

# The use of mass spectrometry in lipidomics

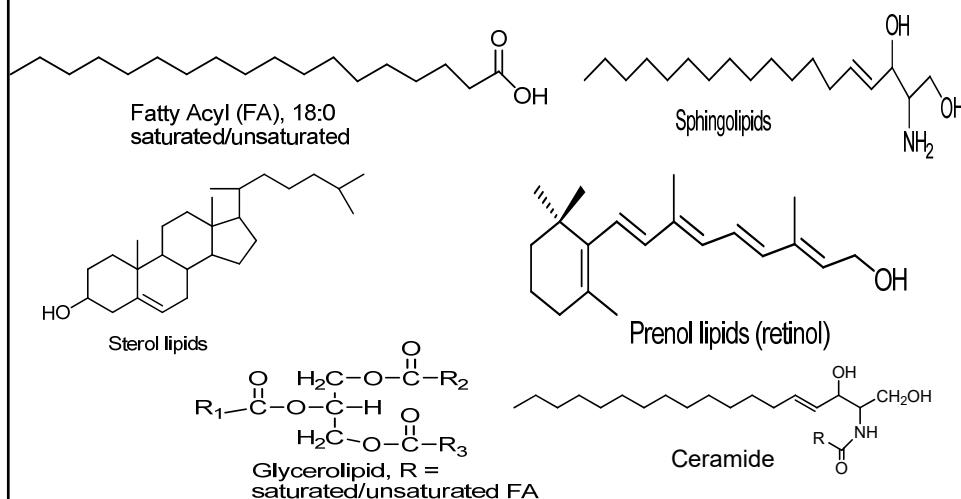
Jeevan Prasain  
[jprasain@uab.edu](mailto:jprasain@uab.edu)  
6-2612

## Outlines

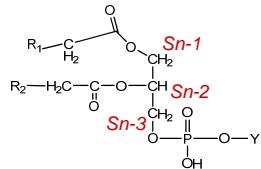
- Brief introduction to lipidomics
- Analytical methodology: MS/MS structure elucidation of phospholipids
- Phospholipid analysis in lean and ob/ob mice by mass spectrometry

## Lipidomics- A comprehensive analysis of lipid molecules in response to cellular stress and challenges

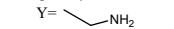
### Structures of different lipids classes



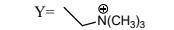
## Structures of main phospholipids



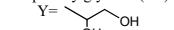
Phosphatidylethanolamine (PE)



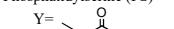
Phosphatidylcholine (PC)



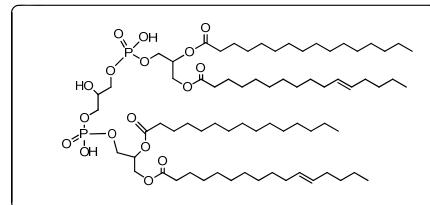
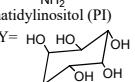
Phosphatidylglycerol (PG)



Phosphatidylserine (PS)



Phosphatidylinositol (PI)



Cardiolipin (diphosphatidylglycerol)

## Extraction of lipids by Bligh/Dyer method

- To a homogenized sample (1 ml containing internal standards) add methanol (2.5 ml) and chloroform (1.25 ml), sonicate by 4-5 bursts and added 1.0 ml water and 1.25 ml chloroform additionally and vigorously shaken.
- Centrifuge (1,000 x g) for 2 min and separate the chloroform layer (bottom layer) and repeat the process twice.
- Combine the chloroform soluble phase and evaporate to dryness and stored at -20 °C until analysis.

