

Metabolite Annotation with hMetFrag and MetFusion in LC/MS Metabolomics

Steffen Neumann

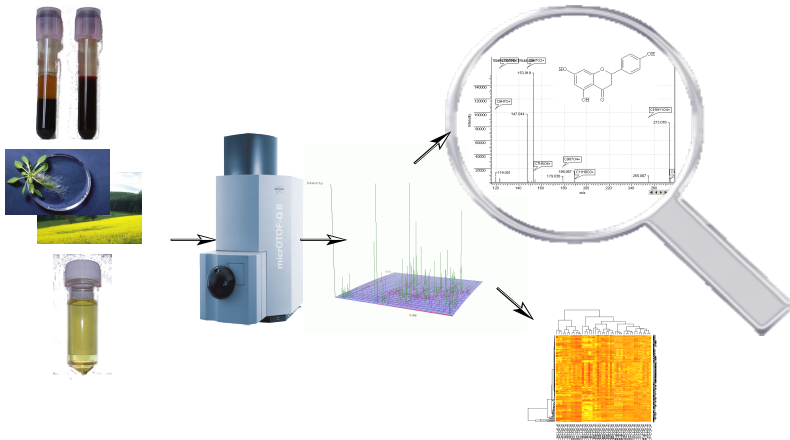
Leibniz Institute of Plant Biochemistry

September, 19th 2014, *NORMAN workshop*



- Established 1958 by Kurth Mothes
- Plant diversity, development and adaptation
- Plant production, -protection and biologically active compounds
- About 180 Researchers, including 5-15 Bioinformaticians

Metabolomics – The Pipeline



- 1 Identification of Molecules from LC-MS/MS
- 2 Critical Assessment of Small Molecule Identification
- 3 Summary & Outlook

- 1 Identification of Molecules from LC-MS/MS
- 2 Critical Assessment of Small Molecule Identification
- 3 Summary & Outlook

What *is* Identification ??

What is Identification ??

“Proposed minimum reporting standards for chemical analysis”
of the Chemical Analysis Working Group (CAWG)
of the Metabolomics Standards Initiative (MSI) for non-novel compounds

1 Identified compound:

retention time/index and mass spectrum, retention time and NMR spectrum, accurate mass and tandem MS, accurate mass and isotope pattern, full ^1H and/or ^{13}C NMR, 2-D NMR spectra of **in-house measured authentic reference compound** Optionally (esp. for unambiguous stereo configuration) selective solvent extraction, retention time, m/z, photodiode array spectra, λ_{max} and ϵ_{max} , chemical derivatization, isotope labeling, 2D NMR, IR spectra, etc.

2 Putative compound:

without chemical reference standards, based upon physico-chemical properties and/or spectral similarity with (public/commercial) spectral libraries

3 Putative compound class

4 Unknown compounds – but can be differentiated and quantified

And how confident are you ?

Emma Levels

- 1 *The* compound structure
- 2 (Few) Isomers
- 3 Compound class
- 4 Molecular formula
- 5 Accurate Mass

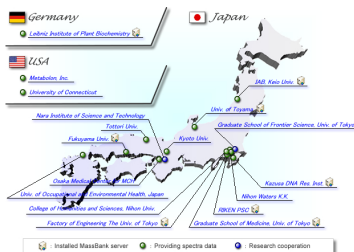
Identification *with* reference spectra: MassBank



- <http://www.massbank.jp/>
 - Open Data, Open Consortium
 - IPB Halle first European server:
msbi.ipb-halle.de/MassBank/
- ≈ 4 275 compounds
with ≈27 500 MS² spectra (6/2013)

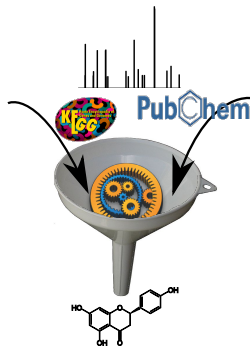
Other (ESI) libraries:

- Metlin
- HMDB
- MMCD
- NIST
- ...



