



# 6020 Analysis Using a Simultaneous ICP MS Without the Need of Reaction or Collision Cells



Willi Barger, Application ICP-MS/ICP-OES  
Dion Tsourides, Director ICP NAFTA  
SPECTRO Analytical Instruments, Mahwah, NJ, US



## Outline

- **Hardware**
  - **ICP-MS**
    - **Advantages of simultaneous ICP-MS**
    - **ICP as Ion source**
    - **Mass spectrometer**
    - **How does the detector work**
- **Simultaneous measurements**
  - Precision of measurements
  - Interference Correction
- **Summary**





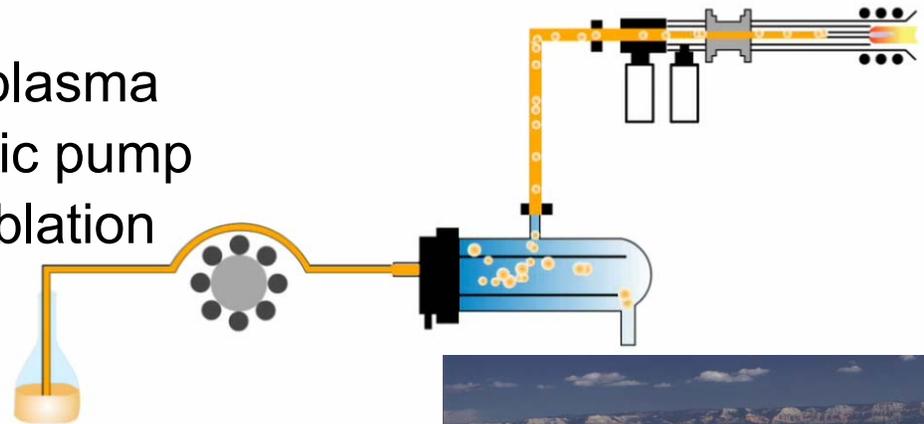
## Why simultaneous detection?

- Get all information in one measurement
  - All isotopes of all elements
  - Low concentrations and high concentrations
- Eliminate noise by using ratio's
  - Isotope ratio
  - Internal standard
- Change the method after the sample is measured
  - Every piece of information is there
  - Compensate the surprises in some samples



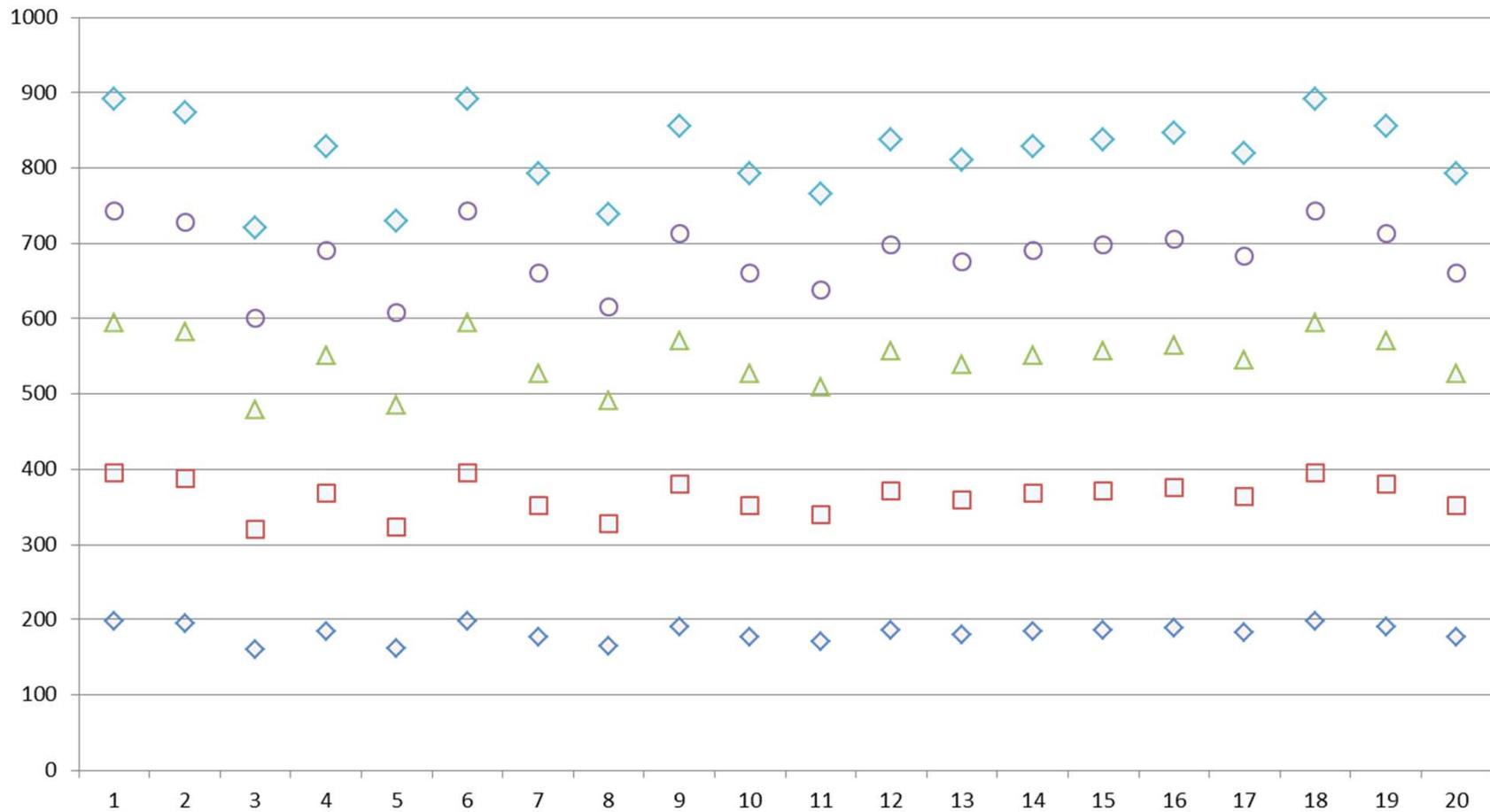
## Advantages of Simultaneous Detection

- Calculating the ratio of two signals measured at the same point in time:
  - Elimination of all noise from the sample introduction system
    - Flicker noise from the plasma
    - Pulsation from peristaltic pump
    - Pulsation from Laser Ablation
  - Ratio of 2 signals
    - Isotope ratio
    - Isotope dilution
    - Element ratio (Geology, ex. REE pattern)
    - Quantitative analysis (internal Standard)



