

# What analysis concepts do we need to ensure the safety and quality of our food?

Franz Ulberth

The European Commission's  
science and knowledge service  
Joint Research Centre

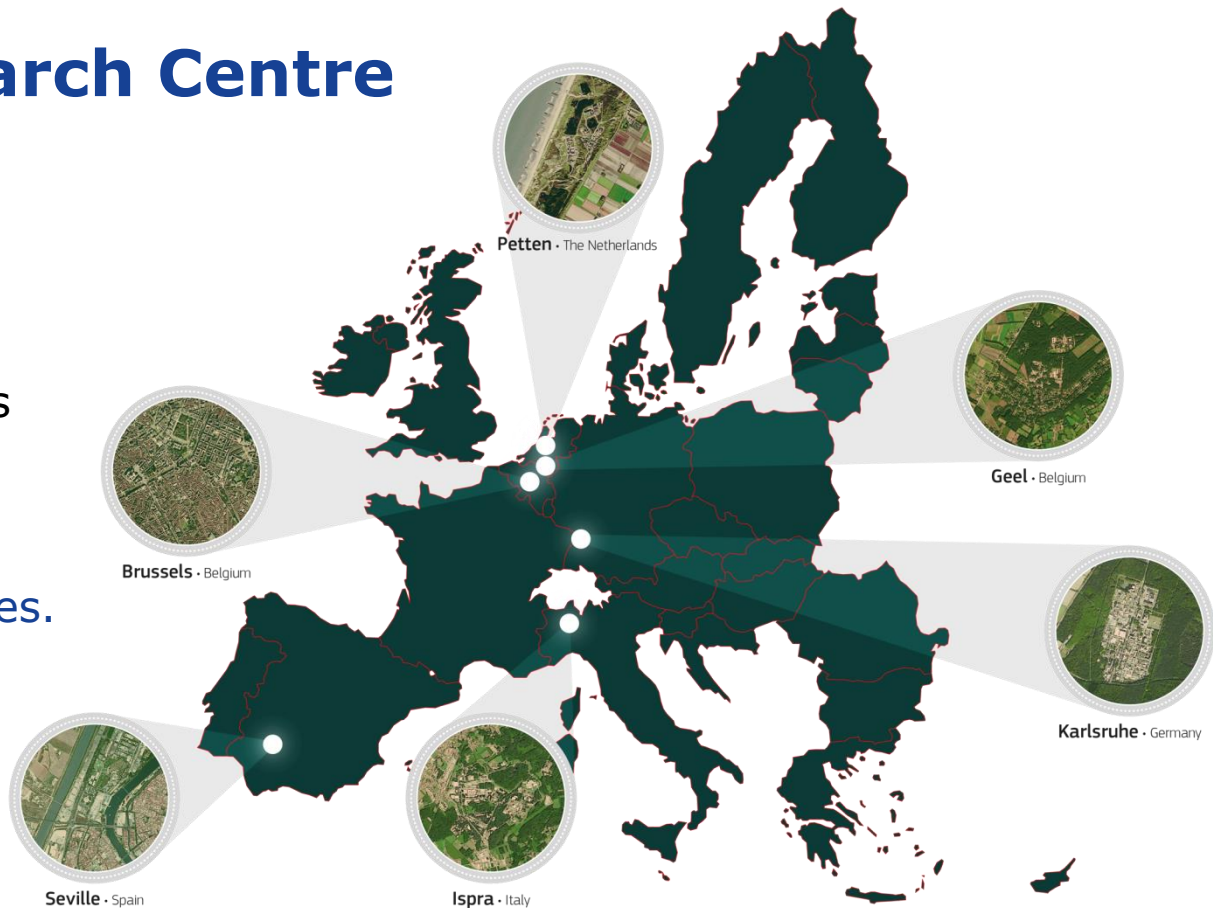


# The Joint Research Centre at a glance

## 3000 staff

Almost 75% are scientists  
and researchers.

Headquarters in Brussels  
and research facilities  
located in 5 Member States.