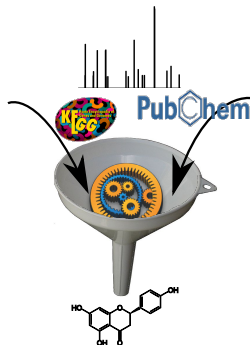
Identification *without* reference spectra

- Spectral libraries (even MassBank) inherently incomplete
- General purpose compound databases:
 - KEGG Compound: 14 067
 - PubChem: 27 million
 - ChemSpider: 25 million
- Known molecular structures
- But: no spectra search → “known unknowns”



Identification *without* reference spectra

- Spectral libraries (even MassBank) inherently incomplete
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- Known molecular structures
- But: no spectra search → “known unknowns”



msbi.ipb-halle.de/MetFrag/ provides this search:

- 1 Search compound database for precursor mass
- 2 *In-silico* fragmentation of molecular structure
- 3 Score measured vs. “predicted” peaks




MetFrag: an example

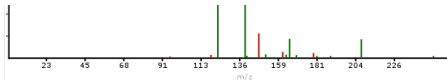
The screenshot shows the MetFrag web interface with the following details:

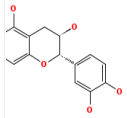
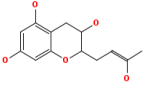
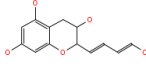
- Database Settings:**
 - Database: KEGG PubChem ChemSpider Beilstein Local SDF
 - Neutral exact mass: Search PPM:
 - Molecular formula (optional alternative):
 - Only biological compounds:
 - Limit # of structures:
 - Database ID's:
- Search upstream DB:** 14 hits
- MetFrag Settings:**
 - TreeDepth:
 - Mode: [M+H]⁺ [M-H]⁻ (Alpha)
 - Mzabs (e.g. 0.01):
 - Mzppm (e.g. 10):
 - 0 of 14 compounds processed
 - Buttons: Process all 14 compounds! START Stop
- Peaks:**
 - 95.052 120.487
 - 119.049 254.522
 - 123.043 5721.032
 - 139.039 10000.000
 - 140.042 179.913
 - 147.043 2208.863
 - 151.039 314.566
 - 161.062 528.514
 - 163.042 286.239
 - 165.057 1715.946
 - 169.052 242.535
 - 179.073 426.807
 - 181.055 165.637
 - 189.058 174.827
 - 207.068 1669.815
 - 249.079 173.375
- Buttons:** [Analyze peaks](#) (in red text)
- Feedback:** A vertical green button labeled "Feedback" is located on the right side of the interface.

- Search 290.08Da with 10ppm
- 14 KEGG hits
- MetFrag takes ca. 10sec
- Results ordered by score
- Details / Fragment view
- Excel/SDF download
- Feedback form
- Local version available

MetFrag: an example

Score	# Explained Peaks	Trianal Name	Exact Mass	Structure	Database ID	Actions
1.0	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (+)-Catechin D-Catechin Cyanidanol 2-(trans-2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydro-2H-1-benzopyran-3,5,7-trl) (2R,3S)-Cateches (2R,3S)-(+)-Catechin Cianidanol 	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆ 290.079		006962	Fragments Download
0.901	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luteofloraol 3-Deoxyflavococyanidin 	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆ 290.079		006902	Fragments Download
0.822	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flavitrifid-beta-ol (-)-Mallicococidin Flavitrin-3,4-diol 5-Deoxyflavococyanidin 	C ₁₅ H ₁₄ O ₆ 290.079		000736	Fragments Download



290.079 (Original Compound)	Mass: 249.0763 [C ₁₃ H ₁₁ O ₅ +2H] (-10.8 ppm)	Mass: 249.0763 [C ₁₃ H ₁₂ O ₅ +H] (-10.8 ppm)
		
s: 207.0657 [C ₁₁ H ₉ O ₄ +2H] (-11.1 ppm)	Mass: 207.0657 [C ₁₁ H ₁₀ O ₄ +H] (-11.1 ppm)	Mass: 189.0552 [C ₁₁ H ₉ O ₃ +H] (-14.8 ppm)

