

Post-translational modifications

PC235

Katalin F. Medzihradszky
folkl@cgl.ucsf.edu

Post-translational Modification of Proteins
Expanding Nature's Inventory (2006)
by C.T. Walsh

ISBN 0-9747077-3-2

Just for introduction

Genome



Transcription - mRNA



Translation - proteins + co-translational modifications



Post-translational modifications

Post-translational modifications I

- Enzymatic processing
- N-, O-, C-linked glycosylation - Asn, Ser/Thr/Hyl/Hyp, Trp
- Phosphorylation - Tyr, Ser, Thr, His, Asp
- Acylation
 - acetylation of the N-terminus
 - fatty acid anchors on Cys
- Cross-linkage - Lys, Trp, Tyr, Met
- Oxydation - Cys, Met, Trp, Tyr, His
- Methylation - N-terminus, Arg, Lys
- Ubiquitination - Lys

Post-translational modifications

II

- Cannot be predicted – though consensus sequences have been reported for some of them
- Organism-dependent
- Can be tissue- or location-specific
- Stable or dynamic – high and low level
- Alters biological activity, *and* physical properties
- May alter the immune response

Sample preparation

- Will the modification survive?
- Can I get it down to a mass spectrometry friendly size?
- Isolation/enrichment?
- Losses - too hydrophilic/hydrophobic

Mass spectrometry

- Will the modification survive the ionization? the MS/MS activation?
 - How unambiguous is the assignment?
 - modification assignment?
- Ac vs. Me₃; phosphate vs. sulfate etc.
- site assignment?

Finding the N-termini

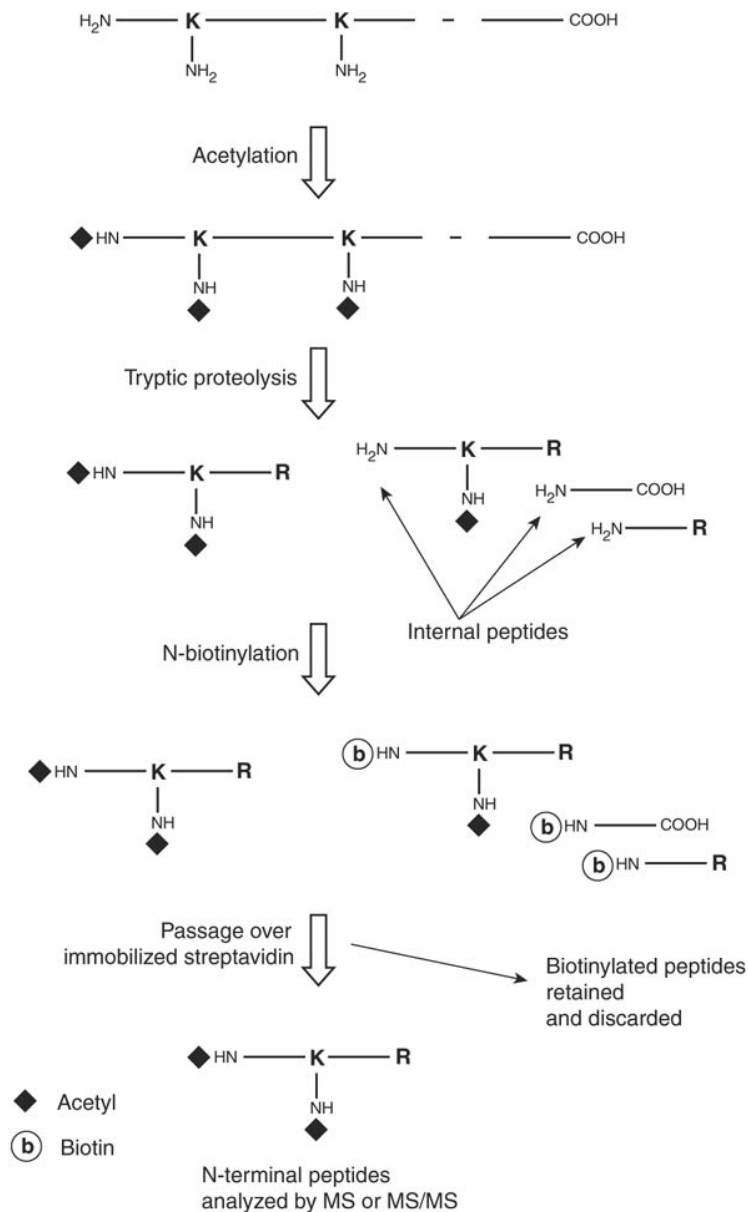
- 80-90% of the eukaryotic proteins is acetylated

If 2nd aa: G, A, S, C, T, P, V

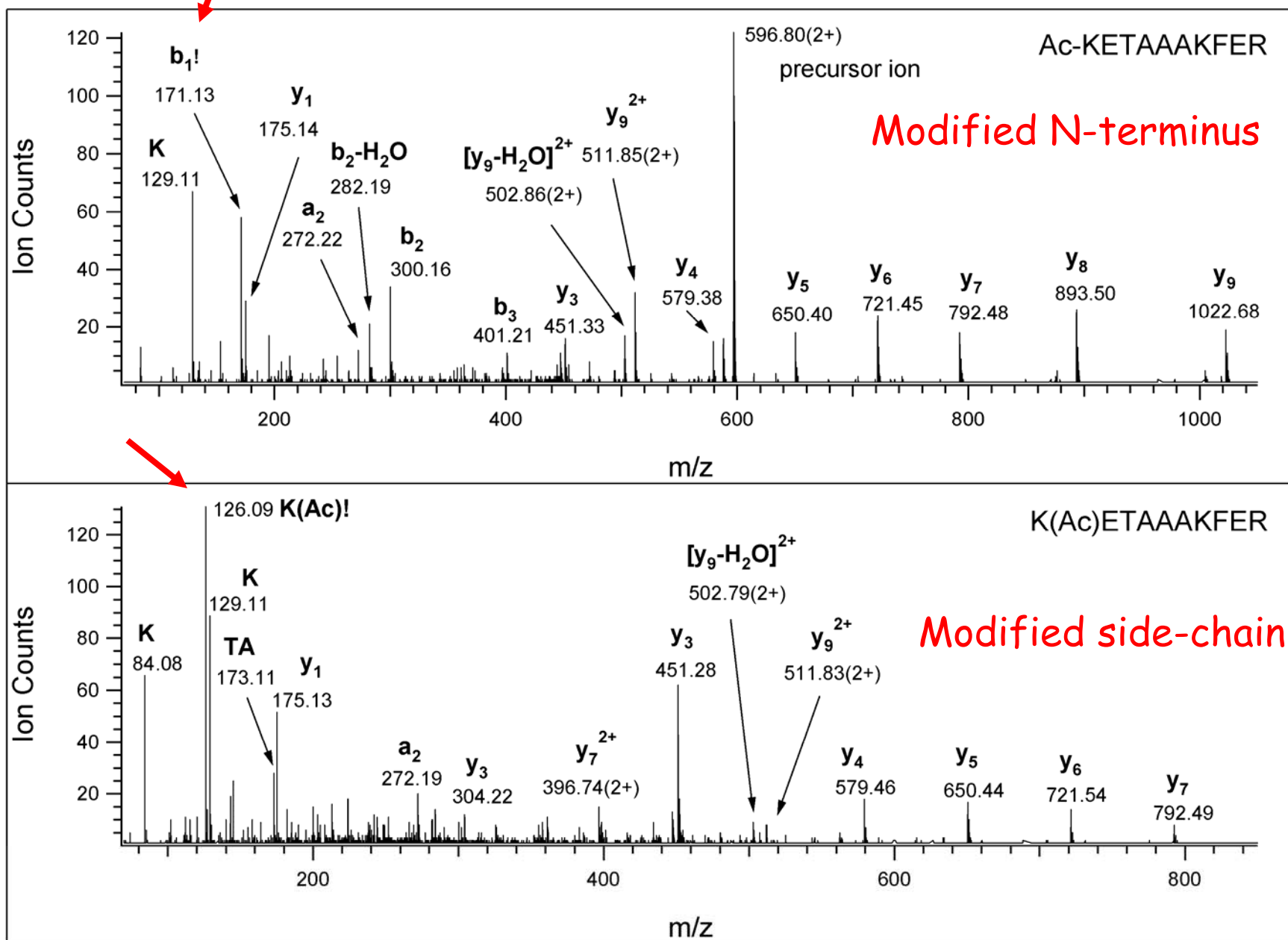
- Met-1 is clipped off; Ac- is added to G, A, S, T

If 2nd aa: E, D, Q, M, I, L, W, F -
persisting Met gets acetylated

Finding the N-termini



- McDonald L, et al., Positional proteomics: selective recovery and analysis of N-terminal proteolytic peptides. Nat Methods. 2005 Dec;2(12):955-7. Epub 2005 Nov 18.



I don't think any search engine will tell the difference !

Methylation (mono, di, tri - +14, +28, +42 Da)

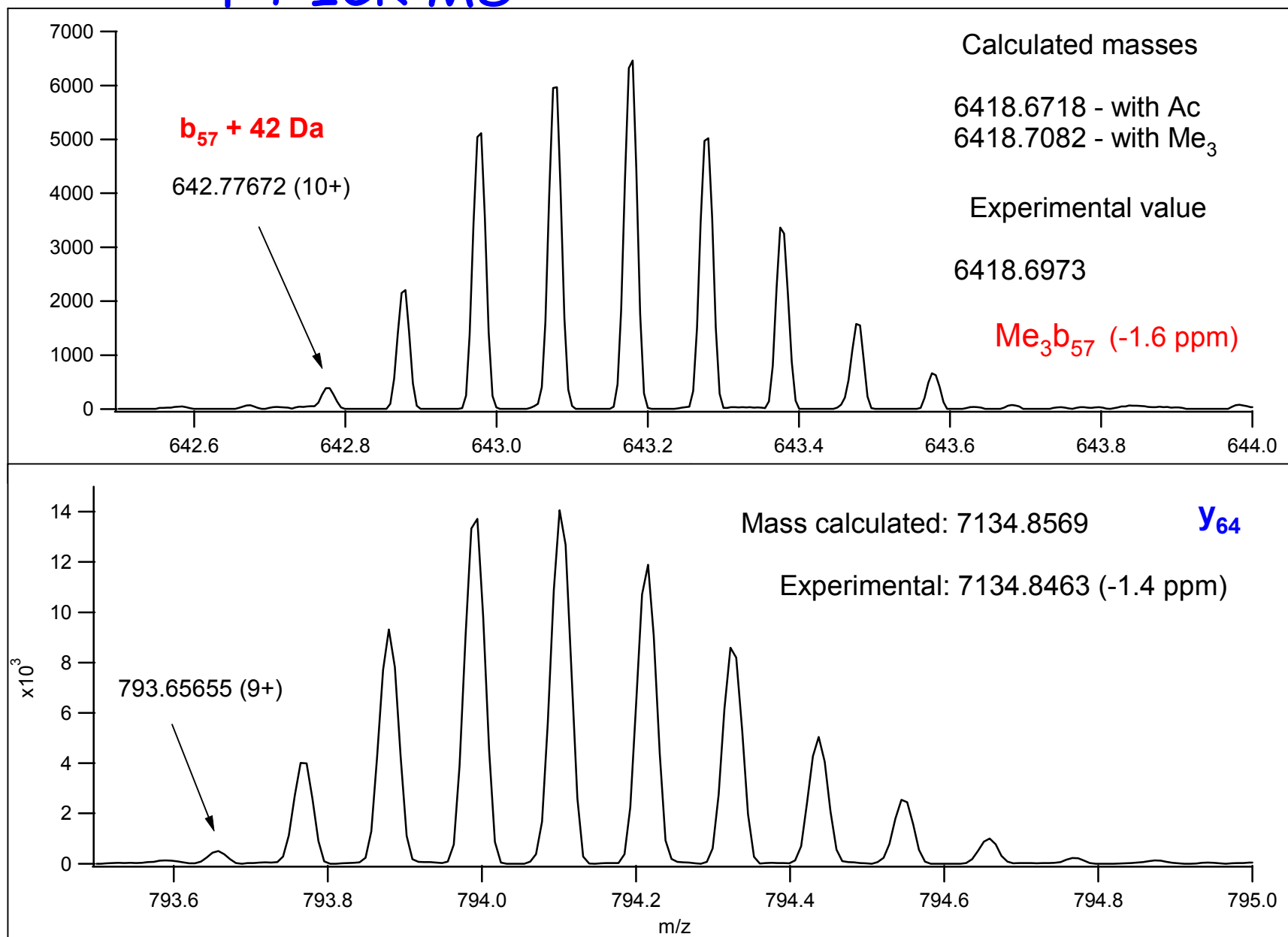
- N-terminus, Lys, Arg, His
- Trimethyl - acetyl = 36 mmu

Accurate mass measurement helps;

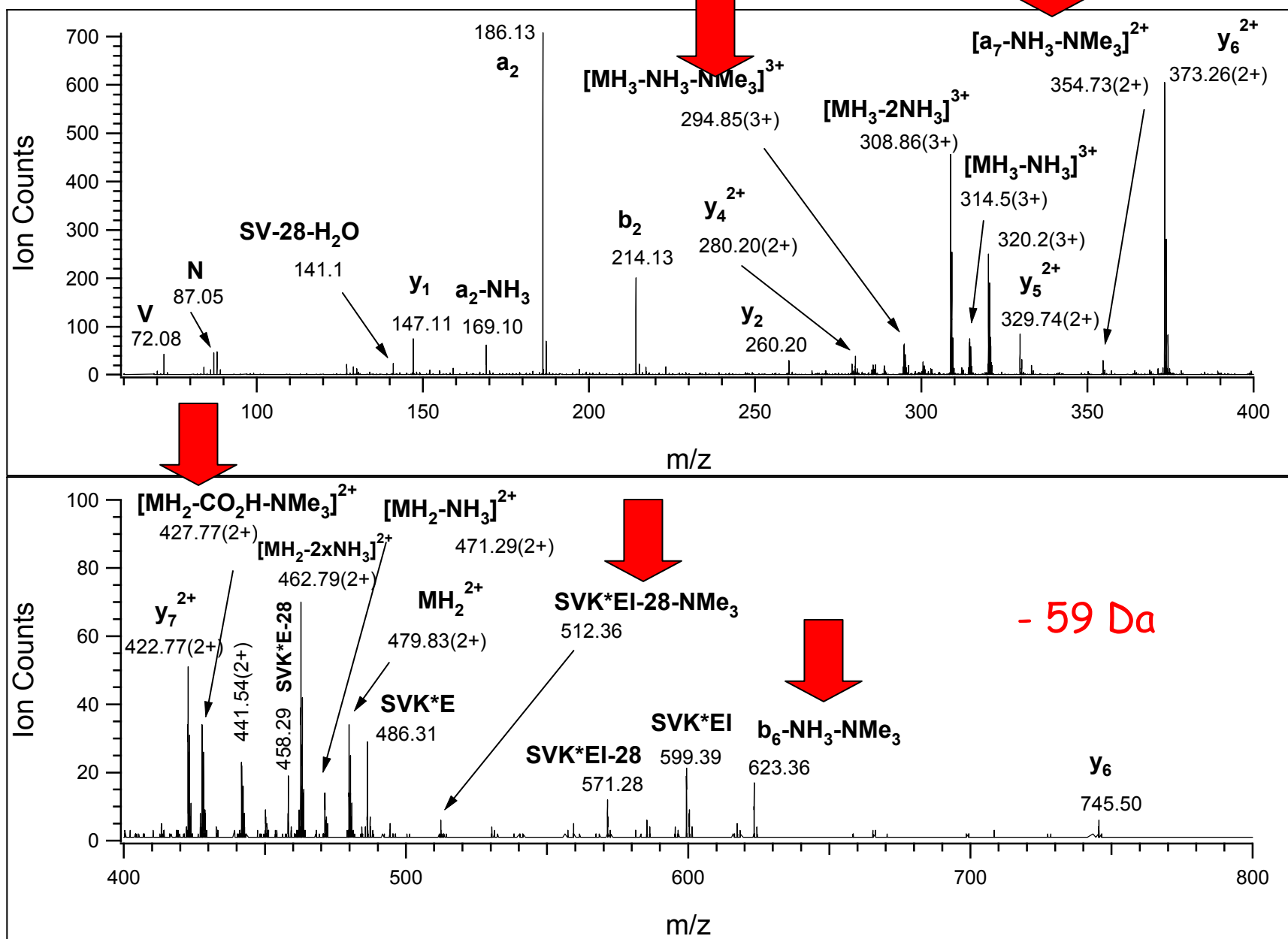
Fragmentation is different too

- Glu (Asp) may form Me-ester - upon CBB staining (MeOH + acid) + 14 Da

FT ICR MS



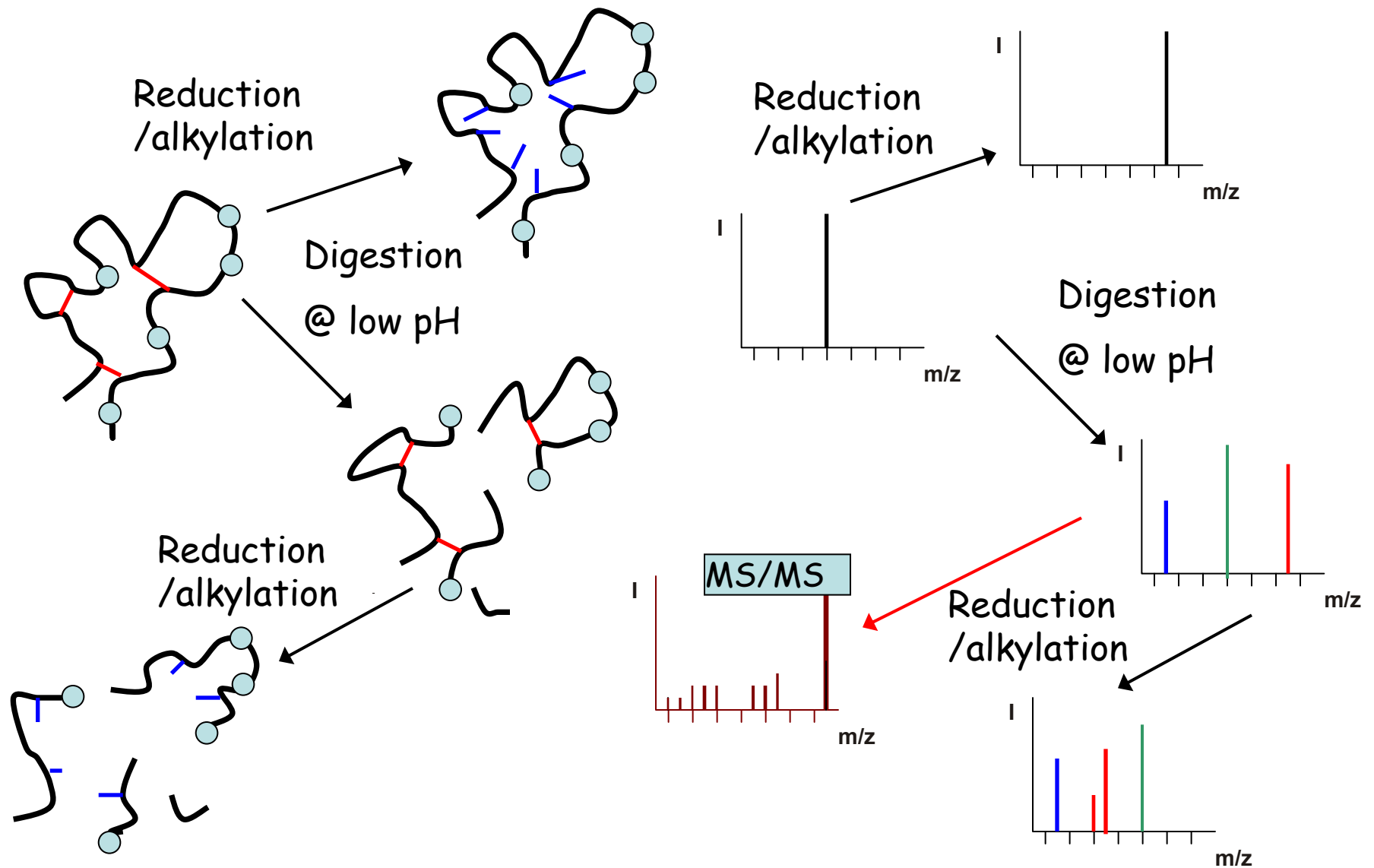
Asn-Val-Ser-Val-Lys(Me₃)-Glu-Ile-Lys



Disulfide-bridges

- in membrane and secreted proteins
important 3D structure feature
- prone to shuffling @ basic pH

Assigning disulfide-bridges



Synthetic Ac-TIMP-1(Ser¹⁷⁵)126-184

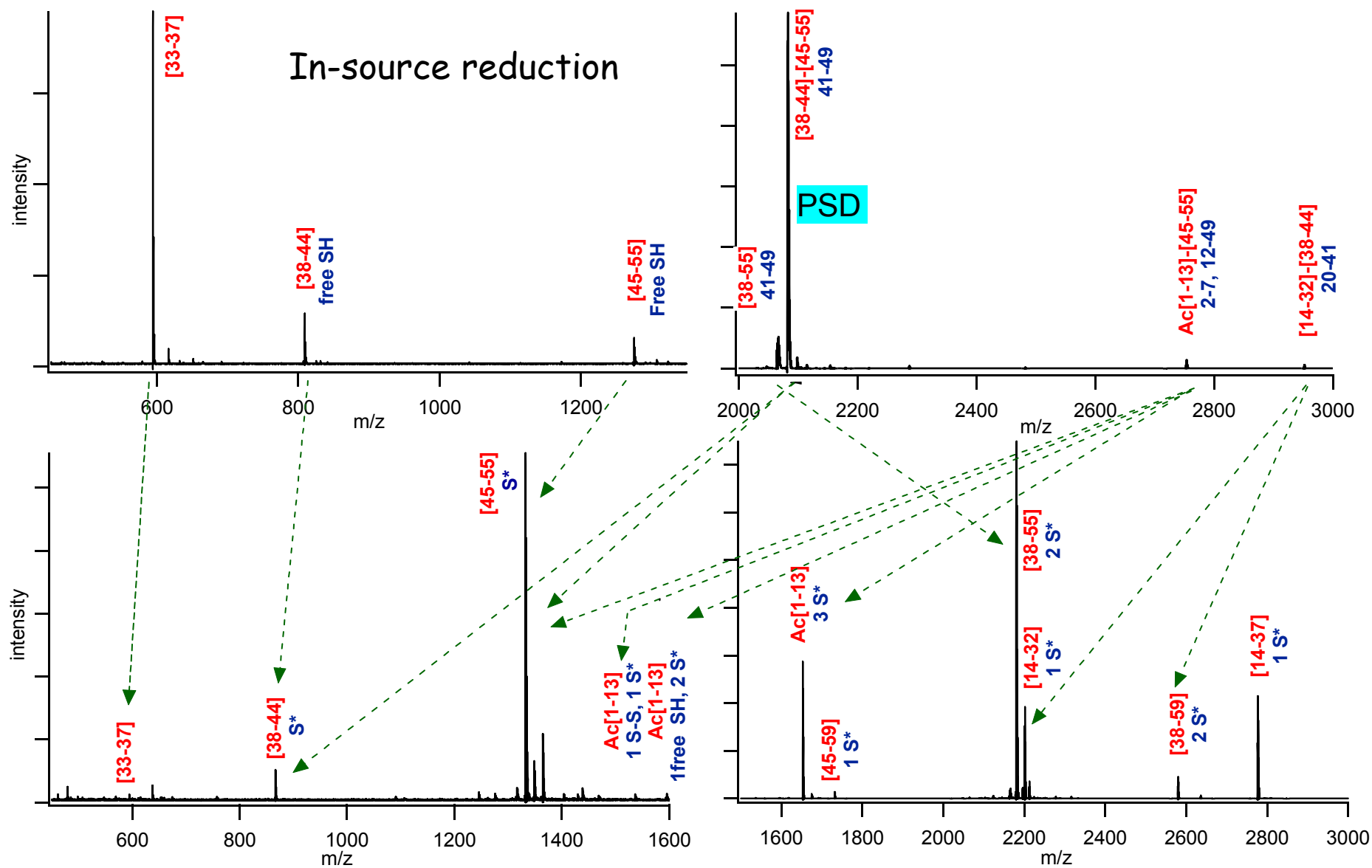
ECTVFPCLSI PCKLQSGTHC LWTDQLLQGS
EKGFSRHLA CLPREPGLCS WQSLRSQIA

Where are the disulfide bridges?

- * digestion with trypsin @ pH 6;
- * with pepsin in acid

Bodi, N. et al., *J. Pept. Sci.* **9**, 430-441 (2003).

