

Narayana Translational Research & Incubation Center (NTRIC),  
Conducted International Webinar entitled  
**Mass Spectrometry-based Proteomics & its Application in Medicine**  
*on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 at 3 pm*



**By**

**Dr. Srinivasan Yuvaraj, M.Sc., Ph.D.**

**Project Scientist, Institute of Genome Research,  
Tokushima University, Tokushima, Japan.**



**Patron**



**Dr. Surya Prakasa Rao, MD**  
Professor and Dean, Narayana Medical College,  
Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, India.

**Convenor**

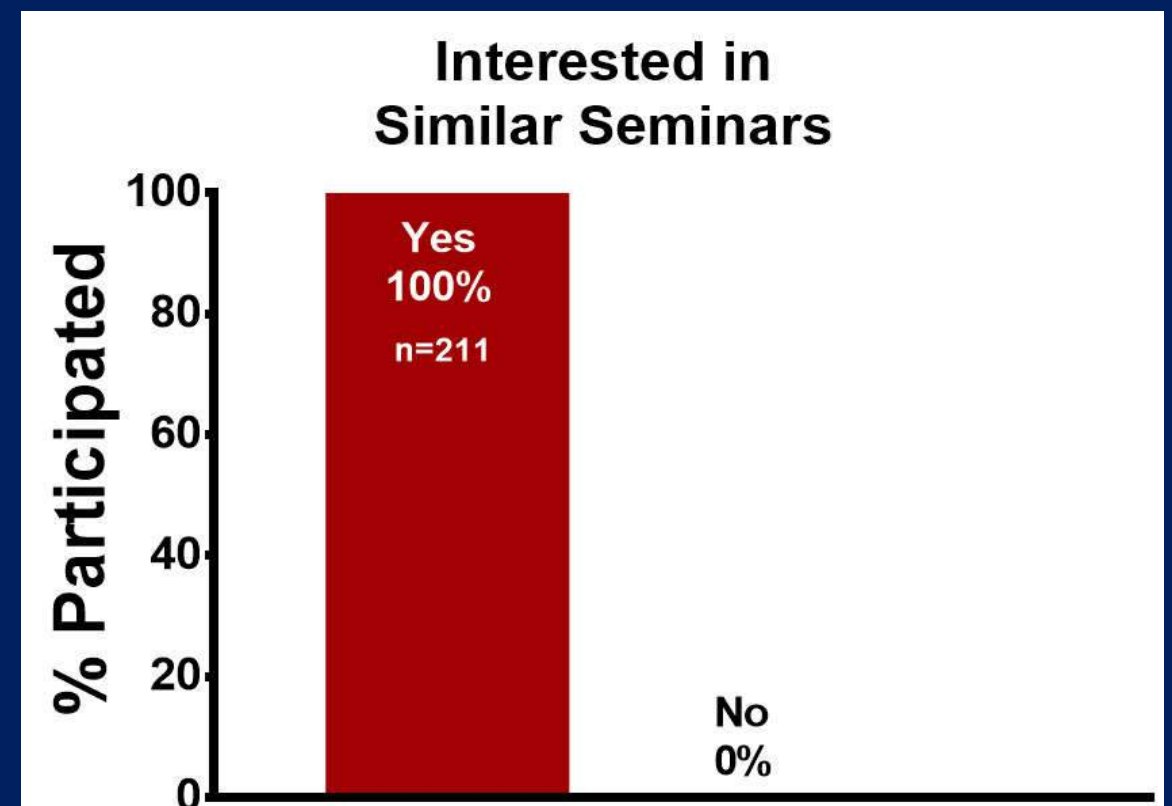
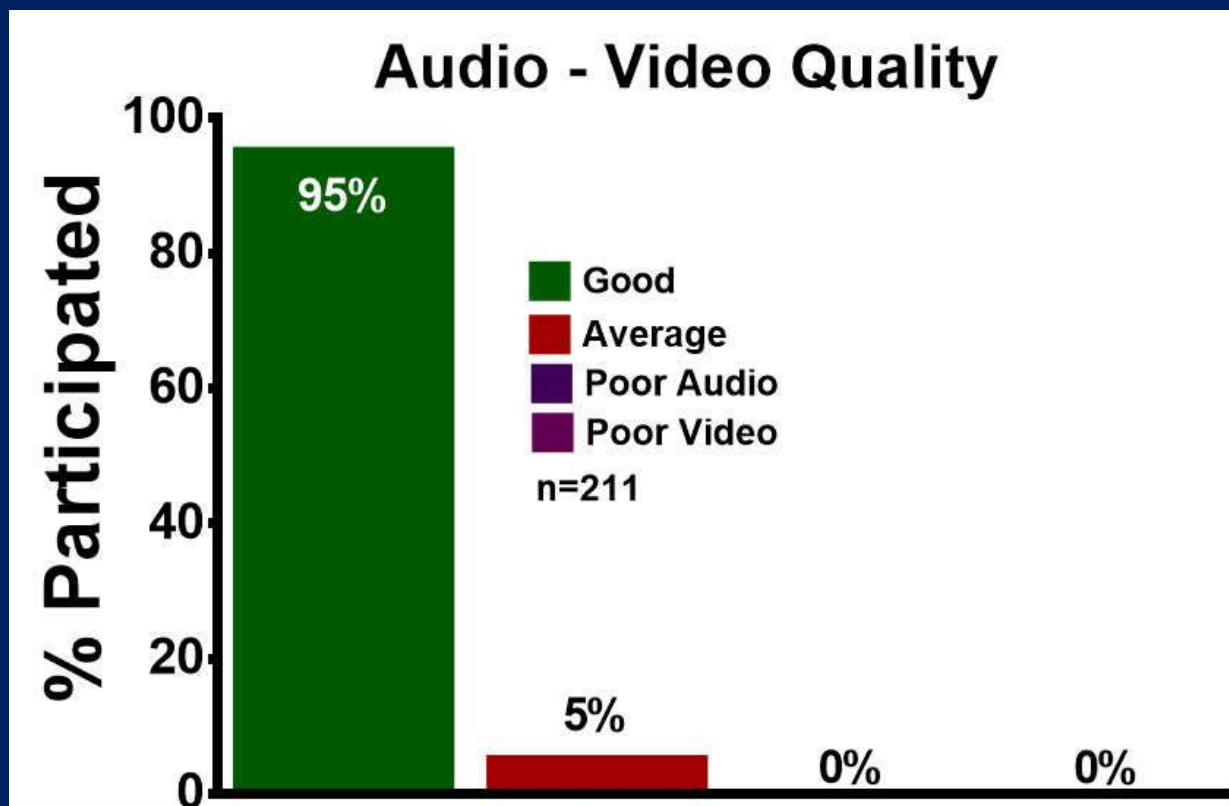
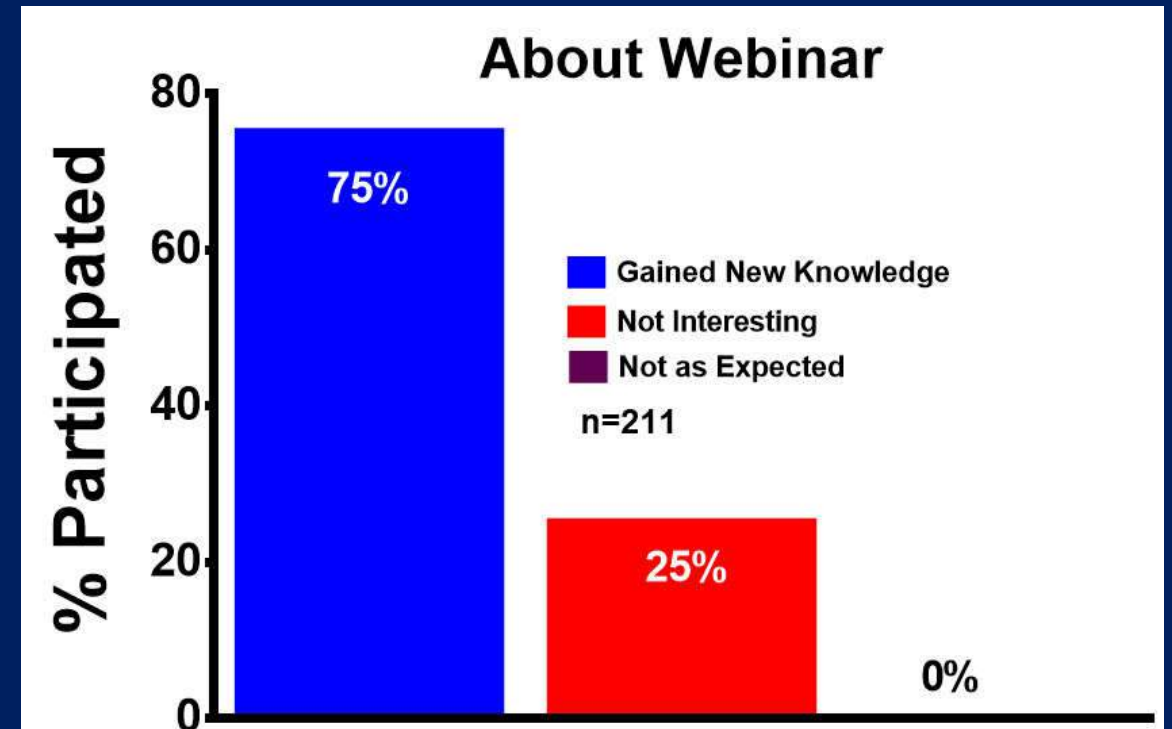
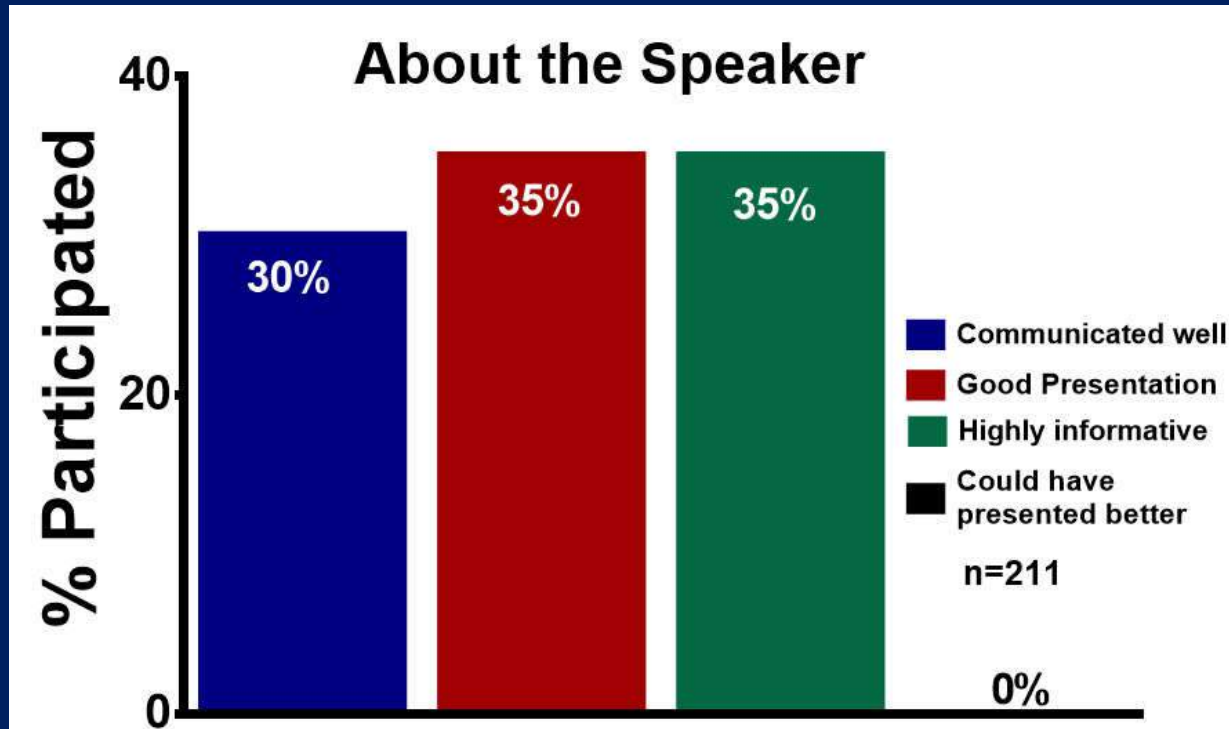


**Dr. Sivakumar Vijayaraghavalu, Ph.D.**  
Professor and Head, NTRIC,  
Mobile - 8925744196; Office - 0861-2355511 extn 2406,  
E-mail - [drvshiva@narayanamedicalcollege.com](mailto:drvshiva@narayanamedicalcollege.com)

## Registrants Profile:

Registrants (211) were from all over the world. Six percent are from foreign countries which includes - Saudi Arabia, USA, Japan, Taiwan, Sweden, and Denmark. Ninety Four percent are from India; among them 63% are from Andhra Pradesh, followed by Tamil Nadu 34%; rest all are from the following states - Telangana, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. Participants were even from corporate companies like ITC limited; Biocon; Roche Molecular Diagnostics, USA; IBM, USA; Immugenix.

# Registrants Poll Survey



The Convenor Dr. Sivakumar Vijayaraghavalu, introduced the speaker to the audience as follows;

Good afternoon and Greetings to one and all, on behalf of our Institution and our honorable Dean, Dr. Surya Prakasaa Rao; I — Dr. Sivakumar Vijayaraghavalu, Professor and Head of Narayana Translational Research Center, with immense pleasure welcome you all to this International Webinar on Applications of proteomics in medicine; by the subject expert, Dr. Srinivasan Yuvaraj.

He obtained his PhD in Medical Biochemistry from University of Madras in 2008. Then he joined RIKEN, one of the largest research institution in Japan with more than 3,000 researchers working at seven campuses pan across Japan. In that world-renowned institution; he got expertize in the field of proteomics. After completing three years of post-doctoral fellowship;

He came back to our country to establish and lead the proteomics core in ITC (India Tobacco Company), Limited, a corporate giant with turnover of 76,000 crores, even during this pandemic. He worked for 8 years in that company. Due to his passion towards academic research, he then moved back to Japan to join as a project scientist in the institute of Genome Research, Tokushima University in 2019 and continuing his research till now. He is a very versatile researcher; has experience in both academic and corporate sector. I am very honored and gifted to introduce my friend Dr. Yuvaraj.

Proteomics is very young field and is yet to explore in India. Hence, it will be good to hear from an eminent scientist like Dr. Yuvaraj. With this briefing, the convener requested the speaker to take over the session to deliver his talk and informed the audience that the Q & A will be at the end of the talk.

The speaker began his talk by thanking the organization and Dean Dr. SP Rao for giving him an opportunity and also thanked the convener for a nice introduction. He acknowledged his post-doc mentors; Dr. Yusuke Nakamura, University of Tokyo and doctors - H. Nakagawa & K. Ueda in RIKEN (largest research institution in Japan). He thanked them for training him in the field of proteomics. He informed the audience that his post-doc mentor Dr. Yusuke Nakamura is the pioneer in the field. Further he said that proteomics is very young field and it will remain young next two decades and advised youngsters to take proteomics as a career.

He also acknowledged the ITC (India Tobacco Company) Ltd., the company in which he established fully functional proteomics unit from the scratch. He also thanked his current mentor in Tokushima University, Tokushima, Japan for permitting him to deliver this webinar.

Then he defined the proteomics and mass spectrometry in a simple language. He described the lifecycle of proteomics with a good schematic diagram. In his comprehensive talk he also discussed about the establishment and management of proteomics core facility; which includes required plinth area, specifics about the room dimensions, infrastructure, instruments and man power. He emphasized the collaborative efforts of Biologists, Analytical chemists, Physicists, Bio-statisticians and Bioinformaticians role in development of proteomics as a field and scientific projects involving proteomics. He described about the commonly used methodologies in this multi-disciplinary field. Explained in detail about the 2D-gel electrophoresis and trypsin digestion of proteins, HPLC, ionization and sample analysis by Mass – spectrometer. He also discussed about the data pattern and how to interpret it.

He further explained about different types of mass analyzers - such as Scanning and Ion beam mass spectrometers (TOF & Q); Trapping mass spectrometers (IT and Orbitrap); Whole protein mass analysis (time of flight (TOF) MS, or Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance (FT-ICR) etc. He spoke about analyzing the isotopic labelled and label free samples. As well familiarized the audience about the proteomics algorithm software/ proteomics database. He comprehensively explained the entire process involved in proteomics, citing a project that resulted in discovery of tumor markers (BIG3/PHB2). Another example described was about finding a serum biomarker in the prostate cancer using proteomic approach. He also explained the challenges involved in serum proteomics. At the end of his talk; he answered the questions of the audience satisfactorily. The talk was then concluded with a vote of thanks by the Convener. The PPTs of Dr. Yuvaraj is in the following pages





**Webinar title –  
MASS SPECTROMETRY BASED PROTEOMICS  
&  
ITS APPLICATION IN MEDICINE**

**PPT s of Dr. Yuvaraj Srinivasan's presentation**

# Conflict of Interest

- No direct conflict of interest.
- Have a small family business - (Saravana Clinical Laboratory / S-Finomics Financial Consultancy in Chennai).
- Investment / Shares -> Have investments in Listed Company in Indian Markets in Hospital, Pharma, Education / other Sectors ( But not significant or  $> 0.1\%$  of Company holding)

# Acknowledgements

2008-2011

Dr. Yusuke Nakamura



Dr. H. Nakagawa

Dr. K. Ueda



2011-2019



2019- till now



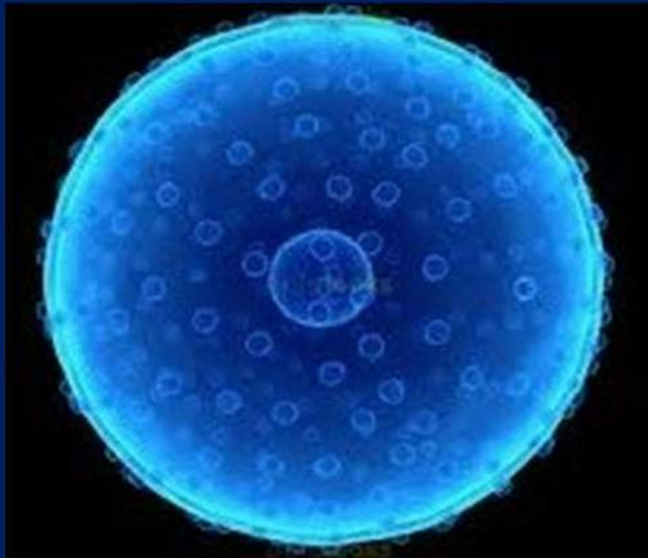
# MASS SPECTROMETRY BASED PROTEOMICS & ITS APPLICATION IN MEDICINE

- **OVERVIEW**

- Proteomics & Mass Specs (MS)
- Life Cycle of a Proteomics Project
- Proteomics Core Facility -> Management
- Different technologies to deal with different challenges
- Clinical Proteomics Project (with Examples)

