

# Ionizable Isotopic Labeling Reagents for Relative Quantification by Mass Spectrometry

View U.S. Patent No. 7,982,070 in PDF format.

**WARF: P06069US** 

Inventors: Joshua Coon, Lloyd Smith, Michael Shortreed, Brian Frey, Margaret Phillips, Madhusudan Patel, Shane Lamos, Peter Belshaw, Casey Krusemark, Neil Kelleher

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing small, inexpensive ionizable tags for relative quantification in mass spectroscopy.

#### Overview

Mass spectroscopy is a widely used technique for detecting and analyzing molecules, including biochemical entities such as amino acids, proteins, short nucleic acids, metabolites and other small molecules. To use mass spectroscopy to provide information about the relative quantification of metabolites and other molecules, the molecules must be labeled. But existing tags are expensive and useful only in limited situations.

#### The Invention

UW-Madison researchers have developed small, inexpensive ionizable tags for non-targeted relative quantification of a variety of biological metabolites, peptides and proteins by liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS). The tags differ in their isotopic composition and react quantitatively with amines or carboxylic acid groups, offering a powerful approach to relative quantification of multiple analytes between two samples by electrospray ionization-mass spectrometry (ESI-MS).

One sample is labeled with an isotopically-light reagent and the other sample is labeled with an isotopically-heavy reagent, which yields a characteristic mass shift in the spectra. The relative intensity for each peak pair allows for the precise determination of the relative concentration of multiple analytes between samples. In addition, these reagents enhance the ionizability of the analytes in positive-ion mode MS, resulting in lower detection limits.

### **Applications**

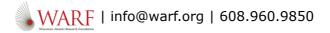
· Labeling any molecule with a free amine or carboxylic acid group, including metabolites, amino acids, peptides and proteins

## **Key Benefits**

- · Improves the precision of relative quantification by minimizing run-to-run variability. Precision is comparable to gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) methods and is superior to conventional LC-MS methods
- · Labeling enhances ionizability in positive-ion mode MS and lowers detection limits.
- · Labeled products can be analyzed in a single run because amine labeling reagents yield a two Da shift between light- and heavylabeled products whereas carboxylic acid labeling reagents yield a nine Da shift.
- Labeling signifies the presence of specific functional groups, which helps identify unknown compounds
- se cookies on this site to enhance your experience and improve our marketing efforts. By continuing to browse without changing your browser settings to block or delete

  Light- and heavy-labeled analytes co-clute in both reverse-phase (RP-HPLC) and hydrophilic interaction chromatography (HILIC)

  cookies, you agree to the storing of cookies and related technologies on your device. See our privacy policy
  - · Reaction products require no purification before LC-MS analysis
  - Acid-labeling increases the charge state of peptides resulting in improved electron-transfer dissociation (ETD)



## **Additional Information**

## For More Information About the Inventors

- Lloyd Smith
- Joshua Coon

#### **Related Intellectual Property**

• View Divisional Patent in PDF format.

#### **Tech Fields**

- Analytical Instrumentation, Methods & Materials: Mass spectrometry
- Research Tools : Detection

For current licensing status, please contact Jennifer Gottwald at jennifer@warf.org or 608-960-9854