

ASMS Short Course



Top-Down Proteomics

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Top: measuring intact
protein molecular mass

Down: fragmenting
intact protein

“Front-end”
Separation of
Intact Proteins



“Middle-part”
Mass Spectrometry
Analysis of intact
Proteins



“Back-end”
Informatics for
Identification and
Characterization
of Intact proteins

Topics to Be Covered



- **Introduction**

- History of top-down proteomics**

- Concept of proteoforms**

- Measurement of Proteoforms and their complexes**

- Denatured vs. native mode**

- **Sample preparation**

- **Intact protein separation**

- **Instrumentation, activation and dissociation methods for top-down MS**

- **Comparison of bottom-up and top-down – pros and cons**

- **Data interpretation and software tools for top-down proteomics**

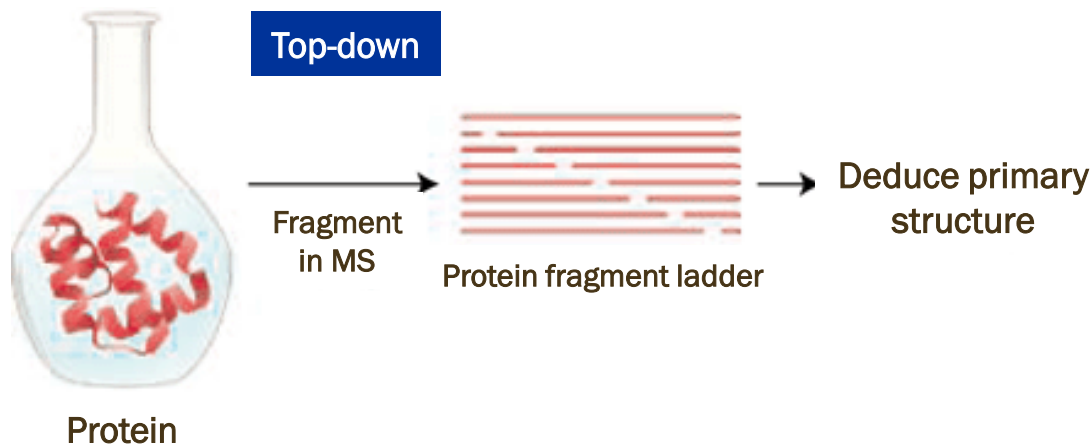
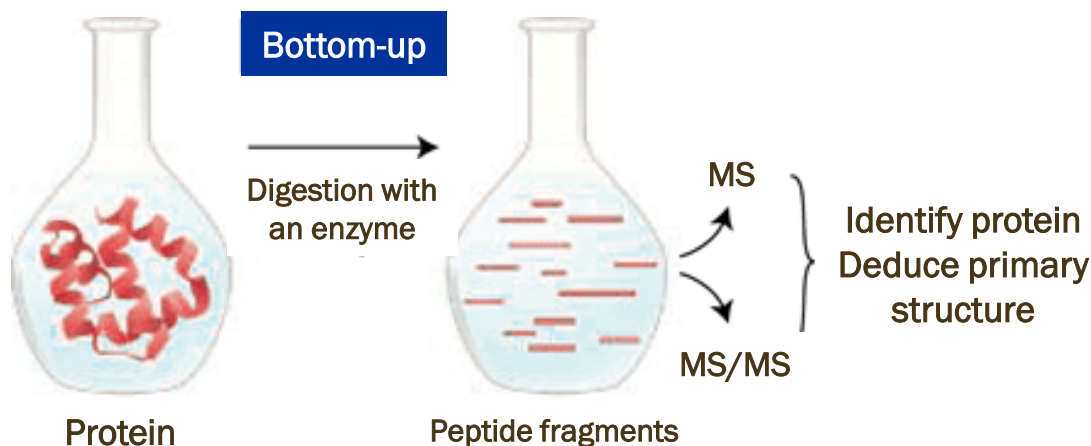
- **Top-down quantitative proteomics – including experimental design**

- **Biomedical and biopharmaceutical applications of top-down MS**

- **Future outlook**

Mass Spectrometry: Bottom-Up or Top-Down?

