

# Statistical modeling in molecular medicine: **proteomics**

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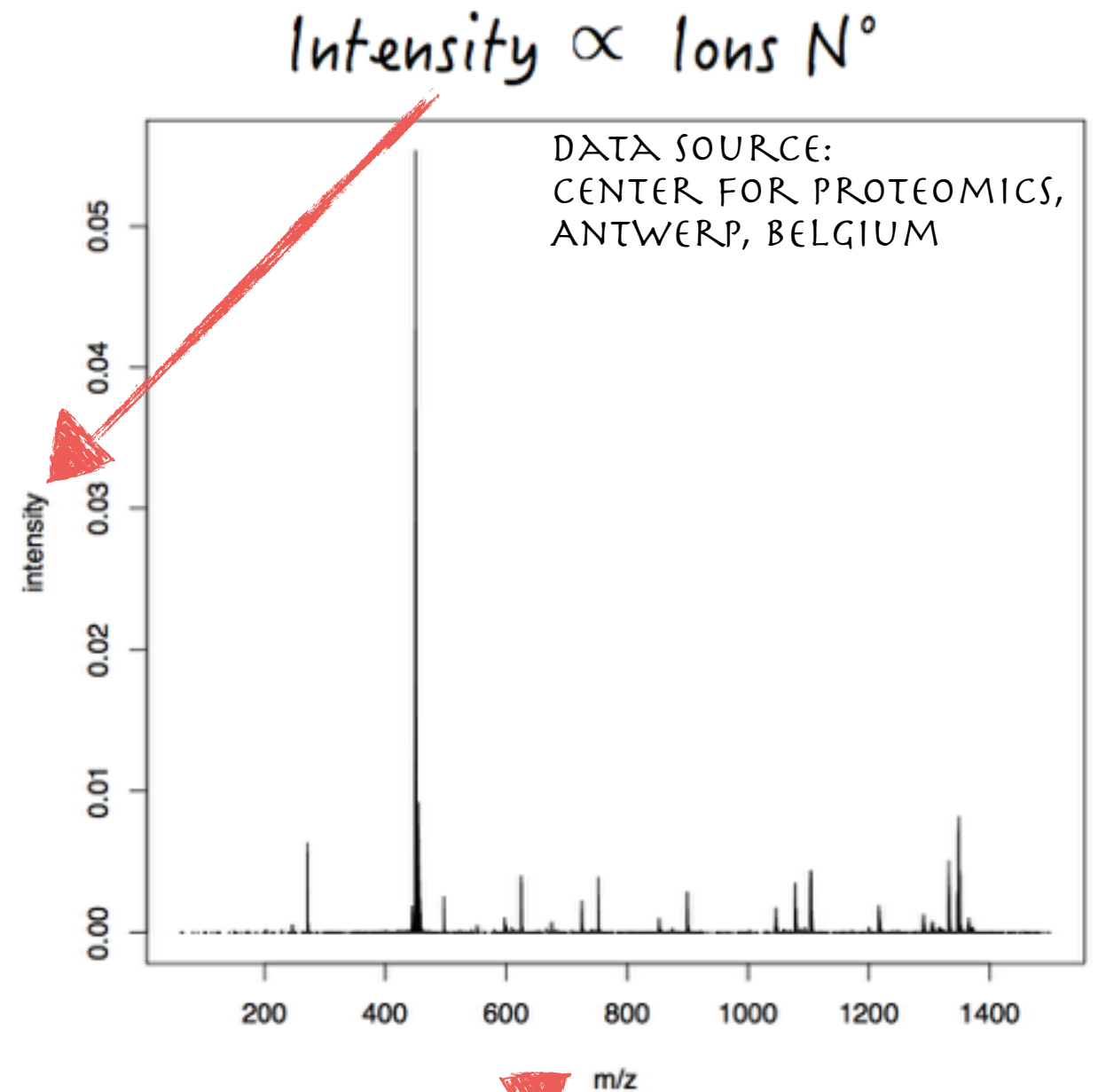
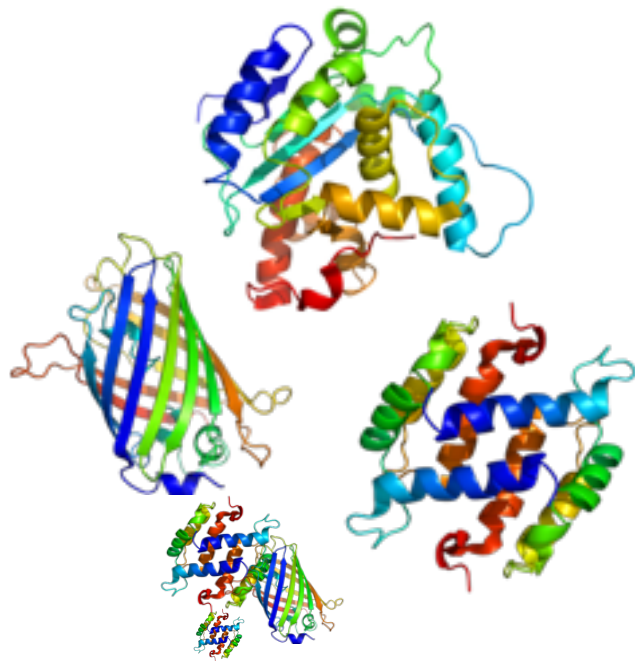


# outline

- **masSpec basics**
- **modeling isotopic distribution**
- **modeling exopeptidase activity**
  - incorporating MEROPS data
  - peptidase activity in time
- **modeling electron transfer dissociation**
  - deconvolution of spectra
  - modeling fragmentation

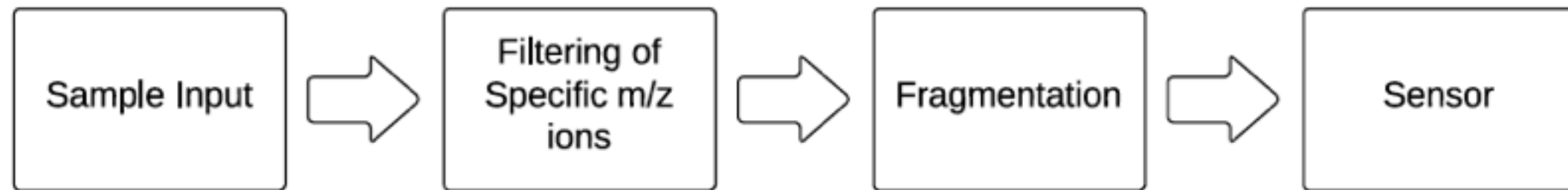
# Mass Spectrometry

Proteins



Mass/charge [Th]

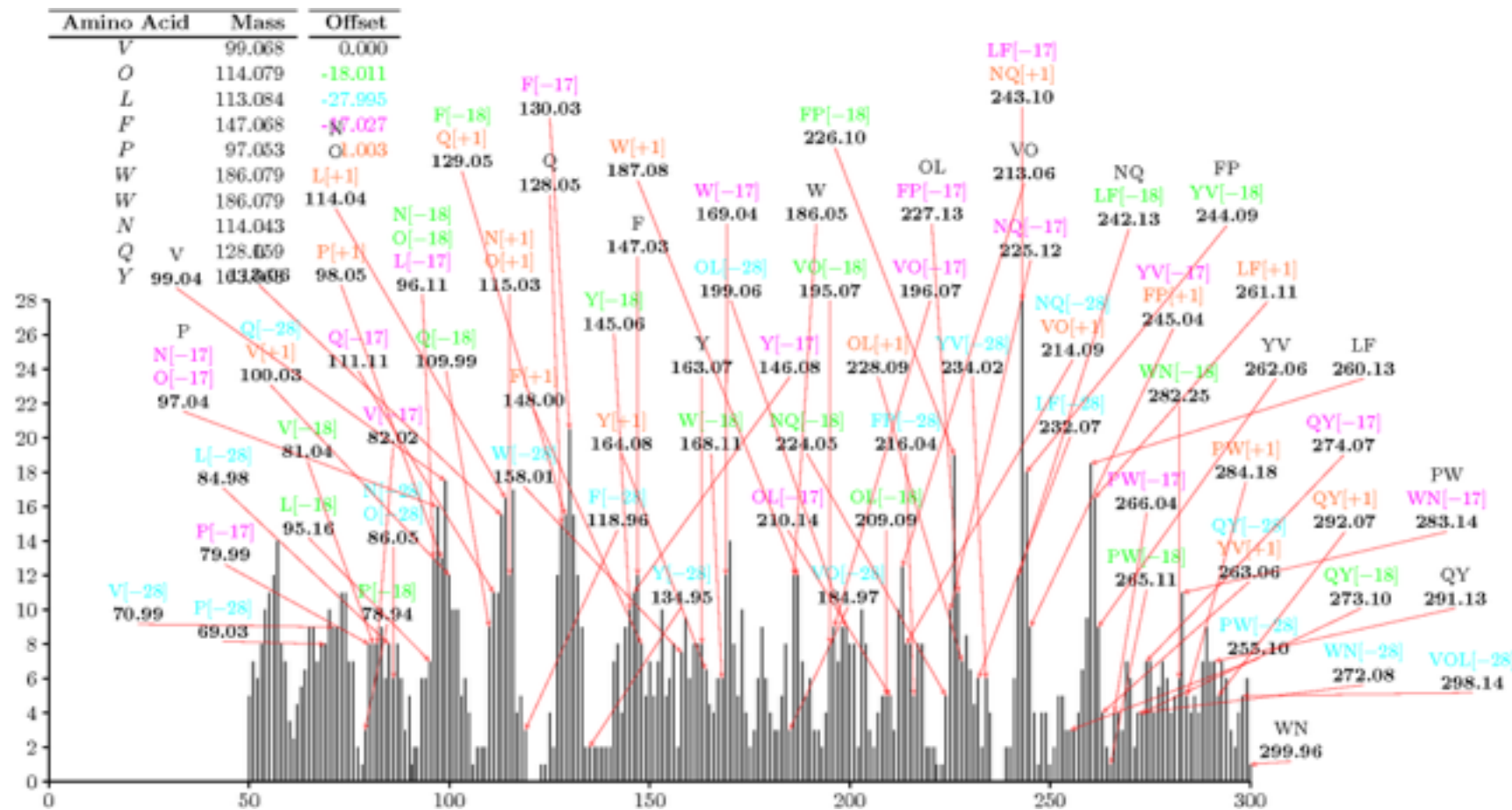
# What is a Mass Spectrometer?



- A balance comprising
  - a dust-cleaner
  - a sieve
  - a knife
  - and a tracking system.
- The Mass Spectrometer
  - ionises the sample
  - manipulates the electrostatic field to move ions
  - fragments the ions
  - registers the ions



# Identifying proteins is complicated



- there are plenty of proteins in a sample
- proteins are frequently fragmented
- even a single protein has a complicated signal

# Chemical compounds are made of different isotopes

$$13.0033 - 12 = 1.0033 \text{ [Da]}$$

Element	Isotope	Extra Neutrons	Mass [Da]	Probability
Carbon	<sup>12</sup> C	0	12	0.9893
	<sup>13</sup> C	1	13.0033	0.0107
Hydrogen	<sup>1</sup> H	0	1.0078	0.999885
	<sup>2</sup> H	1	2.0141	0.000115
Nitrogen	<sup>14</sup> N	0	14.0031	0.99632
	<sup>15</sup> N	1	15.0001	0.00368
Oxygen	<sup>16</sup> O	0	15.9949	0.99757
	<sup>17</sup> O	1	16.9991	0.00038
	<sup>18</sup> O	2	17.9992	0.00205
Sulfur	<sup>32</sup> S	0	31.9721	0.9493
	<sup>33</sup> S	1	32.9714	0.0076
	<sup>34</sup> S	2	33.9679	0.0429
	<sup>36</sup> S	4	35.9671	0.0002

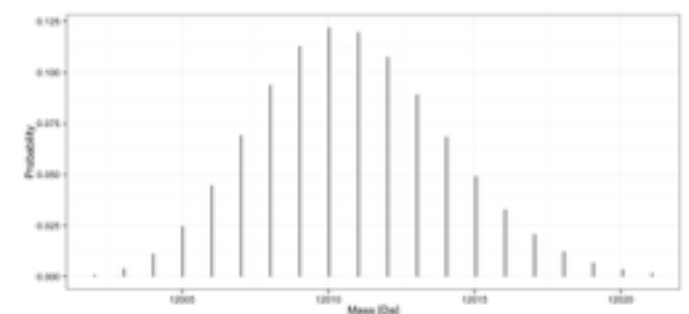
differences in frequencies of observation

elements have different numbers of stable isotopes

isotopes of different elements differ in mass differences

$$32.9714 - 31.9721 = 0,9993 \text{ [Da]}$$

**isotopic envelope**



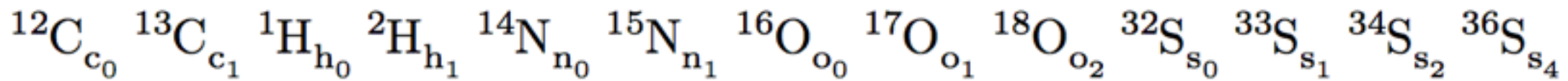
# huge number of isotopologues

A chemical formula



can be composed  
out of isotopes

in



$$\prod_{e \in \{\text{C}, \text{H}, \text{N}, \text{O}, \text{S}\}} \binom{n_e + i_e - 1}{n_e} \approx \prod_{e \in \{\text{C}, \text{H}, \text{N}, \text{O}, \text{S}\}} \frac{e^{i_e - 1}}{\sqrt{2\pi(i_e - 1)}} \left( \frac{n_e}{i_e - 1} + 1 \right)^{i_e - 1}$$

ways, where  $n_e$  - N° of atoms of element  $e$

$i_e$  - N° of isotopes of element  $e$

# important observation



some **isotopic variants** are more **probable** than others

$$P\left({}^{12}\text{C}_{c_0} {}^{13}\text{C}_{c_1} {}^1\text{H}_{h_0} {}^2\text{H}_{h_1} {}^{14}\text{N}_{n_0} {}^{15}\text{N}_{n_1} {}^{16}\text{O}_{o_0} {}^{17}\text{O}_{o_1} {}^{18}\text{O}_{o_2} {}^{32}\text{S}_{s_0} {}^{33}\text{S}_{s_1} {}^{34}\text{S}_{s_2} {}^{36}\text{S}_{s_4}\right) = ?$$

