



INL Radiation Chemistry Research Capabilities: CAES Winter Collaboration Meeting

January 2020

Changing the World's Energy Future

Christopher A Zarzana



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**Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415**

<http://www.inl.gov>

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INL Radiation Chemistry Research Capabilities



CAES Winter Collaboration Meeting

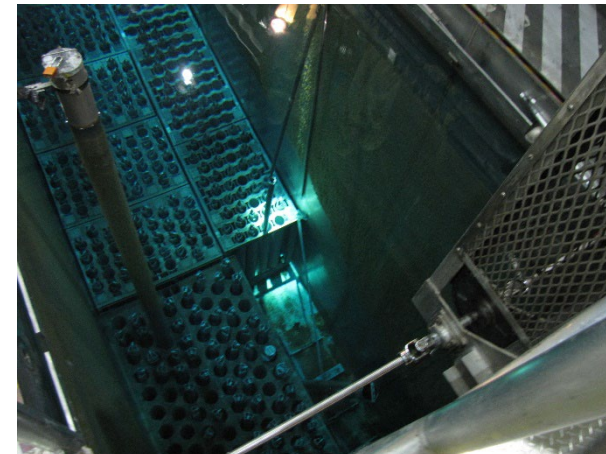
January 23-24, 2020

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Gamma Irradiation Capabilities

- **Gammacell 220 ^{60}Co Gamma Source**
 - $\sim 2.5 \text{ kGy h}^{-1}$
 - ~ 6 in diameter x 8 in tall sample chamber
 - Highly characterized dose rate
- **Gamma Tube in the ATR Fuel Canal**
 - $\sim 25\text{-}50 \text{ kGy h}^{-1}$
 - Depends on fuel age and position
 - ~ 5 in diameter x 6 m (19' 8") useable length
 - *In situ* dose measurement
- **Both sources available through the Nuclear Science User Facility (NSUF)**
 - Technical POC: Simon Pimblott:
simon.pimblott@inl.gov or 208-526-7499



Characterization of Irradiated Organics: Identification

- **High Resolution High Mass Accuracy Mass Spectrometry**

- Bruker micrOTOF-Q II:

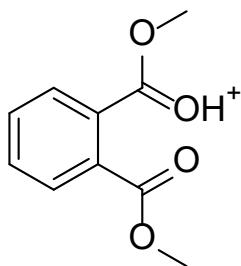
- quadrupole time-of-flight
 - Mass range: 3000 m/z
 - Resolution: $\sim 15,000$ (full-width half-max)
 - Mass Accuracy: $\sim \pm 0.002$ Da
 - ESI, APCI, APPI ion sources
 - Waters Acquity H-Class Plus UPLC front-end

- **Unambiguous molecular formula**

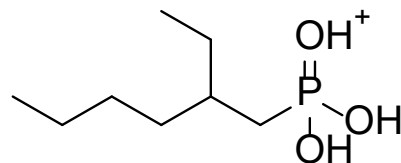
- **Some structural information from tandem MS**



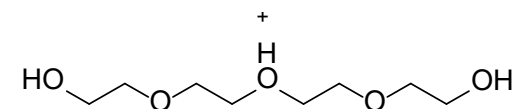
High Mass Accuracy Yields Molecular Formula



