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Bioaccumulation and molecular effects of carbamazepine and methylmercury co-exposure

in males of Dreissena polymorpha

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Abstract

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Dreissena polymorpha is a bivalve promising for biomonitoring in freshwater ecosystems thanks to its abundance and high filtration activity allowing rapid uptake of toxicants and identification of their negative effects. Nonetheless, we still lack knowledge on its molecular responses to stress under realistic scenario, e.g. multi-contamination. Carbamazepine (CBZ) and Hg are ubiquitous pollutants sharing molecular toxicity pathways, e.g. oxidative stress. A previous study in zebra mussels showed their co-exposure to cause more alterations than single exposures, but molecular toxicity pathways remained unidentified. D. polymorpha was exposed 24h (T24) and 72h (T72) to CBZ (6.1 \pm 0.1 μ g L⁻¹), MeHg (430 \pm 10 μ g L⁻¹) and the co-exposure (6.1±0.1 µg L⁻¹ CBZ and 500±10 ng L⁻¹ MeHg) at concentrations representative of polluted areas (~10x EQS). RedOx system at the gene and enzyme level, the proteome and the metabolome were compared. The co-exposure resulted in 108 differential abundant proteins (DAPs), as well as 9 and 10 modulated metabolites at T24 and T72, respectively. The co-exposure specifically modulated DAPs and metabolites involved in neurotransmission, e.q. dopaminergic synapse and GABA. CBZ specifically modulated 46 DAPs involved in calcium signaling pathways and 7 amino acids at T24. MeHg specifically modulated 55 DAPs proteins involved in the cytoskeleton remodeling and hypoxia-induced factor 1 pathway, without altering the metabolome. Single and co-exposures commonly modulated proteins and metabolites involved in energy and amino acid metabolisms, response to stress and development. Concomitantly, lipid peroxidation and antioxidant activities were unchanged, supporting that *D. polymorpha* tolerated experimental conditions. The co-exposure was confirmed to cause more alterations than single exposures. This was attributed to the combined toxicity of CBZ and MeHg. Altogether, this study underlined the necessity to better characterize molecular toxicity pathways of multi-contamination that are not predictable on responses to single exposures, to better anticipate adverse effects in biota and improve risk assessment.

Keywords: bivalve, freshwater, multi-omics, toxicity pathways

1. Introduction

In the context of environmental contamination, biomonitoring aims to assess environmental health to protect biota and linked ecosystem services. The zebra mussel *Dreissena polymorpha* (Pallas, 1771) is promising for freshwater biomonitoring and ecotoxicological studies (Kerambrun et al., 2016; Klimova et al., 2017; Louis et al., 2019, 2020; Hani et al., 2021; Baratange et al., 2022). This species is widely distributed, abundant, and sessile. Its high filtration activity results in the bioaccumulation of pollutants triggering biological responses that can be measured (Binelli et al., 2015). Nonetheless, a better understanding of the physiology of this mussel is a prerequisite for its efficient use in biomonitoring.

Recent omics techniques opened new research perspectives in stress biology and ecotoxicology, particularly in non-model biota (Gonzalez and Pierron, 2015; Gouveia et al., 2019). Proteomics and metabolomics identified molecular targets, molecular toxicity pathways of pollutants, and potential biomarkers relevant for biomonitoring (Armengaud et al., 2014; López-Pedrouso et al., 2020; Dumas et al., 2022a). Combining multi-omics approaches and targeted endpoints at different biological organization levels gives a holistic view of responses and appears particularly powerful to identify molecular toxicity pathways of pollutants (Brinke, 2017; Gouveia et al., 2019; Dumas et al., 2022a).

Here, we investigated molecular toxicity pathways of two ubiquitous pollutants in aquatic ecosystems: mercury (Hg) and carbamazepine (CBZ) (Andreu et al., 2016). CBZ is an anti-epileptic drug without European legislation, but Germany and the Netherlands recommended an environmental quality standard (EQS) of 0.5 µg L⁻¹ (EC, 2010; Kase, 2010; ETOX, 2011). Due to its limited biodegradation and elimination by wastewater treatment plants (Zhang et al., 2008; Calisto et al., 2011), CBZ is ubiquitous and was proposed as an indicator of the level of anthropogenic activities (Clara et al., 2004; Dvory et al., 2018). It reached up to 10 µg L⁻¹ in freshwaters (Verlicchi et al., 2012). Concentrations are expected to increase in the future, because of its wide use in human and veterinary medicine (Oldenkamp et al., 2019). The mode of action of CBZ in vertebrates was

suspected to target ion channels (Ambrósio et al., 2002). In bivalves, CBZ exposure triggered oxidative stress, defense responses and altered the energy metabolism at 1-10 μ g L⁻¹ range (Chen et al., 2014; Almeida et al., 2015; Baratange et al., 2022; Dumas et al., 2022b, Baali and Cosio, 2022). CBZ at 5 μ g L⁻¹ caused a delayed spermatogenesis in *D. polymorpha* (Magniez et al., 2018), suggesting reprotoxicity.

Hg is a metal ubiquitous in aquatic ecosystems due to natural and anthropogenic sources. It is included in the European list of priority pollutants (Directive 2008/105/EC) and targeted by the Minamata International Convention (Reg. EC 1881/2006; http://mercuryconvention.org/). The current EQS in Europe is 70 ng L⁻¹ of total Hg (Directive 2008/105/EC). Recently, up to 1-8 μg L⁻¹, representing more than 100x EQS, were reported in aquatic environment (Mahat et al., 2018; Zhou et al., 2018). Hg occurs mainly as inorganic Hg (IHg; HgII) or methylmercury (MeHg; CH₃HgII) forms in the aquatic environment. IHg in 10-30 μg L⁻¹ range was reported to cause oxidative stress, alter energy metabolism and defense responses in bivalves (Liu et al., 2011; Velez et al., 2016; Coppola et al., 2017). IHg-contaminated algae modulated seven proteins involved in reproductive function of *Crassostrea angulata*, suggesting reprotoxicity (Zhang et al., 2013). However, MeHg toxicity is of most concern due to its biomagnification in food webs (Kershaw and Hall, 2019) and lower depuration than IHg (Metian et al., 2020). In vertebrates, MeHg exposure resulted in alterations of the nervous system and cytoskeleton (Yadetie et al., 2016; Pierozan et al., 2017). In gills of *D. polymorpha*, exposure to 280 ng L⁻¹ MeHg 7d caused antioxidant responses and cellular damages (Baratange et al., 2022).

CBZ and Hg have been found in common sites in aquatic environments (e.g. Zhang et al., 2017). Both alter similar molecular toxicity pathways in biota. Their co-exposure in *D. polymorpha* caused more effects than single exposures (Todgham and Stillman, 2013; Baratange et al., 2022). Besides, effects observed in the co-exposure were unpredictable based on the bioaccumulation and effects caused by single exposures (Baratange et al., 2022). In this context, a better insight into the

molecular toxicity pathways of CBZ and Hg in single and co-exposures is needed for a better anticipation of adverse effects in complex exposure scenarios. Because gender modulates responses (Ji et al., 2013, Ji et al., 2014), we exposed males of *D. polymorpha* to CBZ, MeHg and their co-exposure at nominal concentrations representative of polluted areas (10x EQS; 5 µg L⁻¹ and 700 ng L⁻¹, respectively), tolerated by *D. polymorpha* in previous analysis (Baratange et al., 2022). We analyzed biological responses using untargeted proteomics at 24h (T24) combined with targeted metabolomics, antioxidant responses at gene and protein levels, lipid peroxidation and pollutant bioaccumulation at T24 and 72h (T72), to account for kinetics response that might differ among the different organization levels spanning gene expression to metabolites. We performed a short exposure to gain knowledge on the mode of action and the molecular toxicity targets of CBZ, MeHg and the co-exposure in *D. polymorpha*.

