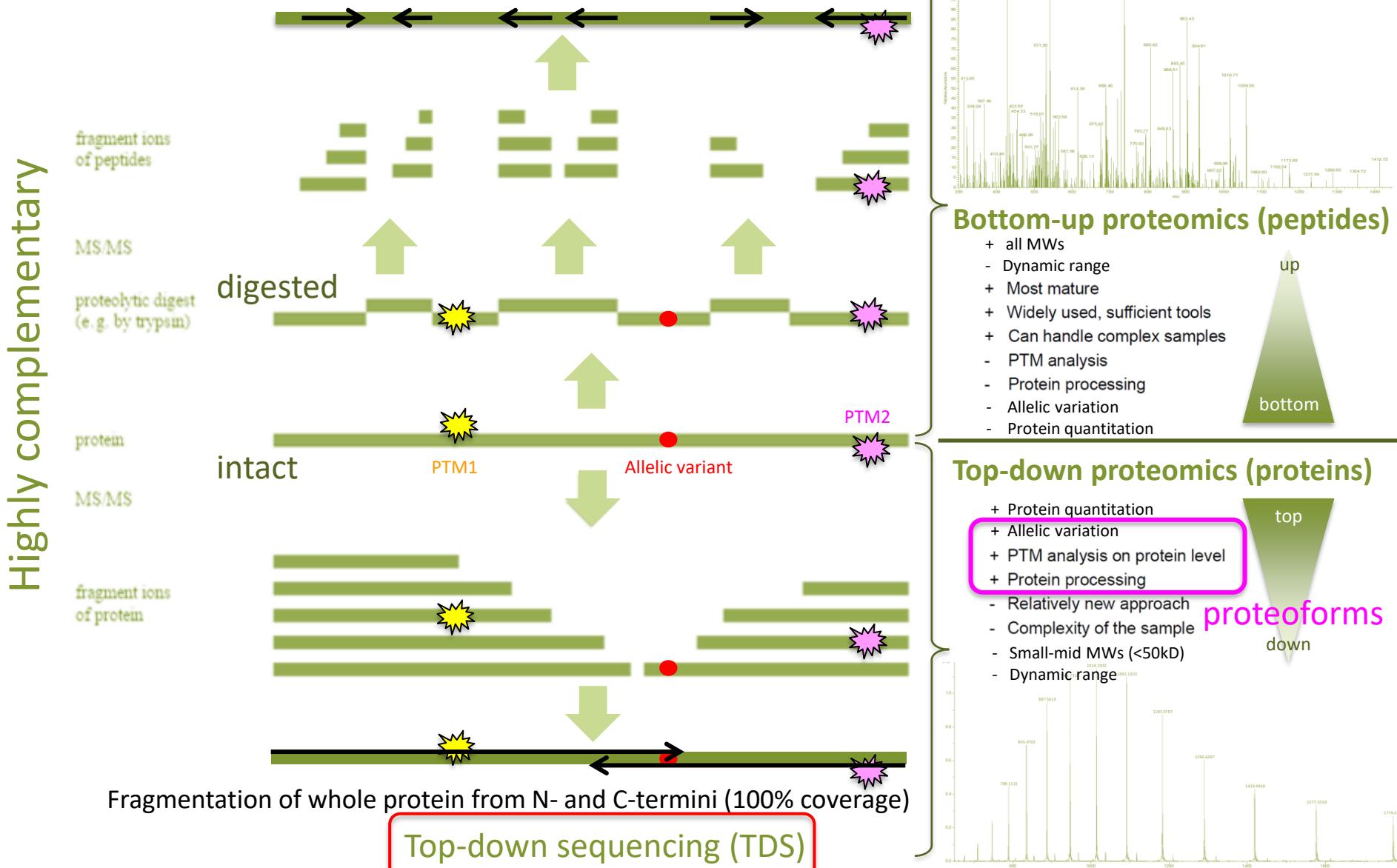


Milk top-down proteomics

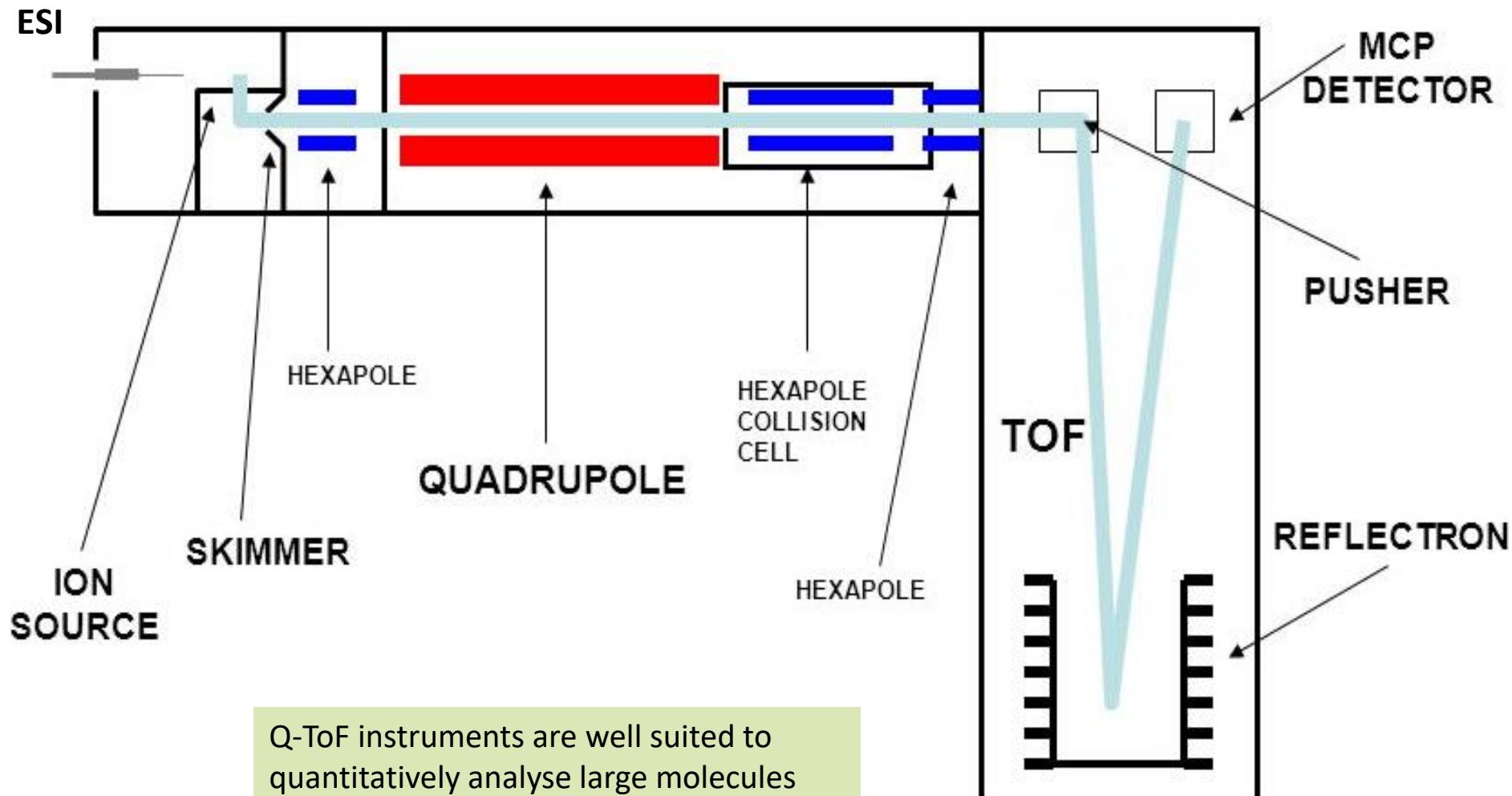
Dr Delphine Vincent
10 Mar 2018

Top-down and bottom-up proteomics

Peptide fragments along the sequence (never 100% coverage, <10%)

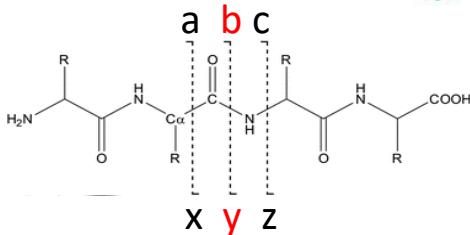
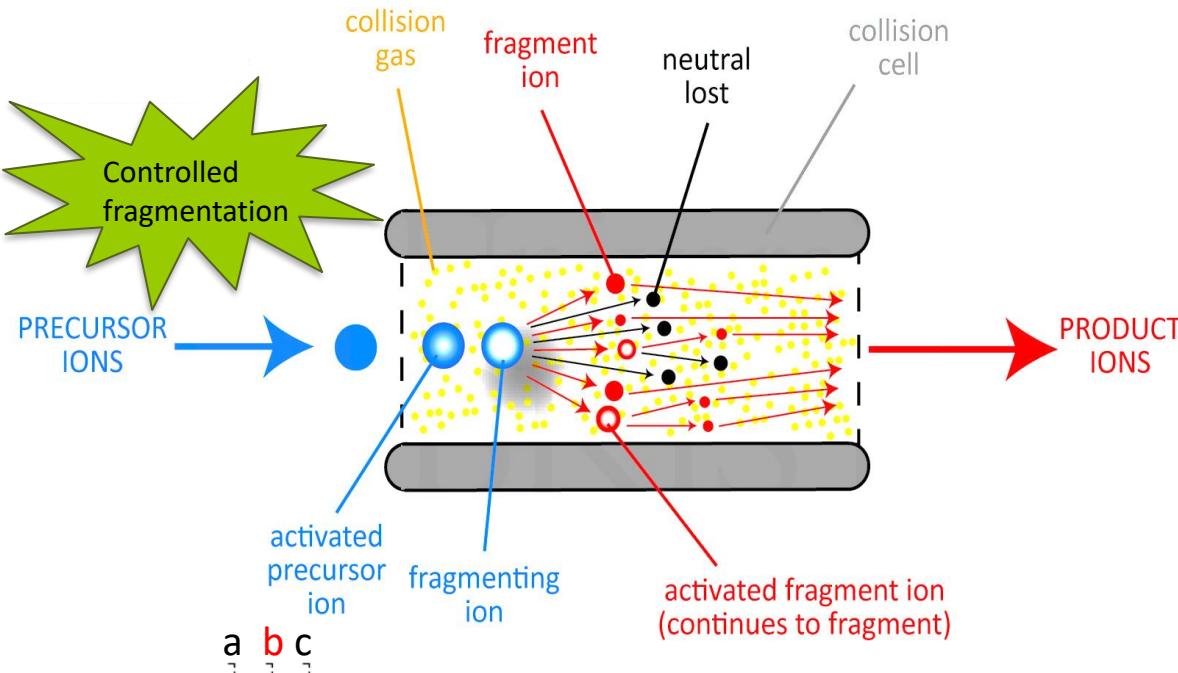


Qq-ToF mass spectrometer



Q-ToF instruments are well suited to quantitatively analyse large molecules like proteins (high sensitivity and high resolution).

