

# 非变性电喷雾质谱研究二甲基亚砜 对溶菌酶-黄酮复合物的影响

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**摘要:** 电喷雾质谱 (ESI-MS) 在研究蛋白质与小分子相互作用方面有着重要应用, 然而, 添加剂的加入会直接影响 ESI-MS 分析。目前, 二甲基亚砜 (DMSO) 对质谱分析蛋白质-小分子相互作用的影响尚不明确。本文探究了 DMSO 对淫羊藿苷、芦丁、柚皮苷、野黄芩苷与溶菌酶复合物的质谱分析影响。发现 DMSO 不仅影响溶菌酶复合物的表观结合常数和电荷态, 还在一定程度上增加了溶菌酶-黄酮复合物的表观亲和力。与不添加 DMSO 相比, DMSO 加入量较低时, 复合物的电荷态降低; DMSO 加入量略高时, 复合物的电荷态升高, 且高于未加 DMSO 时的电荷态。研究表明, DMSO 可以用于稳定 ESI-MS 中的溶菌酶-黄酮复合物, 但应控制 DMSO 用量。

**关键词:** 电喷雾质谱 (ESI-MS); 相互作用; 蛋白质; 二甲基亚砜 (DMSO); 溶菌酶复合物

中图分类号: O657.63

文献标志码: A

文章编号: 1004-2997(2024)06-0823-09

DOI: 10.7538/zpxb.2024.0098

CSTR: 32365.14.zpxb.2024.0098

## Effects of Dimethyl Sulfoxide on Lysozyme-flavonoids Complexes by Native Electrospray Mass Spectrometry

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**Abstract:** As the secondary metabolites of plants, flavonoids are very important active ingredients in natural medicinal plants and have been proved to possess the extensive biological activities. It has been reported that flavonoids can bind to plasma proteins. Lysozyme is a globular protein and can interact with many small molecules for therapeutic applications. Therefore, the studies of interactions between flavonoids and proteins are not only helpful for understanding of the biological action of small natural organic molecules, but also are beneficial for the development of novel drug candidates. Native electrospray ionization mass spectrometry has been widely applied in the studies of the interactions of proteins and small molecules. During the electrospray ionization (ESI) analysis, some organic solvents are often used as a cosolvent. However, it is not clear for the effects of addition of some organic solvents on the ESI analysis of protein-ligand complexes. The solvent dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) is one of cosolvents. There are few studies on the effect of DMSO on protein-small molecule interactions by electrospray mass spectrometry (ESI-MS). Here, the effects of DMSO

on the ESI-MS analysis of four lysozyme-flavonoids of icariin, rutin, naringin and scutellarin complexes were investigated. The stable, labile and non-specific binding protein complexes with small molecule ligands were determined by ESI-MS, respectively. It was found that the content of DMSO affects the apparent binding constants of lysozyme and small molecule ligand complexes. The low amounts of DMSO lead to increase the apparent affinity of the labile lysozyme-flavonoid complexes to some extent. It also can stabilize the lysozyme complex with *N,N,N'*-triacetylchitotriose even under the high capillary temperature. The addition of DMSO cannot lead to the non-specific binding of lysozyme complex with maltose. In addition, the content of DMSO also affects the charge states of the lysozyme complexes. Compared with the sample without DMSO, the charge states of the complex initially decrease with the addition of DMSO. Then the charge states of the complex increase with the further increasing content of DMSO and even increase to higher charge states than those without DMSO. Therefore, it is indicated that the addition of DMSO can affect the ESI-MS analysis of the interaction of protein and small ligands, including the apparent binding constants and charge states of protein-ligand complexes. For the labile lysozyme-flavonoid complexes in ESI-MS, DMSO at the optimized content is shown to stabilize these complexes during ESI-MS analysis. It was suggested that the amount of DMSO used in ESI-MS should be carefully controlled.

