

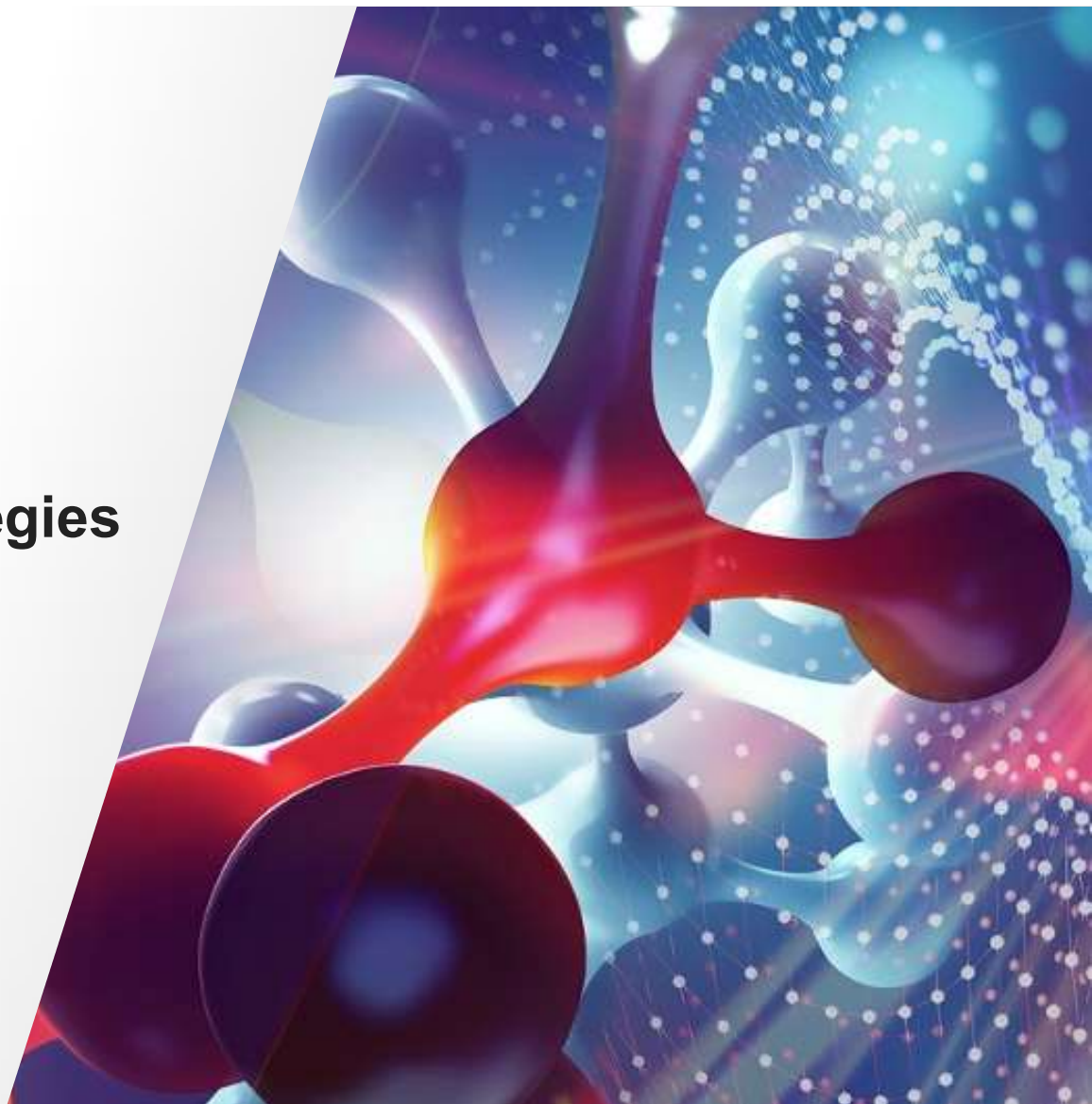
# The need for speed: new strategies for label-free quantitation

Thermo Scientific™ Velocity LFQ HR-DIA platform

Aaron Robitaille, Ph.D.

Director of Marketing, Mass Spectrometry

 The world leader in serving science



# How do we quantify more proteins?

Go beyond just IDs - adding quantitative information makes the difference

Confident characterization of differences in biological systems needs exact measurements for hypothesis testing of predictive theoretical models

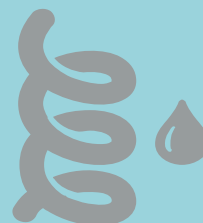
Quantitative Proteomics



Translational Research



Biomarker Discovery



Single Cell Proteomics



**Accuracy**

determine correct  
protein abundance

**Precision**

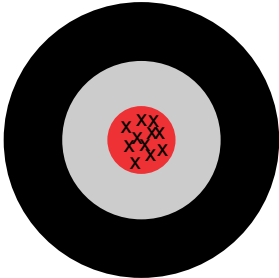

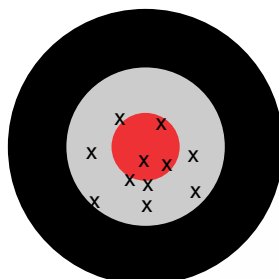
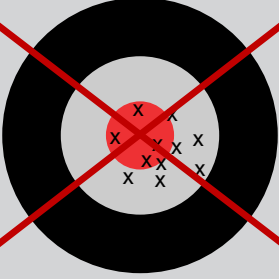
reduces number of  
measurements

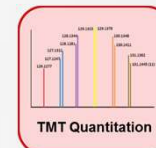
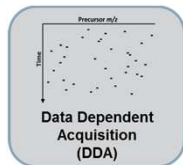
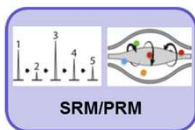
**Throughput**

yields statistical  
significance

# Choices for Proteomic Quantitation

Each method is a fit for purpose assay

	ACCURATE	INACCURATE (SYSTEMATIC ERROR)
PRECISE (LIMITED TARGETS)	<p>Targeted</p> 	<p>Multiplexing</p> 
IMPRECISE (REPRODUCIBILITY ERROR)	<p>LFQ</p> 	



Low resolution / Low mass accuracy systems are less precise and accurate overall



Topic of Presentation

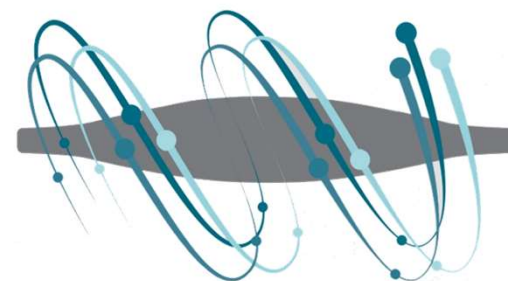


1000

**ORBITRAP DIA PUBLICATIONS**

## Top 10 impactful Orbitrap DIA papers that came out in 2022

1. [Changes in protein shapes as markers for Parkinson's disease](#)
2. [SARS-CoV-2 mimics a host protein to bypass defences](#)
3. [When spinal fluid from ALS patients was put into mice, the mice got weak. An unlikely protein could be the culprit](#)
4. [Old Drugs Could Reveal a New Way to Attack the Coronavirus](#)
5. [Noninvasive proteomic biomarkers for alcohol-related liver disease](#)
6. [Spatial region-resolved proteome map reveals mechanism of COVID-19-associated heart injury](#)
7. [The proteogenomic subtypes of acute myeloid leukemia](#)
8. [How are T-cells able to repeatedly kill virus and cancer infected cells](#)
9. [How the 'Alpha' Coronavirus Variant Became So Powerful](#)
10. [How a single phosphorylation site can affect protein function, cell signaling and drug response](#)