MS/MS ion fragmentation modes: CID (collision induced dissociation)



CID is commonly used

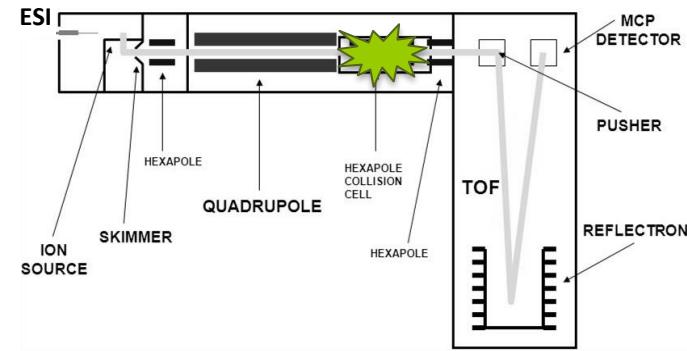
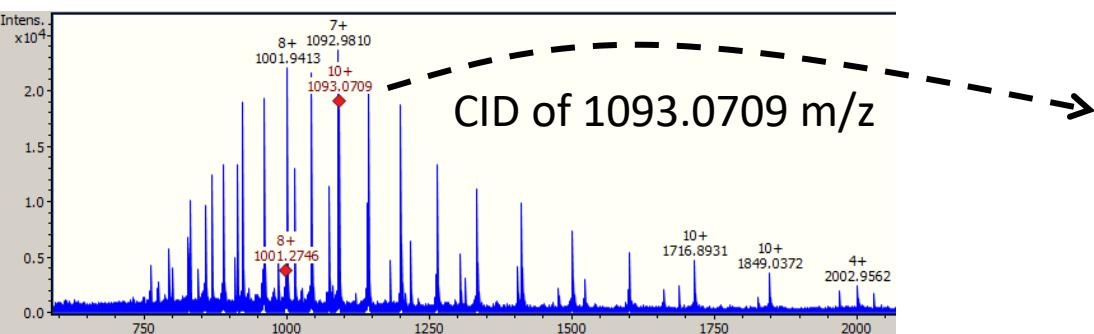
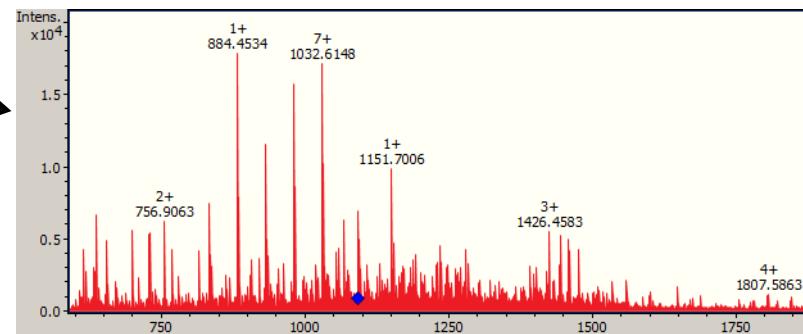


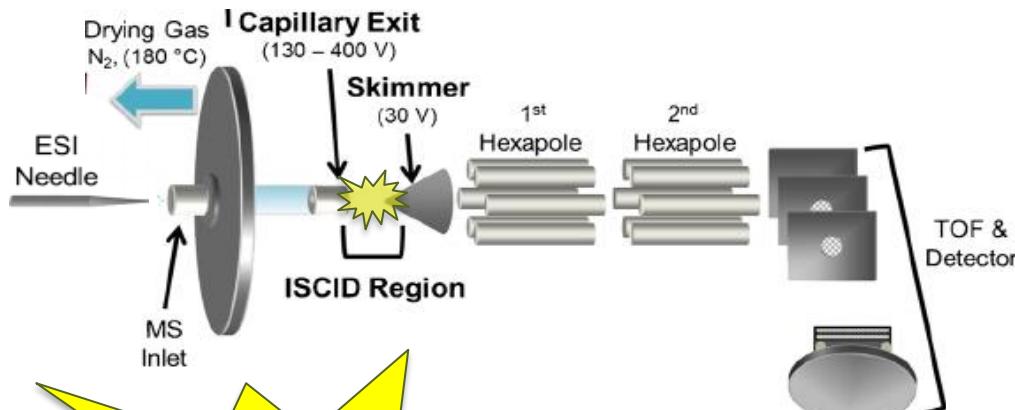
Figure of merit

Instrument used	Tandem quadrupoles, quadrupole hybrids (e.g., QqTOF)
Collision energy	1–200 eV
Collision number	10–100
Activation time scale	0.5–1 ms
Instrument time scale (kinetic window)/minimum observable reaction rate	0.1–1 ms/ 10^4 – 10^3 s ⁻¹
Distribution of internal energy	Centered at few eV, no high energy tail
Variability of internal energy	Readily variable with collision energy to obtain energy resolved info.
Efficiency	5–50%
General results	Lower energy processes only, isomerization of precursor may occur, sequential dissociation observed

(Wells & McLuckey, 2005)



in-source-CID (IS-CID)

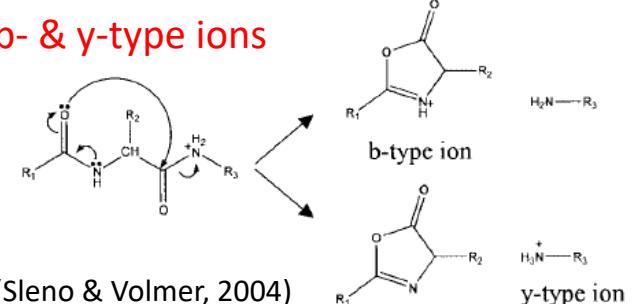
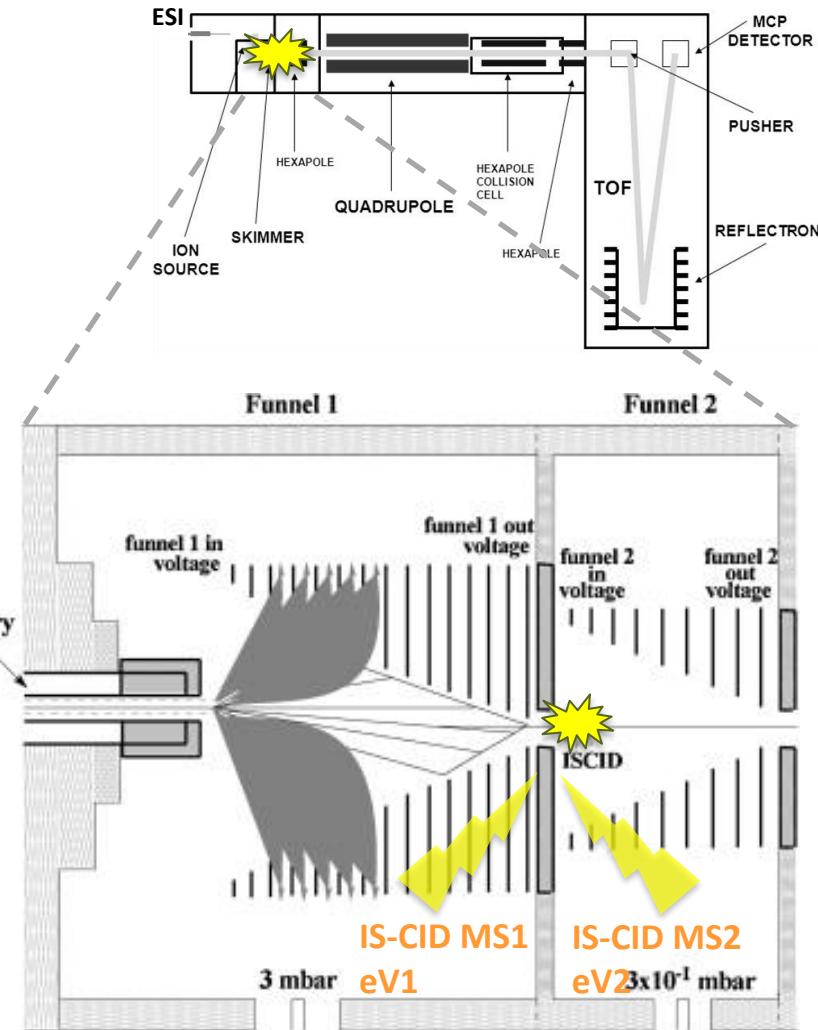


IS-CID:

The DC potential difference between the exit of funnel 1 (IS-CID MS1) and the entrance of funnel 2 (IS-CID MS2) causes uncontrolled fragmentation.