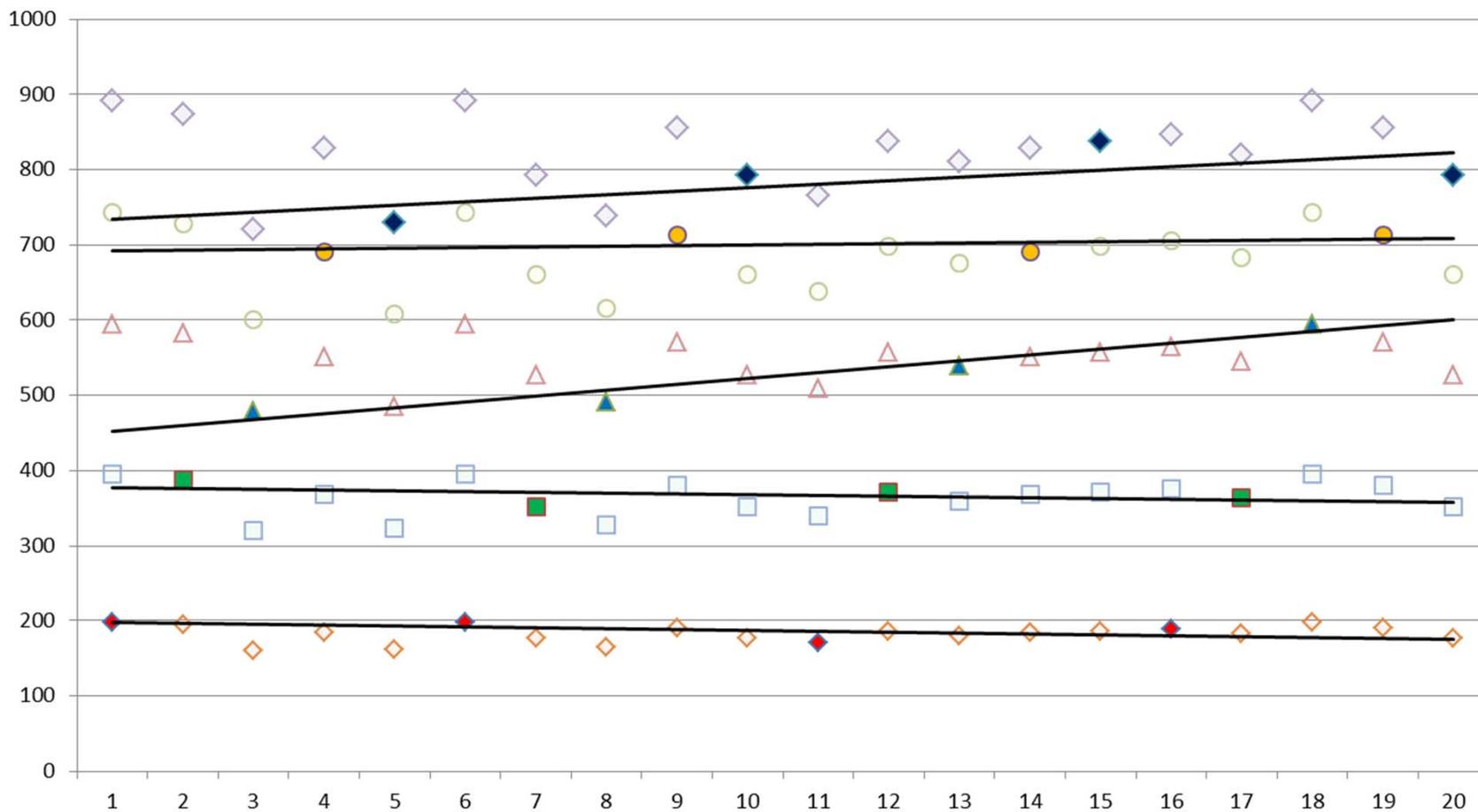


# ICP as Ion source: Signal of 5 Isotopes



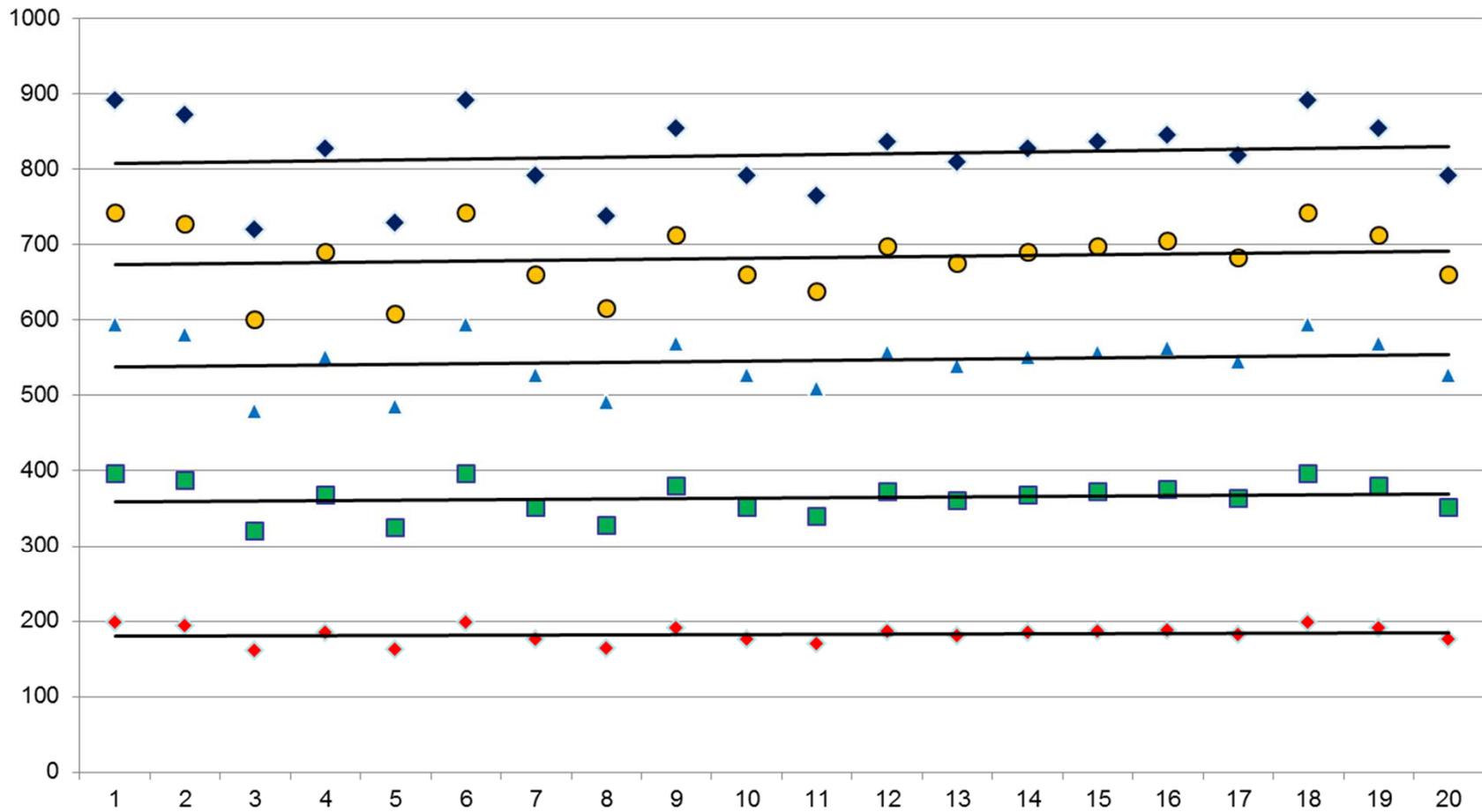


# 5 Isotopes Measured Sequentially





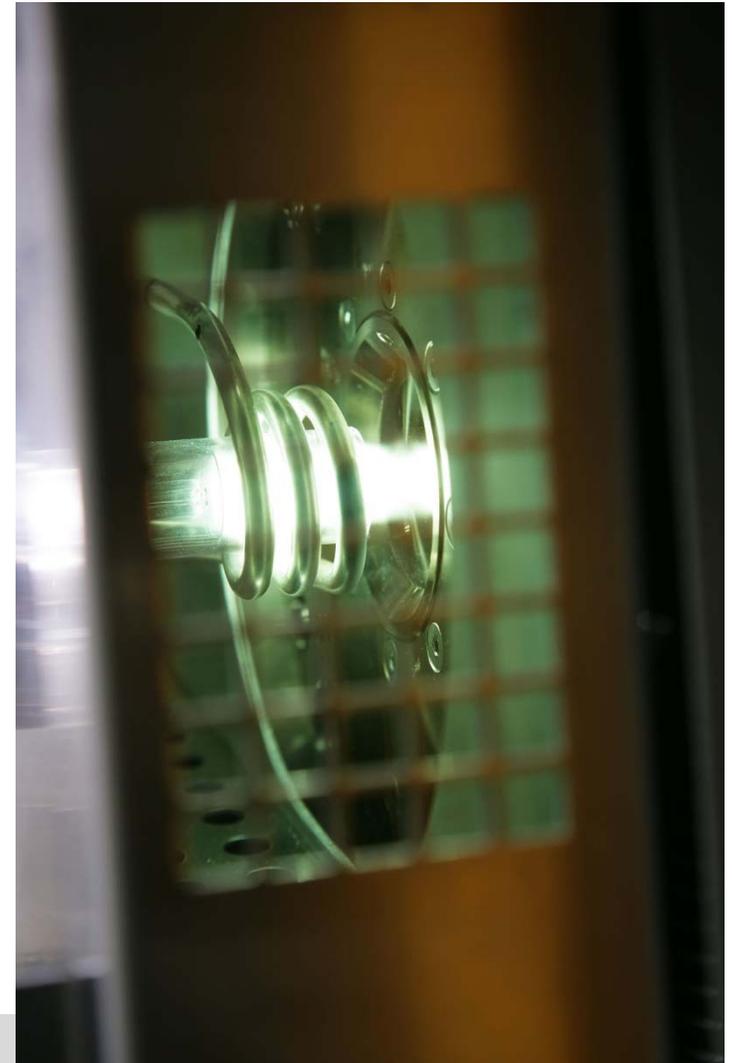
# 5 Isotopes Measured Simultaneously





## Advantages of Simultaneous Detection

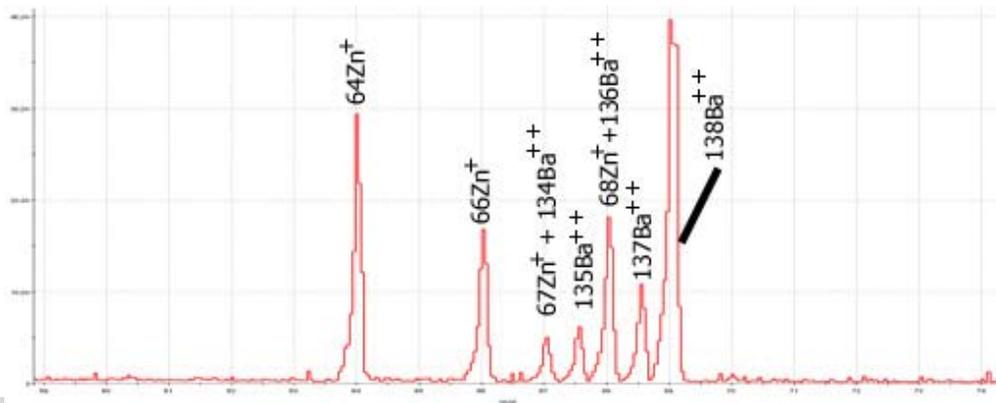
- Precision should be substantially improved
  - In theory by 1 – 2 orders of magnitude





## Advantages of Simultaneous Detection

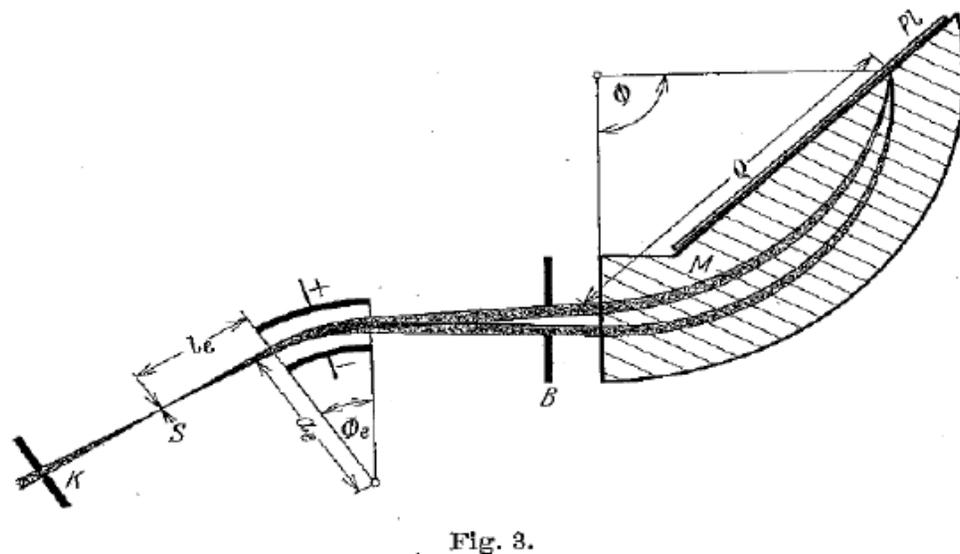
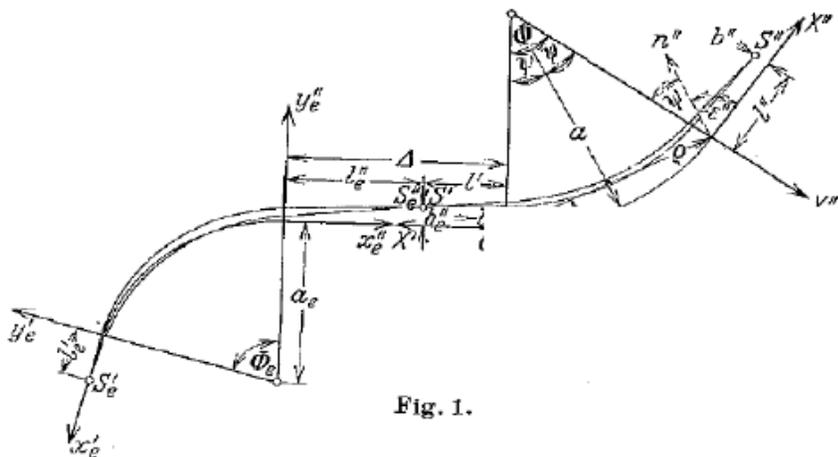
- Always record the complete mass spectrum:
  - Do the method development after the sample is measured
    - See unexpected interferences
    - Detect unexpected elements
    - Include interference corrections after the measurement is completed
  - Review spectra of samples that do not exist anymore





