### Identifying Authentic and Fraudulent Diesel Fuel by Fast GC Using Chemometrics

Brian Rohrback, Infometrix, Inc. Joe Perron, Falcon Analytical

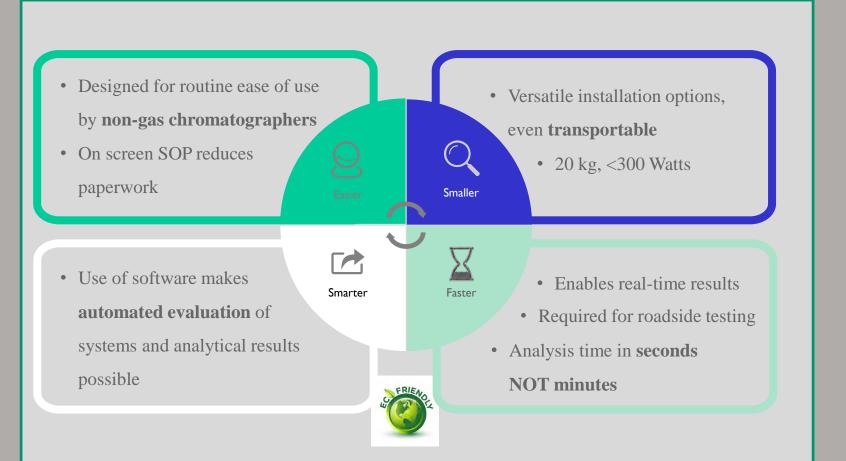
Gulf Coast Conference January 2018

### Two ways to use chromatography

#### I. Quantitative Analysis

- Provide a means of accurately quantitating a small number of compounds
- Predicting a physical property or system parameter
- Unbundling a mixture
- 2. Qualitative Analysis
  - Evaluate a pattern of components to determine if the mixture is within specifications

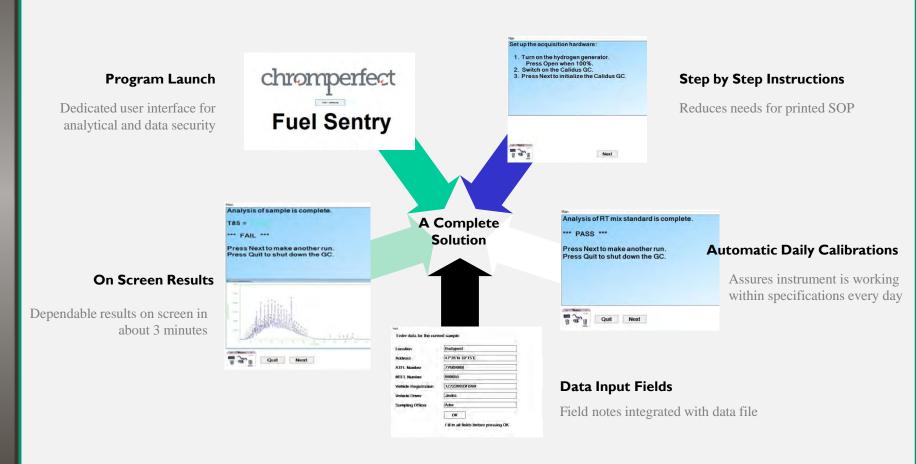
### Easier, Smaller, Smarter, Faster, Greener



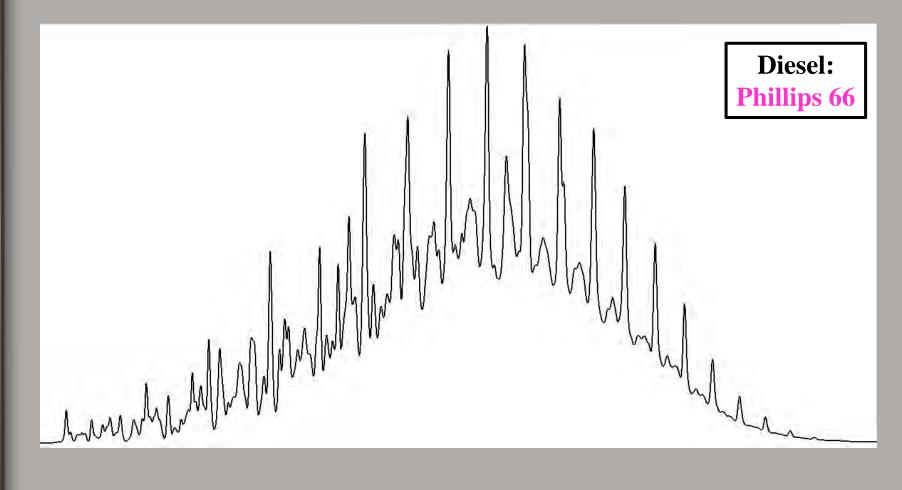
### Transportable, Fast, Simple, Capable GC