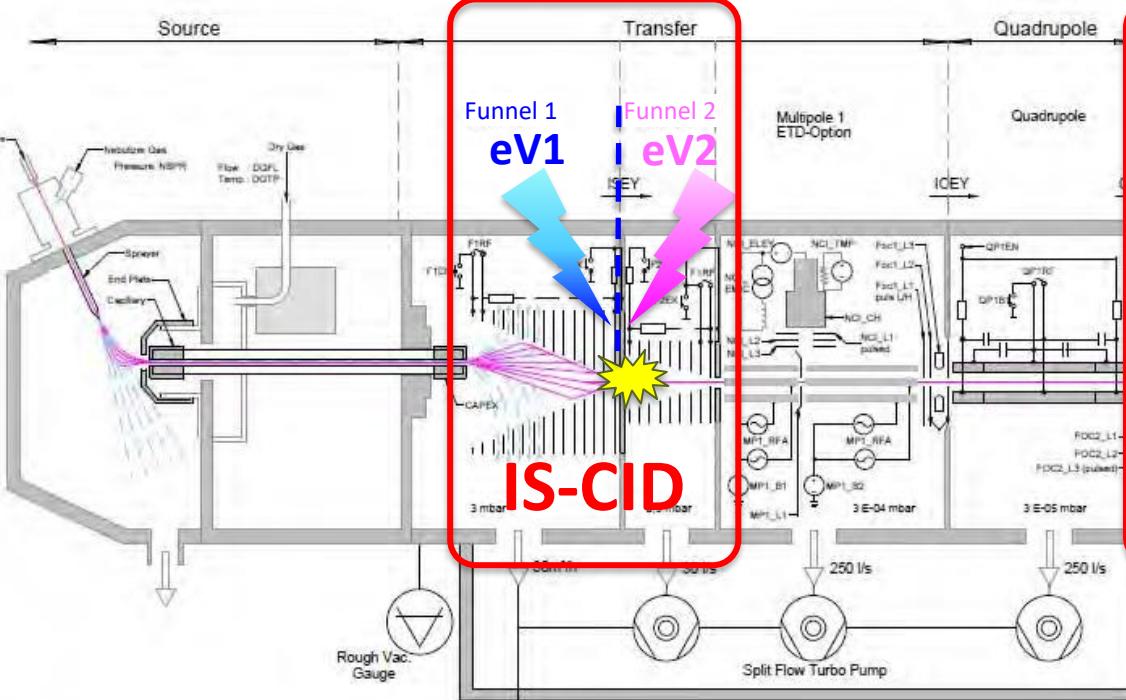
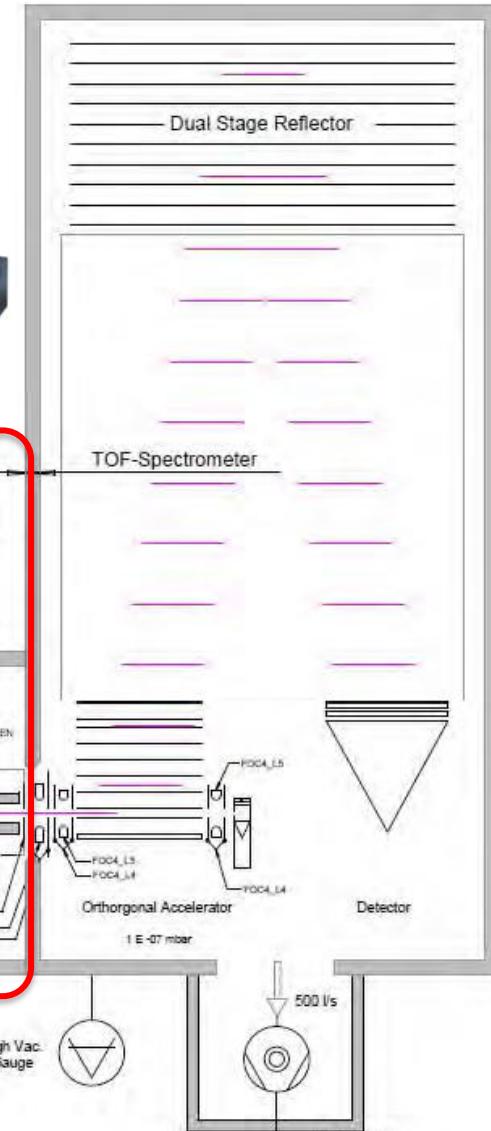
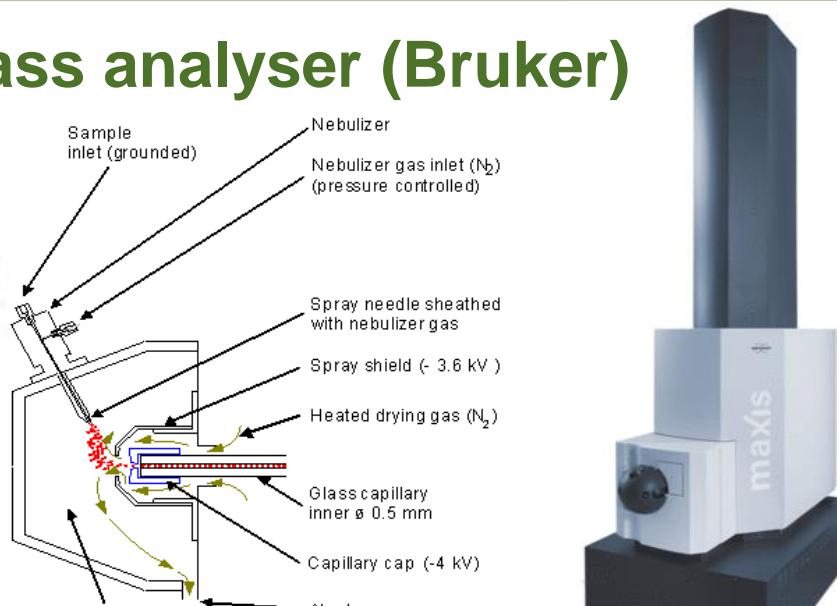
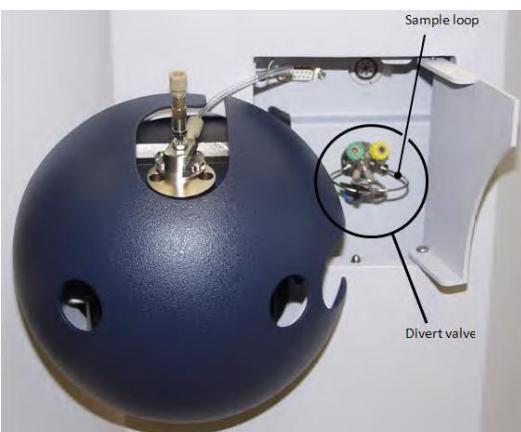
Very fast process (msec).

IS-CID is under-utilised.



maXis Qq-ToF mass analyser (Bruker)

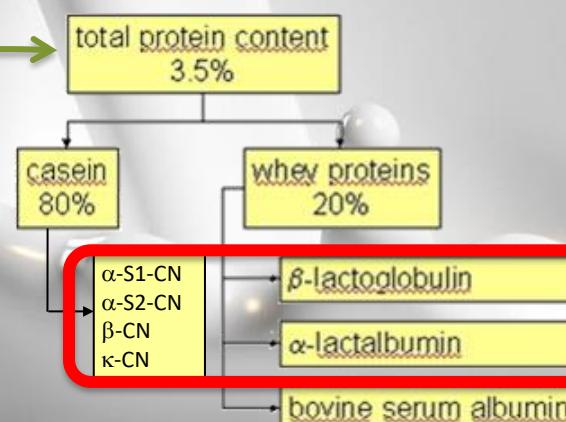
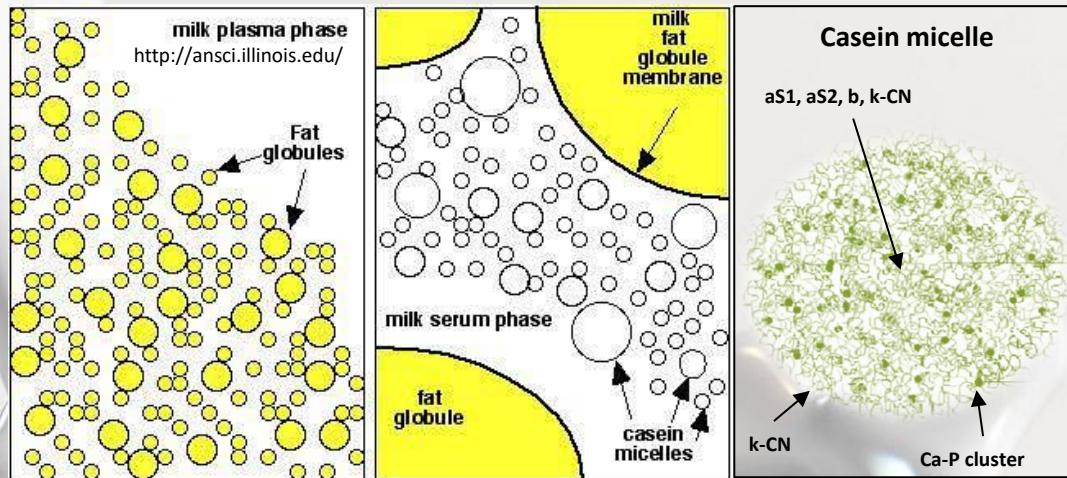
ESI source



