

# The Development of Untargeted Metabolite Profiling Methodology for the Analysis of Type-2 Diabetes Patient Plasma

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## Introduction

- Greater than 400 million adults are living with diabetes worldwide
- Diabetes is a major cause of blindness, kidney failure, heart attacks, strokes, and lower limb amputations
- Type 2 diabetes (T2D) accounts for about 90% of cases
- Current T2D monitoring: 1) Blood glucose, 2) periodic glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c), and 3) self-reporting
- There is a critical need for T2D biomarkers for early disease detection

## Objectives

- To use automated sample preparation and GC- and GCxGC-TOFMS analysis to collect plasma sample data
- To use statistical processing software for the identification of potential T2D biomarkers

## Instrument Acquisition Parameters & Data Processing

Table 1. BT 4D instrument acquisition parameters.

Gas Chromatograph	Agilent 7890 and L-PAL 3 Autosampler
Injection	1.0 µL (Split 30:1; 250 °C)
Carrier Gas	He @ 1.4 mL/min, Constant Flow
Columns (1 <sup>st</sup> Dimension) (2 <sup>nd</sup> Dimension)	Rxi-5ms, 30 m x 0.25 mm i.d. x 0.25 µm (Restek) Rxi-17 sil ms 0.6 m x 0.25 mm i.d. x 0.25 µm (Restek)
Temperature Program	50 °C (1 min), ramped 5 °C/min to 150 °C (2 min), ramped 10 °C/min to 300 °C (12 min) Secondary oven maintained + 5 °C relative to primary oven
Modulation	3 s with temperature maintained +15 °C relative to secondary oven
Mass Spectrometer	LECO Pegasus BT 4D
Ion Source Temperature	250 °C
Ionization Mode	EI
Mass Range (m/z)	45-650
Acquisition Rate	1D: 12 spectra/s; 2D: 200 spectra/s

## GC → GCxGC-TOFMS Data: More Metabolites Identified

Table 2. Database search results for GC- and GCxGC-TOFMS of a control plasma sample.

Name	GC-TOFMS	GCxGC-TOFMS
Aspartic acid, 3TMS	662	897
Methionine, 2TMS		902
Creatinine enol, 3TMS		786
Phenylalanine, 2TMS	747	901
Galactopyranose, 5TMS		791
Ornithine, 4TMS	762	922
1,5-Anhydroglucitol, 4TMS	935	932
2'-Hydroxy-5'-methylacetophenone, TMS		767