MALDI-TOF analysis of the tryptic digest



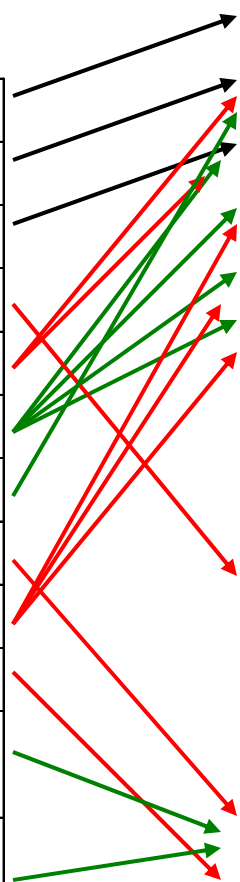
Results from the MALDI-TOF MS

Tryptic digest

After reduction/alkylation

594.30	[33-37]	
809.5	[38-44]	szabad SH
1275.7	[45-55]	szabad SH
2064.0	[38-55]	41-49
2082.1	[38-44]-[45-55]	41-49
2752.4	Ac[1-13]-[45-55]	2-49, 7-12
2950.6	[14-32]-[38-44]	20-41
3602.6	Ac[1-32]	2-7, 12-20
3620.6	Ac[1-13]-[14-32]	2-7, 12-20
4177.3	Ac[1-37]	2-7, 12-20
5665.1	Ac[1-32]-[37-55]+H ₂ O	2-49, 7-12, 20-41
5683.2	Ac[1-32]-[37-55]+2 H ₂ O	2-49, 7-12, 20-41

594.30	[33-37]	
866.5	[38-44]	1 CM Cys
1332.7	[45-55]	1 CM Cys
1536.8	Ac[1-13]	1 S-S, 1 CM Cys
1595.8	Ac[1-13]	1 SH, 2 CM Cys
1652.7	Ac[1-13]	3 CM Cys
1674.8	[45-59]	SH
1731.9	[45-59]	1 CM Cys
2144.2	[14-32]	SH
2180.1	[38-55]	2 CM Cys
2201.1	[14-32]	1 CM Cys
2579.3	[38-59]	2 CM Cys
2776.3	[14-37]	1 CM Cys
3834.7	Ac[1-32]	4 CM Cys
4409.7	Ac[1-37]	4 CM Cys



55], PSD of MH^+ at m/z 2082.1

MALDI-PSD/CID yields characteristic triplets

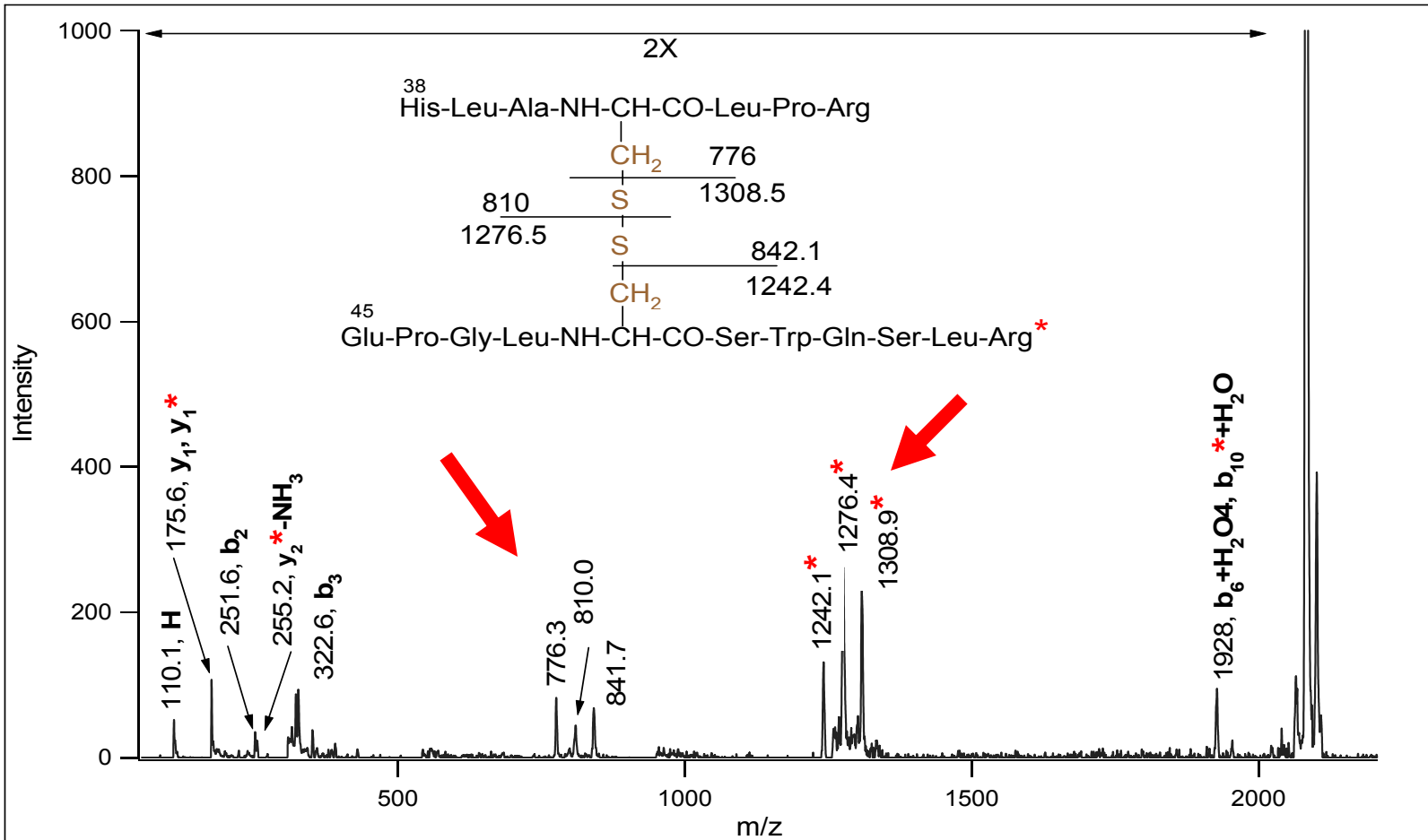
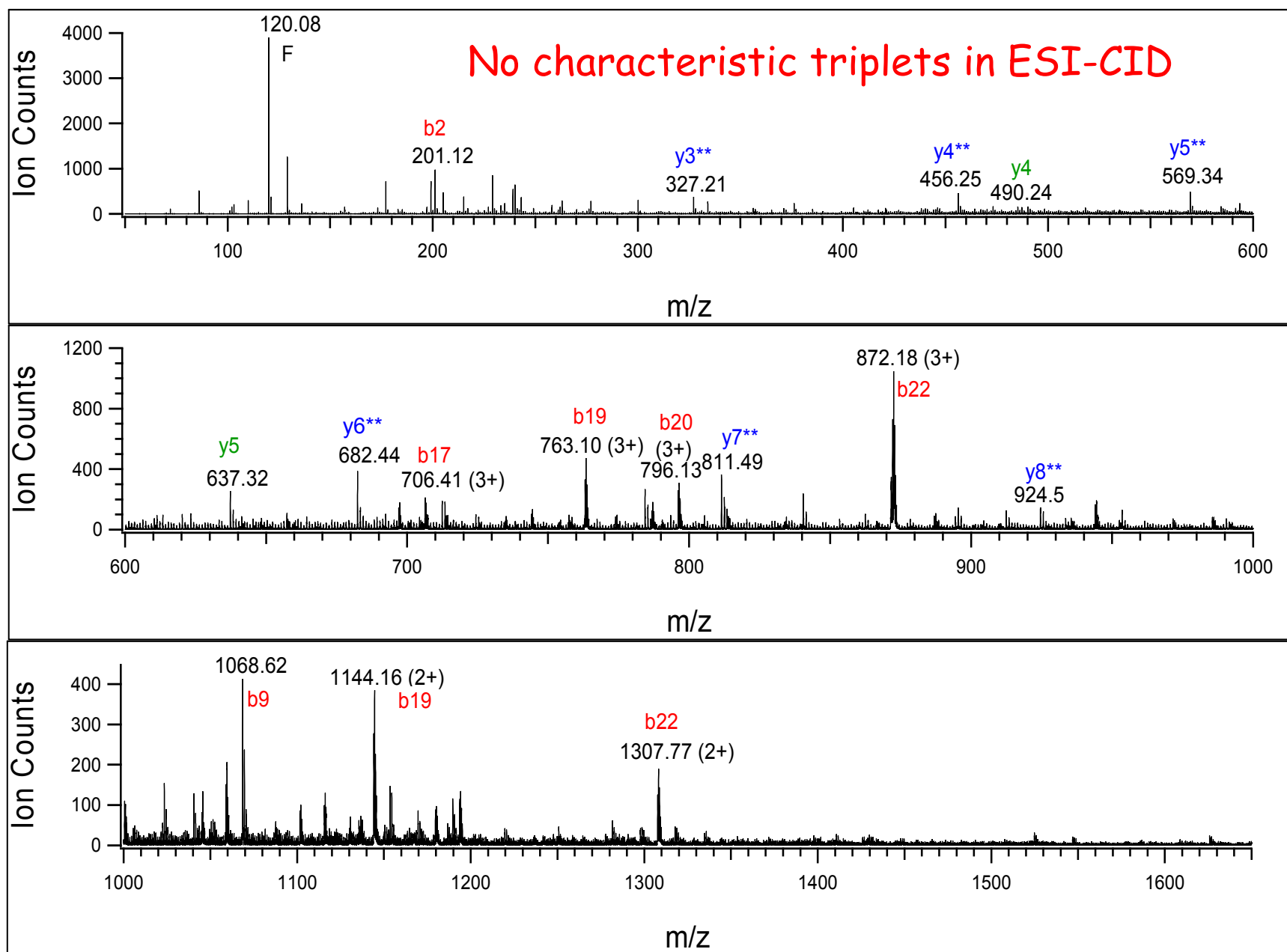


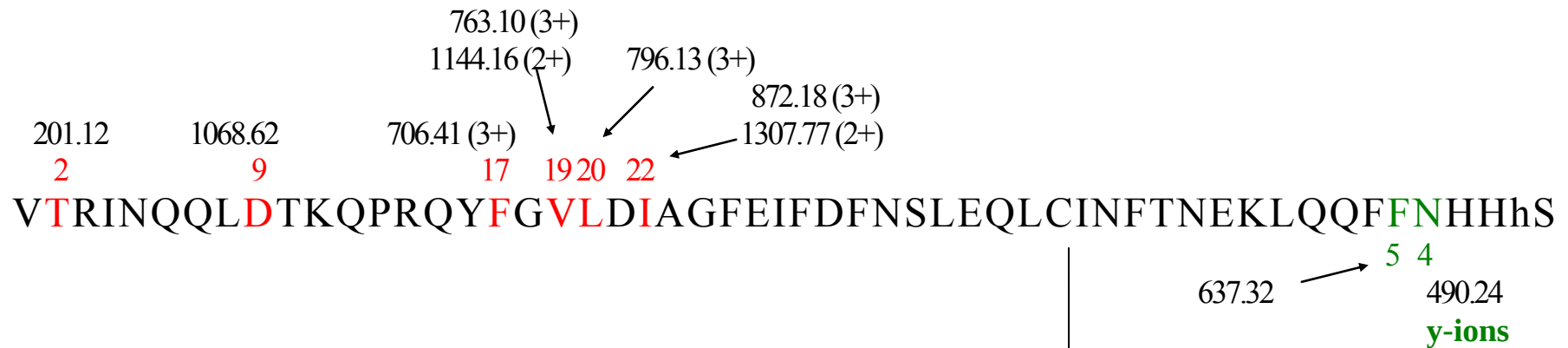
Figure 9. Low energy CID of m/z 871.79 (most abundant ion in 9+ cluster), MW (monoisotopic) 7835.03 Da. This molecule was identified as disulfide linked peptides [443-496] and [519-531] of myosin heavy chain. Sequence and fragmentation are shown on the next page.



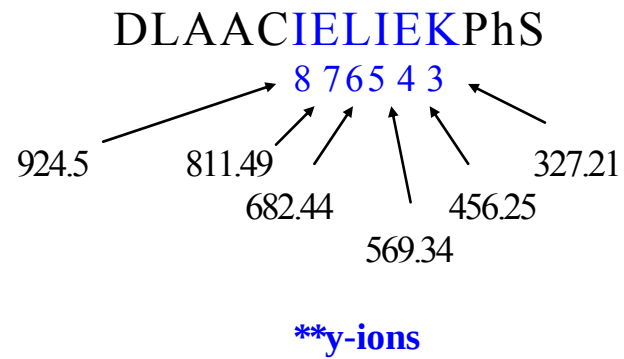
Fragment ions used for the identification of disulfide linked myosin peptides.
(see low energy CID spectrum in Figure 9.)

b-ions

myosin heavy chain peptide [443-496]

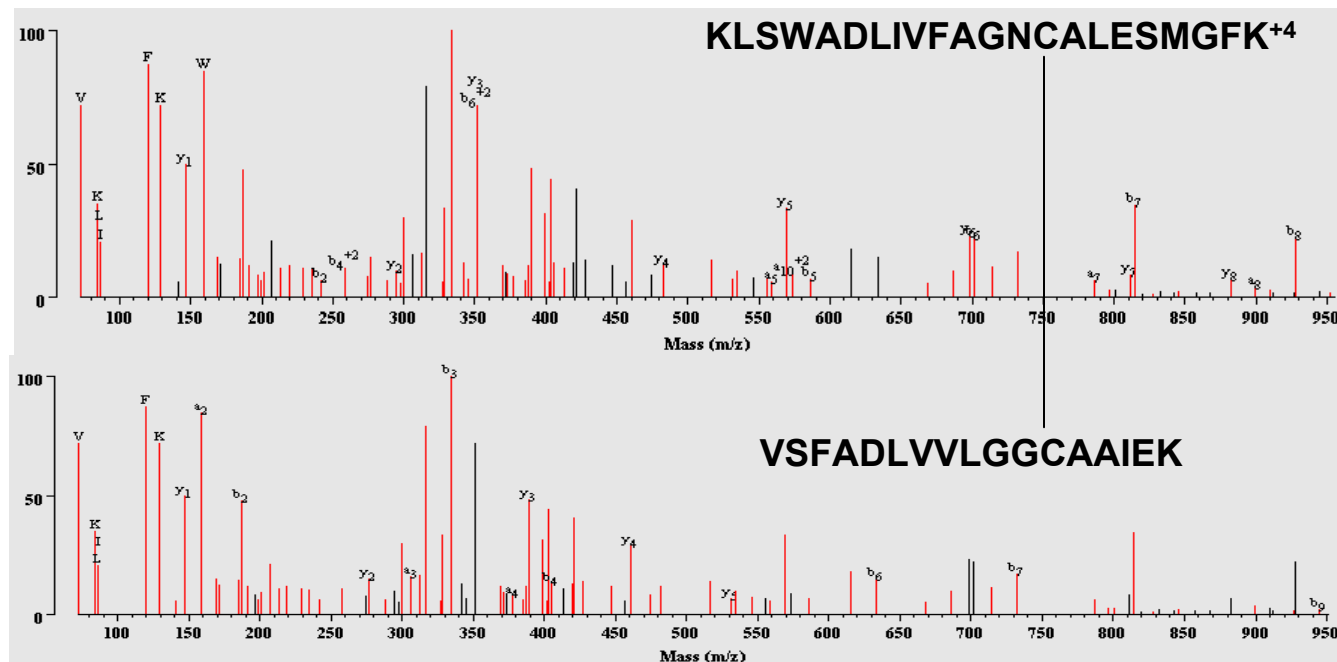


myosin heavy chain peptide [519-531]



Disulfide Bridges

The ProteinProspector mass modification search can be used in conjunction with MS-Bridge to find peptides with disulfide bridges. For this example, mass shifts between 0-2000 Da were considered. (1023.3276⁺⁴).



Glycosylation

<http://glycores.ncifcrf.gov/>

Reference: [Essentials of Glycobiology](#) by Varki et al.

ources: Glycans - Mozilla Firefox

Bookmarks Tools Help

http://glycores.ncifcrf.gov/glycan/index.html

Save to My Web my web

es [glycans](#) [transferases](#) [oligosaccharides](#) [protein-carbohydrate interaction](#)

>> Overview

In context

[N-glycan](#) [O-glycan](#) [O-GlcNAc](#) [GAG Chain](#) [Glycosphingolipid](#) [PI-glycan](#)

Legend

- Man
- GlcNAc
- GalNAc
- HexA
- Xyl
- Glc
- Gal

Schematic picture has been adapted from the book "Essentials of Glycobiology" (Varki, et al. 1999)

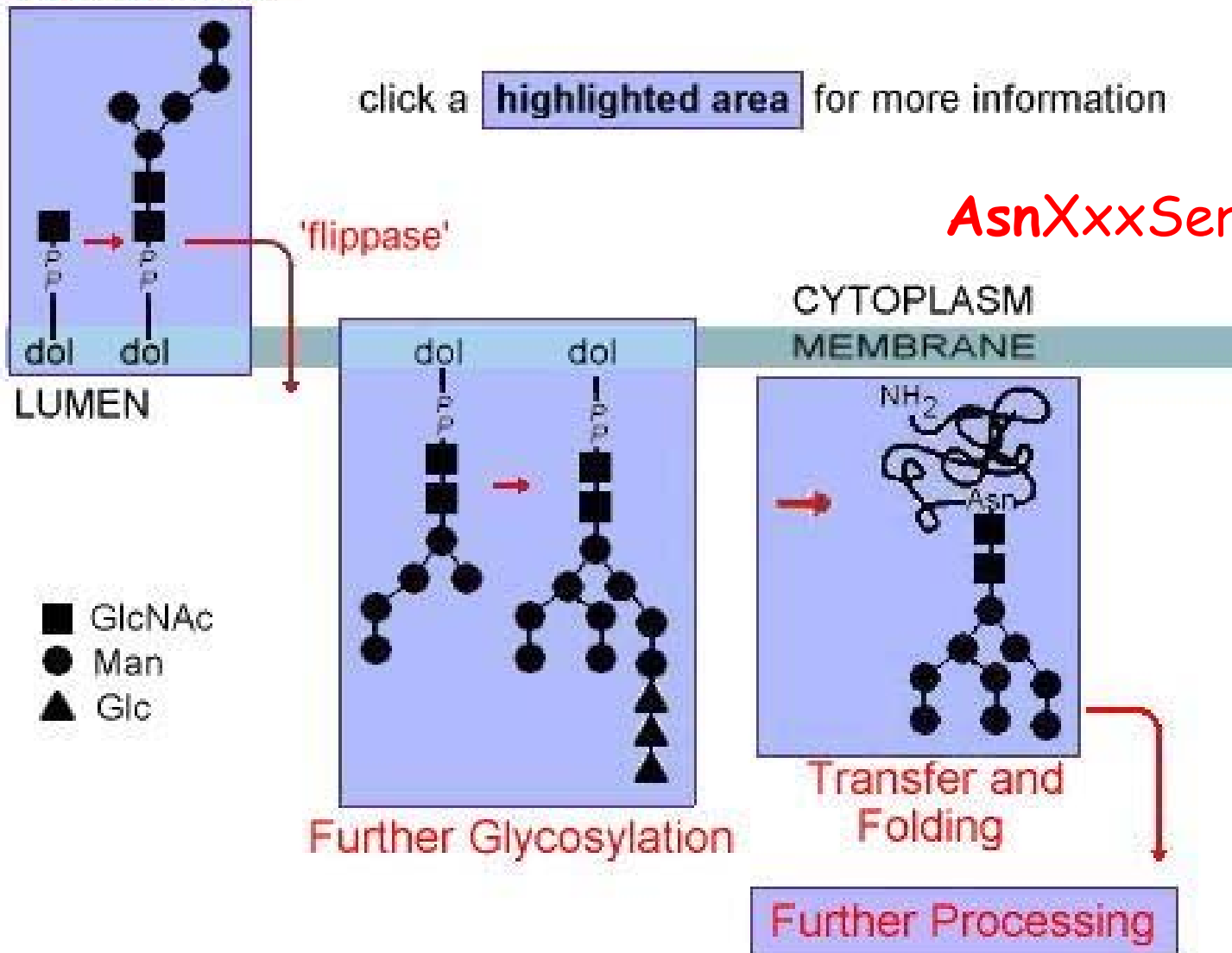
Many complex polysaccharide structures were generated using the [Sweet](#) application, developed at DKFZ Heidelberg

Friday, November 8:

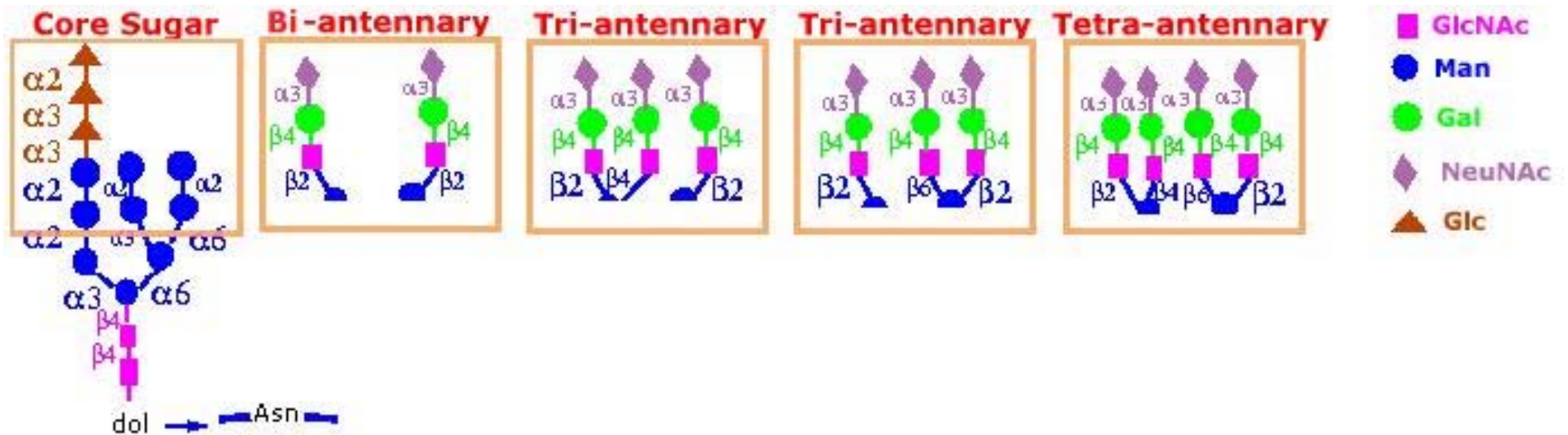
Inbox - Thunderbird Glycobiology Resourc... Microsoft PowerPoint ... Medzihradsky_3 - Mi...

