

Separation of Cell Subpopulations by FCM for Proteome Analysis

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Overview

- Current approaches adequate for monotypic cell populations
- Cellular proteome analysis complicated by mixed populations
- Separation of subpopulations focuses analyses on desired targets
- Combine the power of cell separation techniques with mass spectrometry for global proteome analysis

Goals

- Demonstrate power of combining FACS and mass spectrometry in several model systems: lymphocytes, solid tissue, organelles
- Determine sensitivity of protein detection
- Optimize approaches for surface proteins
- Model Systems:
 - CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ lymphocytes
 - Hepatocyte populations
 - Mitochondria from mouse liver

Reagents & Instruments

- Reagents
 - Anti-CD4-FITC
 - Anti-CD8-RPE
 - Anti-CD45-APC
- Cell Sorting & Analysis
 - BD FACS Vantage™ SE
 - BD FACS Calibur™
- Mass Spectrometry
 - Surveyor® HPLC
 - LCQ™ Deca Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer
 - TurboSequest™

Lymphocyte Sample Preparation

Label blood with CD4-FITC & CD8-RPE

Ficoll gradient to separate lymphocytes

Sort CD4⁺ & CD8⁺ cells by FACS

Reduce (TCEP) and trypsinize cells (15-30 min)

Further trypsinize peptides overnight

Collect peptides in peptide trap

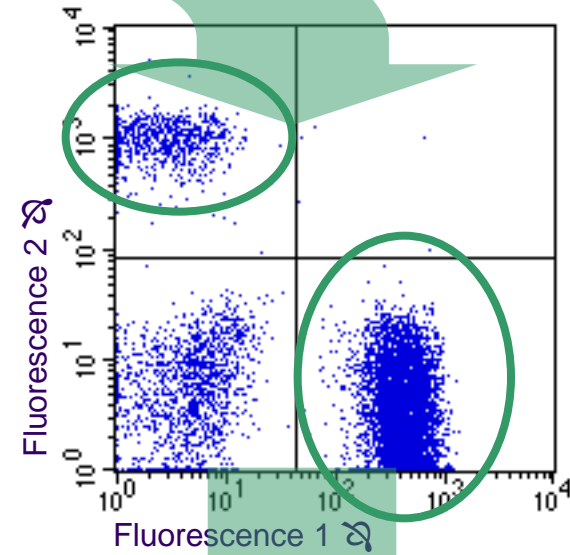
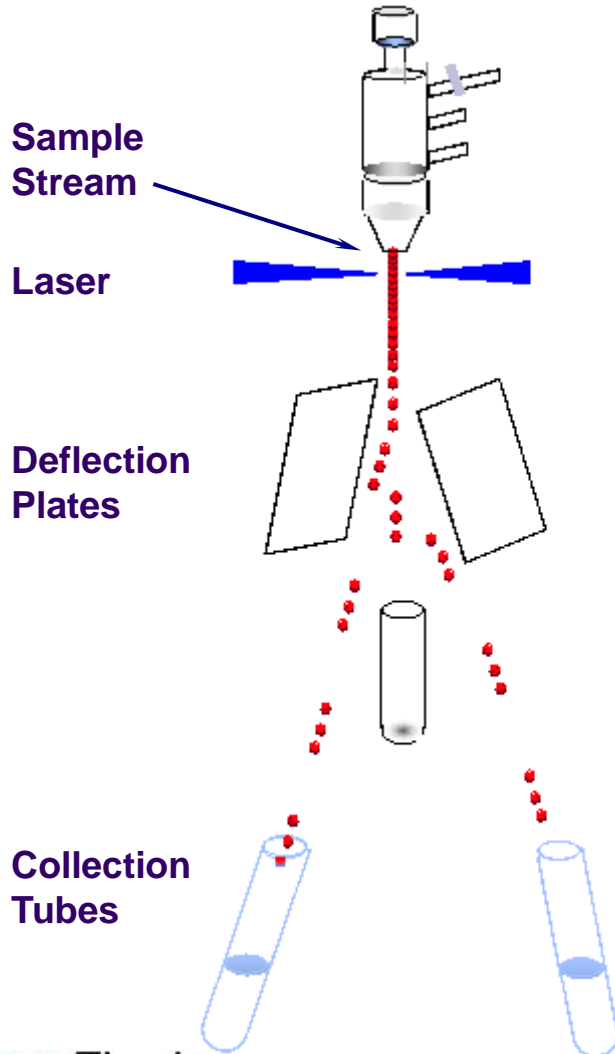
Separate on nanoflow column

