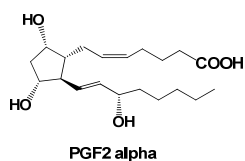


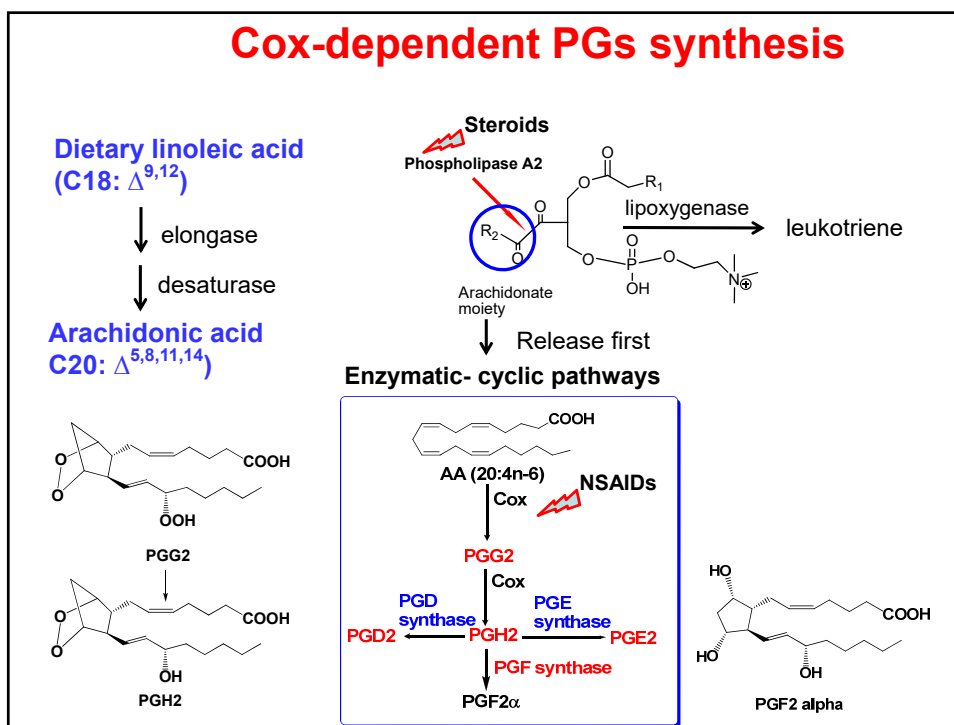
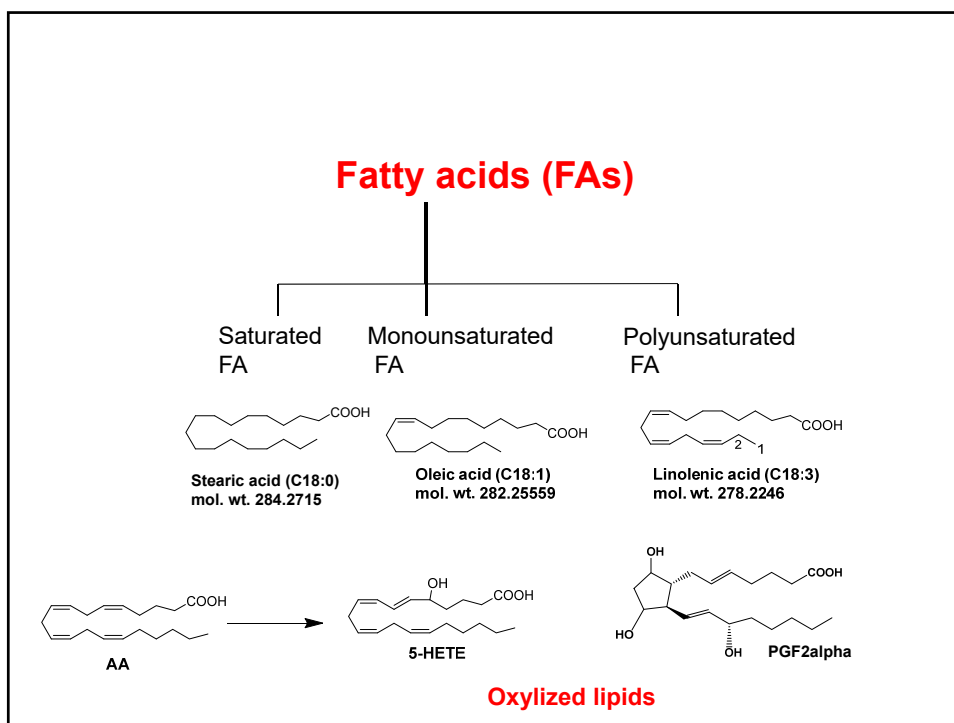
# Tandem mass spectrometry analysis of prostaglandins and isoprostanes



