

# The metabolome of duckweed – MS based natural product identification and flux analysis

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# Overview

**Part I – metabolic profiling of *Lemnaceae***

**Part II – DLEMMA for metabolite identification**

**Part III – flux analysis using *Spirodesa polyrhiza***

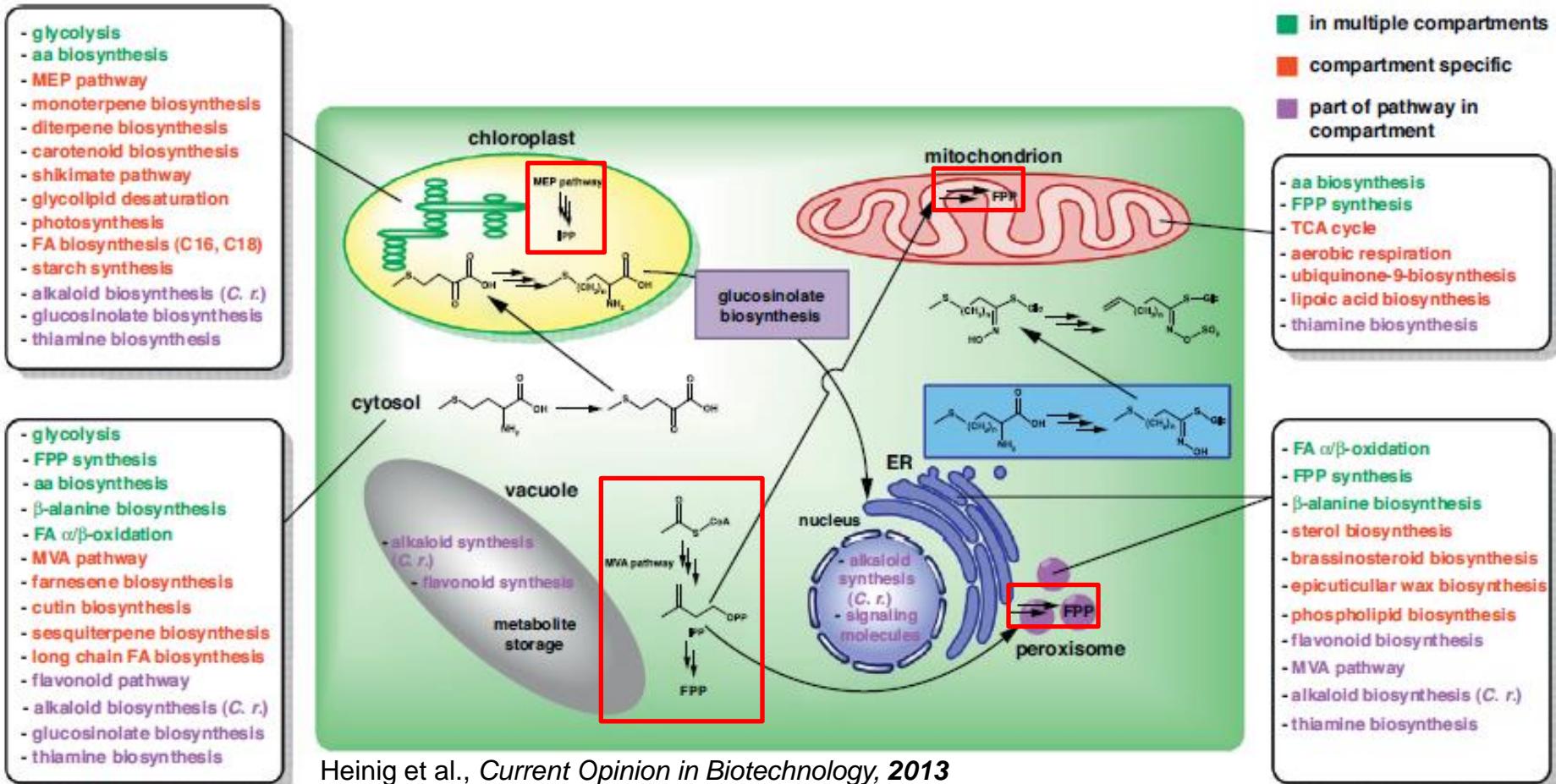
# Overview

**Part I – metabolic profiling of *Lemnaceae***

**Part II – DLEMMA for metabolite identification**

**Part III – flux analysis using *Spirodela polyrhiza***

## The plant metabolic network



Current Opinion in Biotechnology

- Identification of metabolites (I) -> annotation of reactions/metabolic network (II)
- pathways for flux studies (III)

## ***Analysis and identification of natural products – techniques***

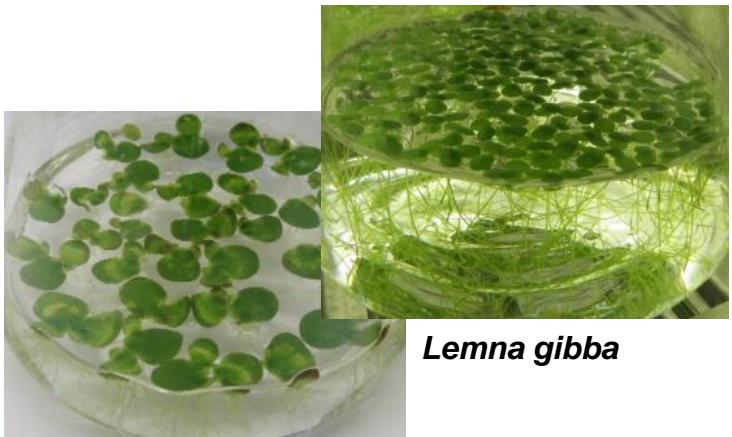
	MS	NMR
sensitivity	+++	+
Identification level	+	+++
Standards Spectral libraries	++	+
Costs/speed	+++	+



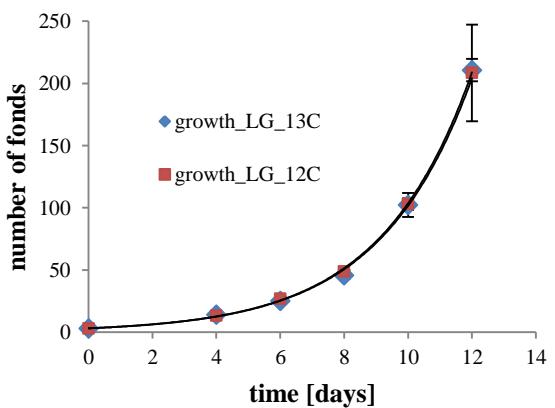
➤ ***Mass spectrometry (coupled to chromatography) in combination with computational tools method of choice***

## **Lemna – what are Lemnaceae?**

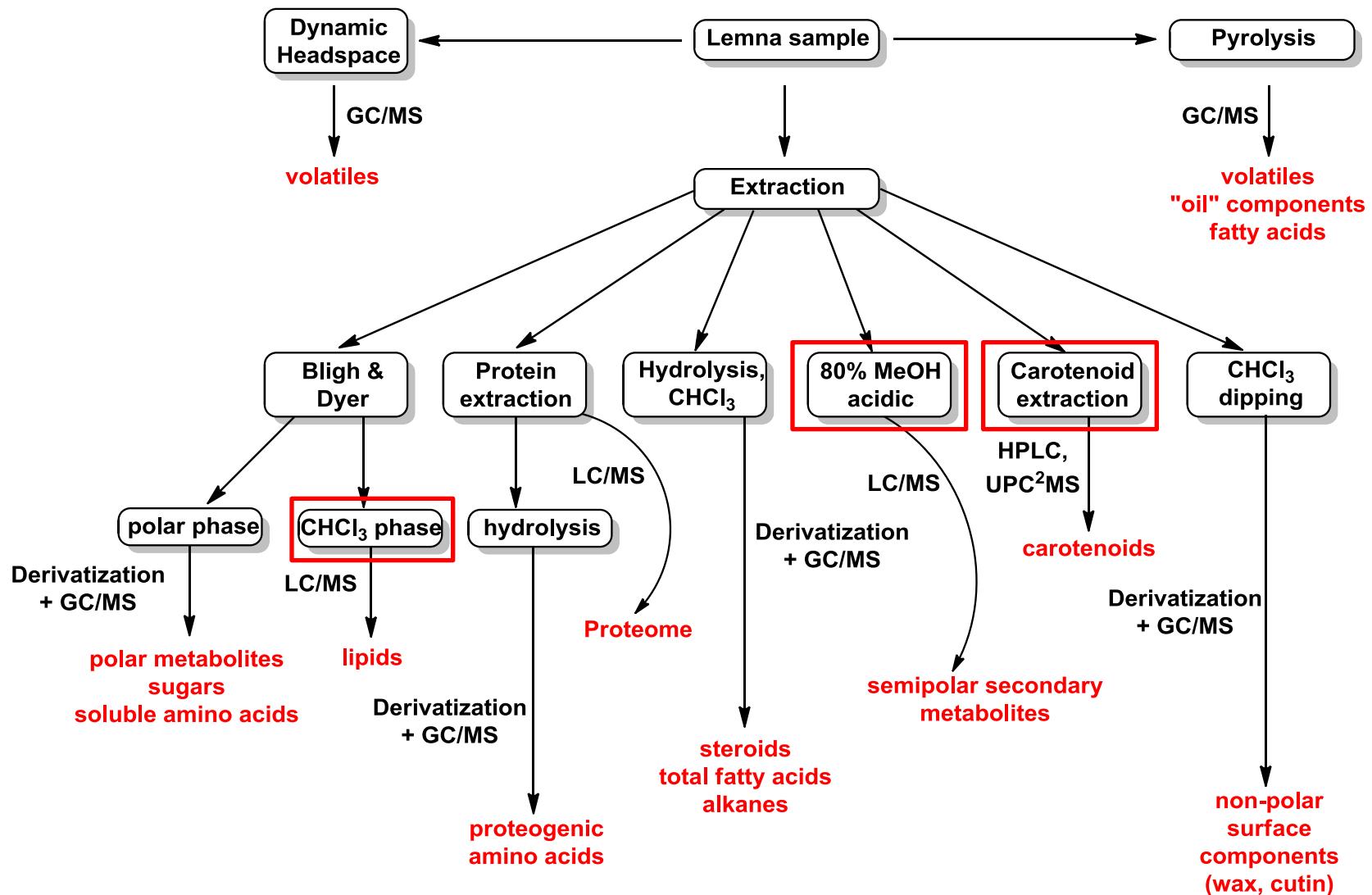
- free floating water plant of the duckweed family
- reproduces mainly vegetatively  
(two daughter fronds from one adult plant)



- High protein & starch content / low lignin
- High vitamin levels ( $\beta$ -carotene)
- Vegetative reproduction
- Metabolite profiling
- Metabolic model reconstruction
- Metabolic flux analysis of “whole plants”
- Metabolic engineering



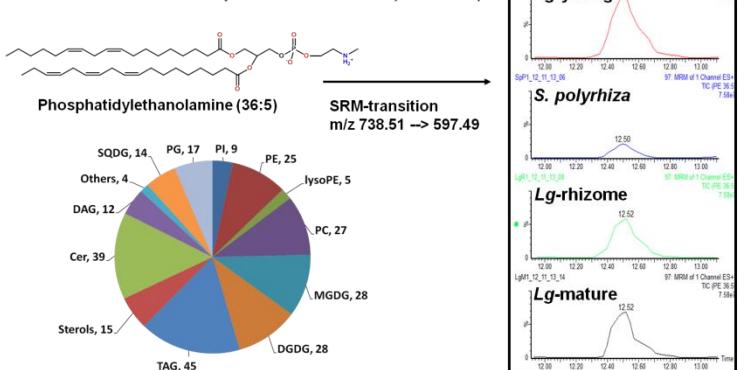
## Lemna – profiling - overview



## Lemna – profiling – results – 4 species

### Lipid analysis

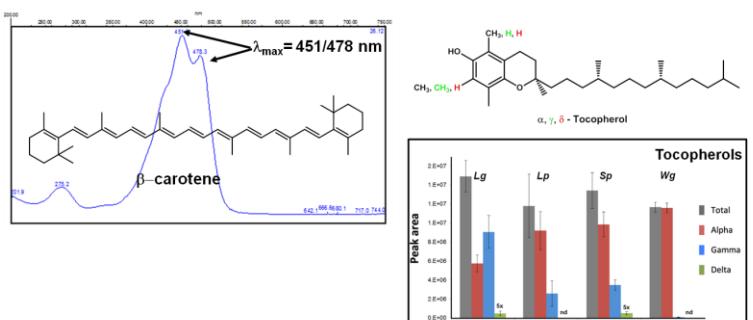
Chloroform extracts were subjected to LC-TQ-MS analysis – Example:



- Identification of 291 different lipid species, relative quantification, comparison between species & different tissues (*Lemna gibba*: mature & young plant + rhizome)

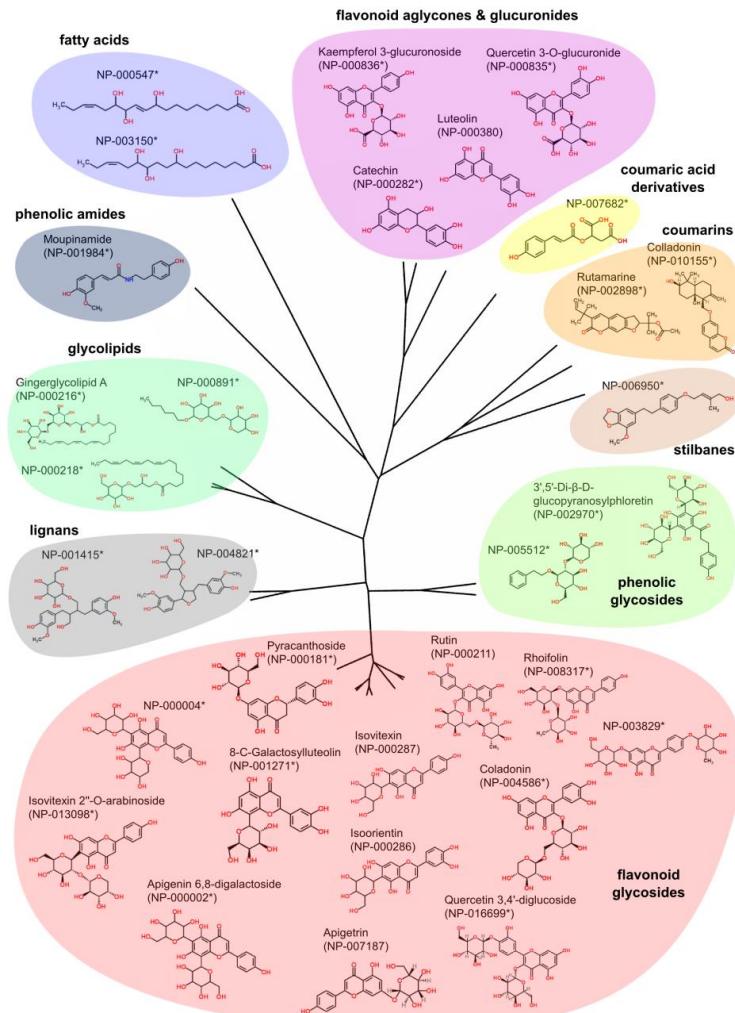
### Isoprenoid analysis

Chloroform extracts were subjected HPLC- UV/Fluorescence analysis ; compounds were identified by comparison to authentic standards or absorption characteristics:



- Identification of 3 tocopherols, 19 carotenoids, chlorophyll a & b and 6 unknown compounds

### Semipolar secondary metabolites (WISmass)

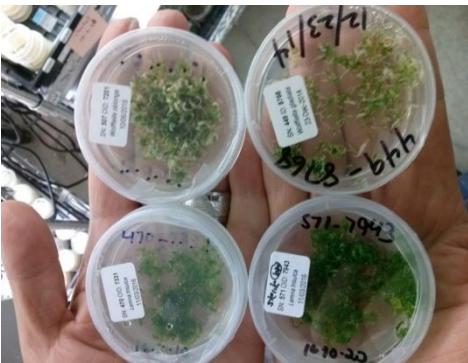


## The AA-Lemna collection

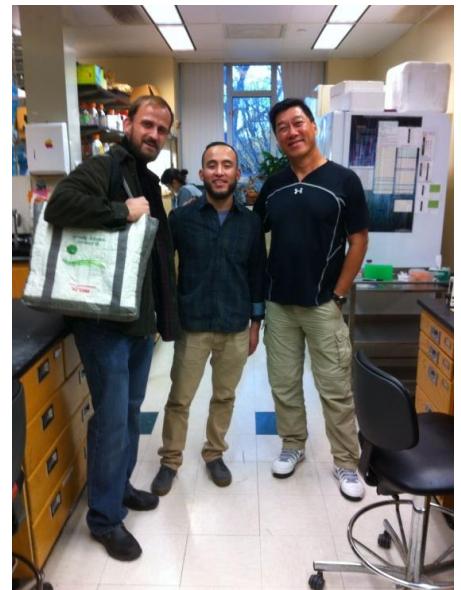
- 33 duckweed species

from **RDSC**  
Rutgers Duckweed Stock Cooperative

- all 5 genera of *Lemnaceae* family (*Spirodela* (6),  
*Lemna* (14), *Landoltia* (2),  
*Wolffia* (8) & *Wolffiella* (3))
- “covering the family”
- including sequenced strains of *Spirodela polyrhiza*,  
*Lemna gibba* & *Lemna minor*



Various *Lemna* strains of the RDSC collection



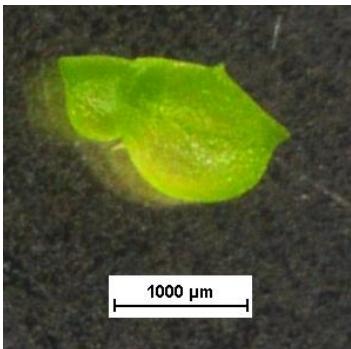
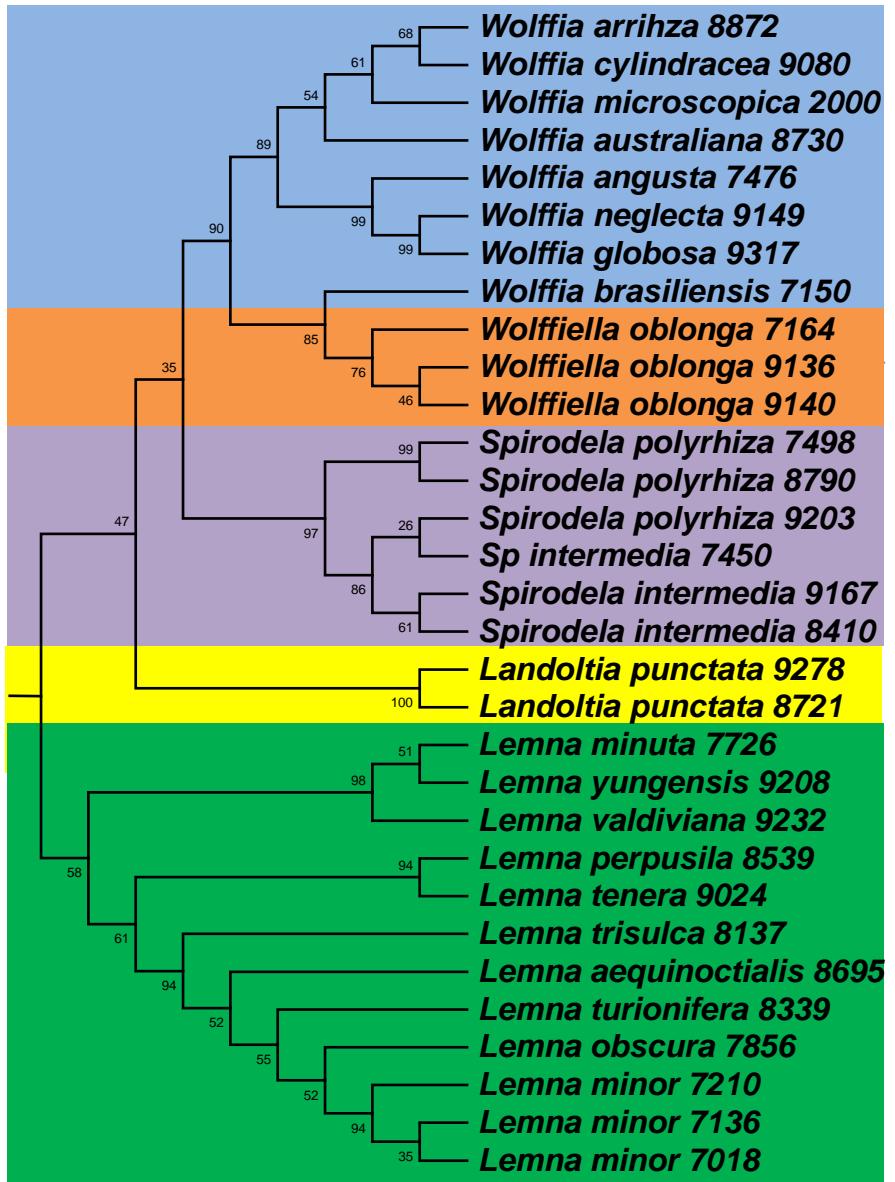
## The AA-Lemna collection – geographical distribution

Untitled layer

- Lemna minor
- Lemna minor
- Lemna minor
- Lemna gibbe
- Lemna tenera
- Lemna aequinoctialis
- Lemna turionifera
- Lemna valdiviana
- Lemna japonica
- Lemna minuta
- Lemna obscure
- Lemna perpusilla
- Lemna yungensis
- Lemna trisulca
- Spirodela intermedia
- Spirodela intermedia
- Spirodela intermedia
- Spirodela polyrhiza
- Spirodela polyrhiza
- Spirodela polyrhiza
- Spirodela polyrhiza
- Landoltia punctata
- Landoltia punctata
- Wolffia globosa
- Wolffia microscopica
- Wolffia arrhiza
- Wolffia cylindracea
- Wolffia brasiliensis
- Wolffia neglecta
- Wolffia angusta
- Wolffia australiana
- Wolffia oblonga
- Wolffia oblonga
- Wolffia oblonga



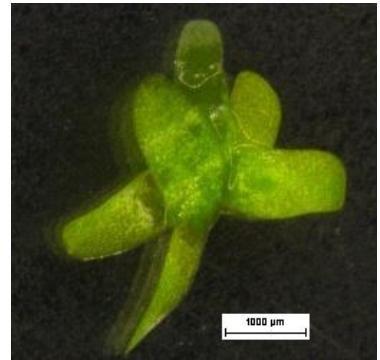
## The AA-Lemna collection – diversity



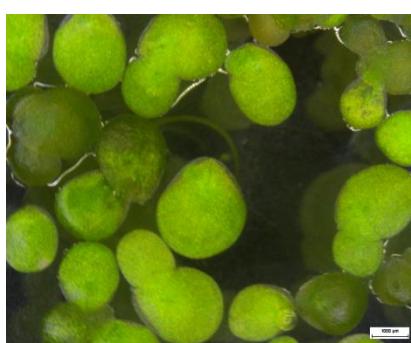
*Wolffia* sp.



*Spirodela* sp.



*Wolffiella* sp.

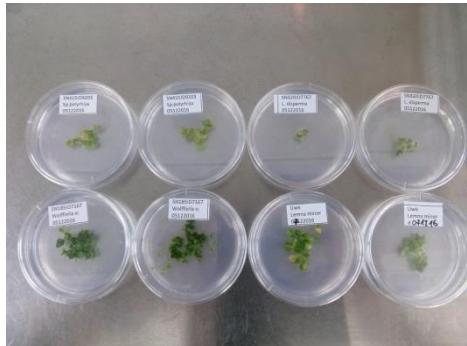


*Lemna* sp.

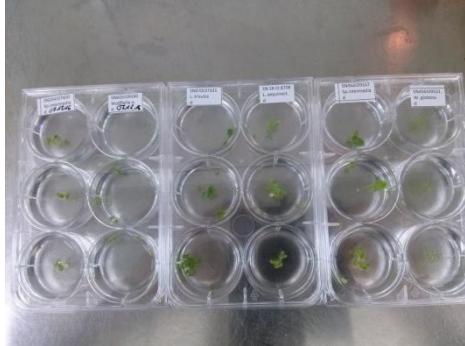


*Landoltia* sp.

