

# Visualizing the proteome and in what form(s)

## The lens system

Stephen Barnes, PhD



David Stella



Kyle Floyd



Kevin Schey

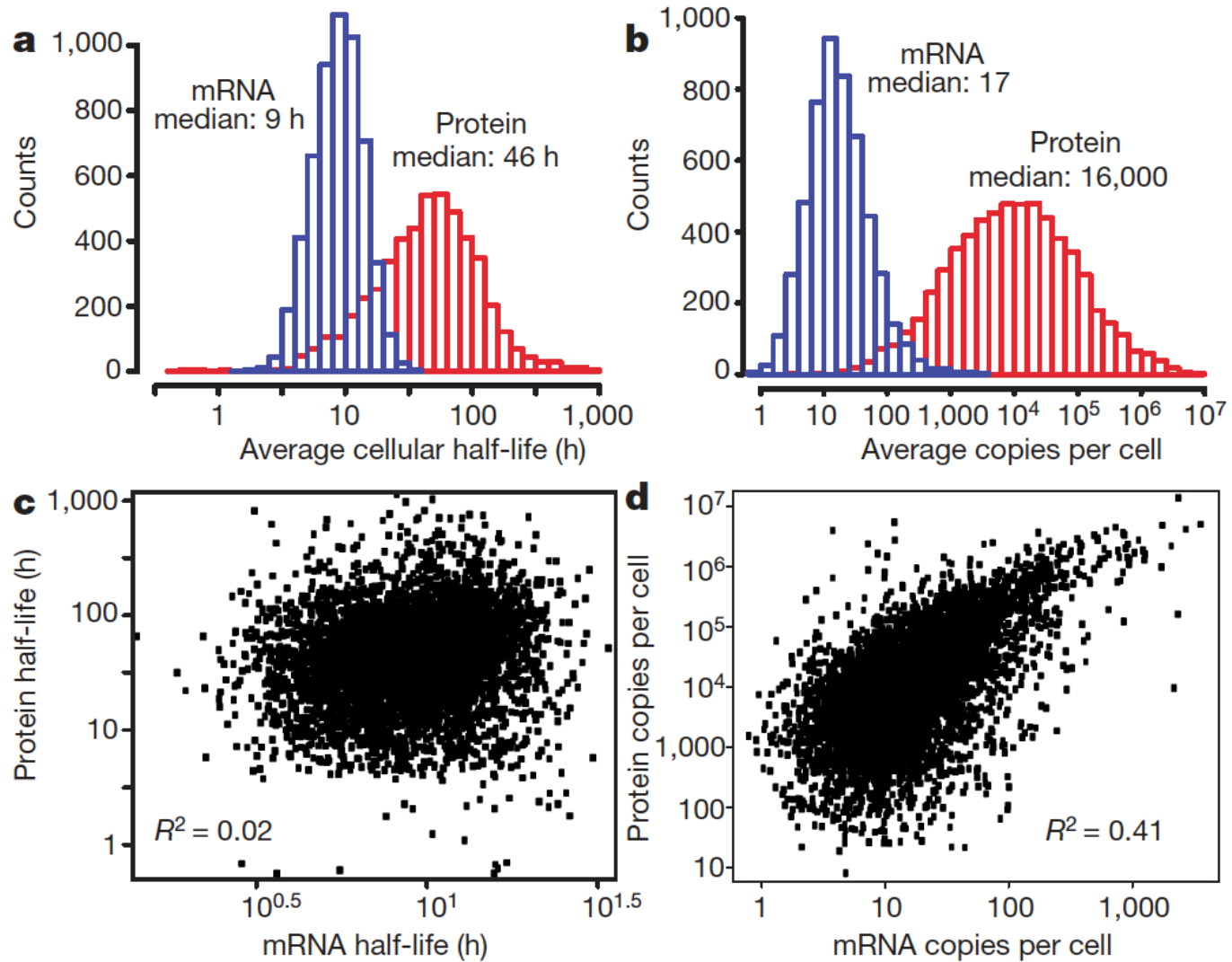


Matt Renfrow

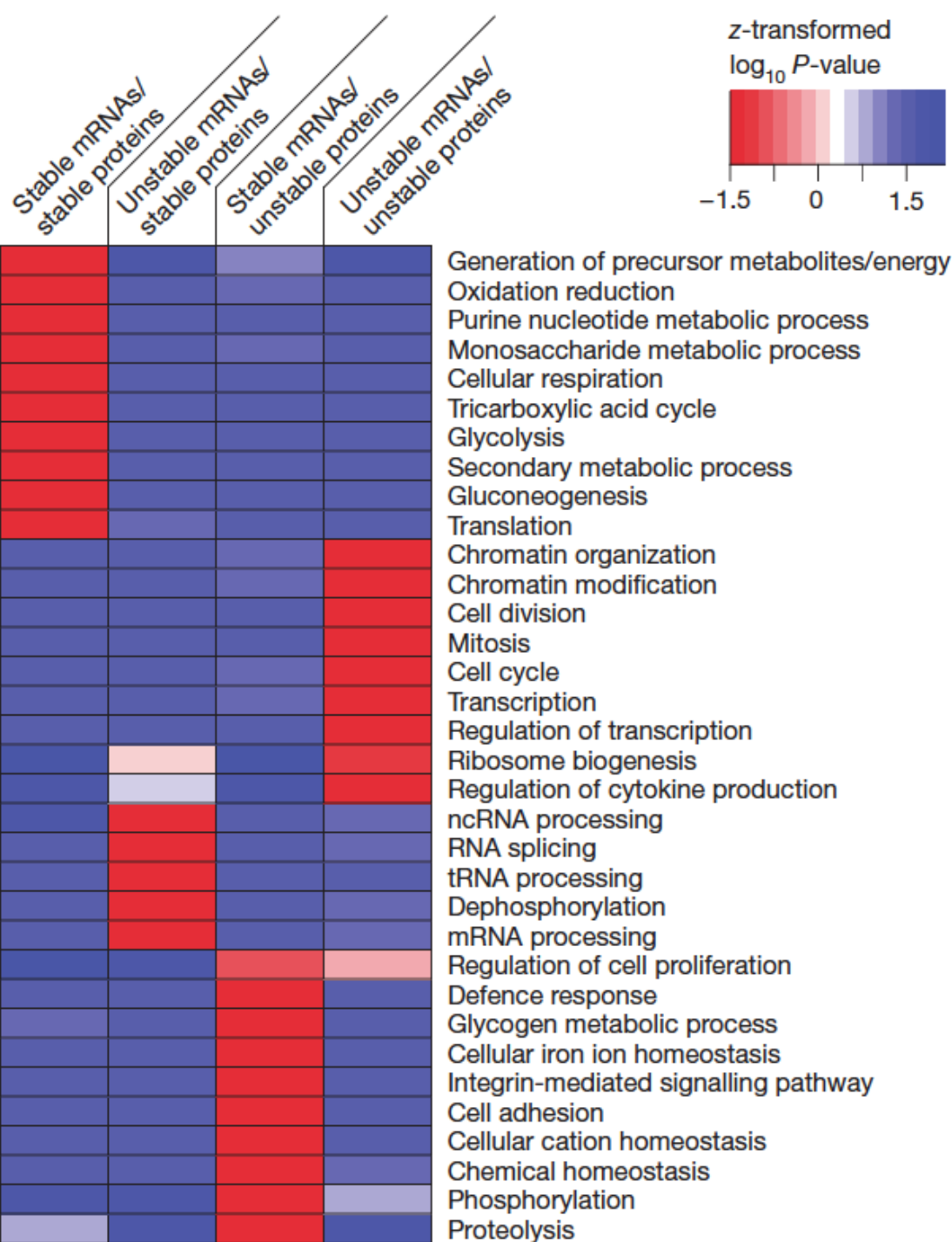


Landon Wilson

# Protein – mRNA correlations



Schwanhäusser et al.  
Nature 473: 337 (2011)