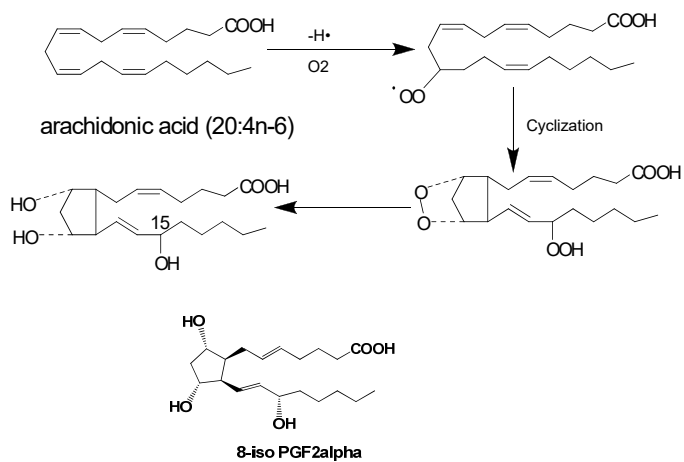
Jeevan Prasain  
[jprasain@uab.edu](mailto:jprasain@uab.edu)  
6-2612

## Overview

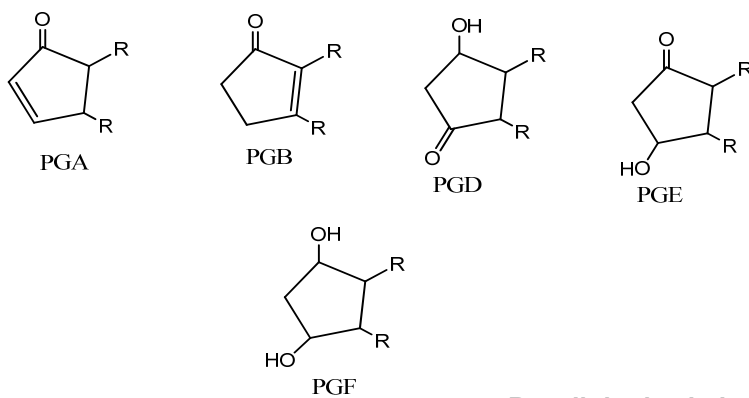
- Introduction to PGs and their synthesis
- Mass spectrometry characterization of PGs and isoprostanes
- PGs in Cox-dKO pups and *C. elegans*