N-linked

Glycosylation



Further processing



N-linked glycosylation

- consensus sequence

- $\text{GlcNAc}_2\text{Man}_3$ - core

oligomannose structure - just Man units

complex sugars- GlcNAc-Gal-SA antennae

hybrid structures

core fucosylation

sulfate, phosphate modifications

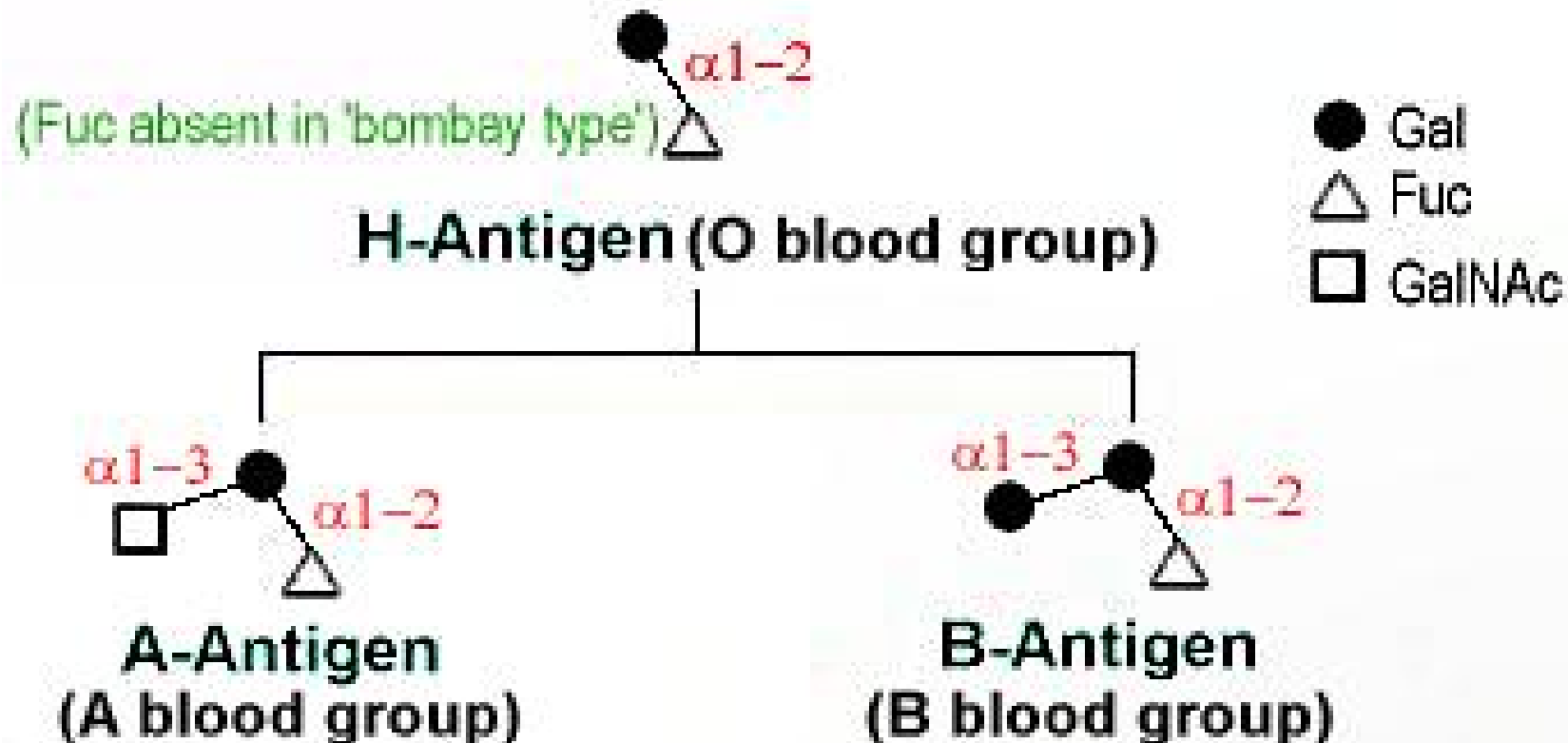
- PNGase F removes all N-linked structures; $\text{Asn} \rightarrow \text{Asp}$

N-linked glycosylation

- Incredible heterogeneity: a site may be only partially occupied and may display numerous different carbohydrates
- species-, tissue-, cell-type-specific modification, physiological changes, diseases may alter the sugars

certain structures are immunogenic

Gal α 1-3 capping, Fuc α 1-3 on inner GlcNAc;
blood group determinants



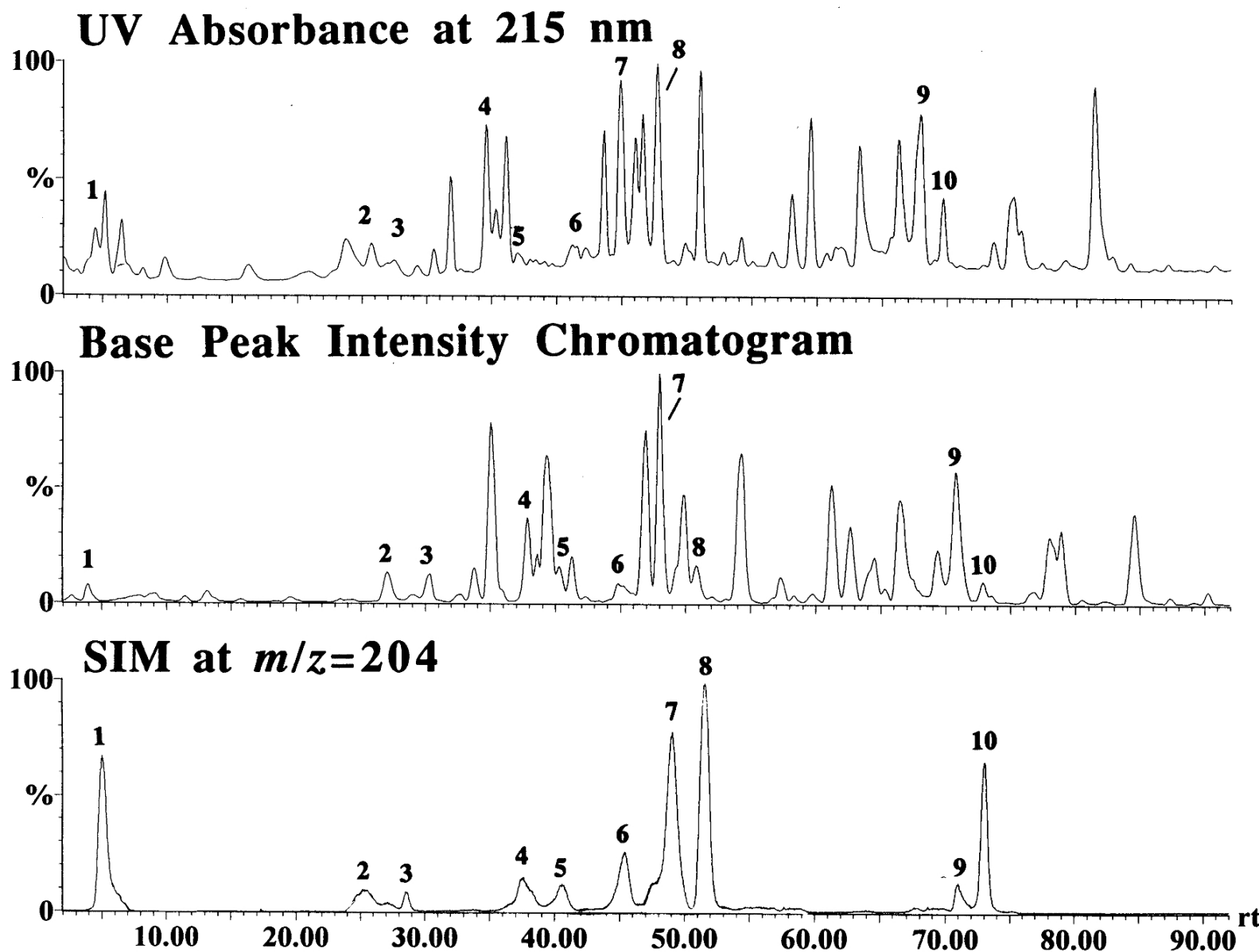
N-linked glycosylation

- Identification from diagnostic fragments:
 - * HexNAc m/z 204
 - * HexHexNAc m/z 366

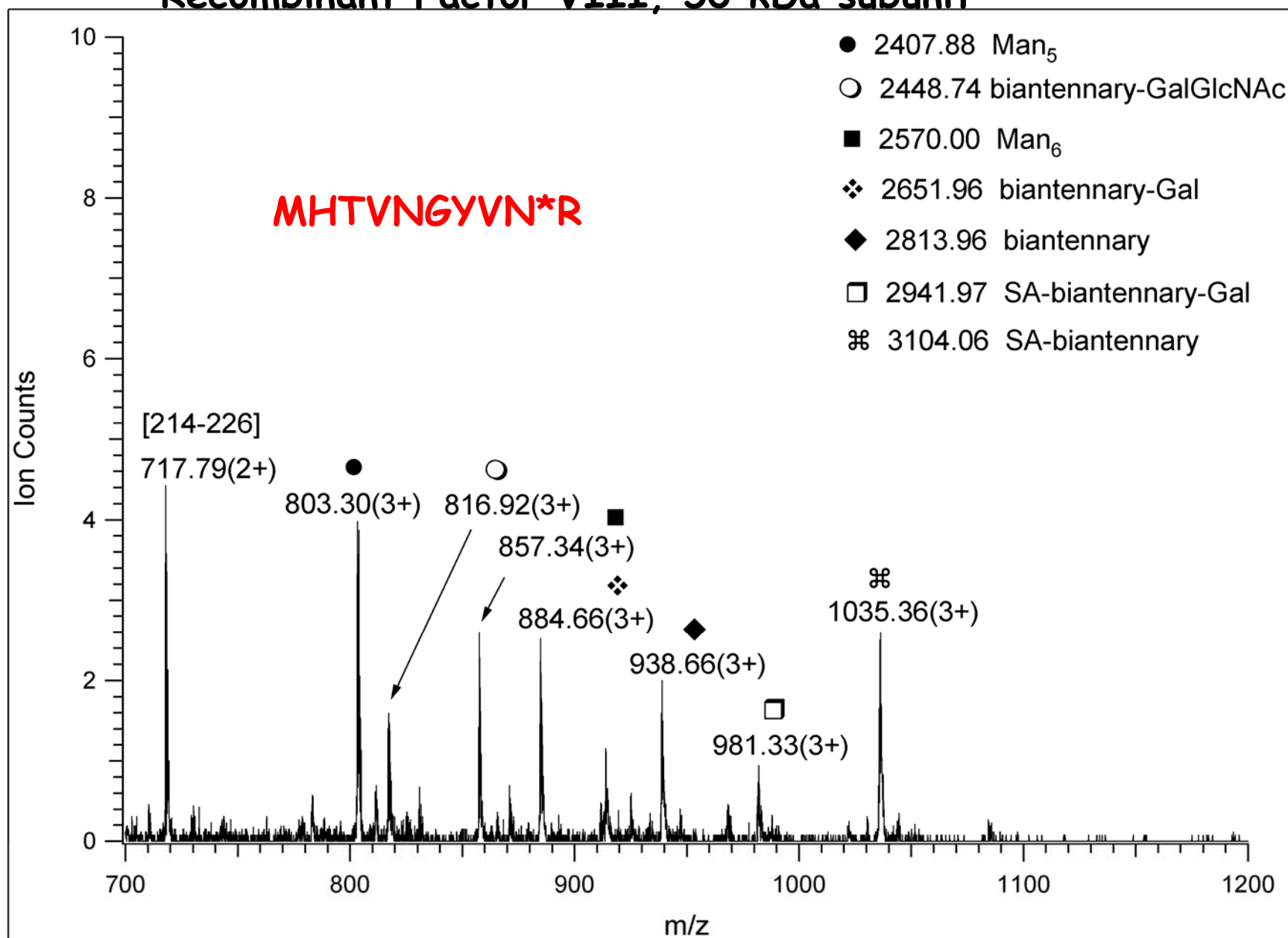
Precursor scan, or „ping-pong“ acquisition

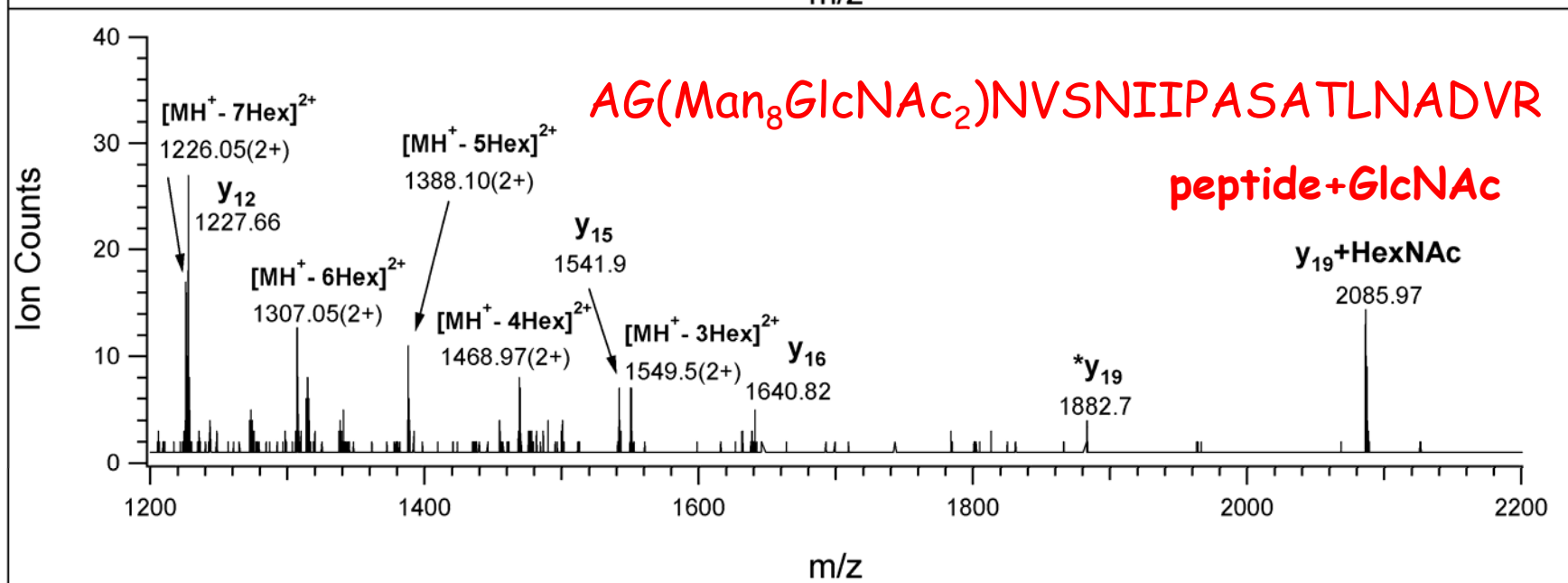
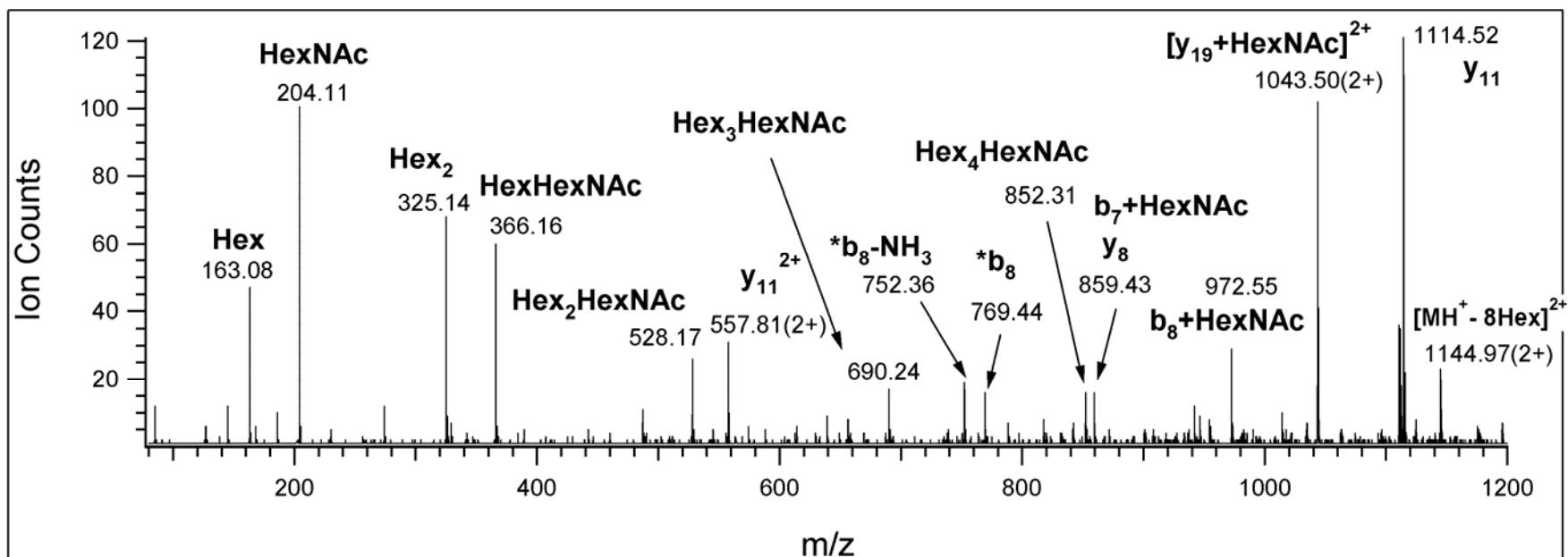
- Identification from oligosaccharide heterogeneity
- enrichment by HILIC or lectin-chromatography

human lecithin:cholesterol acyltransferase and apolipoprotein D, tryptic digest, LC/MS analysis



Recombinant Factor VIII, 50 kDa subunit

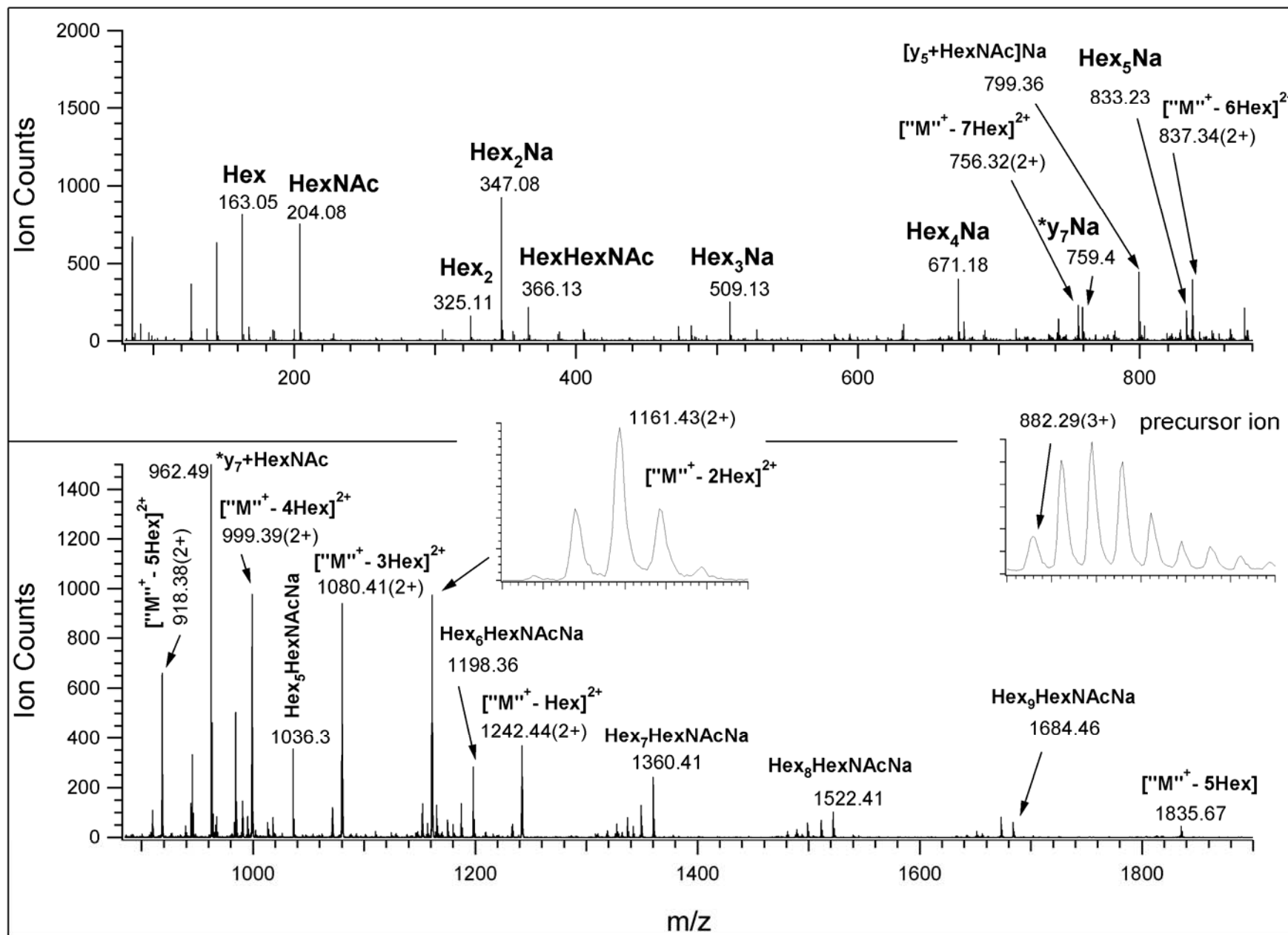




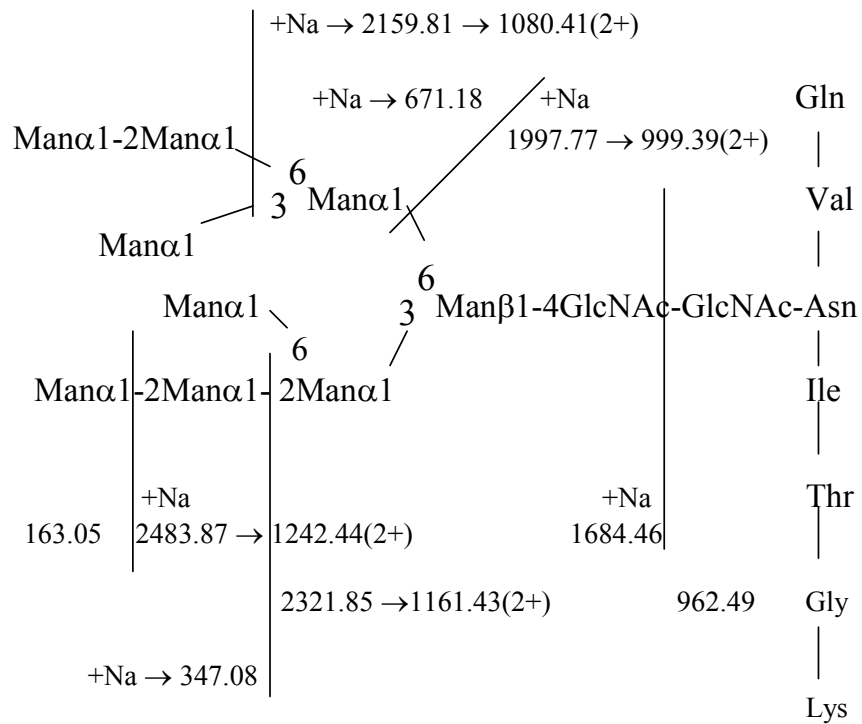
About the structures of N-linked glycopeptides

- from the measured mass, and the CID spectrum the modified peptide can be identified + the size and class of the sugar
- the identity of the sugar units and their linkage positions **CANNOT** be determined
- NMR, exo- and endoglycosidases are needed to complete the job

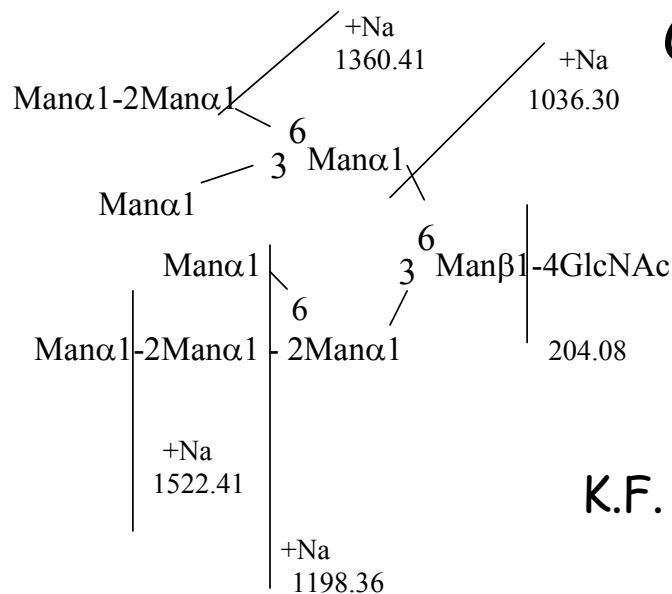
$[\text{MHN}_2]^{3+}$ of $\text{QV}(\text{Man}_{10}\text{GlcNAc}_2)\text{NIT}$ and $[\text{MH}_2\text{Na}]^{3+}$ of $\text{QV}(\text{Man}_9\text{GlcNAc}_2)\text{NITGK}$



Scheme 1. Fragments observed in the low energy CID spectrum of $[\text{MH}_2\text{Na}]^{3+}$ of glycopeptide QV(Man₉GlcNAc₂)NITGK (Figure 6)



One component from the previous slide



K.F. Medzihradszky *Meth. Enzymol.* **405**, 116-138 (2005).

O-linked sugars

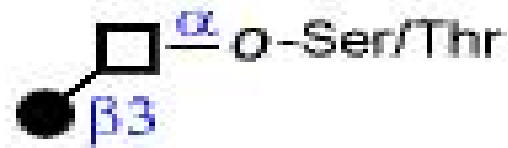
- No consensus sequence
- No common core structure
- No universal enzyme

β -elimination works (NaOH)

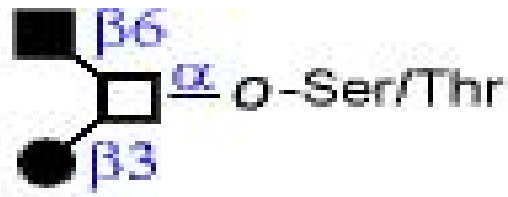
sugars have to be reduced upon release

Detection is problematic - because of
heterogeneity; variable site occupancy

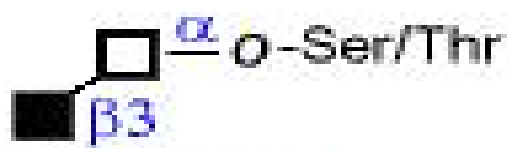
Site assignment is even harder



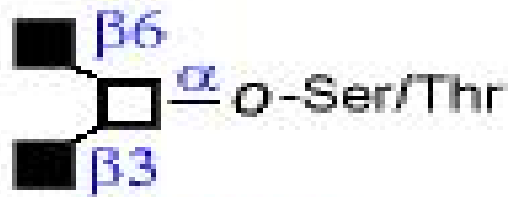
Core 1



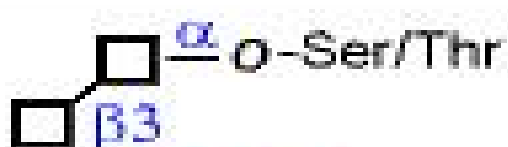
Core 2



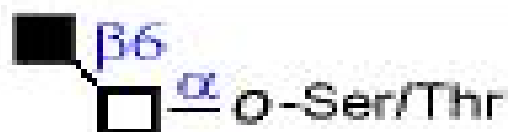
Core 3



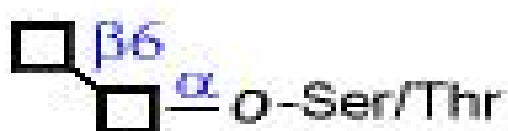
Core 4



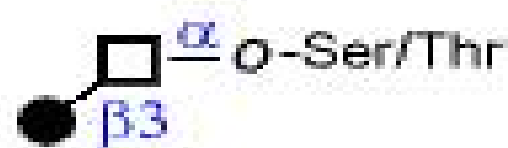
Core 5



Core 6



Core 7



Core 8

O-linked
sugars

Key: ■ GlcNAc □ GalNAc ● Gal

Other O-linked core structures

- Fuc

Harris, R.J. & Spelmann, M.W. (1993)
Glycobiology, 3, 219-224.

