#### Proteomics and Mass Spectrometry

# Outline

- Motivation
- Mass spectrum of a peptide
- Mass spectrometer
- Bottom-up proteomics

#### Protein





Primary structure is a sequence.20 frequent amino acids.Fold into a complex 3D structure.

### A Protein Sequence

#### >P02769|ALBU\_BOVIN Serum albumin - Bos taurus (Bovine).

MKWVTFISLLLFSSAYSRGVFRRDTHKSEIAHRFKDLGEEHFKGLVLIAFS QYLQQCPFDEHVKLVNELTEFAKTCVADESHAGCEKSLHTLFGDELCKVASL RETYGDMADCCEKQEPERNECFLSHKDDSPDLPKLKPDPNTLCDEFKADEKK FWGKYLYEIARRHPYFYAPELLYYANKYNGVFQECCQAEDKGACLLPKIETM REKVLASSARQRLRCASIQKFGERALKAWSVARLSQKFPKAEFVEVTKLVTD LTKVHKECCHGDLLECADDRADLAKYICDNQDTISSKLKECCDKPLLEKSHC IAEVEKDAIPENLPPLTADFAEDKDVCKNYQEAKDAFLGSFLYEYSRRHPEY AVSVLLRLAKEYEATLEECCAKDDPHACYSTVFDKLKHLVDEPQNLIKQNCD **OFEKLGEYGFONALIVRYTRKVPOVSTPTLVEVSRSLGKVGTRCCTKPESER** MPCTEDYLSLILNRLCVLHEKTPVSEKVTKCCTESLVNRRPCFSALTPDETY VPKAFDEKLFTFHADICTLPDTEKQIKKQTALVELLKHKPKATEEQLKTVME NFVAFVDKCCAADDKEACFAVEGPKLVVSTQTALA

### **Fundamental Questions**

- Identify, sequence, and quantify all the proteins in a biological sample.
  - Identification: determine which proteins in a database present in the sample.
  - Sequencing: determine the amino acid sequence without needing a database.
  - Quantification: determine the quantity change of each protein under two different biological conditions.





> Human lg heavy chain variable region
QVQLVQSGAEVKKPGASVKVSCKASGYTFTGYYMH
WVRQAPGQGLEWMGRINPNSGGTNYAQKFQGRVTS
TRDTSISTAYMELSRLRSDDTVVYYCAR

# Why Bother? – Example: Biomarker

HER2-positive breast cancer is a breast cancer that tests positive for a protein called human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), which promotes the growth of cancer cells.





66 HER2-positive breast cancers tend to be more aggressive than other types of breast cancer. They're also less responsive to hormone treatment. However, treatments that specifically target HER2 are very effective. ?? MAYO





### Example: Immunopeptides

- Tumor or infected cells "present" some abnormal peptides at the MHC on cell surface.
- CD8+ T cells (aka T killer cells) recognize the abnormal peptides and kill the cell.
- An actively pursued method in immunotherapy is to identify/predict the peptides presented and train the T cells to target them.
- Mass spec is the best tool to identify these peptides.

https://nanolive.ch/immuno-oncology-t-cellstargeting-and-killing-cancer-cells/

# Example: Antibody





- Our immune system produces antibodies to bind to invasive pathogens (virus etc.) and cancer neoantigen.
- Antibody's amino acid sequences determine the binding target (antigen).
- Some people have stronger immune system. E.g. HIV elite controller.
- Sequencing their antibodies provides a new way to discover antibody drugs.

#### **Technology Overview**



Mass Spectral Data

# A Mass Spectrum



- Each peak indicates the detection of a particular type of ion (electrically charged molecule) with the corresponding mass to charge ratio.
- Mass of an ion can also be derived if the charge state (z) of an ion is known, which is achievable.
- A typical proteomics experiment produces tens of thousands spectra per hour.

### Tandem Mass (MS/MS) Spectrum of a Peptide



### Amino Acids

Arginine, or Arg, or R

• There are 20 amino acids. All have the same basic structure but with different side chains:



C: Carbon H: Hydrogen O: Oxigen N: Nitrogen

#### **Peptides and Proteins**



Therefore, a peptide is a chain of amino acid **residues** plus H at n-term and OH at c-term.

#### Amino Acid Residue Mass Table

	3-letter	1-letter	Monoisotopic	Average	
Name	code	code	Mass	Mass	Composition
Alanine	Ala	А	71.03711	71.08	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO
Arginine	Arg	R	156.10111	156.2	$C_6H_{12}N_4O$
Asparagine	Asn	Ν	114.04293	114.1	$C_4H_6N_2O_2$
Aspartic Acid	Asp	D	115.02694	115.1	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>
Cysteine	Cys	С	103.00919	103.1	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NOS
Glutamic Acid	Glu	Е	129.04259	129.1	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>
Glutamine	Gln	Q	128.05858	128.1	$C_5H_8N_2O_2$
Glycine	Gly	G	57.02146	57.05	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> NO
Histidine	His	Н	137.05891	137.1	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O
Isoleucine	Ile	Ι	113.08406	113.2	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO
Leucine	Leu	L	113.08406	113.2	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO
Lysine	Lys	Κ	128.09496	128.2	$C_6H_{12}N_2O$
Methionine	Met	М	131.04049	131.2	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NOS
Phenyalanine	Phe	F	147.06841	147.2	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO
Proline	Pro	Р	97.05276	97.12	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO
Serine	Ser	S	87.03203	87.08	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>
Threonine	Thr	Т	101.04768	101.1	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>
Tryptophan	Trp	W	186.07931	186.2	$C_{11}H_{10}N_2O$
Tyrosine	Tyr	Y	163.06333	163.2	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>
Valine	Val	V	99.06841	99.13	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO

Mass unit: Da (or Dalton)

+ (8 (H20)

57-157+128

= 260

= 242

So, what's the approximate (integer) mass of peptide GGK?

#### Peptide Mass



 $m(H_2O) = 18.0105$ 

 $m(A_1)+m(A_2)+m(A_3)+m(A_4)+m(H_2O)$ 

#### Peptide Fragmentation in MS/MS



 $m(H_2O) = 18.0105$ 

 $m(A_1)+m(A_2)+m(A_3)+m(A_4)+m(H_2O)$ 

MS/MS of a Peptide



Mass difference between two adjacent "ladder" ions can be used to determine the amino acid (residue).