# **VOCs in Field Air**

Presenters: Randy Maddalena, Ph.D., LBNL

# Overview of Non-Targeted Analysis for VOCs

- Sample collection methods
  - $_{\rm O}$  Laboratory based
    - emission chamber
    - direct thermal desorption
    - stir-bar sorptive extraction
  - $_{\circ}$  Field based
    - on-site and off-site
    - spatially/temporally distributed
    - stratified elevation above surface
- Sample extraction and analysis
- Data analysis
  - $_{\rm O}$  Anatomy of a chromatogram

5/31/201 Targeted and non-targeted syapproachic Advisory Panel Meeting



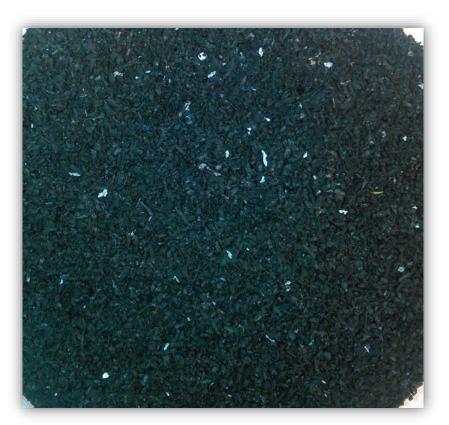
Carbopak thermal desorption air sampling tube



# Sample Collection Laboratory Based: Emission Chamber

Turf backing



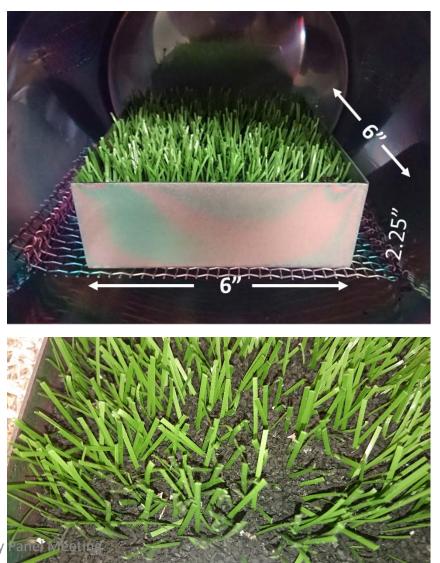


Materials

Turf blades OEHHA Synthetic Turf Scientific Advisory Pane Grumb infill material

#### Emission Chamber: Experimental Unit

- 6 X 6 X 2 ¼ inch deactivated stainless steel tray with
- Synthetic turf backing and blade panels cut to fit and
- 100% crumb infill material added to ~ 2 inch depth