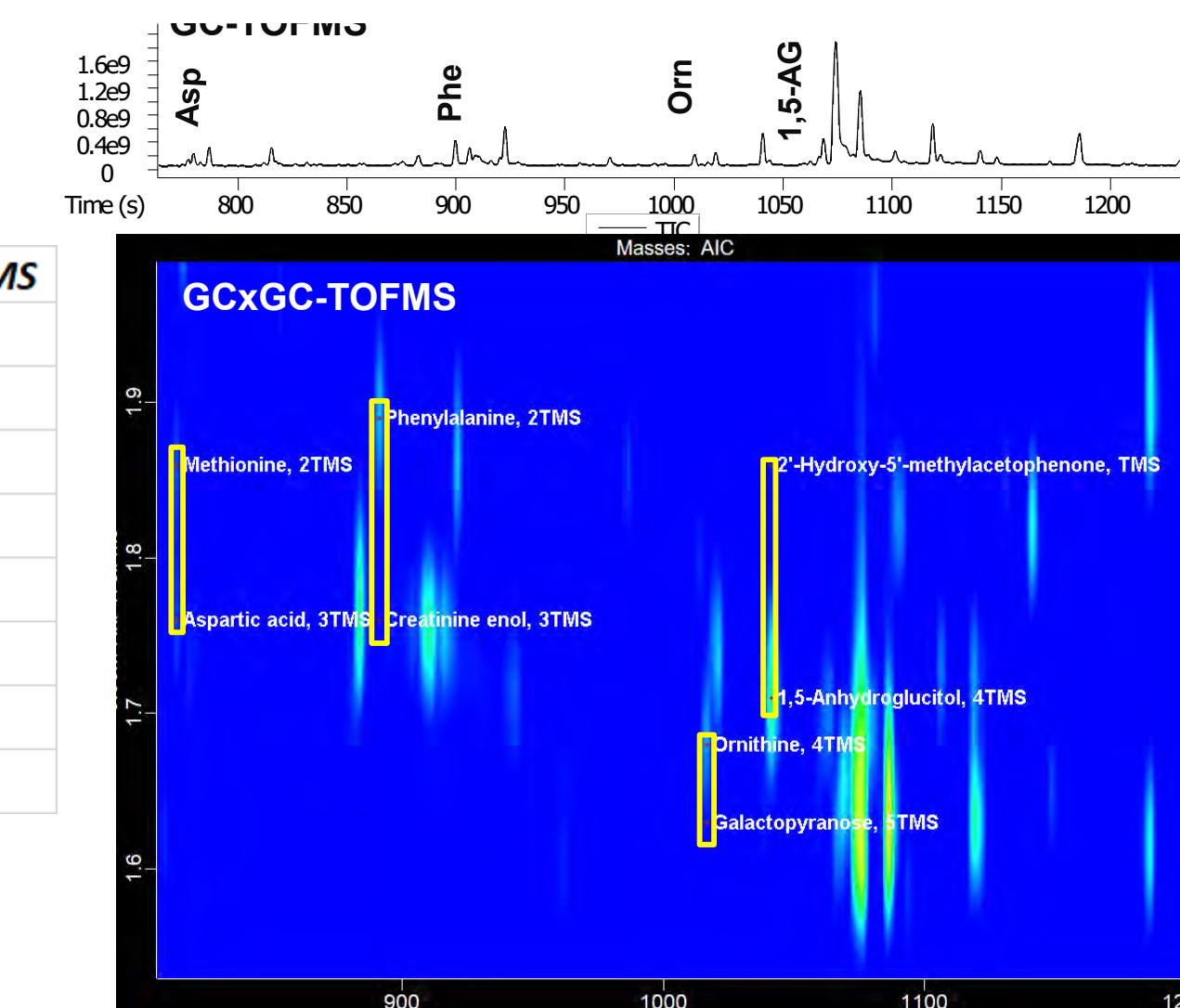


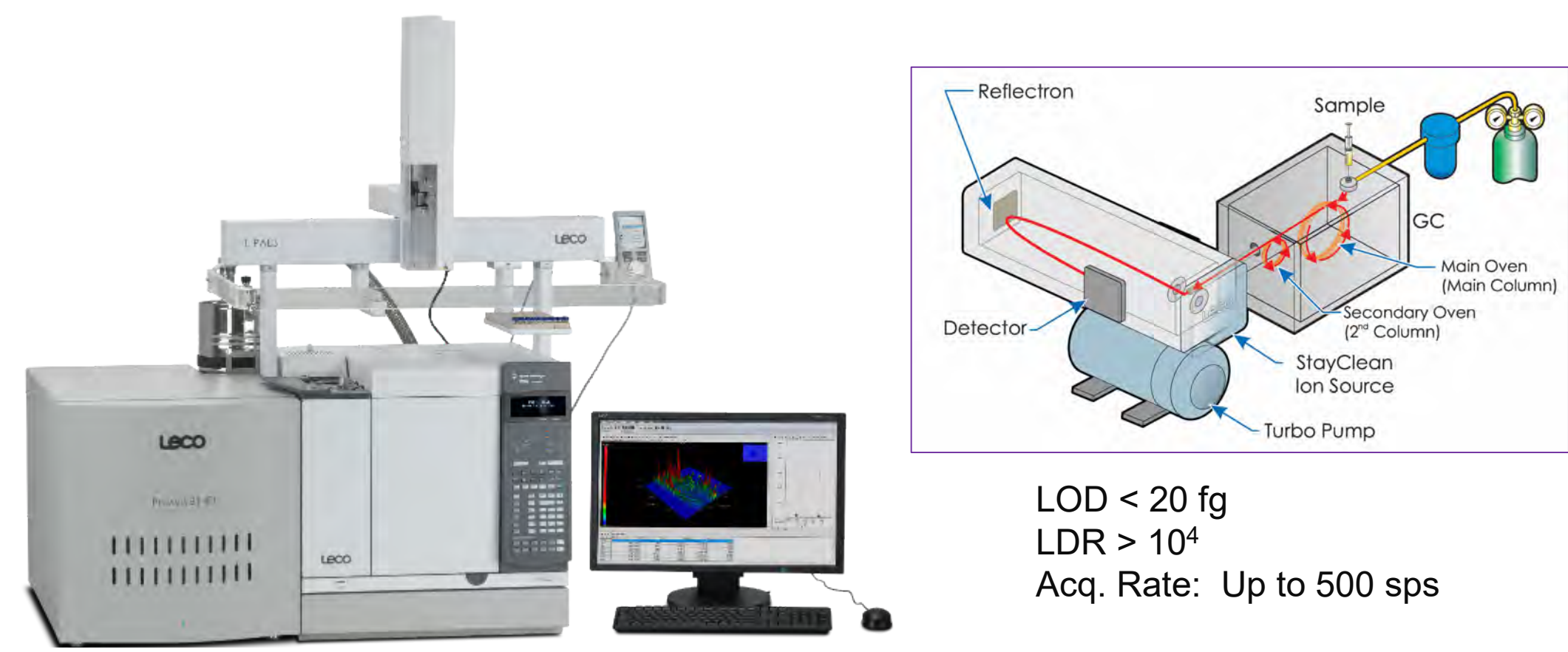
Figure 6. A comparison of a GC-TOFMS TIC and GCxGC-TOFMS contour plot for a control Plasma sample.

Table 3. Representative compounds in a control plasma sample.