Milk components

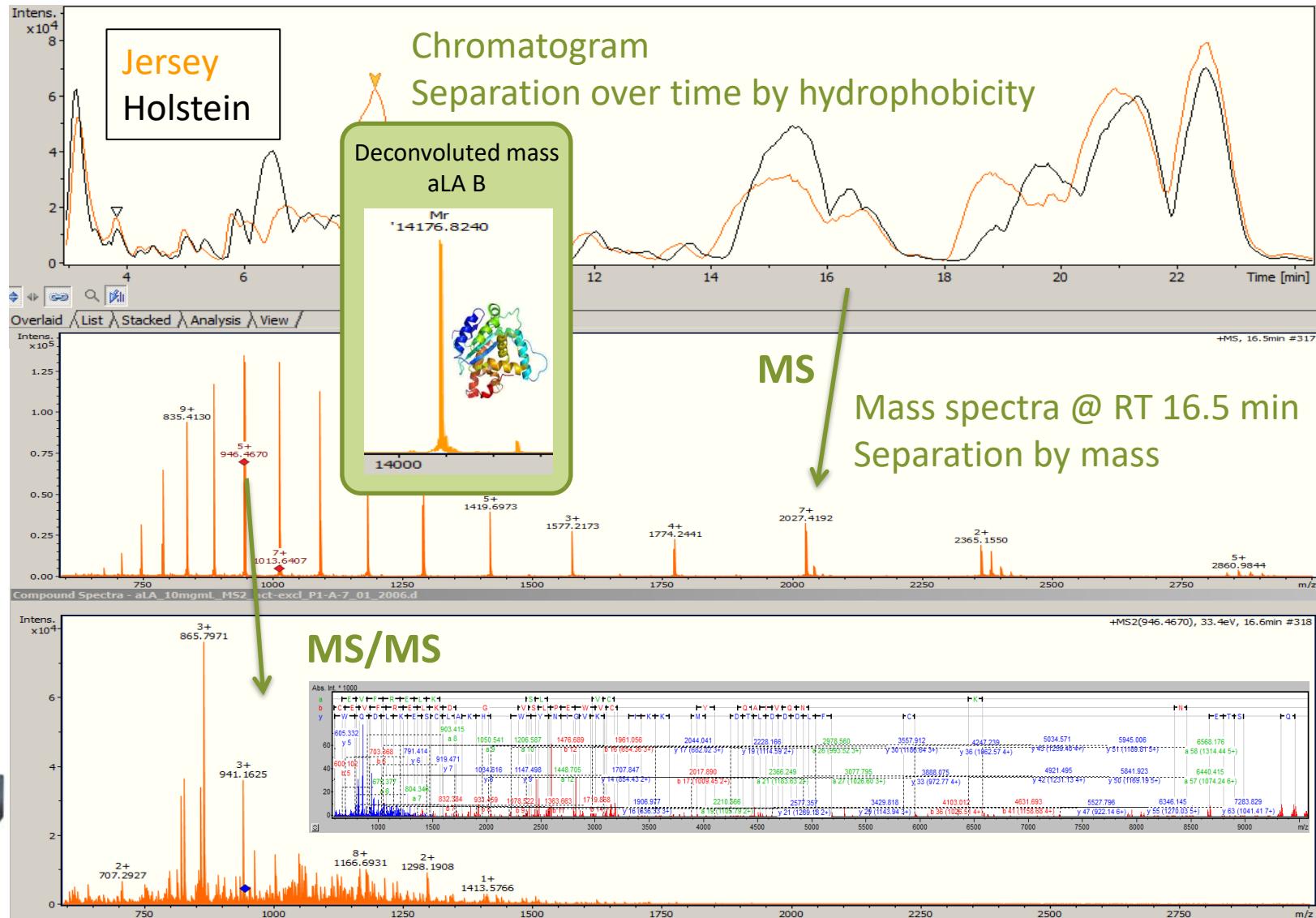
Milk: emulsion of fat globules, a suspension of **casein micelles** (casein, calcium, phosphorous), suspended in an aqueous phase, with solubilized lactose, **whey proteins**, and some minerals.

Nutrition Facts	
Milk, whole, 3.25% fat	
Amount Per 100 grams	
Calories 61	
Total Fat 3.2 g	
Saturated fat 1.9 g	
Polyunsaturated fat 0.2 g	
Monounsaturated fat 0.8 g	
Cholesterol 10 mg	
Sodium 43 mg	
Potassium 132 mg	
Total Carbohydrate 4.8 g	
Dietary fiber 0 g	
Sugar 5 g	
Protein 3.2 g	
Vitamin A	3% Vitamin C
Calcium	11% Iron
Vitamin D	12% Vitamin B-6
Vitamin B-12	6% Magnesium



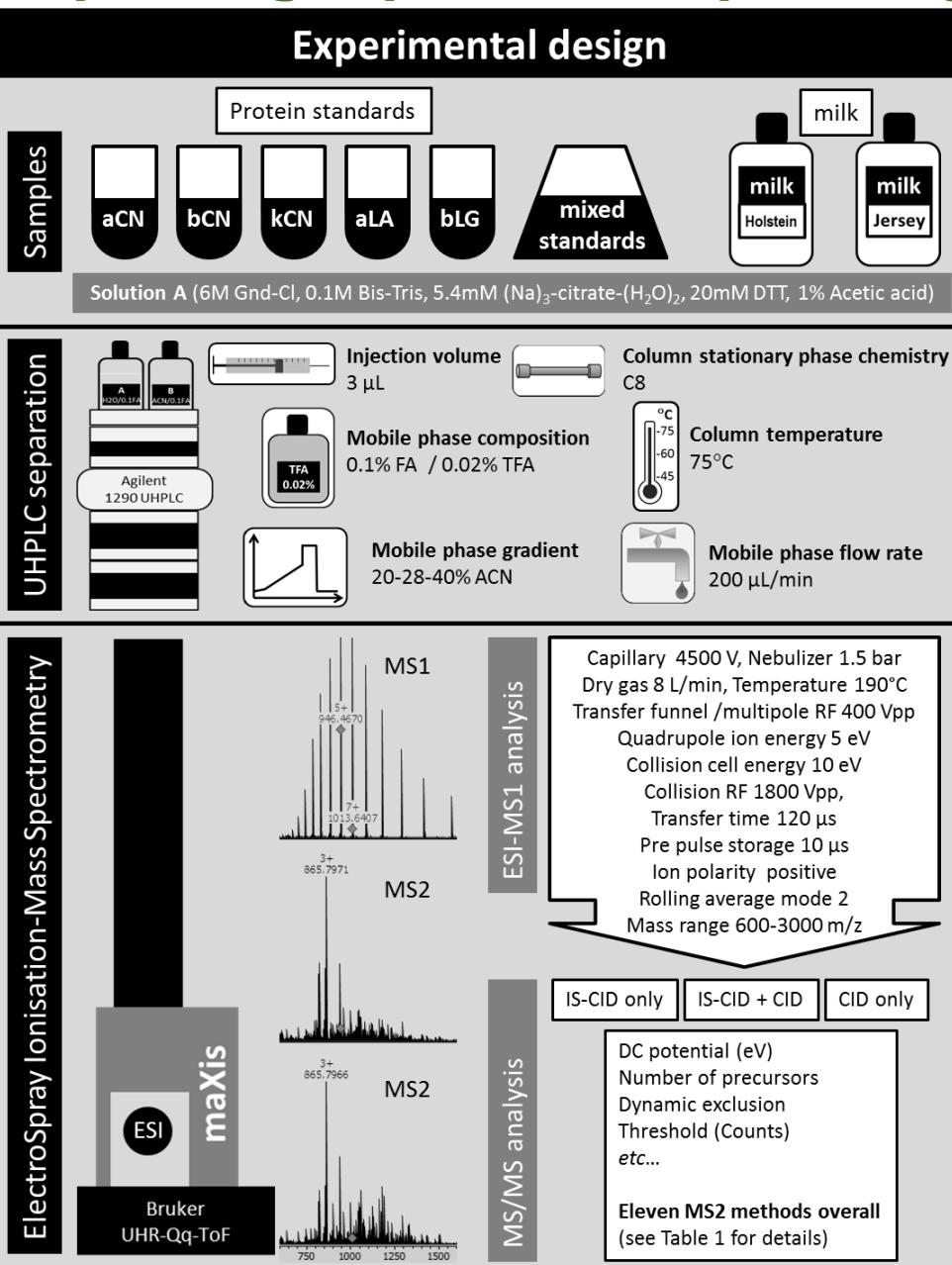
Protein	Concentration (g/L)
aS1-CN	10.0
b-CN	9.3
k-CN	3.3
b-LG	3.2
aS2-CN	2.6
a-LA	1.2
g-CN	0.8
Ig	0.8
PP/8F/8S	0.5
BSA	0.4
MFGM	0.4
PP3	0.3
Lactoferrin	0.1
Transferrin	0.1
Total	33.0

LC-MS/MS analyses of intact milk proteins



Improving top-down sequencing (TDS) of milk major proteins

Experimental design



Aim:

Improving sequencing coverage by top-down proteomics using a LC-ESI-Q-ToF platform.

Problem:

Need to develop high throughput datamining tools to assess methods. Annotation activities do not exist yet in Genedata Refiner.

Solution:

Collaboration with Dr Dominik Mertens (Genedata Expressionist) to create relevant processing workflows.