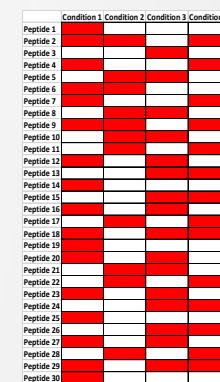
# High throughput DIA platform

## Data Independent Acquisition (DIA) strategies for proteomics

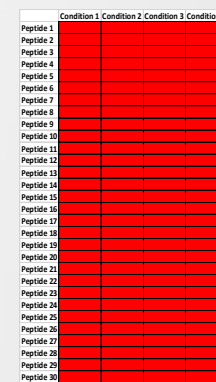
### Why have customers moved to data independent analysis:

- **Easy to adopt**
  - Especially for large sample studies (>30 samples)
- **Greater proteome coverage for short gradients <30min**
  - Fear of missing out on key protein biomarkers of interest
- **Easy-to-use advanced software options**
  - Less expertise needed to succeed with computational performance gains
- **Demonstrated LOD/LOQ potential**
  - Minimize sample cost while increasing data confidence in relative quantitation
- **Fewer missing values for LFQ**
  - Direct queries (and p-values) for peptides of interest: Hypothesis Driven > Stochastic Sampling (*from Michael MacCoss*)

DDA



DIA



Modified from Michael MacCoss Lab's

- **Pain Point:** Missing values for quantitation across large cohorts

Ideal Method	Sample Size
LFQ (DDA)	1-6 samples per experiments
TMT(DDA)	6-90 samples across multiple plexes
LFQ (DIA)	10-1000 samples in cohorts

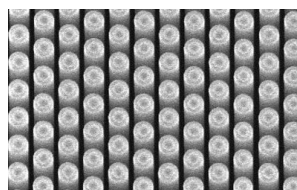
# Velocity LFQ HR-DIA platform

Workflow for high-throughput label-free quantitation and proteome

Data Independent Acquisition (DIA)



Thermo Scientific™  
Vanquish™ NEO UHPLC



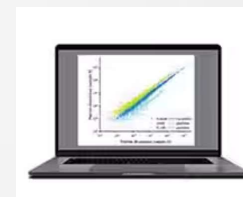
Thermo Scientific™  
μPAC™ NEO 50cm



Thermo Scientific™ EASY-  
Spray™ Nano Source



Thermo Scientific™  
Orbitrap Exploris™ 240 MS



Software of choice

**Quantitation**

Accuracy | Precision

robust  
reproducible  
consistent

**Throughput**

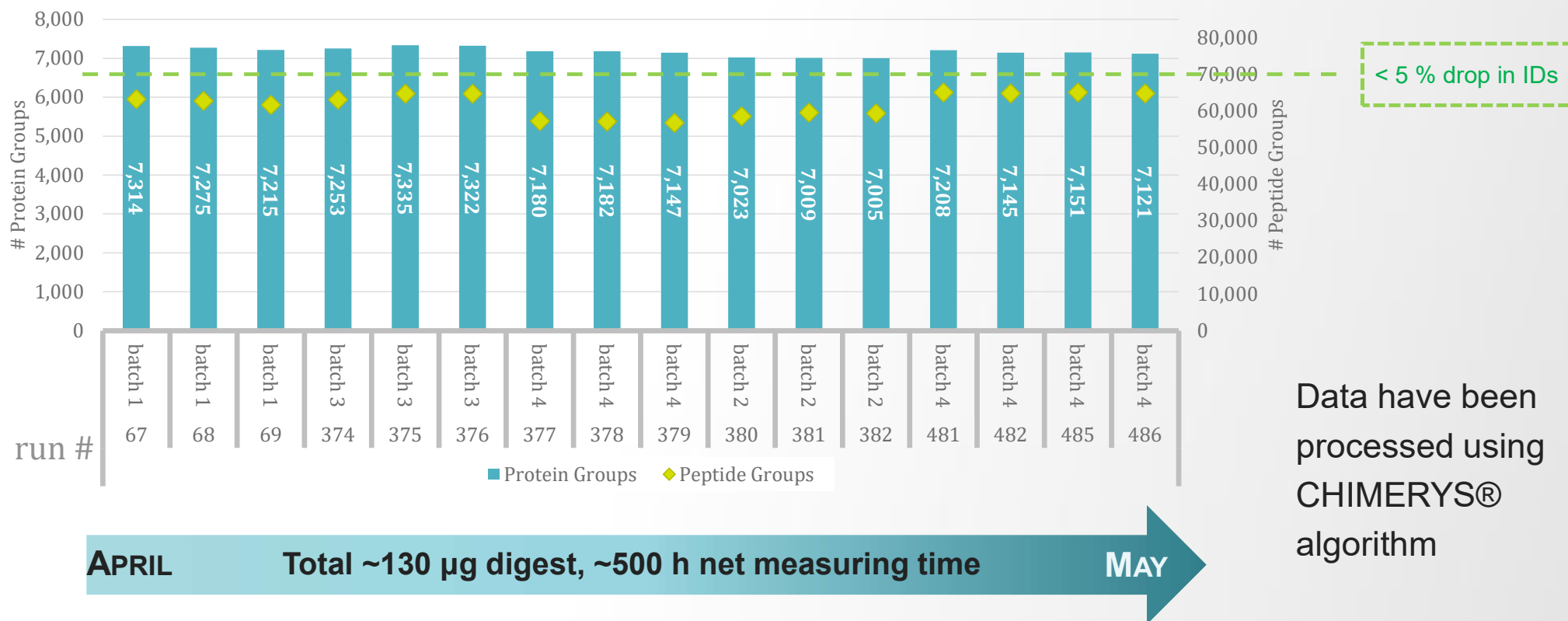
(sample per day)

**Identifications**

# peptides/proteins

# Workflow robustness including $\mu$ PAC Neo column

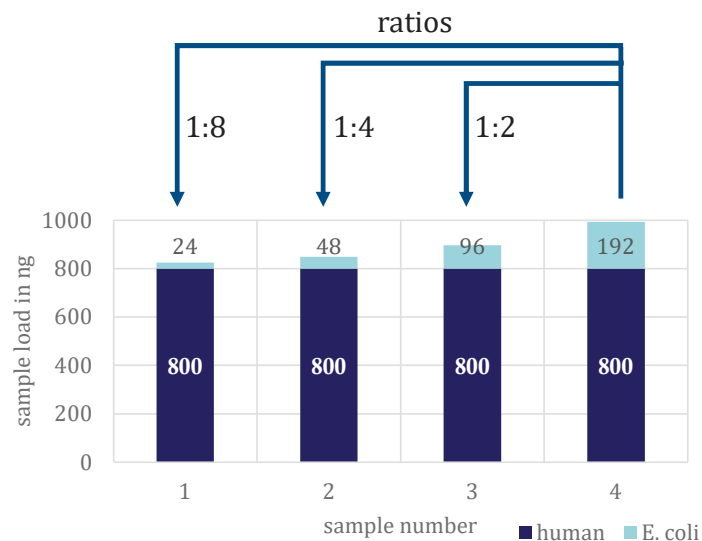
QC runs (200ng HeLa, DDA, 67min gradient) interspersed to quantitative study



