

# One-shot tensor decomposition of full-scale GC×GC-VUV datasets for resolving petrochemical groups

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UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

# Acknowledgements



Aleksandra Lelević

Research Scientist - IFPEN

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[Comprehensive two-dimen...](#)

**From:** LELEVIC Aleksandra <[aleksandra.lelevic@ifpen.fr](mailto:aleksandra.lelevic@ifpen.fr)>

**Sent:** 10. marts 2025 13:15

**To:** Rasmus Bro <[rb@food.ku.dk](mailto:rb@food.ku.dk)>

**Subject:** Question regarding PARAFAC (for GCxGC-VUV data of gas-oils)

[is important](#)

Dear prof Bro,

I am writing to inquire regarding PARAFAC and the possibility of decomposing the spectral contributions in the GCxGC-VUV data, which seems to me as an interesting problem that should respond very well to PARAFAC. My question is purely scientific as I have this data collected during my PhD work (some years ago) and I am very curious to see what PARAFAC can do as I have a hint that it should be a very fitting approach (but I never managed to make it work well for my data). This is why I thought that that I could present to you the problem in case it will interest you (I will also share my data in case you want to go further <https://ifpen-webfile.appcollaboratif.fr/?s=download&token=a5855454-95ff-44b6-82c8-78254be42c29>

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Jesper Løve Hinrich

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# Outline of the presentation

**All-samples-at-once shift-invariant tri-linear decomposition** provides a simple and robust data analysis strategy to group-level analysis of petrochemicals, using GC×GC-VUV.

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Accurate estimates of peak pattern, UV spectra and peak areas.

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Accurate estimates of peak pattern, UV spectra and peak areas.

## Model properties

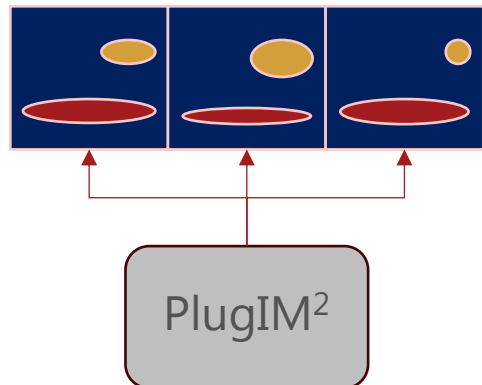
Shift-invariant tri-linearity is an efficient method to deconvolute shifted, co-eluting peaks.

# Overview: Data analysis workflow

Data analysis workflow



**GC×GC-VUV  
measurements**



<sup>1</sup>Schneide P-A, Bro R, Gallagher NB. *Journal of Chemometrics*. 2023; 37(8):e3501

<sup>2</sup>Lelevic et al *Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems*, Volume 231, 2022, 104708

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### GC×GC-VUV measurements



PlugIM<sup>2</sup>

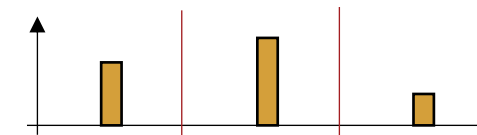
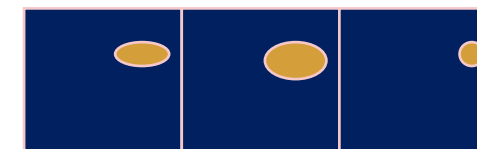
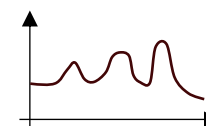
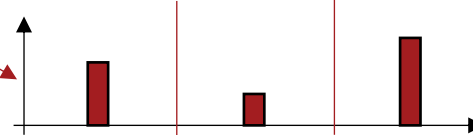
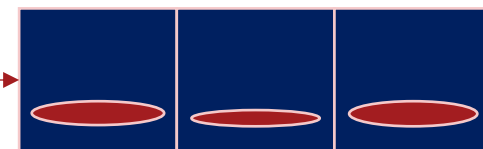
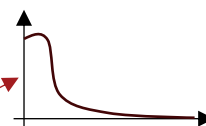
Decomposition

n.o.c-selection

spectra

landscapes

areas



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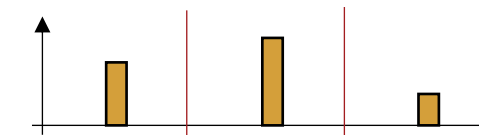
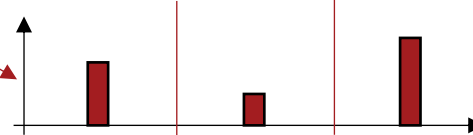
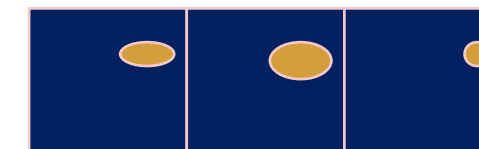
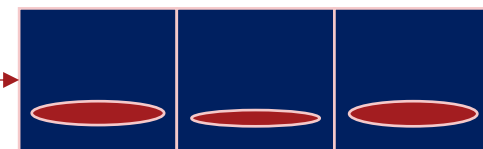
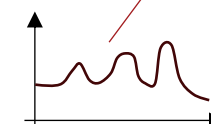
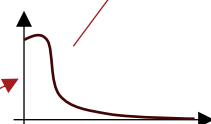
spectra  
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areas