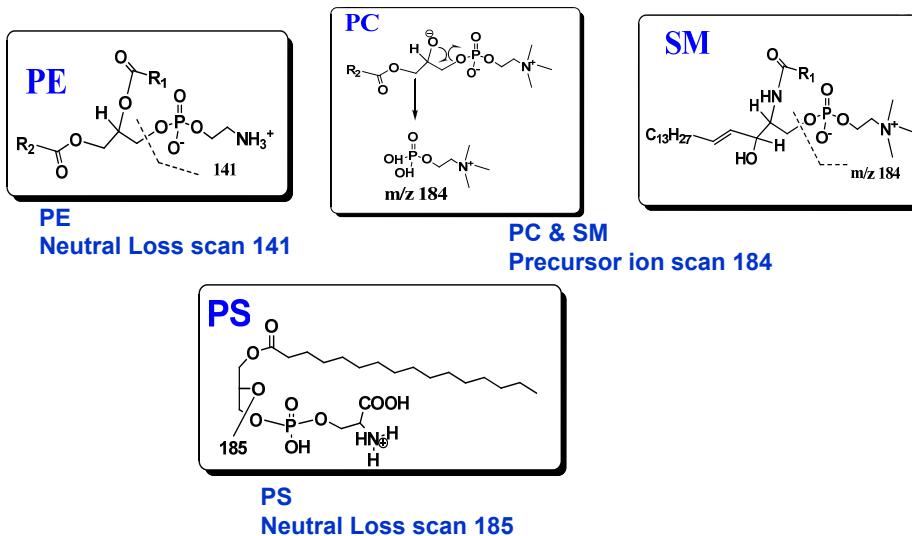
## Shotgun lipidomics: intrasource separation of lipids for quantitative lipidomics

Group	Electrical Propensity	Lipid Classes
Anionic lipids	Carry net negative charge(s) at physiological pH	Cardiolipin, acylCoA, sulfatide, PtdIns (PtdInsP, PtdInsP <sub>2</sub> , PtdInsP <sub>3</sub> ), PtdGro, PtdSer, PtdH, etc.
Weak anionic lipids	Carry a net negative charge at alkaline pH	PE, lysoPE, ceramide, NEFA, eicosanoids, etc.
Neutral polar lipids	Neutral at alkaline pH	PC, lysoPC, SM, glycolipid, TAG, etc.
Special lipids	Vary	Acylcarnitine, sterols, etc.

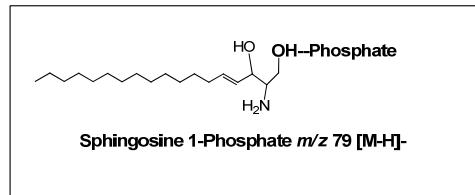
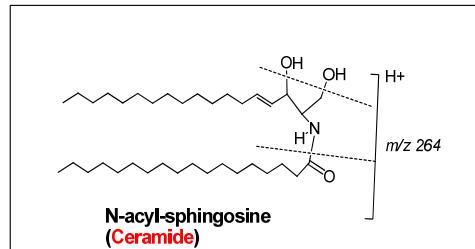
The ionization efficiency of an analyte greatly depends on the electrical propensity of an individual analyte in its own microenvironment to lose or gain a charge

