

Eurachem
A focus for analytical chemistry in Europe


CITAC
Cooperation in International
Traceability in Analytical Chemistry

Lisbon, 11 and 12 May 2026

CONFORMITY WITH MULTIPLE PARAMETERS

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A focus for analytical chemistry in Europe

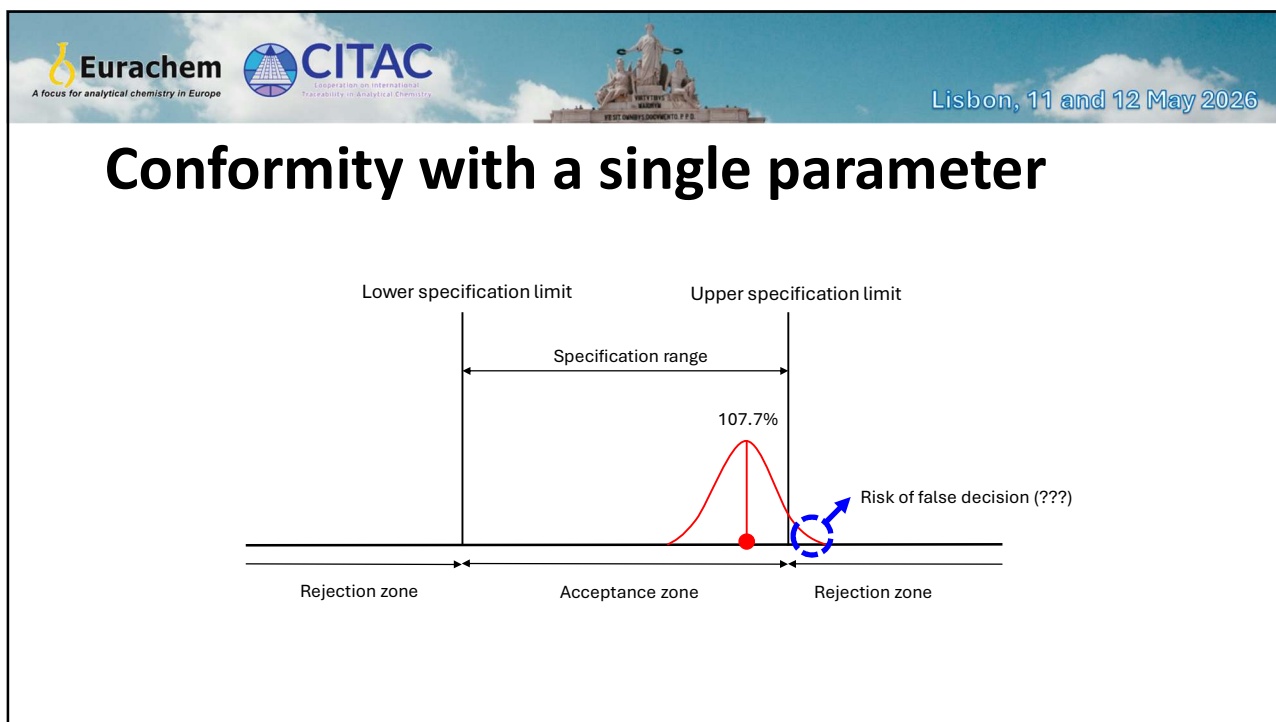
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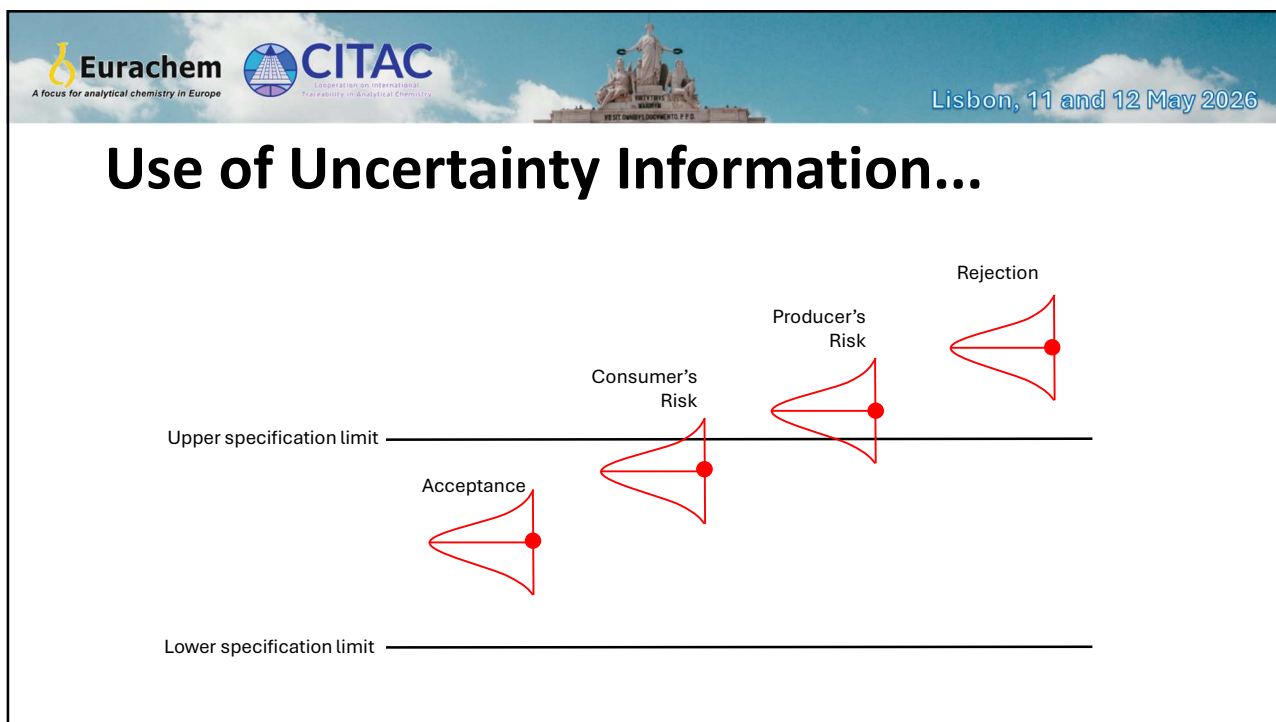
Agenda

- ✓ Conformity with a single parameter
- ✓ Conformity with multiple parameters
 - Two independent parameters
 - Two correlated parameters
 - More than two parameters
- ✓ Conclusions




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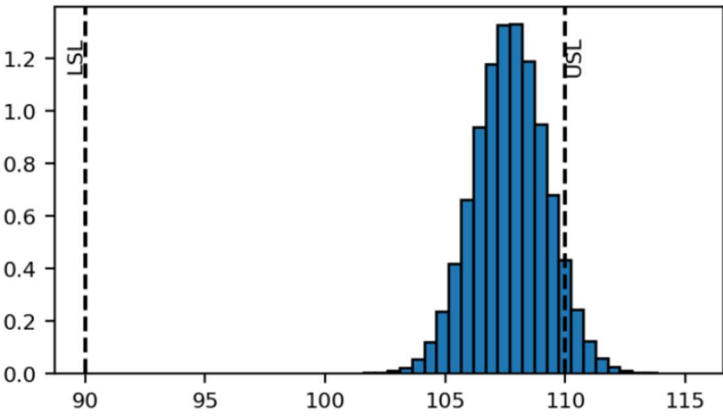
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Particular consumer's risk...






Monte Carlo Method (MCM):
STEP 2

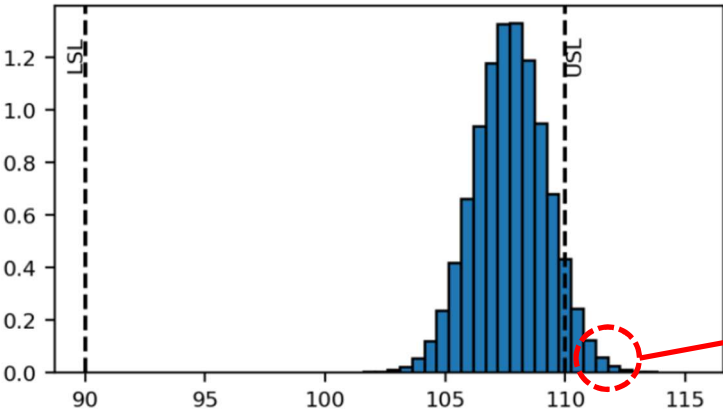
Simulated values (x_j)

" $=X + z_j * u_x$ "

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Particular consumer's risk...






Monte Carlo Method (MCM):
STEP 3

If $LSL \leq x_j \leq USL$: $c_j = 0$
Else: $c_j = 1$

$R_c = \frac{\sum_j^m c_j}{m} = 6.3\%$




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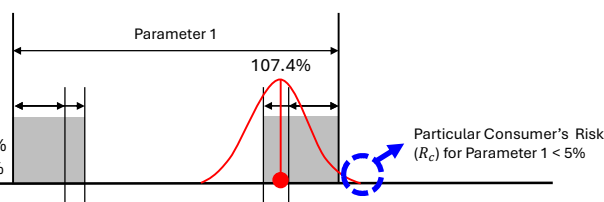
Conformity with multiple parameters

- ✓ In many cases, acceptance of a tested item or batch is based on multiple parameters
- ✓ Considering a medicines with 2 APIs:
 - ❑ API 1: 107.4 ± 3.0% (Specification limits: 90-110%)
 - ❑ API 2: 107.0 ± 3.0% (Specification limits: 90-110%)
 - ❑ Assuming independent ($r_{12} = 0$) parameters

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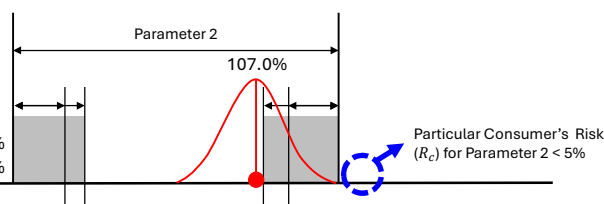
Conformity with multiple parameters



$g'_1 = k' \times u_1 = 1.95 \times 1.5\%$
 $g_1 = k \times u_1 = 1.64 \times 1.5\%$

HOWEVER, total risk may be higher than 5%...