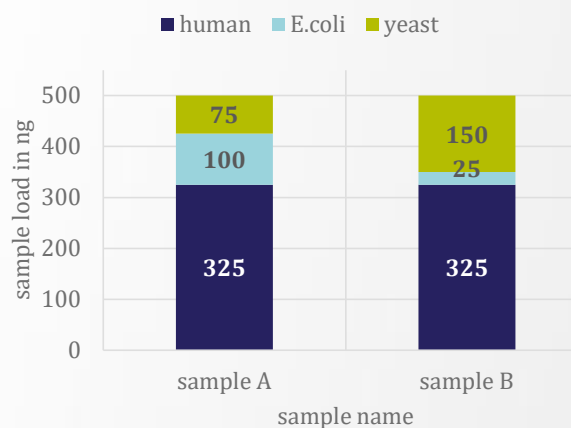


# Experimental design

## Two sample mixtures with different ratios and background levels



### Two-Proteome Mix



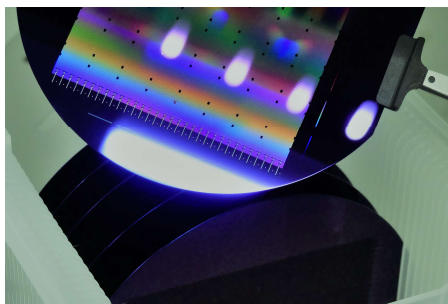
### Three-Proteome Mix

species	ratio A:B
human	1:1
yeast	1:0.5
E.coli	1:4

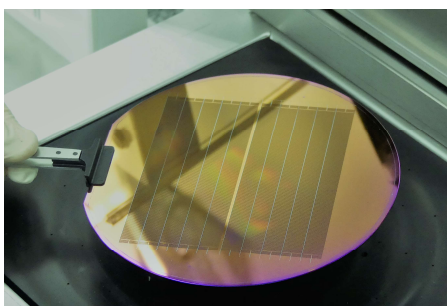
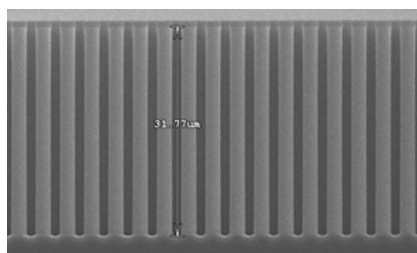
- High human background levels (up to 30x more than the spiked species)
- 30 min gradients for two and three proteome mixes

# μPAC HPLC Columns

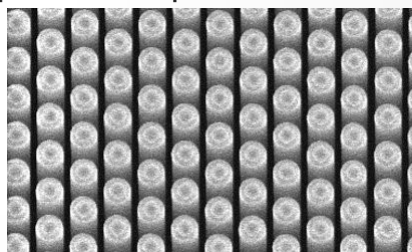
From silicon wafer to highest resolution separation channel



Micromachined μ-pillars



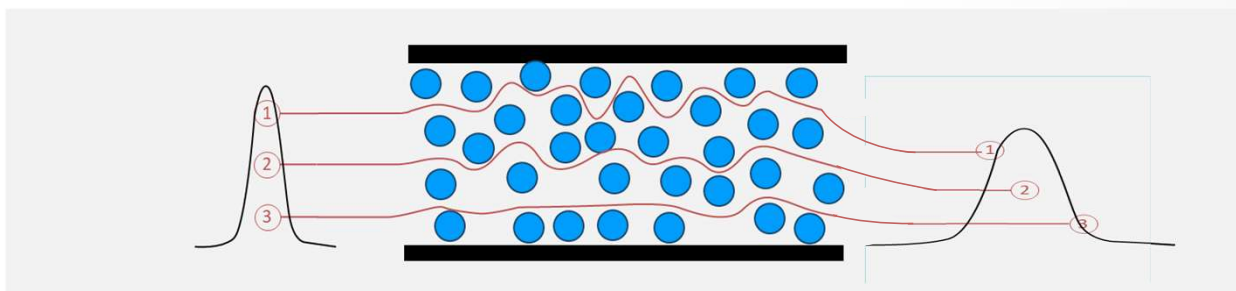
μ-Pillars separation channel



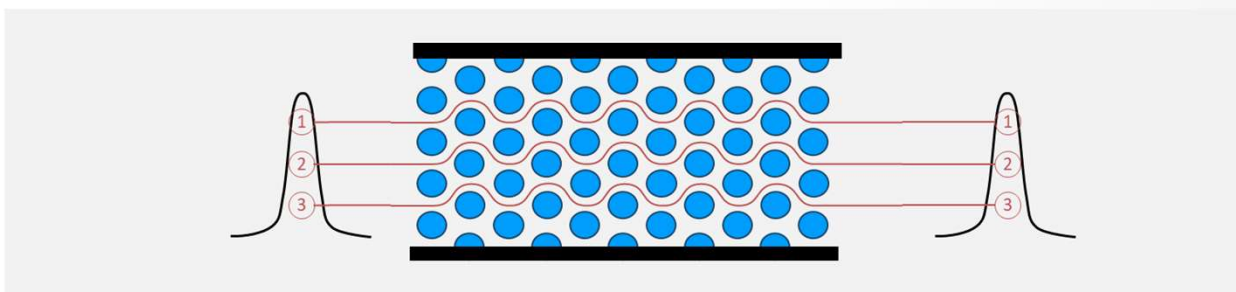
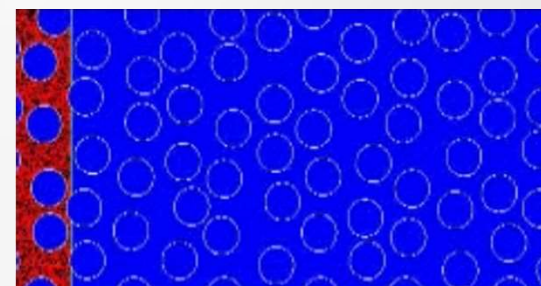
- μPAC overcomes the boundaries limiting packed-bed columns
  - Efficiency – no effect of eddy diffusion
  - Peak capacity – long columns at moderate pressure
  - Reproducibility – lithography and microtechnology
  - Robustness – no potentially moving particles/no frits

