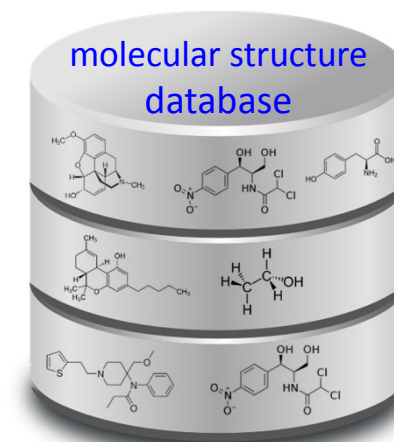# Elementary, my dear Watson: Fingerprint search in molecular structure databases
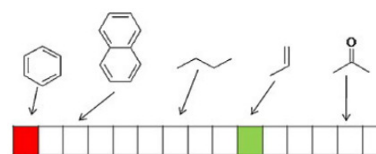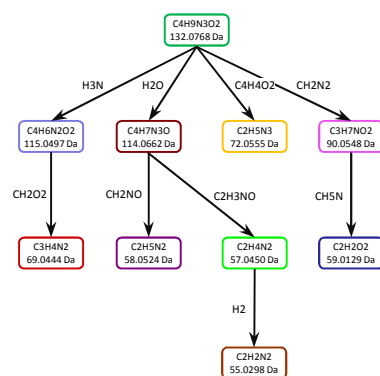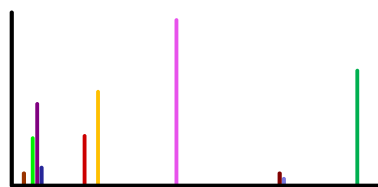
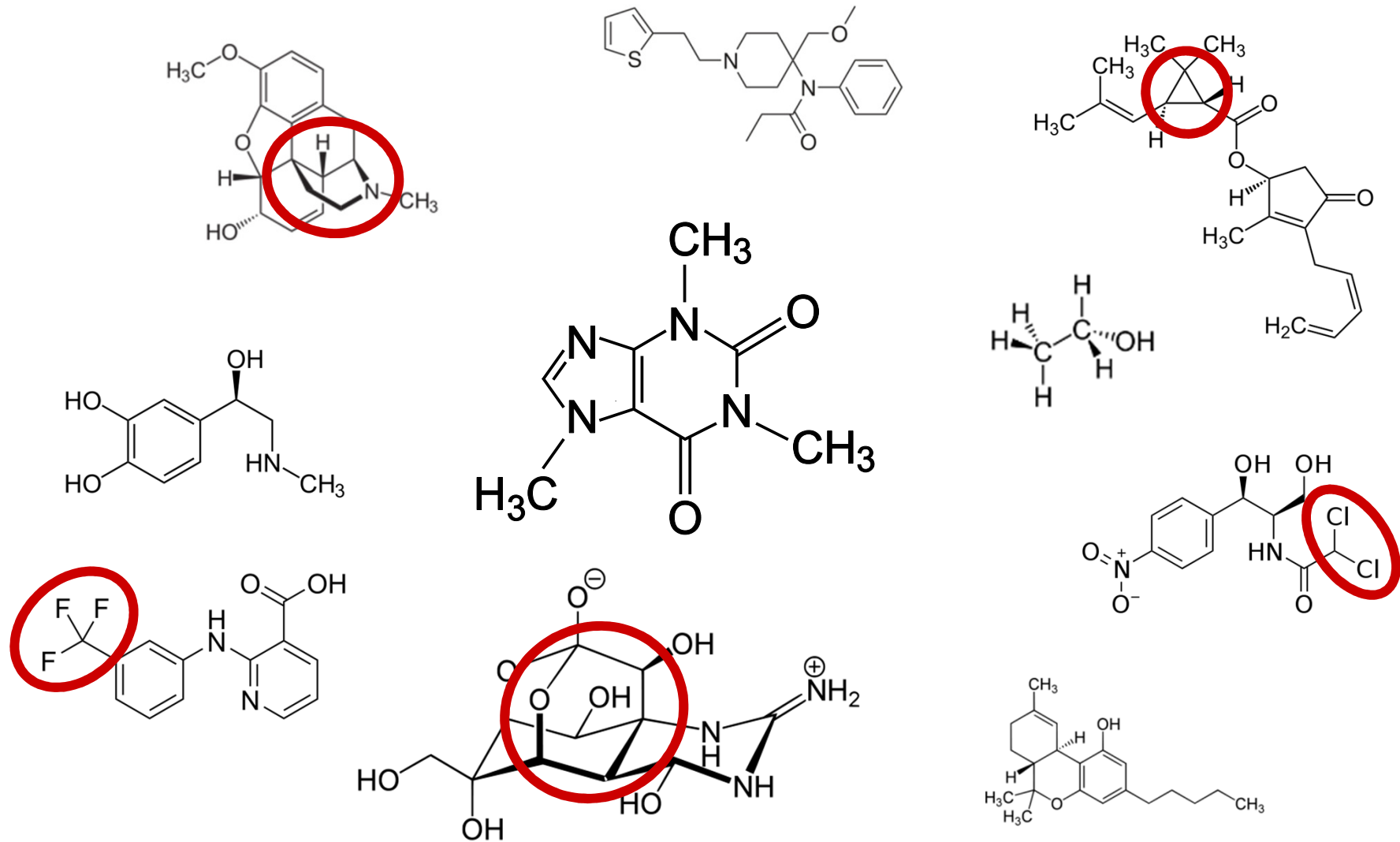## Sebastian Böcker

