

Biophysics 2 (EP)

– Lecture #12 –

Mass Spectrometry

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Video 1a: Introduction

analytical method:

- qualitative: kind of components
- quantitative: amount of components

chemical species:

- atoms
- molecules
- ions
- radicals

What is mass?

"gravitative mass" → equivalent ← "inertial mass"
- creates and interacts with gravity

$$F_w = g \cdot m$$

weight = grav. acc. * mass

use: gravimetry
- quantitative analysis by weight measurement

see: measurement of Ba ions
(analytical chem. lab)

most precise classical analytical method

macroscopic quantitative analysis

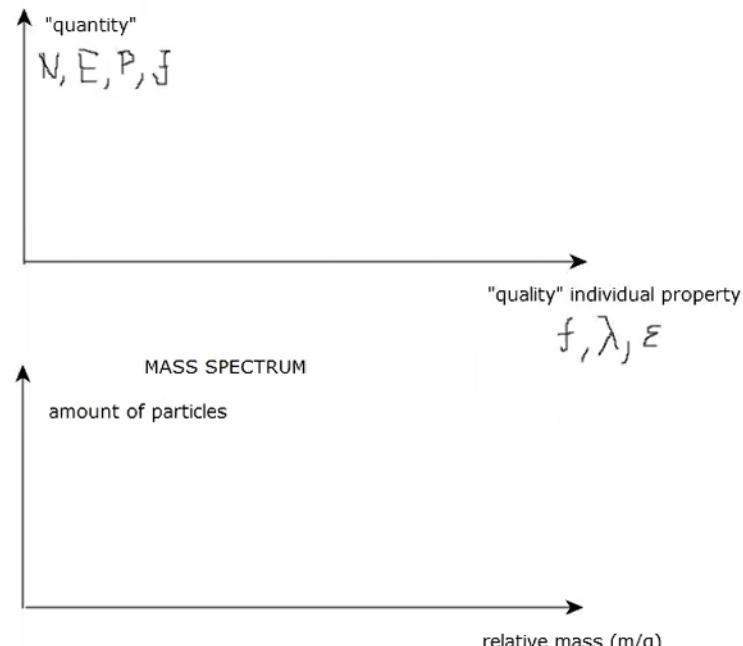
"inertial mass"
- mass resists acceleration, i.e. change in its velocity (velocity will be the same unless an external force is present)

$$\sum F = a \cdot m$$

use: mass spectrometry
very sensitive method (femtomoles)
qualitative and quantitative analysis of microscopic amounts

What is a spectrum?

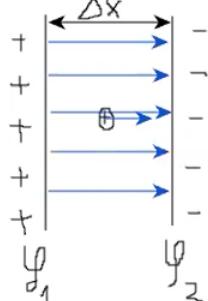
A function representing the distribution of a set of elements



Video 1b: Basic Interactions

Basic interactions of charged particles

Electric field

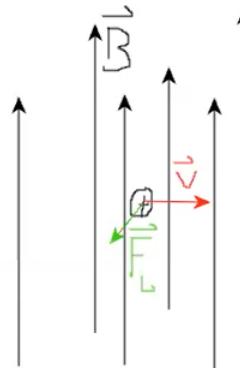


$$U = \Delta \varphi = \varphi_2 - \varphi_1$$

$$\vec{F}_e \approx \vec{E} \cdot q = \frac{\Delta \varphi}{\Delta x} \cdot q$$

effect: linear acceleration = $|v|$ changes

Magnetic field



$$[B] = T \quad (\text{tesla}) \quad 51$$

$$\text{CGS: } G \quad (\text{gauss})$$

$$1 T = 10^4 G$$

$$\vec{F}_L = q \cdot \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

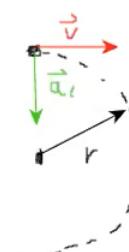
$$\downarrow \text{ if } \vec{B} \perp \vec{v}$$

$$|F_L| = q \cdot |v| \cdot |B|$$

- effect:
- only affects moving charges
 - the direction of v changes
 - circular path

