



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER ESAMI, PER IL RECLUTAMENTO DI N. 1 UNITÀ DI PERSONALE AFFERENTE ALL'AREA DEI COLLABORATORI - SETTORE TECNICO, SCIENTIFICO, TECNOLOGICO, INFORMATICO E DEI SERVIZI GENERALI, CON RAPPORTO DI LAVORO SUBORDINATO A TEMPO DETERMINATO PRESSO L'UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO - DIREZIONE SERVIZI PER LA RICERCA - CODICE 22521

La Commissione giudicatrice della selezione, nominata con Determina Direttoriale n. 1595 del 03/02/2025, composta da:

Prof. Armando Negri	Presidente
Dott. Enrico Caneva	Componente
Prof.ssa Gabriella Roda	Componente
Dott.ssa Sara Di Mola	Segretaria

comunica i quesiti relativi alla prova orale:

TEMA 1

1. Descrizione dello schema generale di uno spettrometro di massa, elencando le possibili diverse componenti a partire dal sistema di introduzione del campione.

Brano in inglese: Il candidato legga e traduca dall'inglese all'italiano il seguente paragrafo tratto dall'articolo "High resolution mass spectrometry based techniques at the crossroads of metabolic pathways" di Christophe Junot, Francois Fenaille, Benoit Colsch e Francois Bécher, pubblicato online il 28 Novembre 2013 su Wiley Online Library (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/>), Inc. Mass Spec Rev 33: 471-500, 2014, pag. 471.

The metabolome is the set of small molecular mass compounds found in biological media, and metabolomics, which refers to as the analysis of metabolome in a given biological condition, deals with the large scale detection and quantification of metabolites in biological media. It is a data driven and multidisciplinary approach combining analytical chemistry for data acquisition, and biostatistics, informatics and biochemistry for mining and interpretation of these data. Since the middle of the 2000s, high resolution mass spectrometry is widely used in metabolomics, mainly because the detection and identification of metabolites are improved compared to low resolution instruments.

TEMA 2

1. Descrivere una sorgente a scelta tra l'ESI la MALDI e l'APCI.

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The metabolome includes all organic substances naturally occurring from the metabolism of the studied living organism, also including xenobiotics (i.e., chemicals that are present in an organism, but not produced by it) and their biotransformation products (Fig. 1). Polymerized structures such as proteins and nucleic acids are excluded from the metabolome. Actually, one may consider that a metabolite correspond to any organic compound that does not directly come from gene expression. According to this view, small peptides such as the tripeptide glutathione, which are synthesized through an enzymatic process and which are part of a metabolic pathway, are metabolites.



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TEMA 3

1. Descrivere un analizzatore a scelta tra TOF, Triplo Quadrupolo e Trappola (anche Orbitrap).

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The introduction of sources designed to operate at atmospheric pressure such as the electrospray ionization source (ESI) source has extended the range of detected molecules to peptides, proteins and lipids without any chemical modification requirement, and it has also enabled the coupling of mass spectrometry with LC. Atmospheric pressure ionization (API) sources ensure soft ionization, enabling the detection of protonated (i.e., [M+H]⁺) or deprotonated (i.e., [M-H]⁻) ions which give access to molecular masses of intact molecules. However, ions produced in API sources provide only limited structural information.

TEMA 4

1. Elenicare strumenti ed accessori che potrebbero essere presenti in un laboratorio di spettrometria di massa per la preparazione dei campioni da analizzare.

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Nowadays, whereas the best results in terms of accuracy and mass resolving power are still achieved with FTICR instruments, new time-of-flight instruments with improved resolution (up to 60,000, m/Dm, FWHM), mass accuracy and acquisition rates, and also with coupling to ion mobility spectrometry have been released, together with new versions of Orbitrap-based instruments (Table 1). Nevertheless, one should keep in mind that a fundamental difference between ESI-TOF and ESI-Orbitrap instruments is that the resolving power of TOF-MS instruments is independent of the acquisition rate, which could be regarded as a key parameter especially when fast chromatographic separations are to be used (Hopfgartner, 2011).

TEMA 5

1. L’analisi quantitativa in Spettrometria di Massa: considerazioni generali ed esempio di procedura.

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Another important comparison criterion is the ability of HRMS instruments to perform accurate RIA measurements in biological samples. This helps to reduce the number of elemental composition proposals that match accurate measured masses for further metabolite annotation and identification. Moreover, it has been shown that a mass spectrometer capable of 3 ppm mass accuracy and 2% error for isotopic abundance patterns should outperform mass spectrometers providing a mass accuracy of 0.1 ppm and poor performances in terms of RIA measurement (Kind & Fiehn, 2006). In this context, Erve et al. investigated the impact of the mass resolution on RIA measurements of 10 compounds ranging in molecular weight from 639 to 1,663 Da using a LTQ-Orbitrap XL instrument.



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Milano, 17 febbraio 2025

La Commissione

Prof. Armando Negri Presidente

Dott. Enrico Caneva Componente

Prof.ssa Gabriella Roda Componente

Dott.ssa Sara Di Mola Segretaria