Name	Formula	R.T. (s)	Similarity	Name	Formula	R.T. (s)	Similarity	Name	Formula	R.T. (s)	Similarity
Lactic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	430, 1.743	916	Timonaco, 2TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>18</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	782.5, 1.945	853	Mistidine, 3TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1080, 1.961	864
Glycolic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	442.5, 1.742	910	Malic acid, 3TMS derivative	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	790, 1.753	921	Glucose, (1D), MOX STMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1085, 1.634	913
Benzoic acid, methyl ester	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	462.5, 2.250	939	Pyruglutamic acid, TMS derivative	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>16</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	792.5, 2.207	896	L-Tyrosine, 3TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1090, 1.824	924
L-Alanine, 2TMS	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	467.5, 1.704	927	Adipic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	797.5, 1.847	842	D-Mannitol, 6TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1092.5, 1.587	928
2-Hydroxybutyric acid, 2TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	492.5, 1.707	917	Erythritol, 4TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	807.5, 1.621	931	Ethyl α-D-glucopyranoside, 4TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>6</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1092.5, 1.682	874
Oxalic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	495, 1.853	898	Aspartic acid, 3TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	812.5, 1.759	897	Glucuronic acid, MOX STMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1097.5, 1.668	816
Sarcosine, 2TMS	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	500, 1.726	882	Methionine, 2TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	812.5, 1.857	902	Glucopyranose, 5TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1117.5, 1.633	927
2-Ethylhexanoic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	522.5, 1.739	869	cis-4-Hydroxy-L-proline, 3TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	817.5, 1.727	808	Palmitic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1130, 1.856	909
α-Hydroxyisovaleric acid, 2TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	525, 1.699	938	L-Cysteine, 3TMS	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	840, 1.785	899	Xanthine, 3TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1137.5, 2.138	920
2-Aminobutanoic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	532.5, 1.702	918	Anthranilic acid, 2TMS derivative	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	880, 1.966	784	Palmitic Acid, TMS	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1140, 1.821	920
2-Ketoisocaproic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	567.5, 1.894	908	L-Glutamic acid, 3TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	882.5, 1.763	916	5-Hydroxytryptophan, 4TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1142.5, 2.051	832
L-Valine, 2TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	570, 1.703	922	L-Glutamic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	890, 1.761	786	L-Citrulline, 3TMS	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1180, 1.997	813
Benzoic acid, TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	595, 2.023	898	Phenylalanine, 2TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	890, 1.893	901	Scyllo-Inositol, 6TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1185, 1.616	898
Niacin, TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>10</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	615, 2.054	845	Paracetamol, 2TMS	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	892.5, 1.894	899	O-Desmethylnaproxen, 2TMS	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>15</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1212.5, 2.102	853
L-Leucine, 2TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>20</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	617.5, 1.704	935	Taurine, 3TMS	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	920, 1.885	842	Indole-3-lactic acid, 3TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>13</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1225, 1.999	824
L-Tyrosine, 2TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	635, 1.708	911	L-Lysine, 3TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	942.5, 1.714	836	9-Octadecenoic acid, (E)-, TMS	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>34</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1232.5, 1.871	858
Benzeneacetic acid, TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	637.5, 2.007	830	Cotinine	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	947.5, 3.083	922	Stearic acid, TMS	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1245, 1.831	901
L-Proline, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	640, 1.794	894	Adonitol, 5TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	952.5, 1.608	820	L-Tryptophan, 3TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1247.5, 1.992	921
Glycine, 3TMS	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	647.5, 1.714	911	Xylitol, 5TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	960, 1.600	925	Methyl linolealdate	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1255, 1.925	808
Succinic acid, 2TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	650, 1.850	913	L-Glutamine, 3TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	985, 1.855	884	L-Cystine, 4TMS	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1285, 1.825	860
Glyceric acid, 3TMS	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	667.5, 1.714	909	9H-Purin-6-ol, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1007.5, 2.202	891	Benzoylglutamine, TMS	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1292.5, 2.452	891
Nonanoic acid, TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	685, 1.801	864	L-3-Methylhistidine, 2TMS derivative	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1010, 2.173	829	Arachidonic acid, TMS	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1312.5, 1.961	903
Serine, 3TMS	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	692.5, 1.698	909	Ornithine, 4TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1015, 1.684	922	Myo-Inositol, phosphate, 7TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> PSi <sub>2</sub>	1355, 1.674	853
N-Formylglycine, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	702.5, 1.989	871	Citric acid, 4TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1020, 1.736	870	Uridine, 4TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1360, 1.929	828
L-Threonine, 3TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	712.5, 1.688	927	Myristic acid, TMS	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1025, 1.809	917	Uridine, 3TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1362.5, 2.017	798
Glutaric acid, 2TMS	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	720, 1.852	871	Hippuric acid, TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1025, 2.208	803	Docosent, TMS	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1402.5, 2.035	913
(R)-5-Methylxanthine, 2TMS	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	725, 1.978	863	1,5-Anhydroglucitol, 4TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1040, 1.713	932	1-Monopalmitin, 2TMS	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1415, 1.808	838
2-Deoxyketonic acid, 3TMS	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	747.5, 1.705	893	2'-Hydroxy-5'-methylacetophenone, TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1040, 1.864	767	Sucrose, 8TMS	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>34</sub> O <sub>11</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1460, 1.614	831
Decanoic acid, TMS derivative	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	760, 1.804	877	Tyrosine, 2TMS	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1055, 2.029	798	γ-Tocopherol, TMS	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1597.5, 2.213	804
2-Aminomalonic acid, 3TMS	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	777.5, 1.807	910	α-D-Mannopyranose, 5TMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1067.5, 1.657	870	Cholest-5-en-3-ol, (3α)-, TMS	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>46</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1692.5, 2.658	843
Niacinamide, TMS	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	780, 2.305	884	Galactose, MOX STMS	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>2</sub>	1075, 1.630	913				

Ave. = 878

## Analytical Platform



LECO Pegasus® BT 4D

Figure 1. GC- and GCxGC-TOFMS Instrument.

