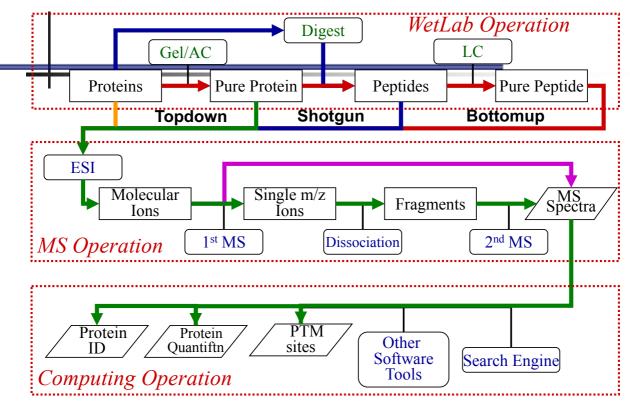
Mass Spectrometry



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Proteomics Approaches



Taken from: http://ms-facility.ucsf.edu/documents/PC235_2009_Lec1_MS_Intro.ppt

Mass Spectrometry is a technique for the detection and resolution of a sample of ions by their mass-to-charge ratio - represented by m/z where m is the mass in Daltons and z is the charge.

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History of MS

- Mass Spectrometry is generally recognized to have been started with the work of Sir Joseph John Thomson.
- His work on conduction of electricity through ionized gasses lead to the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1906.
- Thomson's best known work in mass spectrometry was in demonstrating the presence of atomic isotopes of gasses atoms of the same element with differing masses.



3

Sir Joseph John Thomson

Mass Definitions

Molecular masses are measured in Daltons (Da) or mass units (u).

One Dalton = 1/12 of the mass of a 12 C atom.

Monoisotopic mass = sum of the exact masses of the most abundant isotope of each element present, i.e. ¹H=1.007825, ¹²C=12.000000, ¹⁶O=15.994915.

This is the most accurately defined molecular mass.

Average mass = sum of the abundant averaged masses ("atomic weights") of the constituent atoms of a given molecule.

The result is a weighted average over all of the naturally occurring isotopes present in the compound. This is the common chemical molecular weight that is used for stoichiometric calculations (H=1.0080, C=12.011, O=15.994). The average mass cannot be determined as accurately as the monoisotopic mass because of variations in natural isotopic abundances.

The mass to charge ratio (m/z). A quantity formed by dividing the mass (in u) of an ion by its charge number; unit: Thomson or Th.

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5

Isotopic Abundances of Common Elements

Element	Mass	Natural Abundance
Н	1.0078 2.0141	99.985% 0.015
С	12.0000 13.0034	98.89 1.11
N	14.0031 15.0001	99.64 0.36
0	15.9949 16.9991 17.9992	99.76 0.04 0.20
Р	30.9737	100
S	31.9721 32.9715 33.9679 35.9671	95.00 0.76 4.22 0.02

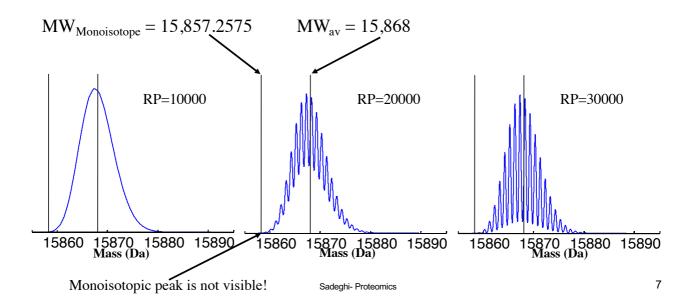
By coincidence, the most abundant isotope of common elements has the lowest mass.

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Protein Mass Measurement

Protein masses are normally reported as average masses

Effect of different resolving power on Hemoglobin beta chain peak, $C_{724}H_{1119}N_{195}O_{201}S_3$



Data from MS

- Proteins in mixtures
- Quantitative analysis of protein expression
- Post-translational modification
 - Phosphorylation
- Protein interactions

Common post-translational modifications detected by mass spectrometry.

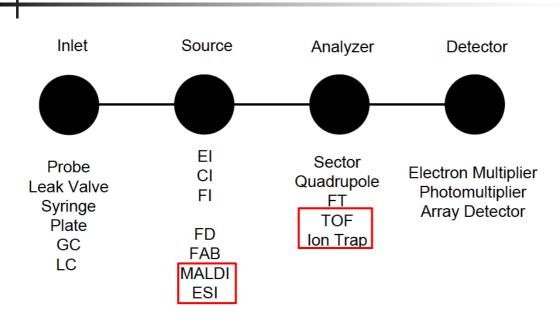
PTM	Residues	Chemical group	Δ mass (Da) ^{<u>a</u>}
Phosphorylation	Ser, Thr, Tyr	HPO ₃	79.9663
N-Glycosylation	Asn	Glycan	\geq 132.0432 $^{\underline{b}}$ (-0.9840 and 2.9890) $^{\underline{c}}$
O-Glycosylation	Ser, Thr	Glycan	≥132.0432 ^{bc}
Oxidation	Met	0	15.9949
Methylation	N- C- terminus, Lys, Ser, Thr, Asn, Gln, (Iso)Asp ^d	CH ₂	14.0156
Dimethylation	Arg, Lys	CH ₂ CH ₂	28.0313
Trimethylation	Arg, Lys	CH ₂ CH ₂ CH ₂	42.0470
S-Nitrosylation	Cys	NO	28.9902
Citrullination	Arg	0	0.9840
Ubiquitination	Lys	Ubiquitin	≥ 8564.8448 (114.0429) ^e
Acetylation	N terminus, Lys, Ser	CH ₃ CO	42.0106
Carbamylation	N-terminus, Lys, Arg	CONH ₂	43.0058
Biotinylation (amide bond to)	N-terminus, Lys	Biotin	226.0776

^aΔ mass (Da) is the change in mass of the peptide and amino acid in Daltons due to the addition of a PTM.

