



Workshop on ion chemistry and plasmas  
Bratislav-2022



Plant  IMS

# Fast and Sensitive Detection of Plant Hormones by Ion Mobility Spectrometry

Comenius university

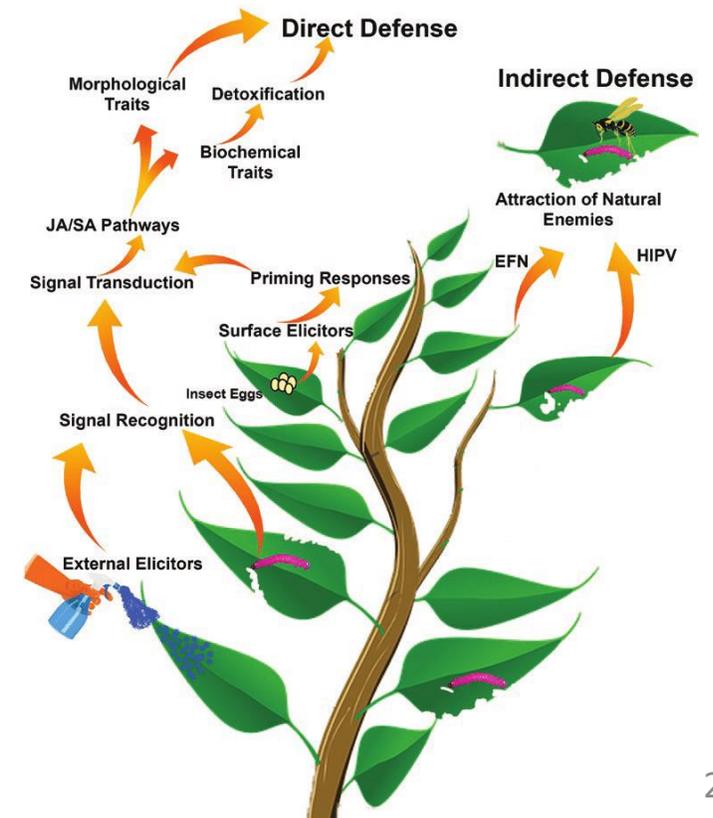
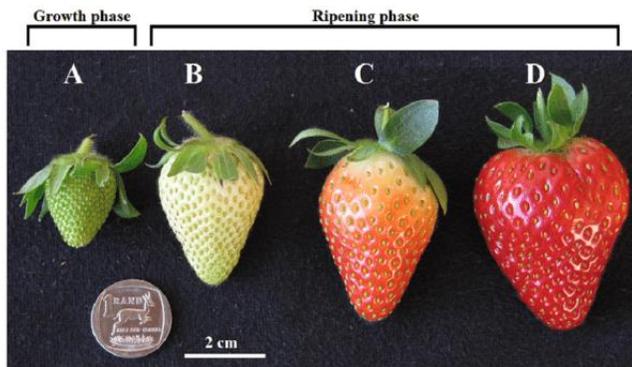
Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics, Department of Experimental Physics

Vahideh Ilbeigi  
Postdoc researcher

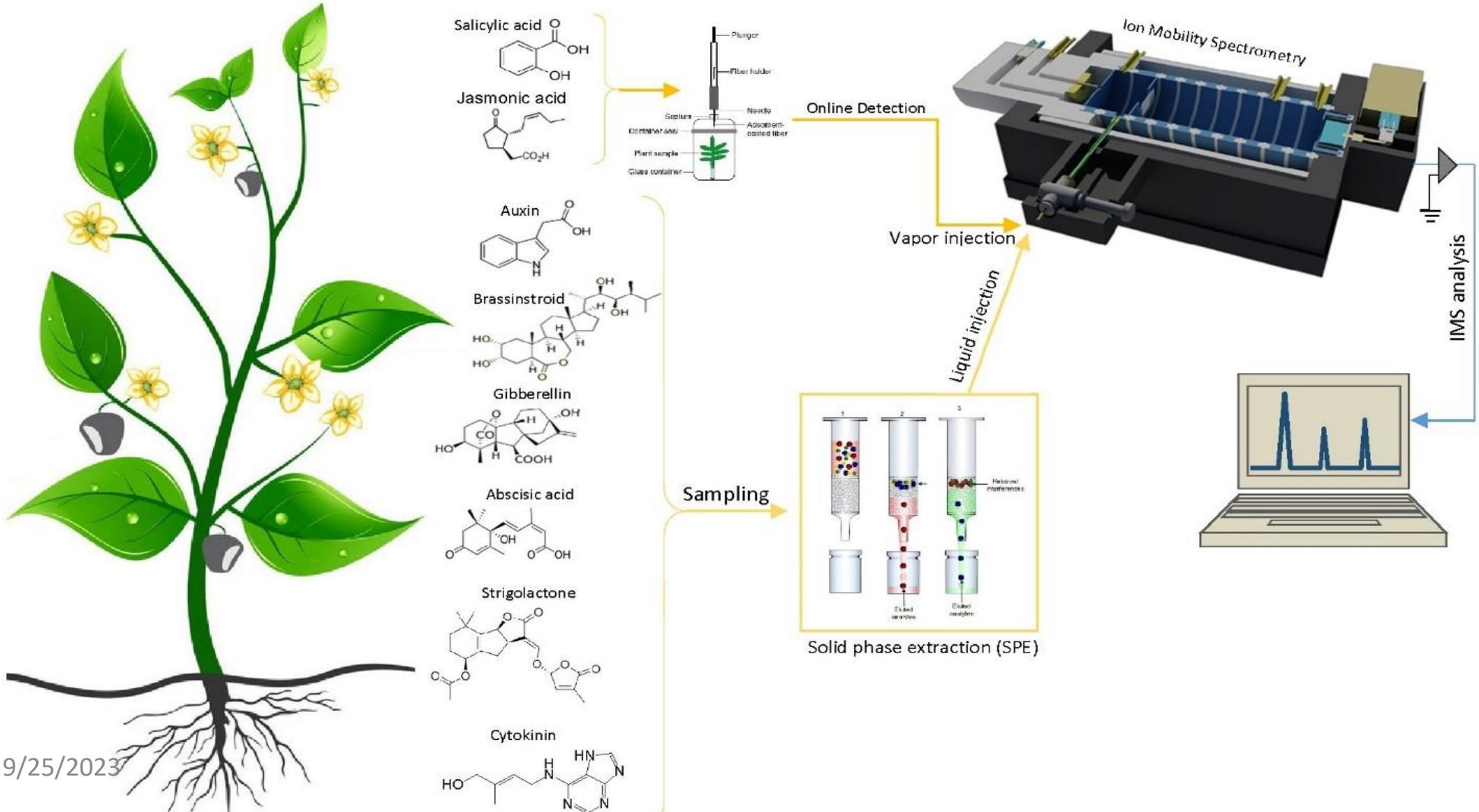
Supervisor: Prof. Stefan Matejcik

# Plant Hormones

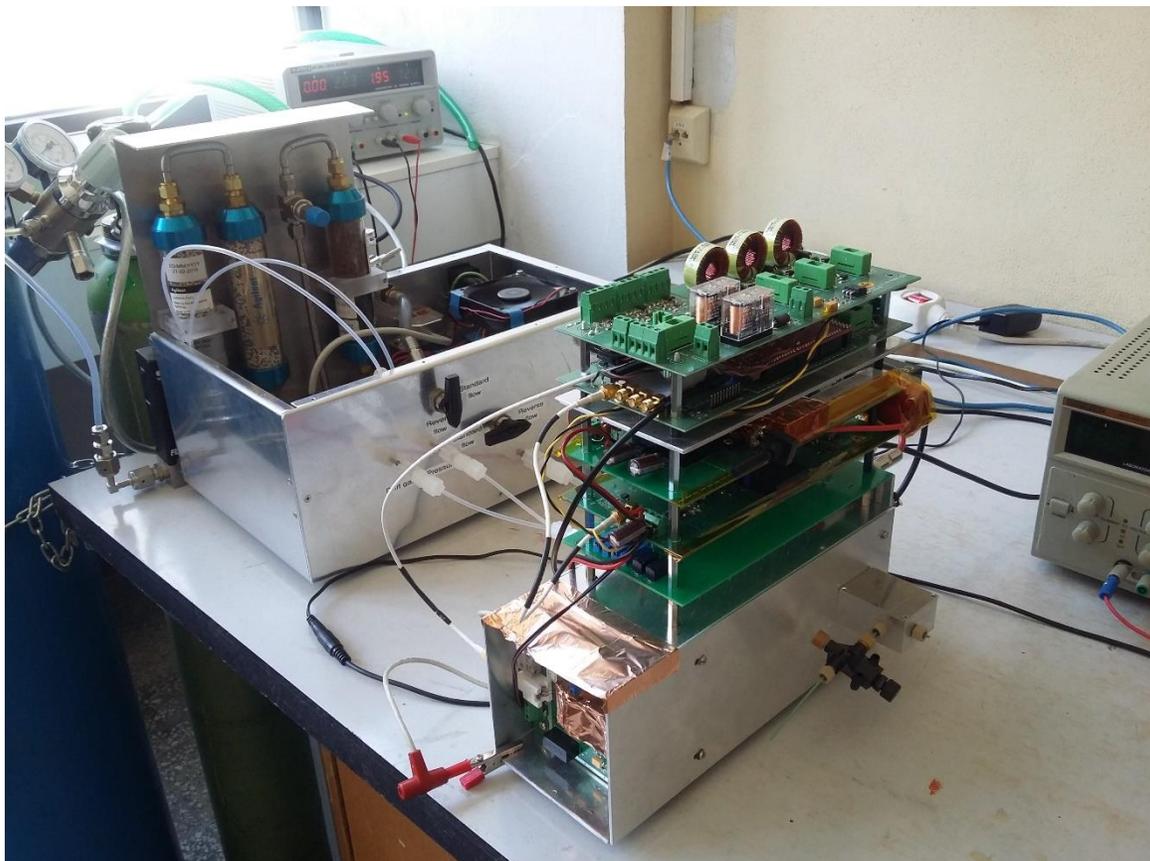
- The plant hormones (PHs), are signal molecules produced within plants that are at extremely low concentration.
- PHs influence the plant growth, seed germination, fruit maturation and fruit ripening.
- PHs play important roles in plant response to a wide range of biotic and abiotic stress.