**Key words:** electrospray mass spectrometry (ESI-MS); interaction; protein; dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO); lysozyme complex

近年来,蛋白质与小分子之间的相互作用是科研工作者研究的重点之一,该研究不仅有助于理解相互作用的机理,还可以为小分子药物的研究和开发提供理论基础和实验数据<sup>[1-4]</sup>。电喷雾质谱(ESI-MS)具有分析速度快、灵敏度高等优点,广泛应用于蛋白质与配体相互作用的分析,不仅可以直接观察蛋白质-小分子复合物,还能够提供化学计量比和结合常数等信息<sup>[5-7]</sup>。非变性电喷雾质谱(native ESI-MS)可以最大限度地维持非共价相互作用,是研究蛋白质-小分子复合物的重要技术。由于部分疏水小分子的溶解性问题,某些蛋白质与小分子的体系中会不可避免地引入助溶剂<sup>[1]</sup>。其中,二甲基亚砷(DMSO)是最常用的溶剂之一,可以帮助溶解各种极性和非极性化合物<sup>[8-9]</sup>。DMSO的热稳定性高,对于涉及到加热的反应,会使用DMSO替代乙腈溶解样品<sup>[10]</sup>。

然而,DMSO对于蛋白质与小分子结合的native ESI-MS分析的影响尚不明确。Williams等<sup>[11]</sup>采用ESI-MS法研究了DMSO对蛋清溶菌酶和马肌红蛋白结构、构象的影响。发现在无缓冲溶液的情况下,加入0%~20%DMSO(*V/V*)时,蛋清溶菌酶的电荷态降低;而在DMSO含量大于

20%时,溶菌酶的平均电荷态增加。这表明,在水溶液中加入DMSO可调节蛋白质的电荷态。但DMSO对蛋白质-小分子复合物质谱分析的影响有争议。Zenobi等<sup>[12]</sup>研究发现,DMSO会降低多种研究体系中蛋白质-配体的结合常数( $K_a$ ),其中包括胰蛋白酶-Pefabloc、溶菌酶-*N,N,N'*-乙酰壳三糖(NAG<sub>3</sub>)和碳酸酐酶-氯噻嗪体系。与之相反,Landreh等<sup>[13]</sup>研究表明,DMSO的加入可以稳定转甲状腺素蛋白(TTR)与甲状腺激素(T4)的复合物。

溶菌酶(lysozyme)是一种具有稳定结构的小球状蛋白质,广泛存在于眼泪、唾液和牛奶等分泌物以及血液中<sup>[14-18]</sup>。溶菌酶可以破坏细菌细胞壁中*N*-乙酰胞壁酸与*N*-乙酰氨基葡萄糖之间的 $\beta$ -1,4糖苷键<sup>[18]</sup>,具有抗炎、抗菌、抗氧化、抗病毒等功能<sup>[16-21]</sup>。研究表明<sup>[16,19,22]</sup>,体液中溶菌酶含量的变化与支气管肺发育不良、结膜炎、肾病有关,表明溶菌酶可作为一种生物标志物。另外,溶菌酶可以与血液中的外源物质结合,作为运输外源药物小分子的载体<sup>[6,17-21,23-26]</sup>。黄酮类化合物是具有多种药理活性的重要天然产物,有着抗肿瘤、抗衰老、抗炎和抗糖尿病等功能,对

阿尔兹海默症的治疗也有一定效果,是发现新药的主要来源<sup>[27-36]</sup>。溶菌酶与黄酮小分子的相互作用受到越来越多的关注<sup>[13]</sup>。Yang等<sup>[37]</sup>的荧光实验表明,溶菌酶与淫羊藿苷、芦丁、柚皮苷等黄酮类化合物均有不同强度的结合。Huang等<sup>[38]</sup>采用荧光和紫外实验研究了溶菌酶与黄芩苷、野黄芩苷等的相互作用,发现可以形成溶菌酶-黄芩苷、溶菌酶-野黄芩苷等复合物。部分黄酮类化合物难溶于水,微溶于甲醇,在DMSO中具有较高的溶解度(如橙皮苷)。目前,尚未见DMSO对溶菌酶复合物质谱分析影响的报道。

基于此,本文拟采用Native ESI-MS研究DMSO对溶菌酶-黄酮复合物的影响,以改善蛋白质与配体复合物离子的检测。

## 1 实验部分

### 1.1 主要仪器与装置

LTQ线性离子阱质谱仪:美国Thermo公司产品,配有电喷雾离子源(ESI)及Xcalibur数据处理系统。

### 1.2 主要材料与试剂

溶菌酶:美国Sigma-Aldrich公司产品;淫羊藿苷、柚皮苷:中国上海阿拉丁化学有限公司产品; $N,N,N'$ -三乙酰壳三糖(NAG<sub>3</sub>)、芦丁:中国北京J&K科学有限公司产品;野黄芩苷、醋酸铵(优级纯)、DMSO:中国上海麦克林生化有限公司产品;麦芽糖:瑞士Fluka公司产品;甲醇(HPLC级):美国Fisher公司产品;超纯水(18.2 M $\Omega$ ·cm):由美国Millipore公司生产的Milli-Q plus净水系统制备。所有药品使用前无需纯化。

