



PFAS Analysis Using High Resolution Accurate Mass Spectrometry

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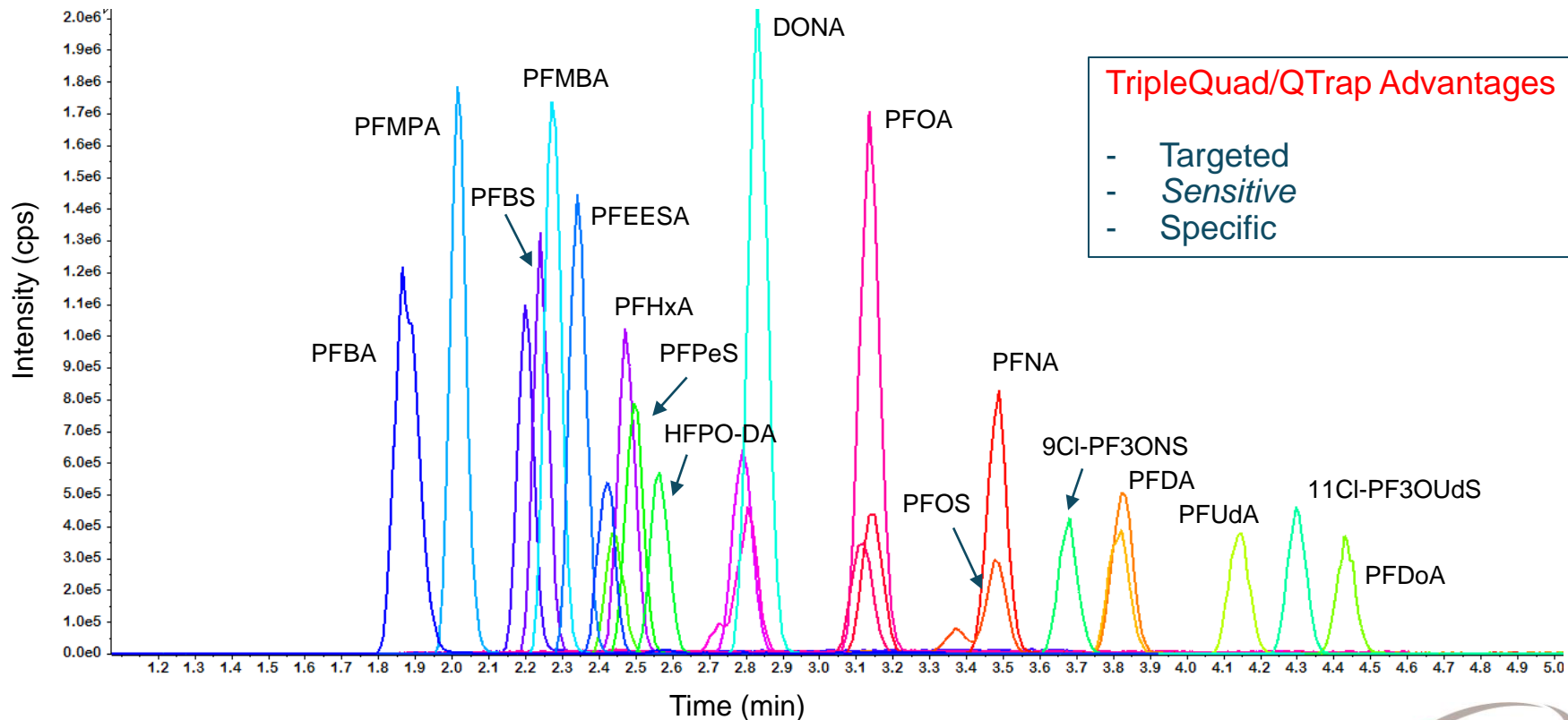
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The Power of Precision

Outline

- What additional information can HRMS provide for PFAS analysis?
- Targeted MRMHR Acquisition
 - Similar to MRM acquisition but monitoring high resolution fragments
- Non-Target Analysis Using SWATH™ Acquisition
 - Unknown ID using MS/MS fragmentation spectra (GenX impacted)
 - MS/MS library matching in AFFF-impacted groundwater

EPA Method 533 Mix: 25 ppb (SCIEX 5500+ TripleQuad)



Unique Features of a HRAM QTOF versus TripleQuad MS

- Q1 (mass filter) and Q2 (collision cell) are same as TripleQuad
- Q3 is replaced by very fast scanning time-of-flight tube (TOF)
 - Allows for *high quality, high resolution* full scan MS data
 - Precursor scans (TOF MS) and Fragment Scans (TOF MSMS)
- Applications:
 - High resolution MRM Quantitation; HRAM fragments results in greater compound specificity
 - Non-Target Acquisition with Suspect Screening; HRAM product scan for compound confirmation
 - Unknown Compound ID



SCIEX X500R QTOF System

DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS AND DETAILS

Heated Chamber & N-Shaped Flight Path

Minimized height, flight chamber heated to 60°C to maintain mass accuracy.

TwinSpray

An independent calibrant delivery path for reliable auto-calibration.