Brian T. Chait

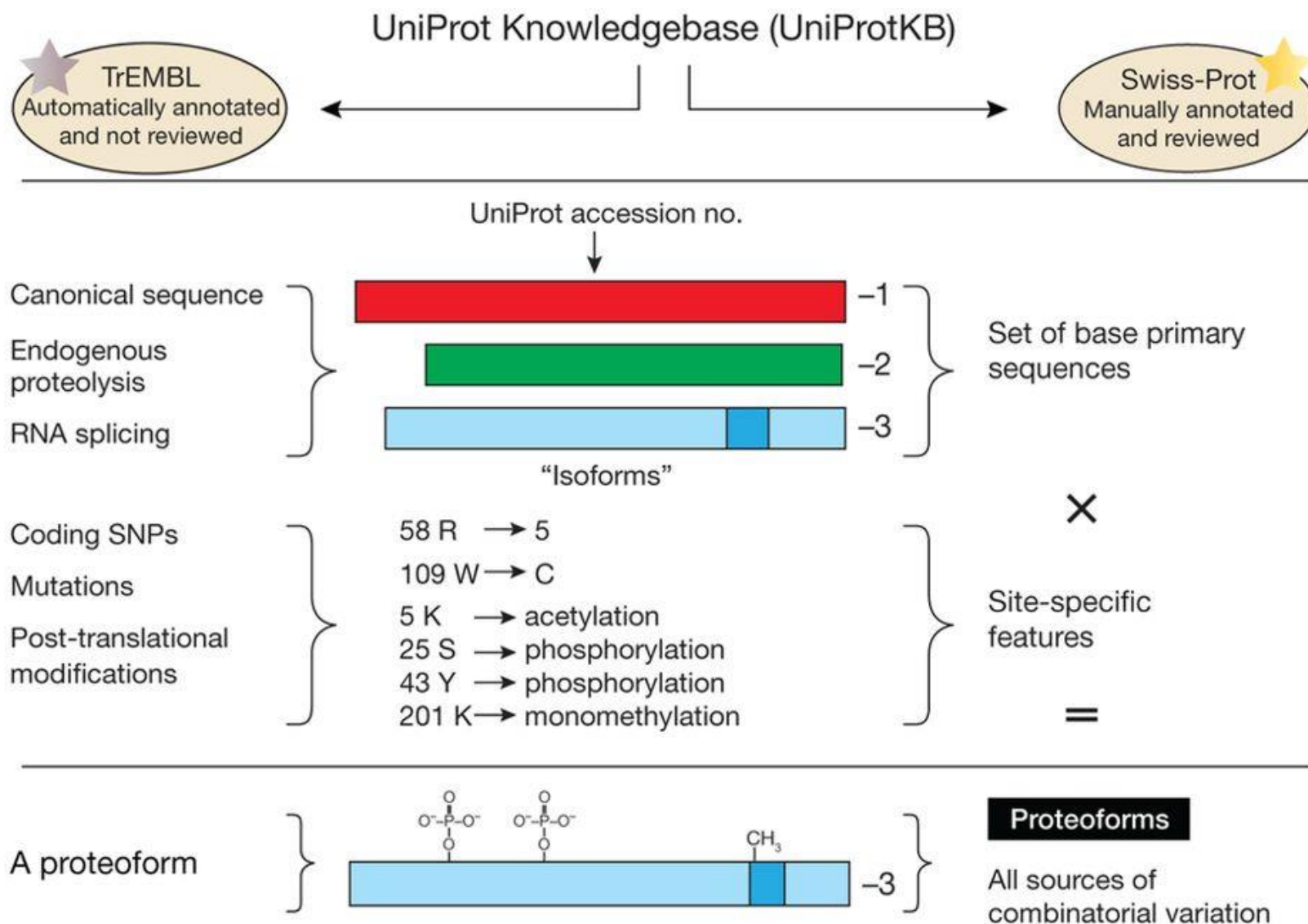


The **bottom-up** approach is (therefore) *suboptimal for determining modifications* and alternative splice variants.

