



6530 LC/Q-TOF System

## User Guide



# Notices

## Document Identification

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## Software Revision

This guide is valid for MassHunter 12.2 or higher.

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## **In This Guide**

## In This Guide

### Additional Resources

This guide provides information on the Agilent 6530 LC/Q-TOF system running MassHunter Acquisition 12.2 or higher.

## Additional Resources

### User Documentation



Instrument documentation, step by step videos, and more can be found by scanning the code or navigating to <https://aglt.co/LCMSUserDocs>.



Data analysis and library management documentation can be found by scanning the code or navigating to <https://aglt.co/DALibMgmtDocs>.

### Agilent Q-TOF LC/MS Supplies



Make sure that you don't run out of essential columns and supplies. Use this quick reference list to keep your shelves stocked by navigating to <https://aglt.co/LCQTOFSupplies>.

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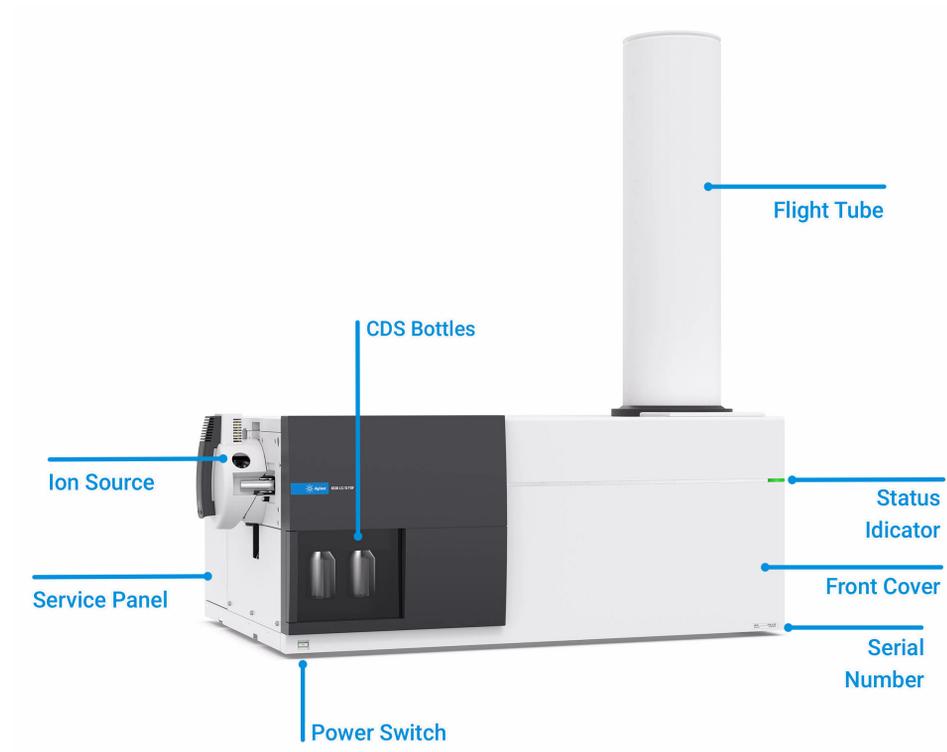
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## 6530 LC/Q-TOF

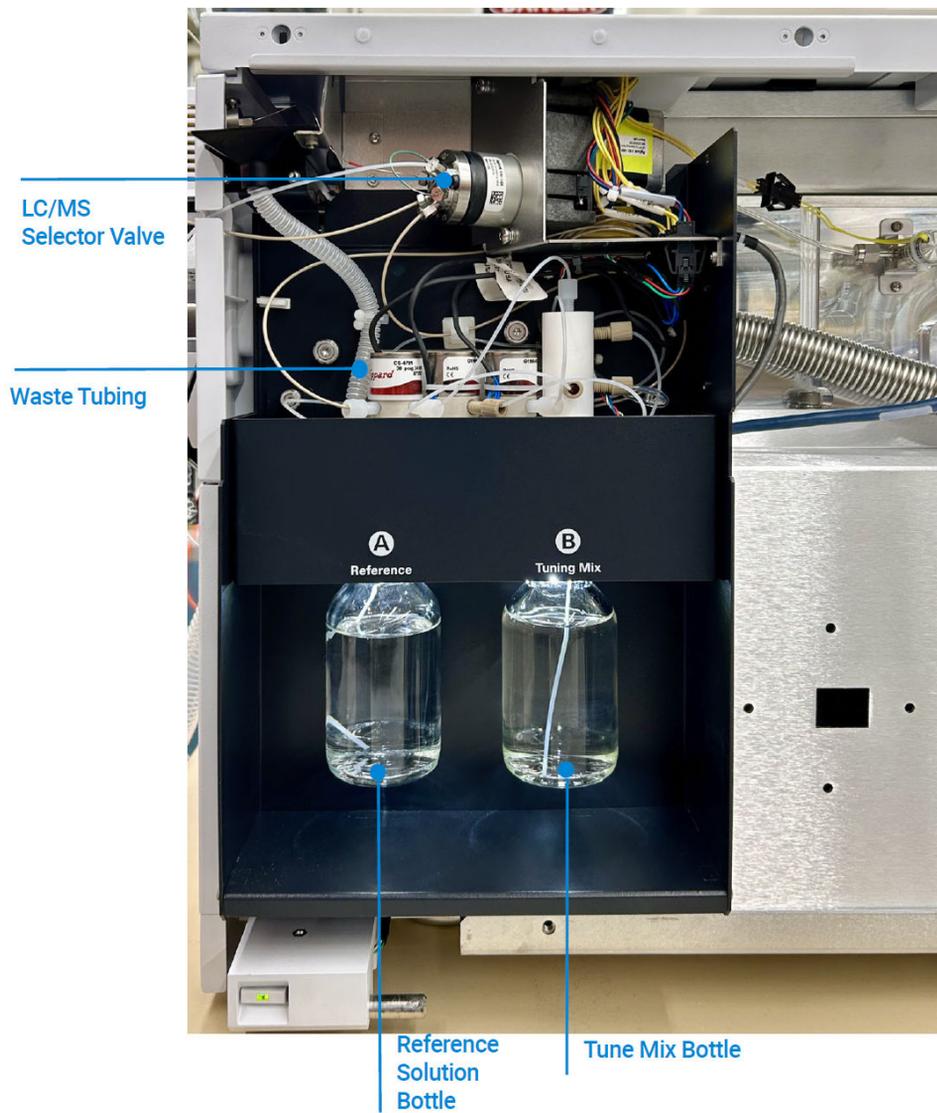
### Front view

Figure 1. Front view of 6530 LC/Q-TOF



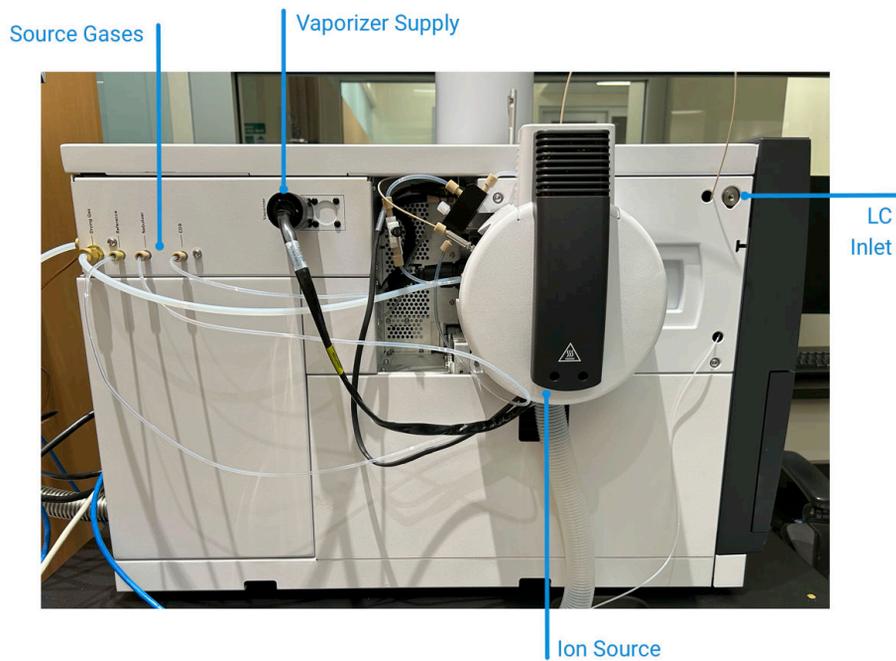
## Calibrant Delivery System

Figure 2. Calibrant delivery system



## Side view

**Figure 3. Side view of 6530 LC/Q-TOF**



## Back view

Figure 4. Back view of 6530 LC/Q-TOF



## Instrument Status Indicator Lights

**Table 1. Status Indicator Lights on Instrument**

	<p>Instrument State = BOOTING (FPGA Loaded)</p>		<p>Instrument State = ACQUISITION</p>
	<p>Status LED = Blinking Yellow</p>		<p>Status LED = Blinking Green</p>
	<p>Power Switch LED = Yellow</p>		<p>Power Switch LED = Green</p>
	<p>Instrument State = BOOTING (LINUX Loaded)</p>		<p>Instrument State = FAULT</p>
	<p>Status LED = Yellow</p>		<p>Status LED = Red</p>
	<p>Power Switch LED = Green</p>		<p>Power Switch LED = Green</p>
	<p>Instrument State = PUMPING DOWN</p>		<p>Instrument State = VENTING</p>
	<p>Status LED = Blinking Yellow</p>		<p>Status LED = Blinking Red</p>
	<p>Power Switch LED = Green</p>		<p>Power Switch LED = Yellow</p>
	<p>Instrument State = STANDBY</p>		<p>Instrument State = Vented</p>
	<p>Status LED = Yellow</p>		<p>Status LED = Red</p>
	<p>Power Switch LED = Green</p>		<p>Power Switch LED = Yellow</p>

## Hardware Overview

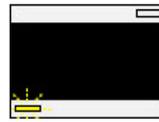
### Instrument Status Indicator Lights



Instrument State =  
IDLE

Status LED = Yellow

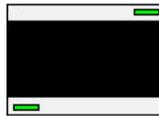
Power Switch LED =  
Green



Instrument State =  
POWERING DOWN

Status LED = Off

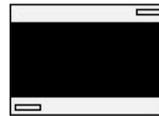
Power Switch LED =  
Blinking Yellow



Instrument State =  
BACKGROUND SCAN

Status LED = Green

Power Switch LED =  
Green



Instrument State =  
Off

Status LED = Off

Power Switch LED =  
Off

---

## Instrument Status Indicators in MassHunter Acquisition

In the MassHunter Acquisition software, the Instrument Status window indicates the state of the instrument.

■ Gray

- Offline: The instrument is configured with the system and available to use, but the AIC/workstation is not currently running. The amount of time for an instrument to reach the Idle state depends on each instrument.
- Disconnected: The connection to the instrument has been closed.

■ Yellow - Unknown: The device is in an unknown run state.

■ Light Orange - Not Ready: The instrument is connected but is not ready to run (due to not reaching the correct temperature or pressure required by the method, for example).

■ Green - Idle: The instrument is on and ready to process samples.

■ Teal - Standby: The instrument is in a standby/sleep state. Put the instrument in Standby mode when it is not in use or to change the ion source. When the instrument is in Standby mode:

- The source interface is on, the drying gas remains heated, and nebulizer flows are maintained.
- The source and ion optics voltages are turned off, and the mass spectrometer is not sending spectra to the computer.
- For APCI and multimode sources: Vaporizer gas heaters are turned down.
- For the Agilent Jet Stream (AJS) source: The sheath gas temperature, drying gas flow, and drying gas temperature are reduced.
- The spray chamber high voltages are turned off.
- The mass spectrometer stops generating spectra.

■ Magenta - Prerun/Injecting: The instrument is on and is preparing to start acquisition.

## Hardware Overview

### Instrument Status Indicators in MassHunter Acquisition

- Blue - Running, postrun: The instrument is currently collecting data.
- Orange - Tuning: The instrument is in the process of adjusting MS parameters.
- Red - Instrument Error: The instrument has an error and cannot process samples.

## Ion Sources

### Electrospray Ionization (Dual ESI) source

Electrospray relies in part on chemistry to generate analyte ions in solution before the analyte reaches the mass spectrometer. The LC eluent is sprayed (nebulized) into a chamber at atmospheric pressure in the presence of a strong electrostatic field and heated drying gas.

The electrostatic field causes further dissociation of the analyte molecules. The heated drying gas causes the solvent in the droplets to evaporate. As the droplets shrink, the charge concentration in the droplets increases. Eventually, the repulsive force between ions with like charges exceeds the cohesive forces and the ions are ejected (desorbed) into the gas phase. These ions are attracted to and pass through a capillary sampling orifice into the mass analyzer.

**Figure 5. ESI source with cover**

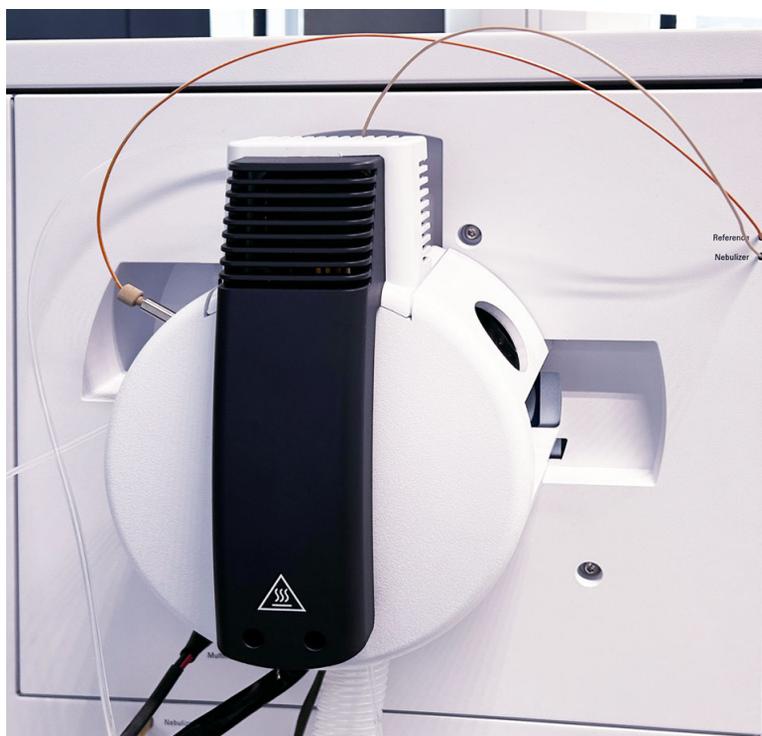


#### Agilent Jet Stream (Dual AJS ESI) source

The Agilent Jet Stream (Dual AJS ESI) source:

- Uses the same ionization technique as the ESI source.
- Uses thermal gradient focusing technology, which is a process in which super heated nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) is used to improve ion generation and desolvation.
- Improves sensitivity 5x or more for many small-molecule compounds that undergo electrospray ionization.

**Figure 6. Dual AJS ESI with cover**



## Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization (APCI) source

In Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization (APCI), the LC mobile phase is sprayed through a heated vaporizer (typically 250 to 400 °C) at atmospheric pressure. The heat vaporizes the liquid. The resulting gas-phase solvent molecules are ionized by electrons discharged from a corona needle.

The solvent ions then transfer charge to the analyte molecules through chemical reactions (chemical ionization). The analyte ions pass through a capillary sampling orifice into the mass analyzer. APCI is applicable to a wide range of polar and nonpolar molecules.

APCI rarely results in multiple charging, so APCI is typically used for molecules smaller than 1,500 u.

Because high temperatures are also involved, APCI is not appropriate for analysis of large biomolecules. APCI is used with normal-phase chromatography more often than electrospray is because the analytes are usually nonpolar.

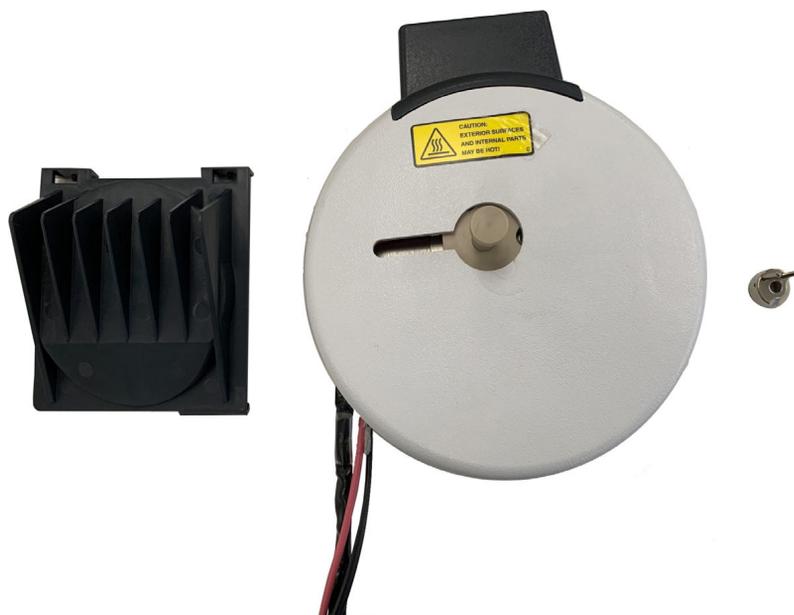
**Figure 7. APCI source with cover**



### Multimode Ionization (MMI) source

The Multimode source for LC/MS can simultaneously do ESI and APCI ionization. The Multimode source can operate in ESI mode only, in APCI mode only, or in mixed ESI/APCI mode. This technology significantly improves the speed, accuracy, and productivity of high-throughput screening in drug discovery and other research applications.

**Figure 8. MMI cover, ion source, and spray shield**



Simultaneous ESI and APCI capability and high LC flow rate compatibility (up to 2mL/min) means more compounds can be detected in less time with the Agilent Multimode source.



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## About Tuning

When the mass spectrometer (MS) is used as a detector for a liquid chromatograph, a mass spectrum is associated with each data point in the chromatogram. To obtain high quality, accurate mass spectra, the MS must be optimized to:

- Maximize sensitivity
- Maintain an acceptable resolution
- Ensure accurate mass assignments.

Tuning is the process of adjusting MS parameters to achieve these goals.

