



### Environmental Forensics: What is it and what can it do?



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### Global Water Futures Science Meeting Hamilton Ontario June 5, 2018





#### **GWF** Project Title:

#### Next generation solutions to ensure healthy water resources for future generations

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Vince Palace, IISD-Experimental Lakes Area (ELA),



### Solutions to Issues for Chemicals

- Use of Untargeted Identification of Chemicals by use of Ultra-high Resolution Mass spectrometry
- Use of Bioassays
- Use of Effect-Directed Fractionation and Identification
- Use of Pull-down Assays
  - Directed for Known Protein Targets
  - Undirected for Unknown Protein Targets
- Use of Mass and Potency Balances
- Use of eDNA to monitor for status and trends in environments



### Instruments Available

- Ultra-high Resolution (Orbitrap)Mass Spectrometers
  - 2 interfaced with Liquid Chromatograph (water soluble (Thermo Scientific *Q Exactive* w/ nanoLC)
  - 1 Thermo Scientific Q *Exactive* interfaced with gas chromatograph (neutral volatile and semi volatile)
  - Accurate mass determination to 1 < ppm
  - Targeted analyses of small molecules (<400 AMU)
  - Identification of novel chemicals (natural and synthetic)
  - Untargeted analyses of small molecules
  - Metabolomics
  - Proteomics
  - Lipidomics
  - Environmental fingerprinting
  - Headspace analyses (volatile compounds)
  - Microfibre automated, solid phase analyses



### **Q-Exactive (Orbitrap) instrument**





- Ultra-high resolution (<2 ppm)</p>
- Quadrupole can be used to isolate precursor ions
- Collect high resolution MS2 spectra
- Sensitive
- Operated in negative or positive ion modes
- Chemical or electrical ionization

All these characteristics are important for performance



#### **LC Interface**

- Resolution 15,000 240,000 ٠
- Scan rate 1.8 25 scans/sec
- High sensitivity (6 fg OFN)
- Quad to isolate precursor ions
- High resolution MS2 spectra (masspec-masspec) ٠ Fragments for identification
- Positive and negative ionization modes ٠
- Multiple acquisition modes simultaneously
- Common componentry post source
- Common software platform

#### **Q Exactive HF Orbitrap)**



Amplifier





### **Bottleneck of targeted chemical analysis**

#### most chemicals remain unknown in environmental mixtures



Environmental samples are complicated mixtures, the compounds we monitor are less than 0.01% of total number of synthetic compounds

Peng et al., ES&T, 2015, 49, 2999-3006 Muir et al., ES&T, 2006, 40, 7157-7166



### DIPIC-Frag\* method: untargeted screening of Compounds: Example Brominated Compounds

\*Data independent precursor isolation and characteristic fragment







2015 50:321-330



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#### Untargeted Screening and Distribution of Organo-Bromine Compounds in Sediments of Lake Michigan

Hui Peng,<sup>\*,†</sup> Chunli Chen,<sup>†,‡</sup> Jenna Cantin,<sup>†</sup> David M. V. Saunders,<sup>†</sup> Jianxian Sun,<sup>†</sup> Song Tang,<sup>§</sup> Garry Codling,<sup>†</sup> Markus Hecker,<sup>†,§</sup> Steve Wiseman,<sup>†</sup> Paul D. Jones,<sup>†,§</sup> An Li,<sup>○</sup> Karl J. Rockne,<sup>♠</sup> Neil C. Sturchio,<sup>¶</sup> and John. P. Giesy<sup>\*,†,||,⊥,#,∇</sup>

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2016 50:10097-10105

Article

pubs.acs.org/est

#### Untargeted Screening and Distribution of Organo-Iodine Compounds in Sediments from Lake Michigan and the Arctic Ocean