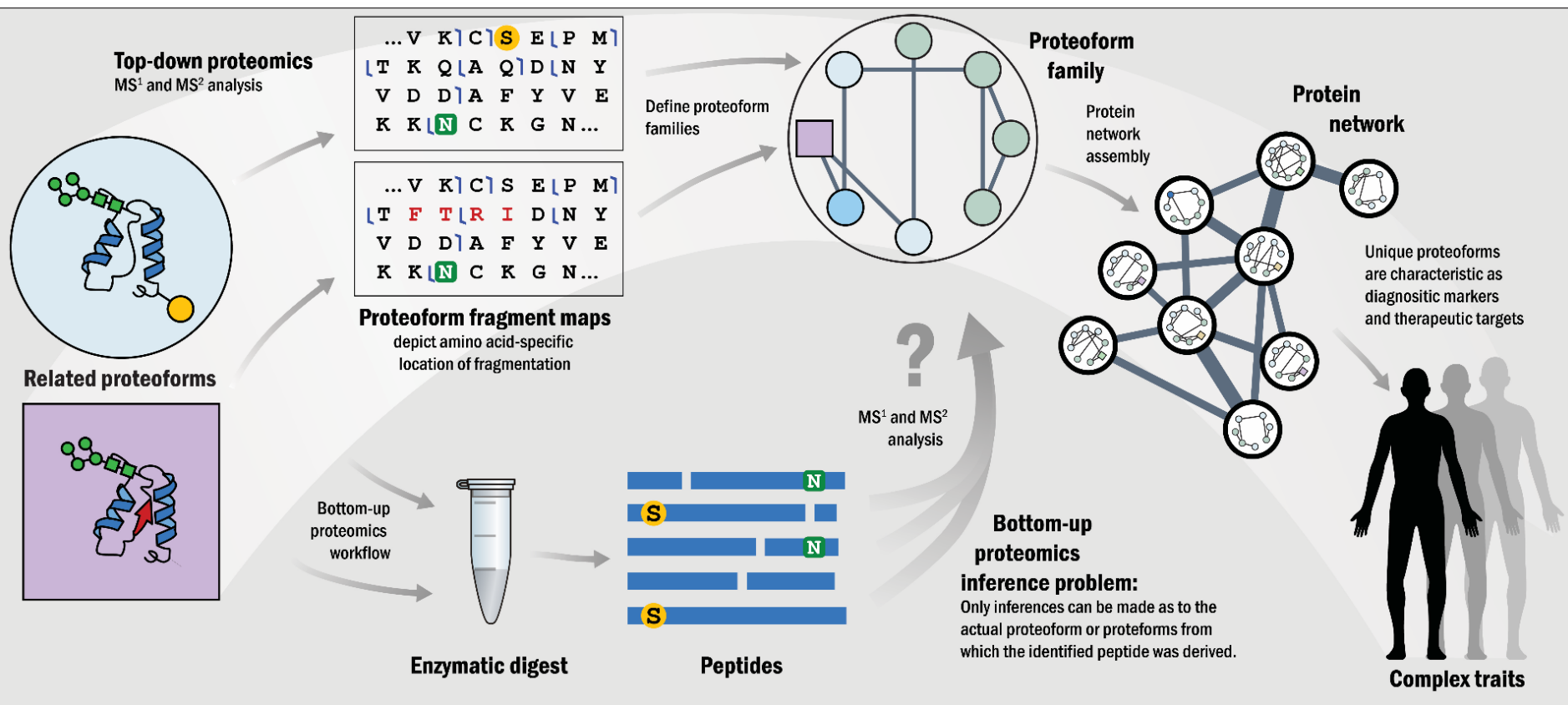
In the **top-down** approach...if a sufficient number of informative fragment ions are observed, this analysis *can provide a complete description of the primary structure of the protein and reveal all of its modifications*, as well as any correlations that exist between these modifications.

