

# Dioxin 2023

10-14 SEPTEMBER

MAASTRICHT, THE NETHERLANDS

43<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on  
Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants



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MAASTRICHT, THE NETHERLANDS

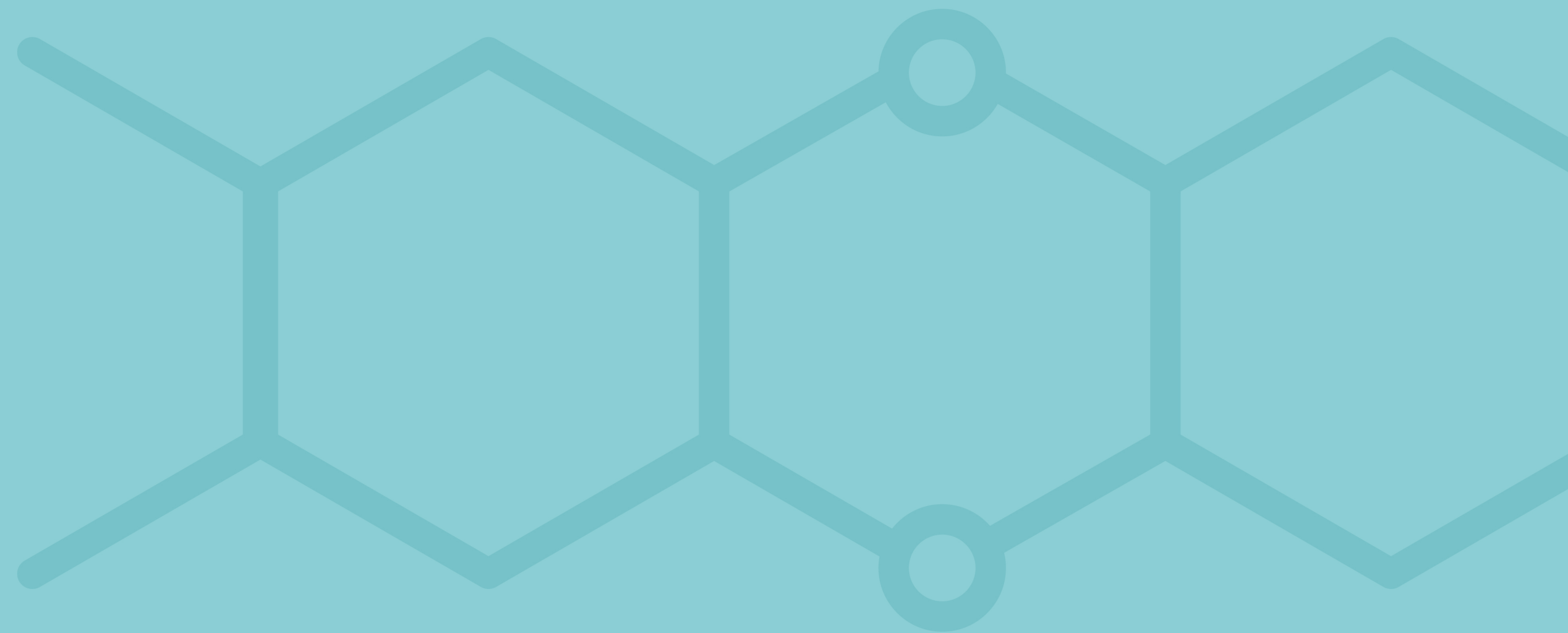


## Assessing the performance of high resolution ion mobility-mass spectrometry for the separation of GC coeluting isomeric and isobaric halogenated persistent organic pollutants



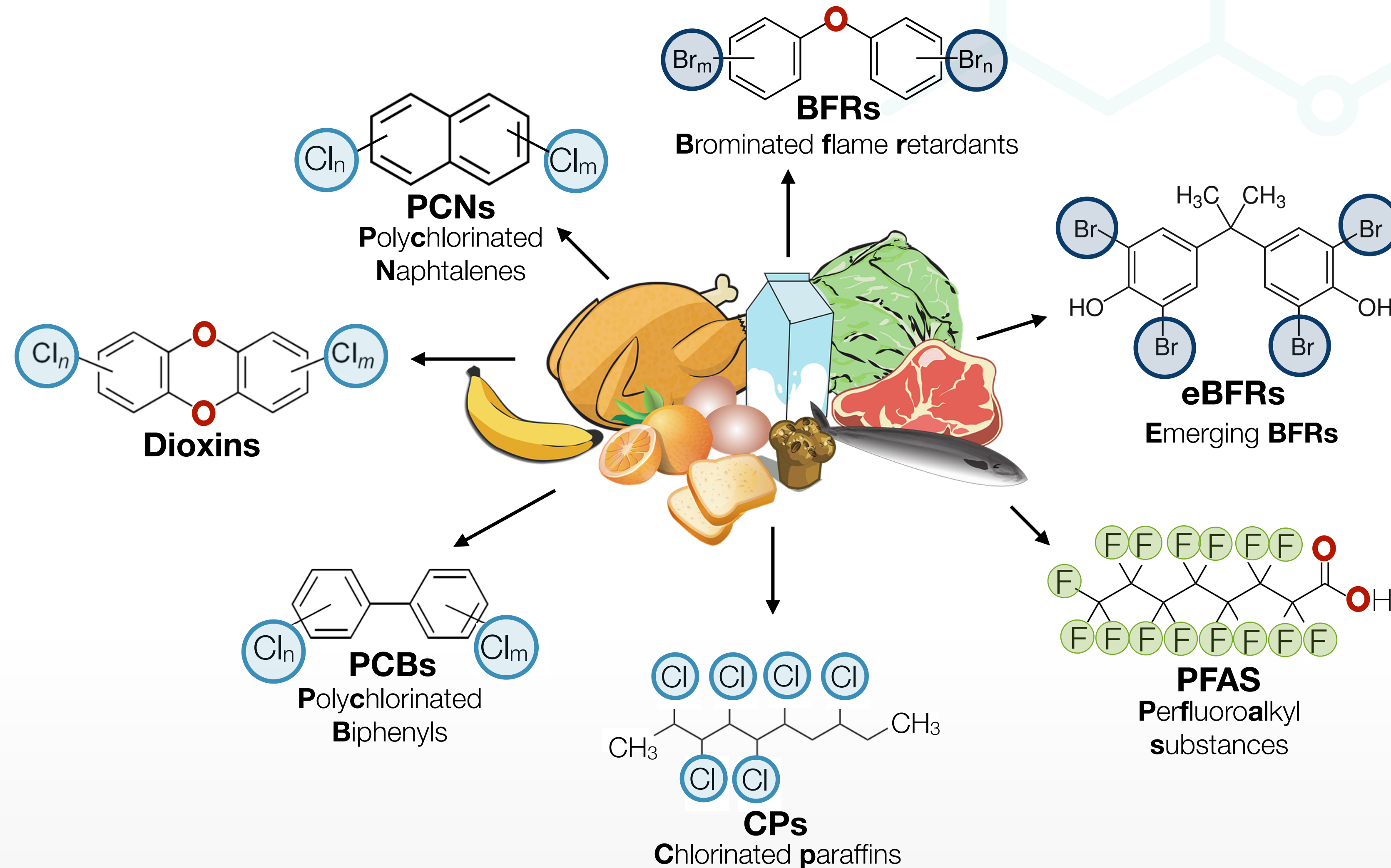
Hugo Muller  
PhD student

Monday, 10  
September  
2023



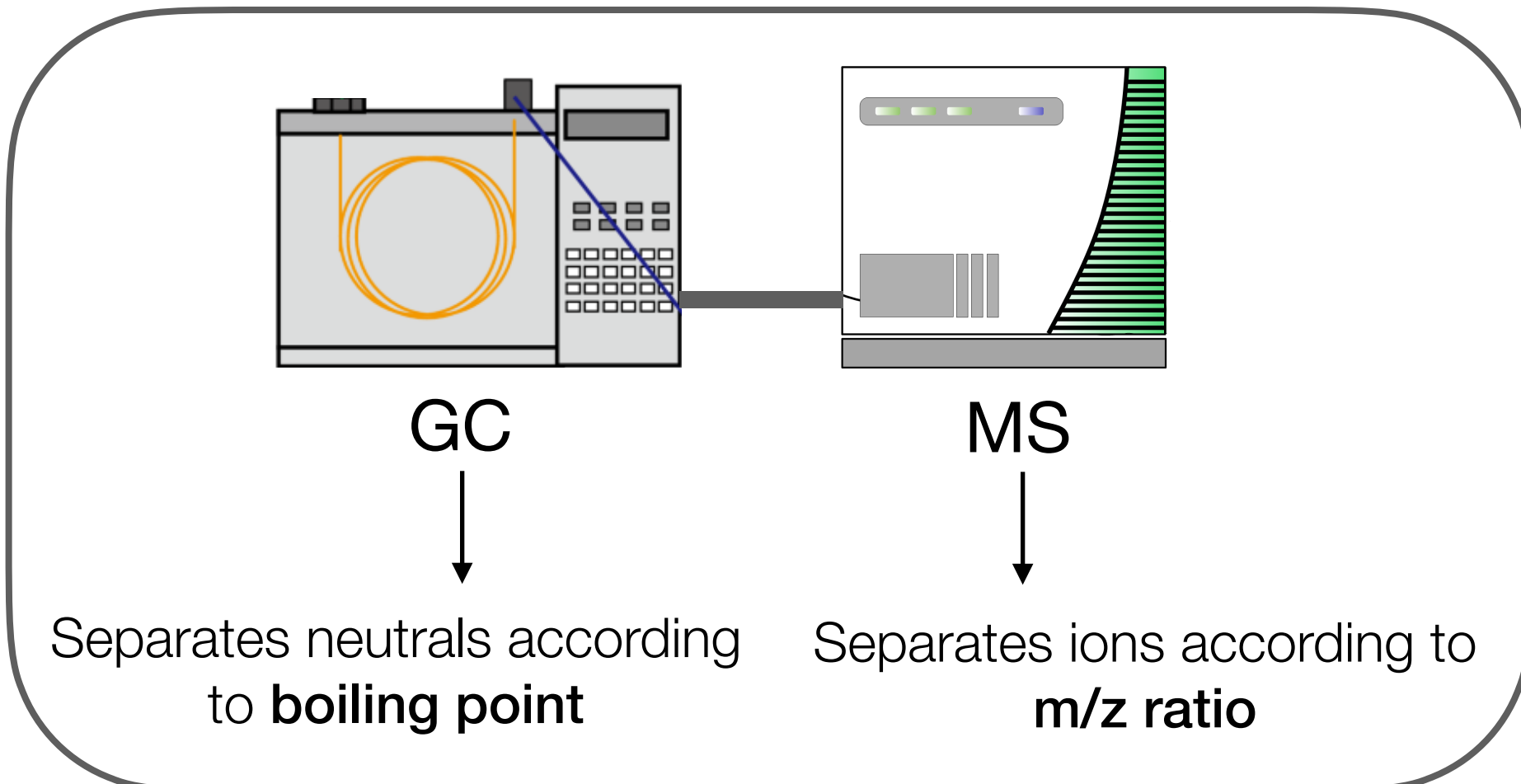
# Introduction

# Halogenated POPs

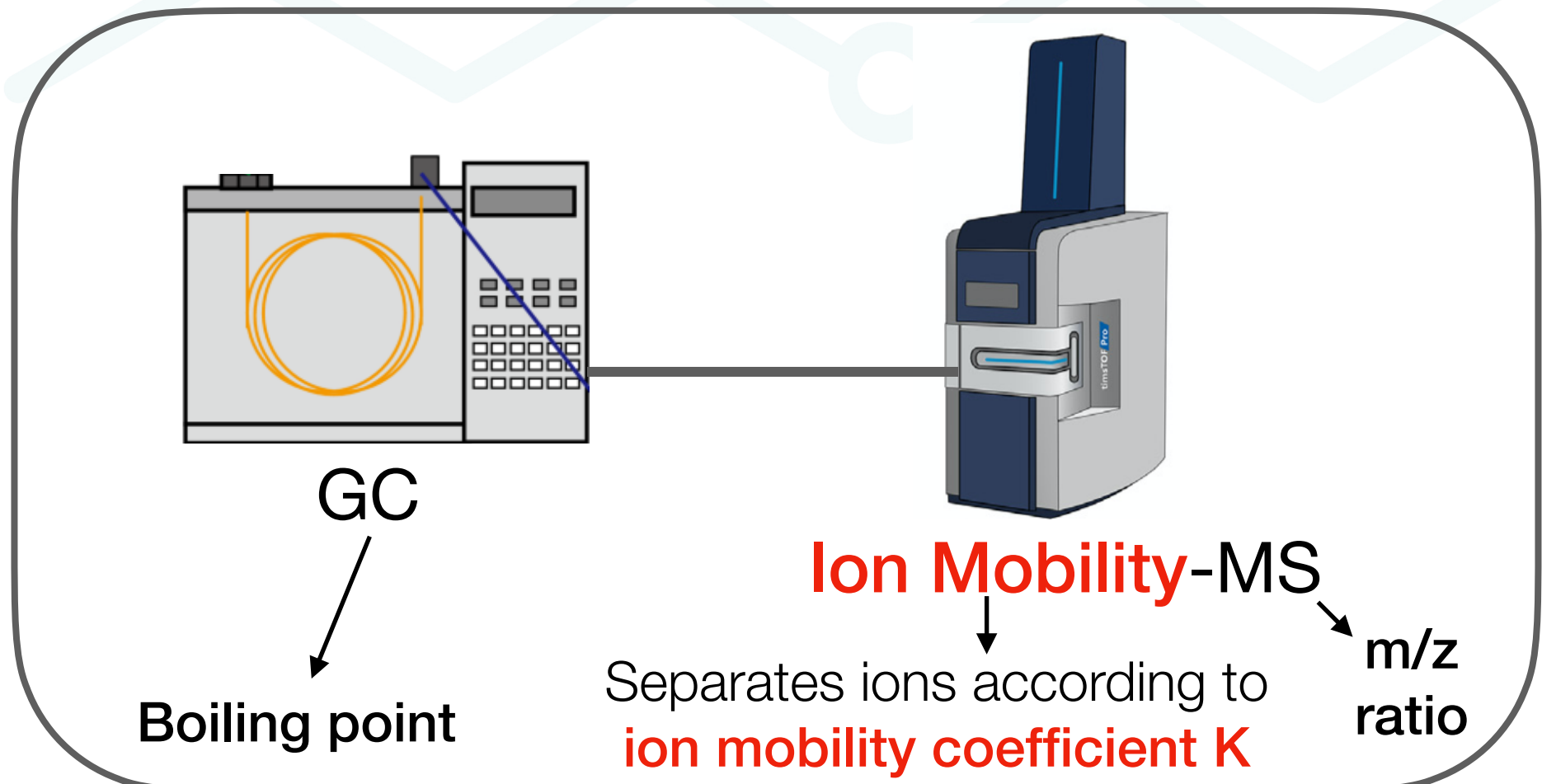


# Analysis in food

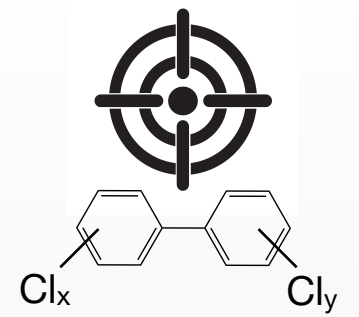
## Traditional approach



## Our approach

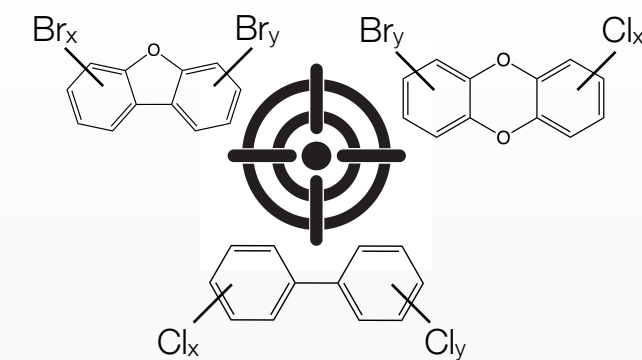


Single class targeted analysis



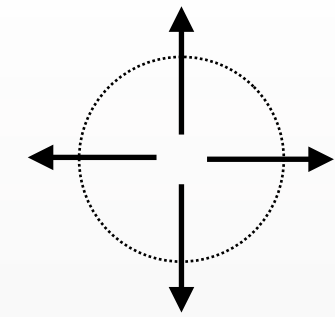
✔ Selectivity      ✔ Sensitivity

Multi-class targeted analysis



? Selectivity

Untargeted analysis



# Ion mobility

- Origin: end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- First commercial IM-MS instruments: mid-2000s
- Exponential growth in the last decade

Drift speed

$$v_d = KE$$

Ion mobility constant

Fundamental low-field mobility equation

$$K = \frac{3}{16} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\mu k_b T N}} \frac{ze}{\Omega}$$

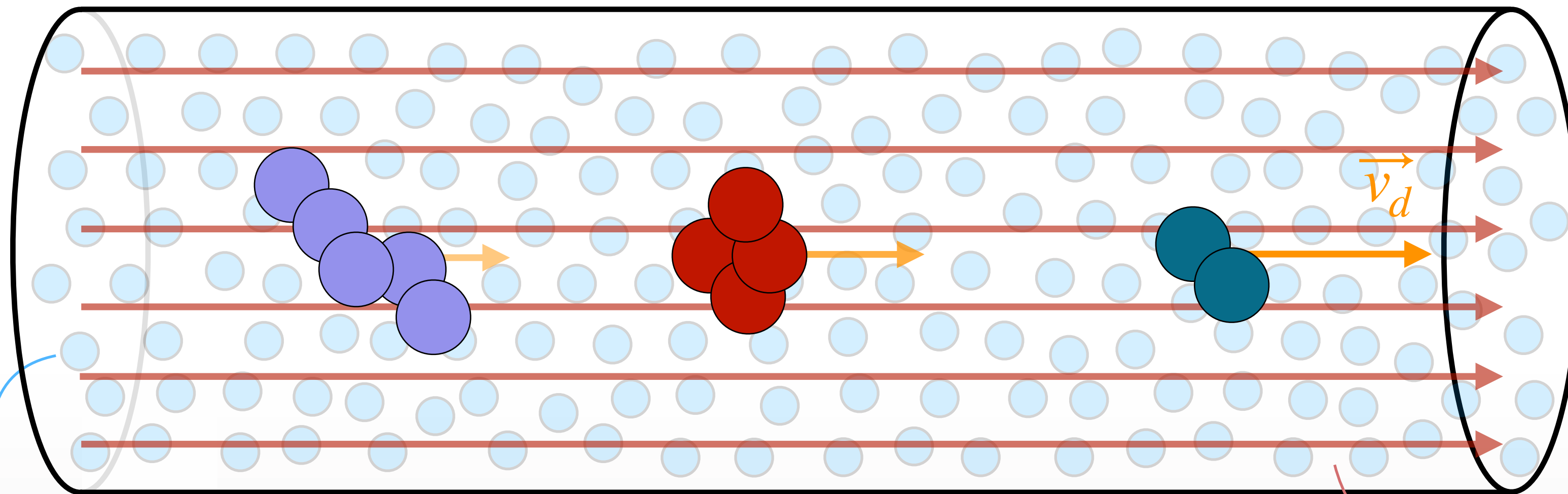
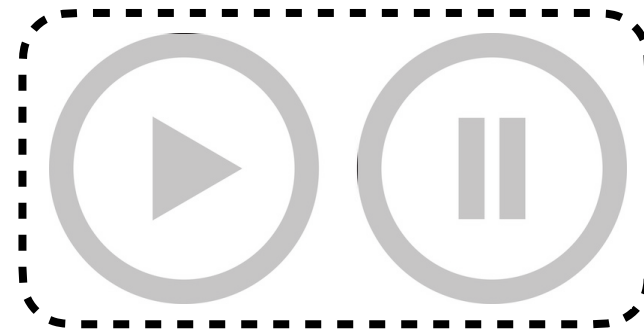
Mass

Charge

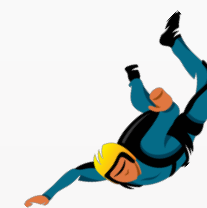
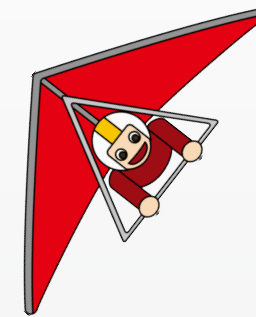
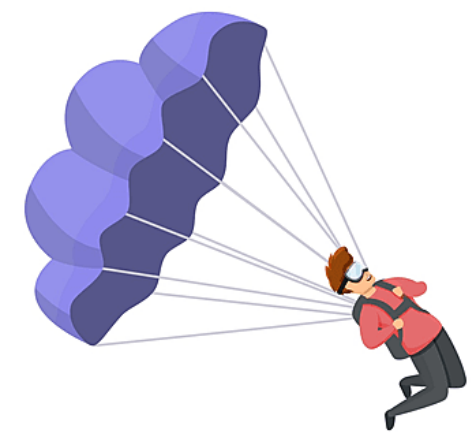
**C**ollision **C**ross **S**ection  
(**CCS**)