Hui Peng,<sup>\*,†</sup> Chunli Chen,<sup>†,‡</sup> Jenna Cantin,<sup>†</sup> David M. V. Saunders,<sup>†</sup> Jianxian Sun,<sup>†</sup> Song Tang,<sup>§</sup> Garry Codling,<sup>†</sup> Markus Hecker,<sup>†,§</sup> Steve Wiseman,<sup>†</sup> Paul D. Jones,<sup>†,§</sup> An Li,<sup>∇</sup> Karl J. Rockne,<sup>O</sup> Neil C. Sturchio,<sup>◆</sup> Minghong Cai,<sup>\*,¶</sup> and John P. Giesy<sup>\*,†,||,⊥,#</sup>



**Workflow for DIPIC-Frag** 



Data independent precursor isolation and characteristic fragment (DIPIC-Frag) method: APCI to increase compound coverage; Br fragment to increase specificity; DIA windows to expand dynamic range



**NSOBC** distribution



2,520 peaks were detected, precursor ions were identified for 2,163 peaks (86%), formulae were calculated for 2072 peaks (82%), which were corresponding to 1,593 unique NSOBCs compounds



### **Structure prediction**



Most compounds have never been previously reported, structures of some novel compounds could be predicted by combining public database search and highresolution MS<sup>2</sup> spectra



### **Mass spectrometry library**



The library established in the present study could be easily adopted by low-resolution mass spectrometry such as LC-triple quadrupole instrument



### Identification of Novel Chlorinated, Brominated & Bromo-chloro Disinfection By-Products of Concern in Drinking Water by Use of DIPIC-Frag Untargeted Screening

**Tena Watts** 



<u>Water disinfection</u>: process of deactivating or removing pathogens from drinking water by use of physical or chemical technologies





#### Disinfection By-Products (DBPs)



- Genotoxic, bladder cancer and adverse pregnancy outcomes (Jeong *et al.*, 2012)
- > 600 compounds have been identified in drinking water
- Only 50% of total organic halide can be accounted for by known DBPs (Richardson *et al.*, 2012)
- Many unregulated compounds have enhanced toxicities

Brominated > chlorinated analogues





#### Research Questions

- What brominated compounds are yet to be identified in drinking water and how can we screen for them?
  - DIPIC-Frag method

     Q Exactive UHRMS
    - Optimize conditions
    - Identify novel Br-DBPs
- Can we produce a semiquantitative method that is reproducible for the analysis of real drinking water extracts?





### **Example: Prairie Water Supplies**











- Little groundwater and much surface water is saline
- South Saskatchewan River
  - Originates in Rocky Mts of Alberta
  - Flows through several metropolitan areas
  - Diefenbaker Reservoir
  - Water supply to 750,000 people
  - Eutrophication resulting in hazardous algal blooms
    - Source water for drinking poor
    - Requires pre-treatment-chlorination
    - Concentrations of chlorine high
    - Contact time is long- 1 km
    - Concentrations of Br- ion high
    - Chlorination forms hypobrous acid
    - Presence of naturally occurring organic acids (humic-fulvic) results in formation of halomethanes (carcinogens)



### Buffalo Pound Water Treatment Plant (BPWTP)

- Located northeast of Moose Jaw, SK
- 250,000 customers (Regina and Moose Jaw)
- Water sourced from Buffalo Pound Lake, which is known to contain a high concentration of Br<sup>-</sup> and it is quite eutrophic





### Data Independent Precursor Isolation and Characteristic Fragment Method (DIPIC-Frag)





### Data Independent Precursor Isolation and Characteristic Fragment Method (DIPIC-Frag)





#### Predict the formula and compound database

$$MS1 = \exp\{-0.5 \times \left(\frac{mz_{real} - mz_{theoretical}}{\delta}\right)^{2}\}$$

$$HPLC = \exp\{-0.5 \times \left(\frac{RT_{act.} - RT_{lib.}}{\delta_{RT}}\right)^{2}\}$$

$$MS2 = \frac{(\sum wA_{act}wA_{lib})^{2}}{\sum wA_{act^{2}} \sum wA_{lib^{2}}}$$

$$w = 1/(1 + \frac{A}{\sum A - 0.5})$$

$$Score = \frac{Similarity_{HPLC} + Similarity_{MS1} + Similarity_{MS2}}{3}$$

Accurately predict compound formula by combining MS1, isotopic peaks, MS2 fragment, and homologue information.