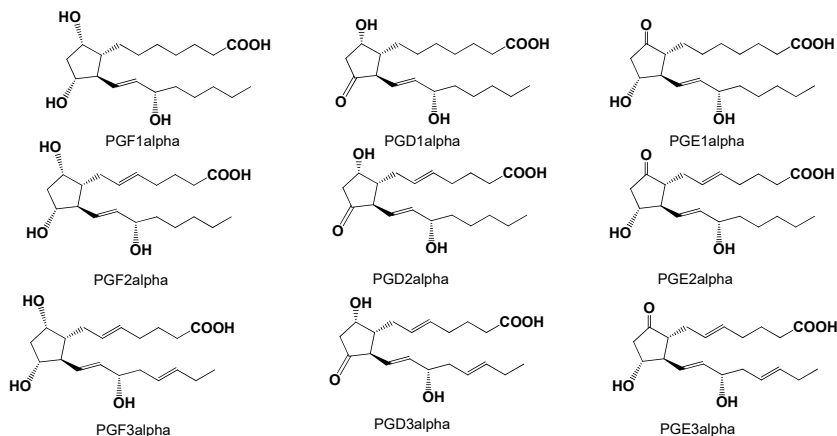
## Non-enzymatic isoprostane synthesis



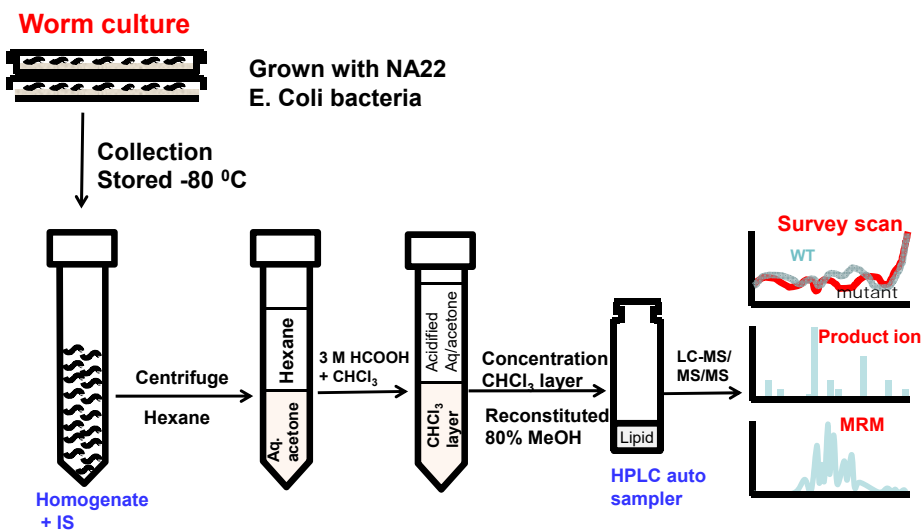
## Structural representation PG based on ring features



## Structures of PGs D, E and F series



## *C. elegans* culture, lipid extraction and mass spectrometry analysis



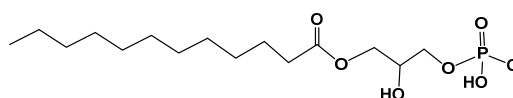
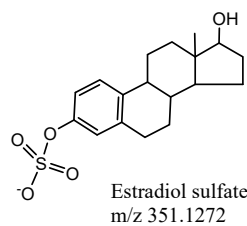
## LC-MS/MS data summary for chemically synthesized F-series PG standards.

Name	RT (min)*	[M-H] <sup>-</sup> m/z	Key product ions in CID (MS/MS)
PGD <sub>2</sub>	12.56	351	315, 271, 233, 203, 189
PGE <sub>2</sub>	12.23	351	333, 315, 271, 235, 189, 175, 109
PGH <sub>2</sub>	12.23	351	333, 315, 271, 235, 217, 189, 175, 113, 109
PGF <sub>1α</sub>	11.83*	355	337, 319, 311, 301, 293, 275, 265, 249, 237, 211, 195
8-iso PGF <sub>1α</sub>	11.34	355	337, 319, 311, 293, 275, 265, 249, 237, 219, 211, 183
9β-PGF <sub>1α</sub>	11.36	355	337, 319, 311, 301, 293, 275, 265, 237, 211, 183, 167
8-iso 9β-PGF <sub>1α</sub>	11.44	355	337, 319, 311, 293, 275, 265, 219, 211, 183
9β, 11β-PGF <sub>1α</sub>	11.99	355	337, 319, 311, 301, 293, 275, 265, 237, 219, 211, 183
PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.73*	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 263, 247, 209, 193, 171, 165
ent-PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.71	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 247, 209, 193, 191, 171, 165
11β PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.48	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 247, 209, 193, 173, 165, 111
15(R)-PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.89	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 247, 209, 193, 191, 171, 165
8-iso PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.31	353	335, 307, 309, 291, 273, 247, 209, 193, 181, 171, 165
5-trans PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.60	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 247, 209, 193, 171, 165, 111
8-iso 15(R)-PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.39	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 263, 247, 209, 193, 171, 165
9β-PGF <sub>2α</sub>	11.22	353	335, 317, 309, 291, 273, 255, 247, 193, 173, 171, 165
PGF <sub>3α</sub>	11.26	351	333, 315, 307, 289, 271, 245, 219, 209, 193, 191, 165
8-iso PGF <sub>3α</sub>	10.83	351	333, 315, 307, 289, 271, 245, 219, 209, 193, 191, 171
2,3-Dinor-11β-PGF <sub>2α</sub>	10.67	325	261, 245, 227, 219, 173, 163, 153, 145, 137, 113, 107
19(R)-hydroxy PGF <sub>2α</sub>	9.19	369	351, 333, 325, 315, 307, 263, 235, 209, 193, 171, 165
20-hydroxy PGF <sub>2α</sub>	9.13	369	351, 333, 325, 315, 307, 263, 209, 193, 181, 171, 165

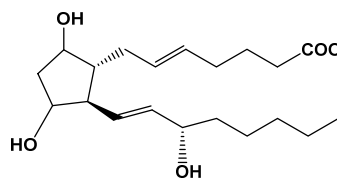
Retention time (RT), parent ion mass ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>), and key product ion masses are shown for prostaglandin (PG) standards.  
 \*Isomers within each prostaglandin class (i.e. PGF<sub>2α</sub> isomers) were run together and RTs are directly comparable. PGF<sub>1α</sub> and PGF<sub>2α</sub> classes were run on different days and a slight RT shift is observed. For example, the RTs for PGF<sub>1α</sub> and PGF<sub>2α</sub> are indistinguishable when run together.  
 doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1003271.t002