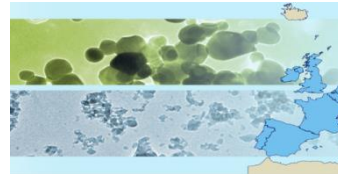
# The Policy context



## 7th Environment Action Programme



### EP Resolution on regulatory aspects of nanomaterials



**Anti-Fraud Strategies**

**Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy 2011 r.**  
COM(2011) 376 final  
Action Plan for fight against cigarettes smuggling 2011

Art. 325 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

Directorate-General for Health & Consumers

**Strategy for Europe on nutrition, overweight and obesity related health issues**



# JRC response to global challenges

- Economy, finance and markets
- Energy (including nuclear activities) and transport
- Educations, skills and employment
- Food, nutrition and health
- Environment, Resource scarcity, climate change and sustainability
- People, governance in multicultural and networked societies
- Civil security
- Migration and territorial development
- Data and digital transformation
- 4 Innovation systems and processes


A TREATISE  
OR  
**ADULTERATIONS OF FOOD,**  
AND  
**Culinary Poisons,**  
EXHIBITING  
**THE FRAUDULENT SOPHISTICATIONS**  
OF  
BREAD, BEER, WINE, SPIRITOUS LIQUORS, TEA, COFFEE,  
Cream, Condensation, Vinegar, Mustard, Pepper, Cheese, Olive Oil, Pickles,  
AND OTHER ARTICLES EMPLOYED IN DOMESTIC ECONOMY.  
AND  
**Methods of detecting them.**



THE SECOND EDITION.

**BY FREDRICK ACCUM,**  
Narrative Chemist, Lecturer on Practical Chemistry, Mineralogy, and the Chemistry  
applied to the Arts and Manufactures; Member of the Royal Irish Academy;  
Fellow of the Linnæan Society; Secretary of the Royal Agricultural  
Society, and of the Royal Society of Arts of Berlin, &c. &c.

**Revised:**  
SOLD BY LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN,  
PATERNOSTER ROW,  
1820.

**COCAI**  
**TOOTHACHE**  
Instantaneous  
PRICE 15 C  
Prepared by  
**LLOYD MANUFACT**  
219 HUDSON AVE., ALBA  
For sale by all D  
(Registered March 1885.)