Concept of Proteoforms

Proteoform: a single term describing protein complexity



Proteoforms as a New “Currency” in Proteomics



PERSPECTIVE

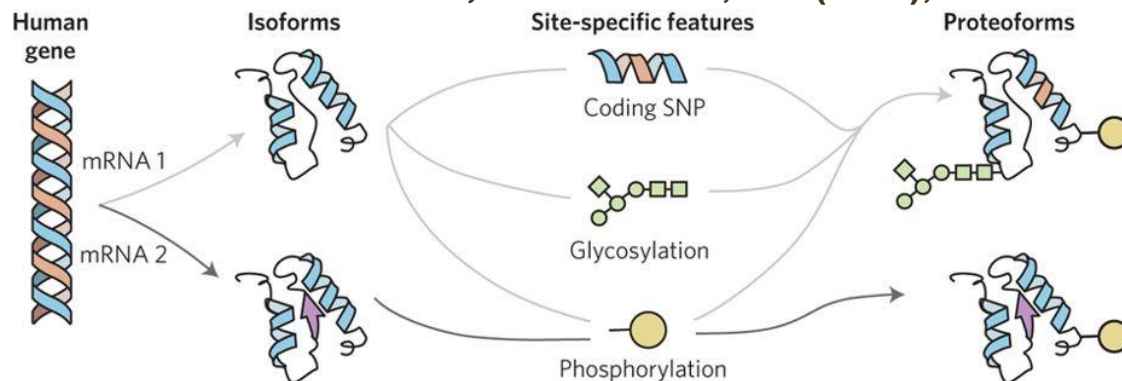
PUBLISHED ONLINE: 14 FEBRUARY 2018 | DOI: 10.1038/NCHEMBO.2576

nature
chemical biology

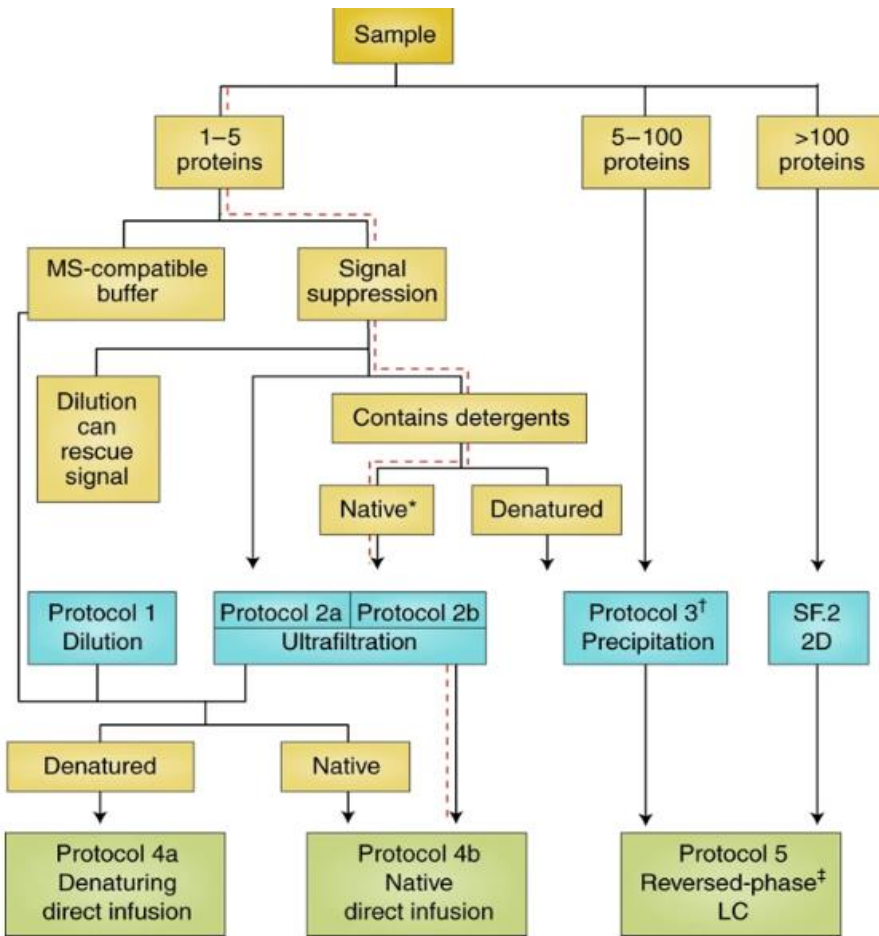
How many human proteoforms are there?

