

## **Mass Spectrometry**



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Mass spectrometry (MS) – analytical technique in which samples are ionized into charged molecules and their ratio of mass-to-charge (m/z) is then measured

Mass spectrum → relative abundance / intensity vs mass-tocharge ratio





## **Mass Spectrometer Components**

- Inlet system introduces sample to MS system
- Ionization source produces gaseous ions from the sample being studied
- Mass analyser resolves the ions into their characteristic mass components according to their mass-to-charge ratio
- Detector detects the ions and records the relative abundance of each of the resolved ionic species



## How does a Mass Spectrometer work?

- A sample is ionized (eg. by bombarding it with electrons)
- Some of the samples molecules break into charged fragments or simply become charged without fragmenting
- These ions are then separated according to their massto-charge ratio



#### How does a Mass Spectrometer work?



## **Mass Spectrometry Uses**

- Quantify known materials
- Identify unknown compounds within sample
- Elucidate structure and chemical properties of different molecules
- Know the fragmentation of the molecule





## **MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometer**

Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization (MALDI) time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometer (MS)

> - MALDI: soft ionization that involves a laser striking a matrix of small molecules to make the analyte molecules into the gas phase

> - TOF: ions of different m/z are dispersed in time during their flight along a field-free drift path of known length



#### **MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometer**







## **MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometer**

- Inlet system MS sample plate
- Ionization source MALDI

Matrix – compound that promotes the formation of ions (eg.  $\alpha$ -cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid, 3,5-dimethoxy-4-hydroxycinnamic acid and 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid

✤ Mass analyser –TOF



## **MALDI-TOF MS**



https://www.creative-proteomics.com/technology/maldi-tof-mass-spectrometry.htm

## Respondent









Metal Free Octa Ethyl Phthalocyanine (H<sub>2</sub>OEtSPc)

Sulfide



#### Respondent



m/z

#### **Mass Spectrum**



\*α-cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid

Positive ion mode



# **Applications**

- Environmental monitoring and analysis soil, water and air pollutants, water quality
- Geochemistry age determination, soil and rock composition, oil and gas surveying
- Chemical and Petrochemical industry quality control
- Identify structures of biomolecules carbohydrates, nucleic acids



Monitoring gases in patients breath during surgery

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