- Search 290.08Da with 10ppm
- 14 KEGG hits
- MetFrag takes ca. 10sec
- Results ordered by score

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There are other tools for Metabolite annotation/identification, incomplete list and some literature:

Since before 2010

- ACD Fragmenter (ACD)
- MassFrontier (HighChem), Grant *et al.* Anal. Chem (2008)

After 2010

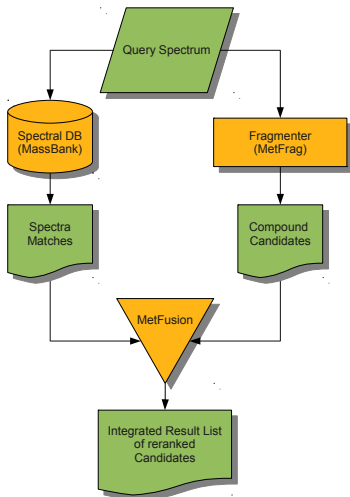
- MAGMa (Ridder *et al.*), CASMI 2013
- CFM (Allen *et al.*), CASMI 2013
- Rational Numbers (Sweeny *et al.*), CASMI 2013
- SIRIUS (Böcker *et al.*)
- MassFrontier (HighChem), (Viant *et al.*)

Integrating MassBank & MetFrag ?

Both tools are great ! Both aid in identifying compounds:

- MassBank: **reference** spectra
 - Actual, real measurements under real conditions
 - Limited coverage, metabolite you look for is (almost) always missing
 - Results based on *spectral* similarity
- MetFrag: **large** compound DB
 - Upstream *exact mass* or *molecular formula* search
 - But: A prediction is a prediction, nothing else
 - Molecular re-arrangements mostly ignored

Integrating MassBank & MetFrag !



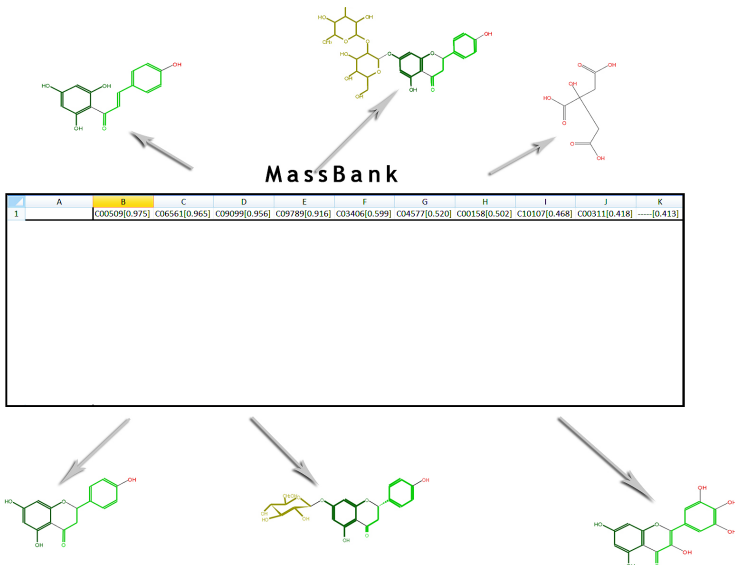
- MetFusion: **Combine** results:
 - Parallel queries in MassBank and MetFrag
 - Pairwise chemical similarities between result sets
- Calculate *integrated* score
- Major improvement of identification power and accuracy
- msbi.ipb-halle.de/MetFusion/

Gerlich M., Neumann S., MetFusion: integration of compound identification strategies
Journal of Mass Spectrometry 48 (3), 291-298

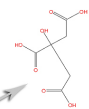
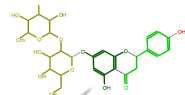
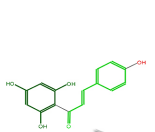
Member



Integrating MassBank + MetFrag: Chemical *Similarity*



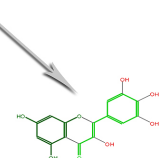
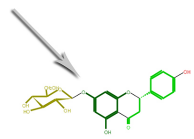
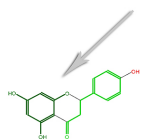
Integrating MassBank + MetFrag: Chemical Similarity



