

# Chem Forensics

## Multicomponent Forensic Signature Development: Interactions with Common Textiles; Mustard Precursors and Simulants

Mark Van Benthem

### ***Materials Characterization***

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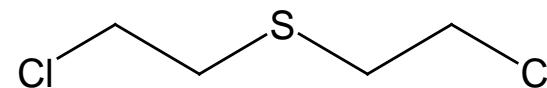
# Project Objectives

- **Use TD/MS to develop methods for generating chemical attribution signatures (CAS) employing mustard simulants and surrogates**
  - No use of the actual chemical agent
- **Develop chemometric tools to facilitate data analysis and interpretation**
  - Examine noise in the data
  - Test techniques to quickly analyze data sets
- **Conduct aging studies for mustard simulants on fabrics**
  - Age samples of simulants on fabrics at various humidity levels
  - Examine signature of simulant at various time intervals

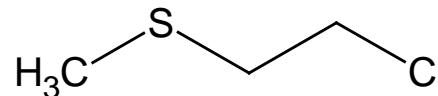
# Technical Approach/Tasks

- **Task 1: Examine mustard surrogates on selected substrates to determine efficacy of TD/MS method for this class of agents.**
- **Task 2: Apply mustard surrogates to fabrics for aging studies and perform TD/MS analysis on these samples.**
- **Task 3: Develop and test chemometric algorithms and programs to rapidly analyze TD/MS data acquired in Tasks 1 and 2.**
- **Task 4: Final report**
- **Total Funding \$230K**

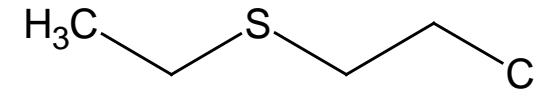
# Sulfur Mustard and Simulants



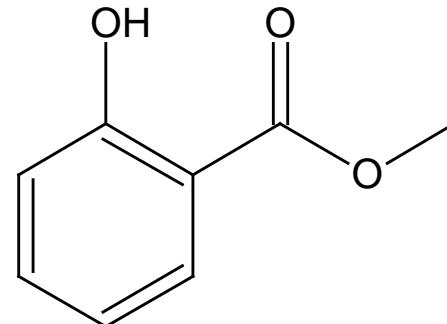
**Sulfur mustard (HD)**



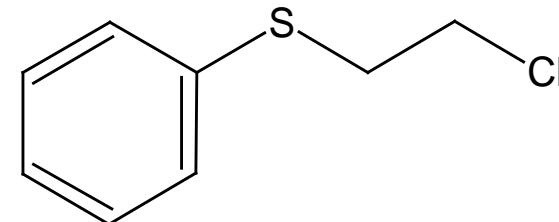
**2-Chloroethyl methyl sulfide  
(CEMS)**



**Chloroethyl ethyl sulfide  
(CEES)**



**Methyl salicylate  
(MS)**



**2-Chloroethyl phenyl sulfide  
(CEPS)**

# TD-GC/MS

- **Thermal Desorption**

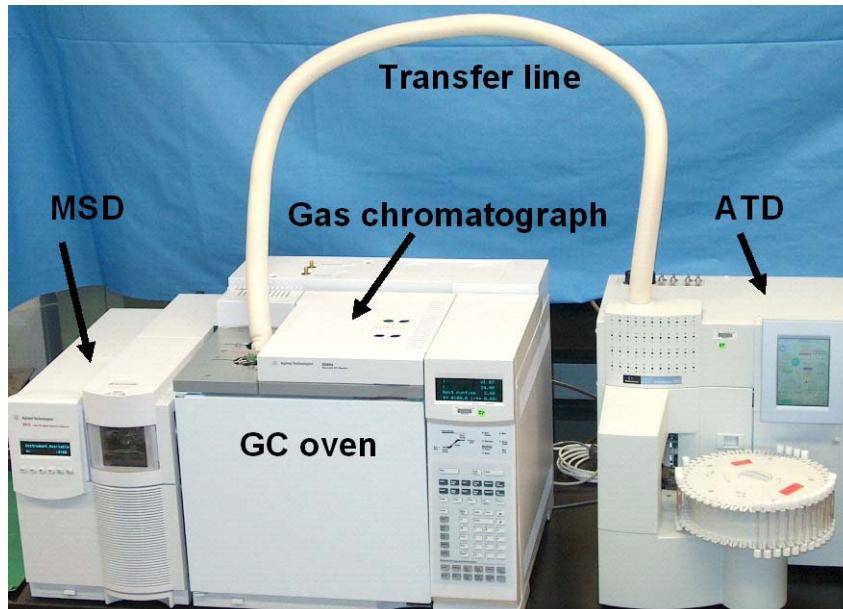
- Flexible experimental technique
- Permits the direct analysis of volatile organic species
  - Liquid or solid substrates
- Typical: Perform TD using single, predetermined desorption temperature
- Alternative : Step TD temperatures & generate series of desorptions