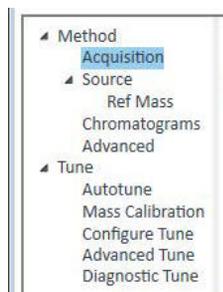
Tuning is primarily concerned with finding the correct settings for the parameters that control the transmission, filtering, and detection of ions. The Q-TOF/TOF Tune section within MassHunter Acquisition allows the tuning and mass calibration of the instrument. It includes the following general information and settings, plus tabs for setting extra parameters and performing various actions such as autotuning and manual tuning.

Tuning is accomplished by introducing a calibrant into the LC/MS and generating ions. Using these ions, the tune parameters are then adjusted to achieve sensitivity, resolution, and mass assignment goals. With a few exceptions, the parameters that control ion formation are not adjusted. They are set to fixed values known to be good for generating ions from the calibrant solution.

## Tuning

### About Tuning

There are several different types of tunes (autotune, mass calibration/checktune, advanced, and diagnostic) that can be performed on the instrument. All tunes except for the diagnostic tune can be scheduled to maximize instrument uptime.



With MassHunter Acquisition 12.2 and higher for LC/(Q-)TOF software, the access to different tune functionalities is controlled via roles and privileges set in the Control Panel application.

## Roles

MassHunter Control Panel provides multiple roles available in the configuration when Authentication is enabled. Roles are collections of privileges that can be assigned to users or groups. Create a new role or use roles available in your system. The Control Panel includes the following roles:

- Everything
- System Administrator
- Instrument Administrator
- Project Administrator
- Instrument User

Additional roles are available depending on your MassHunter configuration.

The roles are described in the Control Panel on the Roles page.

Name	Description
Everything	All privileges
System Administrator	Manage users and security settings
Instrument Administrator	Manage instruments and locations
Project Administrator	Manage projects and project groups
Project Content Deletion	Delete content from projects
Instrument User	View and run instruments
Lab Manager	Lab Manager Role for MassHunter Workstation
Scientist	Scientist Role for MassHunter Workstation
Analyst	Analyst Role for MassHunter Workstation
Operator	Operator Role for MassHunter Workstation
Reviewer	Reviewer Role for MassHunter Workstation
Activity Log Access	Activity Log access privileges

Current user: admin (admin)

**NOTE**

Only the Everything role has access to all roles and privileges. By default, only the Lab Manager role has the privilege to configure tunes. Other roles do not have access to this configuration and are only able to perform tunes from a predefined list configured by the Lab Manager. See MassHunter Control Panel help for more information on authentication, roles, and privileges.

## Configure Tune

Accessible only to the Lab Manager or Everything role, configure tune is used to select from a broad range of tunes to make them available to other roles.

1. In MassHunter Acquisition, click **Method Editor** in the Windows section of the Ribbon to display the Method Editor window.
2. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
3. Click **Tune > Configure Tune** in the left pane. A list of instrument modes and tunes is displayed.
4. Click  **Tune control**. This button locks control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument and changes the status of the instrument to Tune, as shown in [Figure 9](#). A single sample run or a worklist cannot be started when Tune has control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument.

**Figure 9. Tune Status**



When clicked, tune setpoints are applied. If an action is not selected within the timeout period of three minutes, the system will go back to the method setpoints.

- Toggle the **Selected** switch to select specific instrument modes and tunes.

Binary Pump Column Comp MS Q-TOF

### Configure Tune

Select instrument modes to show in Tune and Method windows

Tune control Auto slicer index Restore default descriptions

Selected	Polarity	Instrument mode	Slicer	Spectrum mode	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	+/-	Q-TOF system tune	Resolution	High Res.	This mode is added to autotune by default (3200 Stable). This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 3,200, where mass resolution is most critical. A popular choice for Peptide mapping, Intact/subunit proteins, Oligos and Glycan analysis.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	3200 fragile	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 3,200. The settings are optimized for transmission of labile large molecules, for example released Glycans.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	+/-	1700 stable	Sensitivity	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 1,700. This mode is an excellent choice when sensitivity is critical. A popular choice for Host Cell Protein (HCP) analysis.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	1700 fragile	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 1700. The settings are optimized for transmission of labile small molecules.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	750 stable	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 750, while acquiring data up to 1700 m/z. A popular choice for Metabolomics applications and DMPK studies. This mode is an excellent choice when sensitivity is critical.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	750 fragile	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 750, while acquiring data up to 1700 m/z. A popular choice for Metabolomics applications, DMPK studies and other labile molecules. The settings are optimized for transmission of labile small molecules.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	250 stable	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 250, while acquiring data up to 1700 m/z.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	250 fragile	Resolution	High Res.	This mode will tune the intensity up to m/z 250, while acquiring data up to 1700 m/z. The settings are optimized for transmission of labile small molecules. A popular choice for Metabolomics applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	High mass stable	Resolution		This mode will tune the intensity for large molecule analysis and has an m/z range of up to 30,000. This mode is an excellent choice when resolution is critical.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+/-	High mass large molecule	Resolution		This mode will tune the intensity for large molecule analysis and has an m/z range of up to 30,000. This mode is an excellent choice when sensitivity is critical and is popular choice for BioPharma applications including Intact Protein analysis.

Select manual instrument modes to show in Tune and Method windows + Add manual tune

- Click the **+/-** button to select specific Polarity for the Instrument mode. There are three states to choose from, **+**, **-**, and **+/-**.
- Click the Slicer drop-down to select a mode. The Slicer controls the optics aperture, either narrow for resolution or wide for sensitivity.
- (Optional) Double-click in the **Description** field to modify the default description of the predefined instrument modes.

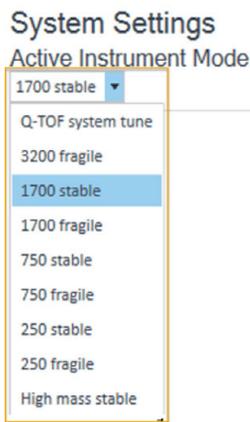
#### NOTE

The Q-TOF system tune is always selected as this tune uses the default values as the starting point and has all the elements involved in mass resolution tuning included.

## Tuning

### About Tuning

- Select the System Settings Active Instrument Mode drop-down list to view the changes.



- Click  **Tune control** to release control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument. Settings are selected using instrument mode and polarity; select positive, negative, or both. All tunes have a combined TOF tune and Quad tune included, ensuring that the right quadrupole settings are used based on the TOF tuning parameters. In addition to these predefined instrument modes/tunes, the lab manager role allows the creation of up to 4 manual tunes that are made visible to operator and lab technician, if needed.



## Calibration and Tuning Options

The mass calibration process is performed by infusing a solution with known masses into the source and measuring the actual flight times for ions of the masses. For optimum performance, run a mass calibration before analysis each day. Run mass calibration after changing any high-voltage parameters in manual tuning or changing the mass range. See [“Mass Calibration”](#).

A checktune is used to determine if the tuning mix ion masses are properly assigned and if the response or sensitivity of these ions is within expectations. The checktune also ensures that the quadrupole filtering is within the set tolerances. In other words, a checktune verifies peak width and mass axis to make sure they are correct before starting an acquisition. The checktune concludes with a mass calibration (TOF). See [“Checktune”](#).

Perform an autotune on monthly intervals to ensure that TOF resolution and sensitivity are optimized. Everything is automatic since the tuning mix is delivered by the calibrant delivery system, which is switched on automatically during the tune. See [“Autotune”](#).

Use [Table 2](#) to select the correct tuning mix for the source installed.

**Table 2. Tuning Mixes**

Source	Tuning mix	Part Number
ESI/AJS	ESI-X Tuning Mix	5191-6449
APCI	APCI-L Low Concentration Tuning Mix	G1969-85010

## Dilute the Agilent Tuning Mix

### Introduction

Depending on LCMS system model, ion source, and tune type, the tuning mix may need to be diluted before use. The goal of diluting the tuning mix is to produce peaks in an abundance range optimal for the automatic tuning algorithms. Negative polarity may require a different dilution recipe because many of the tuning mix ions tend to be more abundant in negative polarity.

ESI-L Low Concentration Tuning Mix typically requires the addition of HP-0321 from the Biopolymer Reference Mass Kit (G1969-85003). ESI-X Tuning Mix is identical to ESI-L except the HP-0321 calibrant has been added at a low concentration.

### Dilution Instructions

Before you begin, gather the following materials:

- G1969-85000 ESI-L Low Concentration Tuning Mix
- G1969-85003 Biopolymer Reference Mass Kit, which contains the HP-0321 solution (for Dual AJS ESI)
- G1969-85020 MMI-L Low Concentration Tuning Mix (for Multimode source)
- G1969-85010 APCI-L Low Concentration Tuning Mix (for APCI source)
- G2432A APCI/APPI Tuning Mix (for APPI source)
- HPLC-grade acetonitrile (must be suitable for HPLC, spectrophotometry, and pesticide residue analysis)
- Water, 18 M $\Omega$ -cm resistivity or better and free of organics
- Glass CDS bottle (p/n 9300-2576) and cap (p/n 9300-2575)

Guidelines:

- The materials shipped with the instrument are of sufficient purity for this purpose.
- In the final tune report, make sure all abundances listed in the report are between 50,000 and 650,000 counts for proper correction of the mass.

## Tuning

### Calibration and Tuning Options

- Dilute tune mix when there is an error message that instructs you to, or when the tune report shows calibration abundances greater than 750,000 counts. Dilution of the tuning mix up to 200-fold is sometimes needed for instruments with exceptional sensitivity. Be careful when diluting at amounts greater than 50-fold because contamination and sodium trifluoroacetate adducts can become problematic at higher dilutions.
- The amount of water added affects the response of 118 m/z, with higher amounts yielding a greater response and vice versa. Up to 5% (v/v) of water can be added. Do not add more water than that because some components of the tuning mix can precipitate under these conditions.
- If tune mass abundances are less than 10,000 counts, the tuning mix is overdiluted. Dilutions at this level can result in poor mass accuracies.
- Adding the components in the order listed helps avoid precipitation of any components of the tuning mix.
- Store the tuning mix in the refrigerator when it is not being used for extended periods of time.

Instructions:

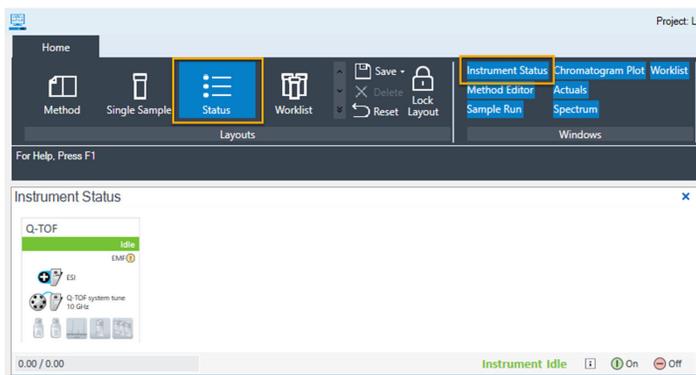
- To make dilutions add components in the tables below, in the order listed, to a clean glass CDS bottle, then mix the contents thoroughly and install the bottle on the instrument. The recipes below will make 100 mL of diluted tuning mix.

### Dilution guidance for the 6530 LC/Q-TOF

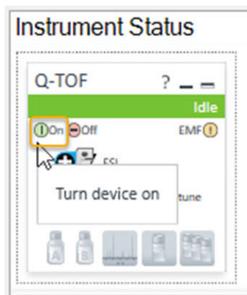
6530 LC/Q-TOF with AJS ESI or Dual AJS ESI Source	Positive Mode	Negative Mode
Undiluted ESI-L Tuning Mix	10 mL ESI-L	2.5 mL ESI-L
Acetonitrile	85.5 mL	95.6 mL
Water	4.5 mL	1.9 mL
0.1 mM HP-0321 (included in the Biopolymer Reference Mass Kit)	3 µL	N/A

## Starting the Instrument

1. Follow the procedures in “[Starting Up and Shutting Down the Instrument](#)” to begin operation of the instrument.
2. If the Instrument Status window is not visible in the MassHunter Acquisition software:
  - Open the Status layout.
  - On the ribbon, click **Instrument Status** in the **Windows** section.



3. Hover over the Q-TOF device pane and click **On**.



4. Monitor baseline and adjust the plot if necessary. See “[Monitoring baseline and adjusting plot](#)”.

## Mass Calibration

Mass Calibration performs a TOF mass calibration on the Active Instrument Mode, which is displayed in the Systems Settings panel. It assigns masses based on known masses of standard compounds. Agilent recommends running mass calibration daily or weekly, at a minimum for optimal precision and accuracy. During normal operation, mass calibration lasts approximately 5 minutes.

### NOTE

Only the active instrument mode can be calibrated.

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Mass Calibration** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.
4. Select **Mass Calibration**.



5. Click  **Mass calibration/Checktune**. When the tune completes, review the report.
6. Click  **Tune control** to release control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument.

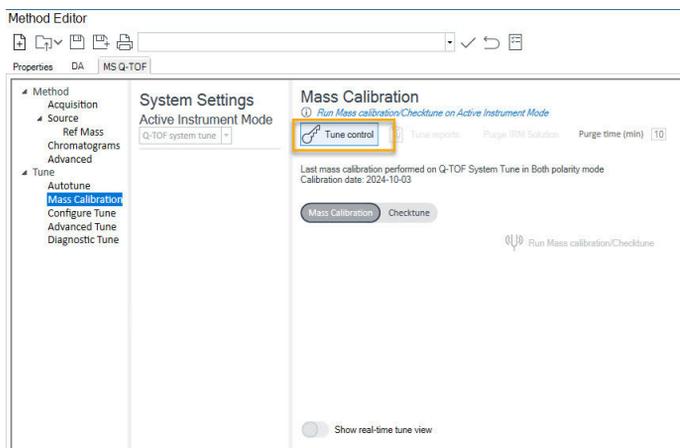
## Checktune

A checktune is used to determine whether the instrument is correctly tuned by applying the current tune parameters to the source, quadrupole, and detector to confirm the signal intensity and resolution is within expectation. A checktune can be run with the following ion sources: ESI, AJS ESI, and APCI.

### NOTE

Only the active instrument mode can be calibrated.

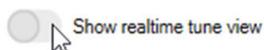
1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Mass Calibration** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.



4. Select **Checktune**.



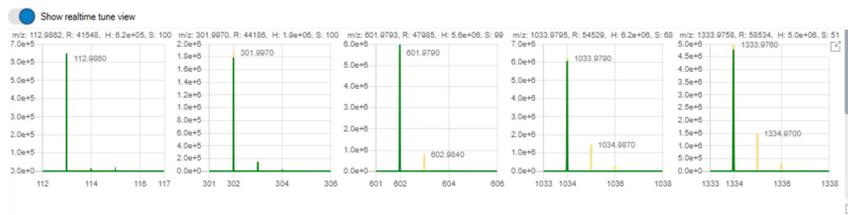
5. Activate **Show realtime tune view** to view the real time data acquisition.



## Tuning

### Calibration and Tuning Options

- Click  **Run Mass calibration/Checktune** . View the progress of the tune in the Real Time tune results.

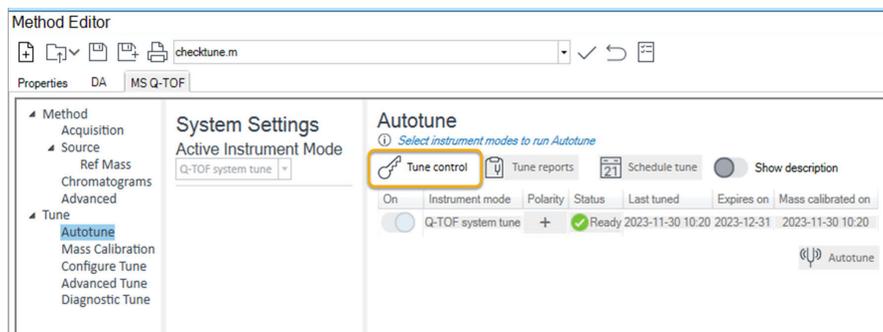


- When the tune completes, review the report.
- Click  **Tune control** to release control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument.

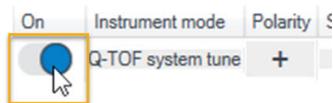
## Autotune

Autotune is an automated tuning program that adjusts the MS for good performance over the entire mass range. An autotune can be run with the following ion sources: ESI, AJS ESI, and APCI.

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Autotune** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.



4. Activate one or more specific tunes using the switch to select. More than one tune can be selected.

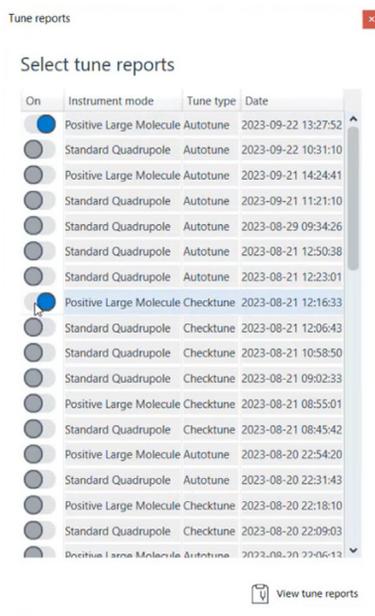


5. (Optional) Activate **Show realtime tune view** to view the real time data acquisition.
6. Click  **Autotune**.
7. When the tune completes, review the report.
8. Click  **Tune control** to release control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument.

## Generating a Detailed Tune Report

Generate a detailed tune report after running an autotune or checktune.

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Autotune** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.
4. Click  **Tune Reports**. If this button is not available, run either a checktune or an autotune first.
5. Use the toggles to select reports for viewing.



6. Click  **Tune Reports** to generate PDFs for viewing in a PDF viewer.
7. Click  **Tune control** to release control of the LC/Q-TOF instrument.