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

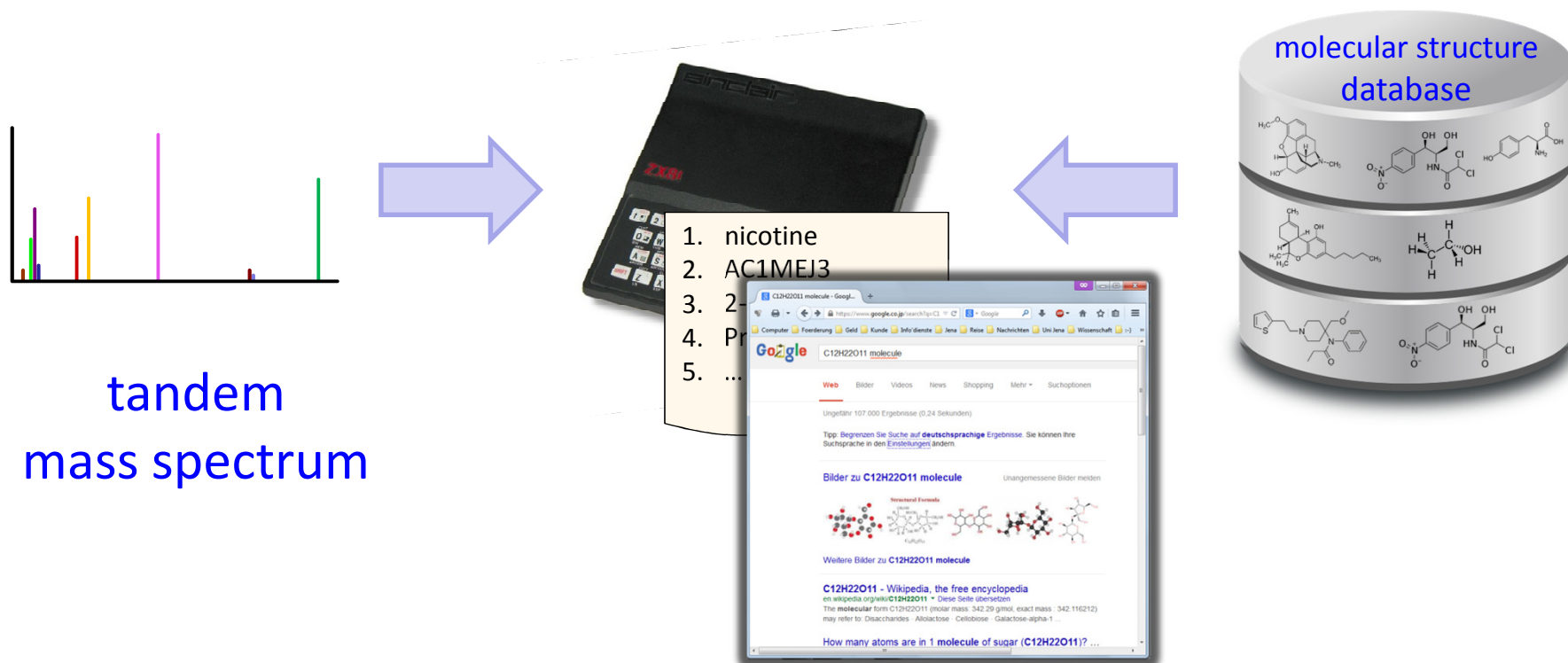# We are talking about small molecules

Metabolites: Why care?

- metabolites closest to phenotype

- majority of drugs derived from natural products (that is, metabolites)

- vast majority of medical biomarker assays target metabolites

- vast majority of (plant, animal and human) diseases have a non-genetic cause