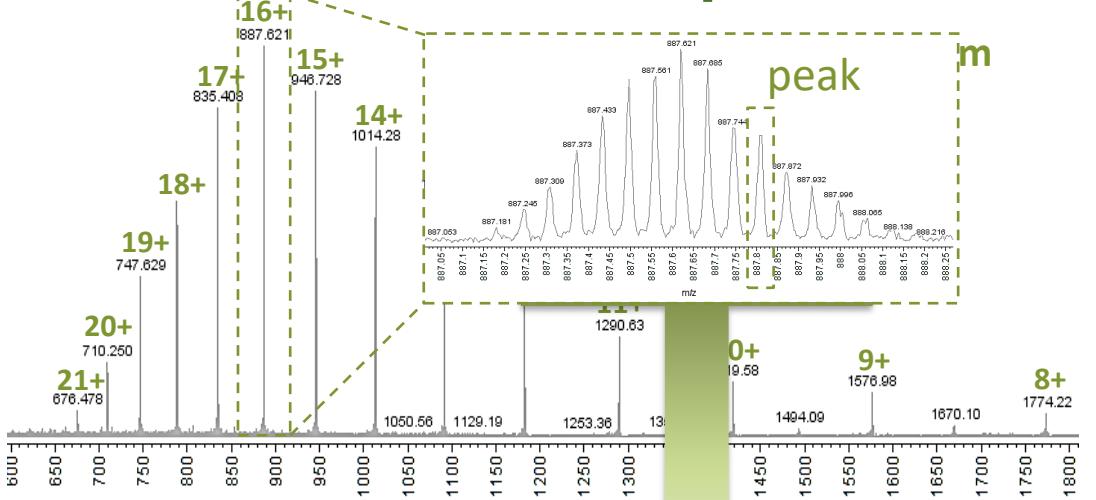
MS/MS Methods tested

MS

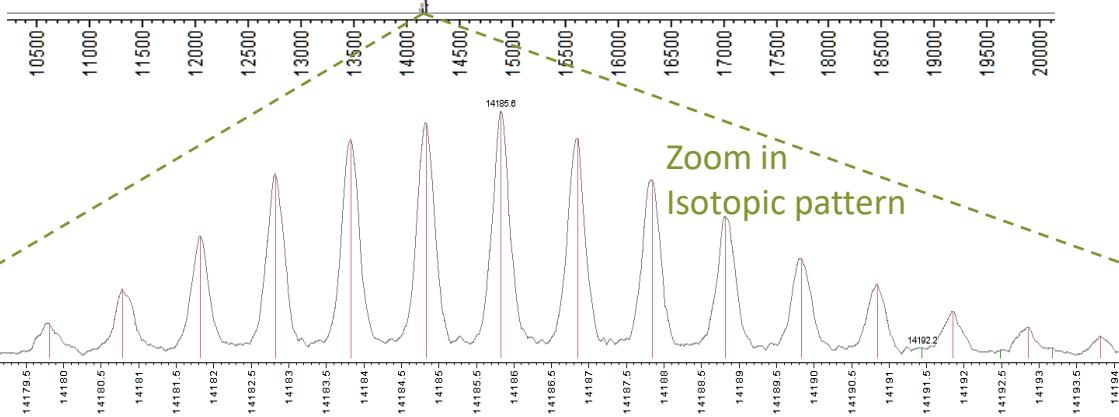
Protein deconvolution



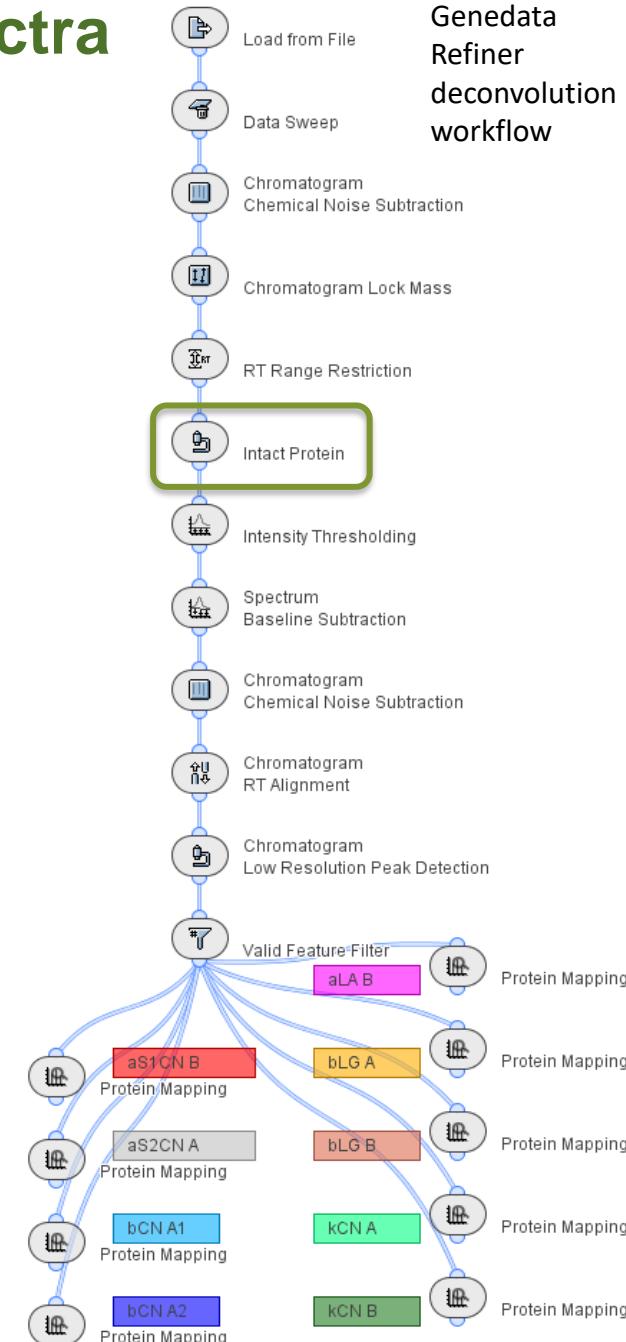
Deconvolution of intact protein mass spectra



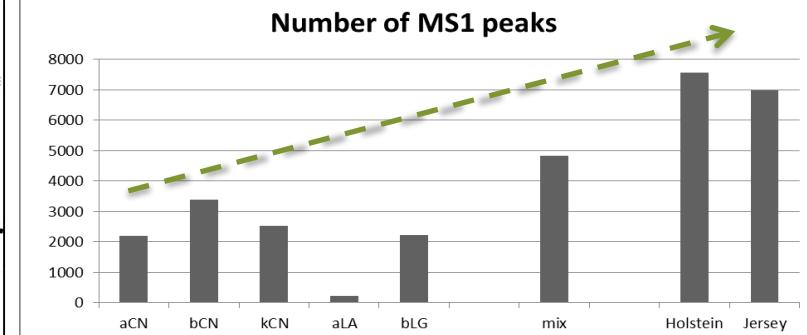
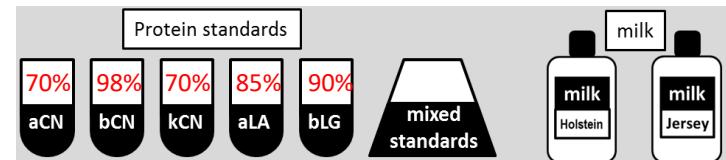
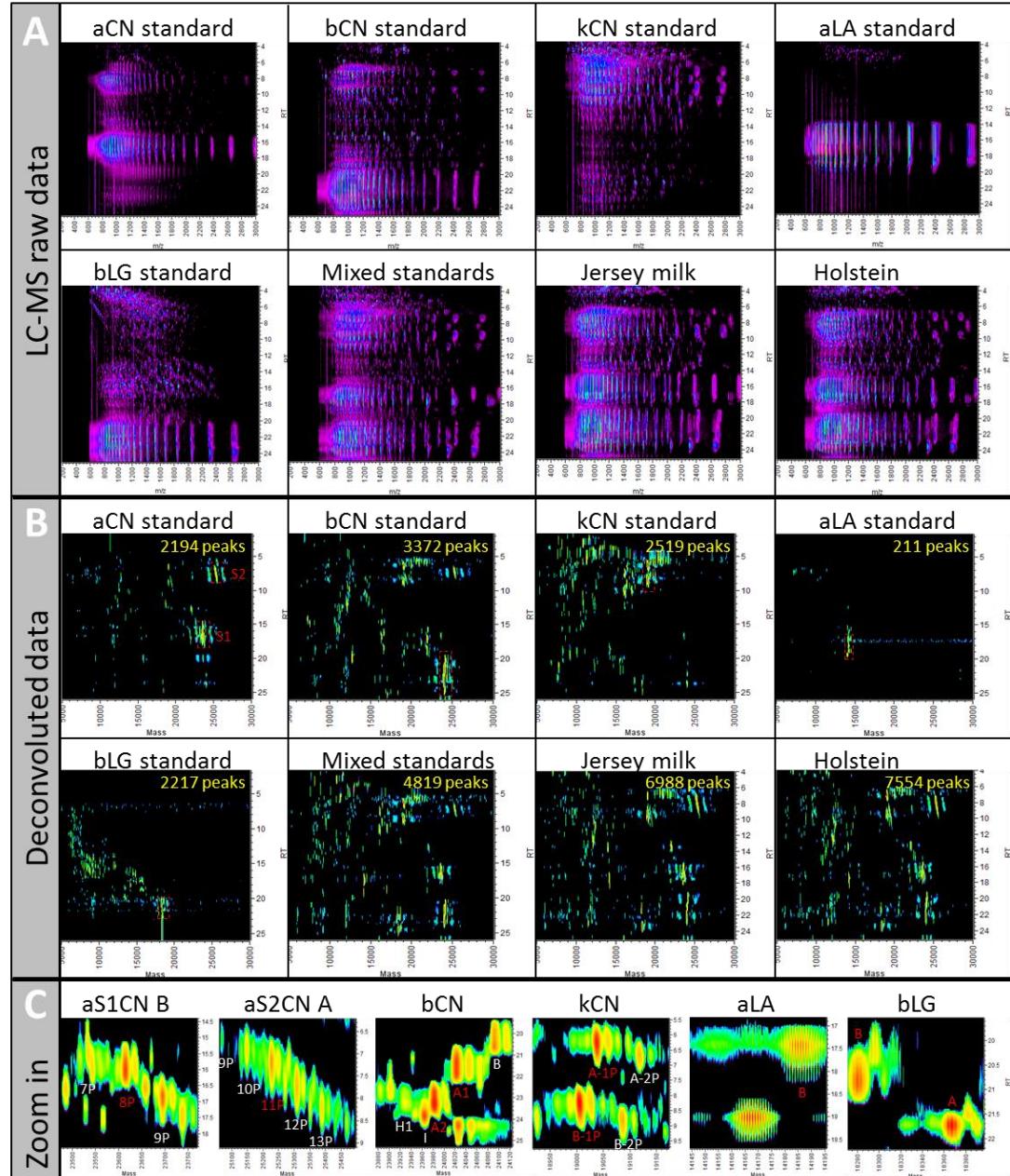
single-peak spectrum
True molecular weight