Legendary Turbo V source and Curtain Gas interface

Renowned ionization performance and ruggedness for high sensitivity and sample throughput

Minimized footprint

The benchtop stature (110 x 57 x 112 cm)* occupies less lab space than any other HRMS system on the market.

Integrated calibration

~1.5 min for mass calibration; negligible impact on batch time.

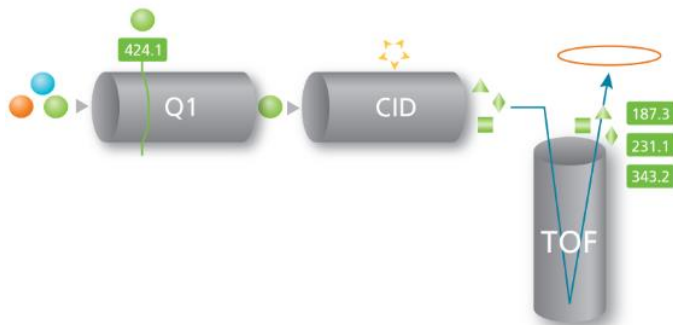


MRM^{HR}: Targeted Acquisition



Targeted Acquisition: MRM^{HR} Acquisition Method

HIGH RESOLUTION FRAGMENT IONS



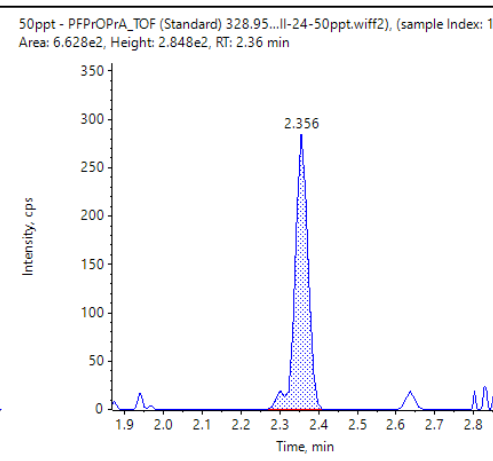
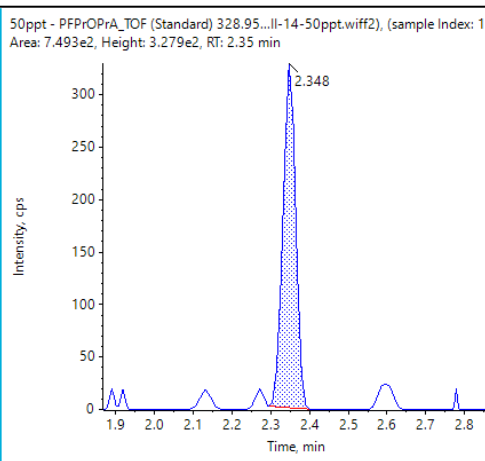
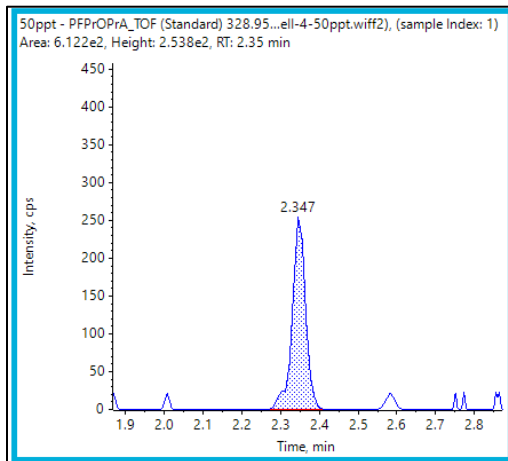
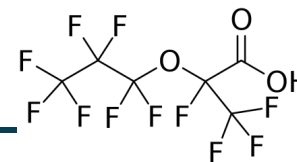
- High resolution fragment ions results in greater compound specificity
- Optimized CE for each MRM
- Scheduled MRM capability to minimize scan time; unique retention time window for each MRM
- Increased method flexibility

TOF MSMS

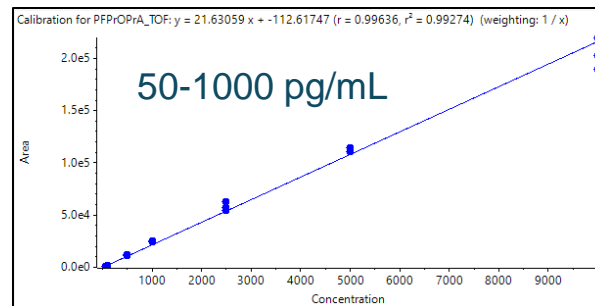
Mass Table Apply fragment ion mass Apply TOF start/stop mass Apply Scan Schedule [Import and autofill...](#) [Sort by precursor ion](#)