## The AA-Lemna collection – growth & LC-MS analysis



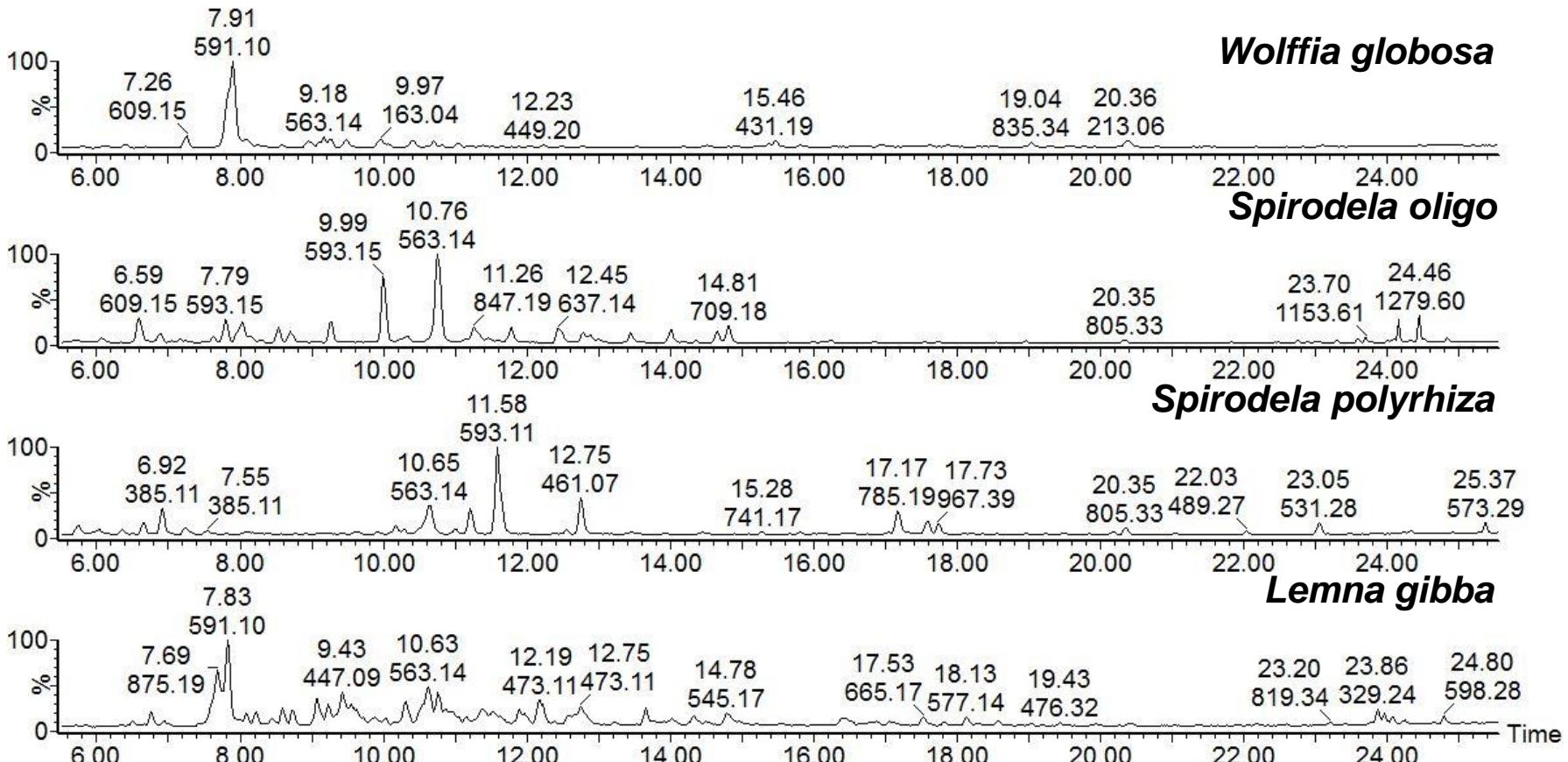
Transfer to 6-well plates, SP-medium  
→  
Cultivation for 12 d  
Constant light, 3% CO<sub>2</sub>



- **harvest** (3 replicates) through **filtration** & **wash** with **cold water**
- **homogenization** with mortar & pestle (frozen)
- **extraction** in **80% MeOH + 0.1% formic acid (w/v 1:3)**
- after **filtration** (0.22µm) **injection** on UPLC-QTOF-MS (40 min)
  
- **data analysis: compound identification & validation**

## Collection screening – LC-MS (40 min gradient)

**Snapshot of detected secondary metabolite diversity (6-24 min):**



➤ data analysis strategy? --> introduction of two tools

## Weizmass/MatchWeiz – Analyticon library (3500 compounds)

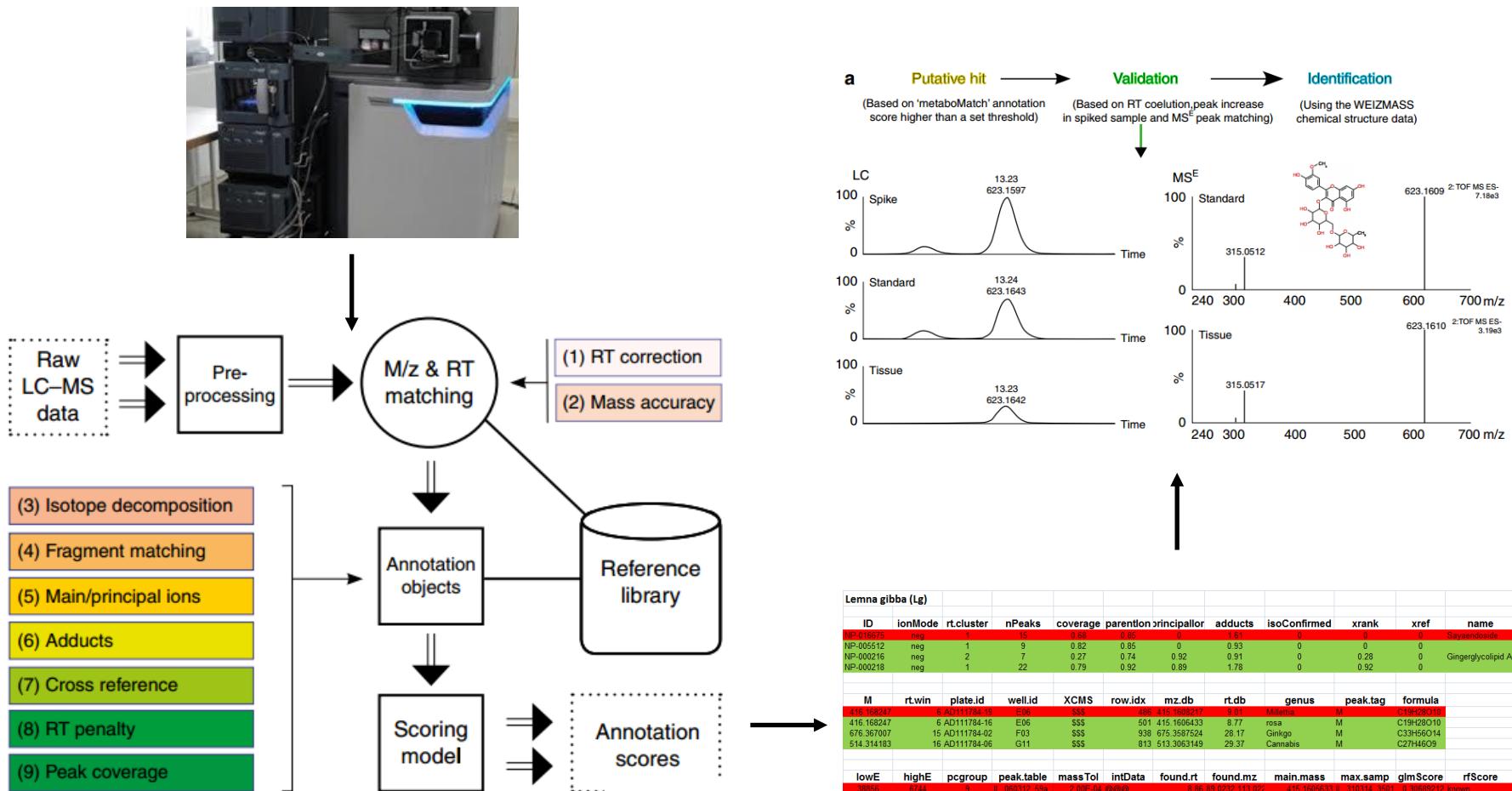
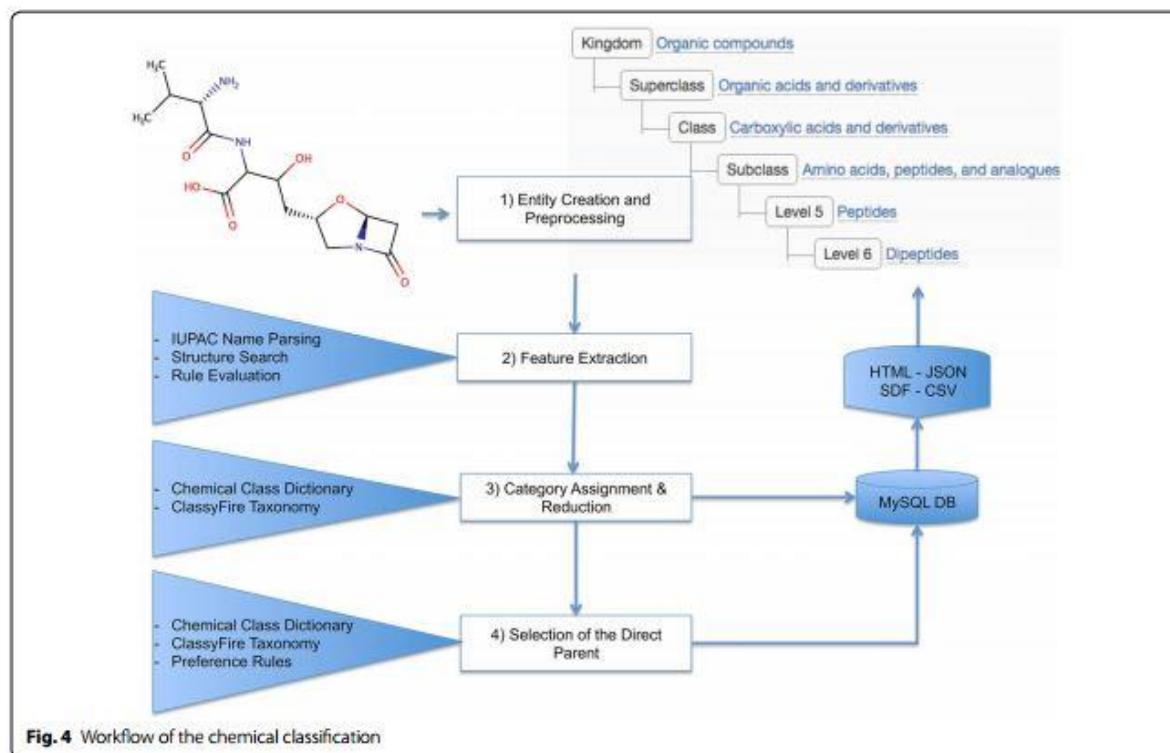


Figure 2 | The MatchWeiz software annotation workflow. Raw LC-MS

## Classyfire – module

➤ software tool trained with 77 Million chemical structures for automated chemical class assignment



Djoumbou Y, Eisner R, Knox C, Chepelev L, Hastings J, Owen G, Fahy E, Steinbeck C, Subramanian S, Bolton E, Greiner R, and Wishart DS. ClassyFire: Automated Chemical Classification With A Comprehensive, Computable Taxonomy. *Journal of Cheminformatics*, 2016, 8:61.

# Classyfire – web server

Please cite:

1. Djoumbou Y, Eisner R, Knox C, Chepelev L, Hastings J, Owen G, Fahy E, Steinbeck C, Subramanian S, Bolton E, Greiner R, and Wishart DS. ClassyFire: Automated Chemical Classification With A Comprehensive, Computable Taxonomy. *Journal of Cheminformatics*, 2016, 8:61.  
DOI: 10.1186/s13321-016-0174-y

**\* Query type**

Chemical (Use this option when providing valid SMILES or InChIs as input)  
 Protein/DNA/RNA (Use this option when providing valid FASTA sequences as input)  
 IUPAC Name (Use this option when providing valid IUPAC names as input)

Chemical Input   Draw Structure   Upload A SDF/TSV File

**Example - STRUCTURE**

**Input**

Provide one entry per line containing a SMILES or an InChI string, optionally preceded by an identifier. If added, the identifier MUST precede the structure representation. The line must be tab-separated.

**Label**

# Classyfire – web server

ClassyFire    Browse ▾    Classify    About ClassyFire    Contact    Advanced Search    Downloads    Help ▾

\* Query type

Chemical (Use this option when providing valid SMILES or InChIs as input)  
 Protein/DNA/RNA (Use this option when providing valid FASTA sequences as input)  
 IUPAC Name (Use this option when providing valid IUPAC names as input)

Chemical Input    Draw Structure    Upload A SDF/TSV File

Example - STRUCTURE

NP-000004

NP-000004

Input

"NP-000004" "[H]Oc1c([H])c([H])c(c([H])c1([H]))C=2Oc3c(C(=O)C=2([H]))c(O[H])c(c(O[H])c3C4([H])(OC([H])([H])C([H])(O[H])C([H])(O[H])C4([H])(O[H])))C5([H])(OC([H])(C([H])([H])O[H])C([H])(O[H])C([H])(O[H])C5([H])")

Provide one entry per line containing a SMILES or an InChI string, optionally preceded by an identifier. If added, the identifier MUST precede the structure representation. The line must be tab-separated.

Label

Provide a name for the data sample (optional). You can provide multiple tags separated by '|'.  
Submit

# Classyfire – web server

ClassyFire    Browse ▾    Classify    About ClassyFire    Contact    Advanced Search    Downloads    Help ▾

Search    entities    ▾    Q Search

Query 580689 has been successfully saved.

100% Complete

Displaying 1 entity query

### Classification Results

Export to:

**JSON** **SDF** **CSV**

Identifier	Input	Classified?	Classified on	Action
NP-000004	OCC1OC(C(O)C(O)C1O)C1=C(O)C2=C(OC(=CC2=O)C2=CC=C(O)C=C2)C(C2OCC(O)C(O)C2O)=C1O	Yes	2016-12-28 18:19:48 UTC	Show

This project is supported by [The Metabolomics Innovation Centre \(TMIC\)](#), a nationally-funded research and core facility that supports a wide range of cutting-edge metabolomic studies. TMIC is funded by [Genome Alberta](#), [Genome British Columbia](#), and [Genome Canada](#), a not-for-profit organization that is leading Canada's national genomics strategy with \$900 million in funding from the federal government.

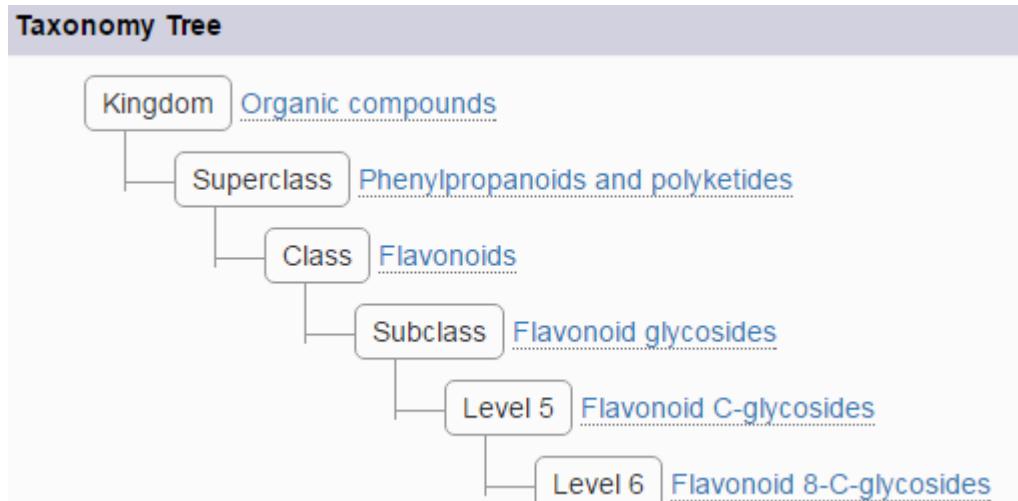
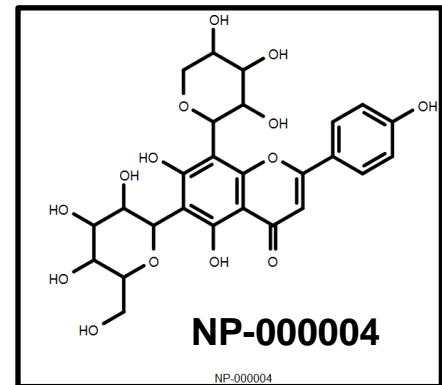


➤ possibility of watching your results or exporting to sdf

➤ batch processing

# Classyfire – web server

Compound Identification	
<b>SMILES</b>	OCC1OC(C(O)C(O)C1O)C1=C(O)C2=C(OC(=CC2=O)C2=CC=C(O)C=C2)C(C2OCC(O)C(O)C2O)=C1O
<b>InChIKey</b>	InChIKey=MMDUKUSNQNWWET-UHFFFAOYSA-N
<b>Formula</b>	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>28</sub> O <sub>14</sub>
<b>Mass</b>	564.496



## Classyfire – web server

Kingdom  
Organic compounds

➤ Different levels of chemical classification

Superclass  
Phenylpropanoids and polyketides

➤ Up to 8 levels

Class  
Flavonoids

➤ Number of levels depends on structure/class itself  
(from no classification to all levels)

Subclass  
Flavonoid glycosides

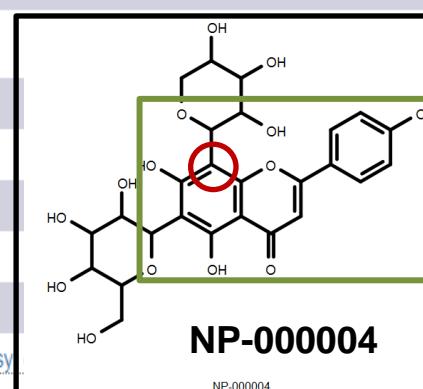
Intermediate Tree Nodes  
Flavonoid C-glycosides

Direct Parent  
Flavonoid 8-C-glycosides

Alternative Parents  
4'-hydroxyflavonoids 5-hydroxyflavonoids 7-hydroxyflavonoids Flavones Phenolic glycosides C-glycosides  
Monosaccharides Benzene and substituted derivatives Oxanes Heteroaromatic compounds Vinyllogous acids Secondary alcohols Oxacyclic compounds Dialkyl ethers Polyols Organic oxides  
Hydrocarbon derivatives Primary alcohols

➤ useful tool as part of metabolite identification workflow?

➤ Classification of WISmass library?



NP-000004  
NP-000004

## Classyfire – Analyticon library (3500 compounds)

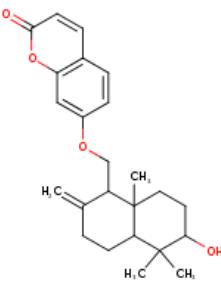
- Library was run in **Classyfire** in batches of 100 compounds (Hila)
- output as **.sdf** files
- manual validation of 200 compounds

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	<b>Classify validations</b>											
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13	508505	No	ID	correct	meaningful level 1	meaningful level 2	meaningful level 3	No. of levels	Uwe classy on fire deluxe			
14												
15												
16	1	NP-004636		Y	3	4		5,6	8			
17												
18	2	NP-015137		Y	2	3		/	3			
19												
20	3	NP-010695		Y	3	/		4	4			
21												
22	4	NP-002106		N					0	sesquiterpene, daucene		
23												
24	5	NP-015274		Y	2	3		3,4	4			
25												
26	6	NP-015117		Y	2	3		3,4	4			

- first meaningful level (2/3)
- # of levels (average 4-5)
- 42 wrong classifications (21%, lots of terpenes)
- what information to use?

## Classyfire – “hybrid metabolites”

- “hybrid metabolites” are compounds that are a combination of two chemical classes



**Compound Identification**

**SMILES**

```
CC1(C)C(O)CCC2(C)C(COC3=CC4=C(C=CC(=O)O4)C=C3)C(=C)CCC12
```

**InChIKey**

InChIKey=FCWYNTDTQPCVPG-UHFFFAOYSA-N

**Formula**

C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

**Mass**

382.5

**Taxonomy Tree**

```
graph TD; Kingdom[Kingdom] --- OrganicCompounds[Organic compounds]; OrganicCompounds --- Superclass[Superclass]; Superclass --- Phenylpropanoids[Phenylpropanoids and polyketides]; Phenylpropanoids --- Class[Class]; Class --- Coumarins[Coumarins and derivatives]
```

