Leave Interferences Behind With MS/MS.

Agilent 8900 Triple Quadrupole ICP-MS
Put Your ICP-MS Results Beyond Doubt

Reliable interference removal is easier to achieve with the 2nd generation of the Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ.

In 2012, Agilent released the Agilent 8800, the world’s first triple quadrupole ICP-MS (ICP-QQQ) with MS/MS capability. This ground-breaking instrument created new analytical possibilities for analysts in hundreds of laboratories around the world.

The 2nd generation Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ suits a range of situations, from routine contract analysis to research, and materials analysis. The 8900 ICP-QQQ has the helium mode performance and productivity of Agilent’s market-leading quadrupole ICP-MS systems. In addition, it has MS/MS mode for controlled and consistent interference removal in reaction mode. This capability makes it a powerful and flexible multi-element analyzer.

The MS/MS advantage for reaction gas methods

**Single Quadrupole ICP-MS**

- Ion guide* No mass selection function
- Reaction cell Resolves on-mass interferences, but unreactive interferences remain and new product ions may be created
- Quadrupole mass analyzer Passes all ions at analyte mass to detector

* A quadrupole ion guide may be operated as a low mass cutoff or bandpass filter, rejecting some – but not all – non-target ions

**Agilent Triple Quadrupole ICP-MS with MS/MS**

- Quadrupole mass filter (Q1) Rejects all off-mass ions before they can enter the cell
- Reaction cell Uses reaction chemistry to resolve analyte from on-mass interferences
- Quadrupole mass filter (Q2) Rejects off-mass ions and passes interference-free analyte to detector

Only analyte and on-mass interference pass to cell

Only analyte ions (and off-mass ions/product ions) emerge from cell

Only the target analyte ions or product ions contribute to the measured signal, so results are accurate and consistent
Proven ICP-QQQ Technology

Agilent’s unique triple quadrupole ICP-MS uses MS/MS, enabling hundreds of labs around the world to do more than ever before.

**Semiconductor manufacturing**

Dissolved metal and particulate contamination of *process chemicals* is a major issue for semiconductor manufacturing. ICP-QQQ is used to monitor lower levels of ultratrace contaminants in materials, bulk chemicals, and wafer processing baths to ensure high product yield and minimize failure rates.

**Materials**

Manufacturers of *advanced electronic and battery components* need high purity rare earth element raw materials. ICP-QQQ allows suppliers to certify their raw materials at lower levels of other rare earth contaminants, guaranteeing better quality final products.

**Life science and biopharma**

ICP-QQQ can be used to accurately quantify unknown *proteins and peptides*. This is done using MS/MS mode to measure the sulfur and phosphorus hetero elements accurately at low concentrations.

For Research Use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

**Food**

The ICP-QQQ efficiently removes both polyatomic and doubly charged interferences, so arsenic and selenium can be measured with better accuracy at lower levels in all *food samples*. And the high sensitivity of the ICP-QQQ means that arsenic speciation can be performed at lower levels than ever before.

**Nanoparticles**

There’s increasing interest in measuring *nanoparticles (NPs)* in the environment, food, and biological systems. But NPs based on silica and titanium are difficult to measure at small enough particle sizes using quadrupole ICP-MS. ICP-QQQ with MS/MS can characterize these NPs in complex samples, even at the sub-50 nanometer scale.

**Geology**

Reaction cell chemistry in Agilent’s ICP-QQQ can separate direct isobaric overlaps. This includes mercury 204 on lead 204, and ytterbium and lutetium 176 on hafnium 176, to give access to important isotopic clocks in *geochronology*. This is far beyond the resolution available on sector field high-res ICP-MS.
Be Sure With ICP-MS

The Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ provides outstanding performance for existing multi-element ICP-MS applications. The 8900 also introduces analytical capabilities not previously possible using ICP-MS. Low-level determination of previously difficult elements, separation of direct isobaric overlaps, and fast, trace analysis of emerging nano-scale materials extend the application of ICP-MS into new fields of analysis.

Ultratrace analysis of Si and S

Si and S suffer from intense polyatomic interferences and have not previously been possible to measure at ng/L (ppt) levels using quadrupole ICP-MS. ICP-QQQ offers the most reliable approach to resolving interferences using MS/MS and reactive cell gases. The 8900 ICP-QQQ Advanced Applications and Semiconductor configurations add unprecedented control of background signals for silicon and sulfur, using a new gas flow system to minimize Si and S contamination.