## Suitable MS layouts: Mass Spectrographs

- Mattauch-Herzog (1934): double focusing magnetic sector field MS



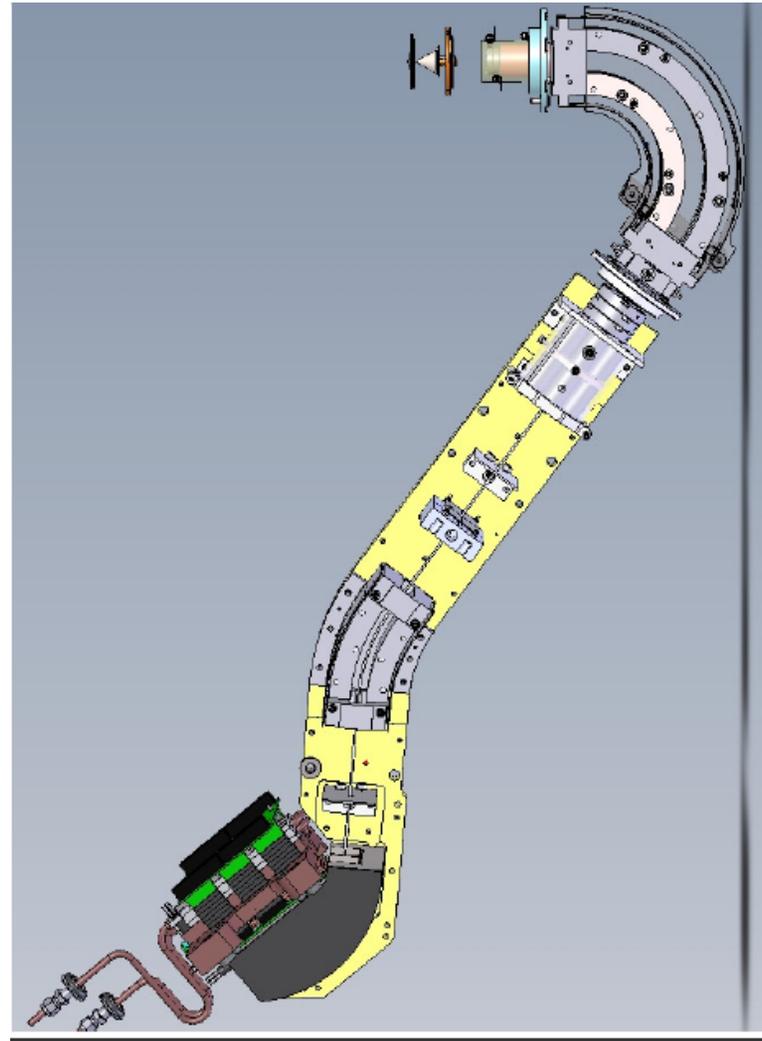


**Overview**

**Ion Optic**

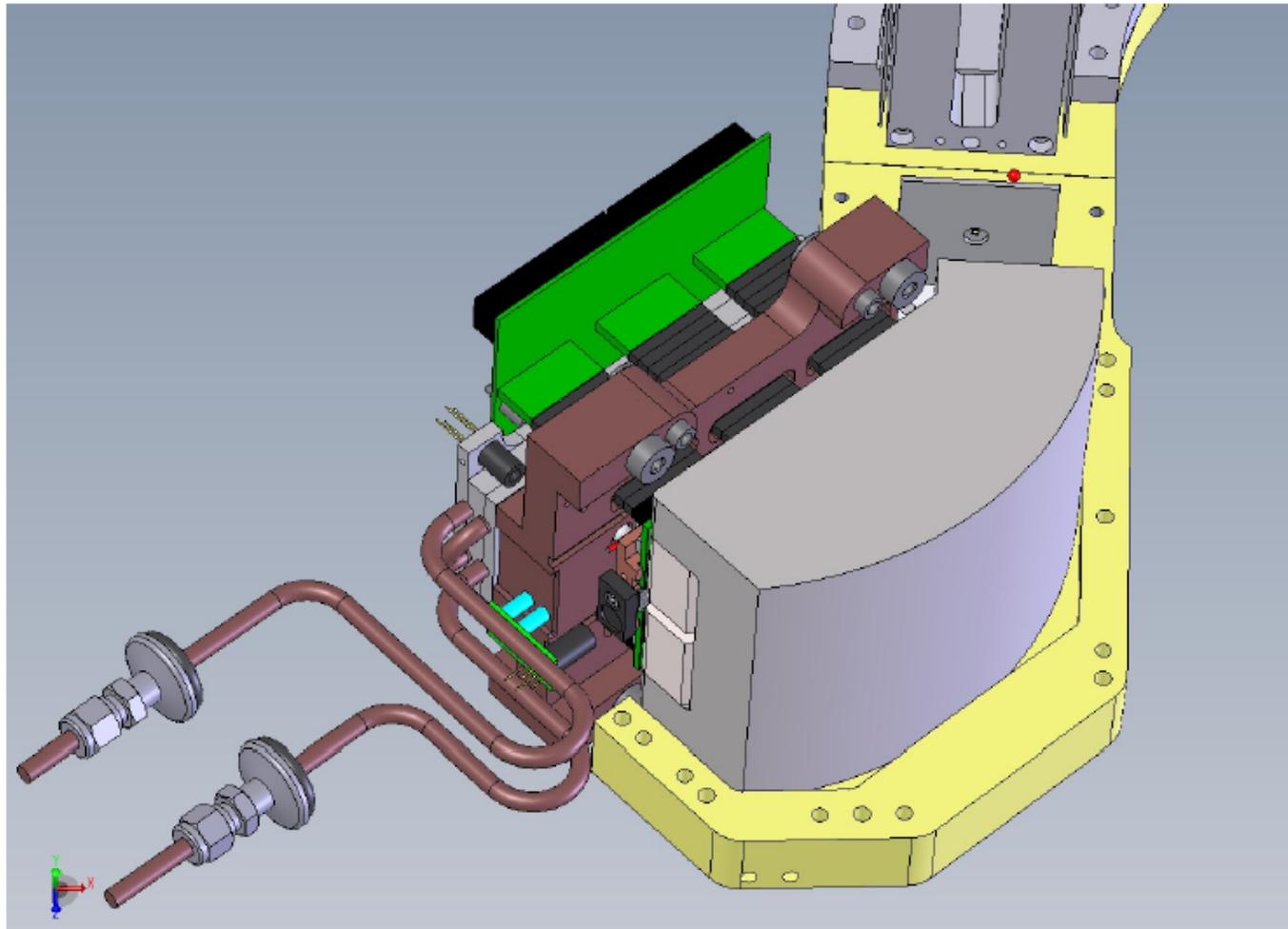
**Mass  
spectrometer**

**Detector**



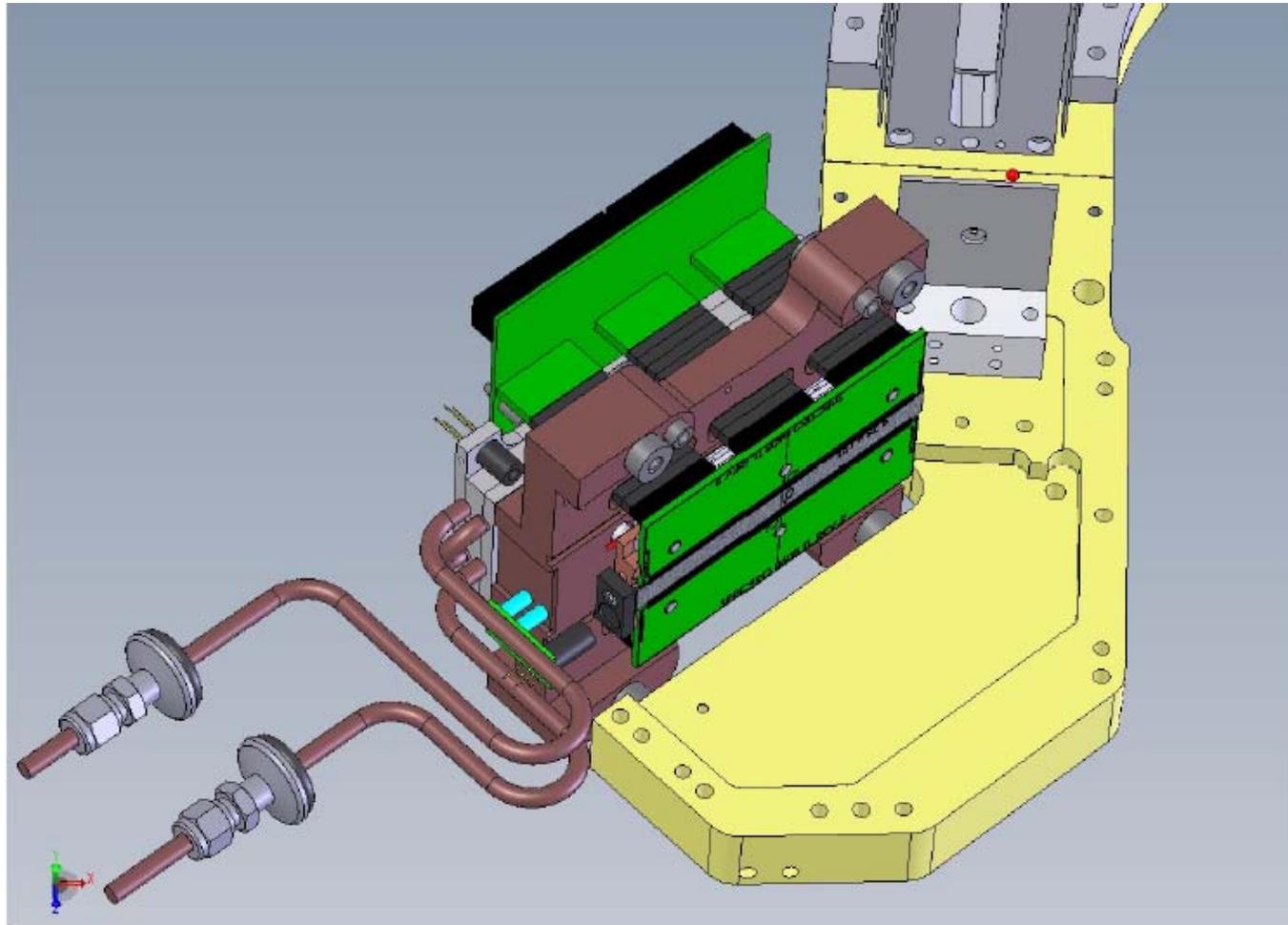


## Magnet and Detector with Detector cooling system



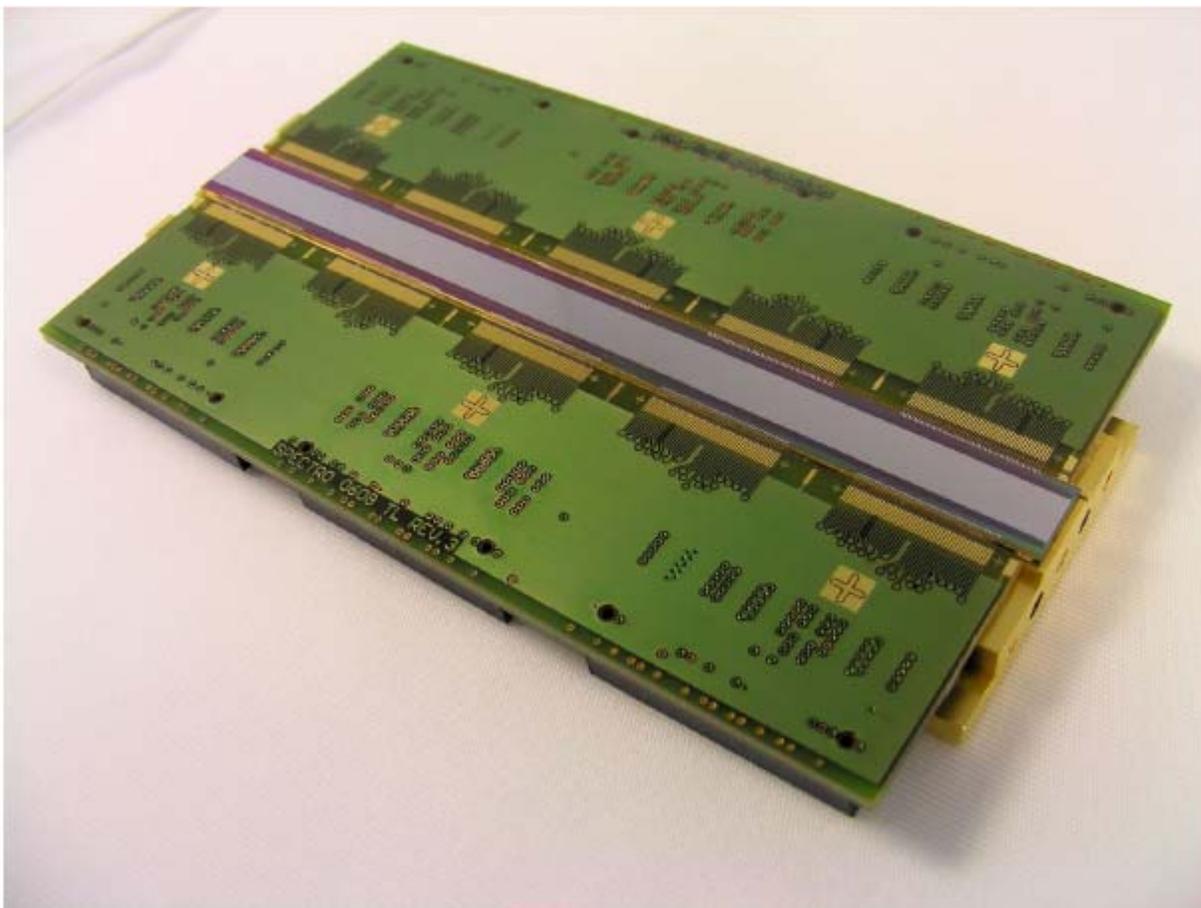


# Detector with Cooling System





## Semiconductor Direct Charge Detector “Ion 120”

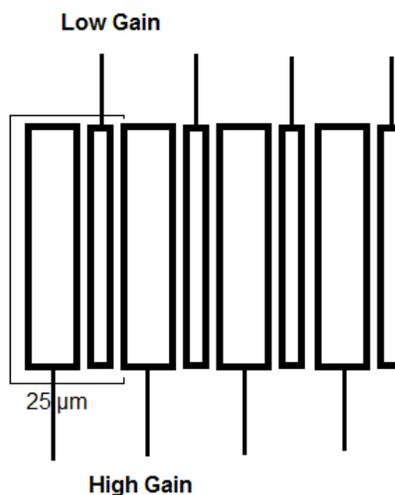


- CMOS (Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor) technology
- 120 mm sensor
- 4800 channels
  - Two fixed gains
- Cooling to  $-17^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Designed for SPECTRO



## Semiconductor Direct Charge Detector “Ion 120”

- Very robust detector
  - Survival after ion dose rates of  $10^{13}$  ions/sec
    - The detector is not be expected a consumable
  - No cross talk
    - Located between every high gain strip is a low gain strip
    - High and low gain part is connected to different sides of the detector





## Semiconductor Direct Charge Detector “Ion 120”

- How does the detector work?
  - Every incoming ion is discharged and converted into an atom
    - Depending on the properties of this element, the atom:
      - Is pumped out as a gas or stays on the surface as a metal
    - The connected electronic is amplifying this current of electrons to the detector channels
      - This information is stored in different capacitors
      - The information is checked every basic integration cycle
- A potential change on the detector does not change the property of the detector to deliver one electron per incoming ion.
- → the detector is not expected to age
- → The detector is not expected to be a consumable



