



Research

Application of bioassays for packaging safety evaluation

Benoît Schilter

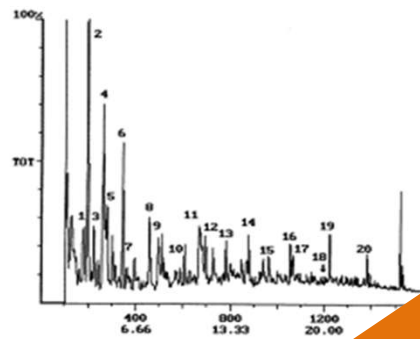
Head of Food Safety Research Department,
Nestlé Research Center, Lausanne Switzerland

Food Packaging Forum workshop,
Scientific challenges in the risk assessment of food contact materials, Zürich, Oct. 5th, 2017

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What is the problem?



GC-MS

...ized mixture of

...aturally characterized (identified)

...artially characterized

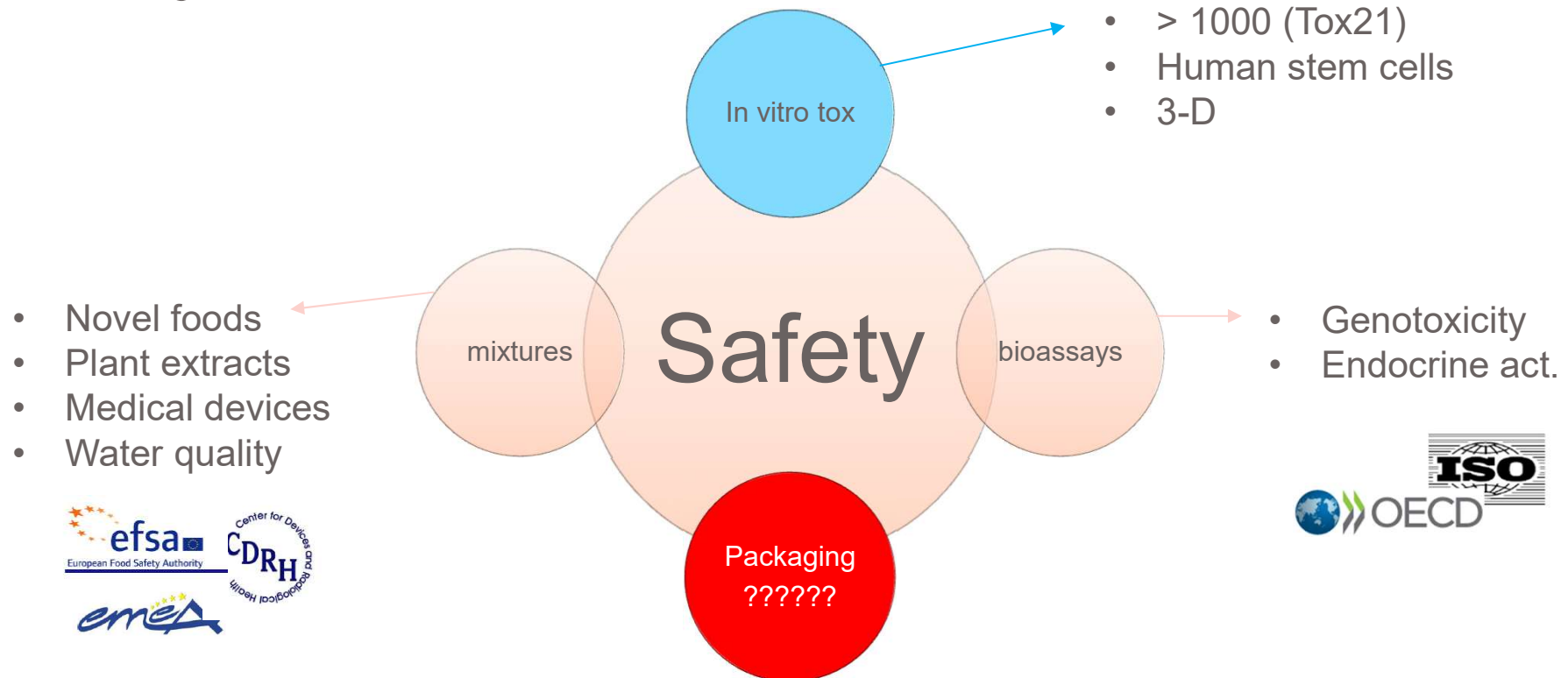
– Not characterized/identified

Is there a role/value for bioassays
in safety assessment of such mixtures?