# Assume

1) variants of isotopes of atoms are **independent**

2) elements **vary in abundances** of isotopes

$$P(^{12}\text{C}_{c_0} ^{13}\text{C}_{c_1} ^1\text{H}_{h_0} ^2\text{H}_{h_1} ^{14}\text{N}_{n_0} ^{15}\text{N}_{n_1} ^{16}\text{O}_{o_0} ^{17}\text{O}_{o_1} ^{18}\text{O}_{o_2} ^{32}\text{S}_{s_0} ^{33}\text{S}_{s_1} ^{34}\text{S}_{s_2} ^{36}\text{S}_{s_4}) =$$

$$\binom{c}{c_0, c_1} \mathcal{P}(^{12}\text{C})^{c_0} \mathcal{P}(^{13}\text{C})^{c_1} \binom{h}{h_0, h_1} \mathcal{P}(^1\text{H})^{h_0} \mathcal{P}(^2\text{H})^{h_1} \binom{n}{n_0, n_1} \mathcal{P}(^{14}\text{N})^{n_0} \mathcal{P}(^{15}\text{N})^{n_1} \times$$

$$\binom{n}{o_0, o_1, o_2} \mathcal{P}(^{16}\text{O})^{o_0} \mathcal{P}(^{17}\text{O})^{o_1} \mathcal{P}(^{18}\text{O})^{o_2} \binom{s}{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_4} \mathcal{P}(^{32}\text{S})^{s_0} \mathcal{P}(^{33}\text{S})^{s_1} \mathcal{P}(^{34}\text{S})^{s_2} \mathcal{P}(^{36}\text{S})^{s_4}$$



frequencies  
of isotopes



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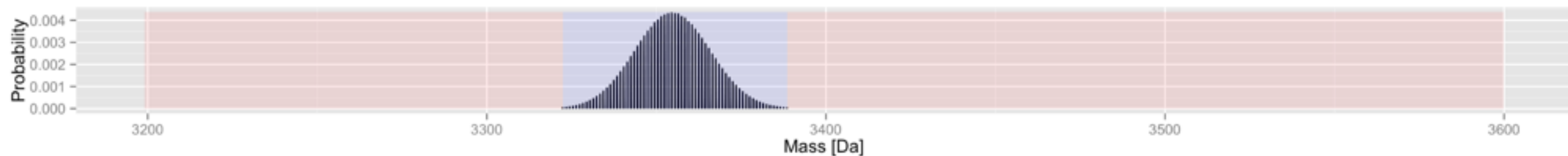
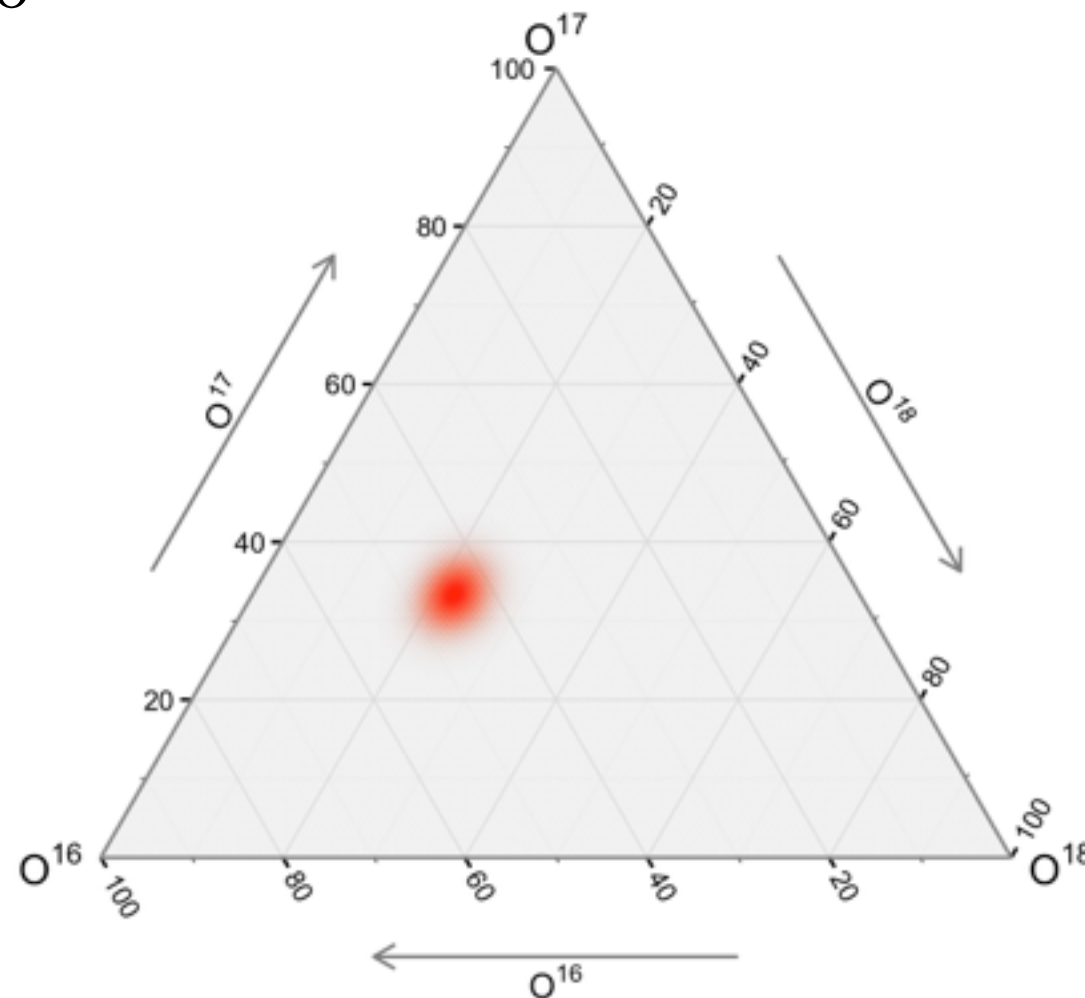
$$\mathcal{P}(^{16}\text{O}) = \frac{4}{9} \quad \mathcal{P}(^{17}\text{O}) = \frac{3}{9} \quad \mathcal{P}(^{18}\text{O}) = \frac{2}{9} \quad (\text{not real world values!})$$

200 oxygen atoms

$$o_0 + o_1 + o_2 = 200$$

20301 variants

whereas 1043  
bear 99% prob.

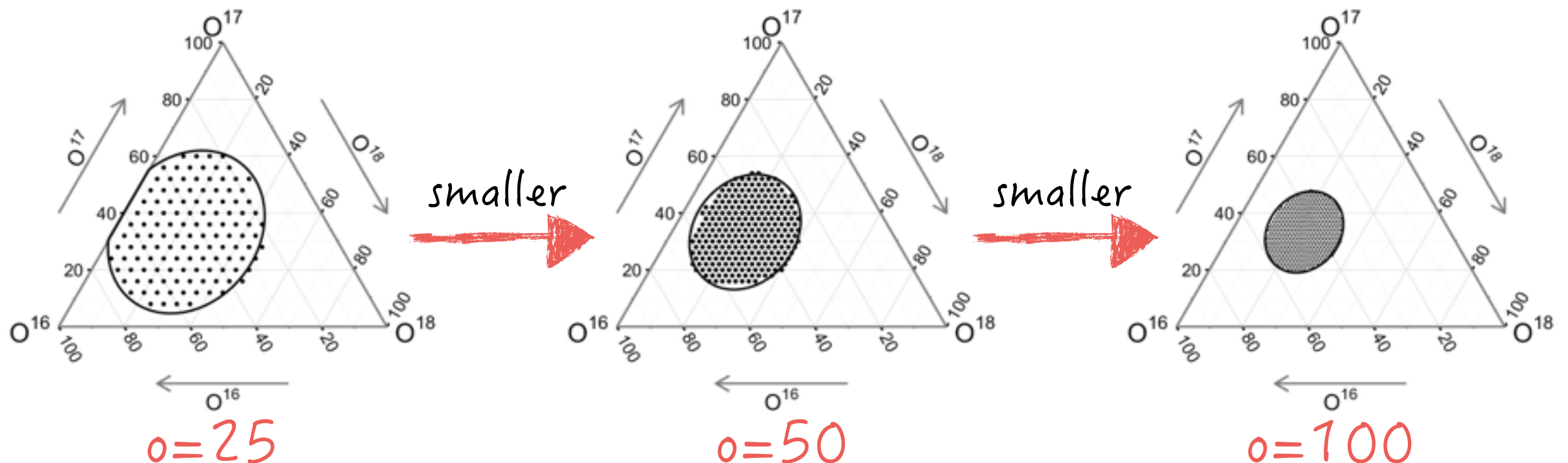


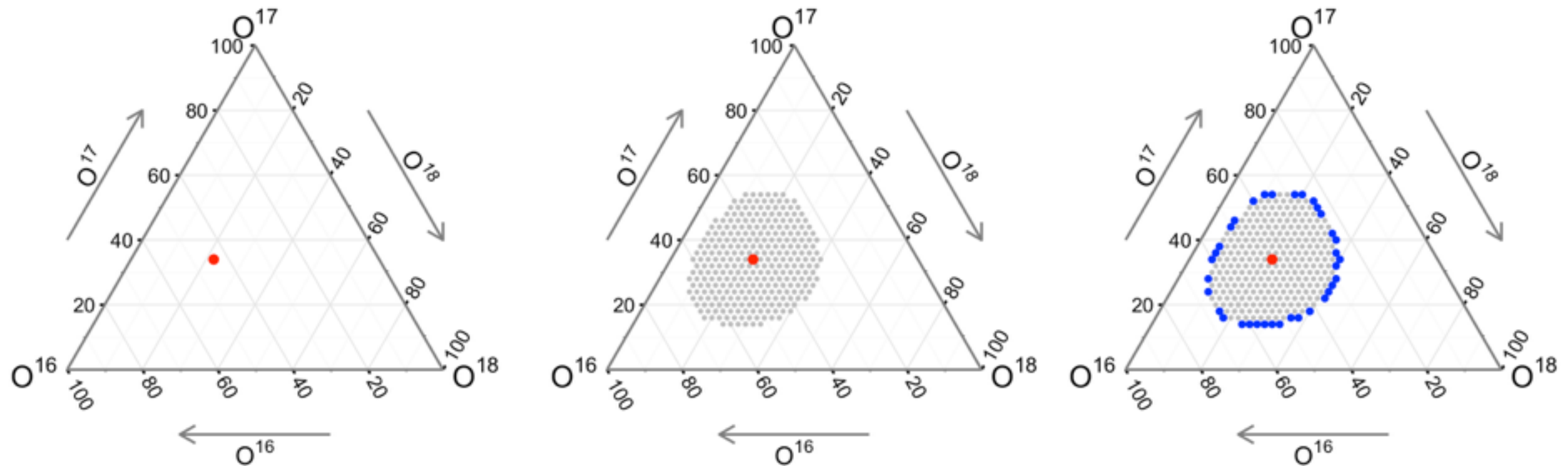


# How much we **gain** by considering the **smallest set** with **a fixed probability** ?

$$\# \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{PROBABLE} \\ \text{VARIANTS} \end{array} \right) \approx C_{\text{lattice}} \left( \prod_{\text{Elements}} n_e^{\frac{i_e - 1}{2}} \sqrt{\det \Delta_e} \right) q_{\chi^2(k)}^k \frac{\pi^{k/2}}{\Gamma(k/2 + 1)} \propto$$

$$\prod_{\text{Elements}} n_e^{\frac{i_e - 1}{2}} \quad \text{VS} \quad \prod_{\text{Elements}} n_e^{i_e - 1}$$





To get the smallest set with probability  $P$ :

Find the **most probable variant**

while **Total Probability**  $< P$  :

Get **layer** so that  $p > P(v) \geq qp$  where

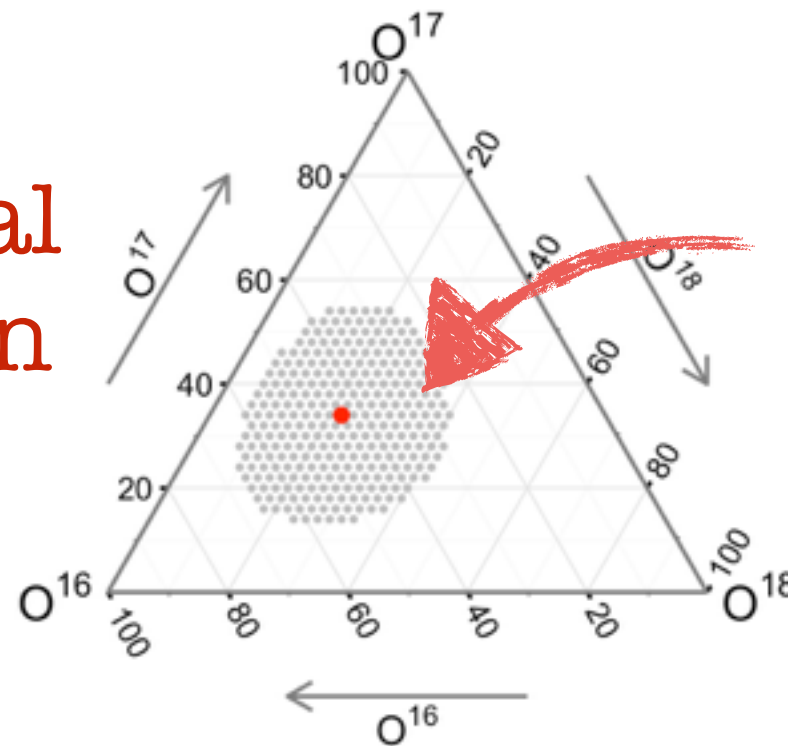
$$p = P(v_{\min \text{ previous layer}})$$

Trim the **least probable variants** from  
the last layer so that **Total Probability**  $\geq P$

# Monotonic Expansion Property:

For each  $v$  set  $\{W: P(W) \geq P(v)\}$  is adjacent to  $v$

multinomial  
distribution

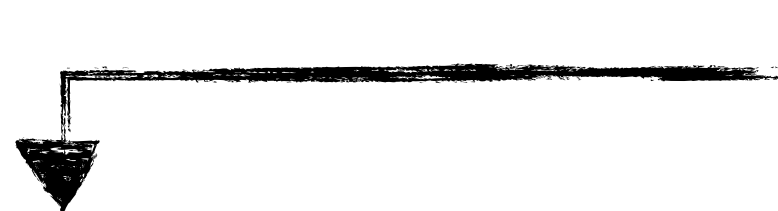
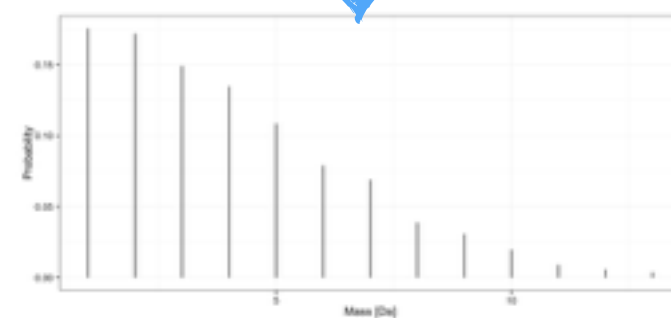
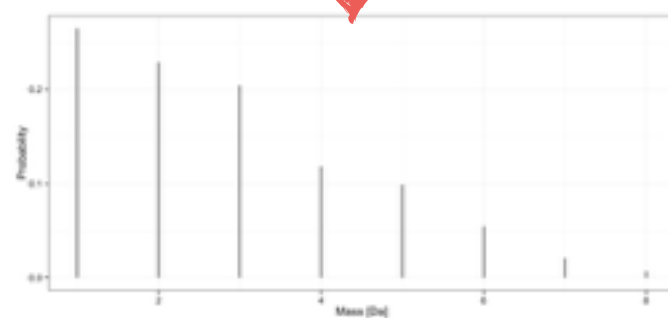
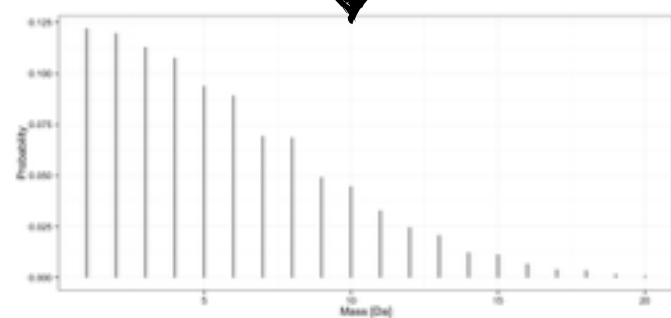
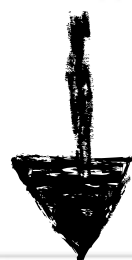
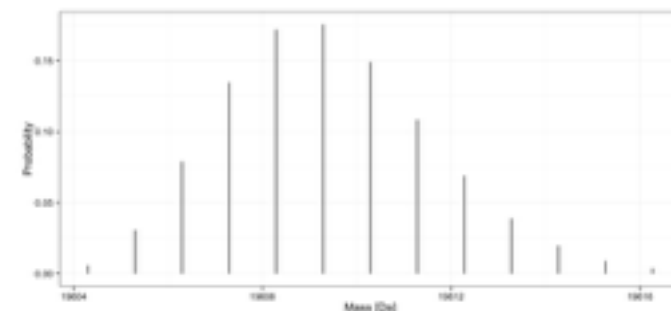
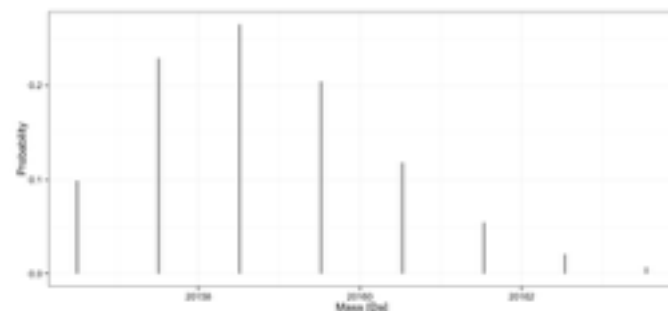
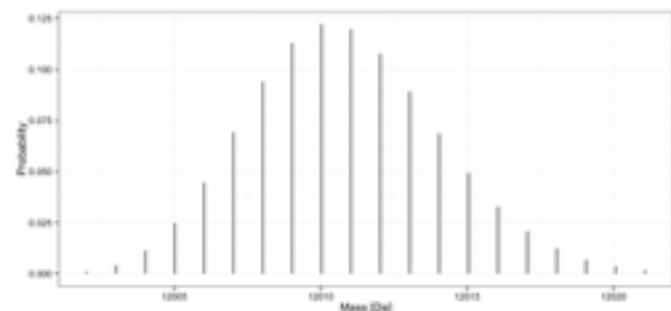
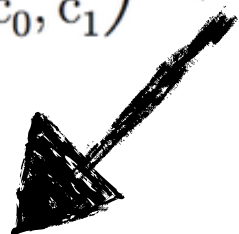