**Kingdom**  
Organic compounds

**Superclass**  
Phenylpropanoids and polyketides

**Class**  
Coumarins and derivatives

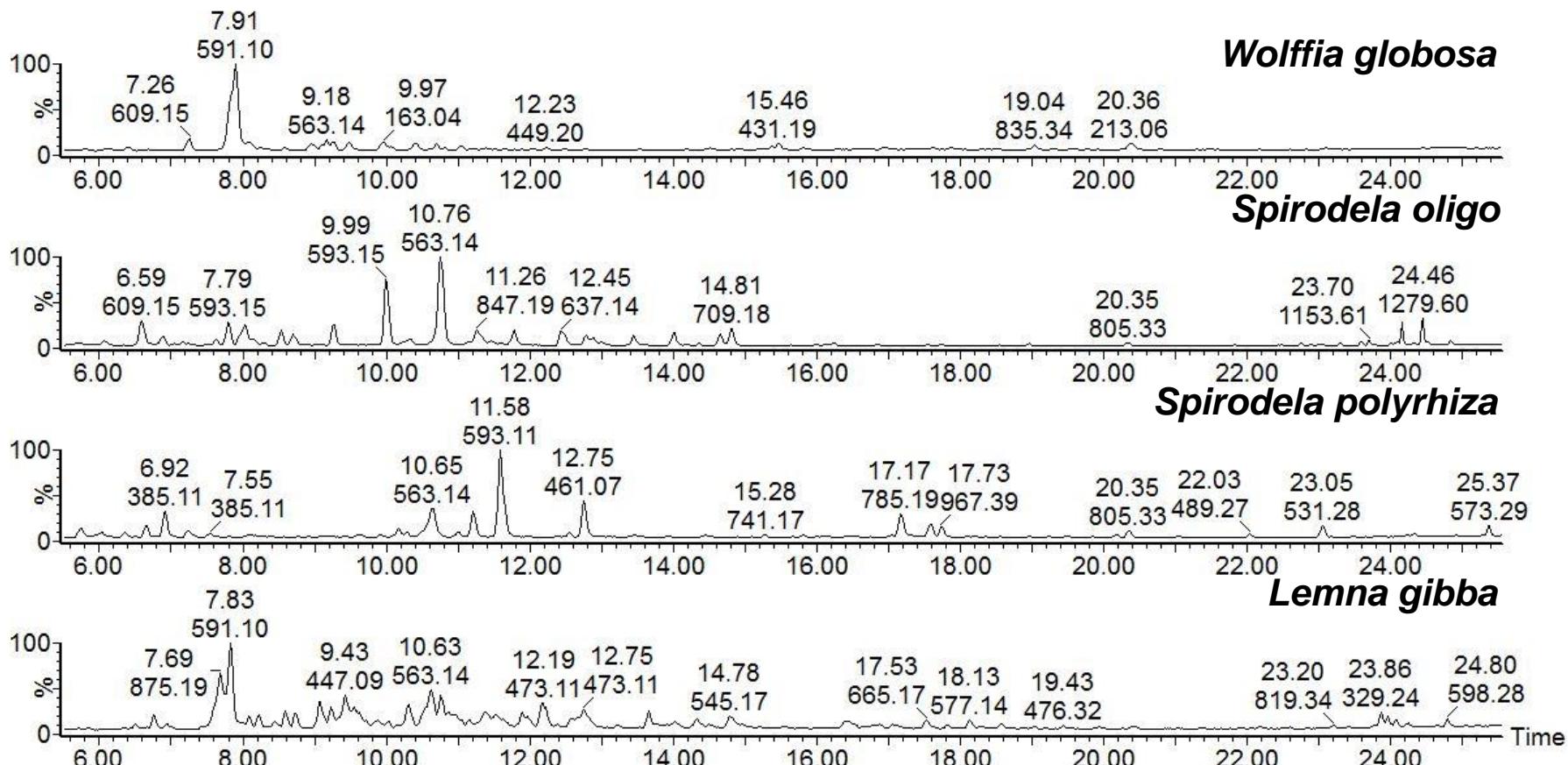
**Subclass**  
Not available

**Intermediate Tree Nodes**  
Not available

**Direct Parent**  
Coumarins and derivatives

## Collection screening – LC-MS (40 min gradient)

**Snapshot of detected secondary metabolite diversity:**



## Weizmass/MatchWeiz – Analyticon library (3500 compounds)

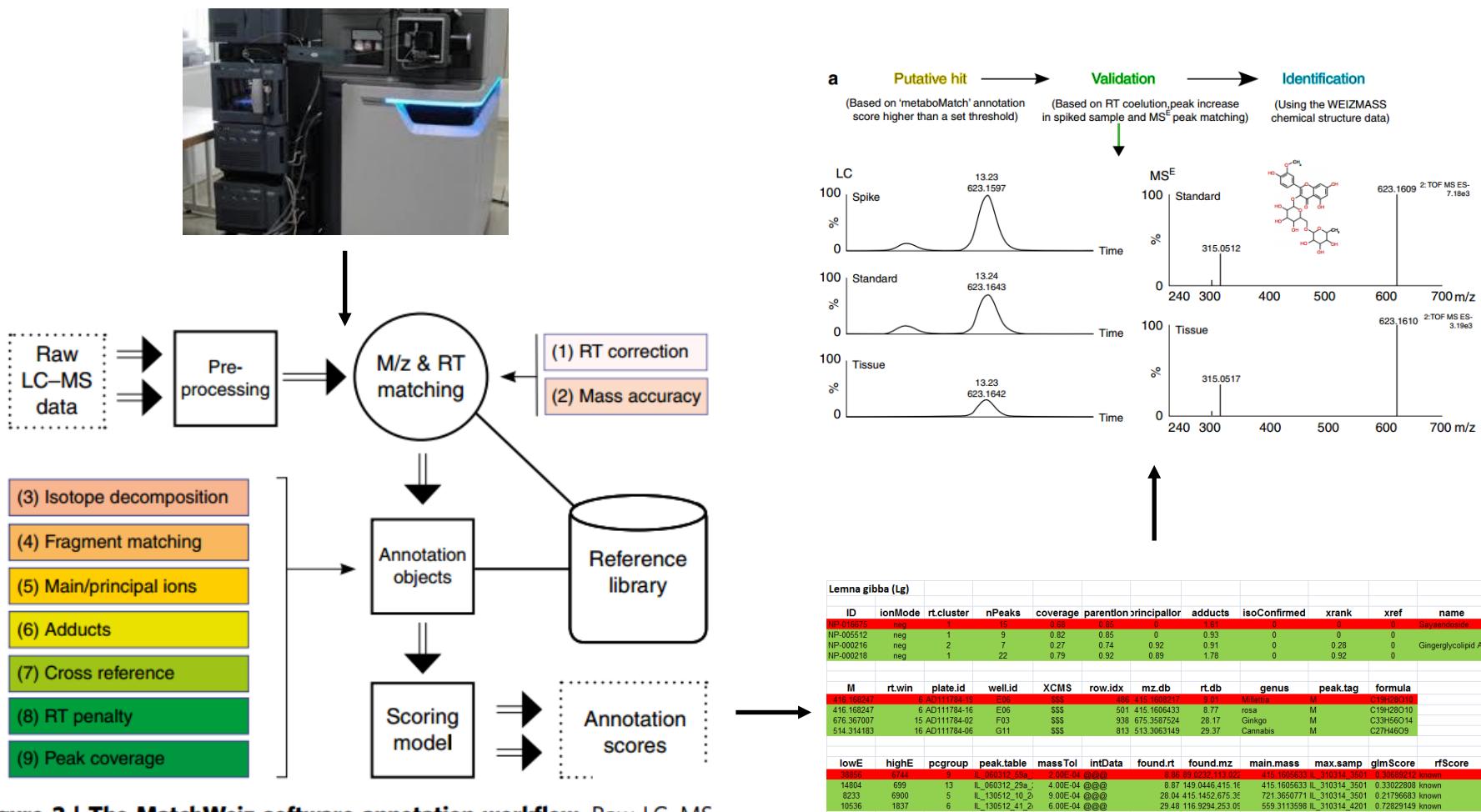


Figure 2 | The MatchWeiz software annotation workflow. Raw LC-MS

## Collection screening – Weizmass/MatchWeiz

- Due to diversity of the samples pre-processing was performed per genus (*Lemna+Landoltia, Wolffiella, Spirodela, Wolffia*)
- individual processing with Weizmass/MatchWeiz
- initial identification tables per genus
- comparison of common hits between groups and identification of previously identified compounds (Shahaf et al. 2016)

Lemna gibba (Lg)											
ID	ionMode	rt.cluster	nPeaks	coverage	parentIon	principallor	adducts	isoConfirmed	xrank	xref	name
NP-016675	neg	1	15	0.68	0.85	0	1.61	0	0	0	Sayaendoside
NP-005512	neg	1	9	0.82	0.85	0	0.93	0	0	0	
NP-000216	neg	2	7	0.27	0.74	0.92	0.91	0	0.28	0	Gingerglycolipid A
NP-000218	neg	1	22	0.79	0.92	0.89	1.78	0	0.92	0	
M	rt.win	plate.id	well.id	XCMS	row.idx	mz.db	rt.db	genus	peak.tag	formula	
416.168247	6	AD111784-19	E06	\$\$\$	486	415.1608217	9.01	Millettia	M	C19H28O10	
416.168247	6	AD111784-16	E06	\$\$\$	501	415.1606433	8.77	rosa	M	C19H28O10	
676.367007	15	AD111784-02	F03	\$\$\$	938	675.3587524	28.17	Ginkgo	M	C33H56O14	
514.314183	16	AD111784-06	G11	\$\$\$	813	513.3063149	29.37	Cannabis	M	C27H46O9	
lowE	highE	pcgroup	peak.table	massTol	intData	found.rt	found.mz	main.mass	max.samp	glmScore	rfScore
38856	6744	9	IL_060312_59a ;	2.00E-04	@@@	8.86	89.0232,113.022	415.1605633	IL_310314_3501	0.30689212	known
14804	699	13	IL_060312_29a ;	4.00E-04	@@@	8.87	149.0446,415.16	415.1605633	IL_310314_3501	0.33022808	known
8233	6900	5	IL_130512_10_2;	9.00E-04	@@@	28.04	415.1452,675.35	721.3650771	IL_310314_3501	0.21796683	known
10536	1837	6	IL_130512_41_2;	6.00E-04	@@@	29.48	116.9294,253.09	559.3113598	IL_310314_4201	0.72829149	known

## *Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation*

- Spiking of compound in sample with highest intensity of compound
- only in one extract (genus)

Lemna	Spirodella	Wolffia	Woolffielia	common
*NP-001271	*NP-000835	*NP-000002	NP-004596	**NP-000212
*NP-000286	NP-016821	*NP-001271	**NP-000061	NP-004940
*NP-000002	*NP-004586	*NP-000286	NP-015651	NP-005064
*NP-000287	*NP-007187	**NP-000212	NP-002437	*NP-004586
NP-013345	NP-001730	**NP-000437	NP-001362	NP-016976
NP-001730	NP-004573	NP-003191	NP-016976	NP-001009
NP-005587	**NP-000437	*NP-007187	NP-017063	**NP-000887
NP-003191	NP-003191	NP-001730	NP-004940	NP-000427
NP-000588	NP-005155	*NP-000835	*NP-004586	*NP-010155
**NP-000212	NP-000902	*NP-000287	NP-002465	NP-015231
NP-000895	**NP-000212	NP-001393	*NP-002970	NP-015334
NP-015692	*NP-000836	NP-000588	NP-005332	NP-017147
*NP-001984	*NP-013098	NP-000062	NP-008402	**NP-005379

Know in Lemna,  
not spiked

In Lemna &  
Spirodela,  
spiked in Lemna

Common in all, known from other species, spiked in Woolffielia

- injection of spike, sample and pure standard -> identification

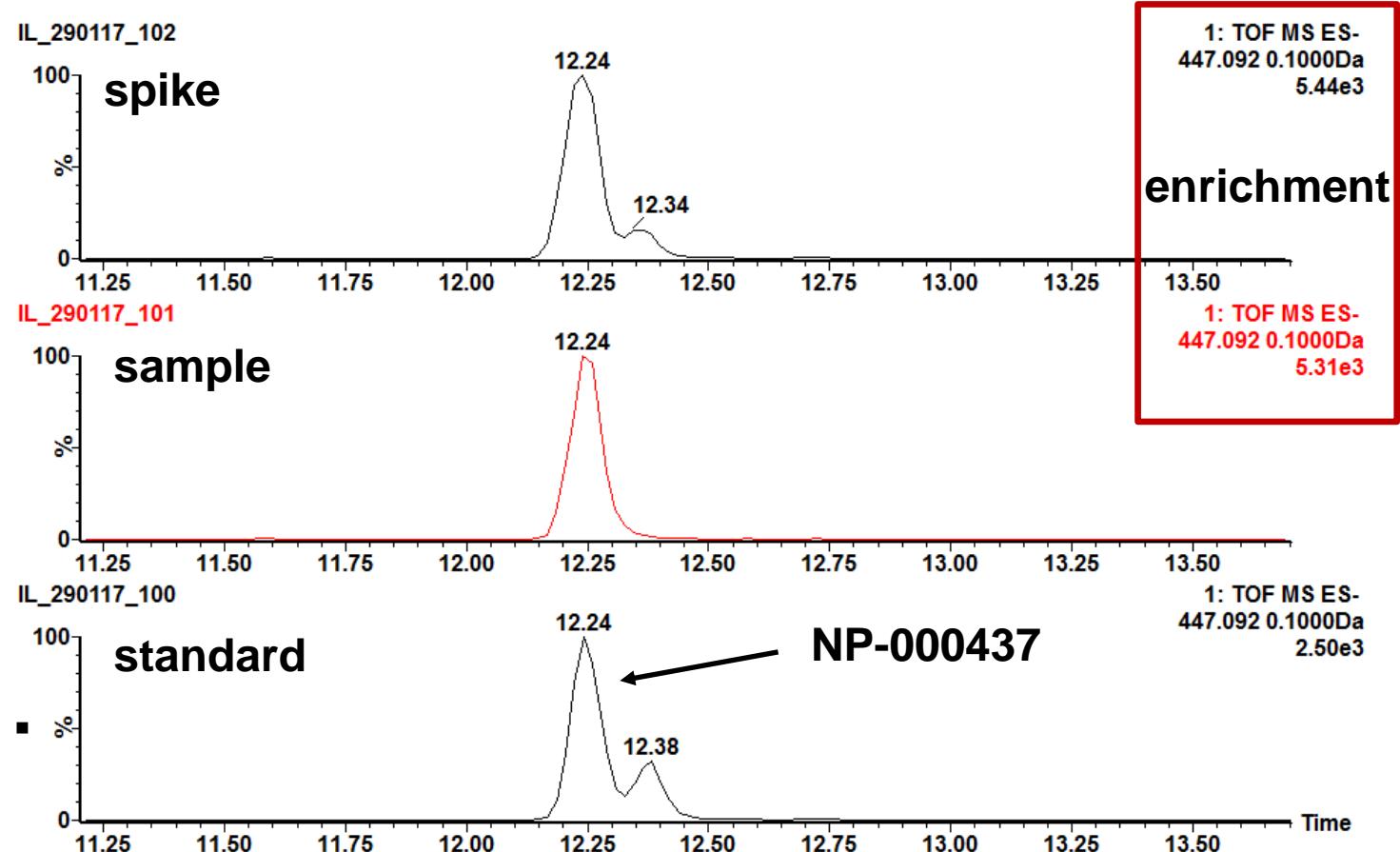
## ***Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation***

### ➤ Possible results of spiking experiment:

- **positive identification** (RT, MS, MS fragmentation identical)
- **related = false positive** (wrong RT or mass)
- **wrong identification** (no criterium matches)
- **identification of isomers** through impurities in the standard  
(same mass, MS fragmentation, different RT)

## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

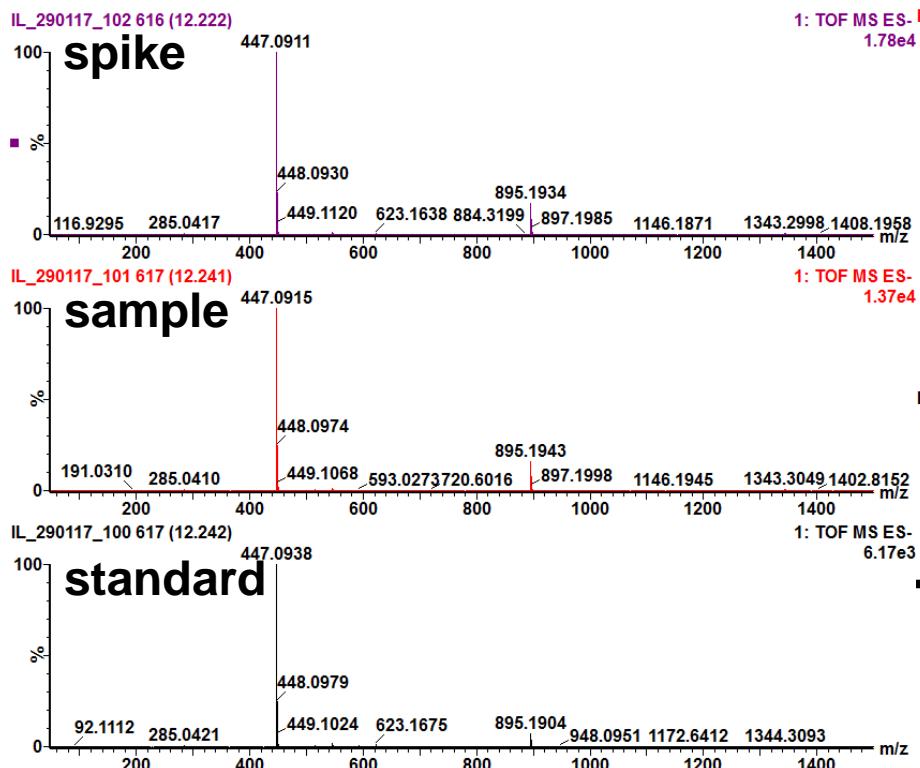
- positive identification ESI- (88 compounds)



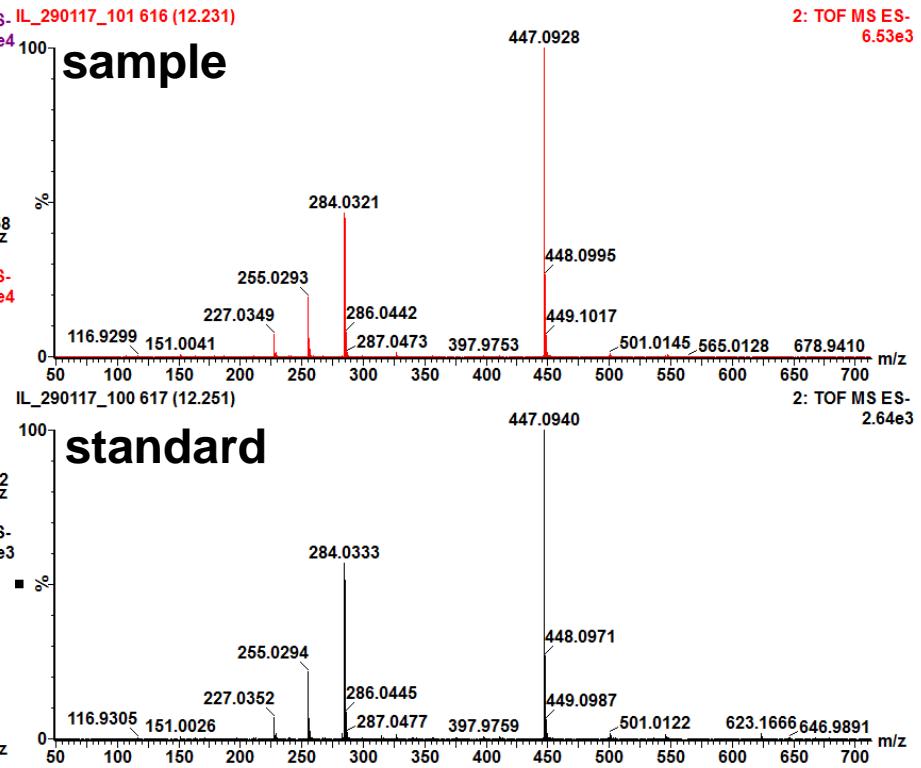
## *Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation*

➤ positive identification (88 compounds)

**MS**

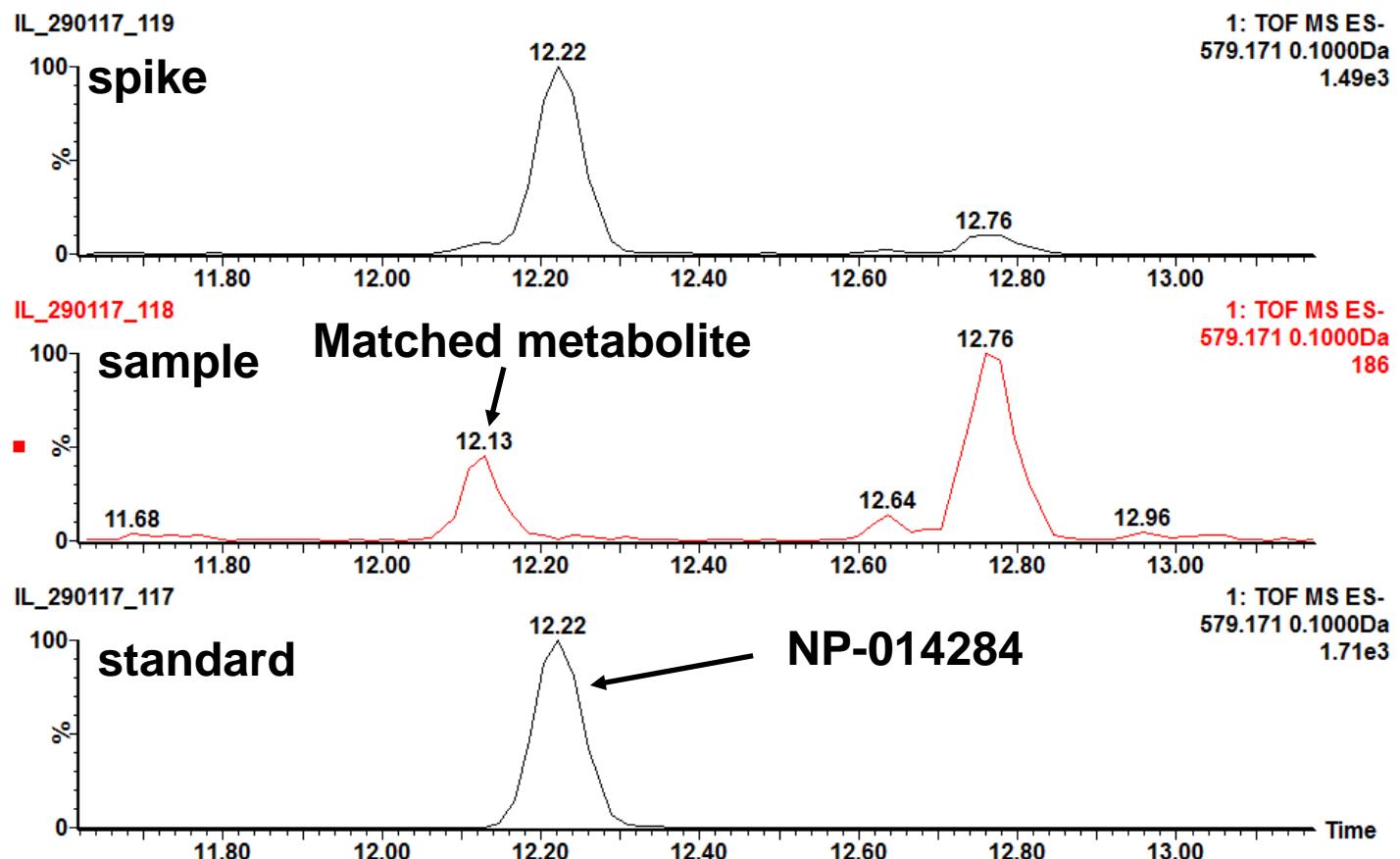


**MSramp**



## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

- related compound = false positive (Most common case, RT difference sometimes very small, 0.02 min)



## *Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation*

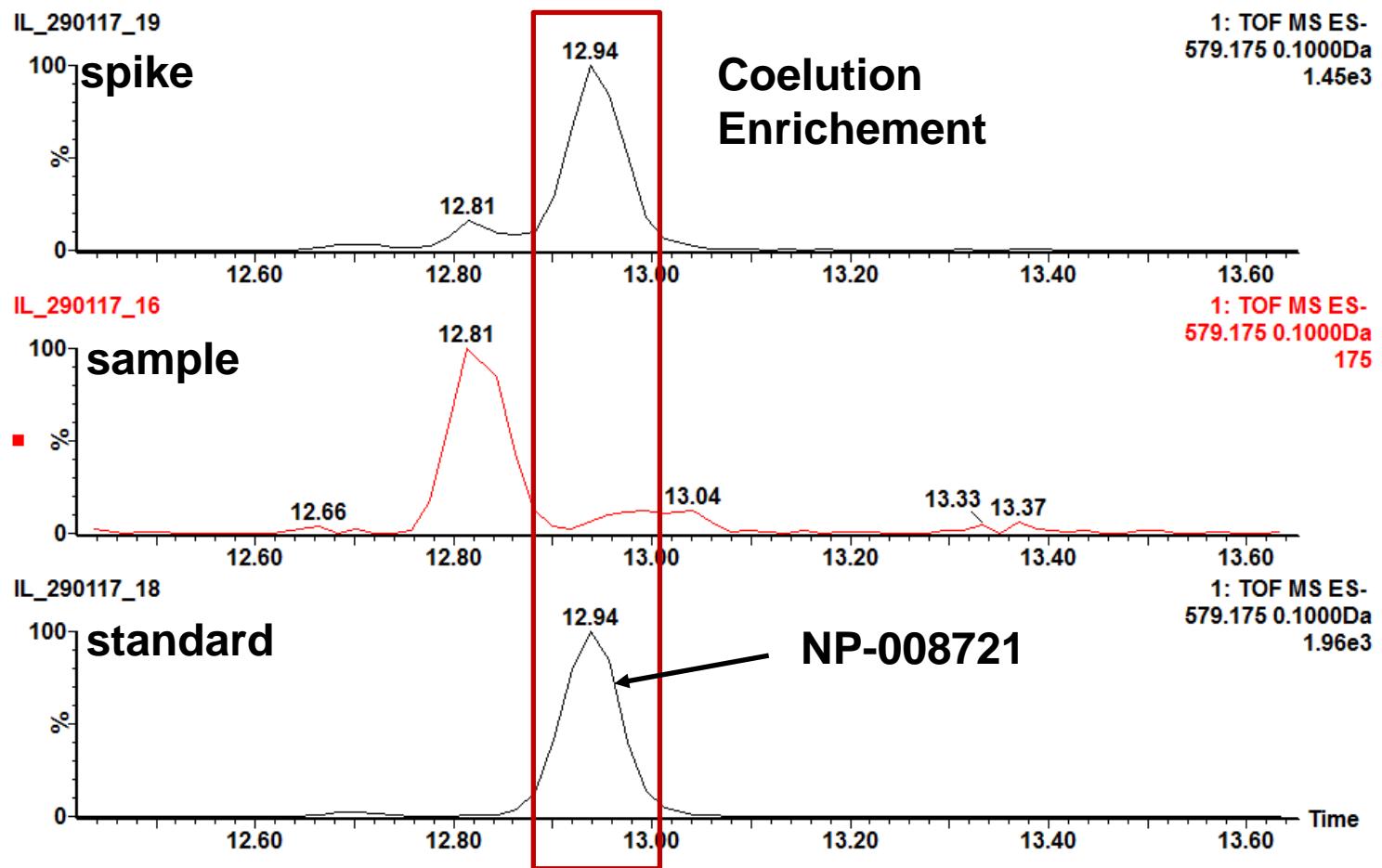
➤ compounds that are “too similar”

Lemna gibba (Lg)											
ID	ionMode	rt.cluster	nPeaks	coverage	parentIon	principalIon	adducts	isoConfirmed	xrank	xref	name
NP-016675	neg	1	15	0.68	0.85	0	1.61	0	0	0	Sayaendoside
NP-005512	neg	1	9	0.82	0.85	0	0.93	0	0	0	
NP-000216	neg	2	7	0.27	0.74	0.92	0.91	0	0.28	0	Gingerglycolipid A
NP-000218	neg	1	22	0.79	0.92	0.89	1.78	0	0.92	0	
M	rt.win	plate.id	well.id	XCMS	row.idx	mz.db	rt.db	genus	peak.tag	formula	
416.168247	6	AD111784-19	E06	\$\$\$	486	415.1608217	9.01	Millettia	M	C19H28O10	
416.168247	6	AD111784-16	E06	\$\$\$	501	415.1606433	8.77	rosa	M	C19H28O10	
676.367007	15	AD111784-02	F03	\$\$\$	938	675.3587524	28.17	Ginkgo	M	C33H56O14	
514.314183	16	AD111784-06	G11	\$\$\$	813	513.3063149	29.37	Cannabis	M	C27H46O9	
lowE	highE	pcgroup	peak.table	massTol	intData	found.rt	found.mz	main.mass	max.samp	glmScore	rfScore
38856	6744	9	IL_060312_59a	2.00E-04	@@@	8.86	89.0232,113.022	415.1605633	IL_310314_3501	0.30689212	known
14804	699	13	IL_060312_29a	4.00E-04	@@@	8.87	149.0446,415.16	415.1605633	IL_310314_3501	0.33022808	known
8233	6900	5	IL_130512_10_2	9.00E-04	@@@	28.04	415.1452,675.35	721.3650771	IL_310314_3501	0.21796683	known
10536	1837	6	IL_130512_41_2	6.00E-04	@@@	29.48	116.9294,253.09	559.3113598	IL_310314_4201	0.72829149	known

➤ one compound is true one false, only by spiking !