Ruedi Aebersold¹, Jeffrey N Agar², I Jonathan Amster³, Mark S Baker⁴, Carolyn R Bertozzi⁵, Emily S Boja⁶, Catherine E Costello⁷, Benjamin F Cravatt⁸, Catherine Fenselau⁹, Benjamin A Garcia¹⁰, Ying Ge^{11,12}, Jeremy Gunawardena¹³, Ronald C Hendrickson¹⁴, Paul J Hergenrother¹⁵, Christian G Huber¹⁶, Alexander R Ivanov², Ole N Jensen¹⁷, Michael C Jewett¹⁸, Neil L Kelleher^{19,20}, Laura L Kiessling²⁰, Nevan J Krogan²¹, Martin R Larsen¹⁷, Joseph A Loo²², Rachel R Ogorzalek Loo²², Emma Lundberg^{23,24}, Michael J MacCoss²⁵, Parag Mallick⁶, Vamsi K Mootha¹³, Milan Mrksich¹⁸, Tom W Muir²⁶, Steven M Patrie¹⁹, James J Pesavento²⁷, Sharon J Pittner²⁸, Henry Rodriguez⁶, Alan Saghatelian²⁸, Wendy Sandoval²⁹, Hartmut Schlüter³⁰, Salvatore Sechi³¹, Sarah A Slavoff³², Lloyd M Smith^{12,33}, Michael P Snyder²⁴, Paul M Thomas¹⁹, Mathias Uhlen³⁴, Jennifer E Van Eyk³⁵, Marc Vidal³⁶, David R Walt³⁷, Forest M White³⁸, Evan R Williams³⁹, Therese Wohlschlagler³⁶, Vicki H Wysocki⁴⁰, Nathan A Yates⁴¹, Nicolas L Young⁴² & Bing Zhang⁴²

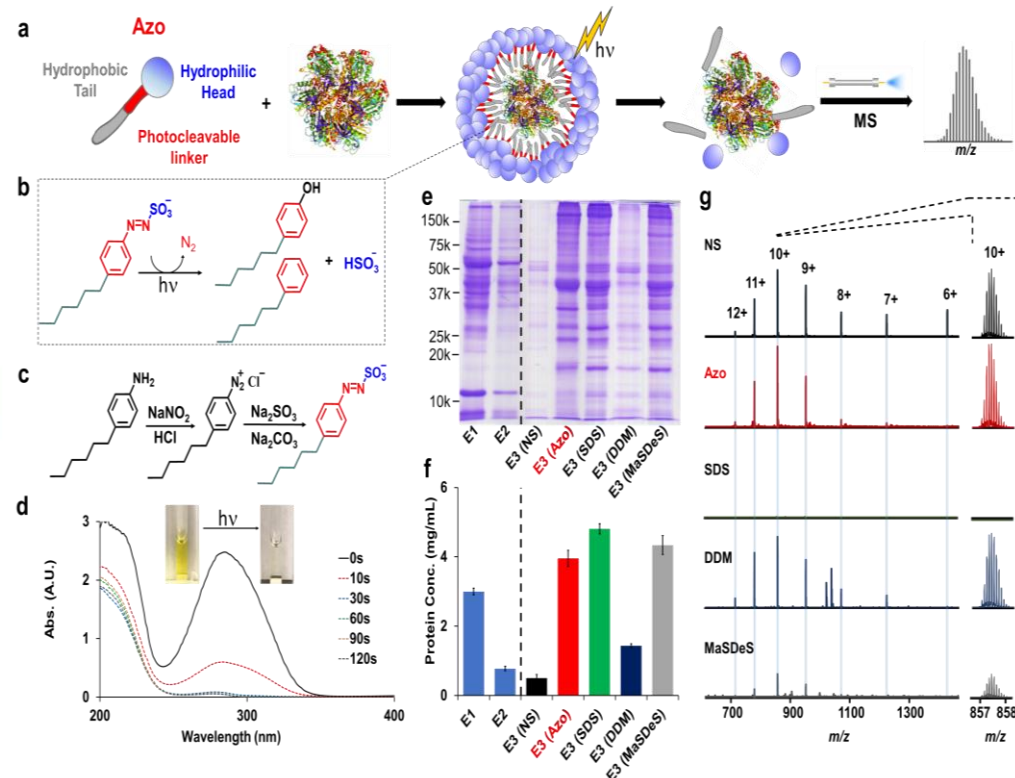
Smith and Kelleher, Science 2018, 359 (6380), 1106-1107.