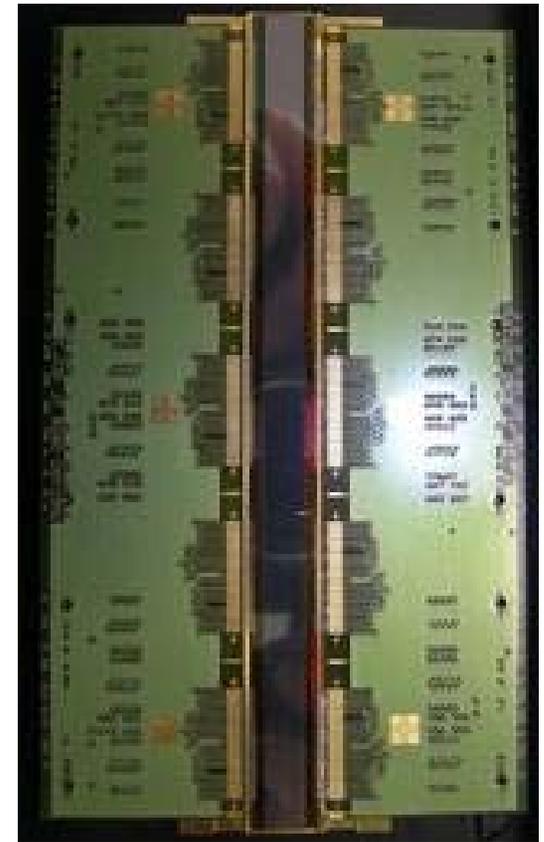
## Detector Readout

- Two possibilities available in the software
  - Counter Mode
    - Forced readout every basic integration cycle
    - Every 20 ms readout,
    - Data transfer every 100 ms
  - Threshold mode
    - Check if a readout if required every 10 ms
    - Data transfer after replicate is complete



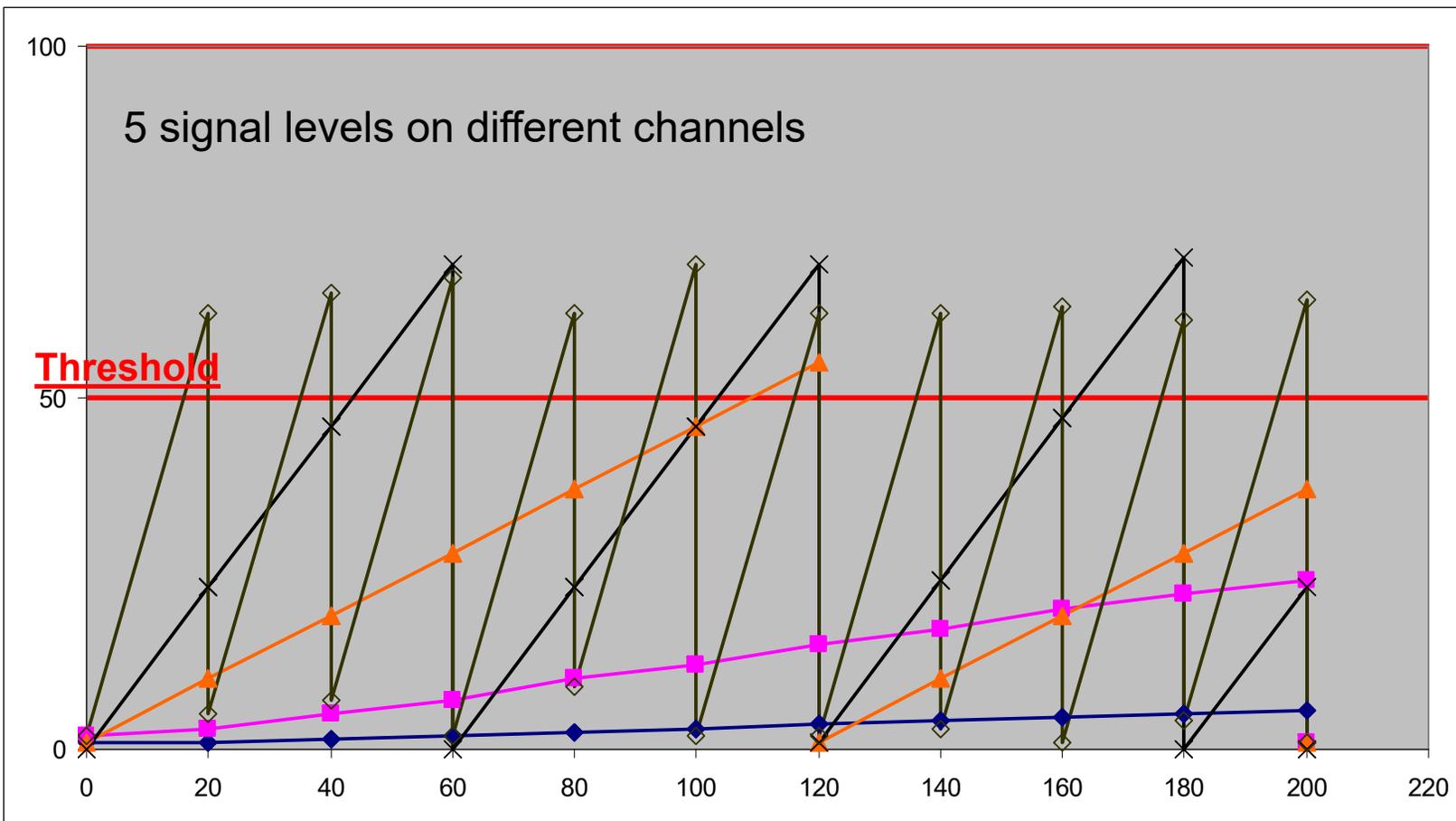
## Non destructive read out, threshold mode

- Every basic integration cycle, the camera makes a non destructive readout of each channel and detector
- Only, when a certain threshold is exceeded, the channel goes through a reset
- If a channel is reset, a second readout happens immediately.
  - Correlated double sampling
  - Second readout acts as baseline for next readout





## Threshold Mode with Correlated Double Sampling

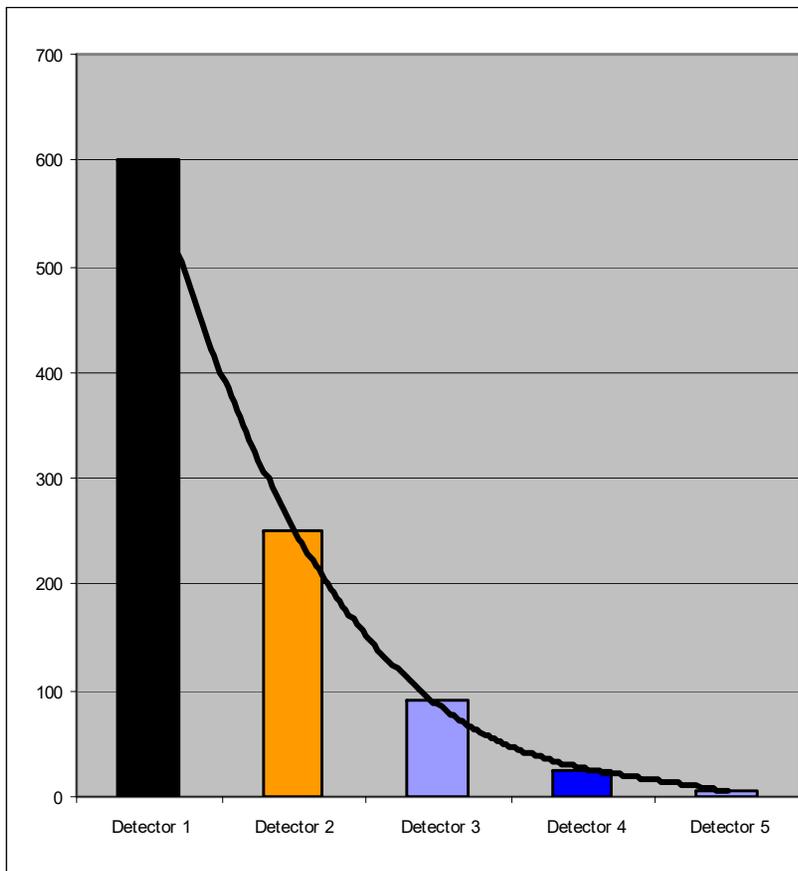


The total measurement time can be adjusted

[www.spectro.com](http://www.spectro.com)



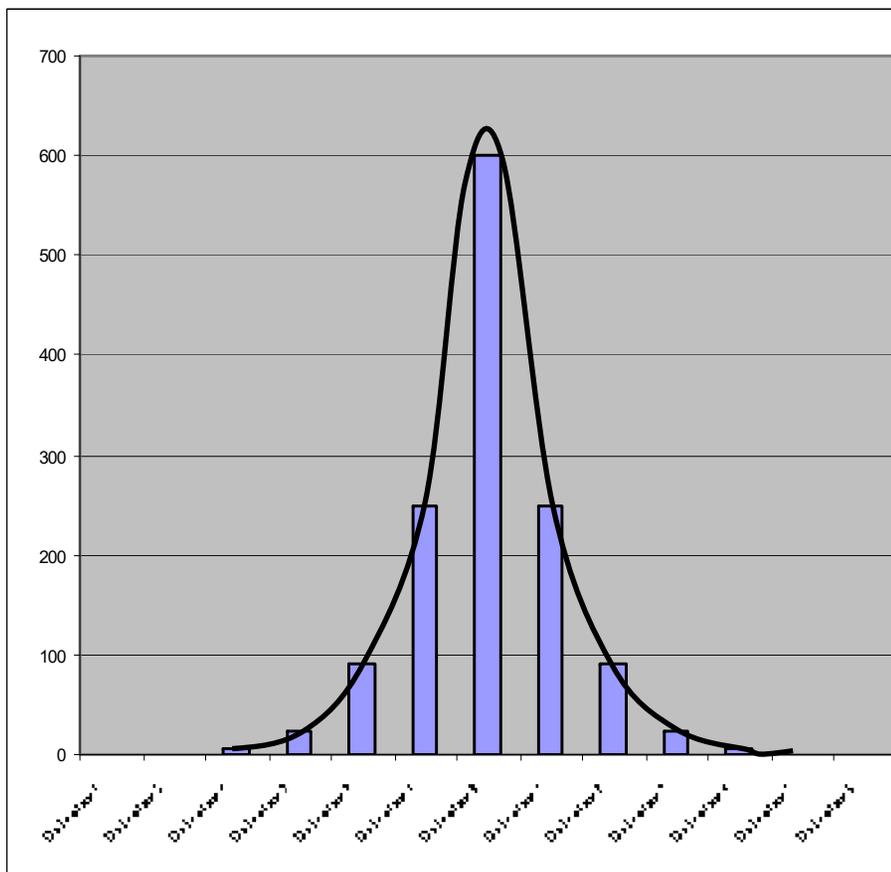
## Threshold Mode with Correlated Double Sampling



Detector 1	600	$10 \times 60$	10 reset
Detector 2	230	$3 \times 69 + 23$	3 reset
Detector 3	90	$1 \times 54 + 36$	1 reset
Detector 4	24	24	
Detector 5	5	5	



# 10 Channels

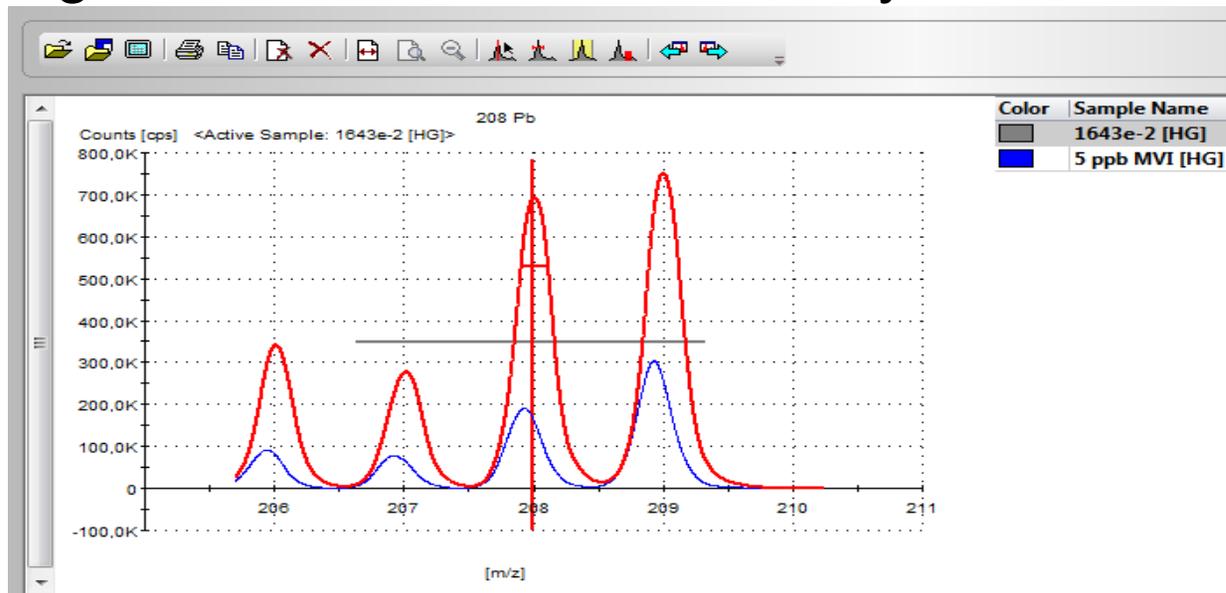


- Average 20 channels/amu
- Multiple datapoints/peak
  - Set peak maximum
  - Set integration range
    - Whole peak for best precision
  - Set background correction



