

# **Second Derivative Spectral Identification of Tryptophan** and Tyrosine in Peptides

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### Abstract

Spectra of peaks 2, 3, 4 and 6 were tested for a match with the spectra of tyrosine and tryptophan. Peak 2 was correctly identified to contain only tyrosine, peak 3 contained neither tyrosine nor tryptophan and peaks 4 and 6 contained only tryptophan (figure 1). Second derivative spectra can be used to emphasize small spectral differences in similar molecules. This is especially useful for identifying tryptophan and tyrosine residues in peptides (figure 2).



## **Conditions**

Buffer 20 mM phosphate, pH 3.0 Sample tyrosine, tryptophan Capillary effective length 72 cm total length 80.5 cm internal diameter 75 µm internal diameter at point of detection is 150 um Injection 200 mbars **Temperature** 37 °Č

#### Figure 1

Second derivative spectral identification of tryptophan and tyrosine in peptides



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#### Figure 2

Tryptophan and tyrosine identification using second derivative spectra

## **Conditions**

**Buffer** 20 mM phosphate, pH 3.0 Sample tyrosine, tryptophan Capillary effective length72 cm total length 80.5 cm internal diameter 75 µm internal diameter at point of detection is 150 µm Injection 200 mbars Temperature 37 °C **Field strength** 370 V/cm

## Equipment

Agilent Capillary Electrophoresis system



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