Size & shape

Ion-gas interaction potential



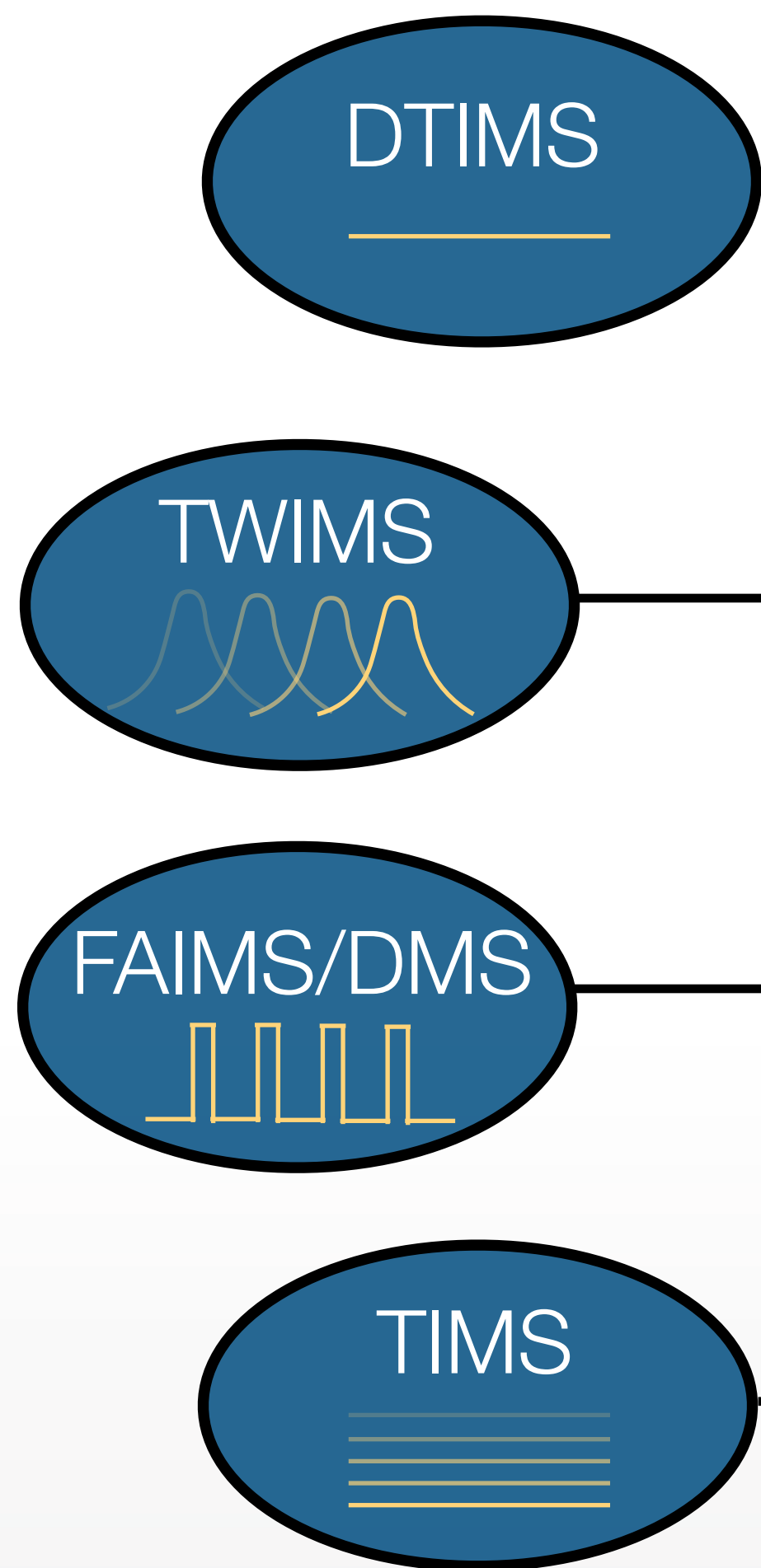
Drift gas  
(N<sub>2</sub>)



Electric field  
 $\vec{E}$

# Ion mobility

## Technologies

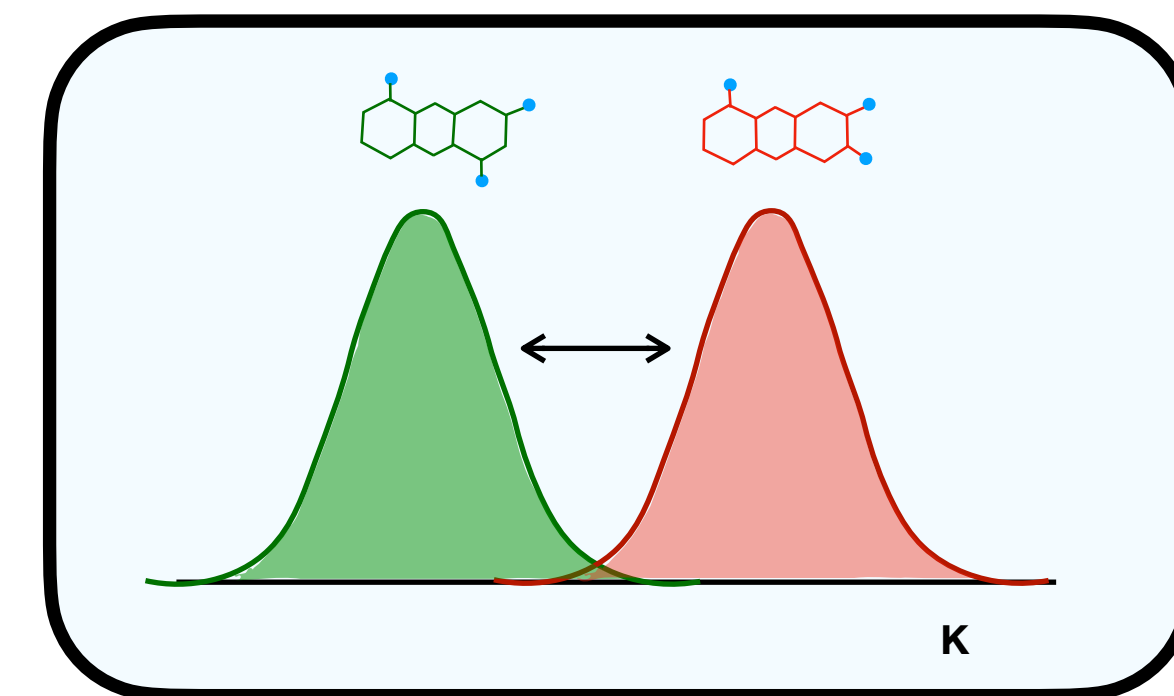


## Advantages

Selectivity

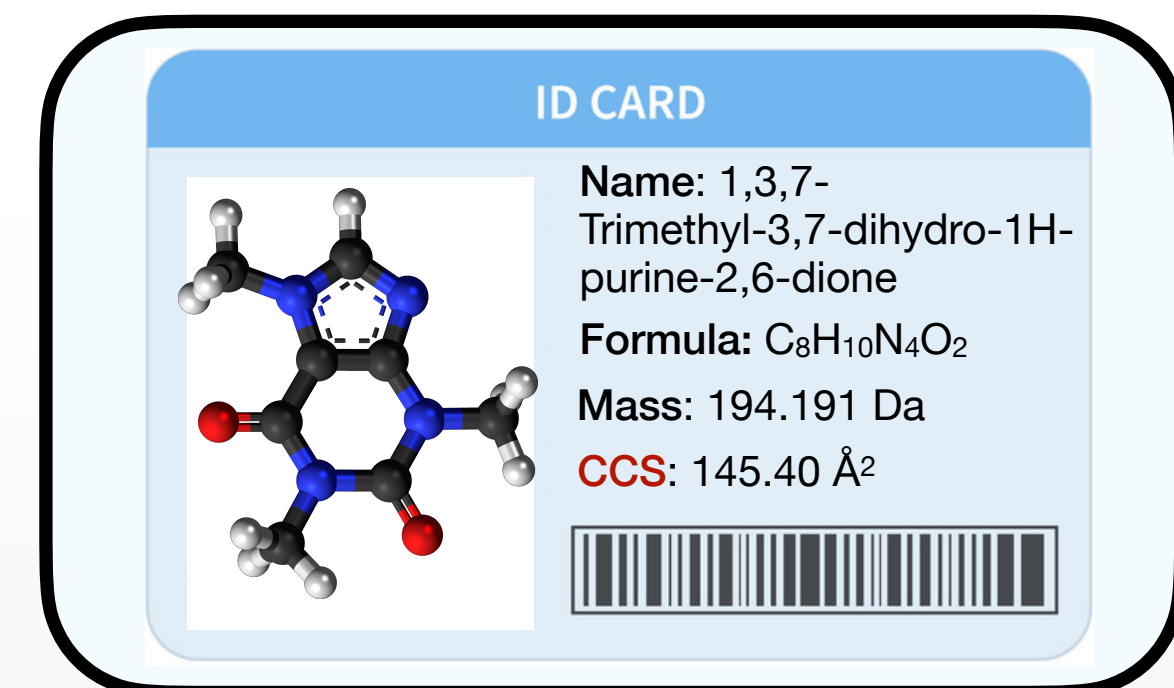
Isomers & Isobars

Interferences



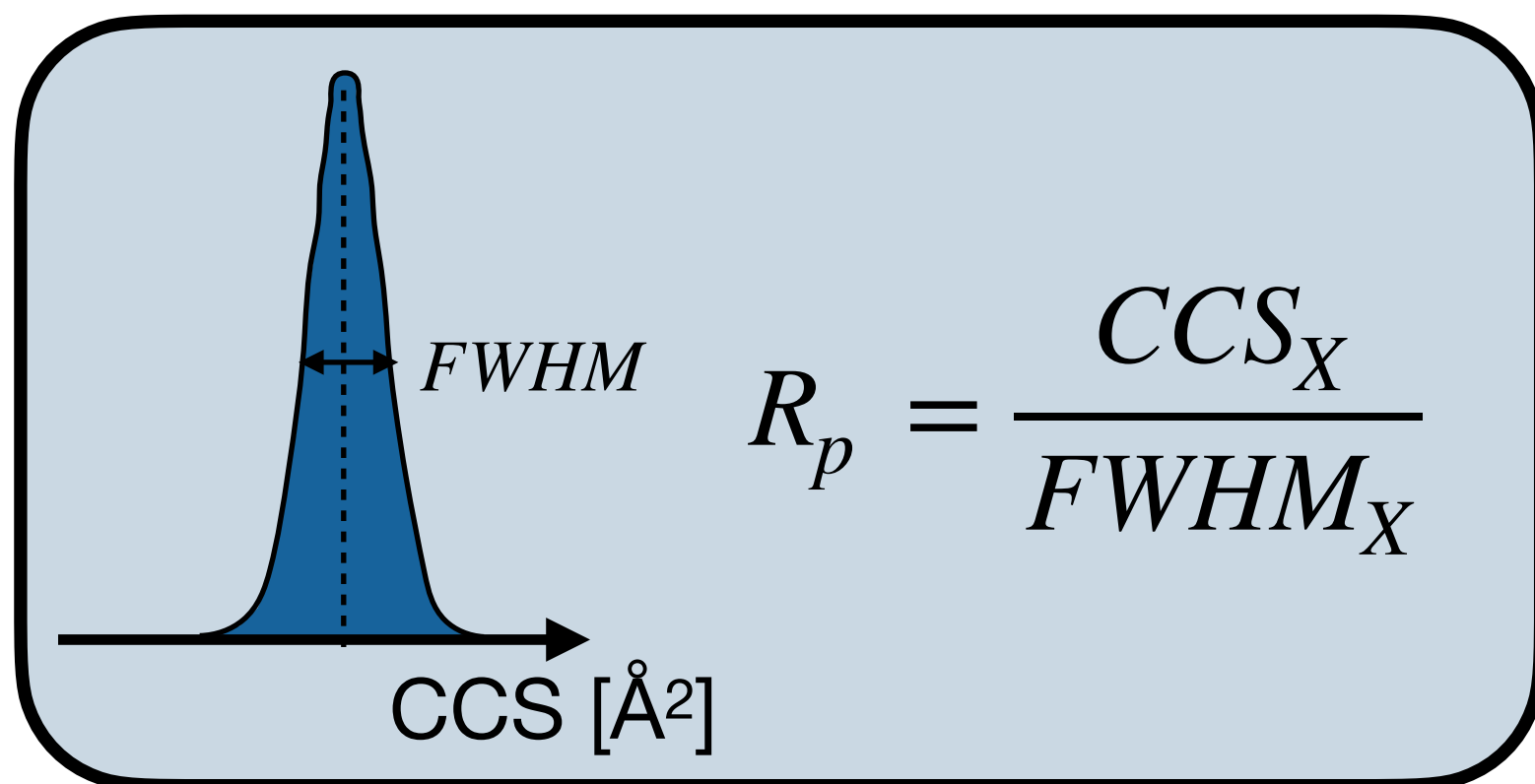
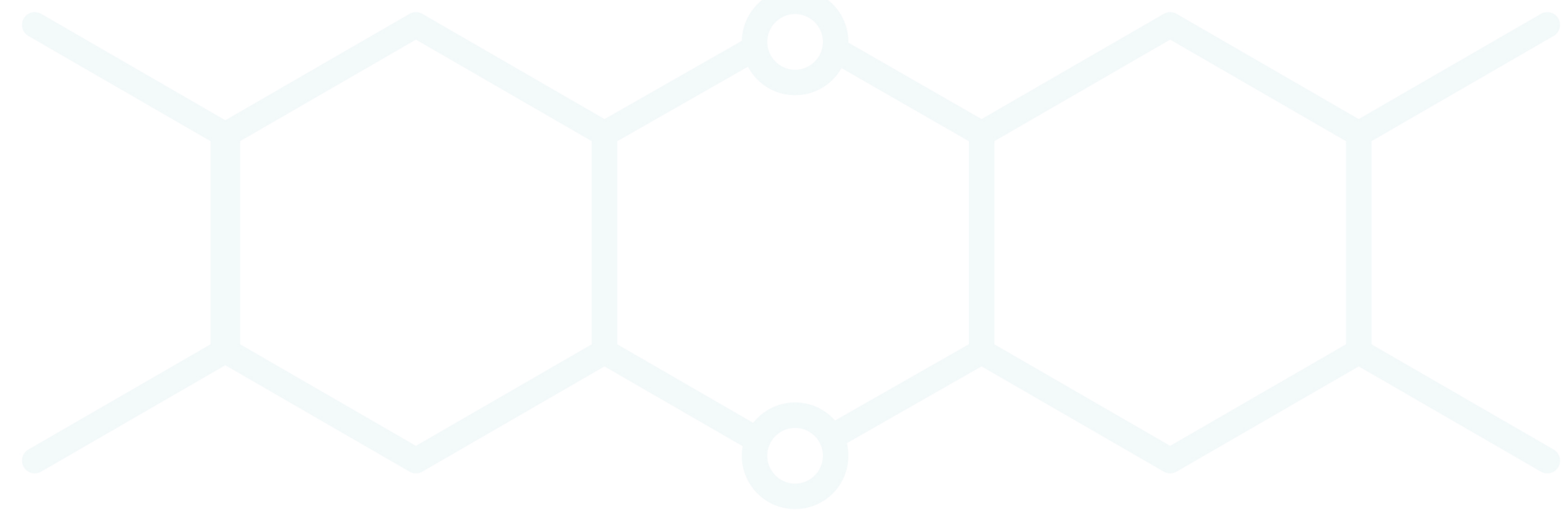
Specificity

CCS



# High resolution IM analysis of coeluting isobaric and isomeric POPs

# Resolving power



**LOW**  
R < 80

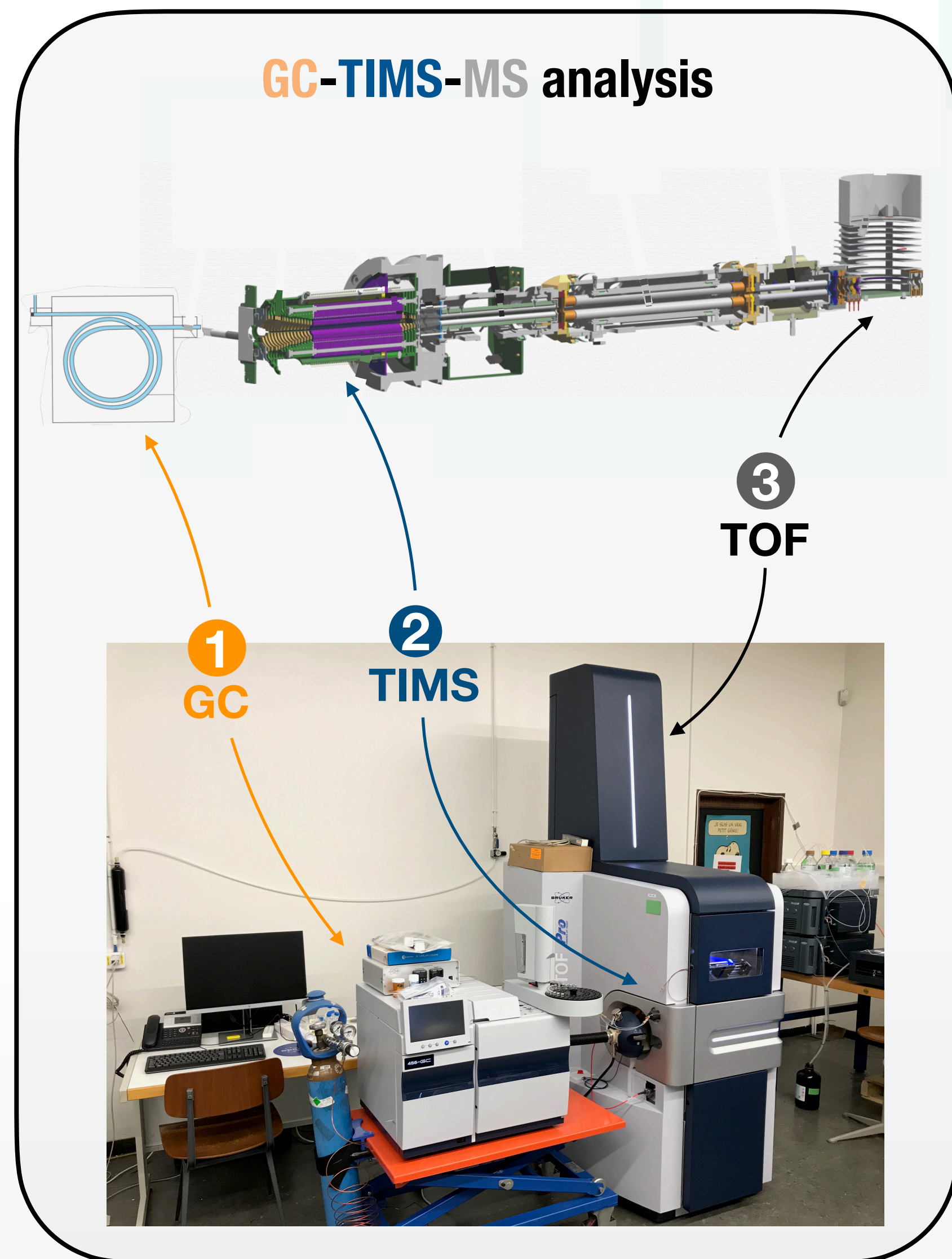
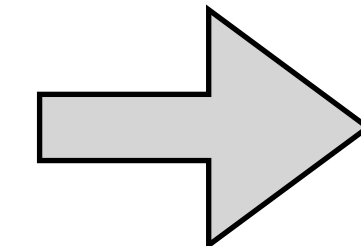
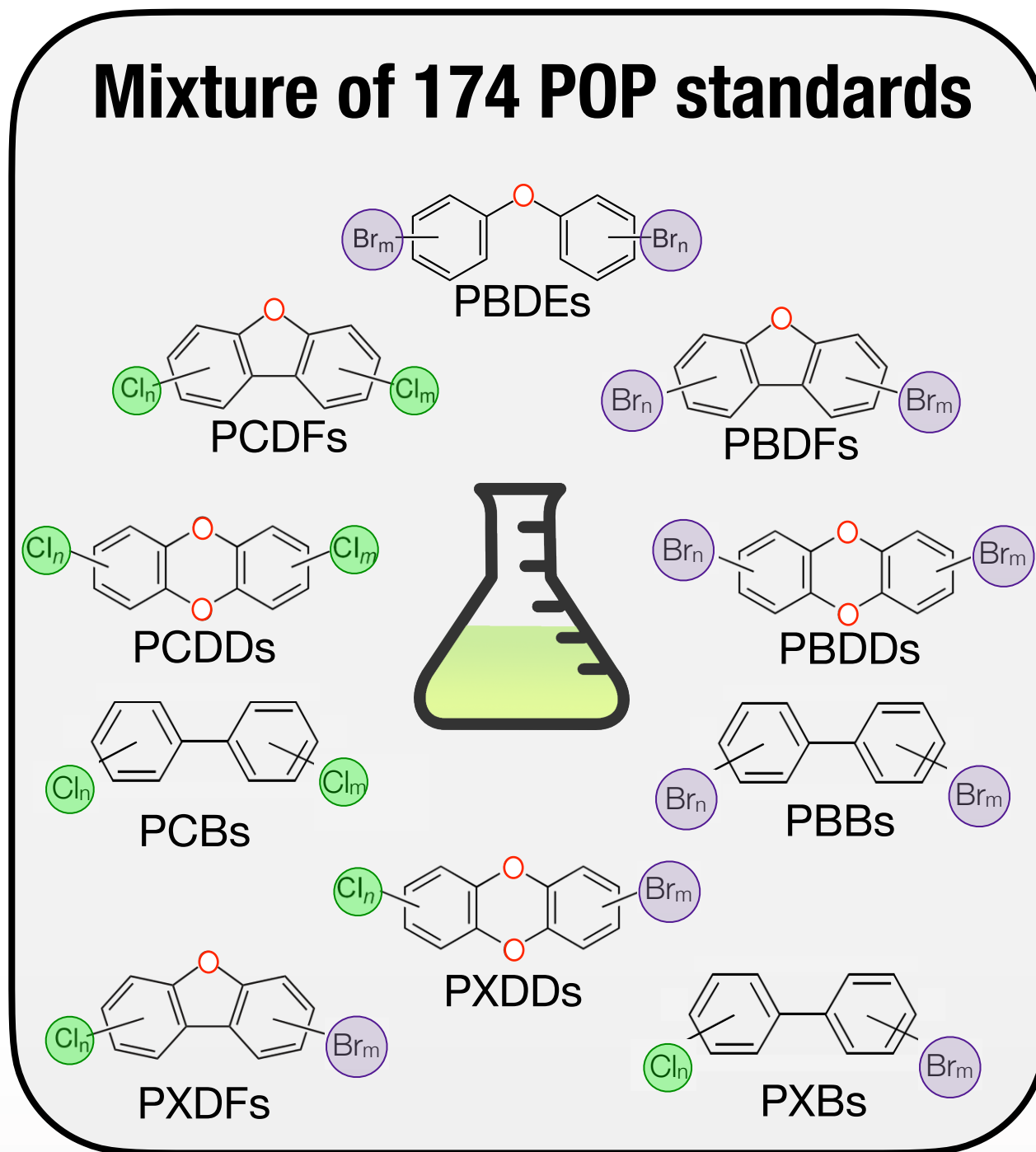
**DTIMS**  
R ~ 20-40

