

Structural analysis of isomeric chemicals by using high resolution MS/MS on Curved Field Reflectron incorporated with a novel focusing technology

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Overview

- Precise assignment of isomeric chemicals is conducted with a new MALDI-TOF/TOF MS.
- Isomeric carbohydrates and prostaglandins are differentiated successfully.
- Choice of cation is significant to obtain informative MS/MS spectrum.

Introduction

While resolution of MS has been greatly improved recently, no matter how high resolution of MS is achieved, MS/MS is essential to conduct analysis of isomeric chemicals, and the analysis is thought to be still significant task given to mass spectrometry. To date, we applied PSD and high energy CID in curved field reflectron to the analysis, since intensities of

fragment ions in the reflectron were susceptible to isomeric forms. Recently, we incorporated a new focusing technology into the curved field reflectron, which enabled to obtain 10,000 resolution of MS/MS. We will apply the new curved field reflectron toward ambiguous assignment and differentiation of isomeric chemicals.

Methods

Materials

Isomeric oligosaccharides	: Lacto-N-neotetraose(LNnT) Lacto-N-tetraose(LNT)	Galβ1-3GlcNAcβ1-3Galβ1-4Glc Galβ1-4GlcNAcβ1-3Galβ1-4Glc
Isomeric prostaglandin	: Prostaglandin E2(PGE ₂) and prostaglandin D2(PGD ₂)	
Matrix	: 10 mg/mL of DHB in methanol.	
Cation	: Li, Na, Cs, Ba.	

MALDI-tandem TOFMS

Instrument	: MALDI-7090 (Shimadzu/Kratos)
Measurement	: High-energy CID-MS/MS in positive ion mode.
Collision gas	: helium
Collision energy	: 20 keV (laboratory frame of reference).



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Principle of Axial Spatial Distribution Focusing (ASDF)

MS/MS resolution is improved with correcting the spatial distribution of ions in ASDF cell. This is achieved by applying a pulsed electrostatic field at the point, at which the precursor and fragments are velocity focussed but are spatially resolved.