Smallest set with current  
**Total Probability**

$$\binom{c}{c_0, c_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{12}\text{C})^{c_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{13}\text{C})^{c_1} \binom{h}{h_0, h_1} \mathcal{P}({}^1\text{H})^{h_0} \mathcal{P}({}^2\text{H})^{h_1} \binom{n}{n_0, n_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{14}\text{N})^{n_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{15}\text{N})^{n_1} ,$$

$$\binom{n}{o_0, o_1, o_2} \mathcal{P}({}^{16}\text{O})^{o_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{17}\text{O})^{o_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{18}\text{O})^{o_2} \binom{s}{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_4} \mathcal{P}({}^{32}\text{S})^{s_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{33}\text{S})^{s_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{34}\text{S})^{s_2} \mathcal{P}({}^{36}\text{S})^{s_4}$$

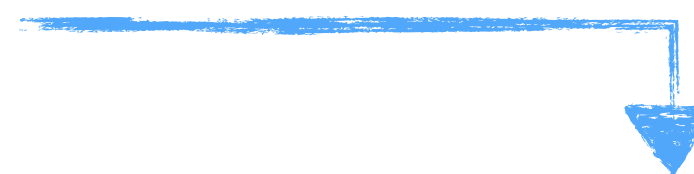
$$\binom{c}{c_0, c_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{12}\text{C})^{c_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{13}\text{C})^{c_1} \binom{h}{h_0, h_1} \mathcal{P}({}^1\text{H})^{h_0} \mathcal{P}({}^2\text{H})^{h_1} \binom{n}{n_0, n_1} \mathcal{P}({}^{14}\text{N})^{n_0} \mathcal{P}({}^{15}\text{N})^{n_1}$$



$(x_k \text{ } y_l \text{ } z_m)$



$(x_k \text{ } y_{l+1} \text{ } z_m)$



$(x_k \text{ } y_l \text{ } z_{m+1})$

our **OPTIMAL** implementation uses

**complexity**

- queue for storing subsequent layers  $O(n)$
  - a version of quick select for trimming  $O(n)$
  - other tricks  $O(n)$
- 

**$O(n)$  in the total number of configurations**

We provide **theoretical background**  
and get **better run times**

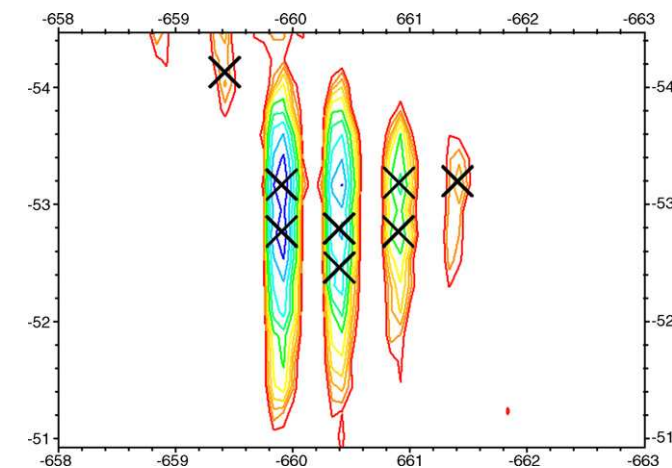
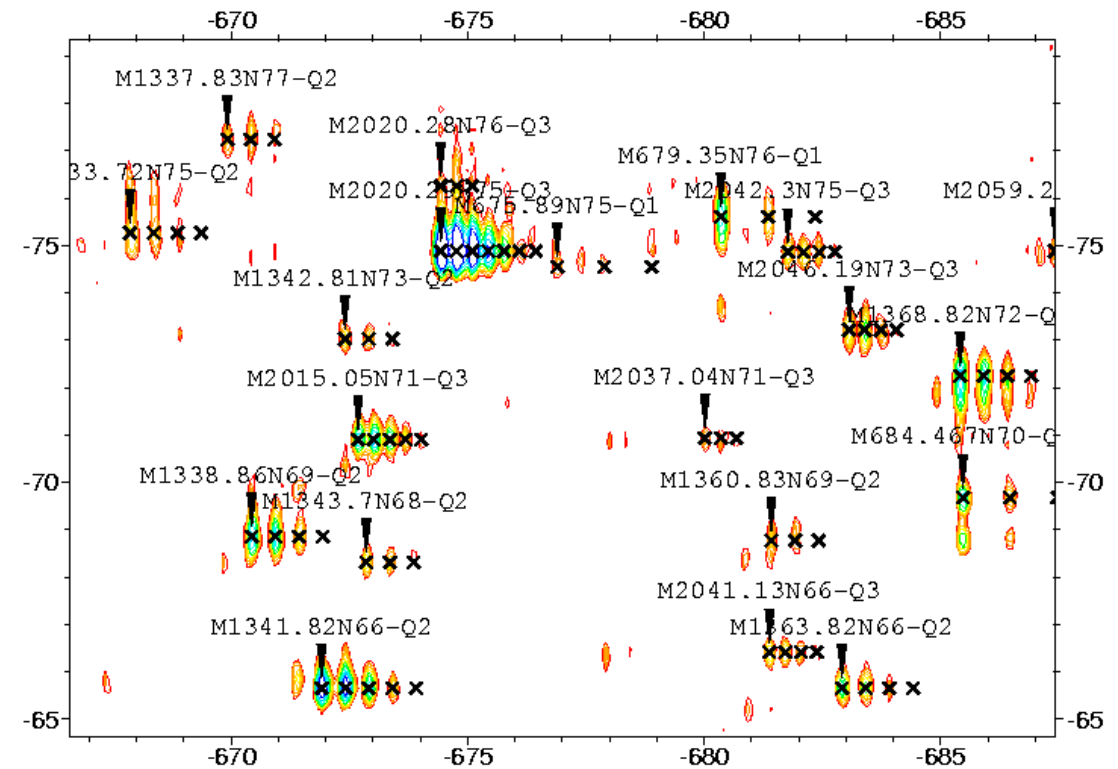




# proteolytic fragmentation

## LC-MS/MS

- data for colorectal cancer patients and healthy donors
- ca 1000 peptides
- **preprocessing**: spectra interpretation and retention time aligning



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



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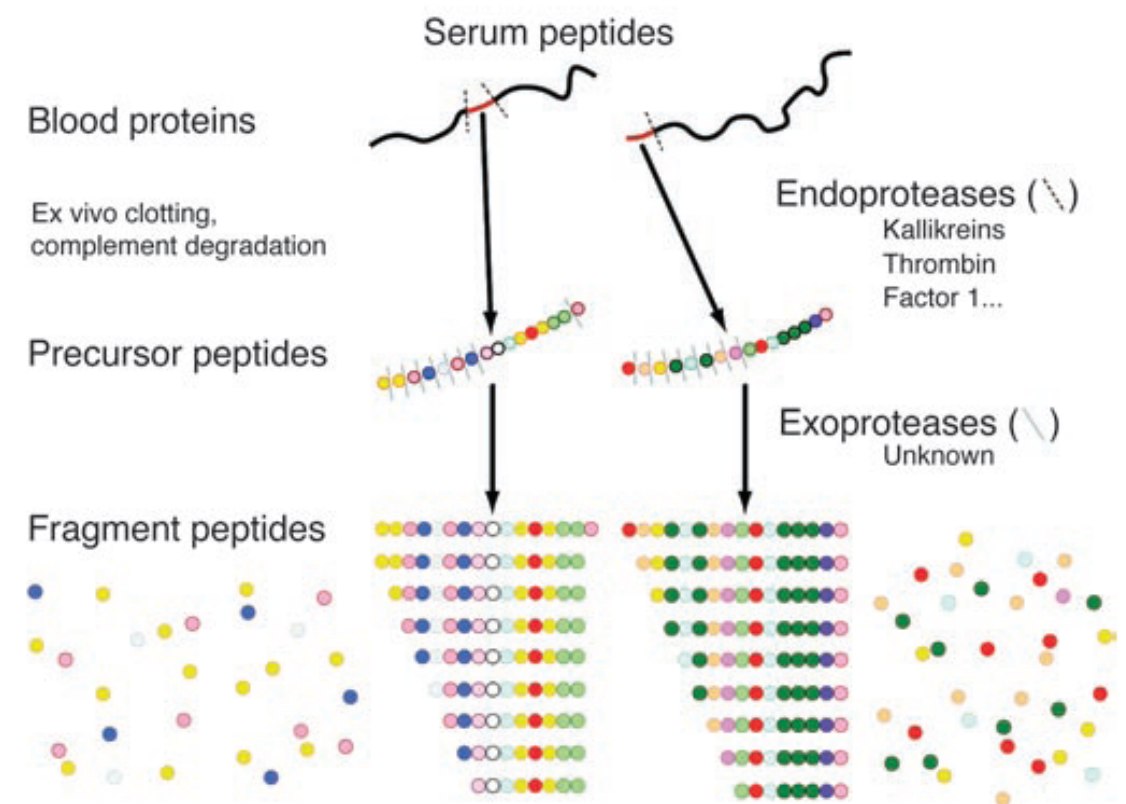
[www.elsevier.com/locate/ijms](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijms)

Automated reduction and interpretation of multidimensional mass spectra for analysis of complex peptide mixtures

Anna Gambin<sup>a,\*</sup>, Janusz Dutkowski<sup>a</sup>, Jakub Karczmariski<sup>b</sup>, Bogusław Kluge<sup>a</sup>,  
Krzysztof Kowalczyk<sup>a</sup>, Jerzy Ostrowski<sup>b</sup>, Jarosław Poznański<sup>c</sup>,  
Jerzy Tiuryn<sup>a</sup>, Magda Bakun<sup>c</sup>, Michał Dadlez<sup>c,d</sup>

# Exopeptidase activity

- **motivation:** differential exoprotease activities contribute to cancer type-specific serum peptidome degradation
- **our goal: first formal model estimated from LC-MS/MS data**



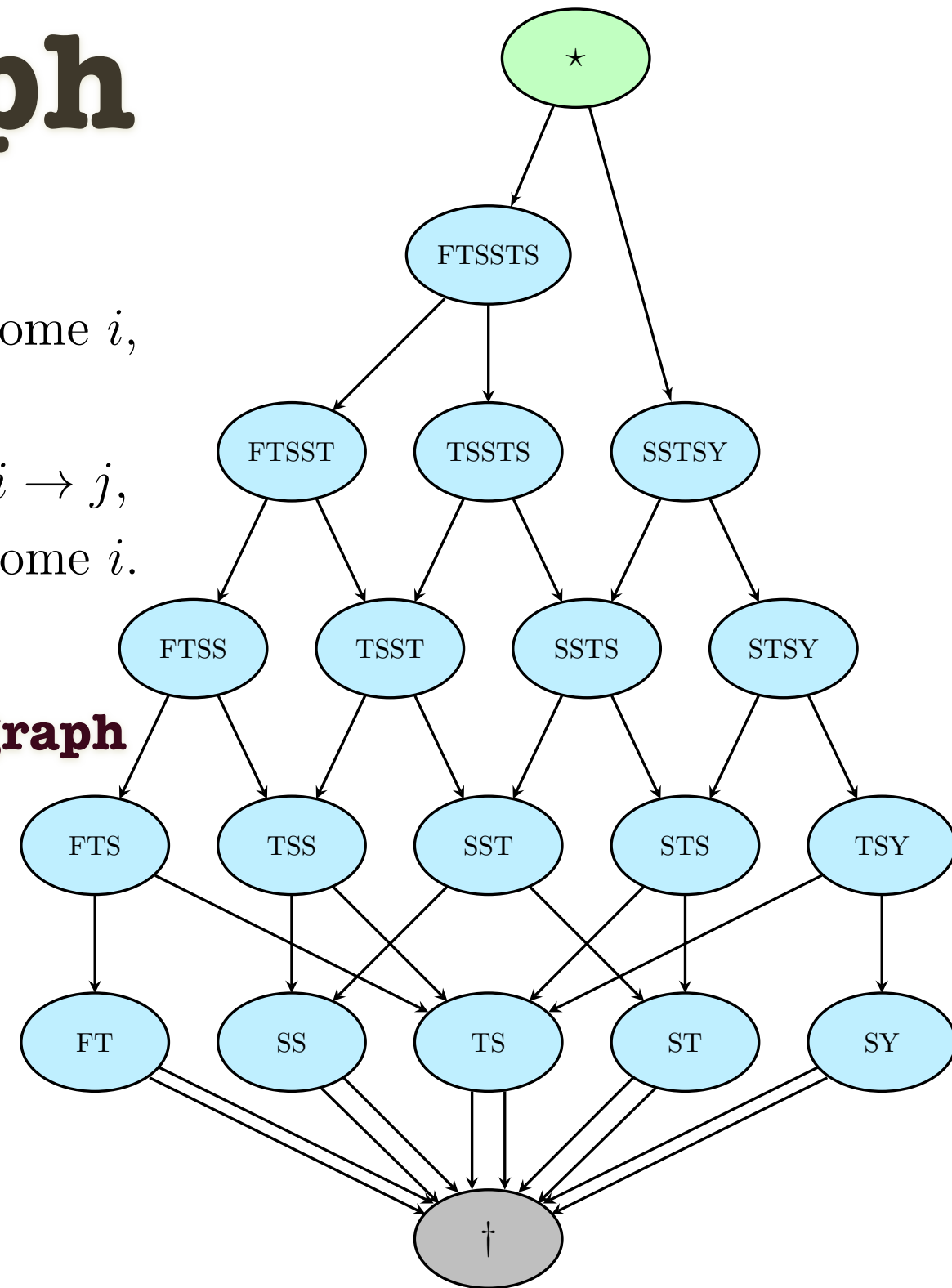
Villanueva, J., Nazarian, A., Lawlor, K., et al. 2008. A sequence-specific exopeptidase activity test (sseat) for “functional” biomarker discovery. *Mol. Cell. Proteomics* 7, 509–518.