**HIGH**  
R ≥ 80

**LP-DTIMS**  
**TWIMS**  
**TIMS**

In this study:  $R_p \sim 140$

# Material & method

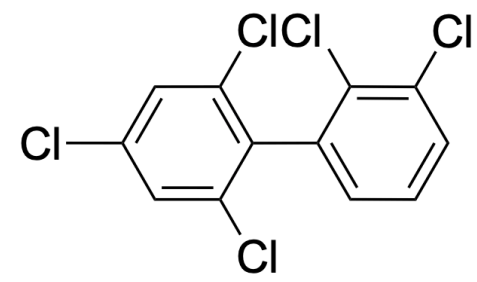


Isobars  
coelution

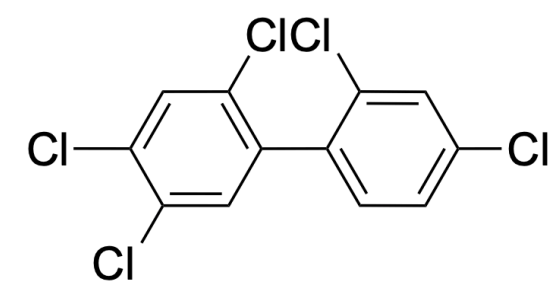
Resolvable  
by IMS?