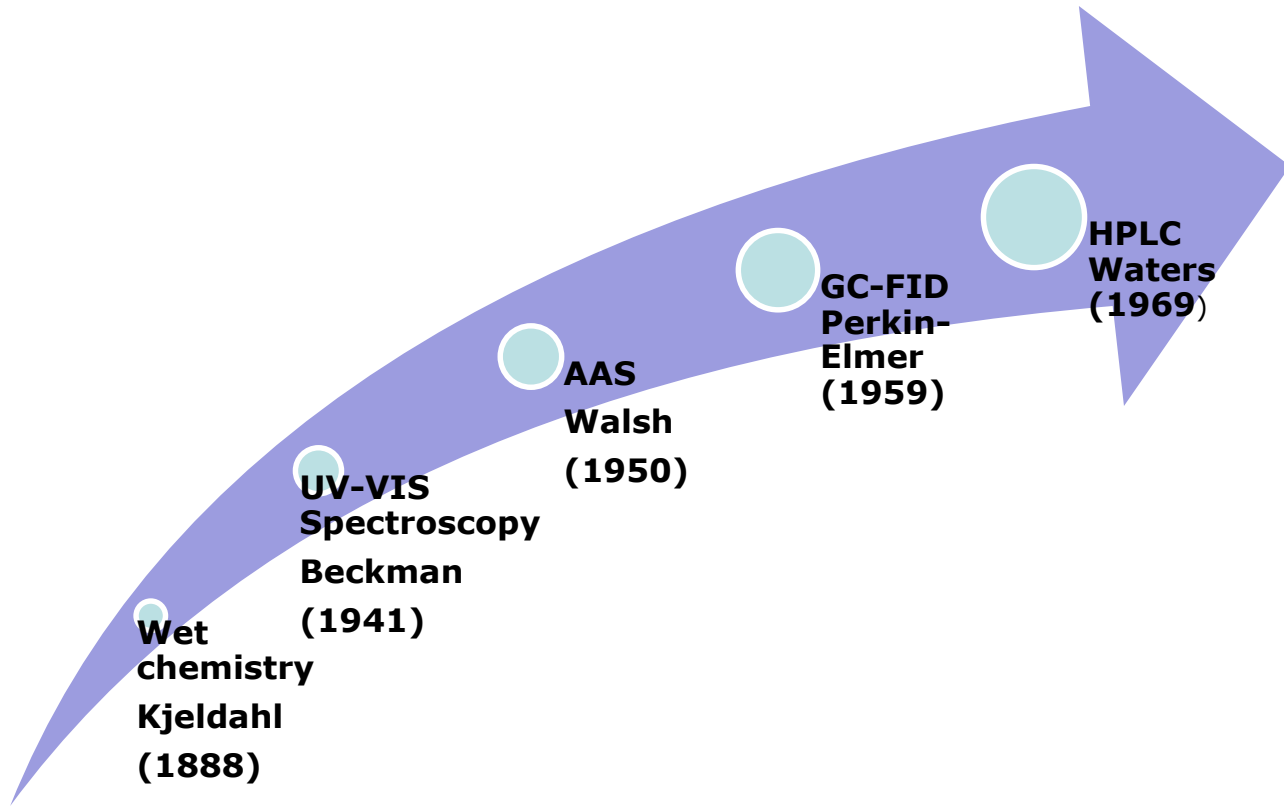
Am. J. Ph.] 7 [December, 1901

**BAYER Pharmaceutical Products**  
**HEROIN—HYDROCHLORIDE**

is pre-eminently adapted for the manufacture of cough elixirs, cough balsams, cough drops, cough lozenges, and cough medicines of any kind. Price in 1 oz. packages, \$4.85 per ounce; less in larger quantities. The efficient dose being very small (1-48 to 1-24 gr.), it is

**The Cheapest Specific for the Relief of Coughs**  
(In bronchitis, phthisis, whooping cough, etc., etc.)

WRITE FOR LITERATURE TO  
**FARBENFABRIKEN OF ELBERFELD COMPANY**  
SELLING AGENTS  
P. O. Box 2100 40 Stone Street, NEW YORK





# Typology of methods

## Open methods

- do not describe any particular and/or exclusive trademark names of reagents or equipment
- describe in detail the composition and nature of chemicals and consumables
- may contain specifications and requirements related to instrumentation, chemicals and consumables

## Proprietary methods

- require specific reagents and/or instrumentation
- mostly available from only one supplier
- do not disclose composition and nature of chemicals
- protected by intellectual property rights





# Open methods

AOCS Official Method Cd 5-40

Reapproved 1997

## Reichert-Meissl, Polenske and Kirschner Values, Modified AOAC Methods

### APPARATUS

1. Graduated cylinder—25 mL.
2. Glass distillation apparatus of the dimensions and assembly shown in Figure 1.

### REAGENTS

1. Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) solution—50% NaOH by weight (see Notes, *Caution*). This solution must be free from carbonates and kept protected from carbon dioxide. It is advisable to allow the solution to settle and use only the clear liquid.
2. Sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ) solution—prepared by adding 200 mL of concentrated  $H_2SO_4$ , sp. gr. 1.84, to distilled water and diluting to 1 L (see Notes, *Caution*).
3. Phenolphthalein indicator solution—1% in 95% alcohol.
4. Barium hydroxide [ $Ba(OH)_2$ ] solution, 0.1 N—accurately standardized.
5. Glycerol-soda solution—add 20 mL of the 50% sodium hydroxide solution to 180 mL either USP grade or reagent grade glycerol.
6. Boiling chips that have been cleaned in distilled water. Store in distilled water until used.
7. Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) solution, 0.1 N—accurately standardized. See AOCS Specification H 12-52.
8. Aluminum wire.
9. Ethyl alcohol—95%, SDA Formulas 30 and 3A are permitted (see Notes, *Caution*).
10. Silver sulfate—reagent grade.

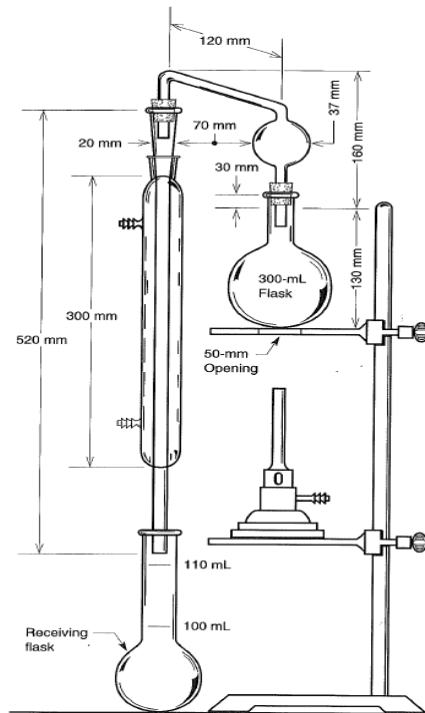


Figure 1. Reichert-Meissl distillation apparatus.