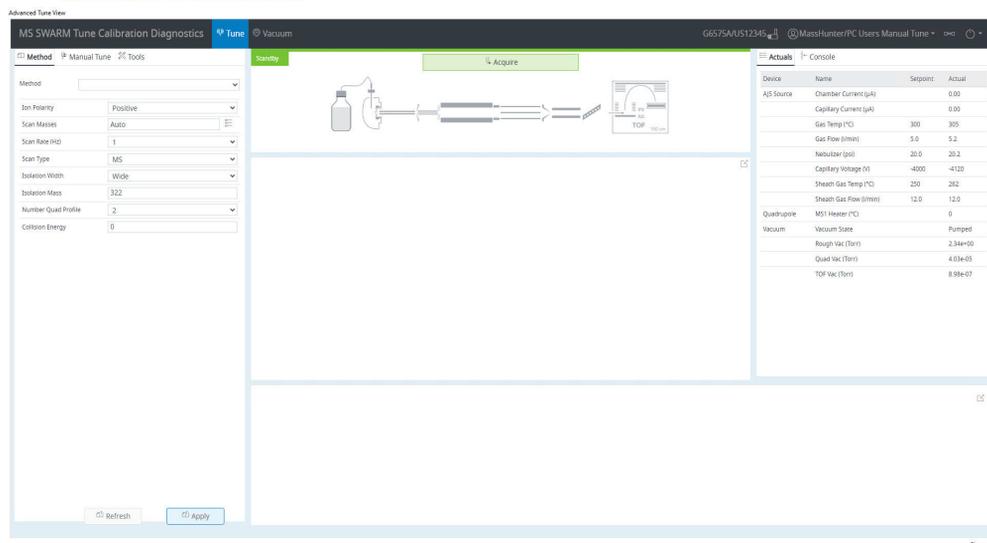
## Advanced Tune

In the Advanced Tune section, launch the advanced tune view to perform a manual tune.

### NOTE

This application can only be accessed with specified user privileges. Access to the Manual Tune privilege must be enabled in MassHunter Control Panel to access both Configure Tune and Advanced Tune. See the MassHunter Control Panel Help for more information on setting privileges.

1. In MassHunter Acquisition, in the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Advanced Tune** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.
4. Click  **Launch advanced tune view**. The Advanced Tune View opens.



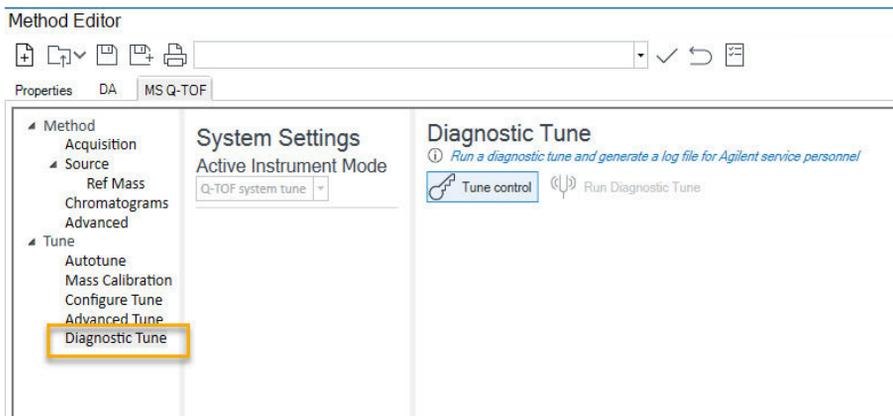
5. Click the **Tune** tab.
6. Click the **Manual Tune** tab.
7. Select a tune file and make changes.

8. Click  to **Save** the tune file.

## Diagnostic Tune

Diagnostic tunes should only be performed at the request of Agilent service personnel. During normal operation, a diagnostic tune will last approximately 3 hours and creates a log file.

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Diagnostic tune** in the left pane.



3. Click **Tune control** in the toolbar to lock control of the instrument.
4. Click **Run Diagnostic Tune** to start a diagnostic tune.  
The Progress bar and Tune status window displays the progress and status of the tune.

## Tuning

### Calibration and Tuning Options

- In MassHunter Control Panel, navigate to the **Control Panel > Administration > Diagnostics** page.

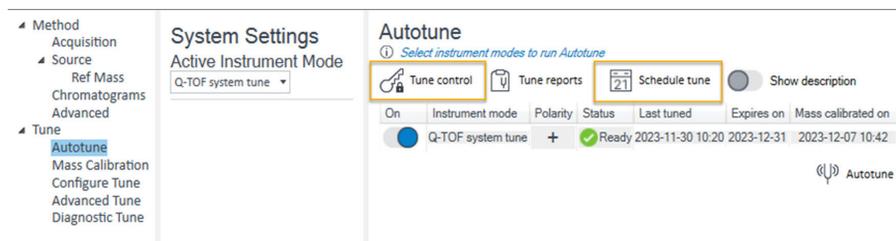
The file path for the log is **D:\MassHunter\Log\Acq\TCDBackup.zip**

The screenshot displays the MassHunter Control Panel interface. The top navigation bar includes icons for 'Show All Modules', 'Select All', 'Copy to Clipboard', 'Ping Server', 'Create Report', 'Service Mode', 'Create Report', 'Start Dashboard', 'Save Logs', 'Select All', 'Deselect All', and 'Local Log Files'. The left sidebar shows the 'Administration' menu with 'Diagnostics' highlighted. The main content area, titled 'Diagnostics', lists various log files with checkboxes. The file 'D:\MassHunter\Log\Acq\TCDBackup.zip' is highlighted in blue.

## Scheduling Tunes

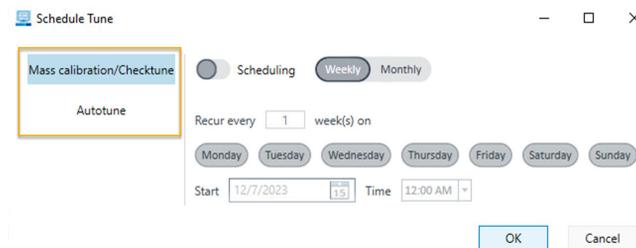
### Scheduling a Mass calibration or Checktune

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Autotune** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.
4. Click  **Schedule tune**.



The **Schedule Tune** dialog box opens.

5. Select **Mass calibration/Checktune** in the left pane. The right pane shows the information for scheduling a tune.

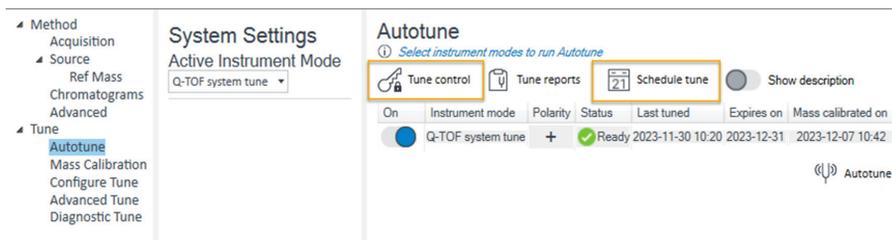


6. Click **Scheduling** to toggle on **Scheduling**.
7. Select either **Weekly** or **Monthly**.
8. Select other options to indicate how often to schedule the mass calibration or checktune.

9. Click **OK**.

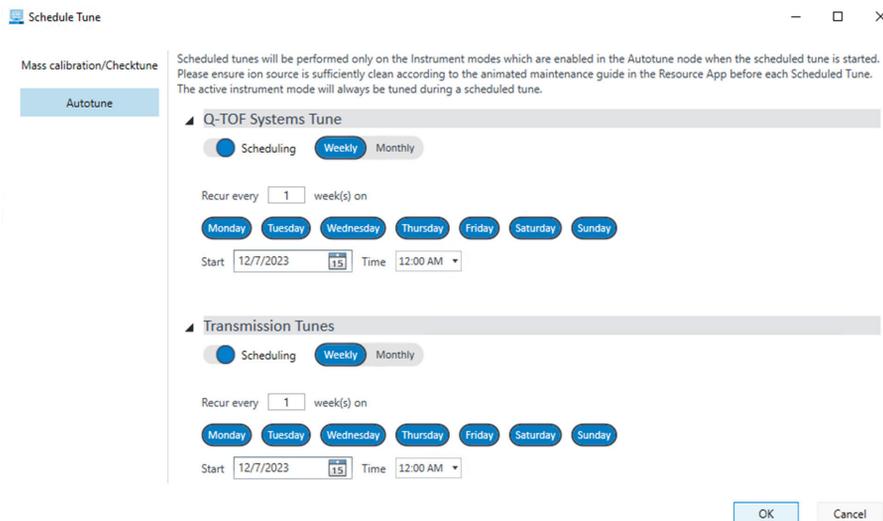
### Scheduling an Autotune

1. In the Method Editor window, click the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
2. Click **Tune > Autotune** in the left pane.
3. Click  **Tune control**.
4. Click  **Schedule tune**.



The **Schedule Tune** dialog box opens.

5. Select **Autotune** in the left pane.  
The right pane shows the information for scheduling a tune.



## Tuning

### Scheduling Tunes

6. Click **Scheduling** to toggle **Scheduling** on.
7. Select either **Weekly** or **Monthly**.
8. Select other options to indicate how often to schedule the Autotune or Transmission Tune.
9. Click **OK**.
10. Click  **Tune control** to release control of the Q-TOF instrument.

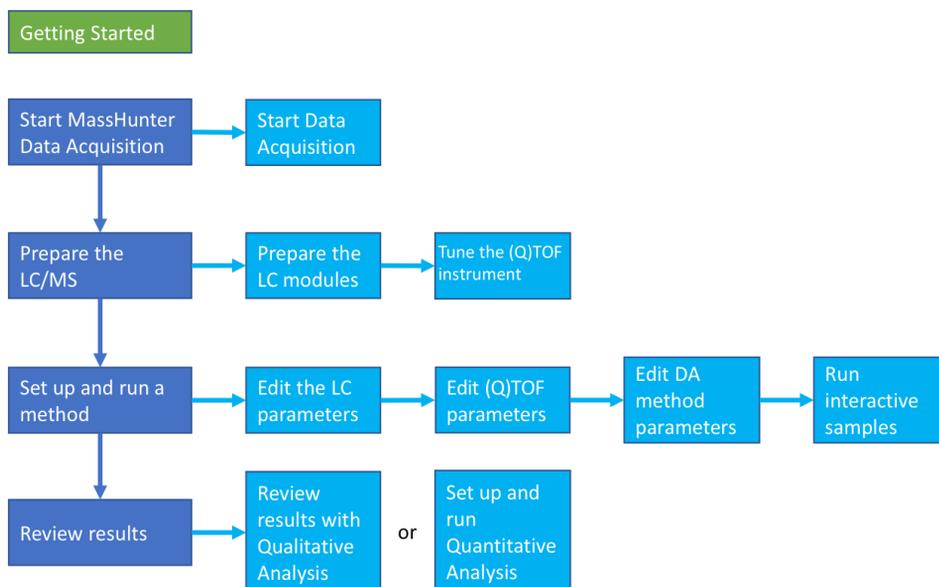


### 3 Basic Operation

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## Overview

The roadmap below shows the steps to set up and run a batch of samples from start to finish. Follow the instructions in this section to get started and review guiding information for each step.



## Starting Up and Shutting Down the Instrument

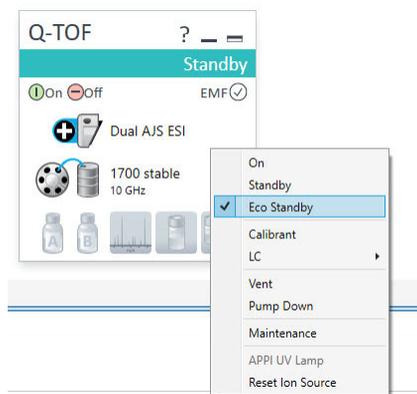
### Starting in Standby mode

1. Check that the nitrogen gas for the drying gas and for the collision cell are turned on.
2. Turn on the power for the computer and monitor.
3. Check that the instrument and rough pump are plugged into a power outlet.
4. Press the front power switch on the instrument.  
The vacuum system automatically starts to pump down the instrument, and the electronics are turned on. The system card boots up and the firmware starts.

### Eco Standby mode

Put the instrument in Eco Standby mode to reduce the consumption of nitrogen gas.

1. Right-click the **Q-TOF** device in the Instrument Status window.
2. Select **Eco Standby**.



The nitrogen flow in the source continues for 1 hour after Eco Standby is selected to cool the source elements to a safe temperature before turning off. The instrument state turns teal blue.

## Turning off the instrument

Before you turn off the instrument, complete any acquisition steps and save your data.

### CAUTION

**To prevent instrument damage, always vent the system before pressing the power button. Only the Lab Manager and Everything role has access to venting.**

### WARNING

**Do not touch the spray shield and related spray chamber components. They are likely to be hot.**

1. Turn off the solvent flow.  
If there is any analyte in any of the components in the sample delivery system, flush the delivery system with pure solvent before continuing.
2. In MassHunter Acquisition, right-click the instrument icon in the Instrument Status window and select **Vent** to vent the system.



3. Click **Yes**.

## Basic Operation

### Starting Up and Shutting Down the Instrument

When venting the system, the following occurs:

- The spray chamber high voltages, the drying gas heater, the nebulizer flow, the detector, and other lens voltages are turned off.
  - The drying gas flow is set to Standby.
  - If the APCI source is installed, the vaporizer heater is also turned off.
  - If the installed source is an Agilent Jet Stream source, the sheath gas heater is also turned off.
  - The Rough Pump turns off when the turbo speed is below 20 percent.
4. Wait until the instrument completely vents (ensure that the Rough Vacuum reads approximately 760 Torr).
  5. Manually close the foreline valve by twisting clockwise until hand tight.
  6. Close the MassHunter Acquisition software and shut down the computer.
  7. Press the power switch located in the lower left front corner of the instrument.



8. Unplug the main power cable behind the service panel. This action prevents the turbo pump components from overheating.

**WARNING**

When the LC/MS instrument is plugged into a power source, even if the power switch is off, dangerous voltages can exist:

- In the wiring between the LC/MS instrument power cord and the AC power supply.
- In the AC power supply
- In the wiring from the AC power supply to the power switch.

## Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

The instructions below include the following assumptions:

- The hardware and software are installed.
- The instrument is configured. For information on configuring the instrument, refer to the MassHunter Control Panel help.
- The LC modules and the LC/Q-TOF are turned on, but the LC pump is not running.

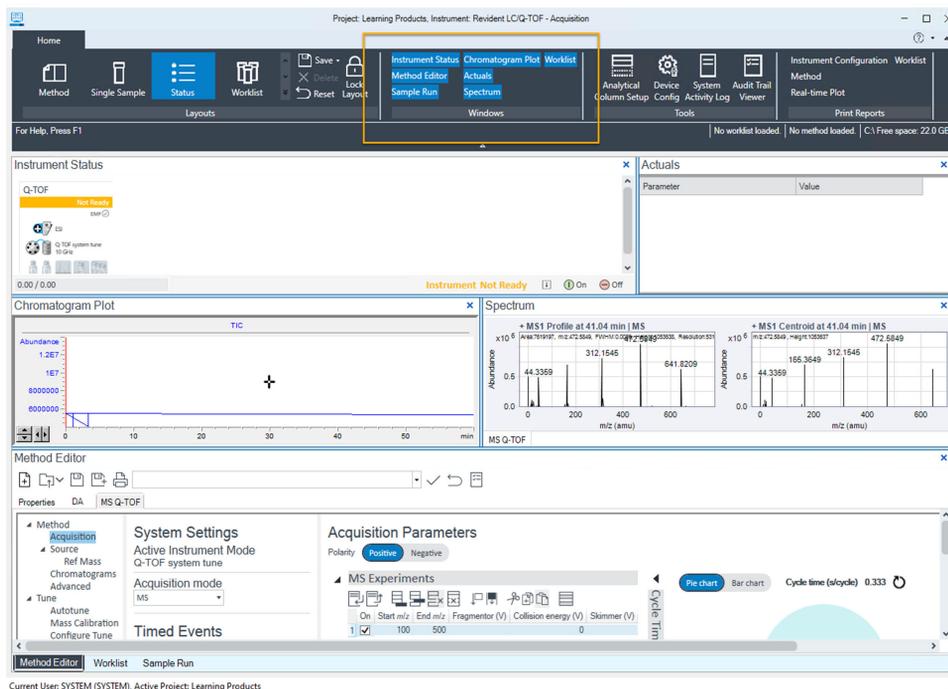
After installation, all the Agilent MassHunter Workstation Software icons appear on the desktop.

To start the MassHunter Acquisition software:

1. Double-click the **Control Panel** icon on your desktop, or select **Windows Start > Agilent Technologies > Control Panel**.
2. In Control Panel, select an instrument and click **Launch** to open the project in MassHunter Acquisition. For more information, refer to the MassHunter Control Panel help or the Introduction Workbook.

## MassHunter Acquisition Windows

When the MassHunter Acquisition software opens, the main window appears. These windows provide the tools to set up acquisition methods, run samples interactively or automatically, monitor instrument status, monitor runs, and tune the instrument.



## Showing and hiding the windows

- To show or hide a window, click the window name in the Windows group of the ribbon.
  - Hide a window by clicking the **X** icon in the upper right corner of the window.
- At least one window must be shown.
- To obtain help on the active window, click in a window and Press **F1**.

### NOTE

## Basic Operation

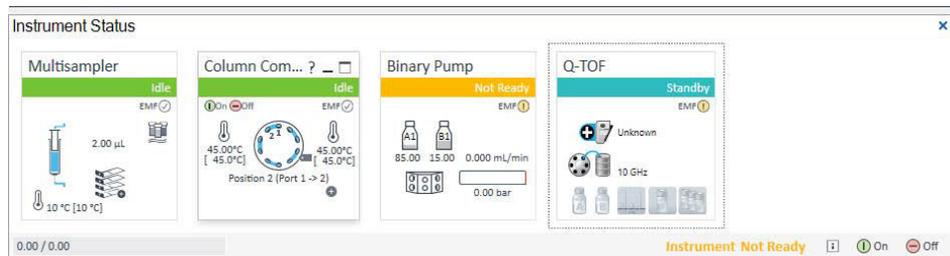
### Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

- To resize the window, drag a window border.
- To “float” the window outside of the main window, double-click the title of the window. Double-click the title bar again to “dock” the window.

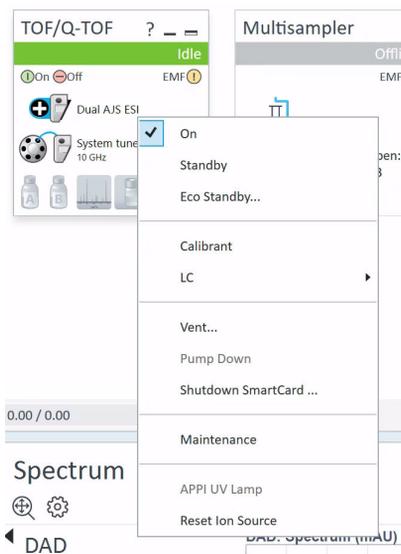
### Instrument Status window

The Instrument Status window displays the status of each device configured with the instrument: **Error**, **Not ready**, **Pre-run**, **Post run**, **Running**, **Injecting**, **Idle**, **Offline**, or **Standby**. This window is also used to set non-method control and configuration parameters for the LC devices and the MS instrument.