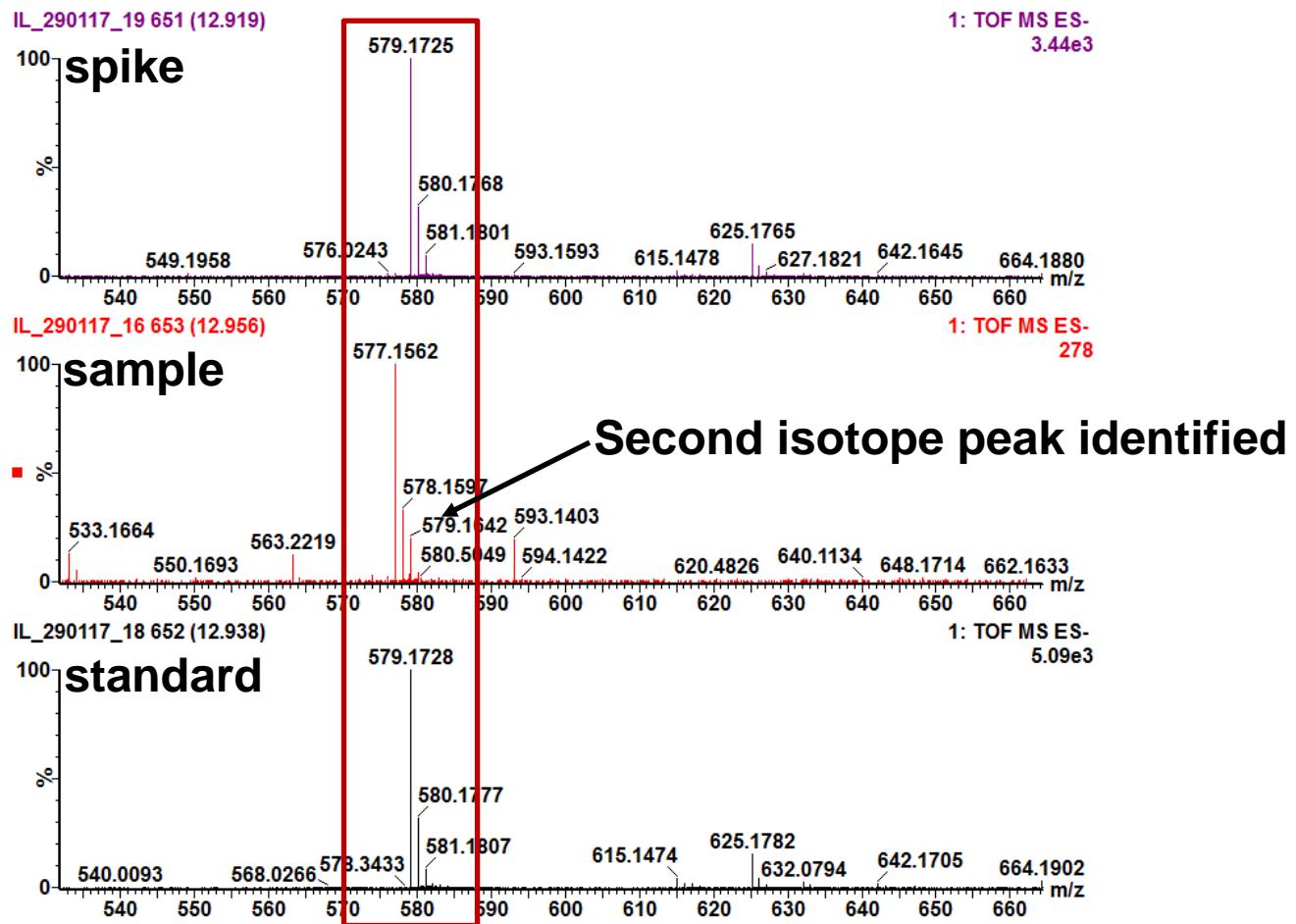
## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

➤ library compound corresponds to **isotope** of sample compound



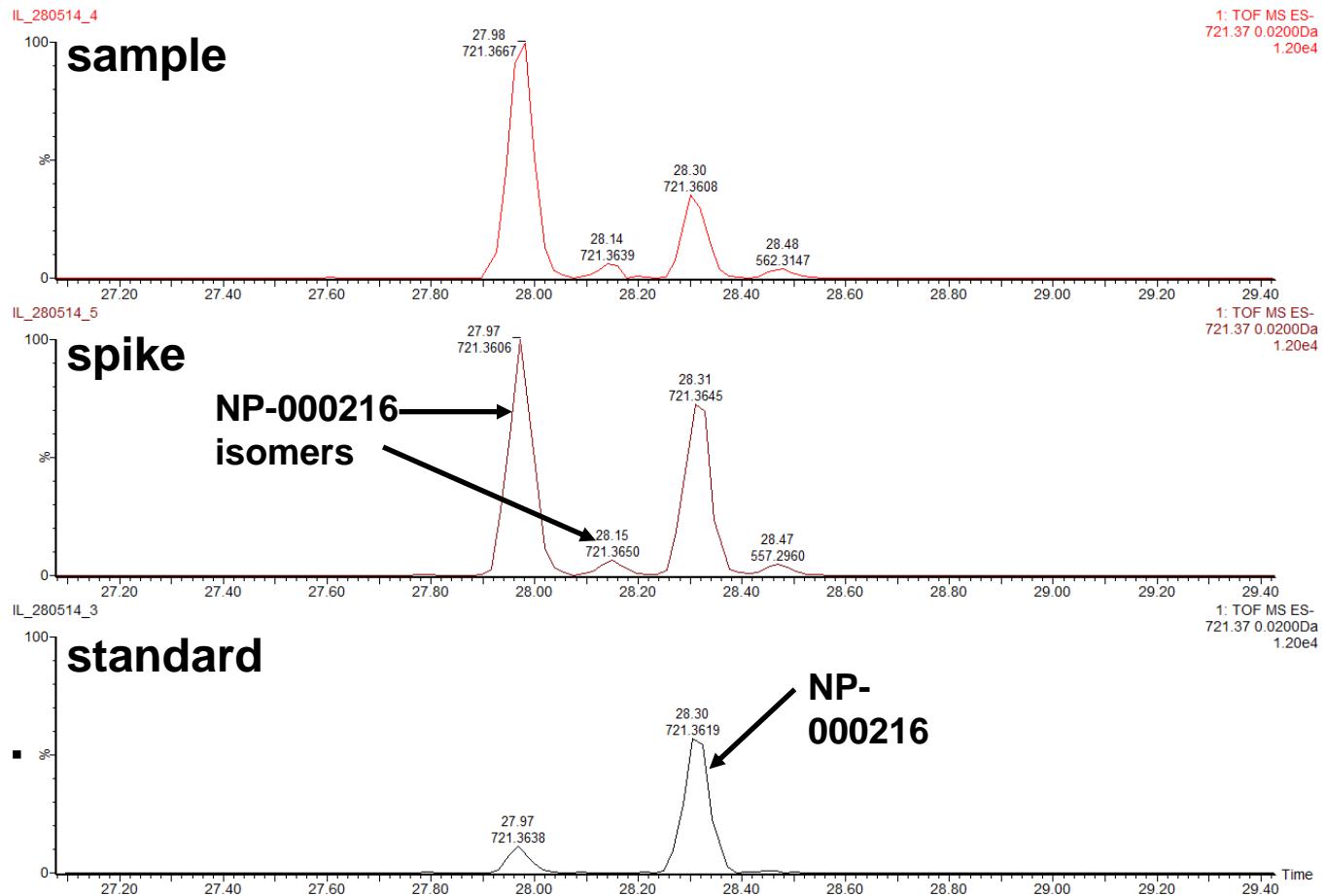
## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

- library compound corresponds to **isotope** of sample compound



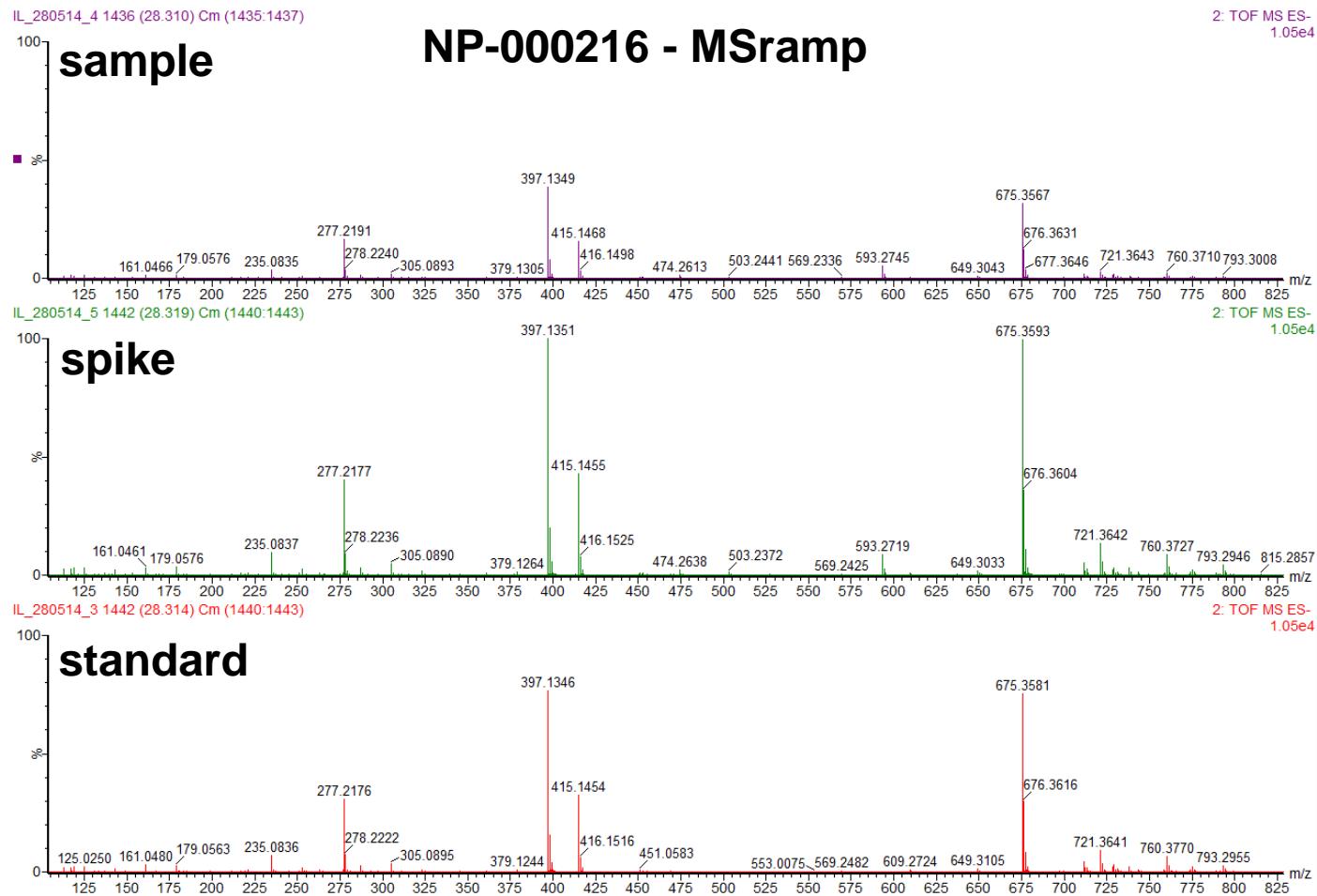
## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

- identification of isomers (many times present in standard, more than 15)



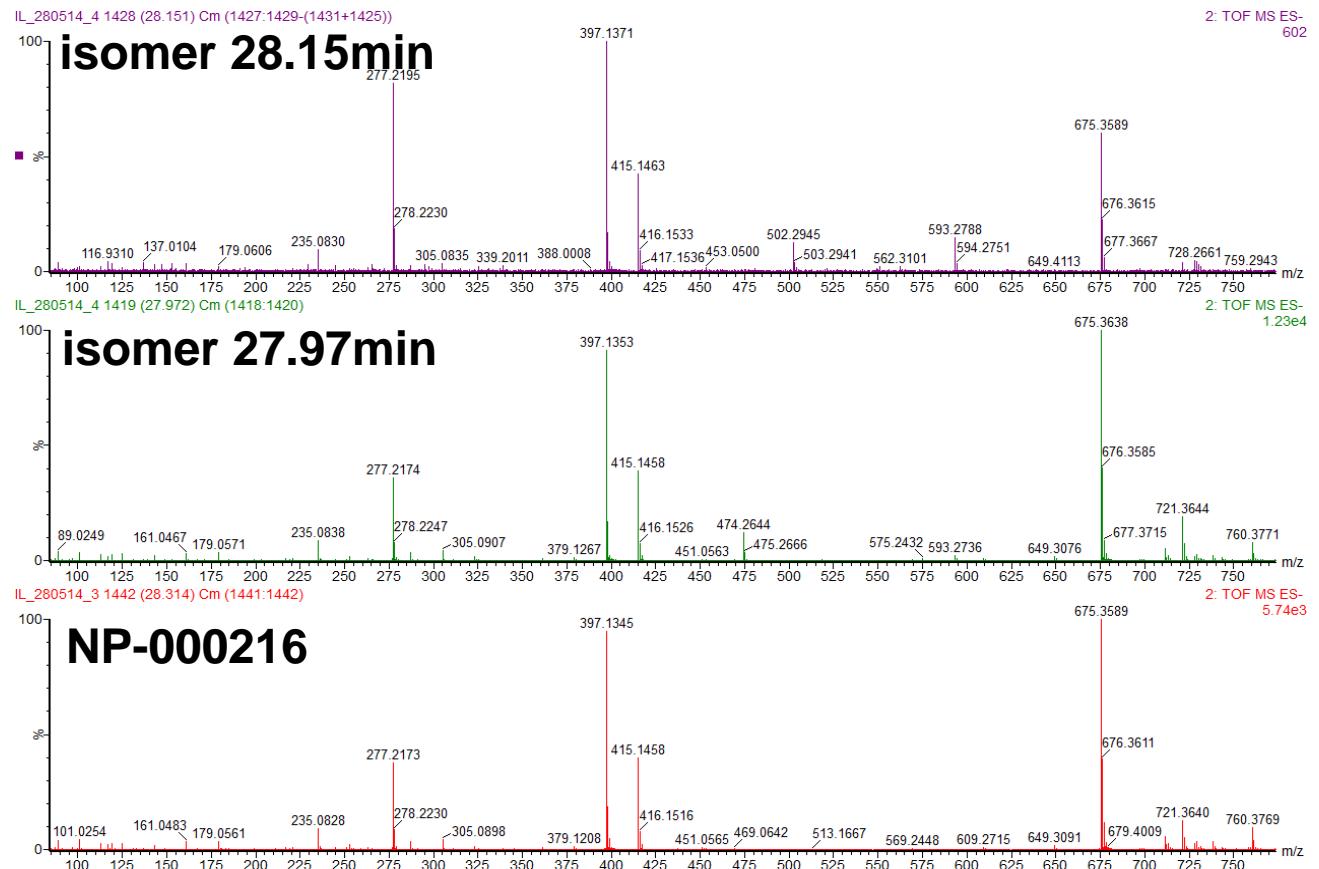
## **Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation**

➤ identification of isomers (many times present in standard, more than 15)



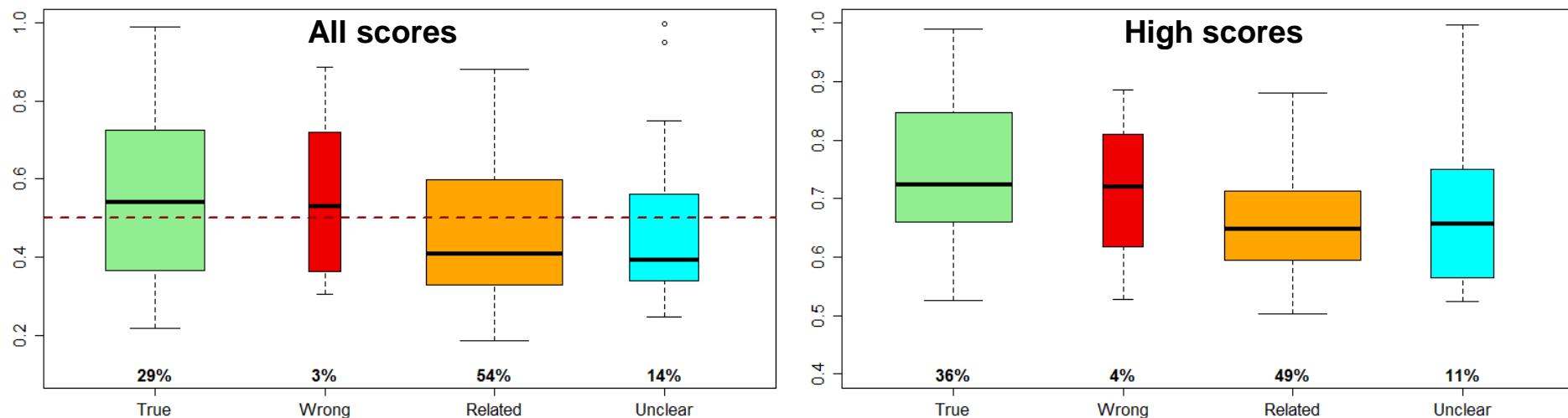
## **Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation**

- identification of isomers (many times present in standard, more than 15)



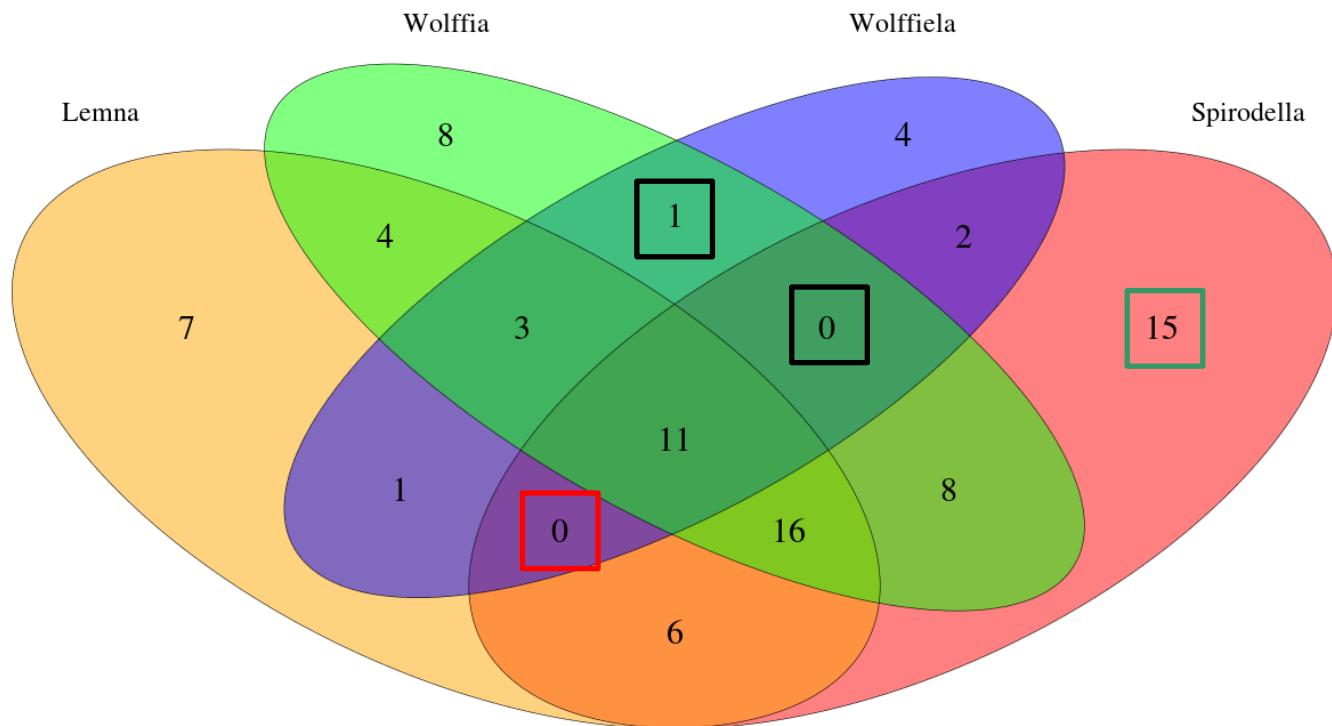
## Collection screening – MatchWeiz compound validation

➤ 88 positive identifications (+15 isomers)



- around 30% positive identifications (+isomers)
- unclear compounds need MS-MS analysis
- cut off by score is problematic and leads to loss of identifications

## Collection screening – analysis of *Lemna* metabolites



- ***Spirodela* has most unique metabolites (although only two species)**
- **Although *Wolffia* and *Wolffiella* are related they share only one compound**