Isomers  
coelution

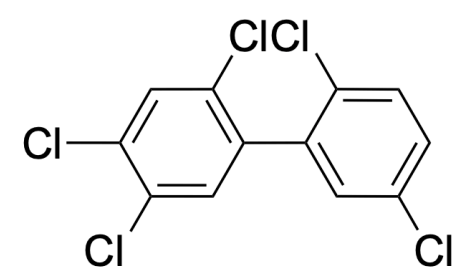
# Coeluting isobars/isomers



PeCB 84

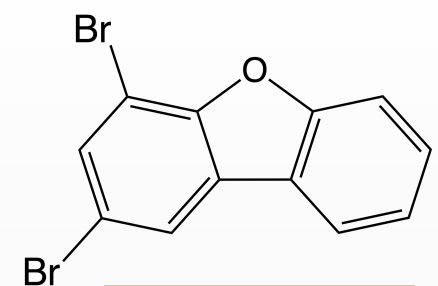


PeCB 90



PeCB 101

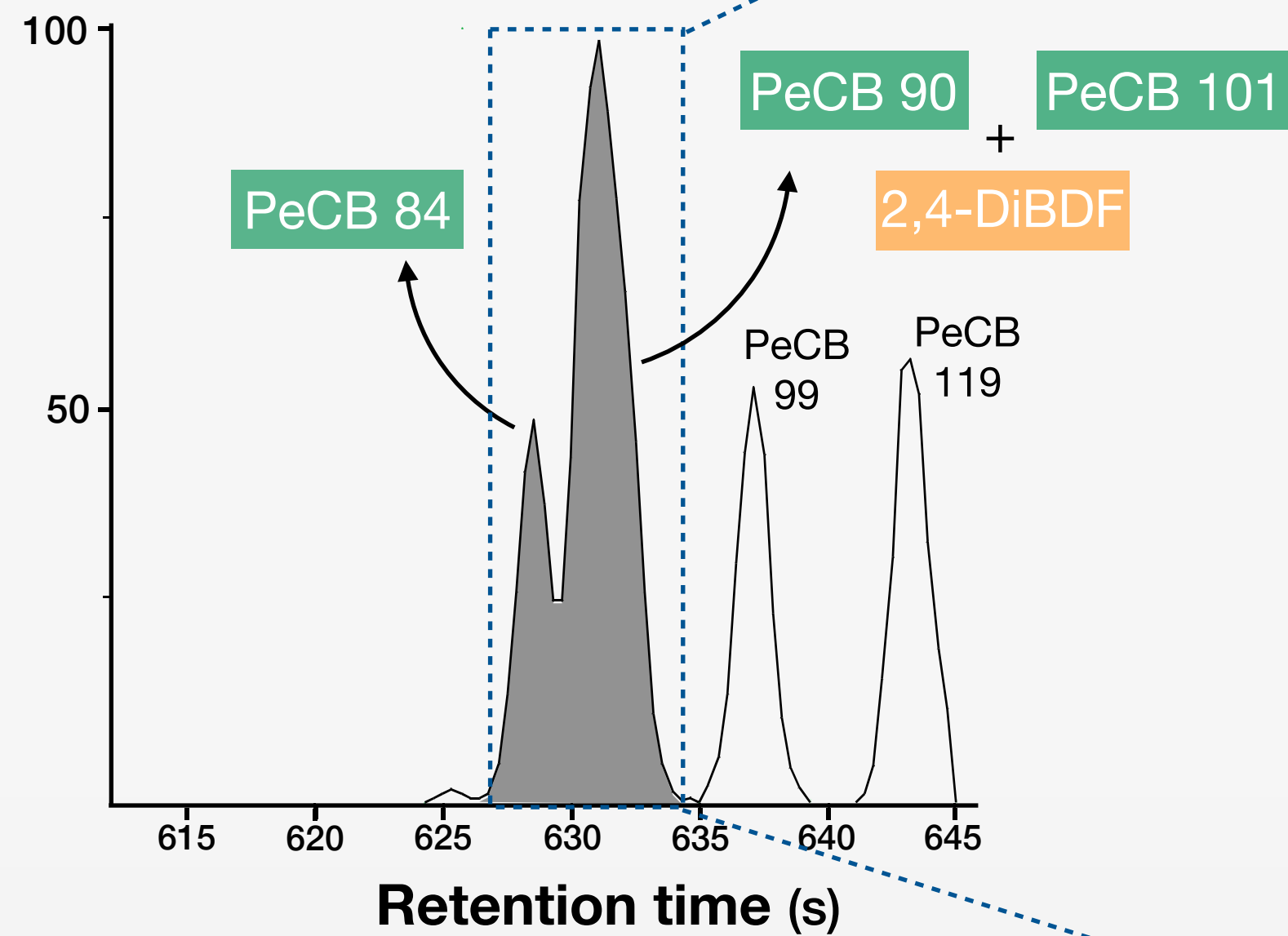
m/z 325.8799



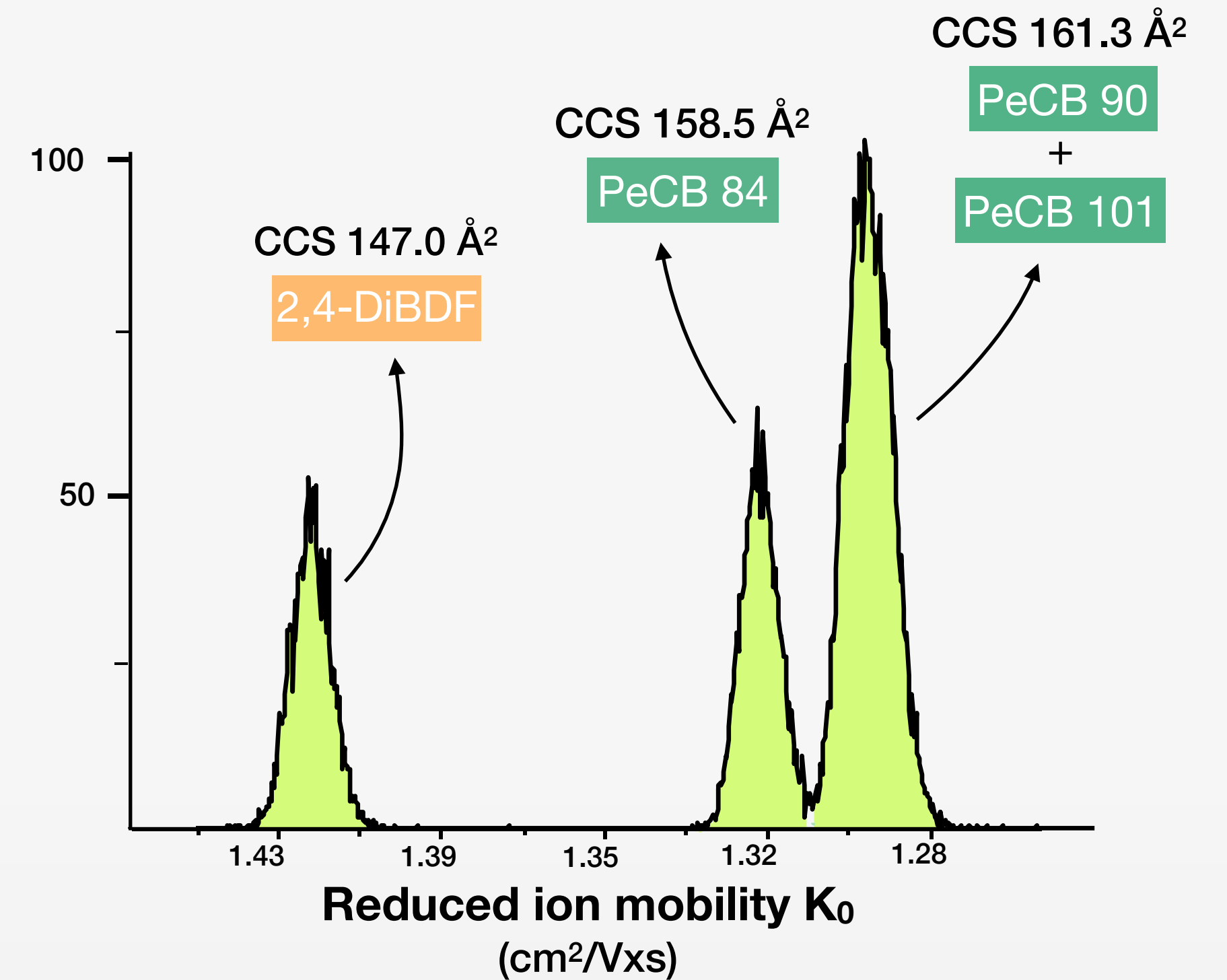
2,4-DiBDF

m/z 325.8760

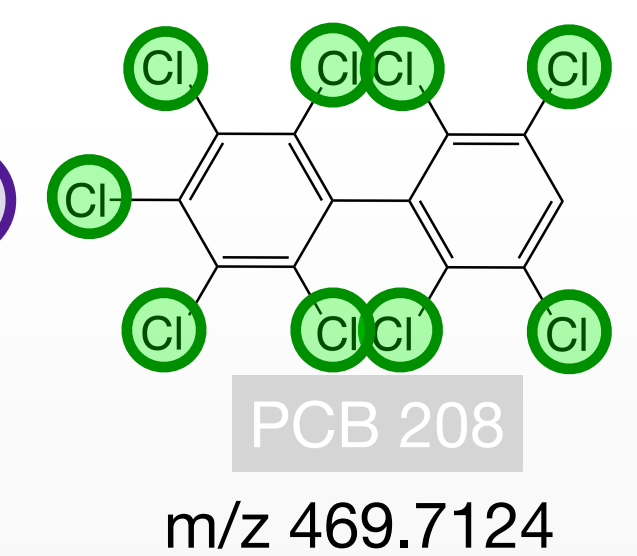
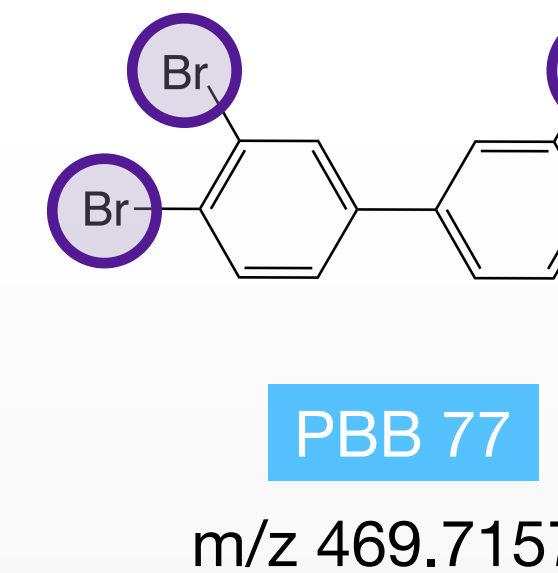
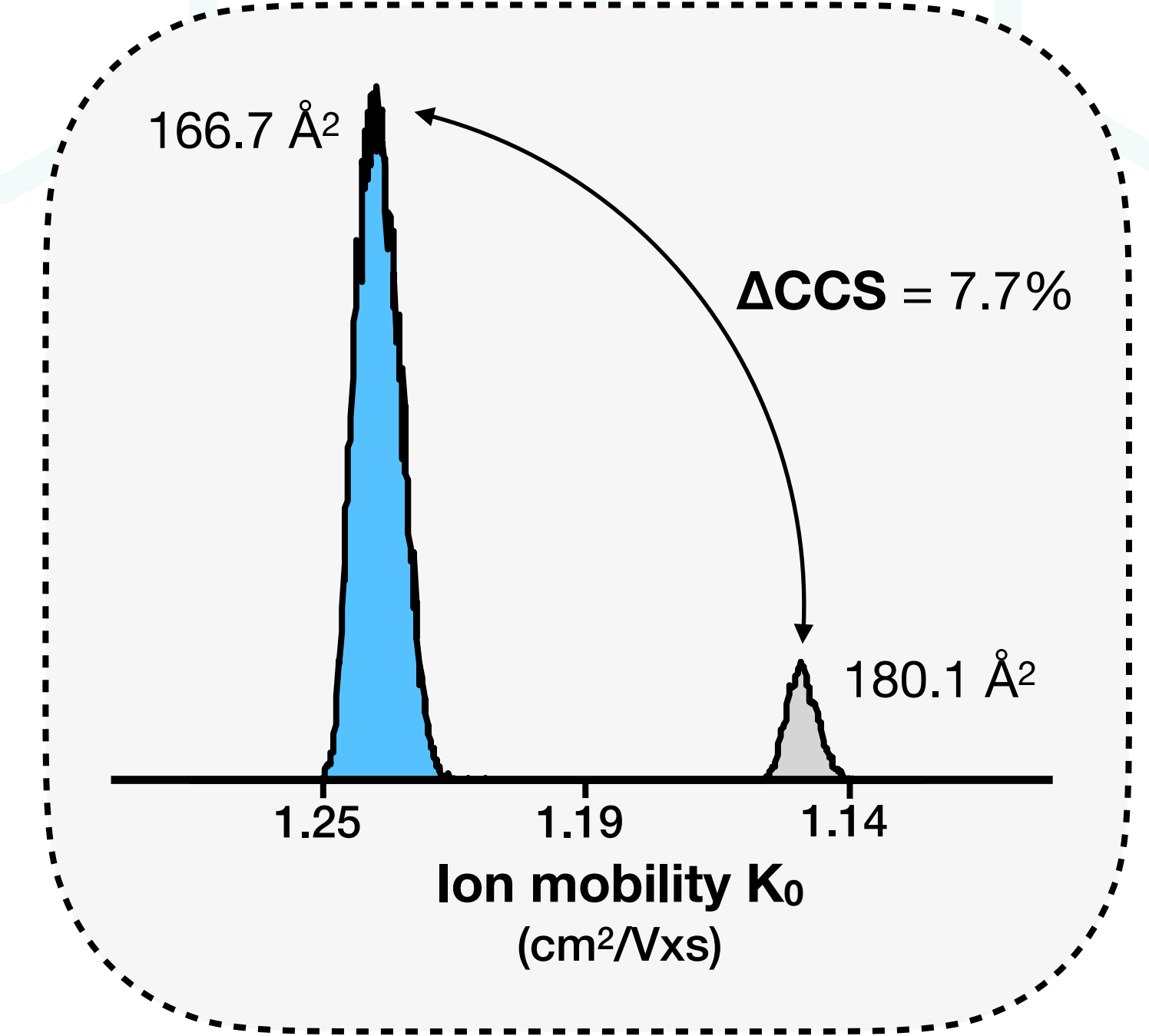
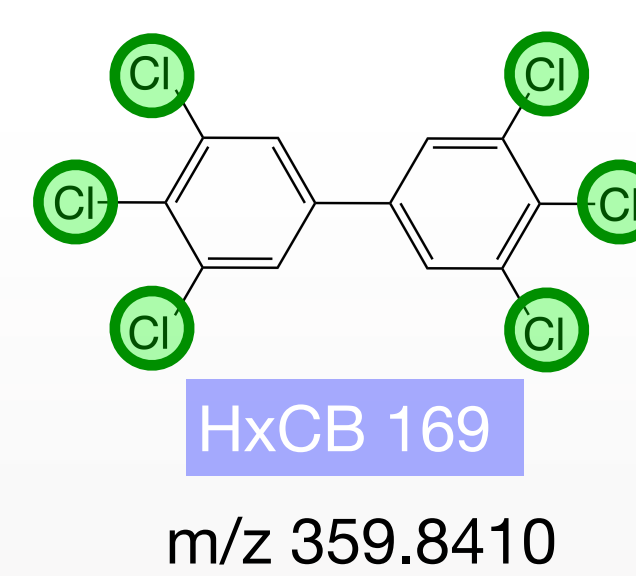
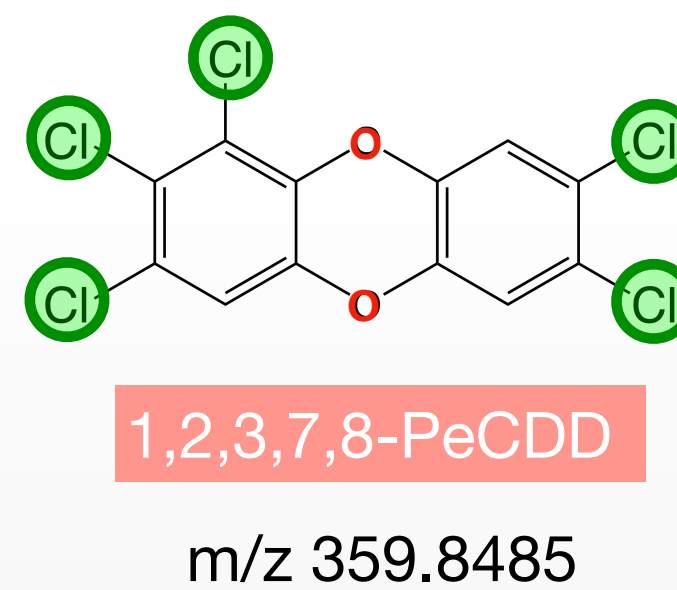
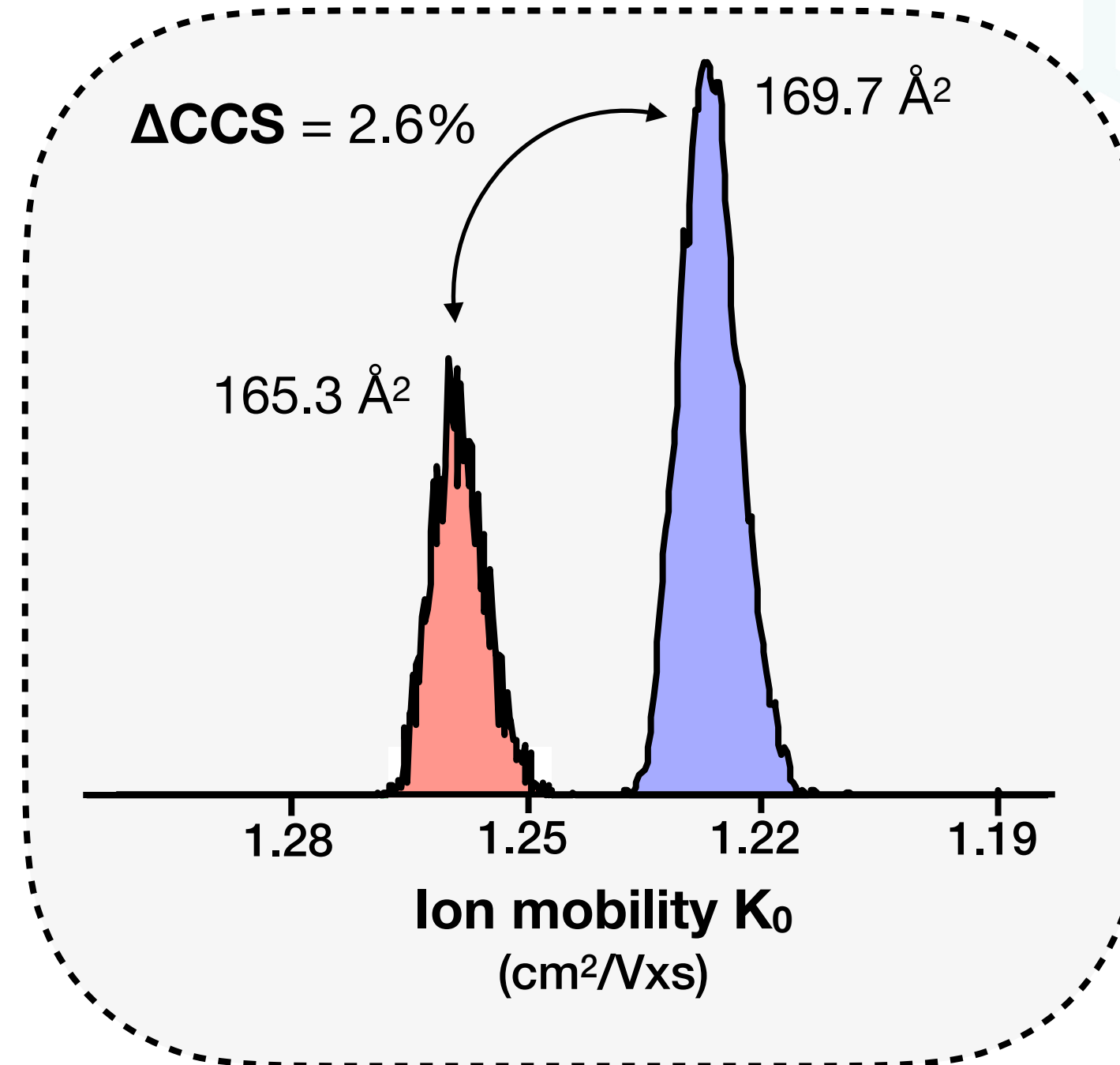
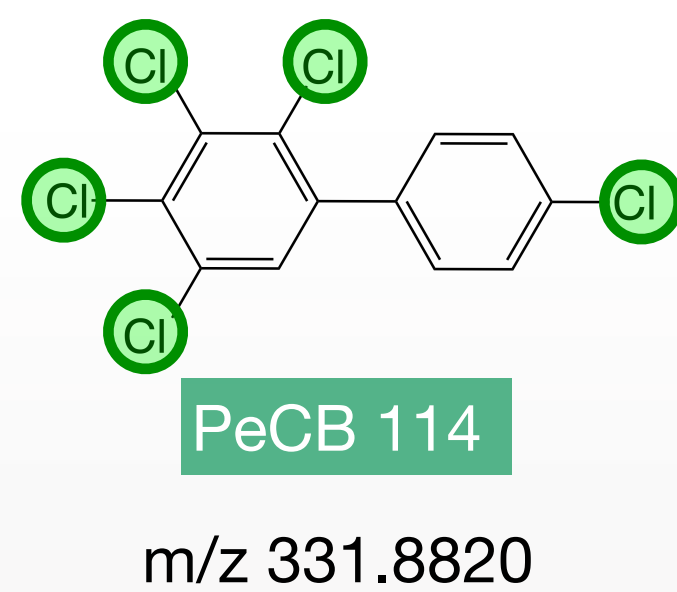
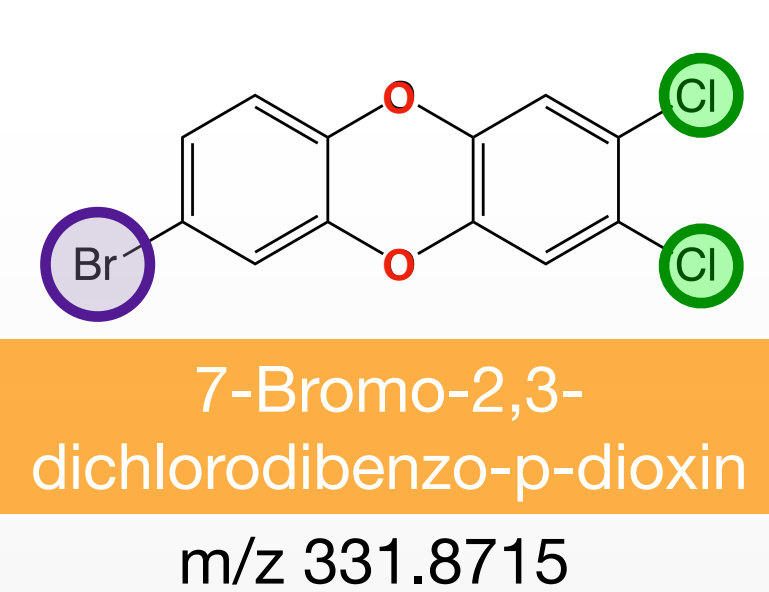
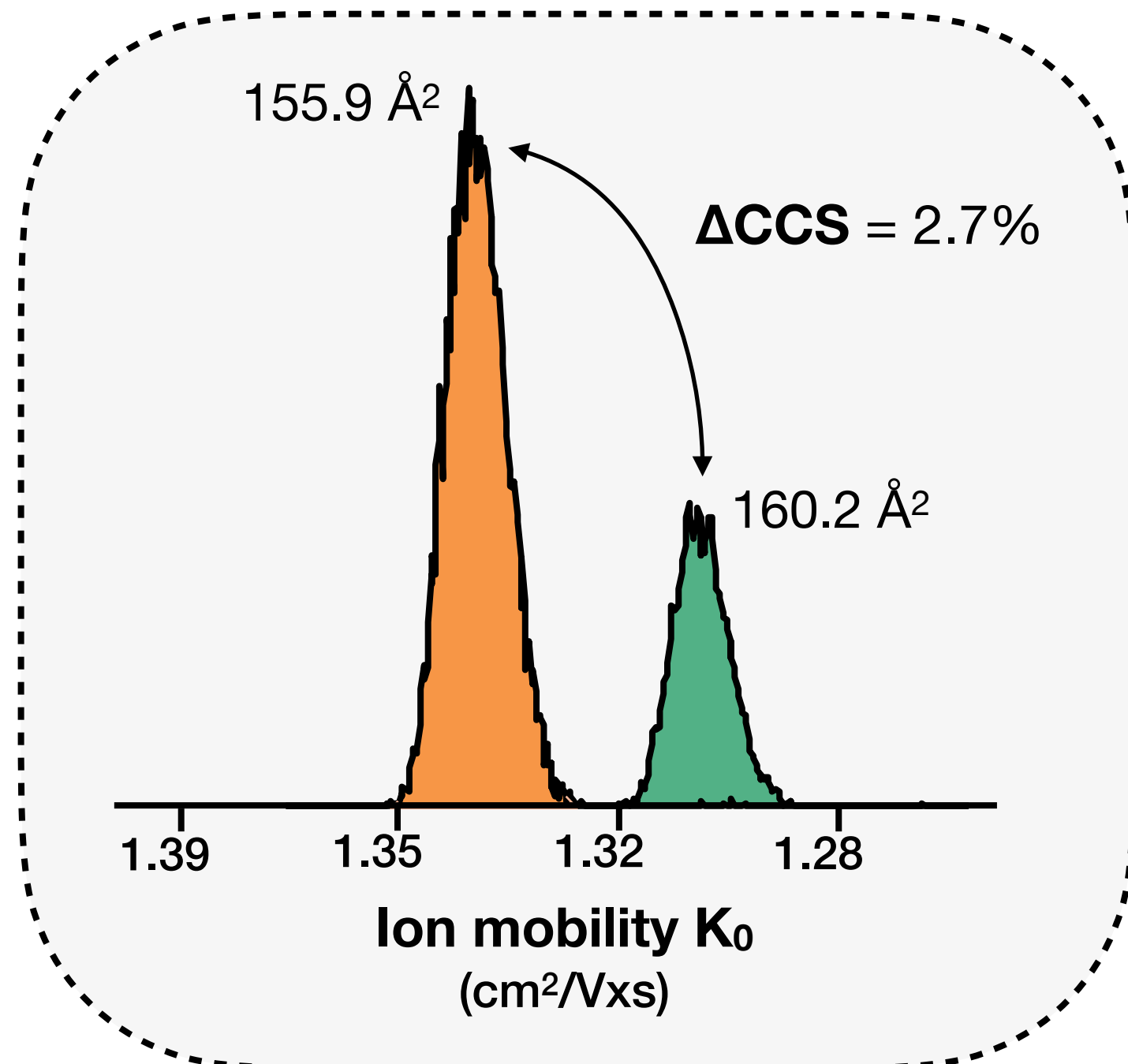
## Gas chromatography



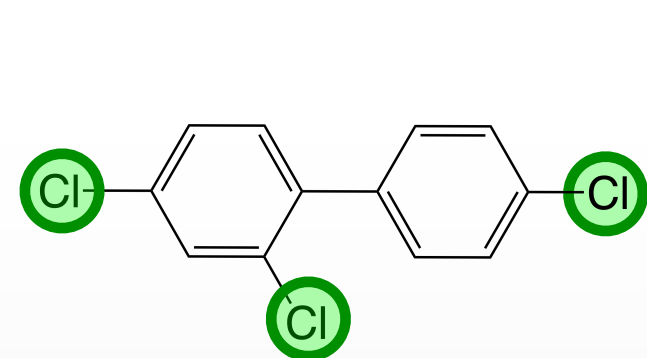
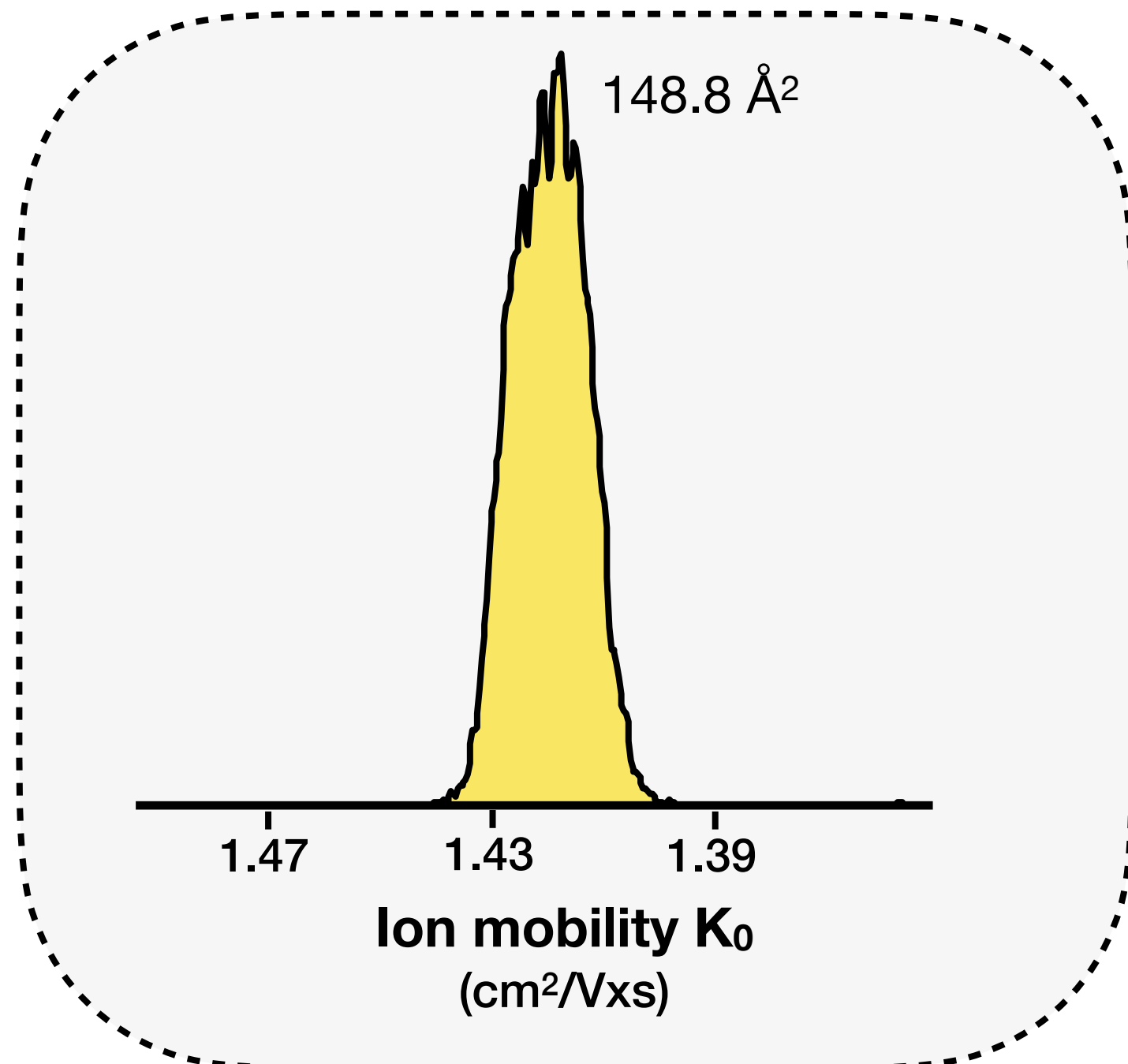
## Ion mobility



# Coeluting isobars

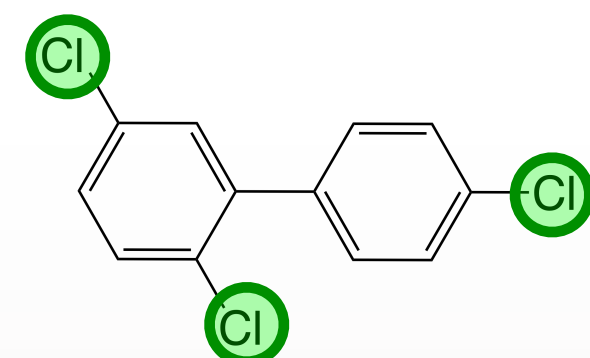


# Coeluting isomers



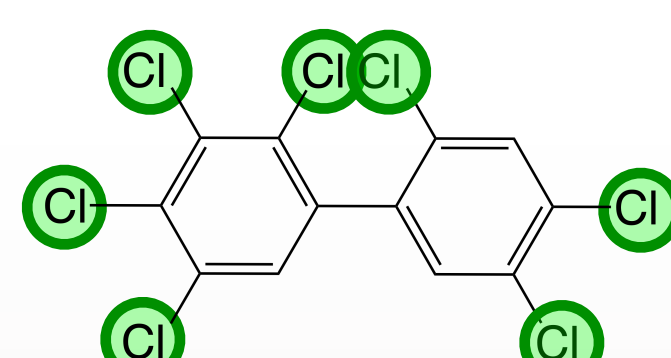
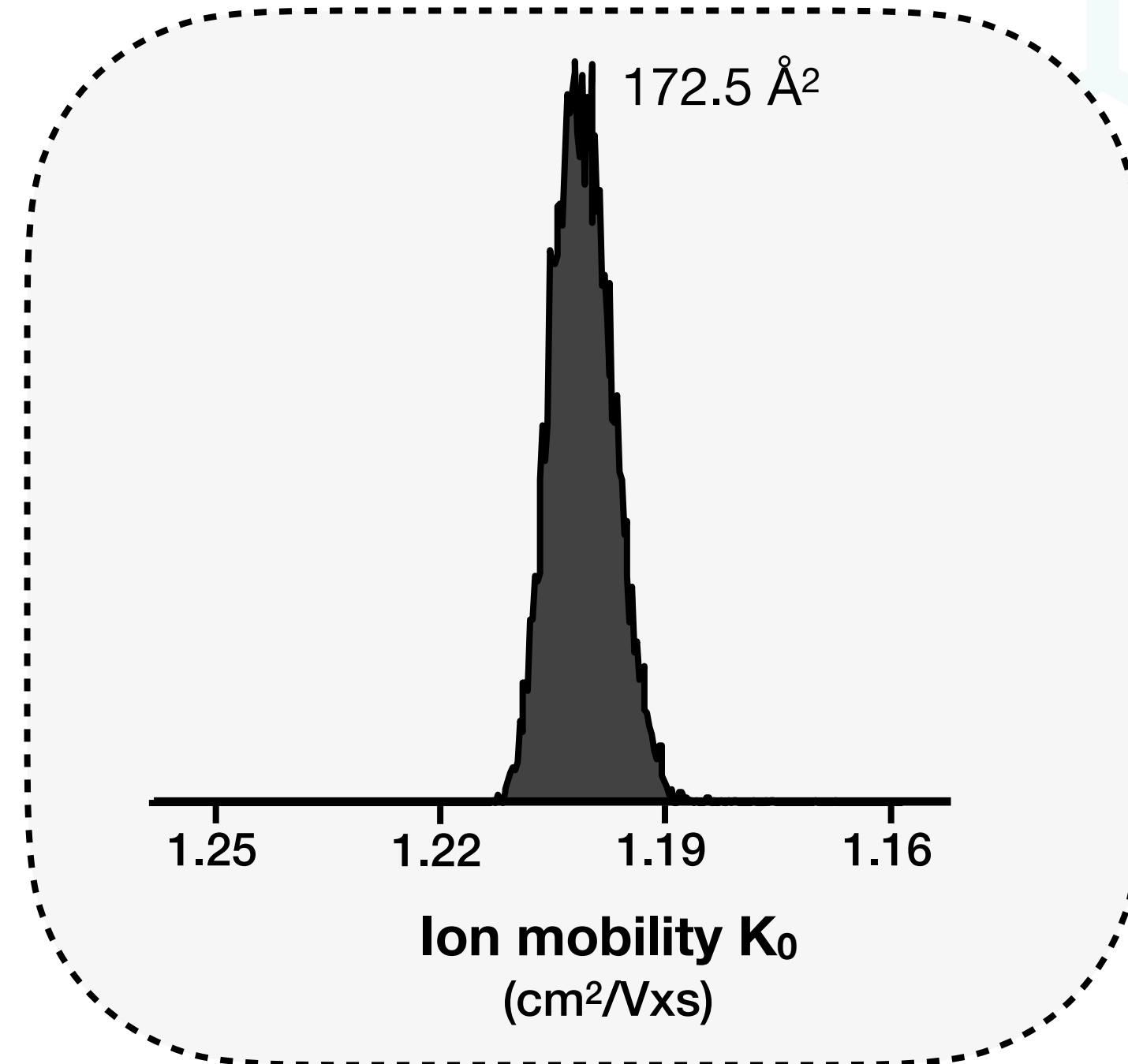
TriCB 28

