

quadrupole mass analyser

An arrangement in which ions with a desired quotient mass/charge are made to describe a stable path under the effect of a static and a high-frequency electric quadrupole field, and are then detected. Ions with a different mass/charge are separated from the detected ions because of their unstable paths.

Source:

PAC, 1991, 63, 1541 (*Recommendations for nomenclature and symbolism for mass spectroscopy (including an appendix of terms used in vacuum technology). (Recommendations 1991)*) on page 1545
Orange Book, p. 202