- Glc

Nishimura, H et al., (1989)
J. Biol. Chem. 264, 20320-20325.

- Man - in yeast
-

- GlcNAc - single unit; **INSIDE** the cell

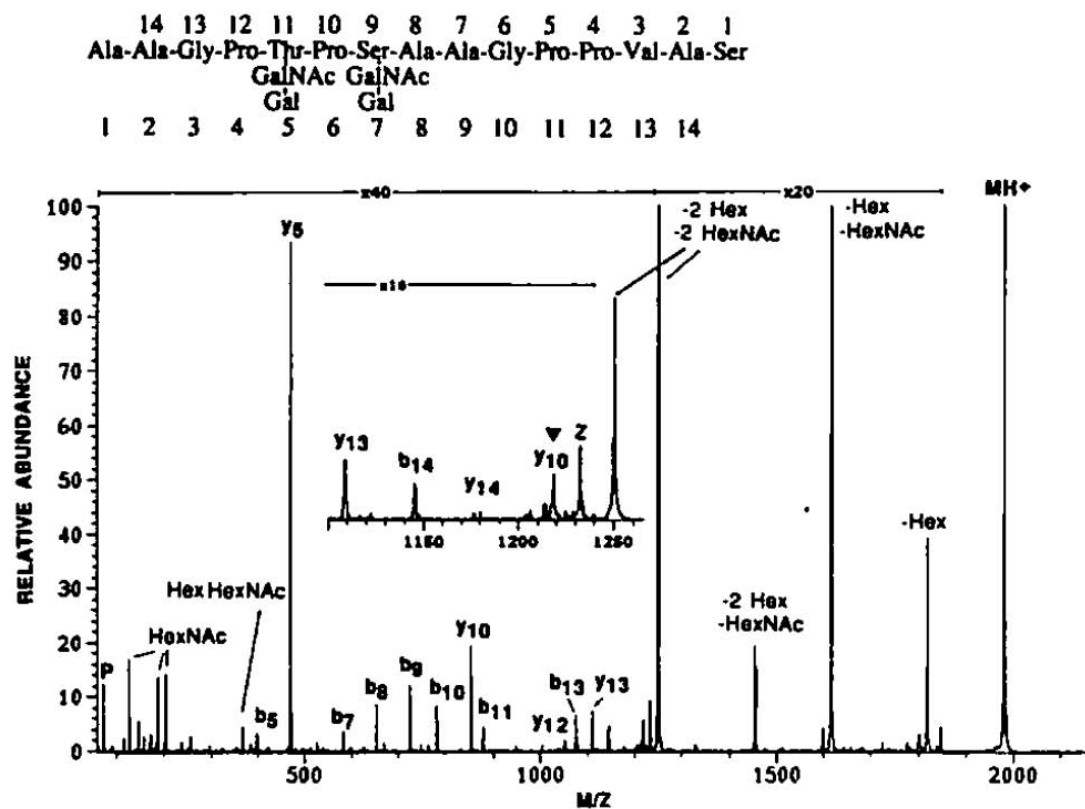


Figure 2. High energy CID spectrum of an asialo fetuin glycopeptide isolated from a tryptic digest. $MH^+ = 1980.8$. Fragment ions are labeled as in Figure 1. Fragment y_{10} (indicated in the inset) shows the presence of the oligosaccharide on the Ser(7) residue.

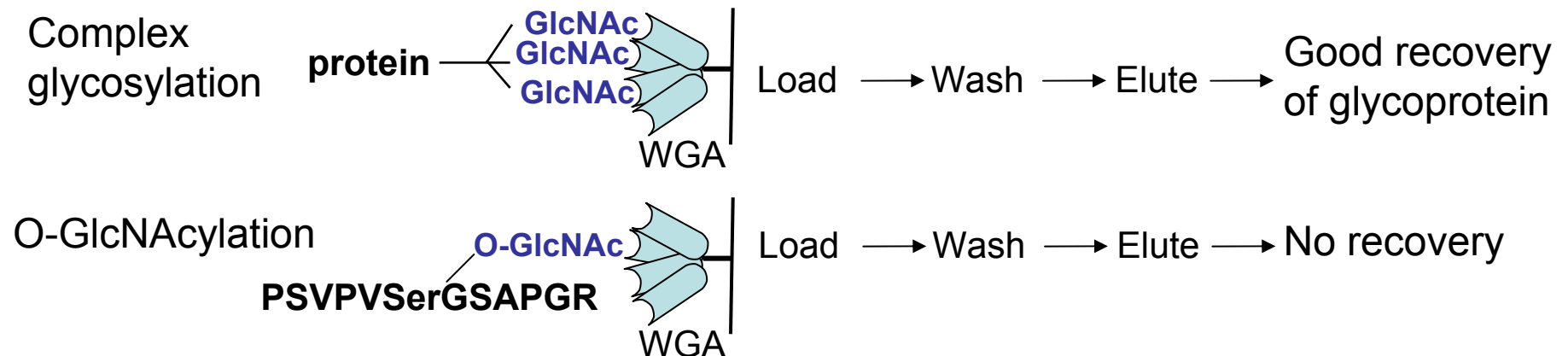
CID
fragmentation
of O-linked
glycopeptides

O-linked GlcNAc

- Regulatory modification of nuclear and cytoplasmic proteins
- Poorly understood due to lack of effective methods for enrichment and detection.

The Enrichment Problem

- WGA lectin has affinity for GlcNAc, but affinity to a single GlcNAc moiety is low: millimolar¹.



O-GlcNAc Enrichment

- Selective Enrichment of O-GlcNAc modified peptides using lectin weak affinity chromatography¹.

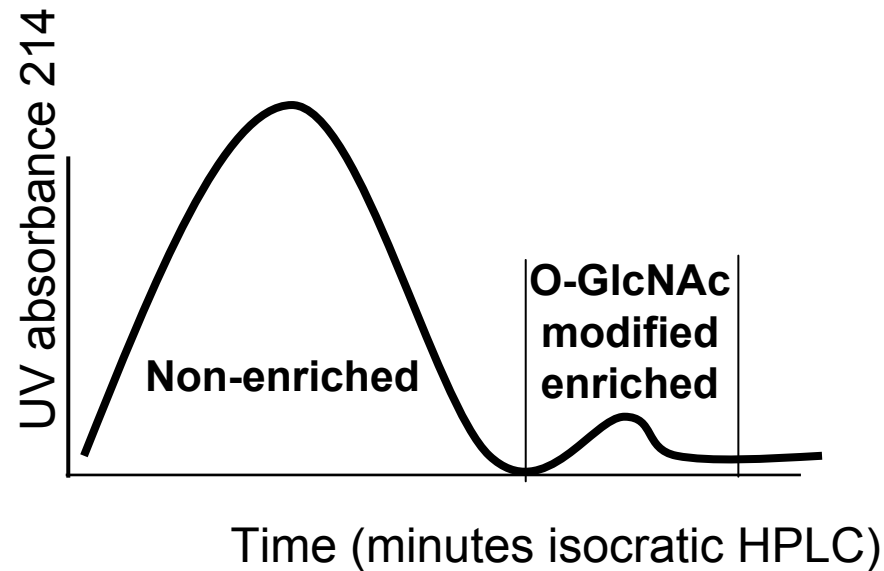
Peptide Mixture



Isocratic Chromatography

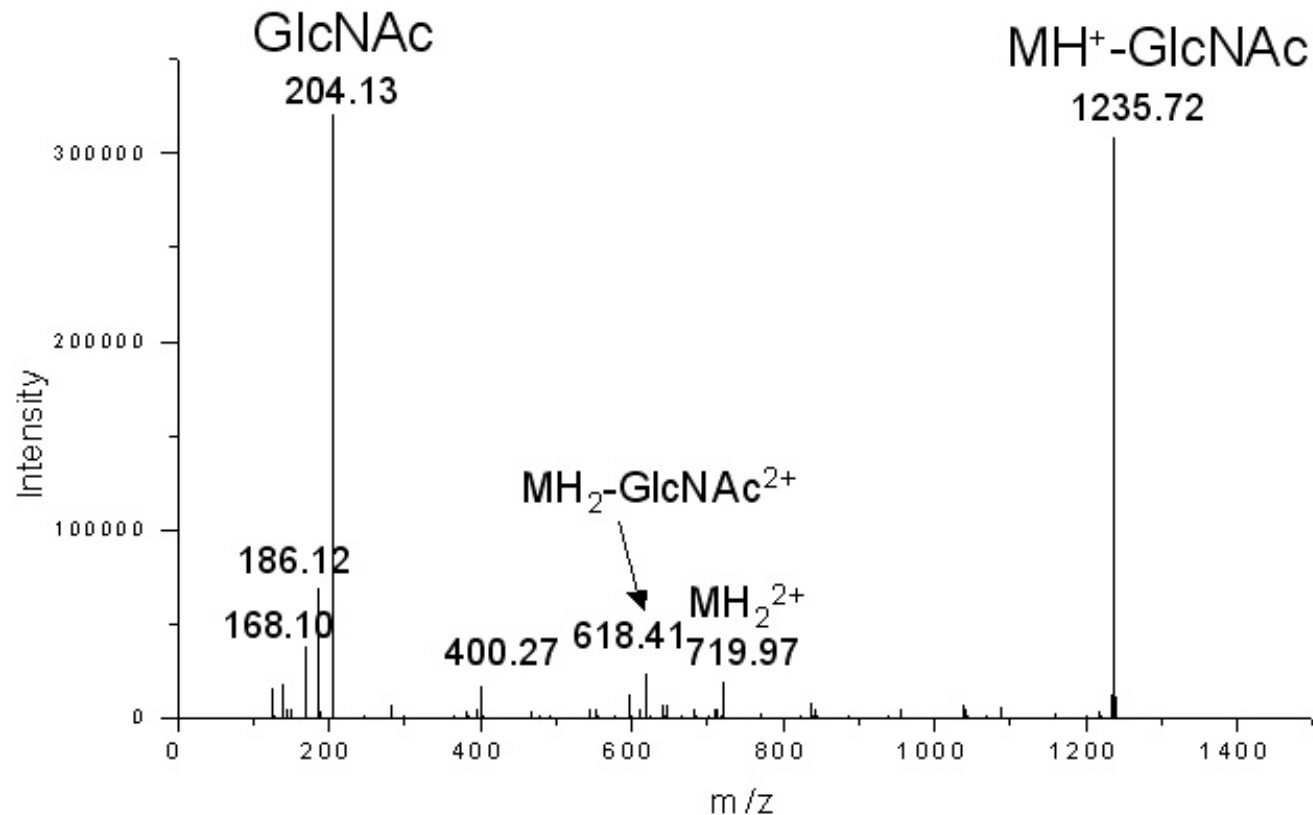


fraction
collection



CID Analysis of O-GlcNAc-Modified Peptides

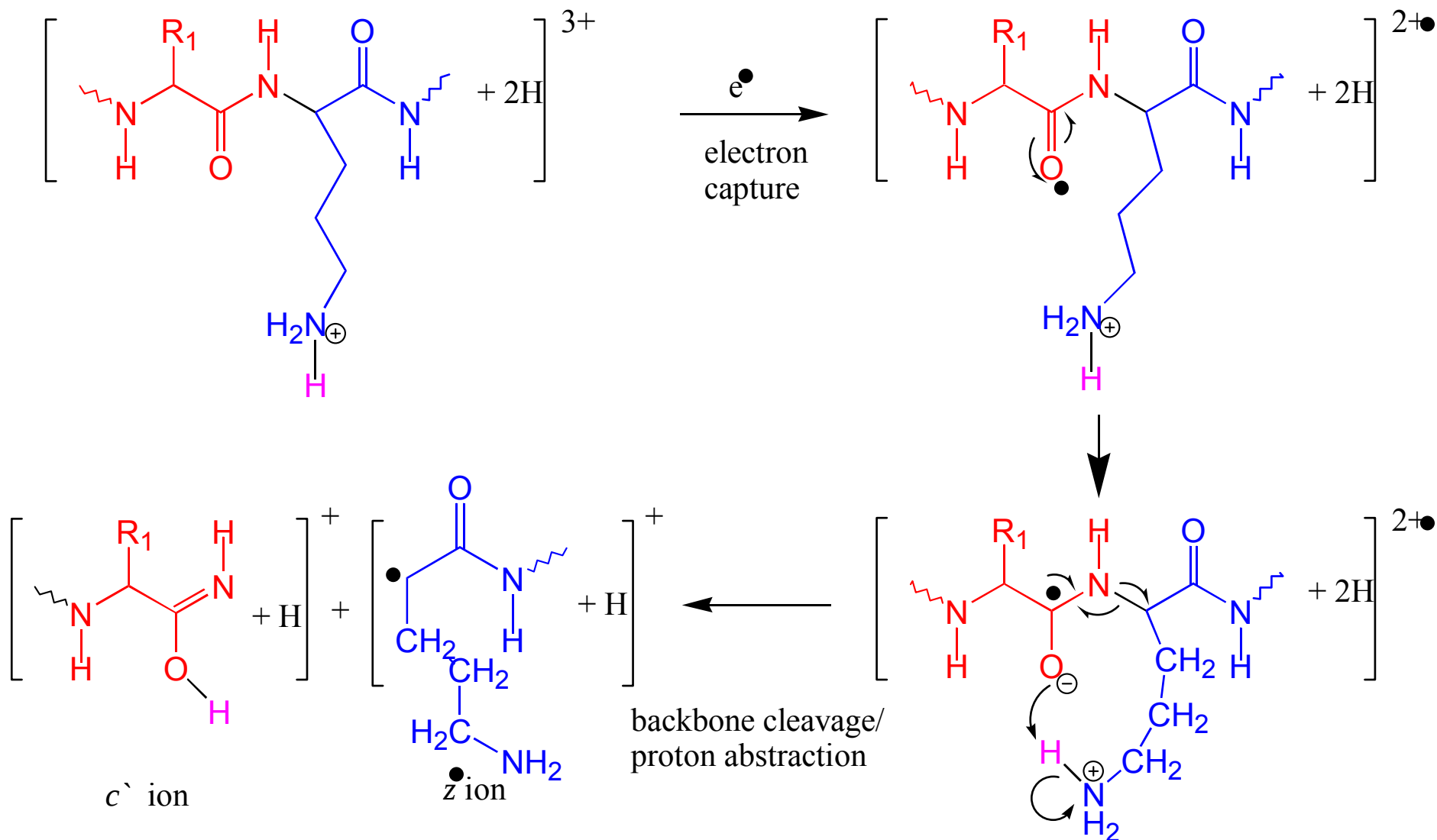
- O-glycosidic link is significantly more labile under CID conditions than peptide backbone.
- Modification site identification using CID often not possible.



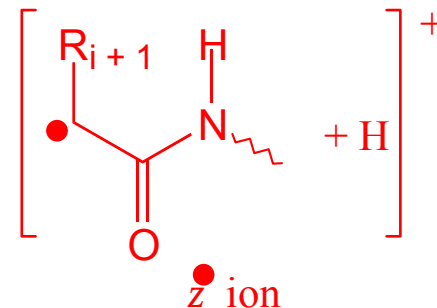
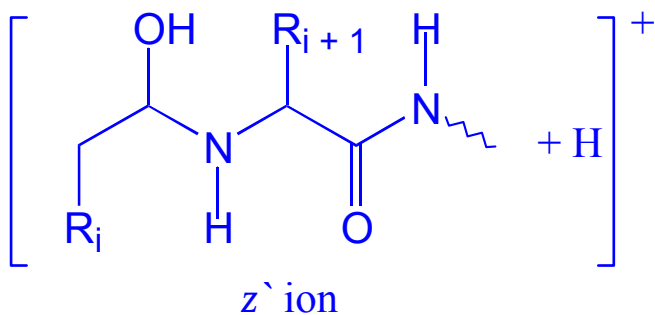
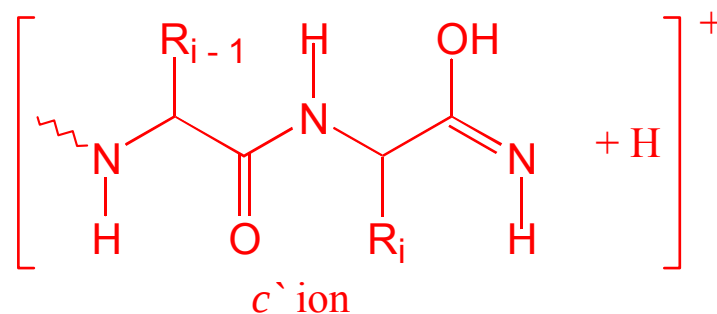
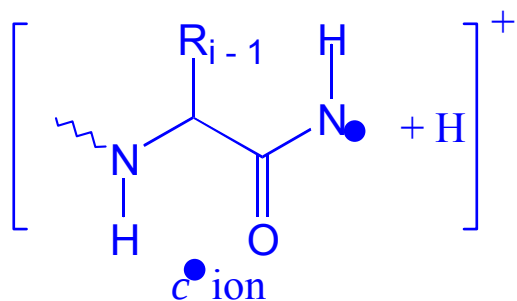
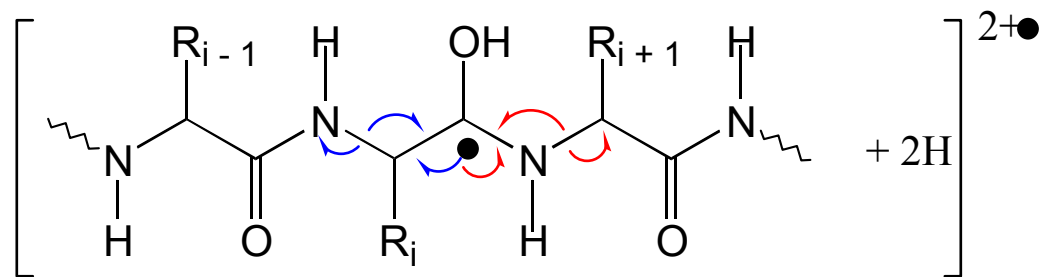
A bit about MS/MS alternatives

- ECD (electron-capture dissociation) - multiply charged ions meet electron beam in FT-ICR - larger the charge state larger the capture's efficiency
- ETD (electron-transfer dissociation) - multiply charged ions meet stable anion (fluoranthene) in ion traps
- radical ion is formed, different mechanism → mostly backbone cleavages

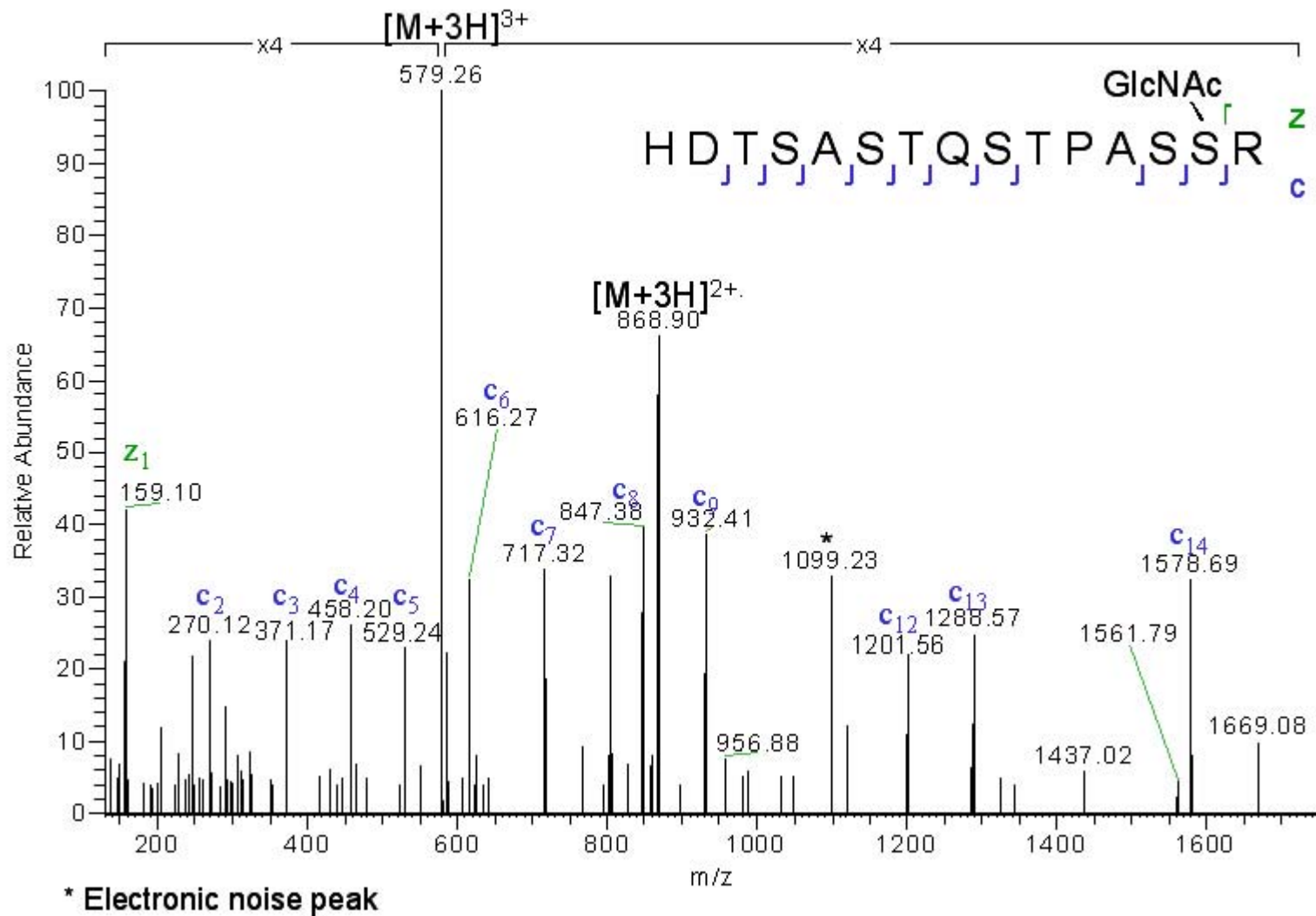
Mechanism of ECD I



Mechanism of ECD II



ECD MS Spectrum of GlcNAc-modified Peptide from Spectrin



Phosphorylation

Biological significance

One of the most important regulatory events:

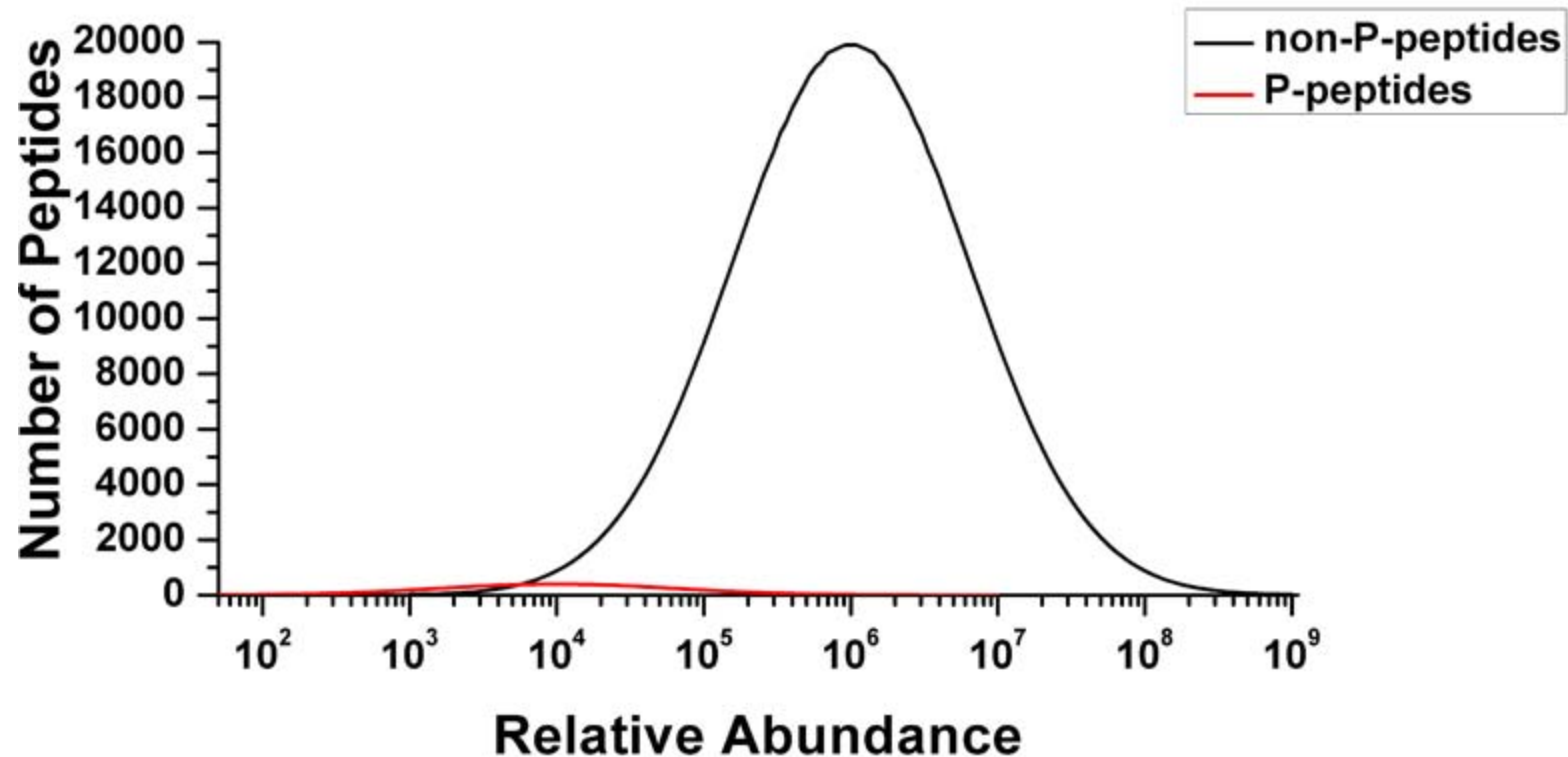
- turns proteins on and off
- induces or prevents other post-translational modifications in the same protein
- signaling pathways : phosphorylation cascades

Difficulties

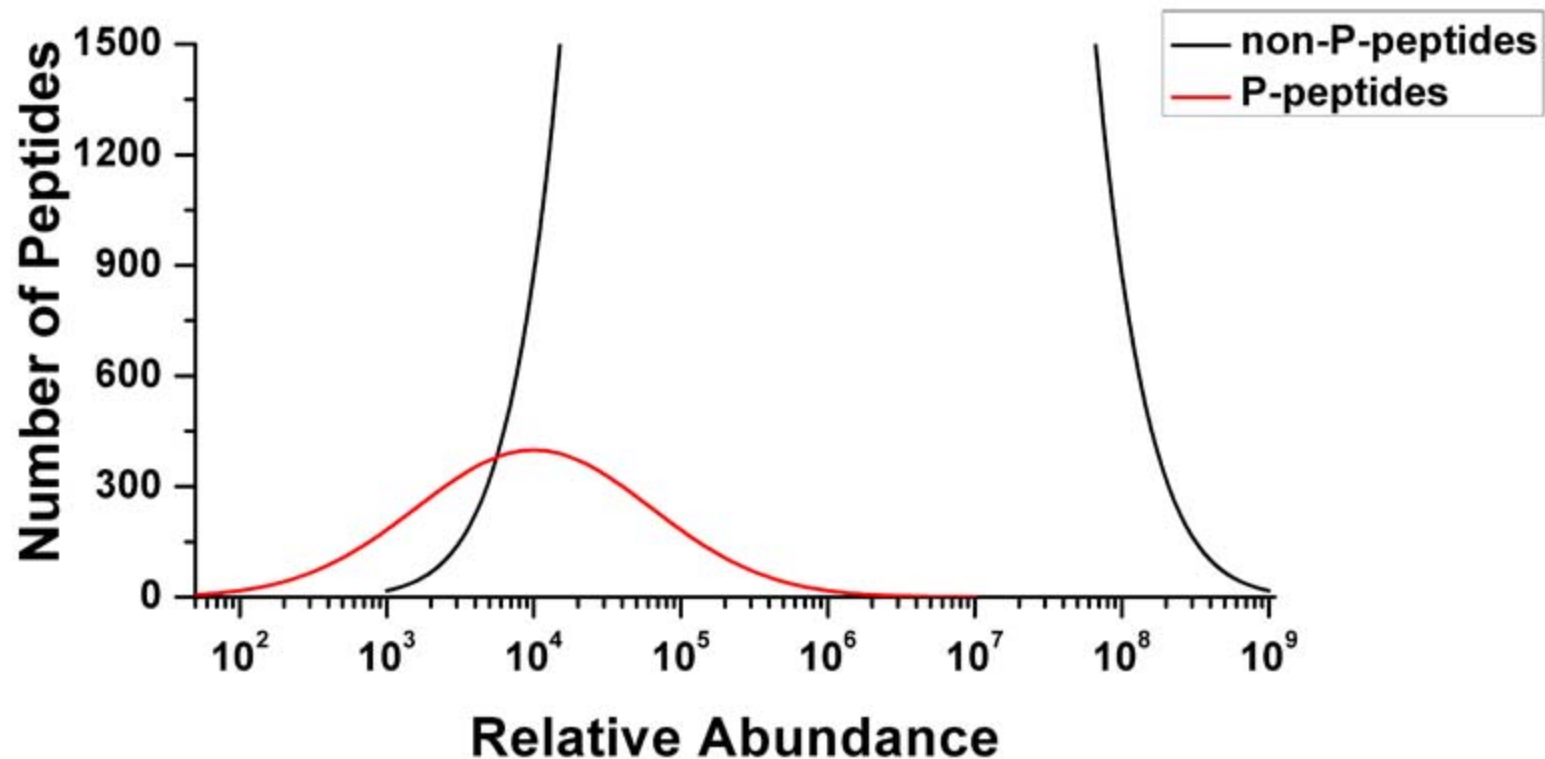
- a) Dynamic process : kinase vs. phosphatase
 - *both* must be blocked during isolation
- b) Phosphorylation often @ low level (<5%)
- c) Lower ionization efficiency - signal of phosphopeptides suppressed

→ Enrichment is a must at protein level
at peptide level

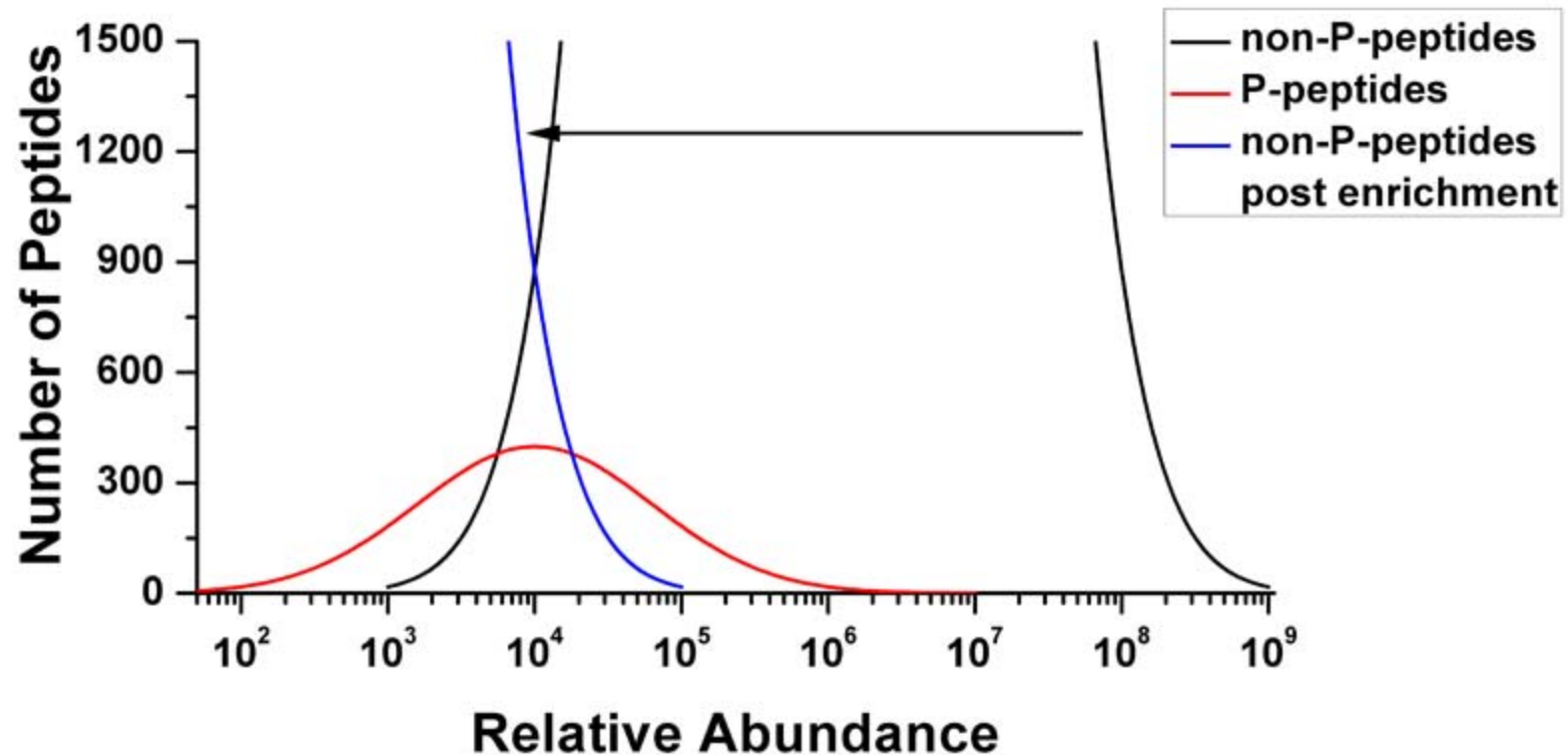
**A whole cell lysate with 20,000
sites of phosphorylation
at 1% stoichiometry**



**A whole cell lysate with 20,000
sites of phosphorylation
at 1% stoichiometry**



phosphopeptide relative distribution after a 10,000 fold enrichment



Confirming the presence of phosphorylation

- Western blot
 - ✓ pTyr large enough for sequence independent recognition - works well
 - ✓ pSer, pThr - not reliable
- Dyes - questionable reliability
- Phosphatase treatment + isoelectric focusing - pI shift
- *In vitro/in vivo* assay with radioactive phosphate

Determining site of phosphorylation

- Mikrosequencing
- Mutation studies
- Mass spectrometry
 - MS spectrum : + 80 Da shift
 - MS/MS fragmentation :
 - pSer, pThr - H_3PO_4 loss : -98 Da
 - pTyr - always retains the modification
immonium ion at m/z 216 Da

Enrichment methods

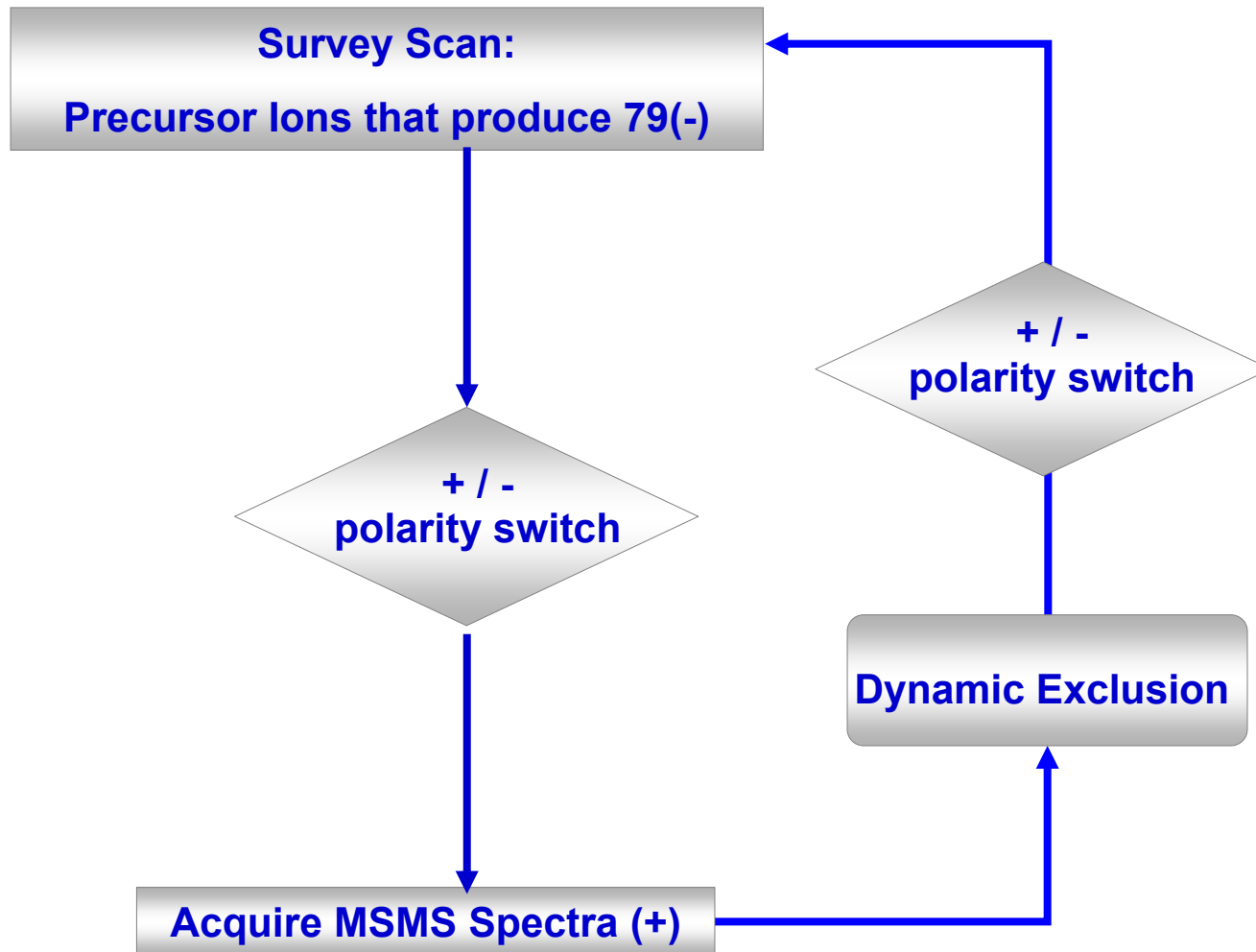
- Ion exchange on SCX
- IMAC : $\text{Fe}(3+)$, $\text{Ga}(3+)$...
 - ✓ binding at low pH
 - ✓ methyl-esterification prior to IMAC
- TiO_2 , ZrO_2
- Immunoprecipitation (only for pTyr)

Large scale vs. 1 protein

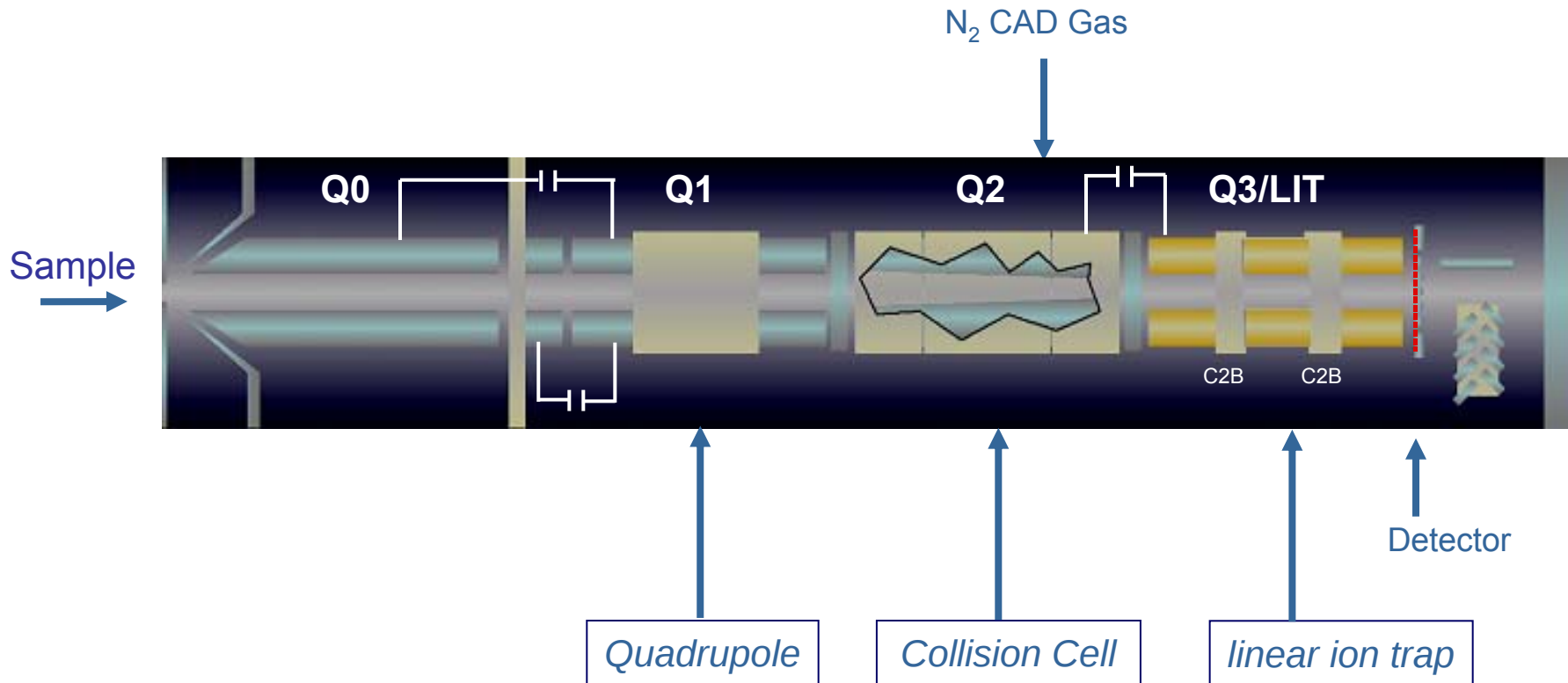
- large scale phosphorylation studies:
 - ✓ large amounts of a complex mixture is analyzed compensating for losses during sample preparation
 - ✓ leads to more PTM identification *but*
 - ✓ low end results are incidental

- ✓ single protein samples:
 - ✓ sample amount is usually limited
 - ✓ more challenging
 - ✓ combination of techniques may be necessary

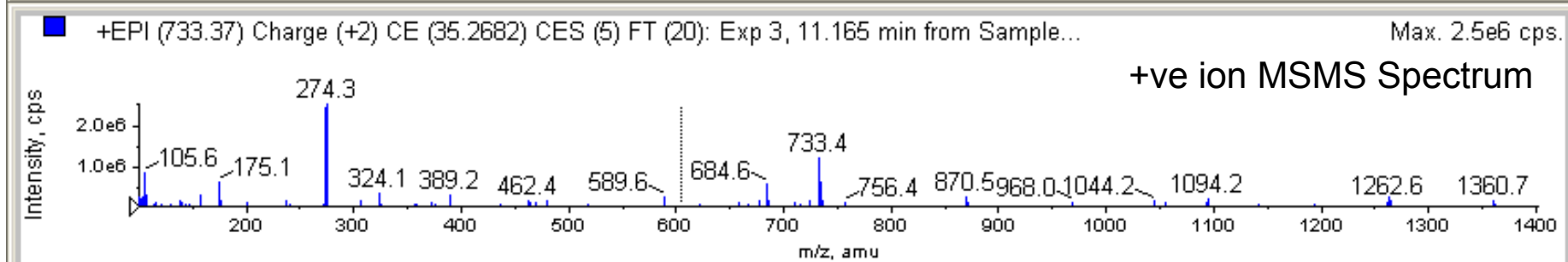
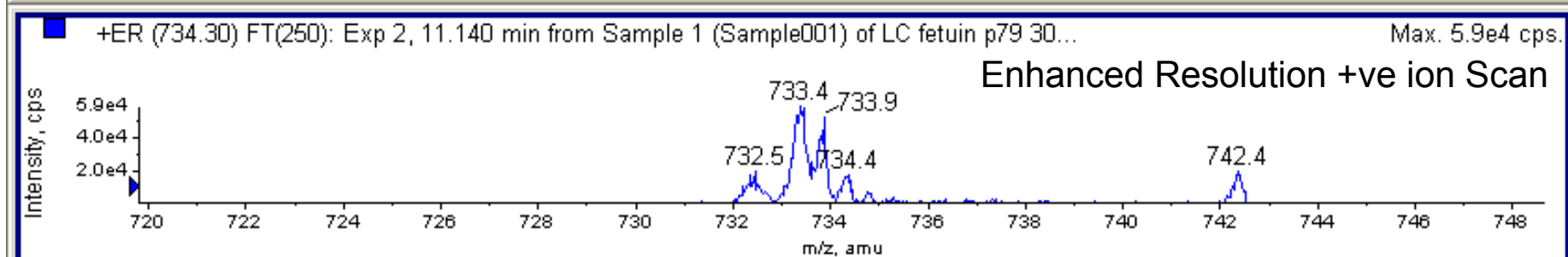
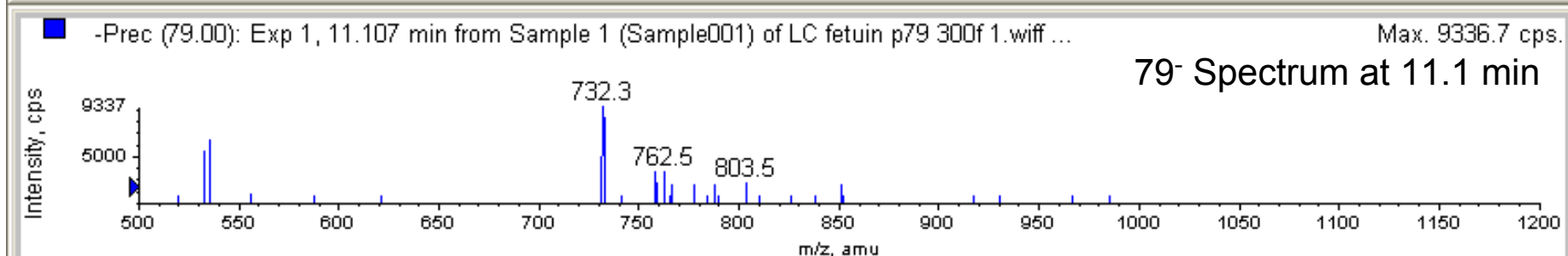
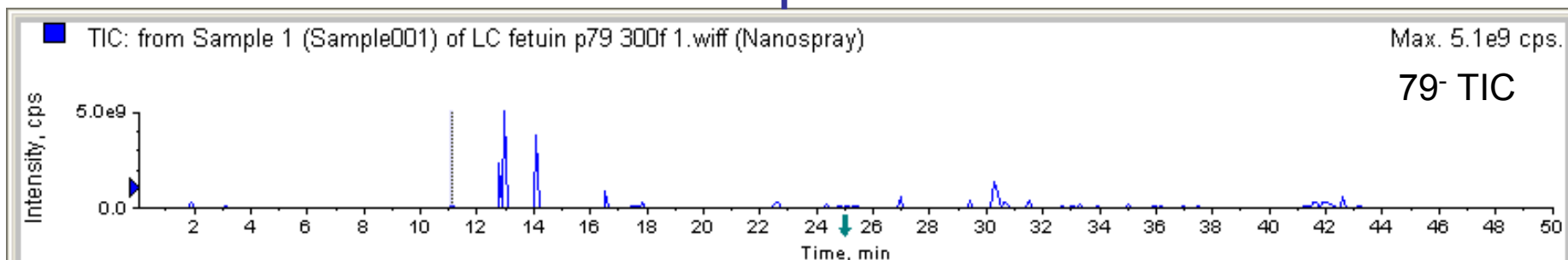
Phosphorylation Discovery Workflow