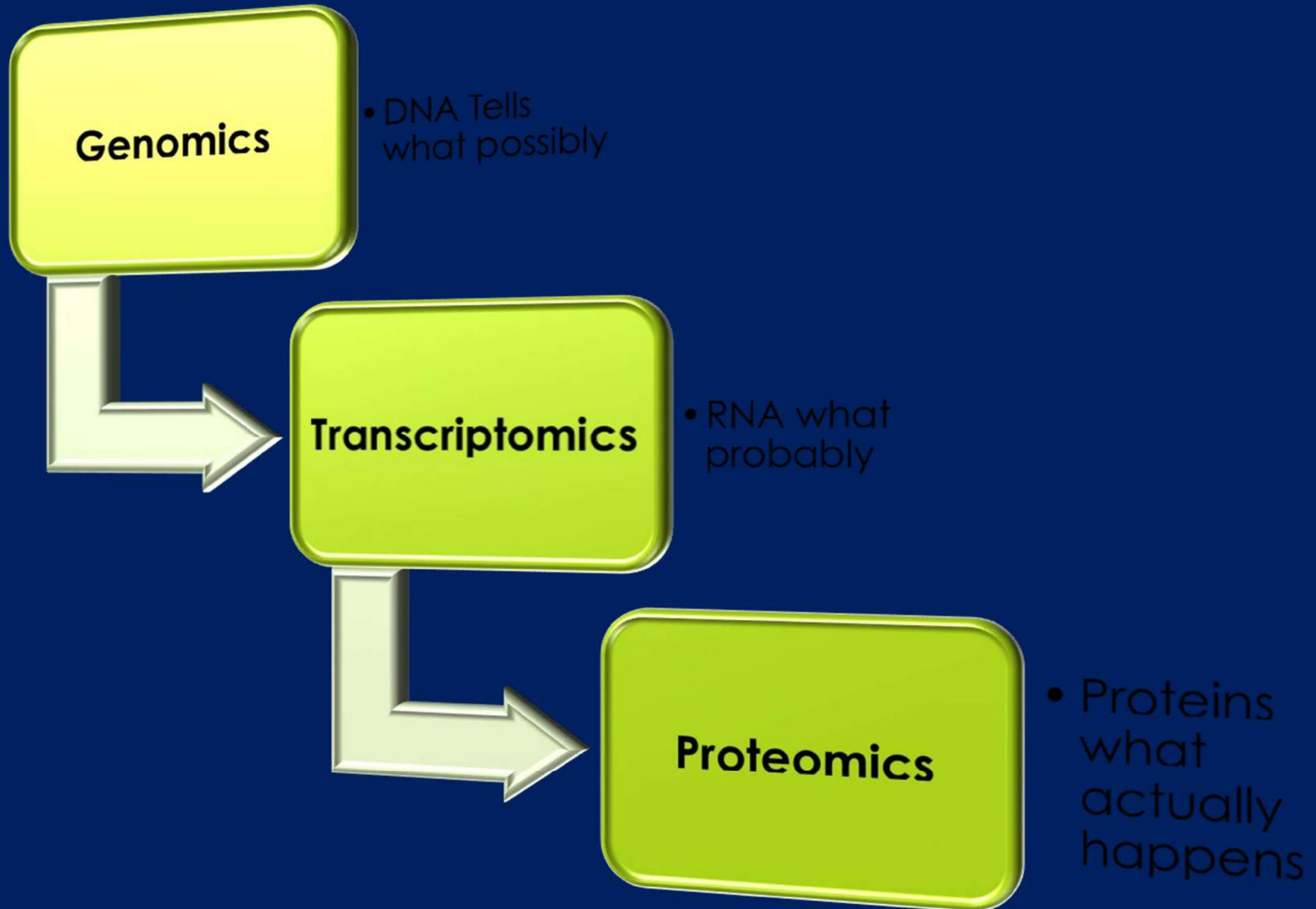
# Proteome

- ❖ Entire set of proteins expressed by
  - ❖ Genome
  - ❖ Cell
  - ❖ Tissue
  - ❖ Organism



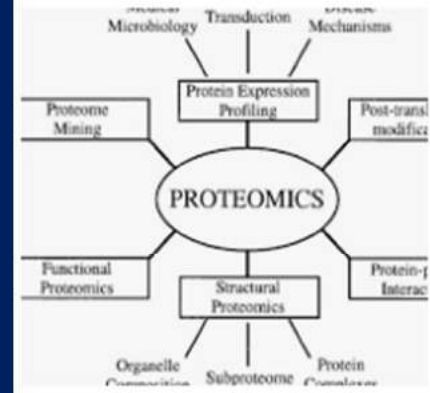
> 400.000 proteins, dynamic

# Why proteomics? (1/2)

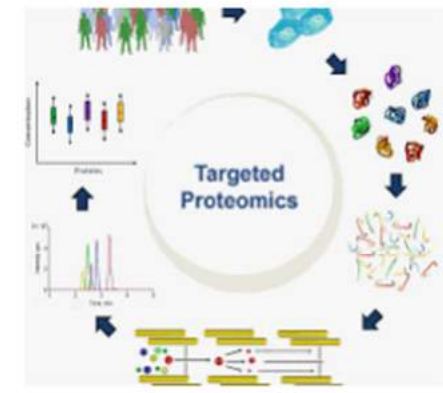


# Why proteomics? (2/2)

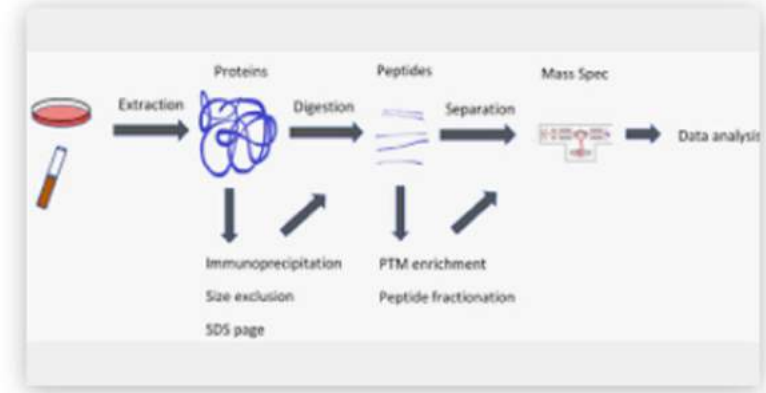
- **Protein alterations cannot be fully deduced from DNA.**
- RNA expression does not always reflect protein levels:
  - Translational control
  - Degradation turnover
- Some tissues not suitable for RNA expression analysis.
- **Proteins are the physiological/pathological active key players.**
- General goal:
  - Better understanding of genesis and progression of diseases
- **Clinical goals:**
  - Early disease detection (biomarkers)**
  - Identification of therapeutic targets**
  - Therapy monitoring**



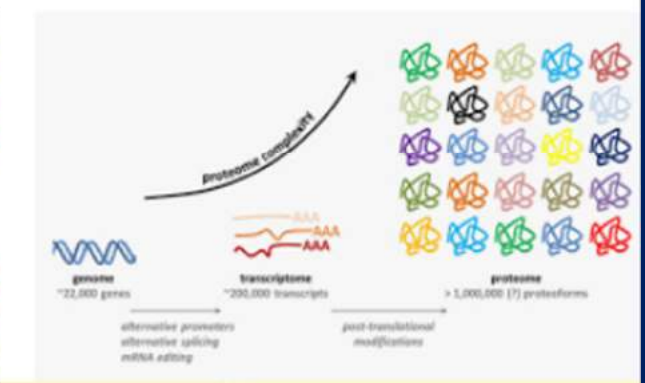
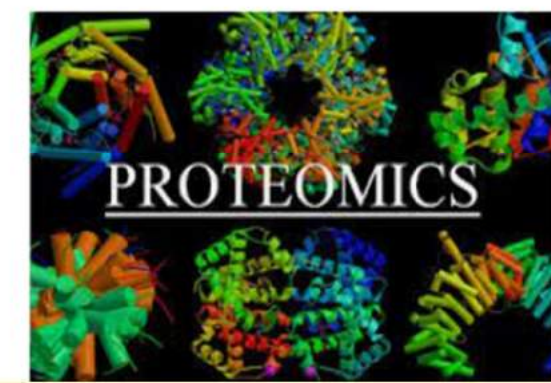
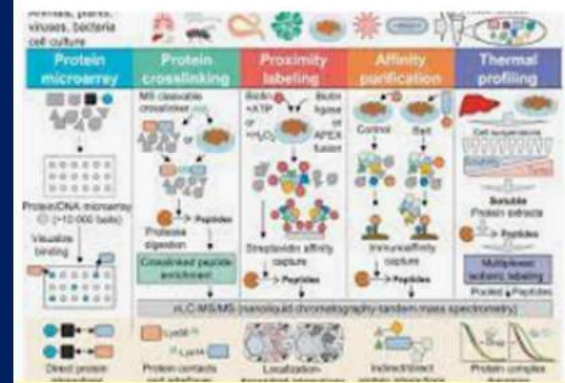
Types of proteomics and their ...  
researchgate.net



Targeted Proteomics | SpringerLink  
link.springer.com

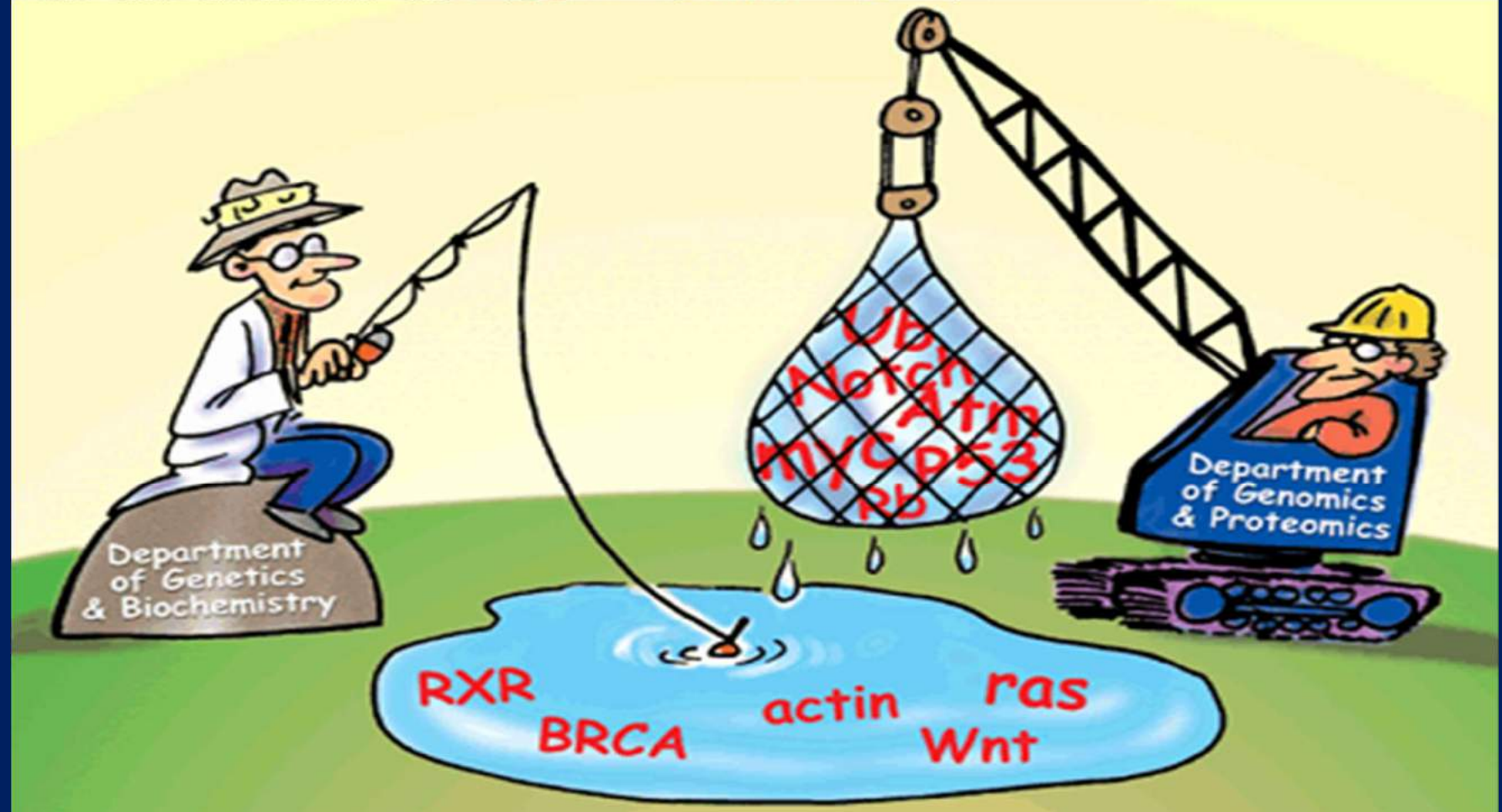


Introduction to Proteomics | USF Health  
health.usf.edu



# Mass Spectrometry Based Proteomics eg. Biomarker Discovery

## A Pictorial Definition





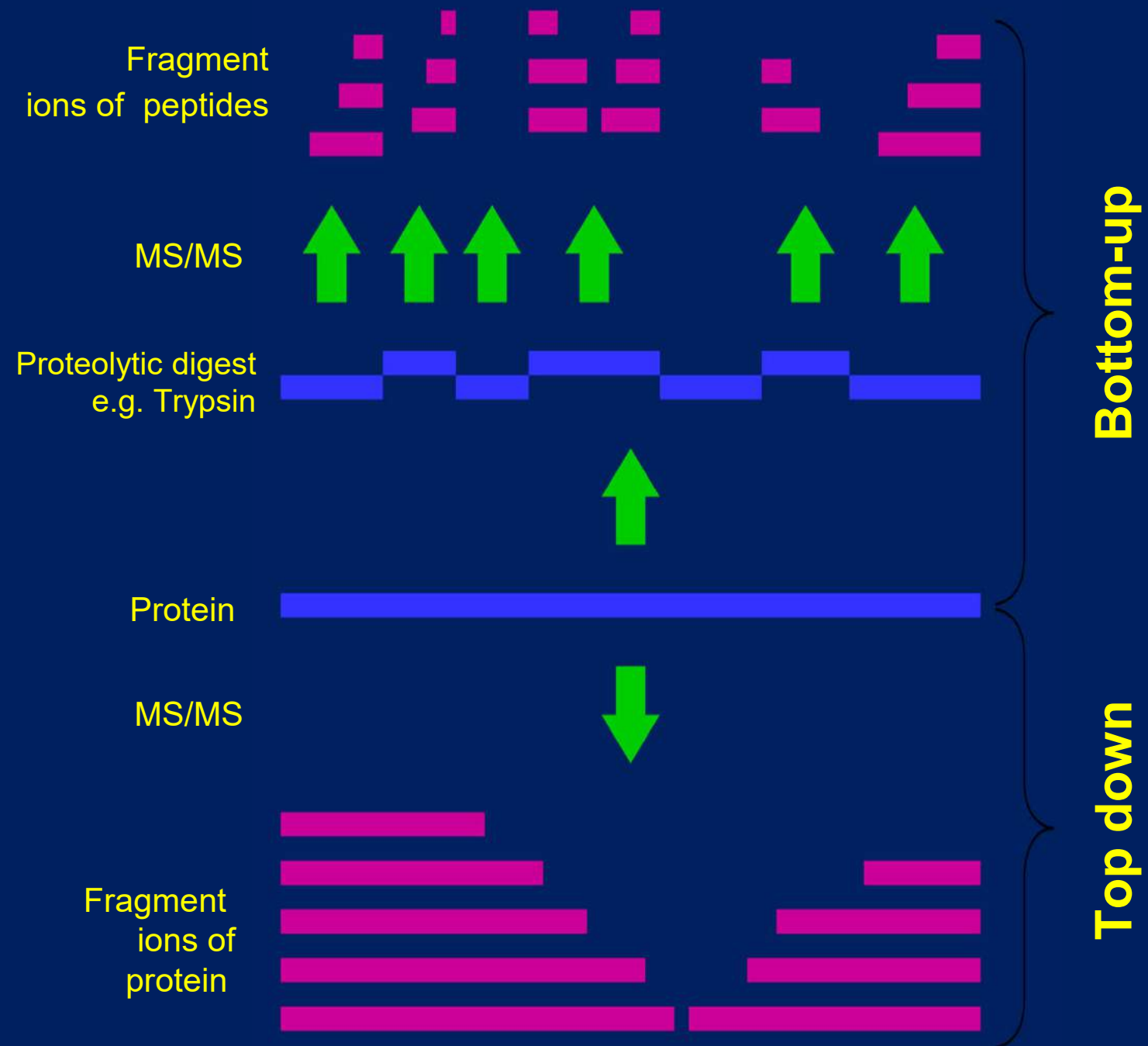
# Top down or bottom up?

## Bottom-up

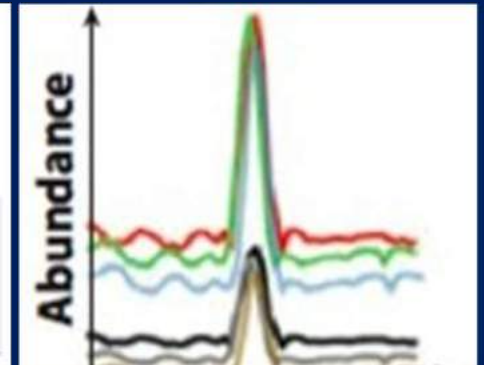
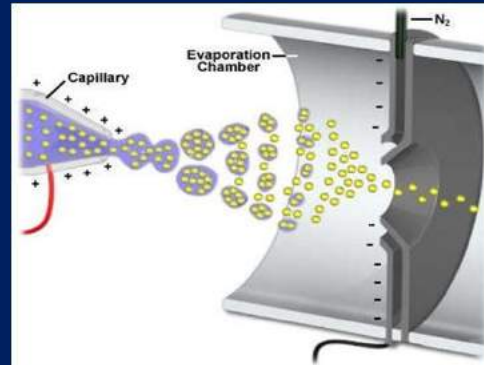
- Most common
- Starting with proteolytic fragments
- Piecing the protein back together
- de novo repeat detection

## Top down

- Tandem MS of whole protein ions
- Pulling them apart
- Electron capture dissociation
- Extensive sequence information