Hoang et al., 2013

## Identifying isomeric and isobaric compounds requires good chromatography separation, high resolution and tandem mass spectrometry



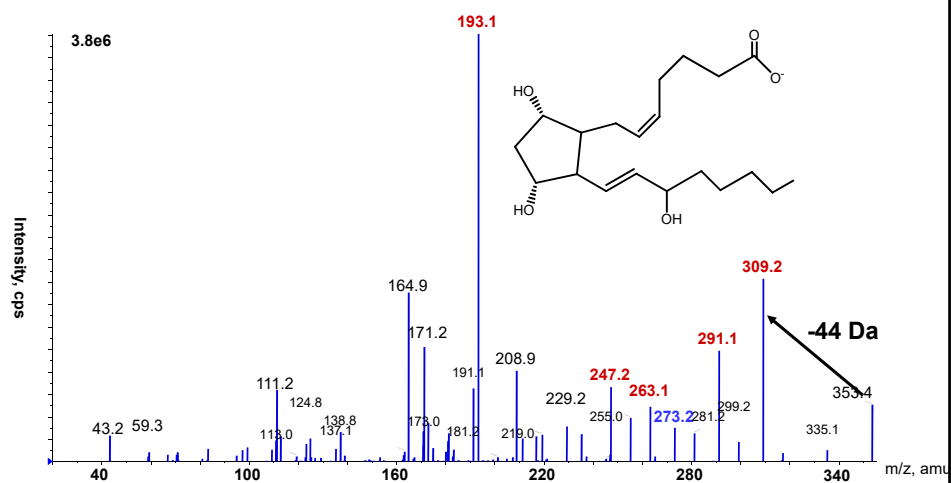
m/z 353.1735



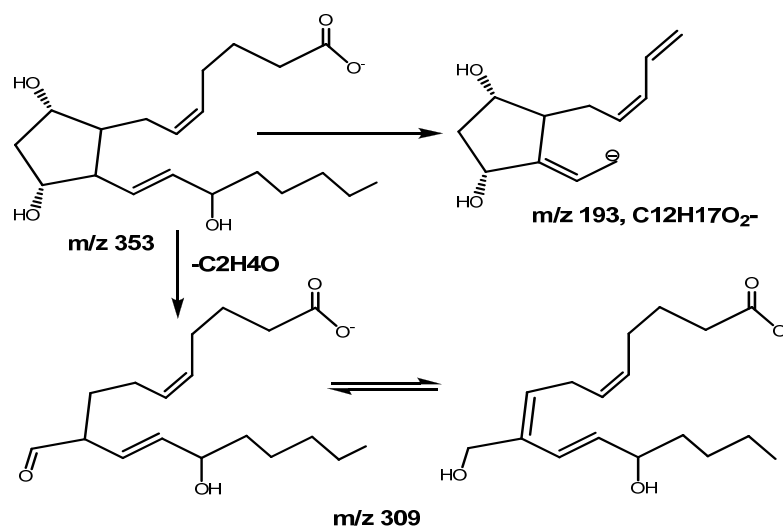
m/z 353.2333

When compounds are not isomeric, it may be possible to distinguish them  
Based on their exact masses