### 1.3 实验条件

ESI电离源正离子模式采集,谱图连续积累30 s。样品通过注射泵直接导入质谱仪,进样流速5  $\mu$ L/min,电喷雾电压4.0 kV,鞘气流速20 (arbitrary units),辅助气流速1 (arbitrary units),毛细管电压100 V,透镜电压180 V,毛细管温度200  $^{\circ}$ C。

### 1.4 实验方法

**1.4.1 溶液配制** 使用超纯水配制500  $\mu$ mol/L溶菌酶,备用。用甲醇-水溶液(1:1, V/V)分别溶解芦丁、柚皮苷、野黄芩苷,配制成2 mmol/L溶液,备用。用甲醇-水溶液(1:3, V/V)溶解淫羊藿

苷,配制成500  $\mu$ mol/L储备液。使用时,分别用纯净水稀释至所需浓度。分别用超纯水配制50  $\mu$ mol/L NAG<sub>3</sub>和100  $\mu$ mol/L麦芽糖,醋酸铵水溶液现配现用。

**1.4.2 溶菌酶-黄酮的ESI-MS实验** 由于高浓度的蛋白质和配体在电喷雾过程中容易产生非特异性结合,因此本实验中溶菌酶浓度为3  $\mu$ mol/L。溶菌酶与黄酮的物质的量浓度比为1:2, DMSO加入量分别为0%、0.1%、0.5%、1%、5%和10%(V/V),每个DMSO含量制备3个平行样品。

**1.4.3 溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub>的ESI-MS实验** 溶菌酶(3  $\mu$ mol/L)与NAG<sub>3</sub>的物质的量浓度比为1:1, DMSO加入量分别为0.1%和1%(V/V)。