2. Material and methods

2.1. Dreissena polymorpha collection and acclimation

About 1,000 individuals of *D. polymorpha* were collected from the "Lac du Der-Chantecoq" (Marne, France; 48° 36′ 22.02″ N, 4° 46′ 34.0″ E) in February 2020. Individuals of 22-28 mm-long were sorted and cleaned. Mussels were depurated one week in an aquarium filled with 9 L of spring water (Cristaline Aurèle, table S1) in darkness at 12 °C, corresponding to the field temperature when collected. Puncture with a syringe in gonads of 0.1 to 0.2mL was observed by microscopy (x200) to observe gametes, determine sex and select males. The index of sexual maturity (ISM) was determined on dissected gonad (n = 10) by flow cytometry as described in Magniez et al. (2018): 60% were in the pre-spawning stage (ISM = 3.5 to 4.7) and 40% in gametogenesis (ISM = 2.5 to 3.5), with an average ISM of 3.6 ± 0.2 . 360 males were acclimated at 12 °C in darkness for two weeks in 9 L of local spring water. Males were randomly dispatched into 8 aquaria with 45 individuals per aquarium and 3.375 L of spring water and further kept in darkness at 12°C for 7d. During this acclimation,

mussels were fed with *Nannochloropsis spp.* (Nanno 3600, Instant Algae) using $2\cdot 10^6$ of algal cells per individual per day. Water was continuously aerated (> 80% O_2) and renewed twice a week.

2.2. Experimental design

Temperature, feeding and mussel density used during acclimation were maintained for exposures in semi-static conditions. Water was renewed and spiked daily or not (control, Ctl), with carbamazepine (CBZ), methylmercury (MeHg) and the co-exposure CBZ+MeHg. Two aquaria were spiked for each exposure. One was analyzed at 24h (T24), and the other at 72h (T72). No mortality was recorded during the experiment.

The effective concentrations of CBZ and MeHg were determined by sampling and filtering (0.45 µm, Sterivex) 10 mL of water collected daily immediately after spiking (n=1 per tank and per timepoint). Temperature, pH, conductivity and oxygen concentration, nitrate, nitrite, and ammonium were respectively analyzed daily with a multimeter (MU 6100H, VWR) and by spectrophotometry following the manufacturer protocol (Permachem) in a sample of 50 mL water taken just before the water renewal (n=1).

At T24, five mussels were deshelled, snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C for proteogenomics analyses. The other endpoints were analyzed at T24 and T72. For bioaccumulation analyses, 9 mussels were deshelled, rinsed with spring water and the whole soft tissues kept at -80 °C. For metabolomics analyses, 8 mussels were frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -20 °C. For qPCR and biochemical analyses, 16 mussels were dissected, and digestive glands, gills and gonads frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C.

2.3. Pollutant analysis

2.3.1. Carbamazepine

Water aliquots were frozen until analysis. Samples were 10x enriched through centrifugal vacuum evaporation at 37 °C using a Genevac HT Series (SP Scientific). This preparation step was validated using CBZ standards and control solutions that were systematically concentrated in parallel to samples. A High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) system (Agilent technologies, 1260 Infinity), consisting of a quaternary pump and a photodiode array detector, allowed the measure of CBZ concentrations from water samples. To elute the analytes (20 μ L), a mobile phase containing acetonitrile (A) and ultra-pure water (ALPHA Q 18.2 M Ω cm⁻¹) with orthophosphoric acid (0.1%) (B) was used on a reverse-phase Agilent Pursuit XRs 5 C₁₈ column (5 μ m x 250 x 3 mm) at 20 °C. CBZ was measured at 214 nm after the elution at a flow rate of 0.80 mL min⁻¹ in gradient condition from 35/65% to 100/0% (v/v) A/B. Analyses were performed in triplicate.

Soft tissues were freeze-dried (48h at 0.3 mbar; Vacuubrand GMBH) and grinded for 8min at 30 Hz (MM400, Retsch) with one 8 mm stainless steel bead. After weighing, the dry tissue was resuspended in 10 mL acetonitrile, 200 μ L n-heptane and 2.5 mL ammonium acetate (0.4 M). The supernatant was recovered by centrifugation (1,620 g, 10min), concentrated under nitrogen flux evaporation at 40 °C, resuspended in the eluent solution, and 10 μ L of the samples injected into the UPLC-MS/MS (Acquity UPLC Xevo TQ-MS system, Waters). The concentration was determined for each sample by using a standard curve from 0.5 to 12 ng mL⁻¹ CBZ, and by adding an internal standard of 50 ng mL⁻¹ CBZ-d₁₀ in the samples. The quality of the analyses was validated by analyzing blanks.

2.3.2. Methylmercury

Water aliquots were acidified with 0.5% v/v HCl (Suprapur, Merck), and kept at 4 °C until analyzed. Whole soft tissues were freeze-dried, weighed and ground for 8min at 30 Hz (MM400, Retsch) by an 8 mm stainless steel bead and digested in 30% v/v HNO₃ (Suprapur, Merck) for 12h at 60 °C. MeHg concentration was analyzed by MERX-M (Brooks Rand Instruments) following MeHg

procedure (US EPA 1630, 2001). The analytical quality was validated by analyzing blanks and certified reference materials (DORM-4, TORT-2; NRC – CNRC).

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2.4. Shotgun proteomics

2.4.1. Data acquisition

Whole soft tissues were freeze-dried and grinded by bead-beating with two 2 mm-diameter steel beads in a Precellys instrument (Bertin) operated for 3 times 20s at 5,000 rpm. The powder was pelleted by centrifugation for 1min at 1,500 g, weighted, and dissolved in 12.5 μL of LDS1X (Thermo) per mg of powder. The mixture was subjected to bead-beating for 6 cycles of 20s at 7,200 rpm, followed by 30s of ultrasonication with a Hielscher UP50H sonicator operated at 90% amplitude, and then 4 cycles of bead-beating at 6,500 rpm. Each sample was centrifuged for 3min at 10,000 g to eliminate debris and the resulting supernatant was diluted by 7 volumes of LDS1X. After denaturation of the proteins for 5min at 99 °C, 30 µL were subjected to denaturing electrophoresis on a NuPAGE 4-12% gradient gel ran in MES buffer (Thermo) for 5min as recommended (Hartmann et al., 2014). Each proteome was processed as a single polyacrylamide gel slice and proteolyzed with trypsin (Promega) in presence of 0.01% ProteaseMAX surfactant (Promega) as described by Hartmann et al. (2014). The resulting peptides (2 μL out of 50 μL) were analyzed with a Q-Exactive HF mass spectrometer (Thermo) operated in data-dependent mode using parameters previously described (Klein et al., 2016). Peptides were resolved on an Acclaim PepMap100 C18 (3 μm, 100 Å, 75 μ m id x 50 cm) at a flow rate of 0.2 μ L per min along a 90 min gradient of acetonitrile in presence of 0.1% formic acid (3.2%-20% in 75min and then 20%-32% in 15min). A dataset of 1,472,640 highresolution MS/MS spectra was recorded. The dataset was queried with the MASCOT software (MatrixScience) in follow-up mode against two complementary databases: a RNA-seq derived database named Dreissena_HJ1_pep_20170801.fasta, and then the Dreissena polymorpha Cosio300seq 2020-11-11.fasta listing 300 additional protein sequences. A protein was considered as significantly modulated if |TFOLD|≥1.40 and p-value<0.05. A total of 162 differential abundant proteins (DAPs) were detected when comparing pollutant exposures to the Ctl. The mass spectrometry and proteomics datasets acquired on samples are available through the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE partner repository, with the dataset identifier PXD040345 and 10.6019/PXD040345 [The reviewers may access this currently private dataset using https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pride/ website with the username as reviewer_pxd040345@ebi.ac.uk and password as aRt4WSai] (tables S2 and S3).