# Multidisciplinary



Sample preparation

Separation

Ionisation

Identification

Quantification

Cells, tissue

HPLC

MALDI, ESI

TOF, Q, IT

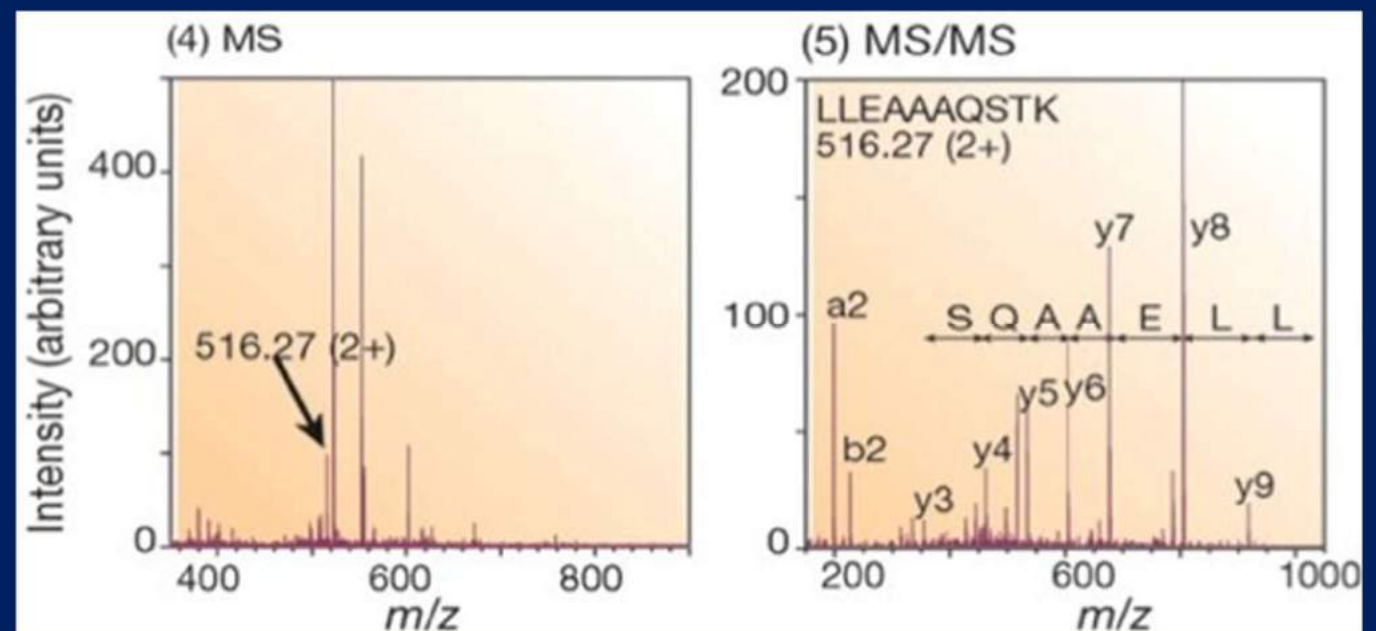
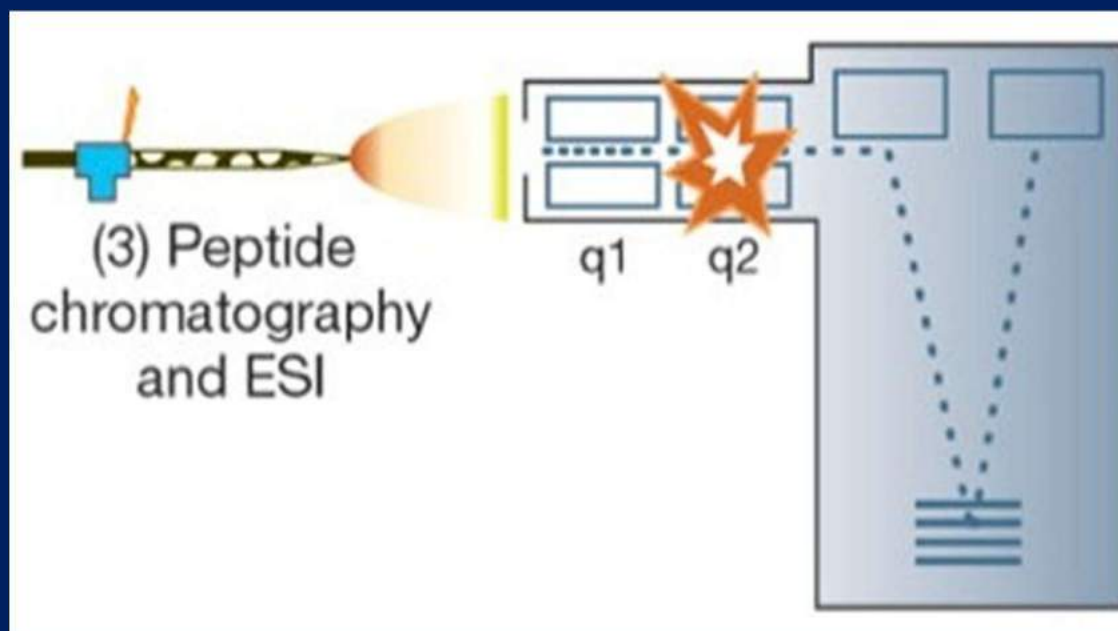
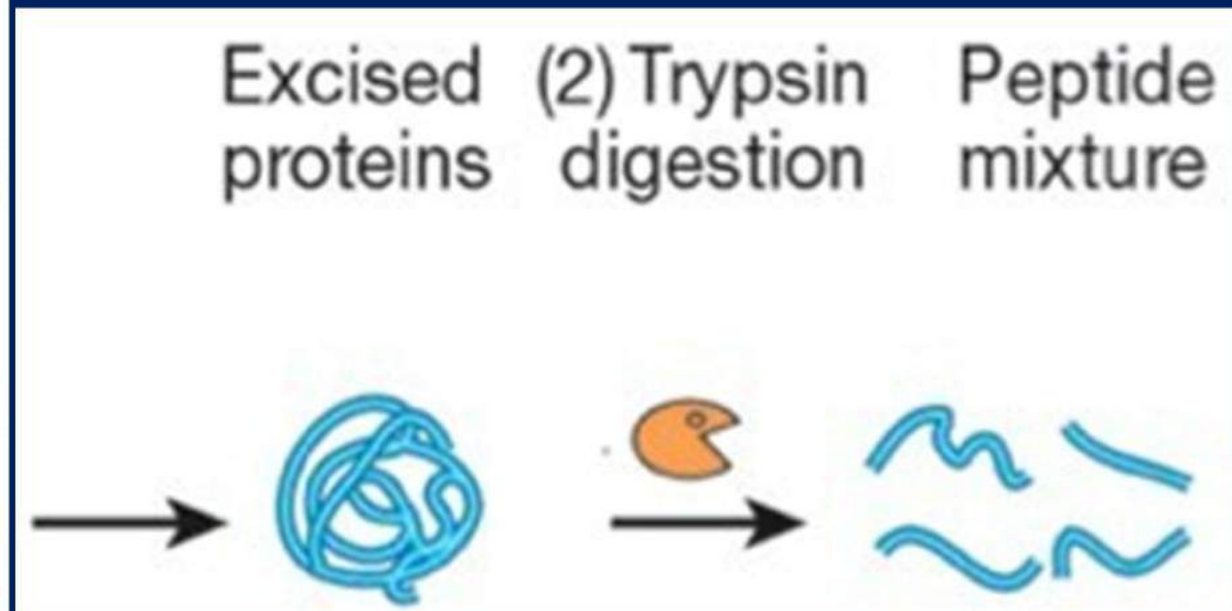
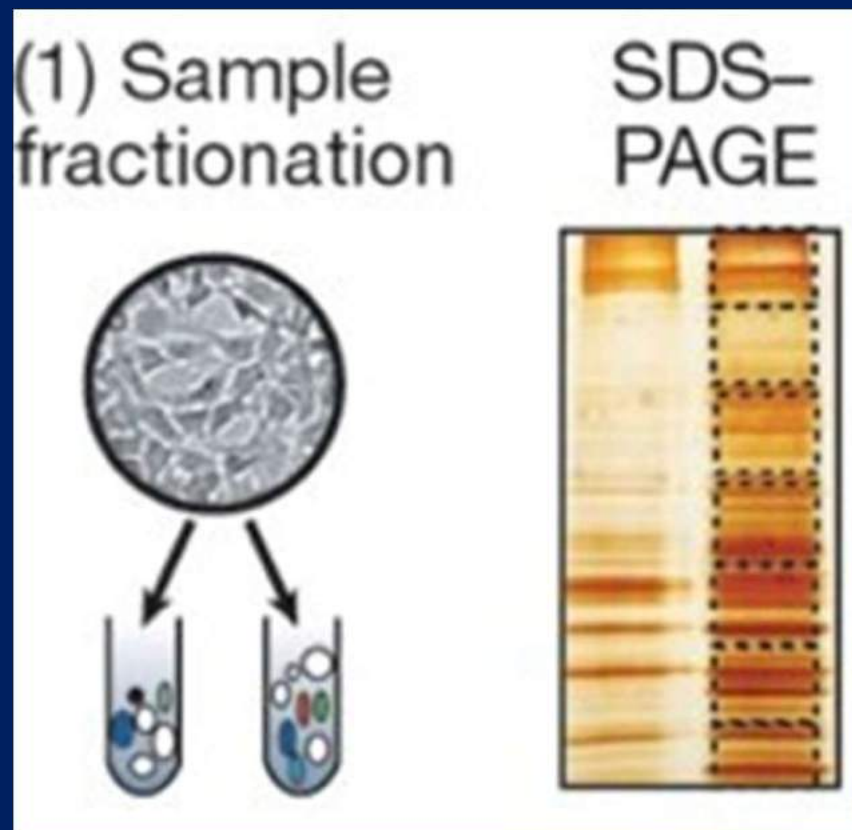
Algorithms



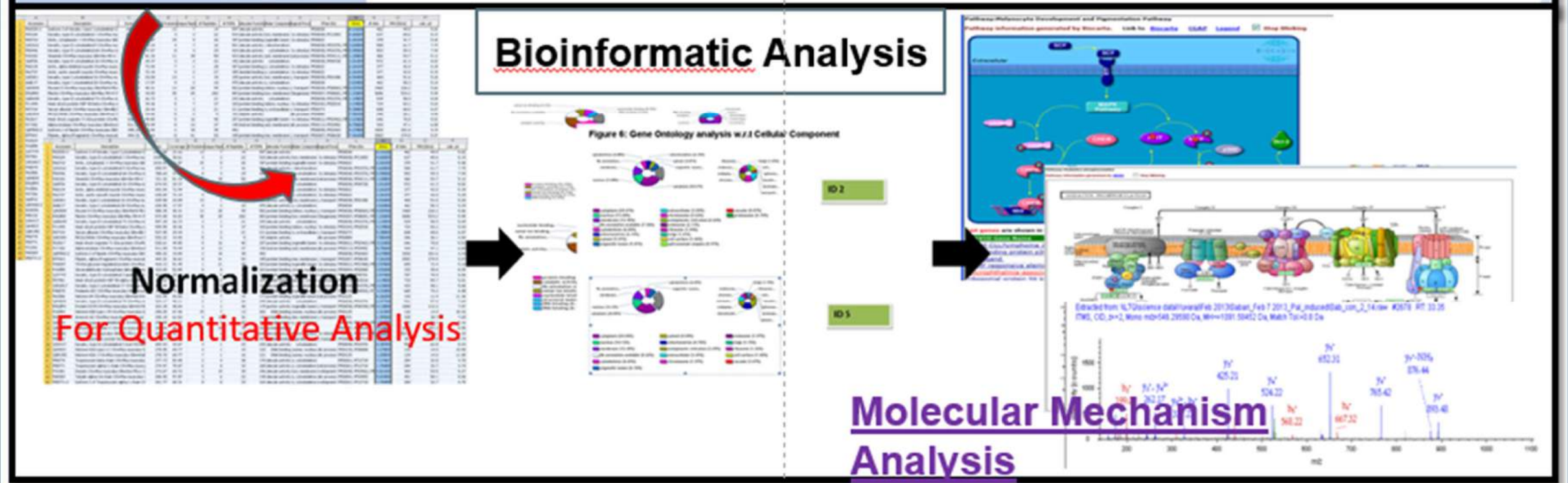
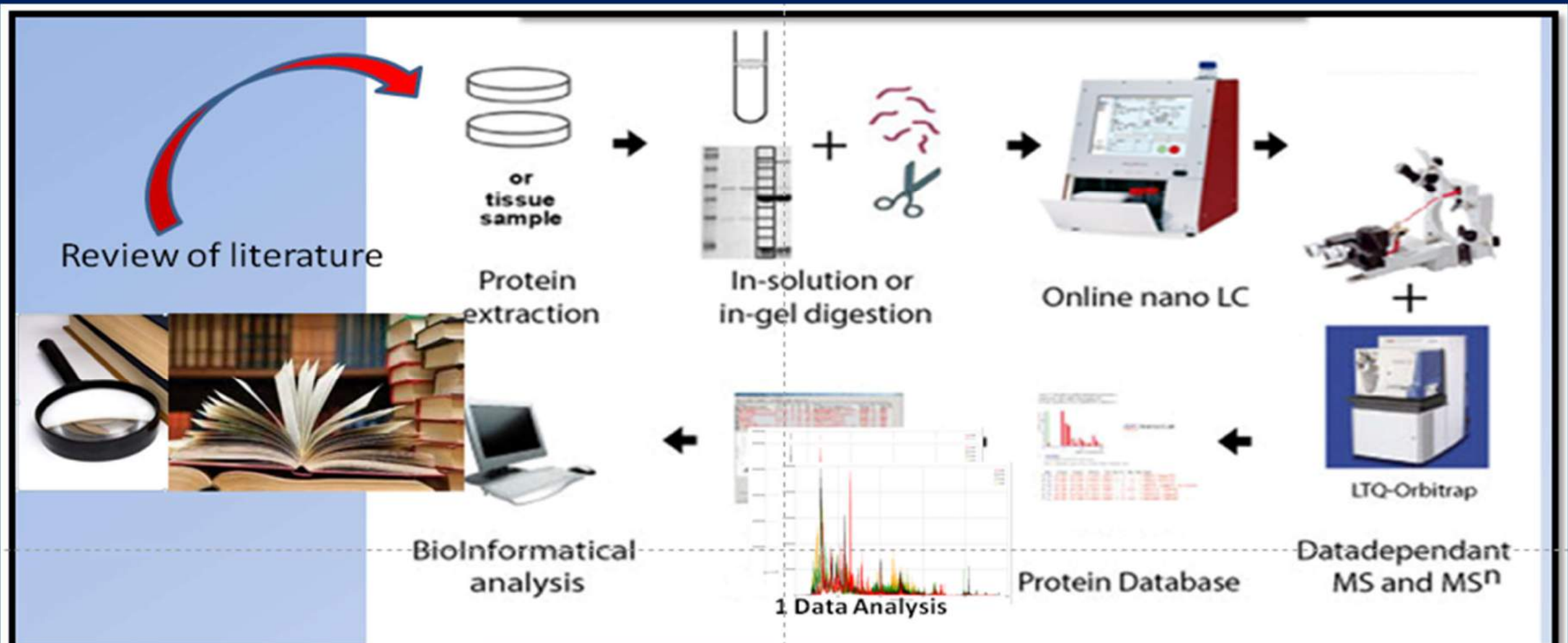
Bioanalytics

Bioinformatics

# Typical stages - MS-Based Proteomics



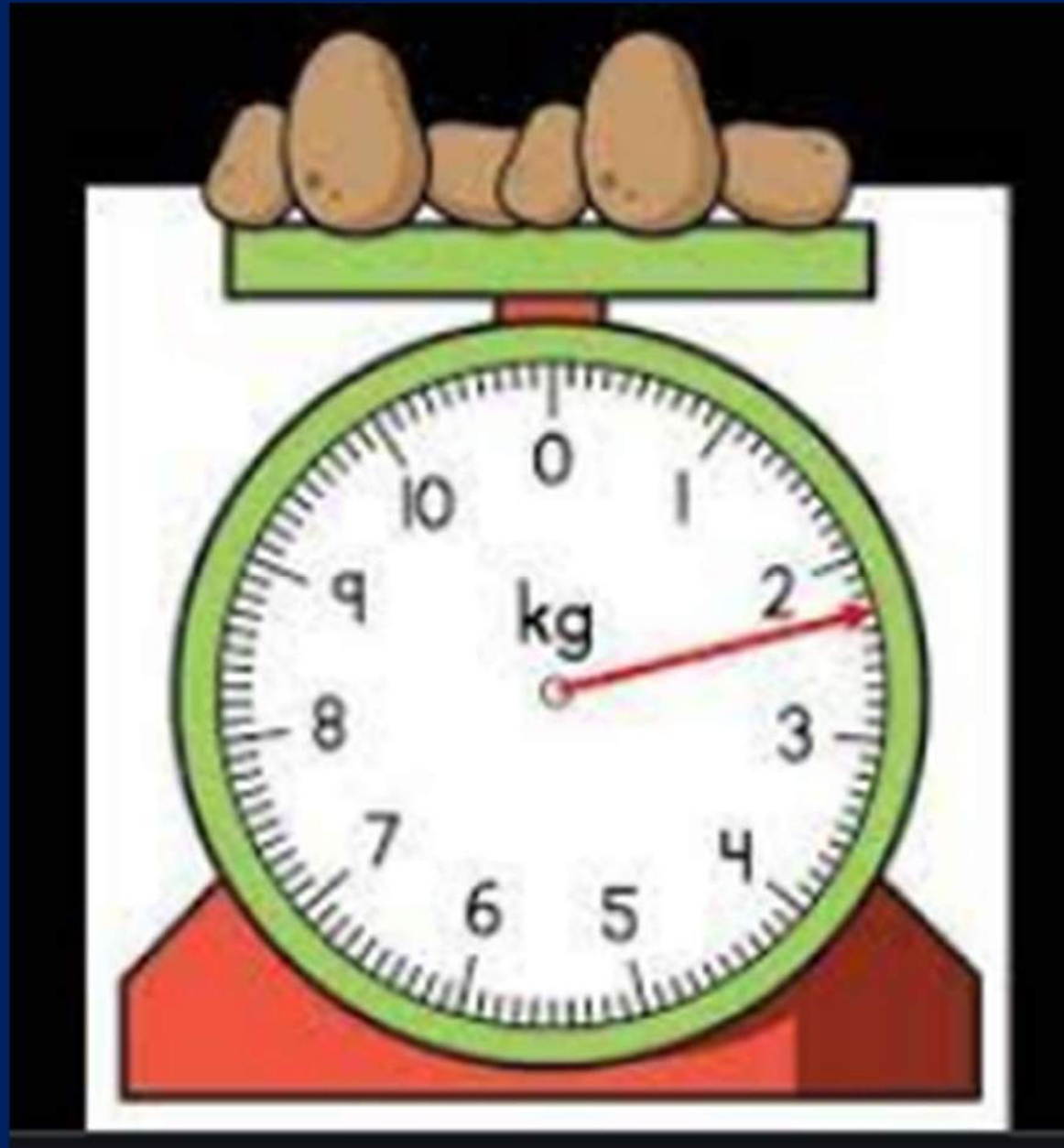
# Broad Life Cycle of a Proteomics Project



# Proteomics Facility Set-up



# A Simplified Visualization Mass Spectrometer



# Flow / Aim of Doing an Omics Project

## Data Driven Project

~ > 50 % is Biomarker  
Discovery

~ 30 % Lead Compound  
Molecular Mechanism

## Proteomics / Genomics Studies

List of Genes / Protein ids With Fold  
Change Value  
→ Pick the Best Biomarker from the  
list

Incubation and  
Translation of Biomarker

- Functional Validation

Validated Protein / Gene → Molecular  
Mechanism

## Take Proteomics Help

- Interacting Protein to Biomarker

Molecular Mech. Cont.

Functional Studies

Working with existing pathways /  
Novel Pathway

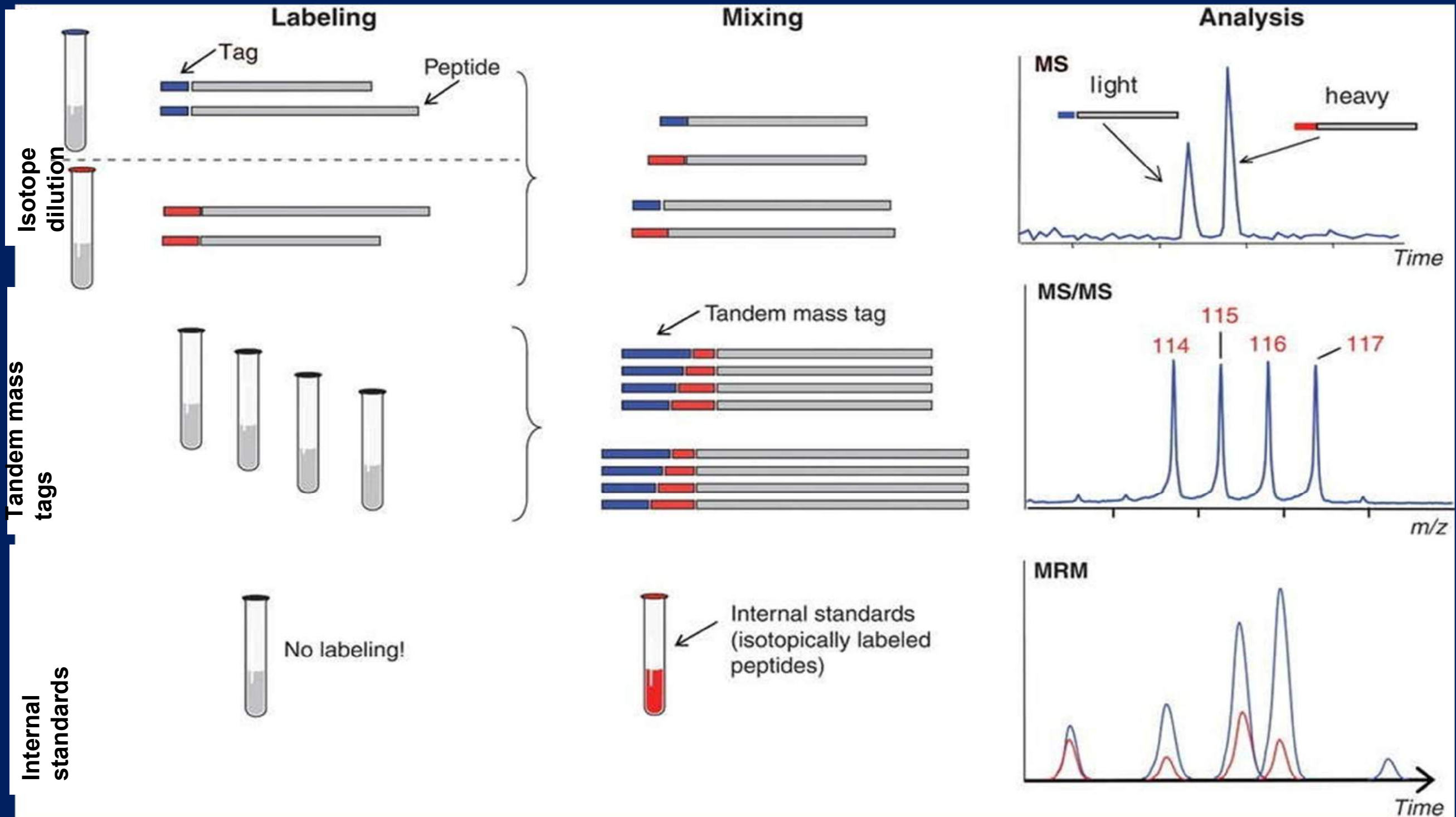
## Targeted Therapy

Novel / existing Drug → Target the  
Biomarker-interacting protein /  
Pathway → Screening

Drug-Biomarker Molecular  
Mechanism

Take Proteomics Help if needed /  
Other Functional Studies

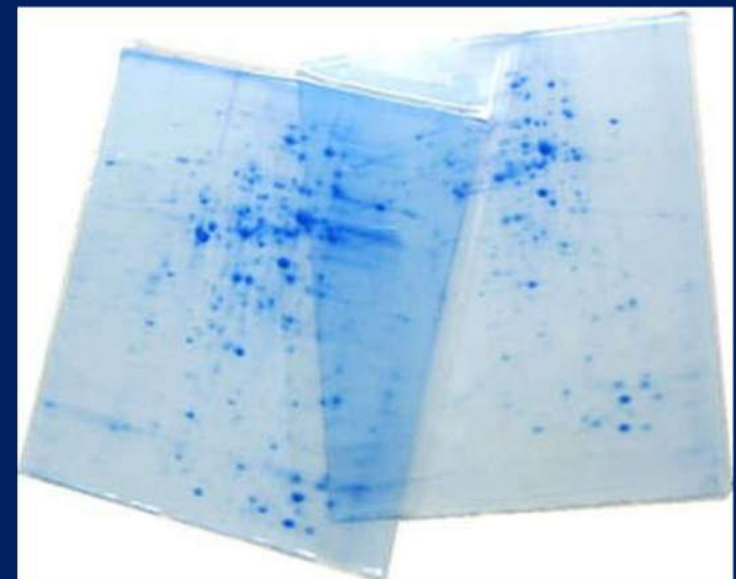
# Quantification strategies



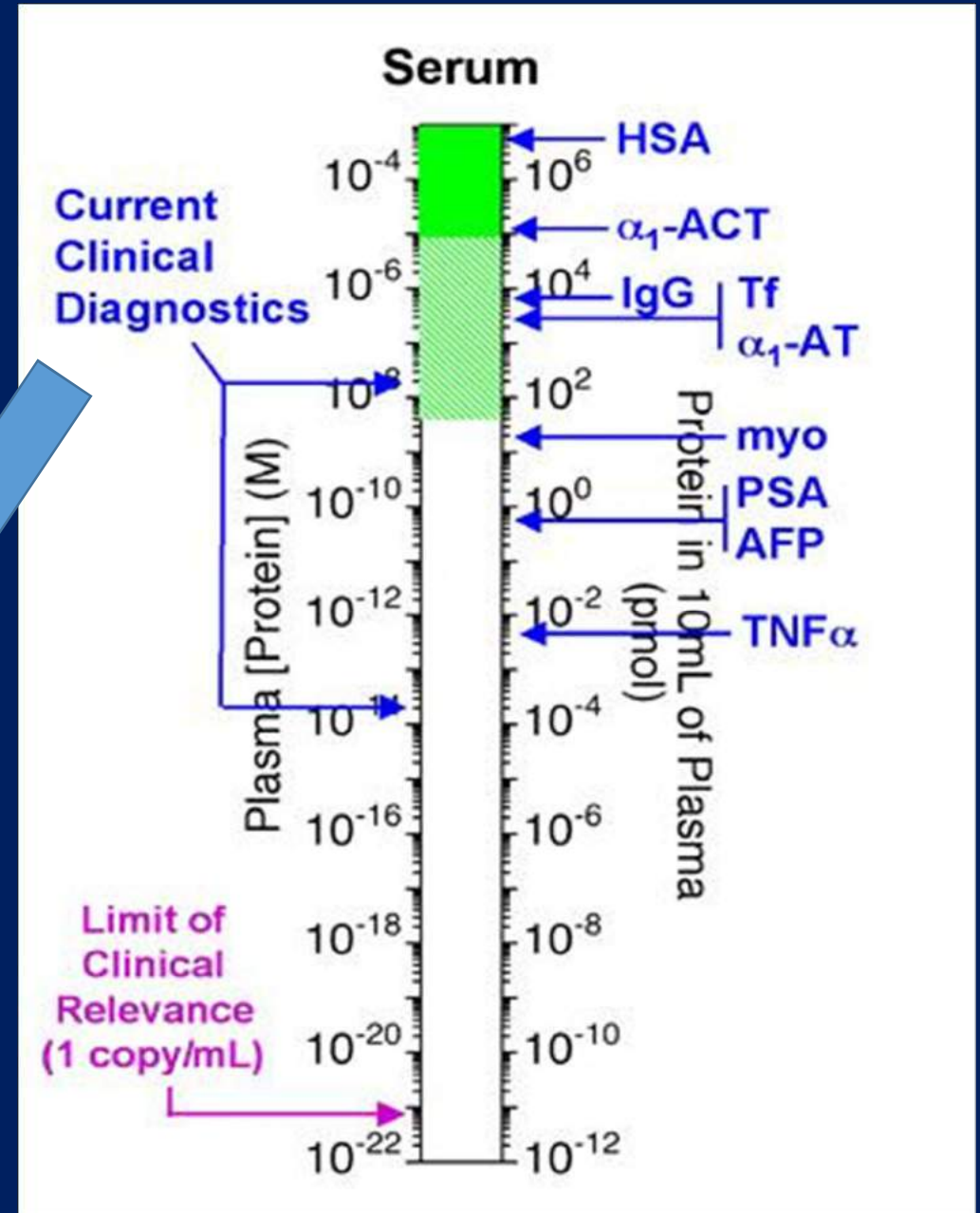
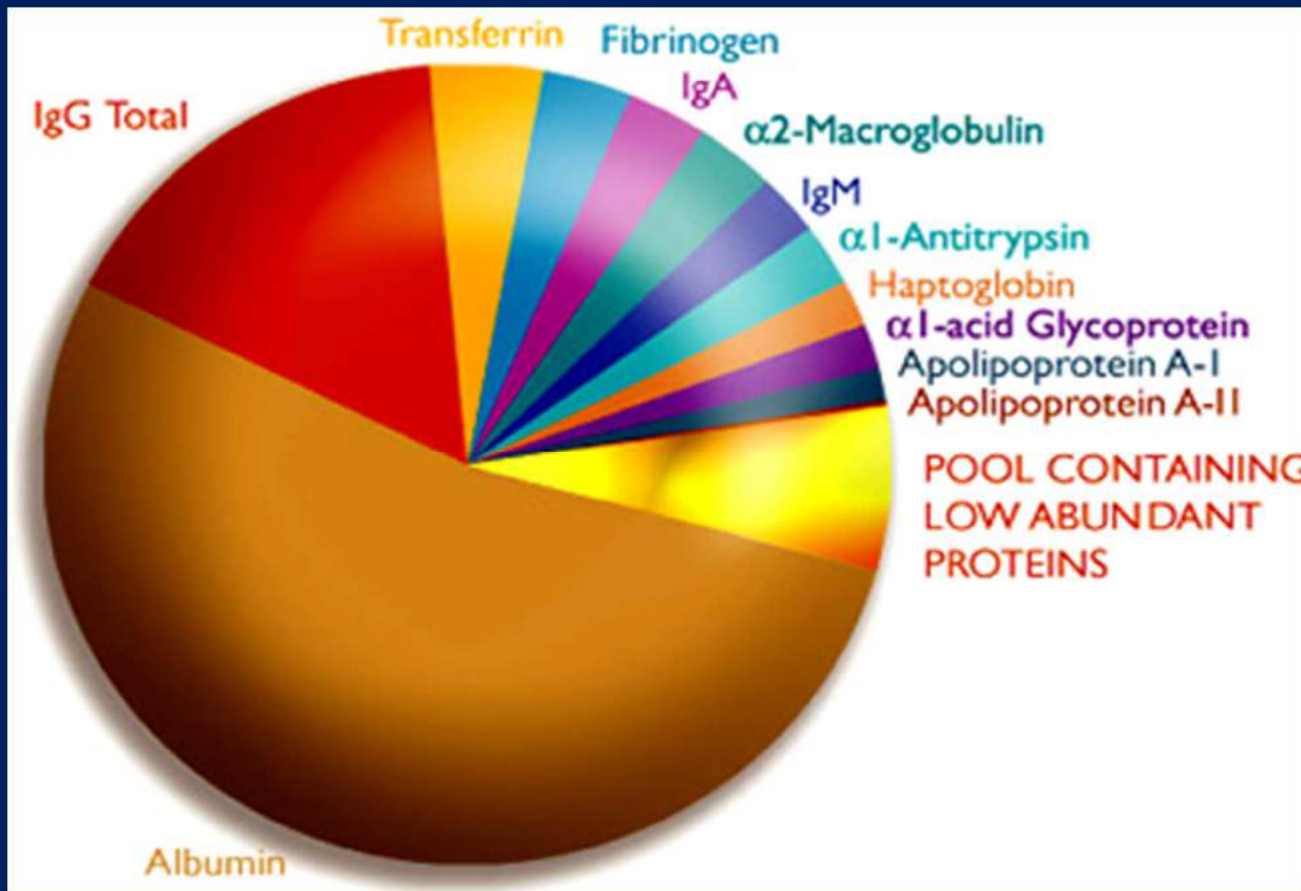


# Protein Sample Preparation Strategies / Separation

- Specific protein biophysical parameters
  - Isoelectric point
  - Molecular weight
  - Affinity
- Chromatographic methods
  - HPLC
  - 2D-HPLC
  - ProteinChips
- Electrophoretic methods
  - SDS-PAGE
  - 2-D E
- Reverse phase (RPLC) – Hydrophobicity

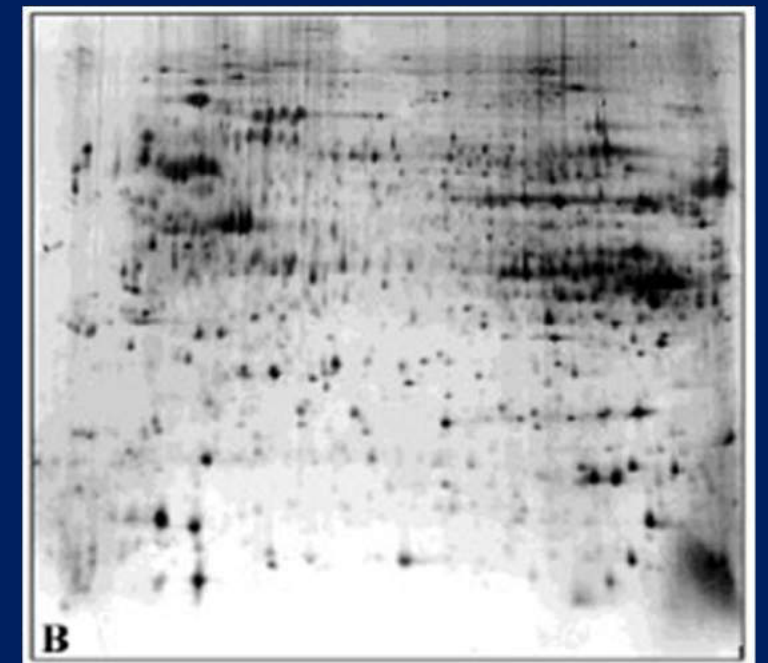
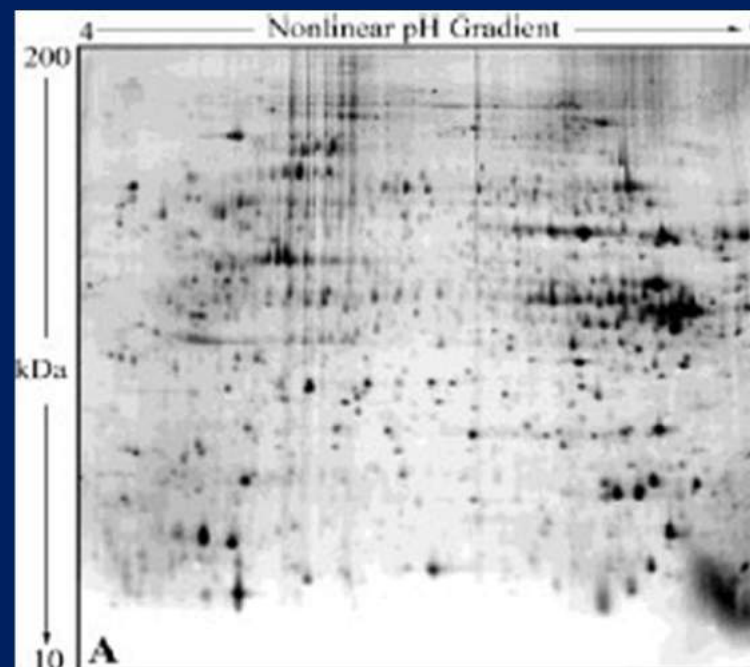


# Protein as a Sample / SERUM as a Sample and its Complexity



# 2D Gel electrophoresis (History)

- 1D: isoelectric focussing (IEF) separation by IP
- 2D: dimension: SDS-PAGE separation by MW
  - staining > 1000 proteins /gel
- molecular analysis by
  - MS
  - HPLC
  - Westernblot
- Pitfalls
  - very basic / acidic;
  - large / small;
  - hydrophobic;
  - low-abundance proteins



# Robotic Isolation





# Separation -> HPLC

- HPLC/MS
- Peptides from protein mixture fractionated in steps
- Eluent
  - ESI-MS
  - MALDI: series



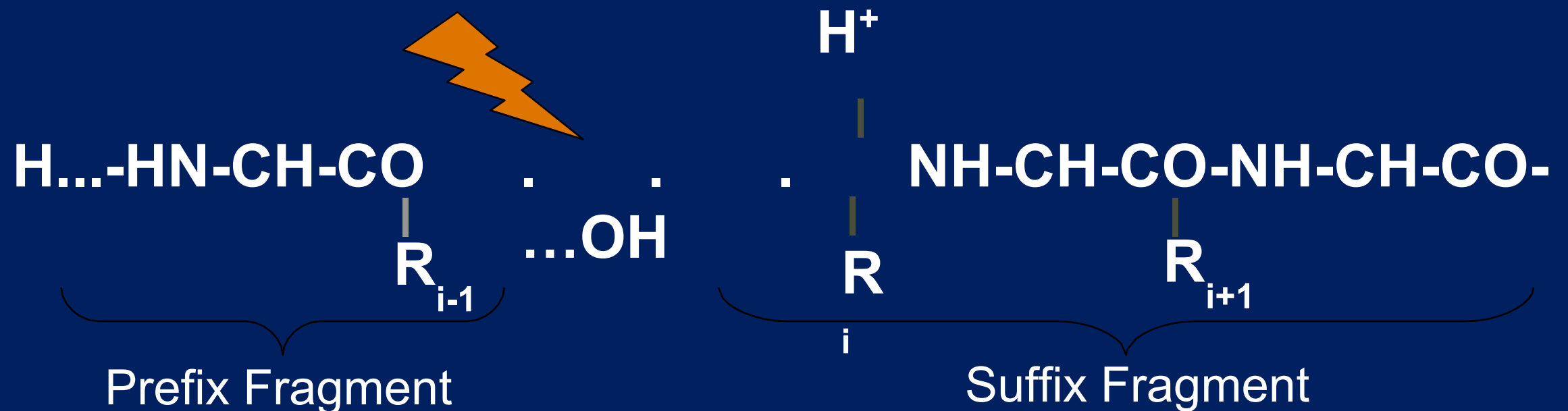
# Protein & peptide fractionation

- Complex mixtures
  - Proteins
  - Molecules
- Works only if mixture has equal amounts
  - **Abundant species suppress signals from less abundant ones**
  - Difficult to interpret
  - Enzymatic digestion -> many peptide products
- 2-D electrophoresis
  - Protein fractionation
- High performance liquid chromatography
  - Peptide fractionation

# Proteins Peptides Fragments

- Proteases, e.g. trypsin, break protein into peptides
- Tandem MS breaks peptides into fragment ions
  - Measures the mass of each piece.
  - MS accelerates the fragmented ions;
  - heavier ions accelerate slower than lighter ones
  - MS measure mass/charge ratio of an ion