LCQ Deca ion trap

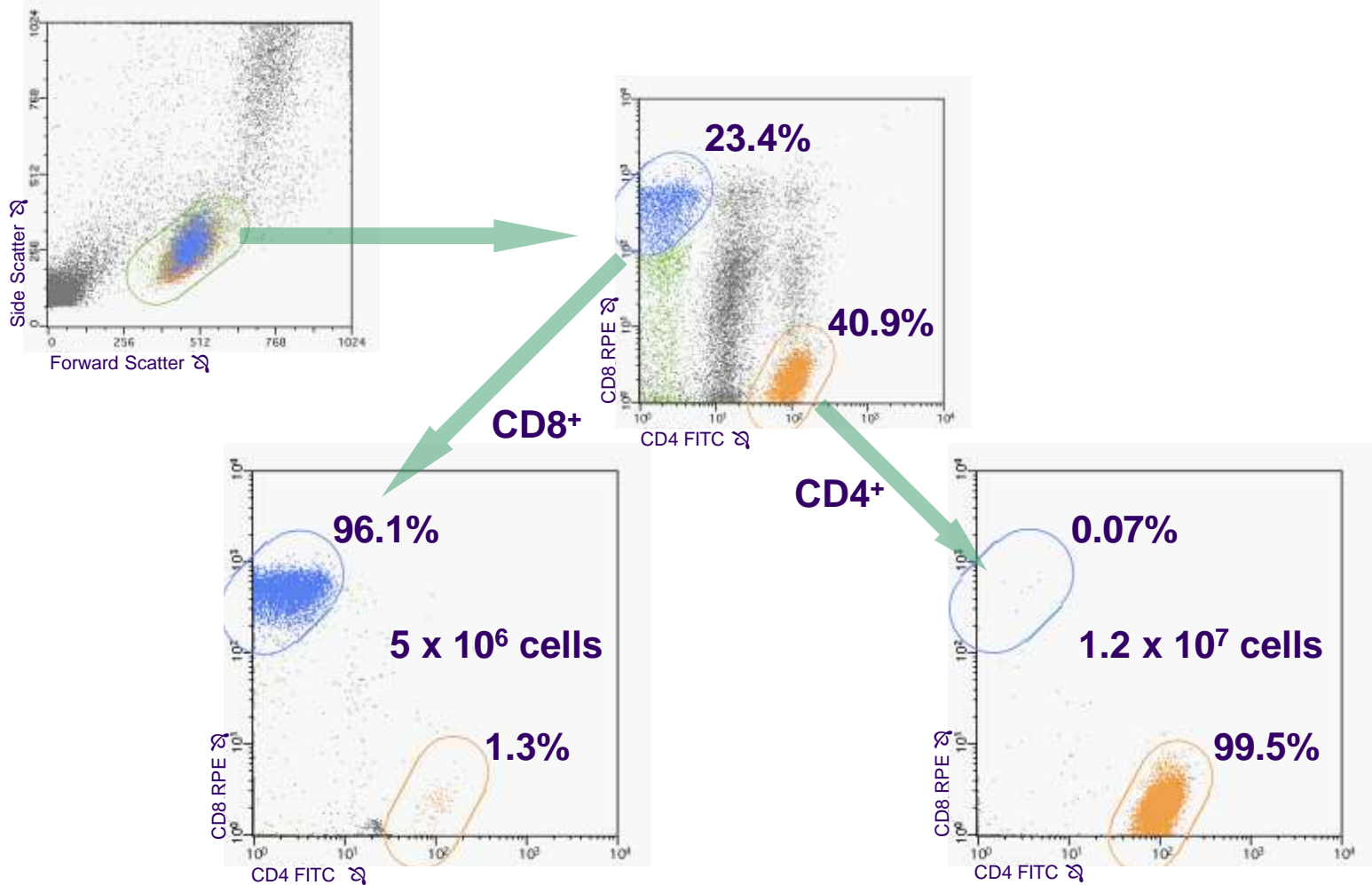
MS/MS fragmentation

Database search & protein identification

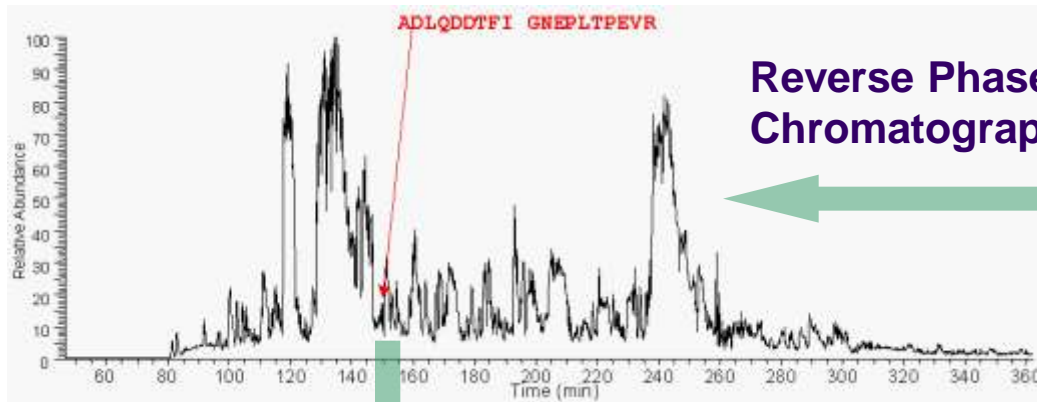
Fluorescence Activated Cell Sorting



Analysis of Sorted Populations

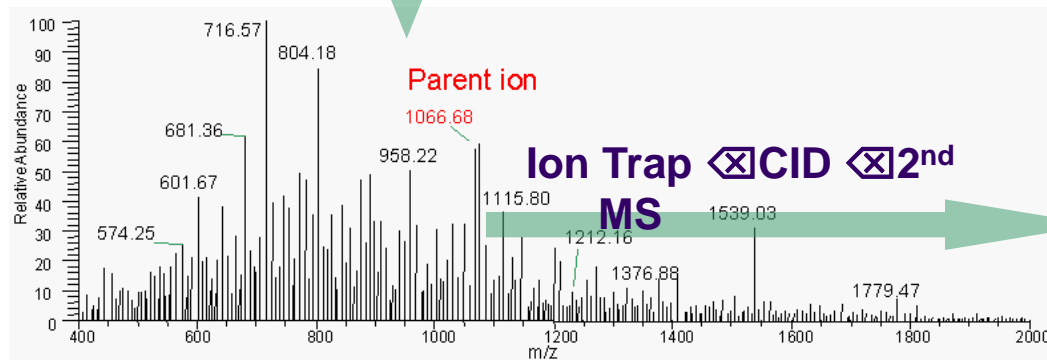


Mass Spectrometry - Peptide Sequence

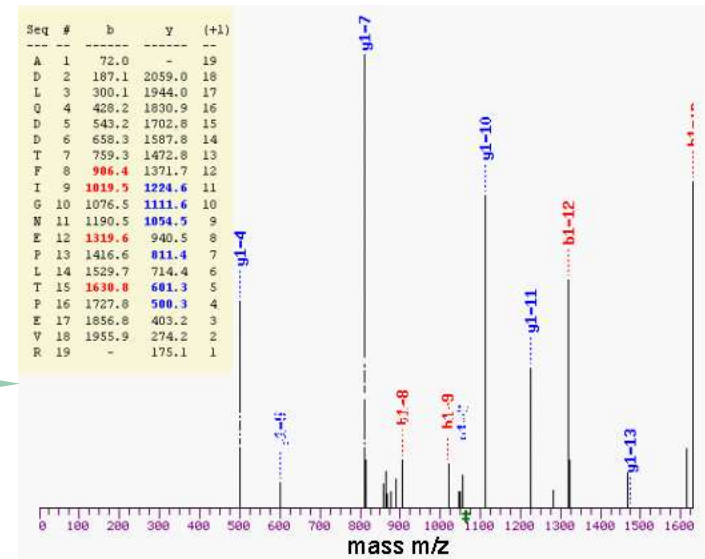


Tryptic Peptide Mix

EIS \boxtimes
1st MS



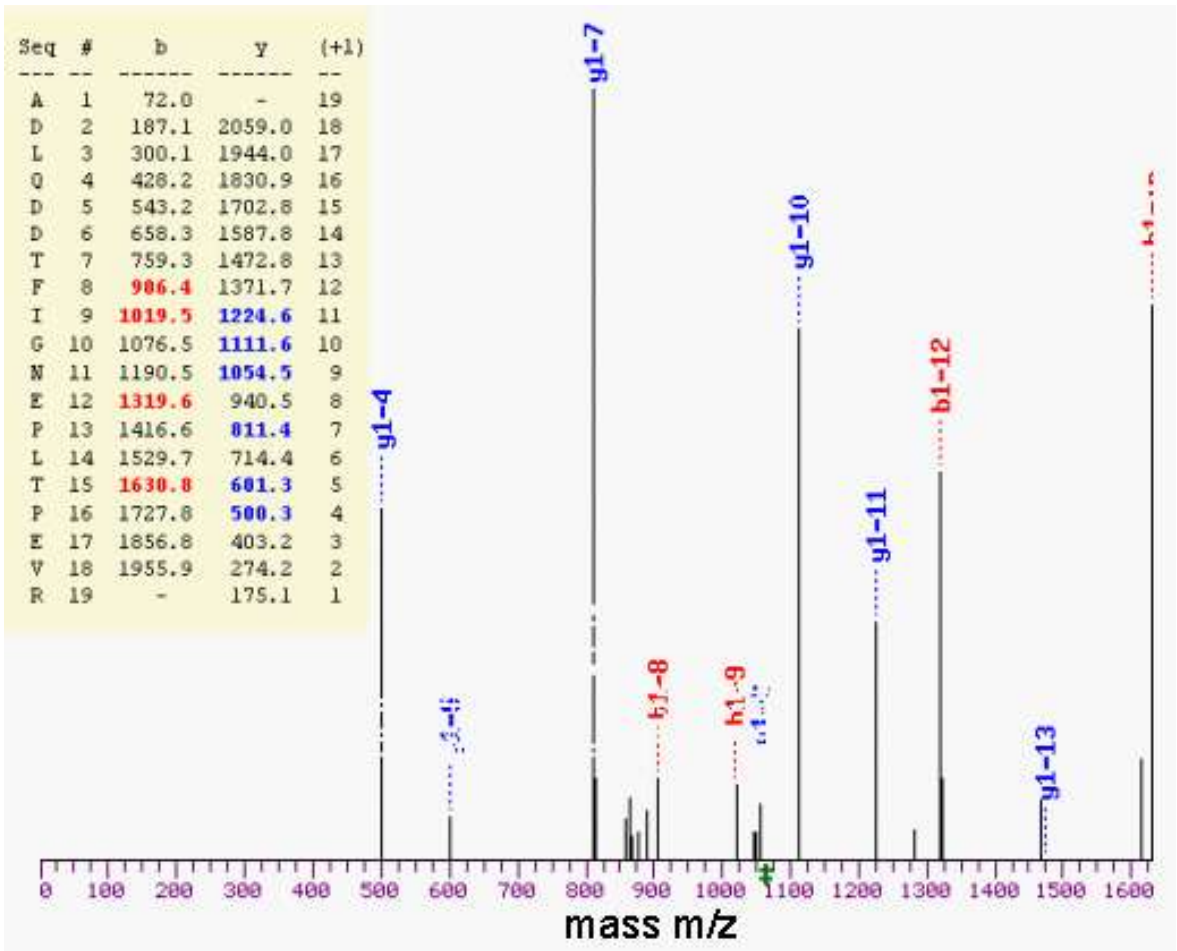
Seq #	b	y	(+1)	
A	1	72.0	-	19
D	2	187.1	2059.0	18
L	3	300.1	1944.0	17
Q	4	428.2	1830.9	16
D	5	543.2	1702.8	15
D	6	658.3	1587.8	14
T	7	759.3	1472.8	13
F	8	906.4	1371.7	12
I	9	1019.5	1224.6	11
G	10	1076.5	1111.6	10
N	11	1190.5	1054.5	9
E	12	1319.6	940.5	8
P	13	1416.6	811.4	7
L	14	1529.7	714.4	6
T	15	1630.8	601.3	5
P	16	1727.8	500.3	4
E	17	1856.8	403.2	3
V	18	1955.9	274.2	2
R	19	-	175.1	1