2.4.2. Protein annotation and enrichment analyses

The dataset showed 2,722 proteins with at least seven spectral counts that were annotated by homology with the EggNOG v5.0 software (http://eggnog5.embl.de) using default parameters (auto adjust per query, transfer annotation from any ortholog, E-value threshold set at 10⁻³, minimum of 40% identity and of 20% of query and subject coverage). Identified proteins were analyzed with Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway database and gene ontologies (GO) terms using WEB-based GEne SeT AnaLysis Toolkit (WebGestalt; http://www.webgestalt.org/) for enrichment analysis (table S4), as it offers the possibility to use our dataset of 2,722 proteins as background list. To identify the most relevant KEGG pathways or GO terms, redundancy reduction was performed applying a weighted set cover (p-value<0.05, and ≥2 DAPs). Eventually, non-relevant pathways for *D. polymorpha* were removed from the output (*e.g.* fluid shear stress and atherosclerosis, ko05418). For each protein, the ratio of normalized spectral abundance factor (%NSAF) of KEGG pathways and GO terms was calculated as the sum of spectral counts in the five replicates normalized by its molecular mass in kDa divided by the sum of all NSAF values measured in the exposure condition as previously described (Christie-Oleza et al., 2012).

2.5. Targeted metabolomics

Freeze-dried soft tissues of animals were collected from shells and weighed. Then, metabolites were extracted by adding a volume of 900 μ L of a solution of ice-cold methanol / chloroform (2/1, v/v), and the samples were homogenized with a bead-beater (Retsch TM MM301) with two tungsten beads (3 mm diameter) in a 2 mL microtube. The extracts were kept at -20 °C overnight, grinded again at 25 Hz for 90s. A volume of 600 μ L of ultrapure water (18.2 M Ω cm⁻¹) was added in each extract. After homogenization, samples were centrifuged (4,000 g, 10min, 4 °C), and the supernatant, containing metabolites, was collected and kept at -20 °C until analyses.

Three different aliquots of 180, 120 or 90 μ L were pipetted from samples having dry masses of 50 – 90 mg, 90 – 150 mg, and > 150 mg, respectively to reliably detect and quantify metabolites. Extracts were transferred into 300 μ L glass vials and dried for 1h at 32 °C (Genevac, miVac DNA). Dry residues were resuspended in 30 μ L of methoxyamine hydrochloride (Sigma-Aldrich, 25 mg L⁻¹) in pyridine (Fisher chemical), and automatically homogenized at 40 °C for 60min, before adding 30 μ L of N,O-Bis(trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide (BSTFA, Sigma-Aldrich) followed by incubation at 40 °C for 60min. A volume of 1 μ L of the supernatant was injected in the Agilent 7890/5977B GC/MS platform. We used the equipment and settings described by Thiébaut et al. (2021). Chromatograms were established and analyzed using the software provided by the manufacturer (MS Quantitative Analysis, Quant-My-Way, Agilent B09.00). Standard samples included 62 reference compounds at 1-2-5-10-20-50-100-200-500-750-1,000-1,500 μ M. Quadratic calibration allowed to accurately annotate and quantify 31 metabolites in samples (tables S5, S6, S7).

2.6. Gene expression level

The relative gene expression level of catalase (cat), glutathione-s-transferase (gst), superoxide dismutase (sod) and metallothionein (mt) was analyzed in digestive glands, gills and gonads using actine (act) and ribosomal protein S3 (ps3) as reference genes (table S8). Digestive glands are important detoxifying organs for chemical exposure, gills are directly exposed to the media, and

gonads are essential to ensure the species reproduction, *i.e.* for the survival. RNA was extracted with TRI Reagent (Euromedex) following the manufacturer protocol. Quality and quantity of RNA were determined by electrophoresis on 1% agarose gel in Tris Borate EDTA (TBE; 0.5%) buffer and with Nanodrop (Jenway). Reverse transcription (RT) was performed using 400 ng RNA with the verso cDNA synthesis kit (Thermo Scientific) and oligodT primers, with a PCR Mastercycle (Eppendorf) at 42°C for 1h followed by 3min at 95°C. Quantitative polymerization chain reactions (qPCR) were conducted with 3 μ L of 1/10 diluted cDNA and Absolute Blue qPCR SYBR Green (Thermo Scientific), using a CFX96 automaton (BioRad; 95°C 15min, 40 cycles 95°C 10s, 60°C 45s) following the $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ method (Schmittgen and Livak, 2008).

2.7. Biochemical analyses

To distinguish targets of sections 2.6. and 2.7., thereafter gene expression levels are mentioned in lowercase, while enzyme activities are written in uppercase. We determined the protein concentration, GST activity, lipid hydroperoxides (LOOH) resulting from lipid peroxidation, CAT activity, SOD activity and MT abundance in digestive glands, gills and gonads as described in Baratange et al. (2022). Briefly, tissues were weighed and suspended (8/1 v/w) in phosphate buffer pH 7.4 (50mM, VWR), phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF 1mM, Sigma-Aldrich) and L-serine borate (1mM, Sigma-Aldrich) as protease inhibitors, grinded at 30 Hz for 90s three times by an 8 mm stainless steel bead and centrifuged 15min at 3,000g (4 °C). The supernatant (= homogenate) was collected and kept at -80 °C until analysis.

The automated spectrophotometer Gallery (Thermo Scientific) was used to determine the protein concentration, GST activity and LOOH. Protein concentration was measured at 600 nm after a 5min reaction by the colorimetric method of red Pyrogallol and 1/6 (v/v) of the homogenate, using calibration curve from bovine serum sCal (66.7 μ g L⁻¹) diluted 50 to 200x and protein reagents U/CSF from the manufacturer (Thermo Scientific). GST activity was measured at 340 nm for 4min through

the conjugation of 0.9mM CDNB with 1mM reduced glutathione in 0.1M phosphate buffer pH 6.5, and 1/40 (v/v) of the homogenate. LOOH concentration was determined at 620 nm after a 30min reaction on 1/46 (v/v) of the homogenate, 139mM Fe II D-gluconate dehydrate and 240mM orange xylenol, in acidic solution of H_2SO_4 40mM, glycerol 1.37M, formic acid 20mM and NaCl 0.9%, with tert-butyl hydroperoxide (TBH) at 0.125, 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16µM for calibration.

CAT activity was measured by a spectrophotometer (Cary 50, Agilent, Australia) through the degradation of 14 mM H_2O_2 (Sigma-Aldrich) at 240 nm for 120s on 1/100 (v/v) of the homogenate for digestive glands, and 1/50 (v/v) of the homogenate for gills and gonads in 50mM phosphate buffer pH 7.4, using a calibration curve from purified bovine serum CAT at 1.25, 2.5, 5, 10, 15 and 20 U mL⁻¹.