# Cleavage graph

$$Q(x, x') = \begin{cases} a_{\star i} & \text{if } x'_i = x_i + 1, x'_{-i} = x_{-i} \text{ for some } i, \\ a_{r(i,j)} x_i & \text{if } x'_j = x_j + 1, x'_i = x_i - 1, \\ & \text{and } x'_{-i-j} = x_{-i-j} \text{ for some } i \rightarrow j, \\ a_{i\dagger} x_i & \text{if } x'_i = x_i - 1, x'_{-i} = x_{-i} \text{ for some } i. \end{cases}$$

**transition intensities for Markov process  
describing the flow of particles through the graph  
i.e. the process of peptidome degradation**

$$Q(x, x') = \begin{cases} a_{\star i} & \textbf{create} \\ a_{r(i,j)} x_i & \textbf{move} \\ a_{i\dagger} x_i & \textbf{annihilate/degrade} \end{cases}$$



# in equilibrium

**Proposition 1 (Equilibrium distribution).** *The process  $(X(t))$  has the equilibrium (stationary) distribution  $\pi$  given by:*

$$\pi(x) = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{V}} e^{\lambda_i} \frac{\lambda_i^{x_i}}{x_i!},$$

*where the configuration of intensities  $(\lambda_i)_{i \in \mathcal{V}}$  is the unique solution to the following system of “balance” equations:*

$$\sum_{k \rightarrow i} \lambda_k a_{r(k,i)} + a_{\star i} = \lambda_i \left( \sum_{i \rightarrow j} a_{r(i,j)} + a_{i \dagger} \right) \quad \text{for every } i \in \mathcal{V}.$$

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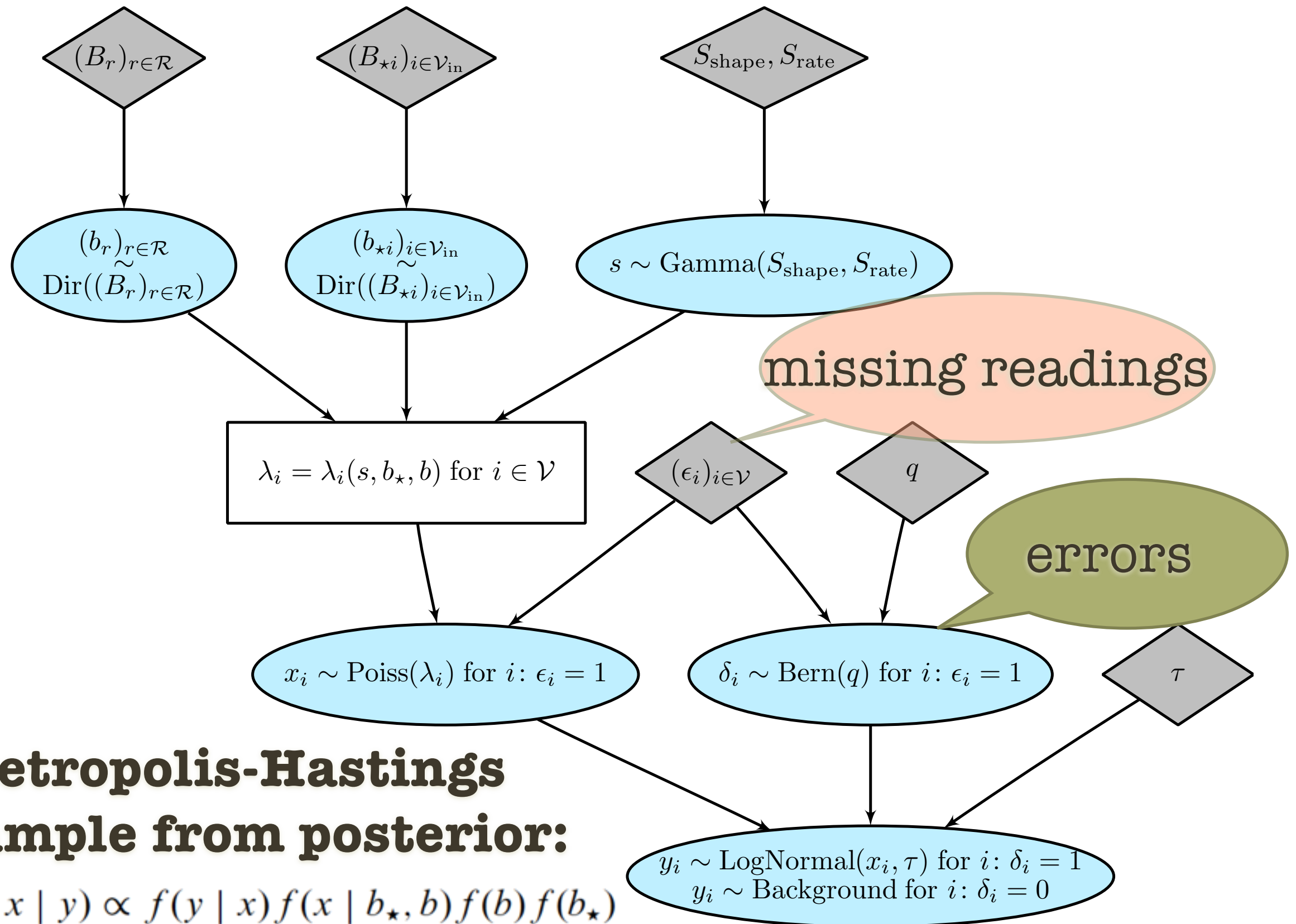
**old as the hills, but...**

Modeling Exopeptidase Activity from LC-MS Data

BOGUSŁAW KLUGE,<sup>1</sup> ANNA GAMBIN,<sup>1</sup> and WOJCIECH NIEMIRO<sup>2</sup>

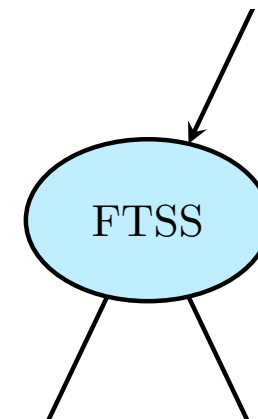
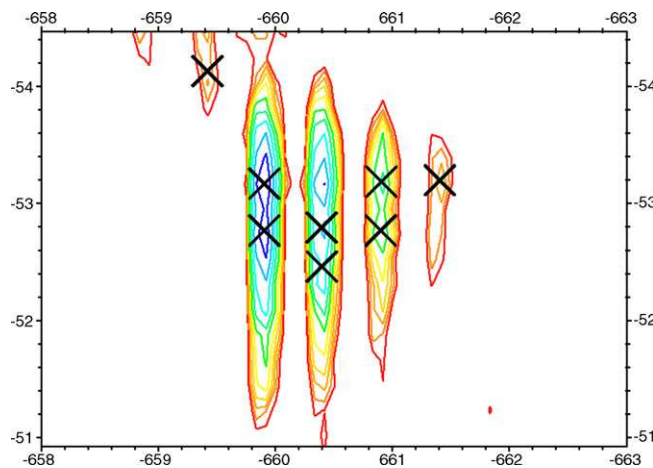


# hierarchical Bayesian model



# NON TRIVIAL TASK: filling the cleavage graph with real data

- 1000 peptides: mass, charge, retention time
- 243 precursor peptides
- ca. 40 000 subsequences
- from aa sequence: calculate mass
- consider all charges
- predict retention time (random forests)

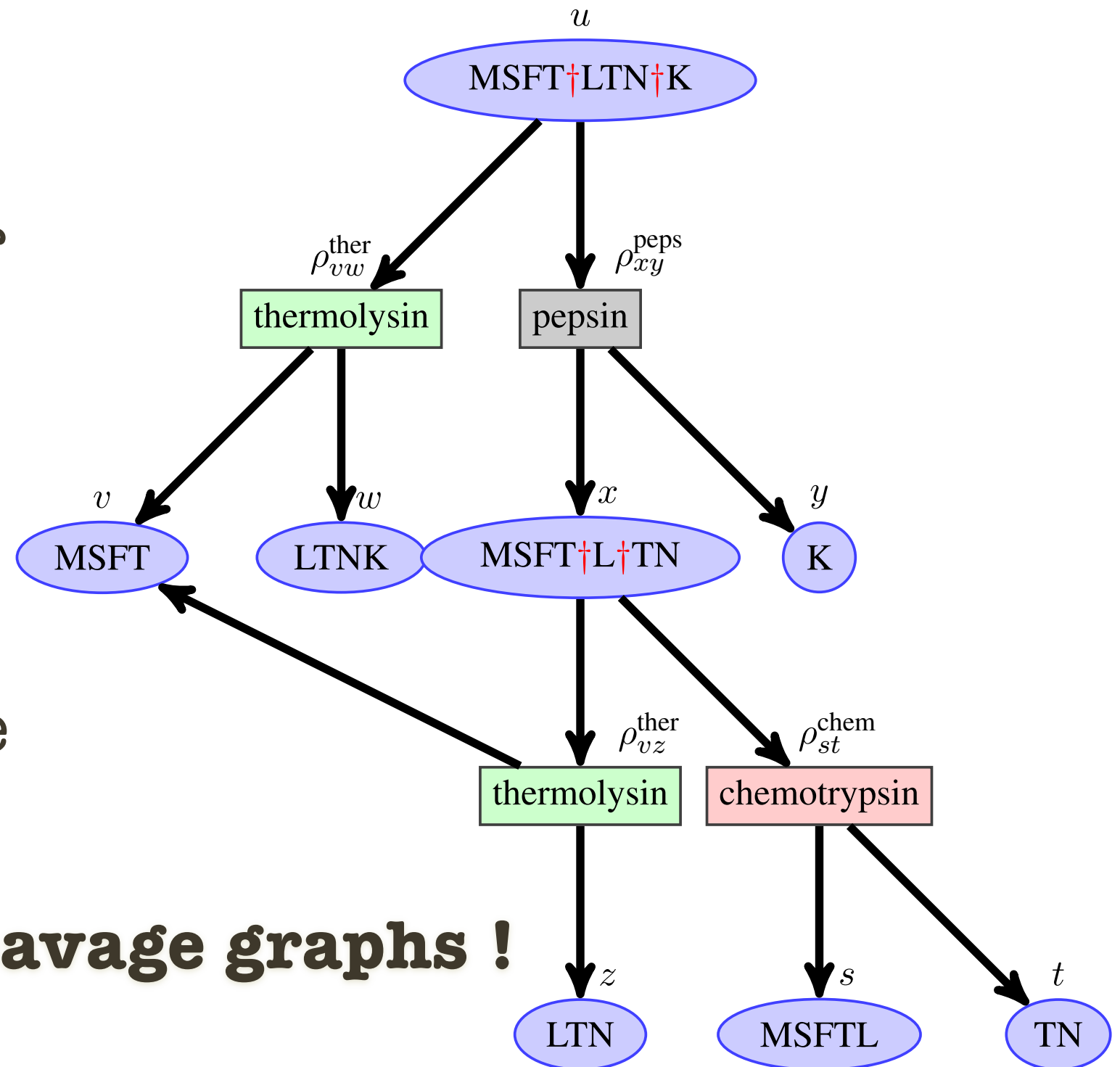


**quite often: missing reads and errors !**



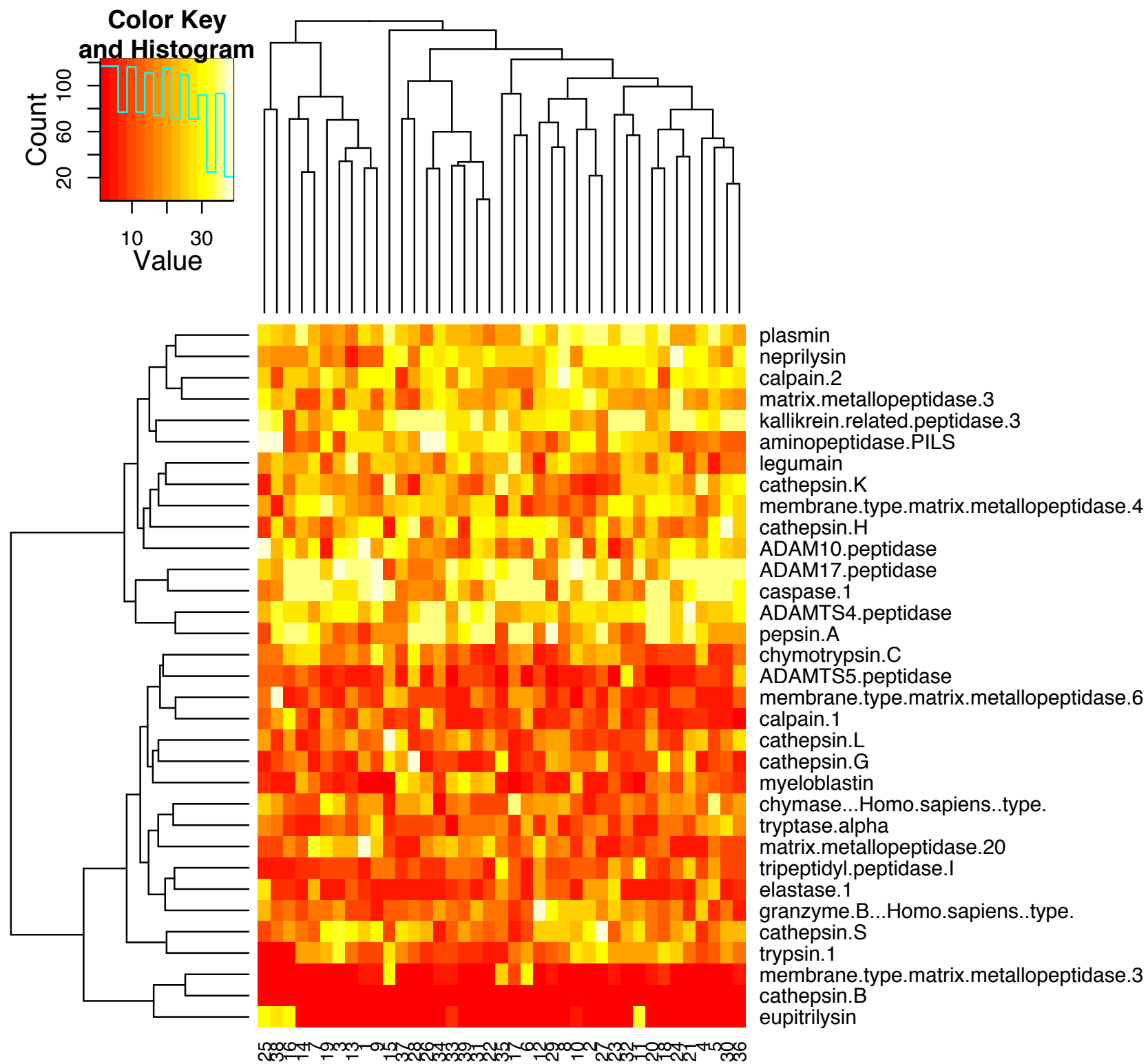
# Cleavage graph for real proteolytic events

- 20 colorectal cancer patients and 20 healthy donors,
- ca 1000 peptides,
- preprocessing phase

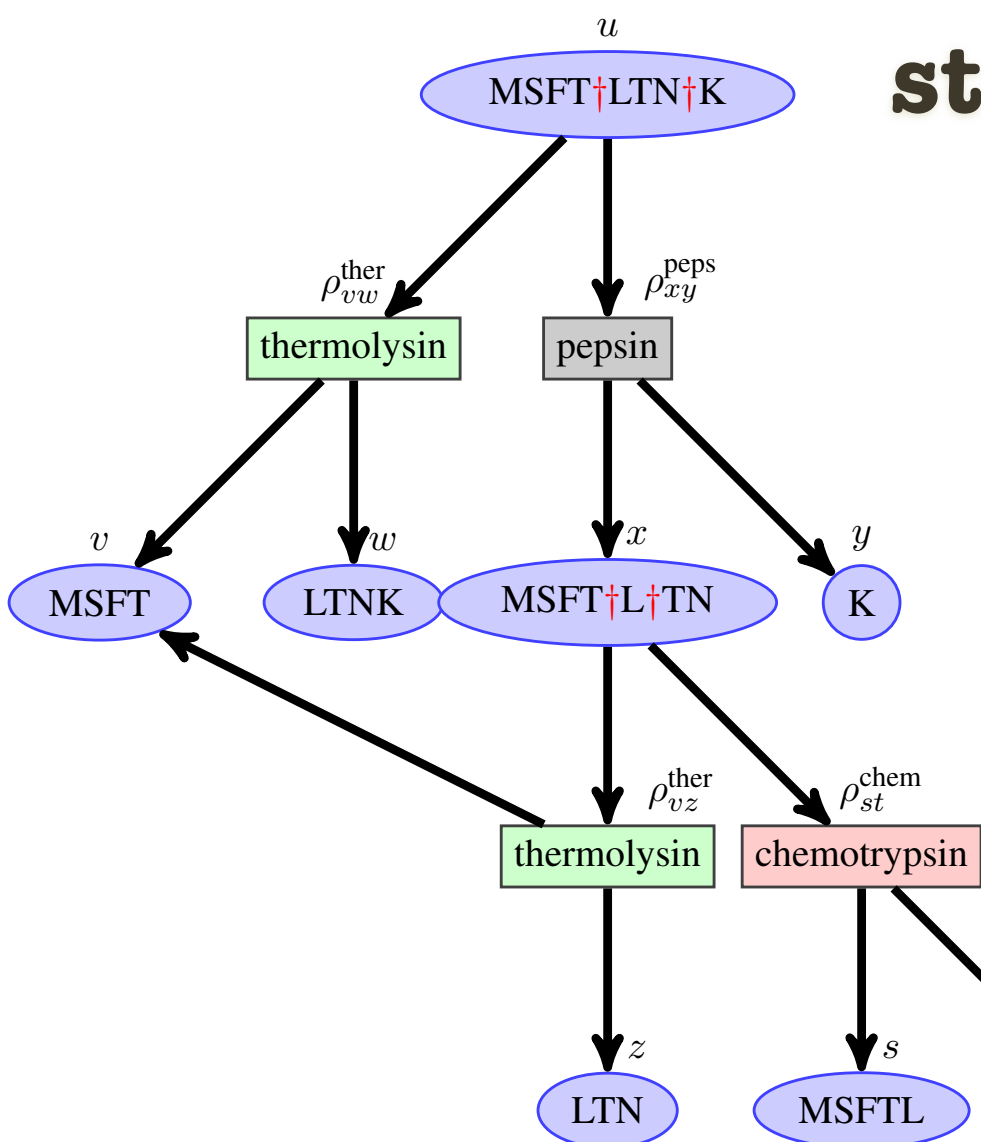


**MUCH SMALLER cleavage graphs !**

# identified enzymes make sense !



# stochastic dynamics in time



## from MEROPS:

$\rho_{vw}$  the vector of all peptidase affinity coefficients for the cleavage  $v \dagger w$

$$Q_{xx'} = \begin{cases} c^T \rho_{vw} x_u & \text{if } x' = x - \epsilon_u + \epsilon_v + \epsilon_w \text{ and } u = v \dagger w, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## to be estimated:

peptidase cutting intensities vector

$P(x, t) = \mathcal{P}(X(t) = x)$ . calculated from

CME

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, t) &= \sum_{y \neq x} (Q_{yx} P(y, t) - Q_{xy} P(x, t)) \\ &= \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} [(x_u + 1) P(x + \epsilon_u - \epsilon_v - \epsilon_w, t) - x_u P(x, t)] \\ &= \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} [x'_u P(x', t) - x_u P(x, t)], \end{aligned}$$

**no more monomolecular system -**

**we have reactions:**

**A -> B and A-> B+C (endopeptidases)**

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial}{\partial t}P(x, t) &= \sum_{y \neq x} (Q_{yx}P(y, t) - Q_{xy}P(x, t)) \\
&= \sum_{u=v \nmid w} c^T \rho_{vw} [(x_u + 1)P(x + \epsilon_u - \epsilon_v - \epsilon_w, t) - x_u P(x, t)] \\
&= \sum_{u=v \nmid w} c^T \rho_{vw} [x'_u P(x', t) - x_u P(x, t)],
\end{aligned}$$

where  $x' = x + \epsilon_u - \epsilon_v - \epsilon_w$ , i.e.  $x'$  denotes a configuration before the cleavage  $v \nmid w$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
E_q(t) &= \sum_x x_q P(x, t), \\
\frac{d}{dt} E_q(t) &= \sum_x x_q \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(x, t) \\
&= \sum_x x_q \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} [(x_u + 1)P(x + \epsilon_u - \epsilon_v - \epsilon_w, t) - x_u P(x, t)] \\
&= \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} \left[ \sum_x x_q (x_u + 1) P(x + \epsilon_u - \epsilon_v - \epsilon_w, t) - \sum_x x_q x_u P(x, t) \right] \\
&= \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} \left[ \sum_x (x - \epsilon_u + \epsilon_v + \epsilon_w)_q x_u P(x, t) - \sum_x x_q x_u P(x, t) \right] \\
&= \sum_{u=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} \sum_x (-\epsilon_u + \epsilon_v + \epsilon_w)_q x_u P(x, t).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} E_q(t) = \sum_{u=q \dagger w} c^T \rho_{qw} E_u(t) + \sum_{u=v \dagger q} c^T \rho_{vq} E_u(t) - \sum_{q=v \dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw} E_q(t)$$

Denote by  $\lambda_{uq}$  the intensity of creating  $q$  from  $u$  by a single cleavage of the form  $u = q \dagger w$  or  $u = v \dagger q$ , i.e.  $\lambda_{uq} = c^T(\rho_{qw} + \rho_{vq})$ . Let  $\lambda_{qq} = -\sum_{q=v\dagger w} c^T \rho_{vw}$ , i.e. minus the intensity of consuming  $q$  in all cleavages involving this peptide. Note that the following equality holds:

$$\lambda_{qq} = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum_{q=v\dagger w} \lambda_{qv} + \sum_{q=z\dagger v} \lambda_{qv} - \sum_{\substack{q=v\dagger w \\ q=z\dagger v}} \lambda_{qv} \right] = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{q \rightarrow v} \lambda_{qv}.$$



Now the equations (4.2) have the following form:

$$\left[ \frac{d}{dt} E_q(t) = \sum_{u \rightarrow q} \lambda_{uq} E_u(t) + \lambda_{qq} E_q(t) \right]_{q \in \mathcal{V}}. \quad (4.3)$$

The solution of the system of linear constant coefficient ordinary differential equations like (4.3) is given by:

$$E(t) = E(0)^T \exp(\Lambda t), \quad (4.4)$$

## interesting moments...

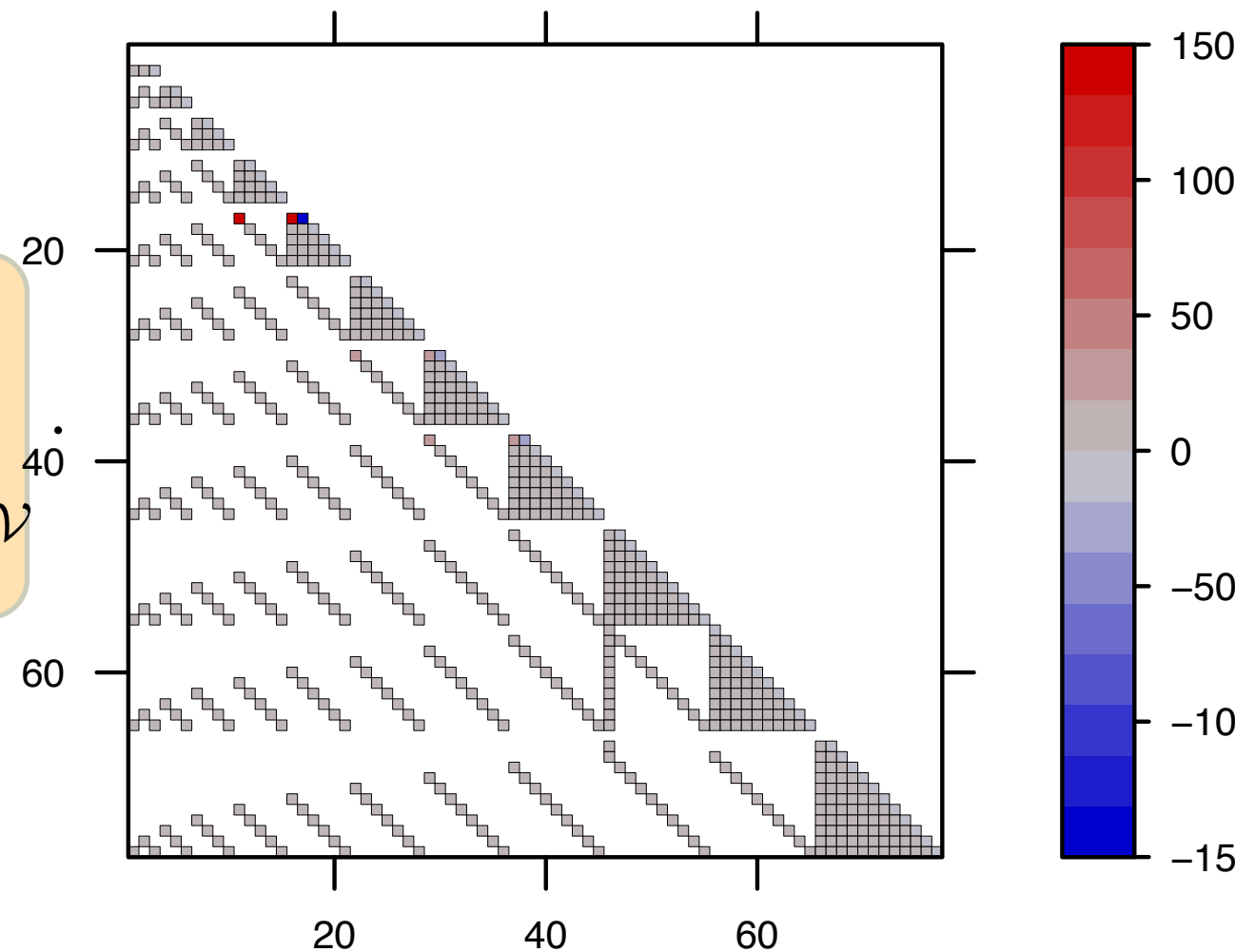
$E_q(t)$  the expected number of instances of peptide  $q$  at time  $t$ .

$$E_q(t) = \sum_x x_q P(x, t),$$

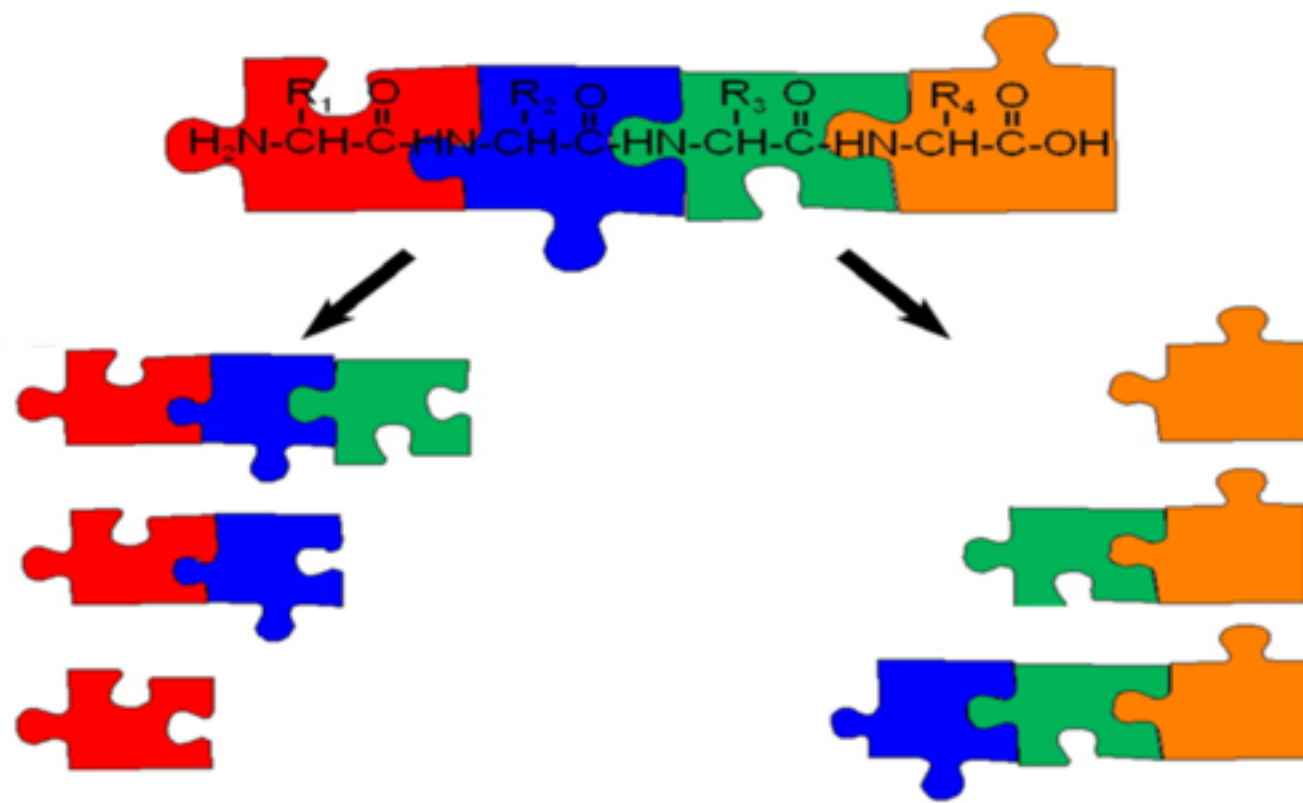
$$\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_q(t) = \sum_{u \rightarrow q} \lambda_{uq} E_u(t) + \lambda_{qq} E_q(t) \right]_{q \in \mathcal{V}}$$

$$E(t) = E(0)^T \exp(\Lambda t)$$

matrix  $\Lambda = (\lambda_{vw})_{v,w \in \mathcal{V}}$  for peptide VAHRFKDLGEEN



# ETD fragmentation



more fragments

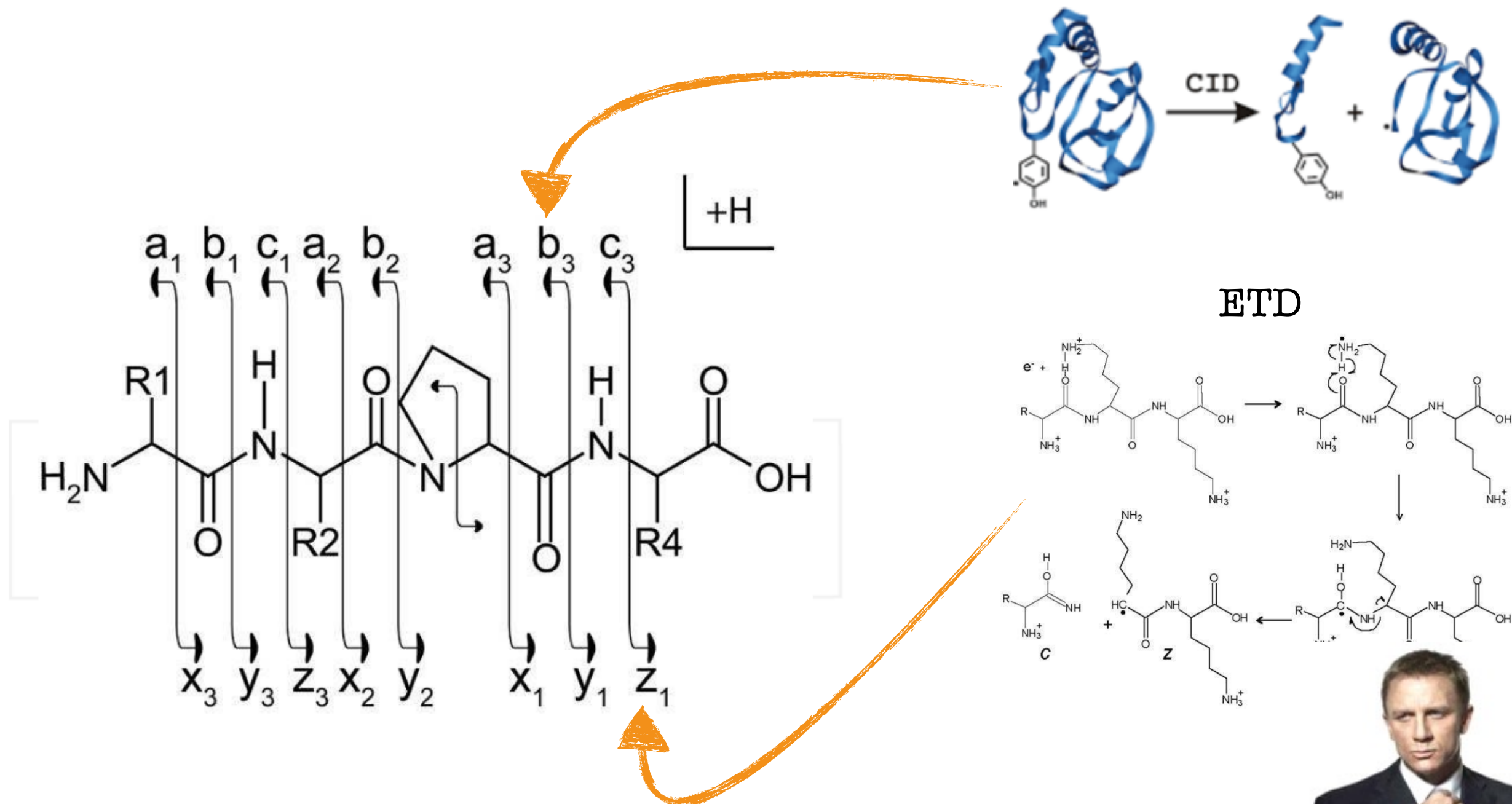


more insight into structure



more confidence in correct  
identification

some **bonds** get easily broken



.. others **not**



# the goal of masstodon

understand **fragmentation**  
**inside** the instrument  
under **different**  
experimental **conditions**



## solution:

use **purified** chemical **samples**  
study **fragmentation pathways**  
**locate** fragments **in data**  
1. **deconvolute signals** and  
2. **infer** fragmentation  
**reaction constants**

using **atomic compositions** of the **fragments** we generate isotopic spectra with



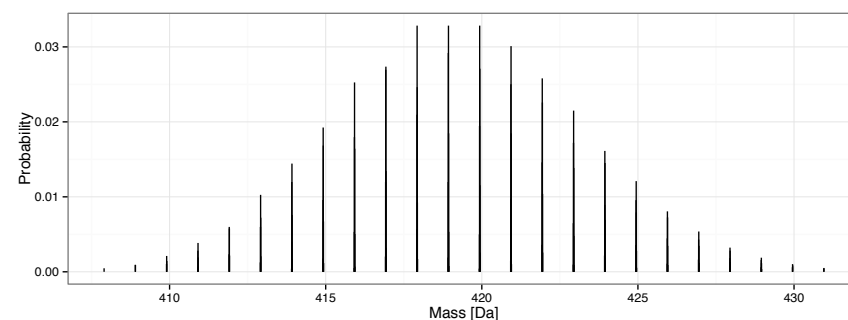
$$P(^{12}\text{C}_{c_0} ^{13}\text{C}_{c_1} ^1\text{H}_{h_0} ^2\text{H}_{h_1} ^{14}\text{N}_{n_0} ^{15}\text{N}_{n_1} ^{16}\text{O}_{o_0} ^{17}\text{O}_{o_1} ^{18}\text{O}_{o_2} ^{32}\text{S}_{s_0} ^{33}\text{S}_{s_1} ^{34}\text{S}_{s_2} ^{36}\text{S}_{s_4}) =$$

$$\binom{c}{c_0, c_1} \mathcal{P}(^{12}\text{C})^{c_0} \mathcal{P}(^{13}\text{C})^{c_1} \binom{h}{h_0, h_1} \mathcal{P}(^1\text{H})^{h_0} \mathcal{P}(^2\text{H})^{h_1} \binom{n}{n_0, n_1} \mathcal{P}(^{14}\text{N})^{n_0} \mathcal{P}(^{15}\text{N})^{n_1} \times$$

$$\binom{o}{o_0, o_1, o_2} \mathcal{P}(^{16}\text{O})^{o_0} \mathcal{P}(^{17}\text{O})^{o_1} \mathcal{P}(^{18}\text{O})^{o_2} \binom{s}{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_4} \mathcal{P}(^{32}\text{S})^{s_0} \mathcal{P}(^{33}\text{S})^{s_1} \mathcal{P}(^{34}\text{S})^{s_2} \mathcal{P}(^{36}\text{S})^{s_4}$$



frequencies  
of isotopes



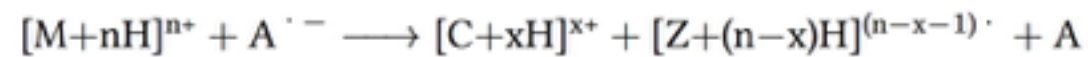
we can aggregate masses to match **data resolution**



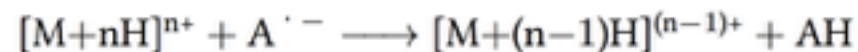
# complications

we take into account **charges**

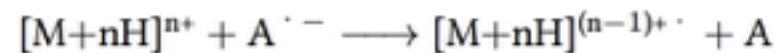
♣ ETD



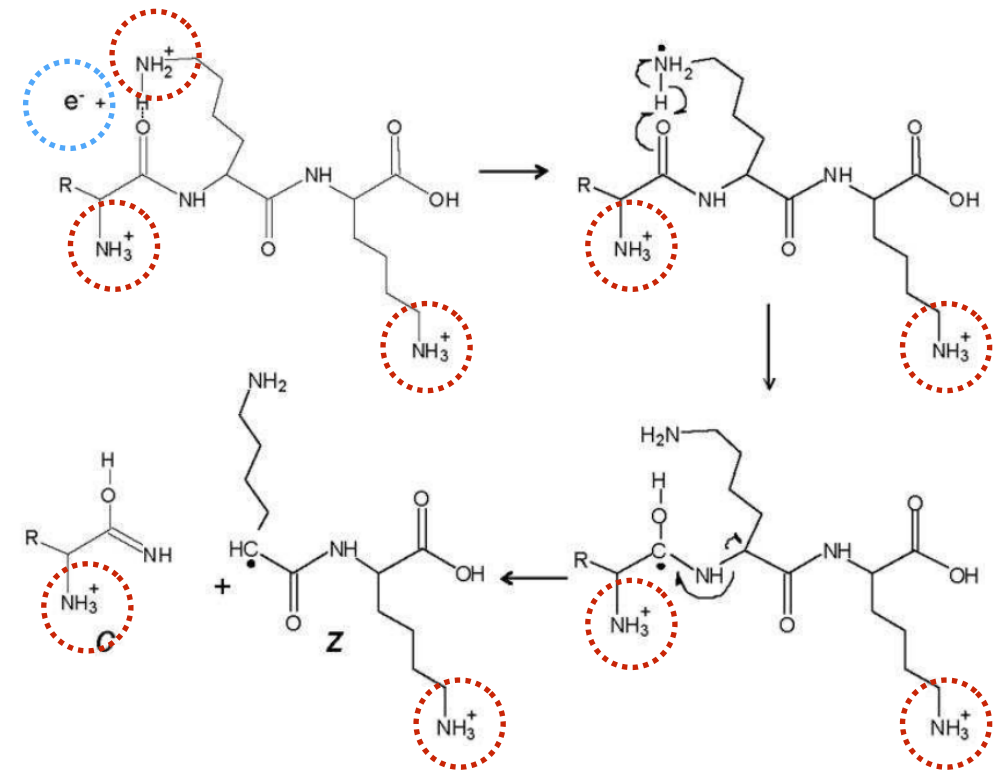
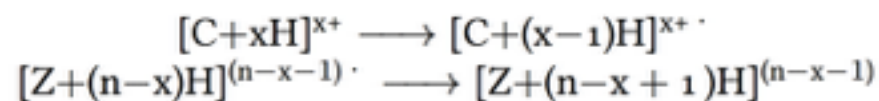
◇ PTR



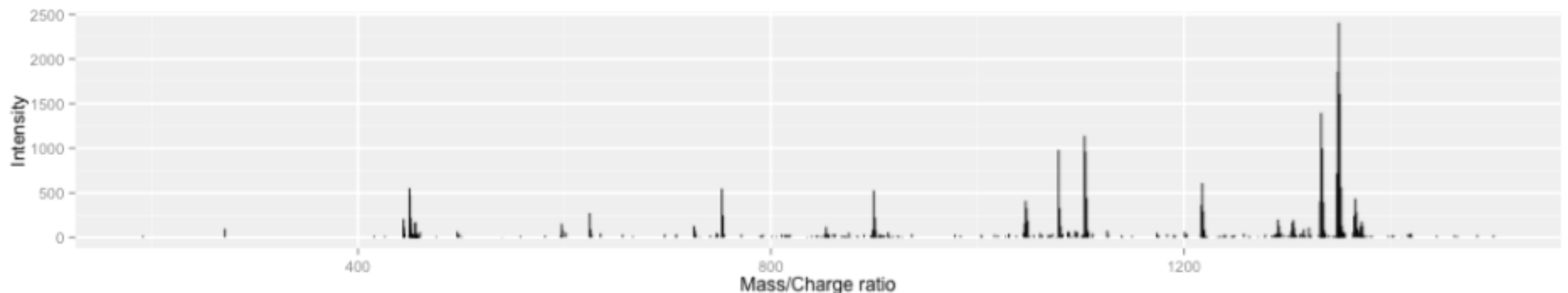
♥ ETnoD



♠ HTR

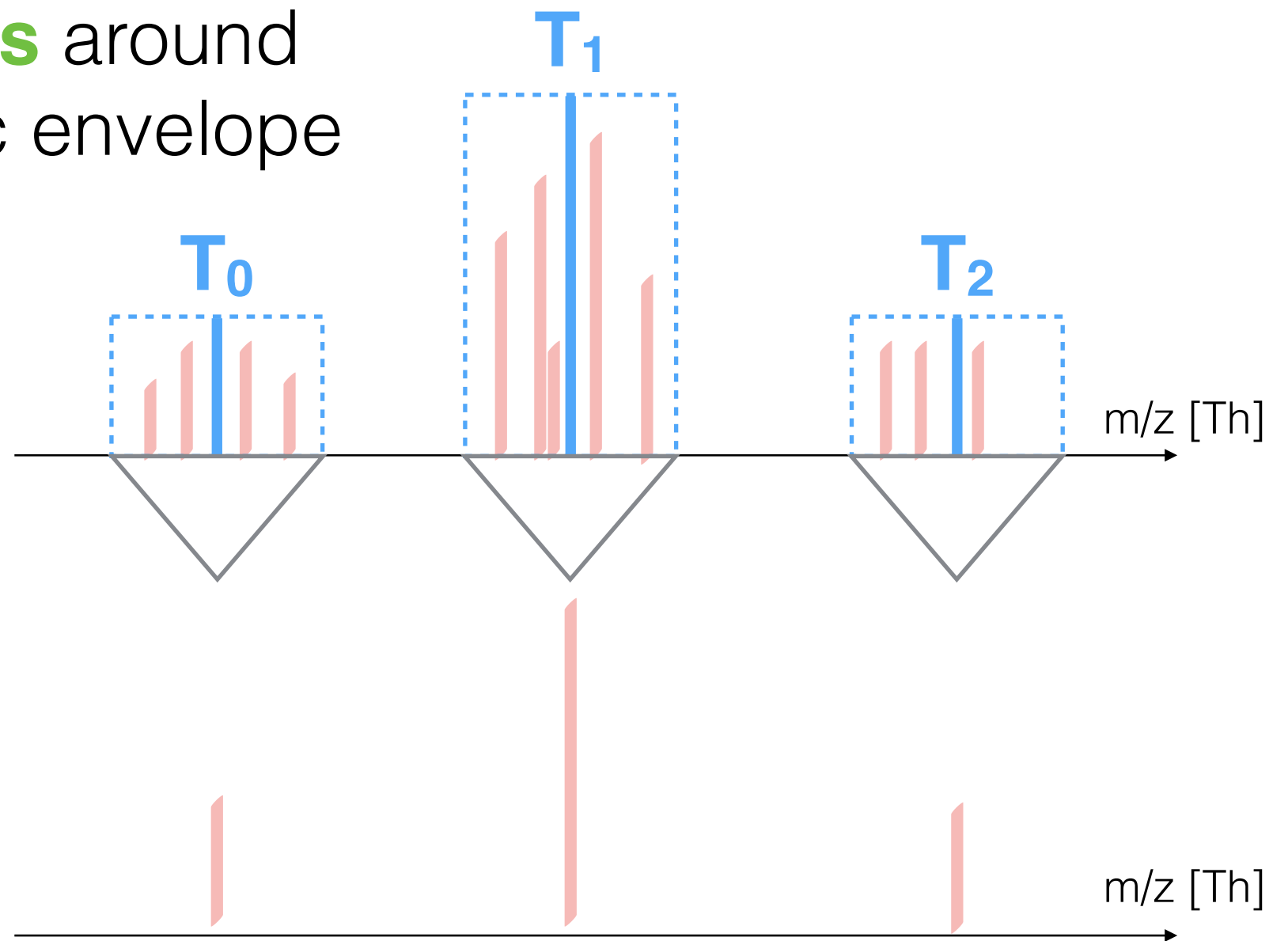


... and **imprecisions** in instrumental **mass calibration**

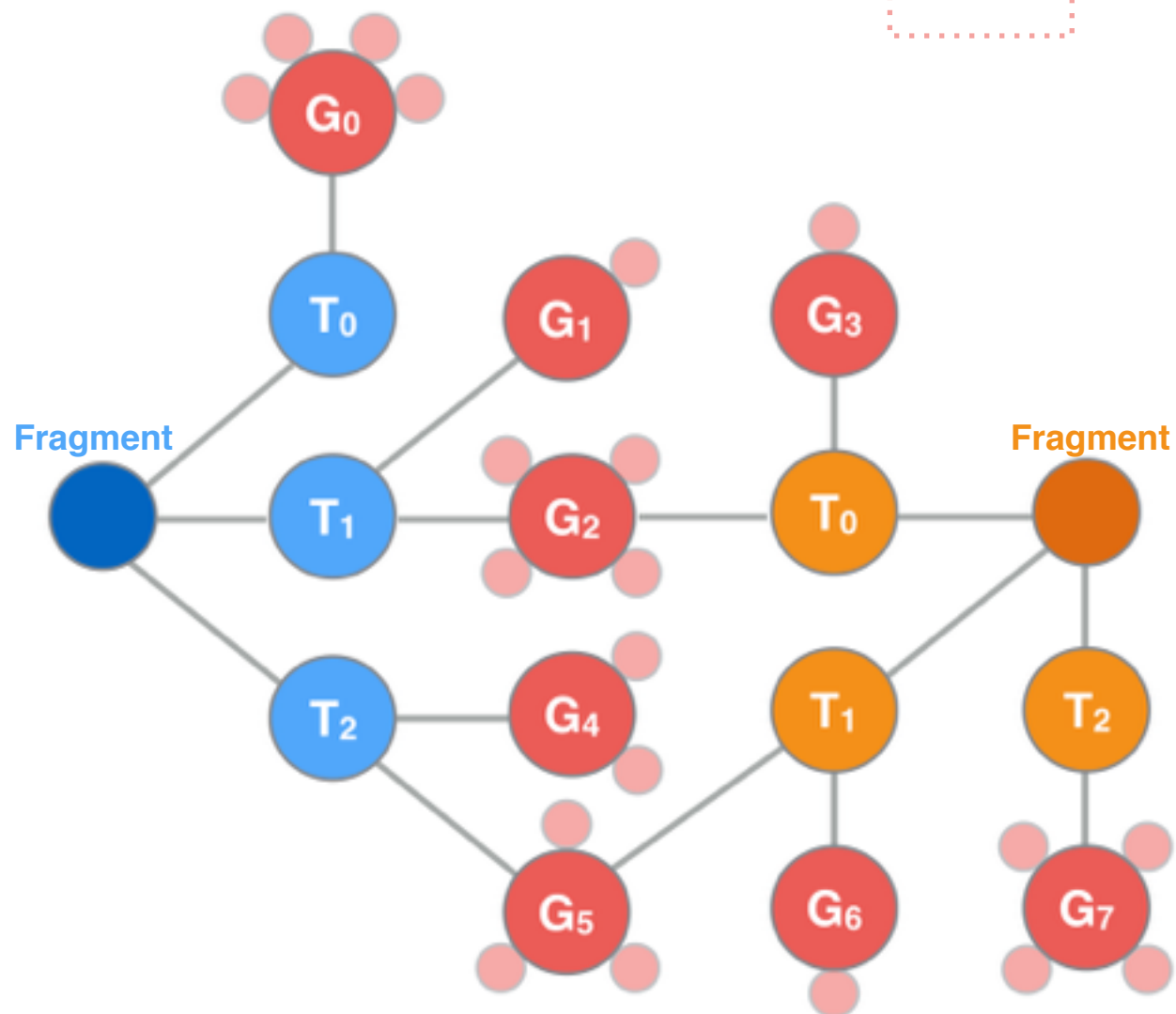
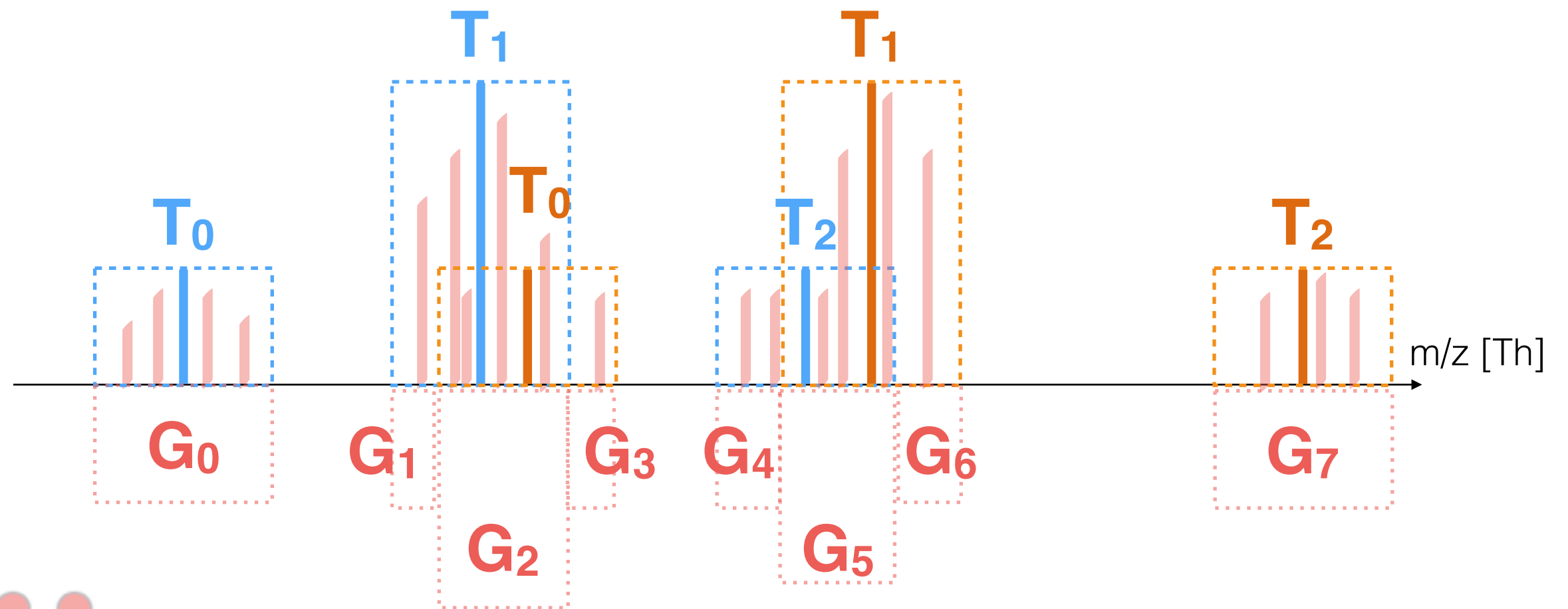


# mass imprecisions

**tolerance intervals** around  
theoretical isotopic envelope

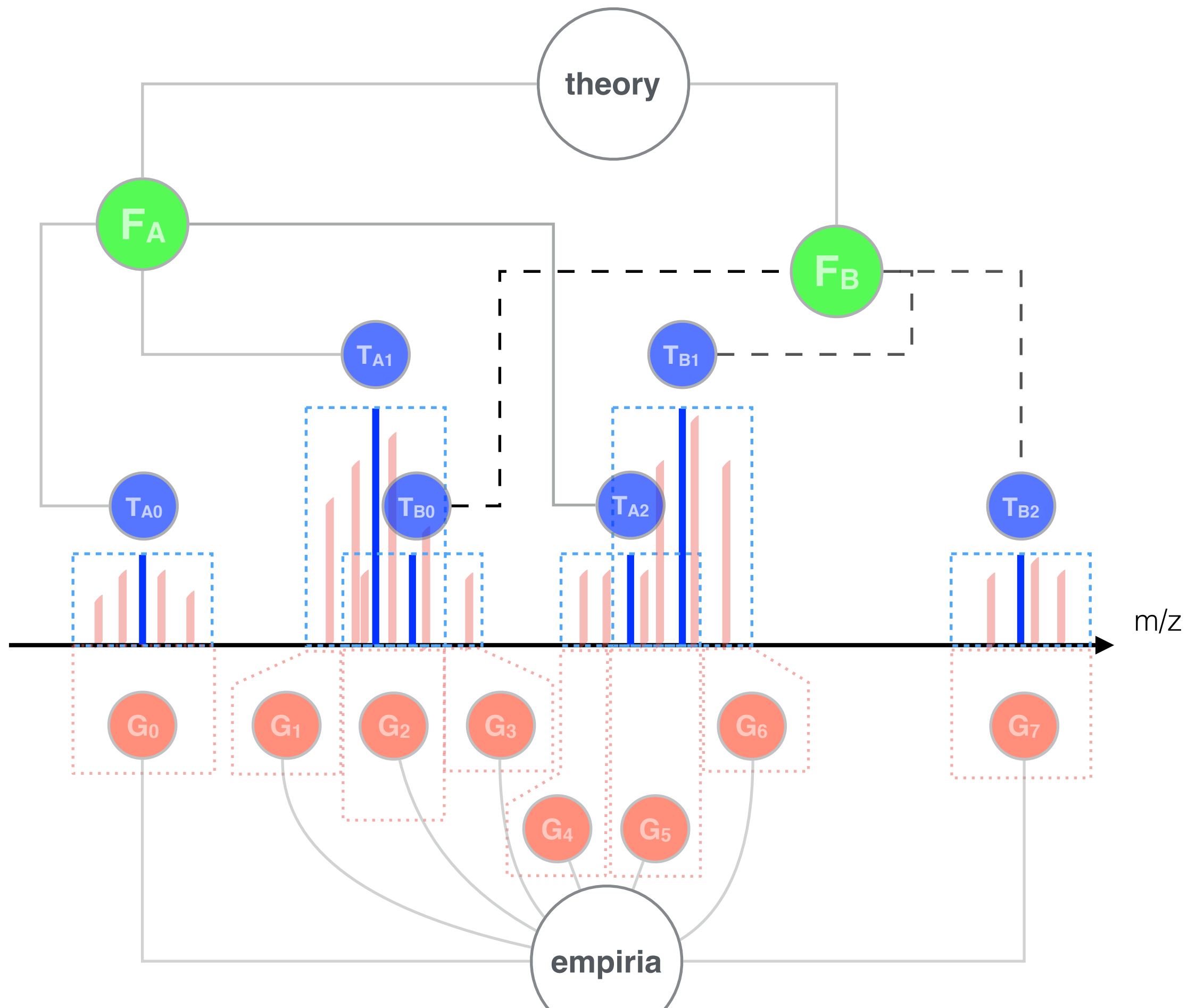


**natural data centroiding**



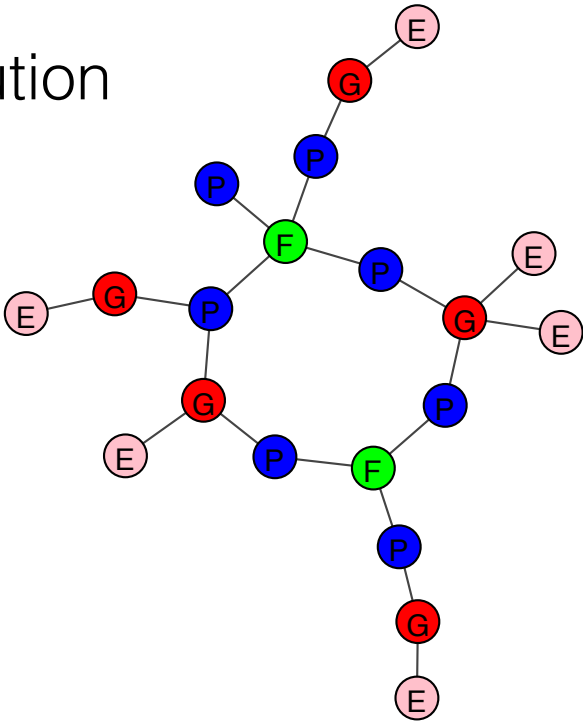
intervals may **overlap**

using **interval trees** we  
build up the  
**deconvolution graph**

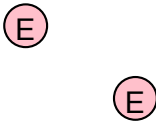


connected components of the **deconvolution graph** provide a wealth of insight into the spectrum

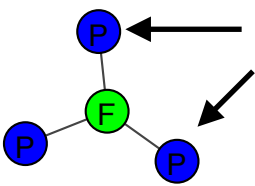
two **fragments** with empirical support: suitable for deconvolution



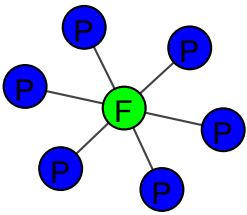
a-theoretical peaks (no **fragments** around)



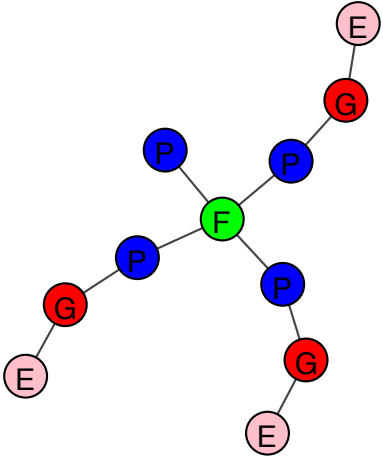
**fragment** with its isotopic envelope



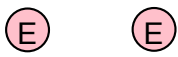
**fragment** with no empirical support



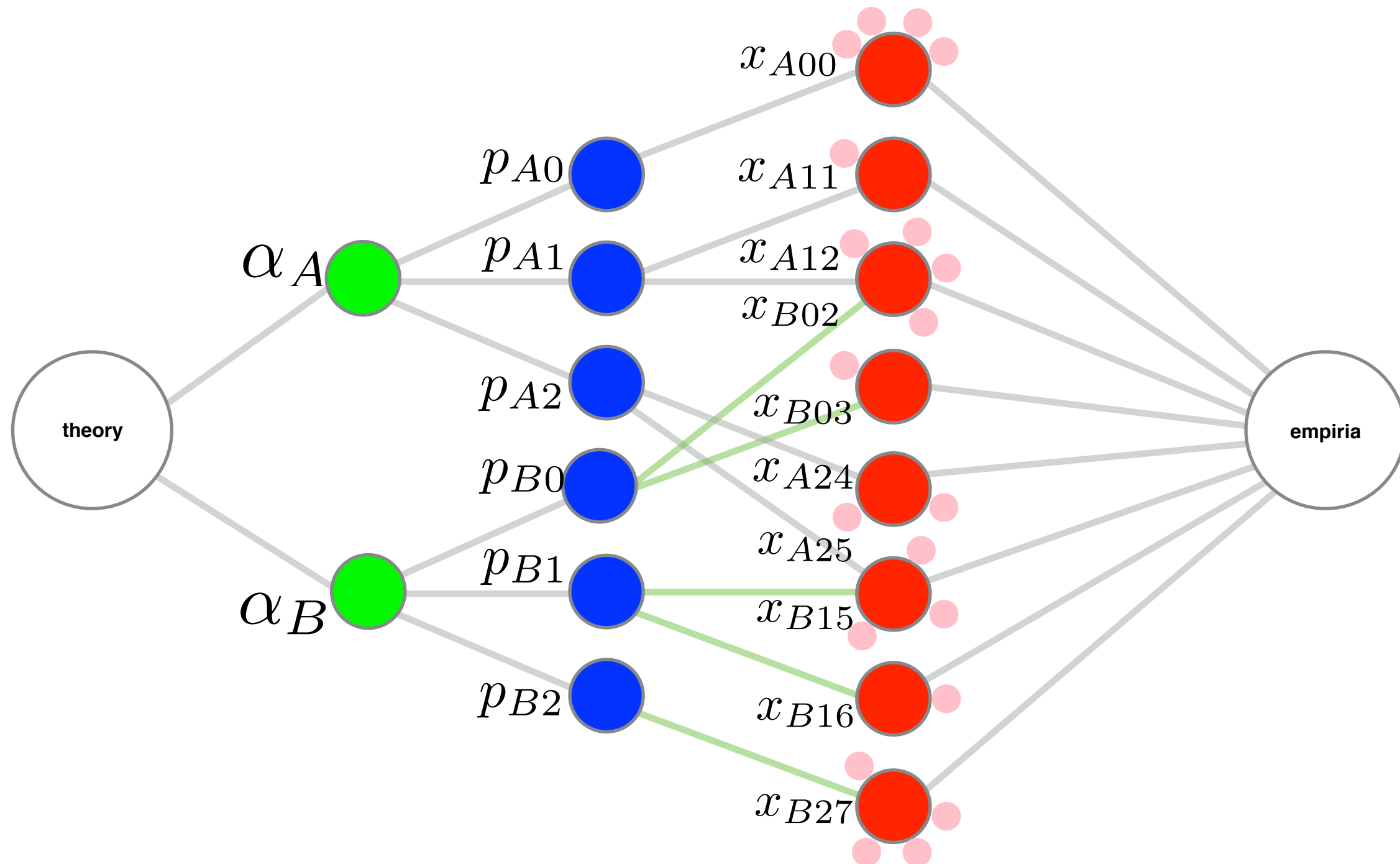
a **fragment** with empirical support: trivial case (no need for deconvolution)