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9

Mass Spec Components



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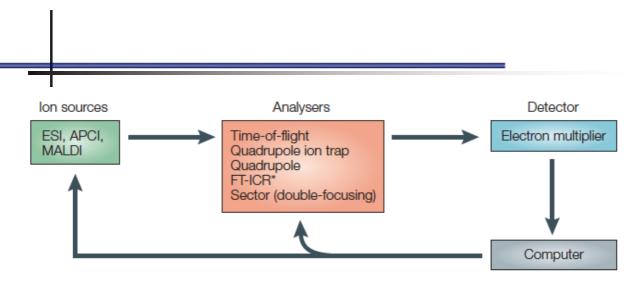


Figure 1 | Basic components of a typical mass spectrometer used in drug discovery. *FT-ICR does not use an electron multiplier. APCI, atmospheric-pressure chemical ionization; ESI, electrospray ionization; MALDI, matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization; FT-ICR, Fourier-transform ion-cyclotron resonance.

Ref: Glish & Vachet. Nature Reviews. 2003, 2, 140.

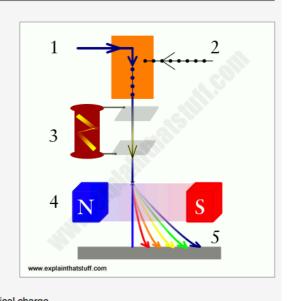
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11

How does a mass spectrometer work?

There are numerous different kinds of mass spectrometers, all working in slightly different ways, but the basic process involves broadly the same stages.

- You place the substance you want to study in a vacuum chamber inside the machine.
- 2. The substance is bombarded with a beam of electrons so the atoms or molecules it contains are turned into ions. This process is called **ionization**.
- 3. The ions shoot out from the vacuum chamber into a powerful electric field (the region that develops between two metal plates charged to high voltages), which makes them accelerate. Ions of different atoms have different amounts of electric charge, and the more highly charged ones are accelerated most, so the ions separate out according to the amount of charge they have. (This stage is a bit like the way electrons are accelerated inside an old-style, cathode-ray television.)
- 4. The ion beam shoots into a magnetic field (the invisible, magnetically active region between the poles of a magnet). When moving particles with an electric charge enter a magnetic field, they *bend* into an arc, with lighter particles (and more positively charged ones) bending more than heavier ones (and more negatively charged ones). The ions split into a spectrum, with each different type of ion bent a different amount according to its mass and its electrical charge.
- 5. A computerized, electrical detector records a spectrum pattern showing how many ions arrive for each mass/charge. This can be used to identify the atoms or molecules in the original sample. In early spectrometers, photographic detectors were used instead, producing a chart of peaked lines called a mass spectrograph. In modern spectrometers, you slowly vary the magnetic field so each separate ion beam hits the detector in turn.



http://www.explainthatstuff.com/how-mass-spectrometers-work.html

Measures a mass to charge ratio or m/z

Ionization

Mass
Separation

Ion collection

MALDI
quadrupole
Electrospray
ion trap
time of flight

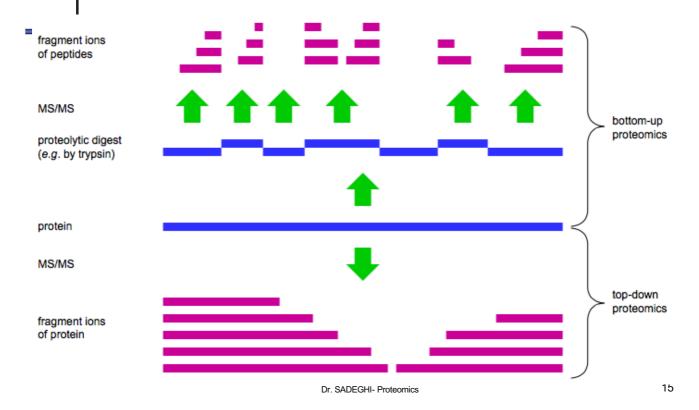
Ion collection
mass analysis

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- Classical biochemistry techniques and 2DGE are, in general, 'topdown proteomics' – identify and quantify whole proteins.
- Most modern proteomic MS is 'bottom-up'



Bottom-up vs. top-down

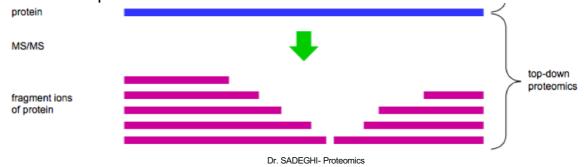


Bottom-up proteomics

- Bottom-up proteomics is a common method to identify proteins and characterize their aa sequences and PTM by proteolytic digestion of proteins prior to analysis by mass spectrometry.
- The proteins may first be purified by a method such as gel electrophoresis resulting in one or a few proteins in each proteolytic digest. Alternatively, the crude protein <u>extract is digested directly</u>, followed by one or more dimensions of separation of the peptides by <u>liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry</u>, a technique known as <u>shotgun proteomics</u>.
- By comparing the masses of the proteolytic peptides or their tandem mass spectra with those predicted from a sequence database or annotated peptide spectral in a peptide spectral library, peptides can be identified and multiple peptide identifications assembled into a protein identification

Top-down proteomics

- Top-down proteomics is a method of protein identification that uses an ion trapping mass spectrometer to store an isolated protein ion for mass measurement and tandem mass spectrometry analysis.
- The name is derived from the similar approach to DNA sequencing.
- Proteins are typically <u>ionized by electrospray ionization</u> and trapped in a quadrupole ion trap mass spectrometer.
- Fragmentation for tandem mass spectrometry is accomplished by electron-capture dissociation or electron-transfer dissociation.



17

Shotgun proteomics

- refers to the use of <u>bottom-up proteomics</u> techniques in identifying proteins in complex mixtures using a combination of <u>HPLC combined with MS</u>.
- The name is derived from the rapidly expanding, quasirandom firing pattern of a shotgun.
- The most common method of shotgun proteomics starts with:
 - the proteins in the mixture being digested and
 - the resulting peptides separated by liquid chromatography
 - Tandem mass spectrometry is then used to identify the peptides.

Shotgun proteomics

- Shotgun proteomics arose from the difficulties of using previous technologies to separate complex mixtures.
- In 1975, 2D-PAGE was described by O'Farrell and Klose with the ability to resolve complex protein mixtures
- The development of matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI), electrospray ionization (ESI), and database searching continued to grow the field of proteomics.
- Above methods difficulty identifying and separating lowabundance proteins and membrane proteins.
- Shotgun proteomics could resolve even these proteins

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Mass analyzers used in shotgun proteomics and their commonly-achieved analytical metrics for peptide analysis.

