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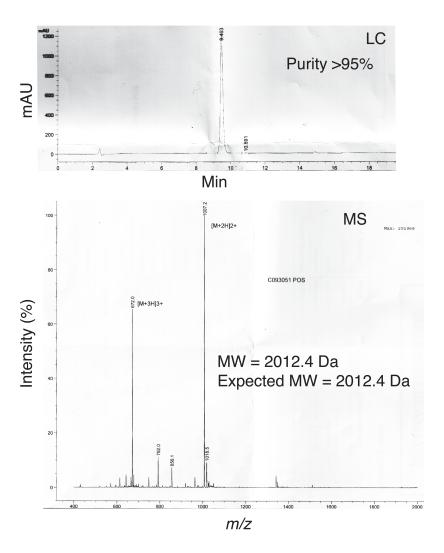
SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Structure and function of the silicifying peptide R5

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The purity and identity of the commercially-synthesised R5 peptide (SSKKSGSYSGSKGSKRRIL) were confirmed by LC-MS analysis carried out by the vendor (Generon). The results are shown in Supplementary Figure 1. The peptide was found to be $\geq 95\%$ pure and had the expected molecular weight of 2012.4, identical to the molecular weight calculated from the primary sequence.



Supplementary Figure 1. LC-MS analysis of synthesized R5 peptide, carried out by the commercial vendor.