The calibrations, following, demonstrate detection limits (DLs) of <10 ng/L for Si (top) and S (bottom) using the 8900 ICP-QQQ in MS/MS mode with O₂ cell gas.

Resolve isobaric overlaps

How can ICP-QQQ, operating at a nominal resolution of 1 amu, provide superior resolution to sector-field high-resolution (HR) ICP-MS? The answer lies in the selectivity of reaction chemistry with MS/MS. By choosing a cell gas that reacts with one element and not another, ICP-QQQ can use MS/MS to separate directly overlapping isobars. Isobars are isotopes of different elements that occur at the same mass, for example ²⁰⁴Hg on ²⁰⁴Pb. Separating such isobars would require mass resolution (M/ΔM) far beyond the capability of commercial HR-ICP-MS.

There are several applications in geochemistry, geochronology, and nuclear science where isobaric overlaps make accurate analysis difficult. Examples include the accurate determination of ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratios, Pb/Pb and Pb/U dating, and Rb-Sr ratio analysis.

The spectrum, following, shows Hf measured as the product ions Hf(NH₃)₃⁺ using the Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ. MS/MS allows accurate ¹⁷⁶/¹⁷⁷Hf isotope ratios to be measured in the presence of Lu, Yb, and other matrix elements that might overlap at m/z 176.
Accurate analysis of sulfur and sulfur isotope ratios using MS/MS

Using O₂ cell gas, S can be measured as the product ion SO⁺ at m/z 48 (for the major ³²S isotope), 49, and 50. Measurement of multiple isotopes allows S isotope ratio analysis and accurate quantification using isotope dilution (ID). The 8900 ICP-QQQ with MS/MS is essential for this application, as carbon, calcium and titanium can cause interference when the SO⁺ product ions are measured without MS/MS, as illustrated, following.

Nanoparticle (NP) characterization using single particle/cell ICP-MS (sp/scICP-MS)

The 8900 ICP-QQQ supports fast time resolved analysis (TRA) with a minimum dwell time of 0.1 ms. High speed is combined with effective interference removal, extending existing ICP-MS NP analysis to include particles composed of elements such as Si, S, Fe, and Ti. These nanoparticles are difficult to measure using quadrupole ICP-MS.

The example, following, shows that 50 nm SiO₂ NPs can easily be distinguished from the signal in the blank DI water (A). This capability allows the frequency distribution to be plotted (B) and the particle size to be determined accurately (C).

Without MS/MS, Ca (in green), Ti (in pink), and C (in blue) cause severe overlaps on the SO⁺ product ions.

With MS/MS, Q1 rejects the Ca⁺, Ti⁺ and C⁺ ions, so the SO⁺ product ions are measured accurately and consistently, free from overlap.
Leave Interferences Behind With MS/MS

Ultra High Matrix Introduction (UHMI)
UHMI increases matrix tolerance up to 25% total dissolved solids (TDS). UHMI is standard on the 8900 Standard and Advanced Applications configurations, ensuring high matrix samples can be measured routinely, and eliminating matrix suppression.

Sample Introduction
Low-flow, Peltier-cooled sample introduction system provides stability and consistency. Optional Integrated Sample Introduction System (ISIS 3) adds a piston pump and close-coupled 7-port valve for high-speed discrete sampling.

Gas Control
Four channel argon mass flow control for plasma gases. Advanced and Semiconductor configurations include 5th (option) gas controller and low Si/S argon flow path.

27 MHz Plasma RF Generator
The fast, frequency-matching RF generator offers the highest power transfer efficiency, tolerating changing sample matrices including volatile organic solvents.

Plasma and Shield Torch System (STS)
Provides high energy for effective matrix decomposition, and precise ion energy control for efficient interference removal in helium mode. Torch auto-aligns following routine maintenance.

Interface Cones
Ni or Pt-tipped cones deliver exceptional matrix tolerance and high sensitivity. Screw-threaded for easy removal during routine maintenance.

Ion Lens
The dual extraction lens and off-axis omega lens provide high ion transmission and matrix tolerance in a single optimized interface. The ion lens is located outside the high vacuum region, making it easy to access for routine maintenance.

Some items shown are optional at additional cost. Contact your Agilent Representative for further details.
First Quadrupole (Q1)
High frequency, hyperbolic quadrupole. In MS/MS, Q1 rejects all masses except the target analyte mass, controlling reaction chemistry in the cell.