Results

Spectrum of peptide
ADLQDDTFIGNEPLTPEVR
from CD4⁺ cells

Matched to **CD11a**



Proteins Identified

> 350 proteins matched, including 30 hypothetical protein product sequences

CD4+ Cells

- 9 CD Proteins
CD3, CD11a, CD16, CD35, CD99, CD117, CD121b, CD128b, CD132
- 28 Other Membrane-Related Proteins
Includes cell adhesion molecules, interleukin and other receptors
- Immunoglobulins

CD8+ Cells

- 14 CD Proteins
CD3, CD8, CD16, CD18, CD47, CD49b, CD51, CD71, CD80, CD84, CD98, CD99, CD120b, CDB9
- 20 Other Membrane-Related Proteins
Includes cell adhesion molecules, interleukin and other receptors
- Immunoglobulins

Challenges:

- CD4 not identified in CD4+ population; CD45 not detected
- CD117 (c-kit, early development marker) observed

CD4 Model for “Difficult” Target

Recombinant CD4 (Protein Sciences Corp.) & HPB-ALL cells 
tryptic digest  mass spectrometry

- rCD4 (800 fmole)

CD4	20 scans	11 unique peptides
HSA precursor	2 scans	2 unique peptides
- rCD4 bound to anti-CD4-IMag particles (800 fmole)

CD4	5 scans	4 unique peptides
HSA precursor	10 scans	5 unique peptides
- CD4 on HPB-ALL cells (80000 copies/cell, 6×10^6 cells, ~ 800 fmole)

CD4	not detected	
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Molecule Copy Numbers