## Collision Induced Dissociation



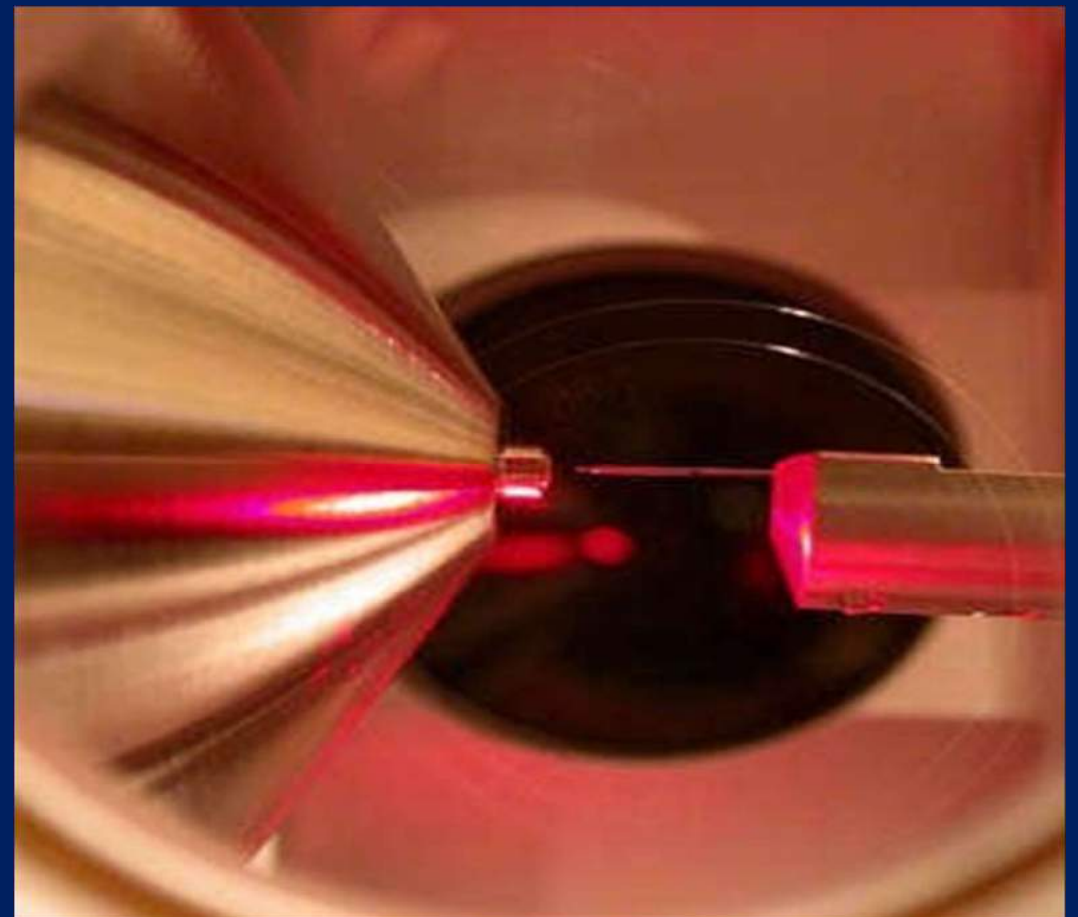
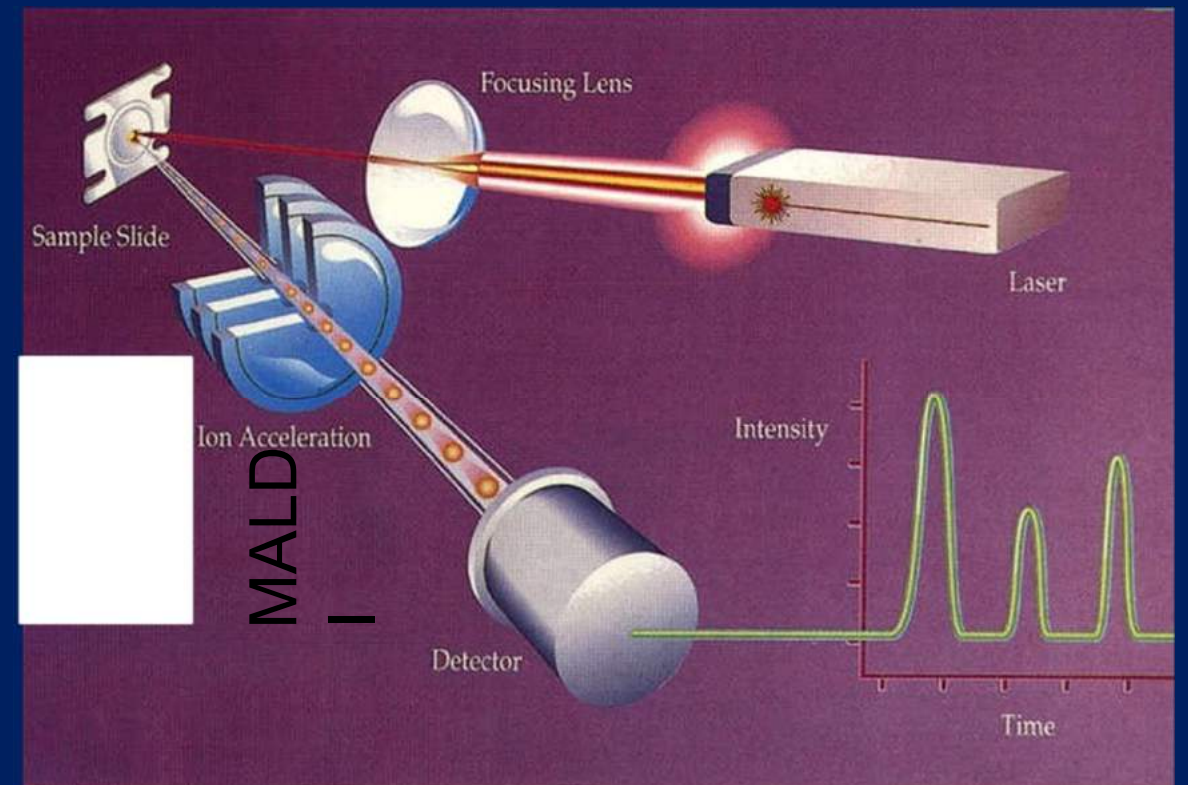
Peptides tend to fragment along the backbone.

Fragments can also lose neutral chemical groups like  $\text{NH}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .



# Ionisation

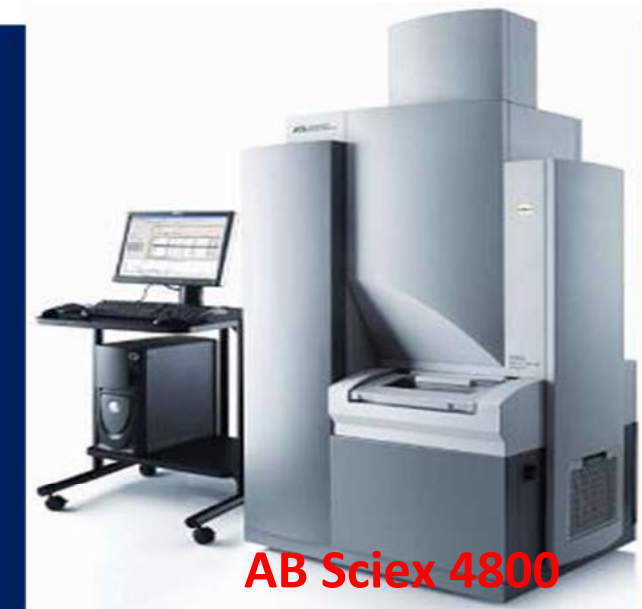
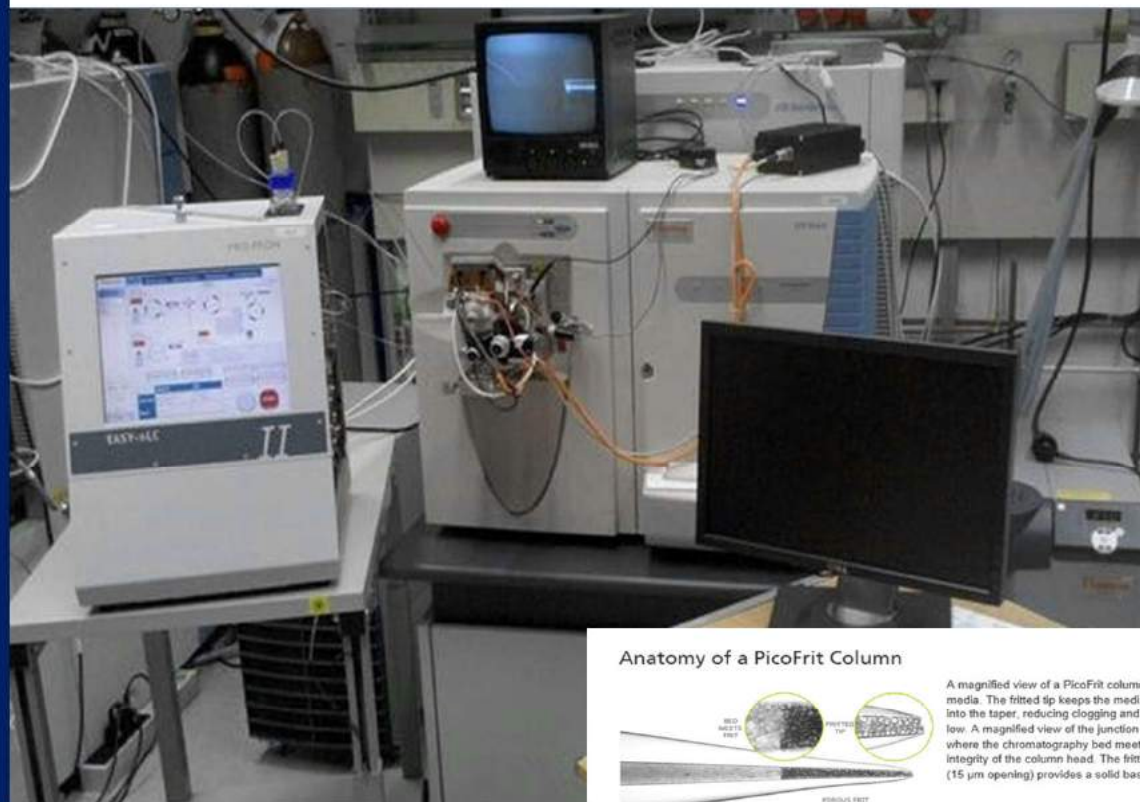
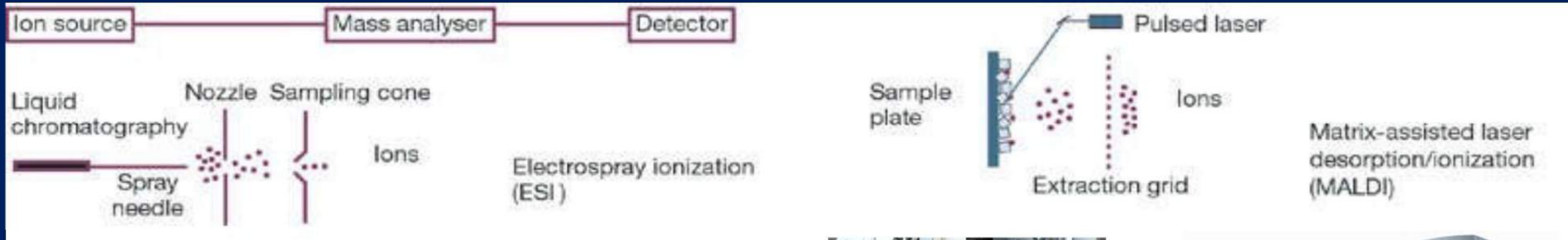
- Proteins
  - Polar
  - Nonvolatile
  - Thermally unstable
- Ionisation transfers analyte into gas phase
  - No degradation
- Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI)**
  - Laser nitrogen beam (soft)
  - Matrix protection (Sinapinic acid)
- Electrospray ionization (ESI)**
  - No fragmentation



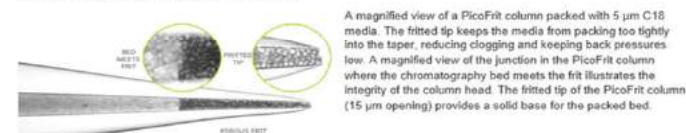
# Mass analysers

- **Scanning and ion-beam** mass spectrometers
  - TOF and Q
  
- **Trapping** mass spectrometers
  - IT and Orbitrap
  
- **Whole protein** mass analysis
  - time-of-flight (TOF) MS, or
  - Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance (FT-ICR).
  
- Mass analysis of **proteolytic peptides** more popular
  - Low costs
  - Sample preparation is
  - MALDI time-of-flight instruments
  - Multiple stage quadrupole-time-of-flight and
  - quadrupole ion trap also find use in this application.