Sample Preparation in Top-down Proteomics



A Photo-cleavable Surfactant for Top-down Proteomics



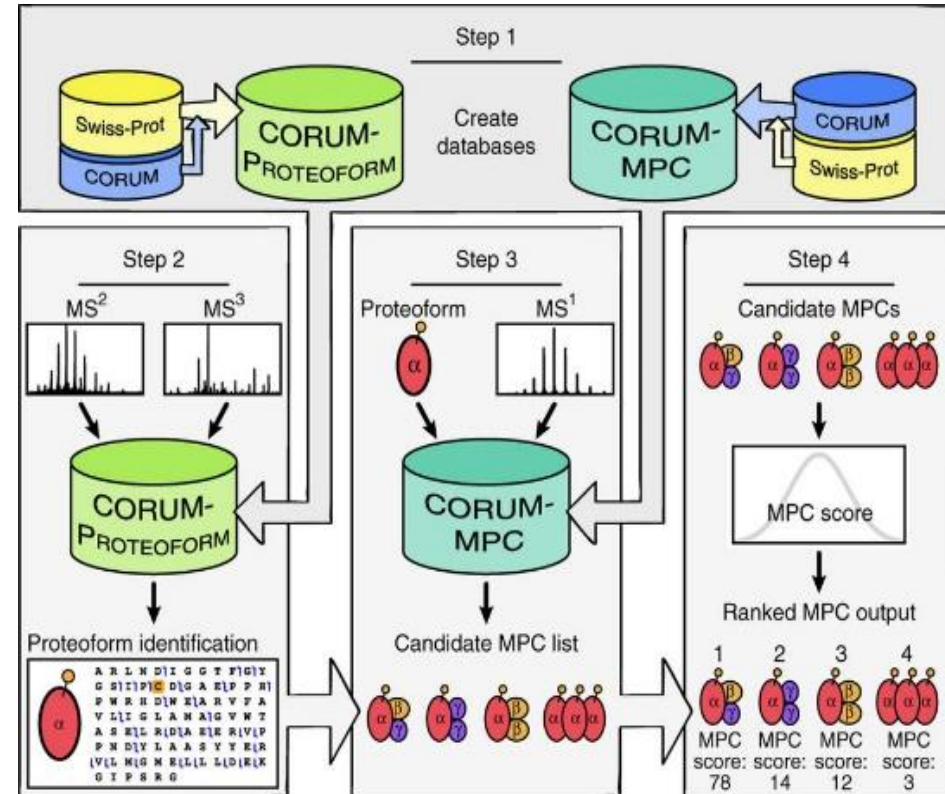
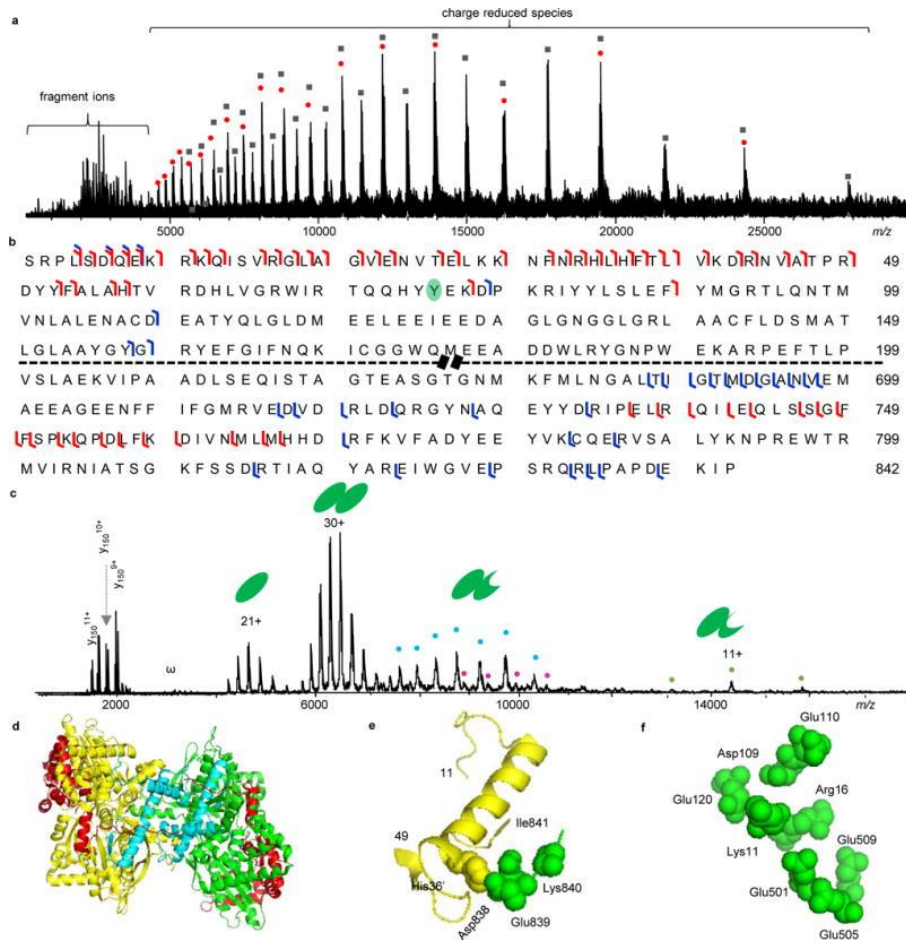
Best Practices and Benchmarks for Intact protein Analysis for Top-down Mass Spectrometry