**1.4.4 溶菌酶-麦芽糖的ESI-MS实验** 溶菌酶(3  $\mu$ mol/L)与麦芽糖的物质的量浓度比为1:4, DMSO加入量范围为0%~20%(V/V)。

## 2 结果与讨论

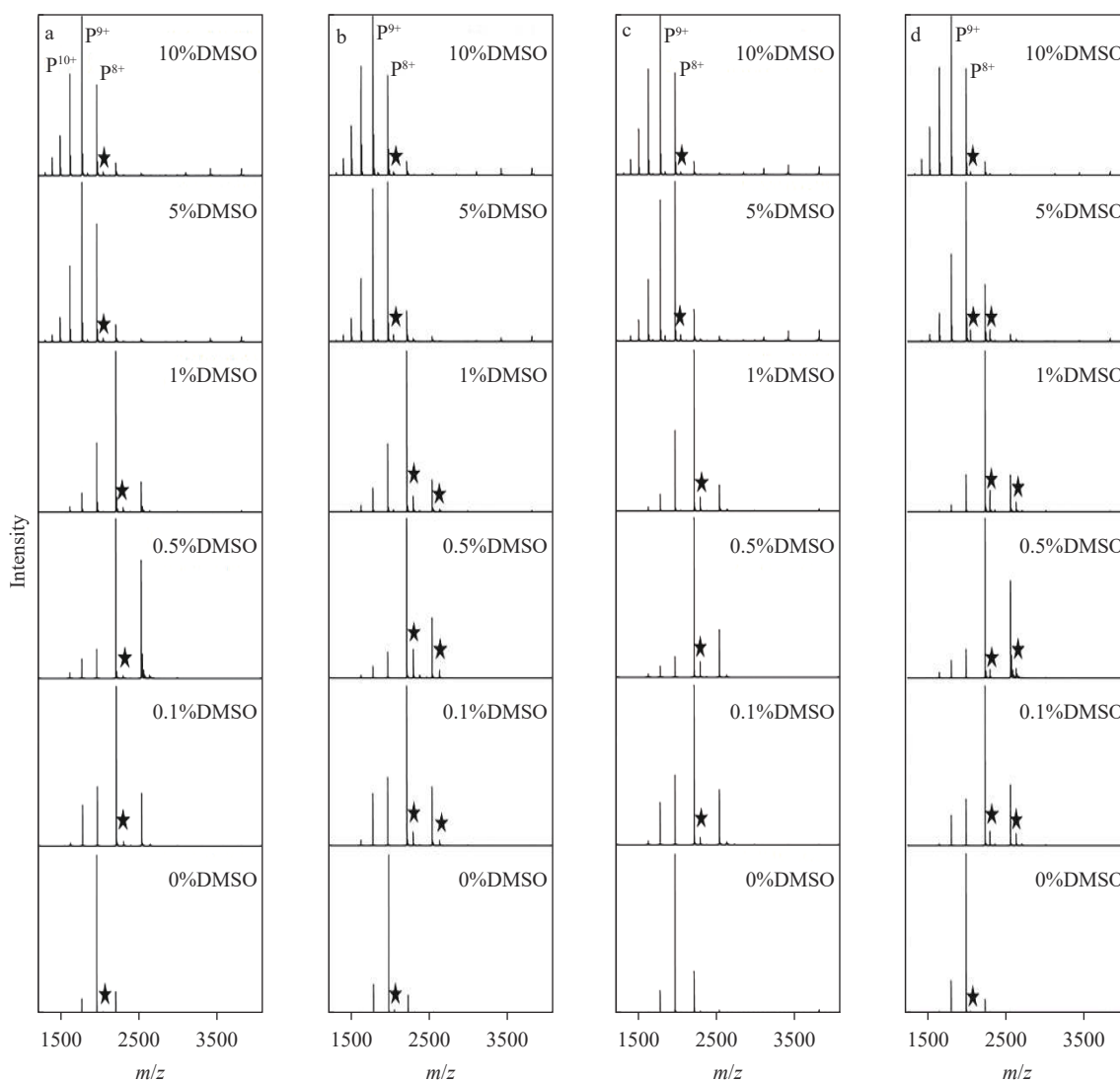
### 2.1 溶菌酶-黄酮复合物的Native ESI-MS检测

本实验采用Native ESI-MS测定了4种溶菌酶-黄酮复合物,结果示于图1。可见,溶菌酶的多电荷离子峰分布较窄,带7~9个正电荷。在图1a、1b、1d中,当DMSO含量为0%时,溶菌酶-淫羊藿苷、溶菌酶-芦丁和溶菌酶-野黄芩苷复合物的质谱峰丰度较低,而在图1c中几乎观察不到溶菌酶-柚皮苷复合物的质谱峰。

由图1a可以观察到,加入DMSO后,溶菌酶与淫羊藿苷复合物的峰强度没有显著变化。在图1b中,加入0.5% DMSO时,溶菌酶-芦丁复合物的峰强度明显升高,而再增大DMSO加入量,复合物的峰强度降低。在图1c、1d中,随着DMSO加入量的增加,溶菌酶-柚皮苷、溶菌酶-野黄芩苷复合物的峰强度同样先升高后降低。

**2.1.1 DMSO对溶菌酶以及溶菌酶-黄酮复合物电荷态的影响** 在溶菌酶-黄酮复合物分析中,随着DMSO含量的增加,溶菌酶离子峰所带的电荷数先降低(0.1%~1%)后增加(5%, 10%)。当DMSO含量为5%以上时,可以观察到比不加DMSO时带更多电荷的离子峰。以溶菌酶-芦丁为例,由式(1)定量计算DMSO含量对溶菌酶及溶菌酶-芦丁复合物平均电荷态( $Z_{av}$ )的影响。

$$Z_{av} = \frac{\sum I_i z_i}{\sum I_i} \quad (1)$$



注: P 代表溶菌酶; 右上角标数字代表溶菌酶所带电荷数; 五角星代表复合物离子峰

图 1 在 5 mmol/L 醋酸铵溶液中, 不同含量 DMSO 加入到溶菌酶与淫羊藿苷(a)、芦丁(b)、柚皮苷(c)、野黄芩苷(d)溶液中的电喷雾质谱图

Fig. 1 ESI-MS spectra of different contents of DMSO added to lysozyme with icariin (a), rutin (b), naringin (c) and scutellarin (d) solutions in 5 mmol/L ammonium acetate solution