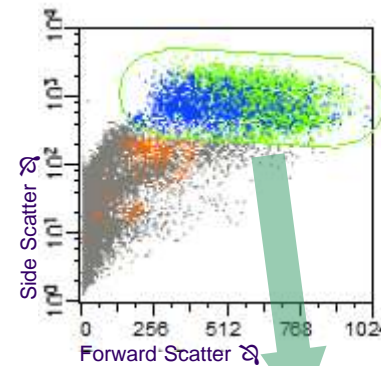
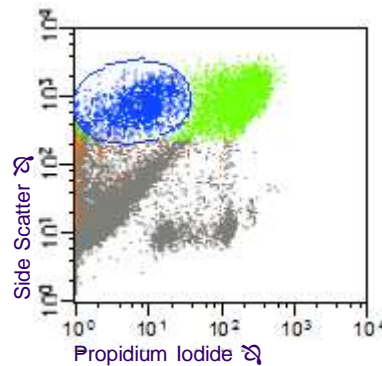
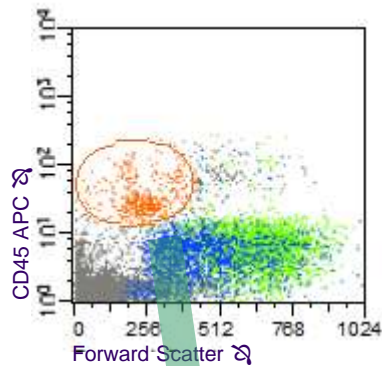
Molecule	Per T-cell	fmoles/10 ⁶ cells	LC-MS
CD3	8.1 x 10 ⁴	130	++
CD4	5.9 x 10 ⁴	98	-
CD8	1.4 x 10 ⁵	230	+
CD11a	2.7 x 10 ⁴	45	+
CD16	7.9 x 10 ⁴	130	+
CD18	3.1 x 10 ⁴	52	+
CD45	1.9 x 10 ⁵	320	-

Appendix A, Cell Separation Methods and Applications. 1998. Recktenwald D and Radbruch A, eds.

Liver Model

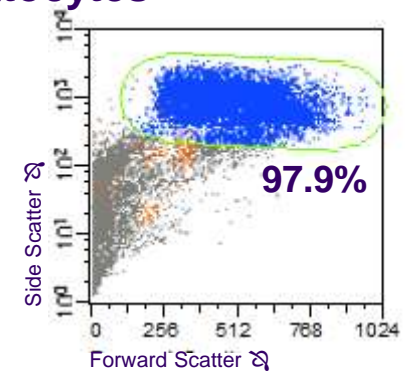
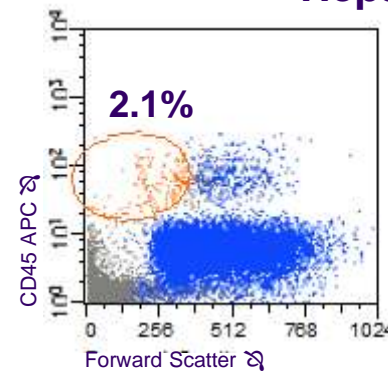
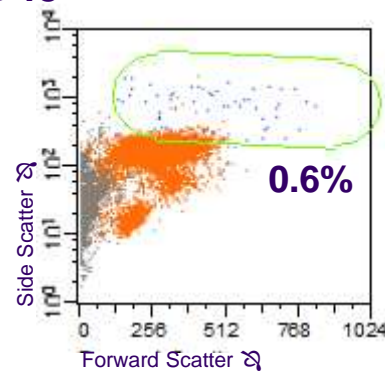
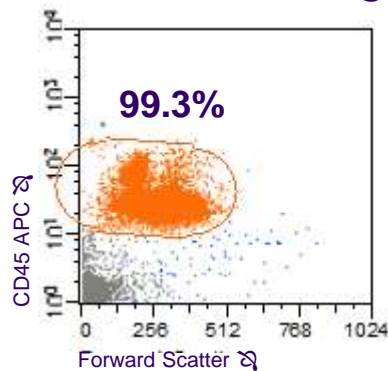
- Collagenase perfusate of human liver (BD Gentest, Woburn, MA)
- Anti-CD45-APC / propidium iodide \otimes Sort (viability, CD45 expression, scatter) \otimes LC-MS/MS analysis

Starting cell suspension



CD45+

Hepatocytes



Preliminary Results - Hepatocyte Fraction

- 35 proteins identified with high confidence from 54 unique peptides
- 8 mitochondrial-specific proteins and precursor proteins
- Hepatic arginase
- Large proportion of cytoplasmic proteins