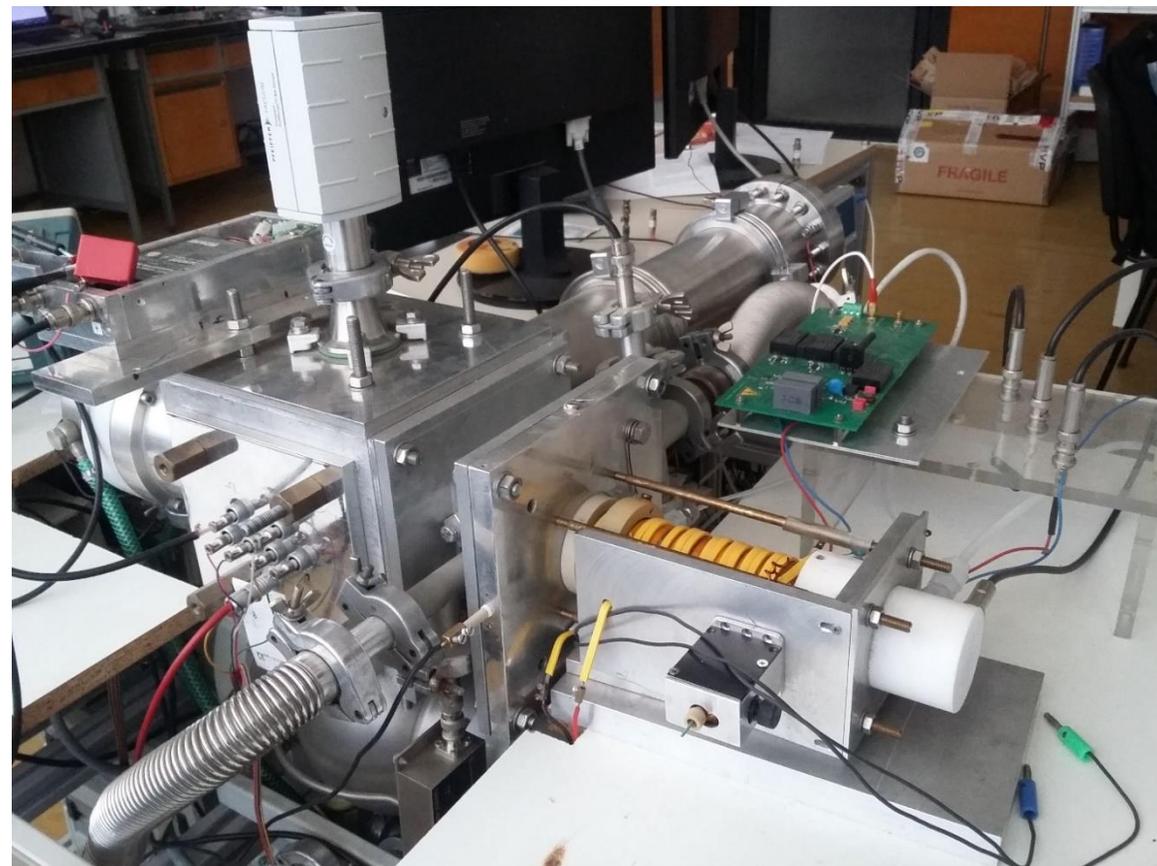
**Aim of the project:** Detection and quantification of PH by coupling MCC and SPME techniques with IMS-MS to achieve high sensitivity, selectivity and fast analysis



## IMS & IMS-MS in our Lab



IMS

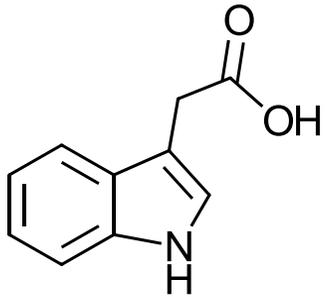


IMS-MS

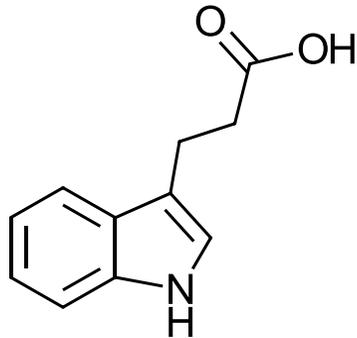
# Project 1: Auxins

- Auxins are an important class of Plant Hormones
- Effects in plants: cell enlargement and stem growth, cell division, response to light, fruit ripening

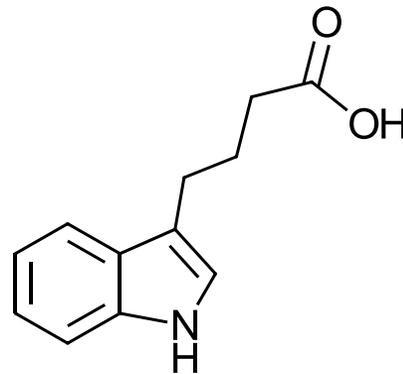
Structures of three auxins studied in this work:



IAA

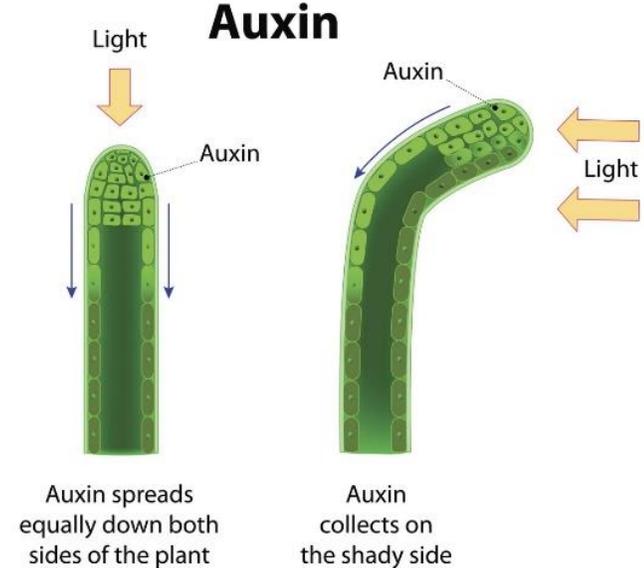


IPA

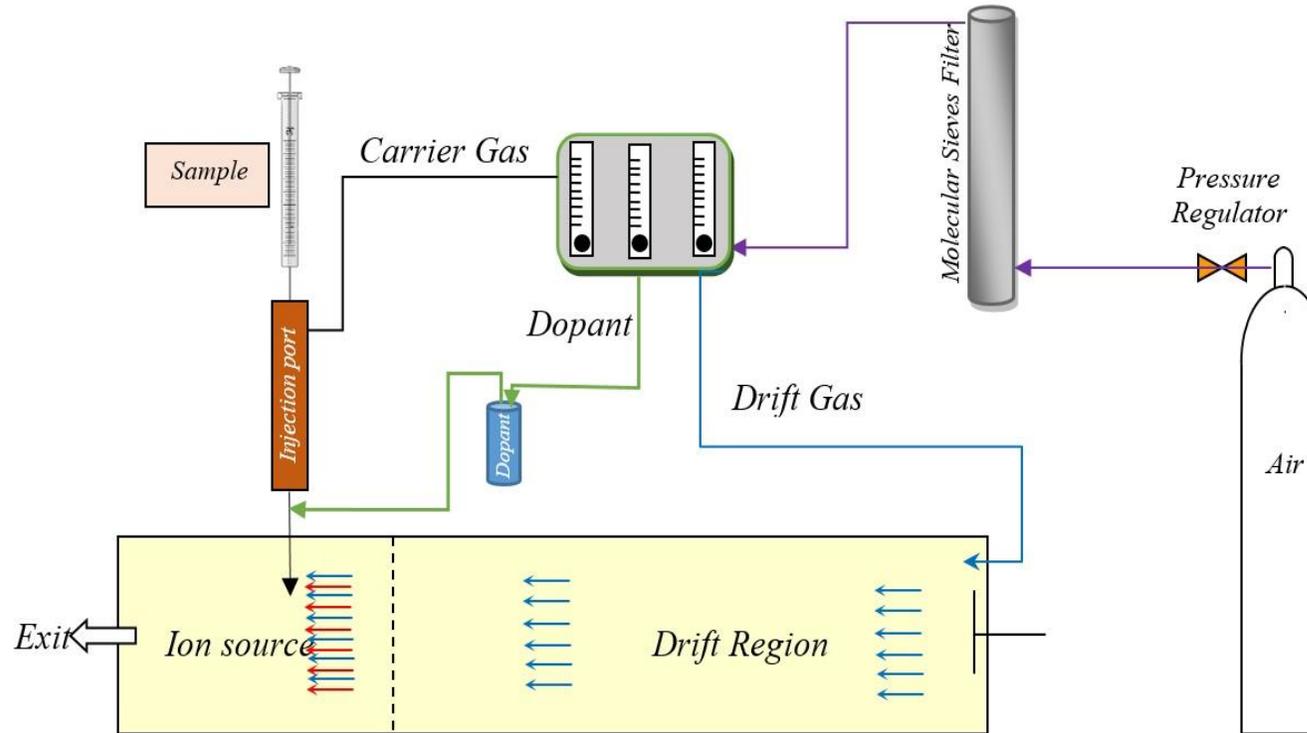


IBA

Chemical structures of indole-3-acetic acid (IAA), indole-3-propionic acid (IPA), and indole-3-butyric acid (IBA)

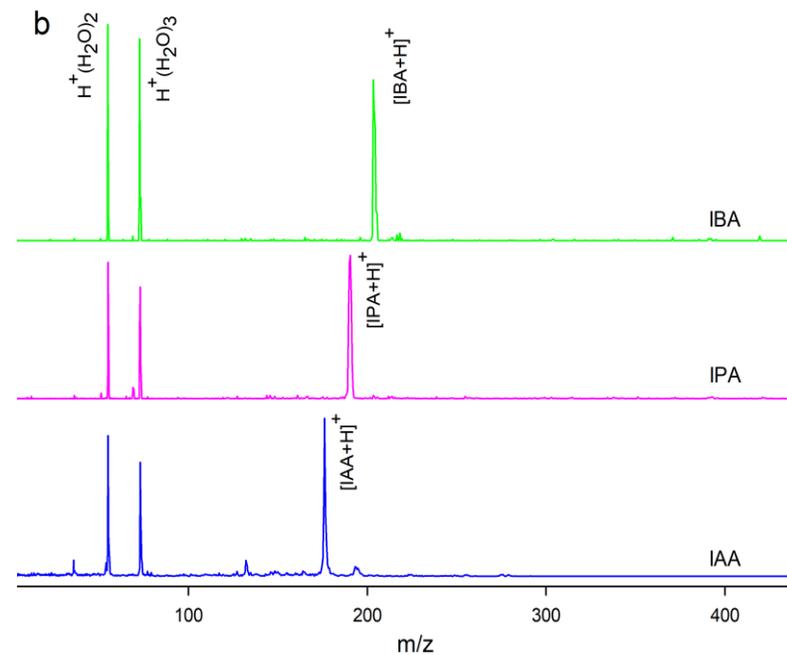
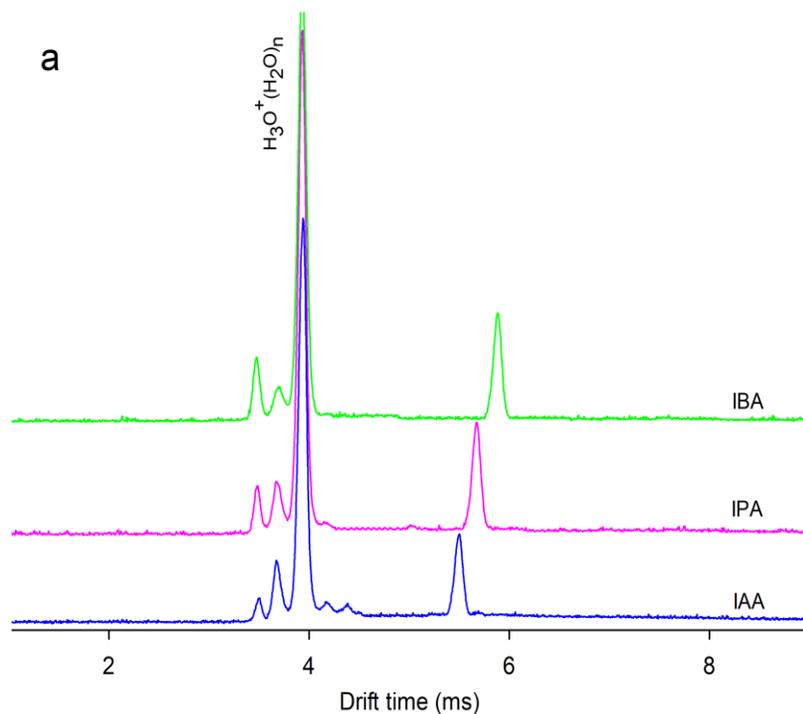


# Experimental set up for injection of Auxin samples and dopants



Schematic representation of the experimental setup and the gas flow paths. The flow rates of drift, carrier and dopant gases are 700, 50, and 5 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, respectively

