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INTRODUCTION TO MICROFLUIDICS

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Chip-based MS

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Chip-based MS



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Mass spectrometry principles

What is Mass Spectrometry (MS)?

- Separation of molecular species according to their mass

Why is MS useful ?

- The mass of a species can be used to identify a molecule
- Fragmentation under well-controlled conditions gives a fingerprint of a molecular species

How does MS work ?

- Species are ionized (sometimes fragmented) and accelerated in an electric field
- The trajectory of the species is altered by a second electric or a perpendicular magnetic field, the deviation of the path depends on the mass/charge ratio
- The trajectory deviation is monitored by detectors, this gives a "mass spectrum"



General set-up for mass spectrometry



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Example: magnetic sector MS



Lorentz force determines trajectory





Typical mass spectrum





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Ionization principles

Electron ionization

M⁺= ionized molecule F⁺= ionized molecular fragment



Mechanisms of ion formation in electron ionization

Consider the ionization of the analyte species AB:

 $1.AB + e^{-*} \Longrightarrow A^{+} + B^{-} + e^{-}$ $2.AB + e^{-*} \Longrightarrow A^{+} + B^{\circ} + 2e^{-}$ $3.AB + e^{-*} \Longrightarrow [AB^{+\circ*}] + 2e^{-} \qquad followed by [AB^{+\circ*}] \implies AB^{+\circ}$ $4.AB + e^{-*} \Longrightarrow [AB^{2+*}]^{"} + 3e^{-} \qquad followed by [AB^{2+*}]^{"} \implies A^{+} + B^{+} - \text{very low abundance}$ $5.AH + e^{-*} \Longrightarrow AH^{*} + e^{-} \qquad followed by AH^{*} + AH \Longrightarrow [AH^{+}H]^{+} + A^{-} \text{ (self chemical ionization)}$ $* = \text{species in high energy state} \qquad \circ = \text{radical} \qquad " = \text{short lived intermediate not seen in spectra}$

1 and 2: highest abundance; termed <u>instantaneous fragmentation</u>. This is the reason why EI is considered a <u>hard ionization process</u>

3: fairly high abundance; process responsible for the molecular ion formation (Unfortunately the highly energetic radical intermediate [AB^{+**}] tends to undergo fragmentation or rearrangement as a stabilizing process, this is responsible for the lower mass fragment ions present in the spectra)



Fast Atom Bombardment



FAB is a soft ionization method, i.e. little fragmentation occurs

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Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization



MALDI is a <u>soft ionization method</u> - gives ion burst which is compatible with TOF (Time-Of-Flight)





Electrospray Ionization (ESI)



ESI is a soft ionization method





Principle of ESI





ESI: The Taylor cone







Miniaturization of ESI







Mass analysis methods

Double Focussing (Sector) Analysis





Time-of-flight (TOF)



The larger the ion, the slower its velocity and thus the longer it takes to traverse the field-free drift zone. The field in the field-free zone, E_d , is zero at all times





TOF basic equation

$$\frac{m_i}{z_i} = 2eEl_s \left(\frac{t_i}{l_d}\right)^2$$

Where: $m_i = mass of analyte ion$ $z_i = charge on analyte ion$ E = extraction field $t_i = time-of-flight of ion$ $l_s = length of the source$ $l_d = length of the field-free drift region$ e = electronic charge (1.6022x10⁻¹⁹ C)

Kinetic energy charge in E-field: $E_{kinetic} = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = qV$



TOF with reflectron







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Quadrupole Mass Analyser



The four rods are shown as being circular in the diagram but in practice they have a hyperbolic cross-section



QMS principle

Alternating electric field makes ions go off into spirals as they pass down the quadrupole. The constant voltage drags them in one constant direction, towards one pair of electrodes.

Small ion is dragged large distance by AC field, going into stronger and stronger field regions => collides with electrode and disappears



Large ion is not affected by AC field, but drifts in DC field => collides with electrode and disappears

Ion with correct size drifts slightly in DC field, but is always dragged back by AC field => stable trajectory to outlet of quadrupole and detector





Ion Trap Analysis





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Field-Asymmetric Ion Mobility Spectrometer



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Coupling microfluidics to MS

ESI from a chip



Fig. 2. Schematic diagram of different electrospray interfaces that have been developed for chip-ESI-MS: (A) spraying directly from an exposed channel at the edge of a chip; (B) liquid junction capillary interface; (C) gold-coated capillary interface; and (D) coaxial sheath flow configuration. HV denotes points to which the electrospray voltage is applied.





chip with capillary interface

Oleschuk & Harrison, Tr. Anal. Chem. vol. 19, no. 6, 2000, 379-388

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ESI from chip via capillary (1)



Derivatization after LC before MS using micromixer-reactor

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ESI from chip via capillary (2)



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Nano-ESI interface





Nano-ESI interface





Oosterbroek, Brivio e.a., to be published



ESI directly from a chip outlet





Anal. Chem. 69, 1174 -1178 (1997)



Atmospheric plasma generation



Stable plasma at ca. 2 kV/cm at 1 atm



Oosterbroek, University of Twente, 2002, unpublished



ESI from chip with micromachined nozzle



Figure 1. (a) Operation principle of the integrated system. (b) Fabricated device with electrical connections.