The status of each device is displayed as text and indicated by its color-coding. See “[Instrument Status Indicators in MassHunter Acquisition](#)”.



## Instrument Status shortcut menu (right-click)




---

On

- Drying gas flow, nebulizer pressure, and temperature zones to setpoints.
- No valve changes.

If successful, the instrument state icon turns green.

---

- 
- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Standby | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS source high voltages off (i.e., Capillary voltage, Octopole RF (V), or PMT)</li> <li>• TOF analyzer high voltages not changed</li> <li>• Drying gas heater temperature to 300°C (default) setpoint</li> <li>• Vaporizer gas temperature (for APCI and MMI sources) to 25°C</li> <li>• Nebulizer pressure to 15 psig (default) setpoint; If source is MALDI, or Nano ESI or HPLC-CHIP, the nebulizer pressure is 0 psig.</li> <li>• Drying gas flow to 3.5 L/min nitrogen</li> <li>• LC divert valve set to Waste</li> <li>• Calibrant set to None</li> <li>• APPI lamp is turned off</li> <li>• If an inlet assembly that uses the Agilent Jet Stream technology is installed, then             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheath gas flow set to 3.0 L/min</li> <li>• Sheath gas temperature set to 125 °C</li> <li>• Nozzle voltage set to 0 V</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|---------|---|

If successful, the instrument state icon turns teal blue.

---

#### NOTE

If the spray chamber is opened while the system is in the On or Standby states, the Drying Gas and Vaporizer temperature are set to zero (ambient). The stream selection, Nebulizer pressure and Drying Gas flow are unchanged.

If an inlet assembly that uses the Agilent Jet Stream technology is installed, then the Sheath Gas temperature is set to zero (ambient). The Nozzle voltage is set to 0 V and disabled. The Sheath Gas Flow is unchanged.

Temperatures return to their setpoints when the spray chamber is closed again.

---

Eco Standby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS source high voltages off (i.e., Capillary voltage, Octopole RF (V), or PMT)</li> <li>• TOF analyzer high voltages not changed</li> <li>• Source temperatures off</li> <li>• Nebulizer pressure off</li> <li>• Drying gas flow set to 3.5 L/min nitrogen</li> <li>• LC divert valve set to Waste</li> <li>• Calibrant set to None</li> <li>• APPI lamp is turned off</li> <li>• If an inlet assembly that uses the Agilent Jet Stream technology is installed, then:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheath gas flow set to 0.0 L/min</li> <li>• Sheath gas temperature off</li> <li>• Nozzle voltage set to 0 V</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-------------	---

---

**NOTE**

The nitrogen flow in the source continues for 1 hour after Eco Standby is selected to cool the source elements to a safe temperature before turning off. If successful, the instrument state icon turns teal blue.

**NOTE**

If the spray chamber is opened while the system is in the On or Standby states, the Drying Gas and Vaporizer temperature are set to zero (ambient). The stream selection, Nebulizer pressure and Drying Gas flow are unchanged.

If an inlet assembly that uses the Agilent Jet Stream technology is installed, then the Sheath Gas temperature is set to zero (ambient). The Nozzle voltage is set to 0 V and disabled. The Sheath Gas Flow is unchanged.

Temperatures return to their setpoints when the spray chamber is closed again.

---

Calibrant	Select to turn the calibrant on or off.
LC > MS	Changes the direction of the LC stream to the MS.
LC > Waste	Changes the direction of the LC stream to waste.

---

## Basic Operation

### Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

Vent	<p>Vents the MS to atmospheric pressure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The spray chamber high voltages, drying gas heater, nebulizer flow, detector, and other lens voltages are turned off.</li> <li>• The drying gas flow is set to Standby.</li> <li>• If the APCI source is installed, the vaporizer heater is also turned off.</li> <li>• If the AJS source is installed, the sheath gas heater is also turned off.</li> <li>• The rough pump turns off when the turbo speed is below 20 percent.</li> </ul>
Pump Down	<p>Pumps down the MS system to achieve high vacuum. When the pump down process finishes, the MS is in the Standby state. Monitor the vacuum status in the TOF/Q-TOF tab in the Instrument Status window and check the Rough Vac, Quad Vac, and TOF Vac values.</p>
Shutdown SmartCard	<p>Shuts down the SmartCard to prevent data loss.</p>
Maintenance	<p>Opens the Early Maintenance Feedback (EMF) dialog box in order to enable or disable some of the EMF counters.</p>
APPI UV Lamp	<p>Turns the UV lamp on or off in the APPI source</p>
Reset Ion Source	<p>Resets the source type to Unknown. This menu item is only included if the source does not have an i-button which allows automatic source recognition. Some older sources cannot be distinguished from one another and the source is reported as Unknown. In the past, if the source was set to the wrong type, it was necessary to open the spray chamber to reset the source to Unknown before changing the source.</p> <p>To set the source type for sources that do not have an i-button, select the source connected to the instrument in the TOF-Q-TOF method editor and select apply method.</p>

## Basic Operation

### Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

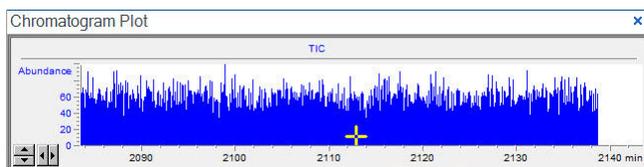
#### Actuals window

This window displays the current value of selected instrument parameters. See “Set up to view real-time parameter values (actuals)” for more information.

Actuals	
Parameter	Value
MS Q-TOF: Run State	Idle
MS Q-TOF: TOF Vac	3.20E-07 Torr
MS Q-TOF: Drying Gas	.6 l/min
MS Q-TOF: Gas Temp	0 °C
MS Q-TOF: Not Ready Text Long	Not Ready
MS Q-TOF: Run Time	0 min
MS Q-TOF: Error State	No error
MS Q-TOF: Rough Vac	2.31E+00 Torr
MS Q-TOF: Quad Vac	3.89E-05 Torr
MS Q-TOF: LC Stream Valve	To Waste
MS Q-TOF: Ion Polarity	Positive
MS Q-TOF: Source Type	DualAJS

#### Chromatogram Plot window

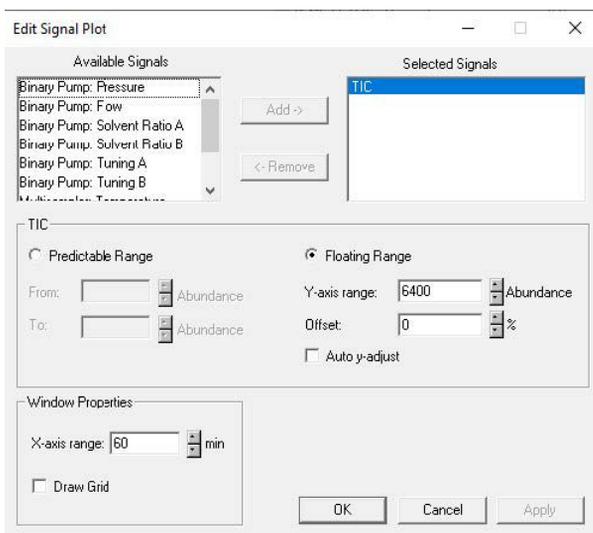
This window displays the chromatogram plots in real time. These plots can be user-defined signals and/or instrument parameters.



### Monitoring baseline and adjusting plot

The **Edit Signal Plot** dialog box allows the selection of various instrument parameters and signals for display in the Chromatogram Plot window. The signals and their display characteristics can be adjusted as described in this section. The customizations made to the plot remain, even when the Acquisition software is closed and reopened.

1. In the Chromatogram Plot window, right-click the Chromatogram Plot window, and select **Change**. The **Edit Signal Plot** dialog box opens.



2. Select the signal to monitor and set the X and Y range for the plot.

#### NOTE

To add other MS signals, such as EICs, setpoints, and actuals, select these on the **Q-TOF** tab in the Method Editor window.

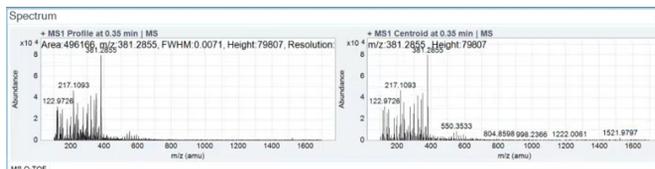
3. Click **OK** to close the **Edit Signal Plot** dialog box.

## Basic Operation

### Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

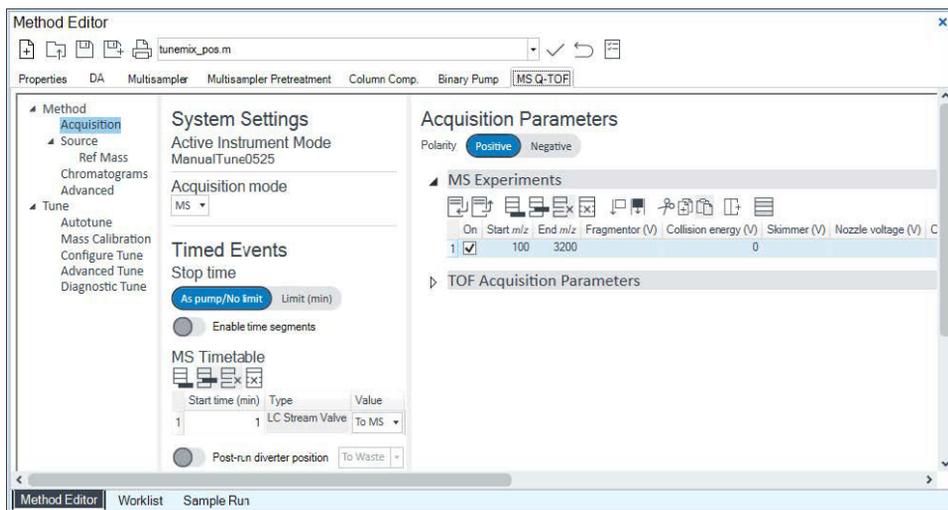
#### Spectrum window

This window displays the spectral plot in real time. Additional tabs are displayed for other modules.



#### Method Editor window

In this window, enter the acquisition parameters for the method. Tune values are displayed on the Autotune tab.



## Basic Operation

### Starting the MassHunter Acquisition Software

#### Sample Run window

In this window, enter sample information to run individual samples interactively, and start a single sample run. Specify an **Override DA Method** and select either **Both Acquisition and DA** (to run Data Analysis as part of the method) or **Acquisition Only** for the **Part of Method to run**.

Sample Run

Sample

Name:  Position:

Injection Volume:   $\mu\text{L}$

Comment:

Data File

Auto Increment

Name:

Path:

Additional Information

Parameter Name	Parameter Value
Sample ID	
Override DA Method	
Part of Method to run	Acquisition Only
Equilib Time (min)	0

Method Editor | **Sample Run** | Worklist

#### Worklist window

In this window, enter sample information for multiple samples. When running the worklist, the samples are automatically run in the order listed. Select whether to run **Acquisition Only** or **Both Acquisition and DA** for the **Part of method to run** option in the Worklist Run Parameters dialog box.

Worklist

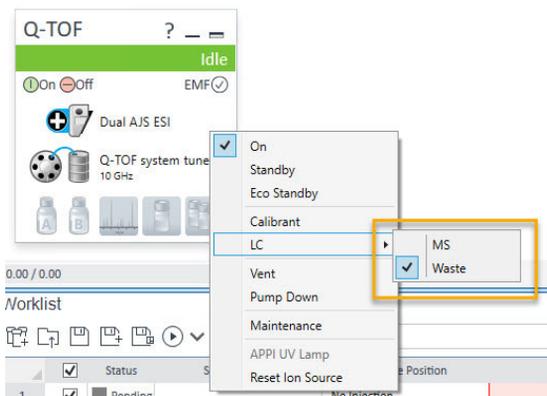
	Status	Sample Name	Sample Position	Method	Data File	Sample Type	Level Name	Inj Vol ( $\mu\text{l}$ )	Comment	Sample Group	Info
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	Sample1	PA-A1	default.m	WorklistData-0001.d	Sample		As Method			
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	Sample2	PA-A2	default.m	WorklistData-0002.d	Sample		As Method			
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	Sample3	PA-B1	default.m	WorklistData-0003.d	Sample		As Method			
4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	Sample4	PA-B2	default.m	WorklistData-0004.d	Sample		As Method			

Method Editor | Sample Run | **Worklist**

## Preparing the LC Modules

While conditioning or equilibrating the column, it is possible to tune the instrument.

1. Switch LC stream to **Waste**.  
When you are not acquiring data, switch the direction of the LC stream away from the MS ion source and to waste.  
If you have the LC connected to a VWD or DAD, you can still monitor the fluctuations of the VWD or DAD real-time chromatogram before a run.
  - a. Right-click the **Q-TOF** device in the Instrument Status window.
  - b. Select **LC > Waste**.

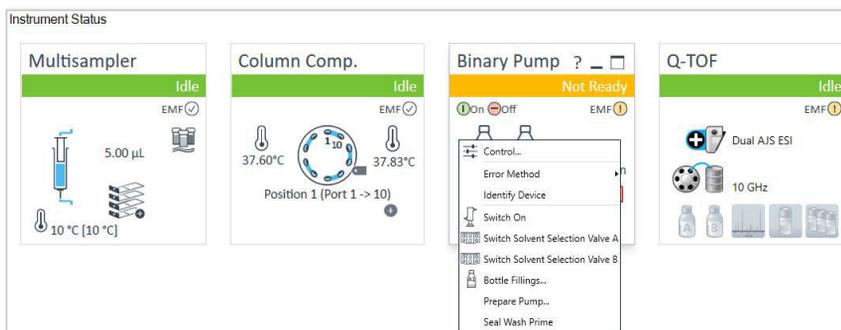


2. Purge the LC pump.  
Follow the directions for purging the pump in the user guide for [your pump](#).
3. Set up to condition or equilibrate the column.
  - a. In the Method Editor window, click **Apply** in the toolbar to download the LC parameters to the LC.

## Basic Operation

### Preparing the LC Modules

- b. Right-click an LC module in the Instrument Status window and select one of the commands to change any non-method control parameters, if needed.



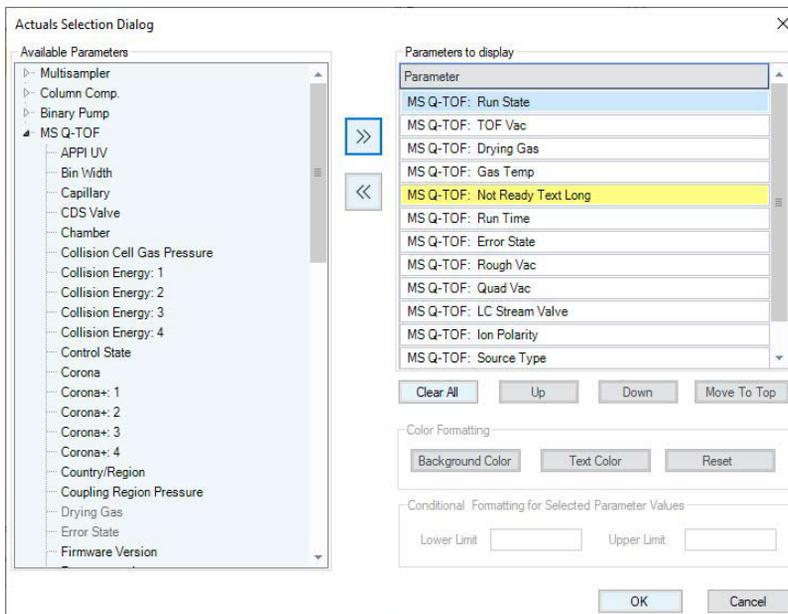
- c. Monitor the baseline and adjust the plot to make sure that the column is equilibrated and the baseline stable. (See [step 4](#) and [step 5](#) in this procedure.)
4. Set up to view real-time parameter values (actuals).  
The Actuals window can be customized to display instrument conditions that you may want to view.
    - a. Click **Actuals** in the ribbon to display the Actuals window.
    - b. Right-click the **Actuals** window and select **Setup**.

Actuals	
Parameter	Value
MS Q-TOF: Run State	Idle
MS Q-TOF: TOF Vac	3.18E-07 Torr
MS Q-TOF: Drying Gas	5 l/min
MS Q-TOF: Gas Temp	325 °C
MS Q-TOF: Not Ready Text Long	Ready
MS Q-TOF: Run Time	0 min
MS Q-TOF: Error State	N
MS Q-TOF: Rough Vac	1
MS Q-TOF: Quad Vac	2.01E-05 Torr
MS Q-TOF: LC Stream Valve	To Waste
MS Q-TOF: Ion Polarity	Positive
MS Q-TOF: Source Type	DualAJS

## Basic Operation

### Preparing the LC Modules

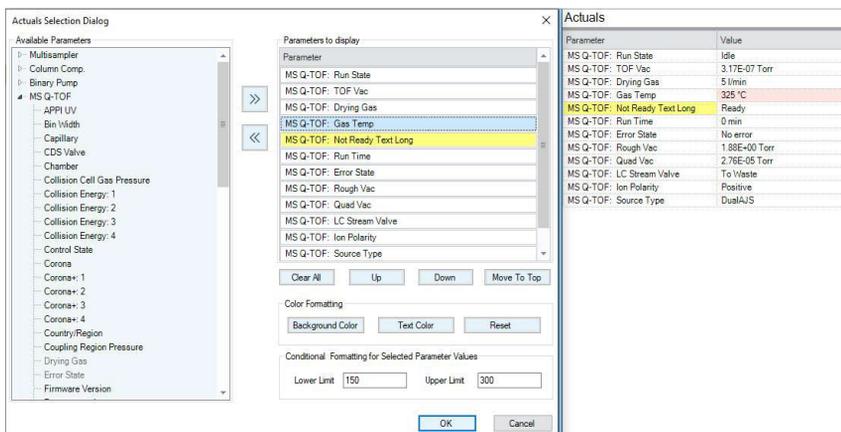
- c. Select parameters to appear in the Actuals window. In the **Available Parameters** list, expand a device to see a list of the instrument parameters for that device. Only configured devices will be shown in the list.



