

Materials needed

alpha-Cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid

MALDI water (water + 0.5% TFA)

MALDI acetonitrile (aceto + 0.5% TFA)

Matrix Preparation

- Place 10 mg cinnamic acid in 1 ml total, 1:1 MALDI water: MALDI aceto
- Dissolve by heating at 95°C for ~30min, with occasional vortexing

The solution will be a vibrant yellow when it is totally dissolved. You must keep the solution warm, or the matrix will precipitate

Sample Preparation

- Dissolve dried sample in a very small volume of 1:1 MALDI water: MALDI acetonitrile. Desired concentration is 10-100 uM

Plate spotting protocol

We use a modified thin layer technique for sample spotting

- Place 1 uL matrix solution on a spot
- On same spot, place 1 uL sample solution

****Do not mix spot with pipette tip. Let diffusion do the job****

- Repeat above, except create spots with 1:2 and 2:1 matrix:sample ratios
- If paranoid, create replicates of each spot
- Allow to completely dry before transporting