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Forensic olfactronics and human scent signatures created from GC×GC-MS data

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Forensic Olfactoric



2013

The Czech police asked me, to try analysis of human scent samples (collected from a crimescene), with an

aim to support, so called, the **olfactoric** identification of persons that is performed in many countries by means of specially trained canines (dogs).

Forensic Olfactronics

At first, we refused, this police request to analyse the human scent samples, since I did not know what such a **human scent evidence** (trace) means!

However, this police requirement was repeated with a promise of financial support.... **and than I started to study**

Forensic Olfactronics

However, this police requirement was repeated with a promise of financial support... and than I started to study available papers in this field, on **chemical composition** of the **human scent**.

However, I found relatively small amount of papers, I expected thousands papers and I have found only tens of papers...

Forensic Olfactronics

However, I found relatively small amount papers about human scent, I expected thousands and I have found only tens of papers.

We can define the human scent as the large mixture of thousands (probably more than 100000) variant compounds in dramatically different relative concentrations in the gaseous phase

Forensic Olfactronics

We can define the human scent as the large mixture of thousands (more than 100 000) distinct compounds in dramatically different relative concentrations in the gaseous phase

The scent compounds can be **formally** divided in three groups:

- a) Primary scent compounds
- b) Secondary scent compounds
- c) Tertiary scent compounds

Forensic Olfactronics

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- a) Primary scent compounds
- b) Secondary scent compounds
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The Primary Scent Compounds
are **genetically conditioned!**

Forensic Olfactronics

The **Primary** compounds are **genetically conditioned!**

Relative concentrations of the primary compounds are roughly constant!!!!

The **primary scent** is individual and **it creates the basis for the scent identification of persons**

Forensic Olfactronics

The Secondary Scent

Chemical compositions of the secondary scent **is very flexible**, depends from diet, meals, lifestyle, weather, daytime, drugs (used) etc.

The primary as well as the secondary scent compounds **pass through the human skin**. Tertiary not.

Forensic Olfactronics

The primary as well as the secondary scent compounds pass **through the human skin!**

Tertiary scent does not pass through the skin.

Tertiary scent is a scent of other peoples, scent of animals, cosmetics, generally scent of nature, things, matter

SCENT AND SCENT EVIDENCE

(recapitulation)

The scent is produced by nearly everything (people, animals, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms,.....), since there is only one requirement**non zero volatility of chemical** compounds, non zero vapour pressure.

This volatility of chemical compounds depends on many circumstances, above all, on the **atmospheric pressure and temperature**.

If the volatile chemical compounds is a liquid , we speak about an **evaporation**. In the case of the solid state, we are speaking about a **sublimation**.

Human scent

An average human body lets out about

1.5g of scent molecules per day,

it is about $2 \cdot 10^{21}$ molecules per day -

2 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000

molecules per day, it means

about $9 \cdot 10^{19}$ molecules per one hour, thus

90 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 mols per hour

Human scent

It means that human body emits
about 5×10^{16} molecules per second
and it means about

7×10^{14} molecules per second

from one open palm

700 000 000 000 000 mol/s

from one open palm

7×10^{14} molecules per sec



How to study human scent?

Spectroscopy (IR, MW, VIS, UV)

No, relatively low sensitivity,
necessity to use extremely long optical
trajectory (more than 10 km)

GC-MS

is allowing to observe hundreds
as far as thousands compounds

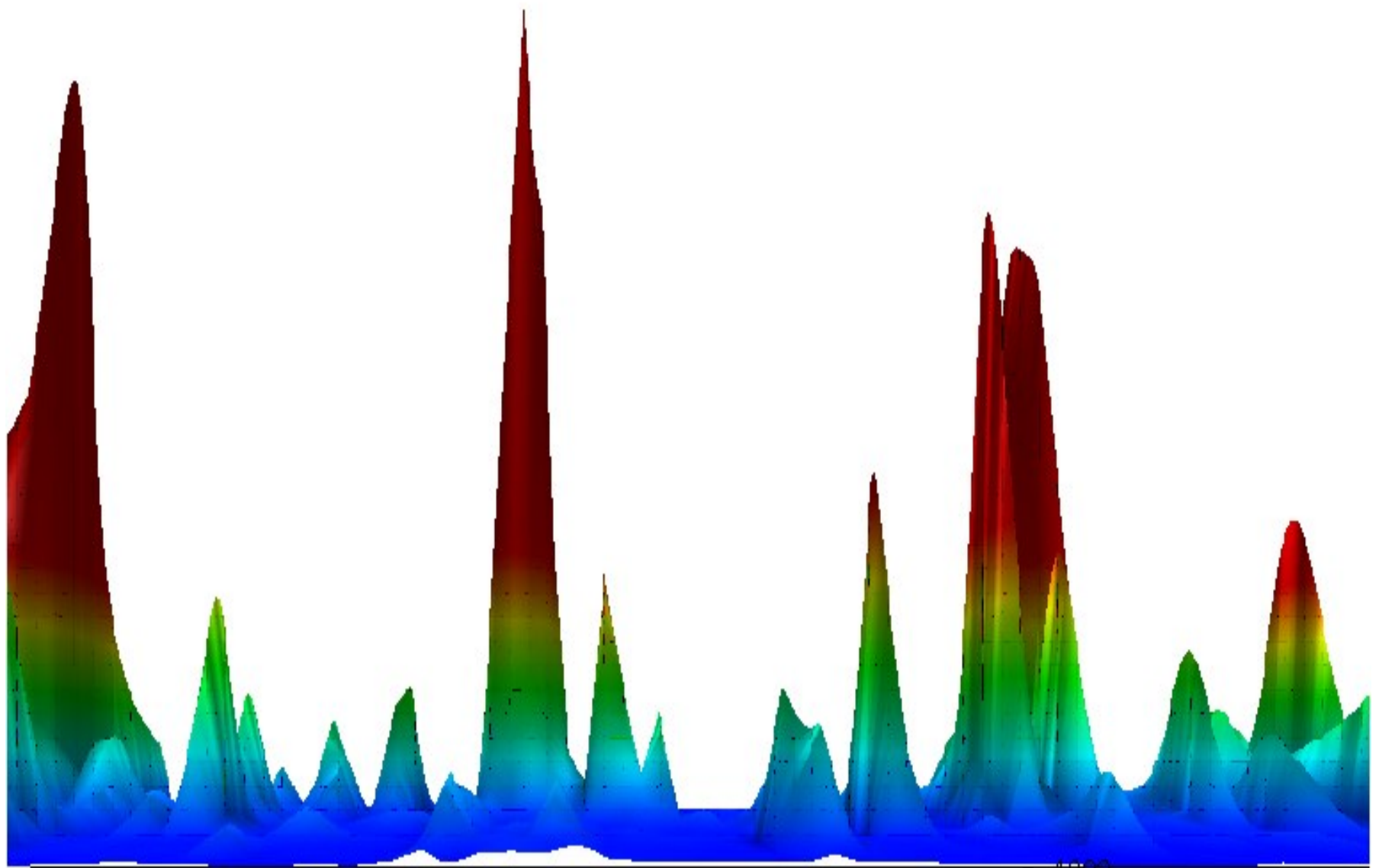
How to study human scent?

