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# Characterization and diversity of plasma origins at fractionator level

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**IPFA**  
International plasma and  
fractionation association

**eBa**  
European Blood Alliance

**IPFA/EBA Symposium on  
Plasma Collection and Supply**

11 – 12 February 2026 | Leuven, Belgium



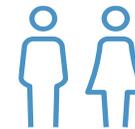
## A French major biopharmaceutical company



LFB is a biopharmaceutical group that develops, manufactures and *markets plasma-derived medicinal products* and recombinant proteins for the treatment of patients *with serious and often rare diseases*.



Created in France in 1994, LFB is today one of the leading European companies providing plasma-derived and recombinant medicinal products to healthcare professionals. Its mission is to offer patients new treatment options for unmet needs.



**3,000 employees:**

More than 2,200 in France and 1,800 in Production

**3**

THERAPEUTIC  
FIELDS

—  
IMMUNOLOGY  
HAEMOSTASIS

INTENSIVE  
CARE

**ABOUT  
FIFTEEN**

BIOMEDICINES

—  
MARKETED IN  
ABOUT 30  
COUNTRIES

# The evolution of plasma sourcing for manufacturing, specifically through the integration of plasma from diverse international origins, introduces significant variability into the production process



**TO DEVELOP,  
MANUFACTURE WITH BETTER  
PROCESS KNOWLEDGE**

## PROCESS IMPACT OF PLASMA

**1**  
Plasma  
preparation

Interaction  
between blood  
and artificial  
surfaces  
(membranes or  
filters or shear  
stress)