## Sample Extraction & Automated Derivatization

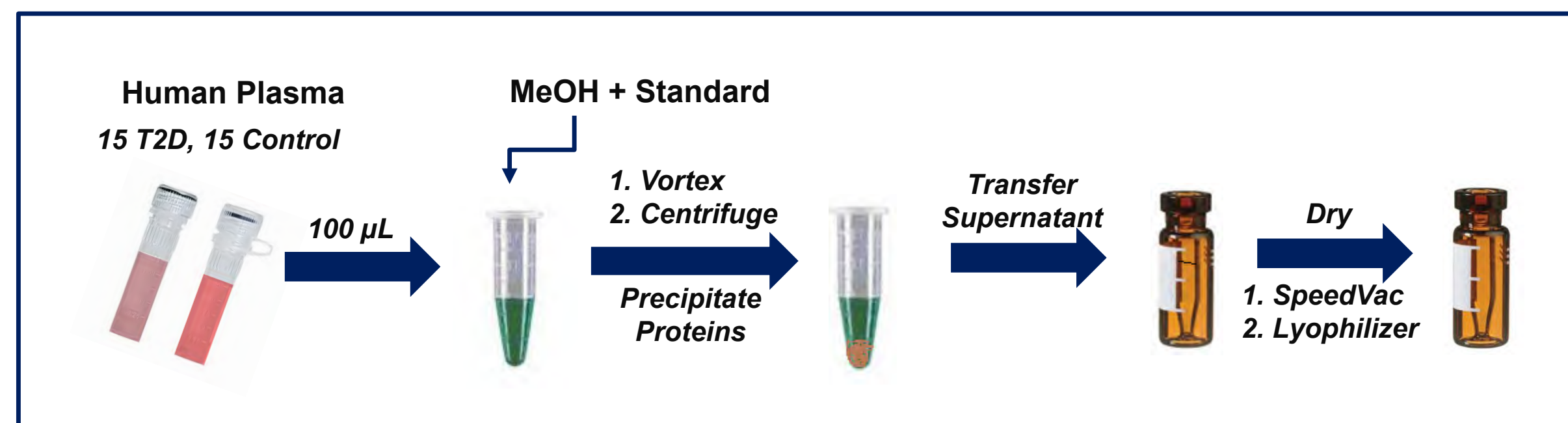


Figure 2. Plasma general extraction procedure.

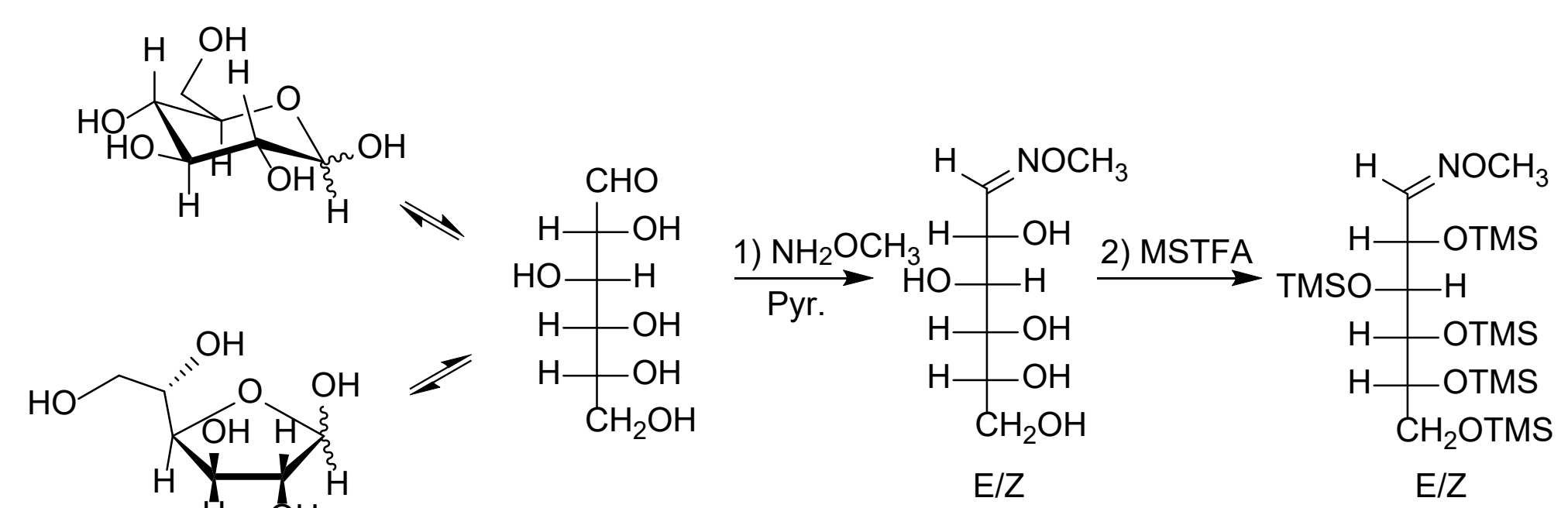


Figure 3. Two-step derivatization of glucose.