# Characteristic of the $\mu$ PAC HPLC columns

Perfect order in chromatography with micropillar array-based technology



Disorder – Packed bed



Order – Pillar Array

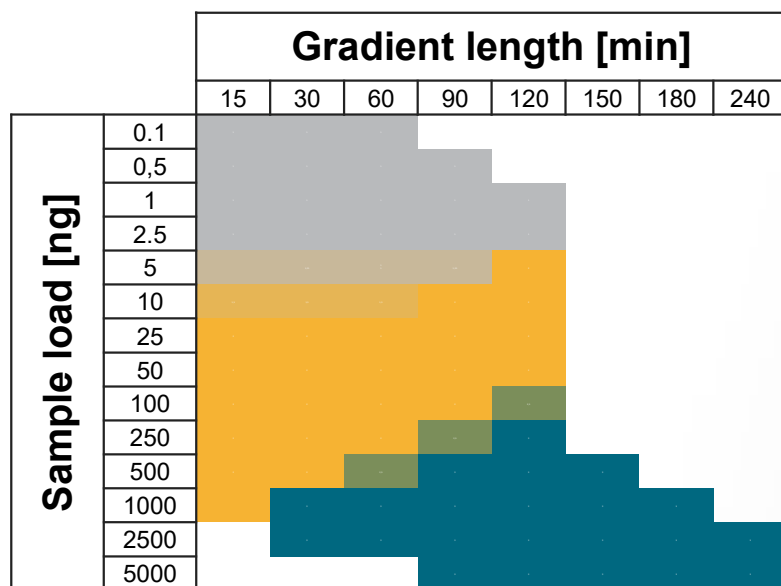


Reduced eddy-dispersion results in sharper peaks – higher intensity

# μPAC Neo column selection

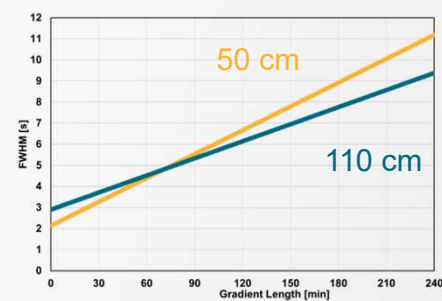
## Ideal sample and gradient conditions

50 cm μPAC Neo low-load column	50 cm μPAC Neo column	110 cm μPAC Neo column
Highest sensitivity Lowest carry-over	Higher throughput Shorter gradients	Highest #ID's Longer gradients

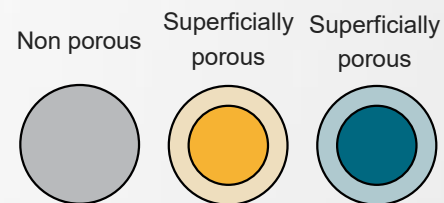


## Main differentiators

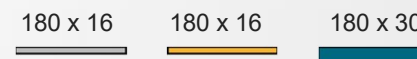
### 1) Column length



### 2) Surface morphology



### 3) Separation channel cross-section



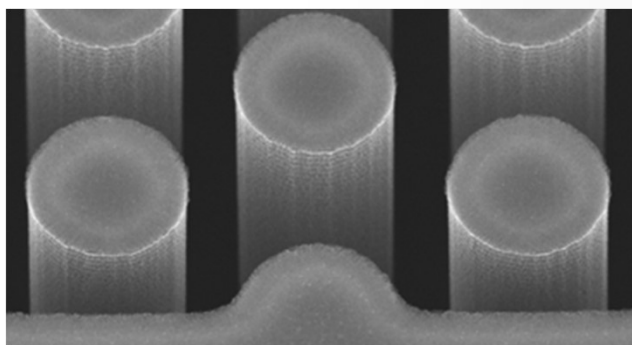
# μPAC Neo HPLC column

Comprehensive sample coverage injection after injection, column after column



## A column to match separation needs

- 50 cm: Routine LFQ DIA and data dependent acquisition (DDA) analysis
- 110 cm: Comprehensive proteomics with extended gradients >120 min
- 50 cm low-load: single-cell and few-cell proteomics



## Perfect order for consistent separations

- Micro pillars etched into a silicon wafer provide virtually identical columns for consistent performance
- Optimized micro pillar design for highest separation performance and sensitivity

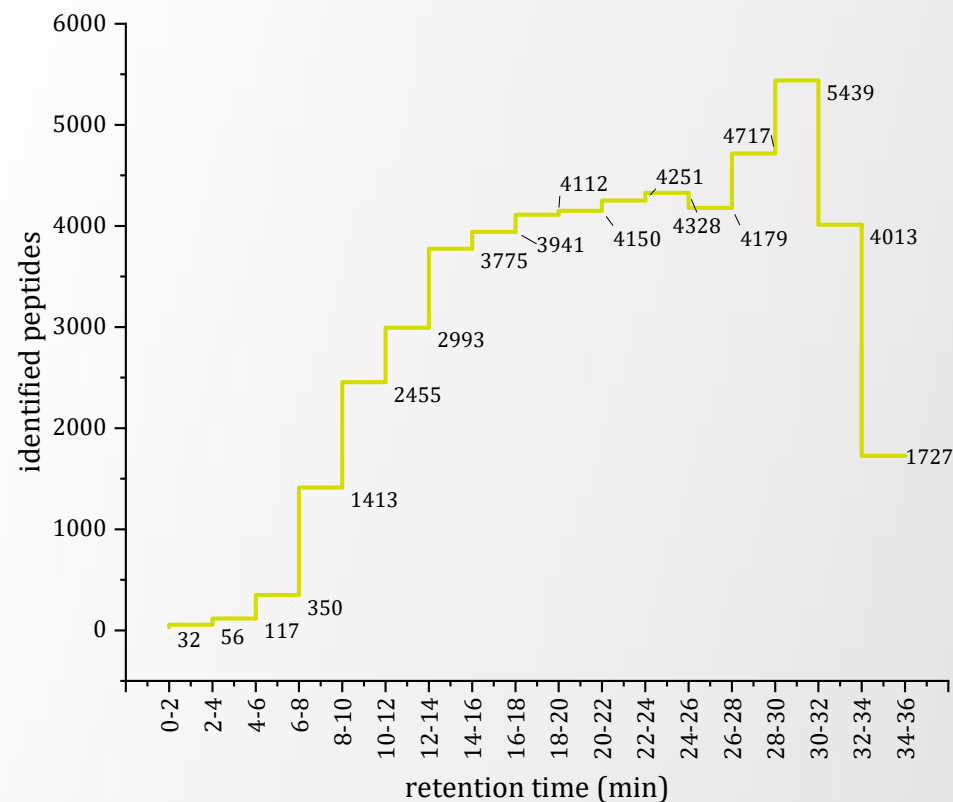
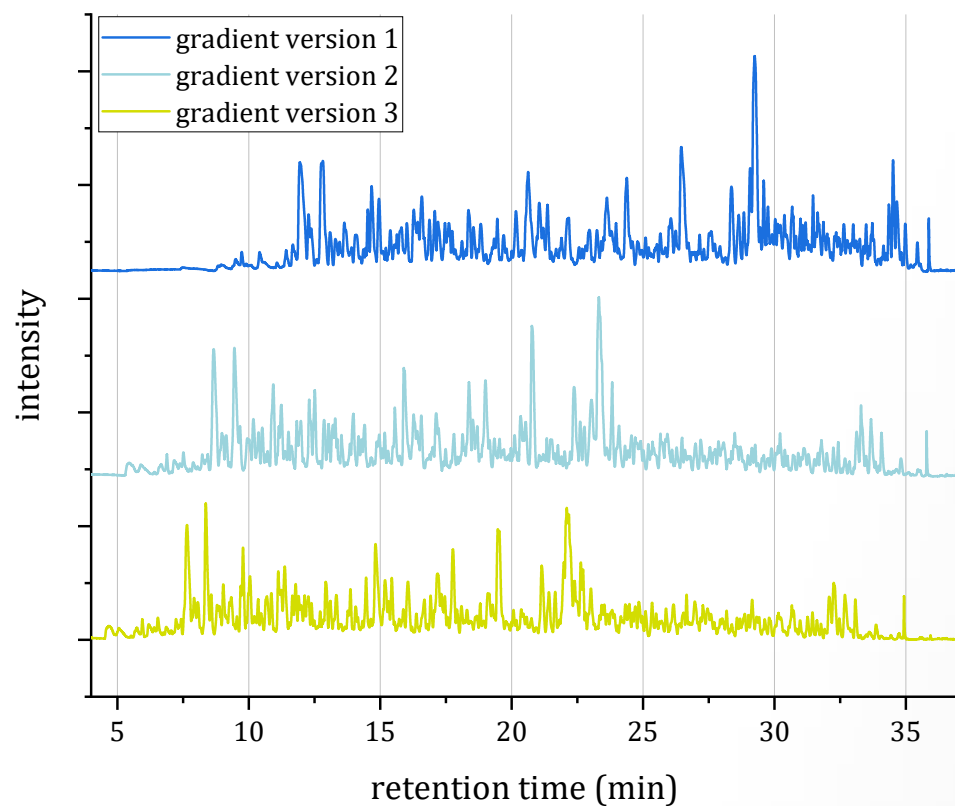