side view

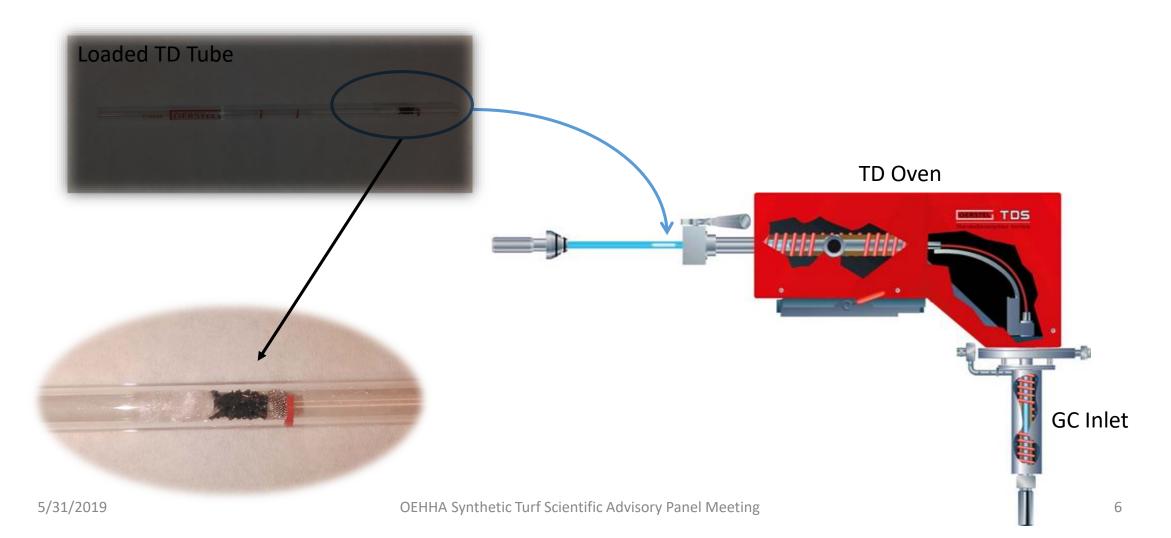
top view

#### **Emission Chamber: Test Protocol**

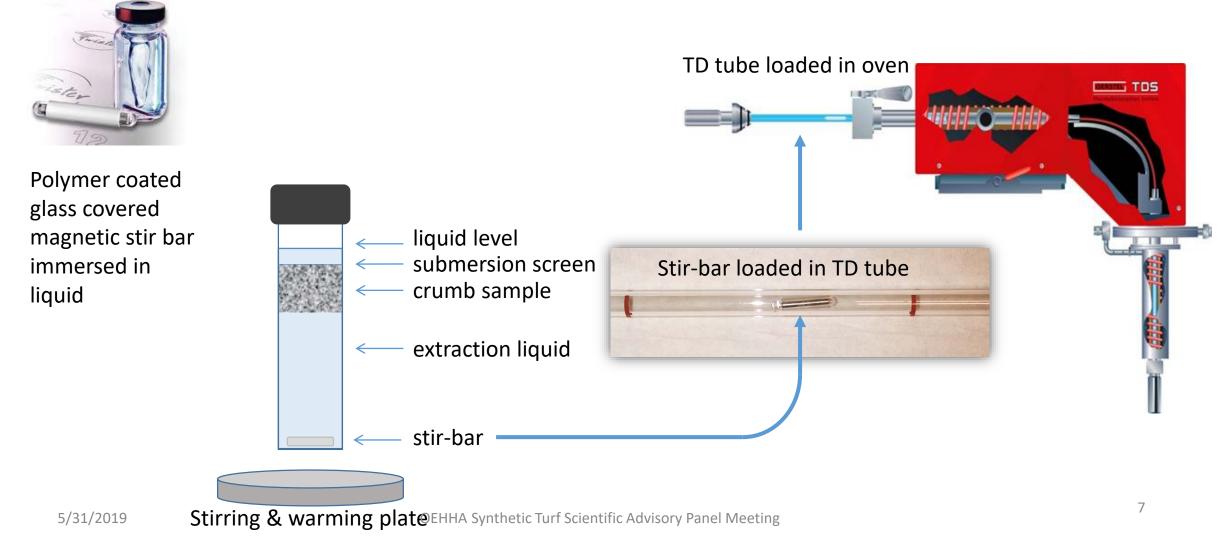
- All wet surfaces deactivated (Sulfinert<sup>®</sup> and Teflon)
- Chamber volume 10.75 Liters
- Ventilation controlled @ ~ 1 LPM (ACH = 5.6  $h^{-1}$ )
- Temperature controlled @ 25 C
- Relative humidity controlled @ 50%
- Samples collected directly from chamber outflow onto TD tubes



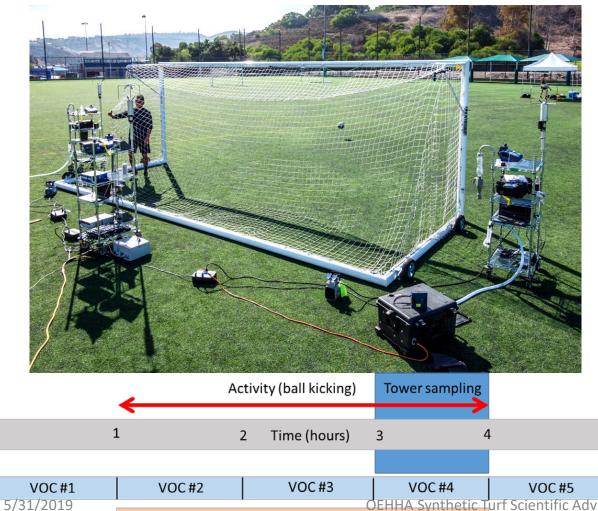
## Sample Collection Laboratory Based: Direct Thermal Desorption



# Sample collection Laboratory Based: Stir-Bar Sorptive Extraction



### Sample Collection Field Based: Spatial and Temporal Coverage



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Air samples collected from multiple locations **on** field and **off** field and at different **elevations** above surface at