## *Collection screening – analysis of Lemna metabolites*

### ➤ Classification of Lemnaceae compounds (88)

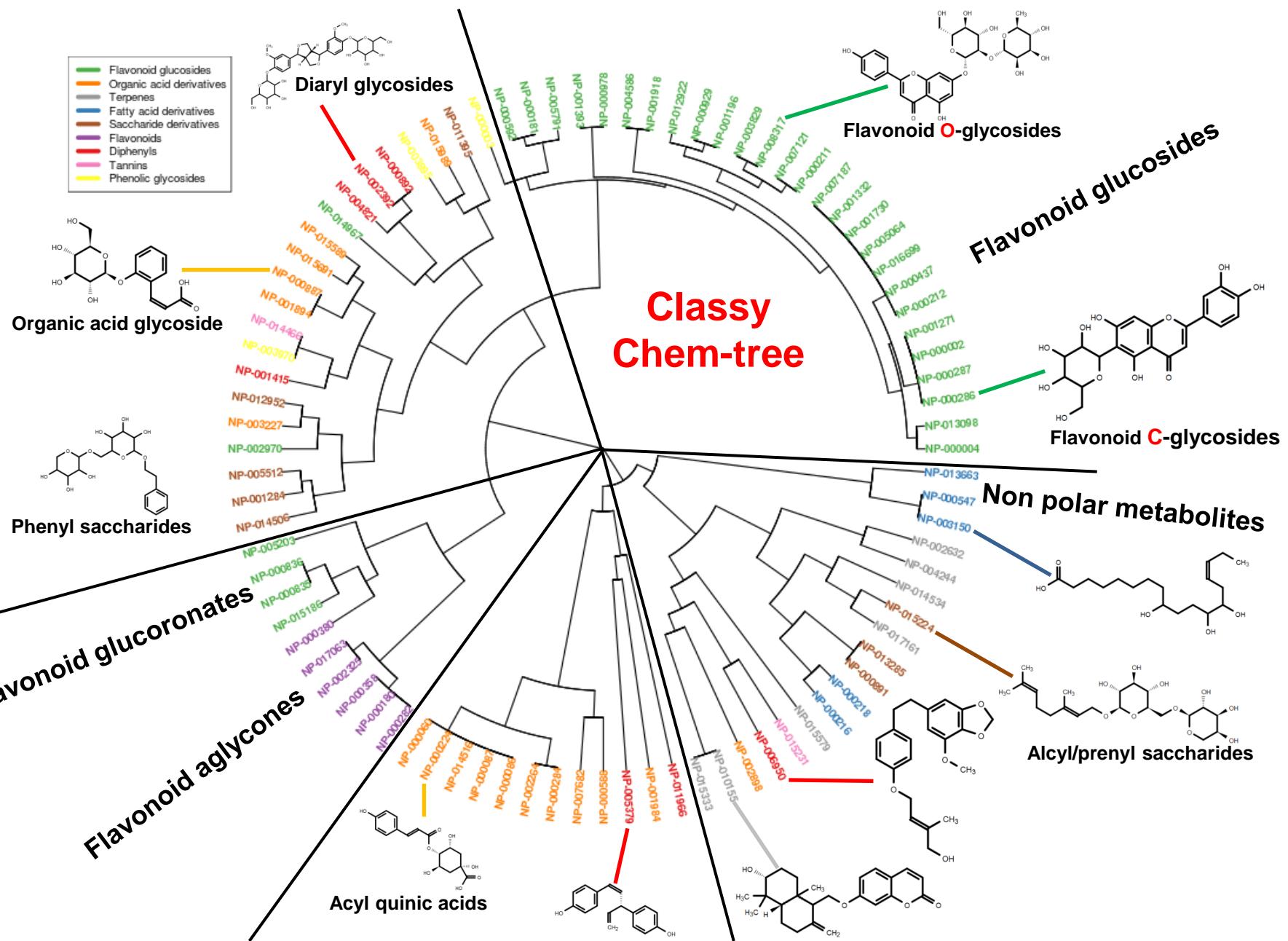
5 classes  
general

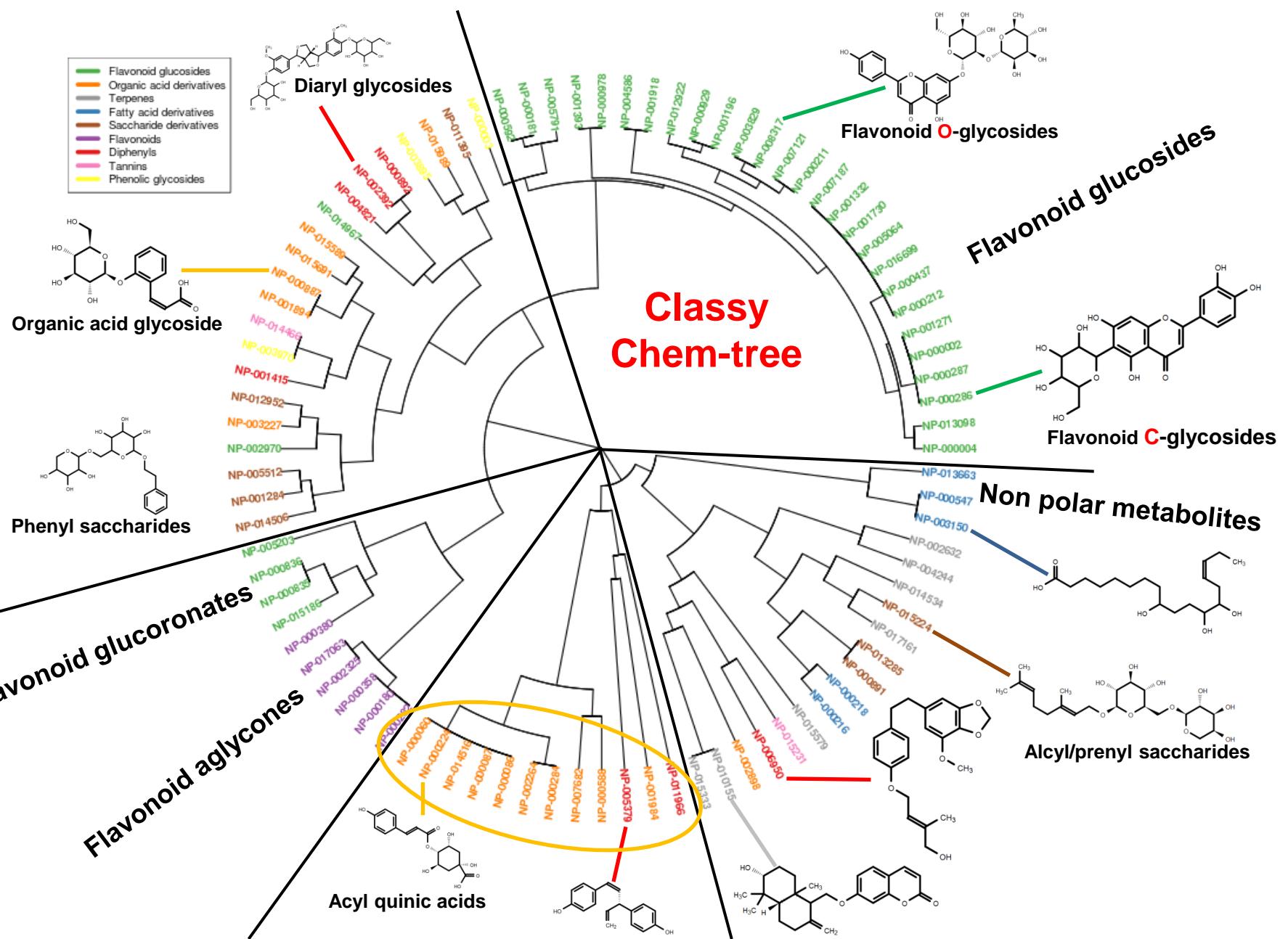
ID positive hit	classyfire 1st	classyfire 2nd	classyfire 3rd	correct	Uwe
NP-000004	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid C-glucoside	Y	N
NP-000286	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Coumaroylquinic acid	Y	N
NP-000060	Phenylpropanoids	Organic acid derivative	Coumarin-Sesquiterpene conjugate	N	Y
NP-015333	Terpene	Sesquiterpene	Coumarin derivatives	N	Y
	Phenylpropanoids	Coumarins	Flavonoid O-glucoside	Y	Y
NP-000211	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	Y	N
NP-005203	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Glycosylacylglycerols	Y	N
NP-000216	Lipids	Glycerolipids	Flavonoid O-glucoside	Y	N
NP-000212	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Benzyl-saccharide	Y	Y
NP-011395	Carbohydrate conjugates	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-000437	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-016699	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-005064	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-015589	Phenylpropanoids	Organic acid derivative	Ferulic acid O-glycoside	N	Y
NP-003150	Lipids	Fatty acyls	Hydroxy fatty acid	Y	Y
NP-005791	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid C-glucoside	Y	N
NP-007121	Phenylpropanoids		Flavonoid O-glucoside	Y	N
NP-012952	Carbohydrate conjugates	Flavonoids	Catechol	Y	Y
NP-017063	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavans	Y	N
NP-001730	Phenylpropanoids	Flavonoid glucoside	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-000181	Phenylpropanoids	Benzyl-saccharide	Flavonoid O-glucoside	N	Y
NP-005512	Carbohydrate conjugates	Sesquiterpene	Benzyl-disaccharide	Y	Y
NP-010155	Terpene	Coumarins	Coumarin-Sesquiterpene conjugate	N	Y
	Phenylpropanoids		Coumarin derivatives	Y	Y

19 classes

Diverse,  
already  
compound  
specific

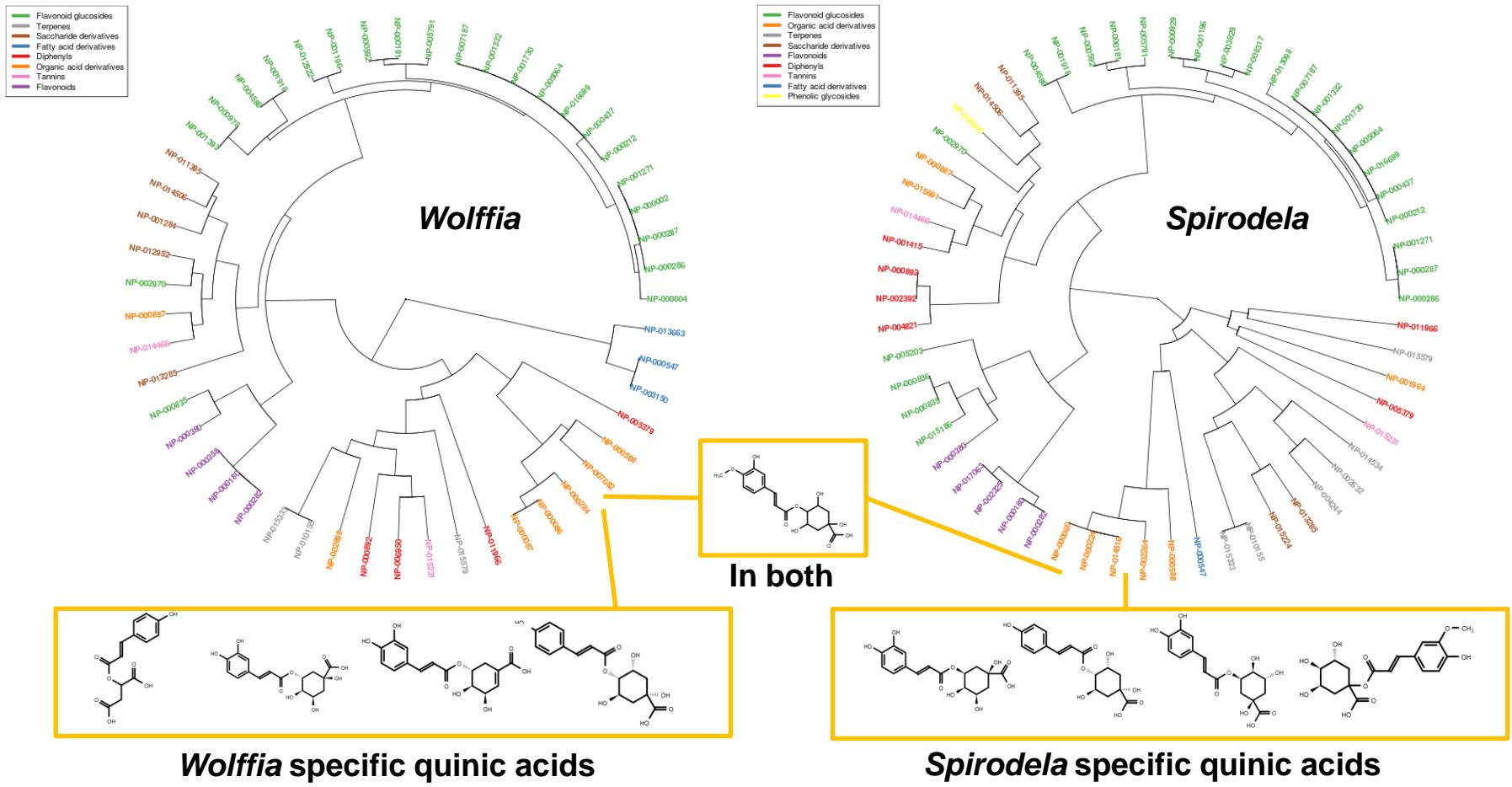
- Manual refinement of 2<sup>nd</sup> level to 9 meaningful classes
- Example: Fatty acids and Glycerolipids (monoacyl, mainly FA)





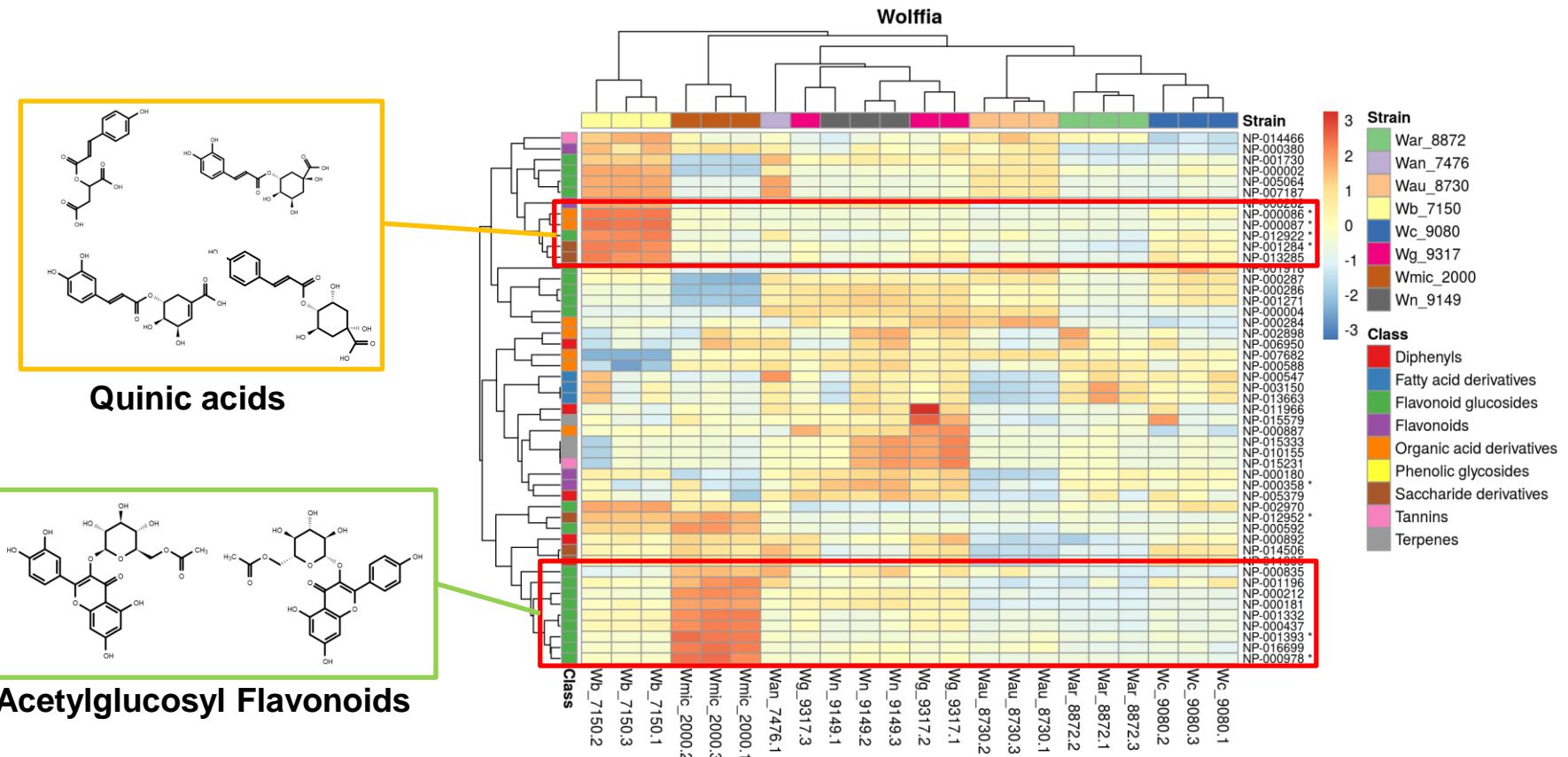
## Collection screening – analysis of *Lemna* metabolites

### ➤ Classy Chemtree presentation per species



## Collection screening – analysis of *Lemna* metabolites

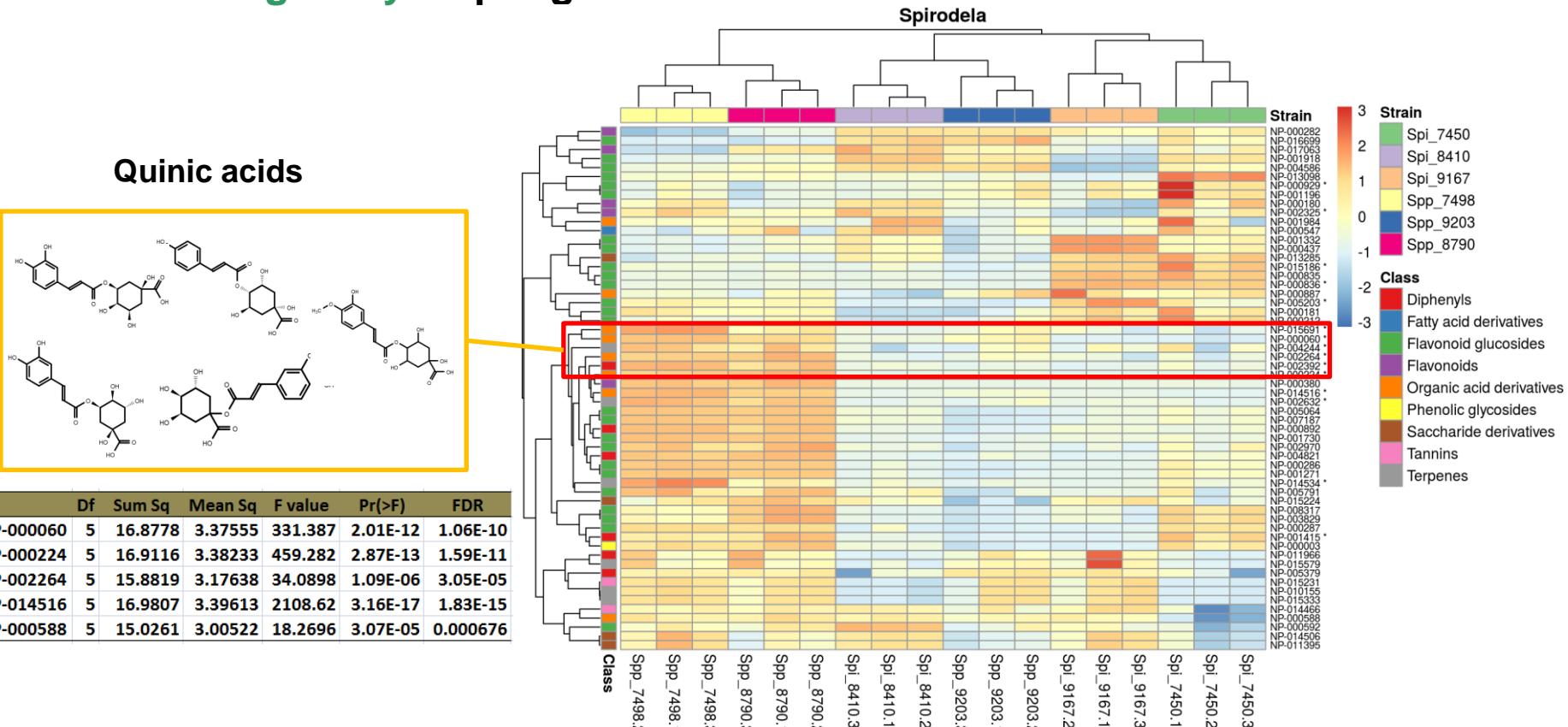
➤ Clustering analysis per genus combined with Classification



➤ Identification of high producers of *Wolffia* specialized metabolites

## Collection screening – analysis of *Lemna* metabolites

- Clustering analysis per genus combined with Classification



- *Spirodesla polyrhiza* 7498 (sequenced strain) is a producer of Quinic acids
- These acids are exclusively produced by *Spirodesla* within the *Lemnaceae*

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US National Library of Medicine  
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Format: Summary Sort by: Most Recent Per page: 20 Send to Filters: Manage Filters

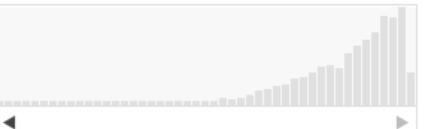
**Search Tip**  
Sort by **Best Match** to display results from highest to lowest relevance to your search terms.  
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**Search results**  
Items: 1 to 20 of 3710 << First < Prev Page  of 186 Next > Last >>

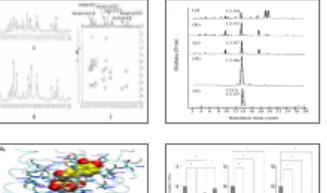
[Blanching influences the phenolics composition, antioxidant activity, and inhibitory effect of](#)  
 1. [Adansonia digitata leaves extract on  \$\alpha\$ -amylase,  \$\alpha\$ -glucosidase, and aldose reductase.](#)  
 Irondi EA, Akintunde JK, Agboola SO, Boligon AA, Athayde ML.  
*Food Sci Nutr.* 2016 May 25;5(2):233-242. doi: 10.1002/fsn3.386.  
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 Park CH, Yeo HJ, Park YJ, Morgan AM, Valan Arasu M, Al-Dhabi NA, Park SU.  
*Molecules.* 2017 Feb 28;22(3). pii: E374. doi: 10.3390/molecules22030374.  
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## **Lemna collection screening summary & perspectives**

- High confidence identification of 88 (+15) secondary metabolites in *Lemna*
  - Deep analysis of MatchWeiz validation
  - Integration of semi-automated compound classification into chemtree and clustering visualisation tool for metabolomics
  - Identification of *Wolffia* & *Spirodela* specific metabolites as Acyl quinic acids
- 
- Improvement of MatchWeiz module (RT, output filtration, derivative search)
  - Reduction of necessary validation spiking experiments
  - Integration of results in Metabolic network of *Lemna* (SpirodelaCyc)
  - Pathway elucidation, production of valuable metabolites

# Overview

**Part I – metabolic profiling of *Lemnaceae***

**Part II – DLEMMA for metabolite identification**

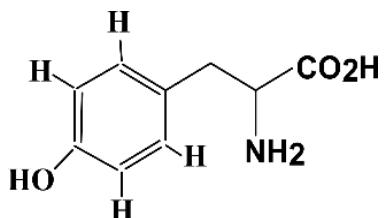
**Part III – flux analysis using *Spirodela polyrhiza***

## Combining Dual Isotope Labeling of Metabolites for Metabolome Analysis (DLEMMA) with MALDI-MSI

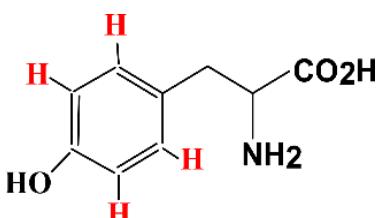
- Difficulties of metabolite identification in MSI and metabolomics
- DLEMMA helps in **structure elucidation** according to their labeling patterns
- DLEMMA enables **tracking a particular metabolic pathway** by enriching in this pathway with precursor feeding

## 1. Experimental Design

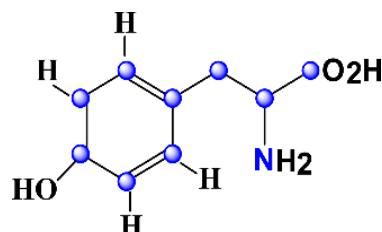
un-labelled tyrosine



labelled I



labelled II



A: control



B: un-labelled



C: labelled I



D: labelled II



E: labelled I + II

## 1. Experimental Design

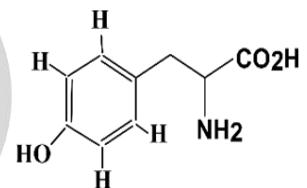
1. Why feed *Lemna* separately? Can we feed all the 3 tyrosines in one *Lemna* group?

Suppose:

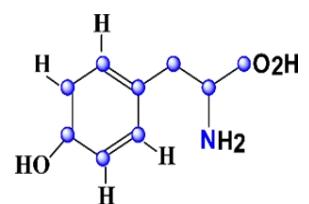
- Analyte X in Group. B,  $m/z$  142.0817, RT=5.52 min
- Analyte Y in Group. D,  $m/z$  151.1119 ( $=142.0871+9\text{ C}^{13}$ ), RT= 5.52 min

Is analyte Y the 9  $^{13}\text{C}$  labelled X?

- No. Unless Y is only detected in Group. D and E.
- The experiment design efficiently removes false positives



B: un-labelled tyrosine



D: labelled II

## 1. *Experimental Design*

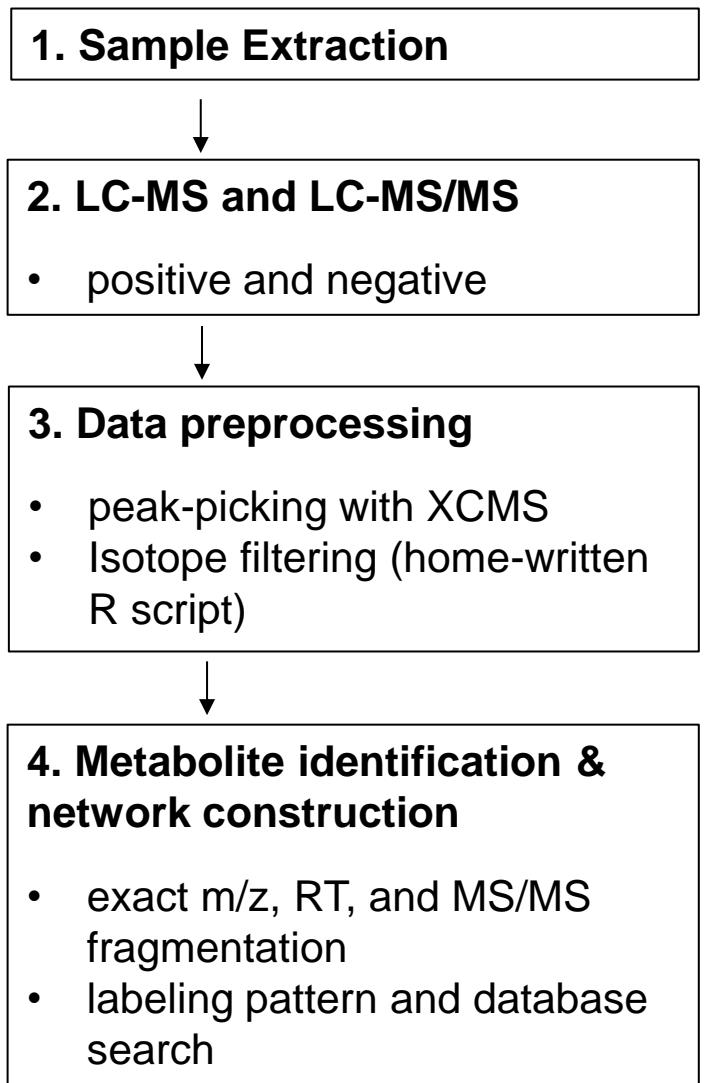
## 2. Why do we need the control group A?