式中,  $z_i$  为离子的电荷数,  $I_i$  为相应峰的相对强度,  $i$  表示观察到的复合物或蛋白质的离子峰。 $Z_{av}$  数值列于表 1, 发现溶菌酶-芦丁复合物的电荷态随着 DMSO 含量的增加先降低后升高。在相同 DMSO 含量下, 所有溶菌酶-芦丁复合物的  $Z_{av}$  值均比溶菌酶的  $Z_{av}$  值低。

**2.1.2 DMSO 对溶菌酶-黄酮复合物结合常数的影响** 溶菌酶与黄酮复合物对应的结合常数 ( $K_a$ ) 是通过单点测量计算的。复合物与游离蛋白质离子的相对丰度比 ( $R$ ) 等于复合物与蛋白质的浓度比, 示于式(2):

$$\frac{[PL]}{[P]} = \frac{\sum_n I(PL^{n+})}{\sum_n I(P^{n+})} = R \quad (2)$$

式中,  $I(PL^{n+})$  和  $I(P^{n+})$  分别表示带  $n$  个正电荷的复合物和蛋白质的离子峰峰强度。同时, 由式(3) 计算  $K_a$ :

$$K_a = \frac{R}{[L]_0 - [P]_0 \cdot \frac{R}{1+R}} \quad (3)$$

式中,  $[P]_0$  和  $[L]_0$  分别表示溶液中蛋白质和配体的初始浓度;  $[PL]$ 、 $[L]$ 、 $[P]$  分别为蛋白质-配体复合物(1:1)、配体以及蛋白质的平衡浓度。

表1 DMSO含量对溶菌酶及溶菌酶-芦丁复合物  $Z_{av}$  的影响

Table 1 Effects of DMSO contents on average charge states ( $Z_{av}$ ) of lysozyme and lysozyme-rutin complex

DMSO含量 Content of DMSO/%	电荷态 Average charge state ( $Z_{av}$ )	
	溶菌酶 Lysozyme	溶菌酶-芦丁 Lysozyme-rutin
0	7.85±0.10	7.29±0.22
0.1	7.35±0.03	6.70±0.02
0.5	7.02±0.06	6.76±0.03
1	7.37±0.03	6.98±0.02
5	8.65±0.06	8.03±0.09
10	8.98±0.05	8.42±0.02

所计算的复合物  $K_a$  与 DMSO 含量的关系示于图 2。对于溶菌酶-淫羊藿苷复合物, 加入 DMSO 使  $K_a$  增加, 但总体无显著变化。对于溶菌酶-芦丁复合物, 随着 DMSO 含量增加,  $K_a$  迅速增加; 在 0.5% DMSO 时,  $K_a$  值达到最大; 在 5% 和 10% DMSO 时,  $K_a$  值比未添加 DMSO 时低。对于溶菌酶-柚皮苷复合物, 添加 DMSO 会导致  $K_a$  值升高; 在 0.5% DMSO 时,  $K_a$  值达到最大。对

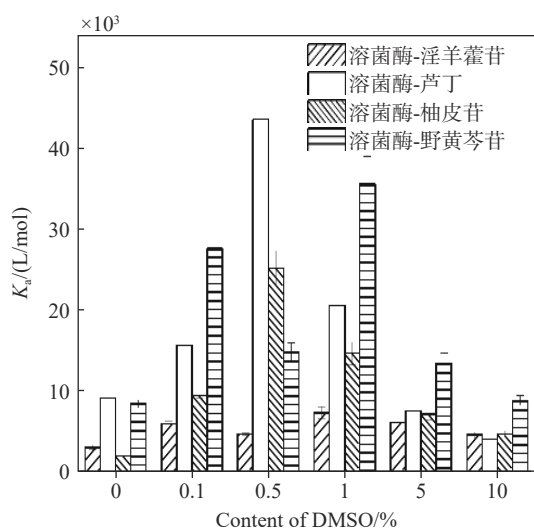


图2 加入不同含量 DMSO 时, 溶菌酶-淫羊藿苷、溶菌酶-芦丁、溶菌酶-柚皮苷和溶菌酶-野黄芩苷复合物的  $K_a$  值

Fig. 2  $K_a$  values of lysozyme-icariin, lysozyme-rutin, lysozyme-naringenin and lysozyme-scutellarin complexes with different DMSO contents