Aldehyde Sample

### Sample Collection Summary

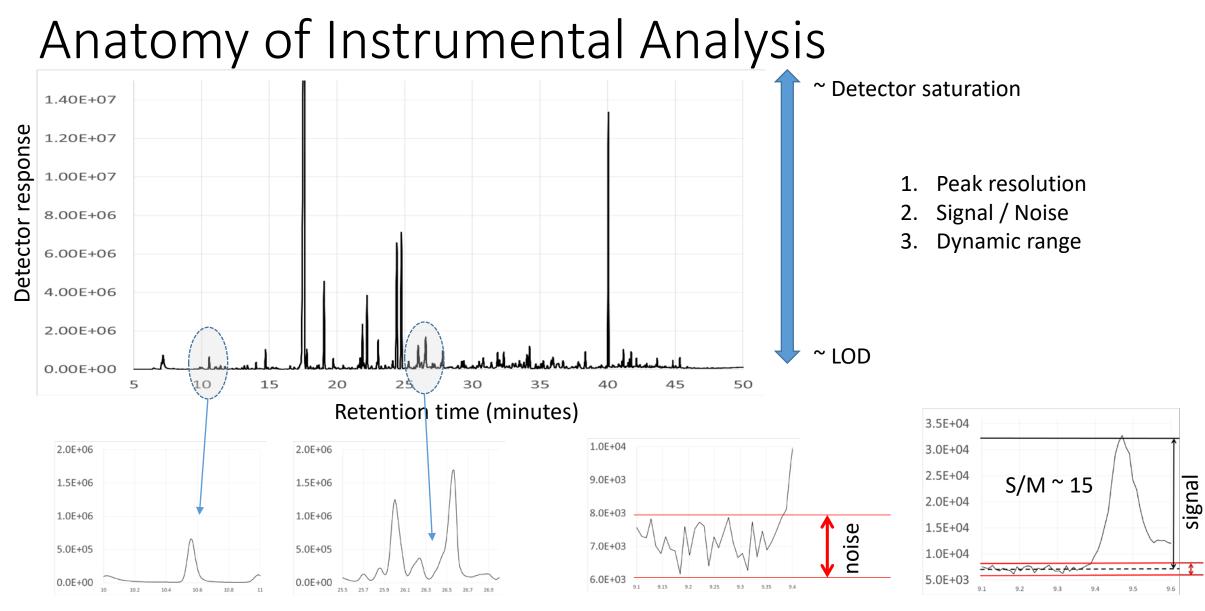
- Lab based samples provide highly controlled direct link between synthetic turf materials and chromatographic outcome, i.e., we have high confidence that detected chemicals are associated with crumb
- Field based samples capture wide range of spatial, temporal and environmental parameter variability adding complexity to chemical analysis but also adding representativeness

#### Sample Extraction and Analysis

- All VOC extractions performed by thermal desorption (Gerstel TDS3 oven with cryogenically cooled Tenax filled inlet liner and TDSA2 autosampler)
- All VOC analysis run on HP 6890 GC with Restek rxi624Sil (30 m X 250  $\mu$ m w/ 1.4  $\mu$ m film thickness) column and detected by HP 5973 quadrapole mass selective detector at 70 eV.
- Analysis conducted in full scan mode (typical quantification limits ~ 1 – 5 ng on column)

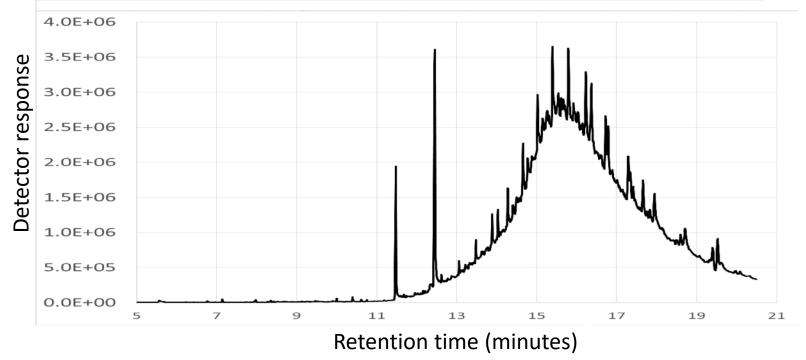
#### Data Analysis

- Two basic approaches to identify chemicals in an analysis
  - 1. Targeted analysis Is it in the sample? (we know what we are looking for, can we match it with a peak?)
  - 2. Non-targeted analysis What is in the sample? (we have a peak, can we match it with a chemical?)
- Most efficient strategy uses a combination of these two approaches along with a healthy dose of professional judgement
- Either approach converges on matching mass spectra (or exact mass) AND matching a retention time to a known standard



OEHHA Synthetic Turf Scientific Advisory Panel Meeting

#### Anatomy of Instrumental Analysis

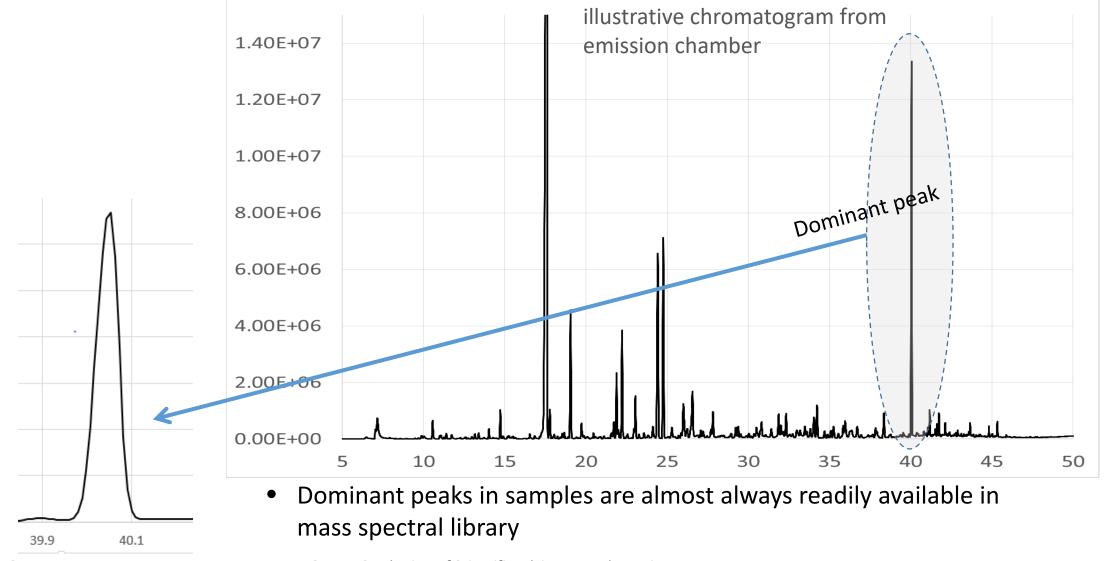


- 1. Peak resolution
- 2. Signal / Noise
- 3. Dynamic range
- 4. Complexity

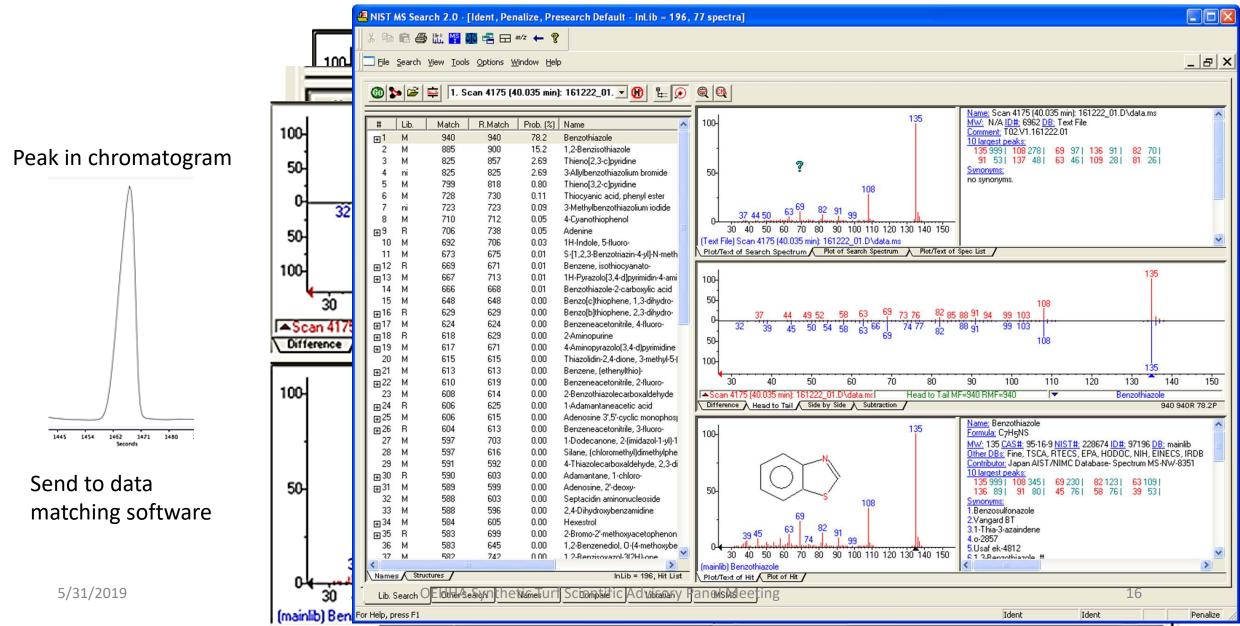
# What influences our ability to ID targets?