# Mass spectrometers

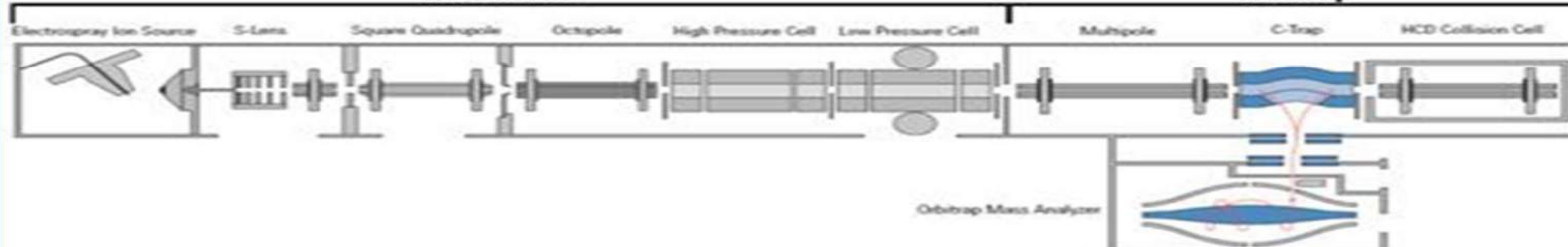


Anatomy of a PicoFrit Column

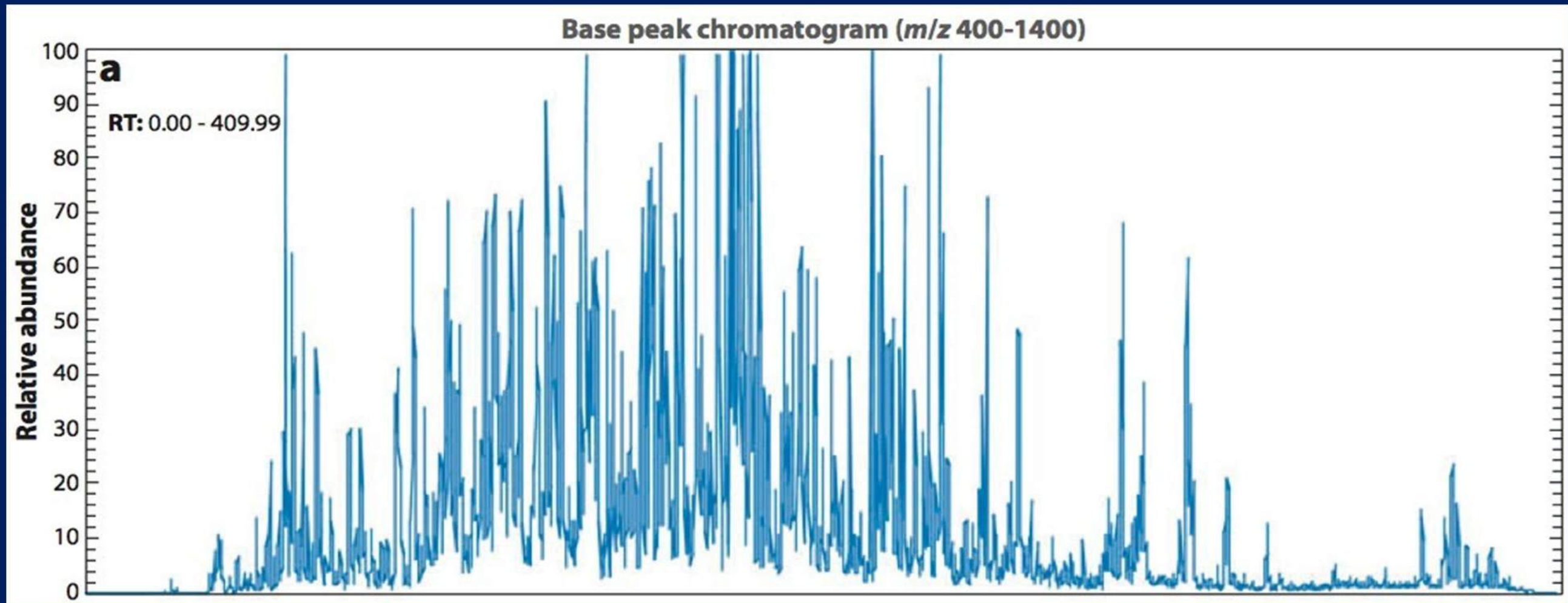


LTQ Velos

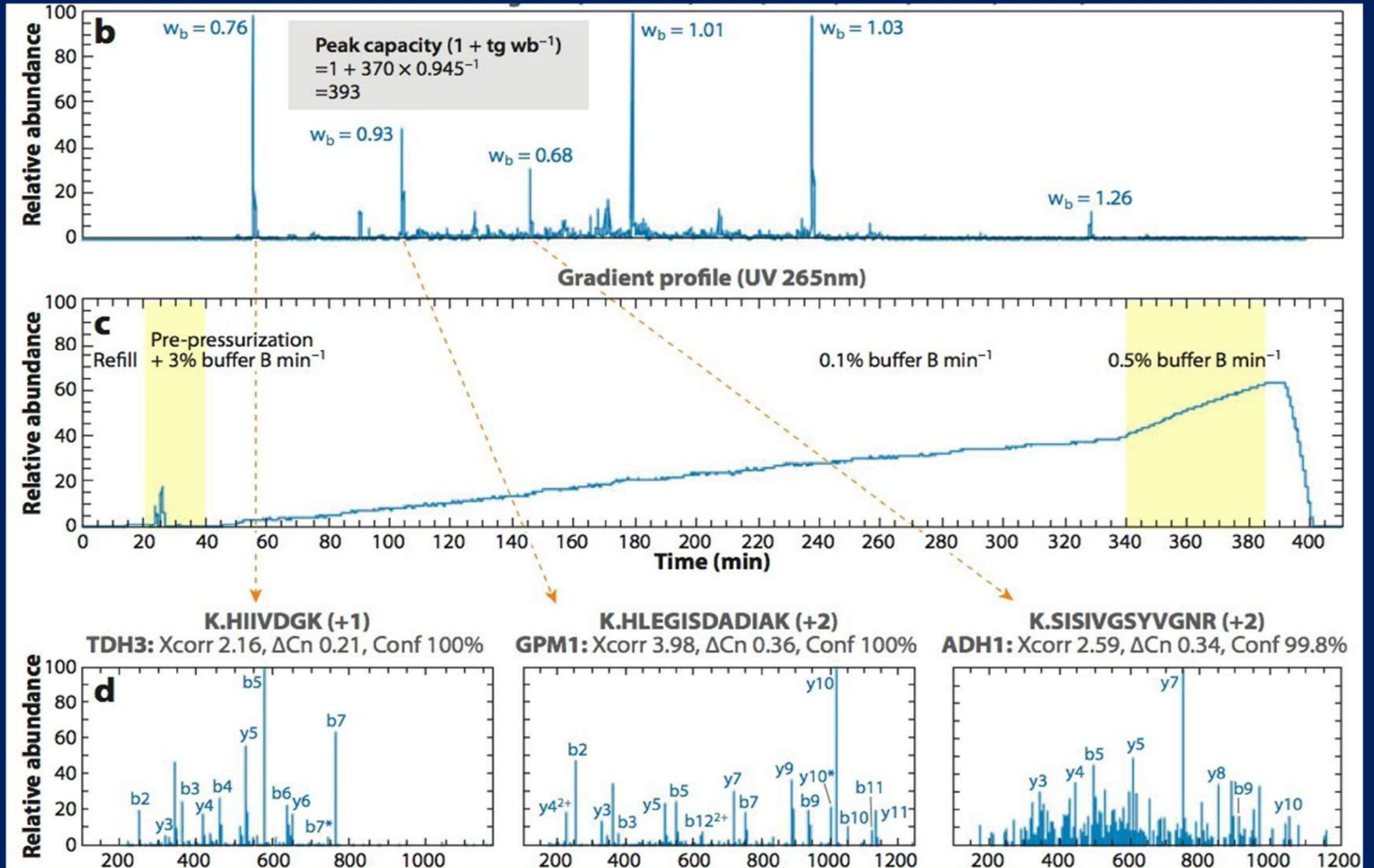
Orbitrap



# Base peak chromatogram



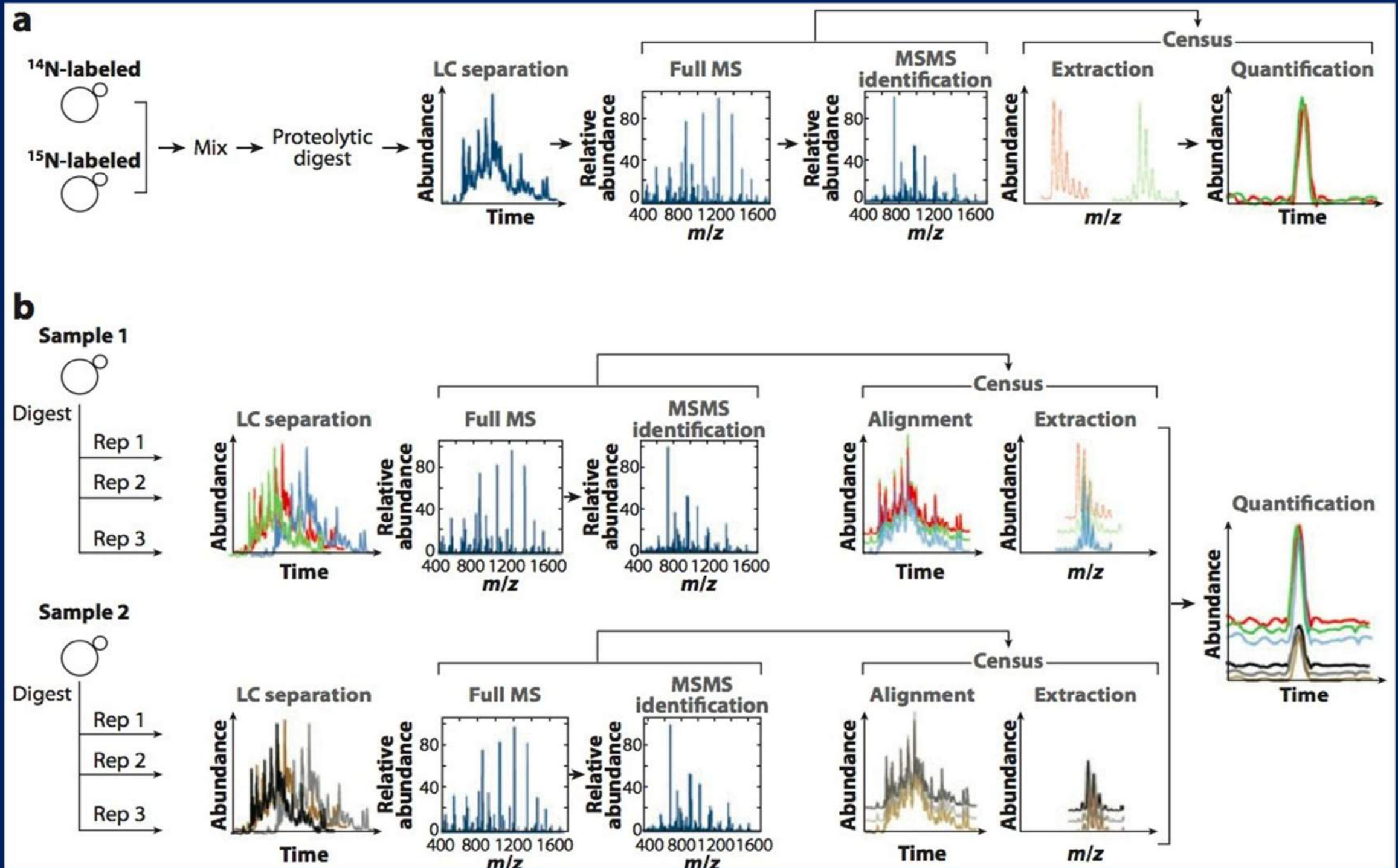
# Mass chromatogram



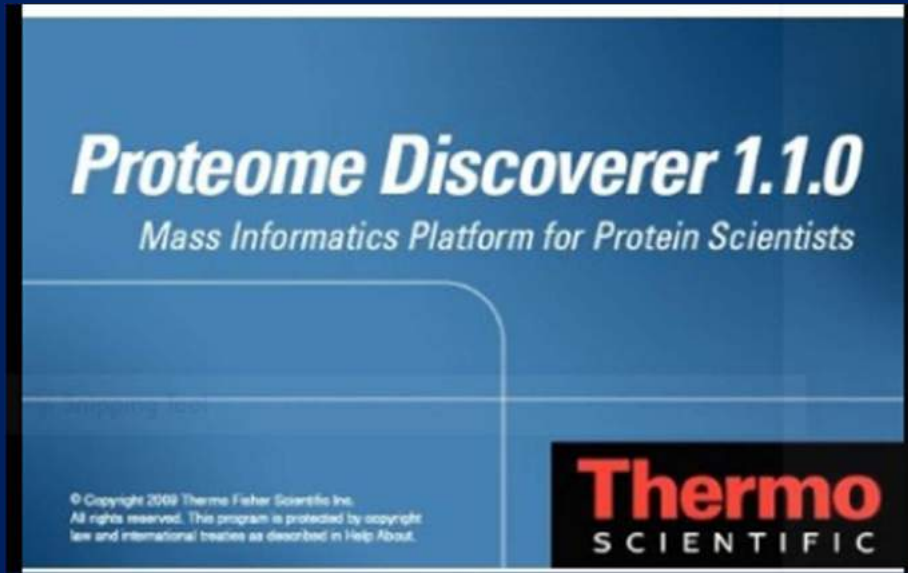
# Quantitative analysis

Isotopic labeling

Label-free analysis



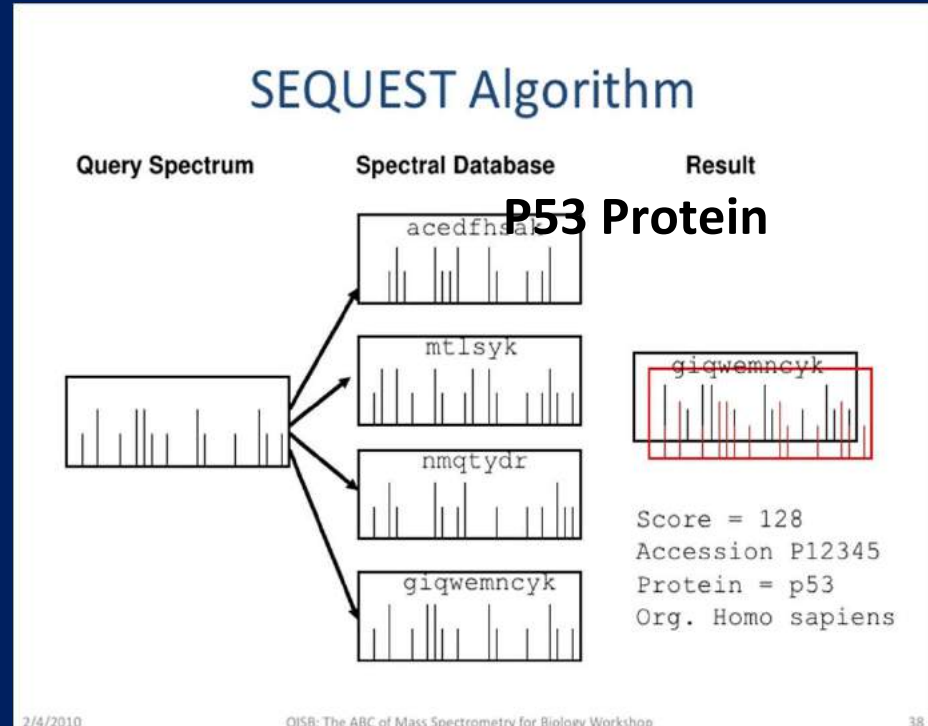
# Protein Identification -> Proteomics Algorithms Software / Proteomics Database



Uniprot Protein Database



Orbitrap Fusion™ Lumos™ Tribrid™ Mass Spectrometer



# A Quantitative Omics (Proteomics) Data Analysis Tool Development

**Prolyzer**

Prolyzer – One Excel File with Results (Fold Change)

S. No.	ID	Protein Name	Fold Change_Treat_1	Fold Change_Treat_2	Fold Change_Treat_3
13	P52480-2	Isoform M1 of Pyruvate kinase PKM OS=Mus musculus GN=Pkm - [KPYM_MOUSE]	0.057716207	-0.064484186	-2.674260387
315	P03975	IgE-binding protein OS=Mus musculus GN=lap PE=2 SV=1 - [IGEB_MOUSE]	-0.987791525	-1.872998839	-2.783797763
592	Q64521	Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, mitochondrial OS=Mus musculus GN=Gdh	0.202964704	-1.505621876	-2.794208816
927	Q3UB60	Putative uncharacterized protein OS=Mus musculus GN=Ppid PE=2 SV=1 - [Ppid_MOUSE]		-0.42854941	-2.823144929
26	P11499	Heat shock protein HSP 90-beta OS=Mus musculus GN=Hsp90ab1 PE=1 SV=1 - [Hsp90ab1_MOUSE]	0.19703084	-0.37225035	-2.947053245
84	Q35737	Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein H OS=Mus musculus GN=Hnrrga	-0.312362726	-1.013617405	-2.98391434
79	Q02053	Ubiquitin-like modifier-activating enzyme 1 OS=Mus musculus GN=Uba1	-0.172703539	-0.504424141	-3.042752565
342	Q9D0M3-2	Isoform 2 of Cytochrome c1, heme protein, mitochondrial OS=Mus musculus GN=C1	-0.024258004	-0.903866095	-3.054217051
126	P63242	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 5A-1 OS=Mus musculus GN=Eif5a Pl	0.099339126		-3.057161075
49	P68040	Guanine nucleotide-binding protein subunit beta-2-like 1 OS=Mus musculus GN=Gnbp2	-0.228441657	-0.939018931	-3.224270082
24	P07901	Heat shock protein HSP 90-alpha OS=Mus musculus GN=Hsp90aa1 PE=1 SV=1 - [Hsp90aa1_MOUSE]	0.163132894	-0.369801614	-3.22592239
1	P17182	Alpha-enolase OS=Mus musculus GN=Eno1 PE=1 SV=3 - [ENO1_MOUSE]	-0.057919829	0.219316752	-3.273911453
122	P99027	60S acidic ribosomal protein P2 OS=Mus musculus GN=Rplp2 PE=1 SV=3 - [Rplp2_MOUSE]	-0.215881197	-0.41106497	-3.388217624
337	F6SVV1	Protein Gm9493 OS=Mus musculus GN=Gm9493 PE=4 SV=1 - [F6SVV1_MOUSE]	0.104594034	-0.247282588	-3.55126338
583	Q3UW83	40S ribosomal protein S10 OS=Mus musculus GN=Rps10 PE=1 SV=1 - [Q3UW83_MOUSE]	1.330383356	2.195486523	-3.627557881
94	Q3UDA7	Putative uncharacterized protein (Fragment) OS=Mus musculus GN=Npm1	-0.554440394		-3.67857946
42	E9PZF0	Nucleoside diphosphate kinase OS=Mus musculus GN=Gm20390 PE=3 SV=1 - [Gm20390_MOUSE]	0.200067683	0.214625391	-3.752891241
107	P10639	Thioredoxin OS=Mus musculus GN=Txn PE=1 SV=3 - [THIO_MOUSE]	-0.077021746	-0.738038307	-3.983588685
599	A2AGN7	26S protease regulatory subunit 6A OS=Mus musculus GN=Psmc3 PE=1 SV=1 - [Psmc3_MOUSE]	-0.468684976		-4.174017059
158	Q9CZD3	Glycine--tRNA ligase OS=Mus musculus GN=Gars PE=1 SV=1 - [SYG_MOUSE]	-1.702262117	-1.403889337	-4.348487176
499	Q9R0B9	Procollagen-lysine,2-oxoglutarate 5-dioxygenase 2 OS=Mus musculus GN=Lox	-2.10443884	-2.845231167	-6.698475267



Less than 5 to 10 Minutes, Quantitative Data in Fold Change format, irrespective number of Samples or its Replicates

**Acknowledgment**  
Mr. Suresh / Mr. Vinay



# Eg. 1 Omics Biomarker Discover (Cancer) & Drug Development

2003-2004

Proteomics / Genomics Studies  
Omics-Based Biomarker Discovery  
for Breast Cancer  
→ Pick the Best Biomarker from the  
list

*Incubation and Translation of  
Biomarker*

- **Functional Validation**
- BIG3 → Brefeldin A-inhibited  
guanine nucleotide-  
exchange **protein 3**

Validated Protein / Gene → Molecular  
Mechanism

Take Proteomics Help

- Interacting Protein to Biomarker

Brefeldin A-inhibited guanine nucleotide-  
exchange **protein 3**

BIG3

PHB2

2017-2018

Molecular Mech. Cont.

Functional Studies

Working with existing pathways /  
Novel Pathway

2013-2016

**Targeted Therapy**

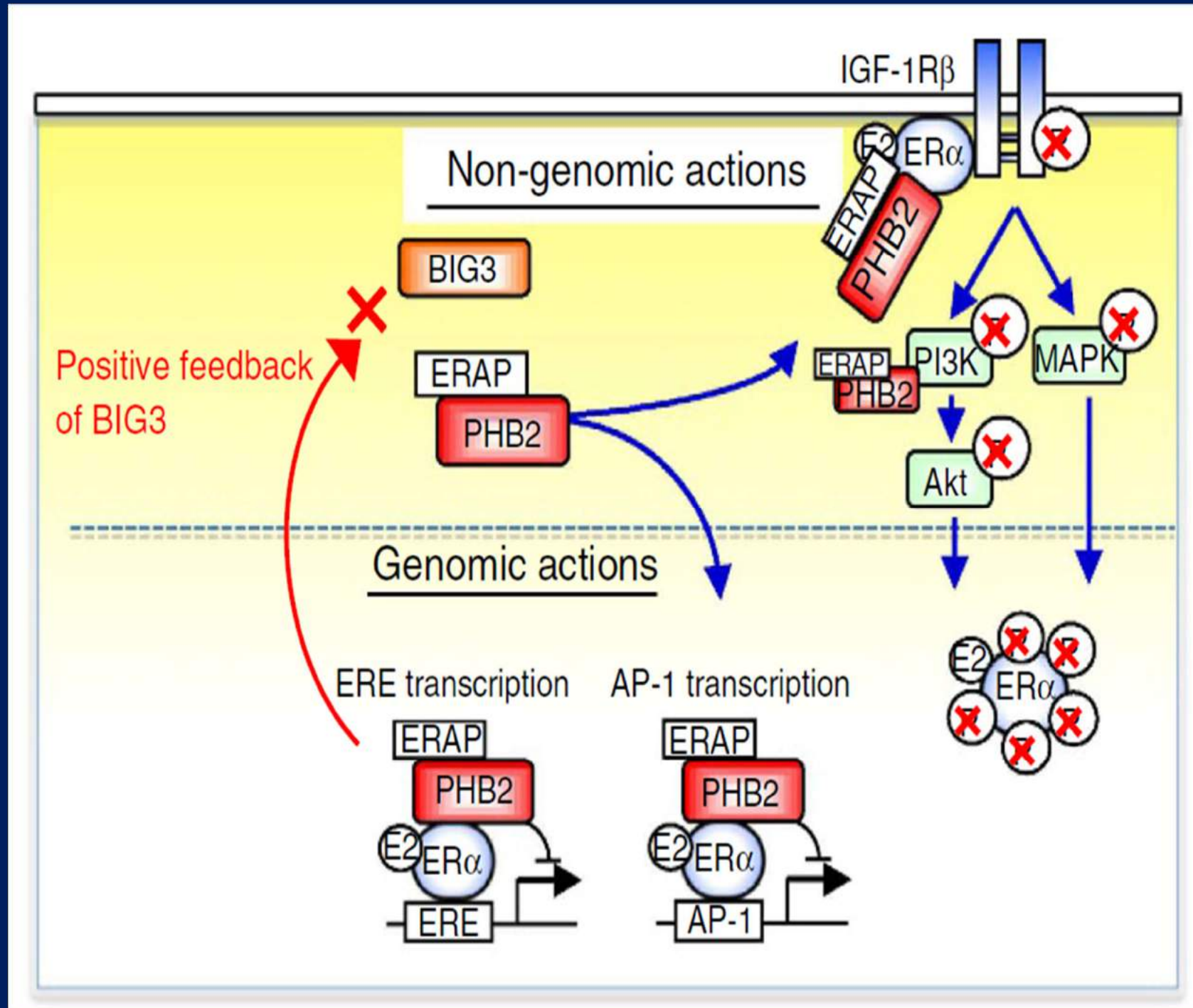
Novel / ~~existing Drug~~ → Target the  
Biomarker-interacting protein /  
Pathway → A peptide based drug to  
dissociate BIG3-PHB2 Interaction

**Drug-Biomarker Molecular  
Mechanism**

Take Proteomics Help if needed /  
Other Functional Studies

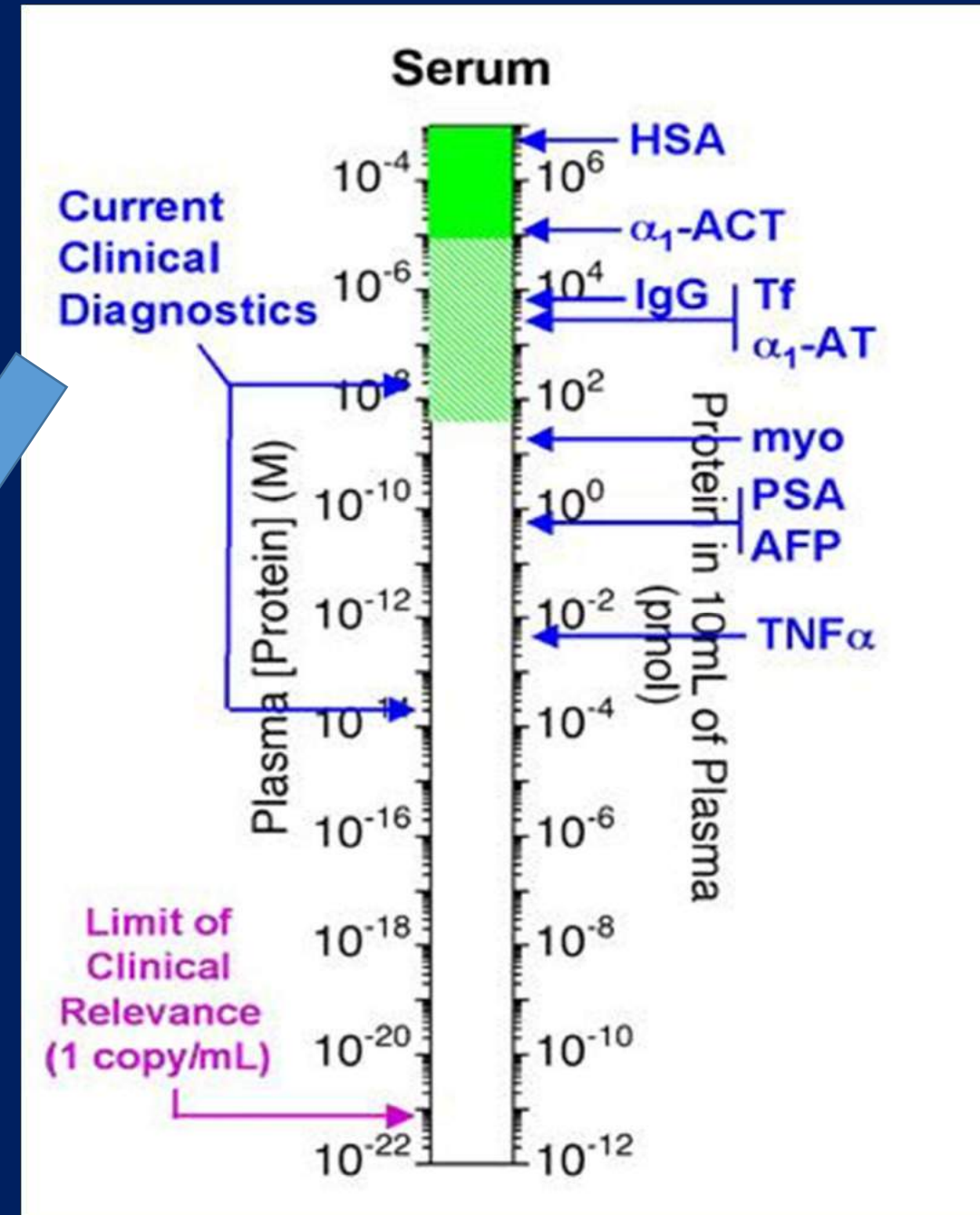
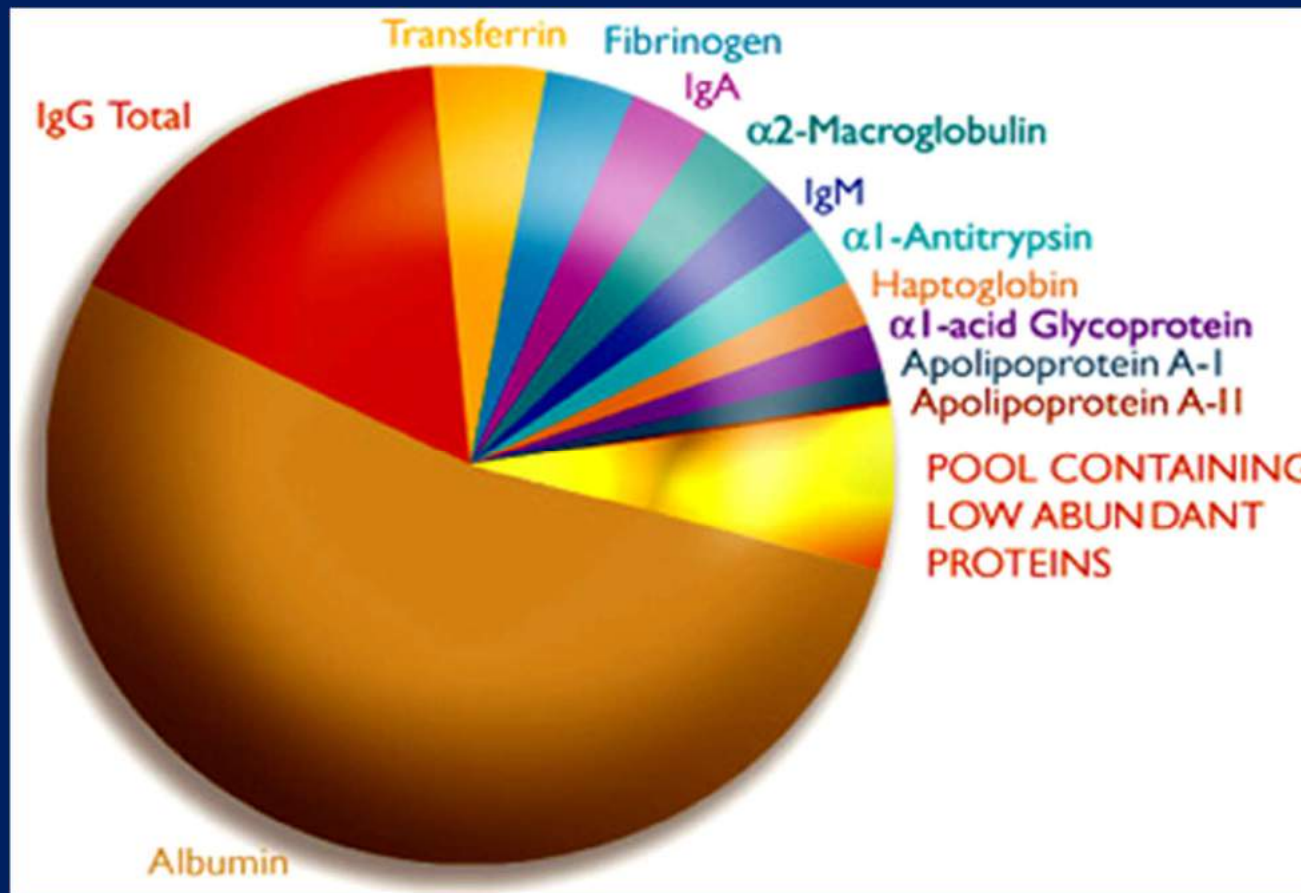
StERAP

# Targeting BIG3 –PHB2 complex – with ERAP / StERAP peptide in Breast Cancer



StERAP – A cell-permeable peptide inhibits the interaction of BIG3 & PHB2 (PHB2 released). And Repression of E2 signaling pathway and cell growth.