### Results

 Halo-acetic acids (HAAs) found to be among the most abundant Br-DBPs, but some novel Br-DBPs were also detected with similar or even greater abundances

Toxicology Centre

(A) C ОН 1.0 6.0×106 0.8 Peak abundance • The top 50 Br-DBPs Contribution н -0.6 4.0×106 -OH contributed to -0.4 35.6% of total 2.0×106 abundance (mass of ОН · 0.2 OBrs 0 0.0 500 1000 1500 Br-DBP



### Results

- Predicted structures for 41/50 most abundant Br-DBPs
- Of these 41 Br-DBPs, 18 were found to be aromatic acids or phenols
- 7 high-abundance heteroatomic Br-DBPs containing nitrogen or sulfur were detected









#### Conclusions

- Established a library of ~700 Br-DBPs; most of these Br-DBPs have not been previously reported in drinking water
- 2) The method showed good precision on actual drinking water samples, by use of HLB-pH 2
- 3)Novel heteroatomic DBPs showed unexpectedly high abundance





Article

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### Effects-Directed Analysis of Dissolved Organic Compounds in Oil Sands Process-Affected Water

Garrett D. Morandi,<sup>†</sup> Steve B. Wiseman,<sup>†</sup> Alberto Pereira,<sup>‡</sup> Rishikesh Mankidy,<sup>†</sup> Ian G. M. Gault,<sup>‡</sup> Jonathan W. Martin,<sup>\*,‡</sup> and John P. Giesy<sup>\*,†,§,||,⊥,#, $\nabla$ ,O</sup>

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2015 49:12395-12404.





Article

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#### Effect of Lipid Partitioning on Predictions of Acute Toxicity of Oil Sands Process Affected Water to Embryos of Fathead Minnow (*Pimephales promelas*)

Garrett D. Morandi,<sup>†</sup> Kun Zhang,<sup>‡</sup> Steve B. Wiseman,<sup>†</sup> Alberto dos Santos Pereira,<sup>‡</sup> Jonathan W. Martin,<sup>‡</sup> and John P. Giesy<sup>\*,†,§,||,⊥,#</sup>

Envir. Sci. Technol. 50:8858-8866.



### **Real environmental samples: A Complex Mixture**



Three basic questions:

- What are chemical components?
- What is potential toxicity?
- What are causative chemicals?







# Estimated to be more than 250,000 individual chemicals in OSPW



### Our approach

- **1.** Identify chemical species in sample using LC-Orbitrap mass spectrometry
- (*i*) Name by accurate mass



Orbitrap Mass Spectrometer

- 2. Calculate aqueous concentrations
  - Assume response factor of one for all chemical species
  - Concentration ~ Relative intensity
- 3. Assessment of chemical species potency
  - Use Target lipid model of Di Toro *et al.,* 2000

 $[M]_{i} = \frac{(RI_{i} * Mo)}{Molecular mass i}$ 







#### Bioconcentration of Dissolved Organic Compounds from Oil Sands Process-Affected Water by Medaka (*Oryzias latipes*): Importance of Partitioning to Phospholipids

Kun Zhang,<sup>†</sup> Steve Wiseman,<sup>‡</sup> John P Giesy,<sup>‡,#,§,||,⊥</sup> and Jonathan W. Martin<sup>\*,†</sup>

Envir. Sci. Technol. 50:6574-6582.