- Not practical
- Not desirable

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Why not?



The topic is increasingly discussed in context of packaging safety

- Quality/validation
- Limitations
- Data interpretation

What are bioassays?

In vitro hazard identification/characterization:

Hazard identification:

- MIEs/KEs (AOP/MOA)
- Stem cells/3D

Hazard characterization:

- Dose responses
- QIVIVE/Reverse dosimetry

Oral Point
of
departure

Exposure

Safety/MoE

Biodetection (occurrence):

In vitro tools designed:

- Molecular events
- Properties of tox relevance

biodetection:

- Basic properties
- Unknowns in mixture

Exposure

Manage

In silico:

- Link to chemical structure, SAR
- Similarity

Standard hazard id/RA

Mitigation



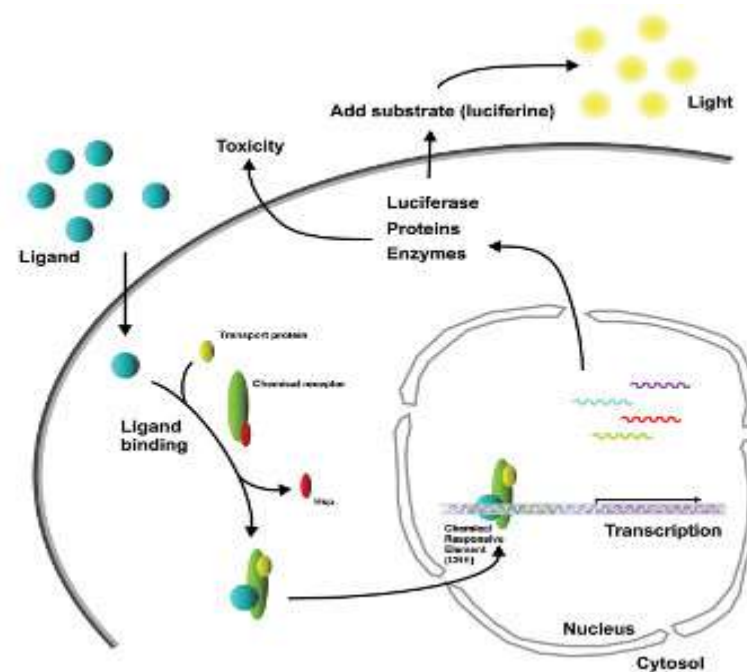
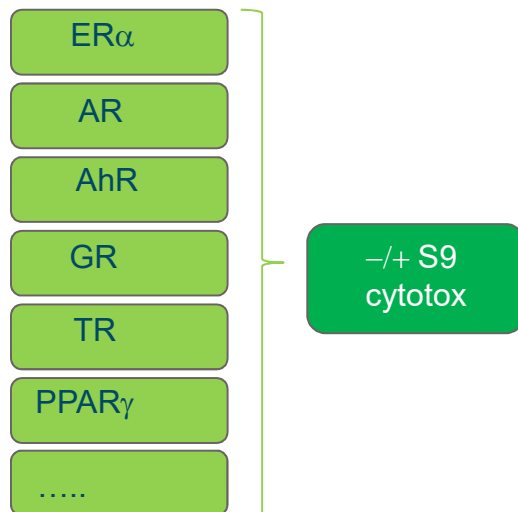
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Example of nuclear receptor activation