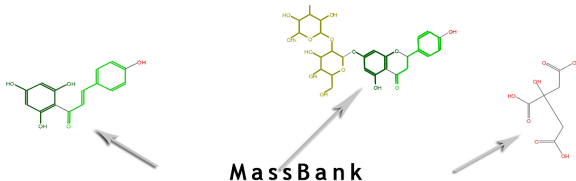
MassBank

MetFrag

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1		C00509[0.975]	C06561[0.965]	C09099[0.956]	C09789[0.916]	C03406[0.599]	C04577[0.520]	C00158[0.502]	C10107[0.468]	C00311[0.418]	----[0.413]
2		C00509[1.000]									
3		C16232[1.000]									
4		C06561[0.966]									
5		C12087[0.966]									
6		C14458[0.966]									
7		C09826[0.909]									
8		C03567[0.462]									
9		C09614[0.462]									
10		C09751[0.443]									
11		C09047[0.426]									
12		C17673[0.426]									
13		C15667[0.409]									
14		C01263[0.350]									
15		C01592[0.133]									
16		C08578[0.110]									

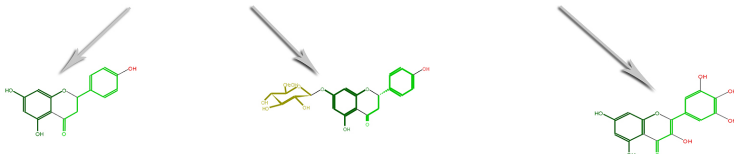


Integrating MassBank + MetFrag: Chemical Similarity



MetFrag

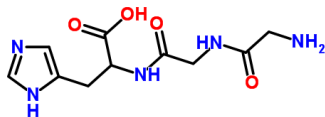
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1		C00509[0.975]	C06561[0.965]	C09099[0.956]	C09789[0.916]	C03406[0.599]	C04577[0.520]	C00158[0.502]	C10107[0.468]	C00311[0.418]	----[0.413]
2	C00509[1.000]	1,00	0,30	0,72	0,63	0,14	0,15	0,11	0,46	0,11	0,34
3	C16232[1.000]	0,92	0,29	0,69	0,62	0,14	0,15	0,10	0,47	0,10	0,37
4	C06561[0.966]	0,30	1,00	0,25	0,24	0,10	0,14	0,10	0,45	0,10	0,26
5	C12087[0.966]	0,25	0,32	0,24	0,24	0,12	0,21	0,09	0,33	0,09	0,32
6	C14458[0.966]	0,62	0,32	0,50	0,45	0,11	0,15	0,09	0,38	0,09	0,29
7	C09826[0.909]	0,90	0,29	0,70	0,63	0,13	0,15	0,10	0,49	0,10	0,35
8	C03567[0.462]	0,58	0,32	0,48	0,44	0,11	0,15	0,09	0,38	0,09	0,29
9	C09614[0.462]	0,91	0,29	0,70	0,62	0,14	0,16	0,10	0,48	0,10	0,36
10	C09751[0.443]	0,90	0,29	0,70	0,63	0,13	0,15	0,10	0,50	0,10	0,35
11	C09047[0.426]	0,38	0,41	0,33	0,32	0,12	0,14	0,08	0,60	0,08	0,25
12	C17673[0.426]	0,36	0,32	0,32	0,30	0,13	0,12	0,08	0,37	0,08	0,43
13	C15567[0.409]	0,54	0,29	0,49	0,45	0,12	0,15	0,08	0,38	0,08	0,31
14	C01263[0.350]	0,50	0,22	0,48	0,48	0,11	0,11	0,05	0,44	0,05	0,35
15	C01592[0.133]	0,47	0,37	0,34	0,30	0,13	0,14	0,14	0,23	0,14	0,22
16	C08578[0.110]	0,30	0,95	0,25	0,25	0,10	0,14	0,09	0,47	0,09	0,27



