

Leveraging mass spectrometry data to understand maternal and fetal exposome in pregnancy

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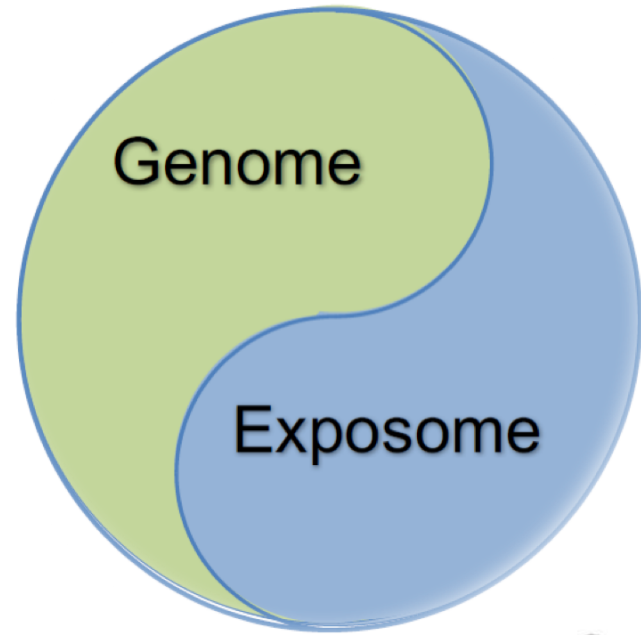
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Christopher Wild (2005):
Complementing the Genome with an

“Exposome”



Exposome encompasses:
the **totality** of human environmental exposures
from conception onwards





43+



Chemisome: the chemical components of the human exposome [i.e., totality of human environmental exposures from conception onwards (Wild 2005)]



Only <3% of the ~8,000 high-use chemicals are being biomonitored
(targeted method)



Goal:

- **Characterize** the pregnancy chemisome
- **Prioritize** chemicals of interest for further investigation



How? – *Suspect Screening*

Research

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A Suspect Screening Method for Characterizing Multiple Chemical Exposures among a Demographically Diverse Population of Pregnant Women in San Francisco

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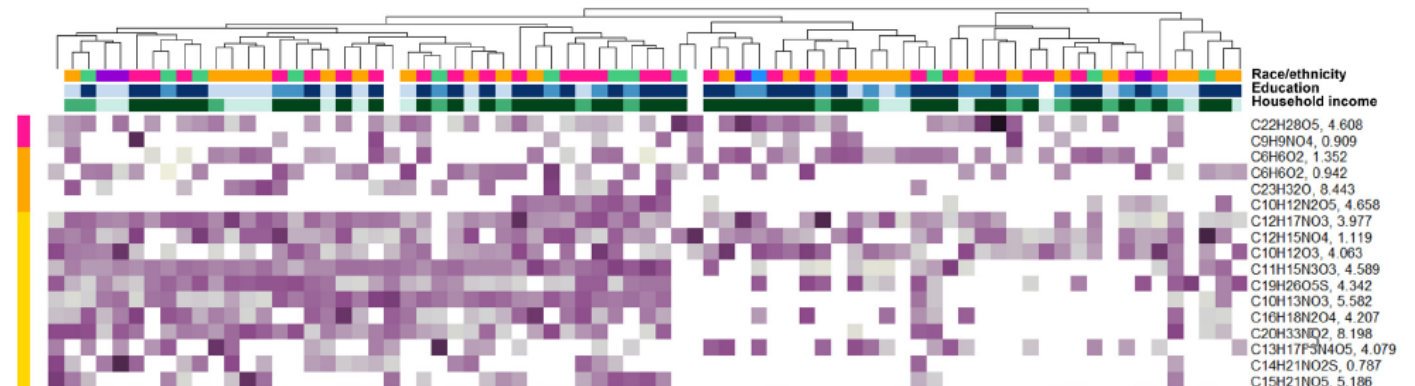
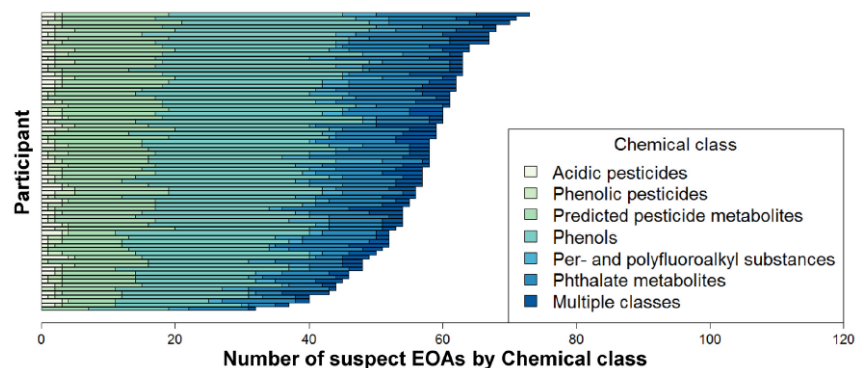
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Required Analytical Platform: High Resolution Mass Spectrometer