Source: Gross and Han,, 2004

## Profiling phospholipids and sphingosines in a complex mixture using MS/MS

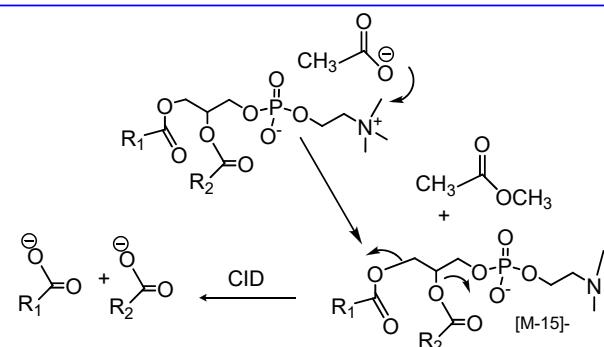


**How to profile sphingolipids  
in a complex mixture using MS/MS?**

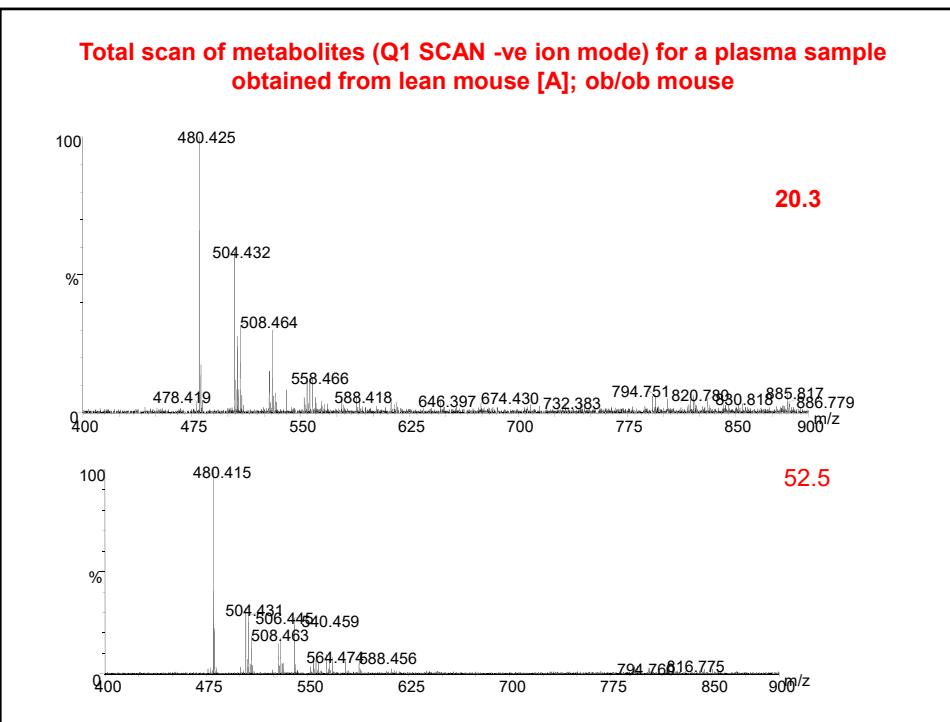
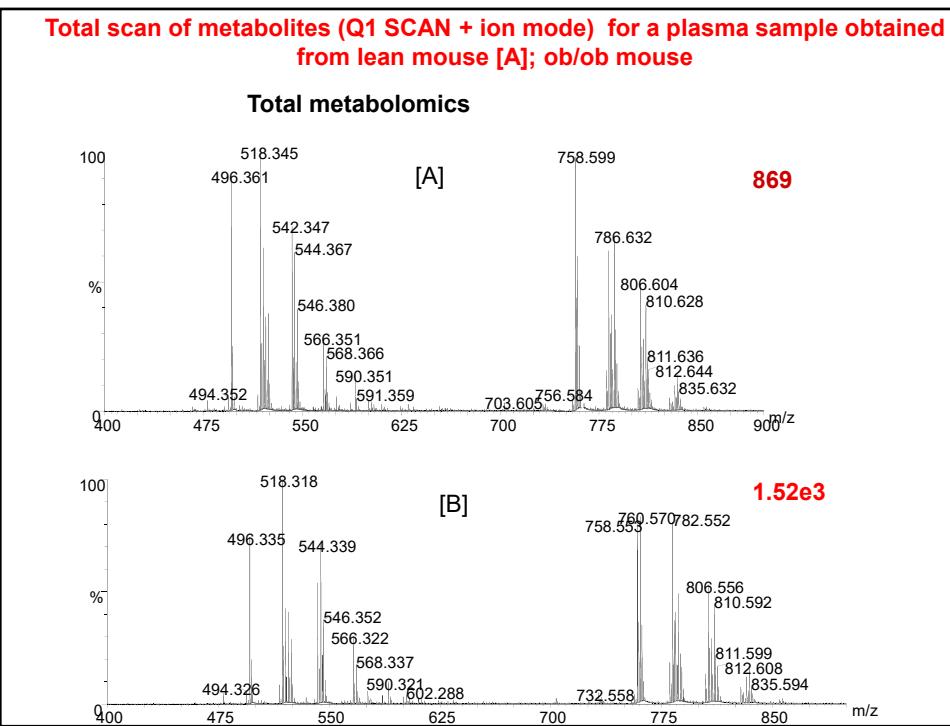