Analyzer	Instruments	Туре	Resolution	Mass accuracy	Dynamic Range
Quadrupole	QQQ QToF	Beam	1 – 2 K	~ 1 ‰ <u>a</u>	5 – 6
Ion trap	LIT	Trapping (Electric field)	1 – 2 K	~ 1 ‰ <u>ª</u>	3 – 4
ToF	QToF	Beam	10 – 50 K	5 – 10 ppm	4
Orbitrap	FT	Trapping (Electric field)	7.5 – 240 K	500 ppb – 10 ppm	4
ICR	FT	Trapping (Magnetic and axial DC fields)	100 – 500 K	~100 ppb	3

aparts-per-thousand.

Ion sources



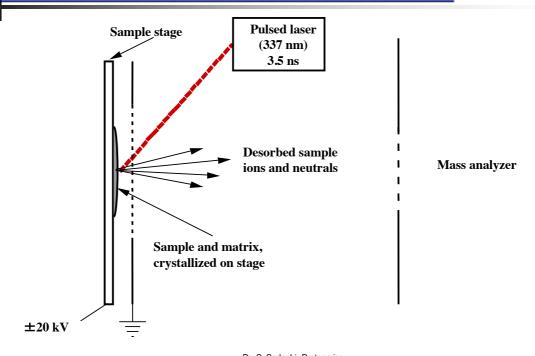
MALDI & ESI

21

Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization (MALDI)

- Analyte is dissolved in solution with excess matrix $(>10^4)$.
- Sample/matrix mixture is dried on a target and placed in the MS vacuum.
- Requirements for a satisfactory matrix, it must:
 - co-crystallize with typical analyte molecules
 - absorb radiation at the wavelength of the laser (usually 337 nm)
 - transfer protons to the analyte (it should be acidic)
 - Typical matrices for UV MALDI are aromatic carboxylic acids.

Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI)



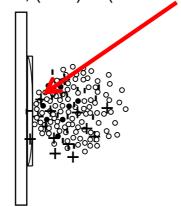
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23

MALDI Ionization Mechanism

1. Laser pulse produces matrix neutrals, + and - ions, and sample neutrals:

$$M --> M^*, MH^+, (M-H)^-$$
 (M= Matrix)



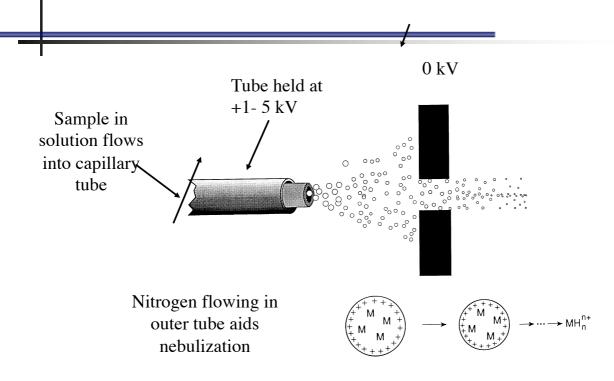
2. Sample molecules are ionized by gas-phase proton transfer:

$$MH^+ + A --> AH^+ + M$$

 $(M-H)^- + A --> (A-H)^- + M$

(A=Analyte)

Electrospray Ionization (ESI)



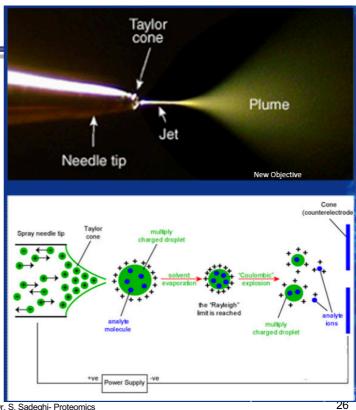
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25

Electrospray ionisation

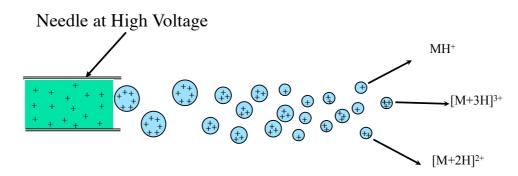
ESI

High voltage placed on a fused silica column causes a spray of charged droplets which evaporate leaving charged peptides



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Electrospray Ion Formation



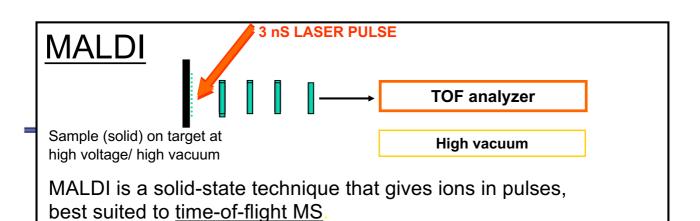
Droplets formed in electric field have excess positive ions.

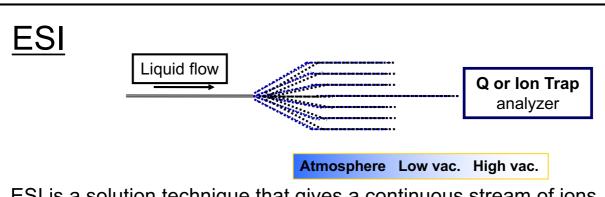
Evaporation of neutrals concentrates charge.

Droplets break into smaller droplets.

Eventually one molecule + n protons is left.

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ESI is a solution technique that gives a continuous stream of ions, best for quadrupoles, ion traps, etc.

Ionization Methods for Biomolecule Analysis

Electrospray	MALDI
Online LC/MS possible	Very long sample lifetime; repeated measurements possible
•Poor for mixtures	•Good for mixtures
without LC	•Matrix peaks can interfere at MW
•Quantitation	<600
possible	•Salt tolerant
•Good for MW <600	•Low maintenance
Generate highly charged ions	•Generate ions with few charges

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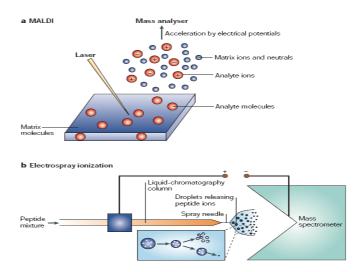
29

....MALDI or Electrospray?