- **Gas Chromatography coupled Mass Spectrometry**

- Instrumentation used: widely available, unspecialized, & relative low cost
- Methods developed can easily be replicated by the widest possible audience responsible for analysis or performing forensic investigations
- Performed full scan MS: Want to find the needle in the haystack

# Apparatus

## Instrumentation



## Description

- **Perkin Elmer model TurboMatrix ATD thermal desorption unit**
- **Agilent 6890N gas chromatograph**
- **Agilent model 5975 inert XL MSD mass spectrometer**
- **No “specialized” equipment**
- **Affordable and user friendly**
- **Similar instrumentation available from other instrument vendors**

# Multivariate Data Analysis

- **Data Scaling**
  - Approximates the assumptions of the factor analysis technique
- **Principal component analysis (PCA)**
  - Decomposes a matrix into two sets of orthogonal of basis vectors
- **Orthogonal Factor Rotation**
  - Maximize some criterion that is consistent with the nature of the data
- **Multivariate Curve Resolution (MCR)**
  - Least squares method to provide physically meaningful representation of data
- **Trilinear Data Analysis**
  - Used to render a three-way model of data that has a trilinear structure
  - PARAFAC-ALS is the most common application

# Fabric Spiking and Aging

- Commercial CEPs used as received
- Undyed swatches from a local fabric store
  - Cotton
  - Ripstop nylon
  - Polyester
  - Silk
- Humidity
  - Potassium acetate (23% RH)
  - Magnesium nitrate (56% RH)
  - Potassium chloride (85% RH)
- Aging: 0, 2, 7, 14, 21, and 28 days



# Chemometric Methods

- **Data Scaling and pretreatment**

- MS data is count data, so we use Poisson optimal scaling
- For data in matrix  $D$ , compute mean:  $\bar{d}_m = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{1}_n$
- Scale by  $(\bar{d}_m)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  in the MS domain:  $\tilde{D} = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{D}^n$
- Selected ion depletion
  - Remove mass channels that contain saturated peaks (e.g., solvent peaks)

- **PCA**

- Find the solution to:  $\tilde{D} = \tilde{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{P}^T + \tilde{\mathbf{E}}$
- Unfortunately, not easily interpretable.