- d. Select the parameters of interest, and click **Add**. Repeat this step for all the parameters that you want to view.
- e. Select any parameter in the **Parameters to display** list that you do not want included, and click **Remove**.
- f. Customize the background color and the text color for any parameters in the **Parameters to display** list.

#### NOTE

- g. Set a conditional formatting range for the parameters that are numbers. If the value of the parameter is not within the limits you entered, then the background of the parameter is set to red.

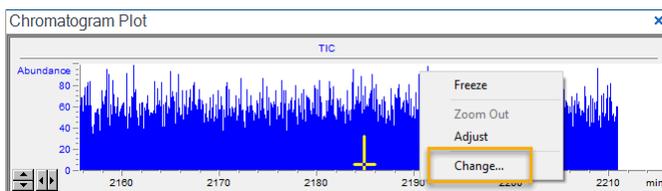


- h. Click **OK** when you finish selecting parameters.

#### NOTE

The parameters you selected appear in the Actuals window. Note that the customizations you have made will remain, even if you close the MassHunter Acquisition software and reopen it.

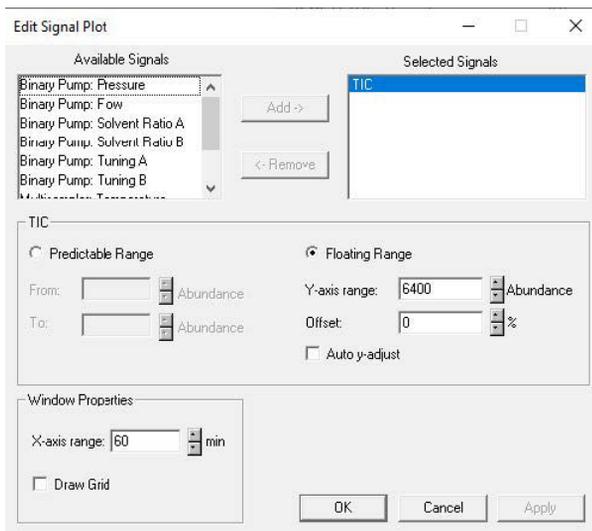
5. Set up real-time plot displays.
- As the column is conditioning, set up the displays to monitor the effluent.
- a. In the Chromatogram Plots window, right-click the chromatogram plot, and select **Change...**



## Basic Operation

### Preparing the LC Modules

- b. In the **Edit Signal Plot** dialog box, select the type of display signal, and click **OK**.



## Preparing the Q-TOF LC/MS

### Performing a checktune or autotune

See [Chapter 2](#), "Tuning".

### Switching LC stream to MS

After you condition the column and tune the instrument, switch the LC stream from **Waste** to **MS**. See "[Preparing the LC Modules](#)" for more information.

### Monitoring MS baseline and spectral displays

If you do not monitor the LC baseline with a VWD or DAD, make sure that the instrument baseline is stable and no spectra of interfering intensity appear in the display.

If you do monitor the LC baseline with a VWD or DAD, change back to the default instrument displays.

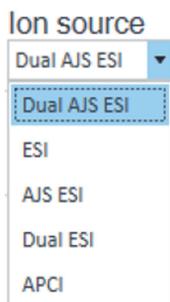
1. Right-click the chromatogram plot, and click **Change**.
2. Select the MS signal, and click **OK**.

## Select the Q-TOF/TOF ion source

The Q-TOF/TOF ion source is automatically detected and displayed in the System Settings pane of the Acquisition Section of the Method Editor and in the Q-TOF dashboard tile in the Instrument Status pane.

If you are using the Offline Method Editor, select the desired ion source from the Method Editor window. To open the Offline Method Editor, select an LC/MS instrument in MassHunter Control Panel, and click Launch Offline, or double-click in the leftmost column of a row in the Worklist window. An acquisition method must be specified to open the Offline Method Editor from this window.

1. To display the Method Editor window, click **Method Editor** in the windows section on the Ribbon. Or, click the **Method** layout in the Ribbon.
2. Select the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
3. Select the **Method > Source** section.
4. From the Ion source drop-down list, select the ion source.



5. Click **Apply Method** in the Method Editor toolbar.

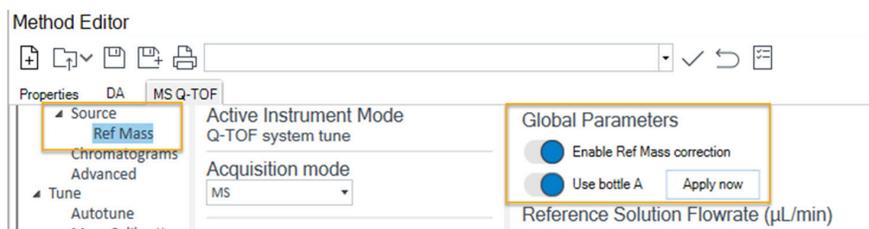
## Internal Reference Mass Correction

In addition to manual calibration and calibration during autotune, the mass can also be automatically corrected during a run, referred to as using an Internal Reference Mass (IRM).

This procedure consists of introducing a mass reference standard into the source during a run via a reference sprayer valve available on dual AJS and dual ESI sources. The reference masses contained in the reference standard are used to automatically correct each acquired spectrum. The mass correction affects the current sample only and is not applied to future samples run.

For APCI ion sources, the UIRM-hardware kit (Universal Internal Reference Mass) should be used (part number G1969-67400).

1. To display the Method Editor window, click **Method Editor** in the windows section on the Ribbon. Or, click the **Method** layout in the Ribbon.
2. Select the **MS Q-TOF** tab.
3. Select the **Method > Source > Ref Mass** section, and set the following parameters:
  - Select Enable Ref Mass correction.
  - Select Use Bottle A.



### NOTE

For those sources without a reference sprayer (APCI), there are two options: (1) Use the UIRM-hardware kit (p/n G1969-67400.) (2) For other sources that do not have a second sprayer, connect a tee into the LC tubing just before the sprayer and admit a reference mass solution into the tee using a syringe pump or other pumping device.

## Basic Operation

### Preparing the Q-TOF LC/MS

- Enter the desired Reference parameters for Flowrate, Nebulizer (psi), and Reference Mass.

Reference Solution Flowrate ( $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$ )

Setpoint

Reference Nebulizer (psi)

Setpoint    Actual

   0.002

Reference Mass Parameters

Detection window (ppm)

Minimum height (counts)

- In the Reference Masses table, select up to two reference standard masses for automatic mass correction.

#### Reference Masses

Polarity: Positive (+)



	On	Mass (m/z)
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	64.01577
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	121.050873
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	149.02332
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	322.048121
5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	922.009798
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1221.990637
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1521.971475
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	2421.91399

Polarity: Negative (-)



	On	Mass (m/z)
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	68.995758
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	112.985587
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	119.03632
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	301.998139
5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	966.000725
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	980.016375
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1033.988109
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	1633.948689
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	1933.930624
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	2533.892301

#### NOTE

Use default values or choose two masses spread across the application mass range. To add new values to the Reference Masses table, click **Add row at the end** and enter the exact mass values.

- When finished, save the acquisition method.

**Basic Operation**

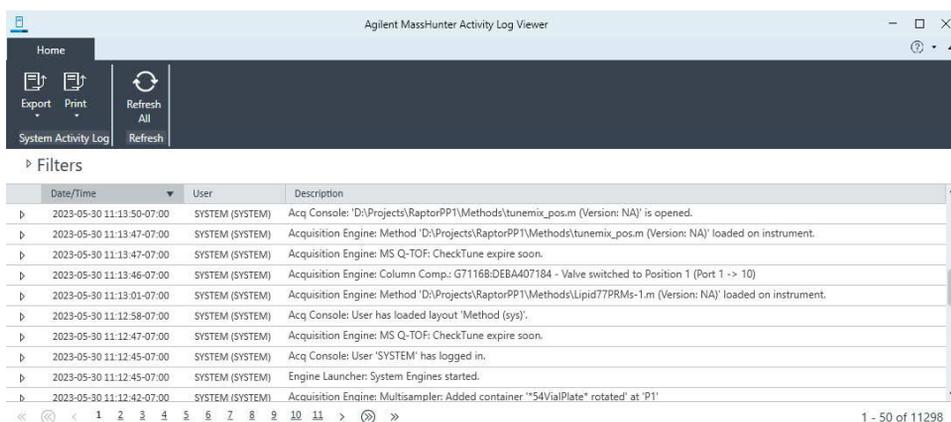
## Preparing the Q-TOF LC/MS

7. Create a worklist of the samples to be analyzed and specify the acquisition method created in Steps 2 to 4. For a single sample, click **Apply** before starting the interactive run.

## Viewing the System Activity Log for events and errors

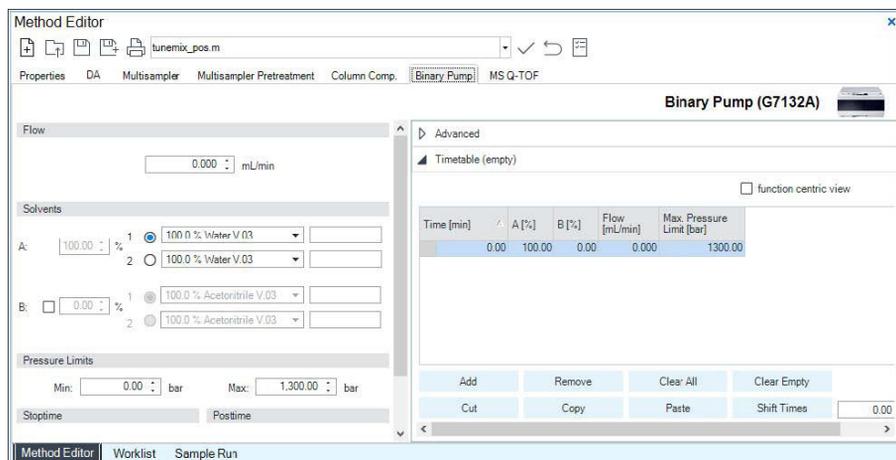
The System Activity Log provides information regarding errors to assist with troubleshooting.

To view the log, click **System Activity Log** in the ribbon of the MassHunter Acquisition software, and view the logged events.



## Setting Up an Acquisition Method

1. Set up the method in the Method Editor window:
  - a. Enter or select the values and settings for each of the tabs below.
  - b. *Optional.* To apply the settings to the instrument, click **Apply**.
  - c. To save the method, click **Save As**.
  - d. Name the method and click **OK**.
2. Enter values for all of the LC modules configured for the instrument.

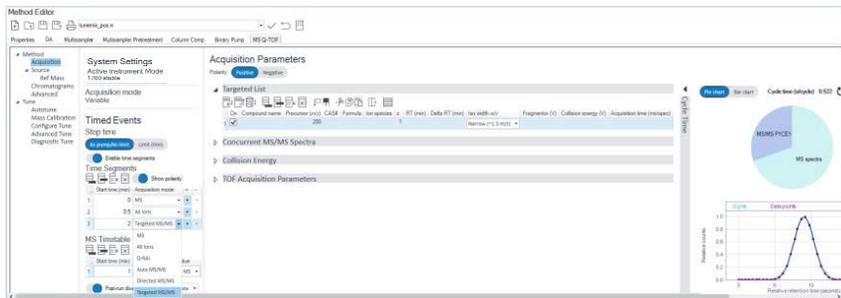


3. Enter the MS Q-TOF parameter values.
  - a. On the Acquisition tab, select the acquisition mode from the list in the **System Settings** table. The Acquisition Parameters table is changed accordingly when you change the **acquisition mode**. The parameters available on the right change depending on the **acquisition mode**.

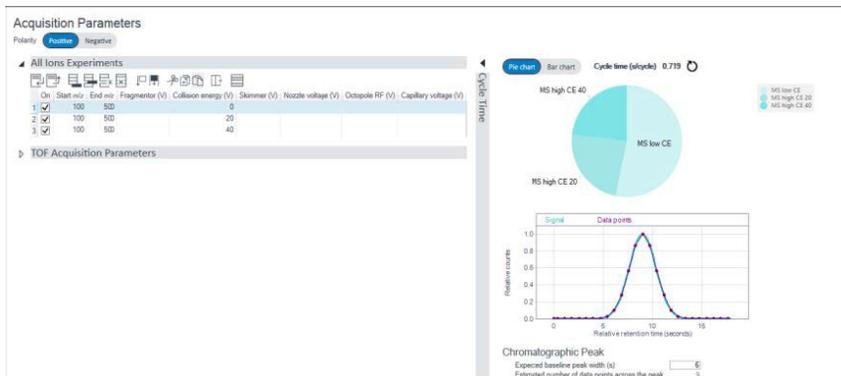
## Basic Operation

### Setting Up an Acquisition Method

- b. Enter any acquisition parameters you want to change. Multiple acquisition modes are allowed when the time segments are enabled. Each acquisition parameter can be set on the acquisition parameter table in the corresponding time segment.



4. Set up to change instrument parameters with segments:
  - a. To add a segment, click **Add Row** or **Insert Row**.
  - b. Enter the parameters for each Scan segment.

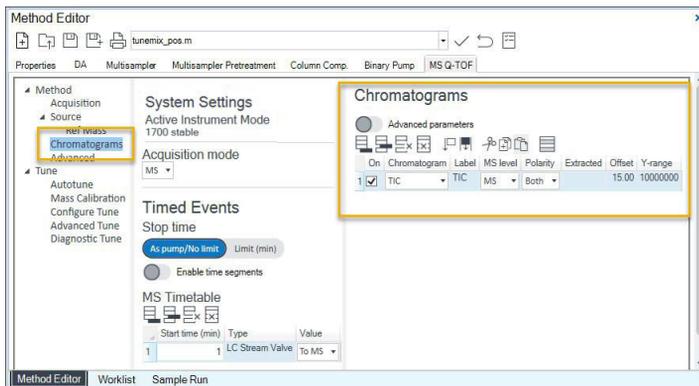


5. *Optional.* Set up signals for the Chromatogram plot:
  - a. Click **Chromatograms**.

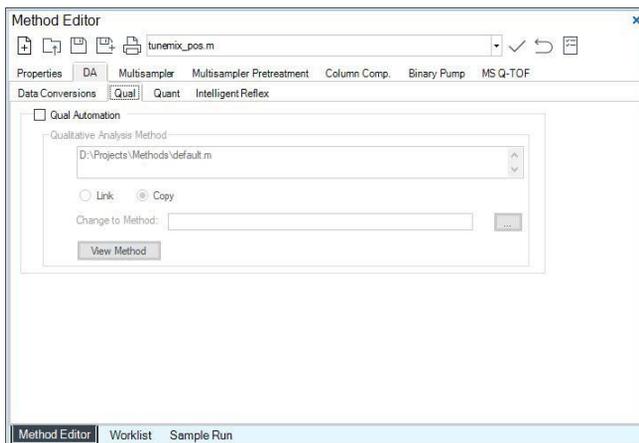
## Basic Operation

### Setting Up an Acquisition Method

- b. Select TIC or EIC under the Chromatograph column and the MS or MS/MS under the MS level column, and type other plot values.



6. Set up the data analysis (**DA**) parameters. A method can contain Qualitative Analysis parameters, Quantitative Analysis parameters, or a combination. The **Qual Automation** check box is marked on the Qual tab and the **Quant Automation** check box is marked on the Quant tab.
- a. Select the **DA** tab.

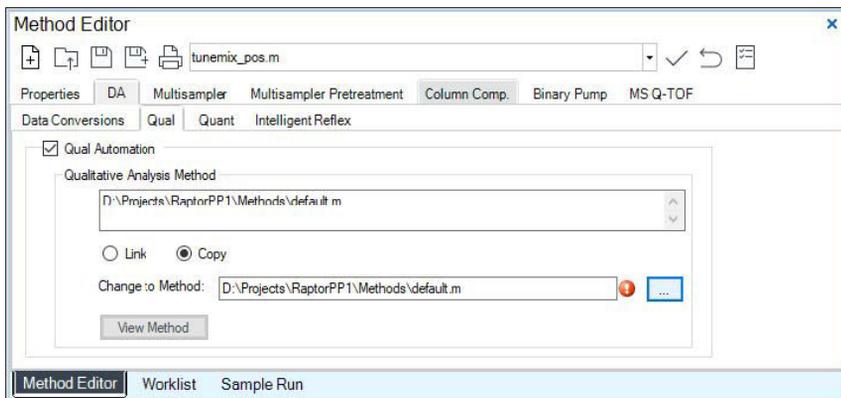


- b. *Optional.* For information on the **Data Conversions** tab, refer to the online Help.

## Basic Operation

### Setting Up an Acquisition Method

- c. *Optional.* On the **Qual** tab, mark the **Qual Automation** check box. The name of the current Qualitative Analysis method is shown in the box. If you want to change the Qualitative Analysis method that is connected, click **...** **Browse** to select a different method. When the acquisition method is saved, the Qualitative Analysis method that you selected is copied or linked to the acquisition method.

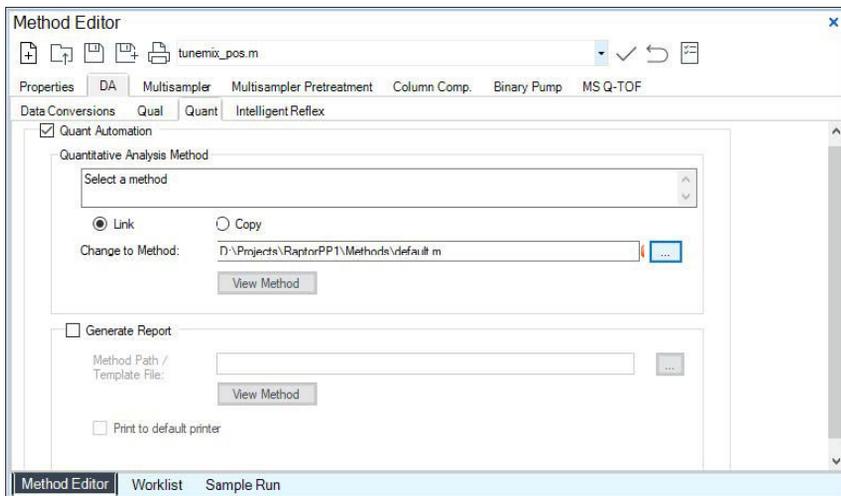


- d. *Optional.* On the **Quant** tab, mark the **Quant Automation** check box. The name of the current Quantitative Analysis method is shown in the list. If you want to change the Quantitative Analysis method that is connected, click **...** **Browse** to select a different method. When the acquisition method is saved, the Quantitative Analysis method that was selected is copied or linked to the acquisition method.

