite entries



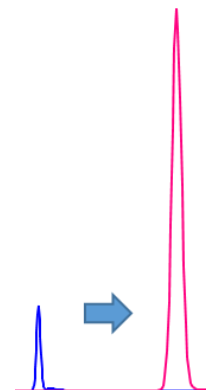
LC-MS analysis of polar metabolites



# Benefits and constraints of chemical derivatization in LC-MS

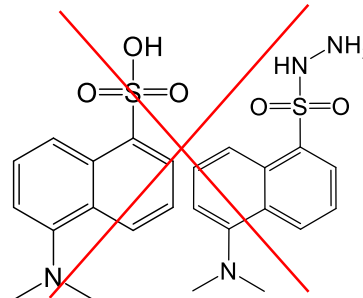
## Chemical Derivatization

- Enhanced retention time in LC
- Improved MS response factor
- Lower limit of detection and quantification
- Signature fragments for QUAL/QUANT



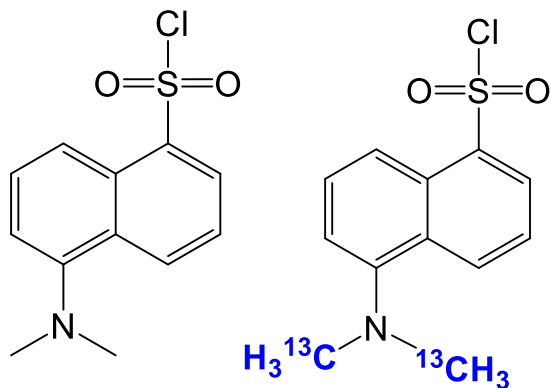
## Drawbacks

- Excess of derivatization agent
- Side reaction products
- Reaction kinetic is analyte dependent
- No single derivatization reagent for multifunctional compounds

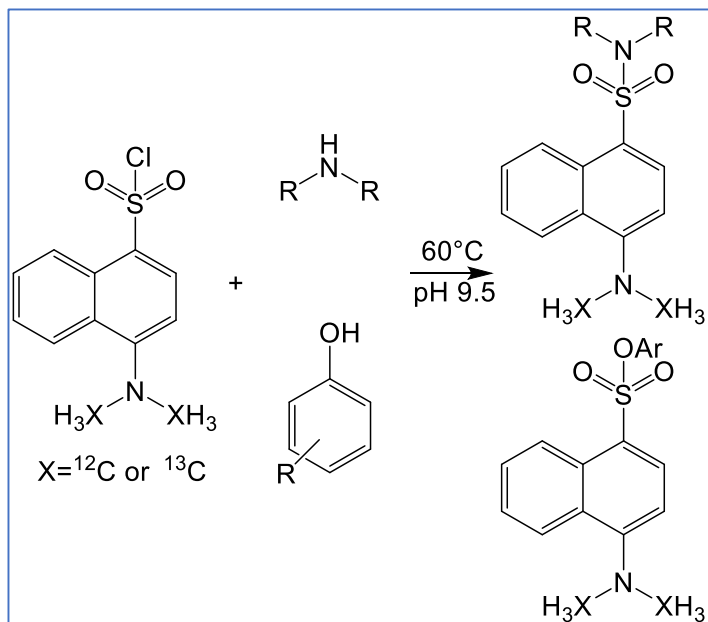


# Derivatization chemistry

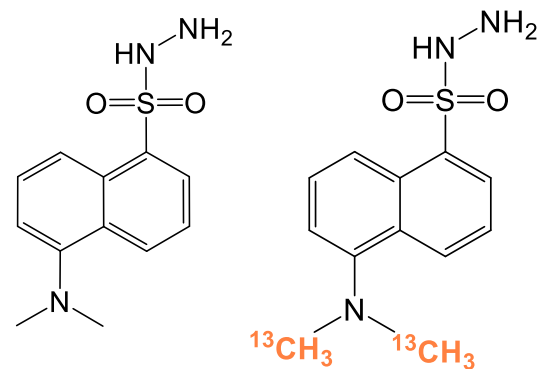
## Dansyl chloride



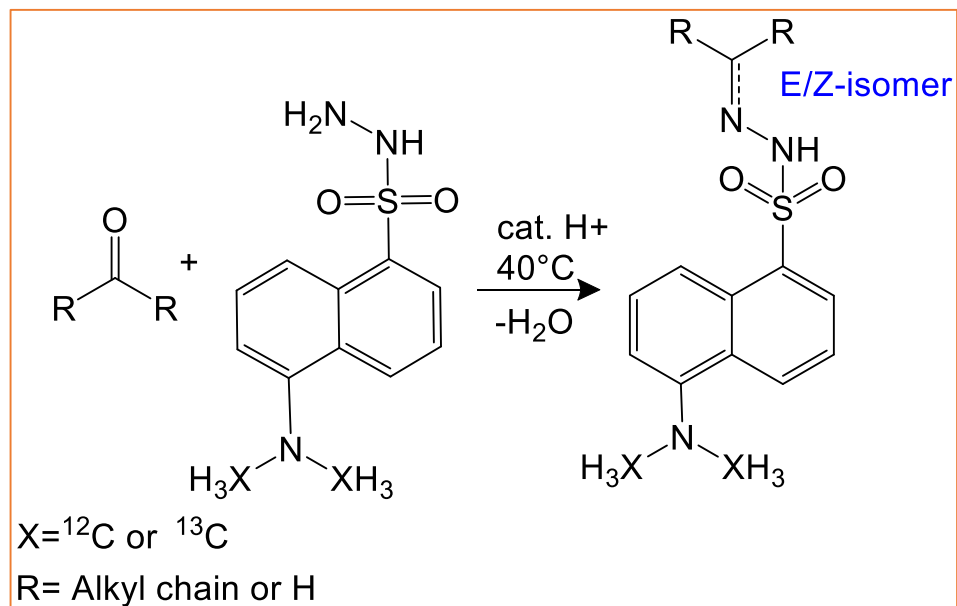
Dansylation reaction



## Dansylhydrazine

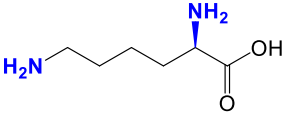
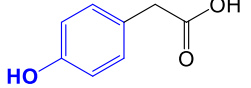
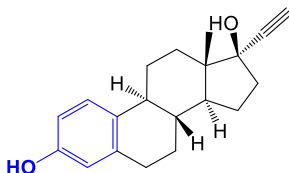
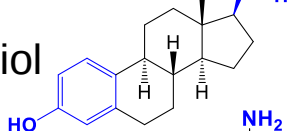
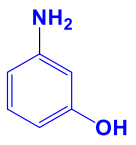
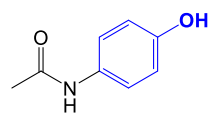