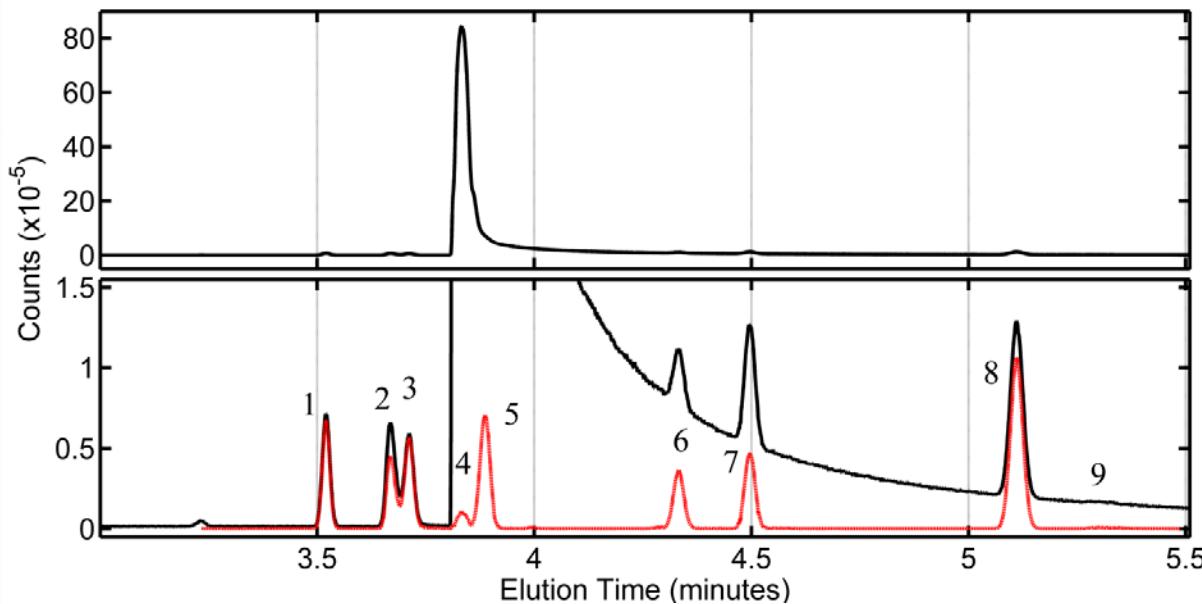
- **Varimax rotation**

- Find the “most simple” representation of the data in the time mode
- Rotate the factors  $\tilde{D} = \tilde{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{P}^T = \tilde{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{P}^T = \tilde{\mathbf{T}} \underline{\mathbf{P}}^T$

- **MCR**

- Use constraints to limit the space of the solution
- Find the least squares solution to  $\tilde{D} = \tilde{\mathbf{M}} \mathbf{C}^T + \tilde{\mathbf{E}}$