Usually used in tandem with chromatography

Separation of molecules by ionization, and sorting by them by mass (m/z , molecular weight)

Current advances allow **sub-2ppm mass accuracy**

Allows unambiguous assignment of formula to measured masses

Types of Analyses Available Through HRMS

Data Acquisition

Data Analysis

Targeted

Targeted

Targeted Analysis

Sample

Targeted

Suspect Screening

Non-Targeted

Non-Targeted

Non-Targeted Analysis

Types of Analyses Available Through HRMS

- Targeted Analysis
 - Reference standard available (RT, HRMS, MS/MS)
 - Acquisition: Targeted; Analysis: Targeted
- Suspect Screening
 - Prior information available BUT no reference standard available
 - Acquisition: Non-Targeted; Analysis: Targeted
- Non-Targeted Analysis
 - NO prior information available
 - Acquisition: Non-Targeted; Analysis: Non-Targeted

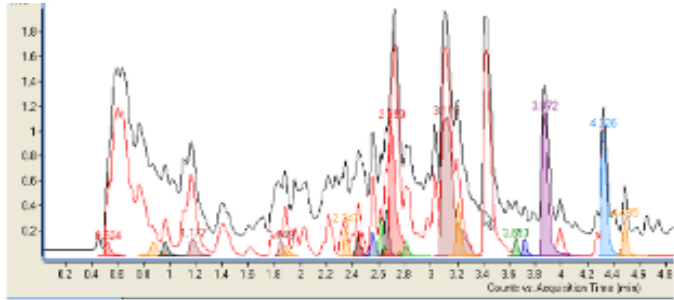
Suspect Screening: High-Res Mass Spec (HRMS) + Database

Human serum samples

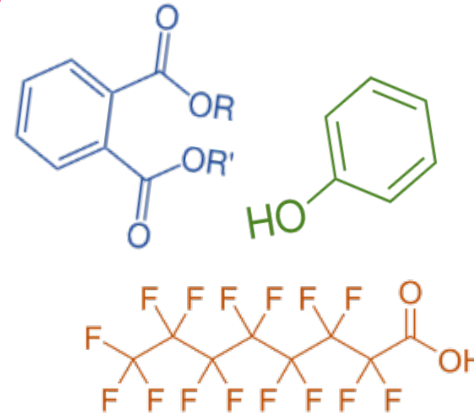
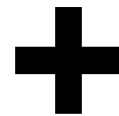
HRMS



Agilent



Mass peaks



PubChem



Chemistry Dashboard

Suspect Chemical Database
("Road Map")

Detected Suspect Features
(mass matched to candidate chemicals in our database)

Confirmation (reference standards)

Suspect Features Detection (and Confirmation)

- “Find by Formula”
 - Accurate mass
 - Isotope pattern
 - Peak Shape
 - (Retention Time)