more a-theoretical peaks

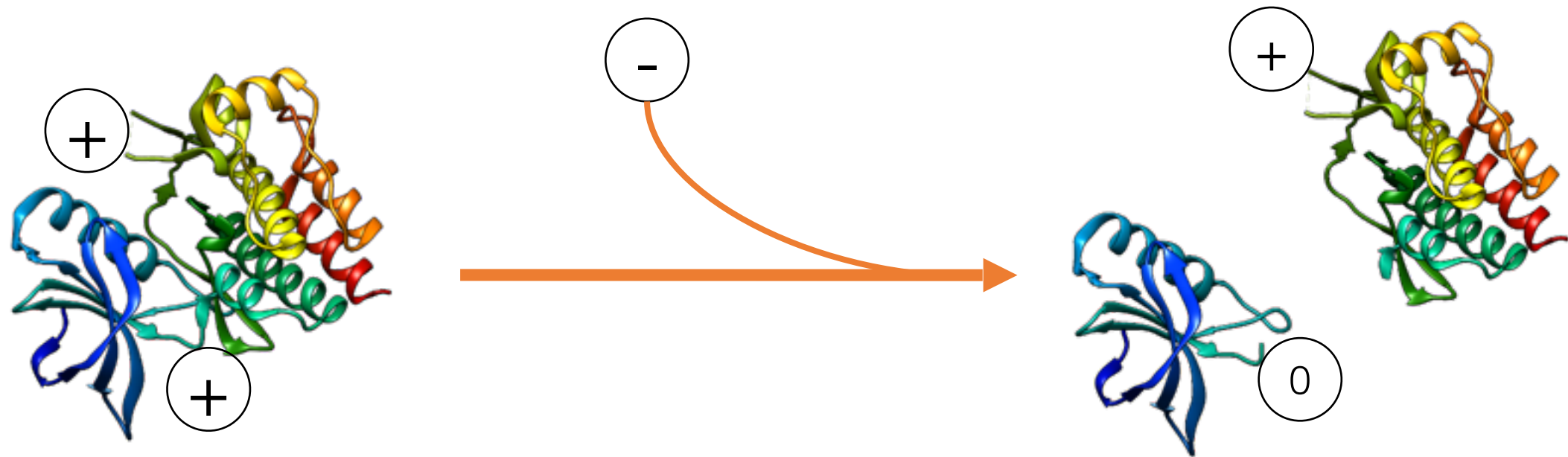


to perform **deconvolution** we present the problem as a **linear programme** similar to the **max flow** problem



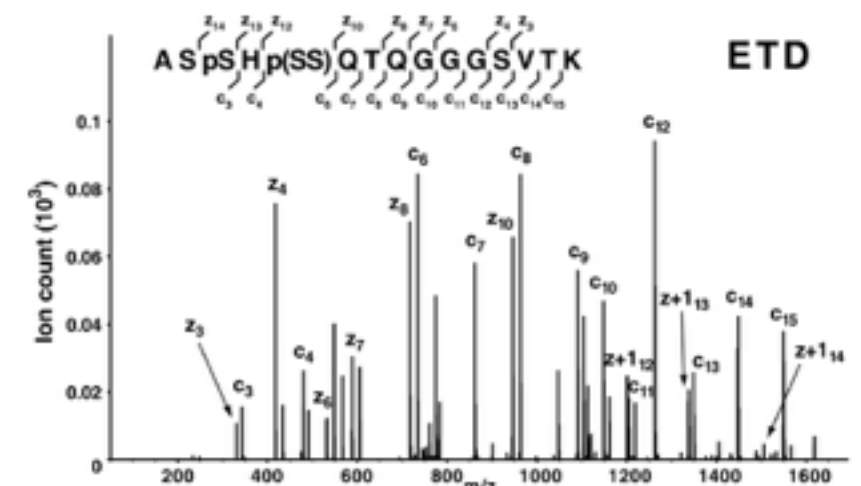


# Electron Transfer Dissociation

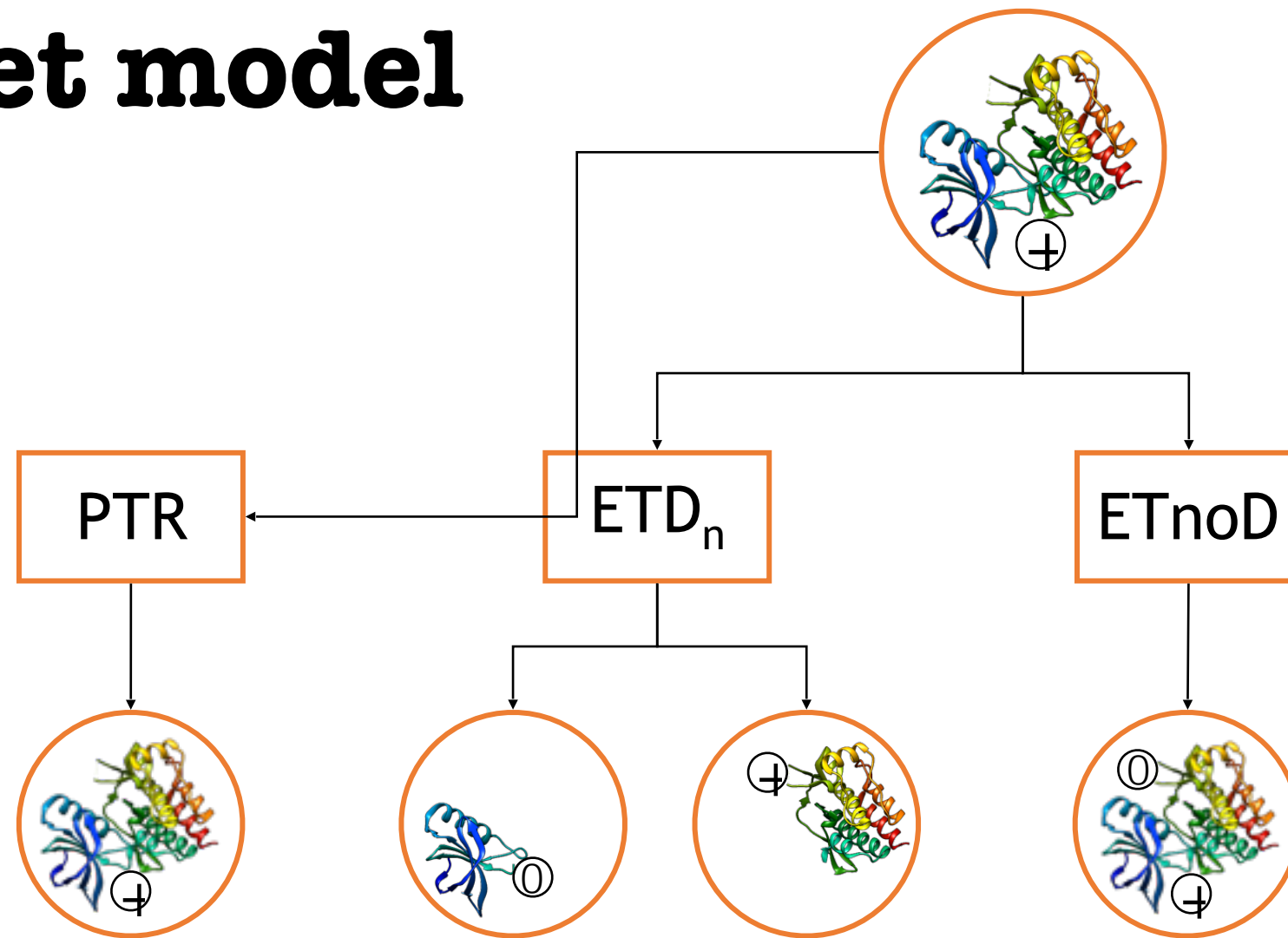


**Cleavage of protein backbone by a rapid neutralization of charge**

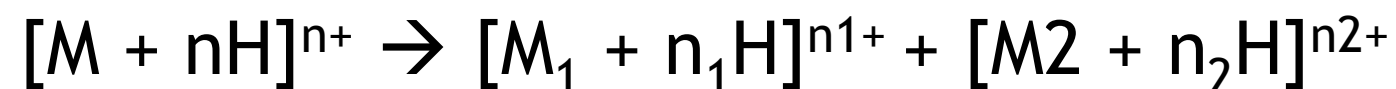
- To identify proteins
- To sequence proteins de novo
- To identify post-translational modifications



# Petri Net model



- Electron Transfer Dissociation (ETD):



- Proton Transfer Reaction (PTR):



- Electron Transfer Without Dissociation (ETnoD):



Aminoacid  
Sequence

Number of  
protons  
quenched by  
ETnoD

$(A, p, q)$

Charge

## Ion Space Parametrization

Distribute charges  
on precursor  
sequence

Draw  
reaction  
time

Draw  
reaction  
type

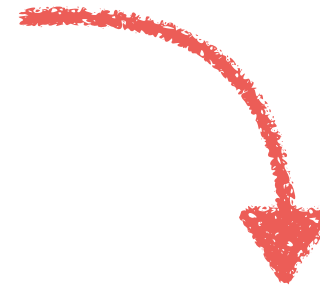
Compute  
reaction  
products

Put ions  
into  
sample

- **Evolution of an ion = Markov Jump Process**
- **Jump = transition between states**
- **Jump intensity = reaction intensity**

# Population approach

Stochastic description of a single ion



**ODE description of a big population of ions**

- $x_v(t)$ : average number of  $v$  molecules at time  $t$
- $P$ : set of input (parent) transitions
- $D$ : set of output (daughter) transitions
- $v(r)$ : substrate ion for reaction  $r$
- $I_r = I p_{v(r)}^2 P_r$ : intensity of reaction  $r$

$$\dot{x}_v(t) = \sum_{p \in P} I_p x_{v(p)}(t) - \sum_{d \in D} I_d x_v(t)$$

# Tree-like structure

- Each ion has a unique parent (substrate) ion
- Observe that a parent has +1 charge
- No parents for the root! Can be solved analytically

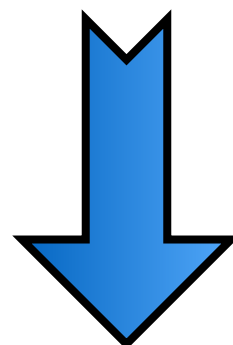
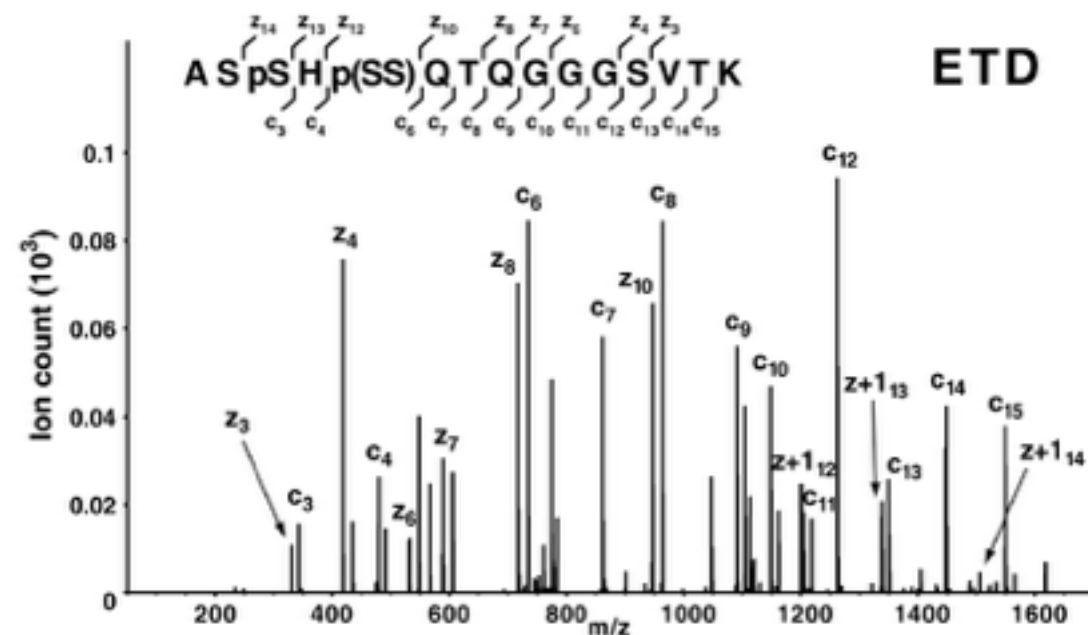
$$\dot{x}_R(t) = -Ip_R^2$$

$$x_R(t) = x_0 e^{-Ip_R^2 t}$$

•

$$x_v(t) = \sum_i A_i e^{-B_i t}$$

- $A_i, B_i$ : coefficients dependent on parent transitions
- We have derived recursive formulas for them (also previously described by Gambin & Kluge)



Sequence	Charge	Electrons	Intensity
RPKPQQ	3	0	0.25
RPKP	1	1	0.01
PQQ	1	0	0.12
...	...	...	...



# Intensity estimation

- **Idea:** find a set of intensities that best predicts the observed data
- **Solution:** minimize the discrepancy with the BFGS algorithm

$$\min_{\theta} f(\theta) = d(P_{\theta}, O) = \log \left( \sum_{(p,o) \in P_{\theta} \times O} (p - o)^2 \right)$$

( $\theta$ : vector of intensities;  $P_{\theta}$ : predicted ion proportions)

# Many thanks to collaborators



Michał Startek



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Mateusz Łącki



Piotr Dittwald



Frank Sobott



Michał Ciach