

**daughter ion (in mass spectrometry)**

An electrically charged product of reaction of a particular parent ion. In general such ions have a direct relationship to a particular precursor ion and indeed may relate to a unique state of the precursor ion. The reaction need not necessarily involve fragmentation. It could, for example, involve a change in the number of charges carried. Thus, all fragment ions are daughter ions, but not all daughter ions are necessarily fragment ions.

1991, 63, 1549