SOD activity was measured by a spectrophotometer (Spark 10M, TECAN, Austria) after 20min reaction in darkness, at 340 nm for 30min on 1/85 (v/v) of the homogenate for digestive glands, and 1/43 (v/v) of the homogenate for gills and gonads, with 2.35mM EDTA dihydrate, 1.17mM MnCl₂, 1mM β -mercaptoethanol, 0.28mM β -NADH in 50mM phosphate buffer pH 7.4. The inhibition of β -NADH oxidation was followed, and activity was determined in the linear range, using a calibration curve from purified bovine serum SOD at 0.125, 0.25, 0.35, 0.5 and 0.7 U mL⁻¹.

MT concentration was measured with a polarograph (797 VA Computrace Metrohm) by sulfhydryl groups (-SH) determination, as described by Thompson and Cosson (1984). The homogenate was heat-shocked 15min at 75°C, kept 10min at 4 °C, centrifuged 10min at 15,000 g (4 °C), and the supernatant collected. Analyses were performed at 4 °C in a thermostated cell containing 10 mL Bridcka reagent, 150 μ L of Triton solution, and 30 μ L (digestive glands) or 60 μ L (gonads) of the supernatant. Concentrations were determined using a calibration curve of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 μ g standard MT from liver's rabbit (Sigma).

2.8. Data interpretation and statistical analysis

Data are presented as arithmetic mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). A bioaccumulation factor (BAF; L kg⁻¹) of MeHg and CBZ was calculated by dividing the concentration in mussels (μ g kg⁻¹) by the effective concentration in water (μ g L⁻¹). We applied two-way ANOVA analyses to test if exposure and/or time significantly altered bioaccumulation, gene expression level, biochemical responses and metabolome. We applied one-way ANOVA to test if exposure significantly altered proteome in Rstudio software (v 4.0.3.; α = 5%; table S9). Normality and homoscedasticity of residuals was checked by Kolmogorov-Smirnov's and Bartlett's tests, respectively. We considered a biological effect if p-value<0.05, and the fold change (FC)≥1.20 and ≤0.83 for gene expression level and biochemical analyses and FC≥1.40 and ≤0.71 for proteogenomic and metabolomic.

Venn diagram was performed with InteractiVenn (Heberle et al., 2015), while principal component analysis (PCA) and partial least square discriminant analyses (PLS-DAs) were performed using Metaboanalyst (www.metaboanalyst.ca). Heatmaps were constructed using Metaboanalyst to cluster individuals with average method and measure of Euclidean distance. Pathway analyses on modulated metabolites were performed with Metaboanalyst using KEGG database in October 2019 (p-value<0.05, and ≥2 metabolites).

3. Results

3.1. Water analyses

Effective concentrations of carbamazepine (CBZ; $6.1\pm0.1~\mu g~L^{-1}$), methylmercury (MeHg; $430\pm10~n g~L^{-1}$) and the co-exposure ($6.1\pm0.1~\mu g~L^{-1}$ CBZ; $500\pm10~n g~L^{-1}$ MeHg) and control (Ctl) were stable from the beginning to the end of the exposure (n=3) and represented 12x the recommended EQS for CBZ (ETOX 2011) and 7x EQS for Hg in Europe (Directive 2008/105/EC; figure S1). Water analysis showed stable chemical parameters with similar values for all exposures and time points: temperature $12.1\pm0.3~C$, pH 8.5 ± 0.1 , conductivity $500\pm20~\mu S~cm^{-1}$, oxygen saturation $75.8\pm0.1~\%$

 O_2 , nitrates 9 ± 1 mg L^{-1} , nitrites 0.10 ± 0.02 mg L^{-1} and ammonium 0.04 ± 0.02 mg L^{-1} (figure S1).

3.2. Bioaccumulation

CBZ and MeHg in single and co-exposure at 24h (T24) and 72h (T72), showed a significant bioaccumulation (respectively: p<2E⁻¹⁶ and p=1.7E⁻⁶) and a similar BAF across time (respectively: p=0.511 and p=0.143) (figure 1). No difference was observed between single and co-exposure for CBZ (p>0.1) and MeHg (p>0.1), suggesting that differences show inter-individual variability. MeHg resulted in BAF 44x to 96x higher than CBZ. The other pollutant was not bioaccumulated in single exposures (p>0.1).

3.3. Proteogenomics

The whole proteome of mussels at T24 by shotgun proteomics and the MS/MS spectra was interpreted using a RNA-seq derived database. Sequences of 4,892 proteins identified with at least one peptide were grouped into the database MS20-032_ProtSpec_2020-11-27 which comprises a total of 2,224,933 amino acid residues. This database was queried, resulting in the final assignment of 838,587 MS/MS spectra (FDR 1%). In total, 32,918 unique peptide sequences at high confidence (FDR below 1%) were identified. These peptides showed the presence of 4,375 proteins with at least one specific peptide, and a total of 3,183 with at least two peptides (table S2). Their functional annotation was obtained by sequence similarity search (table S3).

An average of 21,410 spectral counts was measured per sample. A cut-off of >6 spectral count abundances was used to select 2,722 proteins in the dataset, including 2,477 proteins (91%) with at least one GO-term or one KEGG pathway. Compared to Ctl, CBZ, MeHg and the co-exposure respectively showed 46, 55 and 108 differential abundant proteins (DAPs) by univariate analyses,

suggesting that the co-exposure caused more alterations than single exposures. CBZ (85%), MeHg (95%) and their co-exposure (97%) showed mainly DAPs more abundant than in Ctl. Only 7 DAPs were common in all exposures (figure 2), indicating an increase of the biosynthesis of proteins specific to each experimental condition. In the same line, PCA analyses of the 162 DAPs in at least one exposure discriminated exposures along the first component explaining 33.5% of the variability, and pollutants were differentiated along the second component explaining 12.4% of the variability (figure 2). The highest increase and decrease in abundance of the 162 DAPs vs Ctl (log₂ fold change FC) were <2, indicating limited protein modulations by pollutants (table 1). Annotations of DAPs in all exposures included proteins involved in response to stress, signal transduction, transcription and translation processes. Other DAPs modulated to CBZ and MeHg single exposures were involved in cytoskeleton (e.g. spectrin) while MeHg single exposure and the co-exposure modulated DAPs involved in intracellular transport. This analysis also identified uncharacterized proteins (7.4%), underlining the need to gain knowledge on the biology and stress responses of *D. polymorpha*.

Enrichment analyses of KEGG pathways and GO-terms confirmed that the co-exposure CBZ+MeHg caused more alterations than single exposures in *D. polymorpha*, shown by a higher %NSAF and a higher number of DAPs per enriched pathway (figure 2). The co-exposure modulated DAPs involved in transcription processes (*e.g.* eukaryotic translation initiation factor 3 complex), intracellular transport, and signaling pathway such as MAPK (mitrogen activated protein kinases) cascade. CBZ exposure modulated DAPs involved in protein turnover (*e.g.* regulation of protein ubiquitination) and signal transduction, including the calcium signaling pathway. MeHg exposure modulated DAPs involved in cytoskeleton organization (*e.g.* barbed-end actin filament capping) and signaling pathway, including the hypoxia-inducible factor 1 (HIF-1) and Toll and Imd signaling pathways. All exposures modulated DAPs involved in amino acid metabolism, energy metabolism, cellular development, signal transduction and response to stress (figure 2). However, most enriched GO-terms and KEGG pathways were specific to each exposure, in congruence with the Venn diagram and PCA analysis (figure 2).

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3.4. Targeted metabolomics

At T24, univariate analyses compared to CtI showed that CBZ exposure resulted in significant depletion of the amount of 5 metabolites, while the co-exposure resulted in a significant increase decrease of the concentration of one metabolite (p<0.05, figure 3, tables S4 and S5). Increase or decrease in metabolite amounts in exposures compared to CtI (\log_2 FC) were ≤ 2.1 , indicating limited metabolite modulations in our experimental conditions (figure 3). At T72, no modulation was measured.