MALDI is limited to solid state, ESI to liquid

ESI is better for the analysis of complex mixture as it is directly interfaced to a separation techniques (i.e. HPLC)

MALDI is more "flexible" (MW from 200 to 400,000 Da)



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ESI vs MALDI

Ref: Glish & Vachet. Nature Reviews. 2003, 2, 140.

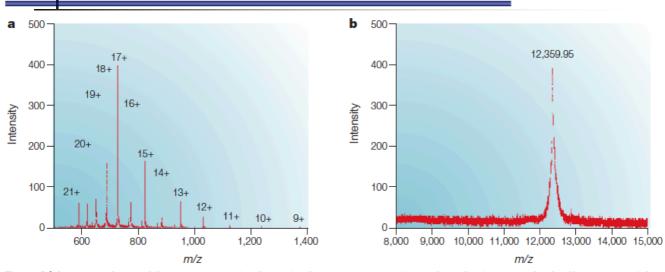


Figure 2 | A comparison of the mass spectra for cytochrome c generated using electrospray ionization and matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization. a | Electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrum of cytochrome c: multiple peaks are observed due to the different charge states that arise from varying degrees of protonation. b | Matrix-assisted laser desoprtion/ionization (MALDI) mass spectrum of cytochrome c: only a single peak is observed for the analyte because ionization in MALDI generally occurs by the addition of a single proton. Note the different mass-to-charge (m/z) scales.

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31

Mass analysis in time-of-flight TOF

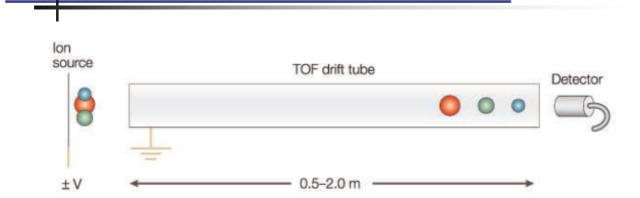
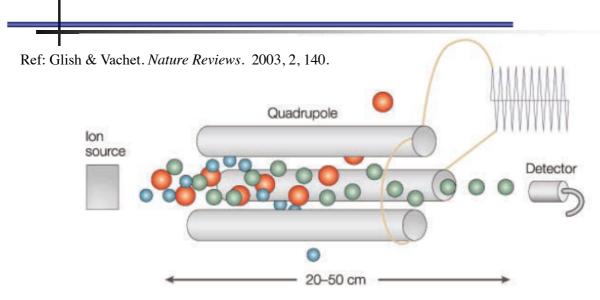


Figure 3 | Pictorial diagrams of the common beam mass analysers viewed from above. a | Mass analysis in time-of-flight (TOF) spectrometry is achieved because ions of different mass-

to-charge (m/z) values have different velocities and therefore reach the detector at different times.

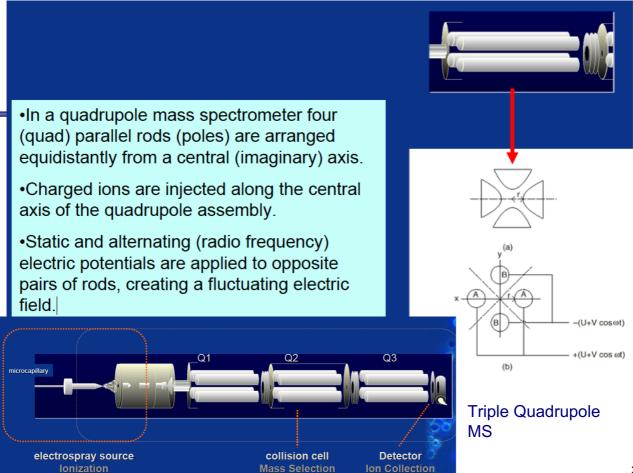
Ref: Glish & Vachet. Nature Reviews. 2003, 2, 140.

Mass analysis in quadrupole



In a quadrupole mass analyses, the correct magnitude of the radio frequency and direct current voltages applied to the rods allows ions of a single m/z to maintain stable trajectories from the ion source to the detector whereas ions with different m/z values are unable to do so.

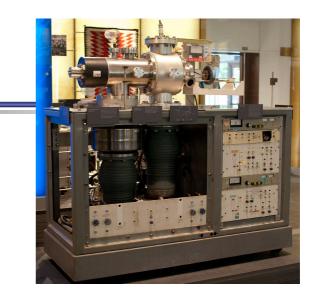
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The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2002







John B. Fenn

Koichi Tanaka

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2002 was awarded "for the development of methods for identification and structure analyses of biological macromolecules" with one half jointly to John B. Fenn and Koichi Tanaka "for their development of soft desorption ionisation methods for mass spectrometric analyses of biological macromolecules"

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35

Peptide Analysis

- Edman Degradation
- MS
 - More sensitive
 - Can fragment peptides faster
 - Does not require proteins or peptides to be purified to homogeneity
 - Has no problem identifying blocked or modified proteins

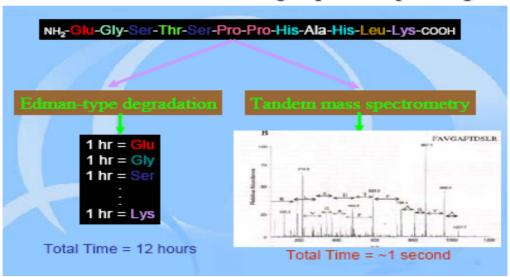
Edman degradation

Phenyl isothiocyanate

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Edman Degradation vs. MS/MS

Protein Identification using Peptide Sequencing



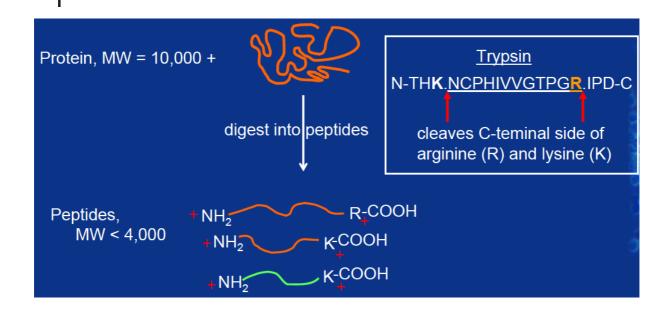
Experimental steps

- 1. Proteins digested with an enzyme to produce peptides
- 2. Peptides charged (ionized) and separated according to their different *m*/*z* ratios
- 3. Each peptide fragmented into ions and *m/z* values of fragment ions are measured
- Steps 2 and 3 performed within a tandem mass spectrometer.