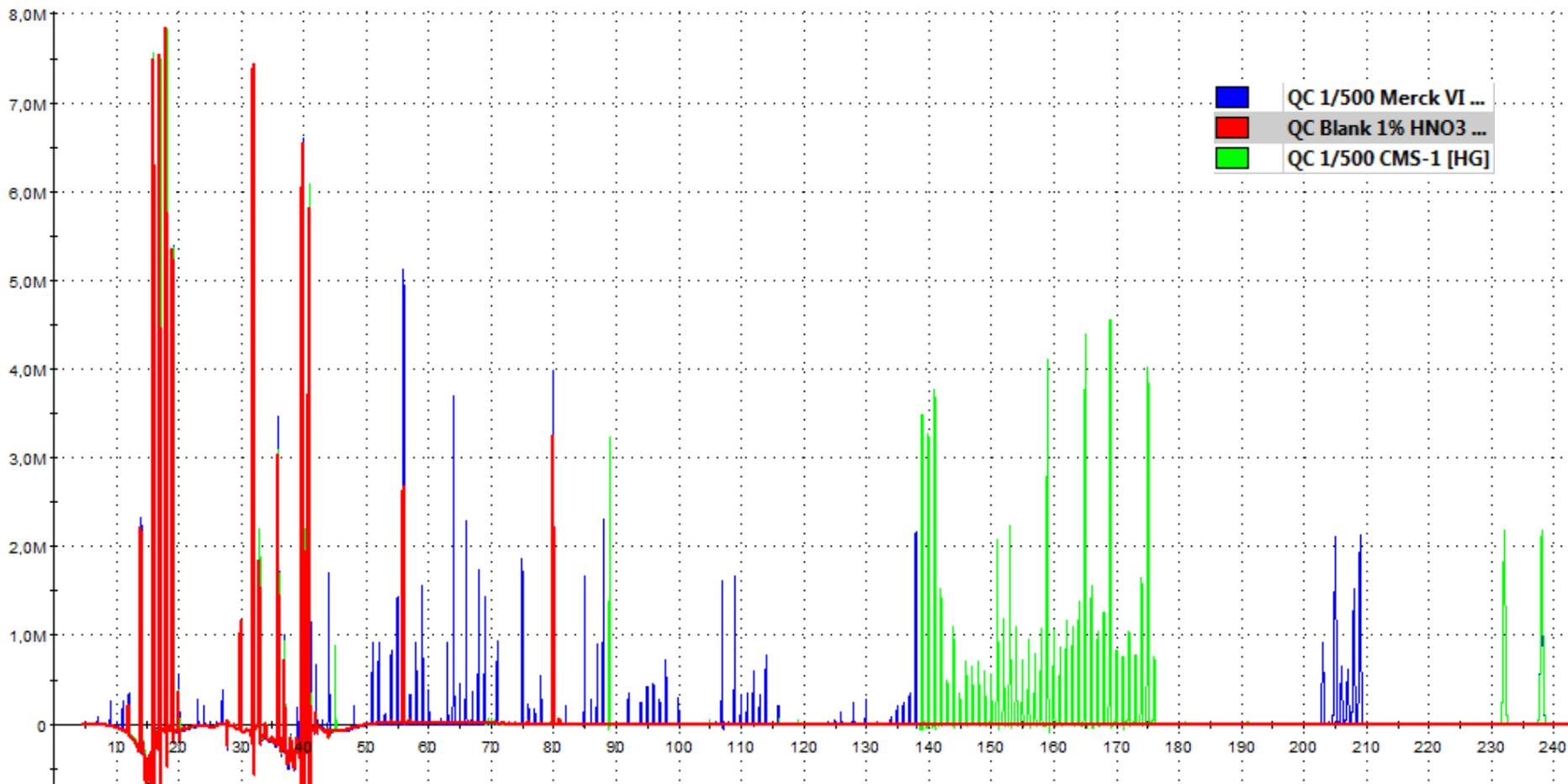
## Peak definition for method

- Peak maximum
  - ICAL procedure
- Integration range
- Background correction if necessary



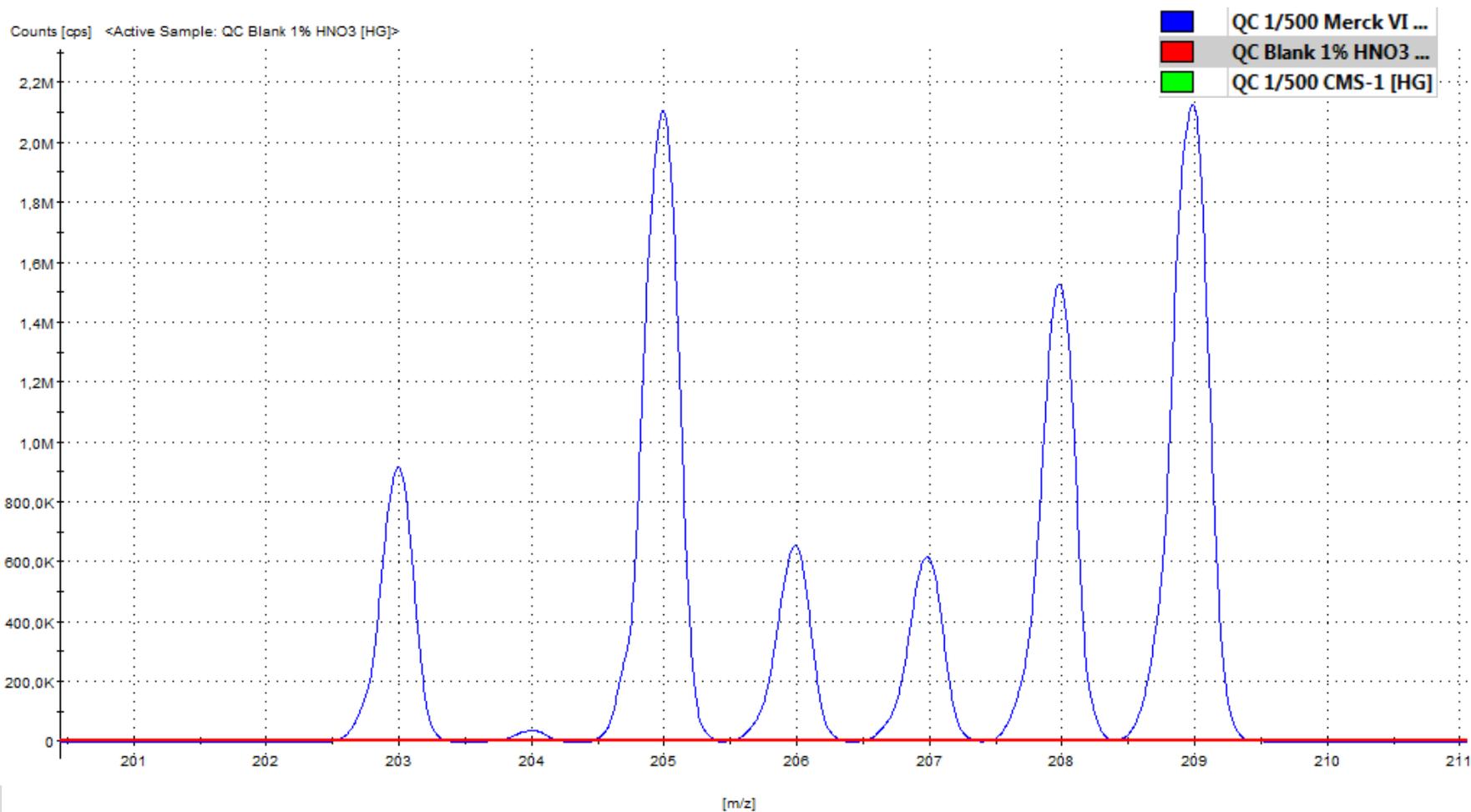


# Simultaneously measured mass spectra 10 sec





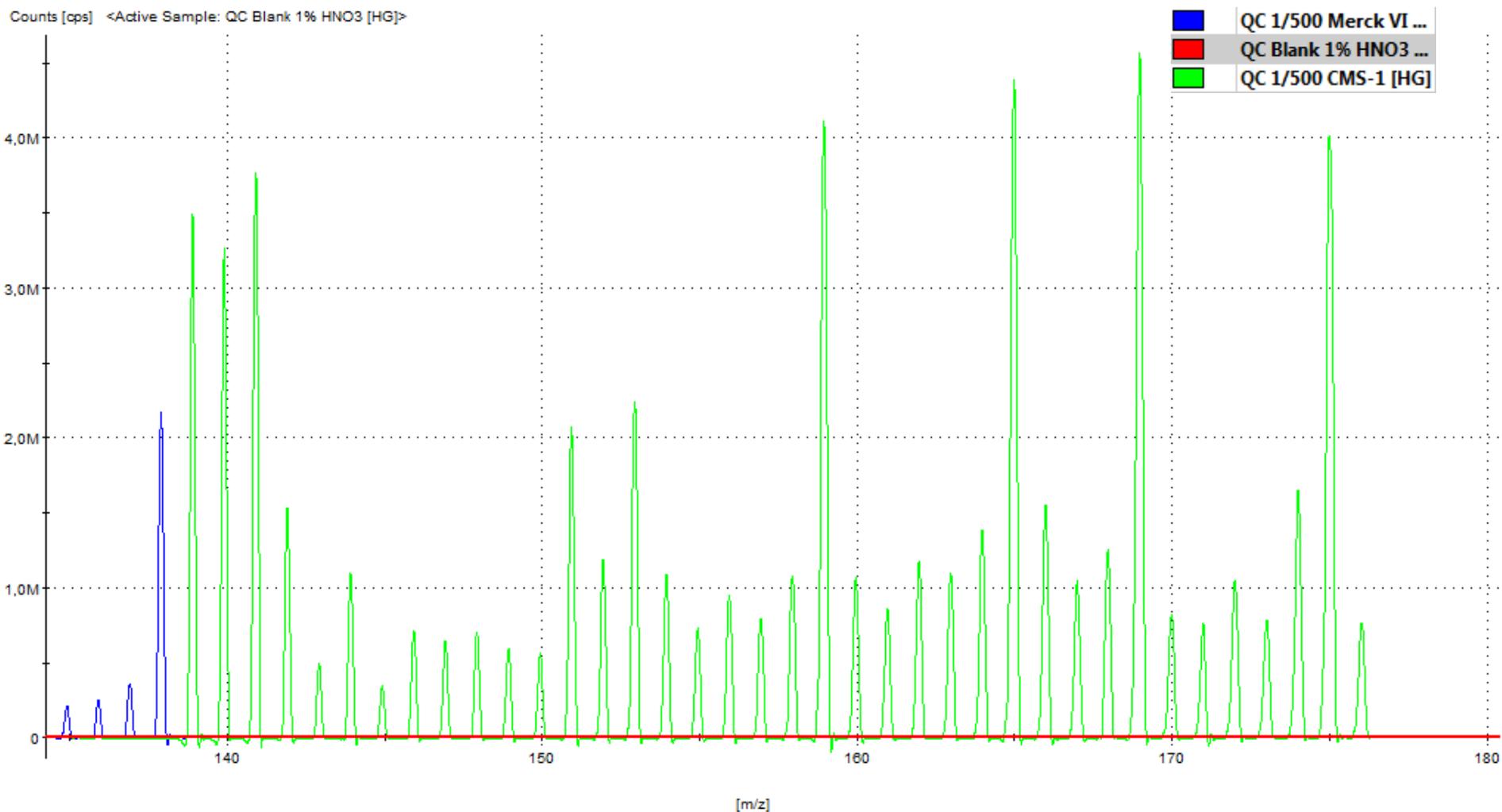
# Simultaneously measured mass spectra 10 sec



[www.spectro.com](http://www.spectro.com)

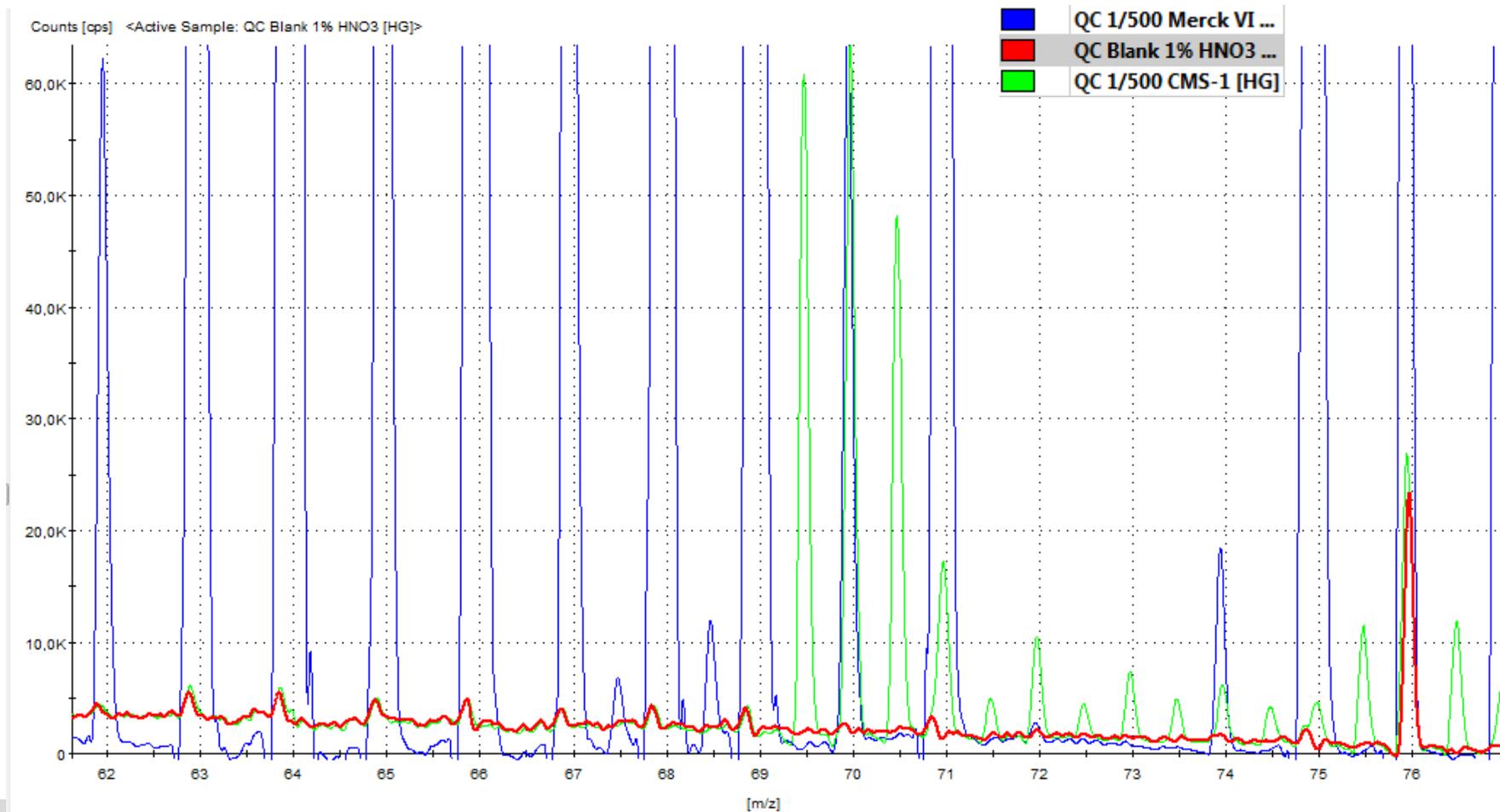


# Simultaneously measured mass spectra 10 sec



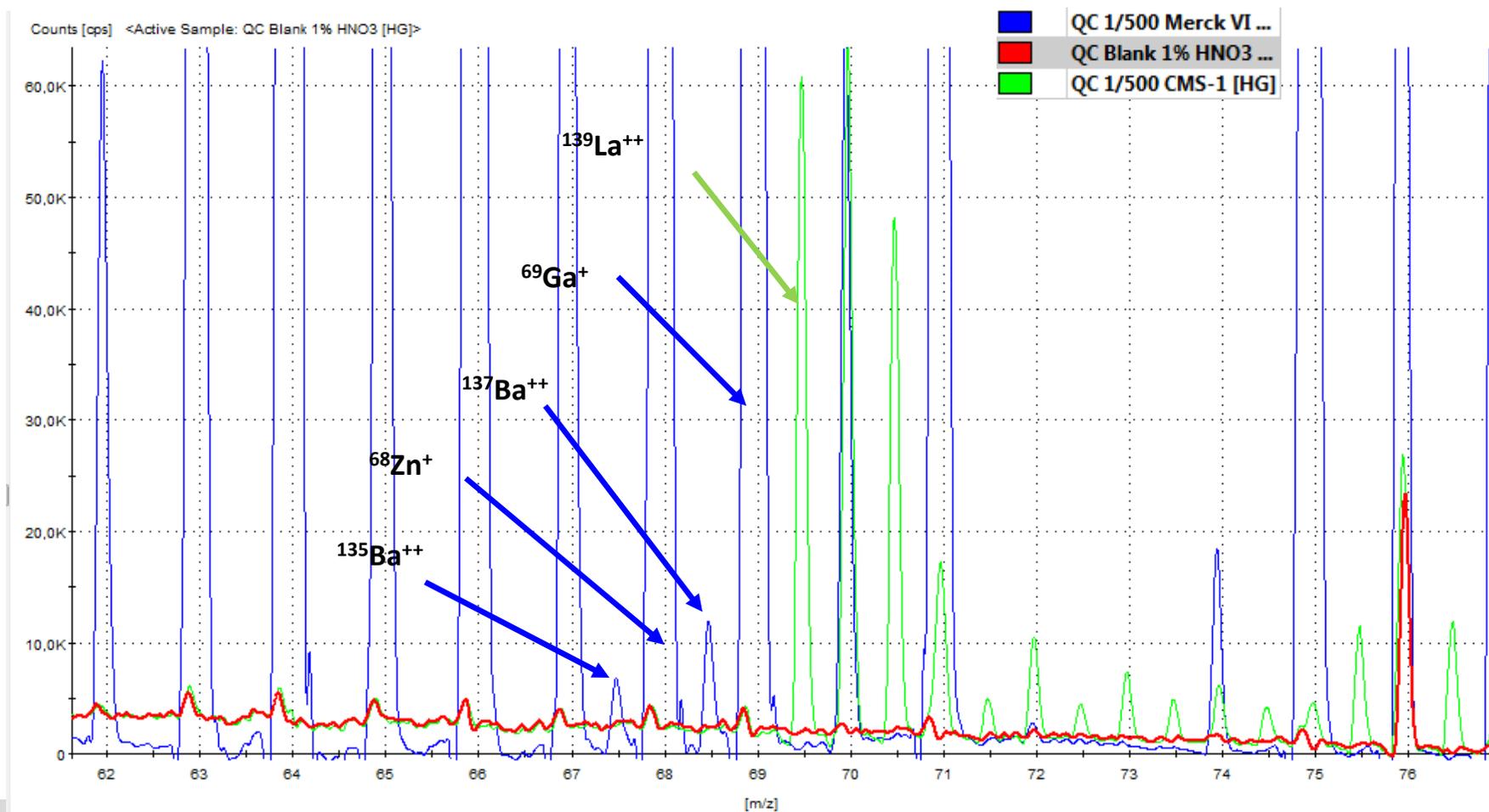


# Simultaneously measured mass spectra 10 sec





# Simultaneously measured mass spectra 10 sec





## When you have the complete spectrum

- **Let the software do the job**
  - Subtract the blank spectrum
  - Let the software rebuild the measured net spectrum with the isotopic pattern of the elements and interferences
    - About 220 datapoints for 100 elements plus interferences
  - Get qualitative results for elements never calibrated and a standard is not available
  - See the unexpected



## Fully simultaneous now means

- **On every measurement**
  - **Every mass from 6 to 241**
    - Li to Uranium
      - 241 as limit is set by the German BAFA
  - **Low concentration to high concentration**
    - Compared to most simultaneous ICP-OES



## Outline

- Hardware
  - ICP-MS
    - Advantages of simultaneous ICP-MS
    - ICP as Ion source
    - Mass spectrometer
    - How does the detector work
- **Simultaneous measurements**
  - **Precision of measurements**
  - **Interference Correction**
- Summary





## Precision: PGE Determination

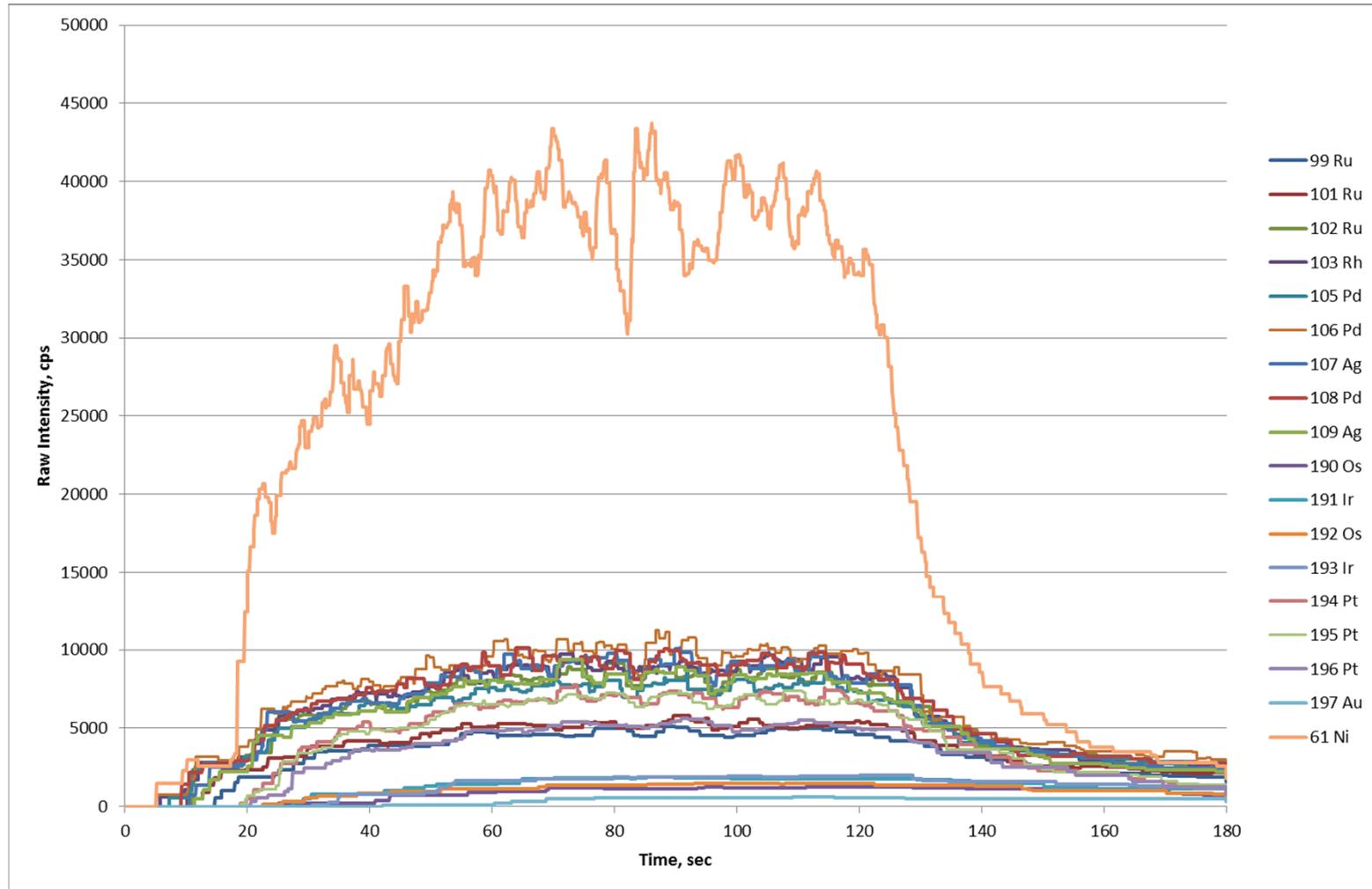
	101Ru [µg/L]	103Rh [µg/L]	106Pd [µg/L]	108Pd [µg/L]	185Re [µg/L]	191Ir [µg/L]	193Ir [µg/L]	194Pt [µg/L]	196Pt [µg/L]	197Au [µg/L]
Sample 1	0.58	0.60	0.66	0.64	0.61	0.68	0.65	0.64	0.64	0.85
RSD %	0.66	0.25	0.70	0.99	0.29	0.56	0.34	0.59	0.71	3.01
Sample 2	5.81	5.66	5.94	5.87	5.77	5.95	5.98	6.03	6.02	6.04
RSD %	0.21	0.32	0.22	0.17	0.14	0.16	0.16	0.26	0.21	1.00