## ESI-MS/MS of the $[M-H]^-$ from PGF $_{2\alpha}$ m/z 353 using a quadrupole mass spectrometer

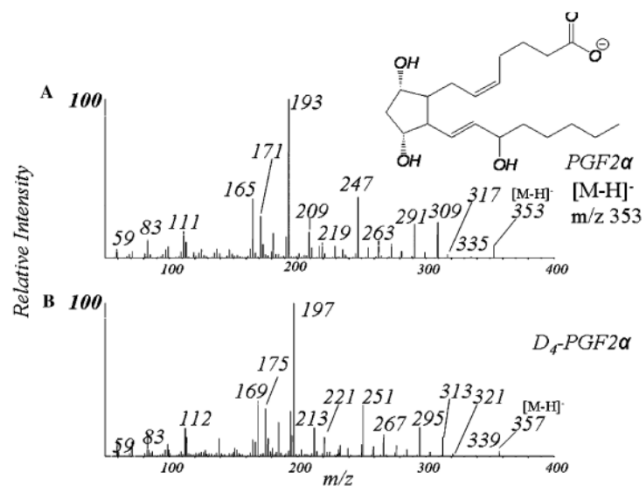


## Fragmentation scheme of PGF $_{2\alpha}$ $[M-H]^-$ m/z 353



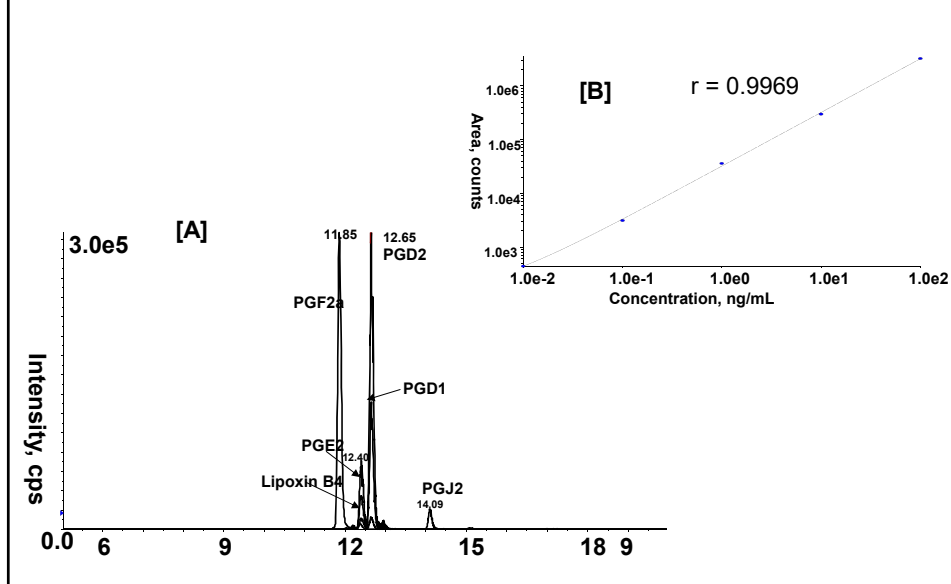
Ions m/z 309, 291, 273 and 193 are indicative of F $_2$ -ring

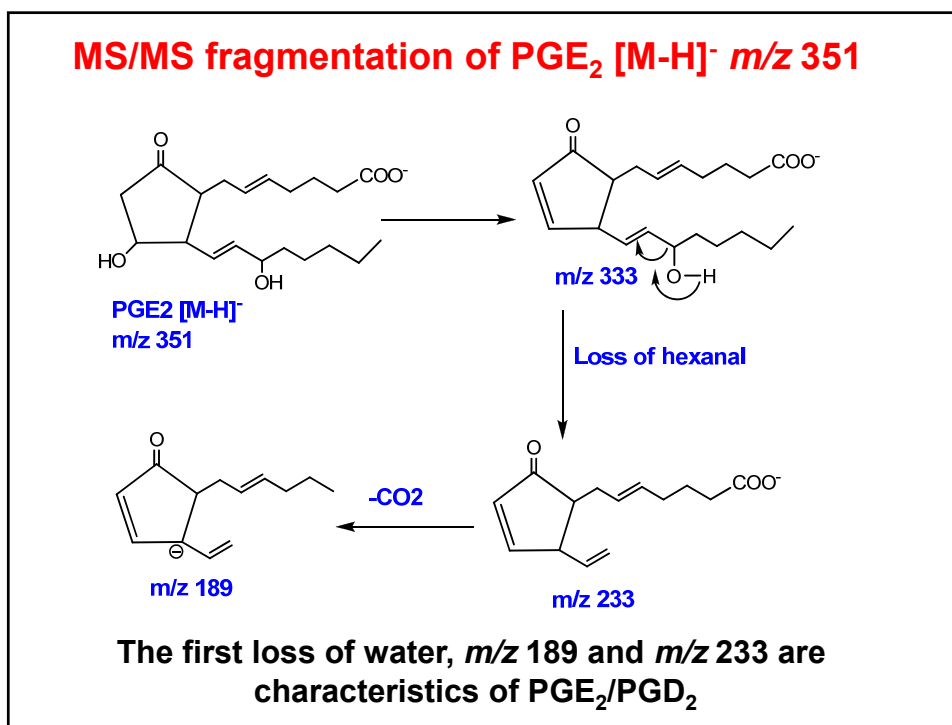
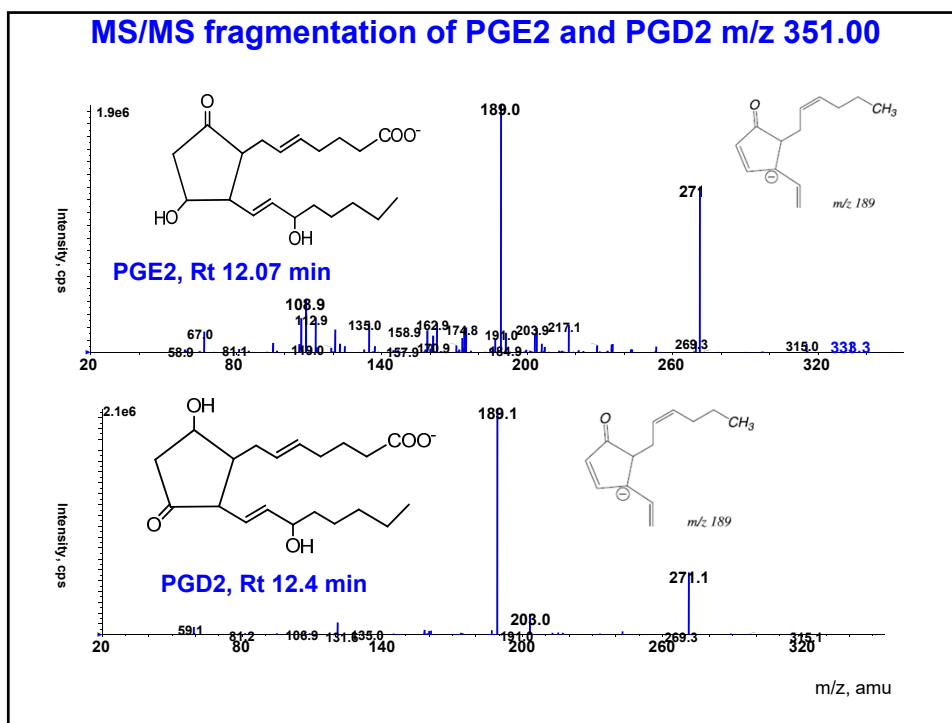
What information does deuterium labeling at C-2 and C-3 of PGF<sub>2</sub> provide us for structure elucidation of PG?