Donnelly et al. *Nature Methods*. 2019, 16, 587-594

Brown et al. *Nature Methods* 2019, 16, 417-420



Native Top-down Proteomics



Skinner et al. Nat. Methods 2016, 13, 237

Li et al. Nature Chemistry, 2018, 10, 139

Integrated Native Mass Spectrometry and Top-Down Proteomics
-Connect Sequence to Structure and Function of Macromolecular Complexes



Software Tools Available for Top-down Proteomics



ProSight PTM <https://prosightptm2.northwestern.edu/>

ProSightPC™ https://www.thermofisher.com/order/catalog/product/PROSIGHT_PC10

Mash Suite Pro: <http://crb.wisc.edu/yinglab/software.html>

MASH Explorer: http://ge.crb.wisc.edu/MASH_Explorer/index.htm

MS-Align+: <http://bix.ucsd.edu/projects/msalign/>

TopPIC: <http://proteomics.informatics.iupui.edu/software/toppic>

MSPathFinder: <https://omics.pnl.gov/software/mspathfinder>

Informed Proteomics: <https://github.com/PNNL-Comp-Mass-Spec/Informed-Proteomics>

Proteoform Suite: <https://github.com/smith-chem-wisc/Proteoform>

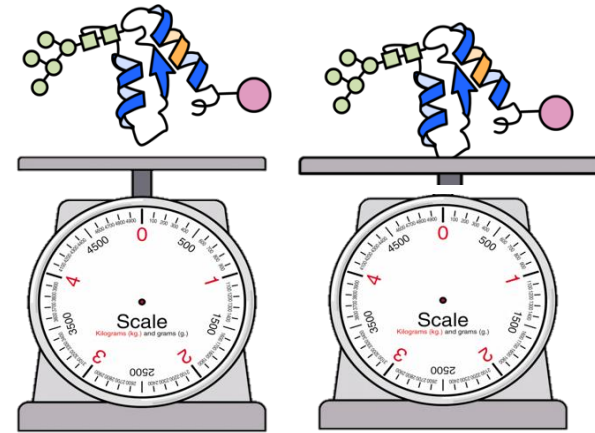
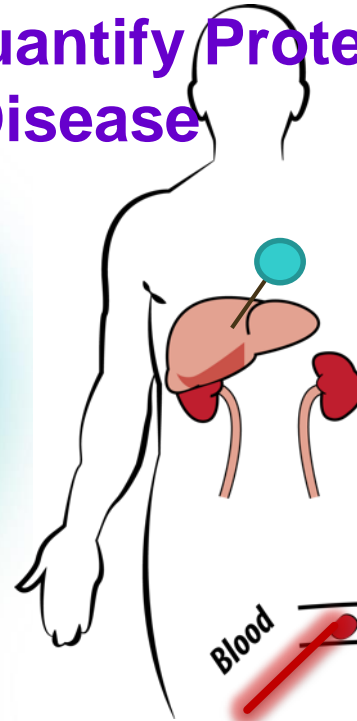
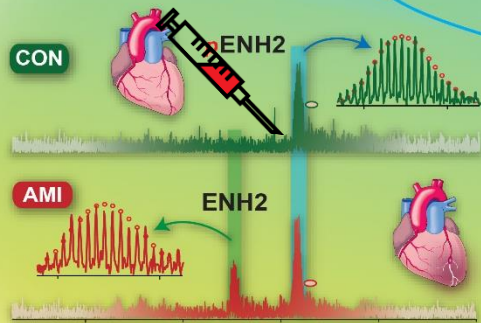
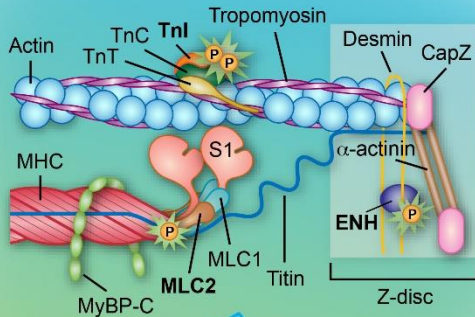
pTop: <http://pfind.net/software/pTop/index.html>