	Values to match	Mass
Formula Matching	Mass tolerance	+/- 10ppm
Negative Ions	Charge carrier	-H
(Retention Time Matching)	RT Tolerance	+/- 0.15 min
Scoring	Mass score contribution	100
	Isotope abundance score contribution	60
	Isotope spacing score contribution	50
	(Retention time score contribution)	100
	Expected MS mass variation	2.0mDa + 5.6ppm
	Expected MS isotope abundance variation	7.5%
Result Filters	Do not match if target score	<70
	Warn if the unobserved 2 nd ion' s abundance is expected to be	>50
	Do not match if the unobserved 2 nd ion' s abundance is expected to be	>200

Initial study



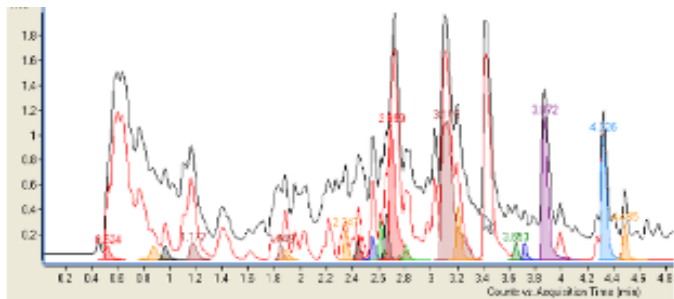
75

Maternal serum samples

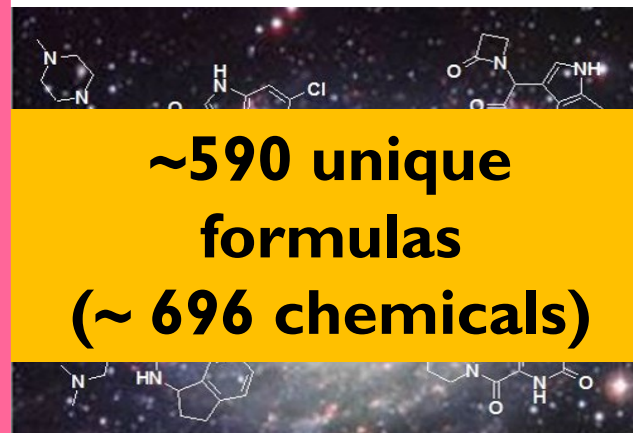
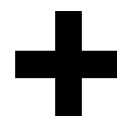
HRMS



Agilent



Mass peaks



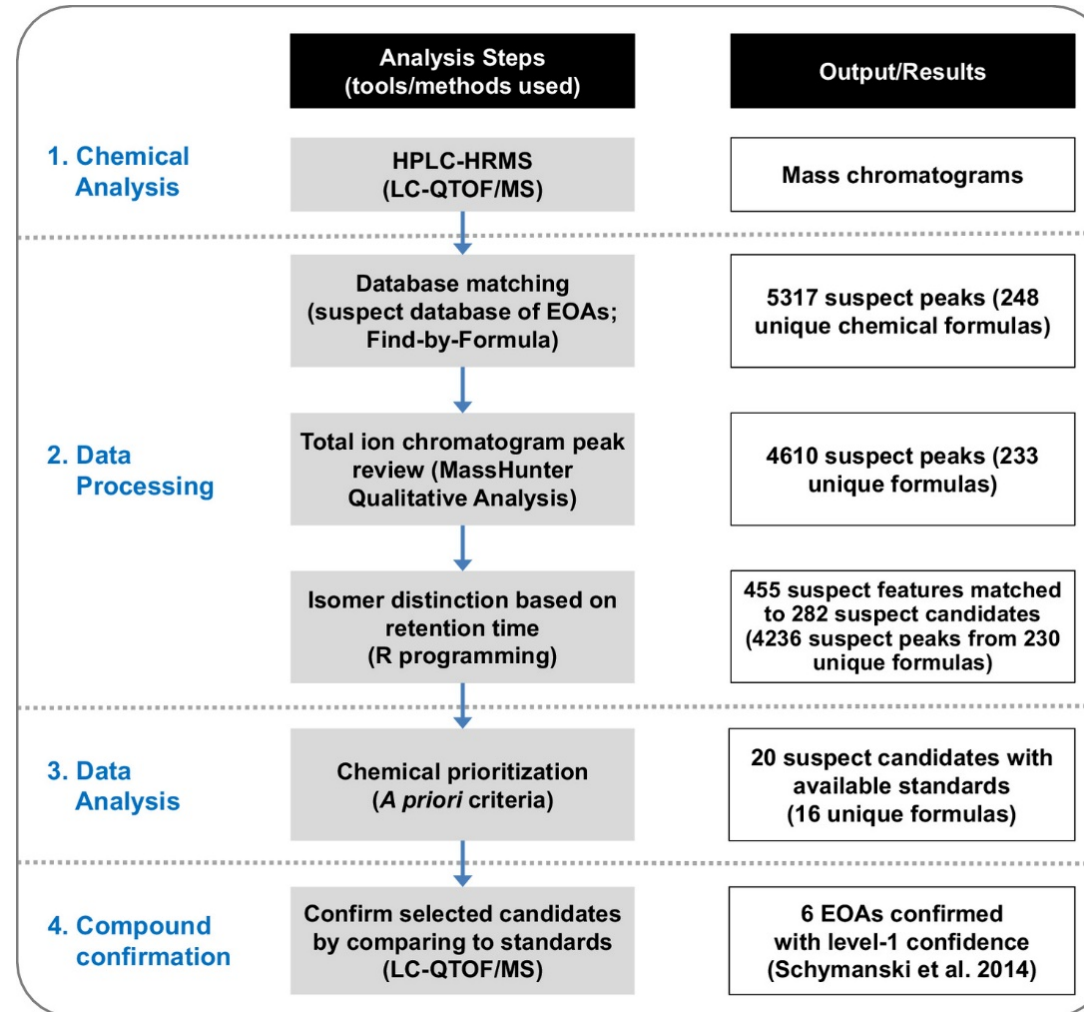
In-house Database
Environmental Organic Acids