Source: Murphy et al. Analytical Biochemistry, 2005

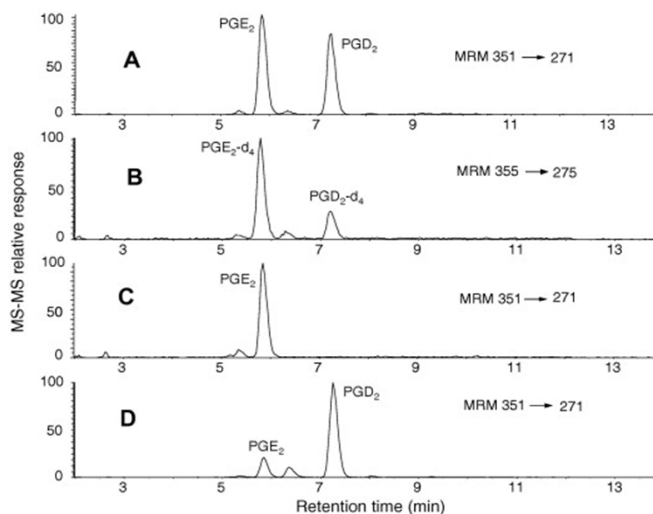
Separation of PGs [A] and standard curve of PGF<sub>2</sub>α [B]





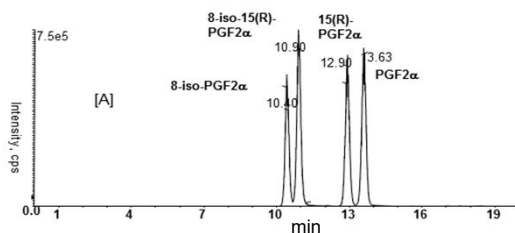
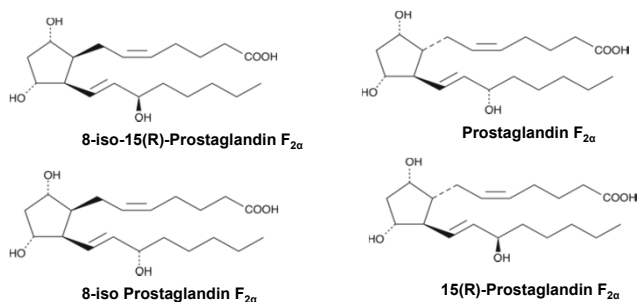


## Deuterated PG standards are used for quantitative analysis of PGs in a extract



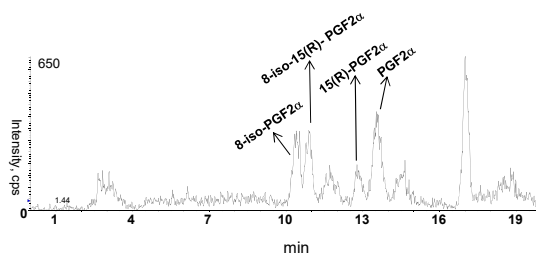
Source: Cao et al. Analytical Biochemistry, 2008

## PGs and diastereoisomer isoprostanes can be distinguished based on retention time in LC-MS



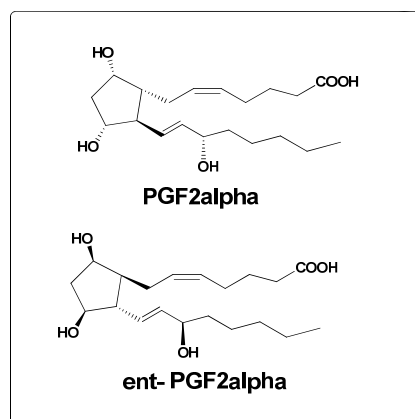
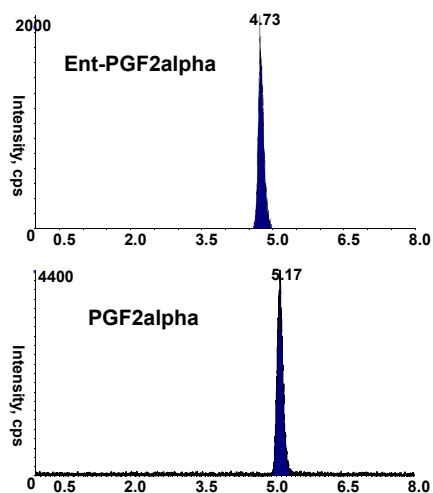
Prasain et al., J Chrom B. 2013

## SRM chromatogram showing isoprostanes and PG in an AKI patient

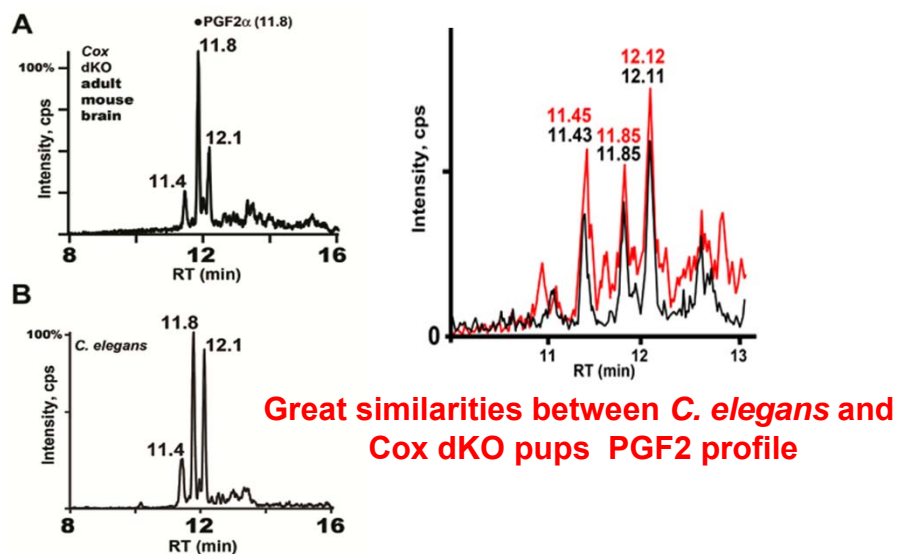


Prasain et al., J Chrom B. 2013

## Separation of PGF<sub>2</sub>α and its enantiomer only possible in chiral normal phase column (ChiralPak AD-H column) APCI -ve ion mode