Dimethyl phthalate
 $C_{10}H_{11}O_4^+$
 m/z : 195.0652
 Δm : -0.0493
 -253 ppm

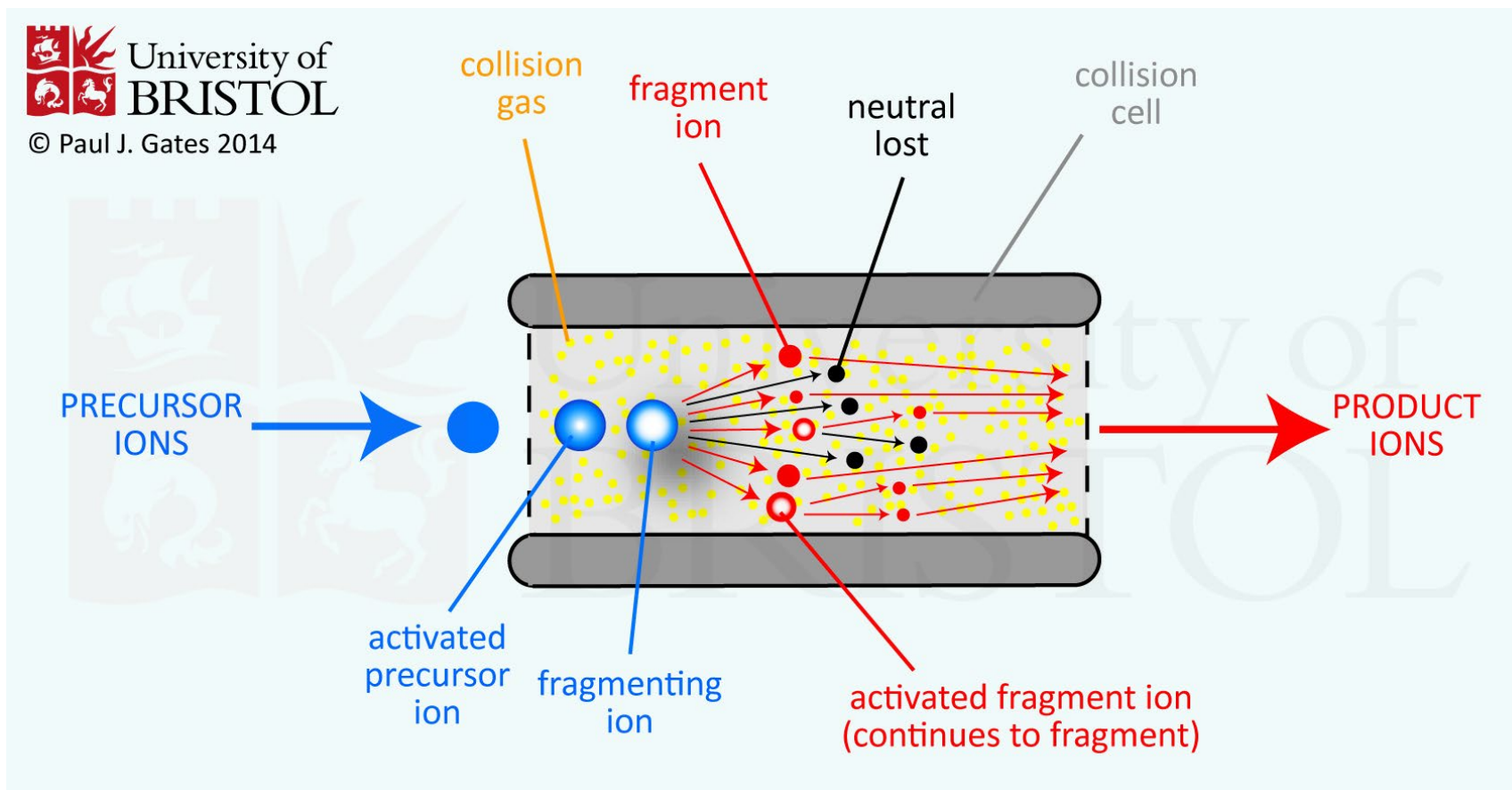


2-ethylhexyl phosphonic acid