Circular motion

caused by acceleration perpendicular to the actual direction of motion

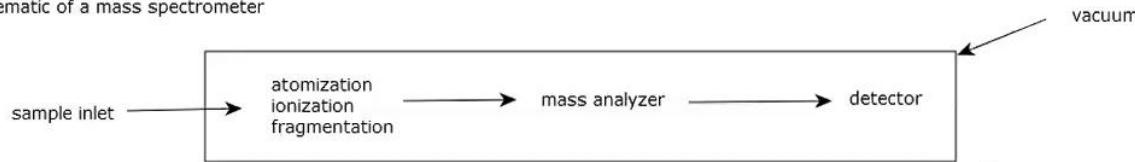


$$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r}$$

$$F_c = m \cdot a_c = m \cdot \frac{v^2}{r}$$

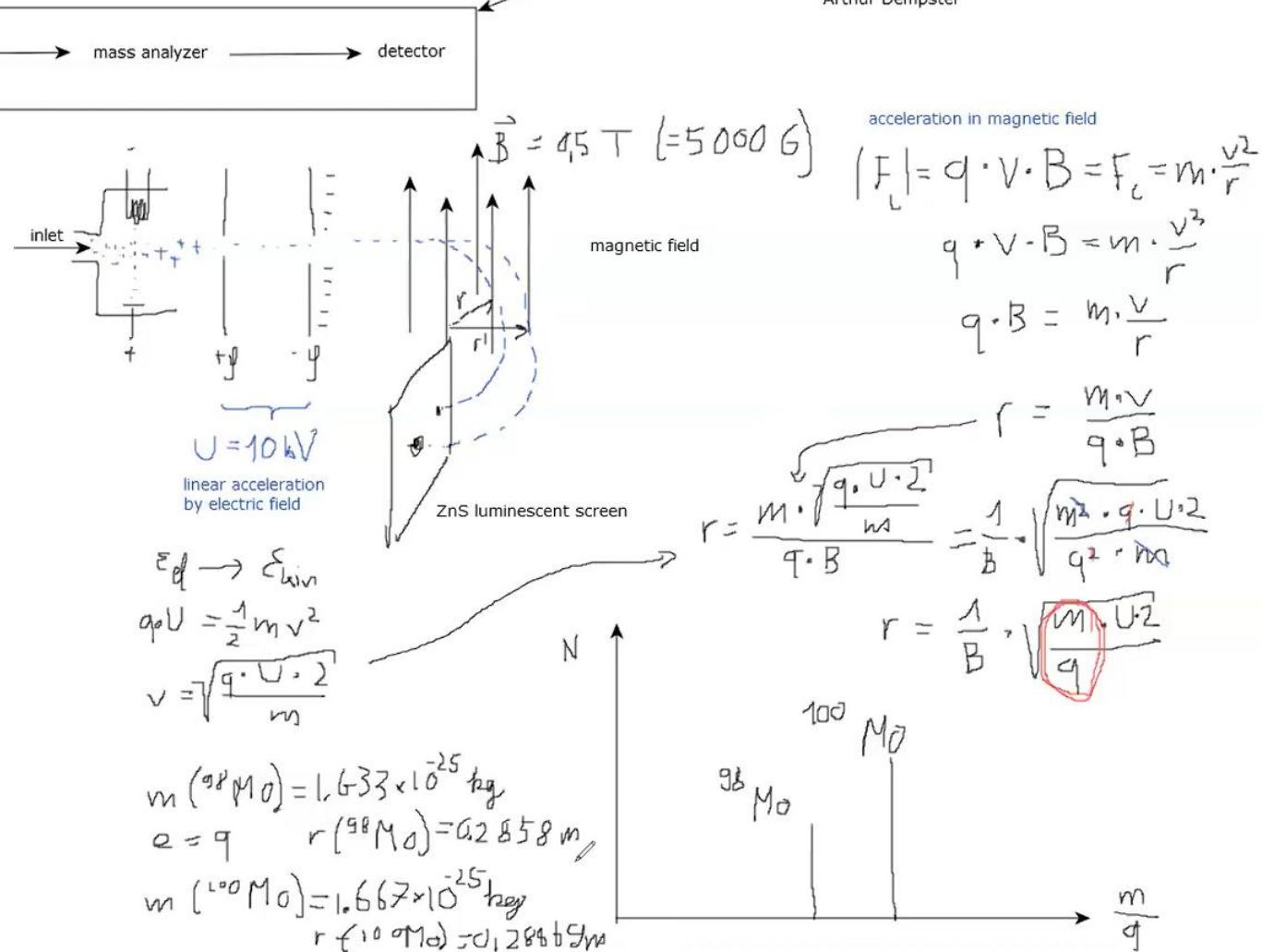
Video 2: General Description

Schematic of a mass spectrometer



Francis Aston
Arthur Dempster

- atomization: physical disintegration of the sample volume
- ionization: adding charge to a neutral object (here: typically positive)
- fragmentation: chemical disintegration of the investigated molecules

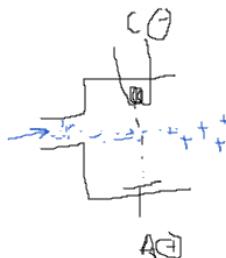


Video 3: Ion Sources

Ion Sources

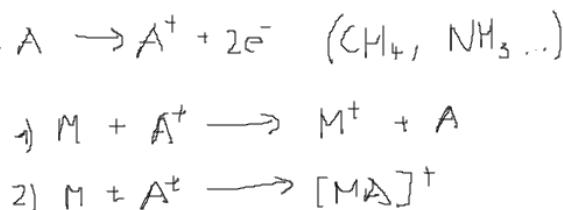
1) Electron Ionization (EI)