- Chromatographic resolution is the degree of separation in the signal
  - Different chemicals separate differently on a column
  - Tools are available to mathematically separate peaks given enough signal
- signal-to-noise is the difference between a small peak and "background"
  - A typical S/N ratio during peak identification is ~ 100 but can go much lower when we have specific targets
- dynamic range goes from detection limit to detector saturation
  - Can adjust by changing sample size/volume
  - Once set, this dictates the size of the smallest peaks
  - Can go after smaller peaks with pre-analysis chemistry
- sample complexity considers all of the above
  - Can reduce complexity using chemistry (i.e., cleanup, fractionation, enrichment, ...)

# Finding Matches: Larger well resolved peaks



#### Identifying dominant peaks



# Finding Matches: Smaller less resolved peaks

- Weak peaks or peaks that are not well resolved from other compounds sometimes do not match library because of interfering mass ions
- Options for improving chances of finding match

15 20 40 45 50 30 35

25.9

26.1

26.3

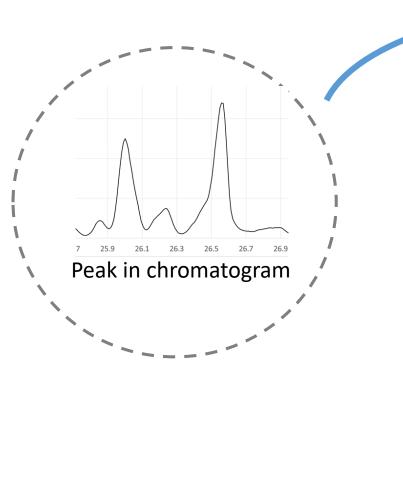
26.5

- 1. improve separation (modify method, new column, chemical techniques)
- 2. utilize a different detector (can narrow the possibilities)
- 3. increase sample volume (peak size) (also sometimes increases noise) and/or
- 4. mathematically "clean" the peak with deconvolution software

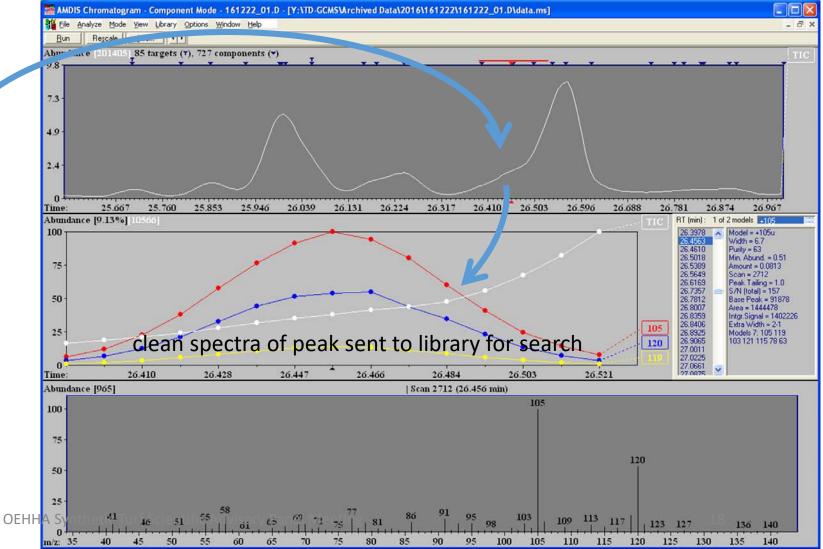
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#### Cleaning up a convoluted peak

Automated Mass Spectral Deconvolution and Identification System (AMDIS)

