Non-covalent dimer formation in LC-MS analysis

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My observations are based on information presented in the article "Novel LC-MS2 Product Dependent Parallel Data Acquisition Function and Data Analysis Workflow for Sequencing and Identification of Intact Glycopeptides." written by Sz-Wei Wu, Tsung-Hsien Pu, Rosa Viner, and Kay-Hooi Khoo, published in Anal Chem. 2014 Jun 3;86(11):5478-86. doi: 10.1021/ac500945m, and raw data associated with it.

Supplementary Figures S1-S22

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and Data Analysis Workflow for Sequencing and Identification of Intact Glycopeptides." written by Sz-Wei Wu, Tsung-Hsien Pu, Rosa Viner, and Kay-Hooi Khoo.

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Table S1-1. Subset of Incorrect Glycopeptide Identification by Direct Database Search Despite Giving Positive ID by Y1-based Search

Byonic search results						Y1-based Mascot search	Y1-based Byonic search	Byonic-assigned glycar	composition (-H3N2)*	Correct Y	L Glyca	Glycan Composition			
Sequence	PSMs	n	Modification Type(s)	m/z z	Score	Score Identified peptide	Score Identified peptide	F H N Ac Gc Na	Total mass (Da)#	¥1 (m/z)	Z F H N Ac Gc	+ Extra Mod	Total mass (Da)#		
DIVSSDFLSNMSMDFQNHLGSCQK	6	2	C[+57], M[+16]*2	1214.49 4	569.88	34.45 same	518.98 same	322000	2060.76	1498.41	2 1 2 2 1 0		2059.73		
		1	C[+57], M[+16]*2	1227.47 4	434.29	27.26 same	315.71 same	032011	2114.71	1498.7	2 1 2 3 1 0		2116.76		
		2	C[+57], M[+16]*2	1251.01 4	497.35	29.65 same	450.78 same	4 2 2 0 0 0	2206.81	1498.39	2 2 2 2 1 0		2205.79		
		1	C[+57], M[+16]	1141.47 4	350.06		301.9 same	032000	1784.63	1490.61	2 1 2 2 0 0	17	1785.64		
DSLSINATNIKHFKN CTSISG DLHILPVAFR	4	2	C[+57]	1321.19 5	905.72	34.85 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	464.9 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	274000	3131.12	1052.62	203000	3322.47	4700.95		
		2	C[+57]	1345 5	948.61	43.5 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	480.24 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	1 2 5 3 0 0	3251.16	1052.72	204000	3277.90	4819.00		
EITGFLLIQAWPENR	2	2	2014/101010195	1137.86 3	260.38		508.24 same	0 2 2 0 0 0	1622.58	996.15	2 1 1 2 0 0	17.00	1623.59		
HFKNCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	7	2	C[+57]	893.67 4	1448.27	40 same	658.47 same	0 1 1 0 0 0	1257.45	839.29	302000	42	1258.42		
		2	C[+57]	804.37 5	1262.09	22.45 same	523.67 same	0 0 4 0 0 0	1704.63	839.49	3 0 5 0 0 0		1702.58		
		2	C [+57]	777.55 5	1376.8	28.12 same	564.39 same	0 1 1 1 0 1	1571.53	629.82	404000	28	1568.53		
		1	C[+57]	1205.27 4	417.92		212.72 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	034101	2504.88	1052.56	2 2 5 3 1 0	Na	2917.01		
NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	8	2	C[+57]	1161.84 3	864.42	74.2 same	607.01 same	031000	1581.56	1052.64	204000	42	1582.53		
	200	2	C[+57]	1202.2 3	1094.91	67.53 same	616.81 same	0 0 4 0 0 0	1704.63	1052.42	205000		1702.58		
		2	C[+57]	1202.53 3	1077.61	66.63 same	619.22 same	0 0 4 0 0 0	1704.63	1052.65	205000		1702.58		
		2	C[+57]	1157.51 3	1082.28	68.58 same	629.01 same	0 1 1 1 0 1	1571.53	1052.59	204000	28	1568.53		
TKQHG QFSLA VVSLNITSLGLR	2	2	004/501000	1082.52 4	663.12	19.79 same		213000	1955.72	858.88	301310		1954.70		
VCNGIGIGEFKDSLSINATNIKHFKNCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	2	2	C[+57]*2	1385.82 5	654.03	27.74 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	369.68 NCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	0 2 2 0 2 2	2282.74	1052.63	204000	3483.02	5023.10		

n = number of redundancies

same : the peptide identified by Y1-based search is the same as the peptide bakbone identified by direct Byonic search

* Glycan composition in terms of Fuc (F), Hex (H), HexNAc (N), NeuAc (Ac), NeuGc (Gc), and Na is given without counting the trimannosyl core (H3N2)

#Total mass refers to the entire glycan moiety plus any extra modification (Mod)

Analytical Chemistry

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Anal Chem. 2014 Jun 3;86(11):5478-86. doi: 10.1021/ac500945m.

I believe this precursor was a heterodimer of Man₆ & Man₇: 2+ ions at m/z 1640 and 1721 See Table 1, Figures 1 and 2



Figure 3. Exemplary false positive due to incorrect peptide backbone identification and glycan assignment. The extra masses assigned by Byonic to a stretch of amino acids extending from tryptic miscleavage sites (A) can be alternatively attributed to larger glycan moiety (B), consistent with the Y1 ion (m/z 1052.53) identified by a Y1-based search, and the sequential glycosyl losses evident in both manually assigned HCD (B) and CID (C) MS² spectra. The 5+ monoisotopic precursor at m/z 1344.6012 corresponds to a glycopeptide of 6717.967 Da (B, inset).

C276 H450 N52 O135 S2 (+5H⁺)



Isotope Number	m/z	Percent Total	Percent Maximum				
0	1344.39502	2.33	12.79				
1	1344.59563	7.96	43.67				
2	1344.79620	14.40	79.00				
3	1344.99673	18.23	100.00				
4	1345.19724	18.05	99.01				
5	1345.39773	14.83	81.38				
6	1345.59821	10.50	57.62				
7	1345.79867	6.57	36.03				
8	1345.99913	3.69	20.26				
9	1346.19959	1.89	10.38				
10	1346.40003	0.89	4.90				
11	1346.60048	0.39	2.15				
12	1346.80093	0.16	0.88				
13	1347.00138	0.06	0.34				
14	1347.20183	0.02	0.12				
15	1347.40232	0.01	0.04				
16	1347.60283	0.00	0.01				
17	1347.80333	0.00	0.00				
18	1348.00344	0.00	0.00				



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I believe this precursor was a mixture of different heterodimers: Man₆ & Man₇Man(42): 3+ ions at m/z 1040 and 1216; and Man₇ & Man₆Man(42): 3+ ions at m/z 1148 and 1161 See Table 1



Figure S1. More examples of false positives due to incorrect peptide backbone identification and glycan assignment. In each of the 3 cases shown here (A-C), the extra masses assigned by Byonic to a stretch of amino acids extending from tryptic mis-cleavage sites can be alternatively attributed to larger glycan moiety, consistent with the Y1 ion (m/z 1052.53) most readily identified in the HCD MS^2 data (upper panel), and the sequential glycosyl losses evident in manually assigned CID MS^2 spectra (lower panel). The zoomed in mass region of the precursors shows that the most likely monoisotopic precursor within the isotopic cluster cannot always be determined unambiguously, particularly for signals of low intensity corresponding to high molecular weight glycopeptides.

Zoom in on the upper mass region of the previous CID spectrum





Erik_sEGFR_HCDpdETDCID_130912194806 #8752 RT: 39.55 AV: 1 NL: 1.00E8 T: FTMS + p NSI Full ms [300.00-2000.00]

MS survey from which m/z 1385 was selected for MS/MS analysis – all major components were detected in the CID spectrum doubly and triply charged

C284 H462 N52 O141 S2 (+5H⁺)

Calculated* isotope distribution for the Man6-Man7Man(42) & Man7-Man6Man(42) heterodimers



1007

*based on the monoisotopic masses and CID data I considered the +42 Da modification as acetylation of Man residues

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I believe this precursor was a heterodimer: Man₅ & Man₆Man(42): 2+ ions at m/z 1559 and 1742



Figure S1B. More examples of false positives due to incorrect peptide backbone identification and glycan assignment (continued from previous page).



MS survey from which m/z 1320 was selected for MS/MS

Calculated* isotope distribution for the $Man_5 \& Man_6Man(42)$ dimer

Isotope **Percent Percent** m/z Number **Total Maximum** 0 1320.38657 2.46 13.33 1320.58718 8.30 44.88 1 80.08 2 1320.78774 14.80 100.00 3 1320.98827 18.49 97.69 1321.18878 18.06 4 5 1321.38927 14.65 79.23 55.36 6 1321.58974 10.23 6.32 34.16 7 1321.79021 3.50 18.96 8 1321.99066 9 1322.19111 1.77 9.59 1322.39156 0.83 4.47 10 1322.59200 0.36 1.93 11 12 1322.79245 0.14 0.78 13 1322.99290 0.05 0.29 1323.19335 0.02 0.10 14 15 1323.39384 0.01 0.03 16 1323.59436 0.00 0.01 17 1323.79500 0.00 0.00 18 1323.99499 0.00 0.00

50 0 1320.0 1321.0 1322.0 1323.0

*based on the monoisotopic masses and CID data I considered the +42 Da modification as acetylation of Man residues

1007

C272 H442 N52 O131 S2 (+5H⁺)

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Byonic search results							Assigned glycan composition (-H3N2)*						Correct Y1			Glycan Composition (-H3N2)*					
Sequence	PSMs	n	Modification(s)	m/z	z	Score	F	Н	N A	ic (Ge I	Na	Total mass (Da)#	¥1 (m/z)	Ζ	F	H I	A	GC	Extra Mod	Total mass(Da)#
DIVSSDFLSNMSMDFQNHLGSCQK	11	4	C[+57], M[+16]	1111.21	. 4	581.76	0	1	3	D	0	0	1663.61	1466.62	2	2	2	1 () ()		1711.62
		1	C [+57]	1147.73	4	353.77	0	2	3	0	0	0	1825.66	1458.7	2	2	3	1 (0 0		1873.67
		2	C[+57], M[+16]	1151.72	2 4	481.49	0	2	3	0	0	0	1825.66	1466.65	2	2	3	1 (0 0		1873.67
		2	C[+57], M[+16]*2	1161.98	3 4	505.07	1	0	4	D	0	0	1850.69	978.25	3	2	2	2 (0 0		1914.70
		2	C [+57]	1188.24	4	438.07	0	3	3	D	0	0	1987.71	978.27	3	3	3	1 (0 0		2019.73
DSLSINATNIKHFKNCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	7	2	C [+57]	1294.1	. 4	428.93	0	5	0	D	0	0	1702.58	1052.03	2	0	5	0 (0 0	1569.8328	3272.41
		2	C[+57]	1383.81	5	670.11	0	4	5	2	1	0	3445.21	1060.03	2	0	5	0 (0 0	3294.9784	4996.92
		2	C[+57]	1448.42	2 5	659.16	0	5	4	4	0	4	3771.24	1060.03	2	0	6	0 (0 0	3456.0684	5320.07
		1	C[+57]	1469.91	. 4	373.59	0	2	3	2	0	0	2407.85	1052.03	2	0	2	0 (0 0	2759.0256	3974.65
EFVENSECIQCHPECLPQAMNITCTGR	2	2	C[+57]*4, M[+16]	1135.47	4	468.36	1	0	1	D	0	0	1257.45	1168.15	3	0	2	0 (0 0	+Na	1239.42
HFKNCTSISGDLHILPVAFR	16	2	C[+57]	893.41	. 4	412.69	0	1	1	D	0	0	1257.45	848.47	3	0	2	0 1	0 0	42	1258.42

 Table S1-2. Subset of Incorrect Glycopeptide Identification by Direct Database Search Without Supporting Positive ID by Y1-based Search