于溶菌酶-野黄芩苷复合物, 在 1% DMSO 时,  $K_a$  值达到最大。添加 10% DMSO 时, 溶菌酶-柚皮苷、溶菌酶-野黄芩苷复合物的  $K_a$  均比未加 DMSO 时高。综上, DMSO 对溶菌酶-黄酮复合物起到了一定的稳定作用。

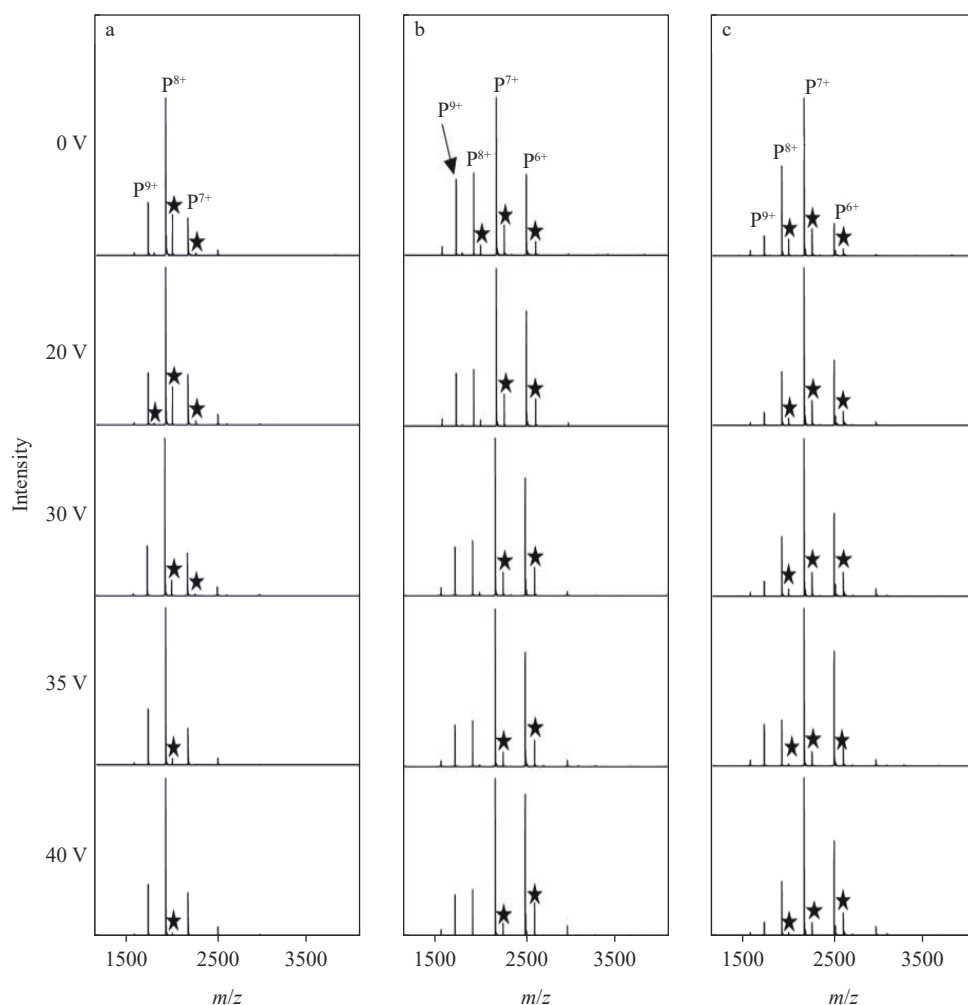
## 2.2 验证实验

为判断 DMSO 对溶菌酶-黄酮的稳定作用是否具有特异性, 进行了验证实验。由于 NAG<sub>3</sub> 与溶菌酶是特异性结合, 麦芽糖与溶菌酶是非特异性结合<sup>[39]</sup>, 因此, 选择溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 作为阳性对照, 溶菌酶-麦芽糖作为阴性对照。

**2.2.1 DMSO 对溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 的影响** 研究表明<sup>[40-41]</sup>, 溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物在 Native ESI-MS 中可以稳定存在。本实验探究了 DMSO 对稳定溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物的影响, 以及对苛刻质谱条件下溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物的影响。