# Convenience

QuEChERS

Protein assays (Bradford, BCA)

Enzymatic test kits for acids, sugars,  
ethanol, etc

Dietary fibre

Culture media and diluents for  
microbiology



# Consumables and reagents

## Clean-up

- Sorption materials
- Solid phase extraction
- Immuno affinity columns
- UF membranes

## Chromatography

- Columns / stationary phases

## Reagents

- Chromogenic / fluorogenic substrates



**Performance  
specification**



# Alternative (rapid) methods

## Microbiology

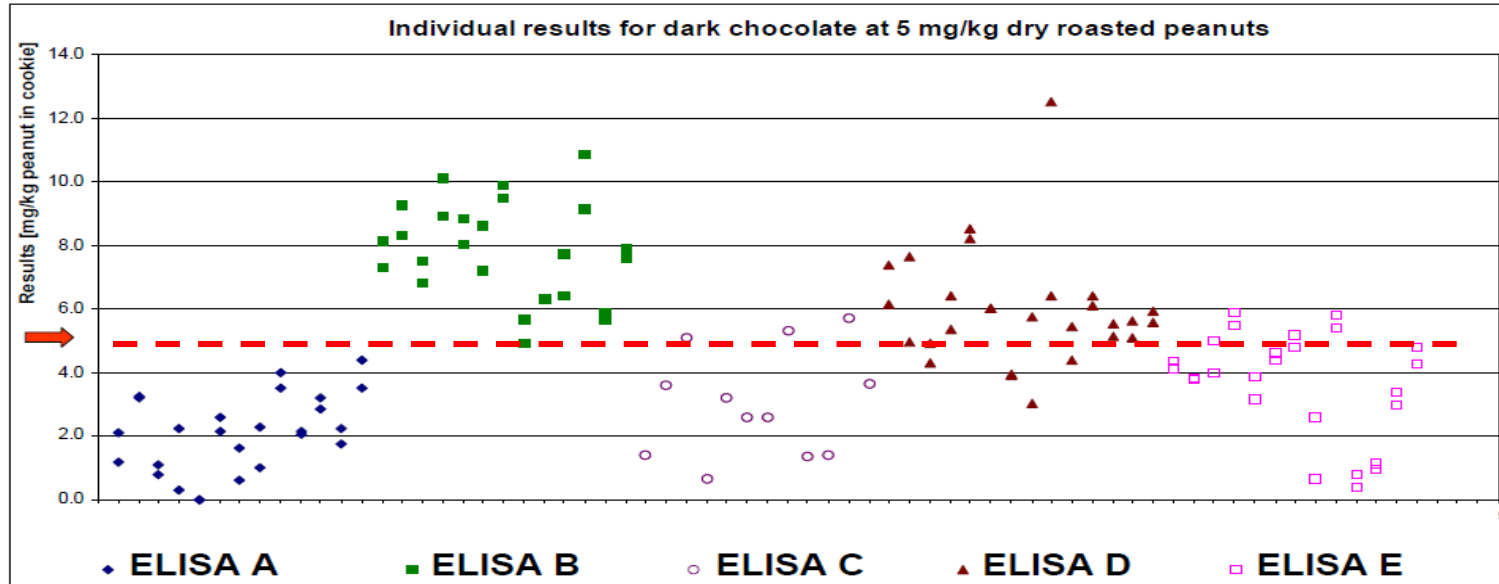
- Food pathogen detection by PCR
- Food pathogen detection by immunochemistry
- Culture media
- Membrane filtration
- Flow cytometry

## Chemistry

- ELISA (toxins, drug residues, vitamins, etc)
- Reporter gene assay (Calux)
- Sensors



# Reliability of test results



# Future of testing?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKv9ESLMOEE>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EXDQLMRq7Y>

# Article 34

## Methods used for sampling, analyses, tests and diagnoses

- *shall comply with Union rules establishing those methods or the performance criteria for those methods*
- *in the absence of the Union rules:*
  - (a) available methods complying with relevant internationally recognised rules or protocols; or relevant methods developed or recommended by the European Union reference laboratories*

*(b) in the absence of the suitable rules or protocols, as referred to in point (a), methods which comply with relevant rules established at national level; or  
relevant methods developed and validated with inter or intra-laboratory methods validation studies*



# Criteria approach

## *Mandating a certain analytical method in regulations*

- **denies the analyst to choose the most appropriate method for a given task**
- **discourages development of alternative approaches and the use of automation**
- **complicates administrative procedures if the prescribed method needs to be replaced by a more suitable one**