# Positive mode: (a) IMS and (b) MS spectra of IAA, IBA, and IPA

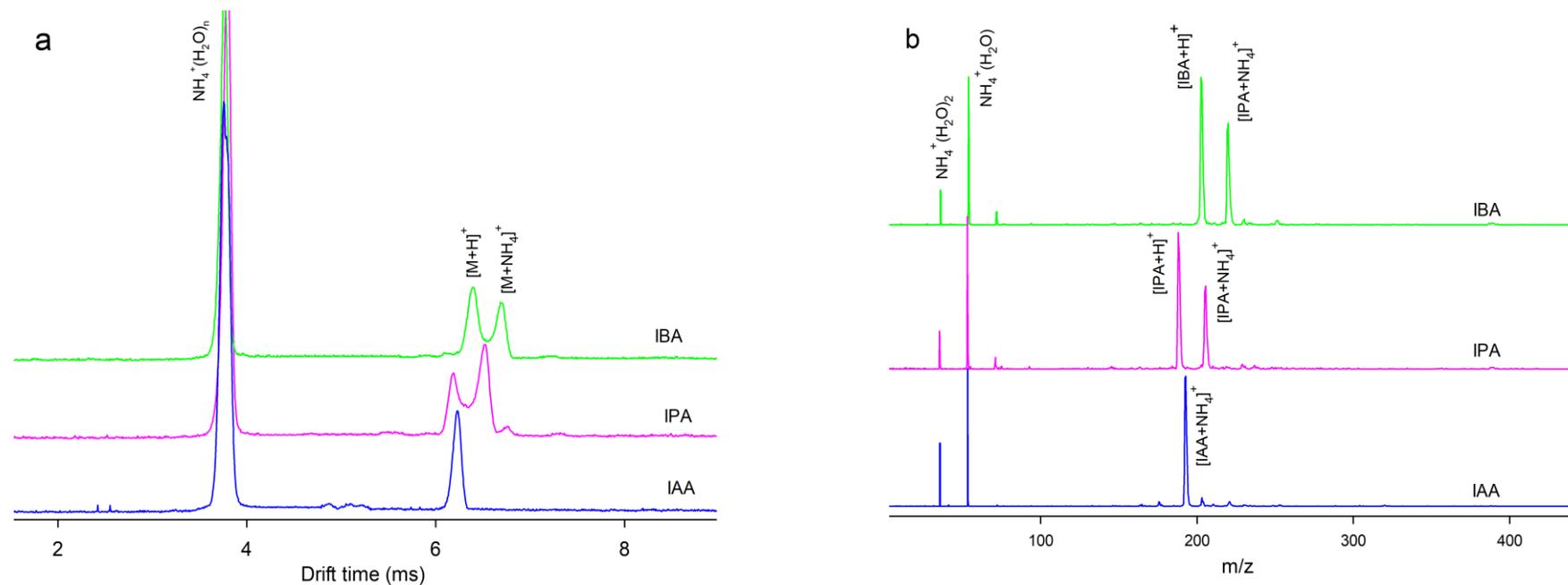


Compound	PA (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	GB (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
H <sub>2</sub> O	687.8	659.5
NH <sub>3</sub>	852.8	824.5
IAA	850.6	816.3
IPA	867.8	828.4
IBA	865.0	828.5

B3LYP-calculated proton affinities (PA) and gas phase basicities (GB) of the auxins

- Auxins are ionized by protonation
- Protonation of Auxins by  $H_3O^+$  is thermodynamically possible

# Positive mode: (a) IMS and (b) MS spectra with $\text{NH}_3$ dopant

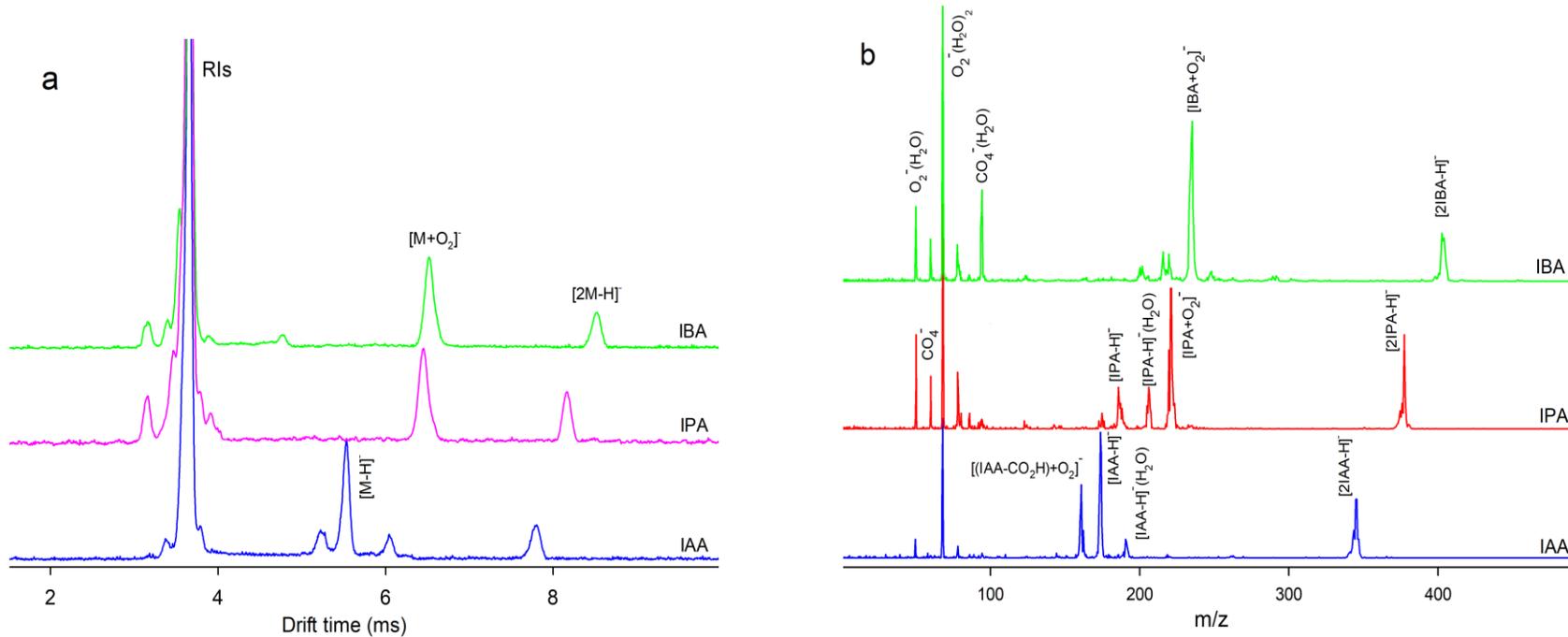


Protonation	$\Delta\text{H}$	$\Delta\text{G}$	$\text{NH}_4^+$ attachment	$\Delta\text{H}$	$\Delta\text{G}$
$\text{IAA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IAA}+\text{H}]^+ + \text{NH}_3$	2.2	8.2	$\text{IAA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IAA}+\text{NH}_4]^+$	-150.5	-103.6
$\text{IPA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IPA}+\text{H}]^+ + \text{NH}_3$	-15.0	-3.9	$\text{IPA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IPA}+\text{NH}_4]^+$	-112.4	-78.5
$\text{IBA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IBA}+\text{H}]^+ + \text{NH}_3$	-12.2	-4.0	$\text{IBA} + \text{NH}_4^+ \rightarrow [\text{IBA}+\text{NH}_4]^+$	-151.5	-102.8

B3LYP-calculated  $\Delta\text{H}$  and  $\Delta\text{G}$  for protonation of the auxins by  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and their  $\text{NH}_4^+$  attachment. The energies are in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$

- IAA is ionized only by  $\text{NH}_4^+$  attachment  $\rightarrow$  one peak
- IBA and IPA: by protonation and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  attachment

# Negative mode: (a) IMS and (b) MS spectra of IAA, IBA, and IPA

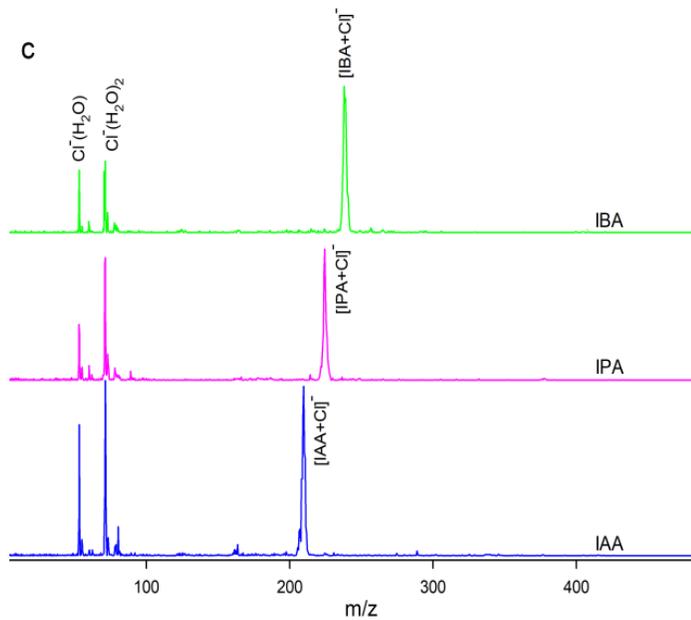
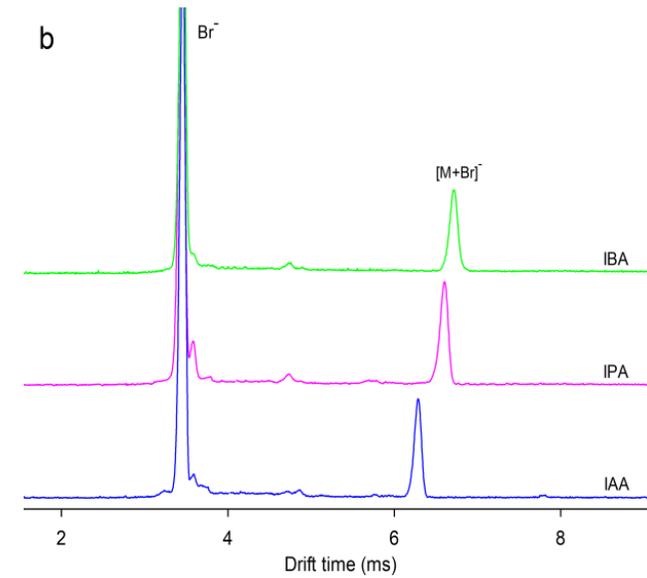
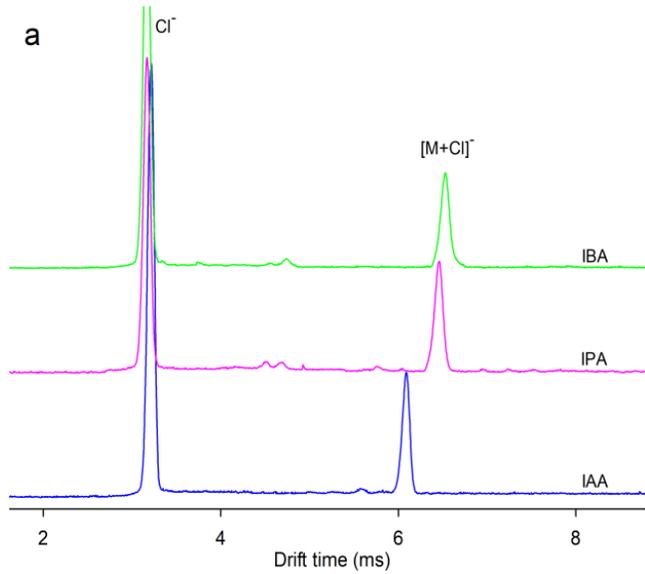


	Reaction	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$
Deprotonation	$\text{IAA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IAA-H}]^- + \text{HO}_2$	-42.1	-50.7
	$\text{IPA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IPA-H}]^- + \text{HO}_2$	-40.9	-44.2
	$\text{IBA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IBA-H}]^- + \text{HO}_2$	-40.5	-42.5
Anion Attachment	$\text{IAA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IAA}+\text{O}_2]^-$	-159.9	-130.5
	$\text{IPA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IPA}+\text{O}_2]^-$	-165.2	-125.4
	$\text{IBA} + \text{O}_2^- \rightarrow [\text{IBA}+\text{O}_2]^-$	-162.0	-121.6
Dimer formation	$\text{IAA} + [\text{IAA-H}]^+ \rightarrow [2\text{IAA-H}]^+$	-114.0	-66.3
	$\text{IPA} + [\text{IPA-H}]^+ \rightarrow [2\text{IPA-H}]^+$	-119.7	-72.4
	$\text{IBA} + [\text{IBA-H}]^+ \rightarrow [2\text{IBA-H}]^+$	-123.8	-74.9