m/z 255.9608



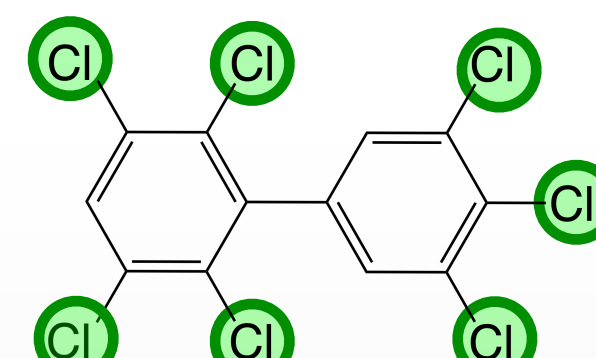
TriCB 31

m/z 255.9608



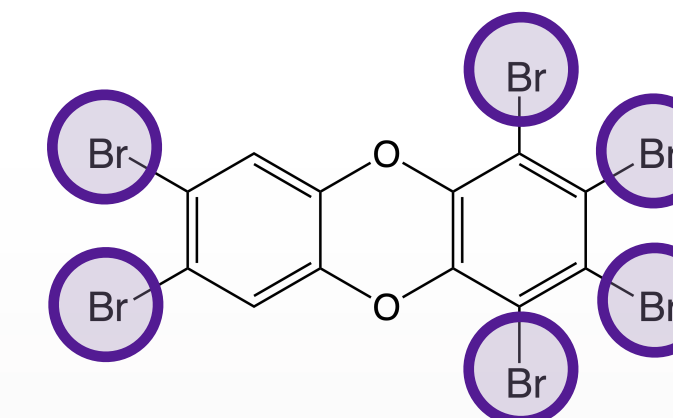
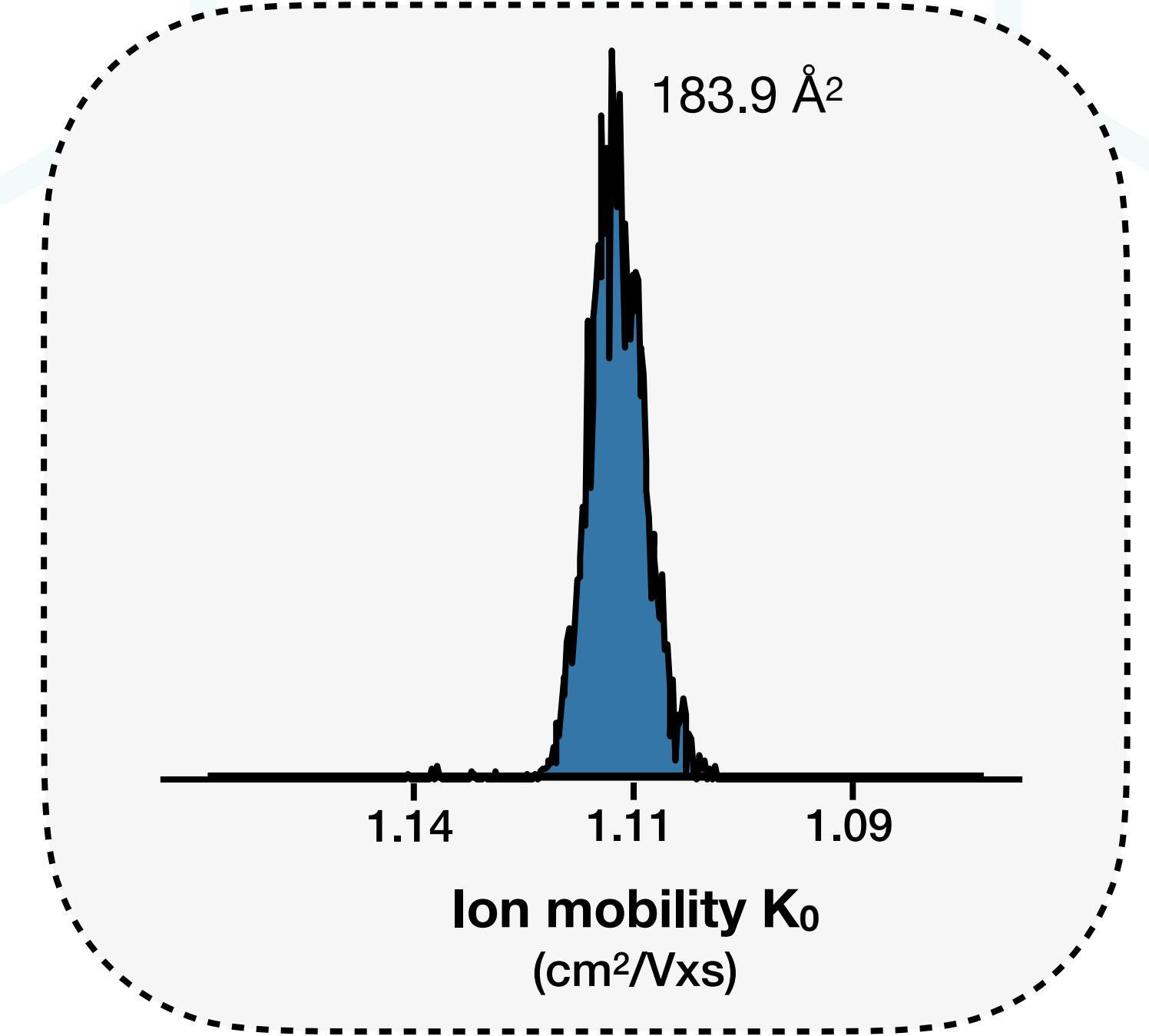
HpCB 180

m/z 393.8020



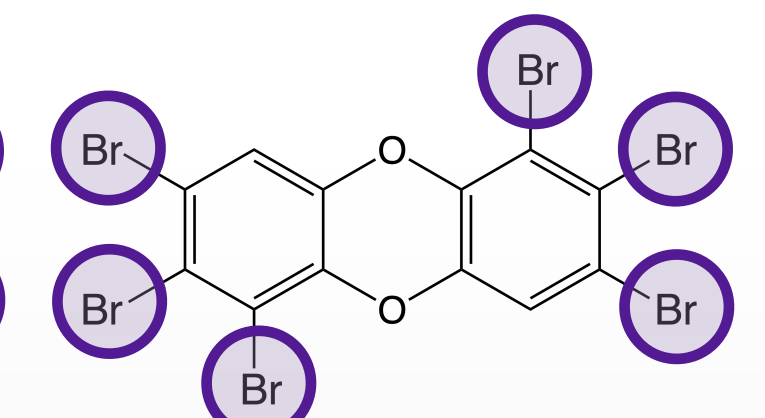
HpCB 193

m/z 393.8020



1,2,3,4,7,8-HxBDD

m/z 657.5089

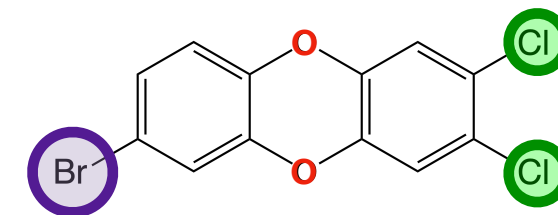
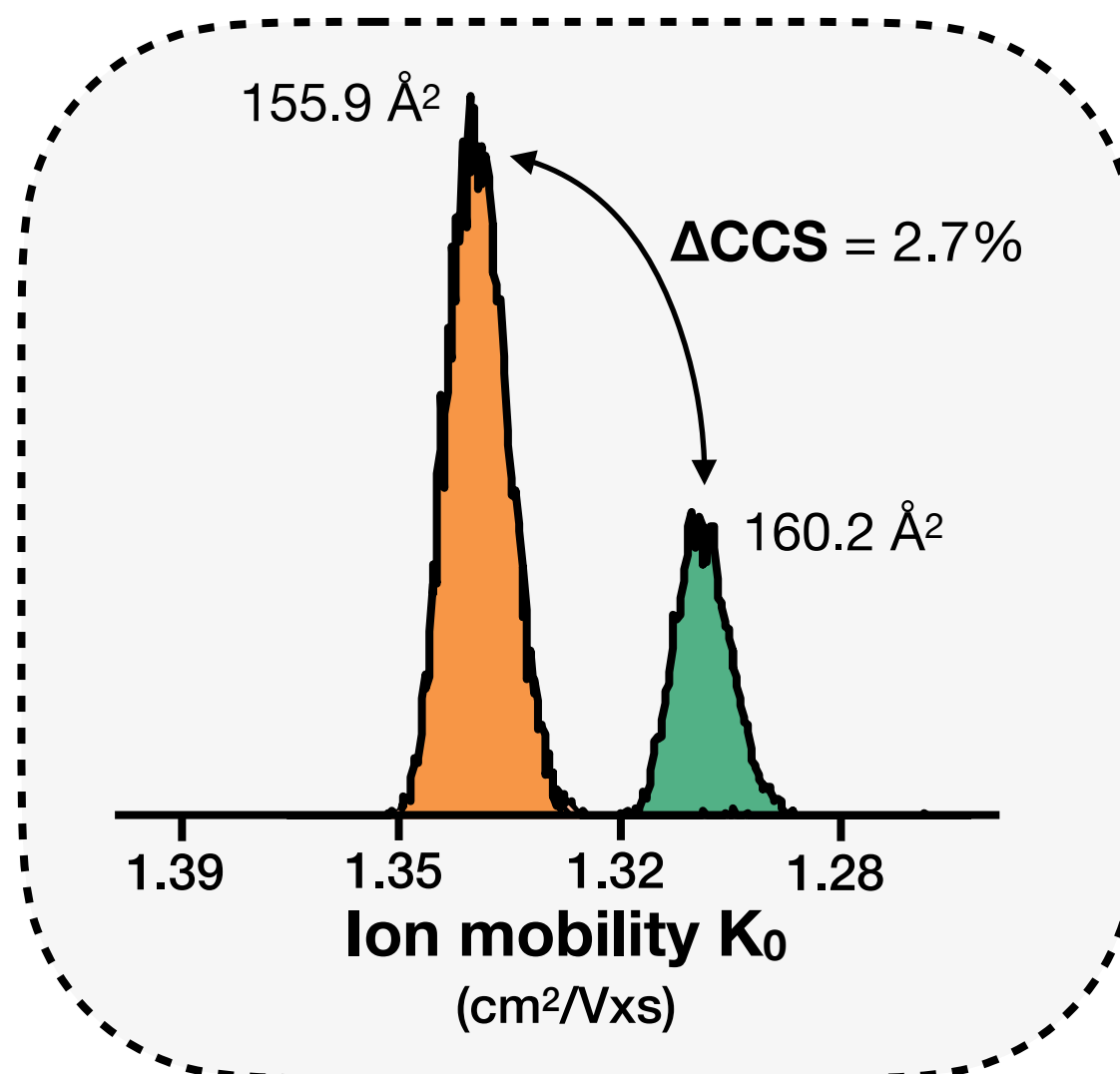


1,2,3,6,7,8-HxBDD

m/z 657.5089

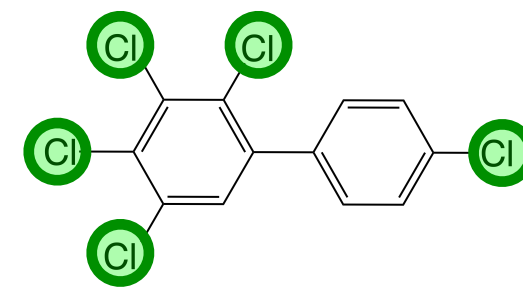
# First summary

## Coeluting isobars



7-Bromo-2,3-dichlorodibenzo-p-dioxin

m/z 331.8715

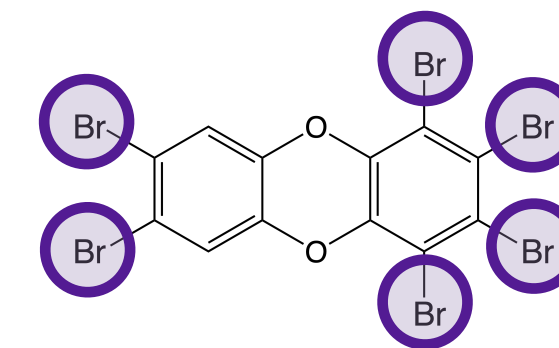


PeCB 114

m/z 331.8820

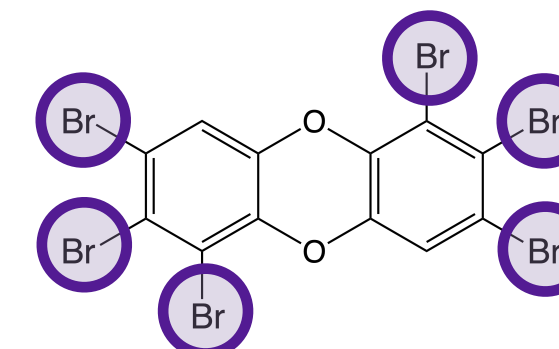
- **Baseline** separation in IM (9/9 → 100%)
- Structurally **different** (ΔCCS 2-8%):
  - Aromatic backbone
  - Number/type of halogen substituents

## Coeluting isomers



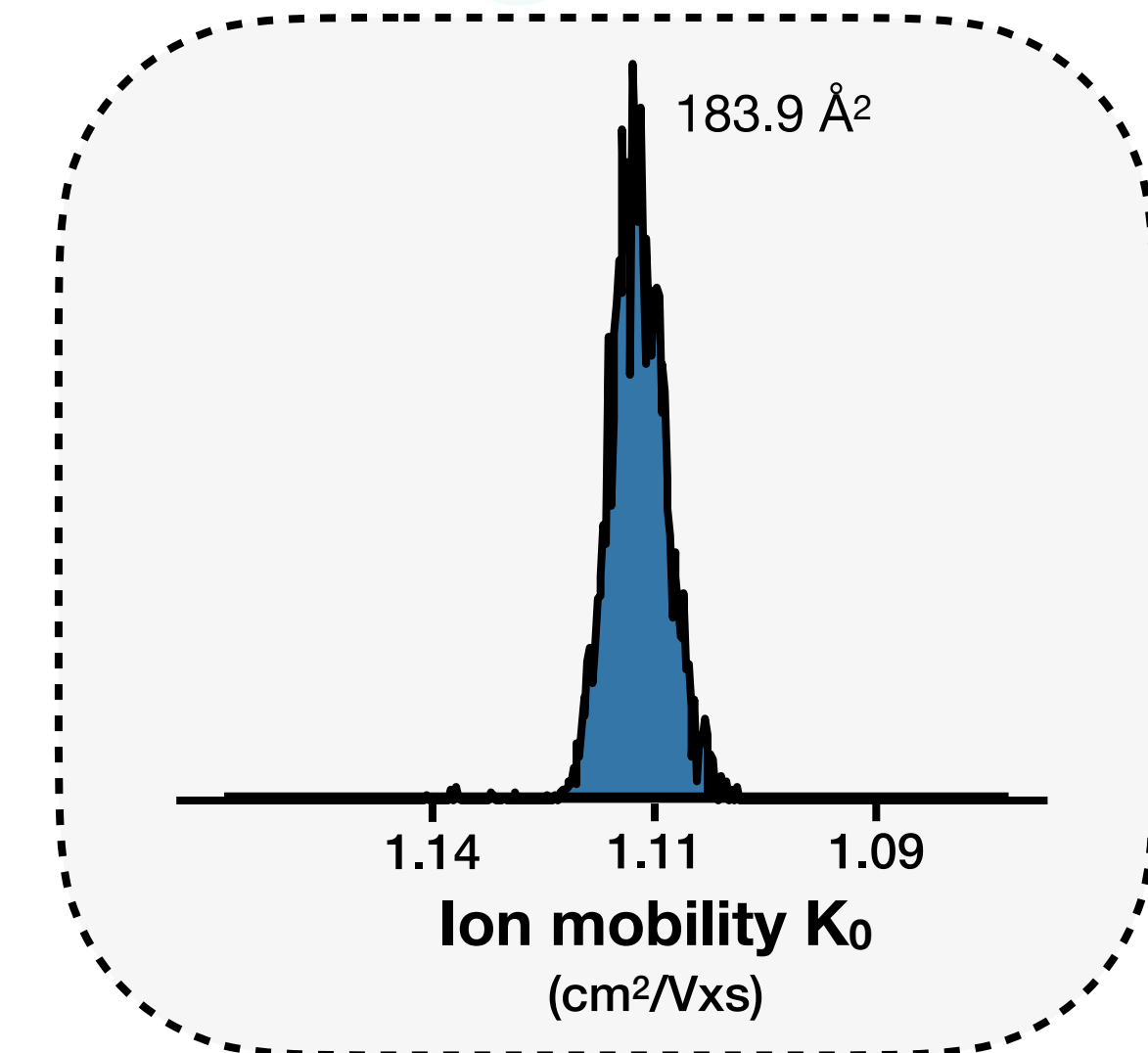
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxBDD

m/z 657.5089



1,2,3,6,7,8-HxBDD

m/z 657.5089

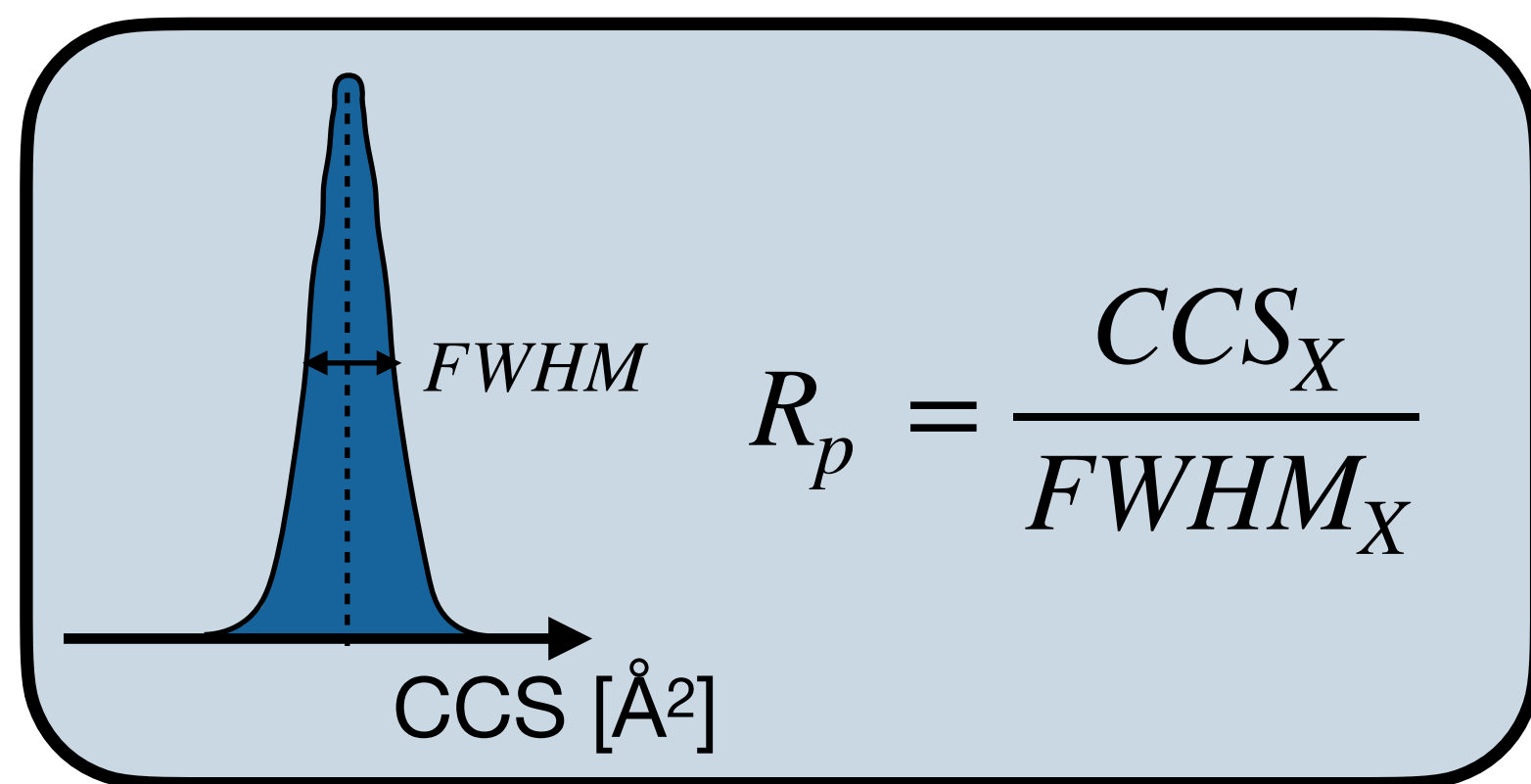


- **No** separation in IM (2/13 → ~15%)
- Structurally **similar**:
  - Positional isomers

⇒ Separation at higher R<sub>p</sub>?