Hydrazone formation



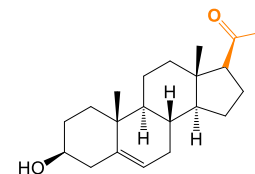
# Model compounds

## Phenols and amines

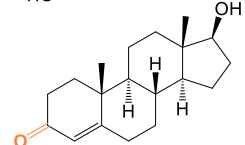
- L-Lysine 
- 4-phenylacetic acid 
- Ethinyl estradiol 
- Estradiol 
- 3-aminophenol 
- Acetaminophen 

## Aldehydes and ketones

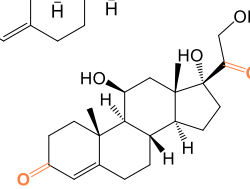
- Pregnenolone



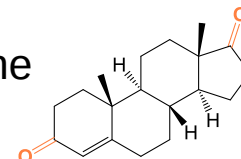
- Testosterone



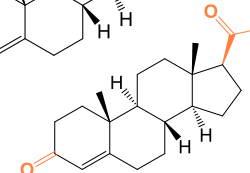
- Hydrocortisone



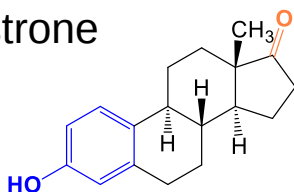
- Androstenedione



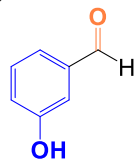
- Progesterone



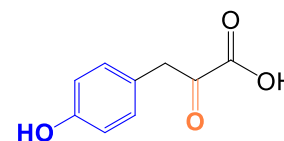
- Estrone



- 3-Hydroxybenzaldehyde



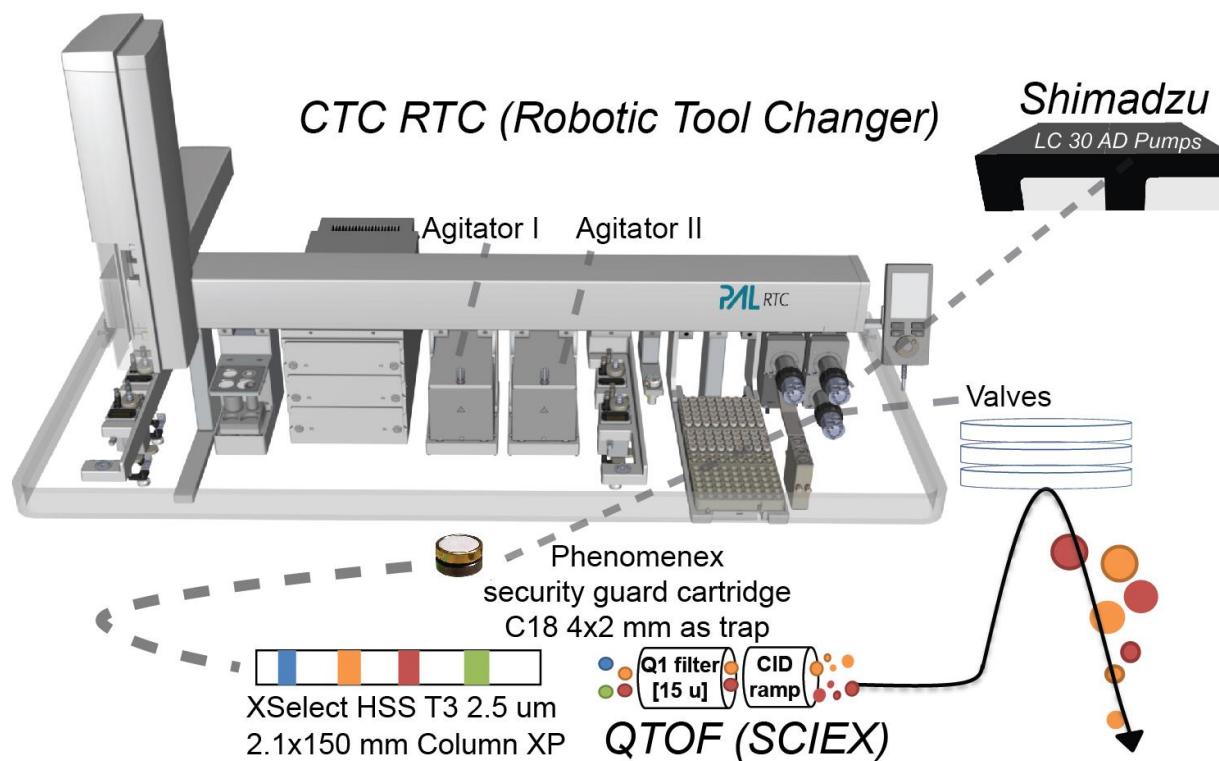
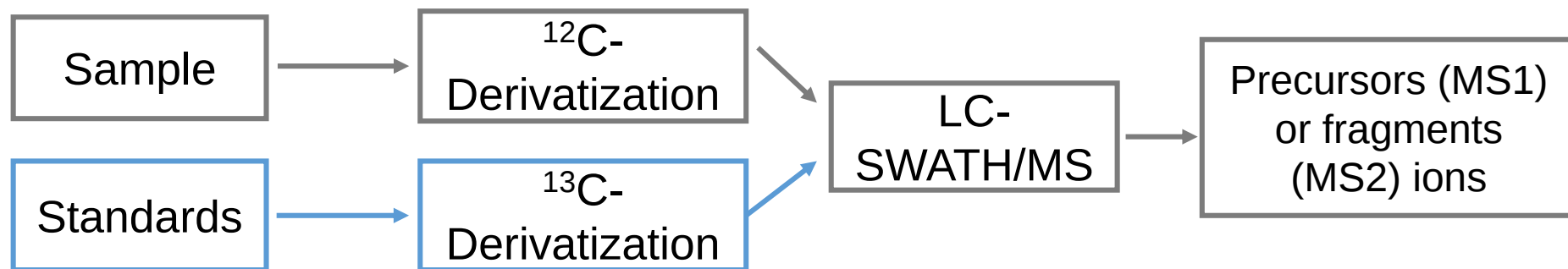
- 4-Hydroxyphenylpyruvic acid



