

Evolving nature of

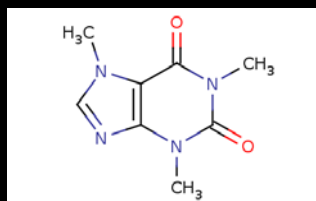
# METLIN

- interpretation of LC-MS data and other features

H. Paul Benton


## What is METLIN

- Accurate mass database
  - Endogenous Metabolites - 243,123
- Tandem mass spectra - 11,698



Scripps Center For Metabolomics  
METLIN: Metabolite and Tandem MS Database

MS HOME Overview Search XCMSOnline Software/Services Metabolomics Science Publications



**Statistics**

- # Metabolites: 243,123
- # High Resolution MS/MS Spectra: 59,768
- # Metabolites w/ High Resolution MS/MS: 11,698

[example](#) | [details...](#)

**Functionality**

- Single & Batch Precursor Ion (m/z) searching
- Single & Multiple Fragment Ion (m/z) searching
- Neutral Loss searching
- De Novo Fragment Characterization

The METLIN Metabolite Database is a repository of metabolite information as well as tandem mass spectrometry data. The information is provided to facilitate metabolomics experiments. We are especially grateful to [Winnie Uritboonthai](#) and [Kevin Cho](#) for bringing it (in the last ten years) to its current stage of development.

METLIN is a metabolite database for metabolomics containing over 64,000 structures, it also represents a data management system designed to assist in a broad array of metabolite research and metabolite identification by providing public access to its repository of current and comprehensive MS/MS metabolite data. An annotated list of known metabolites and their mass, chemical formula, and structure are available on the METLIN website. Each metabolite is conveniently linked to outside resources such as the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) for further reference and inquiry. MS/MS data is also available on many of the metabolites. The list is expanding continuously as more metabolite information is being deposited and discovered.

MS/MS Data was obtained on a 6510 Q-ToF (Agilent Technologies) operated in positive (ESI+) and negative (ESI-) electrospray ionization mode using four different collision energies (0, 10, 20 and 40V).

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**METLIN: Metabolite Search**  
Simple

[Simple](#) | [Advanced](#) | [Batch](#) | [Fragment](#) | [Neutral Loss](#) | [MS/MS Spectrum Match](#) | [Unknowns](#)

Mass:  Tolerance (z):

Charge:

Neutral	M+H
Positive	M+NH4
Negative	M+Na
	M+H-2H2O
	M+H-H2O
	M+K
	M+ACN+H
	M+ACN+Na
	M+2Na-H
	M+2H
	M+3H
	M+H+Na
	M+2H+Na
	M+2Na
	M+2Na+H
	M+Li
	M+CH3OH+H

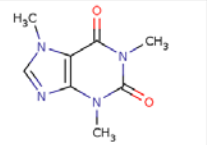
\*To select multiple Adducts  
Hit Ctrl + Adducts  
Hit Command + Adducts  
Select: all | none

METLIN  
Metabolite

[Back To Result](#)

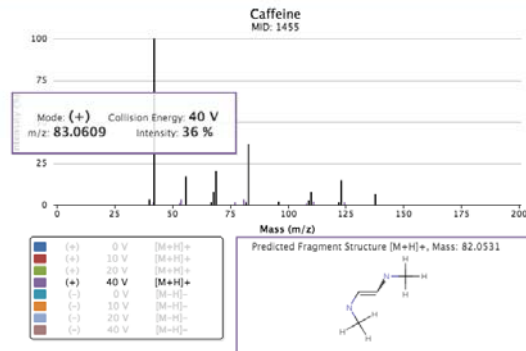
MID	1455
Mass	194.080376 <a href="#">m/z calculator</a>
Name	<b>Caffeine</b>
Synonym	1,3,7-Trimethylxanthine; 7-methyl Theophylline; Thein; 1-methyl-Theobromine; Methylxanthine theophylline; 1,3,7-Trimethyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione; Lanonin; 1,3,7-Trimethyl-2,6-dioxopurine; 3,7-Dihydro-1,3,7-trimethyl-1H-purine-2,6-dione; Methyltheobromide; Guaranine; Anhydrous caffeine (JPIB); Monohydrate Caffeine
Systematic Name	1,3,7-trimethylpurine-2,6-dione
Formula	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
CAS	58-08-2
Purchase Option	Sigma-Aldrich: C1778 <b>SIGMA-ALDRICH</b> Chromadex: ASB-00003032-010 <b>ChromaDex</b>
LMID	
KEGG	C07481
HMDB	HMDB01647
PubChem	2519
Notes	naturally occurring alkaloid Doolery, Colin Therapeutic Drugs, 2nd Ed. 1999 p. C4
Updated	2013-06-15 16:24:26
Drug	N