## Basic Operation

### Setting Up an Acquisition Method

- e. *Optional.* Mark the **Generate Report** check box on the Quant tab. Select the **Method Path/Template File** to use. To print the report, mark the **Print to default printer** check box. Mark the **Publish** check box to create a CSV file, a TXT file, or a PDF file.



7. *Optional.* On the **Properties** tab, set up the properties for this method.
8. Save the method.
- Click **Save** or **Save As**.
  - If the Audit Trail Settings in Control Panel are set to prompt for a reason when the method is saved, enter the **Reason for creating a new version of this method**. Refer to the MassHunter Control Panel online Help for more information. Click **OK**.
  - If necessary, name the method and click **OK**.

## Setting Up and Running a Single Sample

1. Click the Sample Run window.
2. Enter the **Sample Name**, the **Data File Name** and **Path**, and other values.
3. *Optional.* Enter the **Additional Information**. If needed, change the value of the parameters in the **Additional Information** list.

Parameter Name	Parameter Value
Sample ID	
Override DA Method	
Part of Method to run	Acquisition Only
Equilib Time (min)	0

Run a Data Analysis method from this window by selecting **Both Acquisition and DA** or **Acquisition Only** for the **Part of Method to run**.

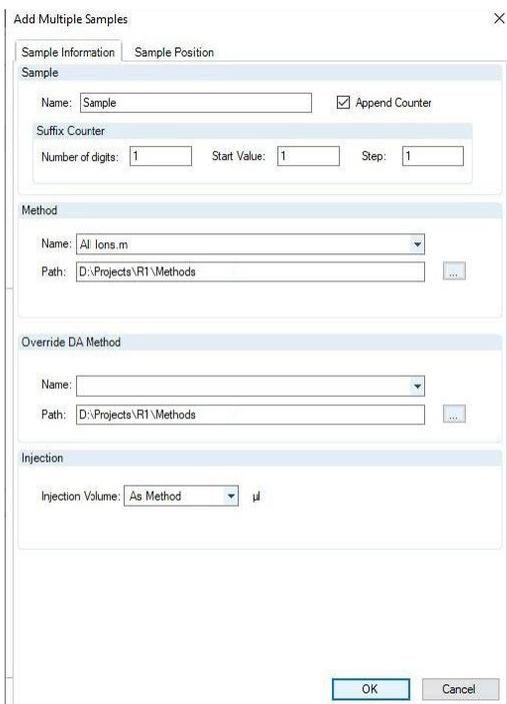
#### NOTE

If using Both Acquisition and DA Part of Method to run, the Override DA method is required.

4. To start the single sample run, click **▶ Run** in the Sample Run window toolbar.

## Setting Up and Running a Worklist

1. Click **Worklist** to show the Worklist window.
2. Click **Add Multiple Samples** . The Add Multiple Samples dialog box opens.
3. Enter all the information on the **Sample Information** tab.



The screenshot shows the 'Add Multiple Samples' dialog box with the 'Sample Information' tab selected. The dialog has a title bar with a close button (X) and two tabs: 'Sample Information' and 'Sample Position'. The 'Sample Information' tab contains the following fields:

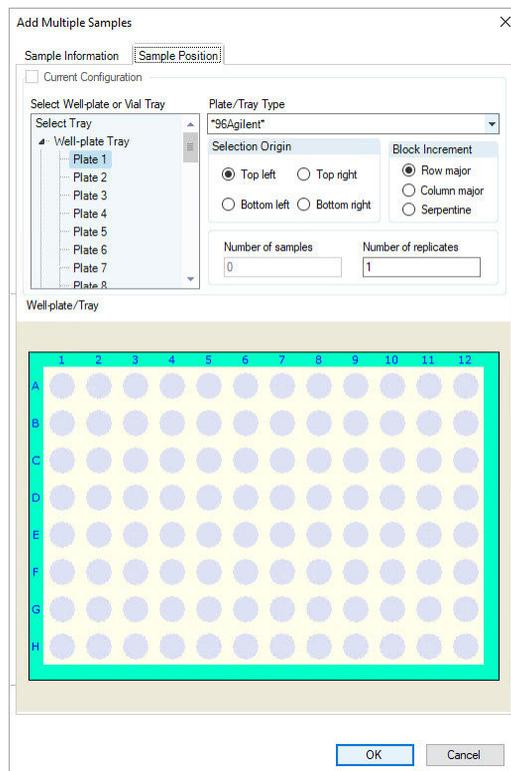
- Sample**
  - Name:
  - Append Counter
- Suffix Counter**
  - Number of digits:
  - Start Value:
  - Step:
- Method**
  - Name:
  - Path:
- Override DA Method**
  - Name:
  - Path:
- Injection**
  - Injection Volume:   $\mu$

At the bottom of the dialog are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

## Basic Operation

### Setting Up and Running a Worklist

- On the **Sample Position** tab, specify the sample vial locations (make sure the specific sample tray type has been configured by right-clicking the autosampler device image).



- Specify the locations, and click **OK**.
- To set up the worklist run, click **Worklist Run Parameters** .

## Basic Operation

### Setting Up and Running a Worklist

- On the Worklist **Run Parameters** tab, type the paths for the method.

The screenshot shows the 'Worklist Run Parameters' dialog box with the following details:

- Run Parameters** | Intelligent Reflex | Additional Parameters | Barcode
- Operator information: Operator name: SYSTEM (SYSTEM)
- Run Information: Part of Method to run: Both Acquisition and DA; Run Type: Standard Start; Synchronous DA: ; Stop worklist on DA error:
- Data File Settings: Root Folder: D:\Projects\R1\Data
- Method Paths: Method: D:\Projects\R1\Methods; Override DA: D:\Projects\R1\Methods
- Scripts:  Pre-worklist;  Post-worklist;  Acquisition clean-up;  Post-analysis
- Disk space Information (GB): 729 Available Disk space; 200 Free Disk space threshold
- Run Settings:  Overlapped injection; Wait Time for Ready: 10 (min)

- Optional.* On the **Additional Parameters** tab, enter a comment, and click **OK**.
- To start the worklist, click **Run Worklist**.

#### NOTE

To use an acquisition method that has a different data analysis (DA) method than the method entered in the worklist, show the column called **Override DA Method** in the worklist by using the **Show/Hide/Order Columns** dialog box. In this column, browse for and select the method containing the DA parameters you want to use for the sample. The DA part of this method is used instead of the DA part of the current method.

Or, select this method in the **Add Multiple Samples** dialog box.

## Reviewing Results with Qualitative Analysis

Use the Qualitative Analysis software to do these tasks and more:

- Review results for acquisition method development
- Select the most appropriate precursor and product ions for MS/MS analyses
- Find compounds
- Identify compounds
- Molecular feature extraction

Refer to the online Help for the Qualitative Analysis software to learn more.

## Analyzing Data

Another primary tool for analyzing and reporting instrument results is the Quantitative Analysis software.

Do the exercises in the Quantitative Analysis Familiarization Guide to learn how to quantitate the acquired data files:

- Set up a batch and a method to automatically quantitate a set of samples
- Review results by learning how to view and use the Batch-at-a-Glance results screen
- Identify and use outliers to change the method and requantitate the data using a better calibration curve fit or other more appropriate settings

Refer to the online Help for the Quantitative Analysis software to learn how to do more operations to analyze your data.

## 4 Maintenance

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## Maintenance Overview

Your instrument needs servicing and maintenance to avoid contamination, which prevents signal suppression, reduces background noise, minimizes adduct formation, and enables the instrument to operate at its peak performance. To achieve the most accurate results, routine and periodic maintenance is crucial.

The difference is that routine maintenance is done regularly to keep the equipment in good working condition, while periodic maintenance is done at specific intervals to prevent breakdowns or failures.

MassHunter Acquisition for LC/MS systems tracks the number of injections and the number of days since a maintenance activity was performed for your LC/Q-TOF instrument using the Early Maintenance Feedback (EMF) dashboard. EMF allows you to plan for scheduled maintenance when it is convenient and increase the instrument uptime. If a limit is exceeded for an EMF item that is enabled, then the EMF icon changes to yellow, and the tooltip displays the cause in the device pane. Set the limits for each EMF item in the Maintenance dialog box following instructions detailed in online help.

This Maintenance chapter is broken down into maintenance procedures listed by routine, then periodic maintenance tasks with their recommended schedule of performance, with the EMF procedures cross referenced in the final section. Consult the online help or contact your Agilent consultant for further information.

### LC/MS Maintenance Video Series



Procedures notated with the  Video Support icon are linked to videos intended to support written content. These links are also found in the online help and/or the instrument user guides. Refer to these videos for supplemental instructions. View the full series at <https://aglt.co/LCMSMaintenance>.

## Routine Tasks

### Cleaning the spray chamber - daily

Perform this maintenance daily or at the end of each shift or anytime you suspect carryover contamination from one sample or analysis to another.

**NOTE**

Use the weekly cleaning procedure if symptoms of contamination persist or if the spray shield or capillary cap show significant discoloration that is not removed by the regular, daily cleaning.

Tools needed:

- Clean, powder-free nitrile gloves
- Clean lint-free cloth
- LC/MS-grade isopropanol
- LC/MS-grade water
- Clean wash bottle

To perform daily cleaning of the spray chamber,

1. Put on clean powder-free nitrile gloves.
2. Lower the drying gas temperature to the minimum level.
3. For APCI/multimode, lower the vaporizer heater temperature to the minimum level.

**WARNING**

**Make sure that the source is cooled before you clean the spray shield.**

4. In a clean wash bottle, prepare a 50:50 mix of LC/MS-grade isopropanol and LC/MS-grade water.
5. Open the spray chamber.
6. Dampen a clean lint-free cloth with a mixture of LC/MS-grade isopropanol and LC/MS-grade water.
7. Wipe the spray shield and the area around the spray shield.

8. Close the spray chamber.

## Checking and filling the calibrant bottle - weekly

### Schedule

Perform this procedure monthly or weekly if you tune the instrument frequently, or if the calibrant has expired.

### Equipment List

- APCI calibrant
- APCI-L tuning mix
- ESI-X tuning mix
- MMI-L tuning mix
- Reference mix
- Clean powder-free nitrile gloves

### Steps for checking calibrant levels

1. Check to make sure that enough tuning mix is present to immerse the end of the intake tube.
2. If the tuning mix level is within a few millimeters of the end of the intake tube, refill the calibrant bottle.

### Steps for refilling the calibrant bottle

1. Rinse the calibrant bottle once with water, then twice with ACN before refilling.

**CAUTION**

**Dispose of rinsing agents appropriately.**

2. Label the calibrant bottle with the tuning mix expiration date.
3. Refill the calibrant bottle with the appropriate tuning mix.
4. Put the intake tube into the calibrant bottle as you lift the calibrant bottle into position.

**CAUTION**

**Do not touch the intake tube unless you are wearing clean gloves.**

5. Attach the calibrant bottle onto the fixed bottle cap. Turn the calibrant bottle counterclockwise to tighten.

**CAUTION**

The bottle only needs to be snug. Do not over-tighten the bottle. A leaky bottle cap can prevent the bottle from pressurizing and can lead to the evaporation of the contents.

**CAUTION**

The tuning mixes are not interchangeable. Failure to change the tuning mix when the source or inlet assembly is changed can result in miscalibration of the instrument and errors in mass assignments.

## Cleaning the spray chamber - weekly



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115679>.

Perform this maintenance:

- Weekly.
- Whenever symptoms indicate that contamination exists in the spray chamber.
- If the spray shield or capillary cap shows significant discoloration not removed by daily cleaning.

Tools needed:

- Clean powder-free nitrile gloves
  - Clean lint-free cloth
  - LC/MS-grade isopropanol
  - LC/MS-grade water
  - Clean wash bottle
  - 4000 grit sandpaper
1. Put on clean powder-free nitrile gloves.
  2. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing from the nebulizer.
  3. Disconnect all ion source connections to the instrument.
  4. Open the latch of spray chamber.
  5. Open the spray chamber.
  6. Remove source and put the source under a fume hood.
  7. Dampen a clean lint-free cloth with a mixture of LC/MS-grade isopropanol and LC/MS-grade water. For Multimode, be careful not to touch the thermocouple probe.

## Maintenance

### Routine Tasks

8. Wipe the interior of the spray chamber with a clean lint-free cloth.



9. Make sure you wear clean gloves. Use a tech wipe to hold the parts as you remove them. They will be warm.



10. Clean the spray shield, capillary cap, end plates, and contact ring under fume hood. Carefully remove the canted coil spring from the capillary cap before cleaning.

## Maintenance

### Routine Tasks

11. (Optional) Abrasive cleaning for persistent contaminants: Use 4000-grit abrasive paper to clean contaminants from the parts.



12. Put the spray shield, capillary cap, end plates, and contact ring in the beaker.
13. Add a 50:50 mix of LC/MS-grade isopropanol and LC/MS-grade water in a beaker.
14. Put the beaker in sonication for 5 minutes.
15. Drain the solvent and remove the parts from the beaker.
16. Dry the parts by using nitrogen gas.
17. Carefully insert the canted coil back into the capillary cap.
18. Reinstall the spray chamber parts and source on the instrument.
19. Reinstall the spray chamber on the instrument.
20. Connect all cables and tubing to the instrument.
21. Connect the nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing to the nebulizer.

## Cleaning the nebulizer - weekly



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115677>.

Passing the vapors of solvents like IPA, methanol, acetonitrile, or water through the LC/MS system is called steam cleaning and is used to clean possible contamination in the LC/MS system. The usual conditions are:

- LC pump flow to 0.5 ml/min
- Nebulizer pressure to 60 psi
- Drying gas to 13 L/min
- Drying gas temp to 350 °C

Make sure that the MS stream selection valve is set to go to the MS. Steam Cleaning overnight has been shown to be one of the most important factors in improving the signal-to-noise level by reducing the contaminations.

To clean an MS, there are two options:

- Plain water/MeOH at high temp – 50:50 proportion
- IPA/MeOH/Water at high temperature

The IPA/MeOH/Water combo can be anything. IPA, maybe 50 (IPA):25:25. IPA cleans both aqueous and organic.

### **Schedule**

Check the nebulizer weekly. If needed, flush traces of samples and buffers out of the tubing, valves, and nebulizer.

### **Equipment List**

- LC/MS-grade methanol
- LC/MS-grade water

**Steps**

1. Install a mix of 30 to 70% methanol in water into a LC solvent bottle.
2. Remove the column from the LC column compartment.



3. Remove nebulizer from spray chamber and support the nebulizer so that it sprays into an appropriate waste container (beaker, bottle, etc.).



4. Control the LC flow through the acquisition software to pull from the solvent bottles.
5. Set flow rate to not more than 1 ml per minute.
6. Flush for 3 to 5 minutes. For heavy build up, additional flushing may be required.

## Periodic Tasks

### Checking the rough pump oil level

#### Schedule

Once every three months/once per quarter (recommended).

#### Equipment List

- Clean chemical-resistant gloves
- Safety glasses
- Funnel
- 10 mm hex key
- Paper towel or shop rag
- Small plastic tub
- AFV 60 Gold Oil

#### Steps

1. The oil level should be between the marks for Max and Min.
2. Check that the pump oil is clear and the color is lighter than amber.
3. If the pump oil is dark or full of suspended particles, replace it.

## Replacing the MS40+ pump oil and filter



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115665>.

### Schedule

Replace the pump oil every six months. Replace it sooner if the oil appears dark or cloudy.

### Equipment List

- Clean chemical-resistant gloves
- Safety glasses
- Funnel
- Pair of pliers
- Filter
- Filter cap O-ring
- Small cap O-ring
- MS40 exhaust filter cap removal tool
- 10-mm hex key
- Paper towel or shop rag
- Small plastic tub
- AFV 60 Gold Oil

### Draining the MS40+ pump oil

1. Put on clean, chemical-resistant gloves.
2. Place the instrument into 'Standby,' then 'Vent'.
3. Allow the rough pump to turn off automatically, waiting for approximately 15 minutes.

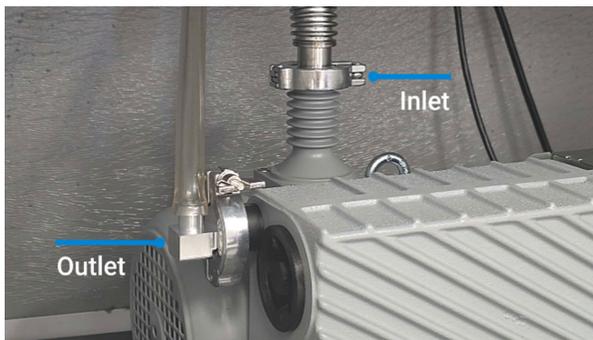
## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

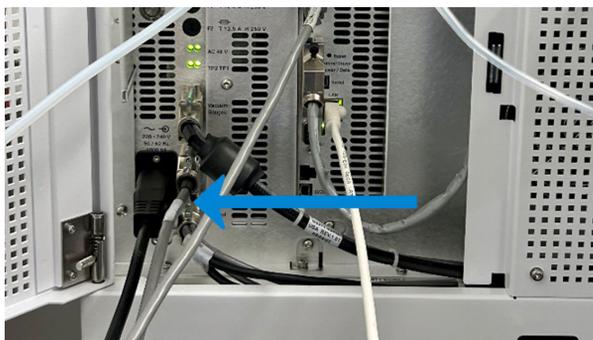
4. Unplug all power cords.



5. Disconnect the inlet and outlet pipes.



6. Unplug all power cords from the LC/MS instrument.



## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

7. Unscrew the oil fill cap, rotating it counterclockwise using a 10-mm hex key. Remove it from the instrument and place it in a secure location.



8. Place a tank for waste oil, for example, a small plastic tub under the oil drain plug.
9. Unscrew slowly the oil drain cap by rotating it counterclockwise using the 10-mm hex key.



## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

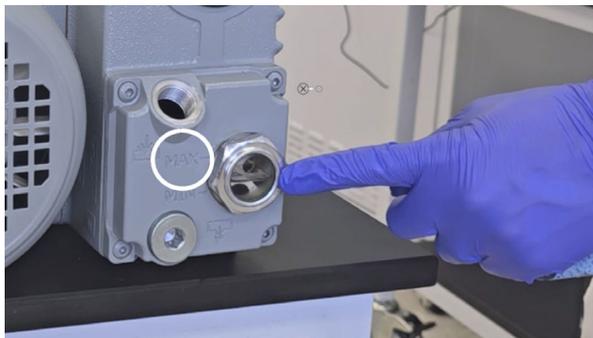
10. Let the oil flow out. In the meantime, clean the inside of the drain plug.



11. After the oil has been drained, close the drain plug tight. Take the tank of waste oil away and clean thoroughly, using rags of cotton or other suitable material to dry.

### Replacing the MS40+ pump oil

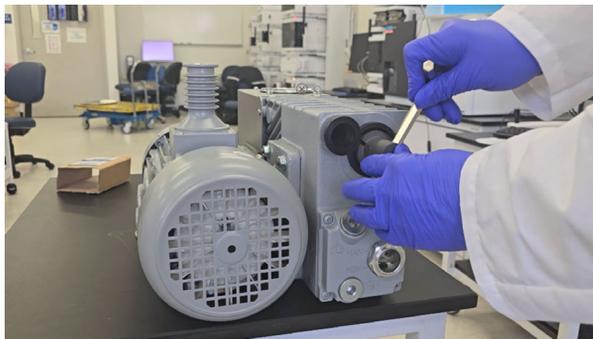
1. Add AVF 60 Gold oil until reaching the maximum level on the sight glass.



2. Close the oil fill cap tight using the 10-mm hex key.

**Replacing the MS40+ oil mist filter**

1. Unscrew the filter cap using the MS40 exhaust filter cap removal tool.



2. Remove the O-ring from the filter cap.



3. Remove the old filter from the instrument.

## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

4. Remove the O-ring from the filter.



5. Install the new, small O-ring on the new filter, then install the filter into the pump in the proper orientation.



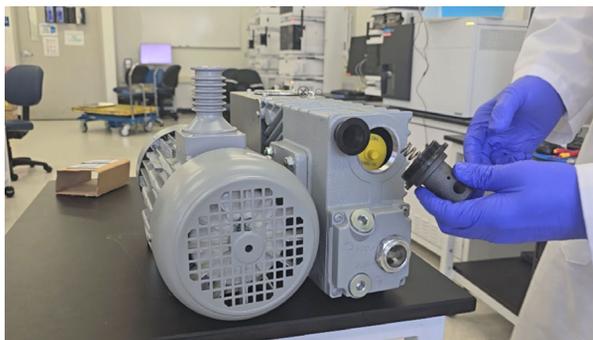
## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

6. The distance of the filter should not be  $>2$  cm from outside the cap threads.



7. Install the new, large O-ring and filter cap.



8. Connect the inlet and outlet pipes.
9. Plug in the rough pump and all power cords from the LC/MS instrument.

## Maintenance

### Periodic Tasks

10. Press the front power switch to initiate pump down.



## Replacing the HEPA Filter

### Schedule

### Equipment List

- Clean chemical-resistant gloves
  - HEPA Filter
1. Release the clamps of the HEPA filter canister.
  2. Open the lid.
  3. Remove the filter.
  4. Insert the new filter into the filter canister.
  5. Close the lid.
  6. Fasten the clamps.

## Replacing the nitrogen gas filters

### Schedule

Yearly, or when flagged by EMF.

### Equipment List

- 2 1/2-inch OD Mounting Clip for Big Universal Traps (2/pk) - Part number UMC-5-2
- RMSN-4 1/4-inch Nitrogen

### Steps

**NOTE**

Before installing the trap, make sure that the system is free of leaks and the system is generally in good working order.

- Maximum operating pressure is 250 PSIG.
- Maximum operating temperature is 100 °C.

- Maximum flow rate is 8 liters per minute.

**CAUTION**

**If you are using stainless steel tubing, please order the purifier with stainless steel fittings RMSH-2-SS or RMSH-4-SS. Using brass fittings with stainless steel tubing increases the risk of cross-threading.**

1. Shut down your LC/MS.
2. Set the gas source supply pressure to 10–15 psi and maintain flow in the gas source line before disconnecting it from the inlet of the old trap.
3. Remove the protective nut and plug from the INLET end of the new trap. DO NOT open the plug on the OUTLET end.
4. Immediately attach the new trap to the gas source tubing using one of the included ferrule sets.

**CAUTION**

**Failure to connect the trap immediately may cause contamination of the adsorbents inside. Reduced adsorption capacity will contribute to elevated levels of contaminants observed by the detector. This may result in the need for additional purge time.**

5. Insert the tubing through the nut and ferrule set until the tubing rests firmly against the shoulder in the fitting.
6. Finger-tighten the nut, then use a wrench to tighten the nut 3/4 turn for 1/8-inch tubing and 1-1/4 turn for 1/4-inch tubing.
7. Wait 3 minutes for the gas pressure inside the new trap to stabilize.
8. Increase the gas source pressure to 60 psi.
9. Open the outlet fitting and purge the trap for 3 minutes.
10. Adjust the gas source pressure to a normal working level. Connect the outlet fitting of the trap to the instrument tubing as described in step 5 and step 6.
11. Secure the trap in a vertical orientation. The length of the trap should stand perpendicular to the floor.

Wait for at least 3 minutes to purge out any air that may have entered the instrument tubing line. The trap is now ready for use.

## General Maintenance Tasks

### Replacing the nebulizer needle



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115676>.

#### Schedule

Perform this procedure when you need to access the nebulizer for maintenance.

#### Equipment List

- Clean, powder-free nitrile gloves
- Replacement needle kit
- 1/4" Nebulizer adjustment fixture (GT430-20470)-inch x 5/16-inch open-end wrench (Quantity: 2)

#### Removing the nebulizer

1. Put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.
2. In MassHunter Acquisition, shut off the LC solvent flow and nebulizing gas.
3. Shut off the reference nebulizer gas valve.
4. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line from the nebulizer.
5. Disconnect the sample nebulizer gas tubing from the nebulizer.

**WARNING**

**The tip of the nebulizer can be very hot. Do not touch the nebulizer until it is cool.**

6. Turn the nebulizer counterclockwise until it disengages from the retaining screws.
7. Gently lift the nebulizer out of the spray chamber and place it in a safe location.

#### Replacing the nebulizer needle

1. Determine your nebulizer type per the user guide or the document that comes with the kit.
2. Install the nebulizer in the Nebulizer Adjustment Fixture, turning clockwise to secure the nebulizer to the adjustment fixture.



3. Loosen the fastener (locknut, 1.5-mm hex screw, or T6 Torx screw) that secures the needle holder in place.



## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

4. Loosen the locknut next to the zero-dead-volume (ZDV) union by placing the 5/16-inch wrench on the nut, and the 1/4-inch wrench on the union, and turning the 5/16-inch wrench clockwise.



5. Remove the union from the nebulizer needle holder.
6. Remove the union lock nut from the nebulizer.



7. Loosen the needle holder and pull it out of the nebulizer body. Dispose of the used needle properly.
8. For more thorough cleaning, sonicate the nebulizer body. Pour isopropanol or methanol through the inside of the shaft.
9. Carefully remove the new needle from the shipping tube and adhesive strip. Identify the sharp end of the needle.

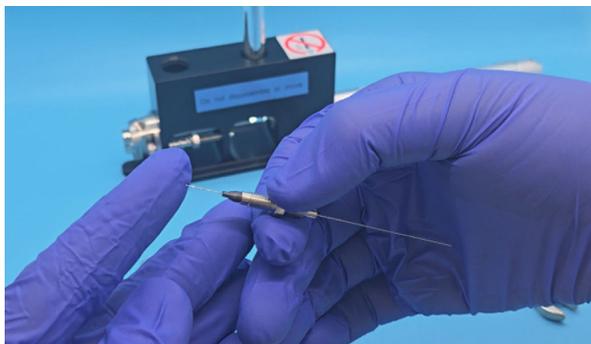
## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

10. Carefully slide the sharp end of the needle through the ferrule until 1 cm of the needle remains at the ferrule.

**CAUTION**

**Do not bend the needle as you slide it into the ferrule. The needle is fragile. A bent needle results in poor alignment with the nebulizer body.**

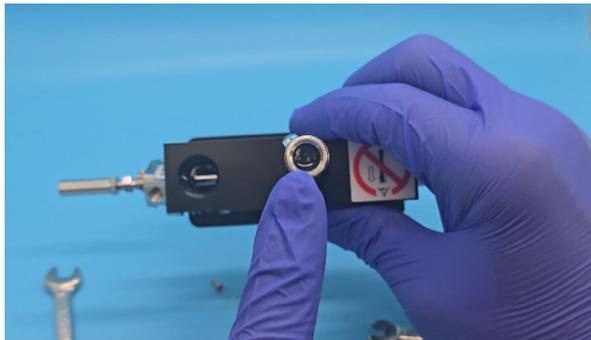


11. Push the needle into the ferrule until the needle is slightly visible flush with the ferrule.
12. Reinstall the locknut and the union. Hand-tighten the union.
13. Hold the needle holder steady with a 1/4-inch x 5/16-inch open-end wrench, depending on your nebulizer holder style.
14. Tighten the union one-half to three quarters of a turn, or until an audible squeak is heard. The ferrule is now compressed.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

15. Adjust the electrospray needle position before reinstalling the nebulizer in the spray chamber.



16. Tighten the fastener (T6 Torx screw) that secures the needle holder in place.

## Inspecting and adjusting the nebulizer needle



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115675>

### Schedule

Perform this project if there is increased LC back pressure, off-axis spraying, dripping from the nebulizer, or when the reference nebulizer needle is not spraying.

### Equipment List

- Nebulizer Adjustment Fixture (GT430-20470) or Nebulizer adjustment kit (G1960-67470)
  - Clean powder-free nitrile gloves
  - T6 Torx driver
  - 1/4-inch x 5/16-inch open-end wrench (Quantity: 2)
1. Put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.
  2. Insert the tip of the nebulizer into the end of the Nebulizer Adjustment Fixture.
  3. Slide the heads of the two spring loaded socket head cap screws through the mounting holes on the body of the nebulizer.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

**NOTE**

4. Turn the nebulizer body 1/8 turn counter-clockwise.

If the nebulizer is too tight or too loose, loosen or tighten the nut on the captured screws to adjust the tension on the spring. Turn clock wise to tighten, counter clock wise to loosen.



5. Push the 40 x Magnifier into the vertical end position of the Nebulizer Adjustment Fixture.
6. Align the tapered tip of the magnifier to the tip of the nebulizer needle.
7. Push the LED Flashlight into the Nebulizer Adjustment Fixture.



## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

- Turn on the flashlight and, while looking down the magnifier, adjust the height of the magnifier until the tip of the nebulizer is clearly in focus.

**Table 3. Correct needle position**

Nebulizer	Distance
Microflow Nebulizer Assembly	0.003 inch
ES Tested Nebulizer	0.000 (flush)
Tested ESI Nebulizer Assembly (older style)	0.003 inch
Tested APCI Nebulizer Assembly	0.000 (flush)

The distance shown is the distance that the needle tip protrudes from the tip of the nebulizer assembly in inches.

Note the scale shown in the magnifying lens is also in inches, with one division equaling 0.001 inches.

**Figure 10. Correctly adjusted nebulizer needle.**



**NOTE**

If the needle tip looks pitted, clogged with salt, corroded, or is not square and has jagged edges then the needle will need to be replaced.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

- Using either a T6 Torx driver or 1.5 mm hex wrench, loosen the lock screw on the head of the nebulizer assembly. The nebulizer lock screw is either a T6 Torx or 1.5 mm hex bolt



- Using the 1/4" end of the open-end wrench, rotate the needle assembly while looking down the magnifier. Turning the nut with either push the needle out or draw it into the nebulizer tip. Adjust the needle so that the distance matches the specified distance for your nebulizer type.



- If the needle distance looks correct, reverse the position of the magnifier and the flashlight so the flashlight is in the top port and the magnifier is in the side port of the fixture. Check that the needle tip is also centered (concentric) with the tip of the nebulizer assembly. If it is a long way off center after optimizing the distance, then the needle may need to be replaced.

12. Once the position of the needle has been optimized, carefully tighten the lock screw loosened earlier, while checking that the position of the needle has not moved during tightening.
13. The nebulizer needle adjustment is now complete.

## Installing the capillary

### Schedule

After cleaning the capillary or when installing a new capillary.

### Equipment List

- Clean powder-free nitrile gloves
- LC/MS-grade isopropanol

### Steps

1. Put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.
2. Lubricate the capillary entrance end with LC/MS-grade isopropanol.
3. Carefully insert the capillary straight into the desolvation assembly. The capillary must be aligned correctly so that its end fits into a fixed capillary cap inside the desolvation assembly.

#### CAUTION

**Putting vertical and horizontal pressure on the capillary can break it. Spray the capillary with isopropanol to lubricate the capillary for easier removal.**

4. When 2 to 3 cm of the capillary remains extended from the desolvation assembly, the capillary rests against the rear contact spring, which slightly restricts further insertion of the capillary. Slightly increase the insertion force to push the capillary through the rear contact spring to fully insert the capillary.
5. Continue to apply pressure until approximately 1 cm remains extended from the desolvation assembly.

#### CAUTION

**Do not twist or turn the capillary cap when you install it or you can damage the metal plating.**

6. Install the contact ring and end plate.
7. Install the two T10 Torx screws to hold the end plate.
8. Lubricate the capillary tip with LC/MS-grade isopropanol.
9. Install the capillary cap over the outer end of the capillary.
10. Install the spray shield.

11. Close the spray chamber.

## Cleaning the capillary



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115670>.

### Schedule

When you observe decreased sensitivity and decreased signal stability.

### Equipment List

- Clean powder-free nitrile gloves
- LC/MS-grade isopropanol
- Alconox powdered precision cleaner
- Deionized (18 MΩ/cm) water
- 100-mL polypropylene graduated cylinder
- 10-mL polypropylene graduated cylinder
- Two 1-mL pipette tips

### Steps

1. Put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.

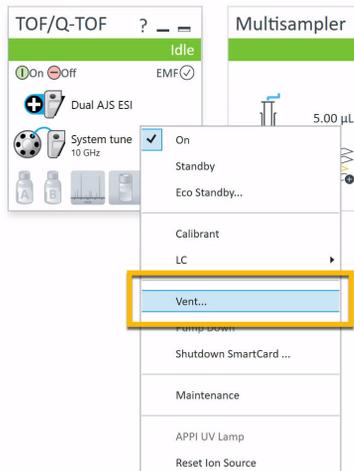
#### CAUTION

**Ensure the source heated zones are cool before working on the instrument.**

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

- In MassHunter Acquisition, right-click the instrument icon in the Instrument Status window and select **Vent** to vent the system.

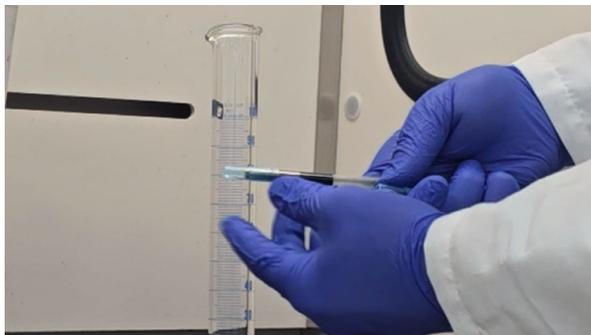


- Dissolve 1 gram of Alconox Powdered Precision Cleaner in 100 mL of deionized (18 M $\Omega$ -cm) water. This concentration is the recommended concentration for both manual or ultrasonic cleaning.

#### CAUTION

**All cleaning and sonication should be done under a fume hood.**

- If you use a glass graduated cylinder, cover the end of the ion transport capillary with a 1-mL pipette tip to protect the metalized plating.



## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

- Trim the pipette tip to approximately 4 cm so that the capillary can be immersed in the cleaning solution.



- Place the ion transport capillary upright in a graduated cylinder and fill with Alconox Powdered Precision Cleaner solution.
- Sonicate the graduated cylinder that contains the ion transport capillary in an ultrasonic cleaner for 10 to 15 minutes. Do not clean longer than 15 minutes.

#### CAUTION

**Sonication should be done under a fume hood.**



- Rinse the capillary and graduated cylinder several times with deionized water.
- Fill the graduated cylinder with deionized water and sonicate for 10 to 15 minutes.
- Remove the ion transport capillary from the graduated cylinder and remove the pipette tips (if any were used).

11. Blow out excess water from the ion transport capillary bore with nitrogen.

**Cleaning a clogged capillary**

This EMF item relies on the rough vacuum reading to determine a clog in the capillary/capillary. If the rough vacuum reading falls below a value of 1.4 Torr, the EMF item will be flagged.

**Schedule**

When the rough vacuum reading flags an error.

**Equipment List**

- Clean powder-free nitrile gloves
- LC/MS-grade isopropanol
- Capillary (new, if replacing)

**Steps**

1. Put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.
2. Remove and replace the capillary with a new unit, or re-insert the capillary after cleaning and drying.
3. Monitor the rough vacuum level to ensure that it does not fall below 1.4 Torr.

## Flushing the Calibrant Delivery System (CDS)

### Schedule

When there is suspected contamination of the CDS, low tune response, or possible blockage in the CDS, flushing the calibrant system may be required.

#### WARNING

**This procedure risks exposure to hazardous, toxic, or flammable solvents and reagents. Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment as described in the material handling and safety data sheet supplied by the chemical vendor, and always follow good laboratory practice.**

### Equipment List

- Clean, powder-free gloves
- Ultrapure LC/MS Grade Acetonitrile
- Ultrapure LC/MS Grade Water
- Tuning solution

### Steps

1. Stop the LC/calibrant flow to the MS.
2. Disconnect the sample tubing from the top of the nebulizer and place into a clean beaker or waste bottle.
3. Remove the CDS bottle and discard any old tune solution.
4. Rinse the CDS bottle with LC/MS grade acetonitrile and then LC/MS grade water.

#### NOTE

In the case of a highly contaminated bottle, the bottle can be cleaned with Alconox and hot water (60 to 70 °C), then rinsed as per step 4.