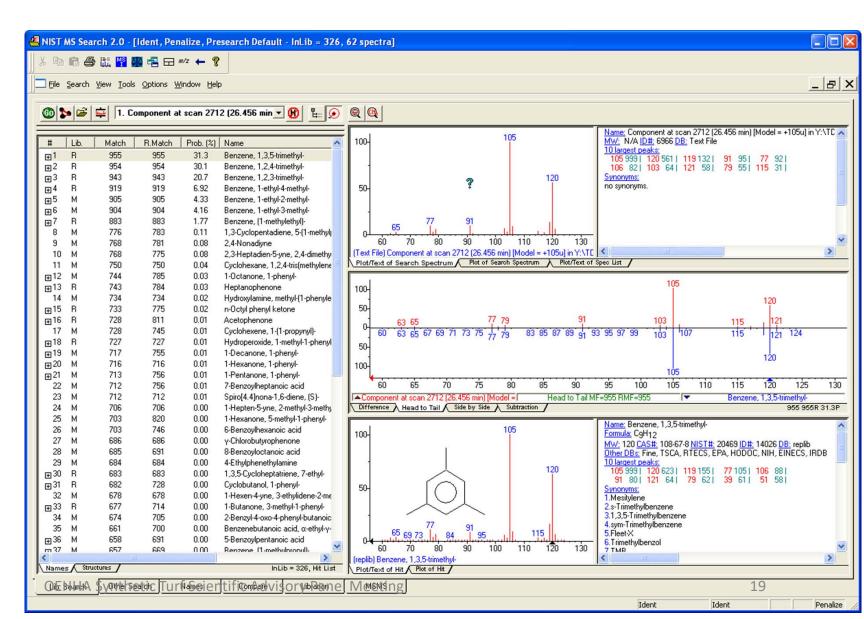


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# Identifying deconvoluted spectra

- The deconvoluted mass spectra provide higher likelihood of finding match
- Specific congeners may not be identified
- Confirmation requires compare mass spectra AND retention time on specific instrument with pure standard



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#### Identified Chemicals in Field Air

Chemical Class/Matrix	Instrumental Analysis	No. of Confirmed Chemicals	No. of Tentatively Identified Chemicals
Polar Extract	LC/MS		
Non-Polar Extract	GC/MS		
PAHs	SIM-GC/MS		
Volatile carbonyls in Field Air	HPLC	11	0
VOCs in Field Air	TD-GC/MS	67	0
	Total	78	0

• Volatile carbonyls include formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acetone and other low molecular weight aldehydes

• Not all compounds identified in lab experiments were detected in field air

## Summary of VOC identification method

#### • Targeted analysis

 $_{\odot}$  Include chemicals of particular interest

 Use analytical standard to "train" the instrument to look for specific (mass fragmentation pattern) at specific retention time

#### • Non-targeted analysis

- Dominant peaks identified by mass spectral library match
- Poorly resolved or complex peaks deconvoluted then compare to library
- Confirm with pure standard matching spectra AND retention time on labs instrument
- Approach typically identifies 80 90% of chemical mass (response area) in a given sample

# Non-Polar Constituents in Crumb Extracts

Presenter: Randy Maddalena, Ph.D., LBNL

Overview of Non-Targeted Analysis for Semi-Volatile and Low Volatile Chemicals by GC

- Sample type and collection method
  - Manufacturer crumb rubber material
  - o Installed crumb rubber material harvested from field
- Sample extraction and analysis
- Data analysis
  - targeted (example = PAHs)
  - non-targeted



#### Sample type and collection

Crumb rubber collected from manufacturers

material from bulk bags

 ${\scriptstyle \circ}$  extracted and analyzed as received



- Installed crumb rubber material harvested from fields
  - location specific samples on field such as high impact areas and low impact areas
  - o field specific composite samples

o all samples analyzed as received (i.e., did not sieve or try to separate sand, cork or other environmental contaminants)