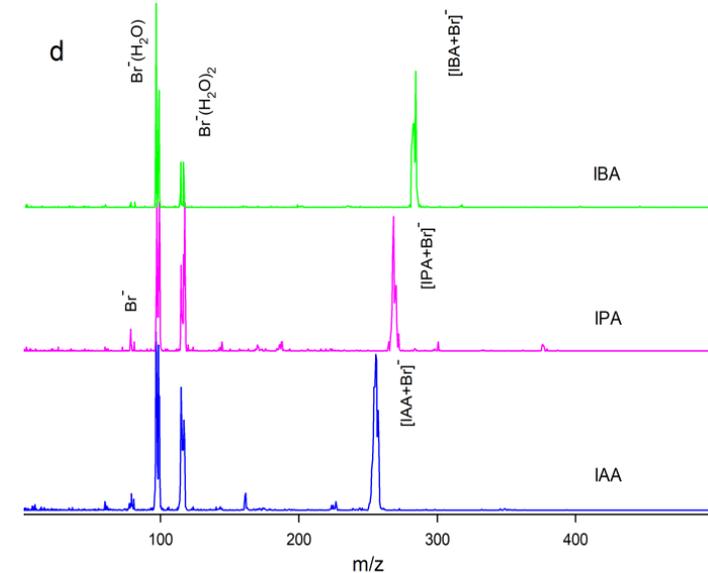
B3LYP-calculated  $\Delta H$  and  $\Delta G$  for ionization of auxins by O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>

- IAA is ionized mainly by deprotonation
- IPA is ionized by O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> attachment and deprotonation
- IBA is ionized mainly by O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> attachment
- Dimer formation is possible for all auxins

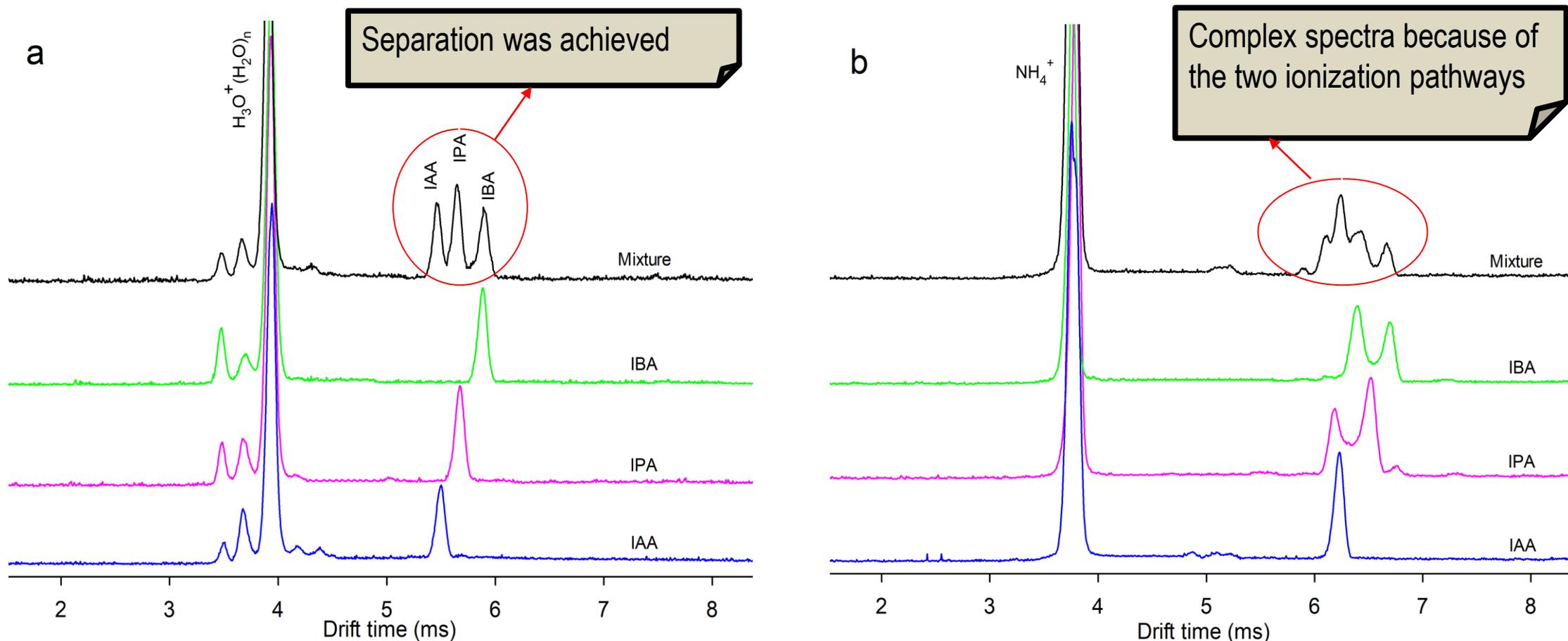
# Negative mode: (a) , (b) IMS and (c) , (d) MS spectra with $\text{CCl}_4$ and $\text{CHBr}_3$ dopants



Only anion attachment

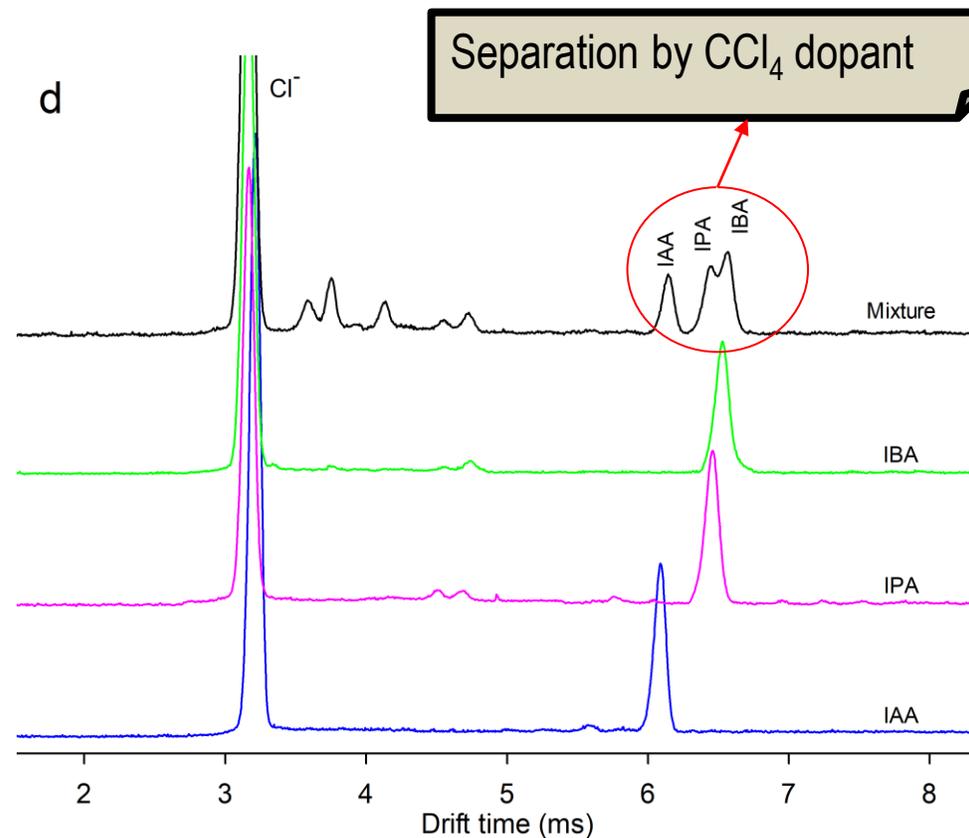
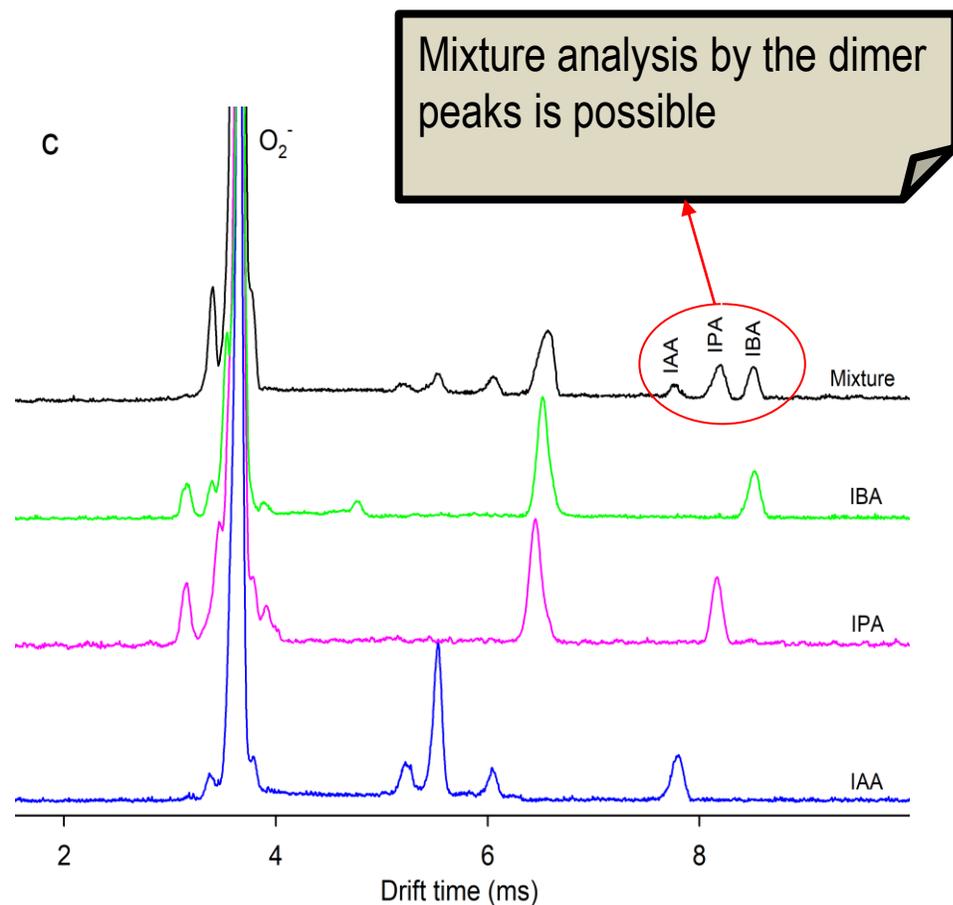


# Auxin Mixture in Positive mode: IMS spectra (a) without and (b) with $\text{NH}_3$ dopant



IMS spectra for a mixture of IAA, IPA, and IBA in positive mode with and without  $\text{NH}_3$  dopant

## Auxin Mixture in Negative mode: IMS spectra (a) without and (b) with $\text{CCl}_4$ dopant



IMS spectra for a mixture of IAA, IPA, and IBA in negative mode with and without  $\text{CCl}_4$  dopant

## Quantitative Analysis:

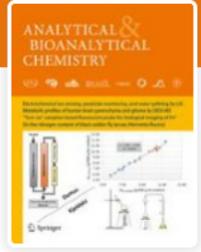
The LODs and linear ranges (in ng) for IAA, IPA, and IBA in the positive and negative polarities with different dopants

Polarity/dopant	IAA		IPA		IBA	
	Linear range	LOD	Linear range	LOD	Linear range	LOD
positive	15-60	5	10-60	4	15-60	6
Positive + NH <sub>3</sub>	10-60	4	15-60	6	12-50	4
Negative	25-80	12	8-50	3	25-70	10
Negative + CCl <sub>4</sub>	8-80	3	10-100	4	10-100	4
Negative + CHBr <sub>3</sub>	15-60	5	15-90	5	12-100	4

- IMS showed high sensitivity toward auxins in ng
- The LODs are comparable with those reported for HPLC-FL

Dobrev PI, Havlicek L, Vanger M, Malbeck J, Kaminek M. *J. Chromatogr. A.* **2005**, 1075,159-166.