# Some assumptions in model development

- All chemicals contributing to hazard of the sample can be detected (ESI<sup>+</sup> and ESI<sup>-</sup>).
- Mode of acute toxic action Narcosis
- Hazard of mixture follows concentration addition
  - Toxic units





# Predicting potency of chemical species

 Target Lipid Model (TLM) has been developed to estimate the 96-hr LC50 of narcotic chemicals by use of K<sub>ow</sub>

TLM:

 $Log (LC50)_i = -0.945 \cdot log (K_{OW})_i + Log Cbb$ 

Can predict  $K_{ow}$  from mass or measure empirically Can also use  $K_{mw}$ 



**Figure**. Log(LC50) versus log(kow) for *Pimephales promelas* for chemicals acting by a narcosis mode of action (Di Toro *et al.*, 2000).



#### **Spreadsheet Model**

				TU Calculated: (Concentration /				
		Concen [ <i>M</i> ] <sub>i</sub> = <del>Mol</del> é	tration: (RI <sub>i</sub> *Mo) cular mass i	тох Log (LC50) (Dow	kicity: );	Tox.)		
	Identify			+ 40	g Cbb			
	A	В	С	D	E	F	r	
1	Composition [M-H]-	Relative Intensity	Concentration (mmol/L)	log Kow (estimated)	Potency compound (LC50)	TU	_	If TU > 1
2	C11 H19 O	7.91E-06	8.71E-06	-1.40	3.35	3.93E-09		
3	C12 H21 O	2.16E-06	2.19E-06	-0.73	2.71	4.30E-09		Expect LC50
4	C11 H17 O	5.26E-05	5.85E-05	-1.49	3.43	2.20E-08		or graatar
5	C12 H19 O	3.00E-05	3.08E-05	-1.97	3.88	4.08E-09		or greater
6	C13 H21 O	9.63E-06	9.18E-06	-1.25	3.20	5.76E-09		
7	C14 H23 O	2.41E-06	2.14E-06	-0.55	2.54	6.23E-09		
8	C11 H15 O	3.91E-05	4.41E-05	-1.89	3.80	6.94E-09		
9	C12 H17 O	3.58E-05	3.72E-05	-2.09	4.00	3.76E-09		
10	C13 H19 O	1.72E-05	1.66E-05	-1.30	3.25	9.32E-09		Sum TH and
11	C12 H15 O	2.24E-05	2.35E-05	-1.68	3.61	5.79E-09		Sum TO and
12	C13 H17 O	1.88E-05	1.83E-05	-1.14	3.10	1.46E-08		predict
13	C14 H19 O	1.00E-05	9.08E-06	-1.24	3.19	5.86E-09	. [	tovicity
14	C15 H21 O	5.39E-06	4.57E-06	-1.21	3.16	3.15E-09		ισχιτιγ
15	C12 H13 O	1.75E-05	1.86E-05	-1.98	3.89	2.41E-09		
16	C13 H15 O	2.17E-05	2.13E-05	-1.70	3.62	5.09E-09		
17	C14 H17 O	1.48E-05	1.36E-05	-1.39	3.33	6.31E-09		
18	C15 H19 O	1.65E-05	1.41E-05	-1.46	3.40	5.63E-09		
19	C16 H21 O	1.72E-05	1.38E-05	-1.24	3.19	8.87E-09		
20	C17 H23 O	1.41E-05	1.07E-05	-1.08	3.04	9.79E-09		
21	C18 H25 O	9.8/E-06	7.07E-06	-1.61	3.54	2.04E-09		
22	C19 H27 O	2.08E-06	1.41E-06	-0.41	2.41	5.53E-09		
23	C13 H13 U	9.14E-06	9.09E-06	-1.65	3.58	2.40E-09		



#### Test of model



	No. samples
Acute toxicity (LC50)	8
Total	10



96-hr embryo-lethality assay *Pimephales promelas* 



#### Model results



**Table 2.** Percent of samples greaterthan X-fold different from observed.

Fold difference from Observed LC50	Model (n = 8)
2 – fold	50%
4 – fold	75%
> 10 - fold	0%

• All LC50s predicted within 10fold of observed.