Suspect Chemical Database

In-House Database (696):

environmental phenols (bisphenols, parabens etc), pesticides, perfluorinated compounds, flame retardants, phthalate metabolites

Suspect screening of EOAs in 75 maternal serum samples



Current study extends the database & sample size



75
Maternal
serum
samples

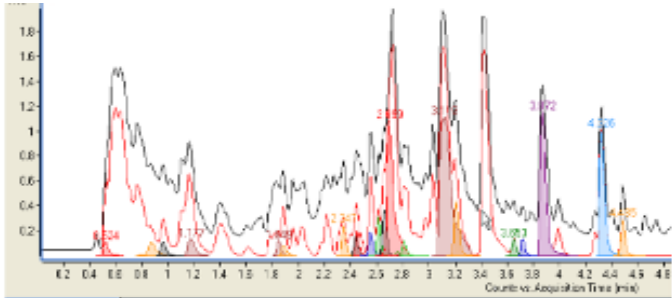
HRMS



Agilent

LC-
QTOF/MS

Mass peaks



UCSF Medical Center



**ZUCKERBERG
SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL**
Hospital and Trauma Center



Maternal serum collected at delivery

- Questionnaires at 2nd trimester (demographics & consumer product use)
- Medical records: birth outcomes

Study design



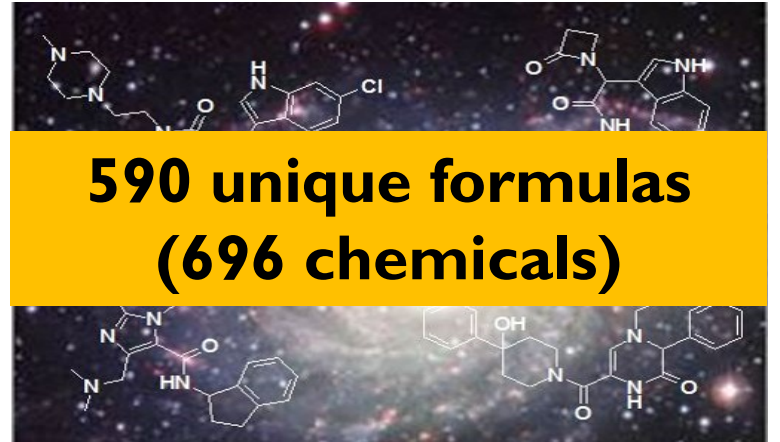
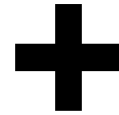
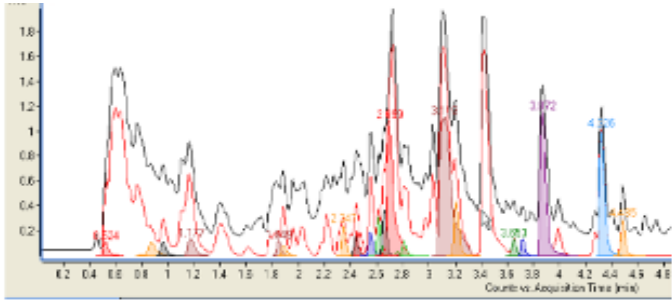
75
Maternal
serum
samples