**2**  
Protein  
content in  
plasma

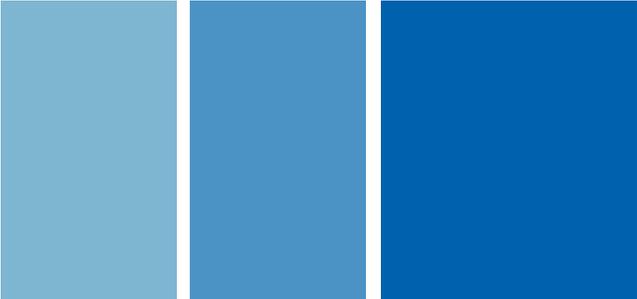
Donation  
frequency

**3**  
Products  
specific (16)

Different  
production  
routes with  
different yields



*Characterization of plasma*

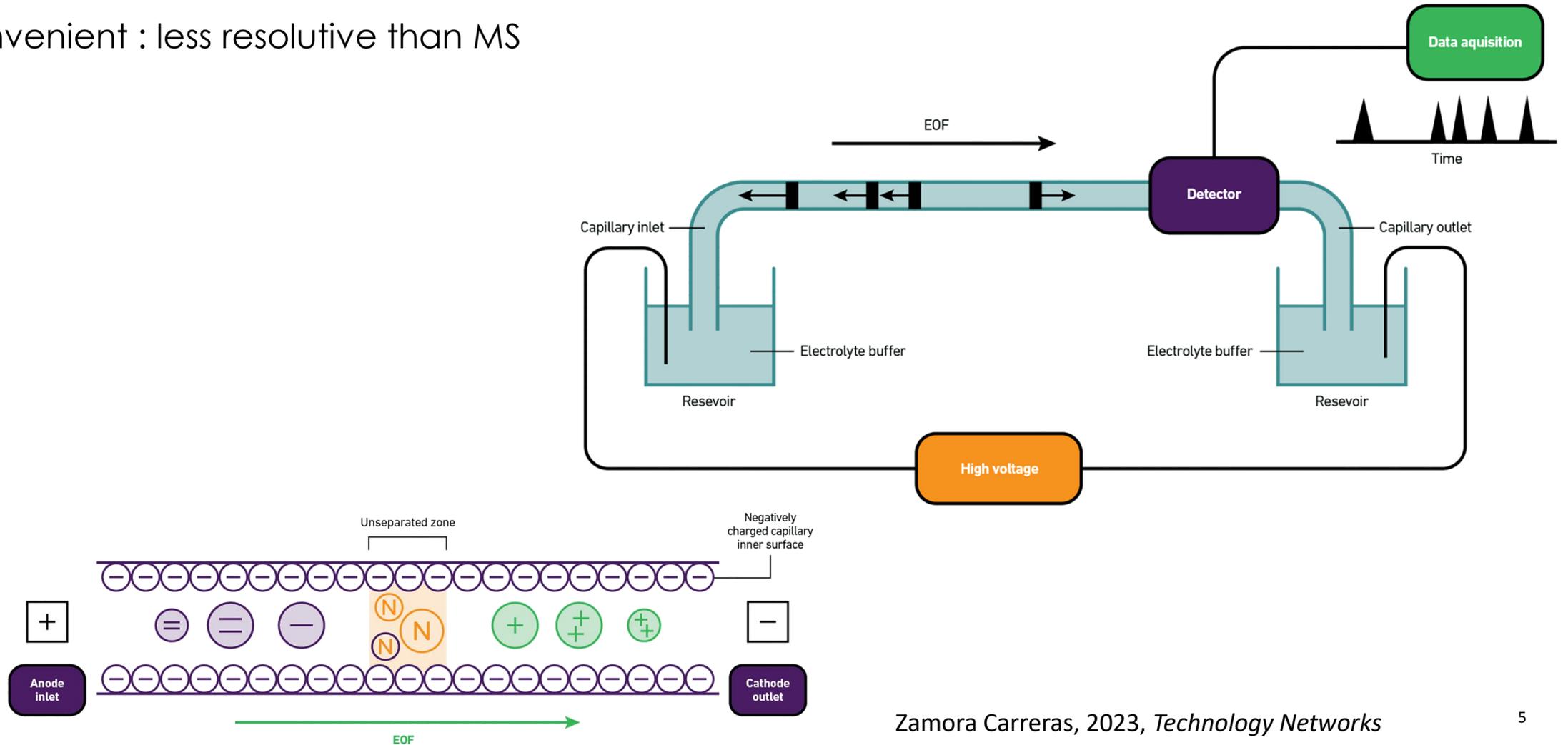


# Capillary Zone Electrophoresis (CZE) Rapid Access To A Global Picture Of Plasma



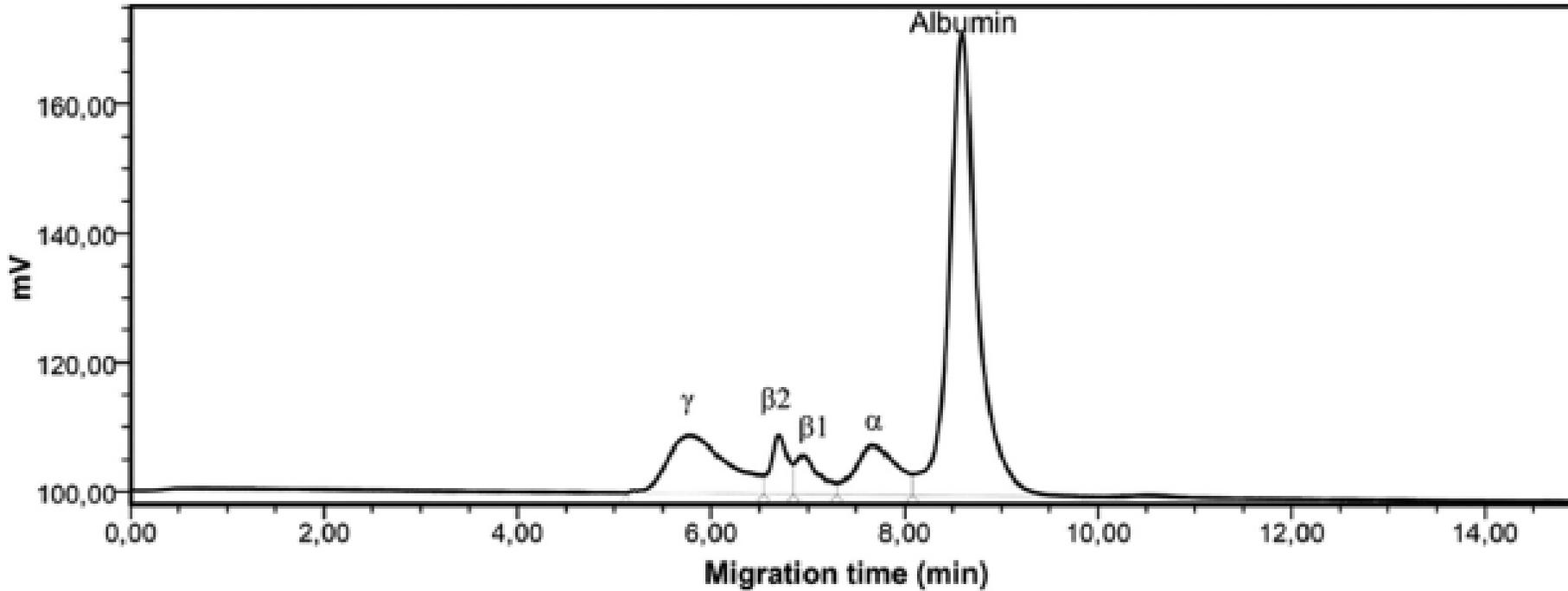
# Capillary Zone Electrophoresis (CZE)

- Global picture, quicker than LC-MS/MS = high throughput possible
- Inconvenient : less resolutive than MS





# Rapid Access To A Global Picture Of Plasma



### α Globulines:

- α1-Antitrypsin
- Haptoglobin
- α2-Macroglobulin
- Ceruloplasmin
- α1-Acid glycoprotein
- α1-Lipoprotein
- Transcortine
- Thyroxine binding protein
- α2-Macroglobulin

### β Globulines:

- Transferrine
- C3 complement
- β-lipoproteins
- Hemopexin
- C4 complement
- β2-microglobuline
- Fibrinogen

### γ Globulines:

- IgG
- IgA
- IgM
- IgD
- IgE
- Complement proteins
- Reactive C protein

**Fig. 1. Specificity: Detection of serum protein fractions in human serum.** Capillary zone electrophoresis of a normal human serum ultrafiltrated in borate buffer. Shown is the electropherogram from sample #31 from Instand eV, Germany. The absorbance signal is expressed in mV.