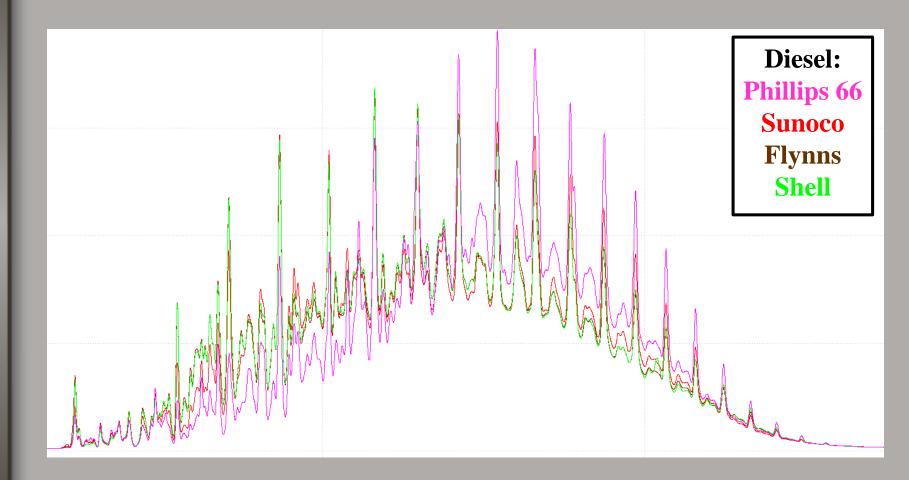
### In the Hands of Fuel Inspectors



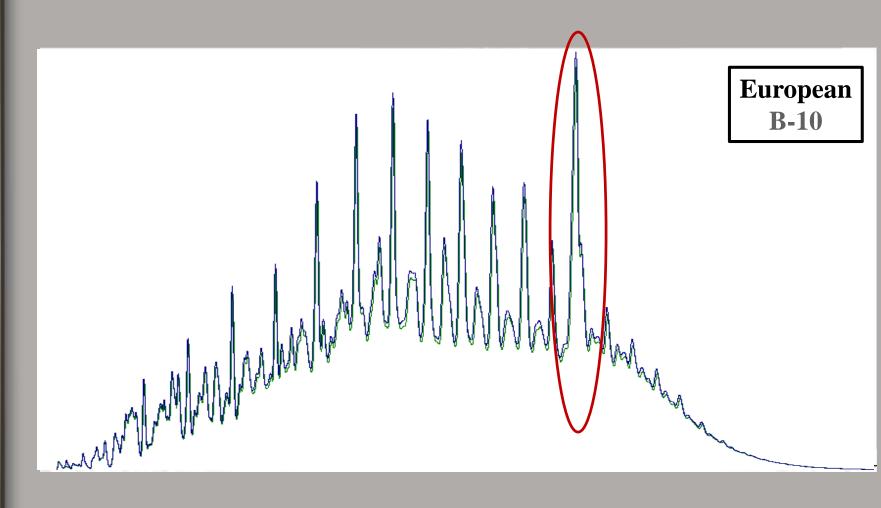
### **Refinery Diesel Fuels on D7798**



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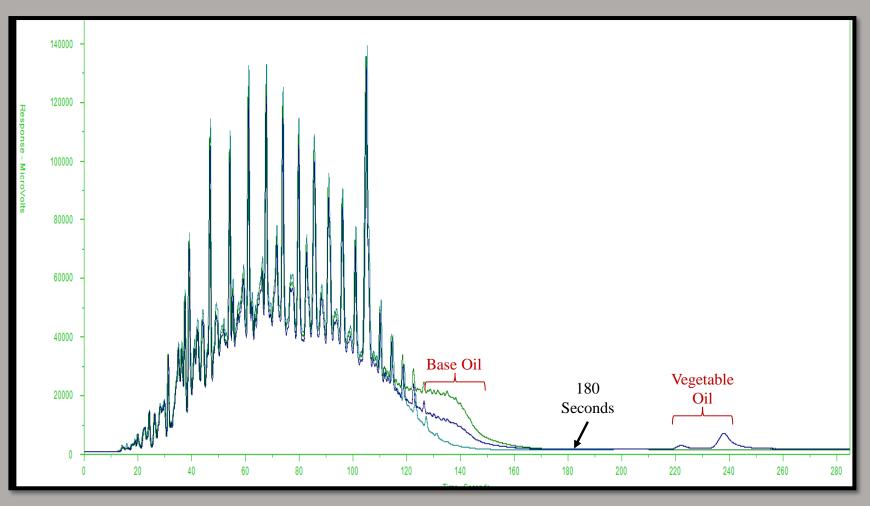


# **Info**metrix



**Biodiesel Added** 

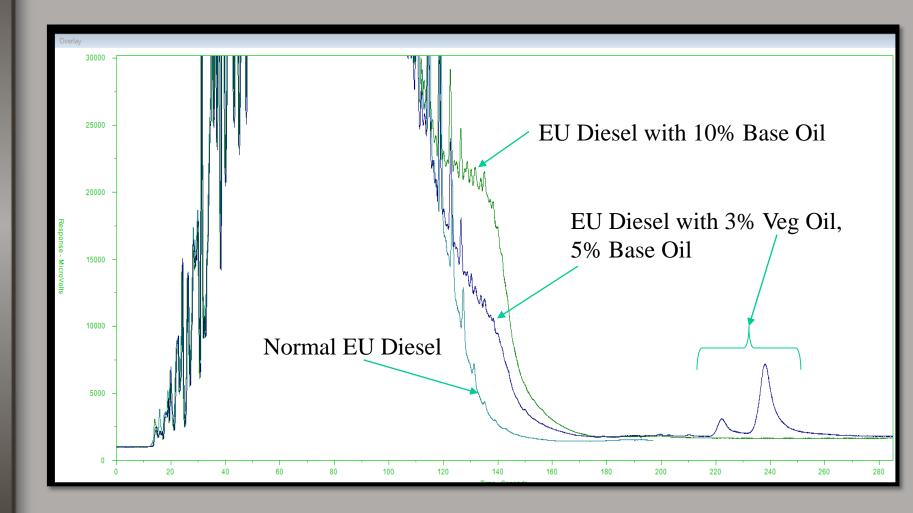
### **Processing on a Fully Transportable System**