- We are creating stress to plants by feeding them
- Some metabolites are produced upon stress
- Group. A helps to remove those stress-induced-metabolites



A: control

## 2. Workflow



- Auto isotope labeling search according to the experiment design

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
m/z	RT	m/z	RT	label	m/z	RT	label
105.0701	3.05	108.0865	3.08	3	113.1197	3.07	8
107.0495	2.16	111.0755	2.09	4	113.0879	2.06	6
120.0805	4.88	124.1059	4.85	4	128.1309	4.88	8
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

- Reduce from **20,000** to ~ 100 analytes

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
<b>267.1345</b>	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9



### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

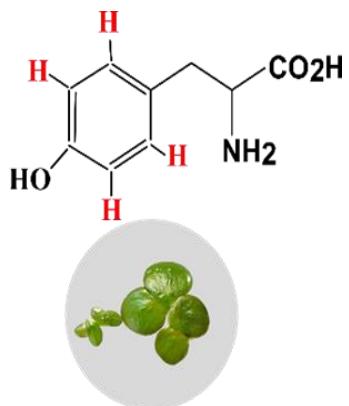
Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$C_{13}H_{18}N_2O_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder



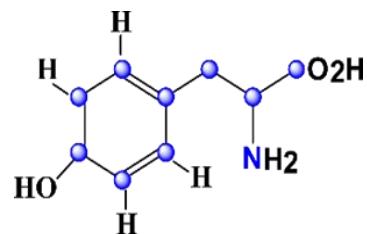
there must be one **aromatic ring** in this compound, and with **4 H** on it, **313** compounds

EXP. C: labelled I

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$C_{13}H_{18}N_2O_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder



there must be one **aromatic ring**, at least **8 C bone**, on it, **403 compounds**

EXP.D: labelled II

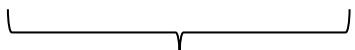
### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder

313 in C

403 in D

 48 in C and D

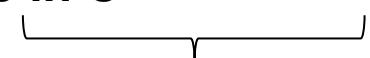
### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder

313 in C

403 in D



48 in C and D



4 are biologically reported

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

$\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  : with this formula > 14,000 compounds found in Scifinder

313 in C

403 in D



48 in C and D



4 are biologically reported

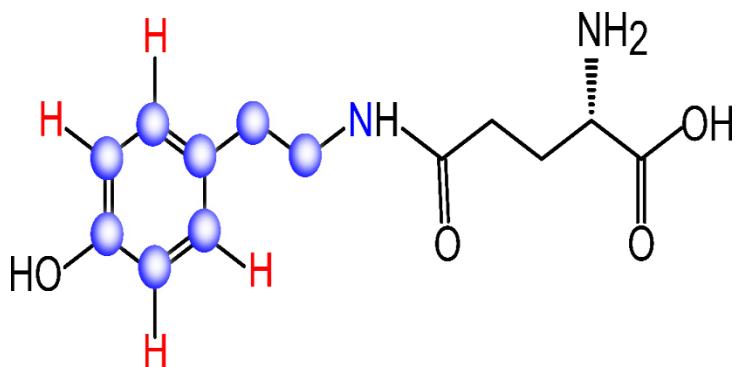


1 hit with our MS/MS data

### 3. Example of Analyte Identification

Exp. B		EXP. C			EXP. D		
<i>m/z</i>	RT	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label	<i>m/z</i>	RT	label
267.1345	2.75	271.1599	2.74	4	276.1579	2.74	9

Glutamine side chain  $C_{13}H_{18}N_2O_4$



## 4. When MALDI Imaging Comes...

**What can they do to each other?**

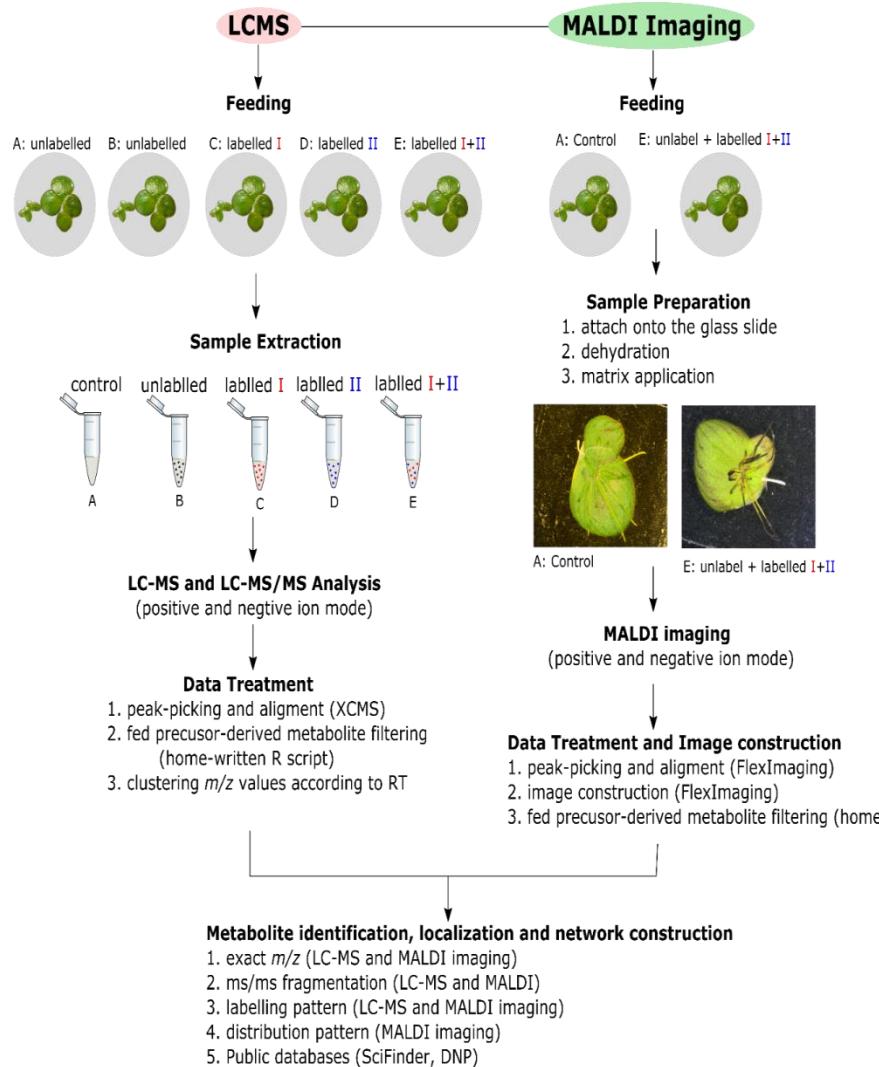
**DLEMMA to MALDI MSI:**

- Help in metabolite identification
- Increase the analyte concentrations by precursor feeding, favoring their detection by MALDI imaging

**MALDI MSI to DLEMMA:**

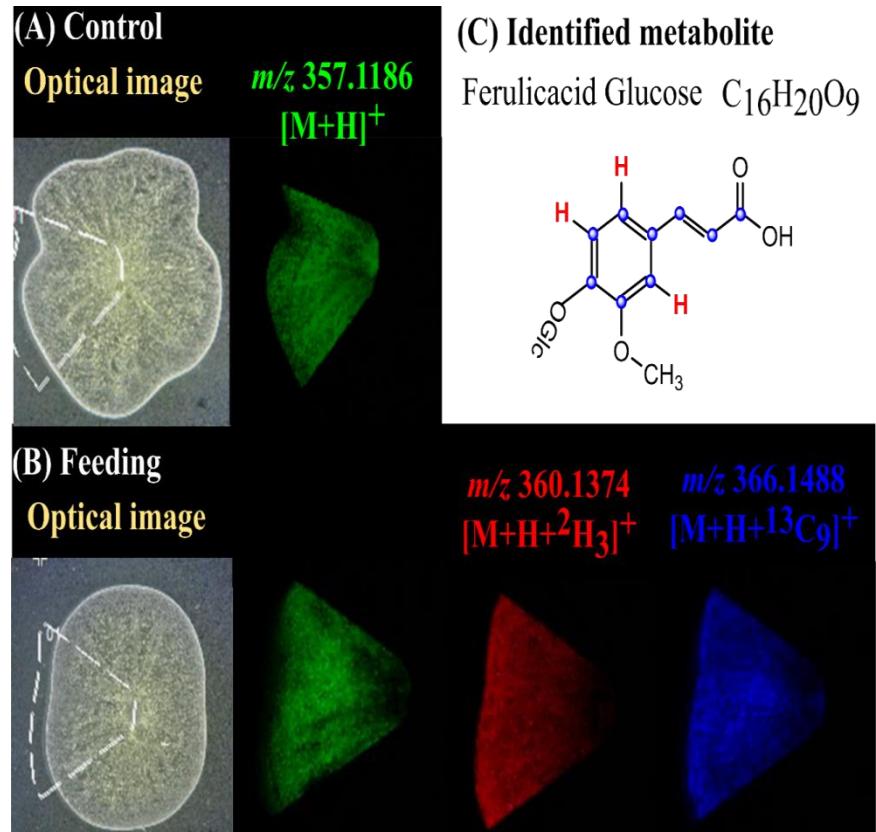
- Enhance metabolite identification capability (unlabelled and labelled analytes should have the same distribution pattern)
- Provide information regarding metabolite distribution

## 5. DLEMMA-MALDI MSI Experiment Design

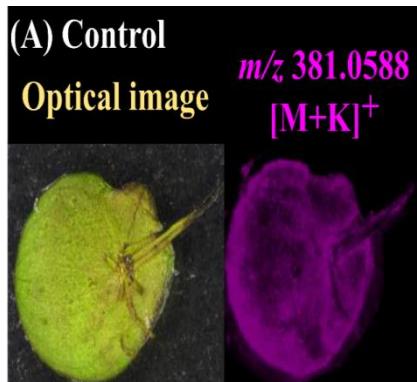


- The workflow is similar as conventional **metabolomics analysis**
- In MALDI MSI, un-labelled precursor and its two isotopes were **added to the same tissue** because we want to compare their distribution
- Lemna* and tomato fruits were used in this study
- Tyrosine, phenylalanine and tryptophan as three precursors

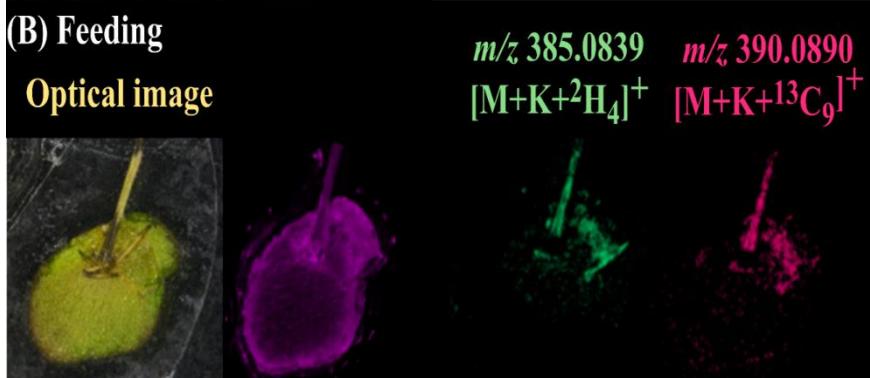
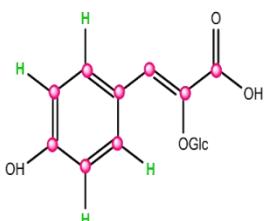
## Example 1. Un-labelled and Labelled analytes show **the same distribution**



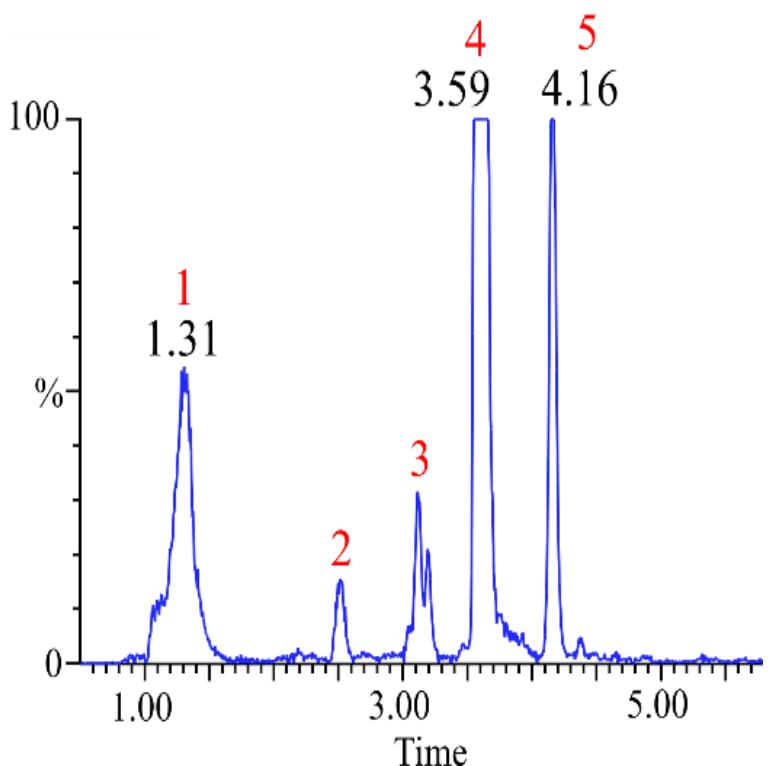
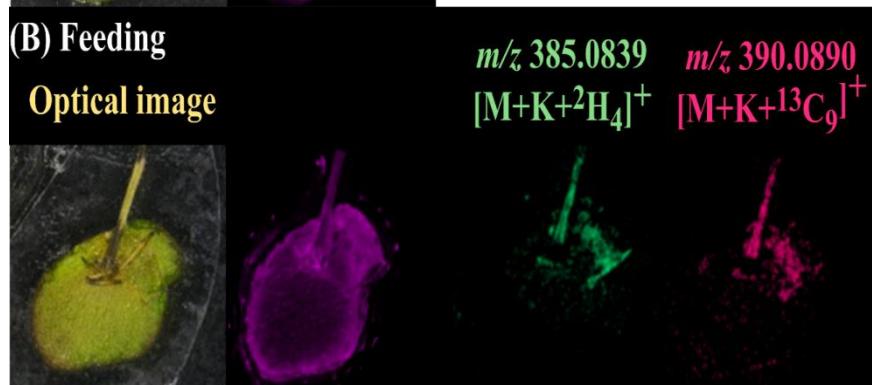
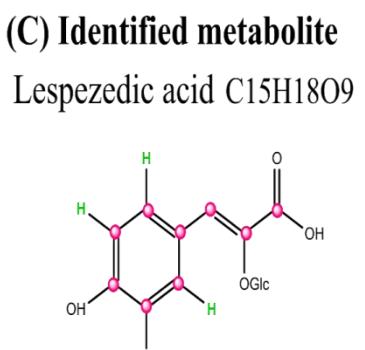
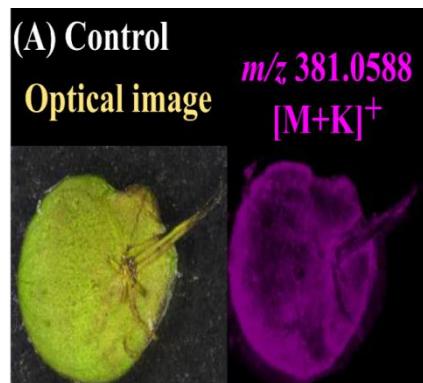
## Example 2. Un-labelled and Labelled analytes show **different** distribution



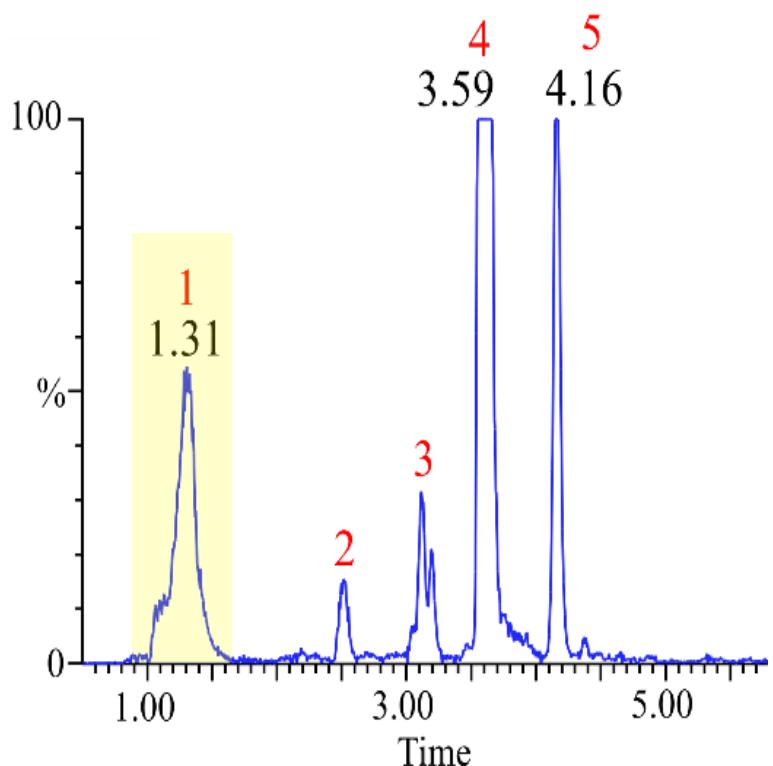
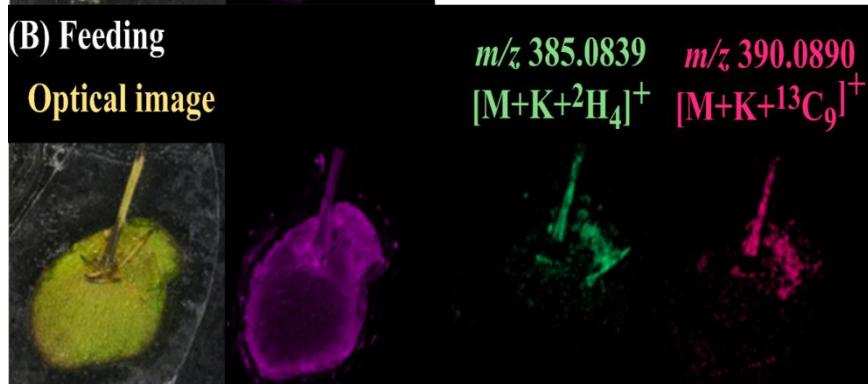
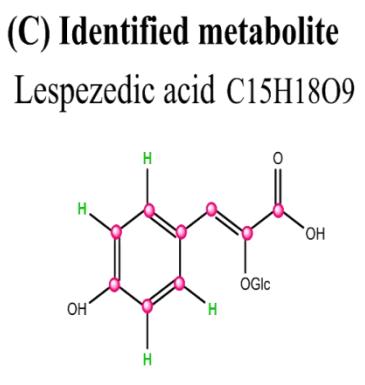
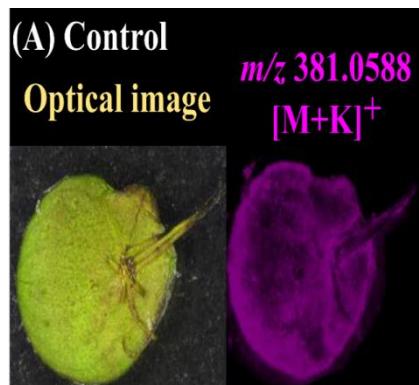
(C) Identified metabolite  
Lespezedic acid C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>9</sub>



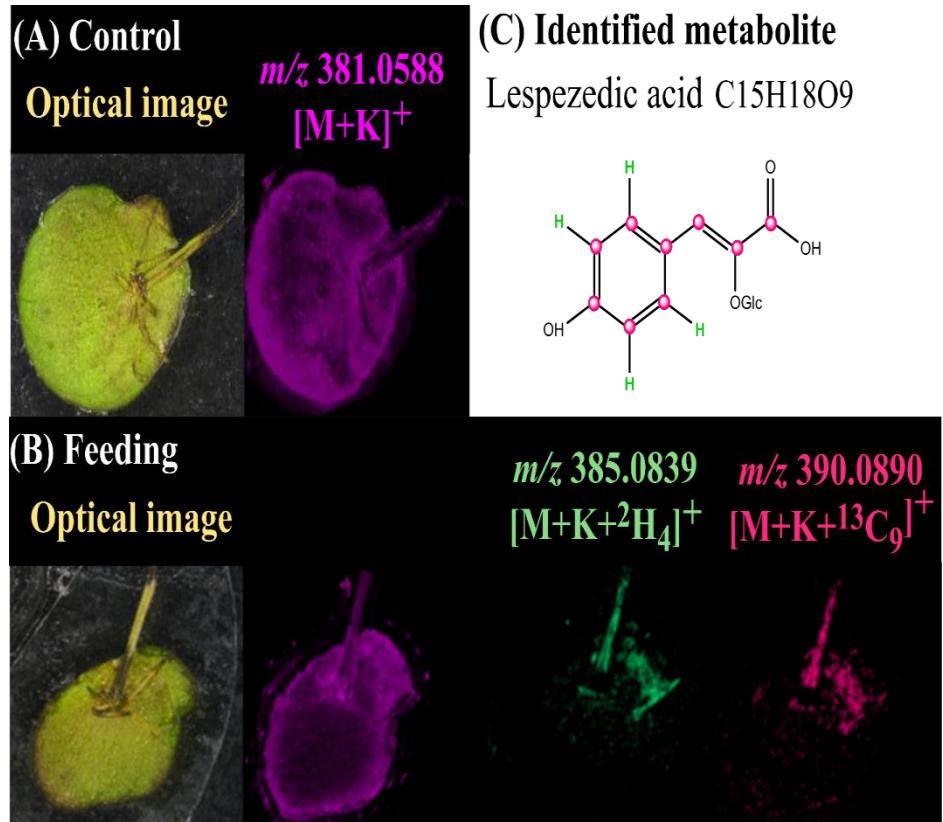
## Example 2. Five isomers are Found



## Example 2. Only One of Them is Labelled

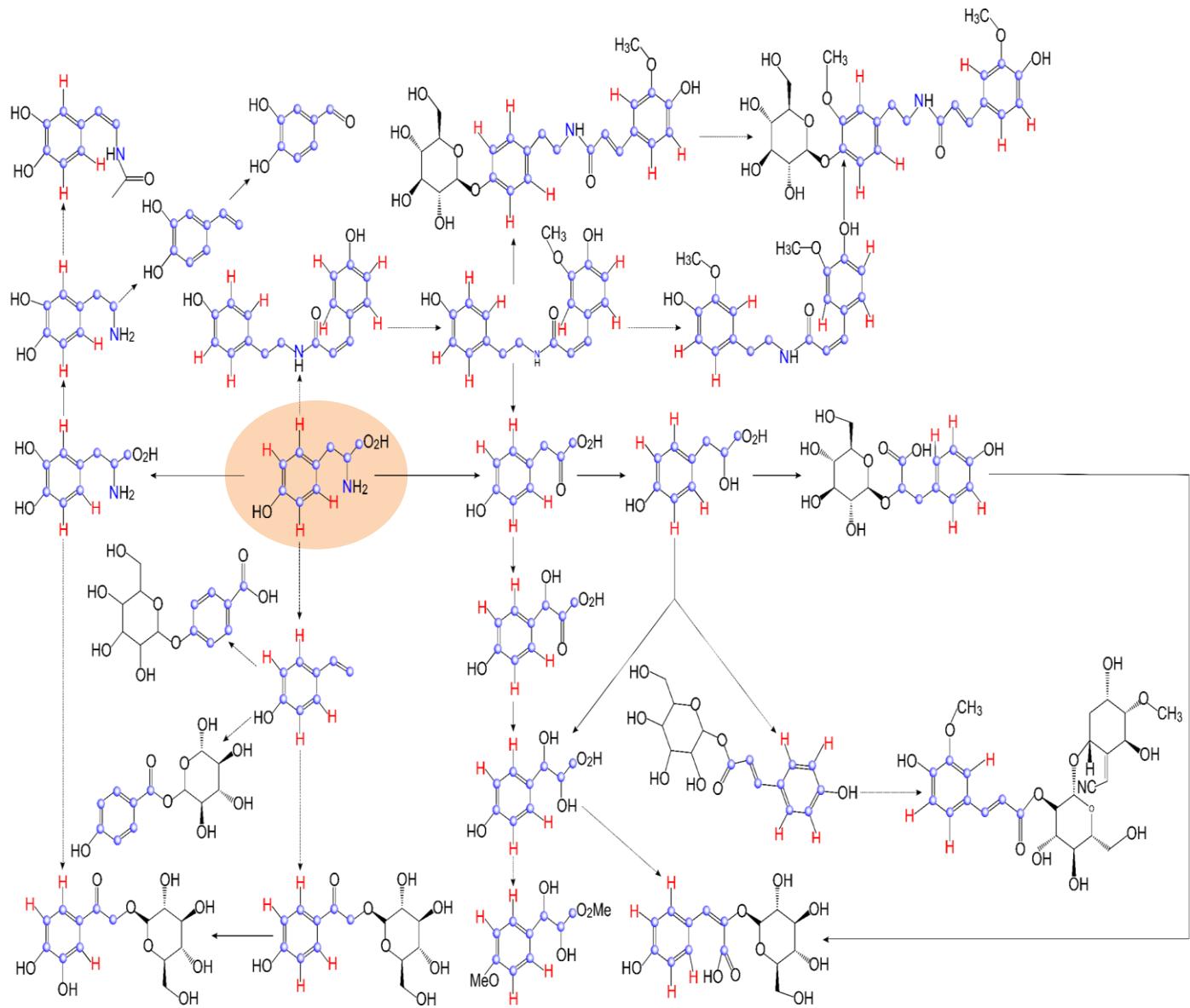


## Example 2. Only One of Them is Labelled



- MSI is **unable to distinguish isomers**
- Isomers might have different metabolic pathways
- DLEMMA **helps to differentiate them and represents the true distribution** of our analytes of interest

