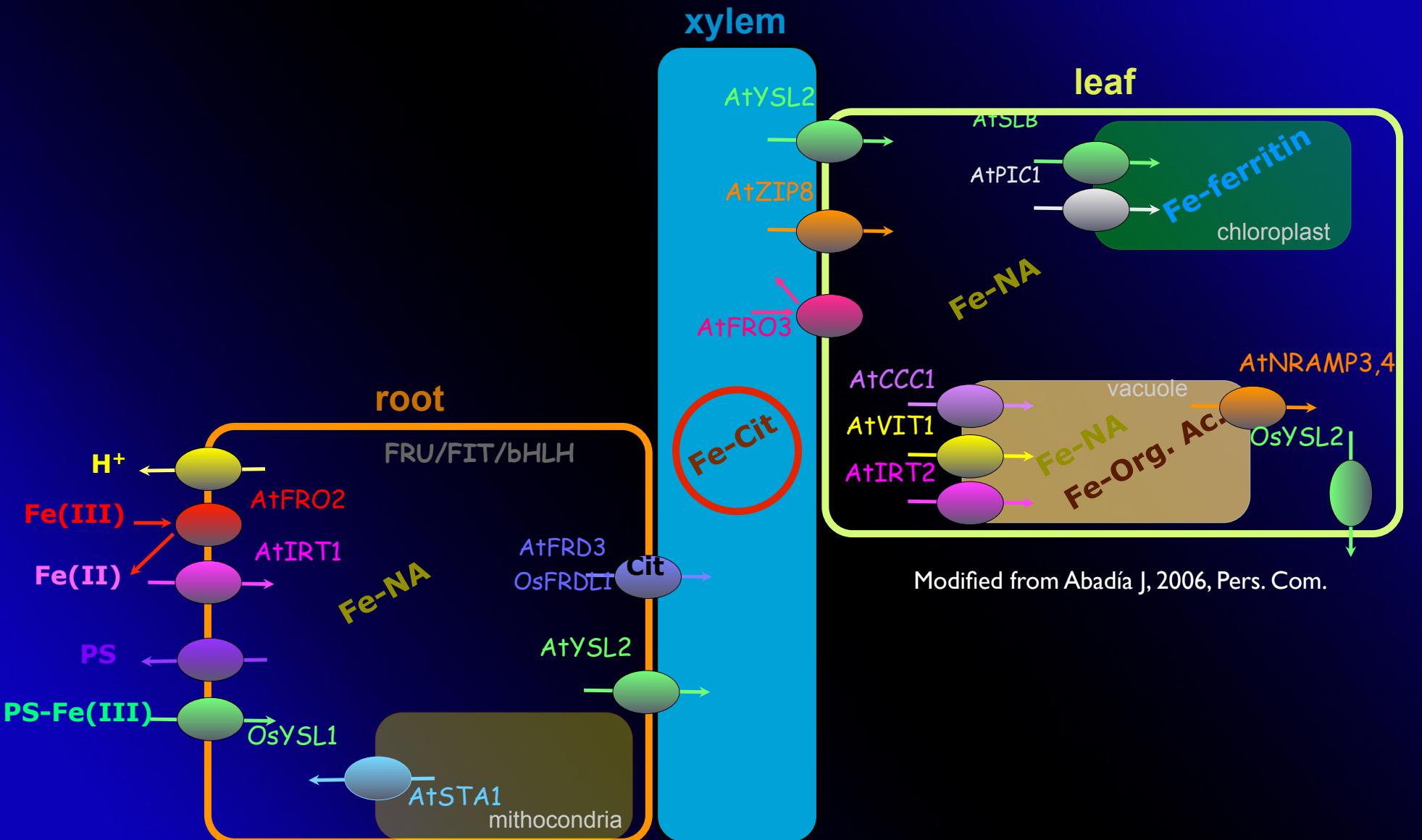


# Identificación de complejos organometálicos en tejidos vegetales mediante espectrometría de masas

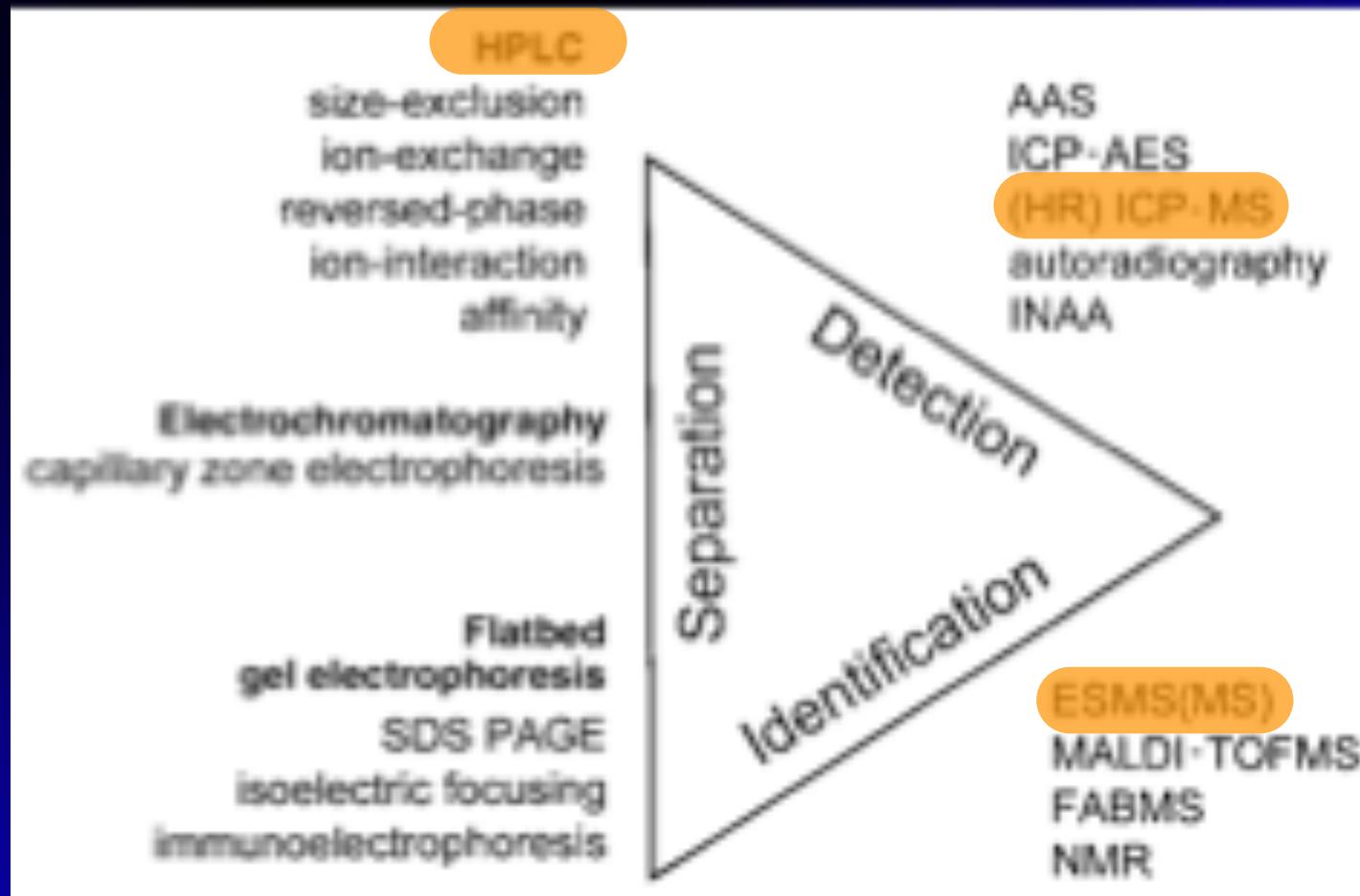
R Rellán-Álvarez, J Abadía and A Álvarez-Fernández

Plant Stress Physiology Group,  
Aula Dei Experimental Station, CSIC, Zaragoza  
[www.eead.csic.es/stressphysiology](http://www.eead.csic.es/stressphysiology)