 $C_8H_{20}O_3P^+$
 m/z : 195.1145

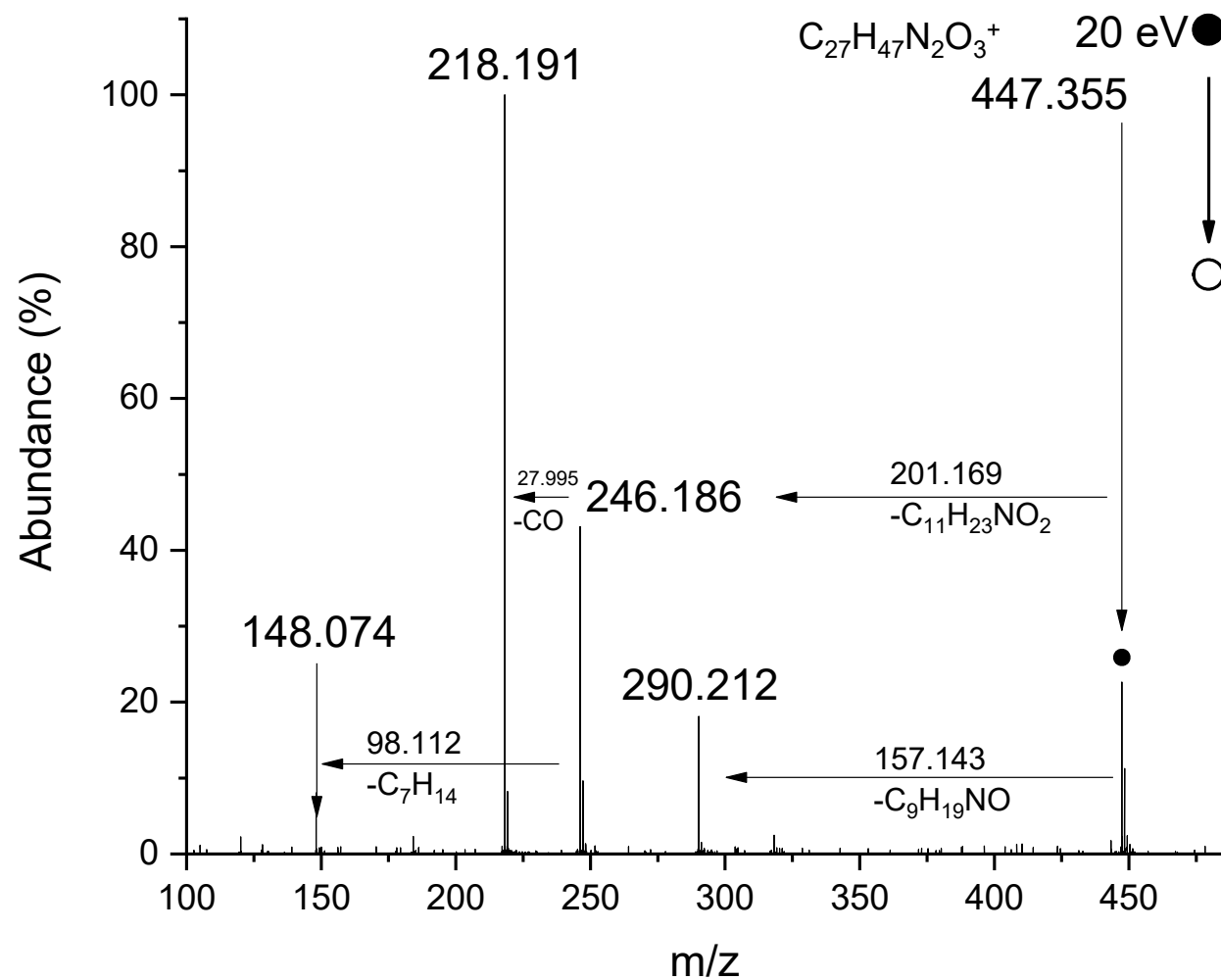


Polyethylene glycol (n=4)
 $C_8H_{19}O_5^+$
 m/z : 195.1227
 Δm : +0.0082
 +42 ppm