Chemical similarity color-coded: high ... medium ... low

MetFusion: Example Gly-Gly-His

- Example: tripeptide Gly-Gly-His
- Nominal mass spectrum from NIST MS/MS library
- PubChem: 211 candidates
- MassBank: only His and Gly spectra
- MetFrag: correct ranked 23rd







MetFusion: Example Gly-Gly-His

Spectrum Query Query Results Similarity Matrix Information

MetFusion Cluster Fragmenter List Database List Unused Database Entries

Export results into Excel file

MetFusion - Tanimoto Clustering Ranking

Port Name	Record ID	Compound Name	Exact Mass	Structure	Score	Integration Score	Fragments
MetFrag	3635153	(2S)-2-[(2S)-2,4-diamino-4-oxobutanoyl]amino-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	$C_{10}H_{16}N_6O_4$ 269.112		0.61	1.643	Peaks explained: 26 Compute Fragments
MetFrag	320062	2-[(2S)-2-aminoacetyl]amino-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	$C_{10}H_{16}N_6O_4$ 269.112		0.577	1.506	Peaks explained: 26 Compute Fragments
MetFrag	21117473	2-[[(2S)-2-aminoacetyl]amino]-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	$C_{10}H_{16}N_6O_4$ 269.112		0.364	1.448	Peaks explained: 18 Compute Fragments
MetFrag	22110703	2-amino-4-[(2S)-2-aminoacetyl]amino-5-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)-3-oxopentanoic acid	$C_{10}H_{16}N_6O_4$ 269.112		0.653	1.124	Peaks explained: 30 Compute Fragments

Feedback

MetFusion: Example Gly-Gly-His

Spectrum Query Query Results **Similarity Matrix** Information

Original Similarity Matrix Reranked Similarity Matrix

MetFrag's MascotBank Compounds	PK000422	KC000309	ZM000008	KC000228	KC000404	KC000302	WA001592	KC000285	PK100105	WA002041	CC000089	KC000205	WA001352	
22737823	0.161	0.212	0.223	0.275	0.223	0.123	0.101	0.22	0.096	0.122	0.156	0.257	0.323	0.217
6857701	0.198	0.238	0.232	0.232	0.202	0.204	0.207	0.28	0.096	0.107	0.163	0.26	0.349	0.232
11254204	0.199	0.255	0.22	0.249	0.207	0.252	0.207	0.215	0.096	0.21	0.156	0.272	0.351	0.27
21036327	0.164	0.228	0.208	0.228	0.2	0.281	0.102	0.243	0.096	0.141	0.156	0.226	0.329	0.254
20977091	0.439	0.392	0.198	0.4	0.405	0.213	0.182	0.172	0.081	0.152	0.258	0.288	0.204	0.204

Spectrum Query Query Results **Similarity Matrix** Information

Original Similarity Matrix Reranked Similarity Matrix





MetFrag's MascotBank Compounds	PK000422	KC000309	ZM000008	KC000228	KC000404	KC000302	WA001592	KC000285	PK100105	WA002041	CC000089	KC000205	WA001352
9635143	0.549	0.792	0.262	0.823	0.696	0.269	0.184	0.201	0.115				
100097	0.595	0.674	0.22	0.769	0.747	0.223	0.159	0.191	0.116				
21117473	0.602	0.668	0.213	0.76	0.798	0.228	0.176	0.168	0.108				
22118780	0.445	0.577	0.268	0.626	0.561	0.279	0.083	0.232	0.108				
22119780	0.445	0.602	0.206	0.646	0.601	0.271	0.087	0.162	0.112				
23169721	0.493	0.534	0.254	0.588	0.509	0.241	0.096	0.196	0.096				
22295807	0.179	0.216	0.232	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.104	0.181	0.104				
914855	0.211	0.257	0.206	0.211	0.211	0.211	0.104	0.181	0.104				
11594200	0.105	0.234	0.163	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.104	0.181	0.104				