# Resolving power



**LOW**  
R < 80

**DTIMS**  
R ~ 20-40

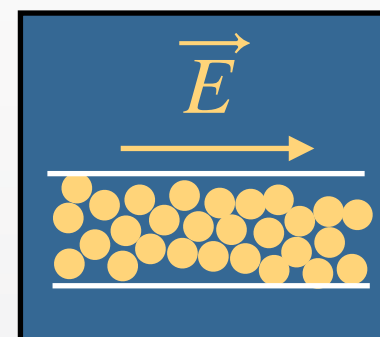
**HIGH**  
R ≥ 80

**LP-DTIMS**  
**TWIMS**  
**TIMS**

In this study:  $R_p \sim 140$

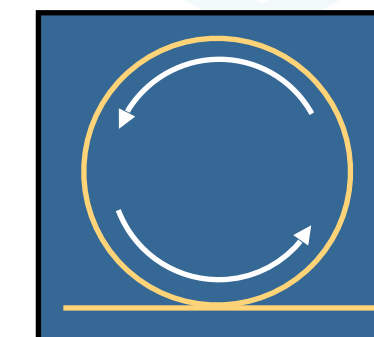
**ULTRA HIGH**  
R ≥ 200

**AP-DTIMS**  
R<sub>max</sub> ~ 250

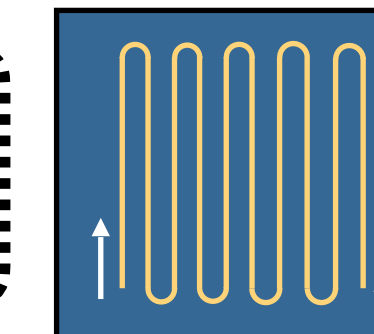


**Cyclic DTIMS**  
R<sub>max</sub> ~ 1000

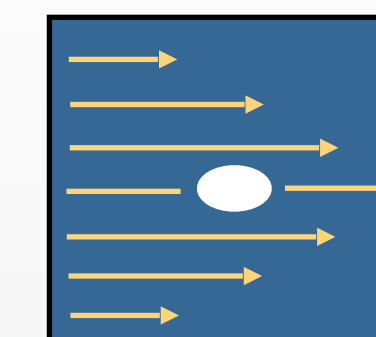
**Cyclic TWIMS**  
R<sub>max</sub> ~ 800



**SLIM TWIMS**  
R<sub>max</sub> ~ 1800

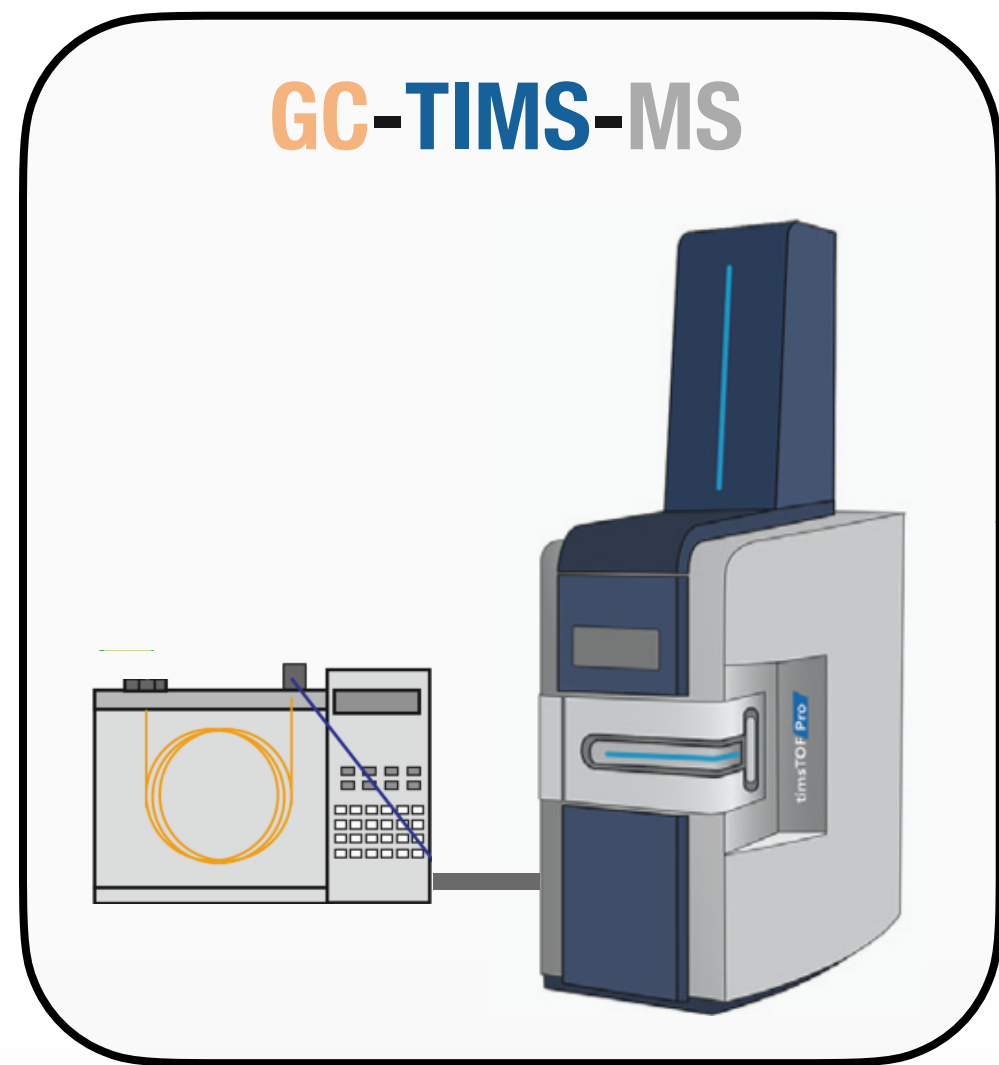


**TIMS**  
R<sub>max</sub> ~ 400



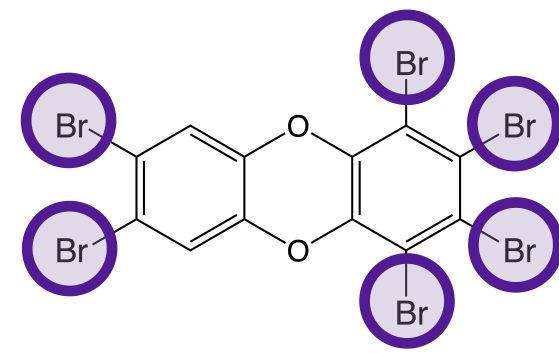
⚠ Targeted ⚠  
# analytes ↔ Resolving power

# UHR TIMS

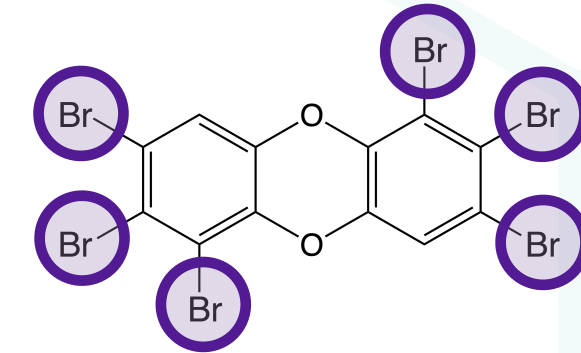


HR TIMS  
 $R_p \sim 140$

UHR TIMS  
 $R_p \sim 200$

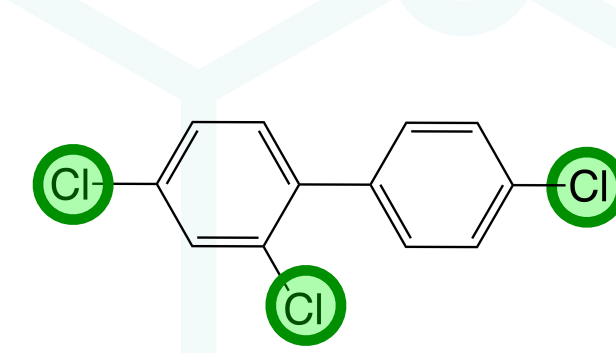
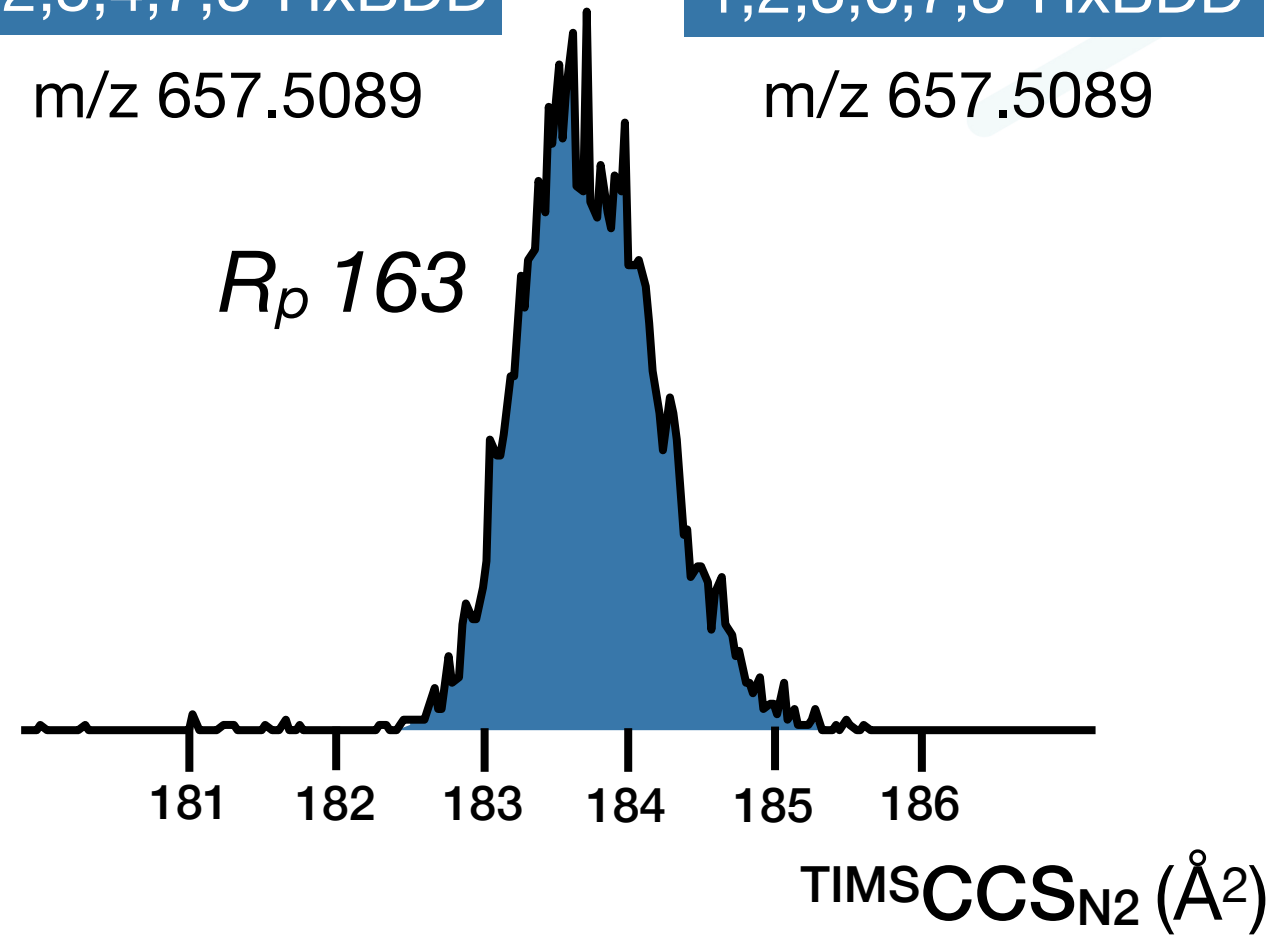