VUV spectral database

paraffines

Tri-aromatics



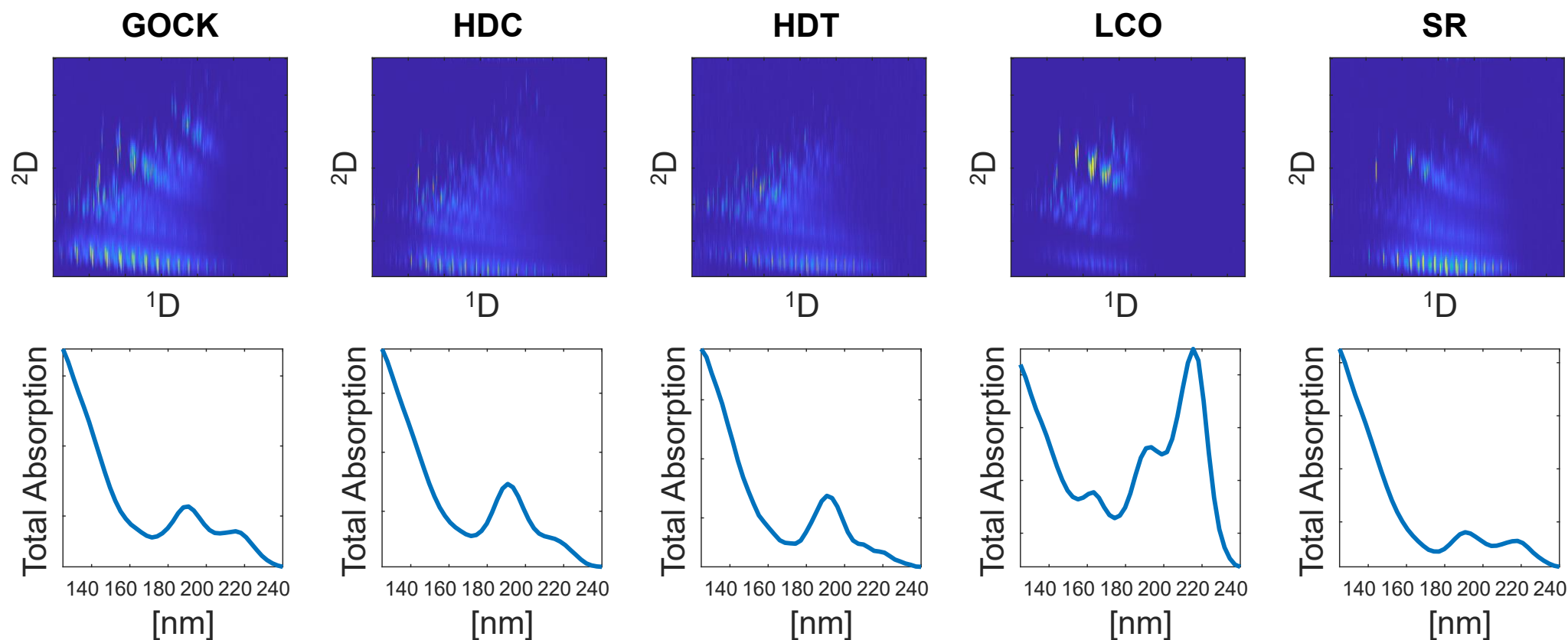
**Group-level quantitative analysis**

<sup>1</sup>Schneide P-A, Bro R, Gallagher NB. *Journal of Chemometrics*. 2023; 37(8):e3501

<sup>2</sup>Lelevic et al *Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems*, Volume 231, 2022, 104708

# Case study: Petrochemical samples

- GC×GC-VUV data: 14 gas oil samples, cocker gas oils (GOCK), hydroconverted (HDC), hydrotreated (HDT), light cycle oils (LCO), straight run gas oils (SR), 24 measurements<sup>3</sup>

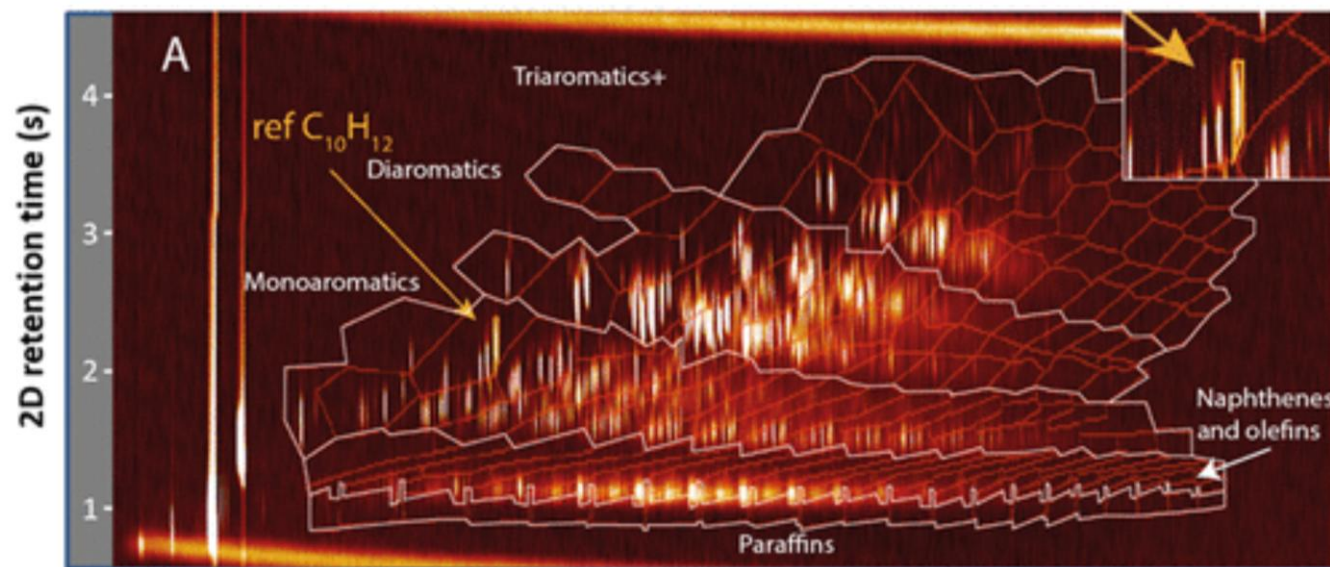


<sup>3</sup>Lelevic et al *Energy & Fuels* 2022 36 (18), 10860-10869 DOI: 10.1021/acs.energyfuels.2c01960

# Case study: Problem specification and benchmark

**Characterizing and semi-quantifying chemical groups:** *saturates, olefines, mono-aromatics, di-aromatics, tri-aromatics.*

**Benchmark:** *Template-based approach*<sup>3,4</sup>, *pixel-based approach*<sup>5</sup>



*Template-based approach has been compared to, and showed good agreement with<sup>1</sup>:*

- GC-MS derived from ASTM D2425.
- GC×GC-FID with prefractionation.
- Bromine Number (ASTM D1159).