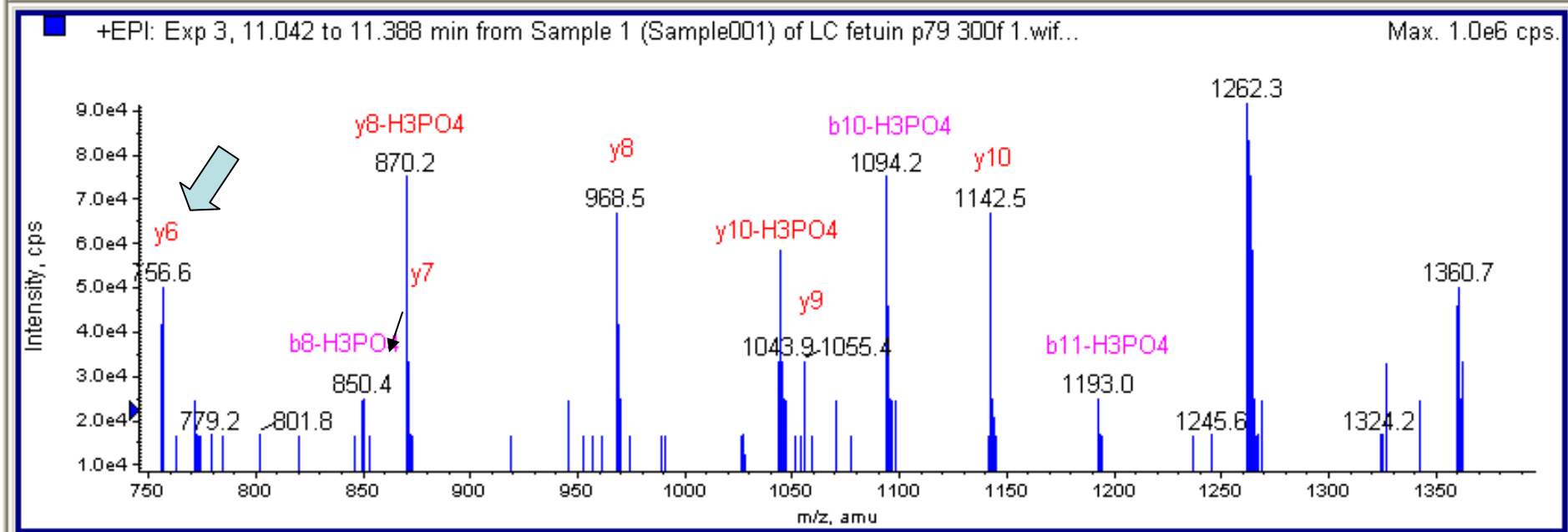
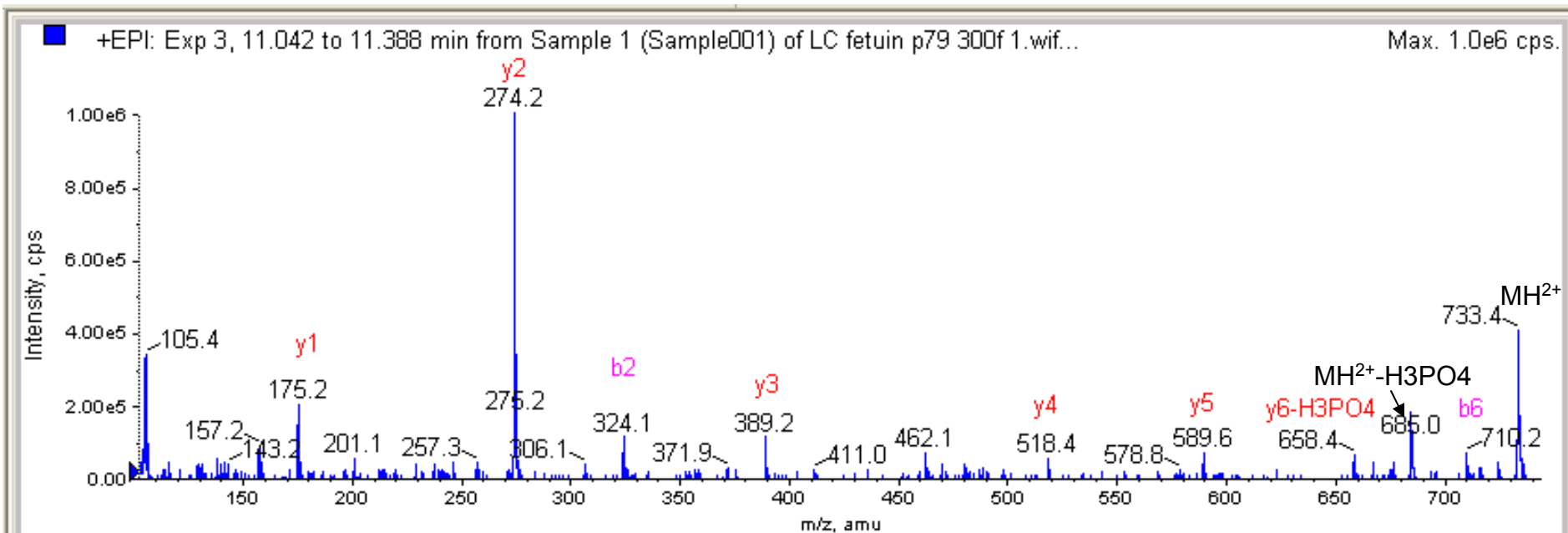
4000 Q TRAP



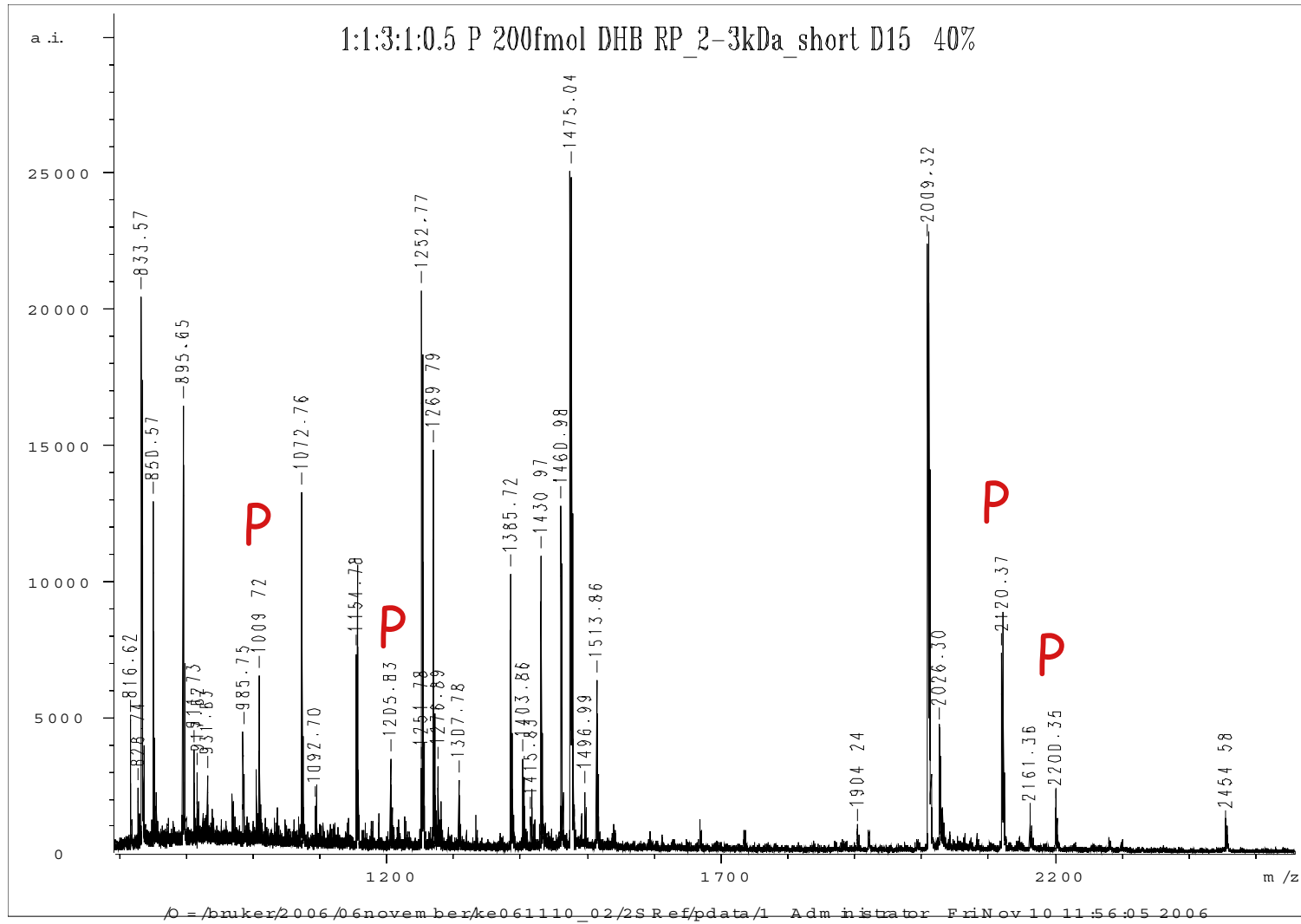
LCMS 300fmole Fetuin: Discovery and Identification of CDSSPDpSAEDVR



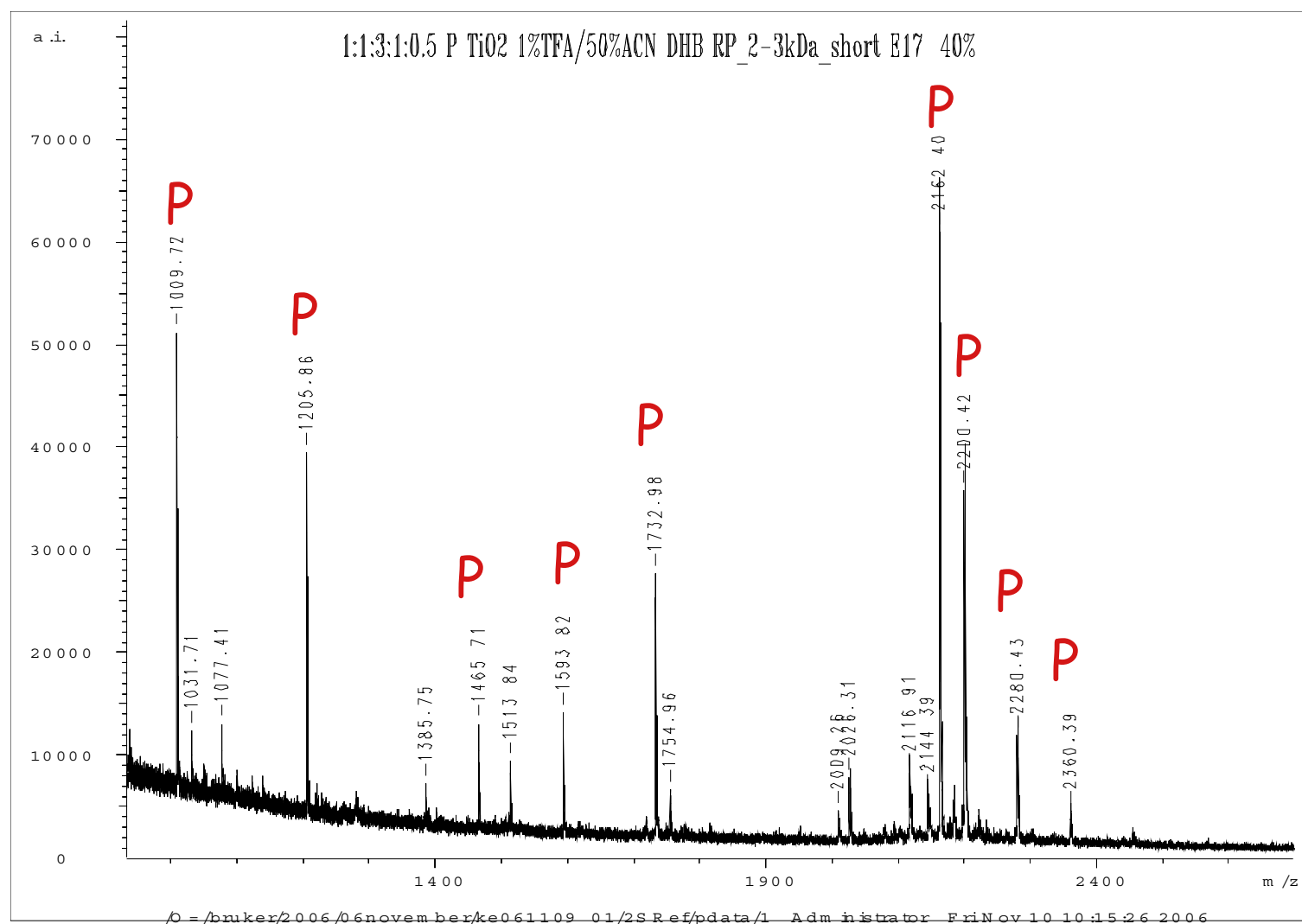
CDSSPDpSAEDVR



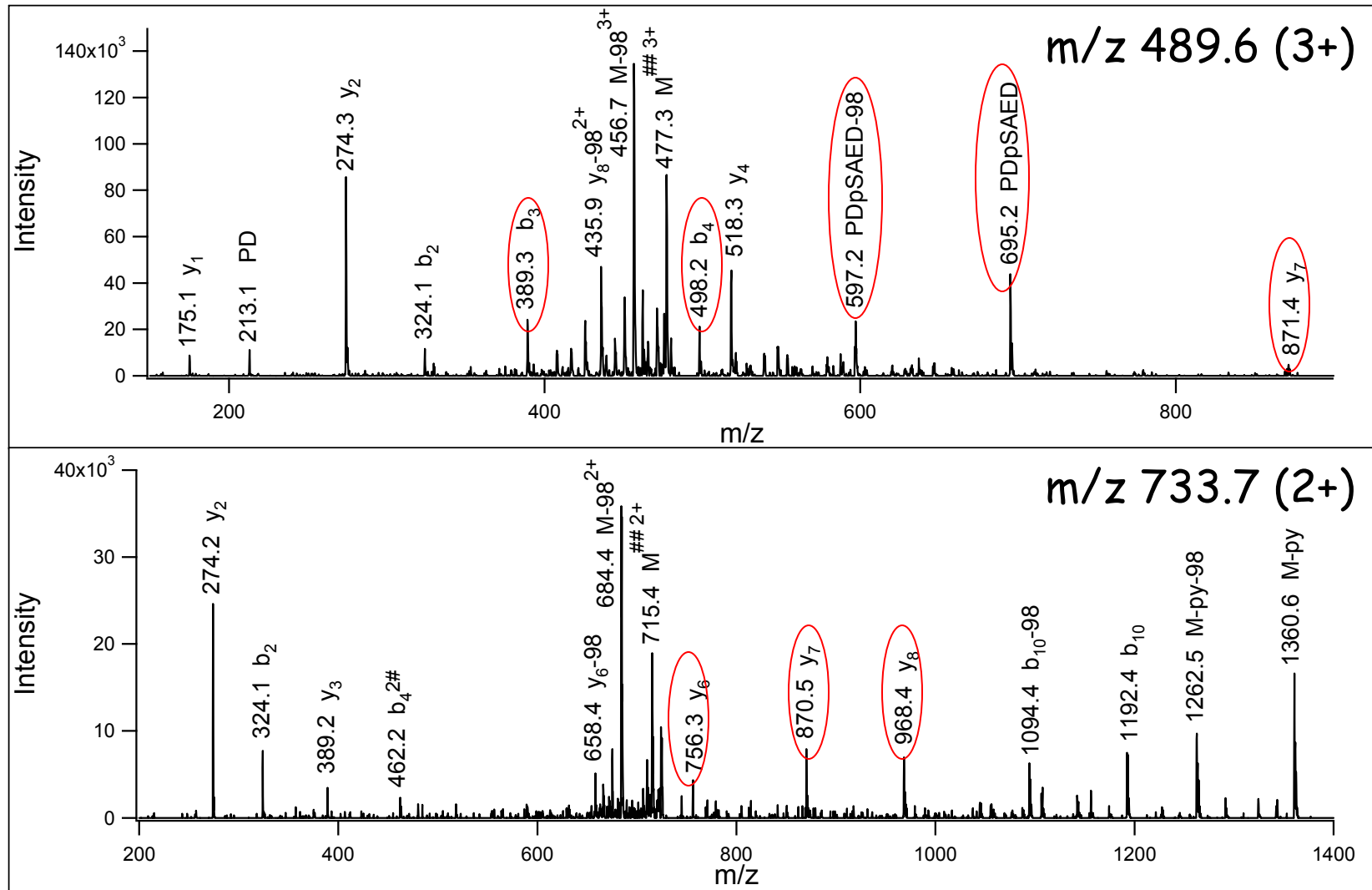
MALDI-TOF MS without enrichment



Enrichment with TiO_2



CID of CDSSPD_pSAEDVR



+80 Da: phosphate? sulfate?

Phosphorylation

- Tyr, Ser, Thr, (His)
- Phosphopeptides are stable in MS (except His)
- Tyr - no phosphate loss in CID
- Ser, Thr - H_3PO_4 (98 Da) loss in CID

Sulfation

- Tyr only
- Significant SO_3 (80 Da) loss even in MS

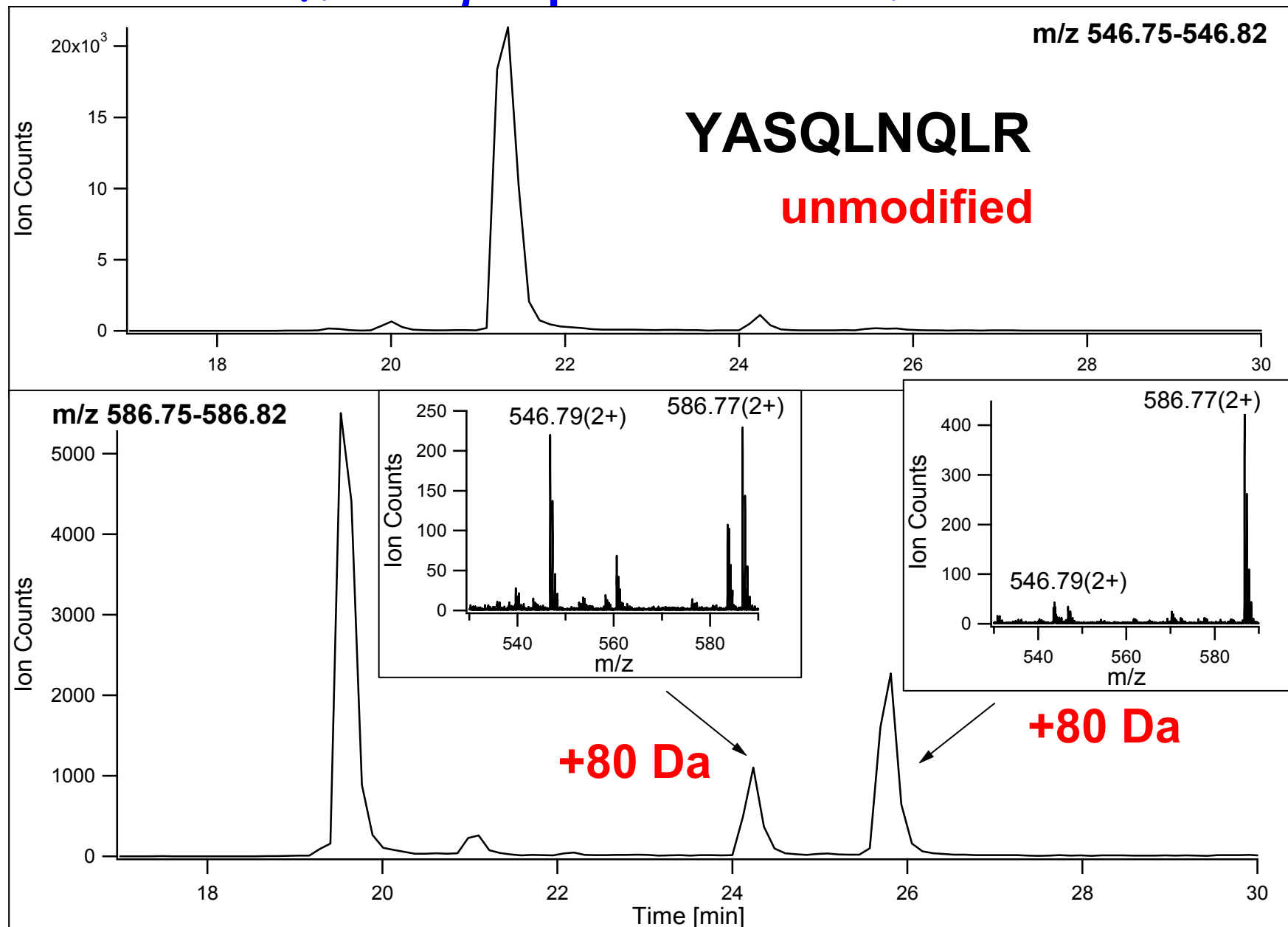
FTMS accurate mass measurement will tell the difference

Ion detected	MH ⁺ _{determined}	sequence	MH ⁺ _{calculated}	Δ[ppm]
501.27454(3+)	1501.808	GKFDYNTFVGI/LI/LK	1501.8055	+1.6
512.26184(4+)	2046.0239	AcAEEKQGRHTTNVI/LSMFR	2046.0191	+2.3
516.26027(4+)	2062.0176	AcAEEKQGRHTTNVI/LSM(O)FR	2062.0140	+1.7
603.31016(2+)	1205.6125	HTTNVI/LSMFR	1205.6101	+1.9
611.30791(2+)	1221.608	HTTNVI/LSM(O)FR	1221.6050	+2.4
643.28905(2+)	1285.5703	sulfo-HTTNVI/LSMFR	1285.5669	+2.6
		phospho-HTTNVI/LSMFR	1285.5764	-4.7

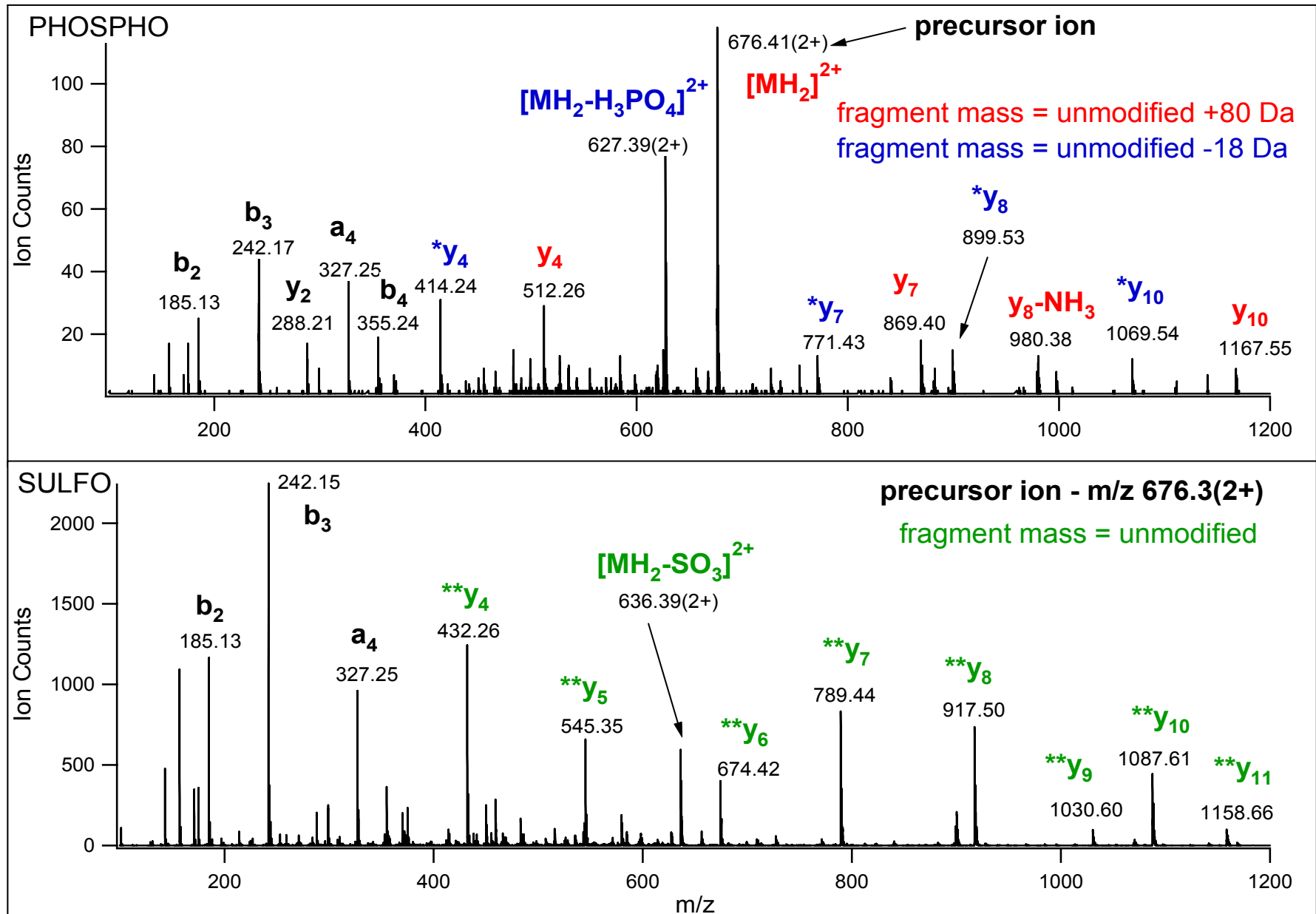


myosin regulatory light chain, *Lymnaea stagnalis*

Chromatographic and MS-behavior



CID comparison of phospho- and sulfo-LAGLQDEIGSLR



Sulfopeptides easily can be identified as phosphopeptides!