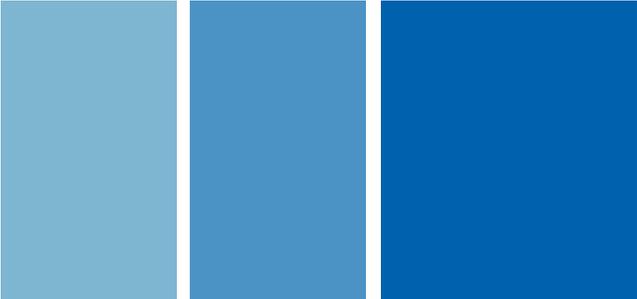
# Capillary Zone Electrophoresis

## COMPARISON OF PLASMA ORIGINS USA / CZ / FR WITH APHERESIS COLLECTION

Plasma Protein Distribution by Capillary Zone Electrophoresis



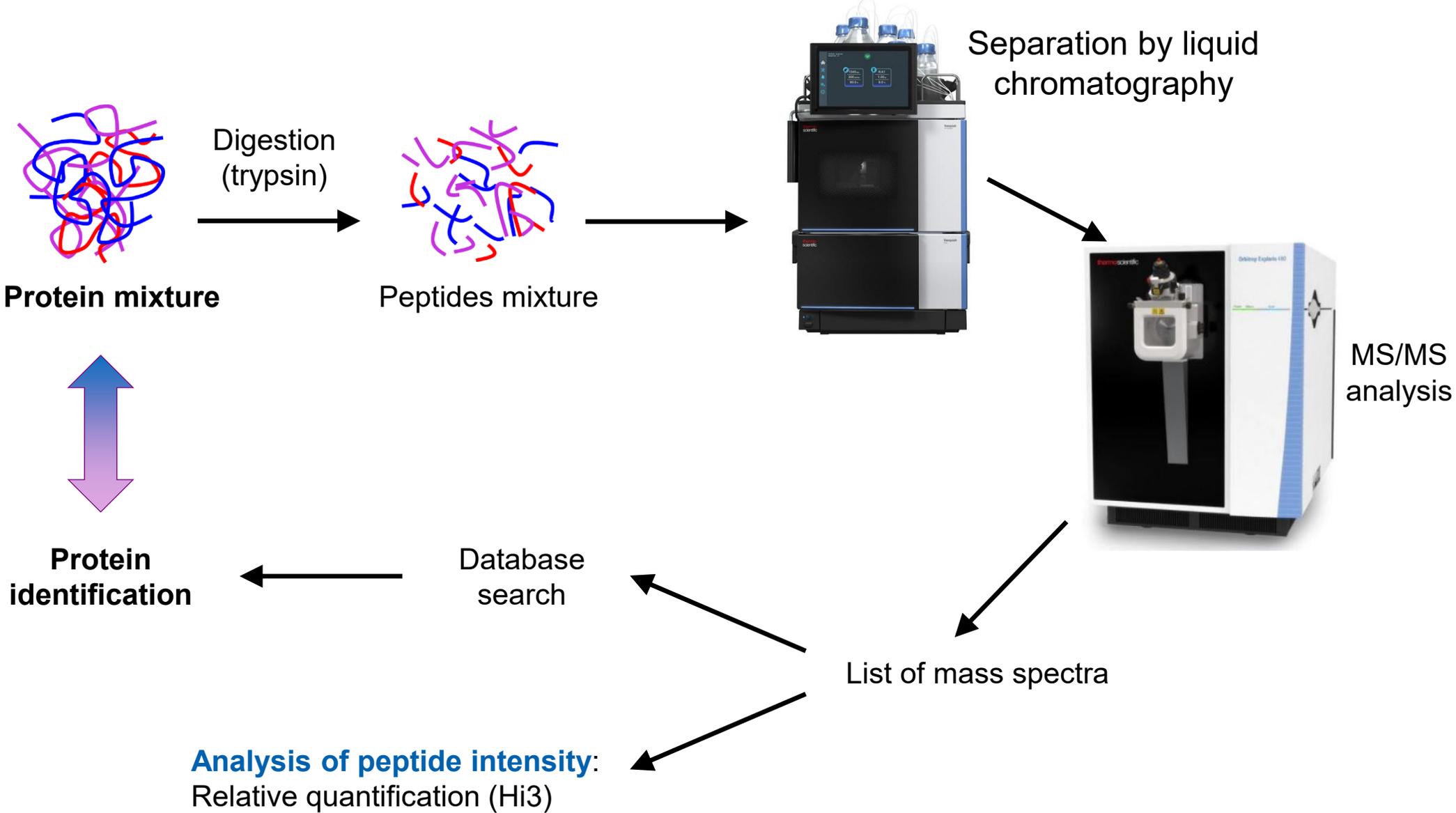
- Method gives results quickly, however the resolution is too low to detect differences



# Liquid Chromatography Coupled To Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS (Hi3)) : Relative Quantification Of Plasma Proteins