## Easy-to-use and robustness

- Reduced back pressure for extended lengths and increased column lifetimes
- Thermo Scientific™ Double nanoViper™ Fitting for near zero-dead-volume connection every time

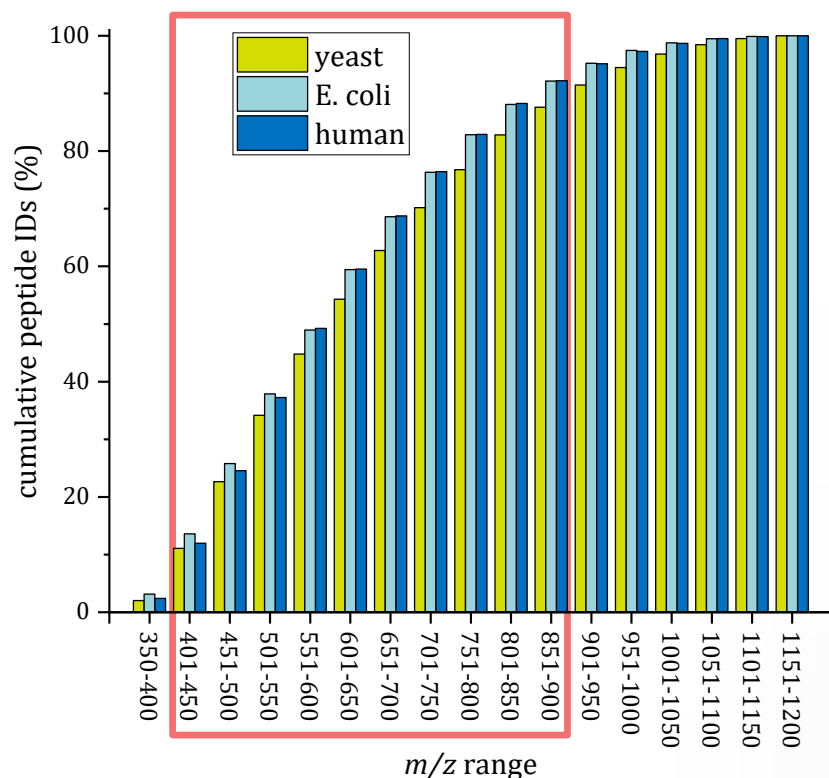
# Optimization of LC gradient and flow rate

Optimal conditions for the evenly distributed elution and IDs should be determined



# Optimization of an LC gradient and DIA method

How large does the mass range have to be?



- Mass range and window size determine the duty cycle time
  - Three-proteome mix:
    - mass range 350 – 1,200 Th
    - Total identified peptides >200,000 across three replicates
- **>90% of identified peptides in the mass range 400-900 Th**

# Optimized MS method and LC gradient

## LC method

- Direct injection setup
- Gradient optimized for  $\mu$ PAC Neo column

No	Time	Duration [min]	Flow [ $\mu$ l/min]	%B	Volume [ $\mu$ l]	No. of Column Volumes
1	0.000	Run				
2	0.000	0.000	0.350	4.0	0.00	0.00
3	22.500	22.500	0.350	30.0	7.88	5.32
4	30.000	7.500	0.350	45.0	2.63	1.77
5	30.000	Column Wash				
6	30.100	0.100	0.350	97.5	0.04	0.02
7	33.000	2.900	0.350	97.5	1.02	0.69
8	33.100	0.100	0.350	4.0	0.04	0.02
9	39.000	5.900	0.350	4.0	2.07	1.40
10	39.000	Stop Run				
11	39.000	Column Equilibration				

## MS DIA method:

- MS1 resolution: 60k
- MS1 AGC target: 300%
- MS2 (DIA) resolution: 15k
- MS1 mass range ( $m/z$ ): 400-900
- Isolation width: 12 Th
- DIA scan range ( $m/z$ ): 145 - 1,450
- MS2 AGC target: 800%
- HCD NCE: 30



# Deep proteome profiling with Velocity LFQ HR-DIA

High proteome depth is achieved library free with multiple softwares of choice



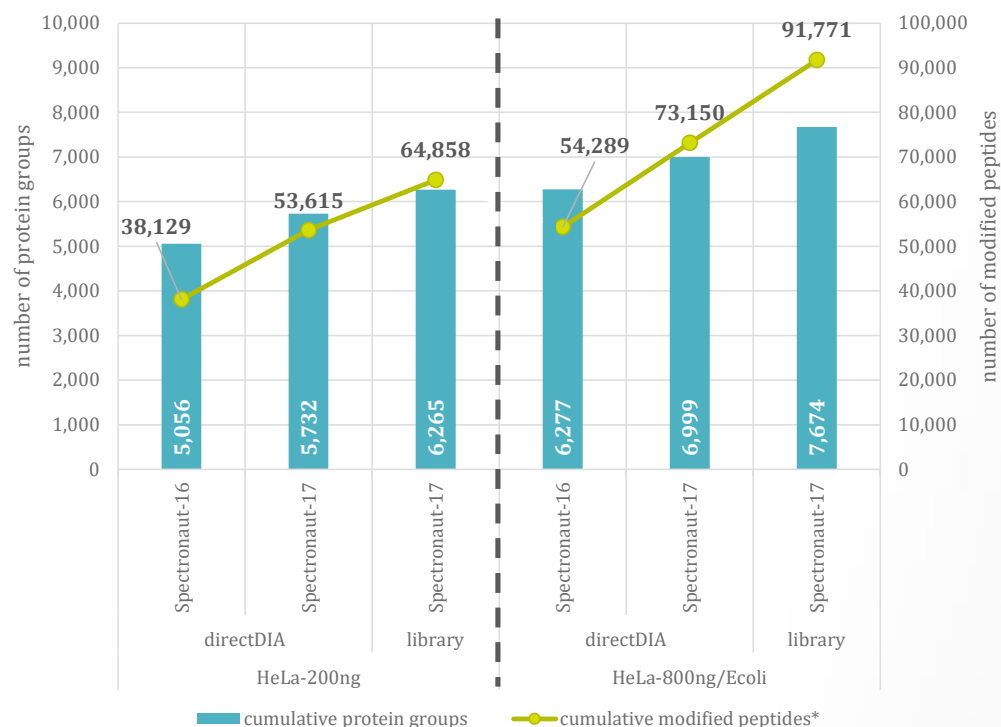
- Velocity LFQ HR-DIA provides deep coverage for complex two proteome mixture
- Optimized 30min DIA conditions provide similar depth of coverage as 67min DDA
- directDIA approach: no library used
- protein groups were filtered for 1 % FDR