**Limitations:** sensitive to retention time shifts → manual adjustment of template required, resolving co-eluting signals requires *a priori* knowledge

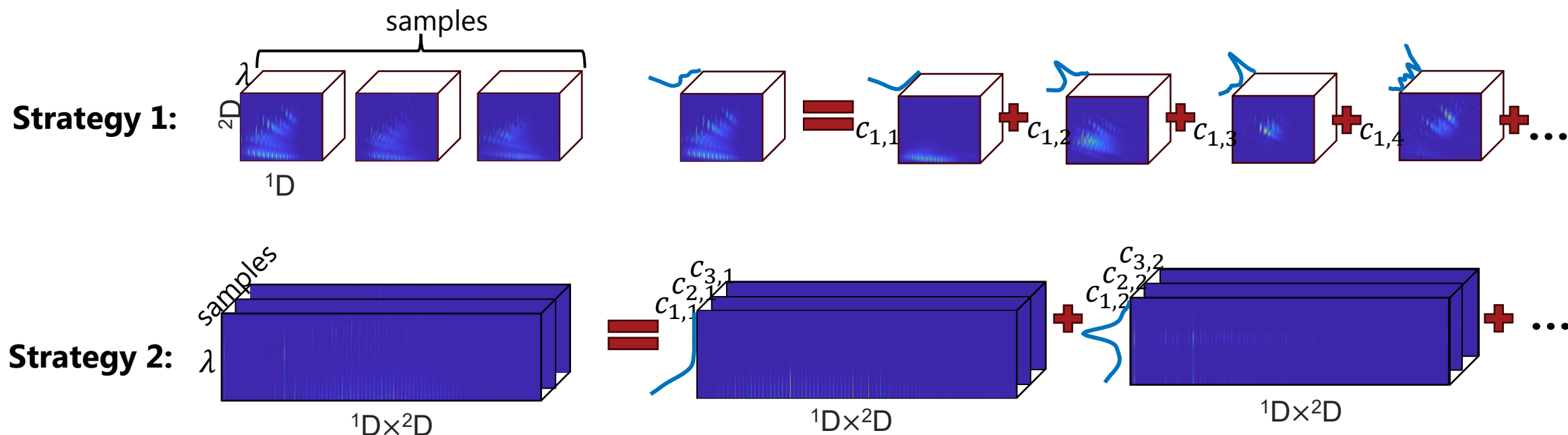
<sup>3</sup>Lelevic et al *Energy & Fuels* 2022 36 (18), 10860-10869 DOI: 10.1021/acs.energyfuels.2c01960

<sup>4</sup>Lelevic et al *Energy & Fuels* 2021 35 (17), 13766-13775 DOI: 10.1021/acs.energyfuels.1c01910

<sup>5</sup>Lelevic *Journal of Separation Science* 2025 48 (12), e70318. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jssc.70318>

# The proposed method: Overview

Shift-invariant tri-linear decomposition → **Exploiting Lambert-Beers law**

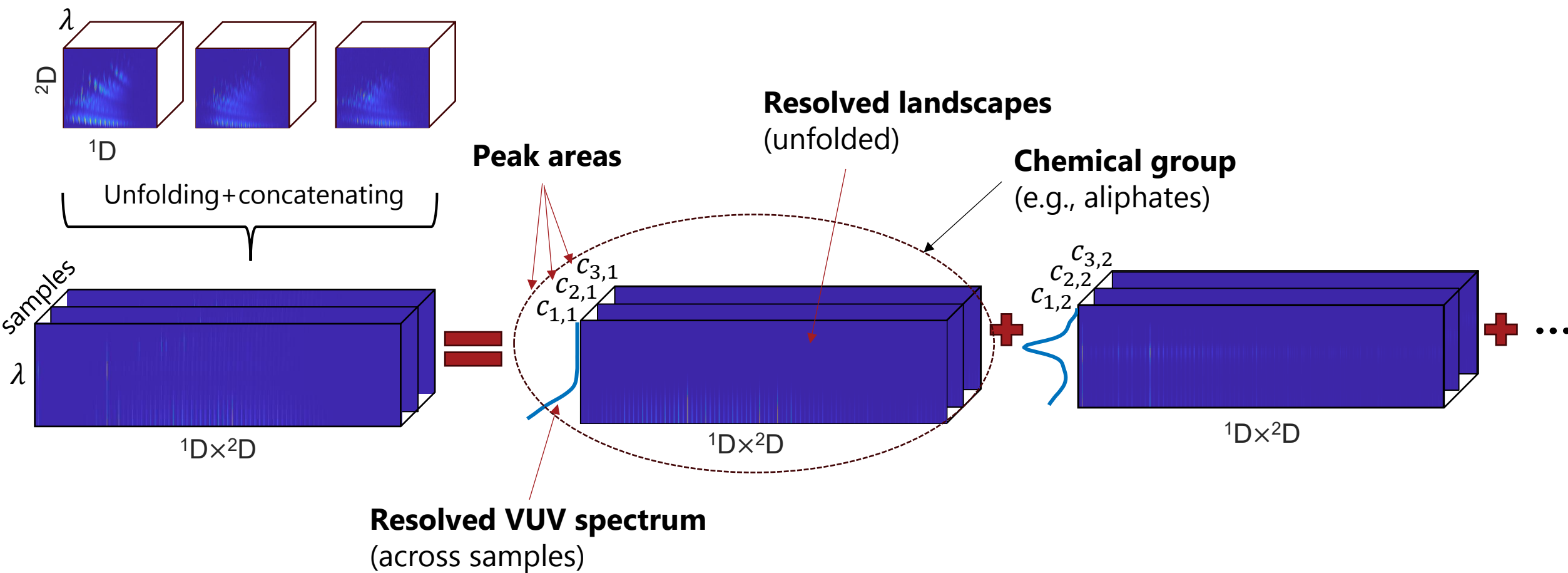


**Conceptually:** Doing Parallel Factor Analysis (PARAFAC)<sup>6</sup> / Multivariate Curve Resolution (MCR)<sup>7</sup> on the whole GC×GC-VUV dataset instead of decomposing selected Regions of Interest (ROIs).