$m/z$  264 is a characteristic ion for all compounds containing a sphingosine backbone

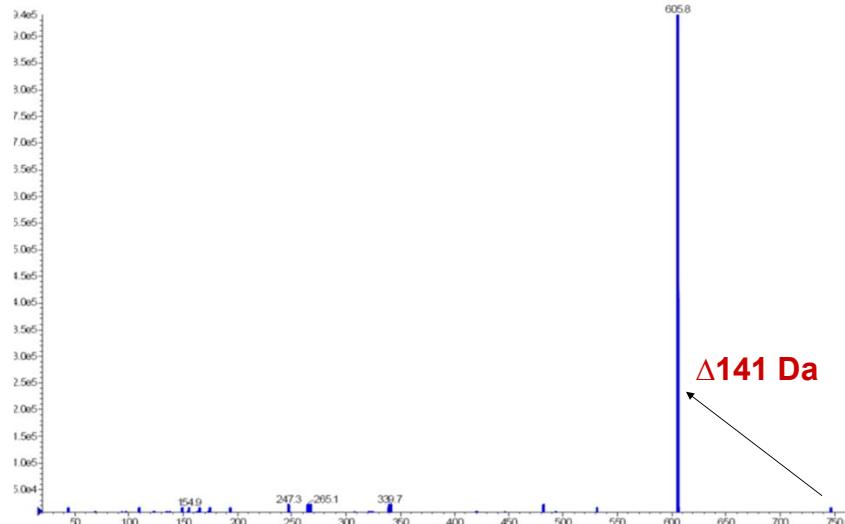
**Phosphatidylcholine loses a methyl group to form a negatively charged, pseudomolecular ion**



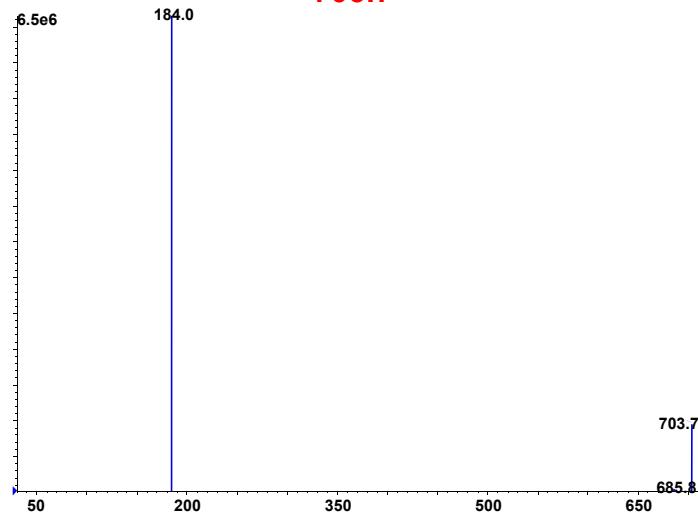
Phospholipids may undergo demethylation and then the loss of the fatty acyl groups from glycerophosphocholine backbone.



**MS/MS of m/z 746.90: PE Std**  
**Neutral loss of 141 is a characteristic for detecting PE**



**MS/MS of sphingomyelin standard (2S,3R,4E)-  
2-acylaminoctadec-4-ene-3-hydroxy-1-Phosphocholine m/z  
703.7**

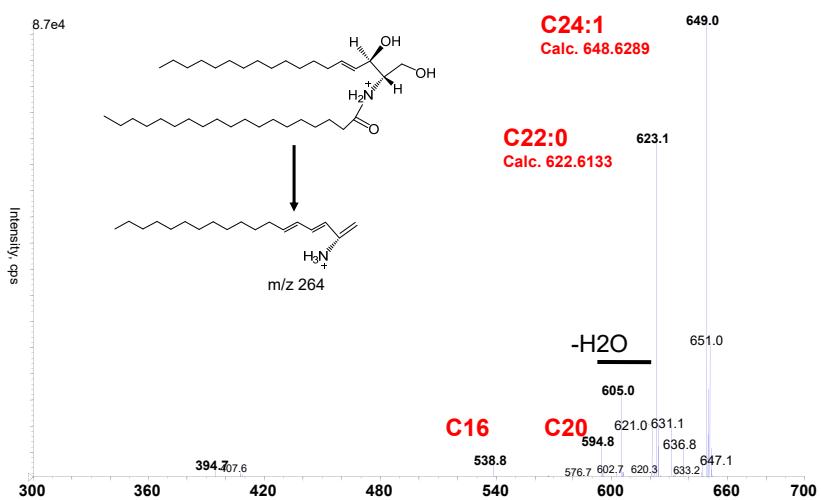


### ESI-MS/MS analyses of various lipids

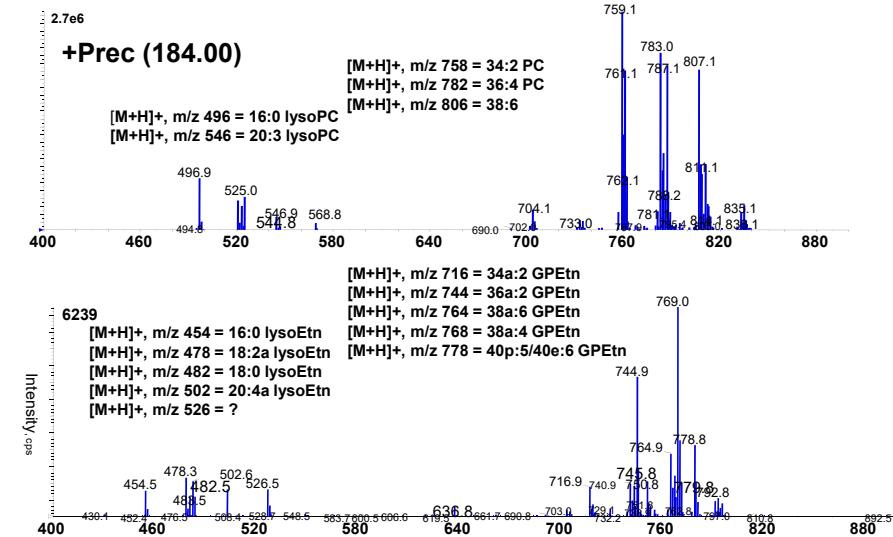
Lipid Class(s)	Precursor Ion	MS/MS Mode & Conditions	Fragment
cardiolipin	[M-2H] <sup>2-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 153.0, 35 eV	glycerol phosphate derivative
PtdGro, PtdH	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 153.0, 35 eV, *	glycerol phosphate derivative
PtdIns	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 241.1, 45 eV	cyclic inositol phosphate
PtdInsP	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 153.0, 35 eV	glycerol phosphate derivative
PtdInsP <sub>2</sub>	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 321.1, 53 eV	phosphoinositol phosphate
PtdSer	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 401.1, 62 eV	diphosphoinositol phosphate
		NL, 87.0 amu, 25 eV, *	serine
		PI, <i>m/z</i> 153.0, 35 eV	glycerol phosphate derivative
sulfatide	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 97.0, 65 eV	sulfate
acylCoA	[M-2H] <sup>2-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 339.0, 30 eV, *	doubly-charged CoA derivative
PE, lysoPE	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 196.0, 50 eV	glycerol phosphoethanolamine derivative
ceramide	[M-H] <sup>-</sup>	NL, 256.2 amu, 32 eV *	
		NL, 327.3 amu, 32 eV	
		NL, 240.2 amu, 32 eV *	2-trans-palmitoyl alcohol
PC, lysoPC, SM	[M+Li(Na)] <sup>+</sup>	NL, 59.1 amu, -28 eV, *	trimethylamine
	[M+Li(Na)] <sup>+</sup>	NL, 183.1 amu, -32 eV	phosphocholine
	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup>	NL, 189.1 amu, -42 eV	lithium cholinophosphate
	[M+Na] <sup>+</sup>	NL, 205.1 amu, -35 eV	sodium cholinophosphate
	[M+H] <sup>+</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 184.1, -30 eV, *	phosphocholine
	[M+Cl] <sup>-</sup>	NL, 50.0 amu, 24 eV, *	methylchloride
cerebroside	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup>	NL, 162.2, -50 eV, *	
	[M+Cl] <sup>-</sup>	NL, 36.0 amu, 30 eV	hydrogen chloride
MGDG	[M+Li(Na)] <sup>+</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 227(243), -45 eV	Li(Na)+galactose derivative
DGDG	[M+Li(Na)] <sup>+</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 227(243), -66 eV	Li(Na)+galactose derivative
acylcarnitine	[M+H] <sup>+</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 85.1, -20 eV, *	carnitine
chol. ester	[M+NH <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>	PI, <i>m/z</i> 369.3, -50 eV, *	cholestane cation
TAG	[M+Li] <sup>+</sup>	NL, X amu, -35 eV	a fatty acid