Orbitrap Exploris 240 MS, 50cm  $\mu$ PAC Neo column, 30min gradient

Spectronaut is a registered trademark of Biognosys

# Deep proteome profiling with Velocity LFQ HR-DIA

## Deeper proteome depth is achieved using a library

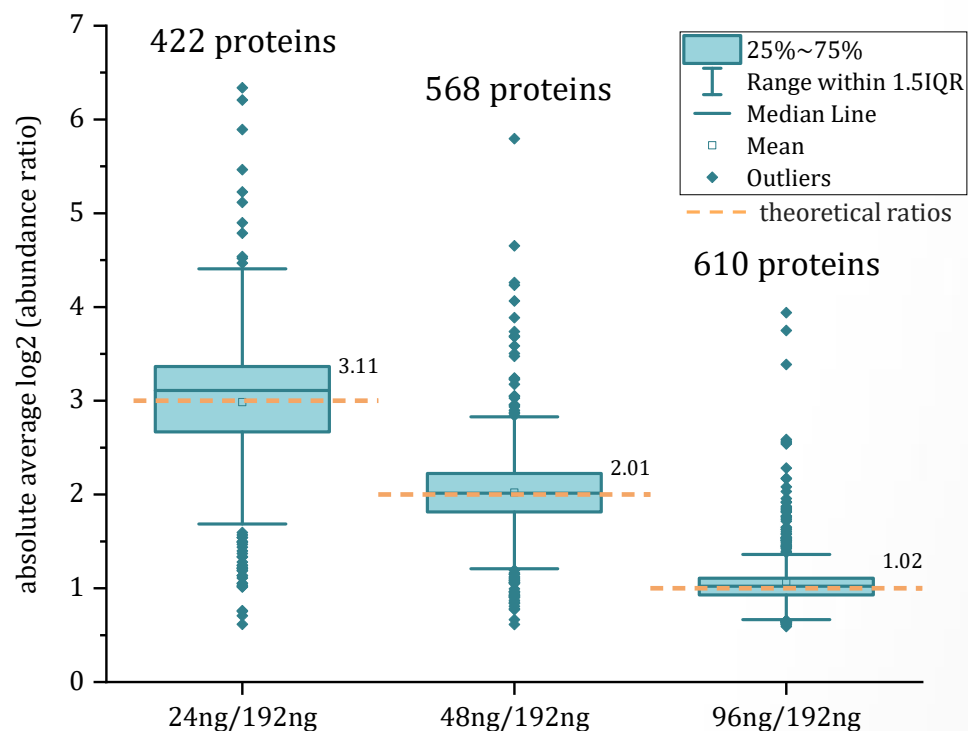


Orbitrap Exploris 240 MS, 50cm  $\mu$ PAC Neo column, 30min gradient

- Comparison directDIA vs. library
  - directDIA performance is significantly improved in Spectronaut 17
- Library approach yields higher proteome coverage:
  - ~ 20% more precursors
  - ~ 10% more protein groups
- Library generated from three 120min DDA runs
- Additional coverage can be expected by using a suitable library generated from fractionated samples under same conditions

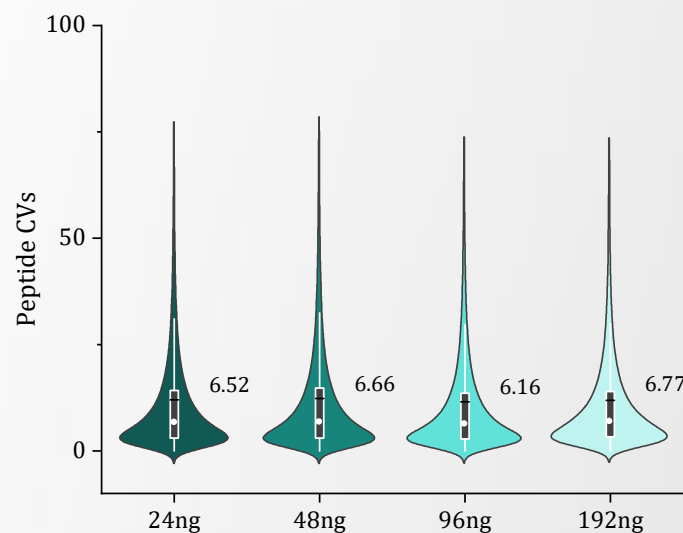
# Quantitation accuracy & precision in two-proteome mix

Bacterial proteome (E.coli) spiked in human cell digest (HeLa)



Accuracy

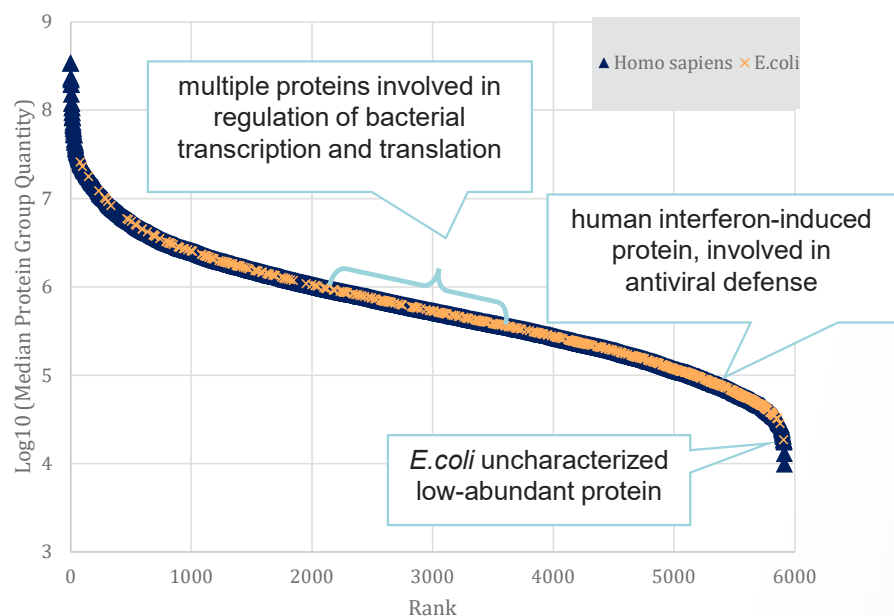
- great quantitation accuracy across all ratios
- low CVs of peptide quantities across triplicates