$m/z$  657.5089

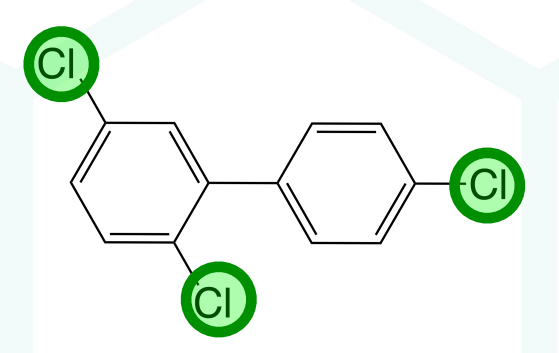


$m/z$  657.5089

$R_p$  163

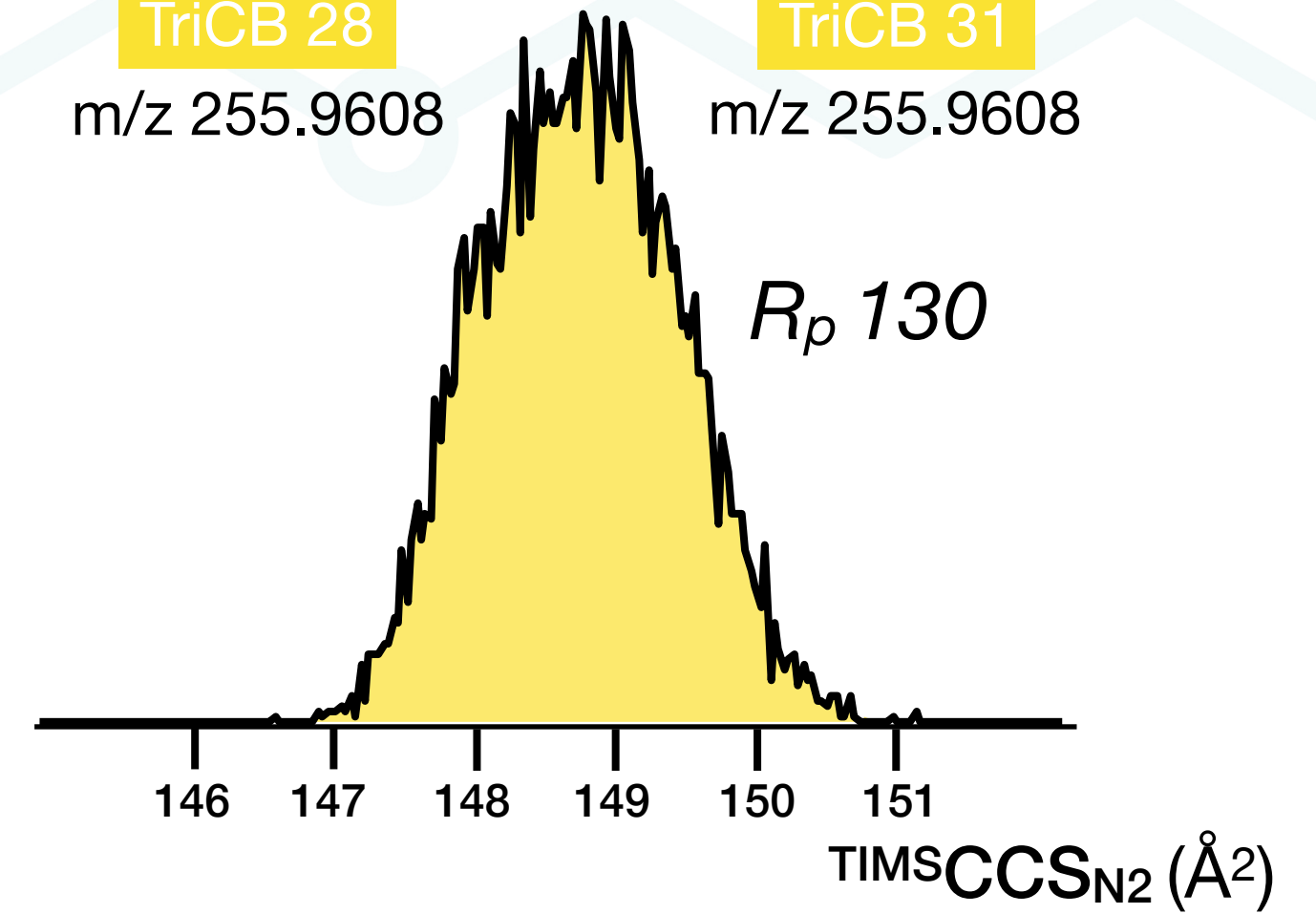


$m/z$  255.9608

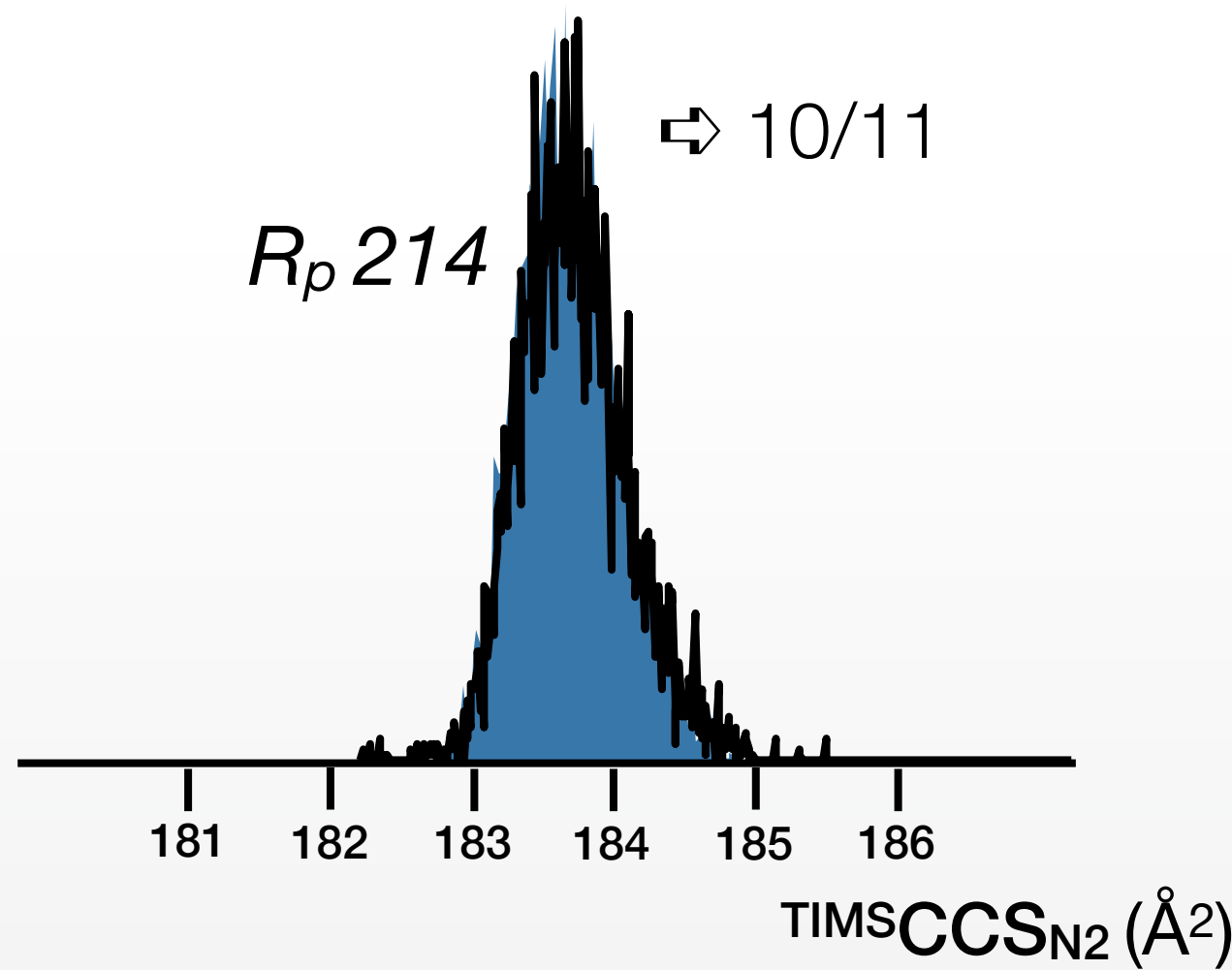


$m/z$  255.9608

$R_p$  130

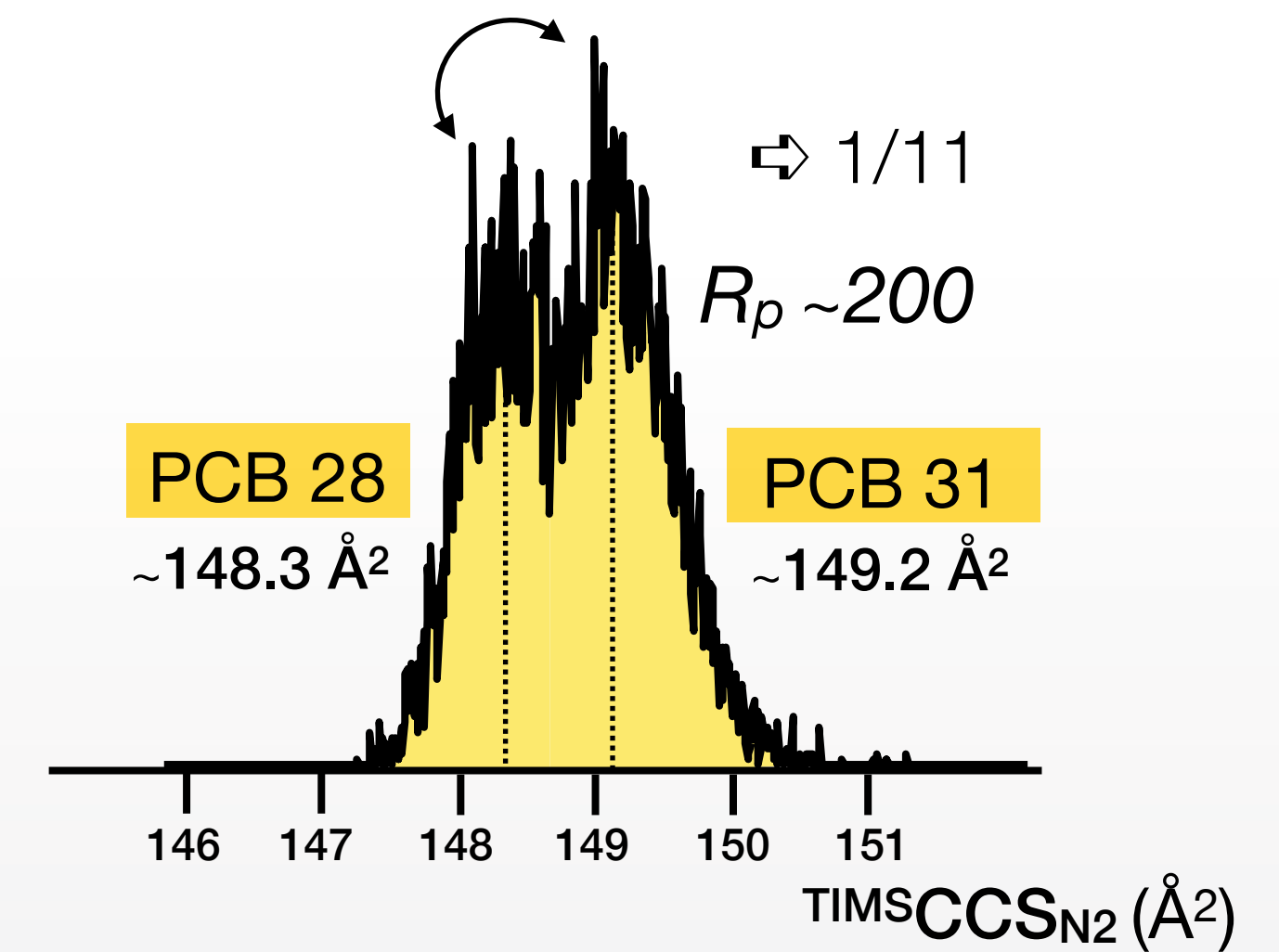


$R_p$  214  
⇒ 10/11

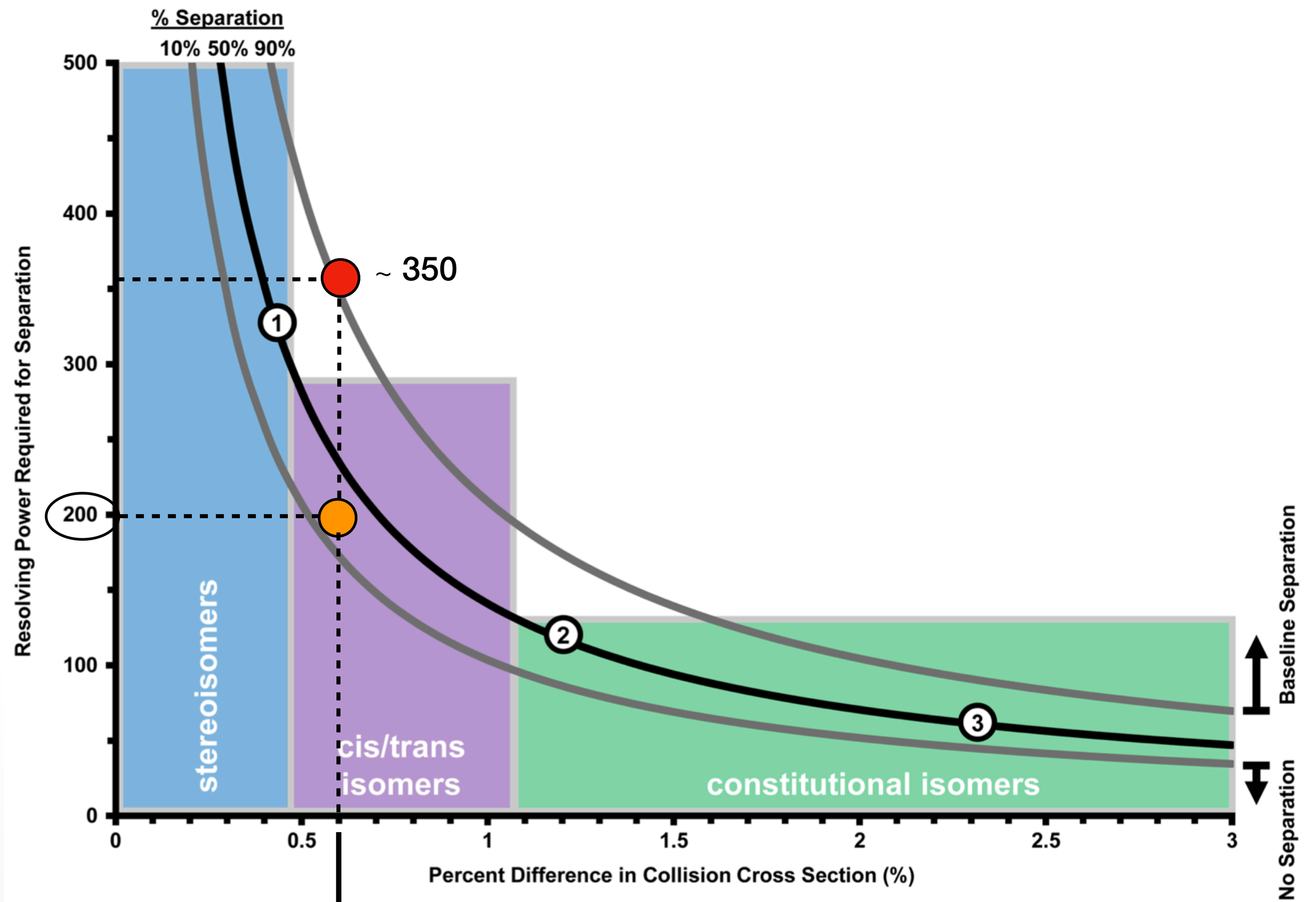


$\Delta$ CCS = ~0.6%

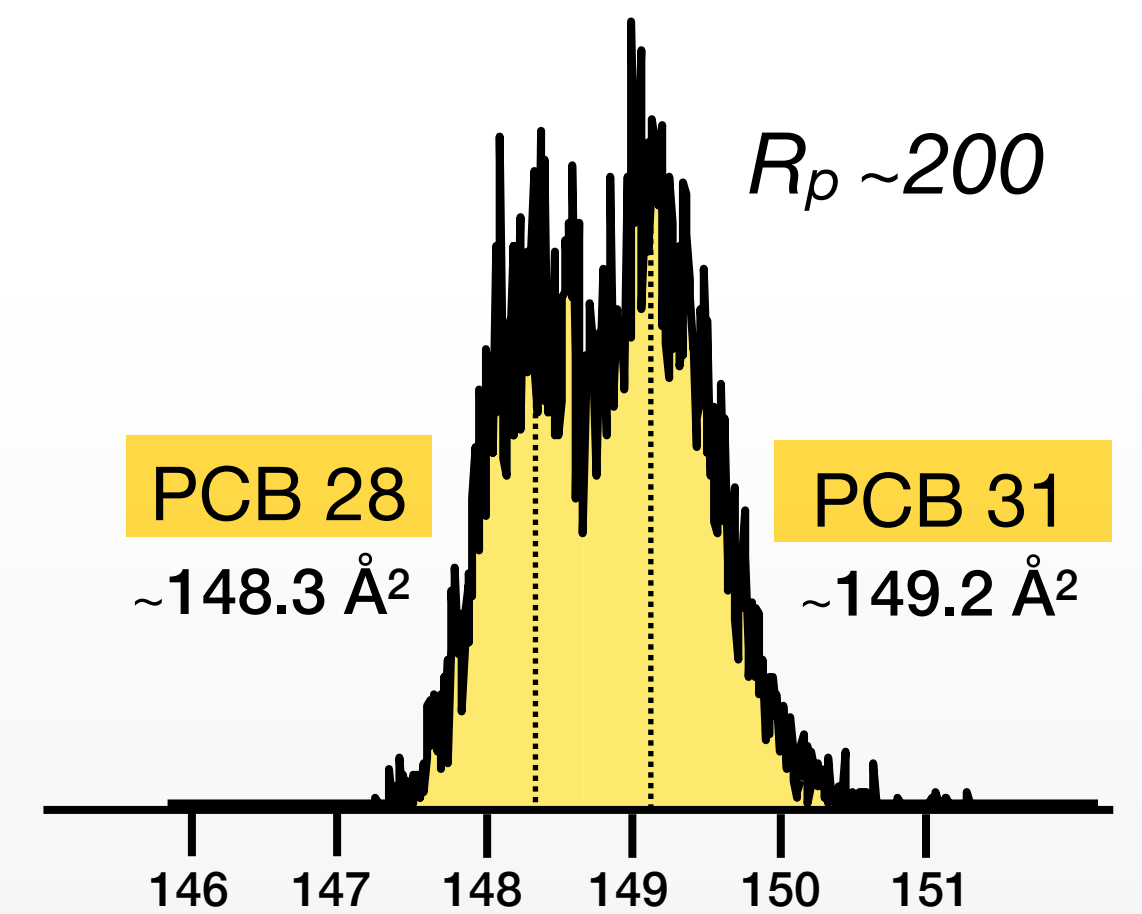
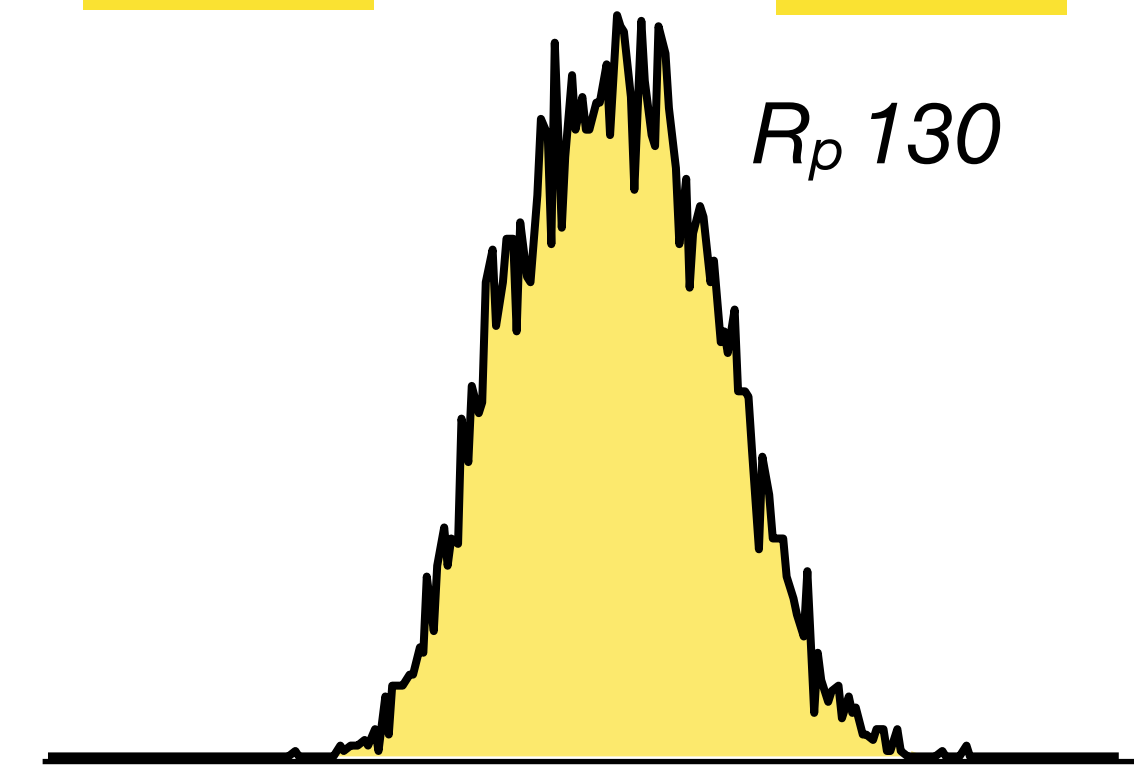
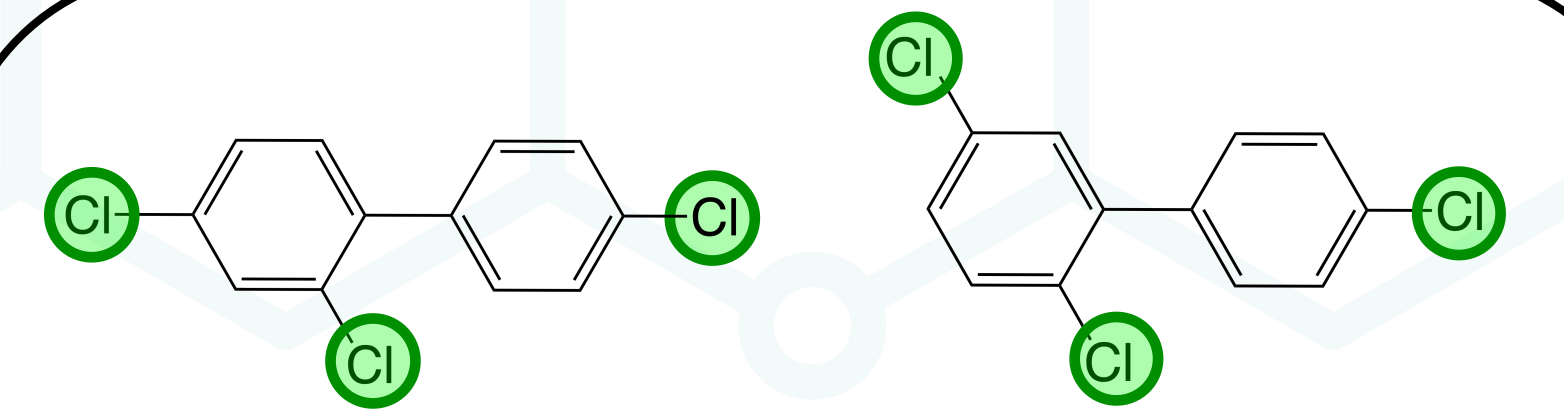
$R_p \sim 200$   
⇒ 1/11



# UHR TIMS

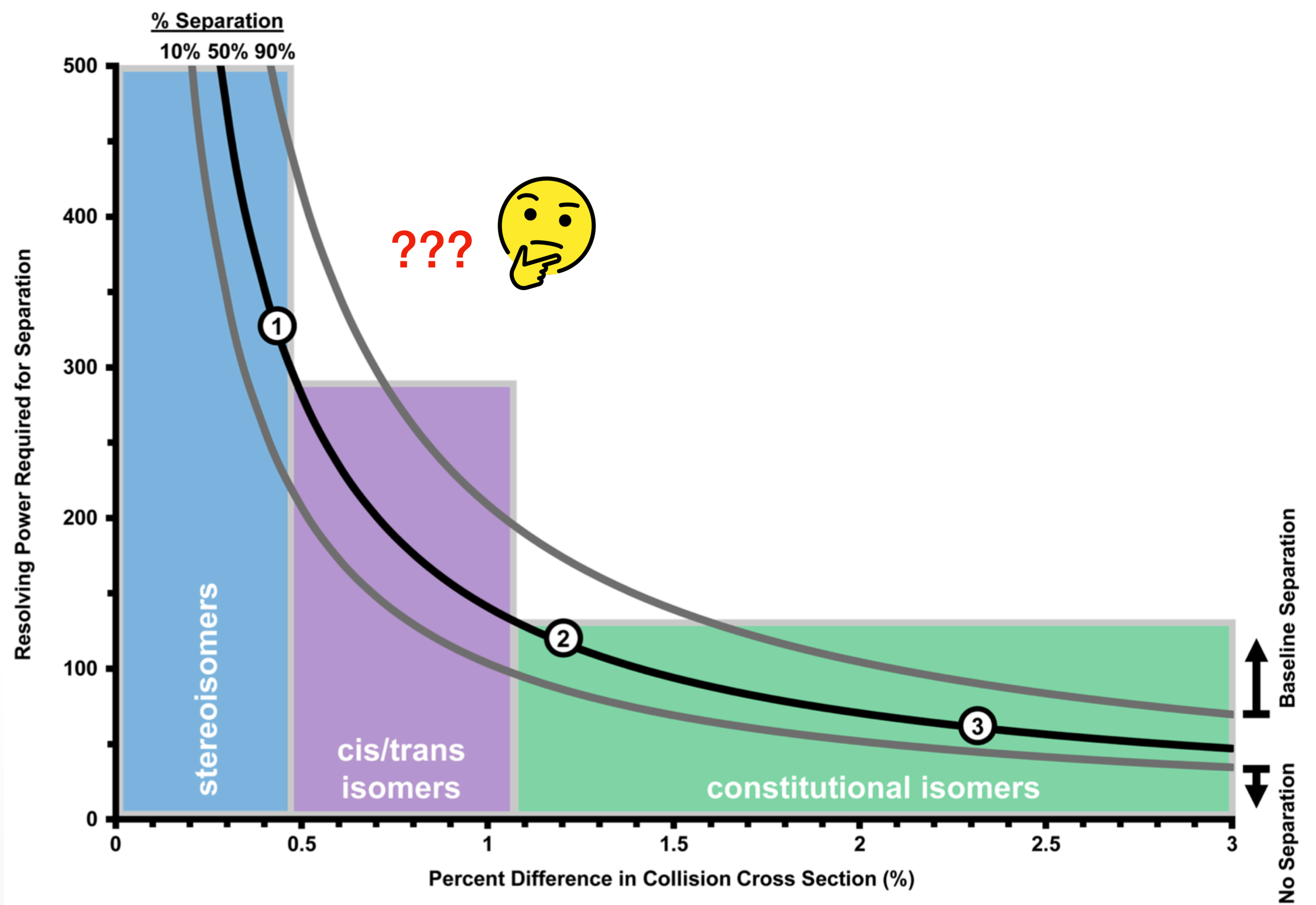


Mc Lean et. al, Anal. Chem. 2017, 89, 1, 952–959

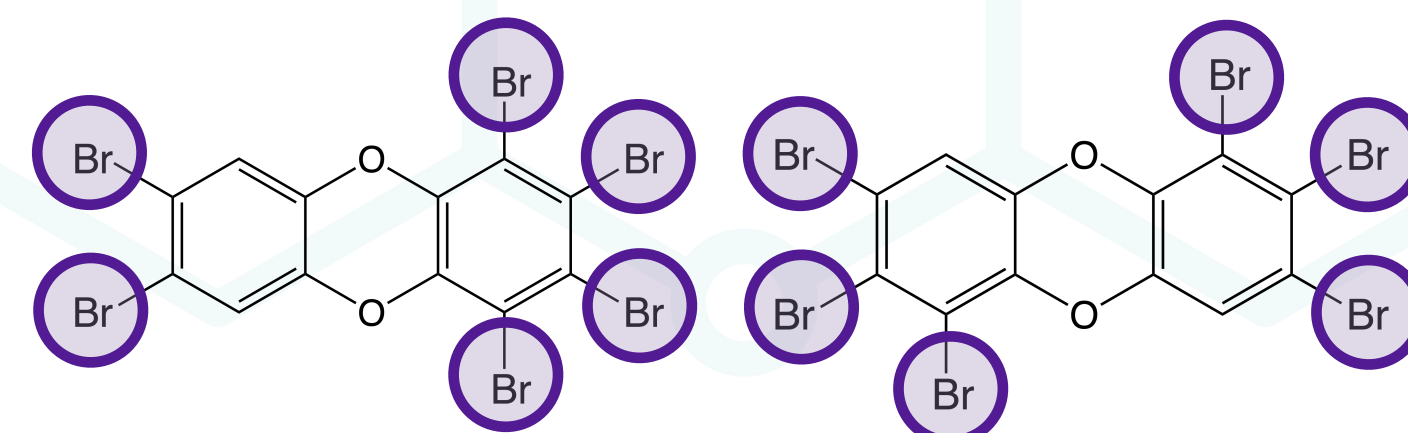


TIMSCCS<sub>N2</sub> (Å<sup>2</sup>)