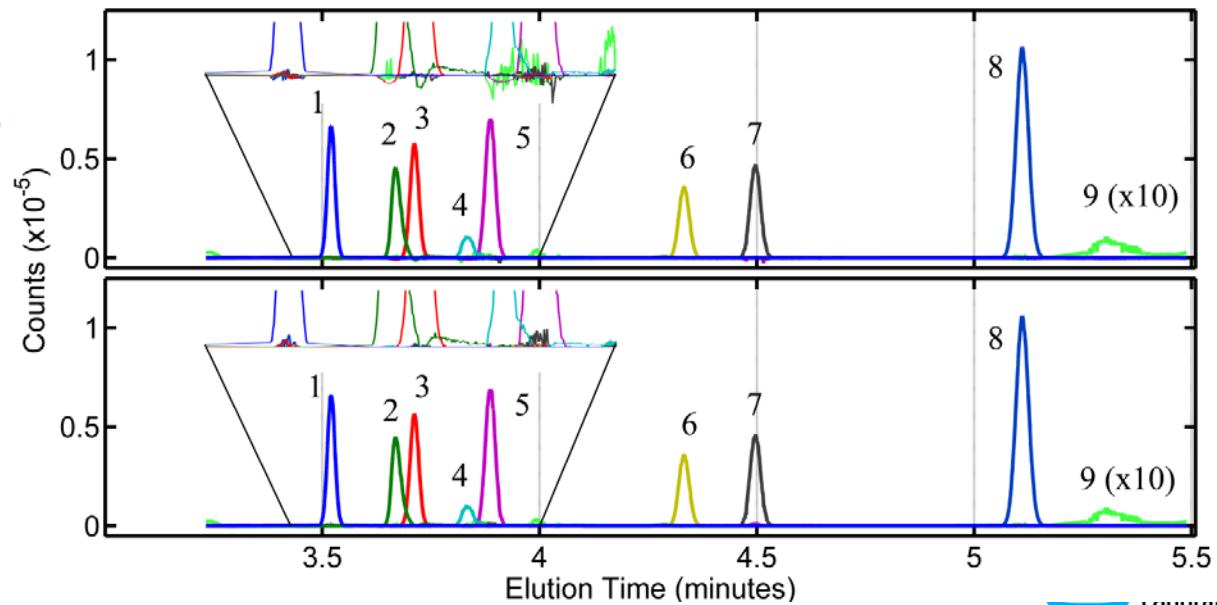
# Factor Analysis with SID



**Data**

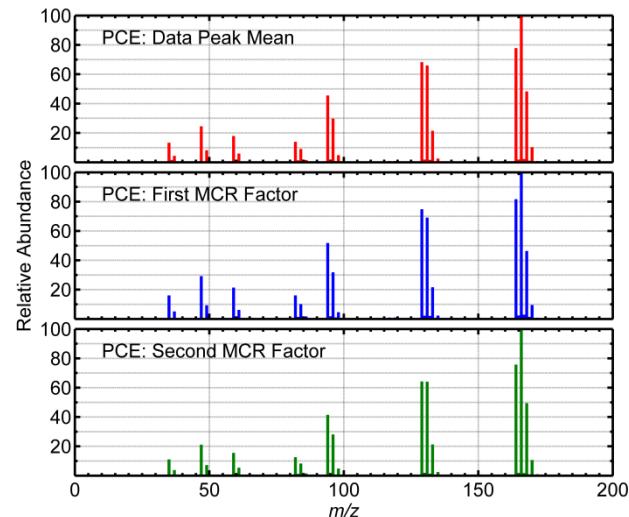
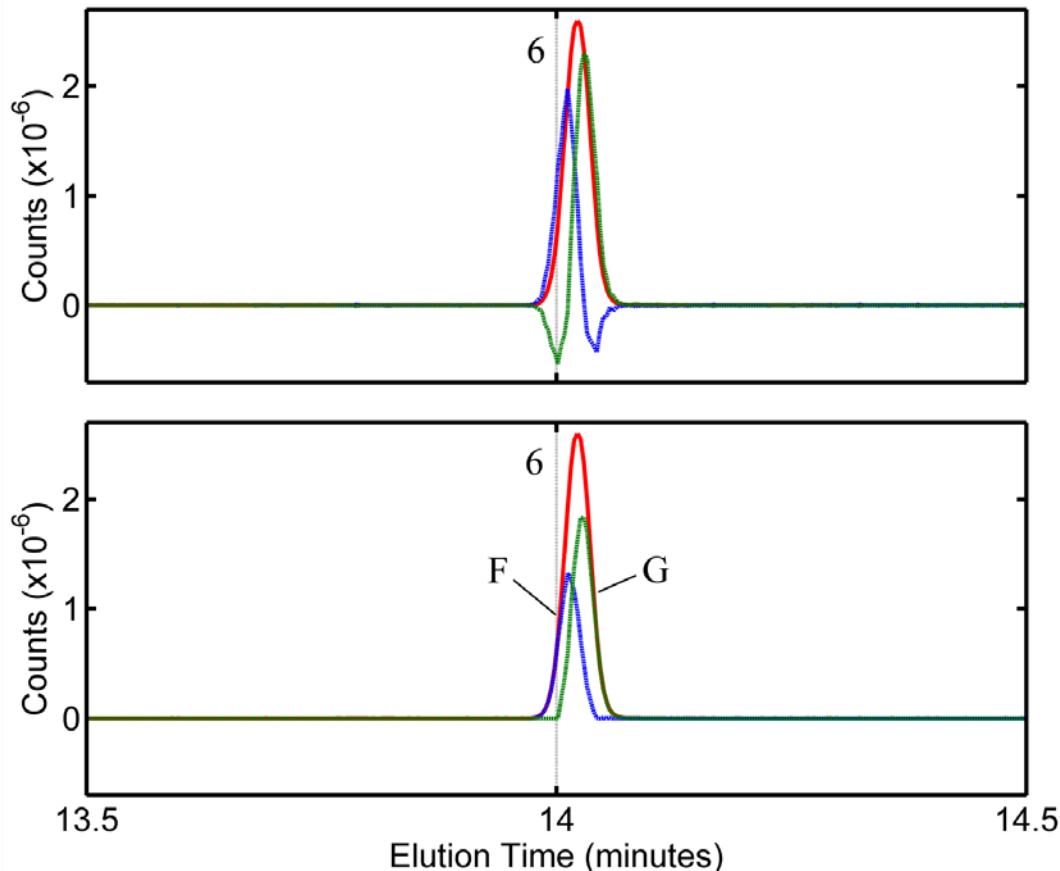
**Data after SID**