<sup>6</sup>Hoggard et al. *Analytical Chemistry* 2007 79 (4), 1611-1619

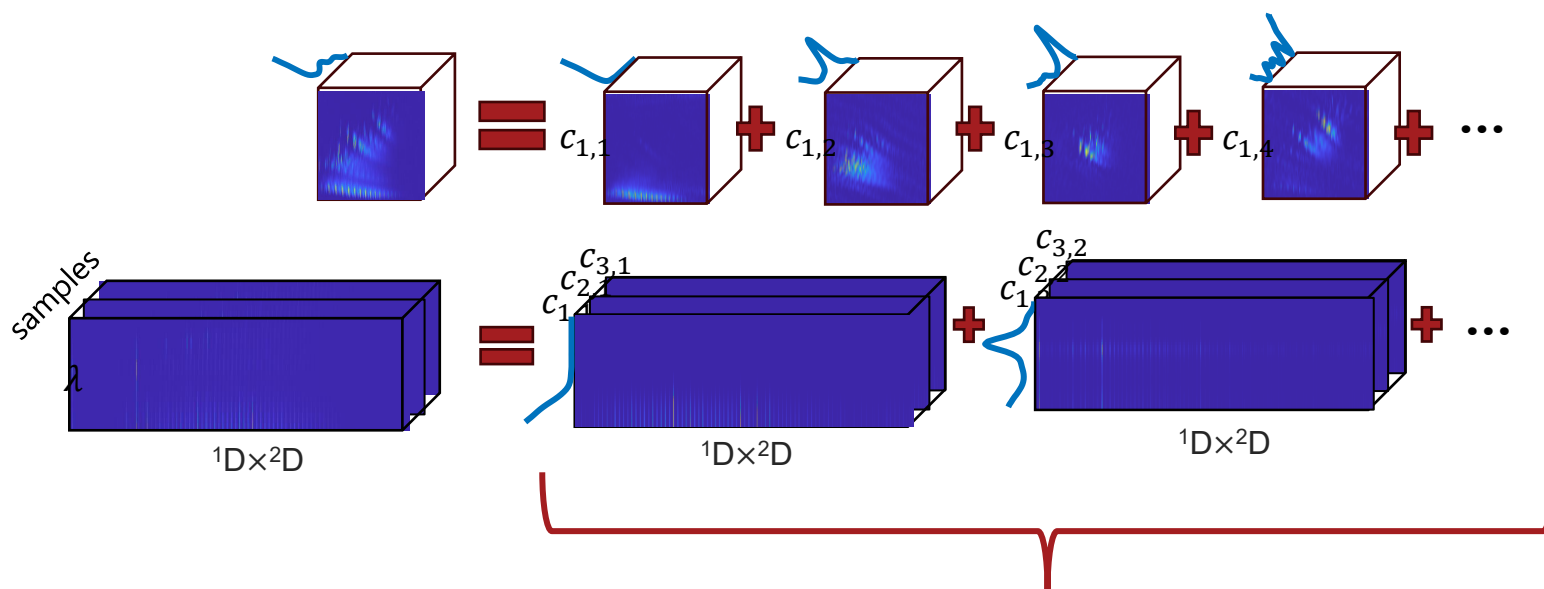
<sup>7</sup>Parastar et al. *Analytical Chemistry* 2014 86 (1), 286-297

# How does it work: Strategy 2 (all-samples-at-once)





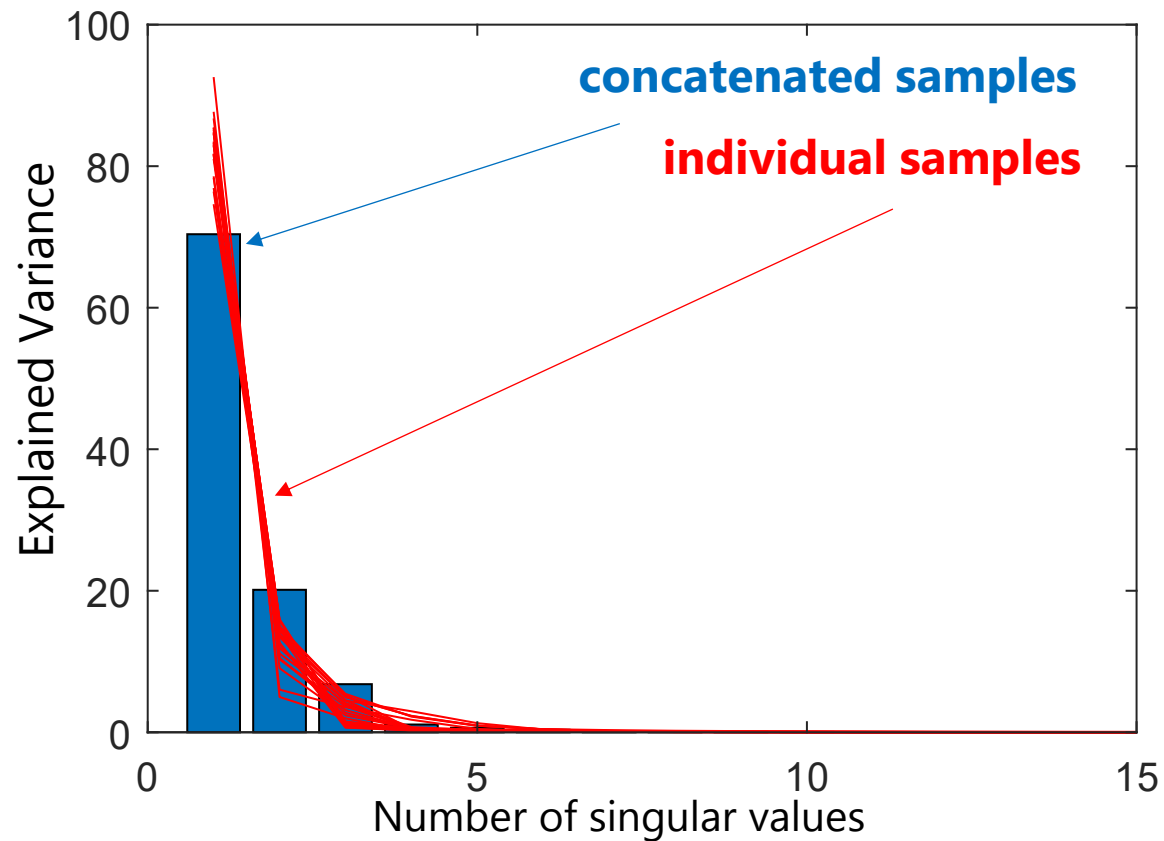
# Data Properties: Low-rank-structure of GC×GC-VUV data



We need to get a "good" approximation of the raw data for a "small" number of terms.