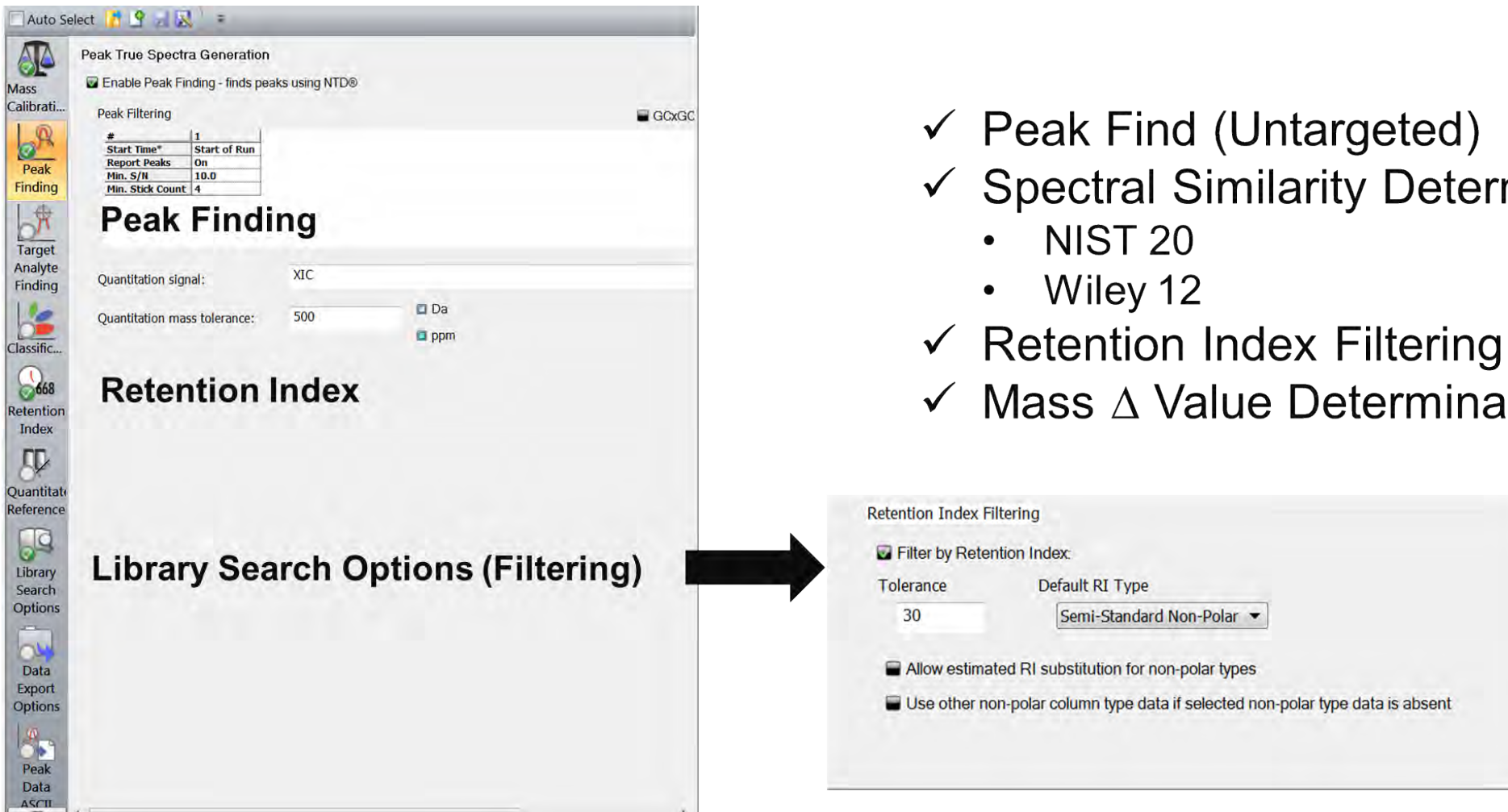


Figure 4. Untargeted processing of comprehensive data.

