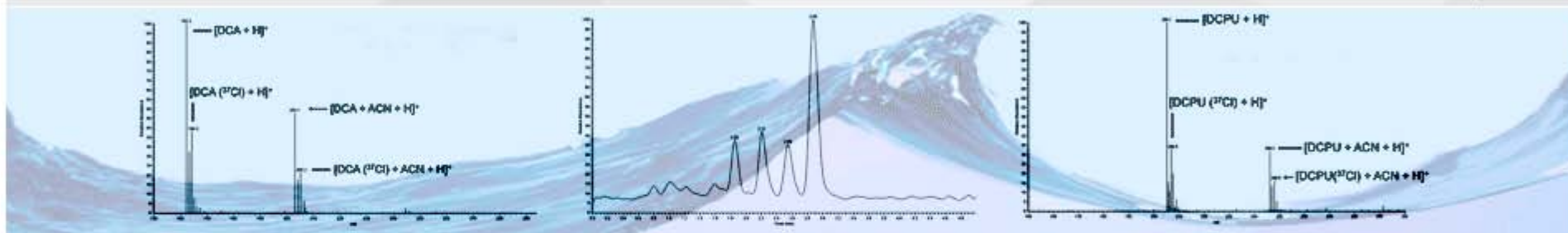




HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Department of Chemistry

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Transformation Products of Emerging Pollutants in the aquatic environment

*"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts."*

Sign hanging in Einstein's office at Princeton

**STATE OF THE ART**

In a prophetic review in 2004, Daughton stressed the need for a drastic change of view of the current environmental analysis that focuses on known chemical stressors, paraphrasing Einstein's view: **"Not everything that can be measured is worth measuring, and not everything worth measuring is measurable"** (2004). It is true that the so-called priority pollutants that are regulated under EU legislation represent a very small fraction of the universe of chemicals that occur in the environment as a result of human activities. As the power of analytical chemistry increases, the types of chemicals detected increase, and the detection limits are continually lowered. The term **"emerging pollutants"** (EP) refers to compounds that are not currently covered by existing water-quality regulations, have not been studied before and are thought to be potential threats to the environment. They encompass a diverse group of compounds, including pharmaceuticals, drugs of abuse, EDCs, many industrial chemicals, and many more, as well as their **transformation products** (TPs).

Dr Nikolaos S. Thomaidis, Associate Professor

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