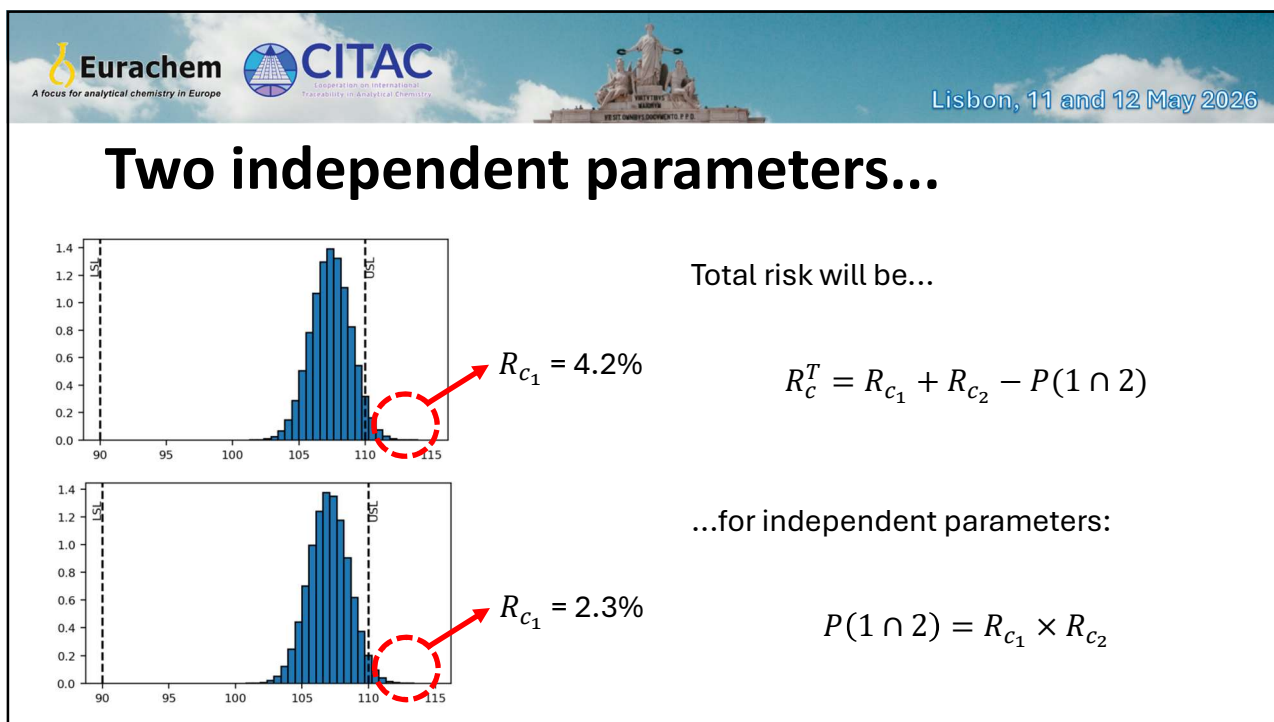
$$R_C^T = 1 - (1 - R_C)^n$$



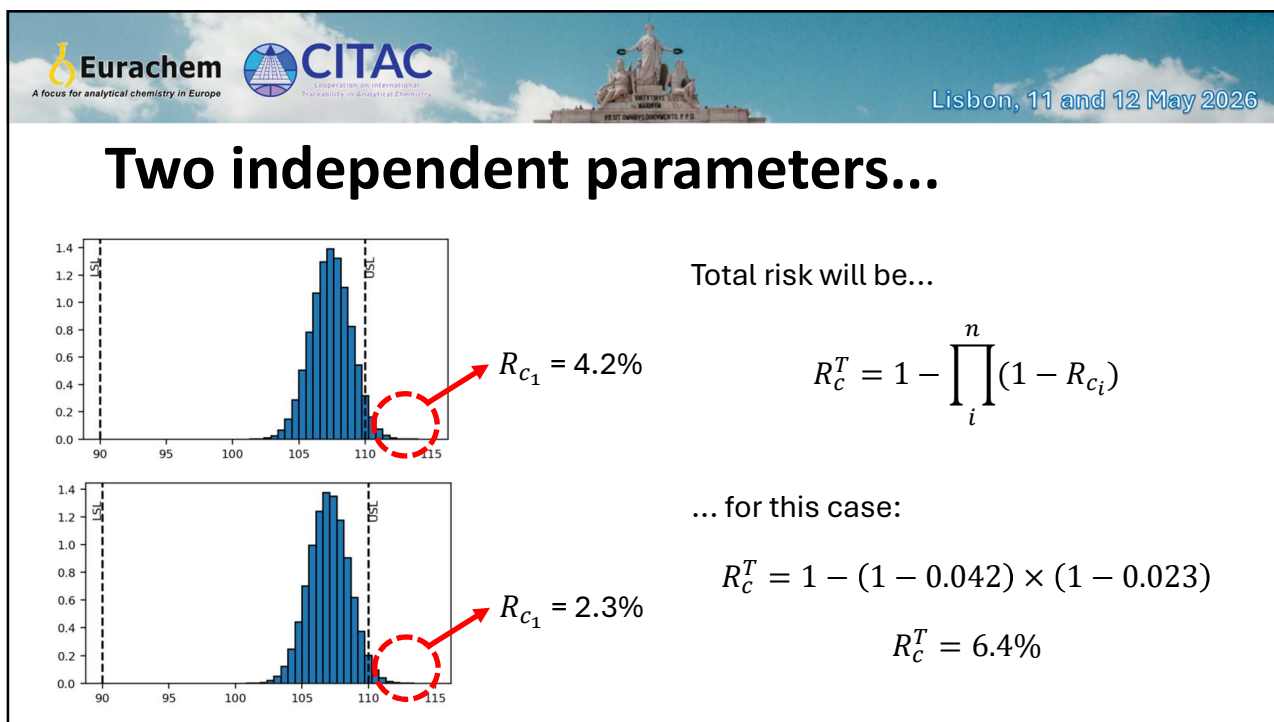
$g'_2 = k' \times u_2 = 1.95 \times 1.5\%$
 $g_2 = k \times u_2 = 1.64 \times 1.5\%$