A high individual variability (figure 3) could mask modulations of metabolites, thus limiting the power of univariate approaches. Consequently, multivariate analyses were favored and will be further discussed. PCA analyses did not discriminate metabolic profiles of exposures, hence PLS-DAs were performed (figure 4). The metabolic profiles in both CBZ and the co-exposure were different from Ctl at T24, and the latter at T72. These results further supported that the co-exposure triggered more alterations than single exposures. At T24, CBZ and Ctl were mostly discriminated by component 1, while the co-exposure and Ctl were discriminated by component 2. Metabolites with a VIP score>1.0 (i.e. most discriminant metabolites) and FC>1.4 suggested that CBZ and the co-exposure resulted in the alteration of the concentration of 7 and 9 metabolites, respectively. At T72, the coexposure and Ctl were discriminated along components 1 and 2, with 10 metabolites modulated compared to Ctl. At both timepoints, modulated metabolites were involved in aminoacyl-tRNA biosynthesis (p<0.01), valine, leucine and isoleucine biosynthesis and degradation (p<0.05). CBZ exposure at T24 caused the specific alteration of glycine, serine and threonine metabolism (p<0.01) and biotin metabolism (p<0.05). The co-exposure at both timepoints caused the alteration of pantothenate and CoA biosynthesis (p<0.01). At T24, the co-exposure altered alanine, arginine, aspartate, glutamate, proline metabolism (p<0.05), arginine biosynthesis (p<0.01), and at T72 glycerolipid metabolism (p<0.01).

Omics and targeted analyses revealed molecular toxicity pathways triggered by single and co-exposures (figure 5). Single exposures and co-exposure at T24 and the co-exposure at T72 caused the modulation of amino acid metabolism, energy metabolism, and protein turnover. At T24, single and co-exposures altered the cellular development and response to stress. Globally, data confirmed that the co-exposure caused more alterations than single exposures.

3.5. Lipid peroxidation and defense responses

We analyzed defense responses at the gene and enzyme level and lipid peroxidation in digestive glands, gills and gonads. No significant modulation *vs* Ctl was evidenced (p>0.05; table 2), supporting that MT and defense background level in *D. polymorpha* were efficient to tolerate Hg in our experimental conditions.

3.6. Link of biological endpoints and pollutant bioaccumulation

In our experimental conditions, no obvious correlation of bioaccumulation with biological effects was observed in *D. polymorpha*: the co-exposure did not significantly change bioaccumulation (p>0.1), while proteomics and metabolomics showed a higher number of significant modulations *vs* Ctl.

4. Discussion

4.1. Specific molecular toxicity pathways

Carbamazepine (CBZ) exposure to concentration representative of contaminated areas caused a specific enrichment of proteins involved in the KEGG pathway "calcium signaling". Similarly, in digestive glands of *Mytilus galloprovincialis*, exposure to 1 μ g L⁻¹ CBZ 28d resulted in a significant

modulation of the expression of genes involved in calcium ion binding, sodium ion transport, and potassium channels (Mezzelani et al., 2021). In the same line, injection of 1 mg CBZ kg⁻¹ in the fish *Solea senegalensis* caused an increase of up to 3x of Na⁺, K⁺-ATPase activity and 1.1x osmolality at 48h, supporting an alteration of osmoregulation (Seifter and Chang, 2017; González-Mira et al., 2016, 2018). Because ion balance is instrumental to maintain osmotic homeostasis, their modulation may result in alterations of osmoregulation and cellular homeostasis (Seifter and Chang, 2017). Here, CBZ exposure resulted in the depletion of six amino acids at 24h (T24). As free amino acids are important osmoregulators in mollusks, this decrease may alter osmotic homeostasis (Viant et al., 2003). In addition, KEGG pathway "choline metabolism" was enriched. Choline is a precursor of betaine, another osmoregulator (Ueland, 2011). As such, Ca²⁺ channels might be an early toxicity target of CBZ in *D. polymorpha*, supporting a similar mode of action of CBZ than in vertebrates (Ambrósio et al., 2002; von Borstel Smith et al., 2007; Fabbri and Franzellitti, 2016).

Besides, Ca²⁺ is an important secondary messenger (Liu et al., 2007; Puri, 2020), and CBZ exposure at T24 caused the depletion of seven proteinogenic amino acids and the enrichment of differential abundant proteins (DAPs) involved in protein turnover, *e.g.* "negative regulation of protein ubiquitination". Similarly, in digestive glands of males of *M. galloprovincialis*, exposure to 0.08 and 8 μg L⁻¹ 3d caused a higher abundance of proteins involved in RNA transcription and protein translation (Dumas et al., 2022b). As such, CBZ appeared here to alter signal transduction, and modulate protein abundance, most likely to cope with the pollutant.

Methylmercury (MeHg) exposure to a concentration representative of contaminated areas resulted in the enrichment of the "epithelium development", "positive regulation of nematode larval development" and "barbed-end actin filament capping", suggesting an alteration of cytoskeleton and cellular development. MeHg was previously shown to cause an increase of DAPs involved in cytoskeleton up to 55x in *Gammarus fossarum* exposed by diet to 20 μg L⁻¹ MeHg 7d (Cosio et al., 2021). As such, the cytoskeleton appeared as a toxicity target of MeHg in *D. polymorpha*, supporting

a similar mode of action than the one reported in vertebrates (Secor et al., 2011; Yadetie et al., 2016). Although 55 DAPs were observed, no significant modulation appeared at the metabolome level, suggesting that proteome modulations were sufficient to deal with MeHg in our experimental conditions.

The co-exposure caused the specific enrichment of "dopaminergic synapse" and the depletion of GABA at T24, suggesting neurotoxicity. GABA is an inhibitor neurotransmitter which can regulate dopamine neurotransmission (Bak et al., 2006). In *Corbicula fluminea* 0.5 µg L⁻¹ CBZ 30d modulated 3 genes coding for one GABA transporter and two GABA receptors in gonads, the mantle and digestive glands (Chen et al., 2021). Hg is known to alter the regulation of GABA amount in vertebrates (Fitsanakis and Aschner, 2005). GABA is involved in reproduction, notably steroidogenesis (Maguire et al., 2005) and spermatogenesis in scallops (Watanabe et al., 2014; Nagasawa et al., 2015). In *Mytilus edulis*, analyses along seasons showed that GABA was linked to the gonadal development (Kronberg et al., 2021). Similarly, the co-exposure might cause reprotoxicity in *D. polymorpha*: 5 µg L⁻¹ CBZ 15 weeks delayed spermatogenesis (Magniez et al., 2018). Nonetheless, here no DAP was involved in spermatogenesis. As such, data underlined the need for more studies targeting gonads.