Spectroscopy (IR, MW, VIS, UV)

No, relatively low sensitivity, necessity to use extremely long optical trajectory (more than 10 km)

GC-MS

is allowing to observe hundreds as far as thousands compounds in the scent samples



1992

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

High quality GC/MS(QQQ) but our effort to be able to identify people **was not quite successful.**

We started to look more sensitive instruments, if exists, and we found,

comprehensive two dimensional gas chromatography, GCxGC-TOF

Therefore, it was necessary to obtain money

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

**Comprehensive two dimensional
gas chromatography, GCxGC-TOF**

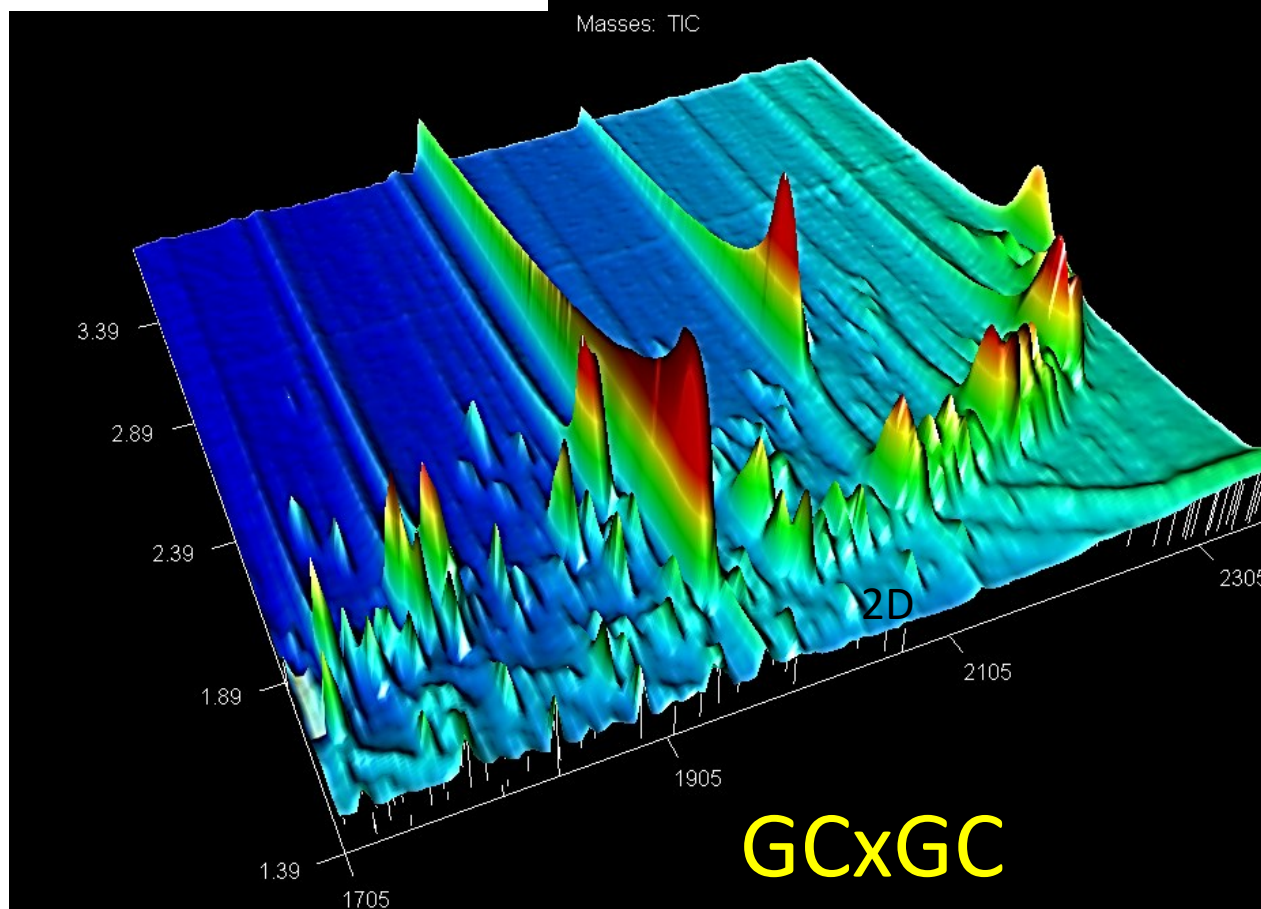
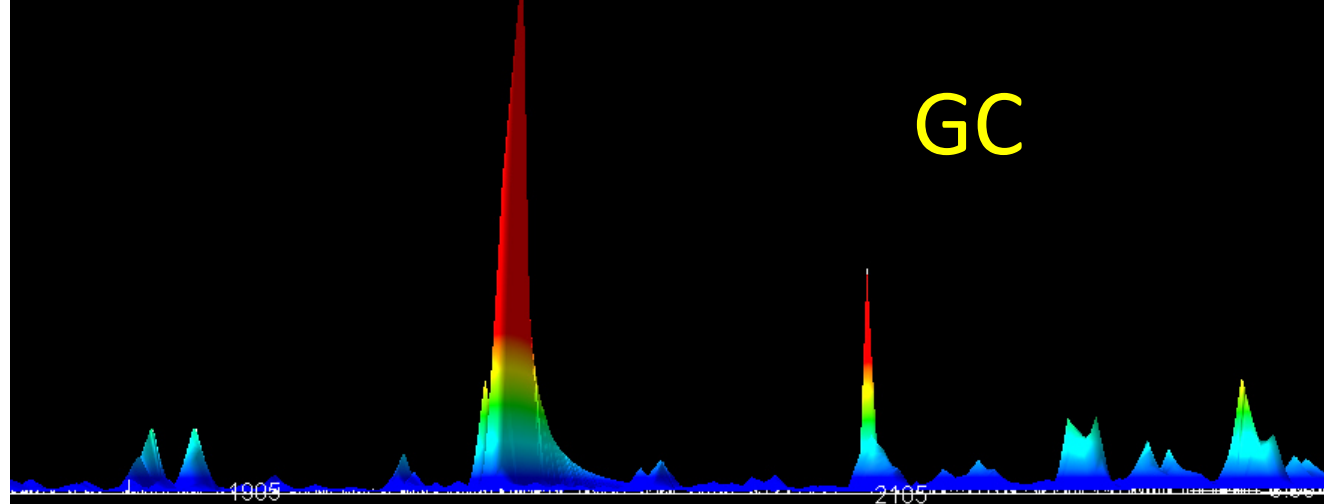
is probably **only one order worse** than the
specially trained canines, we are able to detect