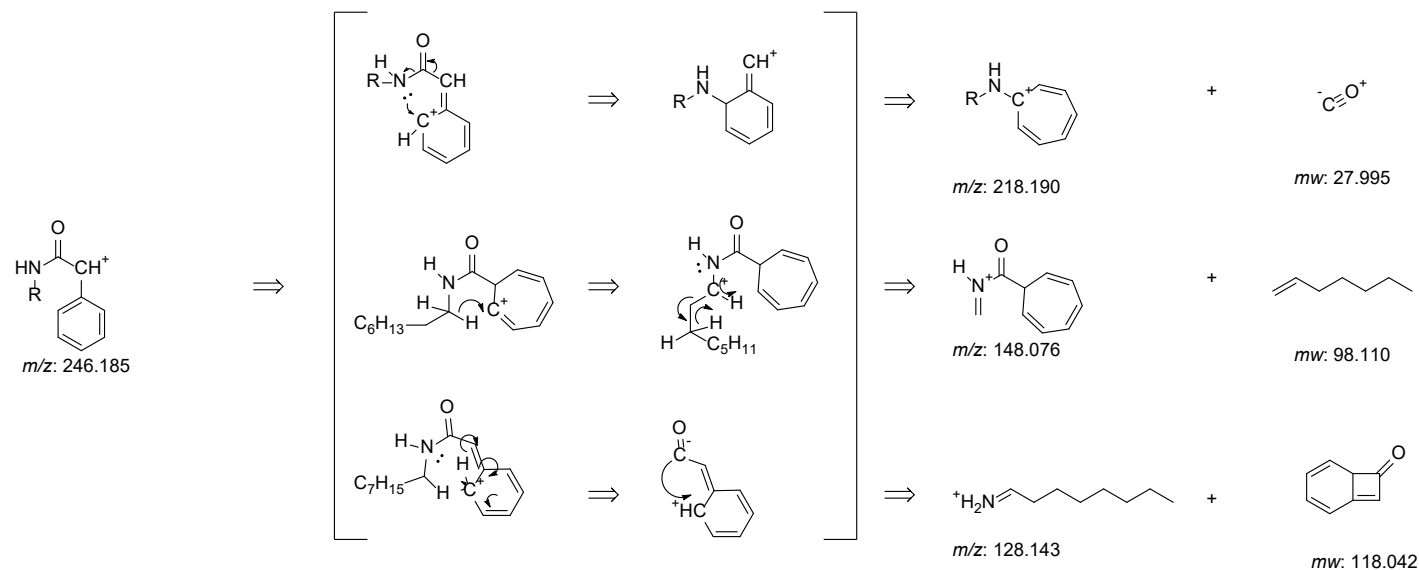
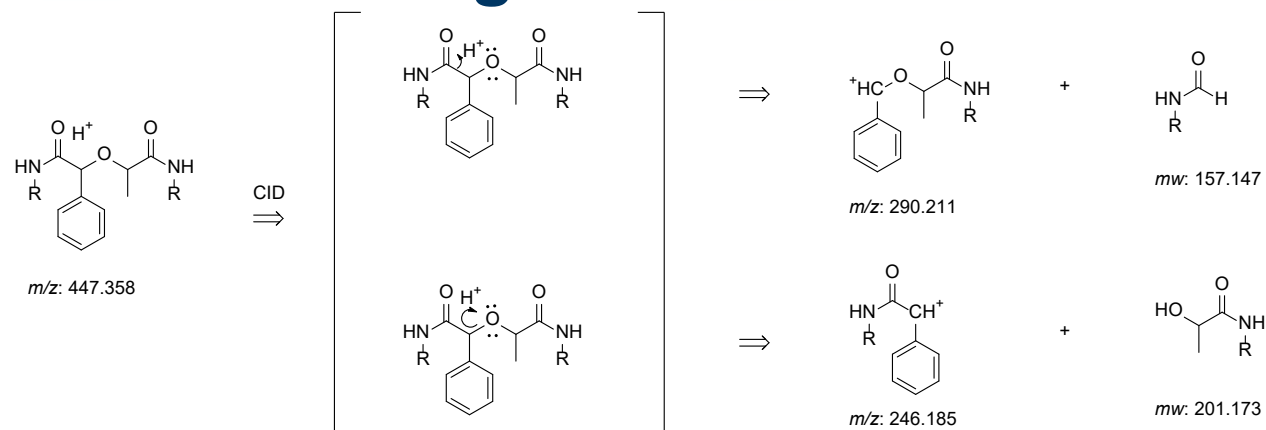
Collision-induced Dissociation (CID)