# Automated Parallel derivatization using Dansyl-Cl and Dansyl-Hz

## Sample preparation

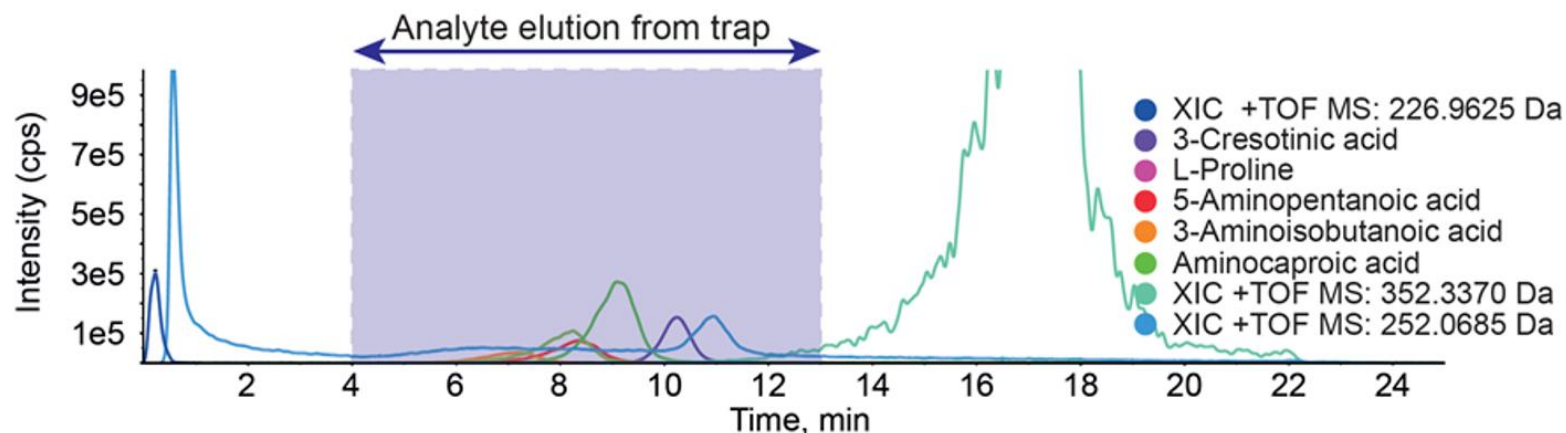
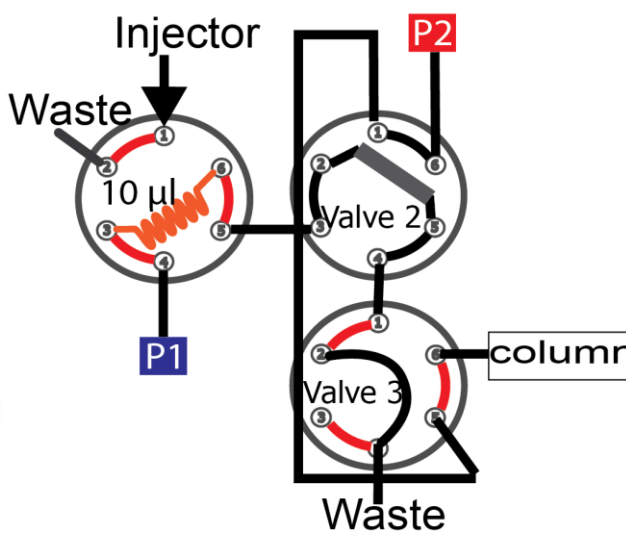
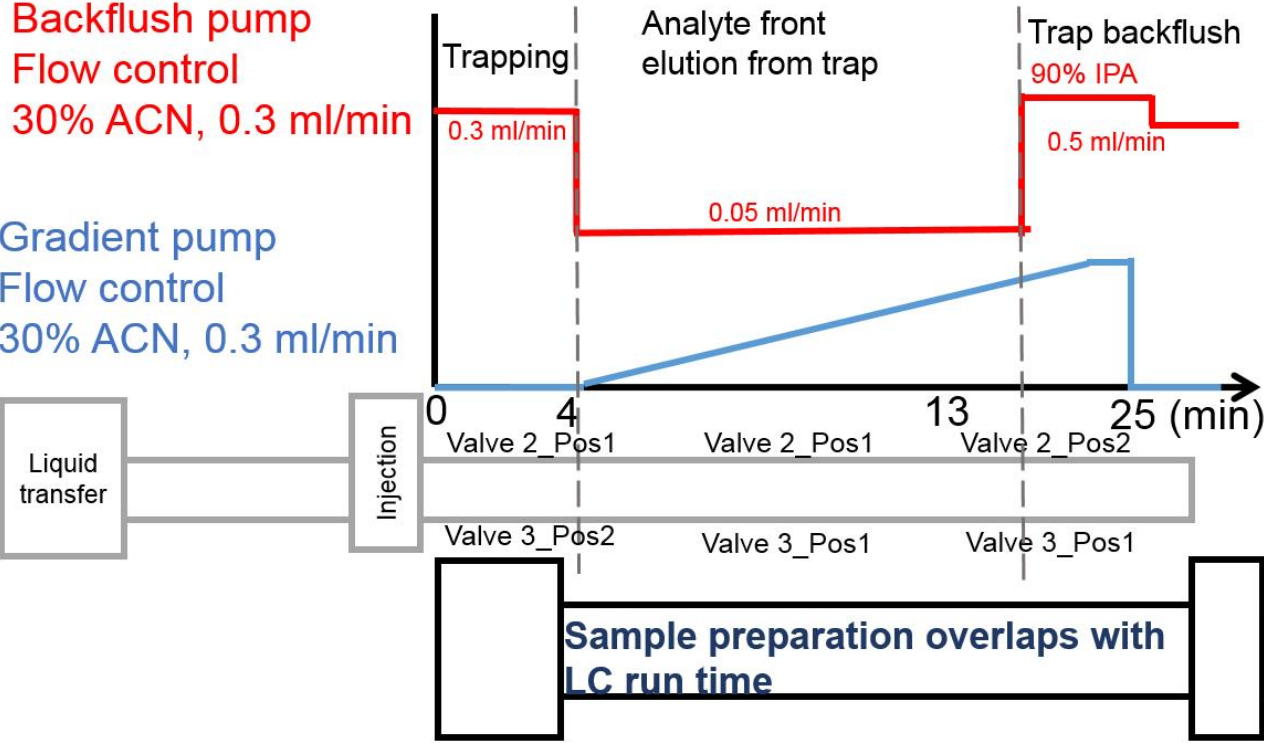
## Quantification