## Results and Discussion

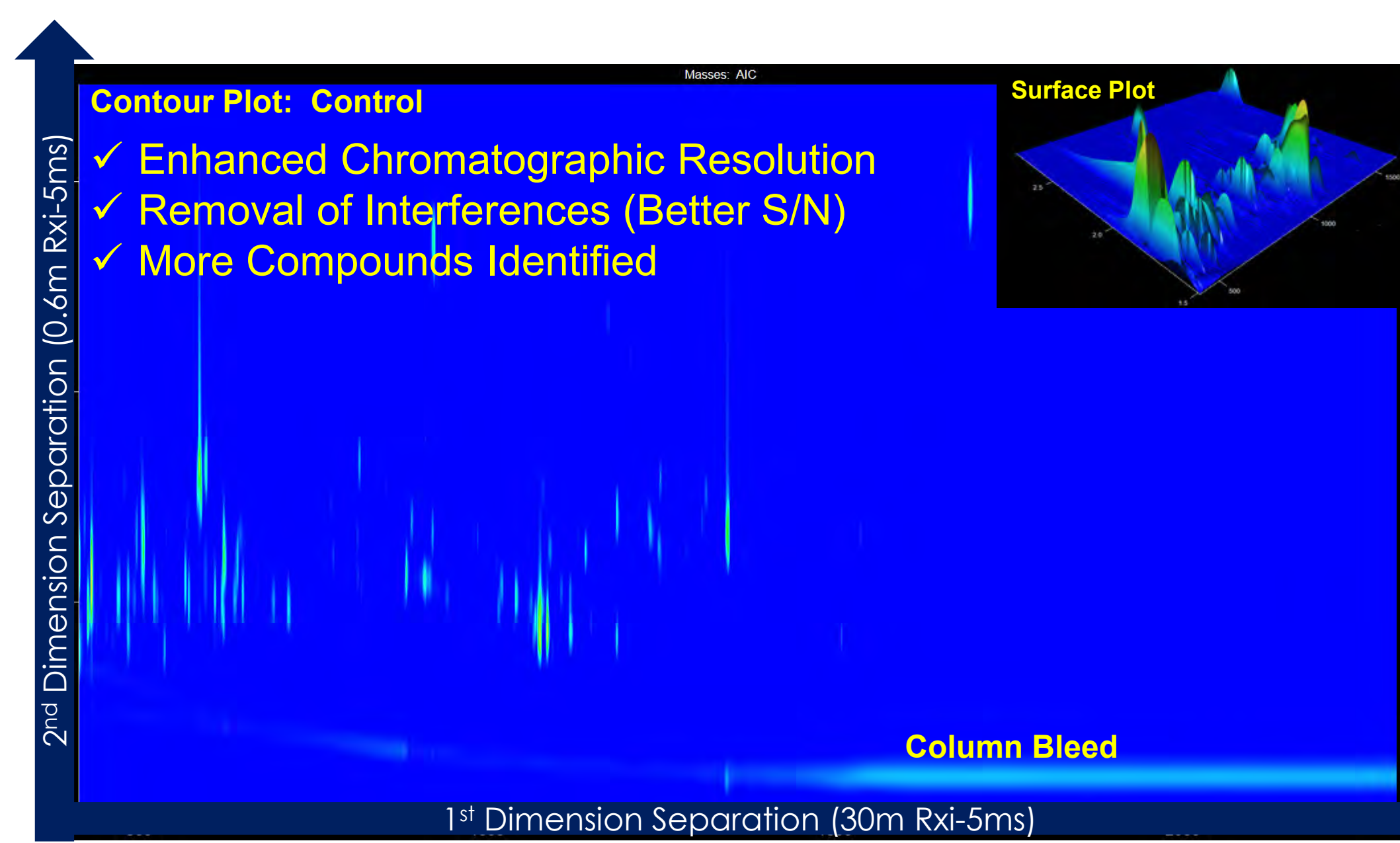


Figure 5. EI contour plot for a control sample.