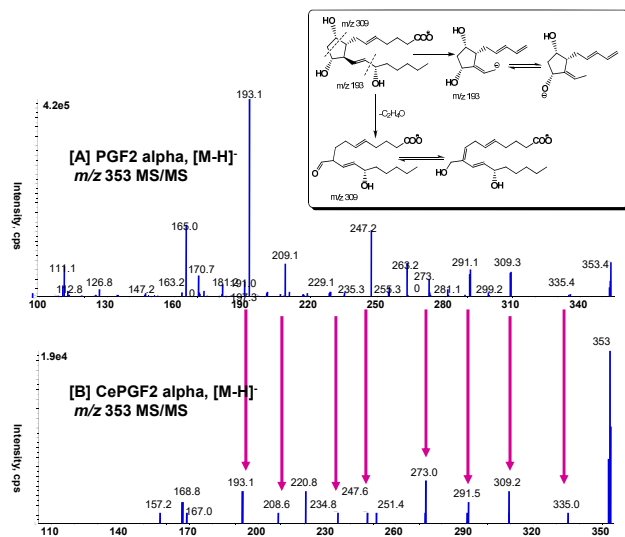


## Cox-independent PGs is widespread

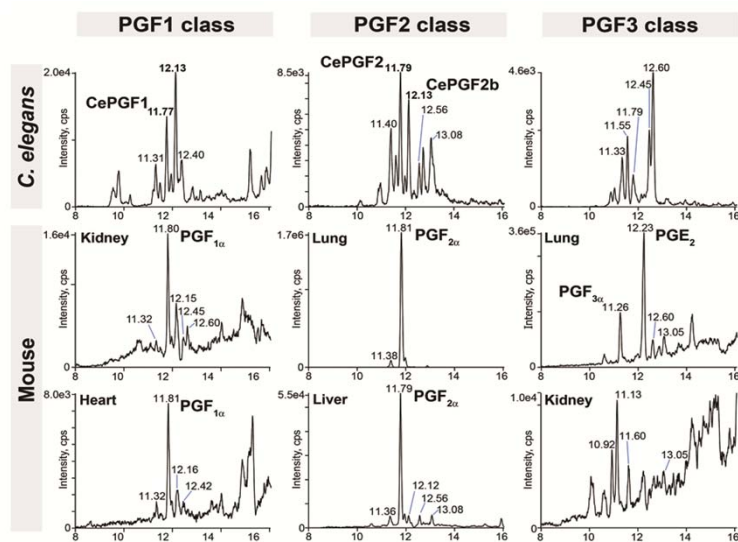


McKnight et al., (Science, 2014)

## LC-MS/MS of ion $m/z$ 353 [M-H]<sup>-</sup> from wild type *C. elegans* extract confirmed that CePGF<sub>2</sub> is a PGF<sub>2</sub> $\alpha$ -like PG

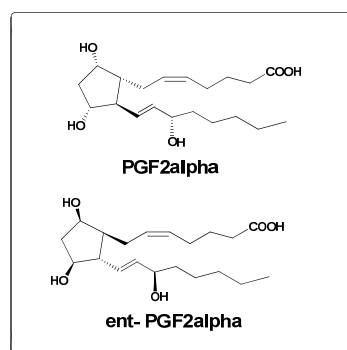
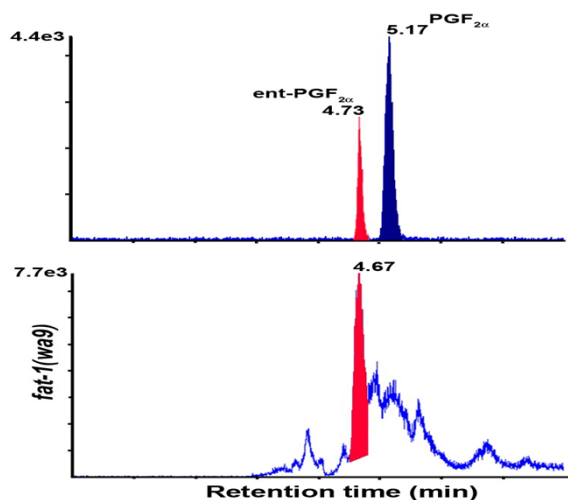


## Extracts from healthy mouse tissues and *C. elegans* Showed a few F-series PGs isomers in common



Hoang et al., PLOS Genetics, 2013

## Is CePGF2- PGF<sub>2</sub>α, co-eluting stereoisomer, ent-PGF<sub>2</sub>α or a racemic mixture ?



CePGF2 Close similarity with ent-PGF<sub>2</sub>α  
in chiral normal phase LC-MRM

Hoang et al., PLOS Genetics. 2013

## Conclusions

- **Based on liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS), genetic analyses, and bioactivity assays, *C. elegans* synthesizes Cox-independent sperm guiding F-series PGs from PUFA precursors.**
- **F-series PGs are synthesized in Cox-deficient mice, indicating the possible existence of similar mechanisms in other animals.**