- + 80 Da, 9 mmu difference only
- “identical” behavior by ESIMS, chromatography and under basic conditions.
- different CID fragmentation

K.F. Medzihradszky et al.,
Mol. Cell. Proteomics, May 2004; 3: 429 - 440.

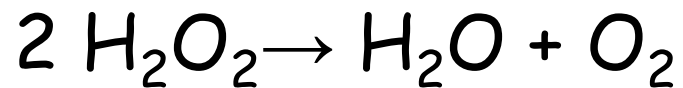
An exciting new cofactor

Reza Ghiladi

Paul Ortiz de Montellano

Catalase-peroxidase

Removes harmful peroxide molecules



Catalase

H_2O_2 alternately oxidizes/reduces the heme Fe

Peroxidase

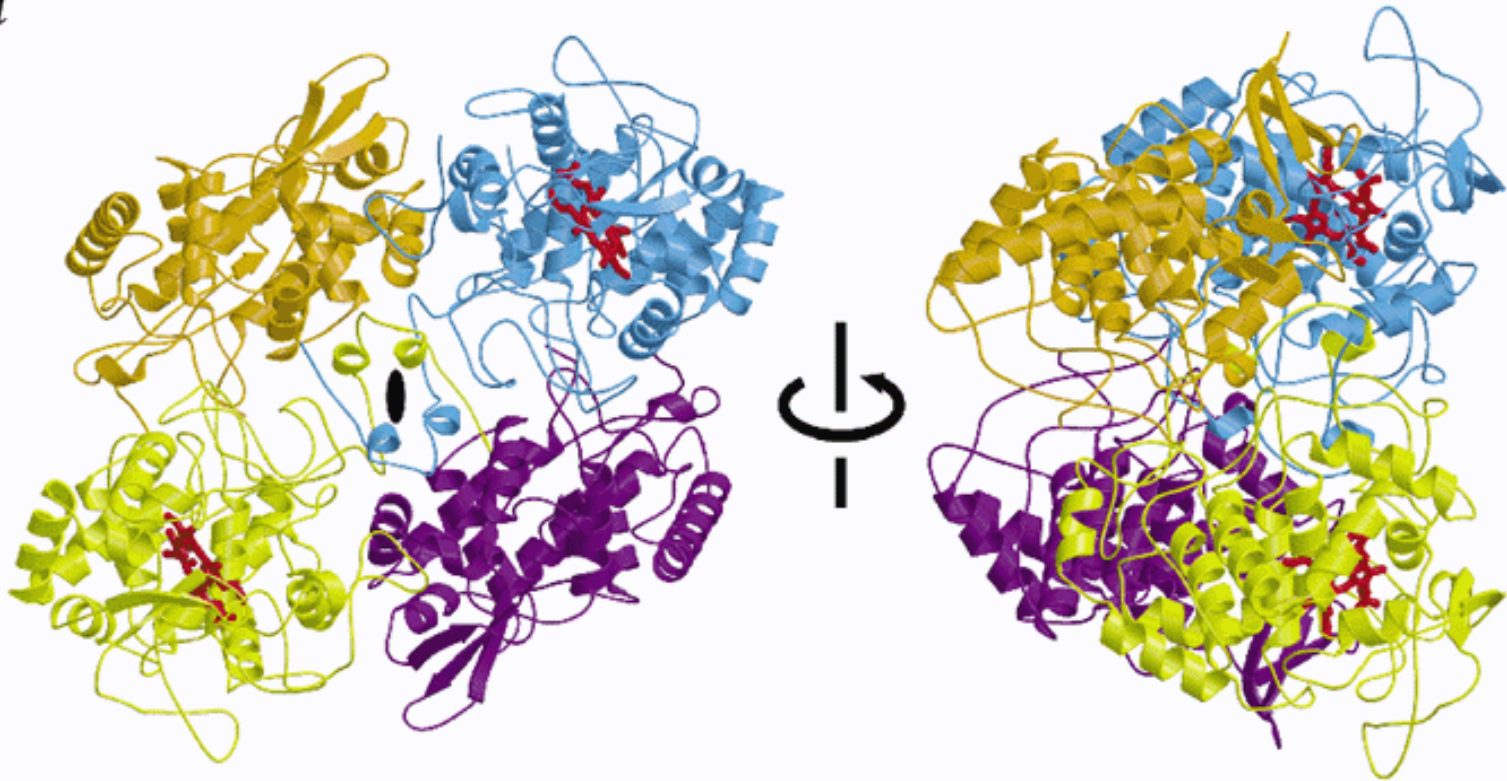
heme is oxidized by H_2O_2 ;

reduction involves H-donor, such as NADH

Crystal structure of catalase-peroxidase

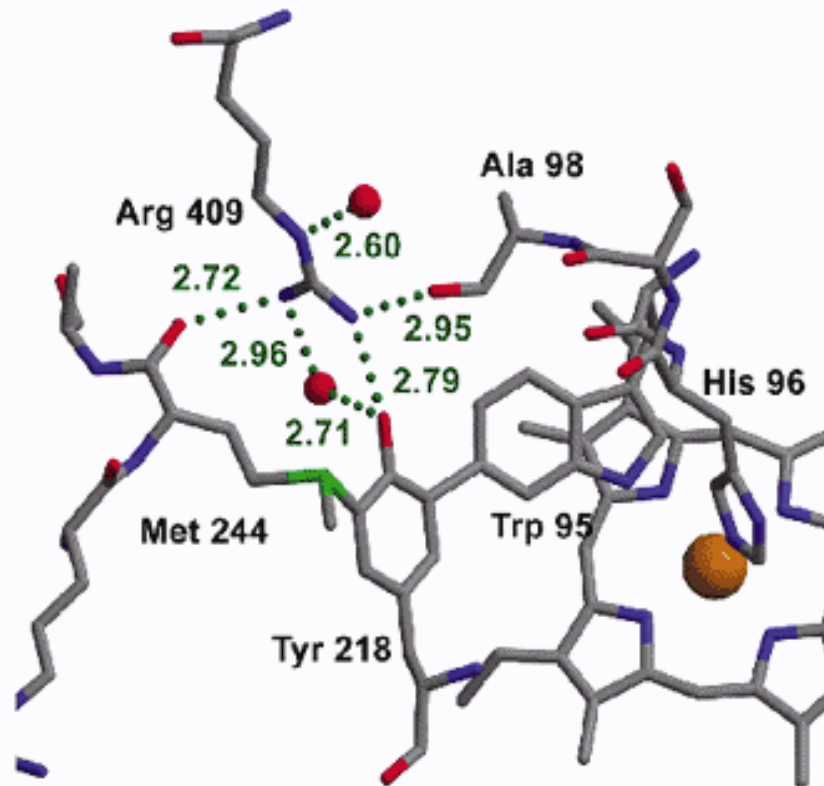
Haloarcula marismortui (Yamada *et al.* *Nature structural biology*)

a



Active site structure

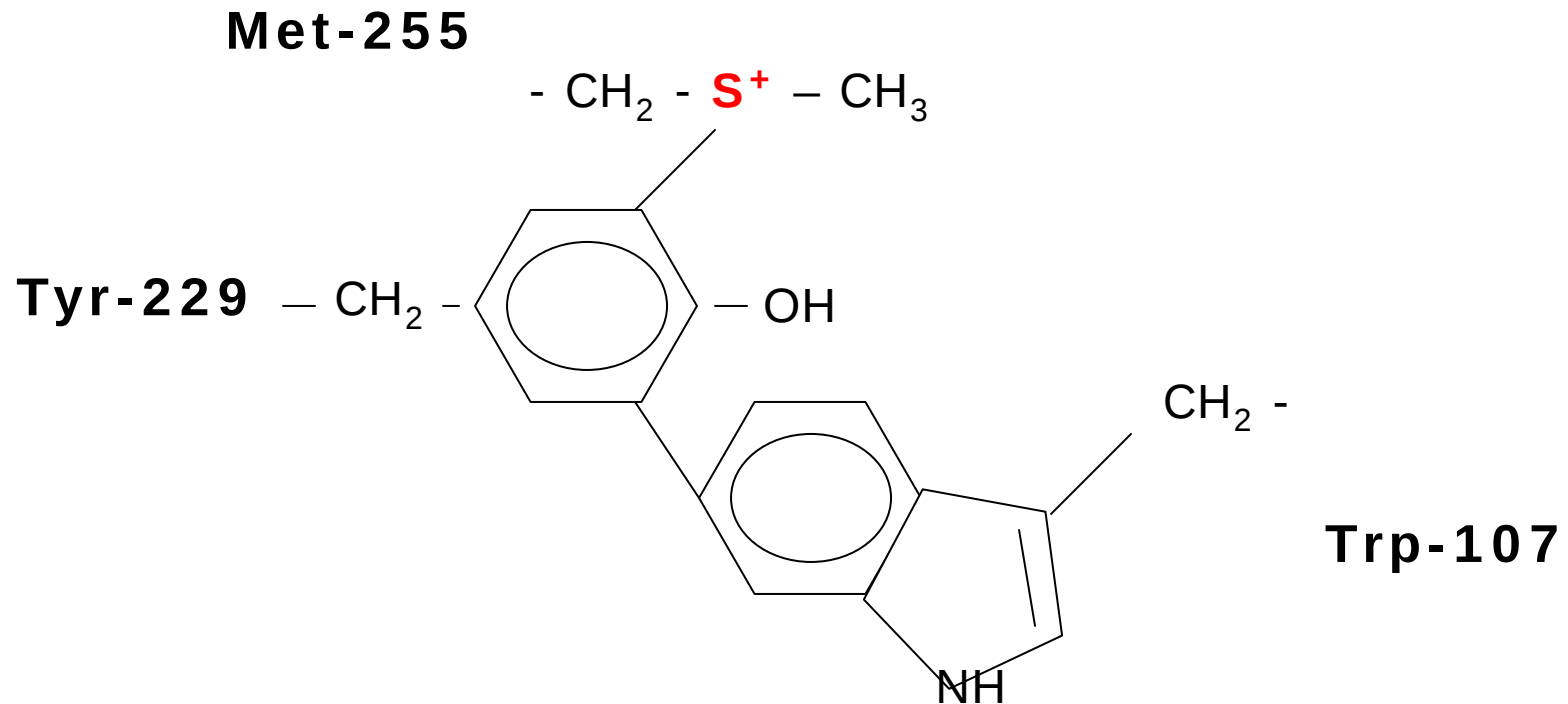
C



Active site structure

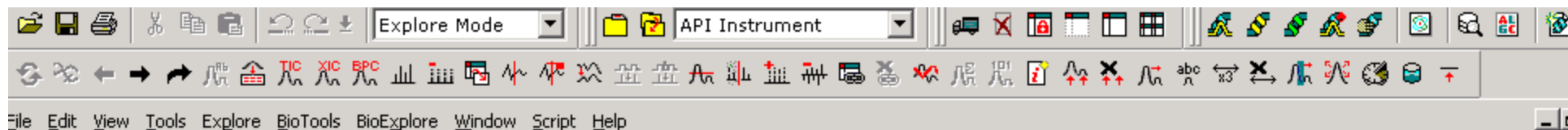
□ We studied the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* enzyme

- 1) Ghiladi RA, et al., *J Biol Chem.* **280**, 22651-63 (2005).
- 2) Ghiladi RA, et al, *Biochemistry*, **44**, 15093-105 (2005).
- 3) Ghiladi RA, et al., *J Am Chem Soc.* **127**, 13428-42 (2005).



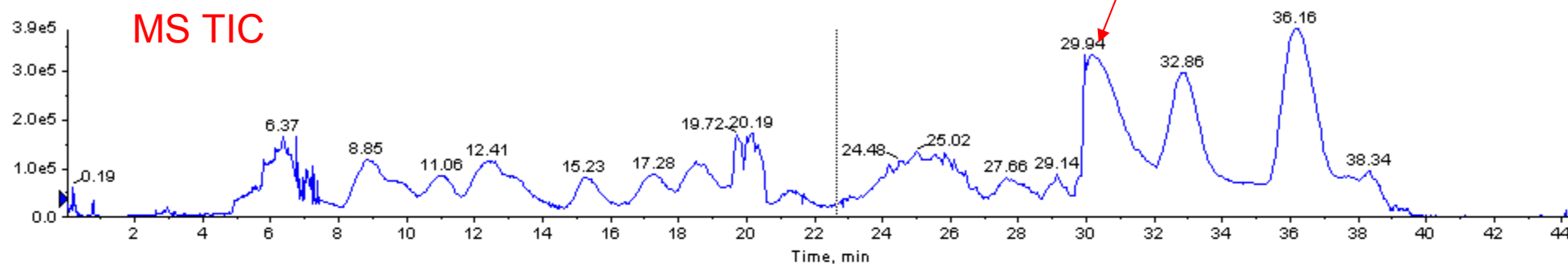
What are we looking for?

- * Cross-linked "tri"-peptide
calculated neutral (zwitter ionic)
mass: 6880.31 Da
"measured"
mass: 6879.99 Da



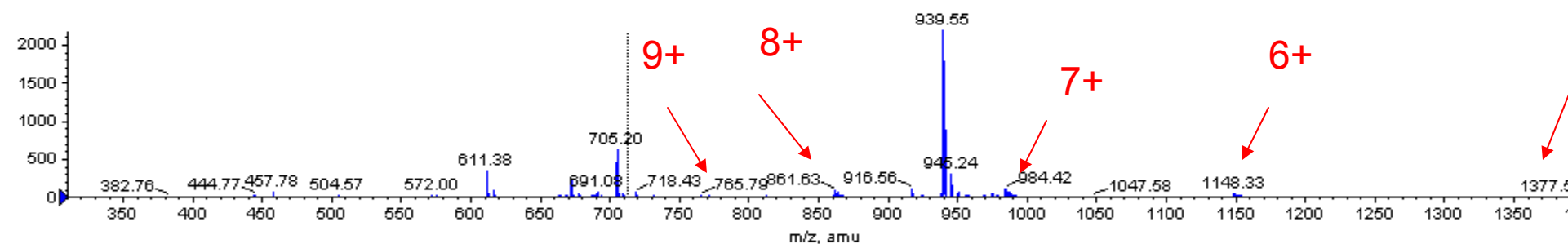
of +TOF MS: Experiment 1, from Sample 1 (R2) of L4062807.wiff

Max. 3.9e5



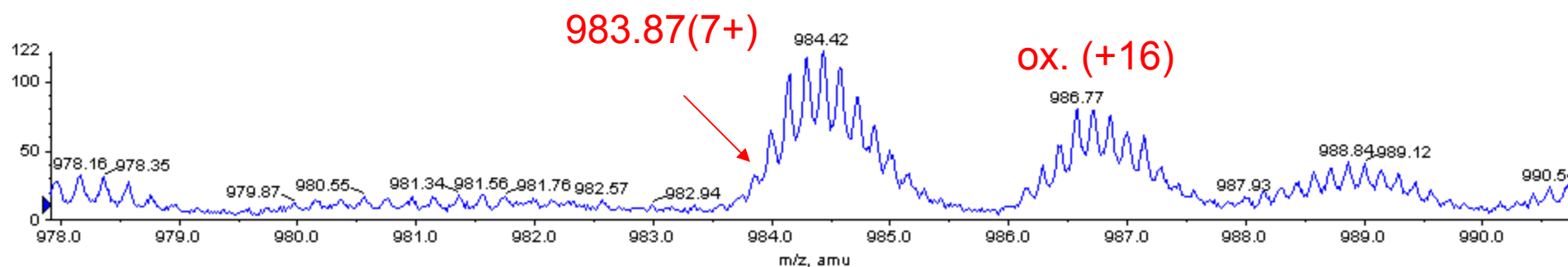
F MS: Experiment 1, 29.868 to 30.345 min from Sample 1 (R2) of L4062807.wiff
56114979600743990e-004, t0=-4.15806003022298680e+001

Max. 2188.8 co



F MS: Experiment 1, 29.868 to 30.345 min from Sample 1 (R2) of L4062807.wiff
56114979600743990e-004, t0=-4.15806003022298680e+001

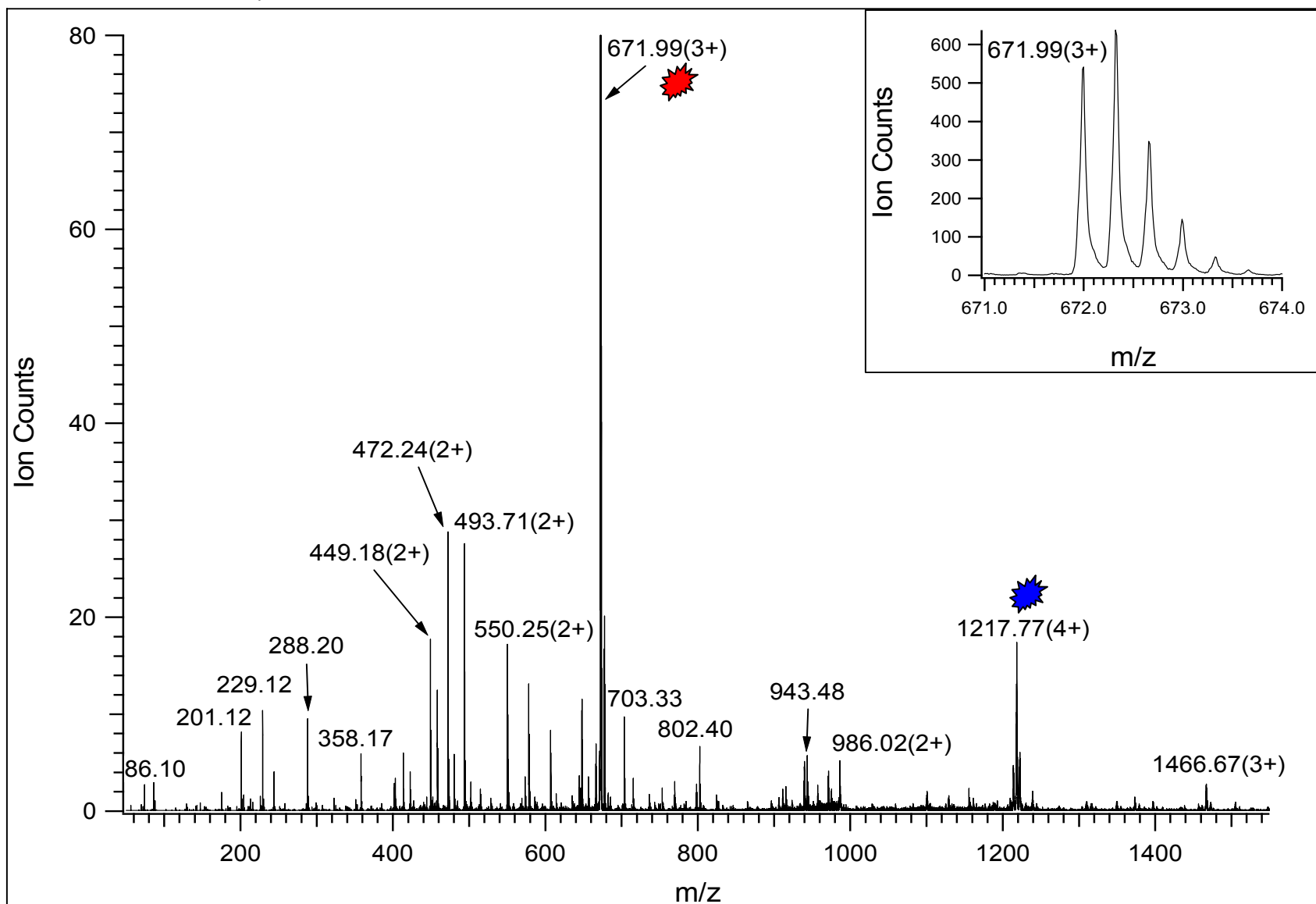
Max. 2188.8 co



lp, press F1

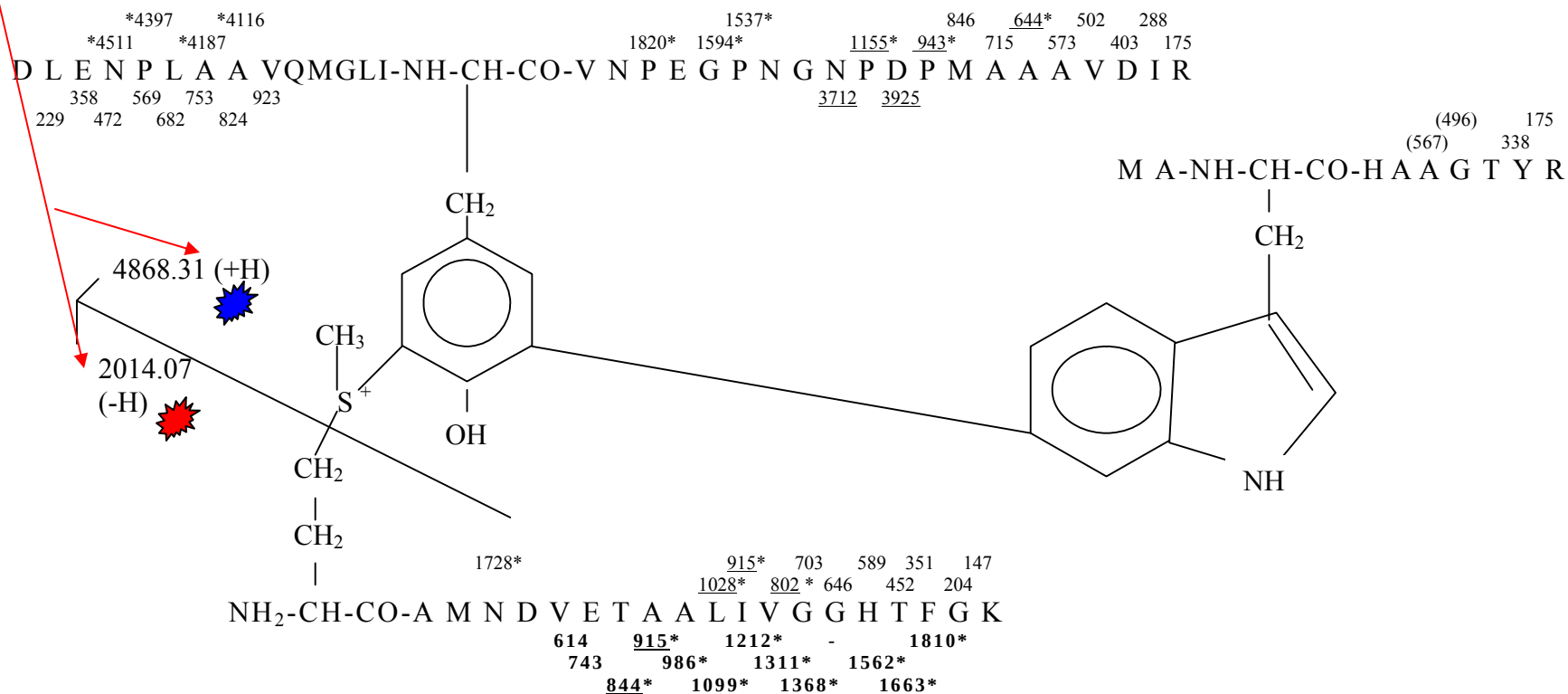
CID spectrum of the "tri"-peptide

precursor: 984.4(7+); intensities magnified by ~7.5



Fragmentation scheme of the cross-linked structure

Proven by MS/MS/MS



*4511 – y-type ions, cleavage from 4868 – mostly triply charged ions detected

3712 – b-type ions, cleavage from 4868

614 – b-type ions, derived from 2014

915* - doubly charged ion was detected

915* – singly charged ion was detected too

When we don't have a clue...

Batch-Tag - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://prospector2.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/msform.cgi

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines

Gmail - Inbox - folkkati@gmail.com (11 unread) Yahoo! Mail, folk Batch-Tag

Do you want Firefox to remember this password?

Batch-Tag

Database: SwissProt.2008.12.16
DNA Frame Translation: 3
Taxonomy: All, HUMAN MOUSE, HUMAN RODENT
Results Name: results1

Digest: Trypsin Non-Specific at 0 termini
Max. Missed Cleavages: 1
Constant Mods: Asn->Succinimide (N), Biotin (N-term), Carbamidomethyl (C)

[+] Pre-Search Parameters

Start Search

Expectation Calc Method: Linear Tail Fit

Precursor Charge Range: 2 3
Masses are: monoisotopic
Parent Tol: 200 ppm Sys Err: 0
Frag Tol: 300 ppm

Variable Mods: Acetyl (K), Acetyl (Protein N-term), Acetyl+Oxidation (Protein N-term M) Max Mods: 2

[+] Mass Modifications

Range (Da): -100 to 100 Defect: 0.00048 All On All Off

	A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	N	P	Q	R	S	T	V	W	Y
Peptide	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
N Term	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
C Term	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
Neutral Loss	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
Uncleaved	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒

[+] Matrix Modifications

This program is the confidential and proprietary product of The Regents of the University of California. Any unauthorized reproduction or transfer of this program is strictly prohibited.
© Copyright (2002-2009) The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

Done

start Inbox - Thunderbird Batch-Tag - Mozilla Firefox Microsoft PowerPoint ... FN Skype >>

Prospector will search for non-specified modifications

2 step search:
a) what's there?
b) is it modified?