## Metabolic Network with Identified Metabolites



# Conclusion

## DLEMMA-MALDI MSI:

- Helps in metabolite identification
- Allows metabolic network construction
- Provide spatial information

In particular:

- DLEMMA helps to eliminate the artifacts in  
MALDI imaging

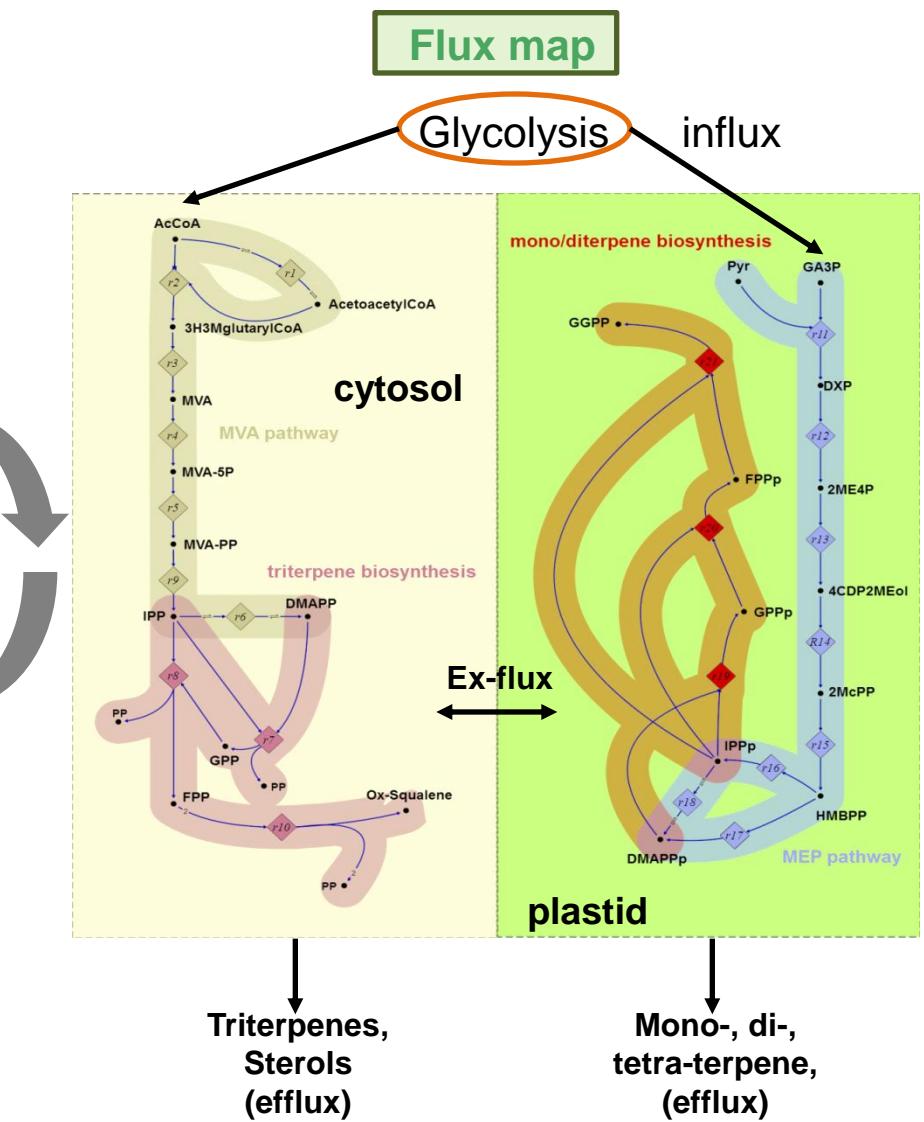
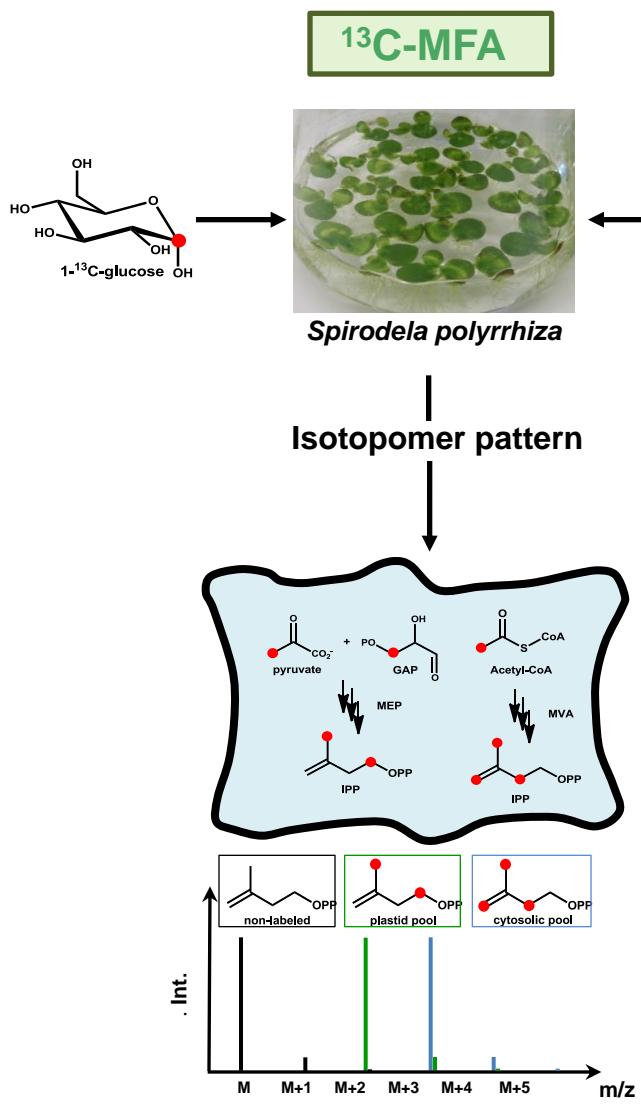
# Overview

**Part I – metabolic profiling of *Lemnaceae***

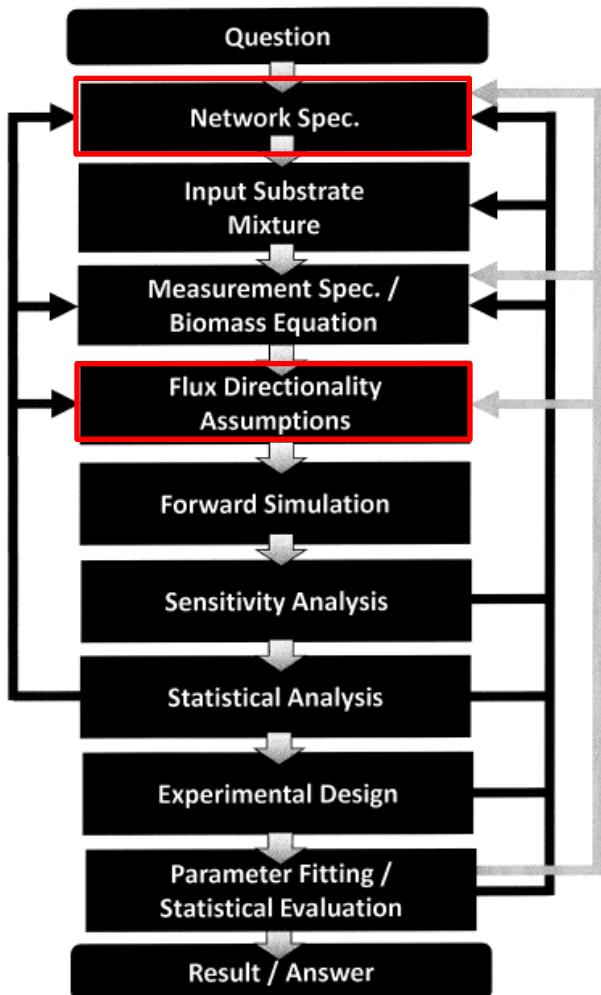
**Part II – DLEMMA for metabolite identification**

**Part III – flux analysis using *Spirodela polyrhiza***

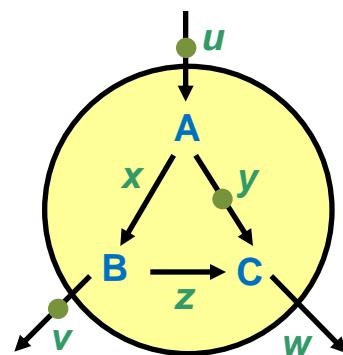
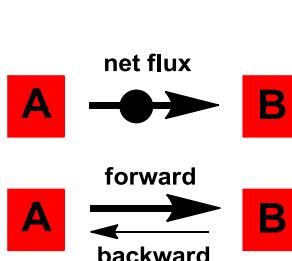
## $^{13}\text{C}$ metabolic flux analysis using *Spirodesla*



## Flux analysis – network construction



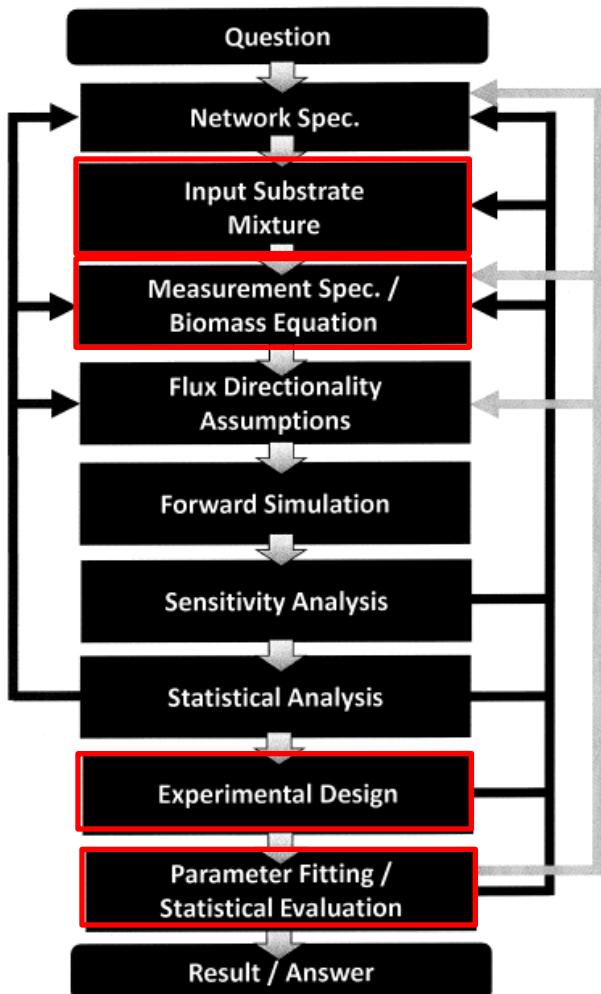
- Stoichiometry of the network (DOF)
- closed carbon balance
- influx and efflux
- network structure (directionality, cycles,...)



$$\begin{aligned} A &: u = x+y \\ B &: v = y+z \\ C &: w = y+z \end{aligned}$$

- free fluxes
- constraints
- Example: *E. coli* CCM model:  
59 metabolites, 68 reactions

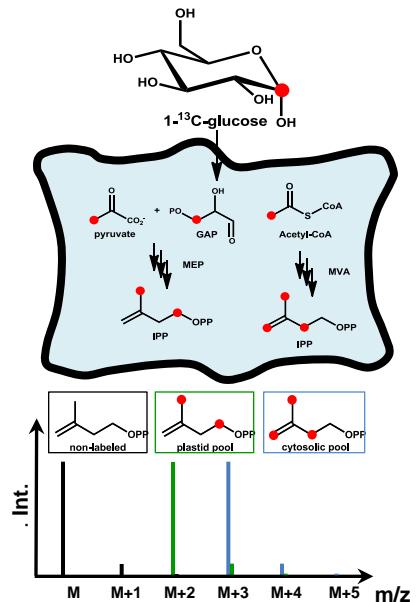
## Flux analysis – experimental considerations



- labeled carbon source ( $1\text{-}^{13}\text{C-Glu}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ )
- analytical technique (MS, NMR)
- atom transitions (where does my label go?)

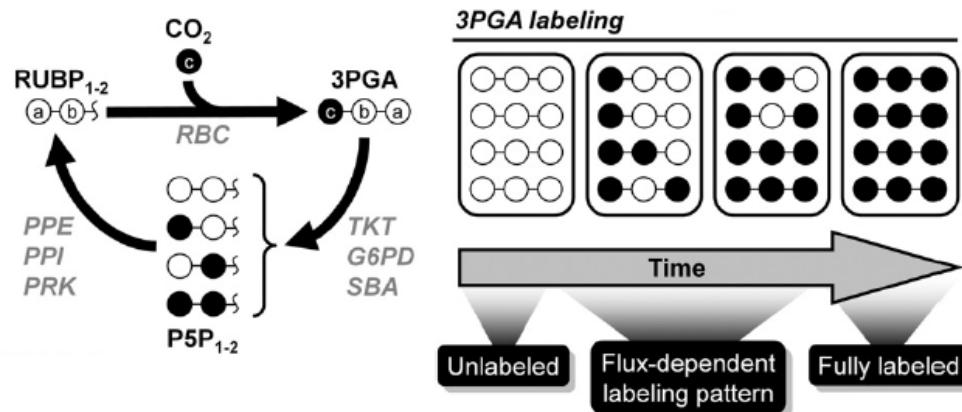


- number of measurements
- what experiments?
- compounds to measure
- experimental errors
- statistical analysis



## Flux analysis – *in whole plants, the major challenges*

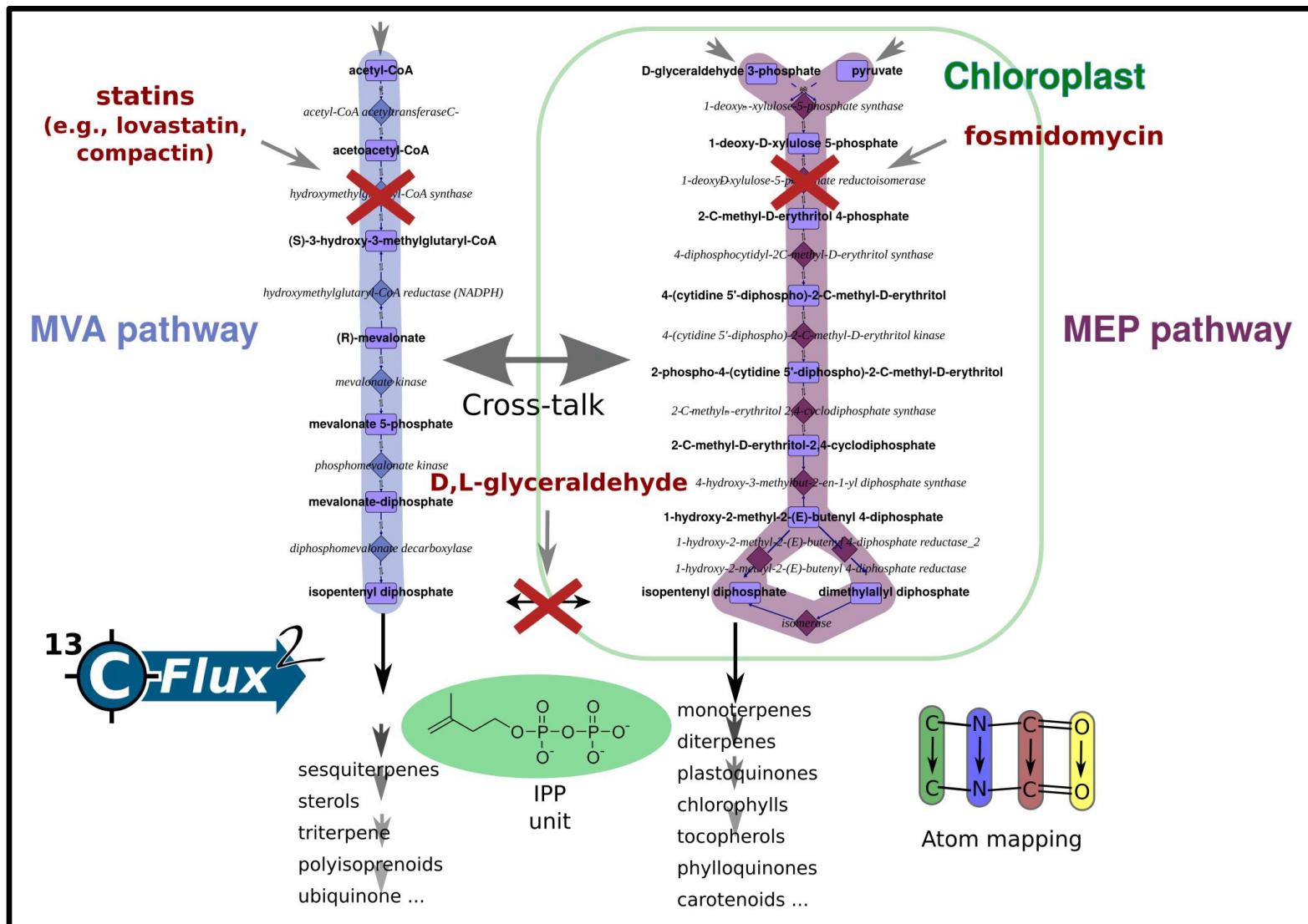
- Definition of “metabolic steady state”
- compartmentation : parallel pathways in different compartments act differently
- phototrophic conditions :  $^{13}\text{CO}_2$  as a carbon source results in loss of flux information at “isotopic steady state”



Young et al. 2011

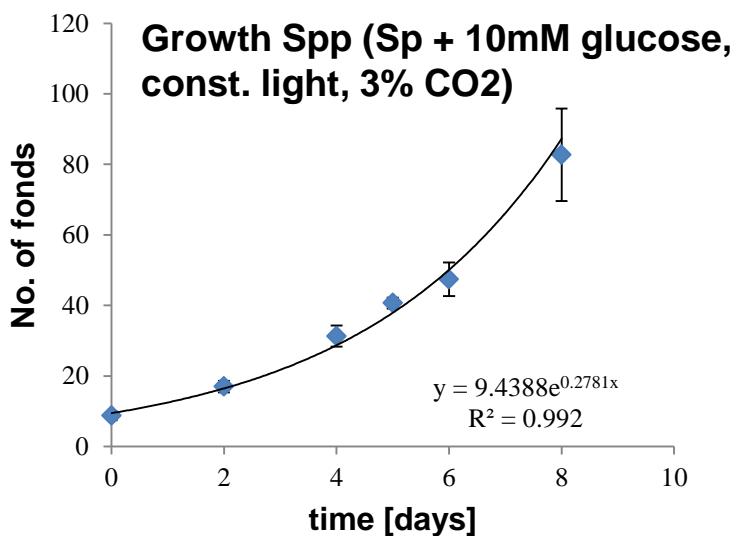
- Is “steady-state” MFA possible for plants ???

## Flux network (Nadine)



## ***Metabolic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway***

- time-course experiment and relative quantification of relevant intermediates
- linear pathways without branching, in theory analysis of early and late intermediates should be informative enough

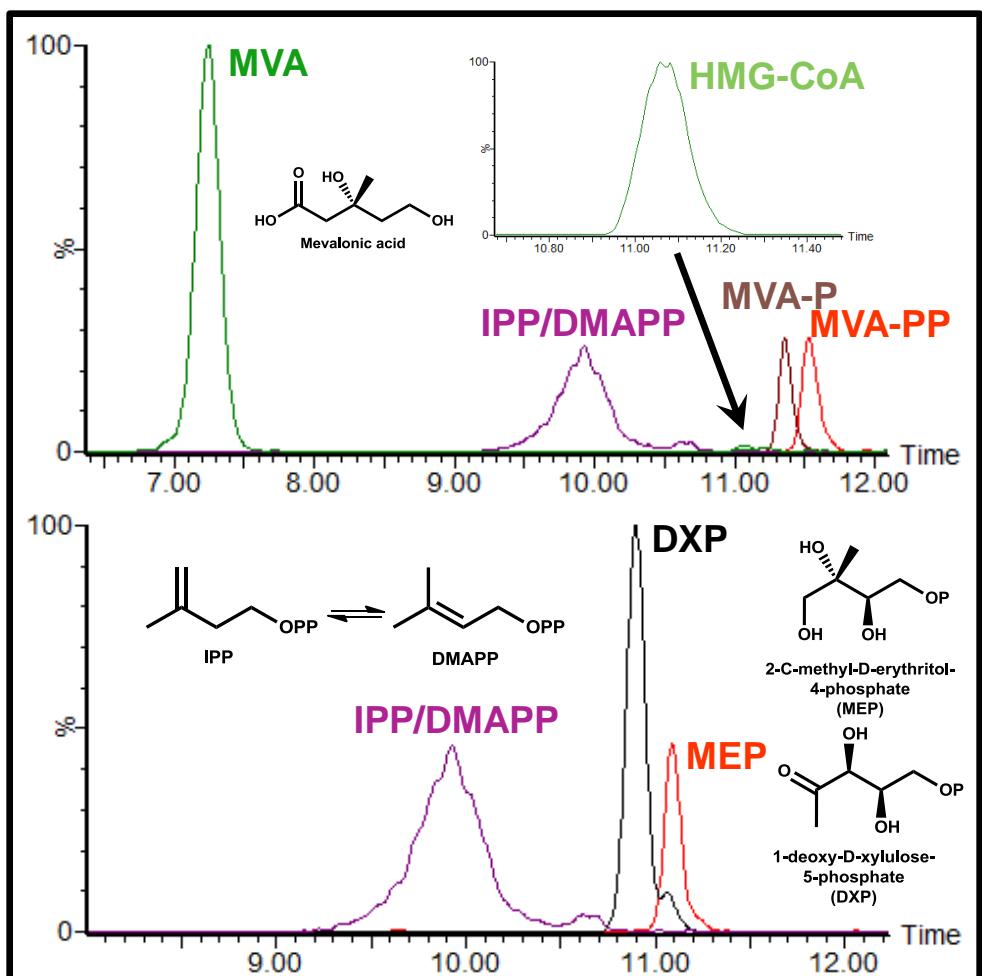


- analysis of **MEP and MVA intermediates** and terpene end products
- method development for pathway intermediates