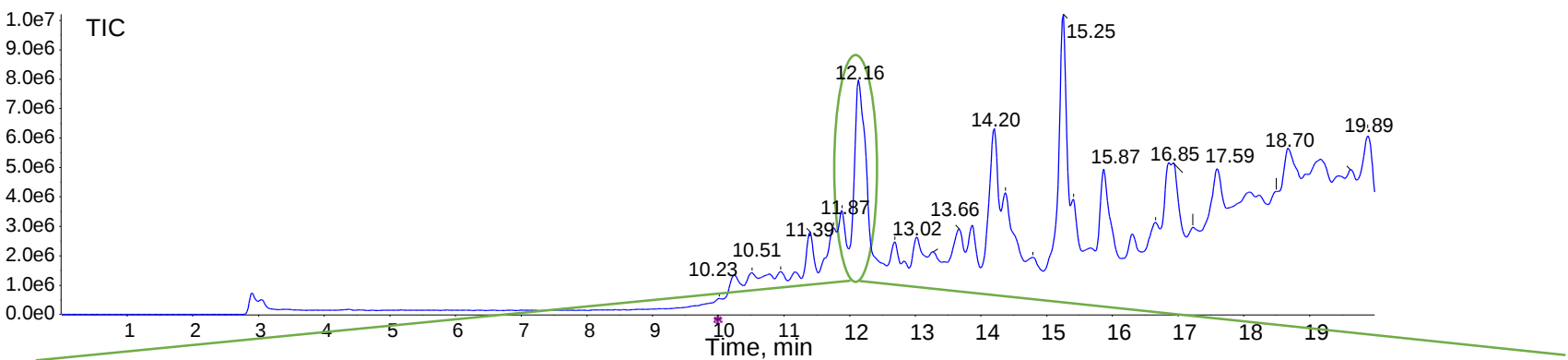
# Dual column switching setup

Backflush pump  
Flow control  
30% ACN, 0.3 ml/min

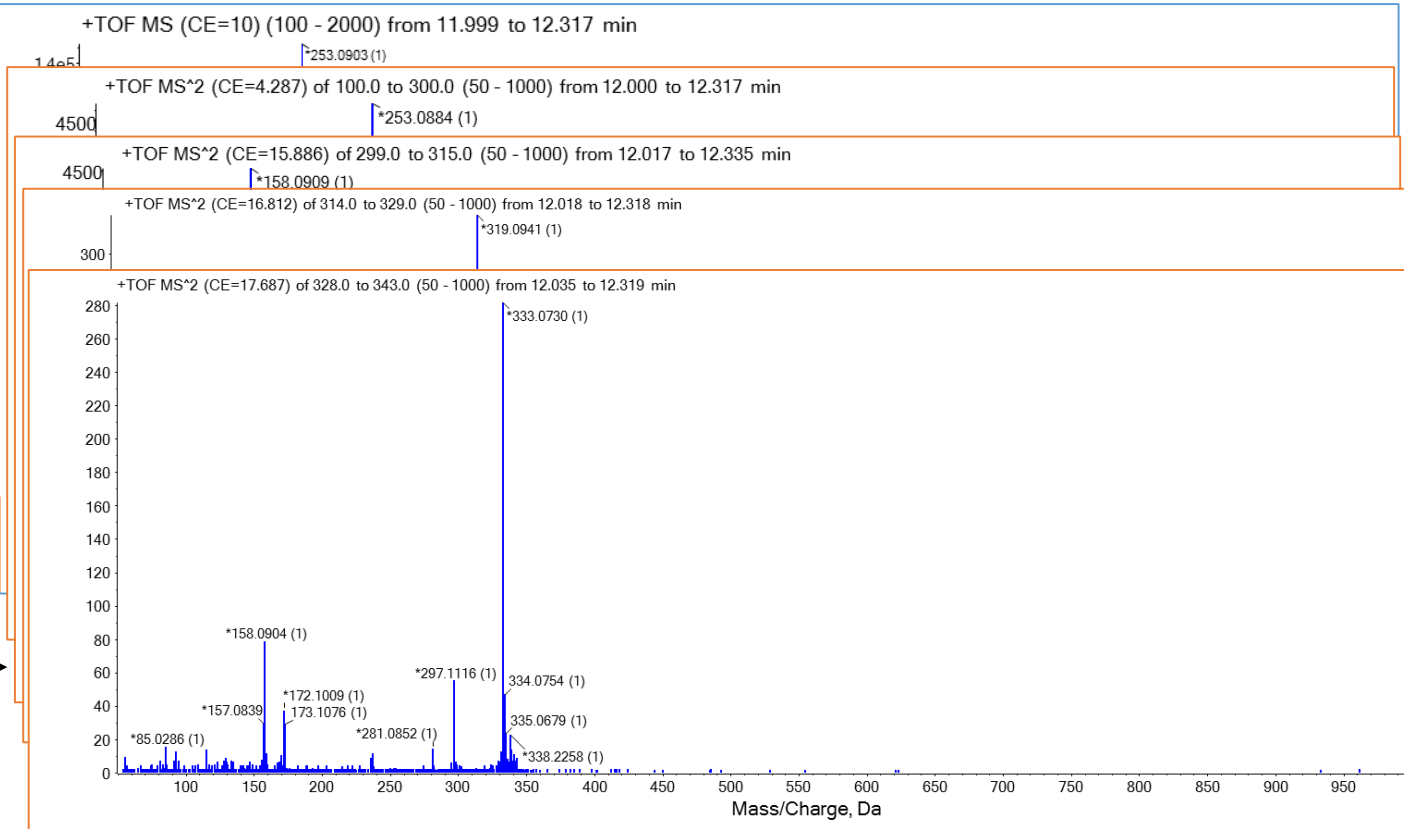
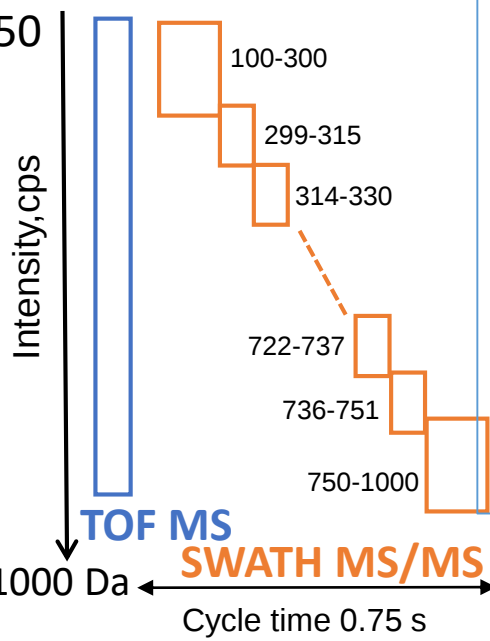
Gradient pump  
Flow control  
30% ACN, 0.3 ml/min