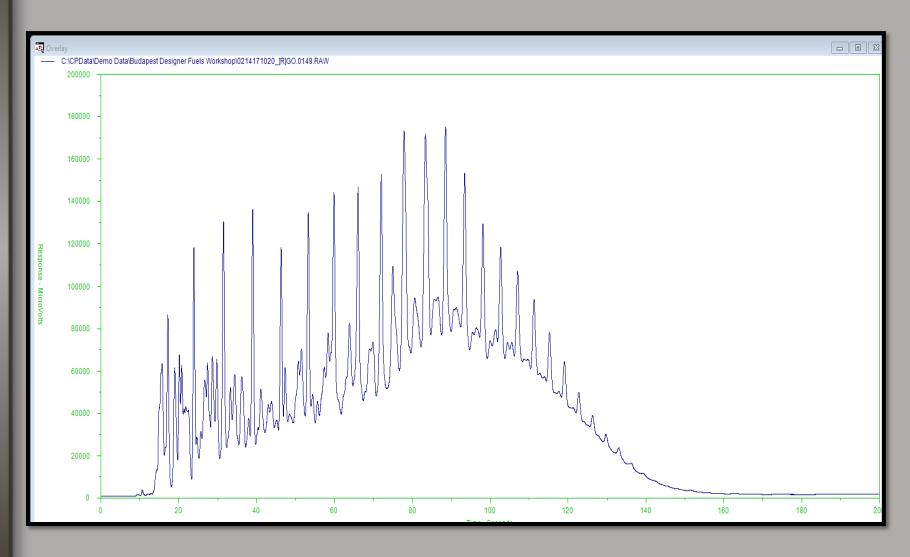
EU Biodiesel, 10% Base Oil Added and 5% Base Oil 3% Veg Oil

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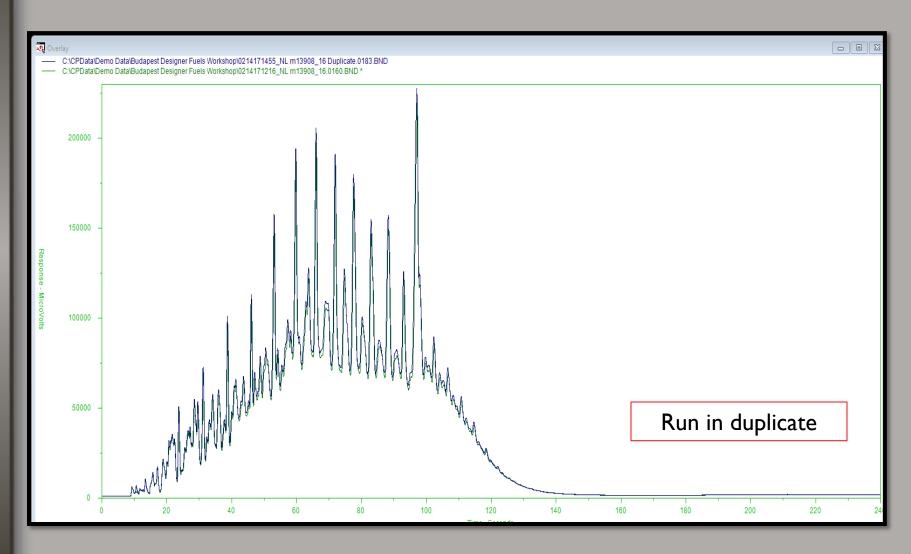
### Same as Previous, Y-Axis Expanded