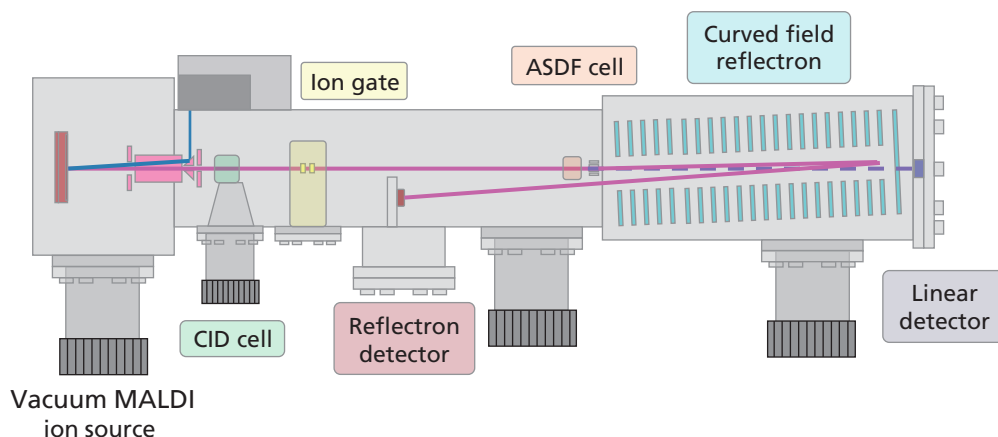


Fig.1 Inside view of MALDI-7090

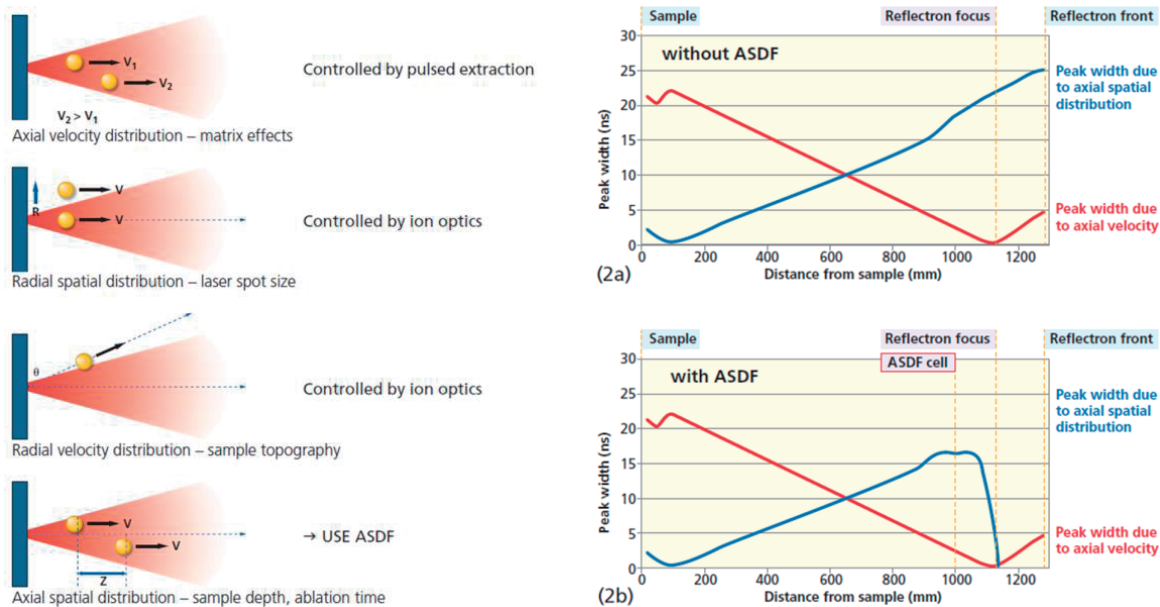


Fig.2 Axial Spatial Distribution Focusing

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Results

