



Charge Ladders in Electrospray Ionization

Set of simultaneous equations:

(observed m/z #1) • $z = M + z(H^+)$

(observed m/z # 2) • (z + 1) = M + z(H⁺) + 1



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Now performed by computer algorithm that searches for ladders, outputs likely mass candidates.

Set of simultaneous equations:

1486 • *z* = M + *z*

$$1372.5 \cdot (z+1) = M + z + 1$$





Nebulizer gas Pumping Corona discharge

Now common for LC/MS, but appropriate for small molecules only.

Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization (APPI)



Indirect APPI

By using a UV-active dopant, molecules without chromophores can be chemically ionized.

Example: Toluene ($\lambda_{max} \approx 250 \text{ nm}$)





Result is protonation rather than electron ionization.

Desorption Electrospray Ionization (DESI)



- Instrument works like a "sniffer".
- Can be used for MS imaging, environmental sampling & analysis of biological tissue.

MS Imaging via DESI

Because source is a movable capillary, can be scanned across sample to yield a mass-based image.

Rat brain tissue slices, imaged by scanning DESI source

Image is massselected intensity at each pixel.



Mass Resolution Based On Time of Flight (TOF)

- Based on simple principle of ions flying through space, accelerating under the influence of an applied electrostatic force.
- Force is the same on all ions, so heavier ions fly slower than light ones.











Double-Focusing Magnetic Sector-Electrostatic Analyzer