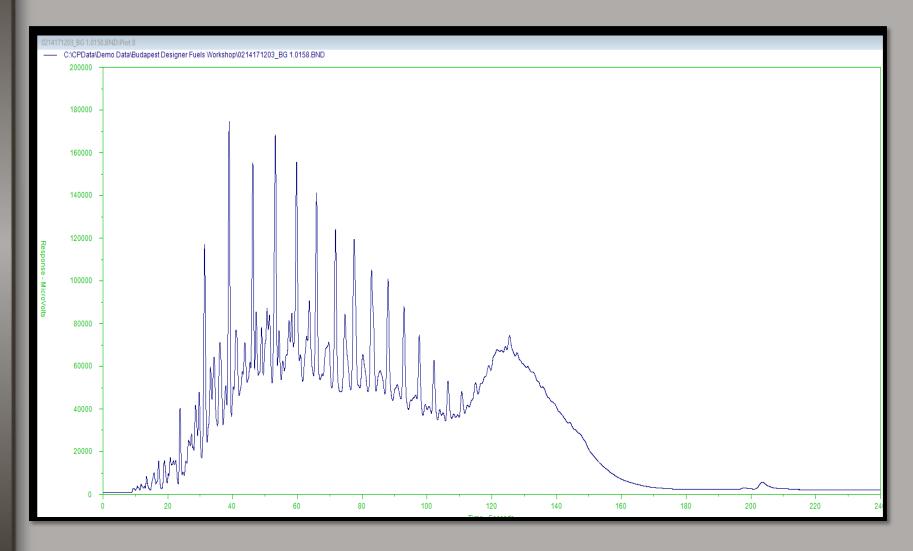
### **Reference Gas Oil**



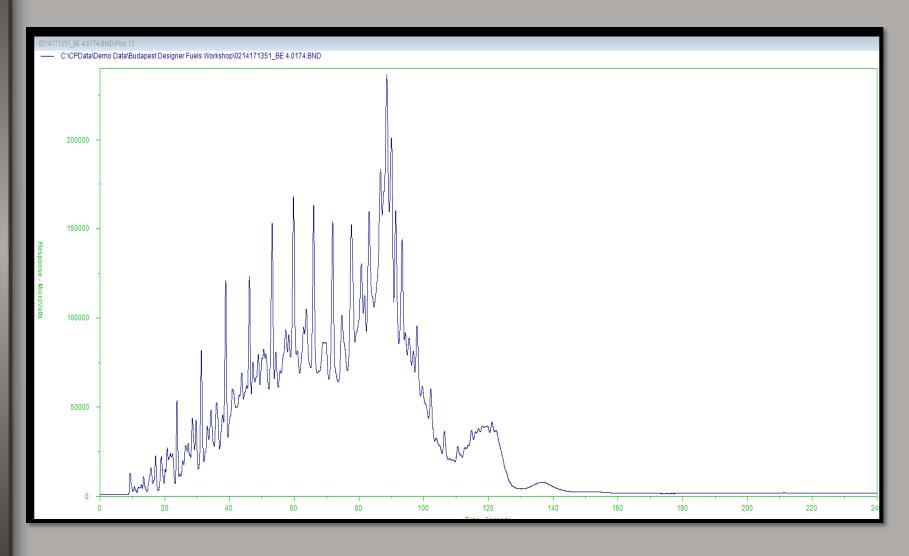
### **BIO Diesel from the Netherlands**



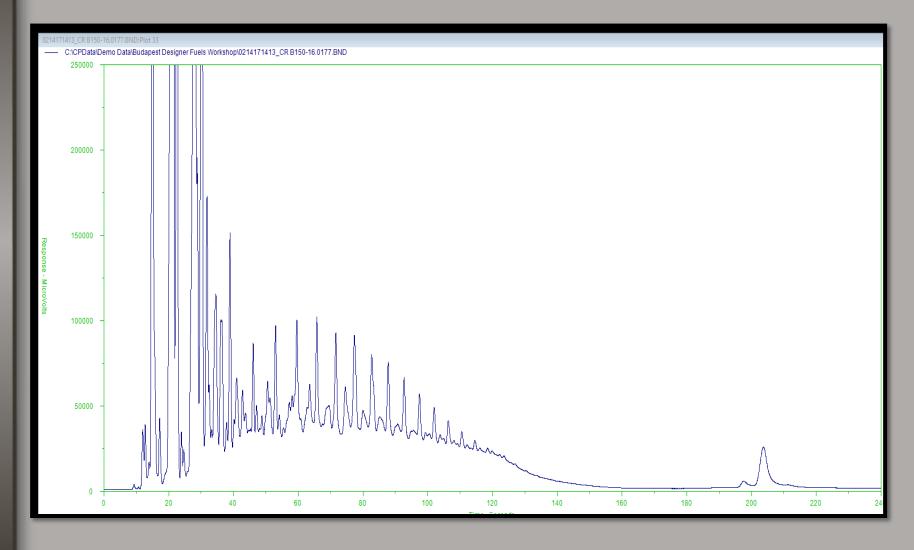
### **Belgian Captured Fuel #2**



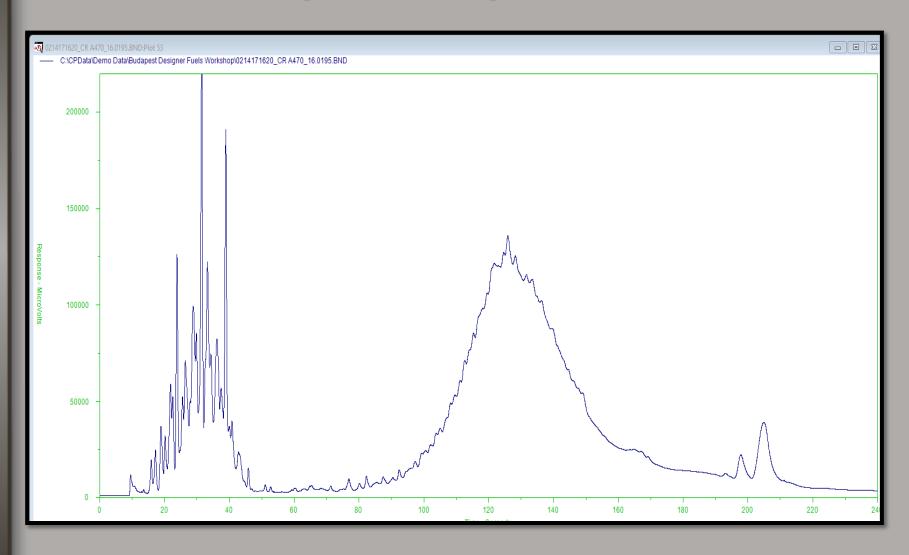
### **Belgian Captured Fuel #4**



### Czech Republic Capture BI50



### **Czech Republic Capture A470**

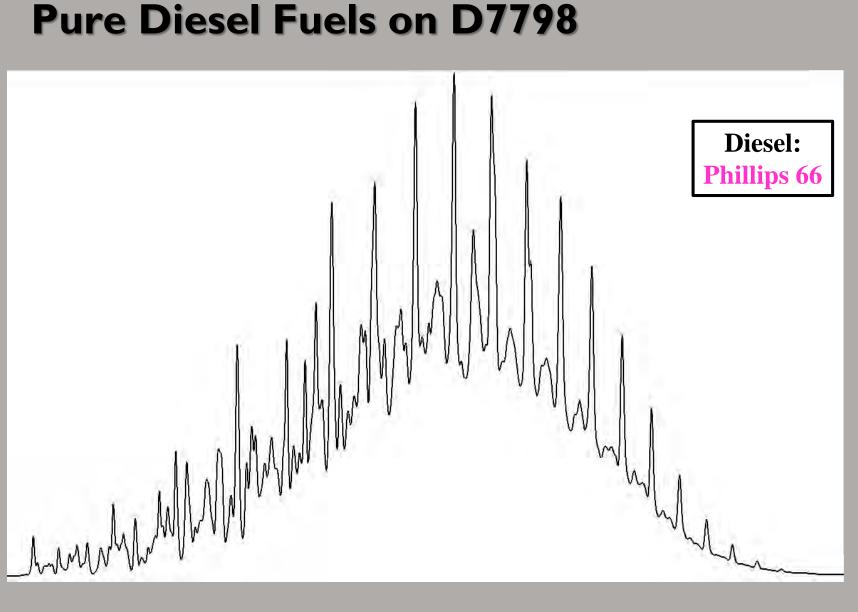


### Analysis of Biodiesel-Diesel Blended Fuels by ASTM D7798

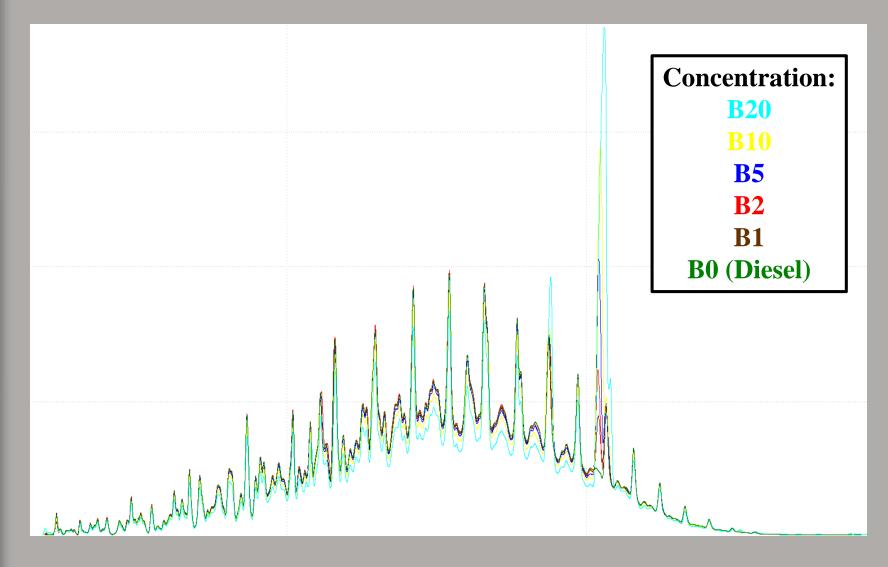
Identify and quantitate diesel fuel adulterants Fast, precise and low bias