首先, 研究了不加 DMSO 以及加入 0.1%、1% DMSO 后的溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物的质谱图, 示于图 3。发现加入 0.1% 或 1% DMSO 后, 带 8 个电荷的复合物峰强度降低, 带 7 个电荷的复合物峰强度升高。进一步计算了溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物百分比 ([PL]%), 示于图 4。与未加入 DMSO 相比, 即使加入少量的 DMSO 也会降低溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物含量; 未添加 DMSO 时, 随着碰撞诱导解离 (CID) 电压增加, 溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物的峰强度明显降低; 当溶液中含有 0.1% 和 1% DMSO 时, 尽管 CID 电压增加, 但溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 复合物峰强度降低的速度变得缓慢, 示于图 4a。毛细管温度的影响与 CID 电压类似, 示于图 4b。以上数据表明, 在溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub> 中加入 0.1% 或 1% DMSO 会降低复合物的百分比, 但同时也减缓了复合物随 CID 增加以及毛细管温度升高而分解的速度。

**2.2.2 DMSO 对溶菌酶-麦芽糖的影响** 溶菌酶与麦芽糖属于非特异性结合, 在溶菌酶与麦芽糖的混合物中添加由低到高含量 (0%~20%) 的 DMSO, 发现加入 0.1% DMSO 使原本溶菌酶峰强度最高的带 8 个正电荷的离子峰变为带 7 个正电荷, 示于图 5。在加入 0.1%~20% DMSO 时, 均不会出现溶菌酶与麦芽糖的复合物, 但在 2% DMSO 含量以上时, 出现带 11、12 个正电荷的溶菌酶离子峰。



注: P代表溶菌酶; 右上角标数字代表溶菌酶所带电荷数; 五角星代表相应的复合物离子峰

图3 不同CID电压下, 溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub>复合物在加入0%(a)、0.1%(b)、1%(c)DMSO时的ESI-MS图  
Fig. 3 ESI-MS spectra of added 0% (a), 0.1% (b) and 1% (c) DMSO to lysozyme-NAG<sub>3</sub> complexes at different CID voltages