## Compound Identification

- Database Comparisons + Mass Delta Calculations

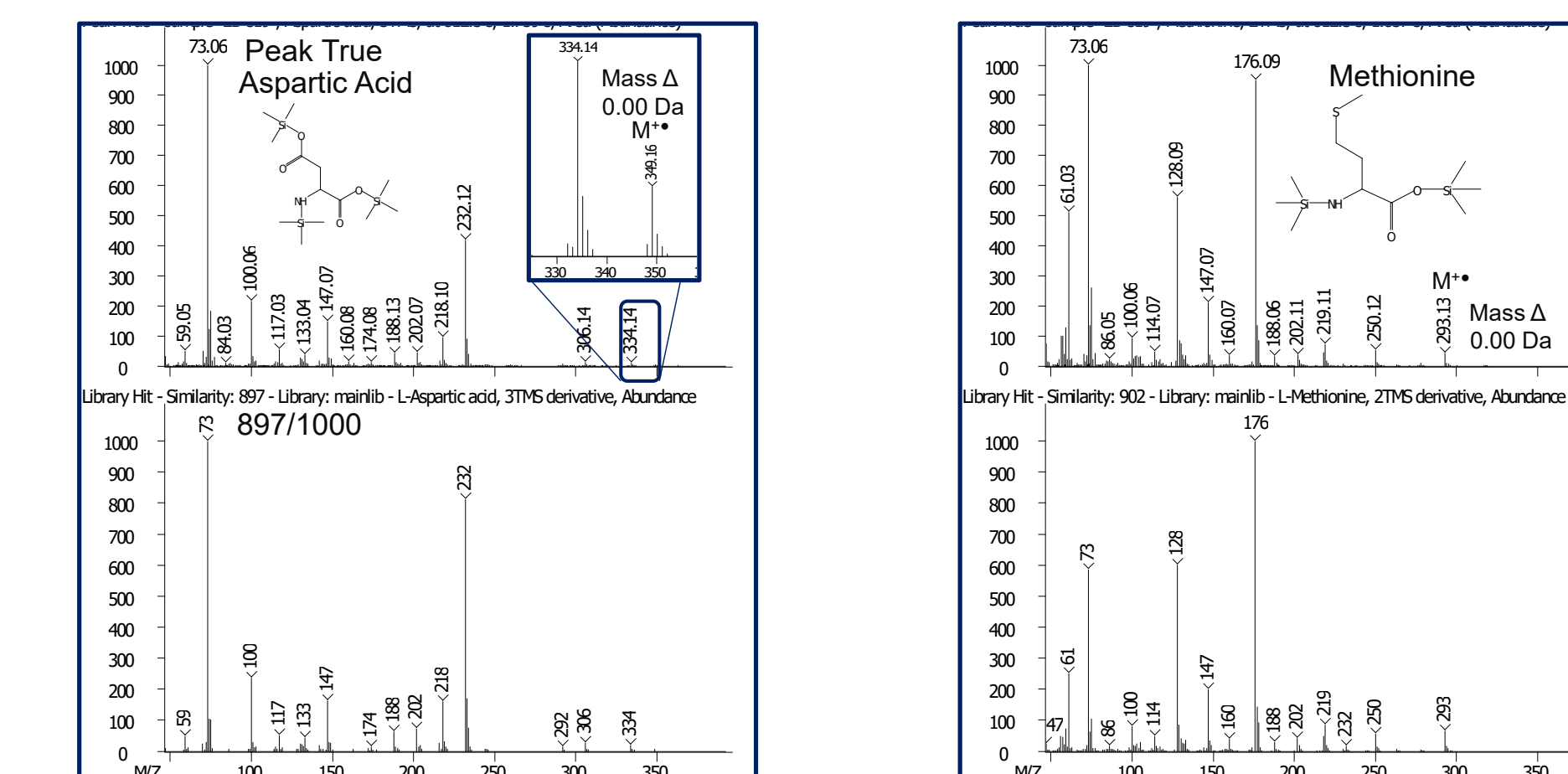


Figure 7. Peak True (Deconvoluted) and library mass spectra for aspartic acid (left) and methionine (right). The spectral similarity values were 897 and 902/1000 respectively. The mass delta values for the molecular ions was zero.

## Compound Identification

- Database Comparisons + Mass Delta Calculations + RI Filtering

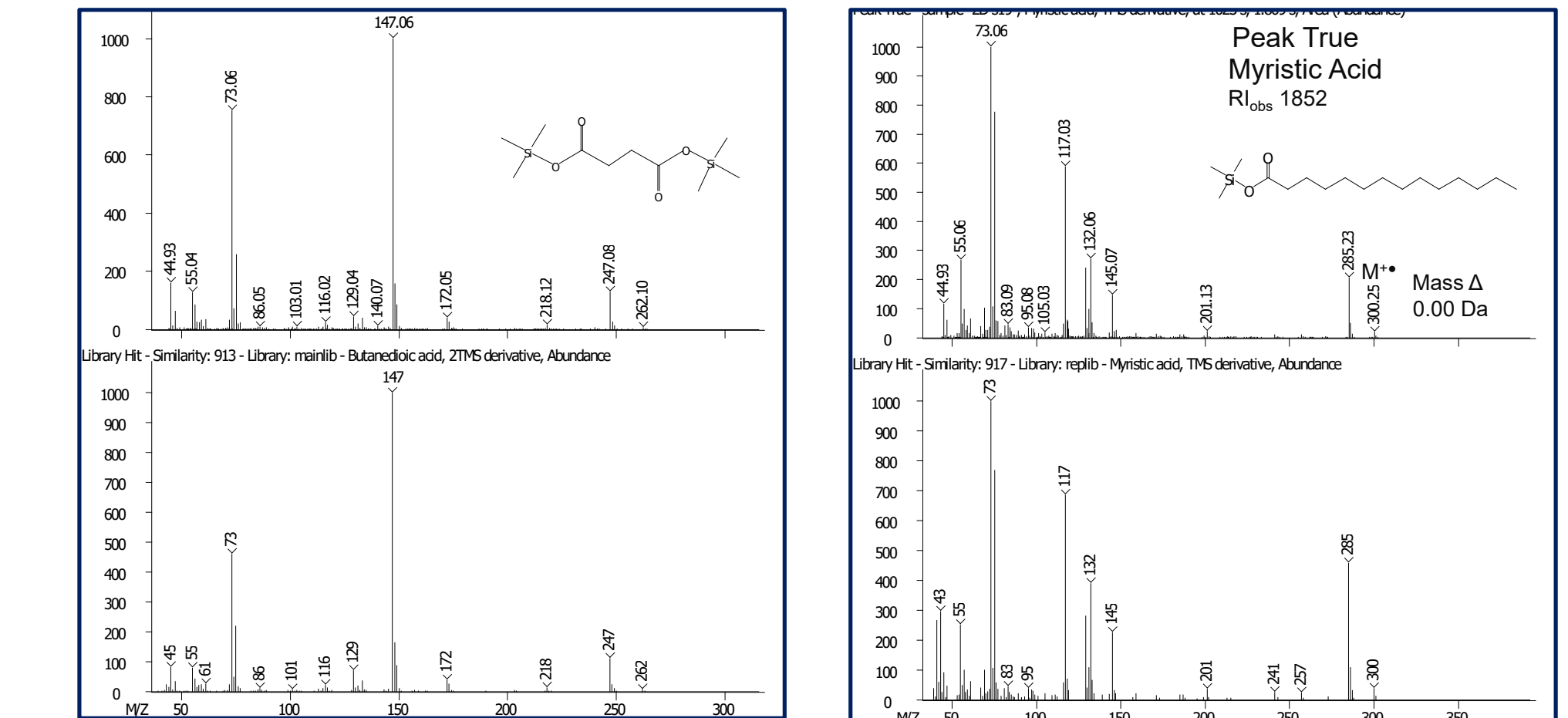
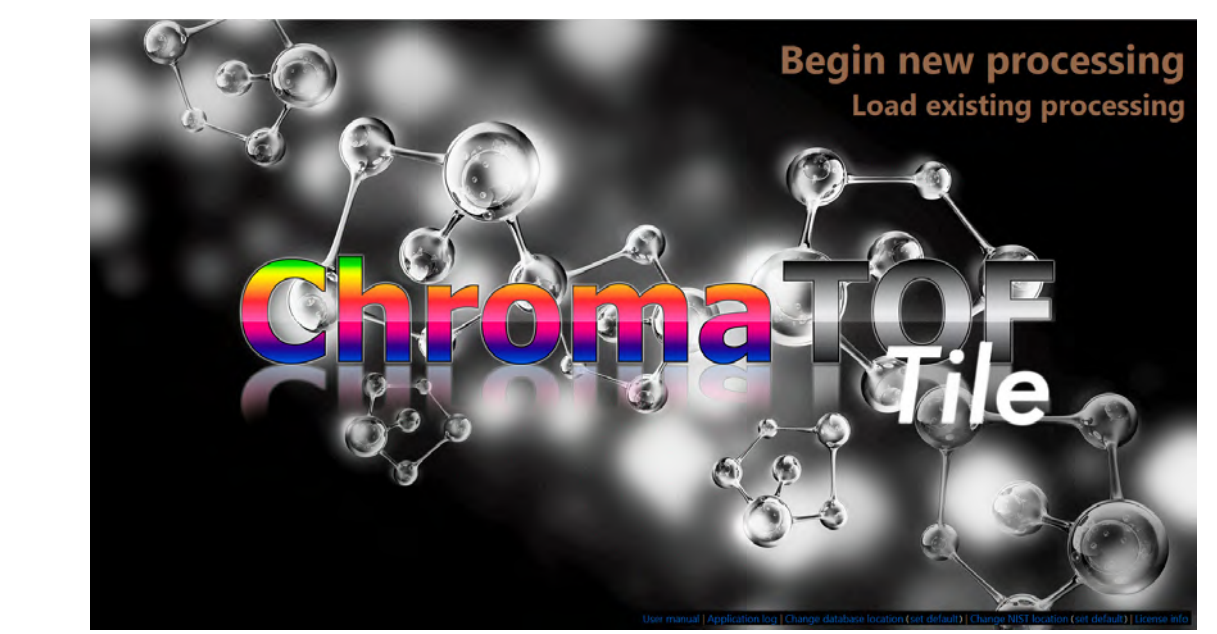