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Breaking Protein into Peptides and Peptides into Fragment Ions

- Proteases e.g. trypsin, break protein into peptides.
- A Tandem Mass Spectrometer further breaks the peptides down into fragment ions and measures the mass of each ion.
- MS accelerates the fragmented ions; heavier ions accelerate slower than lighter ones.
- Mass Spectrometer measure mass/charge ratio of an ion.



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Common proteases used for shotgun proteomics.

Protease	Cleavage Specificity ^a	Common proteomic usage
Trypsin	-K,R-↑-Z- not -K,R-↑-P-	General protein digestion
Endoproteinase Lys-	-K-↑-Z-	Alternative to trypsin for increased peptide length; multiple protease digestion; ¹⁸ O labeling
Chymotrypsin	-W,F,Y- \uparrow -Z- and -L,M,A,D,E- \uparrow -Z- at a slower rate	Multiple protease digestion
Subtilisin	Broad specificity to native and denatured proteins	Multiple protease digestion
Elastase	-B-↑-Z-	Multiple protease digestion
Endoproteinase Lys-N	-Z-↑-K-	Increase peptide length; create higher charge state for ETD
Endoproteinase Glu-C	-E-↑-Z- and 3000 times slower at -D-↑-Z-	Multiple protease digestion; ¹⁸ O labeling
Endoproteinase Arg- C	-R-↑-Z-	Multiple protease digestion
Endoproteinase Asp-	-Z-↑-D- and -Z-↑-cysteic acid- but not -Z-↑-C-	Multiple protease digestion
Proteinase K	-X-↑-Y-	Non-specific digestion of membrane-bound proteins
OmpT	-K,R-↑-K,R-	Increased peptide length for middle-down proteomics

^aB – uncharged, non-aromatic amino acids (i.e. A, V, L, I, G, S); X – aliphatic, aromatic, or hydrophobic amino acids; and Z – any amino acid.

Ref: Zhang et al. Chem Rev. 2013 Apr 10; 113(4): 2343–2394.

43

Enzymatic degradation: Proteases:

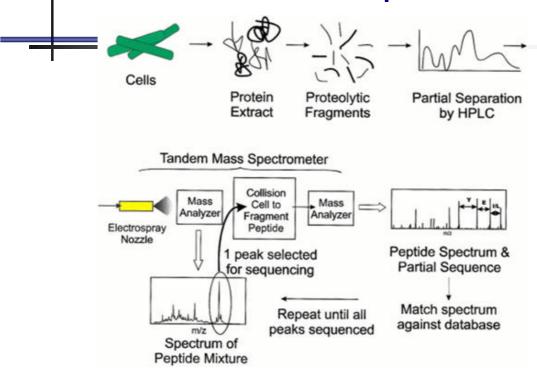
N-termina	IN-C-C-C-N-	R ₂ O ² -C — C — ···· C-terminal H
Enzyme	Preferred Site ^a	Source
Trypsin	$R_1 = Lys, Arg$	From digestive systems of animals, many other sources
Chymotrypsin	R ₁ = Tyr, Trp, Phe, Leu	Same as trypsin
Thrombin	$R_1 = Arg$	From blood; involved in coagulation
V-8 protease	$R_1 = Asp, Glu$	From Staphylococcus aureus
Prolyl endopeptidase	$R_1 = Pro$	Lamb kidney, other tissues
Subtilisin	Very little specificity	From various bacilli
Carboxypeptidase A	$R_2 = C$ -terminal amino acid	From digestive systems of animals
Thermolysin	R_2 = Leu, Val, Ile, Met	From Bacillus thermoproteolyticus

"The residues indicated are those next to which cleavage is most likely. Note that in some cases preference is determined by the residue on the N-terminal side of the cleaved bond (R_1) and sometimes by the residue to the C-terminal side (R_2) . Generally, proteases do not cleave where proline is on the other side of the bond. Even prolyl endopeptidase will not cleave if R_2 = Pro.

The overlap of the sequences of fragments allows to determine the protein sequence

Chimotripsina	H ₃ $\overset{+}{\mathrm{N}}$ —Leu—Asn—Asp—Phe
Bromuro di cianogeno	H ₃ N ⁺ —Leu—Asn—Asp—Phe—His—Met
Chimotripsina	His—Met—Thr—Met—Ala—Trp
Bromuro di cianogeno	Thr—Met
Bromuro di cianogeno	Ala—Trp—Val—Lys—COO
Chimotripsina	Val—Lys—COO
Sequenza complessiva	H ₃ N ⁺ —Leu—Asn—Asp—Phe—His—Met—Thr—Met—Ala—Trp—Val—Lys—COO ⁻

Tandem Mass Spectrometry



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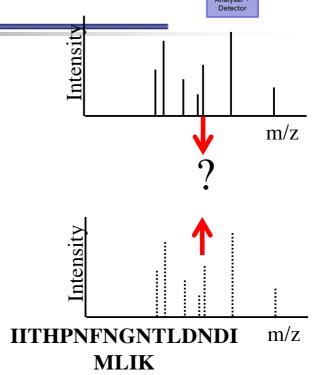
Tandem Mass Spectrum

- Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS):
- mainly generates partial N- and C-terminal peptides
- Chemical noise often complicates the spectrum.
- Represented in 2-D: mass/charge axis vs. intensity axis



47

Search fragment spectrum against a database of protein sequences. For each sequence, digest into peptides, generate an expected fragment ion spectrum, and match to observed spectrum