Example for PhMeTODGA Cmpd 6

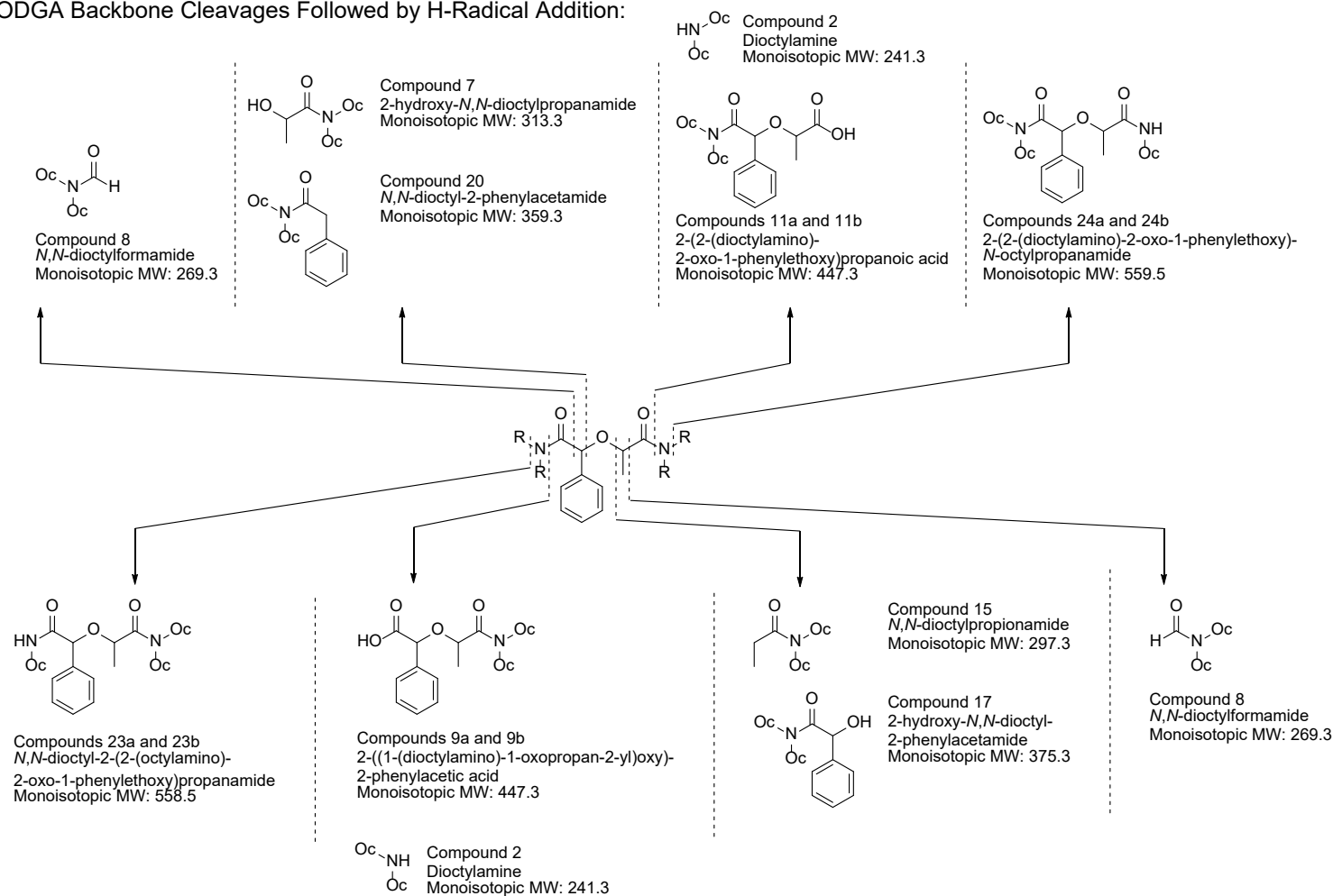


Proposed Gas-Phase Fragmentation Mechanisms



Complex Example: PhMeTODGA Degradation Product Analysis

PhMeTODGA Backbone Cleavages Followed by H-Radical Addition:



But wait, there's more.....

PhMeTODGA Backbone Bond Cleavage Followed by CH₃-Radical Addition:

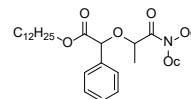


Compound 10
N,N-diethylacetamide
Monoisotopic MW: 283.3

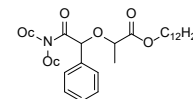


Compound 18
N,N-diethylisobutyramide
Monoisotopic MW: 311.3

Dodecanol Esterification:



Compound 25
dodecyl 2-((1-(diethylamino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)oxy)-
2-phenylacetate
Monoisotopic MW: 615.5



Compound 26
dodecyl 2-(2-(diethylamino)-2-oxo-
1-phenylethoxy)propanoate
Monoisotopic MW: 615.5

Oxidation of Primary PhMeTODGA Radiolysis Products:



Compound 12
N,N-diethyl-2-oxopropanamide
Monoisotopic MW: 311.3



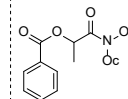
Compound 19
N,N-diethyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide
Monoisotopic MW: 373.3

Oxidation of Secondary PhMeTODGA Radiolysis Products:



Compound 4
N-octyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide
Monoisotopic MW: 261.2

Oxidation of OH-Radical Addition:



Compound 22
1-(diethylamino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl
benzoate
Monoisotopic MW: 417.3

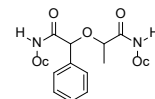
Primary PhMeTODGA Radiolysis Product Bond Cleavages Followed by H-Radical Additions:



Compound 1
2-hydroxy-*N*-octylpropanamide
Monoisotopic MW: 201.2

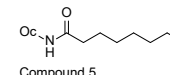


Compound 3
2-hydroxy-*N*-octyl-
2-phenylacetamide
Monoisotopic MW: 263.2



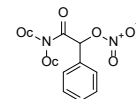
Compounds 6a and 6b
N-octyl-2-(2-(octylamino)-
2-oxo-1-phenylethoxy)propanamide
Monoisotopic MW: 446.4