# Liquid Chromatography Coupled To Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS/MS (Hi3))

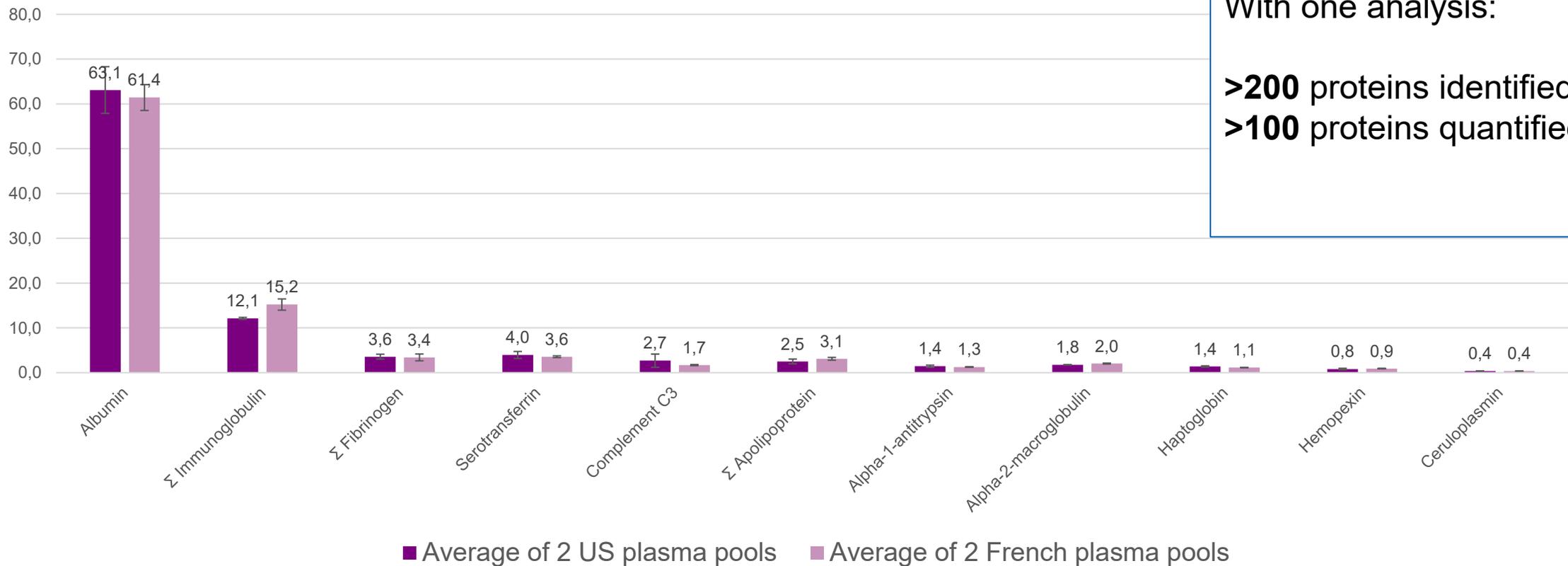




# Mass spectrometry relative quantification of proteins

## COMPARISON OF PLASMA ORIGINS USA / FR WITH APHERESIS COLLECTION

Relative abundances of plasma proteins by LC-MSMS



With one analysis:  
**>200** proteins identified  
**>100** proteins quantified

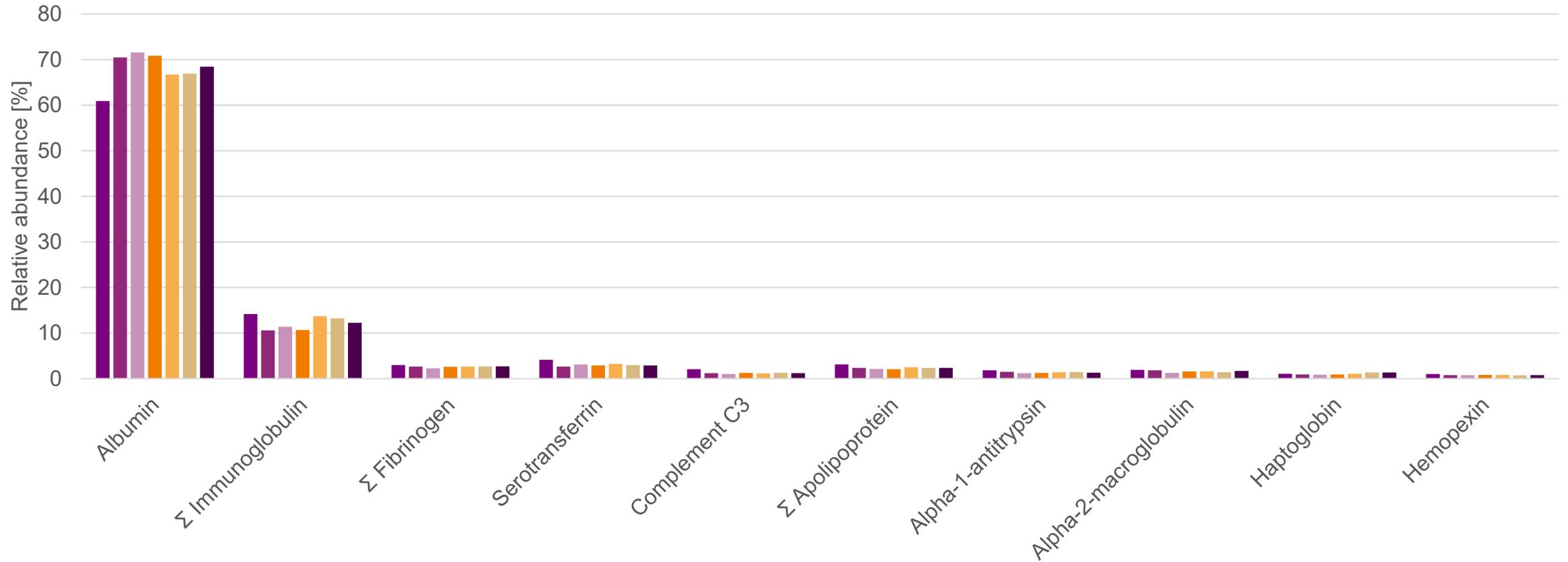
- Method detects difference in levels of Immunoglobulins, lower in US plasma pools as observed by others using nephelometry (Laub *et al.* 2010)



# Mass spectrometry relative quantification of proteins

## COMPARISON OF PLASMA POOLS FROM CZECH REPUBLIC

Relative abundances of plasma proteins by LC-MSMS



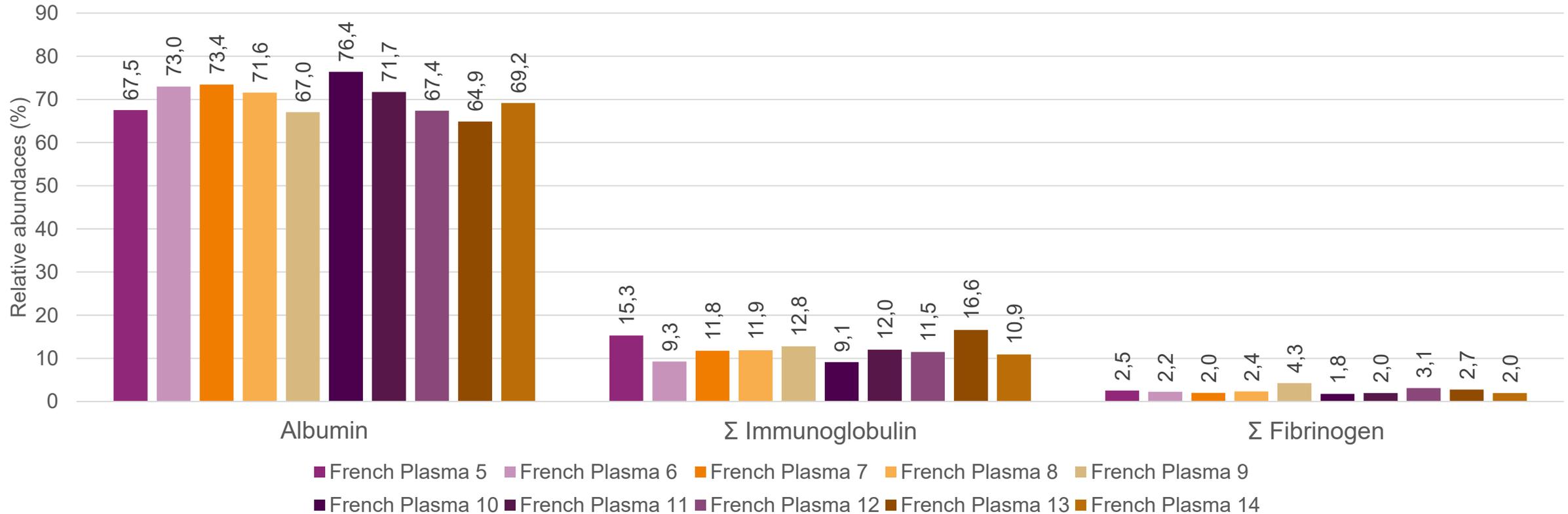
- Method detects differences between plasma pools from Czech collection centers