HRMS



Agilent

Mass peaks



**Suspect Chemical Database
("Road Map")**

Detected Suspect Features
(mass matched to candidate chemicals in our database)

**Priority Chemical Evaluation/ Confirmation/ Association Analysis with Birth
Outcomes / Consumer Product Use**

Results



Aim 1: Suspect EOAs with detection frequency (DF) $\geq 80\%$, ranked by DF

15 suspect EOAs (formulas) matched to 27 compounds

Suspects identified after FbF			Information on Matched EOAs			External information		
Chemical formula	RT (mean)	DF	# isomers	Names	Chemical class	Biomonitored?		
						NHANES	CA ^a	HPV ^b
C8HF17O3S	5.502	75	1	Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	Polyfluoroalkyl substances	√	√	
				2,4-bis(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenol				
				2,6-bis(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenol				
				4-Octylphenol				
C14H22O	6.719	74	4	4-tert-Octylphenol	Phenols	√	√	√
				Butyl decyl phthalate				
				Diheptyl phthalate				
C22H34O4	7.560	72	3	Diisoheptyl phthalate	Phthalates			
C10H14O2	4.029	70	1	4-Butoxyphenol	Phenols			
				2-Methylphenol				√
C7H8O	1.999	70	2	4-Methylphenol	Phenols			√
						√	√	√
C8H8O3	1.931	66					√	
							√	
						√	√	
C16H22O4	5.139	65	5	Monooctyl phthalate	Phthalate metabolites	√		
C15H22O3	5.132	64	1	3,5-Di-tert-Butylsalicylic acid	Phenols			
				2-Isopropoxyphenol				
C9H12O2	4.553	64	2	4-Propoxyphenol	Phenols			
C11H14O2	5.129	63	1	Methyl eugenol	Phenols			
C12H17NO3	3.977	63	1	Promecarb metabolite	Phenolic pesticide metabolites			*
				Same as above. They are isomers, compounds with the same molecular formula (mass) but different structure (RT).				
C16H22O4	4.773	63	5					
C12H15NO4	1.119	61	1	Carbofuran metabolite	Phenolic pesticide metabolites			*
C16H26O2	6.153	61	1	Octylphenol monoethoxylate	Phenols			
C20H26O4	4.457	61	1	Dicyclohexyl phthalate (DCHP)	Phthalates		√	

Over half of the matched chemicals have not been biomonitored

Abbreviations: EOA, environmental organic acid; DF, detection frequency; RT, retention time (in minutes); NHANES, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey; HPV, high production volume.

Summary of the confirmed compounds, uses and available health hazard information from suspect screening of pregnant women (N=75).