n	R_C^T
2	9.75%
3	14.26%
4	18.55%
5	22.62%

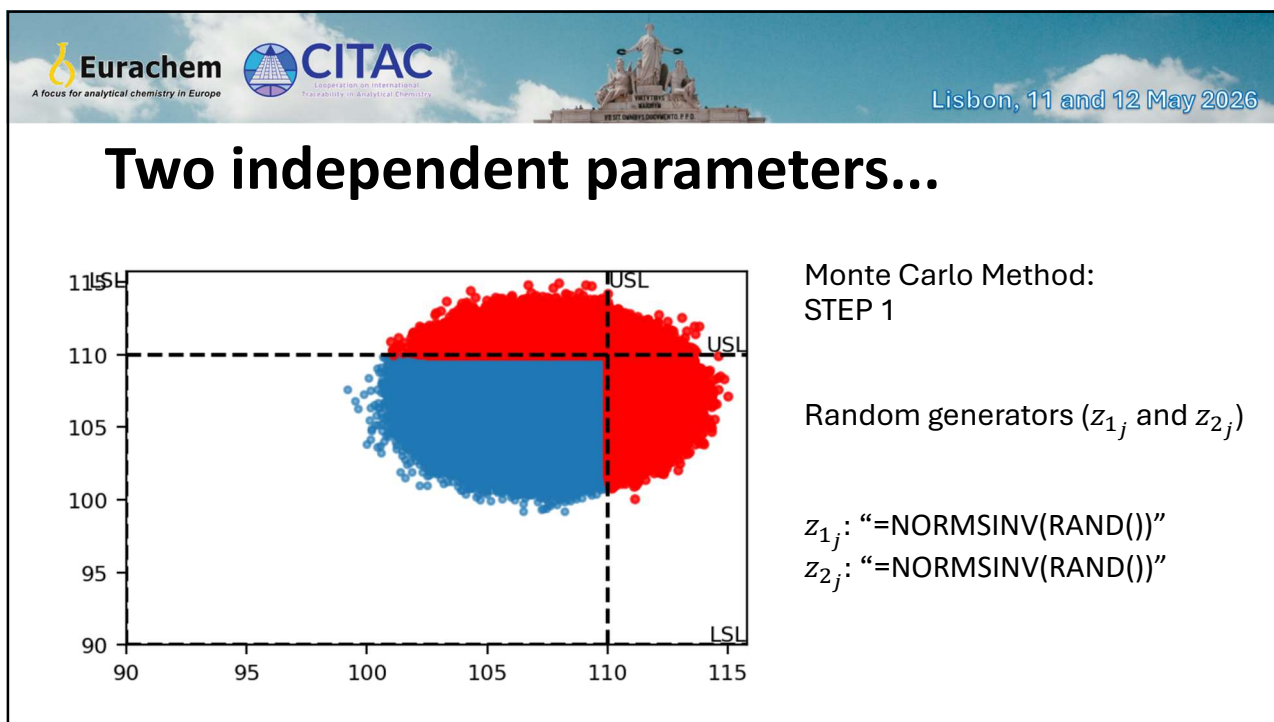
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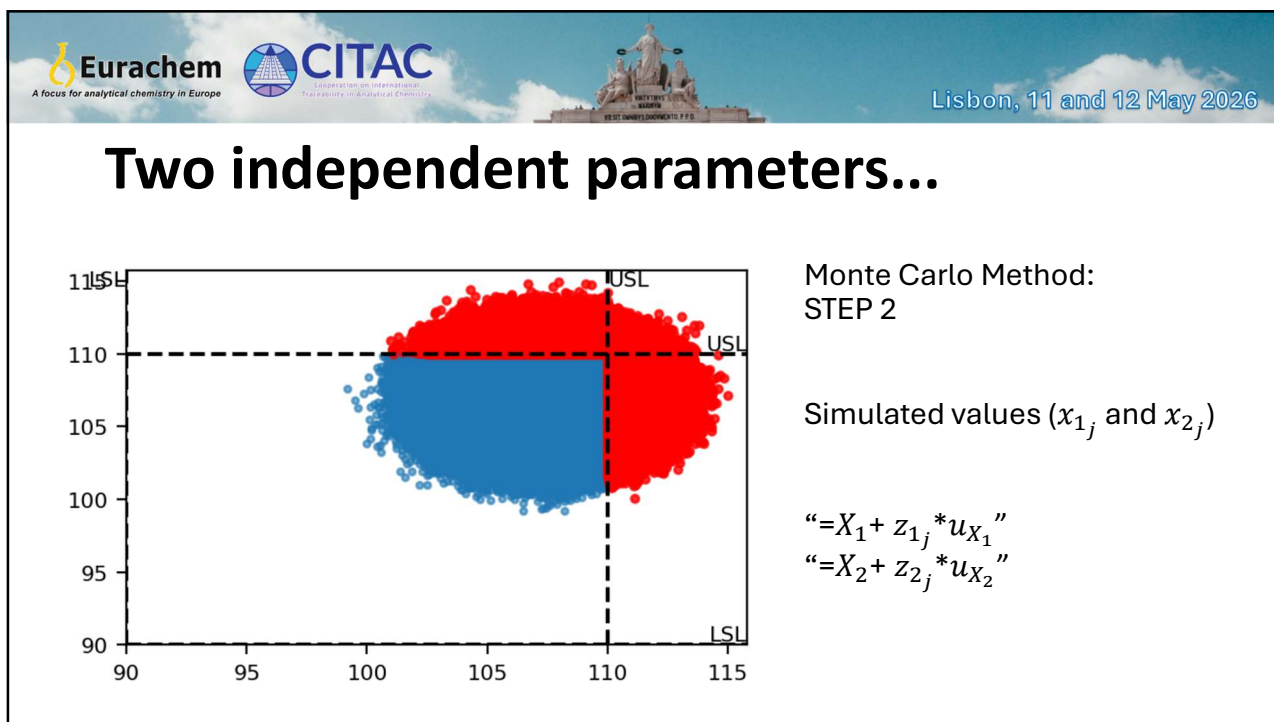
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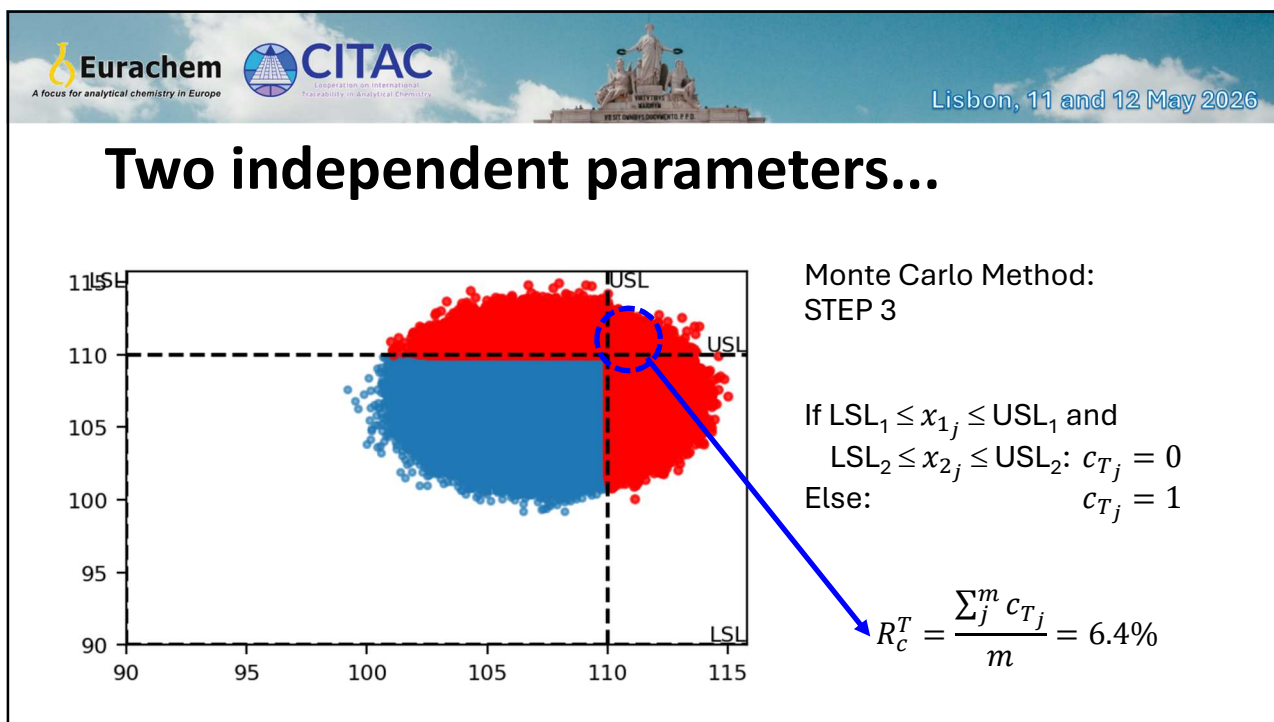
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Conformity with multiple parameters

- ✓ Parameters can be correlated due to:
 - intrinsic characteristics of the tested item or batch
 - the way the parameters are measured
- ✓ Considering a medicines with 2 APIs:
 - API 1: $107.4 \pm 3.0\%$ (Specification limits: 90-110%)
 - API 2: $107.0 \pm 3.0\%$ (Specification limits: 90-110%)
 - Assuming correlated ($r_{12} = 0.85$) parameters

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Two correlated parameters...

$R_{c_1} = 4.2\%$

$R_{c_1} = 2.3\%$

Particular risk values...