211 candidates found, displaying 20 candidates

Spectrum Query Query Results **Similarity Matrix** Information

MetFusion Cluster Fragmenter List Database List Unused Database Entries

Export results into Excel file

Part Name	Record ID	Compound Name	Exact Mass	Structure	Score	Integration Score	Peaks explained	Fragmente
MetFrag	9635143	(2S)-2-[(2S)-2,4-diamino-4-oxobutanoyl(amino)-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	C ₁₀ H ₁₆ N ₆ O ₄		0.61	1.643	Peaks explained: 26	Complete Fragmente
MetFrag	100097	2-[(2-aminocetyl(amino)acetyl(amino)-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	C ₁₀ H ₁₆ N ₆ O ₄		0.577	1.506	Peaks explained: 26	Complete Fragmente
MetFrag	21117473	2-[bis(2-aminocetyl(amino)-3-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)propanoic acid	C ₁₀ H ₁₆ N ₆ O ₄		0.364	1.448	Peaks explained: 18	Complete Fragmente
MetFrag	22119780	2-amino-4-[(2-aminocetyl(amino)-5-(1H-imidazol-5-yl)-3-oxopropanoic acid	C ₁₀ H ₁₆ N ₆ O ₄		0.653	1.124	Peaks explained: 30	Complete Fragmente

Feedback

MetFusion: Evaluation

- 345 compounds, 89 to 837 Da
- flavonoids, isoflavonoids, steroids, amino acids, carboxylic acids, polyketids, prenol and sterol lipids, glucosides, drugs, toxins, alcohols, carbohydrates
- 1062 spectra from MassBank, all QTOF
- Median 707 candidates from PubChem
- Leave-*some*-out MassBank “pruning”:

		Max. chemical similarity to MassBank
		=1
MetFusion	Rank	1
	RRP	1

MetFusion: Evaluation

- 345 compounds, 89 to 837 Da
- flavonoids, isoflavonoids, steroids, amino acids, carboxylic acids, polyketids, prenol and sterol lipids, glucosides, drugs, toxins, alcohols, carbohydrates
- 1062 spectra from MassBank, all QTOF
- Median 707 candidates from PubChem
- Leave-*some*-out MassBank “pruning”:

		Max. chemical similarity to MassBank	
		<1	=1
MetFusion	Rank	4	1
	RRP	0.993	1

MetFusion: Evaluation

- 345 compounds, 89 to 837 Da
- flavonoids, isoflavonoids, steroids, amino acids, carboxylic acids, polyketids, prenol and sterol lipids, glucosides, drugs, toxins, alcohols, carbohydrates
- 1062 spectra from MassBank, all QTOF
- Median 707 candidates from PubChem
- Leave-*some*-out MassBank “pruning”:

		Max. chemical similarity to MassBank		
		<0.9	<1	=1
MetFusion	Rank	7	4	1
	RRP	0.991	0.993	1

MetFusion: Evaluation

- 345 compounds, 89 to 837 Da
- flavonoids, isoflavonoids, steroids, amino acids, carboxylic acids, polyketids, prenol and sterol lipids, glucosides, drugs, toxins, alcohols, carbohydrates
- 1062 spectra from MassBank, all QTOF
- Median 707 candidates from PubChem
- Leave-*some*-out MassBank “pruning”:

		Max. chemical similarity to MassBank				
		<0.7	<0.8	<0.9	<1	=1
MetFusion	Rank	10	8	7	4	1
	RRP	0.986	0.990	0.991	0.993	1

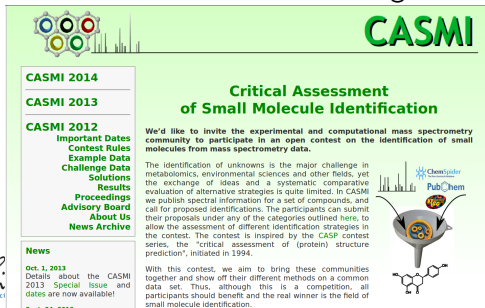
- 1 Identification of Molecules from LC-MS/MS
- 2 Critical Assessment of Small Molecule Identification**
- 3 Summary & Outlook

What is CASMI ?