	Compound ID	Group name	Precursor ion (Da)	Fragment ion (Da)	Accumul...	Declusteri...	Collision energy (V)	Retention time (min)	Retention ti...
1	A5760 1	A5760	205.97	122.0255	0.1500	-100	-20	3.40	30
2	A5760 2	A5760	205.97	106.0305	0.1500	-100	-20	3.40	30
3	A5760 3	A5760	205.97	78.0354	0.1500	-100	-24	3.40	30
4	F4106 1	F4106	219.94	156.0239	0.1500	-60	-18	6.24	30
5	F4106 2	F4106	219.94	77.9664	0.1500	-60	-32	6.24	30
6	F4106 3	F4106	219.94	141.0004	0.1500	-60	-24	6.24	30
7	UJV12 1	UJV12	293.00	205.9705	0.1500	-60	-24	2.49	30
8	UJV12 2	UJV12	293.00	77.9662	0.1500	-60	-72	2.49	30
9	UJV12 3	UJV12	293.00	142.0080	0.1500	-60	-36	2.49	30
10	UNS90 1	UNS90	293.99	205.9688	0.1500	-60	-26	3.61	30
11	UNS90 2	UNS90	293.99	77.9657	0.1500	-60	-62	3.61	30
12	UNS90 3	UNS90	293.99	142.0073	0.1500	-60	-32	3.61	30
13	QZY47 1	QZY47	307.02	219.9870	0.1500	-60	-20	5.10	30
14	QZY47 2	QZY47	307.02	77.9668	0.1500	-60	-48	5.10	30
15	QZY47 3	QZY47	307.02	156.0244	0.1500	-60	-32	5.10	30

GenX (PFPrOPrA, HFPO-DA), TOF MS



Row	Component...	Actual...	Num...	Mean	Standa...	Percent CV	Accuracy	Value #1	Value #2	Value #3
1	PFPrOPrA_TOF	10.00	0 of 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	PFPrOPrA_TOF	25.00	0 of 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	PFPrOPrA_TOF	50.00	3 of 3	36.4	3.2	8.80	72.81	33.5	39.8	35.9
4	PFPrOPrA_TOF	100.00	3 of 3	97.8	6.1	6.25	97.84	94.6	104.9	94.0
5	PFPrOPrA_TOF	500.00	3 of 3	539.2	9.1	1.69	107.85	529.6	547.8	540.3
6	PFPrOPrA_TOF	1000.00	3 of 3	1151.4	22.2	1.93	115.14	1142.4	1176.7	1135.1
7	PFPrOPrA_TOF	2500.00	3 of 3	2713.9	198.8	7.33	108.55	2540.1	2930.7	2670.8
8	PFPrOPrA_TOF	5000.00	3 of 3	5170.1	110.3	2.13	103.40	5103.9	5109.0	5297.5
9	PFPrOPrA_TOF	10000.00	3 of 3	9441.1	686.4	7.27	94.41	8790.2	9375.1	10158.2

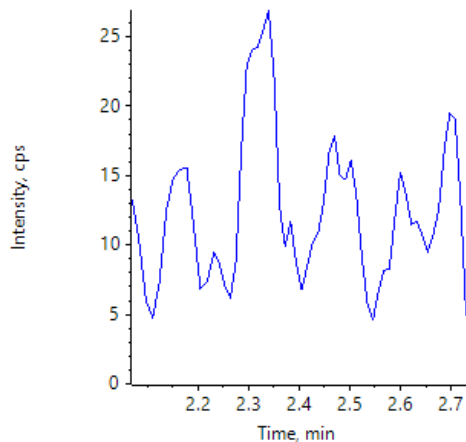


- TOF MS, C6HF11O3 [$m/z = 328.9677$], LOQ = 50 ppt

GenX (PFPrOPrA, HFPO-DA): MRMHR 1

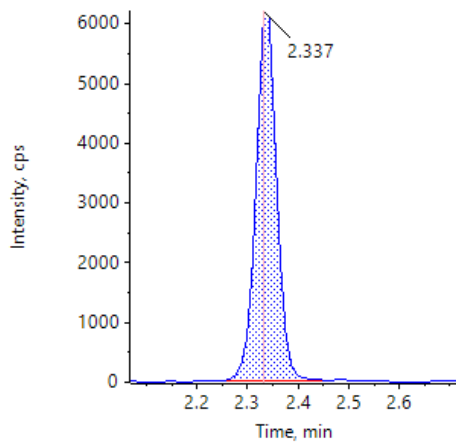
Blank

blank - PFPrOPrA_2 (Unknown....wiff2), (sample Index: 1)
Area: N/A, Height: N/A, RT: N/A min



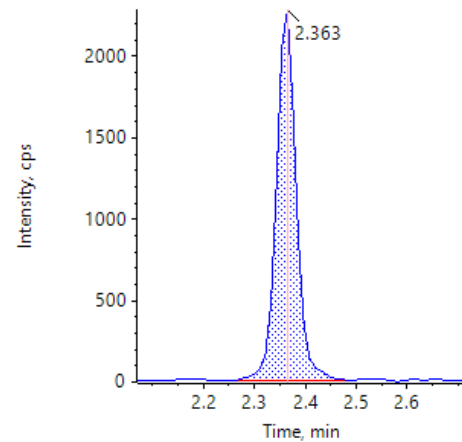
Sediment

CFS-1 - PFPrOPrA_2 (Unknown....wiff2), (sample Index: 1)
Area: 1.764e4, Height: 6.177e3, RT: 2.34 min

