Mass Spectrometry - 1

KnowItAll Software Training

Mass Spectrometry Search



Mass Spectrometry Spectral Searching

How to Perform a Mass Spectrometry Spectral Search

Purpose

This exercise demonstrates how to perform a Mass Spectrometry spectral search.

Objectives

This exercise will teach you:

- > How to perform a straightforward search
- > How to perform a reverse search
- > How to complete a mixture analysis
- > How to perform an adaptive search (similar compound search)
- > How to perform simultaneous multiple MS spectra search

Background

Spectral searching against reference databases is frequently used in the analysis of unknown compounds. KnowItAll has full-featured MS spectrum comparison tools for this purpose.

Training Files Used in This Lesson

In C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley\KnowItAll\Samples folder

- \MS\1,1,1-Trichlorobutane Adaptive Search demo
- \MS\2-Hydroxybenzoic acid
- \Mixture Analysis\MS Examples\MS Mixture of Two 1
- Mixture Analysis\MS Examples\MS Mixture of Two 2
- \Mixture Analysis\MS Examples\MS Mixture of Three
- \GC-MS\Barbiturate GC-MS.d
- \Mixture Analysis\MS Examples\Components.SDBX

KnowItAll Applications Used

- Searchlt
- Minelt

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Algorithms



(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI 10.1002/jms.3591

Evaluation of mass spectral library search algorithms implemented in commercial software

Andrey Samokhin,^a* Ksenia Sotnezova,^a Vitaly Lashin^b and Igor Revelsky^a

MS SEARCH

Composite algorithm

$$SI = \frac{N_U \cdot \left[\frac{\left(\sum W_L \cdot W_U\right)^2}{\sum W_L^2 \sum W_U^2} \right] + \left[\sum \left(\frac{R_U}{R_L} \right)^n \right]}{N_U + N_{U\&L}}$$

Dot-product algorithm $SI = \frac{\left(\sum_{W_L} W_U\right)^2}{\sum_{W_L} W_U^2}$ Spectrum search type – identity (normal) Presearch – default Included Libs – MainLib Apply limits – unchecked Use constraints – unchecked

Spectrum search type – similarity (simple) Presearch – default Included Libs – MainLib Apply limits – unchecked Use constraints – unchecked

A. Samokhin, K. Sotnezova, V. Lashin, I. Revelsky. Evaluation of mass spectral library search algorithms implemented in commercial software. *Journal of Mass Spectrometry*. 2015, 50, 820-825.





Search Methods:

- Dot-Product (Cosine): second equation in above figure
- Wiley Dot-Product (Cosine): the Finnigan algorithm that verified at least 12 of the largest 16 peaks and the base peak match before continuing with the dot-product calculation
- Composite P1: first equation in above figure
- Composite P3: first equation in above figure P1 and P3 are different by the power applied to the weighted intensity of peak.

Optimized Corrections:

- Mass Defection is the difference between a compound's exact mass and its nominal mass. It is automatically applied for a MS search. Examples:
 - For hydrocarbon compounds, when m/z value is over 500, use 0.99888.
 - For polybrominated compounds, when there are more than 5 Br atoms and m/z value is over 800, use 1.00087.
- Spectral Skewing is caused by analyte's concentration changing during scan. A linear compensation factor (positive for ascending or negative for descending slope) is calculated for each search match. This factor corrects the intensities as follows:

I(corrected)=I * f * m,

where I=intensity, f=OC factor, and m=m/z value



Straightforward Search





	Action			Result	
2	Click User-Select.	Searchit	<no profile=""></no>		×
	Use Remove All to clean selected databases.	Search Categories	Available for Searching:		
		Spectrum MS (GC)	Internet databases are swit Li	nit to spectral technique: MS (GC) ~	Refresh Advanced
	Use Limit to spectral technique to select MS (GC).	Spectrum	User Hit List	ame IS - Maurer Pfleger Weber-Mass Spectral and GC Data of Drugs, Poisons, Pesticides, Pollutants, IS - NIST EPA NIH Mass Spectral Library 2020 IS - Sattler MICGH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hayards Compounds - Wiley	UB:Code Location WMPWSX <latest version=""> MSX <latest version=""> NSX <latest version=""></latest></latest></latest>
		Peaks		15 - Sudder Michael Galde to Chemical Hazards Compounds - Wiley 15 - SWGDRUG Mass Spectral Library - Wiley	SWGMSX <latest version=""></latest>
	Use Add All to add all MS (GC) databases.	□ Structure	1	IS - Wiley AAPs Tooxcology Section Mass spectra of Drugs 15 - Wiley Androstanes, Estrogens & other Steroids 15 - Wiley Coechemicals, Petrochemicals & Biomarkers 15 - Wiley Geochemicals, Petrochemicals & Biomarkers	AFX <latest version=""> MUX <latest version=""> MDX <latest version=""> MGX <latest version=""></latest></latest></latest></latest>
	Click Search	Property/Name	~ 2	45 - Wilau Industrial Chamicals	MTY clatest Versions
		Search Databases	Add All Add		Remove Remove All
		User-Select	Name	DB Code Location	A
		O All Compounds	MS - Maurer Pfleger Weber-M MS - NIST EPA NIH Mass Spec MS - Sadtler NIOSH Pocket Gu	ss Spectral and GC Data of Dr., WMPW5X C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley ral Library 2020 MSX C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley da to Chomical Hazards Com, NSX C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley	(XnowItAll\Databases\MS\MS - Maurer Pfleger Weber-GC (XnowItAll\Databases\MS\MS - NIST EPA NIH Mass Spectra (XnowItAll\Databases\MS\MS - Sattler NICSH Protect Guid
		O Pure Compounds	MS - SWGDRUG Mass Spectral MS - Wiley AAFS Toxicology Se MS - Wiley Androstanes, Estror	Library - Wiley SWGMSX C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley tion Mass Spectra of Drugs AFX C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley mes & other Steroids MUX C:\Users\Public\Documents\Wiley	(KnowitAll/Databases/WS/MS - SWGDRUG Mass Spectral Li /KnowitAll/Databases/MS/MS - Sadtler AAFS Toxicology Se /KnowitAll/Databases/MS/MS - Wiley Androstanes, Estroge v
			Select by Browsing		
		1	Hit List Size Limit: 50 🔹 🗆 🗸	II Hits	Search
		2.6-Diaminohexanoic acid hydr	rochloride X		



	Action						Result
3	Click the Butterfly view icon to place the unknown	A ta	arge	t fror	nad	lata	abase is found.
3	Click the Butterfly view icon to place the unknown and reference spectrum in the opposite Y-direction.	A ta	It It Profile: a Berzoca Berzoca Berzoca a Intervention a	t fron c fron c fron c front c fron	n a d h h f i y y y c c s d i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Image: state	abase is found. Public construction con
		Hits	s are	initiated fo	ally s or ea	sorte ich r	ted by the Hit Quality Index (HQI) . Reverse Hit Quality Index (R.HQI) is also reference spectrum.



	Action	Result						
4	HQI (Hit Quality Index)	The HQI value measures how close the reference HQI is 0-100. You can change the scale from	ence spectrum is t Minelt > File > P	to that of the query. The default scale of references > Hit List.				
		Advanced Settings		×				
		PubChem Data Import NM	R Multiplet Report					
		Auto Property Compute Property D	Display Hit List					
		☐ Display hits from a search performed on the netw corresponding local database (if it exists) to enha	work from the Ince performance					
		Hit Quality Index Format:						
		\bigcirc Sadtler (best = 999 worst = 0)						
		Sautier (best = 555, worst = 0)						
		○ Best = 0, worst = 1.4						
		Best = 100, worst = 0						
		OK Cancel	Apply					
		Note: Reverse Search ignores peaks that are the unknown spectrum might be a mixture and	e in unknown but r d the reference sp	not in reference. One scenario is that bectrum might be a component.				

Note: one can view the metadata of query spectrum by



Absorband	e	
% Transmi	ttance	
X-Axis For	mat	>
Active Pea	ks	Ctrl+K
All Peaks		Ctrl+Q
Functiona	Group Analysis Structu	re
Standard 1	Toolbar	
Spectrum	Toolbar	
Status Bar		

View > Query Spectrum Info
 Query Spectrum Info
 in SearchIt and

	View Database Hit List MS Tools NMF	Tools Window License Help	
	Absorbance % Transmittance	Expert 😪 Searchit 🌱 QC Expert 🛇 Pro	cessit
	Edit Mode > Display Mode > Auto Scale Mode > X-Axis Format > Spectrum Overview Pane	Lookup Compound: • 翻聲 ※ 从 繰 加 垂 毌 钟 山 丽 楚 汹 加 血	ali a
	View Default Region Ctrl+1 View Entire Spectrum Ctrl+0 Peaks > Integrals > ✓ Included Spectrum Range		
	Toolbars >		
	Windows/Tables >	Spectrum Pane Alt-	-6
	Implicit Hydrogens Assignment Information >	 Structure/Properties Table Alt+ Peak Table Alt+ AUC/Integration Table Coupling Data Table Search Parameters Table Alt+ Search Overview Pane Alt- 	-3 -2 -5 -7
ctrum Info	4000 0000 0000	Query Spectrum Info	in a Minelt hit list

• View > Windows/Tables > Query Spec



Optimized Corrections





	Action	Result	
2	Optimized Corrections for MS spectrum is default to be checked.	One can see that Mass Defection (the difference between nominal mass) is automatically applied. Many other criteri (analyte's concentration changing during scan), can be ap search.	a compound's exact mass and its ion, such as Spectral Skewing plied by users choice to improve a
	Click Advanced Setting button	Advanced Settings	×
		Optimized Corrections	Remove Duplicates
	Advanced Settings	☑ Enabled	Remove Replicates
		Spectral Skewing	
	Click OK to close this dialog	✓ Mass Defect Correction	
	Click the Search button		
		Manual Mass Defect Correction:	
		Minimum Required Peak Count: 5	
		Minimum Abundance: 0 %	
		Minimum m/z: 0	
		$\Box \operatorname{Maximum} m/z: \qquad 0$	Set As Default
		For adaptive searches, if mass of	Reset To Default
		query is unknown, maximum Δm:	
			OK Cancel
		-	







Reverse Search

This search ignores peaks that are in unknown but not in reference





	Action	Result
3	In Minelt, make sure that Subtract View (circled) is	Minelt
	selected.	🗋 🖆 📲 📲 📲 📲 💼 💼 👘 👘 V Lookup Compound: 🔰 🛛 Pub©hem 🔥
		Display Profiles: <no profile=""> • 🎛 🇱 🔀</no>
	In the spectrum pane , the first row is the unknown, the	╡┡╶┼ <mark>╢<mark>ᇝ</mark>ᄤᄵᆡᅅ涎ᄵ╷↔ᄊᅓᅚᆡᅖᅖᇞᆐ<mark>ᆐ</mark>ᇔ</mark> ᇏᆝᅇᅖᅖᅋᇧᄵᆡᄱᅋᅋᇭᆙᇥᆙᄯᄯᆝᅋ
	last row is the reference spectrum, and the middle row is	
	the difference between the two.	- MSMixtu #1; MX1 - 50% Methyl isocyanide + 50% Behenyl palmitate
		- Dimerence Speqirum
		- Compose #17: Methyl isocyanide
		0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 400 450 500 550 m/z
		MS (GC)
		Table Plot Related Compounds View
		R.HQI ▼ HQI → Tag→ DB→ ID → Name → Spectrum <auto> (MS (GC))></auto>
		1 987.99 57.44 pmpo <u>17</u> Methyl isocyanide
		2 978.24 970.04 pmpo 21 Behenyl palmitate
		3 673.90 292.00 pmpo 7 2-Isononenal
l		
		4 665.67 397.04 pmpo 1 (Z)-11-Tetradecenal
		The hits are initially sorted by the Reverse Search HQI (R.HQI)
		The fine are minutely concer by the reverse course first (rifter).





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Mixture Analysis

A mixture wherein two-component MS spectra have limited overlap, and one of them has a large MS range





	Action			Result			
2	Click on User-Select .	Searchit	<no profile=""></no>				×
	Make sure Components database is selected to use.	Search Categories	Available for Searching:				
		Spectrum MS (GC)	Internet databases are swit	Limit to spectral technique: All		Refresh	Advanced
	Click Search .	Spectrum	Reference User Hit List	Name 11B NMR - Wolfgang Robien 13C NMR - AIST SDBS	DB Code Locatio RBX <latest NLX <latest< th=""><th>n Version> Version></th><th></th></latest<></latest 	n Version> Version>	
		Peaks		13C, NMR - Havors & Hagrances - Wiley 13C, NMR - Natural Products - Wiley 13C, NMR - Organic Compounds - Wiley 13C, NMR - Organic Compounds - Wiley	NFX <latest NPX <latest NOX <latest< th=""><th>Version> Version></th><th></th></latest<></latest </latest 	Version> Version>	
		□ Structure		13C NMR - Sadtler - Wiley 13C NMR - Sadtler NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards Compounds - Wiley 13C NMR - Sadtler Polymers & Monomers - Wiley 13C NMR - Wifenang Rohien	NNX <latest NNX <latest NMX <latest< th=""><th>Version> Version> Version></th><th></th></latest<></latest </latest 	Version> Version> Version>	
		Property/Name	~	< C			>
		Search Databases	Add All Add Selected for Searching:			Remove	Remove All
		User-Select All Compounds	Name Components	D8 Code Location Compone C:\Users\mdsouza\OneL	rive - Wiley\Desktop\KnowitAll 2	021\MA\Component	s.sdbx
		O Pure Compounds					
			Select by Browsing				
			Hit List Size Limit: 50 🔹 🗆	All Hits			Search







A more complex example





	Action			Result			
2	Click on User-Select.	Searchit	<no profile=""></no>				×
	Make sure the Components detabase is calcuted for	Search Categories	Available for Searching:				
	use.	Spectrum MS (GC)	Internet databases are swit	Limit to spectral technique: All v	DB Code	Refresh	Advanced
		Spectrum	User Hit List	118 NMR - Wolfgang Robien 13C NMR - AIST SDBS 13C NMR - Elswer & Engranger, Wiley	RBX NLX	<latest version=""> <latest version=""></latest></latest>	
	Click Search .	Peaks		13C NMR - Natural Products - Wiley 13C NMR - Organic Compounds - Wiley 13C NMR - Organic Compounds - Wiley	NPX NOX	<latest version=""> <latest version=""></latest></latest>	
		Structure		13C, NMK - Sadtler - Wiley 13C, NMK - Sadtler NOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards Compounds - Wiley 13C, NMK - Sadtler Polymers & Monomers - Wiley	NNX NMX	<latest version=""> <latest version=""> <latest version=""></latest></latest></latest>	,
		Property/Name	· ·	13C NMR - Wolfnann Rohien	WRY	<latest th="" version's<=""><th>></th></latest>	>
		Search Databases	Add All Add Selected for Searching:			Remove	Remove All
		User-Select	Name	DB Code Location	rive - Wiley/Deskton	KnowitAll 2021\MA\Components	sthy
		 All Compounds 	components	Compose C. (Osci (insolate (osci	ine meyoeskop	periodine di 202 reporte componento	
		○ Pure Compounds					
			Select by Browsing				
		ŀ	Hit List Size Limit: 50 🔹 🗌	All Hits			Search







Adaptive Search

This search finds similar compounds where a fragment group can be present or missing compared to the unknown. The presence/absence of a fragment causes some peak positions in reference MS differing to that of unknown by a delta mass (Δ m). KnowltAll shifts some peaks by the Δ m to achieve a better matching score. Because of the better matching score, similar compounds come atop of the hit list. To clearly mark the shifts done by Adaptive Search, dotted lines are used to show reference spectrum before and after shifting in the pop-up window when you click on the (i) button in a hit.

Example wherein exact mass is in a spectrum





	Action	Result
2	Click User-Select button	Search Categories Available for Searching Terrories attained availables are write. Limit to spectral technique: MS (GC)
	Use Remove All to clean selected databases.	Peterson No (Cu) Peterson Peteterson Peterson Peterson Peterson Peterson Pet
	Use Limit to spectral technique: and select MS (GC).	Mos Mayer Meger Weber Akas Spectral and CC Data of Drug, Poison, Perticides, Politutets, and Their Metabolites, Sth Cillion - Wiley WMWXS <latet version=""> MS Wiley Mass Spectral (Linuxy of Updas) WMXX <latet version=""> Structure MS Wiley Mass Spectral (Linuxy of Updas) WMXX <latet version=""> MS Wiley Mass Spectral (Linuxy of Updas) WMXX <latet version=""> MS Wiley Mass Spectra of Designer Drugs 2021 WDC1X <latet version=""> MS Wiley Mass Spectra of Designer Drugs 2023 WDC1X <latet version=""> MS Viley Mass Spectra of Designer Drugs 2021 WDC1X <latet version=""></latet></latet></latet></latet></latet></latet></latet>
	Scroll down the list and highlight the WMS3X database.	Search Databases Wis-Select Add All Add Remove All
	Use Add to add MS (GC) databases by codes: WMS3X.	All Compounds All Com
	Click Search .	Summary
		Select by Browing
3	Click the Butterfly view icon	Minel × D (2) 学 平 电 致 致 致 行 法 tookup Compound; Pack@heren 10;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;
		$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}$

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	Action	Result	
4	Highlight the 2 nd then the 3 rd hit.	Minelt Publichem k Depays Profiles Publichem k 1	$\label{eq:constructs} \begin{tabular}{ c c c c } \hline \begin{tabular}{ c c c c c } \hline \begin{tabular}{ c c c c c c } \hline \begin{tabular}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
5	Go back to Searchlt . Click Spectrum MS(GC) Check Adaptive Search . Click Search .	 Adaptive Search Molecular m/z: 138 If a spectrum file contains the molecular ion mass, it will be displayed ir and a solid triangle marks this position in the spectrumPane. You can type in an appropriate value as well. This value is used to assi Or, you can ask KnowltAll to estimate a molecular mass for you by clic! However, if molecular ion mass is unknown, this box would be empty. If will estimate this value from the input unknown MS spectrum. 	erse Search e molecular <i>m/z</i> value n the "Molecular <i>m/z</i> ." box, ist Adaptive Search. king the bulb icon. KnowltAll Adapative Search







The result looks good. Δm of 1 suggests a few possibilities wherein the unknown's molecular ion mass (m/z) is 1 unit more than that of the reference. One of them is "**In unknown, Oxygen replaces Nitrogen in reference**."

Columns of interest:

- Δm : the molecular ion mass of unknown minus that of the reference
- **Am Info**: details on reference peak shifts to make the match
- **Replacement**: suggestions of **possible** group exchange which would cause the difference between unknown and reference molecular ion masses



7 Click (i) in the Δm Info column. This brings up the Adaptive Corrections html page which explains how selective peaks have been shifted to obtain good Hit Quality Index (HQI). - □ Image: Adaptive Corrections and the middle of the context	one i	×	-





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Example wherein exact mass is NOT in a spectrum













Alternatively, one can use the molecular ion mass estimation icon 🖄 to estimate the molecular ion mass:

	Action	Result
1	Go Back to Searchlt . Click the icon. Let the calculation complete.	SearchIt × An estimated mass of 160 was found with more than 90% confidence.
		OK Cancel
3	Click OK button	The estimated molecular ion mass value fills the box

NOTE: KnowltAll runs an adaptive search of the unknown against all of our MS databases. The resulting hit list is then analyzed in steps. The

mass of every hit list entry is calculated as the nominal mass of the compound in the database record plus the Δm found for the match. Matches of equal mass are then grouped together into clusters. The higher the found HQI, the higher the score for an individual match. Scores for clusters are then calculated as a combination of individual match scores with additional information such as the number of entries in the cluster and the separation from the next best cluster. The cluster with the best score determines the found mass. As side information of this procedure, information on confidence that the found mass will be correct is reported.

The confidence values found by the algorithm were determined by running statistics with thousands of very diverse compound spectra run against our MS data.



Simultaneous Multiple MS Spectra Search





	Action	Result					
2	Pick multiple MS spectrum in the MS Spectra Scan Selection dialog	349 4.444 350 4.45333 351 4.46317					
	For example, 292, 346, 366	$ \begin{array}{c} 351 & 4.40317 \\ \hline 352 & 4.4725 \\ \hline 353 & 4.48233 \\ \hline \end{array} $					
	Click OK button	355 4.49167 355 4.50133 356 4.51083 357 4.5205 358 4.53 359 4.53967 360 4.54917					
		□ 361 4.55883 □ 362 4.56917 □ 363 4.579 □ 364 4.58833 □ 365 4.59817 ☑ 366 4.60767 □ 367 4.61733 □ 368 4.62767					
		Select All Deselect All Time of current scan: 2.136 min Spectrum import mode Import MS spectrum/spectra Import chromatogram OK					

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Other Tools for Mass Spectrometry

Elemental Composition

	Action	Result			
1	From the Menu , navigate to MS Tools > Calculate Elemental Composition.	Elemental Composition Calculator X			
		Target Mass: 388 ± 0.5 u ~			
		Element: Mass: Min. Count: Max. Count: Charge:			
		C ~ 12 1 20 -1 0 0 +1			
		H ~ 1.0078250322 1 36 T			
		O ~ 15.994914619 1 2 •			
		Reset Calculate Close			
		You can fill in this dialog with target mass and elemental information.			



	Action						R	esult		
2	Click Calculate.	Elemental Composition Results ×								
		Tarc	et Mass: 38	8 ± 0.5	u					
			Charge: 0		R	esult Count: 6				
		С	н	0	1	m	Δm [u]	Am (ppm)		
		18	13	2	1	387.9960	-0.0040	-10.2457		
		19	17	1	1	388.0324	0.0324	83.5314		
		20	5	1	1	387.9385	-0.0615	-158.4799		
		17	25	2	1	388.0899	0.0899	231.7656		
		19	1	2	1	387.9021	-0.0979	-252.2570		
		18	29	1	1	388.1263	0.1263	325.5427		
							Сору То С	lipboard	Close	
					AVP	TAUP IVIASS: 200.22	TXactiviass.		anviass: poo inc.	
		Knov	/ItAll prov	vides o	combi	nations of the	ese eleme	nts.		



Isotopic Distribution

	Action	Result				
1	Double-click the structure pane to bring up ChemWindow or use the Transfer to: bar and select ChemWindow at the top of the application.	▲ Open × Look in: GC-MS Image: Comparison of the product of				
	Click File > Open.	Quick access				
	Select a structure from the Samples > GC-MS folder.	Image: Standard				



	Action	Result
2	Navigate to MS Tools > Calculate Isotopic Distribution. Click Calculate.	Cherrickindow X File fait View Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help MMS Genix Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Arrange Colos Cherristry MSTools Help Image: Colos Cherristry MSTools Cherritet Cherristry MSTools Cherritet Cherristry



Molecular Fragmentation

In ChemWindow, you can use the MS fragmentation tools to view possible fragments and corresponding masses.

	Action	Result
1	In the Edit toolbar on the left, click on the MS fragmentation tool.	File Edit View Arrange Colors Demixity MS Tools Help Berbal Berbal Openie Image Autors Image Autors



Solid Triangle Marks Nominal Mass

- In the spectrum display, KnowltAll marks the nominal mass of the structure that corresponds to the spectrum. This mass is shown as a black triangle.
- When importing a spectrum from a data file, a number of import formats define fields for molecular *m*/*z* (also called precursor *m*/*z* or base peak *m*/*z* in some cases) and the charge of the molecular ion. To convert from molecular *m*/*z* to exact mass, the following formulae are used:
 - For positive charges:
 - $M_{exact} = (Mz M(H) + M(e))$ * charge, where M(H) is the mass of a hydrogen atom, and M(e) is the mass of an electron.
 - For negative charges:
 - M_{exact} = (Mz M(e)) * (-charge).
 - If no charge is defined, a default charge of +1 is assumed.
- If a data file does not have the molecular m/z field defined, the exact mass is calculated from the formula field, if available.