We invited the experimental and computational mass spectrometry community to participate in an open **contest** on the **identification** of small molecules from mass spectrometry data:

Critical Assessment of Small Molecule Identification

www.casmi-contest.org



The screenshot shows the CASMI website homepage. At the top left is a logo with five colored circles (blue, green, red, yellow, black) and a mass spectrum. The word "CASMI" is written in large green letters at the top right. Below the logo, there are navigation links for "CASMI 2014", "CASMI 2013", and "CASMI 2012". Under "CASMI 2012", there are links for "Important Dates", "Contest Rules", "Example Data", "Challenge Data", "Solutions", "Results", "Proceedings", "Advisory Board", "About Us", and "News Archive". A "News" section is visible at the bottom left, dated "Oct. 1, 2013", with the text "Details about the CASMI 2013 Special Issue and dates are now available!". At the bottom right, there is a graphic of a funnel with a mass spectrum and a chemical structure, with logos for ChemSpider, PubChem, and CASMI.

CASMI

**Critical Assessment
of Small Molecule Identification**

We'd like to invite the experimental and computational mass spectrometry community to participate in an open contest on the identification of small molecules from mass spectrometry data.

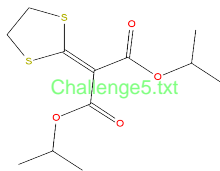
The identification of unknowns is the major challenge in metabolomics, environmental sciences and other fields, yet the exchange of ideas and a systematic comparative evaluation of alternative strategies is quite limited. In CASMI we publish spectral information for a set of compounds, and call for proposed identifications. The participants can submit their proposals under any of the categories outlined here, to allow the assessment of different identification strategies in the contest. The contest is inspired by the CASP contest series, the "critical assessment of (protein) structure prediction", initiated in 1994.

With this contest, we aim to bring these communities together and show off their different methods on a common data set. Thus, although this is a competition, all participants should benefit and the real winner is the field of small molecule identification.



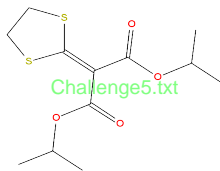
E. Schymanski, S. Neumann

Isoprothiolane

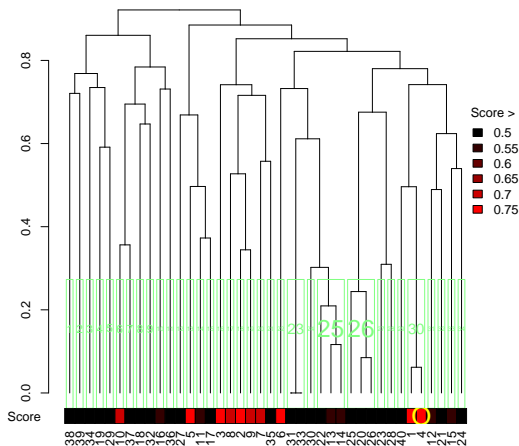


CASMI as an exercise for post-processing analysis

Isoprothiolane

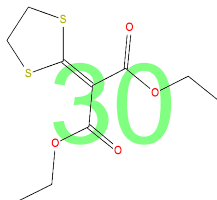
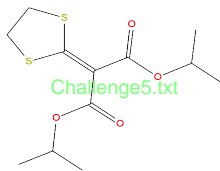