...will NOT be affected by correlation between parameters 1 and 2!

Total risk value...

...may be INCREASED or DECREASED due to correlation!

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Two correlated parameters...

$R_{c_1} = 4.2\%$

$R_{c_1} = 2.3\%$

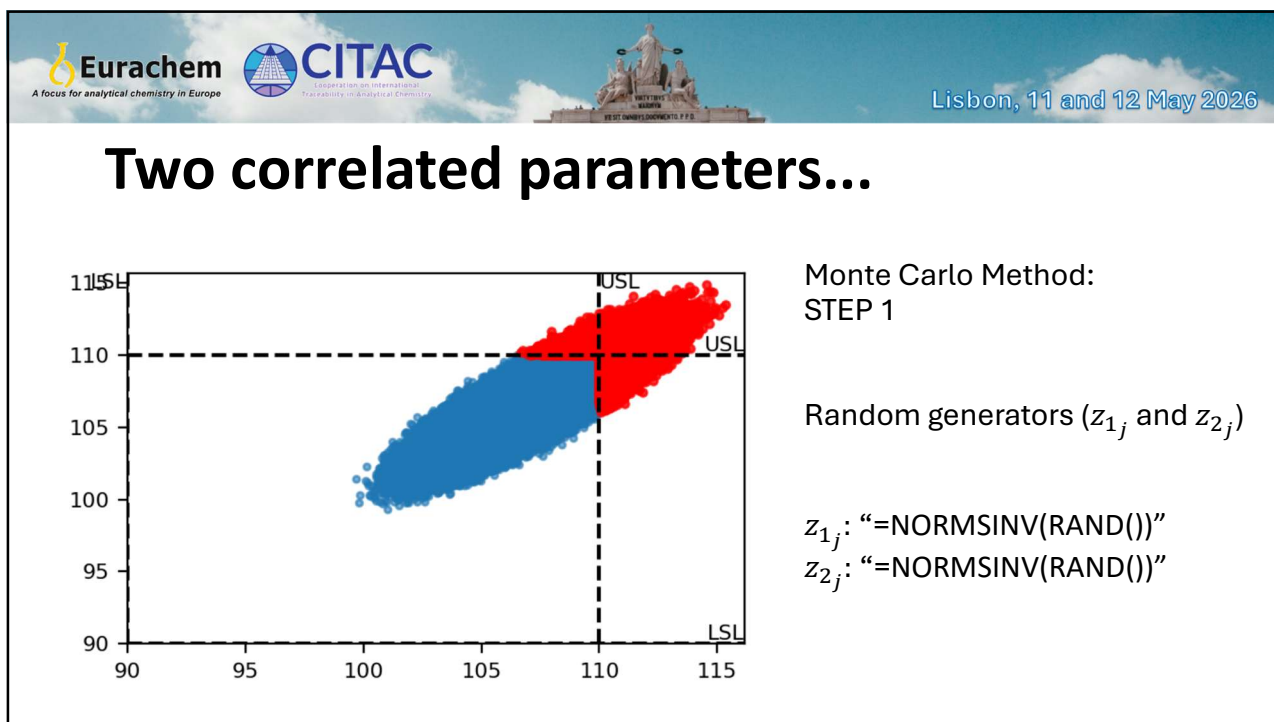
Total risk will be...

$$R_c^T = R_{c_1} + R_{c_2} - P(1 \cap 2)$$

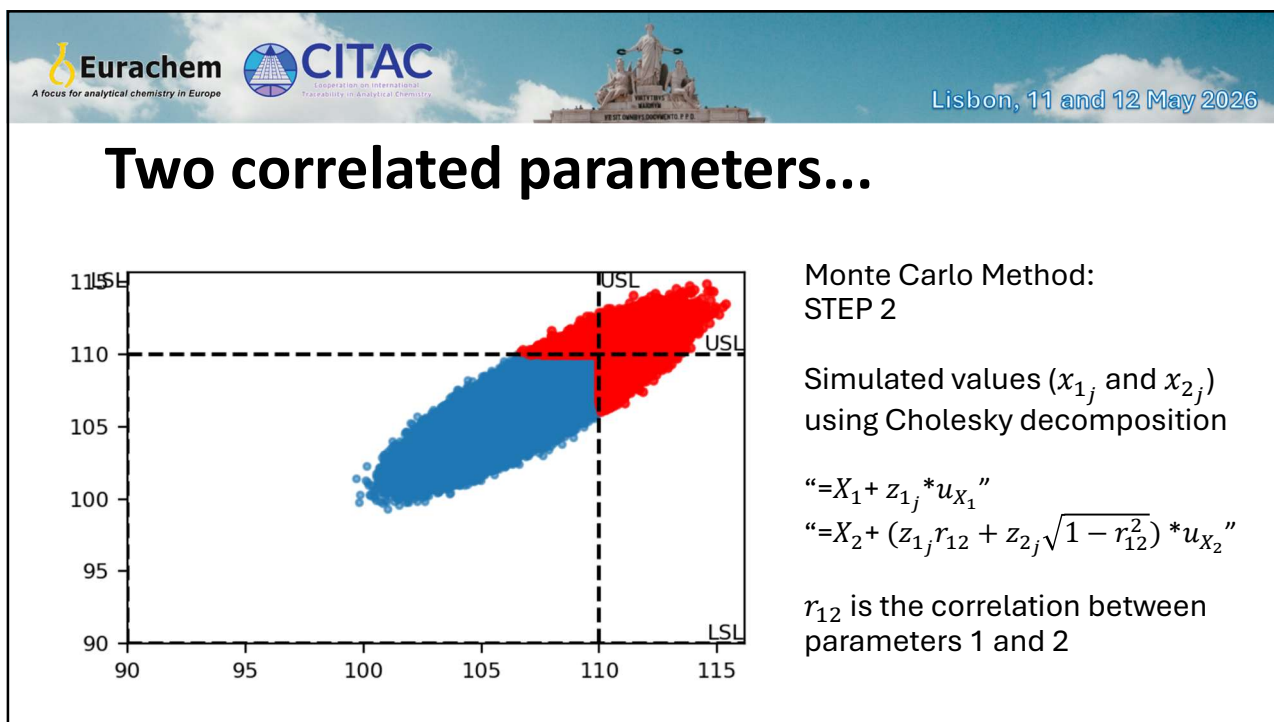
...HOWEVER, for correlated parameters:

$$P(1 \cap 2) \neq R_{c_1} \times R_{c_2}$$

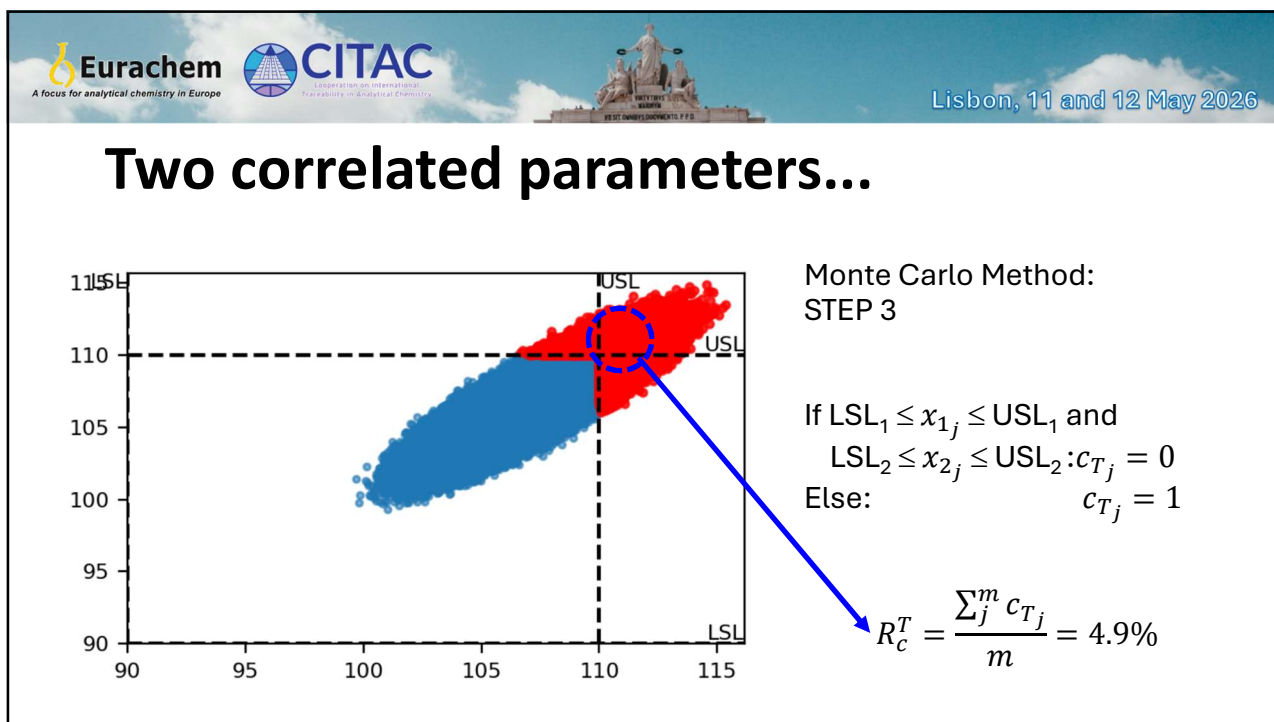
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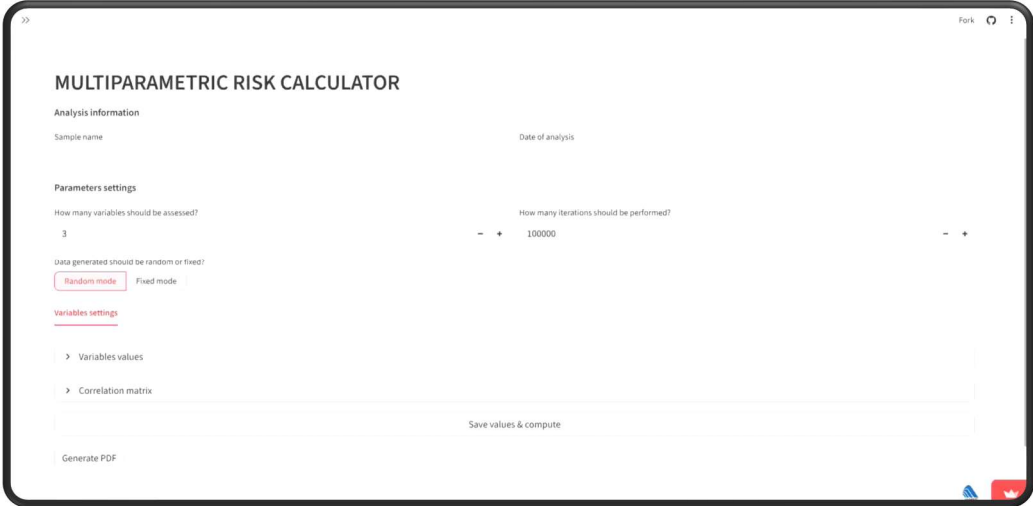
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Conformity with multiple parameters