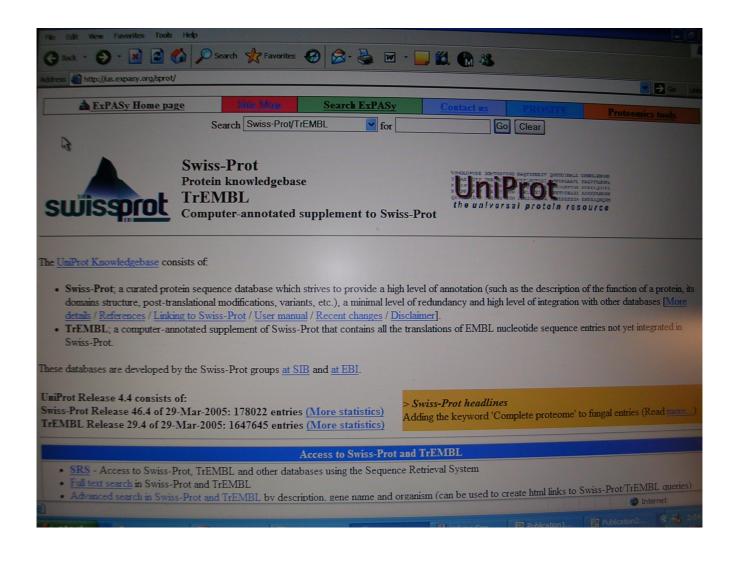


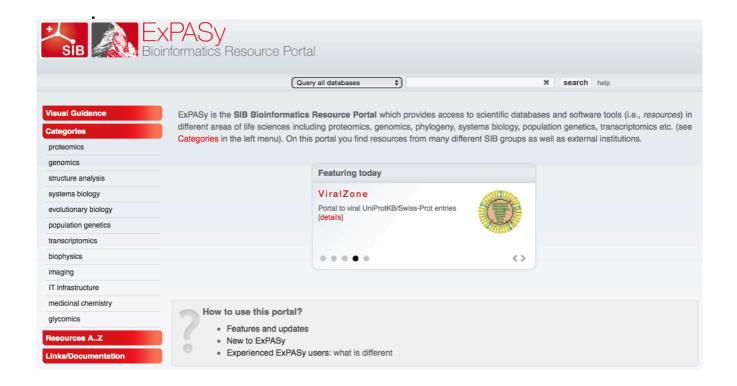
What you need for peptide mass mapping

- Peptide mass spectrum
- Protein Database: GenBank, Swiss-Prot, dbEST

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- There are multiple commonly used MS/MS fragment spectra search engines, including:
 - Mascot
 - Sequest
 - OMSSA
 - X!Tandem
 - MS Amanda
 - Andromeda
 - ProteinPilot





SIB Bioinformatics Resource Portal	1 Optidowass	
PeptideMass		
the masses of the generated peptides. The tool also returns theoretic	Prot Knowledgebase (Swiss-Prot and TrEMBL) or a user-entered protein sequence with a chosen enzyme, are cal isoelectric point and mass values for the protein of interest. If desired, PeptideMass can return the mass optides whose masses may be affected by database conflicts, polymorphisms or splice variants.	
Instructions are available.		
Enter a UniProtKB protein identifier, ID (e.g. ALBU_HUMAN), or accemodifications, but PLEASE read this document first!):	ession number, AC (e.g. P04406), or an amino acid sequence (e.g. 'SELVEGVIV'; you may specify post-trans	slational
Reset the fields. Perform the cleavage of the protein.		
The peptide masses are with cysteines treated with:nothing (in reduced form) _ ○	·.	
Select an enzyme : Trypsin		
Allow for omissed cleavages. Display the peptides with a mass bigger than omit and smaller that	nan unlimited 😊 Dalton	
sorted by \odot peptide masses or in \bigcirc chronological order in the protein	in.	
For UniProtKB (Swiss-Prot/TrEMBL) entries only: For each peptide display all known post-translational modifications, all database conflicts, all variants (polymorphisms), all mRNA variants (due to alternative splicing, initiation or promote	er usage).	
	Dr. C. Sadaghi, Drotagnica 5	:4
	Dr. C. Cadaghi Protogmica 9	<i>)</i> [

Mascot identifies proteins by interpreting MS data

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- The prevailing experimental method for protein identification is a bottomup approach, where a protein sample is typically digested with Trypsin to form smaller peptides.
- Proteins are too big, peptides usually fall within the limited mass range that a typical mass spectrometer can measure.
- Mass spectrometers measure the MW of peptides in a sample.
- Mascot then compares these molecular weights against a database of known peptides.
- The program cleaves every protein in the specified search database in silico according to specific rules depending on the cleavage enzyme used for digestion and calculates the theoretical mass for each peptide.
- Mascot then computes a score based on the probability that the peptides from a sample match those in the selected protein database. The more peptides Mascot identifies from a particular protein, the higher the Mascot score for that protein.

Dr. S. Sadeghi 52 Access Mascot Server | Database search help

Mascot database search > Access Mascot Server

Access Mascot Server

You are welcome to submit searches to this free Mascot Server. Searches of MS/MS data are limited to 1200 spectra and some functions, such as no enzyme searches, are unavailable. Automated searching of batches of files is not permitted. If you want to automate search submission, perform large searches, search additional sequence databases, or customise the modifications, quantitation methods, etc., you'll need to license your own, in-house copy of Mascot Server.

Peptide Mass Fingerprint

The experimental data are a list of peptide mass values from the digestion of a protein by a specific enzyme such as trypsin.

Perform search | Example of results report | Tutorial

Sequence Query

One or more peptide mass values associated with information such as partial or ambiguous sequence strings, amino acid composition information, MS/MS fragment ion masses, etc. A super-set of a sequence tag query.

Perform search | Example of results report | More information

MS/MS Ions Search

Identification based on raw MS/MS data from one or more peptides.