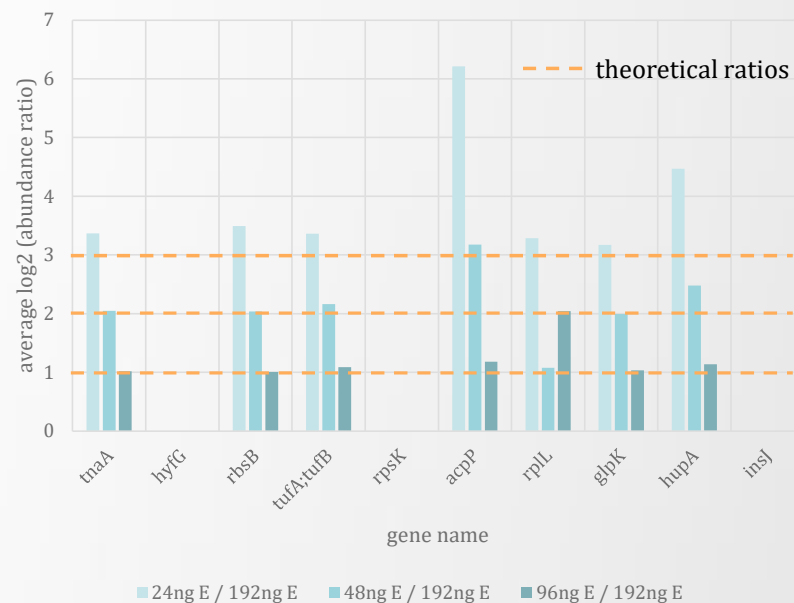
Precision

# Dynamic range: covering 4 orders of magnitude

Discover differentially expressed low-abundant proteins of interest



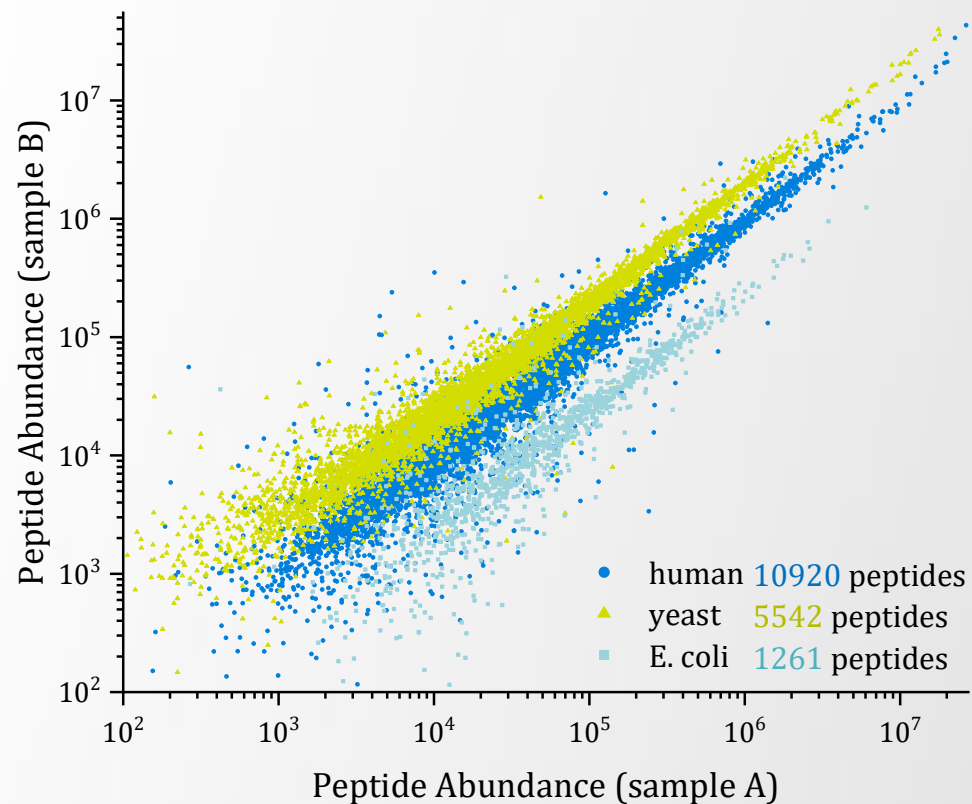
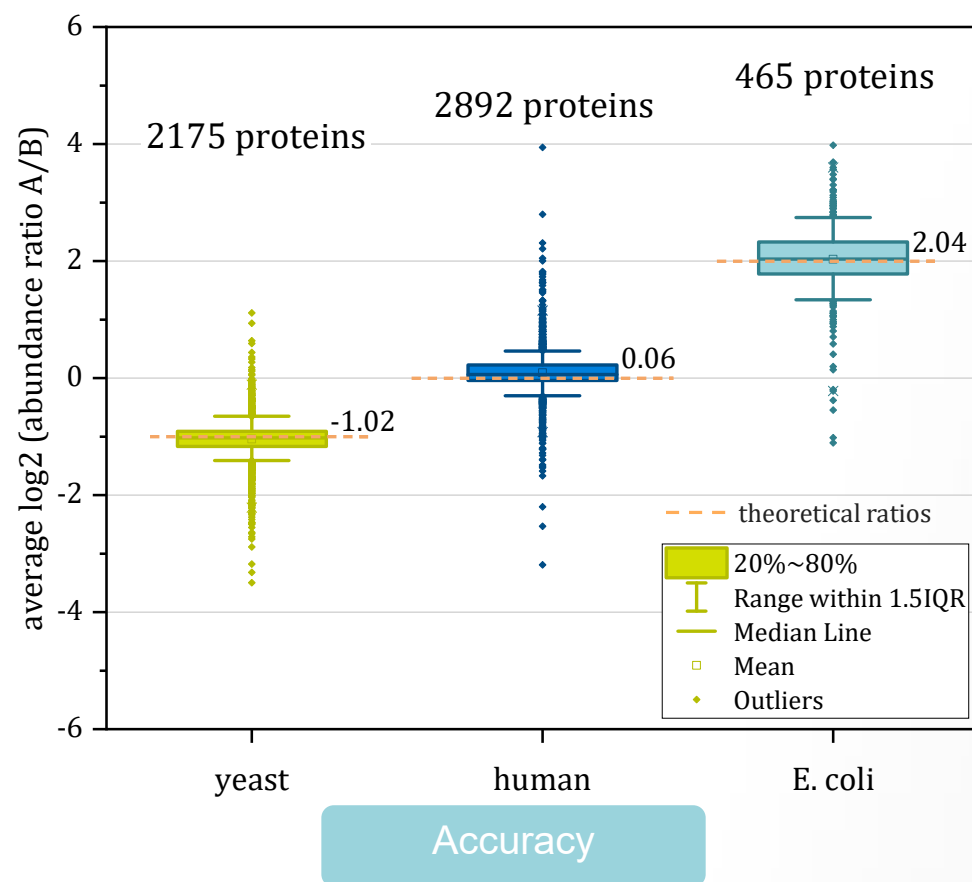
10 least abundant identified *E. coli* proteins



- 2 proteome mix, *E. coli* spiked in high human background, separated over 30 min LC gradient
- 7 out of 10 low-abundant *E. coli* proteins were quantified accurately

# Quantitation accuracy in three-proteome mixtures

## LFQ benchmark: a measure for quantitation accuracy



# Velocity LFQ HR-DIA platform

The new standard of quantitative accuracy, precision and data completeness at deep proteome coverage

High-throughput high-resolution data-independent acquisition  
workflow for accurate label-free quantitation



Thermo Scientific™  
Vanquish™ NEO  
UHPLC system



Thermo Scientific™  
μPAC™ Neo UHPLC  
column (50 cm)