5. Flush the CDS with 50/50 (v/v) LC/MS grade acetonitrile and LC/MS grade water:
  - a. Fill the rinsed CDS bottle with approximately 20 to 30 mL of the acetonitrile/water mixture.
  - b. Install the bottle and turn on the calibrant flow.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

- c. Run the calibrant flush for at least 10 min.
6. Re-attach the sample tubing to the top of the nebulizer.
7. Repeat step 5 with just LC/MS grade acetonitrile and flush for at least 10 min.

**NOTE**

To confirm cleaning procedures, monitor the MS spectrum and watch the contamination decrease over time.

8. Discard any remaining solvent and add fresh tune solution to the bottle.
9. Flush the fresh tune solution through the CDS for 5 min. Monitor tune ions to ensure that that response is adequate.

## Replacing the valve rotor seal



For more information, scan the QR code, or visit: <https://aglt.co/D0115686>.

### Schedule

After 10,000 diverter valve switches.

### Equipment List

- 9/64-inch hex key
- MS selection valve rotor seal

### Steps

1. Stop the flow of LC solvent to the instrument via the acquisition software.
2. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing.
3. Open the spray chamber.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

4. Remove the front and top covers. Some instrument covers require disconnection of the LED ribbon cable located on the front cover.

**NOTE**

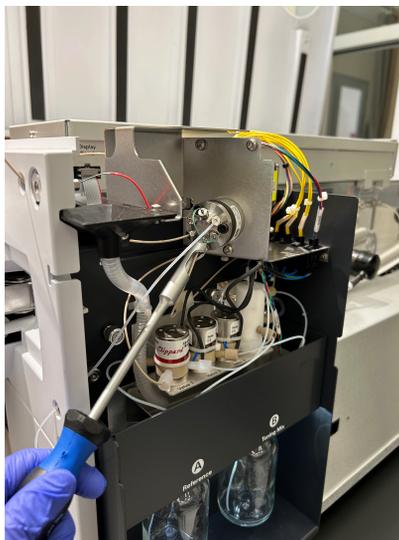
The images shown are for illustration purposes only and may not be an exact representation of the product or instrument.



## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

5. Make a note of which port is plumbed to which tubing and unplug all the connections of MS selection valve.
6. Remove the LC PEEK (polyether ether ketone) tubing from the MS inlet, near the spray chamber.

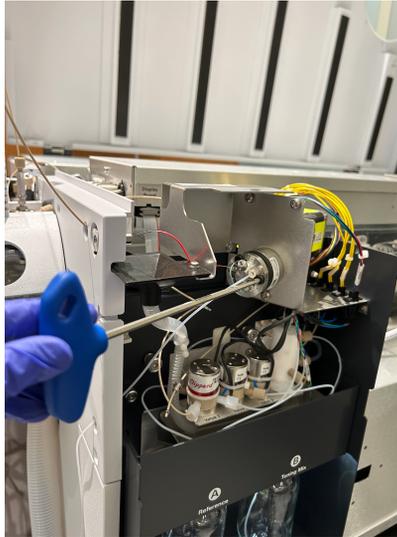


7. Unplug the connections of waste and nebulizer sample line.

## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

8. Use the 9/64-inch hex key to remove the three hex head screws from the stator face of the selection valve.



## Maintenance

### General Maintenance Tasks

9. Remove the rotor seal and replace it with a new one. Be sure to install it in the proper orientation.



10. Use the 9/64-inch hex key to fix the three hex head screws from the stator face of the selection valve.
11. Plug in all the connections of the MS selection valve.
12. Install the upper left front cover or ion funnel cover.
13. Fix all the screws that hold the upper left front cover or ion funnel cover.
14. Plug in the connection of CDS liquid line.
15. Plug in the connections of waste line and PEEK tubing.
16. Attach the top and front covers.
17. Close the latch of the spray chamber.
18. Connect the sample nebulizer gas tubing and nebulizer sample line.

## Cleaning the corona needle

### Schedule

When you observe decreased sensitivity, decreased signal stability and increased corona voltage during APCI operation.

### Equipment List

- Clean, powder-free nitrile gloves
- Clean lint-free cloth
- LC/MS-grade isopropanol
- 4000 grid abrasive paper

### Steps

1. Before beginning any steps in this maintenance procedure, put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.

#### WARNING

**The needle and related parts can be very hot. Do not touch the needle or related parts until they are cool.**

2. Pull the corona needle assembly out of the spray chamber.

#### CAUTION

**Do not bend or blunt the tip of the needle, it will decrease system performance. Sharpening the needle is not needed.**

3. Fold a piece of 4000 grit abrasive paper over the base of the needle.
4. Pull and twist the 4000 grit abrasive paper along the needle and off the tip of the needle.

#### CAUTION

**Do not hit the tip of the corona needle. The tip can bend, which can decrease system performance.**

5. Starting at the base of the needle, wipe the needle with a clean lint-free cloth. The cloth can be dry or dampened with LC/MS-grade isopropanol.
6. Reinstall the corona needle assembly in the spray chamber.

## Replacing the corona needle

### Schedule

Perform this procedure when symptoms indicate poor corona needle performance and cleaning the needle does not restore performance.

### Equipment List

- Clean, powder-free nitrile gloves
- Corona needle

### Steps

1. Before beginning any steps in this maintenance procedure, put on clean, powder-free nitrile gloves.
2. Pull the corona needle assembly out of the spray chamber.
3. Remove the needle collar from the corona needle shaft.
4. Remove the old corona needle from the collar.
5. Install a new corona needle, with its integral ferrule, in the collar.
6. Turn the collar onto the needle holder and tighten it by hand.

**CAUTION**

**Do not hit the tip of the corona needle. The tip can bend, which can decrease the system.**

7. Reinstall the corona needle assembly in the spray chamber.

## Disinfection

### Schedule

To prevent the spread of respiratory illness, disinfect your instrument as needed.

### Equipment List

- Clean, powder-free nitrile gloves
- Clean lint-free cloth
- Gown
- Isopropanol
- Mask

### Steps

1. Put on personal protective gear (gloves, mask, gown).
2. Make sure that your instrument is cooled to room temperature.
3. Dampen a clean lint-free cloth with the 70:30 isopropyl alcohol:water mix.
4. Gently wipe external surfaces to be cleaned using moistened cloth. Do not allow any liquid to drip into the instrument.
5. Wipe the outer surface of cables and their connectors but do not touch the electrical connections (for example pins and plugs inside the cable or connection port).
6. Use one cloth per instrument to prevent cross contamination.
7. Dispose of the cloth appropriately.
8. Allow all surfaces to completely air-dry. No moisture should be present on the instrument surfaces.
9. Discard the gloves and other personal protective equipment or clean them in an approved process, then wash your hands.

## Source Maintenance

### Changing to a source that uses a different tuning mix

#### Schedule

Every time you change a source that uses a different tuning mix.

#### Equipment

None

#### Steps

1. Right-click the Q-TOF device pane and select **Calibrant**.
2. Run the calibrant for 5 minutes.
3. Perform a checktune. See "[Mass Calibration](#)".
4. If the checktune results are not acceptable, run autotune on a supported tuning source. See "[Mass Calibration](#)".
5. When the instrument is ready, load or create the method to use with the source.
6. Change the method settings for the new source.

### Installing and removing sources

#### Schedule

Every time you change a source that uses a different tuning mix.

Before you begin:

- Do a complete autotune (see "[Autotune](#)"). If an autotune is not available, do a checktune (see "[Mass Calibration](#)").
- If the tune report does not show good results, tune the instrument. If needed, change the source to one that supports autotune.
- Put the system in Standby mode.

**WARNING**

**In the tune view or context, turn down the gas temperature as low as possible. Leave the gas flow on for 30 minutes to cool the source.**

Once complete, proceed to the desired source removal and installation instructions.

## Electrospray Ionization (ESI) source

### Removing

1. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line.
2. Disconnect the heating cable.
3. Disconnect the sheath gas line at the connector and unplug it.
4. Disconnect the AJS HV cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
5. Disconnect the Multimode cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
6. Open the latch of spray chamber.
7. Open the latch of spray chamber.

**WARNING**

**The spray chamber operates at very high temperature. Do not continue until the spray chamber is cool.**

1. Open the spray chamber.
2. Remove the ion source by lifting it along the axis of its hinges.

**WARNING**

**The spray shield can be hot. Be careful not to burn yourself when you remove the spray shield.**

3. If you are changing to a different source type, remove the spray shield.

### Installing

1. Install the spray shield, making sure the small hole is at the top of the "12 o'clock position". If needed, use a T10 Torx screwdriver to loosen the two screws in the end plate.
2. Rotate the ESI spray shield clockwise until the hole is in the correct position.
3. Gently tighten the Torx screws again.
4. Install the source.
5. Close the source.
6. Connect the MultiMode cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
7. Connect the heater cable.

## Maintenance

### Source Maintenance

8. Connect the sample nebulizer gas tubing.
9. Connect the nebulizer sample line.
10. Connect the reference nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing.

#### **In the MassHunter Acquisition software:**

1. Turn on the LC/MS instrument.
2. While you wait for the set points to equilibrate, prepare and install the calibrant for the new ion source.
  - a. Rinse a clean calibrant bottle with LC/MS-grade acetonitrile.
  - b. Pour the appropriate ESI Calibrant into the calibrant bottle for your instrument.
  - c. Install the calibrant bottle into the calibrant delivery system.

#### **When all set points are equilibrated:**

1. In the tune view or context, turn on the calibrant.
2. Purge the calibrant line for 5 minutes.
3. Do a complete autotune. If an autotune is not available, do a checktune. If the tune report does not show good results, tune the instrument. If needed, change the source to one that supports autotune.
4. If the checktune results are not acceptable, run autotune on a supported tuning source.
5. When the instrument is ready, load or create the method to use with the ion source.
6. Change the method settings for the new ion source.

## Agilent Jet Stream (AJS ESI) source

### Removing

1. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing.
2. Disconnect the heating cable.
3. Disconnect the sheath gas line at the connector and unplug it.
4. Disconnect the AJS HV cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
5. Disconnect the Multimode cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
6. Open the latch of the spray chamber.
7. Open the latch of the spray chamber.

**WARNING**

**The spray chamber operates at very high temperatures. Do not continue until the spray chamber is cool.**

8. Open the spray chamber.
9. Remove the ion source by lifting it along the axis of its hinges.

**WARNING**

**The spray shield can be hot. Be careful not to burn yourself when you remove the spray shield.**

10. If you are changing to a different source type, remove the spray shield.

### Installing

1. Install the spray chamber.
2. Close the spray chamber.
3. Connect the MultiMode cable delivering AJS nozzle voltage.
4. Connect the heater cable.
5. Connect the sample nebulizer gas tubing.
6. Connect the nebulizer sample line.
7. Connect the reference nebulizer sample line and sample nebulizer gas tubing.

**In the MassHunter Acquisition software:**

1. Turn on the LC/MS instrument.
2. While you wait for the set points to equilibrate, prepare and install calibrant for the new ion source.
  - a. Rinse a clean calibrant bottle with LC/MS-grade acetonitrile.
  - b. Pour the appropriate ESI Calibrant into the calibrant bottle for your instrument.
  - c. Install the calibrant bottle into the calibrant delivery system.

**When all set points are equilibrated:**

1. In the tune view or context, turn on the calibrant.
2. Purge the calibrant line for 5 minutes.
3. Do a complete autotune. If an autotune is not available, do a checktune. If the tune report does not show good results, tune the instrument. If needed, change the source to one that supports autotune.

## Atmospheric Pressure Chemical Ionization (APCI) source

### Removing

1. Disconnect the nebulizer sample line.
2. Disconnect the sample nebulizer gas tubing.
3. Disconnect the heater cable.
4. Disconnect the corona needle voltage cable.
5. For APPI, disconnect the heater cable.
6. Disconnect the serial output cable.
7. Disconnect the external power supply cable.
8. Open the latch of the spray chamber.

**WARNING**

**The spray chamber operates at very high temperature. Do not continue until the spray chamber is cool.**

9. Open the spray chamber.
10. Remove the ion source by lifting it along the axis of its hinges.

**WARNING**

**The spray shield can be hot. Be careful not to burn yourself when you remove the spray shield.**

11. If you are changing to a different source type, remove the spray shield.

### Installing

1. Make sure the small hole is at the top ("12 o'clock position").
2. If needed, use a T10 Torx screwdriver to loosen the two screws in the end plate.
3. Rotate the ESI spray shield clockwise until the hole is in the correct position.
4. Gently tighten the Torx screws again.
5. Install the ion source, sliding it along the axis of its hinges.
6. Close the spray chamber.
7. Close the spray chamber latch.

## Maintenance

### Source Maintenance

8. Connect the heater cable.
9. Connect the corona needle voltage cable.
10. Connect the sample nebulizer gas tubing.
11. Connect the nebulizer sample line.

#### **In the MassHunter Acquisition software:**

1. Select the new source.
2. Turn on the LC/MS instrument. While you wait for the set points to equilibrate, prepare and install the calibrant for the new source.
3. Rinse a clean calibrant bottle with LC/MS-grade acetonitrile.
4. Pour the APCI Calibrant into the calibrant bottle.
5. Install the calibrant bottle into the calibrant delivery system.

#### **When all set points are equilibrated:**

1. In the tune view or context, turn on the calibrant.
2. Purge the calibrant line for 5 minutes.
3. Do a complete autotune. If an autotune is not available, do a checktune. If the tune report does not show good results, tune the instrument. If needed, change the source to one that supports autotune.



## 5 Compliance

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## Sustainability Information

### Packaging End-of-Life

The Agilent 6530 Q-TOF LC/MS system is packaged using cardboard, polyethylene foam, a polyethylene bag, and a wood pallet. In the US, cardboard is readily recyclable, and while plastic bags are recyclable, the infrastructure is not available in the majority of the market. In the US, Agilent is enrolled in the How2Recycle program (<https://how2recycle.info/>) to facilitate the communication of material recycling instructions.

In select countries, Agilent participates in the EU/UK Green DOT Package Recycling Program to support the take-back and responsible management of the packaging materials at their end-of-life. In the remaining EU countries, the cardboard is readily recyclable and the plastic bag, foam and wood pallets are recycled, landfilled, or incinerated depending on the country and its available infrastructure.

### Product End-of-Life

Agilent offers a take-back program for its 6530 LC/Q-TOF LC/MS system customers in US, EU, and UK markets. See <https://www.agilent.com/environment/product/index.shtml> for more information.

## **Agilent Regulatory Compliance Statement**

### **CE Compliance**



Your Agilent instrument has been designed to comply with the requirements of the applicable directives of the European Union, such as Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Directive, Low Voltage Directive (LVD), Machinery Directive (MD), RoHS Directive, etc.

Agilent has confirmed that each product complies with the relevant Directives by testing samples against the harmonized EN (European Norm) standards published on the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU).

Proof that a product complies with these directives is indicated by:

- the CE Marking appearing on the rear of the product, and
- the documentation package that accompanies the product containing a copy of the Declaration of Conformity. The Declaration of Conformity is the legal declaration by Agilent that the product complies with the relevant directives listed above, and shows the EN standards to which the product was tested to demonstrate compliance.

## **UK Compliance**



Your Agilent instrument has been designed to comply with the requirements of the applicable regulations of the United Kingdom, such as The Electromagnetic Compatibility Regulations 2016, The Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 2016, The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008, The Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2012, etc.

Agilent has confirmed that each product complies with the relevant Regulations by testing samples against the designated standards published on GOV.UK.

Proof that a product complies with these regulations is indicated by:

- the UKCA Marking appearing on the rear of the product, and
- the documentation package that accompanies the product containing a copy of the Declaration of Conformity. The Declaration of Conformity is the legal declaration by Agilent that the product complies with the relevant regulations listed above, and shows the designated standards to which the product was tested to demonstrate compliance.

## Electromagnetic Compatibility

This product conforms to the following regulations on Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) and radio frequency interference (RFI):

- CISPR 11/EN 55011: Group 1, Class A
- EC/EN 61326-1
- AUS/NZ 
- Canada ICES-001 (This Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) device complies with Canadian ICES-001. Cet appareil ISM est conforme à la norme NMB-001 du Canada).

**Group 1 ISM equipment** Group 1 contains all Industrial, Scientific and Medical (ISM) equipment in which there is intentionally generated and/or used conductively coupled radio- frequency energy which is necessary for the internal functioning of the equipment itself.

**Class A equipment** This equipment is suitable for use in all establishments other than domestic and those directly connected to a low voltage power supply network which supplies buildings used for domestic purposes.

This device complies with the requirements of CISPR11, Group 1, Class A as radiation professional equipment. Therefore, there may be potential difficulties in ensuring electromagnetic compatibility in other environments, due to conducted as well as radiated disturbances.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try one or more of the following measures:

1. Relocate the radio or antenna.
2. Move the device away from the radio or television.
3. Plug the device into a different electrical outlet, so that the device and the radio or television are on separate electrical circuits.
4. Make sure that all peripheral devices are also certified.

## Compliance

### Agilent Regulatory Compliance Statement

5. Make sure that appropriate cables are used to connect the device to peripheral equipment.
6. Consult your equipment dealer, Agilent Technologies, or an experienced technician for assistance.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by Agilent Technologies could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

### EMC Declaration for South Korea

#### 사용자안내문

This equipment has been evaluated for its suitability for use in a commercial environment. When used in a domestic environment, there is a risk of radio interference.

이 기기는 업무용 환경에서 사용할 목적으로 적합성평가를 받은 기기로서 가정용 환경에서 사용하는 경우 전파간섭의 우려가 있습니다 .

※ 사용자 안내문은 " 업무용 방송통신기자재 " 에만 적용한다 .

### Detachable Power Cord Declaration for Japan

電源コードセットの取扱いについて（日本国内向け）製品には、同梱された電源コードセットをお使いください。同梱された電源コードセットは、他の製品では使用できません。

Notice - The power cords for Japanese market

Your product must only use the power cord that was shipped with this product. Do not use this power cord with any other product.

## Sound Emission Certification for Federal Republic of Germany

### Sound pressure

Sound pressure  $L_p < 70$  dB(A) according to DIN EN ISO 7779.

### Schalldruckpegel

Schalldruckpegel  $L_P < 70$  dB(A) nach DIN EN ISO 7779.

## Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive

This product complies with the European WEEE Directive marking requirements. The affixed label indicates that you must not discard this electrical/electronic product in domestic household waste.



### NOTE

Do not dispose of in domestic household waste.

To return unwanted products, contact your local Agilent office or see <https://www.agilent.com/environment/product/index.shtml> for more information.

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

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