Perform search | Example of results report | Tutorial

More info

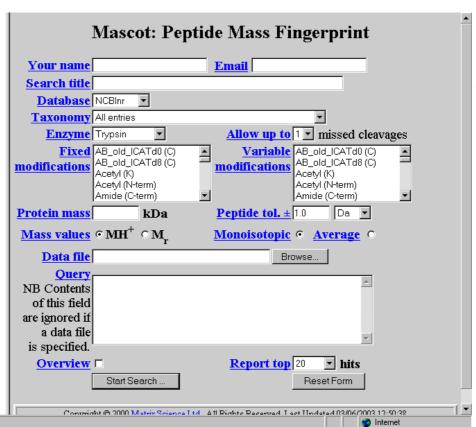
- > Mascot overview
- Search parameter reference
- > Data file format
- Results report overview



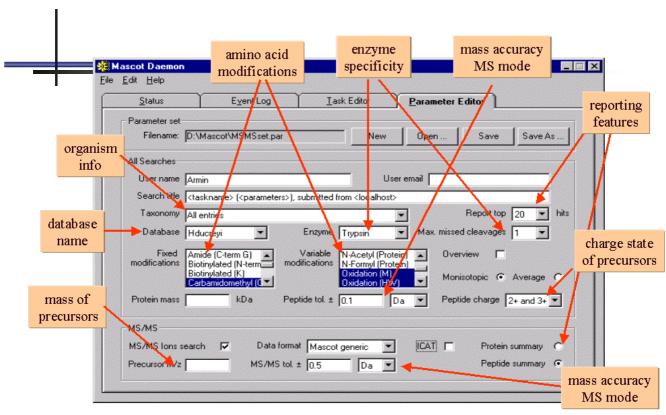
Database search for protein identification

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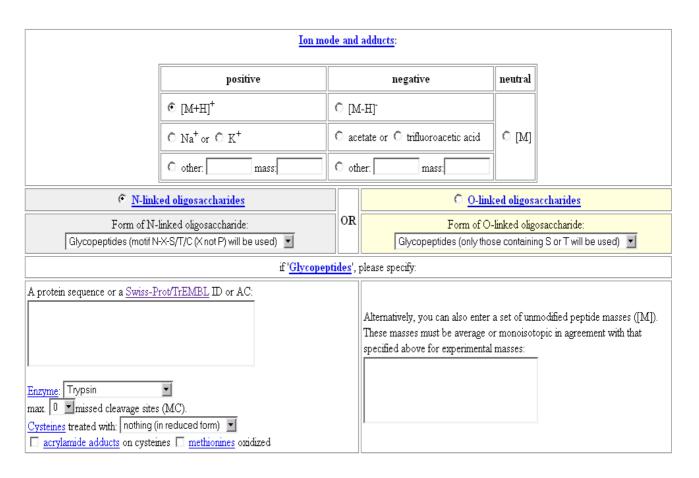
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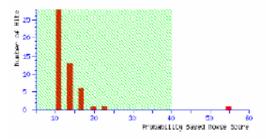
Mascot



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Peptide sequencing using MASCOT



Peptide Summary Report

Switch to Protein Summary Report

To create a bookmark for this report, right click this link: Peptide Summary Report (../data/20021008/FoteIea.dat)

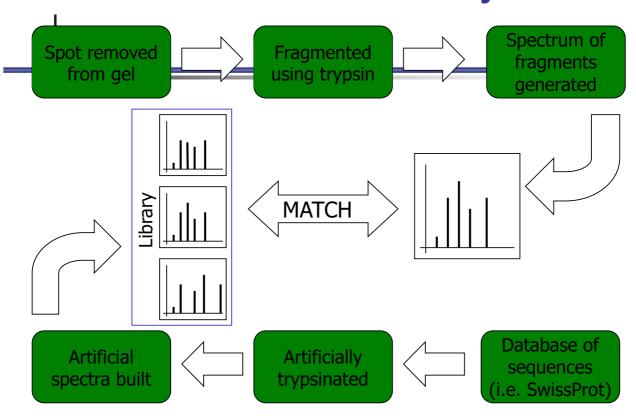
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Select All Select None Search Selected □Error tolerant

1. gil16924319 Mass: 40477 Total score: 55 Peptides matched; 1
(BC017450) Unknown (protein for IMAGE:3538275) [Homo sapiens]
□Check to include this hit in error tolerant search

Query Observed Mr(expt) Mr(calc) Delta Miss Score Rank Peptide
□ 14 895.70 1789.39 1789.88 -0.50 0 55 1 SYELPDGQVITIGNER

Proteins matching the same set of peptides:
gil4501887 Mass: 41766 Total score: 55 Peptides matched: 1
(NM_001614) actin, gamma 1 propeptide; cytoskeletal gamma-actin; actin, cytoplasmic 2 [Homo sapiens]
gil16359158 Mass: 41736 Total score: 55 Peptides matched: 1
(BC016045) actin, beta [Homo sapiens]
gil4885049 Mass: 41992 Total score: 55 Peptides matched: 1
(NM_005159) actin, alpha, cardiac muscle precursor [Homo sapiens]
gil14714562 Mass: 18762 Total score: 55 Peptides matched: 1
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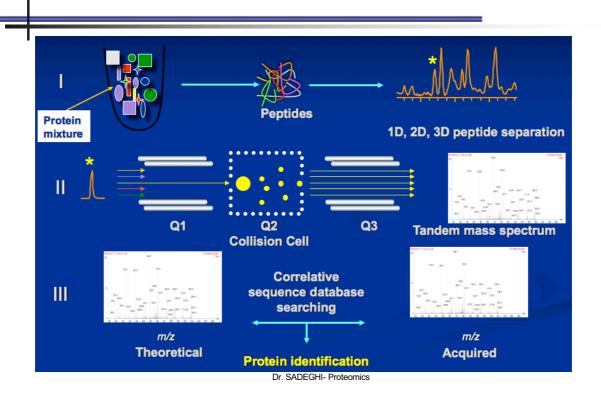
Protein Identification by MS



Applications



1. Protein identification



2. Protein-protein interactions

(a) Y2H system

- Biological processes are carried out by interactions between many biomolecules.
- There are diverse types of interactions, such as
 - protein-DNA or RNA,
 - protein-protein interactions (are challenging to study due to their high diversity)
- The classic approach to studying protein-protein interactions is yeast two-hybrid (Y2H) system which was introduced more than 20 years ago.

Ref: Zhang et al. Chem Rev. 2013 Apr 10; 113(4): 2343-2394.