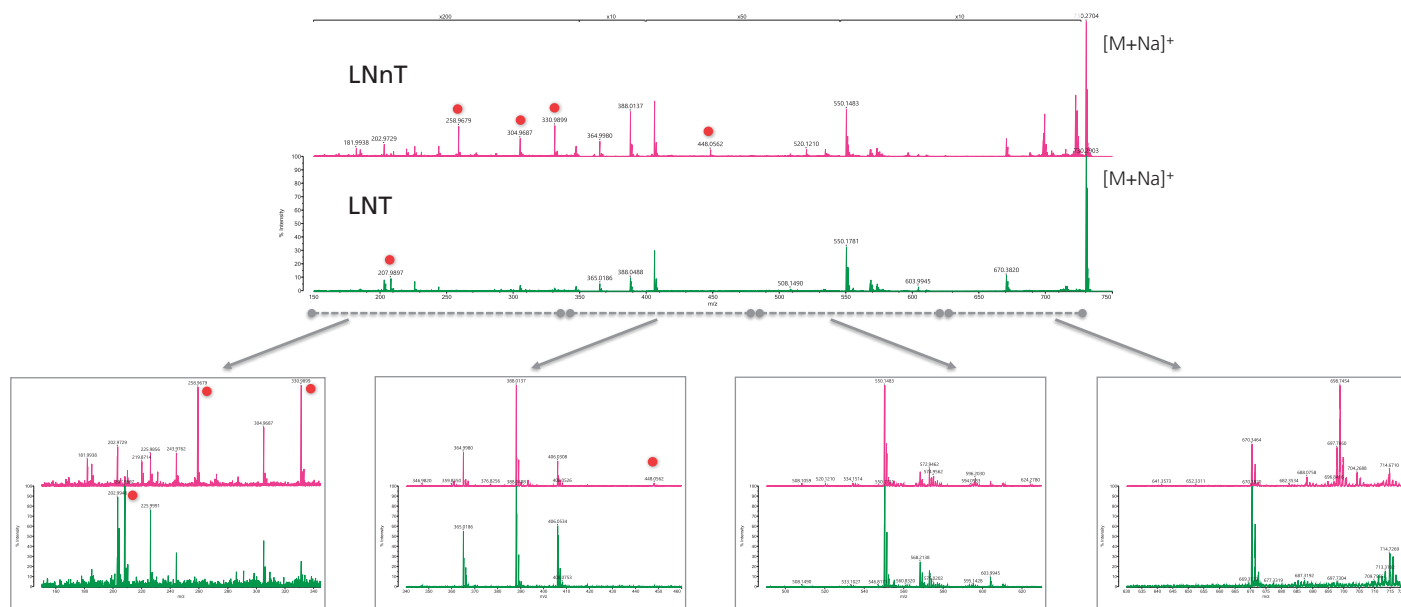


Fig.3 MS/MS of LNT and LNnT

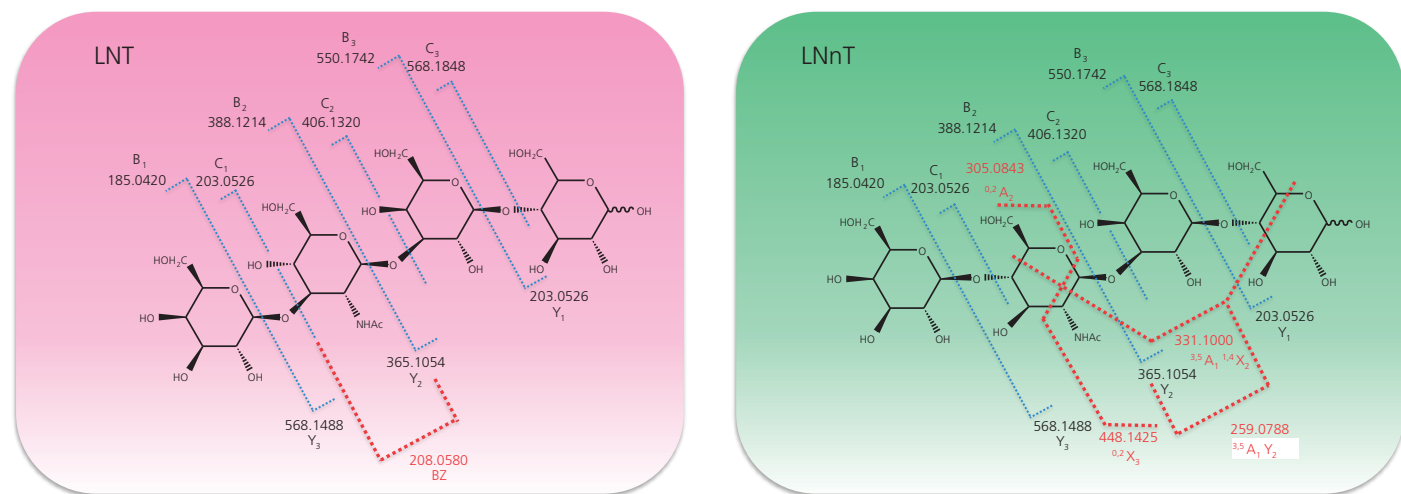


Fig.4 fragment ions of LNT and LNnT

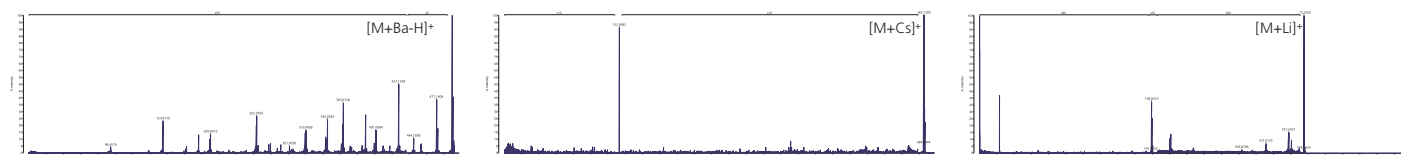


Fig.5 Effect of metal cations in MS/MS (PGE₂)