more than 60 000 different

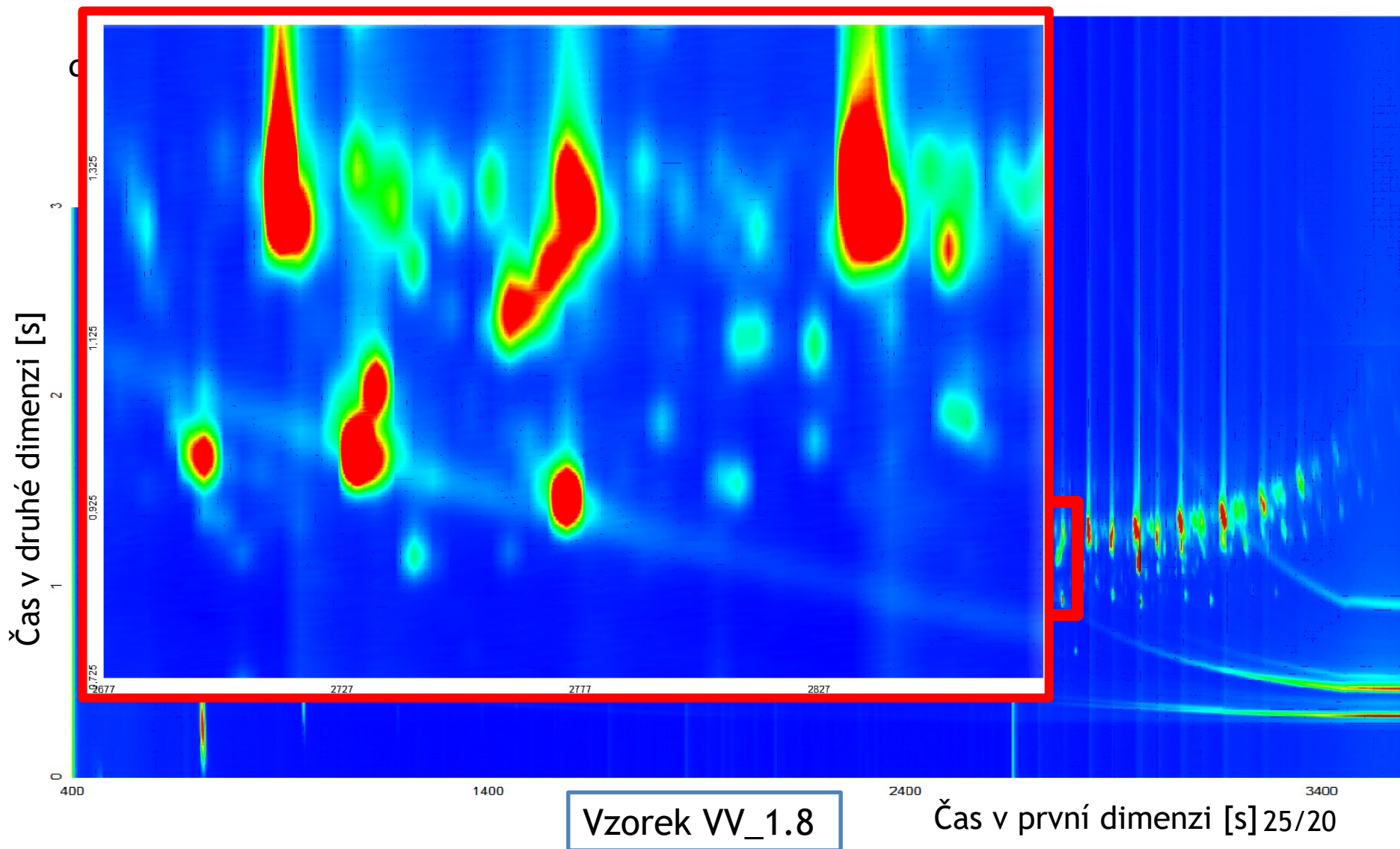
compounds in the single scent sample. And