Chemical Name (CASRN)	Selected Chemical Uses from EPA's CPCat Database	Health Hazard Information
2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol (96-76-4)	Toys; Personal care products; Manufacturing	Estrogenic effects
3,5-Di-tert-butylsalicylic acid (19715-19-6)	Not available	No information
2,4-Dinitrophenol (51-28-5)	Cosmetics; Pesticides; Pharmaceuticals; Coloring agents	Cataract formation; Causing genetic defects; Damaging fertility and the fetus
Pyrocatechol (120-80-9)	Cosmetics; Food additives; Pesticides; Pharmaceuticals; Manufacturing	Possible human (Group 2B) carcinogen
2'-Hydroxyacetophenone (118-93-4)	Fragrances; Food additives; Pesticides; Pharmaceuticals; Manufacturing	No information
4-Hydroxycoumarin (1076-38-6)	Pharmaceuticals	No information

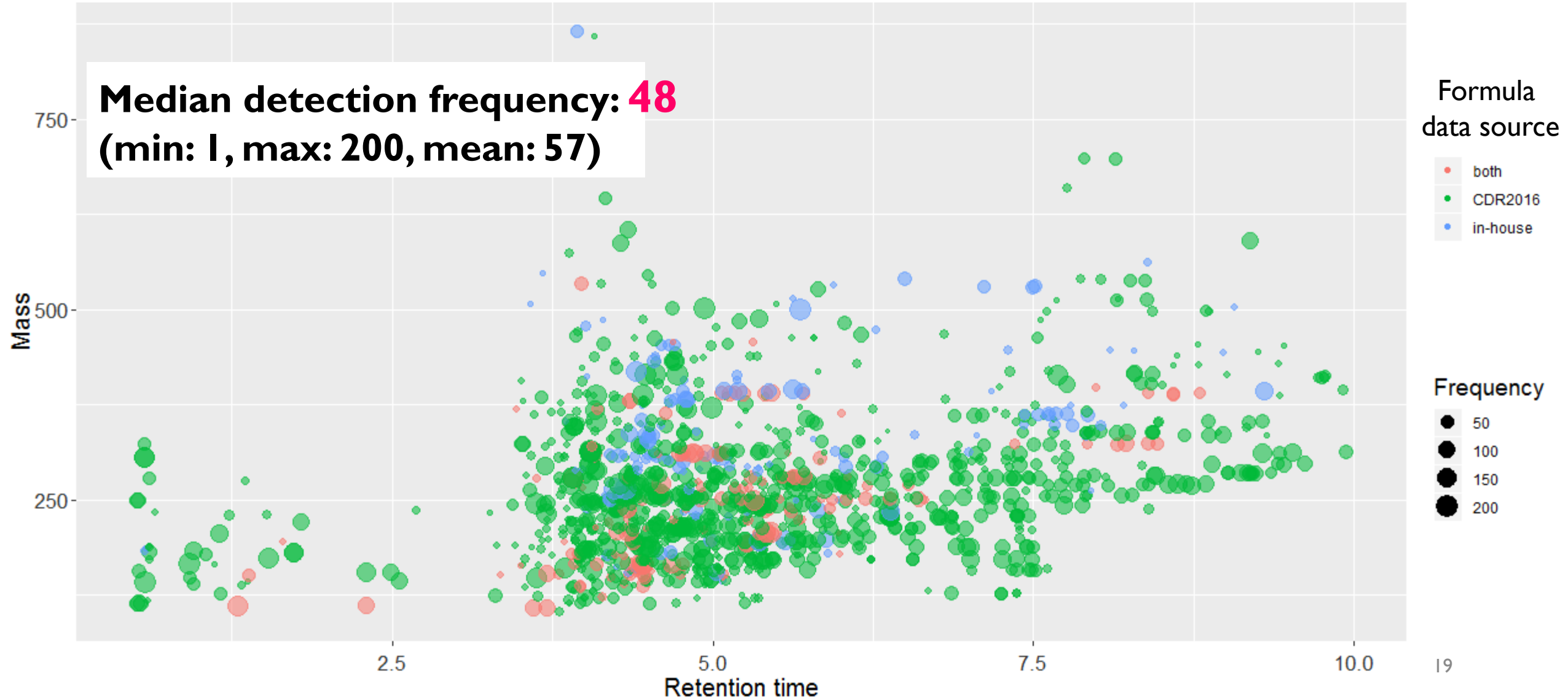
CPCat: Chemical and Product Categories

10-50 million pounds per year
EPA 2017 CDR

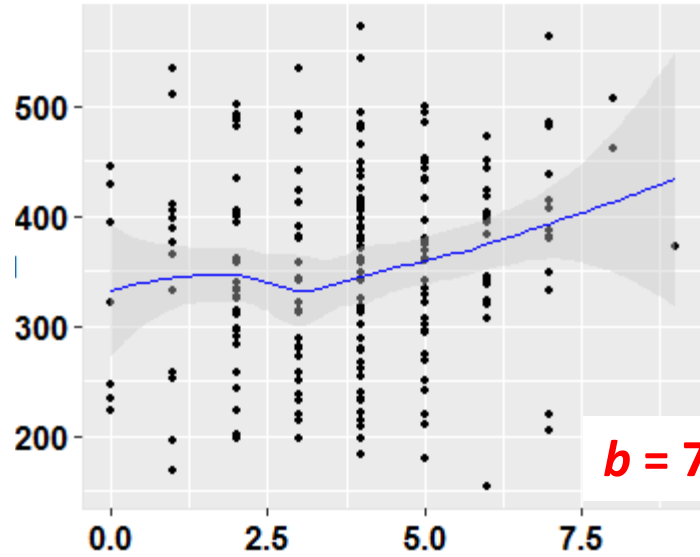
Condensed information based on the cassettes obtained from the U.S. EPA's Chemical and Product Categories (CPCat) database ([Dionisio et al. 2015](#); [U.S. EPA 2014](#)).

Results from LC-QTOF/MS + Suspect Screening

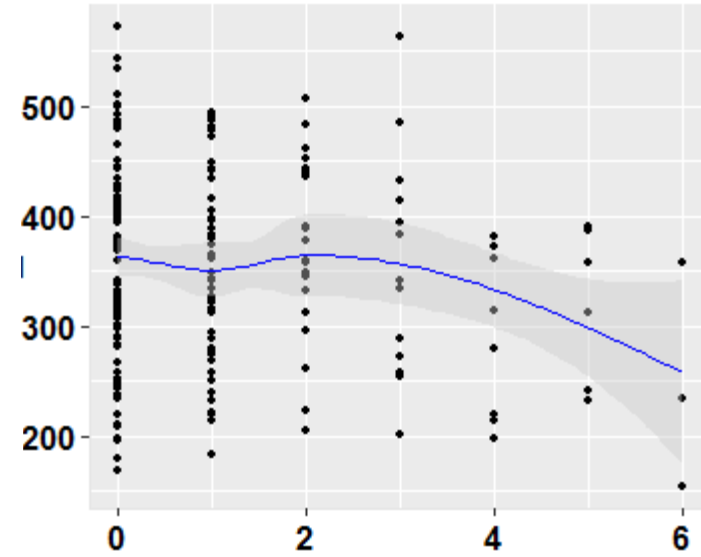
Overview of 1220 suspect features (mass matches) detected across 200 serum samples