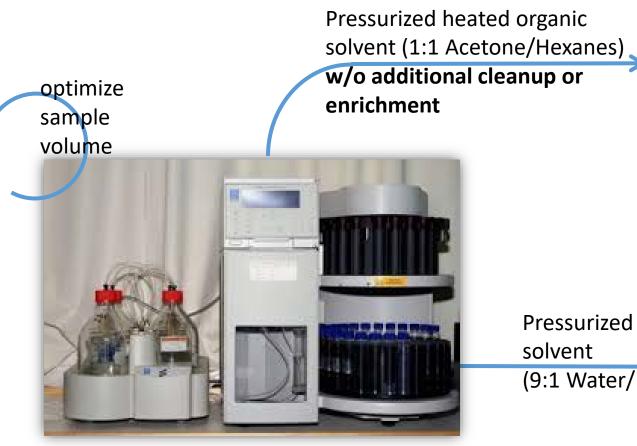
#### Sample Extraction and Analysis

Crumb Rubber manufacturer, location specific or composite



Loaded into extraction cell as received with inert dispersant





Extraction cell run in Accelerated Solvent Extraction System (ASE Model 200)

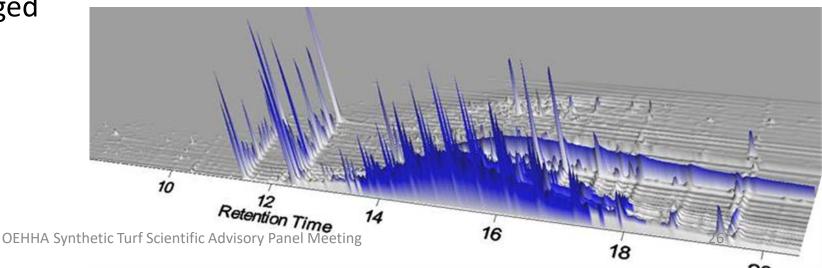
GCMS analysis Agilent GC 7890A with DB-UI 8270D column interfaced to 5977B Mass Selective Detector with High Efficiency Source (typical detection < 1 pg on column)

Pressurized warm aqueous solvent (9:1 Water/Methanol) LCMS (next presentation)

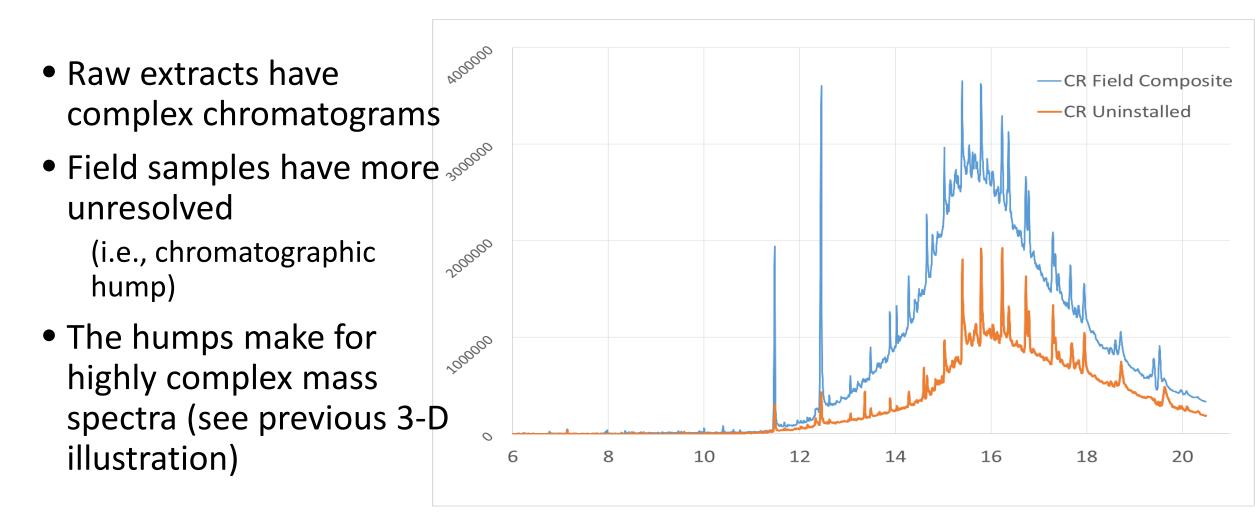
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#### Data Analysis: Non-Targeted Analysis