**PCA/Varimax Factors**



**MCR Factors**

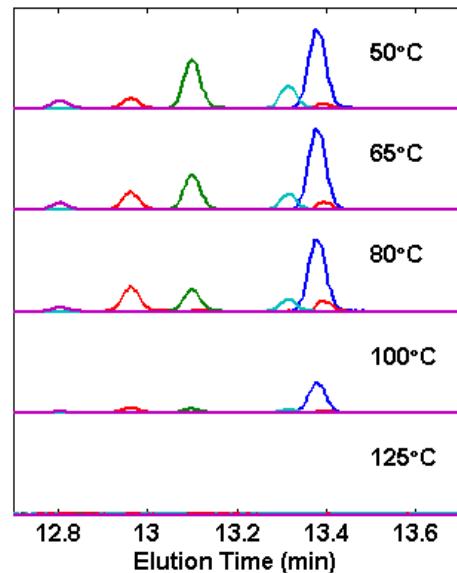
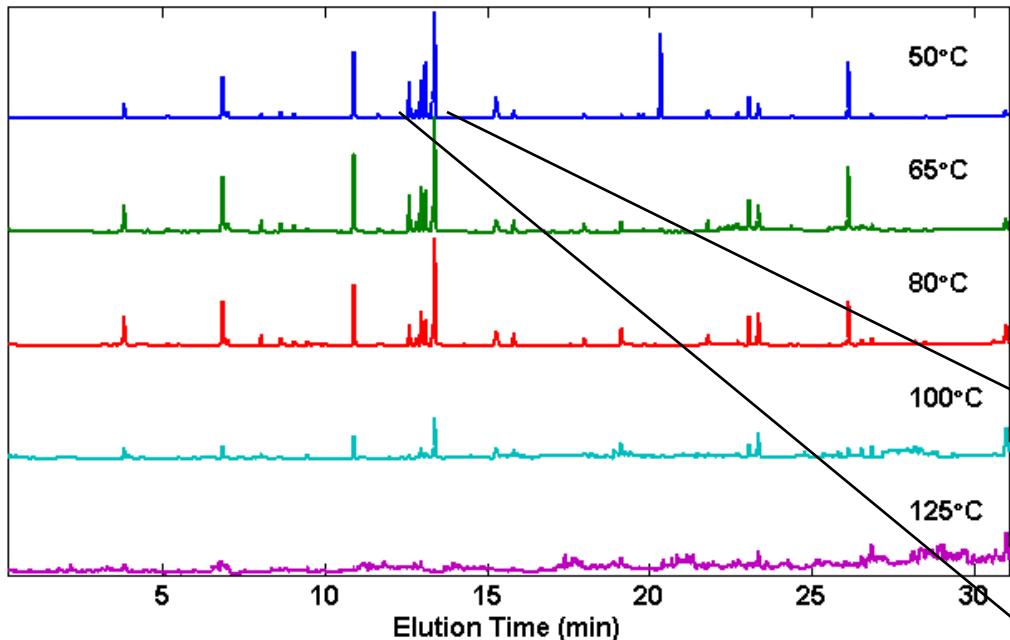
# One Peak or Two?



$^{37}\text{Cl}/^{35}\text{Cl}$ ratio:	0/2	1/1	2/0
Mass $\text{C}_2\text{Cl}_2$	94	96	98
Theoretical Prob. (%):	57.4	36.7	5.9
Raw Data Dist. (%):	56.9	37.1	6.0
Peak One Dist. (%):	58.8	36.1	5.1
Peak Two Dist. (%):	55.8	37.8	6.4
NIST data Dist. (%):	56.7	37.2	6.1

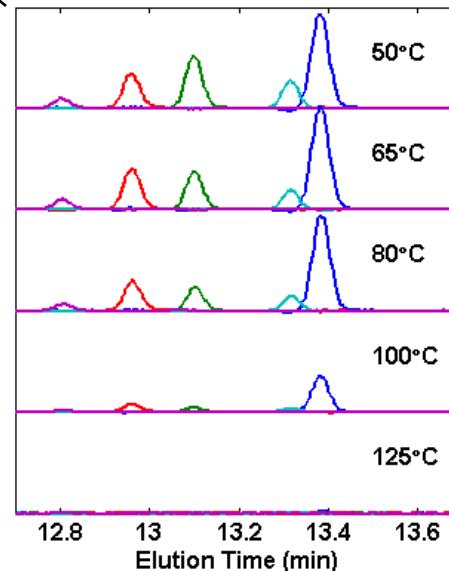
Algorithms pulled out subtle isotope effect!