# Published Paper for Project 1



## Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry

Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry (2022) 414:6259–6269  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00216-022-04198-x>

RESEARCH PAPER



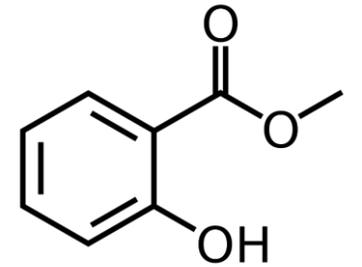
### Effect of ion source polarity and dopants on the detection of auxin plant hormones by ion mobility-mass spectrometry

Vahideh Ilbeigi<sup>1</sup> · Younes Valadbeigi<sup>2</sup> · Ladislav Moravsky<sup>1</sup> · Štefan Matejčík<sup>1</sup>

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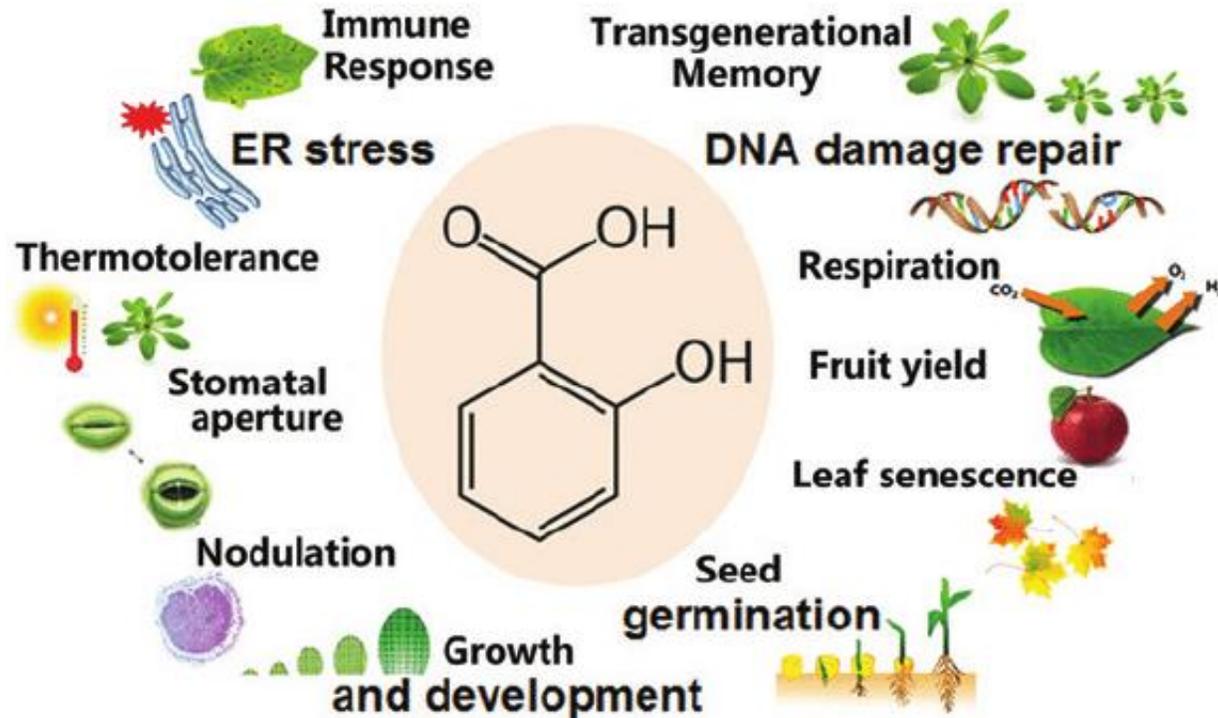
# Project 2: Salicylates (SAs)

Methyl salicylate (MeSA) is synthesized from salicylic acid (SA) in plant

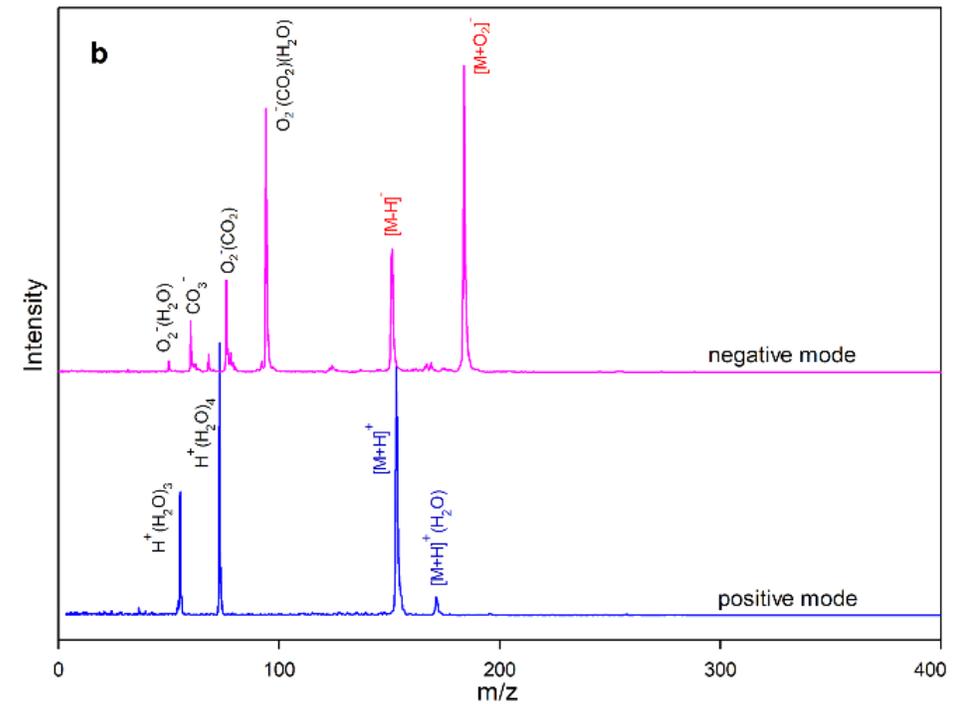
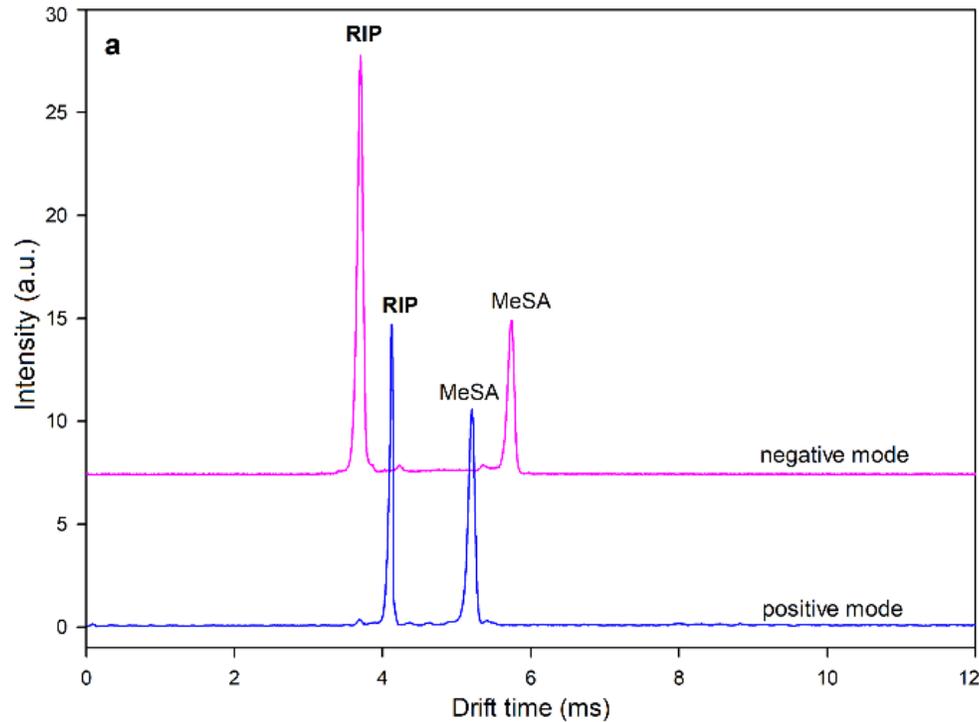


Methyl salicylate

SAs roles in plants



# Standard MeSA: (a) IMS and (b) MS spectra in positive and Negative Polarities



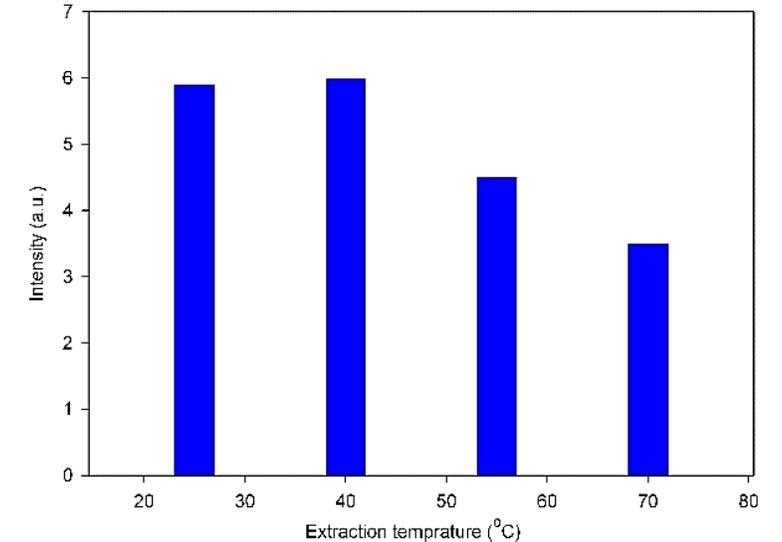
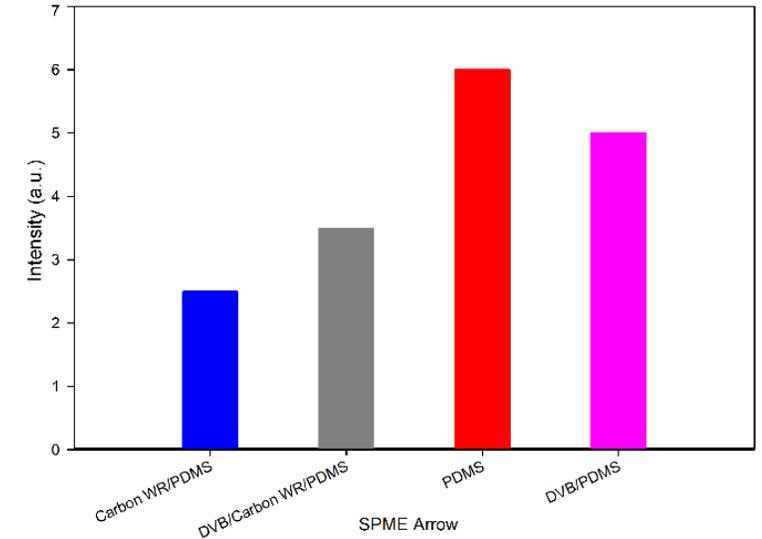
- Positive Mode: Ionization by protonation
- Negative mode: Ionization by deprotonation and  $O_2^-$  attachment

# Selection and Optimization of SPME

SPME Arrow	Diameter	material
	1.1 mm	100 µm Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS)
	1.1 mm	120 µm Divinylbenzene (DVB)/PDMS
	1.1 mm	120 µm Carbon Wide Range (WR)/PDMS
	1.1 mm	120 µm DVB/Carbon WR/PDMS