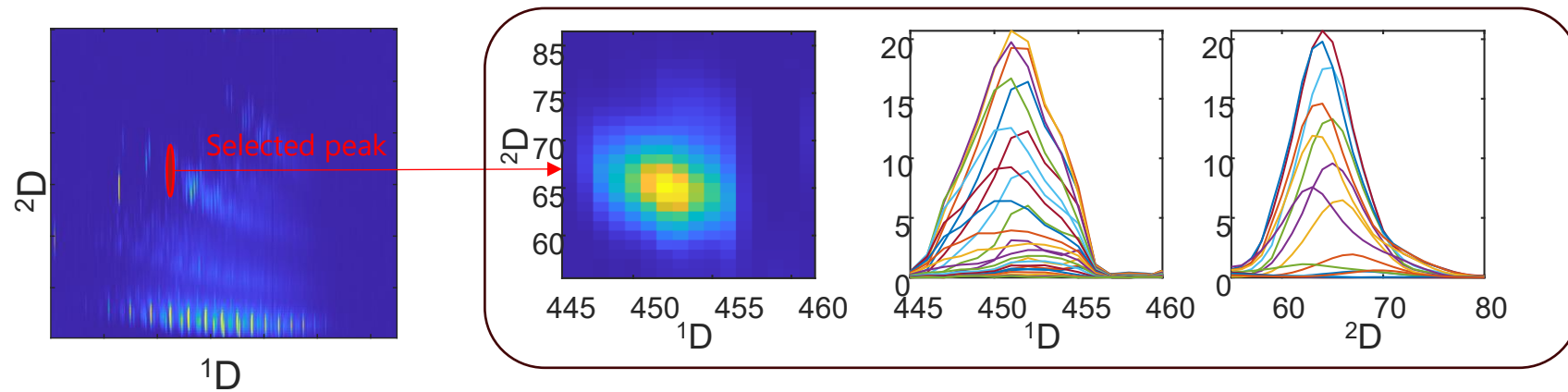


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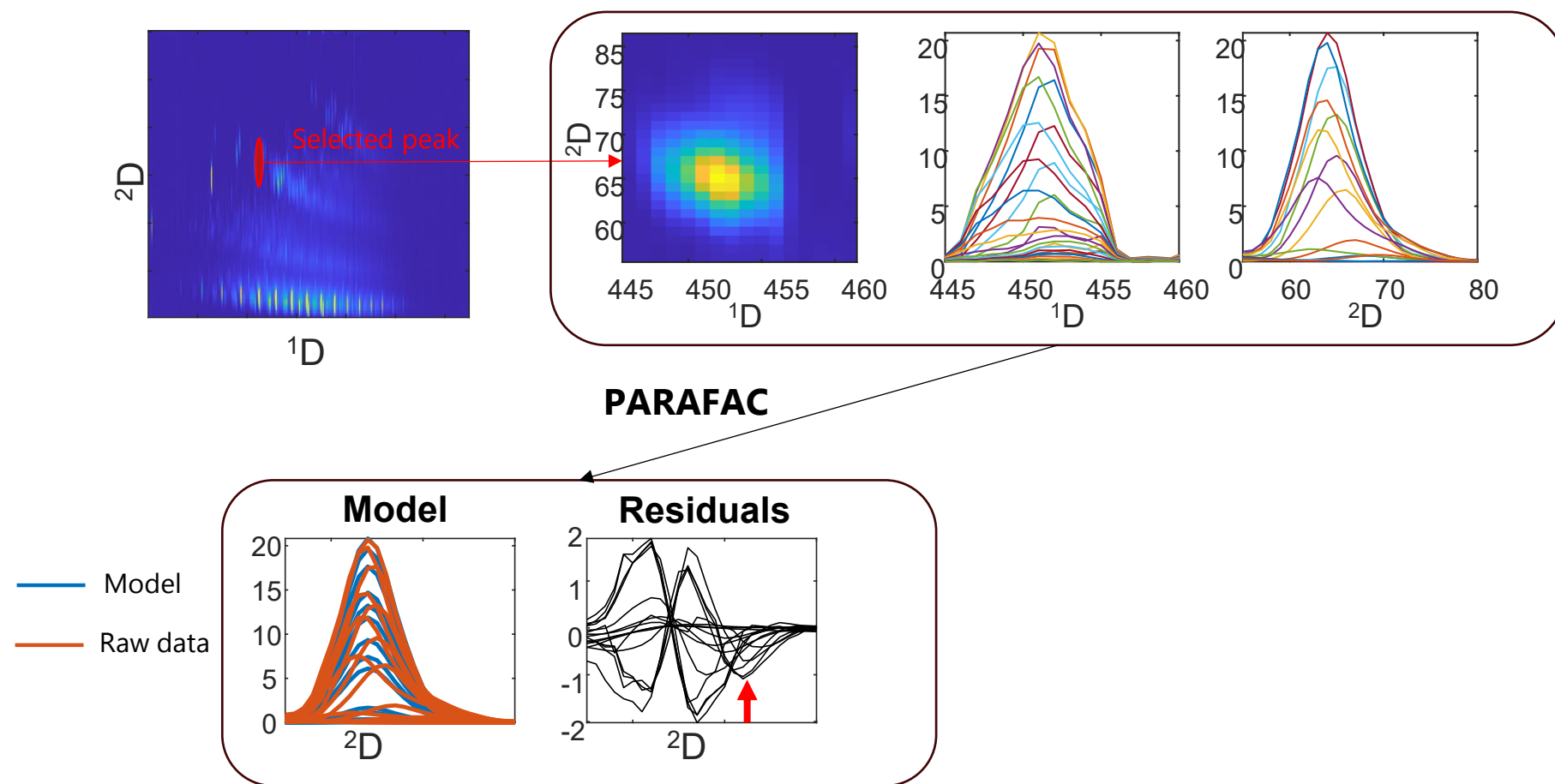


Singular value decay curves show that **< 10 components explain > 99.9 % of the variance** for all individual samples.