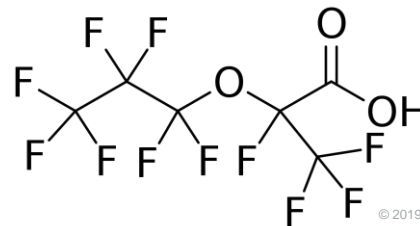


River Water

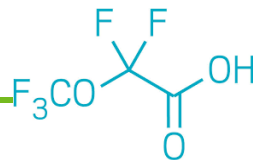
RW56 - PFPrOPrA_2 (Unknown....wiff2), (sample Index: 1)
Area: 6.202e3, Height: 2.277e3, RT: 2.36 min



- MRMHR 1, [m/z = 329.0 -> 284.9795]

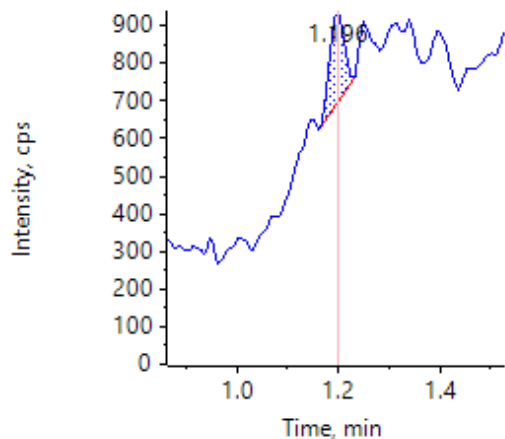


PFMOAA: MRMHR 1



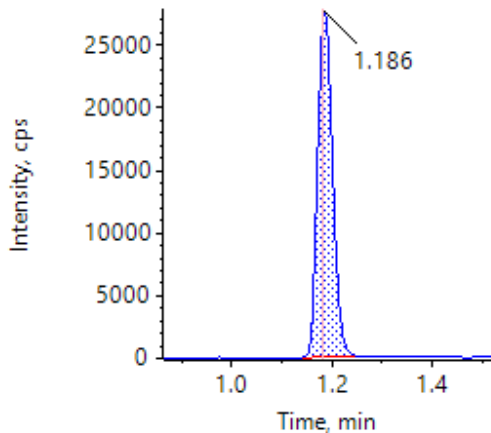
Blank

blank - PFMOAA (Unkno...2), (sample Index: 1)
Area: 4.801e2, Height: 2.384e2, RT: 1.20 min



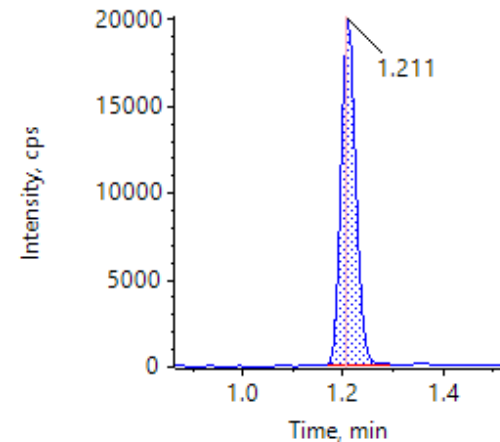
Sediment

CFS-1 - PFMOAA (Unkno...2), (sample Index: 1)
Area: 5.772e4, Height: 2.776e4, RT: 1.19 min



River Water

RW56 - PFMOAA (Unkno...), (sample Index: 1)
Area: 4.121e4, Height: 2.007e4, RT: 1.21 min



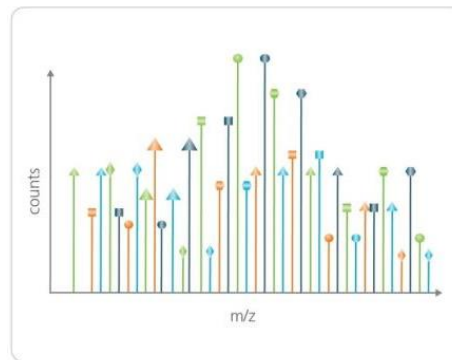
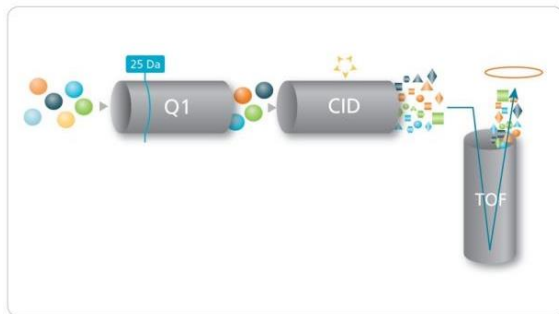
- MRMHR 1, [m/z = 179.0 -> 84.9899]