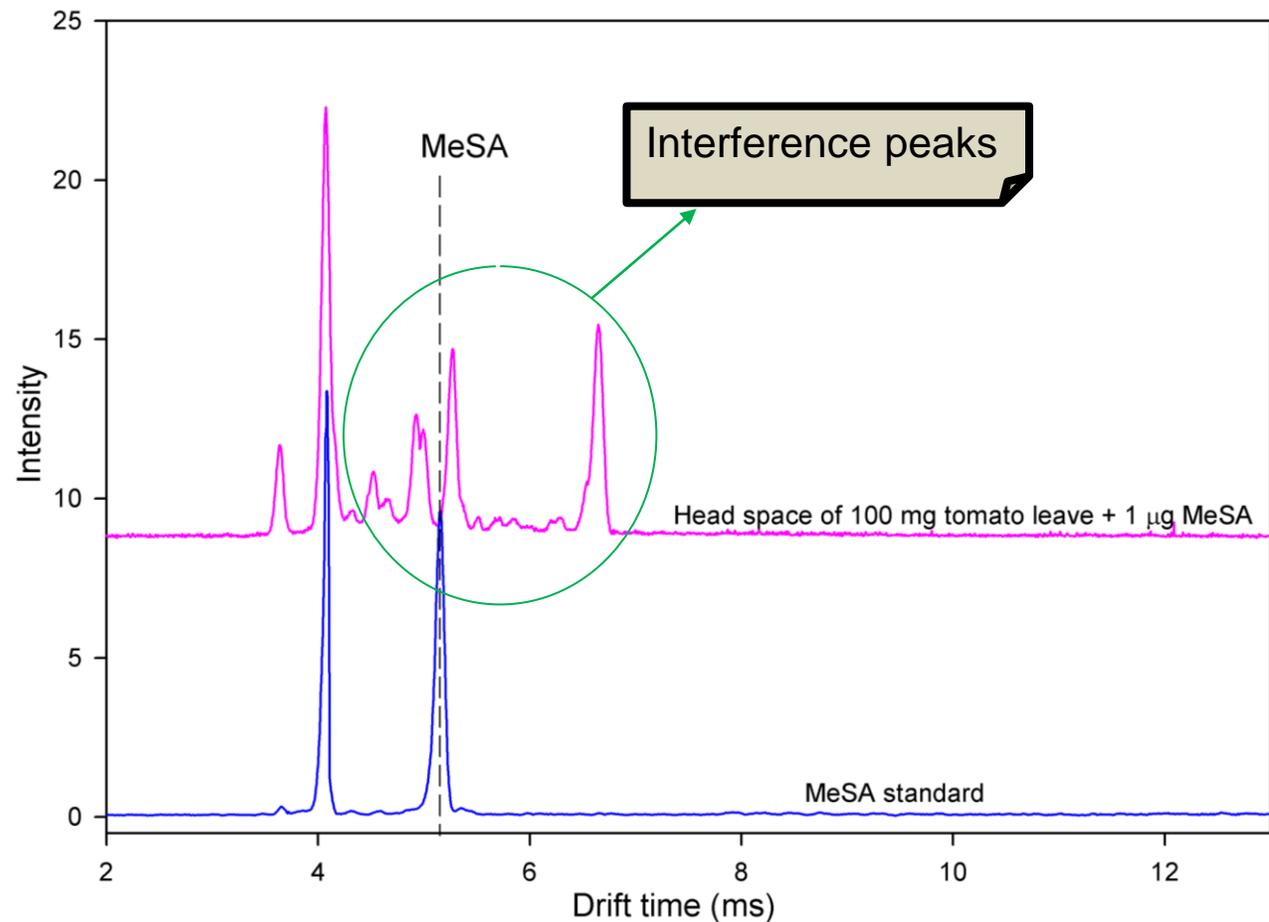


MeSA concentration: 2 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>  
Extraction time: 30 min



- PDMS fiber was selected for SPME
- Optimum Extraction time was 20 min

# Real Sample Analysis by SPME-IMS: Detection of MeSA in Tomato Leaves

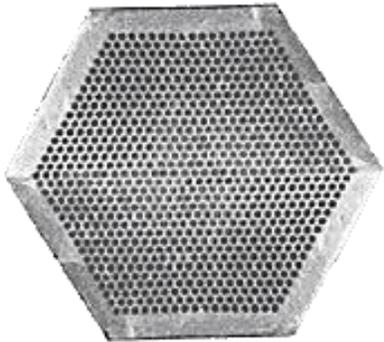


**Positive mode**

SPME-IMS measurement: MeSA detection is not possible in tomato leaf

Interference removal by MCC separation is necessary

## Multicapillary column (MCC): Four commercial types

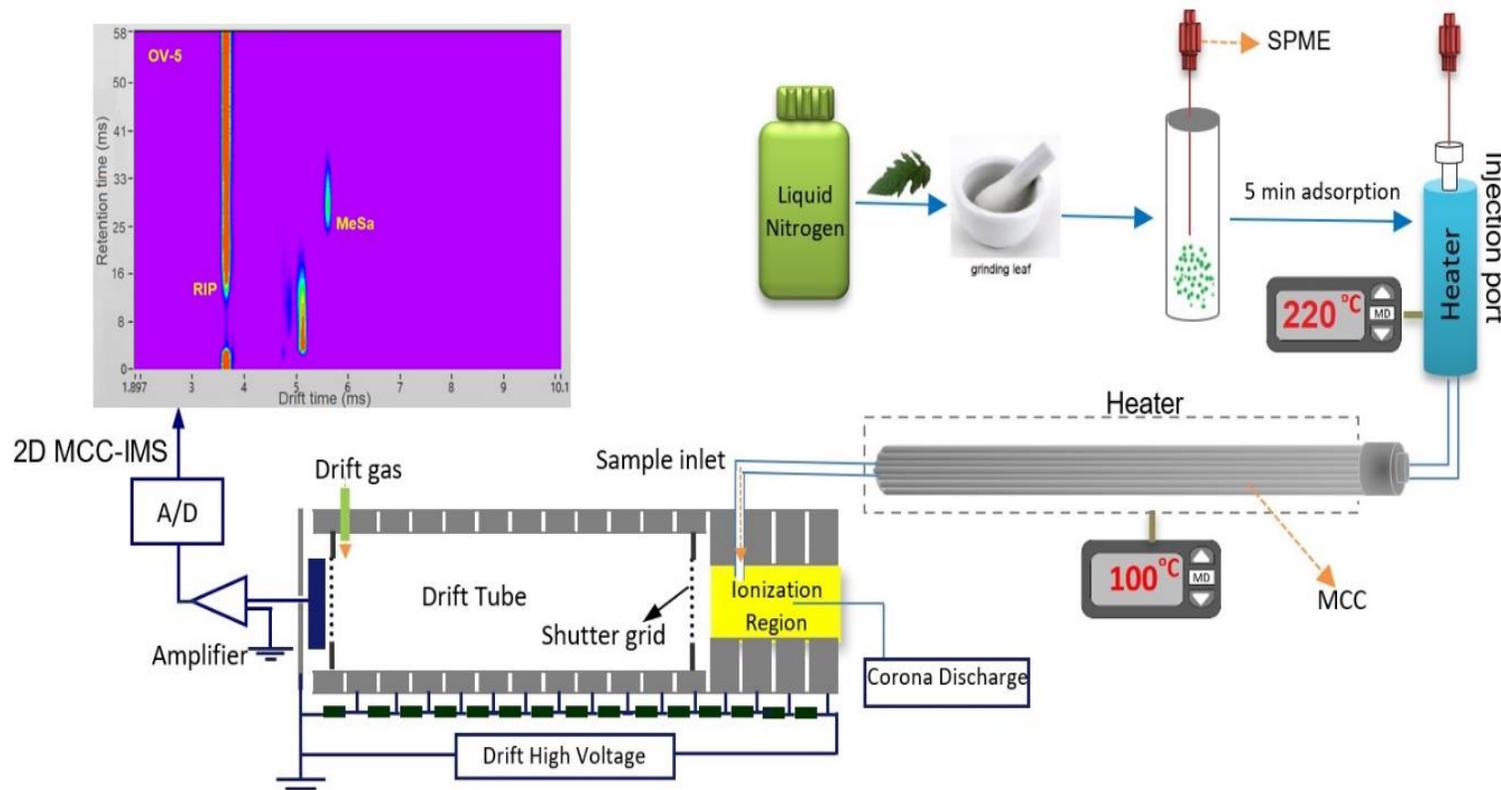


Cross-section of a MCC

	Stationary Phase Description
<b>OV-1</b>	100% - polydimethylsiloxane, non-polar
<b>OV-5</b>	5% - diphenyl, 95% - dimethylpolysiloxane, non-polar
<b>OV-17</b>	50% - diphenyl, 50% - dimethylpolysiloxane, weak polar
<b>OV-20</b>	20% - diphenyl, 80% - dimethylpolysiloxane, weak polar

Multichrom Ltd. Russia

# Experimental setup for Real Sample Analysis: SPME-MCC-IMS



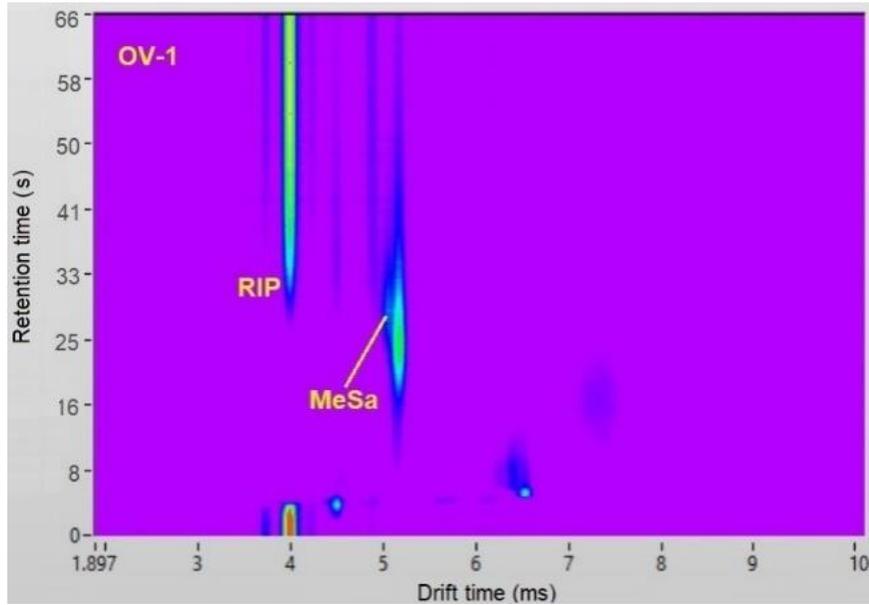
**SPME: Solid Phase Micro-Extraction**

**MCC: Multi-Capillary Column**

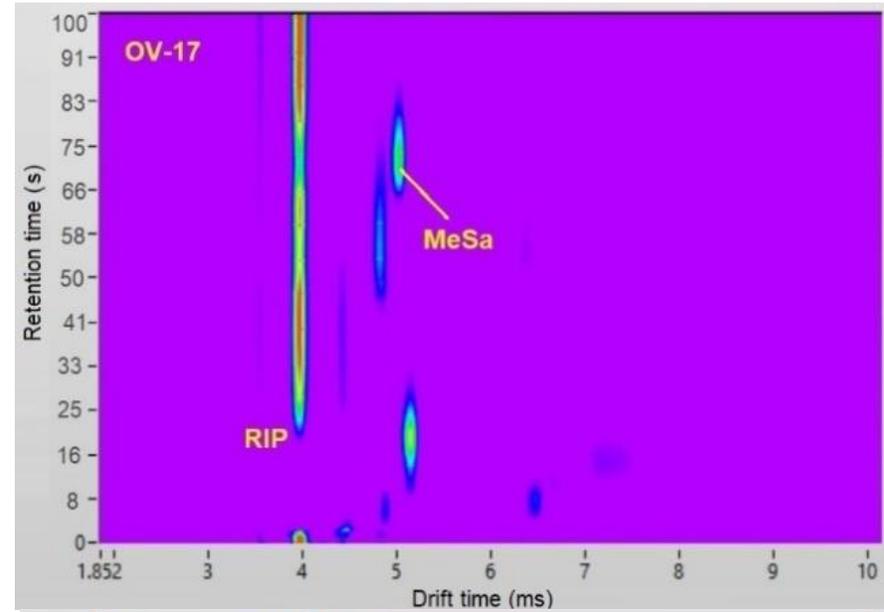
Schematic presentation of the method and instrumentation