Unknown Formation Mechanism:

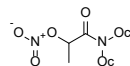


Compound 5
N-octyloctanamide
Monoisotopic MW: 255.3

Nitrate-Radical Additions:

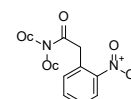


Compound 21
2-(diethylamino)-2-oxo-1-phenylethyl nitrate
Monoisotopic MW: 420.3



Compound 14
2-(diethylamino)-2-oxo-1-phenylethyl nitrate
Monoisotopic MW: 358.3

Aromatic Nitration:



Compound 16
2-(4-nitrophenyl)-*N,N*-diethylacetamide
Monoisotopic MW: 404.3

Nitrosamine Formation:



Compound 13
N,N-diethylnitrosamine
Monoisotopic MW: 270.3

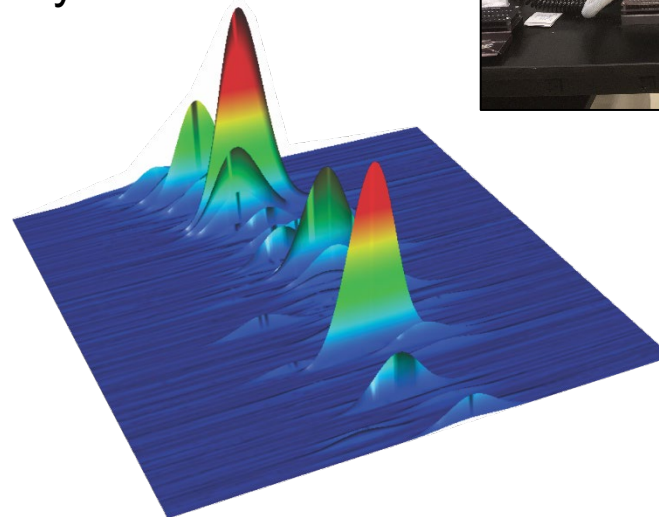
Characterization of Irradiated Organics: Identification

- **Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry**
 - Shimadzu GC-TQ8040:
 - Triple-quadrupole
 - Mass range: 1250 m/z
 - Resolution: A little better than unit mass
 - EI, PCI, NCI ion sources
- **Some structural information from tandem MS**



Characterization of Irradiated Organics: Identification

- **Two-Dimensional Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry**
 - Leco Pegasus 4D GCxGC-ToF:
 - Time-of-Flight
 - Mass range: 1250 m/z
 - Resolution: unit
 - EI ion sources
- **CDS Analytical pyrolyser front end**
 - Good for large molecules like biomass, coal, polymers
- **Good for complex mixture analysis**

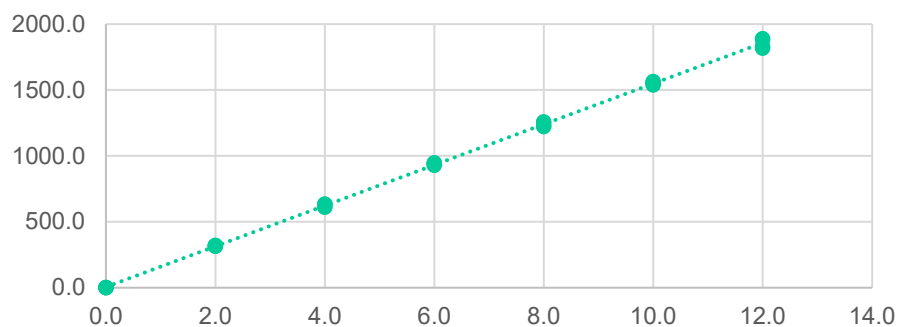


Characterization of Irradiated Organics: Quantification

- **Gas chromatography with flame ionization detection (GC-FID)**
 - Very stable detector: High precision
 - Usually < 2% relative standard deviation

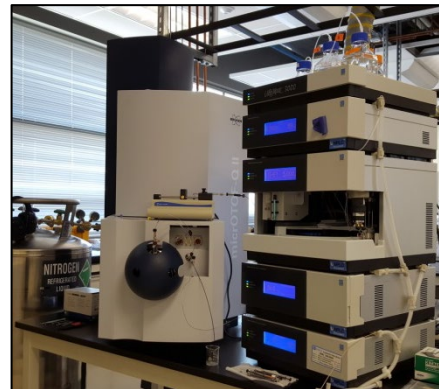
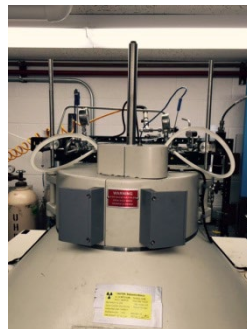