- ✓ Conformity with more than two parameters
- ✓ Considering a medicine with 3 APIs:
 - ❑ API 1: 95 ± 4 mg/tablet (Specification limits: 90-110 mg/tablet)
 - ❑ API 2: 46 ± 2 mg/tablet (Specification limits: 45-55 mg/tablet)
 - ❑ API 3: 185 ± 6 mg/tablet (Specification limits: 180-220 mg/tablet)
 - ❑ Correlation matrix: $r_{12} = 0.8$, $r_{13} = 0$, and $r_{23} = 0$

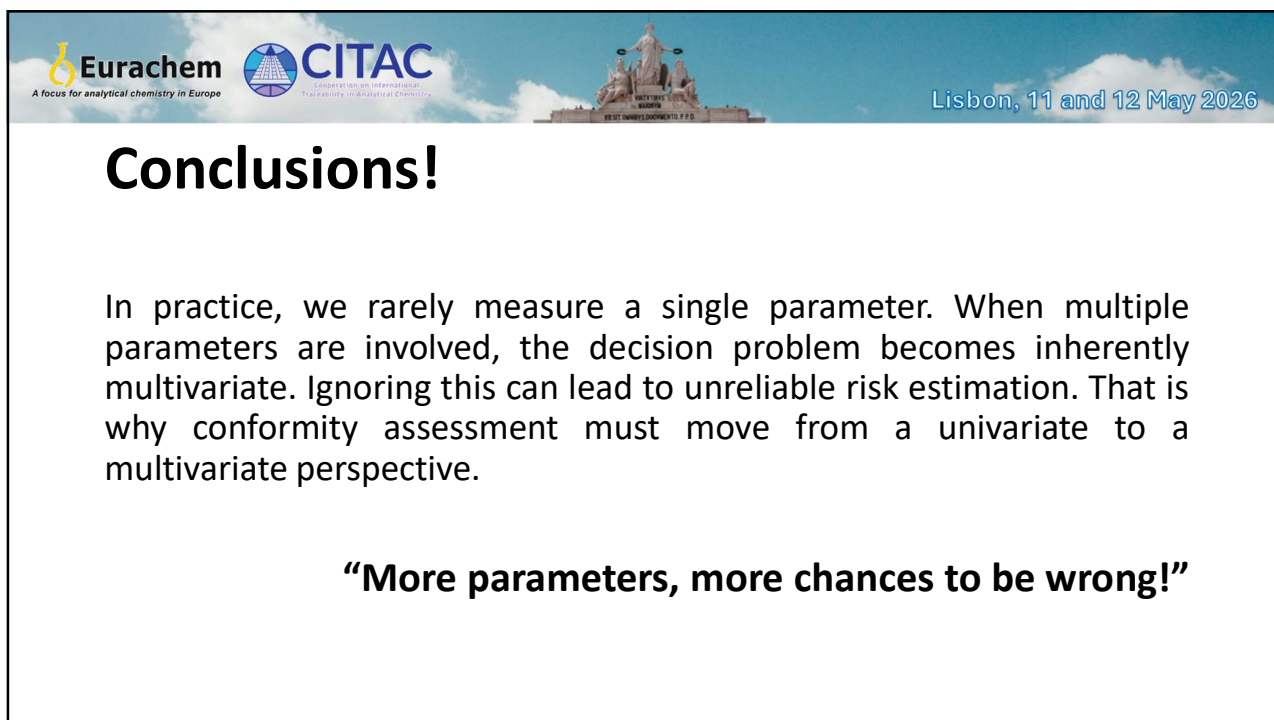
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The screenshot shows a web application titled "MULTIPARAMETRIC RISK CALCULATOR". The interface includes the following sections:

- Analysis information:** Fields for "Sample name" and "Date of analysis".
- Parameters settings:**
 - "How many variables should be assessed?" with a value of 3.
 - "How many iterations should be performed?" with a value of 100000.
 - "Data generated should be random or fixed?" with radio buttons for "Random mode" (selected) and "Fixed mode".
- Variables settings:**
 - > Variables values
 - > Correlation matrix
- A "Save values & compute" button.
- A "Generate PDF" button.

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Conclusions!

In practice, we rarely measure a single parameter. When multiple parameters are involved, the decision problem becomes inherently multivariate. Ignoring this can lead to unreliable risk estimation. That is why conformity assessment must move from a univariate to a multivariate perspective.

“More parameters, more chances to be wrong!”

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References

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THANKS!

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