Zoom in
Isotopic pattern



Samples of increasing complexity



Complexity:

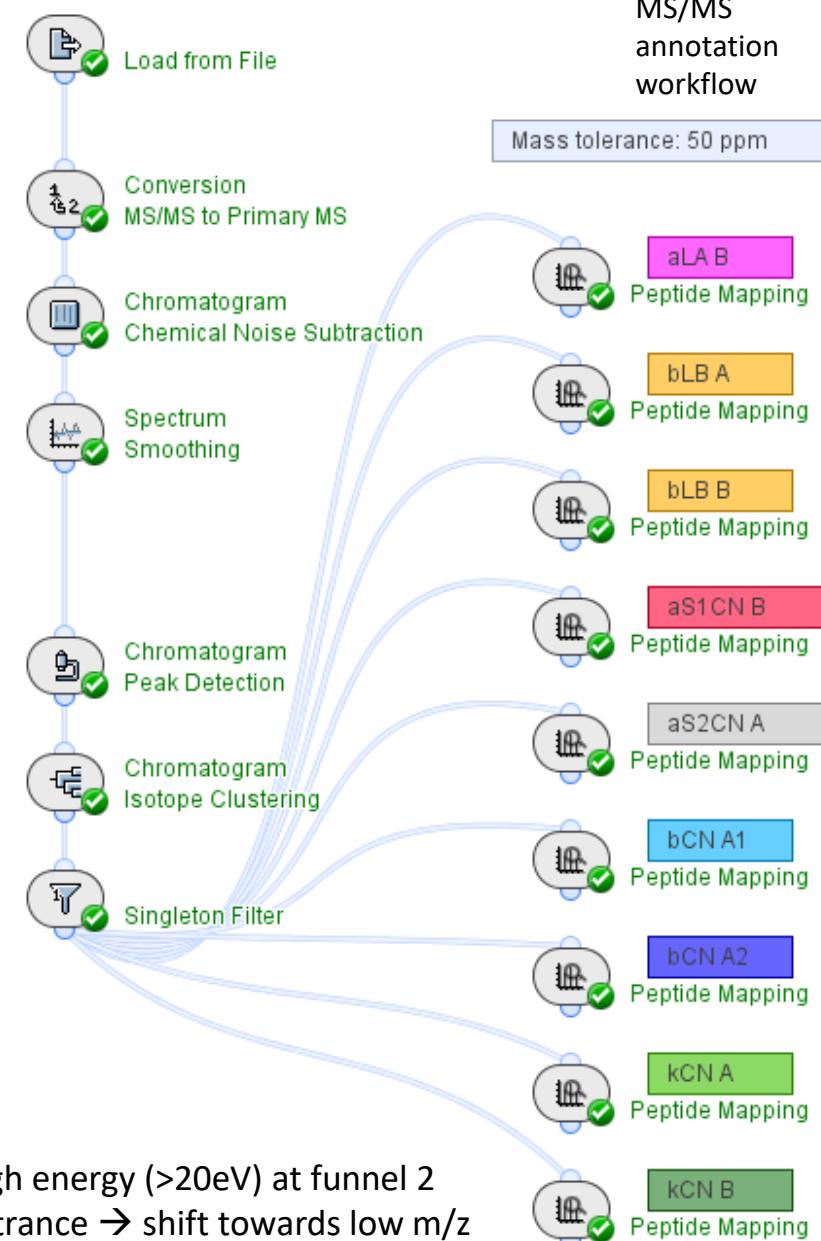
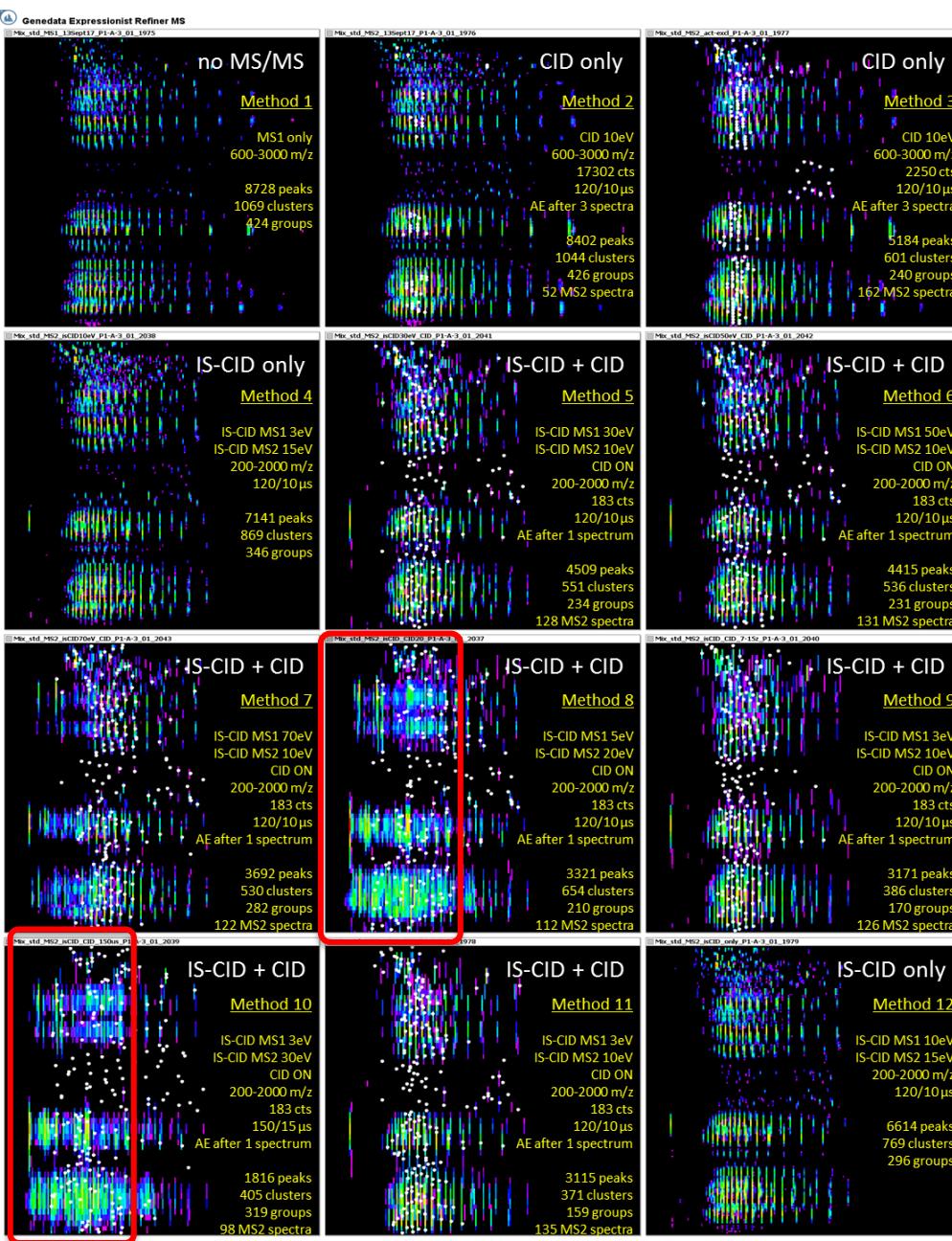
aLA < aCN < bLG < kCN < bCN < mix < milk

Successful sample processing by Genedata regardless of its level of complexity.