Source: Gross and Han,, 2004

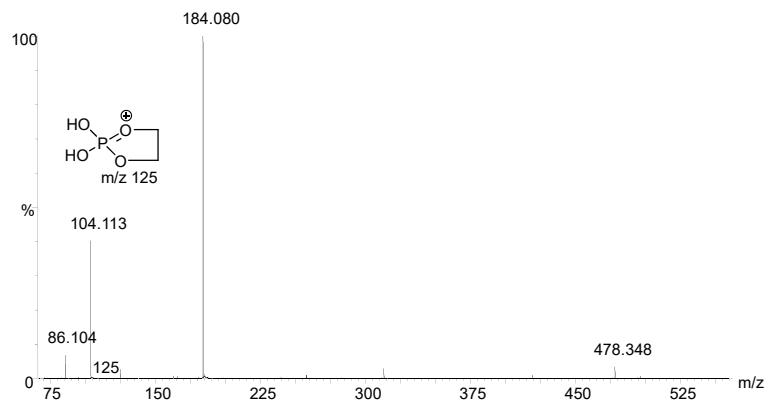
### Precursor ion scan *m/z* 264 in +ve ion mode is specific to identify ceramides in a sample



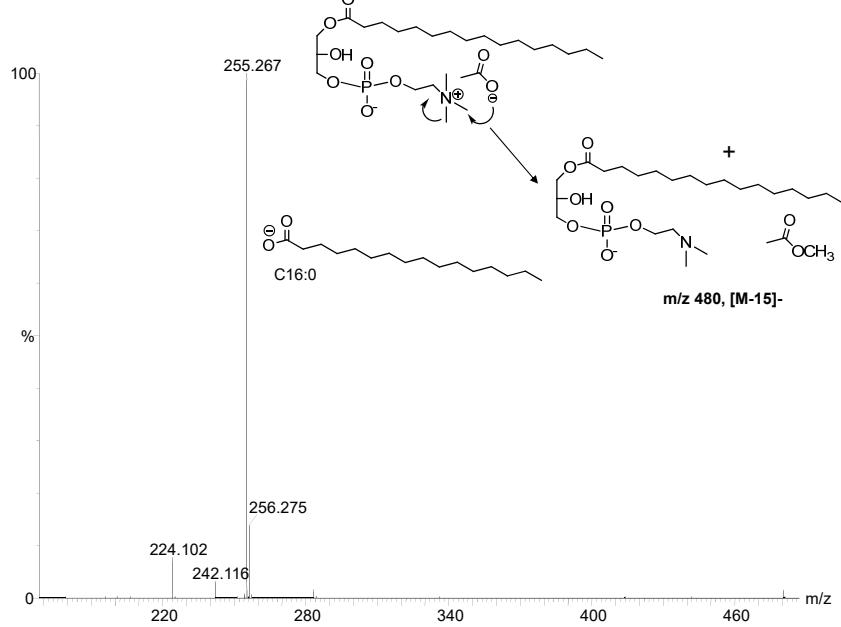
## Profiling of phospholipids using precursor ion m/z 184 and neutral loss scan 141 for PC, SM and PE