**Figure 2.** Model predicted LC50 v. observed LC50, blue-line is a 5-fold difference from observed.



### Contribution of chemical class, carbon number ranges to toxicity of the F1-Pool sample.

Chemical	Percent TU (%) of dissolved organic fraction					
Class	of OSPW					
	C5-15	C16-20	C21-25	C26-30		
SO⁺	5.79	20.3	2.59	3.25		
SO <sub>2</sub> -	0.85	7.75	0.15	<0.01		
NO <sup>+</sup>	8.33	7.40	1.24	<0.01		
02 <sup>-</sup>	4.42	11.9	0.91	<0.01		
<b>O2</b> +	7.05	7.93	6.12	0.03		
<b>O</b> <sup>+</sup>	2.41	1.43	0.20	<0.01		
<b>O</b> -	<4.60E-4	<4.60E-4	<4.60E-4	<4.60E-4		
Total TU	29%	57%	11.2%	2.8%		

- O<sub>2</sub><sup>+/-</sup> and SO<sup>+</sup> chemical classes contribute most of predicted toxicity (~70%)
- Carbon number range C5-20 contribute > 85% of predicted toxicity
  - C16-20 predominate (>57%)



### Conclusions

- Developed a model to predict the acute lethality of dissolved organic chemicals in OSPW to embryos of Fathead minnow (100% of predictions were within biological variability associated with test)
- Chemical class contributions confirms results of EDA
  - i.e.  $O^{+/-}$ ,  $O_2^{+/-}$ ,  $SO^+$ ,  $NO^+$  and  $SO_2^-$  are responsible for most toxicity
- SO<sup>+</sup> were identified as the most potent chemical class
  - SO<sup>+</sup> are among persistent chemicals in OSPW



### Pull-down combined with untargeted analysis (PCUA) strategy to robustly identify causative chemicals in mixtures of residues in samples of food, human tissues or environmental matrices

Example: PPARy agonistic activity



#### Case studies using pull-down system





#### **Untargeted Strategy to Identify Causative Chemicals**





### **Case 1: PPARy Activation (known protein target)**

- PPARs regulate intracellular lipid flux and adipocyte proliferation and differentiation.
- PPARγ ligands might promote development of obesity.
- Activated by structurally diverse ligands







#### **EDA: Chemical Analysis and Bioassay**



**Chemical Analysis: Ultrahigh-Resolution Mass Spectrometry** 

Bioassay: NRF2 Luciferase Reporter System (High Throughput)



#### **PPARy Activation - Luciferase Reporter Gene Assay**





#### Conclusions

	Pull-down strategy (known protein target)	Effect-Directed Analysis (unknown protein target)
ADV:	Useful to identify unknown ligands	Quantitative mass balance analysis
	Compatible to multiple ligands	Easy for operation
	Expand dynamic range	
	Time-effective	
DISADV:	Need tagged-protein	Difficulty to identify unknown ligands
	No mass balance information	Complicated by multiple ligands
		High noise
		Time-consuming



The emergence of DNA as a detectable and quantifiable unit of observation in biodiversity science is arguably the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT technical advance in ecology in our life-times.



Article

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<sup>1</sup> Ecogenomics of Zooplankton Community Reveals Ecological <sup>2</sup> Threshold of Ammonia Nitrogen

<sup>3</sup> Jianghua Yang,<sup>†</sup> Xiaowei Zhang,<sup>\*,†©</sup> Yuwei Xie,<sup>†</sup> Chao Song,<sup>†</sup> Jingying Sun,<sup>†</sup> Yong Zhang,<sup>‡</sup> <sup>4</sup> John P. Giesy,<sup>†,§,||</sup> and Hongxia Yu<sup>†</sup>