# SWATH-MS, Data Independent acquisition

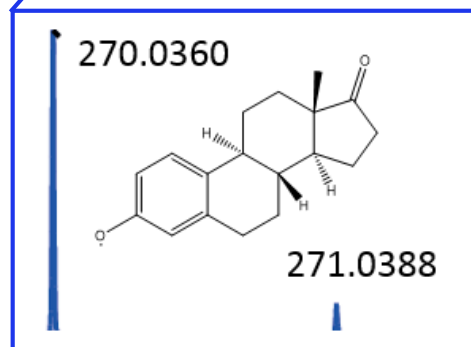
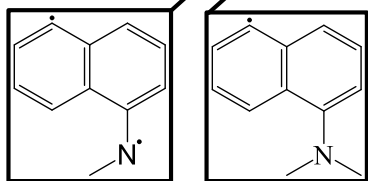
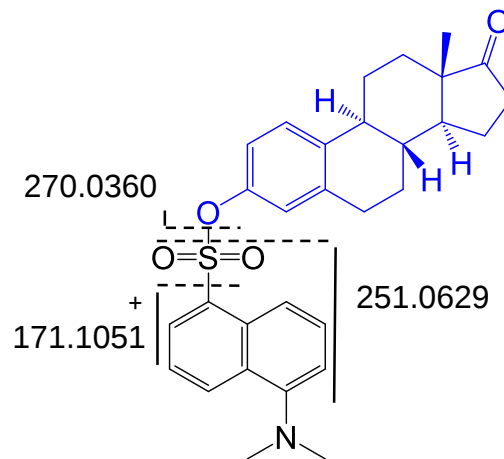
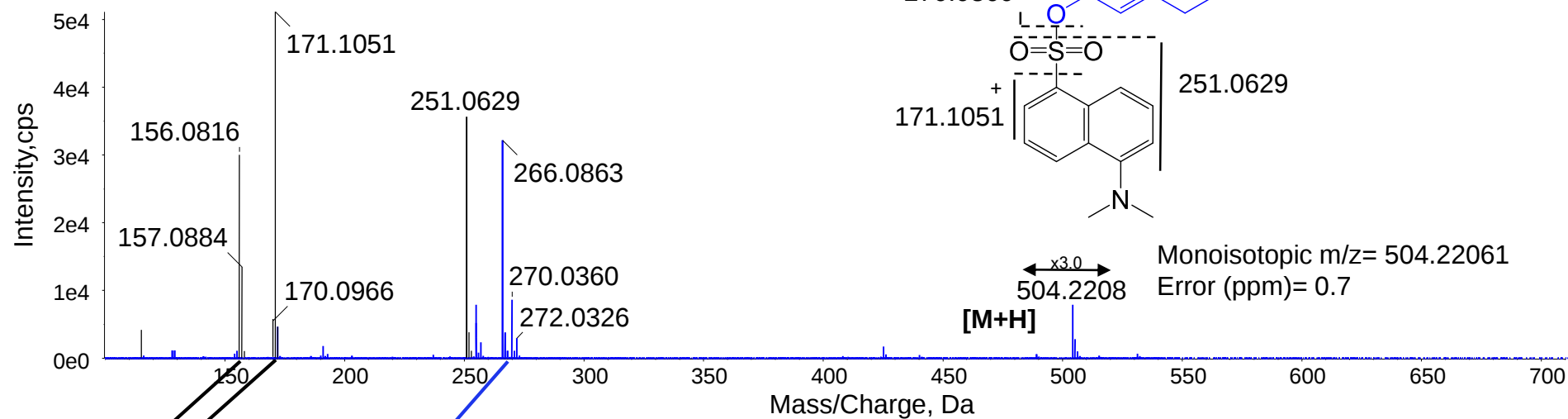