# 2D MCC-IMS plots: SPME-MCC-IMS analysis of tomato leaves in Positive mode

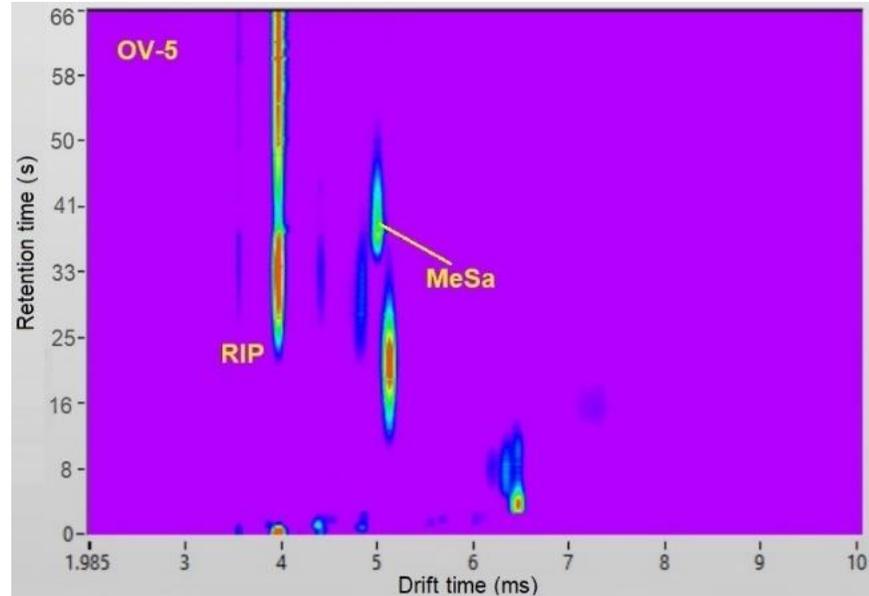
OV-1



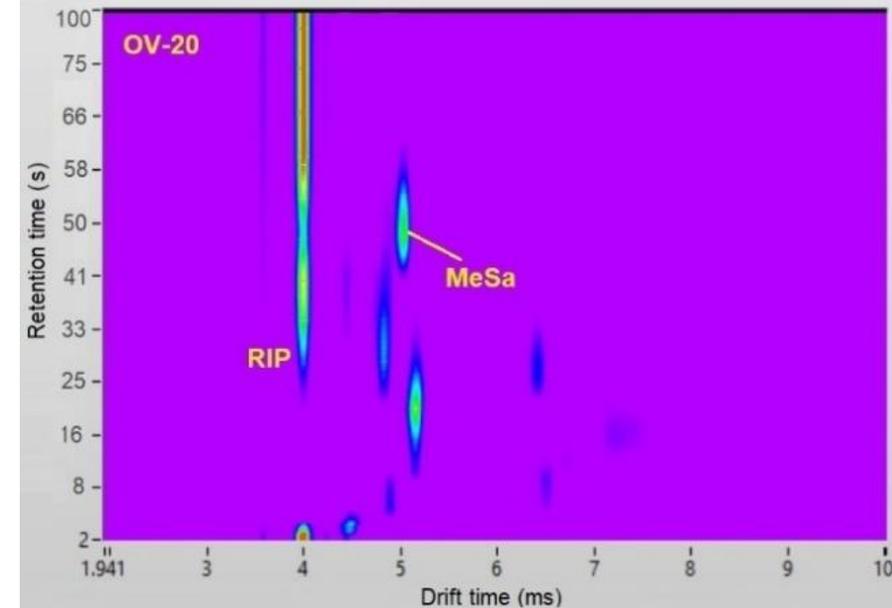
OV-17



OV-5

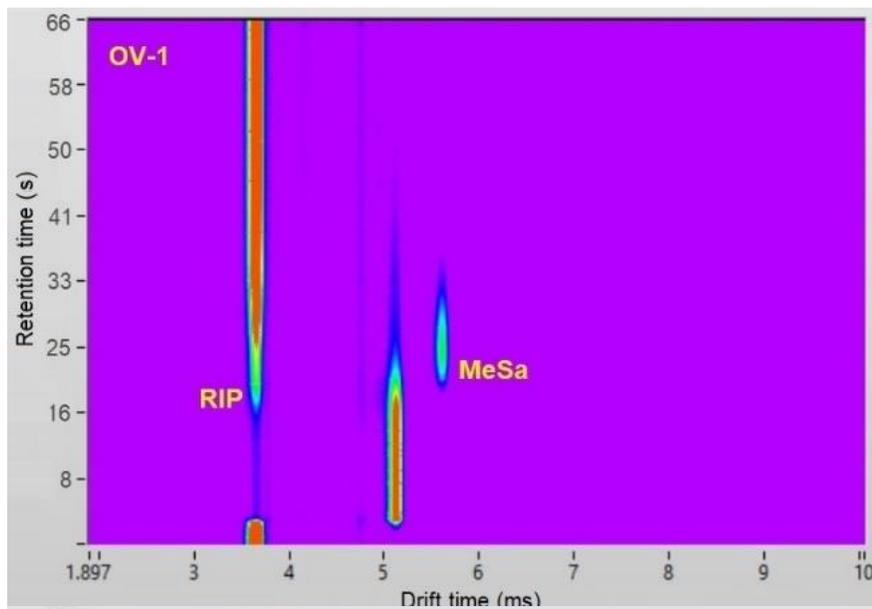


OV-20

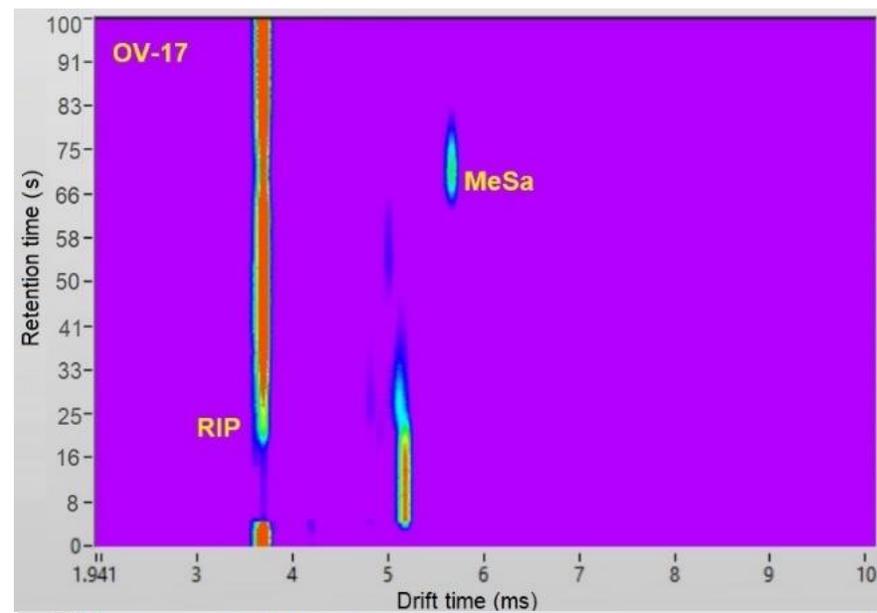


# 2D MCC-IMS plots: SPME-MCC-IMS analysis of tomato leaves in Negative mode

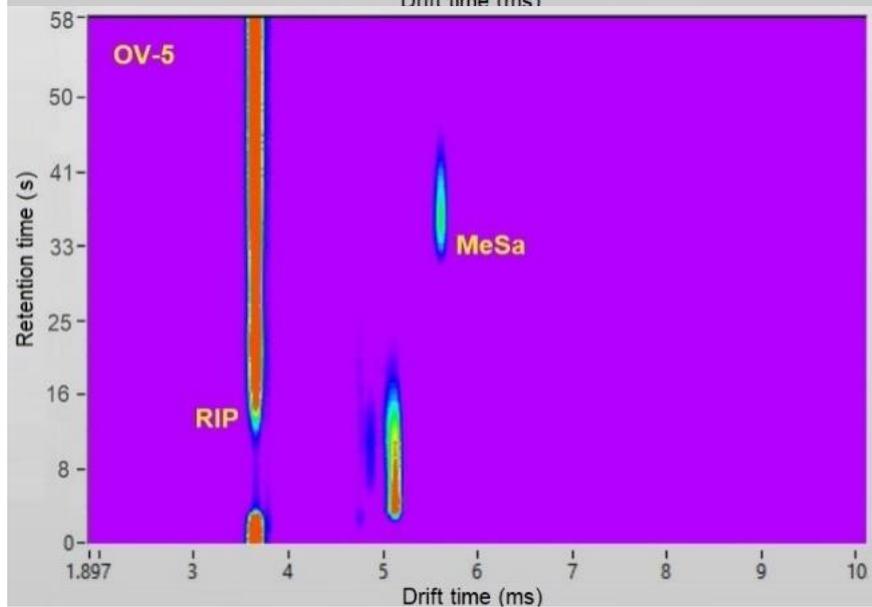
OV-1



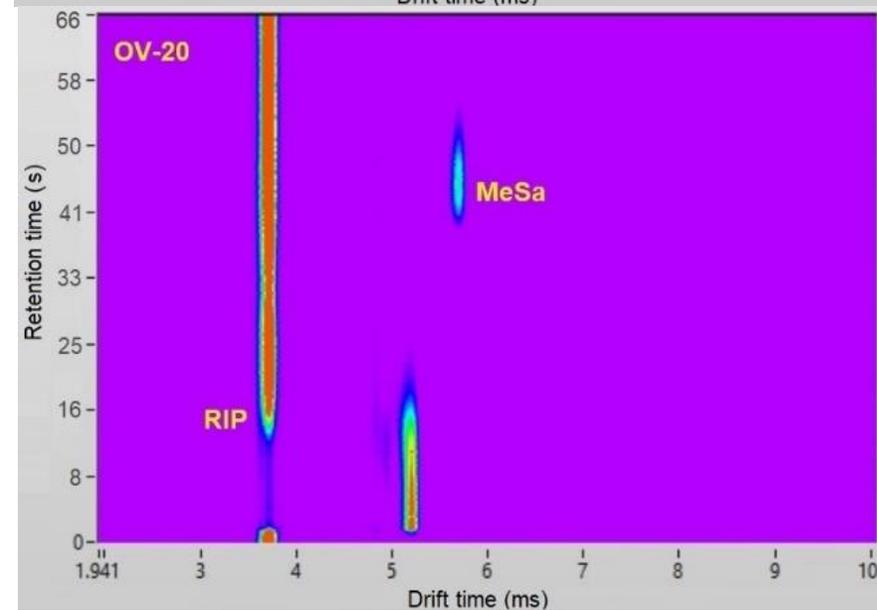
OV-17



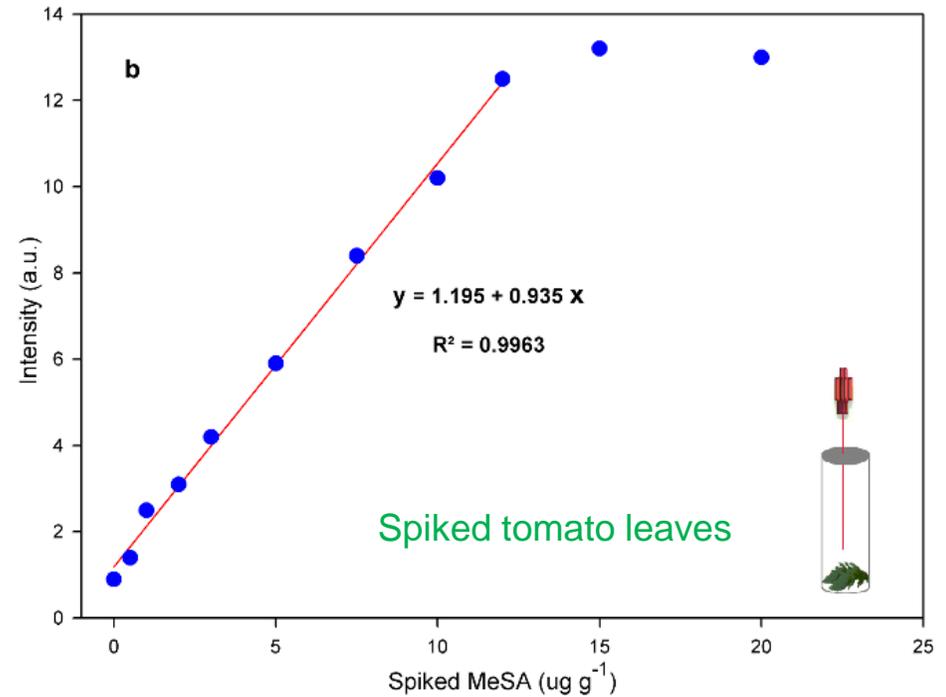
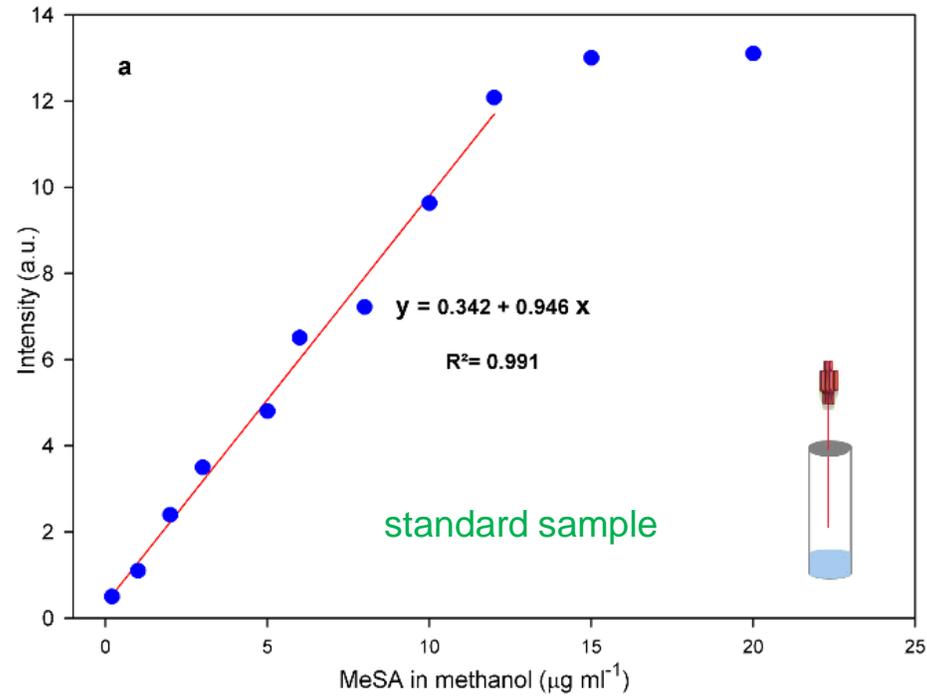
OV-5



OV-20



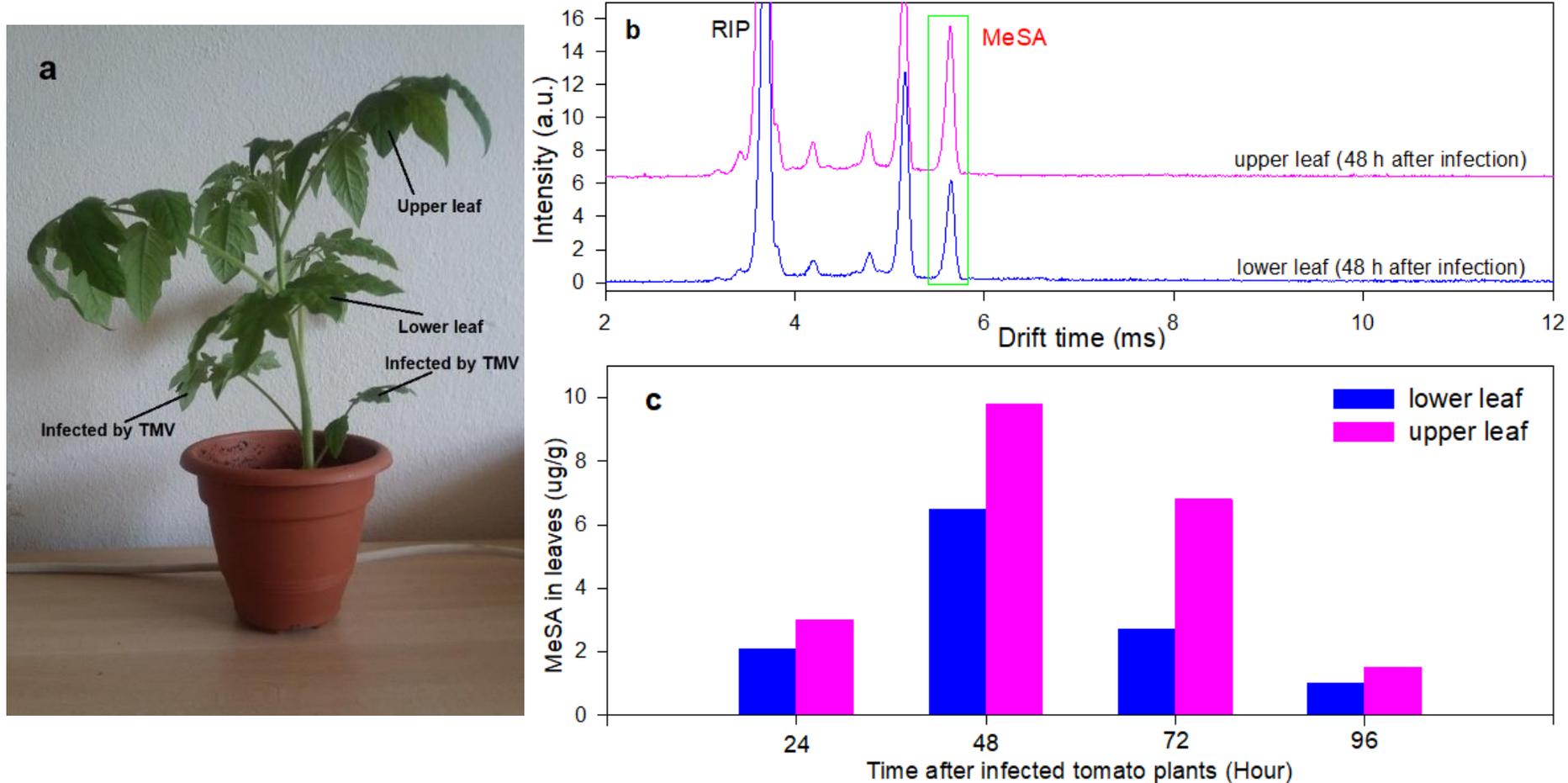
# Quantitative Analysis by head space SPME-MCC-IMS



Linear range:  $0.25\text{-}14 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$

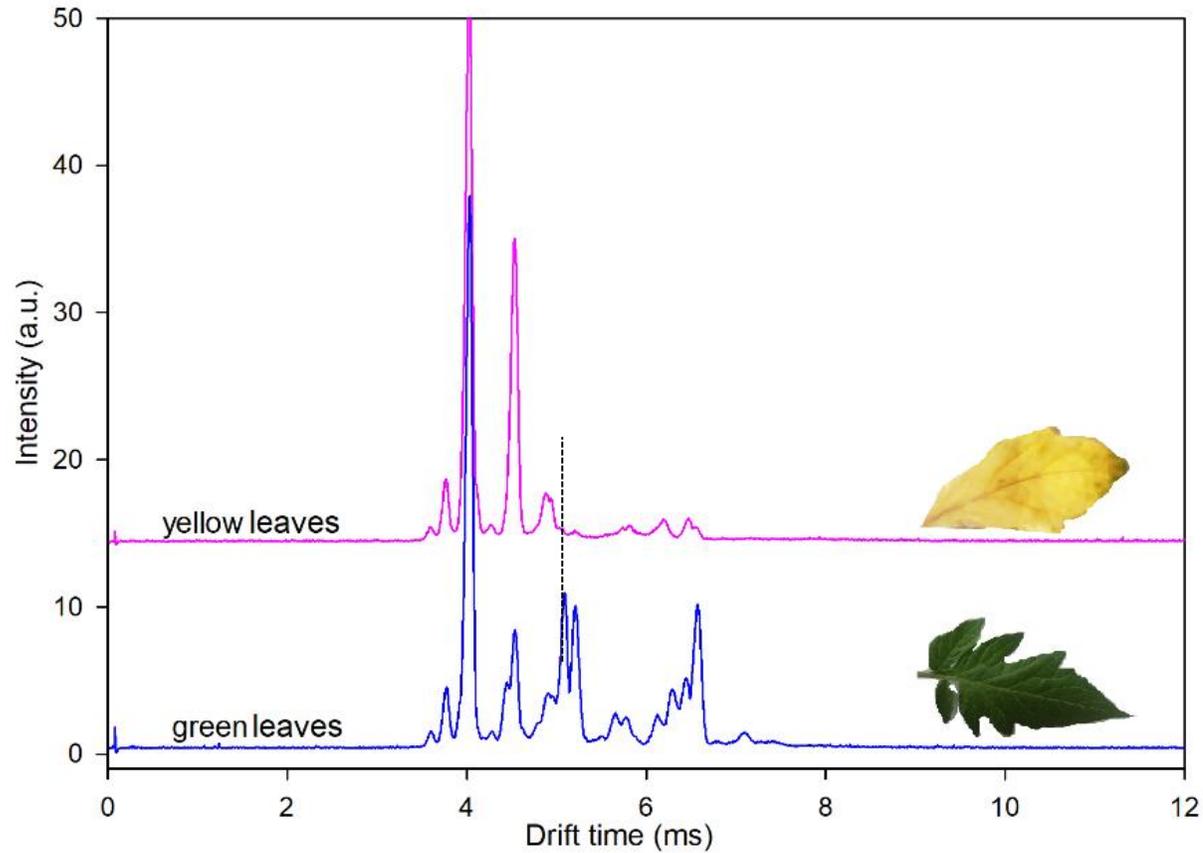
LOD:  $0.1 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$

# Application of SPME-MCC-IMS: Monitoring MeSA in tomato leaves with time



The ToRSV inoculated, lower and upper leaves in a typical tomato plant. (b) The MCC-separated IMS spectra obtained 48 h after inoculation by ToRSV. (c) The measured MeSA content of upper and lower leaves 24 to 96 hours after inoculation.

# Application of SPME-MCC-IMS: Comparison of MeSA content of different leaves



No MeSA was detected

Contains  $10 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  MeSA

## **Conclusion: Advantages of the SPME-MCC-IMS method**

- In this work, a new Ion Mobility Spectrometry (IMS) based method of MeSA detection in tomato leaves is presented. The method couples the Solid Phase Micro Extraction (SPME) sampling method, Multi Column Capillary Gas Chromatography (MCC GC) pre-separation and Ion Mobility Spectrometry (IMS) detection of MeSa from complex matrices.
- The developed method provides 2D-separation of the real sample ingredients resulting in fast analysis (<100s) and high sensitivity ( $0.1 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) of MeSA detection in different parts of tomato leaves.
- The fast analysis of real samples allows time dependent measurements of MeSa after inoculation of plants by pathogens.

# Project 2 Paper: Under review

*Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*

Solid Phase Microextraction-Multi Capillary Column-Ion Mobility Spectrometry (SPME-MCC-IMS) for Detection of Methyl Salicylate in Tomato Leaves

Manuscript ID: jf-2022-05570p

Status: Under Review

Submitted on 12 August 2022

Contact Author: Štefan Matejčík (stefan.matejcik@fmph.uniba.sk)



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