Stolen from a talk by David Wishart

A simple question

- Given the tandem mass spectrum of a compound, can we find it – in a molecular structure database?

molecular structure database

tandem
mass spectrum

1. nicotine
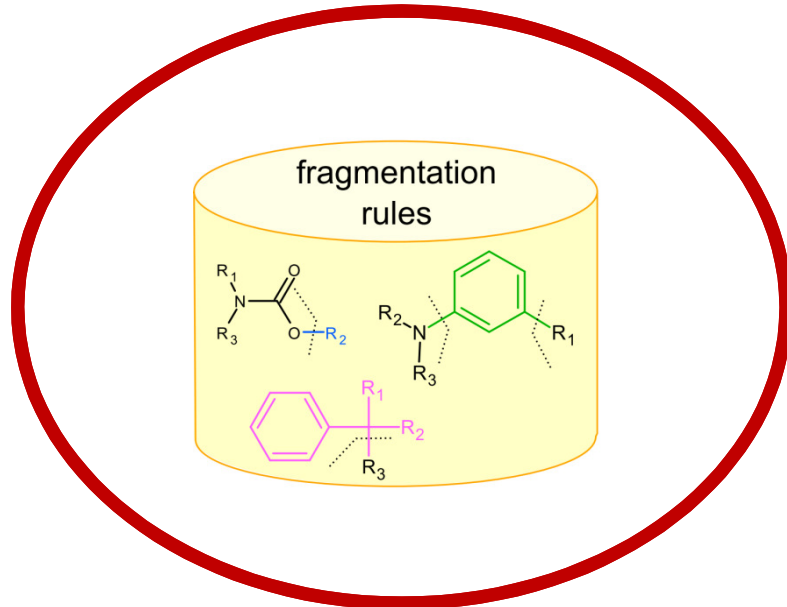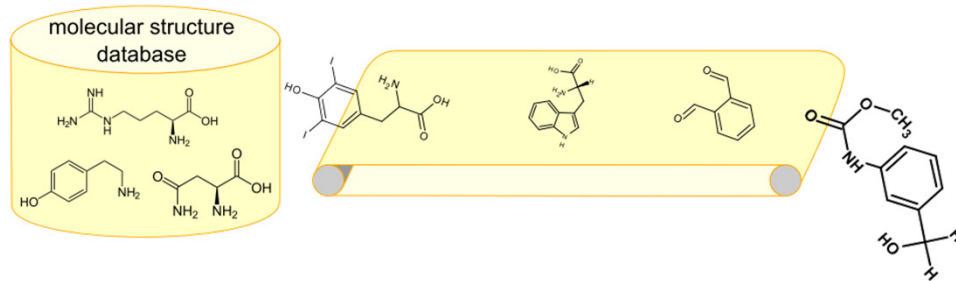2. AC1MEJ3
3. 2-
4. Pr
5. …

Why is this so complicated?