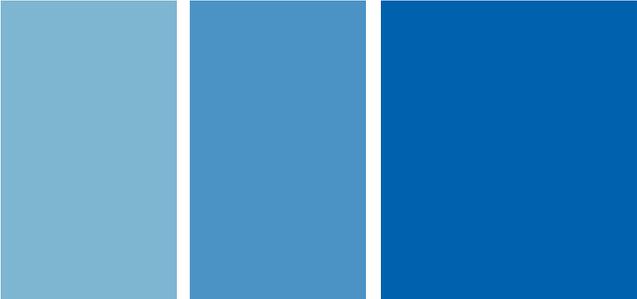
# Mass spectrometry relative quantification of proteins

## COMPARISON OF RELATIVE QUANTITIES OF 3 MAIN PROTEINS IN UNITARY RECOVERED NLR PLASMAS

Relative abundances of unitary recovered NLR plasma proteins by LC-MSMS



- Method detects considerable variability in the relative abundance of Albumin, Immunoglobulins and Fibrinogen between different donors



# Ion Exchange Chromatography (IEX) : Albumin as a marker for plasma integrity



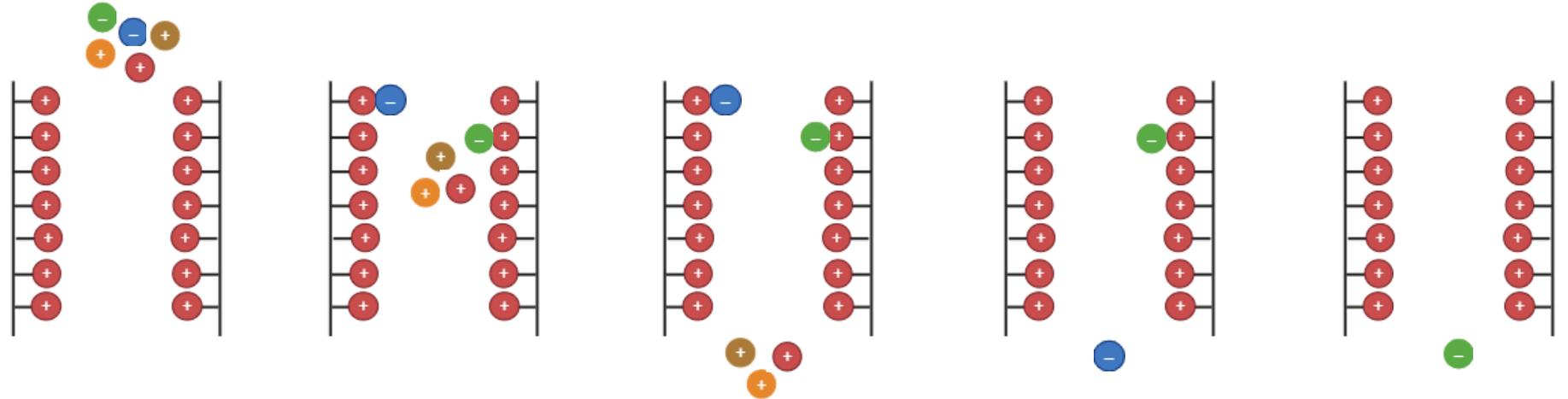
# IEX - Experimental conditions

## INSTRUMENTS :

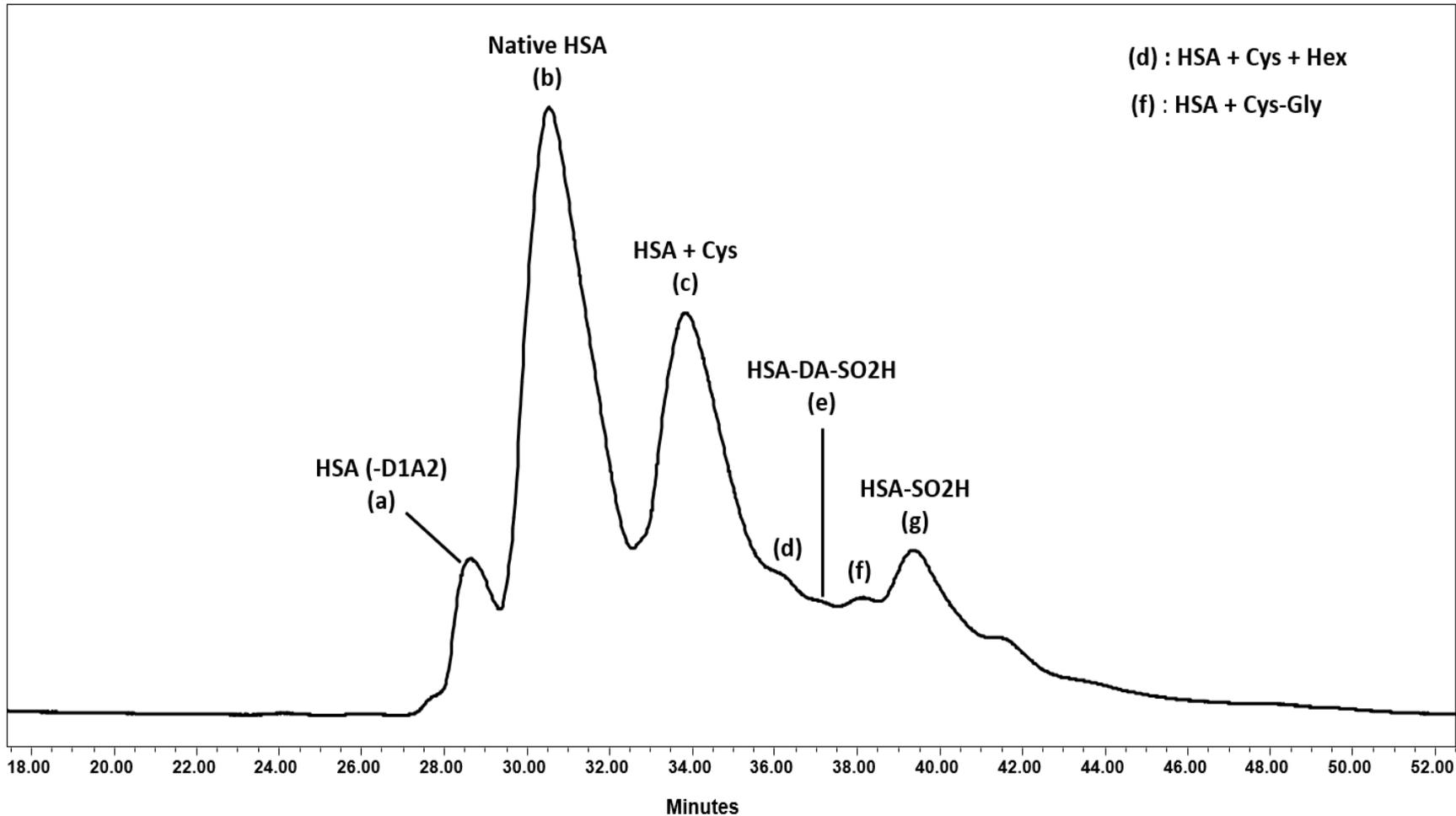