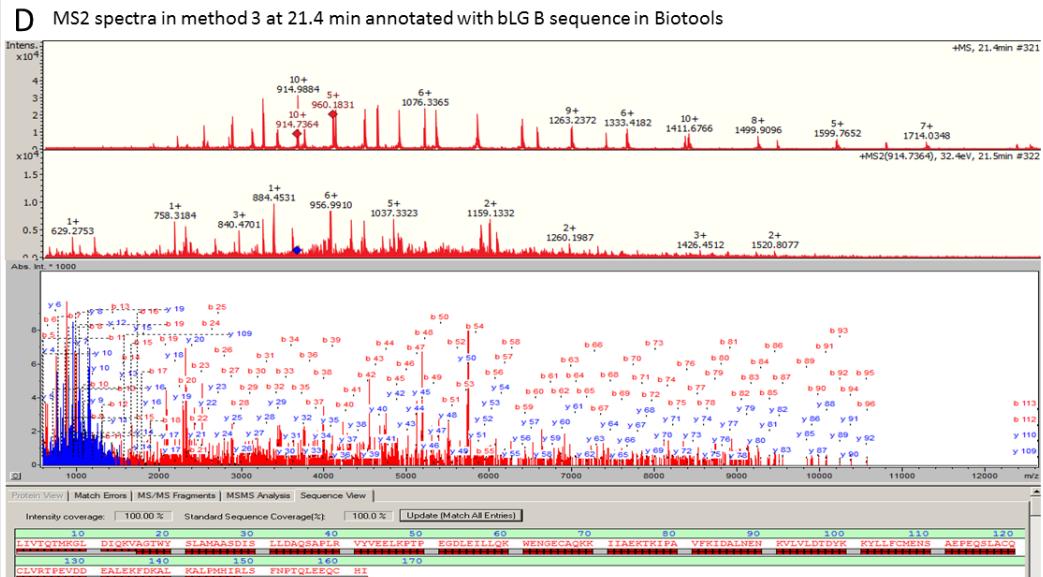
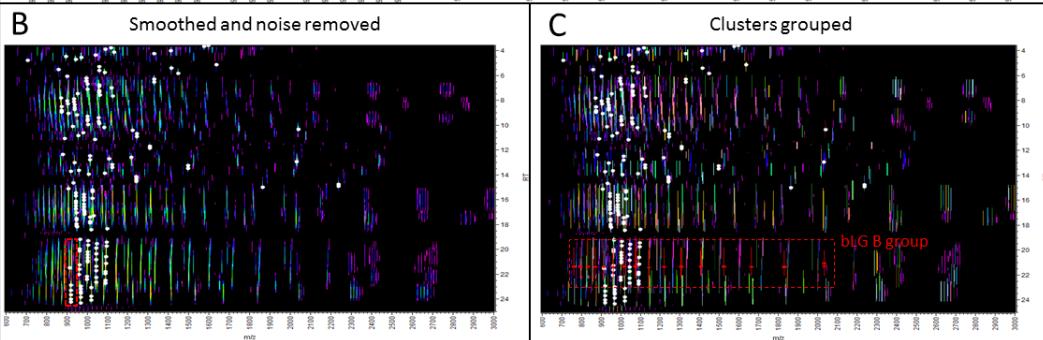
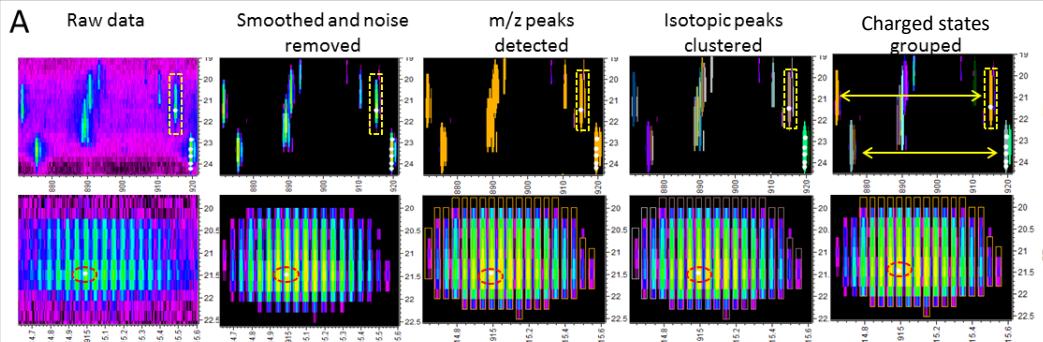
MS/MS

Protein annotation

Effect of the methods on the LC/MS patterns

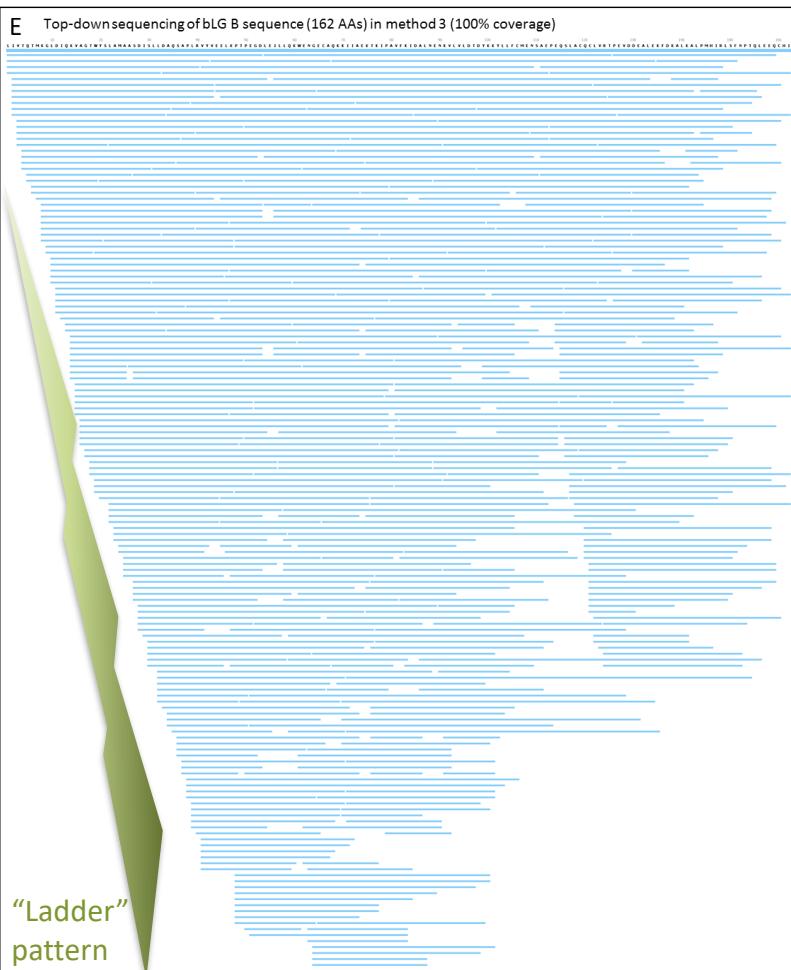


Annotation of MS/MS spectra (e.g. bLG B)

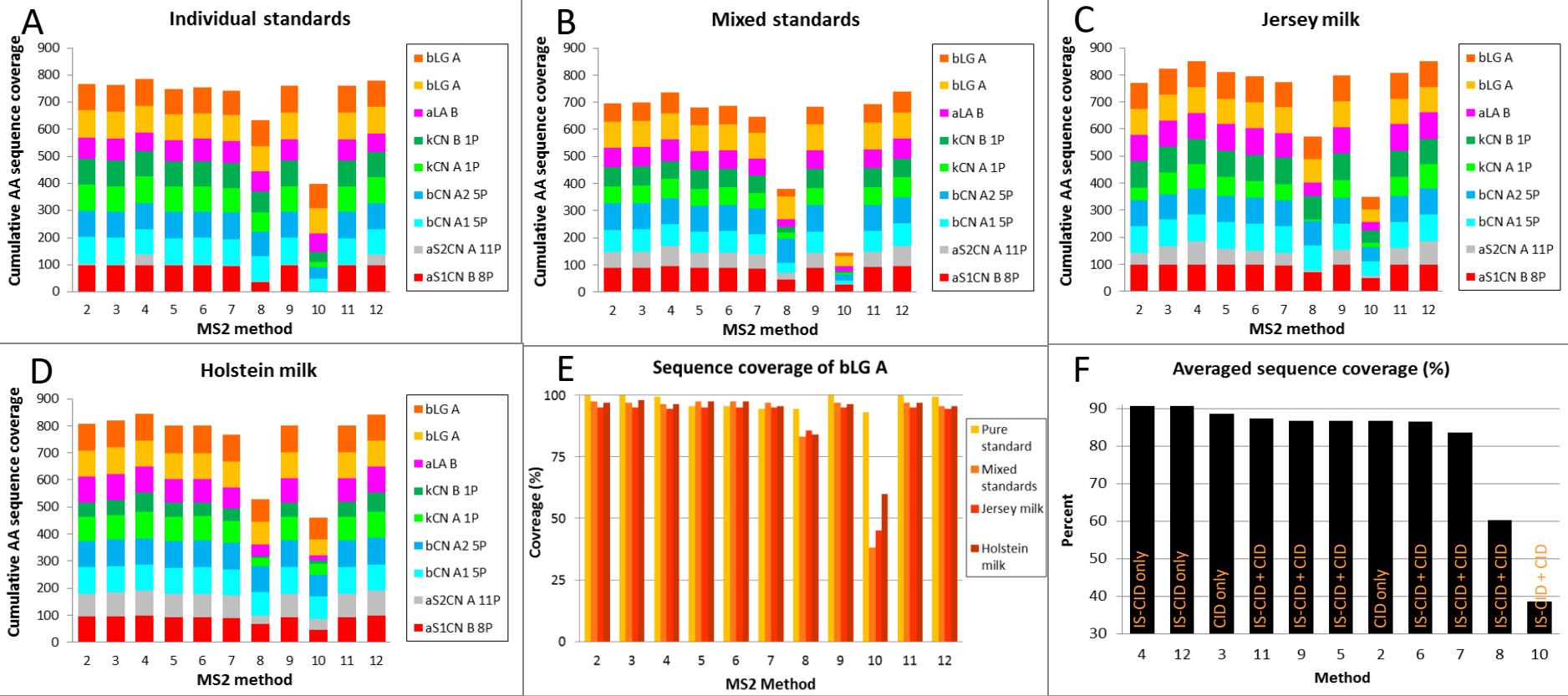


Upon (IS)-CID fragmentation, the intact protein is cut into peptides of various sizes anywhere along the AA sequence.

TDS is successful if annotation produces a “ladder” pattern (1 AA shift at a time).