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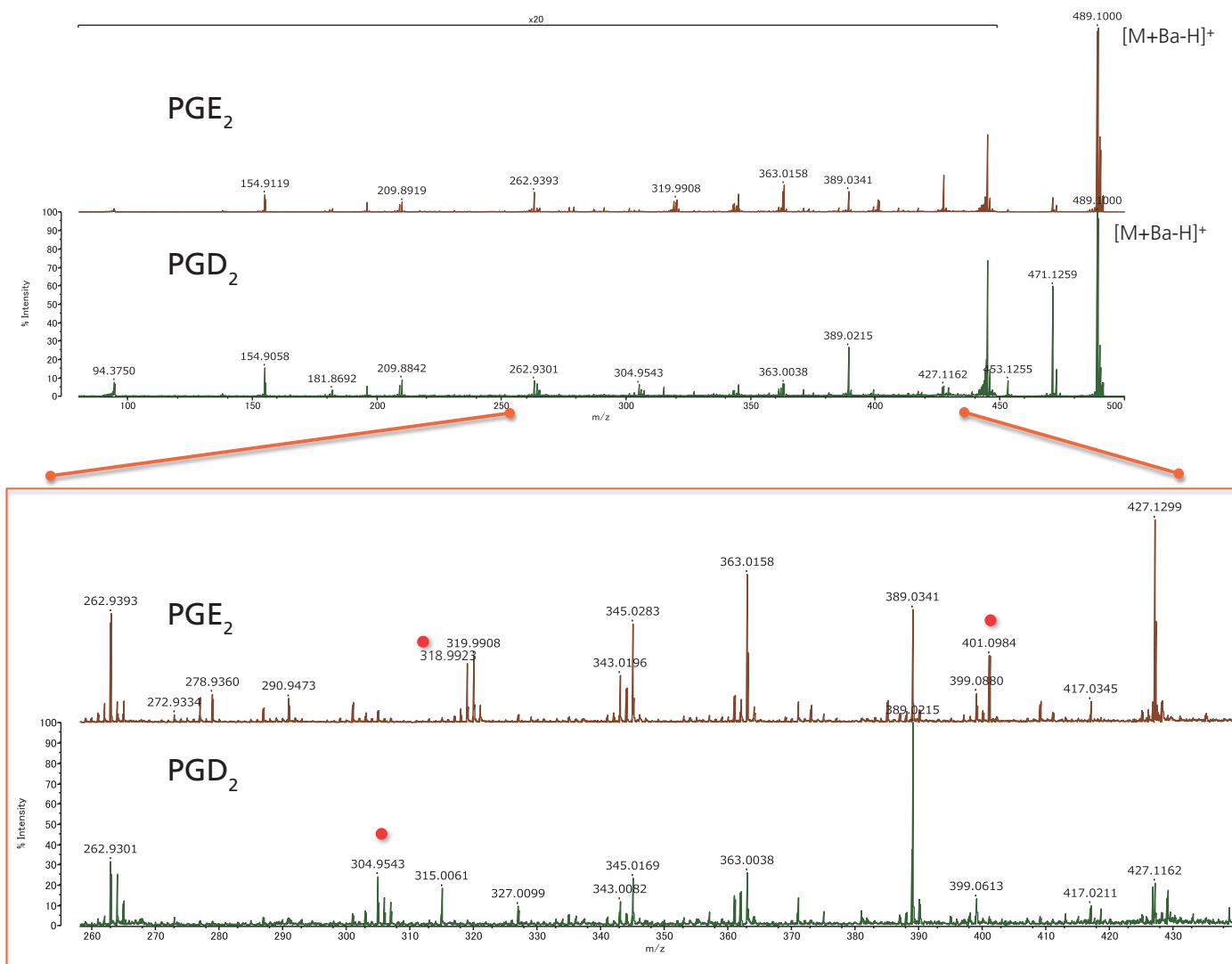