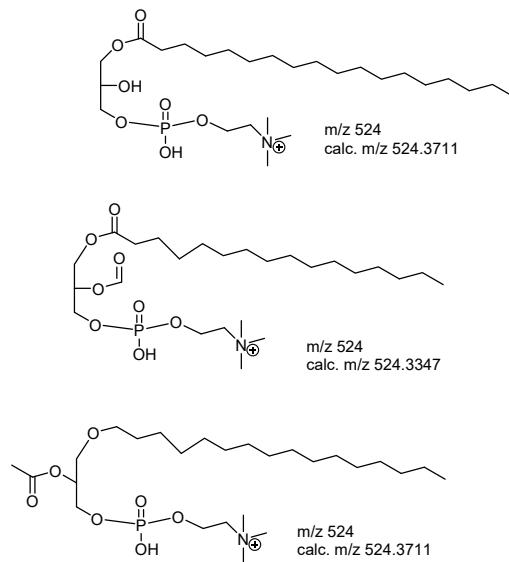
## MSMS fragmentation of m/z 496 obtained from a plasma sample in positive ion mode



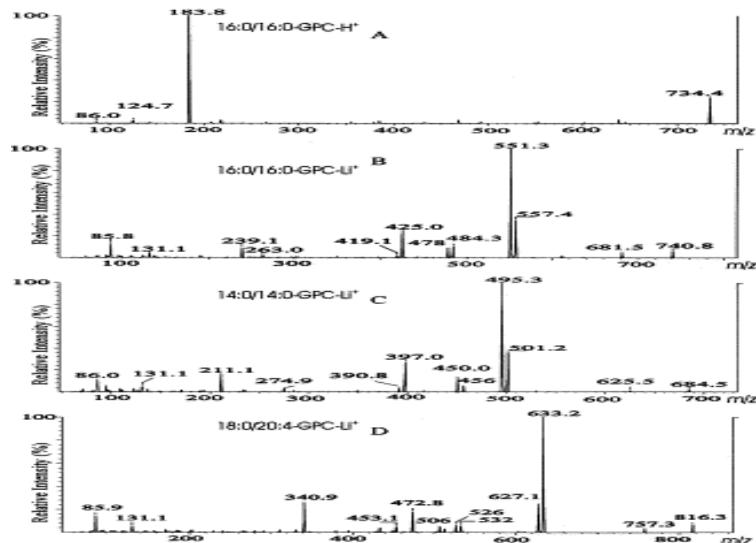
### MS/MS of m/z 480 [M-15]- from a plasma sample



### Several isobaric compounds- Identification by high resolution mass spectrometry

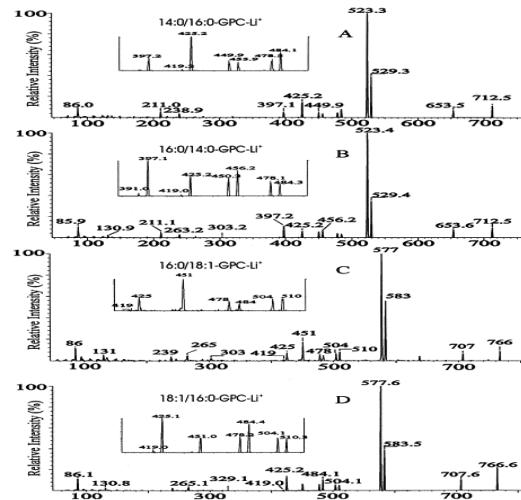


Lithiated adducts of phosphocholine provide more structural information in their MS/MS spectra



Source: Hsu et al. J. Am Soc. Mass Spectrom., 1998

Relative abundances of product ion can be used to distinguish positional isomers of lithiated phospholipids