DEHBA Calibration Curve



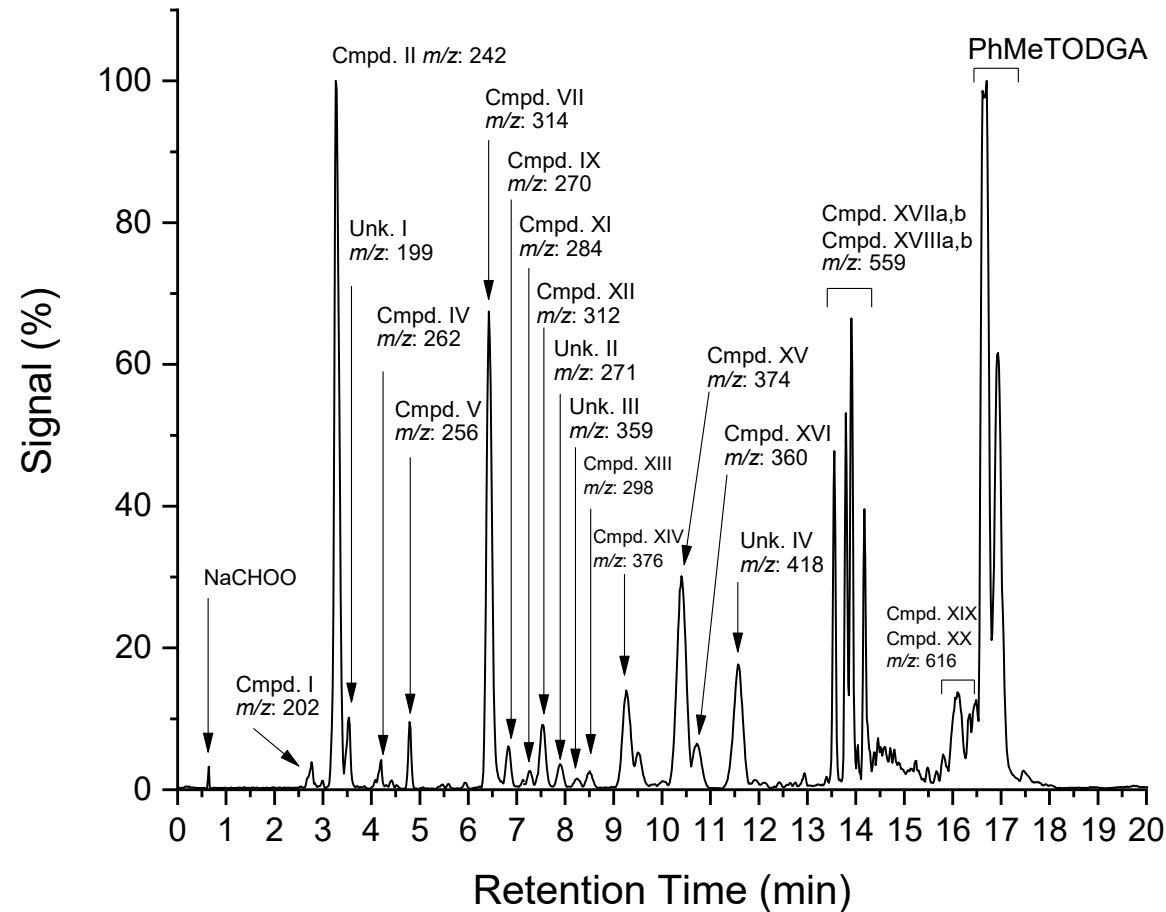
Emerging Capabilities

- **Prepare degradation products by irradiating high concentrations of ligand to high doses**
- **Separate and purify degradation products using preparative-scale high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)**
 - Produce amounts for structure conformation with NMR, quantification standards
 - Improve identification
 - Eventually enough for solvent extraction experiments
 - Enable modeling



Emerging Capabilities, cont.....