4.2. Common molecular toxicity pathways

CBZ and MeHg single and co-exposures did not significantly modulate antioxidant system. MeHg and the co-exposure increased 1.6x the abundance of GST2 at the proteome level at T24, without significant modulation in GST enzyme activity level. This suggested ROS production, as expected for MeHg and CBZ exposure, and that observed increase in protein abundance likely happened to maintain cellular functions. In *Chlamys farreri* exposure to 50 ng L⁻¹ IHg 96h decreased 1.2x CAT and 1.5x GPx activities in digestive glands but did not cause a lipid peroxidation (Zhang et al., 2010). In the same line, in *Cerastoderma edule*, exposure to 5 µg L⁻¹ CBZ 48h increased 2x the ROS production (H₂O₂) without significant change in SOD, CAT and GST activities (Jaouani et al., 2022). In copepods

Tigriopus japonicus and Paracyclina nana, exposure to 1 – 1000 ng L⁻¹ MeHg 24h increased 1.2 to 1.4x ROS levels and modulated the phosphorylation status of mitrogen activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathways (1.2 to 1.5x; Lee et al., 2017a, 2017b). Data globally supported an efficient basal level of antioxidant defenses in *D. polymorpha*. Unchanged antioxidant activities and LOOH abundance suggested that *D. polymorpha* tolerated our experimental conditions. In the same line, single and coexposure unchanged mt gene expression level. In *Caenorhabditis elegans*, exposure to 60 mg L⁻¹ MeHg 15h did not modulate mt gene expression, but a knockout mutant of mt-gene showed a higher sensitivity to MeHg (Helmcke and Aschner, 2010), supporting that background MT was instrumental for defense against MeHg. This could also be the case in *D. polymorpha*, here.

Single and co-exposures at T24 also caused a modulation of DAPs involved in protein turnover (e.g. transcription, translation) and amino acid metabolism, while CBZ at T24 and the co-exposure at both timepoints caused an alteration of proteinogenic amino acids. Similarly, in digestive glands of *M. galloprovincialis*, 80 ng L⁻¹ and 8 µg L⁻¹ CBZ 3d modulated proteins involved in amino acid metabolism and transcription/translation processes (Dumas et al., 2022b). Authors hypothesized an increase of protein biosynthesis due to a cellular stress (Dumas et al., 2022b). In adductor muscles of *Ruditapes philippinarum*, 20 µg L⁻¹ IHg 48h caused a reduction of alanine, arginine, branched-chain amino acids, glutamine, glutamate, glycine compared to Ctl (Liu et al., 2011). Globally, data suggested here that both CBZ and MeHg increased transcription and translation, most likely to fight against potential toxicity resulting from their bioaccumulation.

In aquatic invertebrates, amino acid consumption can produce energy in response to stress through an alternative pathway (Sokolova et al., 2012). Here single and co-exposures altered energy metabolism through amino acid, lipid and sugar consumption. CBZ, MeHg and the co-exposure at T24 caused a modulation of DAPs involved in the energy metabolism (e.g. "glucose homeostasis", "glycerolipid metabolism"). In addition, the co-exposure resulted in a depletion of fumaric acid and glyceric acid at T24, and an accumulation of glycerolipids (glycerol, glycerol-3-phosphate) and lactic

acid at T72. Fumaric acid is an important metabolite of TCA cycle; glyceric acid is involved in glycerolipid metabolism; and lactic acid is an end product of anaerobic pyruvate metabolism of glucose (De Zwaan and Dando, 1984). In the same line, "HIF signaling pathway" was enriched by MeHg single exposure, although oxygen saturation was stable in all exposures. HIF is a transcription factor maintaining cellular homeostasis in aquatic invertebrates in suboxic conditions (Giannetto et al., 2015). Similarly, in gills of *Mytilus galloprovincialis* in a Hg-polluted site in the Mediterranean Sea, hif-α gene expression was up-regulated 2.3x in comparison with a reference site (Maisano et al., 2017). In astrocytes of rat, 2 mg L⁻¹ MeHg 30 min down-regulated 2.2x the expression of hif-1α, together with a 1.5x decrease of cell proliferation (Chang et al., 2019). Here, shift from aerobic to anaerobic metabolism through HIF 1 signaling pathway in *D. polymorpha* most likely prevented cytotoxic effect of MeHg, that would have caused metabolome alteration that are not observed here. Thus, data here suggested a switch from TCA cycle to an anaerobic metabolism, particularly in the coexposure. Similarly, in adductor muscles of *R. philippinarum*, exposure to 20 μg L⁻¹ IHg 48h caused an accumulation of lactate and succinate, and a depletion of acetoacetate and ATP *vs* Ctl (Liu et al., 2011).

Data here supported that in *D. polymorpha* the co-exposure triggered more alterations than single exposures at concentrations representative of contaminated areas, although the zebra mussel appears to tolerate these experimental conditions. As bioaccumulation did not seem to be correlated to the number of molecular modulations, this is attributed to the combined molecular toxicity mechanisms of both pollutants. Similarly, in *D. polymorpha*, the co-exposure to 3.9 µg L⁻¹ CBZ + 280 ng L⁻¹ MeHg resulted in no significant modulation at T24 in single and the co-exposure, while 7d co-exposure caused a significant decrease of 25 metabolites involved in antioxidant, amino acid and energy metabolism (*e.g.* GSH metabolism, glycine, serine and threonine metabolism, galactose metabolism) (Baratange et al., 2022).

5. Conclusion

The present work combined several approaches at different biological organization levels to identify molecular toxicity pathways of CBZ and MeHg in *D. polymorpha* (figure 6). Alterations of amino acid metabolism, energy metabolism, development, and stress responses were common to the three exposures. In line with the initial hypothesis, the co-exposure caused more alterations than single exposures in *D. polymorpha*. Nonetheless, data showed a low-toxicity level, supporting that exposures were well tolerated by *D. polymorpha*. Untargeted proteogenomics identified proteins involved "calcium signaling pathway" for CBZ exposure, "HIF-1", and "Toll and Imd signaling pathways" for MeHg exposure and "dopaminergic synapse" for the co-exposure. These specific responses underlined the challenge to predict effects of a co-exposure based on responses observed in single exposures. As such, it is a priority to consider pollutant cocktails in future research, particularly at environmental concentrations, to better understand and anticipate the ecotoxicity of pollutants in more complex and realistic scenarios.

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Declaration of competing interests

The authors have no competing interests to declare.

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Table 1: List of the ten most increased and reduced proteins (\log_2 fold change vs Ctl; blastp, Swissprot) in D. polymorpha exposed to CBZ ($6.1 \pm 0.2 \mu g L^{-1}$), MeHg ($460 \pm 20 ng L^{-1}$) and the coexposure at T24. Significant differences vs Ctl appear in bold.

Functional annotation	%sequence	E-value	CBZ	MeHg	CBZ +
	identity				MeHg
Intracellular transport					
Importin-5	66.8%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.08	0.94	1.45
Protein transport protein Sec31A	59.5%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	0.77	1.26	1.20
Response to stress					
Calumenin-A-like	62.7%	9.3E ⁻¹³⁹	0.68	1.14	1.58
Cathepsin L1-like	45.2%	2.0E ⁻⁴⁰	0.26	0.68	1.49
Cathepsin L1 isoform X4	46.4%	1.1E ⁻⁷⁵	1.09	1.05	1.38
CD109 antigen-like	46.6%	2.8E ⁻³⁷	1.21	1.58	1.16
Cyclin-related protein FAM58A	56.1%	1.4E ⁻¹⁰²	-1.14	-0.65	-1.14
Signal transduction					
Guanine nucleotide-binding protein G(S)	84%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.00	1.22	1.42
subunit alpha					
Phosphotransferase 2.7.1	48.2%	3.9E ⁻³¹	0.49	1.49	0.85
Receptor protein-tyrosine kinase	35.2%	2.1E ⁻¹⁶	1.12	0.42	0.00
Transcription and translation					
Alanineglyoxylate aminotransferase	65.4%	4.2E ⁻¹⁸⁰	0.00	0.74	1.58
Cleavage and polyadenylation specificity	65.9%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.32	0.42	1.00
factor subunit 2					
Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 3	57.5%	2.4E ⁻⁸⁴	1.12	1.00	1.42
subunit J					