CID of m/z 1294.1 listed in Table S1-2 – explanation given with a 1569.8324 Da 'defect'



Sequence positions are given according to P00533 of SwissProt data base

MS survey from which the m/z 1294 ion was selected for MS/MS; precursor ion in the insert



C217 H351 N45 O97 S1 (+4H⁺)

Isotope Number	m/z	Percent Total	Percent Maximum
0	1293.84820	5.40	25.88
1	1294.09896	14.54	69.65
2	1294.34966	20.80	99.65
3	1294.60033	20.87	100.00
4	1294.85097	16.41	78.62
5	1295.10159	10.72	51.38
6	1295.35220	6.04	28.96
7	1295.60280	3.01	14.42
8	1295.85340	1.35	6.46
9	1296.10398	0.55	2.64
10	1296.35457	0.21	0.99
11	1296.60515	0.07	0.35
12	1296.85575	0.02	0.11
13	1297.10637	0.01	0.03
14	1297.35702	0.00	0.01
15	1297.60764	0.00	0.00
16	1297.85977	0.00	0.00

Calculated isotope distribution for the

peptide-glycopeptide (Man₈) heterodimer



³⁶¹N(GlcNAc₂Man₈)C(Carbamidomethyl)TSISGDLHILPVAFR³⁷⁷

⁴¹⁵TDLHAFENLEIIR⁴²⁷

The fragments clearly indicate the presence of both peptides



CID of m/z 1383.81 listed in Table S1-2 – explanation given with a 3294.9784 Da mass 'defect'



Heterodimer of \bullet & \blacklozenge AND homodimer of \diamondsuit

MS survey from which the m/z 1383 ion was selected for MS/MS; precursor ion in the insert



C282 H460 N52 O142 S2 (+5H⁺)

Calculated* isotope distribution for the $Man_{7 100}$ homodimer or Man_6 -Man₈ heterodimer

Isotope	m/z	Percent	Percent
Number	111/2	Total	Maximum
0	1383.20355	2.14	11.90
1	1383.40416	7.46	41.48
2	1383.60473	13.78	76.59
3	1383.80527	17.80	98.96
4	1384.00578	17.99	100.00
5	1384.20627	15.09	83.89
6	1384.40675	10.91	60.63
7	1384.60723	6.96	38.70
8	1384.80769	4.00	22.21
9	1385.00815	2.09	11.62
10	1385.20860	1.01	5.60
11	1385.40905	0.45	2.51
12	1385.60949	0.19	1.05
13	1385.80995	0.07	0.41
14	1386.01041	0.03	0.15
15	1386.21088	0.01	0.05
16	1386.41141	0.00	0.01
17	1386.61195	0.00	0.00
18	1386.81252	0.00	0.00



*the peptide is oxidized in these glycoforms

CID of m/z 1448.42 listed in Table S1-2 – explanation given with a 3456.0684 Da mass 'defect'



MS survey from which the m/z 4448 ion was selected for MS/MS; precursor ion in the insert



Calculated* isotope distribution for the $Man_{8 m}$ homodimer and Man_7 -Man₉ heterodimer

Isotope Number	m/z	Percent Total	Percent Maximum	
0	1448.02468	1.82	10.23	
1	1448.22530	6.61	37.09	
2	1448.42587	12.69	71.15	
3	1448.62641	17.01	95.41	
4	1448.82693	17.83	100.00	
5	1449.02743	15.50	86.96	
6	1449.22792	11.61	65.12	
7	1449.42840	7.68	43.05	
8	1449.62887	4.56	25.59	
9	1449.82933	2.47	13.86	
10	1450.02979	1.23	6.92	
11	1450.23024	0.57	3.20	
12	1450.43070	0.25	1.39	
13	1450.63115	0.10	0.56	
14	1450.83161	0.04	0.21	
15	1451.03209	0.01	0.08	
16	1451.23261	0.00	0.02	
17	1451.43312	0.00	0.01	
18	1451.63379	0.00	0.00	



50

*the peptide is oxidized in these glycoforms

C294 H480 N52 O152 S2 (+5H⁺)