Number of suspect features by # of daily consumer product use

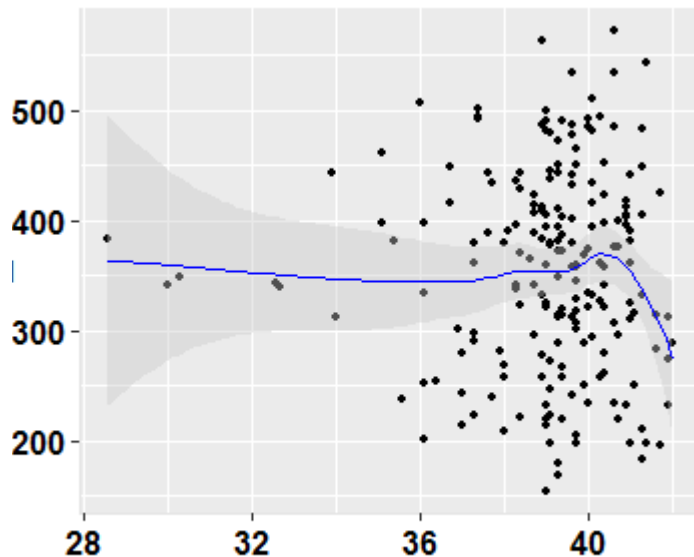


Personal care product used daily

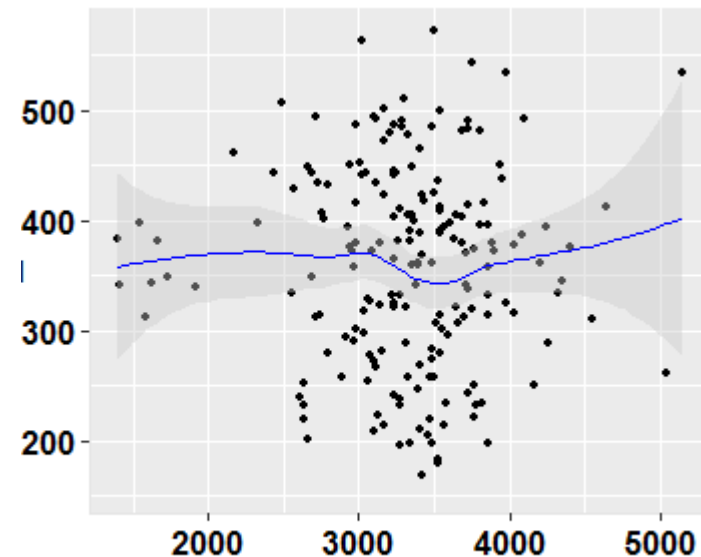


Household cleaning product used daily

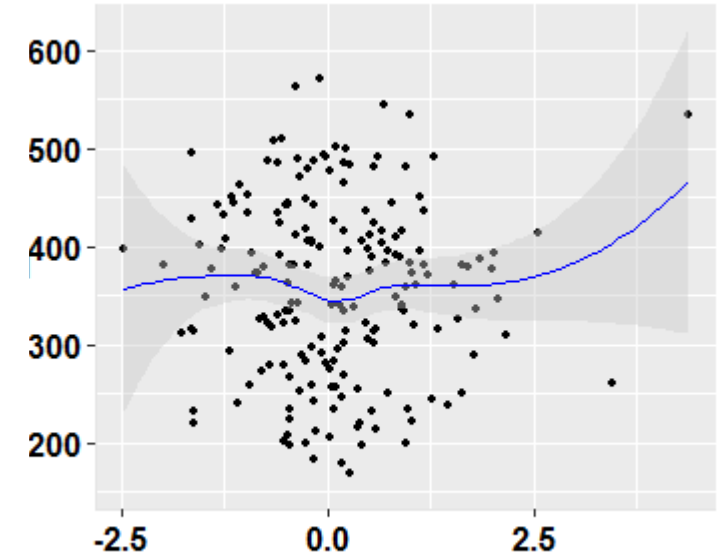
and
by birth outcomes
 $*p < 0.05$



Gestational age (weeks)



Birth weight (grams)



Birth weight (Z score)

Summary

- Suspect Screening a viable method to more **holistically characterize** a broad spectrum of environmental chemicals and to **identify novel, ubiquitously present** compounds and thus **prioritize** chemicals for targeted method development

Strengths/Limitations

- Relatively large sample size for suspect screening analysis
- Sparse data (lower sensitivity compared to the targeted method)
- Needing further confirmation with reference standards
- Restricted chemical space (EOA library_

Ongoing work/Future directions

- Screening for broader array of chemicals ~3,000
- Develop computational techniques for workflow/chemical analysis
- Additional biological samples

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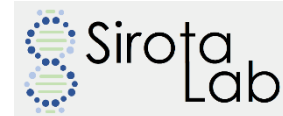
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<https://prhe.ucsf.edu/>



Pregnancy Exposures to
Environmental Chemicals
Children's Center

UCSF University of California, San Francisco

Preterm Birth Initiative

march of dimes
prematurity research center
at Stanford University

Thank you!

Suspect Screening Blog Post:

prheucsf.blog (Eng/Chinese)

EHP paper: EHP2920

(covered by the **NY Times**)

PRHE is hiring postdocs!

Contact: PRHE@ucsf.edu



**Program on Reproductive
Health and the Environment**