Non-Target Analysis with SWATH™ Acquisition

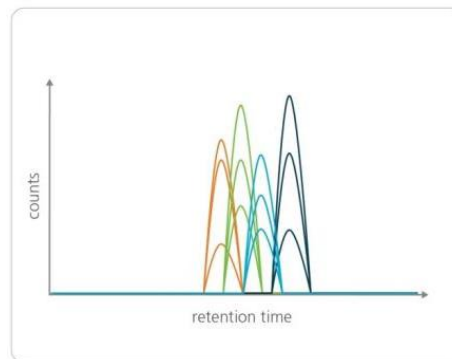


Non-Target Acquisition: MS/MS^{ALL} using SWATH™ Acquisition

A MODE OF DATA INDEPENDENT ACQUISITION PROVIDING MS/MS^{ALL}

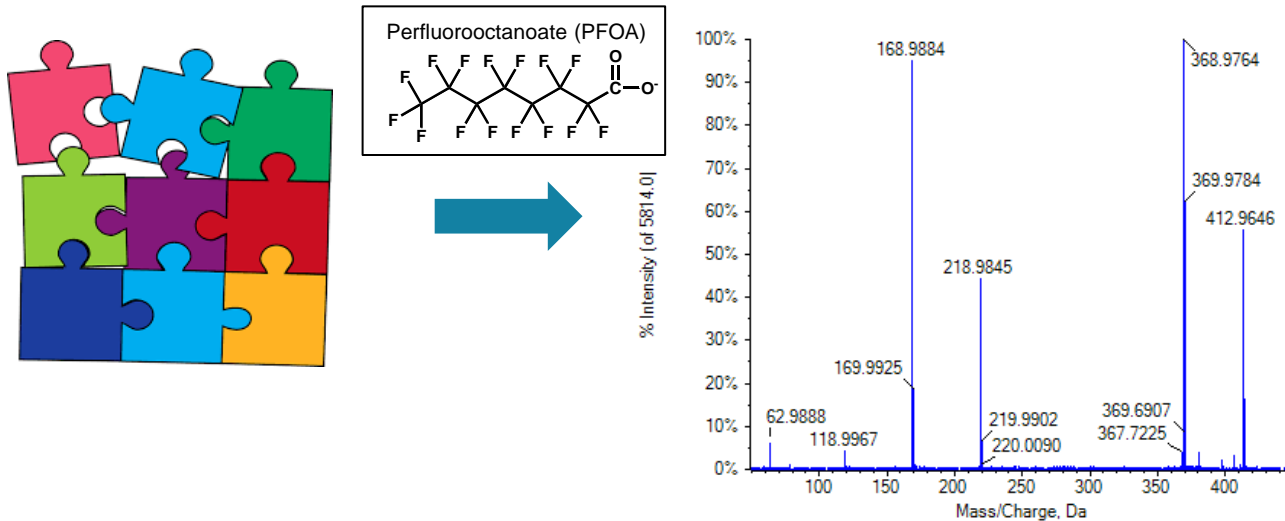


- Wide Q1 isolation window is stepped across the mass range
- Can use variable mass windows to reduce complexity of MS/MS spectra, increased specificity
- *Unlike IDA (Information Dependent Acquisition), MS/MS acquisition is NOT dependent on precursor intensity*
- **Advantage: Sequentially acquired MS/MS spectra of all precursor ions across the mass range**
- **Retrospective data analysis**