- UPLC System : Acquity HClassBio UHPLC (Waters, Milford, MA, USA)
- SAX column: Proteomix SAX NP5 2,1 mm x 150 mm , 5 $\mu$ m, 300 Å

## SAX SETTINGS

- Mobile phase A: 50 mM Ammonium Acetate (Binding)
- Mobile phase B: 500 mM Ammonium Acetate (Elution)
- Temperature: 30°C
- Flowrate: 0.2 mL/min
- Detection: UV 280 nm



# Charge Isoform Distribution Profile of purified Albumin



Method previously developed at LFB for albumin isoforms :

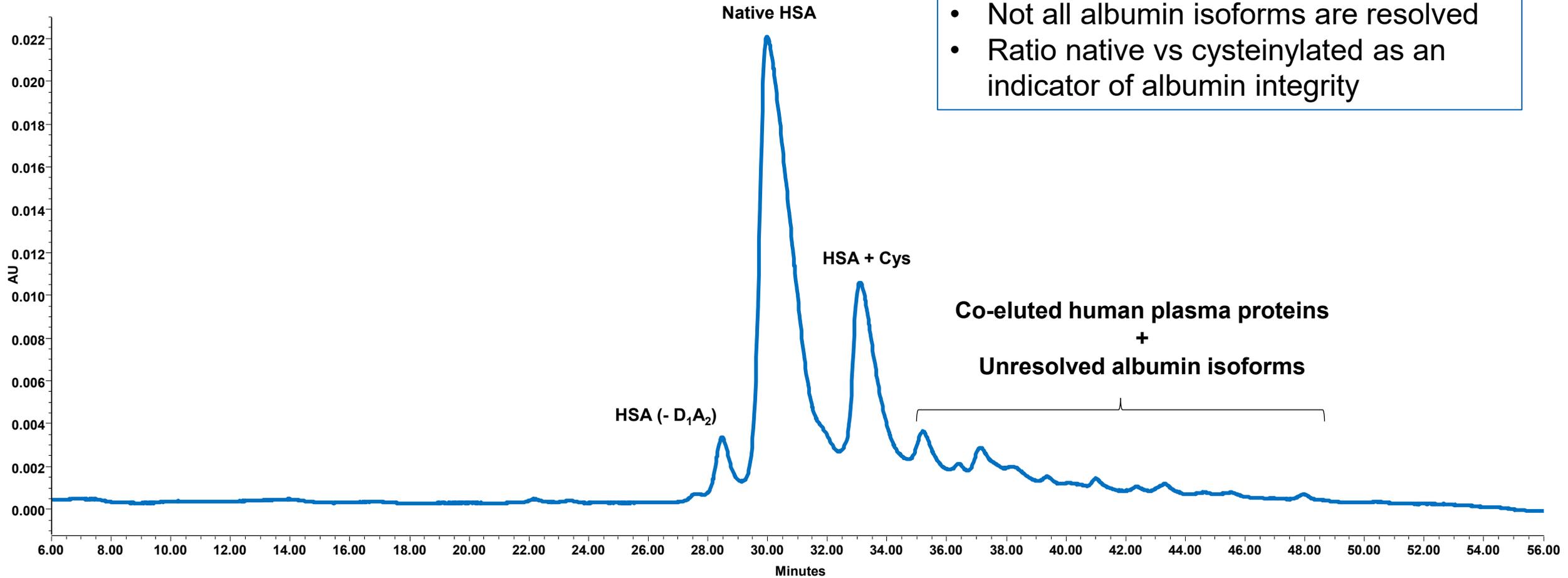
- 7 different forms of albumin resolved (\*)
- Native HSA possesses a reduced cysteine 34 important for its antioxidant potential (\*\*)

