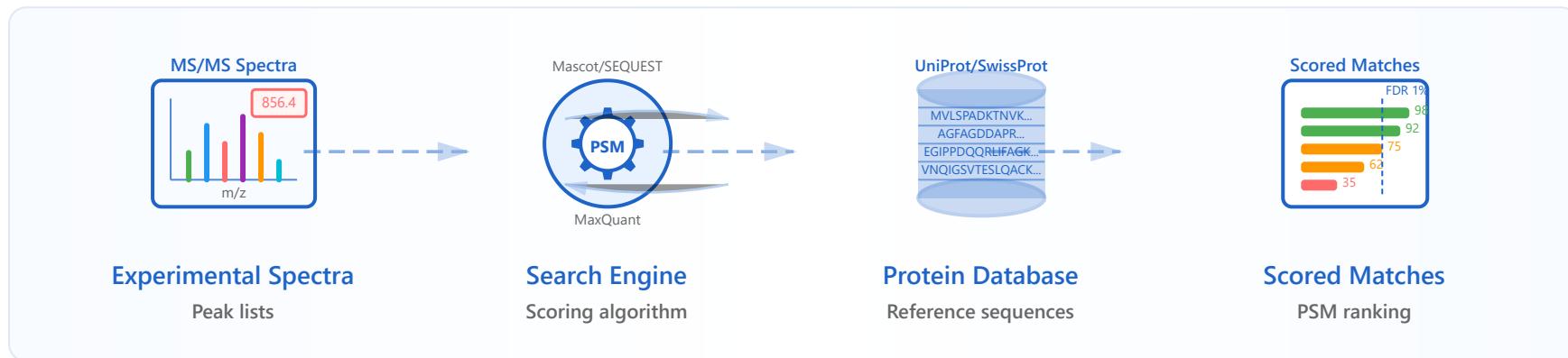


Database Searching



Search Engines

- Mascot, SEQUEST, X!Tandem
- MaxQuant, Proteome Discoverer
- Each with unique algorithms



Parameter Optimization

- Mass tolerance settings
- Enzyme specificity
- Missed cleavages allowed



Decoy Databases



- Reversed/shuffled sequences
- Estimate false positives
- Quality control



Modifications

- Fixed modifications (e.g., carbamidomethylation)
- Variable modifications (e.g., oxidation)
- Balance between sensitivity and specificity