# TD-GC/MS CEPS Data



**PARAFAC Factors**

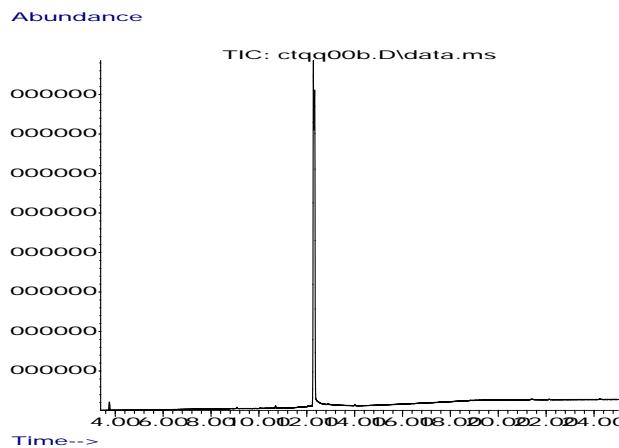
**PCA/Varimax Factors**



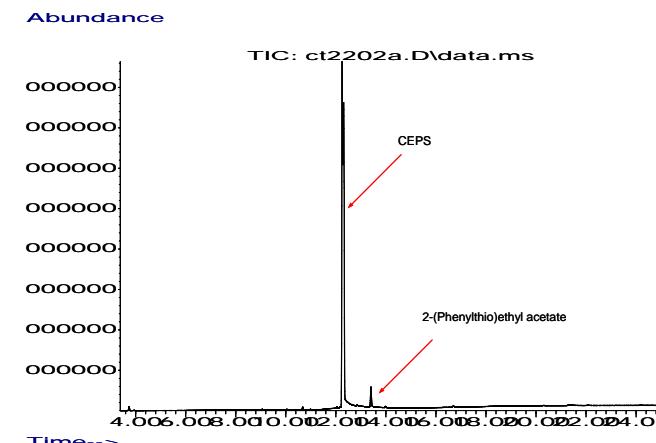
# Neat “New” & “Old” CEPS library matches for MCR Model Factors

“New” Time(s) min	“New” match value	NIST Assigned Compound	Formula	CAS #	“Old” match value	“Old” Time(s) min
26.5	933	Benzo[b]thiophene *	C8H6S	95-15-8	939	26.5
31.0	926	Biphenyl	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>10</sub>	92-52-4	937	31.0
22.7	912	Benzene, (methylthio)-	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> S	100-68-5	910	22.7
23.3, 28.3	899	Benzene, (ethenylthio)-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> S	1822-73-7	898	23.3, 28.3
30.6	891	Acetaldehyde, (phenylthio)-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> OS	66303-55-7	922	30.6
30.9	876	2-Chloroethyl phenyl sulfide	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>9</sub> ClS	5535-49-9		
8.6	874	Ethane, 1,2-dichloro-	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	107-06-2	940	8.6
26.1	867	Decane, 1-chloro-	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>21</sub> Cl	1002-69-3	937	26.1
20.3	853	Octane, 1-chloro-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub> Cl	111-85-3	959	20.3
24.6	805	Benzene, nitro-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	98-95-3	864	24.6†
19.6	764	Octanal	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O	124-13-0	940	19.6
N/A <sup>+</sup>	748	Endrin	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>8</sub> C <sub>16</sub> O	72-20-8		
23.0†	720	p-hydroxyphenyl-Phosphonic acid	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>4</sub> P	33795-18-5		
26.8	678	1,2-Benzenedithiol, 4-methyl-	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	496-74-2	695	26.8
		Phenol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O	108-95-2	851	23.0†
		Pentane, 3-methyl-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>	96-14-0	806	5.5†
		Benzenethiol	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> S	108-98-5	770	19.1
		Olean	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	15399-43-6	713	N/A <sup>+</sup>
		Ruthenium organometallic	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>21</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> RuSeSi	118772-38-6	687	N/A <sup>‡</sup>
		1-Decanol	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O	112-30-1	681	28.2†