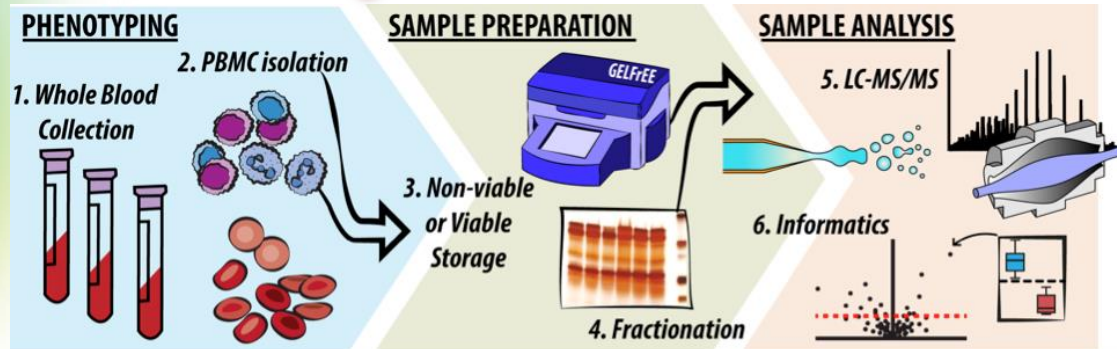
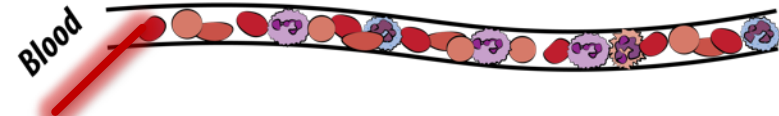
<http://www.topdownproteomics.org/resources/software/>

Biomedical and Biopharmaceutical Applications

Discover, Characterize & Quantify Proteoforms In Health and Disease

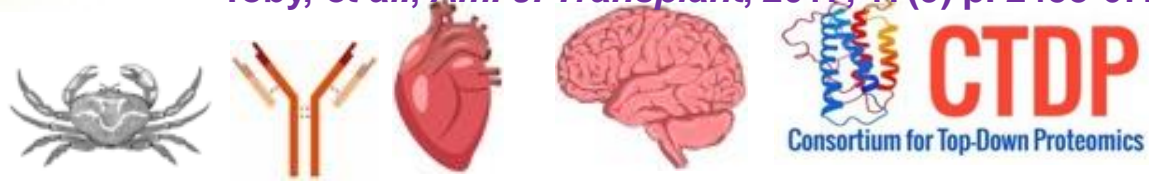


Northwestern | Proteomics



Toby, et al., *Am. J. Transplant*, 2017, 17(9) p. 2458-67.

Peng, et al. *Mol. Cell. Proteomics*, 2014, 13, 2752-2764.



Conclusions & Outlook

- Measuring proteoforms directly: a major step in the evolution of mass spectrometry-based proteomics
- Top-down proteomics closes knowledge gaps by providing complete molecular specificity for proteins in wellness and disease
- Proteoform-resolved biology will increase efficiency of basic and translational research