	Isoleucyl tRNA synthetase	48.2%	1.7E ⁻¹⁰⁴	1.14	1.68	0.68
	Pre-mRNA-splicing factor 3	63.9%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.68	0.85	0.85
	RNA-binding protein 4	67.2%	2.1E ⁻¹¹⁴	1.22	0.74	1.15
	SAP domain-containing protein	43.0%	7.1E ⁻⁴³	0.64	0.00	1.47
	THO complex subunit 1	54.6%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.00	1.32	1.50
	tRNA nucleotidyltransferase (CCA-adding	56.6%	7.3E ⁻¹⁶⁵	0.70	1.39	1.25
	enzyme)					
	Zinc finger ZZ-type and EF-hand domain-	56.7%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.14	0.85	1.38
	containing protein 1					
Ot	hers					
	3-hydroxyisobutyrate dehydrogenase	35.9%	6.9E ⁺⁰⁰	-1.51	-1.74	-0.74
	Multifunctional fusion protein	65.5%	7.1E ⁻¹¹⁴	1.26	0.68	1.68
	Por_secre_tail domain-containing protein	42.6%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.38	0.93	1.20
	Spectrin beta chain, non-erythrocytic 5	65.0%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.35	1.30	1.06
	Glutamate carboxypeptidase 2	48.4%	< 1E ⁻¹⁹⁹	1.14	0.49	0.00
Uncharacterized						
	Uncharacterized protein LOC116288423	40.0%	4.4E ⁻⁰⁴	1.00	1.86	-0.68
	Uncharacterized protein LOC116288423	41.5%	1.1E ⁻⁰⁴	0.42	1.81	-0.26

Table 2: Relative gene expression levels of cat, gst, sod and mt genes, enzyme activities of CAT (U mg prot⁻¹), GST (μ mol CDNB g prot⁻¹ min⁻¹), SOD (U mg prot⁻¹), abundance of MT (mg g prot⁻¹) and LOOH (μ mol TBH g prot⁻¹) in gonads, digestive glands, and gills of *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ (6.1 ± 0.2 μ g L⁻¹), MeHg (460 ± 20 ng L⁻¹), the co-exposure, and Ctl at T24 and T72 (mean±SEM, n = 3 to 8).

	Ctl		CBZ		Me	eHg	CBZ+MeHg		
	T24	T72	T24	T72	T24	T72	T24	T72	
GONADS									
cat	1.00±0.23	1.00±0.32	0.65±0.14	0.65±0.15	0.56±0.12	0.77±0.18	0.57±0.13	1.20±0.21	
gst	1.00±0.32	1.00±0.23	1.10±0.12	0.77±0.08	0.71±0.18	0.56±0.09	0.43±0.14	0.81±0.14	
sod	1.00±0.12	1.00±0.17	0.66±0.18	1.14±0.15	0.53±0.15	0.85±0.19	0.49±0.10	1.03±0.21	
mt	1.00±0.18	1.00±0.32	0.86±0.25	0.78±0.15	0.61±0.18	0.81±0.16	0.43±0.10	0.81±0.30	
CAT	55.5±3.3	52.9±5.1	50.2±6.2	60.5±5.4	59.3±5.0	50.8±3.2	72.5±2.8	51.1±5.1	
GST	115±8	168±10	135±18	173±15	124±8	190±23	140±20	138±25	
SOD	4.10±0.31	2.89±0.53	3.58±0.32	2.90±0.40	3.78±0.17	2.66±0.70	3.78±0.14	2.57±0.58	
MT	9.07±0.21	8.73±0.24	10.6±0.8	10.5±0.7	10.1±0.4	8.97±0.35	10.5±0.4	7.50±0.34	
LOOH	40.6±4.6	26.7±2.1	43.2±6.0	28.7±2.0	44.6±2.4	26.7±1.8	36.5±3.3	31.8±2.4	
			0	IGESTIVE GL	ANDS				
cat	1.00±0.17	1.00±0.19	0.73±0.10	1.31±0.12	0.77±0.07	1.31±0.18	0.71±0.08	1.26±0.22	
gst	1.00±0.22	1.00±0.22	0.72±0.14	1.44±0.34	0.75±0.17	1.08±0.32	0.70±0.10	1.50±0.31	
sod	1.00±0.12	1.00±0.26	0.54±0.15	1.11±0.18	0.84±0.17	1.35±0.25	0.87±0.10	0.95±0.19	
mt	1.00±0.17	1.00±0.40	0.93±0.18	1.09±0.32	0.92±0.26	1.25±0.12	0.86±0.18	0.78±0.17	
CAT	130±10	160±9	127±10	173±11	130±7	149±8	113±15	204±25	
GST	185±15	178±13	195±19	179±25	207±28	192±14	178±36	213±28	
SOD	2.39±0.11	2.39±0.17	2.40±0.14	2.45±0.10	2.62±0.14	2.26±0.15	2.55±0.22	2.89±0.13	
MT	16.4±0.8	15.4±0.3	17.2±0.5	15.9±0.5	16.8±0.3	15.3±0.9	19.6±0.5	18.1±0.6	

LOOH	55.6±8.0	42.5±3.5	48.7±3.3	43.4±2.0	52.8±4.6	57.6±7.4	54.1±4.8	52.7±7.1	
GILLS									
cat	1.00±0.12	1.00±0.22	1.27±0.26	1.52±0.26	0.86±0.18	1.14±0.11	1.68±0.24	1.15±0.13	
gst	1.00±0.14	1.00±0.07	0.99±0.07	0.74±0.09	0.97±0.05	1.54±0.29	1.21±0.14	1.17±0.16	
sod	1.00±0.11	1.00±0.23	1.33±0.16	1.32±0.31	0.90±0.14	1.23±0.57	1.67±0.22	1.57±0.39	
mt	1.00±0.09	1.00±0.29	1.04±0.26	0.86±0.12	0.60±0.12	1.28±0.27	0.95±0.27	1.01±0.23	
CAT	23.3±0.9	23.1±1.7	25.6±1.7	24.0±2.2	25.9±1.2	22.9±1.5	24.0±1.2	26.0±2.5	
GST	130±11	105±4	106±9	106±11	139±6	109±8	128±9	112±8	
SOD	2.34±0.05	2.40±0.11	2.34±0.16	2.21±0.15	2.50±0.10	2.12±0.06	2.21±0.06	2.30±0.09	
MT	13.3±1.4	16.5±0.6	12.0±0.5	13.4±0.5	15.5±1.4	13.4±0.5	17.0±2.3	14.9±0.9	
LOOH	28.9±4.0	31.2±5.6	40.9±5.6	27.5±5.0	34.1±5.3	33.7±2.3	27.8±3.6	29.8±3.3	

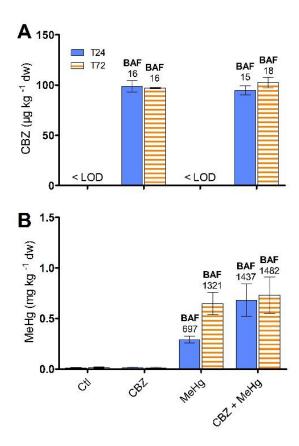


Figure 1: Bioaccumulation (mean \pm SEM, n = 3) of (A) CBZ and (B) MeHg in *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ (6.1 \pm 0.2 μ g L⁻¹), MeHg (460 \pm 20 ng L⁻¹), the co-exposure (CBZ+MeHg) and Ctl. BAF (L kg⁻¹):