# SERUM PROTEOMICS & ITS CHALLENGES



# METHODOLOGY

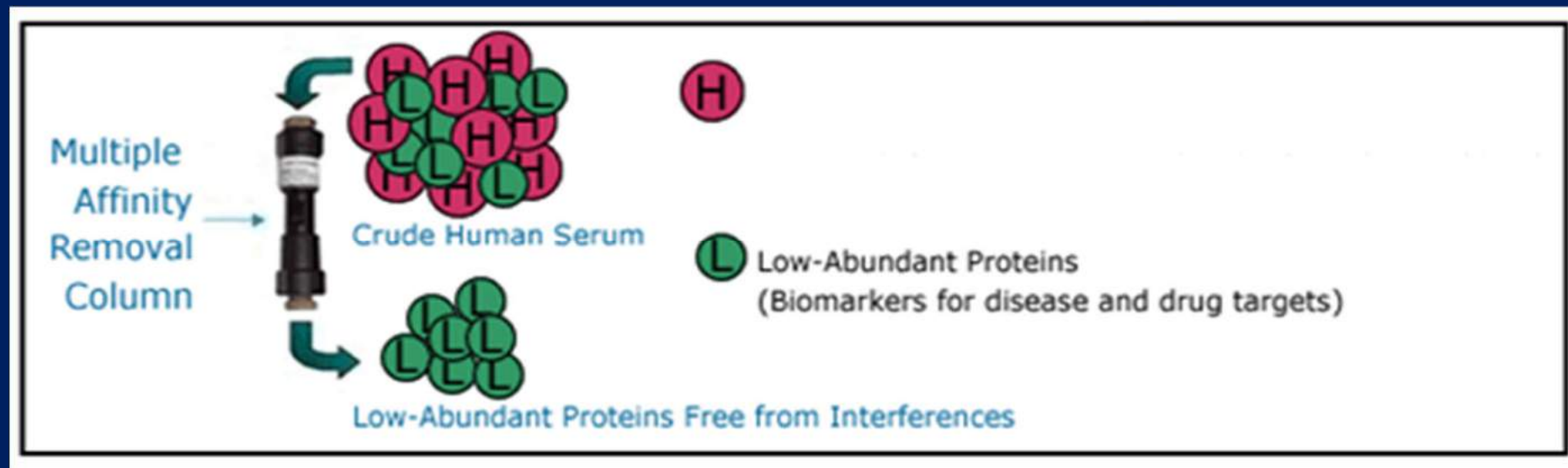


Serum (40  $\mu$ l)



Human Proteins Depleted: Albumin, IgG, Antitrypsin, IgA, Transferrin, Haptoglobin, Fibrinogen, Alpha2-Macroglobulin, Alpha1-Acid Glycoprotein, IgM, Apolipoprotein AI, Apolipoprotein AII, Complement C3, Transthyretin

## HIGH-ABUNDANT PROTEIN REMOVAL

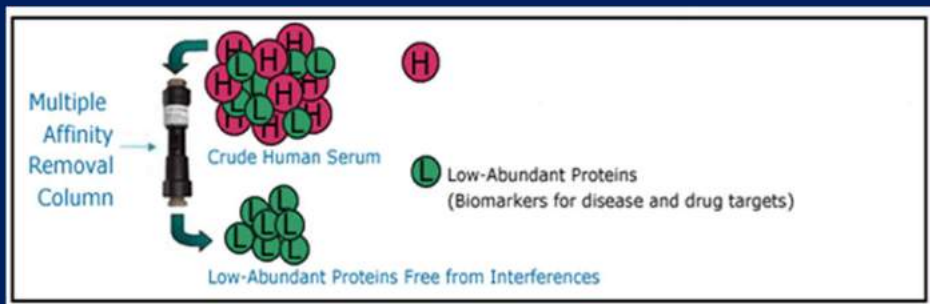


High-Recovery Protein Desalting LC Column

Agilent's Macroporous Reversed-phase C18 (mRP-C18)

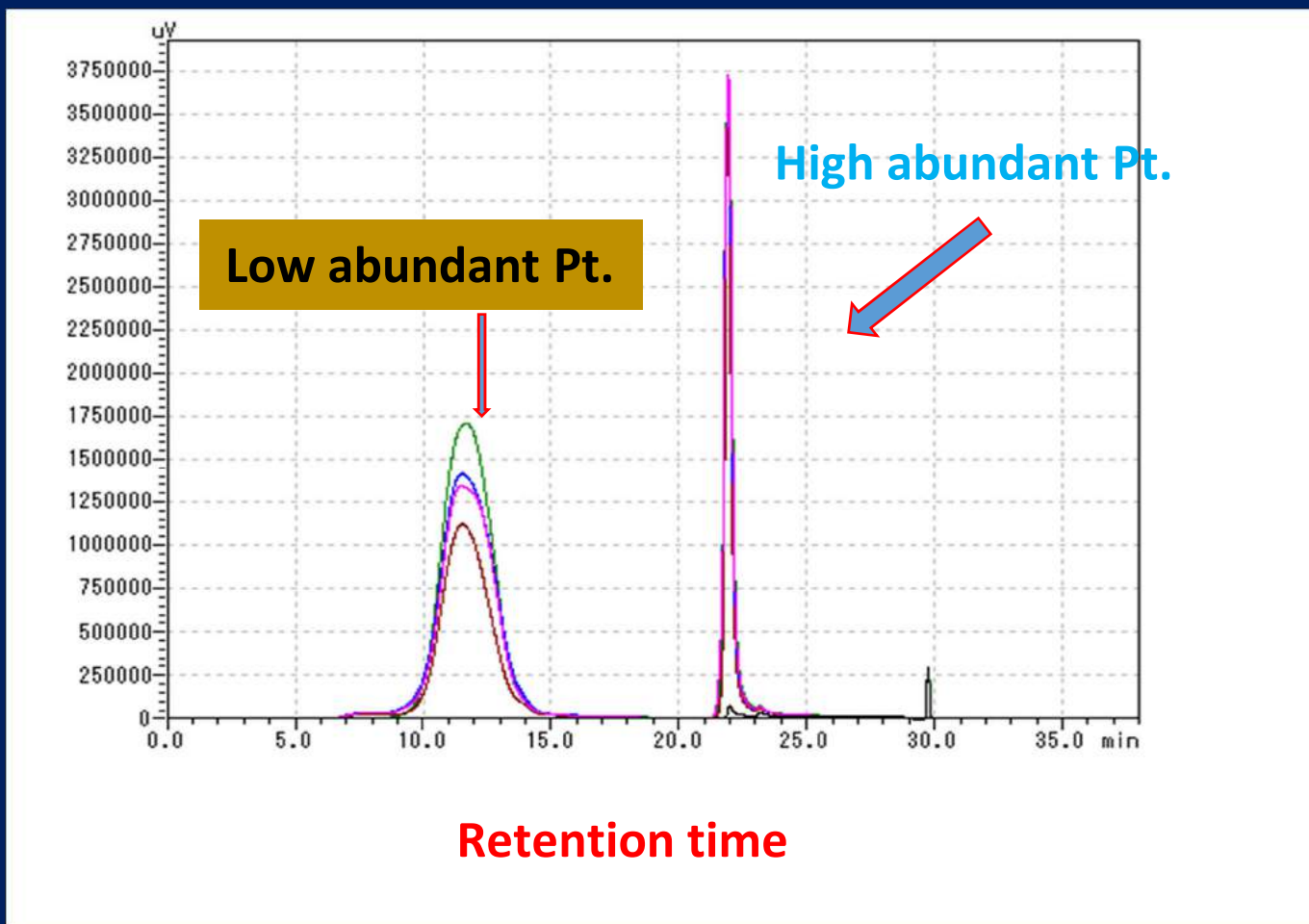


# MARS COLUMN CHROMATOGRAM



**Human Proteins Depleted:** Albumin, IgG, Antitrypsin, IgA, Transferrin, Haptoglobin, Fibrinogen, Alpha2-Macroglobulin, Alpha1-Acid Glycoprotein, IgM, Apolipoprotein AI, Apolipoprotein AII, Complement C3, Transthyretin

UV Absorbance at 280 nm



**Color: Sample ID**

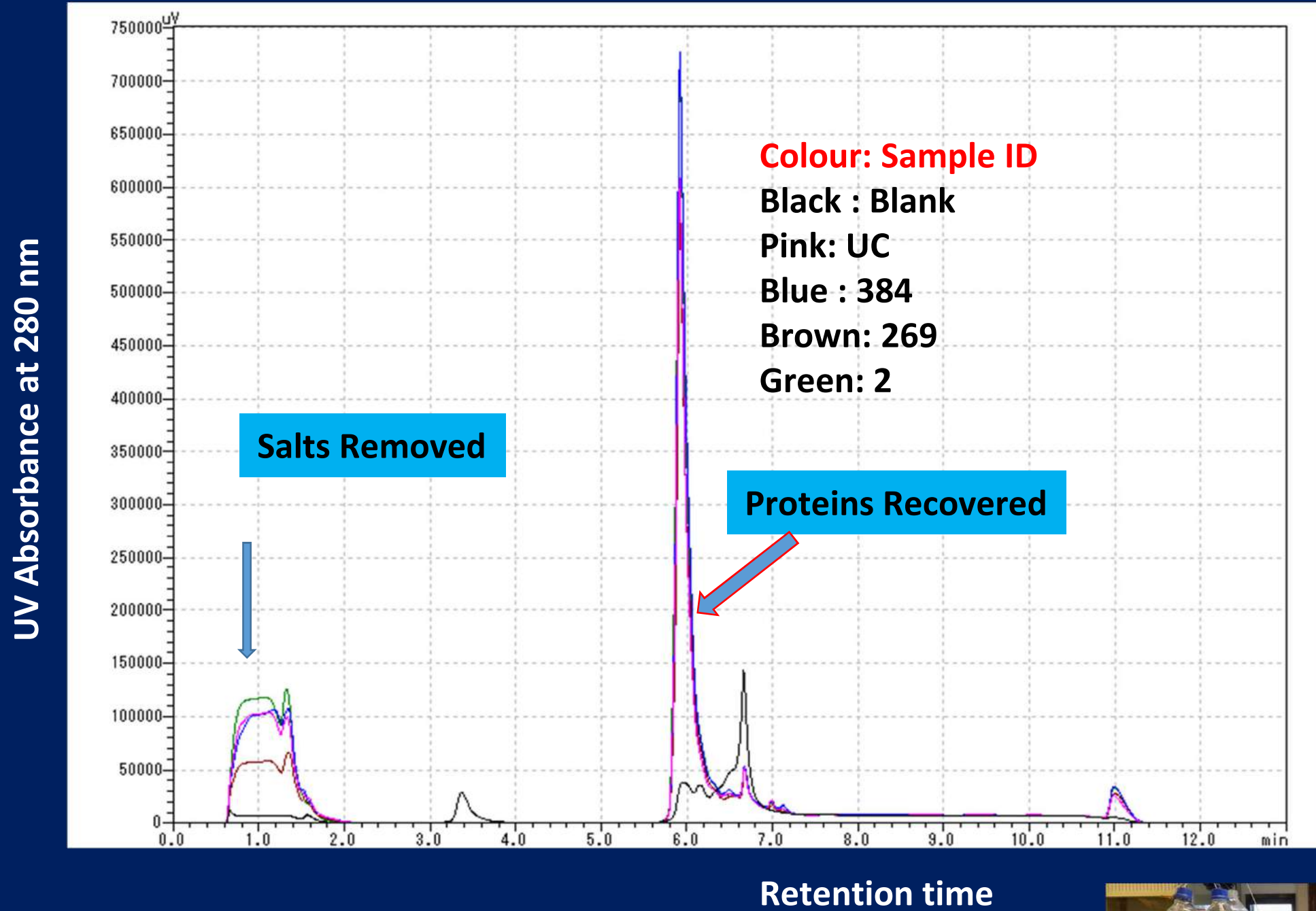
- Black : Blank
- Pink: UC - 114
- Blue : 115
- Brown: 116
- Green: 117



4.6 x 100 mm  
Mobile Phase(elution): Low pH Urea sol.



# mRP COLUMN CHROMATOGRAM



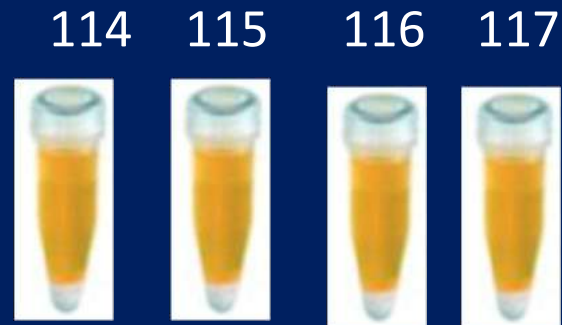
4.6 x 50 mm  
Mobile  
Phase (elution): ACN, 0.1 % TFA



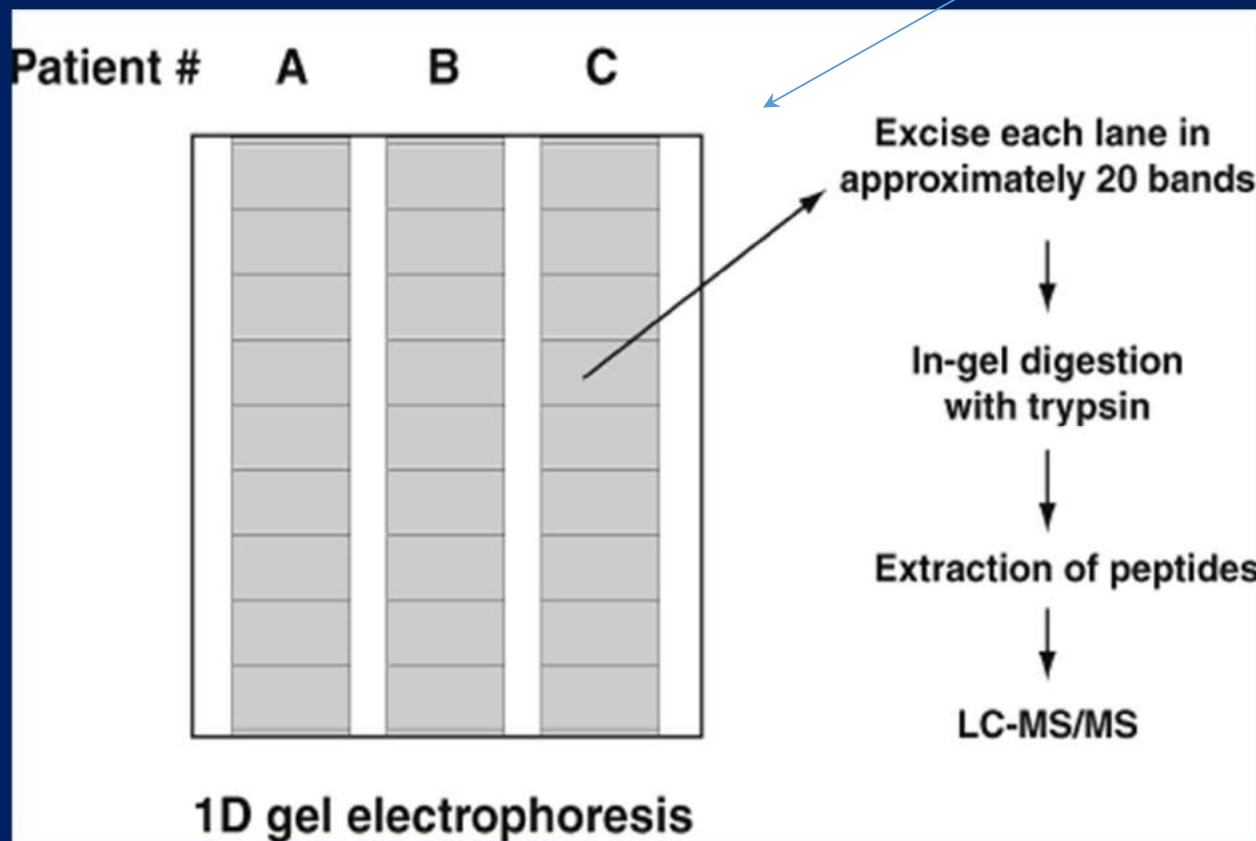
# METHODOLOGY / Strategy

iTRAQ –

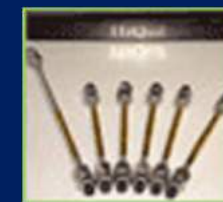
Protein iTRAQ Labeling -



iTRAQ labeled samples combined and 20 ug of labeled sample subjected to SDS-PAGE



4800 MALDI TOF/TOF (Applied Biosystems)



KYA Tech.  
Nano-HPLC  
100 um x 15 cm

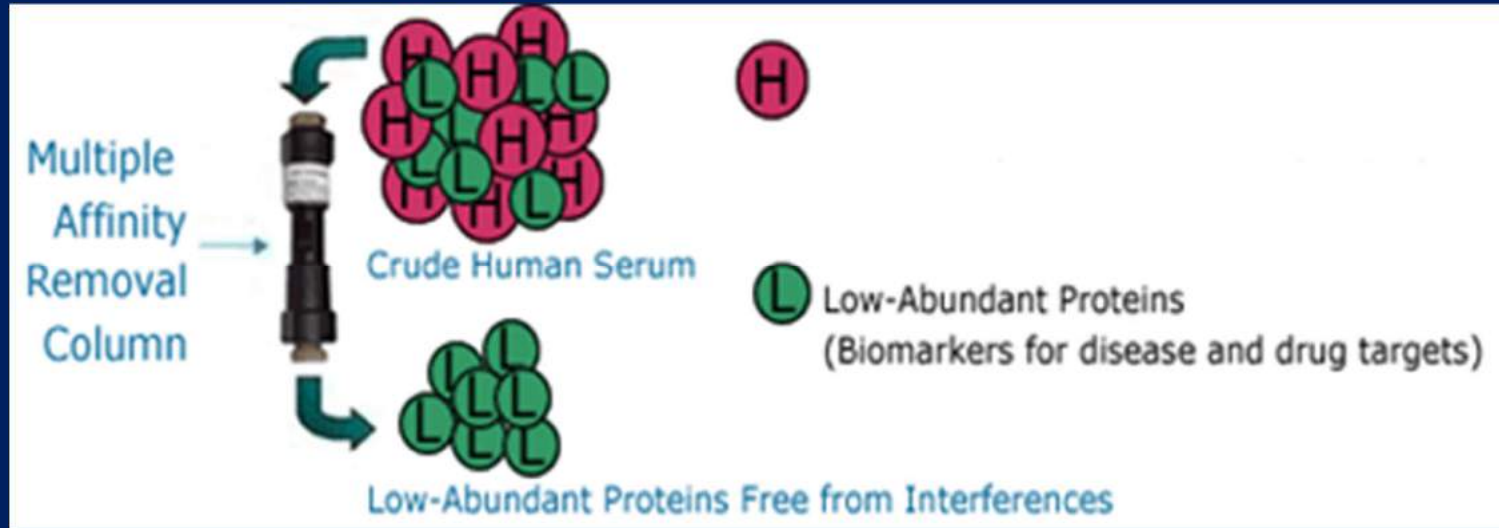
Mobile Phase : 70 %ACN,0.1 % TFA (elution)