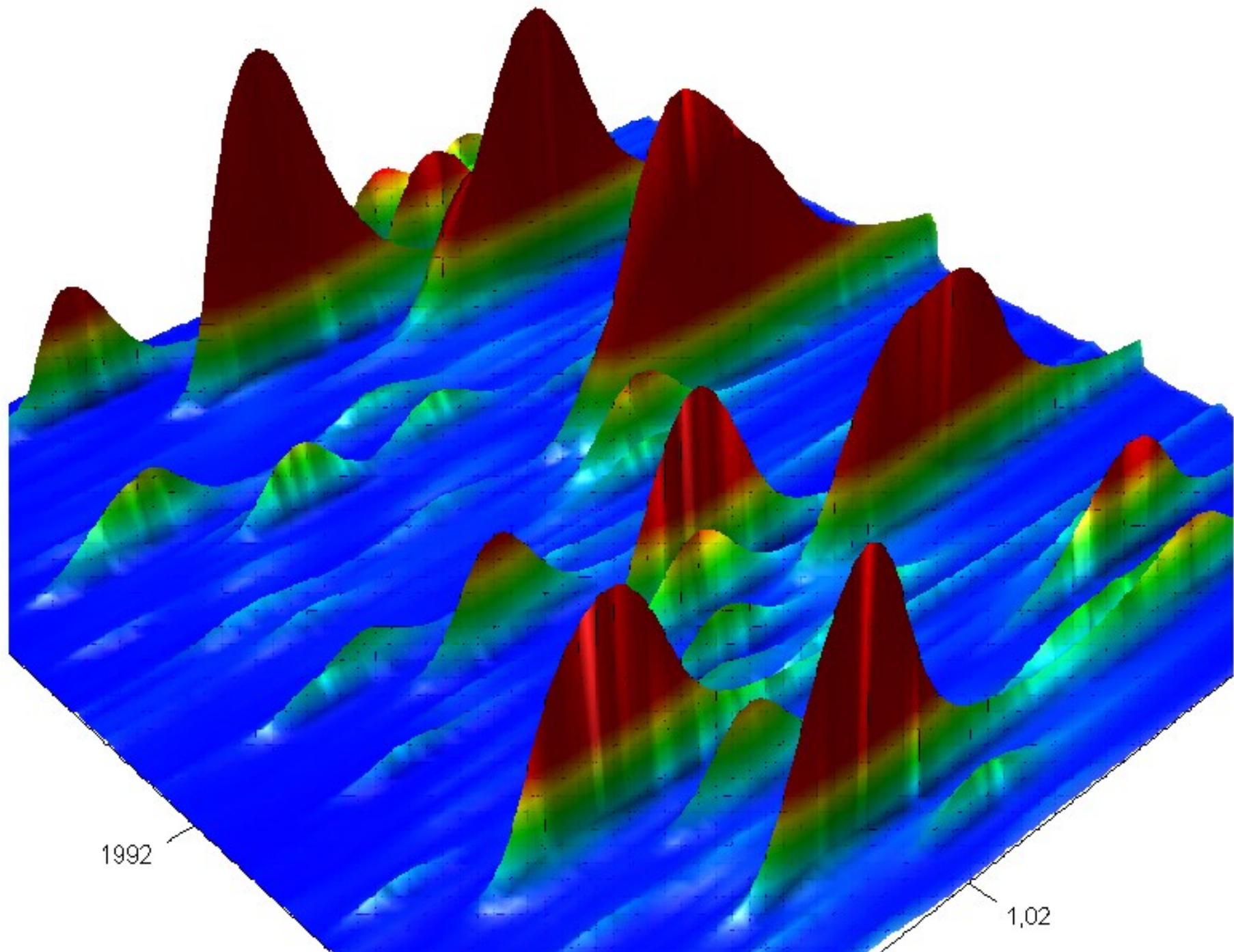
with a such sensitivity, we are able to gain a lot
information about people from their scent

Part of a chromatogram of a women, 21years



2D GCxGC/MS - chromatograph





FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

We are able to resolve more than 60 thousands different chemical compounds. The sensitivity of GCxGC/TOF still is worse than small of the special trained canines, but now we are able to

create the digital human scent signatures from concentration ratios of selected primary compounds

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

The **individual identification**
based on these concentration
ratios of our **primary scent**
compounds

is working!!!

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

We created a database of these digital scent signatures of different persons.

Then an **unknown scent sample** is compared **by computer** with the digital **signatures in our database.**

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

The individual identification of persons is based on the **digital scent signatures** that are created by the ratios of the concentrations of the **selected primary scent compounds**.

FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

The **individual identification** is **working!!!**

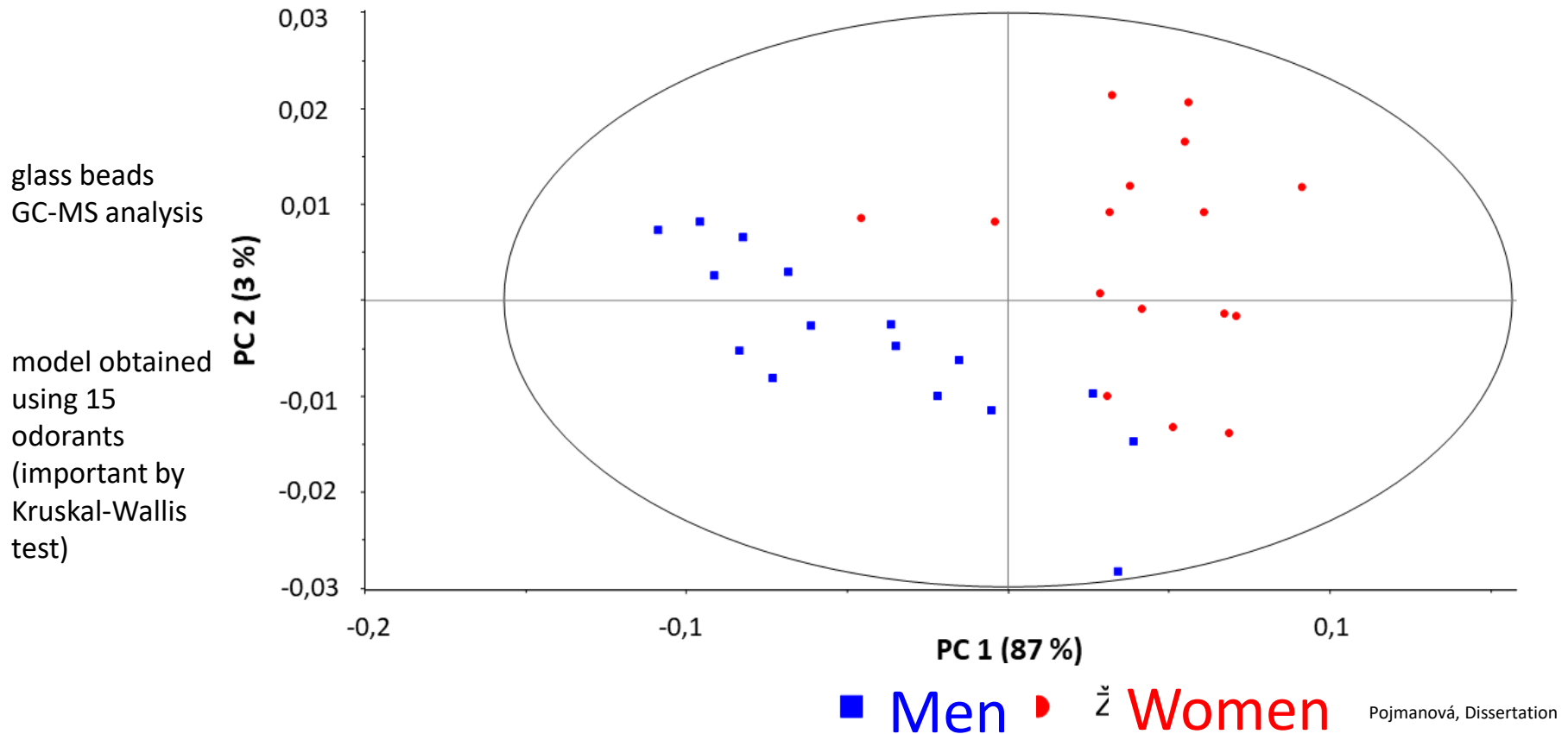
What about a class identification??

Now, I will present an overview of results of our research which are focused on the