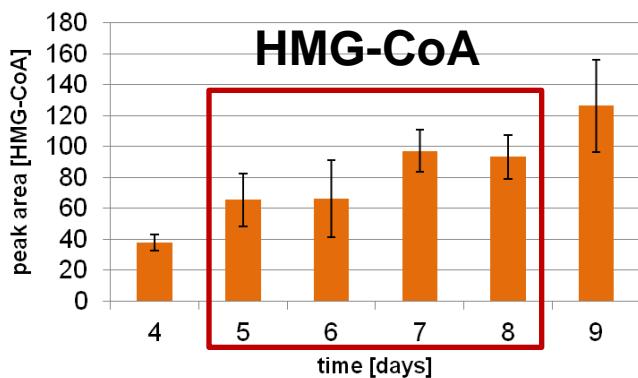
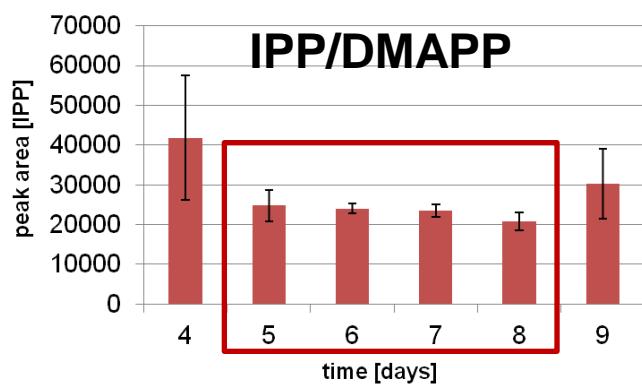
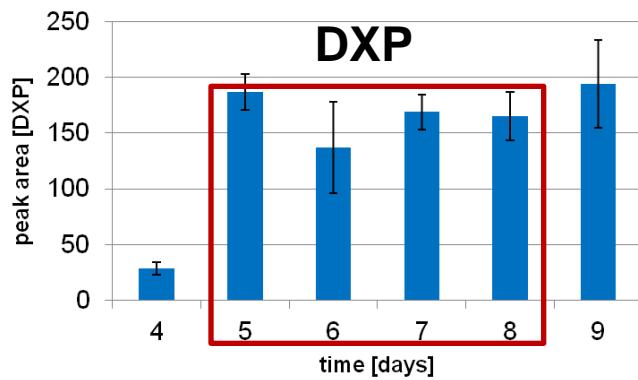
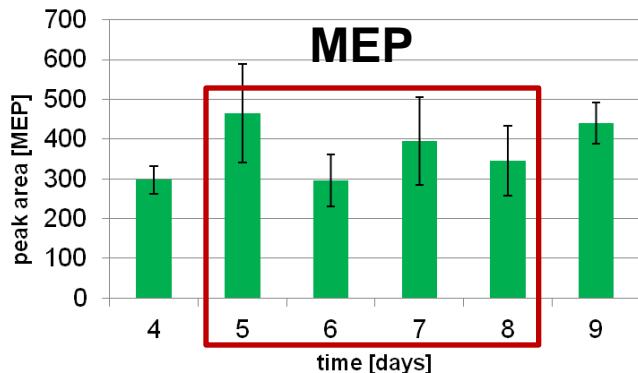
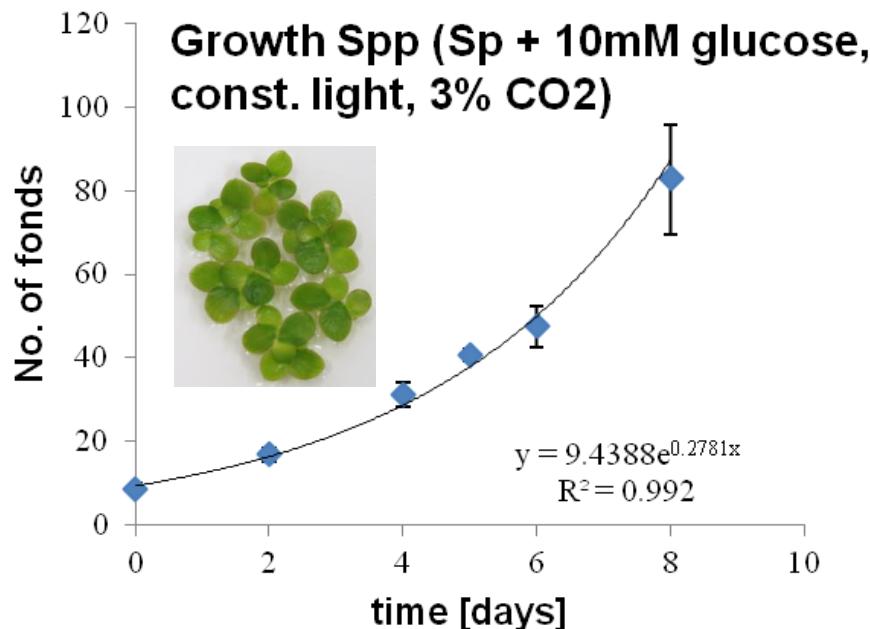
## Metabolic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway

➤ **LC-TQ MS method** (Zic-pHILIC-TQ-MS (MRM) (gradient elution, A: 50mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc pH 10 in 3%ACN, B: ACN)  
(Li et al. 2013)

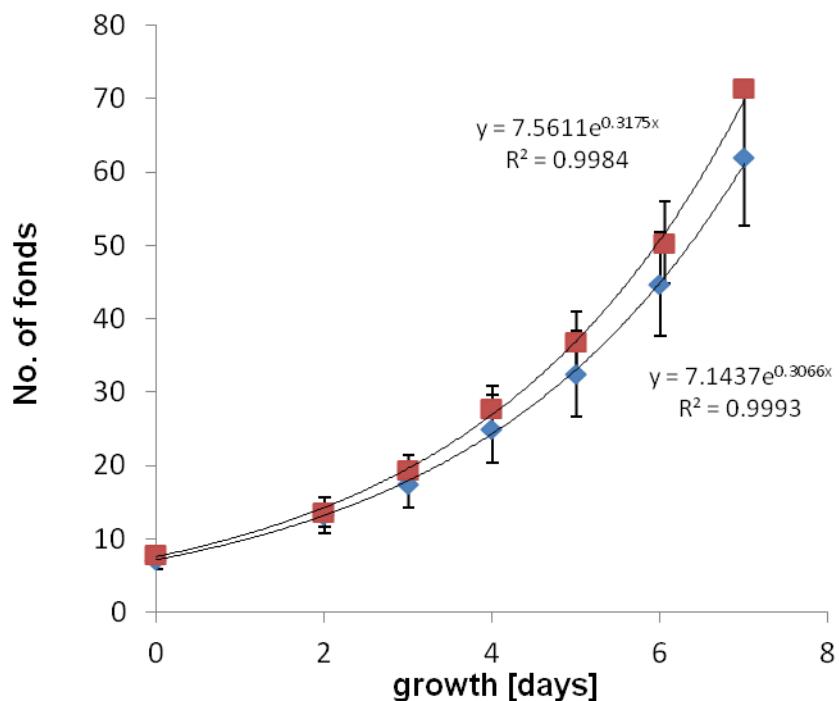
compound	transition	CE [eV]	RT [min]
MVA	147.2 --> 59	23	7.22
MVA-P	227.1 --> 97.1	14	11.35
MVA-PP	307.1 --> 79	25	11.55
HMG-CoA	454.6 --> 686.3	17	11.06
DXP	213.05 --> 97	13	10.88
MEP	215.2 --> 79	20	11.1
IPP/DMAPP	245.1 --> 79	20	9.9



## Metabolic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway



## Metabolic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway



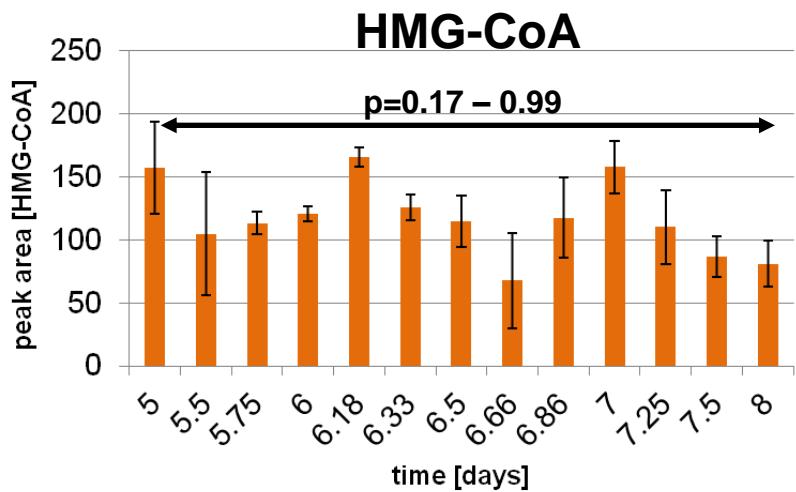
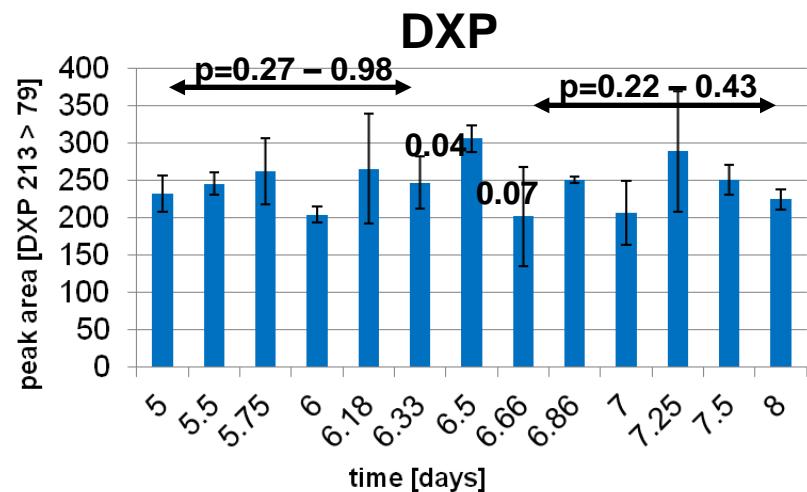
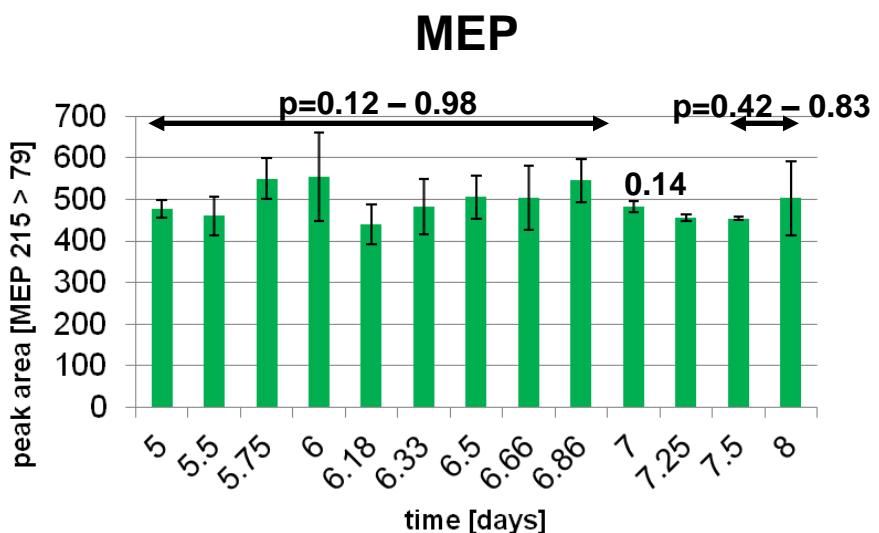
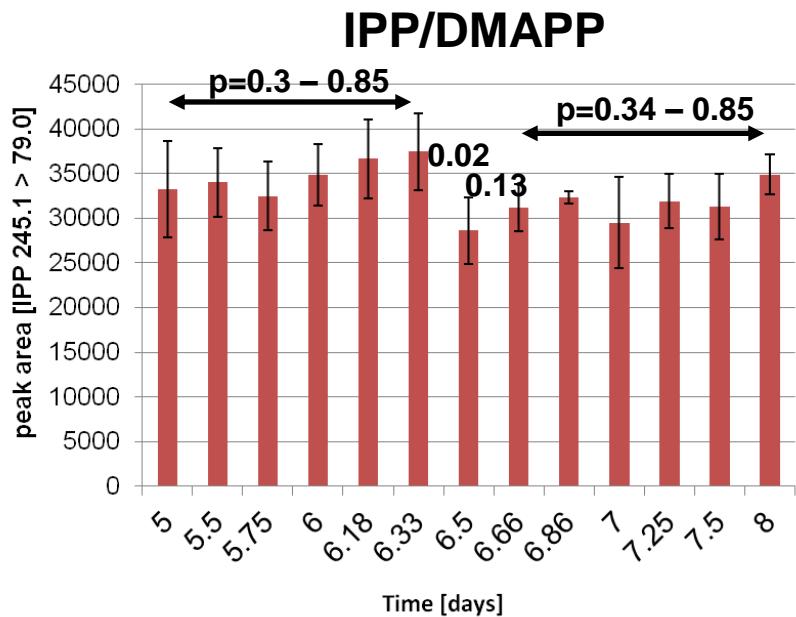
- ◆ 12C-glucose
- 13C-glucose
- Expon. (12C-glucose)
- Expon. (13C-glucose)



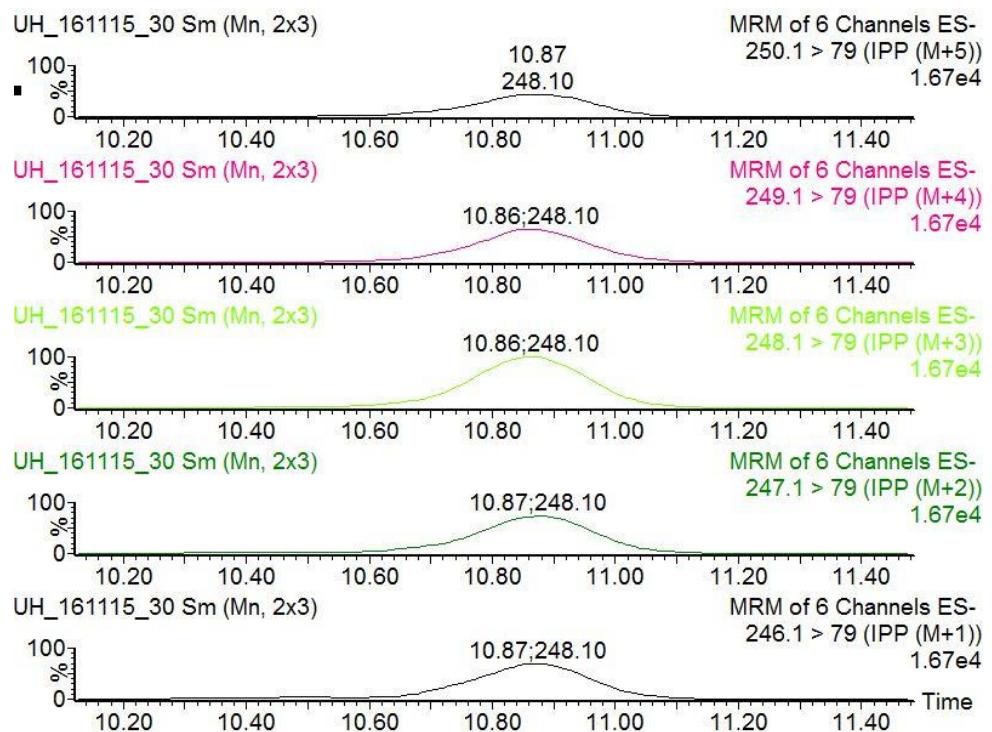
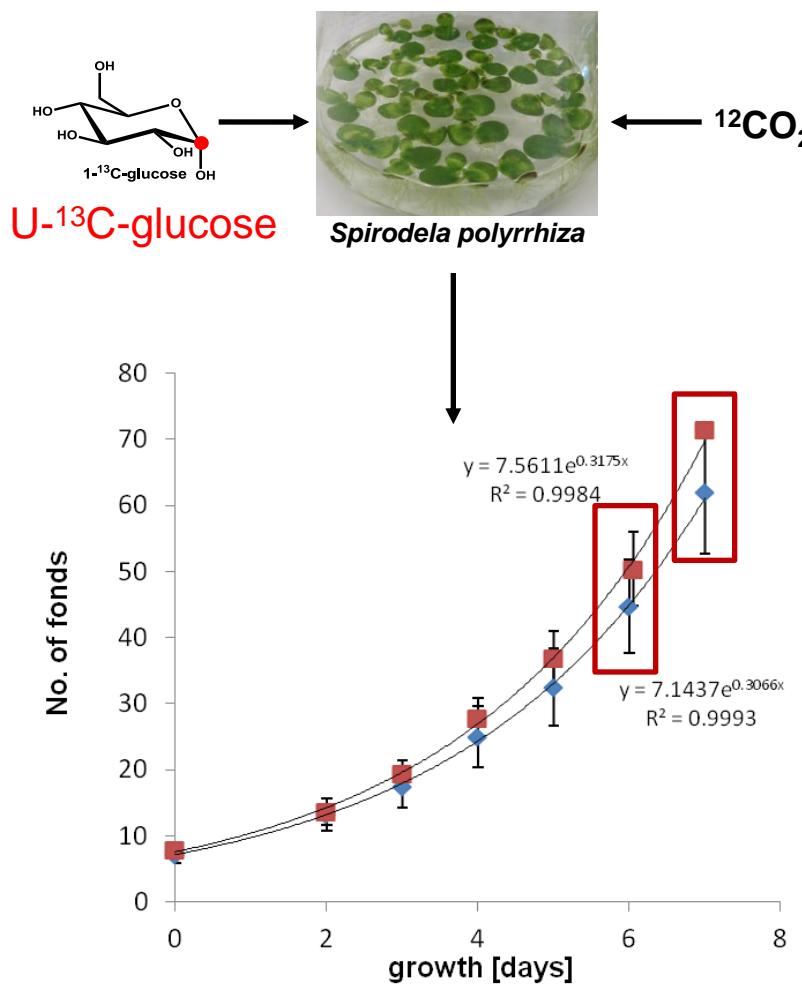
No.	day	date	time	No of samples
1	5	Tuesday	16:15	3
2	5.5	Wednesday	4:15	3
3	5.75	Wednesday	10:15	3
4	6	Wednesday	16:15	3
5	6.166	Wednesday	20:15	3
6	6.333	Thursday	0:15	3
7	6.5	Thursday	4:15	3
8	6.666	Thursday	8:15	3
9	6.833	Thursday	12:15	3
10	7	Thursday	16:15	3
11	7.25	Thursday	22:15	3
12	7.5	Friday	4:15	3
13	8	Friday	16:15	3

- metabolic steady state
- feeding experiments
- sampling for isoprenoid analysis

## Metabolic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway

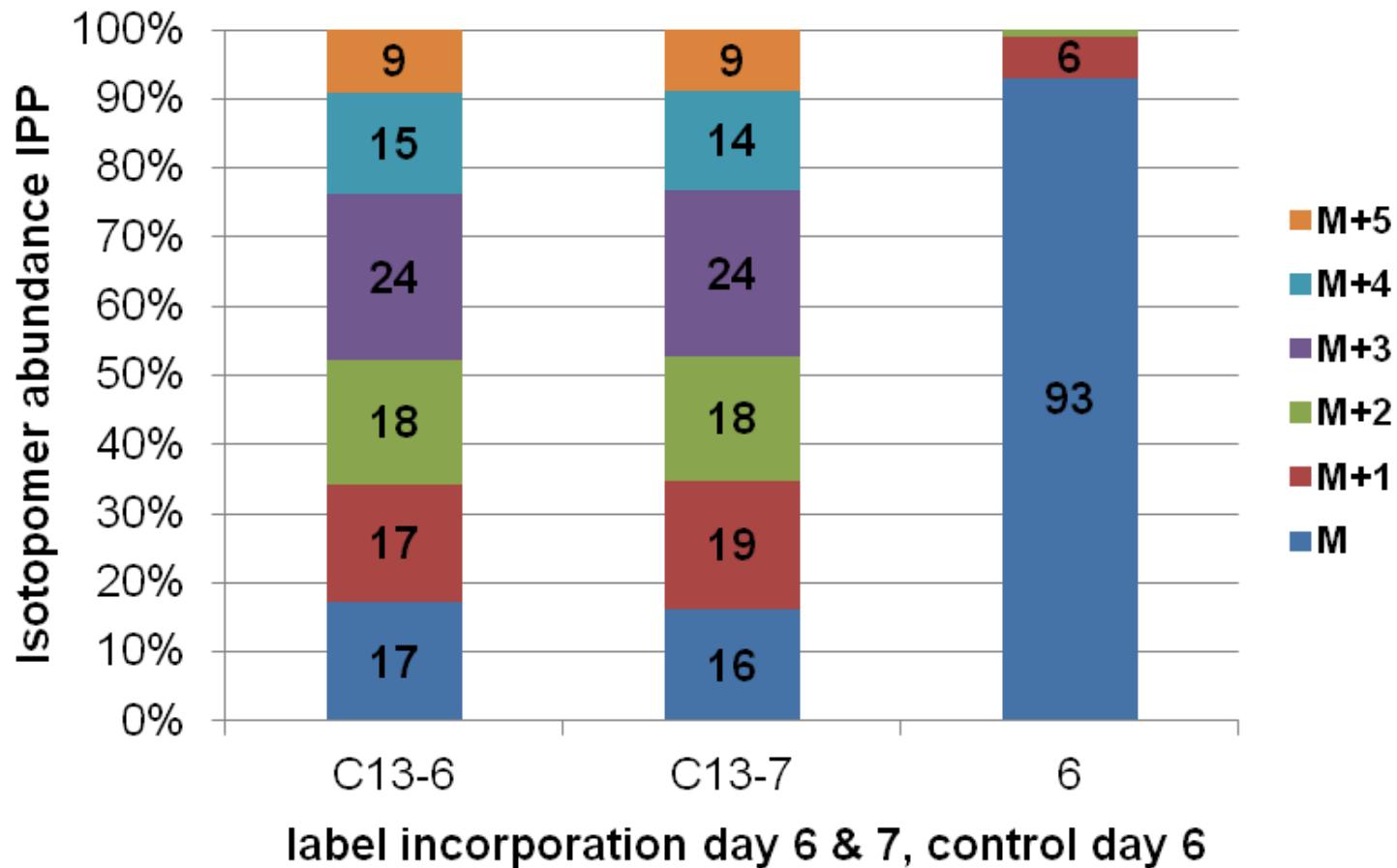


## Isotopic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway

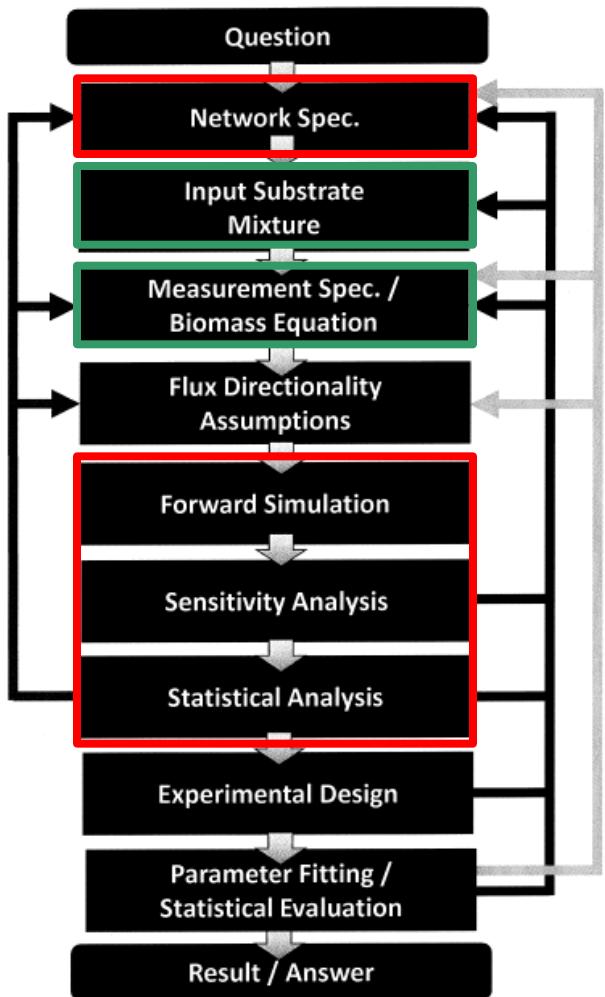


➤MRMs for all possible isotopomers

## Isotopic steady state – MEP+MVA pathway



## Flux analysis – ongoing experiments



➤ **labeling experiments with U-13C-glucose**

➤ **labeling experiments with 1-13C-glucose**

➤ **end product measurements**

➤ **treatments with inhibitors (Me jasmonate, Statins)**

➤ **forward simulations**

➤ **measurement of precursors / constrain influx**

➤ **flux calculations**

## Summary

- *Weizmass & Matchweiz for identification of natural products*
- *Labelling techniques can assist identification*
- *spacial resolution as another dimension*
- *Lemna as a model system for <sup>13</sup>C-MFA in “whole plants”*

# Acknowledgments



**Nir Shahaf**  
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**& the lab**

**& you for listening**