# Metal Speciation: A complex(ed) story

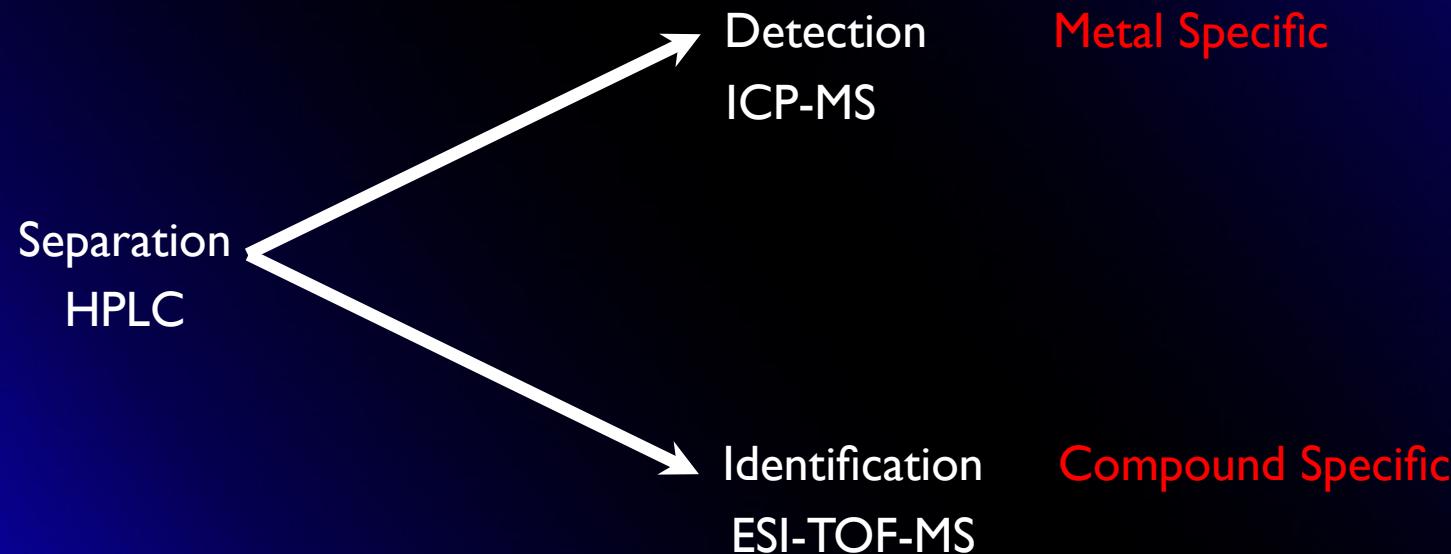


# Hyphenated techniques available for species-selective analysis of biological materials



Szpunar, 2000

# Hyphenated techniques available for species-selective analysis of biological materials



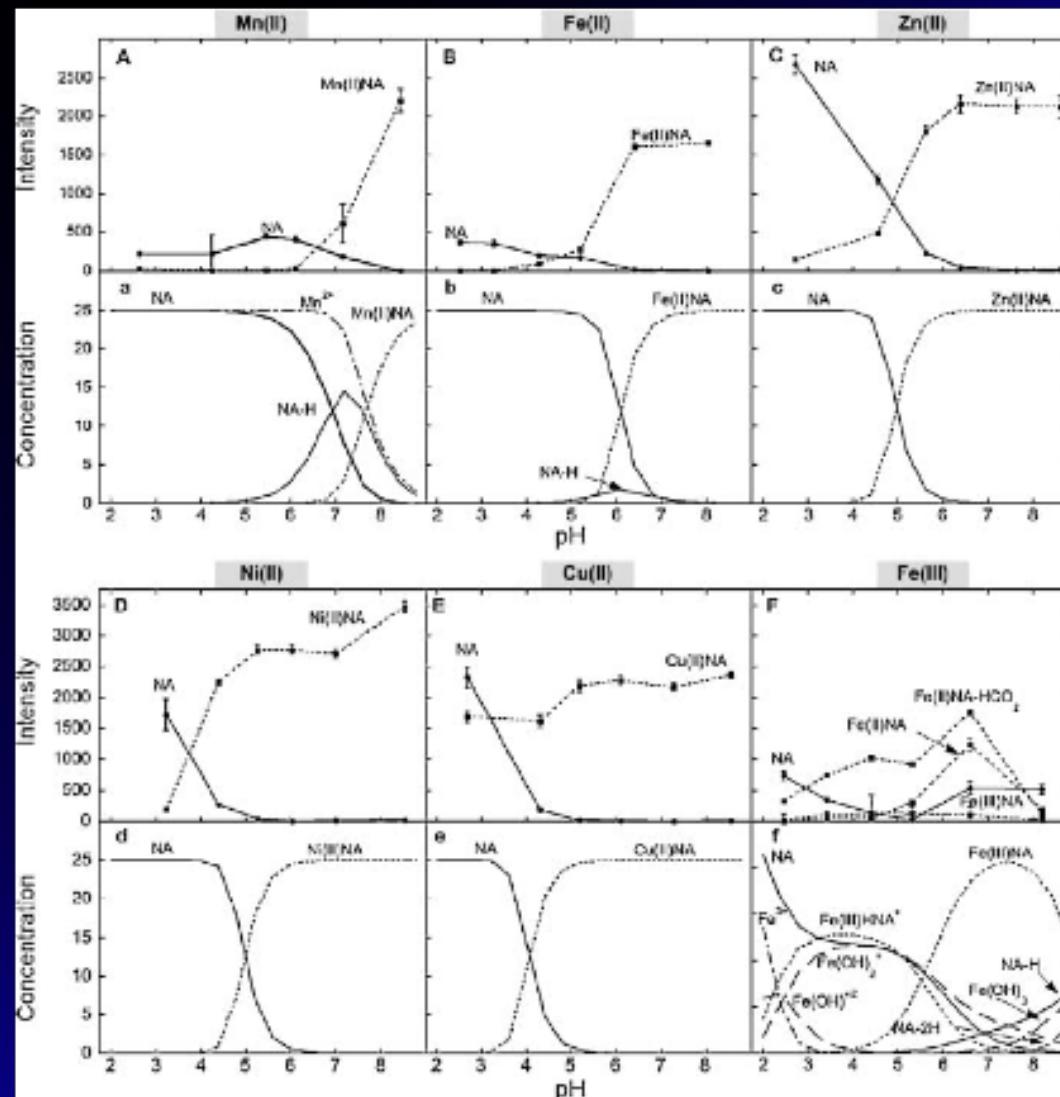
## Main problems and bottlenecks

---

-Sample extraction: should conserve the plant compartment conditions for example pH values.

# Main problems and bottlenecks

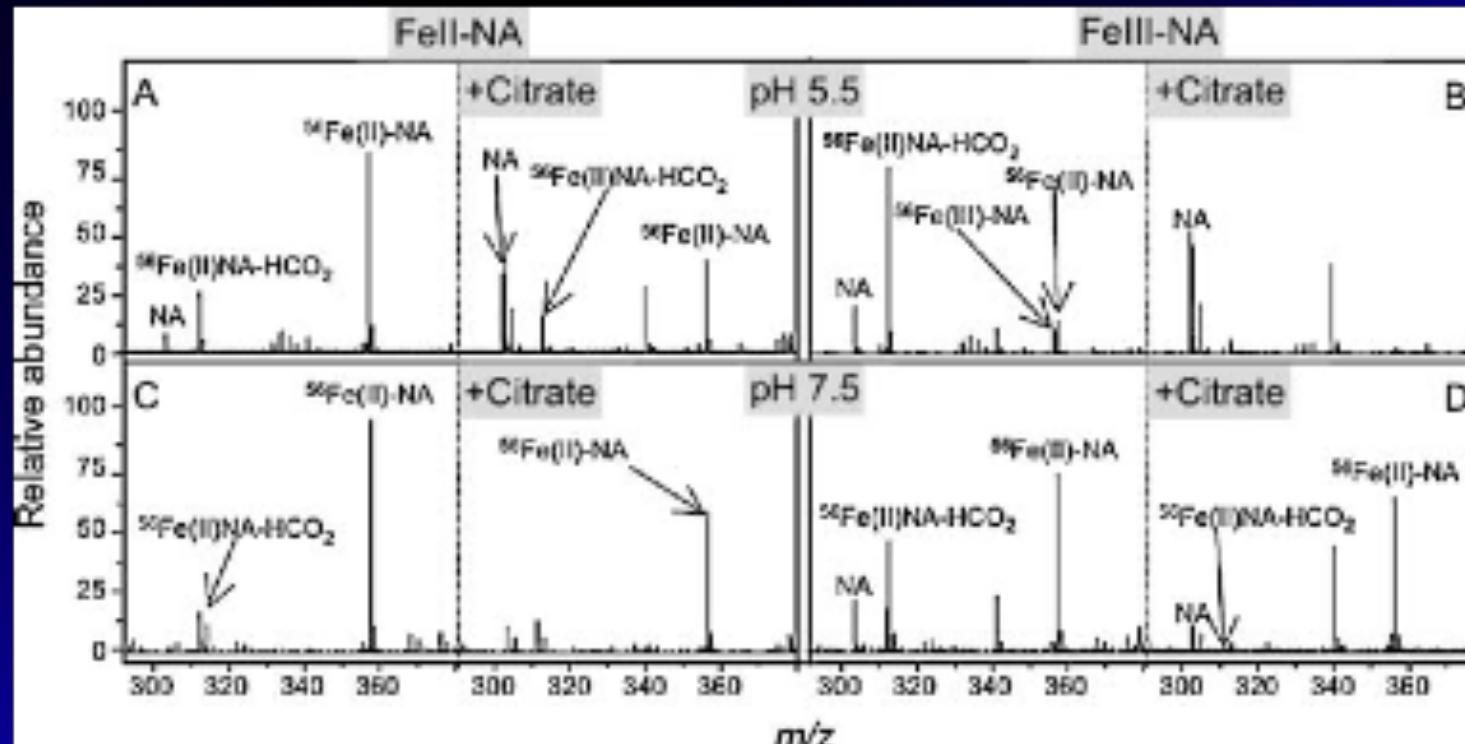
pH Dependence



Rellan et al, 2008

# Main problems and bottlenecks

pH Dependence  
Ligand Exchange



Rellan et al, 2008

## Main problems and bottlenecks

- Sample extraction: should conserve the plant compartment conditions for example pH values.
- These conditions should also be conserved during separation and detection.
- If this conditions a
- Sensitivity: very low concentration of metals in plant tissues.
- Cost: expensive equipment.

# Integrated mass spectrometry in (semi-)metal speciation

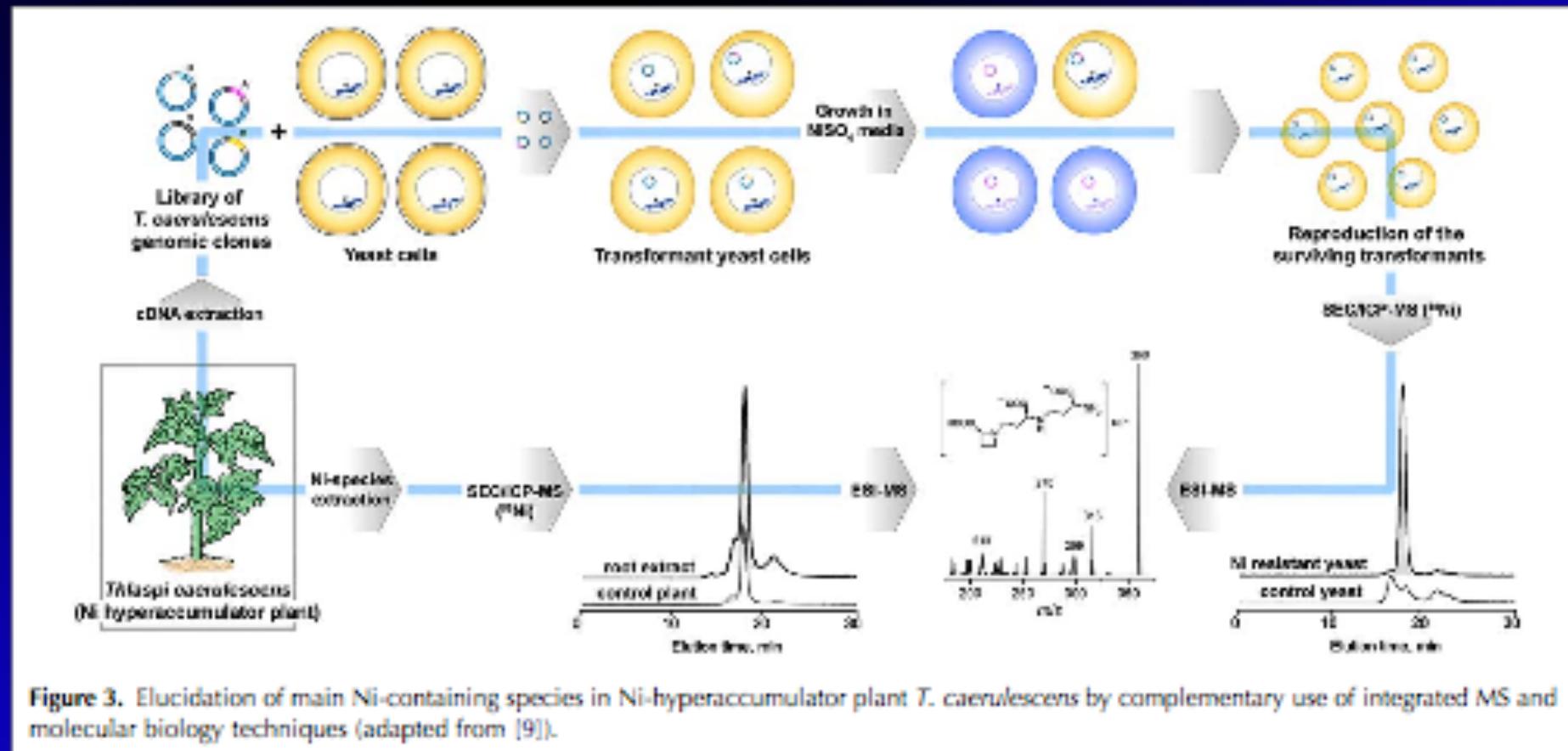
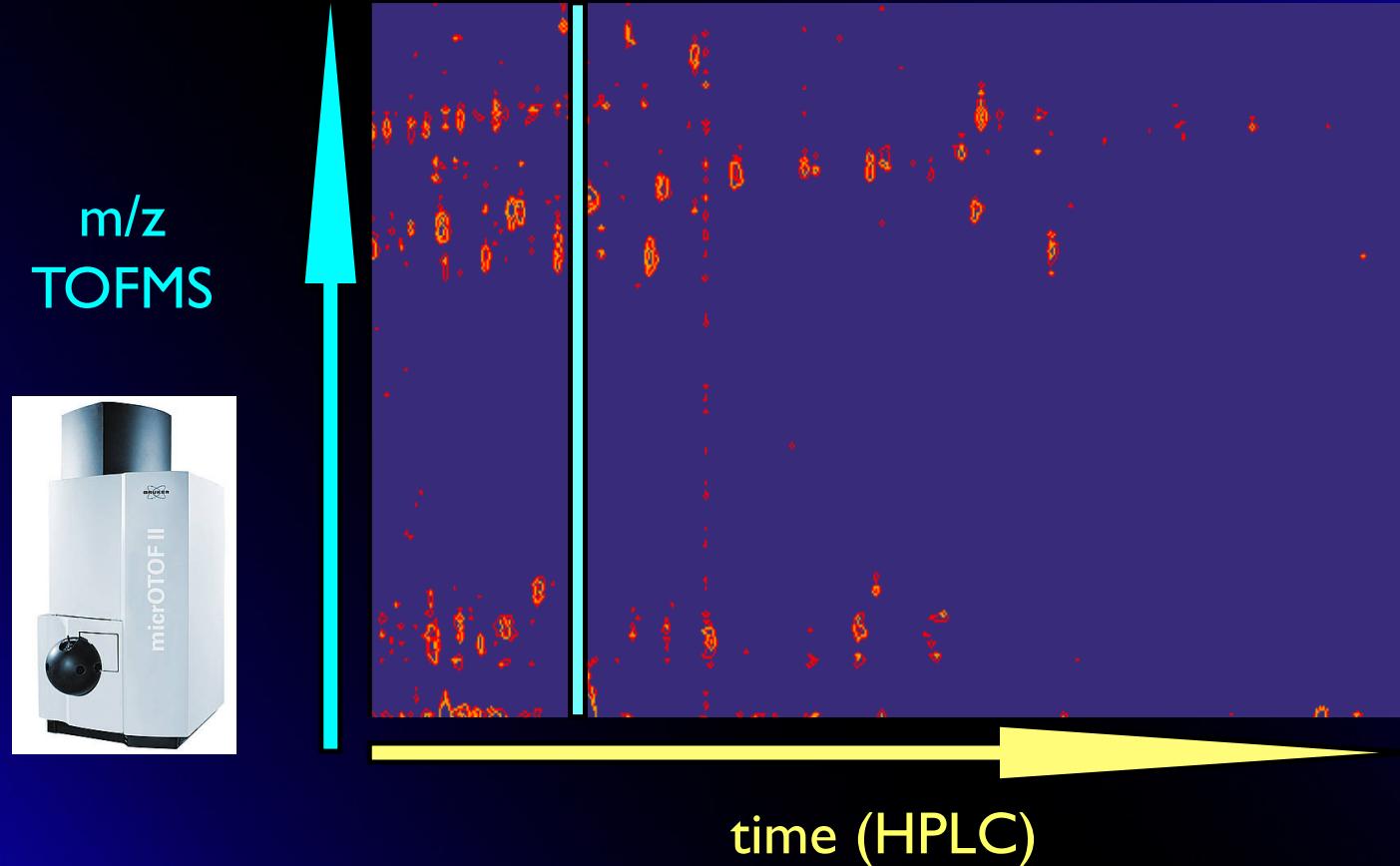