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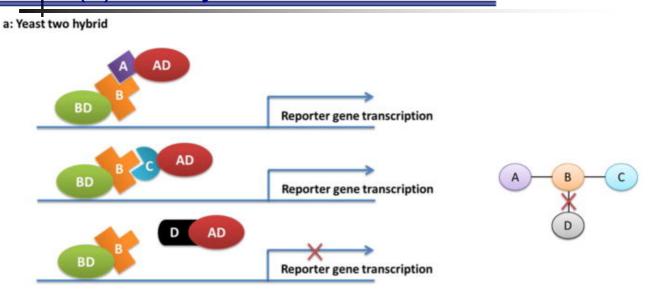
61

2. Protein-protein interactions

- (a) Y2H system
- In a Y2H experiment, a transcript factor is split into two subunits, one is the <u>binding domain (BD)</u> and the other one is the <u>activating domain</u> (AD).
- The engineered bait protein is fused to the BD and the second protein (prey) is fused to the AD. If the bait and prey proteins interact with each other, the transcript factor can be activated, starting the transcription of reporter gene.
- Y2H was designed to investigate direct binary interactions.
- The initial Y2H experiments focused on the interactions between a limited number of proteins. However, after genome scaled resources of open reading frames (ORFeomes) became available, comprehensive network maps have been drawn for various model organisms by large scale Y2H, including Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Drosophila melanogaster, Caenorhabditis elegans, and even humans.

2. Protein-protein interactions

(a) Y2H system



Ref: Zhang et al. Chem Rev. 2013 Apr 10; 113(4): 2343-2394.

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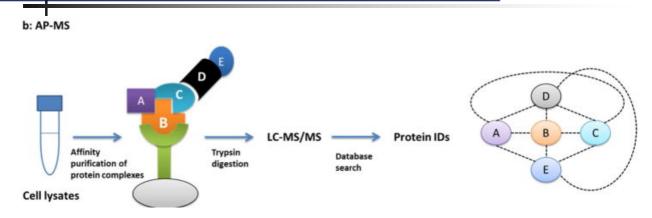
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2. Protein-protein interactions (b) AP-MS

- An approach complementary to Y2H is based on affinity purification and mass spectrometry (AP-MS)
- In an AP-MS experiment the target protein of interest, together with its interacting partners, is purified from a protein mixture.
- The purified protein complex is then subjected to shotgun proteomic identification and quantification

2. Protein-protein interactions

(b) AP-MS



b: AP-MS is used to identify the whole protein complex. All the interactors binding to protein B, including both direct and indirect binders, are identified by shotgun proteomics.

Ref: Zhang et al. Chem Rev. 2013 Apr 10; 113(4): 2343–2394.

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65

2. Protein-protein interactions (b) AP-MS

- Ideally, interactome experiments based on AP-MS should employ high quality monoclonal antibodies against the bait proteins.
- this is sometimes difficult due to a lack of good antibodies.
- Commonly, an engineered protein with an affinity has been used in AP-MS based protein interactome studies.
- Instead of using a specific antibody against target protein, the <u>affinity tag system</u> employs a uniform tag specific purification which can be used for many bait proteins.

- A widely used tag system is tandem affinity purification (TAP) which consists of:
 - calmodulin-binding peptide (CBP) and
 - protein A of Staphylococcus aureus (ProtA),
 - linked by a tobacco etch virus (TEV) cleavage site
- The TAP fused protein and its interactors are first pulled down by the distal ProtA affinity tag, and then released by cutting at the TEV cleavage site.
- The bait protein complex is subsequently subjected to the second purification step, which binds the CBP.

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Scheme of tandem affinity purification (TAP). Two steps of purification significantly remove the unspecific binding proteins.

☐ The advantage of TAP compared with the normal single-step procedure is reduced background protein levels.

all the proteins nonspecifically binding to the affinity beads are excluded after the second purification.

Tandem affinity purification Cell lysates IgG beads **Unspecific binding Protein complex** TAP tag Protein First affinity purification TEV protease cleavage Calmodulin beads Second affinity purification Native elution LC-MS/MS

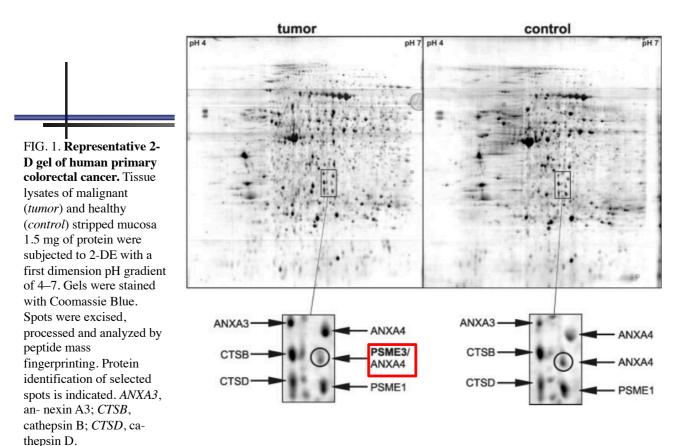
Ref: Zhang et al. Chem Rev. 2013 Apr 10; 113(4): 2343-2394.

3. New Tumour markers

- Until 2010, strategy for tumour marker search= 2-DE
 - Comparing proteome between healthy + tumour tissue
 - Removal of spots + identification by MALDI
- Nowadays, LC-MS/MS:
 - Liquid chromatography coupled to tandem MS
 - Allows for separation before MS
 - Can be done with complex digested protein mixtures (shotgun)

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- PSME3 (proteasome activator complex subunit 3)
 - Intracellular CRC-associated protein
 - Discovered by LC-MS/MS
 - Up-regulation of this protein would have been missed by image analysis
 - This protein was masked by another co-migrating high abundant protein (annexin A4)



REF: Roessler et al. Mol Cell Proteomics. 2006;5(11):2092-101.

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Learning Outcome

- Different components of MS
 - Ionisation methods
 - MALDI
 - ESI
- Applications of MS
 - Protein identification
 - Yeast-two-hybrid
 - New tumour markers

References

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- G.L. Glish and R.W. Vachet. "The basics of mass spectrometry in the twenty-first century". *Nature Reviews*. 2003, 2, 140.
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