30 SWATH windows 15 units Da



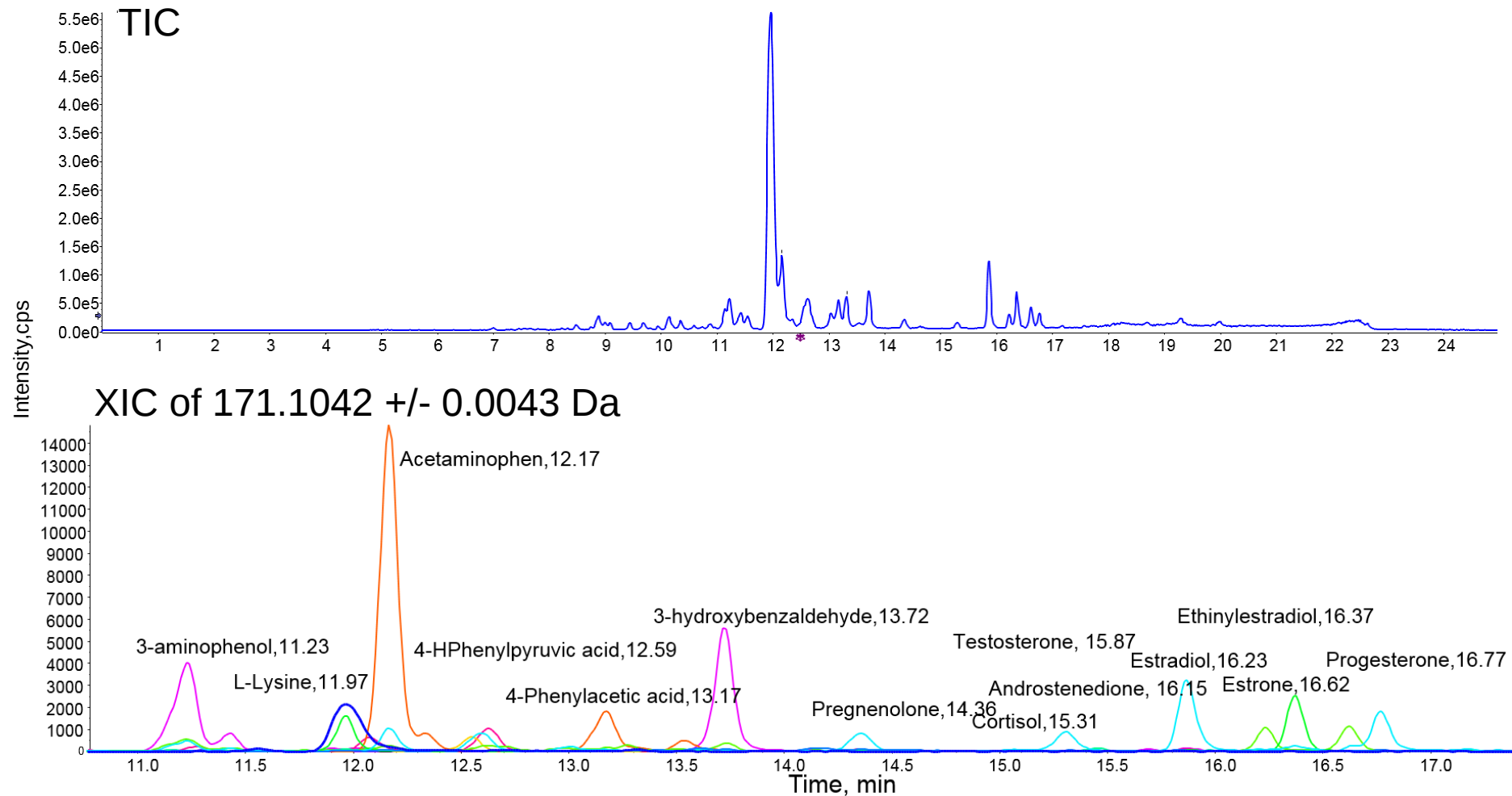
# Fragmentation pattern in ESI-SWATH/MS

SWATH Q1 window 497.0 to 512.0 Da



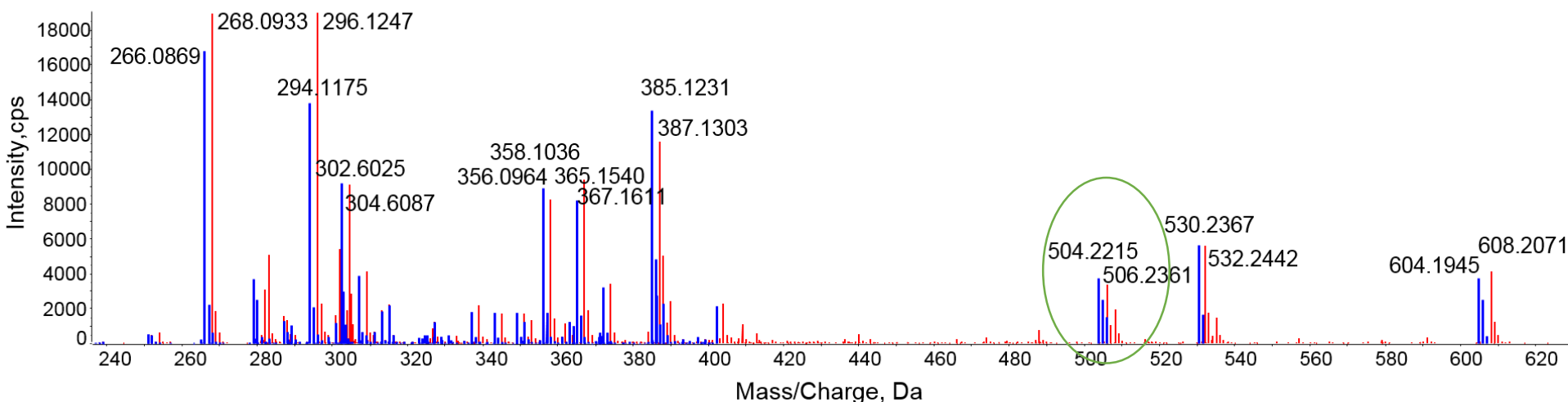
Analyte selective fragment

# SWATH acquisition combined with derivatization