Protein Pilot Software 2.0

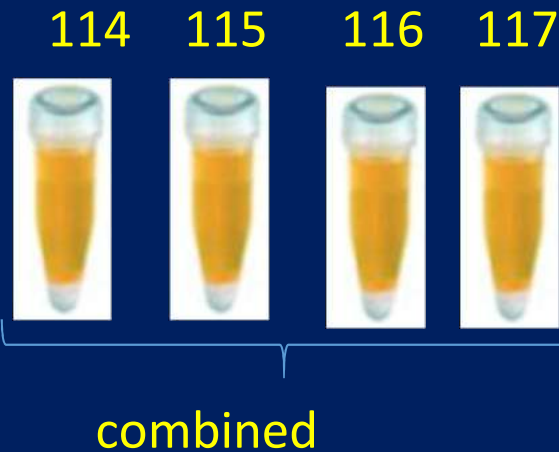
~ 450 Proteins Identified

# PROTEIN AND PEPTIDE iTRAQ LABELING



## Protein iTRAQ

Pro iTRAQ –



Protein Fractionation – SDS-PAGE

In-gel trypsin digestion

KYA Tech.  
Nano-HPLC  
100 um x 15 cm



LC-MS/MS

~ 450 Proteins Identified

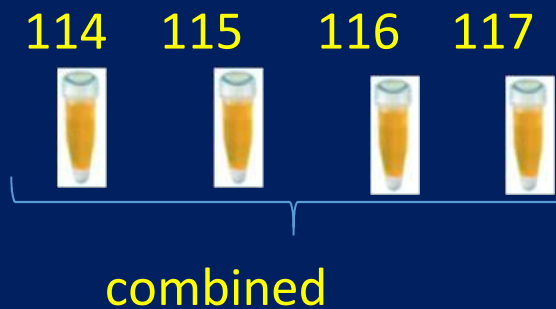
## iTRAQ Labeling -

## Peptide iTRAQ



In-solution trypsin digestion

Pep iTRAQ –



SCX Chromatography

LC-MS/MS

~ 700 Proteins Identified

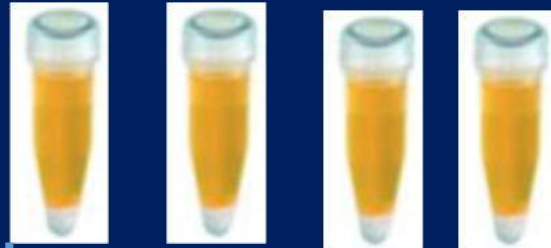


# NEWER METHOD / TECHNOLOGY EXPLORATION I mRP PROTEIN RACTIONATION

Protein iTRAQ Labeling -

iTRAQ -

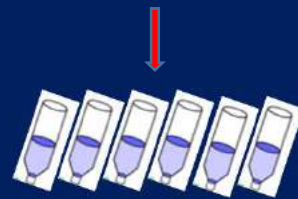
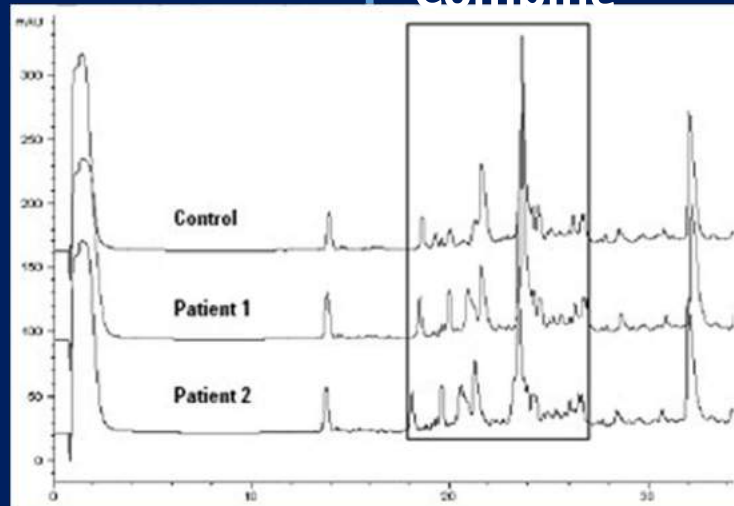
114 115 116 117



Combine



100 ug - labeled protein  
mRP PROTEIN  
FRACTIONATION



In-solution trypsin digestion

LC-MS/MS

~ 650 Proteins  
Identified

Protein iTRAQ Labeling -



iTRAQ labeled samples  
combined and 20 ug of labeled  
sample subjected to SDS-PAGE

Patient # A B C



1D gel electrophoresis

Excise each lane in  
approximately 20 bands

In-gel digestion  
with trypsin

Extraction of peptides

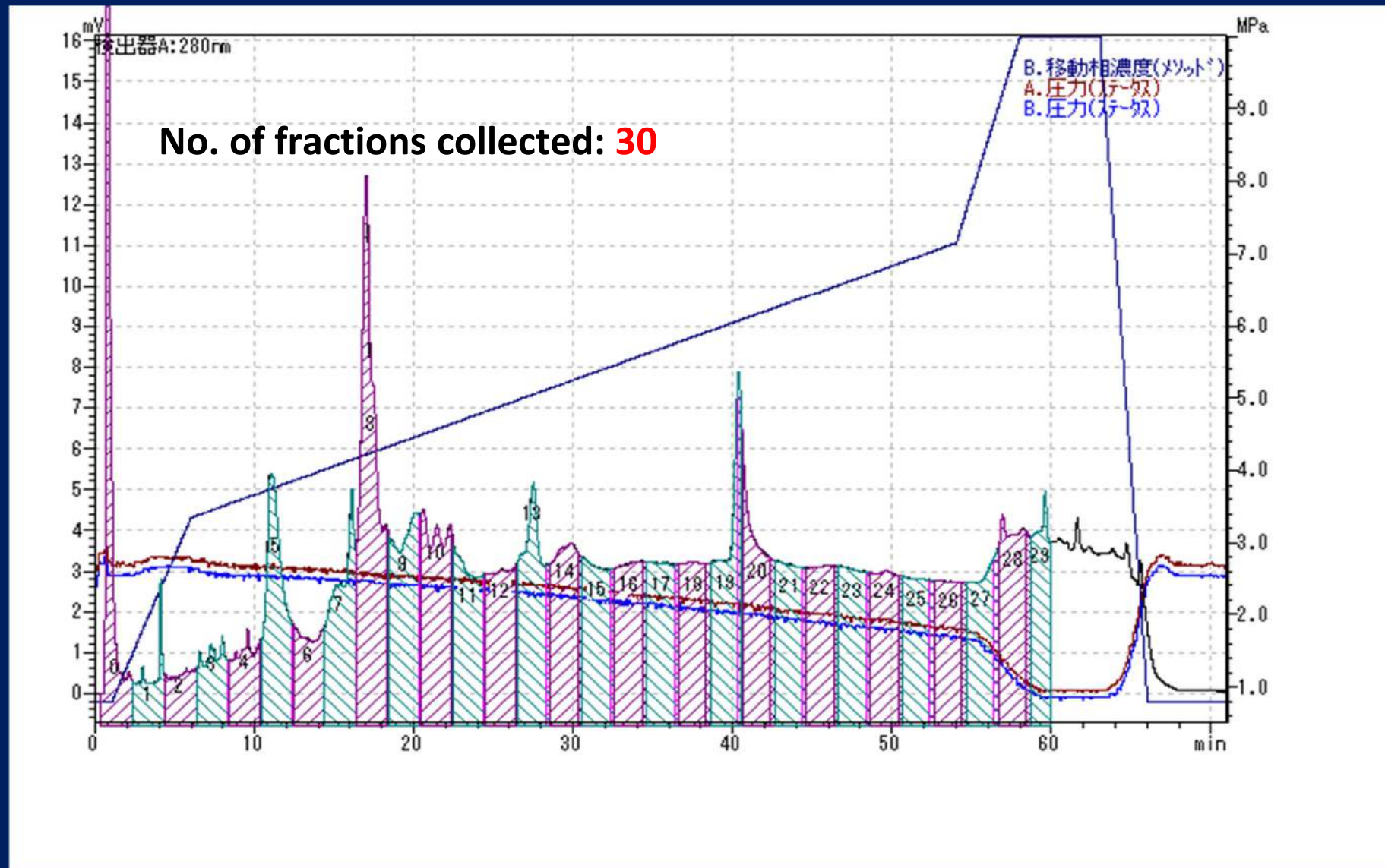
LC-MS/MS

Protein Pilot Software 2.0

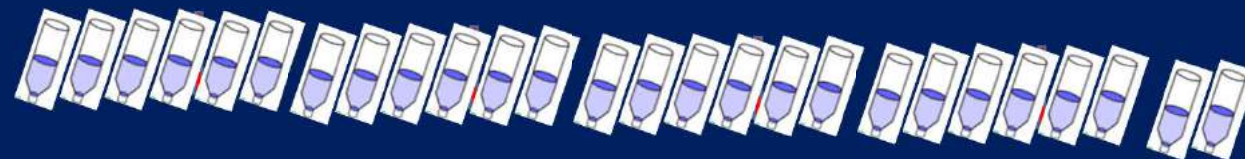
~ 450 Proteins  
Identified

# LABELLED PROTEIN SAMPLE (100 µg) - mRP PROTEIN FRACTIONATION

UV Absorbance at 280 nm



Retention time (min)



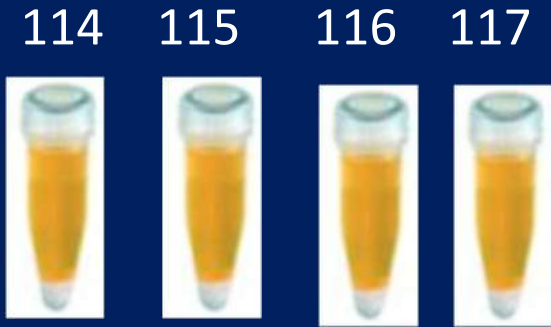
4.6 x 50 mm

Buffer 'A': 0.1 % TFA

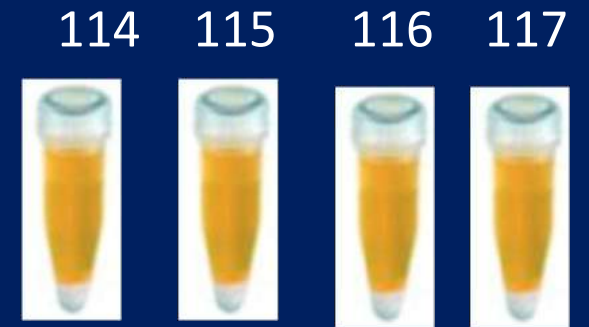
Buffer 'B': 0.1 % TFA in ACN



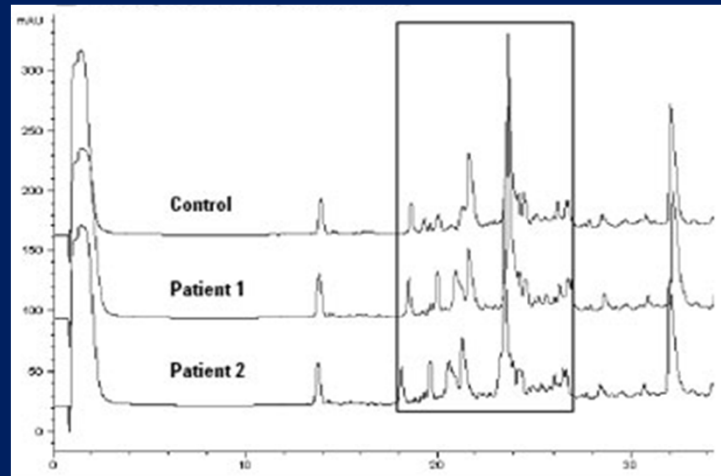
# EXPLORATION II



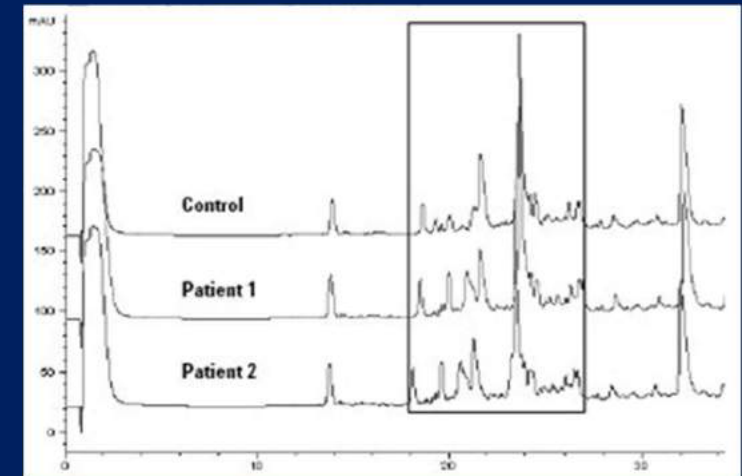
i TRAQ Labeling -



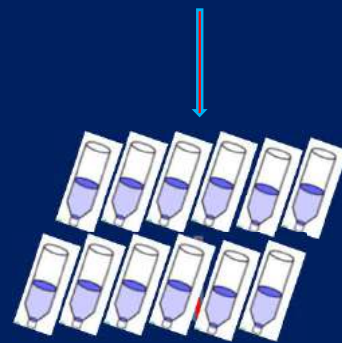
Combine



100 ug - labeled protein  
mRP PROTEIN  
FRACTIONATION



Present Method

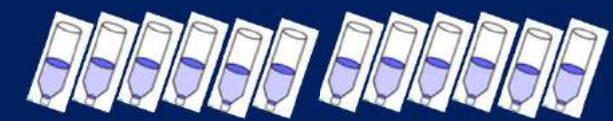


~ 650 Proteins  
Identified

In-solution trypsin digestion

LC-MS/MS

Future Plan



In-solution trypsin digestion

SCX column Fractionation

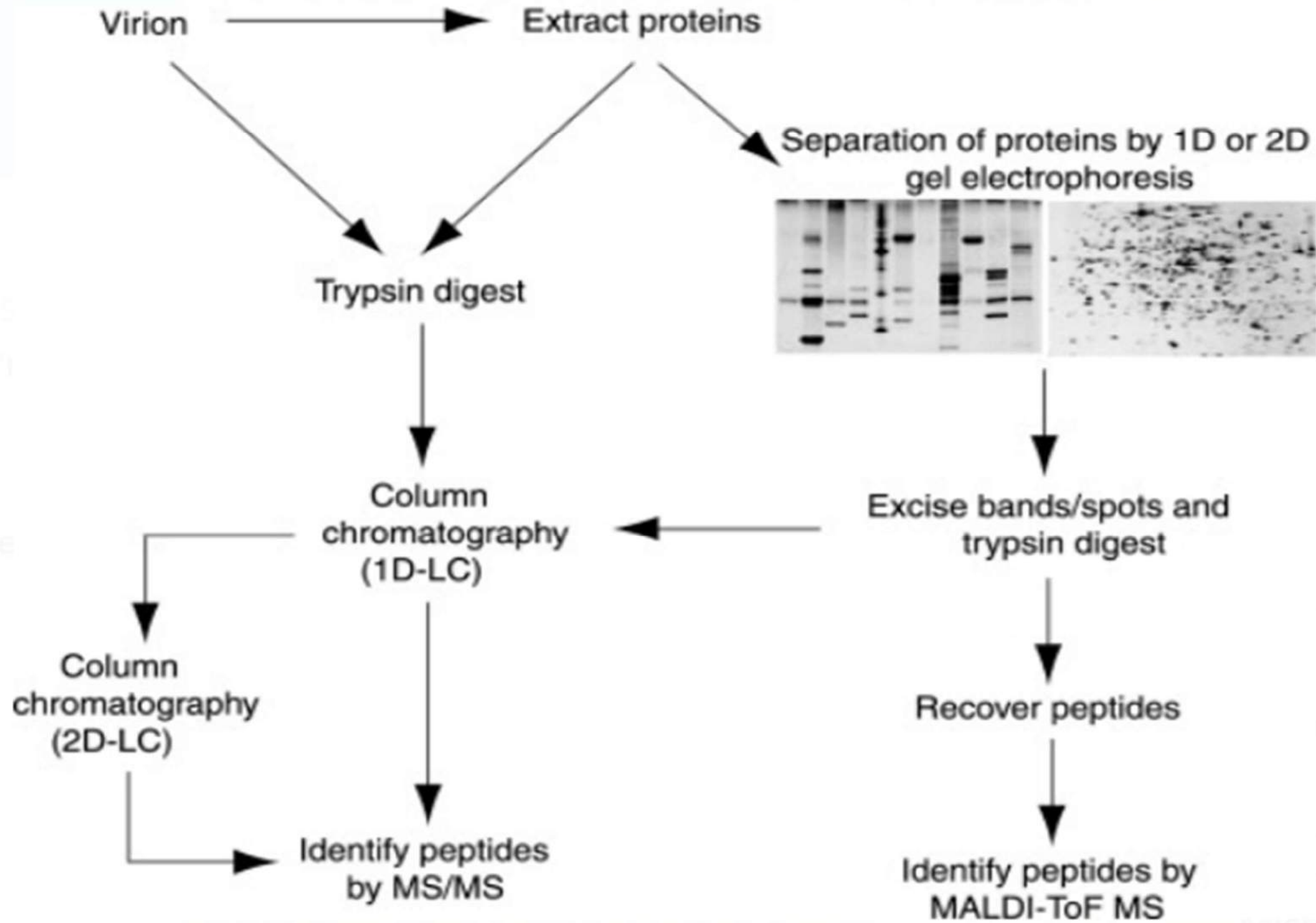


LC-MS/MS

51



# Viral Proteomics



# MASS SPECTROMETRY BASED PROTEOMICS & ITS APPLICATION IN MEDICINE

## Summary

- Proteomics & Mass Specs
- Life Cycle of a Proteomics Project
- Proteomics Core Facility -> Management - **(Balance -> Vision, Requirements / Capital)**
- Different technologies to deal with different challenges
- Clinical Proteomics Project (Examples) **Identify of Biomarker to Testing if it Drug-able and Development of Molecular Targeted Therapy.**
- **Future of MS-based Proteomics (PTM / Protein-Protein interaction)**



Thank you