# Paradigm shift

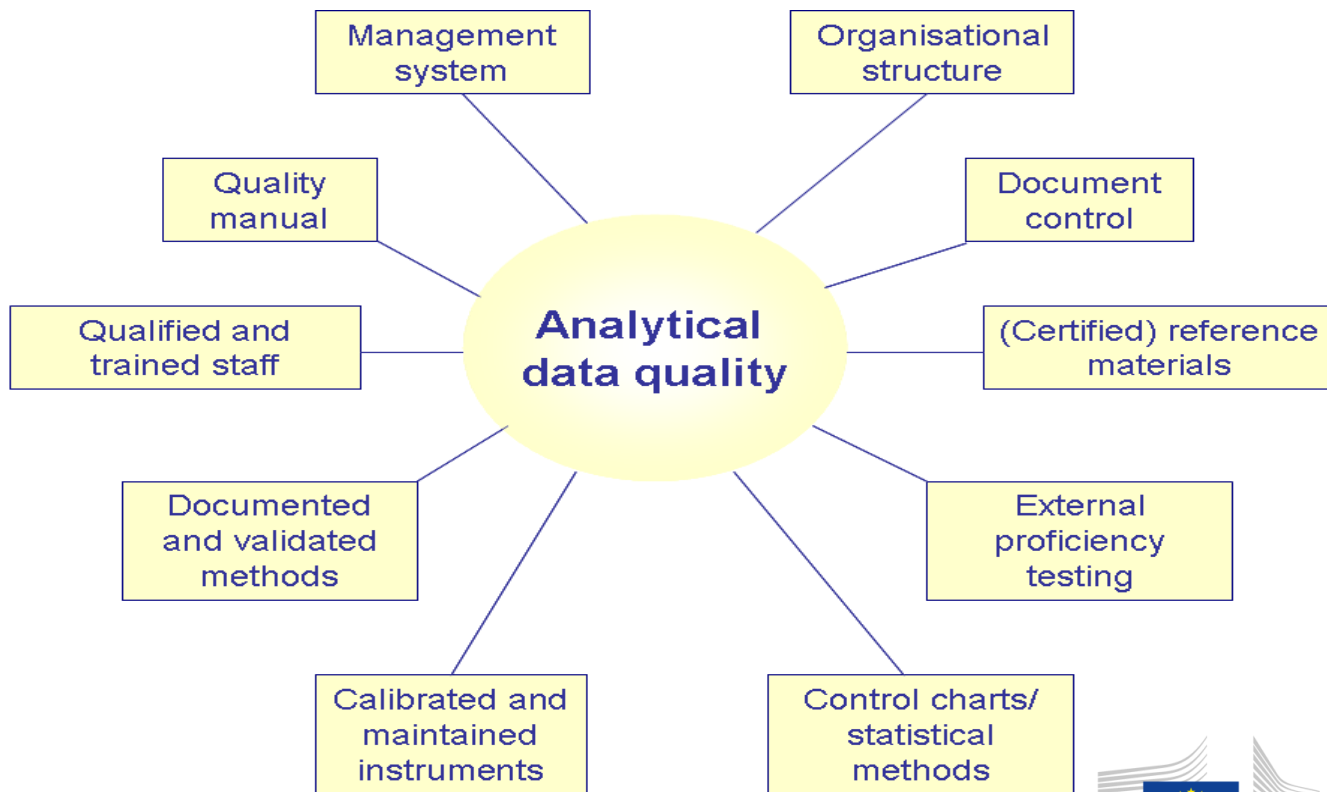
Method selection  
based on procedure



Method selection  
based on performance

Fit-for-purpose

# Integrated system for analytical data quality



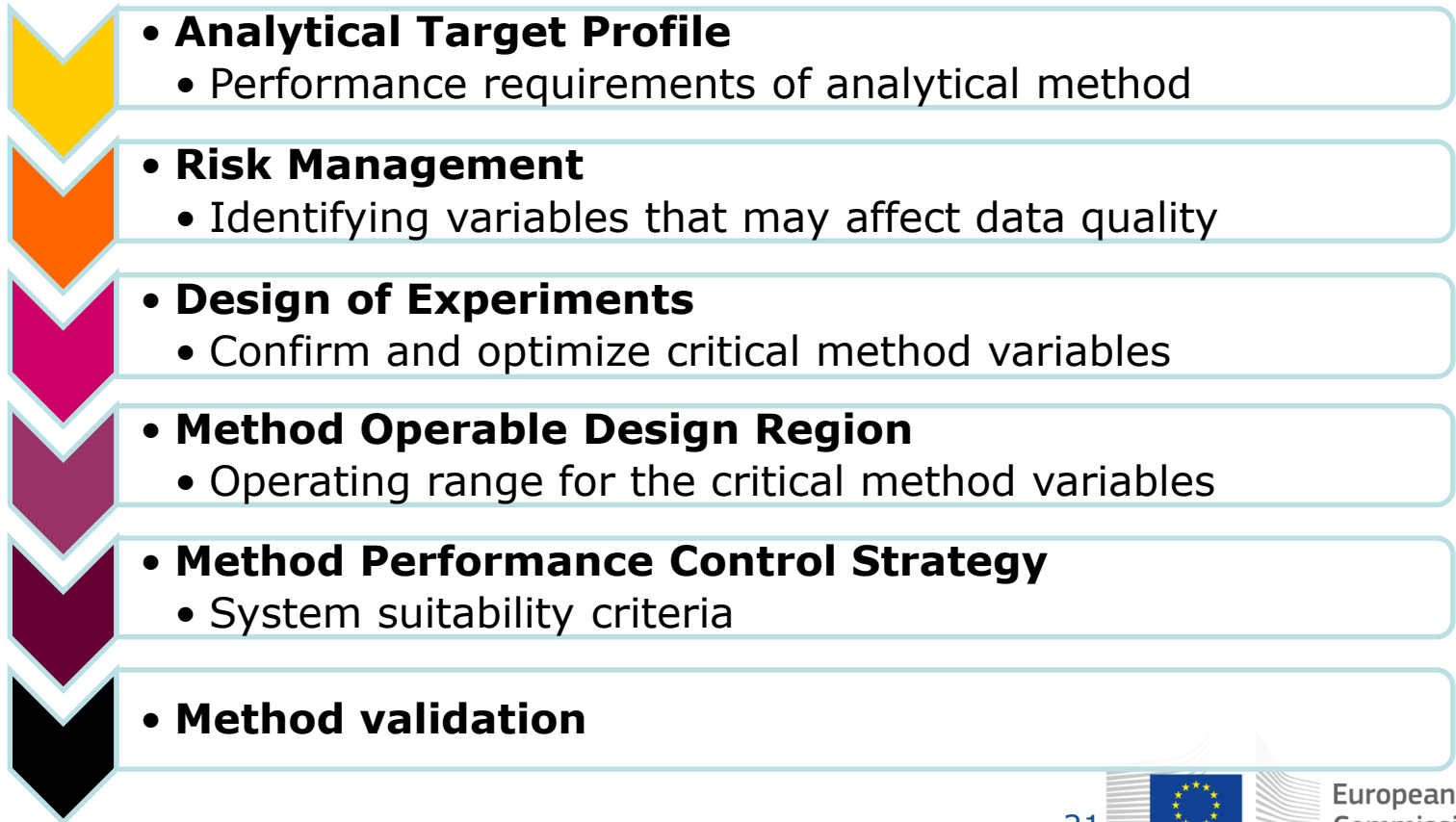
# Quality by Design (QbD)

*"a systematic approach to development that begins with predefined objectives and emphasizes ... understanding and ... control, based on sound science and quality risk management"*