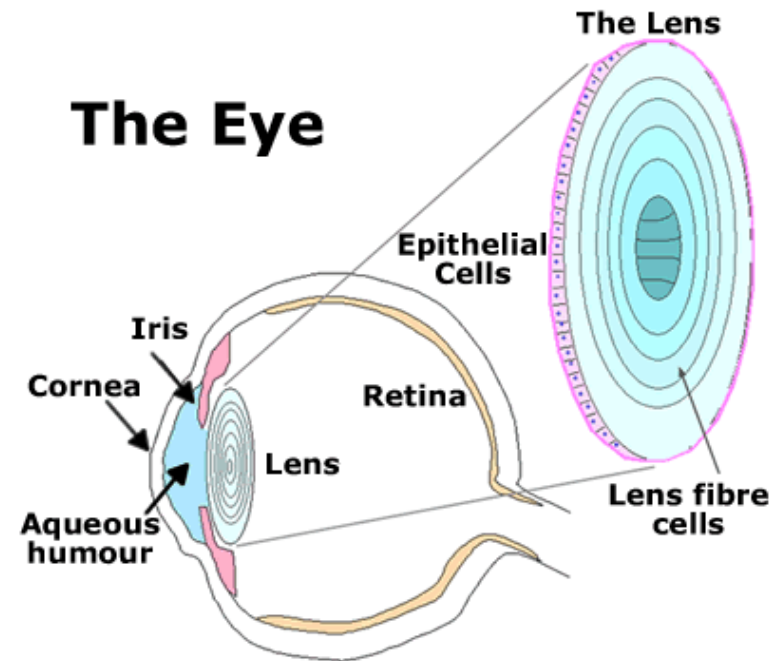


**Proteins and mRNA have different stabilities and can be divided into 4 quadrants. The major cellular functions are divided as shown in the table.**

**Schwanhäusser et al.  
Nature 473: 337 (2011)**

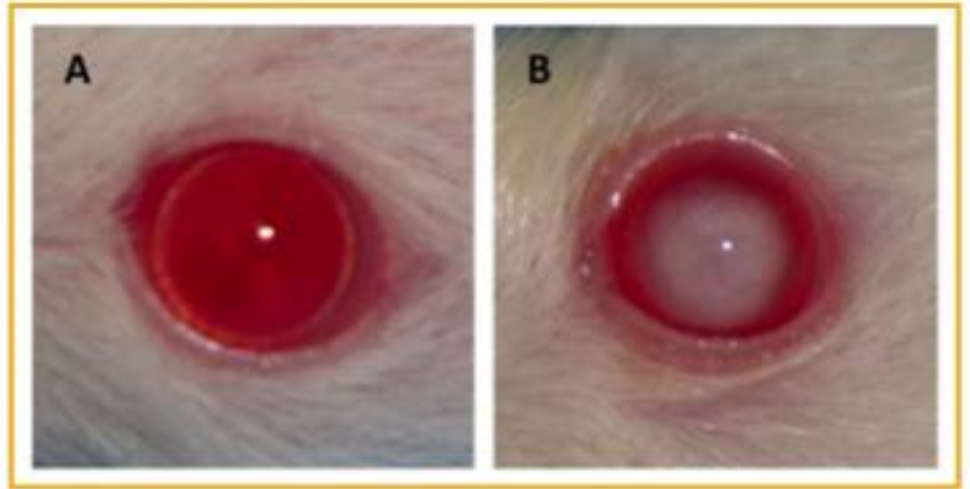
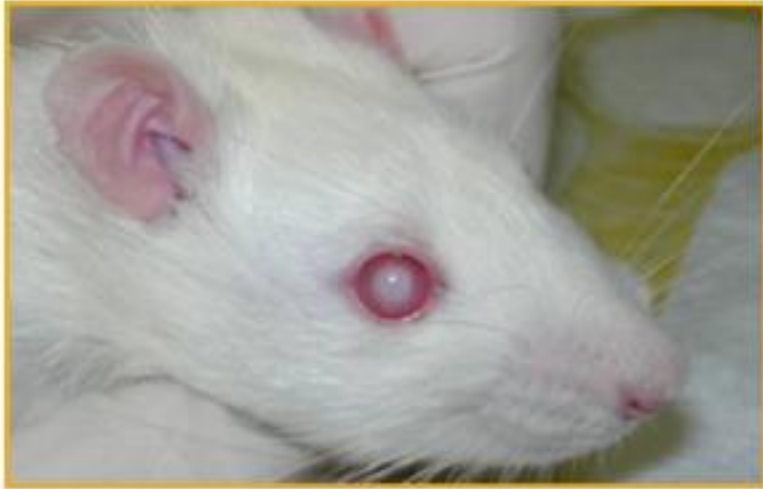
# Lens (Structure and Function)

- Part of anterior segment of eye, just beyond the cornea
- Biconvex
- Focuses light onto the retina
  - Changes shape to accommodate light entering eye
- Proteins
  - Synthesis stops to allow light to pass
  - Chief proteins within the lens: crystallins
    - Chaperone-like proteins
    - Mammalian lens largely comprised of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  crystallins
- Cataract
  - Opacity of the lens
  - Obstructs vision – surgical intervention necessary



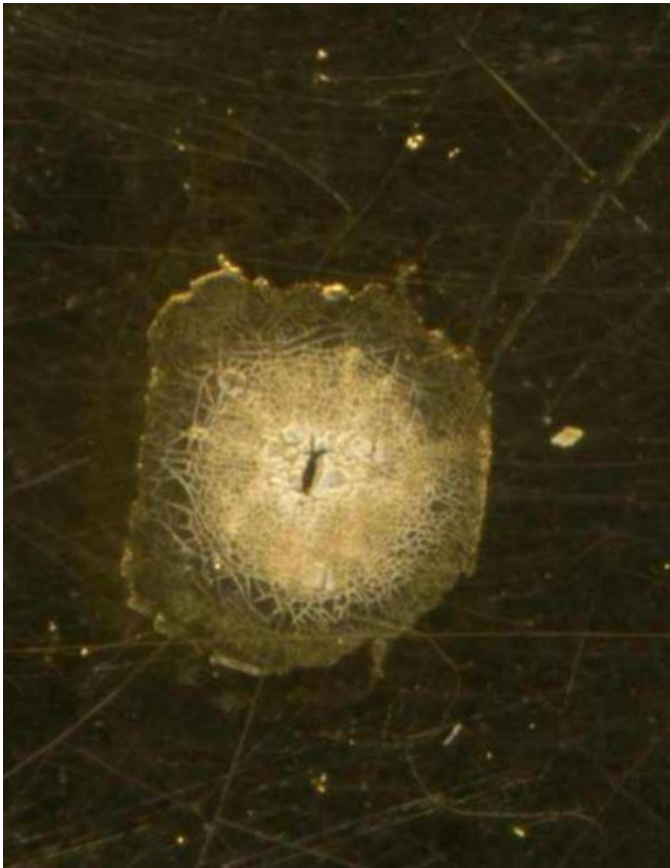
[Link to Science article on learning to see](#)

# The rat model we use



- ICR/f rat (Ihara/Inherited Cataract Rat, strain-f)
  - Model of age-related disease.
  - Spontaneously develops cataracts by 10 weeks of age.
    - Possible result of early oxidative insult.
    - Compare 21-day vs. 100-day

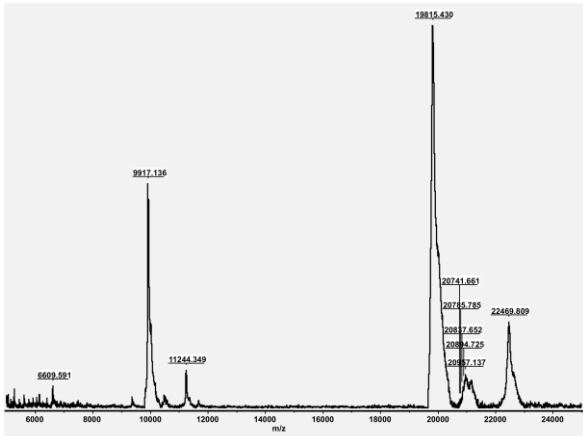
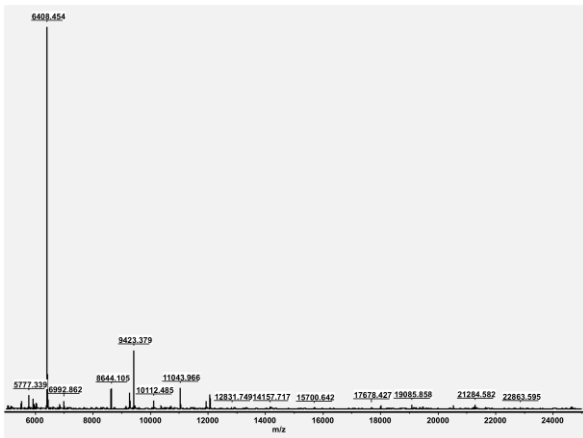
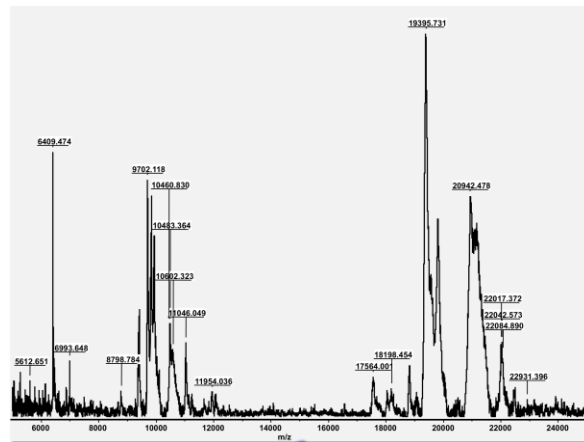
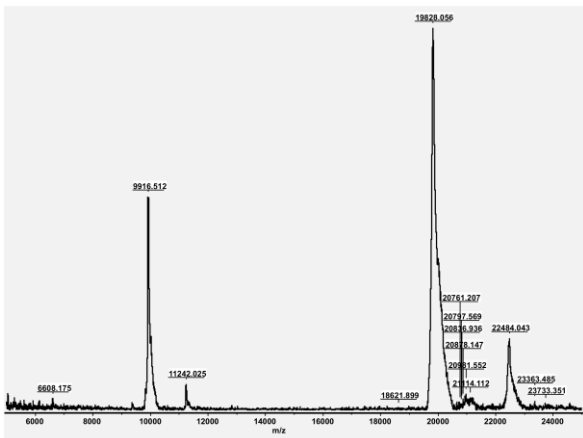
20  $\mu\text{m}$  section: washed and fixed to gold MALDI target plate



Same section with MALDI matrix spotted on top.







# Extracted $m/z$ values: the image

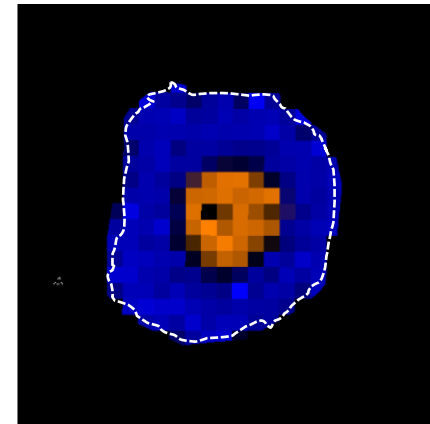
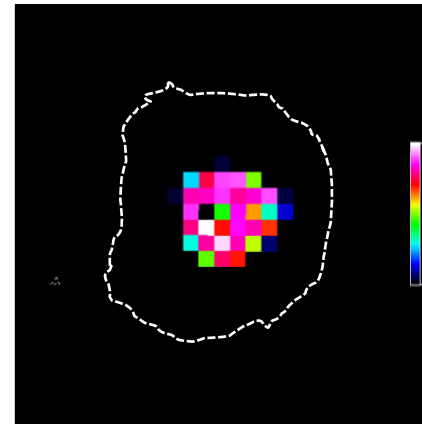
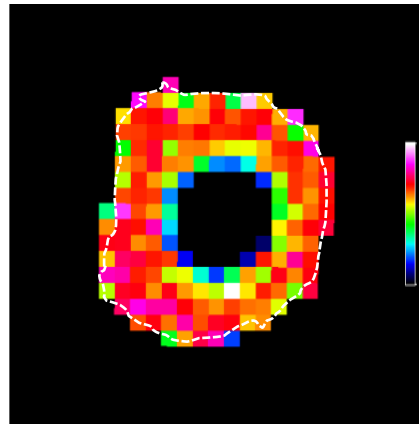
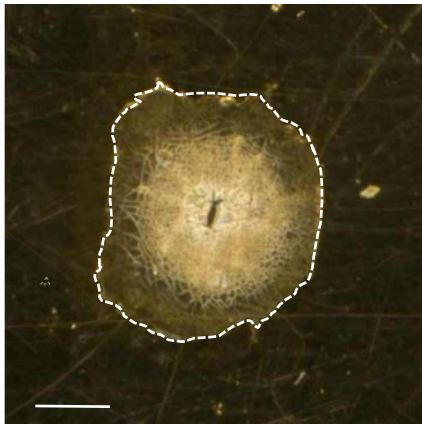
Light  
microscope  
image

Full-length  
 $\alpha$ A-  
crystallin  
(19,835 Da)

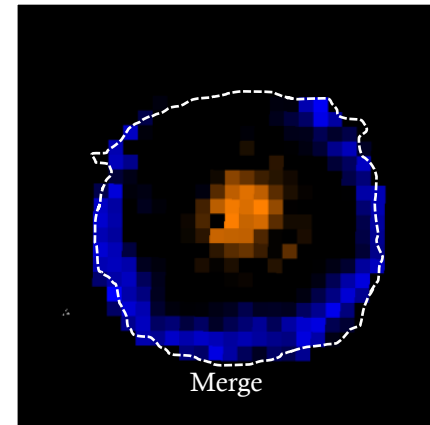
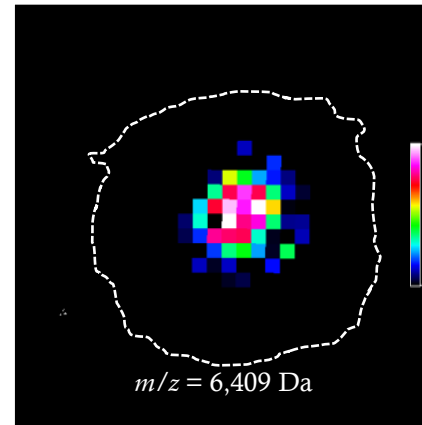
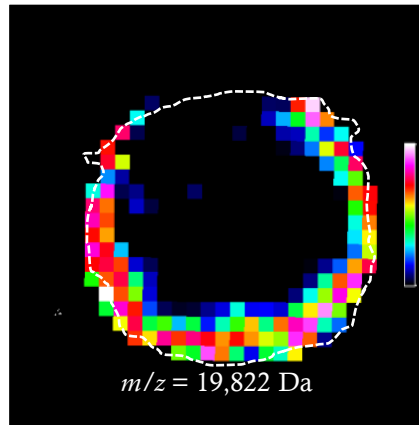
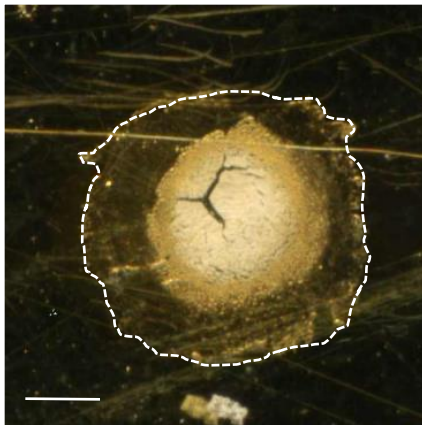
“ $\alpha$ A-crystallin”  
(?)  
(6,409 Da)

Merged  
images

21-day  
ICR/f rat



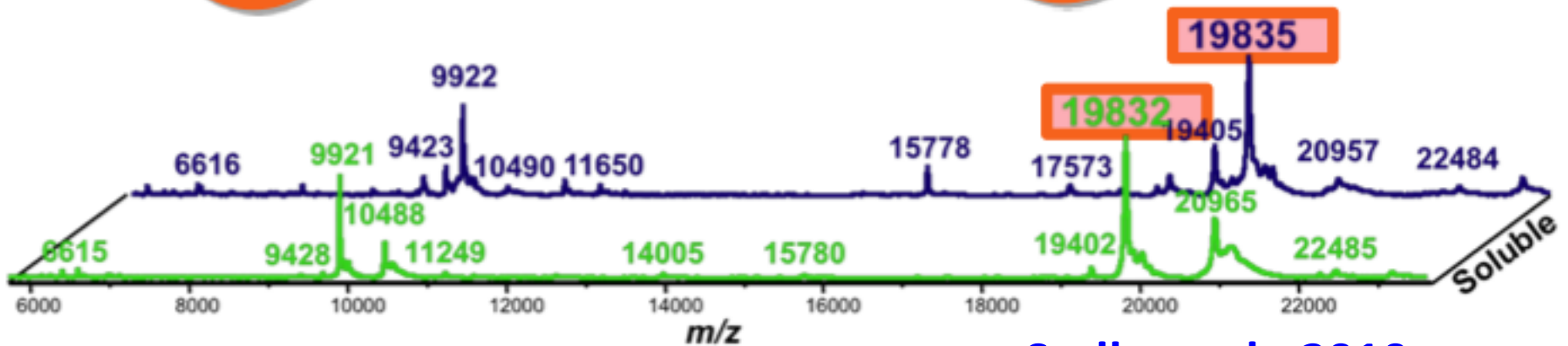
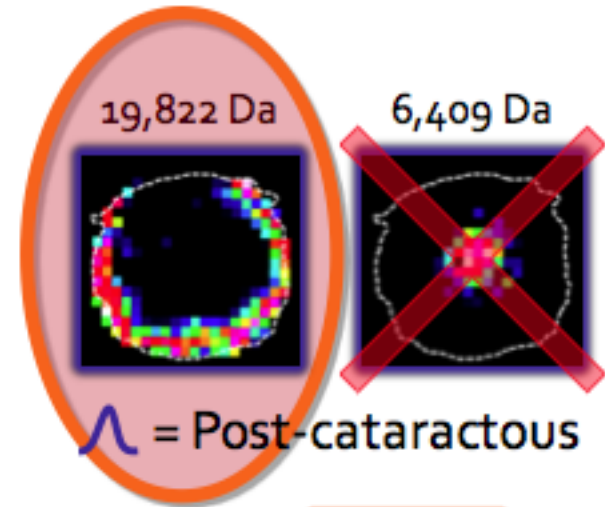
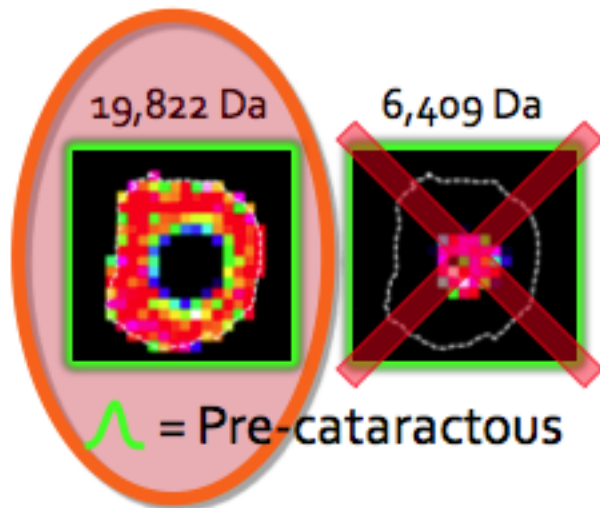
100-day  
ICR/f rat





# Aqueous extract of the lens

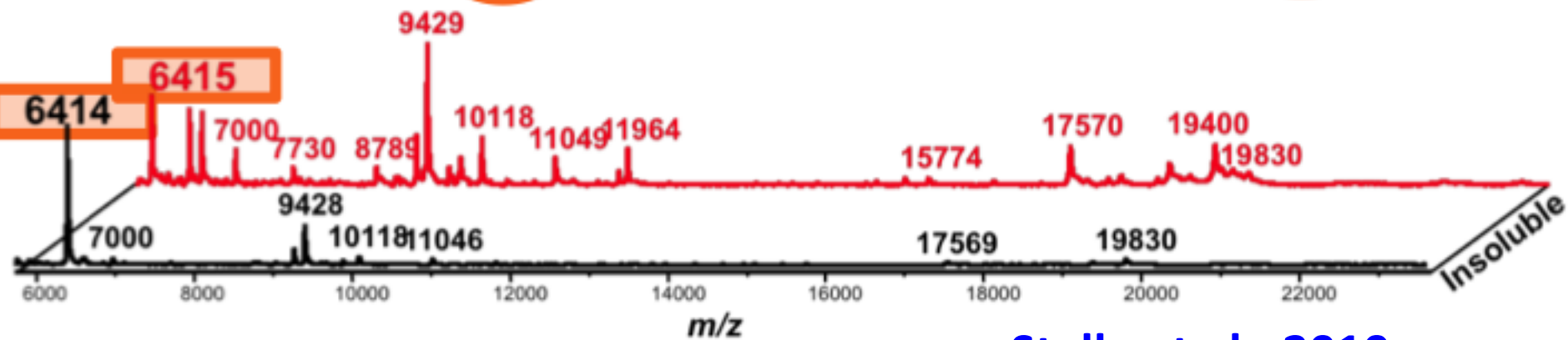
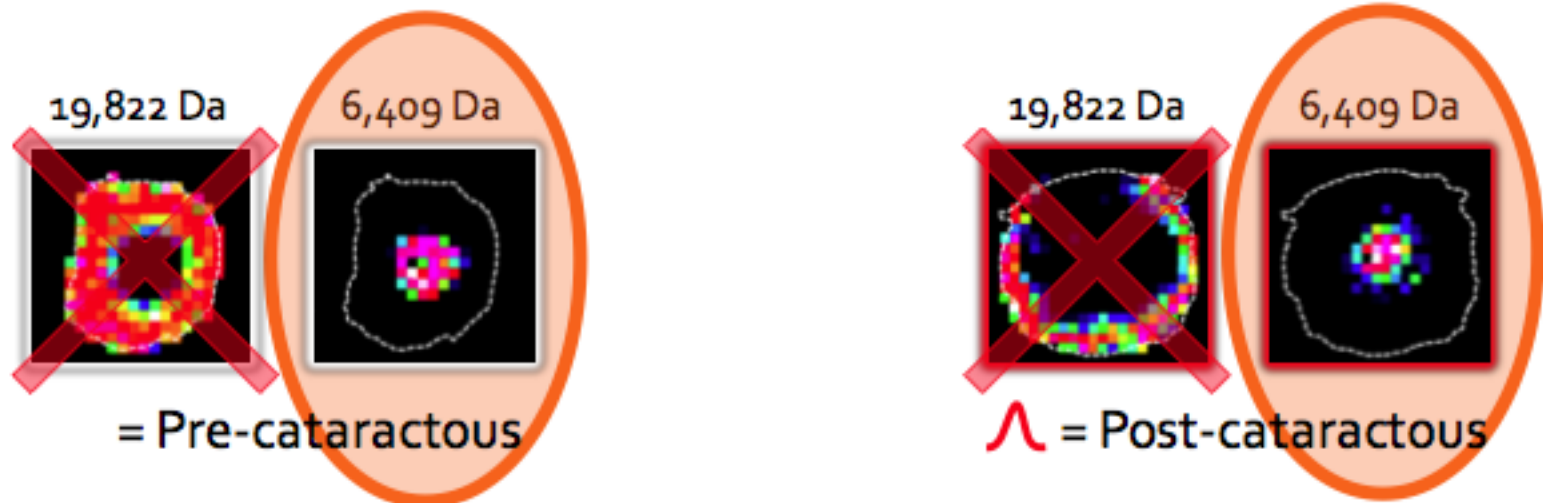
## Water soluble protein extraction



Stella et al., 2010

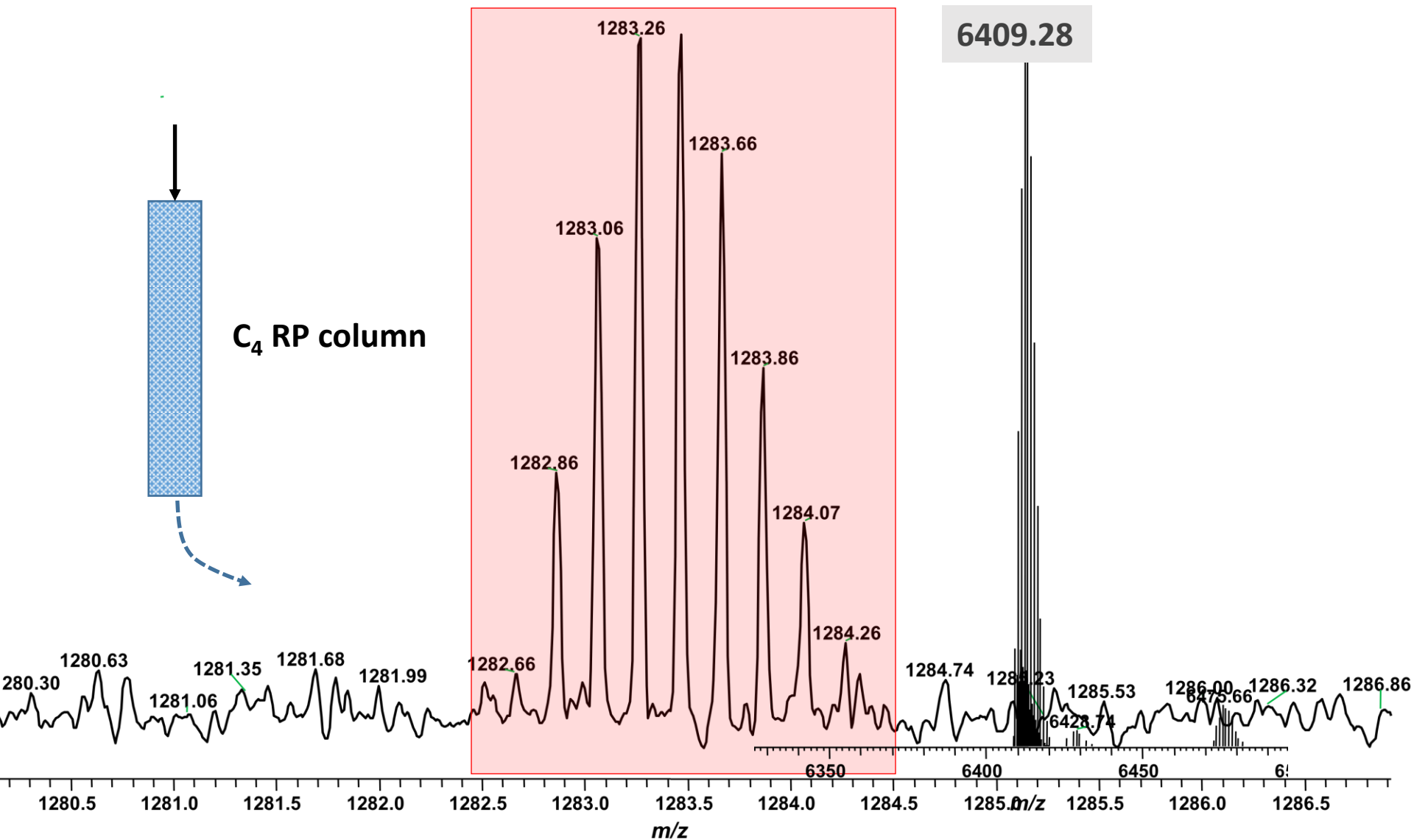
# Water-insoluble/urea soluble

## Water INSoluble protein extraction



Stella et al., 2010

# Top-down identification of $m/z=1283.3$ ( $5^+$ charge state) using FT-ICR-MS

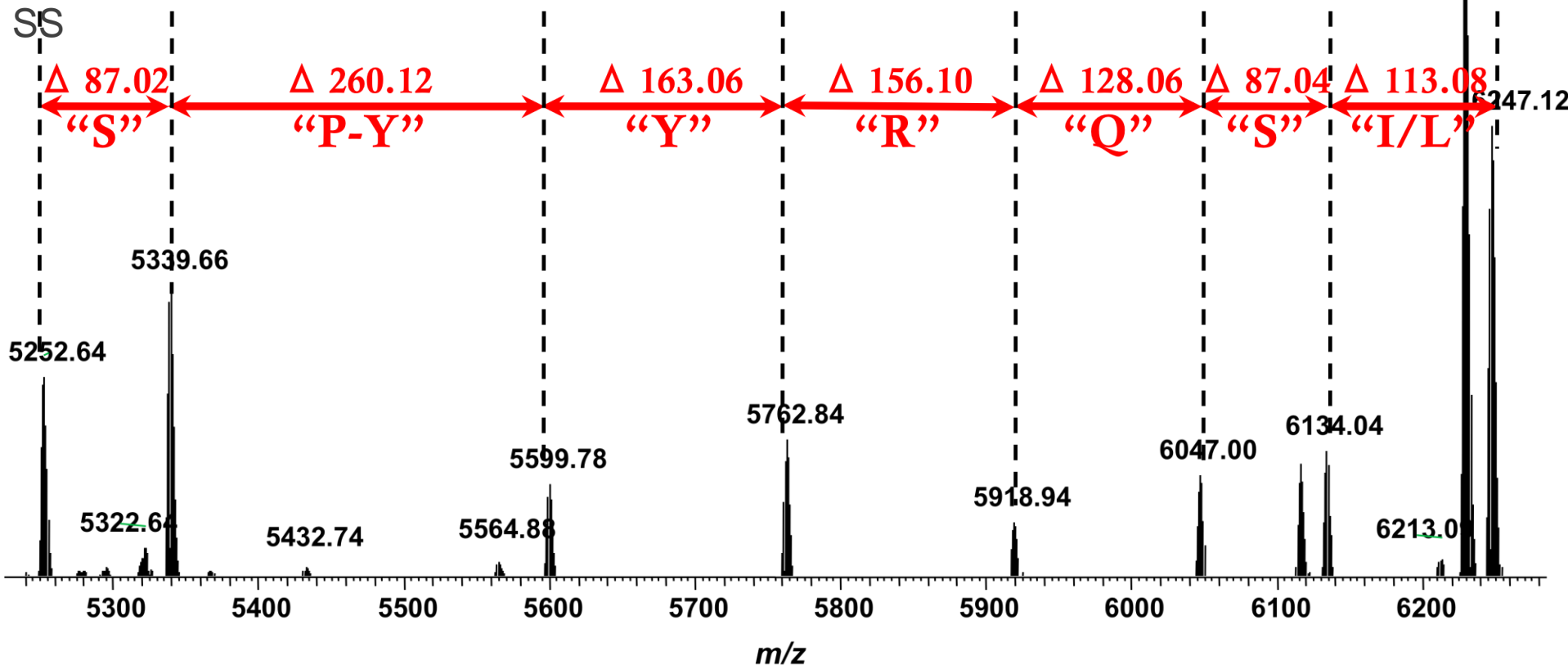


# Top-down identification of $[M+H]^+ = 6,409.28 \text{ Da}$

$\alpha$ A-crystallin

MDVTIQHPVWKRALGPPSRLDFDQFGL  
EGDILFPDISSTH **SPYRQSLY** RQSLFRGTVSD  
SGISEKVRSDRDKFAHFLDVKHFSPEDEV I  
KVKLEDFRQEDHGHNERQDDYHGLYSRDEQA  
RRYRLASNDQSALESQSLSADGMITFSG  
PKVQSGLDAGHSERAIPVSREEKPSSAP

$\alpha$ A-crystallin truncation  
(1-53): 6,409.19 Da









# What we've learned

- **Proteins and message are poorly related**
- **Proteins in tissues can have specific locations**
  - We already knew this because of antibodies
- **Proteins can be truncated and have multiple (different) locations**
  - Unless specific antibodies are used, we would not know this
- **Prior to this study, it was presumed that this only occurred after long periods of time**
  - The imaging suggests that this may not be the case
  - Now need to quantify the C-terminal peptides

# Verifying and quantifying C-truncation

- $\alpha$ A crystallin is supposedly processed to a 172aa form from the 196aa translated product. Interestingly, what we see is the removal of an interior 23aa peptide, so it must be differential splicing, not posttranslational processing.
- Processed rat  $\alpha$ A crystallin has a chymotrypsin cleavage site at  $^{141}$ Phe
- This peptide can be observed as a triply charged peptide
  - F|**SGPKVQSGLDAGHSE****RAIPVS****R****E****E****K****PSSAPSS**
- The C-truncations observed by mass spectrometry imaging are the following:
  - **SGPKVQSGLD** (truncation at 151)
  - **SGPKVQSGLDAGHSE** (truncation at 156)
  - **SGPKVQSGLDAGHSE****R** (truncation at 157)
  - **SGPKVQSGLDAGHSE****RAIPVS****R** (truncation at 163)
  - **SGPKVQSGLDAGHSE****RAIPVS****R****E****E****K****P****S** (truncation at 168)
- **S,K,R** are residues that carry positive charges in 0.1% formic acid

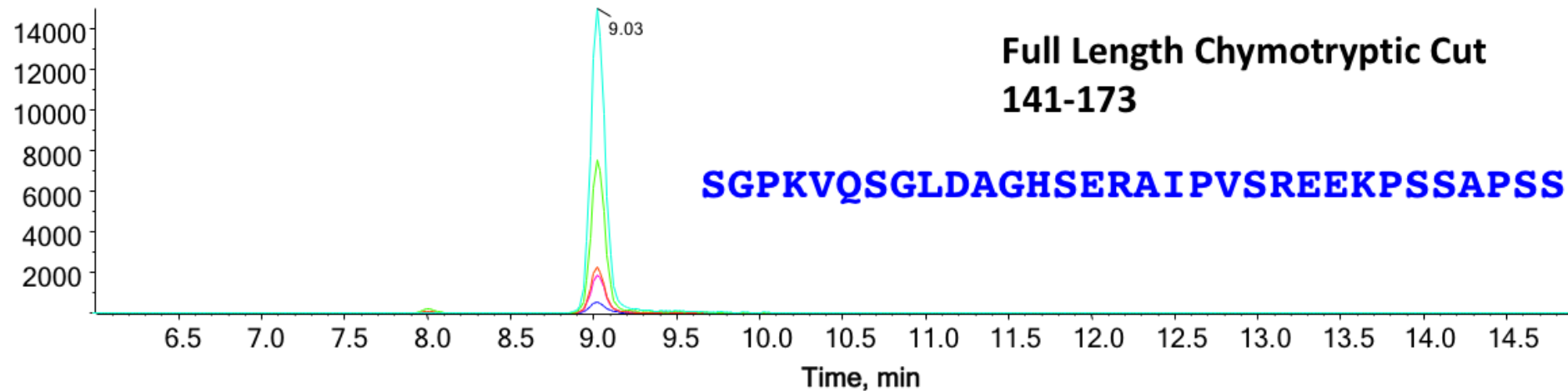
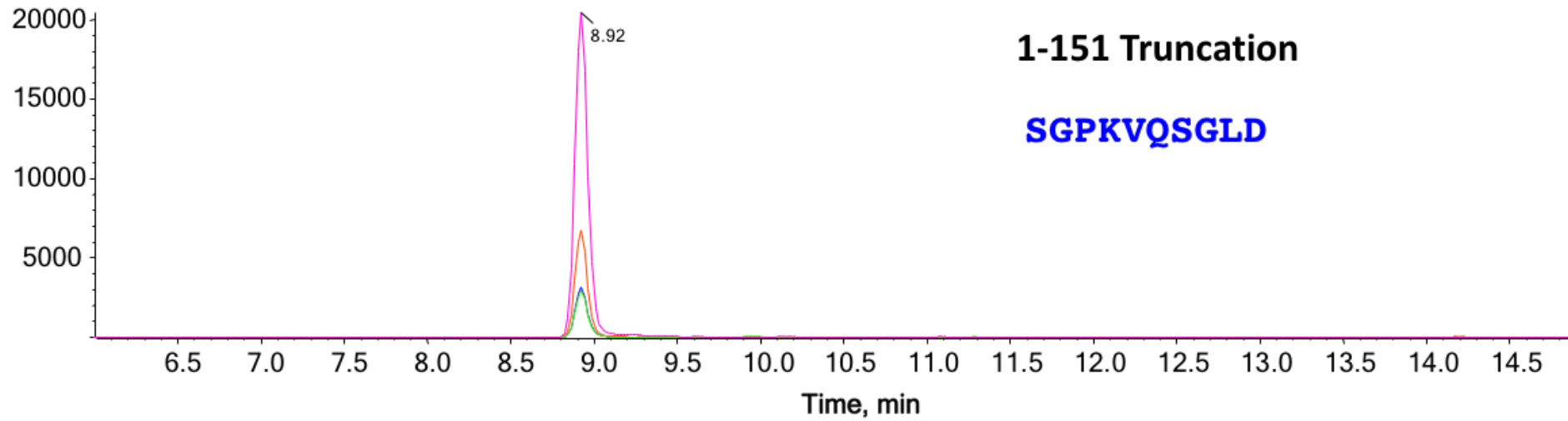
# Expected ions in MSMS spectrum

- Let's take the simplest chymotryptic peptide
  - $\text{NH}_2$ -**SGPKVQSGLD**-COOH
- We consider two types, b-ions and y-ions
  - Come from dissociation of the peptide bond
  - b-ions contain the N-terminal amino acid
    - Sum of the residue masses + 1
  - y-ions contain the C-terminal amino acid
    - Sum of the residue masses +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (18) + 1

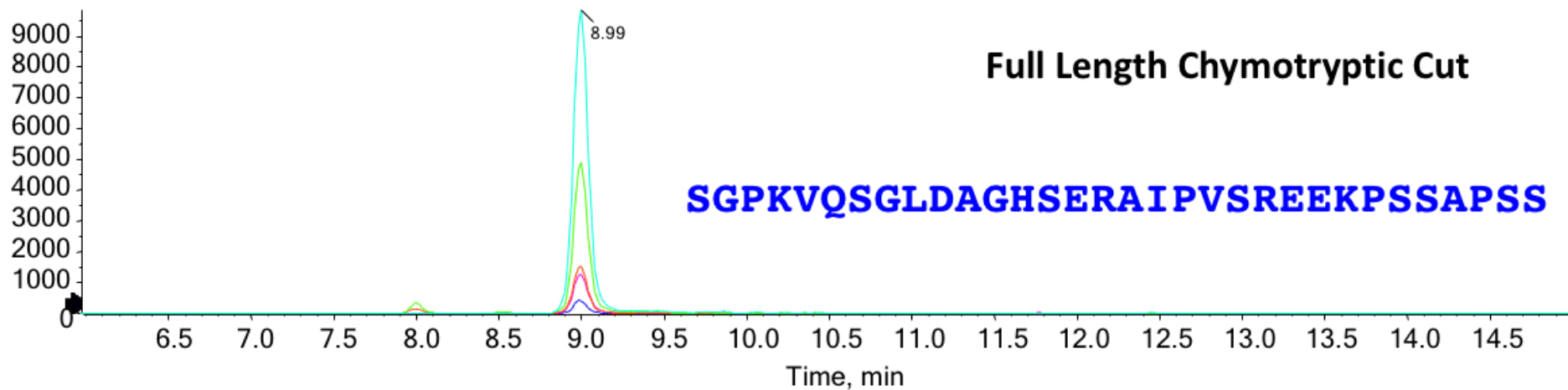
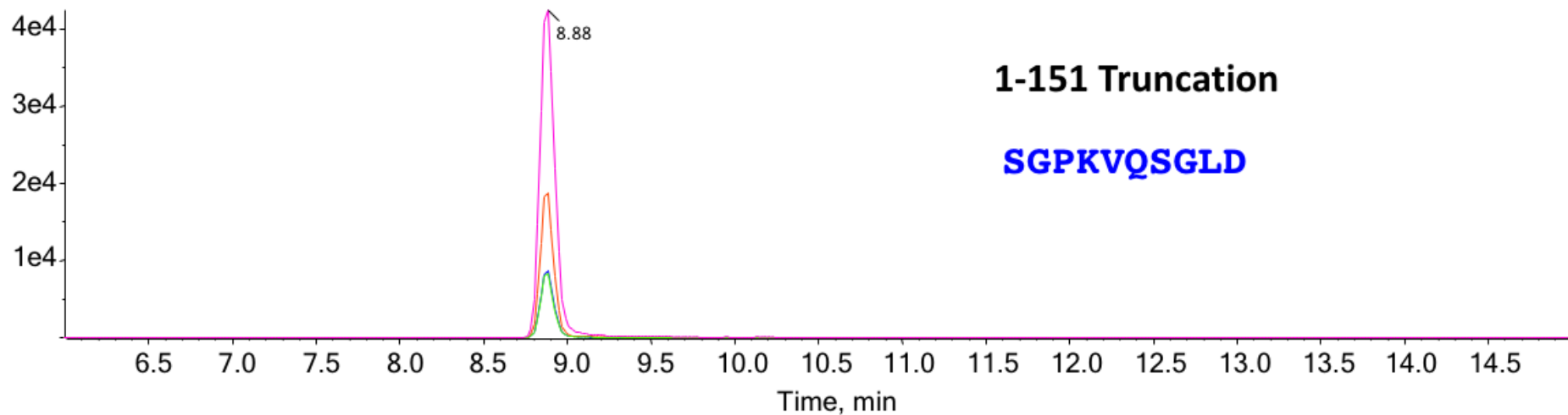
	b <sub>2</sub>	b <sub>3</sub>	b <sub>4</sub>	b <sub>5</sub>	b <sub>6</sub>	b <sub>7</sub>	b <sub>8</sub>	b <sub>9</sub>	
-	145	242	370	469	597	684	741	854	-
S	G	P	K	V	Q	S	G	L	D
-	900	843	746	618	519	391	304	247	134
	Y <sub>9</sub>	Y <sub>8</sub>	Y <sub>7</sub>	Y <sub>6</sub>	Y <sub>5</sub>	Y <sub>4</sub>	Y <sub>3</sub>	Y <sub>2</sub>	Y <sub>1</sub>