transcriptional activation assay

CALUX = Chemical-Activated Luciferase Reporter Gene-Expression Assay

- ✓ Several hormone receptors available
- ✓ Agonist and antagonist modes

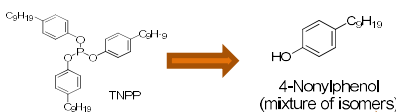


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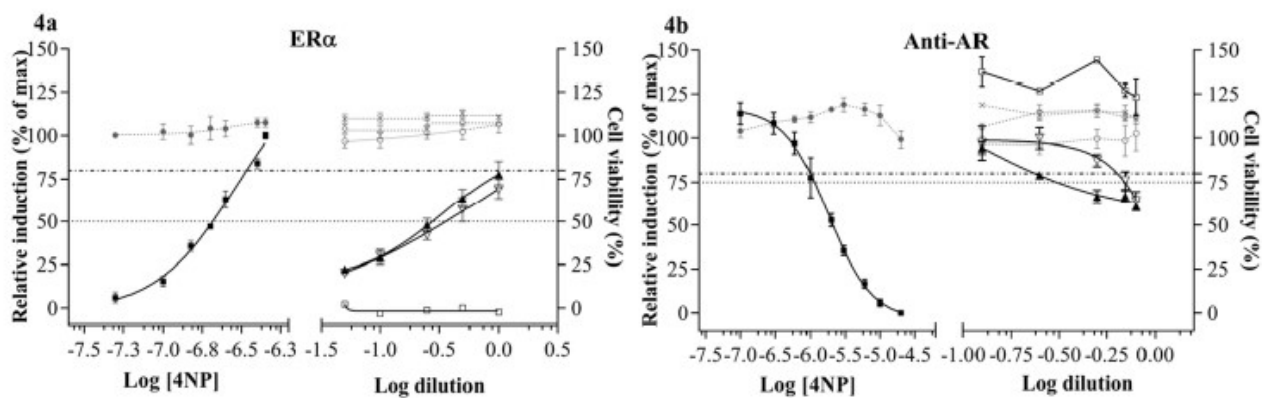
Application of the Calux assay

Migration study:

- Analytical chemistry
- Bioassay

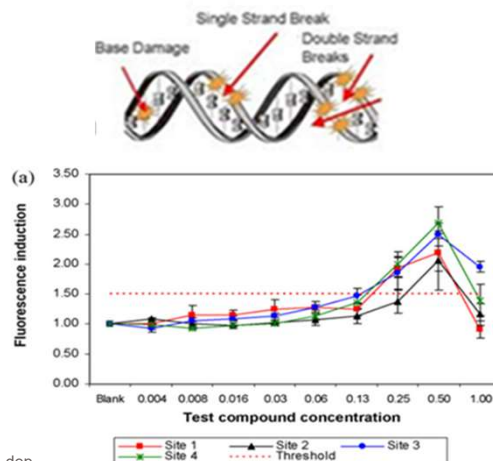
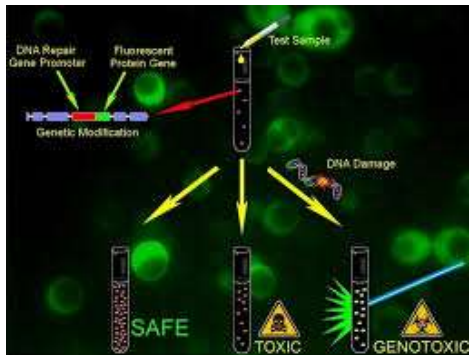


156 µg/L NP (LC-MS)



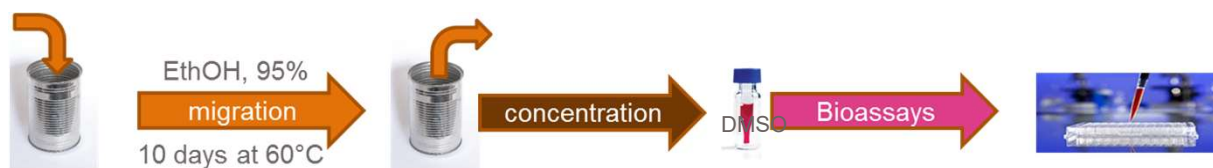
Example of genotoxicity assay

Gadd45 α induction (Bluescreen)