Figure 3. Elucidation of main Ni-containing species in Ni-hyperaccumulator plant *T. caerulescens* by complementary use of integrated MS and molecular biology techniques (adapted from [9]).

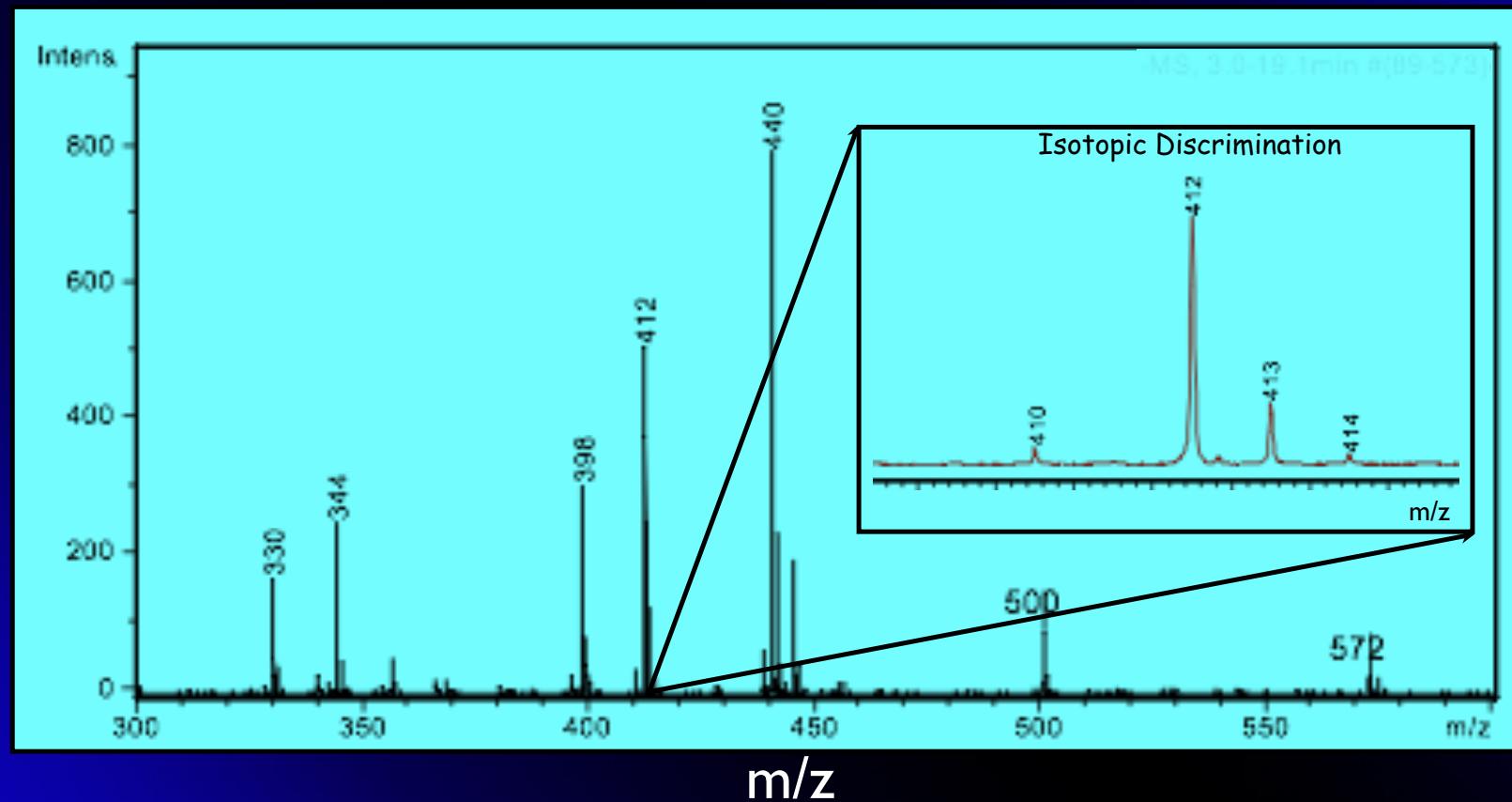
Meija, 2006

# HPLC-TOFMS

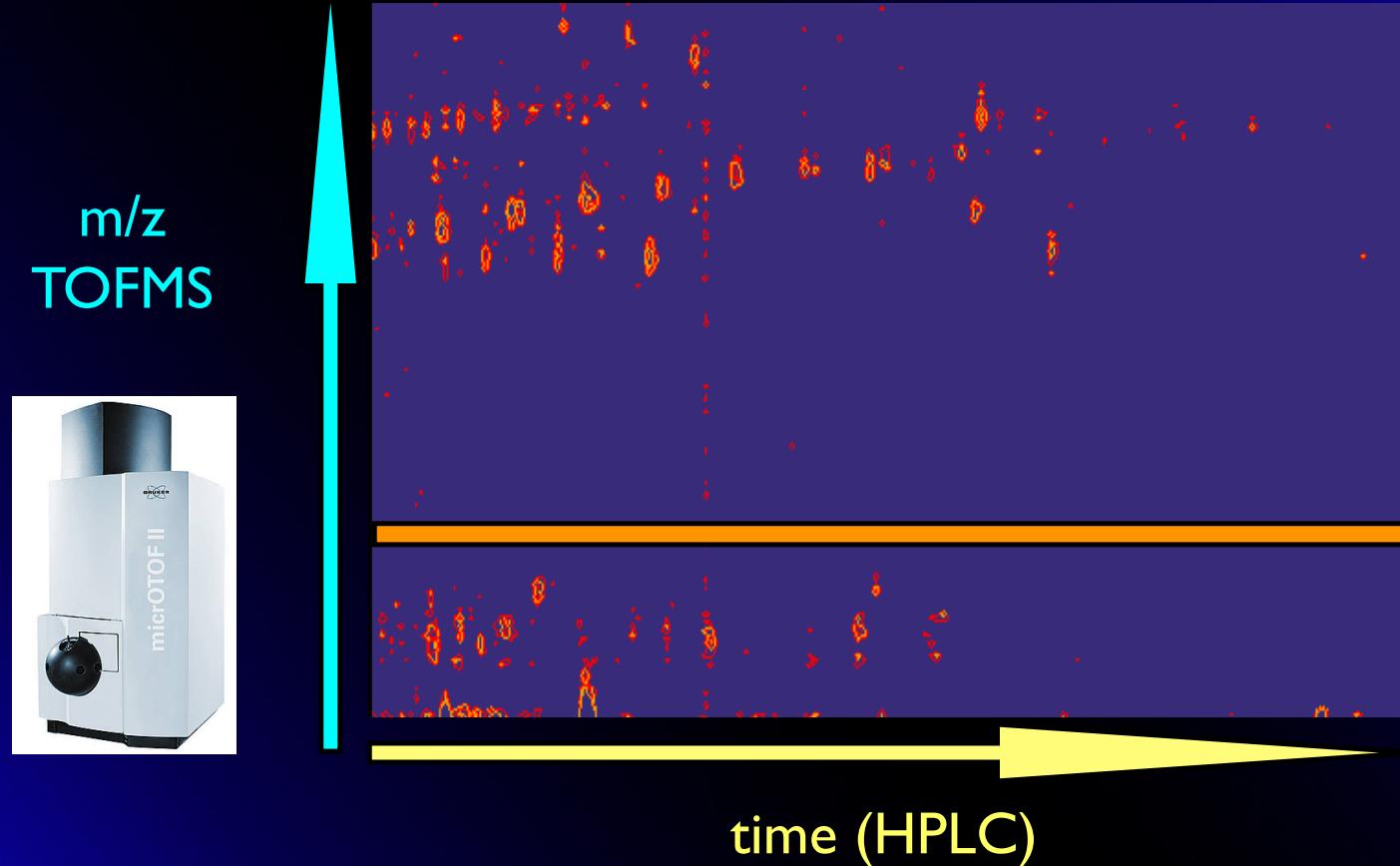


# HPLC-TOFMS Mass spectra at an specific time

5.9 min

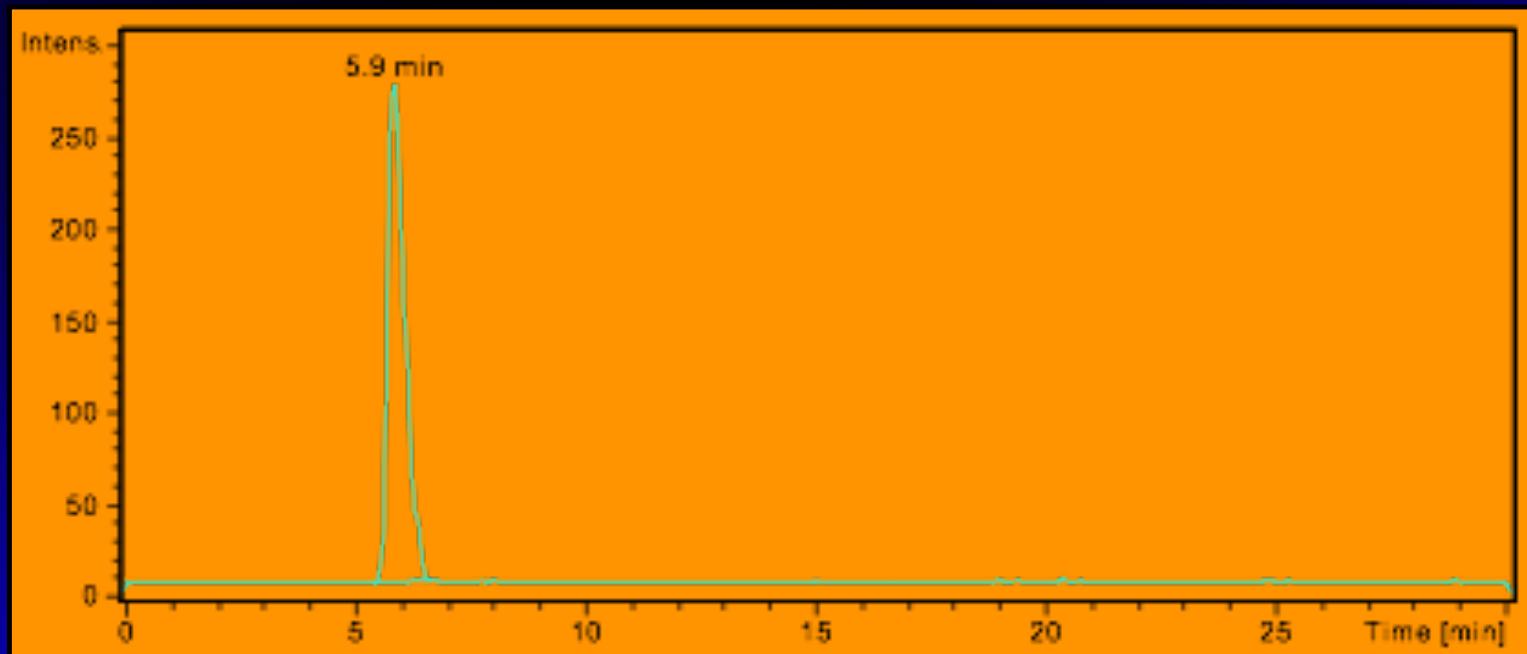


# HPLC-TOFMS

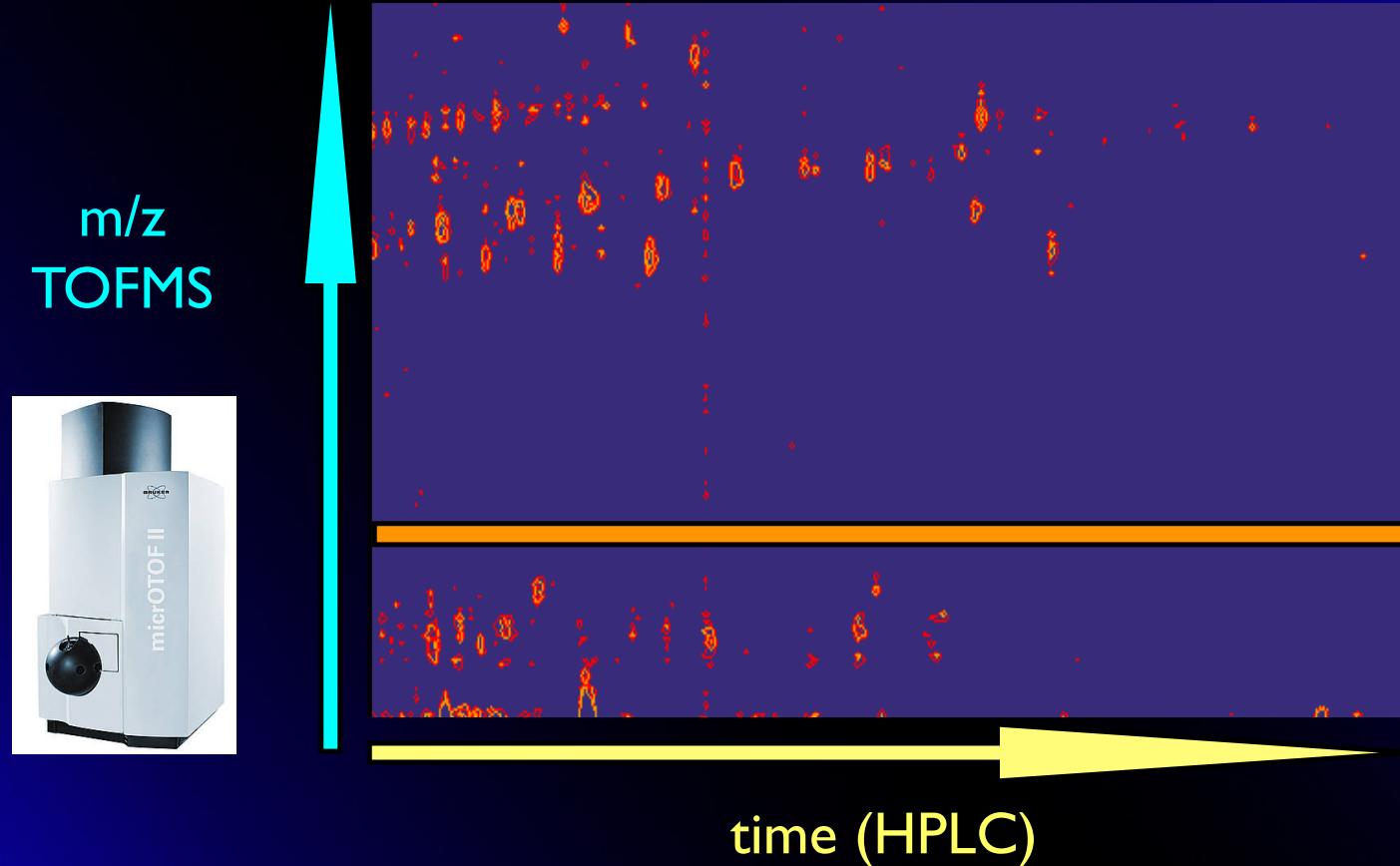


# HPLC-TOFMS Chromatogram of an specific m/z

m/z = 344

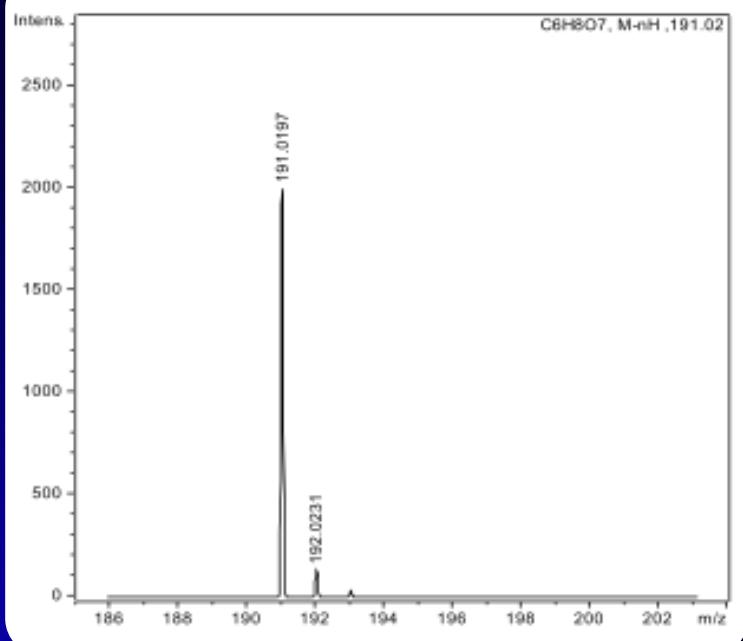


# HPLC-TOFMS

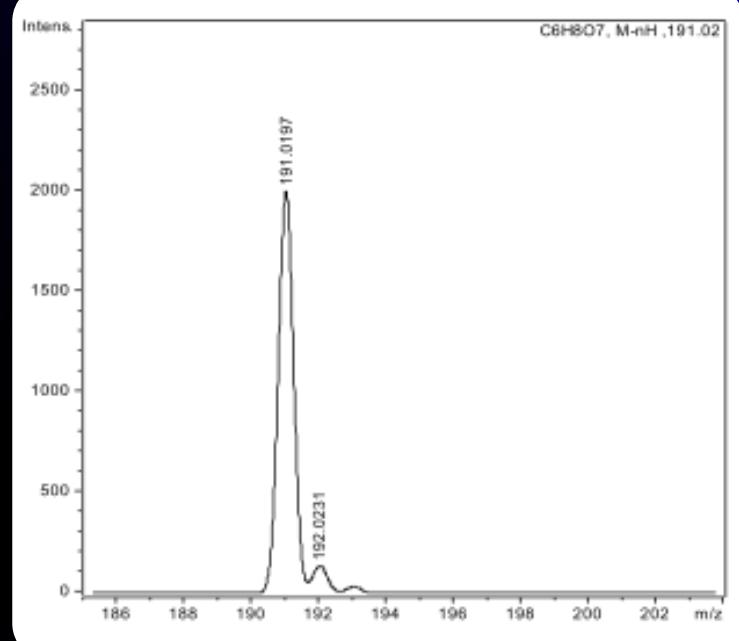


# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

Good Isotopic Discrimination



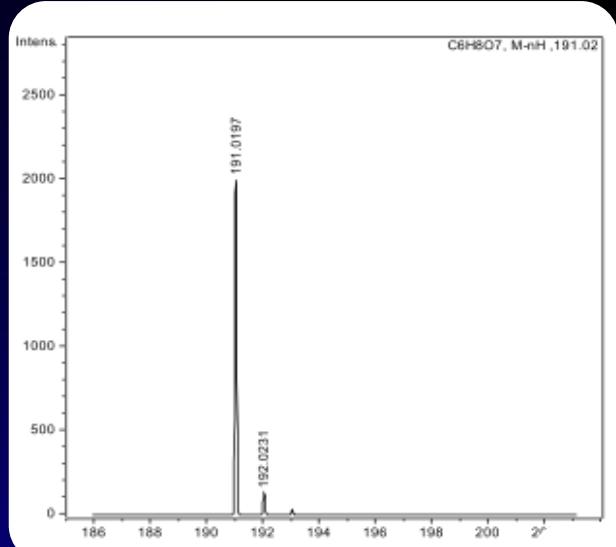
Bad Isotopic Discrimination



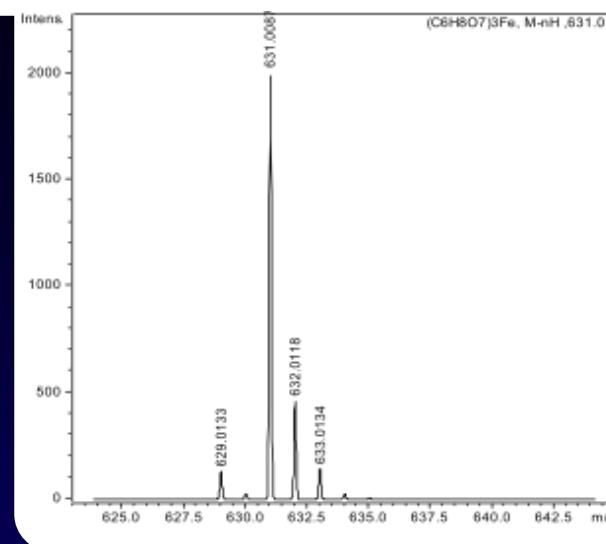
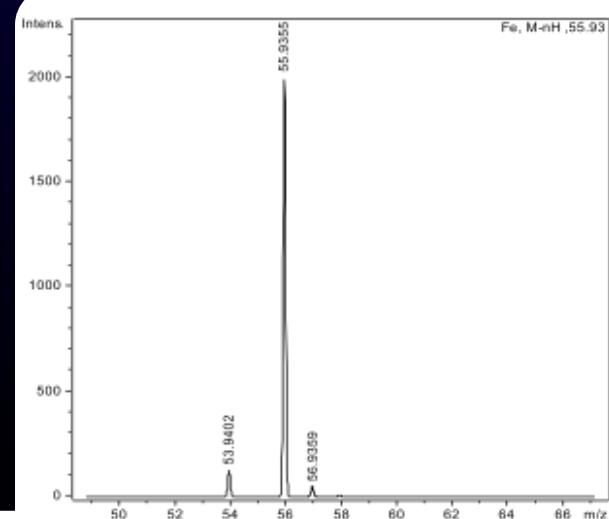
Isotopic distribution

# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

CHO Isotopic Distribution

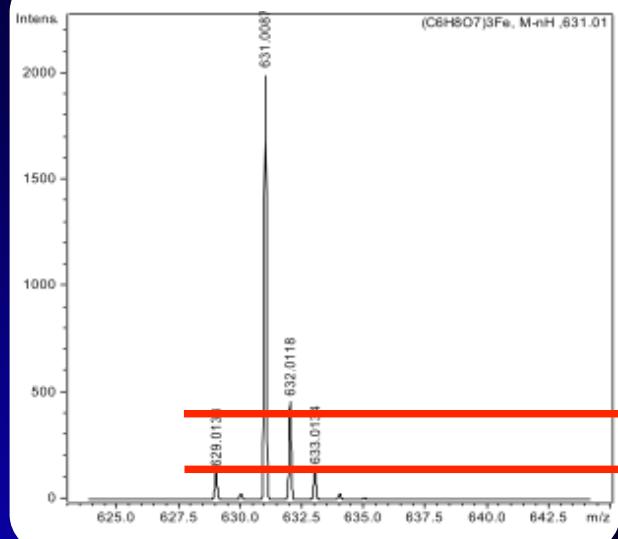


Fe Isotopic Distribution

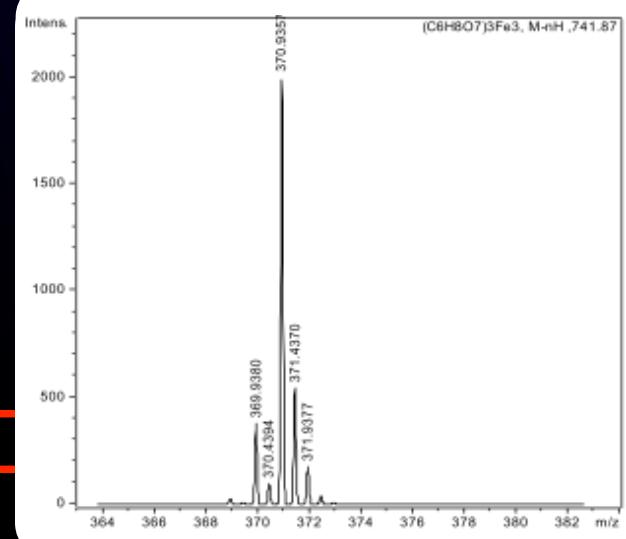


# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

CHO Comp + Fe

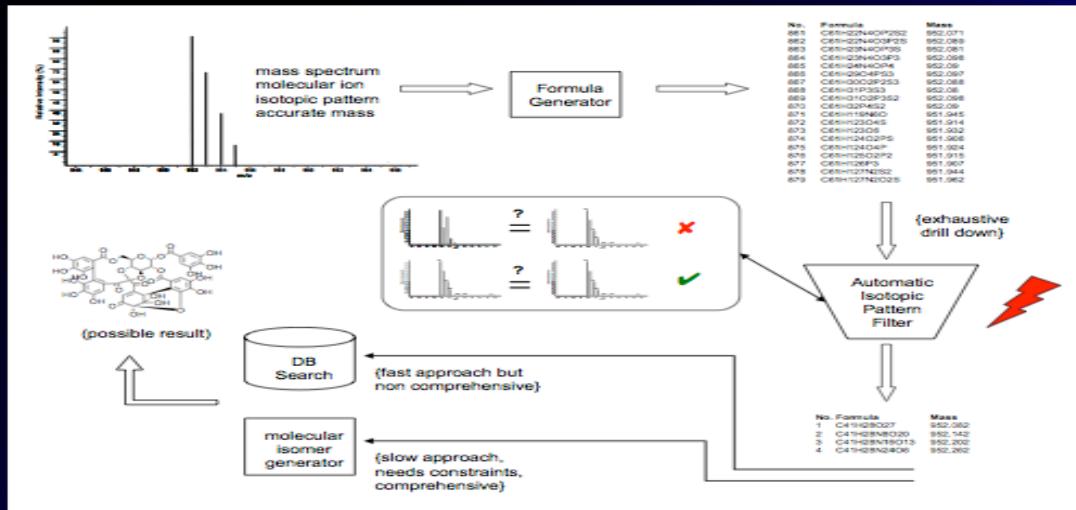


CHO Comp + 3Fe



# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/7/234>



Metabolite annotation schema based on mass spectrometric calculation of elemental compositions and subsequent database queries.

topes in metabolites which refer to the particular isotope of an element found in a molecule. The isotopic abundance pattern of an element in a molecule is determined by the relative abundance of different sources on earth. The isotopic abundance pattern of an element in a molecule can be calculated from its elemental composition. The isotopic abundance pattern of a metabolite's mass spectrum can serve as an additional constraint for removing wrong identification candidates. Isotope ratio mass spectrometry can exactly determine isotopic abundances; however, incomplete combusions of the original molecule into CO<sub>2</sub> or incomplete conversion of the original molecule into a mixture of other gases and therefore irrelevant for the calculation of the theoretical isotopic abundance patterns of the elemental compositions of unidentified metabolites. In general, the theoretical isotopic abundance patterns of a molecular formula can be calculated using different approaches [12] either solving polynomial equations or using fast Fourier transformations [13]. An isotopic abundance filter can be used for any mass spectrometer which can provide very low root mean square (RMS) errors for isotopic patterns, especially if the contribution of further

isotopes is small. The isotopic abundance pattern of a metabolite's mass spectrum can be compared with the theoretical isotopic abundance patterns of all possible molecular formulas. This comparison can be done by calculating the root mean square (RMS) error between the measured isotopic abundance pattern and the theoretical one. If the RMS error is below a certain threshold, the molecular formula is accepted as a candidate for the metabolite. The isotopic abundance filter can be used for any mass spectrometer which can provide very low root mean square (RMS) errors for isotopic patterns, especially if the contribution of further

Kind and Fiehn, 2006

# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

BMC Bioinformatics 2006, 7:234

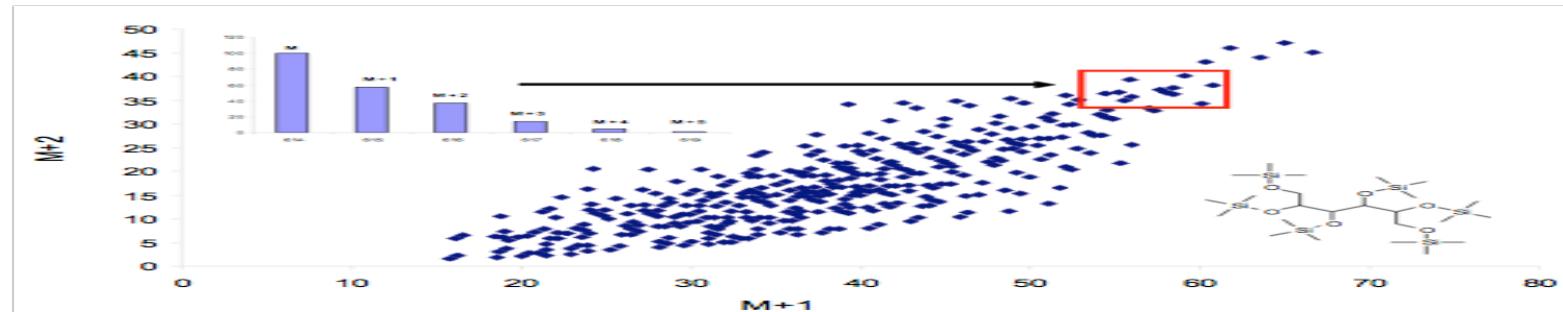
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/7/234>

**Table 3:** Number of possible molecular formulae at different levels of mass accuracy and the impact of isotopic abundance accuracy. A 10 ppm spectrometer capable of 3 ppm, but with 2% correct isotopic pattern outperforms even a fine existing mass spectrometer with 0.1 ppm mass accuracy! The results are computed for randomly selected targets, so single results vary but the trend remains. LEWIS and SENIOR check was applied. Candidates with unrelated high element counts were already excluded.

molecular mass [Da]	without isotope abundance information						2% isotopic abundance accuracy	5% isotopic abundance accuracy
	10 ppm	5 ppm	3 ppm	1 ppm	0.1 ppm	3 ppm		
150	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
200	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
300	24	11	7	2	1	1	1	6
400	78	37	23	7	1	2	13	33
500	266	115	64	21	2	3	35	97
600	503	227	105	50	5	4	36	97
700	1036	538	321	108	10	10	10	97
800	1964	973	599	200	20	13	13	97
900	3447	1712	1045	345	32	18	18	96

implemented into query algorithms and are hard to conceive even at the 1 ppm level, when hundreds of possible

hits are returned at searches between 700–900 Da, the mass range of membrane lipids. The principal idea of



**Figure 5:** Isotopic abundance of the M+1 and M+2 ions can be used to filter molecular formula candidates. The isotopic abundances of the M+1 and M+2 ions can be used to filter molecular formula candidates. This example shows isotopic abundance pattern for silylated sorbitol. The red circle shows a 5% region with the correct target. All other formulae can be excluded if the mass spectrometer has a 5% error (RMS) on isotopic abundances.

Page 8 of 10  
(page number not for citation purposes)

Kind and Fiehn, 2006

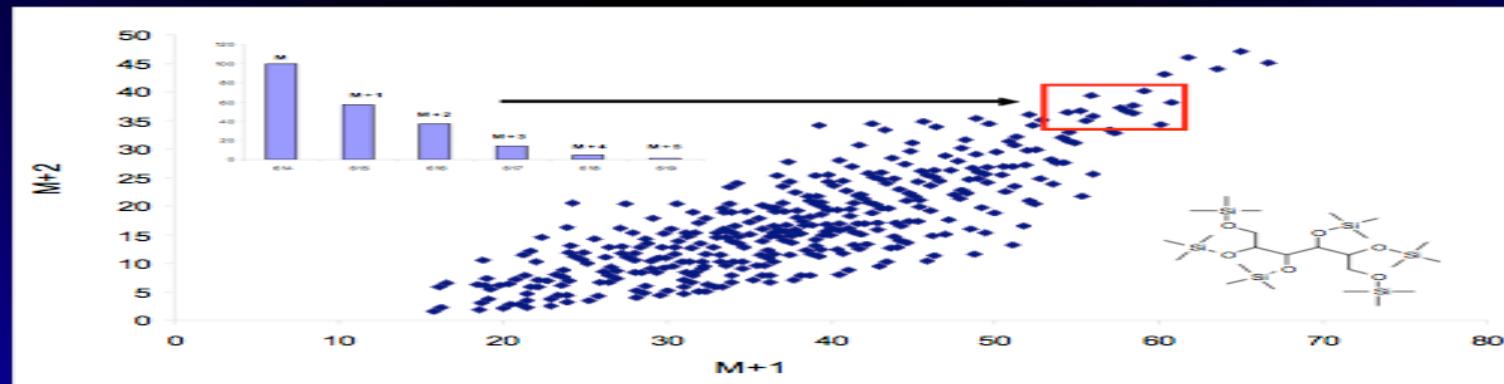
# Compound identification based on isotopic signature

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**Table 3:** Molecular formula filtering based on isotopic abundance accuracy and the impact of isotopic abundance accuracy. A mass spectrometer with 2% isotopic abundance accuracy can filter out 100% of false positives, while a mass spectrometer with 5 ppm error would only filter out ~70% of false positives. In this example, we show the results for the 100 most abundant ions in the sample. The first 100 ions are the most abundant ions in the sample. The remaining ions were already excluded.

molecular mass (Da)	1 ppm	2 ppm	3 ppm	5 ppm
1500	0	0	0	1
2000	0	0	0	1
2500	0	0	0	6
3000	0	0	0	13
3500	0	0	0	33
4000	0	0	0	36
4500	0	0	0	92
5000	0	0	0	111
5500	0	0	0	196

implemented into open source software. As shown in Figure 3, for molecules between 700–900 Da, the implemented algorithm can filter out ~90% of false positives even at 200 ppm isotopic abundance accuracy.

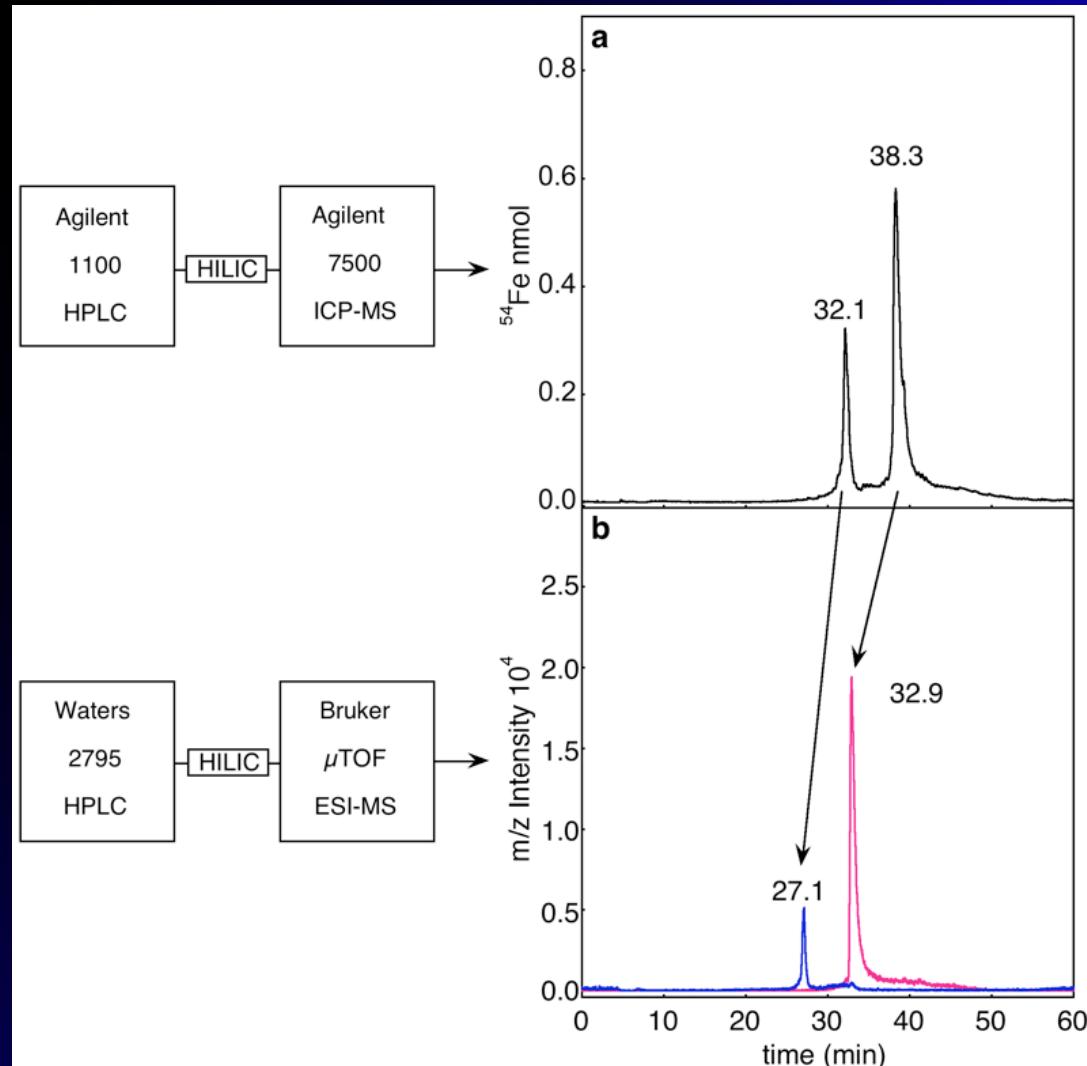
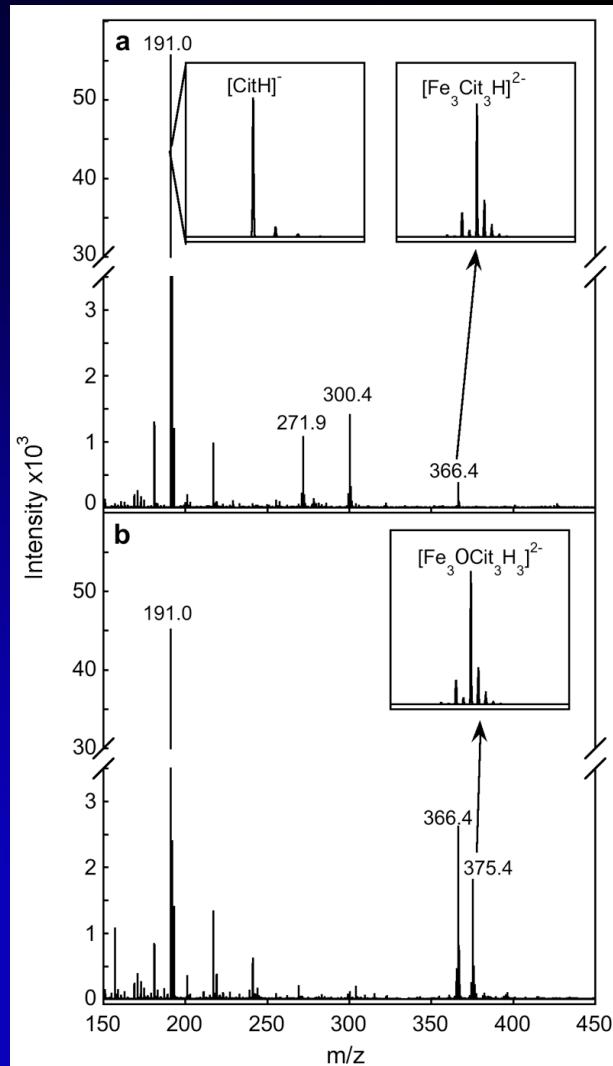


The isotopic abundances of the  $M+1$  and  $M+2$  ions can be used to filter molecular formula candidates. The isotopic abundances of the  $M+1$  and  $M+2$  ions are plotted against each other. This example shows isotopic abundance pattern for siloxane compounds. All other formulae can be excluded if the mass spectrometer has 2% isotopic abundance accuracy.

Kind and Fiehn, 2006

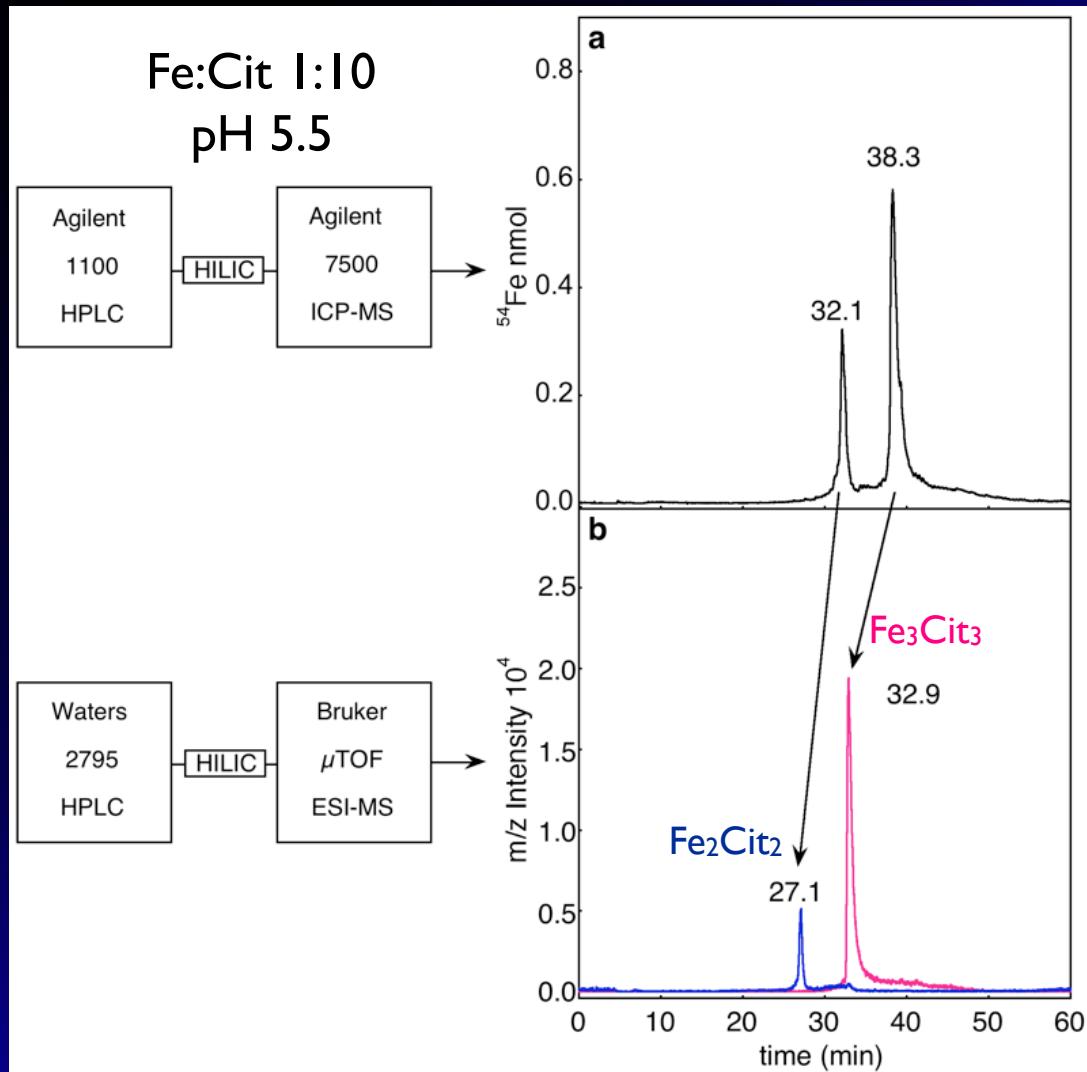
# Electrospray Ionization and HPLC Optimization

## □ Results



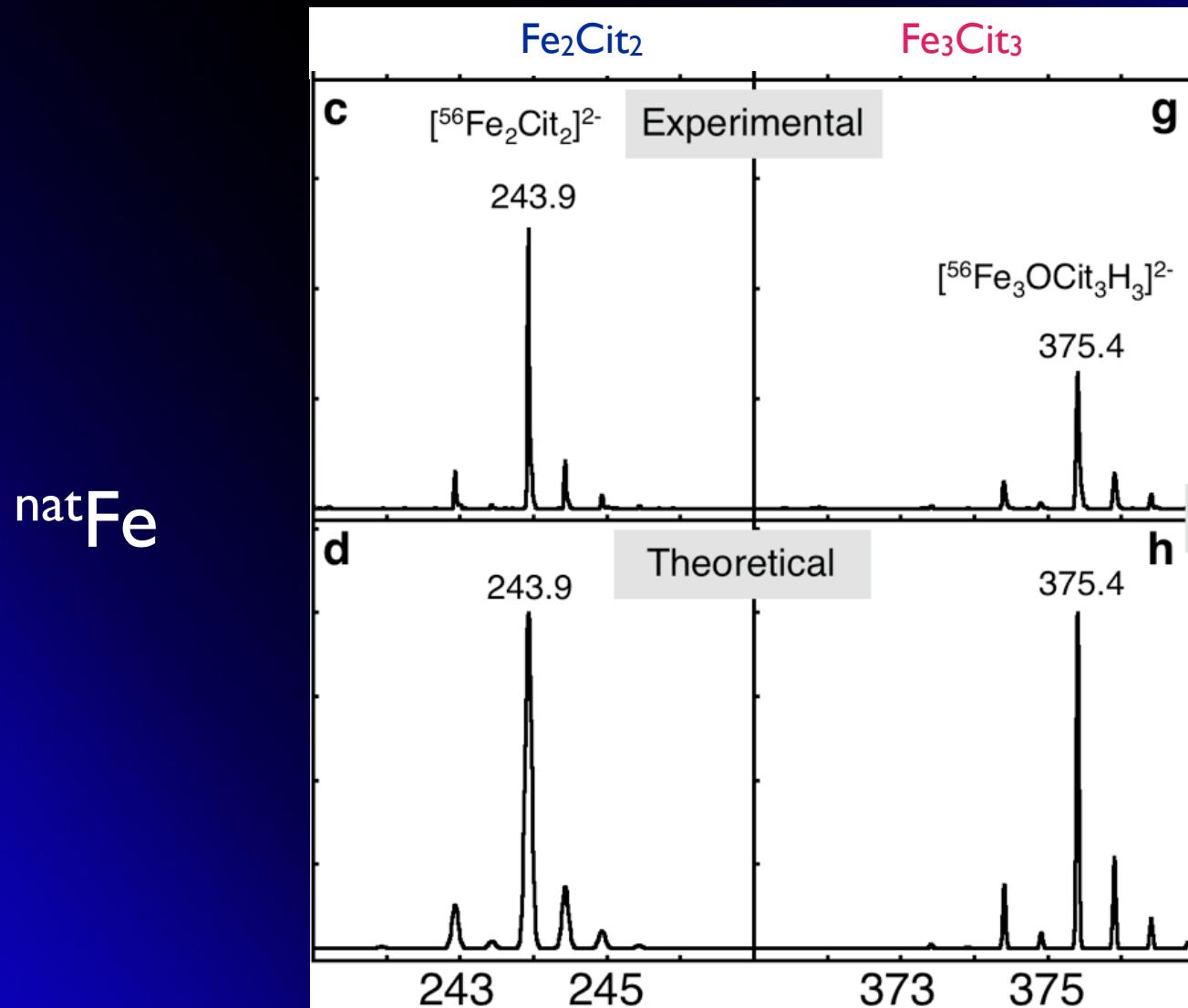
# ESI and HPLC Optimization of Standard Solutions

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellan-Alvarez et al *in press*



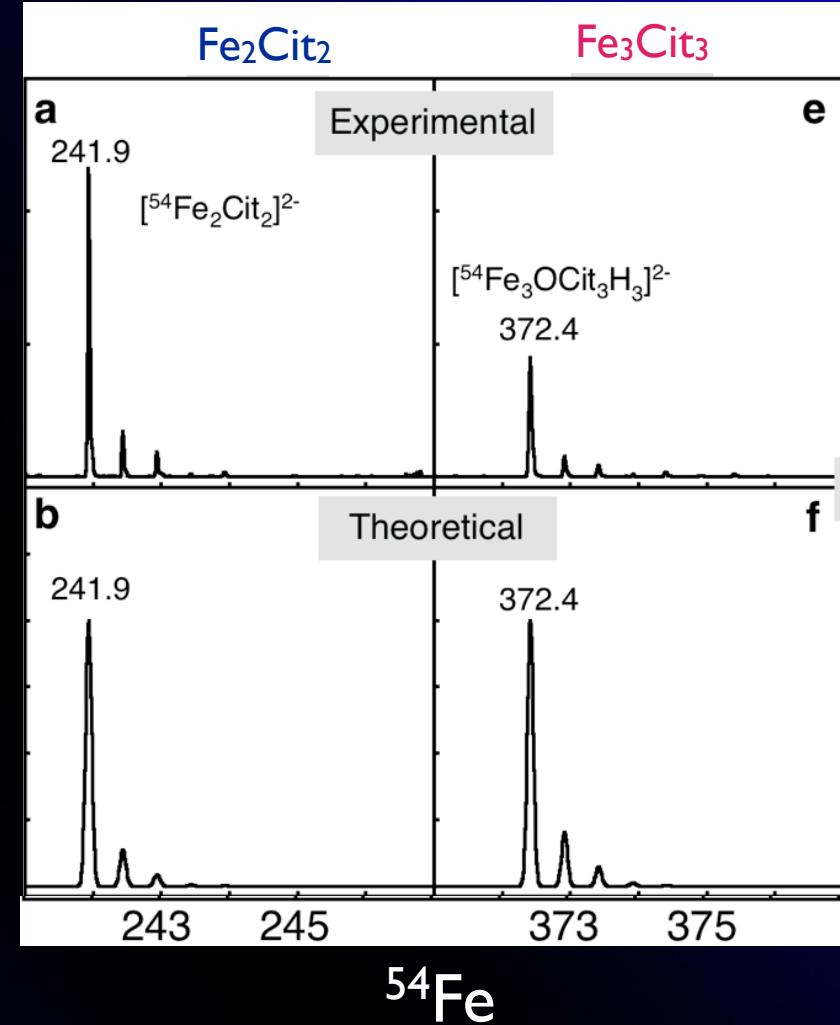
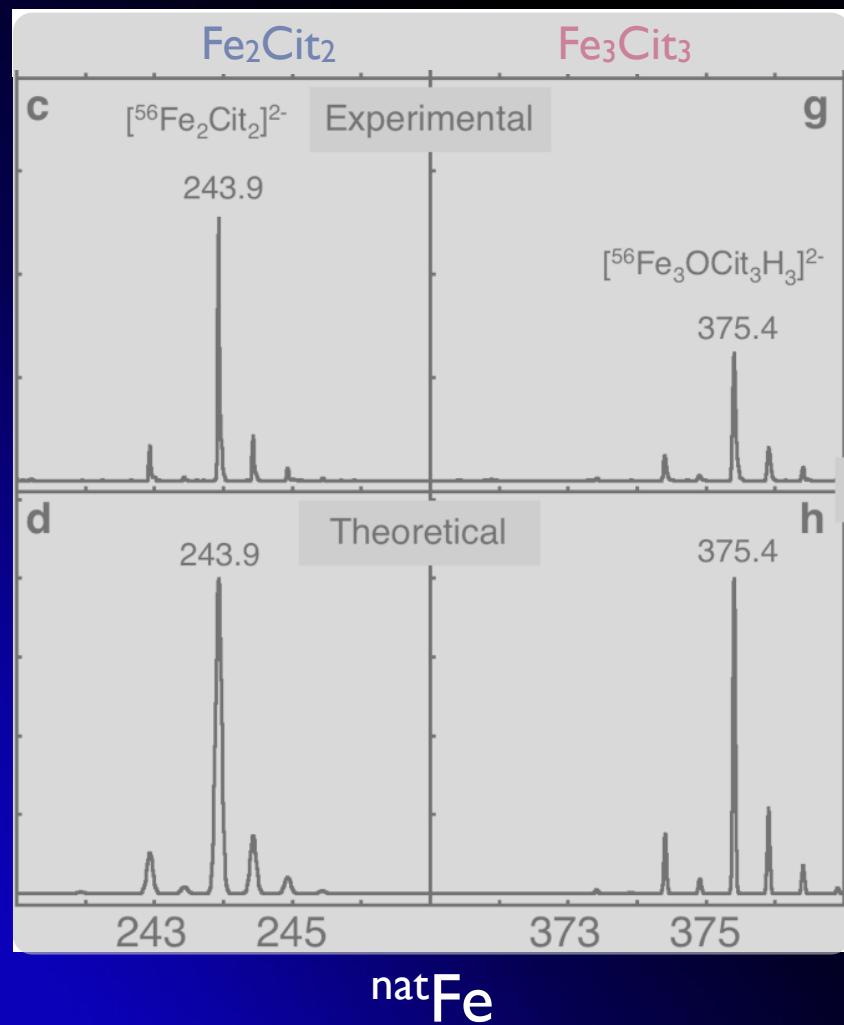
# Isotopic signature

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*



# Isotopic signature

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*

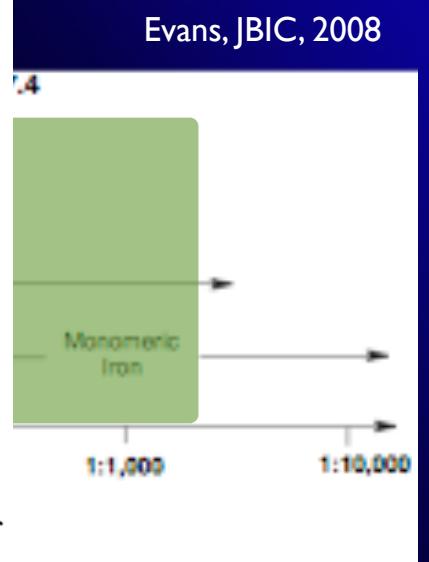
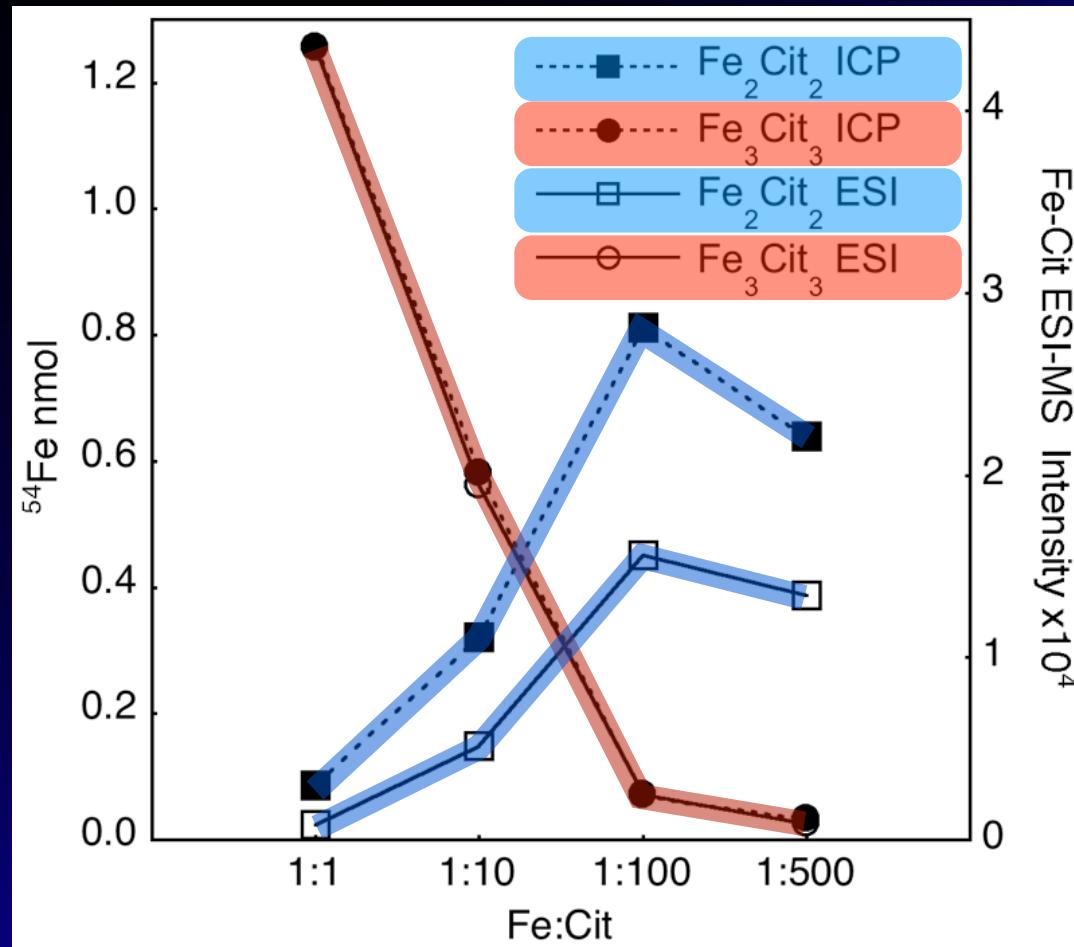


# Isotopic signature and molecular formula determination

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellan-Alvarez et al *in press*

Measured m/z	$^{56}\text{Fe}/^{54}\text{Fe}$ (Fe atoms) <sup>a</sup>	Charge <sup>b</sup>	Molecular formula	Calculated m/z	Error m/z (ppm)	SigmaFit™ value	Molecular ion
Standard solutions							
241.9362	-	-2	$^{54}\text{Fe}_2\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{O}_{14}$	241.9359	2.1	0.0234	$[\text{Fe}_2\text{Cit}_2]^{2-}$
372.4119	-	-2	$^{54}\text{Fe}_3\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_{21}$	372.4127	2.3	0.0273	$[\text{Fe}_3\text{Cit}_3\text{H}]^{2-}$
243.9311	7.4 (2)	-2	$^{56}\text{Fe}_2\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{O}_{14}$	243.9311	1.7	0.0165	$[\text{Fe}_2\text{Cit}_2]^{2-}$
375.4047	5.2 (3)	-2	$^{56}\text{Fe}_3\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_{22}$	375.4057	1.7	0.0284	$[\text{Fe}_3\text{OCit}_3\text{H}_3]^{2-}$

# Fe:Cit ratios drive the formation of Fe-Cit complexes



# Plant Material

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*



**Tomato Fe-deficient Plants  
Resupplied with Fe 45  $\mu\text{M}$**

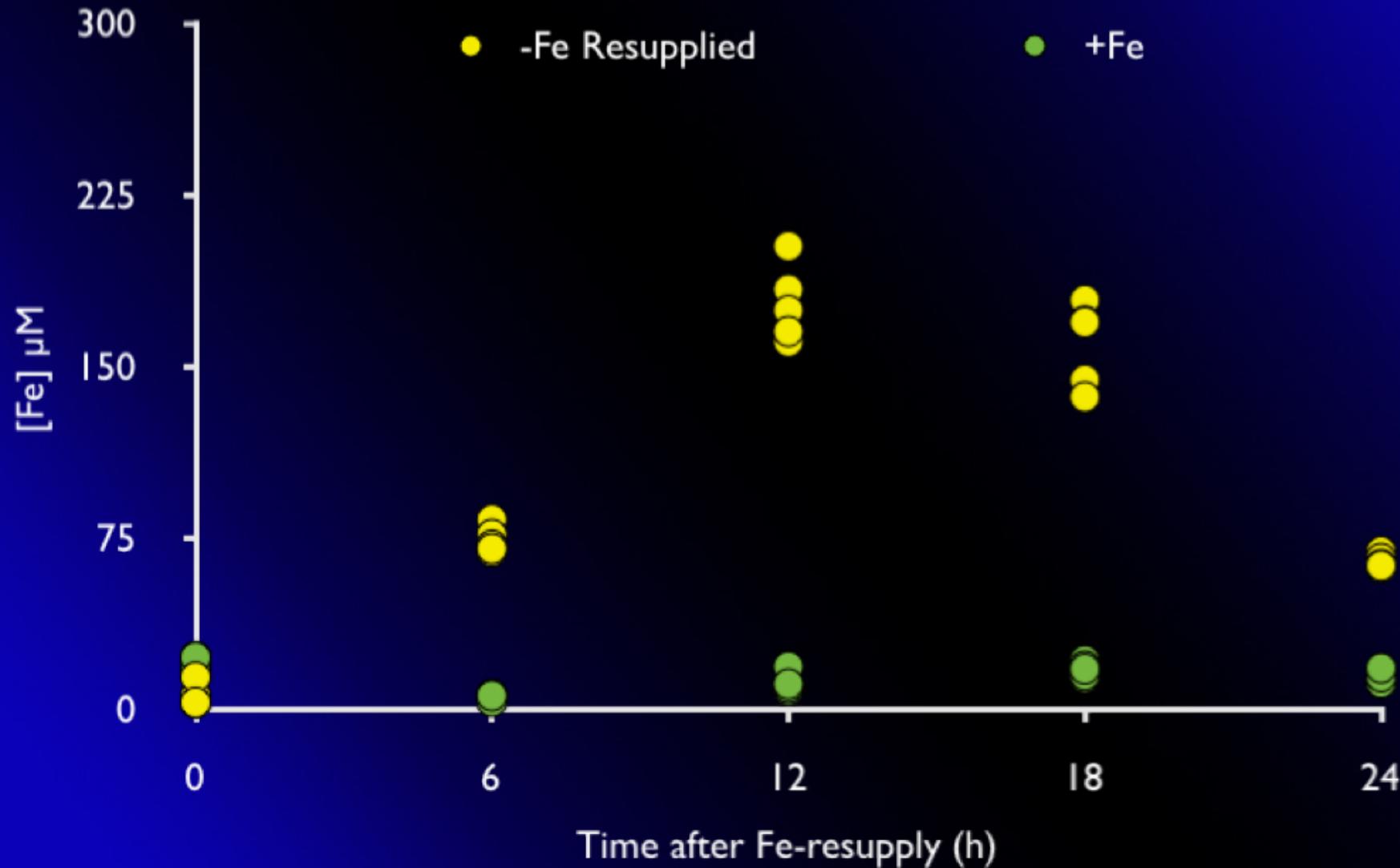
# Xylem Collection

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*



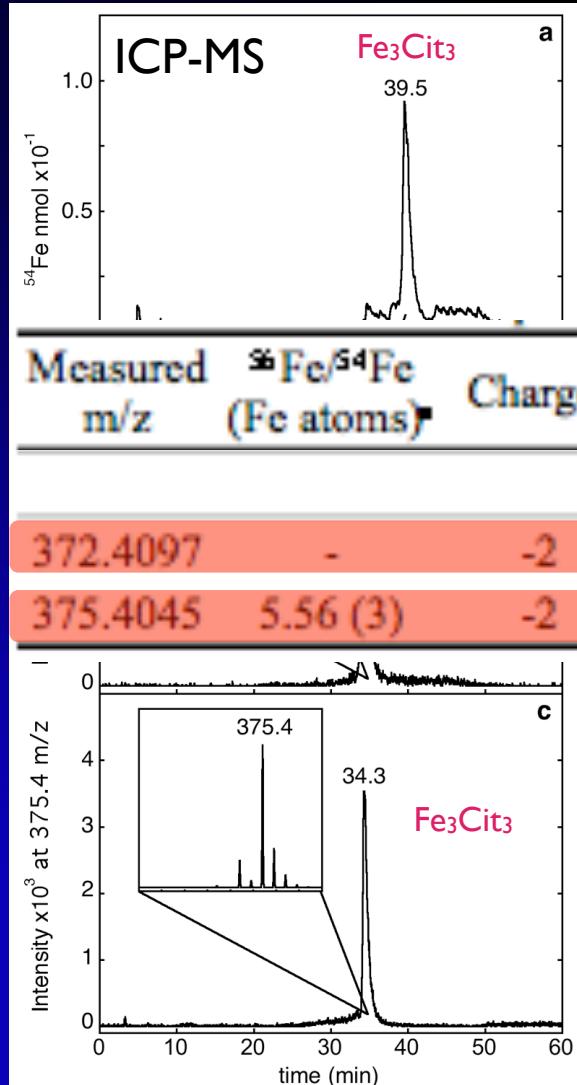
# Xylem Fe Concentration

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*

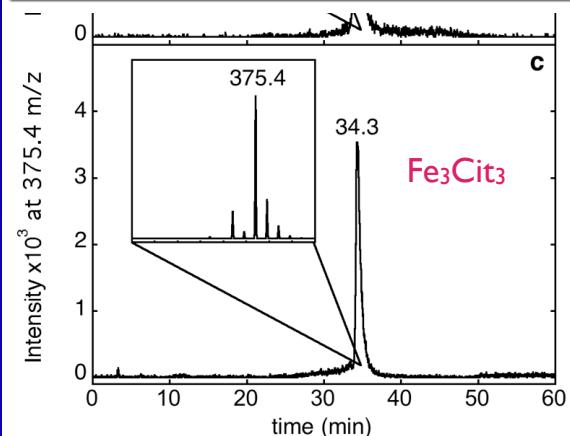


# Tomato Xylem Sap samples

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellan-Alvarez et al *in press*

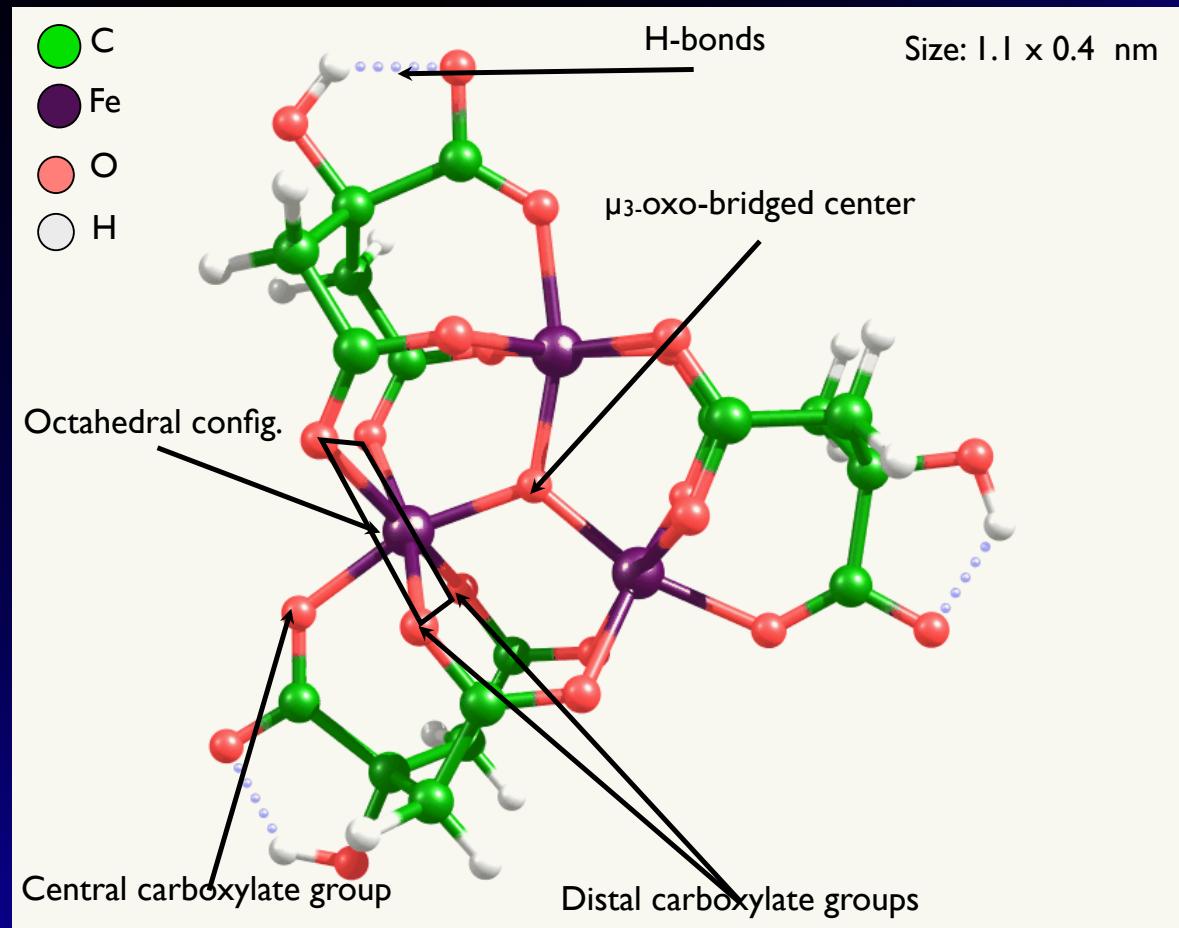


Measured m/z	$^{56}\text{Fe}/^{54}\text{Fe}$ (Fe atoms)	Charge <sup>b</sup>	Molecular formula	Calculated m/z	Error m/z (ppm)	SigmaFit™ value	Molecular ion
<b>Xylem sap</b>							
372.4097	-	-2	$^{54}\text{Fe}_3\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_{22}$	372.4057	8.2	0.0283	$[^{54}\text{Fe}_3\text{OCit}_3\text{H}_3]^{2-}$
375.4045	5.56 (3)	-2	$^{56}\text{Fe}_3\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_{22}$	375.4057	6.8	0.0197	$[^{56}\text{Fe}_3\text{OCit}_3\text{H}_3]^{2-}$



# An oxo-bridged $\text{Fe}_3\text{Cit}_3$ complex

Fe-Cit in xylem  
Rellán-Alvarez et al *in press*



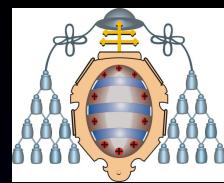
# Gràcies!



**Plant Stress Physiology**



Javier Abadía



University of Oviedo

Ana Álvarez



Justo Giner



University of Zaragoza

ICMA

Jesús Orduna



Irene Orera



Jose. I. García



J.A. Rodríguez



UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA  
DE MADRID

UAM, Madrid

Luis E. Hernández

Sandra Carrasco



VII Jornada de Fisiología Vegetal 06-Noviembre-2009  
Societat Catalana de Biología Vegetal