Source: Hsu et al. J. Am Soc. Mass Spectrom., 1998

## Library search for eicosanoid <http://www.lipidmaps.org/>

LIPID MAPS -- LIPID Metabolites And Pathways Strategy

Contact | Discussion | News | Publications | Site Map

**LIPID Metabolites And Pathways Strategy**

About | Lipid Classification | Standards | Experimental Data | Databases | Pathways | Tools | Protocols | Home

**LMSD: Lipid classification search results**

Fatty Acyl [FA] ([W](#)) --> Eicosanoids [FA03]

LM_ID	Common Name	Systematic Name	Formula	Mass
LMFA03000001	8(9)-EpETE	(+/-)-8(9)-epoxy-5Z,11Z,14Z,17Z-eicosatetraenoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	318.22
LMFA03000002	11(12)-EpETE	(+/-)-11(12)-epoxy-5Z,6Z,14Z,17Z-eicosatetraenoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	318.22
LMFA03000003	14(15)-EpETE	(+/-)-14(15)-epoxy-5Z,8Z,11Z,17Z-eicosatetraenoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	318.22
LMFA03000004	17(18)-EpETE	(+/-)-17(18)-epoxy-5Z,6Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	318.22
LMFA03000005	11(R)-HEDE	11R-hydroxy-12E,14Z-eicosadienoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	324.27
LMFA03000006	17R,18S-EpETE	17R,18S-epoxy-5Z,6Z,11Z,14Z-eicosatetraenoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	318.22
LMFA03000008	15(R)-HEDE	15R-hydroxy-11Z,13E-eicosadienoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	324.27
LMFA03000009	11S-HEDE	11S-hydroxy-12E,14Z-eicosadienoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	324.27
LMFA03010000	Prostanoic acid skeleton	-	-	-
LMFA03010001	6-keto-PGF <sub>1</sub> $\alpha$	6-oxo-9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-13E-prostaglandin	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	370.24
LMFA03010002	PGF <sub>2</sub> $\alpha$	9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	354.24
LMFA03010003	PGE2 ( <a href="#">W</a> )	9-oxo-11R,15S-dihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostaglandin	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	352.22
LMFA03010004	PGD <sub>2</sub> ( <a href="#">W</a> )	9S,15S-dihydroxy-11-oxo-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	352.22
LMFA03010005	PGA1	9-oxo-15S-hydroxy-10Z,13E-prostaglandin	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	336.23
LMFA03010006	PGF <sub>2</sub> $\alpha$ -d4	9S,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid (3,3,4,4-d4)	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>30</sub> D <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	358.27
LMFA03010007	PGD <sub>2</sub> -d4	9S,15S-dihydroxy-11-oxo-5Z,13E-prostaglandin acid (3,3,4,4-d4)	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>28</sub> D <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	356.25
LMFA03010008	PGE2-d4	11R,15S-dihydroxy-9S,11R,5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid (3,3,4,4-d4)	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>28</sub> D <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	356.25
LMFA03010009	PGG <sub>2</sub>	9S,11R-epidioxy-15S-hydroperoxy-5Z,13E-prostaglandin	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	368.22

**LIPID Metabolites And Pathways Strategy**

About | Lipid Classification | Standards | Experimental Data | Databases | Pathways | Tools | Protocols | Home

**Structure database (LMSD)**

LMFA03010025

LM\_ID: LMFA03010025  
 Common Name: PGF<sub>2</sub> $\beta$   
 Systematic Name: 9R,11R,15S-trihydroxy-5Z,13E-prostadienoic acid  
 Synonyms: -  
 Exact Mass: 354.24  
 Formula: C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>5</sub>  
 Category: Fatty Acyls [FA]  
 Main Class: Eicosanoids [FA03]  
 Sub Class: Prostaglandins [FA0301]  
 LIPIDBANK ID: XPR1764  
 PubChem Substance ID (SID): 4265968  
 KEGG ID: -

Product ion spectra of deprotonated arachidonic acid [AA]  
and its oxidation product 5-hydroxy-eicosatetraenoic  
acids [5-HETE]