Structure



[Structure View](#)

Spectrum



**⚠ Please mouse over the spectrum to view the detail information of each peak**  
Use left mouse button to zoom in (click and drag) and zoom out (double-click)

# Adducts

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### METLIN: Metabolite Search

Simple

[Simple](#) | [Advanced](#) | [Batch](#) | [Fragment](#) | [Neutral Loss](#) | [MS/MS Spectrum Match](#) | [Unknowns](#)

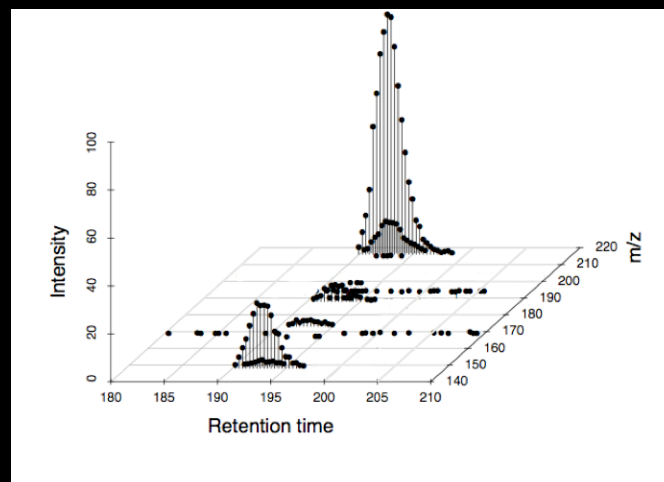
Mass:  Tolerance (a):  ppm

Charge:

Neutral	M+H
Positive	M+NH4
Negative	M+Na
	M+H-2H2O
	M+H-H2O
	M+K
	M+ACN+H
	M+ACN+Na
	M+2Na+H
	M+2H
	M+3H
	M+H+Na
	M+2H+Na
	M+2Na
	M+2Na+H
	M+Li
	M+CH3OH+H

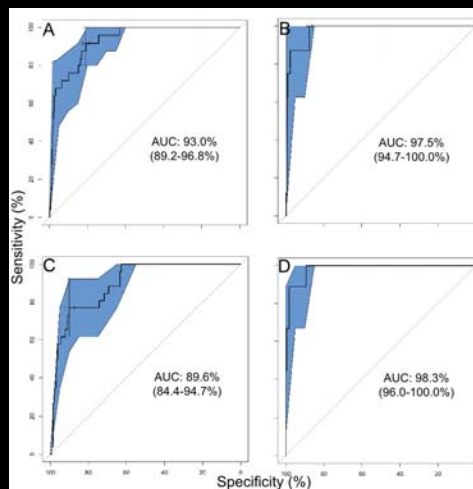
\*To select multiple Adducts:  
[Ctrl] + Adducts  
[Ctrl] + Adducts  
Select: all | none

# Explanation of adduct characterisation



# How accurately can we find Adducts?

- Adducts were manually found for spiked in standards
- Across file correlation
- Lowest AUC 89.6%
  - very good!