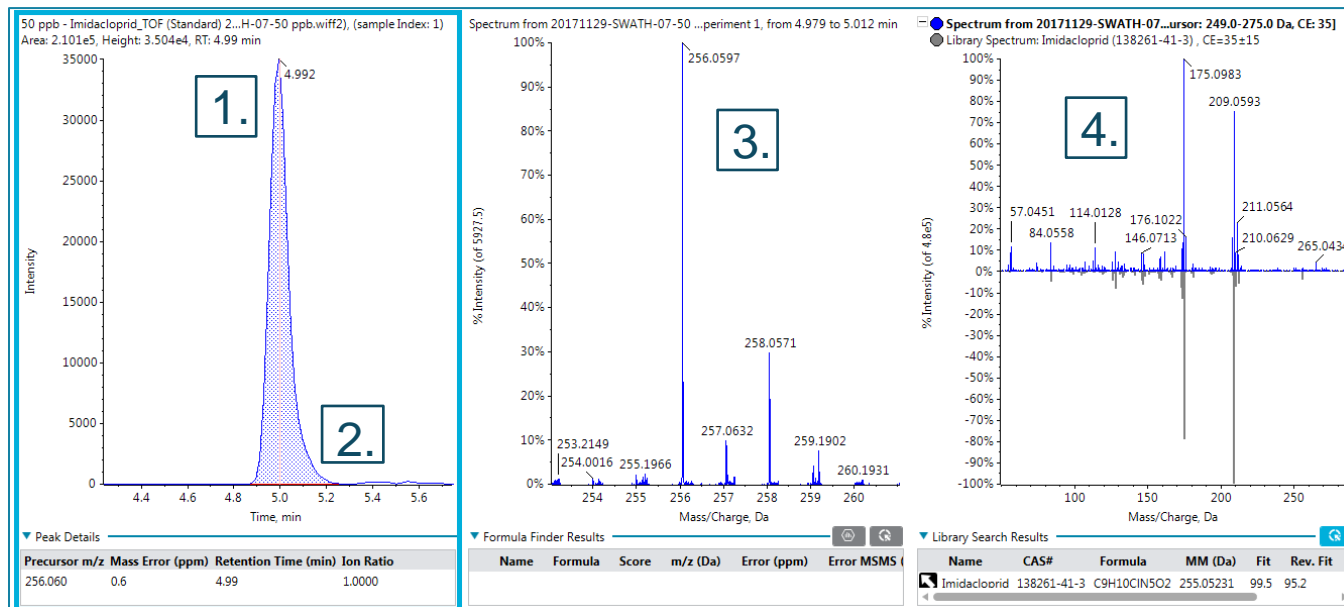
Molecule Fragmentation

- Compounds will break apart into characteristic fragments which generally represent pieces of the original (precursor) molecule
- **Fragmentation pattern can reveal the chemical structure**
- TOF instruments obtain high resolution fragment masses resulting in greater specificity



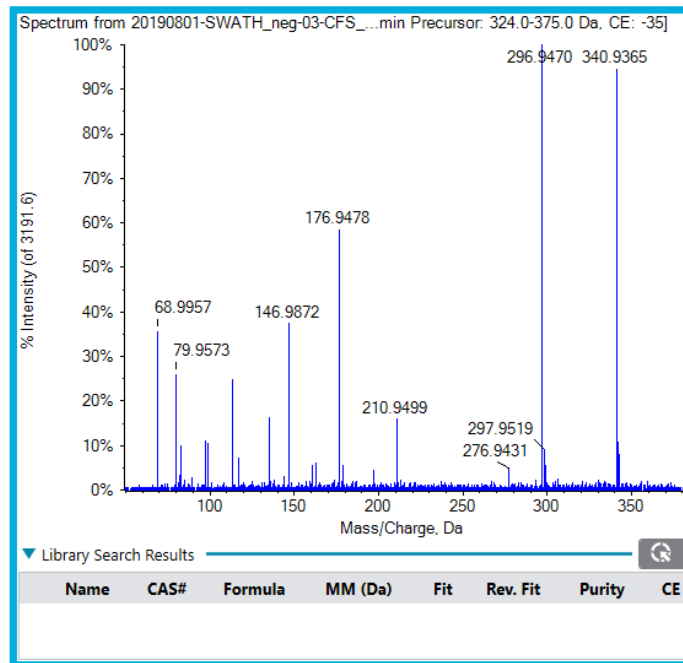
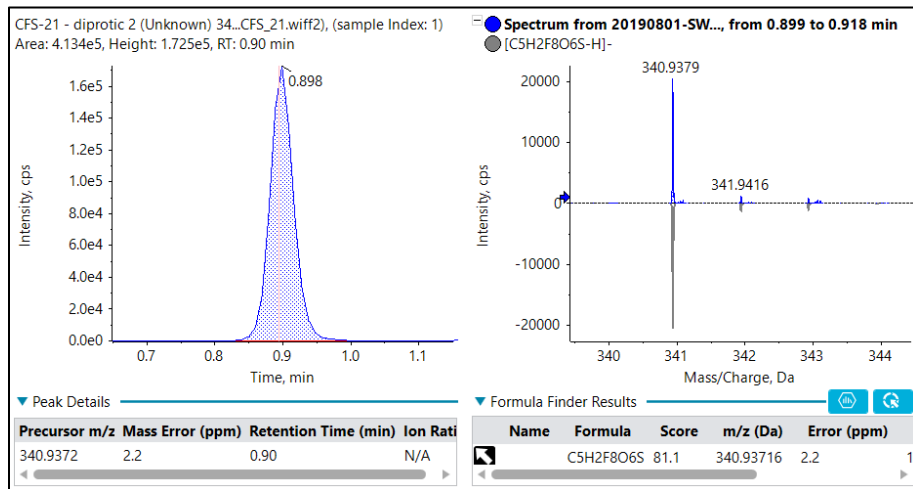
HRMS – Multiple Lines of Evidence for Compound ID

1. Retention time (<2.5%) ✓
2. High resolution accurate mass (<5 ppm) ✓
3. Isotope Pattern (>80%) ✓
4. MS/MS Fragmentation Pattern Match with HRMS Library ✓



Results – Diprotic Compound, C₅H₂F₈O₆S (m/z 340.9372)