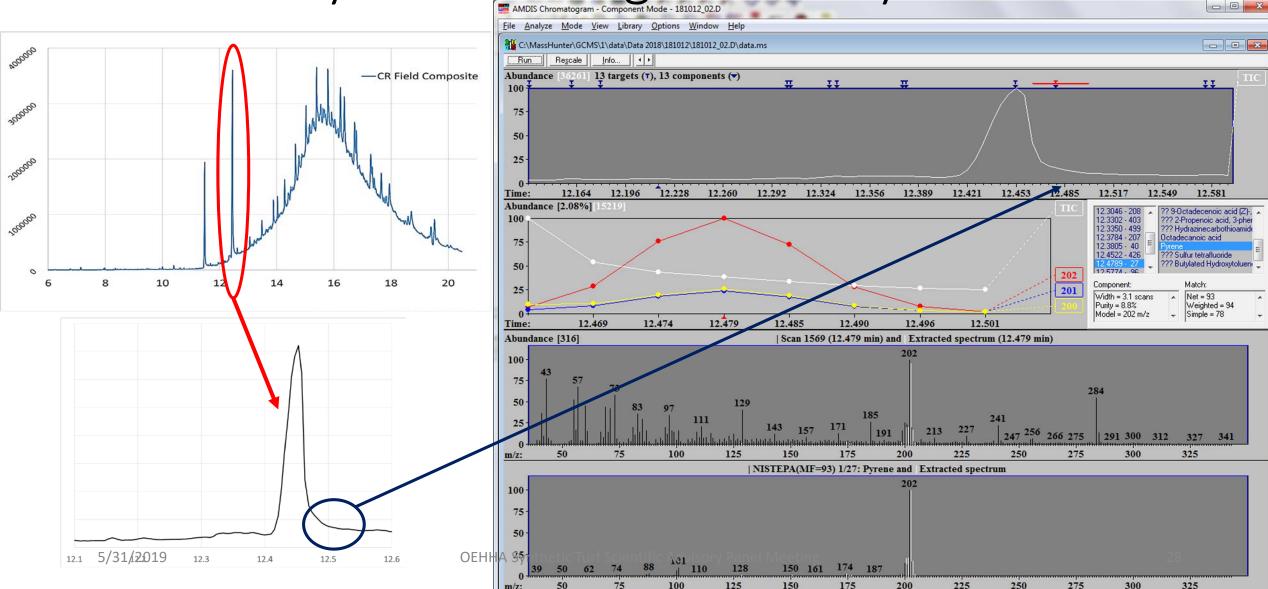
- Process is as described previously for VOCs but with the following differences
  - 1. Molecules typically larger with more complex mass spectra
  - 2. Detection limits several orders of magnitude lower than "full scan" VOC method (but not as low as SIM method used for targeted SVOC analysis)
  - 3. Chromatograms are much more complex (for the above reasons), particularly when aged



#### Data Analysis: Non-targeted Analysis



#### Data Analysis: Non-Targeted Analysis



#### Data Analysis: Targeted Analysis

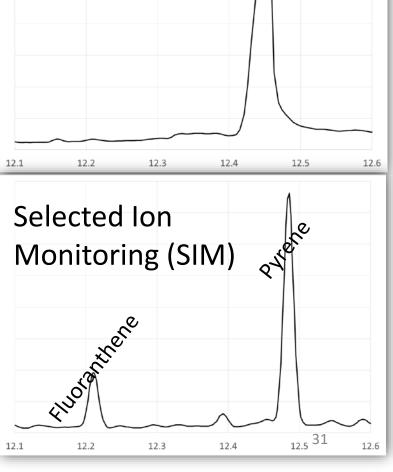
- Add isotopically labeled internal standards prior to extraction
- Liquid injection of extract (without cleanup or enrichment)
- Eighteen component mix of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons with internal and recovery standards
- Selected ion monitoring (i.e., look only for targeted compounds)
- Compounds range from naphthalene (MW = 128 g/mol) to dibenz[a,h]anthracene (MW = 278 g/mol)
- Data analysis automated with performance review by analyst (basically we train the instrument what to look for)

#### Identified Chemicals in Field Air

Chemical Class/Matrix	Instrumental Analysis	No. of Confirmed Chemicals	No. of Tentatively Identified Chemicals
Polar Extract	LC/MS		
Non-Polar Extract	GC/MS	32	182
PAHs	SIM-GC/MS	20	182
Volatile carbonyls in Field Air	HPLC	11	0
VOCs in Field Air	TD-GC/MS	67	0
	Total	130	182

# Summary of SVOC (non-polar) ID method

- Targeting chemicals allows us to "see" at much lower levels in complex chromatograms
- The trade-off is that you only see what you are looking for
- Sample enrichment (i.e., concentration of extract) not needed because we optimize the mass of crumb extracted
- Not using "cleanup" steps on extract insures that all chemicals are included but many of these chemicals are of little interest (branched alkanes) and it is much harder on the instrument



**Full Scan**