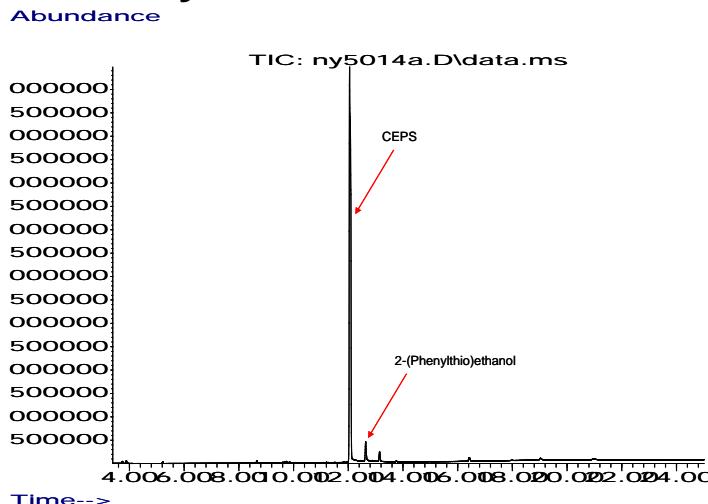
# Aging of CEPS on Cotton, Nylon



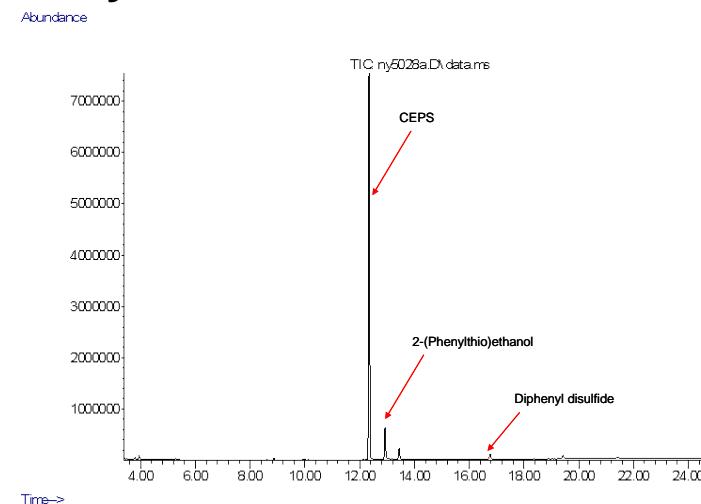
Day 0, CEPS on Cotton



Day 2, CEPS on Cotton, 23% RH



Day 14, CEPS on Nylon, 56% RH



Day 28, CEPS on Nylon, 56% RH

Principal CEPS aging product observed was 2-(phenylthio) ethyl acetate, a reaction product of CEPS and acetic acid.

# Major Accomplishments

- **Submitted manuscript to *Analytical Chemistry***
  - Van Benthem, M.H. , Borek III, T.T. Mowry, C.D. and Kotula, P. G.;  
“Factor Analysis of GC/MS Data with Selected Ion Depletion”
- **Filed US Patent Application No. 12/754,041**
  - Van Benthem, M.H., Kotula, P.G., and Keenan, M.R.; “Method for Factor Analysis of GC/MS Data”
- **Preparing R&D 100 Award Application**
  - GC Interpreter (Gas Chromatography Interpreter), Van Benthem, Kotula, Borek, Mowry, and Keenan
- **Final report published as SAND2010-0981**
  - Van Benthem, M.H. , Borek III, T.T. Mowry, C.D. and Kotula, P. G.;  
“Multicomponent Forensic Signature Development: Interactions with Common Textiles; Mustard Precursors and Simulants”

# Next Steps

- **Pursue internal investigations of progressive TD-GD/MS analysis for materials analysis**
  - Have applied for internal funding to extend this technique to other areas
- **Explore commercial applications for GC-Interpreter software with GC/MS manufacturers**
  - Hope to replicate the commercial success of AXSIA software for GC/MS applications
- **Demonstrate algorithms on LC/MS data**
  - Applicable toward targets that cannot be analyzed by GC, *i.e.*, toxins
- **Continue mustard research using *live agents* in a collaboration with Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute (LRRI)**
  - MOU is already in place and the principals have agreed to pursue this line of research with DHS funding

## Conclusions

- Successfully completed our project on mustard simulants
- Plans are in place to extend this research to other areas of national interest
- Working to make this technology available commercially
- We have arranged with a research partner to take the next logical and meaningful step for this study
- Looking forward to continuing our scientific relationship with DHS and conducting more interesting and important research!