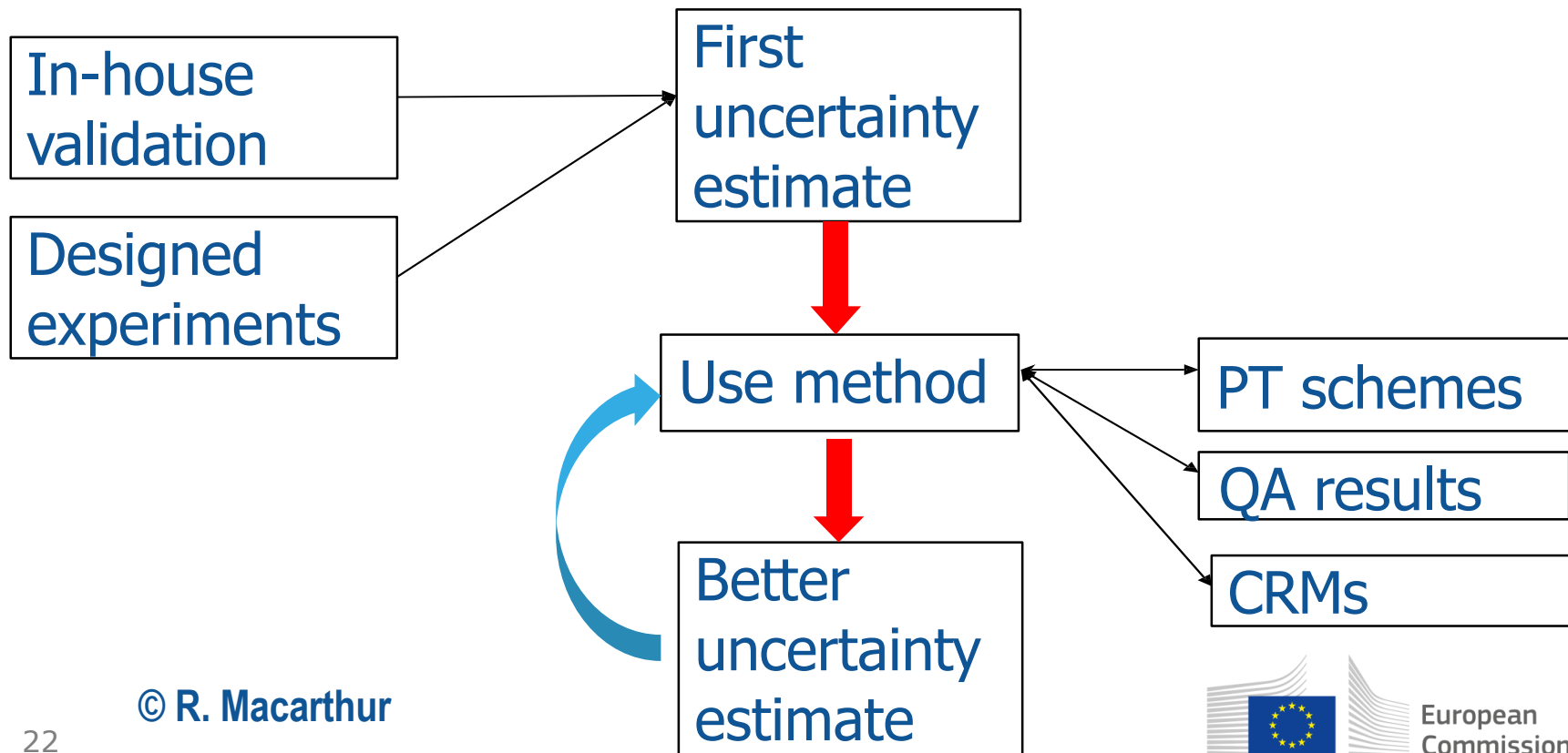
*The outcome of using QbD concepts is a well-understood product and process that consistently delivers its intended performance.*

*ICH Q8 and Q11*

# Analytical Quality by Design (AQbD)



# Practical approach



Maandag 1 mei 2017 - 18u06:43

Aanmelden Bewaard

HET LAATSTE NIEUWS

Lezersservice Digikrant Abonnement

Vind ik leuk 841K

Volgen



NIEUWS REGIO SPORT SHOWBIZZ NINA TERUG NAAR HLN

NINA KOOKT INTERPOL

# EUR 230 MILLION WORTH OF FAKE FOOD AND BEVERAGES SEIZED IN GLOBAL OPSON OPERATION TARGETING FOOD FRAUD

## Voor 230 miljoen aan voedsel fraude opgespoord

Aanbevelen Delen Tweet G+ 0 REACTIES

Bewerkt door: LB  
25/04/17 - 14u04 Bron: ANP

BEWAAR ARTIKEL

25 April 2017

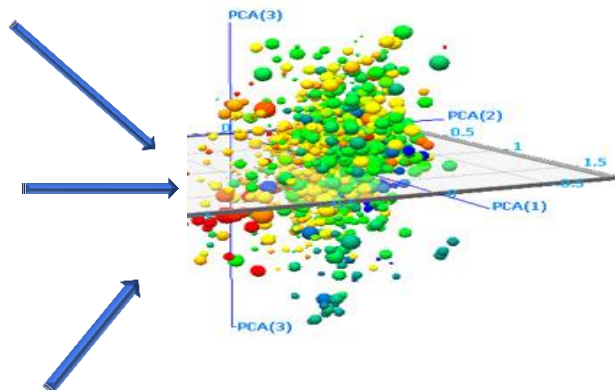
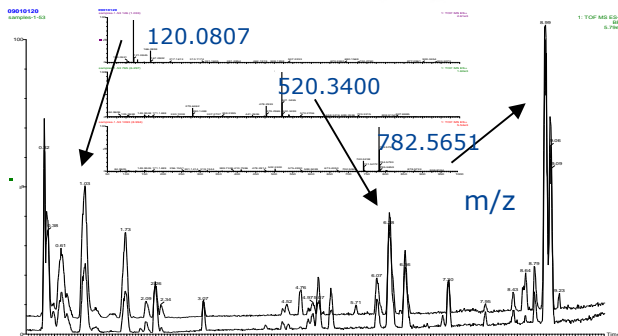
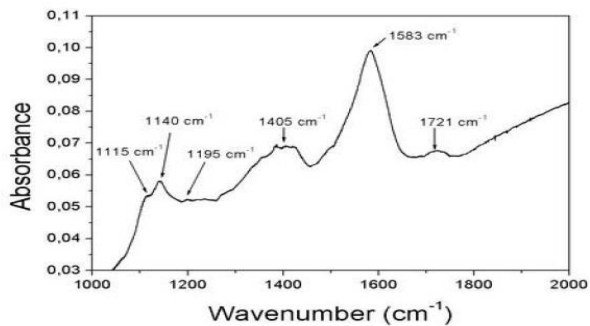
Press Release