- ✓ Cell's genotoxic stress response
- ✓ Identifies diverse genotoxic agents:
 - Direct acting
 - Others (with threshold)
- ✓ Possibility to apply metabolic system (S9)
- ✓ Cytotoxicity test included
- ✓ High sensitivity: little false negatives
- ✓ High specificity: little false positives
- ✓ Good within/between lab reproducibility
- ✓ Commercially available
- ✓ Getting increasing acceptance for screening
- ✓ Potential for improvement/optimization

Gadd45 α induction in FCM-migrates of experimental material



Gaps and limitations need to be addressed:

- Relevance of migration studies (stability of the materials?)
- Identify causative agent(s)
 - Current analytical data did not reveal chemicals with alert for genotox (DNA-reactivity)
 - Test of identified NIAS ongoing
 - Fractionation planned
- Address mechanisms of genotoxicity
 - Mutagenic
 - No positive samples in Ames (no DNA reactive? Threshold?)
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Why and When?

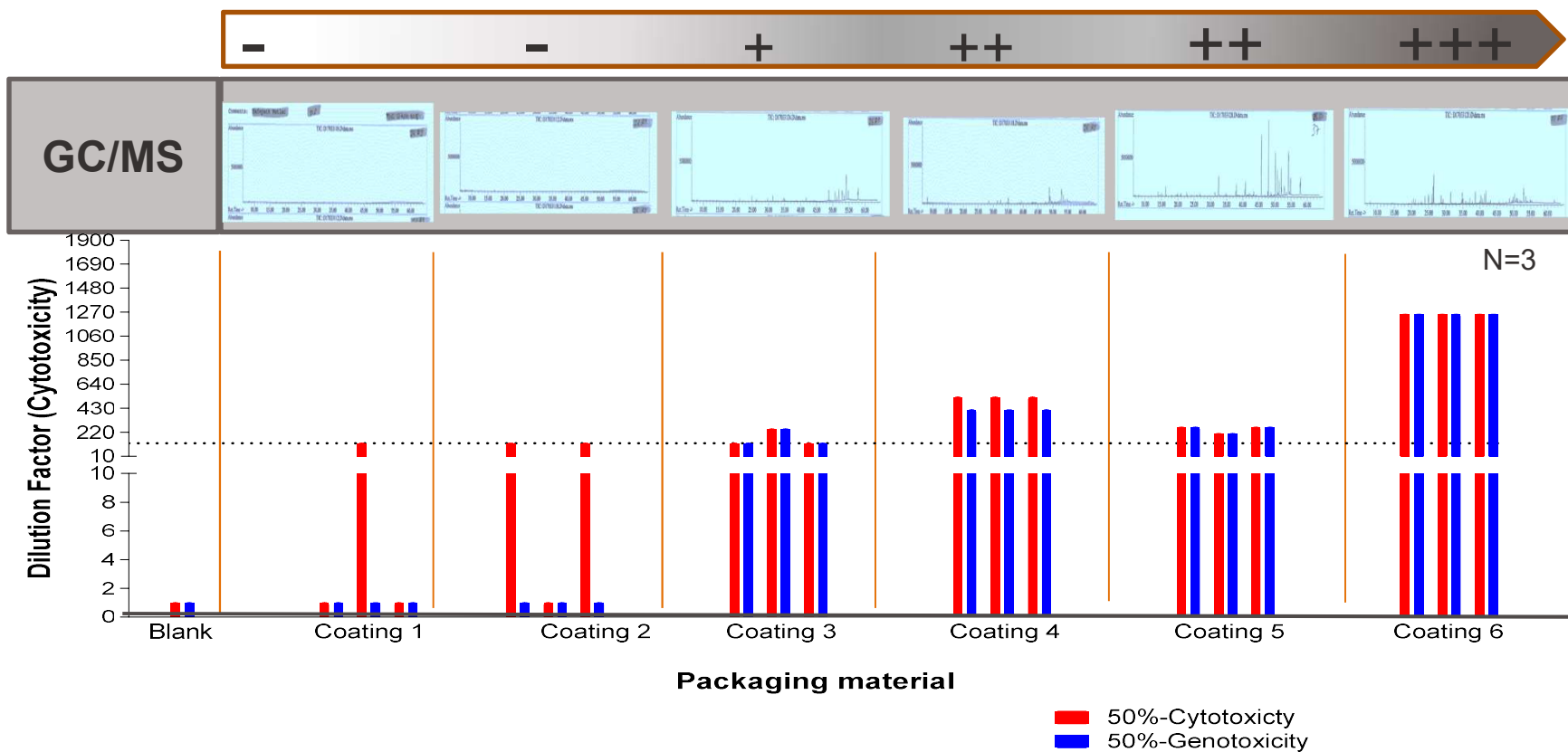
1. Safety by design
2. Application of the TTC