\*Leblanc *et al.*: *Characterization of human serum albumin isoforms by ion exchange chromatography coupled on-line to native mass spectrometry.* J CHROMATOGR. B, 2018

\*\*Plantier *et al.*: *Comparison of antioxidant properties of different therapeutic albumin preparations.* BIOLOGICALS, 2016

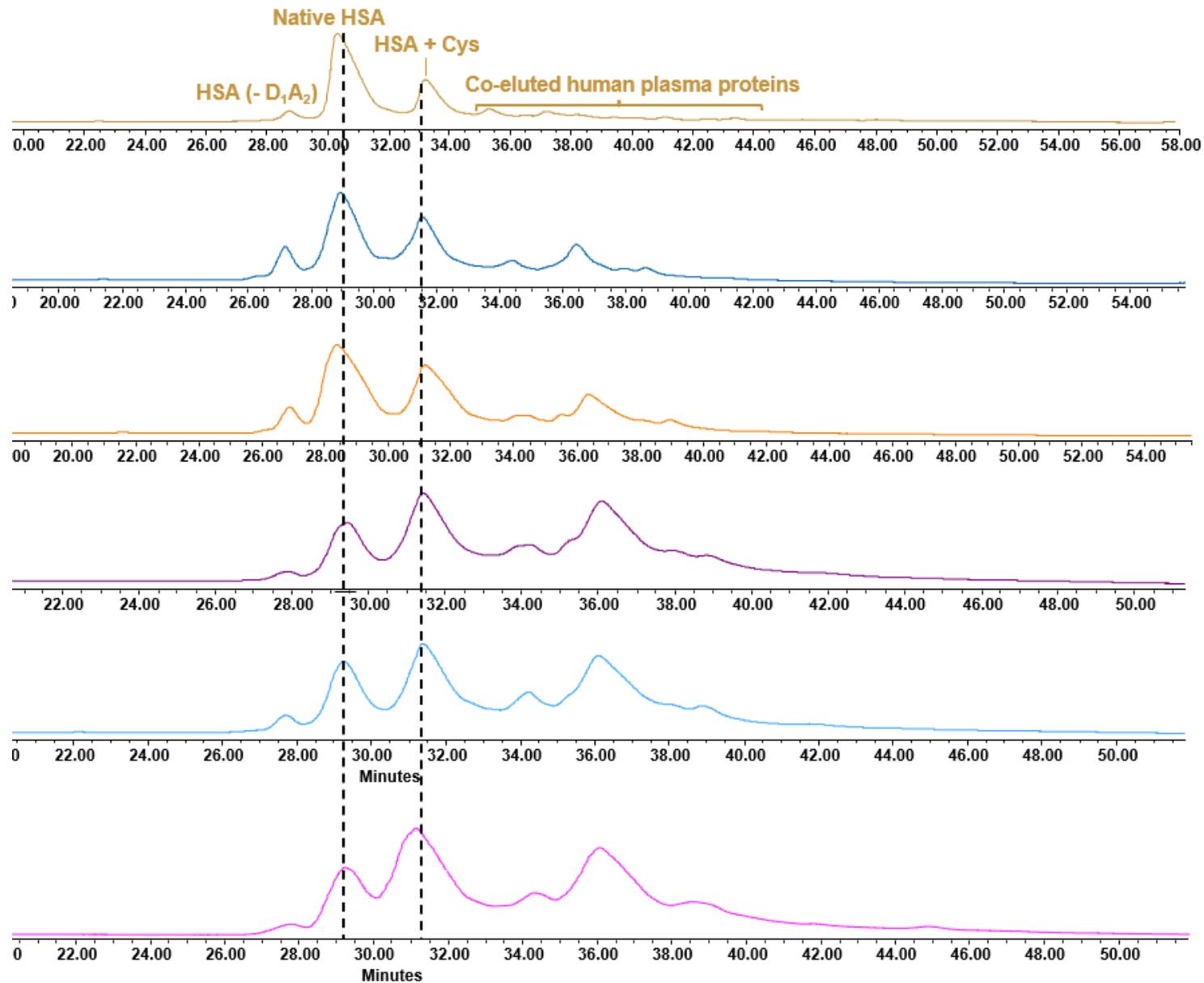


# IEX Profiles of Plasma a pool





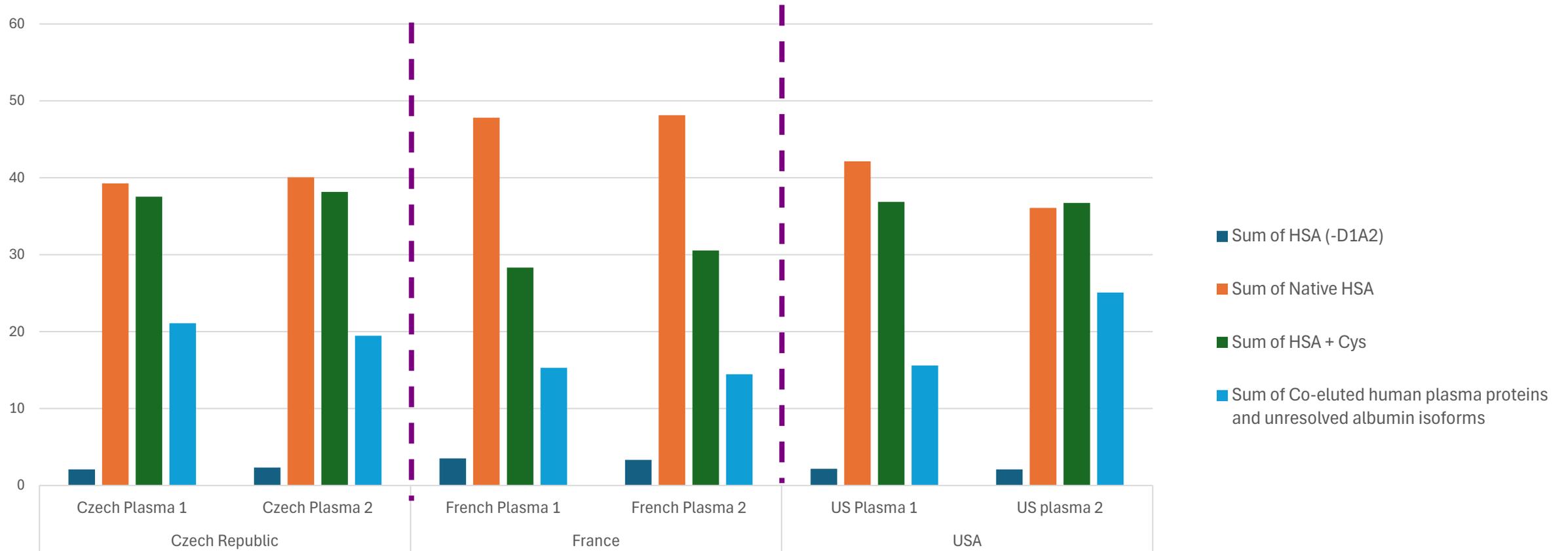
# Integrity of human native Albumin products on the market