Results for synthetic samples with typical precious metal concentrations,  
Sample 1: 0.6 µg/l, Sample 2: 6 µg/l

20 sec per replicate, In as internal Standard

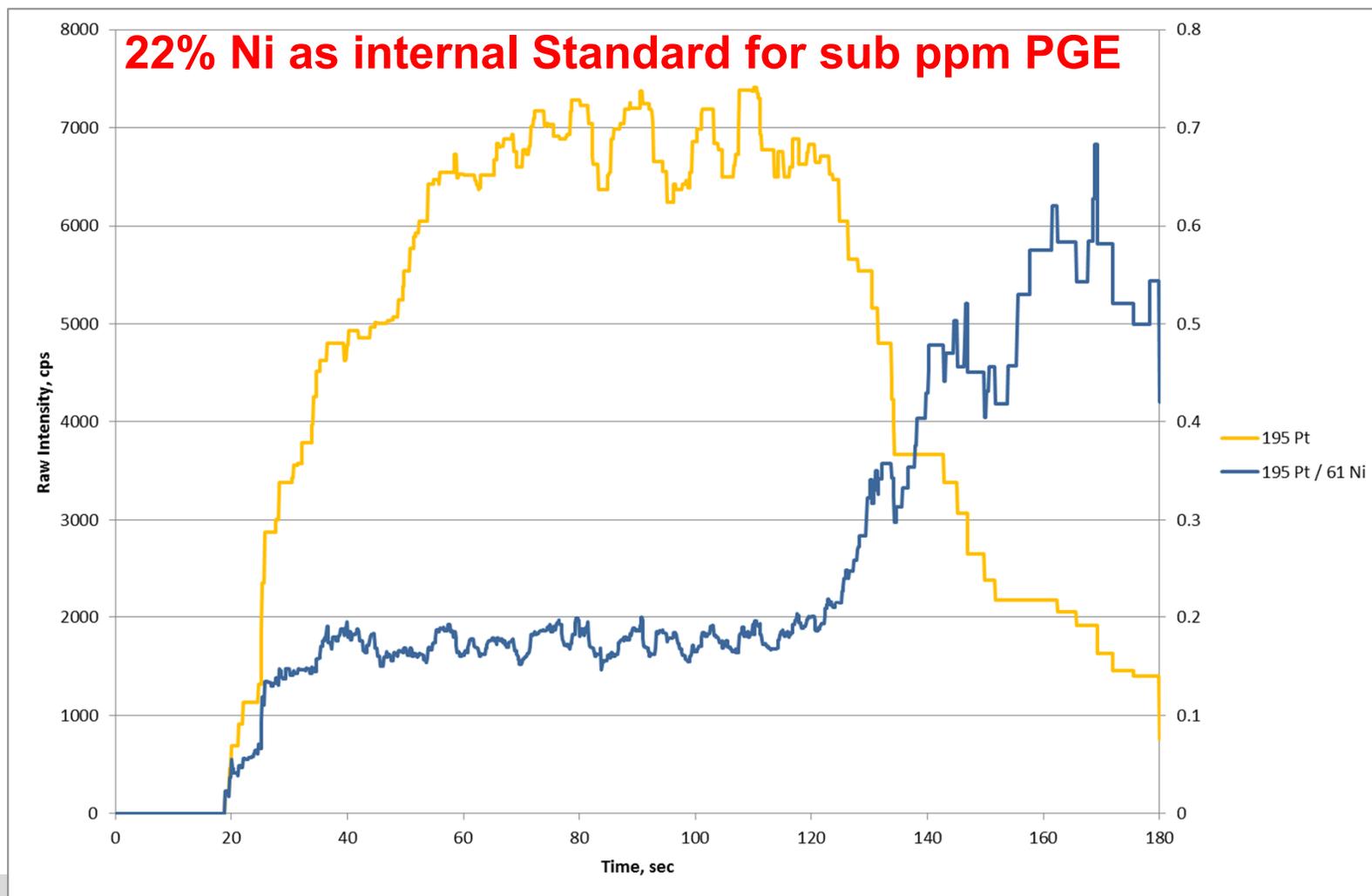


# Precision: Transient Signals



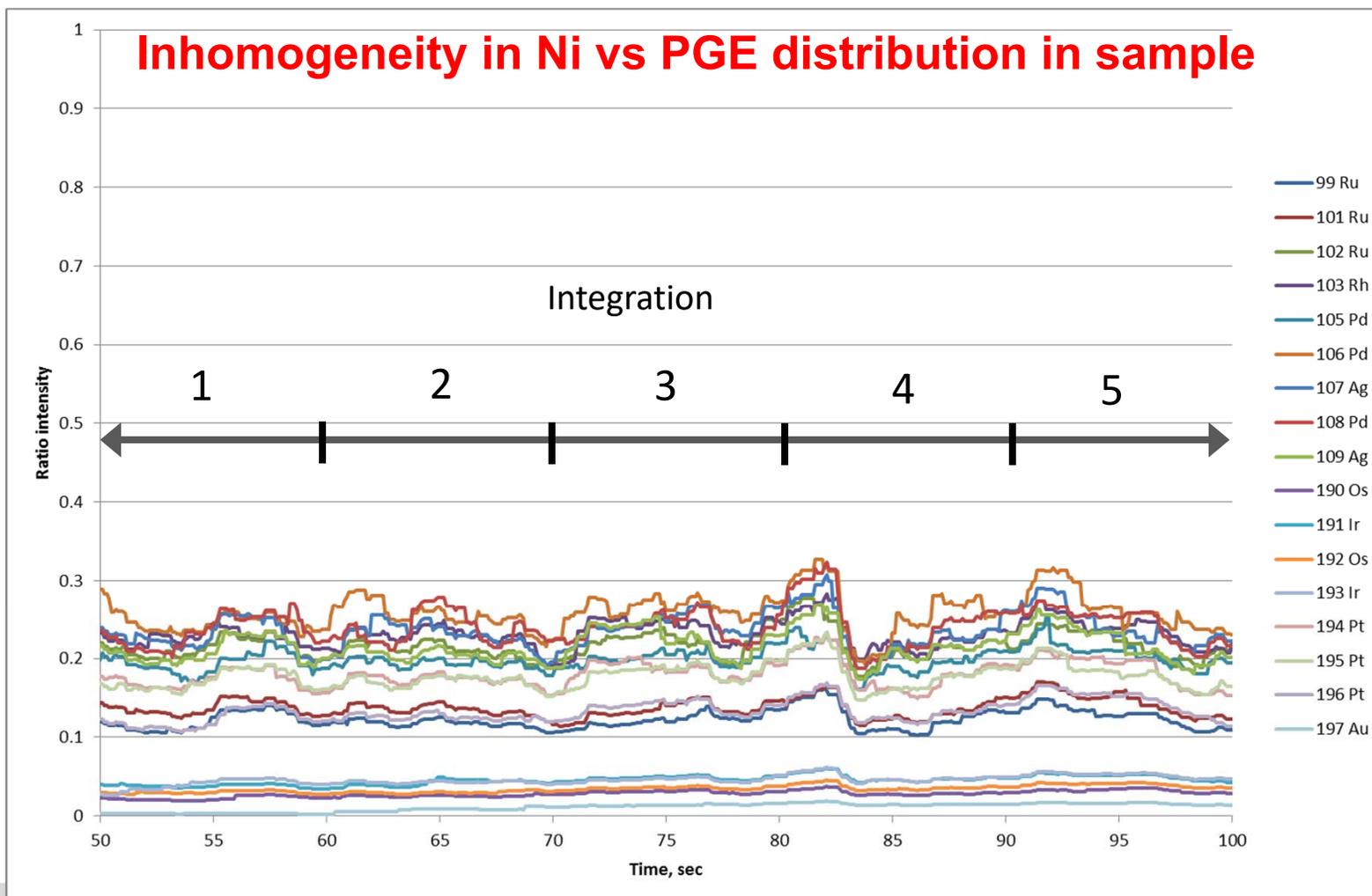


# Precision: Transient Signal Ratio





# Precision: Transient Signal Ratio





## Multiement Isotope Ratio

Ratio	Li 6/7	B 10/11	Sr 86/88	Sr 87/88	Ag 107/109	Pb 204/208	Pb 206/208	Pb 207/208
1	0.08031	0.24503	0.11687	0.08578	1.08513	0.02491	0.45227	0.43387
2	0.08039	0.24516	0.11694	0.08591	1.08541	0.02499	0.45267	0.43350
3	0.08038	0.24515	0.11699	0.08592	1.08465	0.02494	0.45216	0.43396
Average	0.08036	0.24511	0.11693	0.08587	1.08506	0.02495	0.45237	0.43378
Standard Deviation	0.000044	0.000072	0.000060	0.000078	0.000384	0.000040	0.000268	0.000244
RSD%	0.054	0.030	0.052	0.091	0.035	0.162	0.059	0.056

100 µg/l multi-element solution (B at 1000 µg/l) with a sample uptake rate of 0.8 ml/min and 3 replicates, each of 30 seconds measurement time

Total sample consumption : <2 ml



# Isotope Ratio Uranium

## Instrumentation

SPECTRO MS

### Instrument settings

Plasma torch	Standard Quartz, fixed 1.8mm injector tube
Nebulizer	Standard Seaspray
Spray Chamber	Cyclonic baffled
Power	1500 W
Coolant gas	12 L/min
Auxiliary	2.5 L/min
Nebulizer	0.94 L/min
Sample aspiration rate	1.5mL/min
Readtime	200 sec (10*20 sec)
Replicates	12
Sample	Uranium solution MVI 20ppb

	238 U BGC Intensity	235 U BGC Intensity	Abundance U238	Abundance U235
<x>	925798	2657.2	99.7138	0.2862
sd	9876	24.2	0.0001	0.0001
rsd	1.1	0.92	0.0001	0.0524



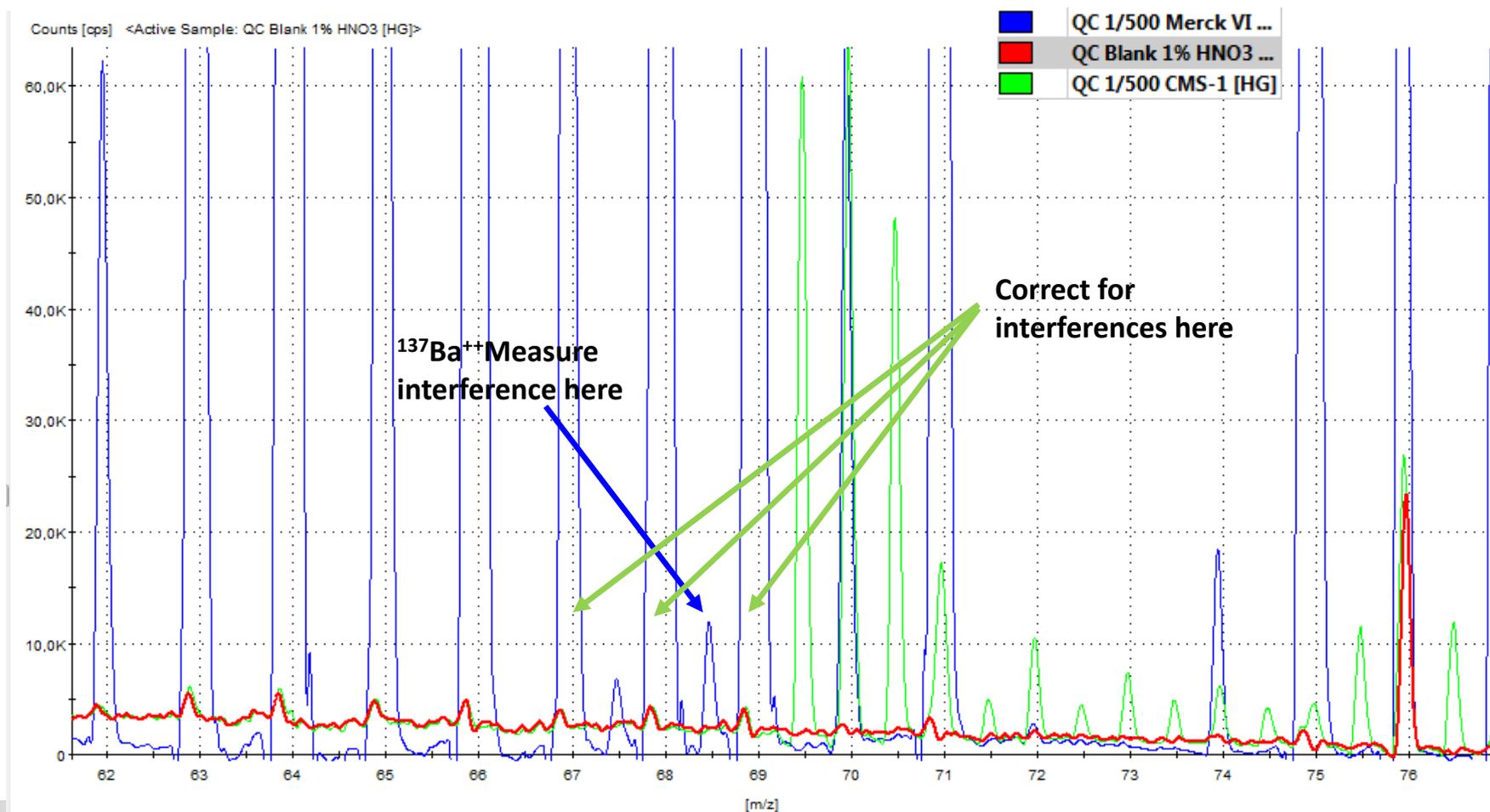
## Mathematical interference correction

- Lower formation of interferences formed by recombination in the interface
  - Different kinetic energy means different efficiency for transport to the detector
- Better precision of the mathematical correction due to simultaneous measurement
  - Depending on counting statistics
  - Calculations are based on concentrations



