

Structural analysis (CH-314)

Week 2

Definitions & Formulas

1. Mass resolution:

$$R = \frac{m/z}{FWHM}$$

where FWHM is the full width at half maximum of the peak at m/z .

2. Resolving power:

$$RP = \frac{m/z}{\Delta m/z}$$

where $\Delta m/z$ is the minimum difference between m/z of two peaks of the same intensity resolved with 10% valley. Assuming a gaussian peak shape, $\Delta m/z \approx 1.8 \cdot FWHM$, and therefore, $1.8 \cdot RP \approx R$.

3. Absolute mass accuracy is the difference between the measured and calculated m/z values:

$$\Delta m/z = m/z_{exp} - m/z_{calc}$$

4. Relative mass accuracy is the absolute mass accuracy divided by the m/z value it is determined for:

$$\delta m/m = \frac{\Delta m/z}{m/z}$$

5. Charge state (z) can be calculated using an isotopic distribution:

$$z \approx 1/\Delta(m/z)$$

6. Average mass (m) can be calculated using an isotopic distribution:

$$M \approx \frac{\sum I_k \cdot m_k}{\sum I_k}$$

7. Charge state (z) and average mass (M) can be calculated from charge state distribution. If two protonated ions (two charge states of the same species) in a mass spectrum are separated by k peaks (in increasing order of m/z ratio) and have measured m/z ratios of m_1 and m_2 , respectively, then the charge state of the first peak and the average mass can be determined as follows:

$$z = \frac{(k+1)(m_2 - m_p)}{(m_2 - m_1)}$$
$$M = z(m_1 - m_p)$$

8. Table of monoisotopic masses:

Element	Monoisotopic mass (Da)
H	1.007 825
C	12.000 000
N	14.003 074
O	15.994 915

9. Masses of an electron and of a proton:

$$m_e = 0.000549 \text{ Da}$$
$$m(H^+) = 1.007276 \text{ Da}$$