# UHR TIMS

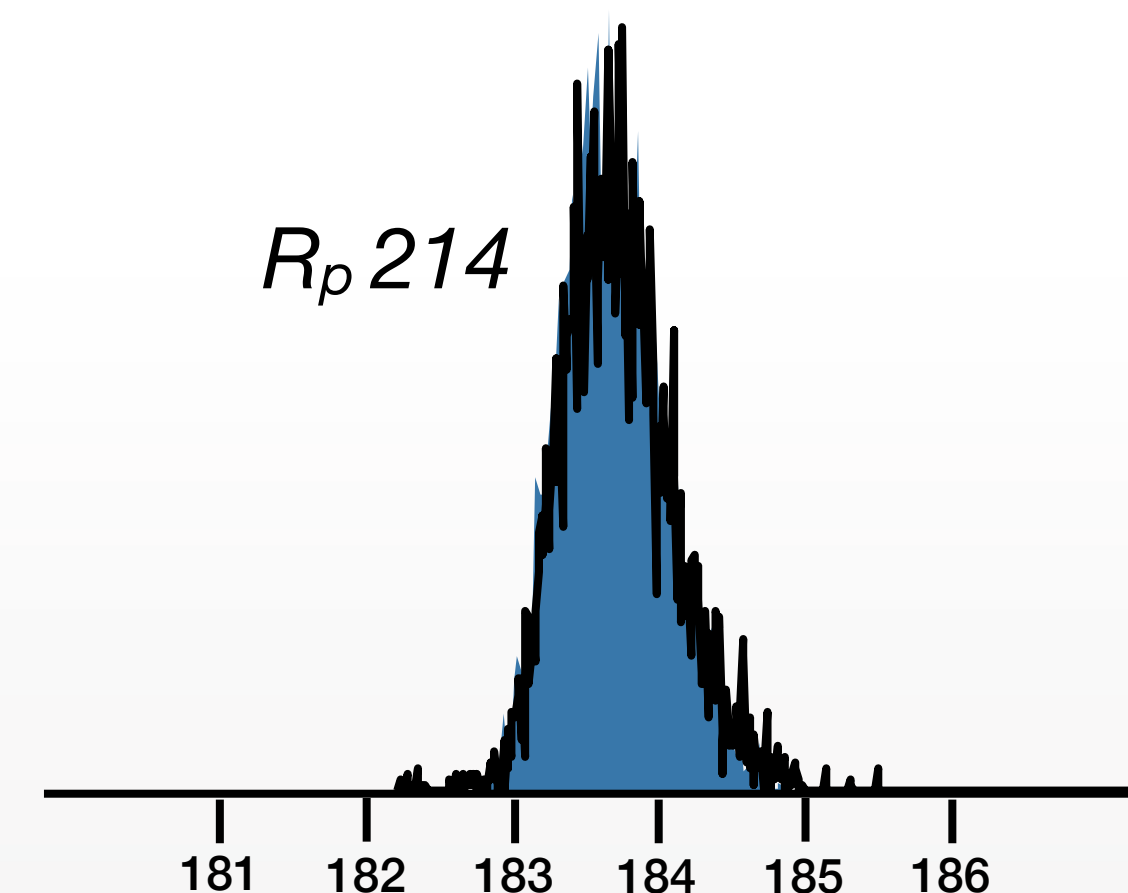
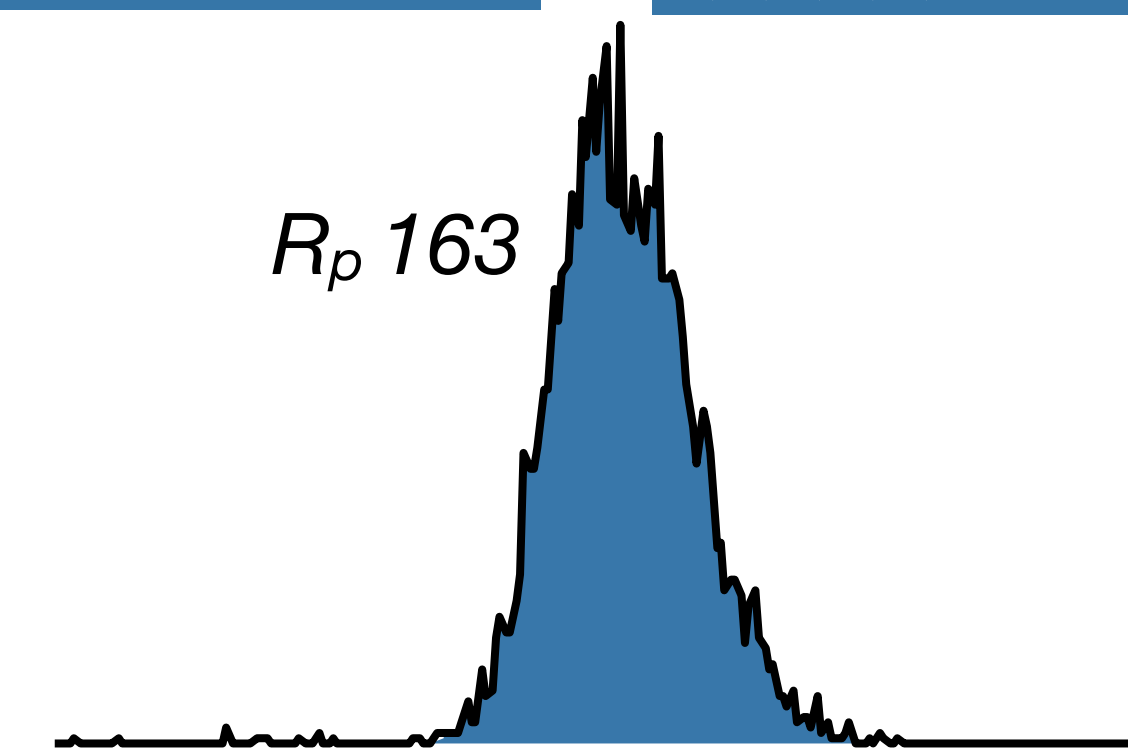


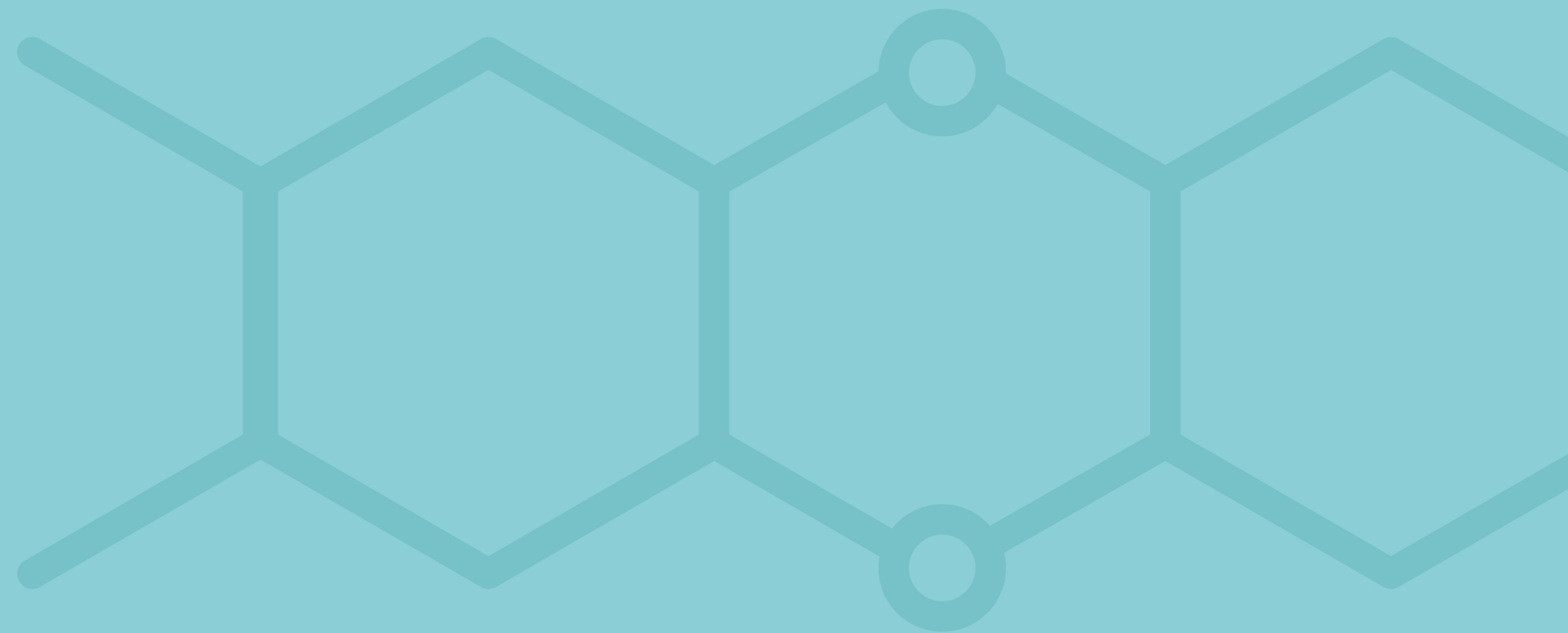
Mc Lean et. al, Anal. Chem. 2017, 89, 1, 952–959



1,2,3,4,7,8-HxBDD

1,2,3,6,7,8-HxBDD





# Conclusion

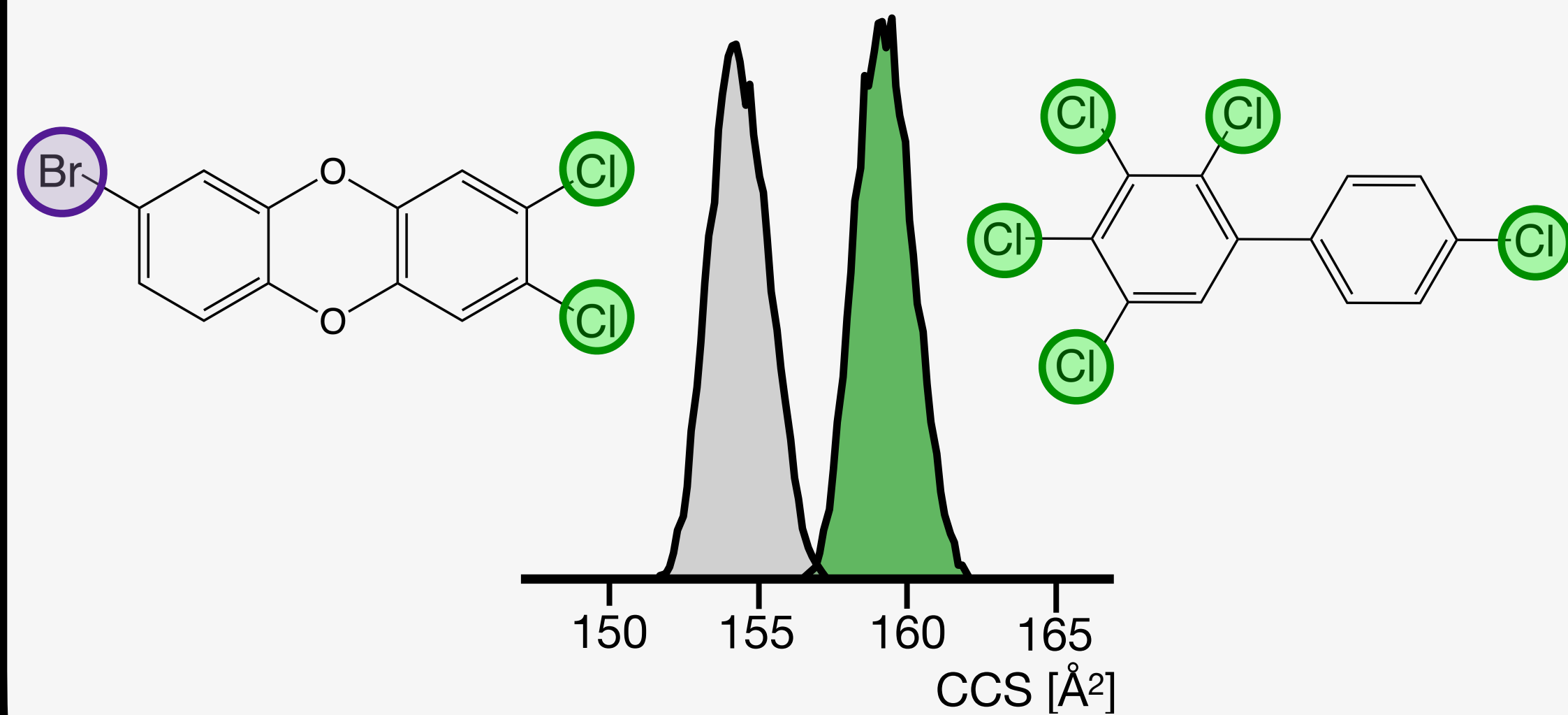
# Summary

## GC-IM-MS

Results published in anal. chem.

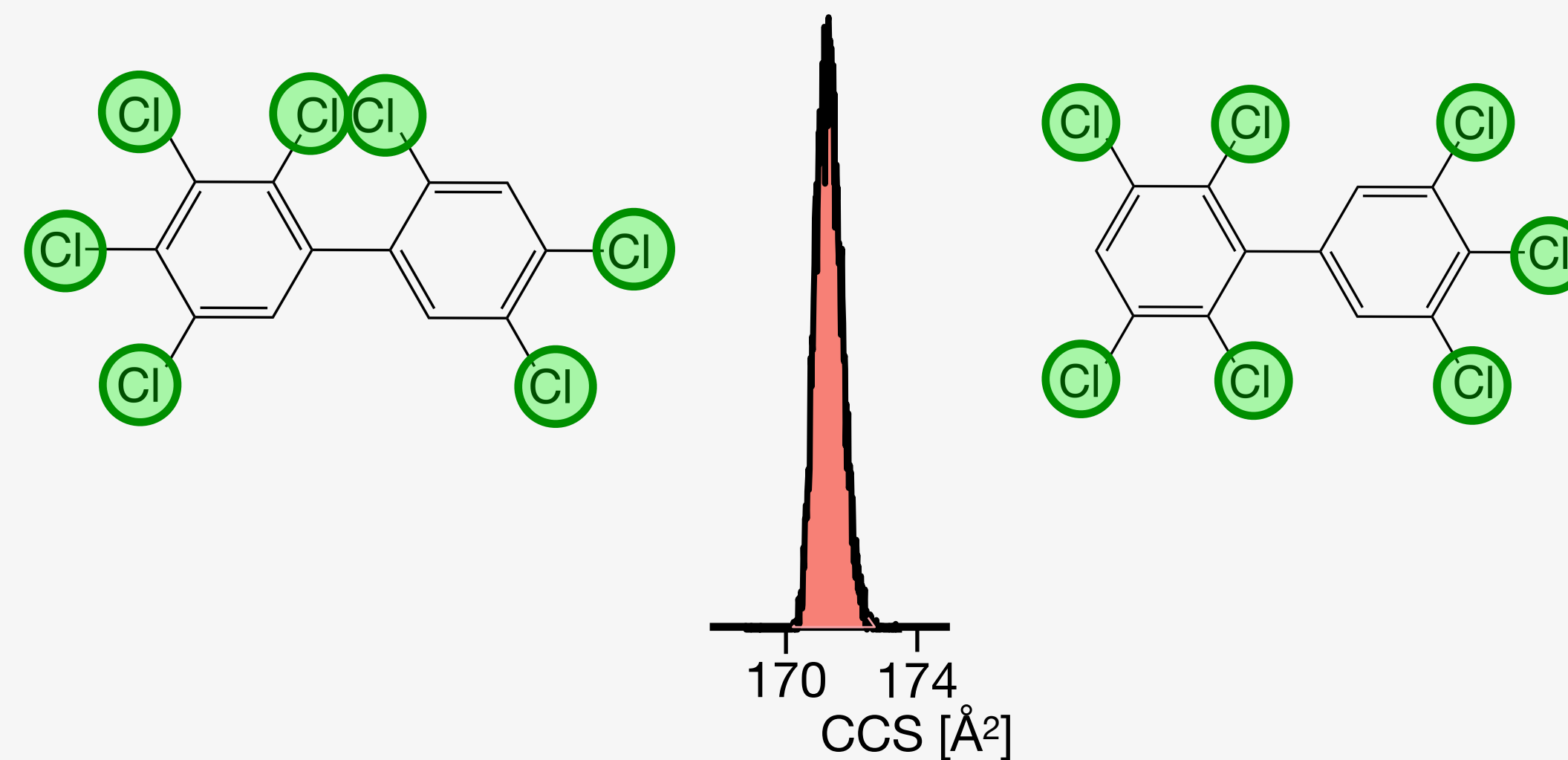
<https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.analchem.3c03039>

### Coeluting isobars



→ Baseline separation ( $R_p \sim 140$ )

### Coeluting isomers

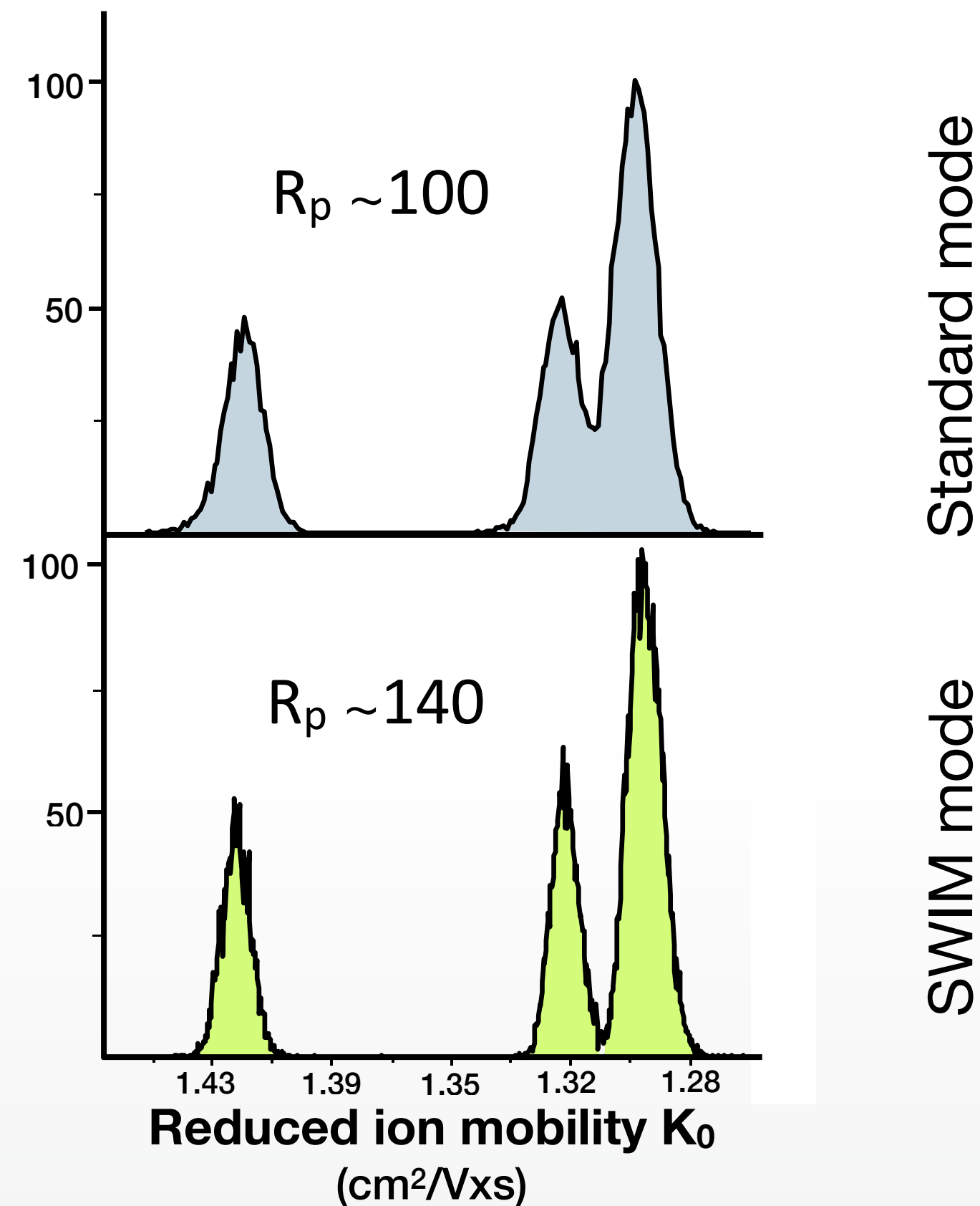


→ No separation ( $R_p \sim 200$ )

# Announcements

## Oral MON-PM2-D2 (4 pm ; room 0.4)

“Sliding windows in ion mobility (SWIM): a new approach to increase the separation power in trapped ion mobility-mass spectrometry hyphenated with chromatography”



## Bruker seminar (Prof. Gauthier Eppe, 12.15 pm)

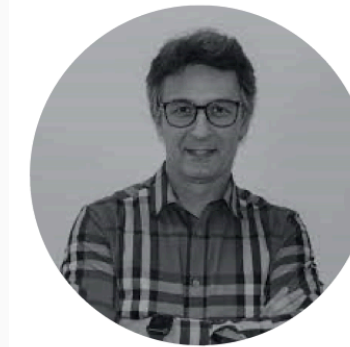
“Novel approach in addressing the challenges of monitoring multi-classes of Halogenated POPs in food and feed”

VENDOR PRESENTATION

**BAMS seminar: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 12h15 – 13h15**  
(after the scientific session, during the lunch break)



- Room name: 0.5 Paris
- Date: Monday 11 September
- Timing: 12:15 to 13:15



Gauthier Eppe, Professor, Université de Liège



Novel approach in addressing the challenges of monitoring multi-classes of Halogenated POPs in food and feed

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43<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on Halogenated Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

Hugo Muller et. al, “Assessing the performance of high resolution ion mobility-mass spectrometry for the separation of GC coeluting isomeric and isobaric halogenated persistent organic pollutants”

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- Pr. Gauthier Eppe
- Georges Scholl
- Edwin de Pauw
- Johann Far
- Aurore Schneiders

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**Thank you**