- SEQUEST: Searching peptide sequence databases since 1994

- but metabolites are different

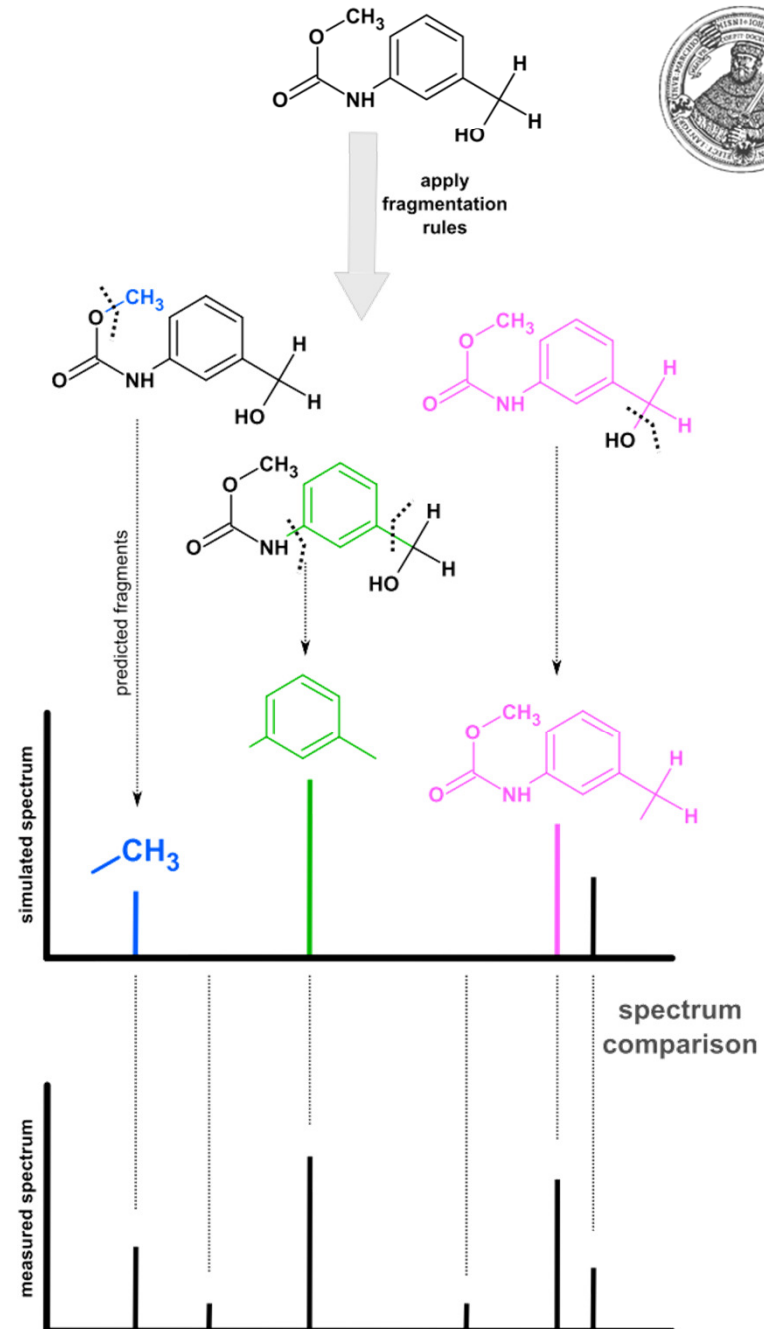|	proteins/peptides	metabolites
molecules are…	structurally similar	highly diverse
genome information tells you…	everything but PTMs	(almost) nothing
molecules fragment…	at one fixed energy	some need 0 eV, some 80 eV
fragmentation is…	"easily" predictable	pretty involved

The classic: rule-based prediction

Rule-based prediction
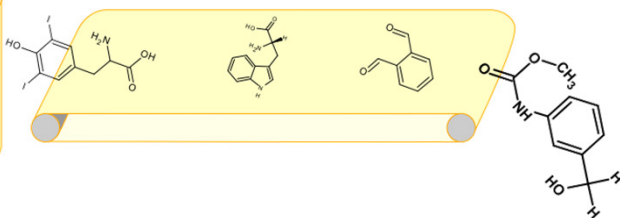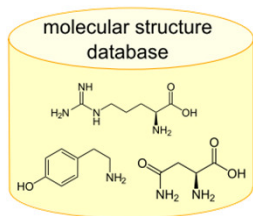
[Hill, …, Grant,
Anal Chem 2008]