# Model Properties: shift-invariant, tri-linear decomposition

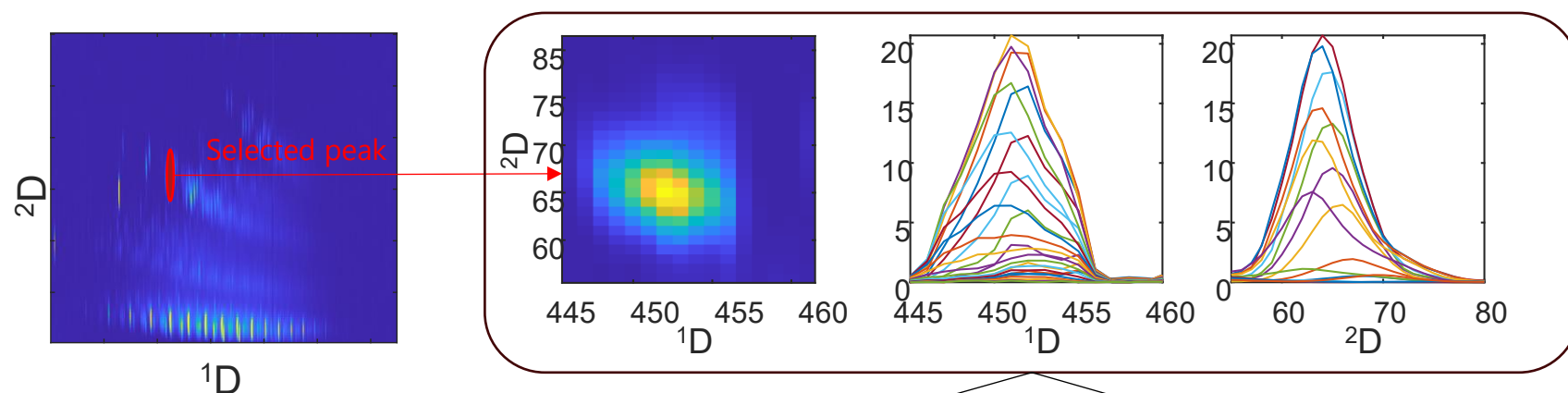


# Model Properties: shift-invariant, tri-linear decomposition



**Problem:** Residuals from unmodelled shift overshadow residuals from an unresolved peak

# Model Properties: shift-invariant, tri-linear decomposition



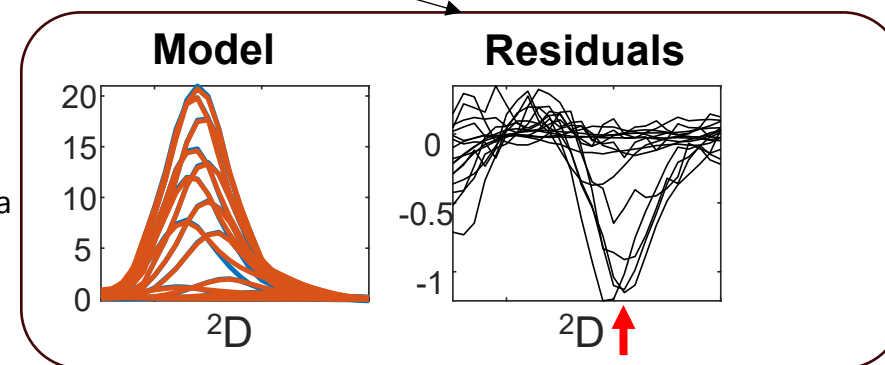
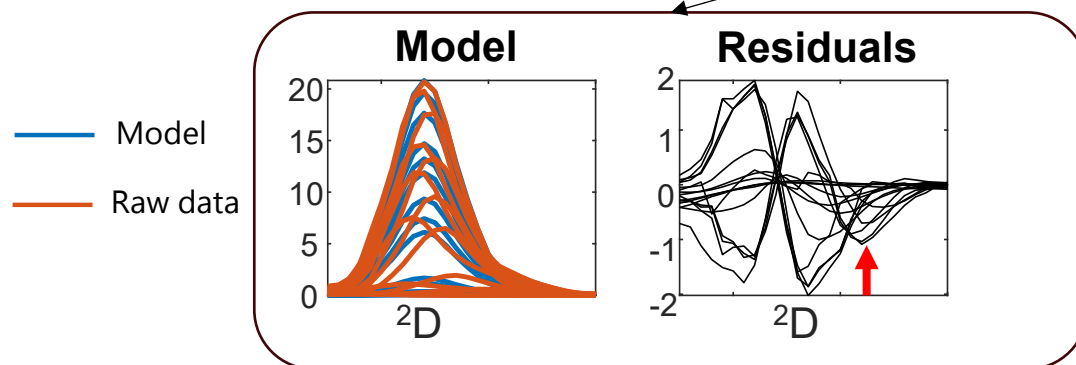
<sup>1</sup>Schneide et al. *Journal of Chemometrics*. 2023; 37(8):e3501.

<sup>8</sup>Schneide et al. *Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems*, Volume 251, 2024, 105155,

<sup>9</sup>Schneide et al. *Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems*, Volume 265, 2025, 105492

**PARAFAC**

**Shift-invariant tri-linearity**



**Improvement:** Agnostic towards retention time shift, facilitating extraction of chemically interpretable information.<sup>1,8,9</sup>

# Model Properties: Math

- We use FFT to model shift.
- It's faster than PARAFAC2

**Matricizing  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ :**

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times JK}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{IK \times J}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}_{(3)} \in \mathbb{R}^{IJ \times K}$$

**Tri-linearity constrained NNMF (MCR):**

$$\mathbf{X}_{(2)} \approx \mathbf{C}' \mathbf{S}^T, s. t. \mathbf{C}'_r = \mathbf{u}_{1,r} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{1,r} \mathbf{v}_{1,r}^T$$

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{c}_r$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^T)^T = \mathbf{f}_r$$

$$\mathbf{C}' \in +\mathbb{R}^{IK \times R}$$

$$\mathbf{S} \in +\mathbb{R}^{J \times R}$$

$$\mathbf{C}'_r \in +\mathbb{R}^{I \times K}$$

$$r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$$

$\mathbf{u}_{1,r} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{1,r} \mathbf{v}_{1,r}^T$  is a rank-one SVD decomposition.

$$\mathbf{X}_{(2)} \approx \mathbf{C}' \mathbf{S}^T, s. t. |\tilde{\mathbf{C}}'_r| = \mathbf{u}_{1,r} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{1,r} \mathbf{v}_{1,r}^T$$

$$\mathbf{C}' \in +\mathbb{R}^{IK \times R}$$

$$\mathbf{S} \in +\mathbb{R}^{J \times R}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{C}}'_r \in \mathbb{C}^{I \times K}, \tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k} = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{c}'_{r,k})$$

$$|\tilde{\mathbf{C}}'_r| \in +\mathbb{R}^{I \times K}$$

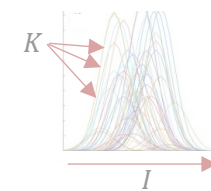
$$r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$$

$\mathbf{u}_{1,r} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{1,r} \mathbf{v}_{1,r}^T$  is a rank-one SVD decomposition.