MS/MS Fragmentation Spectrum



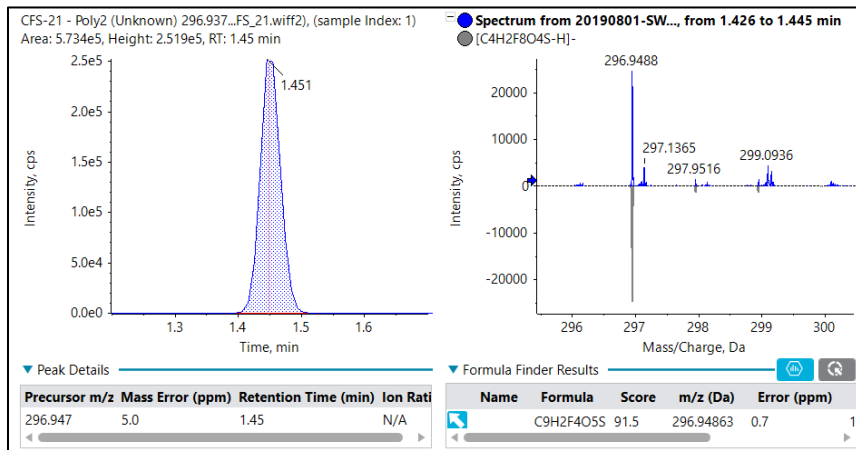
Sediment Sample, CFS-21

Precursor mass error = 2.2 ppm

MS/MS Fragment Spectrum:

- CO₂ neutral loss (m/z 296.9470)
- SO₃ (m/z 79.9573)
- CF₃ (m/z 68.9957)

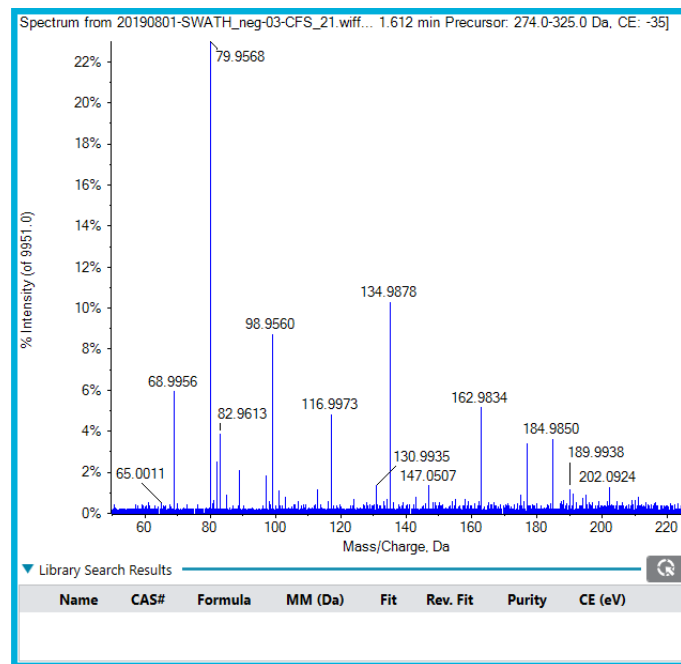
Results – NVHOS, C₄H₂F₈O₄S (m/z 296.9473)



Sediment Sample, CFS-21
Precursor mass error = 5 ppm
MS/MS Fragment Spectrum:

- SO₃ (m/z 79.9568)
- FSO₃ (m/z 98.9560)
- CF₃CF₂O (m/z 134.9878)

MS/MS Fragmentation Spectrum



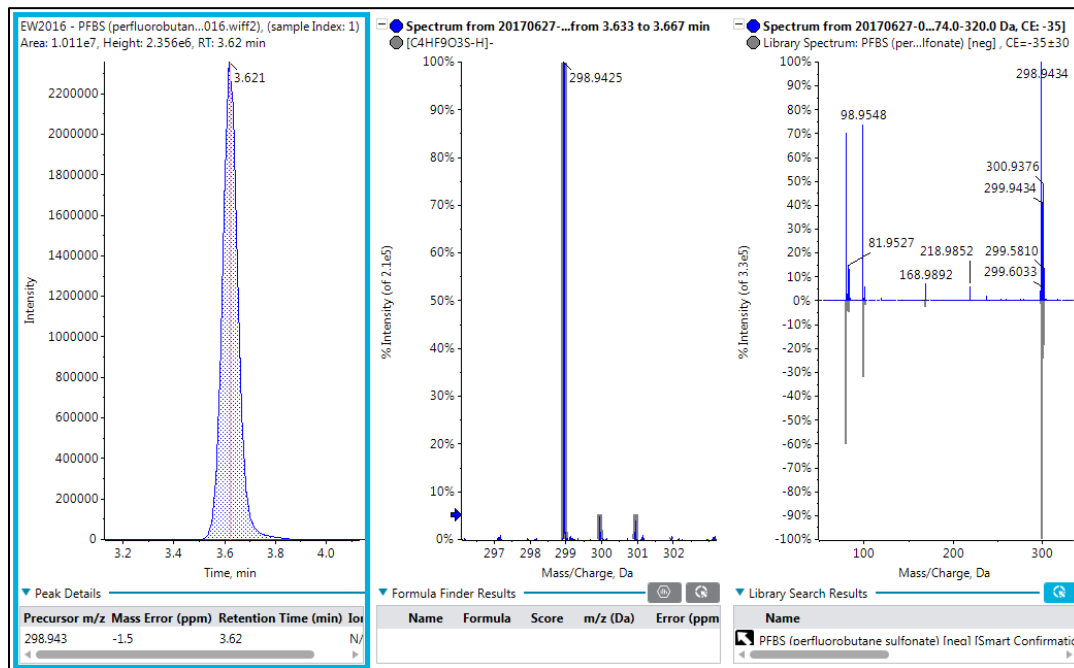
Non-Target Analysis of AFFF-Impacted Groundwater