Fig.6 MS/MS of PGD₂ and PGE₂

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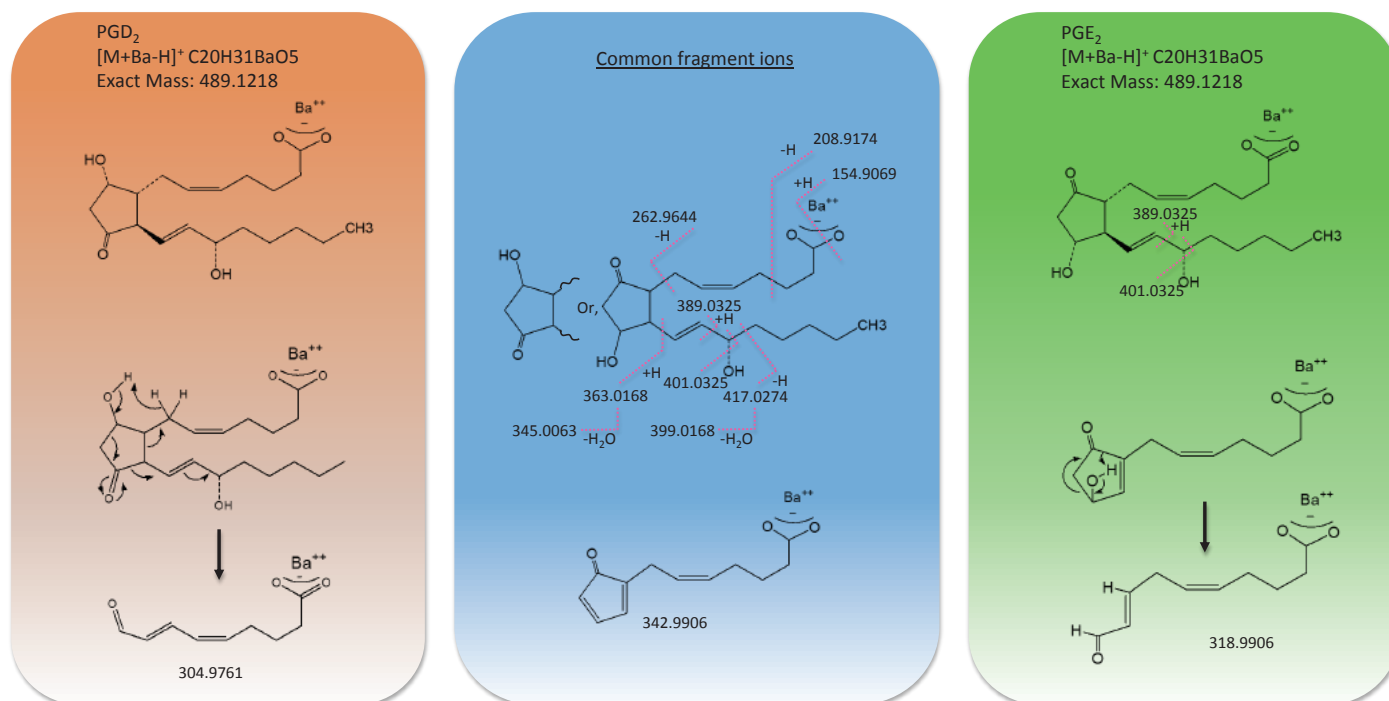


Fig.7 Conceivable pathways for fragmentations of PGD₂ and PGE₂, including reported one in ref(1).

Conclusions

- High MS/MS resolution achieved by ASDF enables to perform precise assignment in the analysis of isomeric chemicals.
- Differentiation of linkage formations between Gal and GlcNAc was conducted successfully by MS/MS of sodium adducted carbohydrates.
- Charge remote fragmentation of bariat PGD₂/PGE₂ was applied to a differentiation of the isomeric chemicals.
- Choice of cation was significant to obtain interpretable fragmentation as well as FAB-tandem MS analysis.

References

- (1) Zirrolli, J.A., et al; J Am Soc Mass Spectrom., 1990, 1(4), 325-35.
- (2) Yamagaki, T., et al; J Mass Spectrom., 2006, 41(4),454-62.