ES-category2-Challenge5.txt

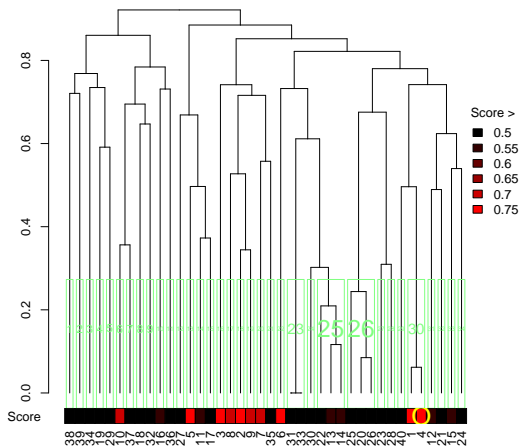


CASMI as an exercise for post-processing analysis

Isoprothiolane

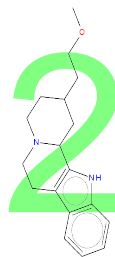
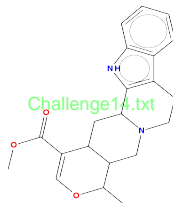
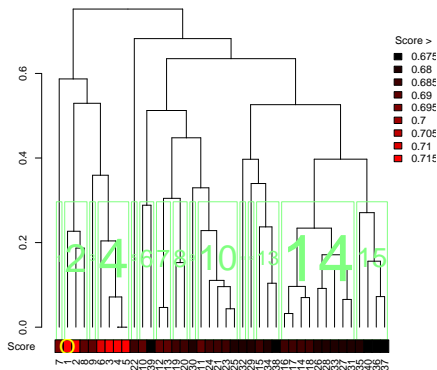


ES-category2-Challenge5.txt



Tetrahydroalstonine

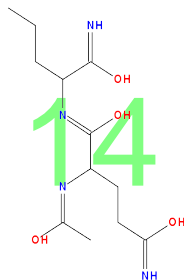
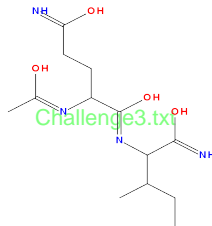
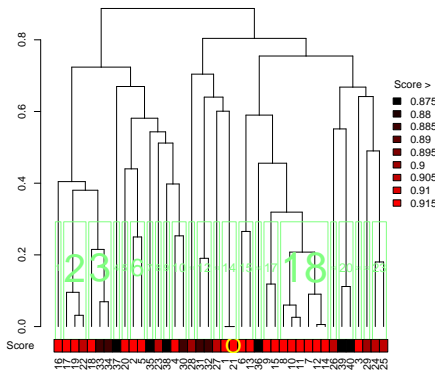
ES-category2-Challenge14.txt



CASMI as an exercise for post-processing analysis

Acetyl-Gln-Leu-amide

ES-category2-Challenge3.txt



KEGG extrapolation

The higher the similarity between an unknown and the reference spectrum, the better the identification result.

⇒ How similar are compounds between MassBank and KEGG ?

Number of KEGG compounds for which a MassBank record with a chemical similarity greater or equal the threshold exists:

Similarity	>0.7	>0.8	>0.9	=1.0
KEGG Entries	5 513	4 068	2 690	1 470

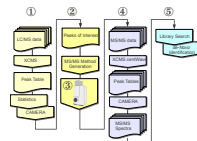
MetFusion has median rank 7 on test data if reference spectra with >0.9 chemical similarity are available. **If** that generalises to all KEGG compounds, we expect for 1 345 metabolites rank 7 or better.

Gerlich M., S Neumann S., MetFusion: integration of compound identification strategies
Journal of Mass Spectrometry 48 (3), 291-298

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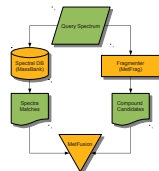
MetShot approach

- High-quality MS/MS spectra
- Biologically relevant features
- Signal processing with XCMS and CAMERA



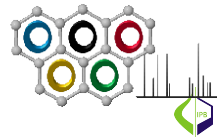
Metabolite identification

- With reference spectra (MassBank)
- With *in silico* tools (MetFrag)
- With a combination thereof (MetFusion)



CASMI 2012 – 2013 – 2014

- Open contest for structure elucidation
- Good results, but manual methods don't scale
- Becoming a regular contest series





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- Michael Gerlich (MetFusion)
- D. Schober, S. Mönchgesang

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EU FP7 “SOLUTIONS”

Alumni (excerpt):

- Dr. Sebastian Wolf (now Bruker Biospin)
- Dr. Ralf Tautenhahn (SCRIPPS, now ThermoFischer)
- Carsten Kuhl (now Bruker Biospin)
- Björn Egert (now Max Rübner Institute)



Only supplemental slides
beyond this point