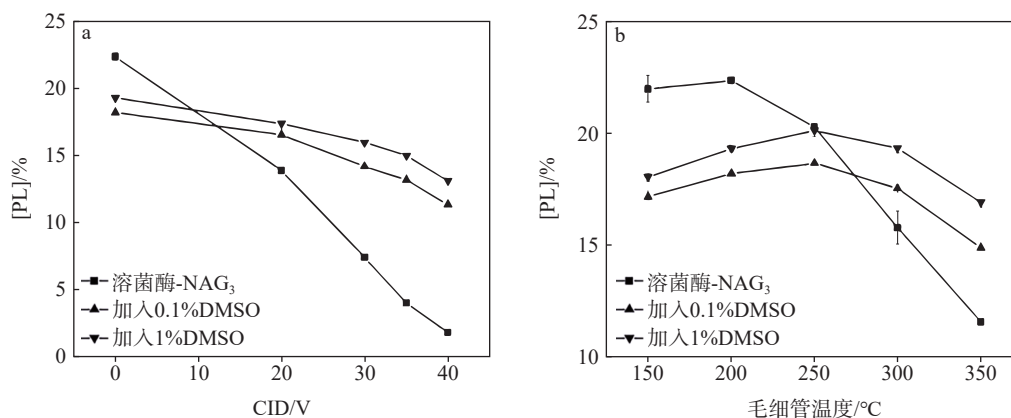
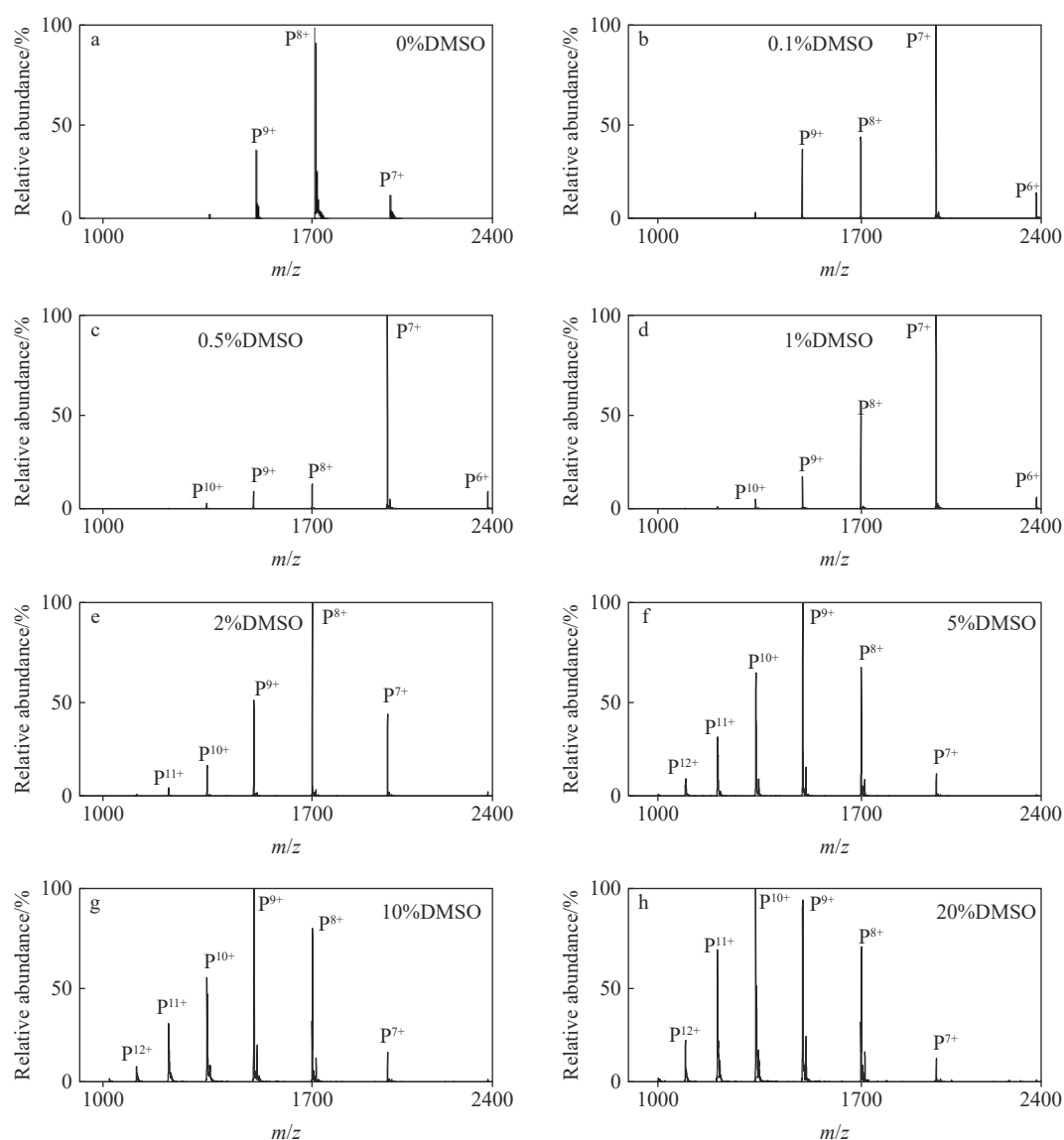


图4 加入0%、0.1%和1%DMSO时, 溶菌酶-NAG<sub>3</sub>复合物随CID电压(a)、毛细管温度(b)的变化  
Fig. 4 Variation of lysozyme-NAG<sub>3</sub> complex with CID voltage (a), capillary temperature (b) at 0%, 0.1% and 1% DMSO



注: P 代表溶菌酶, 右上角标数字代表溶菌酶所带电荷数

图5 加入 0%~20% DMSO 时, 溶菌酶与麦芽糖混合物的 ESI-MS 图

Fig. 5 ESI-MS spectra of the mixture of lysozyme and maltose with 0%-20% DMSO

### 3 结论

在 Native ESI-MS 中, 少量 DMSO (0.1%~1%) 的加入可增强特异性结合的溶菌酶-黄酮复合物的稳定性, 使其表观结合常数提高。另外, DMSO 加入也会影响溶菌酶复合物的电荷态, 增加 DMSO 含量会导致蛋白质或复合物的电荷数先减少后增加。本研究表明, 在 ESI-MS 中加入助溶剂需根据研究体系进行具体分析, 以改善蛋白质与配体复合物离子的检测。

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