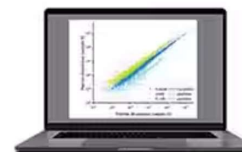


Thermo Scientific™  
EASY-Spray™  
nano source



Thermo Scientific™  
Orbitrap Exploris™ 240  
mass spectrometer

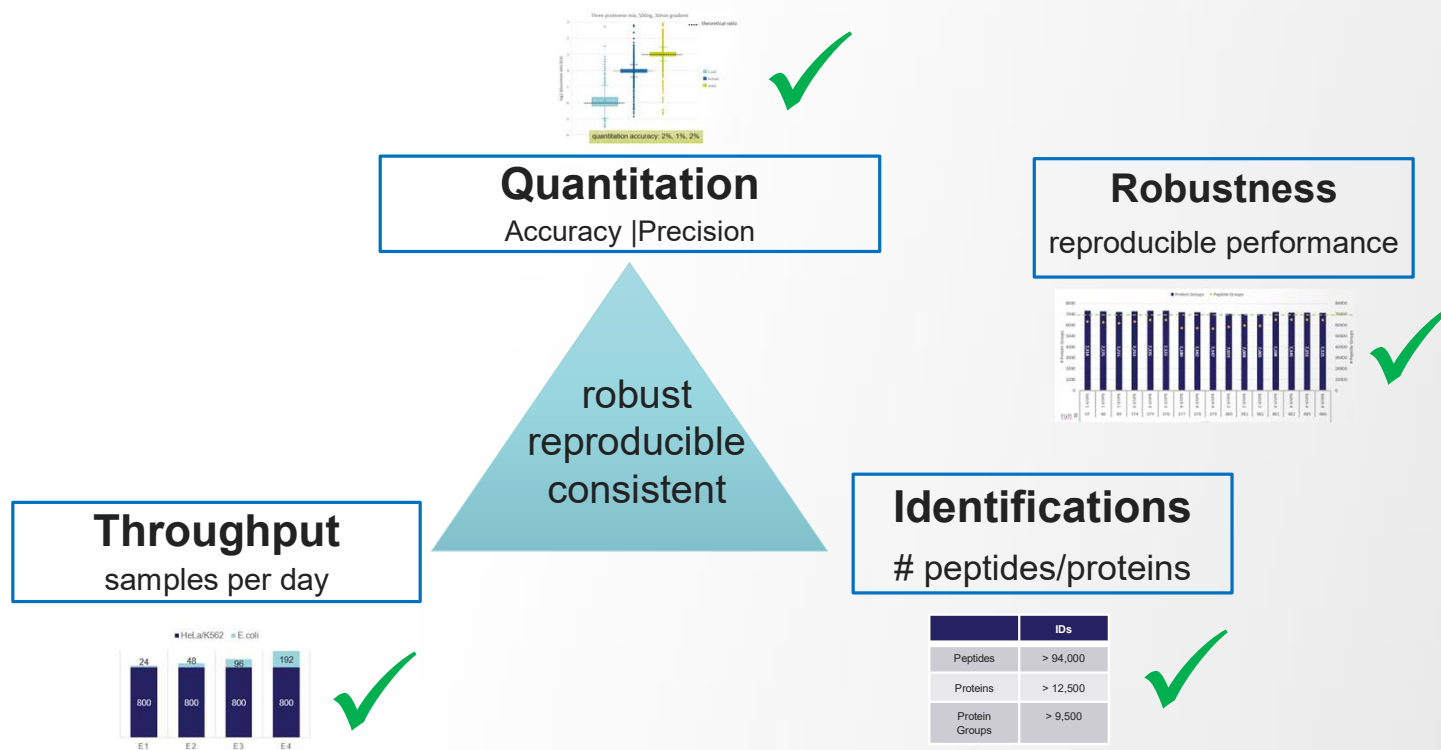
Thermo Scientific™  
Orbitrap Exploris™ 480  
mass spectrometer



Software of choice

# Optimized Velocity LFQ HR-DIA on Orbitrap Exploris 240 MS is the right combination for your lab

Vanquish Neo UHPLC |  $\mu$ PAC Neo column | Orbitrap Exploris 240 MS



## Including details methods & templates

## On-demand webinar

Technical note | 001251

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SCIENTIFIC

## Quantitative proteomics

# High-throughput high-resolution data-independent acquisition workflow for accurate label-free quantitation

### Authors

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Scientific, Warsaw, Poland

### Keywords

Label-free quantitation (LFQ), high  
throughput, bottom-up proteomics,  
translational proteomics, cohort  
studies, Orbitrap Exploris 240 mass  
spectrometry, data-independent,  
Vanquish Neo UH-PLC acquisition

### Goal

To assess qualitative and quantitative performance of label-free quantitation (LFQ) with an optimized data-independent acquisition (DIA) method on a Thermo Scientific<sup>®</sup> Orbitrap Exploris<sup>™</sup> 240 mass spectrometer using a short 30 min gradient on a microcapillary array-based  $\mu$ PAC nano column for large-scale proteomics analysis.

### Introduction

Quantitative proteomics is essential to understanding global protein expression and modifications that underlie the mechanisms of biological processes and disease states. Accurately quantifying abundances of proteins of interest in complex samples is a prerequisite for developing reliable predictive models and testing them against experimental data sets. Statistical significance is improved by increasing the sample size and ensuring reproducible results from run-to-run.

Traditional data-dependent analysis (DDA) approaches have been widely employed for LFQ experiments, but they suffer vastly from run-to-run inconsistencies due to intensity-based stochastic triggering of precursors, often leading to undersampling especially of low-abundant proteins. In contrast, DIA approaches missing value concerns by equally cycling through defined  $m/z$  windows along the survey scan range. The resulting spectral complexity of the mixed precursor fragmentation and mixed product ions is often addressed by employing large spectral libraries. However, recent developments in data analysis software, (e.g., using machine-learning approaches for *in silico* prediction of high-quality spectral libraries), have made library-free approaches a valid time- and cost-effective alternative.



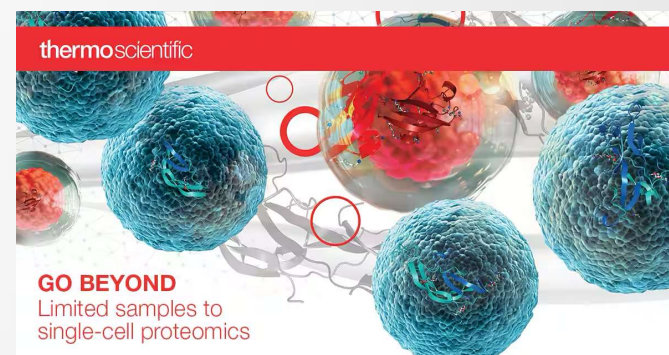
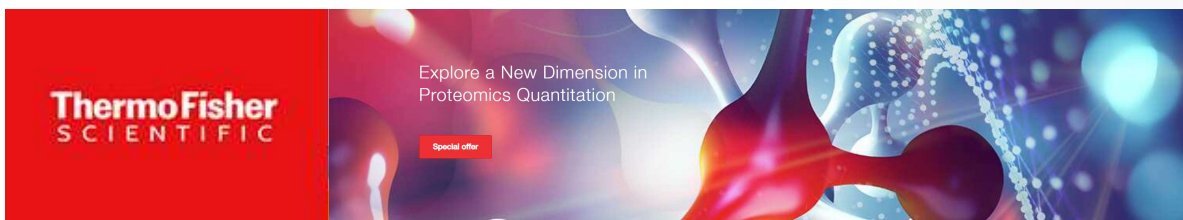
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American Society of Mass Spectrometry (ASMS)  
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Houston



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