strategy

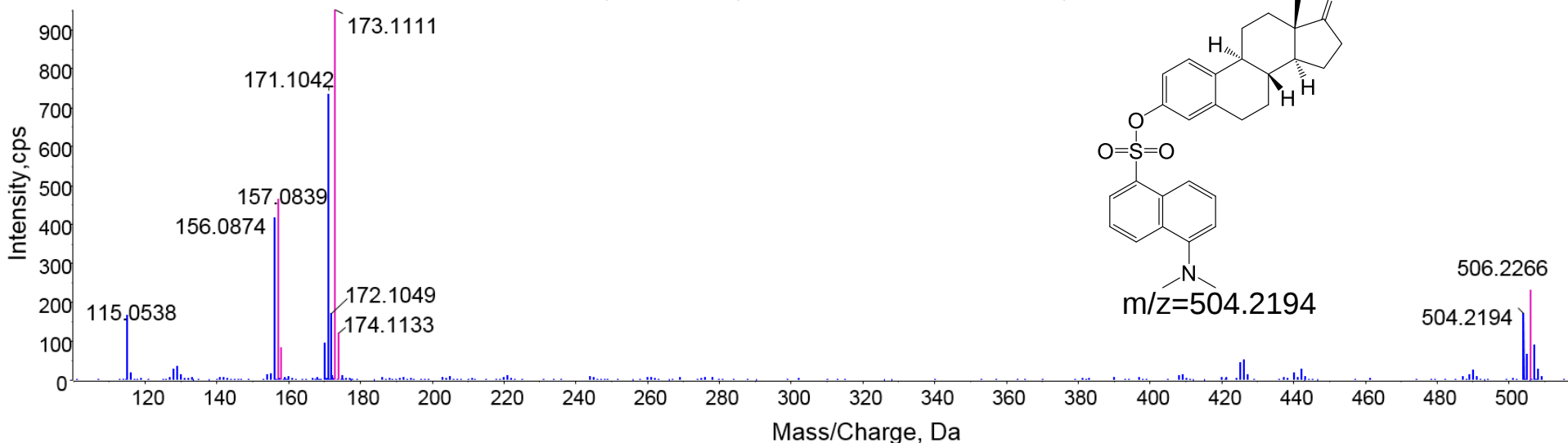


# Differential Isotope Labeling Strategy (DIL), $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}_2$ -DnsCl/DnsHz

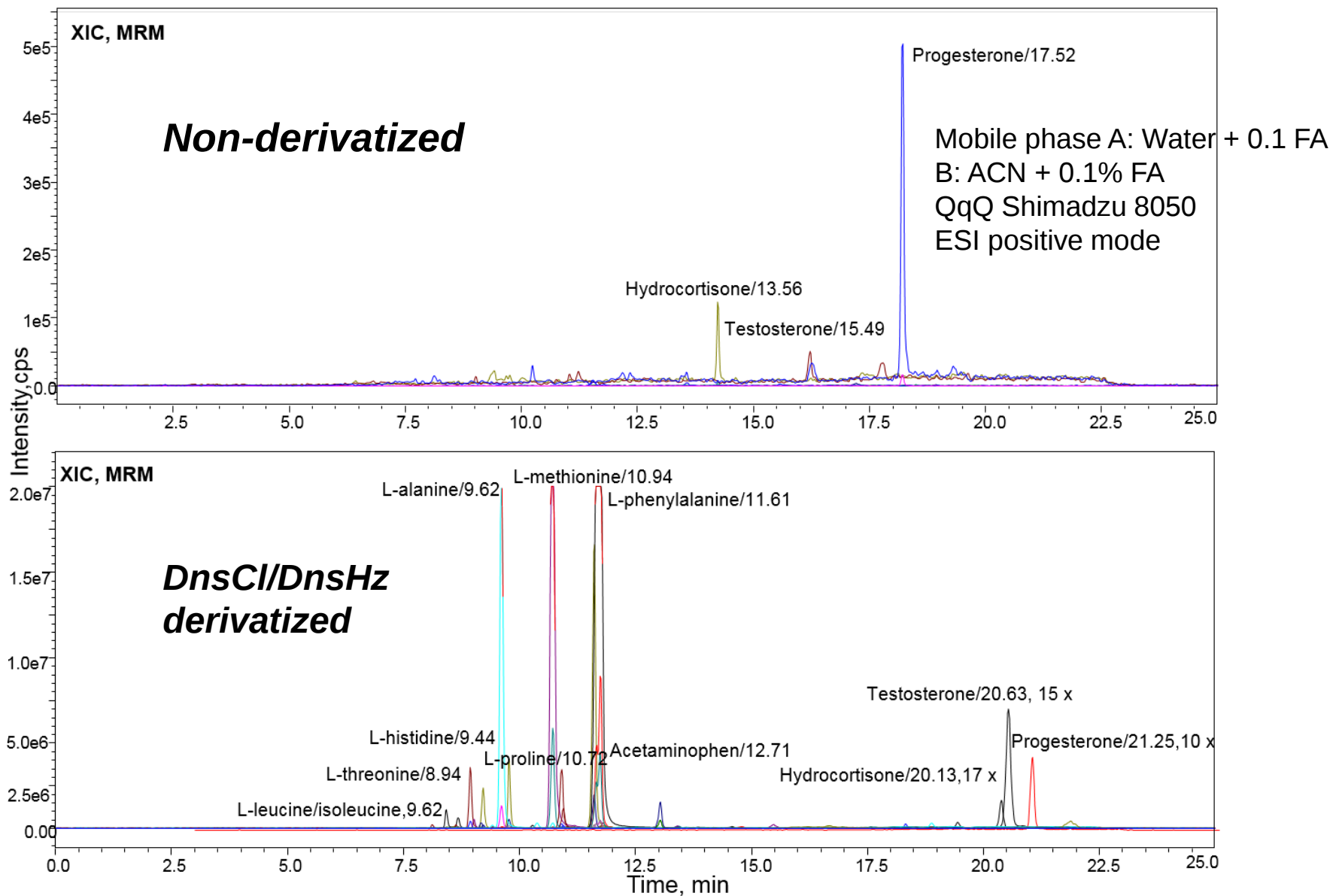
+TOF MS (100-1000) from 8.437 to 16.9222 min