- electron beam flowing between a cathode and an anode will collide into the particles sprayed into the ionization chamber
- one or more electrons are removed producing positive ions
- hard ionization: high degree of fragmentation

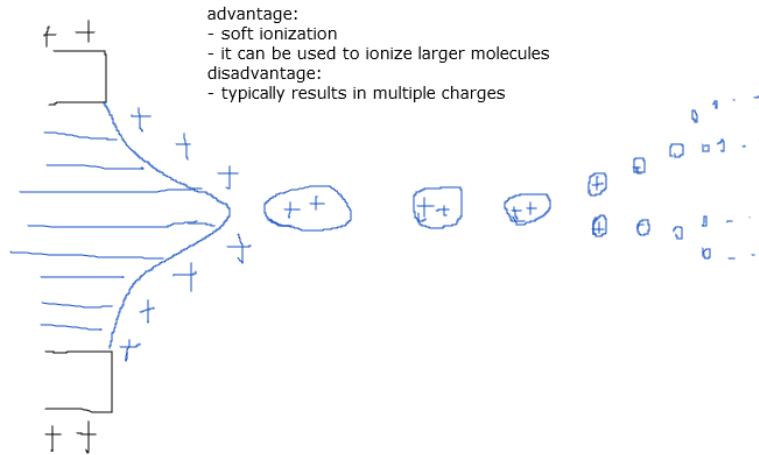
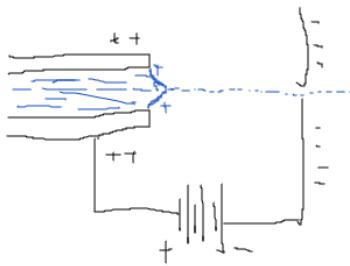


2) Chemical ionization (CI)

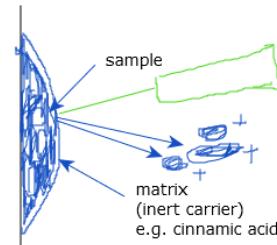
- an inert chemical (A) is introduced to the ionization space
- the inert chemical is ionized:
$$e^- + A \rightarrow A^+ + 2e^- \quad (\text{CH}_4, \text{NH}_3 \dots)$$
- the sample (M) is introduced into the ionization space, and the charge is transferred from the "A" molecule to the sample:



3) Electro Spray Ionization (ESI)



4) Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization (MALDI)