The general idea is that the amplitude spectrum  $\mathbf{a}_{r,k}$  of a time-domain signal is shift-invariant!

**How to make shift invariant tri-linearity [32]**

$$\mathbf{C}'_r \neq \mathbf{u}_{1,r} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{1,r} \mathbf{v}_{1,r}^T$$



**Looking at the shifted signal in the frequency domain:**

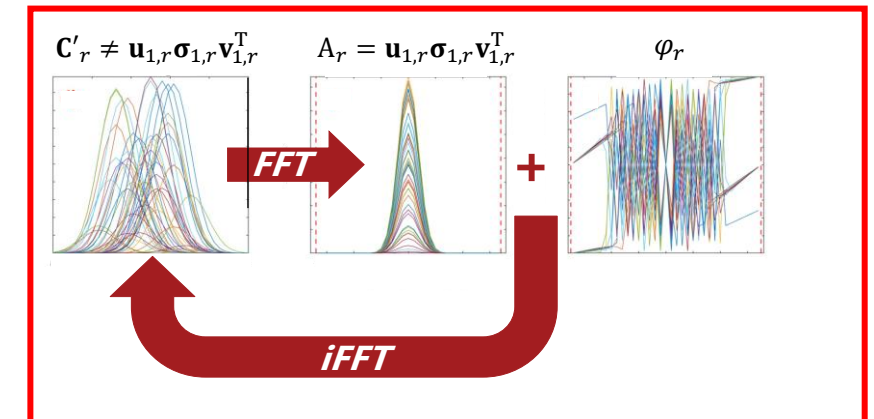
$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k} = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{c}'_{r,k})$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k}[i] = \mathbf{a}_{r,k}[i] e^{j\varphi_{r,k}[i]}$$

$$\mathbf{a}_{r,k} = \sqrt{\text{Re}(\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k})^2 + \text{Im}(\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k})^2} = |\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k}|$$

$$\varphi_{r,k} = \arctan\left(\frac{\text{Im}(\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k})}{\text{Re}(\tilde{\mathbf{c}}'_{r,k})}\right)$$

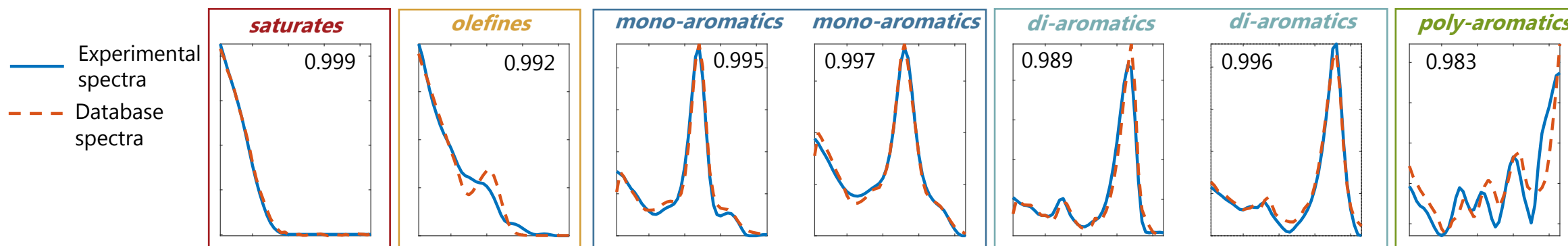
[32] P.-A. Schneide, N. Gallagher, and R. Bro, Shift-invariant tri-linearity—A new model for resolving untargeted gas chromatography coupled mass spectrometry data, J. Chemometrics, 37, (2023)