# Targeted – untargeted analysis



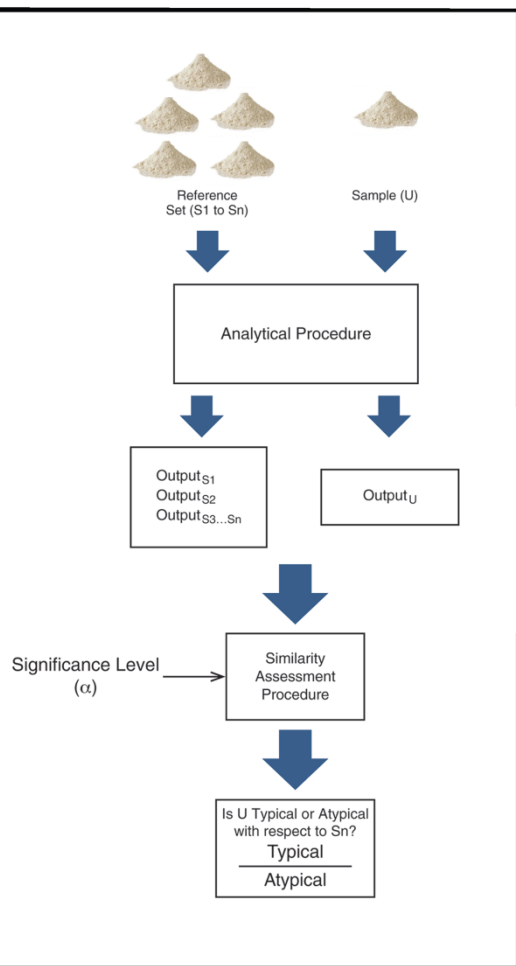




genuine  
adulterated

Primary ID	Concentration	ADP	ADP	ADP	ADP
4	0.0527991	0.0007691	0.0011361	0.0037121	0.00334
5	0.0447761	0.0011061	0.0018691	0.0071001	0.00452
6	0.0547211	0.0009341	0.0003281	0.0026361	0.00411
7	0.0596191	0.0005841	0.0004541	0.0023421	0.01121
8	0.0636991	0.0009371	0.0008711	0.0020031	0.00804
9	0.0517311	0.0004121	0.0002491	0.0018311	0.00847
10	0.0467551	0.0012641	0.0003831	0.0056501	0.00751
11	0.0619091	0.0003121	0.0003821	0.0013271	0.01221
12	0.0597611	0.0003141	0.0002531	0.0011521	0.00801
13	0.0642421	0.0007581	0.0004571	0.0016131	0.00747
14	0.0563211	0.0005791	0.0003941	0.0044571	0.00691

# USP Guidance on Developing and Validating Non-Targeted Methods for Adulteration Detection



		Actual Sample State	
		Typical	Atypical
Method Prediction <sup>a</sup>	Typical	Correct Typical	Incorrect Typical
	Atypical	Incorrect Atypical	Correct Atypical

# Food quality

1. Historically, quality has been primarily understood as the absence of defect, fraud and adulteration.
2. More recently, quality rests on expected properties such as organoleptic and nutritional characteristics or resulting benefits. This introduces the need to take the legitimate expectations of users into account and to require that operators do likewise.
3. Finally, quality designates desirable characteristics likely to justify added value; for example, forms of production (organic farming, environmental consideration, animal welfare), production areas (designation of origin) and their associated traditions.

# Subjective



**Customer:  
Expectation  
Perception**

## Quality



**Organisation:  
Specification  
Conformity**

# 'Fitness for Consumption'

# Objective



European  
Commission



# Stay in touch



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