MS-Product

# Truncation of $\alpha$ A-crystallin in ICR/F rat on Day 21



# Truncation of $\alpha$ A-crystallin in ICR/F rat on Day 100





# How to quantify peptides

- **Prepare synthetic peptide standards**
  - ~\$20/residue
  - Important to check purity
  - Some available at Aldrich-Sigma
- **Better approach**
  - Prepare  $^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled peptides
  - Add a single amount of each to unknowns and standards
- **Best approach (for tryptic peptides)**
  - Prepared a  $^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$ -concatenated, artificial protein formed from the peptides of interest
  - Controls for digestion efficiency and recovery

# **-Omics-wide quantification**

- **iTRAQ and TMT reagents**
  - **React with lysine groups**
  - **Use of  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$  isotopes**
  - **Have a reporter region, a (mass) balancing region and a reactive group**
  - **All have the same mass (very close), but different reporter ions**
  - **Each sample to be compared is labeled with a different form of the reagent**
  - **Samples are combined and analyzed at one time**

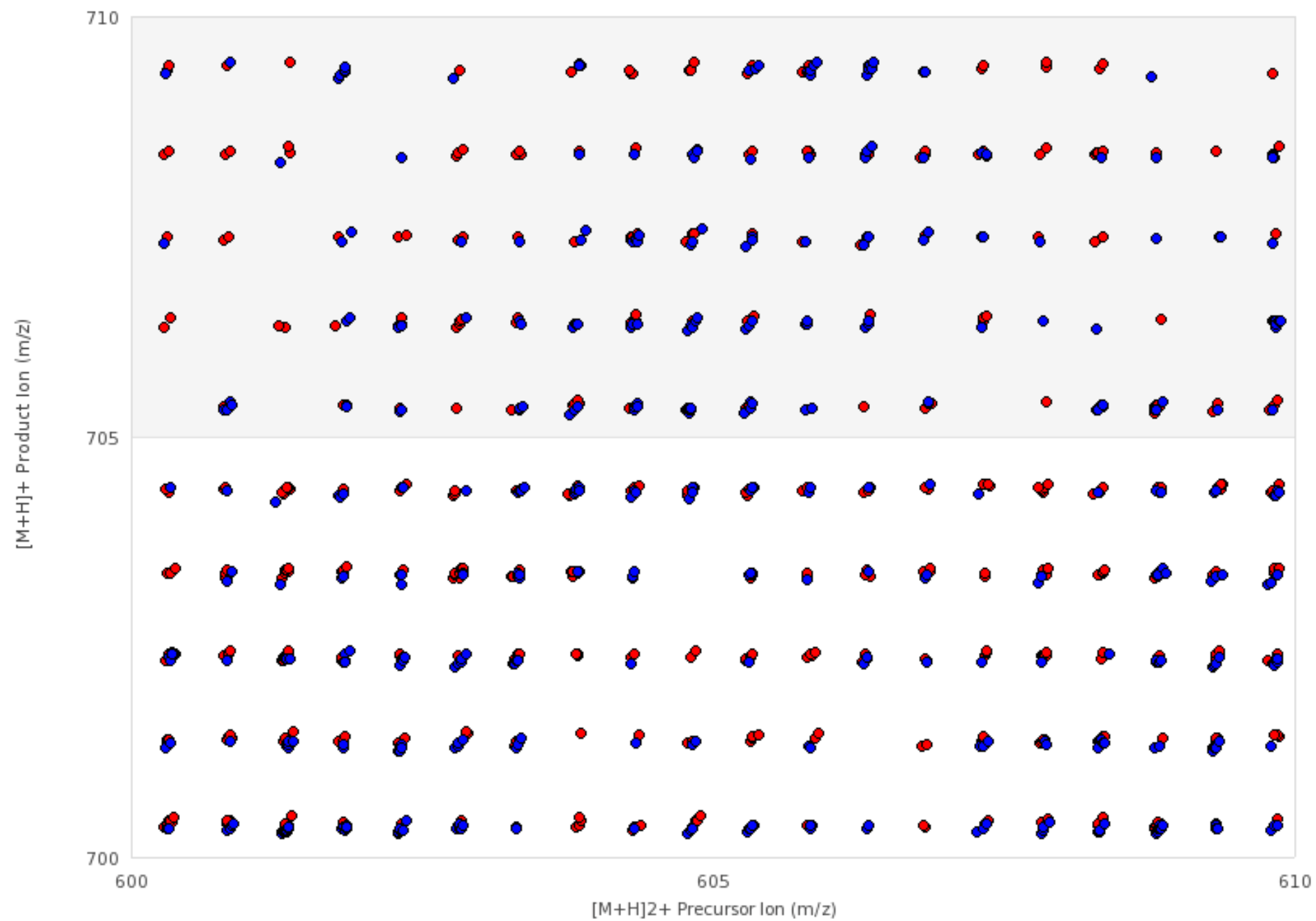
# SWATH-MS

- Unlike where precursors ions are recorded and then a few of them selected for MSMS
- In SWATH, ALL ions are fragmented
- Requires generation of sample-specific database of observable proteins
- Collected ions represent a digital database of the peptides in the sample
- Can be re-searched when new databases are generated
- **IMPORTANT** difference – it is thoroughly quantitative
  - Many, many quantitative MSMS experiments in one