871 bioaccumulation factor

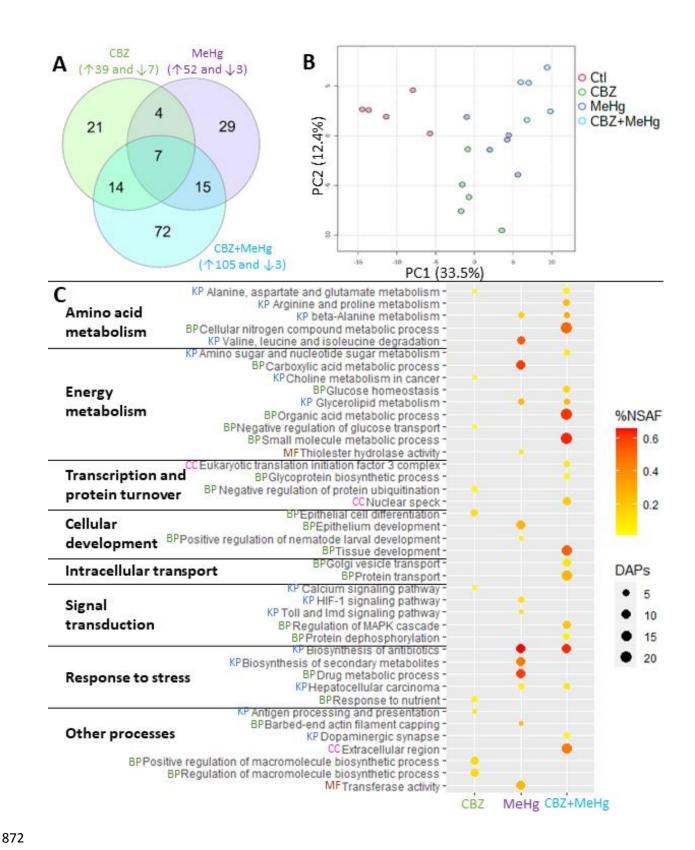


Figure 2: **(A)** Venn diagram of differentially abundant proteins, **(B)** PCA of normalized spectral count data of DAPs *vs* the mean of Ctl, and **(C)** enriched KEGG Pathways (KPs, blue), biological processes (BPs, green), molecular functions (MFs, brown) and cellular components (CC, pink)

GO-terms in *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ ($6.1 \pm 0.2 \,\mu g \,L^{-1}$, green), MeHg ($460 \pm 20 \,n g \,L^{-1}$, purple), the co-exposure (CBZ+MeHg, cyan) and Ctl (red) at T24.

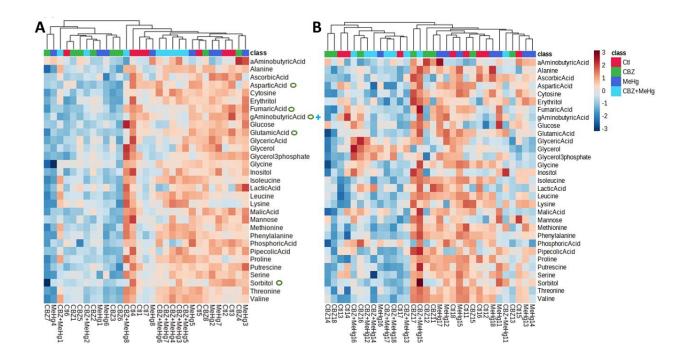


Figure 3: Heatmaps of the 31 quantified metabolites at T24 (**A**) and T72 (**B**) in *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ ($6.1 \pm 0.2 \,\mu g \, L^{-1}$; green), MeHg ($460 \pm 20 \, ng \, L^{-1}$; purple), the co-exposure (CBZ+MeHg; cyan), and Ctl (red) (n = 7 to 8). Modulated metabolites by CBZ (green circle) and the co-exposure (cyan cross) were identified by ANOVA analyses (p<0.05 and FC>1.4).

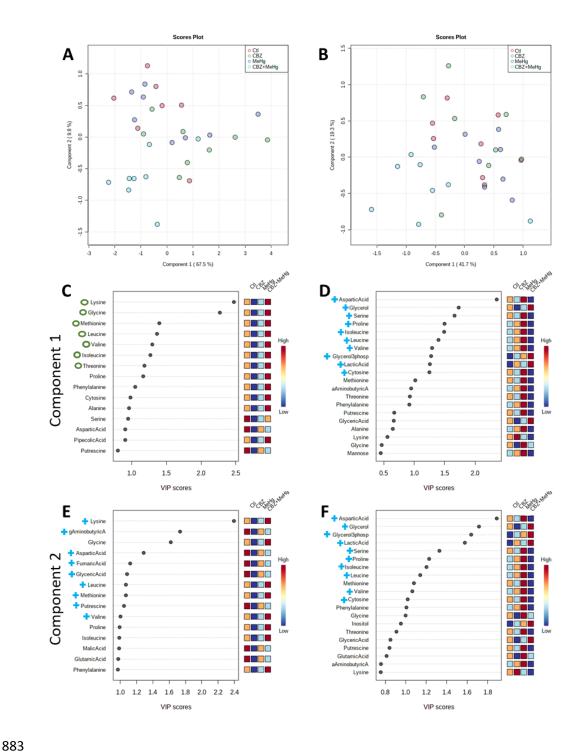


Figure 4: PLS-DAs (**A**, **B**) and VIP scores (**C** to **F**) of the 31 quantified metabolites at T24 (**A**, **C**, **E**) and T72 (**B**, **D**, **F**) in *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ ($6.1 \pm 0.2 \,\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$; green), MeHg ($460 \pm 20 \,\text{ng L}^{-1}$; purple), the co-exposure (CBZ+MeHg, cyan), and Ctl (red) (n = 7 to 8). Modulated metabolites in CBZ (green circle) and the co-exposure (cyan cross) were identified by multivariate analyses (VIP>1 and FC>1.4).

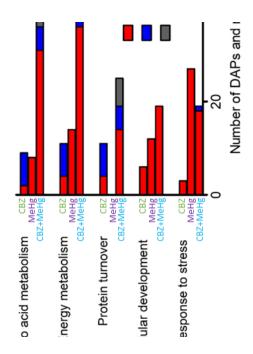


Figure 5: Number of significant modulations observed at proteome and metabolome levels in D. polymorpha exposed to CBZ (6.1 \pm 0.2 μ g L⁻¹; green), MeHg (460 \pm 20 ng L⁻¹; purple) and the

co-exposure (CBZ+MeHg, cyan) at T24 and T72. DAP = differentially abundant protein.

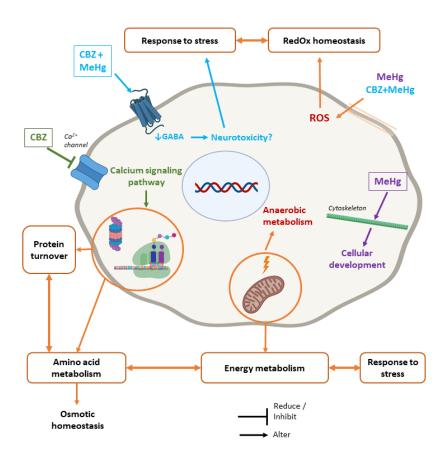


Figure 6: Main molecular responses observed in *D. polymorpha* exposed to CBZ ($6.1 \pm 0.2 \, \mu g \, L^{-1}$; green), MeHg ($460 \pm 20 \, ng \, L^{-1}$; purple), the co-exposure (cyan) and subsequent hypotheses.

Arrows in orange show common molecular toxicity pathways of single and co-exposures. ROS

= reactive oxygen species, GABA = γ -aminobutyric acid (designed with BioRender).