Characterization of protein populations

- structural information obtained from peptides
→ conclusions about the proteins
- Analysis of the intact proteins yielding extensive structural information
“top-down” approach

Requirements for Top-Down Analysis

- Reasonable amount of protein - pmoles.
- Protein compatible with ESIMS.
- Relatively simple protein mixture.
- High resolution and mass accuracy instrument - FTMS
- Efficient protein fragmentation: ECD > CID
- Good ion statistics and deconvolution software (needs to be able to predict isotope pattern to determine monoisotopic mass).

Histones - Ideal samples?

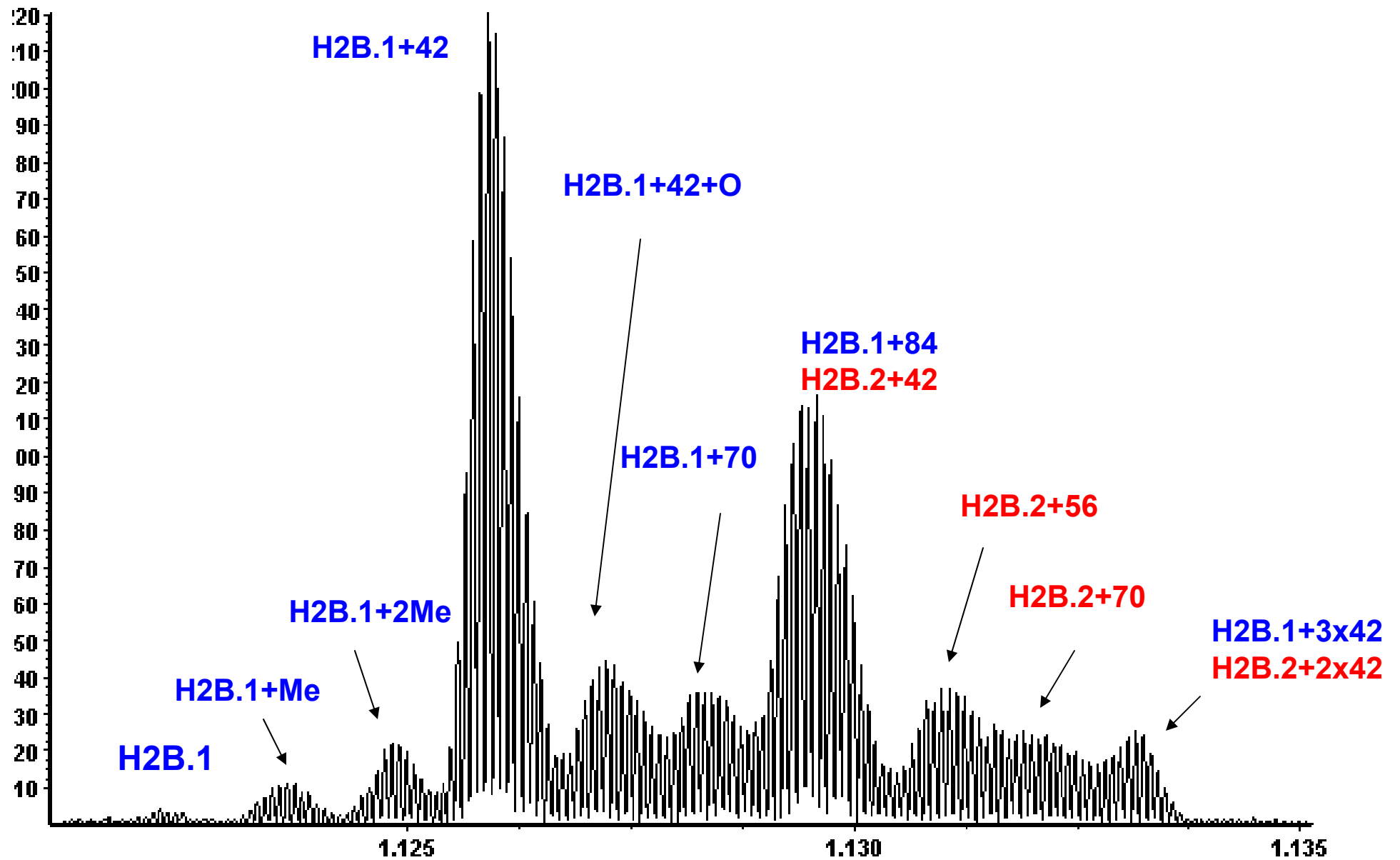
- Small proteins
- Post-translationally extensively modified: phosphorylation, acetylation, methylation, ubiquitination
- Histone code: PTM state regulates gene transcription 'on' and 'off' state

Tetrahymena histone H2B variants studied

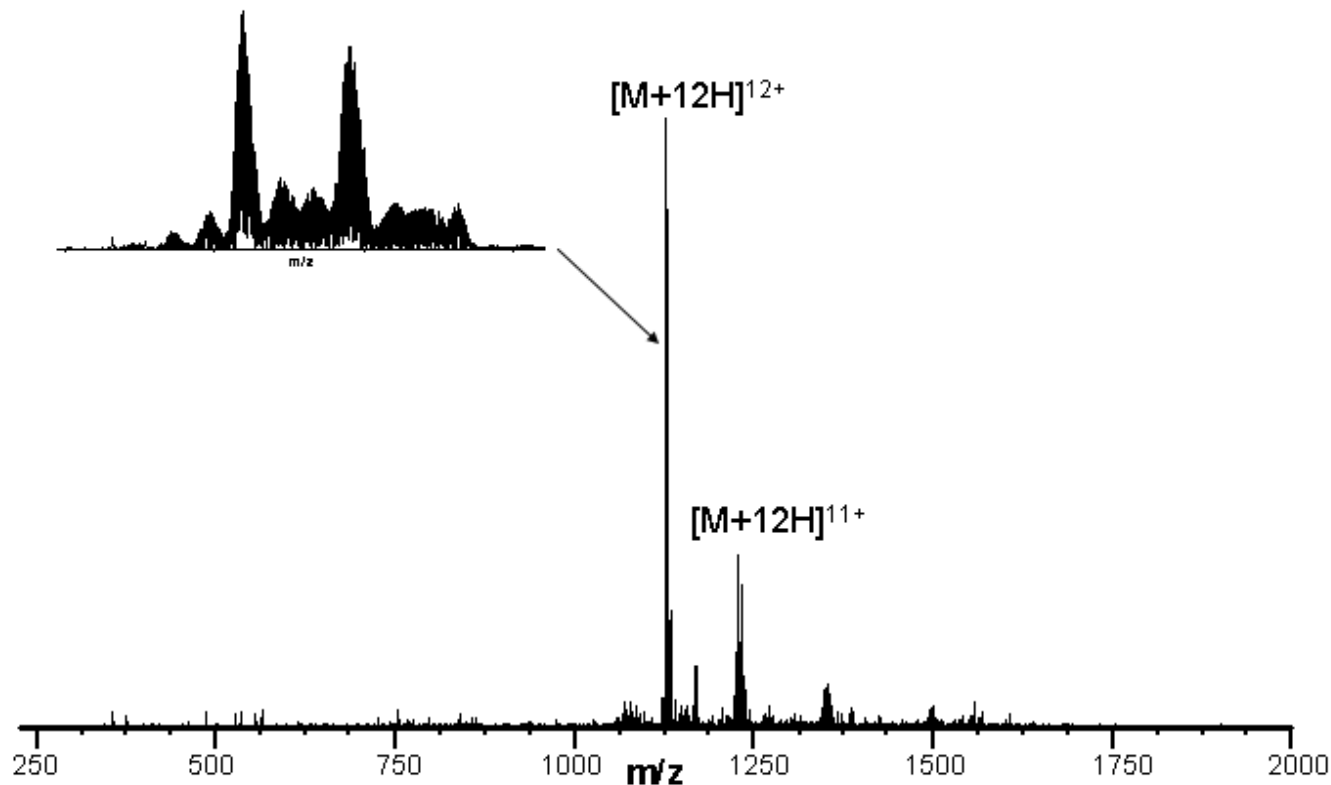
'Histone Code' Hypothesis

	N termini	Modification state	Associated protein/module	Function
	Residue: 1 4 9 10 14 18 23 28			
H3		Unmodified	Sir3/Sir4/Tup1	Silencing
		Acetylated	Bromodomain	Transcription
		Acetylated	?	Histone deposition?
		Phosphorylated	SMC/ Condensins?	Mitosis/meiosis
		Phos/acetyl	?	Transcription
		Methylated	?	Transcription?
		Higher-order combinations	?	?
H4		Acetylated	?	Transcription
		Acetylated	RCAF?	Histone deposition

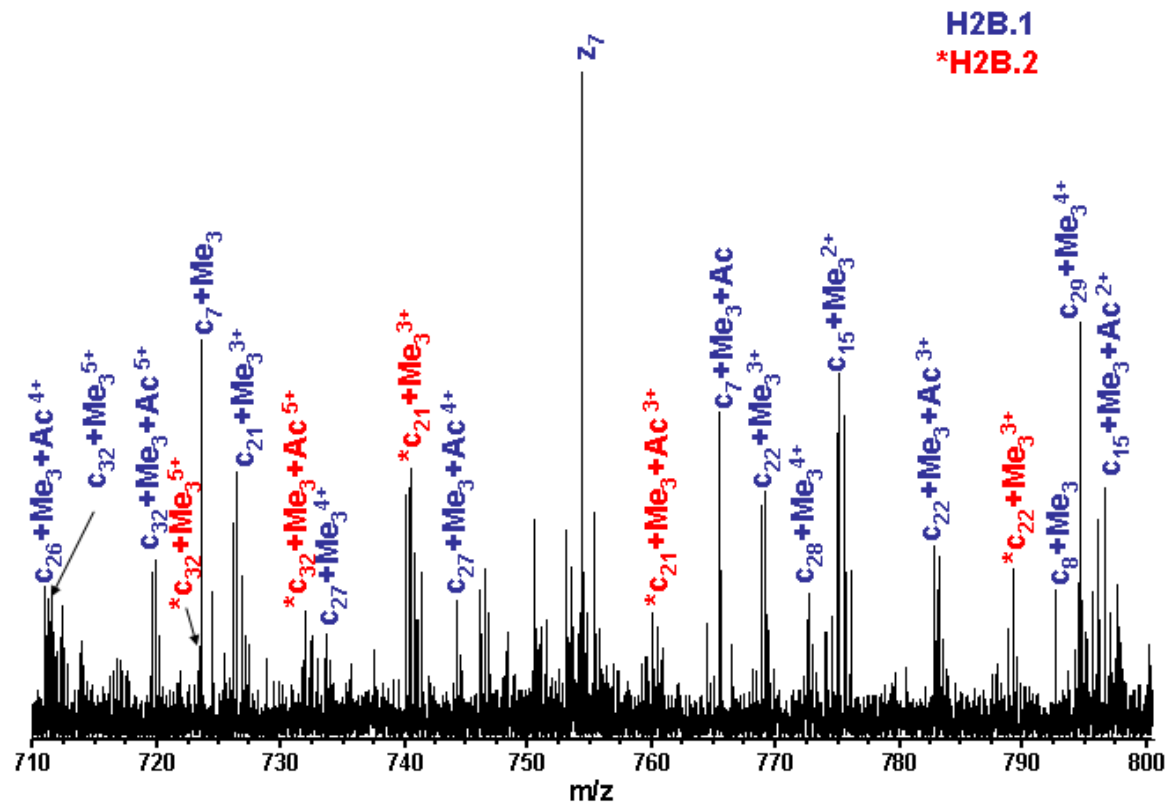
Tetrahymena histone H2B 12+ envelope



Electron-capture dissociation spectrum of the H2B mixture



Same ECD spectrum – “zoom-in”



Mass Accuracy is Used to Distinguish between Isobaric Trimethylation and Acetylation

Mass _{observed}	Assignment (Ac/Me ₃ ; 2Ac/AcMe ₃ /2 Me ₃) with Mass Calculated		Δ[ppm]
356.2667	C ₃ + 42	356.2298 / <u>356.2661</u>	+104/ +1.6
526.3735	C ₄ + 2x42	526.3354/ <u>526.3718</u> /526.4082	+72/ +3.2 / -66
723.4889	C ₇ + 42	723.4518/ <u>723.4882</u>	+51/ + 0.9
754.3535	Z ₇	54.3497	-5
• • • • •			
1065.6380	C ₁₁ + 42	1065.6066/ <u>1065.642</u>	+29.5/ -3.7
1107.6556	C ₁₁ + 2x42	1107.6171/ <u>1107.6525</u> /1107.6889	+34.8/ +2.7 / -30.1
1167.6792	* C ₁₁ + 2x42	1167.6372/ <u>1167.6736</u> /1167.71	+36/ +4.7 / -26.4
1193.7422	C ₁₂ + 42	1193.7006/ <u>1193.737</u>	+34.8/ +4.3
1235.7426	C ₁₂ + 2x42	1235.7111/ <u>1235.7475</u> /1235.7839	+25.5/ -3.9 / -33.4
1253.7572	* C ₁₂ + 42	1253.7217/ <u>1253.7581</u>	+ 28.3/ -0.7
• • • • •			
9383.2622	C ₈₂ + 42	<u>9383.2877</u> /9383.3241	-2.7 / -6.6
10563.767	Z ₉₄	10563.7159	+4.8
11548.262	Z ₁₀₂	11548.324	-5.3

- ✓ A single tri-methylation was on the N-terminus or on Lys-3.
- ✓ Lys-4 in both H2B.1 and H2B.2 can also be modified and the modification is acetylation.
- ✓ No C-terminal modification was observed.

ECD sequence coverage of the two isoforms

1 APKKAPAAAA EKKVKKAPTT EKKNKKKRSE TFAIYIFKVL KQVHPDVGIS
51 KKAMNIMNSF INDSFERIAL ESSKLVRFNK RRTLSSREVQ TAVKLLLPGE
101 LARHAISEGT KAVTKFSSST N

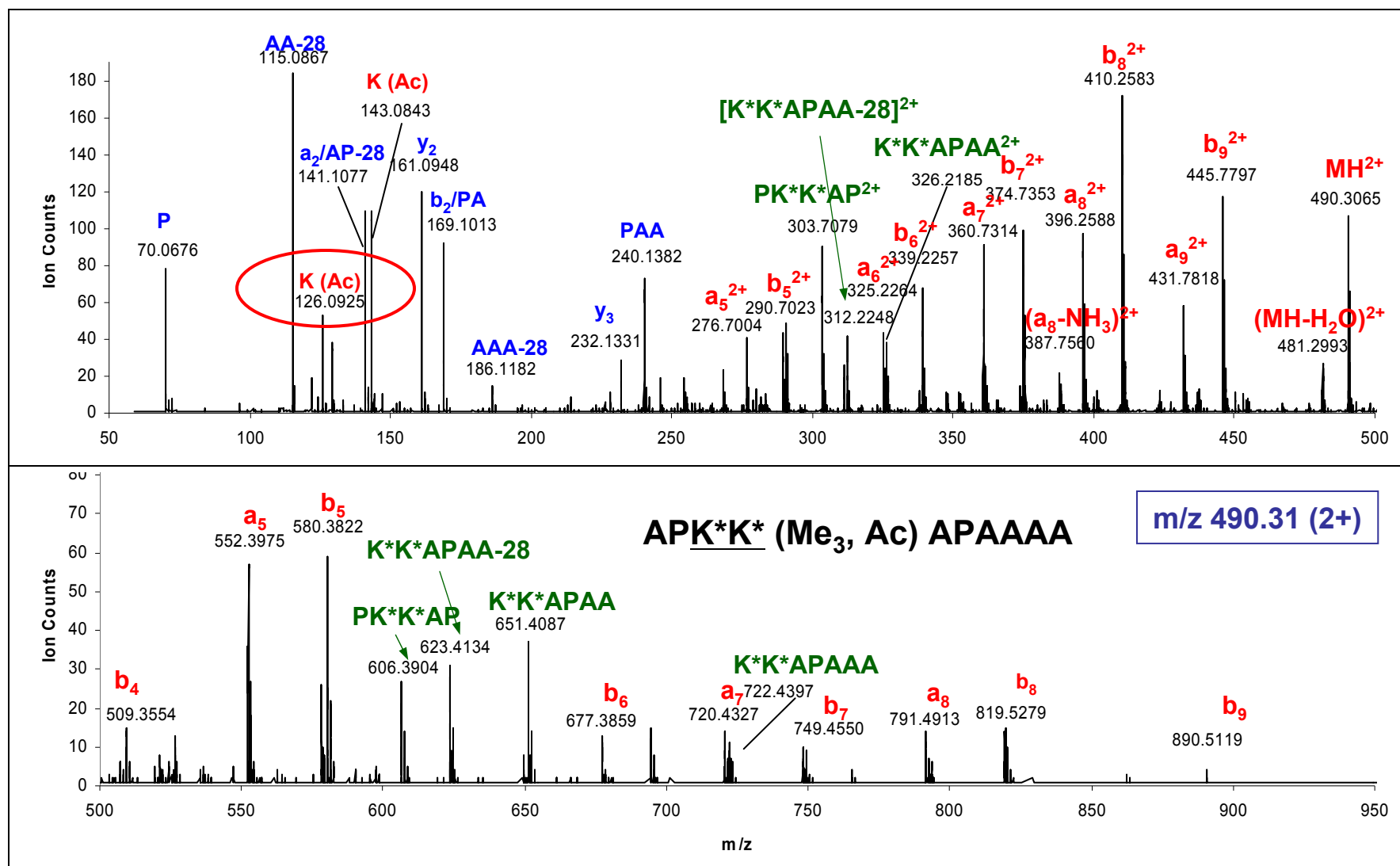
H2B.1

1 APKKAPAATT EKKVKKAPTT EKKNKKKRSE TFAIYIFKVL KQVHPDVGIS
51 KKAMNIMNSF INDSFERIAL ESSKLVRFNK RRTLSSREVQ TAVKLLLPGE
101 LARHAISEGT KAVTKFSSSS N

H2B.2

N-terminus or Lys-3 is trimethylated, Lys-4 is acetylated in both

CID Spectrum of an +84 Da modified H2B.1 Peptide



- ✓ Characteristic K(Ac) immonium ion 126.09 indicates the presence of Lys-acetylation
- ✓ Internal fragments show the modifications are on the two lysines, instead of the N-terminus.

Mass Accuracy of Fragment Ion Series Determines the +84 Da as a Tri-methylation and an Acetylation

Mass _{obs} (Da)	APxxAPAAAA			APwwAPAAAA			APwx (or xw) APAAAA		
	Ions	Mass _{cal} (Da)	Error (ppm)	Ions	Mass _{cal} (Da)	Error (ppm)	Ions	Mass _{cal} (Da)	Error (ppm)
70.0676	P	70.0657	27						
115.0867	AA-28	115.0871	-3						
126.0925	K(Ac)	126.0919	27						
141.1077	a ₂	141.1028	35						
143.0843	AA	143.0821	15						
161.0948	y ₂	161.0926	14						
169.1013	b ₂ or PA	169.0977	21						
232.1331	y ₃	232.1297	15						
240.1382	PAA	240.1348	14						
552.3975	a ₅	552.3510	84	a ₅	552.4237	-47	a ₅	552.3873	18
580.3822	b ₅	580.3459	63	b ₅	580.4186	-63	b ₅	580.3823	0
578.4262	PxxAP-28	578.3666	103	PwwAP-28	578.4394	-23	PwxAP-28	578.4030	40
580.3968	b ₅	580.3459	88	b ₅	580.4186	-38	b ₅	580.3823	25
606.4080	PxxAP	606.3615	77	PwwAP	606.4343	-43	PwxAP	606.3979	17
649.4450	a ₆	649.4037	64	a ₆	649.4765	-49	a ₆	649.4401	8
677.4436	b ₆	677.3986	66	b ₆	677.4714	-41	b ₆	677.4350	13
720.4550	a ₇	720.4408	20	a ₇	720.5136	-81	a ₇	720.4772	-31
748.4628	b ₇	748.4357	36	b ₇	748.5085	-61	b ₇	748.4721	-12
791.5098	a ₈	791.4779	40	a ₈	791.5507	-52	a ₈	791.5143	-6
819.5088	b ₈	819.4729	44	b ₈	819.5456	-45	b ₈	819.5092	0
Error for Common Ions (AVG ± STD)			20±9						
Error for Modification Ions (AVG ± STD)			60±23	49±16			15±10		

x—K(Ac); w— K(Me₃)

Summary of H2B Posttranslational Characterization

Intact Protein Analysis			Proteolytic Digest Analysis	
Molecular Weight		ECD- FT-ICR MS	Trypsin	Asp-N
Most Abundant	H2B.1- Me ₃	(N*-or K3)-Me ₃		[1-45]- Me ₃
	H2B.2- Me ₃	(N* or K3)-Me ₃		[1-45]- Me ₃
	H2B.1- Me ₃ Ac	(N* or K3)-Me ₃ + K4-Ac	N*-Me ₃ + K4-Ac and (K3K4)- Me ₃ Ac	(K3K4)-Me ₃ Ac
	H2B.2- Me ₃ Ac	(N* or K3)-Me ₃ + K4-Ac	N*-Me ₃ + K4-Ac and (K3K4)-Me ₃ Ac	(K3K4)-Me ₃ Ac
Less Abundant	H2B.1 + 56 Da			(K3K4)- Me Ac
	H2B.1 + 70 Da		N*-Me ₂ + K4-Ac	(K3K4)- Me ₂ Ac
	H2B.2 + 56 Da			(K3K4)- Me Ac
	H2B.2 +70 Da			(K3K4)- Me ₂ Ac
	H2B.1- Me			[1-45] Me
	H2B.1- Me ₂			[1-45] Me ₂
	H2B.2- Me			[1-45] Me
	H2B.2- Me ₂			[1-45] Me ₂
Least Abundant			H2B.1/H2B.2-K41-Ac	
			H2B.1 K111-Me ₂₋₃	
			H2B.2 K111-Me ₃ /Ac	

N* indicate N-terminus of the protein

Modified peptides in the tryptic digest

Ion detected	MH ⁺ _{calculated}	Structure	Δ[ppm]
418.608 (3+)	1253.758	⁴ K(Ac)APAAAAEKKVK ¹⁵	+40
438.611 (3+)	1313.779	⁴ K(Ac)APAATTEKKVK ¹⁵	+29
341.978 (4+)	1364.889	<u>APKK</u> (Ac,Me ₃)APAAAAEKK ¹³	+44
413.773 (4+)	1652.011	AP <u>KK</u> (Ac,Me ₃)APAATTEKKVK ¹⁵	+35
		Me ₃ APKK(Ac)APAATTEKKVK ¹⁵	
410.269 (4+)	1637.995	Me ₂ APKK(Ac) APAATTEKKVK ¹⁵	+35
398.770 (4+)	1591.990	<u>APKK</u> (Ac,Me ₃)APAAAAEKKVK ¹⁵	
		Me ₃ AP <u>KK</u> (Ac) APAAAAEKKVK ¹⁵	+42
395.266 (4+)	1577.974	Me ₂ AP <u>KK</u> (Ac) APAAAAEKKVK ¹⁵	+42
487.961 (3+)	1461.843	³⁹ VLK(Ac)QVHPDVGISK ⁵¹	+17
631.668 (3+)	1892.972	HAISEGTK(Me ₂)AVTKFSSSTN ¹²¹	+9
		¹⁰⁴ HAISEGTKAVTK(Me ₃)FSSSSN ¹²¹	
	1892.935	¹⁰⁴ HAISEGTKAVTK(Ac)FSSSSN ¹²¹	+28
636.323(3+)	1906.950	¹⁰⁴ HAISEGTK(Me ₃)AVTKFSSSTN ¹²¹	+2

Me₃ @ N-terminus, Lys-3, Lys-111; Ac @ Lys-4; Lys-41 [1-15] peptide always doubly modified!

Why to use both?

“bottom-up” approach:

- More sensitive ~300 fmoles injected
- Reveals more modifications

BUT

- Misses the major protein component!

“top-down” reveals the relative distribution of differently modified populations

Conclusions

- Mass spectrometry is a sensitive, non-biased approach to peptide/protein modification analysis.
- Isolation, MS analysis has to be adjusted to the PTM of interest
- Enrichment methods work much better on large amounts of protein than small.
- For single protein/simple mixture PTM analysis, best approach is to use no enrichment, try to fragment as many components as possible then try to find spectra of modified peptides.
- Peptide-level analysis may not reflect accurately the composition of protein populations