# Results: Spectral similarity

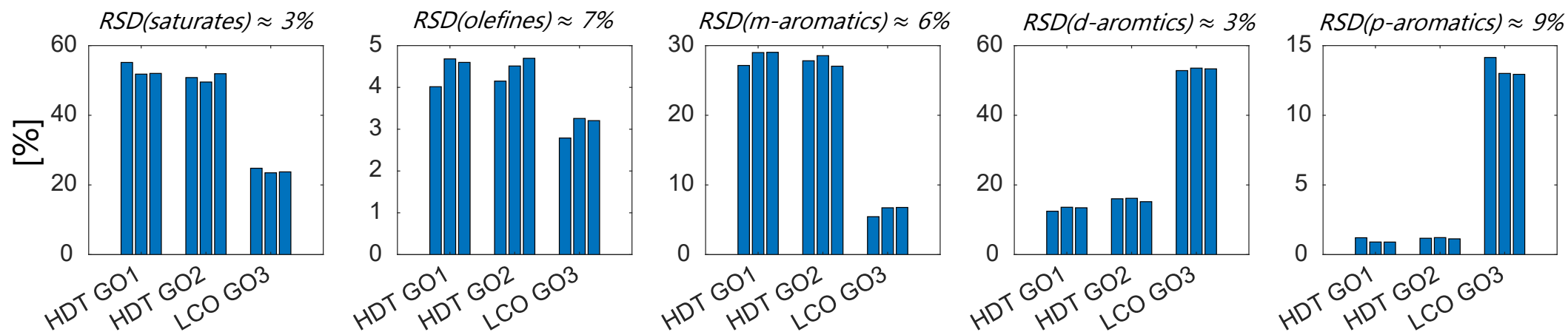


VUV spectral database



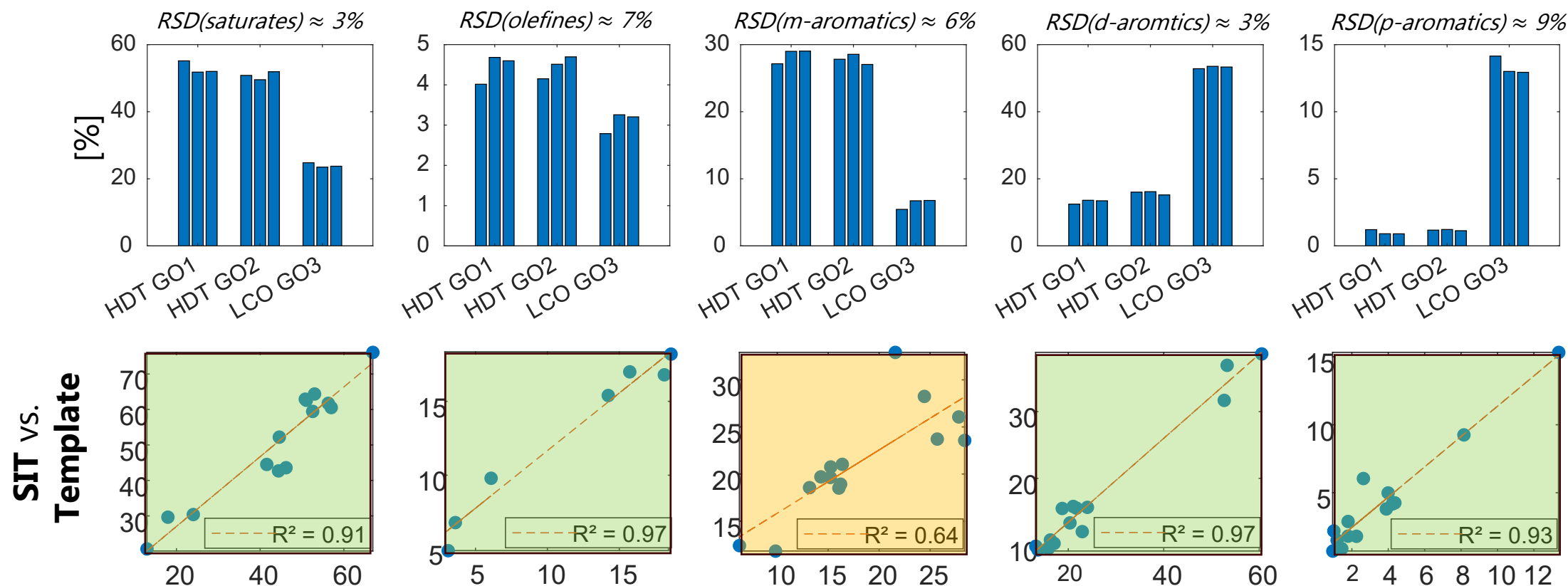
Extracted VUV spectra show high similarity to reference spectra → assigning components to chemical groups.

# Results: Quantitative performance

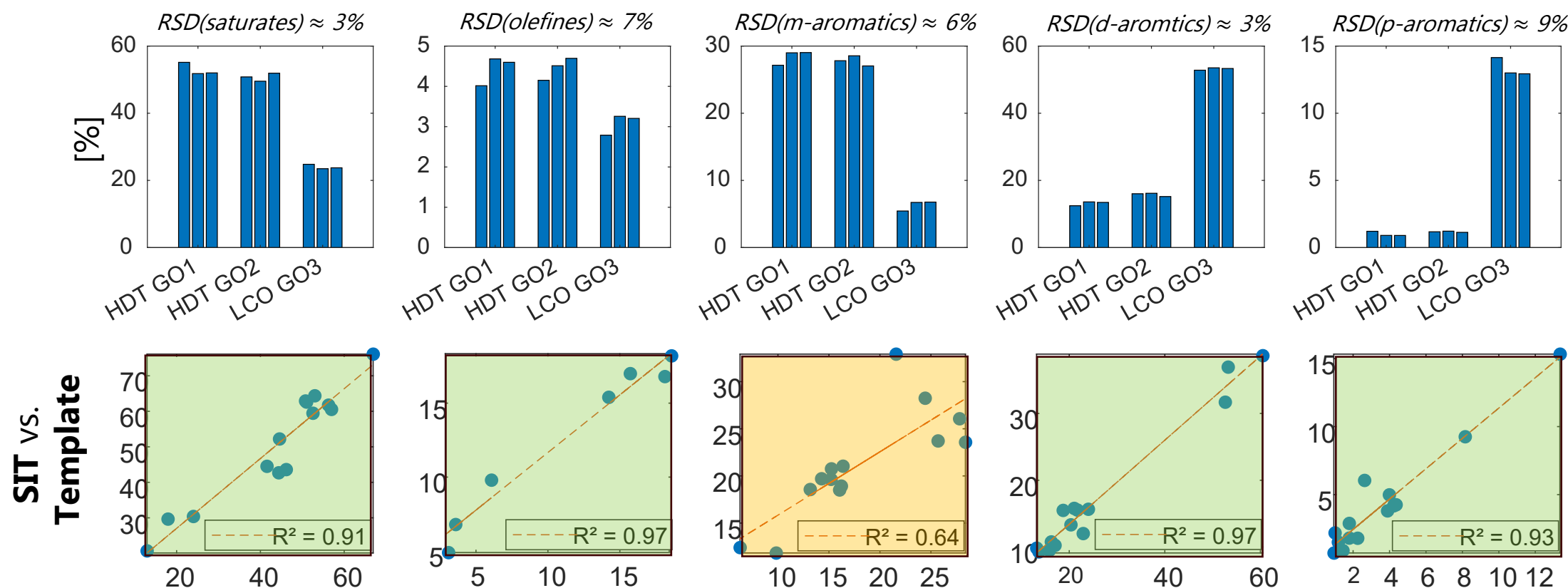




# Results: Quantitative performance



# Results: Quantitative performance



Quantitative results obtained from a 7-component model show **high repeatability for replicates** and **high correlation with template-based reference method**.

# Summary

## Next steps

- ☐ Running models on individual samples
- ☐ Automating number of component selection in pipeline (e.g., split-half, cross validation)
- ☐ Understand where deviations for mono-aromatics come from
- ☐ Maybe integrate pipeline in existing project, e.g. GCDuo (?) 😊😊

**Thank you very much  
for your attention!**

**I am happy to connect  
with you:**

*University of Copenhagen:*  
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