### **Sample Preparation**

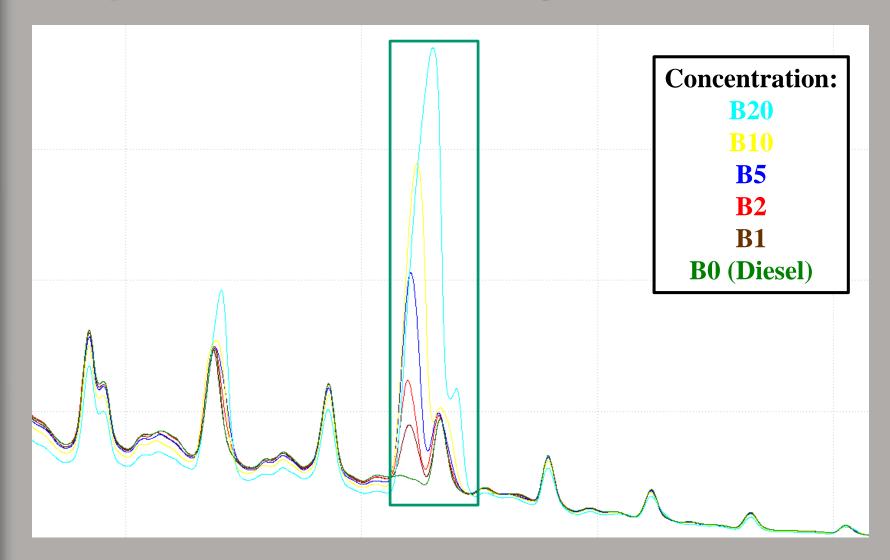
- Diesels acquired from four commercial sources:
  - Phillips 66, Sunoco, Shell, Flynn's
- Biodiesels acquired commercially or prepared in-house via transesterification. Feedstocks include:
  - canola, soybean, flaxseed, camelina, safflower, sunflower, waste grease, tallow (beef, pork/beef/poultry/soy blend)
- Samples include:
  - pure diesel, pure biodiesel (100%)
  - biodiesel diesel blends, concentrations (v/v): 1, 2, 5, 10, 20%
  - binary mixtures of biodiesel, real and prepared test unknowns
- In total, 180 samples were run using D7798 with Falcon UFGC.