SWATH Q1 isolation window of 497.0-512.0 (100 - 1000) from 16.449 to 16.622 min)

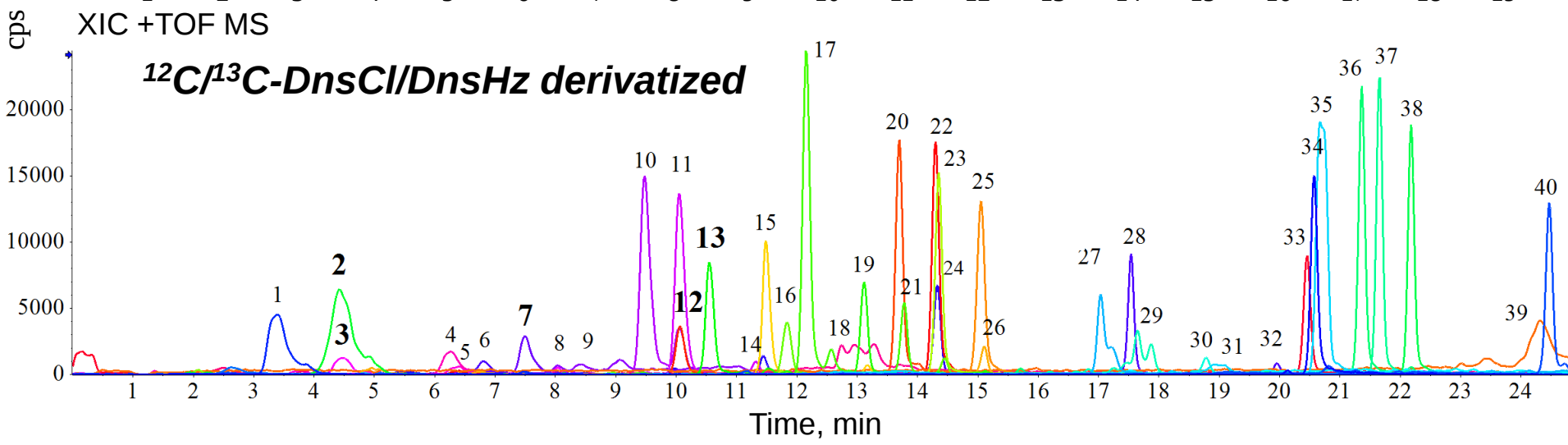
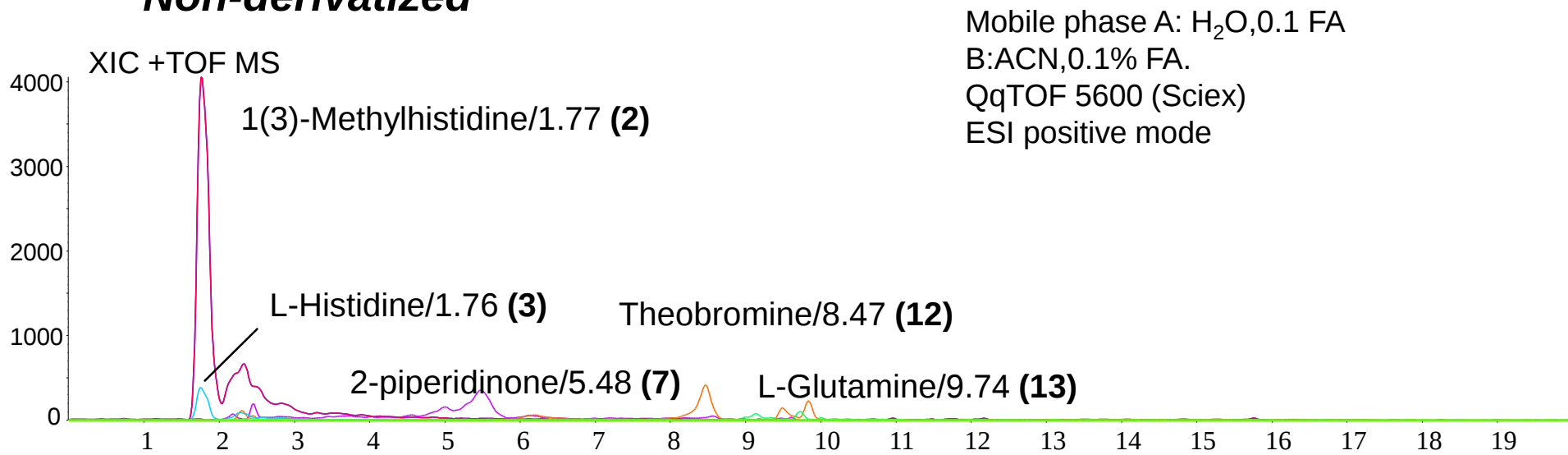


# Application to plasma samples for QUAL/QUANT analysis



# Application to urine samples for QUAL/QUANT analysis

## Non-derivatized



## **Automated parallel derivatization combined with SWATH-MS acquisition enables:**

- To profile multifunctional metabolites (aldehydes, ketones, amines and phenols) during a single LC run time.
- QUAL/QUANT analysis of metabolites in biological samples using analogous C<sup>13</sup> labeled derivatization reagents.
- To generate valuable additional sample information of precursor, fragment ions and chemically related analytes within same batch.
- To facilitate post-acquisition identification of metabolites chemically related to tag fragment ions.

# Acknowledgements



Sophie Veyrat  
Laura Akbal  
Thomas Stricker  
Michael Raetz  
Piotr Sosnowski  
Eliane Kuehn  
Chantal Grivet

**PAL** SYSTEM  
Ingenious sample handling

**AB SCIEX**

 **SHIMADZU**  
Excellence in Science