Jun Xie e.a., Proc. μTAS 2002, p. 709-711

Figure 3. Detailed pictures of integrated system. (a) two pumping chambers, (b) design layout, (c) micro passive mixer and (d) ESI nozzle.



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Chip with micromachined nozzles -fabrication process





Jun Xie e.a., Proc. µTAS 2002, p. 709-711

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Advion silicon ESI chip







Advion ESI nozzle silicon chip



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Microreactor and MALDI-TOF-MS



Liquid flow driven by vacuum of MALDI chamber:





Brivio e.a. Anal. Chem. 74, 3972-3976 (2002)

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Example: Schiff-base reaction



Chip re-design to increase reaction times



Design of chip with perforated membrane for MALDI





MALDI-chip with monitoring window





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Miniaturised and micromachined MS



Space needs more space

Volatile Organic Analyzer-Risk Mitigation Experiment (VOA-RME) on Shuttle

Palmer & Limero "Mass Spectrometry in the U.S. Space Program: Past, Present, and Future" J.Am.Soc. Mass Spectr. 12, 656-675 (2001)



Miniaturized quadrupole MS







Miniature magnetic sector MS



Mass Sensors Inc, St Louis Double focussing magnetic sector MS, ILD-50: Golf ball sized Range: 0-50 amu

 $m/\Delta m = 40$

Weight = 153g

Operating pressure 10⁻⁴ Torr

cells include a 32 bit RISC processor, optional wireless communications interface, and time profiling software



http://www.mass-sensors.com



Microengineered magnetic sector MS





ionizing region



Field emission micro-tip array as an electron source

 $m/e = B^2 r^2 / 2V_z$

Masses separated by magnetic field and detected at collection electrodes





Miniature cylindrical ion trap MS



Cooks e.a. Purdue University

stainless steel, inner radius 2.5mm, (1/4 full size. 1/64 volume)

Mass range to 600 amu

Ramsey and Whitten at ORNL inner radius 0.5mm, half height 0.55mm (1/1000 volume)

mass range 40-400amu







http://pubs.acs.org/hotartcl/ac/99/apr/shrink.html

Scaling issues

Comparison of mass analyzers and the consequence on the free variable for mass analysis of m/z 300 with V = 10 V and the length scale r or $L = 1 \ \mu m$

Technique	Governing equation	Consequence on free variable
Magnetic deflection Time of flight	$m/z = B^2 r^2 / 2V$ $m/z = 2Vt^2 / L^2$	B = 7880 T $t = 0.39 \pm 0.12 \text{ ns for}$
Linear quadrupole	$m/z = 7 \times 10^6 V_{rf}/f^2 r_0^2$	$\delta E_i = \pm 0.1 \text{ eV}$ f = 470 MHz (length of rod is mm)
Quadrupole ion trap	$m/z = 8 V_{rf}/q_z$ $(r_o^2 + 2z_o^2)\Omega^2$	f = 590 MHz

Quadrupole techniques are most appropriate for scaling down:

mass ranges for quadrupole techniques scale inversely with square of the characteristic length (*L*) of the analyzer. TOF also scales with L^{-2} , but resulting flight times are so short that mass resolution suffers severely.

Ion trap is appealing for miniaturization because of its high sensitivity, its ability to operate at higher pressure ($\sim 10^{-3}$ Torr), and most significantly its ability to perform MS/MS, viz. multiple stages of mass analysis using a single-analyzer



Trajectories in ion trap: micro-Lissajous





lon trajectory simulation result for a single trapped ion in a radius = 1.0 μ m CIT with *m*/*z* = 93, 8V, 1.2 GHz. Trajectories follow typical Lissajous curves and encompass a large volume of the trap.



Blain e.a. Int.J.Mass Spectr. 236, 91–104 (2004)

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Surface-micromachined cylindrical ion trap

Ion Collector



Top End Cp Ring Electrode

Bottom End Cap array of 4 microfabricated traps

0.25 cm² array of 10⁶ one-micrometer CITs, incl. integrated ion detectors, constructed in tungsten on silicon

Blain e.a. Int.J.Mass Spectr. 236, 91–104 (2004)









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