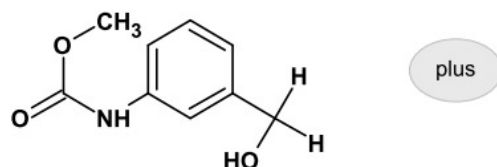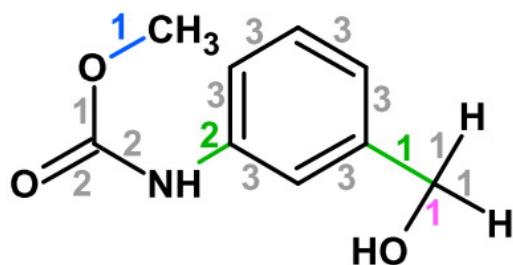# MetFrag: combinatorial fragmentation

MetFrag (Neumann group)

molecular structure database

plus

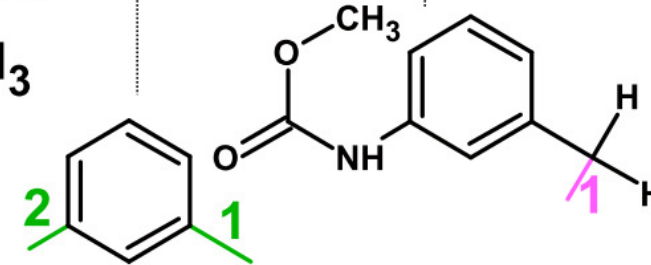use explained peaks to compute some score

measured spectrum

[Wolf, …, Neumann, *BMC Bioinf* 2010]

score fragmentation of each bond

combinatorial optimization

no fragment found

no fragment found

MetFrag web interface

Competitive Fragmentation Modelling

Competitive fragmentation modelling

[Allen, Greiner, Wishart, *Metabolomics* 2014]

FingerID: predicting fingerprints

Molecular fingerprints

- when are two molecules "similar"?

xanthine oxidase inhibitors

- encode presence/absence of substructures in binary vector

- different types: MACCS, FP1 – FP4, PubChem, …

- used for: virtual screening, estimating chemical similarity, …

Can you predict the molecular fingerprint of an unknown compound directly from the tandem MS data?

FingerID (Rousu group)

[Heinonen, …, Rousu, *Bioinformatics* 2012]

Sebastian Böcker   Chair for Bioinformatics, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena   16