Mitochondria

Homogenate from
mouse liver cells



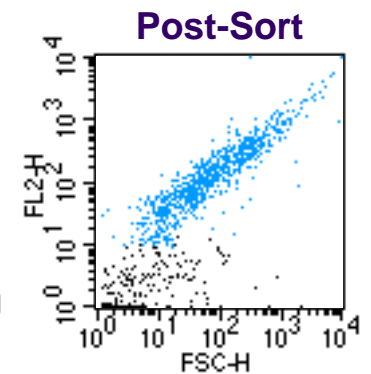
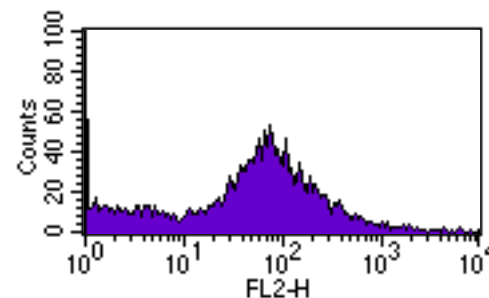
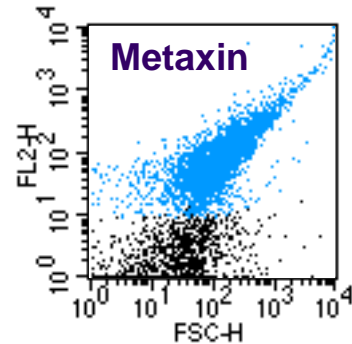
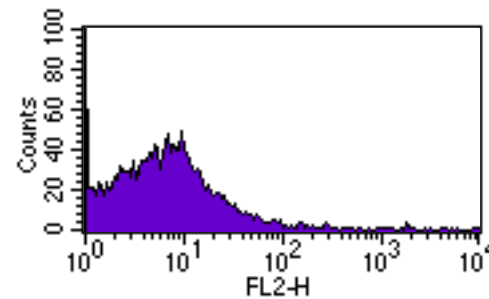
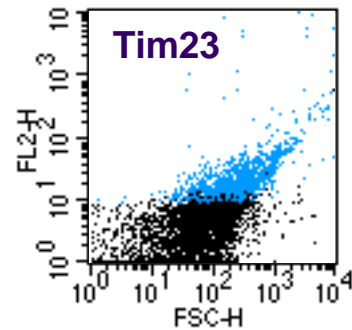
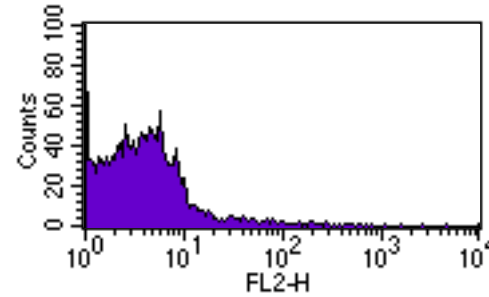
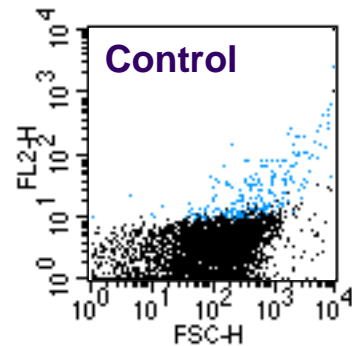
Antibodies against
metaxin or Tim23
(BD Biosciences
Pharmingen)



Anti-Kappa-RPE



Analysis & sorting



Summary

- Cell separation focuses LC-MS/MS on a simpler target population
- Can detect large number of lineage-specific proteins
- Peptide digestion off cells is not complete and varies with target
- May be more difficult to digest the antigens used for selection
- Able to detect many proteins in complex mixtures at femtomolar levels (<100,000 copies/cell)
- Powerful tool - room for further optimization

Collaborators

Thermo Finnigan

(San Jose, CA)

- Colette Rudd
- Pavel Bondarenko
- Thomas Shaler
- Sally Swedberg
- William Hancock

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- Diether Recktenwald