Safety by design: bioassay data on R&D materials.

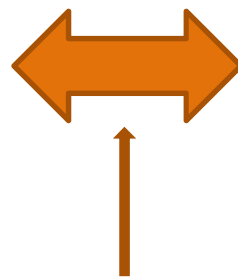
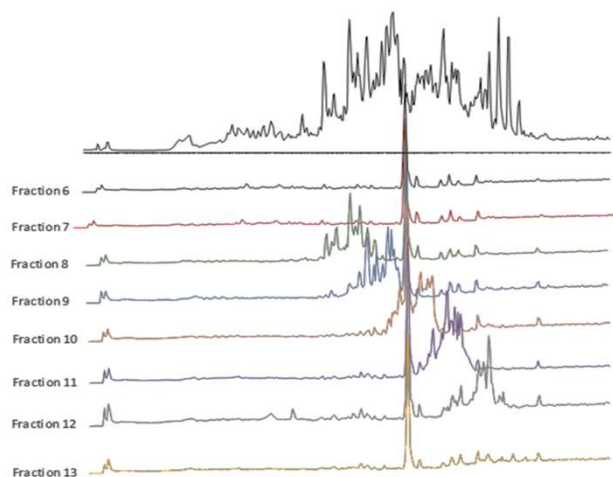


Biological activity	Coating 1	Coating 2	Coating 3	Coating 4	Coating 5
<u>Anti-estrogenic (ERα)</u>					
<u>PPARγ</u>					
<u>Anti-androgenic</u>					
<u>AhR</u>					
<u>Gadd45α</u>					
Cytotoxicity					
AMES	*	*	N/A	N/A	N/A
Biological activity					

Good correlation analytical vs biological profile



A way forward (effect directed analysis)



Fraction 6	genotox	endocrine
Fraction 7	--	--
Fraction 8	--	--
Fraction 9	--	--
Fraction 10	--	✓
Fraction 11	✓	✓
Fraction 12	✓	--
Fraction 13	--	--

Fractionation:

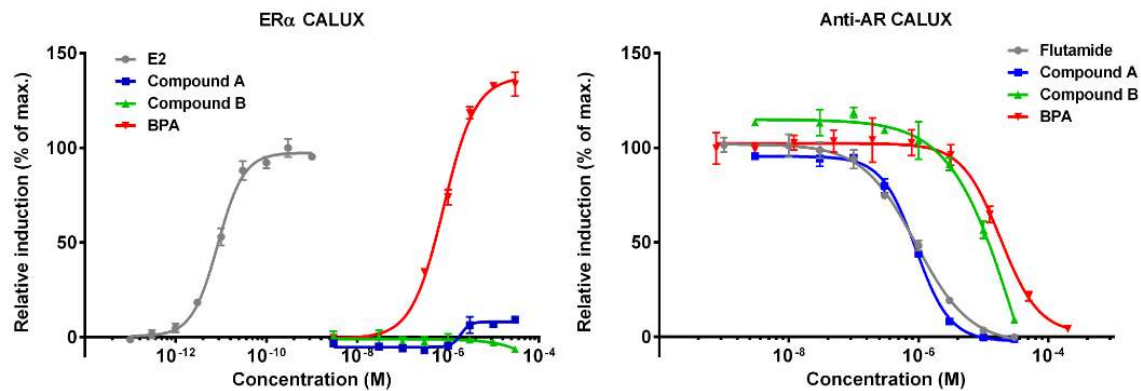
LC-HRMS platform coupled
with a Waters fraction collector