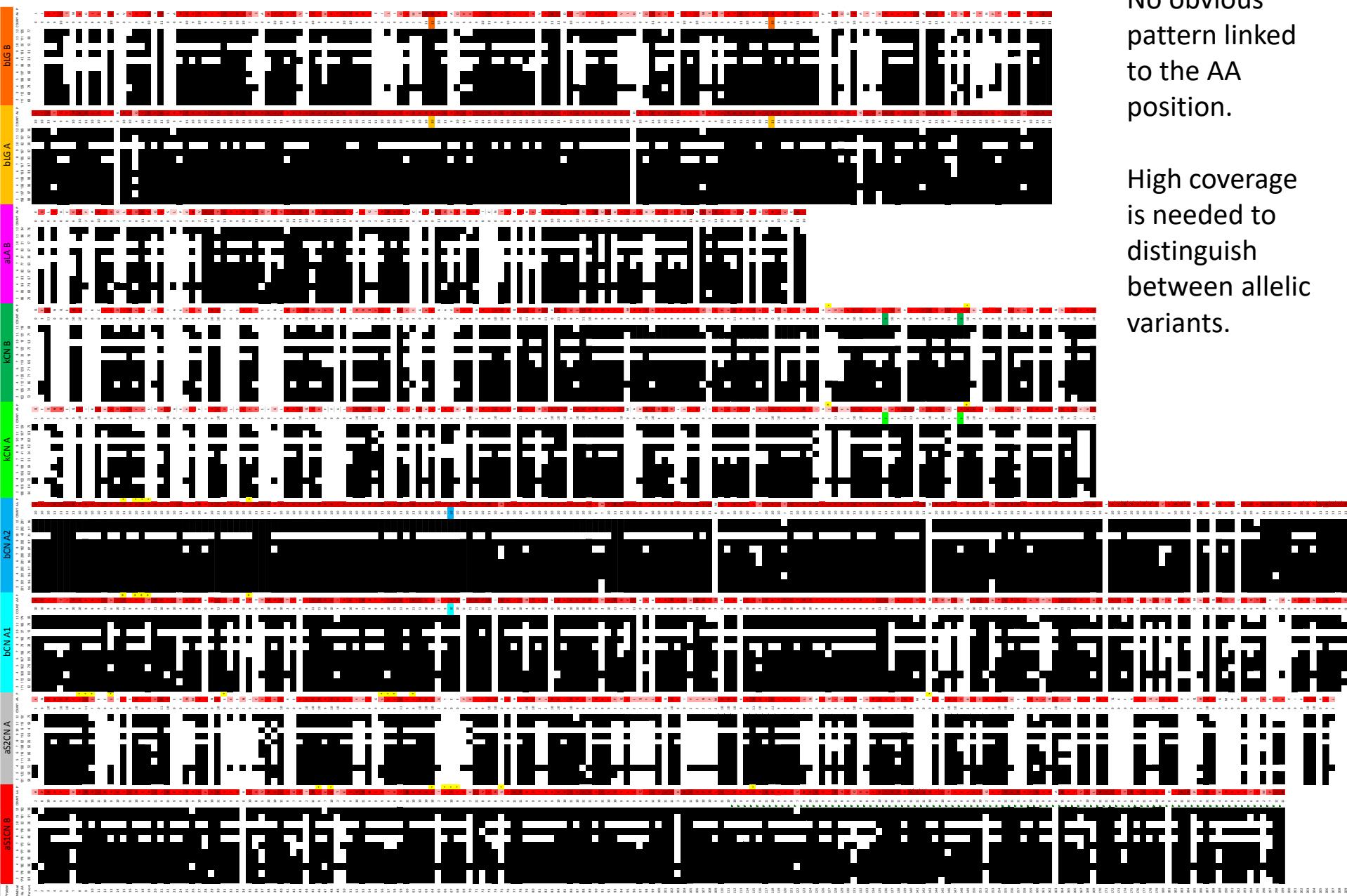


Comparison of MS/MS methods



Parameter	Method 4	Method 12	Method 3	Method 11	Method 9	Method 5	Method 2	Method 6	Method 7	Method 8	Method 10
Transfer time (μs)	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	150
Pre pulse storage (μs)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	15
isCID	ON	ON	OFF	ON	ON	ON	OFF	ON	ON	ON	ON
isCID MS (eV)	3	10		3	3	30		50	70	5	3
isCID MS/MS (eV)	15	15		10	10	10		10	10	20	30
Auto MS/MS mode	OFF	OFF	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON	ON
No. of precursors			2	4	4	2	2	2	2	3	4
Absolute (cts)			2550	183	183	183	17302	183	183	183	183
summary	IS-CID	IS-CID	CID	IS-CID+CID	IS-CID+CID	IS-CID+CID	CID	IS-CID+CID	IS-CID+CID	IS-CID+CID	IS-CID+CID
sequence coverage(%)	90.64	90.64	88.63	87.37	86.80	86.74	86.72	86.57	83.61	60.25	38.61

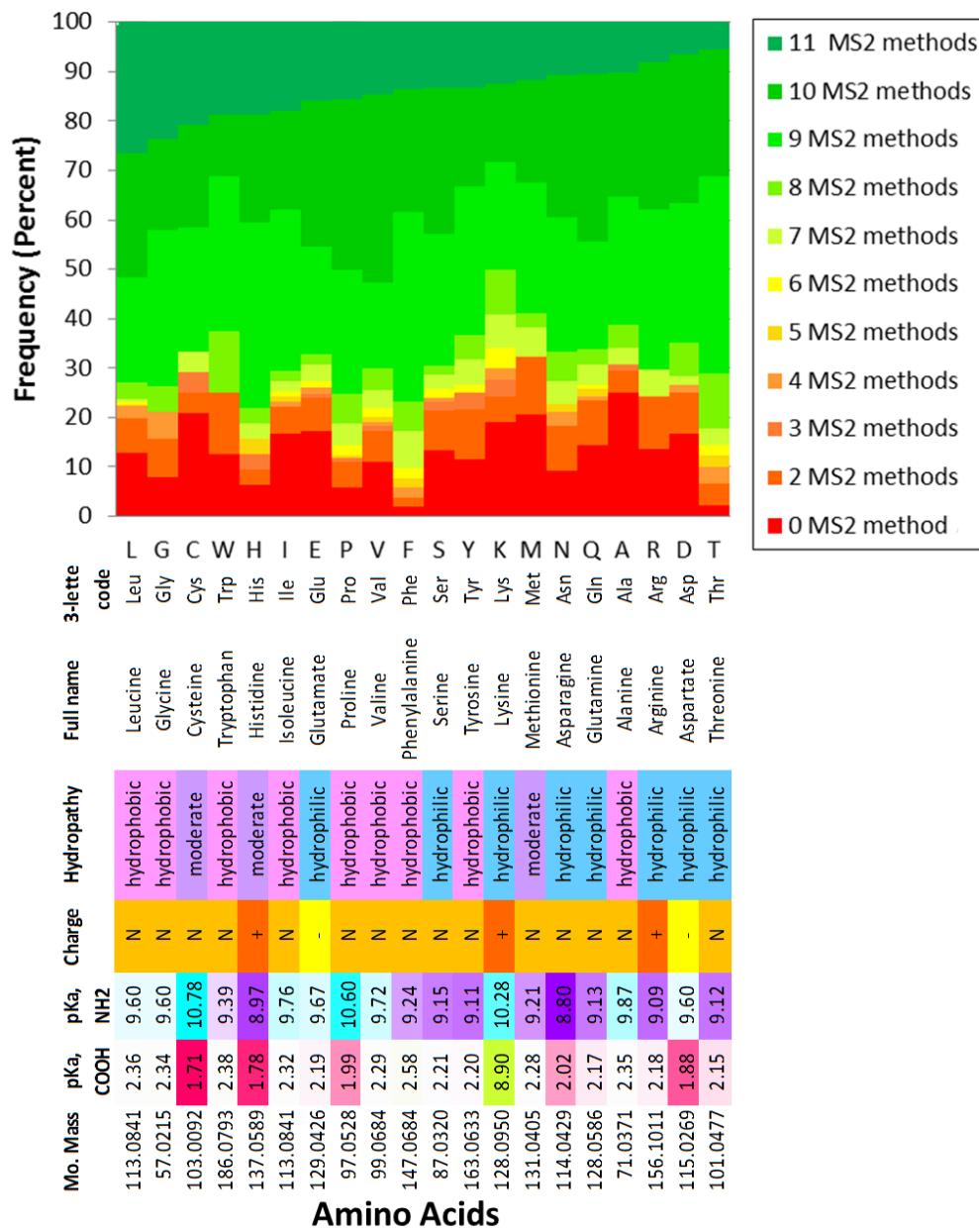
AA position does not impact TDS efficacy



No obvious pattern linked to the AA position.

High coverage is needed to distinguish between allelic variants.

AA hydrophobicity impacts TDS efficacy



Leucine, Glycine, Cysteine, Tryptophan, and Histidine, Isoleucine displayed the best response to TDS.

These AAs present moderate to high hydrophobicity.

Conversely, Threonine, Asparagine and Arginine showed the least success rate. These AAs are hydrophilic.

AA hydrophobicity level would have an impact on fragmentation efficiency.

Conclusions

- We now have a fully automated analytical method to process and datamine LC-MS and LC-MS/MS data from top-down proteomics experiment. This would not have been possible without Genedata software.
- Best MS/MS methods applied IS-CID low DC potentials both at funnel 1 exit and funnel 2 entrance.
- TDS efficacy is not associated with AA position along the protein but might be linked to AA hydrophobicity.
- Future work will involve transferring the methods to a faster more resolving instrument that offer alternative modes of fragmentation (LTQ-Orbitrap mass spectrometer).