Figure 8. Peak True (Deconvoluted) and library mass spectra for succinic acid (left) and myristic acid (right). The spectral similarity values were 913 and 917/1000 respectively. The mass delta values for the molecular ions was zero. The observed RI values were 1319 (Library RI = 1321) and 1852 (Library RI = 1850) respectively.

## Statistical Processing



analytical chemistry

The Based Fisher Ratio Analysis of Comprehensive Two-Dimensional Gas Chromatography Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (GCxGC-TOFMS) Data using a Multi-Distribution Approach  
Breider A. Peiris, Luke S. Narey, B. Chingapong Singler, James C. Hooper, John C. Hooper and Robert C. Colquhoun  
Anal. Chem. 2016, 87, 7, 3812-3819.

$$\text{Fisher Ratio} = \frac{\sigma_{cl}^2}{\sigma_{err}^2} = \frac{\text{class to class variation}}{\text{within class variation}}$$

Figure 9. ChromaTOF® Tile statistical processing software.

## Statistical Results

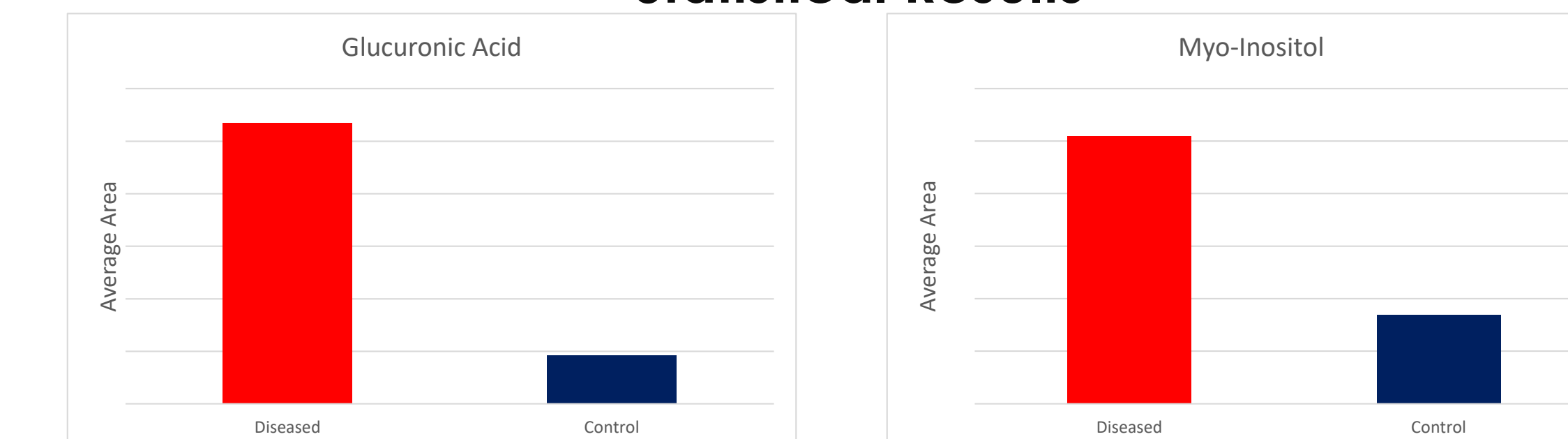


Figure 10. ChromaTOF Tile results showing elevated levels of glucuronic acid and myo-inositol in diseased samples.

## Summary

- We developed analytical methodology for the analysis of T2D plasma samples.
- The method included automated sample derivatization, data collection, and processing, as well as statistical analysis with ChromaTOF Tile software.