- 9 AFFF-impacted groundwater samples collected from near US Air Force Bases
- Water samples analyzed by large-volume injection techniques, as detailed in SCIEX Application Note (1)
 - 1 mL water combined with 0.65 mL MeOH & mass-labelled standards (Wellington Laboratories)
 - 100 μ L injection using SCIEX ExionLC™ system; gradient conditions
- Instrumental analysis using SCIEX X500R QTOF system with SWATH® acquisition and MRM^{HR} in positive and negative mode
- Components list from updated SCIEX Fluorochemical HR-MS/MS Library 2.0, containing 253 compounds (positive, negative, zwitterion)

1. Roberts S, Hyland KC, Butt C, Krepich S, Redman E and Borton C. (2016) *AB Sciex Publication Number: RUO-MKT-02-4707-A*



Ground Water Sample "A" – Legacy PFAS



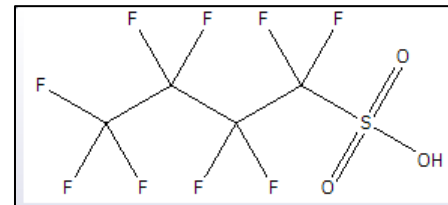
Compound Identified:

PFBS

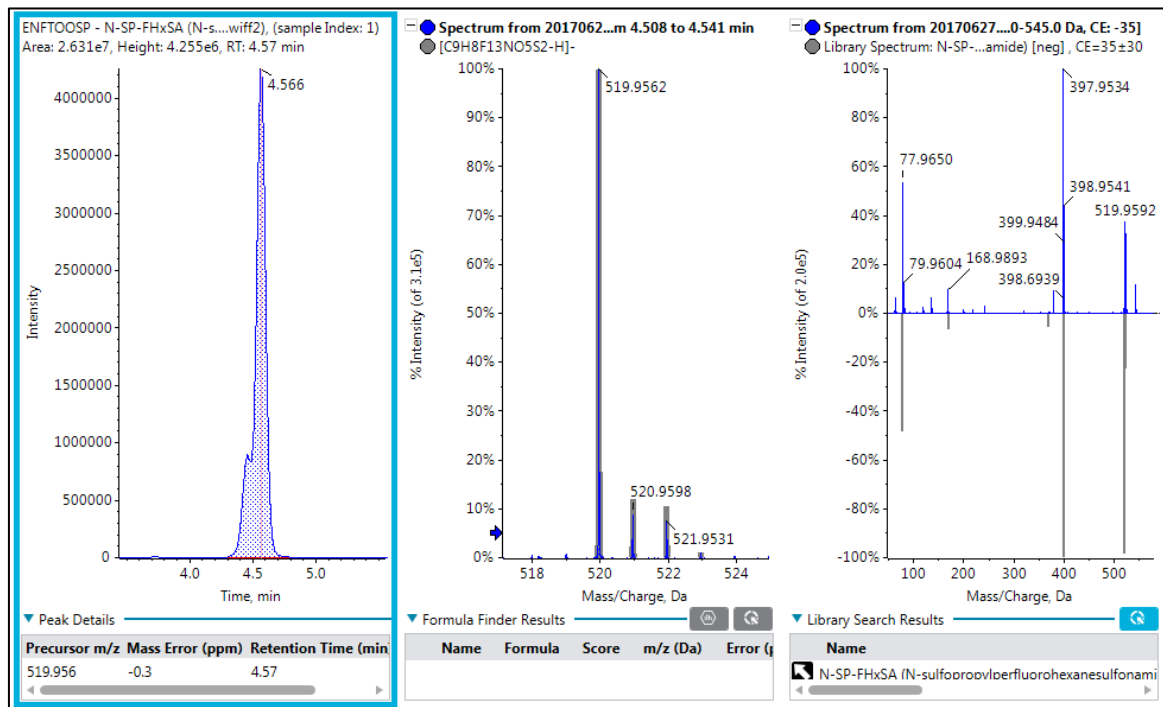
Mass error = -1.5 ppm ✓

Isotope ratio ✓

MS/MS Library Match ✓



Ground Water Sample "B" – Novel PFAS



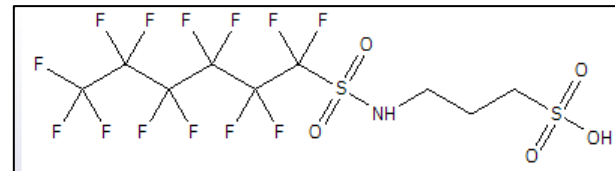
Compound Identified:

N-SP-FHxSA

Mass error = -0.3 ppm ✓

Isotope ratio ✓

MS/MS Library Match ✓



Conclusions

- HRMS provides additional power for PFAS analysis
- Increased specificity of MRM^{HR} acquisition
 - Mass resolve matrix interferences
- Non-target Acquisition; use of MS/MS fragmentation spectra
 - Unknown identification from fragment assignment
 - Compound confirmation using MS/MS library matching