# MRMPATH

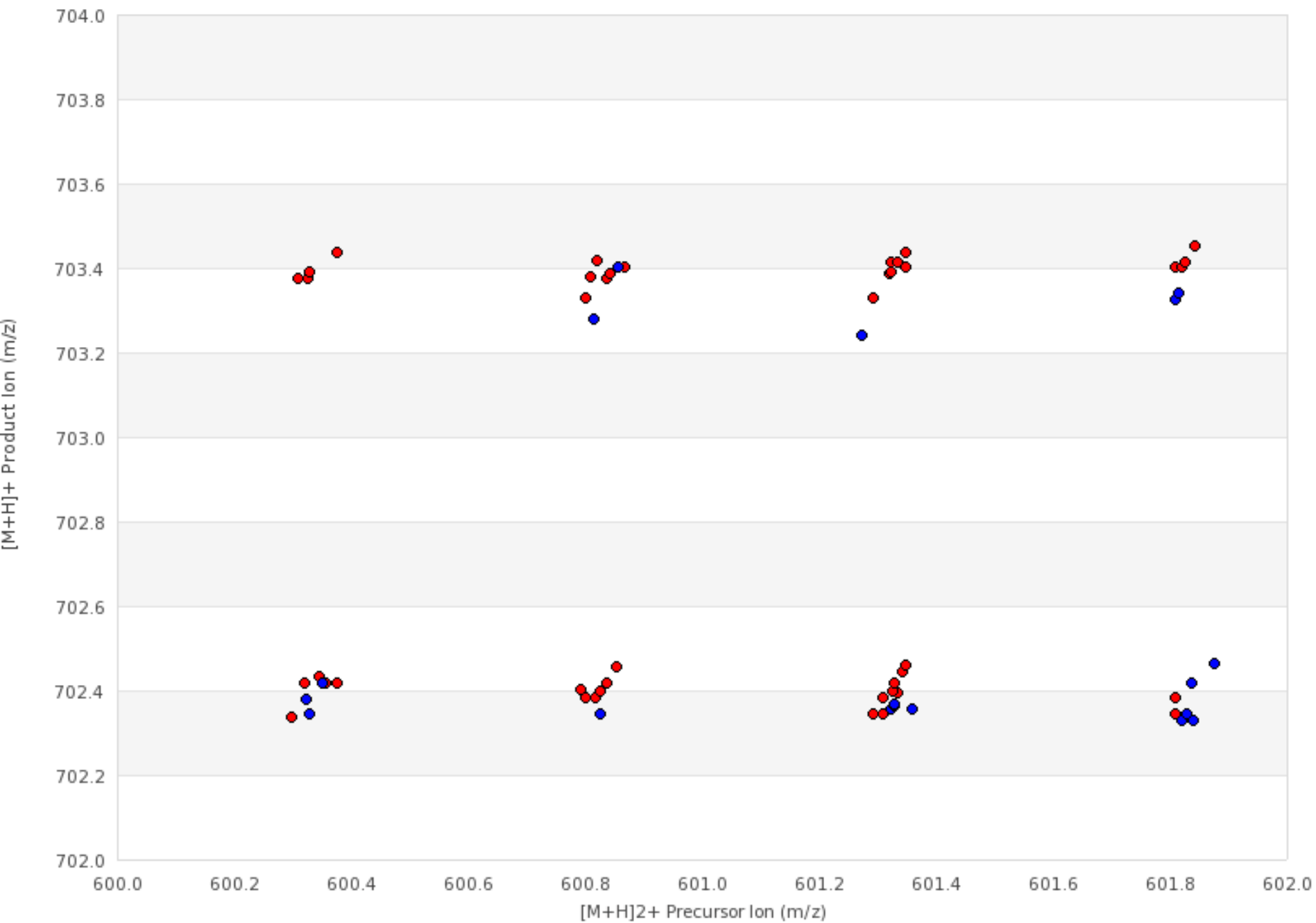
<http://templ.uab.edu/MRMPath/>

human proteome, y-ions (Red): 553, b-ions (Blue): 434

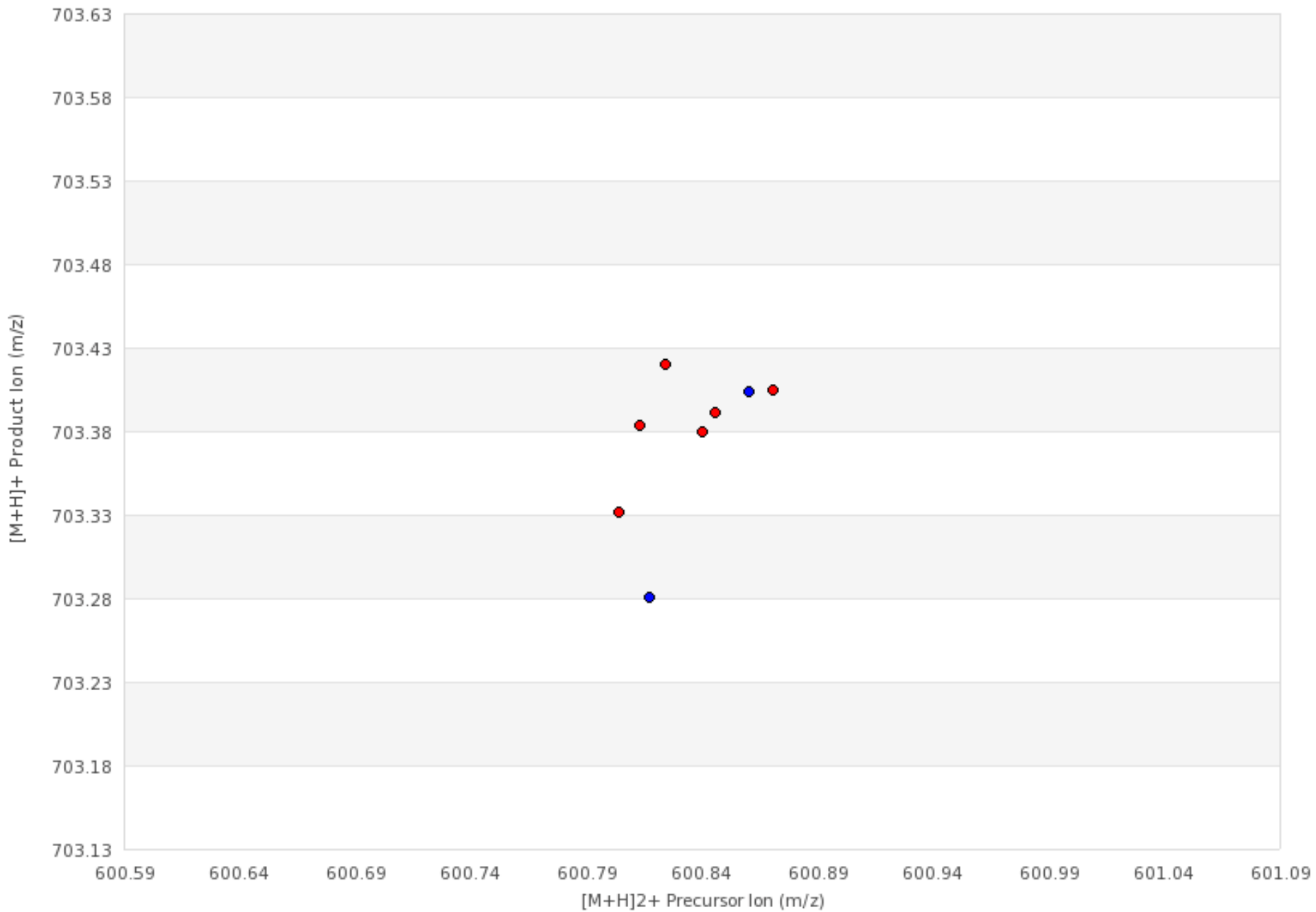




human proteome, y-ions (Red): 49, b-ions (Blue): 23



human proteome, y-ions (Red): 6, b-ions (Blue): 2



# Peptide/protein records and link

Precursor ion (x)	Product ion (y)	info	link
600.7993	703.3310	GNVLNSPEDQKI>spIQ8IYD8IFANCM_HUMAN Fanconi anemia group M protein OS=Homo sapiens GN=FANCM PE=1 SV=2	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8IYD8">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8IYD8</a>
600.8089	703.3825	WPVDAWEVAKI>spIQ8TB03ICX038_HUMAN Uncharacterized protein CXorf38 OS=Homo sapiens GN=CXorf38 PE=1 SV=1	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8TB03">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8TB03</a>
600.8195	703.4190	GPVDETGWVIKI>spIP51160IPDE6C_HUMAN Cone cGMP-specific 3",5"-cyclic phosphodiesterase subunit alpha" OS=Homo sapiens GN=PDE6C PE=1 SV=2	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P51160">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P51160</a>
600.8357	703.3786	LTVSPEPSSKRI>spIQ969F2INKD2_HUMAN Protein naked cuticle homolog 2 OS=Homo sapiens GN=NKD2 PE=1 SV=1	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q969F2">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q969F2</a>
600.8413	703.3898	ALELASQANRKI>spIP09681IGIP_HUMAN Gastric inhibitory polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=GIP PE=1 SV=1	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P09681">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P09681</a>
600.8665	703.4038	AVLITDQSILKI>spIP26374IRAE2_HUMAN Rab proteins geranylgeranyltransferase component A 2 OS=Homo sapiens GN=CHML PE=1 SV=2	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P26374">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/P26374</a>
600.8125	703.2800	EHPDPSLLRI>spIO14753IOVOL1_HUMAN Putative transcription factor Ovo-like 1 OS=Homo sapiens GN=OVOL1 PE=2 SV=3	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/O14753">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/O14753</a>
600.8559	703.4030	LFVETLHITKI>spIQ8WZ42ITITIN_HUMAN Titin OS=Homo sapiens GN=TTN PE=1 SV=4	<a href="http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8WZ42">http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q8WZ42</a>

These are peptides that would conform to a  $m/z$  601 doubly charged tryptic peptide with a singly charged,  $m/z$  703 product ion using the quadrupole windows of 0.7  $m/z$