Precision, Recall, F-score

$$\text{precision} = \frac{2}{2 + 2} = \frac{1}{2}$$
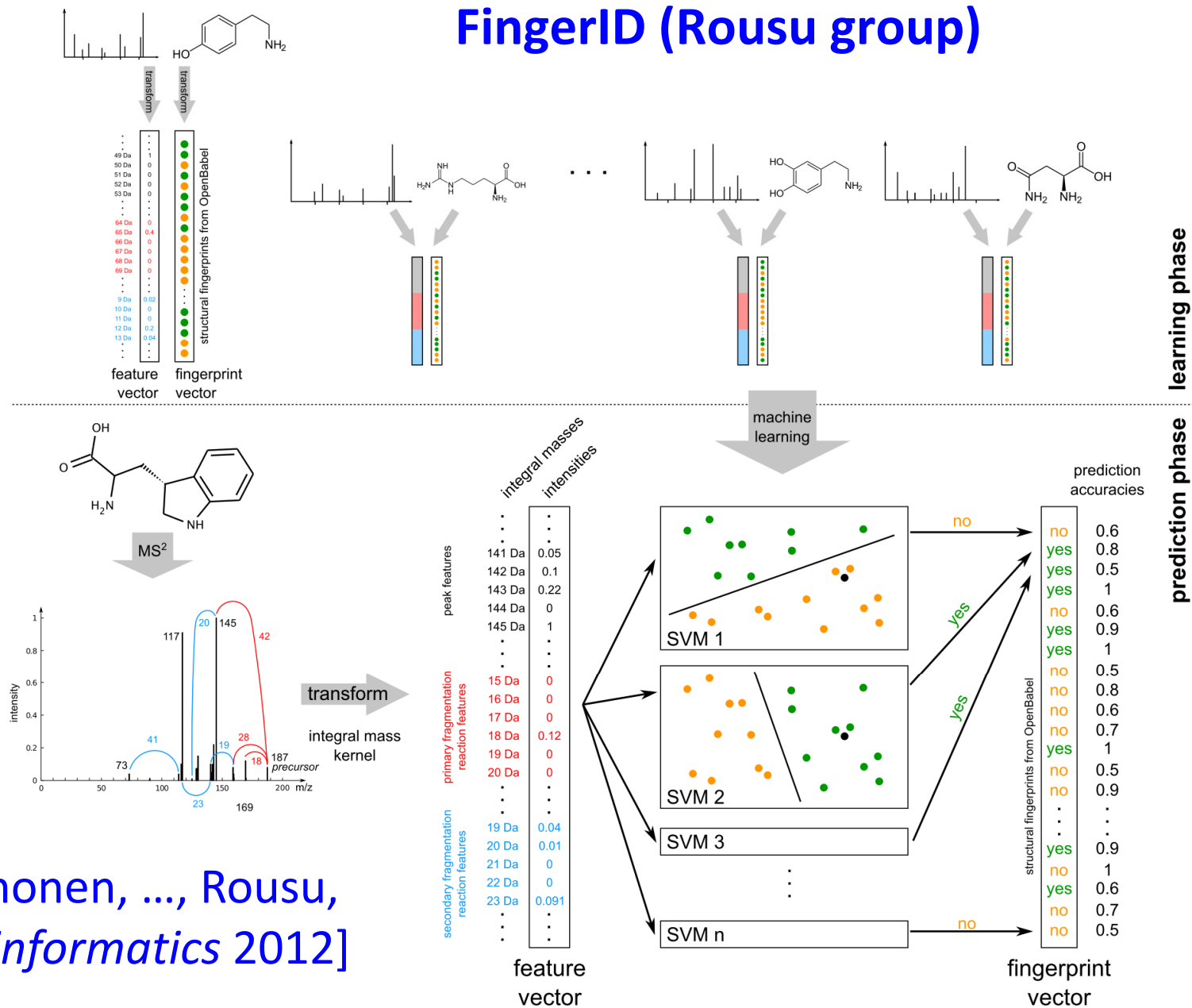
$$\text{recall} = \frac{2}{2 + 3} = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\text{F−score} = \frac{2}{2/1 + 5/2} = \frac{4}{9}$$

F-score from 0.49 to 0.67

Our method

1ˢᵗ step
Fragmentation trees

Our fragmentation trees

- tandem MS, multiple MS not required

- fully automated method

- best explains experimental data

- combinatorial optimization

MS^n not required

Our fragmentation trees

- Böcker and Rasche, *Bioinf* 2008

- Rasche *et al.*, *Anal Chem* 2011

- Dührkop and Böcker, unpublished

- White *et al.*, unpublished

Our fragmentation trees

- Böcker and Rasche, *Bioinf* 2008

- Rasche *et al.*, *Anal Chem* 2011

- Dührkop and Böcker, unpublished

- White *et al.*, unpublished

Molecular formula prediction

Molecular formulas with isotope patterns

percentage of correct molecular formula predictions

rank

METLIN, 5% isotope filtering

METLIN, 10% isotope filtering

Agilent, 5% isotope filtering

Agilent, 10% isotope filtering

CASMI challenge 2013

- Critical Assessment of Small Molecule Identification, http://www.casmi-contest.org

- we got 12 out of 14 molecular formulas correct

- 2nd place, winner manually analyzed the challenges

- we were the only contestants that **did not search PubChem**, but instead considered all possible molecular formulas

2nd step
Fingerprints

Machine Learning

Support Vector Machines

- separate cats and dogs via features (weight, height, …)