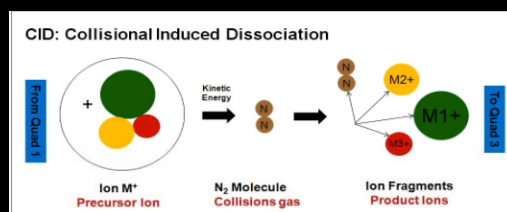
## Software to do Automate

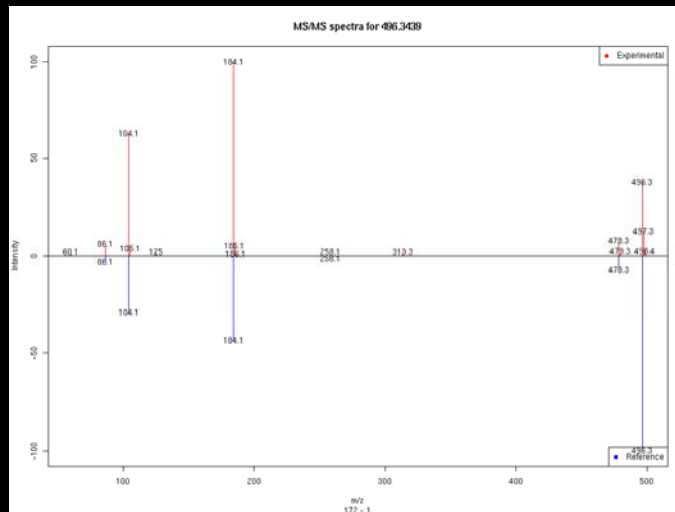
- CAMERA - R package - Steffen Neumann group
- AStream - R package - Sara Marsal group
- xcms Online - Also matches to Metlin hits

# Understanding Fragmentation spectra

- Fragmentation spectra are complex
- Q: From this wheel can we tell that the car which smashed into the brick wall is a Ferrari or a Ford?
- This is essentially what fragmentation spectra are!!

## How CID works





# x-rank algorithm

- Many different algorithms available
- X-rank is unique in that it ranks the peaks and uses the ranks not true intensity values
- A very good way to match spectra to reference spectra
- X-rank asks what is the probability that the experimental spectra is the same as the reference spectra given that a fragment is/is not in the reference spectra.

### MS/MS Spectrum Match

[Simple](#) | [Advanced](#) | [Batch](#) | [Fragment](#) | [Neutral Loss](#) | [MS/MS Spectrum Match](#) | [Unknowns](#)

Peaks: (MAX: 30 peaks)

m/z	intensity
138.066	10877
110.071	2221
42.034	644
69.045	351
123.043	350

Mode:

Positive	M+H
Negative	M+NH4
	M+Na
	M+H-2H2O
	M+H-H2O
	M+K
	M+ACN+H
	M+ACN+Na
	M-2Na+H
	M-2H
	M-3H
	M+H+Na
	M-2H+Na
	M-2Na
	M-2Na+H
	M+Li
	M+CH3OH+H

*\*To select multiple Adducts:  
+ Hit Ctrl + Adducts  
+ Hit Command + Adducts*

EXAMPLE DATA

[POSITIVE](#) | [NEGATIVE](#)

Collision Energy (eV):

Tolerance MS/MS (Da):

Tolerance Precursor (ppm):

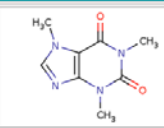
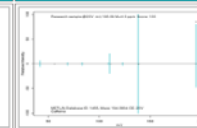
Precursor m/z:

[Find Metabolites](#) | [Reset](#)

### METLIN Spectrum Search Result

Precursor m/z: 195.0877 MODE: Positive CE: 20 Tolerance MS/MS: 0.01 Tolerance Precursor: 20

[Change Query](#)

METLIN ID	Name	METLIN Score (0-100)	precursor	precursor ΔPPM	Structure	Spectrum Matching
1455	Caffeine	100	M+H	0		



- If time permits show live demo of metlin batch search
- Also show getting data from tandem MS2 files

## Upcoming features

- Save searches
- Similarity searching
- Integration with Online XCMS
- Predicted amino acid fragmentation spectra
- Isotope work