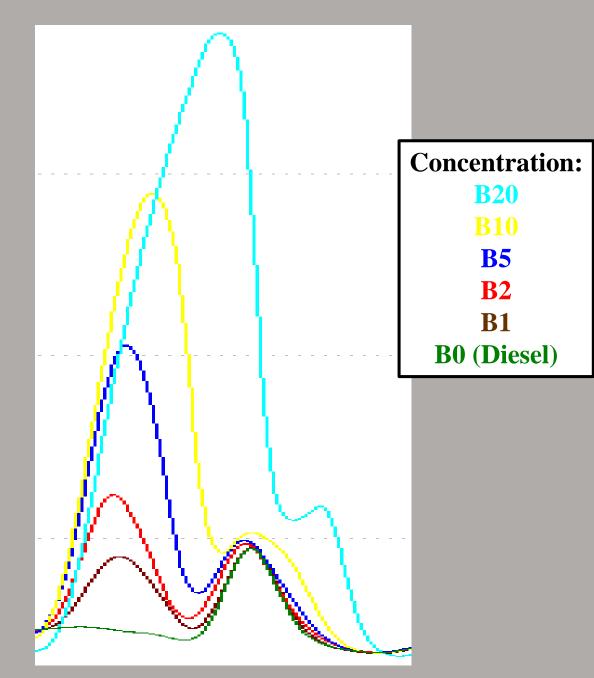
### Soybean Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel



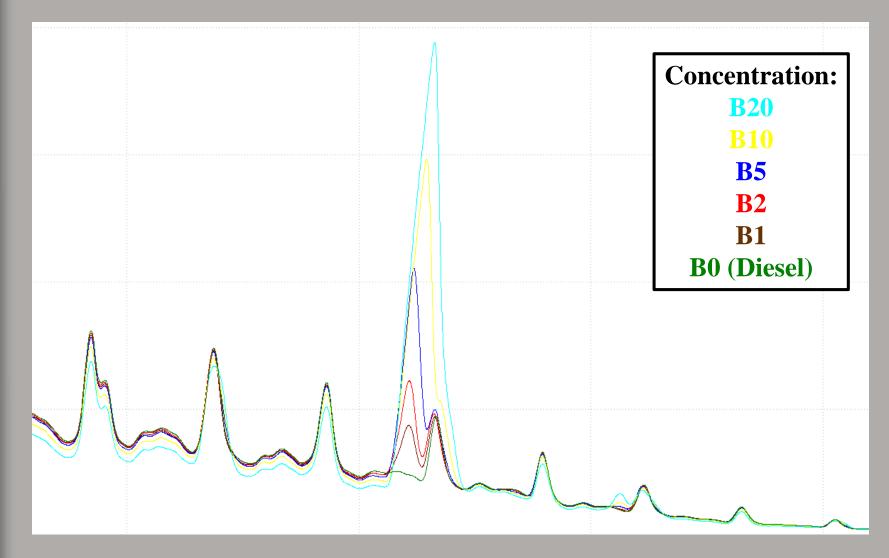
### Soybean Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel



### Soybean Influence

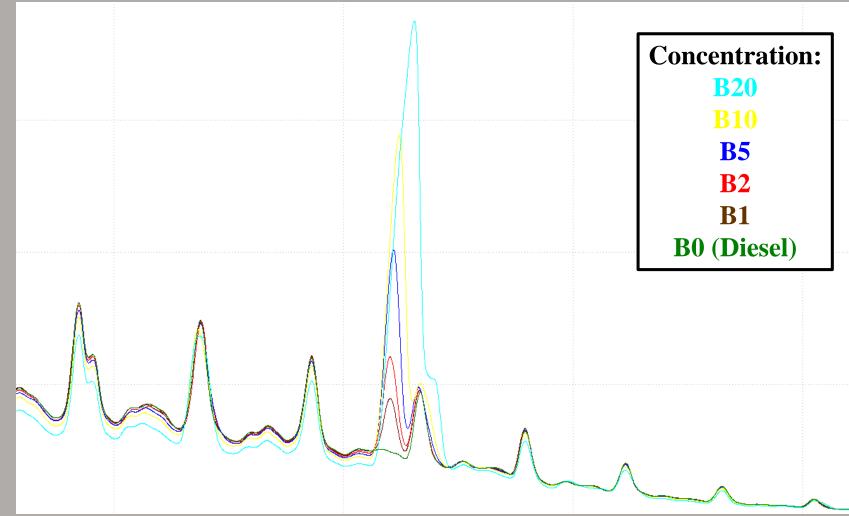


### Soyabean Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel

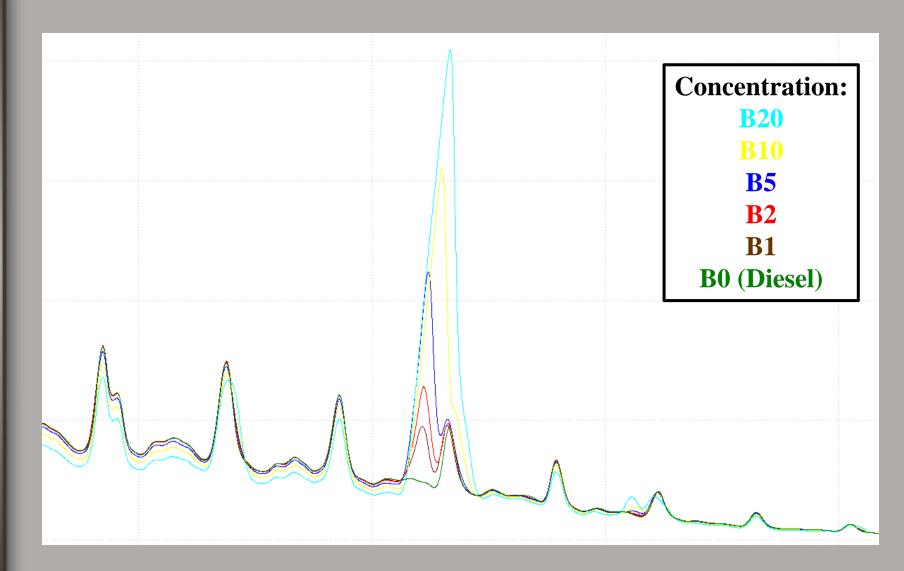


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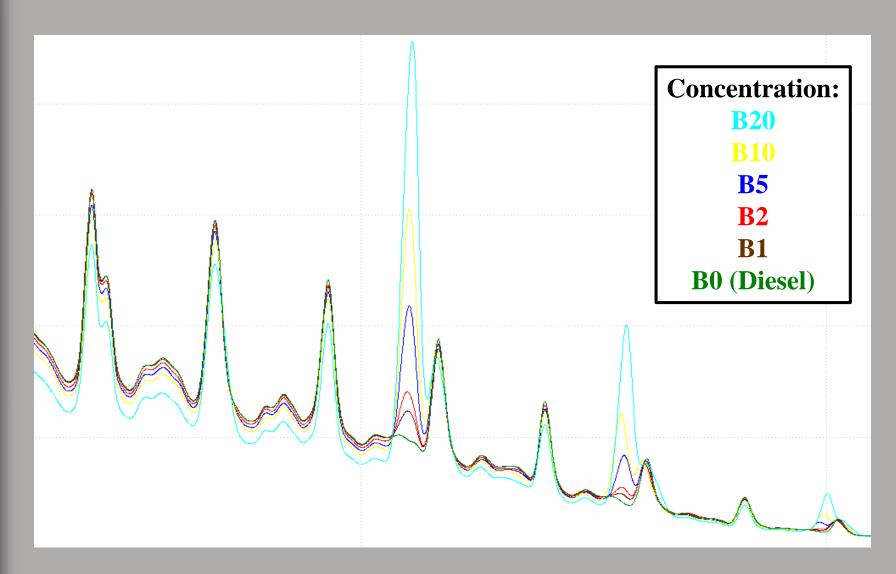
### **Flaxseed Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel**



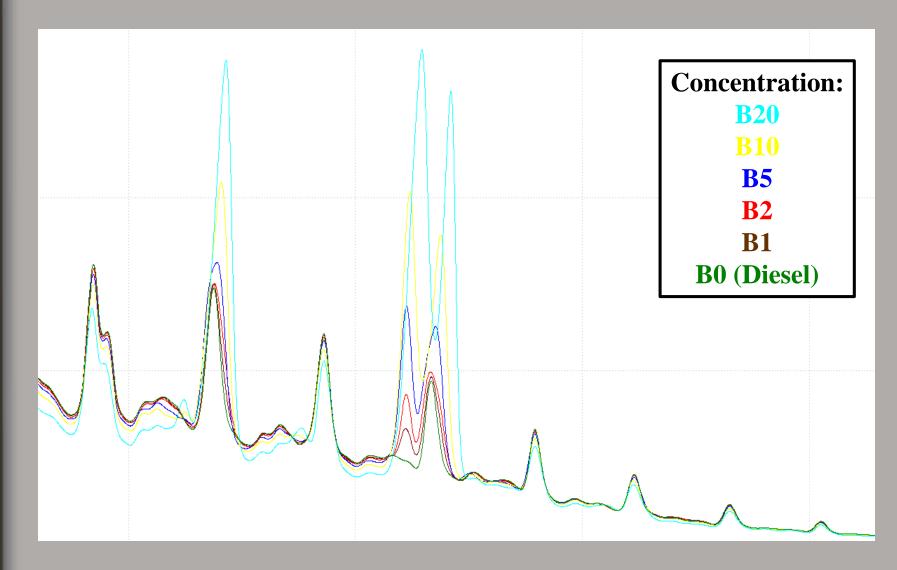
### **Canola Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel**