# Relative Quantification of Albumin's Isoforms

COMPARISON OF PLASMA ORIGINS USA / CZ / FR WITH APHERESIS COLLECTION



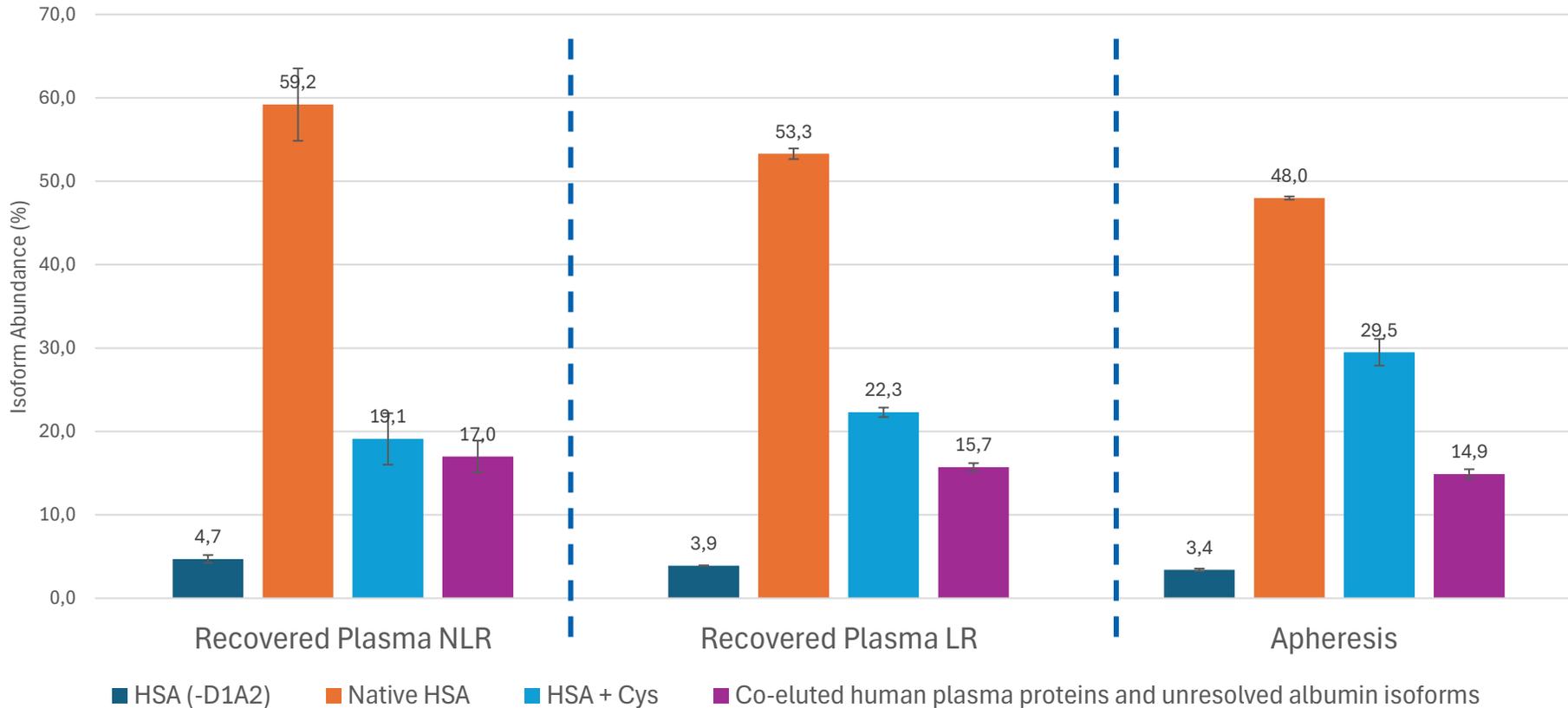
- The method detects differences between different centers with respect to the levels of native albumin



# Relative Quantification of Albumin's Isoforms

COMPARISON OF COLLECTION METHODS ON FRENCH PLASMA : APHERESIS AND RECOVERED PLASMA LEUKOCYTE REDUCED (N=2 POOLS OF 10 DONORS) VS RECOVERED PLASMA NON-LEUCOCYTE REDUCED (N= AVERAGE OF 10 UNITARY PLASMAS)

Isoform abundance of albumin from different sampling method on French donors



The blood collection technique seems to have an impact on the level of native albumin:

(Recov. Plasma NLR > Recov. Plasma LR > Apheresis)

Results need to be confirmed with additional plasma pools



## Conclusion

This characterization allows for the comparison of new plasmas with historical standards (recovered plasma or apheresis)

The use of these three analytical approaches adds to the control strategy before introducing a new plasma source to the process.

**Anticipation of process risks:** production yields etc.

**Decision support for development:** decision for initiation of smaller-scale studies



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



## LFB Biotechnologies

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