4th-Generation Octopole Reaction System (ORS4)
Temperature-controlled collision/reaction cell with a 4-channel gas controller for flexibility in cell gas methods. Operates in helium (He) mode and also provides effective, consistent control of interferences in reaction mode with MS/MS. Axial acceleration (Advanced Applications and Semiconductor configurations) enhances sensitivity and controls creation of high-order product ions.

Electron Multiplier Detector
Dual-mode, discrete dynode electron multiplier provides up to 11 orders dynamic range. Short (0.1 ms) minimum dwell time supports fast-transient signal analysis (optimal for Cap-LC, GC, single nanoparticles (sNP), and laser ablation).

Second Quadrupole (Q2)
The second high-frequency hyperbolic quadrupole filters the ions that emerge from the cell exit, passing only the target analyte ions/product ions to the detector.

Vacuum System
High-performance 4-stage pumping system with one split-flow turbo pump, a second turbo pump, and a single external rotary pump. The enhanced vacuum performance contributes to the very high sensitivity and low background of the 8900 ICP-QQQ, while ensuring that Q1 achieves the 1 u resolution capability needed for MS/MS.

The term “triple quadrupole” (or QQQ) is defined by IUPAC as a “Tandem mass spectrometer comprising two transmission quadrupole mass spectrometers in series, with a (nonselecting) RF-only quadrupole (or other multipole) between them to act as a collision cell.” IUPAC 2013 Recommendations, Term 538.
ICP-MS MassHunter software uses intuitive toolbar Gadgets, making it easy to learn and use:

- The hardware pane provides a comprehensive view of configuration, status, performance reports, early maintenance feedback, and system diagnostics.

- The batch pane brings together tune settings, acquisition/data analysis parameters, and sample list, so that all experimental details are accessed through a single convenient interface. IntelliQuant Assistant preselects preferred cell modes for even simpler method setup.

- The queue pane displays current and scheduled tasks, current batch sequence, and a real-time acquisition monitor for the current sample.

- The data analysis pane provides real-time updates of the data batch table during sequencing. The data table is interactive, displaying the currently selected sample spectrum or chromatogram, internal standard recoveries, and calibration plots.

- Customizable outlier flags are included, together with LabQC charts, functionality for spike recoveries, and method-specific performance reports.

Preset methods and automation

Many common applications can be setup with a few mouse-clicks, using ICP-MS MassHunter’s predefined preset methods and report templates. For new methods, the Method Wizard builds an optimized method based on your sample type and application. Routine batch analysis is easier than ever using the optional ICP Go simplified user interface.

ICP-MS MassHunter software handles automated startup checks following plasma ignition, through method setup and sequencing, to integrated data processing and final report generation. MassHunter ensures that your Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ performs superbly, whatever the analytical needs.

ICP-MS MassHunter software compatibility

For regulated industries such as pharmaceutical manufacturing, ICP-MS MassHunter software can be integrated with Agilent OpenLab Server, ECM or SDA. This combination provides data security, integrity, and traceability solutions from single workstation to global enterprise level.

ICP-MS MassHunter is also compatible with Agilent’s Mass Profiler Professional (MPP), which provides tools for detailed statistical evaluation of ICP-MS data sets.

MassHunter software is used across Agilent MS platforms, simplifying cross training for Agilent quadrupole ICP-MS, ICP-QQQ, LC/MS and GC/MS products.
Extend Your Nanoparticle or Single Cell Analysis

Preset methods for nanoparticle and single cell analysis

ICP-MS MassHunter’s optional Single Nanoparticle (NP) Application Module includes preset methods for both single particle analysis (spICP-MS) and nanoparticle analysis using field-flow fractionation (FFF-ICP-MS). Measurement of the metal content of single cells (scICP-MS) is also supported.

The spICP-MS Method Wizard (illustrated, following) can automatically calculate and update the important analytical variables. It does this, based on a few user-entered parameters and the measurement of certain sample types specific to spICP-MS analysis.

The method includes an integrated tool to calculate the nebulization efficiency. This value is required to calculate the particle number and to convert the measured signals to particle sizes.

Integrated NP data analysis

The optional Single Nanoparticle Application Module provides comprehensive data analysis tools for processing NP or single cell signals.

Calculations are included for both peak integration mode (where short integration times are used and multiple measurements are made across each particle signal “plume”), and single scan mode (where the integration time is longer than the duration of the particle signal).

A proprietary algorithm ensures that small particles can be reliably discriminated from the background signal.