- *Monomers*
- *Additives*
- *Synthetic oligomers*

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Safety by design:

evaluate raw materials early (e.g. monomers)



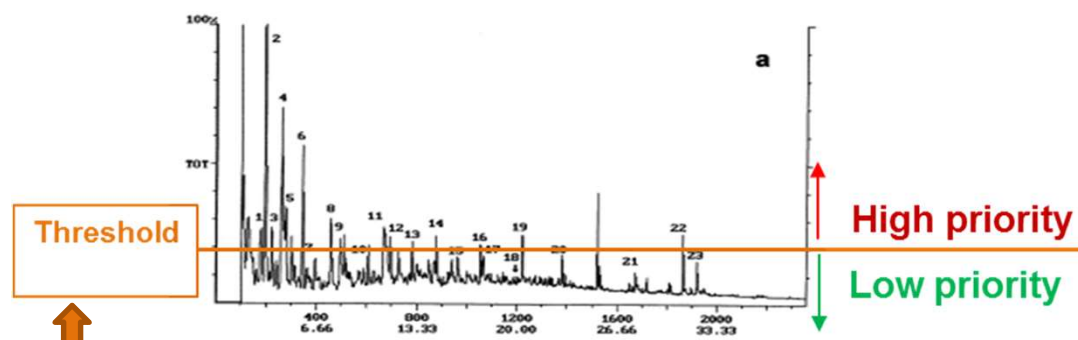
Compound A:

- PPAR γ antagonist effect
- No antagonistic effect on ER α
- No agonistic effect on AR

Why and When?

1. Safety by design
2. Application of the TTC

Application of the Cramer class III-TTC to unknow NIAS (safety assessment)?



Exclude member of cohort of concern.
 Exclude chemicals not covered by TTC.
 TTC = 0.15 μg , if alert of genotox.
 TTC = 18 μg , inh. AChE.

AhR; DR-Calux.
 ER, AR assays
 Ach-esterase inhibition
Genotoxicity assays

Cramer class III TTC

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Proposed steps in assessment of unknowns

Steps	What?	Why?
1. Material characterization	Composition, manufacturing, processing, degradation, ...	Exclude chemicals of high concern (cohort of concern)
2. Analytical methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sample preparation- Chromatographic techniques- Detection methods- Partial identification	
3. Targeted analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Methods for specific chemicals	
4. Food intake	Material application, population, dietary habits	Estimate exposure
5. Quantification	Quantification of unknowns	

Adapted from Koster et al., *Fd Chem Tox* 49 (2011) 1643-60; Rennen et al., *Fd Chem. Tox* 49 (2011) 933-940

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«Sensitivity?»

Genotox tests are sensitive:

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

TP: true positive

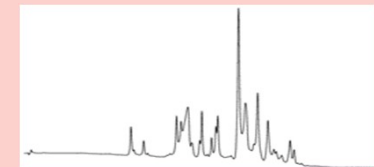
FN: false negative



Genotox tests are not sensitive:

Limits of detection (LoD) in mixture are currently poor:

- 0.15 µg/person
- risk (10^{-6})
- **10 ppb**
- 90 µg/person



LoD for genotoxicity can be improved

Genotox:

- LoD can be improved, observed for key mechanisms
- Important for mixture testing
- Important to discriminate genotoxicity from cytotoxicity
- Depends upon:
 - *Type of assay*
 - *Culture conditions*
 - *Substances*
 -
- Clearly insufficient (compared with LoD requirements)
- **Need a breakthrough**