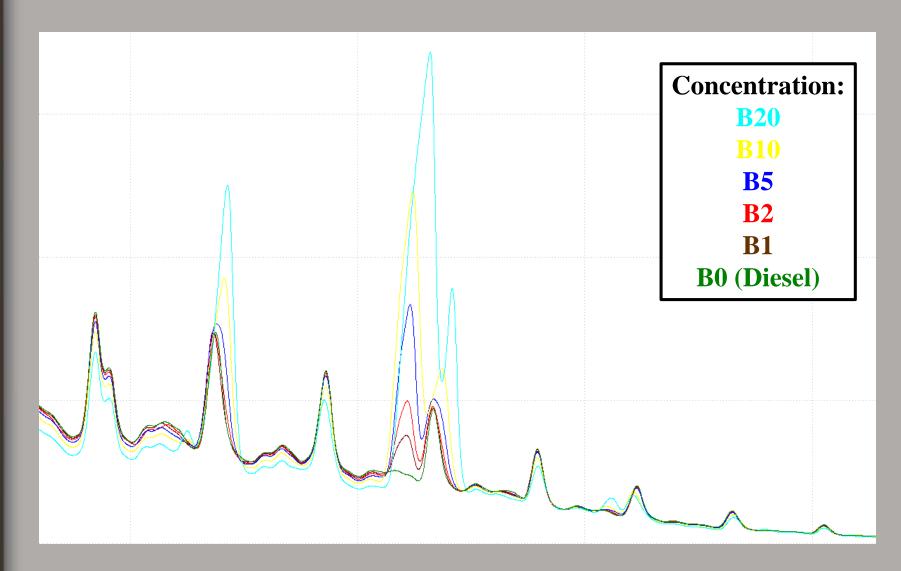
### **Camelina Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel**



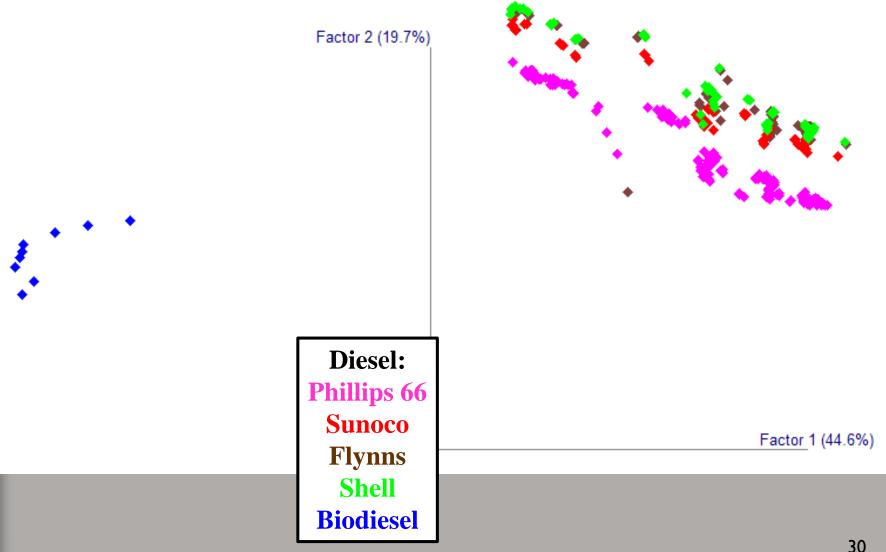
### **Tallow Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel**



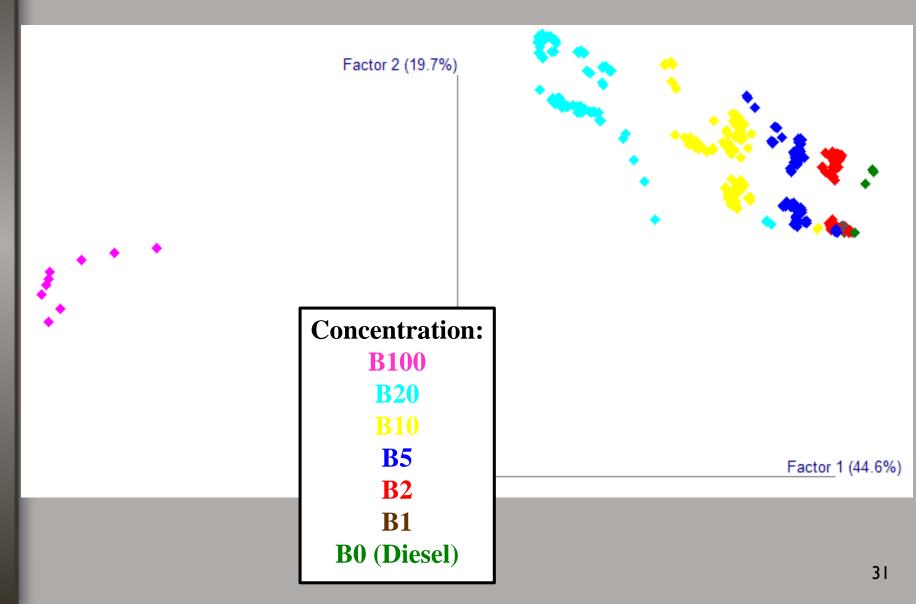
### **Tallow Biodiesel, Phillips Diesel**



#### **PCA** Results



#### **PCA Results**



### Conclusions

- There are challenges in taking a GC method on the road to flush out fraud
  - Transportable means that power consumption must be minimized without sacrificing analytical prowess
  - The system must be fast to set up, fast to run samples (cycle time), and easy for a non-chromatographer to use
  - Automation must include an objective interpretation
  - The GC system must be reliable and repeatable, from instrument to instrument
- D7798 has proven to be a fast and useful method for identification and quantitation of biodiesels blended with diesel fuels

### Acknowledgements

- Dr. Amber Hupp, Professor Holy Cross College Department of Chemistry
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**Ifo**metrix