Calculation of the Background Equivalent Diameter is performed automatically, giving an estimate of the minimum detectable particle size capability of the method.

The module includes a Rapid Multi-Element NP Analysis mode, allowing multiple analytes to be determined in a population of NPs from a single sample acquisition.
Proven Speciation Capability

**Integrated speciation with ICP-QQQ**

Environmental, food safety, pharmaceutical, and consumer product regulations increasingly require the identification and quantification of elemental species as well as total concentrations. Agilent offers the most comprehensive range of integrated speciation systems and methods for ICP-QQQ, including LC, GC, CE, IC, FFF, and more. Petrochemical applications require the superior sensitivity and interference control of the Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ to meet ever lower detection limit requirements for a wider range of analytes. Life science bio-analysis benefits from accurate quantitative analysis of elements such as S, P, and Cl, which are difficult to measure using conventional quadrupole ICP-MS.

**Preconfigured LC-ICP-MS kits**

LC/IC is by far the most common separation technique coupled to ICP-MS, and Agilent can offer a range of preconfigured kits for Capillary and nanoflow LC-ICP-MS as well as conventional HPLC/IC-ICP-MS. With high sensitivity and reliable control of interferences, the Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ is the ideal solution for advanced LC/IC-ICP-MS applications.

**Fully heated GC interface**

Agilent's unique GC-ICP-MS interface is heated to the tip of the injector (up to 300 °C) for routine analysis of high-boiling point compounds. The flexible transfer line and torch injector are inert (Sulfinert® lined). The inertness is necessary for advanced GC-ICP-MS applications, such as the measurement of siloxanes, brominated flame retardants, and sulfur species in fuels.

**Chromatographic data analysis**

Equally at home with LC or GC peaks, the Agile2 integrator provides parameter-less integration for accurate and consistent peak detection, without requiring the operator to manually enter integration parameters.
Options and Accessories

**SPS 4 Autosampler**
A great choice for medium- and high-throughput applications, with rack configurations providing up to 360 vial positions. Integrated cover protects samples from dust and airborne contamination.

**Agilent I-AS Autosampler with pumped rinse station**
Ideal for ultratrace analysis and small sample volumes (0.5 mL). Flexible rack configurations offer a maximum capacity of 89 vials, plus 3 rinse vials.

**Agilent Integrated Sample Introduction System (ISIS 3)**
High-speed uptake pump, and close-coupled 7-port switching valve provide throughput of more than 1 sample per minute with discrete sampling.

**Integrated software for setup and control of third-party accessories**
Agilent's software developer’s kit (SDK) for ICP-MS MassHunter allows third-party accessory suppliers to embed their product drivers into ICP-MS MassHunter workflows. This integration delivers an integrated method setup and run control interface that works seamlessly from the MassHunter workstation PC. SDK plug-ins extend the scope of the ICP-MS operation by adding the capabilities of a third-party accessory.

**Optional accessories support a range of configurations and applications**

- **Nebulizer options** include low-flow, concentric, inert (HF resistant), and parallel path; a range of alternatives to suit your unique sample types and volumes.

- **Inert sample introduction kit** is O-ring free, and manufactured from PFA for low contamination levels. HF resistant and suitable for high-purity reagents.

- **Organics kit** contains the sample introduction parts you need to run most organic solvents.

- **Laser ablation (LA-ICP-MS) Integrated software control** enables direct solid sample analysis for bulk and time resolved applications, including imaging applications requiring extended acquisition times (more than 24 hours).

- **Field Flow Fractionation (FFF)**. When coupled to the Agilent 8900 ICP-QQQ, Asymmetric Flow FFF (AF4) offers an ideal separation and detection approach for characterizing the nanoparticle content of a sample.

**Agilent parts and supplies**
Manufactured to stringent specifications to ensure top quality, and rigorously tested to maximize instrument performance.

For more information, see: [www.agilent.com/chem/icp-ms-supplies](http://www.agilent.com/chem/icp-ms-supplies)
Agilent CrossLab: Real insight, real outcomes

CrossLab goes beyond instrumentation to bring you services, consumables, and lab-wide resource management. So your lab can improve efficiency, optimize operations, increase instrument uptime, develop user skill, and more.

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community.agilent.com

U.S. and Canada
1-800-227-9770
agilent_inquiries@agilent.com

Europe
info_agilent@agilent.com

Asia Pacific
inquiry_lsca@agilent.com