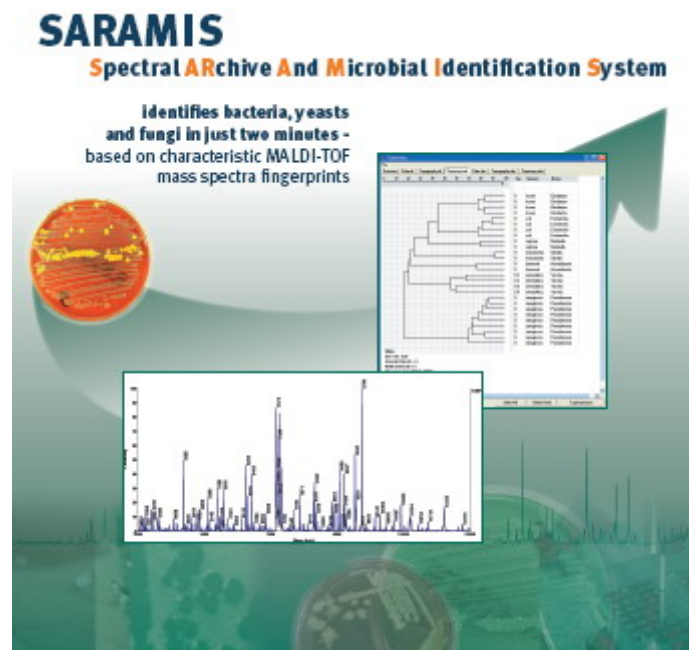


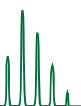
Accreditation of SARAMIS at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo)

In July 2006 SARAMIS received the accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17025 at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover (TiHo), Germany. SARAMIS is a unique software tool developed by AnagnosTec GmbH, Germany, for the identification and classification of microorganisms using MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry. This innovative method saves costs for consumables and reduces hands-on time; it takes just 2 minutes from agar plate to result.

SARAMIS uses MALDI-TOF mass spectra to determine microbiological proteins. A Voyager DE Pro of Applied Biosystems (ABI) is used at the TiHo for sample identification by matching measured spectra against validated references in the SARAMIS database, which at present consists of more than 35,000 reference spectra and is constantly expanded in collaboration with international institutes and clinical laboratories.



The method is distinguished by minimal use of consumables and by easy and fast sample preparation. Since all groups of germs are processed identically, a preceding separation (gram positive / gram negative or Enterobacteriaceae / Non-Enterobacteriaceae, etc.) is not necessary any more, which is a great advantage over other commercially available methods. Since incubation is not required, the time to result for a single differentiation is as low as 2 minutes.



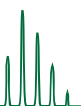
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At the TiHo, identifications were performed simultaneously with the daily routine using MALDI-TOF and SARAMIS over a period of 6 months. The results were so convincing that SARAMIS was accredited for micro biological diagnostic and is now substituting currently used methods.

1430 isolate were tested in total, of these 320 samples of *Enterobacteriaceae* from diagnostic material were analyzed in depth. SARAMIS achieved a specificity of 92% and, depending on the limit of acceptance of an identification, a sensitivity of 85% to 90% when the results attained with biochemical methods and mass spectroscopy were compared. These findings allow for a substitution of biochemical differentiation by mass spectroscopy and SARAMIS. In clinical microbiology, the system shows a specificity of 99,8% and a sensitivity of 97%. The accreditation is granted for all areas in veterinarian diagnostics at the TiHo Hannover.

SARAMIS allows users to customize the database by adding specific groups of germs for future differentiation and for the identification of so far unknown isolates. This feature is of special interest in veterinarian diagnostic since the multitude of germs is very high and many groups are not covered by commercial suppliers. This option is currently tested with *Brachyspiren* at the TiHo's Institute for Microbiology.

The SARAMIS database currently contains reference spectra of the most common pathogenic species, and AnagnosTec is working to extend it to include rarely occurring species. Institutes and organizations interested to participate in this program are invited to contact AnagnosTec directly.



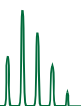
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About AnagnosTec GmbH

AnagnosTec was founded in 1998 as a spin-off from the University of Technology, Berlin. The company offers services, contract research and products for bioanalytical applications based on MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry.

The research at AnagnosTec is mainly focused on the development of novel mass spectrometric techniques in the fields of biotechnology, clinical medicine, microbiology, and the food industry and on the development of intelligent software solutions to handle and interpret mass spectrometric data.

AnagnosTec's SARAMIS system analyses MALDI-TOF fingerprint mass spectra to identify the microorganism with the best database match. The dendrogram feature classifies unknown isolates into a taxonomic tree and dereplicates duplicate strains simultaneously to improve drug discovery processes. Large microbial strain collections can be screened in high-throughput by using an in-house-built biohandling robot designed to pick microbial colonies from agar plates and to transfer the biomass to the MALDI target plate.

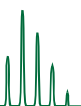


About University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation (TiHo)

Founded in 1778 by King George III as the Royal School of Equine Medicine, the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation (TiHo) is one of the oldest establishments of veterinary education in Europe and the oldest continually existing independent one in Germany. With its transformation into a public foundation as of January 1, 2003, the TiHo took an historic and innovative step forward. Responsibility for the TiHo no longer lies with the State of Lower Saxony, but with a private foundation. This organisational form gives the TiHo new freedom of action and the ability to accrue capital. The TiHo will use this opportunity better to fulfil its responsibilities in research, teaching and services, and to seek solutions to pressing issues in animal health, animal welfare, consumer protection, food sciences, and the biomedical sciences.

In the course of more than 225 years, the TiHo has become an important scientific institution with five clinics, thirteen institutes, two centres, two special units, and two affiliated independent organisations at two locations in Hannover.

The TiHo also maintains two external sites for research and student training, one in Ruthe, south of Hannover, and one in Bakum, near Vechta. At the Farm for Research and Training in Ruthe students receive hands-on training in modern animal production, while research and teaching at the Field Station for Epidemiology in Bakum focus on preparing veterinarians for herd diagnostics and health, and for their future involvement in the food production chain.



AnagnosTec

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