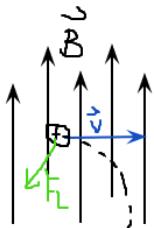


- soft ionization
- used for larger molecules

Video 4a: Mass Analyzers

Mass Analyzers

1) Sector Analyzers - magnetic sector

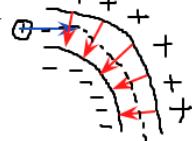


$$F_C = F_L$$

$$m \frac{v^2}{r} = q \cdot v \cdot B$$

$$r = \frac{mv}{qB}$$

1) electric sector

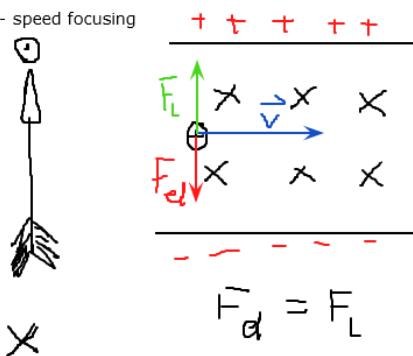


$$F_C = F_d$$

$$m \frac{v^2}{r} = q \cdot E$$

$$r = \frac{mv}{qE}$$

- speed focusing



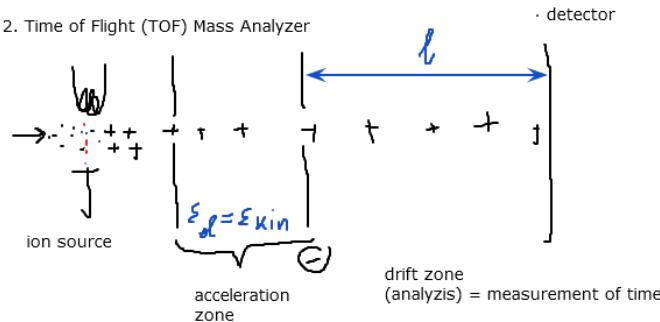
$$F_d = F_L$$

$$E \cdot q = q \cdot v \cdot B$$

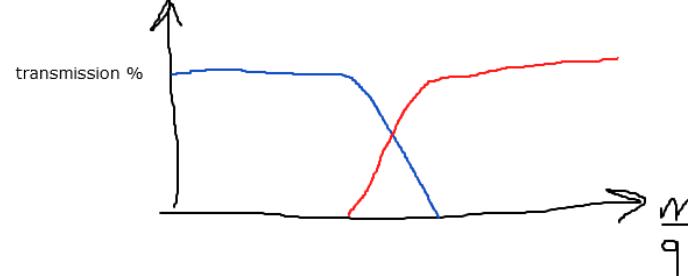
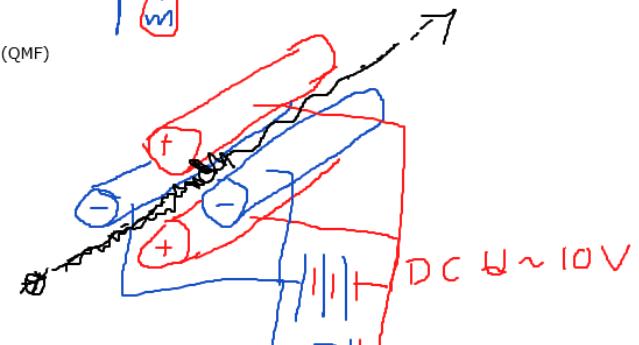
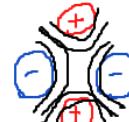
$$v = \frac{EB}{B}$$

selecting a certain speed

2. Time of Flight (TOF) Mass Analyzer

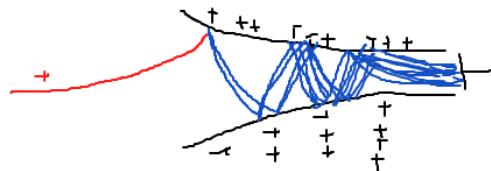


3. Quadrupole Mass Filter (QMF)



Video 4b: Detectors, Applications

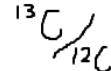
Detectors: electron multipliers



luminescent screen (ZnS)

Application:

- determination of isotope ratio
- isotopic abundance of elements
- urea breath test



- biomedical research: qualitative and quantitative analysis
 - TOF-MALDI
 - composition of surface oligosaccharides of cells
- iKnife, onkoknife: