

# Examining the Role of Discharge Gas and Vapour Introduction for Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

Davin Carter

Chemistry  
UBC Okanagan



a place of mind

M. Sc. Thesis Defence  
May 14, 2012

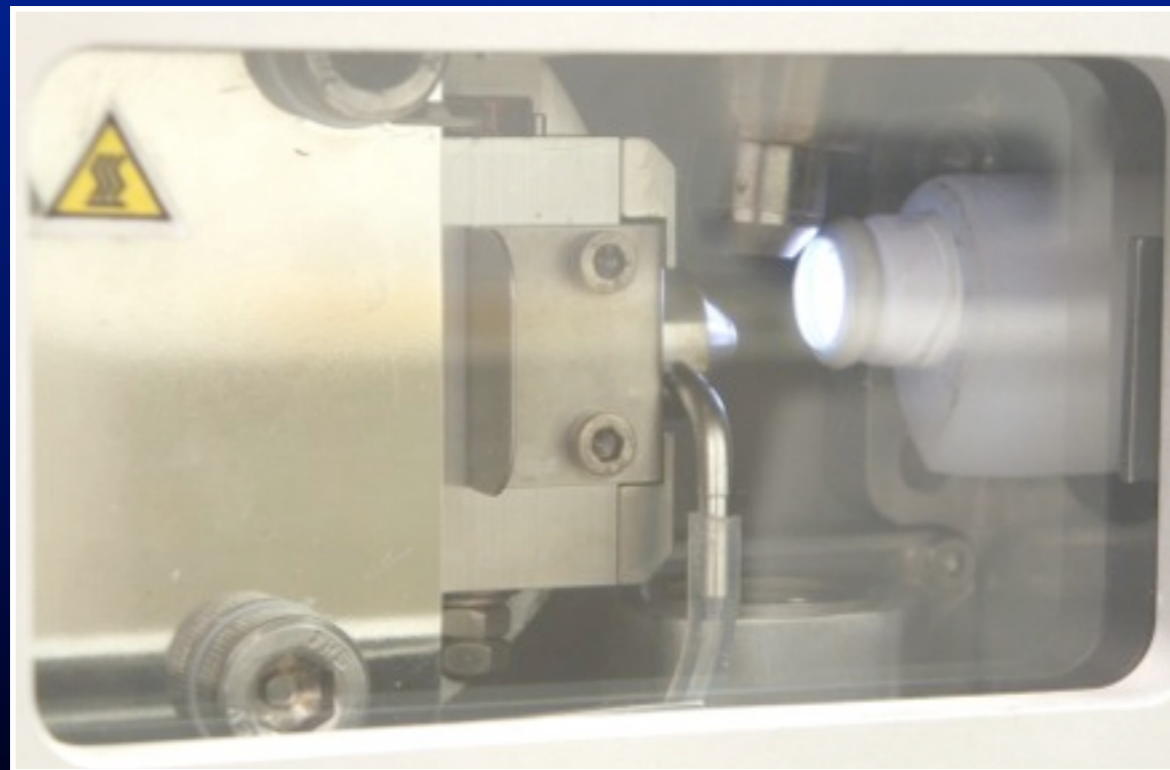
# Presentation Outline

## Introduction

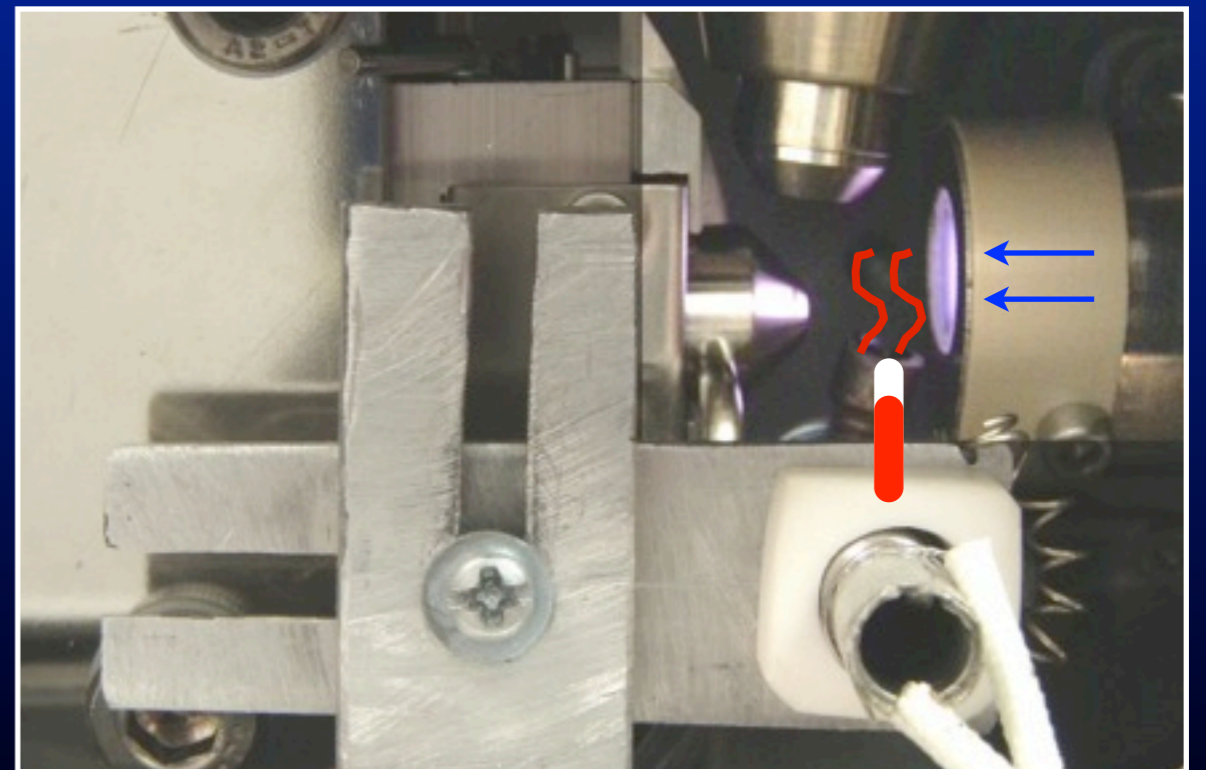
## Lightning Ion Source

## Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## Conclusions



Lightning Ion Source



Vapour Introduction

# Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer

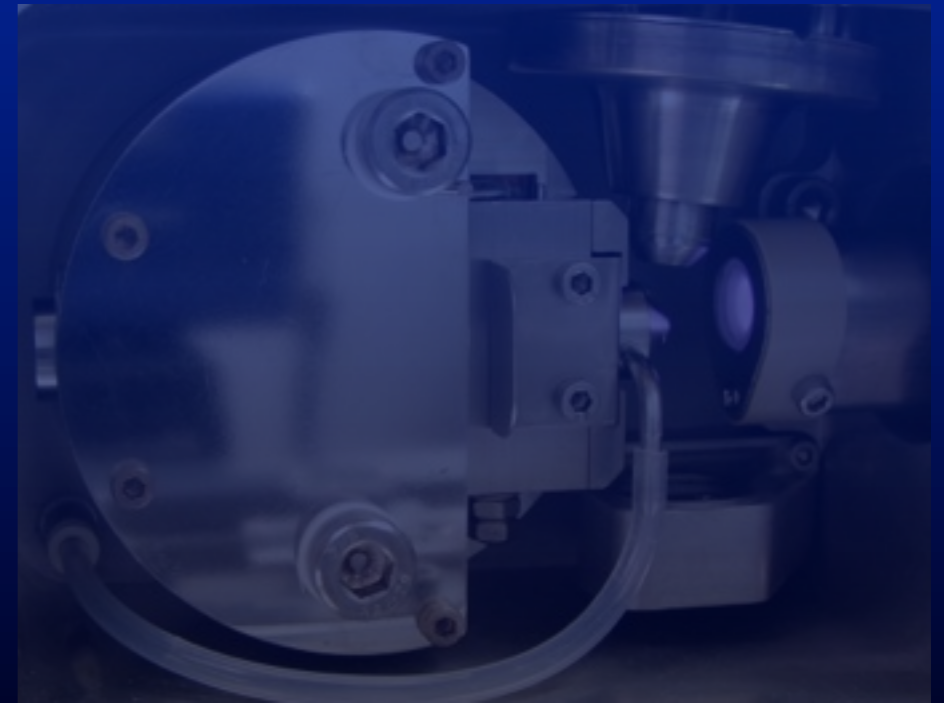


Waters MS/MS



Waters MS/MS  
naked

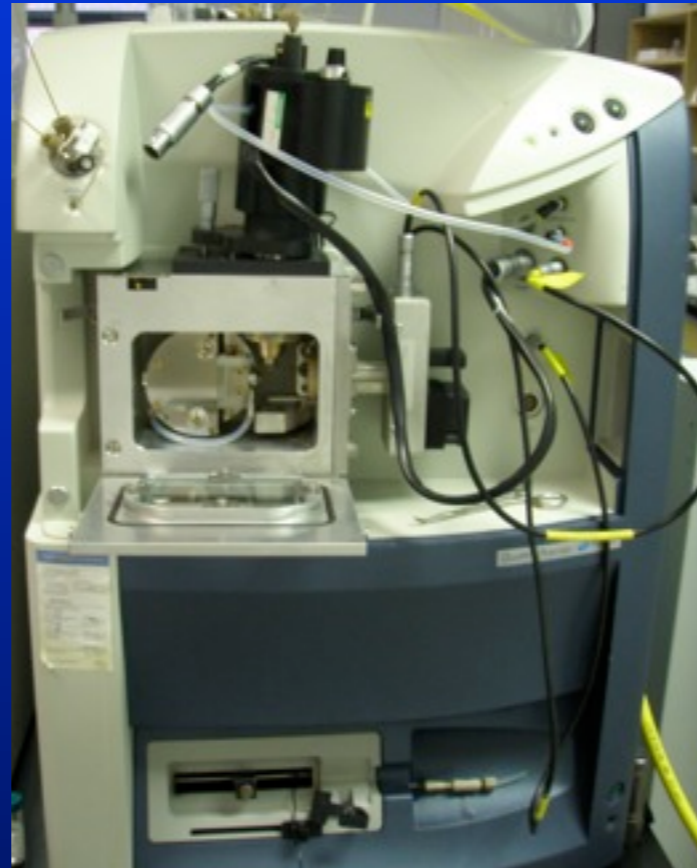
ionization chamber



# Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer

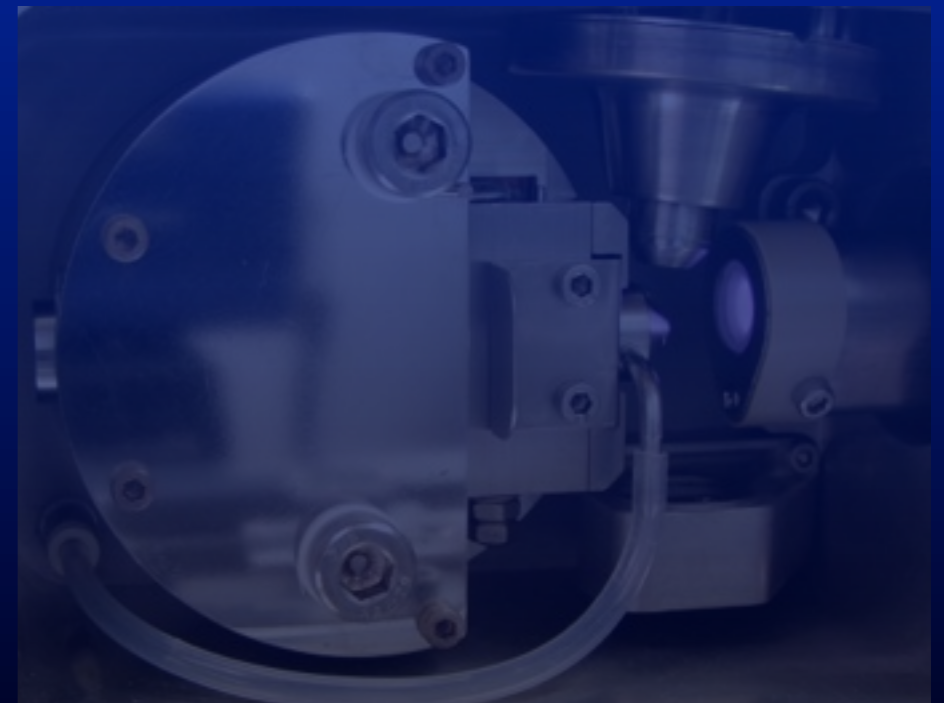


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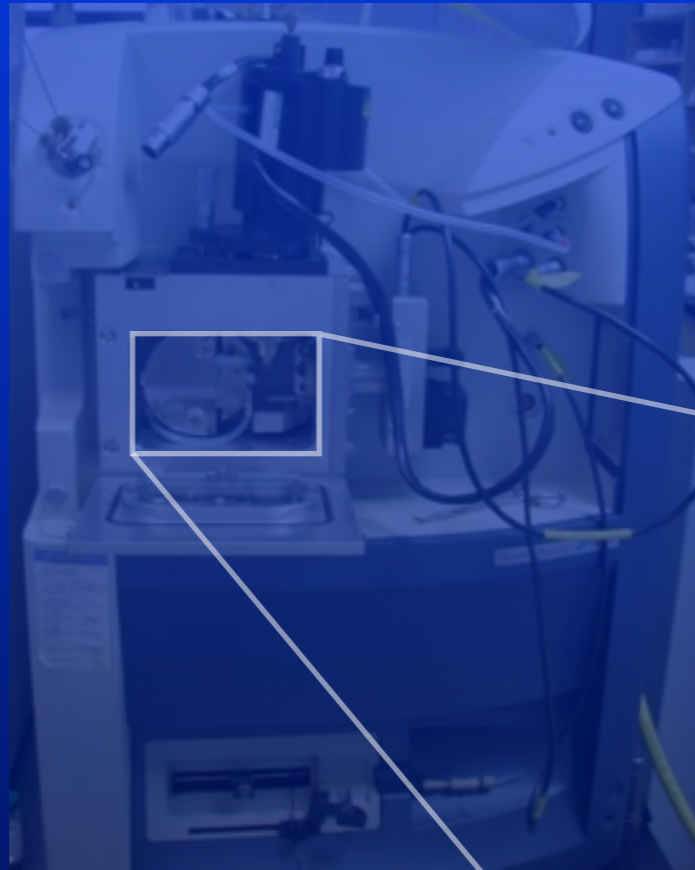
ionization chamber



# Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer

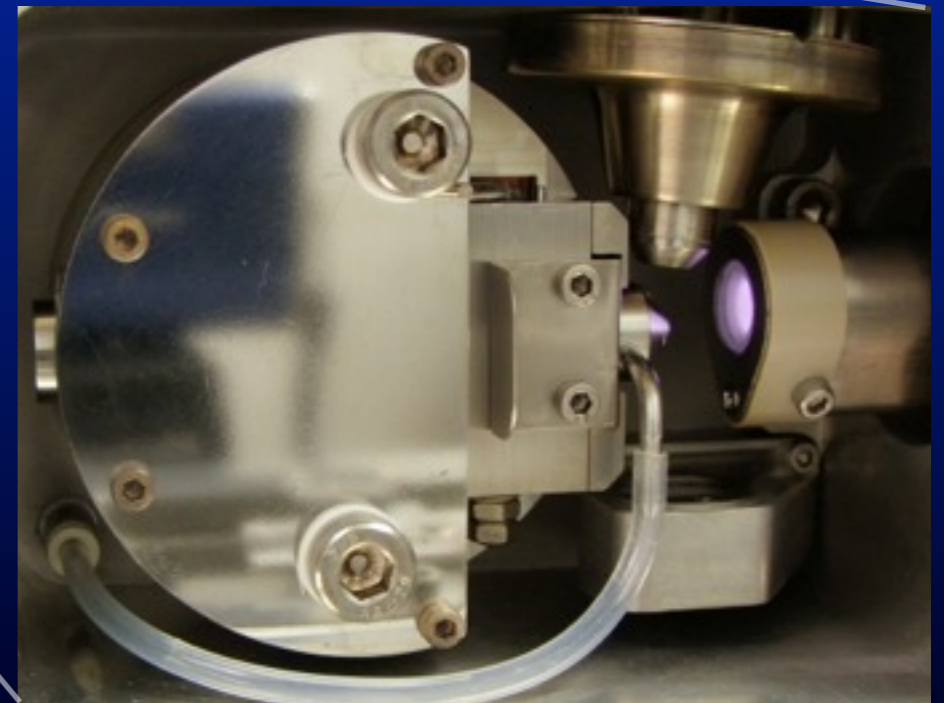


Waters MS/MS



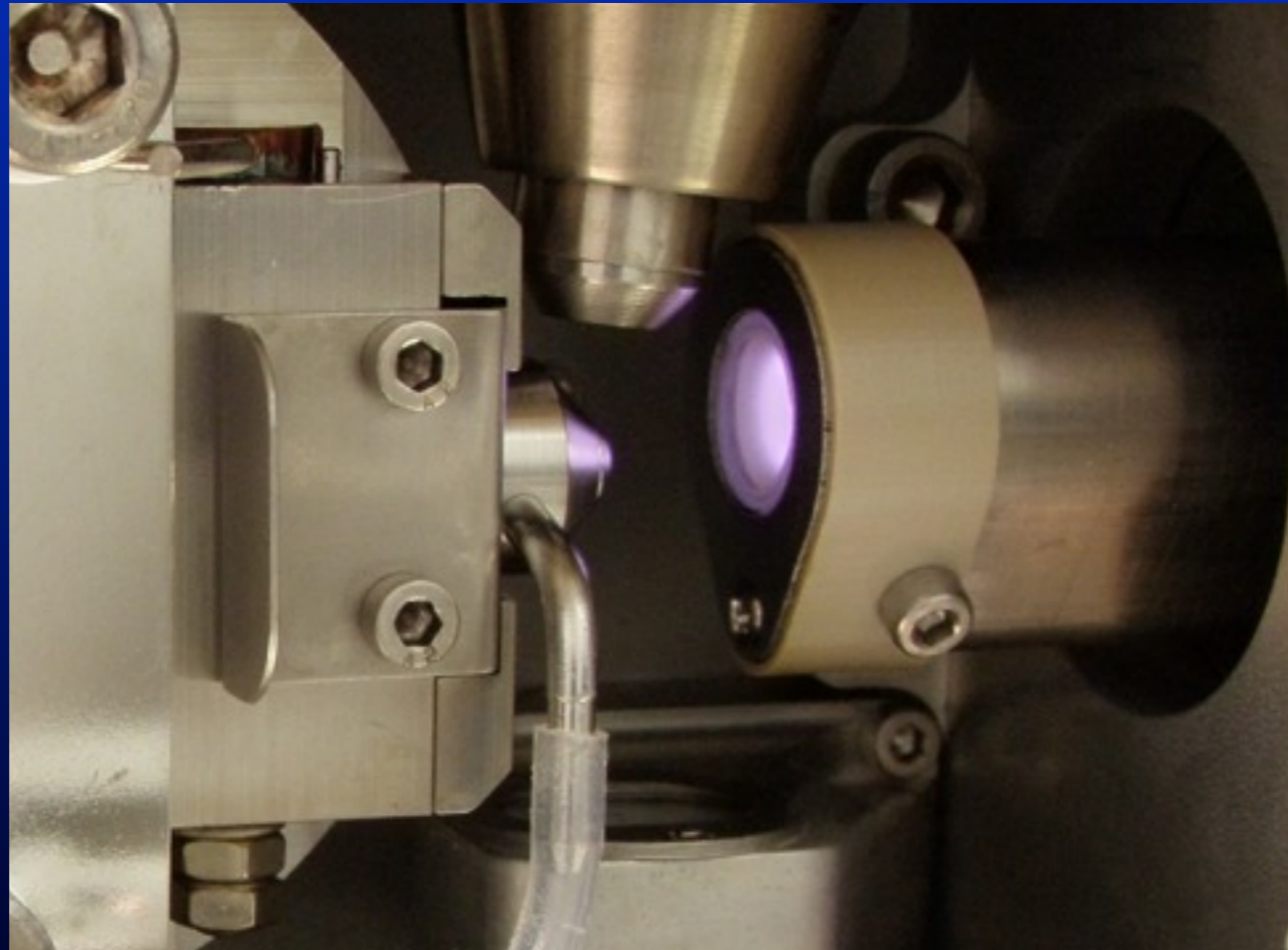
Waters MS/MS  
naked

ionization chamber



# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

electrical discharge in Krypton producing photons



Commercial Photoionization Ion Source

# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization Mechanisms

## Primary APPI ( $M^+$ )



## Secondary APPI ( $M+H^+$ )



# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization Overview

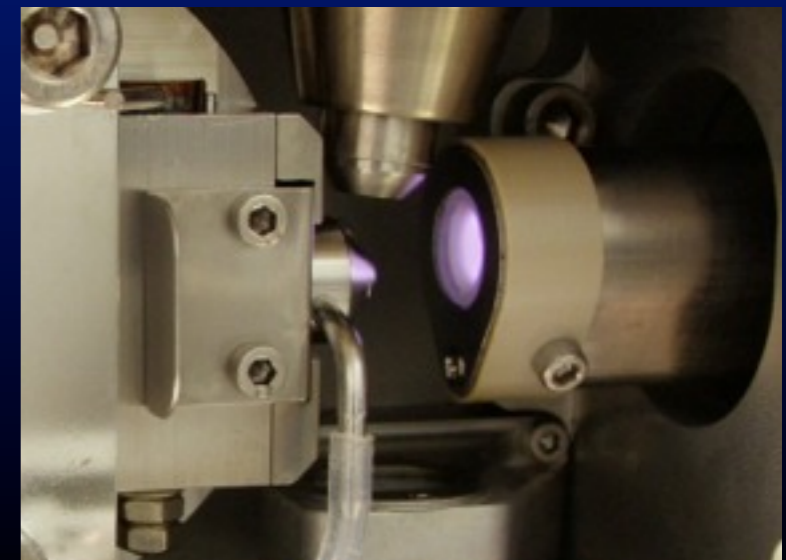
Ions formed cold (excess energy in the departing electron)  
stable molecular ion

True ionization technique (ESI is merely “ion atomization”)

Not as matrix dependent as other techniques like APCI

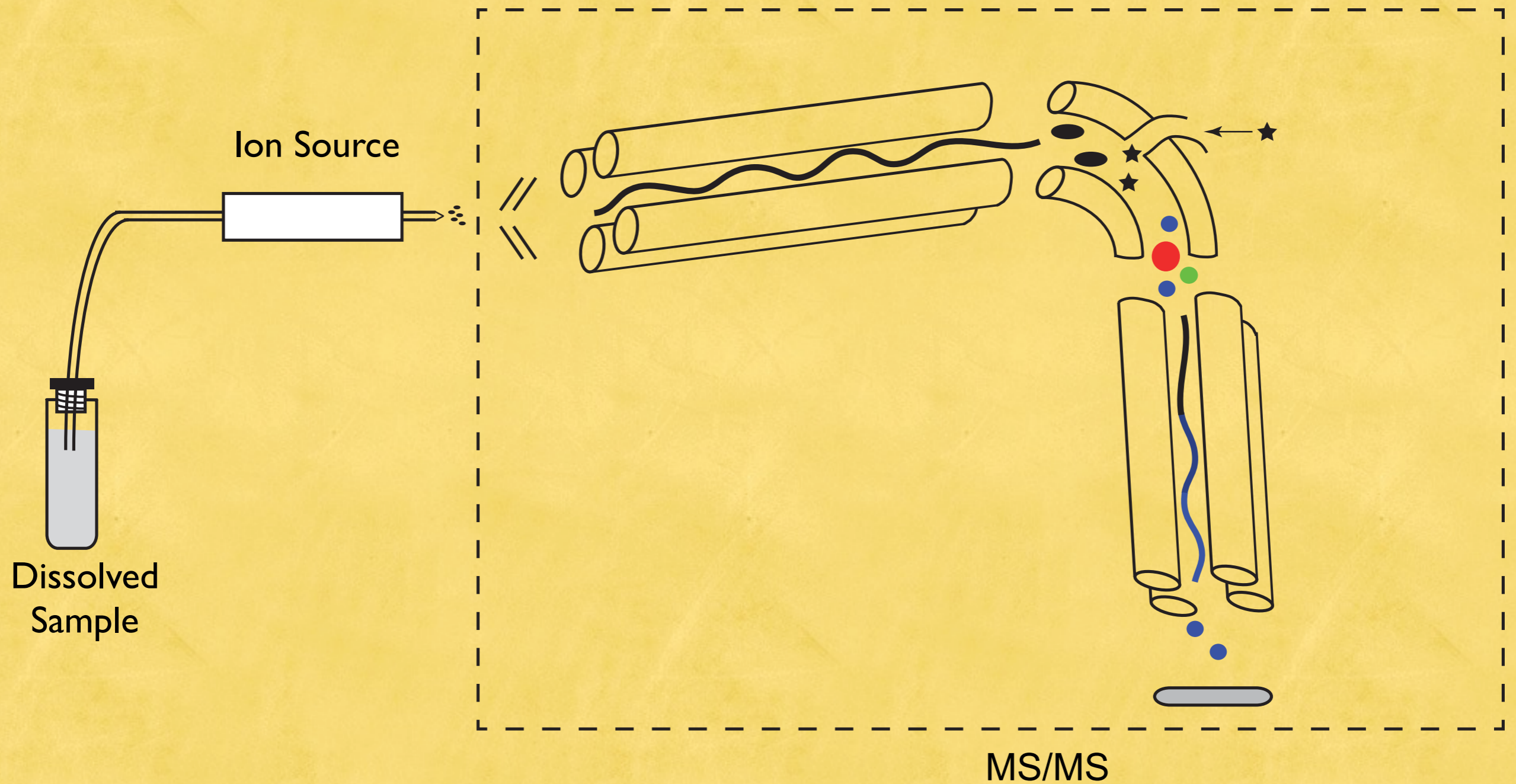
With solvent:  $[M+H]^+$   
without solvents mostly  $M^+$

Mechanisms are debated  
Photo Induced Chemical Ionization (PICI)



# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

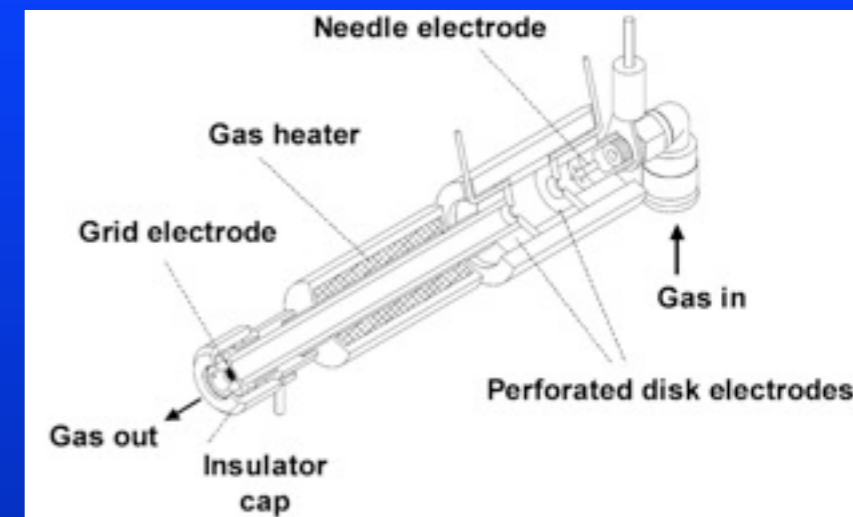
## General workflow



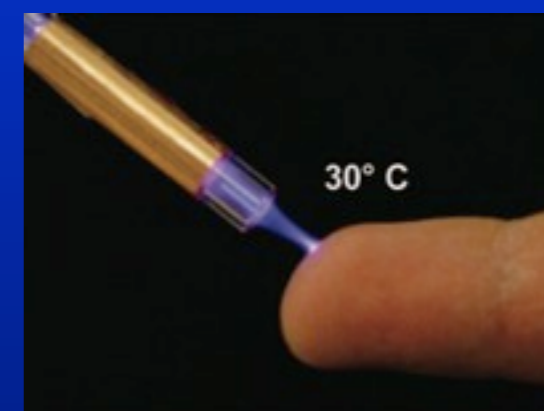
## Other Ionization Techniques

### Direct Introduction Methods

DART - Direct Analysis in Real Time  
Electrical discharge in He



LTP - Low Temperature Discharge  
Dielectric barrier discharge in air



GD - Glow discharge  
Electrical discharge in He



all have poorly defined mechanisms

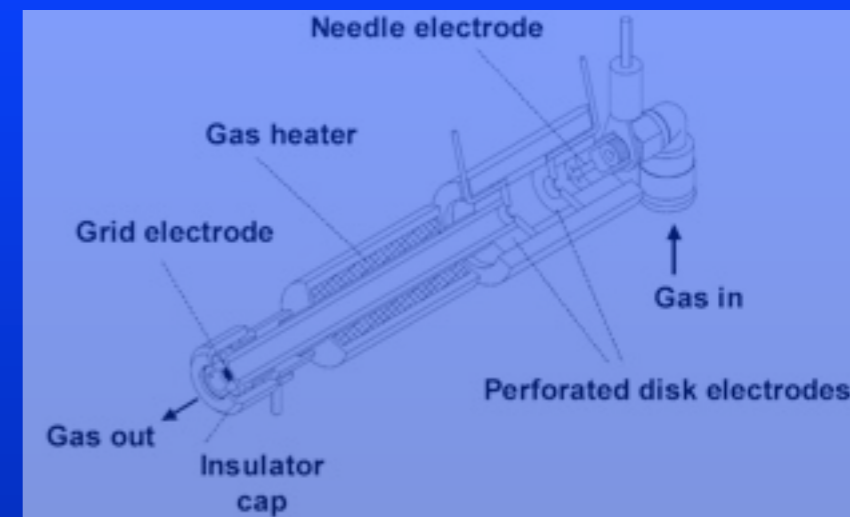
APPI - Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization  
Electrical discharge in Kr



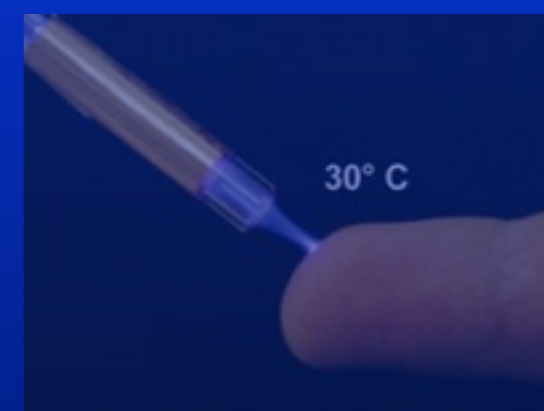
## Other Techniques

### Direct Introduction Methods

DART - Direct Analysis in Real Time  
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LTP - Low Temperature Discharge  
Dielectric barrier discharge in air

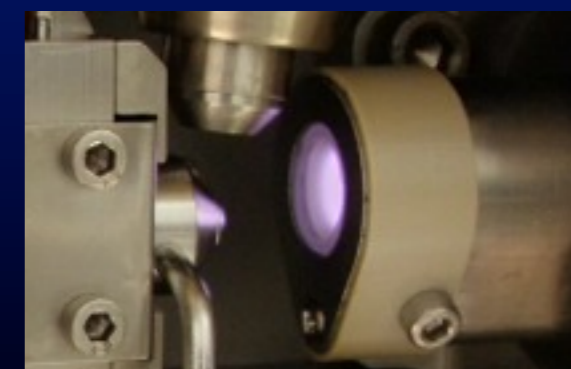


GD - Glow discharge  
Electrical discharge in He



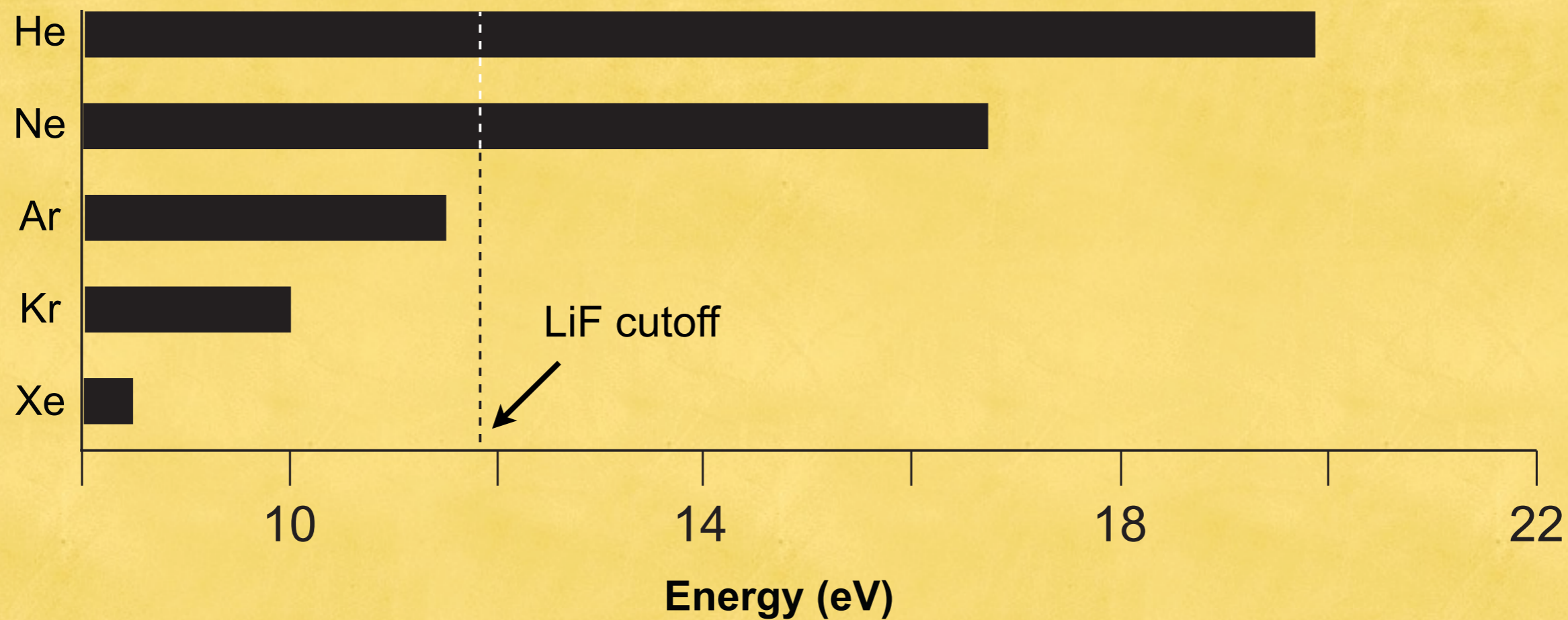
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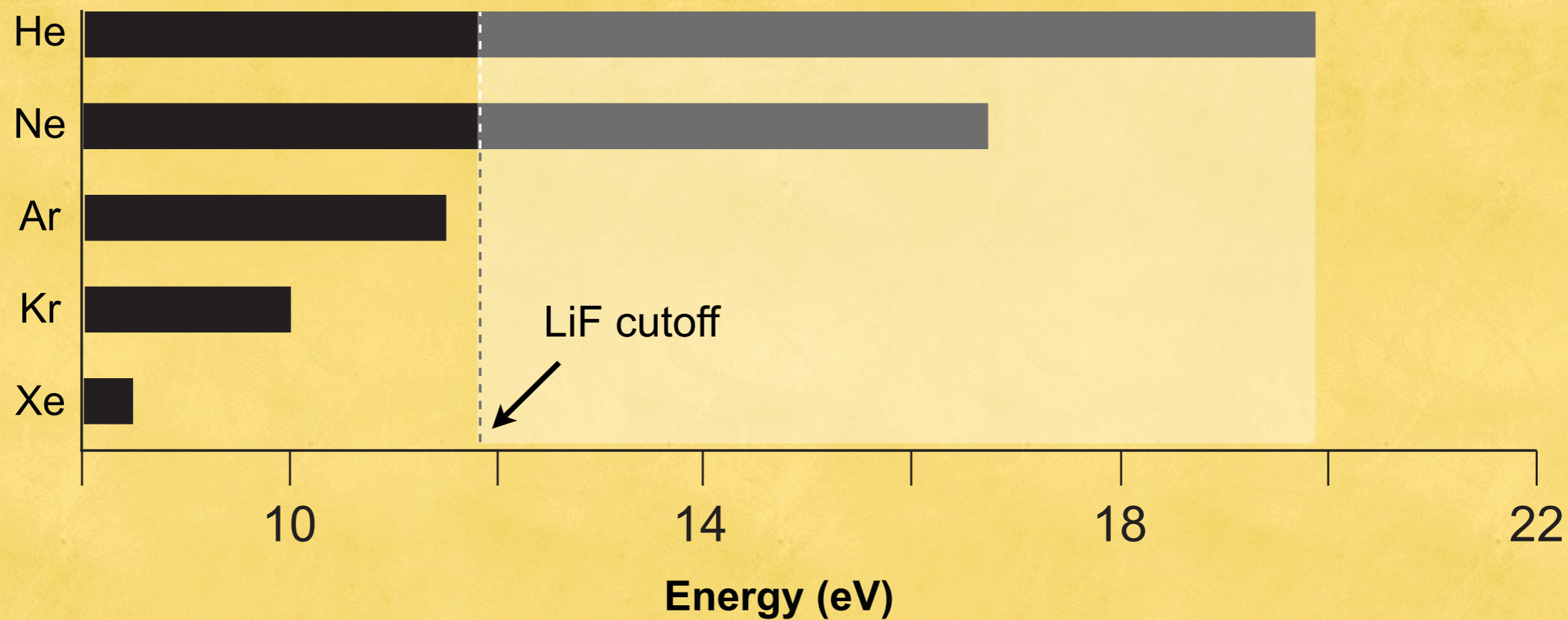
# Photon Energy Various Gases

## Ionization Range of Photons from Various Discharge Gases



# Photon Energy Various Gases

## Ionization Range of Photons from Various Discharge Gases



# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

## Thesis investigation

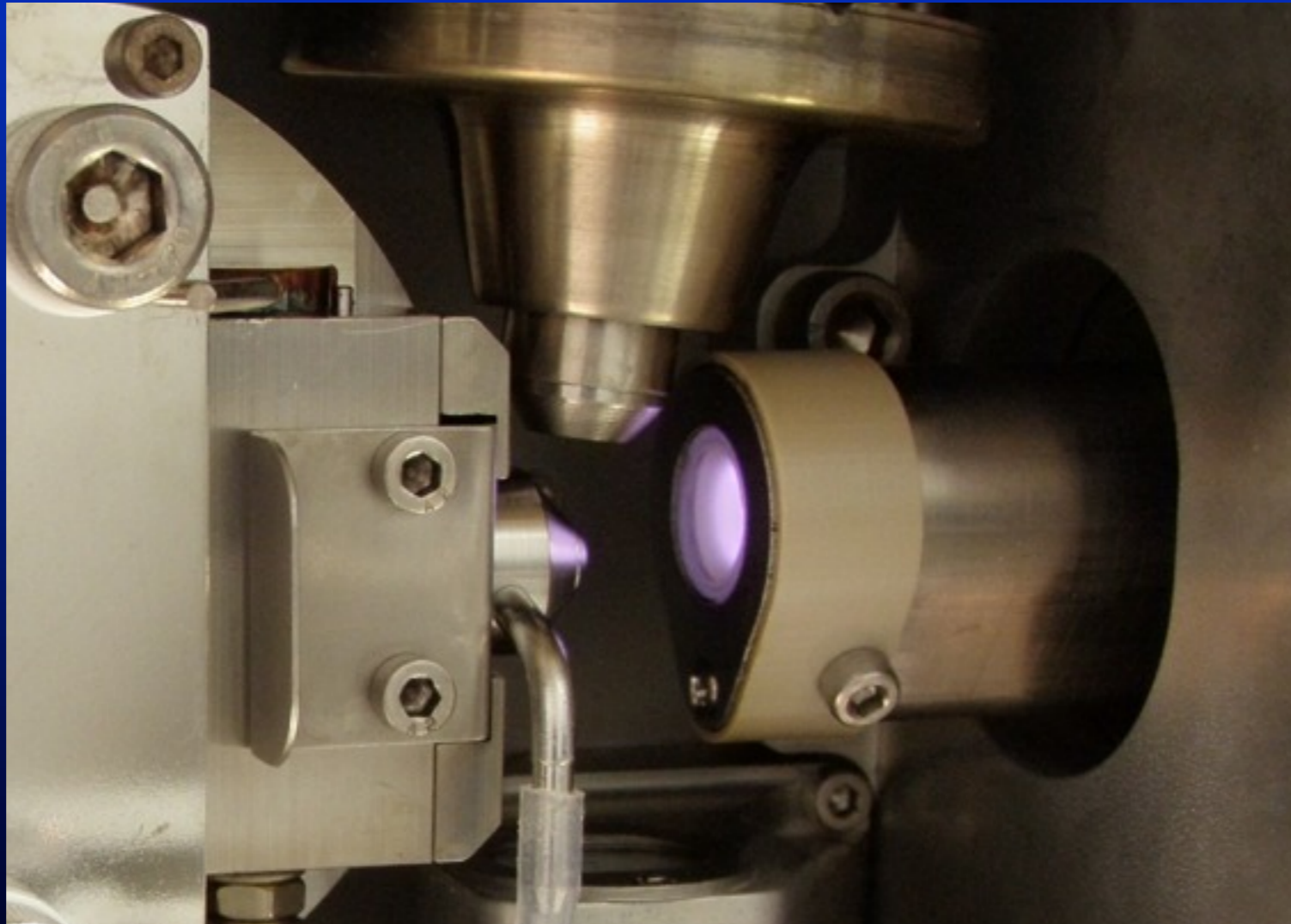
Is photoionization unique to krypton discharge?

Can vapours of various compounds be photoionized and reveal molecular weight and structure?

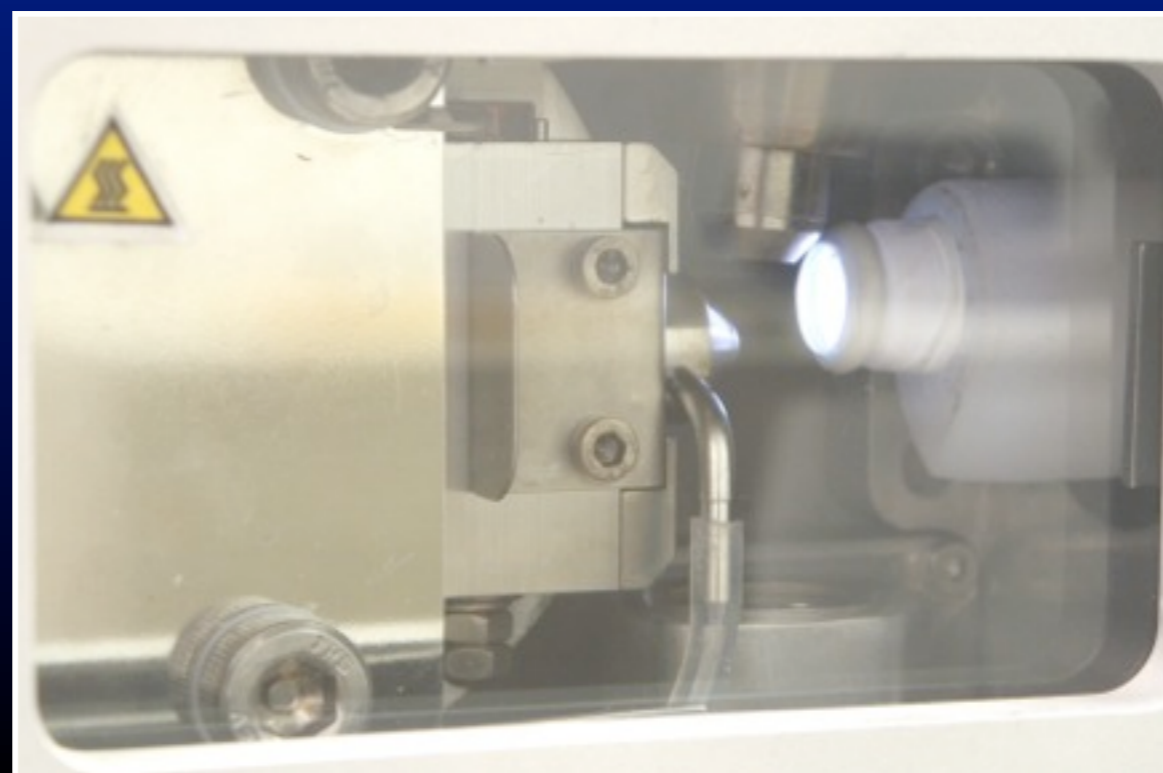
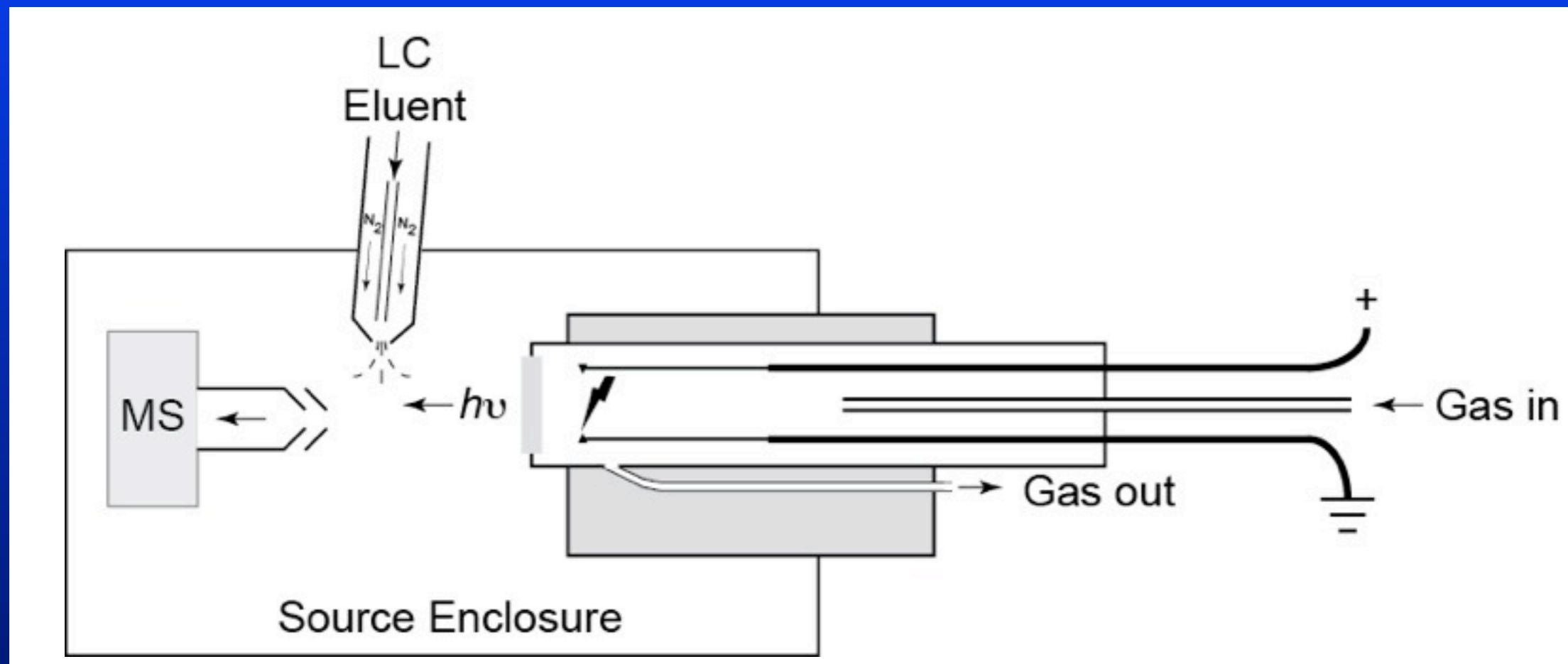
# Lightning Ion Source

## Lightning Ion Source Question

Is photoionization unique to krypton discharge?

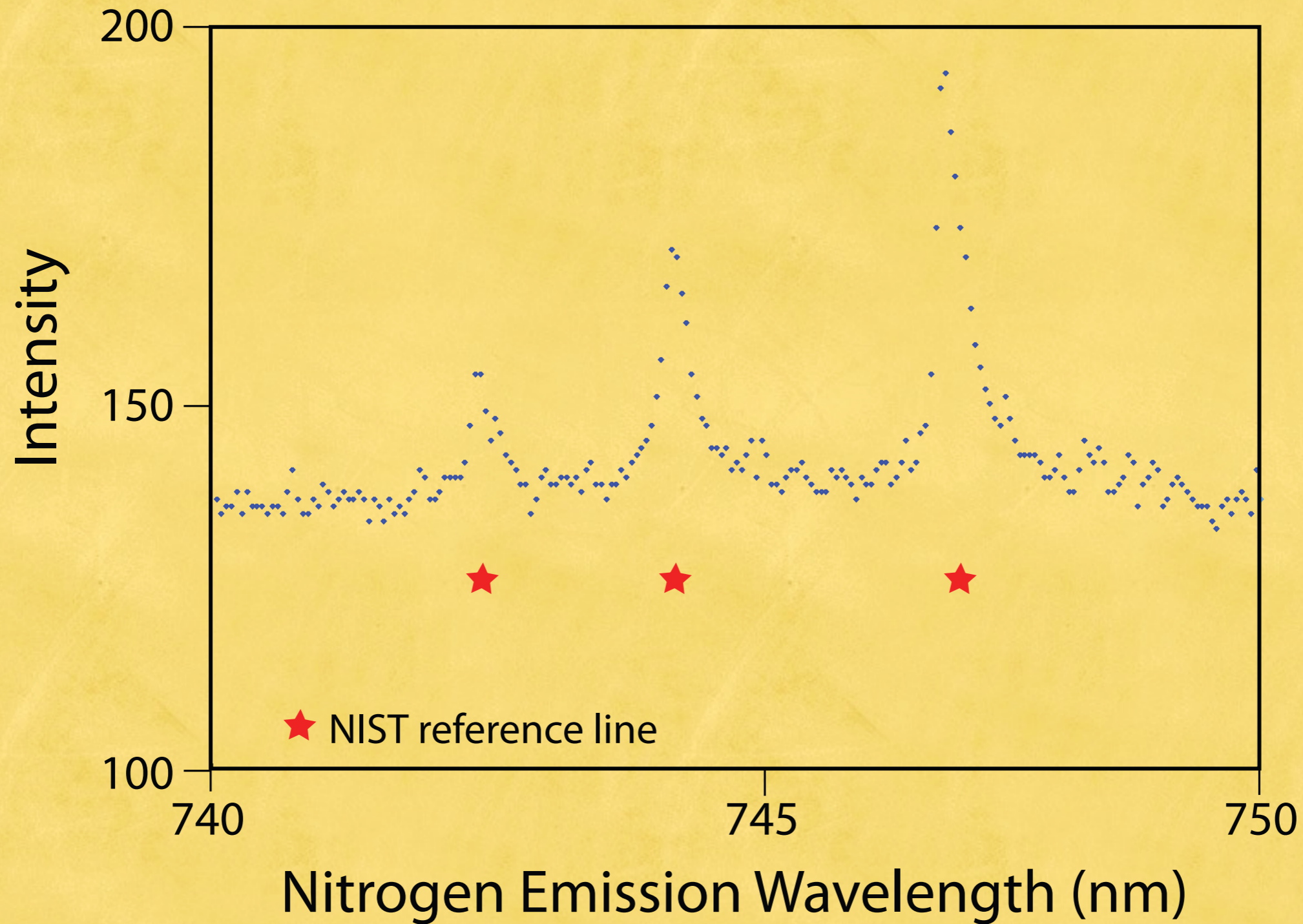


# Lightning Ion Source Design



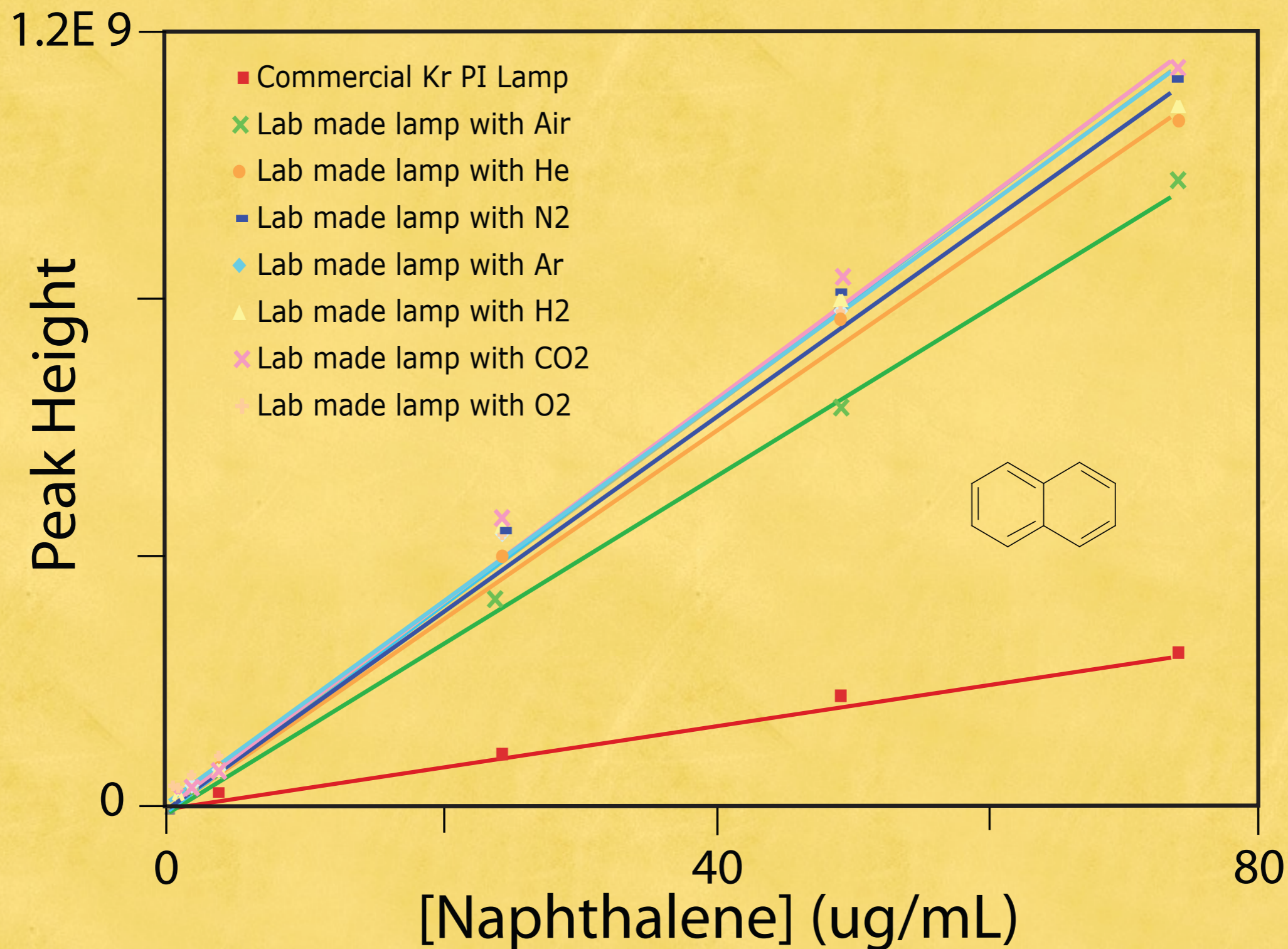
# Lightning Ion Source

## Results - emission lines

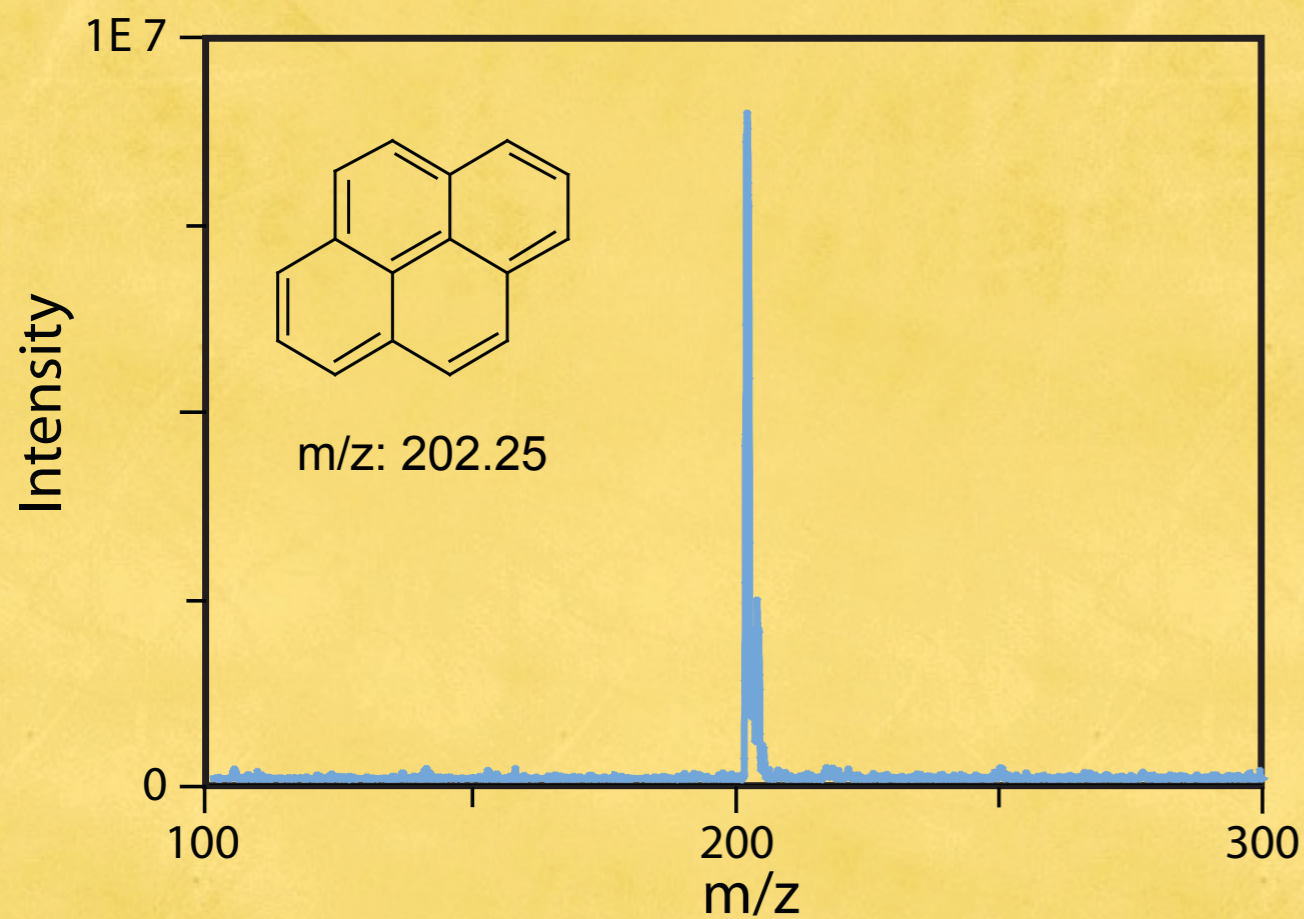


# Lightning Ion Source

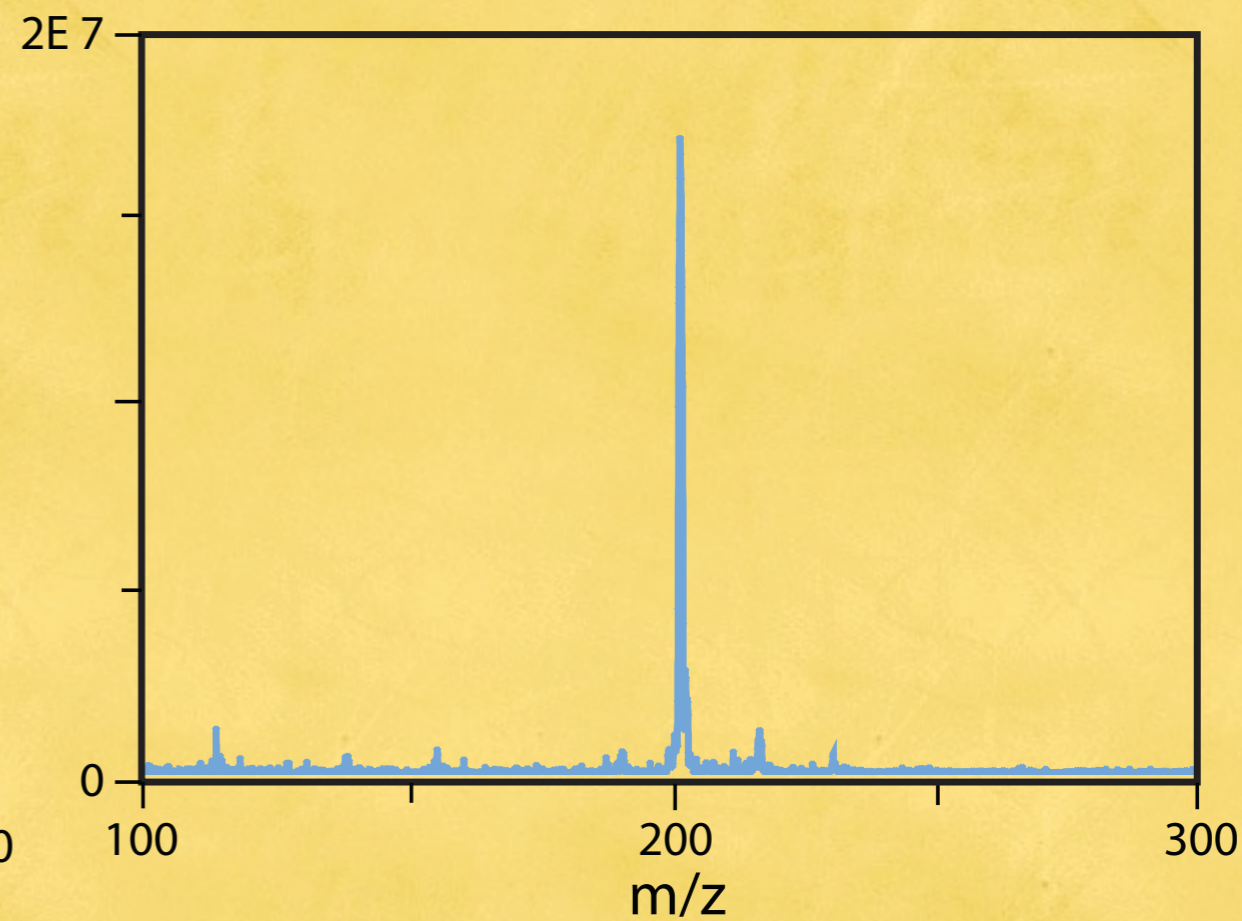
## Results - calibration curve



# Lightning Ion Source Results - Pyrene



Krypton Lamp



Lightning Ion Source

# Lightning Ion Source Conclusions

inexpensive ion source

variety of gases can photoionize

## Future Study

refine LIS design (electrode orientation)



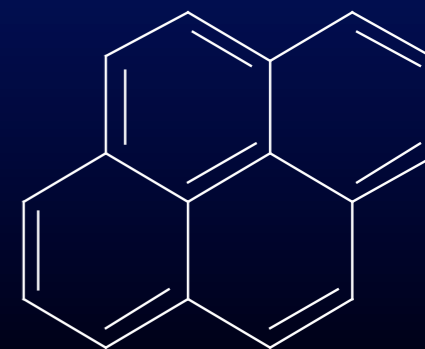
# Vapour Introduction

# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction Challenge

Synthetic, specifically inorganic, chemists needed quick confirmation of synthesis

Some compounds insoluble usual solvents

Noticed target compounds had aromaticity



# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

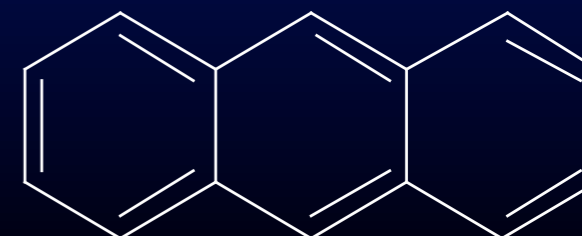
## Other available techniques

MALDI: Matrix Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization  
high background, adducts, not well defined

ESI: Electrospray Ionization  
ions in solution

EI: Electron Impact  
high energy leads to fragmentation, inefficient source

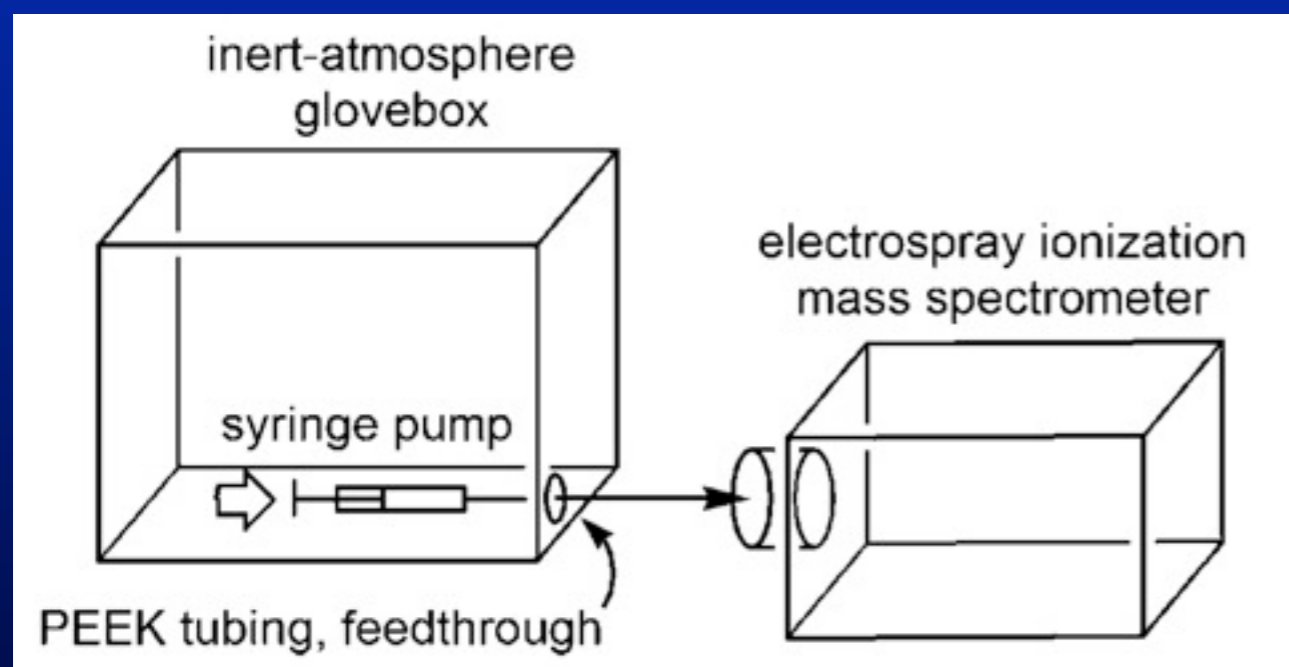
CI: Chemical Ionization



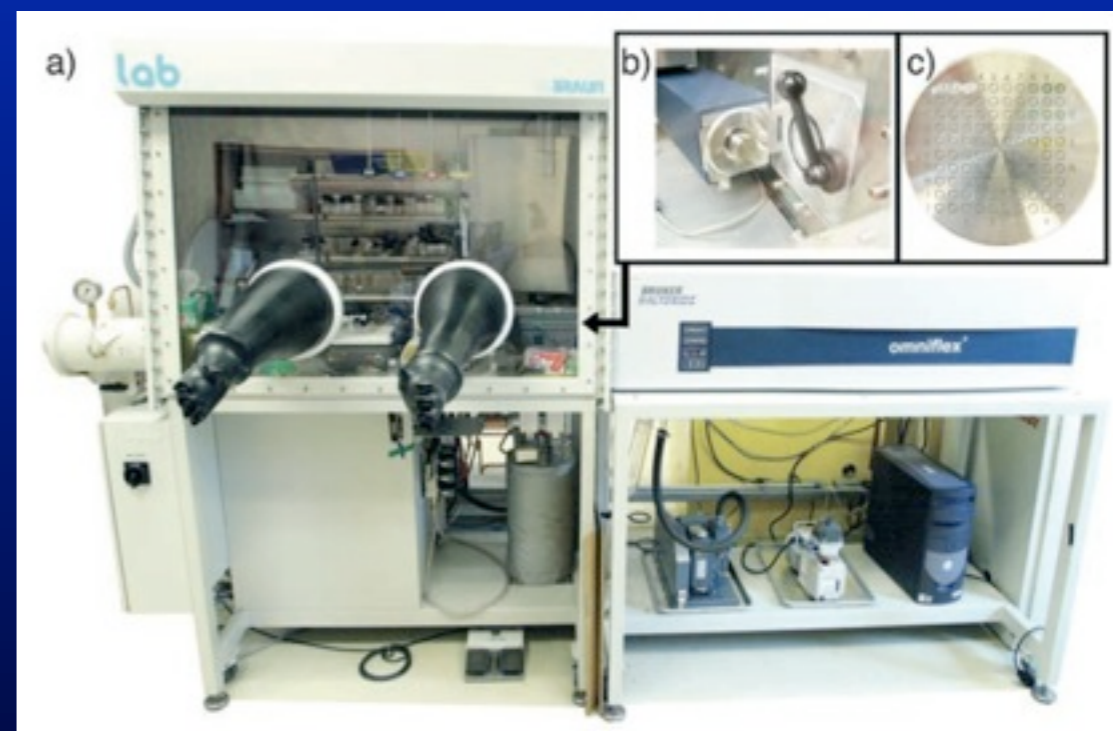
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## Previous uses of Mass Spectra

### Some recently reported apparatus



Samples Dissolved in DCM  
ESI MS McIndoe (U. Vic)



MALDI- TOF  
Fogg (U of O.)

### Mechanism of $[M + H]^+$ Formation in Photoionization Mass Spectrometry

Jack A. Syage

Syagen Technology, Inc., Tustin, California, USA

In this paper we examine the mechanism of  $[M + H]^+$  (henceforth  $MH^+$ ) formation by direct photoionization. Based on comparisons of the relative abundance of  $M^+$  and  $MH^+$  ions for photoionization of a variety of compounds  $M$  as vapor in air versus in different solvents, we conclude that the mechanism is  $M + h\nu \rightarrow M^+ + e^-$  followed by the reaction  $M^+ + S \rightarrow MH^+ + S(-H)$ . The principal evidence for molecular radical ion formation  $M^+$  followed by hydrogen atom abstraction from protic solvent  $S$  are: (1) Nearly exclusive formation of  $M^+$  for headspace ionization of  $M$  in air, (2) significant relative abundance of  $MH^+$  in the presence of protic solvents (e.g.,  $CH_3OH$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $c$ -hexane), but not in aprotic solvents (e.g.,  $CCl_4$ ), (3) observation of induced equilibrium oscillations in the abundance of  $MH^+$  and  $M^+$ , and (4) correlation of the ratio of  $MH^+/M^+$  to reaction length in the photoionization source. Thermodynamic models are advanced that explain the qualitative dependence of the  $MH^+/M^+$  equilibrium ratio on the properties of solvent  $S$  and analyte  $M$ . Though the hydrogen abstraction reaction is endothermic in most cases, it is shown that the equilibrium constant is still expected to be much greater than unity in most of the cases studied due to the very slow reverse reaction involving the very low abundant  $MH^+$  and  $S(-H)$  species. (J Am Soc Mass Spectrom 2004, 15, 1521–1533) © 2004 American Society for Mass Spectrometry

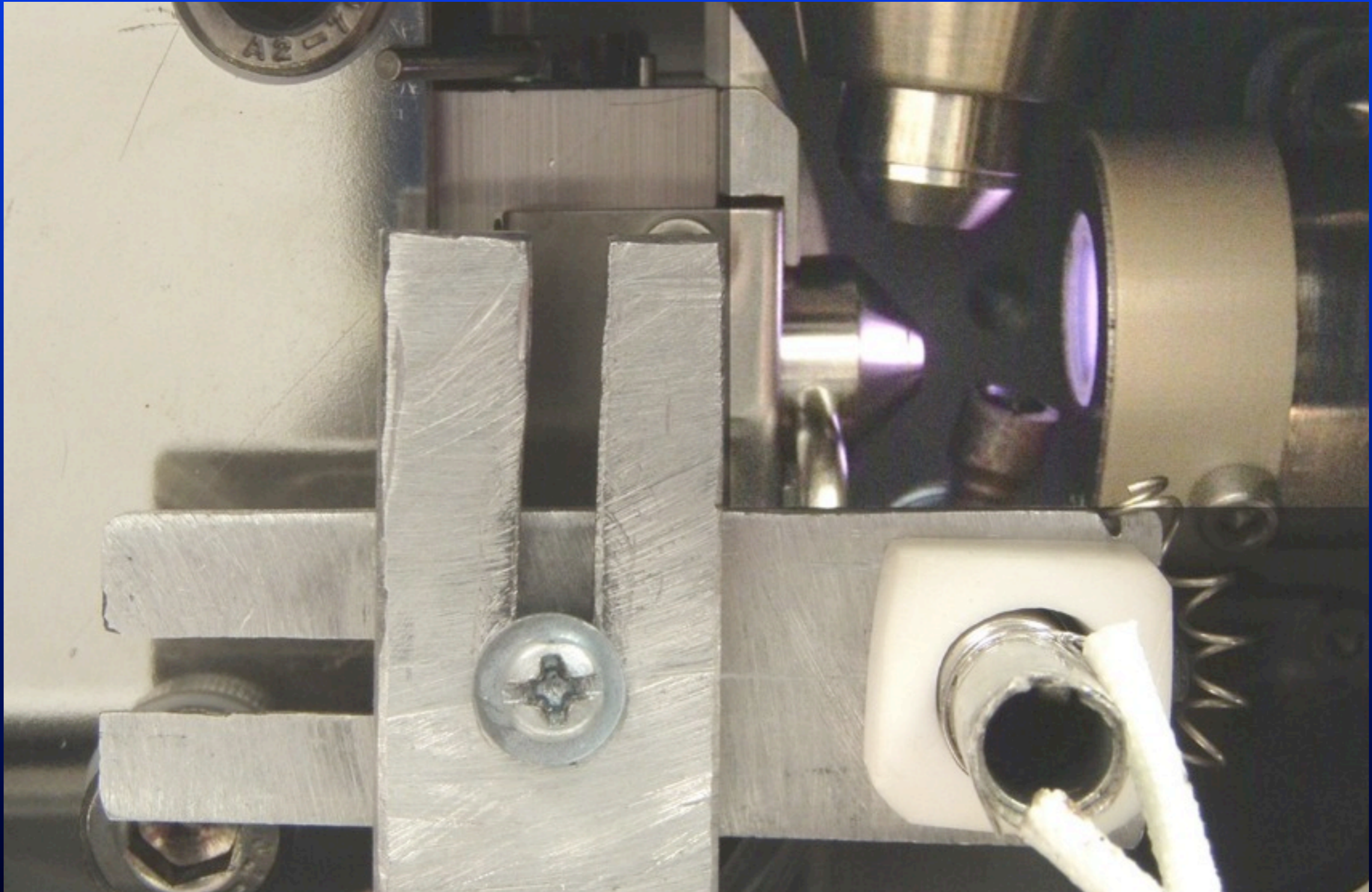
The use of photoionization (PI) in analytical mass spectrometry is a relatively new development [1]. The introduction of compact, sensitive PI sources for commercial analytical MS instruments at atmospheric pressure (solventless photoionization mass spectrometry) has been a significant development

from studies of photoionization under collisionless conditions in vacuum that  $M^+$  is typically formed [13]. However, it is not certain whether this process dominates at atmospheric pressure. There are two general

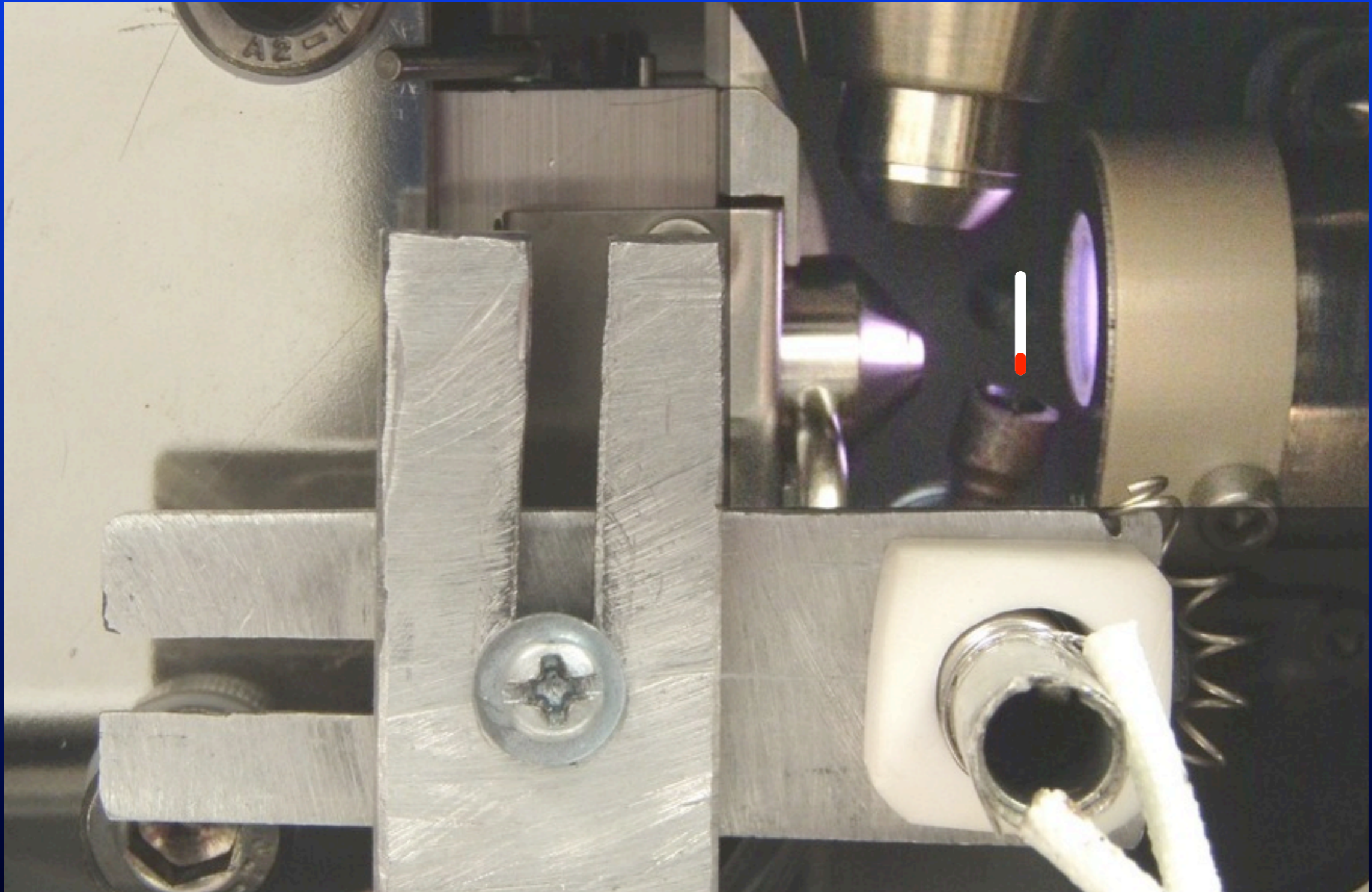
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction Hardware design Challenges



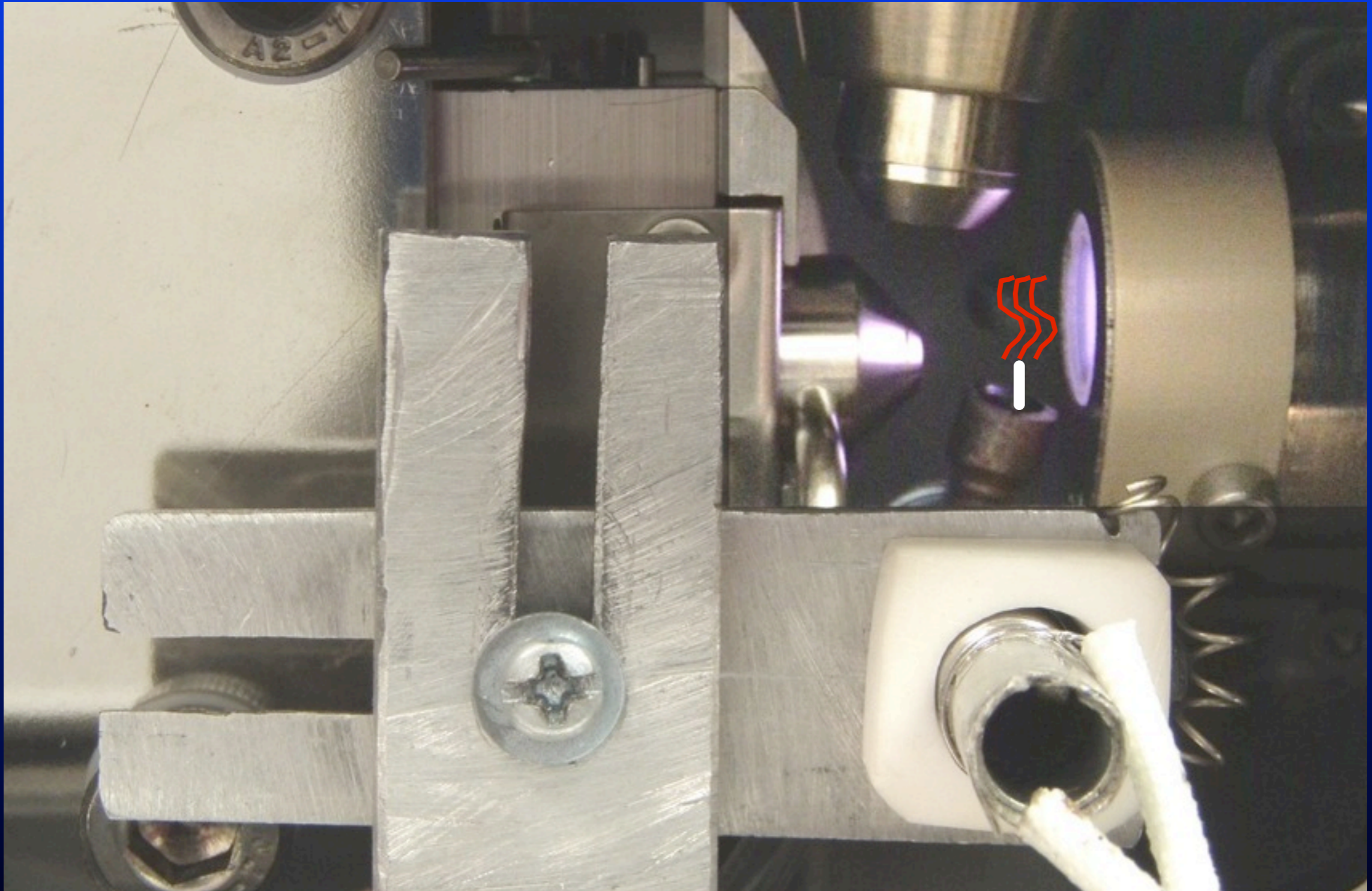
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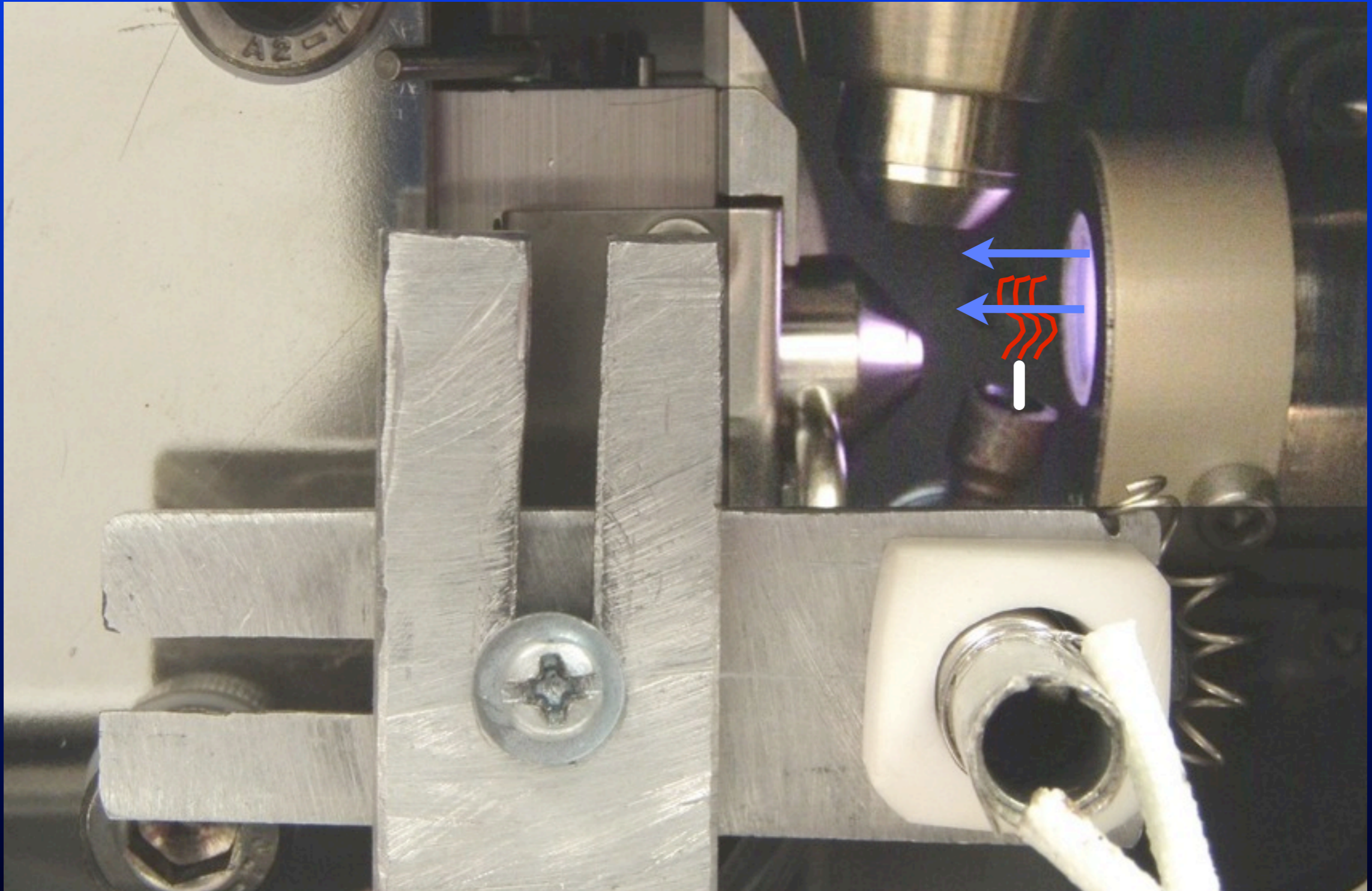
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction Hardware design



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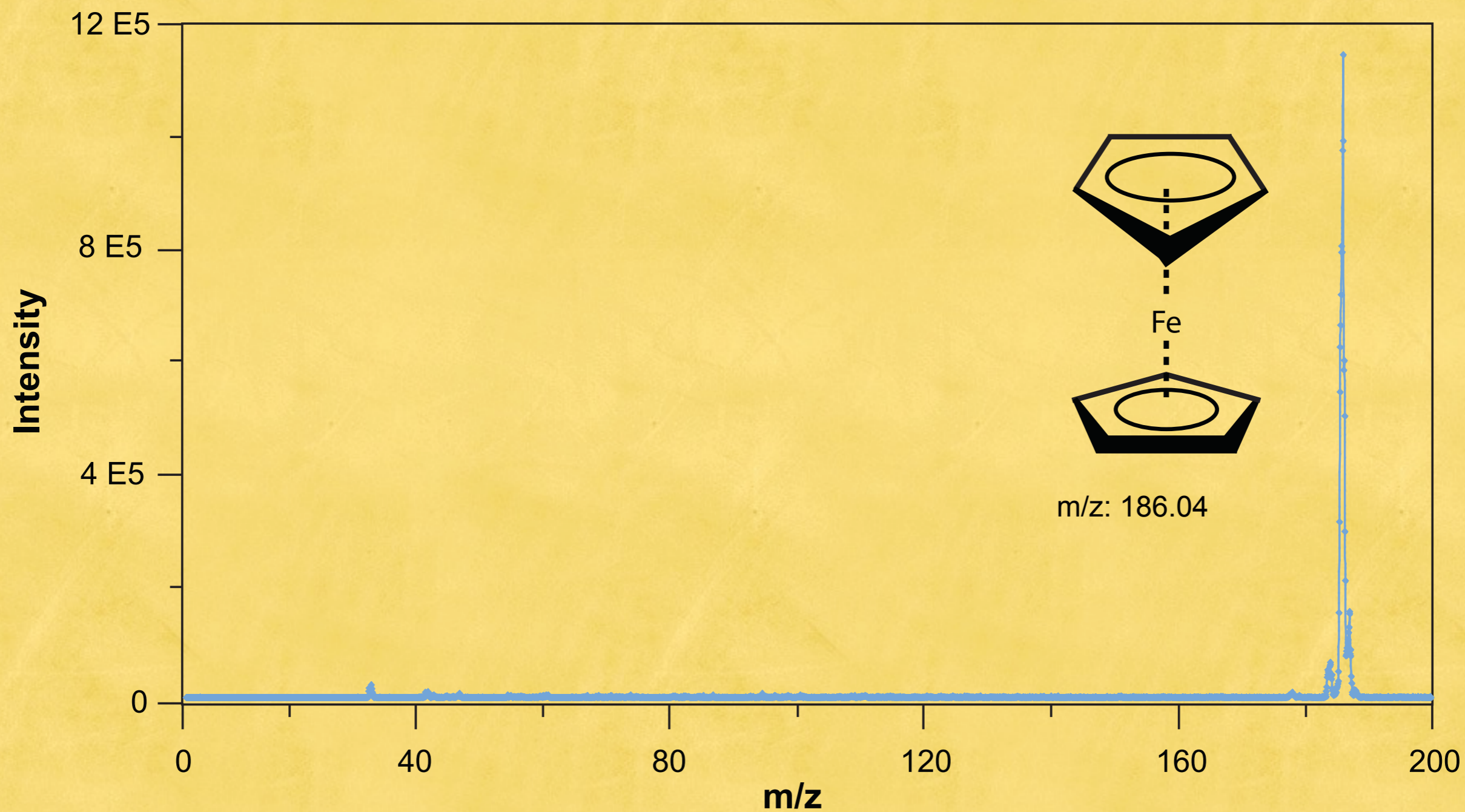


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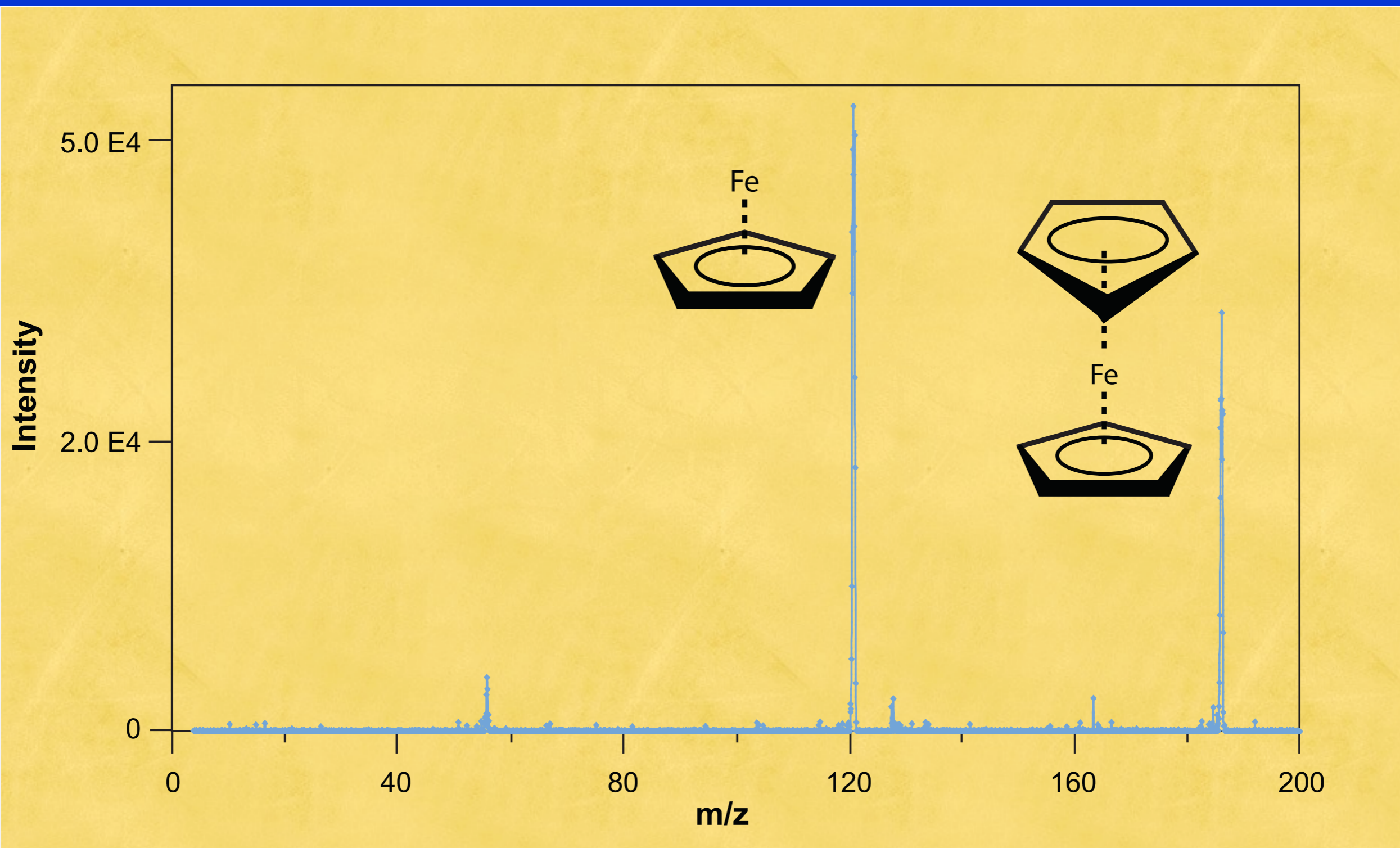
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## Ferrocene $\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)_2$



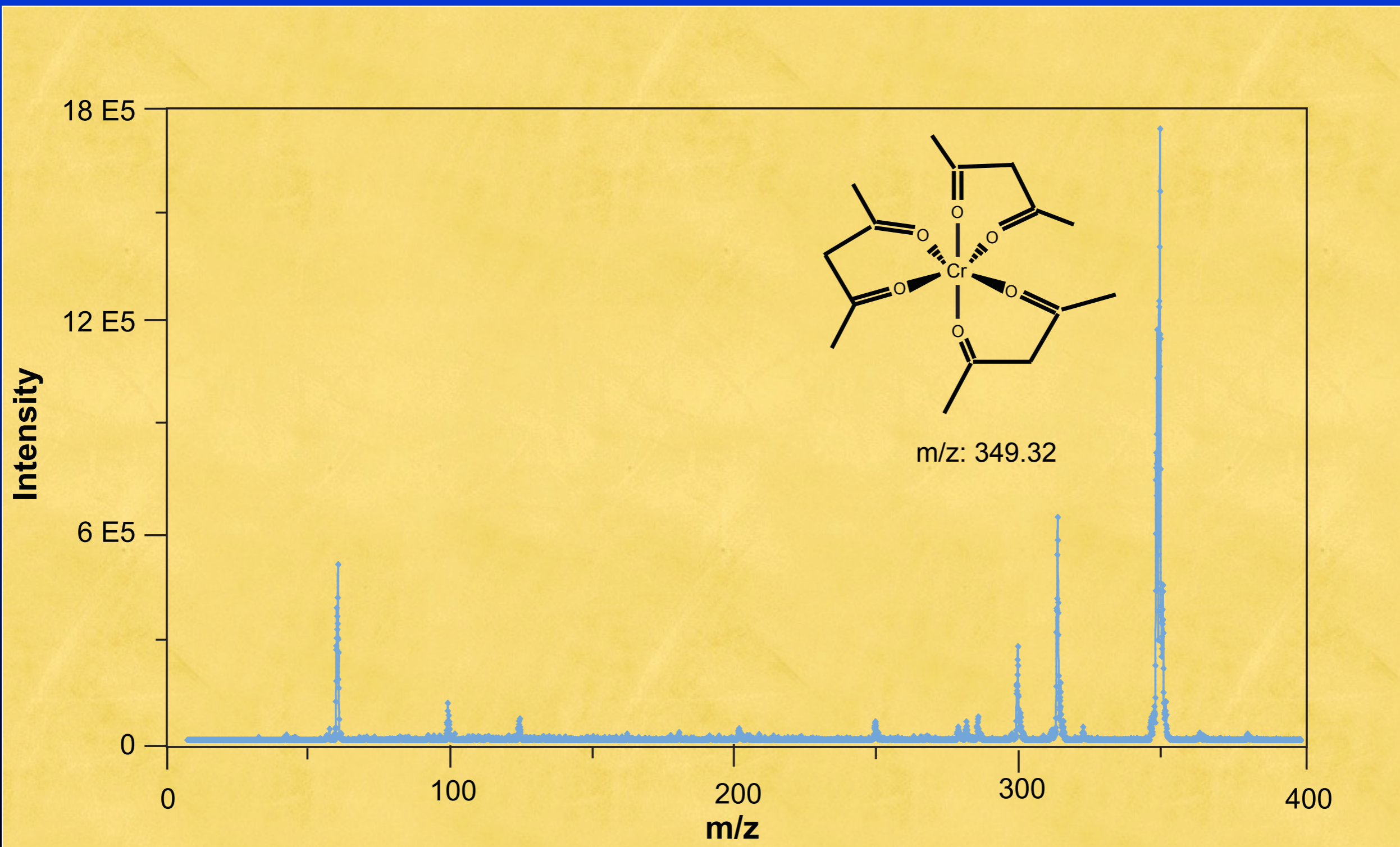
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## MS/MS of Ferrocene $\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)_2$ 186.04 g/mol



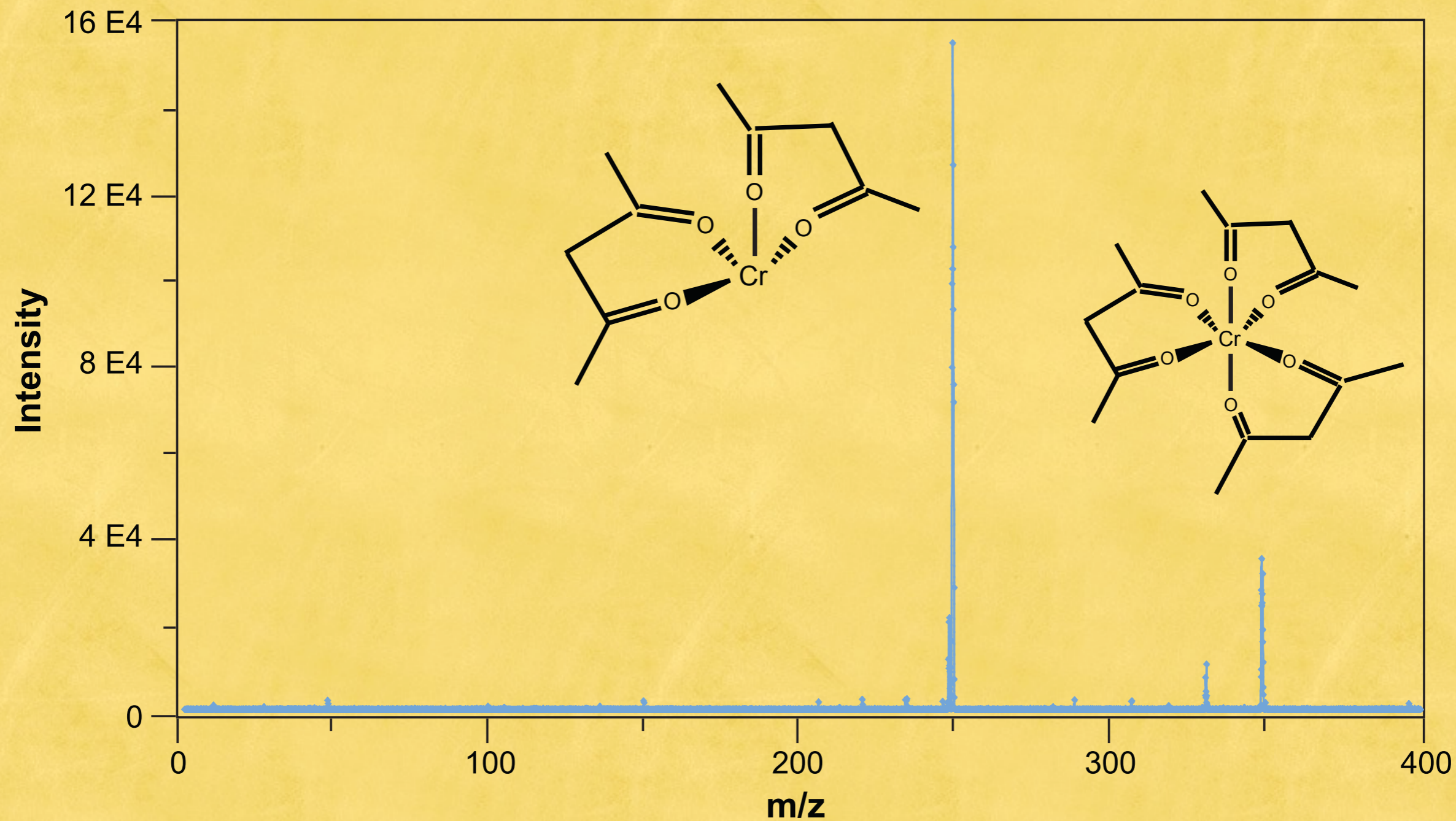
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## Cr(acac)<sub>3</sub>



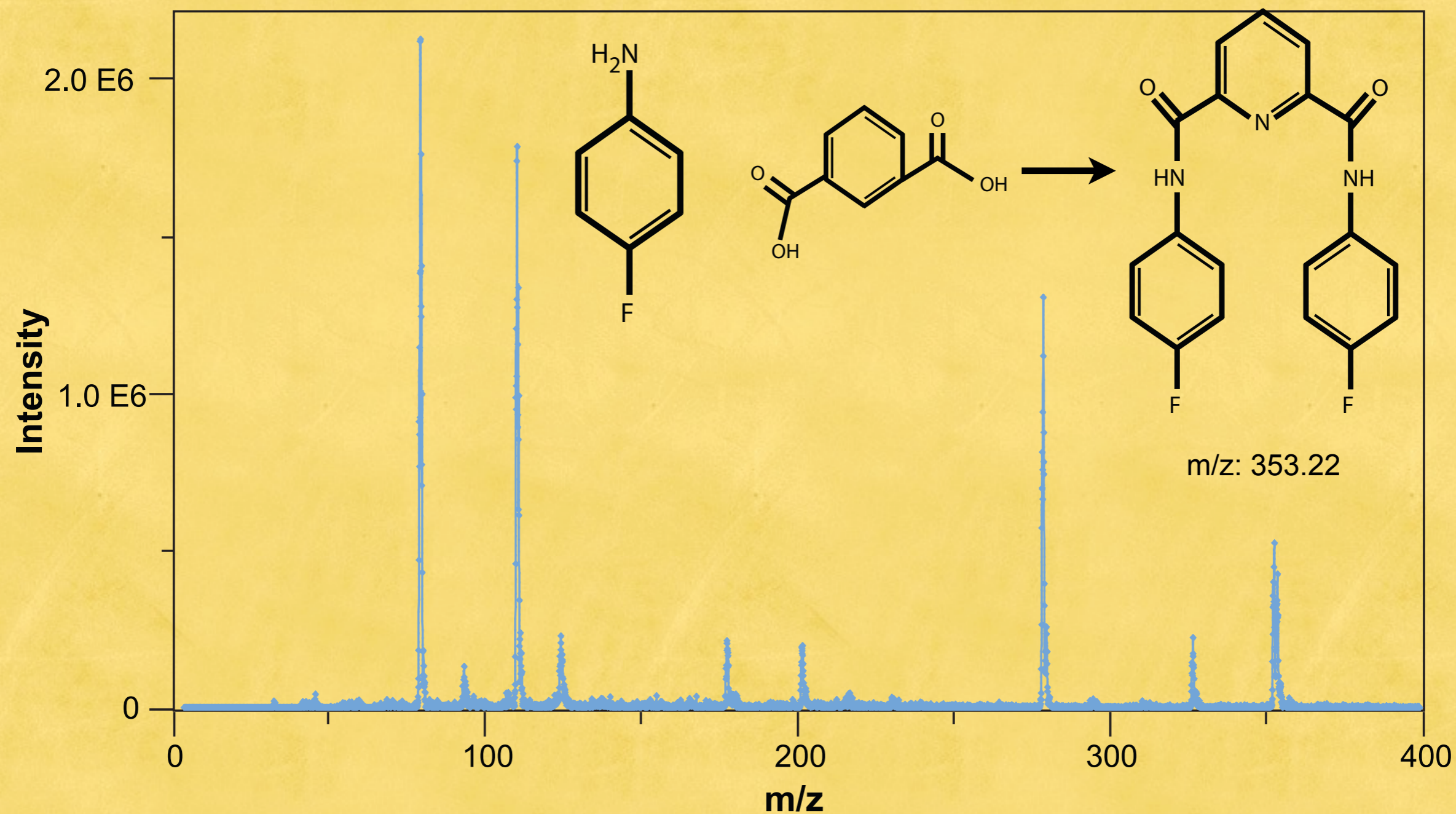
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## MS/MS of Cr(acac)<sub>3</sub>



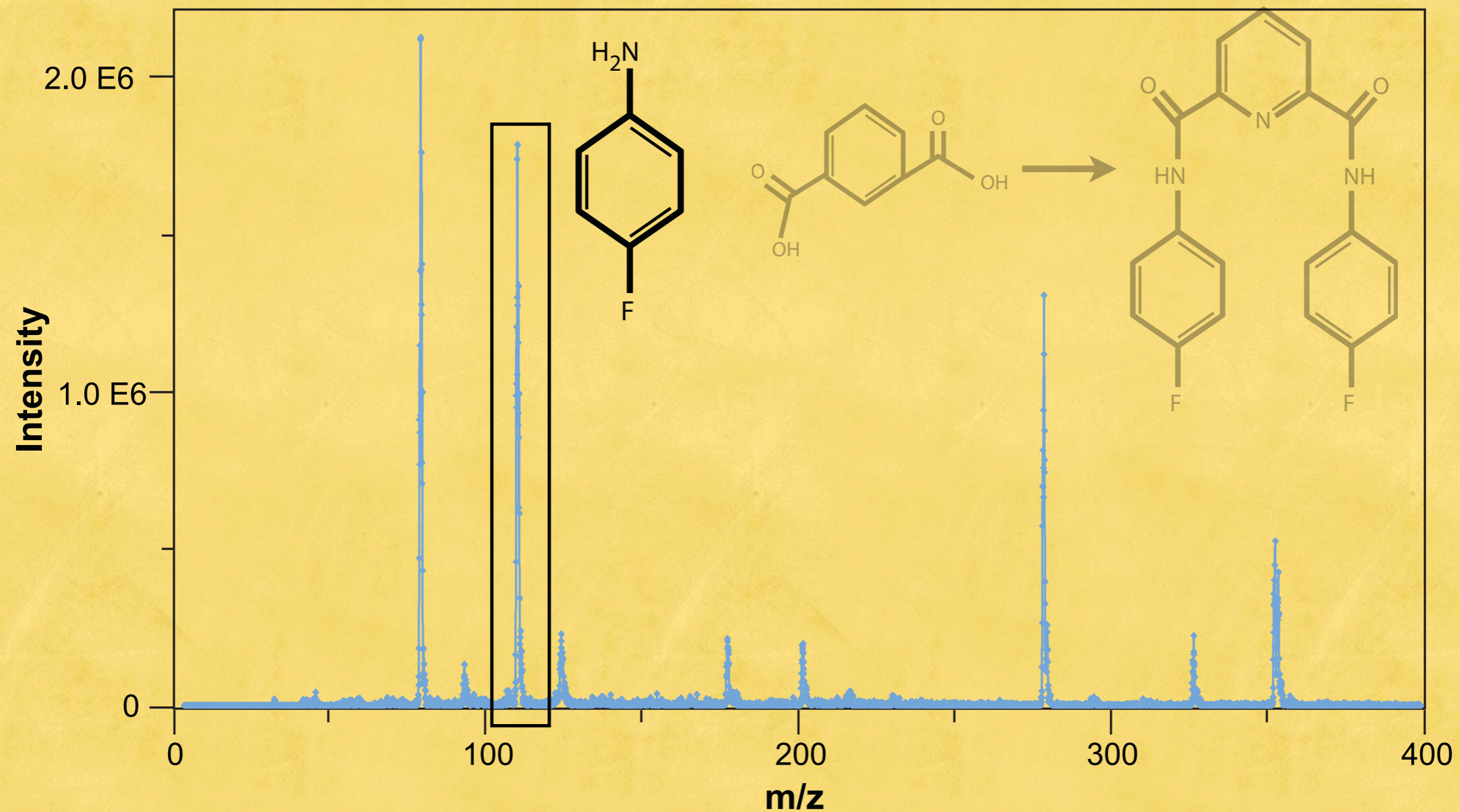
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

LG 113  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_2\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$



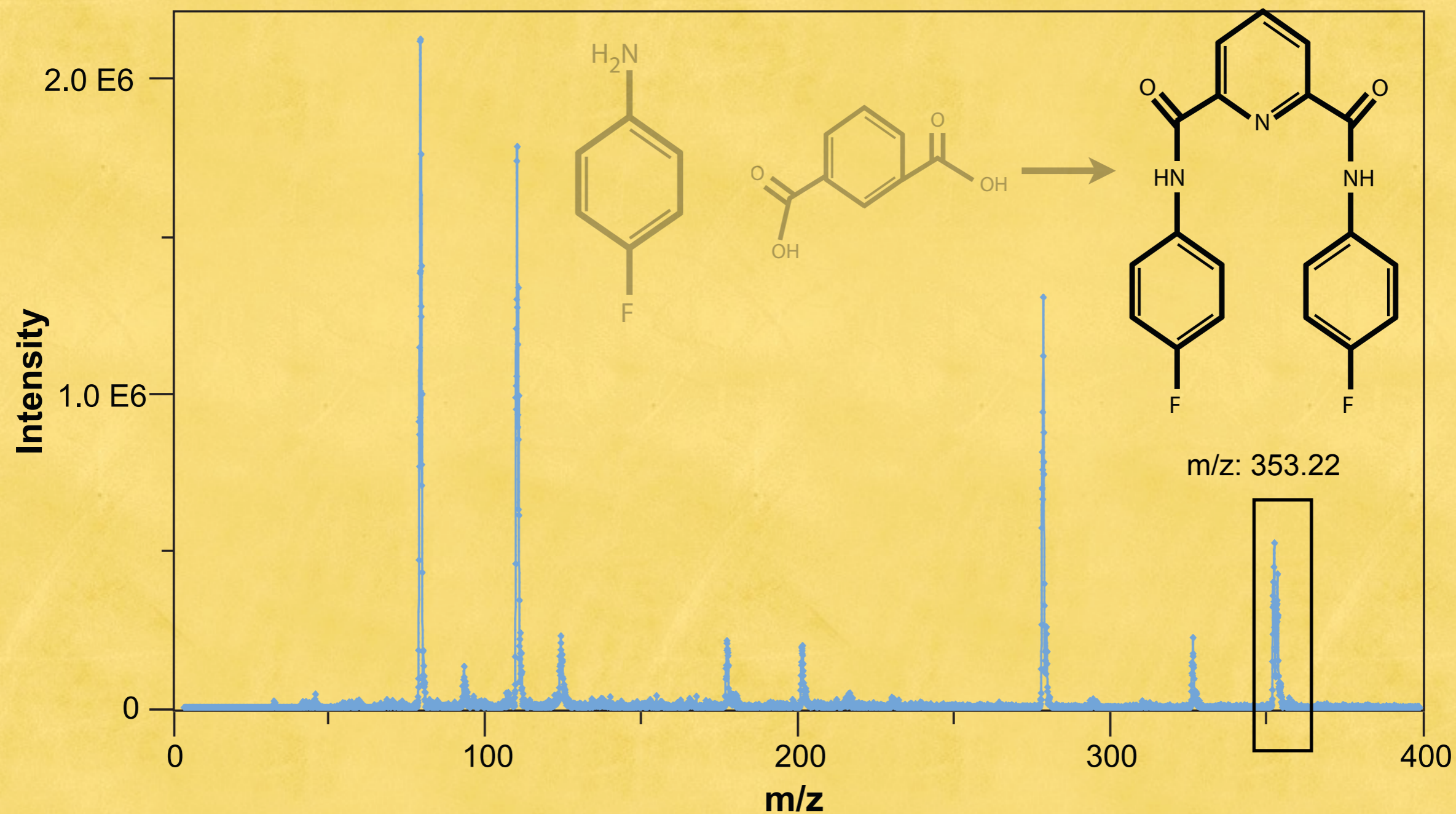
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

LG 113 353.22 C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



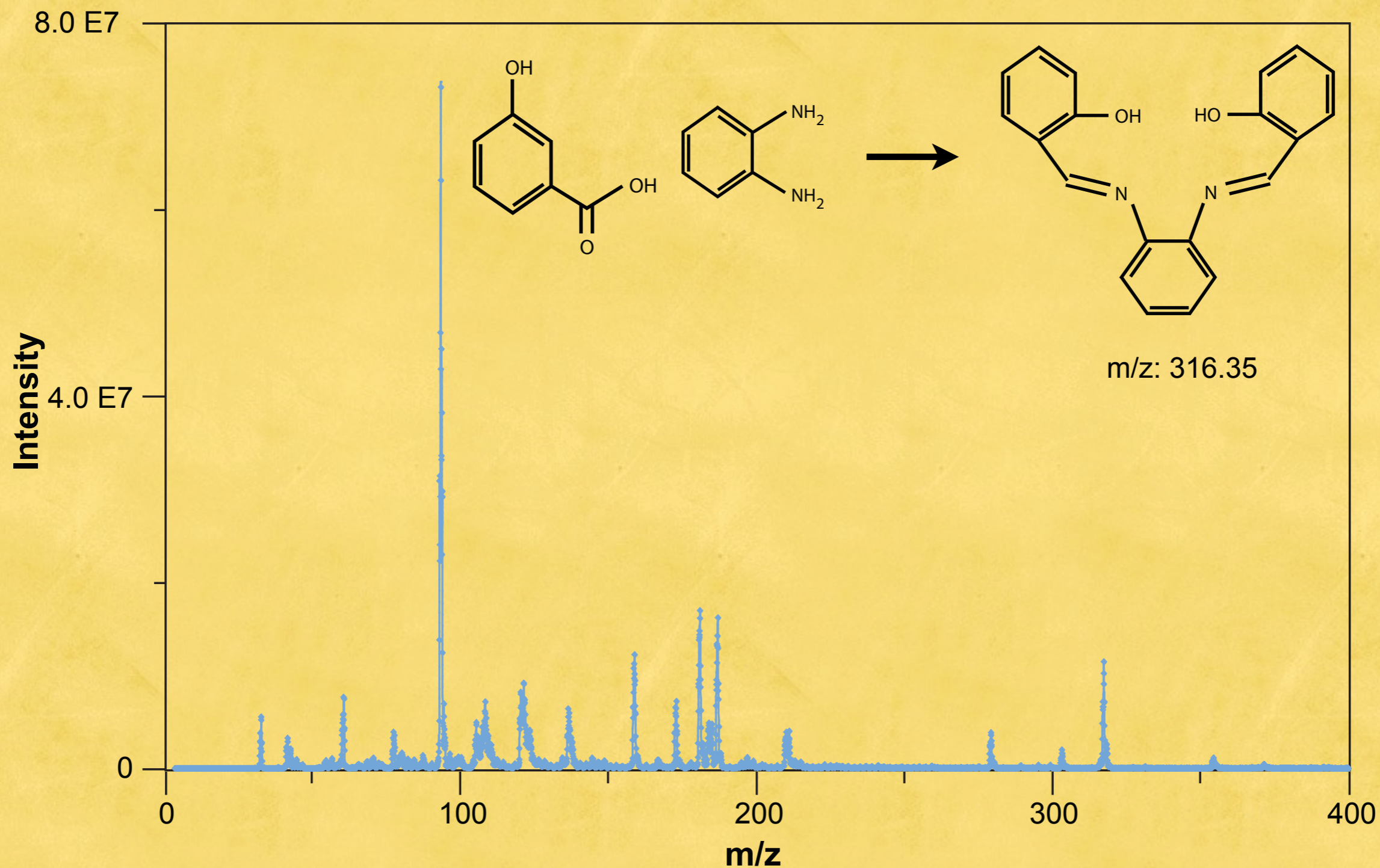
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

LG 113 353.22 C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



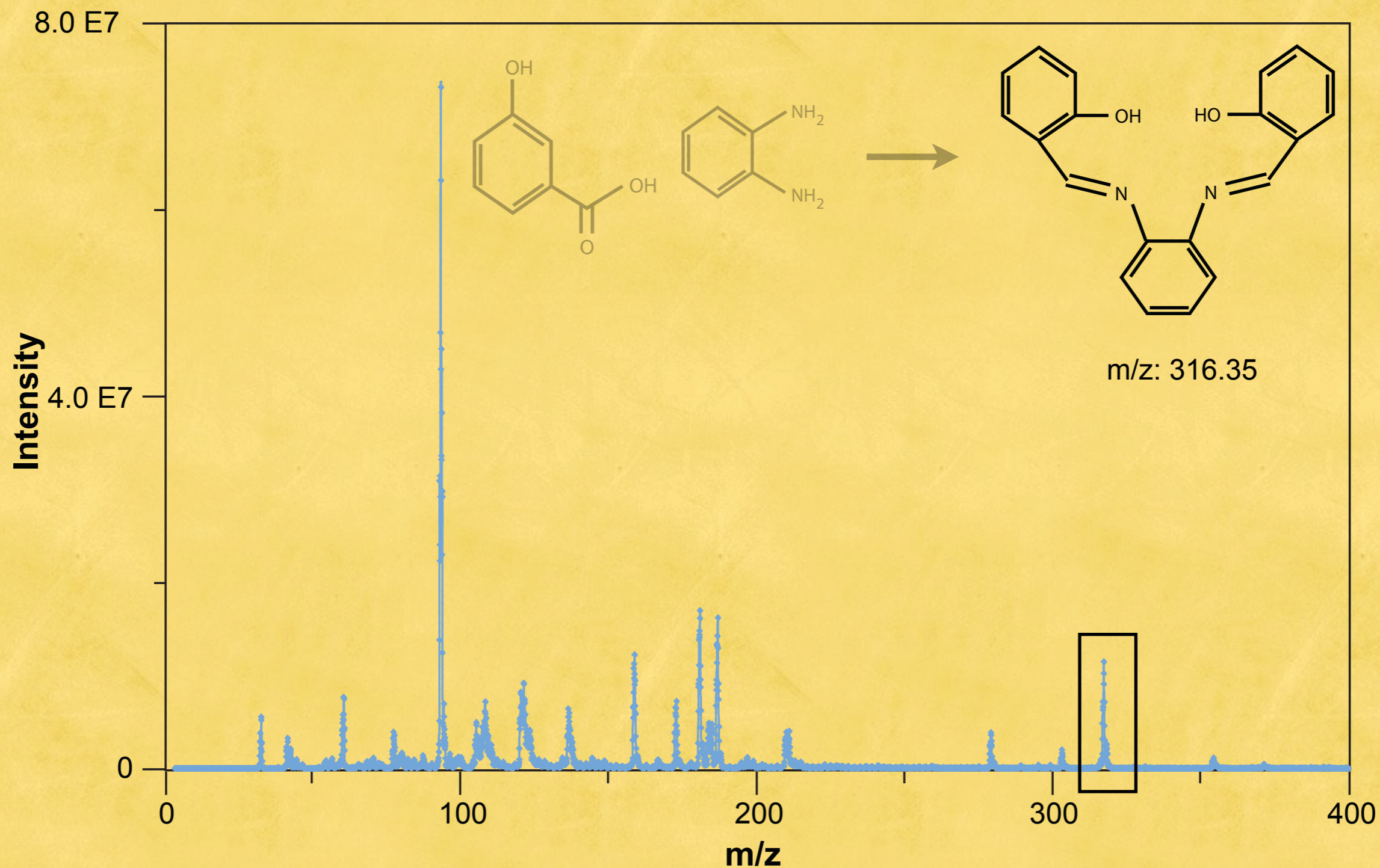
# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

LG 159 316.35 C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## LG 159 316.35 C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



# Thermally Assisted Vapour Introduction

## Conclusions

Rapid, analysis able to characterize synthetic compounds

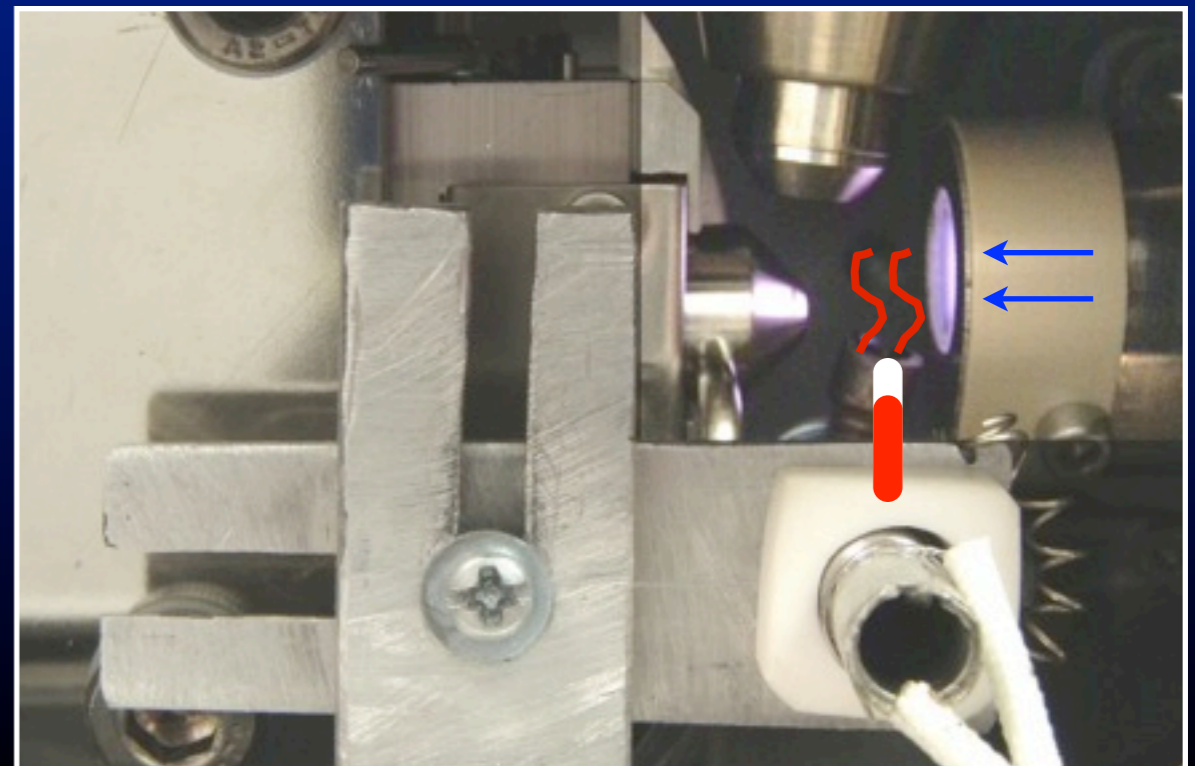
Easy to use on existing APPI instruments

Inexpensive

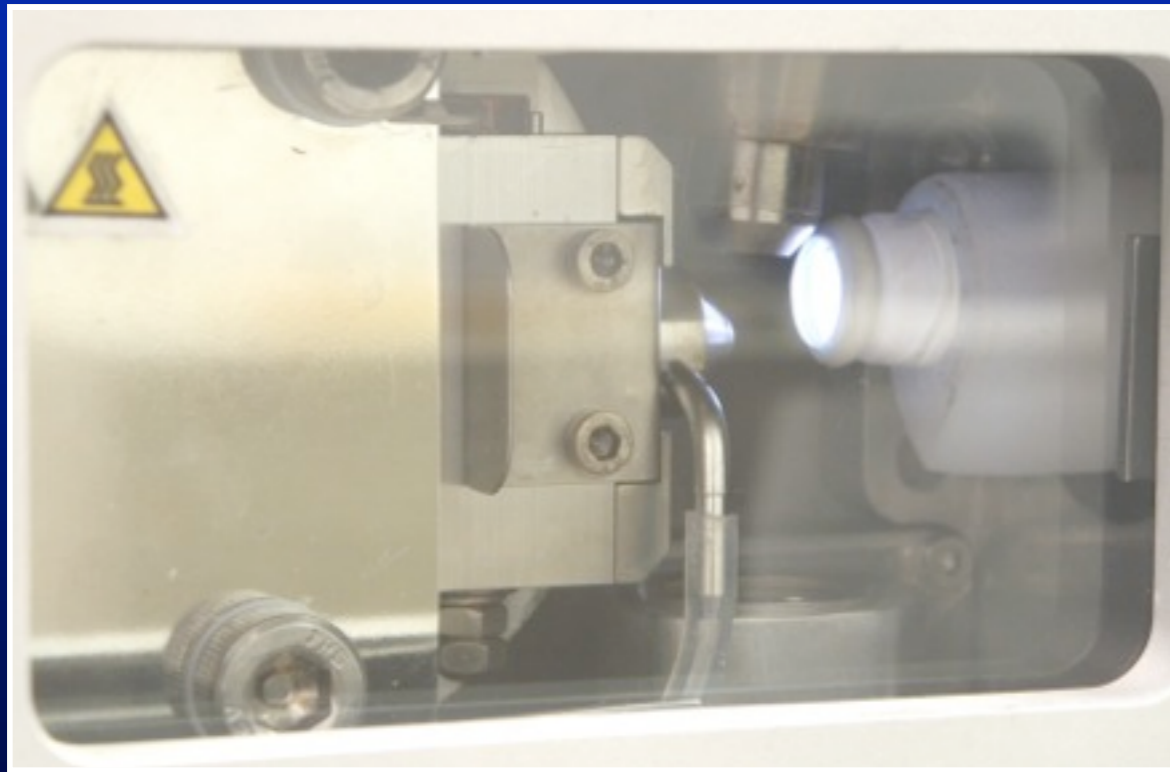
## Future Study

Control chaotic flows in source

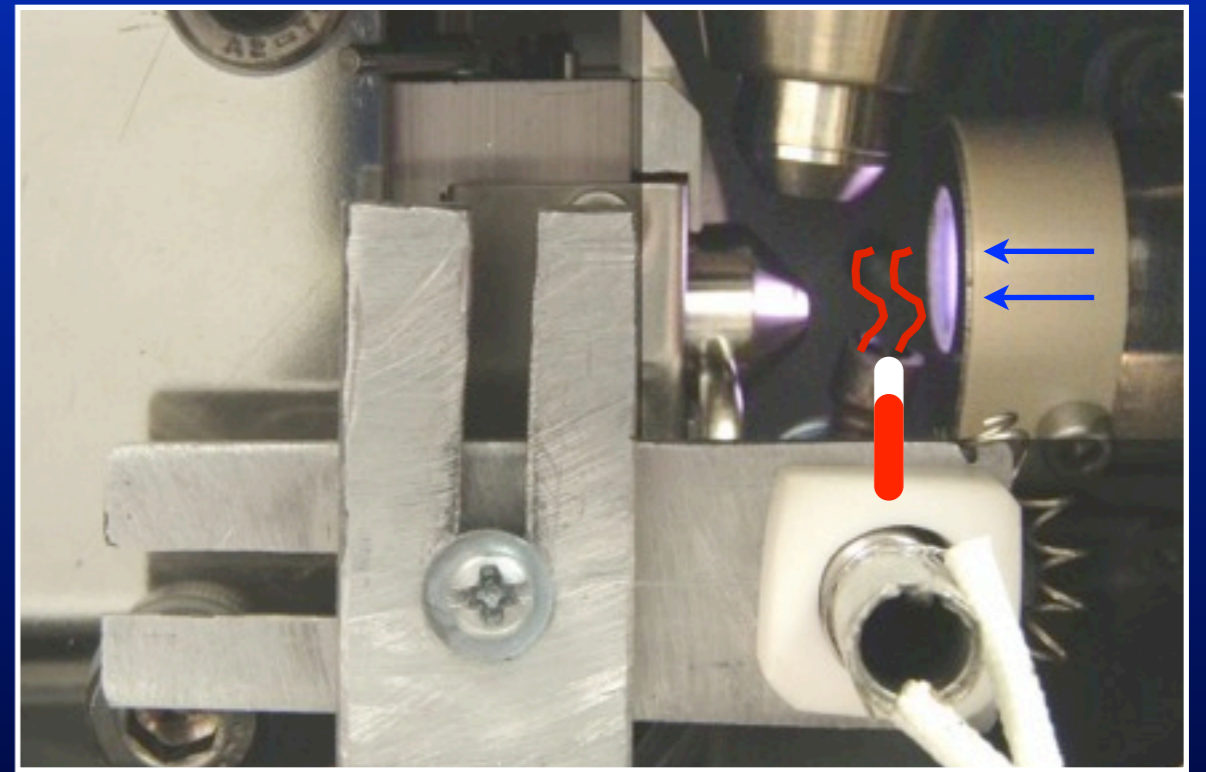
Air sensitive compounds



# Lightning Ion Source & Vapour Introduction Summary



Lightning Ion Source



Vapour Introduction

# Acknowledgements

**Supervisory Committee**

**Wuppertal collaboration**

**Dr. Rob O'Brien**

# Examining the Role of Discharge Gas and Vapour Introduction for Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

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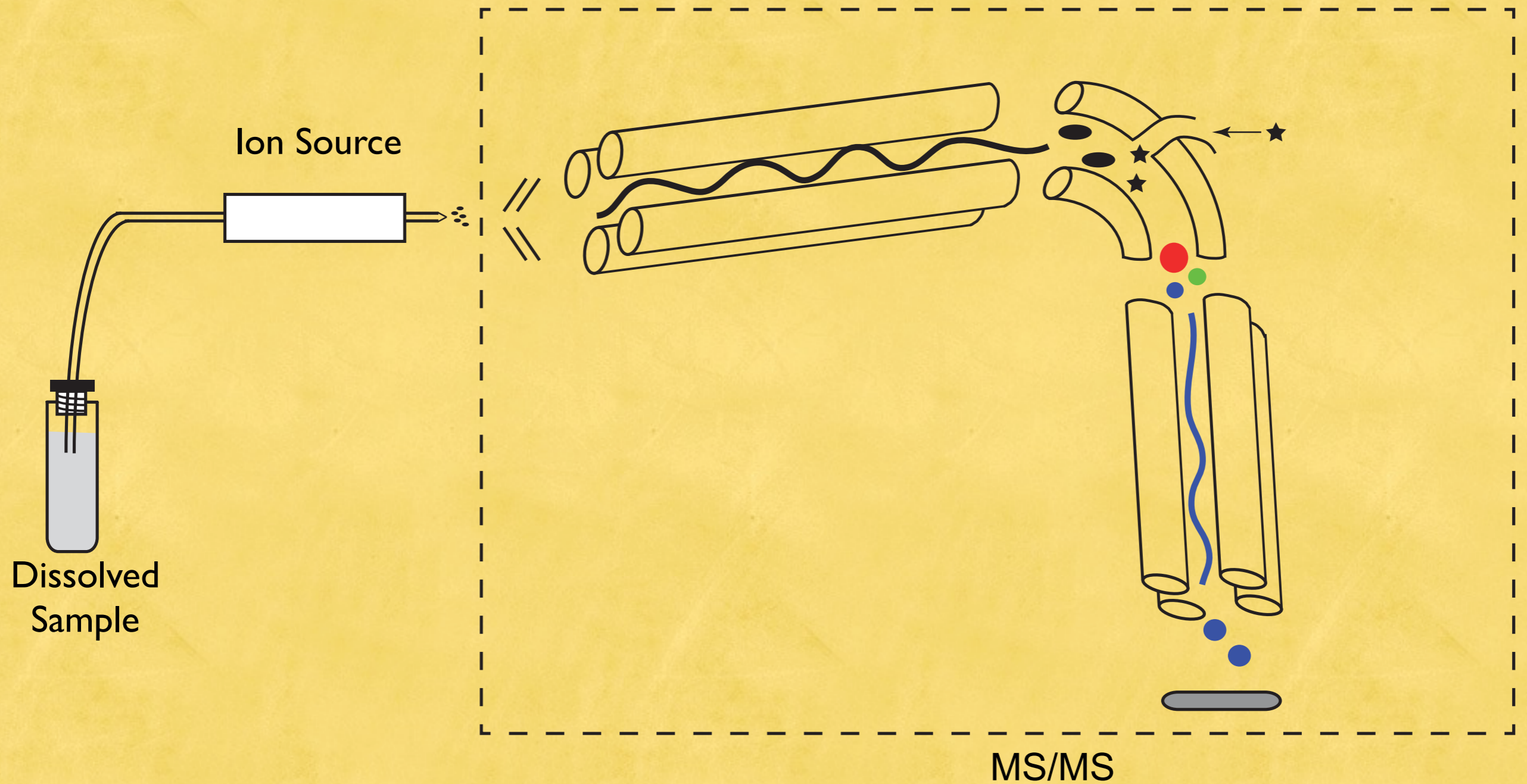


a place of mind

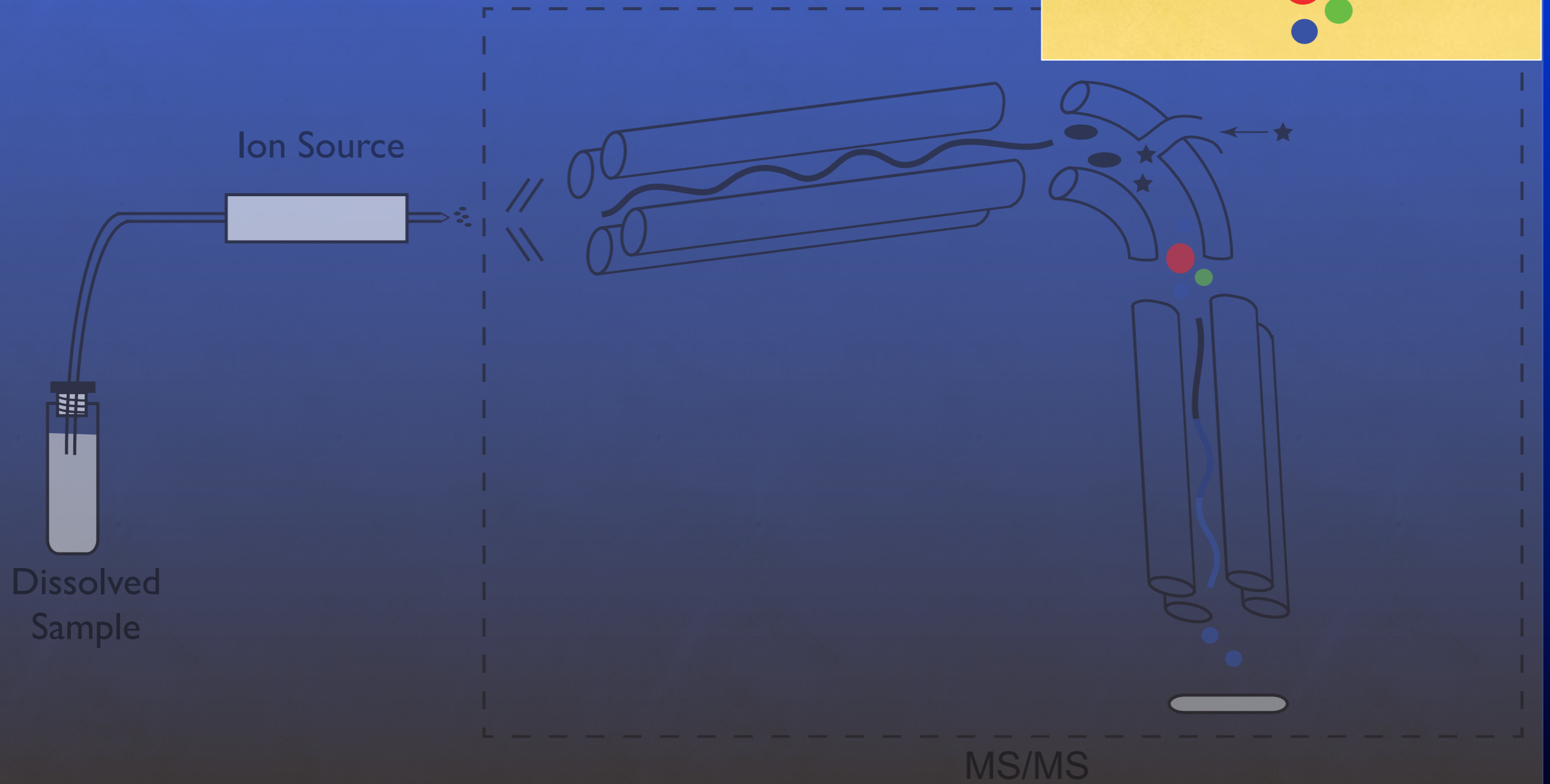
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# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization

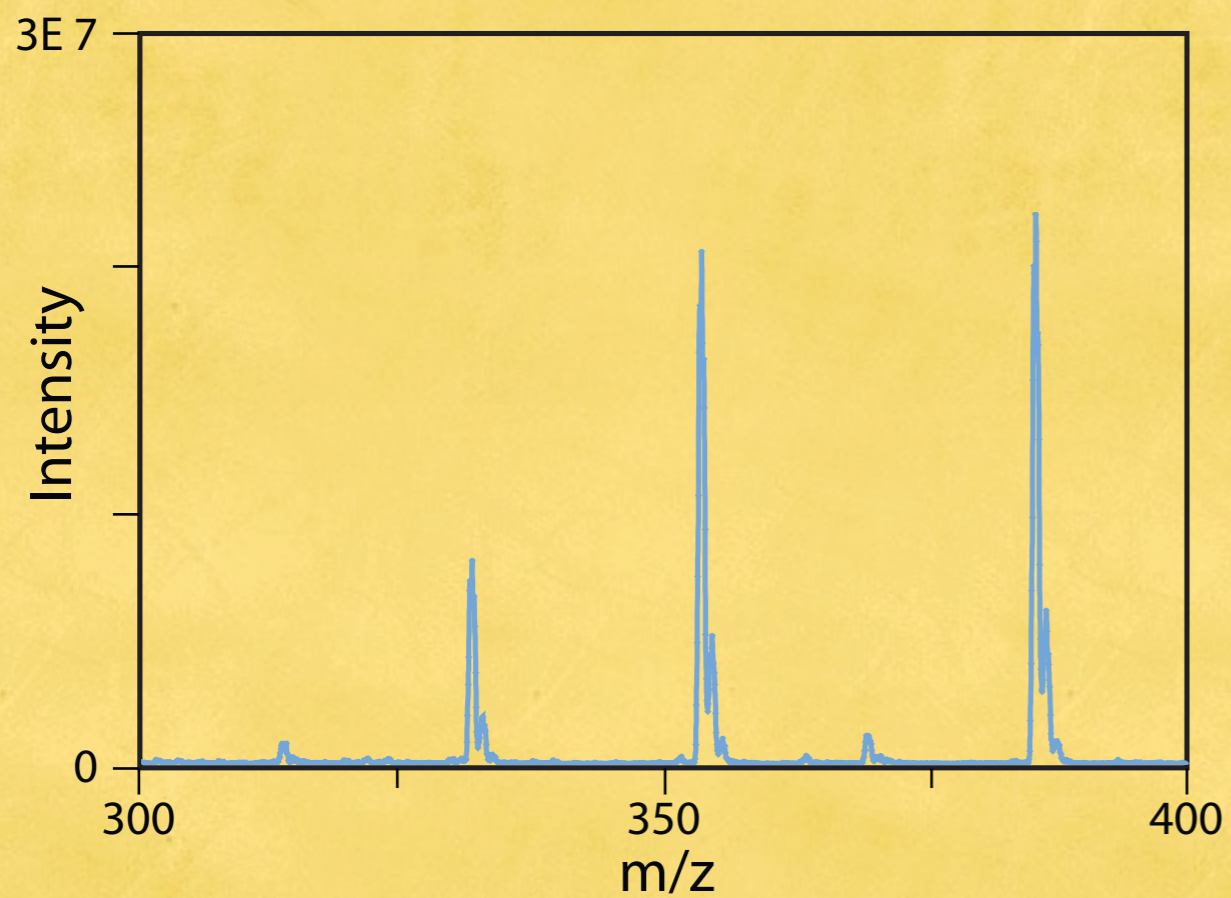
## General workflow



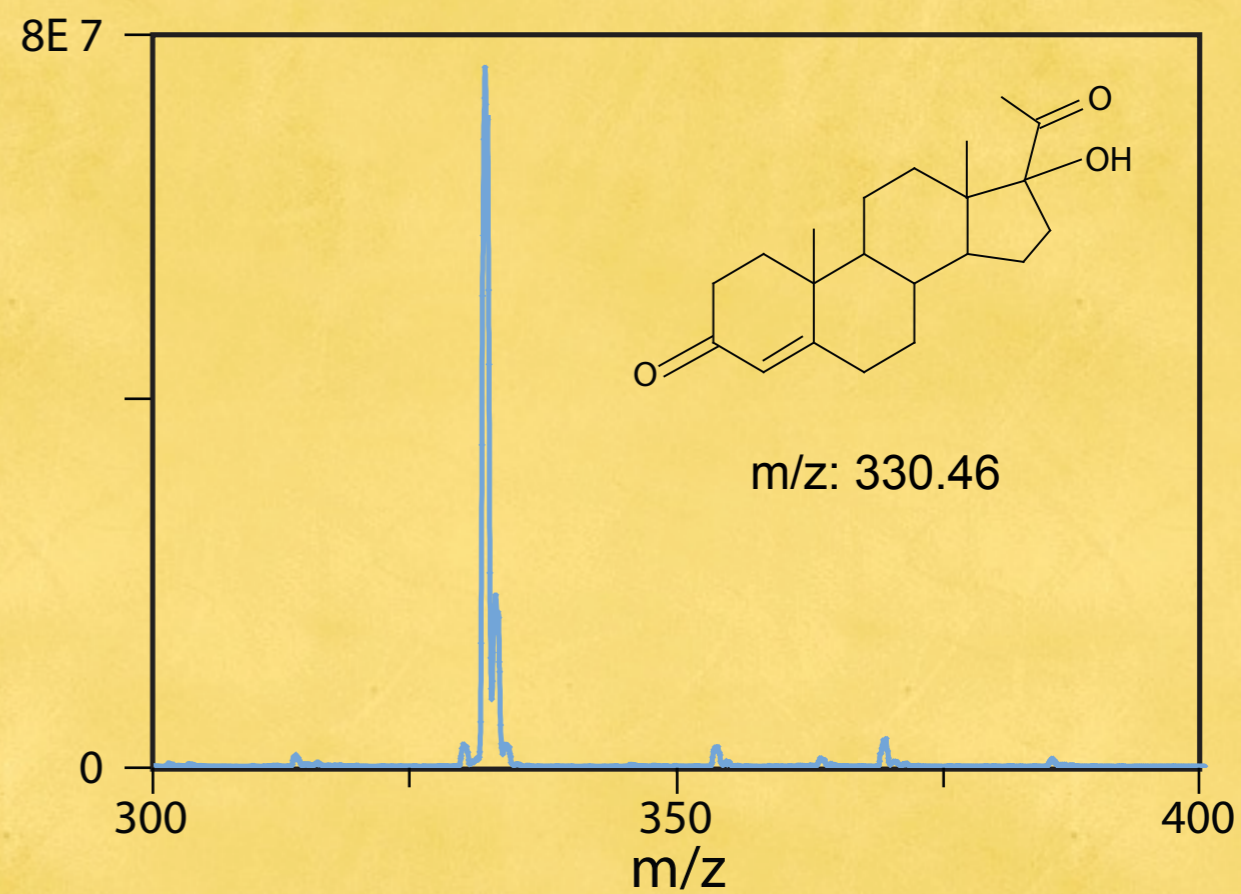
# Atmospheric Pressure Photoionization CID



# Lightning Ion Source Results - Progesterone



Krypton Lamp



Lightning Ion Source