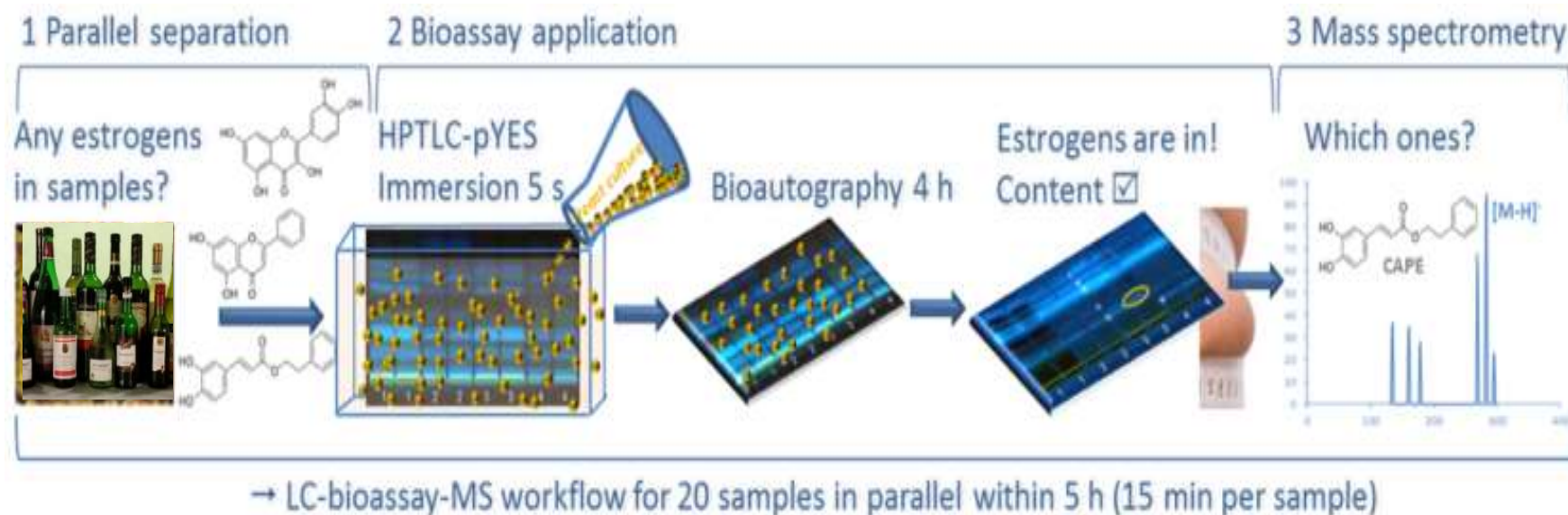
Other endpoints:

- Similar conclusion for Ach-esterase inhibition
- Less an issue for receptor mediated activation

			LEC Standard protocol	LEC optimized protocol	Improvement
Direct DNA damage					
Indirect DNA damage					
oxidative stress					
Chromosomal aberrations					
Cytotoxicity					
Negative genotoxic, non-cytotoxic	benz[a]pyrene	D-mannitol (-S9)		-ve	

The way forward?

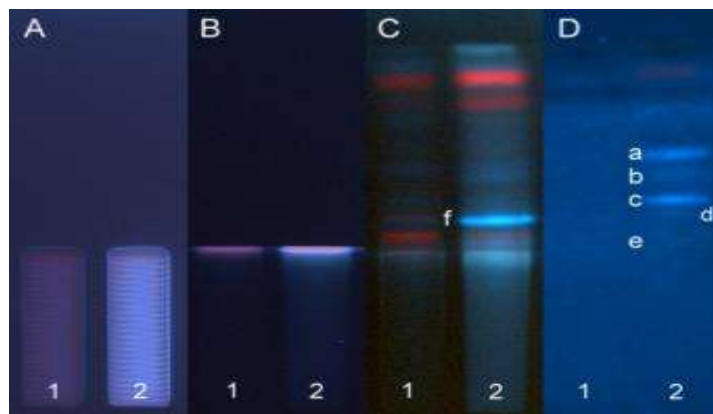
High performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC)-bioassay