- map features so that linear separation is possible

Use fragmentation trees as input

FT **structure** kernels

- nodes binary
- nodes intensity
- loss binary
- loss count
- loss intensity
- root loss binary
- root loss intensity
- common path counting
- common paths of length 2
- common paths with peak scores
- common subtree counting

[Shen et al., ISMB 2014]

One example: Common Path Counting kernel

- tree kernels measure the structural similarity of two fragmentation trees

1st fragmentation tree

2nd fragmentation tree

4 common paths

Multiple kernel learning

- combine predictions of all 12 kernels into one new kernel

- ALIGNF: Learn weights by comparing kernels to target kernel

$$\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{K}') = \frac{\langle \mathbf{K}_c, \mathbf{K}'_c \rangle_F}{\|\mathbf{K}_c\|_F \|\mathbf{K}'_c\|_F}$$

Was it all worth it?

Use fragmentation trees as input

FT **structure** kernels

- node binary
- node intensity
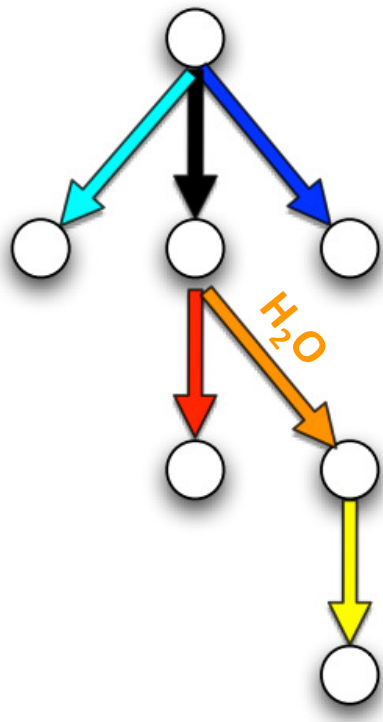- loss binary
- loss count
- loss intensity
- root loss binary
- root loss intensity
- common path counting
- common paths of length 2
- common paths with peak scores
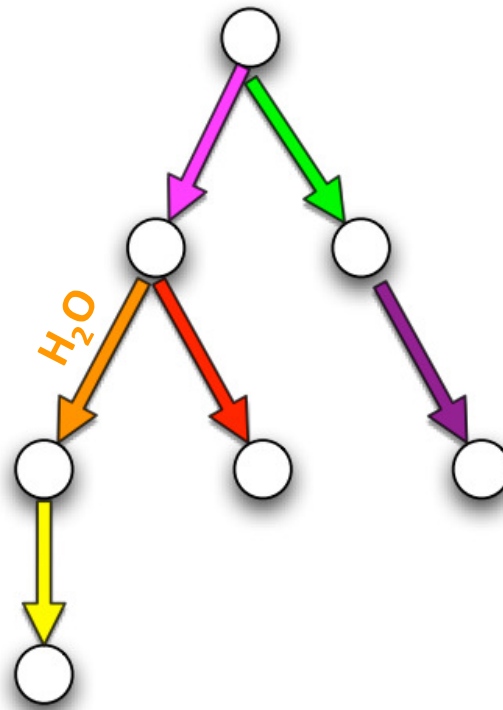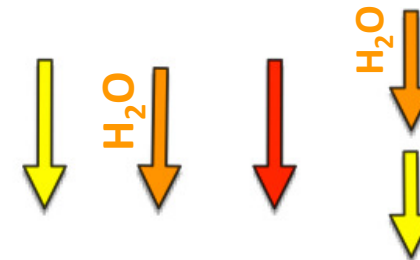- common subtree counting

[Shen et al., ISMB 2014]

F-score from 0.64 to 0.73

3rd step
Searching PubChem

molecular structure database

Searching a molecular structure database

- retrieve all compounds with correct molecular formula

- for each compound in the database, we know its structure and, hence, we know its correct molecular fingerprint