- New methods to statistically reveal which chromatographic peaks are degradation products



Center for Radiation Chemistry Research

- **The CR2 mission is to:**
 - Address radiation chemistry challenges throughout the nuclear fuel cycle and beyond.
 - Advance our fundamental and applied knowledge of ionizing radiation phenomena.
 - Train the next generation of radiation chemists, to preserve the world's expertise for future generations.
- <https://cr2.inl.gov/>



Gregory
Horne



Dean
Peterman



Peter
Zalupski



Travis
Grimes



Elizabeth
Parker-Quaife

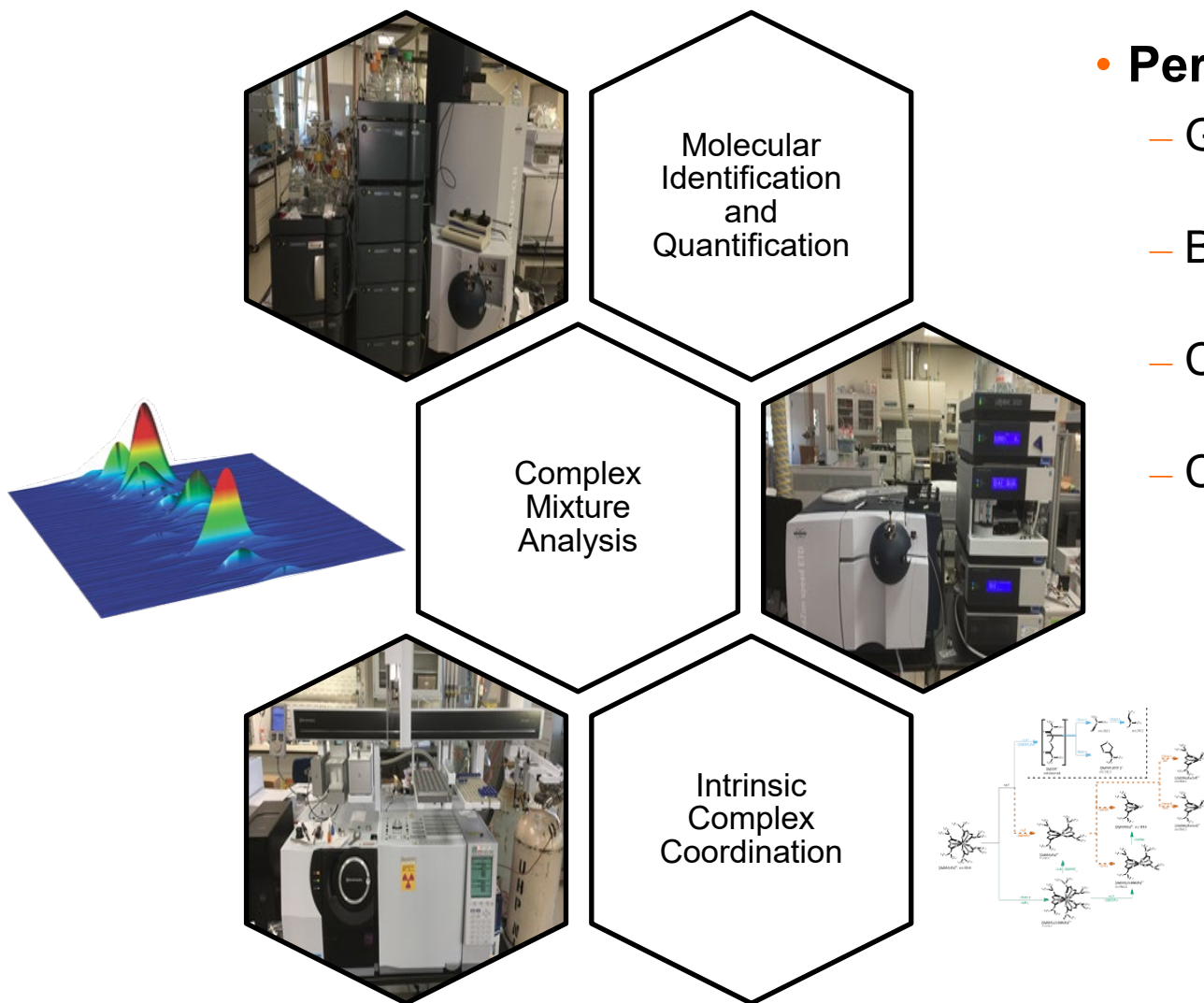


Corey
Pilgrim



David
Meeker

Molecular Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry Group



• Personnel

- Gary Groenewold
 - Gary.Groenewold@inl.gov
- Brittany Hodges
 - Brittany.Hodges@inl.gov
- Chris Zarzana
 - Christopher.Zarzana@inl.gov
- Cathy Rae