class identification

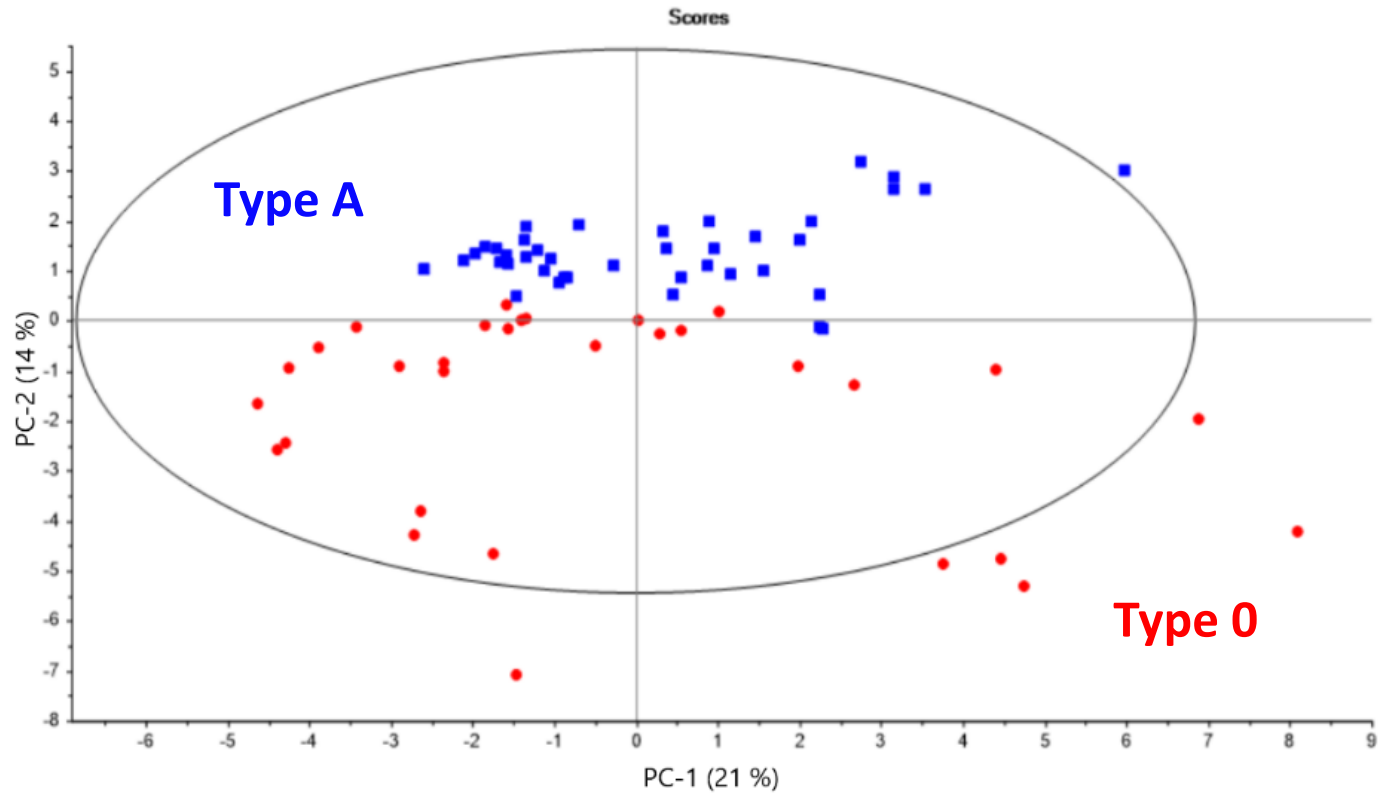
Differences between men and women

gender determination

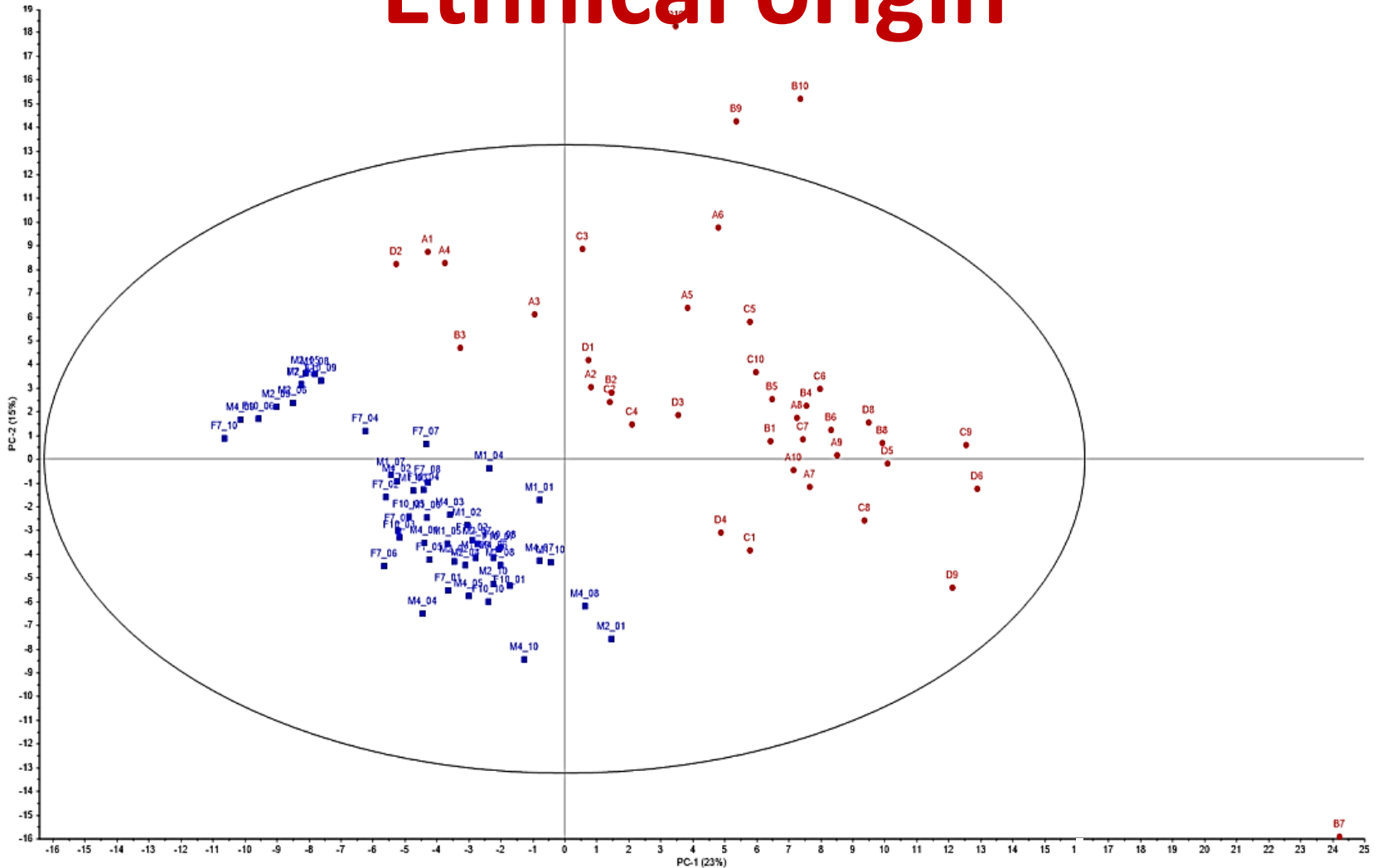


FORENSIC OLFACTRONICS

PCA model – blood type A versus type 0

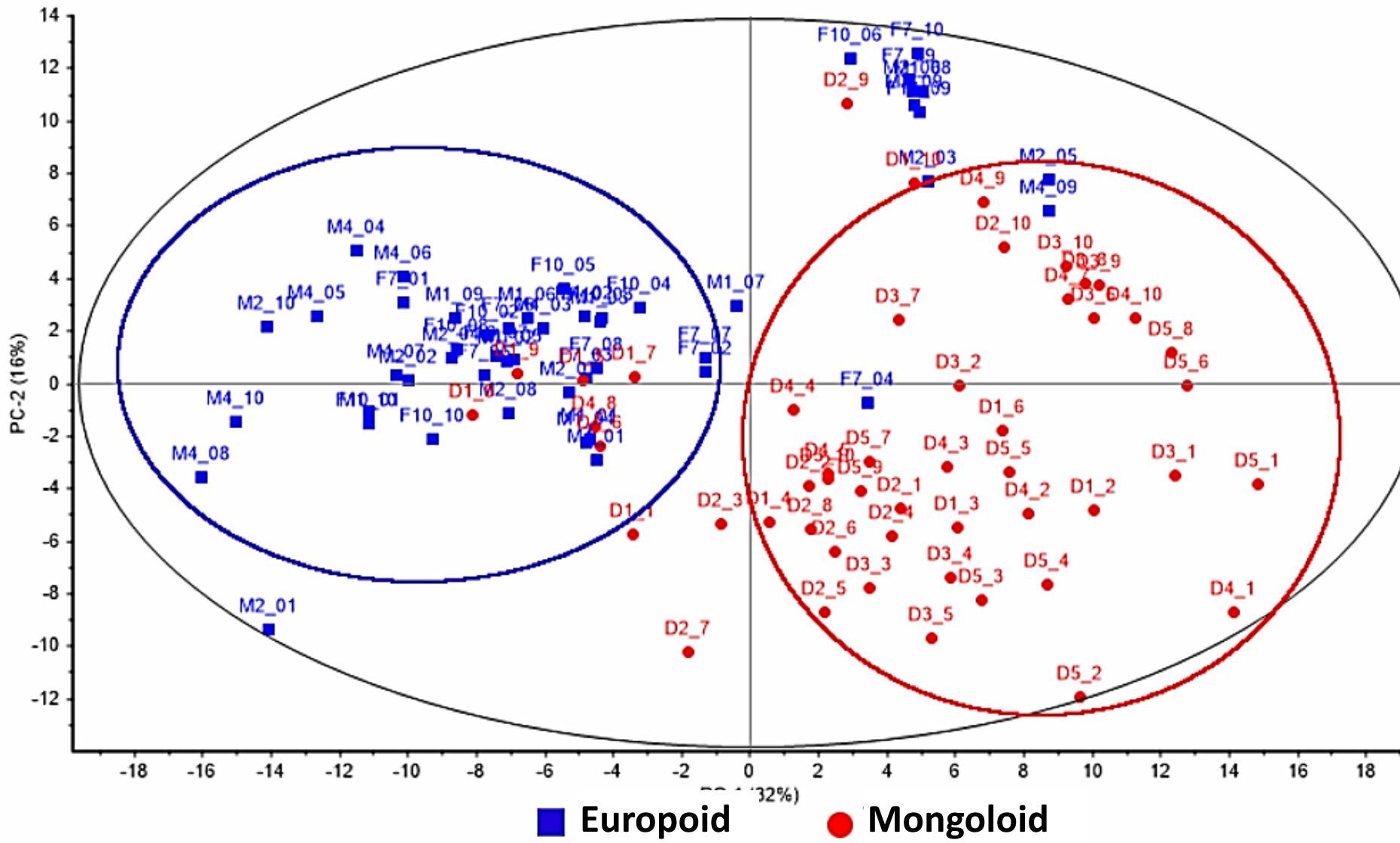


Ethnical origin

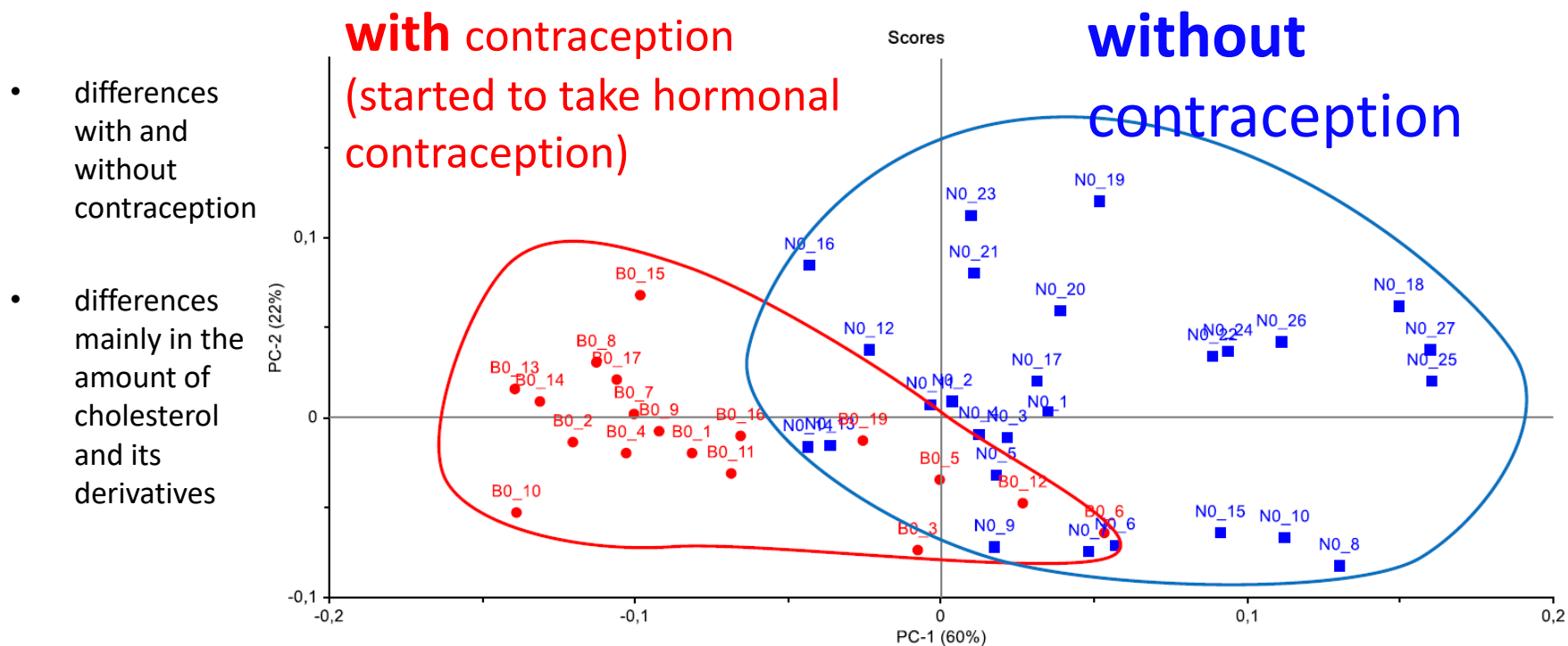


■ Czech volunteers samples, ● Indian volunteers samples

Scores



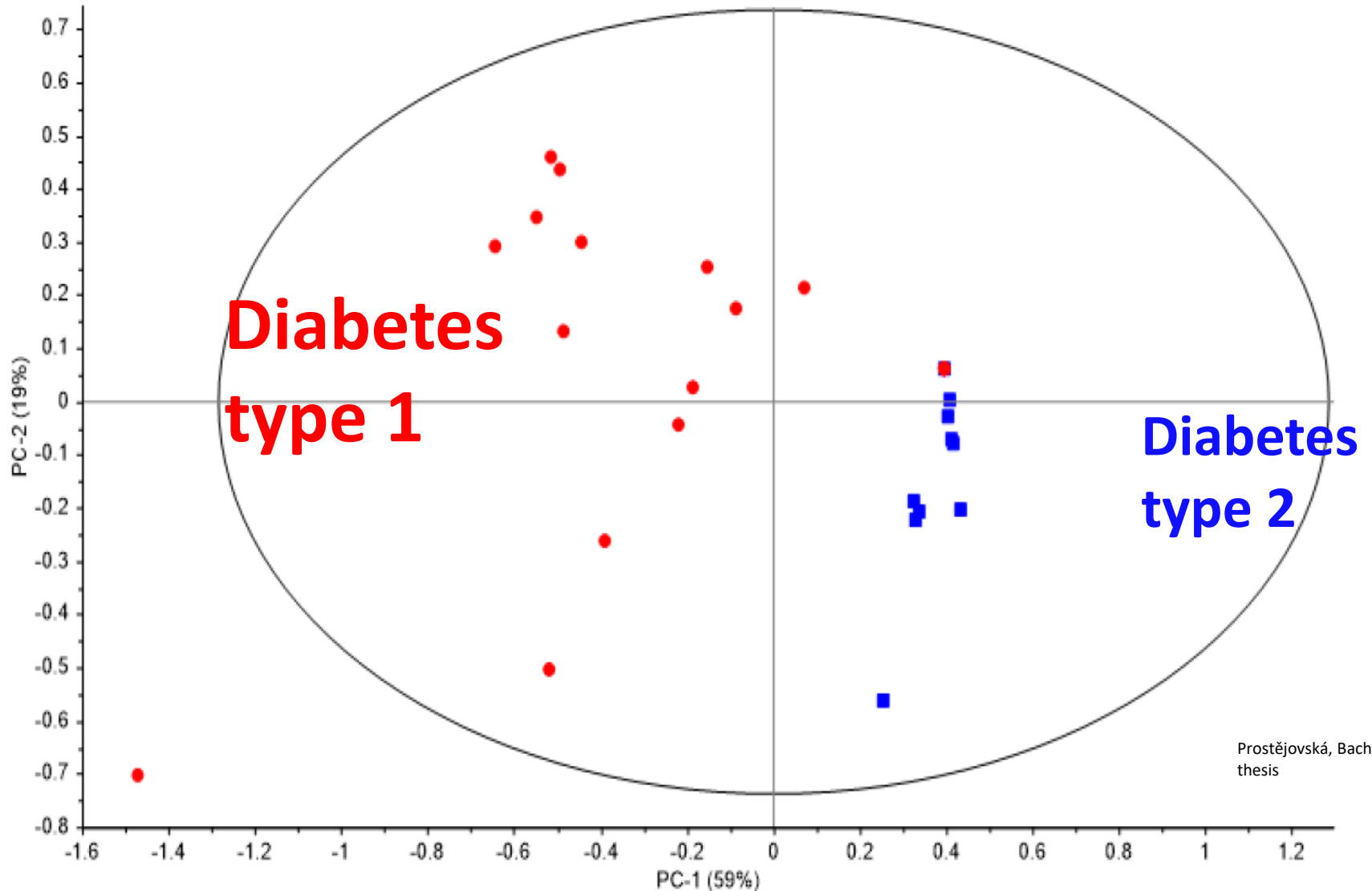
Effect of hormonal contraception



Diseases according to smell:

diabetes

glass beads
GC×GC-TOF



Medical olfactronics

New research project in collaboration
Prague hospitals is oriented to diagnostics
of degenerative diseases

Since the primary scent molecules are genetically determined, then any changes of DNA have its specific reflection in the detailed composition of the primary scent

Medical olfactronics

Since the primary scent molecules are genetically determined, then any changes of DNA have its specific reflection in the composition of the primary scent .

Since the degenerative diseases (eg. all the cancers, Alzheimer, Huntington as well as Parkinson diseases, diabetes mellitus etc.) are influencing DNA, we are looking for the specific influence (affection) of the these illnesses to the composition of the primary scent.

3rd February 2:20 – 2:30 PM FL05 **Oleksii Kaminskyi - Development and testing of a non contact scent collection device on real human scent**

4th February 1:50 - 2:00 PM FL12 **Ulrika Malá - Analysis of the human scent on the cartridge cases using GC×GC-MS/TOF**

4th February P-22 **Jana Čechová Challenges in data processing and evaluation of scent samples analyzed by GC×GC-TOF**

4th Feb. P-28 **Veronika Skerikova Sorbents for forensic olfactronic**

Forensic and Medical Olfactronics

**Thanks for your
attention**