NextSeq 5000 DNA Sequencer



### **Microbiome**



ature

GES 194, 207 & 21





#### Nitrogen cycling is controlled by sediment microbiome



### **Environmental Microbiome**

### Nitrogen cycling is controlled by sediment microbiome



Amino Acids and Derivatives Carbohydrates **Cell Division and Cell Cycle Cell Wall and Capsule** Cofactors, Vitamins, Prosthetic Groups, **Pigments DNA Metabolism Dormancy and Sporulation** Fatty Acids, Lipids, and Isoprenoids Iron acquisition and metabolism **Membrane Transport Metabolism of Aromatic Compounds** Miscellaneous **Motility and Chemotaxis Nitrogen Metabolism Nucleosides and Nucleotides** Phages, Prophages, Transposable elements, Plasmids **Phosphorus Metabolism Photosynthesis** Potassium metabolism Protein Metabolism **RNA Metabolism Regulation and Cell signaling** Respiration **Secondary Metabolism** Stress Response Sulfur Metabolism Virulence, Disease and Defense

#### Subsystems annotation and abundance



### **Environmental Macrobiome**

#### **Biodiversity of Aquatic Ecosystems**

#### **Biodiversity in Terrestrial Ecosystem**

















# Measurement of Macrobiome **DNA Meta-barcoding** 71860 01352 5

**Operational Taxonomic Units (OTUs)** 



### Advantages of Metabarcoding

- More rapid and cost effective
- More comprehensive than traditional visual taxonomy
- Can use to monitor biodiversity
- Can use to monitor for invasive species



#### **HTP Biodiversity assessment by Environmental DNA**



Library



Lake



**DNA** 







**DNA Sequence** 







### 1) High Throughput Barcoding Protocol



Schematic diagram of parallel barcode recovery using multiple identifier (MID) tagging and nextgeneration sequencing (NGS) protocol.



### 2) DNA Barcode Database of an Aquatic Ecosystem





#### DNA Barcode Library of Zooplankton from Lake Tai





### **Database of Benthic Macro-invertebrates**





#### DNA barcode Database of Chinese freshwater fishes

#### Abundance and richness of fishes in Lake Tai

110 -	Species (107)	Family (25)	Order (14)	Class (1)
10 ]		<ul> <li>Tetrodontidae</li> </ul>	Tetrodontiformes	
		<ul> <li>Cynoglossida</li> </ul>	Pleuronectiformes	
100 -		<ul> <li>Mastacembelidae</li> </ul>		
		Channa asiatica		
90 -		🖉 Belontiidae		
		Taenioides		
80 -		Gobiidae	Perciformes	
		Eleotridae		
70		<ul> <li>Callionymidae</li> </ul>		
<i>"</i> ]		Serranidae		S
		Cottidae	Scorpaeniformes	Ve
60 -		Synbranchidae	Synbranchiformes	th
		<ul> <li>Oryziatidae</li> </ul>	Cynbrachiformes	ch
50 -		📕 Hemirhamphidae	Beloniformes	ei
		Mugilidae	Mugiliformes	Dst
40 -		Salangidae	Osmeriformes	0
	Cyprinid	Siluridae	Siluriformes	
30 -	(60	Bagridae	Sittingormes	
	species	<ul> <li>Cobitidae</li> </ul>		
20	species/	<ul> <li>Cyprinidae</li> </ul>	Cypriniformes	
20 ]		<ul> <li>Catostomidae</li> </ul>		
		Engraulidae	Clupeiformes	
10 -		<ul> <li>Clupeidae</li> </ul>		
		Anguillidae	Anguilliformes	
0 ]		<ul> <li>Acipenseridae</li> </ul>	Acipenseriformes	(Data from

## DNA barcoding database of fishes in Lake Tai

# 1</li

#### Totally, 36 spices, 234 individuals



iformes (Data from <<Fishes of Lake Tai>>)



### Map of biodiversity of Fish community in Lake Tai (2014)



CHINA

20 Km



# Map of biodiversity of freshwater zooplankton community in China







Comparison of metabarcoding and traditional visual taxonomy



Avg 80% identification

В









### Thank you!!!!!!



### **Global Water Futures Program**

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