Accurate determination of protein profiles in complex biological samples by MALDI-TOF MS

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Commercial products introduced at ASMS 2012





Mixture of peptide standards, 100 femtomole/ μ L, 2.5 mm spot Laser spot ca. 50 μ m, fluence 1.3x threshold, 0.4 attomole/spot=240,000 molecules

Sensitivity, Dynamic Range, and Reproducibility are Key Metrics



Data from SimulTOF 100 Linear

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Data from SimulTOF 100 Linear



These are raw data. No normalization, background subtraction, smoothing or other data processing has been employed.



Conventional Wisdom

• MALDI

• is Not

Quantitive



4 spectra 50 shots ea. On one sample spot Intensity varies by factor of 20 @10 Hz requires 20 s

Your Old MALDI

How do we make MALDI Quantitative????

Data Acquisition, One Example

Data is acquired over mass range 1000-20,000 Da using 2 ns bins 2 kHz laser rate 50 shots averaged per spectrum 1 mm/s snake raster for 5 passes at 500 mm over 3 mm dia spot Total travel 12 mm in 12 s generating 480 spectra with 50 µm resolution Spectra with no significant peaks are not saved Only 10% of sample used, 240,000 total laser shots possible

Data Processing (SimulTOF Wizard)

Spot Average Baseline Correction Smooth Calibrate and Detect Peaks Normalize Bin by mass rather than time Quantify Report

Peak table includes:

Intensity (number of ions/peak)

Mass

standard deviation

(square root of number of ions/peak) Resolving power =m/dm=mass/FWHM

Mass Binning

Data is binned into mass bins using the following form:

 $m_{n+1}=m_n(1+r), m_n=m_0(1+r)^n, m_N=m_0(1+r)^N, m_0$ is the first mass, m_N is the last mass, and N is the total number of bins. $Log(m_N/m_0)=N[log(1+r)], r=10^{[x/N]}-1, where x=log(m_N/m_0),$ for example, if $m_N/m_0)=20, R=1/r=m/Dm=400$ Then N=1200

One approach is to detect peaks in the unknown spectrum Assign peaks to bins and sum intensity of all peaks in the bin.

An alternative approach is to sum intensity in each mass bin and use this intensity as that for each bin.

The challenge is to determine which approach is best at minimizing instrumental artifacts due to such problems as incomplete separation of adjacent peaks.

We have evaluated performance with R=400 and R=2000

Comparing Spectra

Use standard vector algebra on normalized and binned spectra

Difference in spectra computed by

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(N_a - N_b)/Square Root (N_a + N_b)
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For each bin





Spot 176



4 spectra 50 shots ea. On one sample spot Intensity varies by factor of 20 @10 Hz requires 20 s

Your Old MALDI



Processed spectrum from same sample spot as above

Our New MALDI



Spectra from 4 different sample spots super imposed

Our New MALDI







Saliva Sample Prep

Individuals spit into tubes, ~ 11 AM. Participants DK, DP, KP, MV.

Spin 5 min.

Dilute 10 ul of supernatant into 90 ul of 5 mg/ml HCCA matrix in 75% acetonitrile / 0.1% TFA Spot 2ul per well.

First set of Sample tubes saved in refrigerator at 4 C for 6 days. Not stirred

Fresh samples collected ~ 11AM.

Spin again, repeat as above.

2 ul sample to 20 ul of matrix for rerun

Samples for DK, DP, KP, MV. 6 each.



dp

Normalized to TIC, 400 RP



Normalized to TIC, 400 RP



Normalized to TIC, 400 RP



Normalized to Base Peak, 400 RP



Normalized to Base Peak, 2000 RP







mv



dp



dp

mv



The Future of Diagnostic MS



MALDI-TOF Very fast (full spectrum/laser shot @5 kHz) Tradeoff between speed and sensitivity Can be interfaced with variety of separations Fully automated, no operator required

Modular BenchTop Systems

SimulTOF Model 100 Linear MALDI

-sensitivity, dynamic range, speed, and simplicity

-wide mass range for proteins, peptides, and small molecules

SimulTOF Model 200 Combo MALDI

-adds high resolution reflector

-accurate mass of peptides and small molecules;

SimulTOF Model 300 MALDI MS-MS

-multiplexed TOF-TOF

-high resolution precursor selection

-identification and quantitation of peptides and small molecules.

Highest Performance at Lowest Cost





Conclusions

- Resolving power 500-1000 over wide range is routine
- Normalization to TIC or base peak removes most of amplitude variation
- Each spot will yield up to 200,000 shots without degrading resolving power or accuracy and giving dynamic range limited only by chemical noise
- Results might be improved by multiple levels of dilution and use of alternative matrices
- Mass error <30 ppm across the plate over the full mass range with single peak automatic calibration
- Dynamic range up to100,000