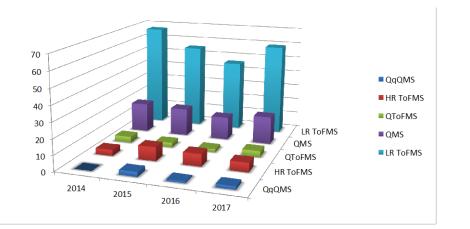
#### Topic 1: The Force of habit: Is it time for a change?

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| Discussed points  | Thoughts from the Audience, snapshots   |
|---|---|
| Cryogenic vs. alternative consumable-free thermal modulation devices  | <ul> <li>Many attendees have both cryogenic and<br/>another form of modulation</li> <li>Interest in SSM</li> </ul>  |
| Are other mass-based detection devices (apart<br>from LT ToFMS) up to the 2nd dimension<br>challenge?                           | <ul> <li>Audience agrees that instrumentally other<br/>mass selective devices are fitted for 2nd<br/>dimension analyses. Concerns about data<br/>quality were voiced</li> <li>In detail, the suitability of QMS and QqMS<br/>were discussed. QMS: mainly yes, spectral<br/>skewing could be an issue; QqQMS: yes,<br/>scepticism towards its use</li> </ul>   |
| Is mass spectrometry the only tool of trade? Will<br>other detection techniques, suitable for GC×GC<br>such as VUV, replace MS? | <ul> <li>The fundamental role of MS emerged, and its importance in regulatory methods. The audience agreed that there is no replace for MS, after a brief discussion of its value and core role</li> <li>Audience discussed VUV in greater detail, considering it's complementarity as a possibility (simultaneously if applicable)</li> <li>possible interest in the use of ion-mobility spectrometry</li> </ul> |

# Mass analyzers: situation across the 2014-2017 period



2014: 94 papers 2015: 88 papers 2016: 72 papers 2017: 89 papers

Source: Scopus.com

## Topic 2: Adding more complexity!

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| Discussed points  | Thoughts from the Audience, snapshots   |
|---|---|
| Cryogenic vs. alternative consumable-free<br>thermal modulation devices | <ul> <li>The feasability and analytical benefits of soft ionization were discussed. "Do we need the molecular ion"!</li> <li>Interest in the use of soft ionization technologies, due to more MW information and more sensitive quantification</li> <li>Complementary with 70 eV EI</li> <li>Field ionization as technique was brought up, especially it's use in industry applications and its rare description in the literature</li> <li>In general, there seems to be a general consensus that soft ionization is interesting in an academic sense</li> </ul> |
| GC×GC-HR ToFMS: is the combination too powerful?                        | <ul> <li>Extremely powerful technology; however,<br/>most applications can be performed by<br/>using LR ToFMS and QMS</li> </ul>  |
| GC×GC-HR QqQMS: is there one dimension too much?                        | <ul> <li>Scepticism towards its utility; used mainly in<br/>pre-targeted analyses</li> </ul>  |



Ionization: situation across the 2014-2017 period

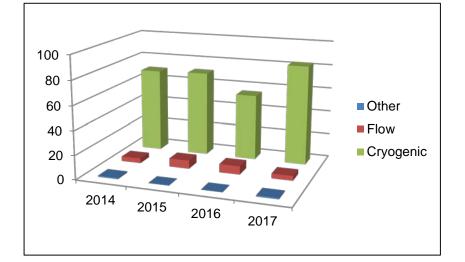
Hard ionization: 92.4% Soft ionization: 7.6%

## Topic 3: MS and flow modulation....a rocky marriage!

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| Discussed points  | Thoughts from the Audience, snapshots  |
|---|--|
| Flow-modulated GC×GC-MS: why is it so rarely used?  | <ul> <li>Issue with flow though several reduced-flow approaches have emerged</li> <li>Not many participants use flow modulation.</li> <li>However alternative consumable-free technologies such as the SSM appear to be of interest</li> </ul> |
| Flow-modulated GC×GC-MS vs thermal-<br>modulation GC×GC-MS: advantages and<br>disadvantages | <ul> <li>Flow modulation is more difficult to<br/>optimize, but with no restrictions in MW<br/>range and a high educational value.</li> </ul>  |

# Modulation: situation across the 2014-2017 period



Cryogenic: 92.1% Flow: 7.3% Other: 0.6%

Source: Scopus.com

#### Topic 4: Bigger, better, faster, more complex?!

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| Discussed points   | Thoughts from the Audience, snapshots   |
|--|---|
| GC×GC-MS is still considered as a technique for<br>the experts, with a large lab footprint. This is<br>contradictory to the high demand for faster, fully<br>automated methods with simple reporting and<br>minimal review. Is the technique already up to<br>such a task? | <ul> <li>A somewhat heaty discussion sparked</li> <li>The intimidation of new, complex<br/>technology and how to advertise it to new<br/>people was controversely discussed.</li> <li>Even if the hardware is up to the task<br/>approaches like "use what you have and<br/>upgrade it" and "keep it simple vs. make it<br/>the most sophisticated instrument" were<br/>discussed</li> <li>Modular instrumentation that could be<br/>gradually upgraded would be nice</li> <li>Data processing of industrial applications in<br/>series takes time and may appear<br/>intimidating</li> </ul> |