# Doubly charged interference's

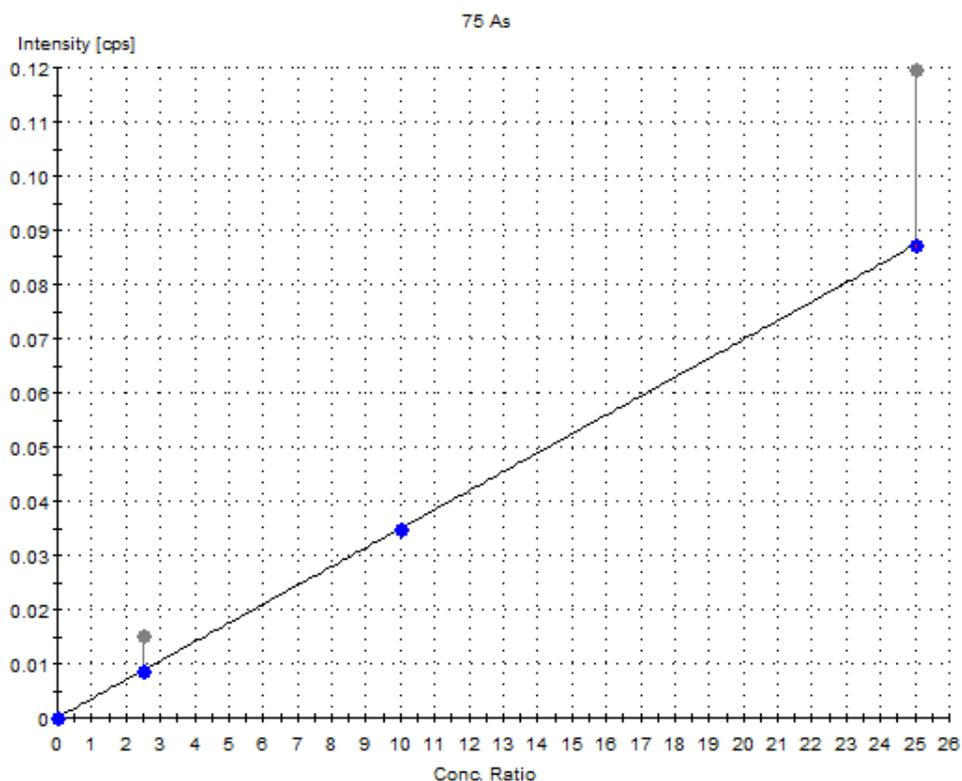
use the isotopes with uneven masses





# Polyatomic interferences: Cl interference's

- Addition of Cl to some defined As standards



Coef. A0: -0.0097467  
 Coef. A1: 286.65  
 Coef. A2: --  
 Coef. A3: --  
 Matr. Corr.: No  
 Matrix Conc.: --  
 Mass Range: 0.0211 µg/l - 30 µg/l  
 Isotope Info:  
 BEC: 3.86 µg/l  
 DL: 0.0211 µg/l  
 Std. Error: 0.0182 µg/l  
 Corr. Coef.: 1  
 Dist. Factor: Factors defined in Conc/Conc

Detection Limit:  [µg/l]  Lock  
 Conc. Min:  [µg/l]  Lock  
 Conc. Max:  [µg/l]  Lock

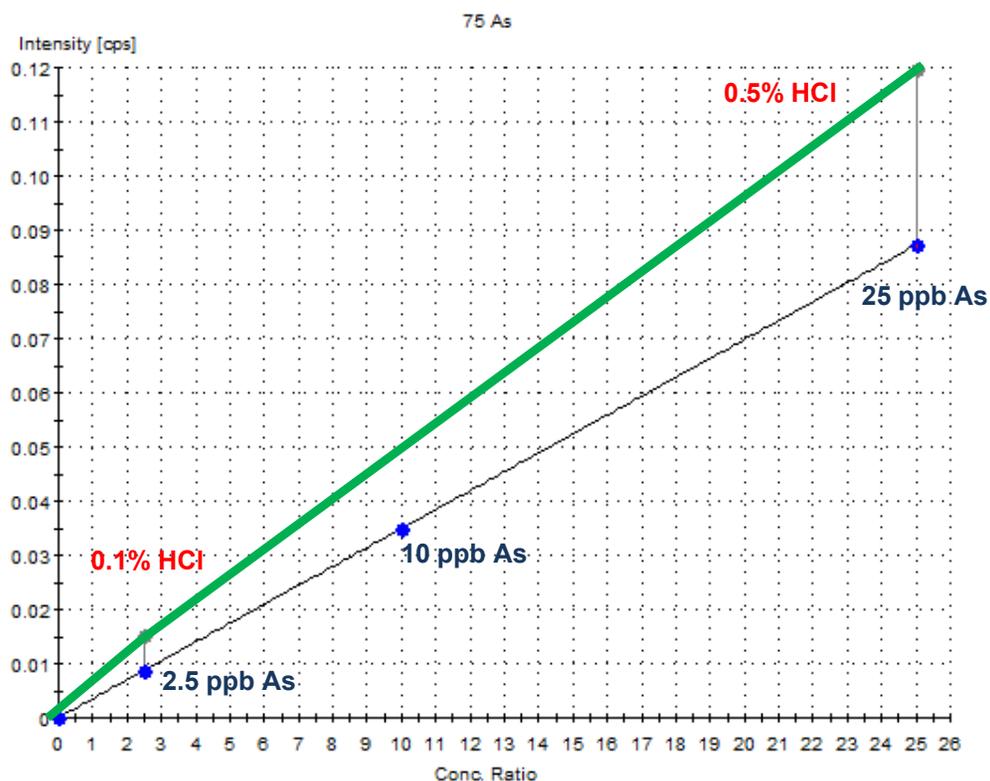
Dist. Ion	Type	Factor	Use	Lock
Cl	+	6.214e-006	Yes	No

**Measure As on m/z 75 in High Gain**  
**Measure Cl on m/z 35 in Low Gain**



# Polyatomic interferences: Cl interference

- Addition of Cl to some defined As standards or as a single Std



Coef. A0: -0.0097467  
 Coef. A1: 286.65  
 Coef. A2: --  
 Coef. A3: --  
 Matr.Corr.: No  
 Matrix Conc.: --  
 Mass Range: 0.0211 µg/l - 30 µg/l  
 Isotope Info:  
 BEC: 3.86 µg/l  
 DL: 0.0211 µg/l  
 Std.Error: 0.0182 µg/l  
 Corr.Coeff.: 1  
 Dist.Factor: Factors defined in Conc/Conc

Detection Limit:  [µg/l]  Lock  
 Conc. Min:  [µg/l]  Lock  
 Conc. Max:  [µg/l]  Lock

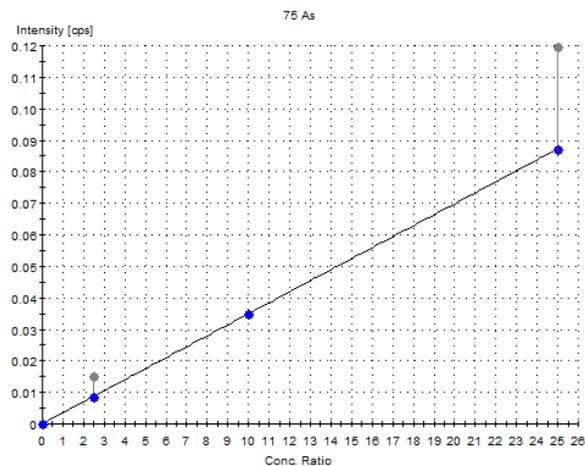
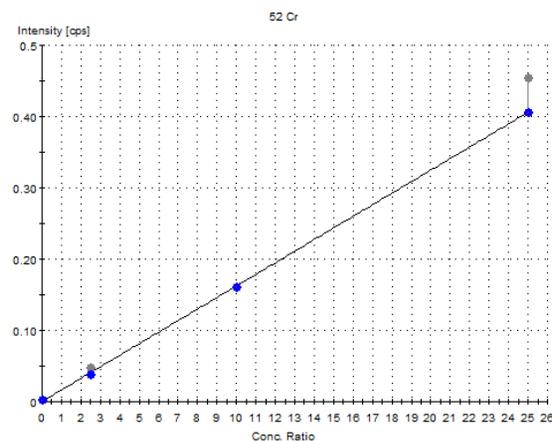
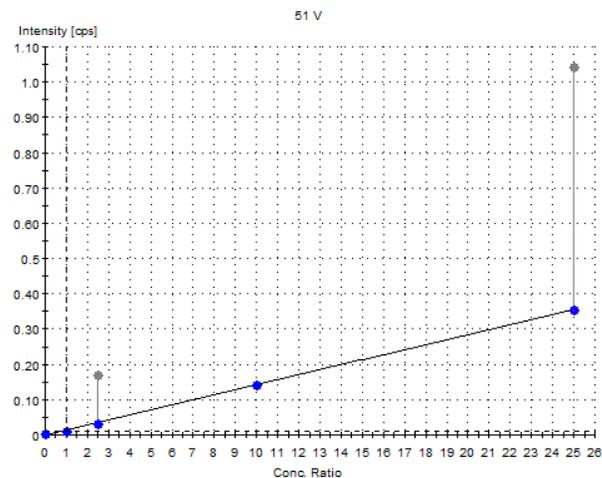
Dist. Ion	Type	Factor	Use	Lock
Cl	+	6.214e-006	Yes	No



# Do the rest at the same time

## Results

Sample	51 V	52 Cr	75 As
	µg/l	µg/l	µg/l
<b>Certificate</b>	<b>3.786</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>6.045</b>
Nist1643e 0.1%HCL	3.885	2.007	6.096
<b>Recovery</b>	<b>102.6</b>	<b>98.4</b>	<b>100.8</b>
Nist1643e	3.845	2.002	6.122
<b>Recovery</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>101.3</b>
0.2% HCL 10ppb STD	9.92	9.99	9.74
10ppb STD	10.34	10.03	9.91



NIST 1643e was diluted 1:10



## Outline

- Hardware
  - ICP-MS
    - Advantages of simultaneous ICP-MS
    - ICP as Ion source
    - Mass spectrometer
    - How does the detector work
- Simultaneous measurements
  - Precision of measurements
  - Interference Correction
- **Summary**





## Summary

- **SPECTRO MS**

- Measure the complete inorganically relevant mass range with every replicate in every sample
  - Get all information you want
  - Get all the additional information you need
  - Get all information you might need now or in the future
    - Think beyond what you are doing now
  - Method development after the sample is measured
  - Post measurement reprocessing for additional quantification
    - Quantitative mode or in Semi Quantitative mode
  - Never reanalyze a sample



## Summary

- **SPECTRO MS**
  - Interferences: Keep it simple
    - Low transmission of interferences to detector
    - A simple mathematical correction can often do the job
      - » Can be added to the sample after the measurement
    - A more precise correction compared to sequential measurements is possible due fully simultaneous measurements



- **Thank you very much for your attention**
- **Questions**