- compare predicted fingerprint to those of all candidates
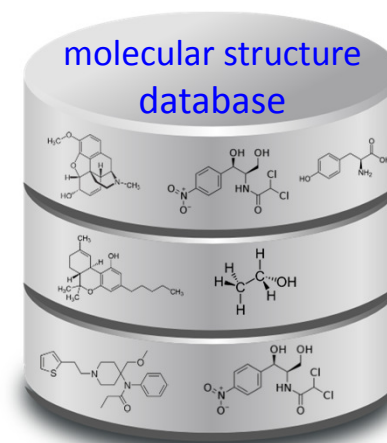
- simplest score is unit costs

predicted fingerprint	0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0
candidate 1853	0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0
differences: 4	✓ ✓ ✗ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✗ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✗ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✗ ✓ ✓ ✓

- rank candidates according to score

rank	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	…
candidate	765	2271	1853	61	…
differences	1	3	4	7	…

Evaluation setup

- "Evaluation is the process of judging something or someone based on a set of standards."

- retrieve all compounds with correct molecular formula

- for each compound in the evaluation dataset, we know its correct molecular structure

- at what position do we find the correct answer? (TOP-k)

- we only evaluate plain structures (**no stereochemistry** etc)

Intermission: WWW search engines

Training and cross validation data

- GnPS database (UCSD, San Diego)

- Forensic database (Agilent Technologies)
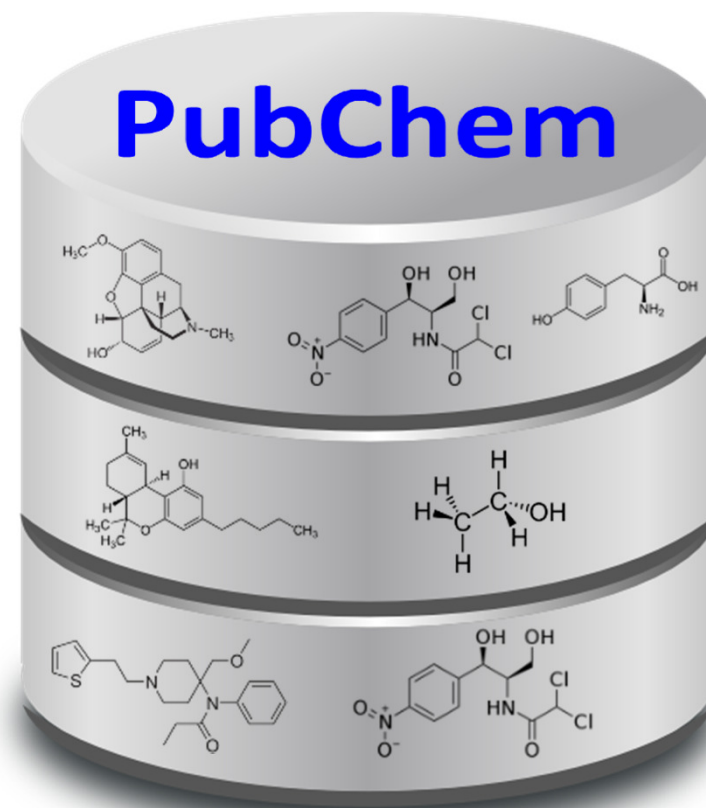
- QTOF MS instruments

- $\approx$ 2800 + 2200 = 5000 compounds

- tandem mass spectra (CID) at different frag. energies

- mass accuracy usually 10 ppm or better

- used to train and evaluate: 10x cross validation

Where to search: molecular structure databases

- PubChem compounds that have a citation in PubMed

- plus HMDB, Knapsack, ChEBI, METLIN, contaminants

- total 400 000 compounds

- full PubChem: more than 50 million compounds

Conclusion

- searching in molecular structure dbs using tandem MS data has become an option

- for the complete PubChem dataset (40 million structures) our method currently reaches 35% hits (correct IDs)

Outlook

- better kernels, better scores, better search results

- significances: False Discovery Rates, q-values, p-values

- and much more to come…

Credits

Kai Dührkop

Huibin Shen

Marvin Meusel

Juho Rousu

Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland

Thank you

- GNPS db,
  Pieter Dorrestein
- Agilent
  Technologies

Funding

- Deutsche
  Forschungs-
  gemeinschaft

Thank you for your attention!