I. Klingelhöfer, G. Morlock, *Anal Chem* 87 (2015) 11098–11104

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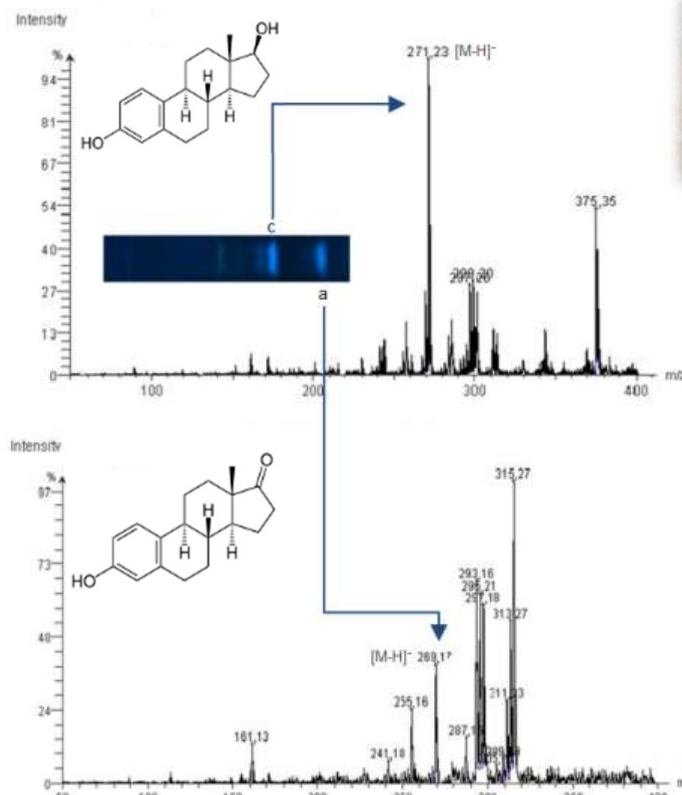
Discovery in surface/waste water



Substance	LOD [ng/L]	LOQ [ng/L]
E2	1.0	2.5
EE2	2.5	5.0
E1	4.3	15.0
E3	75.0	250.0
BPA	1.6×10^3	5.0×10^3
NP	15.0×10^3	65.0×10^3



I. Klingelhöfer, G. Morlock, *Anal Chem* 87 (2015)
11098–11104



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Bioassays: roles in packaging safety

To prioritize structurally uncharacterized chemicals with TTC-class III:

- *To contribute to exclusion of chemicals of the cohort of concern*
- *To exclude ACHE-inhibitors and chemicals with genotoxic alert*
- *In combination with other parameters*
- *More sensitive methods required*



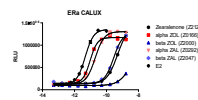
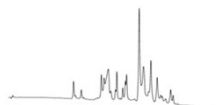
To test for the presence of chemicals:

- *Endocrine activity*
- *High toxic potency*
- *To be assessed/managed (early)*

HPTLC-bioassay is likely to significantly improve the situation:

- May increase LoDs by orders of magnitude (e.g. genotox, AChE-inh, receptor med, ...).

Chemical screening vs biodetection final thoughts



	Chem. screening	Biodetection
<i>Observation</i>	Peaks	Response
<i>experience</i>	+++	++
<i>acceptance,</i>	+++	+
<i>clarity</i>	++	+
<i>Perception</i>	Ah, well...	Oouuuhhh!!!
<i>Risk assessm.</i>	Concern?	Concern?
<i>Action</i>	Identify/quantify	Identify/quantify

Together with analytical chemistry, bioassays have a role to play
In safety assessment of FCMs

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Acknowledgements:

Packaging Safety Group



Early warning Group



Chemical Food Safety Group



OFI (Vienna)

Thanks for your attention